

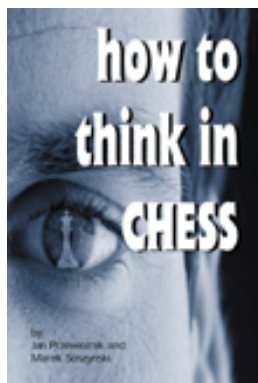
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COLUMNISTS

Opening Lanes

Gary Lane



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***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!

Step Back in Time

It is never too late to ask about an opening discussed in this column. You don't believe me? Then step forward Wieland Belka from Cottbus, Germany, whom I consider to be a **ChessCafe** record-breaker because he astonishingly waited almost 4 years before replying to a question!

“Hello Gary, in your column from Nov. 1999 you said: ‘I think it is time 'Opening Lanes' attempted to give the ordinary player a chance for glory. ... Therefore, I would welcome contributions from readers who have tried interesting moves in openings such as the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit, Latvian Gambit and even new ideas in established lines.’ Well, there is a new idea in Blackmar-Diemer Gambit, Tartakower Defense:

1 d4 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 f3 exf3 5 Nf3 Bf5 6 Ne5 e6 7 g4 Be4 8 Nxf7!? That's the new idea first played in 1998 by Neumeyer, systematized by me: Belka-Neumeyer-Line. I could win several games as White in past but also found a strong black idea very dangerous



for White: 8...Kxf7 9 Nxe4 Nxe4 10 Qf3+ Nf6 11 Qxb7

Qxd4 12 c3 Qd5 13 Bg2 Qe5+ 14 Kf1 Nd5! (a very strong riposte!) if 15 Qxa8 so 15...Bc5 and White loses! What can White play on the 15th move?

Well, I suspect you are right and that the whole line is facing problems because I can find no real improvement on move 15. However, I must congratulate you an intriguing sacrifice on the 8th move and having faith in the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. I picked up a couple of your games on the database so lets see the Belka-Neumeyer in action.

Wieland Belka-Haubin Internet 2001

1 d4 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 f3 White offers a pawn in the hope that it will help to give him a lead in development and possible attacking chances on the f-file when he castles kingside. By the way Wieland Belka plays under the handle Caissafan on his German games site. **4...exf3 5 Nxf3 Bf5 6 Ne5 e6 7 g4 Be4 8 Nxf7!?** Full marks for imagination but I am not entirely convinced it works. Then again, it is perfect for rapid chess where Black has little time to work out a solution.



8 Nxe4 Nxe4 9 Qf3 is the main alternative. **8...Kxf7 9 Nxe4 Nxe4 10 Qf3+ Nf6 11 Qxb7 Nbd7 11...Qxd4!** is the critical line when 12 c3 Qd5 13 Bg2 Qe5+ 14 Kf1 Nd5



15 Qxa8 Bc5 certainly looks winning for Black because White's pieces are very badly placed 16 Bf3 h5 17 gxh5 g5 18 Rg1 Qf5 0–1 Janus-Wieland Belka, Internet 2002. **12 g5 Nd5 13 Bh3 Rb8 14 0–0+** At a stroke White manages to get his king into safety and step up

the attack. **14...Ke7 15 Qxa7 Qc8 16 Qa5**



The white queen has emerged from the corner giving White excellent attacking chances. The problem for Black is that his king looks silly in the middle of the board and it is preventing his kingside being activated. **16...Nb4 17 Bd2**

