

60 BOBBY FISCHER MORE MEMORABLE GAMES

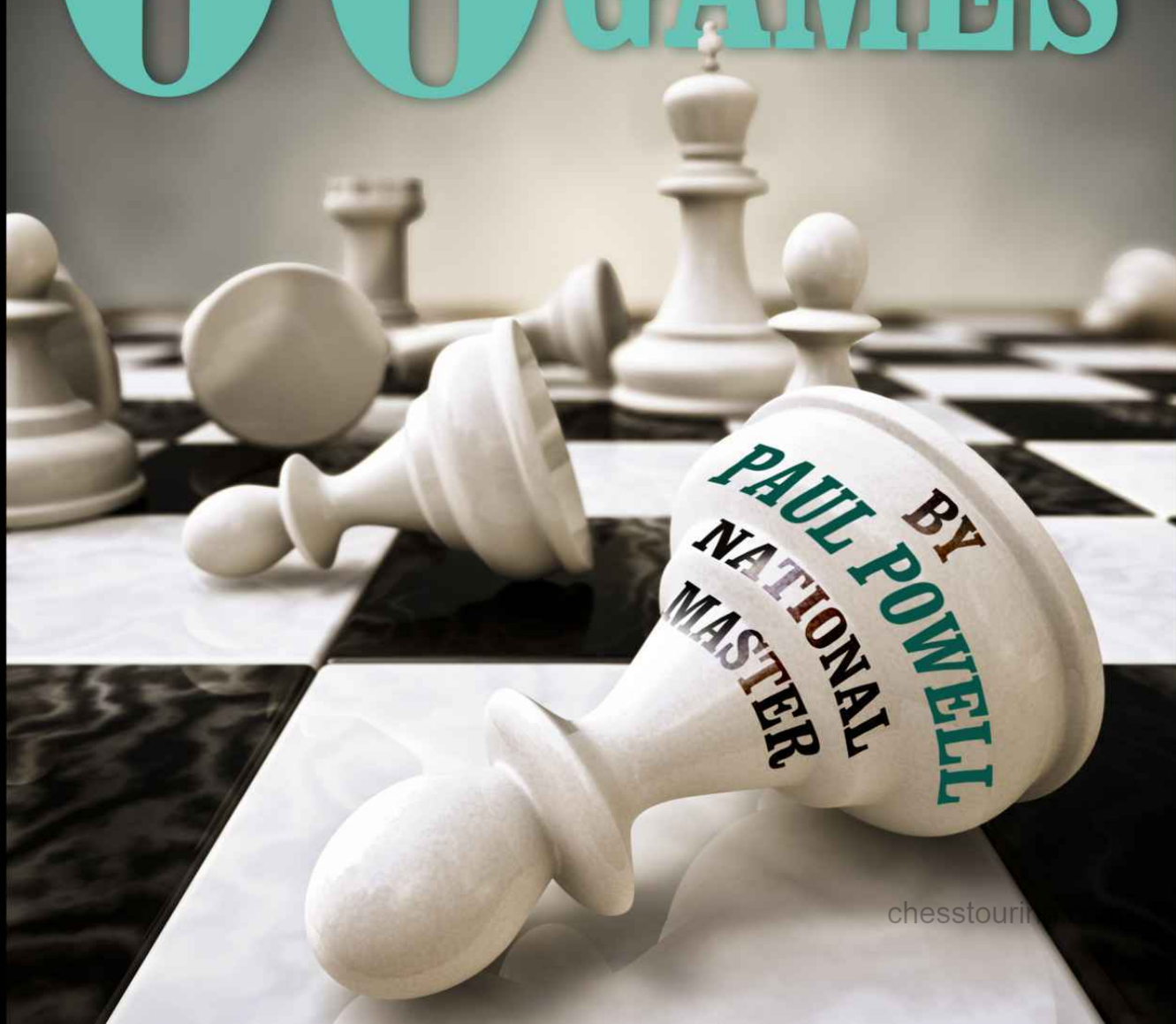


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Bobby Fischer 60 More Memorable Games

By Paul Powell

National Master

Introduction

Who dares to walk upon the hallowed ground of *My 60 Memorable Games*? I do not. Yet, it seems from the title that that's just what I've done. Before you cast judgment, hear me out. When I started playing chess seriously in 1973, I quickly devoured the 1969 book *My 60 Memorable Games*. Playing over the games with great earnest, I was only limited by the cognitive development of a thirteen-year-old boy. After that wonderful experience I was thrilled to learn of a sequel, and I quickly convinced my father to find me a copy of *Bobby Fischer's Chess Games*, a book that I was led to believe would be just like *My 60 Memorable Games*, only with hundreds of games included! Upon its arrival I can only compare my disappointment to that of a boy who, upon opening the package of a promised Red Ryder BB Gun, finds a Mattel Cap Gun! The disenchantment I experienced as I waded through the pages of *Bobby Fischer's Chess Games* was monumental.

The original 1972 book, *Bobby Fischer's Chess Games*, contained over 700 games, the vast majority of which had no annotations, just pages and pages of games in descriptive notation. Compared to the experience of reading *My 60 Memorable Games*, I was now

presented with the task as exciting as that of watching paint dry. My adolescent mind might as well have received a phone book! What was I to make of a tome that seemed to have very little real text? Without guidance to show me the way, I was no more knowledgeable than Percival being raised in the woods, ignorant in the ways of chess players. My quest was not for the grail but for the glimpses of truth that I could unlock from the games of Bobby Fischer. Flipping the pages at random, a diagram would catch my eye and I'd play over the game. I might sit down and go over ten games, even twenty or more; or I might be immersed in one game and spend four hours on it. Over the years I would come back to this exercise. As I matured, my methodology would skip between choosing by diagrams, player's names, openings, tournaments, and years. I didn't keep a log or diary, yet, as roads near your home, you know that you've traveled them hundreds of times because you have. Even if you find yourself on a road that you've never journeyed, you feel that perhaps you've been there before because it all feels like home. Such was my relationship to these game scores.

From that experience and voyage I have ferreted out these sixty more memorable games of Bobby Fisher's, chronicling my journey spent discovering both Fischer and the joy of chess.

What you're about to encounter are sixty games that had a strong influence on my road to becoming a chess master. Each game chosen is personal in some special way. An appropriate comparison might be the string of beads that, when viewed together, represents one's growing love of music: one bead might be the song you loved in the 8th grade, another may represent the appreciation you gained in high school for Bach's "Little Fugue in G minor," yet another might be your first trip to the Opera and the shock you felt when you found yourself enjoying the experience, and maybe another is the mariachi music you first encountered at your local Mexican eatery.

This book is presented with the same core mission statement as that found in the description of my first book: "I was not a child prodigy; I did not become a master in my teens. I have lost many games like a

patzer and I struggled to learn how to play well. But I overcame and you can too.”

Along those lines, the games presented have unique moments that helped me to define the ways in which I think about chess. There are deep unique lines presented here, so, yes, you'll find your share of:

“29.Qb4 Bd5 30.Bc4 Qh5 31.Bxd5+ cxd5 32.Rxf4 Be5 33.Kg2 Bxf4 34.Qxf4 Qe5 35.Qxe5 Rxe5 36.Be3 Kf7 37.Nc3 and White should win.”

. . . but you'll also find commentary that just helps you think about the game:

“Black is playing with the strategic goal of attacking the b2 and c3 squares. White's attack should occur on the Kingside; having no strategic targets due to the odd placement of his minor pieces, he'll have to settle for an unsupported attack in the center.”

I would encourage you to approach these games with the same amazement that I did many years ago as a young teen. If you look for new ideas and the beauty inherent in simplicity, and you are willing to challenge some of your basic beliefs about chess, you'll be further along the path to mastery.

Best Regards,

Paul Powell

National Chess Master

Robert James Fischer

Robert James "Bobby" Fischer (March 9, 1943–January 17, 2008) was the eleventh World Chess Champion and an iconic American figure who, during his reign, became history's youngest Grandmaster and the youngest candidate for the World Championship up to that time. In the early 1970s, on the road to the World Championship, he won twenty consecutive games, including two unprecedented 6–0 sweeps in the Candidates Matches. There is nothing equivalent to this in any sport; imagine a Super Bowl where the first twelve times the quarterback touches the ball he throws twelve consecutive touchdown passes in twelve attempts. Statistically speaking, that's what would have to occur to stand next to Bobby's record.

Yet for all of his accomplishments on the board, it's the spirit and mystery of Bobby that captivated everyone alive at that time—chess player or not, we were all under his spell. On his shoulders alone he was able to challenge the USSR in a Cold War battle over Black and White squares, and he took on this battle not to defend American freedom, but because America had provided him with the freedom to follow his dreams.



I don't believe in psychology. I believe in good moves.
- Bobby Fischer

The Book

This book is made up of sixty games played by Bobby Fischer. Staying true to my previous book, *Chess Patzer to Master - How an Everyday Joe Does It*, I have included games from the best players in the world as well as games from class-level players. By doing so I hope to bring to you, a student of the game, an idea of what it might feel like to play Bobby Fischer—or, at the very least, an idea of how mortal players fare when playing legends.

What is truly unique about this book is that I've tried to capture the spirit of Fischer's opponents. I've provided background information, illustrations, and some of their games. I felt this is an important feature; in many game collections you'll see a reference to a player and they just go on to become a footnote in time. By sharing the games and showing you how well these players could move the pieces on their best days, you'll gain a greater insight into what a extraordinary player Bobby Fischer truly was.

Let's begin . . .

1. Fischer - Sharp [Canada]

Canadian Open 1956

Ruy Lopez

How strong a player was Charles Sharp? Fischer had the ability to make even great players look helpless—so how strong a player was Sharp truly? It's hard to tell, as there was no accurate rating system in U.S. Chess prior to the 1950s. What I do know is that he was a member of the Portland Maine Chess Club, and lived in nearby Old Orchard. Charles was playing tournament level chess in the late 1920s, and he was fifty-two years old when he sat down to play the thirteen-year-old Bobby Fischer. Regarding his actual playing strength based on his draw versus H.E. Myers (noted chess master, state champion and author of *Myers Openings Bulletins*), I believe that Charles Sharp was a very strong expert or low master-level player.

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Be7
7.d4 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Rb8**

Moving the Rook before completing development of the minor pieces is a bit of a commitment. Are you the kind of guy who would give a girl a ring after the third date? Well if you are, Rb8 might be for you, but I'd prefer Bb7 or Nb8 here.



10.Nbd2 Bd7 11.Re1 Qe8

Far more popular in this position is h6. Our opponent is making a theme of very bold choices; now with his Rook buried at f8, his position is not very flexible.

12.Nf1 Bd8

If a Knight on the rim is dim, a Bishop on the back rank with one free square is grim.

13.Ng3 Na5 14.Bc2 c5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Qd6

It didn't take long for White to exploit Black's awkward piece maneuvers and snag a Pawn.

16...Nc6 17.Qxc5 Bb6 18.Qa3

By dropping back to a3, White attacks the Pawn at a6 and forces Black to further rearrange his misplaced pieces.

18...Qc8

Black's defense is passive; instead 18...a5 19.Bg5 b4 20.cxb4 Nxb4 21.Rac1 Rc8 22.Bb1 Qe7 23.Nh5 Kh8 24.Nd2 Qe6 25.Rxc8 Bxc8 26.Nxf6 gxf6 27.Be3 is worth considering.

19.Be3 Re8

This is awkward; Black really needs a “do over.” I would prefer to try Qc7 here to connect the Rooks. I'm more concerned with getting a Rook to d8. Placing a Rook on e8 is simply a case of the wrong Rook on the wrong square at the wrong time.

20.Bxb6 Rxb6 21.Qc5

White keeps dinging Black's pieces from Qc5. It's as if Fischer is playing pinball and each time he uses the flippers, the Queen bounces back to the mid-line of the board. It's either that or he's made a bet that he can beat this guy with just his Queen!

21...Rb7

Black has now successfully fianchettoed the Rook.

22.Rad1 Rc7 23.Qd6 Rd8 24.Qa3

Has White made a bet that he can win the game with Qc5 and Qa3!?

24...a5 25.Rd2 b4 26.cxb4 Nxb4 27.Bb3 Rc5 28.Red1 Qc7

Chess is a very difficult game—Black has played several second-best moves against a great player and he's still not at the point where he should resign. His troubles, however, are many: his Bishop is pinned to the Rook at d8 and must untangle without falling further behind. An impossible task?

29.Ng5 Nc2

Forgive him, Caissa, for he knows not what he has done!

30.Rxc2 Rxc2 31.Qe7 Be8

Black must have been very proud of himself to find Be8.

Now, if White takes the Queen we have 32.Qxc7 Rxd1+ 33.Kh2 Rxc7 34.Bxd1 and White won't even be able to draw.



32.Bxf7+

Simple and brilliant, as Black can no longer untangle.

32...Bxf7

Forced as 32...Kh8 33. Qf8 and mate.

33.Rxd8+ 1-0.

Sidney Bernstein



2. Bernstein [U.S.A.] - Fischer

Canadian Open 1956

Queen's Pawn Game

Sidney Norman Bernstein was an American chess master. He was a participant in eight U.S. Chess Championship events from 1936 to 1961. I was fortunate to play him and pull out a win. Even as a very old man he played very well and I had far from an easy time. After reviewing this game, I realized why I had such a hard time—he was very aggressive against Bobby here and seemed to be the type of player who could really put on a show.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 0-0 6.Be2

White is playing the London System with an atypical Nc3. The Queen's Knight and c Pawn have a special relationship whereby the Pawn prefers to move first or else bad things often happen. Move the Pawn to c4 and we have Nd2 or Nc3 as options; play c3 and now our option is Nd2.



6...Nh5 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5

I have often played the London without Nc3 and have faced a similar Knight chase. Options here are 9.Nd2 gxh4 10.Bxh5 or 9.Ne5 gxh4 10.Bxh5. Ironically, had White played 3.c3 instead of Nc3, Black would have played the line this way: 9.Ne5 Nf6 10.Bg3 Ne4! a less-than-attractive option with the Knight on c3.

9.Bg3 Nxg3 10.hxg3 c5

Black plays c5 to exploit the Knight. 11. dxc5 Bxc3+ would have resulted in tripled Pawns; however, Black's Kingside would have been weak. Black's primary plan here is not to triple the Pawns but to undermine the center.

11.Qd3

White announces Queenside castling.

11...e6 12.Ne5 f5 13.g4



13...f4!

Conventional wisdom would favor a move like 13... Nc6, challenging the Knight in the center and keeping the Pawn duo at f5 and g5, thereby restricting entry points at g6—all good reasons not to play f4. So why does Bobby push? Let's look at the pluses: the White Pawn is now fixed at g4 and blocks White's light-squared Bishop from finding a cheap date. Black declares his intent to do damage on the f file.

Is Bobby playing the player here? This is the first time they've faced; however, I'm sure Bobby is well aware of Bernstein's attacking style. It's possible that Bobby wants to provide him with enough deep water to drown.

14.0-0-0 Nc6 15.Rxh6

Really, Sidney? Rushing in, are we? White should have rejected this speculative attack, as the Knight on e5 can easily be exchanged off. This attack might have looked good at first glance, but the longer you look the less you see.

15...Bxh6 16.Qg6+ Bg7 17.Bd3 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Rf7 19.Nb5

I'm certainly giving Sidney huge points for Caveman Chess—he's tossing boulders as hard as he can.

19...Kf8

Preparation to swing the Rook to d7, if not, the e Pawn drops with check.

20.Nd6 Rd7 21.Bb5 Rxd6 22.exd6 Bd7

Of course not Qxd6 as Qf8 is mate!

The rest of the game is a master class in style.

23.Bxd7 Qxd7 24.Qxg5 fxe3 25.Qf4+ Kg8 26.fxe3 Rf8 27.Qg5 Qxd6 28.Rh1 Qe5 29.Qh4 Qxb2+ 30.Kd1 Qb1+ 31.Kd2 Qb4+ 32.Kd1 Qe4 33.Qh5 Rf2

At last we get that f file penetration and it's lights out, so maybe 13...f4 was just brilliant? **0-1**

3. Donovan [U.S.A.] - Fischer

US Open 1956

King's Indian

In the 1951-52 Marshall Chess Club Championship, Donovan finished fourth, defeating James Sherwin (who earned the IM title in 1958). Donovan had faced many strong players during his career, drawing with GM Bisguier and GM Evans and defeating GM Lombardy. In full disclosure, these player may not have had their titles when they faced Donovan, yet they were still very strong players. Based on information provided by one of Donovan's last opponents, strong correspondence player and renown chess book dealer Dale A. Brandreth, I can estimate that Donovan was around fifty years old when he sat down with Bobby Fischer for this game.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.h3 c6

A very typical King's Indian position; nothing out of the norm here.



9.Be3

This line has lost favor since the 1980s, but at one time was advocated by GM's Sax and Lobron.

9...Qe7

Just as popular is Re8; however, I prefer Qe7, as I don't like to commit my Rook until I have a pretty good idea of where the Pawn structure is going. Let's say White should play d5. Black's d6 Pawn is already protected, and now maybe I don't want Re8; maybe, instead, I'll be leaving the Rook at f8 and breaking with my f Pawn.

10.Qc2 a6 11.a4

Black's 10th move was not super productive, yet White returns the favor with a4.

11...Re8 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.a5 Nh5

Black eyes the f4 square, cutting off the scope of the Bishop and creating a powerful outpost for his Knight. This is a very common

theme in many opening systems.

14.Rfd1 Nf4 15.Bf1 Nf8

Black shows a lot of maturity and patience for a young man, moving the Knight backwards to connect them at e6!

16.c5 N8e6 17.Na4

A Knight on the rim is dim, and what shall be his destination spot? Fanning a lot of air from b6!?

17...Ng5

This is the start of an ill-advised plan for Black. Yes, Bobby Fischer can make mistakes. One also has to take into account that he's just turned thirteen years old, and that 1956 was a huge growth period during which he soared from an 1800 rating to over 2300! A great player, but still, at this age, a mortal. Better in this position would have been the simple Qf6 with the threat of Nxh3+.

18.Nxg5 Qxg5 19.Kh2 Be6

Be6 is not a good move, but let's stop short of calling it a blunder. A bit of hubris allowed Black to go down this dark tunnel, trying to win at all costs.

20.g3

The laws of chess are immutable: a pin is a pin even against a future World Champion!

20...Bh6

Amateur analysts and those who should know better but have been smitten with Bobby fever have called this a strong move. I simply view it as a logical continuation of a bad plan.

21.gxf4 exf4 22.Bc1 Qh4

Black is a long way from equality, and little to show for the piece.
Another option was to play 22...Qe5 23.f3 Qh5 24.Ra3 Rad8
25.Rad3 Qh4 26.Qg2 Rxd3 27.Rxd3 Bc4 with the idea of provoking
White to play f3 so the Rook lift to a3 no longer defends the
Kingside.

23.Ra3 Rad8 24.Rad3 Rxd3 25.Rxd3

A pair of Rooks come off and Black's position has not improved and
we reach this position.



25....Bg7

I like this simple move, the retreating of the Bishop to g7. So what
was Black thinking? Well, maybe he's thinking he might want to
advance the f Pawn and not exchange Bishops in the process.
Maybe he's thinking that the Black Bishop has limited scope on h6,

whereas if it sits on e5 it dominates from the center of the board. Maybe he's just thinking his idea didn't work and now it's time for a new one. If White attempts b3, we would want to be on the diagonal first. This gives a slim advantage, but it's still a consideration.

26.b3

White would do better to play Kg1 or Bg2. After Black's Bg7, playing b3 is less attractive.

26...f5

Instead 26...Be5 would have forced Kg1 by playing f5. He's providing chances for White to drift, and depending on his "drift" we may get Be5 in next.

27.Rf3

Not the best; this highlights why Kg1 or Bg2 would have been more useful, as we would have Nc3 for White instead of this awkward Rook move.

27...fxe4 28.Qxe4 Bf7 29.Qc2

This passive move takes White's advantage and tosses it away. Was White concerned with defending? If so, the more active Qb4 is still a better defending move, as it prevents the Rook from accessing e1 and it has a very strong answer to Bd5. 29.Qb4 Bd5 30.Bc4 Qh5 31.Bxd5+ cxd5 32.Rxf4 Be5 33.Kg2 Bxf4 34.Qxf4 Qe5 35.Qxe5 Rxe5 36.Be3 Kf7 37.Nc3, and White should win.

29...Re1

Putting a big question to the Bishop: 30. Bg2 or 30. Bc4. One move might hold and the other drops like Times Square's New Year's Eve ball.

30.Bc4

Ladies and Gentlemen, it's now New Year's Eve and the band is about to play. A better move would have been Bg2.

30...Qg5 31.Bxf7+

White was banking on 31...Kxf7 and 32. Rxf4+ to get out of the mess.

31...Kf8!?

A questionable move in a crushing position, so no worries. The young Mr. Fischer missed that Kh8 was stronger 31...Kh8 32.Rg3 fxg3+ 33.fxg3 Rxc1 34.Qd3 Be5 35.Bc4 Bxg3+ 36.Kg2 Be5+ 37.Kf2 Rh1 38.Qe4 Rh2+ 39.Kf1 Qf6+.

32.Rg3 fxg3+ 33.fxg3 Qxc1

Black's win is more precise with 33...Rxc1 34.Qf2 Bd4 35.Qxd4 Rc2+ 36.Kh1 Qc1+ 37.Qg1 Qh6 38.h4 Rc1.

34.Qxc1 Rxc1 35.Be6 Re1 36.Bc8 Re2+ 37.Kh1 Re7 38.Kg2 Ke8 39.h4 Kd8 40.Bg4 Re3 0-1

4. Fischer - Lapiken [U.S.A.]

US Open 1956

King's Indian Attack

Fischer's opponent, Dr. Peter Petrovich Lapiken, was born in Riga, Latvia. As a child he lived in Russia, China, and finally his home became the United States. He was a strong master who had the reputation as a Giant Killer for near wins over Reshevsky (drawn) and a winner over GM Rossolimo in the U.S. Open in Long Beach 1955. He also has the unusual distinction of being the two-time chess champion of Manchuria, China in the 1930s.

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Bf5 4.0-0 e6 5.d3 c6 6.Nbd2



6...Na6

An odd-looking move, but not new; Smyslov played it against Tsvetkov in 1954 and drew, so the following year Tsvetkov played it against Bobekov and drew. 6.Nbd2 Na6 7.a3 Be7 8.Qe1 Nc5 9.Nd4 Bg6, Tsvetkov-Smyslov.

7.a3 Nc5 8.c4 b5?

Nothing good can come from this move. Now c6 is unprotected and allows White to exchange Black's Bishop on f5 rather than g6, which makes the d Pawn weaker. Little mistakes like this, even by a strong master, can be fatal against Fischer.

9.Nd4! Qd7 10.Nxf5 exf5 11.Nb3

White focuses his forces against the weak Queenside.

11...h6

This move does not contribute to Black's game and allows White a free move to further punish Black. Better was 11...Ne6 or 11...bxc4 – “anything that plays chess” opposed to waiting to be found.

12.Be3 Ne6 13.Nd4 g6!?

I fully support Black's decision to make a questionable move with g6!? What is his alternative? The sane and logical 13...Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Be7 15.cxb5 cxb5: sure, let's give White the two Bishops and make our Pawn structure a mess.

14.Qb3 Rb8?

Now is time for surrender to a bad position and play 14... bxc4. The text move allows a blow out.



15.Nxc6

Busting Black open with no choice but to recapture.

15.... Qxc6 16.cxd5 Nc5

Does Black think he has untangled and will escape unscathed? No, but I'm sure he's praying for 17. dxc6? Nxb3.

17.Qc3 Qd6 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Qxf6 1-0

If Black moves the Rook to g8, Bobby answers with Qe5+, picking off the Queen Rook. How quickly Fischer can dissect and destroy a Giant Killer!

5. Ruth [U.S.A.] - Fischer

US Open 1956

Sicilian Defense

Two years after this game, Dale Ruth of Oklahoma would participate in the U.S. Intercollegiate Chess Championship. He lost two critical games against the top masters in the event. Against Saul Yarmak, Ruth with a winning position touched a piece that, if moved, would cause the tables to be turned, so he resigned on the spot. In another game, he trapped Anthony Saidy's Queen but managed to admire his own work and lose the game. All the evidence that I've obtained points to Dale Ruth being a strong "A" player or weak expert. Possibly I'm understating his strength; it meant more back in that era to reach those levels when players did not have massive databases and separate books forever opening under the sun.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2



6...e5

We reach a very standard position in the Najdorf, and now Black plays the most popular move e5.

7.Nf3

White adopts the less popular Nf3, which, on occasion has been played by GM Smyslov; but the vast majority of players would opt for Nb3. The simple downside right off is that it blocks the f Pawn which often advances for White in many systems against the Sicilian.

7...Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3

This move is passive and doesn't contribute to the fight for d5. Better is Bg5, providing White with the option of capturing the Knight on f6 and planting his own Knight on d5. Again, a very common Sicilian theme. Playing passive moves against a strong player is like switching colors mid-game; soon Black will be playing "White" and dictating the pace and place of the battle.

9...Nbd7 10.Re1

As a general rule, completing the development of the minor pieces for the Rooks is a sound principle. White's failure to play Bg5 is quickly coming back to plague the position.

10...b5 11.a4 b4 12.Nd5

Black can also play Nc5, increasing pressure on e4. Nxe7+ is not to be feared as it just exchanges a strong Knight for a piece of less value.

12...Nxd5 13.Qxd5 Qc7

I wonder if a young Fischer is playing this line to taunt his opponent. Doubtful. Did White run down his clock looking at 14. Qxa8 Bb7 with an elaborate plan to trap the Queen? If so, he wasted time for nothing. The simple 14....Nb6 answers that question on the move.

14.Qb3

OK, in the previous move I gave you a little quiz but didn't tell you. The truth about 14. Qxa8 Bb7 is that 14....Nb6 is the answer. However, there's some compensation for White in this line, and if he can advance the "a" Pawn fast enough, it should be considered. 14.Qxa8 Nb6 15.Qxa6 Bxa6 16.Bxa6 Qxc2 17.Be3 Nd7 18.Bb5 Qc7 19.a5 Nc5 20.a6 Ra8 21.Rec1 g6 22.Bxc5 dxc5 23.b3 Kg7 24.Rd1 Qb8 25.Bc4.

14...Nc5 15.Qxb4

And leaves us with the following position.



15... d5 16.exd5 e4

Many players would see the discovered attack and jump at a chance to play it, forgetting that the threat is greater than the execution.

17.Nd2 Nd3 18.Qxe4 Nxe1

Here is another great example. White sees the discovered attack and foolishly jumps on it. Had he the patience of Fischer, he would have played Bd1, attacking the Knight and holding the c Pawn, which would give him a fighting chance to play on.

19.d6 Bxd6

White continues on foolishly rushing forward with the discovered attack and finds himself in a hot mess.

**20.Qxa8 Bb7 21.Qxf8+ Kxf8 22.Kf1 Nxc2 23.Rb1 Nd4 24.Bd3
Bb4 0-1**

6. Fischer - Di Camillo [U.S.A.]

Eastern States Championship Open 1956

Ruy Lopez

Attilio Di Camillo was a master from Philadelphia. He defeated and drew many strong players over his career; however, he might best be remembered for being the coach of Lisa Lane. Lisa was one of two chess players to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated (I assume you know the other?); she was a sort of cause célèbre, as she never achieved a master level rating and captured the nation's attention. Di Camillo captured the Pennsylvania State Championship four times (1946-47 and 1960-61) and finished fifth in the 1956 U.S. Open.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 d6 7.c3



7...Bg4

While the text move is playable, vastly more popular here is the straightforward Be7 or Na5. I don't like Bg4 on principle; it's better to move the King Bishop and prepare to castle before going off on an adventure. Black has to exercise great caution in the opening, to be precise and mindful of every tempo and move. Little mistakes can have long reaching consequences□that's the curse carried by the Black pieces and by being the player to move second.

8.h3 Bh5 9.d3 Be7 10.Nbd2 0-0 11.Re1 Qd7

This line doesn't have a very good reputation; more attractive is the thematic Na5, or the more aggressive d5. As in 11...d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nf1 f6 14.Ng3 Bf7, Hoffmann - Rothuis.

12.Nf1 Na5 13.Bc2 h6

Black would do better to take the Knight at f3 and pursue play upon the Queenside.

14.g4

White reduces Bg4 to a strategic mistake by boxing the Bishop in like a worthless Beanie Baby collectible buried in a closet.

14...Bg6 15.Ng3 Nh7

Black forces are not properly placed to slow White down. So, why bother with the defensive Nh7? Time would be better spent playing chess on the Queenside or in the center.

16.Nf5 Nb7

Nothing good can be accomplished by these complicated Knight maneuvers. This is the third move for the Knight, while the Black Queen Rook sits on a8 as if he has purchased a ticket to watch the game.

17.d4 exd4 18.cxd4 Nd8

It's not clear how Nd8 contributes to Black's position. Is his plan Nd8-Ne6-Ng5, a very long road to exchange off the Queen's Knight for the King's Knight, (and, yes, that's just silly)? Black should take the Knight at f5, it's clearly more powerful than any of White's pieces—so, off with its head! 18.... Bxf5 or bust!

19.Nxe7+ Qxe7 20.d5

If the Knight bought a ticket for a world tour after d5, he's not passing the county line. If he has to return to b7, it's like canceling your trip without travel insurance. Of course, the real story here is that White took his Knight on f5 and exchanged it for that lowly Bishop on e7; he then followed up by locking down with d5. This doesn't mean that Black would have been wrong to play 18....Bxf5; far from it! No, the

exchange simply indicates that White has a clear and deep plan and must be very careful.

20...c5 21.Bf4 Nb7

Trip canceled and no refunds, just a huge waste of time.

22.Bg3 Rfe8 23.a4 Qf6 24.axb5 axb5 25.Kg2

White defends the Knight; he has no concern about Black exchanging on the "a" file and pulling his Queen away from the center. He is also not concerned with 25...Qxb2, a silly move and, after 26. Rb1, White regains the Pawn with attack.

25...Ng5 26.Nxg5 hxg5 27.Rxa8 Rxa8 28.e5

The advance of the d Pawn can't be denied; the question on the table is: can it be defended?

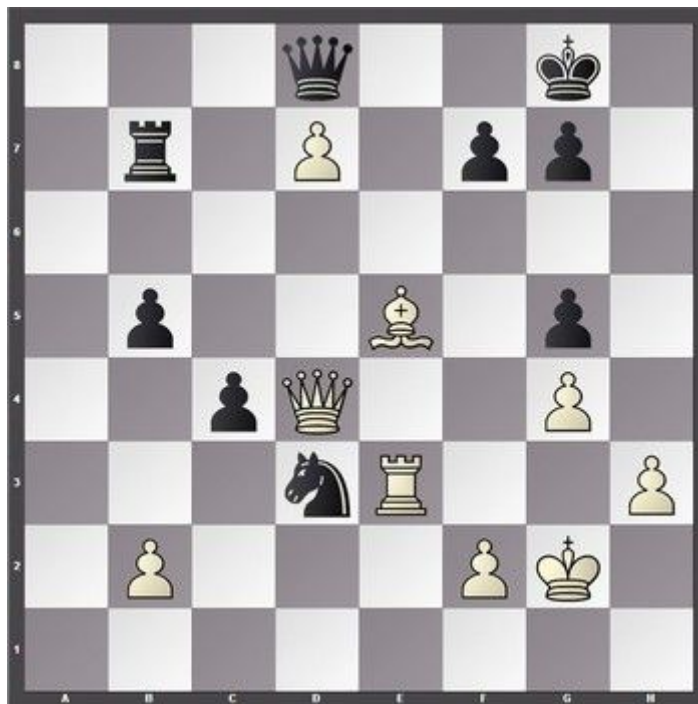
**28...Bxc2 29.Qxc2 dxe5 30.Bxe5 Qd8 31.d6 c4 32.Qe4 Nc5
33.Qc6 Nd3**

If Black had time to take the Pawn at b2, White would have to be very concerned. However, Black must stop the further advance of White's Pawn or be crushed.

34.Re3 Rc8 35.Qb7 Rb8 36.Qd5 Nb4 37.Qc5 Nd3 38.Qd4 Rb6

A disaster awaits White if he trades the d Pawn for the g Pawn.
39.Bxg7 Rxd6 40.Qc3 Nf4+ 41.Kh2 Nd5.

39.d7 Rb7



40.Bc7

Opening the e file and providing a tempo of protection for the Pawn, the threat of Re8+ can't be stopped.

40...Nf4+ 41.Kf1 1-0

7. Fischer - Cardoso [Philippines]

New York Masters 1957

Sicilian

Rodolfo Cardoso, a Filipino, was awarded the International Master (IM) title in 1957, making him the first Asian IM. A very strong player in his day, he had finished fifth in the 1956 World Junior Championship.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4



Fischer played Bc4 here twenty-nine times in his recorded tournament career. This game with Cardoso is only the second time playing the line.

6... e6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Be3 0-0 9.Bb3 Nc6

A popular move in the 1950s which was eventually overtaken by the more active 9...b5 with the idea of playing Bb7 and allowing the option for Nbd7 instead of placing the Knight on c6.

10.f4 Na5

A playable move, but I prefer Qc7. I'm not a fan of Na5 in these types of positions unless I've played b5 first, which supports playing Nc5 putting blinders on the Bishop.

11.Qf3 Qc7 12.g4 Nxb3 13.axb3

This highlights my "b5" fetish. See how Black has wasted time with Na5 and taking the Bishop? Now he can't even get b5 in because of Nxb5. This whole system seems an unnecessarily slow way for Black to play on the Queenside, whereas White is about to start dialing for dollars on the Kingside.

13...Rb8 14.g5 Nd7 15.f5 Ne5 16.Qg3

White drives the Pawns forward like a prizefighter swinging right and then left, while Black is reduced to the Knight doing a fox trot from f6 to d7 and e5. The end result is that Black occupies e5 only at the cost of kicking the White Queen to a more active square that will only aid in the attack.

16...Kh8 17.Nf3 Nxf3+ 18.Rxf3 b5

Previously I've mentioned that Black's play on the Queenside is too slow—this move is ridiculous. Black needs a meaningful way to come to the aid of his Kingside; however, it's not easy to find one. 18...exf5 comes with the price of allowing White to play Nd5 at will and at any time.

19.Qh4 exf5 20.exf5 Qc6 21.Raf1 Bb7 22.Bd4 b4

No, Black can't save himself by 22...Qxf3; there are many bumps in the road. 23.Rxf3 Bxf3 24.Bxg7+ Kxg7 25.Qh6+ Kh8 26.g6 fxg6 27.fxg6 Rf7 28.gxf7 b4 29.Na2 Rf8 30.Qf4 Kg7 31.Qxf3 and Black runs out of play.



23.Bxg7+ Kxg7

If you play over the analysis of 22...Qxf3, the rest of the game will make more sense and you'll understand what the "issues" are.

24.Qh6+ Kh8 25.g6 Qc5+ ?

Could Black have held here?

25...fxg6 26.fxg6 Rf7 27.gxf7 Rf8 28.Qe6 Qc5+ 29.Re3 Bg5 30.Nd1
Bd5 31.Qe8 Kg7 32.Rf5 h6 33.h4 Rxf7 34.Rxf7+ Bxf7 35.Qe4 Bxe3+
36.Nxe3 =

Very hard to say if Fischer could improve upon the above; however,
26.... Rf7 is a very hard move to see over the board even a just a
few moves ahead when facing this kind of pressure.

**26.R1f2 fxg6 27.fxg6 Qg5+ 28.Qxg5 Bxg5 29.Rxf8+ Rxf8
30.Rxf8+ Kg7 31.gxh7 1-0**

8. Bernstein [U.S.A.] - Fischer

USA Championship New York 1957

Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4

I have a tremendous amount of respect for Sidney Bernstein's fighting style. He plays for the win and has no fear. He marches right into the main line of the Najdorf Variation and challenges Bobby to “bring it.”



7...Be7 8.Qf3 Nbd7 9.0-0-0 Qc7 10.g4 b5 11.Bg2

White has many options and plans here:

a) 11.Bxf6 Nxf6

b) 11.a3 Rb8

c) 11.Bd3 Bb7

d) 11.Bg2 Bb7

e) 11.Bh3 b4

f) 11.h4 b4

There is a saying that states, "There is a reason why seldom-played moves are seldom played." With that saying in mind, I'd say the first three options are reasonable. I question the value of d, e and f.

11..Bb7 12.Rhe1 b4 13.Nd5 exd5

Sidney played Game 2 with vigor, and here he goes all in, sacrificing a Knight with the hope of applying enough pressure to the "e" file to make Black blink. Not so easy; now if Black can untangle and reach an endgame, the game is his.

14.exd5 Kf8

Of course, not castling just drops the Bishop at e7. This move is a theoretical novelty for the era; up until now Black had only tried Kd8, allowing his King Rook to have room to play. The text move is very risky, as the Rook gets vaulted in and Black has to play very carefully in order not to get mated while he tries to untangle the Kingside. And, yes, other folks have been in this position after 14.exd5!

15.Nf5 Re8 16.Qe3 Bd8 17.Qd4

White is exerting a lot of pressure on Black's position. A natural reaction here would be to exchange Rooks and try to simplify; however, Fischer has a strategic plan to push White back.



17... Bc8

The Pawn on d5 is occupying a square that would be advantageous for White to control with a minor piece. Why, then, apply pressure to a square that you don't want to contest? Dropping back to c8, White eyes the Knight at f5, which is exerting a tremendous amount of force against Black.

18.Bh4 Nc5

Sidney retreats the Bishop to make way for the advancement of the g Pawn. Bobby threatens to take the Knight, forcing White's hand. There's nothing peaceful about this game!

19.Nxg7

Even when you know the position is fine, it's never comforting to have your King so exposed! I can imagine Sidney telling his grandchildren, "I had him on the ropes!"

19...Kxg7 20.g5 Bf5 21.gxf6+ Kh6

The King is secure on h6, f8 doesn't lose outright but it does limit Black's mobility.

22.Qc4

Black has been threatening Nb3+ followed by Qc2 mate, so White needs to stay vigilant. If White swaps Queens he has less horsepower to chase the King. However, logical moves to keep the Queens on crumble quickly! 22. Qf2 Rxe1 23. Rxe1 Nd3+.

22...Nd7 23.Qxc7 Bxc7 24.Bf3 Bd8 25.Bg5+ Kg6 26.Rg1 Bxf6

How far did Bobby see before 19. Nxg7 was played? His King stands on g6 with great defiance, mocking the Rook and Bishop and their insipid little waltz. The rest of the game is total domination by Black.

27.Bh4+ Kh6 28.Bxf6 Nxf6 29.Rg5 Be4 30.Rf1 Bg6 31.Rfg1 Re3 32.Bd1 Ne4 33.R5g2 f5 34.Be2 a5 35.h4 Rh3 36.h5 Bxh5 37.Bd3 Bg6 38.Rf1 Rf8 39.Kd1 Nf6 40.Re1 Nxd5 41.Rf2 Re3 42.Rg1 Re7 43.Kd2 Kg7 44.Rf3 0-1

9. Fischer - Sherwin [U.S.A.]

USA Championship New York 1957

Sicilian

James T. Sherwin is an International Chess Master (IM) and he was the President of the American Chess Foundation. Sherwin finished third in the U.S. Championship twice behind Fischer and Reshevsky in the 1957-1958 and 1958-1959 championships. A strong player who has a full life outside of chess as a top corporate lawyer, the Grandmaster (GM) title would have been within his grasp had chess been his full-time focus.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.0-0

One advantage of playing against Bobby Fischer is that he often plays the same lines, allowing the opponents to prepare. The huge disadvantage is he is waiting for whatever you have prepared.



7...b5 8.Bb3 b4 9.Nb1

Typically you'll see either 8...Bb7 or Be7 here, so 8...b4 is not a very popular choice at all. However, White's reply 8...Nb1 is almost disrespectful compared to the standard 8...Na4. Is Bobby playing head games? Or is he truly experimenting with a new idea? I happen to lean towards "head games," as it's doubtful that the move was ever played again in any serious game.

9...Bd7

This just seems odd; if he hasn't played Na4, why doesn't Black just play Bb7.

10.Be3 Nc6 11.f3 Be7 12.c3 bxc3 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Nxc3 0-0

This is an odd juxtaposition—a Sozin Attack without the attack. White has opted for creating a solid position from which to grind

down Black in the ending . . . or so one could reasonably infer from his slow and solid play.

15.Rc1 Qb8

How quickly Black drifts into trouble without any provocation from White. Why? A common theme in the Sicilian is Black striving for the d5 break to open up the center. Here the poor d Pawn was begging to be played. 15...d5 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Bxd5 18.Bxd5 exd5 19.Qd3 Bf6 20.Bc5 Re8 21.b4 d4 and Black can equalize.

16.Nd5

A casual glance at the position could mislead you into thinking White has sacrificed his Knight. In reality what we have is a discovered attack on the Bishop at c6 and the Knight directly attacking the Bishop at e7, forcing Black to capture the Knight in one of three ways, Bxd5, Nxd5 or exd5. Black's failure to break with d5 allows White to dictate how the complications will play out.

16...exd5 17.Rxc6 dxe4 18.fxe4

Black chooses to capture with the e Pawn, resulting in what appears to be a drawable Pawn structure. However, reaching an ending will not be easy. White's Bishop surveys the board, denying Black critical squares to launch counterplay. I much prefer 16...Nxd5 17.exd5 Bxd5 18.Bxd5 exd5 19.Qxd5 Qxb2 20.Rc7 Rae8 21.Rb7 Qe5, resulting in a position where White can't claim the advantage.

18...Qb5

This is awkward; Qb7 feels more natural.

19.Rb6 Qe5 20.Bd4 Qg5

If the goal of Qb5 was to maneuver to g5, the toll was steep. White improves the position and Black at best stays the same.

**21.Qf3 Nd7 22.Rb7 Ne5 23.Qe2 Bf6 24.Kh1 a5 25.Bd5 Rac8
26.Bc3 a4**

White continues to make incremental progress; if he can win the a Pawn, there should be a clear path to winning.

27.Ra7 Ng4 28.Rxa4 Bxc3 29.bxc3 Rxc3

Black anticipates a slow and steady path of advancing the a Pawn while White makes sure the Kingside stays secure.



30.Rxf7!

Exclamation for shock value; this is the kind of move whereby, if you didn't see it coming when played against you, you need to take a walk. Best move for Black here is to get up and go to the water cooler.

30...Rc1+?

A horrible but understandable blunder on Black's part. Best was 30...h5 31.Rc4 Rxc4 32.Qxc4 Rxf7 33.Bxf7+ Kh7 34.Qf1 Kh6 35.h3 Nf6 36.Qf5 and White should win.

31.Qf1! h5

If 31...Rxf1+ 32.Rxf1+ Qxd5 33.Rxf8+ Kxf8 34.exd5, White wins with ease. However, the text move is no better and all roads lead to defeat.

32.Qxc1

This just adds further insult 32...Qxc1+ 33.Rf1+ Kh7 34.Rxc1 and White is up a full Rook.

32...Qh4

With hopes of a cheapo; however, if White is alert he can deliver mate.

33.Rxf8+ Kh7 34.h3

White drifts with h3, but not enough to matter; the direct path was 34.Bg8+ Kg6 35.Bf7+ Kh7 36.Rh8+ Kxh8 37.Qc8+ Kh7 38.Qf5+ Kh8 39.Ra8+.

34...Qg3 35.hxg4 h4 36.Be6 1-0

10. Kramer [U.S.A.] - Fischer

USA Championship New York 1957

Reti Opening

George Kramer must have felt right at home playing a child prodigy. George won the New York State Championship at the age of fourteen and was the 20th ranked player in the United States on their first rating list. A solid player, in this game he's dismantled quickly.

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 0-0 5.d3 d6

Reuben Fine writes in his classic *Ideas Behind the Chess Openings*: "As long as Black can retain symmetry, White can lay no claim to an advantage."



6.e4 c5 7.c3 Nc6

Symmetry ends with Black having placed more pieces in play. However, after 8. Re1, White suffers no disadvantage, as his Rook is well placed, supporting the Pawn advance to e5. Black would have to decide between natural development, such as Bd7, or preventing the advance by playing e5 first.

8.Ne1

It's hard to justify the retreat of the Knight, regardless of the strategic plan of playing f4. White would do well to learn an opening system that allows him to advance his Pawns without retreating one of minor pieces to his back rank.

8...Rb8 9.f4 Ne8

It would seem only correct to criticize Black for playing Ne8; however, the objective here is not to advance the f Pawn. It's to use the Knight to support the Queenside attack via Nc7 and Nb5.

10.Be3 Bd7 11.Nd2 b5

Black is playing with the strategic goal of attacking the b2 and c3 squares. White should counter on the Kingside; yet, having no strategic targets due to the odd placement of his minor pieces, he'll have to settle for an unsupported attack in the center.

12.e5 dxe5 13.Bxc5 exf4 14.Rxf4 Nc7

White has released the tension in the center. His Pawn at d3 is begging to be pushed; yet doing so would limit the scope of the Bishop. The only positive thing about the Pawn at d3 is that it justifies the Knight at e1, and, yes, that's a sad joke. An assessment of Black reveals a solid Kingside and the break at b4 begging to be played.

15.Rf1

If your Rook at f1 must capture a Pawn and return to f1 without passing Go and collecting \$200, you've lost your way.

15...b4 16.Qc2

Black gets b4 in creating a target at c3, and White is reduced to defending with the Queen. A Knight is a great defender of a Pawn. The Queen defending a Pawn is like a theoretical physicist employed as a fry cook explaining to the boss why tossing frozen fries into hot oil is as unstable as bosonic string theory . . . or, the same physicist simply being under employed, out of place, and about to be kicked to the curb.



16...bxc3 17.bxc3 Nb5 18.d4

To stop the threat of Nxc3, of course we advance d4.

18...Rc8 19.Qb2

The Rook moving to c8 sets up a double Knight “chop” on d4, upon which the c Pawn is pinned and the Queen will be attacked – so, of course Qb2.

19...Nxc3

If White had properly assessed the danger, he may have opted for 19.Nb3 Nbx d4 20.cxd4 Nxd4 21.Bxd4, wiggling out with two minor pieces and a Rook for his Queen, but far from an easy game.

20.Qxc3 Nxd4 21.Qb4 Ne2+

White's shortage of Pawns is leaving him very exposed to tricks of various kinds.

21...Ne2+ 22.Kh1 Rxc5

Now, when Black takes the Rook there is no counter with Bxe7.

23.Qxc5 Bxa1 24.Nef3 Bg7 25.Re1 Nc3

A cursory review might lead White to believe he's OK; however, the dominate Pawn island and two Bishops on an open board make it difficult to find ways to draw.

26.Qxa7 Be6 27.a3 Qd6 28.Qa5 Bd5 29.Nb1 Ra8

Bobby quickly demonstrates the superiority in his forces and his ability to optimize their mobilization into battle.

30.Qb4 Qxb4 31.axb4 Bxf3 32.Nxc3 Bxg2+ 0-1

No better was 32. Bxf3 Ra1 33. Kg2 Rxb1.



Edmar Mednis

11. Fischer - Mednis [U.SA.]

USA Championship New York 1957

Pirc

Edmar Mednis was a very strong player. He finished second in the 1955 World Junior Championship behind Boris Spassky, and he has the distinction of being the first player to beat Bobby Fischer in a U.S. Championship. He was forty-three when he achieved the GM title in 1980. This delayed rise to the top was not due to a lack of talent; more so, it was because he had a full and rich life outside of chess as a stockbroker. Had it not been for Fischer winning the World Championship in 1972, thrusting chess into the limelight in the United States, Mednis may never have returned to the game.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6



The Pirc is a fairly modern opening defense, first appearing in 1887. It was considered unsound and only gained respect in the early 1960s. I recall a GM in the 1980s (who I won't name in order to protect his innocence) scoffing that a weak Master would play this against him: "It's not proper. I'm not sure what he expected the outcome to be." Having said that, Zurab Azmaiparashvili (who was only a "lowly" IM in 1983) defeated Karpov with the Pirc. The counter to that logic might be that Azmajparasvili, now a GM, at one time was clearly the strongest IM in the world.

4.Bg5 Bg7 5.Qd2

This system was made popular by Robert Byrne, and, hence, was called the Byrne Variation. Ironically, I have no records of Bryne playing this in the 1950s, only that he adopted it in the 1960s. So must we call this game the Byrne Variation? A rhetorical question, but it does speak to the "chicken or the egg" dilemma. If you play a

“line” before it's well known, must you site its future name when you document the past?

5...h6 6.Bf4 c6 7.0-0-0 Qa5

A tax should fall on the heads of players who bring the Queen out so early. They are violating cardinal principles and, be it opening theory or not, I disagree. Let's look at the evidence here; the Black King hasn't castled and the Queenside pieces have yet to be brought into the game. The Queen floats on out like a one-woman band, but with what goal in mind?

While I'm on this early Queen tangent, let's take a little side trip. Beginner instruction books teach the relative value of pieces whereby the Queen has a value of 9, a Rook is worth 5, and a Bishop and Knight are worth 3 each.

Standard chess knowledge, right?

