

NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

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JUNE 13, 2011

VAN WELY AND AKOBIAN WIN 2011 NATIONAL OPEN

Heading into the final round, nine players were tied at the top of the standings on 4/5. However, GM Alejandro Ramirez had requested a half-point bye, which left a nice round number to pair in the final round.

With GM Loek Van Wely, seeded #1 of the tied players, the only player in the top half due the white pieces, and IM Zhanibek Amanov, seeded #9, the only player in the bottom half due the black pieces, that pairing seemed forced and was seen a lucky break for the Dutchman.

That pairing in itself was probably the primary reason we got a fight on all of the top four boards. With most players expecting Van Wely to win, this meant they also had to win to have a shot at the title and the major prize money.

The first game to finish was GM Sam Shankland against GM Timur Gareyev, which ended peacefully after 26 moves despite a complicated middlegame that provided chances for both players.

Closely following them was GM Varuzhan Akobian who put the pressure on the remaining players by scoring a victory with the black pieces in just 31 moves against GM Giorgi Kacheishvili.

The next to finish was GM Ray Robson vs GM Suat Atalik. A draw was agreed after 33 moves with Atalik sacrificing a pawn early on but Robson managing to hold firm.

This just left the final game between Van Wely and Amanov. Eventually, after 35 moves, Van Wely managed

to wrap up the victory thereby finishing with the same 5/6 as Akobian.

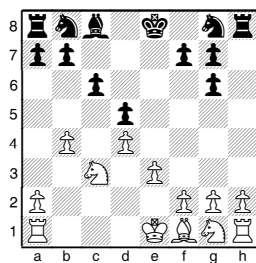
However, despite being Co-Champions and sharing the prize money, each player taking home \$4,800, GM Varuzhan Akobian won the much coveted Edmondson Cup on better tie-breaks, probably due to Van Wely's round two loss to IM Dionisio Aldama.

Here is Akobian's final round win against Kacheishvili.

**Kacheishvili,G (2647)
Akobian,V (2685)**

National Open (6.2), 12.06.2011

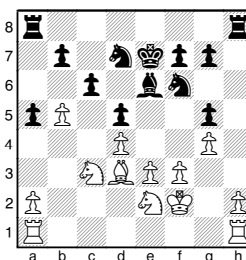
**1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 Be7
4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 c6 6.Qc2 Bd6
7.Bxd6 Qxd6 8.e3 Qg6 9.Qxg6
hxg6 10.b4**



10...Nf6

This has been seen as recently as a couple of weeks ago on American soil during the Nakamura-Ponomarev match in St. Louis. Here Akobian comes up with a different move from the 10...a6 played by Ponomarev.

**11.f3 g5 12.g4 Be6 13.Bd3 Nbd7
14.Kf2 Ke7 15.Nge2 a5 16.b5**

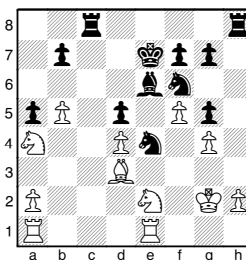


16...c5

So far things had been fairly quiet with both players getting their pieces into the game

**17.Na4 Rac8 18.Kg3 cxd4
19.exd4 Ne8 20.Rhe1 Nd6 21.f4
Nf6 22.f5 Nde4+ 23.Kg2?**

This is a mistake. White had to play the simple 23.Bxe4 Nxe4+ 24.Kg2 Bd7 25.Nb6± and he maintains the slightest of edges.



**23...Nxc4! 24.Bxe4 dxe4 25.fxe6
Rxc2+ 26.Kg1 Rch8**

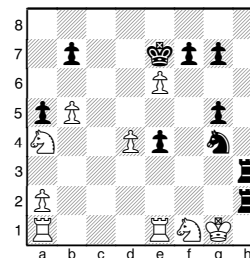
Black's attack comes swiftly although all hope is not yet lost for White.

27.Ng3 R8h3 28.Nf1?

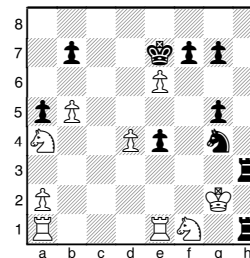
Giving the piece back via 28.Nxe4 f5 29.Nac3 fxe4 30.Nxe4 was the only way for White to live a little longer although his position is still precarious.



GM Varuzhan Akobian with the Edmondson Cup



28...Rh1+ 29.Kg2



29...f5!

White is going to get mated by the f-pawn!

