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DOING IT DIFFERENTLY

Chess preparation can help win more games—it certainly was a fact with me since I didn't have an overabundance of "natural" talent—and I still don't. I have to work for all those points, and it gets harder to do as we age.

This time I am going to show you a few things about the **Réti System**. When I was younger and someone would throw 1. Nf3 at me, I had NO idea what to do, so I would "copy" their moves, or try to play a King's Indian.

Then Alexander Khalifman came out with his multi-volume series titled, *Opening for White According to Kramnik* 1. Nf3. Every one of its SIX volumes (vol. 1 was broken down to 1A and 1B) had as its starting point 1. Nf3. This was genius, and a lot of hard work on the part of Khalifman and his St. Petersburg students. They began with 1. Nf3 and then analyzed everything Black could toss at

Can Hybridization Help?

it. This included a large measure of transpositions with a big batch of them ending in the Queen's Gambit (of the sort 1. Nf3 d5 2. c4 Nf6 3. d4, e.g.). There were Slavs, Grünfelds, King's Indians, and so much more that he had to have some pretty hefty indices too.

BASING PLAY ON KRAMNIK

Khalifman based his work on the arsenal of play by Vladimir Kramnik, the current world chess champion. A little before these books were published, Kramnik started playing differently, but this series

lives on, and there is much good advice in it.

However, I am going to touch very little on that set of books because the task is so overwhelming (thousands of pages). I am going to show some aspects which you may want to adopt, here and there—i.e., no formal repertoire.

If you own a book such as IM Angus Dunnington's *easy guide to the Réti Opening*, you can't help but see the first game: 1. Nf3 d5 2. c4 d4 3. b4 in *Namgilov—Dao Thien Hai, Budapest 1996*. A few further moves were 3... f6 4. e3 e5



and, after a total of 47 moves, White, regrettably, lost... but there were some good ideas in the game.

A couple years ago I had the white pieces several times against expert John Imgrund. He played the Grünfeld and everyone knew it. I was always keen on the Exchange Variation because it seemed that White always had that niggling plus. Maybe it still does, but it has gotten very complicated over the last 10 or so years with GMs like Sakaev infusing new and better moves for White, all the time, and the same went for GM Boris Gelfand (white side).

I was looking for something to be Grünfeld-ic, but not the Exchange Variation, and I came across a **check** by the Q going to a4.

When you look later at one of the games, you will note that I was on the black side of a Réti, as recently as last year. At first I was slightly uncomfortable about that, but I decided, "Let's Go!"

Before I decided to show these two games, I had come across the **Markowski Variation** of the Réti Opening, and the Qa4+ idea was present in that.

Why Are There So Many "Chess Reports" Styles?

No, I am not trying to drive you crazy. The WHOLE process has felt "organic" to me. That is, it grows out of what I am trying to do: which is to get you to think and not put everything nice and tidy into a confined box. I may not have succeeded, but I've found that when the "expected" happens to often, it is easy enough to land in a rut, stop thinking, and stop caring about what you are doing unless, it is life threatening, and even there... mistakes can still be made. Each issue's "different" subject matter, and whether a lot of games, analyses, diagrams, thoughts, and artwork go into it present me with a challenge to make it "readable" to you, which I believe is MOST important. Legibility is one thing; readability is quite another. I try to do both. I'm willing to listen to what you think.

I can't see that the system has been an overwhelming success for the Polish GM (1 win, against Lautier, even though the Frenchman had the better game early on [another Rapids game], 4 draws, and 4 losses in the Supplementary Games in NIC 71). If you want to try something that is poorly represented in the databases, this system is one of them!

However, another reason I wanted you to look at this variation is that I may have found something quite important (??) in this system by combining an idea in Dunnington's book, with Markowski's, and a game played between Lputian and Ivanchuk! Weird?

Yes, it's getting weird.

DEEP WEIRDNESS

Here's the deal. I took that *Lputian-Ivanchuk* game and infused the e3 idea. At first, this looked ridiculous, and even I thought so. It MAY be!

After awhile I set up two competing chess programs, monitored them for days, tried as best as I could to select good moves, surprising moves, and typical moves.

What I found is that, with the help of *Shredder10* and *Fritz10*, I learned a LOT about **these positions** and came to the conclusion that if White is patient, he will have a HUGE advantage over Black, and can probably win some games.

Some endgame positions were endlessly fascinating.

However, it may take some time, some memory, and

some (more than some) willingness to give it a whirl.

The variations are too deep, and of course we should always **be suspicious of long analyses**. I couldn't let it go. I could justify virtually all the moves either side played, and I came face-to-face with some VERY enterprising play and some decent ideas (including crafty possibilities for Black).

MISSING A LOT

The horrid thing of working like this is that sometimes I never saw what was coming UNTIL one of the playing engines played (i.e., suggested) it. It opens your eyes to just HOW MUCH one can miss—too much it appears.

I am going to include these analyses (of the first game) because they are ripe for the picking, and there are some **outstanding** ideas WITHIN the games. It's a lot to wade through, but **I doubt if you will be sorry**. It wore me out, but in a pleasant way.

New in Chess Yearbook 71 got me interested in this research, so I have definitely included some of the proper games too.

