

Chaturanga Squared

The Chaturanga Chess Club Magazine.

Editor-In-Chief – Stan Ward

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Days of Future Past

Frank J. Marshall: An American Original Pt. 2

By Stan Ward

.....Paris, France. 1900.

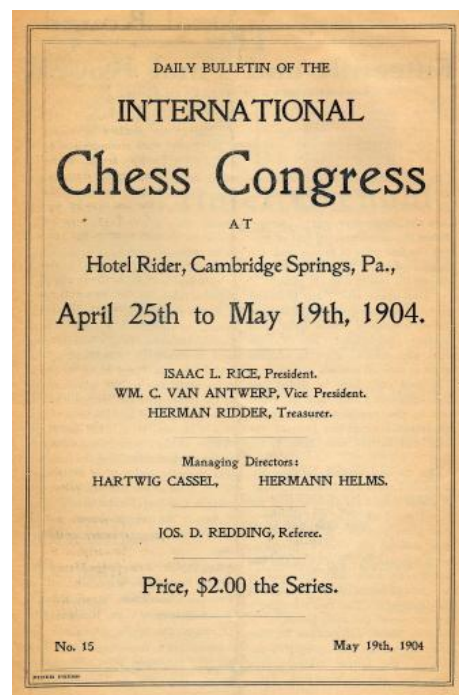
With his confidence soaring after his round 5 win against Lasker, (Lasker's only loss), Marshall had a successful rest of the tournament finishing tied for 3rd and 4th with Maroczy at 12-4. Only Lasker and another young American, Harry Nelson Pillsbury placed higher with 14^{1/2} – 1^{1/2} and 12^{1/2} – 3^{1/2} respectively. And Marshall beat Pillsbury as well!

After his great results in Paris, Marshall was no longer an unknown and over the next few year's he had an uneven record in the tournaments he played in. Still he was playing good chess and had individual wins in tournaments such as Monte Carlo, 1903 vs Pillsbury. Then came 1904 and Marshall's greatest tournament: The International Tournament at Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania.¹

1904 was the age before commercial flight and railroads were still the king of long-distance travel. The Erie Railroad company had a line that ran from New York to Chicago. Cambridge Springs, the halfway point of the rail journey was renowned for its spas and mineral springs. Most of

the funding for the tournament came from the Erie Railroad Company and William Douglas Rider Jr. the wealthy owner of the Hotel Rider. The hotel was to be the site of the tournament.

Arriving by ship, (S.S. Pretoria), in the middle of April eight of Europe's strongest players made their way to north western Pennsylvania including Dr. Lasker, Chigorin, Janowski, Teichmann, Schlechter and Mieses. With a total of 16 the event began on April 25th.²



Daily Bulletin from the tournament.

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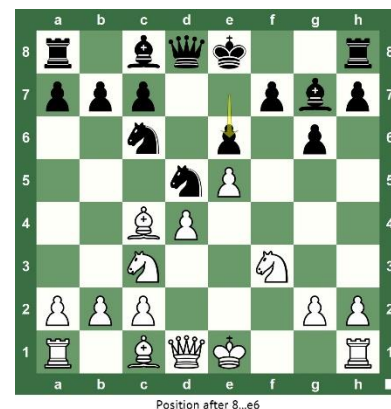
1. Days Of Future Past. A look at GM's and IM's from a bygone age.
2. Time and Tide. Instruction and Articles from before the computer age.
3. The 65th Square. Highlighting a member of our club, including a recent game. A Joe Mucerino game.
4. Hollywood plays chess.

F.J. Marshall vs H.N. Pillsbury
Cambridge Springs International
Tournament, 1904
Pirc Defense B09

1. d4 d6...

An unusual move which is bound to lead to a cramped game.

2. e4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. f4 Bg7 5. e5 dxe5 6. fxe5 Nd5 7. Nf3 Nc6 8. Bc4 e6...



(Continued on page 2)

As a result of his failure to play e4, Black's position is anything but promising. The text makes matters still worse because of the hole created on f6. Hence... Be6 or ...Nb6 should have been tried.

9. Bg5 Nxc3 10. bxc3 Ne7 11. O-O h6 12. Bf6 Bxf6....

Whether Black swaps or lets White do so, the important thing is that the dark squared Bishop disappears and the weakness of Black's f6 becomes even more marked. As will be seen from the sequel, White is fully prepared to give up a pawn.

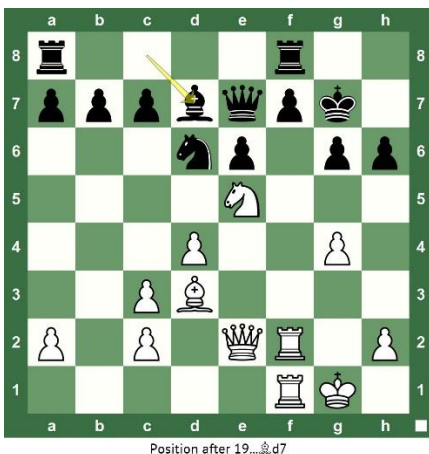
13. exf6 Nf5 14. Qe2 Qxf6 15. g4 Nd6...



16. Ne5 Qe7...

On 16... Qg5 there could follow 17. Nxf7 Nxf7 18. Bxe6 Bxe6 19. Qxe6+ Qe7 20. Qxg6 Qe3+ 21. Kh1 O-O-O 22. Rxf7 Qxc3 23. Qf5+ Kb8 24. Rd1 with a winning game.

17. Bd3 O-O 18. Rf2 Kg7 19. Raf1 Bd7...



Even the desperate expedient 19... f5 would be unavailing because of 20. Nxg6 Kxg6 21. gxf5 and wins.

20. Rf6 Rg8

There is no defense against White's next move. If 20... Qxf6 21. Rxf6 Kxf6 22. Nxd7+ etc

21. Nxg6 Qxf6 22. Rxf6 Kxf6 23. Qe5# 1-0

Editor's note. Sadly, this was Pillsbury's last tournament. He died 2 years later at the age of 33. ³



Harry Nelson Pillsbury

F.J. Marshall vs R. Teichmann

Cambridge Springs International
Tournament, 1904

Cambridge Springs Defense D52

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Nbd7 5. Nf3 c6 6. e3 Qa5



7. Nd2 Ne4 8.cxd5 Nxd2 9. Qxd2 exd5 10. Bd3 Bb4 11. O-O O-O 12. a3 Bxc3 13. bxc3 Re8 14. f4Nb6 15. f5 f6 16. Bf4 Nc4 17. Qe2 b5 18. Bxc4 bxc4 19. Qh5 Bd7 20. Rf3 Qxc3 21. Raf1 Qd3 22. g4 Re7 23. g5 Bxf5 24. gxf6 gxf6 25. Bh6 Bg6 26. Qh4 Qe4 27. Rxf6 Rg7 28. Qxe4 Bxe4+ 29. Bxg7 Kxg7 30. Rxc6 Rb8 31. Rc7+ Kh6 32. Kf2 Rb2+ 33. Kg3

Rb3 34. Kf4 Bd3 35. Rg1 Rb6 36. Ke5 Be4 37. Rg3 Rb8 38. Rc6+ Kh5 39. Rf6 Rb1 40. Rc6 Rb8 41. Rg7 Re8+ 42. Re6 Rc8 43. Rf6 Bg6 44. Rgxf6 hxf6 45. Kxd5 c3 46. Rf1 Kg4 47. Ke4 c2 48. Rg1+ Kh3 49. Rc1 g5 50. d5 g4 51. d6 Kxh2 52. Ke5 Rc3 53. e4 Kg3 54. Kd4 Rc8 55. e5 Kf4 56. d7 Rd8 57. e6 Kf5 58. Ke3 1-0

Annotated by Frank Marshall

F.J. Marshall vs J. Mieses

Cambridge Springs International
Tournament, 1904
Queens Gambit Declined, Semi-
Tarrasch Defense D40

White wins a difficult and instructive ending.

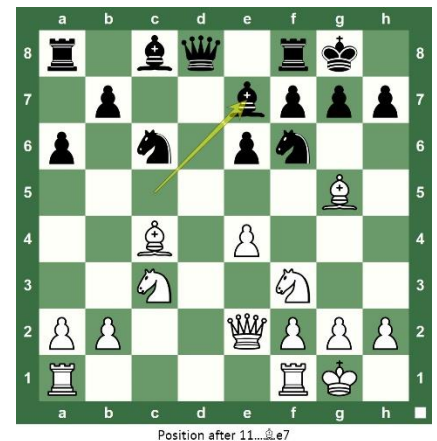
1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4...

Mieses is fond of this defense because it leads to a fairly open game as a rule. It's one possible drawback is that White may obtain a lead in development which will make it difficult for Black to equalize.

3. e3 Nf6 4. Bxc4 e6 5. Nc3 c5 6. Nf3 Be7 7. O-O O-O

7. ...Nc6 or ...a6 would have been more accurate.

8. Qe2 a6 9. dxc5 Bxc5 10. e4 Nc6 11. Bg5 Be7



Practically compulsory because of the threatened e5. But this Bishop will soon be exchanged, depriving Blacks d6 of protection and thus assuring White's control of the d file.

(Continued on page 3)

12. Rad1 Qc7 13. e5 Nd7 14. Bxe7 Nxe7 15. Bd3 Ng6 16. Bxg6 hxf6...

Black must now be on guard against Ng5 and Qe4-h4.

17. Rd6 Nb6 18. Rfd1 Nc4...



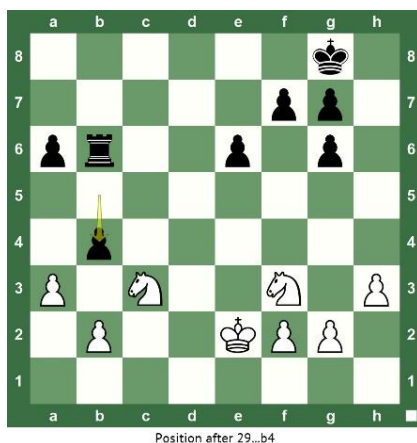
19. Qe4 Nxd6...

If 19. ...Nxb2; 20. Rc1 Nc4 21. Rd4 Nb6 22. Ng5 f6 (something has to be done about White's contemplated Qh4); 23. exr6 gxf6 24. (if 23. ...Rxf6 24. Qh4); 24. Nxe6 with a winning position.

20. exd6 Qd8...

After 20. ...Qc6; 21. Qxc6 bxc6 22. d7 Bb7 23. Na4 Rfd8 24. Nc5 Ra7 25. Ne5 K8 26 f4. Black would be subjected to unremitting pressure.

21. d7 Qe7 22. dxc8=Q Raxc8 23. h3 Rfd8 24. Rxd8+ Rxd8 25. a3 b5 26. Qc6 Qd6 27. Qxd6 Rxd6 28. Kf1 Rb6 29. Ke2 b4



Black plays to exchange as many pawns as possible, because of the well-known drawing possibilities against 2 knights.

30. axb4 Rxb4 31. Nd1 f6 32. Kd3 g5 33. Kc3 Rf4 34. Nd4 g4

If now 35. Nxe6? gxh3!

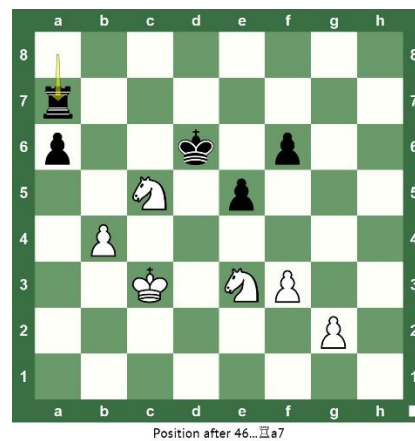
35. hxg4 Rxg4 36. Ne3 Rf4 37. f3 e5

Loss of the rook was threatened with g3.

38. Ne6 Rh4 39. Nxc7 Rh1

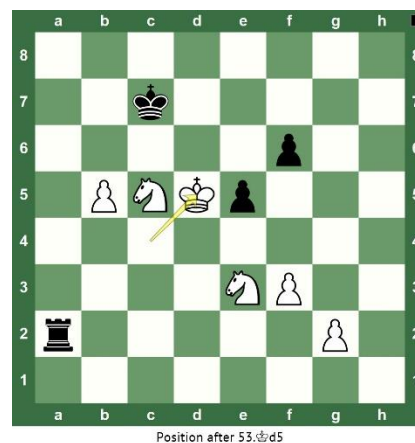
If 39. ...Kxg7 40. Nf5+

40. Ne8 Kf7 41. Nd6+ Ke6 42. Ne4 Rc1+ 43. Kd2 Rc8 44. b4 Ra8 45. Nc5+Kd6 46. Kc3 Ra7...



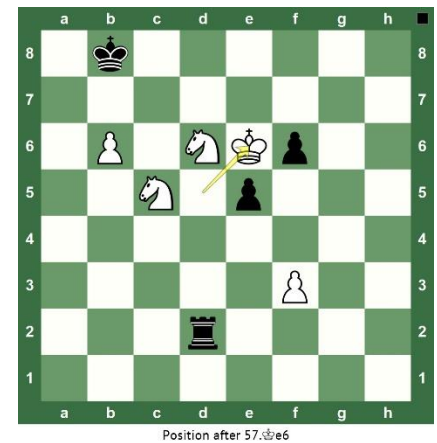
If 46. ...a5; 47. Nc4+ Kc6 48. Nxa5+ Rxa5 49. Bxa5 winning the King and Pawn ending.

47. Kc4 Ra8 48. Nf5+ Kc6 49. Nxa6 Kb6 50. Nc5 Ra2 51. Ne3 Kc6 52. b5+ Kc7 53. Kd5...



The shortest way is to go right after Black's King.

Re2 54. Nf5 Rxg2 55. b6+ Kb8 56. Nd6 Rd2+ 57. Ke6 1-0⁴



Although the Cambridge Springs Tournament was Marshall's greatest event, and he often referred to 1904 as "the year of ups and downs in his life. The death of his father shortly after the tournament was a serious blow to the 26-year-old. However, in August of that year he met his wife Carrie. It was a marriage that lasted 40 years.

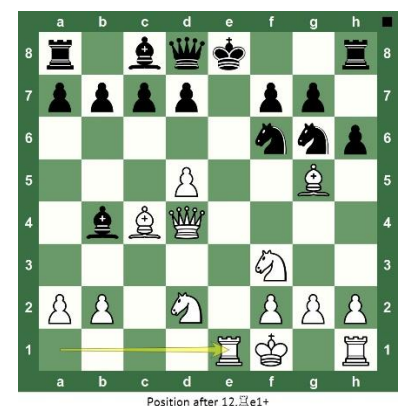
Marshall continued to play in tournaments throughout the world

F.J. Marshall vs A. Burn

Ostend, Belgium 1905
Giuoco Piano, C54

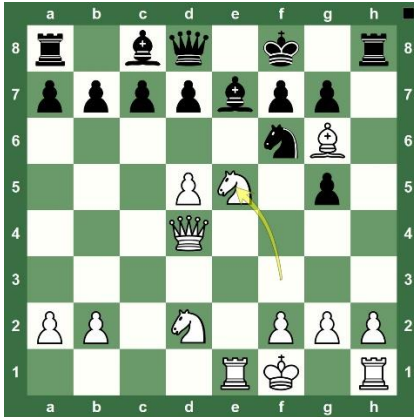
showing off his blistering, ferocious style of play. In 1905 he won the Second Brilliancy Prize against Amos Burn.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. c3 Nf6 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4 Bb4+ 7. Kf1 {!?} 7... Nxe4 {?} (7... d5 {!}) 8. exd5 Nxd5 8. d5 Ne7 9. Qd4 Nf6 10. Bg5 Ng6 11. Nbd2 h6 12. Re1+



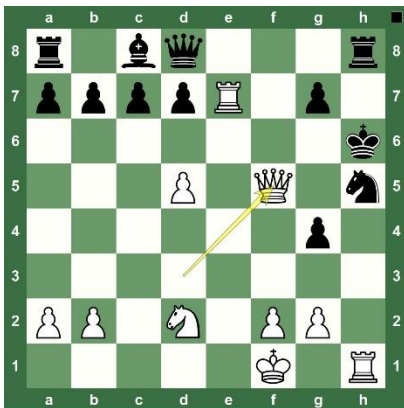
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12. ...Kf8 13. Bd3 (!) 13... Be7 14.
Bxg6 hxg5 15. Ne5(!)



Position after 15...Ne5

15...fxg6 16. Nxc6+ Kf7 17. Rxe7+
Kxg6 18. Qd3+ Kh6 19. h4 (!) 19...
g4 (19...Qxe7 20. hxg5+ Kxg5 21.
Nf3+ Kf4 22. g3+ Kg4 23. Qg6+ Kxf3
24. Qf5#) 20. h5Nxh5 21. Qf5
resign. (21... g6 22. Rxh5+ (!) 22...
gxh5 23. Qf6#) 1-0⁵



Position after 21...Qf5

The following is another brilliancy
prize winner from the following
year in Ostend, Belgium.

R. Swiderski vs F.J. Marshall

Ostend, Belgium 1906
Queen's Pawn Opening, D04

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 c5 3. e3 Nf6 4. Nbd2
Nc6 5. Be2 Bf5 6. dxc5 e5 7. Bb5
Qc7 8. b4 Be7 9. Bb2 Nd7 10. a3 O-
O 11. c4 Bd3 12. Qb3 e4 13. cxd5
Bxb5 14. Nxe4 Nce5 15. Bxe5 Nxe5
16. d6 Nd3+ 17. Kd2 Qc6 18. dxe7
Qxe4 19. exf8=Q+ Rxf8 20. Nd4
Nxf2 21. Rhg1 Rd8 22. Raf1 Rxd4+!
23. exd4 Qxd4+ 24. Kc1 Qa1+ 25.
Qb1 Qc3+ 26. Qc2 Qxa3+ 27. Kd2
Qxb4+ 28. Ke3 Ng4+ 29. Kf3 Nxh2+
0-1.

