



Desert Knight



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Left to right: NMCO VP Eddie Sedillo; 2012 NM State Chess Champion Douglas Thigpen; NMCO President Oren Stevens... Eddie carries the permanent plaque.



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Annotation Symbols	
Excellent Move	!!
Good Move	!
Interesting	!?
Dubious	?!
Bad	?
Blunder	??
Check	+
Double Check	++
Checkmate	#
White Winning	+ -
White advantage	+ =
White small edge	+ / =
Equal	=
Black Winning	- +
Black advantage	= +
Black small edge	= / +
Unclear position	∞
Better move is	> =

The 2012 New Mexico State Chess Championship.

Douglas Byron Thigpen is now a two-time state champion. His first championship, however, was shared in a four-way tie. In 2012 he stood alone — a full point ahead of the whole field, undefeated, allowing only one draw in the five rounds.

Second & third place money was split, at 3.5 points, among Matthew Grinberg, Wayne Hatcher, Andrew Flores and Arizona's Paul Covington.

Plus score holders at 3 points were David Langlois, Albert Zuo, Jason Kammerdinger and Don Mulcahy.

At the start of the event, the top nine finishers had an average USCF rating of 1920, making 2012 one of the strongest fields in recent years.

Message from the NMCO President: Oren V. Stevens

The K-12 Grade Level Chess tournament this year was held at the Sheraton Inn uptown in Albuquerque Saturday December 8 to 12 and was directed by Dave Poston. Serving as one of the assistant tournament directors I found this event to be an uplifting experience. Over one hundred students competed in what was a very smoothly run well organized tournament from the administrative process of registration to the final ceremony where numerous trophies were awarded in each grade category. Fifty percent of the students represented the northern communities of Los Alamos, Espanola, Taos, and Santa Fe while the remaining fifty were from the communities in the Albuquerque region. It was delightful to witness the excitement of the students as they commenced their first round games and their big smiles as they received their performance awards at the awards ceremony.

Dave is also is part of the administrative team that organizes and directs three other scholastic events every spring in New Mexico: K-12 in Los Alamos, K-9 in Santa Fe, and K-6 in Albuquerque. As a result of his very impressive organizational and directing skills, along with his willingness to donate his time and effort Dave Poston's contributions have made an enormous positive effect for Scholastic Chess in New Mexico. Well done Dave! We look forward to your involvement in Scholastic Chess for many more future years

Seismic Activity—Both on and Off the Chessboard.

By Richard Sherman

In the Summer of 2011, I experienced my first earthquake. I was snoozing around 2 P.M. when a thrashing sound got my attention. The walls of my bedroom started doing the Rumba. It lasted, perhaps, 30 seconds. However at 5.9 on the Richter Scale it was months before I even mentioned it to my Chilean relatives. In Chile they have real earthquakes. On my first visit there in 1960 I left shortly before a 9.5 whopper which remains a record. It prompted my first letter to Elba who I met at the University of Concepcion. Four years later we got married..

All notes in the following games are mine without reference to a computer. R.S.

Strenzwilk, Denis (2200) - Sherman, Richard (1800)
2011 Northern Virginia Open Doubletree Hotel, Sterling, Va.....

My Round two opponent was Denis Strenzwilk. Just as 1800 is my ratings “floor, I suspect (though I did not ask) that 2200 is Strenzwilk’s floor. – meaning he had been above 2400 at some point. C63: Ruy Lopez: Schliemann/Jaenisch Defence *The notes are my own impressions without recourse to a computer. Richard Sherman.* 1.Nf3 Nc6 2.e4 e5 3.Bb5 f5 Following this game I overheard Strenzwilk grumbling that when he had the white pieces he expected to get a position congenial to him. In our

game I am certain a Schliemann was not what he had in mind. 4.d3 fxe4 5.dxe4 Nf6 6.0-0 Bc5 7.Nc3 d6 8.Qd3 0-0 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.fxe3 Kh8 11.Rad1 Qe8 12.Nd5 Qd8 13.c3 Bg4 14.Rd2 a6 15.Ba4 Ne7 16.Bb3 Nxd5 17.Bxd5 Nxd5 18.exd5 Bxf3 19.Rxf3 Qe7 19.....Qe7? Better was 19....Rxf3 20. gxf3 Qh4 followed by 21....Rf8, at which point Black's Q & R are fully equal, if not superior, to White's Q & R. The move played was far too timid. 20.Qe4 20.Qe4! Centralizing the W Q and depriving Black's Q of the h4 square. 20...Rxf3 21.gxf3 Rf8 22.Rg2 Qf6 23.Rg3 Qf5 Many times I have offered a Queen exchange to a higher rated player thinking it would ease my defensive chores. Almost invariably the reverse proved to be true. 24.Qxf5 Rxf5 25.Kg2 g6 26.Rg4 Now White spends the rest of the game demonstrating that his rook is superior to mine. 26...Kg7 27.Rc4 Rf7 28.a4 Kf6 29.a5+/- Rd7 30.Rb4 c5 31.dxc6! bxc6 32.Rb6 Rc7 33.Rxa6 d5 34.Rb6 Ke7 35.b4 c5? 36.a6+- cxb4 37.Rb7 Kd6 38.a7 Rxb7 39.a8Q 1-0

Sherman, Richard (1800) - Saichaitanya, Jampana (1465)
2011 North Virginia Open Sterling, VA., 20.10.2012...

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines. *Notes are mine without reference to a computer: Richard Sherman.* My Round 3 opponent was born in India. 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 The Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. Lots of fun if Black goes astray. Not so much if Black

keeps the pawn and defends stoutly.. 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 Bf5 5.fxe4 Bxe4 6.Nxe4 Nxe4 7.c3 Nd7 8.Qf3 Nd6 9.Bf4 Qc8 10.Bd3 e6 11.Nh3 Nf6 12.0-0 c6 13.Rae1 Be7 14.Be5 Qd7? 15.Nf4 0-0 Given White's Alignment 15....0-0-0 may have been preferable. 16.Nh5 Nxh5? 17.Qxh5 g6 18.Qh6 Ne8 19.h4 f6 20.h5 Rf7?? Can black simply capture the Be5 and survive? Here's one line: 20....fxe5 21.hxg6 Nf6 22.g7 Rf7 23.Bxh7+ Nxh7 24. Rxf7 Kxf7 25. Qxh7 Rg8 26.Rf1+ Bf6 27. Rxf6+ Kxf6 28.Qxg8 Qxg7 29.dxe5+ Kg6 30. Qxg7+ with a winning End game. Improvements may well surface. In any case, the game continuation 20....Rf7 did not suffice. 21.hxg6+- hxg6 22.Bxg6 Rg7 23.Bxe8 Rxe8 24.Bxf6 Bxf6 25.Rxf6 Qd5 26.Rg6 Ree7 27.Rxe6 Rxg6 28.Rxg6+ Kf7+- 29.Rg7+ Ke8 30.Qh8+ Kd7 31.Rxe7+ Kxe7 32.Qe5+ Liquidating to a simple end game win. 32...Qxe5 33.dxe5 Ke6 34.Kf2 Kxe5 35.Ke3 b5??? 36.b4 1-0

Sherman, Richard - Zhou, Bryan | 2012 North Virginia Open 11.2011...

In Round five my opponent was a ten year old 5th grader of Chinese ancestry. When seated he could see over the board, but not by a wide margin. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Popular half a century ago but seldom see nowadays. 4...Nc6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.c4 e5 Forcing back the W Q but leaving a hole on d5. More prudent: 7....e6 8.Qd3 Nf6 9.Nc3 Be7 10.0-0 0-0

11.b3 Qc7 12.Bb2 Rfd8
 13.Rac1 a6 14.Nd5 Bxd5
 15.cxd5 Qd7 16.Nd2 b5 Keeping the W N out of c4 but permitting a Rook penetration.
 17.Rc6 Nh5 18.Rfc1 In playing the Sicilian Black expects to get play on the c-file. However, here it is White who commands it.
 18...Nf4 19.Qf3 Rdc8 20.g3 Ng6 If 20...Ng3+ 21.Kg2 Ng5 22.Qh5 21.Qc3 Rf8 22.f4 Bf6 The mate on g7 prohibits 22...exf4
 23.Qf3 Rfc8 24.Ba3 Be7? Missing a chance to free his game with 24...Ne7 since 25, Rxd6 fails to 25...Rxc1+ leaving the Ba3 surcharged with responsibilities. 25.Kg2?? Bobby Fischer once spoke of a "high class waiting move." This is the antithesis. Correct was 25.f5, shutting down the diagonal of the B Q and sending the B N to a dismal last rank square. With Black consigned to a doleful defense, White could contemplate play on either wing.
 25...exf4 26.gxf4?? beyond notation 26...Nh4+ 0-1

The 2012 NM Open, Booster

Don Lubin, With a 4.5 score won in the Booster section of the 2012 New Mexico Open with a final round victory over Claire Jarmosevish. Until the last round Claire was undefeated and untied with 4 points while Don had 3.5 and needed to win as a draw would have given Claire first place. Also finishing with 4 points, creating a three-way tie for 2nd and 3rd money were Jeffrey Zijian Li and Manuel Castillo. Unfortunately, there were no game scores turned in for a win

by either Jeffrey or Manuel.

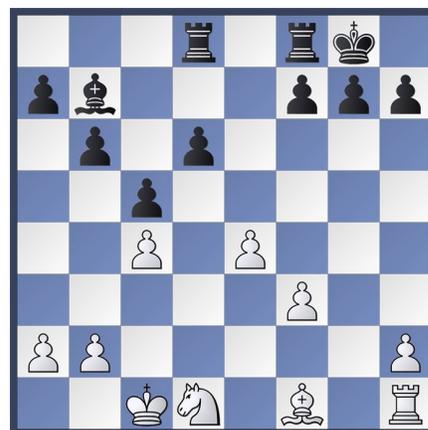
Lubin,Don (1307) - Jarmosevish,Claire (1288) [A20] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho NM (Rd5), 23.09.2012

A20: English Opening: 1...e5 Here is the key last round game that enabled Don Lubin to take a clear first place: Comment preceded by AB is by Art Byers. Comment preceded by DL is by Don Lubin. DL: The pregame situation: I had never heard of Ms. Claire Jarmosevish prior to the NM Open Chess tournament, but that was to change drastically with each and every round of play as Claire's opponents fell one by one leading up to the final crescendo on Sunday. Going into the last round game I needed an out and out win in order to gain first place. There was no other choice. I was quite nervous as I asked Claire's fallen opponents for a tidbit of information or insight concerning her previous games. "Very Dangerous" - "Look Out! She's a tigress" were typical statements. Yet, I began to piece together a picture of an aggressive player who liked lots of room in which to maneuver. A chance began to form in the possibility that if I played a complex strategic, slowly evolving style of game, May be I could hold on and wait until a slight error occurred!?