You CAN find NEW stuff in the openings if you aren't

afraid to waste several days looking and experimenting. Black has many "obvious" replies which get him into "non-obvious" trouble, and in many cases, irretrievably.

While no one mentioned my idea in the Lputian-Ivanchuk game, I am not surprised; **it is somewhat unorthodox**. The Grünfeld game I played and lost, and the Dunnington game I referenced, caused me to THINK.

Lputian - Ivanchuk

[A11]

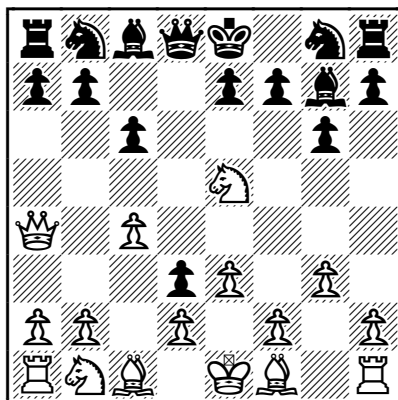
Montecatini Terme

July 29, 2000

1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 g6 3. c4 c6 4. Qa4 d4 5. b4

I don't get this move. It's as if White is trying to "force" a thematic b4 as seen in some early Réti positions, only with the move Qa4 tossed in, and a possible fianchetto too.

My UNUSUAL idea is: **5. e3!? d3 6. Ne5 Bg7**



Alternative

6... Bf5 7. Qb3 Nd7 8. Nxd3 e5.

But if 8... Be4, we will transpose to the 5. e3 line.

9. f3

Not to prevent ...e4, but to prevent ...Be4.

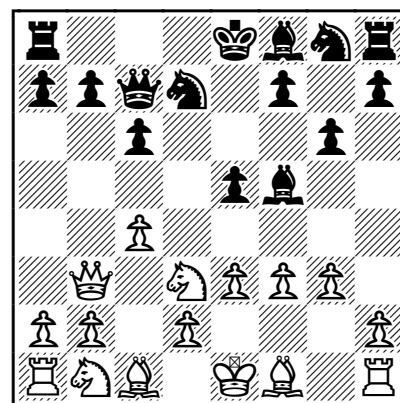
Let's Split It Up!

A. 9... Qc7

B. 9... e4 10. Nf2

Line A:

9... Qc7



10. Nf2 Nc5

10... 0-0-0 11. Nc3. White's "hole" on d3 is gradually getting repaired. **11... h5.** White has a certain amount of "cramp," on himself. Black wants to open up the wounds in White's position. **12. d4!? Ngf6.** The battle of the Big Bands. Should White castle? If so, which side will ultimately be best? Can Black survive an onslaught on his Q-side, can White on his K-side (or up the middle?). Stay tuned as we try to find out. **13. Be2±.** It's not easy to predict

what Black wants to do. There are, no doubt, more than one strategy. However, protecting the King, while up a pawn, is good—as well as keeping an eye on g4, just in case Black gets too fidgety. Possible ideas for Black are: ...Re8; ...Bh6; ...Kb8 in case Black believes White might castle Q-side; ...Be7.)

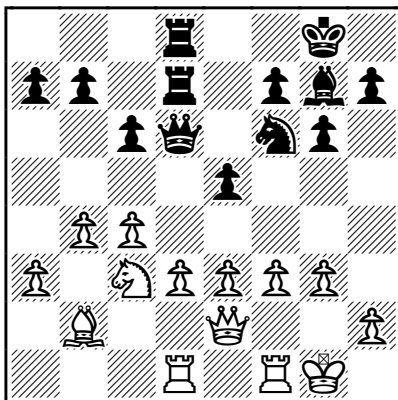
11. Qd1 Bg7 12. Nc3 Rd8 13. b4!? Nd3+ 14. Nxd3 Bxd3

14... Rxd3. Enterprising, dropping the Exchange, but it doesn't work. 15. e4!+-.

15. Bxd3 Rxd3 16. Qe2 Rd7

16... Qd7 17. Ne4 b6 18. Bb2 f5. The sad thing for Black is that everything else leaves him worse off, and this isn't so great itself—except it prevents White from playing e4. 19. Nf2 Rd6 20. e4!? Nh6 21. exf5 Nxf5 22. Ne4 Re6 23. 0-0 0-0 24. a4 Nd4 25. Qd3±.

17. Bb2 Nf6 18. 0-0 0-0 19. Rad1 Rfd8 20. d3 Qd6 21. a3∞.



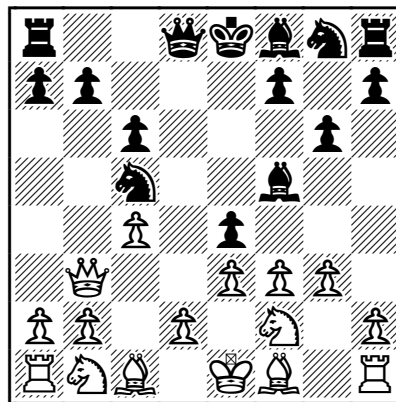
I can't tell if White has an edge even though *Shredder* and *Fritz* say he has a little more than an edge.

