

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. 3

By Stan Ward



Postcard of Marshall in Holland circa 1906.

After coming back from Europe at the end of 1908 Marshall spent the next year, 1909, on his native soil. The two distinguishing events in Marshall's chess life at this time were the emergence of a new force in the chess world, Jose' Raoul Capablanca and Marshall's official match for the title of U.S. Champion.

Marshall first ran into Capablanca when he played him in an exhibition match. Marshall admitted that he took the young Cuban lightly. Said Marshall, "I admit that I expected him to be a pushover: I made no preparation for the match, took the whole thing very lightly. My experience gave me a wholesome respect for his ability." Below is a game from a match they played in 1909.

F.J. Marshall vs J.R. Capablanca

Match, New York 1909
Queens Gambit Declined, D53

Annotations by Frank J. Marshall.

A well-played positional game is topped off with a neat sacrifice.

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. e3 Ne4

The idea of this variation is to ease the pressure on Black's game by exchanges.

6. Bxe7 Qxe7 7. Bd3

Not the most exact, for now Black could obtain a good game with 7...Nxc3; 8. bxc3 dxc4; 9. Bxc4 b6 etc. *The modern method is 7. Rc1 (Editor)*

7... Nxc3 8. bxc3 Nd7 9. Nf3 O-O 10. cxd5 exd5 11. Qb3 Nf6 12. a4

A useful move. White foresees that the hostile Queenside Pawns will be subjected to pressure.

12... c5

12. ...c6 was less risky. The text leads to difficulties.

13. Qa3 b6 14. a5 Bb7 15. O-O Qc7 16. Rfb1 Nd7

Capablanca later confessed that he never saw the reply to this move. 16... Rfe8 was best under the circumstances, although White would maintain the initiative.

17. Bf5 Rfc8?

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4. Hollywood plays chess.

In order to save the Pawn threatened by 18. Bxd7 etc. No better would be 17... cxd4 18. cxd4 Nf6 with the hope of a possible continuation 19. Rc1 Qd8 20. Ne5 Re8 21. a6 Bc8 22. Nc6

Qc7 23. Bxc8 Rxc8 24. Ne7+! Qxe7 25. Rxc8 Qxa3 26. Rxe8 coming out the exchange ahead. Best, however, was 17... Nf6.

18. Bxd7 Qxd7 19. a6! 19... Bc6 20. dxc5 bxc5 21. Qxc5

White has won a Pawn, and with Ne5 or Nd4 in the offing, has a much superior position as well.

Rab8 22. Rxb8 Rxb8 23. Ne5 Qf5

Threatens mate.

24. f4!





24...Rb6 25. Qxb6! Resigns.

Blacks last hope was 25. Nxc6 Rb1+ 26. Rxb1 Qxb1+ 27. Kf2 Qc2+ 28. Kg3 Qg6+ with perpetual check.

Next was the U.S. Championship. In those days the championship was decided by match play but due to the illness and later death of then champion Harry Pillsbury in 1906, chess officials decided to award the title to Marshall by acclimation. This he consistently refused and in 1909 he played former 5-time U.S. Champion Jackson Showalter for the title. Marshall won: + 7 - 2 = 3.

F.J. Marshall vs J.W. Showalter

U.S. Championship Match 1909
Danish Gambit, C44

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. c3 d3 4. Bxd3 Nc6 5. Nf3 d6 6. Bc4 Nf6 7. Bf4 Be7 8. Nbd2 O-O 9. O-O Bg4 10. Re1 Nh5 11. Bg3 Nxg3 12. hxg3 Ne5 13. Bf1 Bg5 14. Qb3 Bxd2 15. Nxd2 Be6 16. Qxb7 a6 17. Nf3 Nxf3+ 18. gxf3 Qd7 19. Qb4 Rfb8 20. Qa3a5 21. Rad1 Qc6 22. Re3 f6 23. Rd4 Qb6 24. b3 c5 25. Rd2 a4 26. c4 axb3 27. Qxb3 Qc7 28. Qd1 Rb6 29. f4 Qb8 30. Rb3 Rxb3 31. axb3 Ra6 32. e5 Qa7 33. Rxd6g6 34. Rxa6 1-0



Jackson Showalter

The following year, 1910 saw a return to Europe where Marshall continued to play in the strongest tournaments. In 1911 he played at San Sebastian, where he finished with 8^{1/2} points for clear 4th. Only Capablanca with 9^{1/2} and Rubinstein & Vidmar with 9 each finished higher.