30.Rac1 f4 31.Rc7+ Kd8 0-1

There is no way to stop ...f3 mate.

VAN WELY-AMANOV GAME FROM ROUND 6

Here is the Van Wely victory over Amanov that secured a share of first place for the Dutchman.

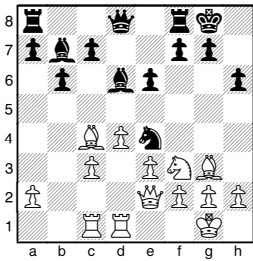
Van Wely,L (2737)
Amanov,Z (2442)

National Open (6.1), 12.06.2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.e3 b6 8.Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Qe2 Ne4

One of many moves in this well known Tartakower Variation of the Queen's Gambit Declined.

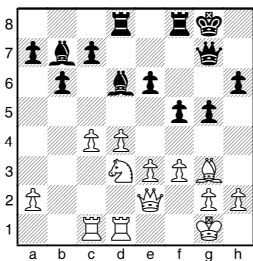
11.Bg3 Ndf6 12.Rfd1 Nxc3 13.bxc3 dxc4 14.Bxc4 Ne4 15.Rac1 Bd6



16.Bd3

This is a new move according to ChessBase's online database. Two previous games saw 16.Ba6 and 16.Bh4 and both finished in draws. This line definitely has a solid reputation although you also don't find many wins for Black.

16...Qe7 17.Bh4 g5 18.Bg3 f5 19.Bxe4 Bxe4 20.Ne5 Qg7 21.f3 Bb7 22.c4 Rad8 23.Nd3



23...f4?!

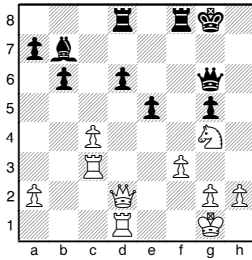
Up to this point Amanov had been playing very solidly. However, the computer doesn't like this pawn push instead preferring 23...g4

which it says is equal. All it takes is a couple of small inaccuracies against players of Van Wely's strength and you end up in trouble.

24.exf4 Qxd4+

24...gxf4 25.Bh4 Rde8 26.c5! Be7 27.Bxe7 Rxe7 28.Ne5 and White has a slight edge that he can use to keep probing for Black mistakes.

25.Nf2 Qf6 26.Ng4 Qg6 27.fxg5 hxg5 28.Bxd6 cxd6 29.Rc3 e5 30.Qd2



30...Rfe8?

The losing move and such a shame at this stage of the game. Black had to play 30...Bc8 31.Ne3± although White can keep playing with this slight edge for a long time.

31.Ra3!

The pawns on the queenside become very weak.

31...a6 32.Qe3 d5 33.cxd5 e4

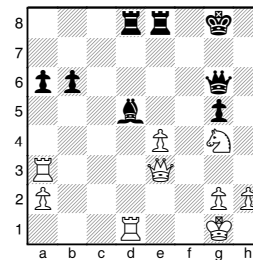
33...Rxd5 34.Rxd5 Bxd5



GM Loek Van Wely collects his check from Janelle Losoff

35.Rxa6+-

34.fxe4 Bxd5



35.Rad3 1-0

When I went to the playing room to congratulate Van Wely on his victory, 35.Rdd3 had been played on the demo board and both kings had been turned sideways signaling that the game was drawn. Oops! Van Wely and Amanov were both unaware of this and when I asked for clarification from Van Wely since the live broadcast said that he had won, he was only too happy to help me correct the demo board.



GM Loek Van Wely and IM Zhanibek Amanov on board 1 in round 6

DRAWS AT THE TOP ALLOW PLAYERS TO CATCH LEADERS

Round five of the National Open saw the leaders all draw their games on the top two boards allowing those just a half-point behind them the opportunity to catch up.

Taking that chance were GMs Loek Van Wely, Timur Gareyev, Suat Atalik and Giorgi Kacheishvili. IM Zhanibek Amanov also beat GM Alex Yermolinsky to be the only non-GM of the group.

Here is Van Wely's victory over IM Dionisio Aldama, getting him back to the top of the leader board after his round two defeat.

