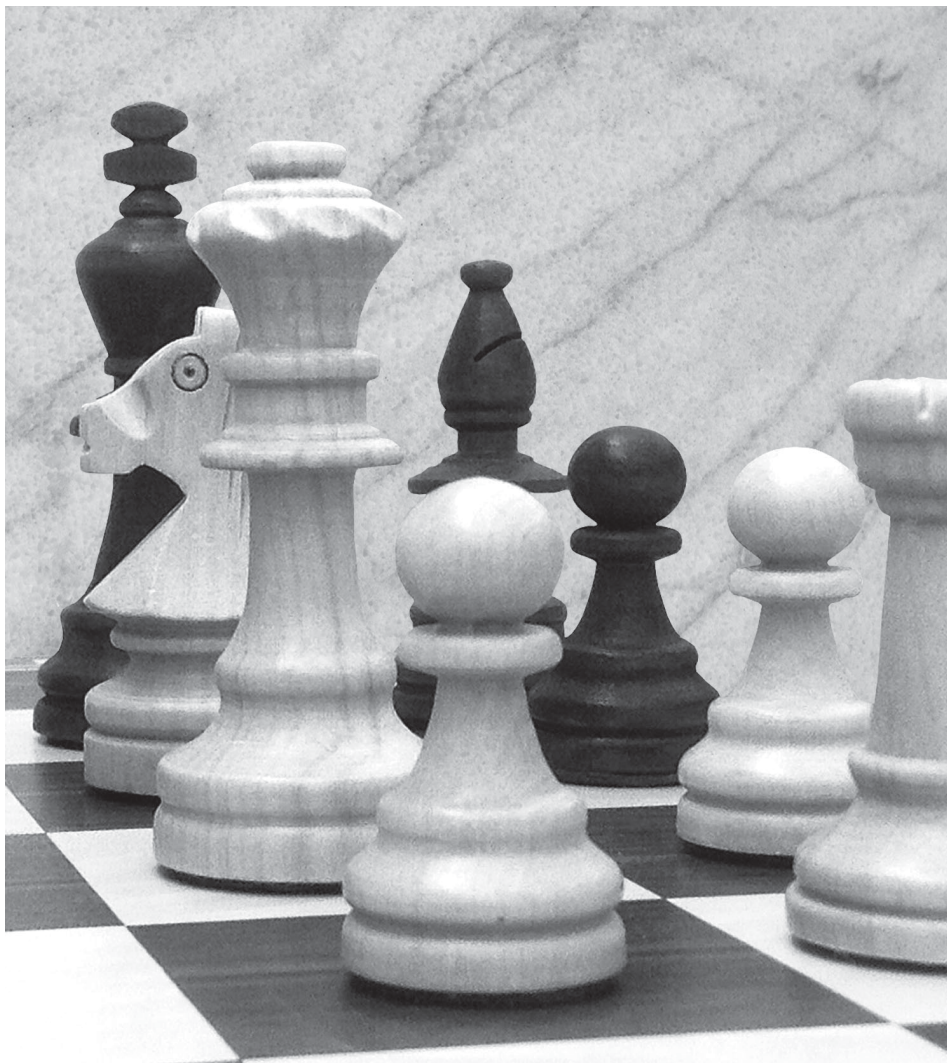


CHESS

TWO - BEYOND THE BASICS OF THE ROYAL GAME



Vassilis Aristotelous

CYPRUS CHESS CHAMPION - FIDE INSTRUCTOR - FIDE ARBITER

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PREFACE

My first book was received with great enthusiasm and was a great help in the classroom. It was the very first publication of its kind in Cyprus and with so many young students and chess academies around, I believe it was something very much needed. But there was a moment, after our beginners received their foundation course, when we needed some nice games to show the beauty of logic in chess and the great Masters in action. That's how the idea of this second book was born, a book full of interesting games.

A chapter about the great Mikhail Tal is included with a selection of his games to make us all smile with his ingenuity, creativity and boldness of execution. He has been my great inspiration since I was a little boy and keeps inspiring me till now. Moreover, a whole chapter is devoted to the greatest sacrificial games of all times and to the romantic era of chess. Also the new kid of the block, Fabiano Caruana who wrote history in the recent Sinquefield Cup tournament, is presented with all his exciting games. Moreover, a report with games from the recent World Olympiad at Tromsø, Norway, is included, together with games of our national hero, Andreas Kelires.

All these fascinating games will give you much joy to play them but also entertain you with their imaginative ideas and original plans. The inclusion of all these games was made with the idea to inspire the young students of the game to imitate the great players, to catch a glimpse of their geniuses and elevate to the next level of play.

Chess is not only for boys; girls can also enjoy and contribute to the game as I show here in the special section of "Women in Chess", where you can see the female side of the game, how girls are different from boys in chess, how they think, and what they have achieved, how FIDE has treated the gender differently and the various chess titles. The Polgar's experiment with Lazslo Polgar's legendary daughters could not be absent from such a survey.

All the above plus many more interesting topics are included in this second book with the hope to offer insights into chess and to lead to a better understanding of the game.

Vassilis Aristotelous,
Palodia, Limassol
September 2014

INSPIRING TAL!

Mikhail Tal (1936-1992) was a Soviet-Latvian chess Grandmaster and the eighth World Chess Champion (1960-1961).

Widely regarded as a creative genius and the best attacking player of all time, he played in a daring, sacrificial style. His play was known above all for creativity and unpredictability. He was called "The magician from Riga".

Tal was born in Riga, Latvia. He was an extremely clever boy as he learned to read at the age of three, and was allowed to start university studies when he was only fifteen. At the age of eight, Tal learned to play chess while watching his father, a doctor and medical researcher. Shortly afterwards he joined the Riga Palace of Young Pioneers chess club. His play was not exceptional at the beginning but he worked hard to improve. Alexander Koblents began training Tal in 1949, after which Tal's game rapidly improved, and by 1951 he qualified for the Latvian Championship. In the 1952 Latvian Championship Tal finished ahead of his trainer. Tal won his first Latvian title in 1953, and was awarded the title of Candidate Master. He became a Soviet Master in 1954 by defeating Vladimir Saigin in a qualifying match. That same year he also scored his first win, over Grandmaster Yuri Averbakh.

