

JUNIOR

Issue 2 December 2013

British

CHESS

Magazine

♟ learn in easy stages

♟ win games quickly

♟ sharpen your openings

♟ test your analysis

*U.K's next
grandmaster?
Yang-Fan
talks chess!*



THE JUNIOR BRITISH CHESS MAGAZINE

Bi-Monthly

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Director Stephen Lowe

Editor David Levens

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Contents

Editor's Opening	3
Magnus Carlsen wins!	4
Signs and Symbols	6
Chess in Easy Stages	9
Test 2A	13
Test 1B	19
Girl Power!	25
Tournament Reports	33
Sharpen Up Your Openings	50
Test Your Chess!	53
Interview with Yang-Fan	61
Positional Play	69
Christmas Quizzes	72
Short and Sweet Games	74
Spot the Continuation	83
Great Players of the Past	88
Endgame Teasers	92
Analyse this!	94
British Chess Magazine	98
Adventures in China	100
Captain Blunder & Thin King	104
Solutions	105
Junior Calendar of Events	109

Editor's Opening



Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed the first issue of *Junior BCM*? Never forget, it's your magazine and we're interested in hearing from you. We're interested in receiving suggestions for articles you'd like to see and any constructive criticisms. We also need interesting games you have played and tournament reports, with photos if at all possible. You can contact me by e-mail at davidl64@chesscoach.co.uk.

One of the good suggestions we received was for a regular feature about miniature games, games mostly a lot shorter than 25 moves! We've taken that idea on board and if you turn to page 74 you will find a few interesting examples of how dramatic chess can be. If nothing else it should at least make you realise how important it is to put your brain into gear from very early on in every game.

In this issue we take you to the next level of difficulty in our Chess in Easy Stages section and include reports on various junior tournaments. We have regular features to help young players improve their understanding of chess by looking at some games of great players of the past; this is how most great players of today learned!

Above all keep playing and practising all that you can and you will be sure to improve your results.

David Levens

Magnus Carlsen wins world title!



Late news! Magnus Carlsen has convincingly defeated previous world champion Vishy Anand by 6½ - 3½. The match took place in Chennai, India and ended on 21 November 2013.

Congratulations from the entire *Junior BCM* team to Magnus who has become World Champion at the age of just 22. Magnus has now achieved the highest chess rating of all time, another phenomenal achievement. But he misses out on being the youngest player to win the title – an honour which remains with the Russian player Garry Kasparov. Magnus is older by just a few weeks!



**West meets – and beats! – East in the historic match
Magnus Carlsen v Vishy Anand**



After the match it's all smiles from Magnus Carlsen and match commentator Anastasia Karlovich



Signs and Symbols



People use lots of symbols and abbreviations when writing about chess, so it's important to know what the common ones are. Here's a list of the ones used in *Junior BCM*. If you read some of the highly specialised books and magazines about chess you'll find that there are many more!

- +** Check
- #** Checkmate
- !** Good move
- !!** Brilliant move
- ?** Bad move
- ??** Blunder
- !?** Interesting move
- ?!** Dubious move
- =** Level position
- + -** White is winning
- +** Black is winning

BCF British Chess Federation (the former name of the ECF)

ECF English Chess Federation: the governing body in England

EEC; EEC Examine Every Check; Examine Every Capture

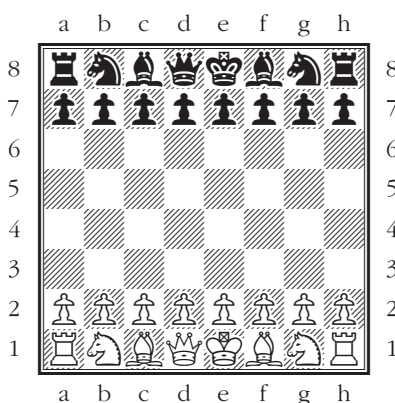
FIDE Fédération Internationale des Echecs (International Chess Federation); the world governing body for chess

Fritz The best-known chess-playing computer program. There are many others: you may hear the names Houdini or Stockfish, for example.

GYPO Get Your Pieces Out

LPDO Loose Pieces Drop Off

Get to know your squares!

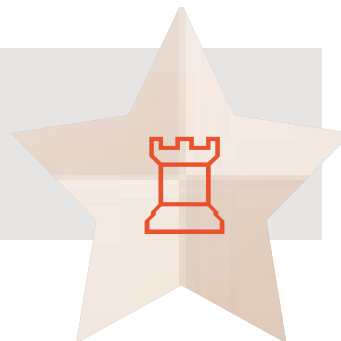


Every square has a letter followed by a number. You will soon know the co-ordinates by heart – from a1 to h8! Place the letter for the piece you want to move in front of the co-ordinate, and you can already write – and read! – chess moves. For example, **Nf3** = Knight **m**oves to the f3 square or **Nxf3** = if the knight **c**aptures something (a piece or a pawn) on the f3 square. And simply **e4** (not **Pe4**!) = **p**awn **m**oves to e4, or, again, **dxe4** if the **d**-**p**awn **c**aptures something on e4.

	White		Black		Letter
	Piece	Symbol	Piece	Symbol	
Pawn					P
Knight					N
Bishop					B
Rook					R
Queen					Q
King					K

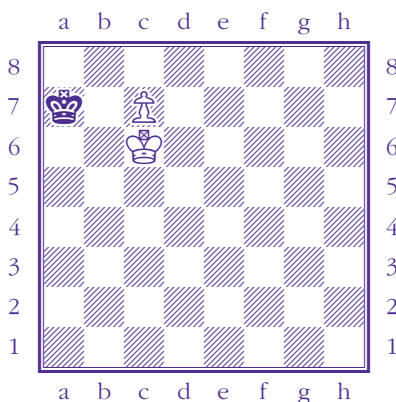
We use the symbols to represent the chessmen in chessboard diagrams. We use the letters when we write down moves. Note that we use 'N' for knight because 'K' is used for the king. And when we write down moves 'P' is not in practice used when a pawn moves.

Chess in Easy Stages

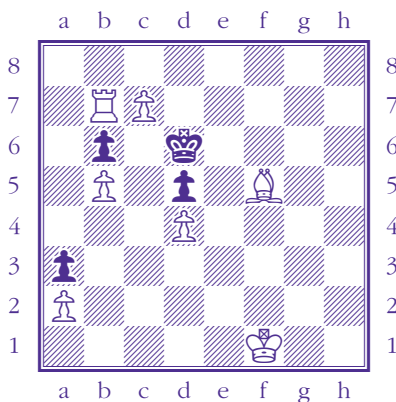


If you managed to pass our Grade 1 test in the first issue of *Junior BCM* you at least know how all the pieces move and what each one is worth. Now you are ready to learn some more about this fantastic game that was invented over 1400 years ago! When you have read through all of this, and think you understand it, have a go at Test 2.

In most armies the lowly soldier is nearly always obliged to move forwards only, just like our pawns in chess. But one great thing about pawns is, that if you can get one to the very last row (rank is what we call the horizontal rows on a chess board), he can be promoted for his valiant efforts! But what do you promote him to? Mostly players choose to have another Queen, because she is the most powerful piece of all, but be careful. Sometimes promoting to a Queen may cause stalemate, a draw. In certain special situations it may be better to have a Rook or even a lowly Knight; and in very rare situations even a Bishop may be best. Though it is not very likely, it is possible to promote all your eight pawns and have as many as nine Queens on the board all at once!! In the following diagram White can promote by playing his pawn to c8, but what piece should he promote to? If he has a Queen it is immediately stalemate because the black King cannot move anywhere without being in check. If he promotes his pawn to a Bishop it won't be check, and a King and a Bishop on their own cannot checkmate the opposing King. If White promotes his pawn to a Knight, he will give check at once, but a Knight and King cannot on their own mate the opposing King. That leaves the Rook. By promoting to a Rook the Black King is forced to play Ka6 and now White can checkmate immediately by playing Ra8#.



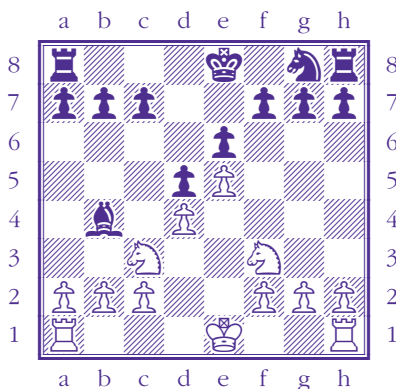
In the next diagram, White, by playing his pawn to c8 and promoting to a Queen, would Stalemate his opponent, but promoting to a Knight would be an instant checkmate!



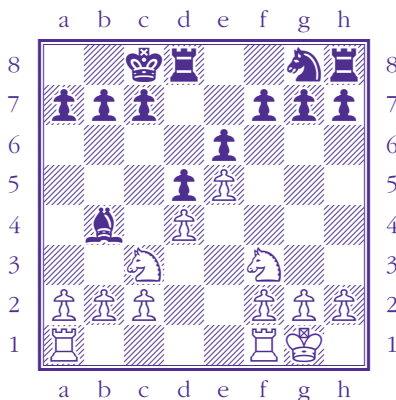
Though these two examples are a little exceptional, just be careful when you promote a pawn. Though a Queen is usually best, there is no hurry to choose which piece you want. Just one more important thing to remember: you cannot promote to a King! But what about check and checkmate, I hear you cry? I'm coming to that right now.

Now we have another very important move for you to learn: it's called castling. Castling usually puts your King into a much

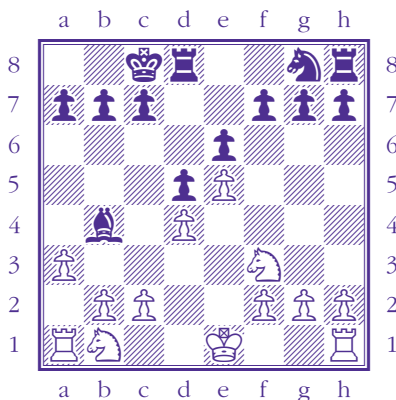
safer position than it is at the start of the game and also allows your Rook to join in the battle for the centre! You are only allowed to castle if your King and your Rook have never moved from their original start squares. In the diagram below both the white Rooks and the King are still on their start squares and have not moved once. Also, the white King is NOT in check – another important condition to allow you to castle. So, if you wish to castle on the Kingside, all you have to do is move your King to the g1 square, and the Rook that is on h1 to f1. If instead you wish to castle on the Queenside, you move your King to c1 (just two squares, as in Kingside castling) and then place the a1 Rook on the square, d1. I don't think that should be too difficult, but there are some other rules that I'll come to in a minute.



In the next diagram White has just played exactly as I said above and is now safely castled. You write this move down on your score sheet as 0-0 (just like a pair of spectacles!). But Black would like to castle too. He cannot castle on the Kingside because his knight remains in the way on the square, g8. Of course he could move the Knight and castle next move if he wishes, but he could also immediately castle on the Queenside. To do this, Black must move his King to c8 and his Rook to d8. And now both Kings are safely hidden away behind their row of pawns and their Rooks can take part in the battle. See the diagram that follows. Castling on the Queenside is shown as 0-0-0.



If you're happy with that and understand this, let's move on to the next important piece of explanation. In the following diagram White is in check to the black Bishop on the square b4. Though it is no longer a rule that you have to say check, when you're attacking your opponent's King, while you are still a novice player it is still a good idea to remind them that they are in check (attacked by one of your pieces or pawns). So, what do you do when your opponent places you in check? Here the white King has several ways of getting out of check. **1.** White can **MOVE** his King to d1, e2 or f1 removing his King from the line of fire. **2.** He could move either of his Knights to the square d2, or his queen Knight or c2-pawn to c3, **BLOCKING** the check. **3.** Or he can **CAPTURE** the enemy attacker by, in this case, playing axb4 (the sign x means captures).

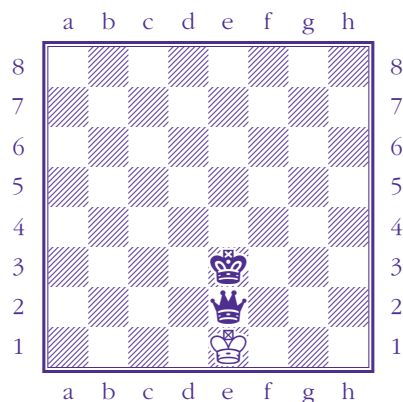


Test 2A



Now for part 2 of our 'Chess in Easy Stages.' If you successfully completed the Grade 1 Test you should be eager to attempt Grade 2, Test A. If you just missed out on the required score last time, have a go at Grade 1, Test B. Solutions are on page 105-106. This follows shortly after the Grade 2 Test.

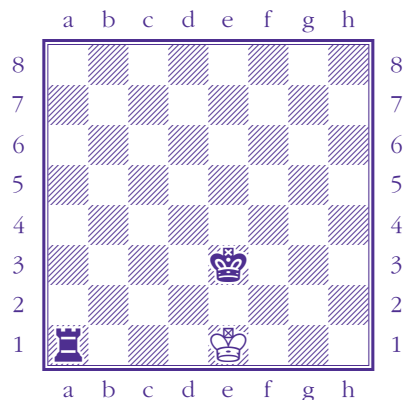
Question 1: White to move



Is White in....

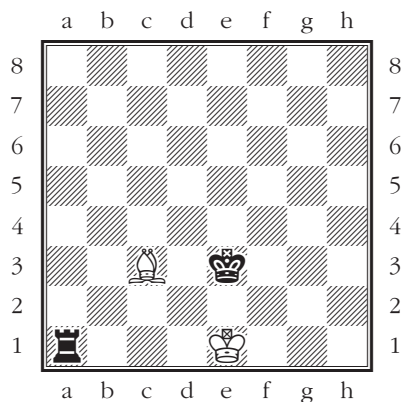
- ☐ Check, but not checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

Question 2: White to move



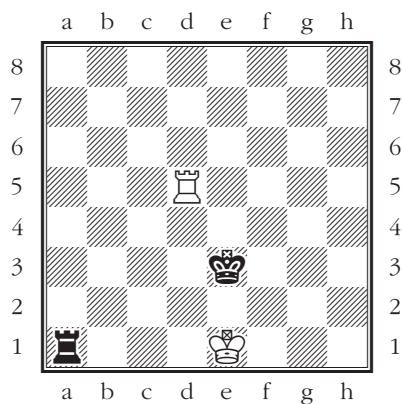
Is White in...

- ☐ Check, but not checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

Question 3: White to move

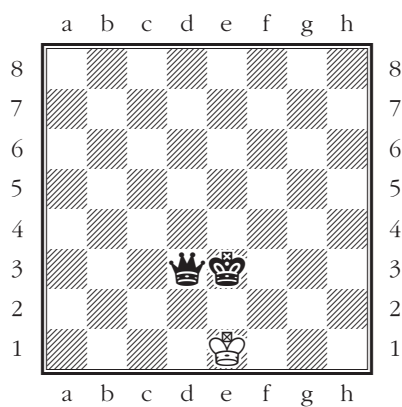
Is White in....

- ☐ Check, but **not** checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

Question 4: White to move

Is White in....

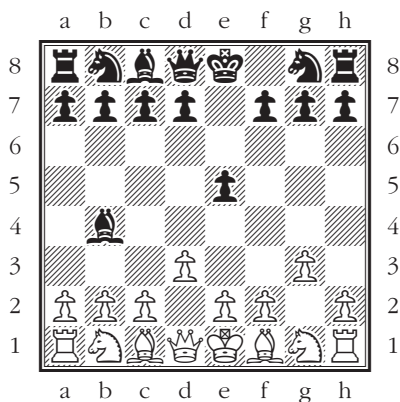
- ☐ Check, but **not** checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

Question 5: White to move

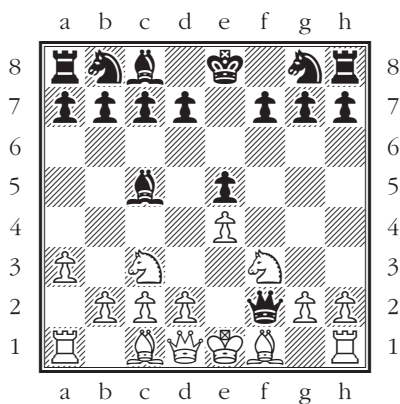
Is White in....

- ☐ Check, but **not** checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

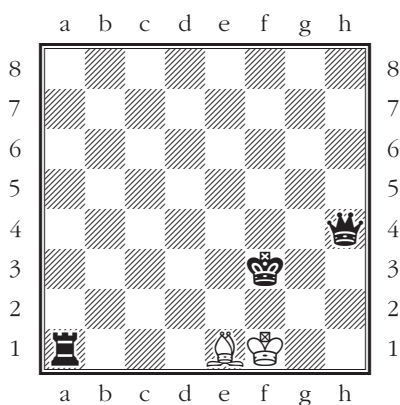
Question 6: White to move



Question 7: White to move



Question 8: White to move



Is White in....

- ☐ Check, but **not** checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

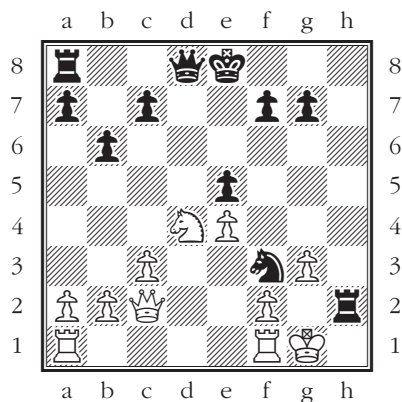
Is White in....

- ☐ Check, but **not** checkmate?
- ☐ Checkmate?
- ☐ Stalemate?

Which is the *only* true statement?

- ☐ White **must** move his king
- ☐ White can take Black's Queen with his Bishop
- ☐ It is stalemate

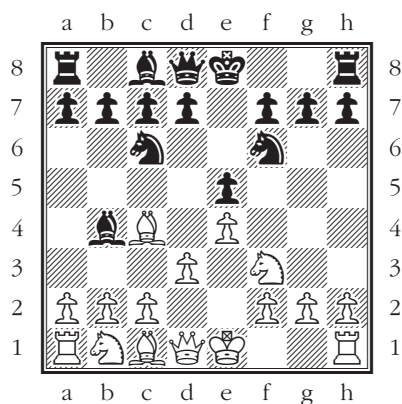
Question 9: White to move



White is in check from the black Knight. Only one of these ways can help him escape next move. Which one?

- ☐ Block the check
- ☐ Move the King
- ☐ Take the Knight

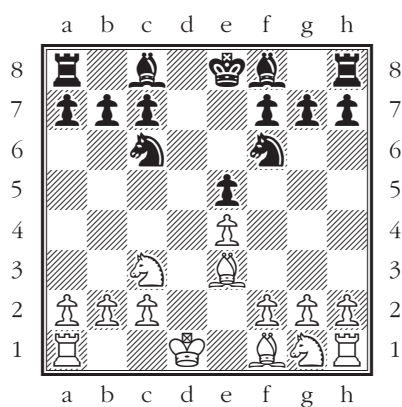
Question 10: White to move



White is in check from the black Bishop. Only one of these ways can help him escape next move. Which one?

