C34

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1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e5
Nh5 5.Be2 d6 6.0-0 dxe5 7.Nxe5
Bc5+ 8.Kh1 Nf6 9.Nd3 Bb6 10.Nxf4
0-0 11.c3 c5 12.d3 Nc6 13.Nd2
Re8 14.Nh5 Nxh5 15.Bxh5 Be6
16.Ne4 Ne5 17.Ng5 Qd7 18.Bf4
Ng6 19.Bg3 Rad8 20.Nxe6 Qxe6
21.Qa4 Qd7 22.Qc4 Qd5 23.Bf3
Qxc4 24.dxc4 Re7 25.Bd5 Kf8
26.Rf5 f6 27.Raf1 Bc7 28.Bf2 b6
29.b4 Bd6 30.a3 Re2 31.Bf3 Re5
32.Rxe5 Nxe5 33.Bd5 Nd3 34.Bg1
Re8 35.Rd1 Ne5 36.g3 Ke7 37.Rb1
Rc8 38.a4 Rc7 39.a5 Nd7 40.a6
Ne5 41.b5 Rc8 42.Re1 Kf8 43.Kg2
Re8 44.Rd1 Ke7 45.Rd2 Rd8
46.Re2 Kf8 47.h3 Re8 48.Rd2 Ke7
49.Be3 Rd8 50.Bf4 Bb8 51.h4 h5
52.Re2 g6 53.Kh3 Bc7 54.Re4 Bb8
55.Kg2 Bc7 56.Kf1 Rh8 57.Ke2 Kf8
58.Kd1 Kg7 59.Kc2 Re8 60.Re2
Re7 61.Kb3 Bb8 62.Rd2 Bc7
63.Bg2 Kh7 64.Bc6 Kg7 65.Rd1
Rf7 66.Bb7 Re7 67.Rd5 Rf7 68.Be3
The previous 68 moves have been very
equal, and after a King's Gambit start,
absent any fireworks (simplification
started early) then there is a long,
manoeuvering game, which would not
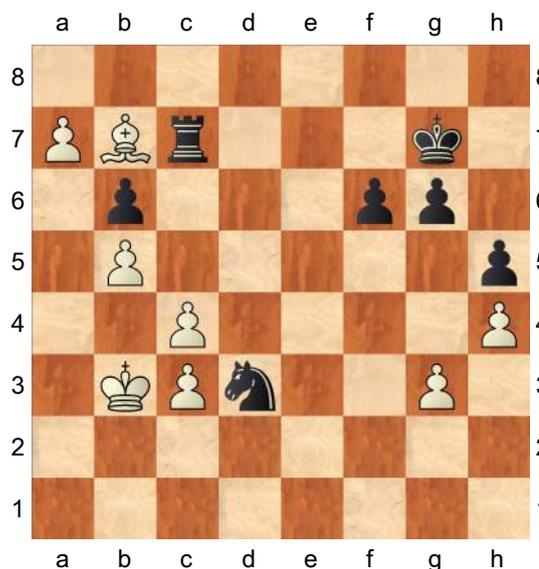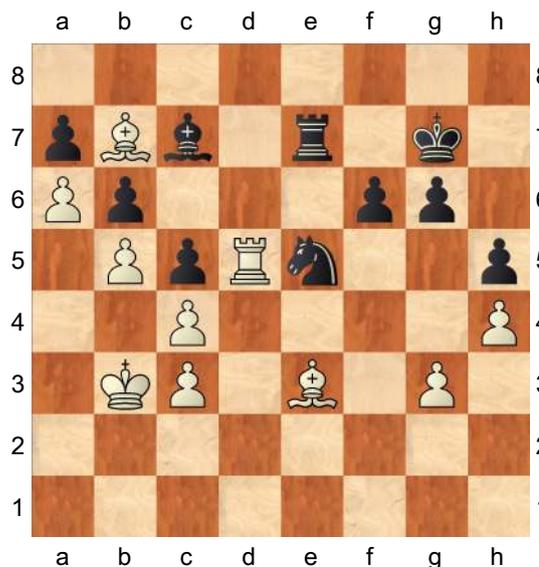be out of place in the present century.
Re7?? Diagram
  [68...Rd7=]
  [68...Ng4=]

(Diagram)

