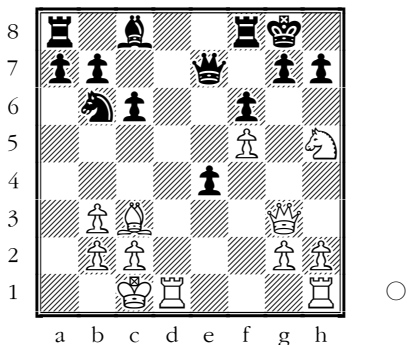


Test Yourself!

Ian Fleuren – David Murray
Bunratty Masters (3), 23.02.2008



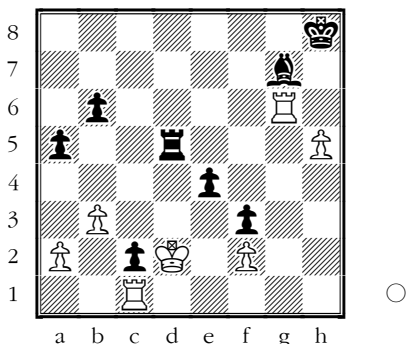
There were several strong players from the UK and Iceland in the Masters section, so the fighting was pretty tense. I was happy with my own performance – in the last round I won a nice game against GM Gawain Jones, which I plan to show in the next *Chess Today* issue.

Bunratty Masters, Final Standings:

1. GM Peter Svidler – 5½/6
2. GM Alex Baburin – 5
- 3–6. GM Nick Pert, IM Bjorn Thorfinnsson, IM Thor Johannesson and FM Alex Lopez – 4½, etc.

[Official website](#)

S. Williams (2482) – G. Jones (2562)
Bunratty Masters (5), 24.02.2008



Polish Championship

This tournament started in Lublin yesterday. IM Szoen (2491) and GM Gajewski (2594) took an early lead after beating IM Moranda (2533) and GM Macieja (2617) respectively. The latter game ended in a curious zugzwang:

Gajewski (2594) – Macieja (2617)
65th Polish ch (1), Lublin, 25.02.2008

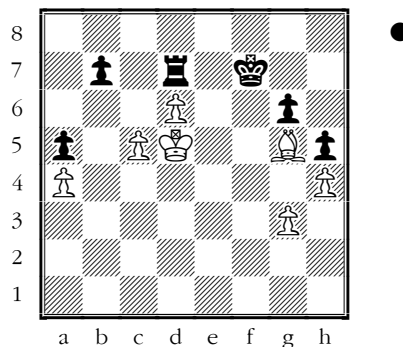
Choose between 34.♙e3 and 34.♙xc2



World Chess News

Bunratty Chess Festival

This tournament took place in Ireland last weekend with about 300 players competing in 4 different sections. The Irish chess public was delighted to see in action world's No. 5 player – GM Peter Svidler (2763). He has become the highest rated player to compete in Ireland, though Michael Adams, who played in Kilkenny and Dublin, is a close second.



1-0.

If only the black king and rook could swap places! Alas, this is impossible and White wins after 42...♙e8 43.♙e6 ♖f7 44.♙e7.

[Official website](#)

Annotated Game

by GM Alex Baburin

White: GM Peter Svidler (2763)

Black: GM Simon Williams (2482)

Bunratty Masters (3), 23.02.2008

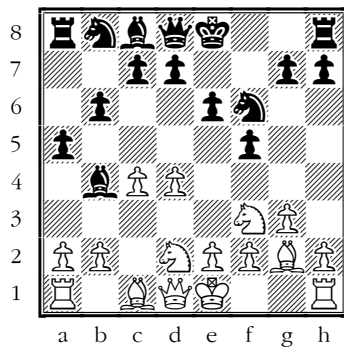
The Dutch Defence – [A90]

1.d4 Svidler usually plays 1.e4, but against 1.d4 Simon Williams plays mostly the Dutch, which explains Svidler's choice of the first move – the Dutch remains a risky opening.

1...e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 ♗f6 4.♗g2 ♖b4+ 5.♗d2

In case of the more popular 5.♗d2 Black can consider 5...♗e7 – then the white bishop is somewhat misplaced on d2.

5...a5 6.♗gf3 b6 (D)



Black is playing a hybrid of the Dutch and the Bogo-Indian.