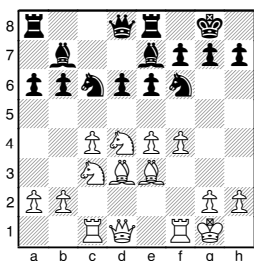
Aldama,D (2424)
Van Wely,L (2737)

National Open (5.3), 12.06.2011

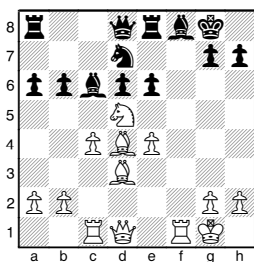
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Bc5 6.Nb3 Be7
7.0-0 Nc6 8.c4 d6 9.Nc3 Nf6
10.Be3 b6 11.f4 Bb7 12.Rc1 0-0
13.Nd4

13.Qe2 seems to be the most popular move in this position. Black looks to be ok in this line and 13.Nd4 seems to be a novelty according to ChessBase.

13...Re8



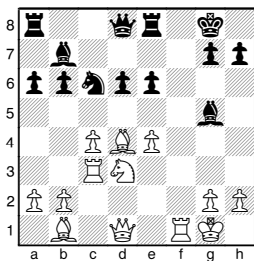
14.f5 Bf8 15.fxex6 fxe6 16.Nxc6
Bxc6 17.Bd4 Nd7 18.Nd5!?



18...Ne5!

18...exd5? 19.exd5 Bb7 20.Qh5
and Black will get mated.

19.Nb4 Bb7 20.Bb1 Be7 21.Nd3
Bg5 22.Rc3 Nc6



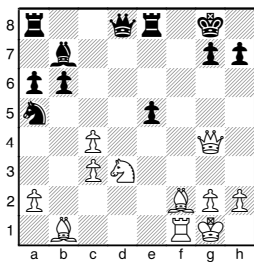
23.Bf2

White plays what is considered the best move but 23.Bxg7!? Kxg7 24.Qh5 would have been an interesting continuation. Of course it's much easier to sacrifice pieces in my analysis than it would have been for Aldama to do during the game!

23...Bf6 24.e5?!?

The computer seems to like Black a little now after this move. White had various "safer" alternatives such as 24.Rc1 and 24.Rb3.

24...dxe5 25.Qe1 e4 26.Qxe4
Na5 27.Qg4 Bxc3 28.bxc3 e5



IM Zhanibek Amanov, the only IM in the leading group after 5 rounds

29.Nxe5?

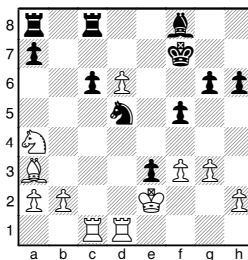
I'm not quite sure what Aldama saw. Both 29.c5 b5 30.Nb4 Qd2+; and 29.Nb4 Qc7 30.Nd5 Bxd5 31.cxd5 Nc4+ would have been tougher lines although both are still advantageous to Black.

29...Rxe5+ 30.Bd4 Rg5 31.Qe6+
Kh8 32.Rf7 Qe8 33.Re7 Qc6
34.Qxc6 Bxc6 0-1

Here is Kacheishvili's nice finish against IM Andranik Matikozyan.

Kacheishvili,G (2647)
Matikozyan,A (2511)

National Open (5.7), 12.06.2011



29.d7! Rd8 30.Bxf8 Kxf8
31.Rxc6 Rxd7 32.Nc5 1-0

Black will lose at least the exchange.

“FREDDIE” BEST GAME PRIZE

The “Freddie” Best Game Prize was created this year in honor of Fred Gruenburg who organized the National Open for over 25 years.

The prize was open to players in the National Open aged 14 years and under and the winner was selected by Grandmasters Ron Henley and Melik Khachiyani who provided free game analysis to players over the entire weekend.

Here is the winning game played by Colin Chow in the Under 2200 section. The notes provided are by GM Ron Henley.

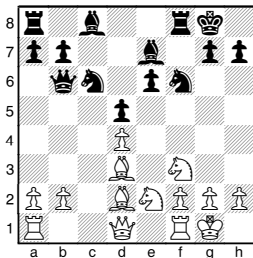
Ativic,Oztgur (2038) Chow,Colin (1937)

National Open U2200 (3)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.0-0 cxd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Bd2 f6=

Black correctly chips away at the White center and achieves equality.

12.exf6 Nxf6



13.Bc3!?

White finds an interesting plan of supporting his d4 pawn and preparing to occupy the e5 outpost.

13...Bd7 14.Ng3 Rac8 15.Qe2 Bd6?!

Black understandably tries to fight for control of the e5 square, but should have collected the bishop pair with 15...Nb4!?

a) 16.Bxb4 Bxb4 17.Ne5 Be8 and Black is at least equal. ; 15...Nb4 b) 16.Rfe1 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Bd6 and Black is better.