It seems that Black can sit tight or probe. It's a little airy around the White K, but is it enough? Both sides seem solid. To get things moving someone will probably have to sac a pawn. If it is White, material may be temporarily even. If it is Black, he better know what he is doing as he is already down one pawn. But, maybe there's room for exploration and exploitation.

Line B:

9... e4 10. Nf2

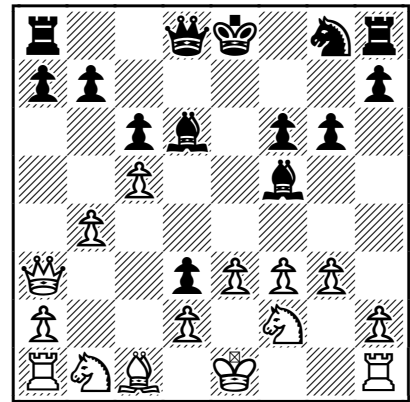
B1. 10... Nc5



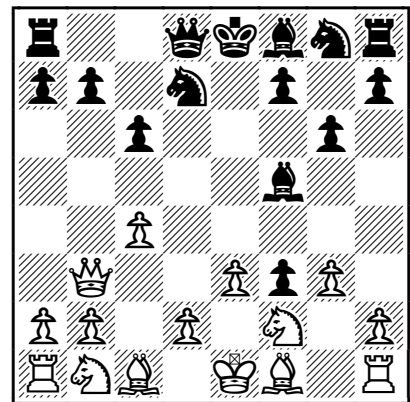
11. Qc3 f6

11... Nf6? 12. g4 Be6 (12... Na4 13. Qe5+ Be6 14. g5 Bg7 15. gxf6 Bxf6 16. Qxe4 Qa5 [16... Nxb2 17. d4 Na4 18. Qc2 Bxd4 19. exd4 Qxd4 20. Qxa4 Qxa1 21. Qc2 Qe5+ 22. Ne4+-] 17. Bh3! White keeps piling on the pressure because he wants his material plus to MATTER. 17... Nc5 18. Qf4 Bg7 [18... Bg5 19. Qd4 0-0 20. b4+-] 19. Bxe6 Nxe6 20. Qd6+-) 13. g5 Bg7 14. gxf6 Bxf6 15. Qa3+-.

12. b4 Bd6 13. Qa3 Nd3+ 14. Bxd3 exd3 15. c5+-.



B2. 10... exf3?!



11. d4.

Take over the center, drive the B out, win the pawn on f3, these are more important than winning that pawn on b7. Also, prevent ...Nc5 with the idea of dropping the N into d3.

11... Bxb1.

Why did Black play this? He was afraid of dropping the B/e5 to a move like e4, and the B runs out of squares.

12. Rxb1 Qb6

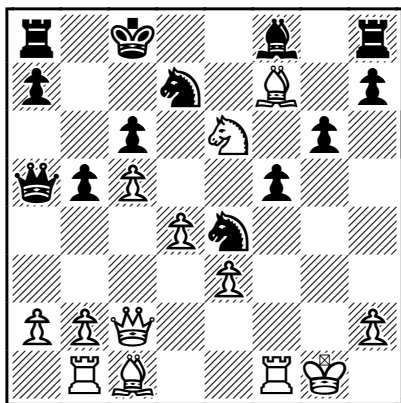
12... Qc7. Another way of trying

Hybrid Openings

to protect the P/b7. **13. c5! f5.** The idea is to protect e4 so that the N/d7 can go to f6 and then e4, cramping White's position, considerably.

14. Bc4 Ngf6 (14... Ndf6 15. e4! Bh6. Black is very much against White moving his B to f4. 16. e5 Nd5 17. Bxd5 cxd5 18. Bxh6 Nxf6 19. 0-0±. White should be able to snap of the P/f3.) **15. Bf7+ Kd8 16. 0-0 Ne4 17.**

Nxe4 (17. Nh3 With the idea of Nf4-e6. 17... Nxc3!? 18. Rxf3 [18. hxc3? Qxc3+ 19. Kh1 Qg2#] 18... Ne4 19. Nf4 Kc8 [19... Ng5 20. Ne6+ Nxe6 21. Bxe6 Nf6 22. e4 Nxe4 23. Bf4 Qe7 24. Rd1! Ke8 25. Re3 Rd8 26. Re2 Preparing for the d4-d5 push. 26... Bg7 27. Bd6 Rxd6 28. cxd6 Qxd6 29. Qxb7 Bxd4+ 30. Kg2 Rf8 {30... Kd8 31. Rc2! c5 32. b4+-} 31. Rc1 c5 32. Bd5 Rf6 33. Qa8+ Ke7 34. Rce1!+-] 20. Ne6 Qa5 21. Rf1 b5. Taking e. p. is bad for White. Black's move is to deny White's Q from moving to c4. 22. Qc2. White would love to be able to eventually move his Q/c2 to h2!



22... Ndf6 [22... Qxa2 23. Ng5 Qxb1 {23... Qa5 24. Nxe4 fxe4 25.

Qxe4+-} 24. Qxb1 Nxc5 25. Qa2 Kb7 26. Bd5!+-} 23. b4 Qa6 24. Nf4→] **17... fxe4 18. Bd2.** A reasonable "about time" move. 18... Nf6. Is Black going to try a King's Indian style K-side attack? 19. Be6±. White has a number of plans depending on what Black does. Ba5; Bc3; g4; and d5 or Qc2. On the other hand, Black has a paucity of ideas, and is in trouble.