Tal graduated in Literature from the University of Riga, and taught school in Riga for a time in his early twenties. He was a member of the Daugava



WORLD CHAMPIONS

1. Wilhelm Steinitz (1886-1894)
2. Emanuel Lasker (1894-1921)
3. Jose R. Capablanca (1921-1927)
4. Alexander Alekhine (1927-1935)
5. Max Euwe (1935-1937)
6. Mikhail Botvinnik (1948-1957)
7. Vasily Smyslov (1957-1958)
8. Mikhail Tal (1960-1961)
9. Tigran Petrosian (1963-1969)
10. Boris Spassky (1969-1972)
11. Bobby Fischer (1972-1975)
12. Anatoly Karpov (1975-1985)
13. Garry Kasparov (1985-2000)
14. Vladimir Kramnik (2000-2007)
15. Viswanathan Anand (2007-2013)
16. Magnus Carlsen (2013-present)



TAL - PANNO, 1958, THE WILL TO WIN

In this game, Tal, the Soviet Champion at the time, faced the Argentine Grandmaster Panno and it was a big clash of different styles, Tal with his combinational and burning tactical play against Panno with his positional and calm style. This game earned Tal the prize of the most interesting game played in the tournament. I knew that one cannot checkmate with the Queen alone but after this game, I changed my opinion!

Tal Mikhail
Panno Oscar

Interzonal Tournament, Portoroz, 1958

Ruy Lopez Opening

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.h3 Nd7 10.d4 Nb6 11.Be3

Another possible continuation 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 dxe5 doesn't seem to offer White much though, but 11.Nbd2 seems to be a good alternative.

11...exd4 12.cxd4 Na5

Much better than 12...d5 13.Nc3! dxe4 14.Nxe4 with a nice dynamic position for White, according to the game Tal-Antoshin, 1957.

13.Bc2 c5

If 13...Nbc4 then 14.Bc1 c5 15.b3 with 16.Bb2 to follow.

14.e5

Other lines do not offer anything more, for instance 14.dxc5 dxc5 15.Qxd8

Rxd8 16.b4 Nac4 or 14.Nc3 Nac4 15.Bc1 cxd4 16.Nxd4 Bf6. But one thing is for sure, the move 14.b3 was shutting out the enemy Knights effectively.

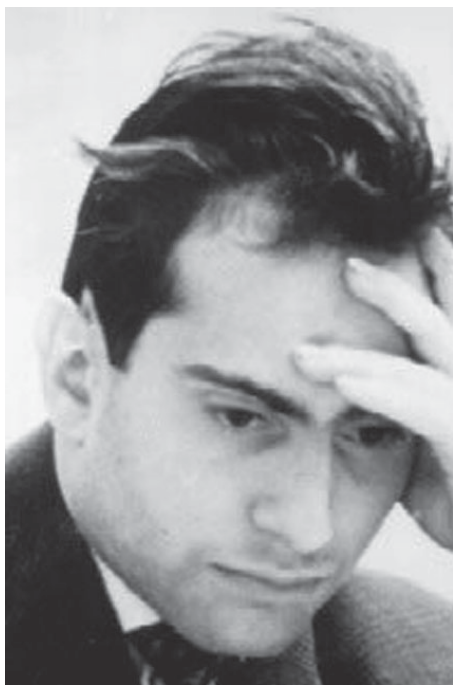
14...dxe5!

Panno thought for a whole hour before he made this move and it was the correct one. If he played 14...Nac4 then after 15.exd6 Qxd6 (15...Nxe3? 16.dxe7!) 16.Bg5! or if he played 14...cxd4 then 15.Bxd4 with a dominant Bishop.

15.Nxe5 Nbc4 16.Qd3?!

Unfortunately the exciting continuation 16.Qh5 g6 17.Nxg6 fxg6 18.Bxg6 hxg6 19.Qxg6+ Kh8 20.Qh6+ (20.Bh6 Rg8 21.Qh5 Qe8) 20...Kg8 21.Qg6+ leads only to a draw.





41.Qe1 Rxe3?

The correct move was 41...Re6 having all the pieces defending one another. But Panno was under time pressure for some time now and although he just passed the 40-move time control he just made an extra move just to be on the safe side! It happens to all of us.

42.Qf1+ Ke4 43.Qxc4+ Kf3 44.Qf1+ Ke4 45.Qxa6 Kd4

The move 45...Rxc3+ was clearly better. Game could continue 46.Kf2 Rd3 47.Qc4+ Rd4 48.Qc2+ Kd5 49.a4 Kc6 50.Qg6+ Kb7 51.Qe8 Rb4 52.Ke3 Ka6 53.Qa8+ Kb6 54.a5+ Kb5 55.a6 Kb6 56.a7 Rb3+ 57.Kf4 Bf3 58.Qb8+ and White is winning.

46.Qd6+ Kc4 47.a4 Re1+

If 47...Kb4 48.Qd2+ Rc3 49.a5 and White wins. And if 47...Rd3 48.Qa6+

Kd4 49.Qb6 Bf3 50.a5 Rc3 51.a6 Kd3 52.a7 c4 53.Qa5 and White wins again.

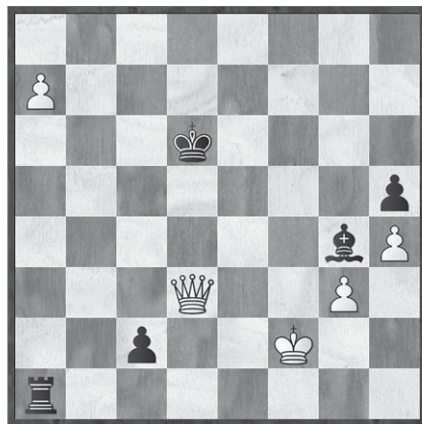
48.Kf2 Re2+ 49.Kf1 Ra2 50.Qa6+ Kd4 51.a5 c4

If 51...Be2+ 52.Qxe2 Rxe2 53.Kxe2 and the White Kingside pawns will win the game.

52.Qb6+ Kd5

If 52...Kd3 53.Qb1+ Rc2 54.a6 and White wins.