Nc6 18 Qc3 Qa6 19 d5

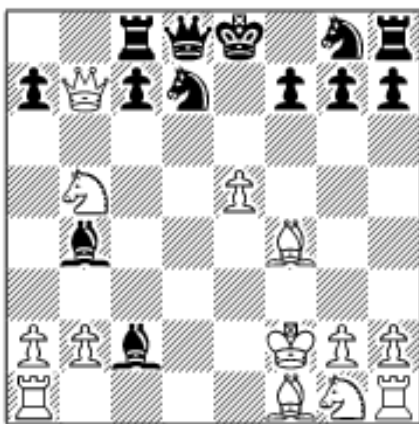
19 Bg2 is also good when 19...Nb4? 20 a3 Nd5 21 Bxd5 wins] **19...Kd8 20 dxc6** White has won the piece back and still has a massive attack. **20...Bc5+ 21 Be3 Qxc6 22 Rad1 Bxe3+ 23 Qxe3 Ke7 24 Rd4 Rb5 25 c4 1–0**

I have been interested in this eccentric gambit ever since I learned the moves because just about everyone at my local club played the opening. This fascination seems to continue in the West of England because local player Alan Dommett has written a book called Emil Josef Diemer - A Life Devoted To Chess published by The Book Guild. I have no idea if it is any good but so far the reviews have been positive. This brings to the point that I would like to reveal a typical game for BDG fans to add to their collection, which will not be found on any database.

David Lucas-Alex Markin Cornish Team

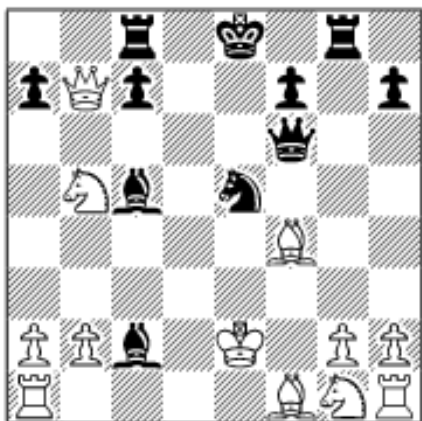
Championship

1 d4 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nc3 Bf5 4 f3 exf3 5 Qxf3 Bxc2?! 5...Qc8 is necessary when 6 Bf4 Bxc2?? loses to 7 Nd5 6 Qxb7 Nd7 7 Nb5 Rc8 8 Bf4 The natural move is not the best response. [8 Nxa7 Rb8 9 Qc6 Bf5 10 Nb5 Rc8 11 Bg5 gives White an excellent game. **8...e5 9 dxe5 Bb4+ 10 Kf2**



Only in this opening could you have such a silly position after 10 moves! Then again, a Liskard versus Penwith match is the best place for it. **10...Bc5+ 11 Kf3 g5** Black is fighting back and was quoted in the local paper *The Western Morning News* as saying “I’d

rather lose a game like this than grind out a win in a prolonged battle of attrition.” A sentiment, which we all feel when we face the wild and tricky Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. **12 Bg3 g4+ 13 Kxg4 Ngf6+** It is ironic that White plays an attacking opening and ends up being the victim of a king hunt. **14 exf6 Rg8+** Also good is 14...Nxf6+ 15 Kh4 (15 Kf3 Be4+ wins the white queen and the game) 15...Ne4+ 16 Kh3 Qd7+ 17 Kh4 Be7+ 18 Kh5 Qf5+ 19 Kh6 Bf8 mate. **15 Kf3 Qxf6+ 16 Bf4 Ne5+ 17 Ke2**



17...Qe6?? There are times when you have to resist the subtle move and just pick up some pieces so 17...Qxf4! is the killer move which sheds some material but allows the attack to flow upon 18 Qxc8+ Ke7 19 Qxc7+ Kf6 20 Qxc5 (what else) 20...Bd3+ 21 Ke1 Qxf1+ 22 Kd2 Qxg2+ 23 Kc1 Qxh1 wins easily. **18 Kd2 Rd8+ 19**

