



## C O L U M N I S T S

*From the  
Archives*

Hosted by  
Mark Donlan



*Chess Mazes*  
by Bruce Alberston

## From the Archives...

Since it came online many years ago, **ChessCafe.com** has presented literally thousands of articles, reviews, columns and the like for the enjoyment of its worldwide readership. The good news is that almost all of this high quality material remains available in the [Archives](#). The bad news is that this great collection of chess literature is now so large and extensive – and growing each week – that it is becoming increasingly difficult to navigate it effectively. We decided that the occasional selection from the archives posted publicly online might be a welcomed addition to the regular fare.

Watch for an item to be posted online periodically throughout each month. We will update the **ChessCafe** home page whenever there has been a “new” item posted here. We hope you enjoy *From the Archives*...

## Opening Lanes by Gary Lane

## The Test of Time

**Patrick Ramsey** from the **USA** poses the question, “Is there anywhere I can find recent info on the Two Knight’s gambit line 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5. In particular I’ve been getting dashed in blitz games by the line 5 exd5 Na5 6 Bb5+ c6 7 dxc6 bxc6 8 Qf3 (!)”

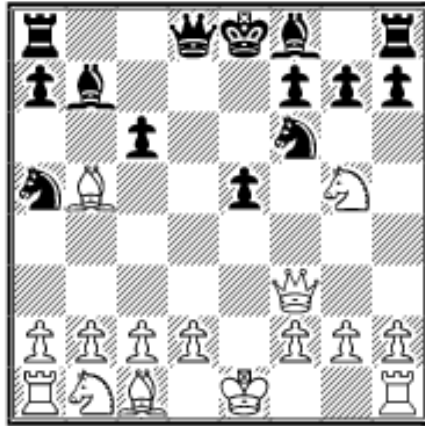
The Two Knights is one of the most popular openings around and is certainly back in fashion. This is partly because of the fact that the Evans Gambit lies in wait for those who try 3...Bc5 and also an acknowledgment that White tends to enter the closed version of the Giuoco Piano with 4 d3. Therefore, using the Two Knights to cope with 4 d3 is a good practical plan because the opening ideas are relatively straightforward as it is based on the moves ...Be7, ...0-0 and usually a quick ...d5. Of course, the biggest challenge to Black’s opening choice comes in the form of 4 Ng5 and this has led to a theoretical debate which is still continuing despite numerous games played at the very highest level.

The line 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 exd5 Na5 6 Bb5+ c6 7 dxc6 bxc6 8 Qf3 has been seen fairly often by those who wish to catch out an opponent who has been studiously examining the various complications associated with 8 Be2 h6 9 Nf3 e4 10 Ne5 Bd6 11 d4 exd3 12 Nxd3 Qc7 which

is the main line.

*J.Durao-O.Rause* Cappelle la Grande 1991

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 exd5 Na5 6 Bb5+ c6 7 dxc6 bxc6 8 Qf3 Bb7



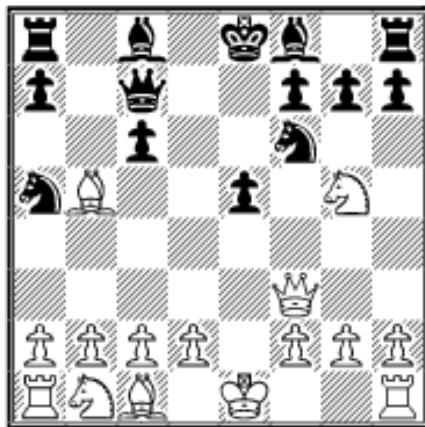
The attack on the c6-pawn has prompted numerous players to start defending which leads directly to trouble. This is a sign that Black is not familiar with the nuances of the position. The point is that depending on how White develops it is a good idea to reserve the option of ...Bg4. **9 Bd3 Be7 10 Nc3 h6 11 Nge4 Nd7 12 0-0 0-0 13 Ng3 g6 14 Nf5!** The knight enters the heart of Black's position. **14...gxf5** In a difficult position Black accepts the sacrifice and prepares to try to withstand the kingside assault. If