That's great advice for a beginner, but what about the advancing player—is there something more? Edward Lasker recognized this need for a different view when he wrote, "It is difficult to compare the relative value of different pieces, as so much depends on the peculiarities of the position."

What I offer is a concept that, if embraced, will provide a framework that will enable the development of a deeper understanding, allowing the player to learn to self-evaluate a sliding scale of values. For illustrative purposes, let's call it a theory of “Diminishing and Increasing Values.”

This theory states that the Queen in the opening is worth 6.5; as the game goes on and approaches an ending, or pieces and Pawns are exchanged or moved in order to increase her mobility, her value may soar to as high as 12.

The Knights early in an opening are worth 3.75 and they decrease in value as more pieces are developed. However, in a closed endgame

they are worth 4 while in an open ending they may be worth only 2.5, whereas a Bishop in the same position is worth 4.2.

A Pawn early on is worth only 1 and for most of the game has a fixed value; however, a racing Pawn in the ending may well end up being worth 3.5.

So, the point of this incomplete “Diminishing and Increasing Values” theory is that during a game the pieces increase and decrease in value as the positions change.

Knowing that's Mr. Mednis' plan, let's put the Queen back on d8 and play 7...b5 to threaten the Knight on c3. While this concept is too complex and fluid to put into practice, it's a good mental exercise to learn to think in terms of “What is the value of this piece in this situation?” If you do so, over time you'll start to play exchange sacrifices by instinct while improving in other areas of your game.

8.Kb1 g5

I reject the concept of playing on both sides of the board with Queens and Pawns. It's chess, it's not Chutes and Ladders.

9.Bg3 Nh5 10.Bc4 b5?

Bad on principle, now White has 11.Nxb5 Qxd2 12.Rxd2 Na6 13.Nc3, and if 11.Nxb5 Qxd2 12.Rxd2 cxb5 13. Bd5, wins the Rook.

11.Bb3 Nd7 12.f4 Nxg3 13.hxg3 g4

By chasing the Bishop back to g3 and capturing him, Black has allowed White to recapture and create a semi-open file. This has the effect of developing White's Rook on h1 without White ever having to waste tempo in order to move it. So now that Black has created this mess on the Kingside, he tries to limit the damage by playing g4. The question that Black will have to answer is, Where shall the King go? Can't go Kingside, and Queenside looks loose. Ideally, if he could find a way to survive close to his home square, let's say that

e7 would be my choice. I'm not convinced he can live with any of his three choices, so he best take White's King first!

14.e5 d5 15.f5 Nb6 16.Qf4

Black has finally brought his Knight over to aid the Queen in her stalking of White's King. How shall Black proceed? What threats does Black have at his disposal? Both his Rooks are out of play; in contrast, all but White's Knight at g1 are active participants in the game.

16...e6?

A difficult position to defend; however, it's better to play 16....h5 17. f6 Bf8 than the text move that prompts White to draft this King's Knight into battle.

17.Qxg4 Bf8 18.fxe6 Bxe6 19.Qf3 0-0-0

This position is exactly how games are won and lost—by confusing the temporary safety of the Black King as being an advantage. The true assessment is still in White's favor; Black should proceed with care.

20.Nh3 Rg8 21.Qf2 Nc4

White must remain vigilant as Black is threatening Nxb2 where the Knight can't be captured because of Ba3+.

22.Bxc4 bxc4 23.Ka1

A reasonable plan for White; however, I'm not convinced that White is in danger. Marching onward with 23. Nf4 should be fine. 23.Nf4 Bg4 24.Rdf1 Rd7 25.Qe3 Rb7 26.Ka1 Qb4 27.b3 Kb8 28.Rf2 Ka8 29.Nh5.

23...Rd7 24.Nb1 Rb7 25.c3 Rb6 26.Rd2 Kd7

Vintage Young Bobby, he defends with precision and never loses control of the game.

27.Nf4 Be7 28.Rxh6 Rf8 29.Qf3

A little Queen move with a force that's easy to underestimate. Black should ask, Why now? Why here? If not to defend, it must be to attack, right?

29...Ra6 30.a3 Rb8 31.Nxe6 fxe6



Black has successfully shifted all his pieces to the Queenside in order to attack the White King. The question is, Will he be successful or is this a terrible plan? Did he make the fatal mistake of attacking when he should have been defending?

32.Rxe6 Bxa3

If 32...Kxe6 33.Qg4+ Kf7 34.e6+, Black has nothing left; his losing move was 30... Rb8, so the answer to our question from the previous note was, yes, he should be defending. Instead, he has reached a point that all he can control is how the win will be recorded for White, and not if, but what, the final moves will be.

33.Nxa3 Kxe6 34.Qg4+ Ke7 35.Rf2 Re8

White can smell mate now; in order to prolong the game, Black would have to play 35...Qxa3+ 36.bxa3 Rxa3+ 37.Ra2 Rxa2+ 38.Kxa2.

36.Qg5+ Kd7 37.Rf7+ Kc8 38.Qf5+ Kb8 39.Qd7 1-0

12. Bredoff [U.S.A.] - Fischer

USA Championship Juniors USA, 1957

Sicilian

Mike Bredoff was seventeen years old at the time of this match, and finished fifth in the 1957 U.S. Juniors Championship. There are not many tournament records beyond this event; however, by his solid performance in the tournament we can only assume he was a strong player of that era.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5



Bobby gains home field advantage by playing the Sicilian Defense Najdorf Opocensky Variation, so named for Czech chess master Karel Opocensky. To the uninitiated, 6...e5 must look like a mistake, the Pawn at d6 is backwards and would appear hard to defend. In chess the proof is in the variations and the continuations, not in the “moment.”

7.Nf3

The more traditional main line is Nb3; however, Nf3 is fine.

7...Be7 8.Bg5

The normal move order is play 0-0 before moving the Bishop; however, we should easily transpose into commonly played lines. If Black plays Be6 here, White can take the Knight at f6, thus allowing Black's Knight at c3 to exert more pressure over the d5 square.

8...Nbd7 9.Nh4

Possibly the idea of Bxf6 was in White's plan; and now that Black has played Nbf7, it makes the idea moot. Had White played 0-0 here we'd be right back home; instead, he drifts on into the ether by playing Nh4. A Knight moved twice in the opening is similar to one of the discovery shows on the History Channel—the ads may claim they've found Bigfoot, but you know it's just not true, so it's just a giant waste of time. White should stick with the lessons learned in his first beginner's book: castle and put your Rooks on semi-open files; if you have time, double them.

9...h6

Bobby rebuffs the Bishop and declares, "Enough, already!" He's not going to leave the pressure of the Bishop on g5 and allow Nf5. Could the idea of Nh4 to Nf5 be any more transparent? If not, what was the purpose of Nh4!?

10.Be3 Nb6

Black can now play the d5 break at will. White must play aggressively not to be overrun. 11.Qd3 d5 12.exd5 Nbx d5 13.0-0-0 Nxe3 14.Qxe3 Qa5 15.Bc4 should be equal; of course, White playing for equality is not a good thing.

11.Nf3

The White King's Knight had come to save the day; now he retreats and all that remains of his forward thrust is his shadow.

11...Be6 12.0-0 Nc4 13.Bxc4 Bxc4

I much prefer the retreat to Bc1 for White. I despise these types of exchanges where White develops Black's pieces by exchanging.

14.Re1 0-0 15.Nd2 Be6 16.f4?

We have already noted that the previous exchange resulted in an improvement of Black's pieces; it also pulled the White Rook from f1

to e1. Now White follows up by shoving his f Pawn, which makes more sense if the Rook is back on f1. Instead, here I much prefer a4 in order to keep Black from getting in b5 for free.

16...exf4 17.Bxf4 Qb6+ 18.Kh1 Qxb2 19.Nd5

“When you see a good move, look for a better one.”— Emanuel Lasker

White would have been smart to follow Lasker’s advice before rushing in with Nd5.



19... Bxd5 20.exd5 Nxd5

Cold precision: Bobby rips the d Pawn and challenges White to exploit the Knight at d5, Bishop at e7, or Queen at b2. Surely there must be some move that causes Black trouble and will swing the game in White's favor.

21.Nc4 Qb5 22.Nxd6 Qc6 23.Nf5 Bf6 24.Be5 Rad8

White appears to always be one beat short of "doing something."

25.Qg4 Bxe5 26.Rxe5 Qf6 27.Rae1 Nc7 28.Qe4 Ne6 29.Qxb7?

The one beat turns out to be a killer; he needed to allow time for h3 or some other prophylactic move.

29...Qxe5 0-1

White overlooks the simple back rank mate threat.

13. Fischer - Bennett [U.S.A.]

USA Championship Juniors USA, 1957

Sicilian

James Bennett was a 1700 player at the start of the 1957 U.S. Juniors Championship. Comparing juniors in that era to Fischer is a lost cause, yet it must be noted that within a year Bennett was a strong expert-level player. Youth players are never to be taken lightly, and Fischer makes sure that he brings home the full point when Black continues to overreach in the game.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 g6



In truth, it's not part of the Dragon family (ECO code B70); instead, it's a Richter-Rauzer, Bondarevsky variation (ECO code B60) and is considered sound and playable. There are not enough Bennett game scores to study, so one can't be sure if this line was by intent or by accident. However, you might be surprised to know that the highest rated player in the world, GM Magnus Carlsen, played this line as Black in 2006, and GM Dmitry Gurevich has played this often, and as recently as 2009.

7.Bxf6 exf6

The text move is the main line attempting to punish White for trying to transpose into Dragonland. It's also to test the validity of Black's idea□if he can't play with the isolated d Pawn and the doubled f Pawns, the system is unsound. Other moves are 7. Be2, 7.Bb5 and 7.Qd2, but I can't imagine passing on the chance to try and knock Black out. Of course, 7.Bb5 does have an immediate threat, so it can't be ignored with Bg7, so in most cases White can play Bxf6 on the next move.

8.Bc4 Bg7 9.0-0

In the modern era, 9. Ndb5 has replaced 0-0; however, it can lead to very forcing lines, which is a disadvantage when playing against a weaker player. 9.Ndb5 0-0 10.Qxd6 f5 11.0-0-0 Qa5 12.Qc7 a6 13.Qxa5 Nxa5 14.Nc7 (White had the option of Nd6 instead of Nc7); now Black's choices are 14...Nxc5 or 14...Ra7, neither of which should worry White.

9...0-0 10.Ndb5 f5 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Nxd6

White plays the Ndb5 theme in a clear concise method, avoiding the forcing lines and allowing room for Black to go astray in the simplicity of the position.

12...Ne5 13.Bb3 Qd7

Black plays Qd7 to avoid the double Pawns that would occur after Nxf5. However, Black's assessment is all wrong. The White Knight on d6 doesn't have a strong anchor and can be evicted without much major effort. Better here is 13...Bg4; and if White plays f3 to kick the Bishop, all it would accomplish is to open the diagonal line g1 to b6, creating protection for Black's b Pawn so that on Nxb7, Qb6+ wins the Knight. Best would be 13...Bg4 14. Qd2 Qc7.

14.Nxf5 Qxf5 15.Nd5

The Knight on d6 was weak; the Knight on d5 is anchored so Black made his position more challenging. Unfortunately for Black, White's ambitions go far beyond commanding the center of the board.

15...Nc6 16.Ne3

Call me old-fashioned, but I like that commanding-the-center-of-the-board concept; I wouldn't be so quick to retreat the Knight, and instead I would try 16.c3 Rad8 17.Qd2 Rd7 18.Rad1 Rfd8 19.Qd3 Qxd3 20.Rxd3 Na5 21.Rfd1 Kf8 22.f4 Nxb3 23.axb3.

16...Qc5 17.c3 Rad8 18.Qf3 Rd7?

A very odd move; did he drop the Rook on d7 while on the way to d2? Did he have some scheme to play Na5 and desire protection for the Pawn at b5? Seeing that he has so many better options, this move just seems silly.

19.Rad1 Rd6

I'll give Black partial credit for accepting that Rd7 was lame and is now playing Rd6. However, 19...Ne5 was a better option.

20.Rxd6 Qxd6 21.Rd1 Qc5

Black managed to seize the open file first, and now he's exchanged his way into having White dominate it. Black's mistake here is subtle in that Qc5 is not as good as either the defensive Qe7 or even Qc7. Of course Black could return the Knight to d5, but Black has less to fear with a pair of Rooks off.

22.h3 b5

Black continues with his improper assessment, attacking when he should be defending! He's like a boxer against the ropes trying to fight his way out of an offensive flurry, forgetting the thing that is universally known to all boxers: nobody has ever been knocked out while holding on.

23.Rd5 Qb6

White makes a compelling case for Black in proper assessment. The Rook lift to the center of the board, and the almighty White Queen (with the combined powers of the Rook and Bishop) is reduced to moving like a drunken King one square backwards to defend Knight and Pawn.

24.Rd6

And with a single move forward White PINS the Donkey to the Queen.

24...Ne5

Don't mistake this for a clever defense; it has been forced. Moving the Black Rook to c8 would have been met with Qxf7+.

25.Qd5 Qc7 26.f4 Nc4 27.Nxc4 bxc4 28.Bxc4 Kh8

White's superior position and Black's failure to know who's winning nets White a clear Pawn.

29.Bb3 f5

If there is a logical reason to move the King to the corner and advance the f Pawn, it escapes me. Why create a weakness in your position? In order to speed up the end? Black must hold on to the faint chance that the opposite color Bishops can yield him a miracle draw; without that false hope, resignation would be fine here.

30.g3

I don't like the idea of playing g3 with Queen on the board. It weakens the Kingside; so, until the Queens have gone on holiday, why risk it? I would have played Kf1 instead and worked to exchange Queens.

30..Re8 31.Qc6 Qb8 32.Rd7

White must proceed with care due to his Kingside being well ventilated, hence my desire to play Kf1 and delay g3. Now I might proceed with 32.Qd7 Qa8 33.Rc6; however, all lines are "tricky" and require precise play.

32...Re1+ 33.Kf2 Qe8!

White has allowed Black to wiggle out of a huge jam into a minor jam; better was 33.Kg2! Re2+ 34.Kf1 Qe8 35.Bc4!

34.Qf3

If White is reduced to Qf3, he's committed a Bozo no-no...

34...Rb1

Psychologically this is a very tough position to accept. A few moves ago White was crushing and Black had no counterplay. White must avoid the mental collapse that could occur here or he could find disaster with moves like 35.Rd2? Qe1+. When you are faced with a critical reset in momentum, take a quick brisk walk and refresh if you have time on the clock.

35.Rd1 Rxb2+ 36.Kg1 Qc8 37.h4

And now if Black finds the simple 37...Qc5+ 38.Kh1 h5 he will be drawing.

37...Bxc3

Instead he finds this lemon.



38.Rd8+ Qxd8 39.Qxc3+

Even great players get lucky a few times in their careers!

39...Qf6

Why not resign? Time scramble? Frustration? A sad ending for Black.

40.Qxf6 mate

14 . Fischer - Goldsmith [U.S.A.]

West Orange, 1957

Philidor Defense

The *Brooklyn Eagle* reports in January of 1951 that Julius Goldsmith went 11-3 in the Marshall Chess Club's weekly rapid transit tournament, where the winner went 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ – 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and lost to Goldsmith. It's not a huge leap of faith to assume that Bobby's opponent was at least a strong “A” player, if not beyond.

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 Nd7 4.Nf3 e5



You don't often see the Philidor today, and, even when in vogue, it received only half-hearted support. Bent Larsen, in his book *Why Not the Philidor Defense?*, stated that the Philidor's primary attribute is that it avoids the Ruy Lopez. Yes, for the well-rounded chess player it can be a solid weapon; you no longer have to deal with weaker players who know popular openings twenty-five moves deep, and if you can avoid a few opening traps you're home free. Of course...the old adage, "You can't judge a book by its cover," might very well have a corollary chess, "You can't judge a player by his opening choice." I shall add that to my list of chess maxims as Mr. Goldsmith runs amuck on his home turf Philidor. I can only assume he tossed this opening in the hope that his young opponent would know less theory than he did.

5.Bc4 Be7

Black can take some comfort that he played up to move 5 and stayed in main line theory.

6.dxe5

I won't claim that Fischer deviated from theory first; however, 0-0 is clearly more popular than the text.

6...Nxe5?

All Black had to do was play 6.....dxe5 and he would have won the war of staying in theory, and be on his way to getting out of opening with a playable position. The text move is a ghastly option for a player who dictated the path of the game. Surely, based on his Marshall Chess Club rapid tournament results, Mr. Goldsmith is a better player than this!

7.Nxe5 dxe5 8.Qh5 g6

With a pop the Queen moves to h5 and threatens f7 and e5. Black must have suffered that awkward moment of disorientation felt at the moment you lose your balance. Your body is fighting to keep you upright during that millisecond when your brain is not sure of why your feet are no longer choosing to obey the laws of gravity.

9.Qxe5 Nf6

Often when you lose your balance you should take inventory before you try to get back up. One such example is right here before us. Black's chances of coming out with just a few minor scars starts with 9....f6.

10.Bg5 Bd7 11.0-0-0!?

If you've studied chess for some time, you know that game scores are not always perfect. It's at this point in the game that we should question the score. Did Bobby Fischer really miss 11.Bxf6, winning a piece? Or is there some other way we could have sidestepped this

error? The only logical alternative is that the game went 10...0-0 11.0-0-0 Bd7 and we arrive at move 12 without Black hanging a piece. The only problem is that to play 11.0-0-0, White has castled illegally through check! So that is possibly the real move order and the game score was “fixed” later so that the game didn’t violate the rules. So either both players missed illegal castling or Bobby missed the win of a piece. Let's set that dilemma aside and go on to move 12.

11...0-0

Who knows what the real move was here, but onward we go.



12.Rxd7 Qxd7

A solid punch to the mid-section; taking with the Knight simplifies a bit more but doesn’t change the imbalance 12...Nxd7 13.Qxe7 Qxe7

14.Bxe7 Rfe8.

13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Qxf6 Rae8

In Game 11 I mentioned my “Diminishing and Increasing Values” theory and, based on observation, in a much larger percentage of the time, two minor pieces can generally mug a Rook in the middle of a bright sunny day. Dropping a Pawn in the process delivers White a winning advantage. Of course I bet you did catch the awkward 14...Rae8 and thought, “Wrong Rook, buddy.” What Black is demonstrating here is a keen awareness of the mess he is in; for example, let's take a more innocent and logical Rook move 14...Rad8 15.Rd1 Qc7 16.Rxd8 Rxd8 17.Bxf7+ Qxf7 18.Qxd8+, ouch!

15.f3 Qc7

In defending, Mr. Goldsmith is making it clear that he's not a weak player. He wants to exchange Queens and at the same time deny White the option of running away via the f4 square (15...Qe7 16.Qf4).

16.h4

If White can storm the Kingside Pawns it will quickly be lights out.

16...Qe5

Simple but excellent; at the risk of repeating myself, this is the subtlety of offering the exchange on e5. White's Queen has no squares to run, and, had Black tried this earlier with Qe7, White would have Qf4 and kept his options to invade the h6 square.

17.Qxe5 Rxe5

Now Black can breath a pedestrian sigh of relief, for the White Queen will never swarm her forces to mate. However, now without

his own Queen, Black will need to find a creative way for his Rook to school the pair of minor pieces. Not an easy task!

18.Rd1 Re7 19.Rd6 Kg7 20.a3 f5 21.Kd2 fxe4 22.Nxe4

Black wants some open files and semi-open files to improve the power of his Rooks. However, in doing so he creates squares for White to dominate. If White could make two moves in a row here, Ng5 and Ne6 would create a real problem for Black.

22...Rf4 23.h5 gxh5

White tosses the Pawn aside to weaken the Black King.

24.Rd8 h4 25.Rg8+ Kh6 26.Ke3 Rf5 27.Rg4 Rh5 28.Kf2

A solid option here is 28.Kf4 Rd7 29. c3 Rg7 30.Nd6 Rxd4+ 31.fxd4 Ra5; by playing Kf2, is White overthinking that Black might gain entry to White's second rank?

28...Rg7 29.Rxd4 Kxd4 30.Bf1 Rd5 31.Bd3

White is playing as if he needs to make time control□playing it very safe and taking the slower road to victory.

**31...h6 32.Ke3 Rh5 33.Nd6 h3 34.gxh3 Rxh3 35.Nxb7 Rh5
36.b4 Re5+**

Black has created a pass Pawn and would like to get his Rook behind it. One problem, he's completely lost here and will have to defend before his Pawn can grow legs.

37.Kf4 Re7 38.Nd8 c5

Black is helpless, he can't defend the Pawn 38....Rc7 Ne6+ forking the King and Rook. At this point Black should just resign.

**39.bxc5 Kf6 40.c6 Rc7 41.Be4 Ke7 42.Nb7 Kf6 43.Nd6 Re7
44.c7 1-0**

White uses the same fork theme to advance the Pawn.

15. Hurttlen [U.S.A.] - Fischer

West Orange, 1957

Bird's Opening

Norman Hurttlen was nineteen years of age at the time of this game and Bobby was fourteen. Hurttlen is out played right from the start, yet only one year before this game he drew with Bobby in the 1956 U.S. Amateur Championship. Hurttlen went on to become a national chess master and participated in local match play and friendly skittles games with his chess master brother-in-law, William Jones. His two games with Bobby Fischer must have been the highlights of his chess career.

The Bird's Opening was first mentioned by Luis Ramírez de Lucena in the oldest known chess book published in 1497. If you ask the average club player, he'll tell you it was named after a nearsighted chess player named Bird who, when reaching for the King Pawn, grabbed the wrong Pawn. Oddly enough, if it had been known by its less popular name, "The Dutch Attack," it might have been more popular. Sharp theorists will toss the From's Gambit 1....e5 at it in order to turn the tables.

1.f4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6

Three times in his career Fischer has faced the Bird's opening and each time he's played Nf6 and g6. A small sample size, but enough for me to not worry about learning the From's Gambit!



3.b3

White challenges the long diagonal a1 to h8, a sound idea in principle; in practice, Black does fairly well against this line.

3...Bg7 4.Bb2 0-0

Nothing out of the norm here – both sides continue with standard development.

5.d3?

White weakens his dark squares without provocation. This kind of strategic error should never be made; please embed this pattern in your head as being evil. The zigzag Pawn structure can easily be remembered by such tricks as “It’s Chess not Checkers” or “Play Dragons not Snakes.” Just like in the Sicilian Dragon with the head of the Dragon formed with d6 and his tail with f7, g6 and h, White

should create his own dragon with Pawns at a2, b3, c3 and e3. So, yes, here 5. e3 was the correct move.

5...d5!

Black zeros in on locking down White's weak dark squares by making it difficult for White to untangle. Now 6. e4 drops a Pawn. A handful of games have been played where White has played 5.d3 and Black has had an overwhelming score with 5...d5.

6.Nbd2

White plays the Knight to d2 and begs Black to erect a statue on the e3 square. More logical would have been Qd2 controlling e3 or c4 trying to open the game up.

6...Ng4

Black settles upon a motif that goes back to sixth century BC, the "equestrian statue." First he must plant a Knight upon the e3 square. Given that this game took place in New Jersey, was Bobby inspired by the "The Torch Bearers" statute that graces Hoboken?

7.Bxg7

Too bad for White, the "Better Move" applies as discussed in the book "[Chess Patzer to Master - How an Everyday Joe Does it.](#)"



7.... Ne3

The Knight drops into e3 with immunity and squeezes the life out of White.

8.Qc1 Kxg7 9.Qb2+ f6 10.d4 Bf5 11.Rc1 Nc6 12.Qc3 Nxf1

White had to bring his Rook to c1 to defend c2, now he's played Qc3 to threaten the Knight and Bobby simply chops it off for the Bishop at f1. Now it looks like White has been playing against a mirage of threats.

13.Nxf1 Qd6 14.e3 Nb4 15.Qb2

White has called his major pieces into service in order to keep Black's minor pieces from invading his camp. Sounds like an unfair fight! This is where beginners can start shedding some entry-level knowledge. So, how much is a Queen worth? 9 points, you say? And a Knight, 3 points? Look at the Queen on b2; she can move to four

squares spanning a small box, and Black's Knight—the rules! I would lower the value of the White Queen in this precise position to 5.5; and as for the Black Knight, I would have to pull him up to 4.5. All and all, not a good day for the White Queen.



The Queen has retreated to b2 to avoid the silly fork at a2, and he's still keeping a tight eye on c2 as before. Except this time....

15...Bxc2 16.Kd2

White realizes that on 16. Rxc2 Nd3, forking his King and Queen—OUCH!

16...Be4 17.Ne1 Rae8 18.Ng3 e5

You can make a reasonable case for resigning after this move; White has no chance of recovering.

19.Rf1 exd4 20.Qxd4 b6 21.a3 c5 22.Qb2 Nc6 23.Nxe4 Rxe4

This exchange just further improves White's already great position.

24.Nf3 d4 25.Qc2 Rxe3 0-1

A nice little game that demonstrates how the wrong strategic plan can lead to a brutal defeat.

16. Fischer - Mednis [U.S.A.]

58th U.S. Open Cleveland, 1957

Reti Opening

Background info regarding the great Edmar Mednis can be found in Game 11.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d3 e6

This might surprise the less experienced player, however, it's time to learn a little lesson: just because your opponent plays 1.e4 and you respond with 1...c5, doesn't mean you are playing a Sicilian. One of the great lessons in chess is transpositions; this case is so simple I hardly even think of it as such, but, just the same, it is. You should always be on the look out as to where the move order and position is taking you.



4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.O-O Nge7

All very standard up to this point, both sides have yet to commit to the center and the game can still take many different roads.

7.Nbd2 0-0

White takes a less traveled path; more common is 7. c3 or 7. Re1 with formations like 7.c3 0-0 8.Be3 b6 9.d4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bb7.

8.Re1 b6?

I provide 8...b6 with a question mark on principle, as b6 is only played in about 4% of games where this position is reached. The more common 8...d6 appears 60% of the time and White's next move speaks to why it's more popular. However, the move in and of itself is not reason enough to lose, but it's similar to not stopping to remove an outer layer of clothing when warming up during a long autumn hike.

9.e5

In the annotations of Game 11 (ironically, also a Mednis game) I make reference to the value of the pieces changing while the game progresses and positions shift. Here we find a Pawn pushed to the fifth rank operating as toll gate□small fragile and made of wood, yet by it's presence alone it restricts Black from expanding in the center.

9...d5

By playing d5, Black is stating that he's not bothered by the Pawn at e5 and he leaves the choice in White's hands. White can now capture en passant as if Black has played d6, or, if he feels that the Pawn at e5 can be of further service to his plans, let it be. All things being equal, it's better to lead than to follow.

10.Nf1 Qc7

Black builds pressure upon the Pawn, leaving White two options: either 11.Bf4 or 11.Qe2.

11.Bf4 d4

Both 11...d4 and 11...Bb7 are playable here. The benefit of Bb7 is that you are more quickly putting another piece in service of the Black army. The benefit of d4 is that you lock the long diagonal and create a nice entry point for the Knight at d4. I prefer pieces before Pawns and, if for no other reason, would have played Bb7.

12.Qd2 Re8

White makes it clear that his target is Bh6 in order to weaken the Black Kingside. Black should be aware that if he wins the e Pawn with ease, it might mean that White has simply traded the time to over defend the Pawn to probe for cracks in Black's foundation.

13.Bh6 Bh8 14.h4 Bb7

Knights are great defenders so 14...Nf5 is begging to be played here.

15.N1h2

It would be reasonable of Black to believe that White is planning to maneuver the Knight from h2 to g4 and either h6 or f6; unfortunately, he would be wrong.

15...Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxg2

Black must walk a thin line in order to release the pressure. Bxg2 is the only move; 16...Bxe5 17.Bxb7 loses immediately.



17.Nxf7 Qc6

I have no love for Qc6 as it's built on the false assumption that Black stands slightly better. Clarifying the position with 17...Kxf7 18.Kxg2 Nf5 19.Ng4 e5 while seeking equality should be the first order of business.

18.Nxh8 Bh3 19.f3 Kxh8 20.g4 Nd5

Let's take inventory here: so White did see the mate in one and played 19. f3 (surprise!?). Black's King has had to capture the Knight in the corner, making the diagonal e5 to h8 look very tasty while the Bishop at h3 is looking like an Internet date gone bad. Did Black think he was equal just a few moves ago?

21.Qg5 e5 22.Rxe5

White takes the Pawn, looks at the diagonal, and declares, "tasty."

22...Ne3 23.Re1 Qd6!

A very good move for Black; now White must have realized in hindsight that 23. Qf4 was a powerful move preventing 23...Qd6 as the Rook exchange wins the Queen. A complex position, but likely play continues to favor White. 23.Qf4 Kg8 24.Re1 Qd7 25.Rxe8+ Rxe8 26.Qg3 Nxc2 27.Rxe8+ Qxe8 28.Qxh3 Nb4 29.Qf1 Nxa2 30.Bd2.

24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Qf4 Qxf4

The innocent 23...Qd6! Leads to a forced exchange of Queens.

26.Bxf4 h5 27.Bxe3 dxe3 28.g5 Bd7

I give Black great props for not getting mated. Now his challenge is: can he find a way to continue the ending that's not dead lost?

29.Nf1 Bc6

Black fails to see how quickly White will activate his King and win. Black must keep pieces on the board at all cost with 29...Kg7

30.Rxe3 Be6 31.Nd2; it might be ugly, but Black could pray for the power to go out and the tournament hall to be evacuated.

30.Rxe3 Rxe3 31.Nxe3 Bxf3 32.Kf2 Bb7 33.Kg3 Kg7 34.Kf4 Kf7 35.Ke5 Ke7 36.Nd5+ Kf7

Total domination by White – the King and Pawn ending is lost for Black.

37.Kd6 Bc8 38.Nf4 Bg4 39.Kc7 Bf3 40.c3 b5 41.d4 cxd4 42.cxd4 b4 43.d5 Bxd5

Black must give up this Bishop to stop the Pawn. He must believe that he can swindle on the Kingside or else resignation is in order.

44.Nxd5 Ke6 45.Nf4+ Kf5 46.Nxg6

Fischer makes short work of any silly swindle plans.

46...Kxg6 47.b3 Kf5 48.Kb7 Kg4 49.g6 Kxh4 50.g7 1-0



William Addison

17. Fischer - Addison [U.S.A.]

58th U.S. Open Cleveland, 1957

Caro-Kann

International Master William Addison was born on November 28, 1933 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Addison moved to San Francisco in 1952, where he started to take the game seriously and advanced from expert to master level. His best performance was in 1969-70 U.S. Championship finishing second with a score of $7\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ – behind winner Sammy Reshevsky. [Fischer did not compete that year.]

Addison's second-place finish earned him a spot in the Interzonal tournament at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, in 1970. Which turn out to be his last event, walking away from chess to pursue a career in banking.

The Caro-Kann Defense is a first cousin of the French Defense in that it shares the principle of challenging White's center with d4. The advantage of the Caro-Kann is that it allows Black to develop the Queen Bishop. The Two Knights' Variation was a popular choice of the era so it's not really a shock to see Fischer play this line in 1957.

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3



3... dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Nxf6+ exf6

In many lines there is a right way and a wrong way to recapture an early minor piece exchange on the 3rd rank. During the late 1950s, both 5...exf6 or 5...gxf6 were considered acceptable. Oddly enough, I surveyed games from 2005 to 2010 and found that both moves are still very much in favor, not so much one over the other. The average tournament player, if in need of a recommendation, would be wise to accept the maxim to always capture towards the center by playing 5...gxf6.

6.Bc4 Bd6 7.Qe2+ Qe7 8.Qxe7+ Kxe7

This line is still a popular choice today; however, White only has the smallest of edges. If the players are equally skilled, Black should be able to make a draw.

9.d4

Castling Kingside is a popular option to try and claim stake of the e-file, White has other plans for his King and is fine with a slower approach to open the open files.

9...Bf5?

I give this a question mark for strategic judgment not because the move is horrible; Black would do better to play Be6 here, challenging the White's light square Bishop. There are certain positions where trying to make a draw is a sound strategy to win. If your opponent overextends himself, you may turn the tables; however, why try to search for advantage where you have none?

10.Bb3 Re8 11.Be3 Kf8 12.0-0-0 Nd7

I imagine that if two class-A players had this position in your local weekend tournament, you would think “nothing special here” should you find yourself passing by. Knowing that Fischer is playing the White pieces, our assessment shifts, yet the mystery of chess is that the pieces don't care who is playing them—the position is what it is. The truth is that in simplicity in chess there is still a great mystery and great beauty—we just need to take the time to discover it.

13.c4 Rad8 14.Bc2 Bxc2 15.Kxc2

And now slowly we start to see beauty appear. White is creating a solid center and has enticed Black to exchange his most active pieces. Black must now decide on a strategic path that, once the journey begins, may seal his fate. Will he choose 15...a6, 15...Re4 or 15...Nb8? He has many options, some of which change his Pawn structure in not so subtle ways and some moves allow him to remain flexible for a few more moves.

15..f5

This move was not in my candidate's moves. What advantage do we gain by weakening the dark squares (g5)? What is Black's plan to defend the Kingside—overextend the Pawns and try to push White's minor pieces away? If this system only yields a slight pull for White, Black doing too much too soon will increase White's edge. A common theme of Fischer's opponents is that they tried to reap what they had yet to sow.

16.Rhe1 f4

Is Black under the assumption that the further he pushes the Pawn, the stronger it becomes? All that is accomplished here is that he will force White to develop the Bishop to c3, which is a better square.

17.Bd2 Nf6 18.Ne5

If Black attempts to exchange and win a Pawn, he gets crushed quickly with 18...Bxe5 19.dxe5 Ng4 20.h3 Nxf2 21.Bb4+ Kg8 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Bc5 Nd3 24.Rd1.

18...g5 19.f3 Nh5

I can't be fond of a plan that requires placing the Knight on a useless square in order to advance the Pawns. This feels like a plan of desperation, as it seems to exchange old weak squares for new weak ones.

20.Ng4 Kg7 21.Bc3 Kg6 22.Rxe8 Rxe8 23.c5 Bb8 24.d5 cxd5

With 24...cxd5, Black has failed to stay on plan; a better move was the straightforward Pawn shove 24...f5 25.Nf2 cxd5 26.Rxd5 Nf6 27.Rd2 g4 near equal. Black just has to avoid greed at all cost and, if

offered the Knight, play it safe. 24...f5 25.dxc6 bxc6 26.Nf2 Nf6; if not, 24...f5 25.dxc6 fxg4 26.cxb7 is good for White.

25.Rxd5 f5 26.Ne5+ Bxe5

Now that White has activated his Rook I'm less a fan of f5; however, solid alternatives are hard to find. We reach a critical transitional point in the game.



27.Rxe5

Metamorphosis is an illusion made famous by Houdini. An assistant is locked inside a trunk, the magician stands on the trunk and holds a curtain up; in the twinkling of an eye the curtain is lifted to hide the magician and then lowered to reveal the assistant standing on the trunk and the magician locked inside. Professional magicians also call this trick the substitution trunk, and the same skill is required in

chess to transform the position into an ending that provides greater winning chances.

27... Nf6

Addison mixes it up by retreating the Knight in order to advance his King. The other option was to exchange Rooks and Black could circle the King back to a defensive role with Kf7. However, either path is lost for Black.

28.Rxe8 Nxe8

Did an International Master really believe that the Knight on e8 could keep an eye on both sides of the board and stop Pawns from advancing? If so, he should have made this his mantra: "A Knight on the rim is dim."

29.Be5

The Bishop on e5 removes the "dimmer" switch and turns the lights off on Black.

29.... Kh5 30.Kd3 g4 31.b4 a6 32.a4 gxf3 33.gxf3 Kh4 34.b5 axb5 35.a5 Kh3 36.c6 1-0

18. Gardner [U.S.A.] - Fischer

North Central Open, 1957

King's Indian

Many of Bobby Fischer's early opponents are lost in clippings of local newspapers. Curtis Gardner is one such opponent, lost were it not for a clipping from the 1958 Milwaukee Journal that makes mention of Curtis being undefeated in a city chess league. It also includes Arpad Elo (yes, THAT Elo, for whom the rating system is named) and Marshall Rohland (past USCF president) as being undefeated in the same league. So we know he was a player of reasonable strength and that he brought a fighting spirit to his game with Bobby.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6



Playing Black, the fourteen-year-old prodigy chose the King's-Indian setup; but, as it will turn out soon, he's opponent is going to refuse the challenge.

6.c3

This is definitely not the most popular move. In games where White supports his d Pawn with c2-c3 the game has a different flavor, typically with Bf4 and e3 included and not so much g3. Nevertheless, the text move allows White to have a solid position. We have to remember that theory back in the day wasn't developed to such an extent as it is nowadays. 6.c4 Nbd7 7.Nc3 e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 would lead to one of the most played positions in g2-g3 line of King's-Indian.

6...Nbd7 7.Nbd2 e5

Black has nothing to worry about, so it's very logical to make typical activating moves.

8.dxe5?

After such a move it's obvious that White is not willing to get involved in any kind of active and risky play. He prefers to keep matters very simple instead; but is this really what White should be heading for? I don't think so. If a player wants to draw a game and he plays passive chess, he will usually lose. 8.e4 Re8 9.Re1 should give White better long-term prospects by maintaining central pressure.

8...dxe5 9.e4 b6!

I rewarded this move with an exclamation mark not only because of its good idea, but also for fighting attitude. Fischer could have played something like 9..c6 with full symmetry and made a draw effortlessly, but he chose to fight for an opening advantage with a correct plan. The Bishop can be developed via two very good squares. First option, probably the most logical one, is to place it on b7 attacking the central e4 Pawn at the same time. The second possibility is to place the Bishop on a6 where it's going to control the only weakness in White's position□d3 square. If supported with a Knight and one of the Rooks, this idea may distract White's forces very effectively.

10.Qc2

This is the correct square for the Queen in such structures. White should proceed with Rd1, Nd2-c4-e3-d5 or a Queenside attack by means of b2-b4 and a2-a4-a5.

10...Qe7 11.b3 Bb7

Fischer chose the better option in this case, as, after 11..Ba6 followed by Nc5, White would inevitably react with a very unpleasant Ba3 pinning the Knight.

12.a4!

This is a very useful move that helps in fighting for good squares for White pieces, such as c4 or a3.

12...Rfd8

Instead, here 12...Nc5 13.Ba3 Rad8 14.Rfe1 Rfe8 15.Bf1 is equal.

13.Ba3 Qe6 14.Rfe1

Worse is 14.Ng5!? Qg4? 15. h4 or 14. Ng5 Qc6 15.Rfe1 Nc5 16.Nc4 with equal play; but Black struggles to find a good square for his Queen.

14...Bf8!

That's the correct idea. Despite the fact that, Fischer has always been known for his attacking style, he understood how to play positionally, too. It was necessary to obtain the c5 square in order to activate the Knight and place pressure on the vital d3 square. The only way to do that was the exchange of dark-squared Bishops. Worse is 14...Bh6 15.Nc4 with a slightly more pleasant position for White.

15.Bxf8 Kxf8

Such moves are played after the process of elimination; both the Knight and the Rook have to stay on their positions in order to fight for the d file by playing Nc5. The King is very safe on f8, and is already a square closer to the center in case of an ending arising. 16.Nc4 Ne8 Fischer decides to eliminate his only weakness, the e5 Pawn, by supporting it with f7-f6. It should be repeated once more that his plan is to play Nc5 and that's why all of his actions are connected with making this idea possible.

17.Rad1

White has a slight advantage thanks to his centralized pieces. The major question is whether he has a good plan to take advantage of that fact.

17...f6 18.h4?

This is the answer to the question I asked above. It was essential to understand the idea behind all of Black's last moves. According to the classical rule of positional play, the side to whom the advantage belongs is obliged to attack or increase the initiative, otherwise he's going to lose all of the advantage—White had to undertake some active measures in this position. Playing on the Kingside is clearly a wrong plan. Better is 18.Bf1 Nc5 (18...a5!? 19.Rd2 ...Nc5 20.b4 axb4 21.cxb4 Na6 22.Qc3 Rxd2 23.Nfxd2 Qe7 24.Rb1 Nd6 25.f3. White is slightly better) 19.Rxd8 Rxd8 20.b4 Nd7 21.a5. White is slightly better.

18...Nc5

Finally, Black managed to execute his dream idea and, because of White's last useless move, I dare to say that he has a slight edge thanks to the pressure on the e4 Pawn, as well as better Kingside Pawn structure. Nevertheless, in symmetrical positions it's never easy to exploit such weaknesses.

19.Nfd2 Qe7?!

I see no point in this move; the Queen was placed impeccably on e6, and the time was just perfect to play some active moves such as Nd6 or Rd7 with the idea of doubling the Rooks along the d file. Instead, Fischer chooses to transfer his Bishop to the a2-g8 diagonal to have an eye on the c4 Knight and the b3 Pawn behind it. 19...Nd6 20.Nxd6? Rxd6 21.Nc4 Rxd1 22.Rxd1 Bc6! 23.a5 Ba4!! Black is slightly better (23...Kg7 24.f3 Ba4 Black is slightly better).

20.Nb2

Better is 20.b4! Ne6 21.Ne3, where White is slightly better, with the idea of changing the Knight on c4 and fighting for the d5 square with the other one.

20...Bc8 21.Kh2 Bg4 22.f3 Be6

The situation has changed once again. Black transferred his Bishop to the more active square but White no longer has to be afraid about his e4 and d3 squares. His only weakness is the b3 Pawn; but I have

a strong feeling that after 23.b4 followed by either Nd3 or Bf1 the position will be completely balanced.

23.Bf1?

A serious positional inaccuracy. After this move order, White Queenside Pawns are likely to be fixed until the end of the game. The b3 Pawn is unquestionably the target. More on target is [23.b4 Nb7 24.Nd3 (24.f4; 24.Bh3) 24...a5!—a very typical move which aims to secure the c5 square once again or open the a file under favorable circumstances.

23...Nd6

Better is 23...a5!

24.Nbc4

Black is slightly better here after 24.b4 Ncb7 25.Ba6! c5 26.Nd3 Qc7.

24...Qf7 25.Nxd6 cxd6?

Why not simply take with the Rook? White has some additional possibilities connected with fixing the center by c3-c4 followed by Nb1-c3 maneuver.

26.Bc4

Beter is 26.c4 a5 27.Nb1! g5! 28.hxg5 Qh5+ 29.Kg2 Qxg5 30.Nc3 Ra7.

26...d5 27.exd5 Bxd5 28.Bxd5 Rxd5

Pawn structure is no longer symmetrical; Black's pieces are more active and he has no weaknesses, therefore the evaluation should be favorable for him.

29.Nc4 Rad8 30.Rxd5 Qxd5

It's clear that White won't be able to defend all of the weaknesses as Black is going to have some additional tactical possibilities.

31.Kg2 Qd3!

White's main problem is the difference between the Knights, which are unexchangeable for the moment. Every other exchange should be good for Black, so White has to avoid them. All in all, his pieces are getting more passive, which is always a sign of the coming end.

32.Qb2 Rd7

A deep waiting move necessary to protect the a Pawn. Fischer is preparing a small trick and has to be sure that White is not going to get any counterplay. An interesting move would have been 32...Kg7!?



33.Re2?? Nxb3

After such a move a few years later, all of Fischer's opponents would resign.

34.Nxe5 fxe5

A classic example of following up your opponent's good move with a move that demonstrates complete frustration. Boxers will do this when they become mentally tired—they'll no longer keep their guard up and allow themselves to be knocked out because they want the fight to end. And, yes, I mean “mental” not physical; often a fighter loses because of his mental state.

35.Rxe5 Qd2+ 36.Re2 Qxb2 37.Rxb2 Rd2+ 38.Rxd2 Nxd2 39.Kf2 Nb1

Fischer's most memorable games are most often the arena of attacking and active chess, but in this game, being a very young player (especially considering the time when that game was played) he depicted a very good positional understanding of chess. 0-1

19. Fischer - Weinberger [U.S.A.]

North Central Open Milwaukee 1957

Sicilian Defense

Tibor Weinberger is a Hungarian master who played in five Hungarian championships from 1952 through 1956. Having emigrated to the United States in 1957, he was the winner of many tournaments and participated in the 1968 U.S. Chess Championship. He was a very worth opponent for a Fischer who had yet to reach his full powers.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6

A dangerous move order as it provides White many options such as the Maroczy Bind 5. c4, or the possibility of trying to exploit 2...d6 being played prior to 2...Nc6 with the Rossolimo Attack 3. Bb5+. All of this is of course fine if you're prepared for the many options that can occur. Otherwise, play 2. Nc6 and play a proper Accelerated Dragon and limit White's options.



5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3 0-0

White prefers to do battle with the Dragon via the Yugoslav Attack. As Black has played an early d6, it's hard for him to avoid a transposition back into main lines, so Fischer steers the game to familiar ground.

8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.h4 a6

The Dragon is over-studied to the point that 1500 players can make GM moves for the first 23 moves. After which, they quickly fall apart, demonstrating that “studied” doesn’t mean “understood.” In 1957 it was still the Wild West of Dragon theory. 10. h4 was popular, now replaced by 10. 0-0-0. Accurate play by Black should lead to modern lines.

10... a6?

Time for a basic lesson in Dragon theory. White tried to mate Black, Black tries to mate White. If White allows Black to get to an endgame, Black wins. If Black doesn't fight back hard enough, Black gets mated.

11.Bb3 Na5

So what purpose did a6 play? Pushing b5 and trying to rush the White King can't be accomplished with Pawns alone; minor piece play and Rook exchange sacs are how Black wins with the Dragon.

12.Bh6

A very common theme for White; often in blitz chess I'll play lines where I've moved the Rook to e8 so that I can answer Bh6 for White with Bh8 avoiding the exchange.

12...e5 13.Nde2 Nxb3 14.axb3 Bxh6

Another common theme is this thrust of the Bishop to h6, challenging Black to fence with his Dragon Bishop. The questions before us is "To take or be taken," and there is no universal correct answer; each time the decision is based on known theory or an analysis of the position on the board.

15.Qxh6 d5 16.exd5 b5

So this is the reason for Black taking on h6 to play d5 and create lines for his pieces. Not clear enough, 15... Be6 prepares the way. When playing the Dragon Black, you often have to evaluate offense and defense with each move. Black must avoid becoming overly paranoid and striking out unprepared; if White pries open the Kingside by advancing the h Pawn and exchanging at g6, the

recapture fxcg creates a flight square. Black must of course have h7 held by the Knight at f6.

This Pawn rush, crack open, “bang,” is one of the differences between taking on h6 and allowing White to take on g7. If Black waits and allows White to exchange, Black's King resides on g7, after which, White exchanges hxcg and the Queen arrives at h6 with check and the King flurries off to f7.

Hence, if we have a coin-flip situation, I prefer to allow White to capture my Bishop at g7.

17.Ng3 e4

I find no merit in e4 beyond the fact that it supports Black's flawed plan of 15...d5. What does Black really believe he shall cook up from here?

18.Ncxe4 Rc8 19.0-0-0 Nxe4 20.Nxe4 f6 21.Qd2

This series of moves exemplifies the pattern that I've come to recognize in other games and use to support my interpretation of Bobby Fischer. I might very well be alone in my theory, however, I believe that I have detected an insight into his personality through many of his games. I would never deny that my childhood idol was incredibly gifted and possessed almost mystical powers over his opponents and the game of chess. Yet, within this brilliant play there are signs of his intense paranoia and his deep fear of failure. After defeating Spassky in 1972, he had reached his pinnacle with nothing left to prove in life; all that remained was the risk that someone could

someday defeat him in a match. That fear of failure, I believe, is a strong driver in his games and a stronger force than the natural will to win of most champions.

Let's take a look at why. First, I believe that despite his great brilliance, he always kept his thumb on the pulse of the game with the goal to never let the heart rate go up beyond what he could control. That is, his mastery at the board was in large part due to not losing control and to playing within his enormous talent. How does that manifest itself in actual play? Well, if given the choice between pushing on for a win and dropping back to control the game, he would return a slight edge rather than risk having the game get away from him. This might also be in fact because he was confident that he could out play anyone at any stage of the game, so, to give a small edge back would not mean much as the game continued on.

So, let's look here at Black's move 18...Rc8, and Fischer's 19. 0-0-0 and eventual Queen retreat. There had been many promising lines that surely must have led to victory, and I'm confident the great Bobby Fischer explored at least several of them. 19.h5 Nxe4 20.Nxe4 Bf5 21.hxg6 Bxg6 22.Rxa6 Qe7 23.Kf1 Bxe4 24.fxe4 f6 25.Rh4 f5 26.e5 Rxc2 27.e6 and White should win. So what does Bobby do? He chooses a line that retreats and safe guards his King while making progress. I can assure you there is one thing Tal would not do in this situation, and that is to retreat. And yet Fischer assesses the risk as being too high, for if he misses one detail, he'll be in trouble.

21...a5 22.Kb1 b4 23.Qd4

This position now screams of "I shall proceed with zero risk of losing." Let me be clear here that my "view" of Bobby is one of the

reasons I love his play; he has pulled the position to higher ground and taken little risk to do so.