- ☐ Block the check
- ☐ Castle
- ☐ Take the Bishop

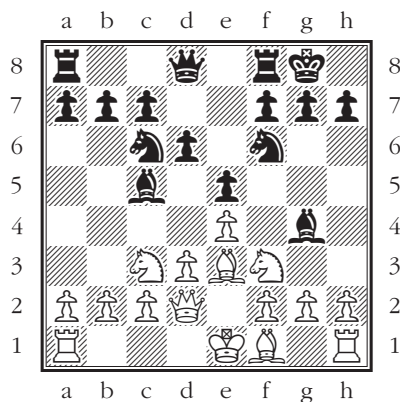
Question 11: White to move



Which statement is true?

- ☐ He can castle next move
- ☐ He cannot castle next move because he has already moved his King
- ☐ He cannot castle next move because he would end up in check

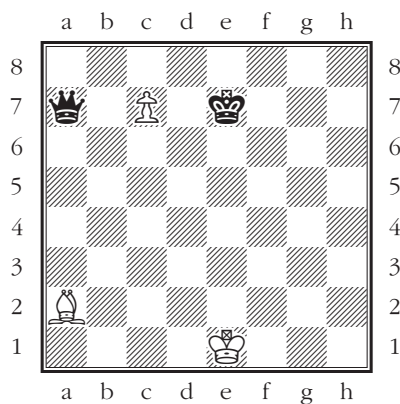
Question 12



If White castles, on which square will his king be placed?

- ☐ a1
☐ b1
☐ c1

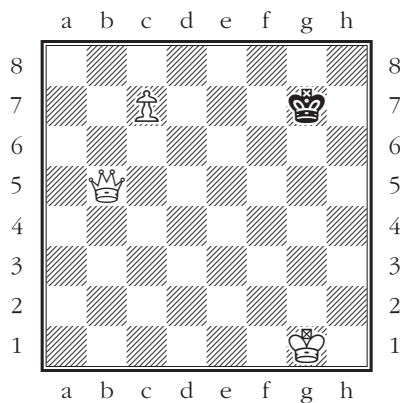
Question 13: White to move



If he moves his pawn to c8, which is the only **true** statement?

- ☐ He must replace it with a Queen
☐ He can replace it with a King
☐ He can replace it with a Queen, Rook, Bishop or Knight

Question 14: White to move



If he moves his pawn to c8, which is the only **true** statement?

- ☐ He can replace it with a new queen on c8
☐ He cannot replace it with a new queen because he would then have 2 queens
☐ He can take the pawn off the board and place a new queen on d1

Values of the Pieces

 is worth 9 points

 is worth 5 points

 is worth 4 points

 is worth 3 points

 is worth 1 point

Question 15: White to move

← Look at the Values of the Pieces table on the left. Can you spot the mistake?

Which piece has the wrong value?

- ☐ 
- ☐ 
- ☐ 

**Now check your answers to see that you have not made any mistakes.
You need to get at least 13 right to pass!**

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Test 1B



You need to get at least 13 questions right to pass!

Question 1



This tall, powerful piece can move right **across** the board in one go. It is called the ...

- ☐ Queen
- ☐ King
- ☐ Pawn

Question 2



The real name of this piece is the ... :

- ☐ Tower
- ☐ Rook
- ☐ Crow

Question 3



This piece has a slit on the top and moves along the diagonals. It is called the ... :

- ☐ Knight
- ☐ Vicar
- ☐ Bishop

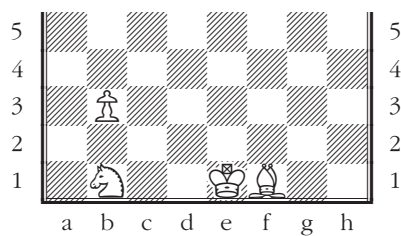
Question 4



These small pieces are called:

- ☐ Soldiers
- ☐ Pawns
- ☐ Kings

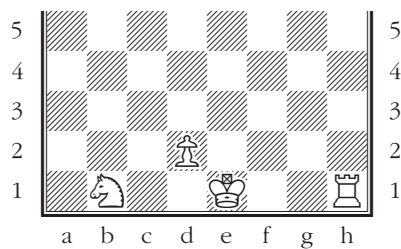
Question 5



The **pawn** has already moved forward one square. How many squares **forward** can it move on its **next** move?

- ☐ Only one
☐ One or two
☐ Two

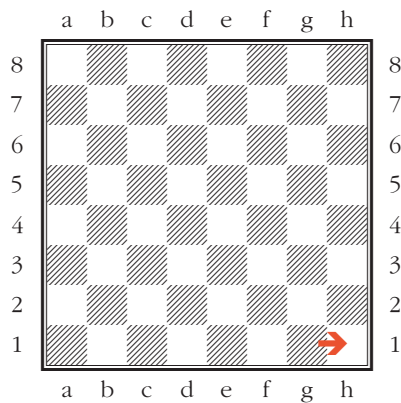
Question 6



The **pawn** has not yet moved. How many squares **forward** can it move on its **first** move

- ☐ Only one
☐ One or two
☐ Three

Question 7

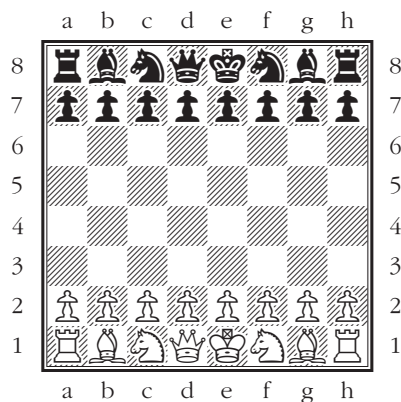


This chess board has a **white** square in the **bottom right hand corner** (see arrow).

Is the board the **right way round**?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

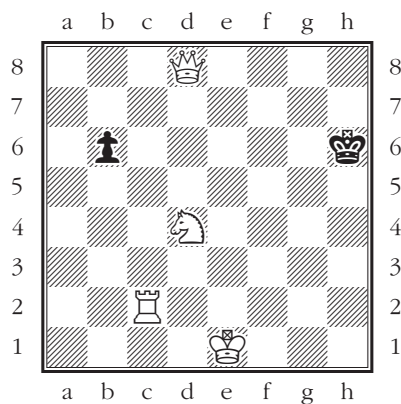
Question 8:



What is wrong with the way this chess board has been set up?

- ☐ The **Queens** and **Kings** are on the wrong squares
- ☐ The **Bishops** and **Knights** are on the wrong squares
- ☐ The **Rooks** are on the wrong squares

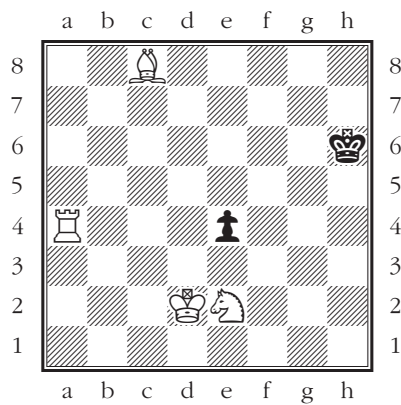
Question 9: White to move



Which is the **only** white piece that can capture the **black pawn** *next* move?

- ☐ Rook
- ☐ Knight
- ☐ Queen

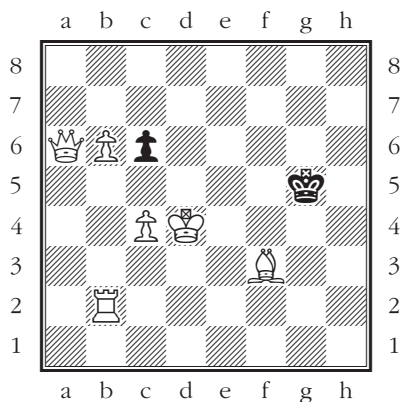
Question 10: White to move



Which is the **only** white piece that can capture the **black pawn** *next* move?

- ☐ Rook
- ☐ Knight
- ☐ Bishop

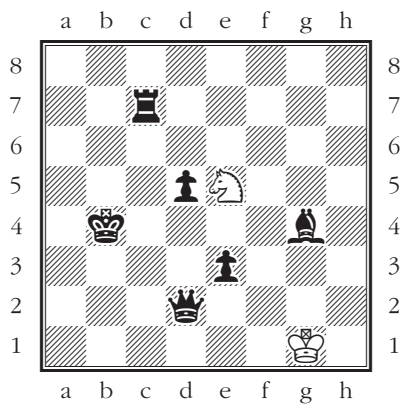
Question 11



Which is the **only** white piece that can capture the **black pawn next** move?

- ☐ Rook
☐ Queen
☐ Bishop

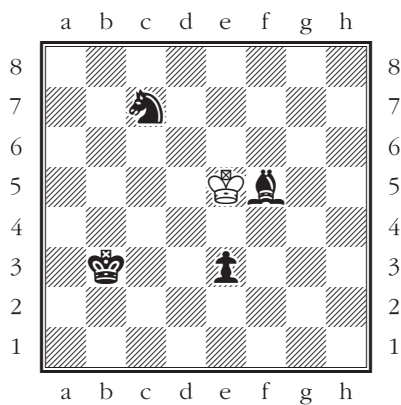
Question 12: White to move



Which is the **only** black piece the **white Knight** can capture **next** move?

- ☐ Bishop
☐ Queen
☐ Rook

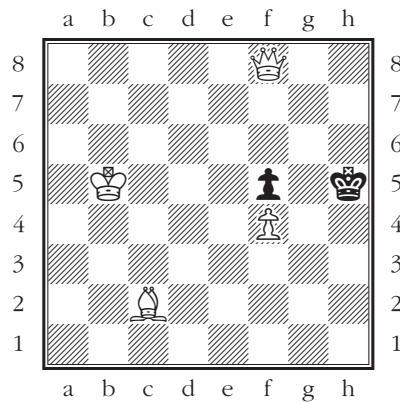
Question 13: White to move



Which is the **only** black piece the **white king** can capture **next** move?

- ☐ Bishop
☐ Pawn
☐ Knight

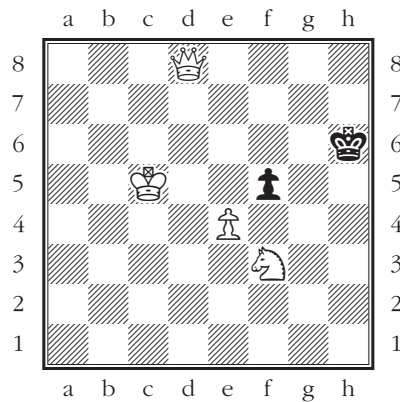
Question 14: White to move



Which is the **only** white piece (apart from the King) that **cannot** capture the **black** pawn next move?

- ☐ Queen
- ☐ Pawn
- ☐ Bishop

Question 15: White to move



Which is the **only** white piece that **can** capture the **black** pawn next move?

- ☐ Pawn
- ☐ Queen
- ☐ Knight

Now check your answers on page 105!





**Sabrina is new
Manager of Women's Chess**

England International Sabrina Chevannes
has recently been elected Manager of Women's Chess
by the English Chess Federation.
Sabrina has also written a new book *Chess for Children*
which has just been published by Batsford.

Girl Power!



In all that earlier explanation about castling I talked about 'him.' So, to make it fair, let's now talk about 'her' and move on to Girl Power!! One of the great things about chess is it's one of the very few games where girls and boys, men and women, regularly compete against each other because speed and strength does not play a part.

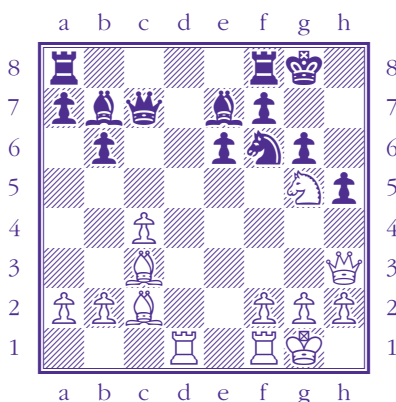
Here is a selection of games played by a few top lady players, just to whet your appetite.

Vera Menchik was the first World's Women Champion, holding the title from 1927 until her death in 1944 by a V-1 rocket bomb that also killed her two sisters and her mother, while living in South London. During her long reign she defended her title six times, losing only one game, winning 78 and drawing just 4!! The world champion of those times, Alexander Alekhine, considered her head and shoulders above all other women players and her male victims included C. H. O'D Alexander, Book, Colle, Euwe, Golombek, Sultan Khan, Mieses, Milner-Barry, Reshevsky, Samisch, Steiner, Winter and Yates among others. Most of these men felt honoured to be members of 'The Vera Menchik Club!'

Vera Menchik – Sonja Graf *Women's World Championship, Semmering 1937*

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♘bd7 5 e3 c6 6 ♙d3 ♙e7 7 0-0
0-0 8 e4 dxe4 9 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 10 ♙xe4 ♘f6 11 ♙c2 c5 12 dxc5
♙a5 13 ♙e3 ♙xc5 14 ♙d2 ♙c7 15 ♙c3 ♙e7 16 ♙e2 b6 17 ♘g5
g6 18 ♙f3 ♙b7 19 ♙h3 h5 20 ♙ad1

This is not a comfortable position for Black and, under pressure, she blunders. Also possible and very good for White was 20 Rae1 Qxc4 21 Nxe6 fxe6 (21...Bc8 loses to 22 Bb3 Qb5 23 Nc7+!) 22 Bb3.



20...Ng4?

Graf should have challenged Menchik with 20...Qxc4!? She was probably afraid of 21 Rd7! but that runs into 21...Bxg2! and Black escapes (but not 21...Nxd7? 22 Qxh5!+) 22 Qxg2 Nxd7 23 Nxf7 Rxf7 24 Qxa8+ Nf8 25 Bxg6 Qg4+ 26 Kh1 Qxg6 27 Rg1 Bg5 28 Bd2 Rg7 29 Bxg5 Qf5=. Another try 20...Rad8?! allows 21 Bxg6! fxg6 (21...Rxd1 22 Rxd1 fxg6 23 Qxe6+ Kh8 24 Rd7+!) 22 Qxe6+ Kh8 23 Be5 Qc6 24 Qxc6 Bxc6 25 Rxd8 Rxd8 (25...Bxd8 26 Ne6 Kg8 27 Nxd8+!) 26 Nf7+ Kg8 27 Nxd8 Bxd8 28 Rd1 Nd7 29 Bb8 with advantage to White.

21 Rd7!

A beautiful decoy: the rook deflects the queen, allowing a spirited queen sacrifice.

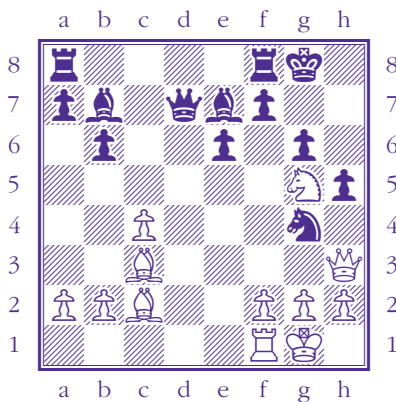
21...Qxd7

White would have a clear advantage after 21...Qxh2+ 22 Qxh2 Nxb2 23 Rxe7 Nxf1 24 Bxg6 e5 25 Nxf7 Kg7 26 Nxe5+ Kf6 27 Rxb7.



Vera Menchik was undisputed Women's World Champion from 1927 until her death in 1944.

Strong players who lost to her were given automatic membership to the *Menchik Club* – which included the 1930s men's world champion Max Euwe!



22 Qxh5!! gxh5 23 Bh7 checkmate.

This combination is known as Blackburne's mate after the great English player, Joseph Blackburne, who, in the 19th century, was once ranked No. 6 in the world.

Kristyna Havlikova (2310) – Wolfgang Uhlmann (2319)
Snowdrops versus Old-hands, Podebrady 2012

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5

The French Defence, which the German grandmaster Uhlmann has played all his life!

3 Nd2

The start of the Tarrasch variation.

3...c5

3...Nf6 is also often tried here and after White plays e5 we're back in almost standard French set-ups.

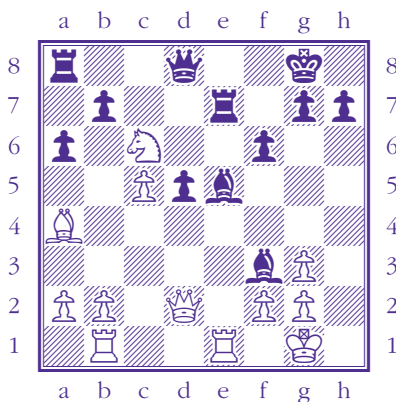
4 exd5 exd5 5 Ngf3 Nc6 6 Bb5 Bd6 7 dxc5

Isolating the pawn on d5 and causing Black to lose a tempo.

7...Bxc5 8 0-0 Nge7 9 c4 0-0 10 Nb3 Bd6 11 c5 Bb8 12 Bg5 f6

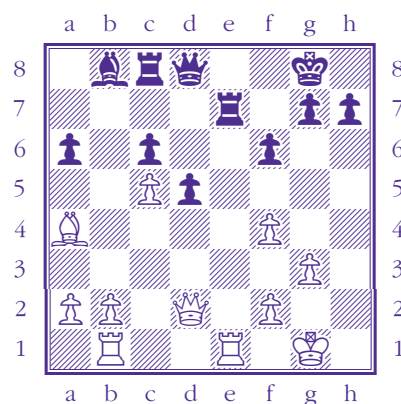
White's move 12 tempted Black into playing f6, creating a weakness on the light squares, especially e6.

**13 Bh4 Bg4 14 Re1 Be5 15 Rb1 Nf5 16 Bg3 Re8 17 Qd3 Nxg3
 18 hxg3 Bh5 19 Qd2 a6 20 Ba4 Re7 21 Nbd4 Bxf3 22 Nxc6**



The Knight makes a 'Zwischenzug'
– an in-between move before
recapturing on f3.

22...bxc6 23 gxf3 Rc8 24 f4 Bb8



Kristyna Havlikova is
a Woman's
International Master,
born in 1992 and a
citizen of the Czech
Republic.

25 Rxe7!! Qxe7 26 Bxc6 Rxc6 27 Qxd5+

The main point of 25 Rxe7!!

27...Qe6 28 Qd8+

...but White had to see this too.

28...Kf7 29 Qxb8 Kg6

If 29...Rxc5 then it would be very difficult to defend against
30 Qb7+ Kg8 31 Rd1.

**30 b4 Rc8 31 Qd6 Qe4 32 Rb3 Qe1+ 33 Kg2 Re8 34 Qd3+ Kf7
35 Rb1 Qe7 36 Qd5+ 1-0**

The white King is now quite safe and the Queenside pawns
march through.

Oleg Romanishin is an experienced Russian Grandmaster and a
noted theoretician. His opponent Alina Kashlinskaya is a
Russian woman Grandmaster – born in 1999, she would have
been just 13 when the following game was played.

Oleg Romanishin (2530) – Alina Kashlinskaya (2344)
Snowdrops versus Old-hands, Podebrady 2012

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5

This opening is called the Spanish or Ruy Lopez – a 16th century Spanish priest who first played this line.

3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0–0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 0–0 9 h3

To prevent Black playing ...Bg4, exerting indirect pressure on White's centre.

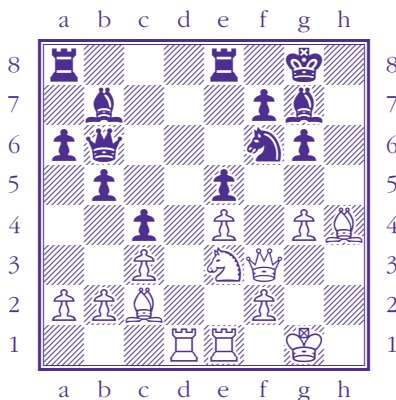
9...Nb8 10 d4 Nbd7

The Breyer variation, used more than once by Magnus Carlsen. It provides more protection for Black's central e5 pawn.