53.a6 Ra1+ 54.Kf2 c3 55.a7 c2 56.Qb3+ Kd6 57.Qd3+



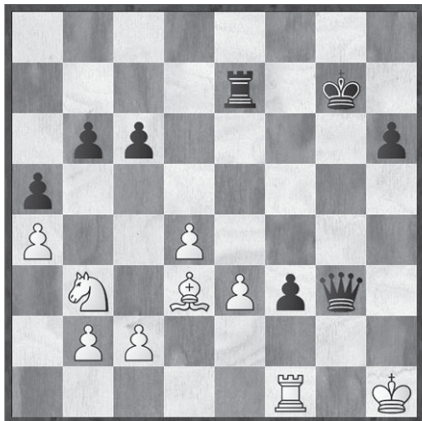
Black resigned

1 - 0

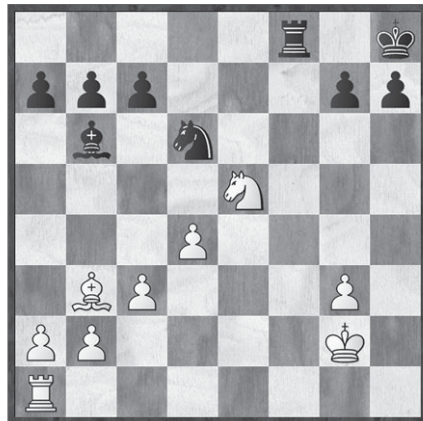
Black's position is hopeless. If Black King moves to the c-file then White Queen will give a check (58.Qc3+) and collect the Black Rook. Also if 57...Ke5 then again 58.Qc3+

Game could continue 57...Ke7 (57...Ke6 58.Qxc2 Rxa7 59.Qe4+) 58.Qxc2 Ra6 (58...Rxa7 59.Qc5+) 59.Qh7+ Kf8 60.a8R+ Rxa8 61.Qh8+ Ke7 62.Qxa8

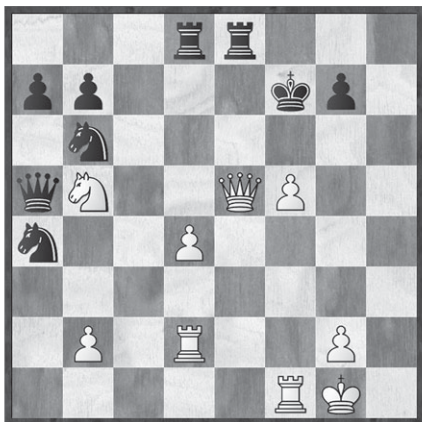
TACTICS WIN GAMES (White to play, find the best move)



43



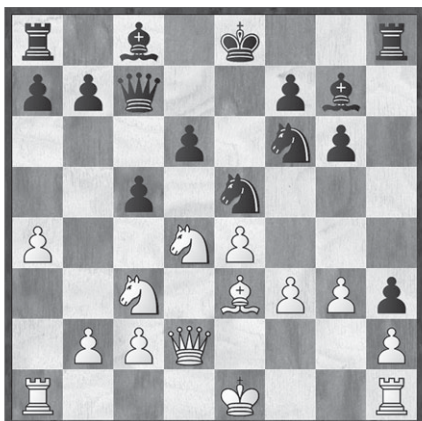
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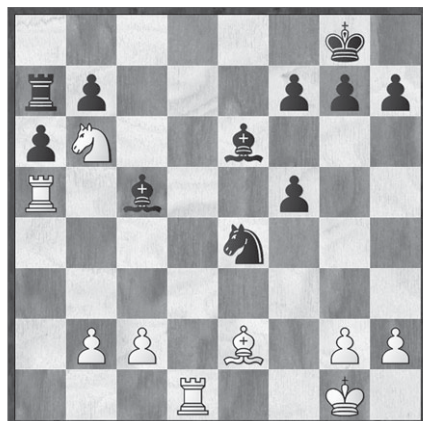
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46



47



48

Fischerandom

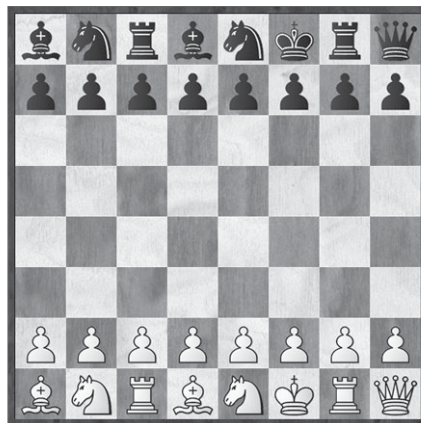
Chess960 (or Fischer Random Chess) is a variant of chess invented and advocated by former World Chess Champion Bobby Fischer, publicly announced on June 19, 1996 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It employs the same board and pieces as standard chess; however, the starting position of the pieces on the players' home ranks is randomized. The name "Chess960" is derived from the number of possible starting positions. The random setup renders the prospect of obtaining an advantage through the memorization of opening lines impracticable, compelling players to rely on their talent and creativity.

Before the game, a starting position is randomly determined and set up, subject to certain restrictions. After setup, the game is played the same as standard chess in all respects, with the single exception of castling.

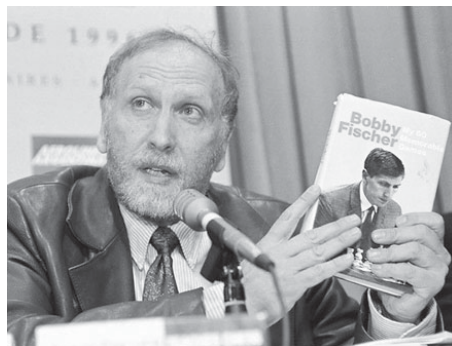
White pawns are placed on the second rank as in standard chess. All remaining White pieces are placed randomly on the first rank, with two restrictions: The Bishops must be placed on opposite-colour squares. The King must be placed on a square between the Rooks.

The Black's pieces are placed equal-and-opposite to White's pieces. For example, if the White King is randomly determined to start on f1, then the Black King is placed on f8.

The number "960" derives from the number of possible starting positions. Each Bishop can take one of four positions, the Queen one of six, and the two

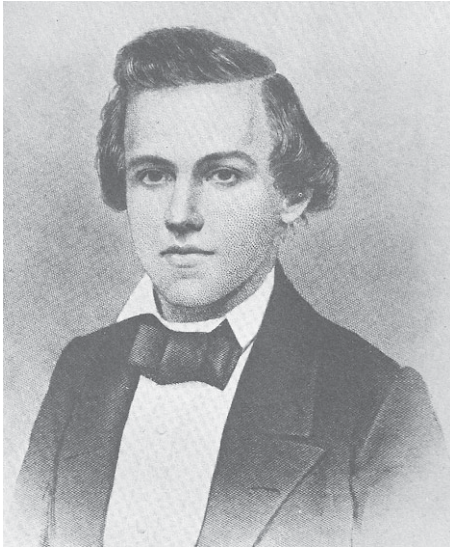


Knights can assume five or four possible positions respectively. This leaves three open squares which the King and Rooks must occupy according to setup stipulations, without choice. This means there are $4 \times 4 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 = 1920$ possible starting positions if the two Knights were different in some way. But because the two Knights are indistinguishable during play, the number of unique possible positions is half of 1920, therefore, the number 960.