Kc3 19 Kxc2 Qf5+ 20 Kb3 Qxf4 21 Nf3 is good for White. **19...Bb6 20 Re1** It looks a complete mess but White has the extra piece and is winning. **20...Ba5+ 21 Kxc2 Qg6+ 22 Qe4 Bxe1 23 Qxg6 Nxg6 24 Bg5 Rd7 25 Nxa7 Kf8 26 Bb5 Rd5 27 Nf3 Bf2 28 Bc4 28 Bh6+ Ke7 29 Nc6+ Kf6 30 Rf1** is another demonstration of White's crushing ending. **28...Rxc5 29 Nxg5 Bxa7 30 Bxf7 Rg7 31 Rf1 Ke7 32 Bb3 Ne5 33 Rf5 Bd4 34 g3 h6 35 Nf3 Nxf3 36 Rxf3 1-0**

I am often asked questions about the Colle opening mainly because it is easy for club players to play and I guess because I wrote a book about the opening. At the time of writing I lived in Belgium so chess players had an opinion about their fellow countryman Edgard Colle. I even took time out to pay my respects to his grave. Even now I hear from Belgian GM Luc Winants who is still using old newspaper columns to gather more material on the great man. Therefore, now you know why I was so interested in the opening and when I add that my girlfriend at the time played the Colle.....!

Cristiano Quaranta from **Italy** says “In the Colle-Zukertort System, after 1d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 e3 e6 4 Bd3 c5 5 b3 Nbd7 6 Bb2 Bd6 7 O-O Qc7 8 c4 I have managed to find nowhere the reply 8...e5 which however seems to be quite interesting. What do you suggest here?”

Ognjen Cvitan-Leonid Gofshtein Zagreb zonal tournament 1993

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 e3 e6

David Rice from the **USA** asked about the move-order 3...c5 4 c3 Nbd7 5 Bd3 Qc7 when Black is threatening ...e5. I would suggest 6 Qa4!? in this position to slow down Black's progress.

4 Bd3 c5 5 b3 Nbd7 6 0-0



The move that signals White is playing the Colle-Zukertort, which basically involves a queenside fianchetto. A standard Colle would require 6 c3 to cement the d4 pawn and then White would play Nbd2 with the idea of e3-e4. **6...Bd6 7 Bb2 Qc7 8 c4 8 Nbd2** is worth

investigating when 8...0-0 9 c4 cxd4 10 exd4 dxc4 11 Nxc4 Be7 12 Rc1 Qd8 13 Qc2 Nb6 14 Nxb6 axb6 15 a4 gives White a small initiative, V.Kovacevic-R. Zelcic, Slavonski Brod 1995. **8...e5**



This is the move that has foxed Mr. Quaranta and I am not surprised because it is awkward for White to find a reply, which causes Black problems. It is curious that I could only find one game with this idea. 8...Ng4 is less impressive after 9 h3 h5?! 10 Nc3! (10 hxg4? hxg4 11

Ne1? Bh2+ 12 Kh1 Bg1+ 13 Kxg1 Qh2 mate) 10...cxd4 11 exd4 Ndf6 12 cxd5 exd5 13 Qe2+ Kf8 (13...Qe7 14 Nb5 Bf4 15 Rfe1 Qxe2 16 Rxe2+ Kf8 17 g3 wins) 14 Nb5 Bh2+ 15 Kh1 Qf4 16 Ba3+ Kg8 17 Bd6 Qh6 (Black should really resign and go home) 18 Nxh2 Nxh2 19 Bxh2 Bd7 20 Qe3 when you are a piece up it makes sense to swap off pieces to reduce Black's attacking capabilities 20...Qxe3 21 fxe3 Ne4 22 Nc7 1-0 C.Latini-R.Rojas, San Fernando 1998. Or 8...dxc4 when White has a couple of replies. For instance: 9 Bxc4 0-0 10 Nbd2 a6 11 Rc1 Qd8 12 Bd3 cxd4 13 Nxd4 Ne5 14 Bb1 Bd7 15 Ne4 Nxe4 16 Bxe4 Qb6 (17 Nc6! looks like an improvement when 17...Bxc6 {17...Nxc6 18 Qxd6 Rad8 19 Qg3 f6 20 Rfd1 gives White a strong initiative})