**11 Nbd2 Bb7 12 Bc2 Re8 13 Nf1 Bf8 14 Bg5 h6 15 Bh4 g6
 16 dxe5 dxe5**

All pretty much standard theory up to here.

**17 N3h2 Bg7 18 Qf3 c5 19 Rad1 Qb6 20 Ne3 c4 21 Nhg4 h5
 22 Nxf6+ Nxf6 23 g4 hxg4 24 hxg4**

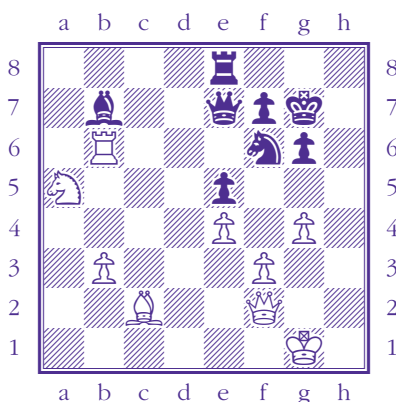


The open h-file created by this exchange eventually proves to be the deciding factor in this game. Open h-files are useful avenues of attack for your Rooks – especially when the opponent's king has castled on the kingside!

24...Qe6 25 Re2 Rad8 26 Red2 Rxd2 27 Rxd2 Bc8 28 Qd1

Romanishin keeps a firm grip on the open d file.

28...Bf8 29 f3 Bc5 30 Bf2 Qb6 31 Qe2 Bb7 32 b4 cxb3 33 axb3 a5 34 c4 bxc4 35 Nxc4 Bxf2+ 36 Qxf2 Qb4 37 Rd6 Kg7 38 Rb6 Qe7 39 Nxa5?



This turns out to be the losing error, but it was not easy to see coming the clever attack by Kashlinskaya.

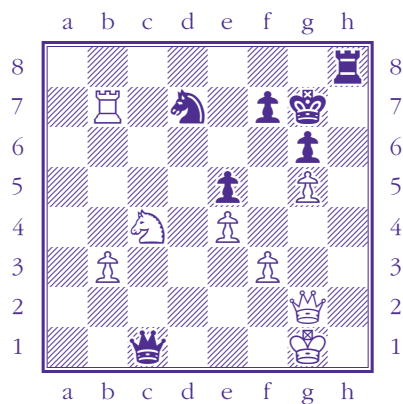
39...Qa3 40 Nc4

Pretty much forced. Not 40 Nxb7 Qc1+ and if 41 Kg2 then 41...Rh8 with the threat of ...Qh1 mate.

40...Qc1+ 41 Qf1

If 41 Kg2 Rh8! wins.

41...Qxc2 42 g5 Nd7 43 Rxb7 Rh8 44 Qg2 Qc1+



So, in the end it is Black, not White, who has a winning attack with the rook on the h-file! After either 45 Qf1 Rh1+! 46 Kxh1 Qxf1+ or 45 Kf2 Rh1, threatening Qe1 mate, White loses, e.g. 46 Kg3 Rg1 wins the white Queen as it is pinned against the King and cannot move away.

0-1



Tournament Reports



English Under 11s Closed Championship, October 2013

This year's event took place as usual at the excellent venue of Nottingham Boys Junior High School. We had 45 entrants but one dropped out before the start, while another withdrew early because of illness. The original 45 included 7 girls. The chess played throughout was of a high standard and some of it was exceptional!



Nine-year-old Ilya Misyura of Westminster with his winner's trophy. In the background are David Levens, Mr E. Jones of Nottingham Boys Junior High School and Victor Cross, the arbiter.

The number one seed was James Moreby with an ECF grade of 155; he remained favourite to take the title until he crashed in round 4 against the eventual and deserved winner, Ilya Misyura from London, who scored a magnificent 5/5! This score qualifies him immediately for the England U11 trial in Liverpool next April. Many congratulations from me. Several others scored half norms of 3 points or more and there was a quadruple tie for second.



Of these there was a fantastic last round game between Aditya Munshi and Adam Bennett, both from Nottingham, and an incredible win by Susie Wang of Derby in the last round. This gave her the necessary 3 points, but at only 8 years of age (!) she will not be allowed a place in the England U11 squad. But watch out for this talented youngster in future.

Aditya Munshi made a brilliant queen sacrifice in the last round

The following game was played in the last round between two Nottingham rivals. If you want excitement this definitely provides it!

Adam Bennett - Aditya Munshi **English U11 Closed Championship, 2013**

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 c5 4 c3 Nc6 5 Nf3 Qb6 6 Be2

There is also a gambit line here with 6 Bd3 cxd4 7 cxd4 Bd7 8 0-0, sacrificing a pawn for a faster development of pieces.

6...Nge7?

The Knight should go to f5 via h6 so as not to block his king's Bishop. So correct is 6...cxd4 7 cxd4 Nh6 when 8 Na3 can be met by 8...Bxa3 and 8 Bxh6 by Qxb2! attacking the rook on a1.

7 0-0

Best is 7 dxc5! Qxc5 8 Na3 followed by Nc2 and Ncd4.

7...Nf5 8 Bd3

More adventurous is 8 g4! Nh6 9 h3.

8...Be7

Alternatively, there is 8...cxd4 9 Bxf5 exf5 10 cxd4.

9 Bxf5

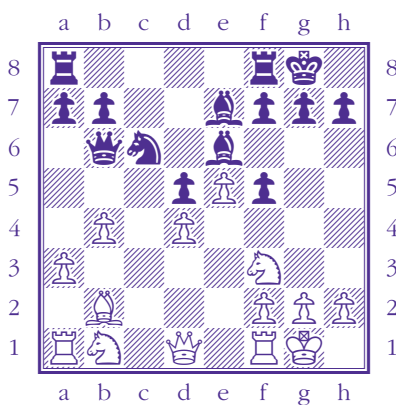
Also possible is 9 dxc5 Qxc5 10 Qc2.

9...exf5 10 a3 Be6 11 b4 cxd4 12 cxd4 0-0

Black should play 12...a5, challenging White's vulnerable queenside pawns, since 13 bxa5 Nxa5 gives Black very active pieces on the queenside.

13 Bb2

13 Qd3 covers the b5 square and allows White to respond to 13...a5 with 14 b5, leaving White better.

**13...f6**

Now 13...a5 is even stronger as if White plays 14 bxa5 he loses his bishop on b2. The b4 pawn is 'pinned'!

14 Nbd2

White could have developed this knight on c3, to meet 14...a5 with 15 b5, or continue with Na4 and Nc5 with a strong outpost.

14...fxe5 15 dxe5 Rac8

15...a5, yet again!

16 Nb3 f4

Seeking counterplay on the kingside.

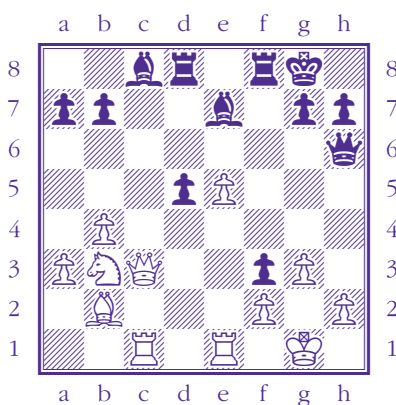
17 Rc1 Rcd8 18 Nfd4 Bc8 19 Re1?!

Stronger is 19 Nxc6 bxc6 20 Bd4 Qa6 21 Na5 with pressure on the c6 pawn and access to many queenside squares.

19...Nxd4 20 Qxd4 Qg6 21 Qc3

21 Rc3! looks better. Then White controls the third rank, and can follow with Rfc1, exerting strong pressure on the c-file. Or even 21 f3! forestalling the advance of the black f-pawn.

21...f3 22 g3 Qh6



23 Kh1?

Instead of this passive move, 23 Nd4 is far more active, bringing the Knight back into the thick of the action and meeting the threatened 23...Qh3 (intending ...Qg2 mate) with 24 Nxf3. If 23...Bg4 24 Qd3 Qh3 25 Qf1 stops the mate.

23...Bh3

23...Bg5 is also possible, as he plays later.

24 Rg1

Wary of ...Bg2+ followed by ...Qh3, ...Bf1, and mate on g2.

24...Bg4?!

Backtracking. 24...Bg5! could be played.

25 Qd2??

25 Qd4 is better.

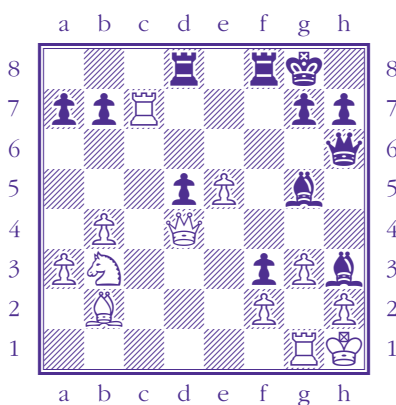
25...Bg5!

Exploiting the fact that the Queen is now a target, Black gains time for an attack.

26 Qd4 Bh3

Black could of course also play 26...Bxc1 winning Rook for Bishop, but prefers to keep the bishops for attack.

27 Rc7



27...Rf5?

27...Be3!., followed by the capture of the f2 pawn, would have won, since after 28 Qxe3 Qxe3 29 fxe3 f2, Black's new 'passed pawn' threatens both the rook and promoting to a queen on the next move.

28 Nc5

In view of Black's possible next move, 28 Qd3 is better.

28...Re8

Yes, 28...Be3! is still possible.

29 Qxd5+

Now it's White's turn to regain control.

29...Kh8 30 Qxb7?

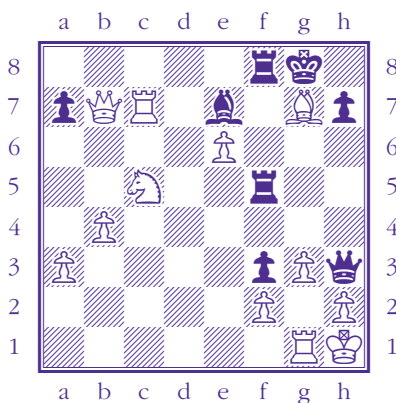
Definitely not the time to go hunting pawns! 30 Rf7! would have taken control of the f-file and blocked most of Black's attacking options. Then the game would continue 30...Bg2+ 31 Rxc2 fxc2+ 32 Kxc2 Rxf7 33 Qxf7 Qc6+ 34 f3.

30...Ref8

30...Be3! again.

31 e6 Bg2+ 32 Rxc2 Qh3!? 33 Bxc7+ Kg8 34 Rg1 Be7!?

Craftily threatening 35...Qxh2+! 36 Kxh2 Rh5 mate.



35 g4??

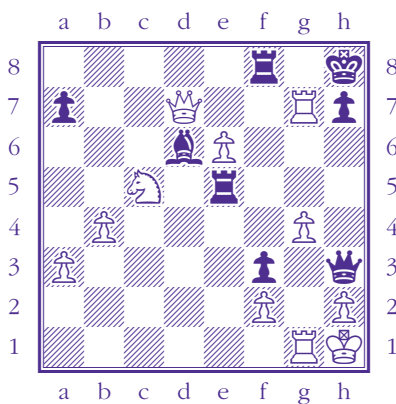
Black's brilliant attack can only be met by brilliant defence. 35 Qe4! wins, e.g. 35...Rh5 36 Qh4!! Bxh4 (36...Rxc4 loses in similar fashion) 37 gxc4 opening the g-file against the black King. Then 37...Rxc4 38 Be5+ Rg4 (38...Qg2+ 39 Rxc2+ fxc2+ 40 Kxc2 wins) 39 Rg7+! Rxc7 40 Rxc7+ Kh8 41 Rg6+ Rf6 42 Bxf6 mate. Or 35...Qxh2+ 36 Kxh2 Rh5+ 37 Qh4 Bxh4 38 gxc4 Rxc4+ 39 Kg3 winning.

35...Bd6 36 Be5!

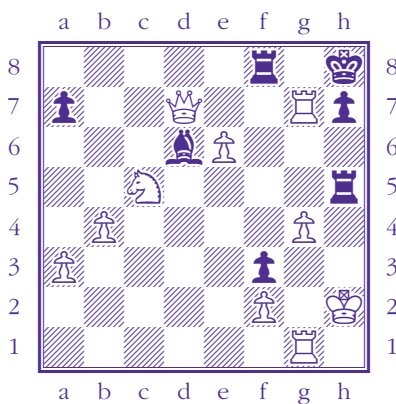
A good try. If now 36...Bxe5 37 gxf5+ Kh8 38 Rxh7+ Qxh7
39 Qxh7+ Kxh7 40 Nd7 wins

36...Rxe5 37 Rg7+ Kh8 38 Qd7?

The only way to continue resistance was by 38 Rxh7+ Qxh7
39 Qxh7+ Kxh7 40 Nd7 Rxe6 41 Nxf8+ Bxf8 42 Rg3 or 42 h4.



38...Qxh2+! 39 Kxh2 Rh5 mate.



It's a discovered double check – and mate!! An incredible see-saw of a game that either side could have won.

At the start of this event James Moreby, with an ECF grade of 155, was clear favourite to win the title, but “there’s many a slip twixt cup and lip!” This was yet another game that swung back and forth and which could have gone either way.

Ilya Misyura – James Moreby
English U11 Closed Championship, Nottingham 2013

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 b5 4 cxb5 a6 5 bxa6 Bxa6 6 Nf3 g6 7 g3 Bg7 8 Bg2 d6 9 Nc3 0–0 10 0–0 Nbd7 11 Re1 Qc7

If 11...Nb6 12 e4, intending 13 e5.

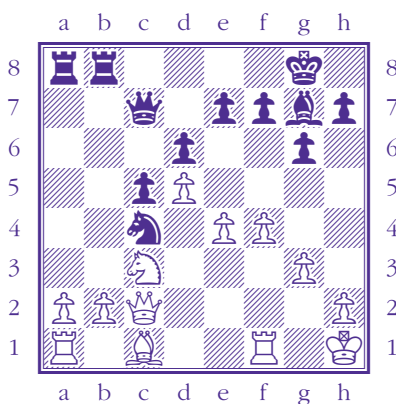
12 Qc2 Rfb8 13 e4 Ng4 14 Bf1

Anticipating the incursion ...Nge5 and ...Nd3.

14...Bxf1

14...Nde5! is better to attack the weak f3 and d3 squares.

15 Rxf1 Nge5 16 Nxe5 Nxe5 17 f4! Nc4 18 Kh1



18...Rb7

18...Qb7! would strike the b2 pawn again and also threaten a timely ...f5 to initiate action on the h1-a8 diagonal.

19 f5 Rab8

19...Qa5 also keeps up the Queenside pressure.

20 Rb1 Ne5

Again 20...Qa5 is possible and if 21 fxc6 hxc6 22 Qf2 Rf8! but not 22...Bxc3 23 Qf7+ Kh8 24 Bh6! when White wins after 24...Qa8 (to stop 25 Qf8+! mating) 25 bxc3! Rg8 26 Rxb7 Qxb7 27 Qxg8+! Kxg8 28 Rf8 mate!

21 a4 c4 22 Nb5 Qc5 23 h3 Nd3 24 b3

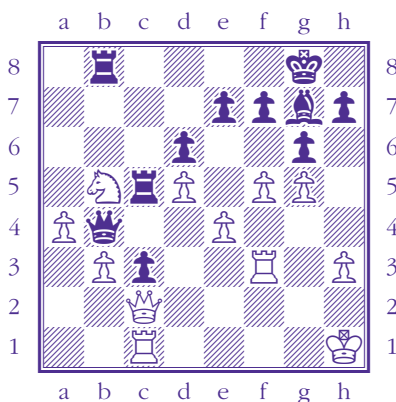
Fritz recommends 24 Bg5 here with a big advantage.

24...Rc8

24...gxf5 25 Rxf5 Nxc1 also gives Black active play, e.g. 26 b4 Qe3 27 Rxc1 Qxg3 28 Qg2 Qxg2+ 29 Kxg2 c3.

25 Qe2 Nxc1 26 Rbxc1 c3 27 g4 Qb4 28 Qc2 Rc5 29 Rf3 Rb8

29...g5 would have stopped White's next.

30 g5**30...Rbc8**

30...Be5 would place the Bishop outside the pawn chain and introduce latent possibilities on the kingside.

31 f6!

White is now clearly on top.

31...exf6 32 gxf6 Bh6 33 Rg1?

Best is 33 Rd1 Bd2 34 Nxd6. Now Black stops this capture.

33...Rxb5! 34 axb5 Bd2 35 h4 Rc5?

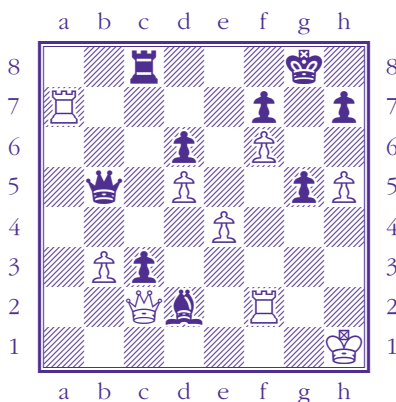
35...h5 would have prevented White's h5 advance and given his king some room. Now back rank mates appear!

36 Ra1! Rc8 37 h5 g5 38 Ra7

38 Rf2!, threatening Rxd2, was strong, e.g. 38...Qc5 39 Rxd2 cxd2 40 Qxc5 dxc5 (40...Rxc5? 41 Ra8+ mates) 41 d6 and White's pawn avalanche decides the game.

38...Qxb5 39 Rf2?

A mistake. This rook should have gone to d3.



39...Be3?

39...Qb6 or Qc5, forking the two rooks, would have restored material equality after 40 Rxd2 Qxa7 and put Black firmly in control.

40 Qxc3!

Since 40...Rxc3? allows 41 Ra8+ mating.

40...Qc5 41 Qxc5 dxc5 42 Rc2

Or 42 Rfa2! followed by 43 Ra8 winning.

42...Bd4 43 b4 c4 44 Rxc4! Bxf6 45 Rxc8+ Kg7 1-0

It is often easy to criticise players in the cold light of day but remember, this was a last round game and effectively a battle for the championship – with a small crowd watching!

Now, some more fireworks from the last round.

Susie Wang – Peter Isaksen
English U11 Closed Championship, 2013

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 exd5 Na5 6 Bb5+ c6
7 dxc6 bxc6 8 Be2 Be7 9 Nc3 h6 10 Nf3 e4 11 Ne5 Bd6**

11...Qd4! is even more aggressive.

12 f4

12 d4! would have defended the Knight and at the same time opened the way for the queen's Bishop.

12...Bxe5?

Allowing White to acquire a strong e-pawn. Better is **12...exf3 13 Nxf3 0-0**.

13 fxe5 Nd7 14 e6!

A nice move for an 8 year old to find!

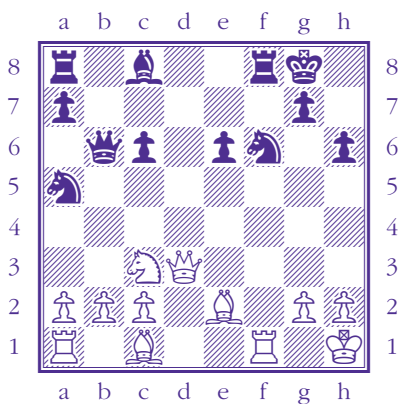
14...fxe6 15 0-0

Instead **15 Bh5+** would have denied Black castling rights.