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.c4 e5 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 last book move 4...Nxd4 5.Qxd4 Nf6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Nc3 b6 8.f3 Bb7 9.e4 d6 10.0-0-0 0-0 11.g4 c5 Diagram



12.Qe3?? AB: This White mistake could have allowed a tactical combination, pointed out by Houdini 2, where black can gain the exchange with a winning material advantage. Obviously neither player saw this. 12 Qd2 continuing pressure on the backward Blk p on d6 was a better move DL: Move 12, Qe3 looks terrible when viewed under the cold, hard light of computer analysis - but - the move felt intuitively correct given the tension generated by the previous move. AB: Can intuition successfully replace accurate calculation? Sometimes yes. More of the time - NO!
 12...Nd7?? AB: This retreat misses the following Houdini suggested winning variation for Black. the big difference between 12. Qe3 and Houdini's 12. Qd2 is that 12...Nxc4 now just loses material.. [>=12...Nxc4 AB: Attackng the WQ while threatening 13...Bxc5 also winning the W Q 13.Bxe7 Nxe3 14.Bxd8 Nxd1 (14...Raxd8?! 15.Re1 Nxf1 16.Rexf1 =/+) 15.Nxd1 Raxd8-+ Variation Diagram



] 13.Bf4+/- AB: Note that due to the Black error of 12...Nd7 if the WQ was on d2 as per Houdini's preference, 13. Bf4 would win the central Blk p on d6.. 12...Ne8 would haved protected the d6 pawn at the cost of blocking the B R. It is amazing how Queen placement just one square difference on d2 could be so much better. But then Chess is an amazing game or we would not love it so!! In the next few moves Don wins that p on d6 anyway.
 13...Qc7 [13...Qb8! ? +/- AB: Yes the computer can suggest a move but does not give a single clue as to why it, supposedly, is better. Well, the d6 pawn is defended twice and is attacked twice. BUT with 14. Nb5 the d6 pawn cannot be defended so I don't see what is so great about 13...Qb8.]

14.Nb5+/- Qd8 15.Bxd6 AB: Houdini slightly prefers 15.Nxd6. DL: Houdini suggested that the knight go in for the capture first, but my intuition said to maintain the Knight for some later purpose.. Hence the Bishop move first. 15...Ba6?? AB: An error by Black. The unprotected Bishop on a6 will become the target of a fork by the W N that White's intuition chose to keep in action. Don has pretty much done what he planned before the game started. Wait for his opponent's error and seize the opportunity. [>=15...a6 AB: as Houdini points out, would have held the White pieces to a very small advantage. 16.Bxe7 Qxe7+/-] 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Nc7 Bxc4?? AB: Simply trying to get something for the loss of the Blk R but 17...Bb7 would have resulted in being only the exchange down instead of a whole piece down. 18.Bxc4 Rac8 19.Nd5 Diagram



AB: At this point, being a piece up and having his Knight in a great position, Houdini considers Don to be the equivalent of almost 6 pawns ahead. DL: At this point I was far more scared of what Claire was planning for me. She had the face of pure determination and you could see that she was thinking and thinking - and more thinking. This explains my 20th move. I merely wished to consolidate my position before figuring out a new plan. 19...Qe8 AB: Houdini mentions 19...Qh4 as a possibility, but that simply sends the B Q adventuring without the support of other pieces. Claire's move, in a losing position, avoids anything drastic and prepares a transfer to the Q-side, via the light squares, to support her

planned attack. 20.f4?! [>=20.Bb5!? Rd8 21.Qd2 Qe5+- AB: the computer's suggestion of pinning the B N to the B Q is substantially better. After that, exchanging the W B for the B N leaves the centralized W N in a fantastic dominating position. Now, after 20.f4?!, Black will get that WN off the board. 22.Bxd7 Rxd7?? Then 23.Nf6+ wins the exchange.] 20...Nf6 21.Nxf6+ AB: This is somewhat better than waiting for B to exchange Knights - even though it would leave the W B as an untouchable posted on d5 - because it doubles Black's pawns on the f-file. 21...gxf6 22.Rhe1 DL: 22.Rhe1 seemed totally correct to me in order to shore up the center before Claire started the pawn majority attack on the Q-side, which I sensed was coming very soon. 22...b5 23.Bb3 c4 24.Bc2 DL: at this point I noticed the long diagonal leading to the W Pawn at h7 combined with doubled pawns on the K-side acting as a fence or barrier. Maybe I could shift my forces as Claire started to coordinate her Q-side attack with the super heavy pieces. 24...b4 25.e5 b3 26.axb3 cxb3 27.Qxb3 Qc6 DL: Claire was starting to freak me out with her coming attack and I was looking for ways to trade off Queens and maybe a rook 28.Kb1 Rb8 29.Qd3 Rfd8?? AB: 29...pf5 30. Qxf5 would have held out longer but Black, down a piece, is still lost. 30.Qxh7+ Kf8 31.Qh8+ Ke7 DL: for a moment, I considered the move 32.Qxf6+ . Because fog of war I did not believe that the move exf6 led to anything. I waited a few minutes, walked around and then looked at exf6+ again AB: Sound advice for us all - back off key positions, walk around, take a deep breath and return to the board with fresh thinking. DL and changed my mind, now being certain that it won. 32.exf6# DL: Conclusion. . Claire is a very tenacious, analytical chess player who plays in a natural way - letting moves flow from her fingers. If I had been less of an intuitive player, I would have succumbed without a doubt, to either a draw or a loss. We can look forward to many a creative game in the future from Claire. 1-0

Morton, Paul (1155) - Jar-mosevich, Claire (1288) [B01] 2012 NM Open' Rio Rancho NM (Rd2),

B01: Scandinavian Defence White and Black arrive at complicated positions through which Black sees the best. The situation gets tense and both don't make the best moves until one last error by White allows Black to end the exchanges a piece ahead. 1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Nf3 e5 last book move 5.Be2 Bg4 6.0-0+/- Nc6 7.d3 0-0-0 8.Ne4 I'd suggest first developing the c1 B with 8.Bd2. If nothing else, forcing black to make some decisions regarding his Queen and unpinning the W p on d3 8...f5 9.Neg5 Qd5 10.c4 Qd7 11.Nd2?? White has a structural weakness in the backward d3 pawn on a half open file currently ruled by Black. The W B on e2 is needed to try to hold that central pawn. Also, Black has a good potential outpost for a Knight on d4. The White B on c1 has yet to be developed. Possibly, W moved 11.Nd2 to make a safe square for the W N on gf5 as otherwise it has no safe place to move other than h3 when 11.... Bxh3 would disrupt the W K-side pawn structure and start to expose the W K. The move 11.h3 puts the Question to the Black Bishop and probably would be answered by 11....h6 as shown in the following computer variation. claiming equality. You well might dispute that equality claim when you see that the Black rook on h8 has an open h-file. see variation diagram 1. [11.h3 h6 12.hxg4 hxg5 13.Nxg5= Variation Diagram next page



. All the above might tilt the evaluation toward saying Black is better here, even with one N and one B not off the 8th rank.] **11...h5??** It is not unusual for one poor move to be answered by another poor move. Tension felt by both sides is responsible. [\geq 11...Bxe2!? 12.Qxe2 h6+ And a black pawn mass would begin to attack starting with g5] **12.Ndf3** [12.f3!? e4 13.dxe4 Bc5+ 14.Kh1+/-] **12...Nf6=**+ **13.a3?** A wasted move as the Black attack is coming on the K-side. 13.h3 was needed. **13...h4??** And black misses a better continuation. [\geq 13...e4!? 14.Nh4 exd3+] **14.b4** Once again, White misses that he must defend . 14. h3 would have equalized. [14.h3 Bh5 15.Qc2 Bc5=] **14...h3 15.g3 f4 16.b5** 16. Bb2 Getting the W B off the 1st rank, attacking the B p on e5 and connecting rooks looks a lot better. **16...Nd4** [\geq 16...Bxf3 17.Nxf3 Nd4 18.Nxe5 Qe6 19.gxf4 g5-/+] **17.Bb2??** Now that's chess for you! The same move that was correct at move 16 is not so hot at move 17. No wonder most of us can never truly master the game!! [\geq 17.Nxd4 ffg3 If you like complications what would be wrong in this variation with 17....Qxd4 attacking the W R on a1 and temporarily preventing W

from moving Bb2? The answer could be 18. Be3 saving the a1 Rook and attacking the B Q.. Remember the g5 N is looking at a Rook fork if f7 is left unprotected . One possible continuation could be: 18...Bxe2 19. Bxd4 Bxd1 20. Rxd1 Rxd4 21.fxg. BUT !! Other possibilities might use the Zweigenzug by Black of gxh+ (or gxf2+) at an opportune time. Set up the variation on your chess board at home and try find the best continuation. No wonder we can run our clocks down attempting to calculate and discover the right moves. 18.Ndf3+/- Variation Diagram]



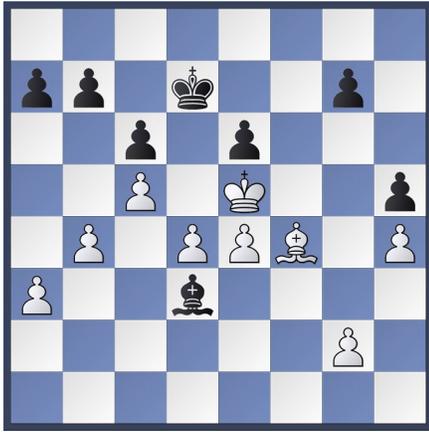
17...fxg3 [\geq 17...Nxe2+!? 18.Qxe2 Rh5 19.Qe1 ffg3 20.Nxe5 gxh2+ 21.Kxh2+] **18.ffg3** [18.Bxd4 gxh2+ 19.Kh1 exd4 20.Ne5 Bxe2 21.Qxe2-/+] **18...Nxf3+** [\geq 18...Nxe2+!? 19.Qxe2 Bc5+ 20.Kh1 Rhe8+] **19.Nxf3=**+ **Bc5+** **20.d4??** Diagram The Losing Move. [\geq 20.Kh1 Bxf3+ 21.Bxf3=/+] **20...exd4+** **21.Bxd4 Bxd4+** **22.Qxd4 Qxd4+** **23.Nxd4 Rxd4** **24.Bxg4+** **Nxg4** **25.Rf4?** Down a piece, White should be trying to retain both rooks **25...Rxf4** **26.gxf4 Ne3** At this point the computer points out a mate in 12

which neither player saw or wanted to spend the clock time calculating anyway. **27.c5 Kd7** **28.Kf2 Nd5** **29.Rd1 Ke6** **30.Re1+ Kf6** **31.Kg3 c6** **32.Re5 g5** **33.Rxg5 Kf7** **34.bxc6 bxc6** **35.f5 Rg8!** Forcing the exchange of rooks and then the extra black Knight will rule the day. **36.Rxg8 Kxg8** **37.Kg4 Kf7** **38.Kg5 a5** **39.Kg4 Kf6** **40.Kxh3 Kxf5** **41.Kg3 a4** **42.h4 Kg6** **43.Kh3 Nc3** **44.Kg4 Nb5** it is obvious that after ...Nxa3 the a4 pawn will Queen. **0-1**