Here is a game against the great Akiba
Rubinstein. There are many opening
variations with Rubinstein's name
attached to them but here Marshall
gets the better of it. This tournament
in Lodz was won by Rubinstein with
Marshall coming in second.

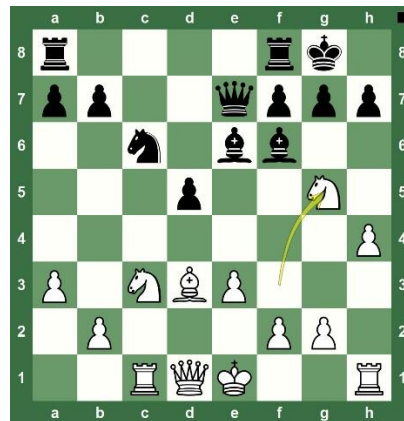
F.J. Marshall vs A. Rubinstein

Lodz, Poland 1908
Queens Gambit Declined, D32

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 4. cxd5 exd5
5. Nf3 Nf6

(better is 5... Nc6)

6. Bg5 Be7 7. dxc5 Be6 8. Rc1 O-O 9.
Bxf6 Bxf6 10. e3 Qa5 11. a3 Nc6 12.
Bd3 Qxc5 13. h4!? 13... Qe7 14. Ng5



Position after 14...Qe7

(14. Bxh7?! 14... Kxh7 15. Ng5+ Kg6 !
(?))

14... h6 15. Nxe6 fxe6

(15... Qxe6 16. Nxd5 (!))

16. Bb1 Bxh4 17. g3 Bxg3! 18. fxg3 Qg5
19. Qd3 Qxg3+ ??

(19... Ne5 20. Qh7+ Kf7 21. Rf1+ Ke7
(?))

20. Kd2 Rf2+ 21. Ne2 Ne5 22. Qh7+ Kf7
23. Rc7+ Kf6 24. Rxh6+ ! 1-0⁶

(To be continued)

Sources

1. Bill Wall, 1904 Cambridge Springs
International Tournament. Chess.Com 2007.
2. Ibid.
3. Marshall's Best Games Of Chess
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid

6. Chess King software.



Photo from Cambridge Springs
International Chess Tournament 1904.



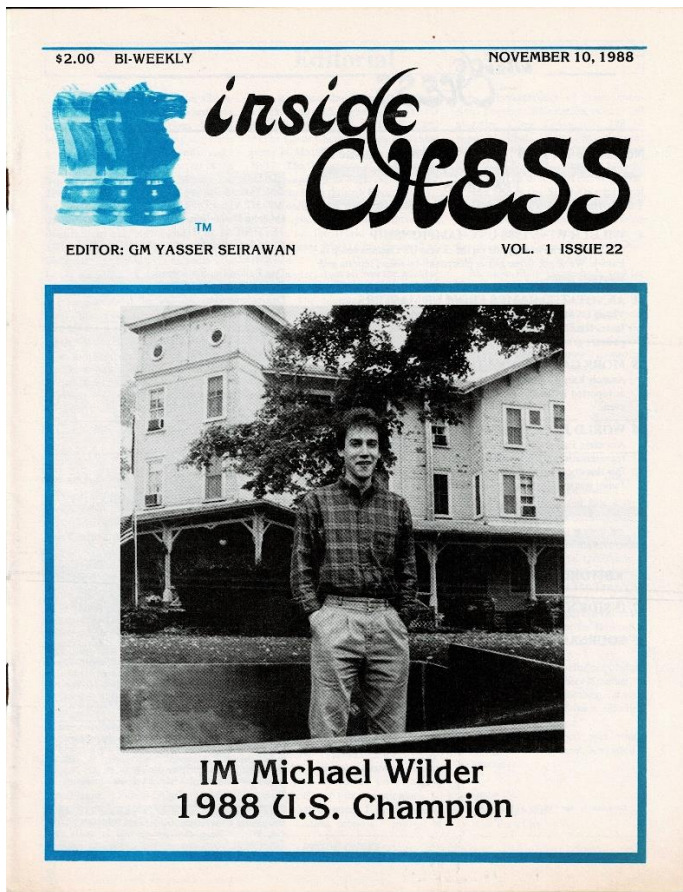
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Time and Tide

Instructional Articles from before the internet and computer age.

Long ago and far away.... before computer engines and the internet.... chess players primary connection to the world chess community was the printed word. The latest trends and analysis came from periodicals such as Herman Helms American Chess Bulletin, Brentano's Chess Monthly, Chess Review (later Chess Life & Review), and the British magazine Chess to name a few. This section looks back at what came before.....

Inside Chess from 10 November 1988



Articles presented: 1988 US Championship & Annotated games from US Masters.

On the cover: IM Michael Wilder at Cambridge Springs. Yasser Seirawan was Editor in Chief of what some consider the best chess publication ever produced in the USA.

In 1988 Reagan was President, George H.W. Bush was President Elect.

Kasparov was World Championship and an Inside Chess Subscription was \$39.00 year for 26 issues.



Wilder Wins 1988 US Championship

		FIDE	USCF	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
1.	IM Michael Wilder	2505	2625	x	=	0	=	=	1	=	=	=	1	1	=	6.5
=2.	GM Yasser Seirawan ²	2610	2739	=	x	=	=	0	0	1	=	=	1	1	=	6.0
=2.	GM Boris Gulko ³	2590	2701	1	=	x	=	=	=	=	1	=	0	=	=	6.0
=4.	GM Joel Benjamin ⁴	2560	2655	=	=	=	x	1	0	=	=	0	0	1	1	5.5
=4.	IM Michael Rohde ⁵	2565	2690	=	1	=	0	x	=	=	=	=	=	0	1	5.5
=4.	GM Nick deFirmian ⁶	2560	2688	0	1	=	1	=	x	=	=	0	=	0	1	5.5
=4.	IM Victor Frias ⁷	2510	2618	=	0	=	=	=	=	x	=	=	0	1	1	5.5
=4.	GM John Fedorowicz ⁸	2520	2624	=	=	0	=	=	=	=	x	1	0	1	=	5.5
=4.	GM Maxim Dlugy ⁹	2545	2671	=	=	=	1	=	1	=	0	x	1	0	0	5.5
=4.	GM Sergey Kudrin ¹⁰	2545	2669	0	0	1	1	=	=	1	1	0	x	0	=	5.5
11.	GM Lev Alburt	2525	2652	0	0	=	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	x	=	5.0
12.	GM Tony Miles	2500	2555	=	=	=	0	0	0	0	=	1	=	=	x	4.0

by GM Yasser Seirawan

Say this: The Riverside Inn in Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania. The very sound of this year's site of the US Championship suggests dignity and history, and the environment provided by our two GM-class hosts—hoteliers Mr. and Mrs. Halliday, owners of the Riverside Inn—assured that this year's edition, held October 1-17, would be one of the finest ever held. One would like to think it inevitable that Cambridge Springs proved equal to the task. For as we all learned in our chess primers, Cambridge Springs is the site of the famous 1904 tournament won by the great Frank Marshall, ahead of the likes of Lasker, Janowski, and Pillsbury. And who among us has not at least heard of the venerable Cambridge Springs Variation, first seen in this small Pennsylvania town over 80 years ago?

Suffice it to say that this year's 12-player field strained mightily to uphold the tradition of fighting chess seen in US Championships of late. The play was scrappy, if uneven, and the result was a bit surprising. Twenty-six-year-old IM Michael Wilder took first-place honors, which in itself is not surprising. He played quite well and fully deserved his winner's share of the \$25,000 purse. What is odd is the fact that his +2 score (6.5-4.5) took undisputed first. Plus 2! The smart money before the tournament laid odds on +3 taking first.

What should we make of this? Perhaps

nothing more than that this year's event—with one of the strongest fields ever—demonstrated a temporary parity in the upper echelons of US chess. Or perhaps a more profound parity is evolving, one on a par with that found in college football. Who can really say?

What I will say with absolute certainty is that my result of 6 points, good enough for a tie for second with former Soviet Champion Boris Gulko, age 41, demonstrated that I was a bit off form. I started off well, then tapered off in the late going.

Let's take a look.

Round 1

The bald fact is this: many of the games were short draws. However, one should not assume that placidity was the order of the day, but rather that the players were still settling into the tournament, acclimating themselves, feeling out the opposition in the manner of heavyweights content to jab each other in the early going. Michael Wilder became the tournament leader by winning against Lev Alburt in the round's only decisive game. His method was instructive: Lev went on a pawn hunt on the Queenside, leaving his King unprotected, and Mike obliged with a scorching Kingside attack.

The draw that garnered the most attention was that played between John

Fedorowicz and myself. This game, and the aforementioned game Alburt-Wilder, are our features for this round.

Quiet draws were seen in the games Dlugy-Rohde, Frias-Benjamin, Gulko-deFirmian, and Miles-Kudrin.

Bogo-Indian E11

GM Lev Alburt
GM Michael Wilder

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4 +

Of late, the Bogo-Indian has become an increasingly popular way to meet the Catalan.

4.Bd2 a5!? 5.Bg2 d6 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.O-O e5 8.Bg5

With the transparent threat a2-a3.

8...exd4 9.Nxd4 O-O 10.Qc2 h6 11.Bf4 Ne5 12.Rd1 Ng6 13.Bd2 Re8 14.Nc3 Qe7 15.a3

A surprising decision. Lev becomes fascinated with the idea of grabbing Black's a5 pawn. A more common approach would be 15.Nd5 Nxd5 16.cxd5 Bc5 17.Bc3 with a spatial advantage for White.

15...Bc5 16.Nb3?!

Lev continues with his plan to grab the a5 pawn. But hindsight being 20/20, the calm retreat 16.Be1 was in order.

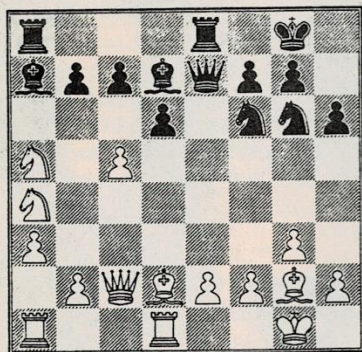
16...Bb6 17.Na4?

Madness. Lev is playing with blinders on. Soon, his King will be bereft of protection.

17...Ba7 18.c5?

It's still not too late. With 18.Nc3 White could bring the horses back to the center.

18...Bd7! 19.Nxa5



White has successfully completed the plan initiated with 15.a3. Unfortunately for him, the game is also about completed. GM Bill Lombardy says this about such positions: "Count the attacking pieces," said he, "subtract the defending pieces, and that will tell you if the attack works." This attack works.

19...Qxe2 20.Nc3 Qh5 21.Nxb7

In order to keep the diagonal a7-g1 closed.

21...Ng4 22.h3 Nxf2 23.Kxf2 Bxc5 + 24.Nxc5 Qxc5 + 25.Kf1 Bb5 + 26.Nxb5 Qxc2 27.Bxa8 Qd3 + 0-1

French Winawer C16

GM John Fedorowicz
GM Yasser Seirawan

US Championship 1988

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.a3 Bxc3 +

A major alternative for Black in this position (and one I used to favor) was the retreat 5...Bf8. The text goes into the variation discussed by IM Mike Valvo in the cover story of *Inside Chess*, Issue 20.

6.bxc3 b6 7.a4

A standard move in the French Winawer. White intends to exchange his isolated a-pawn as well as open up the diagonal a3-f8 for his Bishop. Theory considers 7.Qg4 to be the most testing.

7...Ba6 8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.Qd3 Nb8 10.Qg3 f5

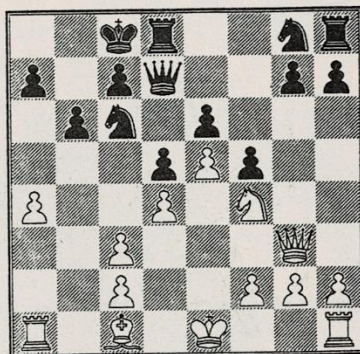
The try 10...f6 was to be considered. In fact, our post-mortem confirmed this as Black's best. The move has several points: to pressure e5, to leave the outpost f5 free for a Knight, and, last but not least, to lay a subtle trap.

To wit: Black wishes to lull White into believing that a battle will flare up around the e5 square. White might then be tempted to slot his Knight to the wrong circuit with 11.Nf3?. But after 11...f5, White would have to spend several tempi to bring his Knight to its proper square, f4. However, John was having none of this. After the game he told me he intended 11.Ne2 Nc6 12.O-O with an interesting middlegame in view. But...

11.Ne2 Nc6 12.Nf4 0-0-0

So, we've transposed back into theory. But instead of sacrificing a Knight against e6 on move 12—theory's wild favorite—White has played a3-a4 on move seven.

I now faced the choice of allowing White his upcoming Exchange sacrifice, or of playing 12...g6 13.h4 Nge7 14.h5 gxh5 15.Nxh5, when White has a Kingside initiative for his shattered Queenside. I decided to allow the sacrifice.



13.a5!?

Is this sacrifice good or bad? Well, it depends on your temperament and style. Personally, I can't believe it's good: Why should Black be punished? What has he done wrong?

Yet White does get excellent positional value for the sacrifice. The square c5 is a great outpost for a Knight or Bishop, and Black's King is made vulnerable. As Nick de Firmian remarked after the game: "Couldn't White just wait to do this? Let Black play ...Nc6-a5-c4 and then sacrifice the stuff." Nick's approach seems a lot more rational.

13...Nxa5 14.Rxa5 bxa5 15.Nd3!

White now intends to play Nc5, Qg3-d3-a6 with a quick checkmate. I'll have to neutralize this threat with my Queen, which currently defends g7. So, I must fasten down the Kingside.

15...g6! 16.O-O

A mistake would be 16.Nc5 Qb5!, reminding White that he has a King too.

16...Qb5

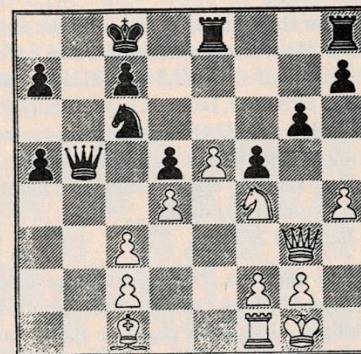
It seemed too gluttonous to play 16...Qa4 17.Nc5 Qxc2. I was content with my booty and decided to play it safe.

17.Nc5 Re8 18.h4

Later John suggested 18.h3. But that's looking 20 moves ahead! My preference is 18.h4: in some positions it threatens to pry the Kingside open with h5; it also clamps down on any ...g6-g5 ideas.

18...Ne7 19.Nxe6 Nc6 20.Nf4!

So, the Knight ends up back where it started. A mistake would be 20.Nc5 Nxe5, capturing an important pawn and opening up files for my Rooks.



20...Nd8

A hard move to criticize. I believed that White was lost. He is an Exchange down and has a bad Bishop to boot. Additionally, my passed a-pawns have a more promising future than White's passed e-pawn. The only jokers in the deck seemed to be the Knights. By exchanging them off I thought the position a simple win.

But rarely are things so clear. It seems that here was the right moment to punish John for his reckless sacrifice. My Knight is needed to support my a-pawns. Thus: 20...a4 21.Qf3 Rd8 22.Ne6 Na5! 23.Nxd8 Rxd8 24.Ba3 Nc4 25.Bc5 Nd2 and wins.

So, White's Bishop must stay at home—then, however, my a-pawns prove too strong. White's best chance is *not* to win an Exchange back: 23.Ba3 Na5 24.Bc5 c6 25.Re1 Nc4 26.e6 Rhe8, and though the position abounds in tactics, the post-mortem favored Black.

21.Qf3! c6 22.Ba3 Ne6 23.Nxe6! Rxe6 24.Bc5 Kb7 25.Ra1

Only now did I recognize my error in judgement. White's Bishop is a pillar of

strength. My a-pawns aren't going anywhere. The Kingside is closed and White is going to build his attack on the Queenside.

He intends 26.Qd1 and Rb1 followed by Rb4 and Qb1, etc. If 25...Ka8, intending ...Rb8, then 26.Bd6 and the same problem occurs. Thus, I had to do some radical rethinking and decided to steer the game into safe channels.

25...Rxe5 26.c4!?

A surprising move that I initially thought cost White the game. I had been expecting 26.dxe5 Qxc5, with approximate equality. If White were to then try 27.c4, then 27...Qxc4 28.Rxa5 would favor Black.

After the text move, 26...Qb2 presents itself. At first sight things looked good: 27.Rxa5 Qc1 + 28.Kh2 Re4, threatening mate. However, before I could really get excited, I saw 27.Qd1!, which leaves my Rook *en prise* as well as threatening Rb1.

Now I had to compromise my Queenside structure yet again.

26...dxc4 27.Qc3?

Too cautious. I prefer White after 27.dxe5 Qxc5 28.Qc3. In this variation, White would have a passed e-pawn; but after the text move, the pawn ends up on c5, where it is entirely useless.

27...Rxc5 28.dxc5 Re8 29.Rxa5 Qb1 + 30.Kh2 Ka8!

Setting up a marvelous cheapo. If White greedily lops off the pawn with 31.Qxc4, then 31...Re4 32.Qg8 + and Black interposes with check after 32...Qb8 +!, forcing a winning Rook ending. It was because of variations like this that John complained about his 18.h4 move.

31.Ra1! Qb8 +

If 31...Qb5 then 32.Qd4 Qb8 + 33.g3 Qe5 34.Qd7 and Black's King is far more vulnerable.

32.Kg1 Re4 33.f3!

A surprising move. I had expected only g2-g3, which would have compromised White's King. White's h-pawn is poisonous. Being in mild time pressure I quickly played my next move, completely overlooking White's combination.

