

GAMBIT CHESS OPENINGS

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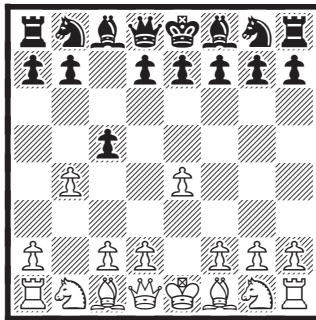
KNIGHT PAWN GAMBITS

In this category, it makes a great difference which side of the board we are talking about. Sacrificing the queen knight's pawn (b-pawn) is a low-risk strategy seen frequently in professional games. The g-pawn is a different matter. Early gambits of the g-pawn are, for the most part, rejected by master level players. The major exceptions are those gambits in which the opponent is more-or-less obliged to castle on the kingside, and gambits against the Dutch Defense (1.d4 f5) where the kingside weakness created by Black's first move almost justifies the gambit by itself. The Manhattan Gambit (1.d4 d5; 2.Qd3 e6; 3.g4) is a good example of a sound and promising g-pawn gambit.

When the pawn is captured on its home square (b2, b7, g2, g7), the gambit is known as a Poisoned Pawn Variation. The idea is that eating the pawn might cause indigestion, or perhaps even a fatal illness. The gambiteer would like to believe that this is always the case, but in fact most of the pawns can be consumed as long as the diner attends to defense, especially king safety. Most of the best-known poisoned pawn lines are evaluated as unclear, despite years and even decades of analysis.

WHITE GAMBITS THE B-PAWN TO BLACK'S C-PAWN

FEATURED GAMBIT: SICILIAN WING GAMBIT (SICILIAN DEFENSE) [B20]



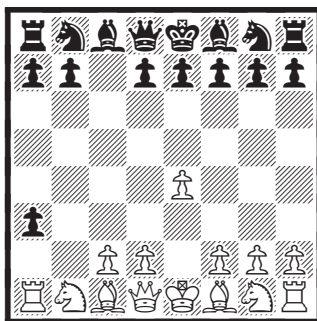
1.e4 c5
2.b4

The Sicilian Wing Gambit is almost as popular as the Smith-Morra Gambit, and is one of the most confrontational plans available to White in the Sicilian. Though it

is almost never seen in top competition, it is a regular performer in the amateur arena. Black should capture at b4, but may want to spurn a future offer at a3. An early ...d5 is usually a good idea. In any case, the opening is fully playable in scholastic and many amateur events.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Somewhat common.

CARLSBAD VARIATION [B20]



1.e4	c5
2.b4	cx b4
3.a3	bx a3

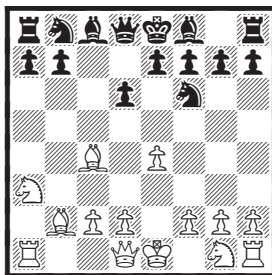
When Black accepts the offer at a3, White can recapture with either bishop or knight, or even let the pawn sit there and continue with development. The open lines on the queenside and powerful diagonals for the bishops give White considerable compensation.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

SPIELMANN vs. GEBHARDT

Munich, 1926

1.e4 c5; 2.b4 cxb4; 3.a3 bxa3; 4.Nxa3 d6; 5.Bc4 Nf6; 6.Bb2.



White has a lot of compensation with advanced development and open lines for the bishops and rooks. 6...Nc6; 7.Qe2 e6; 8.Nf3 Be7; 9.0-0 0-0. Black has developed three pieces and has castled. White has completed development. Still, the burden is on the first player to justify the pawn. 10.Nb5 Ne8. 10...a6; 11.Nbd4 Nxd4; 12.Bxd4 d5 (12...e5!?) 13.exd5 Nxd5; 14.Rfb1 gave White good play all over the board, more than compensating for the pawn in Bungo vs. Johnson, 1996. 11.Qe3 a6; 12.Nbd4 Bd7; 13.Nxc6 Bxc6; 14.Nd4 Bd7; 15.f4. White

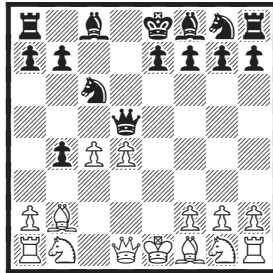
has a great position, and Black's cramped pieces offer little resistance to the attack. 15...Rc8; 16.Bb3 Qc7; 17.Kh1 Bf6; 18.Rae1 e5; 19.fxe5 dxe5; 20.Nf5 Nd6; 21.Nxd6 Qxd6; 22.Ba3 Qc6. 22...Qxa3; 23.Bxf7+ Rxf7; 24.Qxa3. 23.Bd5 Qxc2.

Black's greed is appropriately punished by a fine sacrifice. 24.Rxf6!! gxf6; 25.Qg3+ Kh8; 26.Be7. Black resigned, faced with mate in four.

MUELLER vs. ARONIN

Riga, 1968

1.e4 c5; 2.b4 cxb4; 3.Bb2 Nc6; 4.d4 d5; 5.exd5 Qxd5; 6.c4!?



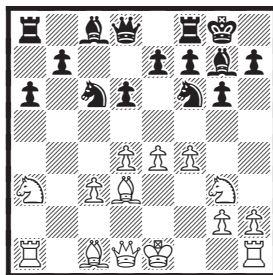
This move seizes the initiative and is fully in the spirit of gambit play. 6...bxc3; 7.Nxc3 Qd8. 7...Qxd4; 8.Nd5! Qxd1+; 9.Rxd1 leaves Black in a pickle. 8.d5 Nb8; 9.Nf3. White has three pieces developed. He controls the entire center and most of the board. Black doesn't have a single piece or pawn in play! 9...Nf6; 10.Bb5+ Nbd7; 11.0-0 a6; 12.Qa4 Rb8.

If the bishop retreats, Black will gain counterplay with ...b5. White ignores the threat and brings more force to bear on the enemy king. 13.Rfe1!! axb5; 14.Nxb5 e6; 15.d6! Qb6; 16.Bd4! Qc6; 17.Rac1. White makes use of every open line. 17...Nb6; 18.Qb3. 18.Nc7+ Kd8; 19.Qa5 Bxd6; 20.Bxb6! would have perhaps been a bit more humiliating for Black. 18...Qd7; 19.Ne5. Black resigned.

MENASSA vs. HOYOS

Colombia Championship Semifinal, 1994

1.e4 c5; 2.b4 cxb4; 3.a3 bxa3; 4.Nxa3 d6; 5.d4 Nc6; 6.c3 Nf6 7.Bd3 g6; 8.Ne2 Bg7; 9.f4 a6; 10.Ng3 0-0.



White's big center provides a lot of compensation for the pawn. Nevertheless, the Black position is solid. 11.f5! Bd7; 12.0-0 Qc7; 13.Kh1. White is in no hurry. In fact, he is about to

send the knight on a long journey from a3 to d5. 13...Rfb8; 14.Nc2 b5; 15.Ne3 b4; 16.Nd5! Nxd5. 16...Qc8 avoids the continuation in the game, but isn't a reliable defense. 17.Bg5! bxc3; 18.fxc6! hxc6; 19.Nxe7+! Nxe7; 20.Bxf6 Bxf6; 21.Rxf6. Black's advanced pawn is not a real asset and the White attack can build on the open f-file.

17.exd5 Nd8; 18.fxc6 hxc6; 19.c4!?

19...a5. The best move because White's coming sacrifice should have failed. The game was awarded a brilliancy prize for its entertainment value, but had the judges exposed the flaws, it would have gotten points only for creativity. 19...Bxd4; threatens to capture on a1. 20.Rxf7 (20.Ra2 b3) 20...Nxf7 (20...Kxf7; 21.Bxc6+ Kxc6; 22.Qh5+ Kg7; 23.Bh6+ Kg8; 24.Qg6+ Kh8; 25.Rf1! with mate in four.) 21.Bxc6 Bxa1; gains two extra rooks, but neither of them can help with the defense, which must be handled by the minor pieces. 22.Qh5 (22.Bxf7+ Kxf7; 23.Qh5+ Kf8; 24.Qg6! sets up Bh6+. 24...Bg7; 25.Bh6 Bxh6; 26.Qxh6+ Ke8; 27.Qh8+ draws.) 22...Be8; 23.Qh7+ Kf8; 24.Nf5! Ra7; 25.Bh6+ Nxh6; 26.Qxh6+ Kg8; 27.Qh7+ Kf8; 28.Qh6+ with a forced repetition.

20.Rxf7!? This move is usually awarded the highest praise, and it certainly deserves that from an artistic point of view. However, the soundness of the sacrifice remains open to question.

20...Nxf7. 20...Kxf7?; 21.Bxc6+ Kf8 (21...Kxc6; 22.Qh5+ Kf6; 23.Ne4#) 22.Qf3+ Bf6; 23.Ne4! Be8; 24.Bh6+ Kg8; 25.Nxf6+ exf6; 26.Qxf6 Bxc6; 27.Qxc6+ Kh8; 28.Bg5 followed by Bf6+. 21.Bxc6 Qxc4. 21...Nh8!? would have given White some tremendous difficulties, but it seems that even so, Black cannot survive. 22.Bd3 Be8; 23.Qg4 Qc8!; 24.Nf5! This appears to deliver the decisive blow, but Black has a fantastic resource that only a computer can find! 24...Ng6; 25.Qh5 e5!; 26.Nxc7 (26.Nh6+ Kh8; 27.Nf7+ Kg8; 28.Bxc6 Qxc4; 29.Qh7+ Kf8; 30.Bh6 Bxh6; 31.Nxh6. White wins.) 26...e4!; 27.Bxe4 Qxc4!; 28.Be3 Kxc7; 29.Rc1!

22.Qh5 Qxd4; 23.Bxf7+ Kf8.

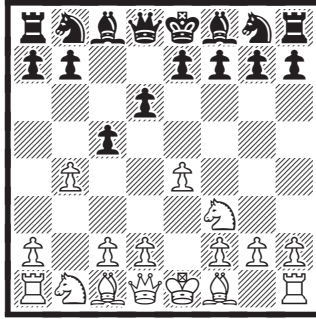
Black threatens the rook at a1, and is already up the exchange and a pawn.

24.Bb2!!; Qxb2? 24...Qg4! was the only move. 25.Qh7 Bxb2 (25...Kxf7; 26.Rf1+) 26.Bg6 Qxc6! (26...Qf4?!; 27.Rf1 (27.Nh5 Qf2; 28.Qh6+ Kg8; 29.Qh7+ Kf8 draws.) 27...Qxf1+; 28.Nxf1 Bg7; 29.Ng3 Rc8; 30.h3 Rc1+; 31.Kh2 Be8; 32.Bxe8 Rxe8; 33.Qf5+ Kg8; 34.Qg6 Rf8; 35.Nh5 Rf7; 36.Nxc7 Rxc7; 37.Qe8+ Kh7; 38.Qh5+ draws.) 27.Rf1+ (27.Qxc6 Bxa1. Black has way too much material for the queen and a new queen will arrive soon at b1.) 27...Ke8 (27...Qf6; 28.Qh8+ Kf7; 29.Qh7+ draws.) 28.Qxc6+ Kd8; 29.Rf8+ Kc7; 30.Qc2+ Bc3; 31.Rxb8 Rxb8 and Black will win.

25.Rf1 Qf6. 25...Bf6; 26.Rxf6 exf6; 27.Be6! with mate in three. 26.Rxf6 exf6; 27.Be6! Bxe6. 27...Be8; 28.Qh7. 28.dxe6 Ra7. 28...Kg8; 29.Qf7+ Kh8; 30.Nf5 Rg8; 31.Qh5+ Bh6; 32.Qxh6#. 29.Qd5 Rc8; 30.h4! Back rank problem solved.