Lubin,Don (1312) - Brown,Wendel (1170) [A00] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho, NM (Rd2),

A00: Irregular Openings Wendel Brown holds the section winner to a draw with opposite color bishops. **1.Nf3 d5** **2.b4 Nf6** **3.Bb2 e6** **4.a3 Be7** **5.e3 0-0** **6.c4** last book move **6...c6** **7.Be2 Nbd7** **8.0-0 Qc7** **9.d4 Ne4** **10.Nbd2 f5** Anchoring the B N **11.Nxe4 fxe4** **12.Nd2 Rf6** **13.f4 exf3** This en Passant take seems doubtful. The Black pawn on e4 would have been a bone in White's throat for a long time. Now White puts his N on a good square. **14.Nxf3 Nb6** **15.Qc2** The computer prefers 15.c5 forcing the B N to retreat as putting the BN on c4 simply loses a pawn and leaves a Black isolani on e6 **15...Bd7** [\geq 15...Nxc4!? 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Qxc4 Bd7=] **16.c5+/- Nc4** **17.Bxc4 dxc4** **18.Qxc4 Rh6** **19.Qc3 Rf8** **20.Ne5 Rxf1+** **21.Rxf1 Rf6** **22.Rxf6 Bxf6** **23.Ng4 Qd8** **24.Nxf6+ Qxf6** **25.Qe1 Be8** **26.Qf2 Qxf2+** **27.Kxf2 Bh5** **28.Kg3 Kf7** **29.Kf4 h6** **30.Ke5 Ke7** **31.e4 Be2** **32.h4 h5** **33.Bc1 Kd7** **34.Bf4 Bd3**

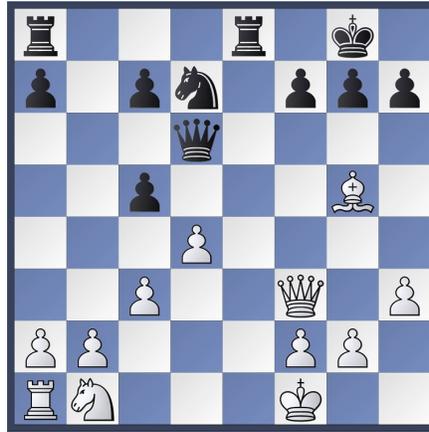
Diagram next page



1/2-1/2

Davis, Brian L. (995) - Letard, Willow K. (726) [C65] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho NM (Rd2), 30.09.2012

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Willow just outplays her higher rated opponent. It's as simple as that!
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Qe2 0-0 last book move **6.Bxc6 bxc6 7.Nxe5 Qe8 8.Bf4 Bd4 9.Nc4 d5 10.Be3 Be5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.c3 dxe4 13.d4 Qd6 14.h3 Be6 15.Bg5** White is delaying castling for too long. Is he playing that game called: "real men never castle"? **15...Nd7** 15. Nd5 puts the B N in a somewhat better square **16.Qxe4??** [\geq 16.Nd2!]=] **16...Rfe8** Not a bad move at all as it threatens discovery on the e-file. The computer simply points out a better one. [16...Bd5!? 17.Qg4 Rae8+ 18.Kd1 c5-+] **17.0-0-/+** 17. K d2 would avoid what is coming - but would leave the W K exposed **17...Bc4 18.Qf3 Bxf1-+ 19.Kxf1 c5** Diagram



Up the exchange for a pawn Black has a winning game -- but still must actually win it. **20.d5?? Qe5** [\geq 20...Qa6+ 21.c4 Qxc4+ 22.Kg1 Re1+ 23.Kh2-+] **21.Be3?? Qh2 22.g4 Ne5 23.Qg2 Qxg2+ 24.Kxg2 Nd3** [24...Nc4!? 25.Kf3 Rad8-+] **25.Nd2 Nxb2-/+ 26.c4 Rad8 27.Bxc5 Re2 28.Kf3?? Rxd2-+** Ahead a whole rook, Black went on to win without much trouble. **0-1**

Jarmosevich, Claire (1288) - Castillo, Manuel (1249) [B13] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho, NM (Rd3),

B13: Caro-Kann: Exchange Variation and Panov-Botvinnik Attack. Like two boxers, both players come out swinging punches until a totally inexplicable Black blunder allows White a one move mate. **1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3** last book move **5...e6** One of the more common moves of the Caro-Kann is to develop the Black Q B outside the pawn chain before playing e6 **6.Bb5+ Bd7= 7.Bf4 Bb4 8.Bxd7+** Perhaps this exchange is doubtful as Black's pawns are on light color squares and giving up this B could leave Black with a future dark square weakness. **8...Nbx7=/+ 9.Bd2 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 0-0 11.Qd2 Rc8 12.g4?** Is this really a poor move that gives up a pawn? I don't think so. White's obvious attack plan is

to use her g-pawn, in gambit style, to establish a half-open file on the castled Black King and then place a White Rook on g1. Using psychology, White shows Black her aggressive intent and also gives Black a chance to go astray. **12...Nxg4** Diagram



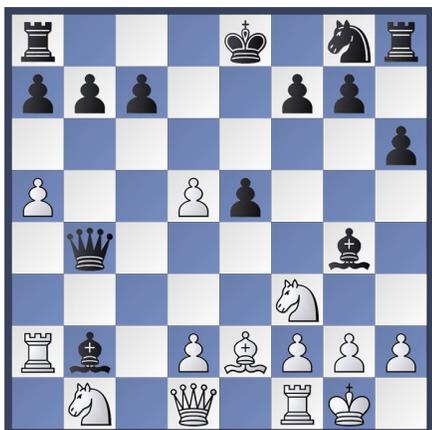
And Black accommodates. Surely it was not the wisest choice to give your opponent exactly what she wants. - - Instead, much more in attacking style would have been to post the Black Knight on the aggressive square e4. **13.Rg1-/+ Qf6 14.Qd3 Nh6 15.0-0-0** An exciting game is guaranteed with opposite side castling **15...Rfe8 16.Bd2 e5??** Made with intention of transferring the B Q to c6..but missing the opportunity to get his N off the side of the board. f5 is definitely a much better post for the B N than h6. ("Knight on the rim is dim": GM Tarrasch - but he said it in German) On f5 it protects the squares g7 & h7 and controls dark squares on the opponent's side of the board. **17.Bg5 Qc6 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Rxe5 20.f4 Re3** Obviously the B R is immune from capture. **21.Qd2 d4 22.Bxh6** Give this move a"! It Forces the B Q to abandon the c-file **22...Qxh6 23.Qxd4 Ree8 24.Rd2** Both defensive and aggressive: adding protection to c2 as well as having the option to double rooks on the g-file or even on the d-file. **24...Qc6??** OUCH! Obsessed with attacking c2, Black commits chess suicide. **25.Qxg7# 1-0**

Letard, John (718) - Romero, Annabelle (867) [C50] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho NM (Rd3),

C50: Hungarian Defense and Giuoco Pia-

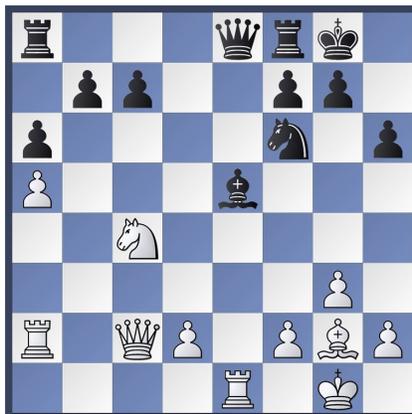
nissimo As seems to be common in Booster games, there are some errors - but Black makes more of them and loses.. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 h6 last book move 4.0-0 Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.b4 Bb6= 7.a4** White threatens to trap the Black Bishop on b6. **7...Bg4??** but Black chooses to pin the W N on f3, instead of 7...a6 to save the other Blk B. **8.a5+- Nd4 8...Bxf2+** would have taken a pawn protecting the White King but would have put a W R on a half open file. Therefore, Black chooses another way to obtain a pawn for a lost piece. **9.cxd4** Better than allowing Nxf3+ **9...Bxd4 10.Ra2 Qe7 11.Bb2** It makes sense to try to exchange B's because W is a piece ahead for a pawn. One can only wonder if White looked at the possibilities after 11.Qa4+ **11...d5 12.exd5 Qxb4 13.Be2 Bxb2??**

Diagram



Black regains the lost piece but that should be only temporary. However White misses the rather simple combination to, in turn, win the Blk B on g4 with **14.Ra4 Qe7 15.Rxg4 14.Nxe5 Bxe5= 15.Bxg4 Qd6** Black has regained the lost piece. White has a doubled pawns and an isolated p on a5. You could evaluate Black as having the better end game if it can be reached. **16.g3** perhaps 16.Re1 pinning the Blk B was better but 16...Kf8 looks to be sufficient. Black should be trying to bring the g8 Knight into play at the next opportunity. **16...Qxd5 17.Qc2 Nf6** Finally the B N enters the fray. **18.Bh3 a6** The obvious 18...0-0 connecting the B Rooks should have been played.

19.Bg2+/= Qb5?? 20.Re1+- 0-0 21.Na3 Qe8 The only square where the Q temporarily protects the Blk B. **22.Nc4** Diagram



22...c6?? loses the B Bishop. Does 22...Nd7 hold? Yes it should - but Look through the complications: 23. Nxe5 Nxe5 24.f4?? Nf3+! would win the exchange as the W R on e1 is not protected. Therefore White cannot play 24.f4 but would have to move either 24. Kf1 giving Black time for 24. ...Qb8 to save the e5 N. , OR 24 Qe4. Even 24.Qb1 threatening 25. f4 again is answered by 24...Qb8 both saving the Blk N and protecting the p on b7. **23.Nxe5** The alternative 23.Rxe5 seems somewhat better **23...Nd7 24.Nf3** Protecting the W R on e1 yet 24.Nd3 might have been better as it does not block the W B on g2. In either case W has come out a piece ahead and should win with careful play. **24...Qd8 25.Bh3 Re8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Qd3 Nc5 28.Qf5 g6??** Oh! NO! **29.Qxc5** Four White pieces vs. two Black pieces. **29...Qe4 30.Kg2 g5 31.Bf5 Qd5 32.Qxd5 cxd5 33.Rb2** And Black finally concedes. **1-0**

2012 New Mexico Open, Reserve Section

The reserve section was hard fought and closely bunched at the top. Tied for first and second were Jim Johnston and Jeffrey Sallade with 4 points each, closely followed by a 4-way tie for third, at 3.5, by David Lewis, Michael Torres, Roger Bracht

and Paul Padilla. Also on the plus side of the five rounds with 3 points were Preston Herrington, Orion Rojas-Granger, and Jacob Ornelas.

