

**Subject:** Media Release: Oceania Chess Championships: Julia Ryjanova and Temur Kuybokarov win:  
Updated  
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Media Release: Julia Ryjanova and Temur Kuybokarov win Oceania Zonal Championships

by Paul Power, Australian Chess Federation

Australian Woman Grandmaster Julia Ryjanova, winning all except one game, against fellow Australian Woman Grandmaster Jilin Zhang, and West Australian Grandmaster Temur Kuybokarov, winning the playoff match with New South Wales' Gary Lane, can add the Oceania Zonal Championships 2023 to their chess achievements.

### Final Day Report

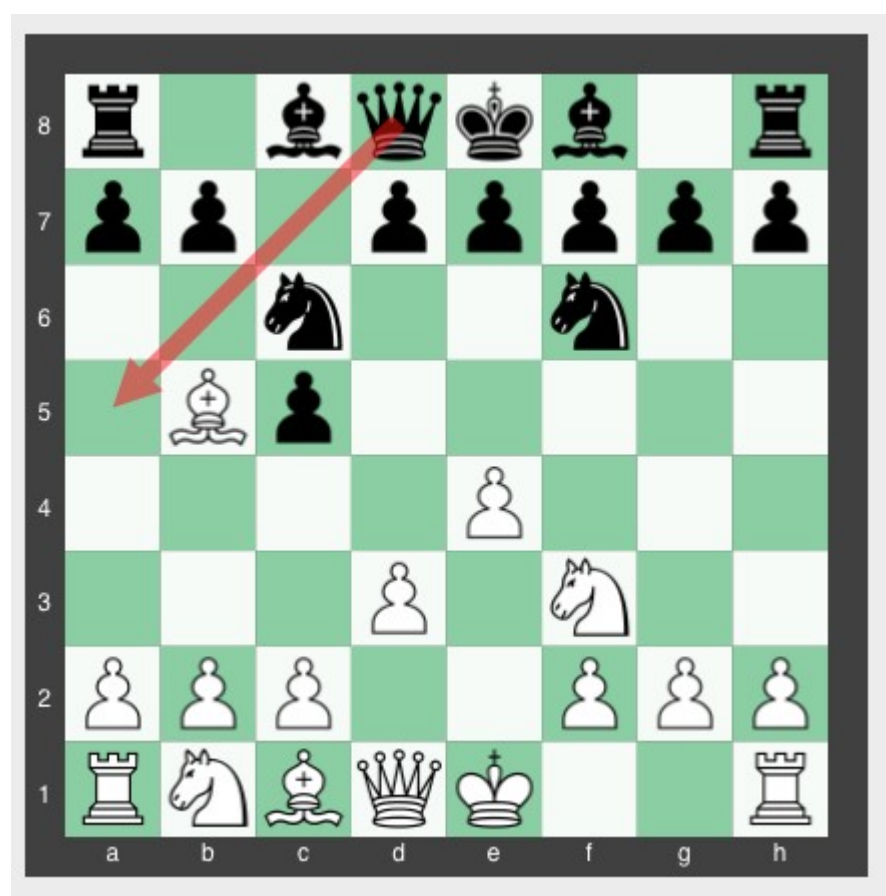
#### Women

With wins in the final round today, Woman Grandmasters Julia Ryjanova and Jilin Zhang secured the first and second places in the Oceania Women's Zonal 2023.

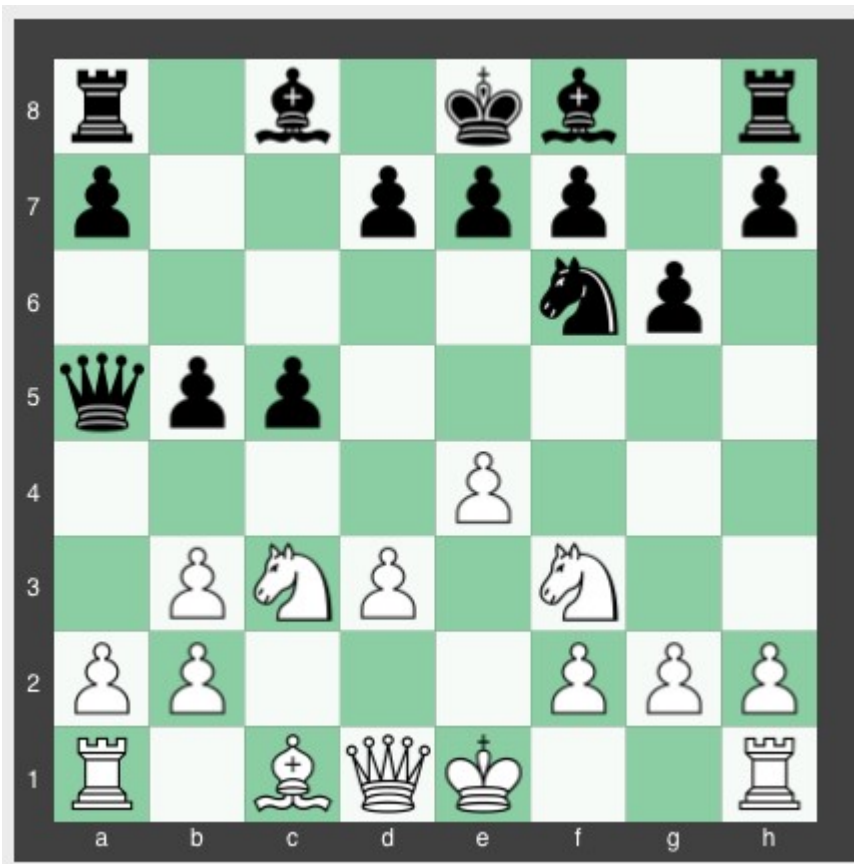
Ryjanova won all but one of the nine games, losing to Zhang in round 8. Zhang scored 7.5/9, drawing with Huey in round 1 and losing to Punsalan in round 4.

Ryjanova was paired with Black in the final round against Quek.

