



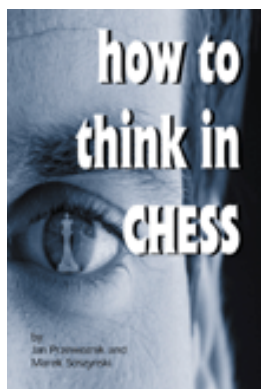
ChessCafe.com



COLUMNISTS

Opening Lanes

Gary Lane



Orders? Inquiries? You can
now call toll-free:

1-866-301-CAFE

Opening Lanes is based in large part on readers' questions. Do you have a question about a particular opening line? Baffled by a branch of the Benoni or Budapest? Submit your questions (with you full name and country of residence please) and perhaps Gary will reply in his next *Chess Cafe* column...

Yes, I have a question for Gary!

A Christmas Gift

It is that time of the year when many people around the world like to give away presents. Chess players can join in the fun by giving away pawns and a good place to start is with the Budapest Gambit.

By the way, the final question in the column this month involves a guest appearance by former world title challenger Nigel Short who shares his views on one of the more intriguing opening questions asked by a reader.

Ioannis Georgiadis from **Athens, Greece** writes "I am a tournament player. In a game I played the Budapest gambit and after 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e5 3 dxe5 Ng4 4 Bf4 Nc6 5 Nf3 Bb4+ 6 Nbd2 Qe7 7 a3 Nge5 8 Ne5 Ne5 9 e3 Bd2+ 10 Bd2 d6 when my opponent played the aggressive 11 c5!? I continued 11...dxc5 12 Qd5 Ng6 13 Bb5+ c6! 14 Bc6+ bxc6 15 Qc6+ Qd7 16 Qa8 Nxf4 which according to my books is very good for black. However, the game continued 17 Rd1 Qe6 18 0-0 Ne2+ 19 Kh1 0-0 20 Qa7 and although I finally won



the game after 20...Qc6 21 Re1? Bb7 22 f3 Qxf3! my opponent and I agreed that in the position after 20 Qa7 black is in serious trouble. White has a slight material advantage and the black knight is trapped in enemy territory. Can you comment on this line?"

I think the best way to answer some of your questions is to have a closer look at your game.

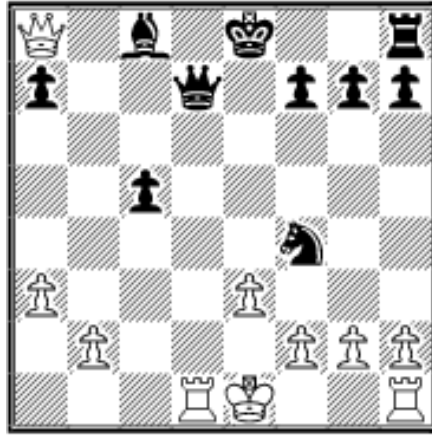
Anon-Ioannis Georgiadis Greece 2002

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e5 3 dxe5 Ng4 4 Bf4 Nc6 5 Nf3 Bb4+ 6 Nbd2 Qe7 7 a3 Ngxe5 8 Nxe5 Nxe5 9 e3 Bxd2+ 10 Qxd2 d6 11 c5 dxc5 12 Qd5



12...Ng6 If Black is going to revive this line then I would suggest 12...f6!? to keep the knight in the centre 13 Rc1 (13 Be2 c6 14 Qe4 Be6 and Black is fine) 13...Ng6 14 Bg3 c6 15 Qxc5 Qxc5 16 Rxc5 Be6 gives White a slight edge

but a draw is the likely result. **13 Bb5+ c6** Perhaps Black should consider 13...Bd7 to block the check when 14 Bxd7+ (or 14 Qxb7 0-0 15 Bxd7 Nxf4 16 Bf5 is roughly equal) 14...Qxd7 15 Qe4+ Qe6 16 Qxe6+ fxe6 17 Bxc7 0-0 18 Ke2 led to an equal ending in T.Heiling-C.Herbst, Bayern 1987. **14 Bxc6+ bxc6 15 Qxc6+ Qd7 16 Qxa8** It is worth noting that 16 Qe4+ is the move sometimes quoted in the books and leads to an entertaining draw after 16...Qe6 17 Qxa8 Nxf4 18 0-0 Nd3 19 Qxa7 0-0 20 b4 cxb4 21 axb4 Nxb4 22 Rab1 Nc6 ½-½ A.Avshalumov-A.Kovacevic, Belgrade 1989. **16...Nxf4 17 Rd1!**