Sallade, Jeffrey S (1719) - Johnston, Jim A (1776) [B26] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho (Rd5),

Annotated by Jim Johnston. Variations in [] are computer assisted. At the start of round 5 Jeff was a point clear of the field, so I needed a win to catch up with him. This seemed highly unlikely when he got a solid position from the opening, but a tactic swung the game around for a dramatic finish. **1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 Rb8** B has to get some play. I think this is the best way to prepare for Q-side expansion **9.h3 b5 10.Qd2 b4 11.Nd1** well W just let the pawns roll forward...B does not seem to have achieved anything special and W can now attack on the K-side **11...Bd7 [>=11...Be6] 12.Kh2 Qc7 13.Bh6 Nd4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Ng1 [>=15.Ne3+/= with f4 to follow] 15...Be6 16.c3 bxc3 17.bxc3 Qa5+/=** Diagram



18.f4? was the best move on the last few turns, but now it fails to a tactic. At the board I thought Qc1 was required, but Fritz gives the much better Ne3 stopping tactics by connecting the Rs **18...Nb3+- 19.axb3 Qxa1 20.Ne3 Qa5 21.Nd5 [>=21.Nc4] 21...Bxd5 22.exd5 Rxb3 23.Ne2 Rfb8 24.Qe3**

R8b7 [it's not necessary to defend this pawn since $\geq 24...Rb2$ 25.Qxe7? Re8+] **25.f5 Rb2 26.fxg6** [$\geq 26.Rf2$ needs to be played first] **26...hxxg6 27.Rf4? Qa2 28.Bf3** [it seemed like W could swing the R over to the h file and attack the K but 28.Rh4? Nh5 (28...Ng8) 29.Rxh5 gxh5 30.Qg5+ Kf8 31.Qxh5 Ke8] **28...Nxd5** and we see why Rf2 would have been way better **29.Rxf7+ Kxf7 30.Bxd5+ Qxd5 0-1**

Vaughn, Helen (1312) -



Vigil, Orlando (1646) [C01] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho NM (Rd5),

C01: French: Exchange Variation

In this game, somehow, playing a piece and two pawns down in a losing position for a long time, Helen manages to find a way to win. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 Ne7** last book move **3.Bd3 Nbc6 4.Nf3 d6 5.Bf4 Ng6 5...Nxd4 6.Nxd4 e5 7.Be3 exd4 8.Bxe4** leaves White with but a slight advantage. **6.Bg3 e5 7.d5 Nce7 8.0-0/- Bg4 9.Nbd2 a6 10.h3 Bh5** Black wants to maintain the pin on the W N on f3 but the Bishop would have been better retreated to d7. **11.c4** Diagram



Black has not castled. The B Bishop on f8 is blocked and the B N on e7 has only 8th rank squares to which to move. White certainly appears to have won the opening. **11...c5 12.a3 f6**

13.Bh2 What was White's purpose for 12.a3 if not to play 13. b4 - - ? **13...Nf4+/- 14.Bc2 Qb8 15.g4??** Allowing the following tactic **15...Nxxh3+ + 16.Kg2 Bxxg4 17.b4 Qc7 18.Ba4+/- Kf7?? 18...Kd8 19.Ng5+??** It is amazing how often a poor move by one side is followed by a poor move by the other. **19...Nxxg5+ 20.Qxxg4 Ng6 21.f4 Nxf4+** trying to open the f-file **22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Qxf4+/- h6 24.Nb3** perhaps 24.Rab1 was a better move. **24...b6?** Black has a two pawn advantage. Now he overlooks a simple way to increase it. **24...cxb4 25.axb4 Qxc4** and now White cannot protect both his pawn on b4 and e4. **25.Rae1** 20-20 Hindsight tells us that The W B on a4 will later get trapped so it would have been better to either move the b3 N to give the B an escape route or to anchor it by 25.Bc6. **25...Qb8 26.Qf5??** comment after move 25 still applies. **26...b5-+ 27.Qd7+ Be7 28.cxb5 Ra7** A nice little zweigenzug **29.Qf5 axb5 30.e5 Re8 31.e6+ Kg8 32.Nd2 bxa4 32...Rxa4** was an alternative. After the move actually made, Black is ahead a piece and two pawns. Maybe the "tall pawn" on e7 gives White a small bit of hope...Now, does black relax thinking the win is easy? **33.Nf3 Nxf3 34.Rxf3 exb4** From this point on the only copy of the game score submitted was inaccurate and not possible to reconstruct on the chess board. BUT since the score sheet, with both players' signatures and the official cross table said that White won, the following moves are an attempt to reconstruct what *might* have happened. **35.Rh1 b3?** This move was actually on the score sheet **36.Rxxh6!! gxh6 37.Qg6+ Kf8 38.Qf7# 1-0**

Padilla, Paul (1644) - Strickin, Gregory (1430) [C30] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho NM (Rd3), 22.09.2012

C30: King's Gambit Declined **1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bc5 4.Bc4 d6** last book move **5.Ng5?** 5.fxe5 would be the move that is made more frequently here. **5...Nh6 6.Qh5?! 0-0** Trying for complications by developing the Black B on c8 with an attack on the W Q by 6...Bg4!?

looks to be the better move. A plausible continuation : **7.Qh4 .Nd4** threatening the fork of the W K and R. **8.Bb3 a5.** Possibly looking at his opponents higher rating caused Black to be conservative and choose to castle. **7.f5-/+** preventing Black from playing the c8 B to g4. **7...Qf6 7.Nd4**, centralizing the N and threatening to win the W R on a1 should have been considered. **8.Nc3+/- Ne7? 9.d3+- d5 10.Bxd5 Bb4 11.Bc4 Bxc3+** Diagram



White has all the advantage here. **12.bxc3 Nc6 13.Ba3** Trying to force the removal of a protector of the B p on f7 **13...Na5?** 13...Ne7 was the only attempt to hold on a while. **14.Bxf8 Nxc4 15.dxc4 Kxf8 15...Bxf5** was the try to avoid the coming White Fork of the B K & Q for example: **16 exf5 Rxf8** but that still leaves White ahead a piece **16.Nxxh7+ 1-0**

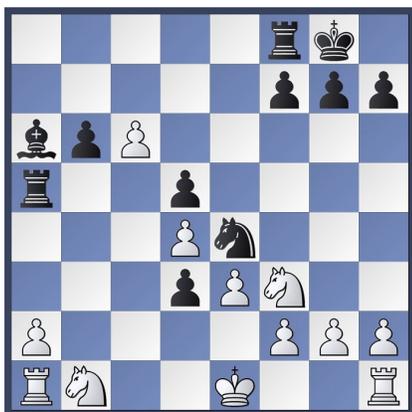
Lewis, David (1741) - Herrington, Preston (1571) [D00] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho, NM (Rd2), 22.09.2012 [Fritz 13 (20m)]

D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines This hard fought draw is presented as Fritz 13 saw it. **1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.c3 Nc6** last book move **5.dxc5 e5 6.b4 b6 7.b5 e4=/+ 8.Be2 Ne5 9.c6 a6 10.Qa4 Bc5-/+ 11.Ba3 Qe7 [11...0-0!?!-/+] 12.Bxc5=/+ Qxc5 13.Qd4**

Qxd4 14.cxd4+/- Nd3+ 15.Bxd3+/- exd3 16.Nc3 [\geq 16.Nf3!+/-] **16...axb5=** Diagram



17.Nxb5 0-0 18.Nf3+/- Ra5 19.Nc3 [19.Nd6 Ne4 20.Nxe4 dxe4+/-] **19...Ne4** [19...Be6 20.Ne5 Ne4 21.Nb1+/-] **20.Nb1** [\geq 20.Nxe4!? dxe4 21.Nd2+/-] **20...Ba6=** Diagram



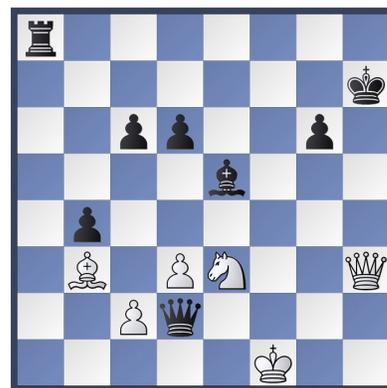
21.Nfd2 Bc4 22.f3 [\geq 22.Nxc4!? dxc4 23.f3+/-] **22...Nxd2 23.Nxd2 Rxa2?** [\geq 23...Rc8=] **24.Rxa2+/- Bxa2 25.0-0??** [\geq 25.Kf2!? f5 26.Ra1+/-] **25...Rc8** [25...f5 26.Ra1 Bc4 27.Kf2=] **26.Rc1** [26.Ra1 Bc4 27.Nxc4 dxc4+/-] **26...b5** [26...f5 27.Kf2=/+] **27.Kf2** [\geq 27.Rc5!? f5 28.Kf2+/-] **27...Bc4= 28.Ra1 g6 29.Ra6 b4** [29...f5!?=] **30.Rb6+/- b3**

[30...f5 31.Nxc4 dxc4 32.d5+/-] **31.Nxb3** [31.e4!? Kf8 32.Ke3+/-] **31...Bxb3 32.Rxb3 Rxc6 33.Rxd3 Rc2+ 34.Kg3 Kg7 35.Ra3 Rc7** [35...h5 36.h4+/-] **36.e4** [36.Ra2 Rc6+/-] **36...Rc4 37.Rd3** [37.exd5?! Rxd4 38.Ra5 Kf6=] **37...Kf6 38.Kf4** [38.h4 Ke6+/-] **38...Ke6** [38...Rc2 39.e5+ Ke6 40.g3 Rxh2 41.Rc3=] **39.Ke3 f6 40.g3 Rc2 41.Rd2 Rc3+ 42.Ke2 Kd6 43.Ra2 Rc6** [43...dxe4 44.fxe4 h5 45.Kd2+/-] **44.Kd2 Rb6 45.Rc2** [45.Kc3 Rc6+ 46.Kd3 R b 6 + / -] **45...Rb4 46.Kd3 Rb3+ 47.Rc3 Rb2 1/2-1/2**

Perea,Estevan Melcor (1643) - Ornelas,Jacob (1350) [B07] 2012 NM Open Rio Rancho, NM (Rd4), 23.09.2012 [Fritz 13 (20m)]