Ryjanova nullified White's Opening advantage early,



but then chose a rare conservative approach with 8... g6

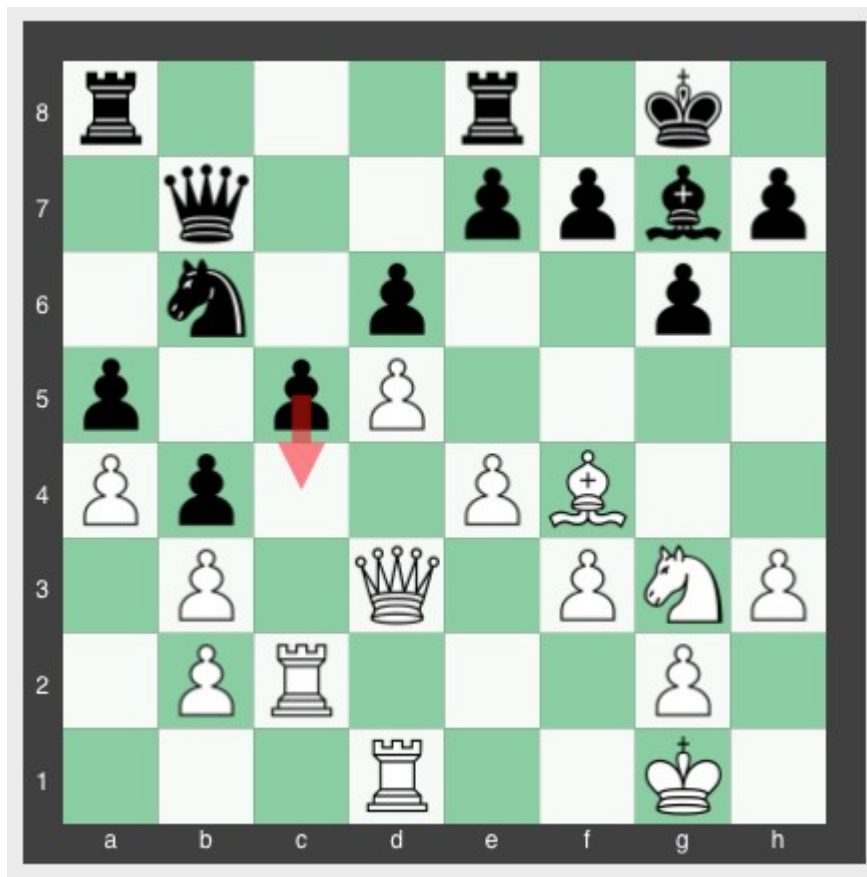


Quek had an early opportunity to regain the initiative with 10. e5

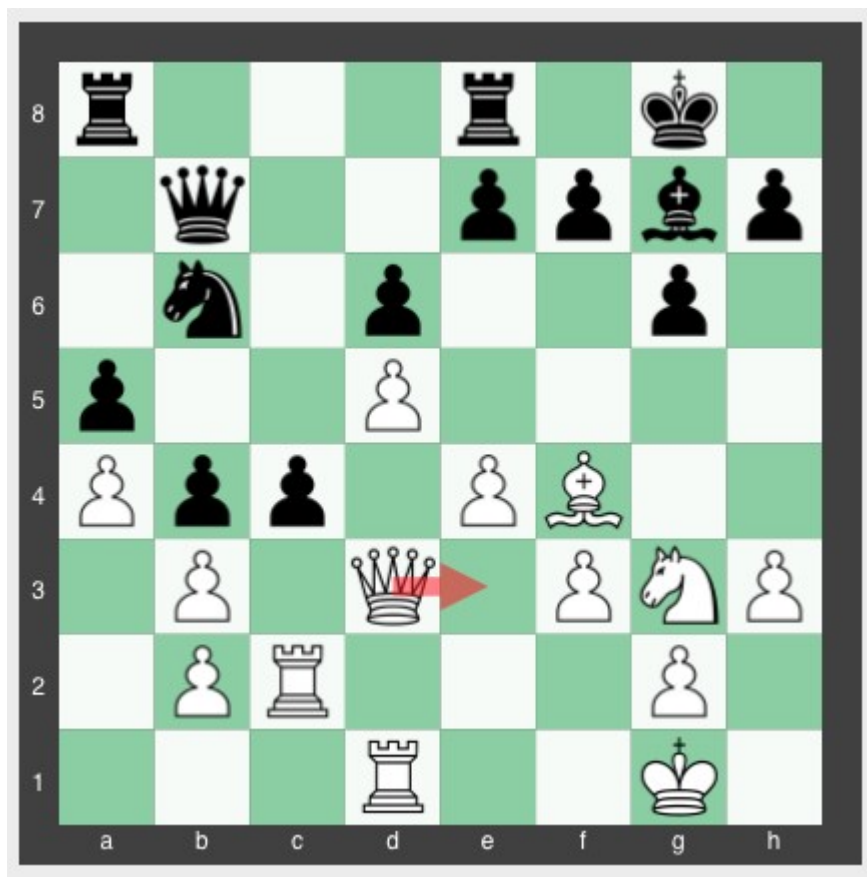


But, instead chose 10. Ne2

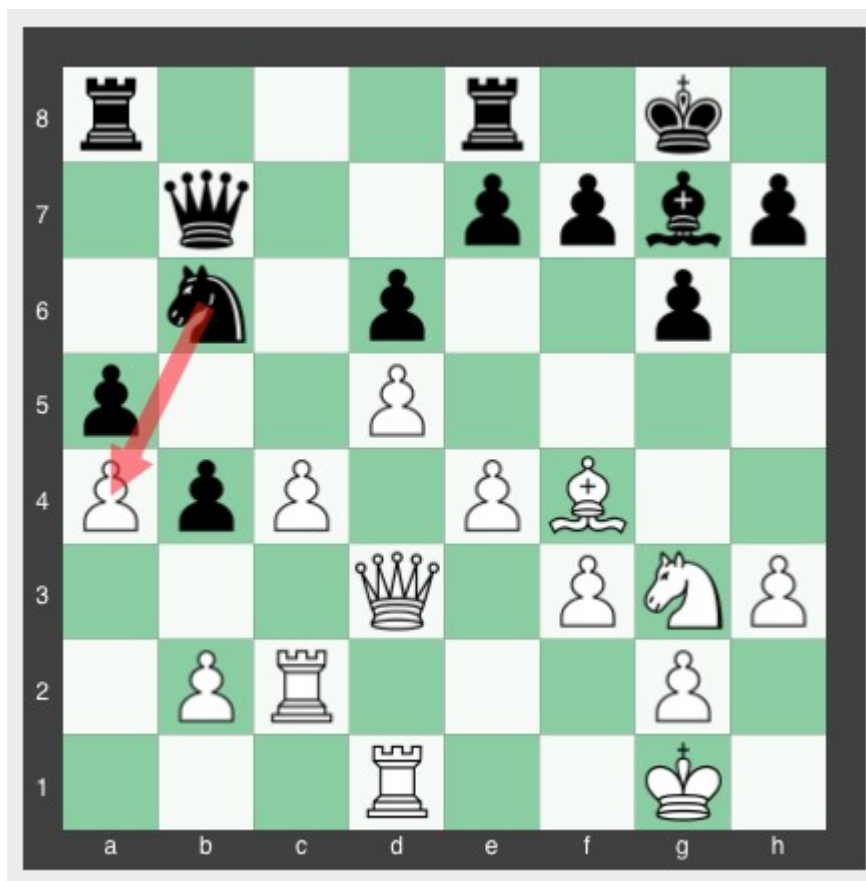
The game continued with quiet manoeuvring until 29... c4