F.J. Marshall vs D. Janowski

San Sebastian, Spain. 1911
Queens Gambit Declined, D63

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. e3 O-O 6. Nf3 Nbd7 7. Rc1 c5 8. cxd5 exd5 9. dxc5 Bxc5 10. Bd3 Be7 11. O-O Nb6 12. Qb3 Be6 13. Nd4 Nfd7 14. Bf4 Nc5 15. Qc2 Nxd3 16. Qxd3 Qd7 17. Ncb5 a6 18. Rc7 axb5 19. Rxd7 Bxd7 20. Nxb5 Rfc8 21. a3 Ra5 22. Nc3 Bf6 23. Rd1 Be6 24. h3 Nc4 25. Qe2 Bxc3 26. bxc3 Rxa3 27. e4 dxe4 28. Qxe4 28. Qxe4 Rb3 29. Qd4 h6 30. Rd3 Kh7 31. Rg3 Rg8 32. Kh2 b5 33. h4 Bf5 34. h5 Rb2 35. Bc1 Ra2 36. Qc5 Be6 37. f4 f6 38. Qxb5 Ra5 39. Qc6Bf7 40. Qc7 Rf8 41. Qe7 Raa8 42. Rd3 Rae8 43. Qc5 Kg8 44. Rd7 Rc8 45. Qa7 Ra8 46. Qc7 Rfc8 47. Qb7 Rab8 48. Qa6 Ra8 49. Qb5 Rab8 50. Qf5 Ra8 51. Qd3 Rc5 52. Rd8+ Rxd8 53. Qxd8+ Kh7 54. g4 Rd5 55. Qe7 Kg8 56. Be3 f5 57. Bc5 fxg4 58. Qf8+ Kh7 59. Bd4 Rxd4 60. cxd4 Bxh5 61. Qc5 Bf7 62. d5 1-0

In 1913 Marshall played in the Havana Tournament where he finished clear 1st with 10^{1/2} points. Capablanca was 2nd with 10. Their game, said Marshall, "was the

deciding one of the tourney. Capa staked all to win and lost. The game is far from perfect, but it reflects the tense excitement of the occasion." That game is presented below.

Annotations by Frank Marshall.

J.R. Capablanca vs. F.J. Marshall

Havana, Cuba 1913
Petroff Defense C42

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nxe5 d6 4. Nf3 Nxe4 5. d4 d5 6. Bd3 Bg4 7. O-O Nc6

Deviating from my favorite 7... Bd6. I felt that Capablanca might have something up his sleeve against that move, and I therefore concluded that the text would be more judicious.

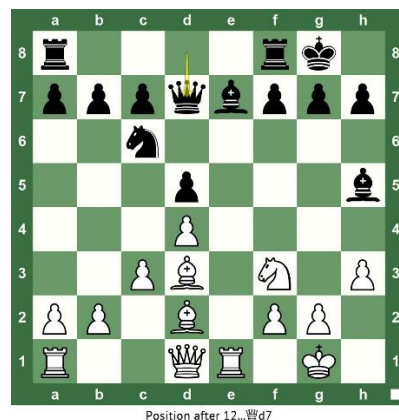
8.c3 Be7

Not best. 8... Bd6 should have been played.

9. Nbd2 Nxd2

Although 9... f5 appears good here, it might be difficult to hold the position after 10. Qb3 or 10. H3 or 10. Re1 or a combination of these moves.

10 Bxd2 O-O 11. h3 Bh5 12. Re1 Qd7 ?!



13. Bb5 Bd6 14. Ne5 Bxe5 15. Qxh5 Bf6 16. Bf4 Rae8 17. Re3 Rxe3

An exchange which helps White to increase his command of the board...Re6 was preferable.

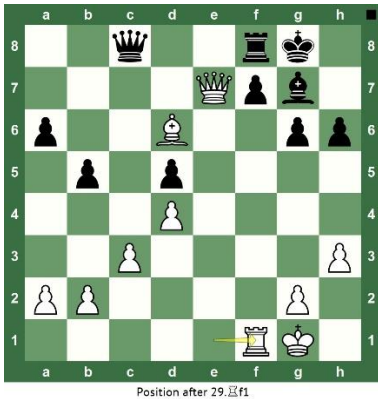
18. fxe3!... a6 19. Ba4 b5 20. Bc2 g6 21. Qf3 Bg7 22. Bb3 Ne7 23. e4!

dxex4?! 24. Qxe4 c6 25. Re1 Nd5 26. Bxd5 cxd5...