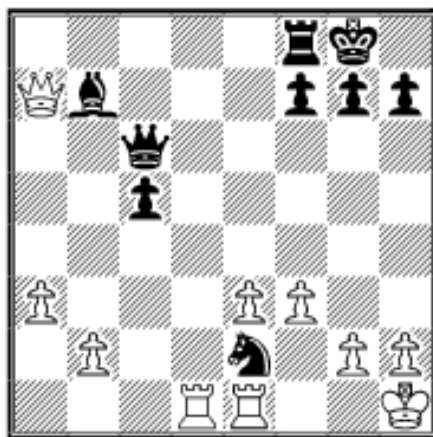


This looks to be an improvement on previous play in this position because it adds another white piece to the action.

In *Nunn's Chess*

Openings it considers 17 exf4 which occurred in the game Visentin-Corso, Lombardia 1991 and

rightly confirms that Black is on top after 17...0-0 18 0-0 Bb7 19 Qxa7 Qc6 20 f3 Ra8 21 Rad1 h5 with a clear advantage and after 22 Rd6 Rxa7 23 Rxc6 Bxc6 24 Rc1 Ra5 and Black is easily winning. **17...Qe6** If 17...Nd3+? then 18 Rxd3 Qxd3 19 Qxc8+ and White wins. **18 0-0 Ne2+** The knight looks a bit misplaced here unless it get help to create instant dividends. Therefore 18...Ng6 is likely but 19 Qxa7 0-0 20 Qxc5 just looks to be fun for White. **19 Kh1 0-0 20 Qxa7 Qc6 21 Rfe1?** White plays the natural looking move but it fails to a clever combination. 21 Qe7 is an improvement when after 21...Bb7 22 f3 g6 it is necessary to give the black king an escape square otherwise 23 Rd8 is terminal 23 Rd7 (the temptation to chase the black knight with 23 Rd2 is not yet correct after 23...Re8 24 Qg5 f6 25 Qh6 Qb5 26 Re1 Nd4 when the knight has managed to escape) 23...Ba8 24 Rd8! Rxd8 25 Qxd8+ Kg7 26 Rf2 Nc1 27 Qd1 Na2 28 Qa1 and finally the black knight will be embarrassed. **21...Bb7 22 f3**



22...Qxf3! 0-1

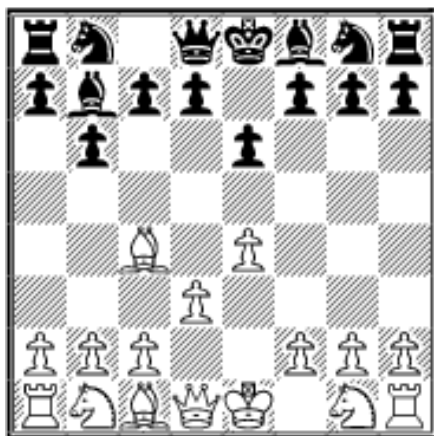
George L. Walker, Jr of Harrisburg, PA, USA says "I like the Owen's Defense. Of course I am a weak player with limited tactical acuity. With this defense as black I have achieved a plus score.

This defense also has formations of the Queen's, Dutch & English. I would like to find a line against 1 e4 b6 2 Bc4 Bb7 3 d3 e6 etc... If there is anything ?

I think you have little to fear from this line and Black should be fine. I found an obscure but entertaining king hunt to inspire you.