14...Bg5 then White is on top after 15 Nd6. **15 Qxf5 Nf6 16 Ne4 Re8** At first glance it would appear that Black has weathered the storm as the last move gave the king an important escape square which is evident after 17 Nxf6+ Bxf6 18 Qh7+ Kf8 19 Qxh6+ Bg7 when the white attack has successfully been beaten back. **17 b4!** The illusion of Black hanging on is dashed in one move as the knight has no where to go while 17...Bxb4 fails miserably after 18 Nxf6+. **17...c5 18 bxa5 Qd5 19 Qxf6 c4 20 Qxe7 1-0**

In the 1980s the Dutch grandmaster John Van der Wiel tried the opening several times with mixed results. In the following encounter he holds on to the extra pawn for the ending before declaring peace at an early stage.

*John Van der Wiel - Beliavsky* Vienna 1980

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 exd5 Na5 6 Bb5+ c6 7 dxc6 bxc6 8 Qf3 Qc7



A flexible way of defending c6. It should be noted that the tempting 8...cxb5 gives White too much material, which he can later partly return as part of a defensive strategy. For example: O'Kelly-Milic, Bled 1950, continued 9 Qxa8 Nb7 10 d4 exd4 11 0-0 Be7 12 a4 bxa4 13 Qxa7 0-0 14 Nf3 Bc5 15 Qxa4 Bd7 16 Qb3 Nd6 17 Bg5 Bb5 18 Nbd2 Bxf1 19 Kxf1 h6 20 Bxf6 Qxf6 21 Qd5 left White with a clear extra pawn. **9 Bd3 Bd6** A few rounds later in the same tournament Gligoric tried 9...h6 against Van

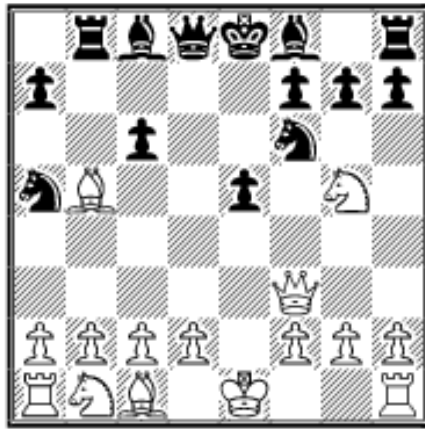
der Wiel. The game proceeded: 10 Ne4 Nd5 11 Nbc3 Nb4 12 Ng3 Nxd3+ 13 Qxd3 Nb7 14 0-0 Bc5 15 Nce4 Be7 16 Qf3 Qd7 17 Qh5 Qe6 18 d3 0-0 19 f4 f5 20 Nc3 gave White a slight advantage which was eventually converted into a

win after 62 moves. **10 Nc3 Bg4 11 Nb5! Bxf3 12 Nxc7+ Bxc7 13 gxf3** Van der Wiel has an extra pawn in the ending, but has to contend with doubled f-pawns and a lack of development. **13...Nd5 14 h4 h6 15 Nh3 0-0 16 b3 Rad8 17 Ba3 Bd6 18 Bxd6 Rxd6 19 a3 ½-½**

I believe the best way to seek an advantage is 8...Rb8 which is a tough move to meet in tournament play and in blitz should be devastating because Black has excellent compensation in the form of active piece play. In the next game White receives a lesson from a veteran grandmaster who finds time to chase his opponent's queen around the board to demonstrate the importance of better development despite being two pawns down.