33...Qe5 34.Rxa7 +! Kxa7 35.Qa5 + Kb7 36.Qb6 + Kc8 37.Qxc6 + Kd8 38.fxe4 fxe4 39.Qb6 + Draw



Photo by Nigel Eddis

Our new US Champion — IM Michael Wilder

English A30

IM Victor Frias (2618)

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

US Championship 1988

The wrong moment to agree to the draw. The onus is still on White to prove equality after 39...Kc7. One of my most exciting games of the tournament.

English A21

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d6 2.c4 e5 3.Nf3 e4 4.Ng5 f5 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.g3 Nf6 7.h4 g6 8.e3 Bg7 9.Be2 O-O 10.Nh3 Ng4 11.Nf4 Re8 12.Rb1 Nb4 13.a3 Na6 14.Qc2 c6 15.b4 Bd7 16.Bb2 Qe7 17.Qb3 Qf7 18.Rd1 Rad8 19.b5 Nc7 20.Qb4 Ne6 21.Nxe6 Draw

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 b6 3.Bg2 Bb7 4.O-O g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.d3 O-O 8.e4 d6 9.Rb1 Nc6 10.a3 Ne8 11.Bd2 Nc7 12.b4 Ne6 13.Ne2 Ned4 14.Nexd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Bxd4 16.Bh6 Re8 17. Kh1 e6 18.Qd2 f5 19.exf5 Bxg2 + 20.Kxg2 exf5 21.Rfe1 Qd7 22.Rxe8 + Rxe8 23.Re1 Kf7 24.b5 Qb7 + 25.f3 Rxe1 26.Qxe1 Bf6 27.Bf4 g5 28.Be3 a6 29.a4 axb5 30.axb5 Qa8 31.Qd2 g4 32. Qe2 Be5 33.h3 h5 34.hxg4 hxg4 35.Bf2

Kg6 36.Draw

Nimzo-Indian E43

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6
5.Bd3 Bb7 6.Nf3 O-O 7.O-O c5 8.Na4
cxd4 9.a3 Be7 10.exd4 d6 11.Re1 Nbd7 12.
Nc3 d5 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Bd2 Rc8 15.Nxd5
Bxd5 16.Ba6 Ra8 17.Rc1 Draw

English A30

GM Tony Miles (2555)

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

US Championship 1988

1.Nf3 c5 2.b3 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2 Nf6
5.Bb2 e6 6.O-O Be7 7.c4 O-O 8.Nc3 d6
9.Re1 a6 10.e4 Nbd7 11.d4 cxd4 12. Nxd4
Qc7 13.Rc1 Rfe8 14.Qc2 Rad8 15.Qb1
Qb8 16.Re2 Bf8 17. Rce1 Draw

Round 2

An exceptionally spirited round. Nick deFirmian played a scorching game against Tony Miles, who misjudged the strength of Nick's Knight sacrifice. On move 11, Miles, an English transplant, offered a draw which was rejected, as his move led to a lost position. Other players in the tournament gave him a gentle ribbing by repeating Tony's play in casual games and then agreeing to a draw. (Indicating the game was agreed drawn beforehand.)

Gulko played his usual Grunfeld Defense against Wilder and convincingly outplayed the new US Champion. Michael was already in a great deal of trouble after Gulko played his 21st move, Qh4.

I played the White side of the Catalan Opening against Frias and gained a small but enduring advantage. When Victor slipped with his 19th move his game became very difficult. His final blunder, ...c7-c5, shortened the game.

Drugs surprised Kudrin by playing a Sicilian Dragon, which is Sergey's favorite defense. Sergey declined an early draw offer and was eventually outplayed.

The game between Benjamin and Alburt was eagerly awaited. Recently Joel has been clobbering the Benko Gambit, whereas Lev is one of the Gambit's lead-

ing practitioners. Joel obliged by playing his latest treatment — one that once again puts the Gambit under an ever-darkening cloud.

Michael Rohde and John Fedorowicz was a completely crazy affair, with John just able to keep the balance.

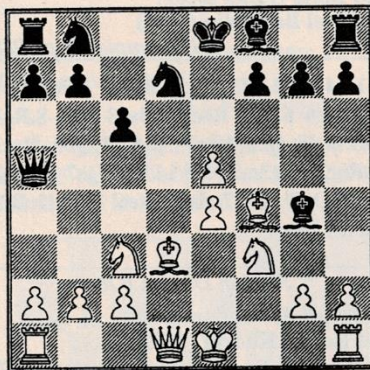
Irregular B07

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

GM Tony Miles (2555)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 c6 4.f4 Qa5
5.Bd3 e5 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.fxe5
Nfd7 9.Bf4



9...Bb4 10.O-O O-O 11.Nd5 Bc5 +
12.Kh1 Bd4 13.e6! fxe6 14.Bc7 Qa4
15.Ne7 + Kh8 16.Ng5 h5 17.Rxf8 + Nxf8
18.Qf1 Nbd7 19.Qf7 Nf6 20.e5 1-0

King's Indian E91

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 c5 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4
O-O 6.Be2 d6 7.O-O Nc6 8.d5 Na5 9.h3 e5
10.Bg5 h6 11.Bd2 b6 12.Nh2 Ne8 13.Qc1
Kh7 14.Qc2 f5 15.f4! exf4 16.Bxf4 Kh8
17.exf5 Bxf5 18.Qd2 g5 19.Be3 Qd7 20.h4!
Nf6 21.hxg5 hxg5 22.Bxg5 Rae8 23.Bh6!
Nh7 24.b3 Bd4 + 25.Kh1 Rf6 26.Bh5 Rg8
27.Be3 Be5 28.Bf4 Bd4 29.Be3 Be5 30.Bf4
Bd4 31.Nf3 Bh3 32.Nxd4 Bxg2 + 33.Qxg2
Rxxg2 Draw

Grunfeld Exchange D86

IM Michael Wilder (2652)

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5
5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 O-O 8.Ne2
Nc6 9.O-O b6 10.Bd3 e5 11.d5 Na5 12.Rb1
c6 13.Ba3 c5 14.Bc1 f5 15.f4 fxe4 16.Bxe4

Qd6 17. h3 Bd7 18.Qd3 Rae8 19.c4 exf4
20.Bxf4 Qe7 21.Ng3 Qh4! 22. Bd6 Bd4 +
23.Kh2 Rf2 24.Rxf2 Bxf2 25.Nh1 Qxe4
26.Qxe4 Rxe4 27.Nxf2 Re2 28.Kg3 Nxc4
29.Bf4 Kf7 30.Rc1 Ne5 31.Rc3 Kf6 32.a3
g5 33.Be3 Kf5 34.Ng4 Nxxg4 35.hxg4 +
Ke4 36.Bxxg5 Kxd5 37.Rd3 + Kc6 38.Bf4
Be8 39.a4 c4 40.Rd8 Kc5 41.Bd6 + Kc6
42.Bf4 Bd7 43.Rh8 Re7 44.Bd2 c3 45.Bf4
Rf7 0-1

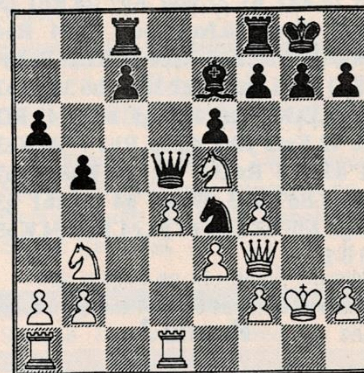
Catalan E05

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

IM Victor Frias (2618)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bg2
O-O 6.O-O dxc4 7.Qa4 a6 8.Qxc4 b5
9.Qc2 Bb7 10.Bf4 Nd5 11.Nbd2 Nbd7
12.Nb3 Nxf4 13.gxf4 Nf6 14.e3 Be4 15.Qd1
Rc8 16.Ne5 Bxxg2 17.Kxxg2 Qd5 + 18.Qf3
Ne4 19.Rfd1



19...f5 20.Nd2 Bd6 21.Nxe4 fxe4 22.Qg4
Rf5 23.Kh1 c5 24.Nd7 Qb7 25.dxc5 Bxc5
26.Nxc5 Rxc5 27.Rd8 + Kf7 28.Rg1 1-0

Benko Gambit A57

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

GM Lev Alburt (2652)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.e3
axb5 6.Bxb5 Qa5 + 7.Nc3 Bb7 8.Nge2
Nxd5 9.O-O Nf6 10.Qd3 e6 11.e4 Nc6
12.Rd1 Rd8 13.Qg3 Be7 14.Bg5 O-O 15.e5
Nh5 16.Qh4 Bxxg5 17.Qxxg5 g6 18.Rd3 Qc7
19.Rh3 f6 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Qxc5 Ng4
22.Bxc6 Bxc6 23.Rf1 Rf5 24.Qd4 h5
25.Rg3 Kh7 26.h3 Nf6 27.Qe3 e5 28.Rg5
Rxxg5 29.Qxxg5 Rf8 30.Nc1 Kg7 31.Nd3 d6
32.Rd1 Qb7 33.f3 Re8 34.Kh2 Qb8 35.Re1
Nh7 36.Qe3 Nf6 37.a3 Ba8 38.Re2 Re7
39.Kh1 Qb3 40.Qg5 Qc4 41.Nf2 Rf7
42.Qd2 Rd7 43.Nfe4 Ne8 44.Qg5 Qf7
45.Rd2 Kh7 46.b4 Qc4 47.Kh2 Bc6 48.Qe3

Kg8 49.Qh6 Rg7 50.Qe3 d5 51.Qc5 Qxc5 52.Nxc5 d4 53.Nd1 Nd6 54.Nb2 Ra7 55.a4 Kf7 56.Nbd3 Kf6 57.b5 Nc4 58.Rc2 Bd5 59.Nb4 Nb6 60.Nca6 d3 61.Nxd3 Nxa4 62.Nc7 Nb6 63.Rc5 Bf7 64.Rc6+ Kf5 65.g4+ Kg5 66.Nxe5 Bd5 67.Rxb6 Rxc7 68.Kg3 h4+ 69.Kf2 Rc3 70.Rd6 Bc4 71.b6 Rc2+ 72.Ke3 Re2+ 73.Kd4 Ba6 74.Nxg6 1-0

Dragon B70

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cx d4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g3 g6 7.Bg2 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Bg7 9.O-O O-O 10.Qb4 Qc7 11.a4 a5 12.Qb3 Be6 13.Nd5 Bxd5 14.exd5 Rfc8 15.c3 Nd7 16.Bh3 Rcb8 17.Rd1 Bf6 18.Be3 Ne5 19.Rac1 b5 20.axb5 Qc4 21.Qxc4 Nxc4 22.Bd7 Nxb2 23.Rf1 a4 24.Rc2 Nc4 25.Be6 Ra5 26.Ra1 a3 27.Bd4 Kg7 28.Rb1 e5 29.Be3 Nxe3 30.fxe3 Bd8 31.e4 Ra4 32.Ra2 Bb6 33.Kg2 Rxe4 34.Rxa3 Re2+ 35.Kh1 f5 36.Rab3 Rc2 37.h4 h6 38.R1b2 Rc1+ 39.Kg2 g5 40.hxg5 hxg5 41.Rf2 Bxf2 42.Kxf2 Rh8 43.b6 Rh2+ 44.Ke3 Rg1 45.Kd3 Rxc3+ 46.Kc4 Rh8 47.b7 Rb8 48.Bd7 Rf3 49.Bc8 g4 50.Rb1 g3 51.Rg1 Kf6 52.Kb4 e4 53.c4 Ke5 54.Kb5 Rc3 0-1

Round 3

I came up to first place today with a victory as Black against Alburt. Choosing the Modern defense, I quickly traded Queens and Lev soon found himself in a poor ending. With this victory I moved into first place.

Fedorowicz played a crude attacking game against Dlugy. Max overlooked John's beautiful 30th move, Rg3, and the game was over.

In spite of the fact that four of the games were drawn, two provided great excitement. deFirmian chased Kudrin's King across the board in a very sharp Sicilian Dragon, Yugoslav attack. It seems, however, that it was Kudrin who had the best chances of victory. In Frias-Rohde, Michael gained the early initiative but went astray. Suddenly Victor was winning—then stunned everybody when he announced at the adjournment that the game would be drawn. Miles-Wilder

and Gulko-Benjamin were quick draws.

Bogo-Indian E11

GM Tony Miles (2555)

IM Michael Wilder (2625)

US Open 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Nbd2 b6 5.a3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 Bb7 7.e3 O-O 8.Be2 d6 9.b4 a5 10.Bb2 axb4 11.axb4 Rxa1+ 12.Bxa1 Ne4 13.Qb2 Qf6 14.O-O Nbd7 15.Qc2 Qg6 16.Bd3 f5 17.Ne1 Ndf6 18.f3 Ng5 19.Kh1 Qh6 20.Qf2 Nf7 21.Bc3 g5 22.Nc2 Draw

Bogo-Indian E11

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.g3 Nc6 6.Nc3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 Ne4 8.Rc1 O-O 9.d5 Qc5 10.e3 Nb4 11.Qb3 Nxc3 12.Rxc3 a5 13.a3 Na6 14.Bg2 Qe7 15.Qc2 d6 16.O-O e5 17.dxe6 fxe6 18.Nd2 Bf5 19.Ne4 Draw

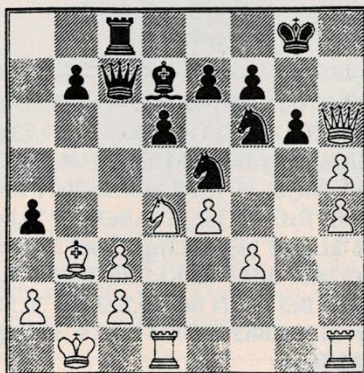
Sicilian Dragon B78

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 O-O 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.h4 h5 11.O-O O-O Ne5 12.Bb3 Rc8 13.Bh6 Bxh6 14.Qxh6 Rxc3 15.bxc3 Qc7 16.Kb1 Rc8 17.g4 a5 18.gxh5 a4



19.hxg6 axb3 20.cxb3 Qxc3 21.gxf7+ Kxf7 22.Rhg1 Bh3 23.Rg3 Bf1 24.Rg7+ Ke8 25.Qh8+ Kd7 26.Rxe7+ Kxe7 27.Nf5+ Kd7 28.Qg7+ Kc6 29.Rxd6+ Kc5 30.Qg1+ Kb4 31.Qxf1 Qc2+ 32.Ka1 Nxf3 33.Rb6+ Ka3 34.Ra6+ bxa6 35.Qxa6+ Kb4 36.Qb7+ Ka3 37.Qa6+ Draw

Modern Defense A41

GM Lev Alburt (2652)

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

US Championship

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 e5 5.dxe5 dxe5 6.Qxd8+ Kxd8 7.e4 f6 8.Be3 Be6 9.Nd2 Bh6 10.Bxh6 Nxh6 11.Be2 c6 12.O-O-O Ke7 13.Kc2 Nf7 14.h4 Nd7 15.a3 a5 16.b3 Nd6 17.Ra1 Ra7 18.Kb2 Rha8 19.Na4 b6 20.Rac1 Nc5! 21.Nc3 a4 22.bxa4 Nxa4+ 23.Nxa4 Rxa4 24.Rc3 Nb7 25.Bd1 R4a7 26.Bc2 Nc5 27.Rb1 Kd6 28.Rf3 Rf7 29.Kc1 Kc7 30.Nb3 Nd7 31.Nd2 Rf8 32.a4 Nc5 33.Ra1 Ra7 34.Rfa3 Nb7 35.Rc3 Raa8 36.Nb3 c5 37.Nd2 Na5 38.Bd3 Rfd8 39.Nf1 Rxd3 40.Rcxd3 Bxc4 41.Kc2 Bxd3+ 42.Kxd3 Nb3 43.Ra3 b5! 44.Ne3 Nd4 45.Nd5+ Kd6 46.Nxf6 c4+ 47.Kd2 b4 48.Rg3 c3+ 0-1

Sicilian Rossolimo B31

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.O-O Bg7 5.c3 Nf6 6.e5 Nd5 7.d4cxd4 8.cxd4 O-O 9.Nc3 Nxc3 10.bxc3 d6 11.exd6 Qxd6 12.a4 Rd8 13.Ba3 Qc7 14.Re1 e6 15.Ng5 b6 16.Nxf7 Rd5 17.Bxc6 Qxc6 18.Qf3 Bd7 19.Ne5 Bxe5 20.dxe5 Ra5 21.Qg3 Rxa4 22.h4 Rc8 23.h5 Qxc3 24.Qg5 Rxa3 25.Rad1 Rf8 26.hxg6 Ba4 27.Re3 Qc2 28.Rxa3 Qxf2+ 29.Kh2 Bxd1 30.Rg3 Qxg3+ 31.Kxg3 Re8 32.Qf6 hxg6 33.Qxg6+ Kf8 34.Qf6+ Kg8 35.Kh4! Bc2 36.g4 b5 37.Kg5 Rf8 38.Qxe6+ Kg7 39.Qd7+ Kh8 40.Kh6 Rg8 41.e6 Rg6+ 42.Kh5 Rg8 43.e7 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E39

IM Victor Frias (2618)

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 O-O 6.Nf3 Na6 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Qxc3 Nxc5 9.e3 b6 10.Be2 Bb7 11.b4 Nce4 12.Qd4 d6 13.Bb2 e5 14.Qd1 Ng4 15.O-O f5 16.h3 Nh6 17.Qb3 Kh8 18.Rad1 Qe7 19.Nh2 Rf6 20.f4 Ng3 21.Rf2 Nxe2+ 22.Rxe2 Rg6 23.fxe5 dxe5 24.R1d2 Nf7 25.Qd1 Qh4 26.Rd7 Qe4 27.Qc2 Kg8 28.Qxe4 Bxe4 29.Nf1 Bc6 30.Rc7 f4 31.h4 f3 32.Rf2 Rd8 33.Nd2 Nh6 34.e4 Ba8 35.Nxf3 Bxe4 36.Nxe5 Re6 37.Rd2 Rde8 38.Rdd7 Nf5 39.g4 Ne7 40.Rxa7 h5 41.gxh5 Nf5 42.Ng6 Kh7 43.Nf4 Rc6

44.Rac7 Rxc7 45.Rxc7 Ba8! 46.Rf7 Be4
47.Kf2 Kh6 48.Bc1 Rc8 49.c5 bxc5 50.Ne6
Kxh5 51.Nxc5 Bc2 52.Bg5 Kg4 53.a4 Rb8
54.Bd2 Re8 55.Bc3 Bd1 56.Nd3 Re2 +
57.Kg1 Bc2 58.Nf2 Kf3 59.Nh3 Kg3
60.Nf2 Kf3 61.Bd4 Kg3 62.Nh1 + Kh3 63.
Nf2 + Kg3 64.Nh1 + Draw

Round 4

Another exciting round, with four decisive games. Benjamin moved up to share the lead with a powerful victory over Miles. Tony had missed the strength of Joel's 14th move, Qe4.