18 Qxd6 Bxe4? 19 Qxe5 wins) 17 Nf3 Ng6 18 Bd4 Qa5 19 Bc3? (19 Bxg7 Kxg7 20 Qxd6 is very good news for White) 19...Qb6 20 Qd2 with an edge, F.Hoffmeyer-G.Von Buelow, Berlin 1999. 9 bxc4 is the alternative when the top class encounter W.Arencibia-N.Delgado, Havana 2001 continued: 9...0-0 10 Nc3 a6 11 Qc2 h6 12 Rad1 cxd4 13 exd4 b5 14 c5 Be7 15 Qe2 (perhaps 15 Ne4!?) 15...Bb7 16 Bb1 b4 17 Ne4 Nxe4 18 Bxe4 Bxe4 19 Qxe4 Nf6 20 Qc2 a5 21 Qa4 Nd5 22 Rfe1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$. **9 dxe5** I tried to make 9 Nc3 work but it is well met by the simple 9...e4 when the complications favour Black. 9 Na3 is basically the same after 9...e4 10 Nb5 Qb8 11 Nxd6+ Qxd6 12 dxc5 Qxc5 13 Bd4 Qe7 is good for Black. **9...Nxe5 10 Nxe5 Bxe5 11 Nc3** 11 Bxe5 Qxe5 12 Nd2 is equal. **11...dxc4** Or 11...Bxh2+ 12 Kh1 Be5 13 Nxd5 Nxd5 14 Bxe5 Qxe5 15 cxd5 Qxd5?? 16 Bb5+ wins. **12 Bxc4 Bg4 13 Nd5 Bxh2+** If 13... Nxd5 then 14 Bxe5 Bxd1 15 Bxc7 Bxb3 16 Bb5+ Ke7 17 Be5 f6 18 Bxf6+ Nxf6 19 axb3 is roughly equal. **14 Kh1 Bxd1 15 Nxc7+ Bxc7 16 Rfxd1** White is a pawn down but his influential pair of bishops is enough to secure equality. **16...Rd8** Also possible: 16...0-0 17 Bxf6 gxf6 18 Rd7 Rac8 19 Rad1 when I prefer White due to his active pieces. **17 Rxd8+ Kxd8 18 Bxf6+ gxf6 19 Bxf7** $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Kevin Bailey from **England** also wants to know more about the opening. "I have a question regarding an Anti-Colle line that will be of interest to all Colle players. The line I am talking about is 1d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 e3 g6. Can you guide Colle players in dealing with this line?"

I have touched upon systems against the Colle with ...g6 before but there are always more games to add to the understanding of the opening. On that recently caught my eye was played on a German Internet site:

Daiva-Ek Internet 2003

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 e3 d5 4 Bd3 c5 5 c3



Or 5 0–0 c4 (Black jumps at the chance to force the bishop back which is why 5 b3 or 5 c3 are normally preferred) 6 Be2 b5 7 b3 Bb7 8 a4 a6 9 Nc3 Qa5 10 Rb1 b4?! 11 bxc4 dxc4 12 Ne5 Bxg2? 13 Kxg2 bxc3 14 Bxc4 Qc7 (14...e6 15 Qf3 wins) 15 Qf3 Ra7 16 Rxb8+