15...Qb6+ 16 Kh1 Nf6 17 d4

Again, **17 Bh5+!** and on **17...Ke7 18 Bg6** hitting the e4 pawn.

17...exd3 18 Qxd3 0-0



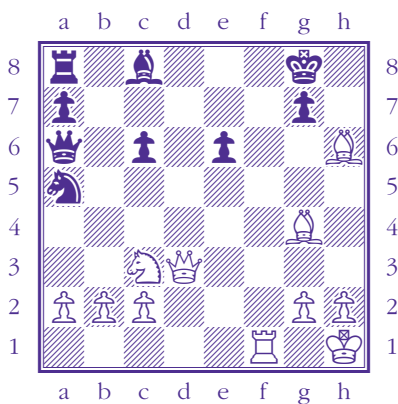
19 Bxh6!

So if 19...gxh6 20 Qg6+ destroys Black's kingside.

19...Rf7 20 Rab1

20 Qg6! Qxb2 21 Rad1 Bb7 22 Ne4! is very strong.

20...Ng4?? 21 Bxg4 Rxf1+ 22 Rxf1 Qa6??



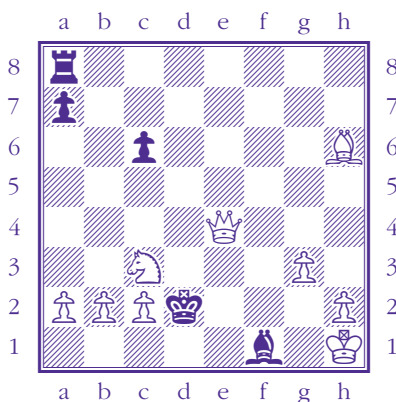
23 Bxe6+!

Winning the Queen, but even better is 23 Rf8+!! Kxf8 24 Qd8+ Kf7 25 Bh5+ g6 26 Qf8 winning the King! Examine every check; examine every capture!!

23...Bxe6

If 23...Kh8 24 Rf8 checkmates. But now Black's Bishop is no longer protecting the Queen! This kind of combination is known as 'deflection' or 'removing the guard'.

24 Qxa6 Bc4 25 Qxa5 Bxf1 26 Qg5 Kf7 27 Qxg7+ Ke6 28 Qg6+ Ke5 29 Bg7+ Kf4 30 g3+ Ke3 31 Qe4+ Kd2 32 Bh6 mate.

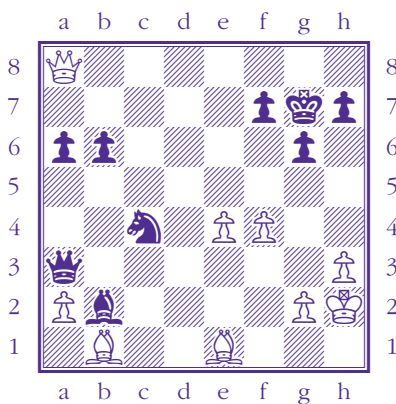


What impressed me about Susie's play was that she was always looking for checkmate!

And now for the last round game that decided first prize...

Ilya Misyura – Freddie Hand
English U11 Closed Championship, 2013

**1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e3 g6 5 Nf3 Bg7 6 Bd3 Bg4 7 h3 Bxf3
 8 Qxf3 dxc4 9 Bxc4 Nbd7 10 0-0 0-0 11 Qe2 Qc7 12 Bd2 Rad8
 13 Rfd1 Nb6 14 Bb3 e5 15 dxe5 Qxe5 16 Rac1 Qe7 17 Na4 Nxa4
 18 Bxa4 Ne4 19 Be1 Rxd1 20 Rxd1 Rd8 21 Rxd8+ Qxd8 22 Bc2
 Qe8 23 f3 Nd6 24 b3 Qe5 25 Bd3 c5 26 Bf2 b6 27 f4 Qa1+ 28 Kh2
 Qf6 29 Qf3 Qb2 30 Qe2 Qa3 31 Be1 Bb2 32 Bb1 a6 33 Qf3 c4
 34 bxc4 Nxc4 35 Qa8+ Kg7 36 e4**

**36...Bc1**

Freddy misses 36...Qe3! 37 Bg3 Bd4 38 h4 Qg1+ 39 Kh3 Qh1+ 40 Bh2 Bg1 which would have won the game and the U11 title. It was obviously meant to be Ilya's year!

37 Qb8 Qe3 38 Bg3 Bb2 39 h4 Nd2 40 f5 Nf1+ 41 Kh3 Bf6 42 Qf4 Qe2 43 e5 Bd8 44 f6+ Kf8 45 Qh6+ Ke8 46 Qxh7 Ne3 47 Qg8+ Kd7 48 Qxf7+ Kc6 49 Be4+ Kb5 1-0

Finally we present the tournament table so you can see who beat who and the progressive scores of this exciting event.



English Under 11s Closed Championship, 12-13 October 2013

<i>Pairing No.</i>		<i>Rd.1</i>	<i>Rd.2</i>	<i>Rd.3</i>	<i>Rd.4</i>	<i>Rd.5</i>
4	Ilya Misyura <i>London</i>	1(26)	2(18)	3(22)	4(1)	5(2)
2	Freddie Hand <i>Kent</i>	1(45)	2(13)	3(11)	4(6)	4(4)
1	James Moreby <i>Newcastle</i>	1(24)	2(16)	3(12)	3(4)	4(8)
7	Jason Covey <i>Barnet</i>	0(29)	1(38)	2(27)	3(18)	4(14)
11	Amardip Ahulwalia <i>Sussex</i>	1(32)	2(36)	2(2)	3(19)	4(3)
22	Aditya Munshi <i>Nottingham</i>	1(46)	2(9)	2(4)	3(12)	4(6)
9	Mahima Raghavendra <i>Bolton</i>	1(30)	1(22)	1½(19)	2½(37)	3½(29)
3	Riyaan Yesudian <i>Chester</i>	½(25)	1(14)	2(24)	3(16)	3(11)
5	Benjamin Headlong <i>Wiltshire</i>	1(27)	1½(19)	1½(8)	2½(25)	3(21)
6	Adam Bennett <i>Nottingham</i>	1(28)	2(20)	3(29)	3(2)	3(22)
8	Alfie Onslow <i>East Sheen</i>	½(44)	1½(39)	2½(5)	3(14)	3(1)
10	Jacob Goldberg <i>London</i>	1(31)	1(29)	1½(45)	2½(39)	3(3)
13	Daniel Finn <i>Sussex</i>	1(34)	1(2)	2(32)	2½(29)	3(12)
14	Madeleine Liu <i>Sussex</i>	1(35)	1½(3)	2½(44)	3(8)	3(7)
16	Lucy Bennet-Stevens <i>Sussex</i>	1(38)	1(1)	2(43)	2(3)	3(23)
19	William Lovell <i>London</i>	1(40)	1½(5)	2(9)	2(11)	3(36)
20	Adithya Krishna <i>Yorkshire</i>	1(21)	1(6)	1½(37)	2½(46)	3(10)
21	Abhishek Thakar <i>Nottingham</i>	0(20)	½(31)	1½(23)	2½(44)	3(5)
24	George Harman <i>Manchester</i>	0(1)	1(33)	1(3)	2(45)	3(31)
27	Robert Akeya-Price <i>Surrey</i>	0(5)	1(40)	1(7)	2(33)	3(15)
43	Susie Wang <i>Derby</i>	1(23)	1(12)	1(16)	2(30)	3(18)
12	Anita Somton <i>Suffolk</i>	1(33)	2(43)	2(1)	2(22)	2½(13)
29	Ximan Mao <i>Kent</i>	1(7)	2(10)	2(6)	2½(13)	2½(9)
39	Rohan Shenoy <i>Nottingham</i>	½(Bye)	½(8)	1½(34)	1½(10)	2½(25)
44	Kevin Velmurugan <i>Manchester</i>	½(8)	1½(25)	1½(14)	1½(21)	2½(37)
45	Tej Shah <i>Barnet</i>	0(2)	1(35)	1½(10)	1½(24)	2½(46)
15	Oliver Thornley <i>Berkshire</i>	0(36)	0(32)	1(35)	2(40)	2(27)
18	Peter Isaksen <i>Berkshire</i>	1(37)	1(4)	2(36)	2(7)	2(43)
23	Jake Bains-Gillespie <i>Berkshire</i>	0(43)	1(30)	1(21)	2(32)	2(16)
36	Shyam Modi <i>Leicester</i>	1(15)	1(11)	1(18)	2(28)	2(19)
40	Rohan Tandon <i>Nottingham</i>	0(19)	0(27)	1(Bye)	1(15)	2(35)
25	Neel Badhe <i>Nottingham</i>	½(3)	½(44)	1½(31)	1½(5)	1½(39)
28	Thivyaa Rahulan <i>Stoke</i>	0(6)	½(34)	½(46)	½(36)	1½(32)
31	Thomas Duxbury <i>Bolton</i>	0(10)	½(21)	½(25)	1½(34)	1½(24)
34	Alenjandro Aramendia <i>Surrey</i>	0(13)	½(28)	½(39)	½(31)	1½(33)
46	Robert Notingher <i>Nottingham</i>	0(22)	½(Bye)	1½(28)	1½(20)	1½(45)
37	Kishan Modi <i>Leicester</i>	0(18)	1(26)	1½(20)	1½(9)	1½(44)
32	James Garside <i>Nottingham</i>	0(11)	1(15)	1(13)	1(23)	1(28)
33	Ben Gilpin <i>Nottingham</i>	0(12)	0(24)	1(38)	1(27)	1(34)
35	Luke Lewis <i>Newark, Notts</i>	0(14)	0(45)	0(15)	1(Bye)	1(40)
30	James Clark-Kellaway <i>Nottingham</i>	0(9)	0(23)	0(26)	0(43)	1(Bye)
26	Inigo Serjeant <i>Sussex</i>	0(4)	0(37)	1(30)	W/D	
38	Kishore Murugesh <i>Lincs</i>	0(16)	0(7)	0(33)	DF	

East Midlands Grand Prix – Round 1

The East Midlands Grand Prix, organised by the secretary and the treasurer of the Notts Primary Schools Chess Association, is now in its 10th year and attracts over 100 juniors from various parts of the Midlands region.

This was the first of the three events that make up the Grand Prix, and offers prizes at every stage with overall winners in each section being decided by their best total scores.

In this first event the winner of the Under 18 section was Hambel Willow (West Nottingham CC), one of Nottingham's best girl players, with a score of 4/6. Taylor Pearson also of West Nottingham CC won the U16 section by achieving a 100% score (6/6)! The Under 12s joint winners were Sam Smith-McGloin (WNCC) and Adam Bennett (WNCC), both on 5½. Sam was made the winner on better count-back score. Third was Matthew Shipway (WNCC) on 4 – and 8 year old Susie Wang (WNCC) on the same score was Best Girl!

There was also a tie for first place in the under 10s, where both Rohan Tandon (Nottingham Junior Boys High School and Rohan Shenoy (WNCC) scored 5½ points each. Rohan Tandon won this section on count-back. But there was no doubt in the Under 8s as Zayan Baig (Nottingham Junior Boys High School) scored 6/6! Second was Oliver Bullough of Ravenshead Junior School on 5, and Kaitlyn Mistry of Abbey Road School was first girl by scoring 3½.

Northants 34th Junior Congress

The 34th Northants Junior Congress, which took place at Malcolm Arnold Academy on Saturday 16th November, was a resounding success. With this competition being a qualifier for the London Junior Chess Championships (LJCC) the turn out was again very high, with well over 100 players coming from county wide and beyond – others travelling from as far away as Nottingham and Sussex! Many congratulations to all the players who took part, and in particular to those who qualified for the LJCC in December.

NORTHANTS CHAMPIONS!



Under 10 winner Adyita Muni and 2nd placed Abhishek Thakar shared the Best Game prize



Best U12 girl Georgia Poole



Under 16 winner James Kearney



Joint U12 winners Pacey and Tyler Gwynne



Under 14 winner Ryan Reed



Under 18 winner Owen Robinson

Adyita Muni and Abhishek Thakar, both of Nottingham, took part with some success! These two Nottingham U11 stalwarts shared the Best Game prize while Adyita was the Under 10 Champion, scoring 6/6. Abhishek was second on 5/6. These two youngsters are just a few of the many Nottingham juniors who make a regular pilgrimage to Northampton to help secure their places in the London junior championships

Sharpen up your openings



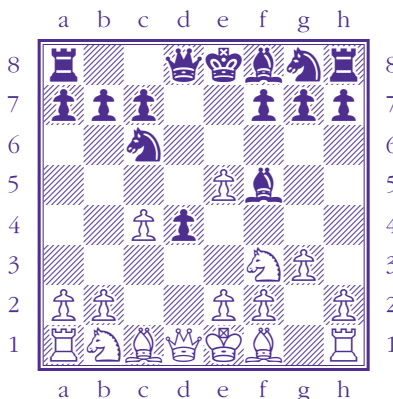
The Albin Counter-Gambit

A Gambit is usually, though not always, played by the player with the white pieces. And a counter-gambit, as it's a counter to a gambit, is usually played by the player with the black pieces. In my youth I always played the *Albin Counter-Gambit* when I got the opportunity, even though everything I read about it said it was unsound. But as I kept winning with it against many strong players I saw no reason to stop playing it.

Until fairly recently this opening was considered of dubious value. Then Grandmaster Morozovitch started using it against other GMs with much success and now it is considered to be sound after all! The moral is: "don't believe everything you read!"

E.Gigerl (2225) – F.Cirabisi (2105)
Caorle Open 1988

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e5 3 dxe5 d4 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 g3 Bf5



6 a3 Qd7 7 Nbd2 f6

Black elects to sacrifice the pawn permanently – the original idea behind the opening.

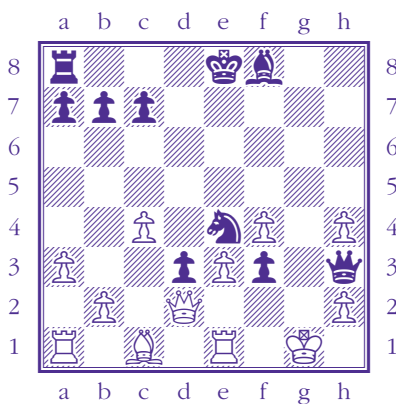
8 exf6 Nxf6 9 Bg2 Bh3 10 0–0 h5 11 Re1 Bxg2

The Bishop could become a dangerous attacking piece for White, so eliminate it!

12 Kxg2 h4!

And now open up the h file.

**13 e3 d3 14 Nxh4 g5 15 Nh3 Qh3+ 16 Kg1 g4 17 Nh4 Ne5
18 f4 Rxh4 19 gxh4 Nf3+ 20 Nxf3 gxf3 21 Qd2 Ne4 0–1**



The final position makes a pretty picture: The white Queen cannot move without allowing checkmate.

Boris Gelfand (2709) – Alexander Morozevich (2732)
13th Amber-blindfold tournament, Monaco 2004

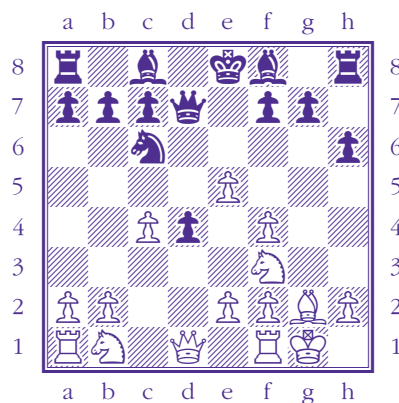
1 d4 d5 2 c4 e5 3 dxe5 d4 4 Nf3

If 4 e3? Bb4+ 5 Bd2 dxe3 6 Bxb4 exf2+ 7 Ke2 fxg1N+! 8 Rxd1
 (8 Ke1 Qh4+ leads to a winning attack for Black!) 8...Bg4+.

4...Nc6 5 g3 Nge7 6 Bg2 Ng6

This is very similar to the way I played it in the 1960s.

7 Bg5 Qd7 8 0–0 h6 9 Bf4 Nxf4 10 gxf4



10...g5!

Opening lines of attack to the white King.

11 Nbd2 gxf4 12 Ne4 Be7

**13 Qd2 Qg4 14 Kh1 Bf5 15 Nxd4 Rd8 16 Nxf5 Rxd2 17 Nxe7
 Kxe7 18 Nxd2 Qxe2 19 Nf3 Rg8 20 b3 Nb4 21 Nd4 Qg4 22 Be4
 Rg5 23 Rg1 Qd7 24 Nf3 Rxd1+ 25 Rxd1 Nd3 26 Rg2 c6 27 Bh7
 a5 28 Nh4 Nxe5 0–1**



Test Your Chess!



Now it's your turn, both boys and girls, to do some thinking on your own. What follows is a wonderful game where I'm asking you to 'guess' correctly most of White's moves after move one. You will need to have a set in front of you for this. Try to treat it as if you are sitting down in front of a difficult opponent and really concentrate. Good luck.

This is a junior version of BCM's 'Test Your Chess' by IM Shaun Taulbut. The difference is that I am giving you three choices, called candidate moves, after most moves by Black. Experienced players usually analyse three or four moves, not just one at most turns. Of course there is no limit on the amount of candidate moves a GM or IM might analyse; I once had nine reasonable moves to consider!! But I think that three possibilities is a reasonable amount to start training you to look at various alternatives.

This is a game played long before the advent of computers and clever software, but remember modern computers are no more than calculating machines. You are playing with **Mikhail Tal** from Latvia, considered to be one of the very best attacking players ever. He was also a fantastic human calculating machine too. Your opponent with the black pieces is the Bulgarian Grandmaster, Gyorgy Tringov. As this is a short game I'll require you to start thinking from very early on. Select from (a), (b) or (c) from move 2 onwards.

1 e4 g6

(a) 2 Nc3 (b) 2 Bc4 or (c) 2 d4.

2 d4

2 points if you played this. White wants to occupy the centre and gain space. (b) Bc4 – 1 point This is OK but I prefer Lasker's maxim, 'Knights before Bishops' because this early you cannot yet be sure if this is the best square for your Bishop. (c) Nc3 – 2 points.

2...Bg7

(a) 3 Nc3 (b) 3 Bc4
(c) 3 e5.

3 Nc3

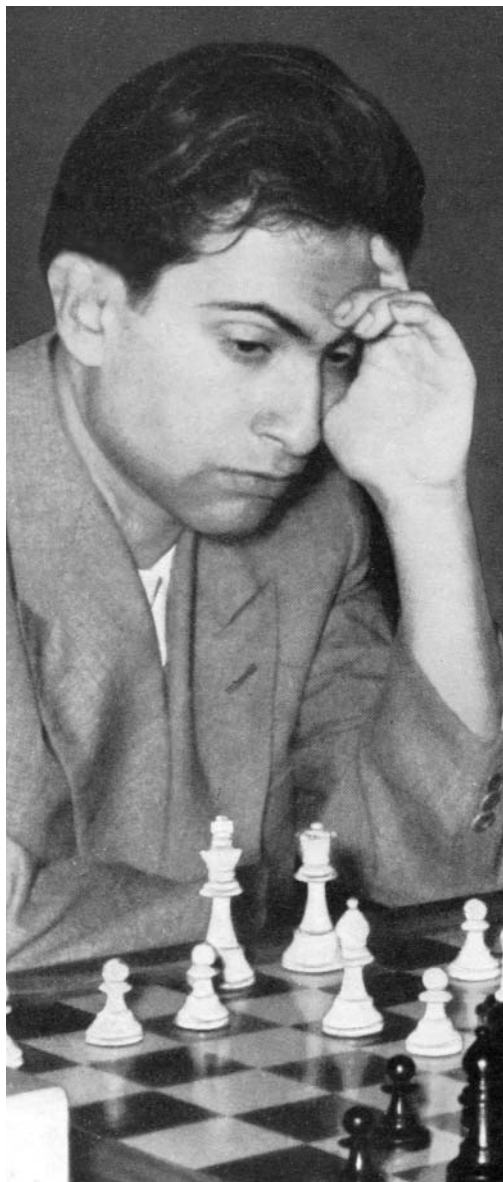
2 points for this or Bc4, targeting the f7 square, but nothing for e5 – it's premature while you still have pieces in bed and it gives Black an easy target.

