



(25-1) 1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6, 1.d4 Na6, 1.d4 c6 2.e4 Na6

### De Bruycker's Defense

By Gerard Welling

The Belgian master Bernard de Bruycker has worked out a particular way to defend against 1.e4 in recent years:

1.-- c6/ 2.-- Na6/ 3.-- Nc7.

In Europe, this sequence of moves is generally known - and accepted - as "de Bruycker's Defense."

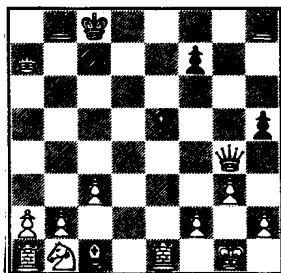
But, as Mr. Myers indicated in an earlier M.O.B. issue, Ted Dunst played 1.-- Na6/ 2.-- c6/ 3.-- Nc7 as early as 1956, in the Marshall Chess Club championship.

Well, I have seen some of his games with the critical maneuver. But Mr. Dunst invariably followed it up with d7-d5 and e7-e6, where the value of Nc7 is not always apparent, and the Knight maneuver does not seem to be part of a "plan de campagne" in his games.

Therefore, the name given above seems more appropriate to the opening system we are going to consider.

Nevertheless, here is an eccentric game by Dunst - for its historical value:

DIAGRAM 1



After 18.-- h5

L.Levy-T.Dunst, Rd.4, Marshall CC champ.  
1956-57. 1.d4 Na6 2.e4 c6 3.Nf3 (3.Ba6;  
Qa5+) 3.-- Nc7 4.Bd3 d5 5.c3 Bg4 6.Qb3 de4;  
7.Be4: Nf6 (7.-- Qc8 may be a sounder try,  
i.e. 8.Ne5 Be6, and Nf6/g7-g6) 8.Qb7: Rb8  
9.Bc6:+ Nd7 10.Qa7: Bf3: 11.Bf3: e5 12.Bc6  
Bd6 13.de5: Be5: 14.Bd7:+ Kd7: (it is a  
miracle that White lost with this position)  
15.O-O Qh4 16.Rd1+ Kc8 17.g3 Qg4 18.Re1 h5  
(Diagram 1) 19.Qe3 Re8 20.Qe4 Bf4 21.Qe8:+  
Ne8: 22.Bf4: Nc7 23.Nd2 Rb2: 24.Nc4 Re2  
25.Red1 Ne6 26.Nd6+ Kd7 27.Nf7:+ Ke8 28.  
Ne5 Qf5 29.Rab1 Nf4 30.Rb8+ Ke7 31.Rd7+  
Qd7: 32.Nd7: Re1 mate 0-1. That was a nice

swindle, but you will have to agree that the game had no theoretical importance.

In 1978 de Bruycker started to experiment with the maneuver 1.-- Na6/ 2.-- c6/ 3.-- Nc7. That year he played it with both colors, against everything, to get more information on the ideas. Later he concluded it was best against 1.e4, with the move order 1.-- c6 and 2.-- Na6.

As you will see, the system is directed as a counterattack against the e4/d4 center. That is why it may not be as effective against 1.d4 (White does not have to move e2-e4 later, thereby giving Black the target he wants).

Mr. de Bruycker kindly provided me with some of his 1.-- c6/ 2.-- Na6/ 3.-- Nc7 games, explaining the strategic ideas in a few notes. I have picked out some games which - in my opinion - illustrate the ideas most clearly. The notes will be your guide.

### The Ideas Behind "De Bruycker's Defense":

-- it is mostly played in combination with d7-d6/e7-e5 and g7-g6/Bg7 (King's Indian structure).

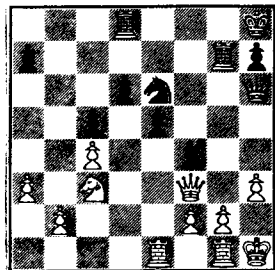
- the square e6 is a key square in the complex; a Knight on e6 reinforces the central black squares d4 and f4 (Illustrative games 1, 2, & 4).
- if instead the Knight stays on c7, it can help the wing-advance b7-b5 (Illustrative game 3), or a central break d7-d5.
- if White goes for an ending, Black is very comfortable because of the inherent centralization in the system (Nc7-e6; Illustrative game 4). (Ed. Note: Protection given to e6 by a Knight on c7 can also assist an f7-f5 break because f7-f5 after having moved the d-pawn would leave a weak square at e6)
- if White plays 3.c4, the move Nc7 can wait, often for a long time (Illustrative game 1). (Ed. Note: In that situation the options of Nb4 and Nc5 are retained)
- the "de Bruycker Defense" sometimes overlaps the King's Indian Defense (Illustrative game 5).
- under some circumstances (as after f2-f4) Black can set up with d7-d5 instead of d7-d6/e7-e5, to play on the white squares (Illustrative games 6, 7, & 8).