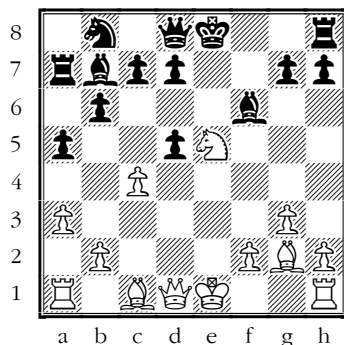
7.a3 ♗e7

Perhaps it was better to part with the bishop – after 7...♗xd2+. After 8.♖xd2 ♗b7 Black is doing OK. This position resembles some lines of the Nimzo-Indian with 4.♖c2. Therefore White should consider 8.♗xd2!? ♖a7 9.e4 ♗b7 10.f3 or 10.d5 exd5 11.exd5 ♖e7+ 12.♖e2 ♖xe2+ 13.♖xe2.

8.♗e5 ♖a7 9.e4 ♗b7 10.d5 fxe4?!

It was safer to play 10...0-0.

11.♗xe4 exd5 12.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 (D)



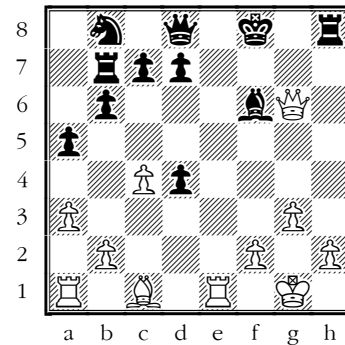
13.0-0! d4?!

Black was already in serious trouble and his move does not help. 13...♗xe5? 14.♖h5+ is very bad for Black. 13...0-0? 14.♗xd5+ ♖h8 15.♗f7+ ♖xf7 16.♗xf7 leaves Black an exchange down. Perhaps the lesser evil was 13...♗c6.

14.♗xb7 ♖xb7 15.♖h5+!

Svidler goes for the kill. Computer also gives a curious line 15.♗g5!? 0-0 16.♖xd4.

15...g6 16.♗xg6 hxg6 17.♖xg6+ ♗f8 18.♖e1 (D)

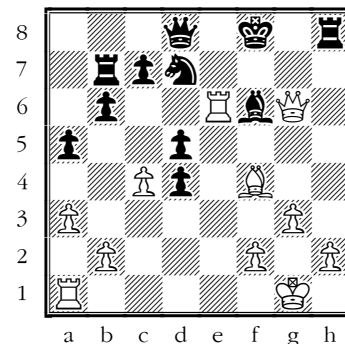


The black king has been stripped of its pawn shield and cannot withstand the forthcoming assault. White plans to get the bishop to f4 (or h6, if needed) and double rooks on the e-file.

18...d5

Black is also doomed after 18...♗c6 19.♗h6+ ♖xh6 20.♖xh6+ ♗g7 21.♖h5.

19.♖e6 ♗d7 20.♗f4 (D)



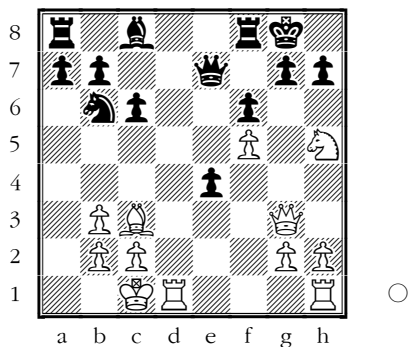
1-0.

Black is completely lost, for example: 20...♖b8 21.♖ae1 dxc4 22.♗xc7!.

Solutions to our Quiz:

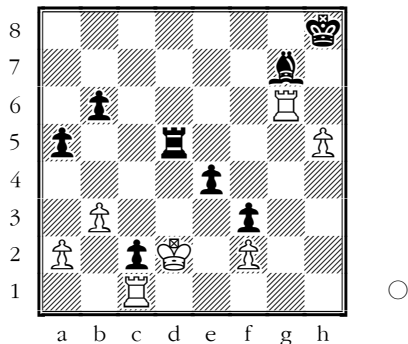
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Ian Fleuren – David Murray
Bunratty Masters (3), 23.02.2008



21. Qb4! Kf7 22. Qxf8 Kxf8
23. Bd8! 1-0.

S. Williams (2482) – G. Jones (2562)
Bunratty Masters (5), 24.02.2008



Choose between 34. Ke3 and 34. Kxc2

34. Kxc2?? (34. Ke3 Bc5 35. Bxg7
 Kxg7 36. Kxe4=) 34... Bc5+ 35. Kd2
 Bxc1 36. Kxc1 e3!-+ 37. Bg1 Qd4
38. Bh1 e2 39. Kd2 Qxf2 40. a3
 Kh7 41. b4 axb4 42. axb4 Kh6
43. b5 e1K+ 44. Bxe1 Qxe1+
45. Kxe1 Kxh5 46. Kf2 Kg4 0-1.

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