3...d6

(a) 4 Nf3 (b) 4 Be2
(c) 4 Bb5+.

4 Nf3

Another 2 points; 1 for Be2, which is rather tame, and nothing for



Mikhail Tal was one of the all-time great attacking players and sacrificed more pieces than any other grandmaster!

Bb5+ as after 4...c6 White has wasted a valuable tempo and allowed Black some control of the d5 square.

4...c6

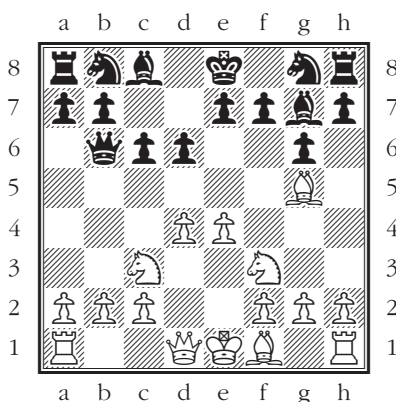
(a) 5 Bc4 (b) 5 Bf4 (c) 5 Bg5.

5 Bg5

3 points; 2 for Bc4. I'm sure that this move surprised Tringov, but it's typical Tal, who always strived to take his opponents out of their comfort zones. 2 for Bc4; nothing for Bf4, as it's hardly in the spirit of vintage Tal yet.

5...Qb6

(a) 6 Bc4 (b) 6 Qd2 (c) 6 b3.



6 Qd2

3 points for this. After Black's Qb6 his next is virtually forced, allowing Tal the sort of attacking opportunities he relished. Nothing for Bc4 and minus 1 for b3 – which is just what Black would have been hoping for, but a defensive move from Tal is extremely rare!

6...Qxb2

(a) 7 Rb1 (b) 7 Rd1 (c) 7 Rc1.

7 Rb1

2 points, the only logical move. Nothing for anything else.

7...Qa3

(a) 8 Bc4 (b) 8 Rb3 (c) 8 Bd3.

8 Bc4

2 points. This natural move prepares for an assault on the black King. Remember who you are, Mikhail Tal, the master of attack!

1 point for 8 Rb3 forcing Black to move his queen yet again. Nothing for 8 Bd3 which would mean that you expect Tal to waste time. Never!

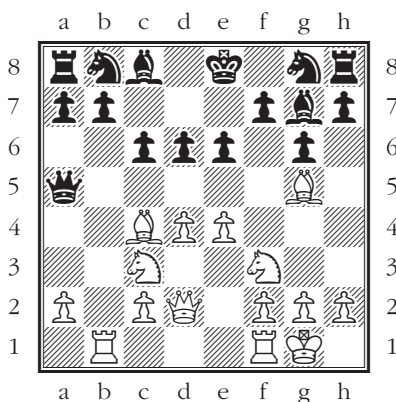
8...Qa5

The black Queen has now moved 4 times already, while his other pieces remain fast asleep in bed.

(a) 9 0-0 (b) 9 a4 (c) 9 Bd3.

9 0-0

3 points. There's no hurry yet. Nothing for 9 a4 or 9 Bd3. Tal has seen a lot more.

9...e6?

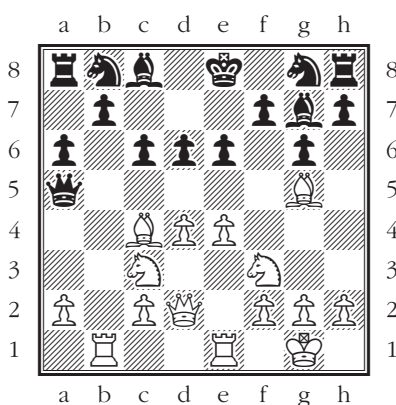
Take a careful look at this position: Black has made four pawn moves in his first nine and developed just two pieces. Tal has made just two pawn moves and has developed all of his army, which is now fully prepared to punish Black's poor opening play.

(a) 10 Rfe1 (b) 10 e5 (c) 10 Bd3.

10 Rfe1

3 points; minus 1 for e5 which would allow d5 by Black, giving Tringov some counter-play in the centre, and nothing for Bd3.

10...a6?



This is the fifth pawn move out of the first ten! The quality of Tringov's play is so poor that it's difficult for me to understand how he gained the Grandmaster title, but Tal's charisma caused many players to 'lose' even before a move had been played!

(a) 11 Bf4 (b) 11 e5 (c) 11 Red1.

11 Bf4

3 points, striking at the weak pawn on d6 and gaining a little time. Steinitz said, when you have the advantage, you MUST attack. Nothing for e5 but 1 point for Red1.

58

*Junior British Chess Magazine***11... e5**

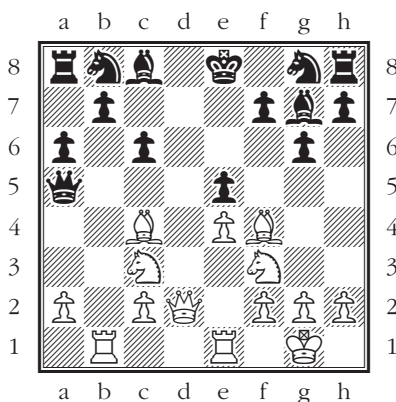
(a) 12 dxe5 (b) 12 Ng5 (c) 12 Bg3.

12 dxe5

2 points, logical and good. Nothing for anything else.

12... dxe5

(a) 13 Qd6 (b) 13 Be3 (c) 13 Ng5.

**13 Qd6!**

3 points, keeping the black King from castling into safety. Nothing for anything else; you should be scenting blood by now.

13...Qxc3?

(a) 14 Red1 (b) 14 Bxe5 (c) 14 Rbd1.

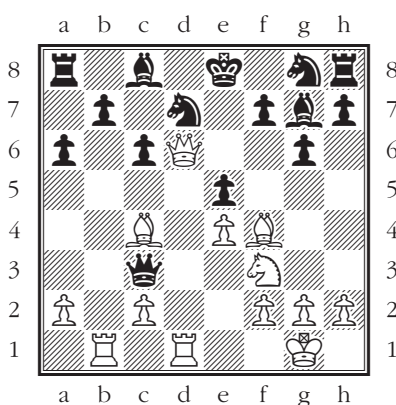
14 Red1

5 points There are good reasons for playing this instead of Rbd1, which will become clear later. As I said earlier, Tal was preparing to attack the black King – with 15 Qd8 mate!

14...Nd7

At this point in the game Tringov is a piece and a pawn up, but on the 'battlefield' where it matters, Tal has six members of his army ready for action, and all very well placed. Tringov, on the other hand, has only three pieces developed, none of them coordinating with each other. The end is nigh!

(a) 15 Bxf7+ (b) 15 Rxb7 (c) 15 Be6.



15 Bxf7+!

Of course. 4 points; 1 point for 15 Rxb7 (15...Bxb7? 16 Qxd7+) because I'm in a generous mood, and one point for 15 Be6 which is however less incisive.

15...Kxf7

16 Ng5+ (b) 16 Rxb7 (c) 16 Bd2.

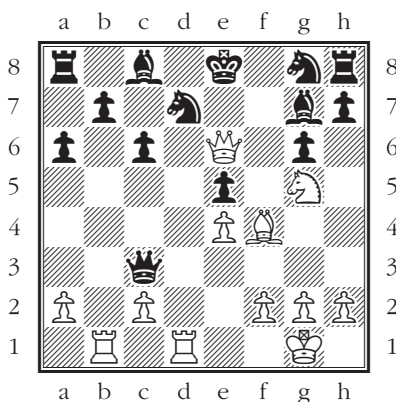
16 Ng5+

2 points but minus a zillion if you played anything else, because you clearly had not calculated this to the end!

16...Ke8

(a) 17 Qe6+ (b) 17 Rxb7 (c) 17 Ne6.

17 Qe6+ 1-0



2 points, and minus another zillion if you played anything else. If Black had played on here with 17...Kd8, Tal would have finished the job with 18 Nf7+ Kc7 19 Qd6 mate and Black cannot escape via b6, because Tal had already foreseen earlier this by playing 14 Red1 and NOT Rbd1! Similarly, if Black plays 17...Ne7 White mates by 18 Qf7+ Kd8 19 Ne6#.

Black resigns

Scores:

43 points – You're either Tal reincarnated or another genius.

40 points or more – You've been using Fritz or Houdini or some other powerful software!

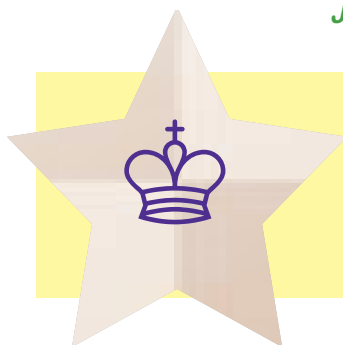
35 points or more – You're an honest human being and a strong county player at least.

30 plus – well done. You must be a good club player.

20 points – Don't worry, I'm not Tal either!

Anything less: nobody has explained to you yet that you **MUST** develop your pieces quickly; win the battle for the centre; and that the idea is to checkmate your opponent's King; **NOT** to go grabbing pawns or make so many pawn moves in the first 10! Perhaps find yourself a good coach.

And if you keep reading *Junior BCM* we're confident your results will improve. Good luck



Interview with Yang-Fan Zhou

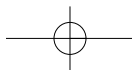
19 year old Yang-Fan Zhou, from Whitgift, Croydon in London, has risen to become one of Britain's leading chess players. He has been prominent on the British junior chess scene since 2007 and his obvious chess talent had been spotted by his coaches during his early years. But it was his excellent performances in the British Championship and World U-14 events in 2007 and shortly thereafter at the important Hastings tournament in 2008 that really signalled Yang-Fan's arrival as a major player of the future on the national chess scene.



"My style is very fighting at heart"

In 2009 Yang-Fan became a FIDE master and in 2011 an International Master. At the London Classic Open event in 2012, while Magnus Carlsen was achieving a record-breaking victory in the main event, Yang-Fan registered one of his best results to date, scoring 7/9 and finishing tied third behind grandmasters from Armenia and the Netherlands. Yang-Fan is tipped to become a Grandmaster in the very near future – so we thought it would be a good idea for you to get to know him better and look at some of his games.

The questions below are from your Editor.



How did you start playing chess?

Yang-Fan: I started playing chess aged 6 at Donhead school chess club. My parents signed me up for the school club and IM Graeme Buckley was the coach there.

What do you most like about chess?

Yang-Fan: I love that chess is purely a game of skill.

How do you train and prepare at chess?

Yang-Fan: Personally, I've never been able to read a chess book from cover to cover (although I'm working on this!). I work a lot with the computer, analysing my games and openings. Learning from other players through coaching sessions, sharing ideas and even general discussions have also helped me a lot.

How would you describe your chess style?

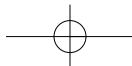
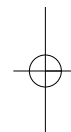
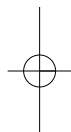
Yang-Fan: My style has always been aggressive and ambitious. Over time, I'd like to say it's evolved to become more sophisticated and well-rounded, but still very fighting at heart.

Who is your chess hero?

Yang-Fan: Apart from Magnus Carlsen, who is everyone's chess hero – always playing for the win and showing how to beat the World Champion Anand in seemingly dead drawn endings right now – Mickey Adams and Nigel Short are both great inspirations for me. Mickey plays model games – the accumulation of small advantages to steadily overcome the opponent – whilst Nigel demonstrates a very deep understanding and creativity in chess.

What are your greatest achievements so far?

I am the current British U21 Champion, and finished 6th in the World U18 Youth Championships in Brazil 2011. I came 3rd= in the 2012 London Classic FIDE Open, and have one Grandmaster norm from the Big Slick all play all 2013. I'm also the youngest UK International Master with an Elo rating of 2486.



Away from chess I am very happy to be currently studying chemical engineering at Churchill College, Cambridge University.

How many chess coaches have you had over the years?

Yang-Fan: I've worked with a large number of great coaches and would prefer not to try mentioning them all in case I forget someone.

How easy is it for you to balance your chess playing with school work and other non-chess activities?



A Young Yang-Fan!

Yang-Fan: Sometimes it's quite difficult for me to balance chess with school and other activities. I often missed school to play in tournaments, and had to work hard to catch up. In my final year of secondary school I had a chance at a GM norm playing for my team Guildford in the last weekend, but unfortunately the dates clashed with my IB examinations. I think if you work smart and efficiently (and for me personally, playing less computer games!) you should be able to do well in chess and other aspects. Having said that, after playing the last 4NCL weekend recently instead of bunkering up in my room to study I'll be suffering for a long time to try and catch up – I have no idea what went on in my lectures today!

Can you tell us about one of your most memorable moments playing chess?

Yang-Fan: One of my biggest 'great moments' and simultaneously disappointment was my game against Mickey

Adams, British Championships 2011. I played a great game up to move 27 and could grab a pawn, but I chose to swap queens off instead as I thought I could win the rook ending. It turns out the rook ending was just equal (I ended up having to fight with all my energy to salvage a draw) and I'm sure that subconsciously I chickened out and told myself the rook ending was better, just so I could get to a safer position.

What are your ambitions as a chess player?

Yang-Fan: My ambition is to represent England in the Olympiad and help the team bring home medals. I know I'm quite far off at the moment, but I like to dream high.

Any chess fun facts you wish to share with us?

Yang-Fan: When I started playing chess my father taught me Chinese chess rules – pawns capture forwards. I think I might have converted some of my classmates to capturing forwards too before we found my dad was wrong! *[The rules of Chinese chess are very different from those of the game we play in the West, which the Chinese call 'international chess.' Chinese chess is played with round pieces like draughts with Chinese symbols on top which are very confusing if you cannot read Chinese! – Editor]*

Let's now look at a couple of Yang-Fan's games. First, a very tactical game and a swift victory.

Yang-Fan Zhou (2436) – Simon Williams (2513) 4NCL, 2012

Notes by Yang-Fan

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 d6 5 Nc3 a6 6 g4 b5 7 Bg2

7 a3 is also possible and then 7...Bb7 8 Be3 (8 Bg2 is also good) 8...Nf6 9 f3 Be7 10 Qd2 and White stands well.

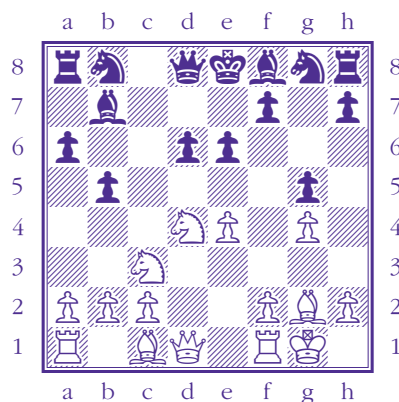
7...Bb7

If 7...b4 8 Nce2 and Black's position is becoming rather loose and undeveloped.

8 0-0

8 g5 is also possible so as to disrupt Black's normal development by ...Nf6.

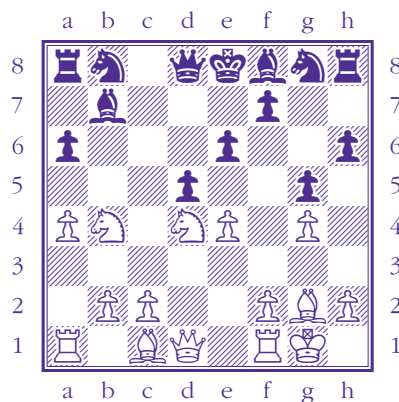
8...g5?!



Rather unorthodox but Black is attempting to secure e5 as a good outpost for Black's knights. So White should strike quickly. If instead 8...b4 9 Nce2; or if 8...Nf6 9 Re1 Nfd7 (not 9...Be7 as 10 e5 wins; nor 9...b4 10 Nd5! with a strong attack.) 10 a4 b4 11 Nd5! with a strong attack.

9 a4! b4 10 Na2 h6 11 Nxb4 d5

If 11...Nf6 12 c3 Nxe4 (or if 12...Bxe4 13 f3 Bb7 14 f4 Bxg2 15 Kxg2 gxf4 16 Bxf4 e5 17 Qf3 is very good for White.) 13 Re1 d5 14 Nxd5 with a winning position for White.

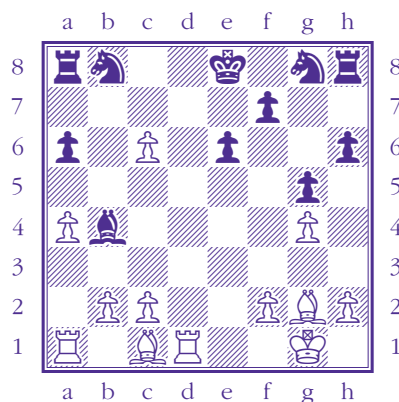


12 exd5?!

Missing an even stronger opportunity with 12 Nxd5! exd5 13 exd5 Bd6 (if 13...Bxd5 14 Re1+ Be7 15 Nf5 Bxg2 16 Rxe7+ Nxe7 17 Ng7+ Kf8 18 Qxd8+ Kxg7 19 Qxe7 wins.) 14 Nf5 and Black should not last long in this position.

12...Bxb4 13 Nc6 Bxc6

If 13...Qd6 14 Nxb4! (which is stronger than 14 Qd4 – which was what I intended – but I realised that Black can play 14...Nxc6 15 Qxh8 Nce7 16 dxe6 Bxg2 17 exf7+ Kxf7 18 Qh7+ Kf8 19 Kxg2 with some chances of surviving.) 14...Qxb4 15 Ra3! with a winning attack.

14 dxc6 Qxd1 15 Rxd1**15...Ra7?**

Rather better is 15...Ne7 16 c7 Nbc6 17 c3 Ba5 18 Rd6 Bxc7 19 Rxc6 Nxc6 20 Bxc6+ Ke7 21 Bxa8 Rxa8 22 Be3 and Black may still have some chances of surviving. The move played allows White an easy finish.

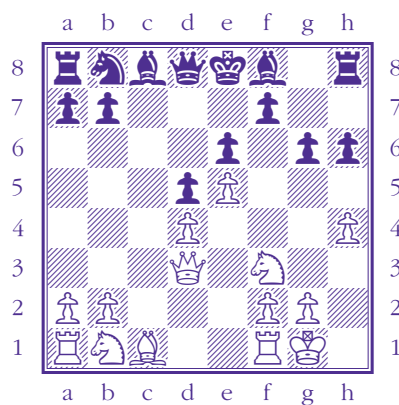
16 Be3 Rc7 17 Bb6 Rc8 18 c7 Nd7 19 Bc6 Ngf6 20 Rxd7 Nxd7 21 Rd1 Ke7 22 Rxd7+ Kf6 23 Bb7 1-0

Next a very controlled performance against a Grandmaster who is one of England's best players.