Kudrin played a methodical slow game against Fedorowicz's Scheveningen Sicilian. John went astray late in the game when he chose ..Nh5. Sergey then tidied things up nicely in the ending.

In the game Wilder-deFirmian, Nick was unrecognizable, as he played a number of second-best moves throughout the game. Although one-sided, Nick missed several opportunities to complicate the game.

After his opening three losses, Alburton bounced back with a convincing victory over Rohde. Michael ceded the center and then chose the wrong moment to lash out. Lev pocketed the goods and won a nice game.

There were two short draws in the games Seirawan-Gulko and Dlugy-Frias.

Grunfeld Defense D82

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3
c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Qa4 + Qxa4 8.Nxa4 O-O
9.Nf3 Bd7 10.Nc3 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Rc8
12.Ng5 e6 13.Rb1 Rxc5 14.Bb3 Rc8 15.e4
h6 16.Nf3 Bc6 17.Nd4 g5 18.Be5 Draw

Caro-Kann, Panov B14

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

GM Tony Miles (2555)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6
5.Nc3 e6 6.Nf3 Bb4 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qc2
Nc6 9.Be2 O-O 10.O-O Be7 11.Rd1 Qd6
12.Bg5 Nxc3 13.bxc3 b6 14.Qe4 Bb7
15.Bd3 g6 16.Qh4 Rfe8 17.Re1 Rac8
18.Re3 Nd8 19.Bb5 Bc6 20.Ba6 Ra8
21.Ne5 Qd5 22.Bf1 Bxg5 23.Qxg5 Rc8

24.Bc4 Qa5 25.Rh3 Rc7 26.Qh4 h5 27.g4
Kg7 28.gxh5 Rh8 29.Qg5 Bb7 30.Rg3 Rh6
31.Qxd8 Rxc4 32.Nxc4 Qxh5 33.h3 Qe2
34.Qc7 Qe4 35.Qe5 + Qxe5 36.Nxe5 Rh4
37.a4 Re4 38.Re3 Rf4 39.a5 1-0

QGD D55

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

IM Victor Frias (2618)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Bg5 Be7
5.Nc3 h6 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.e3 O-O 8.Rc1 c6
9.Bd3 Nd7 10.O-O a6 11.b3 b5 12.Qe2
Bb7 13.e4 dxc4 14.bxc4 e5 15.d5 Nc5
16.Bc2 Draw

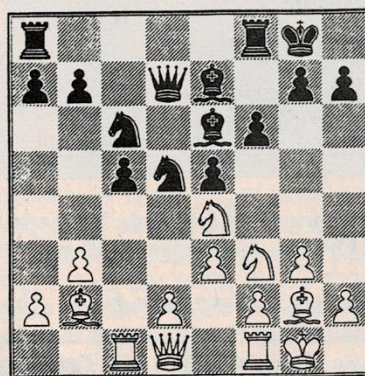
English A34

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

GM Lev Alburton (2652)

US Championship 1988

1.g3 Nf6 2.Bg2 c5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.O-O e5
5.c4 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Nc3 Be6 8.b3 Be7
9.Bb2 O-O 10.Rc1 f6 11.e3 Qd7 12.Ne4



12...Ndb4 13.d4 cxd4 14.a3 Na6 15.b4
Bd5 16.Nxf6 + Bxf6 17.b5 Nab8 18.bxc6
Nxc6 19.Rc5 Bf7 20.exd4 exd4 21.Ng5 Qe7
22.Qc1 Bxg5 23.Qxg5 Qe2 24.Ba1 Rad8
25.Rf5 h6 26.Qc1 Bc4 27.Re1 Rxf5
28.Rxe2 Bxe2 29.Be4 Rf7 30.Qd2 Bf3
31.Bg6 Re7 32.Bb2 Ne5 33.Qf4 Bc6 34.Be4
Ng6 0-1

Sicilian Scheveningen B85

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2 Be7 7.O-O O-O 8.f4 Nc6
9.Kh1 Qc7 10.Be3 a6 11.Qe1 Nxd4
12.Bxd4 b5 13.a3 Bb7 14.Qg3 Bc6 15.Rae1
Qb7 16.Bd3 b4 17.axb4 Qxb4 18.Ne2 Qb7
19.e5 dxe5 20.Bxe5 Be4 21.Bxe4 Qxe4
22.Nd4 Qg6 23.f5 Qxg3 24.Bxg3 Nh5

25.Be5 Rfc8 26.fxe6 fxe6 27.c3 Re8
28.Nxe6 Bh4 29.Nc7 Bxe1 30.Rxe1 Rac8
31.Nxe8 Rxe8 32.c4 Nf4 33.Bc3 Rxe1 +
34.Bxe1 Nd3 35.Bc3 g5 36.Kg1 g4 37.b4
Kf7 38.g3 Ke6 39.Kf1 a5 40.bxa5 1-0

Queen's Indian E12

IM Michael Wilder (2625)

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.a3 c5 5.d5
exd5 6.cxd5 d6 7.e4 a6 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.a4 g6
10.O-O Bg7 11.Na3 Ng4 12.Bg5 f6 13.Bh4
O-O 14.Ne1 Nde5 15.h3 Nh6 16.f4 Nxd3
17.Nxd3 Qc7 18.Rc1 Bd7 19.b4 Rae8
20.Re1 Nf7 21.a5 Qb7 22.Bf2 f5 23.axb6
Rxe4 24.Rxe4 fxe4 25.bxc5 Qxd5 26.Nb4
Qxd1 27.Rxd1 Ba4 28.Rb1 Nd8 29.Nxa6
Nb7 30.cxd6 Rd8 31.Nc5 Bc6 32.Nc4 Nxd6
33.Nxd6 Rxd6 34.b7 Bxb7 35.Rxb7 Rd1 +
36.Kh2 Rd2 37.Nxe4 Re2 38.Rb4 Bf8
39.Rc4 1-0

Round 5

A change of leaders. I was joined by Michael Wilder, who played main-line theory against Kudrin's Grunfeld Exchange Variation.

Nick played an absolutely marvelous game against Benjamin. In a classical Spanish Joel was tortured by Nick's Bishop.

Lev continued his aggressive play with his fifth decisive game in a row. This time the victim was Dlugy, who was ground down in a well-played ending.

As for the draws, Rohde played the outdated Lundin Defense against Gulko and was rewarded with a draw for his efforts. I maintained a share of first with a draw against Miles. The draw came about in an unusual way. I stood slightly worse and in a roundabout way offered a draw by repeating moves. Fearing only one move—h2-h3—I got up from the board and hoped Tony would claim a draw by repetition. I was surprised when Tony thought for 20 minutes, played h2-h3, and offered a draw. I of course accepted. "Why didn't you just repeat moves if you wanted a draw?" I asked.

"Well," he replied, "while you were gone, I realized that you were afraid of h2-h3, but after I played it, I became afraid of your attack with ...Rg6. So I offered a



Photo by Riverside Inn staff

(Standing; left to right) Lev Alburt, Sergey Kudrin, Michael Rohde, Yasser Seirawan, Boris Gulko, Maxim Dlugy
(Seated; left to right) Victor Frias, Nick deFirmian, Joel Benjamin, Michael Wilder, John Fedorowicz, Tony Miles

draw."

The final draw between Frias-Fedorowicz was a short one.

Bogo-Indian E11

GM Tony Miles (2555)
GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)
US Championship 1988

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.d4 Bb4 + 4.Nbd2 b6
5.a3 Bxd2 + 6.Qxd2 Bb7 7.e3 O-O 8.Be2
d6 9.O-O a5 10.b3 Nbd7 11.Bb2 Ne4
12.Qd3 f5 13.Nd2 e5 14.f3 Nxd2 15.Qxd2
Qe7 16.Rac1 e4 17.d5 exf3 18.Rxf3 Ne5
19.Rf4 Ng6 20.Rf2 Rae8 21.Bd3 Bc8
22.Bd4 Ne5 23.R1f1 Qg5 24.Rf4 Rf7
25.Qc3 Bd7 26.Bb1 Ng6 27.R4f3 Ne5
28.Rf4 Ng6 29.R4f2 Ne5 30.h3 Draw

Kings Indian E69

IM Victor Frias (2618)
GM John Fedorowicz (2624)
US Championship 1988

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 O-O

5.Nf3 d6 6.O-O e5 7.d4 Nbd7 8.e4 c6 9.h3
exd4 10.Nxd4 Nc5 11.Be3 Re8 12.Qc2 a5
13.Rad1 Qe7 14.Rfe1 a4 15.f4 Draw

Ruy Lopez C92

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)
GM Joel Benjamin (2655)
US Championship 1988

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3
Nd7 10.d4 Bf6 11.a4 Bb7 12.Na3 Qb8
13.Bg5 exd4 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.cxd4 Nb4
16.Nc2 bxa4 17.Rxa4 Nxc2 18.Bxc2 Re8
19.e5 Bxf3 20.Qxf3 dxe5 21.dxe5 Qxb2
22.Re2 Qb5 23.Ra1 Nd7 24.Ba4 Qa5 25.e6
fxe6 26.Ree1 Qd5 27.Qxd5 exd5
28.Rxe8 + Rxe8 29.Bxd7 Rd8 30.Bc6 Rd6
31.Rxa6 1-0

Irregular A41

GM Boris Gulko (2701)
GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)
US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d5 Ne5 4.Nxe5 dxe5

5.e4 Nf6 6.Nc3 a6 7.Bg5 e6 8.Bc4 Bd6
9.Qe2 h6 10.Bh4 Bd7 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.a4
O-O 13.O-O Qe8 14.Bxf6 Rxf6 15.g3 Qe7
16.Kg2 Rf8 17.Nd1 Bc6 18.Bd3 Qe8
19.a5 Qg6 20.f3 Bc5 21.Ne3 R6f7 22.Draw

English D41

GM Lev Alburt (2652)
GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)
US Championship 1988

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.g3 d5
5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Bg2 Nc6 7.O-O Be7 8.d4
O-O 9.e4 Nb6 10.d5 exd5 11.exd5 Nb4
12.Ne5 Bd6 13.Nd3 Bg4 14.Qxg4 Nxd3
15.Bh6 Qf6 16.Bd2 Be5 17.Bg5 Qg6
18.Be4 f5 19.Bxd3 fxg4 20.Bxg6 hxg6
21.Be7 Rf7 22.Bxc5 Bxc3 23.Bxb6 Bxb2
24.Rab1 Ba3 25.Be3 b6 26.Rfd1 Rd8
27.Rb3 Bf8 28.Rb5 Rf5 29.a4 Kf7 30.Kg2
Rd7 31.Rd2 Be7 32.Kf1 Rh5 33.Kg2 Rf5
34.Rd3 Rh5 35.Rd2 Rf5 36.h3 gxh3
37.Kxh3 g5 38.Kg4 g6 39.d6 Rxb5 40.axb5
Bxd6 41.Bxg5 Ke6 42.Bf4 Be7 43.Rxd7
Kxd7 44.Bg5 Bf8 45.Bf6 Ke6 46. Kg5 Kf7

47.f4 Bd6 48.Be5 Be7 49.Kh6 Bf8+ 50.Kh7 Bc5 51.g4 Be7 52.g5 Bf8 53.Bb2 1-0

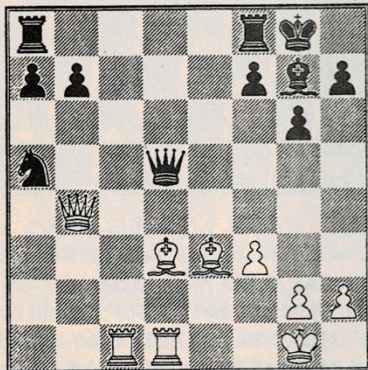
Grunfeld Exchange D89

IM Michael Wilder (2625)

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 c5 8.Ne2 O-O 9.O-O Nc6 10.Be3 Bg4 11.f3 Na5 12.Bd3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Be6 14.Rc1 Bxa2 15.Qa4 Be6 16.d5 Bd7 17.Qb4 e6 18.Nc3 exd5 19.Nxd5 Be6 20.Rfd1 Bxd5 21.exd5 Qxd5



22.Be4 Qb3 23.Bd2 b6 24.Bxa8 Rxa8 25.Qe7 Ne4 26.Bf4 h5 27.Qe4 Rc8 28.Rd7 Qb5 29.Rxa7 Qc6 30.Qe7 Qc5+ 31.Be3 Qxe7 32.Rxe7 Rc6 33.Bxb6 Bh6 34.Re8+ Kh7 35.Bd4+ f6 36.Bxf6 1-0

Round 6

It was in this round that first place got away from me completely. Nick deFirmian, as Black, chose the Polish Defense. I used one of Gavrikov's latest ideas, and Nick made a blunder which gave him a bad game. Later, through exact play, I was two pawns up and completely winning, with Nick in his usual time pressure. But I made the mistake of trying to blitz him. By the time we had stopped moving, it was move 52 and I was lost.

Kudrin, who also found himself in a very long struggle, showed excellent technique by beating Frias in a very difficult adjournment.

Once again Alburt fell victim to a well-prepared opponent. Fedorowicz had spent the entire summer writing a book on the Benko Gambit. Alburt obliged by falling into John's preparation, and the

game was won as early as move 12.

One of the major novelties of the tournament was played in this round by Michael Rohde. As White, he introduced a pawn sacrifice in the Petrosian System of the Queen's Indian Defense. The soundness of the sacrifice will still have to be tested. Tony Miles was scorched in the initial test case.

Two games were quickly drawn: Dlugy-Gulko and Benjamin-Wilder. Michael Wilder moved into clear first.

Old Indian A55

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d6 2.c4 e5 3.Nf3 Nd7 4.Nc3 c6 5.e4 Ngf6 6.Be2 Be7 7.Be3 Ng4 8.Bd2 exd4 9.Nxd4 Qb6 10.Bxg4 Qxd4 11.Be2 Ne5 12.Be3 Draw

Queen's Indian E12

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

GM Tony Miles (2555)

US Championship 1988

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.d4 e6 4.a3 Bb7 5.Nc3 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bd2 Nd7 8.Qc2 c5 9.e4 Nf5 10.d5 exd5 11.e5 Qe7 12.O-O-O Ne4 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Ng5 0-0-0 15.f4 exf3 16.Bc4 Nxe5 17.Qf5+ Qd7 18.Qxe5 Bd6 19.Qc3 fxg2 20.Rhe1 Bxh2 21.Nxf7 Rde8 22.Nxh8 Rxe1 23.Rxe1 g1=Q 24.Rxg1 Bxg1 25.Qg3 Bd4 26.Nf7 Bxb2+ 27.Kd1 Qa4+ 28.Bb3 Qc6 29.Nd6+ Kd7 30.Nxb7 Qxb7 31.Qd3+ Bd4 32.Qf5+ Kd8 33.Qf8+ Kc7 34.Qf7+ Kb8 35.Bf4+ 1-0

Benko Gambit A57

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

GM Lev Alburt (2652)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.e3 Bb7 6.Nc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qb6 8.bxa6 Nxa6 9.e4 e6 10.Bc4 Nxe4 11.Nxe4 exd5 12.Bxa6 Bxa6 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.N1e2 O-O 15.O-O Be5 16.Re1 Qxb2 17.Rc1 Qb6 18.Nf4 Bxf4 19.Bxf4 Qf6 20.Be5 Qc6 21.Nf5 Rfe8 22.Bd6 Bc4 23.Qg4 g6 24.Ne7+ Rxe7 25.Bxe7 f6 26.Qf4 Kf7 27.Bd6 g5 28.Qg3 Rxa2 29.Re7+ Kg6 30.Qh3 1-0

Irregular B07

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

IM Michael Wilder (2625)

US Championship 1988

1.f4 c6 2.d4 Qa5+ 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 Nf6

5.Bd3 e5 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.fxe5 dxe5 8.dxe5 Nfd7 9.Bf4 Bb4 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nd5 cxd5 12.exd5 Be7 13.Draw

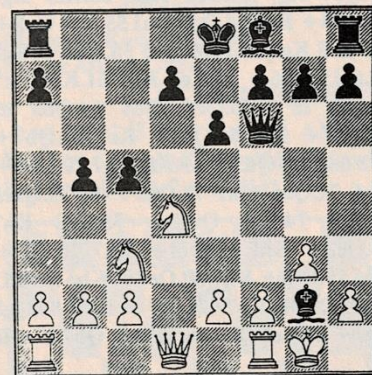
Polish Defense A 46

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 b5 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.Bg5 c5 6.Bxf6 Qxf6 7.O-O Nc6 8.Nc3 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 Bxg2