where White should play 30. Qe3



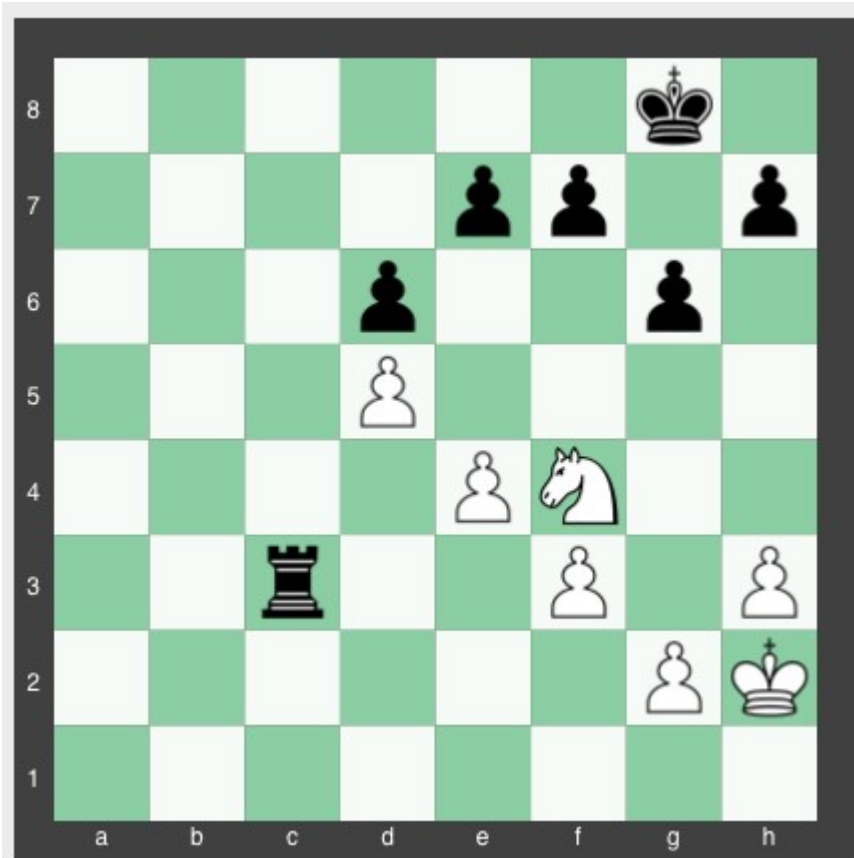
But, instead, chose 30. bxc4, losing the a-pawn



next move, losing the Exchange of Rook for Knight.



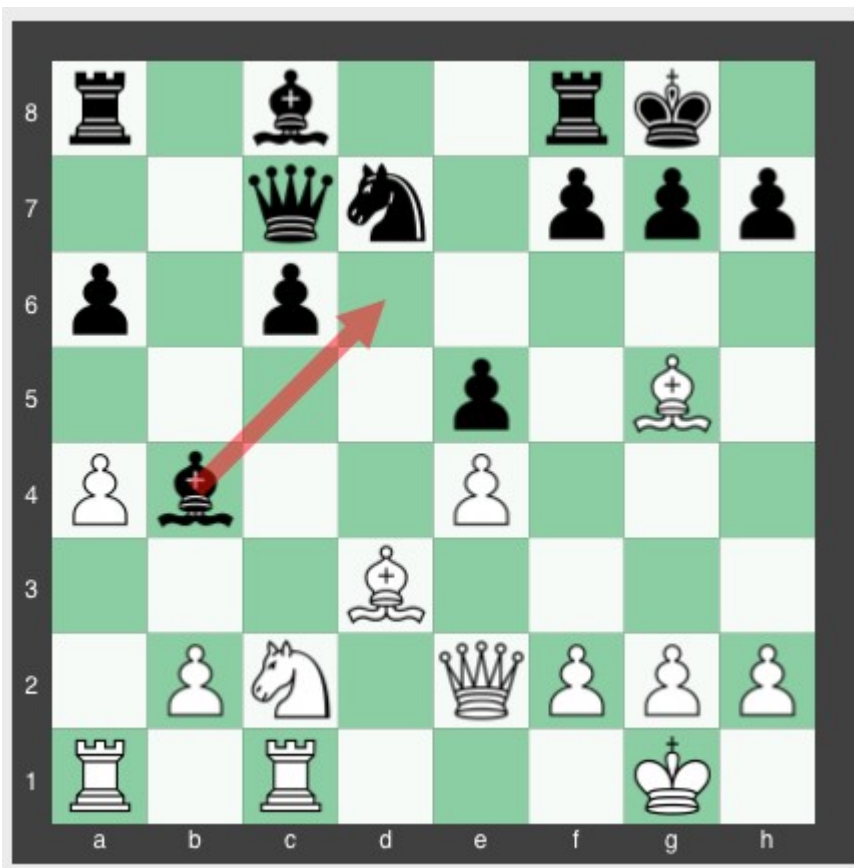
Ryjanova methodically traded down to a won ending



On Board 2, Jilin Zhang had White against Alaina Vincent.

Both players emerged from the Opening with equal material and the 'Two Bishops'.