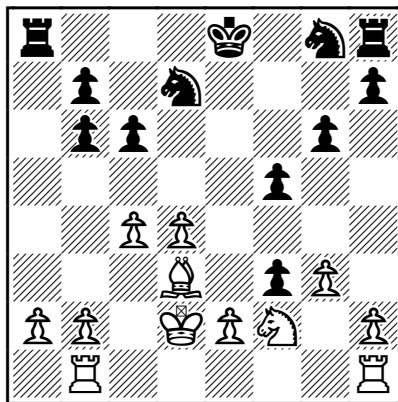
13. Bd3 Bb4+

13... f5 14. 0-0. To put unholy pressure on f3. 14... Qxb3 15. axb3±. White's going to get in e4 and possibly Nh3 and take the pawn on f3.

14. Bd2 Bxd2+ 15. Kxd2 f5 16. Qxb6

16. Qd1 c5±.

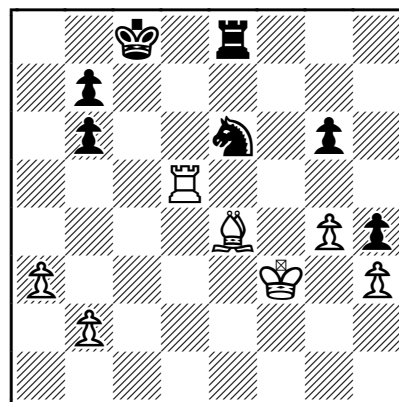
16... axb6



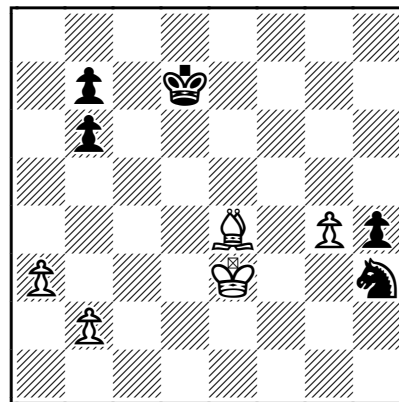
17. e4!

17. a3 Ngf6 18. h3 h5. An attempt to destroy White's K-side as well as prevent g4. 19. e4 fxe4 20. Nxe4 Nxe4+ 21. Bxe4 0-0-0. This is not going to be an easy one for White to win. 22. Ke3 (22. Bxf3 Ne5 23. Bd5!∞. Absolutely an area to explore. It seems almost infinitely complicated.

A move like 23... Rhe8 may be better for Black than initially assumed. 23... cxd5 is the obvious move, but there is "some" possibility of Rook penetration. I'll leave it as "unclear" but list a variety of jumping off points for you! 23... Rhe8 [23... cxd5; 23... h4; 23... Rhf8]) 22... h4 23. g4 Rhe8 24. Rbe1 Nf8. To protect the P/g6 and attack the P/d4 if the K moves. 25. d5 cxd5 26. cxd5 Rxd5 27. Kxf3 Rdd8 (27... Rde5 28. Re3±) 28. Rd1 Rxd1 29. Rxd1 Ne6 30. Rd5

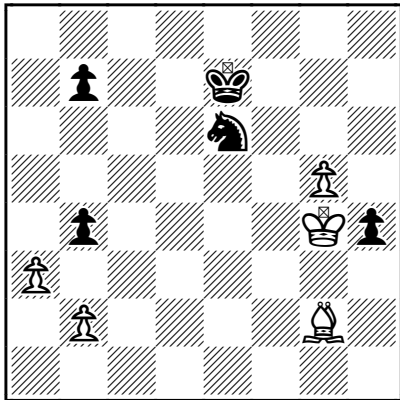


30...Rg8 31. Re5 Kd7 32. Ke3 Nd8 33. Rg5 Nf7 34. Rxc6 Rxc6 35. Bxc6 Ng5 36. Be4. In the nick of time. 36... Nxc3

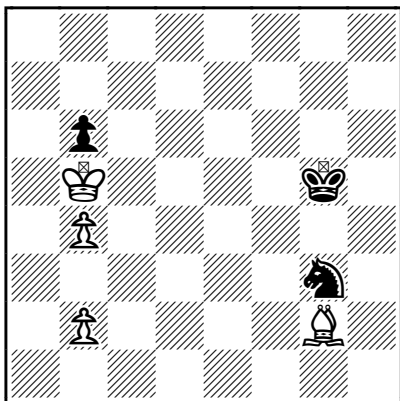


37. Bg2! Ng5 38. Kf4! Ne6+ (38...

h3 39. Bxb7+-) 39. Kf5 b5 40. g5 Ke7
41. Kg4 b4



42. axb4! This makes it much more difficult for Black to attack those b-file pawns. 42... b6 43. Kxh4 Ng7 (43... Nf4 44. Be4! Ke6 45. Kg4 Ke5 46. Bc2! This prevents N incursions and can switch to targeting the queening square at g8 to protect the pawn. 46... Nd5 47. Kh5+-) 44. Kg4 Ke6 45. Kf4 Nh5+ 46. Ke4 Ng3+ 47. Kd3 Kf5 48. Kc4 Kxg5 49. Kb5+-.