30...a4; 31.Qxd6+ Kg8; 32.e7 Raa8; 33.Qd5+ Kh7; 34.Qh5+ Kg8; 35.Qg6! Black resigned. There is no stopping Nf3 without giving up coverage of the promotion square.

WING GAMBIT DEFERRED [B50]



1.e4 c5
 2.Nf3 d6
 3.b4

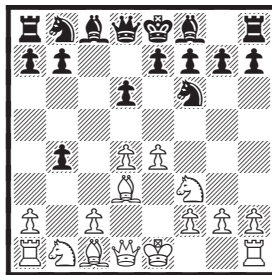
The Sicilian Wing Gambit would appear to be most reasonable when Black has played 2.. d6. Black's other plans against the gambit involve an early ...d5 and that will cost an extra tempo. Nevertheless, this is one of the most popular plans for Black.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Endangered.

VON FREIMAN vs. ROVNER

Soviet Championship Semifinal, 1938

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 d6; 3.b4 cxb4. Declining is utterly pointless. White would then be able to trade the flank pawn at b4 for Black's c-pawn. White can now play in traditional fashion by offering the a-pawn, or can turn to the center and delay the a-pawn move. There are many other plans that have been tried and each has its own flavor, so we'll take a brief look. 4.d4. For others, see the additional games below. 4...Nf6. 4...d5 is playable despite the wasted tempo, but it isn't logical. 4...e6 is solid, but doesn't really challenge White's plan. 5.Bd3.



This approach is slow but still well within the gambit style. White plans to castle and mobilize quickly, ignoring Black's pawn at b4. It is not a bad plan. 5.Nbd2 g6; 6.Bc4 d5; 7.exd5 Bg7; 8.0-0 0-0; 9.Qe2 Nxd5 was excellent for Black in Vasconcellos vs. Bolbochan, 1951.

5...Nc6. 5...d5 is still available, but is not needed. 5...g6; 6.Nbd2 Bg7; 7.Rb1 a5; 8.0-0 0-0 is another solid Black defensive plan. 5...e6. The Scheveningen plan is effective here. 6.0-0 Be7; 7.c4 bxc3; 8.Nxc3 Nc6; 9.d5 Ne5; 10.Bb5+ Kf8; 11.Nd4 a6; 12.Be2 exd5; 13.exd5 with a

much better game for Black. Seidman vs. Tucci, 1941.

6.d5!? 6.0-0 Bg4; 7.Bb2 e5; 8.d5 Nb8; 9.a3 bxa3; 10.Nxa3 Nbd7; 11.Nc4 Nc5 was better for Black in Lee vs. Kreckler, 1973. 6...Nb8. 6...Ne5; 7.Nxe5 dxe5; 8.Bb2 e6!; 9.Bxe5 exd5; 10.exd5 Bc5; 11.0-0 0-0 left White with a very weak d-pawn, Binham vs. Lahtinen, 1994.

7.0-0 g6; 8.Qe1 Bg7; 9.Qxb4 0-0; 10.Bb2.

White has the pawn back and a good game. 10...Nbd7; 11.a4 Nc5; 12.a5 Bd7; 13.Nbd2 Rc8. Black's pieces are in solid positions, but the lack of space makes it difficult to come up with a plan. 14.Bd4 Nh5; 15.Bxg7 Kxg7; 16.Rfe1 Nf4; 17.Bf1. Black has no force to throw against the White king.

17...Kg8; 18.g3!? Nh3+; 19.Kg2 e5; 20.dxe6 Nxe6? 20...Bxe6!; 21.Nd4 gives White a slight advantage. 21.Nc4 Qf6; 22.Ra3! The rook lift is a strong move. The pawn at d6 can be captured later. 22...Rc5; 23.Ne3 Rfc8; 24.Nd5! Qd8; 25.c4 Rb8; 26.Qb2.

Black is in serious trouble on the dark squares. 26...h6? 26...Ng7 is the only move. 27.Nf6+ Kf8; 28.Nxd7+ Qxd7; 29.Qh8+ Ke7; 30.Qxb8. Black resigned.

Supplement: Options for White at move 4.

A) 4.a3. 4...bxa3 (4...Nc6; 5.axb4 Nxb4; 6.d4! e6; 7.c3 Nc6; 8.d5 Ne5; 9.Nxe5 dxe5; 10.Bg5 Qxg5; 11.Bb5+ Bd7; 12.Bxd7+ Kxd7; 13.dxe6+ Kxe6; 14.Qd5+ Kf6; 15.0-0 Be7; 16.Ra6+ forced Black to resign in Richter vs. Martens.) 5.Nxa3.

5.Bxa3 Nf6; 6.c3 Nc6 doesn't give White much for the pawn.

5.d4 Nf6; 6.Bd3 g6; 7.0-0 Bg7; 8.Rxa3!? 0-0; 9.Qe2 Nc6; 10.Rd1 Bg4. White can play against the Black queenside pawns. Ditiatjev vs. Zhelnin, 2000.) 5...Nf6; 6.e5 dxe5; 7.Bb5+ Bd7; 8.Nxe5 a6. White's compensation was suspect in Abraham vs. Sehner Norbert, 1985.

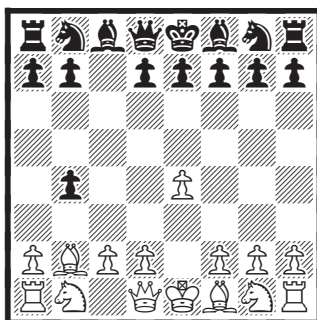
B) 4.Bc4. 4...Nf6; 5.d3 Bg4; 6.e5 d5! brought Black the advantage in McCormick vs. Donovan, 1940.

C) 4.Bb2. 4...Nf6; 5.Bb5+ Bd7; 6.Qe2 a6; 7.Bxd7+ Nbx7; 8.d4 e6; 9.0-0 Be7; 10.a3 bxa3; 11.Rxa3 d5! is very good for Black. 12.exd5 Bxa3 (Better than 12...0-0?; 13.dxe6! of Seglins vs. Hallberg, 1968.) 13.Bxa3 Nxd5. Black will be able to get the king to safety eventually and White has to justify the investment of the exchange and a pawn.

D) 4.Bb5+. 4...Bd7; 5.Bxd7+ Nxd7; 6.Qe2 Rc8 is better for Black. Pereira vs. Hartnack 1995.

SICILIAN WING GAMBITS IN BRIEF

ABRAHAMS VARIATION [B20]

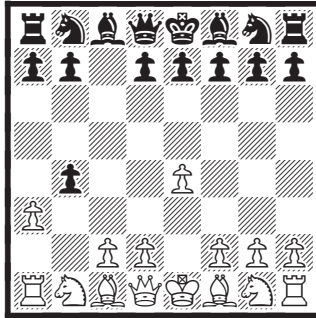


1.e4 c5
2.b4 cxb4
3.Bb2

In the Abrahams Variation, White ignores the pawn at b4 and concentrates on development. Black can no longer adopt a fianchetto defense. This could be a problem for Dragon players. Black is less likely to be prepared for this line than for the standard 3.a3.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

MARSHALL VARIATION [B20]

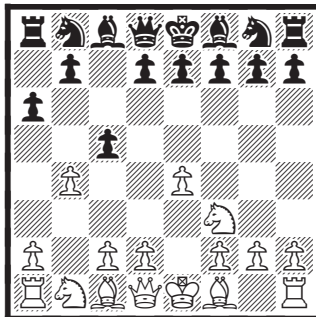


1.e4	c5
2.b4	cxb4
3.a3	

This is the traditional handling of the Sicilian Wing Gambit. Black can try to equalize immediately with 3...d5 or can accept the offer at a3 and get ready for some tough defense, which will be rewarded with a great endgame if successfully carried out.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Rare.

O'KELLY VARIATION: WING GAMBIT [B28]

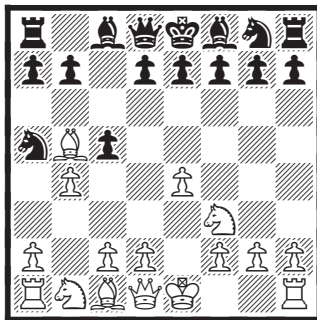


1.e4	c5
2.Nf3	a6
3.b4	

The Wing Gambit is a very reasonable reaction to the O'Kelly and it is somewhat surprising it isn't seen more often. Black's ...a6 adds nothing to the defense, so all wing gambit plans can be played with confidence.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

SAN FRANCISCO GAMBIT [B31]



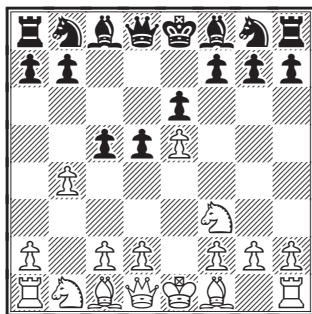
1.e4	c5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	Na5
4.b4	

This is one of my own inventions, employed when caught by surprise by 3...Na5 in a serious tournament game. Though I misplayed it and lost, I'm not convinced the opening was responsible.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

OTHER GAMBITS

WING GAMBIT (FRENCH DEFENSE) [C00]



1.e4	e6
2.Nf3	d5
3.e5	c5
4.b4	

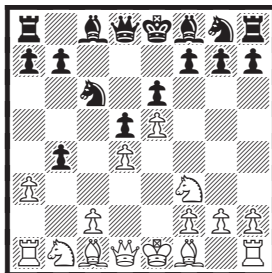
The French Wing Gambit is a typical wing gambit which benefits from the shut-in bishop at c8. The only problem is the open c-file, which can be used by Black. Still, a bishop at d3 will protect the pawn at c2, and there is some compensation. Suitable for amateur use.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Endangered.

DORSCH vs. RUDYAK

People's Open, 2002

1.e4 e6; 2.Nf3 d5; 3.e5 c5; 4.b4 cxb4. There are a number of ways to decline the gambit and White must be prepared to meet a whole range of playable plans. For example 4...Nc6!?, 4...c4!?, 4...d4!?, and 4...b6!? are all playable! 5.d4. For 5.a3, see the supplement. 5...Nc6; 6.a3. By using this move order, White avoids some promising lines for Black.



6...Qc7. A rare plan, but one which makes a lot of sense. It is not mentioned by Harding. Black can also try placing the queen at b6 or a5. 7.axb4 Bxb4+; 8.c3 Be7; 9.Bd3 f6!? A new idea seeking to immediately undermine the center. 9...f5; 10.Na3 Nh6 (10...Nxd4!?, 11.Qa4+! [11.cxd4?; Qc3+] 11...Nc6; 12.Nb5 Qd8; 13.Ba3 puts Black under a lot of pressure, enough to compensate for the pawns.) 11.Bxh6 gxh6; 12.Qd2 gave White a fine game in Barendregt vs. Bonkenburg, 1966. 10.0–0. White allows the center to dissolve, but there was no way to maintain the strongpoint at e5. 10.Bf4 Qb6; 11.0–0 comes into consideration. 10...fxe5; 11.dxe5 Nxe5; 12.Bf4 Nxf3+; 13.Qxf3 Bd6.

White has sacrificed two pawns in return for which he has better development and controls more space. Black can't be displeased, however, because the pieces he does have in the game aim right at the heart of enemy territory, aiming at h2. That square will play a major tactical role in the game.

14.Qh5+ Kd8; 15.Bg5+ Be7!? Black sensibly tries to exchange pieces, but it allows the enemy queen to get to f7. 15...Nf6!? seems to be asking for trouble, but it isn't easy to crack. 16.Qf7! Nf6; 17.Qxg7 Rg8; 18.Qh6 Qe5! White is only a pawn down now. Black, on the other hand, has taken care of king safety and it is the White kingside that is most vulnerable to attack. 19.Bh4?