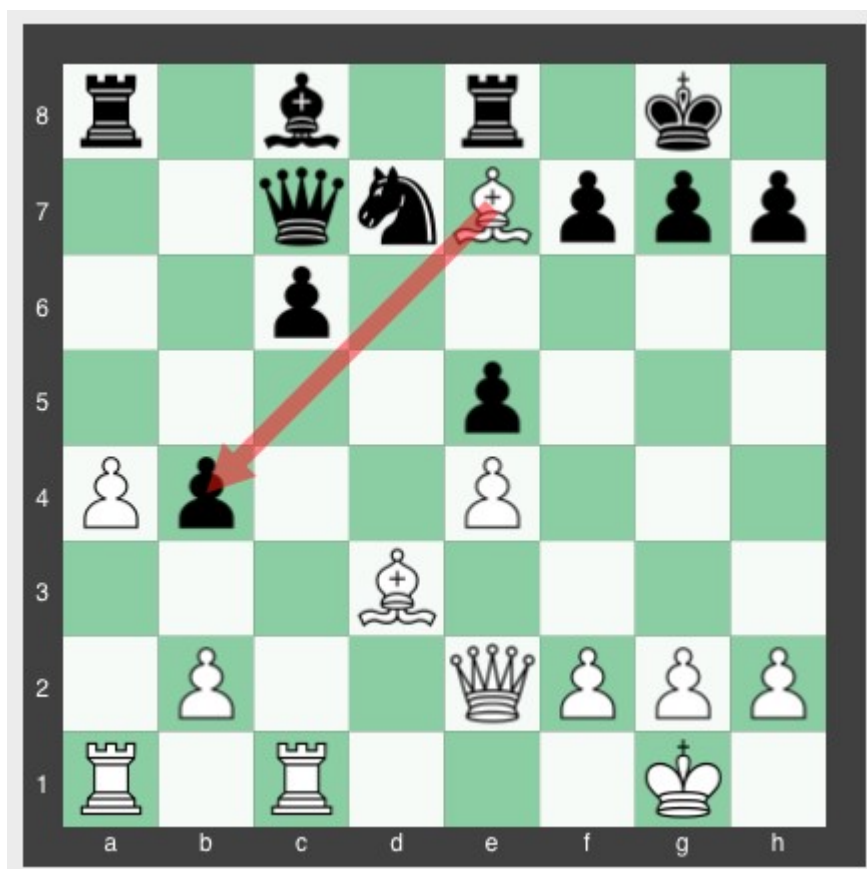
On 15. Nc2



White attacked one of Black's Bishops, which should have retreated, remaining on the a3-f8 diagonal.

But, instead, Vincent played 15... a5, giving up both a pawn and the 'Two Bishops'

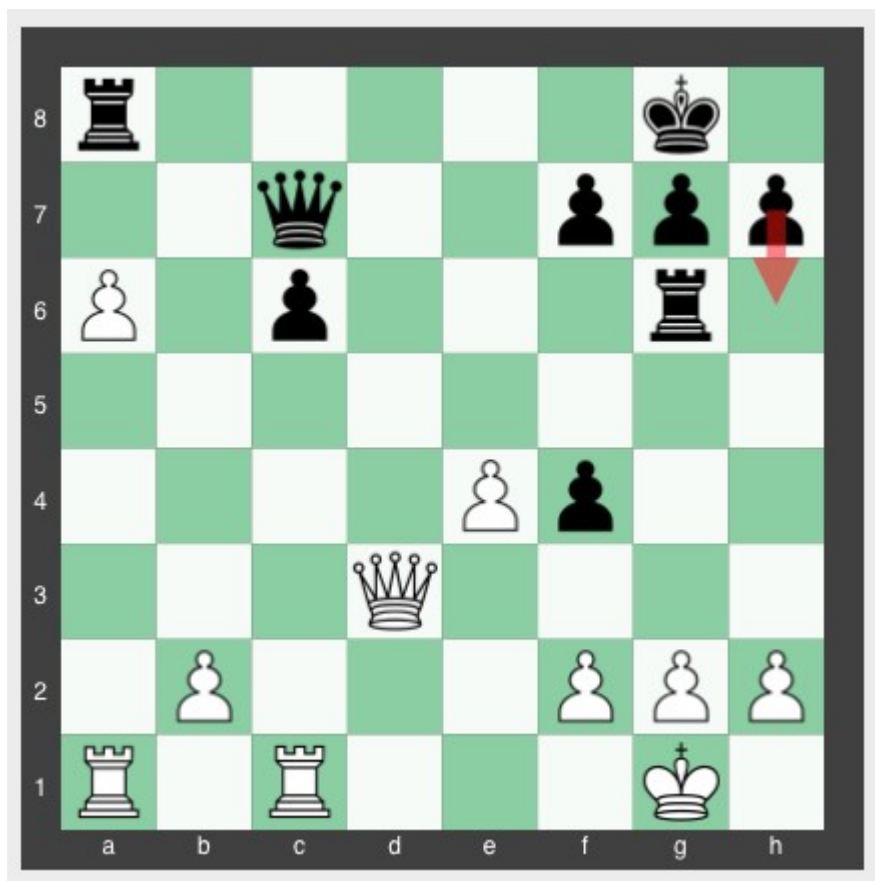
... a5 16. Nxb4 axb4 17. Be7 Re8 18. Bxb4



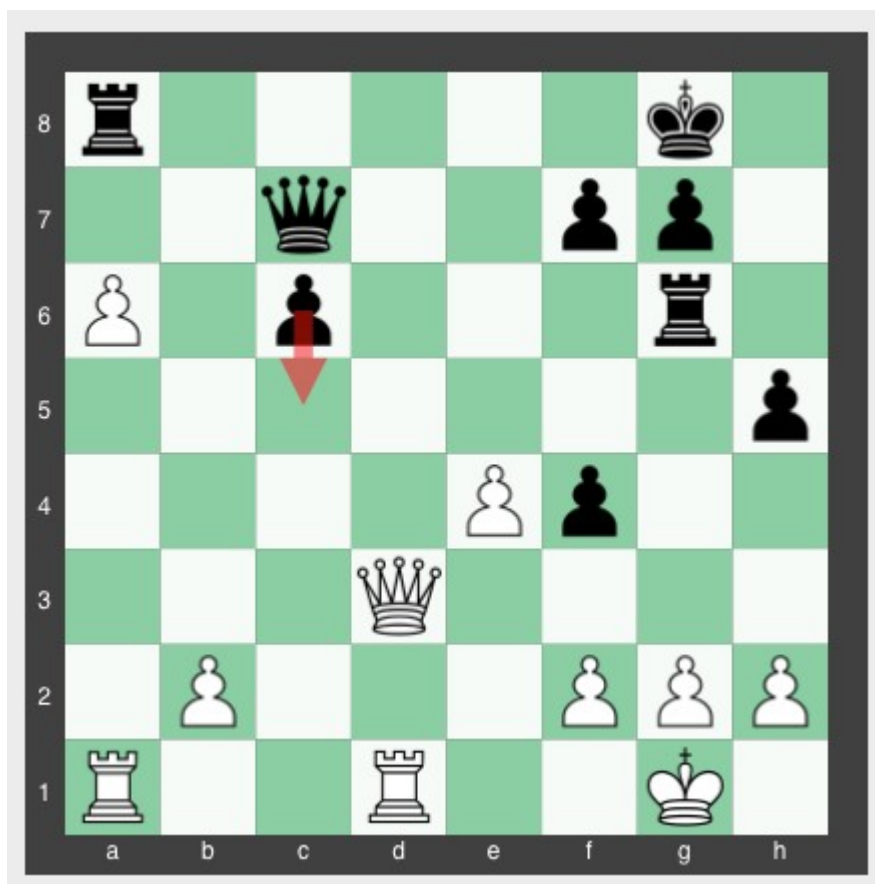
After exchanges, White's passed a-pawn advanced and, on 27... h5 loosened Black's pawn structure.

