State 12th grade champion Guadalupe courted with two UT scholarships
Left to right: John Sneed (UT-Dallas), Francisco Guadalupe II, GM Gilberto Hernandez (UT-Brownsville), TCA vice-president Clemente Rendon

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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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Game annotations if not attributed are a collaboration of NM Selby Anderson and Fritz 5.32.
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Cover photo: Alejandro Nieto
IM Peter Vavrak with organizer Luis Salinas

The sixth annual Ken Smith Memorial was held Thanksgiving weekend (Nov. 24-26), drawing 124 players to the Marriott Dallas/Addison Quorum. There were also 86 young people in the DFW High School Championship and K-12 Scholastic.

IM Peter Vavrak won the 22-player Open ahead of GMs Ramirez and Annakov (2nd) and Panchanathan, whom he defeated. Michael Langer and Alex Chua tied for the (U2400) Master prize. Brad Sawyer and Kalin Nonchev tied for Expert.

In the U2000 section Tim Bond and Ben Bailey shared first, each scoring 4.1. Third was shared by Stephen Pammatmat, Leo Bonnell, Ming Chim and Anjali Datta, each with 3.5.

In the U1800, Raymond Jose re–entered after losing Rd. 1 and went on a tear to win first with 4.5. Robert Sanders and Danny Chen split second with 4.0. Eric Lu and Jacob Slepoy tied for U1799 with 3.5.

Mitchell Powell won the U1600 with a perfect score, 5.0. Tied for second were Julia Jones and Angelito Abella with 3.5. The U1500 prize was split five ways, among Charles Fricks, Andy Wang, David Olivas, Akshay Malhotra and Andrew Guzman, each with 3.0.

Kevin Xie (rated 1136) scored 5-0 to win the U1400 section. Melvin Fritze was in sole second place with 4.0, and Andrew Jones won third with 3.5. Dante Zakhidov and D.

OPEN STANDINGS

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If Black takes the knight it’s mate in two. Forget the threat of

```
Rb8 12.Qc2 Qb6 13.Rab1 h6 14. cxd5 Nxd5
14...cxd5 15.Bxa6 Qxa6 16.Nh4!
```

```
Rxc8 17.Ni5 Bxd8 =.
```

```
15.Nc4 Qc7 16.Nf6 Rfd8??
16...Bf6 17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.e4
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```
Xa b c d e f g h y
8– z z – + k + (7 p – q – k p p – 6) + n p + p – + + %
5+ – p n n n + – + – + $ 3P P + L P + – + – #
2– k Q + – P P P " 1+ R + – + R K ! – x a b c d e f g h y
17.Bh7 + K f8 18.Nxh7! 1-0
```

Continued on page 30
The Trip of a Lifetime
Darwin Yang

Plonk! I heard his king hit the board, and he extended his hand. I shook hands with him. I had won! I finally and finished the game, and it had a positive result!

The World Youth Chess Championship in Batumi, Georgia was not only a test of chess skill, but a test of mind and body. The players were set for two weeks of grueling chess; some days had two games, others one. These games could last up to four hours, and you needed all your endurance. The games drained you.

All games on one-game days started at 11 a.m. It was early, but we can’t complain. I mean, we did get ten hours of sleep. All of the first games on two game days started at 10 a.m., and the second one took place at 5 p.m. I had a hard time coping with the early times.

At the evening of one day’s games, we would check the pairings and our opponents. After that, we would go to our selected coaches and start our opening preparation. The preparation was essential, because a small opening disadvantage can cause a conservative and passive game. You would suffer to get a draw. Think, four hours of suffering all because of an opening mistake...

After the games my friends on the US team and I would play soccer. It was very fun. We played at a park, or should I say a concrete field, close to the mighty Black Sea.

Overall, it was a fun trip. I will always remember it.

Notes by Darwin Yang

Sicilian Scheveningen B84
Mihai Dobre
Darwin Yang
World Youth Boys’ U10 (2)

The Sicilian Najdorf has arisen. In the main lines, it is very sharp.
6.Bb5 e6
One of the sidelines, it has slowly become my favorite. Well, at least one of the variations in this line.
7.0-0 Be7 8.Bb3 0-0 9.f4 Qc7 10. a3

Unless Black plays...b5 this is a wasted move. - SKA
10...Na6 11.Qa4 exd4
Black can choose between this plan to gain some space or the solid but cramped 11...Bd7.
12.Bxd4 e5
This is the whole point. In return for weakening d5, Black can put his usually passive light-squared bishop on e6.
13.Bxe5 dxe5
You do not want them to play f5.
14.Bxf4 Be6
Black is perfectly fine.
15.Ra4 d5
15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.exd5 Nd7 followed by...Bf6 and...Be5 or...Ne5 with a good game.
15...Rfd8 16.Kh1 Rac8
Stopping 19 Bh6 Bf8 20 Rxh6
Ruins his position, but Black still has a good position for a Sicilian.
20...dxe5 21.Bg5 Nc6
The knight is a essential piece.
22.Bxe7 Nxe7
Black's plan now consists of...f6, ...Nd6, ...Nd4 etc.
23.Rd3 Rxd3
A good move at the right time. White cannot bring a rook to the d-file to stop Black's rook.
24.cxd3??
I think this was his worst mistake. It creates a super hole on d4 for Black's knight, and White's knight is too slow to oppose it. [24.Bxd3 =]

24...Nc6 25.Na4! Nxd4
Black now rules the position.
26.Bf3 b5
Also good is 26...Rc2 27.b4 Bd7 28.Nc5 Bc6, and after Black centralizes his king he can start picking at pawns. - SKA
27.Nc3 a5 28.h3 b4
Black will now penetrate on c2 and is winning.
29.Ne2??
Better is 29.axb4 axb4 30.Nd5 to trade b-pawns and open up counterplay on the a-file. - SKA
29...Nxf3!
The knight now has no squares that are strong, so just get rid of the bishop and maybe create a weakness on h3 for Black's bishop.
30.Rxf3 Rc2
Black is winning.
31.Ng3 Rxb2 32.axb4 axb4 33.Rf1 b3 34.Rc1 g6! 35.Nf1 Rd2 36.Rb1 b2 37.Ne3 Ba2! 38.Rf1 Rxe3! 39. Rxf7 b1Q + 40.Kh2 Bxd7 41.d4 exd4 42.e5 Bxe5 43.h4 h5 44.g3 Qc2+ 45.Kg1 Rd1# 0-1

Pirc Defense B07
Darwin Yang
Maximilian Boskovic
World Youth Boys' U10 (9)
1.e4 d6 2.d4 3.Nc3 g6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Qd2 Nbd7 6.f3
The sharpest line. Thanks to Eric Zhang of California for showing me this line.
6...e5 7.g4
White's king is safe, so White gains space.
7...e6 8.g5? Ng8 9.f4?
This is totally the wrong plan. See how the f-pawn no longer protects e4? So Black can react with...d5 and then...Ne7 and then to f5. In addition White has a dark square bishop and it will be a tall pawn.
9...Nd7 10.Nf3 d5 11.e5
(Continued on page 30)
On October 15, 2006 I left for Batumi, Georgia to play chess. At Georgia I would meet people much stronger than me, but I was ready to take the challenge. I knew that it was great just to be able to go there. My coach, Babakuli Annakov, had prepared me well. I was ready to begin the challenge.

During the World Youth I had a bad start with one and a half points out of five. I was very much behind the other players in the girls U10 section. This didn't stop me and later I ended up with the same amount of points as the other girls in the U10 section, six points.

Amazingly there were five people from Texas, who made up one fourth of the whole U.S. team! All of my coach's students that went to World Youth got six points.

On the last round, I played my friend Sylvia Yang and many people thought that we would have a quick draw, but they were wrong. We did draw, but it was definitely not a quick game. In fact, it was the longest out of all my other games.

My favorite game was the tenth round. I played Black and I won. During the game, I had to think very hard to beat her.

Going to the World Youth was a great experience. I not only had a great time, I also learned a lot too. For example, I learned how to concentrate and play very slow. My coach also taught me some "tricks" to use in certain situations. I also made new friends. One was Polish and one was Turkish. Even though we don't speak the same language, we still are friends. I hope to go again next year.
The Texas K-12 Grade and Collegiate Championships drew 705 participants to Paredes Elementary in Brownsville. It was the largest turnout in the ten-year history of the event.

Francisco Guadalupe II won the 12th grade section. In doing so, he wins two four year chess scholarships; one from the University of Texas at Dallas and the other from the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

### Team Champions

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K Felicia Ortiz

Lakshmana Viswanath directed, with assistance from Victor Flores.

### Texas Team Championship

Texas Neurosciences Institute (TNI), 1st floor conference
4410 Medical Drive (1 mile north of N Loop 410), San Antonio, TX
Exit north on Fredericksburg Road, turn left on Medical Drive. Free parking. 210-575-6719

**Prizes: $1,000** (based on 12 teams)

- 1st overall: $450 + trophy
- 1st U1900: $200 + trophy
- 2nd overall: $250
- 2nd U1900: $100

Open to 4-player teams avg. U2200 based on Dec. 2006 list. One alternate allowed, must be lowest rated.

**Entry fee:** $100/team if rec'd by 1/25, $125 at site. TCA membership required.

**Reg.:** 11 a.m.-noon  **Rounds:** 12:30-6, 9:30-3  **Time control:** 30/90, SD/60

**Entries:** San Antonio Chess Club, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023

**Information:** 210-695-2324; schachlied@yahoo.com. NS. NC. W.

Hotels nearby at IH-10 and Wurzbach: Motel 6 (210)-593-0013; Holiday Inn (210) 561-9300.
Steve McGregor
University of Texas at Dallas student and chess team member Drasko Boskovic and former UT Dallas chess team captain Yury Shulman tied for first place in the university’s 2006 Grandmaster Chess Invitational, held Dec. 5-13 in Richardson. Both players had five wins, one loss and five draws for a score of 7.5 in the 11 rounds of the round-robin event, which featured a strong field of international competitors led by four grandmasters, a title reserved for the chess world’s top players.

The results of the fifth-annual event were somewhat of an upset, since Boskovic, who holds the title of international master and had a pre-tournament chess rating of 2444, equaled the effort of Shulman, a grandmaster whose rating was 2614 before the competition. Shulman entered the tournament as the top seed among the dozen entrants.

With his tie for first, Boskovic, 23, a sophomore business administration major from Serbia, earned his second of three “norms” required to become a grandmaster.

Following are the results for the rest of the field:

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<tr>
<td>Igor Schneider</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
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Three players achieved FIDE norms: Boskovic, Bartholomew and Bradford

Due to the strength of the field, the Grandmaster Invitational was rated by the world governing body of chess, FIDE – a rarity in this part of the world. The event, perhaps the premier invitational chess tournament held by a university in the U.S., has become a helpful recruiting tool for UT Dallas in its search for talented masters and international masters at the high school level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Queen's Indian E11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yury Shulman 2614</td>
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<tr>
<td>Igor Novikov 2568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTD GM Invitational (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bxe4 Nxe5 14.Bxe5 f6 15.Oh5 g6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qh6+Kg8 19.Qg6+Kh8 20.Qh6+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kg8 21.Qg6+</td>
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</table>

Queen’s Indian E11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French Defense C06</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Igor Schneider 2369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTD GM Invitational (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nfd7 5.Bd3 c6 6.c3 Nce7 7.Ne2 cxd4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.0 Qc7 12.Nc3 a6 13.Bg5 0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.Bh4 Nhx5 15.Re1 g6 16.Bg5 Qg7</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>5th annual UTD Grandmaster Invitational</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boskovic and Shulman tie for first</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The lines are drawn in a tense tactical ending. White needs to bring over his knight to help force mate before Black can queen his pawn, meanwhile dodging checks from Black’s queen.