16.Rad1

More accurate was 16.Ne5!?

with a slight edge for White.

16...a6

Again, 16...Nb4!?

would give Black at least equality.

17.Ne5 Qc7

17...Bxe5 18.dxe5 Ne8 19.Bb1!?

with a very promising position for White thanks to his space advantage and bishop pair.

18.f4!?

White has a serious advantage as Black struggles to find counterplay.

18...b5

Now 18...Nb4 19.Bxb4 Bxb4 20.Qe3 Bd6 21.Rc1 Qd8 22.Rxc8 Bxc8 23.Rf2 is better for White.

19.a3 Qa7

Black tries to put pressure on the white d4 pawn.

20.Kh1 Kh8

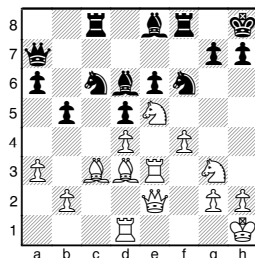
Of course 20...Nxd4? 21.Bxd4 Qxd4 22.Bxh7+ wins the black queen.

21.Rf3

The beginning of a dubious plan. [White should exploit his advantage with the thematic f5 advance – 21.f5!f exf5 22.Nxf5 Bxf5 23.Bxf5 Rc7 24.Qd3 with an initiative for White.

21...Be8 22.Re3?

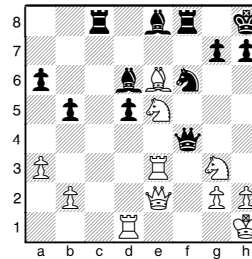
White should now take time to defend his d4 pawn with 22.Bc2!?



22...Nxd4! 23.Bxd4 Qxd4 24.Bf5

The discovered attack on the Black queen allows White to recoup one pawn.

24...Qxf4 25.Bxe6



25...Rc2!

A very nice deflection rook sacrifice.

26.Qe1

After 26.Qxc2 Qxe3 and the White pieces are trapped on the e-file.

26...d4!

The attack on the e3 rook exploits the unstable white position along the e-file and nets Black a piece.

27.Bb3

White counterattacks the unprotected black rook on c2.

27...Qxe3

Also winning is 27...dxe3 since after 28.Nd3 Qh4 29.Bxc2 Ng4 30.Nf1 Rxf1+ 31.Qxf1 Qxh2#

28.Bxc2 Bxe5

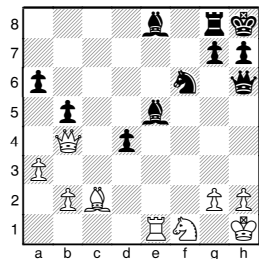
Black has won a piece and finishes off in style.

29.Qb4 Rg8 30.Re1 Qh6!

Black pins the White g-pawn and is threatening 31...Bxg3 winning the White knight.

31.Nf1

If 31.Rxe5 Ng4! 32.h3 (Or 32.Rh5 Qc1+ leads to a back rank mate.) 32...Bc6!+ with the deadly threat of 33...Qxh3+ and 34...Qxg2 mate. If 33.Be4 Qc1+



31...Bxh2!

Black finishes with a quick knockout.

32.Nxh2 Ng4+-+ 0-1

White has no reasonable way to protect his knight on h2. 32...Ng4 If White runs with his king, 33.Kg1 he does not get too far after 33...Qxh2+ 34.Kf1 Qf4+ 35.Ke2 (35.Kg1 Qf2+ 36.Kh1 Bc6 37.Rg1 Qh4#) 35...Qe3+ 36.Kd1 (36.Kf1 Nh2#) 36...Nf2#



Colin Chow, winner of the “Freddie” with GMs Melik Khachiyani and GM Ron Henley

GM RON HENLEY ANNOTATES

The following games were submitted during the "Analyze your games" sessions by Grandmaster Ron Henley.

Ron graciously annotates the games in a little more detail for the National Open News.

Savage, James (1730) Salvaryan, Hovanes (1648)

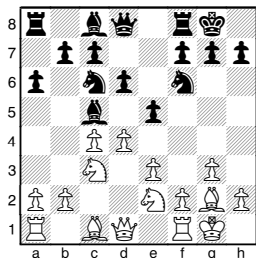
National Open U1800 (3), 11.06.2011

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 Nf6
4.Nc3 Bc5 5.e3 a6

Hovanes plays a system recommended in Roman Labs DVDS #69, "Dzindzi Anti English."

