

# Chešs KIDS KNIGHT TIMES

Chess World Australia Pty. Ltd. ABN 41 118 087 862



## Message from the Guru

Would you like to win a \$1000 cash prize? Sounds good doesn't it, particularly when the entry fee to play in the tournament is under \$2.75! What's the catch?

No catch, but trust me, it won't be easy to win the cash. It will be a real Challenge!

Since 1994 the UK School Chess Challenge has been the largest chess event in the world - with upwards of 60,000 players taking part each year. Now this popular event has come to Australia as the OzSchools Chess Challenge.

Schools pay a registration fee of just \$74+gst and run a tournament in-school. They receive 60 prizes so everyone in the event ends up with something and the top players in the event qualify for the Mega-Finals.

The Mega-Finals is held on a weekend and players can take part either playing online games or by showing up at a local venue. The top players qualify for the State Giga-Finals and then then final event is the National Tera-Finals in December....the best Primary and best Secondary student each win \$1000 cash prize after this long and gruelling Challenge.

Get your school to register by visiting [www.ChessChallenge.com.au](http://www.ChessChallenge.com.au)



*David Cordover,*  
Managing Director,  
Chess Group of Companies

## VICTORIAN GIRLS DOMINATE AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIPS



**CHLOE CHIN - AUST. GIRLS U/14 CHAMPION**  
**ZHI-LIN GUO - AUST. GIRLS U/16 CHAMPION**  
**NICOLE CHIN - AUST. GIRLS CHAMPION**

### Chess Kids Contacts:

[www.chesskids.com.au](http://www.chesskids.com.au)

#### Coaching:

[info@chesskids.com.au](mailto:info@chesskids.com.au)

#### Retail:

[info@chessworld.com.au](mailto:info@chessworld.com.au)

#### Interschool:

[interschool@chesskids.com.au](mailto:interschool@chesskids.com.au)

#### Newsletter:

[rj@chesskids.com.au](mailto:rj@chesskids.com.au)

**1300-424-377**





# RJ SHIELD

The RJ Shield now has its own website - [www.rjshield.com](http://www.rjshield.com)

Check it out!

The first events for 2013 are on Sunday 24th February at Tucker Rd Primary School and also in Yarrowonga.

## BOBBY CHENG RARELY SMILES!



**But he made an exception at the Australian Open Championships in Sydney in January.**

Bobby had just scored 9.5/11 to win the Australian Open Championship and become the youngest ever title-holder. He blitzed a strong field including GM Kerkin (rated 2659) whom he defeated in their individual game.

Bobby took home the winner's cheque of \$4500 for his trouble and also added the Lightning Title to his prizes after defeating IM James Morris in a play-off. Bobby's play earned him his second IM norm - one more and he gets the title.



## THE CHESS KIDS CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Sessions for all standards are held during the week and on weekends.

Please contact us on 1300 424 377 for enquiries or bookings.

## WANT TO PLAY/WATCH SOME GOOD CHESS ON THE MARCH LABOUR DAY WEEKEND?

Then check out the Begonia Open at Ballarat:

<http://www.ballaratchess.com>



## SO YOU WANT TO BE A CHESS CHAMPION?

by IM Robert Jamieson

**What is the secret to learning how to become a top chess player? I would have liked to have become a grandmaster, but there were no grandmasters in Australia to tell me how to do it, so I had to learn from chess books. We didn't have chess coaches in my day. These days it's a bit easier.**

How did GM Zhong-Yuan Zhao become our top player for instance? Easy! When he was a junior he he boarded with Ian and Cathy Rogers for sometime - so he had his own live-in grandmaster to coach him. Bobby Cheng - our new Australian Open Champion, how did he become so good so young? GM Darryl Johansen was his coach of course!

Call me old fashioned, but I think you need to have been a strong player to be able to coach your students to a high level of play.