80.Qe7+
A thoroughly Fritz-style line is
80.Nc5!! Qa1+ 81.Kb4 Qxb2 82.
Qe7+ Kh8 83.Qe8+ Kg8 84.Qf6+ Kh8
85.Qf8+ Kg8 86.Qg7+ Kh8 87.Qg6+ Kh8
88.Qh7+ Kg8 89.Qh8+ Kh7 90.Nf6 +
91.Qc5. 80...Kg8 81.Nc5?
81.Qe6+! Kg7 (81... Kf8 82.Nc5)
82.Qg6+ Kf8 83. Qxh6+ Kg8 84.
Qg6+ Kf8 85.Qf6+ Kg8 91.Nf6 +.
86.Qg8+ Bc3+ 87.Kb5 d3 (87...Bd3+ 88.Kb6)
88.Qf7+ Kh8 89.Qe8+ Kg7 90.Qe7+
91.Qc5. Well, there’s a little more: 88…
Qa1+ 89.Kb4 Qe1+ 90.Nc3! Qxg3
91.Nd5 Qe1+ 92.Kb5 Qe8+ 93.Ne7+ and mates.
81...Qd2??
After 81...Qxh5! 82.Ne6 Qg6,
White must settle for a draw.
82.Qd8+
Covering the mate threat at a5
gives White the tempo he needs.
82... Kf7 83.Nd7 Qe3 84. Ne5+Kg7
85.Qe7+ 1-0

**Center Counter B01**
J ack Stopa 2465
J ohn Bartholomew 2411

**English Opening A38**
Davorin K uljasvic 2448
Y ury Shulman 2614

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.g3 c5
5.Nc3 Qa5? Definitely seeking to mix it up against the low-rank rated opponent.
6.Bg2 Nc6 7.0-0 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qc5
12.Nc7

ECO gives 12.e4 Bb6 13.Nd5 a6

12...Bh3??
The verdict on 12...Rh8 awaits another game.
13.Nxa8 NQg
Black's initiative looks dangerous,
but White expertly defuses the kingside bomb.
Qh5 17.Bh4 Rxa8 18.Bf6 Nh6 19.g4
Qh4 20.Ne4 Qe7 21.Bg5 Qe6 22.
Rfd1 Nd4 23.e5 f5 24.exf6 exf6
The smoke has cleared, and it’s all about taking care of business.
27...Qc8 28.Rf3 Nh6 29.Qh3 Ng4
30.Qg2 Nf6 31.Qh3 Ng4 32.Rg3 h5
33.Qg2 Kh7 34.Kf5 Nb6 35.e3 Qe8
36.Kc1. Ng5 37.Rg1 Ne7 38.Bg5
Ng6 39.Bh4 Bb6 40.Rg6 Qd7
41.Rxd6 Be3?
d6 23.b4 Nf5 =.

21Nd6 Re7 22.Qf4 Bg4

Relatively best is 22…Ne8 =+

Qxe5 Qe6 26.Qxe6 Nxe6 27.Nxb7
Rb8 28.c6 Bf1 29.Rc1 Bxc6 30.
Rx6 c6 31.Rc2 Kf8 32.Kf1 Ke7
33.Kf2 Kd6 34.Kd3 Kd5 35.b3 h5
36.Rc4 g5 37.Kc3 f5 38.a4 f4
39.gxf4 gxf4 40.a5 1-0

Jacek Stopa 2465

UDT GM Invitational (3)

1.c4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3
Bd7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Re1
c5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.a3 c4
11.b2 b6 12.Qb2 d5 13.dxe5
cxd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.b4 a6 16.a3
c3 17.bxc3 bc 18.axb5 axb5 19.
Qxc3! -

After 19.bxc4 at least the iso-

cated pawn controls a center square.

Now White is essentially a pawn
down.

19…Rc5 20.Qd5 Qc7 21.Rf1 Rb8
Rd8 25.g3 N3d5 26.Rab1 Rd5 27.
Ne4 Bb4 28.Rd1 b6 29.Qe2 Rd4
30.Ne2

30.f3 e5 31.Kg2 a5 -/

30…Qd7 31.Qe3?

Now the d-file pin is exploitable.

Somewhat better is 31.Qh5 Qd5
32.Qxd5 Rxd5 33.Qe5 Rd2
34.Nxd2 Nf3 35.Qe4 Nxc1
0-1

Clearlv, the central situation is a
combustible mix with a big payoff
potential for Black. Even so, Fritz
gives 45.Rc1 d4 46.e4 Re7 47.Rch1
Kg8 48.Kg2 Ne5 49.Qf6 as equal,
until it looks at 49…Qc6! 50.Qxa5
Nxf3! 51.Kxf3 Rxe4! and White’s
king cannot hide from the onslaught.

45.f4 Re7 46.Rc1 d4 47.e4 Rf7 48.
Kg3
48...Qxf4 49.Qh3 h5 50. gxh5 Qe5! +. The rest of the game is good technique.
48...Rxh5 49.Rxf7+ Kxf7 50.Kf3 Qd5+ 51.Ke4 Qe5+ 52.Kd3 Qd5+ 53.Kd2 Nf5 54.Qh3+ Kg7 55.Rh1 Nf7 56.Qh7+ Kf8 57.Qf1 d3 58.Kd3 e6 59.Qh8+ Ke7 60.Qh1 Qxb3 61. Qb7+ Kf8 62.Qd7 c2+ 63.Kx2d Qc3+ 64. Kae2 Qc4+ 65.Qd3 c1=Q +

25...Nxb6 25.Rxd8+ Qxd8 26.bxa4 Nxa4

Not 25...Rb7?? 26.Qd2 +.

Somewhat better is 33...Nf6 34...Qe7 Nd7.
34.Ne5 Rxb1+ 35.Bxb1 Bb7 36. Qxb6 Qa8?

Now Black’s game collapses, but after the better 36...Nf6 37.Qd6 Bb4 38.Bxe4 Nxe4 39.Qe7, Black’s defensive chore in not enivable.
37.Qc7 Qxa3

37...f6 38.Qf7+ Kh7 39.f3 Qxa3 40.Kh2 Qa8 41.Nd7 +.
38.Qxb7 1-0

This loses a pawn. Better is 24...Nf6 25.Rxd8+ Qxd8 26.Qb6 Bxf3 27.Bxf3 Rce 28.Qa7 +. 25.Qb2 Nf6

25...Qe7Nd7

25...Nxd5 26.gxf5 Nxf4 27.Qd5 27.Qxf4 28.Rae1!

White goes for kingside tactics. Probably best was 28.Qg3! followed by 29.f4, restraining the d5 pawn: 28...Rf6 29.f4 Rg6 30.Qf3 with only an edge for Black.
28...Qxb7

Possible is 28...Bd3 29.Qg5 Rf5 30.Qg4 Qf7 31.Rf2 Bx4 32.dxc4 Rxa4 33. f4 Qd6, but the opposite color bishops present practical difficulties for Black.
29.Re2 dxc4 30.a5 Nf6 24.Ne5 Rxe4 31.Nd7 Qxe4 32.Qxe4 Bc6 33...Nxb6 34.Bf1 a big + (1.75).

30...Rxe4 31.Nd2 Rb8 32.dxc4 Rxa4 33. f4 Qd6, but now loses his footing and puts the d5 pawn in jeopardy. Fritz gives

White realizes that 33.Nd7 Qdx8! is not regaining the Exchange. When Black chooses to return it later, his pawns are too strong.
33...Qf6 36.Qf3 Qe7 35.Qh5 d3 36.Rg3 Rxe7 37.fx e7 Qxe7 38.Qf3 c4 0-1

This exchange has unexpected consequences, as White can make good use of the b-file. Simplest is 23...Ra7! 24.Qxe2 a4 =; a more complicated route is 23...a4? 24.Nxb6 Nxb6 25.Rxd8+ Qxd8 26.bxa4 Nxa4 27.Qb3 Qa8 28.Bd1 Bc6 =.
24.Bxc4! B a6?

...Rarely does this lose a pawn. Better is 24...Rce 25.Rxd8+ Qxd8 26.Qb6 Bxf3 27.Bxf3 Rce 28.Qa7 +.
25.Qb2 Nf6

25...Nxd5 26.gxf5 Nxf4 27.Qd5 27.Qxf4 28.Rae1!

White goes for kingside tactics. Probably best was 28.Qg3! followed by 29.f4, restraining the d5 pawn: 28...Rf6 29.f4 Rg6 30.Qf3 with only an edge for Black.
28...Qxb7

Possible is 28...Bd3 29.Qg5 Rf5 30.Qg4 Qf7 31.Rf2 Bx4 32.dxc4 Rxa4 33. f4 Qd6, but the opposite color bishops present practical difficulties for Black.
29.Re2 dxc4 30.a5 Nf6 24.Ne5 Rxe4 31.Nd7 Qxe4 32.Qxe4 Bc6 33...Nxb6 34.Bf1 a big + (1.75).

30...Rxe4 31.Nd2 Rb8 32.dxc4 Rxa4 33. f4 Qd6, but now loses his footing and puts the d5 pawn in jeopardy. Fritz gives

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This exchange has unexpected consequences, as White can make good use of the b-file. Simplest is 23...Ra7! 24.Qxe2 a4 =; a more complicated route is 23...a4? 24.Nxb6 Nxb6 25.Rxd8+ Qxd8 26.bxa4 Nxa4 27.Qb3 Qa8 28.Bd1 Bc6 =.
24.Bxc4! B a6?
Now White shakes off the blockade of his b-pawn.


Black gets a cramped but relatively solid position from 26...c5(!) 27.b5 Rd8 28.Rd2 Ne8.

Slightly less adventurous is 19...Qd8 20.Bxa8 Bxh3 21.Qe4 Bf7 =. 20.Bxa8 Be6 21.d5 Bd7 22.Nd4 Qc4


23.Qd7 Qxc3

A spectacular alternate win using the "excelcior" theme is 24.Ne6! Qxc1+ 25.Kf2, when Black has two ways to mate the threatening pawn:

(a) 25...Qh6 26.Qxh6 Bxh6 27.Qxg7+ Kh8 28.Qh6+ Nf8 29.Qh8+ Kf7 30.Qh7#.

(b) 25...Qxh6 26.Qxh6+ Kxh6 27.Qxh6+ Kxh6 28.Qh6+ Kxh6 29.Qh6+ Kxh6 30.Qh6#.

The text gives away none of White’s advantage, and is the more practical choice for most mortals.

24...h5

24...h6 25.Ne6 Bxe6 26.dxe6 f5 27.g3! Bd4 28.Kg2 Qd2 29.h4, and the passed pawn is a monster.