69.Rxc5 bxc5☐
  [69...Nd3 70.Rxc7 Rxc7 71.Bxb6
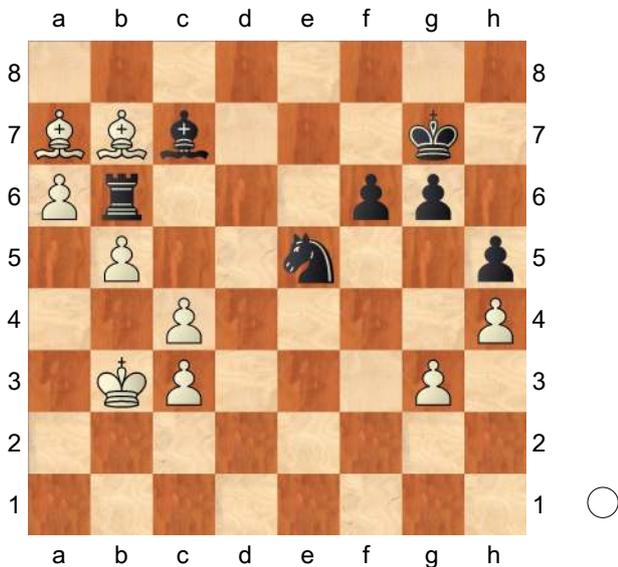 axb6 72.a7+− Diagram
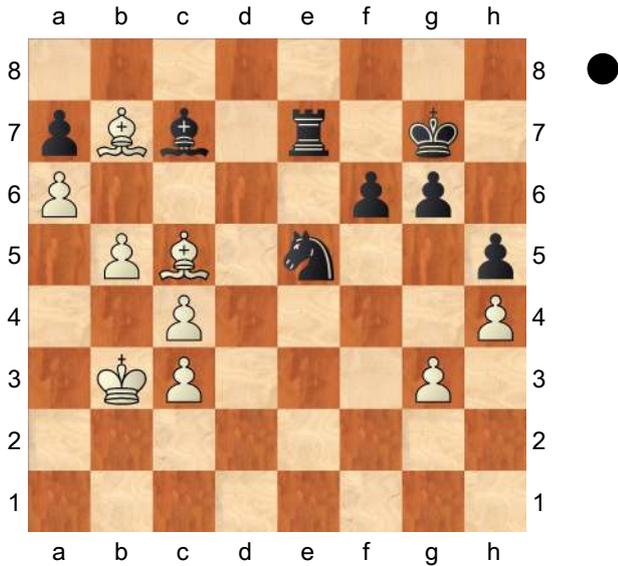

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70.Bxc5 Diagram

(Diagram)

Rf7??
  [70...Re6! 71.Bxa7 Rb6!! Diagram

(Diagram)

a very pretty defensive manoeuver.
Found of course by Houdini, not by
me.
  A) 72.Bg2! Kf7 *(72...Nd3
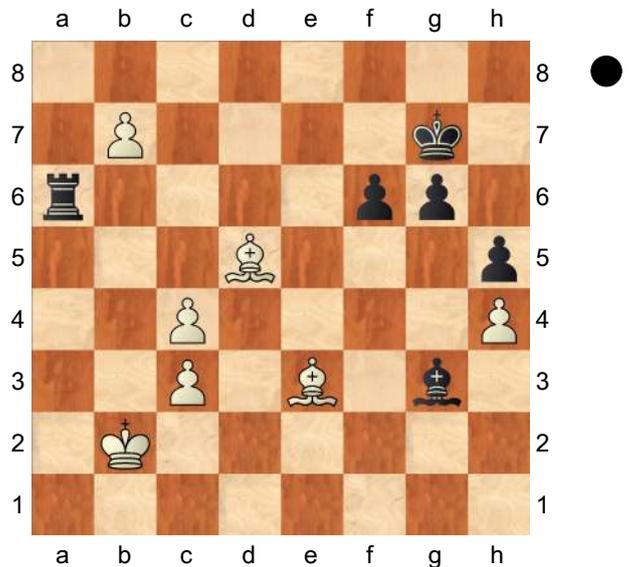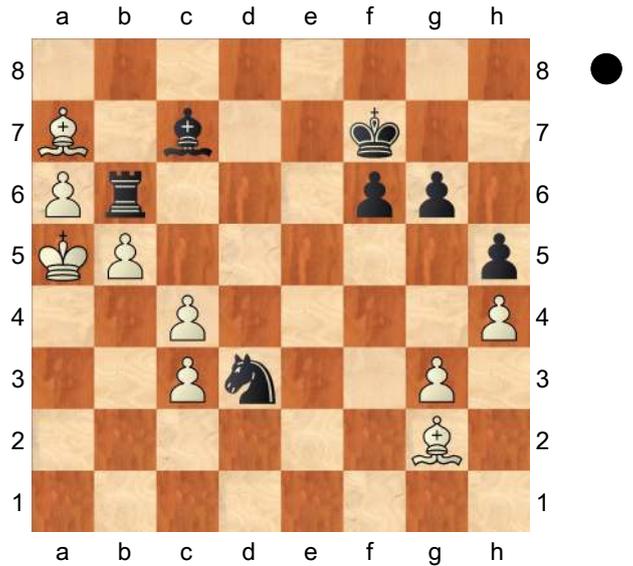 73.Bxb6 Bxb6 74.c5 Nxc5+*