Better was 27... h6

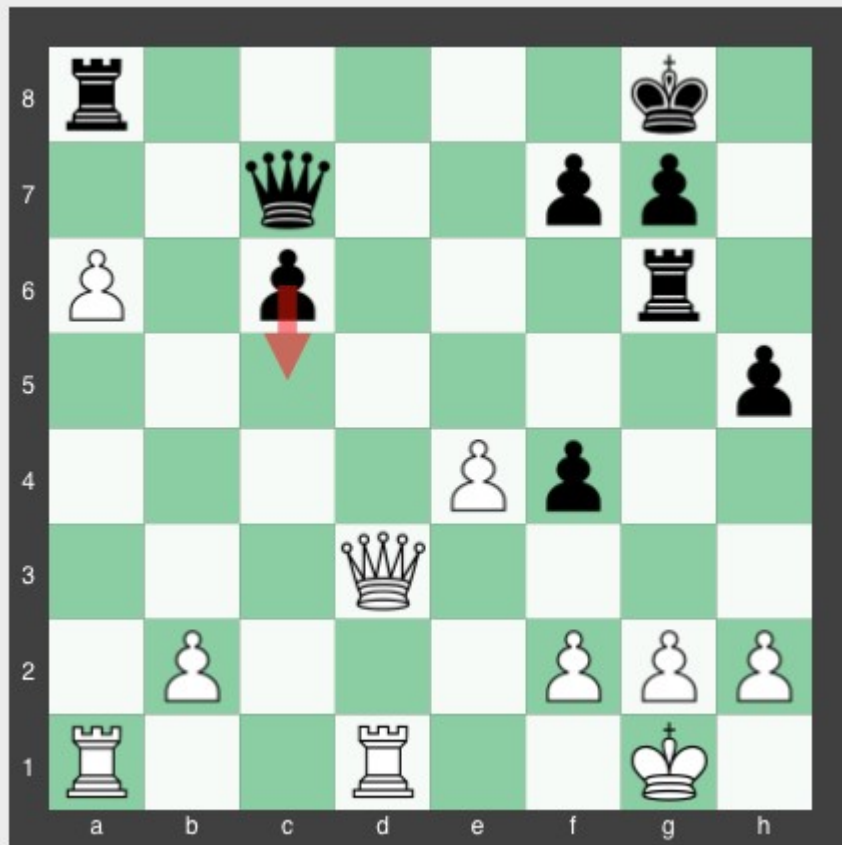




then on 28. Rd1

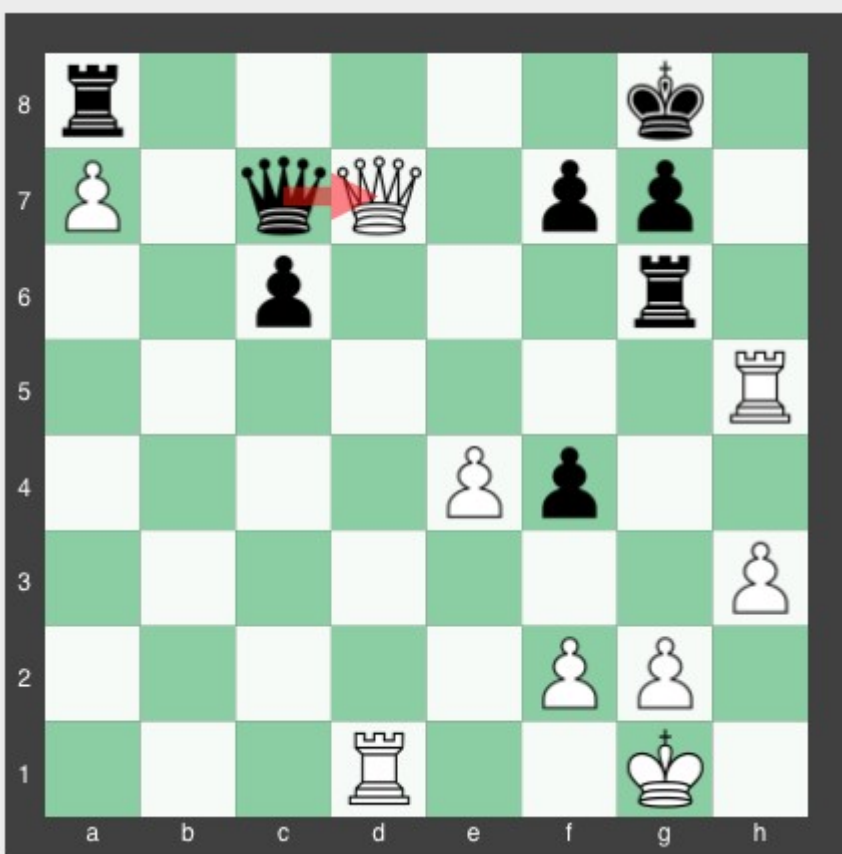


Black had an opportunity to 'gang up' on the a-pawn by 28... c5, exposing the a-pawn to a lateral attack from the Rook at g6



But, instead, chose 28... Qb6, missing the opportunity.