Unfortunately there are some unscrupulous chess coaching organisations around who misrepresent the level of expertise of their coaches. They claim their coaches are: *"all expert-level players and between them competed with distinction in 21 Victorian Junior Championships and 18 Australian Junior Championships, winning numerous titles along the way."* In fact the vast majority of their coaches are not experts (2000+ rating) and have never won a chess title. Most aren't even rated better than an average club player. How can such "coaches" teach you how to become a strong player? They can't of course. Worse still their coaching focuses on tactics, openings and opening "traps." You won't become a grandmaster by trying to learn "traps". What you need is understanding.

I watched an interview of GM Kerkin the other day during his tour of Australia, in which he was

asked what our top juniors needed to become really strong players. He replied: "You should have a real chess positional understanding. If you don't understand the position, on tactics you can only come to a certain level. Without understanding what is going on on the board, what are the plans of the sides, its impossible." I certainly agree with that.

So what's the best way to improve rapidly? Private lessons where you go through your own games with a coach who is strong enough to identify the areas where you need to improve and can help you raise your level of chess understanding. Anyone can improve their tactics by just training on chess tempo, but **understanding** what to do in any given position ... that's the hard part.

To arrange a private lesson with one of Chess Kids Elite Coaches just contact Garima on 1300 424377. Rates are very reasonable.

### CHESS KIDS COACHES



IM Robert Jamieson



IM James Morris



## Build up to win....

With IM Robert Jamieson

**Victory in chess does not always go to the most daring player, the most imaginative player or the player who can analyse the deepest. Instead it goes to the player who is the better organiser. He does not attack with one or two pieces but builds up his forces, making sure that his pieces are on good squares and co-operating with each other. Only then does our organised player launch an attack.**

Sounds boring? Of course it is ... but it wins games of chess.

Let me show you.

On-Line game  
**RJ v Rookbane**  
 Trompovsky's Attack

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5**

I decided to play a weird opening just for fun and see how my opponent reacted.

**2...Ne4**

If Black is focusing on how to achieve equality he would have played something like ...d5, ...e6, ....Be7 and ...0-0.

**3.Bf4 c5 4.f3 g5? 5.Bc1?**

I should have looked at all checks and captures (like I tell my students) and I would have seen 5.Bxb8! winning a piece.

**5...Qa5+?**

It's not good to bring your Q out early.

**6.c3 Nd6 7.d5 h6 8.e4 e6 9.h4**

Trying to exploit the weakness of Black's "g" pawn.

**9...gxh4 10.Rxh4 Qd8 11.Rh5**

After 11 moves White has only a R developed, but perhaps he is doing better than Black!

**11...b6 12.Bf4 Bb7 13.c4 Na6**

Black is struggling to find a way to get his queenside pieces into the game. His B in particular is bumping into the rock solid pawn on d5.

**14.Nc3 Qe7 15.e5 Nf5 16.d6 Qd8**

White has now split the Black army in two and has a huge space advantage. It was tempting to take on f5 but I controlled myself.

**17.Nge2 Nh4 18.Kf2 Ng6 19.Bg3 Bg7 20.a3 Kf8 21.Qd3**

White wants to bring all his pieces into play before doing anything and Qd3 has the advantage of preventing ...f6 by Black.

**21...Nb8 22.f4 Nc6 23.Rd1 a6**

It's a bit difficult to get the KB into the game, so I decided to offer a sacrifice to get my remaining pieces out. No analysis required!

**24.Nd5!? exd5 25.cxd5 Nb8 26.Nc3 Kg8 27.Qf5**

This makes way for the KB coming to a good square on d3.

**27...Qe8 28.Bd3 Bc8 29.a4**

Taking time to prevent ...b5.

**29...Ra7**

Black is running out of time and ideas.