**Yee-Bisguier** Philadelphia 1995

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 exd5 Na5 6 Bb5+ c6 7 dxc6 bxc6 8 Qf3 Rb8**



The rook avoids the pin and invites White to take his chances by grabbing another pawn. **9 Bxc6+ 9 Bd3** is worthy of investigation to maintain the basis of a possible kingside attack although Van der Wiel has not had much luck with it. For instance, after 9...h6 10 Ne4 Nd5 11 b3 g6 12 Qg3 Black might continue: a) 12...Bg7 13 Ba3 Nb4 14 Ke2 0-0 15 c3 Bg4+ 16 Kf1 Qxd3+ 17 Qxd3 Nxd3 18 Bxf8 Rxf8 gave Black the better ending in Van der Wiel-Torre, Sochi 1980. b) 12...Nf4 13 Bb2 Bg7 14 Ba3 Nb7 15 Nbc3

f5 16 Ne2 g5 17 Nxf4 exf4 18 Qxf3 (I will give all the moves of the game otherwise no one will understand how the players managed to draw) 18...Qa5 19 Nd6+ Nxd6 20 Qxc6+ Kf7 21 Bxd6 Re8+ 22 Kd1 Bxa1 23 Bc4+ Be6 24 Re1 Bxc4 25 Qxc4+ Kg6 26 Bxb8 Rxb8 27 c3 Qxa2 28 Re6+ Kh5 29 Rxh6+ ½-½ Van der Wiel-Timman, Netherlands Ch 1981. **9...Nxc6+ 10 Qxc6+ Nd7 11 d3 Be7 12 Ne4 Rb6** It is imperative that Bisguier activates his pieces and this is more easily accomplished if the queen can be attacked at the same time. Black has the immediate plan of castling followed by ...f5 to dislodge the central knight on e4. In the long-term the wish is to stop White developing smoothly. **13 Qa4 f5 14 Ng3 0-0 15 Nd2 Nc5 16 Qc4+ Be6 17 Qc3 Bd5 18 f3 Ne6 19 Ne2 Bc5 20 Kd1** White has emerged from the opening into the middlegame with serious problems. The king is stuck in the centre and his queenside pieces are just watching Black take control of the game. **20...e4 21 fxe4 fxe4 22 d4 Bd6 23 Nb3 Rc6 24 Qh3 a5 25 Be3 a4 26 Nd2 Qc7 27 c4 Rxc4 28 Nxc4 Qxc4** Black has sacrificed the exchange to maintain the momentum which creates too many tactical possibilities for Yee to cope with successfully. **29 Bd2 Nxd4 30 Nxd4 Qxd4 31 Qc3 Qf2 32 Kc2 e3 33 Qxe3 Qf5+ 34 Kd1 Bxg2 35 Rg1 Bc5 36 Qg3 Bxf3+ 37 Kc1 Bxg1 38 Qxg1 Rc8+ 39 Bc3 Qe4+ 40 Kc2 Be4+ 41 Kd1 Qf3+ 42 Ke1 Bg6 43 Qd4 Re8+ 0-1**

**Luciano Amaral** from **Brazil** recently had a game in the Advance French and

was stumped by a relatively unknown move: 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 c5 4 c3 Nc6 5 Nf3 Qb6 6 Bd3 cxd4 7 cxd4 Bd7 8 0-0 Nxd4 9 Nxd4 Qxd4 10 Nc3 Qxe5 11 Re1 Qd6 12 Nb5 and now Black played 12...Qb6. I have to say that this line of the Advance French known as the Milner-Barry Gambit has resulted in many a quick win for White over the years. Still, the test of time has not been so kind and defensive measures have been toughened up to thwart most gambit players. In this instance White can deal with 12...Qb6 by simply repeating with 13 Be3 Qa5 14 Bd2 Qb6 15 Be3 although admittedly a draw is hardly ideal for those who played the gambit with aggressive intentions. It is worth noting that if Black wishes to avoid the draw things can become problematical.