B07: Pirc Defence: Miscellaneous Systems Jacob, considering his rating, had a remarkable tournament. Here is his draw vs a player rated almost 300 points higher. **1.e4 d6 2.f4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3** last book move **4...Bg4 5.Bc4 Bg7?** [5...Nc6 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3=] **6.d3 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bb3 Nbd7 9.Be3 a5 10.Qd2 b5** [10...Bxf3 11.Rxf3 Ng4 12.d4=] **11.a3 Qc7** [11...Bxf3 12.Rxf3 Nc5 13.f5=] **12.h3** [12.Ng5 h6 13.Nxf7 Rxf7+/-] **12...Bxf3 13.Rxf3 Nh5** [13...b4 14.Na4 c5 15.Rf2+/-] **14.g4** White prepares the advance **f5 14...Nhf6 15.Raf1 e6 16.f5 Ne5** [16...exf5!? 17.exf5 b4 18.axb4 axb4+/-] **17.R3f2+/- Nfxg4** [\geq 17...exf5 18.exf5 Nfd7+/-] **18.hxg4+/- Nxg4** Black has given up a N for 2 pawns to open up

the W K-side. However, W is in a much better position to utilize the open files than is B whose pieces are blocked by his own pawns. **Editor 19.Rg2** [\geq 19.fxe6!? d5 20.Bf4+/-] **19...Nxe3+/- 20.Qxe3 b4** [20...exf5 21.exf5 d5 22.f6+/-] **21.axb4 axb4 22.Ne2** [22.Na2 Qe7 23.Nxb4 c5+/-] **22...exf5+/- 23.exf5 Rae8??** [\geq 23...d5!/? 24.Qc5 Qa7 25.Qxa7 Rxa7+/-] **24.Qg3** [\geq 24.Qf4!/? Qa7+ 25.Kh1 Re5+/-] **24...Qb6+ 25.Kh1 Re3??** [25...d5 26.f6 Bh6+/-] **26.Rf3** [\geq 26.Qh4 Qd8 27.f6 Bxf6 28.Qxf6 Qxf6 29.Rxf6+/-] **26...Rxf3+/- 27.Qxf3 Kh8??** [\geq 27...d5!/?+/-] **28.Rh2** [\geq 28.fxg6 fxg6 29.Nf4+/-] **28...Be5??** [\geq 28...Qd8 29.Qxc6 Qe7+/-] **29.Rh3 Kg7** [29...Qd8 30.d4 Bg7 31.Qxc6 Qf6+/-] **30.Nf4 Qd4??** [\geq 30...d5+/-] **31.Ng2** [\geq 31.f6+ Bxf6 32.Nh5+ gxh5 33.Qxh5+/-] **31...Qxb2 32.Ne3 Qc1+ 33.Kg2 Qd2+ 34.Kf1 Ra8 35.Rxh7+??** [\geq 35.Qe2 Qxe2+ 36.Kxe2=] **35...Kxh7** [35...Kg8!/? 36.Bxf7+ Kxh7 37.fxg6+ Kg7 38.Qf2 Ra1+ 39.Kg2 Qxf2+ 40.Kxf2+] **36.fxg6+ fxg6??** [\geq 36...Kg7 37.Qxf7+ Kh6 38.Ng4+ Kg5+] **37.Qh3+=** Diagram



37...Kg7 38.Qd7+ Kh6 39.Qh3+ Kg7 40.Qd7+ Kf6 41.Qe6+ Kg5 42.Qg4+ Kh6 43.Qh3+ Kg7 44.Qd7+ 1/2-1/2

The 2012 NM Open Section

DK is proud to present the following excellent game annotations by Mark Schwarman. Yes, we admit that Mark had some advantages that the over-the-board players did not. There was no ticking chess clock – in fact Mark had over 2 ½ months to go through score sheets. He had access to a strong computer chess program, and could check a data base.

All is not peaches and cream, however. As with all DK annotators over the years, game selection is hampered by illegible score sheets and games that cannot be reconstructed - sometimes even when both players submitted a copy. Even so, please consider that it is no easy task, when score sheets are just fine, to pick interesting and instructional games out of many submitted by the best players in the tournament.

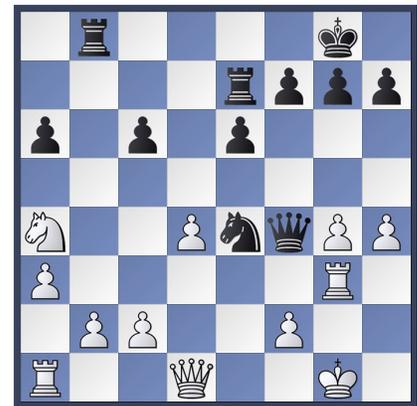
Mark has spiced the games with both humor and chess wisdom. ENJOY!!

Archuleta,Dante - Jaquish,Caleb
1940 2012New Mexico Open
(Rd3),

D01: Veresov Opening IF THIS BOARDS A ROCKING IT'S CALEB'S KNIGHT A KNOCKIN' Dante plays a sound, but one dimensional opening. Just as many, including mine, analysis goes, "I won a pawn-trade pieces-win endgame",

does not address Calebs many Knight thrusts over half the board. Dante's game resembles the little Dutch boy trying to hold back the dike, he simply runs out of fingers. **1.d4 d5 2.Nc3** By playing this, White renounces c4 and either seeks favorable transposition or active piece play. **2...Nf6 3.Bg5 Bf5** A point to ponder, after c4 by White, a Bishop development like this can be met by Qb3 attacking the undefended b pawn of Black, this is not possible here. Black plans on developing the Bishop before bolstering his center with e6. Straight forward plan. **4.Nf3** last book move **4...e6 5.a3** The point behind this move is not clear;1) The Black bishop has plenty of other good squares 2) Protecting the Knight is not vital 3) Playing cxd after a black c5, followed by b4 does not allow a positional umph as the White Bishop is not going to b2 [5.e3 Be7=] **5...c5 6.e3 a6** In contrast, a6 here prevents Bb5 with the threat of Bxc6, Ne5, f4, when Whites plan and play roll along. In other words protecting this Knight on c6 is vital. **7.Be2** [7.Bd3 Bxd3 8.cxd3 Nc6=] **7...Nc6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Re1** [9.Bxf6 gxf6 or Bxf6 10.dxc5 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Qa5!/? and Whites position is a mess. 10.dxc5 Bxc5=] **9...0-0=/+ 10.Ne5 Qc7 11.Nxc6 bxc6** This more or less commits Black to cxd. The idea of this threat is to freeze White's action in the center. [11...Qxc6 12.Bd3 Bxd3 13.Qxd3=/+] **12.Bf3** Dante wants to push e4, not allowing a trade by Bd3. [12.dxc5!/? Bxc5 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.g3=] **12...cxd4-/+ 13.exd4 Rab8** [13...c5 14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Be3=/+] **14.Na4 Rfe8 15.h4?!** Wishful thinking, White must seek to trade pieces or slow Blacks play down. Black's position is too solid to overrun. This move weakens White's position not Black's. [15.g3=/+] **15...Nd7!/?** [>=15...h6!/? 16.Be3 Ne4-/+]

16.Bxe7= Rxe7 17.g4?! A deal with the Devil. White wins a pawn but the advanced pawns, weakened King side, out-of-play Knight on a4 all spell serious counter-play by Black. **17...Be4 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.Rxe4 Nf6 20.Re3** [20.Re5 Nd7 21.Re3 Qf4+/=] **20...Qf4** [20...h5 21.gxh5 Qf4=/+ White, up two pawns, is shattered.] **21.Rg3** [>=21.Qf3!/? Qxg4+ 22.Qxg4 Nxg4 23.Re4=] **21...Ne4** Diagram



22.Rg2 Nd2 [22...e5 23.Nc5 Nd2 24.Nd3 Nf3+ 25.Kf1=] **23.Rg3 Rd7 24.c3?** White is swimming in a sea of troubles. He must do anything to slow Black's play. He does not. [>=24.Nc5!/? Ne4 25.Nxe4 Qxe4 26.Qd3 Qxd3 27.Rxd3 Rxb2 28.Rc1=/+] **24...Nb3-/+ 25.Rb1 c5 26.Qc2** [26.Rd3 cxd4 27.c4 Rdb7-+] **26...cxd4 27.c4** [27.cxd4 Nxd4 (<27...Rxd4 28.Rxb3 Rbd8 29.Nb6+/=) 28.Qd3 h5 29.gxh5 Rd5-+] **27...Nd2** [>=27...d3 28.Rxd3 Nd2 (28...Qxg4+?! 29.Rg3 Nd4 30.Rxg4 Nxc2 31.Nc5=) 29.Qxd2 Qxd2 30.Rxd2 Rxd2-+] **28.Rd1?** [>=28.Nc5 Rc7 29.Nd3 Nf3+ 30.Kg2 Nxh4+ 31.Kh3-+] **28...Ne4** The wheels are coming off White's game. **29.Rg2 e5** [29...d3 30.Rxd3 Rbd8 31.Rxd7 Rxd7 32.Nc3-+ followed by Nxc3 and Qf3. This allows a fatal penetration of Black's Rook.] **30.b4** [>=30.Qd3=/+] **30...Rbd8+ 31.Nb2??** [31.Rd3 Nc3 32.f3 Nxa4 33.Qxa4 Qc1+ 34.Qd1 Qxc4-+] **31...Nc3** [>=31...d3

32.Rxd3 Rxd3 33.Nxd3 Qf3-+
 Maybe better but not clearer!]
32.Nd3 Qf6 33.Re1? [>=33.g5 Qf5
 34.Re1-/+] **33...e4-+ 34.Nc5 Re7**
35.Nxe4?? [>=35.h5-+] **35...Nxe4**
36.Rxe4 [36.Qd3 Nc3 37.Rf1 Qxh4
 38.Rh2 Qxg4+ 39.Kh1-+] **36...d3**
 A well played game by Mr. Jaquish.
 The end came suddenly and surely
 for White after "winning" the pawn.
0-1



**Perea, Steve 1891 - Fromme, Joe
 1755, 2012 New Mexico Open, Rd4**

C00: French: Unusual White 2nd
 moves PIECE PLAY WITHOUT
 PIECES. In an off-beat French,
 White tries to whip up an attack
 on the King-side, Black on the
 Queen-side. Suddenly, most of
 the pieces are vacuumed from the
 board, leaving the play but not
 the pieces. **1.e4 e6 2.f4** Unusual,
 but not bad. White commits to an
 e5 set-up. **2...d5 3.e5 c5** last
 book move **4.Bb5+!?** But this is
 a horse of a different color.
 Black's light-squared Bishop is
 bad. Exchanging it now solves
 many Black problems with no
 upside. **4...Bd7 5.Bxd7+ Qxd7**
6.Nf3 Nh6 interesting played
 now.Nc6 is more obvious.
7.d3 Nc6 [7...Nf5 8.c4-/+]
8.Nc3 Be7 9.0-0 [9.Ne2 Nf5=/+]
9...0-0 The reason I don't like this
 move-Now that White has castled
 K-side, Black can generate
 dangerous threats on that side.
 By going or threatening to castle
 Q side Black can attack. After
 Black castles King side an attack
 there would endanger him as
 well as White. [9...Nf5 10.Qd2-/
 +] **10.Ne2=/+ Nf5 11.a3 a5**
12.Qe1 Diagram

[12.g4 Nh4=/+] **12...Nfd4?!** I do
 not like this move. There is no syn-
 thesis or connection with the prior
 movea5 (....b5 and an advance/
 pawn storm on the Queenside).
 Trading better pieces for worse
 pieces, doesn't put money in the
 bank. [12...h5 13.Bd2-/+]
13.Nexd4=/+ cxd4 14.g4 Not clear
 but definitely scary for Black.
 [14.Bd2 Rfc8=] **14...f6 15.exf6**
Bxf6 Why is Rxf6 better? Because
 Black can play a further Bd6 and all
 Black's pieces are happy. [15...Rxf6
 16.g5 Rf5 17.Bd2=/+] **16.Qg3 Be7**
17.Bd2 Bd6 18.Ne5 [18.Rae1
 Rac8=] **18...Bxe5=/+ 19.fxe5 a4**
 [19...Qc7 20.h4=/+] **20.h4= Rxf1+**
21.Rxf1 Rf8 22.Rxf8+ Kxf8
23.Qf4+ A fair result. Any winning
 plan would entail considerable risk,
 so.... 1/2-1/2

**Covington, Paul 1900 -
 Thigpen, Douglas 1982
 2012 New Mexico Open (Rd2),**

A45: Trompowsky Attack I DON'T
 WANT A DRAW!!..... [AND
 YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET ONE]
 Here Paul Covington eschews a
 repetition of the position with the
 mighty Thigpen in pursuit of the
 elusive win. So elusive it escapes
 entirely. After winning the opening
 argument it is 123, abc for a player
 of Thigpen's skill. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4**
c5 3.e3 last book move **3...Qb6**
 Thematic, once a Queen's Bishop
 vacates in Queen pawn openings.