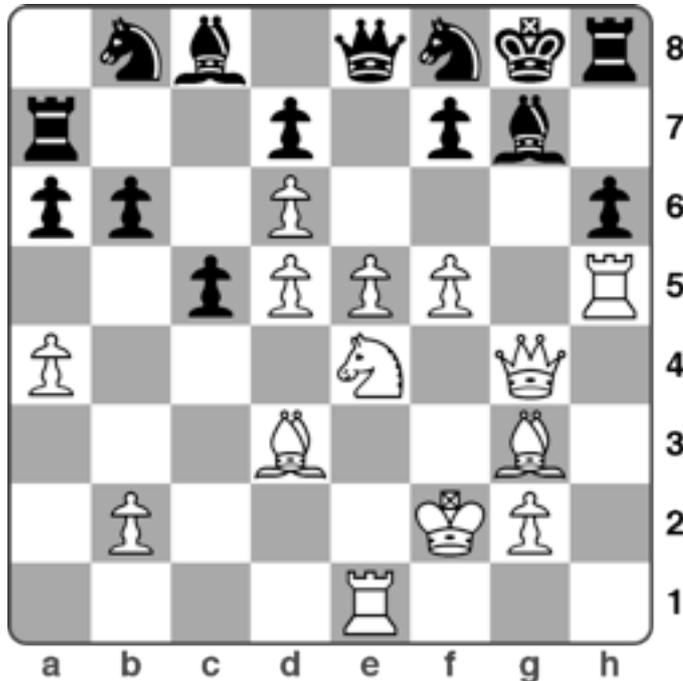
**30.Re1 Ra8 31.Qg4 Ra7 32.f5 Nf8**

Now not just 33.f6 winning a piece, but rather bringing up another attacker with a bigger threat.

**33.Ne4 1-0**

To quote CheckNorris "This is the worst position I ever seen anyone resign in who was not behind on material."

Indeed, all White's pieces are on good squares and participating in the attack whilst Black's pieces are totally impotent and floundering around on the back back ranks.



The lesson?  
Look after your pieces!

**When in doubt THINK!**

When it's all boiled down chess is basically a game where you are trying to outsmart your opponent. Perhaps you can analyse deeper than him, or find a tricky move that he has missed. Perhaps you know more opening theory or endgame theory or perhaps you just play more carefully. Virtually all chess games are decided by blunders. To avoid blunders you have to THINK. To check your moves before you make them, to look for replies that you may have missed. Do that and you'll drastically cut down on your mistakes.

The alternative is demonstrated by Black in the following game. It would be safe to say that he plays any move that appeals to him WITHOUT even considering what his opponent may reply.

Australian Junior Champs - U/14, 2013

**Lachlan Martin**

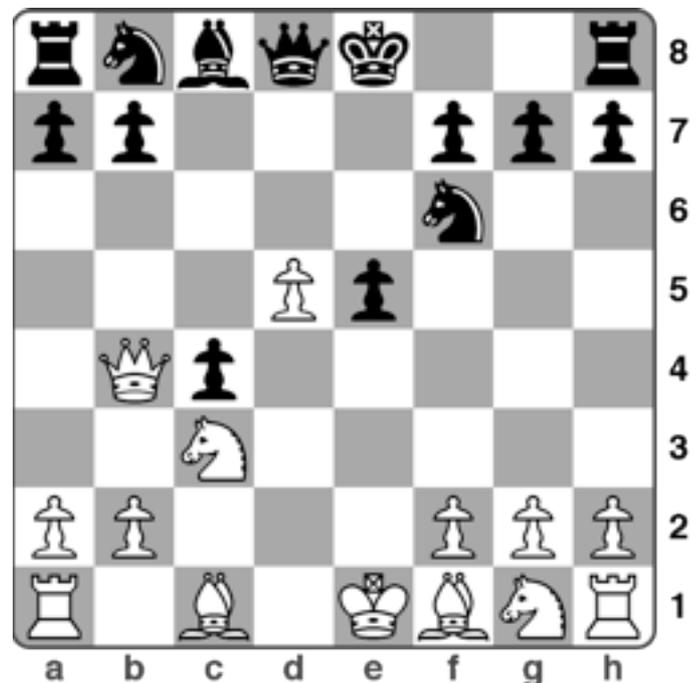
**Thomas Yang**

QGA: 3.e4 e5

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 e5 4.d5 Nf6  
5.Nc3 Bb4? 6.Qa4+ c6 7.Qxb4

The first piece goes.

