



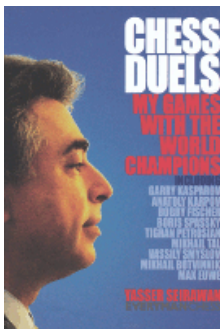
COLUMNISTS

Inside Chess

Yasser Seirawan

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Inside Chess, 1999/12

1999 Interplay U.S. Championship, Part Three

Round Five

John and Larry have been close personal friends for nearly three decades, but when they get on the chessboard, their belligerent natures take over. No friendly battles here, just all-out war.

GM Larry – GM John Fedorowicz

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (5) 1999
King's Indian Samisch [E81]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 c5 7.Nge2 Nc6 8.d5 Ne5 9.Ng3 e6 10.Be2 exd5 11.cxd5 h5 12.0-0 a6 13.Qd2!? Re8



[FEN "r1bqr1k1/1p3pb1/p2p1np1/2pPn2p/4P3/2N1BPn1/PP1QB1PP/R4RK1 w - - 0 14"]

14.Bh6

Certainly a different approach than one that I'd take. The move ...a7-a6, would encourage me to start a queenside operation with 14.Rfb1!? or 14.Rab1, playing for b2-b4 and control of the b6-square.

Unreliable game score follows.

14...Bh8 15.Bg5 b5 16.Nh1 b4 17.Nd1 h4 18.Bxh4 Nxe4 19.Qh6 Ng3 20.hxg3 Qc7 21.Qd2 f5 22.Ndf2 Qh7 23.Nh3 Nf7 24.Bc4 f4 25.Rae1 Bxh3 26.gxh3 g5 27.Re6 Ne5 28.Bb3 Bg7 29.Bc2 Qh5 30.Qg2 Rxe6 31.dxe6 Nc4 32.Re1 Ne3 33.Rxe3 fxe3 34.Bxg5 e2 35.Bd2 Qe5 36.Be1 Qxe6 37.f4 d5 38.f5 Qe5 39.Qf3 Rf8 40.Kg2 c4 41.b3 cxb3 42.Bxb3 Rxf5 43.Qd3 a5 44.g4 Rf1 45.Bxd5+ Kh8 46.Be4 Qd4 0-1

GM Sergey Kudrin – GM Dmitry Gurevich

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (5) 1999
Sicilian Dragon [B70]

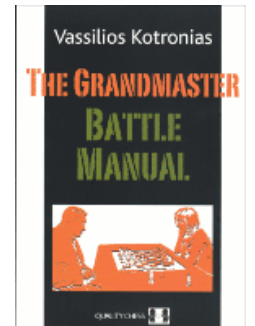
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be2 g6 7.0-0 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Bg7 9.Be3 0-0 10.Qb4 Qc7 1/2-1/2

GM Alex Yermolinsky – GM Alexander Shabalov

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (5) 1999
Dzindzi-Indian [E10]

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 a6 4.Nc3 c5 5.d5 b5 6.Bg5 b4 7.Ne4 Be7 8.Nxf6+

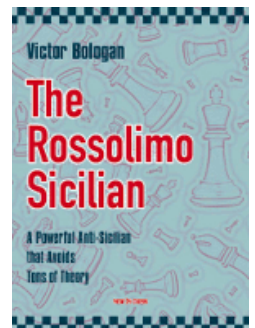
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by Victor Bologan

Bxf6 9.Qd2 0-0 10.g3 exd5 11.Qxd5 Nc6 12.Bg2 Bb7 13.0-0 Bxg5 14.Nxg5



[FEN "r2q1rk1/1b1p1ppp/p1n5/2pQ2N1/1pP5/6P1/PP2PPBP/R4RK1 b - - 0 14"]

14...Nd4 15.Qxc5 Nxe2+ 16.Kh1 Bxg2+ 17.Kxg2 Qf6 18.Rad1 Rac8 19.Qd5 Rce8 20.Rd2 Re5 21.Qd3 Rxg5 22.Qxe2 Qc6+ 23.Kg1 Rc5 24.b3 d6 25.Rfd1 Re5 26.Qf1 Re6 27.Re1 1/2-1/2

GM Boris Gulko – IM Igor Shliperman

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (5) 1999

English [A17]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Be2 b6 6.0-0 Bb7 7.a3 Be7?! 8.d4 d5 9.cxd5 Nxd5?!

Transposing into a line of the Petrosian Queen's Indian, which is known to be good for White.

10.Qc2 Nd7 11.Bd3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 h6 13.e4 c5 14.Bf4! Rc8 15.Qd2

This is the difference. White has the ideal setup for his pieces, whereas Black has a hard time finding a good plan for himself.