White falls for a tactical trick that eliminates both queens and gives Black a clear advantage in the endgame. On the other hand, it is hard to find a good move for White, who probably must retreat the dark square bishop and try to survive Black's kingside attack. White offered the gambit in this game but Black's defense has turned the tables. 19...Qxh2+!; 20.Kxh2 Ng4+; 21.Kg1 Nxh6; 22.Bxe7+ Kxe7; 23.Bxh7 Rg7; 24.Bc2.

After a forced series of moves, Black emerges with an extra pawn and has to activate the queenside pieces and throw everything at White's kingside. White, on the other hand, must go into survival mode. 24...Bd7; 25.Nd2 a6; 26.Rfe1 Rag8; 27.g3 Ng4. 27...Rxc3+; 28.fxc3 Rxc3+; 29.Kf2 Rxc3 is not unreasonable with four pawns for the rook. 28.Kg2 Rh8; 29.Nf1 Kd6. Both kings are safe, at least for the moment. 30.f3 Nf6; 31.Rad1 Nh5!; 32.g4. Not much choice, but now f4 is a wonderful square for the knight. 32...Nf4+; 33.Kf2 Bb5; 34.Ne3.

34...Rc8? Up to now, Black has played well enough to earn a full point, but this is a strategically poor move because the knight gets chased from its powerful post. 34...Rh2+;

35.Kg1 Re2 would have been effective in maintaining a decisive advantage. 35.Rd4! Rgc7?? Must have been a time pressure blunder. 35...Rf7; 36.Bf5!! Rxc3; 37.Rxf4 exf5; 38.Rxf5 Rxf5; 39.Nxf5+ Kc5; 40.g5 Bd7! Black has lost much of the advantage, but not the game. 36.Rxf4 Rxc3; 37.Bh7. White is clearly better with an ambitious g-pawn. 37...R3c7; 38.Bb1 Rh8? 38...Rc1; 39.Rxc1 Rxc1; 40.Bg6 a5 keeps White in the game, as the a-pawn advances quickly. 39.Rf6! Bd7; 40.g5 Rg8; 41.f4 Rcc8? Time control for this game was 45 moves in 2 hours, so Black probably was still in time trouble. 41...Rc3 is still a lost position, but there is still play. 42.Nf5+ Kc5; 43.Ne7. Black resigned.

Supplement: 5.a3.

5.a3 can be played immediately, but it gives Black a number of additional options.

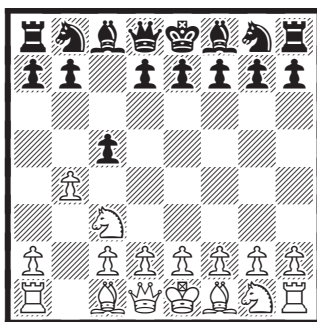
a) 5...Qa5!?! is also very interesting. There is no known way for White to gain an advantage.

b) 5...d4 is considered a very important line, recommended by French Defense authority John Watson. 6.Bb2 Nc6; 7.Bb5 (7.Bd3 has been suggested. 7...Qb6 looks like a sufficient response.) 7...Bd7; 8.0-0 (8.Qe2 can be met by Watson's 8...Qb6) 8...Nxe5?!; 9.Nxe5 Bxb5 allows White to unleash 10.Nxf7! Kxf7; 11.Qh5+ g6; 12.Qxb5 with a better game for White in Buecker vs. Uhlmann, 1991. I suggest 8...Qb6 as an improvement. 9.Bxc6 Bxc6; 10.Nxd4 bxa3! forces White to play Bc3, since 11.Bxa3 Qxd4 or 11.Nxa3 Bxa3; 12.Rxa3 Qxb2 or 11.Nxc6 axb2; 12.Rxa7 Rc8! are terrible for White.

c) 5...Nh6 takes advantage of White's failure to uncover the bishop at c1. 6.axb4 Bxb4; 7.c3 Be7; 8.d4 Nf5; 9.Bd3 Nc6; 10.g4 Nh4; 11.Nxh4 Bxh4; 12.0-0 was seen in Mortensen vs. Tisdall, 1987. 12...Bd7; 13.f4 Be7 was necessary, according to Harding, who provides no evaluation. White has some compensation for the pawn, but probably not quite enough.

MORE GAMBITS IN BRIEF

DUESSELDORF GAMBIT (VAN GEET OPENING) [A00]

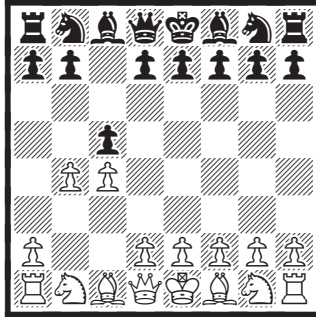


1.Nc3 c5
2.b4

The combination of a wing gambit with Nc3 rarely works. Here, that's all White has.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

ENGLISH WING GAMBIT (ENGLISH OPENING) [A30]

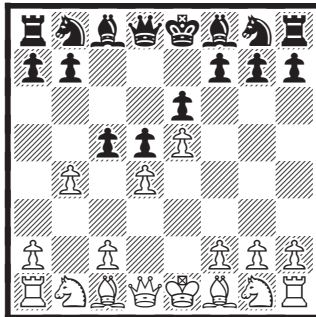


1.c4 c5
2.b4

This is the flip side of the Halibut, in a way, and suffers from the same drawback. The pawn at c4 doesn't help White. It only gets in the way and Black is free to counter with an eventual ...b5 or ...d5.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

FRENKEL GAMBIT (FRENCH DEFENSE) [C02]

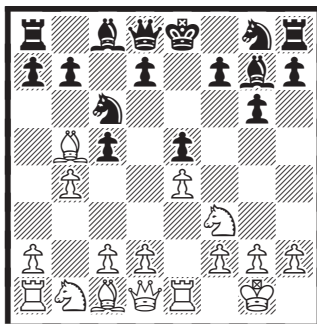


1.e4 e6
2.d4 d5
3.e5 c5
4.b4

This obscure wing gambit isn't mentioned in the opening encyclopedias or major books on the French, so it has a huge amount of surprise value. It doesn't have much else going for it. After capturing on b4, Black can use the wide open c-file effectively. White can get some play if Black eventually captures at a3, but that isn't advisable.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

GURGENIDZE VARIATION (SICILIAN DEFENSE) [B31]



1.e4	c5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	g6
4.O-O	Bg7
5.Re1	e5
6.b4	

This wing gambit makes a lot of sense. Because White can't expect any significant advantage against a prepared opponent, it isn't seen much in professional play. At the amateur level, Black will find it difficult to combat the usual pressure on the a3-f8 diagonal, because the Black bishop is fianchettoed. Bobby Fischer's use of a similar idea in his 1992 match against Spassky, after a preliminary capture at c6, renewed interest in the line.

Impression: Chances are about even. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it!

Analysis:

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bb5 g6; 4.O-O Bg7; 5.Re1 e5; 6.b4 cxb4. Black can capture the pawn in two ways, or can decline, though White will have an advantage if the pawn is not taken.

6...Nxb4; 7.c3! Nc6; 8.d4 exd4 (8...cxd4; 9.cxd4 exd4; 10.Nbd2 Nge7; 11.Nc4 0-0; 12.Nd6 a6; 13.Bc4 Qc7 was level in Bisguier vs. Kagan, 1971.) 9.e5!? Nge7; 10.cxd4 Nxd4; 11.Nxd4 cxd4; 12.Ba3 0-0; 13.Nd2 a6; 14.Bc4 d5; 15.exd6 Nf5 was equal in Lein vs. Taimanov, 1961.

6...Nd4. White hasn't yet taken up the challenge by capturing at d4. 7.Nxd4 cxd4; 8.c3 is untested, but looks good for White.

6...Qb6; 7.Bxc6 bxc6; 8.bxc5 Qxc5; 9.c3 Ba6; 10.Ba3 gave White an excellent game in Engedal vs. Naess, 1994.

6...d6; 7.bxc5 dxc5; 8.Bb2 Qc7; 9.Bxc6+ bxc6, Greabca vs. Zozulia, 1998, 10.Na3 followed by Nc4 with a good game for White.

7.a3. The usual wing gambit strategy is White's best. 7...bxa3.

7...Nge7 is a sensible and popular defense. 8.axb4 0-0 (8...Nxb4; 9.c3 Nbc6; 10.d4 exd4; 11.e5 0-0; 12.cxd4 a6; 13.Nc3 gave White plenty of compensation in Notaros vs. Deze, 1971.) 9.Bb2 (9.d3 d5!; 10.Bxc6 bxc6; 11.Nbd2 f6 brought equality in Grund vs. Vavra, 2000.) 9...d6; 10.Bxc6 Nxc6; 11.b5 Qb6; 12.Na3 Na5; 13.Bc3 Qc7, Wydrowski vs. Gudojc, 1995. 14.Qe2 and White is a bit better.

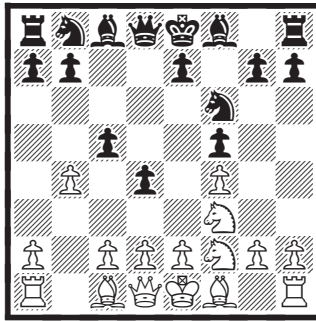
7...Qb6; 8.Bc4 Nge7; 9.axb4 Qxb4; 10.Bd5 Qd6 (10...Qb6; 11.Na3 0-0; 12.Nc4 gave White an edge in Santamaria vs. Suzuki, 1990.) 11.Nc3 0-0 with equality, Kapengut vs. Hasanova, 1985.

7...Qa5 8.Bxc6 dxc6 9.Bb2 b3 10.cxb3 Bg4 11.b4 Qc7 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 was a bit better for White in van der Wiel vs. Strating, 1995.

8.Nxa3 Nge7 9.Nc4 0-0 10.Nd6 Qc7 11.Ba3 a6 12.Bf1 b5 13.c3 with a complicated game in Schweber vs. Mecking, 1971.

Impression: Chances are about even. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it!

JENDROSSEK GAMBIT (VAN GEET OPENING) [A00]

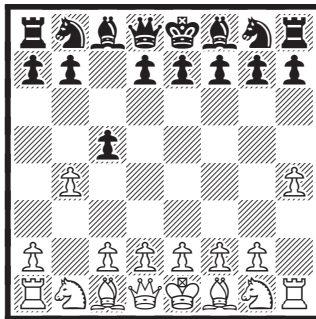


1.Nc3	d5
2.f4	d4
3.Ne4	f5
4.Nf2	Nf6
5.Nf3	c5
6.b4	

A very unlikely position, but White's wing gambit seems reasonable enough. I doubt we'll see many practical tests of this odd line.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

KADAS GAMBIT #1 (KADAS OPENING) [A00]

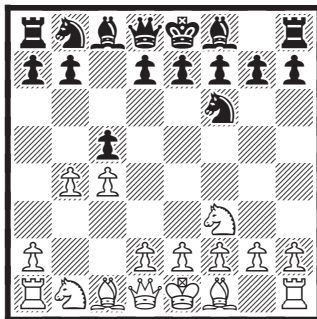


1.h4	c5
2.b4	

This gambit can also be reached via 1.b4 c5; 2.h4 cxb4, which is only slightly less improbable. In any case, it is a horrible gambit for White, who obtains absolutely nothing in the way of compensation.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

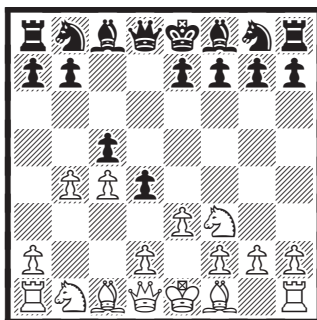
NAPOLITANO GAMBIT (ENGLISH OPENING) [A30]



1.c4 c5
 2.Nf3 Nf6
 3.b4

Bringing out both knights doesn't change anything as far as the Wing Gambit strategy is concerned. The control of e5 and d4 helps a little bit, but not significantly. **Impression:** Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

REVERSED BLUMENFELD GAMBIT (RETI OPENING) [A09]

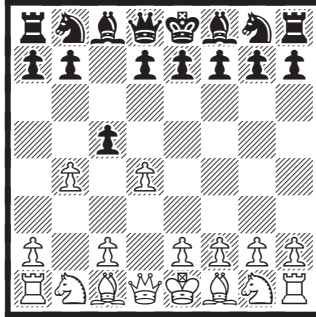


1.Nf3 d5
 2.c4 d4
 3.e3 c5
 4.b4

This gambit, first played by Reti but not repeated, is a reversed Blumenfeld Gambit. It has been seen somewhat frequently in the past, but is not so common now. I can't imagine that there is anything wrong with it, and a number of strong players of the past used it. Black probably should decline with 4...e5!?, only capturing at e3 after White captures at e5.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Endangered.