7...cxd5 8.exd5



8...Nxd5? 9.Qb5+ Nc6 10.Qxd5

The second piece goes.

10...Qxd5 11.Nxd5 O-O 12.Bxc4 Rd8  
13.Bg5 f6

And now a pawn with double check.

14.Nxf6+ Kh8 15.Nf3 gxf6?? 16.Bxf6#  
1-0 Checkmate

And now the King goes too.

Oh well, at least he didn't tire out his brain thinking....

# AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013

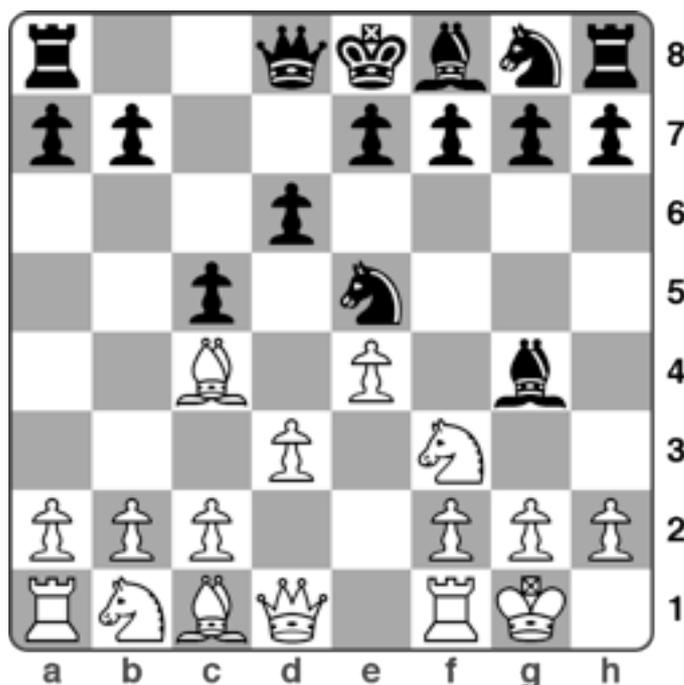
by IM Robert Jamieson



This year's Junior was played on the Gold Coast and attracted a field of 224 players across the various age-groups. The results are available on tornelo (<https://auschess.tornelo.com/tournaments/australian-junior-championships--12>).

I followed the games on Tornelo and it was obvious for most of the games that the winner was the player who was the second last to blunder. Here is a typical example.

## Liam Harrison v Patrick Gong



White to move.

Black has just played 5...Ne5?? and White replied with the routine 6.Nbd2 to cover the attacked N on f3. After a long fluctuating game the players finally settled on a draw.

It would have been much better had they heeded their coaches' advice and "looked at all checks and captures." In the diagram White can win a piece for nothing with 6.Nxe5!! as 6...Bxd1 allows 7.Bxf7 mate.

It was very pleasing to see one of my former students, Nicole Chin, victorious in the U/18 Girls Championship - despite spirited opposition from her younger sister Chloe who won the U/14 title.

Gary Lin also did very well in the U/14 event and lost only one game (in the last round!) to finish in =3rd place.

For a more detailed account of the tournament see Carl's Chess Blog <http://gorkachc.blogspot.com.au> which includes an account of his traumatic attempt to avoid the storms and get out of Queensland after the tournament.

The Chess Kids Squad of 25 players all had a good time at the event, despite the Queensland weather!

My favourite game from the tournament was between Max Phillips and David Cannon (one of the top seeds). Max gets outplayed positionally by his stronger opponent but then unleashed a surprise tactic which turns the game in his favour. David hangs on and sets up a nice trap to get back into the game.

