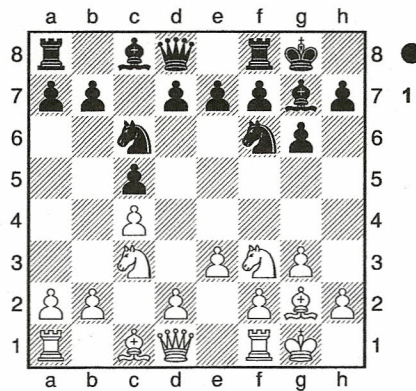


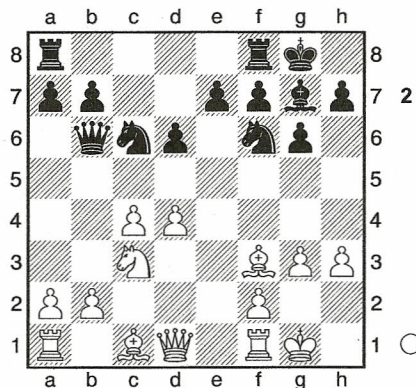
E65

□ Sam Swaim 2030  
 ■ Mike Callahan, P 1678  
 Rhein Main Open Germany (1)  
 [Mike Callahan]

Blitz:5'+5" There comes a time in every chess players career where they decide that they are going to take 1 bit of good advice and follow it. For me, this was the beginning of my trip down analysis road. This is the 1st game of my tournament analysis book. While I lost this game, it has remained one of the most instructive I've ever played. What I learned about chess and analysis and myself can't be put into words. The joys of analysis can only be found in your games. To give you some background on this game, Sam was my boss in the Air Force. We had even played a match. Sam always played 1.d4. I had come real close a couple of times. This was to be his last tourney in Germany and I almost got him again! 1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 g6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.e3?! Diagram



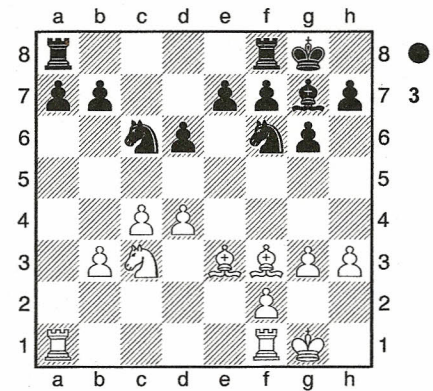
This move is slow. The correct move is 7.d4. Telegraphing d4 helped me. d6 8.d4 Bg4 9.h3 cxd4= 10.exd4 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Qb6 Diagram



What's white gonna do? He can't give up a pawn, or can he? Fritz still has this as an equal position! Until this day I don't know whether this was a sac or an oversight! 12.Be3!? Qxb2 13.Nb5?!

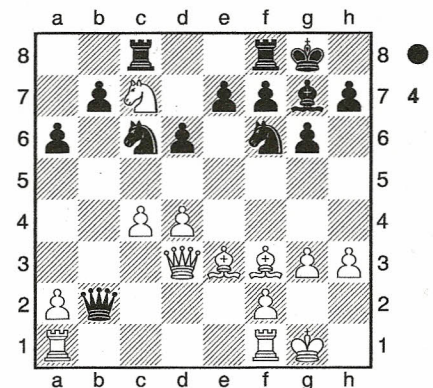
[ 13.Qb3! Qxb3  
 14.axb3 Diagram

(Diagram 3)



dynamic equality. Black is ahead by a pawn and after 30 minutes there are 9 choices. e6, a6, Rfd8, and maybe even a5 and Nd7. not enough room in this article! ]

13...a6 14.Nc7 Rac8  
 15.Qd3? Diagram



I was feeling pretty good to this point. After Qd3 I began to worry about the safety of my queen. Why, because I was a novice! Today I would win this game. When you do analysis, you're analyzing every move and sometimes more importantly, every thought. I found the right move but I was a nervous wreck.