23...a4 24.bxa4 f5 25.Ng5 Bxa4 26.b3 Qa5

The difference between this position and the position where I claimed that Bobby retreated is that now he can calculate the rest of the game with almost great certainty. The game is actually over; Black is just not aware of this fact yet.



27.bxa4

With no fear of counterplay, Bobby correctly snaps the Bishop, drawing Black into his own demise. The average weekend warrior would strongly consider Ne6 with the threat of Qg7 mate, however, after Rf7, Black defends and has another Rook that might aid in his Queenside attack.

27....Rc3 28.d6

This move is almost cruel; Black might think that he's getting closer to the White King with the hope of turning tables.

28...Qxa4

If Black knew what was coming, he'd play the losing 28...b3 29.Qd5+ Qxd5 30.Rxd5 Rd8 31.Ne6 Rd7 32.Nc5 bxc2+ 33.Kb2 wins. The remaining moves are an exhibition in mating the King.

**29.Qd5+ Kg7 30.Ne6+ Kf6 31.Qd4+ Kxe6 32.Rhe1+ Kd7
33.Qg7+ Kc6 34.Qc7+ Kb5 35.Qb7+ 1-0**

20. Sanguineti [Argentina] - Fischer

Portoroz Interzonal, 1958

Sicilian

Raul C. Sanguineti was a GM who won the Argentinian Championship seven times □ 1956, 1957, 1962, 1965, 1969, 1973 and 1974 □ and played for Argentina in seven Chess Olympiads, winning two individual gold medals. One of his greatest accomplishments was beating Fischer and his beloved King's Indian. Unfortunately for Raul, he goes astray early in the opening and never really comes up with a solid plan to fight back.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6

Fischer's contribution to the Najdorf, particularly the Poisoned Pawn Variation, has always been known.

6.f4?!

Nowadays, it's not considered to be precise, but chess looked quite differently in the 50s. Poisoned Pawn Variation 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 was a Fischer trademark, possible White is trying to just "avoid."



6...e5 7.Nf3 Qc7

7...Nbd7 is considered to be the main move.

8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.0-0 b5 10.Qe1 Bb7

Both sides have almost completed their development, and it's high time they decide how to continue the game. White has obtained a typical slight advantage only because he was the first to move. Black's weakness on d5 and a King still standing in the center are compensated for by the activity of his minor pieces, especially the light-squared Bishop. The position is more or less balanced and the outcome is still uncertain. He who is going to choose the more effective plan, will win the game.

11.Nh4?!

This move has a very interesting idea behind it, but the problem is that it seems to be imprecise. White wants to create some weaknesses on the Kingside, including a hook on g6 as Black can't allow White's Knight to enter f5. After the weaknesses appear, it will

be possible either to open the f line by exchanging on e5 or create more tension by means of f4-f5 push. Nevertheless, I feel that it was better to wait until Black plays Be7, and only then force the Nh4 line. The difference might be vital, as Black will be able to place the Bishop perfectly on g7 without losing time and, therefore, will indirectly cover Black's King on the g file. 11.Kh1 Be7 (11...g6 12.fxe5 dxe5 13.Qh4 Be7 14.Bg5 White is slightly better) 12.a3!? 0-0 13.Nh4 with equal play.

11...g6 12.Nf3

Breaking the rule of not playing with the same piece twice in a row in the opening apparently makes sense here. The Knight has completed his mission and now is coming back to attack on e5 and make h4 available for Queen. Still, time is extremely valuable in the opening and I doubt whether White will have chances to attack effectively.

12...Bg7

Black has almost finished his development and he's prepared to fight for the initiative.

13.Qh4 0-0

Better is 13...b4! 14.Na4 Qc6 15.fxe5 dxe5 16.b3 Nxe4 17.Re1 f5 18.a3 Bf6 19.Qh6 a5.

14.fxe5 dxe5 15.Bh6?

15.a3 Zugzwang

15...Nh5?

Better is 15...Bxh6! Perhaps it's not logical to allow White pieces to come closer to the vulnerable King, but the tactics justifies the idea. 16.Qxh6 b4 17.Nd1 Bxe4 18.Ng5 Qc5+ 19.Kh1 Bxd3 20.cxd3 Rfc8 21.Nf2 Qf8, and Black should be able to drive away all of the enemy's attacking pieces.

16.Bxg7 Kxg7

White's attack is no longer dangerous and Fischer enjoys a very pleasant position. His pieces are more active, especially the Bishop, which makes an enormous difference. What's more, the idea of playing f7-f6 in order to secure the control of dark squares severely limits White's possibilities.

17.Rad1 Nf4?!

17...Nc5!; 17...f6! with the idea of Nf4 without being concerned about Nxe5 tricks.

18.Rf2

18.Nxe5 Nxg2! an important zwischenzug

18...f6 19.Rfd2

It's clear that White lacks a good plan here. His Bishop on d3 can be called a big Pawn because he's doing literally nothing. There are no squares available and useful on the d file so the plan is wrong.

19...Nc5 20.Bf1 b4 21.Nd5?

White's move was horrible and seals his fate. A better try is 21.Na4!? Bxe4 (21...Nxa4 22.Rd7 White wins) 22.Qf2 Rfc8 23.g3 Nfe6 24.Bg2 with a little compensation for the Pawn.

21...Bxd5 22.exd5 Ne4

Very usual; White Rook is trapped by two Knights and own Pawns. There is no hope for White.

23.Qe1 Nxd2 24.Qxd2 Nxd5!

A really nice finish of this game.



25.c4

25.Qxd5?? Rad8 and Black wins.

25...bxc3 0-1

White resigned, being quite a lot of material down. This game was a perfect illustration of Black dealing with White's immediate threats in the Sicilian and counterattacking with use of positional play afterwards. White couldn't find a good plan and the maneuver Nf3-h4-f3 cost him too much time.

**Samuel
Reshevsky**



21.Fischer - Reshevsky [U.S.A.]

USA Championship New York, 1958

Sicilian

Reshevsky was one of the most famous child prodigies in chess history. A very strong Grand Master, he is on the short list of strongest players to have never been World Champion. Yet, despite his immense talent, Reshevsky had his weaknesses; never known for being an opening wizard, he would use a lot of time in the openings and often end up in time trouble. All the more surprising is that he would have deviated towards less standard play in the Sicilian Accelerated Dragon.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6



White can't continue with the normal Dragon move order against the Accelerated Dragon, or Black quickly gains at least equality. With the normal Dragon move orders, Black plays an early d6. With the Accelerated Dragon, a piece is brought into play instead of the Pawn move; therefore, at just the right time Black can push his Pawn to d5 in one move. White must slip Bc4 in prior to move 8 or else it's surprise time.

Examples:

7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 d5 9.0-0-0 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 dxe4 11.fxe4 Qa5

7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 d5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.e5 Nd7 11.f4 e6 12.0-0-0 c5

7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 d5 9.0-0-0 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Nxe4 11.Qxd5 Nd6 12.Qb3 Be6

7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 Na5?

Reshevsky steps off the grid with 8....Na5.

Very sad, because there are many playable options, 8...d6, 8...a6 or even 8...Ng4.

Ironically, Reshevsky is supposed to have penned this in one of his books: "There is a reason why seldom-played moves are seldom played." The truth is that most, if not all, of the books under his name had been ghostwritten. Judging by Na5, one could wonder if he read any of these books!?

9.e5 Ne8??

How can a player as strong as Reshevsky play this move? Clearly 9...Ne8 is doubling down on stupid, forced was 9...Nxb3.



10.Bxf7+

A punch to the stomach; now Black must give up his Queen.

10... Kxf7

It matters not; King or Rook Black must suffer a painful walk.

10...Rxf7 11.Ne6 dxe6 12.Qxd8.

11.Ne6 dxe6

The Black King cannot survive the trip to e6; mate is not hard to find.

11...Kxe6 12.Qd5+ Kf5 13.g4+ Kxg4 14.Rg1+.

12.Qxd8 Nc6 13.Qd2 Bxe5 14.0-0 Nd6

A good position to stop and take inventory; two pieces for the Queen and three Pawn islands versus two Pawn islands—should this be enough for Black to resign? Maybe so. However, let's also consider the “Diminishing and Increasing Values” theory that I mentioned in Game 11, “Fischer – Mednis.” Is it possible here that the White Queen is not worth her full 9 points yet and the power of the Black's minor pieces is slightly above 3 each?

15.Bf4 Nc4 16.Qe2 Bxf4 17.Qxc4 Kg7

White decides to trade off his dark-square Bishop for the Knight on d6 and Black agrees to the transaction.

18.Ne4 Bc7 19.Nc5 Rf6

It appears that White is trying to increase the value of his Queen by trading off his Knight.

20.c3 e5 21.Rad1 Nd8 22.Nd7 Rc6

Another example of Fischer keeping in control at all times. He must have seen the idea of the potentially stronger 22. Nxb7, which still allows him to utilize his saving Qh4 maneuver; however, there are so many variations that if he misses one critical line, he's in trouble. Here's a line that works out well for White: 22.Nxb7 Rc6 23.Qh4 Nxb7 24.Qxe7+ Kh6 25.Qf8+ Kg5 26.h4+ Kxh4 27.Qh6+ Kg4 28.Qh3+ Kg5 29.Qe3+ Kh5 30.Qf3+ and the Rook on c6 is picked off.

23.Qh4 Re6 24.Nc5 Rf6 25.Ne4 Rf4 26.Qxe7+ Rf7 27.Qa3 Nc6

Black is overworked and is sinking slowly; with no logical way to improve his position he could resign now. However, the bitter rivalry between Reshevsky and Fischer drags the game on a bit longer.

28.Nd6 Bxd6 29.Rxd6 Bf5 30.b4 Rff8 31.b5 Nd8

At this point, let's say the "Diminishing and Increasing Values" theory declares the Queen worth 9.5.

32.Rd5 Nf7 33.Rc5 a6 34.b6 Be4 35.Re1 Bc6 36.Rxc6 bxc6

Always the master of control, he only gives up his Rook for the Bishop when he can see the full point waiting for him at the next bus stop.

37.b7 Rab8 38.Qxa6 Nd8

He makes it look easy from here...

39.Rb1 Rf7 40.h3 Rfxb7 41.Rxb7+ Rxb7 42.Qa8 1-0

Herman Pilnik



22 Fischer - Pilnik [Argentina]

Santigao, 1959

Sicilian

Herman Pilnik was born in Germany in 1914 and immigrated to Argentina in 1930. He played for Argentina in five Chess Olympiads. A very strong player, he was awarded the IM title in 1950 and the GM title in 1952. His brilliant win against Najdorf was featured in Reinfeld's book *Great Brilliancy Prize Games of the Chess Masters*. If he sensed weakness he was a ferocious attacking player and very strong tactician.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6

Pilnik is known among chess players mostly because of his contribution to what we call nowadays the Sveshnikov Variation. This time he prefers to play the Rauzer.

6.Bc4

Fischer's anti-Sicilian pet line. He was extremely dangerous in these systems.

6...e6 7.Bb3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Bd7 10.f4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc6 12.Qe2 Qa5

Until now both sides have played moves well known to modern theory, but when this game was played there were few examples of this line being played. Black's last move is very logical; the Queen helps in the control of the crucial central squares, preventing e4-e5 and preparing some counterplay moves such as d6-d5 or e6-e5.



13.f5!

White correctly shoves the f Pawn; shoving the e Pawn is a dubious attempt at making progress 3.e5?! dxe5 14.fxe5 Bc5 15.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 16.Rf2 Nd7 17.Re1 b5 and Black stands slightly better.

13...e5 14.Bf2

Suddenly Black Queen seems to be quite misplaced. White created a really nice outpost on d5, and it's time to eliminate the defenders of this square. The idea is obvious: Bf2-h4xf6.

14...Bd8

Black prepares another great exchange. It's necessary to exchange correct pieces in such positions. In this case, if Black manages to trade dark-squared Bishops he should be just fine. 14...Qa6!? I really like this unusual concept of exchanging a very active Queen (White) for a rather misplaced and insecure Queen (Black), threatening to take on e4 at the same time. The question is whether the ruined Pawn structure would tell over the long term.

15.Rad1

15.Bh4? is not working in view of a nice trap. 15...Nxe4 16.Nxe4 Bxh4 17.f6 Qb4 18.fxg7 Kxg7 19.Qg4+ Kh8 20.Qxh4 f5! and Black is better.

15...Bb6 16.g4!

White chooses to play aggressively, which is fully justified by the closed center. Black lacks pieces on the Kingside, and, because of too little space, he won't be able to transfer them quickly. 16.Rxd6 Rad8 17.Rxd8 Rxd8 18.Nd5 Bxf2+ 19.Rxf2 Bxd5 20.exd5 Qc5 21.c4 a6 White is slight better off here.

16...h6 17.h4 Nh7

Passive play has no future, but Black's position is certainly not easy to play. 17...h5!? 18.g5 (18.gxh5 Bxf2+ 19.Rxf2 Qc5. The idea is to move the King to either h7 or h8 and use the h Pawns as a shield.) 18...Ng4: unclear.

18.Rd3

18.f6!! Nxf6 (18...gxf6 Black's Knight is completely out of play and White has a pleasant choice between forcing a Kingside attack and simply occupying d5 with his minor pieces. 19.Nd5) 19.g5 hxg5 20.hxg5 Ne8 21.g6, with disastrous consequences for Black.

18...Kh8 19.g5 Bd4

What's really interesting about White's strategy is that he's ignoring all the possibilities to gain material. This is what differentiates good

players from the bad ones – the correct evaluation. Taking a Pawn here or previously would result in Black's counterplay and activity, and it's clearly not what White would like to see on the board.

20.Kh2

Unnecessary caution. 20.Rxd4!? exd4 21.Bxd4, and the Bishops would prove devastating.

20...Bb5 21.Nxb5 Qxb5 22.c3 Bxf2 23.Rxf2

After a couple of exchanges, White achieves a clear advantage. The main factors are activity, space and the attacking prospects, of course.

23...Qb6 24.Rg2 d5

This is just being desperate.

25.Bxd5 Rad8 26.Qh5 g6 27.Qxh6 Rxd5 28.exd5 e4 29.Rdg3 Qd6



30.h5

If two Pawns are not enough to send the message, let's make it three!

30...Rg8 31.hxg6 fxg6 32.f6 Qxd5 33.Qxh7+ 1-0

White rolled the ball into the net. After viewing such games, chess seems to be very easy. White simply started a Kingside attack, and, as it soon turned out, a very dangerous one. Black, on the contrary, played too many moves with the same pieces while lacking a good idea. In my opinion, the plan connected with Qa6 really deserved consideration and may have lead to good practical chances for Black.



23. Fischer - Bisguier [U.S.A.]

USA Championship Open 1959

Petrov Defense

Arthur Bisguier was born in 1929 and is the current “Dean of American Chess.” He has played in five Chess Olympiads, was the 1954 U.S. Chess Champion, and has won so many titles and accomplishments that it would be a disservice to the reader to list them all. What you need to know is he is a class act, a wonderful human being, and a living breathing piece of American chess history. However, I will always remember him as the person who taught me the “real” refutation to the Fajarowicz variation of the Budapest Defense.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6



The Petrov Defense can lead to sharp attacking lines, however, it also has the reputation for a peaceful way to escape the opening. In my first book, [Chess Patzer to Master - How an Everyday Joe Does It](#), I annotate a game where I made sure my opponent had to play sharp lines by playing the the Cochrane Gambit, 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nxf7.

4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Qe2 Qe7 6.d3 Nf6 7.Bg5 Qxe2+ 8.Bxe2 Be7 9.Nc3 Bd7

Because this opening has forcing characteristics, there aren't as many choices in the early parts of the game. However, before reaching a decision path it's helpful to think of opening lines as parts of a leaf. You have the main vein running down the center of the leaf, strong and widely traveled, and connected to that are offshoot veins that are not as wide and strong, and that run to the edges instead of running solidly down the center. With 9...Bd7 we are at such a short vein that most common is 9...c6 followed by 9...h6. The vein that

runs down the center of the leaf is 9...c6 10. 0-0-0 Na6 11. Rhe1 Nc7 12. Ne4 Nxe4 13. dxe4 Bxg5+ 14. Nxg5 Ke7 and Black seeks equality.

10.0-0-0 Nc6 11.d4 h6

This would be a good time for Black to consider getting in 11...0-0-0, as 11...h6 in many other “veins of this leaf” is a waste of time.

12.Bh4 0-0-0 13.Bc4 Rdf8

This obviously looks like the wrong Rook, and it is; not that Bisguier would be able to see the future, but over the years theory would prove that 13... Rhf8 would do very well.

14.Rde1

Is White mocking Black by using the wrong Rook? It looks like it, right?

14...Bd8 15.d5 Nb8

Dear Reader, would you have played 15.d5 here? It's OK if you say “No,” I'm not too sure that I would have played it either. It blocks the Bishop from attacking f7, and that's what's keeping the wrong Rook tied down to the f8 square. Before I would have considered the move 15.d5, I would have had to know if 15....Nb8 was forced. What would my plan be if Black played Ne7? Fischer has a deep plan that starts with the unlikely 15.d5; we can assume that he had all of Black's options covered.

16.Nd4 Re8

Pulling the Knight off of f3 leaves the Bishop at h4 unsupported; however, White's intended target is Ndb5, which threatens mate and creates a series of exchanges that transition into an ending.

17.Ndb5 Bxb5 18.Bxb5 Rxe1+ 19.Rxe1 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Bxh4

Assessment time: Black is up a Pawn and White has the active pieces. A tad tangled up or not, it's hard to visual how Black could lose, and the game at this point should be equal.

21.g3 Bg5+ 22.f4 c6

Is 22...c6 the start of Black's downfall? Along the lines of my theory that Fischer's first objective is to win without risking losing control of the game, did Bisguier miss a chance to keep control by foregoing the following 22...Bd8 23.Ne7+ Bxe7 24.Rxe7 Rf8 25.Bc4 Kd8 26.Rxf7 Rxf7 27.Bxf7 Ke7, equal.

23.fxg5 hxg5 24.Re7 cxd5 25.Rxf7 Rxh2 26.Rxg7 Nc6

Both sides emerge with active Rooks on the seventh rank and equal chances.

27.Rxg5

Instead of chopping the Pawn, White could keep the active Knight in the barn before improving the position with 27.Bd3 Ne5 28.Bf5+ Kb8 29.b3, and equal.

A general note about this endgame and why it's a worth point of study:

For more than a decade, players would who have attended the King's Island Open had the pleasure of having their games analyzed by Arthur Bisguier. At the age of 80, he decided it was his last year to do the event and set down and gave an interview. During the interview he was asked, "What plagues class players?" His response was: "their endgame ability." This is something I'm sure you've heard before, but he put this in a very interesting context. "Weakest phase of the game is endgames because they have little experience in even endgames; a piece ahead they will win, a piece behind they will lose, a Pawn ahead they might win or draw." That is why this endgame is golden, as it's very close at many points.

27...Ne5 28.Rg7 Rg2 29.Bd3 Nc4 30.Bxc4 dxc4

Black finds a way to have his doubled Pawns untwisted; yet it's still far from an easy endgame. Often players confuse "equal" with easy; at the start of the game the position might be equal but chess is hardly easy!

31.a4 d5

Where is the d Pawn going? I would prefer to sit tight. 31...b6 32.c3 a6 33.g4 Rg1+ 34.Kc2 Rg2+ 35.Kb1 d5 36.Rg6 Rg1+ 37.Ka2 Kb7, can White make progress?

32.c3 Rg1+ 33.Kd2 Rg2+ 34.Kc1 Rg1+ 35.Kc2 Ra1

White must be pleased with the prospect of trading his a Pawn for the d Pawn. Winning chances with the g Pawn, and strong drawing chances with the three on two Queenside Pawns.

36.Rg5 Rxa4 37.Rxd5 Kc7

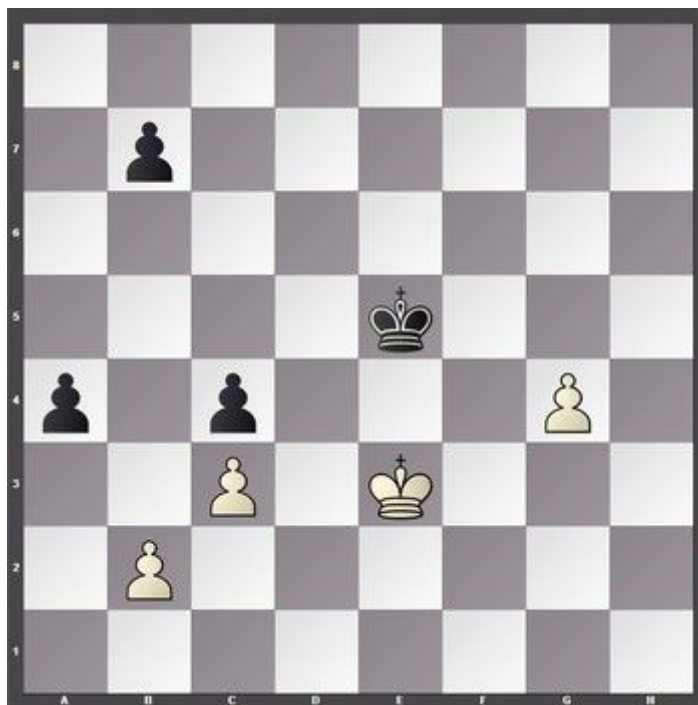
Black must be concerned that the g Pawn doesn't grow legs and the Black Rook on a4 has an impossible journey to get to g1 again.

38.g4 Kc6 39.Rd2 Ra5 40.Kd1 Rd5

Bisguier is a strong GM; he must have been very confident to offer the Rook exchange. Is Black truly lost here or did he miscalculate what an incredible liability the advanced Pawn at c4 is? If so, Re5 or Rg5 should be played instead of Rd5.

41.Ke2 Rxd2+ 42.Kxd2 Kd5 43.Ke3 Ke5 44.Kf3 a5 45.Ke3 a4

The answer to our question is that, yes, 40...Rd5 is a blunder. However, in such a simple position there is a lot of complexity.



Now all roads might lead to Rome, but none as clearly and masterfully as the one chosen.

46.g5 Kf5 47.Kd4 Kxg5 48.Kxc4 Kf4 49.Kb4 Ke3 50.Kxa4 Kd2 51.Kb3

If White is not careful he can draw this position with one single error.

51. ...Kd3 52.c4 Kd2 53.Ka4 Kc2 54.Ka3

This sort of strange triangulation looks like amateur play, right? We'll see soon why it's not.

54. ...Kd3 55.Kb3 b6 56.Kb4 Kc2 57.Ka3

Here we go again with Ka3; standing on your chair screaming, are you? What did you prefer, 57. Kb5? Imagine you are playing against a Master and you've just played 57. Kb5 Kb3! It draws and now you have the proper vision to understand how well Bobby played this endgame.

57. ...Kd3 58.Kb3 Kd2 59.Ka4 Kc2 60.b4 1-0

24. Denker [U.S.A.] - Fischer

USA Championship New York 1959

Queen's Gambit Declined

Arnold Denker was an American Master born in 1914 who was awarded the IM title in 1950 and the Emeritus GM title in 1981. Famous for organizing and promoting the game in 2004, he received the title of "Dean of American Chess." While he was a solid player, an aggressive style means very little when playing the Wonder Kid.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Bb4

The Ragozin Variation of QGD (because that's the name of this line) has been very popular recently, but the theory certainly wasn't developed that much in the 50s.



5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6

6.Bh4? is a well-known mistake. 6...g5 7.Bg3 Ne4 8.Qc2 h5 Black has overwhelming initiative and he should proceed with the usual c5 followed by Qa5 and Nc6.

6...Qxf6 7.cxd5

7.e3 0-0 8.Rc1 dxc4 9.Bxc4 c5 10.0-0 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Bd7 12.Qb3 Nc6 is the main continuation.

7...exd5 8.Rc1 0-0 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.Rxc3 c6 11.e3 a5

The idea behind this move is to prevent the minority attack on Queenside, which is not so dangerous in view of the possibility of entering White's position via the opened a file.

12.Bd3

12.b4? axb4 13.axb4 Bf5 Black is fine. 14.b5 Nd7 15.bxc6 bxc6 16.Be2 c5 and Black stands slightly better off here.

12...Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.g4 Bg6

White decided to drive away Black's Bishop in order to obtain an outpost on e5. On the other hand, his Kingside structure is not as solid as it was a move ago. White's King is either going to stay in center or take the risk and escape to g1 after castling. White definitely has a temporary initiative, but will it be sufficient to secure an advantage?

15.Ne5 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 Qe7 17.Qf5 Rd8

17...g6?! Such good-looking moves have their drawbacks. First of all, Pawns can't move backwards, so Black would have to face the consequences of 17...g6 until the end of the game. It's obvious that f6 has become weak and White could try to exploit it by playing h4-g5, Ng4, f6 or even h4-h5, and if Black plays g5, then f4 could come. Second, it's not advisable to define Pawns when the ending is a likely outcome of a position. In the long term, f7 might become very weak.

18.Rg1 Nd7

Black brings the last piece to action very successfully. White should keep Knights on the board if he wants to continue his berserk attack.

19.Nxd7?

Strategically, it just has to be bad. Black should gain initiative by using his Queenside majority, as White can't counterattack on Kingside because of his King's exposed position.

19...Rxd7 20.g5 Rd6

20...g6? 21.gxh6, with quite a surprising motive, White simply took a Pawn.

21.h4 h5 22.Ke2 g6 23.Qf3 Re6

White's attack didn't pay off and all he's left with is a bunch of weaknesses such as e4 and h4. Black should play on both wings if possible.

24.Kd2 Re4 25.Qh3 Qc7!

White pieces are out of play on the Kingside, as nothing good is going to happen there. It's time to regroup the forces.

26.Rgc1 Rae8 27.f3 R4e6 28.Re1 b6!

Black created a new weakness on e3, now all he needs is to advance his Pawns and make new threats.



29.Kc2 c5 30.dxc5 d4

A perfect example of how space should be used. Black can jump from one weakness to another, including tactical threats, whereas White can only stare at these actions because his Queen has fallen asleep on h3.

31.cxb6 Qxb6 32.Rd3 Rb8

This attack is going to be decisive.

33.b3 Rc6+ 34.Kb2 Rc3

The difference between Black and White pieces needs no comment.

**35.Rxc3 dxc3+ 36.Kxc3 Qxb3+ 37.Kd2 Qa2+ 38.Kd3 Rd8+
39.Ke4 Qc4+ 40.Ke5 Rd5+ 0-1**

Unfortunately for White, his King is not attacking but escaping from the deadly checks. The end is inevitable. White is defeated because of his bad decisions. One cannot simply close one's eyes and attack when the type of position doesn't allow for it.

25. Mednis [U.S.A.] - Fischer

USA Championship 1959

Sicilian Defense

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6



It's understandable why Mednis didn't want to play a Sozin against Fischer. Yet Fischer was well versed in all lines, so maybe the best

way to go after him is with his own beloved Sozin. What we are about to review is an amazing game where Bobby exercises great control and possibly some witchcraft.

7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6

Up to this point, not only is this all known theory, but also each and every move is considered the main line, or, if you prefer, the center vein of our leaf.

11...gxf6

Even this move is known theory, but we are no longer at the main center vein of our leaf. The text move gxf6 is the second most popular move, whereas 11...Nxf6 is the main choice. The advantage of the Knight, of course, is that the Pawn structure remains intact. While taking with the Pawn might appear attractive as it builds an igloo around the King, it also restricts movement of the Black's pieces.

12.a3

Here f5 is most standard, so it's Mednis who deviates; however, it's not a major surprise. Often players have a difficult time playing the board and not the reputation of the player. By playing a3, White is showing too much respect for Black's advancing Queenside Pawns.

12...Bb7 13.f5 e5 14.Nde2 Nb6

Had the game gone 12. f5 e5, White could now play 13. Nd5, kicking the Queen, which is very good for White. The difference in our game is that we add a3 for White and Bb7 for Black; now, if White ever does play Nd5, the Bishop can chop it off. This change in move order demonstrates why Mednis got in trouble by showing Fischer too much respect.

15.Nd5 Bxd5

The idea of Nd5 here brings us into uncharted waters. Black has the square well protected and White will have a big fat Pawn sitting on d5, giving Black a protected pass Pawn at e5. This is one of those positions where trying too hard to keep control can cause a player to pass over from being safe to handing the other side the advantage.

16.exd5 Rc8 17.Nc3 Nc4 18.Bxc4 bxc4

Time for an assessment. First is Black—what would you do? I can see the weakness on the b file, pulling the Rook to b8, dropping the Queen in at a5, maybe even King d7, and pulling the King's Rook over to the Queenside. While our Bishop at e7 is momentarily just a giant Pawn, it's a very nice giant Pawn! As for White? Well, we can try to get safe and not get mated on the Queenside—not much comfort there. On the Kingside we can run our Pawns, but I'm not sure to where; and while we take time to do that, how do we avoid being crushed? OK, we'll have to bring our Knight to e4 and search for some witchcraft; yet, I'm very concerned that we'll always come up short with the “artificial attack” versus the “natural attack.” Is the edge for Black or for White?

19.Kb1 Rb8 20.Ka2

On principle alone I hate a defending moves like Ka2—can Ka1 differ that much? Of course one has to take care with this line of thinking; chess is not about aesthetic or artistic moves, it's about finding the “right moves.”

20...h5

Black decides to dictate where and how White will open the Kingside, and creates an interesting method to connect the power of his Rooks.

21.gxh5 Bf8 22.Rhg1 Ke7 23.Qe2 Bh6 24.Rg4 Rhc8

Black has accomplished his goal so he should be at ease; however, f6 is pulsating like a variable star. The question is not if White can play against it, but rather, if White can do so before he meets his own demise on the Queenside.

25.Qf2

White moves to the dark square to ready an attack on f6 as well as stop the Black Queen from taking the b6 square.

25...Rb7 26.Rb1 Rcb8 27.Ne4 Rb6

Now's a good time to stop, visit *YouTube*, and search for the song "I Put A Spell On You" by Screamin' Jay Hawkins, as that's what is about to happen. White must be leading here, yet Fischer finds a way to bewitch Mednis.

28.Nxf6 Qb7 29.Ng8+ Kf8 30.c3

Popular *Chess Life* columnist and GM Andrew Soltis claimed that White missed a win with 29. b4. It might slow down the attack, but the ending seems to have a lot of play left before I would declare White is trouble free and ahead. 29.b4 cxb3+ 30.cxb3 Rxb3 31.Rb4 Rxb1 32.Kxb1 Qc7 33.Nh7 Rxb4+ 34.axb4 Qc1+ 35.Ka2 Qc4+ 36.Ka1 Qc3+ 37.Ka2 Be3 38.Qh4+ Kd7 39.Nf6+ Kc8, and Black is ahead.



If Mednis has not fallen for Fischer's spell yet, this next move will do it.

30... Bc1!

This is a very difficult position for White; if he thought himself to be ahead, he must now be assessing the position anew.

31.Rg2 Rxb2+

The most natural move on the board to defend is 31. Rg2. It's not surprising that Black failed to find the best line. 31.Nf6 Rxb2+ 32.Rxb2 Qxb2+ 33.Qxb2 Rxb2+ 34.Ka1 Rxh2 35.Rxc4. Sometimes the best defense is offense.

32.Rxb2 Bxb2

Bobby's patience in chess has always amazed me. He doesn't force the exchange with Qxb2, as that will leave Black the option of taking

the Bishop or extracting the Knight. If White now exchanges down he does so to a lost endgame.

33.Qc2 Qb5

No silly Qxd5, why open lines and allow Nf6 when our mission is on the a file?

34.f6 Qa5

And with some help from his opponent, Bobby has transformed a close ending into a crushing win.

35.Qxb2 Rxb2+ 36.Kxb2 Qxd5 37.Rg7 Qd2+ 38.Kb1 Qd1+ 39.Kb2 Qb3+ 40.Kc1 Qxc3+ 0-1

26. Fischer - Bolbochan [Argentina]

Mar del Plata 1959

Sicilian Defense

Jacobo Bolbochan was born in Argentina in 1906. He represented his country in three Chess Olympiads and was twice champion of Argentina. He earned the International Master (IM) title at fifty-nine years old in 1965. Throughout his chess career he almost exclusively played in South America, which limited his exposure and opportunities for GM norms. He was the elder brother (by fourteen years) of Julio Bolbochan, who himself achieved the IM title at thirty-five and went on to pick up the Grandmaster title (GM) at fifty-seven. Both brothers are a testament to age not being a factor in reaching personal achievements in life.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Ndb5 Bb4

Instead of heading for a complex battle, Black prefers to play a slightly inferior line. The main continuation was to transpose to the Sveshnikov by playing 6..d6. 6...d6 7.Bf4 e5 8.Bg5 a6 9.Na3 b5.



7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 d5 9.Bd3?!

It's hard to believe that Fischer chooses this move and therefore allows Black to make matters simple, instead of playing a comfortable advantageous position with a Bishop pair. He must have decided that in this game he wanted to play a slightly better ending and eventually bring a full point home. 9.exd5 exd5 10.Bd3 0-0 11.0-0 d4 12.Ne2 Bg4 13.Bg5 Qd6 14.Re1 Rfe8 15.Qd2. White has a slight lead here.

9...dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 Qxd1+ 12.Kxd1 Bd7 13.Be3

The Bishops are going to be very strong in this position. Pawn structure is once again a very important factor in the evaluation of this position. White has a typical 3vs2 Pawn majority, which is always helpful when it comes down to creating a passed Pawn.

13...f5 14.Bf3 e5!

Black has to play decisively if he wants to balance the Bishop pair.

15.b4 0-0-0 16.Kc1 Nd4 17.Bxd4

A very good move, or the only practical decision□depending on the point of view. Black Knight became very active and it was better to keep the same-colored Bishops. As a result, the situation has changed a lot. Black has completed the development and centralized most of the pieces at the cost of a weakness on d4. The mentioned weak Pawn should be used as a shield by White and attacked under favorable circumstances.

17...exd4 18.Re1 Rhe8 19.Kd2

Despite the fact that the Black Rooks are placed perfectly, they can't reach the White monarch.

19...Bb5

Better is 19...Kc7 20.Rac1 Bc6, and equal.

20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.a4 Bc4 22.Rc1 Kb8

22...g5! Why not gain some space?

23.c3 dxc3+?

Allowing White to take full control of the position is certainly not a good idea. The position is still equal but more pleasant for White due to Black's King, which may become cut off. After 23...d3! 24.Re1 Rxe1 25.Kxe1 b6 26.Kd2 Kc7 27.g3 a5 28.Bd1 Kd6 29.Ke3 Ke5 30.f4+ Kd5, the game is equal.

24.Rxc3 Bf7?

By playing passive moves the matters may soon go really bad.
24...Rd8+ 25.Ke3 Bd5 26.Rd3 Re8+ 27.Kf4 Bxf3 28.gxf3 Rc8

29.Kxf5 Rc4 30.Rd7 Rxb4 31.Rxg7 Rxa4 32.Rxh7 b5, with an even game.

25.a5 Re7 26.Re3 Rd7+ 27.Rd3 Re7

Black's problem is that he can't exchange the Rooks, as the Bishop ending would be highly dangerous. As a result, White can make multiple threats and gain more and more space.

28.Rd8+ Kc7 29.Rh8 h6 30.Kc3 a6

White pieces reached the most active positions, but it's still not enough. The group of three Pawns is still holding too strong, so White's task is to spread them.

31.Kd4 Be8 32.Rf8 Bd7 33.h4 Bc8 34.Bd5 Bd7 35.f4 g6??

Black was playing very precisely...until now. It was crucial to keep the Pawns on their positions as long as possible. It was White who had to take the risk. A better idea is 35...Re1 36.Rf7 Rd1+ 37.Kc5 Rc1+ 38.Bc4 Kd8. It's always better to defend actively.



36.Rf6

Better was 36.Rf7 Re2 37.Rg7. White is clearly better.

36...Be8 37.Be6

More precise is 37.Rb6 Kc8 38.h5; dividing the Pawns should be enough to win the game.

37...Bc6 38.g3 Rg7 39.Ke5

White is slowly smashing Black, which is caused by the choice to defend on last three ranks. I'll repeat: it's always better to defend actively, even at the cost of a Pawn or two.

39...Be8 40.Bd5

40.Rf8 followed by Kf6 would do.

40...h5 41.Rb6 Kc8 42.Be6+ Kc7 43.Kf6 Rh7 44.Bd5 Kc8 45.Re6 Kd8 46.Rd6+ Kc7 47.Rb6 Kc8 48.Bg8

I didn't comment for a few moves because I didn't want to distract Fischer while he was looking for the winning plan.

48...Rc7 49.Be6+ Kb8 50.Rd6 1-0

Black resigned in view of Rd8, followed by King's taking all of the Pawns. Black was a really tough opponent for one of the most magnificent players in history, but eventually he was unable to find those few precise moves that differ strong players from those who remain rather anonymous.

27. Fischer - Bhend [Switzerland]

Zuerich 1959

Sicilian Defense

Edwin Bhend, born in 1931, was awarded the IM title in 1960 and was Swiss champion in 1966. Still active today, he's held an FIDE rating around the 2250 from 2000 to 2012 – very impressive for a man in his 80s. All the more so given his rating in 1972 was 2325. He tied for first with Bent Larsen in the 1953 Young Masters tournament held in Zagreb (Croatia). However, his most notable accomplishment is defeating Tal in the famous Zurich 1959 Tournament.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bg7

Dragon theory was still very much in flux in 1959, but, even without a firm theoretical foundation, it's not wise to give White so many options. Chess players thought everything that needed to be said about the defense was put to paper in 1972 when D. N. Levy published *The Sicilian Dragon*. The reality is that a move is understandable based on the context of that which is known about the opening at the time that the move is played.



6.e5 Ng8

The move order of this game has all but disappeared from modern chess; now the acceptable way for Black to play a Dragon is 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7.

What did Black hope to accomplish? The idea is that by allowing White to overextend the Pawn, Black can launch an attack against White's "fixed asset" at e5, and will eventually unwind with the upper hand.

7.Bf4 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Bc4 f6

Black should continue in the spirit of the line and play the more aggressive 9...Qa5 10.0-0 Bxe5 11.Bxe5 Qxe5 12.Re1; now Black must find a nice square for his Queen and make up a lot of development.

I will confess that in the 1982 U.S. Open I had a similar position as Black against the late FM Boris Bacynzskyj. Boris was a great chess coach (he was the chess coach of Philadelphia 76ers owner Pat Croce) and a very kind man. He was gracious in the postmortem and did not laugh at any of my silly ideas on how to play a bad position. After that postmortem I never played the line again.

10.e6 dxe6 11.Qf3 Qb6

The primary problem with this and other similar non-standard Dragon positions is that whatever preconceived idea Black may have regarding “creating art”□it all comes down to foolishness. Chess is about winning; Black can’t afford to play all the creative mumbo jumbo and give away such a lead in development.

12.0-0 Nh6

Of course, Black could take the Pawn at b2, yet to what gain? To further White's development or to place the Queen further out of action?

13.Na4 Qd4

White embarrasses the Queen, forcing Black to choose between a submissive plan of 13....Qb7 that must lead to defeat, or Black must play recklessly and hope that White blunders in a crazy but winning position.

14.Bxh6 Bxh6

The simple idea of defending with 14. b3 is also fine; Black has so little good development that White should be able to win with a very safe approach.

15.Qxc6+ Kf7 16.Rae1 Rb8

No doubt that Black had hoped White would grab the Rook and allow for counterplay. 16.Qxa8 Qxc4 17.Qxa7 Qxc2 18.Rad1 Bf4 19.g3 Qc6 20.gxf4 Bb7 21.f3 Ra8 22.Qe3 Qxa4.

17.Bxe6+ Kg7 18.Bd5

White avoids simplification that doesn't lead to a clear win. 18.Bxc8 Rhxc8 19.Rxe7+ Kh8 20.Qe6 Rg8. Why exchange down if you can continue to pile on the pressure?

18...Bg5 19.Re4

White delivers an intermezzo (an in-between move) in order to drive the Black Queen from the center of the board before ripping the e Pawn with check. Missing these type of moves are very common at the lower levels of chess, something for which you should always be on the lookout.

19...Qd2 20.Rxe7+ Kh6 21.Rxa7

If White tries to get tricky and deflect the Bishop to a weaker square with 21. h4, it could backfire. 21.h4 Bxh4 22.g3 Bh3. White should still come out on top, but why let Black gain counterplay?

21...Bf5 22.c4

White anchors the Bishop in the center of the board; the same goal could be achieved with 22. Nc3 with the benefit of pulling the Knight

back into play, yet White again would be allowing Black a chance to make a comeback.

22...Rbd8

This doesn't feel like a natural move; the Rook on h8 defends the h Pawn, yet if the game hangs on being tied down to h8, Black is lost. It offers no immediate threat to White, so he gets a free move; the only love I get from this move is that now 23. Qb7 can be answered with Rd7. Otherwise, it leaves me lukewarm; I would prefer the active but more dangerous 22...Rhc8 23.Qd6 Be3 24.Re7 Bd4.

23.Nc5

The first time I played over this game, I didn't see Nc5 coming—shame on me! This is possibly why I am so attached to the idea of 22...Rhc8, where we relocate the Bishop to d4. Black can't afford to allow White to get all his pieces active.

23...Rhe8 24.Ne6 Bxe6

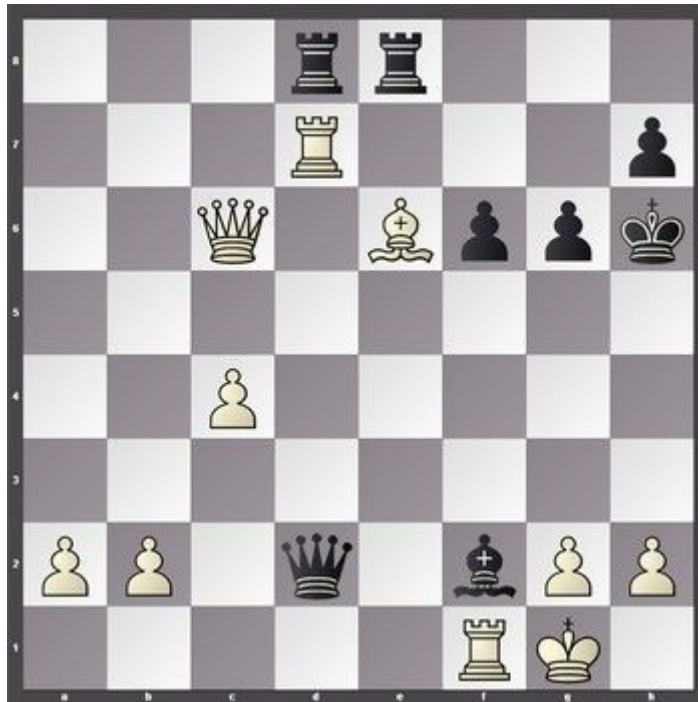
Black must capture the Knight as our precious Be3 idea is kicked to the curb and Black gets mated, 24...Be3 25.Rxh7+ Kxh7 26.Qc7+ Kh6 27.Qg7+ Kh5 28.Bf3+ Bg4 29.Bxg4+ Kh4 (29...Kxg4 30.Qxg6+ Bg5 31.h3+ Kh4 32.g3+ Kxh3 33.Qf5#) 30.Qxf6+ Bg5 31.Qf3.

25.Bxe6 Be3

Finally Be3 makes an appearance, but can it change the course of the game? Most likely not, but it does set fire to the board.

26.Rd7 Bxf2+

So many pieces attacking each other, the amount of power on the d file is insane!



27.Rxf2 Qe1+ 28.Rf1 Qe3+ 29.Kh1 Rxe6 30.Rxh7+ Kxh7

If Fischer had not seen 30. Rxh7 when he played 24. Ne6, he would be lost here. No doubt he had seen that far ahead, and also the lines that could have been with 24. Be6, which was also an interesting option.

All that remains is a lesson in endings.

**31.Qc7+ Kh6 32.Qxd8 Qe2 33.Qd1 Qxb2 34.Qc1+ Qxc1
35.Rxc1 Re2 36.a3 Ra2 37.c5 Rxa3 38.c6 Ra8 39.c7 Rc8
40.Kg1 Kg5 1-0**

28. Fischer - Kupper [Switzerland]

Zuerich 1959

Sicilian Defense

Josef Kupper earned his International Master (IM) title in 1955. He was Swiss Champion in 1954, 1957 and 1962. He is a passionate and accomplished chess composer who has been awarded many prizes for his work. He's also a one of the rare composers who works in all genres—direct mates, self mates, or helpmates. If the knowledge of what it is to be a composer is outside of your scope of understanding, I encourage you to do some research; it's a subset of the chess community. In very simple terms, composers compose endgame studies or chess problems; however, it's very complex and involves entire schools of composition, from Bohemian to the Slovak school. Explaining the ins and outs is beyond the scope of this book and my knowledge base—I am no composer!

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bc4

Once again Fischer chooses his favorite weapon against the Sicilian—the Sozin Attack. Let's have a brief look at the outcome of this decision.

6...e6 7.Bb3 Be7 8.0-0

8.Be3 is the main move in this particular position. 8...a6 9.f4 0-0 10.0-0 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 b5 12.e5 dxe5 13.fxe5 Nd7 14.Ne4 Bb7

15.Nd6 Bxd6 16.exd6 Qg5 17.Rf2 a5 18.a4 Ra6 is one of the main lines.



8...Nxd4?!

Definitely not the most precise move, as this Knight is very important in many types of Sicilians. It can be either used to exchange the Knight for the most dangerous piece in the whole line—White's light-squared Bishop or to place it on c4 via a5 or e5. Furthermore, White's space advantage will only increase after the Knights are gone. Better is 8...a6 9.Be3 0-0 10.f4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 b5.

9.Qxd4 0-0 10.Kh1 b6

It's clear now why Black refrained from playing the normal setup, including a6-b5. He decided to play the more solid 10...b6 with the idea of bringing the Bishop to play as fast as possible. 10...Nd7!?

with the idea of Nc5, Bd7, Bc6 or Bf6; this, at some point, deserved consideration.

11.f4 Bb7 12.f5

The most frequently used idea in these positions. White lengthens the scope of his light-squared Bishop and creates a strong square on d5 that can be used by both minor pieces after the usual Bg5xf6.

12...e5 13.Qd3 h6

Preventing White from the above-mentioned idea 13...Rc8!?

14.Rf3 Rc8!?

A very strong concept lies behind this move. It's not only about improving the Rook's placement, but also about preparing a thematic Sicilian exchange sacrifice, after which, Black obtains a long-term compensation. Fortunately for Black, he didn't go for an even bolder idea, which doesn't work out. 14...Nxe4?! 15.Nxe4 d5 16.Rg3! dxe4 17.Qxd8 Rfxd8 18.Bxh6 Bf6 19.Bxg7 Bxg7 20.f6, and White is better.

15.Rh3 Kh7?

I gave a question mark only because of the missed opportunity. The Sicilian is such a specific opening and at this point Black has to make the most of every active opportunity. This time, Black didn't make the only good practical decision. Once again—there's no future in passive defense. 15...Rxc3! 16.bxc3 Nxe4 Black seizes the initiative. The f2 fork and additional active possibilities, such as creating strong Pawn center by means of d6-d5 or Bg5 neutralizing White pieces, are very convincing.

16.Be3 Qd7

The same story.

17.Nd5

Now Black's chances are gone, and, honestly, it's just a matter of time. His position is not going to improve.

17...Bxd5 18.Bxd5 Nxd5 19.exd5 Bf6



20.Bxh6!

Final blow! We didn't have to wait long until it turned out that Black doesn't have enough defending pieces. The Bishop is going to be overloaded.

20...gxh6 21.Qe3 Bg7 22.f6 Rh8 23.Rf1

No rush in executing the decisive idea. White can improve all of his pieces before taking on g7.

23...Qb5 24.Qf3 Rc4 25.Qf5+ 1-0

Black's position just had to collapse. He had really good chances connected with the exchange sacrifice. Apparently, he wasn't brave enough to make that decision. Generally, a good and complex evaluation of the position coupled with elimination of other

possibilities would leave Black with an obligation to sacrifice on c3.
Something went wrong.

29. Fischer - Nievergelt [Switzerland]

Zuerich 1959

Sicilian Defense

The Swissman Erwin Nievergelt was one of the best chess players in the second half of the twentieth century, and an extraordinary player in postwar Europe. So states the author Antonio Iglesias Martin who wrote a book about Erwin's life: *Erwin Nievergelt: Entre La Emoción Y El Talento*. The book (written in Spanish) is not so much a biography as it is a tribute to a man's journey in life and Erwin's many accomplishments in chess and music (he is a very talented musical composer). Erwin finished last in the famous Zurich 1959 tournament, drawing Keres and scoring 2.5 out of 15. Not a great result, but a brutal field for an IM level player.

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bc4 e6
7.Bb3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0**



These lines are known as the Fischer-Sozin Attack in recognition of Bobby's contribution to theory and the popularity of the line due to this player emulating the "Fischer style." It is not an insignificant point that there are lines that are so named because a player was a champion of the line and others want the same success that the line brings. In the case of the Sozin, many players just want to be "Bobby."