Australian Junior Championships - U/12

**Max Phillips 1120**

**David Cannon 1547**

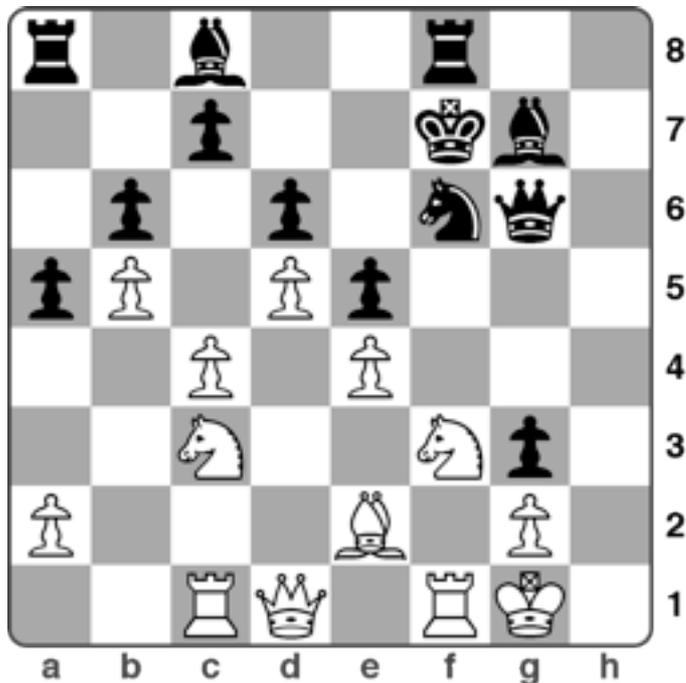
Kings Indian Defence

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Nc3 O-O

5.e4 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.d5 Ne8 8.b4 f5 9.Bg5

Nf6 10.O-O h6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Rc1 f4

13.h3 g5 14.Nh2 a5 15.b5 b6 16.Bf3 Nd7  
 17.Na4 Qg6 18.Ng4 h5 19.Nh2 Nf6 20.Nc3  
 g4 21.hxg4 hxg4 22.Be2 g3 23.Nf3 Kf7  
 24.fxg3 fxg3



White to play

25.Nxe5+! dxe5 26.Bh5 Bh6 27.Bxg6+  
 Kxg6 28.Qd3 Bxc1 29.Rxc1 Nh5 30.Ne2  
 Bg4 31.Nxg3 Nf4 32.Qc3 Rf6 33.Rc2 Re8  
 34.Qe3 Ref8 35.Rd2 Rd8 36.c5 bxc5  
 37.Qxc5 Rd7 38.Qa3 Ne6 39.Qxa5 Nd4  
 40.Qb4 Rdd6 41.a4?

Missing an immediate win with 41.Rxd4!  
 exd4 42.e5.

41...Rf7 42.Rf2 Bd7 43.Ne2?

A horrible blunder. The simple 43.Rxf7 Kxf7  
 44 Qc5 was very strong.

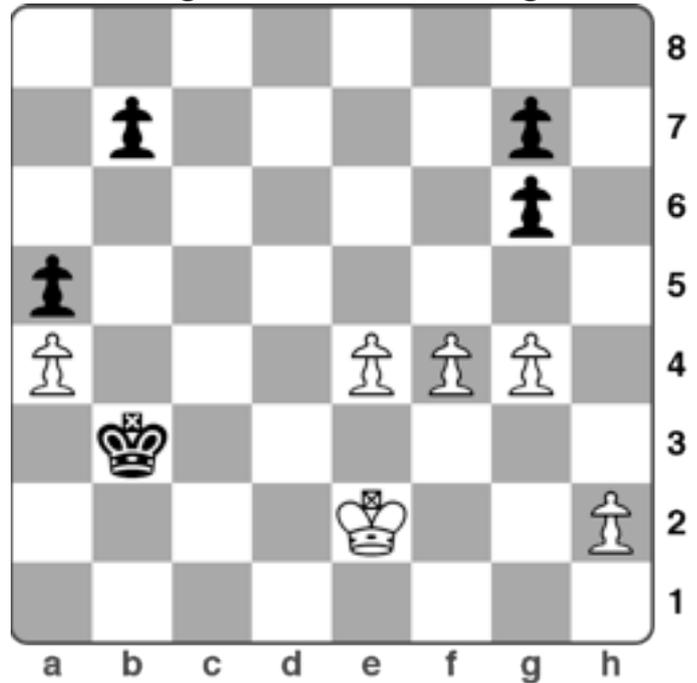
43...Rxf2 44.Kxf2?