25.Ne6 Bxe6 26.dxe6 f5

Or 26...Qe4 27.Qf7+ Kh8 28.Bb4 Bf5 29.Bxg7 Qxg7 30.Bd5 Qxf7 31.Qd7=+

27.Bd6 Qa1+


Also good is 34...Bxf6 35.h4 Bfx6 36.Rd4=

11

OGD Semi-Slav D45
Alejandro Ramirez 2485
Marko Zivanic 2451

UTD GM Invitational (5)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6

This move of Shabalov’s has put an exciting new kick in the e3 line, once a quiet refuge from the complexities of Botvinnik’s Anti-Meran Gambit 5.Bb5 dxc4 6.e4.


An unnecessary weakening of the dark squares. Equal is 20...Bc5 21.Nf5 fx6.

21.Bg4 Rcd8 22.a4 a6 23.a5 Qc5 24.c3 Bc6

A spectacular alternate win using the "excelcior" theme is 24.Ne6! Qxc1+ 25.Kf2, when Black has two ways to mate the threatening pawn:

(a) 25...Qh6 26.Qxh6 Bxh6 27.Qc7+ and 29.d6=+

(b) 25...Bxe6 26.dxe6 Qf4+ 27.g3 Qxg2+ 28.Bg2 (an easy move to overlook!) h6 29.Qf7+ Kh8 30.c7=+

The text gives away none of White’s advantage, and is the more practical choice for most mortals.

The losing move, perhaps overlooking White’s 31st.

Far from clear is 27...Bb7 28.Bxh7+ Kxh7 29.e6+ Kg8 30.Qxg3! Bxh3 31.Qxd4 Rxf8! 32.exd4! Rxf4 33.Qf4+ Kg7 34.h3 b4. I don’t care if Fritz says it’s +, those queenside pawns are scary.


Also good is 34.h4.

34...Bxg5 35.h4 Bxf6 36.Rf4=

1-0
A one-sided crush evolves when Schneider misplays against Black’s queenside pawns. Bradford’s king in the center hardly blinks throughout.

**French Tarrasch C05**

Igor Schneider 2369
J oe Bradford 2451

**UTD GM Invitational (5)**


Panchanathan plays brilliantly to achieve a dynamic endgame advantage, but gets lost in the complications. Shulman’s patient, dogged play is rewarded in the end.

**French Advance C02**

Y uril Shulman 2614
M ageh Panchanathan 2485

**UTD GM Invitational (5)**


In the 5...Bd7 line this bishop often moves to e6 anyway – thus the finesse 5...Nh6 saves a tempo.


25...fxe6 26.Bd6 Rxf3 27.gxf3 Nx4 28.Re1 Nc6

28...Nxf3+ is playable, and winning according to Fritz. The text is more practical. As Black does not rely on tactics to stop the c-pawn.


34.Ra2 Rxf3

34...e5 35.Bg5 a3 36.Rdal Kf7 37.Rxa3 Rxa3 38.Rxa3 Ke6 +=.

35.Kxf3 Bg4+ 36.Ke4 Bxd7 37.Re2 Rd1 38.Re2 Bd1


39.Rd2 Bb3 40.Re2 Bc4 41.Re1 Ba2 42.Rb2 Bb5+ 43.Kd3 e4 44. Ra1 g5 45.Rg1 g4 46.Ra1

XA B C D E F G H Y

8- + - - + + + + + + (+)

7 + - - - - - + + + + +

6- + + - - + + + + +

5- + - + - + + + %

4 - - + + + + + + $

3 + + + + + + + #

2 - + - + + + + +

1R - + - + + + + + !

Xa b c d e f g h y

46...e4? How can this be bad? Because Black cannot cover both e4 and a4: 47.Kd2 Bb3 48.Re1 Bd5 49.Ral1 =.

The most convincing win is 46...Nb4!+ 47.Kd2 Bb3 48.Rf1 Bc4 49.Ral Bb5 +=. Black’s king has time to approach the center, as 50. Rf1? Nd3 is not an option.

More difficult is 46...Bb3 47. Ke4 Kf7 48.Kf5 because of White’s king activity, but Fritz also gives this at least a +/–.

47.Kd2 Bc4?


48.Bxd4!! Nxd4


49.Kc3 Nb3?

49...Bb5 50.Kxd4 Kf7 51.Kxe4 is still a win for White, but it takes work.

50.Kxc4! 1-0

50...Nxa1 51.c6 and the c-pawn is too fast.

**Sicilian Najdorf B96**

K eaton Stopa 2264
J acek Stopa 2465

**UTD GM Invitational (6)**


A provocative sideline which most opening texts have neglected.


Of course not 14...Qxb2? 15. Bd4 and 16.exd6 +/-.

15.g6!

Black welcomes 15.exd6 Bxd6 16.gxh6 Bf4 17.Qc3 Rxf6, with good play for the pawn.

15...fxg6 16.Bd3 dxe5

16...g5 17.Bg6+ Kd7 18.0-0 dxe5 19.e4 Bb4 20.Qd3 Qd6 21.Bg3 +. 17.Bxg6+ Kd7 18.0-0 Qb4

19.c3 Qc4 20.Rh1 Be7
20...Qxa2 21.Bd2 Qd4 22.Bxc3 Qh5 24.c4 d4
24...Qxd4 25.Nc3 Rxb1
25.Nxe5 Rb8
44.Rf5+ Ke8 45.Rd5+ Kf8

Benko Gambit A59
Yury Shulman 2614
Alejandro Ramirez 2485
UTD GM Invitation (6)
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.e4 Bg7 8.Kf1 d6 9.Nge2 Bg7 10.h3
This in conjunction with 9.Nge2 is a Shulman specialty.
10...0-0 11.Kg1 Nbd7 12.Kh2 Qa5 13.Qc2 Rfd8
GM Khalifman tried 13...Nd6 in two games with Shulman:

French Tarrasch C05
Magesh Panchanathan 2485
J oe Bradford 2451
UTD GM Invitation (6)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nc3 c6 7.Nd3 Qb6 8.g3 cxd4

11...f5

Putting the a5 pawn in the cross-hairs. Black cannot well capture the d-pawn (30...Bxd4?? 31.b6+).
31...Nc8 32.Nxc8 Nxc8 32.Nxc8
Be6 33.Rc1 Rxh6 34.Rxc1 Be7 35.Bxe2 Rh8 36.h4 Bd8 37.Nxa5

13
Be7 38.Nb3 Nb6 39.Ba6 Nd5 40. Bxc4 dxc4 41.Rxc4 Bb5 42.Bc7+ K a7 43.b6+ K a6 44.Rc5 Bxc5 45. Nxcs+ K a5 46.Nxb7+ 1-0

King's Indian E97

J ohn Bartholomew 2411
K eaton K ewa 2264

UTD GM Invitational (7)


Here a draw was agreed in Murdzia-Shulman, Koszalin 1998.

21... Rxe8 22.Bc5 Rxe6 23.Bxe3

This position has been reached many times in the last ten years.

X A B C D E F G H Y
8 r + - - + + + + ( 7 p p + - - - k - - 6 - + + r + + p + & + 5 + + + p - - - % 4 - + + p + + + $ 3 + - - + + - # 2 p a - - + p $ " 1 R - B + K - 1 1 x a b c d e f g h y

23... Rd6

Black has not fared well with the alternatives:


24...Rc1 b6 25.a4 Bf8 26.Kf1 Rad8 27.K e2 Rhd7 28.Rh8 Kf7 29.Ra8! Be7 30.Rc6 Rd1 31.Rc7 h5? Allowing White to steal an important pawn. Better is 31...Bd8! 32. Rxd7+ Rxd7? 3...Rc8? (+33. Bxh6 Rdd4 44.RE5 g5 35.Ra8 Kg6 =.)


OQG Meran D47

J oe Bradford 2451
Igor Novikov 2568

UTD GM Invitational (7)


White can also hold back with 13.Qe5 or 13.Qc2.

13...Nd5 14.Bf4

Some players prefer to play this move with 14.Qe2 h6

X A B C D E F G H Y
8 - - - - - - - ( 7 p l + n k p p p' 6 - + p + p + + - + & 5 + + - p + - - % 4 - p L + + + $ 3 + - + N + - # 2 P p - + - p $ " 1 R - K Q + R K - 1 1 x a b c d e f g h y

14...Rb8

14...Qh6 15.Be3 c5 16.d5 exd5 17.Bxd5 Ra8 18.Bb7 Qxb7 19. Qc2 Qe5 = Rama-Simonson, Calvia Olympiad 2004;


15.a3 bxa3 16.b4 h6 17.Qa4

Apparently a new move. Black has held his own against other tries:


17...Nb6 18.Qxa3

18.Qxa7 Qc7 19.Qxa3 Ra8 20. Qb2 Rxa1 21.Qxa1 Bxb4 22.Bc3 Nd5 =

18...a5!

Now this pawn is truly toxic.

19.Qb3?


19...Ba6!

19...axb4 20.Bc2 c5 21.Qd3 g6 22.dxc3 Qxc3 23.Bd5 Bxc5 =. 20.Bb1?


20...Bxf1 21.Qc2 g6 22.bxa5 Bb5 23.axb6 Qxb6 24.Ba2!

24.Bxb6 Ra6! just isn’t working, e.g. 25.Ba2 Rfb8 26.Rc1 Bd3! +/

24...Kg7 25.h4 Rh8 26.Bb6 Qa6 27.Kh2 Ba8 28.h5 Bd3 29.Qd2 gxh5 30.Bb1 Qxa1 31.Qd3 Rd8 32.Bc2 Rb2 33.d5 cxd5 34.Bd4 Qa3 35.Bxb2 Qxb2 36.Nd4 Qc1 37. g3 h4 38.Nxe6+ fx6 39.Qg6+ Kf8 40.Ba4 hx3+ 41.Kg2 Qg5 0-1

OQG Slav D15

Y ury Shulman 2614
J acek Stopa 2465

UTD GM Invitational (8)


5.c5 Qc7 6.g3 Bf5 7.Bg2 g6 8.h3!
Before posting the QB at f4, White ensures that it won’t be traded off by ...Nh5. Now stopping the pawn expansion with 8...h5 takes that square away from the knight.

8...Bg7 9.Bf4 Qc8 10.g4 Bg6

Black plays for an attack on the c8-h3 diagonal that never materializes. Fritz likes the strategically correct 10...Be4!, exchanging out of the cramp and striving for ...e5.

11.0-0 0-0 12.e3 h5 13.g5 Ne4

14.Kh2 Nxc3

14...Bf5! looks about equal.

8...Bg7 9.Bf4 Qc8 10.g4 Bg6

9.Be3

9...Nbd7

10.Bg2 g5!?

That pawn expansion with 8...h5 takes off by ...Nh5. Now stopping the White ensures that it won’t be traded. Fritz finds something even better.

11...Be6 was floated in the first Alekhine-Euwe match, 1935.

12.Ne3


11...Bf5 was floated in the first Alekhine-Euwe match, 1935.

12.Ne3


11...Bf5 was floated in the first Alekhine-Euwe match, 1935.

12.Ne3


11...Bf5 was floated in the first Alekhine-Euwe match, 1935.

12.Ne3


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12.Ne3


11...Bf5 was floated in the first Alekhine-Euwe match, 1935.