9.Be3 Bd7 10.f4 Nxd4

When facing a Sozin, if the Knight must give its life, it's better to be traded for White's light-squared Bishop than to be traded for another Knight. That's my personal preference; however, Black follows on his idea to push b5.

11.Bxd4 Bc6 12.Qe2 b5 13.Nxb5 e5

This e5 business might not be losing, but it has little redeeming value; this is why, if you can't handle a Sozin, that you should get rid of the Sozin Bishop! Instead, Black should keep his Pawn structure intact with 13...Bxb5 14.Qxb5 Nxe4 15.f5 e5 16.Be3 Bg5 17.Qe2 Bxe3+ 18.Qxe3 Nf6, and an equal position.

14.fxe5 dxe5 15.Be3 a6 16.Nc3 Nxe4 17.Rxf7 Rxf7 18.Bxf7+



18...Kh8

Yes, it seems strange that Black would run to the corner and not take the Bishop. However, his best chance for counterplay is to retreat, his second best ends up with the odd idea of putting his King on g6, 18...Kxf7 19.Qc4+ Kg6 20.Qxc6+ Nf6 21.Rf1. Oddly enough,

“natural” looking moves yield the worst result whereby 18...Kxf7 19.Qc4+ Kf8 20.Rd1 Qc8 21.Nxe4 Bxe4 22.Qxe4 Kg8 23.c4, and White has a winning advantage.

19.Qc4 Bg5

A very sharp move in a bad position that provides Black the very path to where he may find equality.

20.Nxe4 Bxe3+ 21.Kh1

The symmetry of both Kings in the corner would be an amusing side note if one side could not use it as a means to achieve an end.

21...Qd7 22.Bh5 Bb5 23.Qb3 Qd4 24.Nd6!

The threat of Nf7 is that it requires Black to deal with it on the move; otherwise, it could be game over. As in 24...Bc6 25.Nf7+ Kg8 26.Nh6+ Kh8 27.Qg8+ Rxc8 28.Nf7 mate. Of course, we know that Black will not be so reckless. Yet White's move is so strong that it forces a transition whereby Black will exchange his dark-squared Bishop for the Knight, eliminating any chance of an opposite-color Bishop ending with drawing tendencies.

24... Qxd6 25.Qxe3 Bc6 26.Bf3 e4

Fischer excels at winning even endgames, and this one is far from even; White is a Pawn up and has two solid Pawn islands versus Black's scrambled-egg Pawn structure.

27.Be2 Rd8 28.h3 h6

Both sides have achieved *luft*, which is the idea of “air” or creating a space for your King to escape a back rank mate. When you play chess you don’t need “99 Luftballons,” however, if the song helps you to remember not to fall for back rank tricks, it's a song worth

learning. Oddly, in this case Black's rush for luft allows White to exchange Rooks, bringing White one step closer to victory.

29.Rd1 Qf6 30.Rxd8+ Qxd8 31.Bxa6 Qd5

If it appears to you that White is going to get away with chopping off a Pawn, you might be right. If Black cannot formulate a plan here, why is he playing on?

32.a3 h5 33.b4 Qd1+ 34.Kh2 h4 35.Qf4 Qe1

Now this is a very odd position□not because of the free Pawn on h4 and c2. No, it's because this game was played to this point in 2010 by two 2500 players. In the modern game, Black played Qa1 here and lost. As you will see, Qe1 does no better. Nothing left in this game but Bobby bringing home the point.

36.b5 Bd5 37.b6 e3 38.b7 Bxb7 39.Qf8+ Kh7 40.Bd3+ g6 1-0

Paul
Keres



30. Keres [Estonia]- Fischer

Candidates Tournament 1959

King's Indian

Paul Keres was an Estonian Grandmaster and the strongest player never to become World Champion. Historians have speculated that due to the oppression of Estonia after World War II, Keres was forced to "throw" games to Botvinnik in the 1948 World Championship tournament. Keres is also the only player to defeat nine undisputed World Champions. During the time that this game took place, he was still one of the strongest players in the world and near the height of his powers. Known for his aggressive attacking style, Fischer treats him like any other mortal and quickly turns the tables.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.Nbd2

It's clear that White refrains from the usual methods of fighting for an opening advantage (i.e., playing the main moves, namely, c4 followed by Nc3 and e4). Instead, he prefers to keep it solid and avoid the c4 move. It's one of the ways to confuse the Grünfeld players. Fischer always preferred to play King's Indian, but he shouldn't make normal KI moves, as it would lead to an odd version of Pirc, as White doesn't intend to play c4.

4...c5

Certainly one of the methods to fight for center if Black doesn't want to play d5.

5.c3

If 5.dxc5 Na6 6.Be3 Ng4 7.Bd4 Bxd4 8.Nxd4 Nxc5 9.e3 Nf6 10.b4 Nce4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Bd3 d5 lead to an equal position. In my first book, [*Chess Patzer to Master - How an Everyday Joe Does It*](#), I annotate several games and recommend the London System, which Keres has not transposed to; however, I don't recommend the way he applies it in this game.



5...cxd4 6.cxd4 d5

Whenever the c Pawns are traded on d4 or d5, it's better to have a Knight on c3 and c6 squares in order to influence the center with Knights. Black equalized very easily.

7.Bxb8?

Keres, definitely one of the most famous players of all times, makes a decision that is going to have an impact on the rest of the game. By giving Black a Bishop pair and taking the a Pawn, he agrees to a long resistance against Black's initiative, which is likely to grow rapidly.

7...Rxb8 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qxa7 Ne4

There are players who prefer to have a material advantage and are ready to defend it as long as is necessary in order to convert it eventually into a full point; and there is another type of player—a type of player who allows opponents to take the material and generate initiative or suffer an attack for taking the material. Certainly Fischer belonged to the second group. Such players instinctively feel which moves are unpleasant for the defending opponent. 9...0-0 10.e3 Qc7 11.Qa3 Ra8 12.Qb4 Rfc8—unclear but most likely equal here was also possible.

10.e3 Nxd2 11.Nxd2 e5!

I really like this strike as Black should open the position due to his Bishop pair, which needs lots of space.

12.Nb3 0-0 13.Qc5

Normal solutions are no longer possible and White has to be very careful, otherwise he's not going to survive the next moves. 13.Be2? exd4 14.Nxd4 Qc7! threatening to trap a Queen. 15.Qa3 Bxd4 16.exd4 Rfe8. Black is slightly ahead here.

13...Rc8 14.Qb4

14.Qxd5 exd4 15.Nxd4 Qe7. This can't end well for White.

14...Re8 15.Be2

Keres finally gets some precious time to develop his pieces, and he's only one move from castling and becoming safe. Still, one move makes a difference, especially because Black's pieces are centralized and ready for a battle.

15...exd4

A better idea was 15...Rc2! 16.Bd3 Rxb2 17.0-0 (17.Qa3? exd4 18.Qxb2 dxe3 19.Qc2 Bxa1 20.Nxa1 exf2+ 21.Kd1 Qf6+) 17...exd4 18.exd4 Qg5. Black is better off.

16.Nxd4 Qh4

I'm almost sure that Keres already regretted taking that poisoned Pawn. Black plays Qh4 with the attack; now White can't Castle because of the exchange at d4 that wins a piece.



17.Qxb7 Bxd4 18.Qxd7 Bxb2 19.Rd1 Bc3+ 20.Kf1 d4

A rather forced continuation. Black gave up his Bishop pair and the White King got stuck in the center in return. Opposite-colored Bishops always guarantee an advantage for the attacking side.

21.exd4 Qe4

Interesting is 21...Rcd8!? 22.Qg4 Qxg4 23.Bxg4 Rxd4 unclear (not 24.Rxd4 Re1 mate)

22.Qg4

A mate on e1 was threatened.

22...Qc2 23.g3 Qxa2 24.Bb5??

White was about to consolidate and he makes such a terrible mistake. A better idea is 24.Bf3 Bd2 25.Qd7 Rcd8 26.Qb5, leading to an equal game.

24...Qd5 25.Bxe8 Qxh1+ 26.Ke2 Rxe8+ 27.Kd3 Be1 0-1

Keres was defending quite well, but, probably because of so many constant threats, he was tired and blundered a piece. Nevertheless, I think that his problems began the moment he decided to take a “free” Pawn, which made him stretch till the very end.

31. Fischer - Ault [USA]

USA Championship New York 1959

Pirc Defense

Robin Ault was the first person to win the U.S. Junior Championship three times (1959-1961). Unfortunately for Robin, as a result of his 1959 win he was invited to the 1959-60 U.S. Championship, and then lost all eleven games (0-11). After this, the USCF no longer allowed the top junior player to be invited to the U.S. Championship. I have no idea if this damaged his psyche, yet it would explain why I find scant records of the young and upcoming 2300 rated players after 1963.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6

Robert Byrne played 4. Bg5 with great success in the 1960s, giving this less popular line a resurgence. A common theme for Fischer is to take the White pieces and play a nice classical game, upon which he'll explode in the middle game if his opponent errs, grilling him or her to a crisp in an ending.

4.Bg5 Bg7

Of course, fundamentally 4....Bg7 is a sound logical move. Strategically it's not as flexible as 4....c6, a move which allows for ideas like b7 to b5 and Qa5. This is not a concept you figure out over

the board, it's something you come to understand by studying the opening at home and playing over many games.



5.Qd2

Lining up Queen and Bishop against a fianchetto Bishop is a common theme in many opening systems. Black can't prevent it, but how he lives with it is often the difference between "lights out" and playing a game.

5...Nbd7

I'm not at all a fan of 5...Nbd7, it's a bit too claustrophobic for my taste. I would prefer to see 5...h6, whereby, if the Bishop retreats to e3 we have 6...Ng4, or if it drops back to f4 it will mean that e5 is not a more natural break. I also like 5...c6 here.

6.0-0-0 e5

This is the wrong strategic path; Black should transpose to a Sicilian where he should have some familiarity with the Pawn structures and have a playable position. 6...c5 7.Nf3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 0-0 9.Bh6 Bxh6 10.Qxh6 Ne5. Instead, e5 provides White with a slight plus right out of the opening.

7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Nf3 h6

White's heavy power on the d file, combined with the pinned Knight at f6, requires that Black weaken the Kingside to break the pin.

9.Bh4 g5 10.Bg3 Qe7

Which King would you want to be responsible for defending?

11.h4 g4 12.Nh2 c6

White tries to torment Black with 11. h4. This is not the game that Black envisioned he'd be playing, yet it's the one he must embrace. I'd rush into White's plans with 12...h5 13.Kb1 Bh6 14.Qe1 c6 15.f3. This is a subtle difference between my suggestion and the game text, but it matters; as suggested, White Queen is less active on e1 as compared to f2.

13.f3 h5 14.Kb1 Bh6 15.Qf2 Nc5 16.Be2 b5

Black gets active with b5 and White can't allow b4, as the Knight has no squares. White could simply slow Black down with a3, but that would provide Black with another target; so White plays Bd3 to provide the Knight with a flight square.

17.Bd3 Rb8 18.Ne2 Na4 19.Nc1

White correctly drops the Knight to c1 in order to help protect the Queenside and give his pieces more. Not that White has much to defend yet; Qb4 threatening mate at b2 is an imaginary threat due to Bxe5.

19... 0-0

I don't like castling here, however, I don't like not castling even more!

20.fxg4 hxg4 21.h5 Nxh5

White shoves the Pawn in order to create lines for his pieces. The Rook file is opened, the Bishop can come to h4—no doubt White's move is sound. The question to answer is: Why should Black capture the Pawn? I'm don't believe he should; a Pawn in front of the King is coverage, be it White or Black.



22.Nf1 Qg5

It's not often you can play Nf1, developing a Rook and attacking two pieces! The Black Queen comes running to defend a position that, instead of holding, Black should consider as being an evacuation plan such as 22...Nxc3 23.Rxh6 Qg5 24.Qxa7 Rb7 25.Qe3 Qxe3 26.Nxe3 Nc5 27.Rxc6 Ncxe4, with a slight edge for White.

23.Bh4 Qg6 24.Ne3

Black's pieces are an awkward mess.

24...Nf4 25.Nf5 Bg5

It's hard to find fault with Bg5□all roads lead to victory for White. 25...Bxf5 26.exf5 Qd6 27.Qg3 f6 28.Qxg4+ Bg7 29.Bc4+ Nd5 30.Bb3 Nc5 31.Bf2 Nxb3 32.Nxb3.

26.Qg3 Bxf5 27.exf5 Qg7 28.Bxg5 Qxg5 29.Rh4

Black can resign here□too much force, too little defense.

29...Qg7 30.Rxg4 Ng6 31.f6 Qh8 32.Rxg6+ 1-0

32. Wexler [Argentina]- Fischer

Mar del Plata 1960

King's Indian

Bernardo Wexler was an Argentinian player who was awarded the International Master title in 1959. He was a reasonable opponent for Bobby, but he was very much the underdog even with the White pieces.

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

Fischer decides to play his favorite King's Indian. In the future, he also employed Grunfeld and Nimzo-Indian.

4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.d5 Nbd7 8.Bg5

White chooses not the most popular move order and, personally, I'm not convinced by it in this particular line as it only helps Black to undertake his usual plan connected with Kingside Pawn attack. 8.0-0 Nc5 9.Qc2 a5 10.Bg5 h6 11.Be3 b6 12.Nd2 Bg4 13.f3 Bd7 14.b3 Nh5 15.g3 f5 with counterplay is one of the main lines.



8...h6 9.Bh4 g5 10.Bg3 Nh5

10...Nxe4!? 11.Nxe4 f5 12.Nfd2 fxe4 13.Nxe4 Nf6 14.Nc3 Bf5 15.0-0 would probably lead to White having a slight advantage

11.0-0

11.Nd2 Nf4 12.0-0 Nc5 13.Nb3 is equal

11...Nf4 12.Ne1

White is playing the usual King's Indian plan connected with transferring all the pieces to squares from which they can control light squares (e4 and f5) and support the c4-c5 break.

12...Nxe2+?!

Fischer was afraid of the idea of Be2-g4 waiting to exchange the light-squared Bishops, which is always favorable for White, as Black

needs that Bishop when attacking on Kingside; yet it never feels good to give up such an active Knight.

13.Qxe2 f5 14.exf5 Nf6 15.Nd3 Bxf5

15...e4!? 16.Nb4 (16.Nxe4?! Nxe4 17.Qxe4 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Qf6 19.Rad1 Rae8 20.Qd2 Qd4 unclear) 16...Bxf5 17.Nc2 Nd7 and counterplay

16.f3

It takes time to be sure that all of the crucial squares are well protected, but White doesn't want to give Fischer any attacking prospects, which is totally understandable.

16...Qe8 17.Nf2

The only problem in White's play is that he plays only prophylactical moves, a strategy which is never enough to win a game. He should be more concerned about creating an active play by, for example, b4-c5.

17...Qg6 18.Nfe4 g4 19.Rfe1?

It doesn't make any sense to move a Rook that stands in the right place neutralizing the opponent's Rook power indirectly. It was necessary to support e4 point by playing with the other Rook that is doing literally nothing, having been abandoned in the corner.

19...gxf3 20.gxf3 Nxe4

It's rather clear that it's Black who's fighting for more than a draw here. 20...Bh3!? with a simple idea of restricting White's forces and preparing the Nh5-f4 maneuver.

21.Nxe4 Qh5 22.Rac1

Finally!

22...b6 23.Rc3 a5?!

This time Fischer is overcautious. White is only defending and he has no time to prepare the usual c5 break by playing b4. In my opinion it was better to mobilize all of the pieces, not giving White a break. 23...Rf7, with the idea of doubling the Rooks and attacking on f3.

24.b3 Rf7 25.a3 Raf8 26.Rf1 Bg4!!

A very nice tactical resource. White pieces are clearly overloaded.



27.fxg4

27.Nd2 Bh3 28.Rfc1, with the idea of playing e4.

27...Rxf1+ 28.Kg2 Qg6 29.Bf2 Ra1

Surprisingly or not, the Rook is safe without any support at a place in White's camp where a White Rook was standing just eight moves

ago!

30.Re3 Rf4

Black is dominating the whole board. If only White had a light-squared Bishop, he would at least have some practical chances. Instead, he has a very passive piece that is about to be closed by the h Pawn. Just watch.

31.h3 h5 32.g5 Rxa3 33.Bg3

A better defense was 33.Qb2 Rxe4 34.Qxa3 Rf4 35.Qa2 h4, yet Black should still win.

33...Rxe4

33...a4!

34.Rxe4 Rxb3 35.h4

I told you.

35...a4

The rest is just trivial for Fischer.

36.Bf2 a3 37.c5 Rb2 38.Qf3 a2 39.Ra4 e4 40.Qa3 Qf7 0-1

With so many winning moves, Black chooses the most elegant. White lost because he didn't deserve even to draw this game. Perhaps it's brutal, but how can one create a good result with White pieces by moving only once further than 4th rank with a piece and only twice with Pawns before the game is already lost? On the other hand, Wexler was not doing badly until he failed to play with the right Rook on e1. The position was about equal, but, all in all, White was outplayed.

33. Fischer - Gadia [Brazil]

Mar del Plata 1960

Sicilian Defense

Olicio Gadia was a chess master and the 1959 and 1962 Brazilian Champion. A lawyer by profession, he was a patron of the game and offered his assistance, advice and monetary support to up-and-coming Brazilian players. He was a gregarious character and could be found holding court at the local club telling stories and entertaining young players with his tales of world travels.

He was a personal friend of Boris Spassky, and would fly to events and matches to hang out with his friend. Sadly, in the late 1970s he was afflicted with mental illness, becoming extremely paranoid and convinced that he was being bugged and that everyone was out to get him; he also latched onto international conspiracy theories. He died in 1988, just before turning sixty.

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6
7.Bb3 b5**

This is a very popular idea whereby Black can use the b Pawn to kick the Knight off of c3 and win the Pawn at e4. Also, the fianchetto Bishop at b7 x-ray attacks the g2 square, always a concern for the castled king. However, this is not all in Black's favor; the advance

Pawn at b5 can become a target, and, in some position, e6 no longer defended by the Bishop can yield nice sacrifices for White.



8.0-0 Bb7

Decidedly more popular here is Be7 tucking the King away for safety and avoiding a Gonzon attack. If Black doesn't have the skill to keep the balance, White will overwhelm him like a caveman at a buffet.

This little miniature illustrates the damage a caveman can do if you let him utter the words "yum yum eat 'em up." 9.Bxe6 fxe6 10.Nxe6 Qd7 11.Nd5 Bxd5 12.exd5 Kf7 13.g4 h6 14.f4 Qa7+ 15.Kg2 Nbd7 16.g5 Ne4 17.Qe2 Nec5 18.b4 Na4 19.Nd8+ Kg6 20.f5+, Black resigns as mate is unavoidable.

9.f4

Of course, Fischer is not a caveman and plays the more principled move; also sound here is Re1.

9...Nc6

Black seems intent on tossing oil into the fire. 9....Nbd7 offers better chances for equality. The text move invites White to take control and continue the attack.

10.Nxc6 Bxc6 11.f5 e5?

Strategically, this is quickly becoming a mess; White will dominate the d5 square and control the game. Better is the thematic idea of kicking the Knight with b4 so that White has one less piece that can occupy the hole at d5. 11...b4 12. Na4 e5

12.Qd3 Be7 13.Bg5 Qb6+

White has declared his intention to chop the Knight at f6, so why move the Queen to the wrong side of the board for a spite check?

14.Kh1 0-0 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Bd5 Rac8

White achieves total domination of d5.

17.Bxc6 Rxc6 18.Rad1

White doesn't play 18. Nd5 immediately because Black could counter with 18...Qd4.

18...Rfc8 19.Nd5 Qd8

Now Qd4 for Black is no longer possible, 19...Qd4 20.Nxf6+ gxf6 21.Qg3+ Kh8 22.Rxd4.

20.c3 Be7

Retreating doesn't improve Black's game at all.



21.Ra1

Bobby swings back to the Queenside and threatens a4 with the goal of taking command of the a file. He also correctly rejects f6, as the attack is not fast enough and Black will find solid counterplay by pressuring c3 and e4.

21...f6

Fearing a plan that White has already rejected, Black seals his Bishop in and creates further weakness in his position.

22.a4 Rb8? 23.Nxe7+ 1-0

A horrible blunder—the Rook on c6 drops after Qd5+, however, Black was in for a bumpy ride.

34. Foguelman [Argentina]- Fischer

Mar del Plata 1960

Sicilian Defense

Alberto Foguelman is an Argentinian chess master who was awarded the International Master (IM) title in 1963. He was Champion of South America (jointly) with Henrique Mecking, Julio Bolbochan and Oscar Panno, winning the Rio Hondo in 1966.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.f3

White doesn't feel like playing Najdorf against Fischer and plays the calm supporting 5.f3. We'll see whether it's a good idea or not.



5...Nc6

After 5...e5 6.Nb3 Be6 7.c4 Nbd7 8.Be3 Be7, Black is equal; but we can make a solid bet that Fischer is not searching for equality.

6.c4 e6

Black develops normally and his main idea is to play d6-d5 at some point, which generally allows Black to get activity and initiative. Here 6...g6 would most likely transpose to the so-called Maroczy Bind.

7.Nc3 Be7 8.Nc2?

Everything was fine in White's plan to avoid Najdorf, but still he has to develop pieces! It's not a good time for maneuvering and trying out new opening concepts. Such a move is normal in the above-mentioned Maroczy line.

Better is 8.Be3 d5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Qxd5 13.Qxd5 cxd5 14.0-0-0, where White is slightly better.

8...0-0 9.Ne3 d5!?

Fischer understands perfectly that his development advantage is enormous, and, in view of White's obscure ideas, he's obliged to seize the initiative; he therefore decides to sacrifice a Pawn to open the position. His idea is fully justified, especially as it's obvious that White does everything to keep matters uncomplicated.

Or 9...Qb6!? 10.Be2 Rd8, with the same idea of breaking in the center, also deserved consideration.

10.cxd5 exd5 11.exd5

Or White can try to simplify with 11.Nexd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Be6 13.Be3 Bxd5 14.Qxd5 Qc7; however, the position is unclear.

11...Ne5 12.Qb3

As White lacks good squares for his Bishops, he decides to choose a plan that includes escaping with the King as quickly as possible, completing development at the same time. Trying to castle short and keep the material advantage was also possible. Or else 12.Be2 Bc5 13.0-0 Re8 14.Kh1 Bd7 15.Ne4 Nxe4 16.fxe4 Ng6, where Black's activity compensates the Pawn.

12...Bc5 13.Bd2 Re8 14.Be2?

A sudden change of mind? Keeping the King in the center may prove risky in view of the Black Rook who is waiting for a discovered attack after the Knight is placed somewhere else. Better was 14.0-0-0 Nxf3 15.gxf3 Bxe3 16.Bd3 with solid counterplay.

14...Ng6!

A little maneuver will surely improve the Knight's position and make some immediate threats. White is holding on, but he needs to be

very careful. The enticing 14...Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 Bxe3 16.Bxe3 Rxe3+ 17.Kf2 Re7 18.Rhe1 Bg4 is only equal.

15.Nc2 Nh4 16.0-0-0 Nxc2

Black regained the Pawn, which was very probable considering the fact that his pieces were very active. Now the situation has changed a bit. White managed to finish the development, but at the cost of scattered Pawn structure. The opened e & g file give him nothing as Black pieces prevent White Rooks from entering the crucial squares. On the other hand, with a couple dynamic moves improving the Bishops, White may even be able to get the better chances. The position is balanced.

17.Ne4?!

I see White's point of view. He uses this Knight swap to consolidate the Pawn structure. The c3 square is now available for the Bishop, and his minor pieces should gradually improve. Nevertheless, after the exchange, the Pawn on e4 is going to be weak, and if Black manages to transfer the Knight to e5 (as it's temporarily useless on g2), he will be better in long term. If 17.Bc4! h6, Black must play 17... h6, stopping the other Bishop from coming to g5. Followed by 18.h4, stopping the Knight from escaping via h4. 18...Bf5 19.d6 is unclear. This is more or less a line that depicts my idea, but, considering the fact that White avoided fighting on every occasion, it would never appear on the board.

17...Nxe4 18.fxe4 Nh4 19.Qc4 Bb6 20.Bc3 Ng6 21.Bf3 Bh3

A very interesting idea. Black develops his Bishop to h3 only to prevent White from attacking on Kingside using the typical h4-h5.

22.Rhe1 Rc8 23.Qe2 Ba5!

The Bishop did his job, and now it's time to exchange it for a better-placed piece. Black will control the e5 outpost.

24.Bxa5 Qxa5 25.Kb1 Ne5 26.Rc1 Rxc2!

A strike out of nowhere!

27.Qxc2

Not 27.Rxc2 Nxf3 or 27.Kxc2?? Qxa2 28.Red1 Bd7! 29.Kd2 Qb3 with a devastating attack.

27...Nxf3 28.Re3 Bg4 29.h3 Bh5 30.Qc7 Nd2+?!

Converting this advantage won't be an easy task, as Fischer chooses the wrong plan. It seems that keeping Queens on the board and playing for activity would give him better chances. Better was 30...Qd2.

31.Ka1 Qxc7 32.Rxc7

The Rooks are well placed; Black's Queenside Pawns won't stand forever and those two connected Pawns may roll very fast. A good technical play is going to be required. 32...f6 equal or the unclear but interesting 32...b5! with the idea of supporting c4 for the Knight. 33.e5 Kf8. Black is a little better.

33.d6 Rd8 34.e5 fxe5 35.Rxe5 Bg6 36.d7

After this move Black will have to do his best not to allow White to Queen the Pawn or lose lots of material.

36...Kf7

This is the only move for Black, is it enough?



37.Rxb7?

When you see a good move, always look for a better one. White missed such a great opportunity and didn't take advantage of the fact that Black pieces aren't well coordinated. Here 37.Re8!! Rxd7 (the only move) (37...Rxe8 38.d8Q White wins) 38.Rxd7+ Kxe8 39.Rxd2 with great winning chances.

37...Nc4 38.Rc5 Nb6 39.Rxa7 Nxd7

Black managed to consume the most dangerous factor of White's position, and now he should create a passed Pawn faster than lightning.

40.b4 Ke6 41.Ra6+ Ke7 42.Rd5 Rf8

It's also good to adjust pieces' placement before executing the main idea. Rf1-b1 is very unpleasant now.

43.Rd1 Rf4 44.a3 Bf5 45.Ra7 Bxh3 46.b5 Bg4 47.Rd2 Rf1+ 48.Kb2 Bf5 49.a4 h5 50.Ka3 h4 51.Rb2 h3

It turns out that Black's Pawn is simply faster and it guarantees a win.

52.b6 Ra1+?!

52...Rf3+ 53.Kb4 Kd6 54.b7 Nb8 Such a blockade is exactly what Black wanted to achieve; a Rook is always better placed next to a Pawn than in front of it and, thanks to a g Pawn supporter, the outcome of this ending is rather clear.

53.Kb4 Rb1 54.Rxb1 Bxb1 55.b7 Kd6 56.Ra8 Kc7

The rest should be easy for such a strong player like Fischer who had a really good technique despite his young age.

57.Rh8 Bf5 58.Kc3 g5 59.Kd4 g4 60.Ke3 g3 61.Kf3 g2 62.Kf2 Kxb7 63.Rh5 Bg4 64.Rg5 Nf6 65.Kg1 Bc8 66.Rg7+ Kb8 67.a5 Nh5 68.Rg8 Kc7 69.Kh2 Nf4 70.a6 Bxa6 71.Rg7+ Kb6 0-1

Both players contributed to this very interesting game. They both had winning chances and eventually Foguelman was the one who made the last mistake. I feel that the game would have ended faster if only Fischer had refrained from exchanging the Queens.

**Fridrik
Olafsson**



35. Fischer - Olafsson [Iceland]

Mar del Plata 1960

Sicilian Defense

Fridrik Olafsson is Iceland's first Grandmaster (GM), receiving the title in 1958. He was president of the international chess federation (FIDE) from 1978-1982, and served in the Icelandic Parliament. He was one of the strongest non-Soviet players after World War II and he chalked up two victories over Bobby Fischer, two against Tigran Petrosian, and two against Mikhail Tal. He also was a deep personal friend of Bobby Fischer. A kind and gracious man, he took focus away from his own birthday celebration to arrange a meeting between Fischer and Spassky when Boris came to Iceland in 2005 to play Fridrik Olafsson for this 70th birthday celebration.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+



Sometimes my search for truth in chess starts before I really touch the pieces. This is one such strange journey—the only recorded game where Fischer is White and he unleashes the Rossolimo Attack. Games from the era (1957 to 1961) reveal that Black was doing very well against this line and I found no history of GM Olafsson facing or having problems with this attack. At the time of this game, GM Olafsson was a very strong player, finishing third in the 1953 World Junior Championship, and in 1955 he tied with Korchnoi at Hastings. What provoked Fischer to give this a shot? Overall, up to this point (and afterward), he had enjoyed an overwhelming success rate versus Olafsson.

3...Bd7

The Knight moves 3...Nd7 or Nc6 are also very playable; however, the vast majority of players prefer 3....Bd7. Ironically 3....Nd7 might be the hardest line for White to defeat. In general, Black has little to

fear from 3.Bb5+, as history has proven that it's not a very potent line of play.

4.Bxd7+ Qxd7

Capturing with the Queen is best; no White-square Bishop to be concerned with and the Knight is better placed on c6. Yes, in the previous comment I said that Nb7 was a good move; however, that's when Black retains its White-squared Bishop.

5.0-0 Nc6 6.Qe2 g6 7.c3 Bg7

As much as Black tries to pile on pressure to d4, he can't stop White from playing d4. Black needs to focus on completing his development in a logical manner.

8.Rd1 e5

Black is overly optimistic in playing 8...e5; he might have dreams of holding the center Pawn but White can make up for this with quick development.

9.Na3

A Knight on the rim is dim, but this Knight has no intention of staying there. Often in these lines the Knight drops back to c2 to support the d4 push. White may also make use of d5 and c4, should the need arise.

9...Nge7 10.d4

White forces the issue, notice that Black must exchange down as Black's d Pawn is pinned to the Queen.

10...cxd4 11.cxd4 exd4

Black would have been better off to capture with the Knight and be unashamed of his greedy center Pawns. 11...Nxd4 12.Nxd4 exd4 13.Nb5 Nc6 14.Bf4 Be5 15.Bh6 a6 16.Na3 0-0-0, Black is slightly better here.

12.Nb5 0-0

Before Black rushes off to safety, he should kick the Knight and exchange off the active beast. 12...a6 13.Nbxd4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 0-0 15.b3 Rfe8 16.Bb2, searching for equality while keeping the weak d Pawn close to home.

13.Nfxd4 d5

The idea of shoving the d Pawn troubles me, I don't believe it will ever get legs. Black should be concerned with keeping the position together and not trying to find a win here.

14.Nb3 a6 15.Nc3 d4 16.Na4

I have to believe that Black is wishing he had exchanged off a pair of Knights.

16...Rae8 17.Bf4 Nd5 18.Bg3 Qe7

Black's position is more solid and active than I would have imagined.

19.Nac5 Kh8 20.Re1 Nb6 21.Rac1 f5

Black plays for the win by shoving his f Pawn with serious intentions. Opening the game up with f5 is a bold idea that will allow Black to have winning chances, but will create many weak squares for White to work his magic.

22.Qd2 Qf7 23.exf5 gxf5

Black can't recapture with the Queen or else the Pawn at b7 drops, 23...Qxf5 24.Rxe8 Rxe8 25.Nxb7.

24.Nd3 Nd5 25.Bd6 Rg8 26.Na5 Nxa5 27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Qxa5 h6 29.g3 Kh7

White simplifies down a tad to a position he can control, and both sides quickly decide it's time to make luft for their Kings.

30.Nf4 Nxf4 31.Bxf4 Qe6

Black has done a nice job of holding his own despite his weak Pawn structure.

32.Bd2 Rc8

This move is not the most precise, as it allows White to take the e file, which has more value than the c file.

33.Re1 Qf7?

Now, this move is bad . . .



34.Re7!

The Rook has immunity 34...Qxe7 35.Qxf5+ Kh8 36.Qxc8+ Kh7 37.Qf5+ Kg8 38.Qg6 and Black is crushed.

34...Qg6

After such a punishing move, Black folds and misses 34...b6 35.Qb4 Qf6 36.Bf4 Rc5 37.Ra7, which offers more hope than giving up the 7th and a Pawn.

35.Rxb7 f4 36.Qd5

Also possible here is the idea of 36. Qe5 and taking the f Pawn with the Queen.

36...Re8 37.Bxf4 Re1+ 38.Kg2 Qd3 39.Kh3!

White could also win with the exchange sacrifice, 39.Rxg7+ Kxg7 40.Be5+ Rxe5 41.Qxe5+ Kf7 42.h4. Yet that idea would violate a common theme in many Fischer games wherein he goes on to win without taking any unnecessary chances. Always in control, always dominating his won endings.

39...Qg6 40.Rd7 h5 41.Kg2 h4 42.Rd6 1-0

Just another day in the office for Bobby.

36. Bazan [Argentina]- Fischer

Mar del Plata 1960

Queen's Gambit Declined

Osvaldo Manuel Bazan was a strong master who, according to chessmetrics, achieved an ELO performance rating of 2580 for his fifth-place finish at Mar del Plata Tournament behind Fischer, Spassky, Bronstein and Olafsson. He was ten-time city champion of Cordoba, Argentina, and would have gone on to become titled at least as an International Master (IM), had he not lacked opportunities to travel and pursue his dream. He was a strong player who coached chess and developed many fine players in his home city.

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 Bb4

The game transposed to the Ragozin Variation of QGD, one of Fischer's favorite lines.

5.cxd5

5.Bg5 is the main move, after which Black has several choices in terms of possible continuations, including 5..dxc4, 5..Nbd7, 5..h6.

5...exd5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 c5

A typical Ragozin idea; Black is going to play actively, developing most pieces with tempo at the cost of an isolated d Pawn. Black is already ready to pose White several positional problems, such as

playing g5 in order to release the tension along the h4-d8 diagonal, after which Ne4 and Qa5 will be extremely hard to deal with.



8.e3

If 8.dxc5 Nbd7 9.Qa4 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 0-0 11.Qb4 a5 12.Qd4 Re8 the game is equal.

8...Nc6 9.Be2 g5 10.Bg3 Ne4!

Despite the fact that Black didn't make any "great" move, I provided an exclamation mark because the move makes White's position very troublesome. Actually, White is losing a Pawn by force. The question is whether he will be able to create any compensation.

11.Rc1 Qa5 12.0-0

12...Bxc3 13.bxc3 Nxc3 14.Qe1 Nxe2+ 15.Qxe2 c4 16.e4!

16...Be6



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B) 17...Nxe5 18.Nxe5 dxe4 19.Qxe4 Qd5 20.Qxd5 Bxd5 21.Nxc4 0-0-0! with a slight edge

17...Qxc7 18.exd5 g4!

Unfortunately for White, due to this in-between move, his trick doesn't work. Black is already a lot better.

19.Nd2 Nxd4 20.Qe4 Qf4

The point of the whole line. Black defended against all of the immediate threats and White is unable to regain all of the sacrificed material.

21.Rxc4 Qxe4 22.Nxe4 Ne2+ 23.Kh1 Bd7?

That's a big miscalculation. Black was obliged to play a few accurate moves, which would secure him a decisive ending advantage. White is still in the game. Better is 23...f5 24.dxe6 fxe4 25.Re1 b5 and the Rook has to make a move that allows Black's Knight to escape.

24.Re1 Kf8?

Black could have improved with 24...b5 25.Rc2 Nd4 26.Nc5+ Be6 (26...Kd8?? 27.Nb7#) 27.Rcc1 0-0 28.dxe6 Nxe6 29.Nxe6 fxe6 30.Rxe6 Rxf2 31.Rxh6 Rxa2, where Black is slightly better.

25.Nf6??

Instead 25.Nd6 would equalize as the Knight is trapped.

25...Bb5

The rest is easy.

**26.Rb4 Ba6 27.Nd7+ Ke7 28.Nc5 Rhe8 29.Nxa6 Kd6!
30.Rxb7 Ng3+ 31.hxg3 Rxe1+ 32.Kh2 Rc8 33.Rxf7 Rcc1 0-1**

White resigned in view of the inevitable mate on h1. This game could have been another example of a better player outplaying his lower-rated opponent by making him solve practical positional problems. This was the case, until Fischer gave his opponent some additional tactical possibilities. Unfortunately, Bazan didn't calculate precisely enough to equalize and he instead made the last mistake in the game.

37. Fischer - Wade [New Zealand]

Buenos Aires 1960

Ruy Lopez

Robert Graham Wade was born in New Zealand in 1921 and he influenced chess at many levels throughout his life. He earned the title of International Master (IM), International Arbiter, and “Most Excellent Order of the British Empire” (OBE) for his many contributions to further the game. He was British Champion and the Champion of New Zealand, as well as having many other accomplishments on the board.

His contributions as a chess writer are what make him so dear to me. Along with Kevin O’Connell, he was the editor of the famous book, *Bobby Fischer’s Chess Games*. Yes, the same book mentioned in the introduction of the book that you are currently reading. The same book that provided inspiration and over 660 games to explore that, without which, I would not be the player I am today.

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5
7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d6 9.h3**



9...Qd7

After 9.h3 White has removed Bg4 from Black's arsenal; however, the more popular and flexible Na5, Bb7 or Nb8 is recommended here. After 9...Qd7 we can place a bet that the Bishop will come to b7 at some point in the game.

10.d4 Re8 11.Nbd2 Bf8

Black starts off playing this game with a style of keeping all his pieces close to himself, as if to say, "If I keep them all close to home, you can't take them from me." Of course, we all should know that to win a game you must venture off beyond the third rank.

12.d5 Ne7 13.Nf1 g6

Black's Knights are not in harmony with his Kingside Pawn structure. Channeling my feng shui skills from a distant past life, I would play 13...h6 here. Creating luft without moving the Pawns in front of the

King is always the best plan; unfortunately, it's neither legal nor possible. Therefore, our fingers should be full of regret when forced to move a Pawn that is protecting the King. The luft, or air, that's created to give the King an escape hatch can also be an entry point for an evil predator.

14.c4 Bg7

The little Pawn gains super natural powers as it pries open Black's position.

15.c5! Nh5

The little Pawn continues to gain steam and is immune to capture 15...dxc5 16.Nxe5 Qd8 17.d6 c4 18.dxe7 Qxe7 19.Nxc4 bxc4 20.Bxc4 Be6 21.Bxe6 Qxe6 22.f3, White stands better.

16.a4 dxc5 17.axb5 Bb7

Of course, the Pawn can't recapture due to the hanging Rook at a1, and if Queen takes at b5, Ba4 skewers the Queen and Rook at e8.

18.bxa6 Bxa6

A few short moves later we see the damage caused by c4—"the little Pawn that could."

19.Be3 c4 20.Ba4 Bb5 21.Bxb5 Qxb5 22.Qc2 f5 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.g4

The alternative is the simple 24.Bg5, which would result in a position with even chances, 24.Bg5 fxe4 25.Qxe4 Nxd5 26.N1d2 Nb6 27.Be3 Qd5 28.Bxb6 Qxe4 29.Rxe4 cxb6 30.Rxc4. The move 24.g4 demonstrates Fischer's ability to navigate complex positions and

perform deep assessments many moves in advance before being old enough to vote.

24... fxe4 25.Qxe4 Nf6 26.Qxe5 Qxd5

Did Black miss his last chance to stay in the game? 26...Nexd5 27.Qe6+ Kh8 28.Ne5 Qe8 29.Qxe8+ Rxe8 30.Nxc4, White stands better.

27.Qxe7 Qxf3 28.Qe6+ Kh8 29.Bd4 Rf8

White is close to finding the tipping point as he piles on the pressure. Black's Queen can easily be displaced from active squares on the Kingside.

**30.Re3 Qb7 31.Qxc4 Nd5 32.Rb3 Nb6 33.Bxg7+ Kxg7
34.Qd4+ Kg8**

Black's King is starting to feel the effects of too much air conditioning. Refer back to my comment on move 13...g6 regarding luft.

35.Ne3 Rf7 36.g5

White clears the way for the Knight to move to g4, which will be devastating for Black.

35...h5

Black understands the danger and shoves the h Pawn in order to deny the Knight g4; but the move h5 does weaken g6. However, Black has bigger problems.

37.Rd3 Qf3?

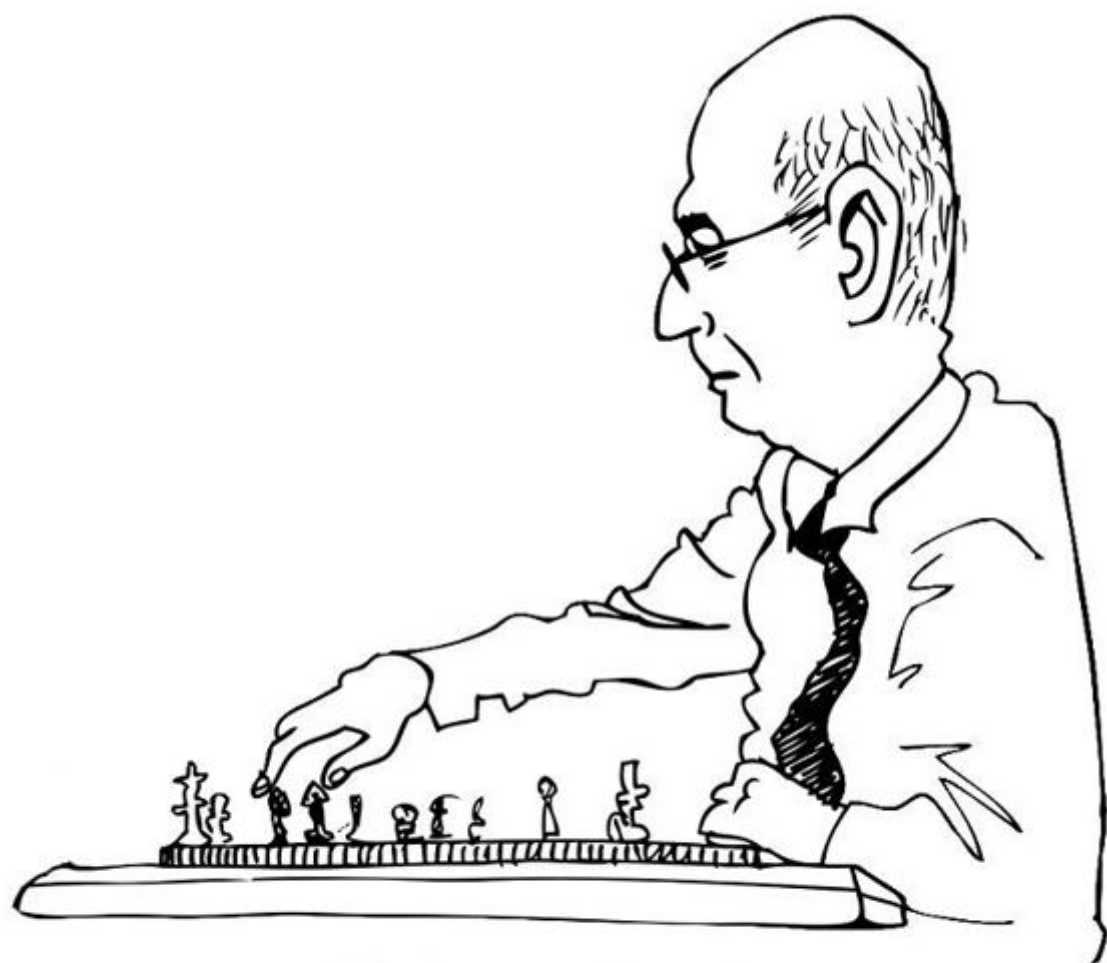
Mental fatigue sets in and Black becomes weary of defending and finding the difficult paths required in order to stay alive.



38.Ng4 hxg4

Retreating the Queen to safety is impossible as the simple Nh6+ brings resignation.

**39.Rxf3 gxf3 40.Qe4 Kg7 41.Qe5+ Kg8 42.h4 Kh7 43.b4 Nc4
44.Qe6 Nd6 45.b5 1-0**



Wolfgang Unzicker

38. Fischer - Unzicker [Germany]

Leipzig ol (Men) qual-D Leipzig , 1960

Ruy Lopez

Wolfgang Unzicker was a very strong Grandmaster (GM) who won the German Championship six times from 1948 to 1963 and tied for first in 1965. He also participated in twelve Chess Olympiads. He never took up chess full time and instead went into law; yet, for a “hobbyist GM,” he defeated many a strong player. He faced Boris Spassky fifteen times in his career and had fourteen draws with the one decisive game going to Spassky.

The name Wolfgang Unzicker will bring me back to the Penta Hotel in the 1980s. I caught Israel Zilber writing this on the wall: “I’ll get you Wolfgang Unzicker.” What did it mean? There is no record that they ever faced each other in battle—strange story, you can read it [here](#).

**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 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4**

This move is known as the first branching point of the Ruy Lopez Czigorin Variation. Thousands of games have been played from this sophisticated strategic position.



11...cxd4

Here are some of the main options for Black:

11...Qc7 12.Nbd2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb7 14.d5 Rac8 15.Bd3 Nd7 16.Nf1 f5 17.Ng3 f4 18.Nf5 Bd8;

11...Nd7 12.Nbd2 exd4 13.cxd4 Nc6 14.d5 Nce5 15.a4 Bb7 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.f4 Ng6 18.Nf3 Nh4;

11...Bb7 12.d5 Nc4 13.b3 Nb6 14.a4 Bc8 15.Nbd2 bxa4 16.bxa4 a5 17.Bd3 Bd7 18.Bb5 Qc7

12.cxd4 Bb7 13.Nbd2 Nc6

For the first time Black had to do something about his e Pawn because taking on d4 is rather inferior in this position, due to White's additional possibility of entering the crucial f5 square with the Knight. Black's choice is not the best continuation because c6 is not the

perfect square for the Knight at the moment. Better was 13...Qc7 14.d5 Rac8 15.Bd3 Nd7 16.Nf1 ♠f5 with counterplay.

14.d5 Nb4 15.Bb1 a5 16.Nf1

Fischer decides to execute the thematic Ruy Lopez maneuver. The Knight is heading for f5 via g3 or e3. Driving Black's Knight away from b4 is pointless, as this piece will have to go to c5 anyway.

16...Na6 17.Ng3

An interesting idea is 17.g4!? Nc5 18.Ng3

17...Bc8 18.Bd3 Bd7 19.Be3

That's the most logical follow-up. White simply centralizes the Bishops and prevents Black from using his usual resources, such as Nc5, with the idea of a Queenside Pawn attack.

19...Qb8

The natural move 19...Nc5 is just bad 20.Bxc5 dxc5 21.Nxe5.

20.Rc1 Bd8!?

Black has a very strong concept in mind. He wants to trade his poorly placed dark-squared Bishop for the White active one. Therefore, controlling the c5 square for Black's Knight would be a lot easier. Also possible was the idea 20...Rc8!?

21.Qe2 Qb7 22.Nh2!?

White prepares another Knight transfer, which is the correct idea according to the rule of the worst piece. Thanks to the last move, White can also create other plans on the Kingside. He can play Qf3, supporting Nf5 and f4 with the idea of creating a central weakness in Black's position, or he can restrict Black's pieces by means of f4-f5.

22...Nb4 23.Bb1

It's necessary to keep both Bishops, especially as it becomes visible that Black can't find a good square for his Knight.

23...Bb6

The problem in Black's position is that he can't make a single good move, as White is perfectly prepared to meet his opponents' active attempts. 23...h6, preparing the dark-squared Bishop trade commits the Kingside structure and creates a hook on h6 which may be easily attacked by pieces or even g4-g5 Pawn march.

24.Bg5 Bd8 25.Qf3 Ne8 26.Be3!

Fischer is consequently avoiding this swap. His space advantage allows him to keep more pieces on the board, whereas Black can't afford such a luxury.

26...Bb6 27.Bd2! Nf6

White's retreat of the Bishop to d2 reminds one of planting a Fall flower bulb and awaiting Spring to see the results of the labor. Black must not allow Spring to come, and should play aggressively, rejecting slow ideas such as 27...Nf6 for 27...Bd4!? 28.a3 Na6 29.b4 axb4 30.axb4 Nf6, and Black is slightly better.

28.Ng4

It's move 28, and White offers the first piece exchange! Undoubtedly it's logical, because he can't really improve his position and he's ready to play on the Kingside, having more pieces to attack with.

28...Nxc4 29.hxc4 Rac8 30.Nf5 Bxf5 31.Qxf5?

In my opinion, it's Fischer's first bad decision. His position is still more convenient, but, after taking with the g Pawn, Unzicker would find himself in an almost unbearable situation. Better was 31.gxf5 Rxc1 32.Rxc1 Rc8 33.Rc3. After parrying all of the threats, White is ready to start an attack on Kingside.

31...Bd4

Black still has some annoying moves at his disposal.

32.a3 Na6

Better for Black is 32...Rxc1 33.Rxc1 Bxb2 34.Re1 Na6 35.Re3 with an attack.

33.b4

Black's Knight is out of play; considering the fact that White is dominating the whole board, he has a technically winning position.