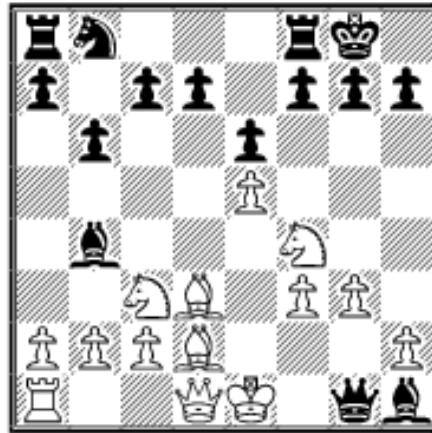
Thomas Delaplace-Laurent Ratel Marseilles 2001

1 e4 b6 2 Bc4!? The usual move is rightly 2 d4 to gain space in the centre, which tends to favour White. However, in the game A.Summerscale-L.McShane, Southend 2002, Black equalized comfortably after 2...Bb7 3 Bd3 e6 4 Qe2 d6 5 Nf3 Nd7 6 c4 g6 7 b3 Bg7 8 Bb2 Ne7 9 Nc3 h6 10 Rd1 0-0 and a draw was agreed a few moves later. **2...Bb7 3 d3 e6**



I think this position which you want to be discussed should be fine for Black whose standard plan of ...d7-d5 is even more effective when it will attack the bishop on d4. **4 Nc3 4 c3** was apparently the latest fashion over 100 years ago when the game M.Heer-H.Kloos, Amsterdam 1851 continued:

4...c5 5 Nf3 Ne7 6 Ng5?! h6 7 Nh3 d5 8 exd5 Nxd5
 9 Bb5+ Nd7 10 d4 Nxc3?! (10...a6!? is the right way
 to maintain Black's slight advantage) 11 Bxd7+ Qxd7
 12 bxc3 Bxg2 13 Rg1 Bxh3 14 Qf3 when White
 regains the piece due to the attack on the rook on a8
 and the bishop on h3 offering roughly equal chances.
4...Bb4 5 Bd2 Nf6 6 Nge2 0–0 7 e5 Ng4 8 d4 Qh4 9
g3 Qe7 10 Nf4?? 10 0–0 is the essential move that
 has to be played. **10...Nxe5 11 dxe5 Bxh1** Black is
 already up on material. **12 f3 Qc5** It seemed to be a
 good idea to vaguely try and trap the bishop on h1
 but it directly leads to complete ruin. **13 Bd3 Qg1+**



The start of a glorious and
 entertaining victory. **14**
Ke2 Qxh2+ 15 Ke3 Bc5+
16 Ke4 f5+ 17 exf6 d5+
18 Ke5 I think at this
 point White must have
 been in the mood to allow
 Ratel to finish in style.
18...Nc6+ 19 Kxe6
Nd4+ 20 Kd7 Rf7 mate

0–1

And now for something completely different..!
Mathias De Wachter from **Leuven, Belgium** has a
 serious problem, which deserves, a considered and
 careful reply. He writes “I've had some trouble with
 back aches lately. Now chess doesn't do my back too
 much good, because stretching over the table to pick
 up some pieces of wood is not a great exercise. I
 thought I had found the solution by playing the
 orthopaedically justifiable Hedgehog. All my
 problems seemed to be solved, until I noticed my
 opponent probably had back aches as well, and my
 games got really, really boring, both of us shuffling
 around pieces at the last three rows. Any advice on
 how I can make people play for that evil thing called

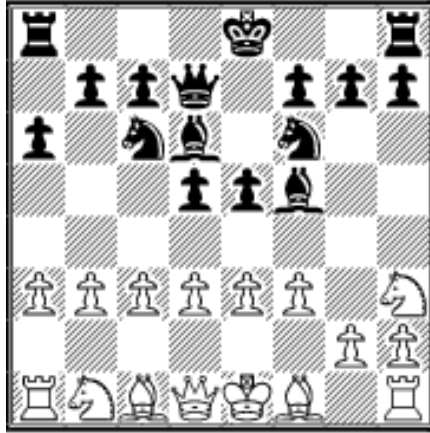
space advantage?”