12.Ne3


11...Bf5 was floated in the first Alekhine-Euwe match, 1935.
E A B C D E F G H
8. − + + − − + ( 7 + − + − − + 6 + − + − + − + &
5 + − + − − + % 4 + − + − − + $ 3 + n + + + + + #
2 − $ + + $ R + − "
1 + K − $ − $ − $ xa b c d e f g h
66... N d2±!

Two Knights Defense C55
Drasko Boskovic 2444
Magesh Panchanathan 2485


New In Chess Base online completely skips this variation, giving only 4...Nxe5, so I am at the mercy of textbook theory here. Believe it or not, one of the options NICB gives is 4...Kc6!! (an obvious typo for Qc6).

5...e5 6.Bb5 Ne4 7.Nd2 Bc5

Magesh plays the sharpest line, having had time to improve on 7...Bd7 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.0−0 Be7, as he played against Boskovic at the 2000 Southwest Open.

8.Bxe5 Bc5 9.Bxc6 bxc6 10−0 Bb6
(10...Qc7) 11.f3

An old ECO note gives 11.Nd2 Nxd2 12.Qxd2 0−0 13. Bg5+ Haag-Varnusz, Hungary 1959. I don’t know what Gligoric knew when he edited that section, but Fritz thinks the position is equal.

11...Ng5 12.Qd2

0−0 21.Qxc4 Bd5 22.Qc3 c4 23.


It’s an equal ending, but not dead equal.

43.Qc3 Qf5 44.Ra1 Rf7 45.Ra6 Rc2 46.Kh2 Kh7 47.Ra4 Ra6 48. Nb7 Rd8 49.Rb7 50.Qe1 Rc7 51.Rd8 Rbb7 52.Qd3 Rd7 53.Rc8 Rb2 54.Rf4 Qg5 55.Rg4 Qe7 56. Rg6 Qf7 57.Rg4 Rc7 58.Rd8 Rb4 59.Rf4 Rb7 60.Qd3+ Re4 61.Qc2 Rc7 62.Qb1 Rb7 63.Qc2 Qc7 64. Qxg7 Rxe7 65.Rxe6

8− + + − + R + − + ( 7 − − − − + − + 6− + − − − &
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65... a5

65...d4 66.Rxe6 Rd7 67.Rg6 g3 68.Rd6 Rd4 69.Rxd7 Rd7 70.e6 d2 71.e7 Rxe7 72.Rd6 a5 73.Rxd2 a4 74.Ra2 Ra7 75.Ra3 =

65...h5 66.Rg5 Rxh4 67.Rxe6 h4 68.Rd6 d4 69.Rg4 Rxg4 70.hxg4 Re7 71.Rd5 Khe7 72.Kh3 Kg5 73.g3 hxg3 74.Kxg3 a6 75.Kf3 d3 76.Kc4 Kxg4 77.Rxd3 a5 78.Rd8 Ra7 79.e6 Kg5 80.Rd7 Ra6 81.Kc5 Kg6 82. Rdd8 Ra8 83.Kd6 Rd6+ 84.Ke5 =, 66.Rxe6 Ra7 67.Rd6 a4 68.a6 Re7 69.f5

Suddenly White is all connected, and Black’s prognosis is grim.

69... Rxe5 70.Rf4 a3 71.Ra6 Re3 72. Rf4 a5 73.Rc4 Rxa3 74.Rc3 g6

75.g4 hxg4 76.hxg4 gxf5 77.gxf5 Kg7 78.Kg3 Kh6 79.Kf4 Rd8 80. Rh3 f3 Rc8+ 81.Kd3 Re4+ 82.Kd2 Rb4 83.Rf1 Rd4 84.Ke1 Rb8 85. Kd4 Rd8 86.Rf5 Ra8 87.Rxd5

With rook and connected passers vs. rook, I can only guess the clock factor persuaded Black to continue.


Queen’s Indian E15
M arko Zivanic 2451
J oe Bradford 2451

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6
11.d5 e5


11...0−0 12.Be3 a5

13. Rf1 Re8 14.Bh3 c6


White has emerged with an unquestionable edge.

25... Re8 26.Rdc1 h6 27.Bf1 a4 28. Qf2 b4 29.e3 Na5 30.axb4 Rxc8 31.Rxc8+ Qxc8 32.Bd4 Ng4 33. Bc3 Qc7 34.a4 Nx5 35.f4 Ng4 36. Qd4 e5 37.fxe5 Bxe5 38.h3 Nf6

16.
The diagonal pin on the e5 pawn will have more to say in a bit.

39.Qxa4 Nd7
40.Qd4?! 

Passive defense of the e-pawn allows Black to shift the momentum thanks to the diagonal pin. The apparent “threat” of 41.Qe6 would only lose material.

Instead, White increases his advantage with 40.Bg2!, eliminating Black’s centralized bishop. One possibility: 40...Ng8 41.Qa8+ Kh7 42.Bxg8+ Nxc4 43.Qxc4 Nxc4 44.bxc4 Qxc4 45.Kf2 +/-.

40...f6! 

Fritz recommends 40...cxd4 41.exd4 Qe7 42.Bg3 Bd6 43.Qd4 Ne7 44.Qxc4 Nxc4 45.Qxc4 Qxc4 46.d5 Nc6 47.Bxe5 Bxe5 48.Nd5 Bf6 49.Nxe7+ Kh8 50.Qd4 Rd8 51.Qxc4 Bxc4 52.Qb4

41.Qd2 fxe5 42.b4 Qa7+ 43.Kh2 d4 44.Bc4+ Kh8 45.Qf2 Qa3 46.Bd2 Nf6 =.

41...fxe5 42.Qb4 Nf6 43.Qa5 Qc8 44.g4 d4 45.Bf1 d3 46.Bd1 Kh7 47.Qc3 [47.Qd2] 47...Qb6 48.Bg3 Qa7+ 49.Kh2??

As it turns out, this is the losing move. 49.Kf1! and now 49...Qe3 is not so strong: 50.Qe1 Nd5 51.a4 Qxe3 52.Bxe3 Nxe3 53.Bf1+! =.

49...Qe3 50.Qe1 Nd5 51.a4 Qxe3 52.Bxe3 Nxe3 53.Bf1 d2 54.Bf2 Bc2 55.Bc4 

White resigned. 0-1

Boskovic tries a pawn sac to gain light square dominance.


The diagonal pin on the e5 pawn will have more to say in a bit.


38.Ne3 c3? 38...Rxe3 39.Nf5 Rd8 40.Rc6+ is marginally better than the text.

39.Nf5 1-0 

Because it’s a mate threat, Black has to accept the lost K+P ending after 39...Rd8 40.Kd3 +=. 

Drasko Boskovic 2444

1-0

QP Opening D02

Magesh Panchanathan 2485

Davorin Kujasevic 2448

UTD GM Invitational (10) 


Worth considering is 11...h6 to preserve the bishop: 12.h3 Bf5 =.
Novikov played 19.Kf1 against Dreev in Bern 1993 and got rolled:

19...f5 20.Kg2 Rc8 21.Qd1 e5 22. 

A mistake which might have cost a full point and put him in a tie for second with Ramirez. Better is 32...Bb4+, preventing what follows.

Now it is clear that after 33... h5 34.Qxg5 Black would like to be able to play ...Bf8, as now after ...Rg8 or ...g6 he is getting mated.

Also good is 34.Rf1, e.g. 34... Rd7 35.Ne4 Kf8 36.Nd6+.

Winning a pawn without risk, Bradford offers a draw that brings him an IM norm, and equal first place to Shulman.

Did he think after a delivering a “Shhh!”? After 35... gxf6

The next game clinched an IM norm for Bradford, who at the end might have spurned a “virtually” certain win for a certain draw.

---

Yuri Shulman 2614

UPGM IM Invitational (11)


---

Anti-Meran Gambit D44

Igor Novikov 2647

Marko Zivanic 2569


33.Nf5+!

Bradford got burned in his title quest years ago, losing his train of thought after a delivering a “Shhh!” in moderate time pressure, so his caution is understandable. Draw
22.Qd3 e5 22.Qd3! Bf7 23.Nd2 =+


French Defense C03

Igor Schneider 2369
Alejandro Ramirez 2485

UTD GM Invitational (11)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Bg7

This seems to have gone from baroque sidestep to hot product.

4.Bd3 c5 5.dxc5 Nf6 6.Qd2 0-0 7. Ngf3 a5 Ba4!? N


22.g3 Ba7

21.g3 Ba7 21...e5 22.Qd3! Bf7 23.Nd2 =+

22.Qd3

Another way is 11...c6.

12.h3?!


12...h6 13.Bh4 Rb8 14.f4 Qd6 15. Rdf1

White is logically deployed for a g4-g5 thrust. Problem is, Black is already knocking.

15...Rxb2! 16.Kxb2 Qa3+

1+ - + + R K - !

15.Rxb2 16.Kxb2 Qa3+ 0-1

16.Rxb2 16...Kd6 17.Qc5#)

16...Rxb2! 17.Qc5#).

A light dessert offering:

Scotch Game C47

Jarek Stopa 2645
Magesh Panchanathan 2485

UTD GM Invitational (11)


Solution (back cover problem): 1.Nf6 (1...Kxf6 or 1...Kf5 2.Qg5#; 1...Kd4 2.Qc3#; 1...Kd6 2.Qc5#). A nice miniature that illustrates both attraction and obstruction themes.
### 4th annual UTD Grandmaster Invitational

#### FINAL STANDINGS

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* Serbia and Montenegro (Srbija i Crna Gora). Also represented: Costa Rica, India, Croatia and Poland.

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**Chess Teams**, continued from p. 35

troops and any other organization interested in promoting group activities.

Will we do something creative – something to improve our marketing position and please our volunteers, coaches and players? It’s doubtful. For in the United States chess community it will always be 1972: Bobby Fischer will always be the world champion and all schools look precisely the same. Scholastic chess in Texas, in spite of our best efforts, is not a UIL-sanctioned activity. We are not bound by any authority or governed by any rules other than our own bylaws. Those of you that volunteer, coach and compete are the face of chess in your communities and are always looking for creative ways to increase the size of your programs. Establishing real, honest-to-goodness teams is a great start. Make your voices heard. Make a difference.
3rd annual Jim Gallagher Memorial

Forty-nine players turned out for the third annual Jim Gallagher Memorial, held Nov. 25-26 at the Texas Neurosciences Institute in San Antonio. The full $825 prize fund was paid out, and $41.60 was raised for a local chess-based scholarship fund. Martin Gordon directed.

In the Open with 23 players, Selby Anderson and Gregg Stanley tied for first with 3.5 out of 4 ($150 each). Arthur Macaspac and Randall Schwarz tied for U2100 with 2.5 ($375.50 each). Jose DeLeon and Daniel Hung tied for U1900 with 2.5 ($375.50 each). Book prizes donated by Jim Rohrbaugh went to the two top juniors, Daniel Hung and Jesse Lozano (on tiebreaks over Andrew Widener).

In the Reserve with 25 players, Charlina Hung and Raul Flores tied with 3.5 out of 4, each winning $100 and a junior book prize. Jimmy Wu was top U1500 with 3.0, winning $75. Andrew Nat Lozano and Austin Jiang tied for U1300 with 2.5 ($25 each), and Daniel Ortega was top unrated ($50).