33...axb4 34.axb4 Bb2 35.Rxc8 Rxc8 36.Qf3 Qb6 37.Rd1 Bd4 38.g3 Rc4 39.Bd3

The Bishops cover all of the crucial squares and, as a result, Black can't improve his pieces.

39...Rc7 40.Kg2 Bc3 41.Be3 Qb8 42.Rh1 Qc8

Getting greedy here with 42...Nxb4? 43.Qf5 g6 44.Qf6 Nxd3 45.Bh6 Nf4+ 46.Kh2 gives White a win.

43.Bxb5 Nxb4 44.Qd1 Bd4 45.Bxd4 exd4 46.g5 Qb8 47.Qh5 Qxb5 48.Qxh7+ Kf8 49.Qh8+ Ke7 50.Qxg7 Nxd5

Black's move 50... Nxd5 was his only move and White must recapture, correct?



51.Qxd4 Nc3 52.Qf6+ Kd7 53.g6! Nxe4 54.Qxf7+ Kc8 55.g7 1-0

55.Qe6+ was even easier, but perhaps the upcoming World Champion wanted to finish his opponent in a more elegant way.

39. Fischer - Olafsson [Iceland]

Reykjavik 1960

Sicilian Defense

Iceland celebrated its first “Chess Day” on January 26th 2012, the birthday of the country’s first GM and ex-FIDE president, Fridrik Olafsson. GM Olafsson, who turned seventy-seven that day, was honored for his many contributions to chess. Iceland now counts thirteen GMs, despite a population of only 300,000; the country's success would not be possible without Olafsson's efforts. For more about Olafsson, see game 35.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2



So often did Fischer play the Sozin that, if not for the Rossolimo Attack against Olafsson in game 35, a fanciful reader might believe that Fischer had slippery fingers and dropped the Bishop on the way to c4. Did he really want to play the Opocensky Variation of the Najdorf? We can only assume yes . . .

6...e5

To the novice, this idea of kicking the Knight and creating a backwards Pawn might seem strange. The Pawn at d6 is incredibly resilient; White only finds a way to win it if Black plays poorly. Often an exchange will take place resulting with a White Pawn on d5 square, which adds another layer of protection for the Pawn at d6.

7.Nb3 Be7 8.Bg5

White can also castle on this move; but the real question is, “Where is he going to put the Bishop? Will he play e3 or g5?” A common theme is for White to exchange the Bishop for the Knight on f6 so that he can lock down the d5 square by placing his own Knight there. This is also why Black often plays Be6; often in these early stages it's a battle for the d5 square. The battle can also take place by White playing g4 to try and drive the Knight off of f6.

8...Nbd7

You can divide the world into two groups of people: those who prefer The Rolling Stones and those who prefer The Beatles. The same may be true for this position: those who play 8...Nbd7 and those who play 8....Be6. I'll leave it up to the reader to figure out who is the Stones fan and who favors The Beatles.

9.a4

Yes, this move is just like it appears to be: it restricts Black from playing b5. Amateurs often miss these kinds of simple moves. Often, when they do play them, I wonder if it's from opening memorization or if they understand the principles. Whatever opening and defenses you choose to play, you should learn the principles and concepts, not just a bouquet of opening moves.

9...0-0 10.0-0 h6 11.Bh4 b6 12.Bc4 Bb7

White is not so much eying f7 as he is providing due diligence in regards to the d5 square. Many times you'll see the entire game in these lines around the battle for d5—similar to the Battle of Gettysburg on a much smaller scale and with a lot less blood. Also, note in this position that Black replied right back with his own Bishop and attacked d5.

13.Qe2 Qc7 14.Rfd1 Rfc8

Black applies a tremendous amount of pressure on the Bishop at c4. A weak player might foolishly move the Bishop on to d5 or retreat to d3. However, Fischer has a better idea.

15.Nd2

A fascinating move for a variety of reasons. First, it's a GM move. Of course it's a GM move! What do I mean by that? In the lexicon of moves, an amateur doesn't have this concept at his or her disposal—retreating, leaving a hole at d4, as well as having the awkward overprotection of e4. Yet in spite—no, even because—of these, it's a great move. The simple moves that great players make that take us by surprise, the moves that cause us to say “I'd would never have played that,”—these are the moves from which we can learn the most. Now, does this mean that White stands better? No, it just means that this is a path the average player wouldn't take, and that there is great value in expanding the ways in which you think about the game.

15...g5 16.Bg3 Nf8 17.f3 Ne6

White must decide which entry point to give Black, either d4 or f4. Exchanging on e6 would build a strong center for Black so White drops back to Bf2 and allows Black to own f4.

18.Bf2 Kg7 19.Kh1 Nf4 20.Qe3 d5

Black's center problems dissolve away with d5.

21.exd5 Bc5

Black strikes back hard and gains the initiative; in order to turn the tables, White will have to wait until Black errs.

22.Qe1 Bxf2 23.Qxf2 N6xd5 24.Nce4?

There are times when you can want to win too badly, leading to your overplaying of your hand. Here White should go for the even ending, 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Bxd5 Bxd5 26.c4 Be6 27.b3 Rd8 28.Ne4.

24...f5 25.Ng3 Rf8 26.Bb3 Rae8

Any reasonable assessment of this position and Black has to be feeling that he has good winning chances.

27.Ndf1 h5

The position can turn very quickly—Black should have played 27...Rd8 to support the Knight. Now White has “tricks.”

28.Nxh5+ Kg6 29.Nxf4+ Nxf4 30.Ng3 g4 31.Ne2 Nxg2

This looks very attractive, however, Black must be very careful not to overextend himself as he attacks White's King; his own King is starting to look very naked.

32.Kxg2 gxf3+ 33.Kf1 e4??

Long ago when Dragons ruled the earth, they used to say, “No one ever got fired for buying IBM.” In chess we should say, “No one ever got fired for taking a piece with check!”



34.Qh4 f4

Black has to fear the Knight jumping to f4 with check; Black shoves the f Pawn to stop the Knight, but it's going to be little consolation to the naked King.

35.Qg4+ Kh6 36.Rd7 fxe2+ 37.Ke1

The King uses the Pawn like a child's blanket to provide shelter from the advancing Pawns. Black has nothing left and now he must just sit back and watch White's technique.

37... Qc5

Taking the Rook would prolong the game, but not change the outcome. 37...Qxd7 38.Qxd7 Bc8 39.Qc6+ Kh7 40.Bf7 Rxf7 41.Qxe8 Rg7 42.Qxe4+

38.Qg7+ Kh5 39.Qh7+ Kg5 40.Rg7+ Kf6 41.Rg6+ Ke5 42.Qg7+ 1-0

[42. ... Kf5 43. Rg5 mate]

40.Fischer - Weinstein [USA]

USA Championship New York, 1960

French Defense

Raymond Weinstein was two years ahead of Bobby at Erasmus Hall High School. He was awarded the International Master title by finishing third at the U.S. Championship. In 1963, after graduating with a university degree in psychology, he traveled to Amsterdam, got into some trouble and was arrested, and was deported back to the United States. While living in a half-way house, he killed his 83-year-old roommate. Weinstein was unable to stand trial and was sent to a psychiatric hospital where he remains to this day. Most likely he suffers from schizophrenia, but this diagnosis has never been confirmed. Mental illness takes the life away from yet another chess player.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7

Black refrains from the most principal c5 move for the moment.

5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5

Now the game has transposed to the French main line.

Both sides have completed development, and now it's high time that they choose the plans for the upcoming moves. Black started the typical f6 break, so White has to be very precise and make correct choices. It seems that normal ways of attacking when the King has castled in opposite directions makes little sense here, as transferring pieces in this closed position won't be easy.

14.Rfe1 Be8

Retreating the Bishop is too passive here; instead 14...fxe5 15.dxe5 h5 16.Bf1 Be8 17.Ng5 Rh6 18.g3 d4 19.Bxc4 dxc3 20.Qf4 Nfd4 give Black counterplay.

15.g4!?

A very interesting attempt to seize an advantage. White decides to gain a few tempos in order to rearrange the pieces. His Rook is perfectly placed to influence Black's only weakness on e6, and a threat of Ng5 is permanent. The only drawback of this move is that White exposed his King.

15...Nfe7 16.Bf1 Bd7 17.Bh3 h6?

It's not a good idea just to watch Fischer bringing off his ideas. Some active play is needed, even if it's risky. Better was 17...h5 18.g5 fxe5 19.Nxe5 Rh6 20.Kh1 Rg6 21.Bd6 Rf8 22.Reb1 b6 23.Rb5 Qa6. After parrying the first threats, Black is ready to pose White some problems. The first one is that he has no way of improving his position without moving the well-placed pieces, such as Knight or Queen. Black's situation is not easy either, but he has one interesting idea at his disposal; as soon as he manages to place his Knight on f5 or exchange the light-squared Bishops, he should be fine.

18.Bd6 Rdf8 19.Rab1 Rf7 20.exf6 gxf6 21.Bg3!

A perfectly timed maneuver! White creates a new possibility of playing Qf4, with mate threats if Black removes his Knight from c6 or

the Queen from a5-d8 diagonal.

21...Ng6 22.Rb5 Qa6 23.Reb1

As it wasn't possible to take advantage of the e6 weakness, White tries to find another target.

23...b6 24.Qc1 Qxa4

To prevent White from playing Qa3-d6, which leads to a win.

25.R5b2?

That's a dubious choice. Everything was fine with White's Rook, and now Black is able to seize the initiative. The character of the game has changed. White sacrificed a Pawn to create new attacking opportunities, and if his opponent manages to defend and exchange a few pieces, he might have better winning chances.

25...Qa3! 26.Qe3 Kb7 27.Nh4 Nxh4 28.Bxh4 e5?

This is exactly what Fischer was hoping for. It's not only strategically unsound to open the position when your opponent has a Bishop pair, but, in this case, it's even tactically refuted.



29.dxe5 fxe5 30.Rxb6+!! Ka8

Taking the Rook and mate follows 30...axb6 31.Qxb6+ Kc8 32.Qb7, mate.

31.R6b5 Be6 32.Bg3 e4 33.Qxh6 1-0

That's a very nice way to finish this battle. Black is powerless to defend against the fork.

41. Bilek [Hungary]- Fischer

Stockholm Interzonal 1962

Sicilian Defense

1962 was a good year for Istvan Bilek. He was awarded the GM title. The story of this game is more about the big picture and not just the moves on the board. We have Bobby playing a Sicilian Defense: Najdorf Variation Poisoned Pawn accepted for the second time in his tournament career. So let's take a quick look at this game and I'll tell you the big secret at the end. Just enjoy how Bobby defends and how he presses so hard to mix things up and go for a full point as Black.

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4
Qb6**



I don't really like the poisoned Pawn—not in the Najdorf, not in the Winawer, not playing with a mouse—I just don't like poisoned Pawns (nor do I like Green Eggs and Ham). Yet so many players do. For my taste, I don't like lines that hang on the theoretical discoveries of computers. However, back in 1962 the theory was similar to trying to find water with a divining rod—the poisoned Pawn seemed more like witchcraft in that era than science. So, with that historical perspective you would think Fischer and Bilek are just playing a regular game of chess, right?

8.Qd2

Previously, I mentioned you can divide the world by those who prefer The Beatles over The Stones. Well, you can do the same for Disco vs. Rock. During the late 1970s, “Punk arrives, Disco thrives, and Rock dives” was the message—and, in chess, maybe we can divide the world by how people play this position. After you filter out the noise, there are just two main ideas: 8. Qd2, where you stand up and shout, “Come and get it...!”, or 8. Nb3, as you ask, “How would you like your tea, Sir?”

8...Qxb2

At this point we can safely say that neither Fischer nor Bilek prefers tea.

9.Rb1 Qa3 10.e5 dxe5

White can proceed here with either 10. f5 or 10. e5; modern analysis leads us to believe that 10. f5 was the main line that should lead to a draw (Vallejo-Pons vs Kasparov, 2004), however, recent advancements have thrown 10. e5 back into the fray. Ironically, Bilek's choice of 10. e5 would have been considered second best, depending on when you analyzed the game. As of right now, he was a man ahead of his time.

11.fxe5 Nfd7 12.Bc4 Be7

You can start to get a sense that Black will have a difficult time getting his Queen back into play. The stress of playing this kind of line is why I do not like Green Eggs and Ham—enough already!

13.Bxe6

White tosses the house at Fischer; clearly, the unprepared would clasp their heads in their hands and tumble into deep thought.



13...0-0

Black calmly plays 0-0; capturing will allow White to trap Black's King in the center.

14.0-0 Bxg5 15.Qxg5 h6

This simple move kicks the Queen and gives the King the safety at h7. Bobby doesn't even take a moment to reject 15... Qxc3, which loses by force 16. Nf5.

16.Qh4 Qxc3 17.Rxf7 Rxf7 18.Qd8+ Nf8 19.Bxf7+ Kxf7 20.Rf1+ Kg6

Now we see why h6 was so important; at some point White must be thinking, "I'm pushing Bobby Fischer around the board!" . . .

21.Rxf8 Bd7 22.Nf3 Qe3+ 23.Kh1 Qc1+ 24.Ng1 Qxc2

. . . Yes, I'm pushing him around the board, but why is he defending so easily, and why is he not using much time?

25.Rg8 Qf2 26.Rf8 Qxa2 27.Rf3 Kh7 0-1 (losses on time)

So, what happens here? What's the secret? GM Bilek has used 2 hours and 30 minutes and has not made time control—so the poor guy loses on time. And how much time did our hero use? Some say only 2 minutes, which may or may not be true; everyone, however, agrees that he used less than 10 minutes for the entire game. He worked out almost nothing over the board—he was able to play this game from his extensive knowledge and research.



Pal Benko

42. Fischer - Benko [USA]

Candidates Tournament Curacao, 1962

French Defense

Pal Benko was born in France and raised in Hungary. Immigrating to the U.S. in 1958, he has lived as a U.S. Citizen ever since. Benko is a true chess hero for his contributions on the board, and even more so for those off the board. Benko qualified for the 1970 Interzonal tournament, which is the first cycle on the road to the World Championship. Benko stepped aside and did not participate; instead, he gave his spot to Bobby Fischer. Had Benko held onto his right to play, Fischer would never have been the challenger to Boris Spassky in 1972. Benko's gracious act changed chess history forever, allowing Bobby Fischer to reach his goal of World Champion.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5



6.dxc5?

If this decision was made on purpose, then it's completely irrational. Black develops a Bishop with a tempo and solves some of the opening problems. 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 is considered to be the main line of this variation.

6...Bxc5 7.Qg4 0-0 8.Bd3 f5!

That's a very logical continuation. White has to decide whether he agrees to close his light-squared Bishop or keep it active and allow Black to develop the pieces on good squares. The conclusion is that White is so far behind in development that he can't afford to play dynamically.

9.Qh3

Exchanging Pawns offers White nothing 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Qh4 Nc6 11.Nf3 Nb4!, and here Black is slightly better.

9...Bxg1?!

Benko makes a very deep positional decision. His evaluation told him that the potential strength of White's Knight and the possibility of castling short is more important than his Bishop. I don't really like exchanging a perfectly placed Bishop for an undeveloped piece. What's more, after taking on g1 with a Rook, White may even be able to attack the Kingside using the g file. There must have been something better. Possibly 19...Qb6 10.Nf3 Be7. Black's lead in development and the pressure on b2 guarantees him an advantage.

10.Rxg1 Nc5 11.Bd2 Nc6 12.Nb5 Qb6 13.0-0-0=

White solved all of his problems, consolidated the position by making a few obvious moves, and got really good attacking prospects on the Kingside. 13...Bd7 14.Nd6 Na4 15.Bb5 the only move, (15.b3?? Qd4 16.c3 Nxc3 and Black wins).

15...Nd4!!

Black decides to proceed with a rather forced line, which should eventually secure him an advantage.

16.Be3 Ne2+ 17.Bxe2?

Better here was 17.Kb1 d4 18.Bxa4 Bxa4 19.Bf2 Nxg1 20.Bxg1 Qa6, leading to equal but unclear play.

17...Qxb2+ 18.Kd2 Qb4+ 19.Kc1 Nc3

The Knight comes with a tempo and it's clear that White King is not well defended.

20.Rde1 Nxa2+ 21.Kd1 Nc3+ 22.Kc1 d4! 23.Bf2 Rfc8

Sacrificing an exchange is not a big price to pay for bringing another piece into action. Black's dominating and the attack will end really badly for White.

24.Bd3 Na2+ 25.Kd1 Nc3+ 26.Kc1

Two checks to gain precious time. In the 60s, the time control was a completely different animal.

26...Rc5?

Black's advantage is still enormous, but the question mark is given for having not found a better idea. Here 26...Ba4 27.Nxc8 Rxc8 with the threat of taking on c2; with or without the inclusion of Qb1, Ne4 checks is winning for Black.

27.Qh4 Ra5

Still winning was 27...Ba4 28.Qh5 g6 29.Qh4 Na2+ 30.Kd1 Rxc2 31.Bxc2 d3 32.Bxa4 Qb2, and Black wins.



28.Kd2

Suddenly, it appears that White King has an exit route via f3. 28...h6? By making such a move, Benko loses all of the advantage. Perhaps it wasn't so easy to find a winning continuation, but, after

realizing what White's last defending tool is, it's rather obvious how to proceed with 28...Bc6! 29.g4 Bf3 winning.

29.g4 fxg4 30.Rxg4

The tables have turned. These are the types of games that take their psychological toll. I am still haunted to this day for a move I made in a ten-board simul game against Botvinnik. This must have been very hard for Benko to put behind him before the next game.

30...Kh8?? 31.Qxh6+ 1-0

Another tactical performance by Fischer, who stole the game from Black—who really deserved to score a full point but somehow didn't manage to finish off his more talented opponent.

43. Fischer - Purevzhav [Mongolia]

Varna ol prel 1962

Sicilian Defense

S. Purevzhav is a relatively unknown player in chess history. He was an untitled player from Mongolia and few of his games scores have been saved. I discovered that he played for the Mongolian Olympiad teams 1962-1964, 1968, 1974, and participated in a total of thirty-eight games with a 40.8% winning percentage. There is a modern player on the Mongolian team who has played since 2006 and has placed exactly thirty-eight games and has an identical winning percentage. That player is IM Gundavaa, who is a 2500 FIDE player. I think we can safely assume that Purevzhav was at least a strong National Master-strength player, possibly up to IM strength.

Since I'm making assumptions regarding Purevzhav, I will also assume he did not know Fischer's opinion of the Sicilian Dragon and that he would face a very fierce Yugoslav Attack.

Fischer had said of the Sicilian Dragon:

“White's attack almost plays itself . . . weak players even beat Grand Master with it. I once thumbed through several issues of *Shakhmatny Bulletin*, when the Yugoslav Attack was making its debut, and found the ration was something like nine wins out of ten in White's favor.”

He reached a critical point in his famous Dragon game with GM Larsen:

"I'd won dozens of skittles games in analogous positions and had it down to a science: pry open the King Rook file, sac,sac . . . mate!"

The phrase "sac,sac . . . mate" would hence be entered into the chess lexicon forever.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6



Mortals in this era who played the Dragon against Fischer deserved what they got!

6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4

This could be like any other game day, very common main line 9. Bc4; in recent times 9. 0-0-0 has been given a run, as well as 9. g4.

9...Nd7

The most popular move here by a huge margin is 9...Bd7, any other move falls into the noise level. The challenge with the text move and the plan of 9...Nd7 and 10...Nb6 and dropping the Queen Knight to a5 is that it's all just too slow.

10.0-0-0 Nb6 11.Bb3 Na5 12.Qd3 Bd7

Black is following acceptable theory of the day and isn't making any mistakes according to the "books"; the issue is that the ink in these books is yet to dry.

13.h4 Rc8 14.h5 Nbc4 15.hxg6 hxg6 16.Bh6 e6

Fischer's bravado regarding the Dragon being crushed or not; Black has a wiggle path 16...e5 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Nde2 b5 19.f4 Bg4 and it's still a game.

The problem with 16...e6 is that it doesn't give White any reason to pause—it's full-throttle forward. If Black simply plays e6 to allow his King an escape hatch via f6 and e7, that's not what I call living.

17.f4 e5 18.Nf5 Bxf5

Yes, let us move our e Pawn twice!? And of course Fischer avoids 18.fxe5 Bxh6+ 19.Rxh6 Qg5+, dropping the Rook.

19.exf5 Nxb2 20.Kxb2 e4

A classic example of having the incorrect assessment. You must have an objective view in order to be a solid player. Not the case here, as Black played e4, putting tremendous pressure on c3 and threatening White's Queen, and, in the process, unleashing a devastating attack. Unfortunately for Black, he was the one being attacked!



21.Bxg7 Kxg7

Capturing the Queen is met with f6 and mate follows.

22.Nxe4 1-0.

Now the mirage disappears and Black is left with a position that is indefensible; f6 is crushing and Black would need to part with his Queen in order to avoid a very quick mate.

44. Fischer - Ciocaltea [Romania]

Varna ol (Men) qual-B Varna, 1962

Ruy Lopez

Victor Ciocaltea was a Romanian chess master who was awarded the International Master (IM) title in 1957 and the International Grandmaster (GM) title in 1978. As White, he played e4 almost 100% of the time; as Black, however, he was fairly versatile. When facing d4, he might play a Modern Benoni, Dutch, or King's Indian; he was not afraid to mix things up. Against e4 he was just as flexible, mixing up double King Pawn, Modern, Sicilian, or even an Alekhine's Defense. His greatest victory was over Fischer in the same Olympiad event as featured in our game.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 Bd7

This line gained in popularity in the 1960s mainly because of the Soviet contribution to it. Black makes normal, sound, developing moves and heads for a long strategic battle.

6.d4 Nge7

6...g6 is considered to be better because, in many cases, the e7 square is a place for the other Knight. 7.O-O Bg7 8.d5 Nce7 9.Bxd7+ Qxd7 10.c4 h6 11.Nc3 f5, with a great many instructive games, and V. Malaniuk being one of the specialists of this line.

7.Bb3!?

For many players (not only amateurs) such a move would be a waste of time, but Fischer demonstrates very good technique. It's

one of the maneuvers that a player should learn by heart. White Bishop is pointing at f7, which is vulnerable for the moment. Considering the fact that Black has to parry the threat of Ng5 by playing h6, White has gained some time to slightly improve his piece, which was doing literally nothing on a4.



7...h6 8.Qe2 Ng6 9.Qc4?

This maneuver, in turn, is typical for the so-called Jaenisch variation of Ruy Lopez, particularly the d3 line. This time it's not the most fortunate decision made by Fischer. Black is forced to play Qf6 (better than Qe7), but he's more than happy to do that. 9.0-0 was better for White

9...Qf6 10.d5 b5 11.Qe2 Na5 12.Bd1?

Another deep move, but for me it's even too deep. It's true that the Bishop has additional perspectives on d1-h5 diagonal, but it also disturbs a potential connection between the Rooks. In my opinion, it was better to play in a usual way, like 12.Bc2 Be7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Be3 Nc4 15.Nbd2 Nxe3 16.fxe3 equal.

Was Bobby sending a reverse subliminal message that Bishop's don't belong on the back rank? If so, it worked. We'll see on Black's 14th move why Bd8 was better than Rfc8 as played in the game.

12...Be7 13.g3

Ok, I understand that the threat of Nf4 is always unpleasant in Ruy Lopez—but isn't the opening the right time to develop the pieces? On 13.Na3!? 0-0 White can play the simple 14.0-0 or mix it up with 14.b4!? Nb7 15.0-0 c5 16.dxc6 Bxc6 17.Bb3.

13...0-0

Here 13...Bh3!? would be a great attempt to punish White for his speculative opening ideas.

14.h4

This is perhaps one of the first good moves that Fischer plays in this game. White restricts his opponents' activity, prepares to finish the development, and makes a little trap.

14...Rfc8

Had Black not fallen for Fischer's witchcraft, he would have played Bd8 here and both players would have maneuvered their Bishops to their home-Queen square—how strange!



15.Bg5

I can only imagine how Fischer felt after pulling off this trick. Black Queen is trapped and White may feel really relieved.

**15...hxg5 16.hxg5 Qxg5 17.Nxg5 Bxg5 18.Na3 c6 19.dxc6
Be6 20.Qh5 Bh6 21.Bg4**

"When you have a material advantage, exchange the pieces."

**21...Bxg4 22.Qxg4 Nxc6 23.Rd1 b4 24.Nc4 bxc3 25.bxc3 Nd4
26.Nb6 1-0**

In view of losing an exchange, Black decides to resign. It's never easy to analyze such a game because it's all about wondering what would have happened if Black hadn't blundered the Queen. Fischer's play wasn't really convincing, and he broke many opening rules. Nevertheless, he won and that's what counts in sports.

Reuben Fine



45. Fine [USA] - Fischer

Manhattan Blitz 1963

Nimzo-Indian

When I conceived of the idea to do this book, I decided within the original scope to include no games from simultaneous exhibitions and no speed games. Yet how could I not include at least one game between Fischer and Ruben Fine? One of the strongest players to have never been World Champion, Fine won the U.S. Open Chess Championship all seven times he entered (1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1939, 1940, 1941), a record that may never be broken. Fine was invited to play in the six-player 1948 tournament to determine the World Champion after Alexander Alekhine's death. Fine decided not to participate, as he feared that the three Soviet participants would throw games in order to see a Russian win. (No doubt!). So Fine finished his doctorate in psychology and walked away from chess—a sane man, I should add!

This game is truly witchcraft—the level of play for a 5-minute game is phenomenal.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4

Black is generally happy to chop the Knight on c3 and double White's Pawns. In return, he will try to play against the light squares d5, and, to a lesser degree, e4. So feared is the Nimzo-Indian, that many players with the White pieces use specific move orders to avoid the line entirely.



4.e3 d5

Fine tries to steer towards well-known waters with the Rubinstein System; Fischer in turn looks for gasoline and a match. 4....0-0, 4....c5 or 4....b6 are more common roads.

5.Nge2 dxc4

White must have hoped that Black would have castled here, transposing directly back into well-established theoretical lines.

Black's dxc4 continues to steer for the fringe and to mix things up.

6.a3

Once again White is offering Black a chance to transpose back to normal lines; “Just play Be7,” he’s thinking, “and I’ll save a lot of time on the clock.”

6...Bd6

And Fischer thinks, “No... no, come and get the point, let's fight,” so Ruben Fine agrees.

7.e4 e5 8.f4 exd4

Some analysts have faulted 8. f4, which is just plain silly. The problem is in the next move, and we'll call into play one of my wild theories.

9.Qxd4

If you've been reading the book in chronological order, you'll recall in Game 11, against Mednis, I refer to “Diminishing and Increasing Values.” Let's look at this position and ask ourselves, “Does the value of the Queen increase or decrease by capturing the Pawn?” I will put forward that it decreases, that early in the game Queens have similar properties to Rooks and are just as, if not more, effective further away from the action. However, let's take the view that each position must be judged on it's own merits. So here we have two choices: either capture the d Pawn with the Knight or with the Queen. From where she sits on her original square, the Queen surveys the light-squared diagonals rather nicely, and after the Knight captures, even more so. Now pick her up and assign her the task of removing the d Pawn from the board, and her beacon that's she's using while traveling the light squares is now reduced to a flicker of light on the dark-square diagonals. Additionally, she's

boxed in by Pawns and she will quickly become the kid in school who the bullies tease. Her overall value has decreased, and, sitting on d4, I give her a 6.5, which will get you cut out of Miss America before you reach the swimsuit phase. Yes, I'm saying 9. Nxd4 was the better move!

9...Nc6

The first insult arrives: she's told to get out of the center.

10.Qxc4 0-0 11.Be3 Be6

Insult Number Two: she's been asked to leave the 4th rank. Ironically, if she could magically teleport herself back to d1, I might assess her as having a score of 8; however, it would be at the cost of aiding Black's development. A tempo is a terrible thing to waste.



White threatens e5, forking the Bishop and Knight. So an average player or a strong player in a speed game would move one of those pieces, right?

12... Na5 13.e5 Bxe5 14.Qb5 Bxc3+ 15.Nxc3 c6

Like magic, Black has avoided the loss of material and improved his position in the process.

16.Qg5 Bc4 17.Rd1 Qe8 18.Kf2 Bxf1 19.Rhxf1 Nc4 20.Bc5

Black's 19....Nc4 was a very sharp move. White fights back by attacking the Rook and moving the Bishop out of harm's way. The position is still very complex—it's hard to believe this is blitz chess!

20...Ne4+ 21.Nxe4 Qxe4 22.Kg1

Of course this takes the Rook and Black mates on e3.

22...f6

Black kicks the Queen; however, had he done so with 22....h6, he would have taken away some tactical resources for White.

23.Qg4 Rf7 24.Rd4 Qe3+ 25.Kh1

Black doesn't realize it, but due to his inaccurate move of f6, he needs to play b6 here; 25...b6 26.Rxc4 bxc5 27.h3 Rb8 28.Rc3 Qd2, and Black has a very slight edge.

25...Qb3

You miss things in blitz and Qb3 is a mistake!

26.Qe6

Now it's White's turn to miss things; he blunders with 26. Qe6 and sees a phantom in the process. White was winning with 26.Qd1 due to the back rank issues, so forced is 26...Qxd1 27.Rfxd1 Rc7 28.Rxc4 b6 29.Bg1 Kf8.

26... Nd2 27.Qd6 27...Nxf1 28.Qd8+

The phantoms of speed chess! White thought Qd8 was winning.

28...Rf8 0-1

46. Fischer - Beach [USA]

Poughskeepie 1963

Modern Defense

Little is known about L. Winthrop Beach; there's a reference to finishing 4th in a local club tournament in 1960, but after that there's not much in print. Not one to let the trail go cold, I pursued some less obvious paths, and, sure enough, Mr. Beach disappeared from my field view and into the world of correspondence chess. He resurfaces again in 1967, playing in a U.S. Golden Knight Championship, and his last appearance was in 1982, playing in a United States Correspondence Chess Championships (USCCC) Preliminary Groups. What I found interesting, even amusing, if you will, is that one of his last games was against USCF OTB Life Master and strong correspondence Master Paul T. Fielding. What I found entertaining is that Mr. Beach was trying to steer the game towards a Modern Defense setup. His defeat in the following game was not enough to persuade him to retire "Modern" for a little something less modern.

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.f4 c6

The Robatsch wasn't the most popular opening choice, especially against Fischer. Players were familiar with Fischer's style and realized that his strength was connected with his tactical abilities and attacking skills. One must be very brave not to fight for the center when playing against such a talented attacking player.



5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be3 Nd7

Here 6...Qb6 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.0-0-0 Qa5 9.Be2 Na6 is also possible.

7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3

White has a space advantage, a Bishop pair, and he has no problems—his advantage is inevitable.

8...e6 9.0-0-0 Ne7 10.g4 Qa5 11.Kb1 Rb8

It's just too slow. White is already ready to make a central break and gain some open diagonals for his Bishops. I like this unusual idea of 11...f5!?, which I have spotted in a few similar games. Black's idea is to fix the center and prevent White from playing f4-f5 himself. The idea is risky but may pay off.

12.e5 dxe5 13.dxe5

Black is not opposing any of White's ideas. He wanted to open the d file and find a nice d6 post for the Knight, so he got it. Now it will be rather difficult to castle. Another question is whether it's safe.

13...Nd5 14.Ne4 Bf8 15.Bc1

Fischer retreats with the Bishop, as he wants to be sure that the Knight on d5 will be kicked off after c4.

15...b5 16.f5!

Fully justified! White is dominating the whole board, most of his pieces are ready to fight, and that's what's most important. Black's King got stuck in the center and he will stay there for a while.

16...b4 17.fxe6 fxe6 18.Bc4 Nxe5 19.Qg3 Bg7 20.Bxd5 cxd5

The mortal tournament player would be very tempted to play 21.Nd6+ Kd7 22.Bf4 Kxd6 23.Rhe1 Rhe8 24.Rxe5 Kd7 25.Rexd5+ exd5 26.Bxb8. Bobby is hardly mortal and his games are painted with a deep clarity of thought and purpose.



21.Bh6

Here comes the final blow. Black is pinned along h2-b8 diagonal, and his pieces aren't in a cooperative mood.

21...Qc7 22.Nd6+

A typical example of distraction.

22...Kd8 23.Bxg7 Qxd6

Or 23...Qxg7 24.Qxe5 and White wins, as geometry is once again at Fischer's service.

24.Qxe5 1-0

What can be said about such a game? Black was outplayed, most likely even before the game began, because the prospect of playing against Bobby Fischer must have been really paralyzing in those days.

47. Oster [USA] - Fischer

Poughskeepsie 1963

Gruenfeld Defense

While I knew just a little about L. Winthrop Beach, I know a tenth of that regarding "R. Oster" (it is very sad that our recent chess history has been so quickly lost). The game we are about to review was from round two; we can conclude that Oster was in the top half of the field and had won his game or pulled off an upset in the first round. So, either way he was undefeated when he sat down to face Bobby (OK, yes, it's joke). The only game reference I could find for R. Oster was against Dr. Erich Marchand, who was four-time New York State Champion. Oster had a solid game out of the opening, but was a bit optimistic and overwhelmed on the Kingside. I would estimate that Oster was a class "A" player to low "Expert."

With the White pieces, Bobby can be a patient classical player who drags his opponents into deep complex endgames and dismantles them. As Black, he's a beast who wants to gain every point possible and will push the weaker player at all cost.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3

Fischer, annotating this game in the October 1963 issue of *Chess Life*, wrote, "1 d4 Nf6 the move 2 Nf3 is 'a rather common mistake'." At the time, Fischer had a regular column in *Chess Life*, and on other occasions had also made some outrageous claims. My guess is that he was just deep in his own head and kibitzing out loud.

2...g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5



5.Qb3

White has successfully reached the Russian System (also called the Two Pawns), so if Fischer truly believes that 2.Nf3 is a mistake, he must also believe this system is weak. White normally would have played a move order whereby Nf3 arrives on move 4; otherwise, we have reached an identical book position.

5...dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 c6

This is a critical path for Black; the most popular modern choice is 7...a6, Hungarian Variation, 7...Na6, Prins Variation, which was popular in Fischer's era as well as now, or 7...Bg4 8.Be3 Nfd7, Smyslov Variation, which was the most popular line in the 1950s and 1960s (now it ranks third). So what does Fischer play? The Szabo (Boleslavsky) line with 7...c6; this was moderately popular in the 1950s without much of a following, and today it's still sort of a so-so

line. So, not to beat a dead Knight, but if Fischer thought 2. Nf3 to be weak, are we to believe that 7...c6 is the answer? There is always a mystery surrounding Fischer, even in his early games.

8.Qb3

The normal way this line is often played is 8.Be2 b5 9.Qb3 Be6 10.Qc2; so, if I could question Mr. Oster, I would ask, “did you play Qb3 because Black may play b5?” Yes, I know it's a silly question, but often you'll find that weak players say, “Well, I knew he was going to play here, and I didn't know what to do, so I played ‘this’ now.” The problem with that logic is you're reacting to a move that's yet to be played. If your opponent is crafty, he can punish you by not playing what you anticipated by finding a move that gains a tempo or some other means of taking advantage of your phantom imaginings. I'm not suggesting with great certainty that this was White's thought process; what I am suggesting is that we must judge the position each and every time as if we are seeing it for the first time.

8.... e5 9.Be3 Ng4

Bobby quickly looks to make complications for his opponent.

10.Rd1 Nxe3 11.fxe3 exd4 12.exd4

White now has three Pawn islands; Black has two, so advantage to Black. However, Mr. Fischer has no intention of allowing White to reach an endgame.

12...c5 13.d5

Black invites a passed-protected Pawn. Would you allow it? How often do you willingly let your opponent have a passed-protected Pawn? No worries, I'm with you on this—but Bobby doesn't play by

Chess Maxims, he's playing a game of Rock-Paper-Scissors where position trumps all—a wonderful lesson for all of us mortal chess players.



13...Bg4 14.Be2 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Bd4

Black extracts a positional price for White, gaining the passed Pawn.

16.Ne2 Qa5+ 17.Rd2 Bg7 18.Nc3 Nd7

Black has managed to improve his development while all White has accomplished is the dubious placement of the Rook on d2.

19.0-0 b5 20.Rdd1

Very dubious if it must return so quickly to d1!

20...b4 21.Qa4 Qd8

I find this Queen retreat very aesthetically pleasing; it makes the White pieces on the Queenside appear to be chasing a ghost.

**22.Nb5 Qb6 23.d6 c4+ 24.Kh1 Nc5 25.Qxb4 a6 26.Rd5 Nd3
27.Qxc4**

With a few quick moves Bobby has his pieces swarming back into action. White's assessment is overly optimistic, 26. Rd5 is wrong better was 26. Qxc4. As played, he's in a hot mess from overextending his "perceived" attack and weakening his back rank.

27...Nf2+ 28.Rxf2 Qxf2 29.Rd1 axb5 30.Qxb5 Qxb2

This would be a very classy time to resign; White has no hope, no tricks.

31.Qc6 Rxa2 32.d7 Ra1 33.Qc8 Rxd1+ 34.Bxd1 Qd2 0-1

48. Fischer - Leopoldi [USA]

Western Open Championship Bay City 1963

Sicilian Defense

Norbert Leopoldi was a native of Austria, came to the United States in 1938, and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war he made his name as an inventor, marketer, and founding father of Cloverline, Inc. Leopoldi is listed as inventor on nineteen patents, and he had a fair number more assigned to Cloverline, Inc; thus, he built a fortune and became a patron of the game, hosting The Cloverline, Inc. International Chess Tournament. There is also a story that he “donated” thousands of dollars to Bobby Fischer by playing him in an all-night blitz session at the Western Open. Mr. Leopoldi died in 1992 at the age of 80; it should be noted that with his busy life as a business tycoon he also managed to become a chess expert.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6

Black chooses the Accelerated Dragon against the almighty Bobby Fischer. Let's take a look at how it ends.

5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 Na5

A very similar Accelerated Dragon position is reached in Game 21 (Fischer – Reshevsky) where Black played 7...0-0 8.Bb3 Na5 9.e5 Ne8 10.Bxf7+ Kxf7 11.Ne6! dxe6 12.Qxd8. In this game, if Black castles now, we will have transposed to Game 21.

8.Bb3

Perhaps Fischer was hoping that his opponent didn't know the trap from the game against Reshevsky. 8.Bb5!? is known to be the main move here, with the idea of creating a b6 weakness after the normal 8..a6 8...a6 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Nc6.



8...Nxb3 9.axb3 d6

Black managed to exchange one of his Knight's for White's strong Bishop, which should be beneficial. White, in return, activated his Rook without making moves; and, what's even more important, his space advantage and central control (c4 square) even increased. Now 9...d5!? 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Ndb5 Nxe3 12.Qxd8+ Kxd8 13.fxe3 a6 14.0-0 with initiative.

10.f3

It's crucial not to allow Black's Knight to jump to g4.

10...Bd7 11.g4 a6 12.h4

Considering the fact that Black doesn't have a real possibility of counterplay in the center, White decides to attack on Kingside without castling first, which is totally justified

12...h6 13.Qd2 Rc8 14.h5

White is ready to create a weakness in Black's camp, and it's hard to find an improvement, as castling would only allow some activating moves such as Qa5 or b5.

14...e5

Avoiding the Pawn exchange is too dangerous 14...g5 15.0-0-0 Qa5 16.Kb1 b5 17.Nf5 Bxf5 18.gxf5, followed by Rdg1 and f4 or f4, e5.

15.Nde2 gxf5 16.gxf5 Be6

Black gets some oxygen, but his weaknesses are more than obvious.

17.0-0-0 Rc6 18.Kb1 b5 19.Nd5 a5 20.Rhg1 Nxf5 21.Nec3

White is simply improving his pieces and creating new threats at the same time. It's hardly possible that Black will hold this position.

21...b4 22.Nb5 Bf8



23.Na7!

A very unusual tactical resource. Suddenly, Black Rook is trapped by White's minor pieces and a Queen, which will enter Black's position with a deadly effect.

23...Ra6 24.Qd3 Bc8 25.Nxc8 Qxc8 26.Qxa6 Qxa6 27.Nc7+ Kd7 28.Nxa6 Kc6 29.Rd5 1-0

Knight's escape is supported by the Rook and White's advantage is more than decisive. Why does Fischer win so easily? First of all, his opponent didn't trouble him in the opening by playing quite an inferior line. This choice would be good if only he had tried to play the Sicilian d7-d5 break immediately. Then, Fischer plays sound moves, and, as it soon turns out, Black lacks normal replies in view of his passive position. After creating weaknesses on both wings, it's relatively easy to play, having such an overwhelming space advantage.

49. Fischer - Finegold [USA]

Western Open Championship Bay City 1963

French Defense

Ron is father to American GM Ben Finegold. I don't know what Ron's strength was in 1963, but when I met Ron and Ben at the 1982 U.S. Open in St. Paul, Minnesota, both Finegolds played at the master level. Ron has nothing to be ashamed of in this game; he fought hard and for a good fifteen moves or so Bobby had to jockey around, avoiding a Queen exchange that could have led to a draw ending.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3



I've noticed that on many online databases they classify this game as the French Defense: Winawer Variation, Winckelmann-Riemer Gambit. What a silly mistake; the Gambit name should only come into play if White tries to sacrifice a Pawn with 6. f3. That clearly doesn't happen in this game, nor in about 80% of the games I've found online that claim to be part of the Winckelmann-Riemer Gambit.

4...Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 dxe4 6.Qg4 Nf6 7.Qxg7

It would be understandable if a player unfamiliar with the French Defense thought this the Winawer, Poisoned Pawn. However, in the Winawer the center is locked after White plays e5. While the positions appear similar on the surface, the unlocked centers aid the pieces in performing a unique symphony of movement.

7...Rg8 8.Qh6 Rg6 9.Qe3

There are two main squares for the Queen to retreat to. One path is Qe3 with a greater scope of squares and limited risk in some lines of facing Nd5. The other path is Qd2, where play could continue 9.Qd2 b6 10.Ne2 Bb7 11.Nf4 Rg8 12.Bb2 Nbd7 13.c4 Qe7 14.0-0-0, and Black is OK.

9...b6 10.Bb2 Bb7 11.0-0-0 Nbd7 12.h3

The prophylactic h3 to prevent Ng4 and f5—not likely; Black should not waste time and should proceed with Qe7 and castling with or without White playing h3.

12...Qe7 13.Ne2 0-0-0 14.c4 e5

I give credit to Finegold; he's taking the game to Fischer, as opposed to a wait-it-out strategy of playing non-committal moves like 14...Rgg8. The bold e5 announces his intent to try and gain the upper hand while White is still deciding how to develop his King Bishop and King Rook.

15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Rxd8+ Kxd8 17.Nf4 Rg8 18.Be2 Kc8

White was able to quickly unwind and develop as the King was burdened with recapturing the Rook and tucking himself back to safety.

19.Rd1 Rd8 20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.Qg3 Ng6 22.h4 Nxf4 23.Qxf4 Ne8

The Pawn structure is slightly in White's favor. For practical purposes, if we call this an even position we are only on move 23, and, like it or not, the weaker player must expect to be tested, grilled and drilled to find a draw. Let's imagine it had been move 55—just because you emerge late in the game with a drawn position, doesn't

earn you the draw. The opponent always has the right and should play on to demonstrate his or her greater skill; it's always incumbent upon the weaker player to earn the half point. Often novice players become frustrated when faced with "proving it"; yet, to become a strong player you must learn to be comfortable waging war in equal and near-equal positional endgames.

24.h5 Bc8 25.h6 Qd6

Black simultaneous offers the exchange of Queen or the exchange of f Pawn for h Pawn; White replies with "none of the above."

26.Qg5+ Qe7 27.Qd5+ Qd6 28.Qg5+ Qe7 29.Qg3 Bf5 30.Qf4 Qe6 31.g4 Bg6 32.Qg5+ Qe7

This is exactly the kind of frustrating dogged pressure that one must be willing to bear in order to become a good player. Often players get fatigued and find a way to blunder; Finegold does a credible job and fights valiantly.

33.Qd5+ Qd6 34.Be5 Qxd5

White forces the exchange of Queen where it improves his position. Unfortunately for Black, his Knight is incredibly awkward and has no reasonable path back into the game.

35.cxd5 f6 36.Bg3 Ke7 37.Kd2 Nd6 38.Ke3 b5

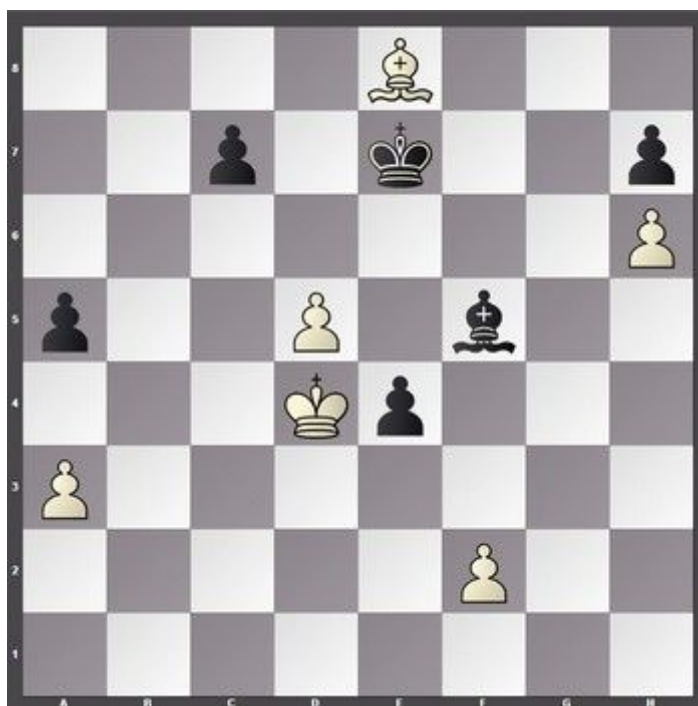
The only other plan to get the Knight into the game leads to a lost ending. 38...Nf7 39.Bxc7 Nxh6 40.a4 Kd7 41.d6 Nf7 42.Bb5+ Kc8 43.a5 h6 44.Kd4 e3 45.Kxe3 Bxc2 46.Bc4 Nd8 47.axb6 axb6 48.Bxb6 Kd7 49.Bxd8 Kxd8 50.Bb5 Bb3 51.Kf4 Be6 52.Ba4

39.Bxd6+ Kxd6 40.Kd4 a6 41.c4 bxc4 42.Bxc4 a5

Black has fought well, but he can't defend the weak White squares; it's just a matter of "where" and "when."

43.Ba2 f5 44.gxf5 Bxf5 45.Bb3 Bg6 46.Ba4 Bf5 47.Be8 Ke7

Black's attempt to exchange Pawns off doesn't eliminate his core problem.



48.Ke5 Bg4 49.Bg6

Ron might have seen it coming . . . but it still had to sting.

49...Bd7 50.Bxh7 c6 51.dxc6 Bxc6 52.Bxe4 Bxe4 53.Kxe4 Kf6 54.f4 1-0

50. Fischer - Weinstein [USA]

USA Championship New York 1963

Ruy Lopez

No stranger to Fischer, Raymond Weinstein was two years ahead of Bobby at Erasmus Hall High School. Upon seeing that Fischer had White once again (every time they faced off in a tournament, Fischer had White), I wonder if Raymond drifted back to his high school days and thought of the Robert Frost poem "Fire and Ice." (I can almost hear the rumbling Sicilian or Ruy Lopez, Caro-Kann or French?)

Some say the world will end in fire,

Some say in ice.

From what I've tasted of desire

I hold with those who favor fire.

But if it had to perish twice,

I think I know enough of hate

To say that for destruction ice

Is also great

And would suffice.

I'd have to disagree with Frost; if I had the chance to face Fischer, I'm playing the Sicilian every time—it's FIRE for me!

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7



6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6

If Black wants the option to play the Marshall attack, he must castle on 7...0-0, so after 8. c3 he can play 8...d5; instead, he decides to steer down the main line of the closed Ruy Lopez.

8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Na5

Black settles in for the Chigorin Variation; to Weinstein's credit, he's going to test Fischer in a very main line established path. If Fischer has a theoretical novelty (TN) saved up for the Russians, will he uncork it now?

10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 cxd4

If Fischer had a TN to showcase, the moment passed when Black deviated from the popular main lines. Here 11...Qc7 would have stayed on track.

12.cxd4 Bb7

Capturing Black has released the tension prematurely and will provide White a solid center. Here 12...Qc7 is the more common move.

13.d5 Bc8

Weinstein is not the only person to play 12...Bb7 followed up by 13...Bc8; however, from a pragmatic view, if these are the best two moves, one has to believe that there is something wrong in this opening line prior to move 12.

14.Nbd2 g6

How about 14...Qc7 now? I'm begging for this move; what's the plan with g6!? In what Marvel Universe will Black be able to relocate his Bishop to g6? If for luft, see the comment on Game 37 Fischer – Wade move 13.

15.b4 Nb7

Black has successfully fianchettoed the Knight. One of my favorite pastimes is to fianchetto a Knight . . . right along with my other

favorite pastime: standing in the backyard and tossing seashells at the moon. Ironically, I think tossing the shells has more value, and yet, chess is a hard game, as the crazy Knight move is not reason enough to lose. If Black works hard he may find his way back home.

