

Mike Callaham **E61**
1888
 Kevin Zhou, age 16 **2099**
 Charlottesville Open (1) 14.07.2012

Blitz:4'+2" This game was played at the Charlottesville open. I've been working on my London and boy did I get a lesson from this game with Kevin. He is just 16 years old and his rating is 2106!! Kevin came in with a provisional rating of just 307 in 2004. He took a break in 2010 with only 6 showings. The last 18 months he has been on fire and his rating has gone from 1888 to the 2106 he currently wields. Kevin has played in over 100 tournaments and showed all the poise of a very experienced player. We talked for a good long time after the game about scholastic chess. Here is our game. Remember scholastic just means young. If you think in means weak you better stay away from Kevin!!

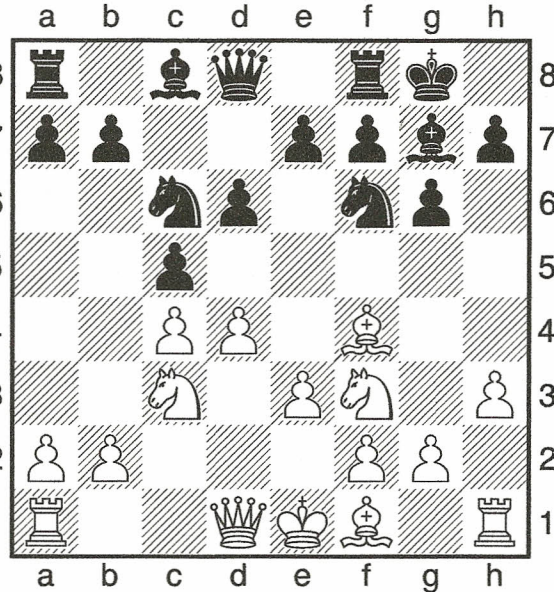
1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.c4 d6 6.h3 c5 7.Nc3 Nc6
 Diagram

(Diagram)

8.Be2?! This move is just a little too routine. With the bishop on the outside of the pawn chain, c6-e5 would lose a pawn, so 8. d4-d5!? is called for.

[8.d5!? e5! Let the fireworks begin! Winning the pawn on d6 isn't as easy as it looks! (8...Na5 9.Bd3 e5!? 10.Bg5 Qb6 11.Rb1=) 9.dxe6 Bxe6 10.Bxd6 Re8 11.Be2 Nd4 (11...Qa5 12.Qa4 Qxa4 13.Nxa4 Ne4 14.Bxc5 Rac8=)]

8...Qa5 9.Qa4?
 [9.d5 Ne4 10.0-0 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Ne5



12.Bxe5 dxe5]

[9.0-0 Qc6

A) 9...cxd4 10.exd4 e5 (10...d5 11.a3 dxc4 12.Bxc4 Be6 13.d5 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 Rad8 15.b4 Rxd5 16.bxa5 Rxd1 17.Raxd1 Bxc4 18.Rfe1) 11.Be3 Re8 12.d5 Ne7 13.Nh4 Bd7 14.Qb3 b6 15.Bd3 Rac8± ;

B) 9...Nh5 10.Bh2 cxd4 11.exd4 Qb6 12.Na4 Qa5 13.d5 Nb8 14.Ng5 Bd7 15.Nc3 Nf6 16.a3±]

9...Qxa4 10.Nxa4 Nh5 Diagram

(Diagram)

11.Bg5? This looks playable but white is lost. All lines lead to advantage for black.

[11.Bh2 cxd4 12.g4 Nf6 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.exd4 Ne4 15.Nc3 f5 16.f3 Nxc3 17.bxc3]

[11.dxc5 Nxf4 12.exf4 dxc5 13.0-0-0 b6 14.Nc3 Bh6 15.g3 e5 16.Nd5 Be6]

11...h6 12.d5 hxg5 13.dxc6 bxc6 14.Nxg5 Rb8 15.0-0-0 Nf6 16.Bf3