ZILBERMINTS BENONI GAMBIT (BENONI DEFENSE) [A43]



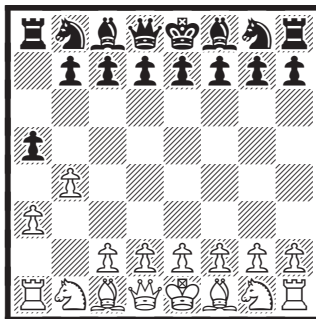
1.d4 c5
2.b4

Lev Zilbermints strikes again. Will Black get confused and take the wrong pawn? Is there a wrong pawn? Clearly Black should capture, and taking the b-pawn makes more sense as the pawn at b4 can be protected by ...e6 or ...Nc6 as needed. No serious games on record with this one.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

WHITE GAMBITS THE B-PAWN TO BLACK'S A-PAWN

POLISH GAMBIT (ANDERSEN OPENING) [A00]



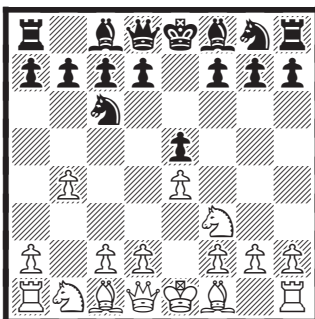
1.a3 a5
2.b4

This gambit doesn't have much of a chance of being seen, as neither 1.a3 a5 nor 1.b4 a5 are normally played. There isn't much merit to the gambit, either. Black simply captures at b4, and White cannot recapture because the a-pawn is pinned. White can continue in gambit style with 3.Bb2, but there is no visible compensation for the pawn.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

WHITE GAMBITS THE B-PAWN TO A BLACK KNIGHT

PASCHMAN WING GAMBIT (KING PAWN GAME) [C44]

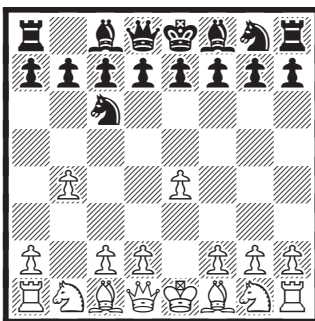


1.e4 e5
 2.Nf3 Nc6
 3.b4

This is a poor idea compared to the Evans Gambit because Black hasn't yet wasted a tempo by moving the bishop. So 3...Bxb4 is the correct capture, when 4.c3 Ba5; 5.Bc4 is a tempo down on the Evans.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

WHEELER GAMBIT (NIMZOWITSCH DEFENSE) [B00]



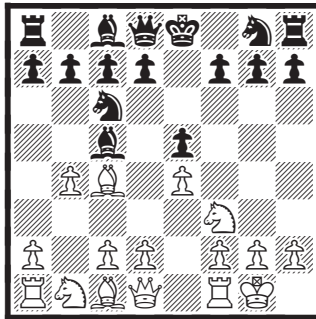
1.e4 Nc6
 2.b4

White gets only a strong center for the pawn, but remains behind in development. You might want to take this for a spin in amateur contests, but not against strong players.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

WHITE GAMBITS THE B-PAWN TO A BLACK BISHOP

FEATURED GAMBIT: EVANS GAMBIT (ITALIAN GAME) [C51]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	

In the 1990s, the dust was cleared off the old Evans Gambit and a renaissance was soon underway with top stars using the opening as White. Nigel Short is among the fans of the White side. The b-pawn is sacrificed to lure the enemy bishop to a square where it can be attacked by a pawn at c3. Then White can play d4 with a very strong center. The debate over the merits of various offensive and defensive strategies has been raging for a while, and there are many lines proposed by theoreticians that await practical tests. The Evans Gambit is once again a major opening and a top 25 gambit. It may well move up the ladder in the future.

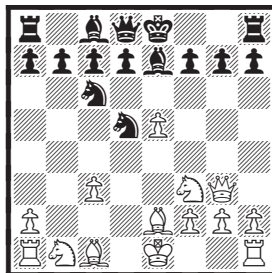
Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Common.

KASPAROV vs. ANAND

Tal Memorial, 1995

1.e4 e5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bc4 Bc5; 4.b4 Bxb4. The ancient Evans Gambit is rejuvenated in the hands of World Champion Kasparov and a number of top stars who discovered the value of the opening in the 1990s.

5.c3 Be7; 6.d4 Na5; 7.Be2!? exd4; 8.Qxd4! A new approach at the time. 8...Nf6?! Black should create some breathing room by advancing the d-pawn, for example. 8...d6; 9.Qxg7 Bf6; 10.Qg3 Nc6; 11.0-0 Qe7 with a more solid position for Black. Opposite wing castling is likely. 9.e5 Nc6. An intermezzo to get the knight back to a useful square. 10.Qh4 Nd5; 11.Qg3.



11...g6. A necessary concession, weakening the dark squares. Castling was out of the question. 11...0-0?!; 12.Bh6 g6 might be playable if White gives up the beautiful bishop for the rook, but Kasparov intended to continue the attack with 13.h4!? 12.0-0 Nb6. Castling was still dangerous. 12...0-0; 13.Bh6 Re8; 14.c4 Nb6; 15.Nc3 d6; 16.Rad1. The pin ties down Black's position. 16...Nd7; 17.Ng5! dxe5 (17...Ndx5; 18.f4) 18.f4 was Kasparov's plan, the point being that 18...Bc5+; 19.Kh1 Bd4; 20.fxe5 Bxe5, which forks the knight and queen, runs into the clever reply 21.Qf3! since 21...Qf6 leads to the win of the f-pawn after 22.Qe3! 13.c4.

If only Black could castle! 13...d6. 13...0-0; 14.Bh6 Re8; 15.Nc3 d6 transposes to the note on 12...0-0. 14.Rd1. The pin is established.14...Nd7; 15.Bh6! White has sacrifice one pawn and is willing to give up another at e5. Black is unable to castle however, and despite the cluster of Black pieces surrounding the king, has no real defense at f7.

15...Ncxe5. It doesn't matter which knight Black uses, in the end, f7 is defended. Kasparov shows why taking with the pawn would have been bad. 15...dxe5; 16.Nc3 has Black gasping for useful moves. 16...Bf8; 17.Bg5 f6. Interposing the bishop would just give White two free tempi to get the knight to d5. 18.Be3 Bg7; 19.c5! liberating the c4-square. 19...0-0; 20.Bc4+ Kh8; 21.Nh4! Threatens to destroy the barrier with a sacrifice at g6, so Black must defend with 21...Ne7; 22.Nd5 Nxd5. Kasparov now planned the destructive intermezzo 23.Nxg6+! hxg6 and only then 24.Bxd5 after which Black gets clobbered on the h-file, for example 24...Bh6; 25.Qh4 Qe7; 26.Qxh6+ Qh7; 27.Qxh7+ Kxh7; 28.c6! with a new threatened fork at b7. 28...bxc6; 29.Bxc6 is yet another fork, and Black must lose significant material. 16.Nxe5.

16...Nxe5. This time the refutation of the pawn capture is simpler. 16...dxe5; 17.Nc3 Bf8; 18.Rxd7! Kxd7; or else 18...Qxe5+. 19.Rd1+ Bd6; 20.c5 Qe7; 21.Bb5+ and if Black interposes the c-pawn, then the bishop at d6 falls with check. Running away is not possible. 21...Ke6; 22.Qg4+ f5 (22...Kf6; 23.Nd5#) 23.Qc4+ Kf6; 24.Nd5+ Kf7; 25.Nxe7+ etc. 17.Nc3 f6.

17...Nd7 is a tough defense to crack. Kasparov suggests 18.Ne4! getting the knight to g5 as quickly as possible. 18...f5 (18...Bf8; 19.Qc3 attacks the rook. 19...f6 [19...Rg8; 20.Bg5 Be7; 21.Qe3 Bxg5; 22.Nf6+ Kf8; 23.Nxh7+ Kg7; 24.Nxg5 Re8 and Black has weathered the storm.] 20.Bf4!) 19.Ng5 Nc5; 20.Bf3 is good for White.

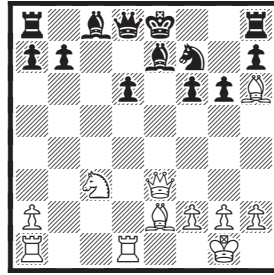
18.c5! White uses the pin on the c-file to free up c4, though it is presently covered by the knight at e5. The pressure mounts at d6. 18...Nf7. Black naturally defends the flashpoint at d6. 19.cxd6 cxd6.

19...Bxd6 isn't any better. On 20.Bb5+, Black can't play 20...Bd7 (20...c6; 21.Bf4 is a win because 21...cxb5 loses to 22.Bxd6 Nxd6; 23.Rxd6.) 21.Re1+ Be5; 22.Bg7 Rg8; 23.Bxd7+ Kxd7; 24.Qh3+. There are some splendid tactics in this line.

24...Ke7; 25.Qxh7 Qd4; 26.Rac1! (26.Ne4 Qxa1; 27.Rxa1 Bxa1; 28.Qxg6 allows a clever defense with 28...Rae8! because 29.Bxf6+ Kf8!! is a discovered attack against the White knight, which is pinned to a back rank mate. White's queen and bishop are also attacked, and there are no checks to be given.) 26...Ng5; 27.Qxg6 Ne6 generates counterplay because the bishop at g7 is pinned and apparently lost. White has a win based on the fork at d5 which seems to be out of the question. It is just a matter of getting the queen out of the way and this needs a double deflection! 28.Rxe5!! Qxe5 (28...fxe5; 29.Qf6+ Kd7; 30.Qf7+ wins.) 29.Bxf6+!! A deflection and a decoy! 29...Qxf6; 30.Nd5+ Kd6; 31.Qxf6 Kxd5; 32.Rd1+. Black will be mated.

On the other hand, 24...Kc6 runs into 25.Rac1!! There are deadly consequences to White's discovered check unless the king finds shelter. 25...b6; 26.Qe6+ Nd6; 27.Nd5+ Kb7; 28.Rxc7+ forces Black to get what he can for the queen with 28...Qxc7; 29.Nxc7 Kxc7 but after 30.Bxf6 Bxf6; 31.Qxf6, Black doesn't have enough, and it is not easy to hold on to what he has.

20.Qe3!