How easy it is to play the automatic move.  
 Instead 44.Nxd4! was still better for White.

44...Rf6+ 45.Kg1 Nxe2+ 46.Kh2 Rf4 47.g3  
 Rf2+ 48.Kh1 Bh3 49.d6 Nxg3+ 0-1

There was an interesting pawn ending  
 which went a long way towards determining  
 the winner of the U/14 title. Play it out for  
 yourself first and see if Black can draw.

Tom Maguire v Kevin Willathgamuwa



Black to Play

White clearly has the upper hand with his extra pawn and passed "e" pawn and he duly went on to win. His opponent however missed a chance to draw. Play out the positions yourself before looking at the moves below and see if you can find it.



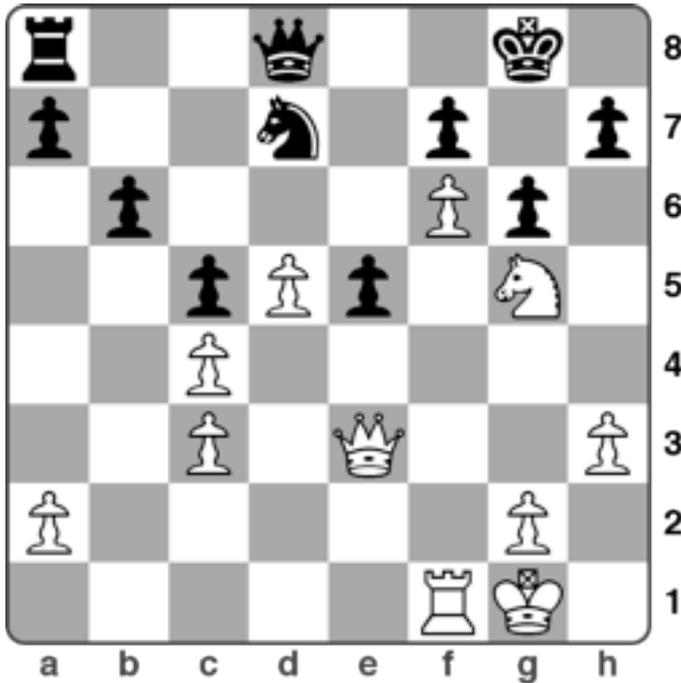
Tom Maguire

1. ... Kxa4 2.f5 Kb5 3.e5 gxf5 4.gxf5 Kc6  
 5.f6 gxf6 6.h4 Kd7?

(6. ... a4 7.Kd2 a3 8.Kc2 fxe5 9.h5 e4 10.h6  
 a2 11.Kb2 e3 12.h7 e2 13.h8=Q a1=Q+  
 14.Kxa1 e1=Q+ =) 7.h5 Ke6 8.h6 Kf7 9.e6+  
 Kxe6 10.h7 b5 11.h8=Q 1-0

Of course the standard of play of the big boys in the U/18 was a little different. Here is how the new Champion, Gene Nakauchi finished off one of his opponents.