Yang Fan Zhou (2419) – Nicholas Pert (2557)
88th Hastings Masters, 2013

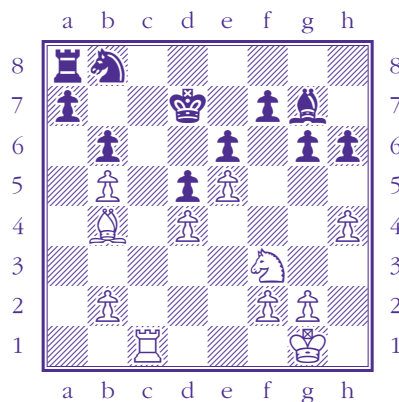
Notes by Yang-Fan

**1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Ngf3 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Bd3
 g6 8 h4 h6 9 Qe2 cxd4 10 cxd4 Nb4 11 0-0 Nxd3 12 Qxd3 Nb8
 13 Nb1**



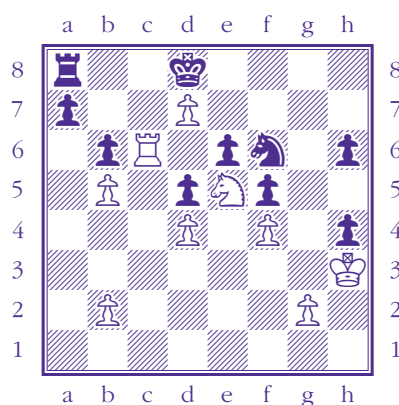
The position is quite static and both players take the opportunity to regroup their pieces and improve their positions

**13...b6 14 Nc3 Ba6 15 Nb5 Bxb5 16 Qxb5+ Qd7 17 a4 Bg7
 18 Bd2 Qxb5 19 axb5 Kd7 20 Rfc1 Rc8 21 Bb4 Rxc1+ 22 Rxc1**



White has the advantage due to his greater mobility and better development.

22...Kd8 23 Bd6 Nd7 24 Bc7+ Ke8 25 Ra1 Bf8 26 Ne1 Be7 27 h5 gxf5 28 Nd3 h4 29 f4 f5 30 Kh2 Kf7 31 Ra2 Ke8 32 Ra1 Bf8 33 Kh3 Be7 34 Bd6 Bxd6 35 exd6 Nf6 36 Ne5 Ne4 37 d7+ Kd8 38 Rc1 Nf6 39 Rc6



Not 39...Nxd7 because of 40 Rd6 winning a piece. White is now winning clearly.

39...Ng4 40 Rxe6 Nxe5 41 Re8+ Kxd7 42 Rxa8 Nd3 43 Rxa7+ Kd6 44 g3 hxg3 45 Kxg3 Nxb2 46 Rh7 Nc4 47 Rxh6+ Kc7 48 Rc6+ Kb7 49 Rf6 Na3 50 Rxf5 Nxb5 51 Rxd5 Nc3 52 Re5 Kc6 53 f5 Nd5 54 f6 Nxf6 55 Re6+ Kd5 56 Rxf6 b5 57 Rb6 1-0

In addition to his chess playing, academic and other commitments Yang-Fan finds time to write regularly for the *British Chess Magazine*, and is currently annotating the games from the recent World Championship match between the new World Chess Champion, Magnus Carlsen of Norway, and the previous world champion, Vishy Anand of India.

Positional Play



There have already been quite a lot of tactics for you to enjoy, and there are more to come in the following pages. As I mentioned in the first issue of *Junior BCM* I intend making a regular feature of at least one positional game. When I was a young and up-and-coming chess player I was only really interested in sharp, tactical battles. I did not appreciate the positional genius of players like Capablanca, Smyslov and Petrosian. As I progressed I realized that I had to improve my positional understanding if I were to go any further. Good positional players are always looking for the tiniest weakness in their opponents' game: weak squares; bad bishops; disadvantageous pawn structures and many other often static weaknesses in their opponents' positions. In this issue we will look at a beautiful demonstration of how to exploit so-called 'half-open' files.

Ossip Bernstein – José Capablanca *Moscow, 1914*

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6
4 ♘f3 ♙e7 5 ♙g5 0–0 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 ♖c1 b6 8 cxd5 exd5
9 ♙a4 ♙b7 10 ♙a6!

Creating some weaknesses on the light squares in Black's queenside.

10...Bxa6 11 Qxa6 c5?!

11...c6 is correct.

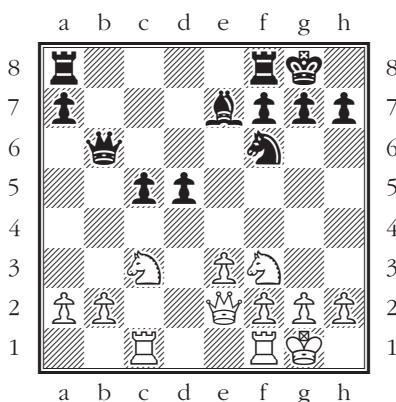
12 Bxf6?

A poor move: White gains nothing from this exchange of minor pieces. 12 0-0 is better.

12...Nxf6 13 dxc5 bxc5

Black has 'hanging pawns', but they're very mobile.

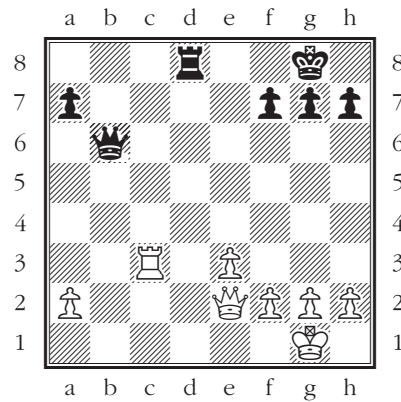
14 0-0 Qb6 15 Qe2



15...c4!

Though this move may look weak (Grandmaster critics at the time certainly thought so), leaving the d5-pawn backward while ceding the d4 square to a white Knight, it also prevents the advance of the b2-pawn and allows Black to apply pressure down the b-file. Capablanca, ahead of his time, recognised that this was more important.

16 Rfd1 Rfd8 17 Nd4 Bb4 18 b3 Rac8 19 bxc4 dxc4 20 Rc2 Bxc3
21 Rxc3 Nd5 22 Rc2 c3 23 Rdc1 Rc5 24 Nb3 Rc6 25 Nd4 Rc7
26 Nb5 Rc5 27 Nxc3?? Nxc3 28 Rxc3 Rxc3 29 Rxc3



29...Qb2!!

The weakness of White's back rank and slight lack of co-ordination were beautifully exploited by Capablanca! There is no suitable defence.

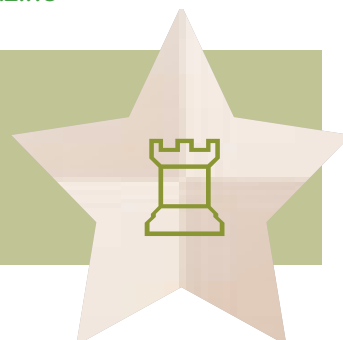


José Capablanca from Cuba was World Champion from 1921-1927. For many years he was near-invincible

0-1



Christmas Quizzes



In this issue we have two Christmas Quizzes; one easy and one not so easy. This first is just for fun, the second for prizes!

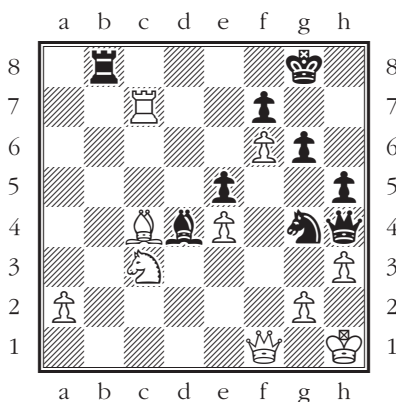
Easy

1. Who are the current England U11 County Champions?
2. Who are the current England U11 County Girls Champions?
3. Who is England's top ranked player based on FIDE ratings?
4. Which English player once challenged for the World title?
5. Who was England's first Grandmaster?
6. What few moves constitute the Grand Prix attack?
7. Name as many openings as you can with a living creature, real or mythical, in the title.
8. Name as many openings as you can that refer to a country or language.
9. What is the value of all the pieces on the board at the start of a game (excluding the Kings).
10. Name the snooker player who was once President of the British Chess Federation.

This first quiz should have warmed you up nicely for the real test: a **tough quiz with two good prizes!!** Send your answers by e-mail to the Editor by the closing date of 31 January 2014. The winner gets a bound set of *British Chess Magazines* (which retail at £60 plus P&P), while the runner-up will receive an excellent Chess Calendar for 2014; each month features one of the great players of the past and one of their games, which will be a joy for any aspiring player to play through.

Not So Easy

1. Who won the 'Evergreen' game?
2. Who was the winner of the game known as 'The Pearl of Wijk aan Zee'?
3. Which great player was denied the chance of a World Title Match because of the outbreak of World War 1?
4. During the time of the split between FIDE and the Professional Chess Association which players won the FIDE World title?
5. Who was widely regarded as 'The Crown Prince of Chess,' a player who was generally considered to be the greatest player never to have won the World title?
6. C. H. O'D Alexander was a British player who beat World Champion, Botvinnik, in a radio match against the Soviet Union and was considered a likely future GM; he should have been Britain's first. Though he easily achieved IM status he never had an opportunity to become a Grandmaster. Why?
7. Yugoslavia and Denmark both produced players who were capable of making serious challenges to the bulk of Russian players. Who were they?
8. Who was once referred to as Tal in a skirt?
9. What nationality was Mikhail Tal?
10. It's Black to move and win in the following position. Solve the problem, from a real game, and name the mating pattern



Short and Sweet Games

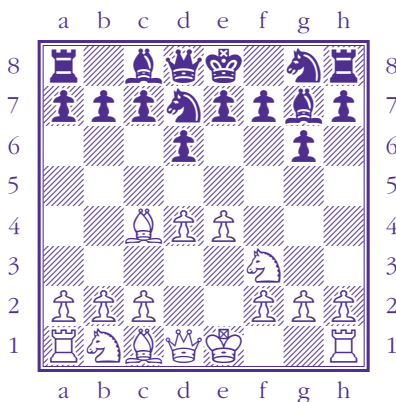


By now, you might like to relax a little by playing through the following miniatures. Have you ever won in less than 25 moves or even lost in less than 25 moves? Please send us your experiences – we'd love to publish the best ones. Here are a few sparkling examples of how swift victory and defeat can be on the chessboard.

Hamlisch – Amateur Vienna, 1902

1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nd7 3 Bc4 g6 4 Nf3 Bg7

An abortive attempt at the Modern Defence, but the more usual order is 1 e4 d6 2 d4 g6 3 Bc4 Bg7 4 f4 c6 or 3 Nc3 Bg7 etc. Black's big mistake was in playing ...Nd7, which hems in the black King fatally.



5 Bxf7+! Kxf7 6 Ng5+ Kf6

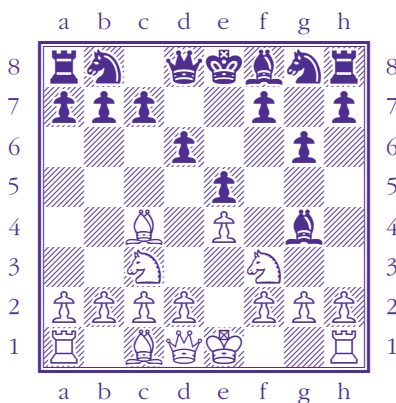
Now 6...Kf8 7 Ne6+ wins the black Queen, or 6...Ke8 7 Ne6 and the Queen is smothered!

7 Qf3 mate.

Simple play by White who punishes Black severely for not developing effectively in the opening. This game also highlights a recurring theme in chess – that Black's f7 square, protected only by the King, is frequently a target for direct attack by White.

De Legal – Saint Brie Paris, 1750

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bc4 Bg4 4 Nc3 g6



5 Nxe5!

Giving a Queen for a King!

5...Bxd1 6 Bxf7+ Ke7 7 Nd5 mate

Even today, more than 250 years later, this checkmating pattern is still known as Legal's mate. It continues to appear regularly in one form or another, but mostly in simultaneous displays given by masters.

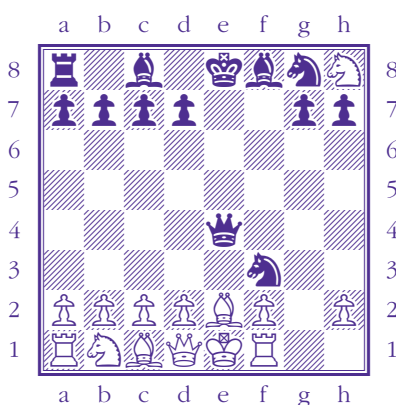
76

Junior British Chess Magazine

Muhlock – Kostics
Cologne, 1912

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nd4 4 Nxe5? Qg5 5 Nxf7?? Qxg2 6 Rf1 Qe4+ 7 Be2 Nf3 mate.

This was the origin of the “Oh, my gosh!” trap.



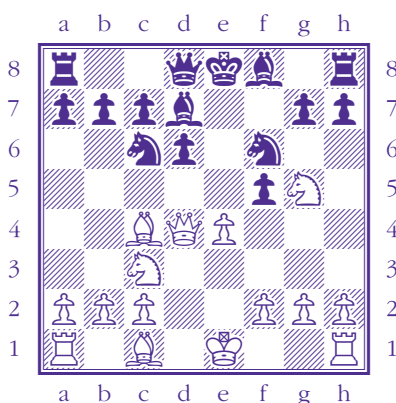
Black's f7 square is again the target for White's attack, but on this occasion Black has also developed quickly and his own attack is more powerful than White's. The final position is a nice example of a so-called smothered mate, whereby the defeated King, hemmed in by other pieces and pawns, is checkmated by a Knight. This delightful mating pattern can also occur in the Fritz variation of the Two Knights Defence (1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 6 exd5 Nd4!? 7 d6 (targeting f7) 7...Qxd6! 8 Nxf7 Qc6! 9 Nxh8 (White is oblivious to the danger) 9...Qxg2 10 Rf1 Qe4+ 11 Be2 Nf3 mate.

Blake – Hooke
London, 1891

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6

An old defence named after the strongest player of the eighteenth century, the Frenchman, Francois-André Philidor.

3 Bc4 f5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Nc3 exd4 6 Qxd4 Bd7 7 Ng5 Nc6



White now announced mate in 5 moves. Examine EVERY capture; examine EVERY check!!

8 Bf7+ Ke7 9 Qxf6+!! Kxf6 10 Nd5+ Ke5 11 Nf3+ Kxe4 12 Nc3 mate.

A lovely little King hunt and once again that weak square f7 played an important part.

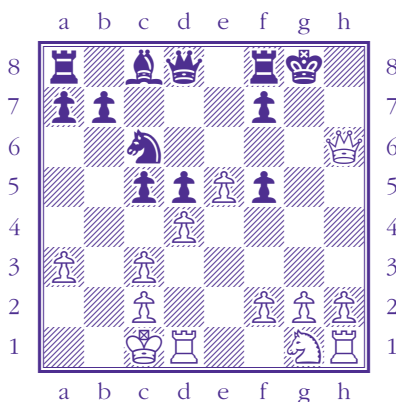
Now a game between two Grandmasters; it's worth noting that Wolfgang Uhlmann, who is now nearly eighty years old, was a noted expert on the French, yet here he gets blown away in short order!

Lothar Vogt (2505) – Wolfgang Uhlmann (2515)
East Berlin, 1989

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 bxc3 Ne7 7 Qg4 0-0 8 Bd3 Nbc6?! 9 Qh5 h6? 10 Bxh6 gxh6 11 Qxh6 Nf5 12 Bxf5 exf5

Sure, Black's king is open, but only the white Queen is in play. Perhaps Black thought that he could survive this position, yet after White's next move, he is totally lost!

13 0-0-0!



Starting to clear the way for the rooks to come into play, but the rook is not even brought to a square from which it can move over to join the White attack, as Black's next move 13...c4 seals it off. Apparently Fritz 11 spent a lot of time on 13 Nh3, which it initially evaluates as equal, but even the computer takes a very long time before it 'sees' how strong long castling by White is. I put on Fritz 12 and this also took a long time to realize that White was winning.

13...c4 14 Nh3 f6 15 Qg6+ Kh8 16 Rhe1 fxe5 17 dxe5 f4

Black gives himself an opportunity he cannot take: removing the Nh3, which would just open the g-file. But what else? This is an amazing position where Black has no hope; one of those rare situations where you don't need a lot of pieces to complete an attack. White has such a strong position and such a strong Queen, that he can restrain any play by his opponent and calmly bring up more pieces to finish off the black King.

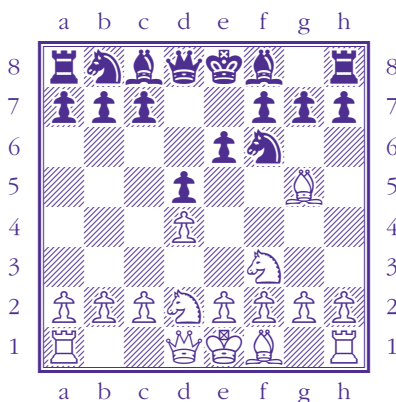
18 Qh6+ Kg8 19 Nxf4 Qe7 20 Re3 Bg4 21 Nxd5 Qxa3+ 22 Kb1 1-0

Black simply has no defence to the many White threats.

And now a fairly modern miniature. Yes, they still happen!

V. Prosviriakov (2327) – S. Knight (2148)
Hastings Masters, 2008

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 d4 e6 3 Bg5 d5 4 Nbd2



4...b6

Opening the h1-a8 diagonal proves to be a liability. Perhaps instead 4...Be7, breaking the pin on the the Nf6, and then following up with ...Nbd7.

5 e4 dxe4 6 Nxe4 Be7 7 Bxf6 Bxf6 8 c3 0-0 9 Bd3 Bb7

Now White makes a bold decision.

10 h4!

Signalling his intentions of a Kingside attack.

10...Re8?

Leaving the f7 square vulnerable.

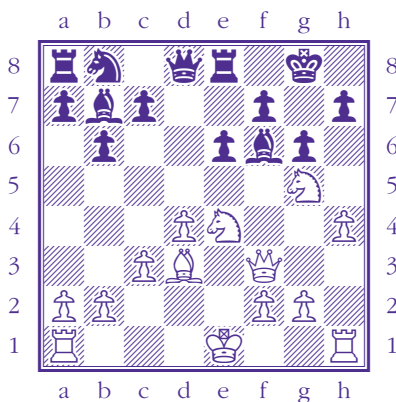
11 Nfg5!

With veiled threats against the h7 pawn and vacating the f3 square for his Queen.

11... g6?

Weakening the protection of his dark-squared Bishop.

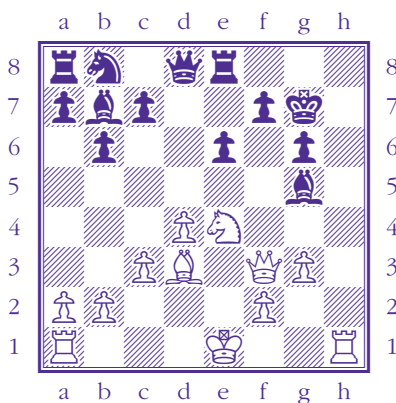
12 Qf3!