The pin on the e-file is worth the bishop at h6. 20...Nxh6. 20...Qb6 might have been wiser. 21.Bb5+ Bd7 (21...Kd8; 22.Qe2 Nxh6; 23.Nd5 is a fork that creates a mate threat at e7.) 22.Bxd7+ Kxd7; 23.Qh3+ f5; 24.Nd5 gives White an attack, according to Kasparov. 21.Qxh6 Bf8; 22.Qe3+! Back to the e-file! 22...Kf7; 23.Nd5. White blocks the d-pawn, thereby suffocating Black's position as well as preserving an eventual threat of Bc4 followed by discovered check. 23...Be6?!

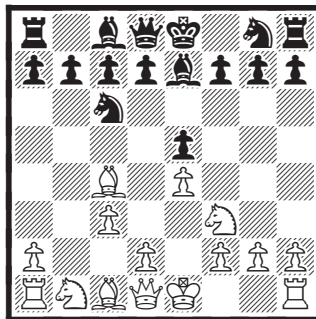
23...Bg7 looks appealing, but it fails. 24.Bc4 Be6; 25.Bb3! Re8; 26.Nf4 d5; 27.Nxe6 Rxe6; 28.Rxd5! An amazing position reached in analysis by Kasparov. There is much to be discovered here. 28...Rxe3 (28...Qb6; 29.Rd7+ Kf8; 30.Qxe6 Qxe6; 31.Bxe6 gives White an extra rook.) 29.Rxd8+. Discovered check and a new attack at a8. 29...Rxb3; 30.Rxa8 Rb2; 31.Rxa7. White is up the exchange.

23...Bd7 was the best defense. 24.Rac1 Bc6; 25.Bc4 Kg7; 26.Nf4 Bd7; 27.Bd5 is nevertheless very uncomfortable for Black.

24.Nf4! Qe7. Black is almost out of the woods, but Kasparov has a subtle but effective move which sets up an awesome threat. 25.Re1!

Black resigned. The basic threat is Bf3 followed by Nxe6 and then Bf5.

ANDERSSEN VARIATION [C51]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Be7

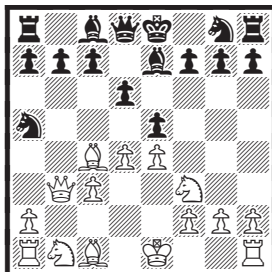
This is a sensible and highly popular defense to the Evans Gambit. The bishop retreats to e7 to help protect the king. Black is not behind in development and can play ...Nf6 followed by castling. Black often chooses to drive the knight back with ...Na5, seen in the Cordel line.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Rare.

Analysis:

6.d4. Kasparov's use of this line caused a lot of re-evaluation of old analysis. For **6.Qb3**, see supplement. **6...d6.** Black should hold on to the e5-square, and in any case, the bishop at c8 needs some breathing room. This move is not best, but it illustrates the themes of White's attack nicely. In any case, it is dismissed a bit too lightly on the basis of a old Bobby Fischer simul game. Black usually plays **6...Na5** to prevent the White queen from getting to b3. Chances are about even in the main line, for example **7.Be2 (7.Nxe5 Nxc4; 8.Nxc4 isn't particularly promising, whether Black chooses to move the pawn to d6, as in Sveshnikov vs. Sermek, 2001, or to d5, as in Barthel vs. Jackova, 2001.) 7...d6 (7...Nf6; 8.dxe5 Ng8. Richard Moody claims this is a good line for Black, but White seems to have a clear advantage.) 8.Qa4+ c6; 9.dxe5 dxe5; 10.Nxe5 Nf6; 11.0-0 b5; 12.Qc2 0-0, Short vs. Svidler, 2000.**

7.Qb3. Pressure on the a1-g8 diagonal is one of the key elements of the Evans Gambit strategy. **7...Na5!**



8.Bxf7+. **8.Qa4+ c6; 9.Bd3 b5; 10.Qc2 Bf6; 11.dxe5 dxe5; 12.0-0 Ne7; 13.Ba3 0-0** with a much better game for Black, as seen in the McDonnell vs. De La Bourdonnais match, 1834. **8...Kf8; 9.Qa4 Kxf7; 10.Qxa5.** White has easy development, a strong center, and an uncastled king as a target. And he's not even down a pawn! **10...b6.**

10...exd4; 11.cxd4 b6 (11...Nf6; 12.Nc3 c6; 13.Qa4 Rf8; 14.Qb3+ d5; 15.0-0 Kg8; 16.Bg5 Kh8; 17.Bxf6 Bxf6; 18.exd5 is good for White. Bademian vs. Kraidman, 1976. But **11...c6; 12.Qxd8 Bxd8** looks fully equal, Malbran vs. Rodi, 1992.) **12.Qb5 c5; 13.0-0** gives White a slight advantage. Kan vs. Palmer, 1974

10...c6; 11.Qxd8 Bxd8; 12.dxe5 dxe5; 13.Nxe5+ is good for White. De Jong vs. Verhoeff, 1996.

11.Qa4. **11.Qb5 Bd7; 12.Qe2 Bf6; 13.0-0 Ne7; 14.dxe5 dxe5; 15.Nxe5+ Bxe5; 16.Qh5+ Ng6; 17.f4.** White has a strong attack. Adams vs. Griffiths, 1985. **11...Bd7. 11...Bg4; 12.Nbd2 Bf6; 13.h3** gives White a slight advantage. Tammiaho vs. Salmela, 1999. **12.Qc2. 12.Qc4+ Be6; 13.Qe2!?** gives White an edge. **12...Bf6; 13.Nbd2 Nh6; 14.dxe5 dxe5; 15.Nc4 Re8; 16.0-0 Kg8; 17.Rd1 Nf7; 18.a4.** White has a slight edge. De Graaff vs. De, 1965

Supplement: 6.Qb3

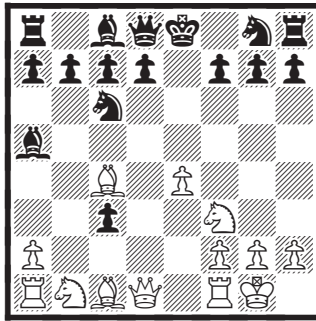
The direct assault on f7 usually does not succeed. **6...Nh6; 7.d4.**

7.0-0 Na5; 8.Qa4 Nxc4; 9.Qxc4 is the alternative. Moody devotes several pages of prose to justifying White's play in abstract terms. However, his analysis is not very deep. **9...d6?!** is the only move considered by Moody. **10.Rd1.** Here, instead of **10...Ng4**, why not advance the f-pawn? **10...f5; 11.d3 Nf7** with a much better game for Black. In any case, Black has better in **9...f6!; 10.d4 Nf7** with a fine game as far as I am concerned. **7...Na5; 8.Qb5 Nxc4; 9.Bxh6**

Nd6! A fine move discovered by Lev Gutman. 9...gxh6; 10.Qxc4 exd4; 11.cxd4 c6 is the alternative, and it isn't bad for Black either.

10.Qxe5 Nxe4!; 11.Bxg7 Rg8. Black has equalized. Two examples: 12.0-0 d5; 13.Nfd2 Be6; 14.Nxe4 dxe4; Bericat vs. Geider, 1997. 12.Qxe4 Rxc7; 13.0-0 d5; 14.Qe5 Kf8; 15.Re1 Qd6; 16.Qe2 Bh3; 17.g3 f6; 18.Nbd2 Kg8; 19.c4 c6; 20.Rab1 Bf8; 21.cxd5 is Morozevich vs. Bacrot, 2000. 21...Qxd5; 22.Ne4 Qf7 would have equalized.

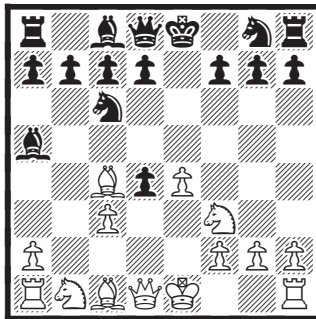
COMPROMISED DEFENSE [C52]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.d4	exd4
7.O-O	dx3

The Compromised Defense allows White to play uncompromisingly with 8.Qb3. Black can then defend with 8...Qe7 or 8...Qf6, but White has enough compensation to cover all three pawns. One pawn will be quickly regained with Nxc3.
Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

DUFRENSE DEFENSE [C52]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.d4	exd4

The Dufrense Defense is the main line of the Evans. White usually captures, and then Black can choose from several interesting defenses. The most reliable is 7...Nge7. The opening is best known from the famous "Evergreen Game," presented below.
Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Rare.

ANDERSSSEN vs. DUFRESNE

Berlin, 1852

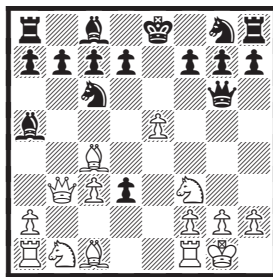
1.e4 e5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bc4 Bc5; 4.b4 Bxb4; 5.c3 Ba5; 6.d4 exd4. 6...d6; 7.Qb3 remains a hot topic, and generally it seems that Black doesn't really avoid annoying complications, so capturing the pawn immediately makes the most sense. 7...Qd7 and now:

8.dxe5! Bb6 (8...dxe5 is also playable.) 9.Nbd2 dxe5; 10.Ba3 Na5 is the old main line. Black seems to be fine after Euwe's 11.Qb4 c5; 12.Qb2 Nxc4; 13.Nxc4 Qe6; for example 14.Nfxe5 Nf6; 15.Qb5+ Bd7; 16.Nxd7 Qxe4+; 17.Kd2 Qd5+; 18.Kc2 Qxd7, Grosar vs. Gross, 1995.

8.0-0 Bb6; 9.Bb5 a6; 10.Bxc6 Qxc6; 11.Nbd2 exd4; 12.cxd4 Nf6 gets Black equality. White can easily overplay the position, for example 13.e5? Be6!; 14.Qd3 dxe5; 15.Nxe5 Qd5; 16.Ndf3 Rd8; 17.Qa3 Bxd4 and Black won in Matthew vs. Purkiss, 2001. 9.Rd1 is proposed by Moody, but Harding counters with 9...Na5; 10.Qb4 Nxc4; 11.Qxc4 Qe6!, where White has to exchange into a bad position: 12.Qxe6+ Bxe6; 13.dxe5 dxe5; 14.Nxe5 Nf6; 15.Nd2 0-0-0. I agree with Harding that White has a real uphill battle to hold the game, as the pawns are so weak.

7.0-0. In this game, we'll look at ways to decline to offer at c3. Black has tried many plans, a few of which are covered in the supplement.

7...d3. For 7...dxc3, the so-called "Compromised Defense," see Fischer vs. Fine. 8.Qb3!? 8.Re1 is considered best, Prins vs. Fuderer, 1948. 8...Qf6; 9.e5 Qg6.



10.Re1. 10.Ba3!? Nge7; 11.Nbd2 0-0; 12.Rae1 Bb6; 13.Qb5 d5!; 14.exd6 cxd6; 15.Bxd3 Bf5 brought Black equality in Gabrielsen vs. Zimny, 2001. 10...Nge7; 11.Ba3 b5. 11...d5; 12.exd6 cxd6 is a reasonable alternative for Black. 12.Qxb5 Rb8; 13.Qa4 Bb6; 14.Nbd2 Bb7; 15.Ne4 Qf5?; 16.Bxd3 Qh5. Castling or pushing the d-pawn are options, but White is better in any case. At this point Anderssen could have simply gone queen hunting with 17.Ng3, but chose instead to try a more drastic plan, which resulted in one of the greatest chess games of all time. 17.Nf6+!? 17.Ng3 Qh6; 18.Bc1 Qe6; 19.Bc4 Nd5 (19...Qg6; 20.Nh4 Qg4; 21.Bxf7+) 20.Ng5 Qg4; 21.Re4 would finish the game without any troubles, but then chess would have lost one of the jewels from its crown! 17...gxf6; 18.exf6 Rg8! The threat of ...Qxf3 gives Black some apparent counterplay, but White plays a deadly quiet move which offers the knight, and more, to get at the enemy king.