10.Ndxb5 Bxf1 11.Nc7+ Kd8 12.Nxa8 Bh3 13.Qd3 Qe5 14.Rd1 d5 15.Qb5 Ke7 16.Qxc5+ Kf6 17.Qxa7 Kg6 18.Nb6 Qf5 19.Nd7 Be7 20.Qd4 f6 21.Qd3 Kf7 22.a4 Rd8 23.Nb6 d4 24.Qxf5 Bxf5 25.Nb5 e5 26.c4 Bc5 27.Nd5 Bc2 28.Rc1 Bxa4 29.b4 Bf8 30.Nbc7 e4 31.Kf1 d3 32.exd3 exd3 33.Ke1 Bxb4+ 34.Kf1 d2 35.Ra1 d1=Q+ 36.Rxd1 Bxd1 37.Nxb4 Bb3 38.c5 Rc8 39.Nca6 Bc4+ 40.Ke1 Bxa6 41.Nxa6 Rc6 42.Nb4 Rxc5 43.Nd3 Rc8 44.h4 h6 45.h5 Rc6 46.Nf4 Rd6 47.Ke2 Ra6 48.g4 Ra3 49.f3 Ke7 50.Ng6+ Ke6 51.Nh4 Ke5 52.Ng6 Kd4 53.Kf2 f5 54.gxf5 Ra5 55.Ne7 Ra2+ 56.Kg3 Ke5 57.f4 Kf6 58.Nd5+ Kxf5 59.Ne3+ Ke4 60.Nc4 Ra6 61.Kg4 Rc6 62.Nd2+ Kd5 63.Nf1 Rc1 64.Ng3 Ke6 65.Ne2 Ra1 66.Ng3 Ra3 67.Nf5 Kf6 68.Nd6 Ra4 69.Ne8+ Kf7 70.Nd6+ Ke6 71.Nf5 Kf6 72.Nh4 Rb4 73.Ng6 Rb1 74.Nh4 Rg1+ 75.Kf3 Ke6 76.Ng2 Rh1 77.Kg4 Kd5 78.Nh4 Ke4 79.Nf3 Rd1 80.f5 Rd3 81.Nh4 Rd5 0-1

Sicilian Scheveningen B80

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

IM Victor Frias (2618)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 Bd7 8.O-O Be7 9.Nxc6 Bxc6 10.a4 O-O 11.Be3 Qc8 12.Bd4 b6 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Q:d6 Qb7

15.Qf4 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Qa6 17.Rfd1 Qa5 18.Rd3 Rac8 19.Qd2 b5 20.Qg5 Be8 21.Qe5 Rc4 22.h4 Rxa4 23.Rxa4 Qxa4 24.Qb8 Bd7 25.Qc7 Be8 26.Qe7 a5 27.Rd8 b4 28.cxb4 axb4 29.e5 h5 30.Rb8 g6 31.Bf1 Kg7 32.Bb5 Qa1 + 33.Kh2 Qxe5 34.Rxe8 Rxe8 35.Qxe8 Qf5 36.Qc6 Qxf2 + 37.Qg2 Qe3 38.Qe2 Qc3 39.Qd3 Qb2 40.Bc4 Qf6 41.Kg2 Qe5 42.Ba6 Qa1 43.Bb7 Qe5 44.Bc6 Qb2 45.Qc4 Qe5 46.Bf3 Qe1 47.Qd4 + Kf8 48.Qc5 Kg7 49.Qd4 + Kg8 50.Qc4 Kg7 51.Be2 Kg8 52.Kf3 Kg7 53.Qd4 + Kg8 54.Qd3 Qa1 55.Ke4 Qa8 + 56.Ke5 Kg7 57.Kd6 Qa5 58.Qd4 + Kg8 59.Qd3 Qb6 + 60.Ke5 Kg7 61.Ke4 Qc7 62.Kf3 f5 63.Qc4 Qd6 64.Qb5 e5 65.Qb7 + Kf8 66.Qc8 + Ke7 67.Qb7 + Kf8 68.Qa6 Qd5 + 69.Kf2 Kg7 70.Qa7 + Kh6 71.Qb6 Qh1 72.Qe3 + f4 73.Qxe5 Qh2 + 74.Ke1 Qxg3 + 75.Kd2 Kh7 76.Qe7 + Kh6 77.Qf8 + Kh7 78.Qf7 + Kh6 79.Qf8 + Kh7 80.Qe7 + Kh6 81.Bd3 Qg4 82.Qf6 Kh7 83.Qf7 + Kh6 84.Qg8 Qg2 + 85.Be2 Qb7 86.Qh8 + Qh7 87.Qf6 1-0

Round 7

Gulko joined Michael Wilder as co-tournament leader with a victory over John Fedorowicz. Playing the Queen's Indian Defense, John played far too passively and allowed Boris to build a comfortable initiative.

Benjamin suffered his second loss of the tournament. Playing White against the Dragon, he allowed Kudrin to build a Kingside attack. When the attack stalled, Sergey crashed through on the Queenside. It was one of Sergey's best efforts in the tournament.

Tony Miles finally got a victory. His victim was Max Dlugy, who played a London Defense. Max underestimated Tony's initiative on the Queenside and this proved fatal.

A horrible game that went back and forth was played between Alburt and Frias. Lev was completely winning through most of the middlegame and late ending, but then played horribly to allow a draw—and then, even worse, to suffer the defeat.

There were two draws in this round. Rohde surprised us all by playing the Philidor Defense against deFirmian. Through most of the game, I thought Nick

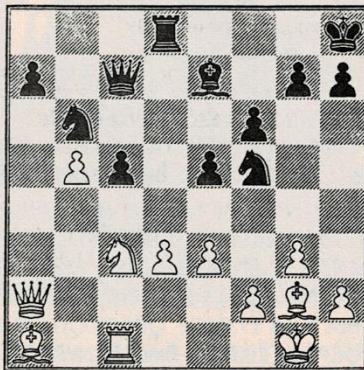
held the advantage, but a draw was soon agreed. As for my game against Wilder, I was still in shock about the previous round and opted for a short draw.

Reti A07

GM Tony Miles (2555)
GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

US Championship 1988

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Bg4 3.Bg2 c6 4.b3 e6 5.Bb2 Nf6 6.d3 Be7 7.O-O O-O 8.Nbd2 Bh5 9.c4 c5 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Rc1 Nd7 12.Ne4 Bg6 13.a3 Rc8 14.Rc2 Qb6 15.Nfd2 Qa6 16.Qa1 f6 17.Rfc1 Rcd8 18.Nc3 Nc7 19.Qb1 Bf7 20.Ba1 e5 21.b4 b6 22.Nc4 Rfe8 23.b5 Qc8 24.a4 Ne6 25.Ra2 Nd4 26.e3 Nf5 27.a5 Qb8 28.axb6 Nxb6 29.Na5 Bxa2 30.Qxa2 + Kh8 31.Nc6 Qc7 32.Nxd8 Rxd8



33.Qe6! Nd6 34.Bb2 c4 35.Ne4 Nxb5 36.dxc4 Na3 37.c5 Nbc4 38.Nd6 Bxd6 39.cxd6 Qxd6 40.Qxd6 Rxd6 41.Bxa3 1-0

Philidor Defense C41

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)
GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.O-O O-O 7.Re1 c6 8.a4 Qc7 9.h3 b6 10.Bg5 a6 11.Ba2 Re8 12.Bh4 h6 13.Bg3 Ra7 14.Nh4 b5 15.Nf5 Bf8 16.Qf3 exd4 17.Nxd4 b4 18.Nb1 Ne5 19.Qe3 c5 20.Nf3 Ng6 21.Nbd2 Bb7 22.Qd3 Nh5 23.Bh2 Nh4 24.Qc4 Qd7 25.Bxf4 Nxf4 26.Rad1 Draw

Queen's Indian E16

IM Michael Wilder (2625)
GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

US Championship 1988

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.d4 Bb4 + 6.Bd2 c5 7.O-O Bxd2 8.Qxd2 cxd4 9.Qxd4 Nc6 10.Qf4 Qb8 11.Nc3 Qxf4

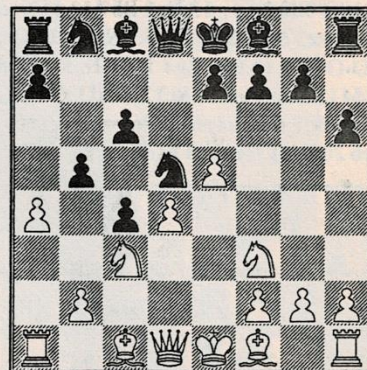
12.Draw

Slav D15

GM Lev Alburt (2652)
IM Victor Frias (2618)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.e4 b5 6.e5 Nd5 7.a4 h6



8.g3 TN!?b4 9.Ne4 Bf5 10.Nc5 e6 11.Bxc4 Nd7 12.Nb3 Be7 13.O-O O-O 14.Re1 a5 15.Be3 Nxe3 16.fxe3 c5 17.Rc1 cxd4 18.Nbxd4 Be4 19.Bb5 Nc5 20.Bc6 Bd5 21.Qe2 Rc8 22.Red1 Bxc6 23.Nxc6 Qe8 24.Nxa5 Qxa4 25.Ra1 Qe8 26.Nc4 Nb3 27.Nd6 Bxd6 28.exd6 Qc6 29.d7 Rcd8 30.Ra6! Qe4 31.Rad6 f5 32.Nd4 Nxd4 33.R1xd4 Qe5 34.Qd3 Rf7 35.Kf2 g5 36.Qc4 f4 37.gxf4 gxf4 38.Rxe6 fxe3 + 39.Ke1 Qf5 40.Re8 + Kh7 41.Rf4 Qb1 + 42.Ke2 Qxb2 + 43.Kxe3 Qa3 + 44.Ke2 Qb2 + 45.Kf3 Rxf4 + 46.Qxf4 Qc3 + 47.Ke2 Qc2 + 48.Qd2 Qxd2 + 49.Kxd2 Rxd7 + 50.Kc2 Rd4! 51.Re6 Rh4 52.Kb3 Rxh2 53.Kxb4 Rc2 54.Kb3 Rc8 55.Rd6 h5 56.Kb2 Rc5 57.Kb3 h4 58.Kb4 Rh5 59.Kc3 h3 60.Rd1 Kg6 61.Kd4 h2 62.Rh1 Rh3 0-1

Sicilian Dragon B70

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)
GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.g3 Bg7 7.Bg2 O-O 8.h3 Nc6 9.Nde2 Rb8 10.a4 b6 11.O-O Bb7 12.Re1 a6 13.Bg5 Ne5 14.b3 Re8 15.Qd2 Ned7 16.Rad1 Ba8 17.Bh6 Bh8 18.g4 b5 19.axb5 axb5 20.Ng3 b4 21.Nce2 Nc5 22.f3 Qc7 23.Be3 Rec8 24.Rc1 Ne8 25.Bf2 Qa5 26.Nf1 Qa2 27.g5 Nc7 28.h4 Nb5 29.Bh3 e6 30.Qd1 d5! 31.Ne3 dxe4 32.Ng4 Bg7 33.Ng3 exf3 34.Re3 Nc3 35.Qf1 N3e4 36.Nxe4 Nxe4 37.Qd3 Rcd8 38.Qc4 Nxf2

39.Nxf2 Qa7 40.Rd3 Rxd3 0-1

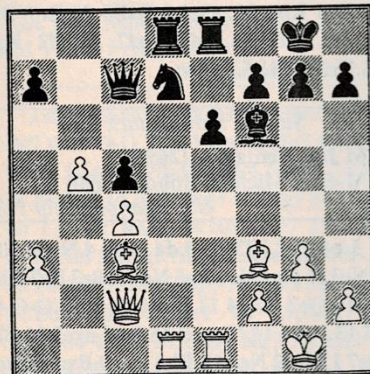
Queen's Indian E15

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 Bb4 6.Bd2 Be7 7.Bg2 O-O 8.O-O c6 9.Bc3 d5 10.Nbd2 Nbd7 11.Re1 Bb7 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Qc7 14.Nxf6+ Nxf6 15.Qc2 Rad8 16.b4 Rfe8 17.a3 Nd7 18.Rad1 c5 19.dxc5 bxc5 20.b5 Bxf3 21.Bxf3 Bf6



22.Bc6! Bxc3 23.Qxc3 Rf8 24.Qe3 g6 25.Bxd7 Rxd7 26.Rxd7 Qxd7 27.Qxc5 Rc8 28.Qb4 Qd4 29.Rc1 Rc5 30.Qc3 Qd6 31.a4 h5 32.h4 e5 33.a5 e4 34.Qe3 Qe7 35.Qd4 Qe7 36.Qxe4 Qxa5 37.Qe8+ Kg7 38.Rd1 Rxc4 39.Rd8 Kf6 40.Rd7 Rcl+ 41.Kg2 Qa2 42.Qe7 Kg7 43.Qe5+ 1-0

Round 8

There were only two decisive games in this round. Nick deFirmian continued to play the Modern Benoni and Max Dlugy continued to win as White. Once again Nick had some chances to complicate the game, but never took advantage of them. The two most dynamic players of this year's Championship were Sergey Kudrin and Lev Alburt. It only stands to reason that theirs would be a decisive game. Playing his patented Alekhine Defense, Lev put up a superior effort; however, Sergey missed an opportunity to win a piece in the opening.

The draws were well-fought. In my game against Benjamin, I won two pawns and held a winning position through most of the game—but through superlative defense, Joel managed to save a half-point. For this effort Joel earned the Best

Defense of the Tournament Prize.

The Rohde-Wilder game was an interesting Queen's Indian. Recently, Black has been doing poorly in this opening. Today, however, Michael neutralized White's game. A short draw resulted. Fedorowicz tried very hard to beat Miles in a Caro-Kann despite a Bishops-of-opposite-colors middlegame. Surprisingly, Tony experienced a lot of difficulty and nearly lost on time. Once the time control had been reached, the game was drawn.

Frias-Gulko was a strange game. Neither player seemed to have a plan. Despite their subtle maneuvering, nothing much happened and the game was drawn.

Bogo-Indian E11

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 a5 5.g3 d6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.O-O e5 8.Be3 exd4 9.Bxd4 O-O 10.Nc3 Bc5 11.Qc2 Re8 12.Rad1 Qe7 13.e3 Nb6 14.Bxc5 dxc5 15.b3 Bg4 16.Rd2 a4 17.h3 axb3 18.axb3 Bxf3 19.Bxf3 c6 20.Rfd1 Qe5 21.Bg2 h5 22.Rd3 Qe7 23.f4 Nbd7 24.e4 Nf8 25.e5 N6h7 26.Ne4 f6 27.Nd6 Red8 28.Qe2 fxe5 29.Nf5 Qc7 30.Rxd8 Rxd8 31.Rxd8 Qxd8 32.Qxe5 Qd7 33.Qxc5 b6 34.Qe5 Ng6 35.Qb8+ Nhf8 36.Nd6 h4 37.f5 Ne5 38.gxh4 Nd3 39.Ne4 Qd4+ 40.Kh2 Ne1 41.Qd6 Qb2 42.Qd2 Qe5+ 43.Ng3 Nxe2 44.Kxe2 b5 45.h5 Kf7 46.h4 bxc4 47.bxc4 Qe7 48.Kh3 Qf6 49.c5 Ke7 50.Qe3+ Kf7 51.Qd2 Ke7 52.Qg5 Kf7 53.Ne4 Qd4 54.Qf4 Qd3+ 55.Ng3 Qd5 56.Qe3 Nd7 57.h6 gxh6 58.Qxh6 Nxc5 59.h5 Nd3 60.Qg6+ Kf8 61.Qh6+ Kf7 62.Qe3 Qc4 63.Kg2 Qd5+ 64.Kh2 Qa2+ 65.Kg1 Qa1+ 66.Kg2 Qa2+ 67.Kf3 Qd5+ 68.Kg4 c5 69.h6 Qd4+ 70.Qxd4 cxd4 71.Ne4 Ne5+ 72.Kf4 Ng6+ 73.Kf3 Ne5+ 74.Ke2 Kg8 75.Ng5 Kh8 76.f6 Kg8 77.Kd2 Kh8 78.Ke2 Kg8 79.Kd2 Kh8 80.Kc2 Kg8 81.Kd1 Kh8 82.Ke1 Kg8 83.Kf1 Kh8 84.Kg1 Kg8 85.Kg2 d3 86.Kf1 Kh8 87.Ke1 Kg8 88.Kd2 Kh8 89.Kc3 Kg8 90.Kb3 Kh8 91.Kb2 Kg8 92.Kc3 Kh8 93.f7 Nxf7 94.Nxf7+ Kh7 95.Kxd3 Kg6 Draw



Queen's Indian E13

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

IM Michael Wilder (2625)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Bg5 Bb7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 d6 9.Nd2 Nbd7 10.f3 Qe7 11.Bd3 g5 12.Bf2 Nh5 13.Qa4 f5 14.h4 Kf7 15.hxg5 hxg5 16.O-O-O a6 17.e4 f4 18.Rh3 Nhf6 19.Rdh1 Rxh3 20.Rxh3 Kg7 Draw