1–0 M.Richter-C.Prosch, German team championship 1994. **5...c4?!** This idea of extending the queenside pawn chain is not so impressive when the bishop can retreat to c2 in order to build-up for the break e3-e4. 5...Qc7 6 0–0 Bg7 7 b3 (White deliberately mixes up his systems by opting for a Colle-Zukertort set-up) 7...0–0 8 Bb2 cxd4 9 exd4 Nc6 10 Nbd2 Nh5 11 g3 Bg4 12 Be2 Rab8 13 Re1 Rbd8 14 Nf1 Nf6 15 Ne3 Bc8 16 Bf1 Ng4 17 Qe2 with roughly equal chances although White eventually won, E.Grivvas-G.Mastrokoukos, Athens 1992. **6 Bc2 Bg7 7 Nbd2** The good thing about the Colle is that the developing moves are basically the same whatever Black plays. In this case, it is particularly good news because White is preparing for the standard e3-e4 break. **7...0–0 8 0–0 Nc6 9 Qe2** 9 e4 is also perfectly acceptable. **9...Bg4 10 e4 dxe4 11 Nxe4 Bxf3 12 Qxf3 Nd5 13 Bd2** White is content to just get on with the job of developing his pieces. 13 b3 also looks reasonable. For example the sacrifice 13...Nxc3 does not impress upon 14 Nxc3 Nxd4 15 Qd1 Nxb3 16 axb3 Bxc3 17 Ra3 and White will win. **13...e6 14 Rfe1 b5 15 Qh3 b4 16 Ng5 h6**



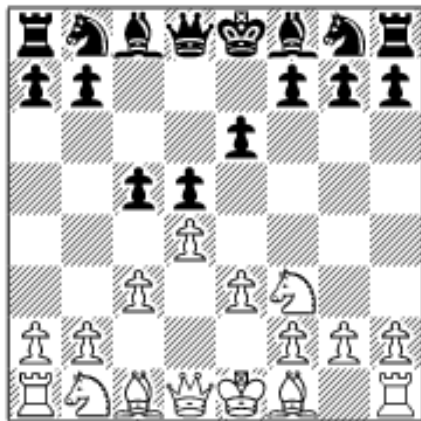
16...Nf6 is not much of an improvement after 17 Nxe6 fxe6 18 Qxe6+ Kh8 19 Qxc6 leaves White a couple of pawns up. **17 Nxe6 1-0**

After seeing this game where an early ...c5-c4 allows White to build-up momentum behind a shield

of pawns it is easier to answer a question e-mailed by **Lemaro Thompson** from the **Bahamas**. He writes, "My Question is maybe a common one because it deals with move orders. Just the different order of moves can cost a great deal of confusion. It can simple pull someone away from the book they are studying and cause them to go off the tracks and then return when the game is in chaos!! I was the victim of this in a game and this is how it went: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 e6 (supposed to play ...Nf6) 3 e3 c5 (supposed to be 2 moves later after he played ...e6) now the dilemma what to do ??? 4 Bd3?? then ...c4 then I lose a tempo without the desired Colle Zukerterort and if c3 the same thing. Can you give me some advice please?"

It is true that it is annoying when the opponent fails to copy the book moves but usually a player can try and deduce what to do after a long think. Of course, sometimes it is just easier to ask me!

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 e6 3 e3 c5 4 c3!



This is the move you should play if you wish to play the Colle because as you point out 4 Bd3 loses White time. Now if 4...g6 5 Bd3 c4 then we have transposed to the previous main game Daiva-Ek. However, if you want to play the Colle-Zukertort then 4 b3 allows you to play the

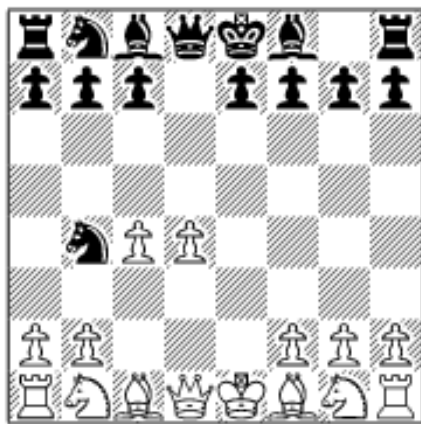
usual queenside fianchetto and then play Bd3 in safety. **4...c4** Now if 4...g6 5 Bd3 c4 then we have transposed to a similar position to the previous main game Daiva-Ek. **5 b3** White is already better because Black's pawn formation is lightweight without any pieces to reinforce it. **5...b5 6 a4! Qa5** The queen looks uncomfortable here but 6...a6 fails to 7 axb5 when the pin on the a-file is obvious. **7 Bb2 Nf6 8 Nbd2** when White is on top.

