

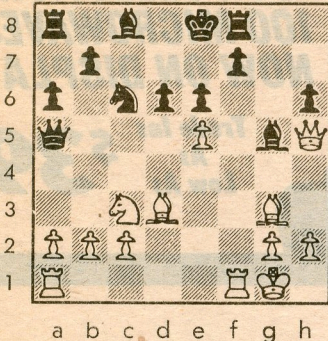
Chess



By Frisco Del Rosario

WINSLOW-WARNER

White to play and win.



GRANDMASTER DE FIRMIAN WINS 24th LERA CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Grandmaster Nick DeFirmian won the open section of the 24th LERA Class Championships held August 20-21 in Sunnyvale with a 4-0 score. International master Elliott Winslow of Oakland was awarded the brilliancy prize in the open section for this game.

Sunnyvale 1989

White: Daniel Switkes

Black: Elliott Winslow

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|-----|-------------------|------------------|-----|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | d4 | Nf6 | 23. | Bh6 | Ra7 ⁹ |
| 2. | c4 | g6 | 24. | Rf6 ¹⁰ | Qf6 |
| 3. | Nc3 | Bg7 | 25. | Qh7 | Kf7 ¹¹ |
| 4. | e4 | d6 | 26. | Kf1 ¹² | Bf5! |
| 5. | f4 ¹ | O-O | 27. | Bf5 | Qh6 |
| 6. | Nf3 | c5 | 28. | Be6 ¹³ | Ke7 |
| 7. | d5 | e6 | 29. | Qg8 | Re6 |
| 8. | Bd3 | ed | 30. | de | Bd4 |
| 9. | cd | b5 | 31. | Kh1 | Qe6 |
| 10. | O-O ² | a6 | 32. | Qg5 | Ke8 |
| 11. | Qe1 | Re8 | 33. | Qh5 | Rf7 |
| 12. | Qh4 | c4 | 34. | h3 | Bb2? |
| 13. | Bc2 | Nbd7 | 35. | Rf7 | Qf7 |
| 14. | e5 ³ | d3 | 36. | Qe2 | Qe7 |
| 15. | f5 ⁴ | Nf8 | 37. | Qb2 | Qe1 |
| 16. | Ng5 | h6 ⁵ | 38. | Kh2 | c3 |
| 17. | Nf7 | Kf7 | 39. | Qc2 | Qd2 |
| 18. | fg | Ng6 ⁶ | 40. | Qe4 | Kd7 |
| 19. | Qh5 | e4 ⁷ | 41. | Qb7 | Kd7 |
| 20. | Ne4? ⁸ | Re5 | 42. | Qa6? | Qd6 |
| 21. | Nd6 | Qd6 | 43. | Resigns | |
| 22. | Qg6 | Kg8 | | | |

NOTES:

- The King's Indian Defense has long stood as the worthiest of the hypermodern defenses, in which White is permitted to build a pawn center and Black hopes to attack it. The Four Pawns Attack is the best try philosophically, but from a practical standpoint, White should develop with 5. Nf3. If White feels he must his f-pawn, he should play f3, bolstering the center, keeping enemies away from g4 and not obstructing the c1-h6 diagonal to Black's king.
- Black had sufficient pressure for the pawn after 10. Bb5 Ne4 11. Ne4 Qa5 12. Kf2 Qb5 13. Nd6 Qb6 14. Nc4 Qa6 15. Qe2 Bd7 16. Be3 Bb5 17. Rhc1 Re8 in Zaitsev-Bogdanovic, Sochi 1967.
- Black has organized enough pressure against the e-pawn to provoke this sacrifice. The threat isn't real yet (for now ...b4 and ...Ne4 loses a piece to Qd8), but it will be after ...Bb7 or ...Qc7.
- There is nothing for White in 15. fe Ne5 16. Ne5 Re5 17. Bg5 Qb6.
- White is planning to eliminate defenders of h7 with Nce4 followed by fg and an eventual rook sacrifice on f8. Black distracts him from that plan by goading him into another sacrifice — this one extremely promising. 16...Ra7, intending to support f7, invites 17. Be3 followed by Bc5 and Bf8. Winslow offers 16...gf 17. Bf5 Bf5 18. Rf5 Ng6 19. Qh3 (threatening 20. Rf6) h6 20. Nf3 as another poor alternative.
- Winslow suggests instead 18...Kg8 19. Bh6 Bh6 20. Qh6 Ra7.
- Forced.
- Winslow considered 20. Be4 Re4 21. Ne4 (threatening to win the house with 22. Bh6) Qe7, gaining a tempo, unclear, but 22. Nf6 Bf6 23. Bg5! hg 24. Qh7 wins for White.
- The only move.
24. Bg7 Rg7 25. Qf6 (25. Rf6? Qc5) Rg2! 26. Kg2 Re2 27. Rf2 Qf6 28. Re2 and Winslow gives 28...Qg5 29. Kf2 as unclear, but Black can improve with 28...Bh3.
- 25...Kf8 looks stronger, staying out of the pin on the rank and also guarding the bishop with rook on a7. Then White's obvious 26. Rf1 loses neatly to 26...Qf1! 27. Kf1 Rf7, but 26. Qh8 leads to an ending where White has three passed pawns for the exchange — 26...Kf7 27. Bg7 Qg7 28. Rf1 Bf5 29. Rf5 Rf5 30. Qg7 Kg7 31. Bf5 etc.
- Now 26. Bg7 doesn't work because Black's king hasn't been cut off from the back rank — 26...Qg7 27. Rf1 Ke8.
28. Bg6 Ke7 29. Rf7 Kd6 and if 30. Ra7 Qe3 or 30. Qh6 Bh6 31. Ra7 Be3 (Winslow).

SOLUTION: 1. Rf7 Rf7 2. Rf1 Nd8 3. Bg6 Qc7 4. Ne4 wins.