This is a typical problem and you have all the symptoms of the well known sporting injury the ‘chess bad back’ which has afflicted numerous top players. The general advice is to avoid rook endings when a number of long range moves can worsen the injury. However, in the short-term I have found a couple of openings, which are ideally designed for those don’t want to try too hard and are expertly designed to encourage the opponent to use his space advantage. The only snag is that the side-effects are that you tend to lose quickly!

Aleksander Onishko-Mikhal Leonov Kharkov 2002

1 a3 e5 2 b3 2 e4 is far too sensible and anything pushed further then the third rank should be avoided. White wishes to have the extra move a3 and then play the usual Black moves. I suppose it does avoid the Ruy Lopez and is particularly effective against The Scotch. For instance, S.Ganguly-Reefat bin Sattar, Sri Lanka 2001 continued 2...Nf6 3 Nc3 d5 4 exd5 Nxd5 5 Qh5! (it is worth pointing out that this position usually occurs after 1 e5 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd5 4 Nxd4 Qh4 when the best continuations always involves a timely Nb5. In this game with the colours reversed such an option is ruled out and White consequently has a strong initiative) 5...Qd6 6 Nf3 Nxc3 7 dxc3 Nd7 8 Bg5 g6 9 Qh4 f6 10 Be3 Bg7 11 Rd1 gave White the better chances. **2...d5 3 Bb2 Nc6 4 c3?! Initially** White seemed to be playing something normal but the bad back syndrome is obviously a worry and any stretching over the board is avoided at every opportunity. The rest of White's moves are not normally seen at international level in the Ukraine. **4...Bf5 5 d3 Nf6 6 e3 Bd6 7 Bc1** White should be applauded for his determination to avoid

any confrontation with the Black pieces. **7...Qd7 8 Nh3 a6 9 f3**



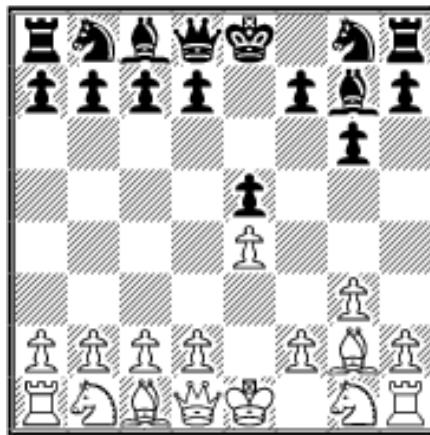
This seems to be a text book case of White taking considerable efforts to avoid any stretching.

9...e4 10 Rg1 Rg8 11 Ra2 h6 12 d4? It is easy in hindsight but going wild and advancing to the fourth rank is not what the doctor ordered. **12**

...exf3 13 gxf3 Bxb1 0-1 An early resignation but White is prudent to avoid any exertion and risking another injury such as the infamous chess elbow. It is also easy to take things easy with the Black pieces:

***Christian Mann-Ludwig Deglmann* German Team Championship 2000**

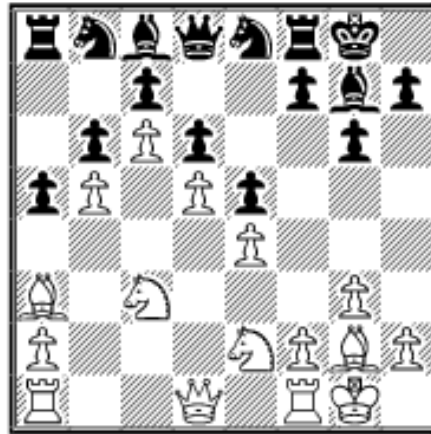
1 g3 g6 2 Bg2 Bg7 3 e4 e5



Arguably a little bit ambitious to push a pawn so far up the board. **4 Ne2 d6 5 d4 Nd7 6 0-0 Ngf6** Another example of expert piece shuffling on just 3 ranks is illustrated in the game P.Hertzog-T.Pieper, Herrenberg 1986. That continued:

6...Ne7 7 Nbc3 0-0 8 dxe5 dxe5 9 Bg5 f6 10 Be3 c6 11 Qd6 Nb6 12 Qb4 Be6 13 Rfd1 Qc7 14 Bc5 Nbc8 15 Qa3 with roughly equal chances. **7 d5 0-0 8 c4 Nc5?!** It seems to be that once a piece is pushed as far as the fourth rank nothing good can come of it! **9 b4 Na6** Black intended **9...Ncxe4** but it allows White

to play 10 f3 when the knight has no reasonable retreat. **10 Ba3 Ne8 11 Nbc3 Nb8 12 c5 a5 13 b5 b6? 14 c6 1-0**



Black is rated 2327 and knows he is facing a slow, and tiresome loss because his queen's knight and rook cannot move without losing material.

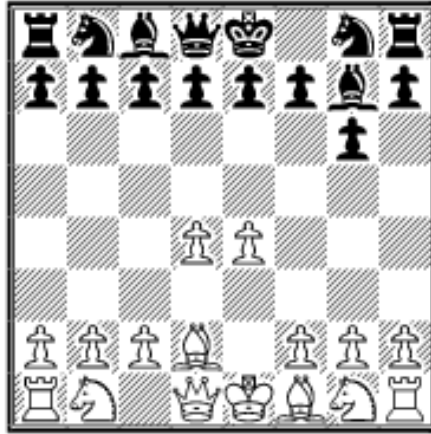
It seems the main benefit of playing in such style is that you lure your opponents into a false sense of complacency by repeatedly losing!

And finally, a new opening is revealed to the world by **Tony Westermann** from **Groningen, The Netherlands**, which will certainly surprise the chess world. He writes "What are your thoughts on this adventurous deployment of the white pieces against the Modern Defence? 1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Bd2 (!?), ...and now I suggest two main lines of play: (A) 3...Bd4 4 Bc3 Bxc3 5 Nxc3 with initiative for the pawn, and even more audacious: (B). 3...c5 (!) 4 dxc5: (!) Bxb2 5 Bc3 Bxa1 6 Ba1 with strong dark-squared threats for the sacrifice of pawn and exchange. Not given to high degrees of modesty, we dubbed the 3 Bd2 line of play the "Westermann Gambit" (against the Modern Defence).

"We" are myself, a low playing-strength/high-originality club-player, and my eleven-year old son Robin, who has more of a chess future ahead of him. Eric Schiller informed me a few months ago when I posted the above (A)-variation to him that the idea was not in his gambit database and hence we had naming rights. My own estimate is that our gambit is not one hundred percent sound, but not utterly weird

either and suited to club play. I especially like variation (B).”

1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Bd2



Well not only have I carefully considered this question but by sheer chance I am happy to report that English grandmaster and former world title contender Nigel Short has also had a good look at your question. By coincidence I was sitting near him when picking up my e-mail messages in the press room at the Olympiad. He leaned over at the sight of a **ChessCafe** question and had a look. He must have been impressed because he shook his head and read it again. I think his long sigh was probably a sign that he feared the gambit as he quickly returned to his computer to check the English cricket scores.

Copyright 2002 Gary Lane. All Rights Reserved.

*This column is available in **Chess Cafe Reader** format. Click [here](#) for more information.*

Gary wants your questions on openings!! Send it along and perhaps it will be answered in an upcoming column. Please include your name and country of residence. [Yes, I have a question for Gary!](#)



[TOP OF PAGE](#)



[HOME](#)



[COLUMNS](#)



[LINKS](#)



[ARCHIVES](#)



[ABOUT THE
CHESS CAFE](#)

[\[The Chess Cafe Home Page\]](#) [\[Book Reviews\]](#) [\[Bulletin Board\]](#) [\[Columnists\]](#)
[\[Endgame Studies\]](#) [\[The Skittles Room\]](#) [\[Archives\]](#)
[\[Links\]](#) [\[Online Bookstore\]](#) [\[About The Chess Cafe\]](#) [\[Contact Us\]](#)

Copyright 2002 Russell Enterprises, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

"**The Chess Cafe®**" is a registered trademark of Russell Enterprises, Inc.