Bobby Fischer shows one of his books during the presentation in Buenos Aires of the Fischerandom type of play on June 19th 1996.

PAUL MORPHY



Paul Morphy (1837-1884) was an American chess player. He is considered to have been the greatest chess master of his era and an unofficial World Chess Champion. He was a chess prodigy. He was called "The Pride and Sorrow of Chess" because he had a brief and brilliant chess career, but retired from the game while still young.



Morphy Paul
Anderssen Adolf

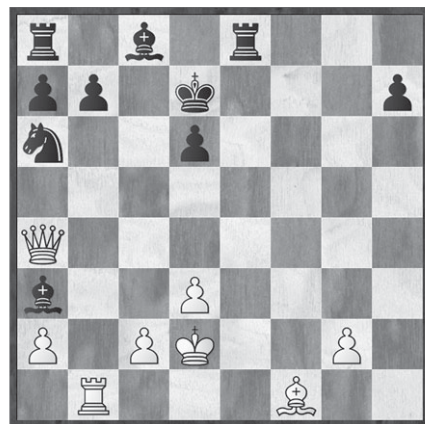
Paris, 1858

King's Gambit Accepted

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.h4 g4
5.Ne5 Nf6 6.Nxg4 Nxe4 7.d3 Ng3



8.Bxf4 Nxh1 9.Qe2+ Qe7 10.Nf6+ Kd8
11.Bxc7+ Kxc7 12.Nd5+ Kd8 13.Nxe7
Bxe7 14.Qg4 d6 15.Qf4 Rg8! 16.Qxf7
Bxh4+ 17.Kd2 Re8 18.Na3 Na6
19.Qh5 Bf6 20.Qxh1 Bxb2 21.Qh4+
Kd7 22.Rb1 Bxa3 23.Qa4+ 1 - 0



JOSEPH HENRY BLACKBURNE



Joseph Henry Blackburne (1841-1924), nicknamed "The Black Death", dominated British chess during the latter part of the 19th century. He learned the game at the relatively late age of 18 but quickly became a strong player and went on to develop a professional chess career that spanned over 50 years. At one point he was the world's second most successful player, with a string of tournament victories behind him, and popularized chess by giving simultaneous and blindfold displays around the country. Blackburne also published a collection of his own games, and was a chess correspondent for a leading journal all his life.

Blackburne had a special aptitude for blindfold chess and he used to give blindfold and simultaneous exhibitions all over Britain, and for most of his career made most of his income from these

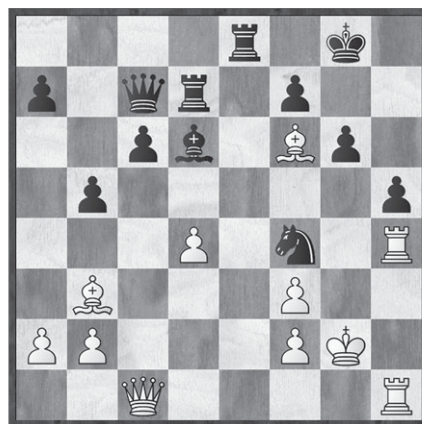
exhibitions, including blindfold displays against up to sixteen opponents simultaneously. He was giving simultaneous exhibitions until his death, at the age of 82 years old. He died of a heart attack.

Blackburne Joseph Henry
Schwarz Jacques

Kongress Berlin, 16.09.1881

French Defence, Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.exd5 exd5
5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Bd3 c6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Ne2
Bg4 9.Ng3 Qc7 10.Be3 Nbd7 11.Qd2
Rfe8 12.Rae1 Ne4 13.Qc1 Bxf3
14.gxf3 Nxc3 15.hxc3 Bxc3 16.Kg2
Bd6 17.Rh1 Nf8 18.Rh3 g6 19.Reh1
Rad8 20.Bg5 Rd7 21.c4 dxc4 22.Bxc4
h5? 23.Rh4 b5 24.Bb3 Ne6 25.Bf6 Nf4+



26.Qxf4! Bxf4 27.Rxh5

Black resigns

1 - 0

Because after 27...gxh5 28.Rxh5 there is no defence against 29.Rh8#.

ALEXANDRA KOSTENIUK - ALEXANDER ONISCHUK

In this game Kosteniuk plays White against the very strong Grandmaster Alexander Onischuk. It was a Ruy Lopez Berlin and Alexandra got the chance to introduce a Theoretical Novelty on move 13.e5!? which sent her opponent off-balance and created winning chances. During this 114-moves marathon game Alexandra demonstrated an iron nerve and stamina as well as a burning desire to win which paid off in the end and on the 111th move Onischuk succumbed to the tiredness and the pressure of the position and made the losing blunder.



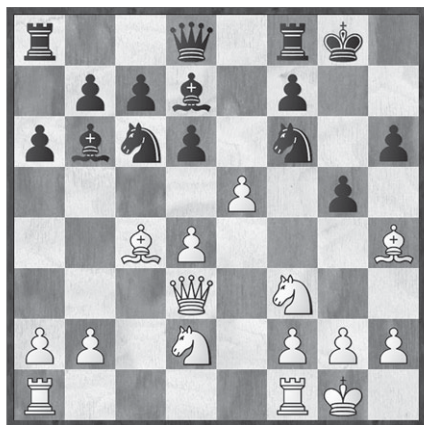
Kosteniuk Alexandra (2490)

Onischuk Alexander (2652)

Corus-B Wijk aan Zee (1), 15.01.2005

Ruy Lopez, Berlin Defence

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Bc5
5.c3 0-0 6.d4 Bb6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 d6
9.Qd3 Bd7 10.Nbd2 a6 11.Bc4 exd4
12.cxd4 g5 13.e5!?