The foregoing exchange has enabled White to occupy the seventh rank with what should have been decisive effect. If instead 26...Qxd5; 27 Qxd5 cxd5 28. Re7 winning either the d5 pawn or the a6 pawn.

27. Qe7± Qc8 28. Bd6h6 29. Rf1

Threatening Qa7 and thus creating a new weakness in Black's game.



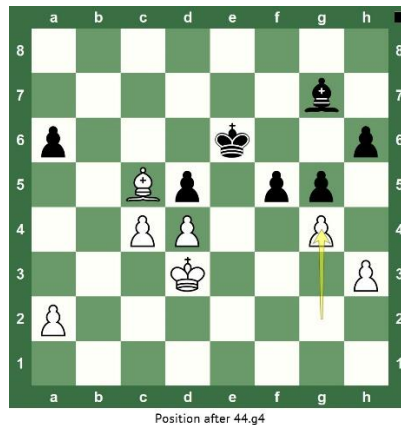
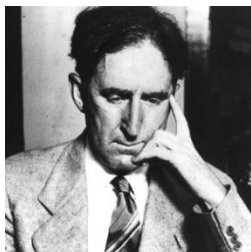
...f6 30. Re1 Rd8 31. Bc5 Kh7 32.

Qf7.... The game was adjourned at this point for 2 days. I was a half-point ahead of Capa in the standings; to get first prize he would have to win this game, whereas a draw would give me undisputed first place. He has a winning position, but his anxiety eventually cost him the game.

Qf5 33. Be7

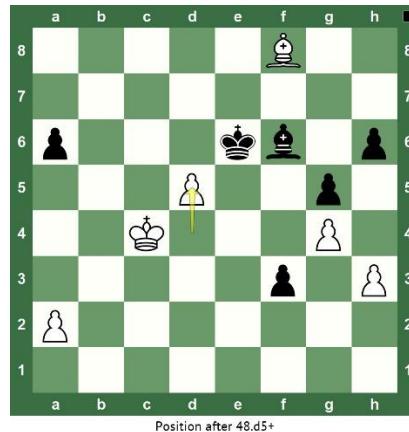
A mistake, despite the fact that it not only attacks the Rook but threatens R f1 as well. The proper course was 33. Re7, Rg8; 34. Ra7 Q f4 (threatening a perpetual check); 35 Qc7 and Black is lost.

33... Qd7 34. Kf1 Rf8 35. Qe6 Qxe6 36. Rxe6 Re8 37. Re2 Kg8 38. b3 Kf7 39. Bc5 Rxe2 40. Kxe2 f541. Kd3 Ke6 42. c4 bxc4+43. bxc4 g5 44. g4



This move has come in for severe criticism—in my opinion, unjustly so. True, it gives Black a passed pawn; but it also fixes his Kingside pawns on the black squares. The decisive mistakes come later.

g4 f4 45. Bb4 Bf6!? 46. Bf8 dxc4+ 47. Kxc4 f3 48. d5+?? The losing move.



48...Ke5 → 49. Kd3 Kf4! 50. Bd6+Be5 51. Bc5 Kg3 52. Ke4 Bf4 53. d6 f2 0-1

In 1914 the St. Petersburg Chess Society held a tournament to celebrate its' tenth anniversary. The idea was to invite the top 20 chess players in the world. Marshall was among those invited. Some players, like Szymon Winawer declined due to poor health, while others like Tartakover and Vidmar could not due to tensions between Imperial Russia and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In the end 11 Masters participated. It became one of the most famous early tournaments of the first half of the 20th century. From April 21st until May 22nd, 1914 the best in the world locked horns.

The tournament structure featured a preliminary single round robin

from which the top 5 finishers moved on to the finals. The finals were a double round robin with the results of the preliminaries carrying over into the finals. Marshall, who made the finals did so with a score of 6 points including this nice win over Ossip Bernstein.