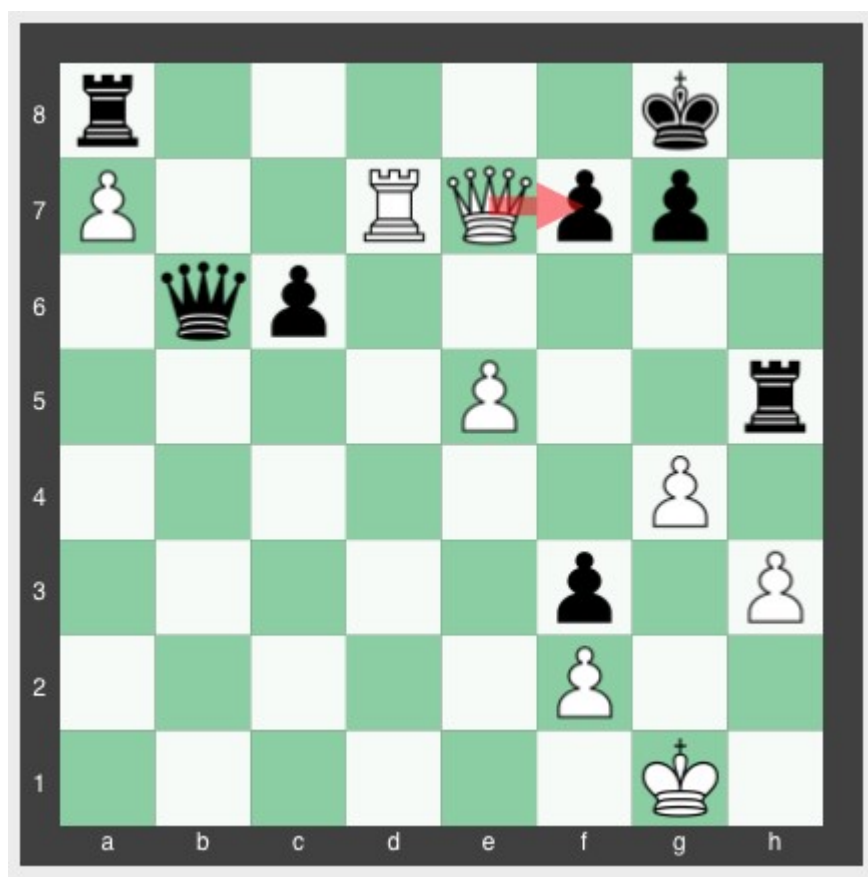
After 34. Qd7



Black was threatened with 'Rook on the 7th plus passed pawn'



only to be confronted with Queen plus the above



The final leader board was

#### Standings at round 9 (last round)

Pos	N	T	NAME	Rtg	PRtg	Fed	Pts	BucT	Buc1	BucM	S-B
1	1	WGM	<a href="#">Ryjanova, Julia</a>	2288	2135	VIC	<b>8.0</b>	50.5	46.0	38.5	43.00
2	2	WGM	<a href="#">Zhang, Jilin</a>	2212	1932	NSW	<b>7.5</b>	49.5	45.5	37.5	41.25
3	3	WFM	<a href="#">Punsalan, Vyanla M</a>	1989	1889	NZL	<b>6.0</b>	51.0	46.5	38.5	31.75
4	5		<a href="#">Vincent, Alaina</a>	1897	1924	NSW	<b>6.0</b>	49.5	46.5	38.5	28.00
5	18		<a href="#">Fan, Chloe</a>	1554	1876	VIC	<b>6.0</b>	47.0	44.5	37.0	28.75
6	7	WFM	<a href="#">Quek, Kristine</a>	1807	1812	NSW	<b>6.0</b>	47.0	44.0	36.0	27.50
7	21		<a href="#">O'Carroll, Om</a>	1525	1830	VIC	<b>6.0</b>	46.5	44.5	37.0	27.75
8	8		<a href="#">Cheng, Chao Xin</a>	1806	1714	VIC	<b>5.5</b>	48.0	44.0	36.0	27.25
9	20		<a href="#">Zeng, Vera</a>	1527	1672	VIC	<b>5.5</b>	43.5	39.5	33.5	26.25
10	6	WFM	<a href="#">Hardegen, Kathryn</a>	1887	1622	WA	<b>5.5</b>	42.5	39.5	33.5	24.00

#### Open

Going into the ninth and final round, Zhao was leading on 7/8, with another 10 players on 6.5.

Top board results in round 9 were

Stephen Solomon prevailed over Zong-Yuan Zhao











Temur Kuybokarov over Albert Winkelman

Gary Lane over Rishi Sardana

James Morris over Igor Bjelobrk  
Patrick Gong over Cameron McGowan

The final leader board was

#### Standings at round 9 (last round)

Pos	N	T	NAME	Rtg	PRtg	Fed	Pts	BucT	Buc1	BucM	S-B
1	1	GM	Kuybokarov,Temur	2558	2427	 WA	<b>7.5</b>	58.0	54.0	46.5	47.00
2	6	IM	Lane,Gary W	2343	2428	 NSW	<b>7.5</b>	56.5	52.0	44.5	45.75
3	8	FM	Gong,Patrick	2292	2392	 WA	<b>7.5</b>	54.5	50.0	42.5	44.25
4	7	FM	Liu,Yi	2303	2364	 QLD	<b>7.5</b>	54.0	49.5	42.0	43.25
5	9	IM	Solomon,Stephen J	2279	2307	 QLD	<b>7.5</b>	53.0	49.0	41.5	42.25
6	4	IM	Morris,James	2456	2364	 VIC	<b>7.5</b>	47.5	43.5	37.0	39.50
7	2	GM	Zhao,Zong-Yuan	2488	2375	 NSW	<b>7.0</b>	57.5	53.0	45.5	43.00
8	35		Soo,Kai Jie	2046	2215	 VIC	<b>7.0</b>	50.0	45.5	38.0	36.00
9	3	IM	Sardana,Rishi	2459	2265	 ACT	<b>6.5</b>	56.5	52.0	44.5	38.00
10	5	IM	Bjelobrk,Igor	2405	2202	 NSW	<b>6.5</b>	54.0	50.0	42.0	37.25

Interest then switched to the playoff match between the top two players on tiebreak, Temur Kuybokarov and Gary Lane.

#### Playoff Game 1/2

Kuybokarov (White) played a Spanish, Lane the Morphy Defence.

At 13... Na5



Lane reached the same position as (now) Australian Grandmaster Moulthun Ly vs Gary Lane, January 2011.