15...Nf6 16.Rfe1 Nh7



[FEN "2rq1rk1/pb2bppn/1p2p2p/2p5/3PPB2/P1PB1N2/3Q1PPP/R3R1K1 w - - 0 17"]

17.d5 exd5 18.exd5 Ng5 19.Bf5 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Ra8 21.d6 Bg5 22.Bxg5 Qxg5+ 23.Qxg5 hxg5 24.Kg2 g6 25.Re7 gxf5 26.Rxb7 Rfb8 27.Rc7 Rc8 28.Rd1 Kg7 29.f4 g4?

Black should have tried 29...Rxc7 30.dxc7 Rc8 31.fxc5 Rxc7, with reasonable defensive chances.

30.Re7 Re8 31.f3 Kf6 32.Rxe8 Rxe8 33.fxc4 fxc4 34.Kg3 Ke6 35.Re1+ Kd7 36.Rxe8 Kxe8 37.Kxg4 b5 38.h4 1-0

Round Six

The following game represents one of those puzzling cases of mutual blindness.

GM Dmitry Gurevich – GM Boris Gulko

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (6) 1999

Slav [D17]

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.Nxc4 Nb6 8.Ne5 a5 9.g3 e6 10.Bg2 Bb4 11.0-0 0-0 12.Nd3 h6 13.e3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 e5 15.Na2 exd4 16.exd4 Nxa4 17.Qb3 Nb6 18.Nxb4 axb4 19.Rxa8 Qxa8 20.Qxb4 Nbd5



[FEN "q4rk1/1p3pp1/2p2n1p/3n4/1Q1P4/6P1/1P3PBP/2B2RK1 w - - 0 21"]

21.Qb3 Re8 22.h3 Re7 23.Bf3 Qa7 24.Rd1 Qa8 25.Kg2 Qc8 26.Qd3 Nb4 27.Qa3 Nbd5 28.Qd3 Nb4 29.Qc4 Nbd5 30.b3 Re8 31.Qd3 Nb4 32.Qb1 Nbd5 33.Bd2 Qd7 34.Qd3 Qc8 35.Rc1 Qd7 36.b4 Nc7 37.Rc5 Ne6 38.Rc4 Rd8 39.Be3 Nd5 40.Qe4 b5 41.Rc1 Nxb4 42.h4



[FEN "3r2k1/3q1pp1/2p1n2p/1p6/1n1PQ2P/4BBP1/5PK1/2R5 b - - 0 42"]

42...Nxd4?? 43.Rd1??

Both players missed 43.Bxd4 Qxd4 44.Rd1, winning a piece.

43...c5 44.Qe5 Na6 45.Bxd4 cxd4 46.Rc1 d3 47.Rc6 d2 48.Qxb5 Nb4 49.Qxb4 Qxc6 50.Bxc6 d1=Q 51.Bf3 Qd4 52.Qa5 Rb8 53.h5 Rb2 54.Qe1 Kf8 55.Bc6 Rb8 56.Qe2 Qc5 57.Qf3 Rb6 58.Be4 Rf6 59.Qe2 Re6 60.Qf3 Rf6 61.Qe2 Qd4 62.Bf3 Rb6 63.Bg4 Rb4 64.Bf3 Rb2 65.Qe1 Qd2 66.Qf1 f5 67.Qg1 Ra2 68.Qf1 Rc2 69.Bb7 Kf7 70.Bf3 Ke7 71.Bb7 Qe2 72.Qxe2+ Rxe2 73.Bf3 Rb2 74.Bc6 Kf6 75.Kg1 Kg5 76.Be8 f4 77.Kg2 Rb3 78.gxf4+ Kxf4 79.Ba4 Ra3 80.Bd1 Ra5 81.Be2 Rg5+ 82.Kf1 Re5 83.Bd1 Kg5 84.Kg2 Re1 85.Bf3 Kf4 86.Bd5 Re5 87.Bf7 Rg5+ 88.Kf1 Kf3 89.Bb3 Kg4 0-1

GM Alexander Shabalov – GM Sergey Kudrin

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (6) 1999

Grünfeld Fianchetto [D71]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nb4 7.d5 c6 8.a3 N4a6 9.Ne2 cxd5 10.exd5 0-0 11.0-0 Nc7 12.Nbc3 Ne8 13.Re1 Nd7 14.Nd4 Nd6 15.Bg5 Bf6 16.Bxf6 Nxf6 17.Re3 Bd7 18.Qe2 Re8 19.Re1 Qb6 20.Nf3 Ng4 21.Rd3 Rac8 22.Rd4 a5 23.Red1 Nf6 24.Ne5 Rc7 25.Bf3 Bc8 26.Rf4 h5 27.Kg2 Kg7 28.h3 Rh8 29.a4 Qb3 30.Rd3 Qb6 31.Rd2 Bd7 32.g4 hxg4 33.hxg4 Be8 34.Rfd4 Nd7 35.Nxd7 Rxd7 36.Rd1 Rc7 37.R4d3 Qb4 38.Re3