75.Kc4) 73.Kb4 Nd3+ 74.Ka5
Diagram

(Diagram)

Houdini says +1 Rc6+ a plausible continuation is 75.b6 Rc5+ 76.Ka4 Bxg3 77.b7 Nb2+ 78.Kb3 Ra5 79.Bd5+ Kg7 80.Kxb2 Rxa6 81.Be3 Diagram *(81.b8Q?? Bxb8 82.Bxb8 Rb6+−+)*
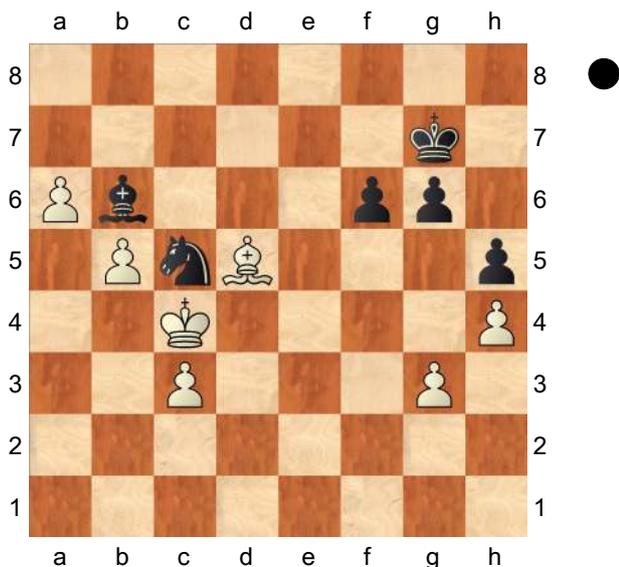A position more for Karsten Mueller than for me or than for Houdini- which assesses the position as +1, but it is either won for white or

drawn. ;
B) 72.Bd5? Nd3 73.Bxb6 Bxb6 74.c5 Nxc5+ 75.Kc4= Diagram

(Diagram)

Really strange, but instructive, that 72 Bd5 is poor, and this position is equal, whilst 72 Bg2 gives white an advantage after 75 Kc4. The reason wasn't obvious to me at first, but eventually became clear. On d5, the B blocks the king's route to d5-c6, giving black a tempo to bring his king to e7 and d7 to stop white's

king just in time. So the 'solid' looking Bd5, giving the bishop stability, is an error- the stability isn't needed. Against that, if I were looking at the position, I would be a bit scared of the Bg2 being LPDO, eg if the king moves to c2 to hit the N when on d3, then Ne1+ forks. ;
C) 72.Kb4 Nd3+= perpetual, or at least stalling white's advance permanently.]
71.Bxa7 Nd7 72.Bd4 Diagram

(Diagram)

and the pawns roll **Bb8 73.c5 Nxc5+ 74.Bxc5 Rxb7 75.axb7** Diagram

(Diagram)

g5 76.Kc4 f5 77.Kd5 f4 78.gxf4 gxf4 79.Kc6
[⌂79.Ke6 which Houdini tells me is mate in 11- white's c pawn pushes forward and black's king is in a net.]
1-0