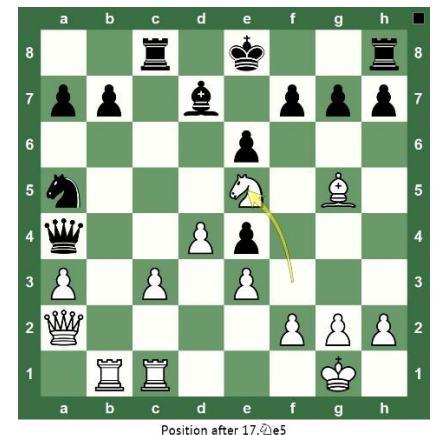
Annotated by Frank Marshall

F. Marshall vs Dr. O.S. Bernstein
St. Petersburg, Russia. 1914
Queens Gambit Declined, D13

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. cxd5 cxd5 5. Nf3 e6 6. Bg5 Qb6 7. Qc2 Nc6 8.e3 Bd7 9. a3 Rc8 10. Bd3 Bb4 11. O-O Bxc3 12. bxc3 Na5 13. Rab1 Qc6 14. Rfc1Qa4 15. Qa2 Ne4

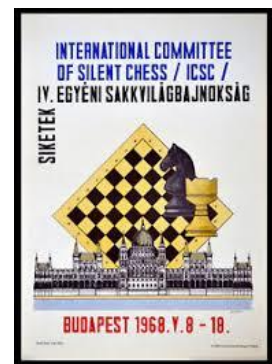
Beginning a combination which he expects to be decisive. And so it is, but not in the manner intended

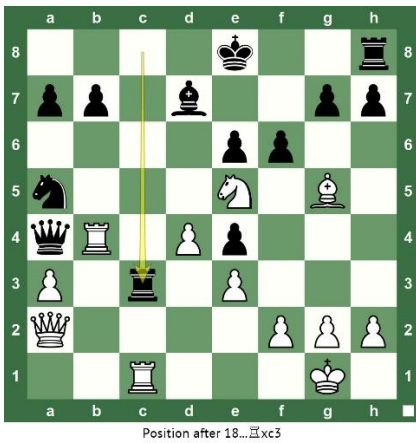
16. Bxe4 dxe4 17. Ne5!!



17... f6 18. Rb4 Rxc3

This is the move relied on; Either 19. Rxa4 or Rxc3 would lead to mate, and in addition the a pawn is attacked, and White's minor pieces are both enprise.





19. Qd2!! Rxc1+ 20. Qxc1...

Now comes the rude awakening. If 20...Nb3; 21. Qc7 wins. Black is lost.

...O-O 21. Rxa4 Bxa4 22. Qc7 b6 23. Bf4 fxe5 24. Bxe5 Rf7 25. Qb8+ Rf8 26. Qxa7 Rf7 27. Qb8+ Rf8 28. Qc7 Rf7 29. Qc8+ Rf8 30. Qxe6+ 1-0

Marshall made it to the finals but finished last with 8 points. The eventual winner, Emanuel Lasker was first with 13¹/₂. Marshall's sole win was against a formidable opponent Dr. Tarrasch who would later write the book for this famous tournament.

Dr. S. Tarrasch vs F.J. Marshall
St. Petersburg, Russia. 1914
Queens Gambit Declined, D40

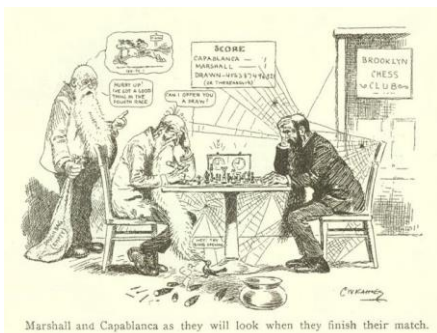
Annotated by Frank Marshall

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 4. e3 Nf6 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. Bd3 dxc4 7. Bxc4 a6 8. O-O b5 9. Bd3 Bb7 10. a4 c4!?

A fateful decision which gives the whole game its specific character. Will the advanced pawns prove strong or weak?

11. Bc2 b4 12. Ne4 Be7 13. Qe2 Na5 14. Nxf6+ gxf6

The logical recapture; it keeps White's Knight out of e5 and opens up the f-file for counterattack.

