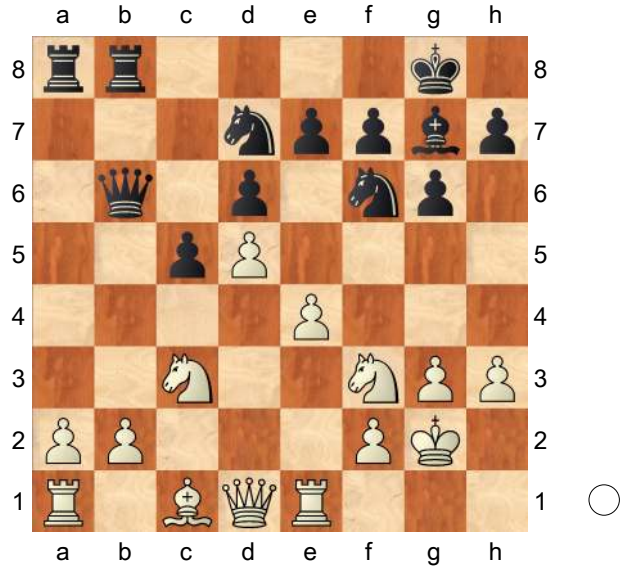
A59

□ **Petrosian,Tigran**
■ **Beardsworth,Allan**
Simul, England Juniors; London
[Beardsworth,Allan]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Nf3 g6 8.e4 Bxf1 9.Kxf1 Bg7 10.g3 0-0 11.Kg2 Nbd7 12.Re1 Qb6 13.h3 Rfb8 Diagram



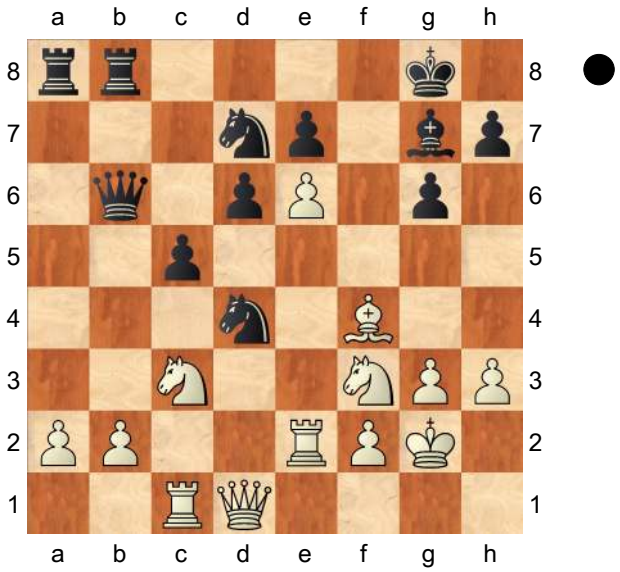
A mainstream Benko; rather new and fashionable at the time **14.Re2 Ne8 15.Bf4 Nc7 16.Rc1 Nb5 17.e5** Houdini doesn't like this move: its assessment changes from slightly better for white, to slightly better for black. **Nd4 18.e6 fxe6 19.dxe6** Diagram

(Diagram)

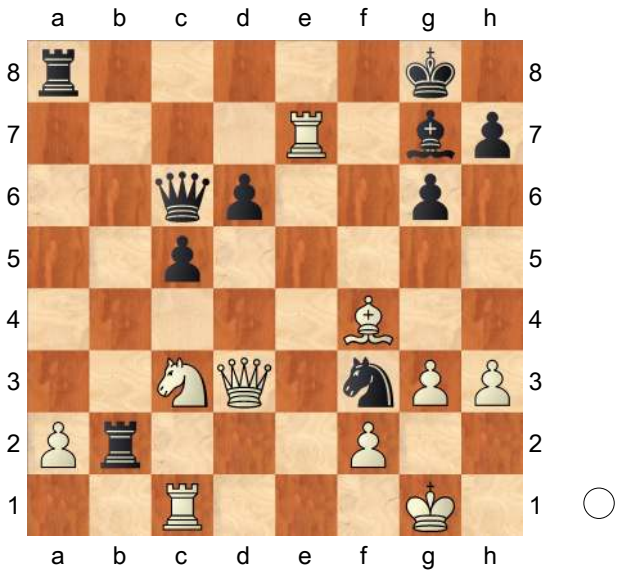
around here, Houdini's assesment changes to black is winning. **Qc6 20.Re3**

[20.Re4 Nf6 21.Rxd4 cxd4 22.Qxd4 Rxb2 is Houdini's preferred line for white, but it says black is still winning.]