19.Rad1! Much attention has been paid to 19.Be4 Rg4, but Anderssen's instincts were correct, and this is indeed the best way to continue the attack. Although there is no immediate pressure on the d-file, the d7-square is more vulnerable than it looks! 19...Qxf3? Had Black appreciated the danger, he might have tried a little sacrifice of his own. 19...Rxc2+!?; 20.Kxc2 Ne5; but anyway White gets to drop the bomb. 21.Qxd7+!! Kxd7; 22.Bg6+ Ke6; 23.Bxh5 Rg8+; 24.Kh3! N7g6; 25.Bg4+ Kxf6; 26.Nxe5 Nxe5; 27.Be7+! Kxe7; 28.Rxe5+ and White is the exchange up, but the position is not entirely hopeless. 20.Rxe7+! 19...Rg4 20.Re4 Rxe4 was safest.

20...Nxe7!? Black was busted in any case, and this move at least has the merit of leading to an artistic finish.

20...Kd8 would have led to a less artistic conclusion, but White would still have an opportunity to show a little elegance. 21.Rxd7+! Kc8 (21...Kxd7; 22.Bf5+ Ke8; 23.Bd7+ Kd8; 24.Bxc6+ Qxd1+; 25.Qxd1+ Kc8; 26.Qd7#) 22.Rd8+! Kxd8 (22...Nxd8 would lead to a very pretty finish similar to the game. 23.Qd7+!! Kxd7; 24.Bf5+ Ke8; 25.Bd7#) 23.Be2+ Nd4; 24.Bxf3 Bxf3; 25.g3! White sacrifices the rook at d1 but winds up with a winning endgame. 25...Bxd1; 26.Qxd1 c5; 27.cxd4 cxd4; 28.Be7+ Kc8; 29.Qc2+ and White picks off both of the Black kingside pawns, then pushes the f-pawn .

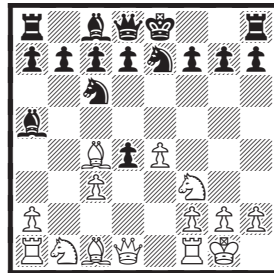
21.Qxd7+!! The queen sacrifice leads to a forced mate. 21...Kxd7.

22.Bf5+ Ke8; 23.Bd7+ Kf8; 24.Bxe7#. In the final position, Black has a queen and rook for two pawns, and threatens multiple checkmates. But White got there first!

Supplement: Options for Black at move 7.

Black has good alternatives to 7...d3: 7...Nge7 (A), 7...Bb6 (B) and 7...d6 (C)

A) 7...Nge7 is the modern line.



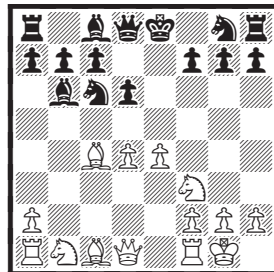
White doesn't get anywhere by capturing at d4: 8.cxd4 d5; 9.exd5 Nxd5; 10.Qb3 Be6; 11.Qxb7 Ndb4; 12.d5 Rb8; 13.Qxb8 Qxb8; 14.dxe6 fxe6; 15.Nc3 0-0 with a clear advantage for Black. Sulskis vs. Svidler, 2001.

The normal move is 8.Ng5. Then 8...Ne5!?, originally developed by Rellstab over three decades ago. This move is very interesting.

9.Nxf7 Nxf7; 10.Bxf7+ Kxf7; 11.Qh5+ g6; 12.Qxa5 d3 (12...d5!? would be my choice, as in the next note.) 13.Rd1 d6; 14.Rxd3 with a clearly preferable game for White, Bakhmatov vs. Leveikina, 2001.

9.Bxf7+ Nxf7; 10.Nxf7 Kxf7; 11.Qh5+ g6; 12.Qxa5 d5! is yet another case of Lasker's d5-break thwarting White's plans. The resulting position is about even.)

B) 7...Bb6. 8.cxd4 d6 reaches the "Normal Position" of the Evans.



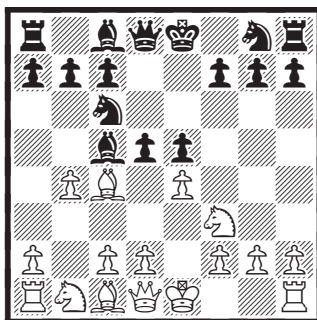
a) 9.h3!? h6; 10.Re1 Nge7; 11.Nc3 0-0; 12.Be3 Na5; 13.Bd3 d5; 14.Nxd5 Nxd5; 15.exd5 Qxd5 was even in Ortiz vs. Navarro, 2001.

b) 9.Qb3!? Nxd4! This is Wietek's move. 10.Bxf7+ Kf8; 11.Nxd4 Bxd4; 12.Bxg8 Rxc8; 13.Bb2 Bxb2; 14.Qxb2 was a bit better for White in Van der Wiel vs. Welling, 1986.

c) 9.Nc3 can be met by 9...Bg4!? (9...Na5 is Harding's preference.) 10.Bb5 Kf8; 11.Be3 Nf6!? Black more commonly plants the knight at e7 in this line, but this plan also deserves consideration. 12.Qa4 Ne7; 13.e5 Nfd5; 14.Nxd5 Nxd5; 15.Bg5 f6!; 16.exf6 Nxf6; 17.Ne5 dxe5; 18.dxe5 Qd5; 19.Qb4+ Qc5; 20.Qxc5+ Bxc5; 21.exf6 c6; 22.fxg7+ Kxg7 and when all is said and done, Black has nothing to complain about, Rykalin vs. Feoktistov, 2001.

C) 7...d6. 8.Qb3!? Qe7; 9.cxd4 Bb6; 10.e5 Na5; 11.Qd3 Nxc4; 12.Qxc4 c6; 13.exd6 Qxd6 was clearly better for Black in Priborsky vs. Virostko, 2001.

HEIN COUNTERGAMBIT [C51]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	d5

A very radical reaction to the Evans Gambit! An early ...d5 is usually a good idea against a White gambit, but not here. The chaos in the center is quickly resolved after 5.exd5 Nxb4, and White can then castle and set sights on the e-file.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

IZVEKOV vs. ZUBAKIN

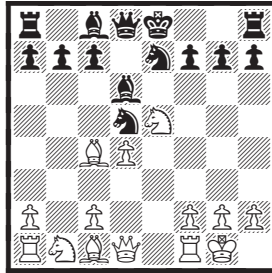
Russian Correspondence Championship, 1911-14

This game was awarded a brilliancy prize. 1.e4 e5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bc4 Bc5; 4.b4 d5; 5.exd5 Nxb4; 6.0-0 Ne7.

6...Nxd5; 7.Nxe5 c6; 8.d4 Bb6; 9.Nc3 Nge7; 10.Ba3 Be6 allows White to trade pieces and secure a strong game, though the simple 11.Ne4 is also strong. 11.Bxd5 Bxd5; 12.Bxe7 Kxe7; 13.Nxd5+ Qxd5; 14.Re1 Kf8; 15.c4 Qd8; 16.Qf3 Qc7; 17.d5 Bc5; 18.dxc6 bxc6; 19.Rad1 Re8; 20.Rd7. Black resigned. Anderssen vs. Hein, 1869.

6...Nf6; 7.Nxe5 Nbx5; 8.d4 Bd6 (8...Be7; 9.Bb3 0-0; 10.c4 Nb6; 11.Bb2 c6; 12.Nd2 a5; 13.a4 Bb4 was about even. Felgaer vs. Pierrot, 2000.) 9.Bg5 c6; 10.Nd2 0-0; 11.Qf3 set up a nice attacking position for White in Schiffers vs. Pillsbury, 1896.

7.Nxe5 Nbx5. 7...0-0; 8.d4 Bd6; 9.Nc3 Bf5; 10.Bb3 a5; 11.a3 a4; 12.Nxa4 Nbx5; 13.c4 Rxa4; 14.cxd5 brought White the advantage in Morphy vs. Salmon, 1858. 8.d4 Bd6.

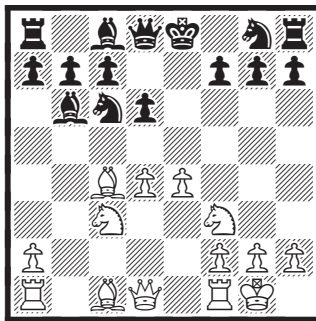


9.Re1. 9.Bg5 Be6; 10.Bb5+ c6 invites White to win the queen and a couple of pawns, but Black gets three minor pieces in return. **11.Nxc6 bxc6; 12.Bxc6+ Nxc6; 13.Bxd8 Rxd8; 14.c4 Nde7; 15.d5 Be5; 16.Na3 Nb8; 17.Rb1 Bf5; 18.Rb7 Rd7; 19.Rxd7 Nxd7; 20.Re1 0-0; 21.c5 Bf6; 22.d6** eventually led to a White win in Zukertort vs. Schmid & Seydel, 1885. **9...0-0; 10.Bb2 b5; 11.Be2 f6; 12.Nd3 c6; 13.Nd2 Ng6; 14.Ne4 Bb8; 15.Ba3 f5; 16.Ng3 Nc3; 17.Qc1 f4; 18.Bf3 fxg3; 19.Bxf8 Qxf8; 20.Bxc6.**

20...Nf4. 20...gxf2+; 21.Nxf2 Bxh2+; 22.Kh1 Qxf2; 23.Kxh2 Qh4+; 24.Kg1 Nf4 with a strong attack. **21.Qd2 Nxd3!**

22.cxd3? 22.hxg3 Nxe1; 23.Qxc3! is much better for White, for example **23...Bf5; 24.Rxe1 Bd6; 25.Qb3+ Kh8; 26.Bxa8. 22...gxf2+; 23.Qxf2 Bxh2+!** White must have missed this. Black won easily: **24.Kf1 Bf5; 25.Re3 Rc8; 26.d5 Qc5; 27.Rf3 Qxf2+; 28.Kxf2 Bg4; 29.g3 Bxf3; 30.Kxf3 Rd8; 31.a3 a6; 32.Bb7 Rd6; 33.Kg2 Bxg3; 34.Kxg3 Nxd5; 35.Rc1 Nf6; 36.Rc3 g5; 37.Kf3 Kf7; 38.Ke2 Kg6; 39.Rc8 Rb6; 40.Ba8 a5; 41.Kd2 g4; 42.d4 h5; 43.d5 Kf5; 44.Bc6 b4; 45.a4 g3; 46.Rf8 g2.** White resigned.

MORPHY ATTACK [C51]



- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3.Bc4 | Bc5 |
| 4.b4 | Bxb4 |
| 5.c3 | Bc5 |
| 6.d4 | exd4 |
| 7.O-O | d6 |
| 8.cxd4 | Bb6 |
| 9.Nc3 | |

The Morphy Attack is clearly the logical plan for White. The ideal pawn center is kept intact and White will soon complete development. There is typical gambit compensation after **9...Bg4; 10.Bb5!** Black should then slide the king to f8, though the castling privilege is forfeited.

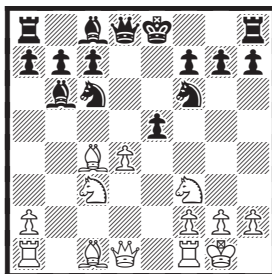
Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

MORPHY vs. HAMPTON**London, 1858**

1.e4 e5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bc4 Bc5; 4.b4 Bxb4; 5.c3 Bc5. Normally the bishop retreats to a5 or e7. This line can be merely transpositional if the bishop eventually lands at b6. 6.0-0.