### Illustrative Games Featuring The Preceding Themes:

#### 1/van Dam-de Bruycker, Brussels 1981.

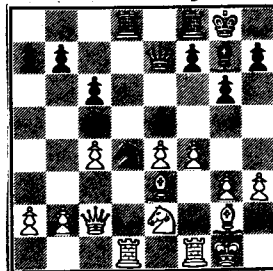
1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.c4 g6 (if White plays c2-c4, the move Nc7 can wait) 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Nf3 d6 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 8.h3 Qc7 9.Be3 e5 10.d5 Ne8 11.Qd2 f5 12.ef5: gf5: 13.Bh6 f4 14.Bg7: Qg7: 15.Kh2 Kh8 16.Rae1 Rg8 17.Rg1 Qh6 18.Bf1 Bg4 19.Be2 Nf6 20.Bd1 Rg7 21.Kh1 (Ed. Note: 21.dc6: bc6: 22.Qd6: ? Bf3: Δ Ng4+) 21.-- Rd8 22.dc6: bc6: 23.Nh2 Bd1: 24.Qd1: R7d7 25.Qf3 c5 26.a3 Nc7 (better late than never) 27.Ng4 Ng4: 28.Qg4: Rg7 29.Qf3 Ne6! (Diagram 2) 0-1 (Nd4/g5 and f4-f3 cannot be stopped) (Ed. Note: e.g., 30.Ne2 Ng5 31.Qg4 f3 32.gf3: Ne6 33.Qf5 Rf8 wins, but he could have struggled with 32.Ng3 fg2: + 33.Kh2! Ne6 34.Qh5 ♯) Bernard de Bruycker is delighted that somebody resigned after

DIAGRAM 2



After 29... Ne6

DIAGRAM 3



After 18... Nd4

"the key move of the whole system - Ne6!". Illustrative games 2 & 4 show this key move in the early stages of the game.

#### 2/de Coninck-de Bruycker, Ghent 1978.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.Nf3 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Nf6 (6.-- e5) 7.Qe2 0-0 8.c4 Bg4 9.h3 Bf3: 10.Bf3: e5 11.de5: de5: ♣ 12.Be3 Qe7 13.Nc3 Nc7 14.Qc2 Ne6 (characteristic!) 15.Ne2 Nd7 16.Rad1 Rad8 17.Bg2 N7c5 18.f4 Nd4 (Diagram 3) 19.Nd4: ed4: 20.Bf2 d3 21.Qc1 Ne4: 22.Be4: Qe4: 23.Rfe1 Qf5 24.Kh2 Qa5 25.Rd2 Qa2: 26.Bc5 Rfe8 27.Re8: + Re8: 28.Rd3: Qb2: 29.Qb2: Bb2: 30.Ba7: Bf6 31.Rd7 b5 32.cb5: cb5: 33.Rb7 Re2+ 34.Kg1 Rb2 35.Rb8+ Kg7 36.Bc5 Bc3 37.g4 f5 38.g5 Kf7 39.Rb7+ Ke6 40.Rh7: Kd5 41.Be7 b4 42.Bf6 Ke4 43.h4 Kf3: 44.Rc7 Rb1+ 45.Kh2 Be1 0-1.

#### 3/Davies-de Bruycker, London 1978.

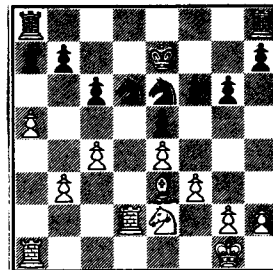
1.d4 c6 2.e4 Na6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Be3 d6 6.f3 Nc7 7.Qd2 e5 8.N1e2 Nf6 9.0-0-0 Be6! 10.d5 cd5: 11.cd5: Bd7 12.Kb1 b5

13.Ka1 Qb8 14.Nb1 a5 15.Bh6 Bh6: 16.Qh6: Qb6! (the black squares) 17.Nc1 (17.Qg7? Ke7) Na6 18.Qg5 Nb4 19.Nc3 Nh5 20.Qd2 0-0 21.g3 Rfc8 22.Be2 Nf6 23.h4 a4 24.Nd3 Na6 25.h5 b4 26.Nb1 Bb5 27.Qg5 Qd8 28.hg6: fg6: 29.Nf4 (desperation) 29.-- Be2: 30.Ng6: Kf7! 31.Rd2 hg6: 32.Re2: Nc5 33.f4 Nb3+ 34.ab3: ab3: + 35.Na3 Nh5! 36.Qg4 Qc7 37.R2e1 Ra3: + 0-1.