Sicilian B42
Daniel Hung 1811
Selby Anderson 2208

Gallagher Memorial (1)

28...Qe1+ 29.Kh2 Ne2 30.Rh8+ Kxh8 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.h4 Qg1+ 33.Kh3 Qh1+ 0-1

English Opening A35
James Rohrbaugh 2200
Andrew Widener 1809

Gallagher Memorial (1)

28...Qe1+ 29.Kh2 Ne2 30.Rh8+ Kxh8 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.h4 Qg1+ 33.Kh3 Qh1+ 0-1

Sicilian Closed B25
Rheanna English 1736
J ohn Patty 2200

Gallagher Memorial (1)

28...Qe1+ 29.Kh2 Ne2 30.Rh8+ Kxh8 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.h4 Qg1+ 33.Kh3 Qh1+ 0-1

English Opening A35
James Rohrbaugh 2200
Andrew Widener 1809

Gallagher Memorial (1)

28...Qe1+ 29.Kh2 Ne2 30.Rh8+ Kxh8 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.h4 Qg1+ 33.Kh3 Qh1+ 0-1

Sicilian Closed B25
Rheanna English 1736
J ohn Patty 2200

Gallagher Memorial (1)

28...Qe1+ 29.Kh2 Ne2 30.Rh8+ Kxh8 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.h4 Qg1+ 33.Kh3 Qh1+ 0-1

Sicilian Closed B25
Rheanna English 1736
J ohn Patty 2200

Gallagher Memorial (1)

28...Qe1+ 29.Kh2 Ne2 30.Rh8+ Kxh8 31.Qh5+ Kg8 32.h4 Qg1+ 33.Kh3 Qh1+ 0-1

Sicilian Closed B25
Rheanna English 1736
J ohn Patty 2200

Gallagher Memorial (1)


Notes by J. P. Hytyn

Ruy Lopez C91
J effrey Hung 1631
J P Hytyn 2071

Gallagher Memorial (1)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4
Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6
8.c3 0-0 9.d4 Bg4 10.d5 Na5 11.
Nbd2 c6 12.h3 Nxb3 13.Qxb3 Bd7
14.Nf1 cxd5 15.exd5 Ne8

Played after a long think, where
several choices were considered:
15...b4 intending Bb7 to
press the d pawn, 15...Re8 with
the idea of ...Bf8 and ...g6; while
15...Nh5 has no real point.

16.Ng3 f5?

I overlooked 16...d5; White
enjoys a serious initiative.

17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.d6+ Kh8 19.dxe7
Qxe7 20.Bf4

20.Bf4 would have completed
the combination with an extra pawn.

20...e4 21.Ra1 Be6 22.Qc2 Qf7
Rfd8 26.Bc5 Rd8?!?

26...Rac8 27.Re1 was not to my
taste.

27.Rd1 Nb4 28.Qb1 Nd3 29.
Rxd3 exd3 30.Qxd3

I have more opportunities now,
but White has lots of counterplay.
I have to prevent a future Nh5. And,
for the next few moves, I had to
calculate defenses to his potential
sacriﬁces, Bxg7, and Nh5.

30...Kg6 31.Qd4 Rc6 32.Rd1 Re8
33.Rd2 Re7!? 34.Qd8+ Qe8 35.
Nh5

I overlooked this point, having
rounded instead 35.Qxe8+ Rxe8
36.Nh5 Bf7 –+. My opponent
avoided several traps here.

35...Rc8

35...Qxd8 36.Rxd8+ Kf7 37.
Nxe5 Qc7 (37.Bxg7 Kg6 38.Bf6+ =)
37...Bxh7 38.Bd4 Bxa2 39.Re1+ 40.Kh2 is scary, but Fritz says
40...Be6 +/- is adequate;
35...Bf7 36.Nxg7 Qxd8 37.
Rxd8+ –.

36.Qxe8+ Rxe8 37.f4 Rd7

White avoids another mini-
trap, where 38.Rxd7 Bxd7 39.Bg7
Rxg7

I was surprised at this very m
important understanding of how to create
counterplay.

41...a5 42.h5 a4 43.h6?

43.Rb2 provides more resistance.

43...a3 44.axb3 Bxb3 45.Rb2
Bc4 46.Ne2 Ra8 47.Nd4 Ra2

With my clock beginning to
drain, I simpliﬁed the position
knowing I would recover the g-
pawn.

Kg1 Bd5 51.Nc7 Bc6

Here, I recognized I had to pre-
vent the knight from getting to f6, so
I prevented Ne8.

52.c4 Rxg2+ 53.Kf1 Rc2 54.Nd5
(Diagram next column) 54...Rxc4?

Somehow I missed that he was
threatening Nf6+ now, and that it
allows the draw.

35...Qxe8

35...Qxd8 36.Rxd8+ Kf7 37.
Nxe5 Qc7 (37.Bxg7 Kg6 38.Bf6+ =)
37...Bxh7 38.Bd4 Bxa2 39.Re1+ 40.Kh2 is scary, but Fritz says
40...Be6 +/- is adequate;
35...Bf7 36.Nxg7 Qxd8 37.
Rxd8+ –.

36.Qxe8+ Rxe8 37.f4 Rd7

White avoids another mini-
trap, where 38.Rxd7 Bxd7 39.Bg7
Rxg7

I was surprised at this very m
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counterplay.

41...a5 42.h5 a4 43.h6?

43.Rb2 provides more resistance.

43...a3 44.axb3 Bxb3 45.Rb2
Bc4 46.Ne2 Ra8 47.Nd4 Ra2

With my clock beginning to
drain, I simpliﬁed the position
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52.c4 Rxg2+ 53.Kf1 Rc2 54.Nd5
(Diagram next column) 54...Rxc4?

Somehow I missed that he was
threatening Nf6+ now, and that it
allows the draw.
Re1 Rc8 34.g4 Kd5 35. Re7 Rc1 36.Rd7+ Kc6 37.Rf7

Bxc5 fxe2 15.Re1 Rhe8, offers much hope for White.

12...Kb8 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Bxf3

It is surprising to see how long Fritz takes to go beyond its initial “equal” evaluation here. 14...Bxf3 15.gxf3 Qg5+ 16.Kh1 Qf5 17.f4

Ernesto started to play 17.Qb3 and noticed my reply would be 17...Rd3. On the expected 17.Kg2 I also planned 17...Rd3??, which is good enough, but 17...Nh5! ends it.

17...Qh3 18.Nd2 Ng4 0-1

Modern Benoni A70

J ohn Patty 2200
J esse Lopez 1947

Gallagher Memorial (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d3 d5 4.g3 Bg7
5...0-0 e6 6.Nc3 dxe4

5...exd4 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.Bg2 e5

John Patt and noticed my reply would be “equal” evaluation.

Fritz takes to go beyond its initial approach.

...Rb8 while White is passively situated.


Ned4 Nc4 23.h3 Rc7 24.Rc2 Ne5??

Better is 23...bxa3 26.Nf4+ g6 27.

Qe2 Rf8 28.Kh1 Nf6 29.c3 Bg4 30.h2

1-0

Sicilian B23

D on Sutherland 2182
M artin Gordon 1936

Gallagher Memorial (3)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.d3 d5 4.g3 dxe4

11...Bg4 12.d4 Nf6 13.0-0 Bd7

Better is 11...Bxe5 12.dxe5 Nf6 13.Bd4

Better is 11...Be7 12.Rb1 Bc5 13.Bd2

Better is 11...Bd7 12.Re1 Bc6 13.Nf4 Rf6

Better is 14...Bxe5 15.Qxg2 Qe6+

Better is 14...Nxe5 15.Qxe5 Qxe5 16.Ne2

Better is 13...Bxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Qxe5

Better is 15...Nxd3 16.cxd3 Nb6

Better is 15...Qe8 16...Qg8 17.Nxc6


Bc5 32.Rxe8 b6 33.Rd3 Rc7 34.

Kf2 35.Rc1 Re5 36.Kf3 h6


Bc5 40.Nb3 Kf7 41.Rf1+ Kf6 42.

Nxd4+ Bxd4 43.Rxd4 Re7 44.Rf3

Rc5 45.Kxd3 Re5 46.ae4 Rh5 47.h4

Rd5 48.g4 Rc5 49.Rd8 0-1

King’s Indian E99

G regg Stanley 2066
R andall Schwartz 1900

Gallagher Memorial (3)

1.c4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e4

0-0 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bb5 e5 7.dxe5

0-0-0 Ne5 0-0-0 Nc6 0-0-0 Be7

Better is 25...Qh4 26.Qe5+ Kf8 27.

h5 28.Rh3 Rc8 29.Rf1 Rf8 30.Bd3

Better is 26...Qe7 27.Rf3 Ne5 28.

Bf6 29.Rd3 Be6 30.e5 fxe5 31.dxe5

Better is 27...Rh1 28.Bxe5 Nxe5 29.

Rd3 Be6 30.Rf3 Qe7 31.Rg3 Be6

Better is 28...Nxe5 29.Rxe5 Qe7 30.

Bc4 Qe5 31.Rxe5 Qg7 32.Bxf6 Qh4

Better is 33...Qe4 34.Bxe5 Bxe4 35.

Better is 35...e5 36.dxe5 Qe4 37.

Better is 37...Qe7 38.Bxe5 Qe6 39.

Better is 39...Qe5 40.Bxe5 Qg7

Better is 40...Qg7 41.Rxg7 Be6 42.

Better is 42...Bc4 43.Rf8 Be6 44.

Better is 44...Bb5 45.Kf1 Rh7 46.

Better is 46...Qxe2 47.Bxe2 Bxg2+

Better is 47...Bd7 48.Qe6+ Kd8 49.

Better is 49...Kc8 50.Bd5 Qxd5

Better is 50...Bxe5 51.Bxe5 Qf7

Better is 51...Qf5 52.Bxb7 Qxf4

Better is 52...Qxf4 53.Bxb7 Bxb7

Better is 53...Kxb7 54.Kg1 Qg4+

Better is 54...Qg4+ 55.Kf1 Be7 56.

Better is 55...Qf5 56.Kg1 Qg6 57.