6.d4 exd4; 7.0-0 is an alternative plan, which can lead to normal lines if the bishop later retreats to b6 (see 5...Ba5 lines). Black has some interesting options. 7...d3!? (7...dxc3; 8.Bxf7+!? Kxf7; 9.Qd5+ Kf8; 10.Qxc5+ d6; 11.Qe3 c2; 12.Na3 Qf6; 13.Nxc2 remains unclear.) 8.Ng5 Nh6; 9.Nxf7! Nxf7; 10.Bxf7+ Kxf7; 11.Qh5+ g6; 12.Qxc5 d6 led to an exciting, unbalanced game where the extra pawn is irrelevant. Rabięga vs. Haznedaroglu, 2001. White can also try 7.cxd4 Bb4+; 8.Bd2 (8.Nbd2 Bc3!) 8...Qe7; 9.0-0 with enough compensation to justify the gambit.)

6...d6; 7.d4. We can see that White has built up an ideal central formation, supported by both pieces and pawns. 7...exd4; 8.cxd4 Bb6; 9.Nc3 Nf6. Black tries to develop quickly, but the central pawns now advance with devastating effect. 10.e5 dxe5.

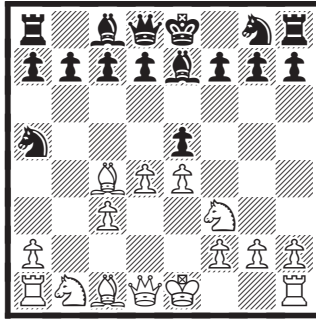


11.Ba3. A very strong move which prevents Black from castling. 11...Bg4. 11...exd4; 12.Re1+ Be6; 13.Bxe6 fxe6; 14.Rxe6+ Kd7; 15.Ng5 h6; 16.Rxf6 gxf6; 17.Qg4+ Ke8; 18.Qe6+. 12.Qb3. White strikes at the vulnerable f7-square. 12...Bh5; 13.dxe5 Ng4; 14.Rad1 Qc8. White has almost all of his pieces in the attack. The position can hardly be improved because the rook at f1, the remaining spectator, is needed there to guard the pawn at f2. So it is time to strike. 15.e6.

15...f6. 15...fxe6; 16.Bxe6 Qb8; 17.Bxg4 Bxg4; 18.Rfe1+. 16.Qb5. Attacking the hanging bishop at h5. 16...Bg6; 17.Bd5. Here Black resigned. The pressure at c6 is too much to bear.

EVANS GAMBITS IN BRIEF

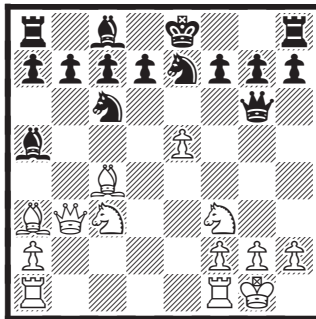
ANDERSSEN VARIATION: CORDEL LINE [C51]



- | | |
|-------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3.Bc4 | Bc5 |
| 4.b4 | Bxb4 |
| 5.c3 | Be7 |
| 6.d4 | Na5 |

The position after 7.Be2 remains quiet for a while, but the offside knight adds to White's compensation. White can also settle for equality with 7.Nxe5 Nxc4; 8.Nxc4, but Black will have the benefit of the bishop pair to offset White's strong center. **Impression:** Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Endangered.

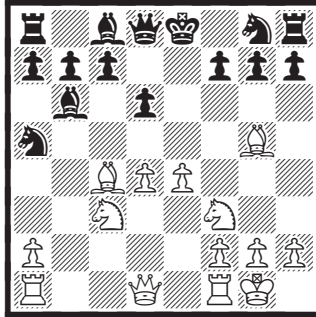
COMPROMISED DEFENSE: MAIN LINE [C52]



- | | | | |
|-------|------|---------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 | 8.Qb3 | Qf6 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 | 9.e5 | Qg6 |
| 3.Bc4 | Bc5 | 10.Nxc3 | Nge7 |
| 4.b4 | Bxb4 | 11.Ba3 | |
| 5.c3 | Ba5 | | |
| 6.d4 | exd4 | | |
| 7.O-O | dxc3 | | |

White's bishops act like lasers and despite all the extra pawns, Black is under tremendous pressure. Castling gets the king out of the center but White keeps adding pressure with Rad1 and can eventually play Bd3 and Ne4 to bring the attack to the kingside. Black has problems developing and coordinating the pieces. **Impression:** Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

GOERING ATTACK: [C51]

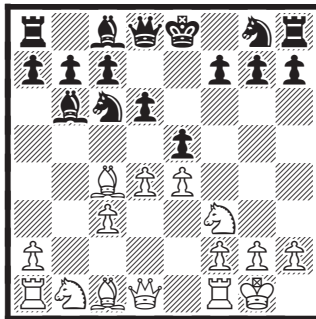


1.e4	e5	8.cxd4	Bb6
2.Nf3	Nc6	9.Nc3	Na5
3.Bc4	Bc5	10.Bg5	
4.b4	Bxb4		
5.c3	Bc5		
6.d4	exd4		
7.O-O	d6		

It is probably no accident that the Goering Attack resembles the Goering Gambit in having a strong center and much better development as compensation for the pawn. Black is in for a long tough devense, and any gambiteer will be happy to sit on the White side.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

LASKER DEFENSE: [C52]

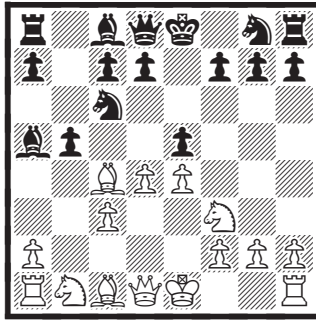


1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.O-O	d6
7.d4	Bb6

This is a very sensible approach for Black. As with much of the older analysis on the Evans, this line has undergone some re-evaluation, but not enough to bring it back to popular status. White has 7.Qb3, an annoying move, which renders this line unlikely to appear except as improvisation.

Impression: White looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

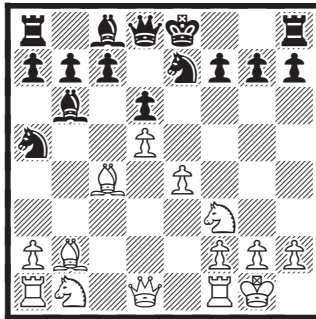
LEONHARDT COUNTERGAMBIT: [C52]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.d4	b5

This one will come as a complete shock to White, but after the obvious capture at b5, all Black has managed to do is deflect the bishop from the a1-g8 diagonal and keep some pressure at f7. After returning the pawn, Black is a little bit worse but the defense might be used in amateur games or as a surprise weapon. Harding considers 7.Bd5 stronger, but I think 7...Nge7; 8.dxe5 O-O is fine for Black.
Impression: White looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

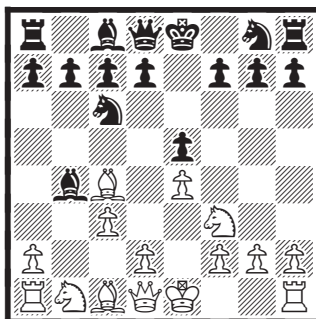
PAULSEN VARIATION [C51]



1.e4	e5	8.cxd4	Bb6
2.Nf3	Nc6	9.d5	Na5
3.Bc4	Bc5	10.Bb2	Ne7
4.b4	Bxb4		
5.c3	Bc5		
6.d4	exd4		
7.O-O	d6		

Black's knight is left offside when the bishop retreats to d3, and if Black castles on the kingside, one has to be concerned with the possibility of a huge attack. The knight at e7 will have to move to g6 and bravely guard the king.
Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

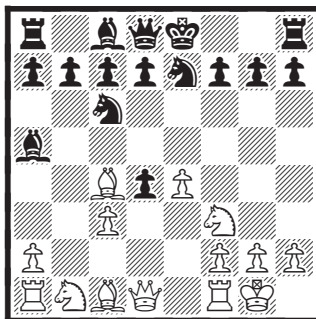
MAIN LINE [C52]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5

In the main lines of the Evans, the bishop retreats to a5, often slipping back later to b6. Some of the same positions can be reached by 5...Bc5. White chooses between an immediate d4 and castling, but both moves are likely to be seen at some point. **Impression:** Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Somewhat common.

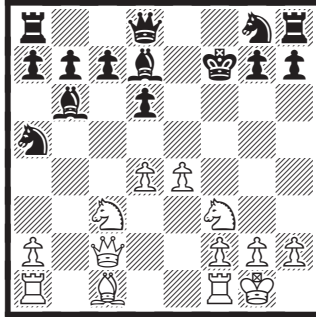
MIESES DEFENSE [C52]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.d4	exd4
7.O-O	Nge7

The Mieses Defense is one of the most popular and reliable defenses to the Evans Gambit. It is even seen on the chessboards of top level competitions, and is no doubt subject to even greater scrutiny off the board. **Impression:** Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

MORTIMER-EVANS GAMBIT [C51]

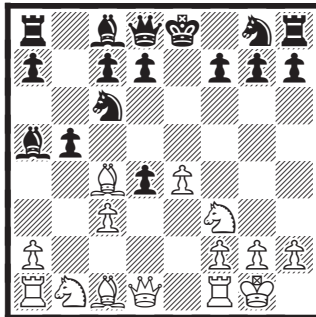


1.e4	e5	8.cxd4	Bb6
2.Nf3	Nc6	9.Nc3	Bg4
3.Bc4	Bc5	10.Qa4	Bd7
4.b4	Bxb4	11.Qb3	Na5
5.c3	Bc5	12.Bxf7+	Kf8
6.d4	exd4	13.Qc2	Kxf7
7.O-O	d6		

The Mortimer-Evans Gambit runs deep into the opening and has been subject to a great deal of analysis. It isn't seen anymore because White doesn't get enough compensation for a piece and a pawn.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

SCHULTEN DEFENSE [C51]

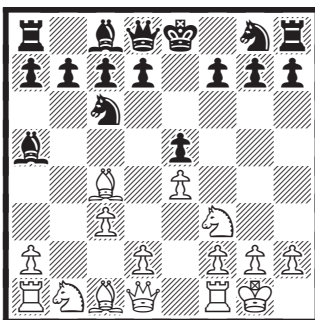


1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.d4	exd4
7.O-O	b5

This enterprising variation isn't all that bad since 8.Bxb5 dxc3; 9.Bxc6 bxc6 gives Black the bishop pair as compensation for the tripled pawns. Hasn't been seen since before World War 1 and is virtually unknown.