[FEN "4b2r/1pr1ppk1/3n2p1/p2P4/Pq4P1/
2N1RB2/1P2QPK1/3R4 b - - 0 38"]

38...Bxa4 39.Ra1 Bb3 40.Rxe7 Rxe7 41.Qxe7 Qf4 42.Qe3 Qh2+ 43.Kf1 Bc4
+ 44.Ne2 Re8 45.Qc3+ Kg8 46.Re1 a4 47.Qf6 b5 48.Qc3 Ne4 0-1

IM Igor Shliperman – GM Larry Christiansen

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (6) 1999

Sicilian Rossolimo [B30]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.0-0 Nge7 5.Re1 a6 6.Bxc6 Nxc6 7.d4 cxd4 8.
Nxd4 Qc7 9.Nc3 Bd6 10.Kh1 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 f6 12.Be3 b5 13.Rad1 Be5 14.
Qb4 Rb8 15.f4 a5 16.Qb3 Bxc3 17.Qxc3 Qxc3 18.bxc3 Bb7 19.e5 fxe5 20.
f5 Rf8 21.fxe6 dxe6 22.Bc5 Rf5 23.Bd6 Rd8 24.Kg1 Rd7 25.Bb8 Rxd1 26.
Rxd1 Bd5 27.Bc7 Rf4 28.Bxa5 Ra4 29.Bc7 Rxa2 30.Rd2 e4



[FEN "4k3/2B3pp/4p3/1p1b4/4p3/2P5/
r1PR2PP/6K1 w - - 0 31"]

31.Bb6 Kd7 32.Kf2 Kd6 33.Ke1 Ra6 34.Bd4 e5 35.Be3 Ra3 36.Rf2 Rxc3
37.Kd2 Rc8 38.Rf1 Ra8 39.Rb1 Bc4 40.Kc3 Ke6 41.Rd1 Ra3+ 42.Kd2
Ra2 43.Kc3 Be2 44.Rd8 b4+ 45.Kxb4 Rxc2 46.Re8+ Kf6 47.Rf8+ Ke7 48.
Rf2 Rc4+ 49.Kb3 Bd3 50.g4 Rc8 51.h4 Bc4+ 52.Kb4 Be6 53.Bc5+ Kd7 54.
Rf8 Rc7 55.g5 Rb7+ 56.Kc3 Rb3+ 57.Kd2 Rd3+ 58.Ke2 Rh3 59.Rh8 Bf5
60.Rg8 g6 61.Rb8 Bg4+ 62.Kf2 Rf3+ 63.Kg2 Rc3 64.Bb4 Rc4 65.Be1 e3 66.
Rb5 e4 67.Kg3 Bf3 68.Rb1 e2 69.Bf2 Rc3 70.Kf4 Rd3 71.Rb7+ Ke6 0-1

GM John Fedorowicz – GM Alex Yermolinsky

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (6) 1999

QGD Semi-Tarrasch [D40]

1.e4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.exd5 Nf6 4.Nc3 cxd5 5.d4 e6 6.Nf3 Bb4 7.Bd3 dxc4 8.
Bxc4 0-0 9.0-0 a6 10.Bd3 Nc6 11.Bc2 Be7 12.a3 b5 13.Qd3 Bb7 14.Bg5 g6
15.Rfe1 Rc8 16.Rad1 Nd5 17.Bh6 Re8 18.Nxd5 Qxd5 19.Qd2



[FEN "2r1r1k1/1b2bp1p/p1n1p1pB/1p1q4/
3P4/P4N2/1PBQ1PPP/3RR1K1 b - - 0 19"]

**19...Qh5 20.Bf4 Bf6 21.Be4 Ba8 22.Bd6 Ne7 23.Bxa8 Rxa8 24.Be5 Qf5 25.
Qh6 Nd5 26.h3 Rac8 27.Rd2 Qh5 28.Qxh5 gxh5 29.Bxf6 Nxf6 30.Ne5
Red8 31.Nf3 Kf8 32.Kh2 ½-½**

Round Seven

Tied for second in the group at plus one, Larry was grateful to see Yermo make a quick draw. Now, if he could win, he was in the semifinals and the 2000 FIDE Championship. So sweet, he could almost taste it!

GM Larry Christiansen – GM Dmitry Gurevich

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (7) 1999

Sicilian Rossolimo [B31]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.c3 Nf6 6.Re1 0-0 7.h3 Qc7 8.d4
cxd4 9.cxd4 d5 10.e5 Ne4 11.Nc3 Nxc3 12.bxc3**



[FEN "r1b2rk1/ppq1ppbp/2n3p1/1B1pP3/3P4/
2P2N1P/P4PP1/R1BQR1K1 b - - 0 12"]

**12...Na5! 13.Ba3 Bd7 14.Bd3 Rae8 15.Qd2 Nc4 16.Bxc4 Qxc4 17.Nh2
Qa6!**

Dima has emerged from the opening with a very solid and flexible position. Indeed, I prefer his game already.

