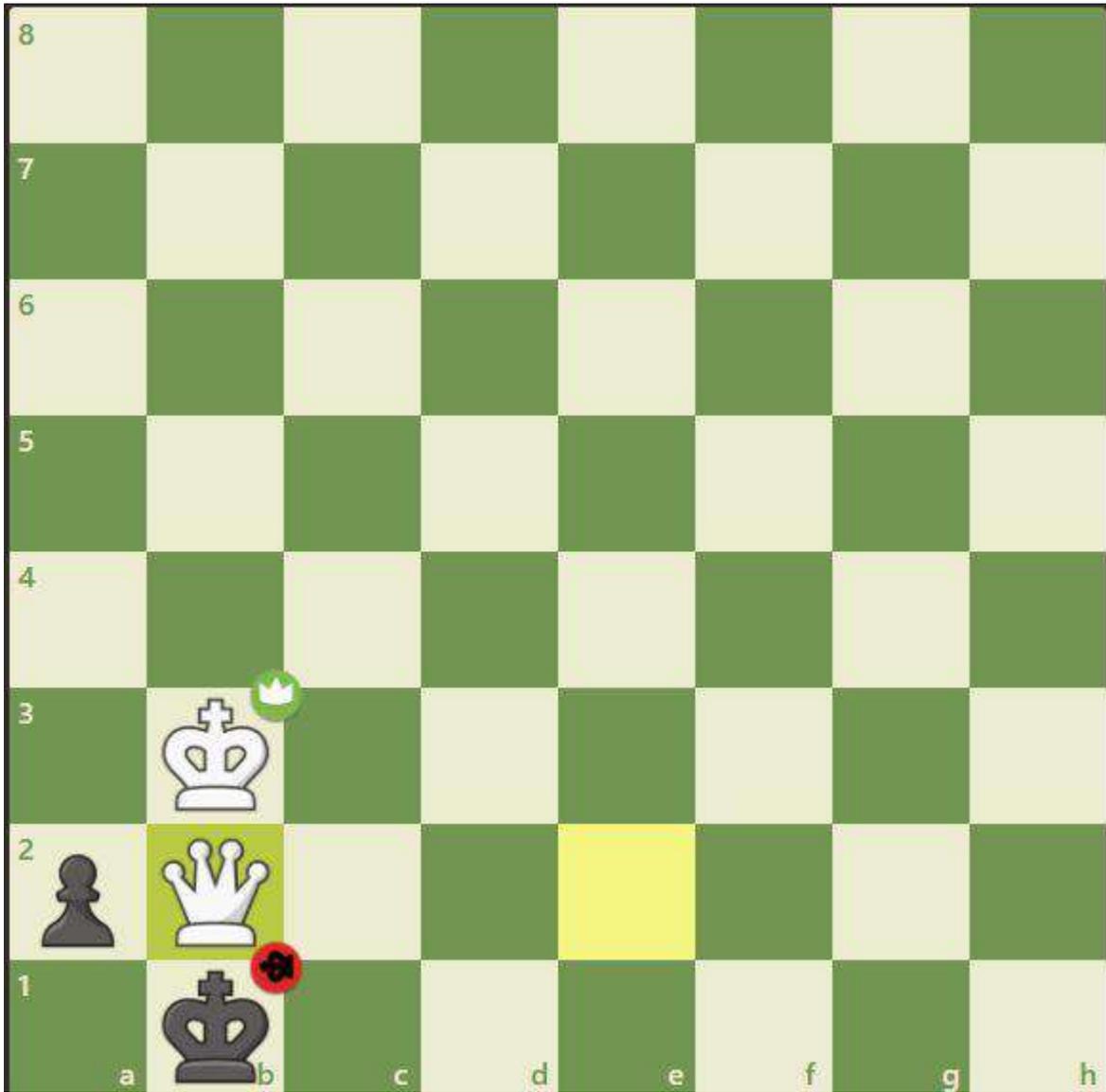


February 17, 2026

I hate the French and usually play the King's Indian Attack against it, but that was not possible here so I opted for the Tarrasch. I haven't played it for decades and will have to book up on it. In spite of the duff way this guy played the opening, including a rather obvious attempt to set up a mating tactic early on, he was a decent player although he had to go and spoil it by playing on until he was mated. Having said that, my play was masterful, setting up the isolani and using its blockade in the ending to win the pawn queening race.



Final position

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. P-Q4 | P-K3 |
| 2. P-K4 | P-Q4 |
| 3. N-Q2 | P-QB4 |
| 4. PxQP | KPxP |
| 5. PxP | BxP |
| 6. KN-B3 | Q-B3 |

7. B-K2	B-KN5
8. O-O	N-K2
9. N-N3	B-N3
10. P-B3	O-O
11. B-N5	Q-Q3
12. QN-Q4	B-B2
13. N-N5	Q-Q1
14. NxB	QxN
15. BxN	QxB
16. N-Q4	BxB
17. QxB	R-K1
18. KR-K1	QxQ
19. RxQ	RxR
20. NxR	N-B3
21. R-Q1	R-K1
22. K-B1	P-KN4
23. N-Q4	NxN
24. RxN	R-K4
25. P-KB4	PxP
26. RxBP	K-N2
27. K-B2	K-N3
28. P-KN3	R-B4

29. K-B3	RxRch
30. KxR	P-KR4
31. K-K5	K-N5
32. P-KR3	P-KR4
33. PxPch	KxP
34. K-B6	KxP
35. KxP	K-N5
36. K-K6	K-B5
37. KxP	K-K3
38. P-B4	K-K6
39. P-N4	K-B6
40. P-N5	K-N5
41. P-R3ch!	KxP
42. P-B5	K-R5
43. P-B6	PxPch
44. PxP	K-N4
45. K-Q6	P-R5
46. P-B7	P-R5
47. P-B8=Q	P-R6
48. Q-N7ch	K-R5
49. Q-R6ch	K-N6
50. Q-N5ch	K-R7

51. K-Q5 K-R1fcd

52. Q-B1ch K-N7

53. Q-K2ch K-R1

54. K-B4 P-R7

55. K-N3 K-N8fcd

56. Q-N2 mate