A very interesting move sending the game off-balance and creating chances. Topalov-Leko 1999 continued 13.Nxg5 hxg5 14.Bxg5 Kg7 15.Nb3 Ne7 16.Rae1 Nh7 17.Bh4 f6 18.Re3 Ng6 19.Bg3 f5 20.exf5 Bxf5 and ended up in Black's victory on move 38.

13...gxh4?

Better was the continuation 13...d5 14.Bb3 gxh4 15.exf6 Qxf6 with slight advantage to Black since he got an extra pawn and he keeps a defendable King's position.

14.Qg6+ Kh8 15.Qxh6+ Nh7 16.Ne4 f5

Other tries are no better 16...Bf5 17.Nf6 Rg8 18.Nxh4 Bc2 19.Rac1 dxe5 20.Nxg8 Qxg8 21.Rxc2 Nxd4 22.Rc3 with big advantage to White as he has an exchange up and a dangerous attack.

17.Nfg5 Qe7 18.Nf6 Qg7 19.Qxh7+

THE POLGAR'S EXPERIMENT

Forty years ago, Laszlo Polgar, a Hungarian psychologist published a book with the title "Bring Up Genius!" Laszlo was a strong believer that genius is the result of nurture and not of nature, that somebody is not just born genius but can be created. After studying the biographies of hundreds of great intellectuals, he had identified a common theme and that was an early and intensive specialization in a particular subject. He also believed that the public school system was such that it can only produce mediocre minds. He was sure he could turn any healthy child into a prodigy.

As Laszo was in the age of marriage, he started looking for the perfect match to start a family, have children and the chance to try these ideas practically on his own children. He was very happy then when he finally found the perfect match, a Ukrainian foreign language teacher named Klara who shared these ideas and beliefs and she was willing to proceed with the experiment. A pedagogical experiment to prove in practice that a genius can be made and that intelligence is not something you are born with.

Chess, the Polgars decided, was the perfect activity for their experiment. It was an art, a science, and like competitive athletics, yielded objective results that could be measured over time.

The first born child was a girl named Susan. Susan learned chess at the age of three and at the age of four started beating grown-ups. Soon afterwards,



she dominated the city's girls-under-age-11 tournament with a perfect score.

The second child was born five years later, another girl, named Sophia. Two years later a third girl was born by the name of Judit. All three girls followed the same intensive program. Laszlo was teaching them chess several hours a day and it was a strict and hard working program. But they enjoyed the game so much, they used to spend their free time playing chess. One of their favourite pastimes was to sit and play quick blind-fold chess, that is to play a game without looking at the board, just announc-



ing the moves and visualizing everything in their heads!

An added challenge was that women in chess were traditionally very few and historically much inferior to men for some reason. Not to mention that less than 1 percent of top chess players were women. If innate talent was irrelevant to Laszlo's theory, so was a child's gender.

When a chess player thinks over the board what move to make, he must decide which move is most advantageous. This requires critical thinking in the visual-spatial realm. Visual-spatial processing is the single biggest ability gap between men and women. The visual-spatial processing center is located in the right side of the brain and it's no coincidence that great chess players have dominant right brains. Testo-



sterone accelerates development of the right brain and may slow development of the left side. Estrogen enables neural plasticity - women tend to recover better from strokes than men - and the hormone primes women for neural growth and change. By teaching his daughters chess at a young age, Laszlo essentially molded their brains, enriching their visual-spatial centers and closing any gap that gender may have broached.



SUSAN POLGAR

Susan Polgar (born April 19, 1969) is a Hungarian-born American chess Grandmaster. She is famous for having been a child prodigy at chess, as at the tender age of four, she won her first chess tournament, the Budapest Girls' Under-11 Championship, with a 10-0 score! In 1982, at the age of 12, she won the World Under 16 (Girls) Championship. Susan Polgar is also famous for being a pioneer for women in chess, and for being an advocate for chess in education. She is an Olympic and World chess champion, a chess teacher, coach, writer and promoter and the head of the Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence (SPICE) at Webster University. She was the first female to earn the grandmaster title through tournament play, and is credited with breaking a number of gender barriers in chess.

In January 1991, Polgar became the first woman to earn the Grandmaster title in the conventional way of achieving three GM norms and a rating over 2500. In 1992, Polgar won both the Women's World Blitz and the Women's World Rapid Championship.

Polgar had tended to avoid women-only tournaments, but she abandoned this when she entered the cycle for the Women's World Championship. She became the Women's World Champion in 1996.

On the July 1984 FIDE Rating List, at the age of 15, she became the top-ranked woman player in the world, and remained ranked in the top three for the



next 23 years. She was the Women's World Chess Champion from 1996 to 1999 (in Classical time control). She won the World Blitz and Rapid Championships in 1992. In October 2005, Polgar had an Elo rating of 2577, making her the second-ranked woman in the world at the time, after her sister Judit. Polgar went on to win ten Olympic medals (5 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze) and four Women's World Championships.

"Chess teaches children concentration, logic and creativity.

It also teaches them to be responsible for their actions; there are no take-backs, just as in life. You must think before you move."

Susan Polgar

26.Bc4 Rxd6 27.Ra1 Rxa1 28.Rxa1
Ne5 29.Qb3? Nf3+ 30.Kh1 Ng4!

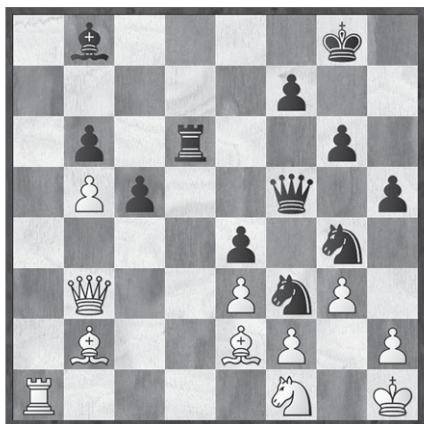


It is said that Queen and Knight make a dangerous attacking team but how about two Knights!

31.g3

The Knight of course can not be taken 31.gxf3 Nxf2#. Also it's too late now for 31.Qc2 as 31...Rd2! wins.