12...Kg7

If 12...Nd7 13 Nxf6+ Qxf6 14 Qxb7 wins a Bishop. 12...Bxg5 13 hxg5 threatens Nf6+ as well as an attack on the h-file. Best is 12...Bxe4 13 Nxe4 Nd7 but then 14 h5 continues the attack.

13 Nxh7 Bxh4 14 g3 Be7 15 Nhg5 Bxg5



16 Rh7+!! Kxh7 17 Qxf7+ Kh6 18 Ke2 Ba6 19 Rh1+ Bh4 20 Rxh4+ Qxh4 21 gxh4 Bxd3+ 22 Kxd3 Nc6 23 Qf4+ Kg7 24 Qxc7+ 1-0

Finally in this section a miniature of my own, but where I was the victim, NOT the conqueror! I lost this because I forgot my own advice and did not make development my priority. Interestingly, I have a game of Kasparov's where he too lost by forgetting his development! Maybe I'll give this next time.

Shaun Munson (2197) - David Levens (2085)
4NCL – Division 4, 2007

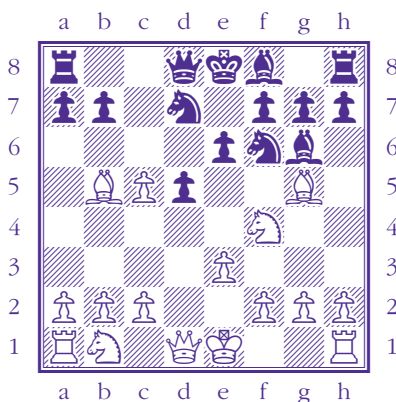
1 d4 d5 2 Bg5 Nf6 3 e3 Bf5 4 Bd3 Bg6

More active would be 4...Ne4 5 Nd2 Nc6 6 Ne2 Qd7 7 Nxe4 dxe4.

5 Ne2 Nbd7 6 Nf4 c5

It would have been safer not to open up the game so soon, and instead maintain a solid centre with 6...c6 7 Nd2 e6 8 Nxe6 hxg6 9 Bf4 Nh5. However my more risky move livens up the game.

7 dxc5 e6 8 Bb5



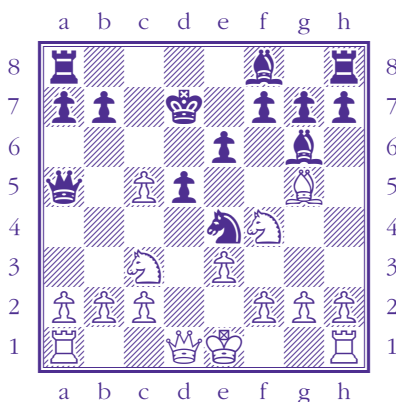
8...Qa5+

Simple development by 8...Bxc5! was natural and good. The problem here was that I became obsessed with getting out of the pin on my f6 Knight.

9 Nc3 Ne4?

Again 9...Bxc5 is correct. Then if 10 Bxf6 gxf6 11 Qf3 0-0-0, safeguarding the king.

10 Bxd7+ Kxd7



11 Nfxd5!!

I completely overlooked this.

11...exd5 12 Qxd5+ Kc8

On 12...Kc7 13 0-0-0 Bxc5 White could have continued with six(!) checks 14 Qd7+ Kb6 15 Nd5+ Ka6 16 Nc7+ Kb6 17 Nxa8+ Rxa8 18 Bd8+ Rxd8 19 Qxd8+ winning both Black's rooks, whereas now I get checkmated!

13 0-0-0 Nxc5 14 Qd7+ Kb8 15 Qe8+ Kc7 16 Nd5 mate.

I hope you enjoyed these sparkling examples of attacking chess. We will show you more miniatures in future issues of *Junior BCM*. If there is one common theme in them all it is that the player who gets his pieces into play and achieves good mobility as quickly as possible has the greatest attacking chances. We would be delighted to see your own experiences, win or lose!

Spot the Continuation

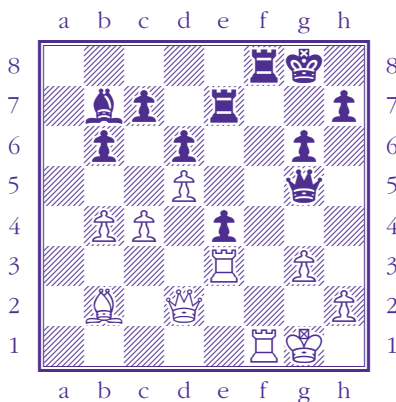


I have little doubt that many of you reading this have seen the letters LPDO among the annotations given by some Grandmaster or other! They stand for Loose Pieces Drop Off. In other words, a piece standing on an unguarded square is likely to be lost.

In this next section I'm asking you to remember LPDO, and to remember that it is often up to you to create a 'Loose Piece'. But also be very careful when you put a piece of your own on an unguarded square, when you will also have a loose piece!

LPDO 1

GM Jan Timman was once ranked in the top ten players in the world, whilst GM Ulf Andersson was considered one of the hardest to beat. Andersson leaves a 'Loose Piece', but **how do you exploit it? White to move.**

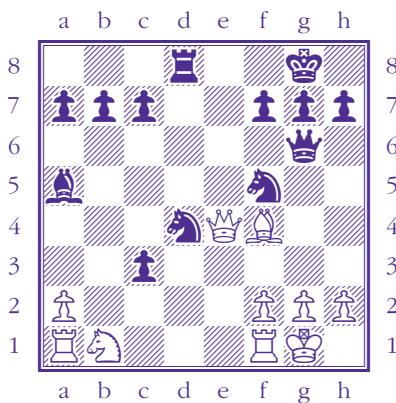


LPDO 2

Napolean Marache – Paul Morphy
New York, 1857

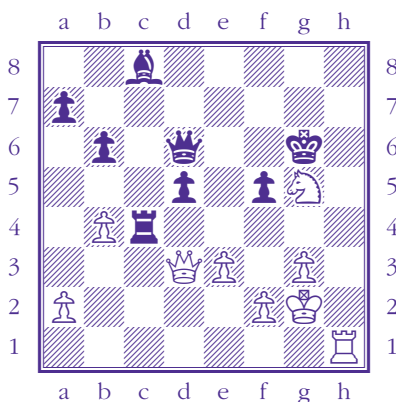
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 b4 Bxb4 5 c3 Ba5 6 d4 exd4 7 e5
 d5 8 exd6 Qxd6 9 0–0 Nge7 10 Ng5 0–0 11 Bd3 Bf5 12 Bxf5 Nxf5
 13 Ba3 Qg6 14 Bxf8 Qxg5 15 Ba3 dxc3 16 Bc1 Qg6 17 Bf4 Rd8
 18 Qc2 Ncd4 19 Qe4

The Loose Piece here is pretty obvious, but **how do you take advantage?** It's **Black to move**.



LPDO 3

The following position is from a game, Beliavsky – Kopec, played in the World Student Olympiad of 1977. Yet again the loose piece is obvious. **White to play and win.**



David Levens (2009) – Michael O’Mahoney
Blackpool Major 2009

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Bd7 5 Nf3 Bc6

This is the so-called Fort Knox variation.

6 Bd3 Nd7 7 c3

If 7 0–0 Ngf6 8 Qe2 Nxe4 9 Bxe4 Bxe4 10 Qxe4 c6 11 Bg5 Qb6
 12 Rab1 Bd6 is satisfactory for Black.

7...Be7 8 Qe2 Ngf6 9 Nxf6+ Nxf6 10 Ne5 Bd7?!

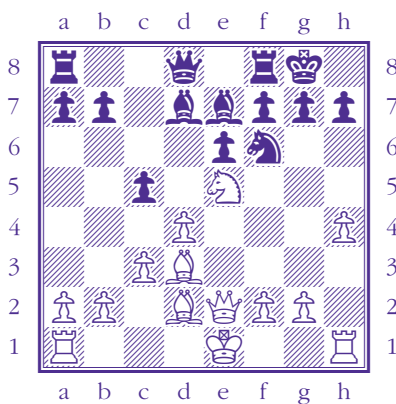
Black should have played b6 long ago, allowing the Bishop to
 retreat to b7, but now this is impossible.

11 Bd2

A simple developing move that prepares to connect the Rooks.

11...0–0 12 h4 c5

86

Junior British Chess Magazine**13 dxc5!**

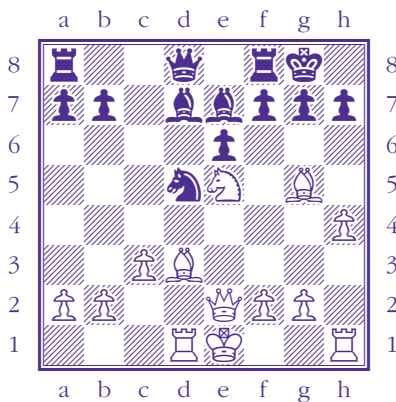
Preparing to cause Black problems along the d file.

13...Bxc5 14 Bg5 Be7 15 Rd1

15 0-0-0 was my first thought, but the move chosen wins without any risk.

15...Nd5**LPDO 4**

White to play and win a piece.



The answers to all these problems can be found on page 108.

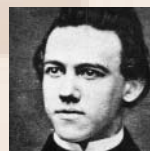
In future issues we'll look at other acronyms: **EAT; GULP** (Examine All Threats; Give Up Losing Pieces); **ACE** (Analyse; Check Everything); **COOL** (Check Out Other Lines); and **CCTV** (Checks, Captures, Threats and Violence). The last one was sent to us by John Upham.



Buster took ten minutes to solve all the puzzles.
Can you beat that?



Great Players of the Past

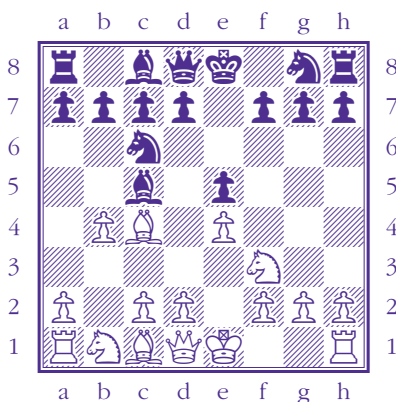


We conclude our feature, from *JBCM* issue 1, on the great 19th century American player Paul Morphy.

There is little doubt that in his time Paul Morphy was the best player in the world, but there was no official World Championship then. Kasparov described him as “the American super-genius, who conquered both the New and Old Worlds”. Morphy blended aggression and accurate calculation and probably recognised before any other player the true importance of rapid development.

Paul Morphy – J. De Riviere
Paris, 1863

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♙c6 3 ♖c4 ♗c5 4 b4



The Evans Gambit, invented by Captain W.D. Evans in about 1826/1827. This gambit is still used occasionally by top

Grandmasters; Kasparov used it once to defeat Anand, the just defeated World Champion, and Alexei Shirov beat the well-known Dutch GM, Jan Timman, with the same variation. And our own Nigel Short, a world class GM, still adopts it with success on occasion.

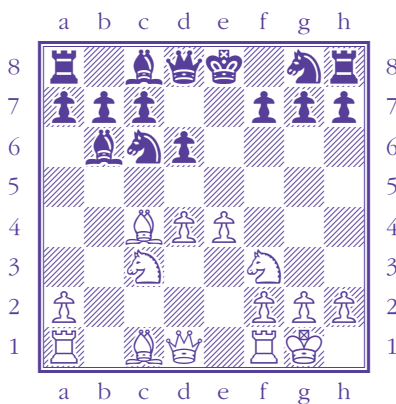
4 ... ♖xb4 5 c3 ♖c5

This is really not best, as when White plays d4 the bishop will be under attack and forced to move again.

6 0-0 d6 7 d4 exd4 8 cxd4 ♖b6

See note to move 5.

9 ♘c3



9... ♖f6?!

9... ♘f6 is a suggestion by Fritz but 9... ♖g4 is probably Black's best try if he wants to wrest the initiative from White.

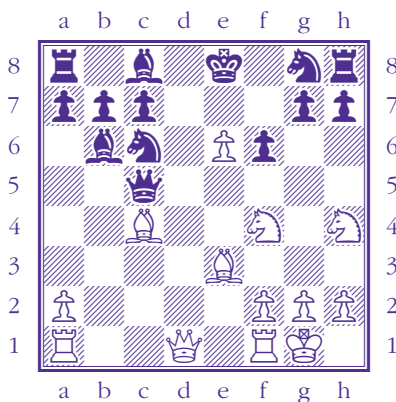
10 ♘d5 ♖g6 11 ♘f4 ♖f6 12 e5!

Opening lines to get to Black's king.

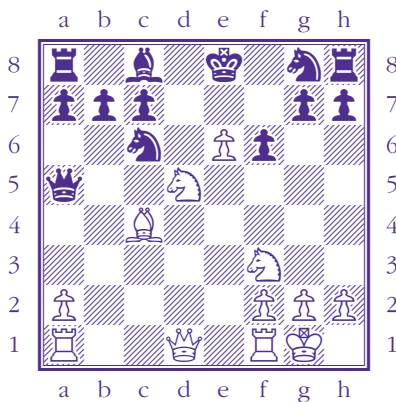
12... dxe5 13 dxe5 ♖f5

13... ♘xe5?? 14 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 15 ♔e1 wins very easily for White.

90

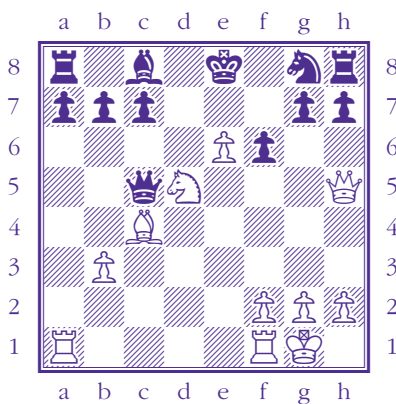
*Junior British Chess Magazine***14 e6 f6 15 ♖h4 ♜c5 16 ♙e3****16...♜g5**

16...♜xc4? allows 17 ♜h5+ g6 18 ♖hxg6 ♙xe6 19 ♖xh8+ ♙f7
20 ♜xh7.

17 ♖f3 ♜a5 18 ♙xb6 ♜xb6 19 ♖d5 ♜a5**20 ♖d2!**

Threatening 21 ♖b3 and forcing the black queen away from
protecting the c7 square.

20...♖d4 21 ♖b3 ♖xb3 22 axb3 ♜c5 23 ♜h5+



23...♙d8

23...g6? 24 ♘xf6+ wins the *unguarded* black queen on c5.
(LPDO – remember!) 24...♘xf6+ 25 ♚xc5 a6 26 ♙b5+ c6
27 ♙xc6+ bxc6 28 ♚xc6+ ♙f8.

24 ♚ad1 1-0

Black is left with no defence to the threat of a discovered check on the d-file; often the threat is stronger than the execution!



Endgame Teasers

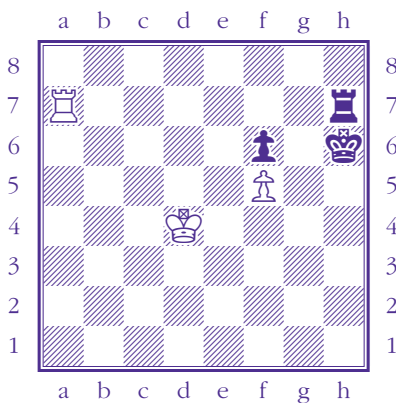


Good endgame play is an essential part of any player's repertoire and many an extra half point can be gained by practising this part of your game; by solving studies like the following ones shown here.

White is to play in all of the following endgames. **What should the result be in each game**, assuming ideal play by both sides? Give analysis.

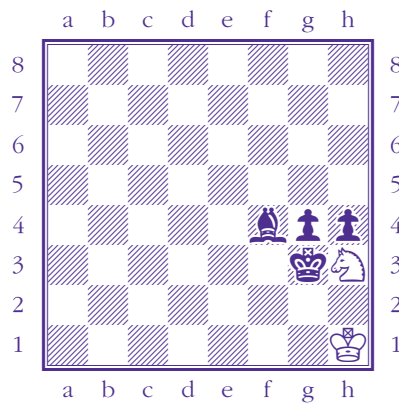
Whether you solve all four studies or not I'd be interested to know. But if you cannot work them out the solutions are on page 106-108.

1. White to play

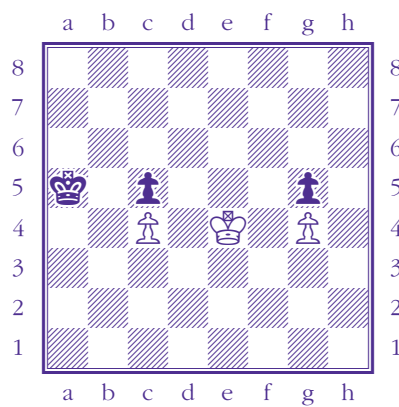




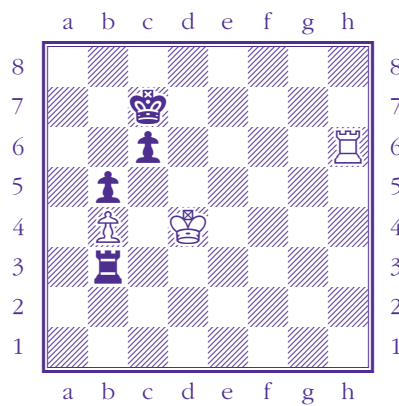
2. White to play



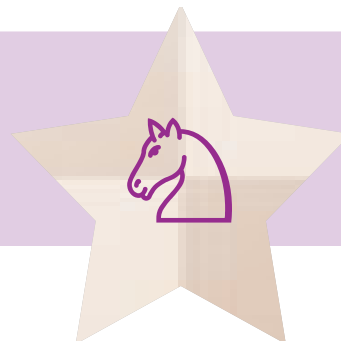
3. White to play



4. White to play



Analyse this!



This magazine is for you and we'd love to hear from you. To encourage you to write in I intend making the following a regular feature of your *Junior BCM*. With every issue I will present you with a game to analyse. The best analysis will receive a prize of a 2012 *BCM* bound volume (normal price £60 plus postage) and your analysis will be produced in the next issue!

Analysing games (yours or anybody else's) is also a great way to improve your chess. It makes you really think about what the players were trying to do, and you can move the pieces around on the board as you analyse, which helps you to see things more clearly.

In the game below I have given you some guidance as to where I would expect some comment and/or analysis, but you do not have to be restricted by this. What I am looking for is good, clear notes with a little analysis where necessary, but without using Fritz, Houdini or other software!

The following is a famous game, one that any young player with any ambition to become an IM or even a GM, should recognise. But I have removed all the evidence of who the players were! You are not restricted by what I am asking for. If you wish to add more comments or analysis that you think are relevant please do so. The best analysis received by 31 January 2014 will be published.

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 c3 Nf6 5 d4 exd4 6 cxd4 Bb4+
7 Nc3!? d5?**

Comment please with a little analysis.

8 exd5 Nxd5 9 0-0 Be6 10 Bg5 Be7

Comment and provide a little analysis.

11 Bxd5! Bxd5 12 Nxd5

Some analysis please but not from any software!!

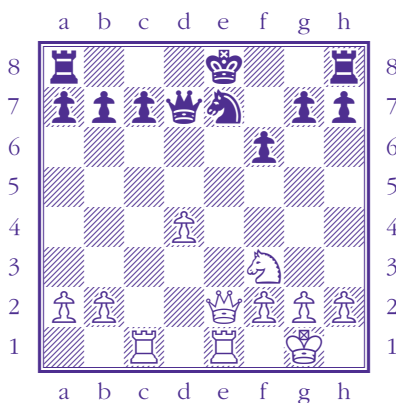
12...Qxd5 13 Bxe7 Nxe7

Analysis please.