Better is 56...Qg6 58.Kg1 Qf6

Better is 57...Qf6 58.Kf1 Qxe6

Better is 58...Qxe6 59.Kxe6 Qxc4

Better is 59...Qxc4 60.Kf1 Bxc4
Ne8 21.Nb5 Rf7 22.cxd6 Nxd6 23.
Qxc7 Qxc7 24.Nxc7 Ng6 25.Rc1
Bf6 26.Ne8 Nxe8 27.Rxc8 Rfx8
Kg7 31.Nd7 Rg8 32.e5 Bb4 33.Bc4
Nd6 34.Rxe8+ Kg8 35.Rxd6 Kf7
36.Ne5+ 1-0

King’s Indian E98
Arthur M acascop 2095
Rheanna English 1736

Gallagher Memorial (3)
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.Nc3
d6 5.e4 0-0 6.Bb2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6
8.d5 Nxd5 9.exd5 Qh4 10.Bg5 f6
11.exf5 gxf5 12.f4 e4 13.Nc3 Nf6
14.Qe2 h6 15.Bh4 Nge7 16.Bg3 Kh7
17.Rd1 Re8 18.Ne3 a6 19.h3 Rb8
20.Qd2 Bd7 21.b3 b5 22.cxb5 axb5
23.Rc1 Re7 24.Rc2 Qc8 25.Rfc1
Qb7 26.Kh1 Rf7 27.Nb1 Rc8 28.
Nc3 b4 29.Nc1 Ne7 30.Bd4 Nh5
31.Bh2 Ng6 32.g3 Nf6 33.Bg1 h5
34.Ng2 Rb8 35.h4 Nge4 36.Bxe2 Be8
37.Rc4 Qb8 38.Rc8 Bx4 39.Bxg4
hxg4 40.Nxe6 Kg8 41.Bf5 Rh5
42.Kg1 Bf6 43.Qa5 Qc5 44.Qxd8
Bxd8 45.Rc2 Bb5 46.Ba1 Bd3
47.Rb2 Bf6 48.Bc3 Bd4 49. Bxd4
Qxd4 50.Rc8+ Rf8 51.d3 Qf6 52.f8
R Qxf8 53.Rxc2 Rxc2 54.Rh1 Qf8
55.Rb8+ Rf8 56.Qg2 Rf8 57.Rf8
Kf7 58.Qf7 Ka8 59.Rg8 Kd8 60.
Rd1 Ra5 61.a3 Nxb5 62.a4 Rb5
63.Ka5 Bb3 64.Ka6 Rb8 65.a7
Ra8 66.b8 Q

The top two boards in the Reserve were both decisive in the final round. On Board 1, Charlima Hung played a model of Black’s defense against the Smith-Morra Gambit.

Smith-Morra Gambit B21
Charles R. Davis 1541
Charlina Hung 1612

Gallagher Memorial Reserve (4)
1.e4 c5 2.d4 cd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3
8.Qe2 Bb4 9.0-0 10-0 0-0
Bxc3 d5 14.e5 Ng6 15.Bd2 Rcb8
16.Bg5 Qd7 17.Bh6 e5 18.Qxe6
Nh4 Rg8 22.Bd6 Rf4 23.Nf3 Rg8
24.Qd3 Qf7 25.Rd2 Nbc6 26.Rb1
Rxc1 27.Qxc1 Nc6 28.Qc3 Qf5 29.
Qd3 a6 30.a3 Nbd4 31.Kf1 Nxf3
32.Qxf3 Rf3 33.Qd1 Qg5 34.Qc2
d4 35.Rd1 Rb3 36.Rd1 Qg4 37.Kg1
Qf3 38.Qd3 Re1+ 0-1

Sicilian B41
Ebrahim M ontazeri 1578
Raul Flores 1513

Gallagher Memorial Reserve (4)
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
a6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 g6 7.d5 Nc6 8.dxe6
8.Bg5 Bg7 9.Nbd2 Rg8 10.Rc1 d6
11.Qc2 Bg4 12.e5 dxe5 13.Nxe5
Nd5 14.exd6 Nxd6 15.N2b3 Qe7
16.Bg5 Qd7 17.Bc2 h6 18.Bxg6
Bxc3 d5 14.e5 Ng6 15.Bd2 Rcb8
16.Bg5 Qd7 17.Bh6 e5 18.Qxe6
Nh4 Rg8 22.Bd6 Rf4 23.Nf3 Rg8
24.Qd3 Qf7 25.Rd2 Nbc6 26.Rb1
Rxc1 27.Qxc1 Nc6 28.Qc3 Qf5 29.
Qd3 a6 30.a3 Nbd4 31.Kf1 Nxf3
32.Qxf3 Rf3 33.Qd1 Qg5 34.Qc2
d4 35.Rd1 Rb3 36.Rd1 Qg4 37.Kg1
Qf3 38.Qd3 Re1+ 0-1

On Board 1 of the Open, a climax occurs as I repeat a line I played in July, this time reaching ho-hum equality.

Torre Attack D03
Soby Anderson 2208
John Patty 2200

Gallagher Memorial (4)
c5 5.e3 Qb6 6.0-0 cxd4 6.dxc4
b8 Qc7 8-0-0 9.a3 a6 10.b4 Bb7 11.
Bb2 Re8 12.Rc1 d4 13.b3 Nb4 14.
cxb5 axb5 15.Nxd4 Na6 16.Nb3 Qe7
17.Nxb5 Bxc5 18.Nxc5 Nc5
Rd8 22.Bxc5 Rxc5 23.Qxd7 Nxd7
24.Rxc5 Nxc5 25.Rc1 Nb3 26.Rb1
Nc5 27.h4 Kf8 28.Rc1 Nb3 29.Rb1
Nc5 30.Rc1 Nb3 31.Rb1 Nc5 Draw

Modern Defense A41
Gregg Stanley 2066
Don Sutherland 2182

Gallagher Memorial (4)
1.c4 d6 2.d4 e5 3.d5 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6
5.Bf3 Be7 6.Bd4 0-0
Here I like 6...a5! to nail down the c5 square.
7.e3 Qe8 8.Bb2 a5 9.Nb5 Qd8
10.a3 axb4 11.axb4 Rxa1 12.Qxa1
Nc6 13.Ba3 Ne4

An attractive alternative is 13...
c6 to open lines. 14.Nc3 cxd5 15.
Nc6?! Bxc6 19.dxc6+ Kh8 20.Bb5
Nce 21.cxb7 d5 =.
14.Nc3 Nxc3 [14...cxd5?] 15.Qxc3
Bxe6 16.g5 Qe7 17.Bc4 h6 18.O-0
c4 19.Qc2 Be5 20.Bbe2
20.c6 Bg7?! (20...bxc6 21.dxc6+
Kg7 22.b5 Ne5 23.Be2 ± 21.Qd4
Qf6! 22.cxd5 Qc6 23.cxb6 Bxb6 24.
Qb3 =.
20...Qf6 21.g3
21.Bb5+ g4 22.h3 Qh4 23.Nc4
Qxb5 24.b5 Nxc5 25.Nxe5 =.
21...Bc6 22.cxd6 cxd6 23.h5

(Continued next page)
The Texas Chess Association is sponsoring a one-day TCA Chess in Education workshop to be held 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 17 during the state scholastic championships at the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Dallas. The workshop has a lunch break from noon to 1 p.m., and refreshments 3-3:30.

The workshop registration fee is $15 in advance; $20 at the door. Send advance registration fee to:

TCA President Michael Simpson
Attorney at Law
316 W. 12th Street, Suite 310
Austin, TX 78701

The workshop fee includes refreshments from 3-3:30, but participants are on their own for lunch.

The workshop will highlight current thinking in chess in education to encourage the growth of chess in K-12 schools. Participants will learn about TCA and the benefits of chess in the classroom, especially for gifted and talented students. The workshop will offer professional development clock hours from the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT, www.txgifted.org).

**Presenters**

10:30-11 a.m. Dr. Alexey Root, author of *Children and Chess: A Guide for Educators*, will discuss her book and the online courses for educators offered by the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). Root will show how chess instruction tied to academic subject matter enhances the cognitive and affective functioning of gifted students. (TAGT 5.0)

11:30-noon Former Chess Online student Leah Dagher, Houston ISD full-time chess teacher (Briarmeadow Charter School), shares her unit for grades 4-6. The Science of Chess. This unit correlates elements of chess to basic theories introduced in classroom science studies, and includes adaptations for gifted learners. (TAGT 5.0)

1-2 p.m. Dr. Steve Lipschultz, Think Like a King School Chess Software System, will demonstrate how this software allows educators to manage large groups, small groups, and individuals. The software utilizes a variety of instructional strategies, and is adaptable to gifted-and-talented and regular education students. (TAGT 4.0)

2:30-3 p.m. Clemente Rendon, TCA Vice President, describes the programs and initiatives developed by TCA for K-12 students. Chess tournaments, college scholarships, and grants for talented chess players—all of interest to gifted students (and their parents and teachers)—will be emphasized. (TAGT 5.0)

3:30-4 p.m. Former Chess Online student Jody Brasswell, 3rd grade GT Cluster teacher for the Ector County ISD in Odessa, Texas, will explain how chess can be integrated into multiple content areas, and how it can be used to differentiate curricula. (TAGT 5.0)

4-4:30 p.m. Martha Jenkinson and Jeff Ashton, of the chess program at the T.H. Rogers gifted-and-talented magnet school in Houston, will discuss building a strong school-based chess program and how chess is part of the differentiated curriculum. For example, all gifted-and-talented students in grades K-3 receive chess instruction once a week during the school day. (TAGT 5.0)

**Gallagher (cont’d from p. 25)**

There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.

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There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.

There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.

38.Nxe6 + Bxe6

There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.

There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.

There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.

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There are no good choices, given that White threatens both the f5 and g4 pawns: 38...Kg8 39.Rf4 Qxe3 40.Qxe3 +–.
Selby Anderson and Don Sutherland tied for first in this one-section event held Oct. 28–29 at TNI in San Antonio. There were 43 players.

The winners scored 4.5 out of 5, but never played each other. Anderson took a third round bye, and was paired the next day with Allen Eckert (1720), who had defeated Alex Balkum (1882). In Round 4 Sutherland defeated Virgil Aluyen, an unrated from the Philippines, before drawing Gregg Stanley. In Rd. 5 Anderson defeated another Philippine expat, Ernesto Malzarte.

Book prizes were awarded to the top three juniors: Jesse Lozano, Fernando Spada and Derek Chang. Martin Gordon directed for the San Antonio Chess Club.


The weak dark squares will prove fatal. Still equal is 15...b4 16. Nxd1, even with the wayward knight at h7.


18.exd6 exd6 19.Nxd6??

A bold attempt to mix it up. Also worthy of attention is 19.Nf4! Nxf4 20.Bxc6 Bxc6 21.Qc7 22...Rc8 23.Qxe5 Qc8.

The weak dark squares will prove fatal. Still equal is 15...b4 16. Nxd1, even with the wayward knight at h7.

16.bxc3 Nf6 17.d5 Nd5


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A bold attempt to mix it up. Also worthy of attention is 19.Nf4! Nxf4 20.Bxc6 Bxc6 21.Qc7 22...Rc8 23.Qxe5 Qc8.

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16.bxc3 Nf6 17.d5 Nd5


18.exd6 exd6 19.Nxd6??

A bold attempt to mix it up. Also worthy of attention is 19.Nf4! Nxf4 20.Bxc6 Bxc6 21.Qc7 22...Rc8 23.Qxe5 Qc8.

The weak dark squares will prove fatal. Still equal is 15...b4 16. Nxd1, even with the wayward knight at h7.
26... Kg7 28.Rxe7 Bf5 29.Bd5+ Kf8 30.d6 Rh7 31.Bf6 Rg7 32.d7 Bxd7 33.Rxd7 Kgs 34. Bd5 c4 35. dxc4 h4 36.Bxh4 g5 37.h5 g4 38.h4 a5 39.h6 Bxc4 40.Bxg7 c3 41.Bc4 $1.0

Diemer Gambit D00
Allen Eckert 1720
Selby Anderson 2205

Great Pumpkin Open (4)


11... 0-0 12.Bf4 e5!


The self-pin only looks bad. The one trouble with this line is that White can steer toward a risk-free ending with a draw in sight.