4.Nc3 Qxb2 This allows a draw by
 repetition. Possible ise6 with the
 idea of 5.cxd Qxb2 6.Nb5 Nd4 with
 a double edged game. **5.Nb5 Na6**
6.Rb1 Qxa2 7.Ra1 Qb2 Diagram



8.Rb1 [8.Rxa6 bxa6 9.Nc7+ Kd8
 10.Nxa8 Bb7 11.Nc7 Ne4 12.Ne2
 cxd4 13.f3 e5! and White is in
 much, much greater danger than
 Black. There are many variations
 but typically, the Queen check on c3
 and attack always assures White
 cannot escape with the Knight.]
8...Qa2 9.Ra1 Qb2 10.Rb1 Qa2
11.Rb3?! Effectively the losing
 move. Black now escapes with his
 Queen and consolidates. [>=11.Ra1
 Qb2=] **11...Qa5-/+ 12.c3 d6**
13.dxc5?? [>=13.Nf3-/+]
13...Nxc5-+ 14.Ra3 Qb6 15.Qb1
 [15.Nf3 e5 16.Bg3 a6-+] **15...e5**
16.Bg3 Be6 [16...a6 17.Nf3 Be6
 18.c4-+] **17.Be2** [17.Nf3 a6 18.c4
 Rc8-+] **17...a6 18.Nf3** [18.c4 Rc8
 19.Nc3 Qxb1+ 20.Nxb1 d5 21.Bxe5
 dxc4 22.Bxf6 gxf6-+] **18...Rc8**
 Black's advantage has been increas-
 ing move after move. Fritz gives
 Black a five point advantage now,
 easily winning. **19.Nxd6+** [19.0-0
 axb5 20.Bxb5+ Bd7 21.Bxd7+
 Nfxd7 22.Qxb6 Nxb6-+]
19...Qxd6 20.Bxe5 [20.c4 Nce4
 21.Rb3 Qc5-+] **20...Nd3+!**
21.Bxd3 [21.Qxd3 Qxa3 Discovered
 attack; 21.Bxd3 Qxa3 Discovered
 attack] **21...Qxa3 22.0-0 Bd6**
 [>=22...Qb3 23.h4-+] **23.Bxd6**
 [23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Qxb7 Rxc3-+]

23...Qxd6 24.Rd1 White has only a small window of opportunity before Black consolidates. Whatever White does, he must do it now. 24...Qc7 [24...Rxc3?! 25.Bb5+ Ke7 26.Rxd6 Kxd6 27.Qb4+ Rc5 28.Bf1+] 25.Nd4 0-0 26.h3 [26.c4 Qe7 27.Qa2 Qb4+] 26...b5 Now Fritz gives Black a 7 point edge. 27.Nxe6 [27.Qa1 Qb6+] 27...fxe6 28.Qa2 Qxc3 29.Qxe6+ Kh8 30.Qxa6 [30.Qa2 Rfd8 31.Qb1 Rc7+] 30...Rcd8 31.Qxb5 Rd5 32.Qb1 Rfd8 33.Be2 Diagram



[33.Qa1 Qxa1 (33...Rxd3?! 34.Qxc3 Rxd1+ 35.Kh2-+) 34.Rxa1 Rxd3+] 33...Rxd1+ 34.Bxd1 Qe1+ 35.Kh2 Qxd1 Excellent technique by Thigpen. Lesson learned: Sometimes just take the draw. [35...Qxd1 36.Qb4 Qd6+ 37.Qxd6 Rxd6+] 0-1

Zou,Albert 1905- Fromme,Joe, 1755 2012 New Mexico Open (Rd1),

B98: Sicilian Najdorf: 6 Bg5 e6 7 f4 Be7, sidelines MISSING THE BUS In what has to be considered a classic Sicilian, Joe Fromme first halts Zou's attack and continuously improves his position. At the key moment, mutual blindness occurs (...Nc3+) and the best move of the game is never played. Zou's refusal to trade Queens is philosophically wrong: If you have no attack, only your opponent can profit from his attack. White came dangerously

close to losing. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.f5 Nc6 10.0-0 last book move 10...0-0 11.h4 [11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.g4 Rb8+] 11...Bd7 Diagram



It is time to be honest: These positions always confuse me. Will Whites attack prevail? Or will Black's inevitable counterplay crash through? My gut feeling is that Black can concretely improve his position (...b5...Rc8.....Na5.....b4 etc.) while it is not quite clear what White should do. Therefore, I have to give the edge to Black because his fog is a little clearer. [11...Nxd4 12.Rxd4 b5 13.Be2=] 12.g4 [1 2 . B e 2 R a c 8 + / =] 12...Rab8 13.Be3?! Not good, White's attack grinds to a halt, while Black's is just getting started. [13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Bh3 d5=] 13...Ne5=/+ 14.Qg3 Nexg4 15.h5 Nxe3 16.Qxe3 Rfc8 [>=16...b5 17.Rg1 Kh8-/+ (17...Nxb5? 18.Be2+ -)] 17.Be2?? [17.Rg1!? Kh8 18.h6=] 17...b5 [>=17...e5 18.Nf3 Qc5 19.Qxc5 Rxc5+ 19. h6 Rxc3!? followed by Nxe4, typical Sicilian sac.] 18.Rd2?? I guess I've discovered a rule of thumb: If White has to defend, he is losing. Rd2 is very committal in this cut-throat position. [18.Rhg1 Kh8 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Qg3-/+] 18...b4+ 19.Nd1 Qb6?? [>=19...Qa5 20.Kb1 exf5 21.exf5 Nd5+ With the threat of Nc3+ (note Black rook on b8) and White is busted.] 20.Rg1 Kh8 21.Bf3 [21.fxe6 fxe6 22.e5 dxe5 23.Qxe5

Rc5-/+] 21...e5-+ 22.Qg5? [>=22.Nb3+] 22...Rg8 23.Ne2 [23.Nb3 h6 24.Qe3 Qc7+] 23...h6 Not the most precise, but Black is easily winning because White's attack is winding down and Black's is winding up. [>=23...Qa5!? 24.h6 gxh6 25.Qe3 Qxa2 26.Rd3+] 24.Qh4 [24.Qe3 Nh7 25.Qxb6 Rxb6 +] 24...Rbe8 [24...Qa5!? (again with the threatNd5 attacking Queen, protecting Bishop on e7 and threatening the killer Nc3+) 25.Kb1 b3 26.Nec3+] 25.Qh3 [25.Qe1 a5+] 25...Bc6 [25...Nh7!? 26.Bh1+ No fancy analysis needed: White's game is a mess, His pieces are completely uncoordinated.] 26.Qg2 a5 27.b3 [27.Ng3 a4+] 27...Nd7 28.Kb1 Bb5 [28...Bg5 29.Rxd6 Qc7 30.Rxc6 Qxc6 31.Nb2+] 29.Nb2 [29.Qf2 Qb7+] 29...Bg5 30.Rdd1 Ne5 Diagram .

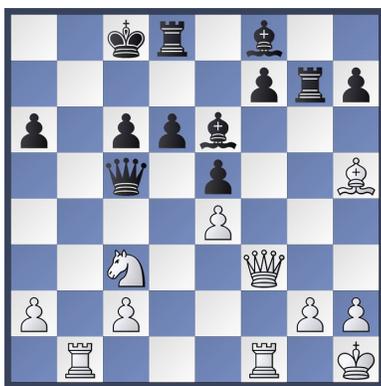


...Rc8 and Black is clearly winning, but.... 1/2-1/2

Flores,Andrew 1911- Thigpen,Doug 1982 2012 New Mexico Open (rd4),

B97: Sicilian Najdorf: Poisoned Pawn THE NOTES NEED NOTES: In an extremely complex Najdorf poisoned pawn, Thigpen slips on a Banana peel and has to sacrifice his Queen. Surprisingly, he further sacs an exchange. Technically, Black is still losing, but this gives Black a straightforward plan, while White

goes sightseeing. Black's pawns inch down the board spelling doom to White's unproductive play. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Qd2 Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.Be2 Nc6 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.0-0** last book move **13...Rg8** [13...d5 14.Rb3 Qa5 15.exd5 cxd5 16.f5=+] **14.Bf3 e5 15.fxe5** [15.f5 Qc5+ 16.Kh1 Qa7=] **15...fxe5** [>=15...dxe5 16.Rfd1 Be6-/+] **16.Kh1 Qc5 17.Bh5 Rg7 18.Qd3** [18.Na4!? Qd4 19.Qa5+/=] **18...Be6= 19.Qf3** [>=19.Rb7 Be7 20.Na4=] **19...0-0-0??** Diagram