**18.Qb2 Bh6 19.Nf1 Qb5 20.Qb3 Qc6 21.Ne3 Be6 22.Re2 Qd7 23.Rf1 Bf4
24.Bc1 f6! 25.exf6 exf6 26.Ba3 Rf7 27.Rfe1 Kg7 28.Nf1 Qc6 29.Qb4 b6 30.
g3 Bb8 31.h4 h5 32.Bc1 Rfe7 33.c4!? Bd6 34.Qd2 Bf7 35.Ne3 dxc4 36.d5
Qc5 37.Bb2**



[FEN "4r3/p3rbk1/1p1b1pp1/2qP3p/2p4P/4N1P1/PB1QRP2/4R1K1 b - - 0 37"]

When sacrificing the pawn, Larry had some fantastic dreams of Ne3-f5+ and Qd2-g5+, winning. Black's next move puts a stop to the attack and reminds White that he's a pawn down.

37...Be5!

Simple enough, but after a week of hard chess fighting, this is a strong move that's not so easy to see!

38.Bc3 a5 39.a4 Bxc3 40.Qxc3 Qb4 41.Qc2 Re5 42.Rd1 c3! 43.Rb1 Qe4 44.Qxe4 Rxe4 45.Rxb6



[FEN "4r3/5bk1/1R3pp1/p2P3p/P3r2P/2p1N1P1/4RP2/6K1 b - - 0 45"]

45...Rb4!

A very powerful move which wins material and takes over the initiative. White is soon lost.

46.Rc6 Rb1+ 47.Kh2 Bxd5 48.Rc7+ Kf8 49.g4 hxg4 50.Rc2 Bf3 51.Ng2 Rb2 52.R7xc3 Rxc2 53.Rxc2 Re4 54.Rc8+ Kg7 55.Ne3 Rxa4 56.Rc7+ Kh6 57.Nc4 Ra1 58.Nd6 g5 59.hxg5+ Kxg5 60.Rc5+ f5 0-1

GM John Fedorowicz – GM Alexander Shabalov

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (7) 1999
French Tarrasch [C05]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Ng8 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Bd7 8.Nf3 Qc7 9.0-0 c4 10.Bc2 ½-½

GM Alexander Yermolinsky – IM Igor Shliperman

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (7) 1999
Benoni [E10]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 b5 10.Re1 c4 11.Bc2 Re8 12.a3 Na6 13.Nc3 Nc5 14.Bg5 Qb6 15.Be3 Bd7 16.Nd2 Rac8 17.Qf3 h6 18.Bd4 Qd8 19.b4 cxb3 20.Nxb3 ½-½

GM Boris Gulko – GM Sergey Kudrin

U.S. Championship, Salt Lake City (7) 1999

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4
d6 9.Rd1 Nbd7 10.Be3 a6 11.Rac1 0-0 12.Qd2 Rc8 13.b3 Re8 14.Bh3 Rc7
15.Bh6 Qa8 16.Bxg7 Kxg7



[FEN "q3r3/1brnppkp/pp1p1np1/8/2P5/
1PN2NPB/P2QPP1P/2RR2K1 w - - 0 17"]

17.Nd4 Rc5 18.f3 Rh5 19.Bxd7 Nxd7 20.e4 Rc5 21.Nd5 e6 22.Ne3 f5 23.b4
Rc7 24.exf5 Ne5 25.f4 Nf3+ 26.Nxf3 Bxf3 27.Qxd6 Rf7 28.Qe5+ Kg8 29.
fxe6 Bxd1 30.Rxd1 Rfe7 31.Ng4 1-0

Group B

The second round-robin was highly competitive and by the time it was over, Gregory Serper, one of the lowest-rated players in the group, surprised many with a clear first at plus two. For Gregory, this comes at the end of a highly successful summer. Winner of the World Open title, Gregory had come to Salt Lake from the U.S. Open in Reno where he had tied for first. Joel Benjamin, Alexander Ivanov and I tied for second at plus one.

The tiebreaker saw some of the most amazing results I've ever witnessed. The stakes were quite high, the tiebreak winner advanced to the semifinals and also got a berth in the 2000 FIDE Championships. The second place finisher in the tiebreaks also got a berth in the FIDE event and the last player was, literally, odd man out.

Joel appeared to be out of the competition after losing his first two games. In our second game, Joel was a few pawns down with only a desperate hope – but he won. In a similar effort, he was busted against Ivanov, but, after a little magic, he was back at fifty percent. So it came down to the last game between Alex and myself. I won as white, advanced to the semis and knocked Alex out of the FIDE event.

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