31...Qf5! 32.Be2



32...Rd2! 33.Ra8

If instead 33.Nxd2?? then 33...Nxf2+ 34.Kg2 Qh3+ 35.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 36.Kf1



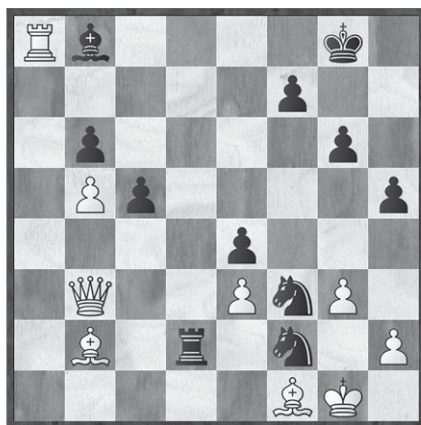
Qg1#

Now Portisch himself threatens mate but Polgar's attack comes first.

33...Nxf2+ 34.Kg2 Ne1+ 35.Kg1 Nh3+ 36.Kh1 Qxf1+!!

Without this Queen sacrifice Black might have had to settle for a draw by perpetual check. Now White's key defensive piece is removed and the Black Knights take over.

37.Bxf1 Nf2+ 38.Kg1 Nf3+ 0 - 1



White is mated after 39.Kg2 Ng4+ 40.Be2 Rxe2+ 41.Kf1 Rf2#. A spectacular victory by Susan Polgar.

SOFIA POLGAR

Sofia Polgar (born November 2, 1974) is a Hungarian-born Israeli and Canadian chess Grandmaster, teacher, and artist. She is an International Master and Woman Grandmaster.

Her parents, Laszlo and Klara educated her together with her two sisters at home, with chess as the specialist subject so as to become genius and experts in chess. They also taught them the international language of Esperanto.

In 1989, at the age of 14, she stunned the chess world by her performance in a tournament in Rome, which became known as the "Sack of Rome". She won the tournament, which included several strong Grandmasters, with a score of



8.5 out of 9. According to the Chessmetrics rating system, her performance rating was 2735, one of the strongest performances in history by a 14-year-old. For a time, she ranked as the sixth-strongest female player in the world.



SOFIA POLGAR'S GAMES

Polgar Sofia (2345)

Chernin Alexander (2580)

Rome Rome, 1989

Sicilian Scheveningen

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6
5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Be3
0-0 9.f4 d6 10.Kh1 a6 11.Qe1 Na5

The move 11...Nxd4 usually is played here.

12.Qg3 Nc4 13.Bc1 b5 14.a3 Qb6
15.Rd1 Bb7 16.b3 Na5 17.Bf3 Rac8
18.Bb2 Rfd8 19.Nd5 Nxd5

Black of course cannot touch the Knight
19...exd5?? 20.Nf5 Bf8 21.Bxf6 g6
22.Qg5 and Black is lost.

20.Nxe6 g6 21.Nxd8?

Sofia missed her opportunity here to finish the game quickly 21.Bd4! Rc5
22.Bxc5 dxc5 23.Nxd8 Qxd8 24.exd5
and White wins.

21...Qxd8 22.exd5 Rxc2 23.Rab1 Bh4
24.Qh3 Bc8 25.Bg4 Bxg4 26.Qxg4
Nxb3 27.g3 Be7 28.f5 a5??

A blunder. 28...Qc8 to hold White's attack was better.

29.fxg6 hxg6 30.Qh3 Rxb2 31.Rxb2 a4
32.Rf2 Nc5 33.Rdf1 f5 34.g4 Ne4
35.Rg2

Black resigns

1 - 0

White has a strong attack, besides being two exchanges up.

Polgar Sofia (2410)

Van Wely Loek (2445)

Hoogovens Wijk aan Zee (7), 01.1990

Pirc, Austrian Attack

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7
5.Nf3 c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Bd3 Qxc5
8.Qe2 0-0 9.Be3 Qa5 10.h3

Sofia didn't want Black to have the pin
10.0-0 Bg4.

10...e5

Most people play 10...Nc6 here. Also
10...Be6 is a good idea.

11.0-0-0 Nh5

In another game, the year before, between Judit Polgar and Zoran Azmaiparashvili 11...Nbd7 was played and the game continued 12.g4 d5
13.exd5 e4! 14.Nxe4 Qxa2?! 15.Nc3!
Qa1+ 16.Kd2 Qxb2 17.Bd4 Qb4?
18.Rb1 Qa5 19.Ra1 Qc7? 20.Ne5 Qd8
21.Qf3 Re8 22.Rhe1 Nb6 23.Ra5 Nfd7
24.d6 Nxe5 25.fxe5 Be6 26.Rc5 Qg5+
27.Be3 Qd8 28.Ne4! Nd7 29.Bg5 Qb6
30.Rb5 Qd4 31.Qf4! Nxe5? 32.Bf6!
Bc4? 33.Bxe5 Rxe5 34.Nf6+ Bxf6
35.Qxd4 Rxe1 36.Qxc4 Rae8 37.d7
Bg5+ 1-0.

12.f5 Ng3 13.Qe1 Nxh1 14.g4 gxf5
15.gxf5 Qd8 16.Bc4 Kh8 17.Ng5 Bh6
18.Qh4 Bxg5 19.Bxg5 f6 20.Bh6 Nd7
21.Rg1 Qe7 22.Qg4

Black resigns **1 - 0**

There's nothing Black can do to avoid checkmate on g7.

JUDIT POLGAR

Judit Polgar (born 23 July 1976) is a Hungarian chess grandmaster. She is by far the strongest female chess player in history. In 1991, Judit achieved the title of Grandmaster at the age of 15 years and 4 months, at the time the youngest to have done so, breaking the record previously held by former World Champion Bobby Fischer. She is the only woman to qualify for a World Championship tournament. She is the first and only woman to have surpassed the 2700 Elo rating barrier, reaching a career peak rating of 2735 in 2005. She has been the No.1 rated woman in the world since 1989, when she was only 12 years old.

She won or shared first in the chess tournaments of Hastings 1993, Madrid 1994, Leon 1996, U.S. Open 1998, Hoogeveen 1999, Siegman 1999, Japfa 2000, and the Najdorf Memorial 2000.

Polgar is the only woman to have won a game from a reigning world No.1 player, and has defeated ten current or



former world champions in either rapid or classical chess: Magnus Carlsen, Anatoly Karpov, Garry Kasparov, Boris Spassky, Vasily Smyslov, Veselin Topalov, Viswanathan Anand, Ruslan Ponomarev, Alexander Khalifman, and Rustam Kasimdzhanov.