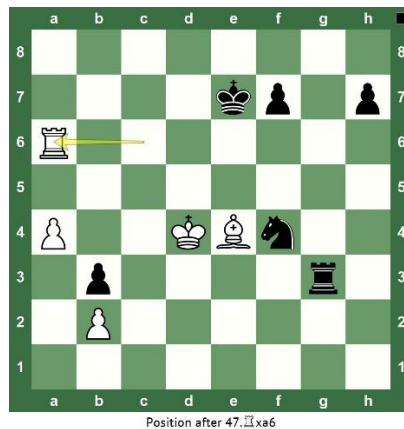


15. e4 Rg8 16. Bf4 b3 17. Bb1 Rc8 18. Bd2 Qb6 19. Rc1 Bb4 20. Bc3 Kf8 21. Qd2 Bxc3 22. Qh6+ Ke7 23. Rxc3 Rg6 24. Qh5 Rcg8 25. g3 Rg4 26. h3 R4g7 27. Qh4 e5 28. dxe5 Rxg3+ 29. Kf1 R3g6 30. exf6+ Qxf6 31. Qxf6+ Rxf6 32. Nd2 Bc8 33. e5 Rh6 34. Be4 Bxh3+ 35. Ke2 Bg4+ 36. Ke3 Rh3+ 37. Nf3 Bxf3 38. Bxf3 Nc6 39. Rh1 Rxh1 40. Bxh1 Nxe5 41. Bd5 Rg4 42. f4 Kd6 43. Be4 Nd3!

Intending to answer 44. Bxd3 with ...Rg6+ and wins.

44. Rxc4 Rg3+ 45. Kd4 Nxf4 46. Rc6+ Ke7 47. Rxa6?

A blunder which costs a piece. Bxh7 would have drawn.



Ne6+! 48. Kc4 Rg4 49. Ra7+ Kd6 50. Kxb3 Rxe4 51. Rxf7 Nc5+ 52. Kc2 Re2+ 53. Kd1 Re7 54. Rf4 Ra7 55. a5 Rxa5 56. b4 Ne6 57. Rh4 Rd5+ 58. Kc2 h5 0-1

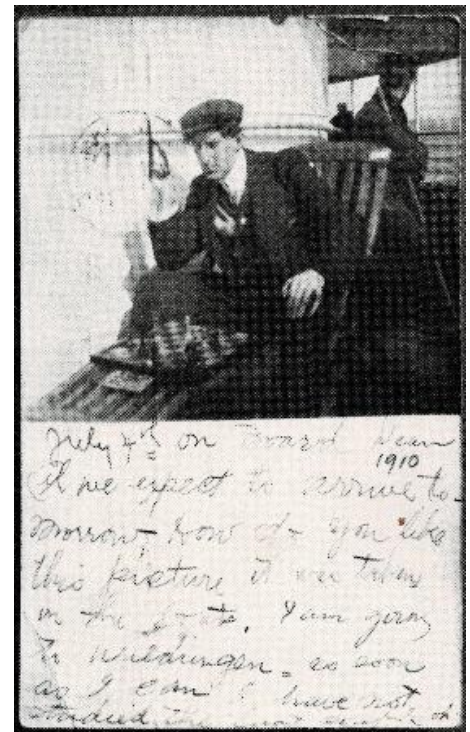
About a month later, on June 28th, 1914 the world was still at peace. The Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie, Duchess of Hohenberg were traveling thru Sarajevo when they were assassinated by the Serb Gavrilo Princip. Things were in motion now and the World, especially Europe was looking into the Abyss, though none knew it at the time.

.....To be continued.

Sources for this article;

1. Marshall's Best Games of Chess.
2. Tarrasch, *St Petersburg 1914: International Chess Tournament*, translated by Dr Robert Maxham, Caissa Editions, Yorklyn, DE, 1993, ISBN 0-939433-17-6.
3. The Saburovs by Edward Winter.
4. Andy Soltis, *The Great Chess Tournaments and Their Stories*, Chilton Book Company, 1975, p. 96. ISBN 0-8019-6138-6.

**Chaturanga Chess Club
meets Wednesday nights
starting at 7:00 PM.
Tournament rounds start at
7:45 PM.**



Shipboard postcard sent by Marshall to his wife. Circa 1910.



The 65th Square.

Games from Chaturanga Chess Club Members.

Joseph Mucerino 2072 vs FM Karl Dehmelt 2273.
Chaturanga Winter/Spring Double Quad 2/26/20
Dutch Def. Staunton Gambit A82

Annotated by Joe Mucerino

1.d4 f5

This was the 24th time I have ever been white against Karl (including speed games) and he has never played the Dutch against me before.