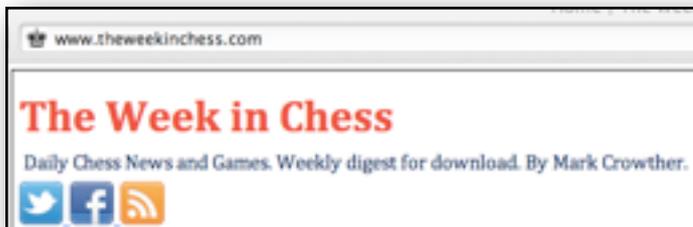
Gene Nakauchi v Michael Kethro



White to Play

1.Ne6! fxe6 2.f7+ Kg7 3.dxe6 Qe7 4.exd7 Rf8 5.Qe4 Rxf7 6.Rxf7+ Kxf7 7.Qd5+ 1-0

# The Week in Chess



Are you weak at chess? The answer may be that you need to play through more grandmaster games on the internet, and the best spot to start is "The Week in Chess!"

If you are sitting at home with nothing to do then it's always a possibility for you to go on-line and find some recent or current Grandmaster Chess tournament and have a look at some of the games. If you are lucky you may find an event with "live games" (in progress at the moment). I generally start by looking at the British site

[www.theweekinchess.com](http://www.theweekinchess.com) which covers most of the big overseas tournaments.

As an example I came across the following fabulous game which features a beautiful tactical sequence at the end. Cover the moves and see if you can find them yourself.

Moscow Open 2012

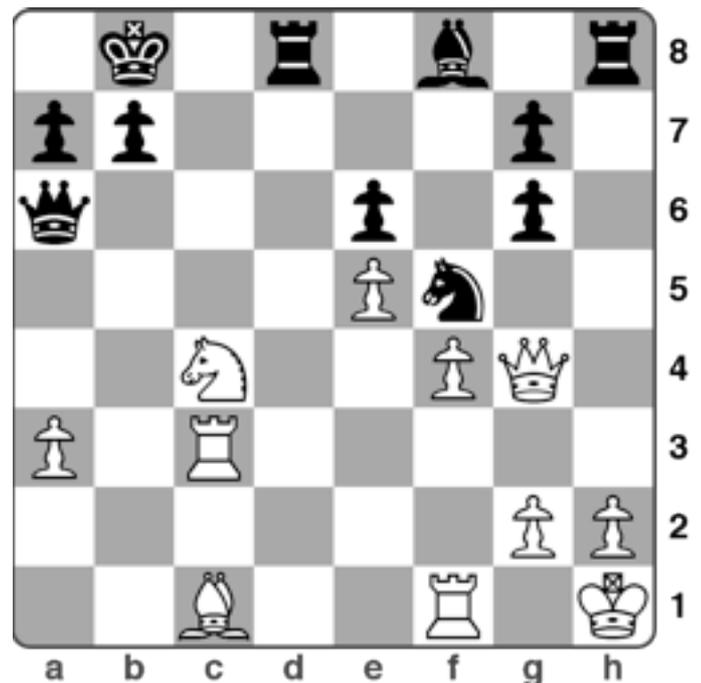
IM Sergey Pavlov 2471

GM Ildar Ibragomov 2555

French: Advance, Euwe

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.a3 f6 7.Bd3 fxe5 8.Nxe5 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Ne7 10.Nd2 Qc7 11.O-O O-O-O 12.f4 Be8 13.Qg4 c4 14.Bc2 Qb6+ 15.Kh1 Bg6 16.Bxg6 hxg6 17.b4 cxb3 18.Rb1 Nf5 19.Rxb3 Qa6 20.c4 dxc4 21.Rc3 Kb8 22.Nxc4

See if you can pick Black's next moves.



Black to play.

22...Rc8 23.Qe2 Rxc4! 24.Qxc4 Ng3+! 25.Kg1 Bc5+! 26.Rf2 Ne2+! 27.Kf1 Nxc3 0-1

After 28.Qxa6 Black doesn't immediately take back but plays 28...Rxb2! threatening 29...Rh1 mate. A final touch to a beautiful combination.