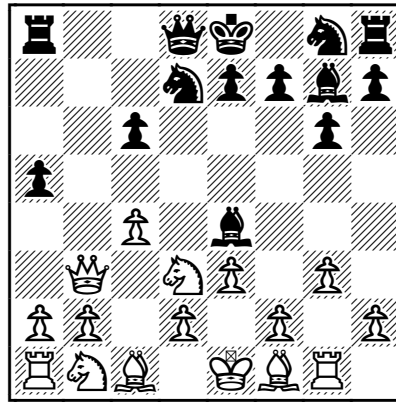
17... fxe4 18. Bxe4±.

BACK TO MY MAIN LINE

7. Nxd3 Bf5 8. Qb3 Be4 9. Qxb7 Nd7 10. Rg1 a5 11. Qb3±

The problem I see in these posi-

tions is **patience** on White's part.



What has an onerous defense, but he has a PLAN, and Black's only plan is d3, getting to it.

What I observed in 4 days of thoughtful analysis is how a "small," advantage grew to a Big advantage just by keeping your cool and posing Black MORE problems than are posed to White. Black always seems too slow... even if it is in something like trying to run his h-pawn down the file.

White is still a little awkward, but Black has to do something soon; he is down 2 pawns. White's plan is to move the Q back to d1 and push his f-pawn to f3. White wants to rout the B from e4, remove his N from d3 and get the d2-pawn moving as well as develop his Q-side pieces. h2 is a weak spot for White. If Black plays ... e5 to stop an eventual f4, he can also get his N/g8 out to get castled.

5... Nd7 6. Bb2 e5 7. e3 Bg7 8. Bg2 Nh6 9. 0-0-0 10. Na3 a5 11. exd4 e4 12. Ne1 Nb6 13. Qb3 axb4 14. Qxb4 Na4

15. Bc3 e3!! 16. fxe3 c5 17. dxc5 Nxc3 18. dxc3 Qd2 19. Nb5 Ng4 20. Nf3 Qxe3+ 21. Kh1 Nf2+ 22. Rxf2 Qxf2 23. a4? Bd7 24. Nc7?! Rxa4! 0-1.

NN - Long

[A09]

May Illowa May 13, 2006

1. Nf3 d5 2. c4 d4 3. b4 f6

Several people told me this was "wrong." It's book.

4. Qb3 a5 5. Ba3 axb4! 6. Bxb4 Na6 7. Ba3 c5 8. g3 Qc7 9. Bg2 e5 10. 0-0 Ne7 11. e3 Nc6 12. exd4 cxd4 13. Bxf8 Rxf8

Keeping me from castling. Whoopee do! See move 19.

14. d3 Nc5 15. Qd1 Nb4 16. Ne1

16. Nxd4! exd4 17. Qe1+ Be6 18. Qxb4 Nxd3 19. Qxb7 Qxb7 20. Bxb7 Ra7 21. Be4 Nc5=: Rich Bohms.

16... Bf5 17. f4 Bxd3 18. Nxd3 Nbx d3 19. Qe2 0-0-0! 20. f5 Rfe8 21. Na3 Qf7 22. Bd5 Rxd5

AFTER I played this, it seemed obvious to my opponent! He forgot he MADE me come up with this idea.

23. cxd5 Qxd5 24. Rab1 e4

Black gets an incredible Pawn Roller—but he temporarily takes his EYE off of the "ball" because he thinks (really?) the game is going to play itself.

25. Rb5 Re5 26. Nc2 e3

Hybrid Openings

26... Kb8

**27. Rd1 Nf2 28. Rxc5!+ Qxc5
29. Rxd4 Qe7**

29... Kb8

30. Qc4+ Rc5

30... Kb8

31. Qg8+ Kc7 32. Nxe3 Re5

32... Nd1

33. Kxf2

33. Nd5+ Rxd5 34. Qxd5 Qe1+ 35. Kg2 Qh1+ 36. Kxf2 Qxh2+ 37. Kf1 Qh3+ 38. Ke2 Qh2+ 39. Kd1 Qg1+ 40. Kc2+-.

33... Rxe3 34. Qc4+ Kb8 35. Qg8+ Ka7 36. Ra4+ Kb6 0-1.

After being in control most of the way, and "refuting" White's Q-side attack, I almost blew it. White lost on time. Black had 14 seconds left.

Long - Imgrund, John

[A09]

October Illowa Swiss Oct. 21, 2003

1. Nf3 d5 2. c4 Nf6 3. Qa4+ c6

Except for g3/g6, does this look familiar?

4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. e4

I debated over this move because of a ...Bg4, which seemed to me, could be played soon and undermine my "center."

5... Nf6

5... Nb6

6. Nc3 Nbd7

What Nate (my son) calls a "typical Imgrund move."

7. Be2

7. d4. Uncertainty crept in about this move, which is a good idea as it prevents ...e5.

7... e5 8. 0-0 Be7

8... Bc5!

9. d4 Nb6 10. Qd1 exd4 11. Qxd4 0-0 12. Be3 Ng4

I saw this possibility; I should've realized he would do this.