16.a4! Bd7

White demands that the file be open; slower and less accurate was 16.Nb3 a5 17.Bh6 Re8 18.a3 Bd7 19.Bd3.

17.axb5 axb5 18.Rxa8 Qxa8 19.Re3

This Rook lift reminds me of the way children play, h4, Rh3. However, Re3 is no child's move—it grants White total domination of the a file.

19...Qc8 20.Ra3 Qc7

Intuitively, Black must see that with the Queen on c7 the Rook has a twelve-week voucher to play a7 with no restrictions. The idea of Qb8, instead of c7, followed by Rook c8 is more aesthetically pleasing.

21.Nb3 Nh5 22.Bd3 Rc8 23.Qf1 Nf6 24.Bg5 Rb8 25.Ra7

White decided to call in the voucher before it expired. The question to ask is, “In the proceeding moves, who improved his position the most?”

25...Qd8 26.Qa1 Qe8 27.Qa6 Qc8

The White Queen has traveled from f1 to a1 on to a6 with a clear movement of purpose, while the Black Queen has stumbled around as if intoxicated.



The only thing missing from Bobby's most brutal attacking moves is the musical accompaniment. This particular position reminds me of the composer Philip Glass. I can hear his work Dance Pieces "In the Upper Room: Dance IX" as Bobby busts the position open.

28.Nxe5 dxe5 29.Bxf6 Bxf6 30.Qxf6 Qc3

I can imagine Bobby examining this position several moves before ever playing 28. Nxe5, and knowing exactly the correct continuation. Strong players can lose games not because they didn't see the line, but because their assessment of the resulting position was flawed.

31.Nc5 Nxc5 32.bxc5 Be8 33.Bf1

What a powerful move! I would have held onto c Pawn 33.c6 Qxd3 34.Qxe5 Rc8 35.Re7 Bxc6 36.dxc6 Qc2 37.Re8+ Rxe8 38.Qxe8+ Kg7 39.Qe5+ f6 40.Qe7+ Kh6 41.Qxf6. Bobby rejects this idea and turns up the heat on f7.

33...Qxc5 34.Re7 b4 35.d6 Qb6

This move is an outright blunder. 35...Qc6 is much stronger, however, Black is still in a royal mess 35...Qc6 36.f4 exf4 37.e5 Rb7 38.d7 Qxd7 39.Rxd7 Rxd7 40.e6 fxe6 41.Qxe6+ Kf8.

36.Bc4 1-0

51. Tringov [Bulgaria] - Fischer

Capablanca Memorial Havana 1965

Sicilian Defense

Georgi Petrov Tringov was the second player in Bulgarian history to ever become a Grandmaster (GM); he was awarded the title in 1963. He was Bulgarian champion in 1963, 1981, and 1985, and played on many Olympiad teams. He inspired many of his countrymen to take up chess, and there is a great memorial tournament in his honor. As a player he leaned towards solid classical ideas; he was a good player to study as his plans were within the “grasp” of mortals and have clear steps that you can try to emulate.

Three years earlier (Game 41) Bobby faced GM Istvan Bilek and played the entire game in less than two minutes. If GM Tringov was aware of this, he should have steered towards another line, as his result is less impressive than Bilek's.

|

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.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 Nfd7



Same position as game 41 with GM Istvan Bilek, neither player had deviated.

12.Bc4 Bb4

Fischer deviates first in his game with Bilek; he plays 12...Be7, which allows White to play 13. Bxe6, and fun is had by all!

13.Rb3 Qa5 14.0-0

White's King safely tucked away, he can return his gaze to e6. I can't quantify the psychological power that these lines have over White, but often it resembles a snake charmer and a cobra. White can't help himself and is resigned to sacrificing a piece on e6, outcomes be damned.



White's pieces are all clustered up on the Queenside with the hopes that, under the right conditions, they can spring to life towards Black's King. While White's Rook at b3 protects the Knight, he secretly wants to swing to h3 and attack h7. However, Rooks don't always grow up and achieve their dreams.

14.... 0-0 15.Nxe6

15. Bf6 looks dangerous but can easily be handled by Black. [15.Bf6 Nxf6 16.exf6 Rd8 17.Qe3 Qc5 18.Rxb4 Qxd4]

15...fxe6 16.Bxe6+ Kh8 17.Rxf8+ Bxf8

Often these macho attacking lines look dangerous to the uninitiated. The reality is that the attacker runs out of wood to toss upon the fire and the flames go out.

18.Qf4 Nc6!

If Black was reduced to playing 18...Qc5+ to defend, White might get some mojo going. With the 18... Nc6 he defends and develops with 19.Bxd7 Bxd7, and the Bishop f8 is now defended by the Rook.

19.Qf7

This move has the appearance of being fatal; appearances can be deceiving.

19...Qc5+ 20.Kh1 Nf6 21.Bxc8

Taking the Knight is no better [21.exf6 Bxe6 22.Qxe6 Qxg5 23.Rb1 Qc5 24.Ne2 Rd8]; Black's position is solid.

Nxe5 22.Qe6 Neg4 0-1

52. Robatsch [Austria]- Fischer

Capablanca Memorial Havana 1965

Sicilian Defense

Karl Robatsch was an Austrian who represented the nation at eleven Chess Olympiads. He was awarded the International Master (IM) in 1957 and a Grandmaster (GM) in 1961, and he was also a noted botanist. Best known for the Robatsch Defense 1.e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7, it is often called the Modern or is lumped in with the Pirc, which includes an early Nf6. Karl plays a spirited game against Bobby, but is no match for Fischer Fever.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4

The Sozin Attack—what to make of this? Robatsch challenges Fischer with his own favorite line. An homage or psychological maneuver forcing Fischer to play against his own ideas.



6...e6 7.a3

This a3 idea is just bad; normal is Bb3. White could play 0-0 or Be3; however, the text move is a weak idea that doesn't belong in anyone's repertoire. The Pawn move does align with the attacking nature of the Sozin and feels as if White is giving up at a half tempo.

7...Be7 8.Ba2

White stays true to his plan; however, I object to the merits of the plan. Better was 0-0.

8...0-0 9.0-0 b5 10.f4

If these were normal lines, White would have played either Qf3 or f4 on move 9. The lines with a3 are just too slow to contribute any meaningful ideas to theory.

10...Bb7

Not to beat a dead Knight to death, but White often has either Nxe6 or Bxe6 before the King is castled; with the a3 stuff he loses that

option, allowing Black to play Bb7 with immunity.

11.f5 e5

Let's take an assessment of ideas here. White has played the prophylactic a3 in order to avoid b5 kicking the Bishop, followed by b4 driving the Knight off from defending the e Pawn. Since these Pawns can fall in normal lines, White moves very fast in the center to destabilize Black. It follows logically to pose the question: "If Black has prevented the reason for the quick center play, does he need to rush in with f5?" Possibly he should slow down the pace with 11.Re1 Re8 12.Qf3 Nbd7 13.Be3 Qc7 14.Bf2, reaching an equal position.

12.Nde2 Nbd7 13.Ng3 Rc8 14.Be3 Nb6 15.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 16.Kh1

White was compelled to capture the Knight at b6, or else Nc4 and all the hard work of securing the Bishop on a2 was for naught.



16... Qe3

An oddly bold move.

17.Nd5

Was Bobby trying to invoke the move Nd5? If White had played 17. Rf3 Qg5, it seems to be the only logical move.

17...Bxd5 18.Bxd5 Bd8

With the idea of Bb6 and owning the diagonal.

19.a4 Bb6 20.axb5 axb5

White's opening of the a file is a net loss of time and position. A tempo for Black and an a file that Black can exploit.

21.Ra6

The prophylactic c3 should come before the Rook leaves a1.

21...b4 22.Nh5 Nxd5 23.Qg4 g6 24.exd5 Rxc2

White's attack is overly optimistic and misguided; rushing the a Pawn and not contesting c2 leaves White with a "find mate or lose" position.

25.fxg6 hxg6 26.Nf6+ Kg7 27.Nh5+ Kh6

The King is a fighting piece; the Knight must move and do so without check.

28.Nf6 Rf2 29.Raa1 Ra8

The open a file and failure of Rb6 brings total humiliation to White, as he must return to a1 and now is mocked by the "hanging" Rook on a8.

30.Qxb4

An attempt at creating counterplay. Defending with 30. Rad1 Kg7 31. Nh5+ Kf8 offers White little hope.

30...Kg7 31.Qxd6 Qe2 32.Ne8+ Rxe8 33.Rfe1 Qb5 0-1

53. Fischer - Suttles [USA-Canada]

USA Championship New York 1965

Robatsch Defense

Duncan Suttles, a dual Canadian-American citizen, was at one time the strongest Grandmaster (GM) in Canada. He is a very rare breed of player in that he also holds the GM title for Correspondence Chess. His play is influenced by Nimzowitsch, and he often played hypermodern openings. In the 1960s and 70s he was the leading advocate for the Modern Defense, and what popularity it enjoys today can be at least somewhat attributed to his efforts.

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 c6 5.Qd2 Nd7



The Robatsch Defense, also called the Modern Defense, is closely related to the Pirc defense; the primary difference is that the Robatsch Black delays developing the Knight to f6. One can reasonably assume that Fischer didn't have a great deal of respect for the defense, as he once said about 1. e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 that White should consider 3. h4 with the idea of cracking open the Kingside. The astute reader has already noticed that Bobby didn't take his own advice in this game.

6.f4

White will often take a slower route with f3 or Nf3, however (given Fischer's lack of respect for the line), f4 seems like a fitting approach.

6...Ngf6

Either Ngf6 or 6....b5 is fine here, with ample opportunities for these to transpose to the same line.

7.Nf3 0-0 8.h3 b5

White's h3 is not really necessary; in very similar lines White allows Ng4 with no harmful consequences, so why sweat it here?

9.Bd3 Nb6 10.b3 a5

White plays b3 to keep the Knight from dropping into c4—not the prettiest move on the board. Playing b3 draws an invisible line from g7 to a1. Black is challenged to take advantage of the invisible line, yet he finds no means to do so. Ironically, what he is baited into doing is to play a5 to punish b3, which is the wrong strategic plan; better was a6 followed by Bb7.

11.0-0 b4 12.Ne2 d5 13.e5 Ne4 14.Qe1 f5

Black is now banking his game on the strong Knight in the center. Confusing strong versus effective, the squares that the Knight is controlling are not where the critical battle will take place; add to this the locked center, and Black may soon wonder why he unveiled this statue in the center of the board.

15.a3 bxa3 16.Rxa3 a4 17.Qa1 Ba6

Black is not so concerned with trading off the Bishop; his primary goal is to quickly connect his heavy pieces on the a file before he is overwhelmed.

18.Bxa6 Rxa6 19.Nc3 Qc7 20.Ne1 Rfa8

The mission for Black is almost accomplished, yet he must be concerned with White relocating the Knight to e1 and the path the storm will take.

21.Nd3 R6a7 22.Qb2 e6 23.Nc5 Bf8

Pinning the Knight to the Rook at a3 was a moral victory for Black.

24.Rfa1 Kf7

It would be hard to fault Black if he is happy with his position. Good Knight ruling the center of the board fighting against a bad Bishop. For White, extracting the Knight comes at the price of creating a protected-passed Pawn. I would not be surprised to find proponents of the Robatsch Defense who would believe this position to be just three degrees from nirvana.



25.N3xa4 Nxa4 26.bxa4 Bxc5 27.dxc5 Kg8

My Robatsch friends are thinking that Black has a very solid Pawn chain, and with a strong Knight he should easily be able to compensate for the a Pawn.

28.Rb3

Fischer handles the a Pawn as if was a receipt from a fast-food drive-thru, tossing it aside without concern.

28...Qa5 29.Kh2

Tucking the King away avoids future nuisance checks and it's sort of a waiting game; let's see if Black can make a move that's not bad!

29...h5

We didn't have to wait long—he just made a bad move; he would have been better off playing Kg7 and Kh6 and back again.

30.Rb8+ Rxb8 31.Qxb8+ Kh7 32.Rb1 Qxa4

White has made progress on the back rank, and now Black has gobbled up the fast-food receipt, empty calories indeed. Better was 32... Qc7.

33.Qf8

After this move it's game over.

33...Rg7 34.Rb8 g5 35.Qh8+ Kg6 36.Qe8+ Rf7 37.Rb7 1-0

54. Fischer - Benko [USA]

USA Championship New York 1965

Ruy Lopez

**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**

This is the same position as Game 37 Fischer – Wade; on his 9th move Wade played Qd7.

9...Nb8

If you're not familiar with opening theory, the idea of retreating the Knight to b8 must look odd. The idea is to reroute the Knight to d7 where it has many options. The line was named for the Hungarian player Gyula Breyer and was a favorite of Boris Spassky.



10.d4 Nbd7 11.Nh4

Here White plays Nbd2 more often than it rains in Seattle. So why does White embark on the obscure Nh4? One theory is that Fischer didn't care to take theoretical chances with the White pieces. He knew that on move 50 he could start with an even position and outplay the field. So with White he was happy to be the classical player taking few chances.

11...Nb6 12.Nd2 c5 13.dxc5 dxc5

White's position is looking insipid; one could reasonably wonder if he has squandered the advantage of moving first.

14.Nf5 Bxf5

If you're playing the chessboard, there is nothing wrong with Bxf5. However, Bobby Fischer is on the other side of that board and he excels at Pawn structures where they appear "weak" but provide attacking chances on the Kingside. I would avoid capture as long as

possible. 14...Qc7 15.Qf3 c4 16.Bc2 Rd8 17.Nxe7+ Qxe7, and Black is still OK.

15.exf5 Qc7 16.g4

There is no slowing down now; he's going to toss the Pawns at Black like he's triple jumping in checkers headed for the back rank. Don't be deceived, the Pawn at f2 is playing a huge role; there is no diagonal check possible, and if the e Pawn moves, Black will never have a trick with Qg3□this is why doubling White's Pawns was dangerous.

19...h6 17.h4 c4 18.Bc2 Nh7

Knights are great defenders, however, I'm suspicious of dropping this Knight back to h7. It feels wrong; yet I understand it can't be left on f6 to be kicked around. Possibly it should play a more active role in the game 18...Nfd5 19.Nf3 b4 20.Bd2 bxc3 21.bxc3, and Black is equal.

19.Nf3 f6

If you must play f6 in a position like this, you are losing. You don't need to calculate lines, just look at the board and soak it up. Black is going into fortress mode and there are too many pieces left in the game for a fortress to be successful.

20.Nd2 Rad8 21.Qf3 h5

Black punches back and threatens to saddle White with two sets of doubled Pawns.



22.gxh5

And White replies—double Pawns are a powerful dynamic asset. It's a huge and common misconception that double Pawns are weak. Pawns are often weak because they are isolated, not so much because they are doubled, and, yes, they can be a powerful dynamic asset. You should write that down so you don't take needless steps to avoid them in your games. Now the irony in all this is that isolated double Pawns are typically weak, yet Fischer saw beyond the structural maxims and assessed the position on its particular merits.

22...Nd5 23.Ne4 Nf4 24.Bxf4 exf4

This game has unusual but oddly pleasing Pawn structure. Seven Pawns on three files!

25.Kh1 Kh8

Both players are totally frustrated; as much as they study the position, they find no method to bring the Pawns on a, b and c over to f, g and h. So they just park their Kings in the corner and give it more thought. (please, it's a joke, stop thinking!)

26.Rg1 Rf7

The power of a semi-open file□ Bobby exerts pressure from g1 all the way to g7. To defend, Benko must move his Rook into a slot designed to hold a USB flash drive.

27.Rg6 Bd6

Now the Bishop moves and the Rook gains space for two USB flash drives.

28.Rag1 Bf8 29.h6 Qe5 30.Qg4 Rdd7

Amazing—with all this pressure, White still can't break down the door.

31.f3 Bc5 32.Nxc5 Qxc5 33.Rxg7 Rxg7 34.hxg7+ Kg8 35.Qg6 Rd8 36.Be4 Qc8 37.Qe8+ 1-0

Even without the gift of 36...Qc8, White can win by slowly improving his position and using his Pawns to create a post on d5 for the Bishop.

**Bernard
Zuckerman**



55. Fischer - Zuckerman [USA]

USA Championship New York 1966

Sicilian Defense

Bernard Zuckerman was one of Fischer's true friends. A strong player having achieved the title of International Master, he became famous not for his games but for his deep opening knowledge. Strong players of his era would claim that he knew more about openings than had ever been published, and so he acquired the nickname "Zuck the Book." Even Bobby Fischer had great respect for his opening studies.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6

Zuckerman may have been the only player in the world to play in order to invoke from Fischer this move order and resulting position. If you're reading this book in chronological order, you have already read the notes to Game 43 where Fischer has some unfriendly things to say about the Dragon. Zuckerman's audacious move order has encouraged White to transpose to an accelerated, hyper-accelerated, or main line Dragon. Astute readers will have noticed that Fischer failed to play 3. d4, and instead substituted 3. Nc3. One can safely assume that this little deviation was out of respect for Zuckerman's book knowledge.



4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 d6

Zuckerman blinks and decides to steer towards transposing into the main line Dragon. Staying on course with the Accelerated Dragon would require 7...0-0 the Uogele Variation or 7...Qa5.

8.f3 Bd7 9.Qd2 Rc8 10.Bb3

Black has typically castled here before, launching Bd7 and Rc8. The difference is that a well-known trap now fails, for example: 10.0-0-0 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Ng4, and now had the King been castled, White would be forced to place 12.Qd3, upon which 12...Nxe3 wins a piece (13. Qxe3 Rxc4, or just 13. Bxf7+). Yes, of course all of this falls apart in this position, because the Bishop at g7 is unsupported and White can simply play 12. Qxg7.

10...Ne5 11.0-0-0 Nc4 12.Bxc4 Rxc4

Zuckerman is trying to use the tempo he saved by not castling to fuel an attack.

13.Nb3 Qc7

While not endorsing this line, I give Zuckerman praise for illustrating both sides of a very important chess concept on castling. Don't castle because you can, don't castle because you must—do it at the right time because it improves your position. Beginners are told to castle early, which makes sense, as you don't send a child out for their first bike ride without training wheels. One day the child no longer needs the training wheels and one day the novice learns that he shouldn't castle without reason.

14.Bd4! Be6

In the previous note I stated both sides of an important chess concept. Unfortunately for Mr. Zuckerman, he waited too long, and Bd4 is the messenger that delivers the news that the moment to castle has passed. It truly has if 14...0-0 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Qc8 17.h4 h5 18.c3 Be6 19.Nxf6+ exf6 20.Nd4, Black can hardly be celebrating here.



15.e5 dxe5 16.Bxe5 Qc8

Of course not, 16...Qxe5 17.Qd8 Mate!

17.Na5 Rc7

Yes, Rc5 looks like a cute idea to hit both pieces and untangle this mess; however, the back rank is still very weak 17...Rc5 18.Nxb7! (the Knight is immune due to the mate threat) 18... 0-0 19.Nxc5 Qxc5.

18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.Nb5 Qb6

This game took place in 1966, which is fitting because a song by the band The Cyrkle reached #2 on the Billboard charts in the same year. That song was "Red Rubber Ball"; I have to wonder if Fischer was singing the song in his head as he bounced the Black Queen around the board.

20.Nd4 Bd7 21.Rhe1 0-0 22.Rxe7 Qd6 23.Ree1 Qxh2

Black should be thrilled to have only paid a Pawn tax to castle. Running out of plans, we see Qd6 and Qxh2—a sad attempt at winning back a Pawn, or did Zuckerman believe that Fischer would be so elated that he would miss the treat of Bh6 pinning the Queen to the King?

24.Kb1 Qc7

Of course White isn't going to fall for silly tricks. The question that needs to be answered is "When will Black move something besides his Queen?!" Let's take that a step further and ask the question along the lines of my theory of "Diminishing and Increasing Values." What value do you think the Queen has earned herself in the process of jumping around? I can't see her as a 9; I'm thinking it's a 6.5.

25.Nab3 Rc8 26.g4 b6 27.Re7 Qd6 28.Re2 Nd5 29.c3

I've talked around this idea before, but let's put it in more concrete terms. If you aesthetically find that the pieces look like they landed on their squares by happenstance and it all seems a surreal bad dream, perhaps it is. What separates us from computers is our ability to recognize complex patterns and tie an assessment to the positions without working out the details. Instead, we make these decisions based on a database of pattern thought models and a dose of intuition. The intuition may be the language that our subconscious uses to advise us of the patterns; however, I really don't know for sure about the intuition part being the language that our brains use to transmit these ideas to us. But I do know that there are studies that show these patterns are stored in our long-term memory banks.

Interested readers can pick up a copy of *Thought and Choice in Chess* by Adriaan de Groot. Folks who don't want to do the deep dive can look up a Ted Talks video by Neuroscientist Molly Crockett who's study launched newspapers to claim that a cheese sandwich improves your decision making. (Her Ted Talks video debunks this

cheese-sandwich concept). My silly point here is: TRUST YOUR GUT. And my gut is telling me that the pattern of Knight, Queen, Bishop on d5 to d7 is a hot grilled chess mess.

**29...a5 30.Nc2 a4 31.Qxd5 Qxd5 32.Rxd5 Be6 33.Rb5 axb3
34.axb3 Rc6**

Just that quickly it coughs up a Pawn.

35.Rd2 Bf6 36.Nb4 1-0

Actually, let's make that two Pawns and the game.

56. Fischer - Ivkov [Yugoslavia]

Piatigorsky-Cup 2nd Santa Monica 1966

King's Indian Attack

Borislav Ivkov earned the International Master (IM) title in 1954 and the Grandmaster (GM) title in 1955. Boroslav, in his era, was an extremely strong GM, winning Mar del Plata 1955 ahead of Miguel Najdorf, Herman Pilnik, and other strong players.

Fischer played the King's Indian Attack with great success in the 1950s; this is the first time he has played the line in the 1960s. Borislav drew from the Black side of this line against IM Ciocaltea in 1964. Possibly Fischer has an improvement planned out.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 d5



5.Nbd2 Bd6 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nh4

Here in Ciocaltea – Ivkov, White tried 8. Re1 and played in the center, resulting in a draw. Fischer's 8. Nh4 prepares f4 with focus on a Kingside attack. As we have seen from the previous games, this is Fischer's sweet spot and Black should avoid taking on a defensive role on the wing.

8...b6

I'm not loving this move; Black's Bishop isn't going to contribute to the storm from b7 or a6. My preference here is to play in a classical style with Bd7 (8...Bd7 9.f4 b5 10.e5 Bc7 11.c3 Bb6), which could slow White down in his attempts to get to f5. It's not exactly witchcraft to see that Nh5 will lead to f4 and f5. Black needs to equal White in a battle of plans; the best way to stop or turn back an attack on the wing is a strong counter in the center of the board.

9.f4 dxe4 10.dxe4 Ba6 11.Re1 c4

So what has Black gained with Ba6? He's forced the Rook to e1, a square he may very well have went to on his own. He's taken the c4 Pawn and blocked the scope of his own Bishop, and he's increased the power of White's Bishop at g2 with an X-ray attack of the Rook on a8.

12.c3 Na5 13.e5 Bc5+ 14.Kh1 Nd5 15.Ne4 Bb7

Black has danced his Bishop around, and his Knight on a5 has no targets; whereas White's Knight on the rim is supporting f5. Black has done nothing to tighten up the Kingside.

16.Qh5 Ne7

Black's Knight fans g6 and f5, but is it enough to contribute to the defense?

17.g4 Bxe4

Black was beginning to fear that the White Knight on e4 was a lead pipe aimed at this head. Exchanging it off removes Black's only attacking piece and pulls White's Bishop to the center of the board, allowing the Bishop to focus on h7 with no minor piece to challenge it. Black's missed a shot at equality with 17...Ng6; it simultaneously covers the King and attacks the White Knight at h4 while opening the lines for the Black Queen. If White now exchanges Knights on g6, his Queen must retreat behind the Pawns. If he tries to capture the Bishop on c5, Black can attempt the crafty but dangerous intermezzo Qxh4!?

18.Bxe4 g6 19.Qh6 Nd5?

This move just aids White in his already dangerous attack. Black should try 19...Nec6, and answer 20. Nf3 with f5. However, in the larger scheme of things this position is virtually indefensible playing over the board.



20.f5 Re8 21.fxg6 fxg6 22.Nxg6 Qd7 23.Nf4

The retreated Knight should be snapped off the board before Black is hit with that lead pipe.

23...Rad8 24.Nh5 Kh8

The Knight slips away before its exchange, and threatens to do very mean things from h5!

25.Nf6 Nxf6 26.exf6 Rg8

Black fails to see that Rg8 is pointless, otherwise he would have tried Qf7, also losing, but “better.”

27.Bf4 Rxc4 28.Rad1

Now it's clear that Rg8 offered no hope at all.

28...Rdg8

If White takes the Queen he is mated at g1.

29.f7 1-0

Black's longest line is 29...R8g7 30.Be5 R4g6 31.Rxd7 Nc6 32.Rd8+ Nxd8 33.Bxc6 Nxf7 34.Qxc7 Mate.

57. Fischer - Sarapu [New Zealand]

Sousse Interzonal 1967

French Defense

Ortvin Sarapu was born in Estonia in 1924 and was inspired to take up chess seriously by his hero Paul Keres. He immigrated to New Zealand in 1950 and won the New Zealand Chess Championship twenty times between 1952 and 1990. For this exceptionally impressive feat, along with a lifetime of service to chess, he was awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1980. Just as Paul Keres inspired generations of Estonians, Sarapu did the same for his beloved and adopted New Zealand.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5



4... dxe4 5.Nxe4 Nbd7

The Burn Variation of the French Defense; here, about 75% of the time Black plays Be7 and 24% of the time he plays Nbd7, all other moves are just bad.

6.Nxf6+ Nxf6 7.Nf3 c5

Black could play 7...h6 8. Bh4 Be7 to directly deal with the pin. Pins are meant to be broken, and the longer you leave one on the board the greater the risk that something will go wrong.

8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Bxd7+ Qxd7

This is a common theme in chess□overworking the Queen. After the check, if White captures Bxf6, Black would have to allow the doubled

Pawns; or else White would also have Bxd7 and, if the Queen has sallied over to f6, the King would be forced to recapture. As played, White takes first on d7 and “could” double Black's Pawn, but finds no advantage in doing so. Just the same, it's a simple concept of which you should always be aware.

10.Qe2 cxd4 11.0-0-0 Bc5

White has a micro-advantage at best, whereas Black is “OK” but must be very careful how he develops. If Black castles Kingside, one can easily imagine that White will be able to double Pawns up and loosen up the Kingside. If Black castles Queenside, it's already a bit “airy”; yet, doing so brings the Rook to d8 on the move and supports the battle for d4.

12.Qe5

White is probing for Black to create a self-inflicted weakness, challenging Black to find moves that maintain the balance. Luckily for Black, those are almost forced moves and fairly easy to find.

12..Be7 13.Nxd4

Yes, 13.Rxd4 looks menacing, yet it brings no advantage 13...Qc6 14.Rhd1 0-0 15.Kb1.

13...Rc8 14.f4 0-0

Black misses a potential drawing resource in 14...Rc5 15.Qb8+ Rc8 16.Qe5 Rc5 (Draw?). If White deviates Black may gain a slight advantage after 17.Qe2 h6 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Nb3 Qb5 20.Qxb5+ Rxb5 21.Rhf1 Ke7.



15.Nf5 Qc7 16.Nxe7+ Qxe7 17.Rd2 Rc5

The Rook move no longer contains the power it had on move 14; now it comes with the liability of burdening the Queen with double protection similar in spirit to the theme we mentioned on move 8.

18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Qe3 Rfc8 20.Rhd1 Qc7

Tossing in 20...b5 would be a way for Black to threaten the Queenside yet still reserve his own Queen for the prudent defense of the King.

21.c3 Rf5

This is an awkward way to attack the Pawn, why not 21...Rc4 instead? Does Black fear 22. f5 and a fleet of tripled Pawns? As the Rook on c4 can defend against an eventual Rg3, it's not easy for White to crack the wide-open King. 21...Rc4 22.f5 exf5 23.Qh6 Qb6 24.Rd3 Re8 25.Rh3 Re2, how does White win?

22.g3

White plays it safe and solid, it's hard to punish the Rook without taking risk 22.Qg3+ Kf8 23.Rd4 a5 24.Qe3 b5 25.g4 Rd5 26.Rxd5 exd5 27.Rxd5 b4. Black is at least now equal.

22...Ra5 23.a3 Qc4 24.Qf3 Rb5

Black sees no danger and it quickly backfires.

25.Qg4+

Black misses a last saving resource in 25...Rg5!

25...Kf8 26.Rd8+ Rxd8 27.Rxd8+ Ke7 28.Qg8 f5 29.Re8+ 1-0

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the controversy of the game score. Some game scores have Black's 24th move to be Qb3 instead of Rb5. If so, that means that 25...Rg5 was not a saving resource. It also makes it clear why Black resigned after 29. Re8, as the end position is easier to envision. With Qb3 or Rb5, White is still clearly winning after 29. Re8!

58. Fischer - Minic [Yugoslavia]

Vinkovci 1968

King's Gambit Accepted

Dragoljub Minic was awarded the International Master (IM title) in 1964. In 1991 he was awarded the honorary Grandmaster (GM) title. Minic was a member of the Yugoslavian national team for many years. Over his career he won many tournaments and was the zonal tournament winner at Praja da Rocha in 1969. He also served as a second to Gligoric, Ljubojevic on the Yugoslavian national team.

While only a teenager, Bobby Fischer lost a King's Gambit to Boris Spassky and left the playing hall in tears. Emotionally distraught at losing to a gambit that's been around for hundreds of years (and one that, deep within, Fischer believed to be unsound), hurt turned to anger and Bobby famously published a refutation: "A Bust to the King's Gambit," (the full text can be found [here](#)). So, what great irony and pleasure can we gain from watching how Fischer bounces with the very gambit he refuted. Of course, Bobby was clever enough never to play the line he had refuted, yet he also said, "Of course White can always play differently, in which case he merely loses differently." But not this time, not with Bobby playing the White pieces!

1.e4 e5 2.f4



When confronted with the King's Gambit, Black has many choices, ranging from an outright attempt at overturning it (like the Falkbeer Counter Gambit), to classical attempts at declining, to many interesting lines where it is accepted. Of course, the purpose of this book is not to critique or be a manual on openings. However, I would strongly encourage any player who is not familiar with the King's Gambit to spend a solid four hours or so surveying the lines. It will sharpen your tactics and, in the process, provide you with a tremendous amount of fun!

2...exf4 3.Bc4

Fischer's choices of lines are narrowed by his own critical article of the gambit. Oddly enough, he has tremendous success in his tournament career with this gambit, stacking up nineteen wins, three losses and two draws—a very impressive record for an opening that

he refuted. The real backstory is that losing to Spassky fueled his passion to become an expert with the White pieces on this opening.

3...Ne7

Black gains no advantage by checking the King. 3...Qh4+ 4.Kf1 d6 5.Nf3 Qf6 is fine for White. The text move by Black 3...Ne7 is not the most popular line, but does fairly well in practice.

4.Nc3 c6

Black is starting to mix plans and systems; 3...Ne7 has done well when it's followed up with 4.Nc3 Ng6 where it strengthens the Pawn and clears way for quick development. General rule: if you accept a gambit Pawn, you don't want to sit back and rest, you need to play actively in order to not be run over.

5.Nf3 d5 6.Bb3

It's as if Fischer is taunting Black, giving him free reign to shove, exchange, or sit. All the center options belong to Black. That suggests that Fischer is highly comfortable in this position and is prepared for a variety of Pawn structures resulting from this line.

6...dxe4

The first time I saw this move I took a deep breath and thought, "Are you kidding me?! Maybe a5 instead, or how about g6—but do you really want to open up the center with f7 being so weak and White having a huge lead in development?"

7.Nxe4 Nd5 8.Qe2 Be7 9.c4 Nc7 10.d4 0-0

Let's take an assessment here; don't analyze variations, just review the landscape and see what you see. How about that Black has doubled his Knight and Bishop on the 2nd rank!? And White has it all going on—how can Black survive at this pace?

11.Bxf4 Ne6 12.Be3 Bb4+

A common theme from the White side of the King's Gambit□if they put you in check, just move the King and say, "Thank You!"

13.Kf2

White says "Thank you" to Black for connecting his Rooks.

13...Nd7 14.c5

If an amateur was to play this move, I might quickly label it a mistake. Upon reflection I think it's one of the strongest moves of the game. Black's Bishop is cut off from play and White opens the long diagonal for his own Bishop. White knows this game isn't going to come down to Pawn structures, it going to be a battle of brute force.

**14...Nf6 15.Nxf6+ Qxf6 16.Rhf1 Nf4 17.Bxf4 Qxf4 18.g3 Qh6
19.Kg1 Bh3**

Has White allowed too many pieces to be exchanged down?



20.Ne5 Bxf1

Now the power of c5 in its full glory; open lines for the Bishop and hardware upon which to hang the Knight. Black's most active piece —off the board!

21.Rxf1 Bd2 22.Rf3 Rad8

Black had to try 22...Kh8 23.Nxf7+ Rxf7, which, on the surface, appears to be close to equal, but not true! There are still many roads that lead to Black's destruction. 24.Bxf7 Bg5 25.Kg2 Rf8 26.d5 cxd5 27.Bxd5 Bf6 28.Bxb7 winning easily.

23.Nxf7 Rxf7 24.Qe7 1-0

59. Fischer - Ivkov [Yugoslavia]

Herceg Novi blitz 1970

Modern Defense

If you're wondering why I chose a game from a speed tournament, the following summary should answer your question. The 1970 Herceg Novi Blitz Tournament was one of the strongest speed tournaments in chess history. Twelve players participated, including four World Champions, and Bobby Fischer crushed the field, finishing 4.5 points ahead of the second-place finisher, Mikhail Tal.

Bobby humiliated the Soviet machine, dominating 8.5 – 1.5 and shutting out Tal, Tigran Petrosian, and Vasily Smyslov, 6-0; breaking even with Korchnoi; and defeating David Bronstein.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.c3 Nf6



Black makes no attempt to stop White from occupying the center (e4, d4) in the Modern Defense. Black instead tries to undermine the center without direct occupation. This game features Geller's System, one of the more quiet ways to approach the game, as White makes sure he doesn't overextend himself in the center, and takes a patience approach in the search for victory.

5.Bd3 0-0 6.0-0 Nc6

Black should consider 6...c5 or 6...Nbd7; the idea of having both Knights on the third rank is a tad claustrophobic, now he's telegraphed that his only break is e5.

7.Qe2 e5 8.h3

Quiet moves like h3 are possible because White has not overcommitted to the center and has a solid foundation with c3.

8...Nh5

Yes, it's Blitz, and it's also Bobby Fischer on other side of the board, I can't recommend putting a Knight on the rim and trying to overpower him. Instead, a gentle reminder that you're here to compete with ideas like 8...exd4 9.cxd4 Nb4 seems a prudent way to get his attention.

9.Bg5 Bf6 10.Be3 Bg7

Blitz witchcraft, Black has lost a tempo in just two moves. Examine the position after move 8...Nh5 and now—White has played his Bishop to e3 and he gets to move again!

11.Nbd2 Re8 12.d5

Classic Fischer—all the focus seems to be on the Kingside and suddenly he locks the center, kicking the ill-placed Knight, and he turns his attention to where Black has no pieces focused. Careful observation reveals that his pieces clustered on d3, d2, e3, e2 are all aiming at the Queenside as much as they are the Kingside.

12...Ne7 13.c4 Nf4 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.Rab1 Nf5

The Black Knight jumps to f5 with mean intent; there is just one small question to answer. What is it attacking? Nothing! So Fischer carries on as if it doesn't exist at all. After a few moves the Knight appears to be foolishly looking on like a spectator who's standing too close the board. A gentle reminder: this Knight's journey started on c6, which has contributed to it's poor trip planning. Who knows what wonderful things it might have accomplished had the journey started on d7.

16.b4 a5 17.bxa5 Rxa5

I make note of this move because often the novice is presented with a similar decision and she or he decides between pushing and shoring up with a3—never even considering capturing, because of

some general rule about creating isolated Pawns. Position decides everything; rules are general guides to teach the fundamentals.

18.Nb3 Ra8 19.c5 h6

Suddenly 18. Nb3 makes capturing the Pawn look natural, followed by the idea c5. Black in return doesn't have a solid plan, so h6 looks an awful lot like a "pass."

20.Bb5 Bd7 21.a4 Bxb5

While we mortals are still absorbing the reasons as to why creating an isolated Pawn is OK, Fischer makes it disappear.

22.axb5 Nh4 23.cxd6 cxd6 24.Nxh4 Qxh4

Chess is a very difficult game; it seems as if White has been doing all the work, yet Black is far from busted here.

25.Nd2 Bd4

Looking at the diagrammed position: there's no doubt in your mind that he's going to play Nf3, right?



26.Qf3

Objectively, 26. Nf3 does look like the natural move. White has plans to use the Knight to control the center and fight for a win.

26...Ra2 27.Nc4 Qf6?

Black missed an incredible resource to turn the tables on White 27...Rc8 28.Rbc1 b6! (Zugzwang) 29.Qd3 Bxf2+ 30.Kh1 Qe7 with advantage to Black.

28.Rbd1 Bc5 29.e5!

White doesn't miss his shot; he takes it and makes the most of it. There's no good way for Black to deal with this push; he's in trouble.

29... dxe5 30.d6 e4

A bit overoptimistic for Black; taking on a defensive posture with 30...Qe6 is where he should be looking.

31.d7 Rd8 32.Qxe4 f3 33.Qxf3 Qxf3 34.gxf3

A very fragile position—virtually indefensible in a speed game.

34...Rc2

The end, Black must focus on containing the Knight; better was 34....f6, restricting squares from the galloping beast.

35.Na5!

Lights out and Good Knight!

35...Be7 36.Nxb7 Rc7 37.Nxd8 Bxd8 38.Rfe1 1-0

60. Fischer - Matulovic, [Yugoslavia]

Herceg Novi blitz 1970

Ruy Lopez

Milan Matulovic was awarded the International Master title in 1961 and the Grandmaster title in 1965. He won the Yugoslav Championship in 1965 and 1967. Milian played a friendly match with fifteen-year-old Bobby Fischer when Fischer was visiting Belgrade in 1958. Fischer won two, Matulovic won one, and one game ended in a draw; only one game score remains, and that is the win by Milan.

Another game from the greatest blitz tournament ever held; with this game I have included rare notes that Fischer made after the tournament. I have marked these in italics with (BF) at the end of the note to make it easier to read.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5

This is Matulovic's specialty the same as his gambit in the Sicilian defence. In blitz games there is no problems for White because of the Black King's weaknesses. I know this variation very well and because of that I was surprised at Matulovic's choice. (BF)

Schliemann Defense; crazy wild and just an explosion of chess. This defense is considered dubious and rarely ever shows up in top-level

play. Yet it's never disappeared from correspondence chess. Which leads me to believe it's playable, just not with a clock and not for those prone to taking antacid tablets.



4.Nc3 fxe4 5.Nxe4 d5 6.Nxe5 dxe4 7.Nxc6 Qg5

7...Qd5 gives probably more problems for White. (BF)

Really Bobby? Or are you trying to get someone else to play this line against you? Seems like 7...Qd5 8.c4 Qd6 9.Nxa7+ Bd7 10.Bxd7+ Qxd7 11.Qh5+ Ke7 12.Nb5 c6 13.Nc3 is fine for White.

8.Qe2 Nf6 9.f4 Qxf4 10.d4 Qh4+ 11.g3 Qh3

The same was played in the game Gheorghiu-Maric, Skopje 1968. Gheorghiu played 12.Na7+ but he did not get any advantage in this position. I analyzed this position all night with Robatch and

Gheorghiu in Vinkovci. Gheorghiu showed me that game against Maric and it was very interesting for me. Our idea was 12 Bg5. (BF)



12.Bg5 a6 13.Ba4 Bd7 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Qxe4+ Kf7 16.Ne5+ fxe5 17.Rf1+ Ke7

Black has many problems. If 17...Kg8 18 Rf6! Re8 (if 18...Bxa4 19 Qd5+ with Qf7 mate) 19 Bb3+ Kg7 20 Rf7+ Kh6 21 dxe5 with a winning attack. If 17...Qxf1 18 Kxf1 Bxa4 19 Qf5+ wins. (BF)

18.Bxd7 Kxd7

If 18...Qxd7 19 O-O-O and Black's King and Queen are attacked. (BF)

19.Rf7+ Ke8

Be7!! gave good chances for a successful defence. (BF)

Bobby gives Ke8 as a question mark; Be7 is a better defense, however, Black misses another attempt to save himself on the next move.

20.Rxc7 Bd6

After 20....Bd6 it looks like lights out; the last attempt here is 20...Qe6 21.Rxb7 Rd8 22.Rd1 Be7 23.d5 Qd6 24.Qa4+ Kf7 25.Ke2 Rhf8 26.Rf1+ Kg8 27.Qg4+ Kh8. White still has an edge in the ending but Black's game is far from fatal.

21.Rxb7 Rc8 22.0-0-0 Qxh2

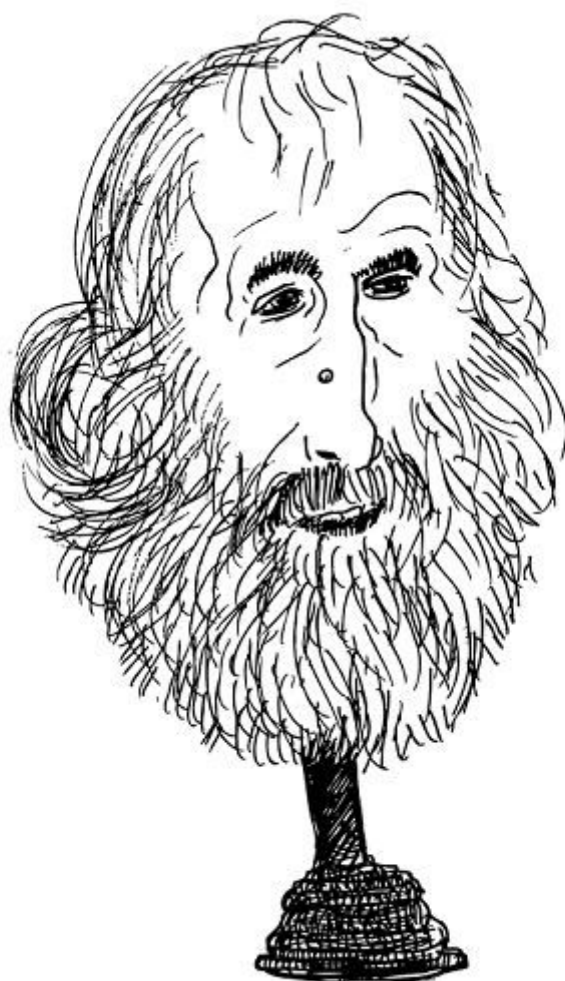
Instead of eating Pawns, Black needs to get his Rook into the game and start looking for swindles, after all it's blitz chess! Here is one a mortal could easily fall for: 22...Rf8 23.dxe5 Be7 24.Qa4+ Kf7 25.Qxa6 Qf5 26.Rf1 Rxc2+ 27.Kd1 Rd8+ 28.Qd6 Qxf1+ 29.Kxc2 Qg2+ 30.Kc3 Qf3+ 31.Kc4 Qxb7 32.e6+ Kf6 and Black is laughing all the way to the full point.

23.dxe5 Be7 24.Rxe7+

After this move Black has no hope. Maybe I had an easier way to win , but thought I had not enough time. As a matter of fact I had three minutes. (BF)

After 23....Be7 Black had no hope indeed, taking the Bishop is not required, but it's easier to simplify in blitz and play a straight line. Faster was 24.Qa4+ Kf7 25.Rf1+ Kg6 26.Qe4+ Kg5 27.Qf5+ Kh6 28.Rb6+.

**24...Kxe7 25.Qb7+ Ke6 26.Qd7+ Kxe5 27.Qd5+ Kf6 28.Rf1+ Kg6
29.Qf5+ Kh6 30.Qe6+ Kh5 31.Rf5+ Kg4 32.Rf4+ Kxg3 33.Qg4
mate 1-0**



Bobby Fischer (1943-2008)

Forward to Opponents Games:

I considered adding these games as an appendix. By not doing so, I hope that the reader receives these games with the spirit that they are intended: to fill in the backdrop of the Fischer years and not forget that many of these players possessed tremendous talent. You'll find over ninety games listed, representing not only the best of their play and breadth of styles, but also a tribute to the incredible players that each battled successfully.

In the sixty games, Fischer may have dispatched his opponents with what appears to be ease; the same cannot be said for:

- Alekhine,
- Bogoljubow
- Botvinnik
- Euwe
- Kortschnoj
- Larsen
- Lasker
- Ljubojevic
- Najdorf
- Pachman

- Petrosian
- Portisch
- Seirawan
- Spassky
- Tal
- Timman

Fischer's opponents defeated all of those players and many more!
Take your time, enjoy these games, and feel free to contact me with questions you may have about them.