20...Nf8 21.Kg1 Nfxe6 22.Nxd4



Nxd4 23.Rxe7 Rxb2 24.Qd3 Nf3+ Diagram

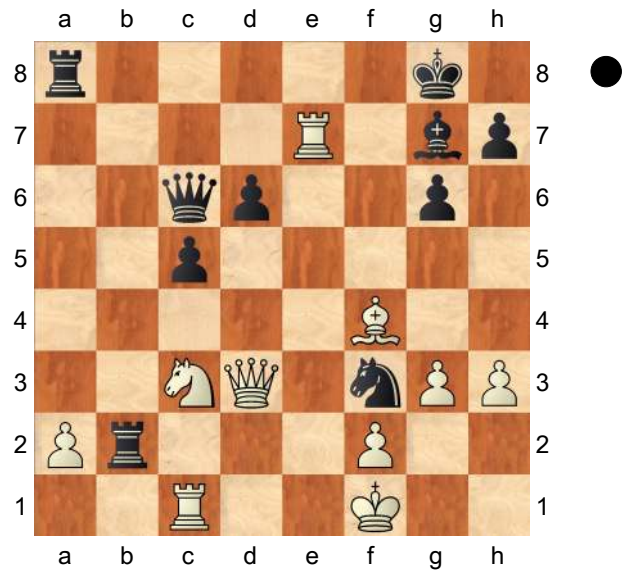


25.Kf1−+ Diagram

(Diagram)

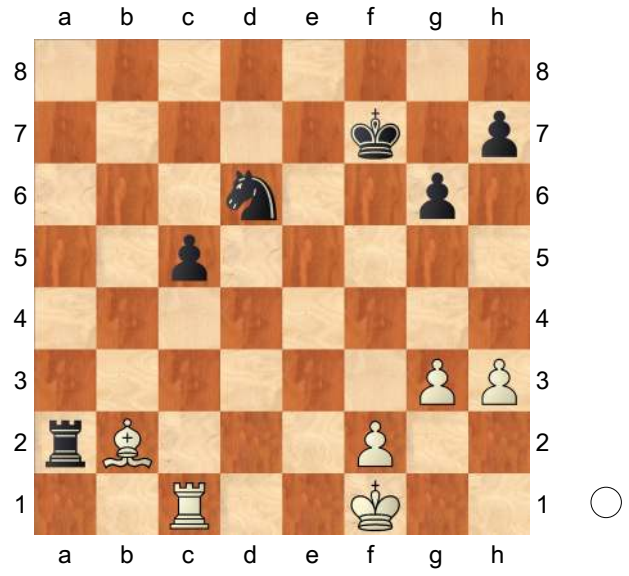
Ne5?

[25...Raxa2!! deflection: if the rook is captured, white loses control over the d5 square, so can't interpose on the a8-h1 diagonal.
worst placed piece: the ra8 wasn't doing anything
bringing all the pieces to the party: ditto 26.Nxa2 Ne5 27.Rxg7+ Kh8!!]



26.Rxg7+??−+

[26.Qe4= Qxe4 27.Nxe4 Nf7 28.Nxd6 Nxd6 29.Rxg7+ cute tactics, as always, c/o Houdini Kxg7 30.Be5+ Kf7 31.Bxb2 Rxa2 Diagram



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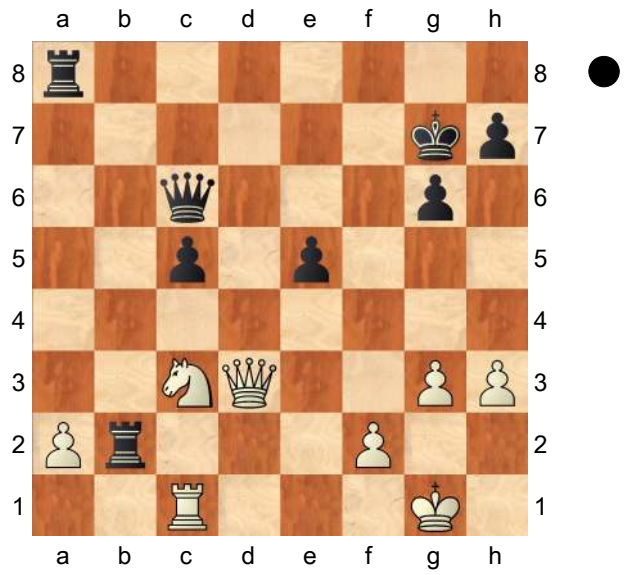
26...Kxg7 27.Bxe5+ dxe5 28.Kg1 Diagram