[>=19...Be7-/+ Black threatens to consolidate with d5 and simply remain a pawn up.] **20.Na4** Blacks King is dangerously exposed to attack by Rook, Knight and Queen. [>=20.Rb2 Be7 21.Na4+/-] **20...Qd4??** [>=20...Qxc2 21.Nb6+ Kc7 22.Bxf7 Rxf7 23.Qxf7+ Bxf7 24.Rxf7+ Kb8 25.Nd7+ Ka7 26.Nb6+ Be7 27.Rxe7+ Kb8 28.Nd7+ Kc8 29.Nb6+ Kb8 30.Nd7+ Kc8 31.Nb6+ Kb8=] **21.Nb6+- Kc7 22.Qe2** [>=22.Bxf7 (afterBxf7 23. Qxf7+ Rxf7 24. Rxf7+ Kb8 25.Nd5+ Ka8 26.Nc7+ Ka7 27.Ne6+ Ka8 28. Nxd8!! and Blak is being mated...WOW) 22...d5 23.Bxe6+-] **22...Qxb6** Cold blooded desperation. [22...Rb8 23.Qxa6 Kd8 24.Qa7 Rxb6 25.Rxb6+- (25.Qxb6+?! Qxb6 26.Rxb6 Kc7+-)] **23.Rxb6 Kxb6 24.Rb1+** [24.Bxf7 Bxf7 25.Qe3+

with the threat of 26.Rxf7 followed by Qb3 picking up rook, if 24....Rxf7 25.Rxf7 Bxf7 26. Qf2+ picking up stray Bishop on f7. Same themes different squares.] **24...Ka7** [24...Kc7 25.Qxa6 Rc8 26.Rb7+ Kd8 27.Qb6+ Ke8 28.a4+-] **25.Qf2+** 25.c3 with the idea of swinging the Queen also seems to work. **25...c5[] 26.c4?** Throws away Whites winning advantage- White now is simply "better." [>=26.Qd2 Rb8 27.Rxb8 Kxb8 28.Qa5+-] **26...Rb8+/- 27.Rxb8 Kxb8 28.Qf6 Kc7 29.h3** [2 9 . B e 2 K d 7 + / -] **29...Bxc4+/=** Now, almost even. **30.a3 Be6** [30...Kd7 31.a4+/=] **31.Bg4 Rxb4?** An incredibly bold decision. Black pins his hopes on the passed c pawn believing White has no targets. [>=31...Bxb4 3 2 . h x g 4 K d 7 + / -] **32.hxb4+- c4** [32...Kd7 33.Qf1 c4 34.Qf2+-] **33.Qf3** Protecting the g pawn and stopping the c pawn advance. [>=33.a4+- Allows for destructive penetration by Qf2 (a5 if needed). It is easier for White to support the a pawn push and stop Blacks c pawn than vice-versa.] **33...Bh6 34.Qc3 Kc6 35.Kg1 Kc5** [35...Bg5 36.Qa5 Be3+ 37.Kf1+-] **36.Kf2 Bg5 37.Kf3 Bd8 38.Qb4+ Kc6 39.a4 Bb6 40.g5 Bd8** [40...Bc5 41.Qa5 Kb7 42.Ke2+-] **41.a5** [41.Qb8 Bc7 (41...Bxb5?? 42.a5+-) 42.Qa7 a5+-] **41...d5** [41...Bc7 42.Ke2+-] **42.Qa4+ Kc5 43.Qa3+ Kb5 44.Qd6** [44.Qb2+ Kc6 45.Qxe5 Bxa5 46.exd5+ Bxd5+ 47.Ke3 Bb6+ 48.Kd2 Bd8+-] **44...dxe4+ 45.Kxe4** [45.Ke2!? Bxa5 46.Qxe5+ Ka4 47.Qxe4 Bb4+/-] **45...Bxa5+/-** Even though Fritz rates this position as favorable to White, White's progress has been minimal after the last several moves. Black on the other hand has traded down, protected his King and unleashed another passed pawn. Black has a clear cut plan to make progress

while it is much harder for White. **46.Qxe5+ Ka4 47.Qa1+ Kb5 48.Qb2+** [48.Qb1+ Bb4+/-] **48...Bb4 49.Qe5+ Kc6** [49...Ka4 50.Qa1+ Kb5 51.Qh1+/=] **50.Kd4 a5?** [>=50...c3+/-] **51.Qe4+- Kb5** [51...Kd6 52.Qxh7 Bc5+ 53.Ke4 Bd5+ 54.Kf4+-] **52.Qxh7 c3 53.Qd3+??** Drives the Black King to relative safety and support of the passed pawns. [>=53.Qc2 Kc6 54.g6 fxb6 55.Qxb6+-] **53...Ka4= 54.g6 fxb6 55.Qxb6??** [>=55.Qd1+ Bb3 56.Qa1+ Kb5 57.Qf1+ Ka4 58.Ke3=] **55...Bb3+- 56.g4 c2 57.Qc6+** [57.Qh6 Ka3 58.Qe3 Ka2+-] **57...Ka3 58.g5** [58.Ke3 Ka2 59.Qc7+-] **58...Kb2** [58...Bd2 59.Qc5+ Ka2 60.g6+-] **59.Qg2 Kb1 60.Qe4 Kb2** The Black pawns are unstoppable. [60...Kb2 61.Qg2 Bc3+ 62.Kd3 Ka3 63.Kxc3 c1Q+ 64.Kd3 a4+-] **0-1**

Thigpen, Douglas 1982 - Hatcher, Wayne 1923 2012 New Mexico Open, Rd5

C10: French with 3 Nc3: Unusual Black 3rd moves and 3...dxe4 NIMZOVITCH CALLED AND WANTS HIS OPENING BACK: Turning out to be a great game for Doug and a terrible game for Wayne, the fate of the New Mexico Open was decided. The 3....exd and 4....Nd7 system is a thought of Nimzovitch, "You do not need to occupy an area to control it, if troops occupy an area and are subject to long range bombardment , they do not control the area." All well and good but the concrete approach suggests that Black is cruising for a bruising and pleading for a bleeden. I have found at least 13 games with this complete game in the Databases. Wayne can take comfort in knowing the highest rated victim was 2350. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7** I have never liked this setup for Black. Af-

ter making the concession of ...e6, to get in d5, he proceeds to trade this pawn for White's e-pawn. What does he get for this? He loses his center pawn, drags Whites horse deeper into the center, his Queens Bishop might find a home on b7, and he gets a semi-open dfile. All in all, not very good for Black. If you are fighting for a draw from move 3, why play the opening? **5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.Qe2** Much better than simply castling. **7...b6?!** Correct idea in trying to find a home for the Bishop on c8, but not now. Possible was ...Nxe4 (trading pieces), c5, or 0-0. **8.Ne5 Bb7??** Diagram Give up all hope Ye who enter here. **9.Nxf7! Kxf7 10.Ng5+ Ke8** [12...Kf8 11.Nxe6+, ...Kg8 11.Qxe6+ with mate to follow. **11.Nxe6 Qc8 12.Nxg7+ Kd8N** [12...Kf7 13.Qe6+ Kxg7 14.Qxe7+ Kg8 15.Bc4+ Bd5 16.Bxd5+ Nxd5 17.Qe6+ Kg7 18.Bh6# 1-0 Kudrin,S (2543)-Cherniack,A (2246)/Sturbridge 2007/CBM 117 ext] **13.Ne6+ Ke8 14.Bf4** It is time for Black to throw in the towel. [14.Bf4 Kf7 15.Nxc7+-] **1-0**

Thigpen,Douglas 1982 - Grinberg, Matt 2012 New Mexico Open (rd3), [Annotators: Grinberg, Schwarman]

C76: Ruy Lopez: Deferred Steinitz: 5 c3 Bd7 6 d4 g6 GOOD MOVES ARE FINITE, BLUNDERS GO ON FOREVER: After a well played and topical opening leading to an equal endgame, a comedy of errors ensues. The game swings like a pendulum from advantages and wins for one side to the other. The game ends when no blunder can be tolerated. A hard fought game where neither player gave up. Matt Grinberg's notes attached, his comments are identified by -MG and evaluations of moves in () after the move. All mistakes are mine, Mark Schwar-

man. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.0-0 Bd7 6.c3 g6** In the closed Ruy Lopez, when Black can play g6 and fianchetto, it is usually good. Often Black plays Be7, 0-0, Re8, Bf8, g6, Bg7. **7.d4 Bg7 8.h3** (!?) This is too slow.-MG **8...Nf6 9.Re1 0-0 10.Nbd2 Nh5 11.Nf1** Diagram



11...Nf4! [11...Kh8 (11...Qe8!?) 12.Bb3 h6 13.a4 Qe8 14.a5 Rd8 15.Bd5 Bc8 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Qb3 Nf4 18.Be3 Ne6 19.N1d2 f5 20.Nc4 f4 21.Bc1 Nc5 22.Qa3 Nd7 23.Qa4 Na7 24.Na3 g5 25.Qc4 c6 26.Be6 Gashimov,V (2644)-Halkias,S (2569)/Dresden 2007/CBM 118/1/2-1/2 (61)] **12.Bxf4** White is faced with a dilemma, that is why Nf4 gets a !, it is not clear what Whites's best plan is here. To take the Knight and attack the stray f pawn? d5 gaining space? exd? Even with the aid of cyber intelligence it is not clear. The benefit of Bxf4 is that it speeds up development and makes a clear target of the f4 pawn, downside is giving up 2 Bishops and losing the e pawn as a target, without the Bishops White's attacking chances are problematical.. **12...exf4 13.e5** White is losing his grip of the position. e5 appears to be just a move and not part of a strategic plan. Black has comfortable equality by counter attacking the effectively isolated White e pawn. [13.d5!? Ne5 14.Nxe5 dxe5 15.Bxd7 Qxd7

16.Qe2+/-] **13...dxe5=/+ 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Be6** [15...Bb5 16.Bxb5 Qxd1 17.Rexd1 axb5 18.Nh2=] **16.Qf3 Qg5!** This keeps White's duel attack on f4 and b7 from bearing fruit 17. Qxb7 Bxh3 **17.Bb3 c6** [17...Bxb3 18.axb3 c6 19.e6=] **18.Bxe6= fxe6 19.Qg4** (!?) I seriously don't like this move. White is offering an endgame with a Knight against Bishop, pawns on both sides of the board and no compensating advantage. It gets a ? because I don't like it, a ! because Thigpen played it (He has a tremendous sense of where pieces should be). [19.Rad1 Rad8= (19...Bxe5 20.Rd7+/-)] **19...Qxg4 20.hxg4 Rad8 21.Re2** [21.Nh2 Rd5=] **21...g5** A prophylactic move but a little slow. If nothing else, Black can try doubling on the d file. The question now is are either playing for a win or are they dedicated to the "best move"/idea? The endgame is effectively equal. [21...f3 22.Re4=+] **22.Nd2= h6** (Rd5!? deserved attention) **23.Rae1 b5?!** (?) A simply awful move leaving too many weak pawns. [23... Rf7 24. Nc4 Bf8 25. Nd6 Bxd6 26. exd6 Rxd6 27. Rxe6 Rd2=; 23... Rd5 24. Nb3 Rb8 25. c4 Rdd8 26. Nc5 Kf7 27. Ne4 Rd3 28. f3 b6 29. Nd6 Ke7 -0.18 Rybka4]-MG Designed to keep the horse out of c4 but the cure is worse than the disease, c5 and a5 are anemic. [23...Rd5 24.Nb3 Rb8 25.Kh2=] **24.Nb3+/- Kf7 25.Nc5 a5** [25...Ra8 26.Nb7 Rfb8 27.Nd6+ Kg6 28.c4^] **26.Nb7+/- Rd3 27.Nxa5 Rc8 28.Nb7?!** (?) Doug returns the favor. The knight is in danger of being trapped, which Black uses to his advantage. -MG A little too smarmy. [28.Nb3!+/-] **28...Bf8= 29.Re4 Ra8 30.Rd4** [30.a3 Ra7 31.Nd6+ Bxd6 32.exd6 Rxd6=] **30...Rxd4=/+ 31.cxd4 Rxa2 32.Nd8+**