Opponents Games

Format:

Last Name, First - (Game number versus Fischer)

List of Representative Games

Addison, William - (17)

Addison, William - Bisguier, Arthur Bernard

U.S. Championship Open, 58th Cleveland 1957

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 Ne4 7.Qc2 0-0 8.Nf3 b6 9.Bf4 c5 10.e3 cxd4 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Nxd4 Bb7 13.Qc7 Qxc7 14.Bxc7 Rc8 15.Bxb8 Raxb8 16.Bd3 g6 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Kd2 Rc7 19.Rac1 Rd7 20.Rhd1 Ba6 21.Ke1 Bd3 22.Nc6 Re8 23.Nb4 Red8 24.Nc6 Re8 25.Nb4 Red8 26.Rc3 Bb5 27.Rxd7 Rxd7 28.b3 a5 29.Nc2 Bd3 30.Nd4 Rd5 31.f4 Kg7 32.g4 b5 33.Rc7 h6 34.h4 b4 35.axb4 axb4 36.Rb7 Ra5 37.Rxb4 Ra1+ 38.Kf2 Ra2+ 39.Ke1 Rh2 40.Rb7 Rxh4 41.Ne6+ Kg8 42.Nd8 Rxg4 43.Nxf7 Rg2 44.Nxh6+ Kf8 45.f5 Rg1+ 46.Kd2 Rh1 47.Rb8+ Kg7 48.Rg8+ Kf6 49.Rxg6+ Ke5 50.f6 Rf1 51.f7 1-0

Addison, William - Reshevsky, Samuel Herman

U.S. Championship, New York 1962

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8 11.Be3 a5 12.Qc2 Nc5 13.Rad1

Nfd7 14.Nb3 Qe7 15.Nxc5 Nxc5 16.Qd2 Bf8 17.Rfe1 Be6 18.Nd5
cxd5 19.exd5 Ne4 20.Bxe4 Bxh3 21.Bd4 Qc7 22.Qc3 Rac8 23.Bd3
a4 24.Rxe8 Rxe8 25.Re1 Rxe1+ 26.Qxe1 Qd7 27.b4 axb3 28.axb3
Qg4 29.Qe3 Qd1+ 30.Kh2 Bg4 31.Be4 Bh6 32.Qc3 Bd2 33.Qb2 h5
34.Qa3 Bh6 35.Qa8+ Bf8 36.Be3 Bf3 37.Bxf3 Qxf3 38.Kg1 h4
39.Bh6 1-0

Ault, Robin - (31)

Benko,Pal C - Ault,Robin

US Open Boston 1964

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Bxe7 Qxe7
7.Nc3 Ncxe5 8.Nd5 Qc5 9.e3 Nxf3+ 10.gxf3 Nf6 11.Nxf6+ gxf6
12.Bd3 d6 13.Qb3 Bd7 14.Qxb7 Bc6 15.Qb3 Bxf3 16.Rg1 Ke7
17.Rg3 Qa5+ 18.Kf1 Rab8 19.Qc2 Qh5 20.c5 Qxh2 21.cxd6+ Kxd6
22.Rxf3 Qh1+ 23.Ke2 Qxa1 24.Rxf6+ Ke7 25.Rxf7+ Kxf7 26.Qxc7+
Kf6 27.Qd6+ Kg7 28.Qe5+ Kh6 29.Qf4+ Kg7 30.Qg5+ Kf7 31.Bc4+
Ke8 32.Qe5+ Kd7 33.Be6+ Kc6 34.Qd5+ Kb6 35.Qd6+ Kb7 36.Bd5+
Kc8 37.Qc6+ Kd8 38.Qf6+ Kd7 39.Qe6+ Kd8 40.Qd6+ Kc8 41.Qc6+
Kd8 42.Qf6+ $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Bazan, Osvaldo - (36)

Bazan,Osvaldo - Pachman,Ludek

Buenos Aires 1960

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.0-0
Nf6 8.Kh1 Be7 9.f4 d6 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.b3 0-0 12.Qd3 e5 13.Qg3
Kh8 14.f5 d5 15.Bg5 d4 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nd1 c5 18.Bc4 Bb7 19.Qd3

a5 20.Nb2 Rad8 21.Rae1 Bg5 22.Rf3 Rd6 23.Kg1 Rfd8 24.Bb5 Rh6
25.Nc4 Rh4 26.Rh3 Rxh3 27.Qxh3 f6 28.a4 Kg8 29.Kf2 Bc8 30.Ke2
g6 31.g4 h5 32.Kd3 hxg4 33.Qxg4 gxf5 34.exf5 Qh7 35.Rxe5 Qxh2
36.Rxc5 Qf2 37.Bc6 Ba6 38.Qe2 Bxc4+ 39.bxc4 Qe3+ 40.Qxe3
dxe3+ 41.Bd5+ Kf8 42.Rxa5 Ke7 43.Ra6 Rd6 44.Ra8 Bf4 45.a5 Rd8
46.Rxd8 Kxd8 47.c5 Kc8 48.Bc6 Bh2 49.Bb5 Bg1 50.Ke4 e2
51.Bxe2 Bxc5 52.Kd5 Bb4 53.a6 Bc3 54.Kc4 Be1 55.Kd4 Kc7 56.c4
Kc6 57.Bf3+ Kb6 58.Bb7 Kc7 59.c5 Bg3 60.Kc4 Kb8 61.Kb5 Ka7
62.Bd5 Be5 63.Bc4 Bb2 64.Kc6 Ba3 65.Kd6 Kb8 66.Ke6 Bb2
67.Kd7 1-0

Wexler,Bernardo - Bazan,Osvaldo

Mar del Plata Argentina 1960

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e5 3.Bg2 c6 4.Nc3 d5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Qb3 e4 7.d3 exd3
8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Bxd5 Bb4+ 10.Kf1 dxe2+ 11.Nxe2 0-0 12.Be3 Bh3+
13.Kg1 Qe7 14.a3 Bd6 15.Bxb7 Nd7 16.Bxa8 Rxa8 17.Qd5 Rd8
18.Qh5 Bc5 19.Nd4 Bxd4 20.Bxd4 Qe6 21.Bc3 Nf6 22.Qf3 Rd5
23.Re1 Qc6 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.g4 Rd1 0-1

Beach, Winthrop - (46)

Beach,Winthrop - Campbell,J Franklin

CCLA Correspondence Canada 1982

1.c4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 e6 6.d4 Be7 7.d5 exd5
8.Nd4 g6 9.Nc3 Qc8 10.cxd5 Bb4 11.Bg5 Bxc3 12.Bxf6 Bxd4
13.Qxd4 0-0 14.e4 c5 15.Qe5 Qe8 16.Qxe8 Rxe8 17.exf5 Rf8
18.Be5 Rxf5 19.f4 d6 20.Bxd6 Bxd5 21.Bh3 Rh5 22.Bg4 Rh6 23.Be7
1-0

Benko, Pal - (42,54)

Benko,Pal - Tal,Mihail

Candidates Tournament Curacao 1962

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.d4 d6 4.e4 Nf6 5.Ne2 0-0 6.0-0 Nbd7 7.Nbc3 c6 8.a4 a5 9.b3 Re8 10.Ba3 Qc7 11.Qd2 e5 12.Rad1 exd4 13.Nxd4 Nc5 14.f3 b6 15.Nde2 Bf8 16.Bb2 Qe7 17.Nd4 Bb7 18.Rfe1 Bg7 19.f4 Rad8 20.Bf3 Qd7 21.Qg2 d5 22.e5 Nfe4 23.Nxe4 dxe4 24.Be2 Qe7 25.Ba3 f6 26.Bc4+ Kh8 27.Ne6 Rd5 28.Bxd5 cxd5 29.Nxg7 Kxg7 30.exf6+ Qxf6 31.Qf2 Ne6 32.Qxb6 Ba8 33.Bd6 Qf5 34.Qxa5 Kh6 35.c4 Rd8 36.Be7 e3 37.Rxe3 Re8 38.Bg5+ Kg7 39.Rde1 Nxg5 40.fxg5 Rf8 41.Qa7+ 1-0

Vukic,Milan - Benko,Pal

Sarajevo 10th Sarajevo 1967

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Nf3 g6 8.g3 Bg7 9.Bg2 0-0 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.Qc2 Qb6 12.Rd1 Rfb8 13.Rb1 Ne8 14.Bg5 Qd8 15.Bf1 h6 16.Bd2 Nc7 17.b3 Nb6 18.e4 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Qd7 20.Rfe1 Kh7 21.Kg2 e6 22.dxe6 Nxe6 23.Ne2 d5 24.Nf4 dxe4 25.Rxe4 Nd4 26.Nxd4 cxd4 27.a4 Qb7 28.f3 Nxa4 29.Rbe1 Qxb3 30.Qxb3 Rxb3 31.Re7 Rb2 32.R1e2 Nc3 33.Bxc3 dxc3 34.Rxf7 Raa2 35.Kf1 g5 36.Rxg7+ Kxg7 37.Ne6+ Kf6 38.Nd4 Rxe2 39.Nxe2 Ra1+ 0-1

Portisch,Lajos - Benko,Pal

HUN Championship 11th Budapest 1955

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 c5 8.g4 h5 9.h3 Nh7 10.Qd2 h4 11.g5 f6 12.gxf6 Qxf6 13.Rh2 Na6 14.Rg2

Nc7 15.Bd3 Kh8 16.0-0-0 g5 17.Rxg5 Nxg5 18.Bxg5 Qg6 19.f4 Bh6
20.Nf3 Bxg5 21.Nxg5 Rxf4 22.Rg1 Bd7 23.Ne2 Rf2 24.Qe3 Qf6
25.Nf7+ Qxf7 26.Qh6+ Qh7 27.Qxd6 Ne8 28.Qxe5+ Nf6 29.Qc3 Rg8
30.e5 Rxg1+ 31.Nxg1 Bf5 32.Qe1 Qh6+ 33.Kd1 Bxd3 34.Qxf2 Ne4
35.Qg2 Qe3 36.e6 Nf2+ 0-1

Bernstein, Sidney - (2,8)

Reshevsky,Samuel Herman - Bernstein,Sidney Norman

U.S. Championship 1st New York 1936

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qb3 Nc6 5.e3 a5 6.a3 a4 7.Qc2
Bxc3+ 8.Qxc3 Na5 9.Bd3 d5 10.c5 0-0 11.Ne2 b6 12.cxb6 cxb6
13.Qc2 Nb3 14.Rb1 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.Bd2 Qd7 17.Qd3 Ra7
18.f3 Rc8 19.Bc3 Ne8 20.Bb4 Rac7 21.0-0 f5 22.e4 Nd6 23.exd5
exd5 24.Nc3 Rc4 25.Rbd1 Rxb4 26.axb4 Nc4 27.Rf2 Re8 28.Re2 f4
29.b5 Ne3 30.Rde1 Ra8 31.Nxa4 Rxa4 32.Qxb3 Rxd4 33.g3 h6
34.gxf4 Nf5 35.Re5 Rd2 36.Rd1 Nd4 37.Rxd5 Rxd1+ 38.Qxd1 Qxd5
39.Kg2 Qc5 40.Qe1 Qc2+ 41.Kg3 Qxh2+ 0-1

Bernstein,Sidney Norman - Byrne,Donald

New York Rosenwald New York 1956

1.e4 c5 2.Ne2 d6 3.Nf4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Bc4 a6 6.a4 e6 7.d3 Be7
8.Bd2 Rb8 9.0-0 0-0 10.Kh1 Bd7 11.Rg1 Nd4 12.a5 Bc6 13.Nce2
Nxe2 14.Nxe2 d5 15.exd5 exd5 16.Bb3 Ng4 17.Rf1 Bd6 18.Bf4 Bxf4
19.Nxf4 Qh4 20.Nh3 Rbe8 21.Kg1 Re6 22.Ba4 f5 23.Bxc6 bxc6
24.Re1 Qf6 25.Rxe6 Qxe6 26.Qe1 Qd6 27.f4 Qf6 28.Qc3 Qxc3
29.bxc3 Rb8 30.Ng5 Nf6 31.Ra3 Rb1+ 32.Kf2 c4 33.Ra2 Rc1
34.Rb2 Kf8 35.Ne6+ Ke7 36.Nxg7 cxd3 37.Nxf5+ Kd7 38.cxd3 Rxc3
39.Rb7+ Kc8 40.Nd6+ Kd8 41.Nf7+ Kc8 42.Nd6+ Kd8 43.Rf7 Ng4+
44.Kf3 Nxh2+ 45.Ke3 c5 46.Rxh7 Ng4+ 47.Kd2 Ra3 48.Rg7 Ra2+
49.Kc3 Ne3 50.g4 Nd1+ 51.Kb3 Rb2+ 52.Ka3 Rb1 53.Nb7+ Kc8
54.Nxc5 Nc3 55.Rg8+ Kc7 56.Nxa6+ Kd7 57.Nc5+ 1-0

Bernstein,Sidney Norman - Brandts,Paul

U.S. Championship New York 1954

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Nc3 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.Bd5
Bb7 8.Bxc6 Bxc6 9.Nxe5 Bxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Qg4 Nd6 12.Qxg7
Bf6 13.Qg3 Qe7 14.d4 0-0-0 15.0-0 Nc4 16.Nxc4 bxc4 17.Bf4 Bxd4
18.Bxc7 Rdg8 19.Qd6 Qe4 20.g3 Rg6 21.Qf4 Rg4 22.Qxe4 Rxe4
23.Ba5 Bxb2 24.Rad1 Bd4 25.Rxd4 1-0

Bhend, Edwin - (27)

Bhend,Edwin - Szabo,Laszlo

Kecskemet zt Kecskemet 1964

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Be3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Qc7 7.f4 d6
8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.g4 Nc5 10.g5 Nfd7 11.Qd2 Nb6 12.f5 e5 13.Nde2 Bd7
14.Ng3 Bc6 15.Be2 Rc8 16.Rc1 g6 17.Nd5 Nxd5 18.exd5 Bd7 19.0-
0 Be7 20.b4 gxf5 21.bxc5 f4 22.Ne4 fxe3 23.Qxe3 dxc5 24.d6 Bxd6
25.Nf6+ Kd8 26.Rcd1 Re8 27.Rxd6 Qxd6 28.Rd1 Qd4 29.Rxd4 exd4
30.Qf2 Re5 31.Nxd7 Rxc5+ 32.Kh1 Rc6 33.Nf6 1-0

Bilek, Istvan - (41)

Bilek,Istvan - Portisch,Lajos

Hungary 1985

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 b5 3.Bg2 Bb7 4.d3 e6 5.0-0 Be7 6.e4 0-0 7.Nd4 a6
8.Nb3 Nc6 9.e5 Nd5 10.Re1 d6 11.d4 a5 12.exd6 cxd6 13.a4 b4
14.c4 bxc3 15.bxc3 Nb6 16.N1d2 Qc7 17.Qh5 Nd7 18.Ne4 Rab8
19.Bf4 e5 20.Be3 Nd8 21.dxe5 dxe5 22.Nbd2 f5 23.Bg5 Bxg5

24.Nxg5 h6 25.Ngf3 Nc6 26.Rab1 e4 27.Nh4 Ne7 28.Bh3 Qc5
29.Nb3 Qxc3 30.Nxf5 Nxf5 31.Bxf5 Nf6 32.Be6+ Kh8 33.Qxa5 Qc6
34.Nd4 Qd6 35.Qb6 Qe5 36.Rb5 Bd5 37.Qc5 Rbd8 38.Bxd5 Ng4
39.Rxe4 Qh5 40.Rxg4 Qxg4 41.Nc6 1-0

Bisguier, Arthur - (23)

Pomar Salamanca,Arturo - Bisguier,Arthur Bernard

Pan American Championship 2nd Los Angeles 1954

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ne4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 Nc5 6.e3 d6 7.Nb3
dxe5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nxc5 Bxc5 10.Bd2 Ke7 11.Bc3 f6 12.a3 a5
13.0-0-0 Bf5 14.Bd3 Bxd3 15.Rxd3 Rhd8 16.Rxd8 Rxd8 17.Rd1
Rxd1+ 18.Kxd1 Ke6 19.Nd2 Be7 20.Kc2 a4 21.Nb1 Nb8 22.Bd2 Nd7
23.f3 e4 24.Nc3 exf3 25.gxf3 Ne5 26.Nxa4 Nxf3 27.h3 g5 28.Nc3
Ng1 29.Nb5 c5 30.Nc7+ Kd7 31.Nd5 Nxh3 32.e4 g4 33.Be1 Ke6
34.Kd3 Bd6 35.Ne3 g3 36.Ng2 Nf4+ 37.Nxf4+ Bxf4 38.Ke2 g2
39.Bf2 Bh2 40.Bxc5 g1Q 41.Bxg1 Bxg1 42.b4 Ke5 43.Kf3 Bd4 44.c5
Bb2 45.b5 Bxa3 46.c6 bxc6 47.bxc6 Bd6 48.Ke3 Bc7 49.Kf3 Bb6 0-1

Schroeder,M - Bisguier,Arthur Bernard

Manhattan Chess Club Championship New York 1955

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Be2 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3
0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.e5 Nd7 11.f4 e6 12.Qd2 c5 13.Nb5 f6
14.Bg4 Qe7 15.Nc7 Nxe5 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.Qxd5+ Qf7 18.Qxa8
Nxg4 19.Bxc5 Bb7 20.Qxa7 Qd5 21.Rf3 Rc8 22.b4 f5 23.Re1 Bc3
24.Re7 Rxc5 0-1

Bolbochan, Jacobo - (26)

Pilnik,Herman - Bolbochan,Jacobo

Mar del Plata 1953

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 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d3 Nc6 12.Nbd2 Re8 13.Nf1 h6
14.Ne3 Bf8 15.Nh2 Be6 16.Nhg4 Nxg4 17.hxg4 Ne7 18.Nf5 d5
19.exd5 Bxf5 20.gxf5 Nxd5 21.Qf3 Qd6 22.a4 b4 23.Bb3 Rad8
24.Bc4 bxc3 25.bxc3 Nxc3 26.Bd2 Nd5 27.Ba5 Rd7 28.Rab1 Be7
29.Rb3 Bd8 30.Bd2 Bg5 31.Bxg5 hxg5 32.a5 Nb4 33.Qg4 Qf6 34.g3
Rd4 35.Re4 Red8 36.Qe2 Rxe4 37.dxe4 Qd6 38.Kg2 Kf8 39.Qh5
Qf6 40.Rc3 Ke7 41.Be2 Rc8 42.Rc1 Qh6 43.Qg4 Rh8 44.Kf3 Nc6
45.Rxc5 Nd4+ 46.Ke3 f6 47.Rc1 Rb8 48.Bxa6 Ra8 49.Bd3 Rxa5
50.f4 gxf4+ 51.gxf4 Kd6 52.Qg3 Ra2 53.Rc4 Rg2 0-1

Cardso, Radolfo - (7)

Quinteros,Miguel Angel - Cardoso,Radolfo Tan

Manila 1973

1.e4 g6 2.d4 c6 3.c4 d5 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.exd5 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Bb5+
Bd7 8.Bc4 0-0 9.Nge2 b5 10.Bd3 b4 11.Ne4 Nxd5 12.Bg5 Nc6
13.Rc1 Rc8 14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 Bg4 16.f3 Ne3 17.Qa4 Bd7 18.Rfe1
Nd5 19.Nd6 Nxd4 20.Rxc8 Nxe2+ 21.Bxe2 Bd4+ 22.Kh1 Bxa4
23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Nc4 Bb5 25.Na5 Bxe2 26.Nc6 Rd7 27.Nxd4 Bc4
28.Nc6 f6 29.Bf2 Bxa2 30.Nxa7 Nf4 31.Kg1 Rd2 32.Be3 Rxd2+
33.Kh1 Bd5 34.Rf1 Bc4 35.Rg1 Rxd1+ 36.Kxd1 Nd3 37.Nc6 Kf7
38.Bd2 b3 39.Bc3 Bd5 40.Na5 e5 41.Kf1 Ke6 42.Ke2 Nf4+ 43.Ke3
Kd7 44.Bb4 0-1

Ciocaltea, Victor - (44)

Tarjan,James Edward - Ciocaltea,Victor

Hoogovens, B Wijk aan Zee 1974

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 Bd7 6.d4 Nf6 7.0-0 Qe7
8.Re1 g6 9.Nbd2 Bg7 10.a3 0-0 11.b4 Nh5 12.Bb2 Nf4 13.Nf1 f5
14.exf5 Bxf5 15.Bb3+ Kh8 16.Ne3 Be4 17.Qd2 Nxg2 18.Nxg2 Bxf3

19.d5 Qd7 20.Bd1 e4 21.Bxf3 exf3 22.Ne3 Qh3 23.c4 Rf4 24.Bxg7+ Kxg7 25.dxc6 Kf8 26.cxb7 Rb8 27.Qc3 Kg8 28.Qd3 Rg4+ 29.Kh1 Rh4 0-1

Denker, Arnold - (24)

Denker,Arnold Sheldon - Fine,Reuben

U.S. Championship New York 1944

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Bd3 Bb7 6.Nf3 Ne4 7.0-0 Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bxc3 9.Rb1 Ba5 10.Ba3 d6 11.c5 0-0 12.cxd6 cxd6 13.e4 Re8 14.e5 dxe5 15.Nxe5 Qg5 16.g3 g6 17.Qa4 Qd8 18.Rfc1 b5 19.Bxb5 Qd5 20.f3 Bb6 21.Rc5 Bxc5 22.Bxc5 Rf8 23.Bc4 Bc6 24.Bxd5 Bxa4 25.Bxa8 1-0

Denker,Arnold Sheldon - Diesen,Mark C

Lone Pine Open 1976

1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.0-0 Ngf6 5.Re1 a6 6.Bf1 b5 7.a4 Bb7 8.axb5 axb5 9.Rxa8 Qxa8 10.Nc3 b4 11.Nb5 Qb8 12.d4 e5 13.c3 Bc6 14.Qa4 bxc3 15.bxc3 Be7 16.d5 Bb7 17.Nd2 0-0 18.Nc4 Ba8 19.Qa5 Ne8 20.Ne3 g6 21.Bd3 Bd8 22.Qa2 Ng7 23.Nxd6 Qxd6 24.Qxa8 Bg5 25.Qc6 Qe7 26.d6 Qd8 27.Bb5 Nb8 28.Qxc5 Ne6 29.Qb4 Nd7 30.Bxd7 Qxd7 31.Nd5 Bd8 32.Bh6 Re8 33.Rb1 g5 34.Qb5 Qxb5 35.Rxb5 f6 36.d7 Re7 37.Nxe7+ Bxe7 38.h4 Kf7 39.hxg5 fxg5 40.Rxe5 1-0

Di Camillo, Attilio - (6)

Di Camillo,Attilio - Adams,Weaver Warren

U.S. Championship New York 1944

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.d4 d5 3.c4 e5 4.Nxe5 Nxe5 5.dxe5 d4 6.e4 c5 7.Bd3
Ne7 8.0-0 Nc6 9.f4 g5 10.Qh5 gxf4 11.Bxf4 Be6 12.Na3 a6 13.Nc2
Qc7 14.a3 Bg7 15.b4 Bxe5 16.b5 axb5 17.cxb5 Bxf4 18.bxc6 c4
19.cxb7 Rb8 20.Rxf4 cxd3 21.Rf6 0-0 22.Nxd4 d2 23.Nxe6 fxe6
24.Qg5+ Kh8 25.Rxf8+ Rxf8 26.Qxd2 Qxb7 27.Qd4+ Kg8 28.a4 Rf4
29.a5 Rxe4 30.a6 Qc6 31.Qd8+ Kg7 32.a7 Qc5+ 33.Kh1 Qe5
34.Qd7+ Kg6 35.Qd1 Rh4 36.Qb1+ Kg7 37.h3 1-0

Donovan, Jeremiah - (3)

Bernstein,Sidney Norman - Donovan,Jeremiah

Marshall Chess Club Championship New York 1957

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d3 e5 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 Bg4 6.Nbd2 Nf6 7.0-0 Qd7
8.Re1 h5 9.Nf1 h4 10.c3 Be7 11.Bg5 hxg3 12.fxg3 0-0-0 13.Qc1 Rh5
14.b4 Rdh8 15.b5 Nd8 16.a4 Bh3 17.Bxf6 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 Bxf6
19.Ra2 g5 20.Rf2 g4 21.N3d2 Bg5 22.Qd1 Bxd2 23.Qxd2 Ne6
24.Rf5 Rxf5 25.exf5 Ng7 26.Qg5 Nxf5 27.Re4 Nh6 28.Qg7 Qd8
29.Ne3 f5 30.Rc4 Qf8 31.Qg6 Kd7 32.Nd5 Qf7 33.Nf6+ Ke6
34.Qxf7+ Nxf7 35.Nxg4 fxg4 36.Rxg4 d5 37.a5 Kf5 38.Rg7 Kf6
39.Rg4 Rc8 40.h4 Nh6 41.Rg5 c4 42.Rh5 Nf7 43.d4 exd4 44.Rxd5
dxc3 45.Rd1 Rd8 46.Rc1 Rd2+ 47.Kf3 c2 48.Ke3 c3 49.g4 Ne5
50.g5+ Kg6 51.a6 b6 0-1

Fine, Reuben - (45)

Fine,Reuben - Alekhine,Alexander

AVRO Holland 1938

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.O-O Bd7 6.c3 g6 7.d4 Bg7
8.dxe5 Nxe5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.f4 Bxa4 11.Qxa4+ Qd7 12.Qxd7+ Kxd7
13.fxe5 Ke6 14.Bf4 Rf8 15.Nd2 Bxe5 16.Nb3 Bxf4 17.Rxf4 b6 18.a4
Ke5 19.g3 Nf6 20.Nd2 Nh5 21.Rf2 Ke6 22.a5 Ra8 23.Raf1 Rhd8
24.Nf3 Ke7 25.axb6 cxb6 26.Ng5 h6 27.Rxf7+ Kd6 28.Nf3 g5
29.Nd4 Re8 30.Rh7 Rh8 31.Rff7 Rxh7 32.Rxh7 Rf8 33.Rxh6+ Nf6
34.Nf3 Kc5 35.Nd2 g4 36.Rg6 Nd7 37.Rxg4 Ne5 38.Rg5 Kd6 39.Rf5
Rd8 40.Nf3 Nd3 41.Rd5+ Ke7 42.Rxd8 Kxd8 43.b3 Ke7 44.Nd2 a5
45.Kf1 b5 46.Ke2 1-0

Fine,Reuben - Botvinnik,Mikhail

AVRO Holland 1938

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.dxc5 Ne7 6.Nf3 Nbc6 7.Bd3 d4
8.a3 Ba5 9.b4 Nxb4 10.axb4 Bxb4 11.Bb5+ Nc6 12.Bxc6+ bxc6
13.Ra4 Bxc3+ 14.Bd2 f6 15.O-O O-O 16.Bxc3 dxc3 17.Qe1 a5
18.Qxc3 Ba6 19.Rfa1 Bb5 20.Rd4 Qe7 21.Rd6 a4 22.Qe3 Ra7
23.Nd2 a3 24.c4 Ba4 25.exf6 Qxf6 26.Rxa3 Re8 27.h3 Raa8 28.Nf3
Qb2 29.Ne5 Qb1+ 30.Kh2 Qf5 31.Qg3 1-0

Fine,Reuben - Lasker,Emanuel

Nottingham 1936

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.e3 O-O 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 c5
8.O-O a6 9.Qe2 b5 10.Bd3 Bb7 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.e4 Nbd7 13.Bg5 h6
14.Bh4 b4 15.Na4 Be7 16.Rfd1 Nh5 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Rac1 Ndf6
19.g3 a5 20.Nc5 Rfc8 21.Nxb7 Qxb7 22.Ne5 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Rc8
24.Rxc8+ Qxc8 25.Qc2 Qb7 26.Qc6 Qa7 27.Qc8+ Kh7 28.Nc6 Qc5
29.e5+ g6 30.exf6 Nxf6 31.Qb7 Kg8 32.Be2 Nd5 33.Ne5 1-0

Finegold, Ronald - (49)

Garwood,B - Finegold,Ronald

Motor City Open, East Detroit 1985

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 Rb8 5.Nge2 b5 6.d4 b4 7.Nd5 Ba6
8.dxc5 dxc5 9.Bf4 e5 10.Be3 Nf6 11.0-0 Nxd5 12.exd5 Nd4 13.Bxd4
cxd4 14.Re1 Be7 15.c3 dxc3 16.bxc3 0-0 17.Qa4 Qd6 18.Rac1 Bg5
19.Rc2 Bd3 20.Rb2 Bxe2 21.Rbxe2 bxc3 22.Qc6 Qa3 23.f4 exf4
24.Re8 Rbxe8 25.Qxe8 Rxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qf8 27.Rxf8+ Kxf8 28.Be4
fxg3 29.hxg3 h5 30.Kf2 Ke7 31.Ke2 Kd6 32.Kd3 Bd2 33.Bf3 g6
34.g4 hxg4 35.Bxg4 Kxd5 0-1

Finegold,Ronald - Marfia,James

US Open Chess Championship Ventura 1971

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.b3 c5 7.d3 Nc6
8.Nbd2 e5 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Bb2 f6 11.h4 Be6 12.Ne4 Qd7 13.Kh2
Rad8 14.Rc1 b6 15.Qd2 h6 16.Nc3 Qe8 17.Rfd1 Qh5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5
19.Qc3 Nd4 20.Nxd4 exd4 21.Bxd5+ Rxd5 22.Qc4 Kh8 23.Kg2 Rfd8
24.Re1 Bd6 25.e4 dxe3 26.Rxe3 Be5 27.Bxe5 Rxe5 28.Rce1 Rxe3
29.Rxe3 Re8 30.g4 1-0

Fouguelman, Alberto - (34)

Foguelman,Alberto - Pilnik,Herman

Santiago Chile 1965

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6
8.d5 Na5 9.Nd2 c5 10.Qc2 e6 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.Rd1 Qc7 13.b3 Nc6
14.Bb2 Nd4 15.Qd3 Rfe8 16.e3 Bf5 17.e4 Bg4 18.f3 Be6 19.Ne2
Nc6 20.Nf1 Rad8 21.Ne3 b5 22.Rac1 bxc4 23.bxc4 Qa5 24.a3 Ne5
25.Bxe5 dxe5 26.Nd5 Nxd5 27.cxd5 Bd7 28.Qc3 Qxc3 29.Rxc3 Bb5

30.Bf1 Bf8 31.Nc1 Bd6 32.Nb3 Rc8 33.Bc4 Rc7 34.Na5 Rb8 35.Rb1
Rcc8 36.Rcb3 Bc7 37.Bxb5 Bxa5 38.Bxa6 Rxb3 39.Rxb3 c4
40.Bxc8 cxb3 41.Ba6 Kf8 42.Kf1 Ke7 43.Ke2 b2 44.Bd3 h5 45.Kd1
Bb6 46.Kc2 Bg1 47.h3 Bd4 48.a4 g5 49.h4 gxh4 50.gxh4 Bf2
51.Kxb2 Bxh4 52.a5 Bf2 53.Kc2 h4 54.Bf1 Bc5 55.Kb3 Be3 56.Kc4
Kd6 57.Kb5 f5 58.Kc4 fxe4 59.fxe4 Bf2 60.Kd3 Be1 61.a6 Bf2
62.Ke2 Bd4 63.Kf3 Bc5 64.Kg4 Bf2 65.Kf5 Be3 66.Kf6 Bd4 67.Kf7
Kd7 68.Bh3+ Kd6 69.Ke8 Kc7 70.Ke7 Bc5+ 71.Ke6 Kb6 72.Bf1 h3
73.Bxh3 Kxa6 74.Kxe5 Kb6 75.Ke6 Kc7 76.e5 Bd4 77.d6+ Kd8
78.Kd5 Bf2 79.Bf1 Bh4 80.Bb5 1-0

Benko,Pal C - Foguelman,Alberto

Amsterdam Interzonal 1964

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ndf3 cxd4
8.cxd4 Qb6 9.g3 Bb4+ 10.Kf2 f5 11.Kg2 Ndb8 12.Bd3 Bd7 13.Ne2
a5 14.h3 Na6 15.g4 g6 16.gxf5 gxf5 17.Kh2 0-0-0 18.Be3 Be7
19.Qd2 Rdg8 20.Nc3 Nc7 21.a3 Rg7 22.Rhg1 Rhg8 23.Rxg7 Rxg7
24.Qc2 Be8 25.Na4 Qa7 26.b3 Bh5 27.Qf2 Bxf3 28.Qxf3 Nxd4
29.Qd1 b5 30.b4 axb4 31.axb4 Bxb4 32.Bf1 bxa4 33.Bxd4 Bc5
34.Rxa4 Qb6 35.Qd2 Qb3 36.Ra1 Bxd4 37.Qxd4 Qc2+ 38.Kh1
Qe4+ 39.Qxe4 fxe4 40.Kh2 Kb7 41.Be2 Kb6 42.Rc1 d4 43.Rb1+
Kc6 44.Rc1+ Kb6 45.Rb1+ Ka5 46.Bg4 Nd5 47.f5 exf5 48.Bxf5 Nc3
49.Re1 e3 50.e6 Kb4 51.Rg1 Re7 52.Kg2 Kc4 53.Kf3 Nb5 54.Ke2
Nc7 55.Rc1+ Kd5 56.Kd3 Nxe6 57.Bxe6+ Rxe6 58.Rc4 e2 59.Rc1
e1Q 0-1

Gadia, Olicio - (33)

Fonrobert,Gert Wolfgang - Gadia,Olicio

Brazil Championship Sao Paulo 1967

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 Qc7 7.Be3 g6
8.Be2 Bg7 9.Bf3 Nc6 10.Qd3 Bd7 11.Rd1 Rc8 12.0-0 0-0 13.h3 b5

14.Rf2 Na5 15.g4 Nc4 16.Bc1 e5 17.g5 Ne8 18.Nd5 Qd8 19.f5 exd4
20.f6 Nxf6 21.gxf6 Bxf6 22.Nxf6+ Qxf6 23.Bg2 Qh4 24.b3 Ne5
25.Qxd4 Bxh3 26.Qe3 Ng4 27.Qxh3 Qxf2+ 28.Kh1 Qe2 29.Bf3
Qxd1+ 0-1

Gadia,Olicio - Redolfi,Argentino Rodolfo

Mar del Plata 1960

1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Ne2 Nf6 6.Ng3 d5 7.exd5
Qxd5 8.Qxd5 Nxd5 9.c3 Be6 10.Bb5 0-0-0 11.0-0 Bc5 12.Nd2 f6
13.Nde4 Bb6 14.c4 Ndb4 15.Bd2 Nd3 16.b3 Nd4 17.Be3 Bc7
18.Bxd4 Rxd4 19.c5 a6 20.Bxd3 Rxd3 21.Rfd1 Rd7 22.Rxd7 Kxd7
23.Rd1+ Kc6 24.b4 h6 25.a4 f5 26.Nd6 g6 27.f4 b6 28.b5+ axb5
29.axb5+ Kxc5 30.fxe5 Rh7 31.Ne2 Bc4 32.Nf4 Bxd6 33.Rxd6 g5
34.Ne6+ Bxe6 35.Rxe6 Kxb5 36.Re8 Kc6 37.e6 Rb7 38.e7 Kd7
39.Rh8 Kxe7 40.Rh7+ Kd6 41.Rxb7 Kc5 42.Rh7 b5 43.Rxh6 1-0

Ivkov, Borislav - (56,59)

Ivkov,Borislav - Petrosian,Tigran

Palma de Mallorca 1968

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 Nf6 7.N1c3
a6 8.Na3 Be7 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Bd7 11.Be3 Qb8 12.f3 Bd8 13.Qd2
Bc7 14.Kh1 b6 15.Rfd1 Ne8 16.Nc2 Ne7 17.Nd4 Nc6 18.a4 Nxd4
19.Qxd4 h6 20.b4 Nf6 21.Qd2 Kh7 22.Rab1 Rd8 23.Bd3 e5 24.c5
bxc5 25.bxc5 Qc8 26.Nd5 Bxa4 27.cxd6 Rxd6 28.Rdc1 Bc6 29.Bc5
Re6 30.Bc4 Qd8 31.Rd1 Re8 32.Qc2 Nh5 33.Ne7 1-0

Ivkov,Borislav - Tal,Mihail

Capablanca Memorial Havana 1963

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 c5 6.c4 Nc6 7.Nc3 d6
8.dxc5 dxc5 9.Bf4 Nh5 10.Be3 Qa5 11.Qc1 Nd4 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bd2
Qa6 14.b3 Rad8 15.Bh6 Bg4 16.Bxg7 Nxg7 17.Nxd4 cxd4 18.Nd5
e5 19.Qg5 Bf5 20.Qf6 Qxf6 21.Nxf6+ Kh8 22.Bxb7 Rd6 23.Ne4 Rd7
24.Bc6 Rdd8 25.f3 Bc8 26.b4 Nf5 27.c5 d3 28.Bb5 d2 29.Red1 Nd4
30.Bd3 Nxf3+ 31.exf3 Rxd3 32.Rxd2 Rxf3 33.Rc1 f5 34.Nd6 f4
35.Nxc8 Rxc8 36.Kg2 e4 37.Rc4 fxg3 38.hxg3 a5 39.b5 Rf5 40.b6
e3 41.Rb2 Rb8 42.c6 1-0

Kortschnoj,Viktor - Ivkov,Borislav

URS-YUG Zagreb 1958

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 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Nbd2 Bd7 13.b4 cxb4
14.cxb4 Nc4 15.Nxc4 bxc4 16.Re3 Rfe8 17.Bb2 Bf8 18.Rc1 Qb8
19.Bc3 g6 20.Rb1 Bh6 21.Re1 Ra7 22.Nd2 Qc8 23.Nf1 Nh5 24.Ne3
Nf4 25.dxe5 dxe5 26.Nd5 Nxd5 27.exd5 f6 28.Qf3 Bf5 29.Be4 Rd8
30.Rbd1 Bg7 31.Bxf5 Qxf5 32.Qe3 Rb7 33.Qc5 Qc8 34.a4 Bf8
35.Qa5 Rd6 36.Re4 Rbd7 37.Re2 Qb7 38.Red2 Bh6 39.Re2 Rxd5
40.Rxd5 Rxd5 41.b5 axb5 42.axb5 Rxb5 43.Qd8+ Kf7 44.Bd2 Bf8
45.Be3 Rd5 46.Rb2 Rxd8 47.Rxb7+ Ke6 48.Rxh7 Rd1+ 49.Kh2 Bd6
50.Rh8 f5 51.Rc8 f4 52.Ba7 Ra1 53.Bc5 Kd7 0-1

Larsen,Bent - Ivkov,Borislav

Candidates qf2 Bled 1965

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.d4 d6 4.e4 Nf6 5.Ne2 0-0 6.0-0 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5
8.b3 Nc6 9.Bb2 Re8 10.Qxd8 Rxd8 11.Na3 Be6 12.Rad1 Ne8
13.Nc1 Nb4 14.c3 Na6 15.Nd3 Rd7 16.Nb4 Nc5 17.Rxd7 Nxd7
18.Rd1 a5 19.Nd5 c6 20.Ne3 a4 21.b4 Bf8 22.Nac4 a3 23.Bc1 Nc7
24.f4 exf4 25.gxf4 Nb5 26.Bd2 Bh6 27.Rf1 Rd8 28.Rf2 Nf6 29.Be1
Rd3 30.Bf1 Rd8 31.Bg2 Rd3 32.Bf1 Bxc4 33.Bxd3 Bxd3 34.Rd2
Bxe4 35.Rd8+ Kg7 36.c4 Bxf4 37.Kf2 Nc7 38.Bc3 Ne6 39.Ra8 h5
40.c5 g5 41.Rxa3 Bxh2 42.Ra7 g4 43.Nf1 Bf4 44.Ng3 Bg6 45.Ne2

h4 46.Nxf4 Nxf4 47.Rxb7 Be4 48.Re7 g3+ 49.Ke1 h3 50.Rxe4 h2 0-1

Keres, Paul - (30)

Keres,Paul - Alekhine,Alexander

Margate 1937

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c4 Bd7 6.Nc3 g6 7.d4 Bg7 8.Be3 Nf6 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Bc5 Nh5 11.Nd5 Nf4 12.Nxf4 exf4 13.e5 g5 14.Qd5 Bf8 15.Bxf8 Rxf8 16.0-0-0 Qe7 17.Bxc6 Bxc6 18.Qd3 Bd7 19.Nxg5 0-0-0 20.Nf3 f6 21.exf6 Rxf6 22.Rhe1 Qb4 23.Qxd7+ 1-0

Keres,Paul - Fine,Reuben

Ostend 1937

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 c5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 0-0 11.Bc4 Nd7 12.0-0 b6 13.Rad1 Bb7 14.Rfe1 Rc8 15.Bb3 Nf6 16.Qf4 Qc7 17.Qh4 Rfd8 18.Re3 b5 19.Rde1 a5 20.a4 b4 21.d5 exd5 22.e5 Nd7 23.Ng5 Nf8 24.Nxh7 Nxh7 25.Rh3 Qc1 26.Qxh7+ Kf8 27.Rhe3 d4 28.Qh8+ Ke7 29.Qxg7 Rf8 30.Qf6+ Ke8 31.e6 1-0

Keres,Paul - Taimanov,Mark

Tallinn 1975

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.b3 c5 8.Bb2 cxd4 9.exd4 d5 10.Nbd2 Nc6 11.Rc1 Rc8 12.Qe2 Re8 13.Rfd1 Bf8 14.Qe3 g6 15.h3 Nh5 16.Nf1 Qd6 17.N1h2 Bg7 18.Ne5 dxc4 19.bxc4 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Qc5 21.Bd4 Qc6 22.Bf1 Red8 23.Ng4 Rd7 24.Rd2 Rcd8 25.Rcd1 Qe4 26.Qc3 Qc6 27.Be3 Bf8 28.Bg5 Rxd2 29.Rxd2 Rd7 30.Nh6+ Kg7 31.Ng4 Kg8 32.Rd3 Rxd3 33.Qxd3

Qc7 34.Be2 Be7 35.Bxe7 Qxe7 36.Qd6 Qf8 37.Qc7 Be4 38.Qxa7
Qa8 39.Qe7 Kg7 40.Qg5 Qxa2 41.Kh2 Qb2 42.Qh6+ Kg8 43.Qe3
Bb1 44.Nh6+ Kf8 45.g4 Ng7 46.c5 b5 47.c6 Ne8 48.Qf4 Bf5 49.gxf5
gxf5 50.Qe3 Nc7 51.Bf3 b4 52.Kg2 Qc3 53.Qa7 Qxe5 54.Qb8+ 1-0

Reshevsky,Samuel Herman - Keres,Paul

World Championship 18th The Hague/Moscow 1948

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 a6 6.c5 Nbd7 7.b4 a5 8.b5
e5 9.Qa4 Qc7 10.Ba3 e4 11.Nd2 Be7 12.Be2 h5 13.b6 Qd8 14.h3
Nf8 15.0-0-0 Ne6 16.Ndxe4 Nxe4 17.Nxe4 h4 18.Nd2 0-0 19.Rhg1
Re8 20.Bd3 Bf8 21.Bb2 Ng5 22.Qc2 a4 23.a3 Qe7 24.Rde1 Ne4
25.Nf1 Qg5 26.f3 Nf6 27.Kb1 Nh5 28.Bc3 Bd7 29.f4 Qh6 30.Qf2 Qf6
31.Kb2 Bf5 32.Qc2 Be4 33.g4 hxg3 34.Nxg3 Nxg3 35.Rxg3 Bxd3
36.Qxd3 Re4 37.Reg1 Rae8 38.Rf1 Qh4 39.Rfg1 R8e6 40.Qd2 f5
41.Qd3 Qh5 42.Bd2 g6 43.Rg5 Qxh3 44.R1g3 Qh2 45.Rxg6+ Rxg6
46.Rxg6+ Kf7 47.Rg5 Be7 48.Rxf5+ Bf6 49.Kc3 Qh3 50.Rxf6+ Kxf6
51.Qc2 Qf1 52.Qxa4 Qa1+ 53.Kc2 Re8 54.Qb3 Ra8 55.Bc1 Rh8
56.e4 Rh1 57.e5+ Ke7 58.Qe3 Qa2+ 59.Kc3 Rh2 60.Qd3 Qa1+
61.Kb3 Qxc1 62.f5 Qb2+ 63.Ka4 Rh8 0-1

Larsen,Bent - Keres,Paul

San Antonio 1972

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 c5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 Be7 6.d4 d5 7.cxd5
Nxd5 8.Nxd5 exd5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.a3 Bf5 11.b4 Bb6 12.Bb2 0-0
13.Nd4 Bxd4 14.Bxd4 Re8 15.Ra2 Qd7 16.0-0 Bh3 17.Rd2 Bxg2
18.Kxg2 a5 19.Bc5 axb4 20.axb4 Re5 21.e3 Rd8 22.b5 Ne7
23.Bxe7 Qxe7 24.Qb3 h5 25.Rd4 Rd6 26.Rfd1 Qe8 27.h4 Rb6
28.Rxd5 Rxb5 29.Rxe5 Rxe5 30.Qxb7 Rc5 31.Rd6 g6 32.Rd7 Qe6
33.Rd8+ Kg7 34.Qb4 Qc4 35.Qb2+ Qc3 36.Qb7 Rf5 37.Qe7 Qb2
38.Qf8+ Kh7 39.Qg8+ Kh6 40.Rd2 Qg7 41.Qa8 Kh7 42.e4 Qc3
43.exf5 Qxd2 44.Qb7 Kg8 45.f6 Qd8 46.Qc6 Kh7 47.Qc3 Qd5+
48.f3 Qa2+ 49.Kh3 Qb1 50.Kg2 Qa2+ 51.Kf1 Qa6+ 52.Ke1 Qe6+

53.Kf2 Qa2+ 54.Kg1 Qb1+ 55.Kg2 Qa2+ 56.Kh3 Qb1 57.g4 Qh1+
58.Kg3 Qg1+ 59.Kf4 Qh2+ 60.Kg5 Qg3 61.Qe3 hxg4 62.Qf4 Qxf3
63.Qxg4 Qe3+ 64.Qf4 Qe2 65.Qg3 Qb5+ 66.Kf4 Qf5+ 67.Ke3 Qxf6
68.Qg5 Qf1 69.Qg4 Qe1+ 70.Kd3 Qe6 71.Qf4 Kg7 72.Qd4+ f6
73.Qb4 Qf5+ 74.Ke2 Kh6 75.Ke1 Kh5 76.Qc4 Qg4 77.Qc5+ Kxh4
78.Qe7 Qf5 79.Qb4+ Kh5 80.Qc4 g5 81.Qf7+ Kh4 82.Qf8 Kg3
83.Qa3+ Qf3 84.Qd6+ Kg2 85.Qd2+ Kh3 86.Qd7+ f5 87.Qg7 g4
88.Qh8+ Kg3 89.Qe5+ f4 90.Qb8 Qe3+ 91.Kd1 Kg2 0-1

Kramer, George (10)

Suraci,A - Kramer,George Mortimer

U.S. Championship South Fallsburg 1948

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.e5 Ne4 5.d4 Bg4 6.Be2 e6 7.Ng1 Bf5
8.Nxe4 Bxe4 9.Bf3 Bg6 10.c3 f6 11.exf6 Qxf6 12.Bh5 Bd6 13.Bxg6+
Qxg6 14.g3 Qe4+ 15.Qe2 Qxh1 16.Qxe6+ Be7 17.Kf1 Qe4 18.Qh3
0-0 19.Bf4 Bd6 20.Re1 Qd3+ 21.Kg2 Bxf4 0-1

Adams,Weaver Warren - Kramer,George Mortimer

U.S. Championship New York 1946

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Bd3 Bxd3 5.Qxd3 e6 6.Ne2 c5 7.c3 Ne7
8.Qb5+ Qd7 9.Qxc5 Nf5 10.Qa5 b6 0-1

Kramer,George Mortimer - Serpik,Illia V

U.S. Open 97th Alexandria 1996

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4 fxe4 5.Nxe5 Nf6 6.Bc4 d5 7.Nxd5
Nxd5 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Nxg6 Nf6 10.Bf7+ Kxf7 11.Ne5+ Ke6 12.Qf7+
Kd6 13.Nc4# 1-0

Kupper, Josef - (28)

Kupper, Josef - Robatsch, Karl

Clare Benedict Cup 10th Luzern 1963

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2
Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Ne7 9.Bf4 Qa5 10.Bd6 Nc6 11.Qd2 Ne5 12.b4 Qa3
13.Bxe5 Bxb4 14.Rb1 f6 15.Rb3 Qa5 16.Bd6 Bxd6 17.Qxd6 b5
18.Ra3 Qd8 19.Nxb5 Kf7 20.e5 1-0

Kupper, Josef - Maier, Georg

Mitropa Cup Vienna 1953

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Bg5 Bg7 5.e5 Nfd7 6.f4 dxe5 7.dxe5 c6
8.Bc4 Qa5 9.Nf3 Nc5 10.Bxe7 Kxe7 11.Qd6+ Ke8 12.Ng5 Rf8 13.0-0
0-0 Bf5 14.Rhe1 Bh6 15.e6 fxe6 16.Nxe6 Bxe6 17.Rxe6+ 1-0

Kupper, Josef - Christoffel, Martin

Zuerich 1961

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 Nxe4 7.d4 Bd7
8.Re1 f5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Nbd2 Qf6 11.Nxe4 fxe4 12.Bg5 Qf5 13.Bc2
Bd6 14.Bxe4 Qg4 15.Qd3 Qh5 16.Qc4 h6 17.Bxc6 Bxc6 18.Rxe5+
1-0

Kupper, Josef - Olafsson, Fridrik

Zuerich 1959

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 e5 7.Nf3 Qc7
8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.a4 b6 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Qe1 g6 12.Qh4 Bg7 13.fxe5
dxe5 14.Bh6 0-0 15.Ng5 Nh5? 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Rxf7+ Kg8 18.Rg7+
Kh8 19.Rxh7+ Kg8 20.Rg7+ 1-0

Lapiken, Peter - (4)

Lapiken, Peter Petrovich - Levy, Louis

U.S. Championship Open 62th San Francisco 1961

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 Bg4 6.f3 Bf5 7.a3
e6 8.Bd2 c6 9.g4 Bg6 10.h4 h6 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.0-0-0 Nbd7 13.Nh3
0-0-0 14.Nf4 Bh7 15.Bxe6 fxe6 16.Nxe6 Qb6 17.Nxd8 Qxd8 18.g5
Nh5 19.Rhe1 Bd6 20.Qe6 Bg3 21.d5 Nf4 22.Bxf4 Bxf4+ 23.Kb1 c5
24.g6 Bg8 25.Qg4 Qf8 26.Re4 Bb8 27.Rde1 Kd8 28.h5 Nf6 29.Qf5
Qd6 30.Re5 a6 31.a4 Qd7 32.Qxd7+ Kxd7 33.Re7+ Kd6 34.Rxg7
Bxd5 35.Nxd5 Kxd5 36.Rxb7 Nxh5 37.Rb6 a5 38.Re4 c4 39.Rb5+ 1-
0

Leopoldi, Norbert - (48)

Formanek, Edward W - Leopoldi, Norbert

Illinois Open 1963

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 d4 4.g3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bf5 6.Bg2 Bb4+ 7.Bd2
Bc5 8.0-0 Nge7 9.Qa4 Bd7 10.Qb3 0-0 11.e3 Ng6 12.exd4 Bxd4
13.Bc3 Bc5 14.Nbd2 Re8 15.Rfe1 Rb8 16.a3 h5 17.Ne4 Be7 18.h4
Qc8 19.Re3 Bf5 20.Rae1 Nd8 21.Nfg5 Ne6 22.Nxe6 Bxe6 23.Qd1
Rd8 24.Qe2 Nf8 25.Ng5 Bxg5 26.hxg5 g6 27.f4 Bf5 28.Kf2 Ne6
29.Bf3 Nc5 30.Rh1 Nd3+ 31.Kg2 Kf8 32.b4 c5 33.b5 Qe6 34.Bd5
Rxd5! 35.cxd5 Qxd5+ 36.Qf3 Qc4 37.Ba1 Qxb5 38.Rd1 c4 39.e6

fxe6 40.Bc3 Qd5 41.Qxd5 exd5 42.Bf6 Be4+ 43.Kg1 Re8 44.Kh2
Nf2 0-1

Matulovic, Milan - (60)

Janosevic,Dragoljub - Matulovic,Milan

Kragujevac 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.Re1 Nf6 6.h3 0-0 7.e5 Nd5
8.Nc3 Nc7 9.Bxc6 dxc6 10.d3 Ne6 11.Ne4 b6 12.Neg5 h6 13.Nxe6
Bxe6 14.Bf4 Qd7 15.Qe2 Rae8 16.Rad1 g5 17.Bc1 g4 18.Nh2 gxh3
19.Qh5 Kh7 20.Re4 Bf5 21.Rh4 Qe6 22.Nf3 Qg6 23.Ng5+ Kg8
24.Nxh3 Qxh5 0-1