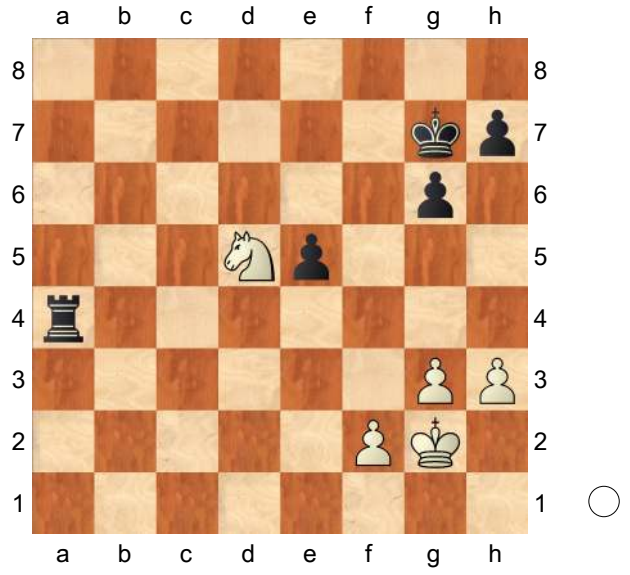
(Diagram)

around here, I can now see that accuracy is required to prevent white getting into the drawing zone, with



chances of setting up a fortress. Optimal piece placement by black is needed, to exert maximum pressure on white's pieces, tieing him down. **Rf8**

[28...c4 29.Qe4 Qxe4 30.Nxe4 Rc8 31.a4 c3 32.Rxc3 Rxc3 33.Nxc3 Rb4 34.Kg2 Rc4 35.Nd5 Rxa4 Diagram



: would I be able to win this against Petrosian?]

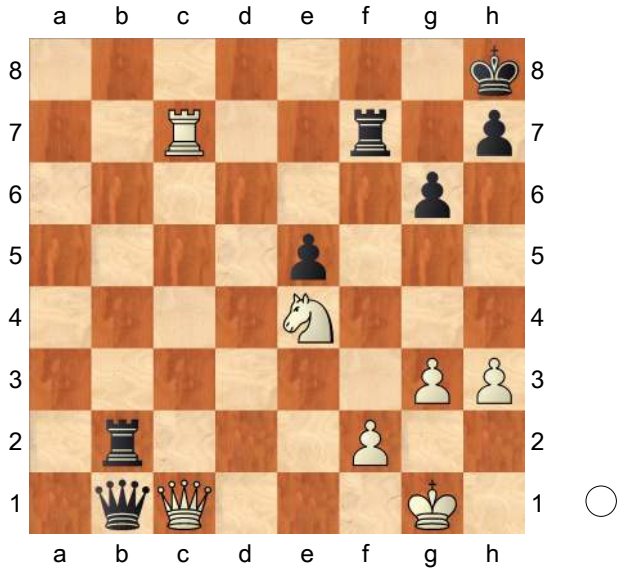
[28...Ra3 29.Qe4 Qd6 30.Rd1 Qf6 31.Ne2 Rf3]

29.Ne4 Rxa2? I failed in the task: capturing the a2 pawn is of course very natural, but the simplification, with the

c5 pawn coming off, helps white. I can't remember what my feelings were at the time: did I ever think I was winning? My recollection, as good as it can be, is that I wasn't disappointed, not knowing at the time that a win had slipped out of my hands.