Traditionally, chess had been a male-dominated activity, and women were often seen as weaker players. However, from the beginning, Judit's father, Laszlo was against the idea that his daughters had to participate in female-only events. Judit's older sister, Susan, first fought the bureaucracy by playing in men's tournaments and refusing to play in women's tournaments. Judit has rarely played in women's specific tournaments or divisions, and has never competed for the Women's World Championship.



Judit "the wonder kid" gives a simultaneous chess exhibition

JUDIT POLGAR - GARRY KASPAROV

Polgar Judit (2681)

Kasparov Garry (2838)

RUS vs The World, Moscow, 2002

Ruy Lopez, Berlin Defence

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 h6 10.Rd1+ Ke8 11.h3 Be7 12.Ne2

The continuation 12.g4 Nh4 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Kg2 h5 15.f3 was tried successfully in Kotronias-Nikolaïdis 1993.

12...Nh4 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Be3!

Hitting a7. Black cannot develop in an easy way here.

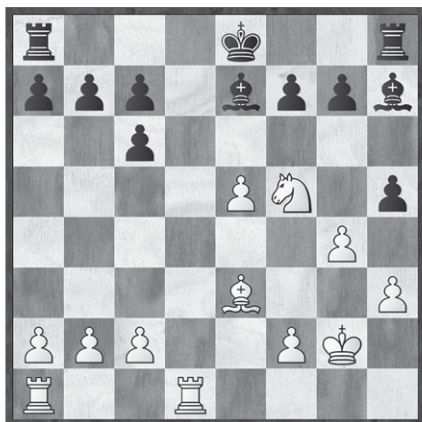
14...Bf5

Black should be careful here. If 14...Ke7?? 15.g3 Bg5 16.f4 and the Bishop is lost.

15.Nd4 Bh7?!

The Bishop would be more active if he stayed a bit out in the world 15...Bg6!?

16.g4 Be7 17.Kg2 h5 18.Nf5

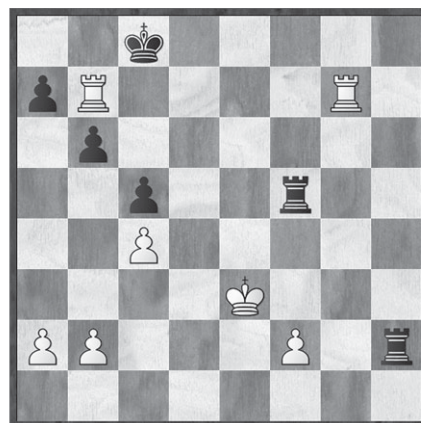


White is definitely better here, as he has all the play.

18...Bf8 19.Kf3 Bg6 20.Rd2 hxg4+ 21.hxg4 Rh3+ 22.Kg2 Rh7 23.Kg3 f6 24.Bf4

Passing the pawn through 24.e6!? was also very interesting.

24...Bxf5 25.gxf5 fxe5 26.Re1 Bd6 27.Bxe5 Kd7 28.c4 c5 29.Bxd6 cxd6 30.Re6 R8h8 31.Rexd6+ Kc8 32.R2d5 Rh3+ 33.Kg2 Rh2+ 34.Kf3 R2h3+ 35.Ke4 b6 36.Rc6+ Kb8 37.Rd7 Rh2 38.Ke3 Rf8 39.Rcc7 Rxf5 40.Rb7+ Kc8 41.Rdc7+ Kd8 42.Rxg7 Kc8



Black resigns

1 - 0

CARUANA AT SINQUEFIELD

Fabiano Caruana took part in the super tournament "2nd Sinquefield Cup 2014" at Saint Louis, USA. This super-GM double round robin tournament was played from August 27th to September 7th 2014. It was considered as the strongest tournament in the history of chess with an average FIDE Elo rating of 2802. Participants were the best chess players in the world, GMs Magnus Carlsen, Levon Aronian, Fabiano Caruana, Hikaru Nakamura, Veselin Topalov and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave. The prize fund was \$315,000 in total, with the winner getting \$100,000, the runner up \$75,000 and the rest \$50,000 - \$20,000.



Fabiano Caruana is an American-born, yet purely Italian, Grandmaster whose rapid advance into the elite ranks of chess has earned him the reputation as the next rival to Magnus Carlsen for the world championship. Before this tournament he was No.3 in the world with a rating of 2801, but now after his fantastic performance at the tournament and earning 35 Elo points, he is currently No.2 in the world.

The 22-year-old was born in Miami, Florida and introduced to chess through an afterschool program as a five-year-old in Brooklyn, NY, living in the same neighborhood where Bobby Fischer



**SINQUEFIELD
CUP**
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI





was raised. He played in his first tournament the same year at the Susan Polgar Chess Center in Queens, NY, and he got his first coach Bruce Pandolfini at 6.

At 10, Caruana became the youngest American to defeat a Grandmaster. By the age of 12 he was a FIDE master and winner of several national scholastic championships, as well as two gold medals in Pan-American Youth Championships. From there on chess was his



future, and his family moved to Europe to see it through.

He found coaches in IM Boris Zlotnik and GM Alexander Chernin and, at 14 years, 11 months and 20 days, became the youngest GM in the history of both Italy and the United States.

Today, Caruana is a four-time Italian national champion and one of the hottest players on the global scene, having currently pushed himself up as one of only three players above the 2800 rating barrier. Caruana is also FIDE's No. 1 ranked Rapid player, with a rating of 2857.



Just call me Fabi

As Caruana was winning game after game, people were astounded by his continuous success and started trying various names to express this. We were hearing titles like Mr. Don Fabiano, Mr. Perfect, Fabulous and others. When Caruana was asked what name he would like to be called he immediately answered: "Just call me Fabi"!



On the third round of the Sinquefield Cup, Fabiano Caruana had to face the World Champion Magnus Carlsen. Magnus played the Bishop's Opening to avoid any opening preparation and on move 15 Caruana invited a piece sacrifice and Carlsen went for it. Carlsen collected a couple of pawns and the Rook in the corner but his pieces got disorganized and his Knight was trapped. The sacrifice seemed that was not favourable for White and Carlsen started burning time and feeling the pressure. Caruana showed an incredible blend of attack and defence and justifiably won the game.