6.Nge2 0-0 7.0-0 d6 8.d4

White plays the thematic central expansion.



8...exd4!

After the exchange on d4, the White pawn on d4 remains under pressure by the Black dark squared bishop and c6 knight.

9.exd4 Ba7

Black looks to play Bc8-g4 to increase the pressure on the White d-pawn.

10.h3

Preventing Bc8-g4 by Black and looking to gain space on the kingside.

10...h6!?

Black prevents Bc1-g5 by white.

11.Be3 Ne7!?

Black relocates his knight to the kingside and frees his c-pawn.

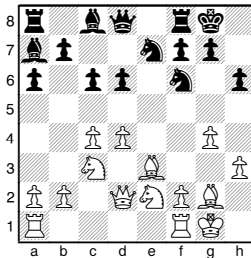
12.g4

White gains space on the kingside and prepares to follow with Ne2-g3 and possibly f2-f4.

12...c6!?

Black prepares d6-d5.

13.Qd2



13...Nh7!

An excellent multi-purpose prophylactic move! Black takes the sting out of any aggressive White action like 14.Bxh6 or 14.g5, while also freeing his own f-pawn.

14.Ng3 d5!?

This central advance freezes the White pawn on d4.

15.c5

15.b3 Be6 16.cxd5 Nxd5 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Nf5 Be6! =; 15.cxd5 Nxd5 (15...cxd5 16.Nh5!?) 16.Nxd5 cxd5 17.Rac1±

15...Bb8

15...f5!?

16.Nce2

16.Bf4! Bxf4 17.Qxf4 f5±

16...f5 17.gxf5!?

This capture leaves White with a destroyed kingside pawn structure. 17.f3! =

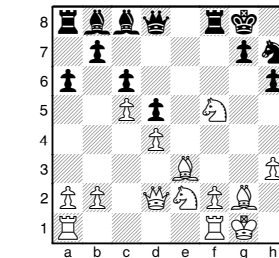
17...Nxf5

White now has three pawn islands to Black's two. White has split isolated h and f-pawns, which offer the Black pieces multiple points to attack.

18.Nxf5



"Freddie" contenders Hovanes Salvaryan, Evan Anthopoulos and Abhishek Handigol received book prizes from GMs Melik Khachiyani and Ron Henley for their submissions



18...Rxf5!?

Most people would play the "routine" 18...Bxf5 19.Ng3 Bd7 With a clear advantage for Black.

19.f4

19.Ng3 Rf7!± followed by Qd8-h4 with an attack.

19...Rh5

Black zeros in on the isolated White h-pawn.

20.Ng3 Rh4

The rook does a delicate dance on the weak kingside squares.

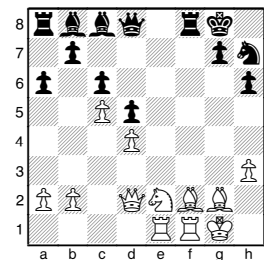
21.Bf2?

The attempt to defend h3 with the White king can be met by 21.Kh2 a) 21...Qd7! 22.f5 Qc7; 21.Kh2 b) 21...Nf6 threatening 22...Ng4+

21...Rxf4 22.Ne2 Rf8

Having dined on the f4 pawn, the Black rook returns home!

23.Rae1



23...Ng5!

Black creates the dual threats of 24...Nxh3+ and 24...Nf3+.

24.h4?

White had no viable way to defend the h-pawn. 24.Qd3 Bf5 25.Qb3 Qd7 26.h4 Nh3+ 27.Kh1 Nxf2+ 28.Rxf2 Qd8! 29.Ref1 Qxh4+ 30.Kg1 Qh2#; 24.Qc3 Bxh3! 25.Bxh3 Rf3 26.Be6+ Kh8 27.Qb4 Qc7! 28.Bg3 Rxc3+ 29.Nxc3 (29.Kf2 Ne4# mate.) 29...Qxc3+ 30.Kh1 Qh2# mate.

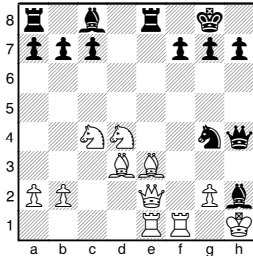
24...Nh3+ 0-1

24...Nh3+ After 25.Bxh3 Bxh3 + 6.00 - Fritz. Black is already one pawn up and at minimum will win the exchange on f1.