2.e4

The Staunton Gambit. I'm sure Karl prepared many things, but perhaps he did not prepare the Staunton Gambit as thoroughly as some other lines.

2...fxe4 3. Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 b6

Black's idea is to play 5...Bb7 and 6...d5. Black can't play 5...d5 right away because of 6.Bxf6 7.Qh5+ and then captures on d5.

5.d5

The best way to prevent black from playing ...d5 is to play d5 myself. Other good moves are the gambit 5.f3, as well as 5.Bc4 and 5.g3.

5...d6?!

This weakens some light squares.

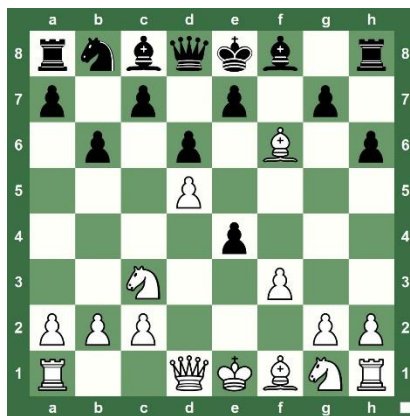
6.f3?

White loses a good chunk of his advantage here. Much better is 6.Bb5+, and if 6...Bd7 7.Nge2 and 8.Nd4.

6...h6?

Best is 6...e5. If white captures *en passant*, black gets rid of a big thorn. If not, then the pawn on e5 covers the d4 and f4 squares.

7.Bxf6

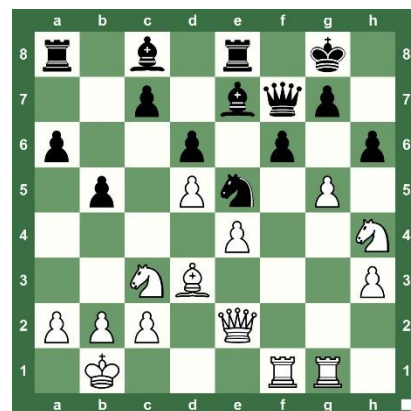


7.Bb5+ is still good.

7...exf6 8. fxe4 Be7 9.Qh5+ Kf8 10.0-0 Qe8 11.Qf3 Qg6 12.h3?!

The best way to prepare for 12...g4 is 12.Nge2, threatening 13.Nf4.

12...Nd7 13. Bd3 Ne5 14.Qe2 a6 15.Nf3 b5 16.Rdf1 Kg8 17.Kb1 Kh7 18.Nh4 Qf7 19.g4 Re8 20.Rhg1 Kg8 21.g5??



Not just this move but the whole idea doesn't work. White had to try 21. Nf5 and nurse a small advantage.

21...hgx5 22. Rxxg5 fxxg5

The computer says that 22...Bxh3 is more accurate.

23.Rxf7 Nxf7 24.e5?!

Sure, opening up lines is great, but white cannot generate an attack.

24.... gxh4 25.Qh5 Bg5 26.Bg6

A bit stronger is 26.e6.

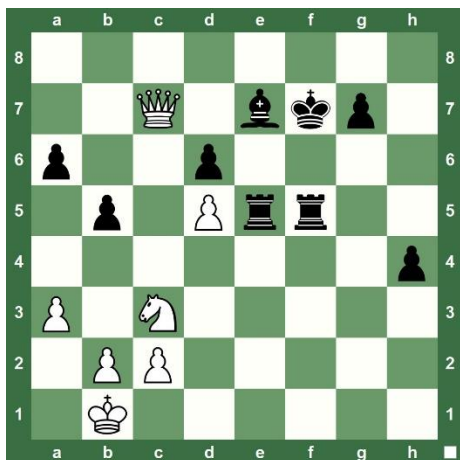
26...Rxe5 27. Bxf7+ Kf8 28. Bg6??

This looks like the game loser. 28.Be6 had to be played.

28...Ke7

28...Re1+ is met by the awkward 29. Nd1.