Diagram next page



32...Ke8 (!?) There was a "throng" watching the latter stages of this game. I suspect they thought they witnessed a "brilliant" draw between two evenly matched opponents. In fact they witnessed two brains misfiring as the position became more and more difficult and time ticked away on the clocks, leading to a draw by mutual futility. As for the move played, I thought to avoid giving up a pawn with check, but a more important consideration is which pawn is more important. Clearly the e-pawn which blocks his PROTECTED PASSED PAWN is more important. Therefore 32... Ke7 was necessary even if it does give up the c-pawn with check. [32... Ke7 33. Nxc6 Kd7 34. Rc1 Rxb2 35. Nb8 Kd8 36. Nc6 Ke8 -0.44 Rybka4]-MG Strangely, significantly worse than Ke7. [32...Ke7 33.Nxc6+ Kd7=/+] **33.Nxc6?** (?) Doug also misses the point. -MG White returns the favor! Nxe6 and White is very comfortable. [>=33.Nxe6 Rxb2 34.Rc1+/=] **33...Rxb2** -/+ **34.d5** (!?) A daring move but Doug misses my reply. (better is Ra1)-MG **34...Bc5+** **35.Kh2** (?) Of course he wants to avoid the loss of the rook, but the way to do it is to move the rook to the open file, not make a useless king move.-MG [35.Ra1 Kd7 36.Nb8+ Kd8 37.Nc6+ Kc7 38.Rc1 Bxf2+ 39.Kf1 -/+] **35...exd5** White's game is on its deathbed.

36.e6 Bxf2?? (??) Now that Black's king is confined to the back rank, he HAS to stop white from gaining control of the open a-file.-MS The threat of Ra1 is so darn obvious, yet Black forces White to play it. The mistakes played in the heat of battle.... [>=36...Ra2 37.f3 Ra6+] **37.Ra1+- Kf8** Diagram



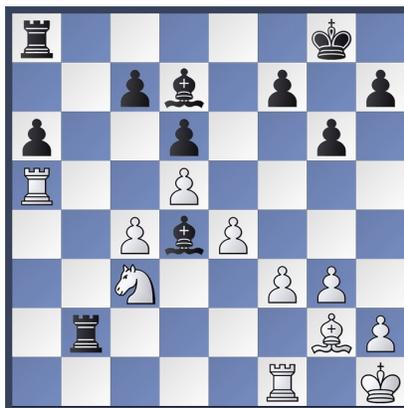
38.Ra8+? (??) Doug misses his chance to win the game. The draw by futility follows.-MG Only draws, e7+ was the killer. The reason is after e7+, Black must play his King to f7 to prevent White from queening the e pawn, after Ra8+ Black plays Kg7. A similar position arises in both lines BUT with the King on f7, the e pawn queening is with CHECK, game, set match. Now with the e pawn queening with the king on g7, Black can mate White! [>=38.e7+ Kf7 39.Ra8+-] **38...Kg7= 39.e7 Bg3+ 40.Kh3 Rb1 41.Rg8+ Kh7 42.Rh8+ Kg7 43.Rg8+** Draw agreed 1/2-1/2

Grinberg, Mathew 2041 - Kammerdiner, Jason 1897, 2012 NM O p e n r d 2 [Annotators: Grinberg, Schwarman]

E63: King's Indian: Fianchetto: Panno Variation with 7...a6 OPPOSITE COLORED BISHOPS: THE LAST REFUGE OF AN EXPERT. Here Matt Grinberg stumbles in the

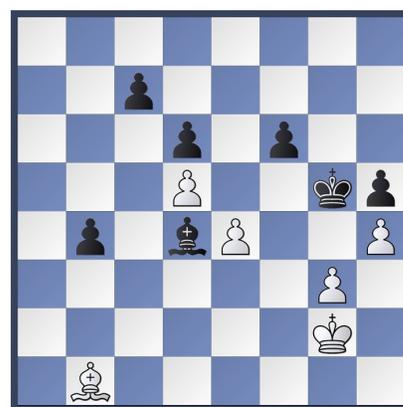
opening. Kammerdiner sacrifices a pawn for a grip on the position. Things look bad for our hero expert but he steers the endgame into Bishops of opposite color assuring the draw. Matt's notes are attached with -MG and his move evaluations in () after the move. All mistakes in analysis/copying/typing are mine, Mark Schwarman **1.c4** Just trying to throw Jason off by not playing the expected 1.e4-MG **1...Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d6 5.d4** I do not know what prompted me to do this. It is not what I normally do.-MG **5...0-0 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.e4** (!?) It is much better to keep the Bishop off of g4 before playing this-MG (h3 is considered normal) Virtually every legal move for White has been tried in this position. Black's plan isNa5.....c5.....b5, with straightforward play on the Queenside (Rb8 and Bishop on g7). Taking advantage of the Knight on a5 is problematical for White. **8...Bg4 9.Be3 e5 10.d5 Nd4** (!) Sacrificing a pawn but the alternatives are good for White.-MG **11.Bxd4** White must remove the bothersome horse before it leaves hoof prints all over White's game. **11...exd4 12.Qxd4 Nd7!?N** [12...Re8 13.Qd3 Nd7 14.Nd2 Kacheishvili,G (2583)-Kalinitschew,S (2487)/Senden 2001/CBM 084 ext/1-0 (40)] **13.Qd2** [13.Qe3 Qe7+/-] **13...Nc5** [13...Qf6 14.Qe3+/=] **14.Rae1** (!?) Not only failing to take into account the threat of Qf6 attacking the Knight, but also taking away its retreat square.-MG **14...Re8** (!?) Missing the opportunity I allowed with my last move.-MG **15.Nd4 Qf6 16.Nb3** (!?) [16. Nc2 This is the move I originally intended in the game. I rejected it because I was worried about threats to my e-pawn and therefore thought I had to challenge the knight on c5. 16... Bd7 (16... Bf3!?) This is the move that worried me, but I overlooked the strength of White's next

move. 17. Re3 Bxg2 18. Kxg2 +0.73|d18 Rybka4) 17. f4 Na4 18. Nxa4 Bxa4 19. Rb1 +0.46|d17 Rybka4; 16. Nde2 h5 (16... Bxe2 17. Qxe2 Rab8 18. Rd1 b5 19. cxb5 axb5 20. Rd2 +0.43|d15) 17. f3 Bd7 18. Rd1 h4 19. g4 a5 20. Nd4 +0.43|d14]-MG [16.Nc2 Bd7+/=] **16...b6** (!?) Jason evidently thought that because I wanted to trade knights, there must be something wrong with it.-MG [16...Nxb3 17.axb3 Qd4 18.Qxd4 Bxd4 19.Ra1+/=] **17.f3** (!?) I in turn thought that because Jason was allowing me the trade knights, there must be something wrong with it.-MG [17.Re3 Rab8+/=] **17...Bd7** [17...Nxb3 18.axb3 Qd4+ 19.Qxd4 Bxd4+ 20.Kh1+/=] **18.Rd1 Nxb3** Finally someone takes!-MG **19.axb3 b5!** A surprising move for me. I expected a5 slowing down Whites play on the Queenside. Instead Black takes White head on, the pawn deficit notwithstanding. **20.Ra1** [>=20.Rf2!+/-] **20...bxc4** **21.bxc4 Reb8** Even though down a pawn, both Black's Bishops are good. White's Bishop has limited prospects. [>=21...Qd4+ 22.Qxd4 Bxd4+ 23.Kh1 a5=] **22.Ra5??** (?) Again trying to play aggressively, but this time the move is an outright blunder. [>=22.Rfd1 Rb3 23. Ra2 Rab8 +0.15 Rybka4]-MG NOTE:I gave this move ?? Matt only ? [>=22.Rfd1+/=] **22...Qd4+/-+ 23.Qxd4** (!) The lesser of two evils is as follows-MG [23.Rf2 Rb3 24.Ra2 Qxc4-/+] **23...Bxd4+/-+ 24.Kh1 Rxb2**



Taking a candid evaluation: Material is even, Black has the 2 Bishops, an active Rook, an outside passed pawn, and Whites Bishop is very passive. With best play Black must be won. **25.Nb5!** White is willing to give up a pawn to get Black to give up the bishop pair and head for a position with bishops of opposite color.-MG White's only and best shot in this endgame. **25...Bxb5** (!?) Leading to the bishops of opposite color that White wanted.-MG [25...Bb6!/? 26.Ra3-+] **26.cxb5-/+ Rxb5 27.Rxb5** (!?) It is better to keep both pairs of rooks on the board to keep the maximum pressure on Black's passed a-pawn.-MG [27.Ra4 Bc5-/+] **27...axb5-+ 28.Rd1?** (!?) obviously the rook belongs on the b file.-MG The trouble for White is he has limited targets and play. Black can defend his weak points and has a solid passed pawn. Black's problem is a "one front war." He must induce a further weakness in White's position to play for a win. (The b pawn can be stopped) [>=28.Rb1 Ra2 29.h4-/+] **28...Bc5 29.Bf1 b4 30.Bc4 Ra3 31.Rd3** [31.Kg2 Rc3 32.Bd3 b3-+] **31...Ra1+ 32.Kg2 Rg1+** [32...Kg7 33.Rb3-+] **33.Kh3 h5 34.Rb3 Kg7 35.f4 f6** [35...Re1 36.Bd3-+] **36.Bd3 Kh6** (?) This throws away any realistic hope of winning. [36... Rd1 37. Kg2 Rd2 38. Kh1 Kh6-/+ White might be able to hold this, but it isn't going to be fun.]-MG Allowing White to trade Rooks, Black's

mating /attacking plan with his h and g pawn have led nowhere. [36...Re1!/? 37.Kg2] **37.Rb1 Rxb1 38.Bxb1 g5** [38...b3-+] **39.fxc5+?** [39.Bc2 Be3 40.f5 g4+ 41.Kg2 Kg5-/+] **39...Kxg5??** The superiority of fxc5 is that White's e pawn is weak. By Black playing his King to e5 he could threaten to penetrate White's position. After Kxg5, Black's position is raggedy, allowing White counter-play against Black's scattered pawns. [39...fxg5!/? 40.g4] **40.Kg2** [40.Bc2 Bd4=/+] **40...Bd4 41.h4+/=** Diagram



41...Kh6 ...Kg4 42.Bd3 followed by Bf2# is the end of the world. **42.Kf3 b3 43.g4 Be5 44.Bd3 Bh2** Draw agreed. White can play his bishop between b1 and d3 forever. Black cannot make progress without trading on g4 and then moving his king to the queenside. But that would risk losing. -MG 1/2-1/2

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