GM RON HENLEY ANNOTATES

Handigol,Abhishek (1597) Hale,Roger (1249)

National Open U1600 (5)



16.Bg5!! Rxe2 17.Rxe2 Bd7 18.Bxh4 c5 19.Nf5 Bc7 20.Re7 Rd8 21.Rfe1 g5 22.Rxd7 Rc8 [22...Rxd7 23.Re8#] 23.Ne7+ [23.Rxc7] 1-0

Brown,Michael (2255) Gareyev,Timur (2673)

National Open (1)

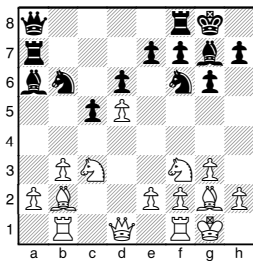
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6

The Benko Gambit Accepted which Timur said more players are willing to play into with White these days.

5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.g3 Bg7 8.Bg2 d6 9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.Rb1 0-0 11.b3 Ra7 12.Bb2 Qa8

Attacking the white pawn on d5.

13.0-0 Nb6



14.Nh4!?

+ .80 Fritz. 14.Ng5!?

14...Bb7 15.e4

White is forced to advance his e-pawn in order to defend the d5 pawn.

15...Rb8 16.a4

16.Nf3 Michael also thought bringing the knight back from the edge of the board should be considered.

16...Ba6 17.Re1 Ne8 18.Qc2 Nd7 19.Bf1

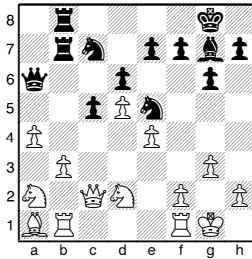
19.Ba1!? c4 20.b4; 19.Bc1!? Fritz.

19...Nc7 20.Nf3 Rab7 21.Nd2 Ne5 22.Ba1

22.Be2!? +.80 Fritz.

22...Bxf1 23.Rxf1 Qa6!? 24.Na2

24.Nd1!? c4 25.Bxe5! cxb3 26.Rxb3 Bxe5 27.Rxb7 Rxb7 28.Ne3 Rb2 29.Qxc7 Rxd2 30.Nc4! Rc2 31.Qb8+ Kg7 32.Nxe5 dxe5 33.Qxe5+--



24...Qd3!

As Karpov and Lev Alburt both have explained - "In the Benko Gambit, White looks to keep the queens on the board and build a kingside attack". Paradoxically the queen exchange helps Black even though he is a pawn behind. A classic example was Karpov-Gelfand, Candidates Match, Sanghi Naghar.

25.Qxd3 Nxd3 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.Nc3 f5

A thematic pawn break in endgames for Black as he looks to either undermine the White pawn center or gain control of the e5 square.

28.f3 Rb4 29.Rfd1

White is a pawn ahead, but finds it is not easy to make progress. 29.a5 It seems the correct plan was to advance the a-pawn and prepare Ra1 and double rooks on the a-file behind the passed pawn.

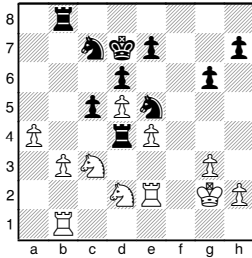
29...fxe4 30.fxe4 Ne5 31.Kg2 Kf7 32.Rf1+

Michael still thought he should have advanced with 32.a5!?

32...Ke8 33.Rf2

33.h3!? Rd4 34.Rf2 Rd3 35.Nd1 c4 36.Rc1 Na6 37.bxc4 Ra3

33...Kd7 34.Re2 Rd4



35.Nf3?

This knight was the glue holding the the White pawn on b3.

35...Nxf3 36.Kxf3 Rdb4!

The white b-pawn falls and the advantage swings to Black.

37.Na2!?

Realizing he is losing the b3 pawn, Michael switches over to tenacious defense. 37.e5?! Rxb3 38.Rxb3 Rxb3 39.e6+ Kc8 40.Re3 Kb7

37...Rxb3+ 38.Rxb3 Rxb3+ 39.Re3 Rb2 40.Re2 Rb1 41.Kf2 Na8! 42.Re1 Rb2+ 43.Re2 Rb3 44.Re3 Rb8 45.Kf3 Rb2 46.Re2 Rb1 47.Re3 Nb6 48.Ra3 Nc4 49.Rc3 Na5