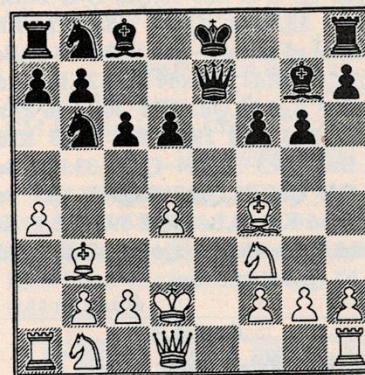
Alekhine's B04

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

GM Lev Alburt (2652)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Bc4 Nb6 6.Bb3 Bg7 7.a4 c6 8.exd6 exd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bf4 Qe7+ 11.Kd2



d5 12.Re1 Be6 13.Ke2 Kf7 14.Kf1 Qd7 15.Nbd2 a5 16.Re3 Na6 17.h3 Rhe8 18.Qe2 Kg8 19.c3 Bf7 20.Bc2 Nc7 21.Nh2 Nc4 22.Nxc4 dxc4 23.Re1 Nd5 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Qf3 Rxe1+ 26.Kxe1 Qe6+ 27.Kd1 g5 28.Bg3 Bg6 29.Qg4 Kf7 30.Nf3 b5 31.Nd2 Bf8 32.axb5 cxb5 33.Bb8 a4 34.Qxe6 Kxe6 35.Bxg6 hxg6 36.Kc2 a3 37.bxa3 Bxa3 38.Ne4 Be7 39.Nd2 Bd8 40.Nb1 Ba5 41.g4 b4 42.Bg3 b3 43.Kb2 Kd7 44.h4 gxh4 45.Bxh4 Kc6 46.f3 Bc7 47.Na3 g5 48.Bxg5 fxg5 49.Nxc4 Nf4 50.Kxb3 Nd3 51.Nd2 Ne1 52.c4 Bf4 53.Kc3 Kd6 54.Ne4+ Ke7 55.c5 Ke6 56.Kc4 Nxf3 57.d5+ Ke5 58.Nc3 Nd2 59.Kb5 Kd4 60.Kb4 Nc4 61.d6 Bd2 0-1

Modern Benoni A79

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Nd2 Bg7 8.e4 O-O 9.Be2 Na6 10.O-O Nc7 11.a4 Re8 12.f3 b6 13.Nc4 Ba6 14.Bg5 Qd7 15.Qd2 Bxc4

16.Bxc4 a6 17.Qd3 Nh5 18. g4 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 Ng7 20.Rab1 h5 21.Ne2 b5 22.Ba2 Be5 23.f4 c4 24.Qg3 hgx4 25.Qg2 Nh5 26.fxe5 Rxe5 27.Bf6 Nxf6 28.Rxf6 Rae8 29.Ng3 R8e7 30.Rbf1 Ne8 31.R6f4 Ng7 32.axb5 axb5 33.Bb1 Rg5 34.Qd2 Rge5 35.Bc2 Nh5 36. Nxb5 Rxh5 37.Qg2 b4 38.Bd1 Rg5 39.Bxg4 Qe8 40.Qf2 c3 41.bxc3 bxc3 42.Be6 Rxe6 43.Rxf7 Rf6 44.Rxf6 Qxe4 45.Qf3 Qxd5 46.Rxg6 + 1-0

Caro-Kann Panov Attack B13

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

GM Tony Miles (2555)

US Championship

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Be6 7.Bxf6 gxf6 8.Nf3 Qd7 9.Be2 Rd8 10.cxd5 Bxd5 11.Nxd5 Qxd5 12. O-O Bh6 13.Qc2 O-O 14.Bd3 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Qxd4 16.Rad1 Kh8 17.Rfe1 e6 18.Bxh7 Qb6 19.Bd3 f5 20.Bc4 Bg7 21.b3 Rd4 22.Rxd4 Bxd4 23.Rd1 Rd8 24.Rd3 Kg8 25.Qd2 Kf8 26.a4 a6 27.a5 Qc5 28.g3 Ke8 29.h4 Bf6 30.h5 Rxd3 31.Bxd3 Bc3 32.Qf4 Qxa5 33.Bf1 Be5 34.Qf3 Qc5 35.Qxb7 Bxg3 36.Qf3 Be5 37.Bxa6 Kf8 38.Bc4 Kg8 39. Qg2 + Kf8 40.h6 Qa3 41.Qg5 Qa1 + 42.Bf1 Qd4 43.h7 Qg4 + 44.Draw

English A25

IM Victor Frias (2618)

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

US Championship 1988

1.c4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.g3 e5 4.Nc3 f5 5.Bg2 d6 6.O-O Nf6 7.d4 e4 8.Ne1 O-O 9.Nc2 Nc6 10.f3 exf3 11.Bxf3 Bd7 12.Qd3 Kh8 13. Bd2 Qe7 14.Rae1 Rae8 15.Bg5 Qf7 16.Bg2 Qg8 17.b3 h6 18.Bd2 g5 19.e3 a6 20.a3 Qh7 21.Nb4 Nxb4 22.axb4 Bc8 23.Draw

Round 9

Three players are now tied for the lead. I played a very nice controlled game against Kudrin on the White side of the Grunfeld Defense. This allowed me to share the lead with Boris Gulko and Michael Wilder, who both drew.

Benjamin-Rohde was a sharp Sicilian Keres Attack. Joel managed to overcome the attack against his King, and his counterattack proved decisive.

Tony's bad form was confirmed by his loss today. In an ending he has probably

won a thousand times, he was completely outplayed, and Frias won the game in the first session.

One of the strangest draws of the tournament was between Gulko and Alburt. Lev played a very risky gambit as Black, but managed to stir up enough complications to keep the balance. In fact, Lev felt that he had let a win slip away. Wilder-Dlugy and Fedorowicz-Wilder were short draws.

Irregular B07

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.e4 d6 3.Nc3 c6 4.f4 Qa5 5.Bd3 e5 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.fxe5 Nfd7 9.Bf4 Bb4 10.O-O O-O 11.Nd5 Bc5 + 12.Draw

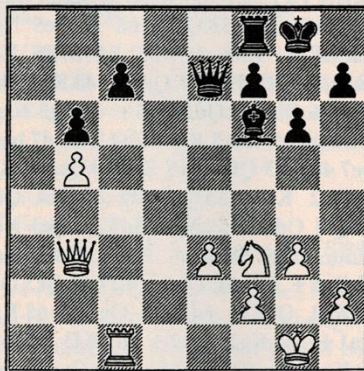
Queen Pawn A48

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c3 Bg7 4.Bg5 O-O 5.Nbd2 d5 6.e3 b6 7.Be2 Bb7 8.b4 Nbd7 9.O-O Qe8 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.b5 a6 12.a4 e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Qb3 axb5 16.axb5 d4 17.cxd4 Bxd4 18.Rxa8 Bxa8 19.Bf3 Bxf3 20.Nxf3 Bf6 21.Rc1 Qe7 22.g3



22...Be5 23. Qd5 Bd6 24.Ra1 Re8 25.Ra8 Rxa8 26.Qxa8 + Kg7 27.Qd5 h6 28.Kg2 Qf6 29.Nd4 Qe5 30.Qf3 Qc5 31.Qe4 Be5 32.Nc6 Bf6 33.Qd3 h5 34. h3 Bc3 35.e4 Be1 36.Qe2 Qc1 37.e5 Qd2 38.Qf3 Qg5 39.Qe4 Bc3 40.f4 Qh6 41.Qc4 1-0



Sicilian B56

IM Michael Wilder (2625)

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nf3 Be7 8.Bc4 O-O 9.O-O Na5 10.Bb3 h6 11.Qe2 Nxb3 12.axb3 a6 13.Rfd1 Bd7 14.Nd2 b5 15.Nf1 Qc7 16.Ng3 Bg4 17.f3 Be6 18.Rd2 Qb7 19.Rad1 b4 20.Nd5 Nxd5 21.exd5 Bd7 22.f4 exf4 23.Bxf4 Rae8 24.Qf2 Bg5 25.Bxg5 hxg5 26.Rd4 f6 27.Ne4 Qb6 28.Rc4 Rb8 29. Qxb6 Rxb6 30.Rc7 Bf5 31.Re1 Rf7 32.Rxf7 Kxf7 33.Kf2 Kg6 34.Ke3 Rb8 35.Draw

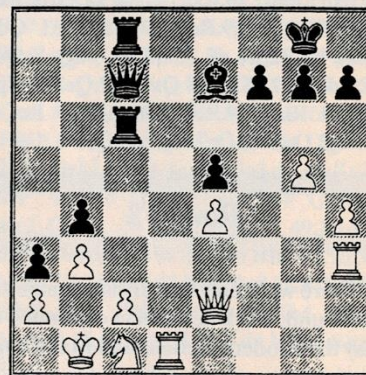
Sicilian Keres Attack B81

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g4 Nc6 7.g5 Nd7 8.Be3 Be7 9.h4 a6 10.Qe2 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 O-O 12.O-O-O b5 13.f4 b4 14.Nb1 e5 15.fxe5 dxe5 16.Bf2 Qc7 17.Nd2 Nc5 18.Bh3 a5 19.Bxc8 Rfxc8 20.Bxc5 Qxc5 21.Nb3 Qc7 22.Kb1 a4 23.Nc1 a3 24.b3 Ra6 25.Rh3 Rc6



26.c4 bxc3 27.Kc2 Be5 28.Rd5 Bd4 29.Qg4 Rd8 30.Ne2 Rcd6 31.Rxd6 Rxd6 32.Rd3 g6 33.Qf3 Qd8 34.Qh3 Kg7 35.Qf3 f6 36.Qg3 Qe7 37.gxf6 + Qxf6 38.Rf3 Qe7 39.Qg5 Qe6 40. h5 Bb6 41.Nxc3 h6 42.Qg3 g5 43.Nd5 Bd4 44.Rf1 Qc8 + 45.Kb1 Rd8 46.Qf3 Qe6 47.Nc7 Qc6 48.Qf5 Rg8 49.Ne6 + Kh8 50.Qf6 + Kh7 51. Nxg5 + 1-0

Reti A08

GM Boris Gulko (2701)

GM Lev Alburt (2652)

US Championship 1988

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.O-O e5 5.c4 d5 6.Qa4 Bd6 7.Ng5 O-O 8.cxd5 Nd4

26.Qd3 fxe4 27.fxe4 Rfc8 28.Rxc4 Rxc4
29.Re1 b3 30.axb3 axb3 31.Bf1 Qa4 32.Bf2
Rc2 33.g4 Bg6 34.Qa6 Qxa6 35.Bxa6 Bxe4
36.Bg3 Rxb2 37.Bxe5 37....Rg2+ 38.Kf1
b2 39.Bd3 Rxb2 40.Bxe4 Rxe4! 41.Bxb2
Rxe1+ 42.Kxe1 Kf7 43.Ke2 g5 44.Kd3 h5
45.Ba3 Ne8 46.Bc1 Kf6 47.Kd4 h4 48.Ke4
Nd6+ 49.Kf3 Kf5 50. h3 Ne4 51.Be3
Ne5+ 52.Kg2 Nf7 53.Kf3 Ne5+ 54.Draw

Slav D11

GM Tony Miles (2555)
IM Victor Frias (2618)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Qc2 g6 5.Bf4
Bg7 6.e3 O-O 7.Nc3 Be6 8.Qb3 Qb6 9.c5
Qxb3 10.axb3 Nbd7 11.b4 Nh5 12.Bg5 f6
13.Bh4 g5 14.Bg3 Nxb3 15.hxg3 a6 16.Bd3
h6 17.Nd2 Rac8 18.Nb3 Rc7 19.Ke2 f5
20.f4 Nf6 21.Na5 Ne4 22.Nxe4 fxe4 23.Bc2
h5 24. Rxf1 h4 25.fxg5 Rxf1 26.Kxf1 hxg3
27.Bd1 Bf5 28.Ke1 e5 29.Nb3 exd4
30.Nxd4 Bxd4 31.exd4 Kg7 32.Kd2 Rf7
33.Ke3 Bc8 34.Bh5 Rf2 35.Rh4 Rxb2
36.Rf4 Rh2 37.Rf7 Kg8 38.Rc7 Rxb5
39.Rc8 Kg7 40. Ke2 Rh1 0-1

Round 10

With the tournament on the line a shocking development took place: two of the co-leaders, Boris Gulko and me, both lost. By virtue of his short draw with John Fedorowicz, the clear tournament leader was now Michael Wilder. I was completely crushed by Rohde when I mishandled the opening. In the mid-game I forced Michael to sacrifice a pawn to keep the initiative, which led to a marvelous combination that earned my opponent the Best Combination of the Tournament Prize.

One of the nicest ending of the tournament was featured in this round. Kudrin outlasted Gulko in a classic ending that stems back to a game between Flohr and Capablanca (Moscow 1936). In the Flohr-Capa game, White had a pawn on e3, which allowed Black to draw. In the Kudrin game, White's pawn was on c3, which allowed a forced win. A fascinating ending and one worth the careful perusal of our readers.

Irregular B07

GM John Fedorowicz (2624)
IM Michael Wilder (2625)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f4 Qa5
5.Bd3 e5 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.fxe5
Nfd7 9.Bf4 Bb4 10.O-O O-O 11.Nd5 cxd5
12.exd5 f5 Draw

Old Indian A41

GM Lev Alburt (2652)
GM Tony Miles (2555)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.e4
Nxe4 6.Nxe4 fxe4 7.Ne2 Be7 8.Ng3 O-O
9.Nxe4 Bf5 10.Bd3 Nd7 11.Be3 Bxe4
12.Bxe4 Bg5 13.Qh5 Nf6 14.Qxg5 Nxe4
15.Qxd8 Raxd8 16.Ke2 a5 17.Rhc1 b6
18.b3 Ra8 19.Rab1 Kf7 20.a3 Ke7 21.Rb2
h6 22.h3 Kd7 23.Rbc2 Nf6 24.Kd3 Rfb8
25.f4 exf4 26.Bxf4 Re8 27.Re2 Rxe2
28.Kxe2 a4 29.b4 b5 30.Kd3 Draw

English A30

IM Victor Frias (2618)
GM Nick deFirmian (2688)

US Championship 1988

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.Nf3 b6
5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bb7 7.O-O g6 8.b3 Bg7
9.Bb2 O-O 10.Nc3 Rc8 11.Qd2 Qc7
12.Rad1 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Bxg2 14.Kxg2
Qb7+ 15.Kg1 Draw

Modern Defense B06

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)
GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bd3 Bg7
5.O-O O-O 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Bg4 8.Nbd2 e5
9.dxe5 dxe5 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Nbd7
12.Nc4 Qe8 13.Ne3 c6 14.Rfd1 b5 15.a4 a6
16.axb5 axb5 17.Rxa8 Qxa8 18.Bf1 Qxb7
19.c4 b4 20.c5 Nh7 21.Nc4 Nxc5 22.Nd6
Qc7 23.Bc4 Na4 24.Qb3 Nb6 25.Bxf7+
Rxf7 26.Bd8 Qxd8 27.Qxf7+ Kh8 28.Qb3
Ng5 29.Nf7+ Nxf7 30.Rxd8+ Nxd8
31.Qxb4 Ne6 32.Qxb6 Nd4 33.h4 h5 34.g3
Kh7 35.Kg2 Bf6 36.Qc7+ Kg8 37.Qd7
Bg7 38.f4 exf4 39.gxf4 Kh8 40.e5 Nf5
41.Kh3 1-0

French Tarrasch C09

GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)
GM Boris Gulko (2701)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 exd5

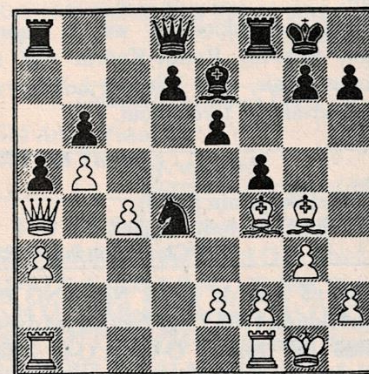
5.Ngf3 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd6 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.O-O
Nge7 9.Nb3 Bd6 10.Re1 O-O 11.Bd3 Nb4
12.Bg5 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 f6 14.Bh4 Bf5
15.Qd2 Qd7 16.Bg3 Bxg3 17.hxg3 Rac8
18.c3 Ng6 19.Nh4 Nxh4 20.gxh4 Rfe8
21.Rad1 Rxe1+ 22.Rxe1 Bg6 23.Nd4 Re8
24.Rxe8+ Qxe8 25.f3 Qe5 26.Ne2 b6
27.Kf2 Kf8 28.Qd4 Bf7 29.Qb4+ Qe7
30.Qxe7+ Kxe7 31.a3 Be6 32.Ke3 Kd6
33.Kd4 h6 34.Nf4 Bf7 35.Nd3 g5 36.g3
Bh5 37.Ke3 Bg6 38.Nf2 Bf5 39.Kd4 Be6
40.Nd1 Bd7 41.Ne3 Be6 42.b3 Kc6 43.b4
Kd6 44.b5 h5 45.f4 gxf4 46.gxf4 Bg8
47.Nf5+ Kd7 48.Ng3 Bf7 49.f5 Ke7
50.Ne2 Be8 51.Nf4 Bd7 52.Nxh5 Bxf5
53.Kxd5 Bd7 54.c4 Be6+ 55.Kd4 Bf5
56.Nf4 Kd6 57.h5 Bb1 58.h6 Ke7 59.c5
bxc5+ 60.Kxc5 Bc2 61.a4 Kf7 62.a5 Be4
63.Kd6 Kg8 64.Nd5 Bd3 65.b6 axb6
66.axb6 Ba6 67.Kc7 1-0

Queen's Indian E15

GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)
GM Joel Benjamin (2655)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6
5.Qa4 Bb7 6.Bg2 c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.O-O
O-O 9.Nc3 Ne4 10.Nxe4 Bxe4 11.b4 Be7
12.Bf4 Nc6 13.a3 a5 14.b5 Bxf3 15.Bxf3
Nd4 16.Bg4 f5



17.e3 Nxb5 18.Bf3 Nc3 19.Qc2 Ne4
20.Bxe4 fxe4 21.Qxe4 Rc8 22.Rfd1 Rf7
23.Rd3 Bf6 24.Rb1 Rc5 25.Bd6 Rc8
26.Rb5 Ba1 27.Rd2 a4 28.Qc2 Rc6 29.Rd1
Bf6 30.Qxa4 Be7 31.Bxe7 Qxe7 32.Qb3
Qf6 33.Rf1 Qd8 34.Rb1 Qc7 35.Rxb6
Rxc4 36.a4 h6 37.Rb8+ Kh7 38.Qd3+ g6
39.R8b4 Rc1+ 40.Rxc1 Qxc1+ 41.Kg2
Qc6+ 42.e4 d5 43.exd5 exd5 44.Qd4 Rb7
45.Rxb7 Qxb7 46.a5 Qa8 47.Qa4 d4+
48.Kf1 Qh1+ 49.Ke2 Qe4+ 50.Kd2 Qf5
51.f4 Qe5 52.Qa1 Qe4 53.Qa3 Qd5
54.Qe7+ Kg8 55.Qb4 Kh7 56.Kd3 h5
57.Qe7+ Kg8 58.Qe5 Qa2 59.Kxd4 Qxh2

60.a6 Qf2+ 61.Qe3 Qa2 62.Qd3 Kg7
63.Kc5 Qa5+ 64.Kc5 Kh6 65.Qb5 Qc3+
66.Qc5 Qf6+ 67.Qd6 Qf5 68.a7 Qe4+
69.Kc7 Qc4+ 70.Kd8 Qg8+ 71.Ke7 Qa8
72.Qd4 Qb7 73.Qd7 Qb4+ 74.Kf7 Qc4+
75.Kf8 Qc5+ 76.Kg8 1-0

Round 11

As could be expected, Michael Wilder made a short draw with Victor Frias. This ensured that Michael would gain at least a tie for first. Only three players could catch him—Nick deFirmian, Boris Gulko, and me. At first, Michael considered playing for a win, as +3 was the Grandmaster norm, but then decided to take a piece of the title.