***Jilemnicka-Molnarova*** Czech Ch 1992

**1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 c5 4 c3 Nc6 5 Nf3 Qb6 6 Bd3 cxd4 7 cxd4 Bd7 8 0-0 Nxd4 9 Nxd4 Qxd4 10 Nc3 Qxe5 11 Re1 Qd6 12 Nb5 Qb6**



**13 Be3 Qa5 14 Bd2 Qd8 15 Bf4 Rc8 16 Nxa7 Rc5 17 b4 Rc3 18 a3 Nf6 19 Nb5 Rc8 20 Na7 Ra8 21 Nb5 Bxb5 22 Bxb5+ Nd7 23 Qxd5 Ra7 24 Bb8** A prelude to a stylish finish **24...Ra8 25 Rad1 Rxb8 26 Bxd7+ Ke7 27 Rxe6+ 1-0**

In a reference to the previous column **Paul Martin** from **England** writes, "Like Paul Bentley I also play the Nimzovitch, answering 1e4 Nc6 2 Nf3 with 2...f5. I find that against the main lines 3 exf5 d5 or 3

Nh4 etc I get positions I am happy with. I have difficulty when my opponent doesn't know what he is supposed to do and play 3 e5. I tend to try 3...d6 but results are mixed. Any suggestions?"

My first thoughts are that I admire your enthusiasm in dealing with the main alternatives, which are known to be dangerous for Black. 3 e5 is in fact quite sensible because at least it avoids all the tricky lines, which can stem from such a risky opening. It also takes advantage of the knight being on c6 in that there is no immediate worry concerning the possibility of the pawn structure being undermined with 4...c5. The consensus seems to be that Black handles position in the style of someone who has a kind of Leningrad Dutch. This piece of information should be enough for you to look at a few books on the Dutch and here is something I prepared earlier.

***Peszteric-Gross*** Balatonbereny 1992

**1 e4 Nc6 2 Nf3 f5 3 e5 d6 4 exd6 cxd6 5 d4 Nf6 6 d5 Ne5 7 Bb5+ Bd7 8 Bxd7 Qxd7 9 Ng5 Nf7 10 Ne6 Nd8 11 Nf4 g6 12 0-0 Bg7**



36 Rxf5 b5 37 Rf6 a5 38 Ra6 a4 39 Kf1 Rd2 40 Ra5 b4 41 Rxa4 b3 42 Ke1 Rh2 0-1

The fianchetto on the kingside is typical of a Leningrad Dutch, but without the light-squared bishop Black's control of the e6-square is poor. 13 Nd2 g5 14 Nh5 Nxb5 15 Qxb5+ Nf7 16 Nf3 h6 17 Be3 0-0 18 Nd4 Nd8 19 f4 e5 20 dxe6 Nxe6 21 Nxe6 Qxe6 22 Rae1 g4 23 c3 Qxa2 There is enough time to snatch the pawn which gives Black the advantage. 24 Bd4 Qf7 25 Qxf7+ Rxf7 26 Re6 Bd4 27 cxd4 Rc8 28 Rxd6 Re7 29 h3 h5 30 Rg6+ Rg7 31 Rg5 gxh3 32 gxh3 Rc2 33 Ra1 a6 34 Ra5 Rg5+ 35 fxg5 Rxb2

Finally, a genuine e-mail from **Nigel Short** who currently lives in **Greece**: "Can you suggest a good opening for me to play next time I play against Kasparov? Or Anand, or Kramnik, for that matter?"

Well Nigel, I noticed in your world championship match against Kasparov that you always played an opening that had a certain amount of shock value. Therefore, after a scan of all three players' games I noticed a flaw in their repertoire. No one had yet faced the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit! This opening, which for years has been the preserve of attacking minded club players, deserves a wider audience and after the opening moves 1 d4 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 f3 I am sure Gary will be startled. Here is a taste of what you might expect.

**Szentra-Thiele** Deizisau 1998 Blackmar-Diemer Gambit  
1 d4 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 f3



This move indicates the start of the gambit. 4...exf3 5 Nxf3 e6 6 Bd3 Be7 7 0-0 0-0 8 Qe1 c5 9 dxc5+ bxc5 10 Kh1 Nc6 11 Bg5 h6 12 Qh4 Be7 13 Bxh6! Ne8 If 13...gxh6 then 14 Qxh6 intending Ng5 is a winner. 14 Bg5 f5 15 Rad1 Bd7 16 Bc4 Nf6 17 Rfe1 Qc8 18 Rxd7 1-0

If there are any other world championship contenders looking for new ideas then just e-mail!



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