Ly continued 14. Ra2

Today, Kuybokarov continued 14. Bc2

at 17. axb axb



Kuybokarov created and later targeted the isolated b-pawn

capturing it on 22. Bxb5



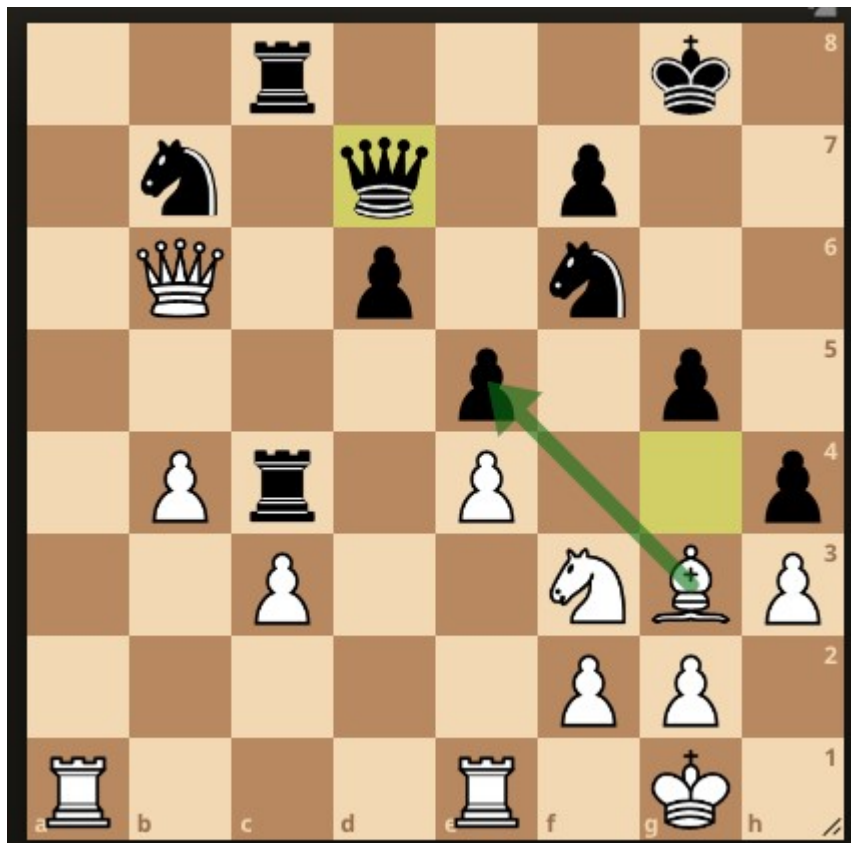
(22... Nxe4



can't win the pawn back, because of 23. Bxc6 Nxc3 24. Qa6 Rxc6 25. Qxb7)

Black was on the defensive.

Through a series of positions requiring accurate calculation, Kuybokarov captured another pawn 28. Bxe5



and, on move 30, invaded the 7th rank



pinning the Knight on b7 with a double attack.