13. Bf4 Qxd4 14. Nxd4 Bf6 15. Bxg4

I thought I had to play this!?! 15. Rad1 Rd8 16. Nf3! Only now do I realize how much Bishops mean to John; he wouldn't take the N/c3 and damage my pawn structure.

Eventually Black won on time after 70-80 moves. I was able to set up a drawn position on the Q-side but overlooked a draw by repetition because of a flurry of moves and not properly claiming it... in fact Imgrund or I moved into check once or twice and it was only noticed afterward by the spectators.

Took my EYE off of the ball again. But so did Imgrund. Several times a smirk was on his face indicating he had it all wrapped up, but he never did. His brain and reality were on two different wave lengths. As Purdy once said, if we didn't behave like this, we would be a whole class stronger than we are.

Namgilov - Dao Thien Hai

[A09]

Budapest, 1996

1. Nf3 d5 2. c4 d4 3. b4 f6

Remember the NN-Long game and this move??

4. e3

Where I got my idea for this week's analyses, coupled with the Markowski material. I thought it would be a QUICK article. I was wrong.

4... e5 5. c5 a5 6. Bc4 Nh6 7. 0-0 Be7 8. d3 dxe3 9. Bxe3 Nf5 10. b5 e4 11. Ne1 Nd7 12. d4 Nxc5 13. Nc3 Be6 14. Bxe6 Nxe6 15. Nc2 Qd7 16. Qg4 Nd6 17. Nxe4 0-0 18. Nxd6 Qxd6 19. Qe4 f5 20. Qxb7 f4 21. Bc1 f3 22. Qc6 fxe3 23. Re1 Nf4 24. Qxd6 Nh3+ 25. Kxg2 Rxf2+ 26. Kxh3 Bxd6 27. Ne3 Rxh2+ 28. Kg4 Rf8 29. Rf1 h5+ 30. Kg5 Be7+ 31. Kg6 Rxf1 32. Nxf1 Rg2+ 33. Kf5 Rf2+ 34. Ke6 Rxf1 35. Kxe7 h4 36. d5 h3 37. d6 cxd6 38. b6 h2 39. b7 h1Q 40. b8Q+ Kh7 41. Qb1+ g6 42. Qb3 Qe4+ 43. Kd7 Qg4+ 44. Kc7 Rf8 45. Qd5 Qb4 46. Kd7 Qc3 47. Qxd6 Qc8+ 0-1.

Black DIDN'T let this one get away from him.

Appel - Dautov

[A11]

Bundesliga, Feb. 15, 2004

1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 g6 3. c4 c6 4. Qa4 d4 5. b4 Bg7 6. d3 e5 7.

Bg2 Ne7 8. 0-0 0-0 9. Nbd2 h6 10. Ba3 Nd7 11. Rab1 Qc7 12. Nb3 Re8 13. b5 cxb5 14. Qxb5 a6 15. Qb4 Bf8 16. Qe1 Rb8 17. Nfd2 b6 18. Ne4 Nf5 19. Bxf8 Rxf8 20. Qc1 Kg7 21. c5 b5! 22. Qa3 Bb7 23. Rfc1 Bc6 24. Na5 Bd5 25. Nd6 Ne7 26. c6 Nb6 27. Ndb7 Bxg2 28. Kxg2 Ned5 29. Qd6 Rfc8 30. Rc5 Qxd6 31. Nxd6 Rc7 32. a4 Nc3 33. Rxc3?

33. Rb4! How does one find such a move? White threatens to win the e5-pawn. Black was no doubt relieved when White missed the "unclear" outcome of 33. Rb4.

33... dxc3 34. axb5 Na4 35. b6 Nxb6 36. Ne8+ Rxe8 37. Rxb6 c2 38. Nb3 Rec8 39. Nc1 Rxc6 40. Rb2 Rc5 0-1.

Markowski - Lautier

[A11]

EU-ch Ohrid, June 15, 2001

1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 g6 3. c4 c6 4. Qa4 d4 5. Bg2 Bg7 6. 0-0 Nh6 7. d3 0-0 8. b4 Nf5 9. Nbd2 Nd7 10. Ba3 Re8 11. Ne4 Nd6 12. Nxd6 exd6 13. Rfe1 a5 14. Rab1 Nb6 15. Qc2 axb4 16. Bxb4 Na4 17. Rb3 Bg4 18. h3 Bxf3 19. Bxf3 Qc7 20. Reb1 Ra7 21. Kg2 Rea8 22. a3 Ra6 23. Bd2? Nc5 24. R3b2 Rxa3 25. Bb4 R3a7 26. Bxc5 dxc5 27. Rb3 Qc8 28. Qb2 Ra2 29. Qc1 R8a7 30. Qf4 Bf8 31. h4