49...Na5 50.Rc2 Rd1 51.Nc3 Rd4 52.Ke2 Rb4 53.Kd3 Rd4+ 54.Ke2 Nb3+ 55.Ke3 Ke8 56.Rb2 Na5 57.Rc2 Kf7 58.Rf2+ Kg7 59.Rc2 Kf6 60.Rf2+ (60.Kf4 Nc4) 60...Kg7 (60...Ke5 61.Rf7 Nc4+ 62.Ke2 Rd2+ 63.Ke1 Kd4) 61.Rc2 h5 62.h4 Kf6 63.Rf2+ (63.Kf4 Rd3 64.Nb5) 63...Ke5 64.Rc2 Rb4 65.Kd3 c4+ 66.Ke2 Rb3 67.Kf2 Rb4 68.Kg2 Nb3 69.Nd1 Kd4 70.Nb2 c3 71.Nd1 Nc5

50.Rc2 Rd1 51.Nc3 Rd4 52.Ke2 Rb4 53.Kd3 Rd4+ 54.Ke2 Nb3 55.Ke3 Ke8 56.Rb2

56.Kf4!?

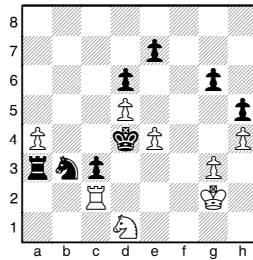
56...Na5 57.Rc2 Kf7 58.Rf2+ Kg7 59.Rc2 Kf6 60.Rf2+ Kg7

60...Ke5! 61.Rf7 Nc4+ 62.Ke2 Rd2+ 63.Ke1 Kd4 64.Nb5+ Ke3 65.Rxe7? Rc2 66.Kd1 Kd3 67.e5 Ne3+ 68.Ke1 Re2# mate.

61.Rc2 h5 62.h4 Kf6 63.Rf2+

63.Kf4!? Rd3 64.Nb5

63...Ke5! 64.Rc2 Rb4 65.Kd3 c4+! 66.Ke2 Rb3 67.Kf2 Ra3 68.Kg2 Nb3 69.Nd1 Kd4 70.Nb2 c3 71.Nd1



71...Nc5! 0-1

The Black knight keeps the White a-pawn under control while the Black king, rook and passed pawn overpower the White rook and knight. The Black knight also has the option of collecting the White pawns on a4 and e4.

Pearson,Alex (1856) Wade,Richard (1931)

National Open U2000 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 cxd4 5.cxd4 Nc6 6.Nf3 e6?

A bit passive. More challenging are 6...Bg4 7.Be2 etc. ; 6...e5 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd2 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 e4 10.Ne5

7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd3 Bd7

8...Nxd4? 9.Nxd4 Qxd4 10.Bb5+--

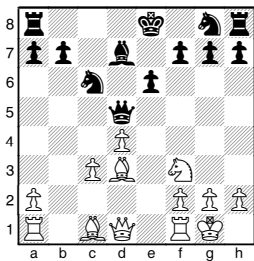
9.0-0

White breaks the pin on his knight and leaves Black with the unpleasant choice between retreating his queen and capturing the White knight on c3.

9...Bxc3 10.bxc3

White has chances for a serious attack with either Bc1-a3 or c3-c4.

GM RON HENLEY ANNOTATES



10...Na5

Black plays to control the c4 light square, but neglects his kingside development and king safety.

11.Ne5!?

11.Ba3 Nc4 12.Bxc4 Qxc4 13.Ne5→

11...Nf6

If Black tries to exchange light squared bishops with 11...Bb5 then after 12.Qh5! g6 13.Bxb5+ Qxb5 14.Qf3 the black f-pawn comes under attack. 14...f6 (14...f5 15.Bg5 Nc6 16.Rfe1f) 15.Bh6! Nxb6 (15...fxe5 16.Qf8+ Kd7 17.Qxa8+-) 16.Qxf6→

12.Re1

12.Ba3 0-0-0 (12...Bb5 13.Bxb5+ Qxb5 14.Rb1 Qa6 15.Qa4+) 13.Nxf7

12...Bb5 13.c4

An unnecessary pawn sacrifice. [White should have continued 13.Bxb5+ Qxb5 14.Bg5! If 14...0-0 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Qg4+ Kh8 17.Qh4 fxe5 18.Qf6+ Kg8 19.Re3 (19.Rxe5+-) 19...Rfc8 20.Qh6! and mate in five.

13...Nxc4 14.Qb3

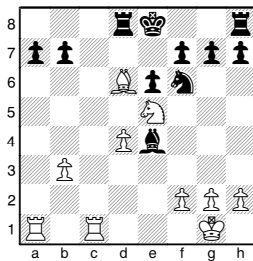
14.Rb1!?

