

chess

by richard shorman



Moving slowly into the middlegame from a placid English Opening, today's game quickly picks up steam when White pushes across the fourth rank into enemy territory and storms the Black citadel. USCF expert Richard Fauber annotates.

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The charm of this game lies in its simplicity. White aims for an attacking formation in which there is essentially only one key move, **P-KB5**, by which he translates his advantage in space into attacking possibilities. Since both players know this, Black plays to barricade the center and counter force with equal force at the key square. But, as is frequently the case, a square that cannot be carried directly can be won by a tactical cheapo. Once **P-KB5** has been played, the White position is rich with menace.

White: Richard Fauber. Black: Randy Hough.

Golden Bear Open, Berkeley, 1968.

English Opening

1	P-QB4	P-QB4	14	NxN	BPxN
2	N-QB3	N-QB3	15	N-Q5	BxN
3	P-KN3	P-KN3	16	BPxP	N-K1
4	B-N2	B-N2	17	RxP (g)	P-B3
5	R-N1 (a)	P-Q3	18	B-R3	Q-K2
6	P-QR3	P-QR4 (b)	19	B-Q2	N-B2
7	P-K4	N-B3 (c)	20	R-R5	R-B2
8	KN-K2	0-0	21	R-B1 (h)	K-R1
9	0-0	P-K4 (d)	22	B-B5	B-B1
10	P-B4	B-K3	23	Q-N4	N-R3 (i)
11	P-Q3	N-Q5	24	B-K6	R-N2 (j)
12	P-B5	PxP (e)	25	RxPch	Resigns (k)
13	B-N5	Q-Q2 (f)			

(a) The position is symmetrical. In such situations it is to the advantage of the player with the move to make pawn advances. These pawn advances either break the symmetry, if Black turns cautious, or provide targets for advantageous attack at some later time. The idea is to provide opportunity to exercise the advantage of the move. An example of the symmetrical line is Larsen—Ivkov, Palma de Mallorca, 1967: 5...R—N7 6 P—QR3 P—QR3 7 P—QN4 P×P 8 P×P P—QN4 9 P×P P×P 10 N—B3 N—B3 11 0-0 0-0 12 P—Q4 P—Q4 13 B—B4 R—N3 14 Q—N3 P—K3, when the advantage of the move has yielded White only a small positional plus.

(b) This stops White's Queen-side play for the moment; but it also guarantees that Black will not be able to take the initiative there. Since White wanted to attack the King-side, he was pleased by this development.

(c) An exemplary mistake. Now White can proceed blithely with his King-side attack. Black will have no counter-play on the Queen side. An amusing exercise in vision would have been 7...P—K4 8 KN—K2 KN—K2 9 P—Q3 0-0 10 0-0 P—B4, when Black has a pawn and piece configuration that is typical of White in this variation. Symmetry is not so easy to break.

(d) A mistake which weakens Black's KB3. White's pressure on the Bishop file will now be stronger than had the Pawn stayed at home.

(e) This was a 20 minute move for Black, who thought he had prevented P—B5. He now feels sheepish as the belligerent pawn pushes into the teeth of enemy fire. Black hopes to punish arrogance, but 12...B—Q2 is more sound. White might even pause then to expand on the Queen side with 13 P—QN4. Black's disadvantage is his utter lack of counter-play.

(f) 13...P×P 14 N×P wins a piece. 13...Q—B1 14 N—Q5 N×N 15 KP×N! B—Q2 16 B—K7 R—K1 17 B×P and White threatens both the weak KBP and P—QB5. 17...B—B1 18 B×B R×B 19 N×N BP×N 20 Q—R5 is dangerous to Black's King as well as his pawns.

(g) White's advantage is clear. He owns the White squares, while Black's KB has so little scope as practically to be defrocked. White also threatens a decisive attack with all his pieces against the exposed King. This is the kind of position a player may dream about all year without getting.

(h) A good quiet move. Black can do nothing. White simply keeps the whole position under pressure. The attack is guaranteed to be decisive.

(i) A mistake, but 23...R—N2 24 Q—R4 and how does Black prevent 25 K—R1, followed by P—KN4—N5—N6?

(j) On 24...N—B4 25 R×N P×R 26 Q—N6 crushes.

(k) 25...K×R 26 Q—R5mate, or 25...R×R 26 Q—N8mate.

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USCF TOURNAMENT

The Walnut Creek Chess Club will hold its fifth annual open championships May 18-19 at the Walnut Creek Recreation Center (on Civic Drive). Entry fee is \$7 plus USCF membership in the "A", "B" and "C" Divisions, and \$3 in the Junior Division. Jerry Long will direct this 5-round Swiss system tourney, which starts at noon, Saturday, May 18.