Psychologically, it seems that Diemer players are likely to gamble on White’s winning chances, based on my experience. However, with queens on the board the opposite color bishops create attacking chances that favor Black. His bishop cuts a swath to h2 while White’s is blocked by a pawn at c6.


f4!?

posed to a Torre Attack.

8.dxe5 N
d6 5.c3 Nf6 6.Qe2 0

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.Bc4

Ernesto Malazarte (unrated)

Selby Anderson 2205

Rb8 9.f4 Qc7 10.Nf3 e6 11.0

Don Sutherland 2170

Be3 d6 6.Qd

1.e4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.g3 c5 4.d3 Nc6

Nimzovich Defense B00

Selyb Anderson 2205

Great Pumpkin Open (5)

1.e4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.d4 c5 4.d3 Nc6

Nimzovich Defense B00

Selyb Anderson 2205

Great Pumpkin Open (5)

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.Bc4
d6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Qd2 b5 7.Bg2 b4 8.Nd1

Rad8 9.f4 Qc7 10.Nf3 e6 11.0-0

Nf7 12.h3 0-0 13.g4 and ... Draw

Nimzovich Defense B00

Selyb Anderson 2205

Great Pumpkin Open (5)

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.Bc4
d6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Qd2 0-0 7.h3 e5

8.dxe5 Nxe5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.Bg5

The game has effectively transposed to a Torre Attack.

f4?!
Darwin Yang, cont’d from p. 4
White's bishop is imprisoned and Black has f5.
11...Nf5 12.Bf2
The bishop should not have wasted a move. It is a bad bishop for good knight, so why not let him exchange?
12...a6 13.a4 Qe7 14.Bd3
White now gets the good knight.
14...Qd8
What is this?
15.Bxf5 exf5 16.a5 Nf8
White now is dominating.
17.Na4
Look at all of Black's weak squares.
17...Be6 18.Nc5 Bb8 19.b4 Nd7 20.c3
Why this? I wanted to consolidate my structure, but it is totally unnecessary. Anyway, White's bishop is now a big pawn.
20...Qc7 21.h4 Kf7 22.Kf1 Rgb8 23.Kg2 Bf8 24.Rhc1
White prepares...
24...Ke8 25.Nxe6 fx6 26.c4!
XA B C D E F G H Y
8- + - + k b r g ( 7 + p p n + - p ' 6 p + p + p + p & 5 p - + p p p - p $ 4 - p p - p - p $ 3- + - + N + # 2- a - Q - K + " 1R - R - + + - +! x a b c d e f g h y
White has finally broken through! Look at Black's kingside pieces! What a beauty! That is everybody's dream in chess!
26...dxc4 27.Rxc4
It wouldn't be so bad if Black could get his knight to d5, but the poor beast is in a cul de sac. - SKA
27...Be7 28.Rac1 Kf7
28...Qd8 denies the break, with equality according to Fritz. - SKA
29.d5!!
The breakthrough commences.
29...exd5 30.Qxd5+
Black is losing.
30...Kg7
30...cxd5 31.Rxc7 Rd8 32.Nd4 threatening e6+ and Rxb7.
K en Smith, cont’d from p. 3

Nino - Indian E58
Jack Stopa 2465
Peter Vavrak 2407
Ken Smith Memorial 2006 (6)
1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 Nc6 8.a3 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Qc7 10.0-0 10...exd5 11.Nh4 Ne7
10...Nxa5? 10...dxe4 11.Bxc4 Nxa5; 10...b6;
10...Bd7; 10...Rd8; 10...Re8
11.Ne6 b6
12.cxd5 exd5 13.Ra2
The bishop's only real hope for active play is 24.a4 and 25.Ba3, even if Black answers with 24...Qc6. No doubt Stopa considered this, but had to weigh the fact that the bishop strikes only air, and the a4 pawn is a long term target.
24...Kf7 25.Be1 h4 26.Qd1 Nc6 27.g4
27...Be2 27.Rd2 Nd5 29.Qc2 b5 =+. 27...hxg4 28.Rxg4 Ra8 29.Rb2 Ne7 30.Qa4 Nd5 31.Rb2 g6 32. Qb5 Nf6 33.Rf2 Qc8 34.Bg1 Rd8 35.Rb2 Rd5 36.Qb4 Qc6 37.Ra2 Rb5 38.b1 Qb4 39.Rgg2 Rb5 40. Qg1 Rb3 41.Qg3 Ng4 0-1
White might have tried a swindle shot before resigning: 42.Qe1!, hoping for 42...Rxa3?? 43.Qa1! Rxa2 44.Rxa2 Qb5 45.Rxa7+ Kf6 46.Qx3 with a killer attack!
However, Black can snatch the c-pawn without ill effect: 42...Qa5 43.Rb2 Qxc3 (43...Rx b2 44.Rxb2 Qxc3 -+) 44.Qxc3 Rxc3 -+

Caro-Kann B13
Peter Vavrak 2407
Gary Simms 2171
Ken Smith Memorial 2006 (2)
1.d4 c5 2.e3 cxd4 3.exd4 d5
We hope to have games from more players in the next issue.
My Dinner with Jude Acers


He Wore a Raspberry Beret

In March I went on a business trip to New Orleans and had the opportunity to spend a few hours with chess legend, Jude Acers. As soon as I got a break from the conference, I headed down to the address listed in an advertisement that appears in every issue of Chess Life: 

“FRENCH QUARTER CHESS – Jude Acers plays all challengers daily at the Gazebo Restaurant, 1018 Decatur.” I couldn’t find the Gazebo but spotted Jude by his trademark red beret. Jude explains it simply: “The beret is red. Red in traffic means stop, so people walk past my boards and stop to play.”

I had only met Jude on one previous occasion, at Arthur Dake’s 90th birthday party where he had delivered an inspirational tribute to Oregon’s only grandmaster, the story of Arthur’s coin purse. Jude told how Arthur supported himself playing speed chess in the New York City during the Great Depression, “Alekhine, all the masters, they came, they played, they lost. Dake carried a tiny change purse with him at all times to collect his winnings on the spot …You heard the jingle and you just knew your coins were about to sprout wings of their own – headed toward a predestined journey to Dake’s coin purse.”

Living hand to mouth through your skill at the game, as well as Jude’s own unique life story.

Almost every day of the year Jude Acers sits behind a cafeteria style folding table set out on a sidewalk with two chess sets attended by plastic chairs adjacent to a signpost announcing the fee schedule “$5 per game or a four hour lesson for $200; Visa and Mastercard accepted.” The French Quarter is known for its street performers painting portraits, juggling, reading palms, tap dancing all to a Cajun-Zydeco beat. Jude fits into the tableau perfectly. Decatur is New Orleans’ second most famous street, home of the House of Blues, Bubba Gump’s and Café du Monde. The Gazebo is an outdoor affair built around a beautiful pocket park, a fountain surrounded my flowers under a canopy of trees. Actually, it is currently called the Voo Carre [sic] Restaurant and although it has changed hands twice in the last few years, Jude has kept his spot and has a key so he can store his chess gear each evening. The Voo Carre has about twenty tables around a central booth that houses the cash register and a kitchen in a small building, right behind a bandstand. Jude is strategically placed at the entrance from Decatur under part of the awning; an important point as New Orleans typically has 60 inches of rain each year.

Jude didn’t recognize me and so I was greeted as just another customer and was immediately informed: “You possess the great fortune of having the opportunity to play one of the best chess players in these United States. Of course, you don’t stand a chance of winning.” As soon as the game began the banter disappeared. In my game Jude did not make any brilliant moves, but took me seriously and slowly ground down my position, invading the queenside with pawns and a knight. After I resigned he provided a thoroughly analysis of how I went wrong and an active alternative to the Advanced Caro-Kann. After the chess lesson I informed that we had met before and Jude insisted I take a seat on his side of the table so that we could talk while he continued to entertain his clientele. “Now you get to see me in action,” Jude proclaimed. “This is where I work. This is my office and that chair on the other side of the table is my inbox.” Over the next few hours I witnessed Jude working the public, attracting every passing gamester with his magnetic charisma. Jude took each game seriously. He explained that he didn’t calculate deeply but just looked for good moves. “As I get older it gets easier to make decisions.” After each victory he offered his opponent encouragement and advice, analyzing every game and recommending chess books. At the same time I engaged him in a go-as-you-please conversation that covered the history and future of chess, as well as Jude’s own unique life story.

The Oxford American

All I knew about Jude before that afternoon I had either heard from Arthur or read in the March 2000 issue of John Grisham’s glossy monthly The Oxford American in Mathew Teague’s article “Chess King of the Streets”. Jude told me so many stories that I have a great sympathy for the 22 year old Teague, who was overwhelmed and inspired by Jude. He reviewed the gruesome details of Jude’s upbringing almost without comment: “Acers was four years old when police in New Bern, North Carolina,
found him and his sister digging through garbage ... so when Jude was young, he spent most of his time in orphanages." Chess is woven into the story as an aside. "When he was five years old, he came across a book about chess, and his obsession began. He used soda bottle tops to make chess sets, but the nuns at the orphanage took them away. So he made more." Teague recounts how Jude’s father later reclaimed his son only to "abuse Jude with a flair." Then "When Jude was fourteen, his father stopped beating him, and delivered the hardest blow of all. He committed the teen to Louisiana’s state mental institution in Mandeville, where loneliness only fueled his drive to study chess."

Jude was a chess master by the time he was 17 and the State sent him to LSU where he studied Russian so that he could learn from the Soviet School without a translator. After graduating, Jude traveled across the USA and ended up in San Francisco’s Haight-Ashbury district where for a period of time he lived in the same house as Janis Joplin. "When I first moved in I didn’t even know who she was," Jude admits. Teague quotes Jude telling a classic Acers story. “One day during a party I was in the bathtub, where it was quiet, reading, and Janis came in, naked, and sat down on the toilet. She looked at me and said, ‘Funny, funny Jude. You play with your little pieces all day long, and you know what? You’ll live to be an old, old man someday.’ And here I am.” With yarns like that who can doubt that Jude "stood at a urinal next to John Fogerty, and played basketball with the Doors between sound checks."

During that same time he played over 800 rated games against Bay Area chess gladiators such as Browne, Commons, Grefe, Tarjan and Waterman. Jude attained a 2400 rating and also found the time to write a stream-of-consciousness column for The Berkeley Barb called "Chess Barb" which he used to chronicle his life whirling along edges of a cultural vortex. His touchstones ranged from political references such as George Wallace and Patty Hearst mixed with chess name-dropping as though the average college student was familiar with the likes of Koltanowski and Karpov.

**Rusty Miller Time**

Jude first came to the Pacific Northwest in 1968 as Clark Harmon remembers "It was at the Strawberry Open in Marysville, Washington. Jude and GM Larry Evans were the big out of town players, Jude was living in San Francisco then. Vic Pupols was married at the time to a nice, very sociable gal who cooked dinner for the out of town celebs. GM Evans, Jude, myself and others attended. Jude and I hit it off which is not hard to do with Jude, with that southern charm to him and he knew the art of compliments. I made it to SF a number of times and caught up with Jude. He and I ratted around the hot parts of SF and usually ended up having dinner at the Olde Spaghetti Factory." Clark still visits Jude whenever he visits New Orleans and assures me that all the stories about Jude are true, or at least have a factual basis.