29.a3 Bxh3 30. Qf3 Bf5 31.Bxf5 Rf8
32.Qf2 Rxf5 33.Qa7 Kf7 34.Qxc7+
Be7
0-1



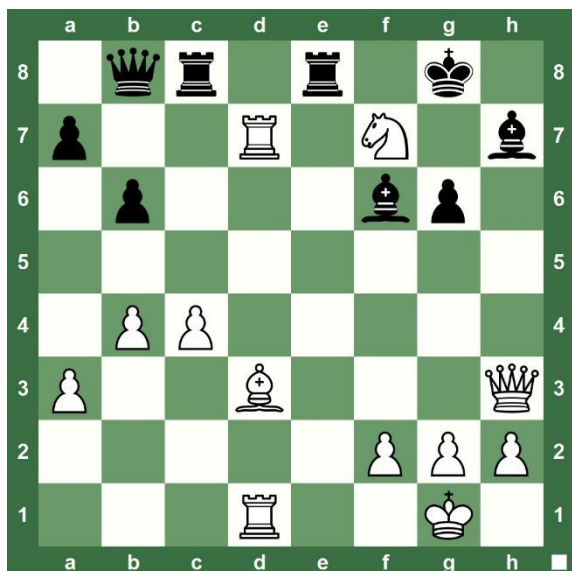
Have a game you are proud
of and want to share?
Chaturanga Squared wants
your games to include in the
magazine., either annotated
or unannotated.



Former Womens World
Champion Alexandra Kosteniuk

Tactics, Tactics, Tactics. More Diamond Dust!

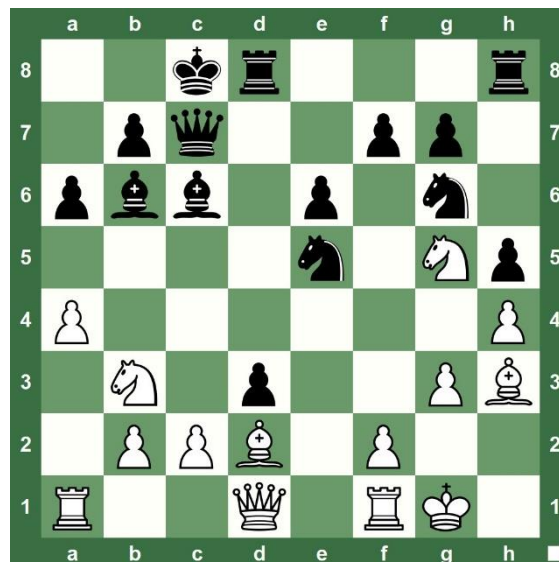
#1.



Seirawan vs Kudrin. 1984 US Championship

White moves.

#2

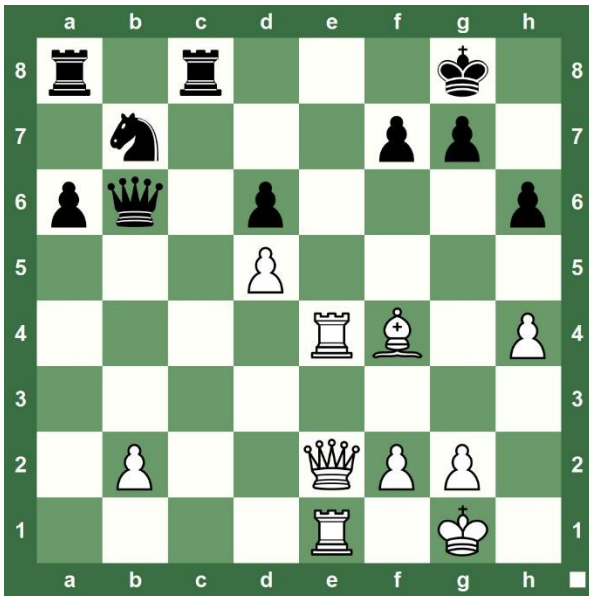


Peters vs Kogan. 1984 US Championship.

Black mo

Answers on next page.

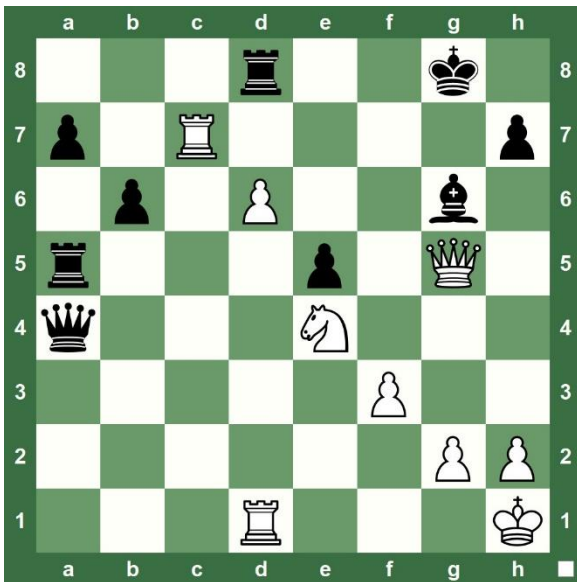
#3.