14...Nd6 15.Ba3! Qxb3 16.axb3 Bxd3 17.Bxd6 Be4?

17...Ba6!

18.Rec1 Rd8

18...Bc6 19.Nxc6 bxc6 20.Rxc6 Kd7 21.Rca6



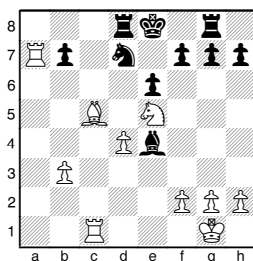
19.Rxa7! Rg8

19...Rxd6 20.Ra8+ Rd8 21.Rxd8+ Kxd8 22.Nxf7+-

20.Bc5

White should keep the c-file open with 20.Ba3! and after 20...Rxd4? 21.Rc8+ Rd8 22.Raa8 the Black king will be mated.

20...Nd7



21.Nc4!?

White looks to exploit the weakness of the d6 square.

21...Nxc5 22.dxc5 Ke7 23.Nd6! Bc6 24.f3

White should now grab a pawn with 24.Nxb7! Rd7 25.Na5! the Houdini like knight move wins after 25...Rxa7 26.Nxc6+ Kd7 27.Nxa7+-

24...Rd7 25.Rc4 Rb8 26.Rb4 b5?! 1/2-1/2

White still has a clear advantage, but agreed to a draw. 26...b5 27.Ra6! Bd5 (27...Rc7 28.Rg4 g6) 28.Rxb5 Rxb5 29.Nxb5 Rb7 30.Nd6 Rxb3 31.Ra7+ Kf6 32.Rxf7+ Kg6+-

Yanayt,Eugene (2305) Green,Jeff (2007)

National Open (1)

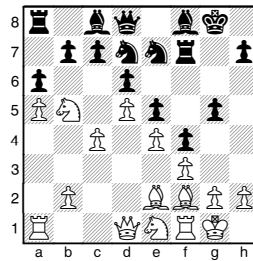
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.Bf2 g5 13.a4

A plan championed by Viktor Korchnoi.

13...Rf7

It seems Black should consider delaying White on the queenside with 13...a5!? 14.Nd3 b6 15.b4 axb4 16.Nxb4 Nf6 with chances for both side.

14.a5 Bf8 15.Nb5 a6



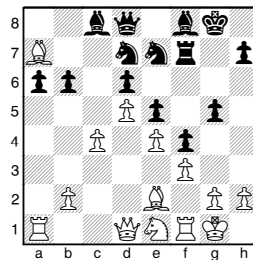
16.Na7!

The point of White's play is to eliminate the Black bishop on c8.

16...Rxa7!?

An interesting practical choice as Black sacrifices the exchange to preserve light square bishop and tries to trap the white bishop on a7.

17.Bxa7 b6 18.axb6 cxb6



19.c5!

White sacrifices his c-pawn in order to open the a-file and protect his bishop on a7.

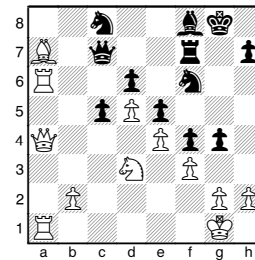
19...bxc5

A possibly better continuation was 19...dxc5!? 20.Bxa6 (If 20.d6 Nc6) 20...Bxa6 21.Rxa6 Nc8 followed by advancing on the kingside as in the game. Black would have use of the d6 square for his pieces and the possibility of bringing his bishop to the c5-g1 diagonal.

20.Bxa6 Bxa6 21.Rxa6 Qc7 22.Qa4 Nc8 23.Nd3 Nf6

Black attacks the bishop on a7 for a third time.

24.Ra1 g4



25.Qc6! gxf3 26.gxf3 Rg7+ 27.Kh1 Qf7

Black abandons his knight on c8, in order to create threats to the White king.

28.Qxc8 Qh5

Black has the threat of 29...Qxf3 mate.

29.Rf1 Nxe4

Being in Las Vegas, Black now goes "all in!"

30.fxe4 Rg3

Black has intended 30...Qe2 but noticed 31.Qh3 Qxe4+ 32.Qf3 wins for White.

31.Qe6+ Kh8 32.Qf6+ Kg8 33.Nxf4! 1-0

33.Nxf4 Black resigned in view of 33...exf4 34.Qxf4 with the dual threats of 35.Qxf8 mate and 35.Qxg3+.



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