[29...Qa4

A) 30.Rxc5 Qxa2 31.Rc7+ Kh8 32.Qd7 "mate in 7": Houdini: less than a nanosecond; "help! am I getting mated" AWB. The difference between silicon and carbon explained. *(32.Qc3 Qb1+ 33.Qc1 Rf7!!* Diagram



A lovely tactic, improving the position by exploiting the rook's need to defend the queen. *34.Rc5 Qxc1+ 35.Rxc1 Rb4* Diagram

(Diagram)

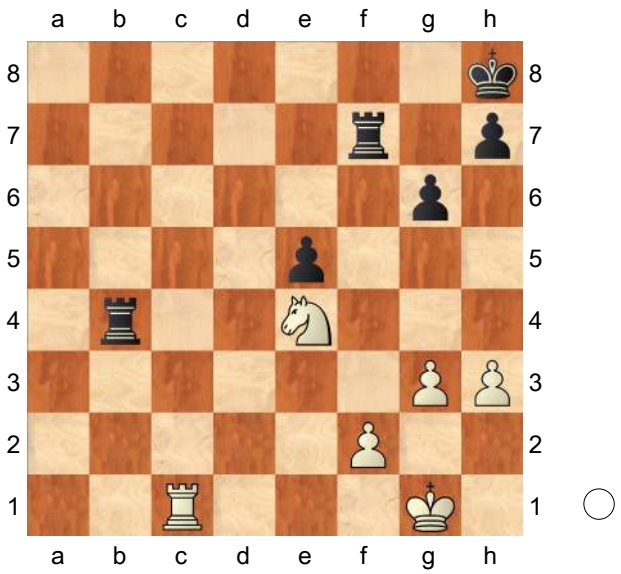
) ;

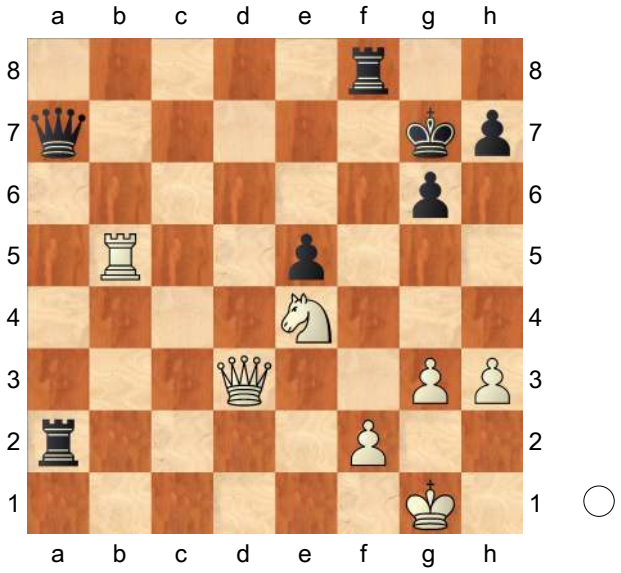
B) 30.Nxc5 Qxa2]

30.Rxc5 Qe6?=

[30...Qb7! 31.Rb5 Qa7! Diagram Two accurate queen moves, to improve the queen; Houdini says black still has some advantage.]

31.Rc7+ Kg8 32.Kg2 Rfxf2+ 33.Nxf2



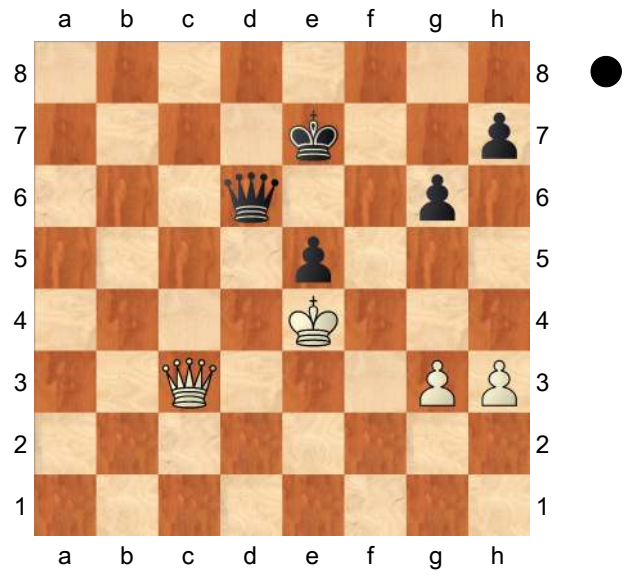


Rxf2+ 34.Kxf2 Qb6+ 35.Kf3 Qxc7 36.Ke4 Kf7 37.Qf3+ Ke7 38.Qa3+ Qd6 39.Qc3 Kf6 40.Qf3+ Ke7 41.Qc3 Diagram

(Diagram)

I shall always remember the warm smile Tigran gave me as we shook hands.

½-½


a b c d e f g h
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1