Impression: White looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

SLOW VARIATION [C52]

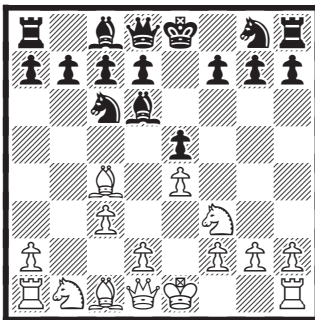


1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Ba5
6.O-O	

Refraining from the confrontational 6.d4, White allows a greater variety of Black defenses, including the Lasker Defense which has a high drawing quotient. 6.d4 is preferred.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

STONE-WARE VARIATION [C51]

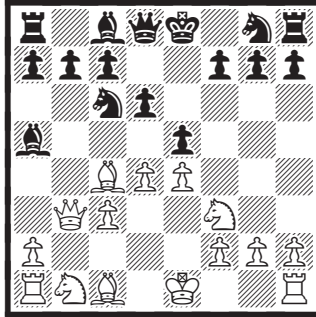


1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bc4	Bc5
4.b4	Bxb4
5.c3	Bd6

The Stone-Ware is not a stonewall. White's access to f7 remains unimpeded, and the bishop is not really at home blocking the d-pawn. Opening up the game with 6.d4 is the most active plan, but White can choose to castle first. Fun for White in either case.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

TARTAKOWER ATTACK [C52]

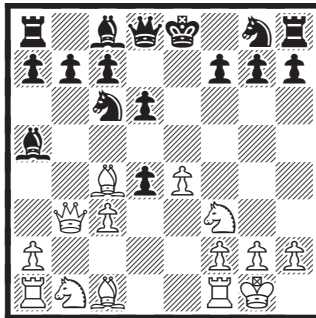


- | | |
|-------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3.Bc4 | Bc5 |
| 4.b4 | Bxb4 |
| 5.c3 | Ba5 |
| 6.d4 | d6 |
| 7.Qb3 | |

The Qb3/Bc4 battery is a common theme in the Evans. Black must be concerned with the f7-square. There doesn't seem to be anything better than 7...Qd7, which obstructs the bishop at c8. Then White regains the pawn with 8.dxe5. The position is complicated and holds chances for both sides.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Endangered.

WALLER ATTACK [C52]



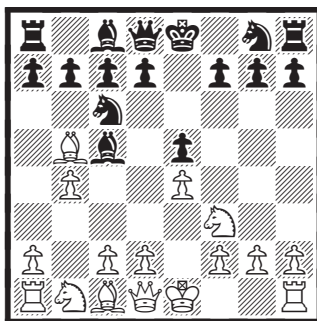
- | | |
|-------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3.Bc4 | Bc5 |
| 4.b4 | Bxb4 |
| 5.c3 | Ba5 |
| 6.O-O | d6 |
| 7.d4 | exd4 |
| 8.Qb3 | |

The Waller Attack, which is rather moot since Black usually avoids 7...exd4 in favor of 7...Bg4 or 7...Bb6. Both of those lines are about even, so there is no reason for Black to take such risks in the center and allow 8.Qb3.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

OTHER GAMBITS

SPANISH WING GAMBIT (SPANISH GAME) [C64]



1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	Bc5
4.b4	

The Spanish Wing Gambit is not quite as good as the Evans Gambit because the bishop would be better at c4. Black can get a good game by accepting or declining. **Impression:** Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

Analysis:

4...Bxb4. 4...Nxb4; 5.c3 Nc6; 6.d4 exd4 is Martineau vs. Saavedra, 1986. After 7.cxd4 Bb4+; 8.Bd2 Bxd2+; 9.Nbxd2, White would have full compensation. 4...Bb6 is a bit timid, but Black can decline the gambit safely. 5.0-0 Nge7; 6.Bb2 d6; 7.a4 a6; 8.Bc4 Ng6; 9.h3 Qf6; 10.Nc3 Nce7; 11.d4 Nf4. Black takes the initiative on the kingside. 12.dxe5 Qg6; 13.Nh4 Qg3; 14.exd6 Nxb3+; 15.Kh1 Nxf2+, White resigned. Kos vs. Crepan, 1993.

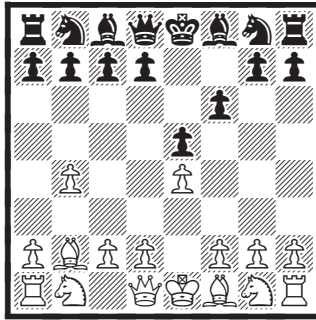
5.0-0. 5.c3 Ba5; 6.0-0 Nf6; 7.d4 Nxe4; 8.Qd3 Nd6; 9.dxe5 Nxb5 with a much better game for Black, Rocha vs. Santos, 1991. 5.Bxc6 dxc6; 6.Nxe5 Nf6; 7.c3 Bc5; 8.Qb3 0-0; 9.Qc4 is Voracova vs. Svobodova, 1995. 9...Qe7 is clearly better for Black.

5...d6. 5...Nge7; 6.Bb2 d6; 7.c3 Ba5; 8.d4 0-0; 9.Nbd2 Bg4 was good enough for equality in Weber vs. Arold, 1992.

6.c3. 6.d4 exd4? would transpose to a line of the Relfsson gambit that is very bad for Black. 7.Bxc6+! bxc6; 8.Qxd4! forks the bishop and pawn at g7. 8...Qf6; doesn't solve the problem because White can sacrifice the rook! 9.Qxb4!! Qxa1; 10.Bb2! Qxa2; 11.Bxg7 Qxc2; 12.Bxh8 a5; 13.Qd4 Ne7; 14.Ng5! Black has two pawns for the piece, but they will quickly be captured.

6...Ba5; 7.d4 Bd7; 8.dxe5 dxe5; 9.Qa4 Bb6; 10.Rd1 Qe7. Black has achieved equality, Gaprindashvili vs. Bilek, 1971.

TARTAKOWER GAMBIT (POLISH OPENING) [A00]



1.b4 e5
2.Bb2 f6
3.e4

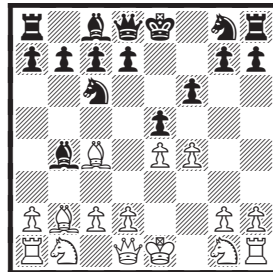
When Black weakens the position with ...f6, a White gambit is a natural response. If Black captures, then Bc4 sets up some nasty threats on the kingside. On the other hand, declining is not a great idea because Black has already weakened the position. Black has tried 3...d5 as a counter-gambit, successfully. For the accepted variation, see the Brinckmann Variation below.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Few dare to play it.

SOKOLSKY vs. STRUGACH

Minsk, 1958

1.b4 e5; 2.Bb2 f6; 3.e4 Bxb4; 4.Bc4 Nc6; 5.f4.



White offers a second pawn in hopes of weakening the Black kingside.

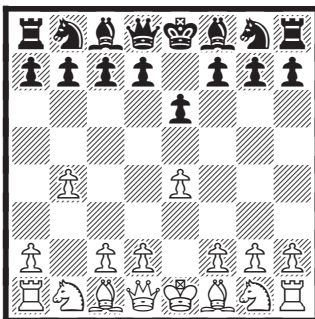
5...exf4; 6.Nh3. 6.Bxg8 Rxc8; 7.Qh5+ Kf8; 8.a3 Be7; 9.Qxh7 is an interesting option. White surely has enough compensation for the pawn. 6...Nge7; 7.Nxf4 Na5; 8.Bxf6!? Rf8. 8...gxf6; 9.Qh5+ Ng6; 10.Nxg6 hxg6; 11.Qxh8+ Bf8; 12.Qg8. Black has less than no compensation for the exchange.

9.Nh5! Nxc4; 10.Nxg7+ Kf7; 11.0-0 Kg8; 12.Qh5!? Rxf6; 13.Rxf6 Ng6. 13...Kxg7; 14.Rf7+ Kh8; 15.Qxh7#. 14.Rxg6! hxg6; 15.Qxg6 Kh8. 15...Ne5; 16.Qg3 Kh7; 17.Nf5 Qf6; 18.Nc3! Bxc3; 19.Qxc3 d5!; 20.Rf1 Qb6+; 21.Rf2 Bxf5; 22.exf5 Ng4; 23.Qh3+! Nh6 is better for Black, but a long way from a win.

16.Ne8 Qe7?? 16...Bc5+; 17.Kh1 Bd4 would have held on. 17.Nf6. Black resigned. To stop mate, the queen must be sacrificed for the knight.

MORE GAMBITS IN BRIEF

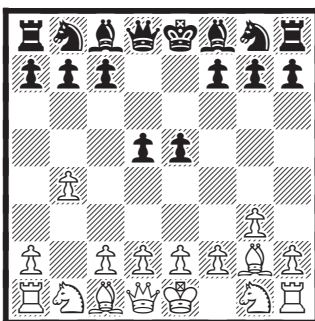
BANZAI-LEONG GAMBIT (FRENCH DEFENSE) [COO]



1.e4 e6
2.b4

A new wing-type gambit has flown in from the Pacific but the pawn on e6 rather than on e5 means that there is less of a target for a bishop at b2. Might be used for games at odds, but this isn't likely to be seen in serious competition.
Impression: Black should be a bit worried. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

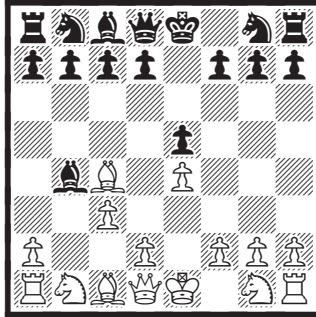
BUECKER GAMBIT (HUNGARIAN OPENING) [A00]



1.g3 e5
2.Bg2 d5
3.b4

I'm inclined to think that there may be something of interest in this true gambit. White has typical double-fianchetto pressure on Black's center with a lead in development. After 3...Bxb4; 4.Bb2, an early f4 might exploit the weakness of g7. I doubt it is fully playable, but it might be fun in blitz games.
Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

LA BOURDONNAIS-DENKER GAMBIT (BISHOP'S OPENING) [C23]

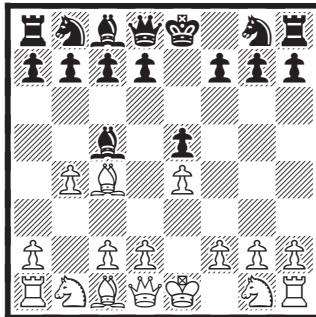


1.e4	e5
2.Bc4	Bc5
3.b4	Bxb4
4.c3	

A rare gambit which has been adopted by strong players from time to time. Transposition to the Evans Gambit is still possible. One key positional idea is Qb3, setting up a powerful battery against f7.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

MACDONNELL GAMBIT (BISHOP'S OPENING) [C23]

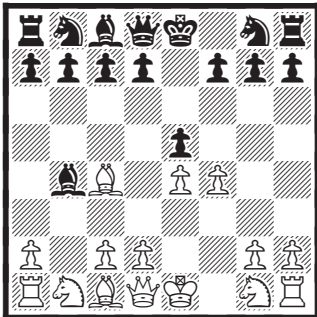


1.e4	e5
2.Bc4	Bc5
3.b4	

This is an Evans Gambit with the difference that neither side has developed the knights that usually stand on f3 and c6. This should work to White's advantage since it allows for some f4 plans. If White does use the standard Nf3 deployment, Black can counter with ...d6 and ...Nbd7 as an alternative to transpositions to the Evans.

Impression: Chances are about equal. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

MACDONNELL DOUBLE GAMBIT (BISHOP'S OPENING) [C23]

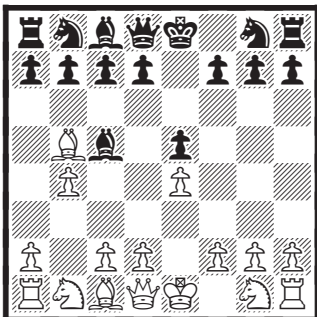


- | | |
|-------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Bc4 | Bc5 |
| 3.b4 | Bxb4 |
| 4.f4 | |

The offer of a second pawn is a bit much, especially since the d-pawn is pinned. Black gets a good game by capturing, and the Norwaldian 4...Qf6!? comes into consideration.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

MIGUEL GAMBIT (PORTUGUESE OPENING) [C20]



- | | |
|-------|-----|
| 1.e4 | e5; |
| 2.Bb5 | Bc5 |
| 3.b4 | |

If White's bishop were at c4, this would make a bit more sense because then c3 followed by Qb3 would create pressure at f7. As it stands, White's gambit seems far too ambitious.

Impression: Black looks a bit better. **Popularity:** Awaiting a hero!

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