It was also at Maryville that Jude first met Rusty Miller and they soon became business partners. During the Fischer era Jude conducted cross-country chess exhibition tours organized by Rusty Miller. Jude wrote about his manager affectionately in the Barb, (1974) "Miller thinks very little of his personality, has very little confidence in his promotional ideas, so he tries a lot of them ... He is a most curious friend, a most curious opposite of a professional chess player. And he is, stated simply, a genius." Over a few years Rusty arranged hundreds of exhibitions for Jude across the country. Jude’s total dependence on his manager was documented in his two-part Barb article "The Price is Austin". Frustrated by cancellations and plane delays Jude relates, "I drag the bags as Russell Miller has told me to on his tight perfectly planned airline schedule for me. He says my ticket will be there but my plane is not ... Jude Acers has never missed a contracted exhibition in his lifetime. The phone rings at Miller’s hotel … Russell Miller is asleep but rises in full horror as he realizes the stakes. You do not tell him that you cannot think anymore … Miller also has the job of fielding the tremendous heat that begins to pour over the phone lines from Georgia’s commercial and club organizers who had worked countless hours on the prison, shopping center and television appearances of Jude Acers.” Riding the coattails of Bobby Fischer, Jude became a national figure. His tours were chronicled by a wide range of media, including The New York Times as well as Northwest Chess, which reported in its January 1972 issue that in the previous year Jude had conducted 134 simul in 83 cities, drawing 30, losing 174, and winning 2,673 games. Rusty faithfully reports: "November 16 saw Jude Acers return to Seattle to wind up his 1971 Nationwide Lecture and Exhibition Tour. Shoreline Community College was the scene. After an interesting lecture of extraordinary games he took on a group of 27 in simultaneous play. He was ambushed by John Braley 1971 Champion, Mike Franett 1970 Washington Champion and two others. Acers won the other 23 games in about 4 hours ... Then another horrible experience for Jude Acers occurred Friday morning, has very little confidence in his hotel room and stole his suitcase that had a number of chess books in it. Fortunately, they did not take his dem-
onstration board. The books were a great loss especially the MCO 10 in German that Jude had been putting notes into for the last 8 months.” Despite the excitement of the chess tours, they proved problematic. After a busy and tumultuous decade spent largely on the West Coast, Jude moved back to New Orleans looking for a less complicated existence. It was then, a quarter century ago, that Jude began to live on Decatur.

Today, Jude’s pace has slowed down, but he still manages to get out on the road. When I visited he had just conducted a forty board simul at nearby Angola Federal Penitentiary, an event which garnered local and national television coverage. He talked about a trip to New Jersey for a simul at another prison as well as shopping mall, but no matter what type of income those jobs generate, Jude has learned to earn his living right on the streets of New Orleans. That afternoon he dismissed each of his opponents with good humor while providing autographs for the asking and graciously had his picture taken with his admiring chess victims. As Clark pointed out, Jude does know the art of compliment, he can make people feel good about themselves, but he also speaks highly of himself assuring me that he is better known than New Orleans’ popular mayor second term mayor Marc Morial. But it was when he proclaimed that he was “The best chess player ever from the state of Louisiana” that I had to draw the line.

**Morphy tour of the French Quarter**

For a man without material resources, self-confidence has gotten Jude a long ways but I couldn’t help but remind him in whose shadow he stands. “The best chess player ever?” He quickly corrected himself with a wink. “I mean in the modern era.” That was the beginning of a special chess tour of the French Quarter. The afternoon had already passed us by and it was dark by the time we set out. The few blocks between Decatur and Bourbon are layered with three hundred years of history. First we went to the house where Morphy was brought up located on the Rue de Chartres, a magnificent structure, built up on a mound above the street with a spacious veranda and garden. Today it bears a bronze plaque on a wall facing the street which formally proclaims the historic link to the first world chess champion. My guide informed me that “The house was later bought by Frances Parkinson Keyes, who wrote The Chess Players, the novel about Morphy’s life.” I touched the raised letters of the plaque, just to make sure I was really seeing it.

We strolled through the dark avenues with Jude providing commentary on every block with nonstop details about Morphy’s life; where he played chess, what streets he walked down, the location of his law office. Our final destination was the so-called Morphy House, where Paul Morphy died of a stroke in a bathtub. That building now houses a high-class restaurant, Brenan’s, pride of the Rue Royale, which boasts a 50,000 bottle wine cellar. We were met at the door by the hostess who greeted my guide as an old friend, “Come in Jude, how have you been?” I’m sure Brenan’s has a dress code that we did not meet but it didn’t matter, she knew we were there to pay homage to one of the most haloed sites of chess history. Just like the residence in which he was born, the Morphy House also has a bronze plaque denoting its historical significance, except this one is in the lobby.

The tour ended there. We could have walked to Morphy’s grave but Jude informed me “Its not a safe place for tourists at night.” We retired to at the Louisiana Pizza Kitchen, half a block from the Voo Carre and talked nonstop over a chicken and garlic pie. Jude attacked the pizza, consuming the generous topping with his fingers, and then rolling up the moist crust like a big cigar and chewing it down to a stub. He had an opinion about everything to do with chess, from the future of Kasparov to the invasion of the Chinese. He believes that there is a vast untapped chess public that has been nurtured by computers and the Internet but are not being served by the organizers, in the USA and around the world. “The USCF is a corporate ripoff. They’ve squandered millions. The people in charge of it now don’t even know who the American grandmasters are. That’s why it took them so long before running Dake’s obituary.” He’s also in favor of the shorter time controls “Believe me, it’s inevitable that games must last no more than an hour for worldwide TV and Internet coverage! And all tournaments must end in one day. Chess will no longer be an ordeal – trial by chair!” Jude was not surprised to see Kasparov squander his diminishing stature by appearing in a Pepsi commercial during the Super Bowl. “How perfect,” Jude chuckled. “Going head to head with a vending machine and losing, then sucked down an elevator shaft.” In a recent letter printed in Larry Evans’ column Jude observed “There’s absolutely no reason why the world championship cannot be settled in six murderous games between two finalists on a single Sunday afternoon.” I scoffed when Jude predicted that the Chinese would win the match in Seattle. “The Asian invasion has just begun,” he assured me. “Start studying your Mandarin right now.”

Jude’s enthusiasm for the future is infectious. His hunger for the present is inspiring. What I liked most about Jude is how he has lived his life. He is a true pedestrian in a motorized world. He is a non-materialist who...
owns only what he needs. Michael Teague was not ready for the depths of Bohemia or a Louisiana address without air conditioning, when he was honored to be invited to visit Jude's barracks. “… he threw open the door to his apartment, and the smell that poured out drove me back a step. It was a mixture of old clothes, coffee, and mildew. The entire apartment was about eight by four feet. There was a closet at one end, and at the other end a toilet and shower, where Acers washes his clothes. Newspaper clips featuring Acers – including one that described his relationship with roomie Janis Joplin – were randomly tacked to the walls. On the floor was a pile of towels and blankets that he used as a bed, and stacks of books: hundreds, maybe thousands of books, some in Russian and Chinese, all about chess.”

Teague summarizes the wealth of association that has made Jude Acers' life so rich but doesn’t quite get it: “He was a little off, but he knew it. Knew it perfectly well. Knew nobody was going to understand him and knew he would die poor. But he was boss of his world.”

I believe Mr. Teague meant king: Jude Acers is the king of his world, grand ambassador of Cassia with his embassy located conveniently at the crossroads of the world on Decatur Street in New Orleans’ colorful French Quarter.

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Chess Teams
Chess Dad 101 by Robert Rausch

There is no greater oxymoron in sports than the term “chess team”. Chess is, at its core, an individual problem-solving exercise – and that’s part of the game’s allure. Individual chess players receive all of the accolades for victory and accept all of the responsibility for defeat. Whereas, kids on the local soccer team evenly share in winning and losing, chess players learn early on that there is no place to hide on the chessboard. Unlike other sports, chess teams – at least at the scholastic level – are rarely more than a loose coalition of kids that happen to attend the same school. They may or may not practice together or even like one another. Indeed, the rivalries between scholastic teammates are often more fierce than those of non-teammates. As such, team awards often take a backseat to individual results.

So why even have chess teams?

The real value of team achievement, at least at the scholastic level, is in marketing. Chess is a tough sell in most communities and the promise of group achievement and recognition is a powerful aphrodisiac to players, coaches and school administrators. Newspaper articles trumpeting the success of the local chess team increase the self-esteem of players, coaches and their communities. At a more tactical level, team awards often provide an incentive for the kids who have been eliminated from individual award contention to continue playing hard.

So what is a scholastic chess team?

Well, that depends. It depends on what grade your kids happen to be in. It depends on whether or not you home-school your children. It depends on whether or not your kids attend private school. It depends on how the city fathers have configured the public schools in your community. Sixth-graders in some areas must be teamed with seventh- and eighth-graders. In other communities, sixth-graders must be teamed with kindergarten through fifth-graders (unless, of course, the kindergarten through third-graders elect to play in the primary division). Similar goofy and complex rules (along with the associated frustration and confusion) exist for high school players: in some cases, ninth-graders can be considered part of the middle-school team. About the only thing that isn’t a rule, is the requirement that players on the team actually know one another.

If all this sounds quirky, irritating and downright silly – it is. Consider that the local Boy Scout troop, St. Mary’s Church of Brownsville, and the Watauga Chess Club cannot compete as a team in any TCA – or USCF – sanctioned event. The kids may all be in the same grade, practice together five nights a week and share an intense passion for chess. Too bad. They don’t share the same concrete building during school hours, so they’re out of luck. They may even be paired against one-another in any given tournament. How’s this for irony: you’re paired against the kids that you practice with and may be teammates with children that you don’t even know.

Believe it or not, this all made sense at one time. Thirty-five years ago, the vast majority of school districts in the State were configured with elementary schools (1-5); middle schools (6-8); and high schools (9-12). Today, of course, Texas public school districts are configured in a myriad of different ways. In the Carroll Independent School District, for example, elementary is K-4; intermediate school is 5-6; middle school is 7-8; high school is 9-10 and senior high school is 11-12. In addition to such creative public school configuration, an increasingly large number of families now homeschool their children. They, along with children in private schools, can basically configure their chess teams in any way that they like (within the historical grade groupings).

Not surprisingly, both the USCF and TCA have failed to keep pace with the changing demographics and trends in education — stubbornly relying on their 1970s scholastic chess classification model. Exceptions have been plastered and pasted into each group’s bylaws, to form an amalgamation of rules that require a doctoral degree to decipher. Confusion and misinterpretation have been known to infuriate parents and coaches – leading to emergency meetings in the middle of tournaments, bylaw amendments and even heartfelt mea culpas (see the November issue of Texas Knights).

Lost in the debate surrounding adherence to the rules, disagreement with the bylaws, and suspicion over intentional cheating, is the reason for having scholastic chess teams. That being, to encourage children to work together to improve and infect one another with their love for the game. How about scrapping the existing rules, exceptions, and time spent tracking down violators? Simply put, a scholastic chess team should consist of any four kids (within the same section) that are identified before the start of the first round. Clean, simple and painless, allowing us to market chess to churches, Boy Scout... Continued on page 20
Albert Grigoryan  
StrageGems, 2003

White to move, mate in two
Solution: p. 19