14 Re1 f6

What is Black's intention with this move and what weaknesses does it create?

15 Qe2 Qd7 16 Rac1?!



16...c6?

Why do you think Black played this poor move?

17 d5!!

Comment please.

96

*Junior British Chess Magazine***17...cxd5**

A little analysis please.

18 Nd4

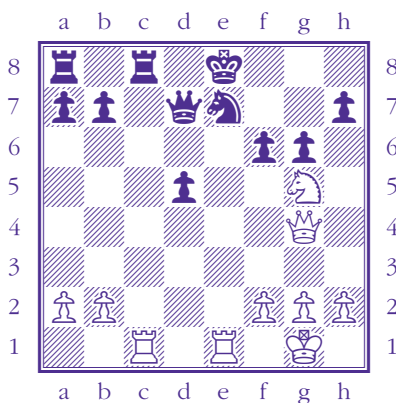
Comment please.

18...Kf7 19 Ne6 Rhc8

Why Rhc8 and not Rac8? Give plenty of analysis.

20 Qg4!

Explain this move.

20...g6 21 Ng5+ Ke8**22 Rxe7+!**

Comment please.

22...Kf8

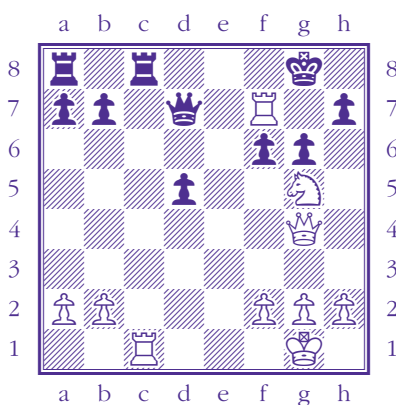
This requires some deep analysis. Get thinking!

23 Rf7+!

More analysis please, but keep it brief.

23...Kg8!

Analyse and comment please.



24 Rg7+! Kh8!

Analyse and comment please.

25 Rxh7+! 1-0

Final comments welcomed with good analysis.

This is a most attractive attacking game where you need to have a sharp eye for tactics. Good luck with the analysis!



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British Chess Magazine and now Junior BCM – part of Britain's chess scene

You may not have heard of or know much about *BCM*. Perhaps not surprising! Well, let us introduce ourselves, and you can find out more about us on-line at

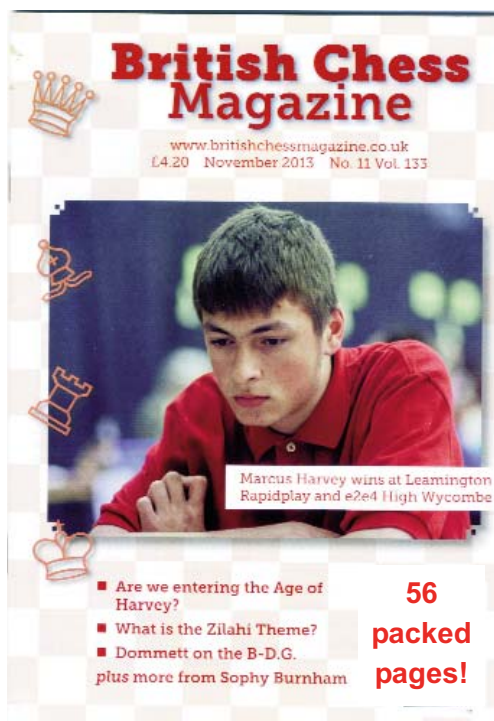
www.britishchessmagazine.co.uk

BCM has been around since 1881 and what we have always tried to do is simple: entertain, inform and help readers improve their play and results. Creating a brand new publication to help young chess players improve and have fun has been a long held ambition at *BCM*. Well, thanks to the tremendous efforts and talents of David Levens, your *Junior BCM* editor, we have now made that ambition a reality. We hope you enjoy this, the second issue of *Junior BCM*.

BCM is the world's oldest chess journal and has been published continuously since 1881. It appears every month and is packed with high quality games and analysis, reports on tournaments, articles and analysis about openings, interviews with famous players, book and DVD reviews, problems and endgame studies. We have articles about

Junior British Chess Magazine

99



famous players of today and from the past to show you the game's great talents and rich history.

At BCM we have a unique focus on the British chess scene while also covering major news and events internationally. In particular each year we have extensive coverage of the important Hastings and Gibraltar Masters tournaments and the British Chess Championship.

BCM caters for players of all ages and strengths, right through to strong master players, and features both men's and women's chess. If you want to stretch yourself beyond *Junior BCM* try subscribing to the main *BCM* – you can check your progress by playing through our monthly

'Test Your Chess', feature. You can also sharpen your attacking skills with our monthly 'Spot the Continuation', feature (tougher than in *Junior BCM*!). And if you are looking for presents *BCM* will also help you (or your relatives!) find out where to go to buy chess books and equipment.

You can get *BCM* in paper and digital format on all the main platforms, and *Junior BCM* in digital format. So whether you prefer clicks or paper, *BCM* and *Junior BCM* are just an email, call or couple of clicks on your handheld away. Check us out!

We are very proud to publish *British Chess Magazine* and its sister publication *Junior British Chess Magazine*, and are privileged to have distinguished editors and writers committed to today's chess players and enthusiasts. We hope you enjoy what we do.

International Master Shaun Taulbut
Chairman, *British Chess Magazine*

We thought you might like to see something from the *BCM*. Below is an extract from the October 2013 issue, an article written by a junior player.

* * * *

Adventures in China

By Theo Slade

An email out of the blue, a phone call from the ECF Junior Director and before I knew it I was flying out of Heathrow and into Chongqing, China, representing England in the World U16 Olympiad. The England team comprised five players, captained by Roy Zhang and coached by IM Adam Hunt. I was technically the reserve, but all players played their part in securing a mid-table finish of 10/20 (34th-35th/72).

For the first two nights, we stayed at the Sofitel – a very glamorous five star hotel. The food was amazing and everyone was trying to be helpful, even if they couldn't speak English. After this we stayed at Yucai Middle School, where the event took place. All of the food and drink was free and the tournament as a whole was extremely well organised. We even had our own team guide, Kirsty, who picked us up before every game and made sure that we knew what was going on. The biggest inconvenience was the fact that our room was on the 6th floor and there was no lift(!), meaning that we had to climb around 7,000 steps during the trip.

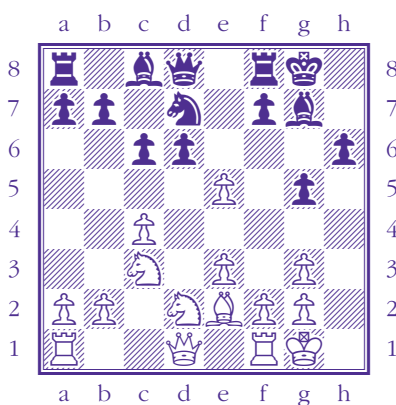
As for the tournament itself, there were a lot of strong Chinese teams that entered at the last minute. We were all slightly disappointed by this, as the only other country we played was Indonesia. Moreover, the majority of the Chinese players were not rated and therefore we couldn't prepare against them. As for me, I was very pleased with how often I was selected to play, and I managed to score $5\frac{1}{2}/8$ from my games.

Here's one of Roy's best games:

R.Zhang – B Yanyan**1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 c4 Bg7 4 Nc3 0-0 5 Bg5 h6**

It seems that 5...c5 is the main line and after 6 d5 Black has a choice of moves: 6...d6, 6...b5 or 6...h6.

6 Bh4 d6 7 e3 Nbd7 8 Be2 c6 9 0-0 g5 10 Bg3 Nh5 11 Nd2 Nxd3 12 hxg3 e5 13 dxe5

**13...dxe5?!**

It seems to me that this recapture hands White a small advantage. The bishop on g7 looks clumsily placed and one of the white Knights is ready to come to e4. Also, Black hasn't developed his queenside pieces as yet. After 13...Nxe5?!

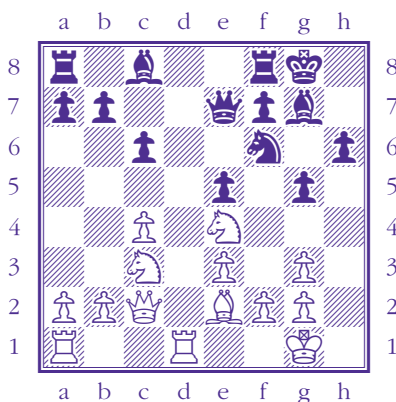
14 Nde4! the d6 pawn is becoming increasingly weak.

13...Bxe5!= was the best move. Although seemingly unnatural, this move keeps the h8-a1 diagonal open and prevents any attacks on the d6 pawn. Another point to this move is that 14 Nde4 is well met by 14...Nf6, trying to exchange pieces and ease Black's space disadvantage.

14 Nde4 Nf6 15 Qc2!

A mature decision. White needs to keep pieces on to prove an advantage and this is the best square for the Queen.

15...Qe7 16 Rfd1

**16...Ne8?!**

I don't think there is any reason to re-route this Knight as it was already fine where it was. Also, Black still hasn't solved the problem of his Queenside pieces. 16...Nxe4! was the way to go, followed by 17 Nxe4 Bf5, when Black doesn't have too much to complain about in this position. Although his Kingside structure is slightly damaged, it will be very difficult for White to take advantage of this. Meanwhile, he has the Bishop pair and can look forward to a slightly superior endgame.

17 c5!

This move shows good understanding of the position. Roy clamps down on d6 and secures a safe edge. His space advantage is obvious and he controls the only open file on the board.

17...Be6

17...f5! was the best move, when Black has mobile pawns.

18 g4

Very strong play. Now Roy clamps down on the Kingside and makes the ...f5 thrust less favourable for Black.

18...f5 19 gxf5 Bxf5 20 Qb3+!

Five out of the last seven moves have been the top line of Houdini!

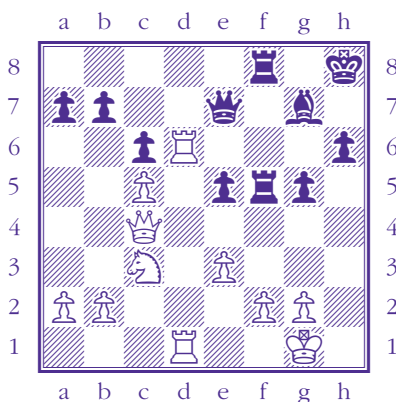
20...Be6

20...Kh8 was possibly stronger, holding on to his last trump: the bishop pair.

21 Bc4 Bxc4 22 Qxc4+ Kh8 23 Nd6 Nxd6 24 Rxd6

24 cxd6 was also a possibility, which I'm sure Roy considered. The text was strong enough.

24...Rf5?! 25 Rad1 Raf8



26 Rd7

Simple play and now Black's position is at breaking point.

26...Qe8 27 Ne4 g4?

Easy to criticise, but easy to play after a long game without any attacking chances to speak of.

28 Rxb7 g3 29 Nxg3 Rxf2 30 Rdd7

Black has no defence.

30...Rxb2 31 Rxb7

31 Qg4! would have forced instant resignation.

31...Rxb7 32 Rxb7 Qg6 33 Qe4 1-0

Black is a piece down with no compensation. 33...Qxe4 (33...Qxg3 34 Qh7 mate) 34 Nxe4 a5 (34...Rd8 35 Nf6 and mate on h7.) 35 Rc7 is a clear cut win.



Captain Blunder and Thin King



If you ever get involved in the world of chess coaching, these two characters will appear regularly.

One is a good friend and the other is bad company. I am sure you can work out which is which!

The following conversation can be heard regularly every season between one junior or other and his or her teacher.

Junior player: "Sir, you know that line in the Giuoco Piano you taught me."

Team Manager: "Yes?"

Junior player: "I forgot it sir."

Team Manager: "I know, I was watching. You were moving much too fast without Thin King, weren't you?"

Junior player: "Sorry sir. And I'm afraid that Captain Blunder sneaked in – I threw away several pieces in that game."

Team Manager: "One of these days you'll remember to sit down with your Thin King cap on and stop Captain Blunder getting anywhere near you! Maybe we'll ask General Check to help sort out Captain Blunder for you, shall we?"



Solutions



Chess in Easy Stages

Grade 1B test answers

1. QUEEN 2. ROOK 3. BISHOP 4. PAWNS 5. Only ONE
6. One or Two 7. YES, the board is the correct way round
8. The BISHOPS and KNIGHTS are on the wrong squares
9. QUEEN 10. ROOK 11. BISHOP 12. BISHOP 13. BISHOP
14. PAWN 15. PAWN

Answers for Test 2A

1. White is in **CHECKMATE**.
2. White is in **CHECKMATE**.
3. White is only in **CHECK** because he can capture the attacking Rook by Bxa1.
4. White is only in **CHECK** because he can **BLOCK** the check by playing Rd1.
5. White is in **STALEMATE**. He is not in check but wherever he moves he will either put himself into check or next to the opposing King; both moves are against the laws of chess.
6. White is in **CHECK** by the black Bishop but he can block it by four different moves: Bd2, pawn to c3, Nd2 and Nc3.
7. White is in **CHECKMATE** this time: the black Queen on f2, next to the White King, gives check, but it is also protected by his

Bishop on c5. As White has no other piece defending the f2 square this is checkmate.

8. White must move his King to g1. His Bishop cannot move or capture the black Queen on h4, without putting his own King in check – against the rules – he also cannot put his King on e2, f2 or g2 next to his opponent's King, as that is also against the rules. The only move left is Kg1.

9. White must CAPTURE the Knight by Nxf3. It is impossible to block a check given by a Knight; and the King cannot move in this position without being in check on another square.

10. White must BLOCK the check. None of the white pieces are in a position to capture the back Bishop on b4 and it is against the rules to castle out of check! That is one you need to remember.

11. He cannot castle next move because he has already moved his King.

12. c1.

13. He can replace it with a Queen, Rook, Bishop or Knight.

14. He can replace it with a new Queen on c8.

15. The Bishop has the wrong value. Its real value is 3.

Endgame Teasers

Endgame 1

1 Rxh7+ Kxh7 2 Kd5 Kh6

If 2...Kg7 (Black has stepped onto a 'mined square') 3 Ke6 Kg8 4 Kxf6 Kf8 5 Ke6 Ke8 6 f6 Kf8 7 f7 and wins.

3 Kd6

If 3 Ke6 Kg5 4 Kd5 Kxf5 wins.

3...Kh5

If 3...Kg5 4 Ke6 Kf4 5 Kxf6 wins.

4 Ke7 Kh6 5 Kxf6 Kh7 6 Ke7 Kh8 7 f6 wins.

NB: A 'mined square' is a dangerous square to 'step on' with your King. It usually means the loss of a pawn and probably the game!

Endgame 2

1 Nf2!! Kxf2 Draw by Stalemate.

Or if 1...Kf3 2 Nxg4! Kxg4 3 Kg1 h3 (3...Be3+ 4 Kh1 h3 5 Kh2 Kh4 6 Kh1) 4 Kh1 Kf3 5 Kg1 h2+ 6 Kh1 draws.

Black cannot win after 2 Nxg4 because his Bishop does not control the queening square, h1. This type of defence only works with a Rook's pawn and the defending King must be able to control the queening square. The opposing Bishop 'of the wrong colour' can then never force the King away.

Endgame 3

1 Ke5!

Taking the opposition.

1...Ka4 2 Kd6! Kb4

Black is forced to step on a 'mined square' again!

3 Kd5 Ka5 4 Kxc5

and White wins.

Endgame 4

1 Rh4!! Kb6

1...Rxb4+? 2 Kc5 Rxh4 and Stalemate!

2 Ke5 Rc3

2...Kc7 3 Rf4, 2...c5 3 Rh6+.

3 Rg4 Rc2 4 Rh4 Rc1 5 Rg4 Re1+ 6 Kd4 Draw.

This unusual position arose when the Scottish player Paul Motwani needed to draw it to achieve his Grandmaster title. After some thought Motwani found the saving resource and gained his final norm! Remember that Stalemate is a useful drawing resource.

Spot the Continuation (LPDO)

1. White played **1 Rxf8+ Kxf8 2 Rf3+ exf3 3 Qxg5** winning the loose Queen.
2. The white Queen on e4 is loose. Morphy played **1...Ng3!!**. If **2 Qxg6 N4e2#**. If **2 Qxd4 Ne2+** wins the Queen. If **2 Bxg3 Qxe4**.
3. Beliavsky played **1 Rh6+ Kxh6 2 Nf7+** winning the Queen.
4. White played **1 Nxd7! Qxd7** and now the black Queen is loose. **2 c4 Rfe8** as, if instead **2...Nf6**, then **3 Bxh7+** followed by **4 Rxd7**. White, by creating a loose piece, the black Queen, wins the Knight on d5.

* * * *

I really hope that you have enjoyed the second issue of *Junior BCM*. It's been a lot of fun producing it, and we've introduced some different items which we hope you will enjoy and learn from. As always if we've omitted anything that you'd like to see in future issues please get in touch. This is your magazine, remember, written for you! We will see you again in two months time with issue 3. I hope you enjoy the holidays and festivities wherever you are, and of course make sure you find time to relax and take a break.

It's a great time to be a young chess player right now. We have a new World Chess Champion aged just 22 – Magnus Carlsen from Norway. So keep playing and enjoying what is possibly the most popular played game in the world, and who knows – with a good amount of application and thought you too might one day be challenging for major chess titles!

David Levens

Junior Calendar of Events



NB: Events marked * are all EPSCA England U11 trial events

28 – 30 December: London Junior Chess Championships

Enquiries to Nathaniel Lutton entry@ljcc.co.uk

5 January 2014: 8th Chess Coaching Services Tournament and Training Day

Enquiries to robwillmoth@hotmail.co.uk

11-12 January 2014 Junior 4NCL

Enquiries to Mike Truran at mike@truranfamily.co.uk

18 January 2014: EPSCA Rapidplay at Broadgreen Comprehensive School, Liverpool *

Enquiries to Peter Purland 0151 639 1797

19 January 2014: Barnet Junior Chess 2014 Championships

Enquiries to tony1@yahoo.com

25-26 January 2014: South of England Championship at Yateley Manor School, nr Camberley *

Enquiries to Joe French 01256 472537 at joe french@msn.com

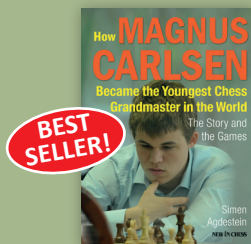
8 February 2014: East Midlands Grand Prix (Round 3)

Enquiries to crawlj6@aol.com

22-23 February 2014: West of England Championships in Swindon *

Enquiries to Bev Schofield 01793 487575





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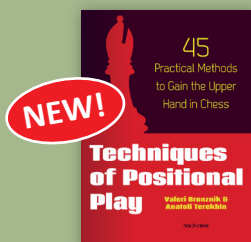
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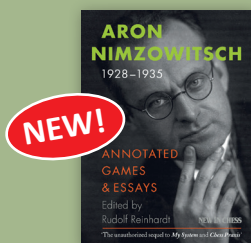
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Peter Anderberg, Schach Magazine



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"It has not, of course, refuted the Sicilian, because that is impossible, but it does present games in which the typical Black counterplay is being effectively neutralised." – *NH Dagblad*

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