Nunn vs Greenfeld. Lloyds Bank Masters 1985.

White moves

#5



Fine vs Dake. Detroit, 1933.

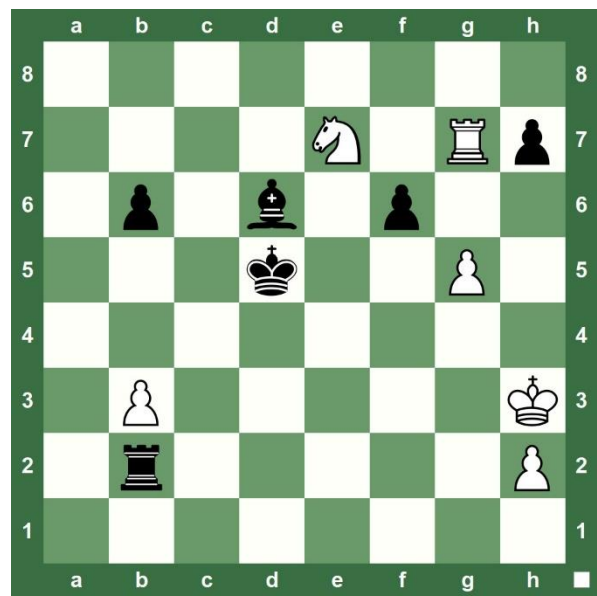
White moves.

1) 1. Ng5. Black can delay Qxg7 with 1. ...Re7 but then Rxe7 ends the game.

2) 1. ...Ng4! Threatens mate with 2. ...Qxg3.

3. 1. Bxh6 intending 2. Qg4 g6 3.h5. If 1. ...gxh6 then 2. Rg4+ Kh8 3. Qd2 Kh7 4.Re7 Rc7 5. Qd3+Kh8 6. Rxc7Qxc7 7. Qd4+ and White mates soon.

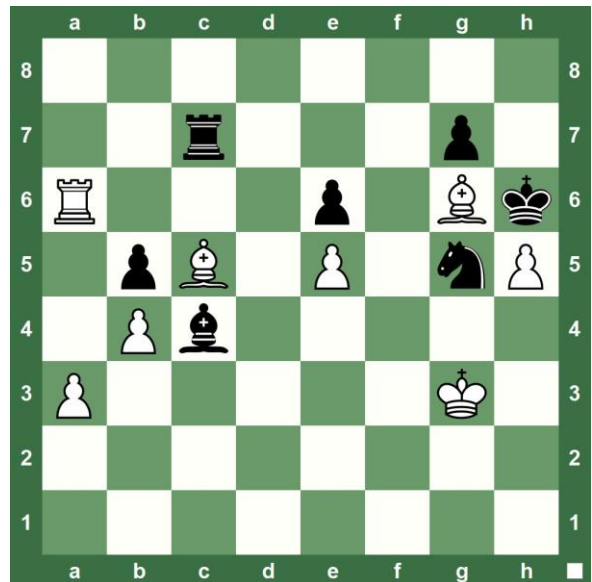
#4.



Conquest vs Nunn. Lloyds Bank Masters 1985.

Black moves

#6



Fine vs Najdorf. New York, 1948.

White moves.

4) 1. ...**Ke5**. If 2.gxf6, then 2. ...Rxf7 3. Kg4 Bc5!, followed by 4. ...h4 ++

5) 1. Qxg6 hxg6 2. Nf6 Kh8 3. Rh7++

6) 1. **Ra8** 2. Rh8+ Nh7 3. Be3++, Black would be a full rook down after 1. ...Rxc5 2. Rh8+ Nh7 3. Rxf7+ Kg5 4. Bxc5.

HOLLYWOOD PLAYS CHESS!



George C. Scott and Stanley Kubrick
between takes on the set of “DR. STRANGELOVE”.