After inducing the tradeoff of one pair of Rooks

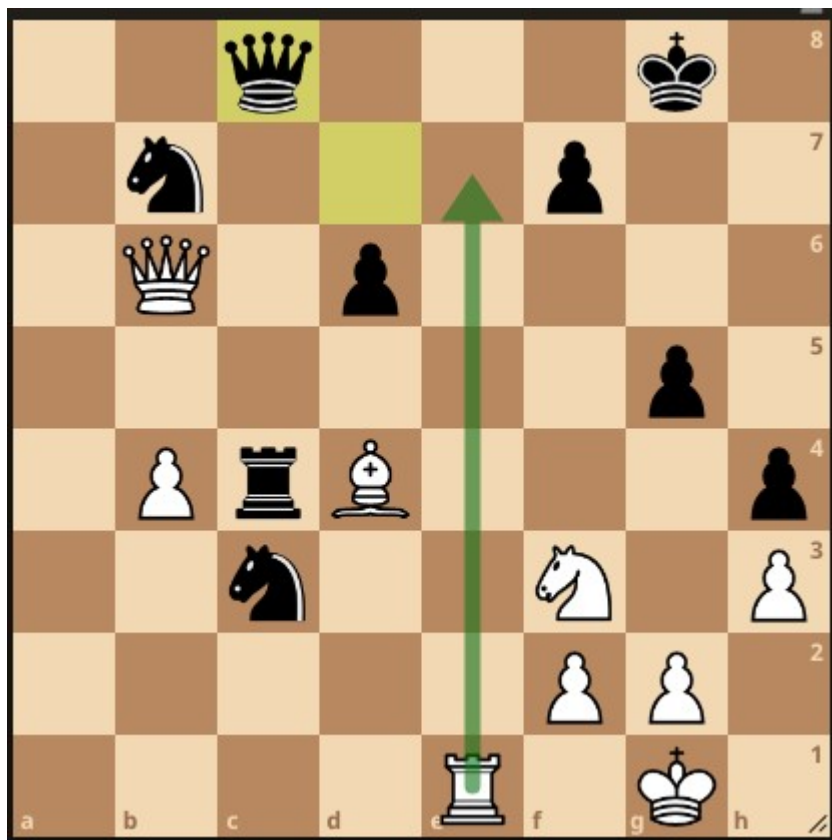




the other Rook entered the 7th rank

32. Rxc8+ Qxc8 (if 32... Rxc8 33. Bf6 is strong)

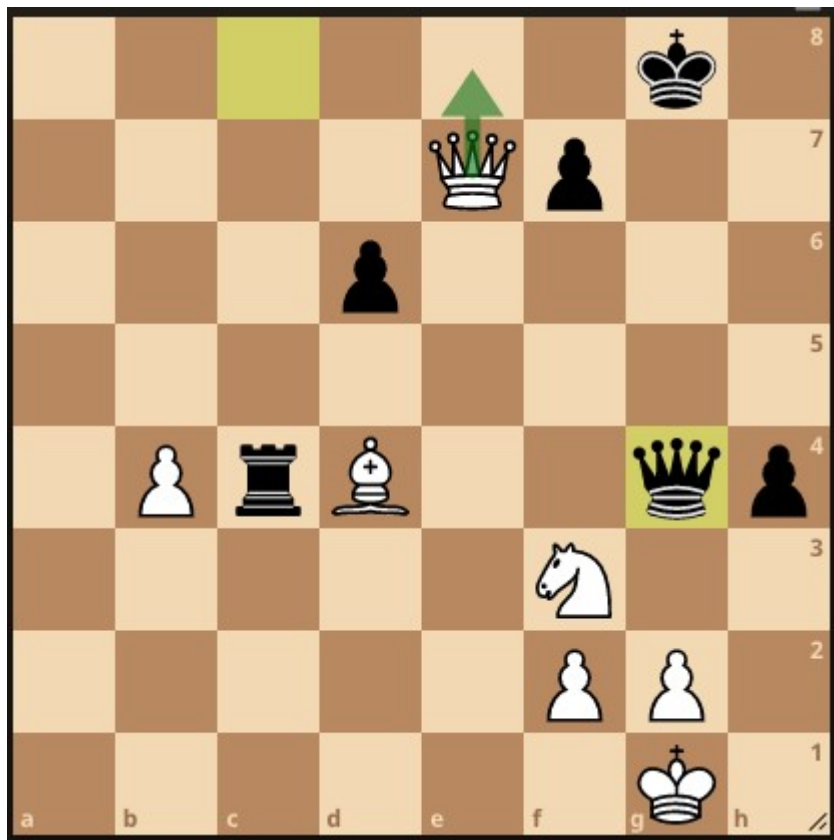
33. Re7



and the Knight on b7 has nowhere to go.

After consequent exchanges,





37. Qe8+ mops up

#### Playoff Game 2/2

With colours reversed, Kuybokarov tried his version of the Morphy Defence, playing the rare 14... Ng4



After 8. h3 f5, Lane played 9. d3

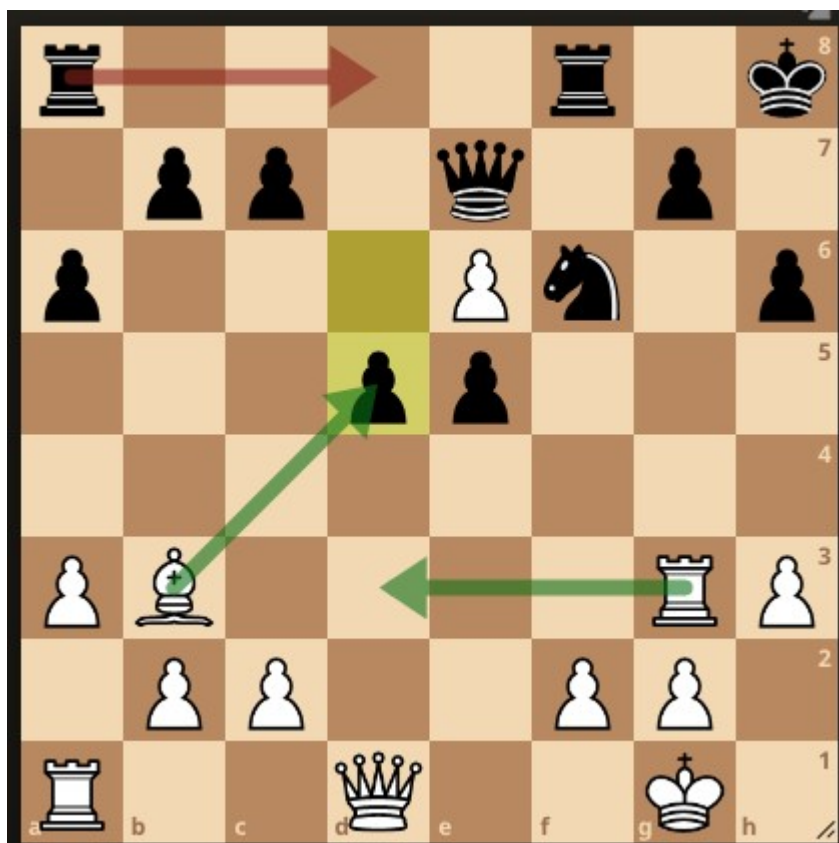


(9. hxg4 fxg4 leads to a strong Black attack.)

Kuybokarov soon retreated the Knight 10. Nf6

(10. Nxf2 was risky in practice.)

A critical position arose after 21... d5



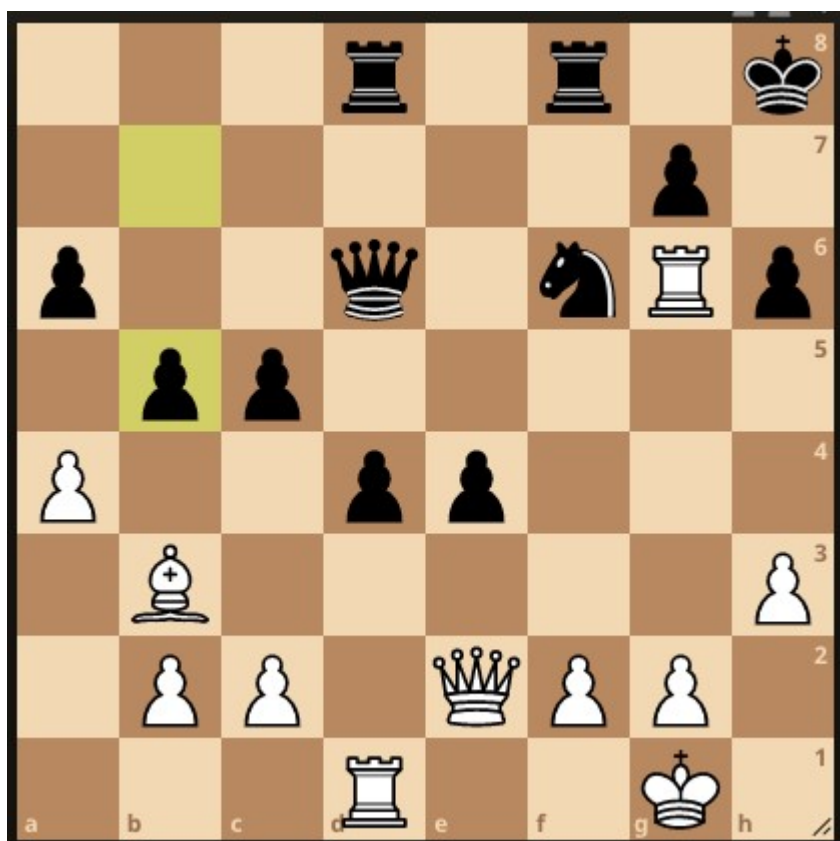
On 22. Bxd5 Rad8, 23. Rd3 holds

But, instead, Lane played 22. Qe2

Black won the e-pawn



and marched the pawns down the board to victory.





[Temur Kuybokarov and Gary Lane with Arbiter Peter Tsai]

END

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