R2a3 32. Rxa3 Rxa3 33. h5 Ra8 34. Qe5 Qb8? 35. Qg5 Qc7 36. Be4 Qd7 37. hxg6 hxg6 38. Qe5 Bd6 39. Qg5 Be7? 40. Qd2? Qc7 41. Rh1 Qe5 42. Rb1 Ra7 43. Qb2 Qc7 44. Qd2 Qe5 45. Qh6? Bg5 46. Qh1 Qe6 47. Qf1 Kg7 48. f4 Be7 49. f5 gxf5 50. Bxf5 Qe3 51. Bg4 Bd6 52. Bf3? Bc7 53. Qh1 Qh6 54. Bh5 Qg5 55. Qh3 Bd6? 56. Rf1 b6 57. Rf5 Qh6 58. Qg4+ Kf8 59. Qf3 Qg7 60. g4! Kg8 61. Qxc6 Bf8 62. Qxb6 Re7 63. Kf1 Rd7 64. Qc6 Rd6 65. Qf3 Rd7 66. Qc6 Rd6 67. Qxc5 Rf6 68. Qd5 Rxf5+ 69. Qxf5 Be7 70. Kg2 Qf6 71. Qxf6 Bxf6 72. Kf3 Kf8 73. Ke4 Ke7 74. Kd5 Bg7 75. g5 f6 76. Kxd4 1-0.

An amazing game of boo-boos with a very nice ending.

Markowski - Shabalov [A11]

Bermuda, Feb. 5 2003

1. g3 d5 2. Nf3 g6 3. c4 c6 4. Qa4 e6
The commonest move.
5. Bg2 Nd7 6. Qb3 Bg7 7. 0-0 Ne7 8. d4 0-0 9. Nc3 a5 10. cxd5 exd5 11. Rd1 Nb6 12. Bg5 Re8 13. e4 h6 14. Bxe7 Rxe7 15. e5 Bf5 16. Ne2 Nc4 17. Qc3 a4 18. b3 Nd6 19. Qb4 Ne4 20. Nh4 Bc8 21. bxa4 Re8 22. Bxe4 dxe4 23. Nc3 Bg4 24. Re1 Bf8 25. Qb3

Be6 26. Qxb7 Qxd4 27. Nxe4 Qxe5 28. Nf3 Qb8 29. Qxc6 Rc8 30. Qb5 Bg7 31. Qxb8 Rxb8 32. Rac1 Bg4 33. Kg2 Rxa4 34. h3 Bxf3+ ½-½.

White ran out of gas.

Markowski - Ftacnik

[A11]

Bundesliga, Nov. 1, 2003

1. g3 d5 2. Nf3 g6 3. c4 c6 4. Qa4

A different way of approaching this opening via 1. g3.

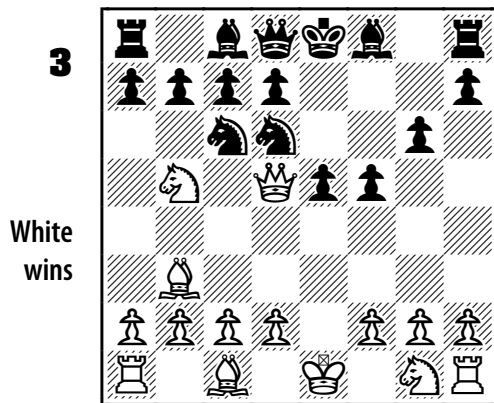
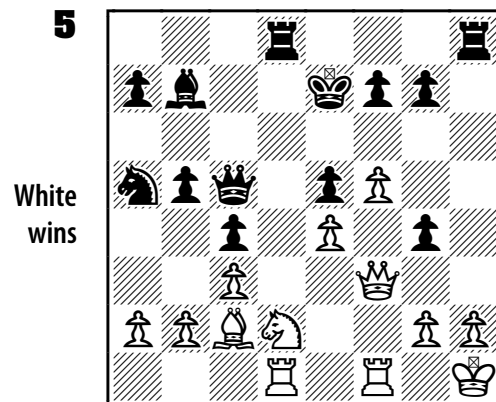
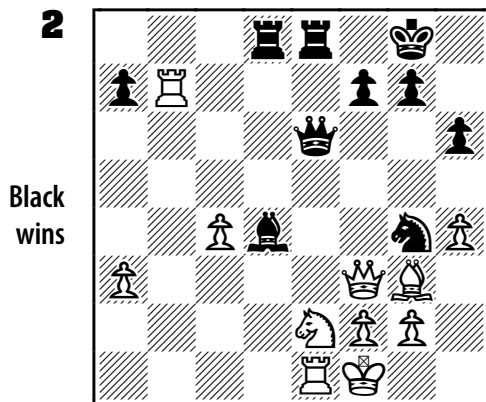
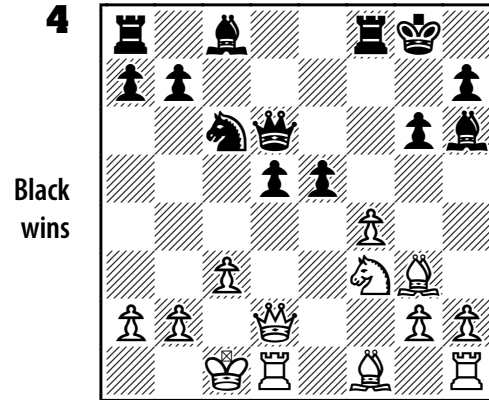
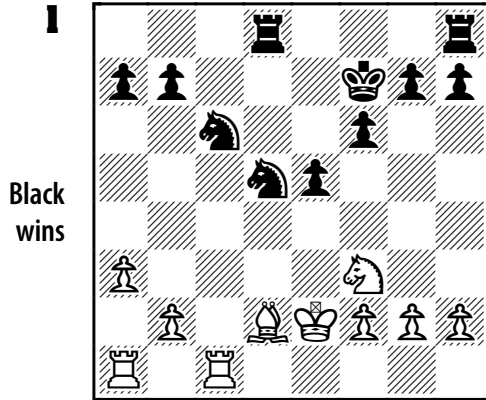
4... e6 5. Bg2 Bg7 6. 0-0 Nf6 7. d4 0-0 8. Nc3 Nbd7 9. Qb3 b6 10. Bf4 Qe7 11. Rfd1 Ba6 12. cxd5 exd5 13. Rac1 Rfe8 14. Ne5 Nxe5 15. Bxe5 Bh6 16. e3 Nd7 17. Qa4 Nxe5 18. Qxa6 Ng4 19. Qe2 Nxf2 20. Kxf2 Bxe3+ 21. Kf1 Qg5 22. Rc2 Bxd4 23. Qd3 Bc5 24. Re2 Rxe2 25. Qxe2 Rd8 26. Bf3 Rd6 27. Qd2 Qf5 28. Kg2 Re6 29. Re1 Rxe1 30. Qxe1 Kf8 31. Qd2 h5 32. a3 Qe5 33. b4 Be3 34. Qd3 b5 35. Ne2 Ke7 36. Qc2 Kd6 37. a4 a6 38. axb5 axb5 39. Qa2 Bb6 40. Qa8 Qe3 41. Qf8+ Qe7 42. Qb8+ Bc7 43. Qa7 Kd7 44. Qd4 ½-½.