Boris opted for a short draw as Black against Tony Miles. This left only Nick and me as possible threats. At first it looked as if Nick would be repeating as Champion. Lev had a terrible game and Nick appeared to be winning by directly attacking his opponent's King. Lev, however, defended like a genie and eventually won the game. In the meantime, I had made no impression against Dlugy's solid play and this game, too, ended in a draw.

Benjamin-Fedorowicz was a short draw, whereas Rohde-Kudrin was a choppy affair, with Michael holding a small advantage throughout.

Irregular A00

GM Joel Benjamin (2655)
GM John Fedorowicz (2624)

US Championship 1988

1.c3 e5 2.d3 d5 3.Qc2 Nc6 4.Nf3 f5
5.Qa4 Bd6 6.e4 Nf6 7.Bg5 fxe4 8.dxe4 dxe4
9.Nfd2 Bf5 10.Bb5 O-O 11.O-O Nd4
12.cxd4 exd4 13.Qb3+ Draw

Slav D18

IM Michael Wilder (2625)
IM Victor Frias (2618)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c6 3.c4 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4
5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.O-O Nbd7
9.Qb3 a5 10.Nh4 Bg6 11.Nxg6 Draw

Grunfeld Defense D82

GM Tony Miles (2555)
GM Boris Gulko (2701)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3

c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Qa4 Qxa4 8.Nxa4 O-O
9.Nf3 Bd7 10.Nc3 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Rc8
12.Ne5 Be8 13.O-O-O Nc6 14.Nxc6 Bxc6
15.f3 Nd7 16.Nd5 Bxd5 17.Bxd5 Draw

Gruenfeld Fianchetto D76

GM-elect Michael Rohde (2690)
GM Sergey Kudrin (2669)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 d5
5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Bg2 Nb6 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.e3
O-O 9.O-O Re8 10.Re1 a5 11.Nd2 e5
12.d5 Ne7 13.Nb3 a4 14.Nc5 a3 15.e4 axb2
16.Bxb2 Nc4 17.Bc1 b6 18.Bf1 Nd6 19.Nb3
c6 20.dxc6 Nxc6 21.Be3 Be6 22.Nb5 Nxb5
23.Bxb5 Qxd1 24.Rexd1 Rec8 25.Bxb6
Rxa2 26.Rxa2 Bxb3 27.Rda1 Bxa2
28.Rxa2 Rb8 29.Bxc6

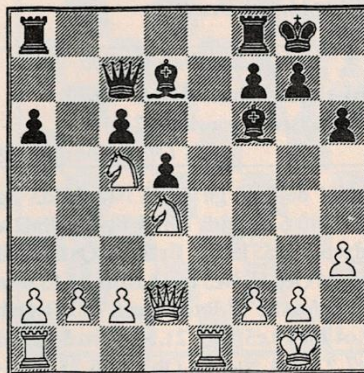
Draw

Queen Pawn D02

GM Yasser Seirawan (2739)
GM Maxim Dlugy (2671)

US Championship 1988

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c5 3.dxc5 e6 4.e4 Nf6
5.Nc3 Bxc5 6.exd5 exd5 7.Bb5+ Nc6
8.O-O O-O 9.Bg5 Bg4 10.h3 Be6 11.Qd2
h6 12.Bh4 a6 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.Rfe1 Be7
15.Nd4 Bd7 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Na4 Qc7
18.Nc5



19...a5 19.a3 Qa7 20.Nxd7 Qxd7 21.b4
Rfc8 22.Rad1 axb4 23.axb4 c5 24.bxc5
Rxc5 25.Nb3 Rc7 26.Re2 Rac8 27.Qxd5
Qxd5 28.Rxd5 Rxc2 29.Rxc2 Rxc2 30.Kf1
Be7 31.Nd2 g6 32.g4 Rc5 33.Rd7 Kf8
34.Ne4 Re5 35.Nc3 Bh4 36.Rd3 Ra5
37.Ne4 h5 38.Kg2 hxc4 39.hxc4 f5 40.gxf5
Rxf5 41.f3 Be7 42.Kg3 Rh5 43.Rd7 Rh7
44.Rd1 Rh5 45.Nc3 Rc5 46.Nd5 Kf7
47.Kg4 Rc4+ 48.Kh3 Ke6 49.Re1+ Kxd5
50.Rxe7 Rf4 51.Kg3 g5 52.Rg7 Rf5 53.Kg4
Rf4+ 54.Kg3 Draw

Alekhine's Defense B04

GM Nick deFirmian (2688)
GM Lev Alburt (2652)

US Championship 1988

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 g6
5.Bc4 Nb6 6.Bb3 Bg7 7.a4 d5 8.a5 Nc4
9.Nbd2 b5 10.axb6 Nxb6 11.O-O O-O
12.Re1 e6 13.Nf1 h6 14.Ne3 Kh7 15.Ng4
Rh8 16.Be3 Nc6 17.Qd2 Qf8 18.Ra3 Ne7
19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nf5 21.Bf4 Nd6
22.Qc1 Nd7 23.Be5 Ne4 24.Bxc7 Nxf6
25.Ba4 a6 26.Bxd7 Nxd7 27.Ne5 f6 28.Rf3
Qe7 29.Ng4 g5 30.Ne3 Qg7 31.c4 dxc4
32.Qxc4 Bb7 33.d5 Rac8 34.Rh3 Ne5
35.Qc2+ Qg6 36.Qxg6+ Kxg6 37.Bxe5
fxe5 38.dxe6 h5 39.g4 h4 40.Nf5 Rc4 41.f3
41.Kf6 42.Nd6 Rb4 43.Nf7 Re8 44.Rxe5
Rxb2 45.Rf5+ Ke7 46.Rc5 Kf6 47.Rf5+
Ke7 48.Rc5 a5 49.Rxa5 Rc8 50.Ra1 Rcc2
51.Nxg5 Rg2+ 52.Kh1 Rxc4 53.Rg1 Rf4
54.Re1 Rb5 55.Ne4 Re5 56.Kg2 Rxe6
57.Re2 Kf8 58.Nc3 Rg6+ 59.Kf2 Rgf6
60.Ke3 Rc4 61.Kd3 Rb4 62.Ne4 Ba6
63.Ke3 Bxe2 64.Kxe2 Rf4 65.Nf2 Rb3
66.Nd3 Ra4 67.f4 Ra2+ 68.Kd1 Rb1+
69.Nc1 Rf2 70.Rc3 Rxh2 0-1

Let me once again congratulate Michael Wilder for his tournament victory. I found the tournament to be an extraordinarily competitive one with an enormous number of decisive games. Certainly I have to mention the efforts of both Kudrin and Alburt, who had only five draws between them. It's a pity their fighting spirit didn't give them higher standings in the tournament. As for Boris and I, once again we both stumbled in the end and fell out of first. Of course it would have been wonderful had I tied for or won first. Four of my opponents earned prizes for out-combining me, out-defending me, out-drawing me, and out-swindling me. Under such circumstances I should be happy with second!

The hardest luck was experienced by Nick deFirmian. With a victory in the final game he would've shared first. Instead, a loss dropped him to 50 percent.

Before leaving, a final word of thanks to the Hallidays, our hosts during the tournament, as well as to the sponsors of the tournament—Fidelity Electronics, Software Toolworks, and the USCF. And I'd also like to thank the directors of the event, Mr. Gardner and Mr. Crenshaw. Finally, a word of thanks to Eric Schiller for all his help on the bulletin. ●

Annotated Games from US Masters

Never Belittle the Bogo

by GM Joel Benjamin

Bogo-Indian E11

SM Igor Shtern
GM Joel Benjamin

Round 12, US Open 1988

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4 +

I think the Bogo is underrated as a winning tool. It often leads to positions that have not been exhaustively analyzed.

4.Bd2 Qe7 5.g3 Nc6 6.a3!

This move might be worth a second look. The try 6.Bg2 Bxd2+ 7.Nbxd2 leaves the Queen's Knight passively placed, while the alternative 6.Nc3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 Ne4 leads to simplification.

6...Bxd2 + 7.Qxd2 d6 8.Bg2 O-O 9.O-O

A slightly more effective approach would be 9.Nc3, with an eye towards hopping to d5. The game might continue 9...e5 10.Nd5 (if White tries to wait with 10.0-0, Black has an adequate counter in 10...Bg4!) Nxd5 11.cxd5 Nb8 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Rc1 Na6 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qe3 Rfe8 16.Nd2 with a positional advantage for White.

9...Ne4!

Dynamic and correct. 9...e5 10.d5! falls in with White's plans. Note that with White's Knight on c3, Black would cause serious problems with 10...Na5!.

10.Qc2 f5 11.Nc3

11.d5 Nd8 12.Nd4 allows certain tactical possibilities, e.g., 12...Qf6 13.dxe6 Nxe6 14.Nxf5 Nxf2! 15.Rxf2 Nd4.

11...Nxc3 12.Qxc3 e5 13.d5

Keeping the center fluid with 13.dxe5 is considerably safer.

13...Nd8

In comparison with the position discussed in the note to Black's ninth, Black is much happier here because he has an instant Kingside attack brewing. The fact that White can open the c-file immediately is of no great concern because Black's pieces will not be hindered from joining the assault.

14.c5

If White could suspend the rules of

chess to play 14.f2-f4, he would stand well. Legally, he might try 14.Nd2, but after 14...f4 15.e3 g5 16.Rae1 Qg7, he may be losing the struggle for control of key squares.

14...Nf7 15.cxd6 cxd6 16.Rac1 f4 17.Qc7 Qf6 18.b4

Sooner or later, White must contest the Kingside, but it's hard to find a way. The try 18.Nd2 Ng5 19.Ne4 Nxe4 20.Bxe4 Bh3 21.Bg2 permits the shot 21...Rac8!, though White may fight on after 22.Bxh3.

18...Bg4

No need to hurry. 18...e4 19.Nd2 Ng5 is answered most simply by 20.Nxe4 Nxe4 21.Bxe4 Bh3 22.Qxb7! (22.Bg2 Bxg2 23.Kxg2 Rae8 with some initiative) netting two pawns and a solid position for the Exchange.

19.h3

Pushing pawns in front of your King is not pleasant, but consider this variation: 19.Qxb7 e4 20.Nd2 Ng5 (20...Bxe2 is also strong) 21.Nxe4 Nxe4 22.Bxe4 Bxe2 23.Rfe1 fxg3! 24.Rxe2 (24.fxg3 Qd4+) gxf2 + 25.Kf1 Qg5-/+.

"Grandmasters, believe it or not, tend to root for each other."

19...Bh5 20.g4 Bg6 21.Nd2 Rae8 22.Qxb7 e4 23.Rc4?

This loses at once. White must play 23.Qxa7 and cross his fingers. His position looks grim, but with so many attractive continuations, it's easy to pick the wrong one. I thought that Black had a winner in 23...Qb2 24.Nc4 Qxe2 25.Rfe1 Qa2 26.Qd4 e3! 27.fxe3 f3! 28.Bxf3 Ng5 29.Be2 Nh3+ with an overwhelming attack.

All very lovely, except that White tosses in a monkey wrench with 27.Qb2! "trapping" the Queen. The proper path is the deliberate 23...h5!, preparing nasty ideas such as ...Qh4 and ...Ng5. White can make it close, but Black should crash through: 24.Rc7 hxg4 25.hxg4 Qb2 (25...Qh4 26.f3 e3 27.Nc4 Bd3 28.exd3! e2

Qf2 with White still alive) 26.Nc4 Qxe2 27.f3 (27.Nxd6 Qxg4 wins) exf3 28.Bxf3 Qd3 and Black's threats appear to be decisive.

23...f3 24.exf3 exf3 25.Nxf3

25.Bxf3 Bd3 is even more calamitous.

25...Bd3

26.Rcc1 Be2!

Black's intention is to force as many concessions as possible before grabbing material. Of course, it's easier to remember this when you are three pawns down — one exchange in itself will not end the game.

27.Nd2?!

The last chance is to "hide" the Knight with 27.Nh2.

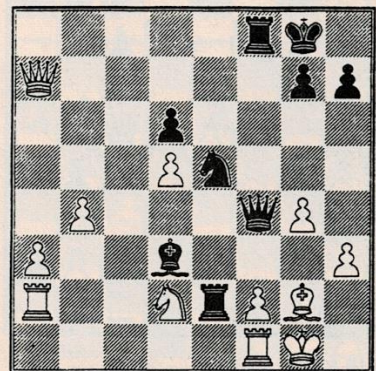
27...Qf4 28.Rc2

28.Nb3 Bxf1 29.Rxf1 Ng5 30.Qxa7 Nf3+ with mate to follow.

28...Bd3!

The shuttle of the Bishop is powerful as well as artistic. Around here, Benko might start to yell "domination."

29.Ra2 Re2! 30.Qxa7 Ne5!



White is so helpless that a full piece does not interest his opponent — yet. 30...Rxd2 31.Rxd2 Qxd2 32.Qd4 allows White to quiver for awhile.

31.f3

Well, I was going to take the piece, but now something better comes along.

31...Qg3!

32.Rf2 Re1 +

33.Nf1 Nxf3 +!

So if 34.Rxf3 Rxf1 + 35.Rxf1 Rxf1 mate.

0-1

Grandmasters, believe it or not, tend to

root for each other. But my colleagues were especially congratulatory after this contest. Perhaps it was because I had 8 going in, while my opponent had 8.5...

Uppercuts at the US Open; KO in Colorado

by FM Alex Fishbein (three games)

K.I.D. E61

FM Alex Fishbein
GM-elect Michael Rohde

US Open 1988

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bf5

An interesting line that exploits White's move order.

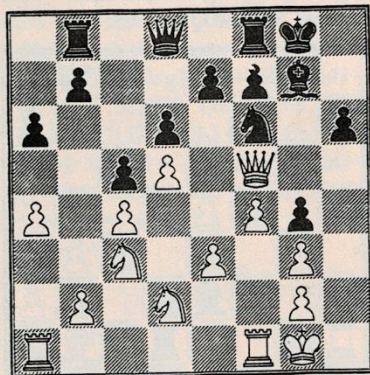
5.Bg5

As the game shows, this is not too convincing.

5...Bg7 6.e3 O-O 7.Bd3 Bxd3 8.Qxd3 c5 9.O-O Nbd7 10.d5 h6 11.Bh4 a6 12.a4 Rb8 13.Nd2

Planning 14.f4.

13...g5 14.Bg3 Nh5 15.f4!? Nxg3 16.hxg3 g4! 17.Qf5 Nf6



18.Kf2!?

Anticipating the exchange of Queens and preparing to make use of the h-file. Another interesting try was 18.e4 Qd7 19.Qxd7 Nxd7 20.e5 dxe5 21.f5, but Black can sacrifice the pawn back with 21...e4 22.Ncxe4 Bd4+ 23.Kh2 Kg7!? with the idea of ...Rh8 and ...h4.

18...Qe8 19.Nde4 Nxe4+ 20.Nxe4 Qc8 21.Qxc8

The Queen would be offside after 21.Qh5 f5!.

21...Rfxc8 22.Nc3

Admitting that White has no advantage. Now 22...Bxc3 23.bxc3 b5 would lead to a draw, but Black is playing for a

win.

22...Re8!? 23.Rh1! e6 24. dxe6 Rxe6 25.Nd5 Re4 26.Ke2 f5?!

The continuation 26...Rxc4 27.Kd3 b5 28.b3 Bxa1 29.Rxa1 Rb4 30.Nxb4 cxb4 31.axb5 axb5 32.Ra6! Rc8 33.Rxd6 Rc3+ 34.Ke4 would have led to a draw, but Black hardly has anything better. In the game, he overestimates his chances and soon runs into difficulties.

27.Kd3 b5?! 28.cxb5 axb5 29.a5! Rb7 30.a6 Ra7 31.Ra5 b4 32.b3

Now White has a clear positional advantage.

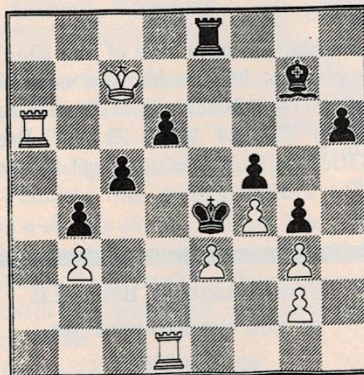
32...Re8 33.Kc4 Kf7 34.Kb5 Ke6 35.Kb6?