Carlsen Magnus (2877)

Caruana Fabiano (2801)

2nd Sinquefield Cup 2014 Saint Louis USA (3), 29.08.2014

Bishop's Opening

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 c6 4.Nf3 d5
5.Bb3 Bb4+ 6.c3 Bd6 7.Bg5 dxe4
8.dxe4 h6 9.Bh4 Qe7 10.Nbd2 Nbd7
11.Bg3

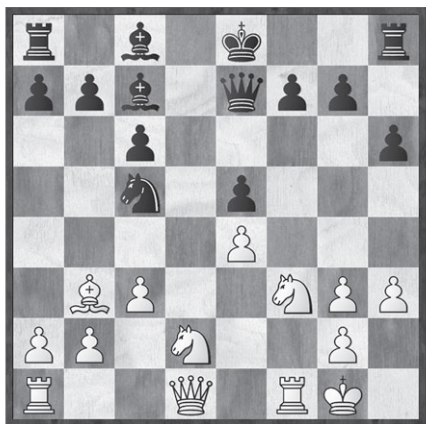
Out of theory, usually it's cactling.

11...Bc7 12.0-0 Nh5 13.h3

This move looks a bit suspicious to me

13...Nxg3 14.fxg3 Nc5!?





A very interesting move! Caruana described this move as a risky one but he saw that the resulted complications favoured him.

15.Bxf7+?

What's this? Back to the romantic era with the f7 sacrifices! Carlsen said about this move: "I was worse. I thought after this sacrifice I could make it interesting." And he is right. After a more normal move like 15.Bc2 a5 and Black is better.



15...Kxf7 16.Nxe5+ Kg8 17.Ng6 Qg5 18.Rf8+ Kh7 19.Nxh8 Bg4

There is a very interesting line here with 19...Bxh3? 20.Rxa8 Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Qxg3+ but it doesn't seem that Black is winning. Another idea is 19...Qe3+ 20.Kh1 Bg4 21.Qxg4 Rxf8 22.Ng6 with huge complications although the chess engines show Black better.

20.Qf1 Nd3!

Nobody saw this coming, including Carlsen himself, as he admitted later!

21.Qxd3

Also 21.Rxa8 Qe3+ 22.Kh1 Nf2+ 23.Qxf2 Qxf2 and Black wins.

21...Rxf8 22.hxg4 Qxg4 23.Nf3 Qxg3

Also good is 23...Kxh8.

24.e5+

Maybe 24.Nf7 was slightly better 24...Rxf7 25.e5+ g6 but still Black is better.

24...Kxh8 25.e6 Bb6+ 26.Kh1 Qg4 27.Qd6 Rd8 28.Qe5 Rd5 29.Qb8+ Kh7 30.e7 Qh5+ 31.Nh2?

If Black interposes his Queen 31.Qh2 then 31...Qe8 32.Re1 Bf2! (32...Rh5? 33.Nh4 Bf2 34.Re4 and White is still alive) 33.Re2 (33.Re4 Rd1+ and White is lost) 33...Rh5 and Black is winning.

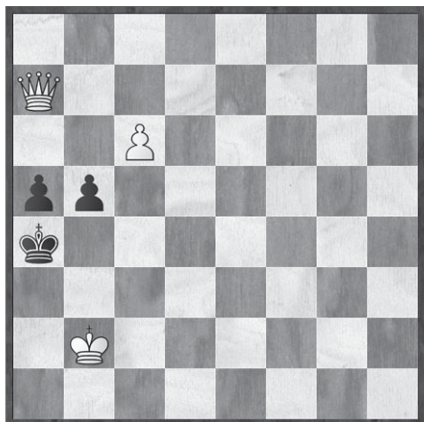
31...Rd1+ 32.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 33.Nf1 Qxf1+ 34.Kh2 Qg1+

And here the World Champion Magnus Carlsen resigned.

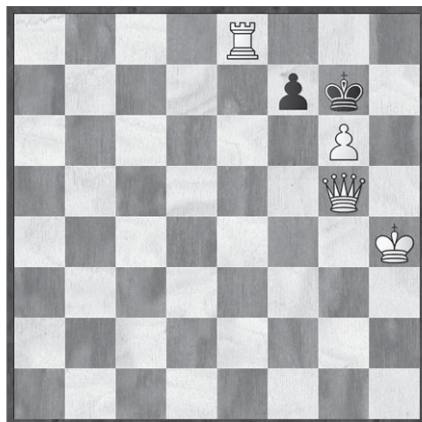
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WHITE TO PLAY AND CHECKMATE IN TWO MOVES

The solutions to the two-move problems are found on page 321.



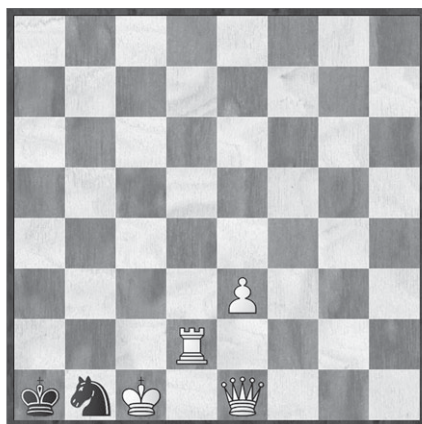
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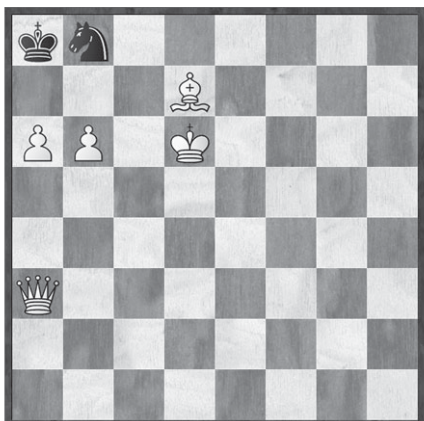
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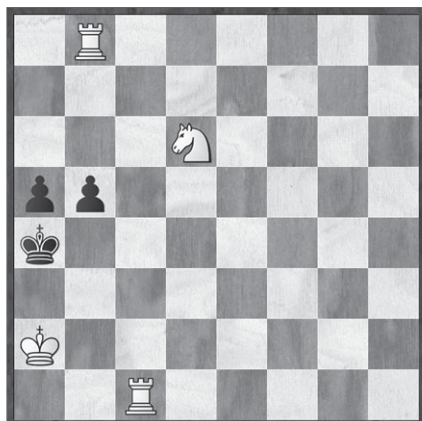
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