And finally, **Thomas Puls** from **Germany** is confused why everyone does not play his pet line in the Scandinavian. "Why don't *they* like my Scandi-line? 1 e4 d5 2 exd5 Nf6 3 d4 Nd5 4 c4 Nb4? Here in Germany we call it the "Kiel-variation" for the name of a city. For example: 5 Qa4 N8c6 6 a3 (6 d5 b5!) Na6 7 d5 is not winning: 7...Nc5 8 Qb5 e5 9 dxc6 b6 with the idea 10...a6 and trapping the queen (10 Qb4 Nc2 +!) or a typical quiet mainline of my blitz-games goes: 5 a3 N4c6 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 Ne7 8 Nf3 Nf5! 9 Qd3 Nxe3 10 Qxe3 Nd7! e.g. 11 Nxe5 Bc5 following 0-0, or 11 b4 a5 12 Nxe5 Nxe5 13 Qxe5 Be7! Do YOU see something that we can call a refutation?"

At first I dismissed the idea of the knight hopping around the board but it is true that if White tries to refute the line then he runs into trouble.

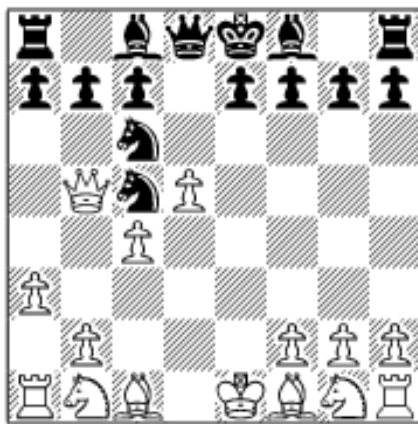
Binh-Roman Soukal Pribram 2002

1 e4 d5 2 exd5 Nf6 3 d4 Nxd5 4 c4 Nb4



The Kiel Variation although 4...Nb6 or 4...Nf6 are more sensible. **5 Qa4+?! If White has no respect for this weird opening then this is the obvious way to try and win material. I also think it is wrong. I am sure that 5 a3 is the best reply to force the knight to retreat where it will**

get in the way of the other pieces. For instance 5...N4c6 6 Nf3 (6 Be3 e5!? 7 d5 Ne7 8 Nf3 Nf5 9 Bg5 Be7 with equal chances, H.Jonkman-J.Hoogendoorn, Soest 2001) 6...Bg4 7 d5 Bxf3 (7...Ne5 8 Be2 Bxf3 9 Bxf3 e6 is worth investigating as an alternative for Black) 8 Qxf3 Nd4 9 Qd1 e5 10 Bd3 a5?! (Black weakens his queenside pawn structure which is not a good idea when he intends to castle queenside) 11 0-0 Nd7 12 Nc3 Be7 13 f4 c5 14 Re1 Qc7 15 Be3 0-0-0 16 Bxd4 cxd4 17 Nb5 with a clear advantage, W.Hoellrigl-H.Steinacher, Graz 2002. Black would have to resist giggling after 5 Nc3? when 5...Bf5 means that the game is over as a contest. **5...N8c6 6 a3 6 d5** looks winning for White at first glance but after 6...b5! 7 Qxb5? (7 cxb5 Bf5 8 Na3 Qxd5 9 bxc6?! Qe4+ 10 Be3 Nd3+ 11 Bxd3 Qxa4 12 Bxf5 Qa5+ 13 Kf1 Qxf5 and Black wins) 7...Nc2+ 8 Kd1 Bd7! it is White who has to resign. **6...Na6 7 d5 Nc5 8 Qb5**



Binh is determined to win the knight but it is destined to all end in tears. **8...e5! 9 dxc6 b6** Oh dear, Black has trapped the white queen and the end is nigh. **10 Be2 a5** White has no desire to wait for 11...Ba6. **0-1**

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