A mistake in mutual time trouble. 35.Rd1! would have maintained the pressure.

35...Rxa6+

Of course, not 35...Kxd5?? 36.Rd1+!.

36.Rxa6 Kxd5 37.Rd1+ Ke4 38.Kc7



38...Bc3

Now the game liquidates into a draw. 38...d5 would lose immediately to 39.Kd7 followed by mate. On 38...Bf8, I intended 39.Kd7 Re7+ 40.Kd8 Re6 41.Ra7, threatening 42.Rf7. Black's pieces are extremely awkwardly placed.

39.Raxd6 Kxe3 40.R1d5 Bd4 41.Rxf5 Kf2 42.Rxh6 Kxg2 43.Rg5 Kxg3 44.Rhg6 Kxf4 45.Rxg4+ Ke3 46.Kc6 Kd3 47.Kb5 Rb8+ 48.Ka4 Ra8+ 49.Kb5 Rb8+ 50.Ka4 Ra8+ 51.Kb5 Draw

A well-fought battle despite inaccuracies on both sides.

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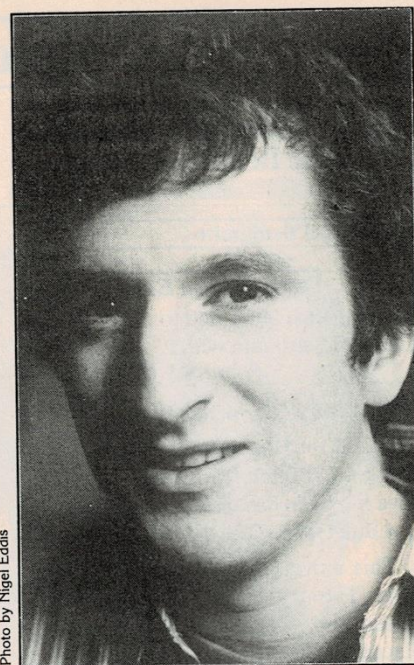


Photo by Nigel Eddis

GM-elect Michael Rohde drew FM Fishbein in the US Open, but with wife Sophia expecting, will soon pocket another family member.

Sicilian Scheveningen B83

FM Alex Fishbein
GM Roman Dzindzichashvili

US Open 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be2 e6 7.O-O Be7 8.Be3 O-O 9.f4 Bd7 10.Nb3

This is the normal response to ...Bd7. The idea is that after g4-g5, the Knight will not have a convenient retreat square.

10...a6 11.a4

Threatening 12.a5. I expected 11...b6 now, but Roman instead plays a line considered dubious by theory.

11...Na5 12.e5

I did not know this line, but remembered that the "refutation" started with this move.

12...Ne8 13.Nxa5 Qxa5 14.Ne4 Qc7 15.a5!

Fixes Black's Queenside—a common theme in this variation. Without this move, White would have nothing at all.

15...Bc6 16.Bb6 Qd7 17.Bf3

Of course, I would have liked to play 17.Bd3, but here my pieces aren't placed well enough yet, and the e5 pawn is in danger after, for instance, 17...dxe5 18.fxe5 Qd5!.

17...Rc8 18.Rf2

18.Kh1 would transpose into a book line.

18...Bxe4!? 19.Bxe4 f5 20.Bf3 d5

The situation has stabilized, and White enjoys a positional plus.

21.b3! Rc3!

The only defense to 22.c4.

22.Bd4 Rc7 23.Ra4?

This and the following move are misguided. I really wanted to play 23.c4, but Black can respond with 23...dxc4 24.Bb6 Bc5! 25.Bxc5 Qxd1 26.Rxd1 Rxc5, and it turns out that White does not have much.

"We have to look at a position as a whole and not at its component parts."

Therefore, correct was 23.Kh1!—a prophylactic move that combines business with pleasure. Now 24.c4 is a threat because after 24...dxc4 25.Bb6 Bc5 26.Qxd7 Bxf2 is not check. Also, White can even play 24.c4 after 23...Qc8; for example, 24...dxc4 25.Bb6 Bc5? 26.Rd2 followed by 27.Rd8.

The move 23.Kh1 is very instructive. We have to look at a position as a whole and not at its component parts. It is not uncommon that a little King move creates a threat on the other side of the board.

23...Qc8 24.Rd2

As Dzindzichashvili pointed out after the game, 24.c4 is not too effective due to 24...dxc4 25.Rxc4 Rxc4 26.bxc4 Rf7!.

24...g5!

Now Black gets counterplay.

25.g3 Ng7 26.h3 Qe8 27.Be3

The game is balanced now. Neither side is giving an inch.

27...Qg6 28.Kh2 h5 29.fgx5 Bxg5 30.Bf4 h4! 31.gxh4 Bxf4 + 32.Rxf4 Qh6 33.Rdd4

Of course, White is in trouble if this blockade is destroyed.

33...Rc5 34.Qd2 Rfc8 35.Bd1 Kh7 36.h5 Rc3 37.Rf3 Qxd2 + 38.Rxd2 Kh6

If 38...Rxf3 39.Bxf3 Rc5 40.Kg3! and 41.Kh4. On 39...Kh6 White has 40.c4. Therefore, Black chooses to keep up the pressure.

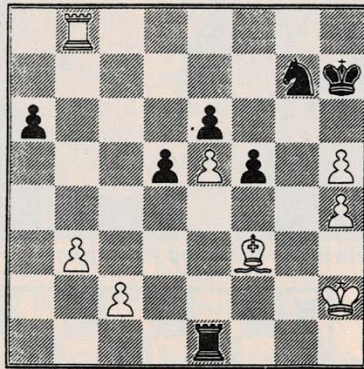
39.Rxc3 Rxc3 40.Rd4! Rc5

The a-pawn could have become dangerous.

41.Rb4 Rxa5 42.Rxb7 Ra1?!

This turns out to lose time. 42...d4 maintains the balance.

43.Bf3 Re1 44.Rb8 Kh7 45.h4!



This threatens 46.h6! and creates serious practical problems for Black, particularly in view of time pressure.

45...f4! 46.Rf8?!

Correct idea, wrong execution. 46.Rb4 was more precise.

46...Nf5

White is a bit better after 46...Rxe5 47.Rxf4.

47.Bxd5! Re2 + 48.Kg1 Nxh4?

With his flag hanging, Roman does not find the best defense, which was 48...Kg7! 49.Rf6 Rxe5 50.Rg6 + Kf7 51.Bc4 a5.

49.Bxe6 f3?

49...Nf3 + 50.Kf1 Rxc2 51.Rf4 Rc1 +! 52.Ke2 Nxe5 still allows Black to hold his own.

50.Bd5

Now Black is faced with serious problems.

50...Rg2 + 51.Kf1 Rg3 52.e6!

The fastest way.

52...Rg5 53.Rf7 + Kh6 54.e7 Ng2 55.Bc6 1-0

Reti A09

FM Alex Fishbein

NM Dave Jellison

Colorado Open 1988

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 d4 3.e3 c5 4.b4 g6 4...dxc3 5.fxc3 cxb4 leads to a good Blumenfeld line a tempo up for White.

5.bxc5!?

It is also possible to play the Benoni a tempo up with 5.exd4.

5...Nc6 6.exd4 Bg7 7.Bb2 Bg4 8.Be2 Nh6 9.Qb3 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Bxd4 11.Bxg4

Nxg4 12.Qb5 +

Now the game changes in character. White gradually loses his material advantage, but gains a lead in development.

12...Kf8 13.O-O Qc7 14.g3 Rd8 15.Bxd4 Rxd4 16.Nc3!

The only way to play for an advantage.

16...Rxd2 17.Rae1!

Played after long thought. I could have instead played 17.Nd5 Qe5 18.Qxb7 Nxf2 [18...Rxf2? 19.Qc8 +!] 19.Rae1 Nh3 + 20.Kh1 Nf2 +, drawing. Despite the fact that a draw in this game would have clinched at least a tie for first, I turned down this continuation, wanting to utilize the full potential of my position.

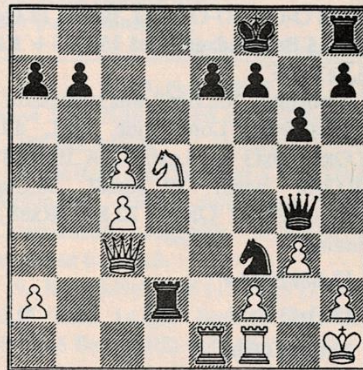
17...Ne5 18.Nd5 Ne3 + 19.Kh1 Qc8 20.Qb3

Another try was 20.Rxe7 Rxd5 21.cxd5 Kxe7 22.Qe2 + Kf8 23.Qxf3 Qxc5, but it is not clear what White has in this position. 20.Qb3 is the only alternative, because any other Rook move loses immediately to 20...Qh3.

20...Qg4?!

20...Qf5 was probably better; then White would have to play 21.Rb1. On 20...Nxe1 I would have played 21.Qc3! f6 22.Qxd2 Nf3 23.Qe3!.

21.Qc3!



21...Rg8?

This loses, but on 21...e5 White has a highly unusual double-Rook sacrifice: 22.Rxe5!! Qh3 23.Re8 +! Kxe8 24.Re1 +!! Nxe1 25.Qe5 + Qe6 26.Nc7 + Kd7 27.Nxe6, and if 27...Nf3 then 28.Qxb8 Rxf2 29.Qd8 + Kxe6 30.Qd6 + Kf5 31.Qf4 + Ke6 32.Qe3 +, winning. Therefore, 22...Rd4 is forced, but then after 23.Nf4 White's pieces are well placed.

22.Rxe7 Rxd5

If 22...Qh3 23.Rxf7 +!

23.Qf6 Rg7 24.Rxb7 Qc8 25.cxd5 Qxb7 26.Qd8 + mate



Photo by William Reith

With a 2490 FIDE rating, FM Alex Fishbein is one of our top young players.

Knocking Off Novelties: Battling the Semi-Slav; Besting the King's Indian

by IM James Rizzitano (two games)

Semi-Slav D46

IM James Rizzitano
IM Walter Shipman

US Open 1988

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.e4 dxe4 8. Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Bxe4 O-O 10.O-O h6 11. Bc2 e5 12.Qd3 f5 13.c5 Bc7 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Qb3+ Kh8 16.Re1 Qf6

A novelty. 16...Be6? was successful in Strauss-Frias, Lone Pine 1981, after 17.Qxe6 Nxf3+ 18.gxf3 Qh4 19.Bxf5?? (19.Qg6! wins) 19...Rae8! 20.Qxe8 Qxh2+ 21.Kf1 Qh1+ 22.Ke2 Rxe8+, winning.

17.Bf4 Nxf3+

18.Qxf3 Bxf4

19.Qxf4 Qxb2

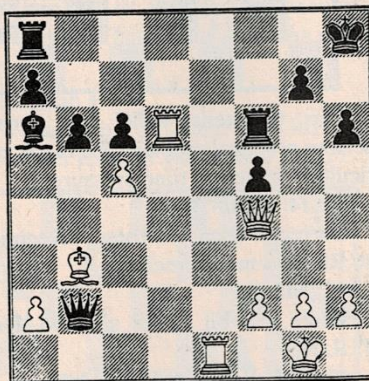
Normal moves such as 19...Be6 20.Re5 leave White with a large advantage, so Walter decides to grab a pawn in return for his weak dark squares and bad Bishop.

20.Bb3 b6

21.Rad1 Ba6

Connecting his Rooks and guarding the sensitive back rank. Eliminating the thorn on c5 with 21...bxc5 allows 22.Rd6 Kh7 (22...Rf6 23.Rd8+ Kh7 24.Bg8+ wins) 23.Rxh6+! gxh6 24.Re7+ Kg6 25.Qg3+ Kh5 26.Bd1+.

22.Rd6 Rf6



23.h4!

Creating *luft* and controlling the critical g5 square.

23...bxc5

Not 23...Rxd6 24.cxd6 Rd8 25.d7!, winning.

24.Rxf6 Qxf6 25.Re6 Qa1+

Also hopeless is 25...Qf8 26.Qe5.

26.Kh2 c4

White was threatening 27.Rxh6+.

27.Bc2 Rf8 28.Bxf5

Still angling for 29.Rxh6+.

28...Kg8 29.Rxc6 Bb7 30.Be6+ Kh7

31.Qxf8 1-0

Walter resigned in view of 31...Bxc6 32.Bg8+, mating.

K.I.D. E81

IM James Rizzitano
FM Ilya Gurevich

Massachusetts Open 1987

1.c4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.d4 Nf6 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.Be3 Nbd7 7.Qd2 c5 8.d5 Ne5 9.Bg5 a6 10.f4 Ned7 11.Nf3 b5 12.cxb5 axb5 13.Bxb5 Bb7?

A novelty, but the usual 13...Qa5 is better. Timman-Nunn, Wijk aan Zee 1985,

continued 14.O-O Nxe4! 15.Nxe4 Qxb5, with complicated play.

14.O-O Nb6 15.Qe2 Qc7 16.a4!

With the straightforward but effective threat of 17.a5 Nbd7 18.a6 Bc8 19.Bc6 Ra7 20.Nb5, winning.

Ra5 17.Nd2 Rfa8 18.Nc4 Nxc4 19.Bxc4

Clearing the way for a powerful Knight outpost on b5.

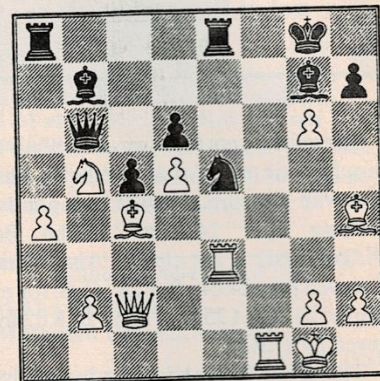
19...Nd7 20.Nb5 Qb6 21. Bxe7 Re8 22.Bh4 f5

Regaining one of the sacrificed pawns, but his pieces will remain cut off from his weakened Kingside.

23.Qc2 fxe4

Or 23...Rxe4 24.Rae1, and White takes control of the e-file.

24.Rae1 e3 25.f5 Ne5 26.Rxe3 Raa8 27.fxg6



27...Rf8

Ilya didn't look too happy about having to play this, but the alternatives are also unappealing: 27...Nxc6 28.Rxe8+ Rxe8 29.Qf5!, winning; or 27...hxg6 28.Rxe5! dxe5 (28...Rxe5 29.Qxc6, with a winning attack) 29.d6+ Kh7 30.Bf7, winning.

28.gxh7+ Kh8 29.Ree1 Rae8 30.b3

Consolidating the four-pawn advantage.

30...Bc8 31.Rxf8+ Rxf8 32.Rf1 Re8 33.h3 Bd7 34.Kh1 Qb8 35.Bf6 Rf8 36. Bxg7+ Kxg7 37.Qe4 Rxf1+ 38.Bxf1 Qf8 39.Kg1 Kh8 40.Na3!

Preparing to boot the strong Black Knight out of e5.

40...Bf5 41.Qf4 Ng6 42. Qg3 Qf6 43.Nb5 Be4 44.Qxd6 Qg5 45. Qxc5 Kxh7

Of course 45...Nf4 46.Qd4+ picks up the Be4.

46.Qf2 Bxd5

46...Nf4 is easily countered by 47.Kh2.

47.b4 Nh4 48. Nd4 Be4 49.a5 Ng6 50.Ne6 Qe7 51.Nc5 Ba8 52.Bd3 1-0 •



The 65th Square.

Games from Chaturanga Chess Club Members.

J. Mucerino (2089) – A. Lindy (1870)
Chaturanga Winter/Spring Double Quads,
Round 3, March 4, 2020

Annotated by Joe Mucerino

**1.d4 e6 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nbd2 d5
4.e3 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0
0-0 8.dxc5 e5**



Much more common is 8...Bxc5, but the text is perfectly fine because it transposes.

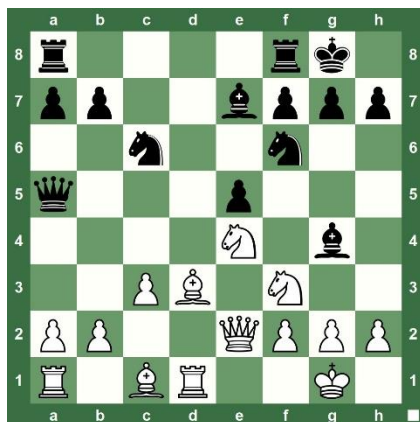
**9.e4 Bxc5 10. Qe2 Bg4 11. exd5
Qxd5 12. Ne4 Be7 13.Rd1**

Obviously threatening 14. Nxf6+ Bxf6
15. Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Rxd5.

13...Qa5?



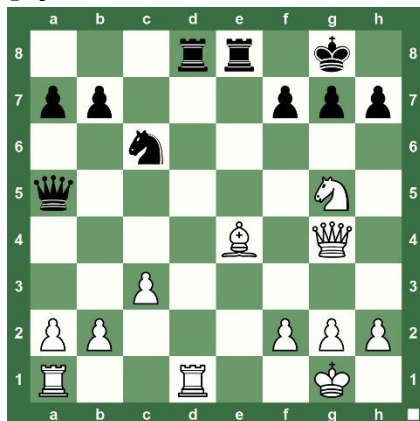
Joe Mucerino at 2020 Winter/Spring
Double Quads.



The queen is needed on the queenside.
13...Qe6 was best.

**14.Nxf6+ Bxf6?? 15.Qe4 Rfe8 16.
Qxg4 Rad8 17. Bg5 Bxg5 18.Nxg5
e4 19.Bxe4**

1-0



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From the James Bond film "Live and Let Die".
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