These GMs make "running out of gas" look so easy.

At any rate, give the 4. Qa4 system of the Réti a try. Get innovative, prepare, and dazzle them!

The **QUIZ** Page (side to move wins)

Try to solve these in 5 minutes or less. Put down the first move on the "report" sheet supplied with "Chess Reports" issue #1. Do not use any kind of help, just your own brain. Visualize the solution without moving the pieces. We are trying to HELP you!



Quizzes are an excellent way to warm up, stay in shape, and discover new possibilities. They are part of the Course. Some are not too hard, others are harder. There may be 1-2 which tax you.

They are also necessary for you to get a refund in case you are unhappy with what we are trying to do. If you don't have a filled out sheet, how can we help you? Please, help yourself!

(Be sure to enter the FIRST move on your Score Sheet, sent with issue #1).

Two New Books— A Player, a tricky Opening

How can an opening with the name of Philidor be considered tricky?

I can't say I knew a guy who new a guy, I just knew THE guy. He told me that when he was in the mood to play the Philidor (which author Christian Bauer considers a lazy opening for Black), he went into "pump out the moves" mode, and quite often, White would walk into a disaster. How can 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 be taken seriously. Try losing against it!

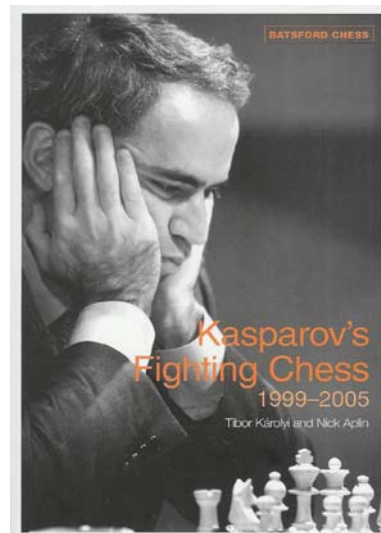
Now at least 3-4 grandmasters are playing it. Bauer says, "The PD enables Black to 'save energy' by playing his initial moves almost automatically whereas White can more eas-

ily go wrong... To gain an advantage he [White] must take a certain amount of risk."

304 big pages, a cover retail of \$23.95. The book is a well-organized theory book (i.e., not the usual collection of annotated games). From Everyman Chess. Title: **the Philidor files**.

Ex-champ Garry Kasparov has not exactly rushed his book of games into print yet, so others are writing instead. This includes Igor Stohl and now, Tibor Károlyi and Nick Aplin. Batsford is the publisher of **Kasparov's Fighting Chess 1999-2005**, 336 pages, the 3rd book in this series on Kasparov's fighting chess (is there an echo in here?).

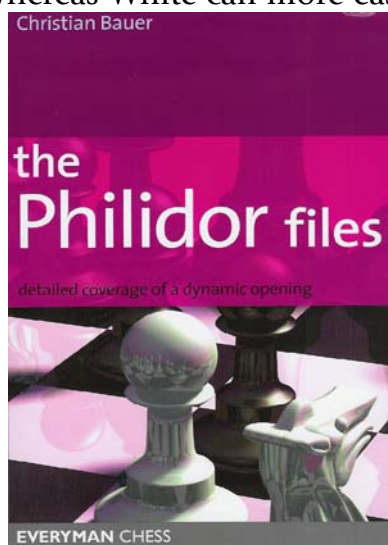
If you hate to see Garry lose,



you won't have that worry in this book. There are 77 games and they are ALL packed with much analysis, smaller type, and even some history and anecdotes. The cover retail is \$22.95. A bargain.

Both can be obtained from Chess4Less by calling Greg at 1-800-397-7117.

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