Matulovic,Milan - Balashov,Yuri S

YUG-URS Teslic 1979

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 Nc6 5.exd5 exd5 6.Bb5 Bd6 7.0-0
Nge7 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Nb3 Bd6 10.Nbd4 0-0 11.Be3 Qc7 12.h3 a6
13.Bd3 Ng6 14.Re1 Re8 15.c3 Bd7 16.Qc2 Na5 17.Rad1 Nc4
18.Bc1 Bc5 19.Bf5 Rxe1+ 20.Rxe1 Re8 21.Rd1 Bxd4 22.Nxd4 Bxf5
23.Nxf5 Nf4 24.b3 Nb6 25.Be3 Qxc3 26.Qxc3 Ne2+ 27.Kh2 Nxc3
28.Rd3 d4 29.Bxd4 Ncd5 30.Nxg7 Re2 31.Nf5 h5 32.Bxb6 Nxb6
33.Rd6 Rxf2 34.Nh6+ Kg7 35.Rxb6 f6 36.Kg1 Rxa2 37.Nf5+ Kg6
38.Nh4+ Kg5 39.g3 1-0

Mednis, Edmar (11,16,25)

Mednis,Edmar John - Timman,Jan H

Parcetic Memorial 6th Sombor 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 Nc6 7.g5 Nd7
8.Be3 Nc5 9.Qd2 a6 10.0-0-0 Bd7 11.f4 b5 12.Bg2 b4 13.Nce2 Rb8
14.Kb1 Qc7 15.h4 a5 16.h5 a4 17.g6 b3 18.gxf7+ Kxf7 19.cxb3 axb3
20.a3 h6 21.Rhf1 Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Ke8 23.Qf2 Bc8 24.e5 Rb6 25.f5
Bb7 26.fxe6 dxe5 27.Qg3 Bxg2 28.Qg6+ Kd8 29.Nb5+ Rd6 30.Qxg2
1-0

Mednis,Edmar John - Kortschnoj,Viktor

Vienna Open 1986

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 g6 4.c3 d6 5.d4 Qe7 6.dxe5 Nxe5 7.Nxe5
dxe5 8.0-0 Nf6 9.Qf3 Be6 10.Bg5 Bg7 11.Nd2 h6 12.Bxf6 Bxf6
13.Bxe6 Qxe6 14.Nc4 Bg5 15.b3 0-0-0 16.Rad1 c6 17.Rxd8+ Rxd8
18.Rd1 h5 19.Rxd8+ Bxd8 20.Qxf7 Qxf7 21.Nd6+ Kc7 22.Nxf7 Bf6
23.Kf1 1-0

Mednis,Edmar John - Zuckerman,Bernard

U.S. Championship Pasadena 1978

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.0-0 0-0 6.d4 Bb6 7.Bg5 h6
8.Bh4 d6 9.a4 a5 10.Qd3 exd4 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Nxd4 Ba6 13.c4 g5
14.Bg3 d5 15.Nxc6 Bxc4 16.Qf3 dxe4 17.Qf5 Be6 18.Qe5 Nd7
19.Nxd8 Nxe5 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Bxe5 e3 22.Nc3 exf2+ 23.Kh1 Rf5
24.Bg3 Raf8 25.Rad1 h5 26.h3 h4 27.Bh2 Kg7 28.g4 Rf3 29.Kg2
Kg6 30.Rd7 R8f7 31.Rxf7 Rxf7 32.Be5 c6 33.Ne4 Rd7 34.Nxf2 Rd2
35.Kf3 Rc2 36.Bc3 Kh6 37.Ne4 Rh2 38.Be5 Rxh3+ 39.Kg2 Re3
40.Rf6+ Kg7 41.Rf3+ Kg6 42.Rxe3 Bxe3 43.Bc7 1-0

Smith,Kenneth R - Mednis,Edmar John

US Open 52nd Fort Worth 1951

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.e4 Bc5 4.f4 d6 5.Nf3 Ng4 6.d4 exd4 7.Na4 Bb4+ 8.Ke2 c5 9.a3 Qe7 10.axb4 Qxe4+ 11.Kd2 Ne3 12.Bd3 Qxf4 13.Re1 0-0 14.Rxe3 Qxe3+ 15.Kc2 Qe7 16.Nb6 Be6 17.Nxa8 Nc6 18.Bd2 Rxa8 19.Qe2 f6 20.Re1 Re8 21.Qe4 g6 22.bxc5 dxc5 23.g4 Qf7 24.Qe2 Re7 25.g5 Bf5 26.Qf1 Qxc4+ 27.Bc3 Bxd3+ 28.Qxd3 Nb4+ 0-1

Burger,Karl - Mednis,Edmar John

U.S. Championship New York 1969

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 a6 8.0-0-0 Bd7 9.f4 Be7 10.Nf3 b5 11.e5 b4 12.exd6 bxc3 13.Qxc3 Bf8 14.f5 Qa5 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.fxe6 fxe6 17.Qxf6 Rg8 18.Bc4 Bg7 19.Qh4 Rb8 20.Bb3 Qf5 21.Rhe1 Bf6 22.Qf2 Kd8 23.Kb1 a5 24.Rd3 a4 25.Bxa4 Rxb2+ 26.Kc1 Qf4+ 27.Ree3 Qxa4 28.Ne5 Bxe5 29.Rb3 Rxb3 30.Rxe5 Qa3+ 0-1

Minic, Dragoljub - (58)

Ljubojevic,Ljubomir - Minic,Dragoljub

Rovinj Zagreb 1975

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.Nb3 Nc6 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Be2 d5 12.Nd1 Qa3 13.exd5 exd5 14.0-0 d4 15.Re1 Be7 16.Bc4 0-0 17.c3 Rd8 18.Nf2 b5 19.Bd3 f5 20.Qc2 Qd6 21.Bxf5 Bxf5 22.Qxf5 dxc3 23.Re3 Qf6 24.Qe4 Qe6 25.Qf3 Qd5 26.Qg3+ Kh8 27.Rxe7 Nxe7 28.Qxc3+ Kg8 29.Ng4 Qc6 30.Nf6+ Kh8 31.Qb2 Ng8 32.Nh5+ f6 33.g4 Rac8 34.g5 Qf3 35.gxf6 Rd1+ 0-1

Spassky,Boris V - Minic,Dragoljub

URS-YUG Soviet Union 1965

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 g6 5.f4 Bg7 6.Nf3 e5 7.0-0 Nge7
8.d3 0-0 9.Be3 exf4 10.gxf4 f5 11.Qd2 Rb8 12.a3 b6 13.Rae1 h6
14.Kh1 Be6 15.Rg1 Qd7 16.Qf2 d5 17.exd5 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5
19.Qg3 Kh7 20.c3 Rbe8 21.h4 Re6 22.Bd2 Rd6 23.Kh2 Re8
24.Rxe8 Qxe8 25.h5 g5 26.fxg5 Qxh5+ 27.Nh4 Be5 28.Bf4 hxg5
29.Bxe5 Nxe5 30.Bh3 Ng4+ 31.Bxg4 fxg4 0-1

Nievergelt, Erwin - (29)

Nievergelt,Erwin - Diemer,Emil Joseph

SUI Championship 57th 1956

1.d4 Nc6 2.e4 e5 3.dxe5 f6 4.exf6 Nxf6 5.Bg5 Bc5?? 6.Bxf6 Qxf6
7.Qh5+ Kd8 8.Qxc5 Qxb2 9.Qc3 Qc1+ 10.Ke2 b6? 11.Nd2 Nd4+
12.Qxd4 Qxc2 13.Ngf3 Re8 14.Ke3 c5 15.Qd5 Rb8 16.Qb3 1-0

Travnitzky,Gustav - Nievergelt,Erwin

Mitropa Cup Vienna 1953

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.Bb5 dxe4 5.Nxe5 Qd5 6.Qa4 Nge7
7.Nxc6 Nxc6 8.0-0 Bc5 9.Re1 0-0 10.b4 Bd6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Qc2
Qh5 13.g3 Bg4 14.f4 exf3 15.d4 Rae8 16.Be3 Re6 17.Qf2 f5 18.Nd2
Rg6 19.Kh1 f4 20.gxf4 Bh3 21.a3 Bg2+ 22.Kg1 Qh3 23.Ne4 Rf5
24.Qa2+ Kf8 25.Bf2 Bxf4 26.Bg3 Bxg3 27.hxg3 f2+ 28.Nxf2 Qxg3
29.Re8+ Kxe8 30.Qg8+ Kd7 0-1

Olafsson, Fridrik - (35,39)

Tal,Mihail - Olafsson,Fridrik

Las Palmas 1975

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Qe2 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.c3 e5 7.Bb5 exd4
8.cxd4 Nd7 9.Be3 Bg7 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.Nbd2 0-0 12.Rc1 c5
13.dxc5 Bxb2 14.Rc2 Bg7 15.0-0 Re8 16.Rd1 Nxc5 17.Bxc5 dxc5
18.Rxc5 Qd6 19.Rdc1 Bh6 20.Rxc7 Rad8 21.R1c2 Bxd2 22.Qxd2
Qf4 23.Re7 Rf8 24.Qa5 Rd1+ 25.Ne1 Qg5 0-1

Olafsson,Fridrik - Petrosian,Tigran V

Candidates Tournament Bled/Zagreb/Belgrade 1959

1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 Bb4 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bxf6
Qxf6 8.Qa4+ Nc6 9.e3 0-0 10.Be2 Be6 11.0-0 a6 12.Rfc1 Bd6
13.Qd1 Ne7 14.Na4 b6 15.Nc3 Rfb8 16.a4 Nc6 17.e4 dxe4 18.Nxe4
Qf4 19.d5 Qxe4 20.dxe6 Rd8 21.exf7+ Kxf7 22.Qe1 Kf8 23.Rc4 Qe8
24.Rac1 Ne5 25.Re4 Nxf3+ 26.Bxf3 Qf7 27.Re3 Bf4 28.Bxa8 Bxe3
29.fxe3 Rxa8 30.Qg3 Kg8 31.Rxc7 Qf6 32.Qf2 Qe5 33.Rd7 Re8
34.Rd3 Qe4 35.Qc2 Kh7 36.Qd1 Re6 37.Rc3 Rg6 38.Qc2 Qxc2
39.Rxc2 Rd6 40.Kf2 Rd3 41.Kf3 Rb3 42.Ke4 a5 43.Kd4 g5 44.e4
Kg7 45.Rf2 Rb4+ 46.Kd5 Rxa4 47.e5 Ra1 48.e6 b5 49.e7 Rd1+
50.Kc6 Re1 51.Kxb5 Re5+ 52.Ka4 Rxe7 53.Kxa5 Ra7+ 54.Kb4 Ra8
55.b3 h5 56.Kc5 Rc8+ 57.Kd6 Rd8+ 58.Kc6 Rc8+ 59.Kd7! Rc1
60.Rb2 Rh1 61.b4 Rxh2 62.b5 Rh1 63.b6 Rd1+ 64.Ke6 Rd8 65.b7
Rb8 66.Kf5 1-0

Olafsson,Fridrik - Quinteros,Miguel Angel

Las Palmas 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 b5
8.Bf3 Nc6 9.e5 b4 10.exf6 bxc3 11.Nxc6 dxc6 12.Bf4 Qd7 13.Qe2
Qb7 14.bxc3 Bd7 15.Rab1 Qa7 16.Rfd1 gxf6 17.Qc4 Bc5 18.Rxd7
Kxd7 19.Bxc6+ Kxc6 20.Qa4+ 1-0

Olafsson,Fridrik - Kavalek,Lubomir

Hoogovens Wijk aan Zee 1969

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.b3 Bg7 4.Bb2 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.d4 Nfd7 7.Nc3 e5
8.Qd2 Re8 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.0-0-0 Nd7 12.h4 h5 13.f4
Bg7 14.g4 hxg4 15.h5 Nf8 16.h6 Bf6 17.Nd5 Bxb2+ 18.Kxb2 Nh7
19.Qc3 f6 20.Nxc7 Bf5 21.Qc4+ Kf8 22.Nxa8 1-0

Pilnik, Herman - (22)

Pilnik,Herman - Reinhardt,Enrique Heinrich

Mar del Plata 1958

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.d3 Nf6 5.0-0 fxe4 6.dxe4 Bc5 7.Bg5 d6
8.Nc3 a6 9.Bc4 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Nd5 Qd8 12.b4 Ba7 13.Ne1 0-0
14.Nxc7+ Kh8 15.Nxa8 Qh4 16.Nf3 Qh5 17.Nc7 Bh3 18.Ne6 1-0

Najdorf,Miguel - Pilnik,Herman

Buenos Aires 1973

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7
8.e4 a6 9.a4 Bg7 10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 Re8 12.Qc2 Ne5 13.Nd1 g5
14.h3 Ng6 15.Ne3 Nf4 16.Re1 Nxe2+ 17.Rxe2 b6 18.Rb1 Ra7 19.b3
Rae7 20.f3 Nh5 21.Bb2 Bd4 22.Kh2 f5 23.Qc4 Bxb2 24.Rxb2 Re5
25.Rf2 g4 26.fxg4 fxg4 27.g3 gxh3 28.Qf1 Rg5 29.Nf5 Bxf5 30.Rxf5
Nxc3 31.Rxc3 Qxc3 32.Qxh3 Nh5 33.Qg2 Qxg2+ 34.Kxg2 Nf4+
35.Kf3 Nd3 36.Rb1 b5 37.axb5 axb5 38.Ra1 Ne5+ 39.Ke3 Rf8
40.Ra6 Rf6 41.Rb6 h5 42.Rxb5 h4 43.b4 c4 44.Kd4 h3 45.Ra5 h2
46.Ra1 Rg6 0-1

Purevzhav, S - (43)

Rawlings, Tim - Purevzhav, S

WchT U26 fin-B 05th Varna 1958

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.Nf3 e5 5.c4 Qd6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.g3 Nf6
8.d3 Be7 9.Bg2 Bf5 10.Qb3 0-0 11.Bg5 Nb4 12.0-0 Bxd3 13.Rfd1
Qe6 14.Rxd3 Nxd3 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 e4 17.Nd2 Bxb2 18.Rb1
Bd4 19.Nxe4 f5 20.Qxd3 fxe4 21.Bxe4 Rxf2 22.Kh1 Qh3 0-1

Reshevsky, Samuel - (21)

Euwe, Max - Reshevsky, Samuel Herman

World Championship 18th The Hague/Moscow 1948

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bd2 0-0 7.a3
Bxc3 8.Bxc3 a5 9.e3 Qe7 10.Bd3 e5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.0-0 Re8
13.Bf5 Bxf5 14.Qxf5 Qe6 15.Qxe6 Rxe6 16.b4 Ne4 17.Bb2 f6 18.b5
Ne7 19.Rfd1 Rd6 20.Kf1 Nc8 21.Rdc1 c5 22.Bc3 Nxc3 23.Rxc3 e4
24.Ng1 Nb6 25.Ne2 f5 26.Ke1 Rad8 27.Rc2 Kf7 28.Ng3 Ke6 29.Nf1
Rd3 30.Ng3 g5 31.Ne2 Na4 32.Ng3 Ke5 33.Nf1 h5 34.f3 Rb3
35.fxe4 fxe4 36.Rf2 Nb2 37.Rc2 Nd3+ 38.Ke2 Rf8 39.Nd2 Rf2+
40.Kd1 Rb2 41.Rxb2 Nxb2+ 42.Kc1 Rxg2 0-1

Fine, Reuben - Reshevsky, Samuel Herman

Kemer 1937

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.d4 Bg7 5.c4 c6 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e4 Nb6
8.0-0 Bg4 9.Be3 c5 10.e5 Nc6 11.dxc5 Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Nc4 13.Nbd2
Nxe3 14.fxe3 0-0-0 15.Nc4 Be6 16.Bf1 Bd5 17.Be2 Kc7 18.Kf2 Rhf8

19.Nd6 Bxf3 20.Nb5+ Kb8 21.Bxf3 Nxe5 22.Be2 Nc6 23.Nc3 Bxc3
24.bxc3 Kc7 25.e4 Ne5 26.Rd5 Nd7 27.Bb5 Nf6 28.Rxd8 Rxd8
29.Ke3 Nd7 30.Bxd7 Rxd7 31.Rf1 e6 32.g4 Kc6 33.g5 Kxc5 34.Rf4
Kd6 35.Rh4 f6 36.gxf6 Ke5 37.Rf4 Rf7 38.Rf1 Rxf6 39.Rb1 Rf7
40.Rb5+ Kd6 41.a4 a6 42.Rg5 Rf1 0-1

Reshevsky,Samuel Herman - Bisguier,Arthur Bernard

Rosenwald New York 1955

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ne4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.a3 d6 6.Qc2 Bf5 7.Nc3
Nxf2 8.Qxf5 Nxh1 9.e6 fxe6 10.Qxe6+ Qe7 11.Qd5 h6 12.g3 g5
13.Bg2 Nxg3 14.hxg3 Bg7 15.Bh3 Ne5 16.Bd2 g4 17.Bxg4 h5
18.Bf5 c6 19.Qe4 Kd8 20.Ng5 Bf6 21.Ne6+ Kc8 22.0-0-0 Kb8 23.Bf4
b6 24.Kb1 1-0

Robatsch, Karl - (52)

Borodin,Grigory Andreevich - Robatsch,Karl

Mitropa Cup Vienna 1953

1.d4 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 d6 4.e4 Nc6 5.c3 e5 6.Be3 Nf6 7.h3 d5
8.dxe5 Nxe4 9.Nd2 Nxd2 10.Qxd2 Nxe5 11.Bc5 Be6 12.Rd1 c6
13.Ne2 b6 14.Bd4 0-0 15.Bxe5 Bxe5 16.f4 Bg7 17.0-0 Qd6 18.g4 f5
19.g5 Rad8 20.Nd4 Bf7 21.Qf2 c5 22.Nb3 d4 23.Kh2 d3 24.Rd2 c4
25.Nc1 Rfe8 26.Kg3 Re7 27.Bf3 Qxf4+ 0-1

Meduna,Eduard - Robatsch,Karl

Tirnavia 1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Ne4 4.Bh4 d5 5.e3 Bg7 6.Nbd2 Nd6 7.Be2
c6 8.0-0 Nd7 9.c4 Nf5 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bf4 g5 12.Bg3 h5 13.Bd3 Nf8
14.Qc2 e6 15.h4 Nxg3 16.fxg3 g4 17.Ne5 f5 18.cxd5 Bxe5 19.dxe5

cx d5 20.e4 dxe4 21.Nxe4 fxe4 22.Bxe4 Qb6+ 23.Kh2 Bd7 24.Rad1 Rc8 25.Qd2 Qd8 26.Bxb7 Rc7 27.Be4 Qe7 28.Rf6 Bc6 29.Bd3 Bd5 30.Qa5 Qc5 31.Bb5+ Ke7 32.Qa4 Nd7 33.Bxd7 Rxd7 34.Rf7+ Kxf7 35.Qxd7+ Kg6 36.b4 Qf2 37.Rg1 Qf7 38.Qb5 Rf8 39.Qd3+ Qf5 40.Qe3 Rf7 41.Rd1 Rc7 42.Rd2 Rc2 0-1

Sanguineti, Raul - (20)

Shocron,Ruben - Sanguineti,Raul

Buenos Aires 1958

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 c6 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Bd3 c5 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.Qb3 Na6 10.cxd5 Nxc5 11.Qb5 Nxd3+ 12.Qxd3 Nxd5 13.0-0 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bf5 15.e4 Rfd8 16.Qe3 Be6 17.Rfc1 Bc4 18.Nd2 Rac8 19.f3 b6 20.Nxc4 Rxc4 21.Rd1 Rdc8 22.Rd5 Qxc3 23.Rad1 Qxe3+ 24.Bxe3 Bb2 25.Rd8+ Rxd8 26.Rxd8+ Kg7 27.Rd7 Bc1 28.Bf2 Bf4 29.g3 Rc7 30.Rd8 Bd6 31.Bd4+ f6 32.Ra8 h5 33.Kf2 Rc2+ 34.Kf1 Rd2 35.Be3 Rd3 36.Bf2 Rxf3 0-1

Sanguineti,Raul - Rogoff,K

Biel Interzonal Biel 1976

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.g3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Rd1 a6 10.Ng5 Bxg2 11.Kxg2 Nc6 12.Qf4 0-0 13.Nge4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Qc7 15.Bf4 Ne5 16.Rac1 Rfd8 17.b3 h6 18.f3 Nd7 19.Qb1 Nf6 20.Ne4 Qc6 21.Nxf6+ Bxf6 22.Qe4 Qxe4 23.fxe4 Be7 24.e5 dxe5 25.Bxe5 Rxd1 26.Rxd1 Rd8 27.Rd3 Rc8 28.Rd7 Bf6 29.Bxf6 gxf6 30.Rb7 Rc6 31.Kf3 Kg7 32.Ke3 f5 33.Kd4 Kf6 34.b4 Rd6+ 35.Kc3 Rc6 36.a4 Kg5 37.Rxf7 Kg4 38.b5 axb5 39.axb5 Rc5 40.e4 fxe4 41.Rf4+ Kg5 42.Rxe4 Kf6 43.Rf4+ Ke7 44.Rf2 Re5 45.Ra2 Kd6 46.Ra7 Re3+ 47.Kb4 Re1 48.Rb7 Rb1+ 49.Kc3 Rc1+ 50.Kd3 Kc5 51.Rc7+ Kb4 52.Rc6 h5 53.Rxb6 Rc3+ 54.Kd2 Rxc4 55.Rxe6 Kxb5 56.Re5+ Kc6 57.Rxh5 Kd6 58.Ke3 Ke6 59.Kf3 Kf6 60.h4 Kg6 61.Re5 Rc1 62.Kg4 Rc4+ 63.Kh3 Rc3 64.Rb5 Ra3 65.h5+ Kh6 66.Kh4 Ra1 67.Rb6+ Kh7 68.g4 Rc1 69.Rb7+ Kg8

70.h6 Ra1 71.Kh5 Ra5+ 72.g5 Rc5 73.Re7 Ra5 74.Kg6 Ra8 75.Kf6
Rf8+ 76.Ke6 Rf1 77.g6 Re1+ 78.Kd6 Rd1+ 79.Kc5 Rc1+ 80.Kd4
Rd1+ 81.Kc3 Rc1+ 82.Kb2 Rc8 83.Kb3 Rb8+ 84.Kc4 Ra8 85.Kc5 1-
0

Sharapu, Ortvin - (57)

Bogoljubow,Efim - Sarapu,Ortvin

Oldenburg 1949

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Nbd2 d5 5.e3 0-0 6.a3 Be7 7.Bd3
Nbd7 8.c5 c6 9.Qc2 Re8 10.b4 Qc7 11.Bb2 Nf8 12.Ne5 N6d7 13.0-0
f6 14.Nef3 e5 15.e4 dxe4 16.Bc4+ Kh8 17.Nxe4 exd4 18.Bxd4 Ne5
19.Bxe5 fxe5 20.Nfg5 Bxg5 21.Nxg5 g6 22.f4 Ne6 23.Bxe6 Bxe6
24.Qc3 Bd5 25.Rae1 Qg7 26.Rxe5 Rxe5 27.fxe5 Re8 28.Rf6 Kg8
29.h4 Qd7 30.Qd4 Qe7 31.e6 Qg7 32.Qf4 h6 33.Nf7 Rxe6 34.Nxh6+
Kh7 35.Ng4 Re4 36.h5 Rxf4 37.hxg6+ Qxg6 38.Rxf4 Qb1+ 39.Kh2
Qb2 0-1

Shirazi,Kamran G - Sarapu,Ortvin

Wellington 1978

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nbd2 Be7 6.dxe5 Nxe5
7.Nxe5 dxe5 8.Bc4 0-0 9.0-0 c6 10.a4 Qc7 11.a5 Rb8 12.Re1 b5
13.axb6 axb6 14.Bf1 b5 15.h3 h6 16.Qf3 Be6 17.c4 Bb4 18.Qb3
bxc4 19.Qc2 Rfd8 20.Re3 Rd4 21.Nxc4 Rbd8 22.Rf3 Rd1 23.Ra4
Bxc4 24.Qxc4 R8d4 25.Qc2 Qd6 26.g3 Qc5 27.Qxc5 Bxc5 28.Ra8+
Kh7 29.Be3 Rxe4 30.Kh2 Bxe3 31.Bg2 Rb4 32.Rxe3 Rxb2 33.Rf3
e4 34.Rxf6 gxf6 35.Bxe4+ Kg7 36.g4 Rxf2+ 37.Kg3 Rb2 38.Bxc6
Rd3+ 39.Kf4 Rb4+ 40.Be4 Rxh3 41.Re8 Ra3 42.Kf5 Raa4 43.Kf4
Rxe4+ 44.Rxe4 Rxe4+ 45.Kxe4 0-1

Sharp, C - (1)

Sharp, C - Myers, Hugh Edward

U.S. Open 52nd Fort Worth 1951

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 g6 4.e4 Bg7 5.Be3 Nbd7 6.Be2 0-0 7.Qd2 Ng4 8.Bf4 e5 9.dxe5 Ngxe5 10.Nd4 Nc5 11.Bg5 Qe8 12.0-0 Ne6 13.Nxe6 Bxe6 14.Nd5 Bxd5 15.exd5 Qd7 16.h3 f6 17.Be3 Rae8 18.Qb4 Qc8 19.c4 b6 20.a4 a5 21.Qd2 Rf7 22.b4 axb4 23.Qxb4 f5 24.Bf4 Nc6 25.Qd2 Bxa1 26.Rxa1 Rfe7 27.Bf1 Na5 28.Qc3 Rf7 29.Bc1 h5 30.Qg3 f4 31.Qxg6+ Rg7 32.Qxh5 Re5 33.Qh6 Nb3 34.Bb2 Nxa1 35.Bxa1 Qf5 36.Qh4 Qg5 37.Qxg5 Rg5 38.Bxe5 Rxe5 39.g4 fxg3 40.fxg3 Re3 41.Kg2 Kg7 42.h4 Ra3 43.Be2 Kg6 44.g4 Rc3 45.Kf2 Rh3 46.h5+ Kg5 47.Ke1 Kf4 48.Kd2 Rh2 49.Kd3 Rg2 50.Bd1 Rg3+ 51.Kd4 Rg2 52.Kc3 Ke3 53.h6 Rh2 54.g5 Kf4 55.Bc2 Kxg5 56.h7 Kf6 57.Kb4 Kg7 58.Bd3 Rb2+ ½-½

Sherwin, James - (9)

Weinstein, Raymond Allen - Sherwin, James T

U.S. Championship New York 1959

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Bxc4 c5 6.0-0 a6 7.Qe2 b5 8.Bb3 Bb7 9.a4 Nbd7 10.axb5 axb5 11.Rxa8 Qxa8 12.Nc3 b4 13.Nb5 Qb8 14.e4 cxd4 15.Nfxd4 Nc5 16.e5 Nfd7 17.Bf4 Nxb3 18.Nxb3 Bd5 19.Ra1 Nb6 20.Nd2 Bc5 21.Rc1 Nd7 22.Be3 Qxe5 23.Rxc5 Nxc5 24.f4 Qxb2 25.Bxc5 Qc1+ 0-1

Olafsson, Fridrik - Sherwin, James T

Portoroz Interzonal 1958

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.d4 c5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e3 Nc6 7.Bd3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.a3 cxd4 10.exd4 Nf6 11.Bc2 a6 12.Qd3 b6 13.Bg5 g6 14.Rad1 Bb7 15.Rfe1 Re8 16.Bb3 b5 17.Bh6 b4 18.axb4 Nxb4 19.Qe2 Qb6 20.Ne5 Nbd5 21.Bc4 Rac8 22.Na4 Qa7 23.b3 Bb4 24.Qf3 Ba8 25.Re2 Nh5 26.Qg4 f5 27.Qh4 Be7 28.Qh3 Nh4 29.Bxf4 Nxf4 30.Qe3 Nxe2+ 31.Qxe2 Bd5 32.Bxd5 exd5 33.Qf3 Red8 34.g4 Qb7 35.Nc5 Bxc5 36.dxc5 fxc4 37.Nxc4 Rf8 38.Qe3 Qg7 39.Rxd5 Rce8 40.Ne5 Rf5 41.f4 0-1

Shuttles, Duncan - (53)

Seirawan,Yasser - Suttles,Duncan

Vancouver Open 1981

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 Be6 5.d3 Qd7 6.Rb1 g6 7.b4 Bg7 8.b5 Nd8 9.e3 Nh6 10.a4 0-0 11.Qc2 Re8 12.Bd2 Kh8 13.h4 f6 14.Nge2 Nh7 15.a5 a6 16.Nd5 Rg8 17.Qa4 Bf5 18.Qa3 g5 19.e4 Bg4 20.f3 Be6 21.b6 c6 22.Nc7 Rb8 23.Qc1 Qe7 24.d4 exd4 25.Nxd4 Ne5 26.0-0 Bxc4 27.Nf5 Qd7 28.Rf2 d5 29.hxg5 Nd3 30.Qc3 fxc5 31.Nxc4 Qxc5 32.exd5 cxd5 33.Nxd5 Ne5 34.Nc7 Ndc6 35.f4 gxf4 36.gxf4 Rbf8 37.Re1 Rf5 38.Qh3 Nd3 39.Re4 Rh5 40.Qe3 Qh6 41.Bc3+ Nde5 0-1

Larsen,Bent - Suttles,Duncan

Sousse Interzonal 1967

1.e4 g6 2.f4 Bg7 3.Nf3 c5 4.d3 Nc6 5.Be2 d6 6.0-0 b5 7.Kh1 Rb8 8.a4 b4 9.Nbd2 h5 10.e5 Nh6 11.Nc4 Nf5 12.Qe1 0-0 13.Bd1 Be6 14.Ng5 Bxc4 15.dxc4 dxe5 16.Qe4 Rb6 17.Bxh5 Ncd4 18.Bd1 exf4 19.Bxf4 Ne6 20.Bg4 Nxf4 21.Bxf5 e5 22.h4 gxf5 23.Qxf5 Rh6 24.g3 Qa8+ 25.Qe4 Qxe4+ 26.Nxe4 Ne6 27.Rf5 Rg6 28.Kg2 Rd8 29.c3 Rd3 30.Kf2 Rg4 31.Re1 Kf8 32.Re3 Rxe3 33.Kxe3 Ke7 34.a5 Rg6 35.Rf1 Bh6+ 36.Kd3 Rg8 37.Kc2 Rb8 38.Nf6 b3+ 39.Kd3 Nf4+ 40.gxf4 Kxf6 41.fxe5+ Kxe5 42.Rxf7 Rd8+ 43.Ke2 Rd2+ 44.Kf3

Rxb2 45.Re7+ Kf5 46.Rf7+ Kg6 47.Rxa7 Ra2 48.Rb7 b2 49.Kg4 Bc1
50.h5+ Kf6 51.Rb6+ Ke5 52.h6 Bxh6 0-1

Tringov, Georgi - (51)

Wade,Robert Graham - Tringov,Georgi P

Teeside 1972

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 b6 6.Be3 Bb7 7.Bd3 c5
8.d5 Nbd7 9.Nge2 Ne5 10.f4 Nxd3+ 11.Qxd3 0-0 12.0-0 a6 13.a4
Qc7 14.h3 e6 15.Bf2 exd5 16.exd5 Rae8 17.Bh4 Nd7 18.Rf3 f5
19.Re1 Nf6 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Re3 Qd7 22.Kf1 Rxe3 23.Qxe3 Re8
24.Qd2 Qe7 25.Nc1 Qxe1+ 26.Qxe1 Rxe1+ 27.Kxe1 Bxc3+ 28.bxc3
Bc8 29.Nd3 Bd7 30.Nb2 Kf7 31.Kf2 Kf6 32.Kf3 g5 33.fxg5+ Kxg5
34.g3 Kf6 35.Kf4 Be8 36.Kf3 Bh5+ 37.Kf4 Be2 38.h4 Bf1 39.Kf3 Ke5
40.Kf2 Bh3 41.Ke3 f4+ 42.gxf4+ Kf5 43.Nd1 Kf6 44.Nf2 Bd7
45.Ne4+ Ke7 46.h5 Bxa4 47.f5 h6 48.f6+ Kf7 49.Nxd6+ Kxf6 50.Nc8
Be8 51.d6 Ke6 52.Kf4 Bxh5 53.Nxb6 Kxd6 54.Kf5 Be8 55.Nc8+ Kc7
56.Ne7 a5 57.Nd5+ Kd6 58.Ne3 a4 59.Nc2 Ke7 60.Ke5 Bf7 61.Na3
Be6 0-1

Tringov,Georgi P - Botvinnik,Mikhail

Belgrade 1969

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.f4 Nc6 5.Be3 Nf6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Be2 0-0
8.d5 Nb8 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 c6 11.Qd2 cxd5 12.exd5 Nbd7 13.0-0
Rc8 14.Bd4 Qa5 15.Rfe1 Rfe8 16.a3 a6 17.Rad1 Rc4 18.Qf2 b5
19.Na2 Rxd4 20.Qxd4 Qc7 21.Qd2 Nb6 22.c3 a5 23.Nc1 h5 24.Kh1
Qd7 25.Qf2 Nc4 26.Nd3 a4 27.Be4 Nxe4 28.Rxe4 Qf5 29.Qf3 h4
30.Re2 Kf8 31.Qe4 Qxe4 32.Rxe4 f5 33.Re2 Bh6 34.Rf1 Nb6
35.Nb4 Rc8 36.g3 hxg3 37.Kg2 Rc5 38.Re6 Kf7 39.Rfe1 Bf8 40.Nc6
Nxd5 41.Nd8+ Ke8 42.Rxd6 Nxf4+ 43.Kxg3 e5 44.Rdd1 ½-½

Unzicker, Wolfgang - (38)

Adams,Weaver Warren - Unzicker,Wolfgang

Hastings 1950

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 Nc6 4.d3 Bb4 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6 Bxc3+
7.bxc3 Qxf6 8.Ne2 d6 9.0-0 Be6 10.Bb5 0-0 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Qd2
Rab8 13.f4 exf4 14.Nxf4 Qe5 15.Ne2 c5 16.c4 Rb2 17.Rfb1 Rfb8
18.Qc1 Bg4 19.Rxb2 Qxb2 20.Nf4 Qd4+ 21.Kh1 Kh7 22.h3 Bd7
23.Rb1 Rxb1 24.Qxb1 Qf2 25.Qc1 Ba4 26.c3 Qxa2 27.Qf1 Qd2
28.Kh2 Qxc3 29.g3 Qf6 30.Qb1 g5 31.Ng2 Qf2 32.Qa1 Bc2 33.Qb2
a5 34.g4 a4 0-1

Bhend,Edwin - Unzicker,Wolfgang

Clare Benedict Cup 19th Vienna 1972

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Be7 4.Nc3 Bh4+ 5.Ke2 d6 6.d3 Bg4 7.Bxf4
Ne7 8.h3 Bxf3+ 9.gxf3 Nbc6 10.Kd2 0-0 11.Ne2 f5 12.Be3 d5 13.Bg2
fxe4 14.fxe4 d4 15.Bg1 Ng6 0-1

Wade, Robert - (37)

Sax,Gyula - Wade,Robert Graham

Teeside 1972

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Nxd5 4.c4 Nb6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Qd2
Nc6 8.0-0-0 0-0 9.f3 e5 10.d5 Nd4 11.Bg5 f6 12.Be3 c6 13.Bxd4
exd4 14.Qxd4 f5 15.Qd2 cxd5 16.c5 Nd7 17.Qxd5+ Kh8 18.Nge2
Qe7 19.Na4 Nf6 20.Qd6 Qe3+ 21.Kb1 f4 22.Nd4 Ne8 23.Qd5 Nc7
24.Qe4 Rd8 0-1

Olafsson,Fridrik - Wade,Robert Graham

Reykjavik 1964

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0
8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bd4 e5
13.Bc5 Be6 14.Ne4 Re8 15.g4 Nf4 16.Qc3 Bd5 17.Bc4 Ne6 18.Bf2
Nd4 19.Rhe1 Rb8 20.f4 Bxc4 21.Qxc4 Qb6 22.b3 Qa5 23.fxe5 Nf3
24.Rd7 Nxe5 25.Nf6+ Kh8 26.Rxe5 Qxe5 27.Nxe8 Qa1+ 28.Kd2
Rxe8 29.g5 Qxa2 30.Bd4 Qa5+ 31.Kc1 Re1+ 0-1

Weinberger, Tibor - (19)

Weinberger, Tibor - Barczay, Laszlo

Budapest 1955

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.b3 0-0
8.Be2 Qe7 9.0-0 dxc4 10.bxc4 e5 11.Bb2 e4 12.Nd2 Re8 13.Rfe1
Nf8 14.f4 exf3 15.Bxf3 Ng4 16.Nf1 Qh4 17.h3 Bf5 18.e4 Nh6 19.Qf2
Qxf2+ 20.Kxf2 Bd7 21.c5 Be7 22.g4 Ne6 23.Red1 Bh4+ 24.Kg2 Ng5
25.Bc1 g6 26.Rb1 f5 27.Bxg5 Bxg5 28.gxf5 gxf5 29.Rxb7 Re7 30.e5
Rd8 31.Ng3 Rg7 32.Nh5 Rg6 33.Kh1 f4 34.Be4 Bf5 35.Bxf5 Nxf5
36.Ne4 Bh6 37.Rg1 1-0

Weinstein, Raymond - (40, 50)

Weinstein, Raymond Allen - Bernstein, Sidney Norman

U.S. Championship New York 1959

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Bb4+ 5.Nd2 0-0 6.Ngf3 Nc6 7.0-0
Qe8 8.a3 Be7 9.d5 Nd8 10.Nd4 Qg6 11.Qc2 c6 12.dxe6 dxe6 13.e4
Nf7 14.exf5 exf5 15.Re1 Bc5 16.N2b3 Bb6 17.Bf4 Nh5 18.Bd2 Ng5

19.Bxg5 Qxg5 20.c5 Bd8 21.Qc4+ Kh8 22.Qf7 Rg8 23.Nxc6 Qg6
24.Ne5 Qh6 25.Bd5 1-0

Weinstein,Raymond Allen - Benko,Pal C

US Open Omaha 1959

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5
8.dxe5 Be6 9.Qe2 Nc5 10.Rd1 b4 11.Bg5 Qd7 12.Nbd2 h6 13.Be3
Na5 14.Nd4 Be7 15.c4 bxc3 16.bxc3 Naxb3 17.axb3 0-0 18.Ra5
Bg4 19.f3 Bh5 20.Nf5 Nb7 21.Nxe7+ Qxe7 22.Rxd5 c6 23.Rd4 Qxe5
24.g4 Bg6 25.f4 Qb5 26.Qxb5 cxb5 27.f5 Rfe8 28.Kf2 Bh7 29.b4
Re7 30.Ne4 Rae8 31.Kf3 a5 32.Bxh6 f6 33.Rd7 axb4 34.cxb4 Kh8
35.Rxe7 Rxe7 36.Be3 Bg8 37.Bf4 Bc4 38.Rd2 Kg8 39.h4 Kf7 40.g5
fxg5 41.hxg5 Ke8 42.g6 Bb3 43.f6 1-0

Weinstein,Raymond Allen - Lombardy,William James

U.S. Championship New York 1960

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6
8.c3 Bg4 9.d3 h6 10.Nbd2 Na5 11.Bc2 Nh7 12.b4 Nc6 13.a4 Ng5
14.Bb3 Nxf3+ 15.Nxf3 0-0 16.Bd5 Bd7 17.d4 Bf6 18.dxe5 dxe5
19.Re3 Rb8 20.Rd3 Qc8 21.axb5 axb5 22.Be3 Rd8 23.Bc5 Be8
24.h3 Ra8 25.Rxa8 Qxa8 26.Nh2 Qa4 27.Qh5 Qc2 28.Ng4 Bg5
29.Rf3 Rxd5 30.exd5 Qd1+ 31.Kh2 Qxd5 32.h4 e4 33.Rg3 Qe5
34.Nxe5 1-0

Wexler, Bernardo - (32)

Wexler,Bernardo - Incutto,Carlos

Bariloche 1960

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 c5 8.Qb3 Nb6 9.d3 Nc6 10.Qb5 Nd7 11.Ne4 a6 12.Qc4 b6 13.Neg5 h6 14.Ne6 Na5 15.Nxd8 Nxc4 16.Nxf7 Rxf7 17.dxc4 Bb7 18.Rd1 e5 19.Ng5 Bxg2 20.Nxf7 Bf6 21.Nxh6+ Kh7 22.Nf7 1-0

Wexler,Bernardo - Kavalek,Lubomir

Tel Aviv ol (Men) fin-A Tel Aviv 1964

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.d4 Nc6 7.Nc3 Bd7 8.d5 Nb8 9.h3 c6 10.Be3 e6 11.Qb3 Qc8 12.dxe6 fxe6 13.Rfd1 Ne8 14.Ne4 Qc7 15.Rd2 Kh8 16.Rc1 d5 17.Nc5 Bc8 18.Ng5 Qe7 19.Ncxe6 d4 20.Nxd4 Na6 21.c5 Nac7 22.Bf4 Rf5 23.Nxf5 Bxf5 24.e4 1-0

Zuckerman, Bernard - (55)

Zuckerman,Bernard - Suttles,Duncan

U.S. Championship New York 1965

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 c6 5.Qd2 Nd7 6.f3 b5 7.Nge2 Nb6 8.b3 h5 9.a3 b4 10.Nd1 a5 11.Nf2 Ba6 12.Rd1 Nf6 13.g3 Nfd7 14.Bg2 Qc7 15.0-0 c5 16.Rfe1 c4 17.f4 e6 18.f5 e5 19.fxg6 fxg6 20.dxe5 Bxe5 21.Bd4 0-0-0 22.Nf4 Nc5 23.Nxg6 Rhg8 24.Bxe5 dxe5 25.Qg5 Rxd1 26.Rxd1 Kb7 27.Qf5 cxb3 28.cxb3 Nxb3 29.Nxe5 Nc5 30.Nc6 Nba4 31.e5 Kb6 32.Rd6 Nb7 33.Rf6 b3 34.Qe6 b2 35.Qb3+ Kc5 36.Ne4# 1-0

Zuckerman,Bernard - Benko,Pal C

U.S. Championship New York 1968

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bd3 Na6 7.0-0 c5 8.d5 Nc7 9.a4 a6 10.Qe1 Bd7 11.a5 Bb5 12.Qh4 Bxd3 13.cxd3 e6

14.f5 exd5 15.exd5 Ncxd5 16.Bg5 Nxc3 17.bxc3 gxf5 18.Ra4 Qd7
19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Qxf6 Qxa4 21.Nh4 1-0

Browne,Walter S - Zuckerman,Bernard

New York International 1984

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 h6
8.Be3 e6 9.Qd2 exd5 10.cxd5 Re8 11.f3 Kh7 12.g4 a6 13.h4 h5
14.Bg5 hxg4 15.h5 Kg8 16.hxg6 fxg6 17.0-0-0 Qe7 18.Bd3 Nbd7
19.f4 c4 20.Bc2 Nf8 21.Nge2 b5 22.Ng3 b4 23.Nce2 b3 24.axb3
cxb3 25.Bd3 a5 26.Nd4 a4 27.Qb4 Ba6 28.Bxa6 Rxa6 29.Nc6 Qf7
30.Qxd6 Nxe4 31.Nxe4 Rxe4 32.Ne7+ Rxe7 33.Qxe7 Qf5 34.Qe2
a3 35.Qc4 a2 36.Kd2 Rd6 37.Qxb3 Rxd5+ 38.Ke2 Qe6+ 39.Qe3
Qxe3+ 40.Kxe3 Rxd1 41.Rxd1 Bxb2 42.f5 gxf5 43.Kf4 a1Q 44.Rxa1
Bxa1 45.Bh4 Ng6+ 46.Kxf5 Nxh4+ 47.Kxg4 Ng6 0-1

Opponents without games:

Bennett,JS – (13)

Bredoff,M – (12)

Gardner,Curtis - (18)

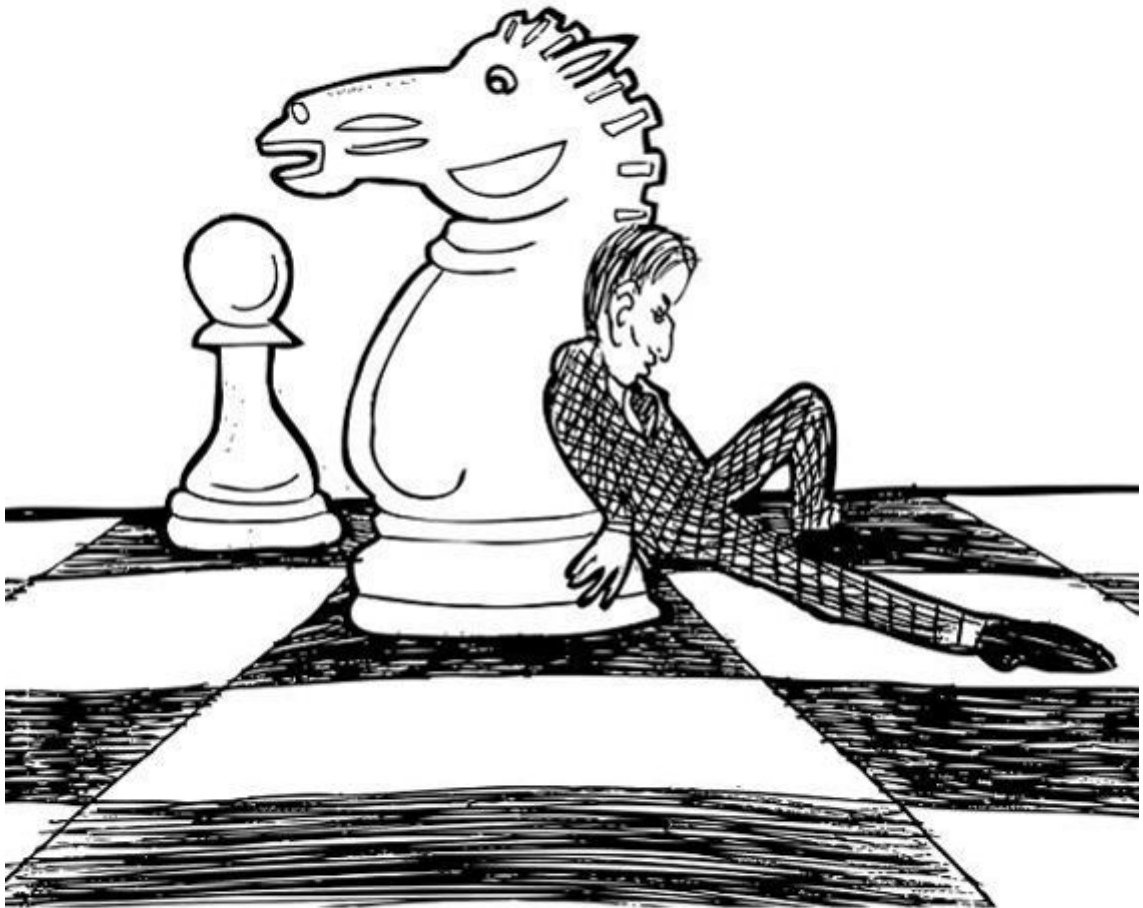
Goldsmith,J - (14)

Hurttlen,Norman - (15)

Oster, R - (47)

Ruth, Dale - (5)

There isn't a woman player in the world I can't give knight-odds to and still beat. - Bobby Fischer



Fischer is Fischer, but a horse is a horse. - Mikhail Tal

“All I want to do, ever, is just play Chess” - Bobby Fischer

Closing Thoughts

My publishing intent is to share from my experience, teach a few humble lessons, and learn through the journey and your feedback. So I strongly encourage you to join my mailing list and share your thoughts with me. (All you have to do is go to www.chessmastercoach.com and sign up).

Sharing from my past□from my patzer years to my master years□enables me to reacquaint myself with the road I took. If you would like to learn more about my start at chess, read my 99¢ chess primer [*Chess Patzer to Master - How an Everyday Joe Does It*](#). I truly hope that you enjoyed these sixty games that influenced, and still influence, my journey, and I hope that you feel inspired to start your own journey of playing over games and studying the great masters.

Additionally, I will share some thoughts that are found at the end of *Chess Patzer to Master - How an Everyday Joe Does It*. If you are to succeed, you need tenacity and the belief that you can succeed. You must challenge yourself and challenge your preconceived perception of life on and off the board. You must assume risk and be willing to lose in order to grow. You must spend time studying endgame fundamentals. You must study the games of other players in order to expand how you think about chess.

Subscribe to my free newsletter, and I will personally assist you on your journey to becoming a master. All you have to do is go to www.chessmastercoach.com and sign up.

Best Regards,

Paul Powell

National Chess Master

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meant to inform, encourage and entertain the reader to develop their own business acumen. Jeff Probst, the host of the TV reality show “Survivor,” paraphrased Joseph Campbell when he said, “The adventure you’re ready for is the one you get.”

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Published: March, 2013

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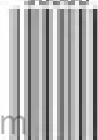
"This is as good as chess reading gets... highly recommended."

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