#### 4/ Dunne (Bd.1, Ireland)-de Bruycker (Bd.1, Belgium), Euro-chess

1980. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 (2.c4 d6 3.d4 e5 4.Nf3 Nd7 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.d5 Qc7!, Speelman-de Bruycker, ½-½, 52, Bd.1 England-Belgium, Euro-chess 1980) 2.-- Na6 3.Nc3 Nc7 4.Nf3 g6 5.Be2 Bg7 6.0-0 d6 7.a4 e5 8.de5: de5: 9.Qd8: + Kd8: (already the endgame) 10.b3 f6 11.Ba3 Nh6 12.Rfd1+ Ke8 13.Rd2 Nf7 14.a5 Bh6 15.Rdd1 Bg4 16.Nd2 Be2: 17.Ne2: Nb5 18.Bc5 Bd2: 19.Rd2: Ng5 20.f3 Ne6 21.Be3 Ke7 22.c4 Nd6! (the symmetry of the Knight maneuvers is amazing!; see Diagram 4) 23.Nc3 Rhd8 24.Rad1 Nf7 25.Rd8: Nfd8: 26.Na4 Nf7 27.b4 Nd6 28.Rc1 a6 29.Kf1 f5! 30.Nc5 fe4: 31.Ne4: Ne4: 32.fe4: Rd8 33.Ke2 Nd4+ (the thematic reinforcement of d4 by the Knight on e6) 34.Bd4: Rd4: 35.Ke3 Kd6 36.c5+ Ke6 37.Rb1 h5 38.h4 Kf6 39.Rb3 g5 40.hg5: Kg5: (Diagram 5) 41.Rb2 Kg4 42.Rf2 Rb4: 43.Rf5 Rb3+ 44.Kf2 Rb2+ 45.Ke3 Rg2: 46.Re5: h4 47.Re7 Rg3+ 48.Kd4 h3 49.Rh7 Kf3 50.e5 Rg4+? (according to de Bruycker, 50.-- Kg2! wins: 51.e6 h2 52.e7 Rg8 53.Ke5! h1(Q) 54.Rh1: Kh1: 55.Kd6 Kg2 56.Kc7 Kf3! 57.Kb7: Re8! 58.Kc6: Re7 59.Kd6 Rh7 60.c6 Ke4 61.c7 Rh8 62.Kd7 Kd5 -+) 51.Kd3 Kg2 52.e6 h2 53.e7 Rg8 54.Rg7+! Rg7: 55.e8(Q) Rg3+ 56.Ke2 Kg1! 57.Qe4! h1(Q) 58.Qd4+ Kh2 59.Qh4+ Rh3 60. Qf4+ Rg3 61.Qh4+ Kg1 62.Qd4+ (even 62.Qg3: + holds a draw) ½-½.

DIAGRAM 4



After 22... Nd6

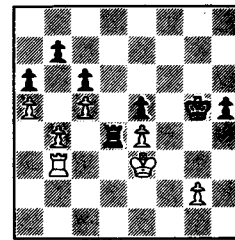
Bb5 Nc7 13.Bd7: Nd7: 14.Nd3 f5 15.0-0 f4 16. Bf2 g5 (a King's Indian pawn chain) 17.Rfc1 Bf6 18.a4 Rf7 19.Nb5 Nb5: 20.ab5: Bd8 21.Rc3 Bb6 22.R1c1 Qd8 23.Qe2 Kg7 24.Kf1 h5 25.Bb6: Qb6: 26.Nf2 a6 27.Ra3 Nb8 28.Nd1 Rc7 29.Rc7: Qc7: 30.ba6: Ra6: 31.Rc3 Qb6 32.Qc4 Nd7 33. Qc7 Qb5+ 34.Ke1 Kg6 35.Qc8 Nc5 36.Qf5+ Kh6 37.Qf6+ Kh7 38.Qf7+ Kh6 39.Qf6+ Kh7 40.Qg5: Ra1! 41.Qe7+ Kg8 42.Qd6: Qa4! 43.Qg6+ Kf8 44.Qf6+ Kg8 45.Qg6+ Kf8 46.Qf6+ ½-½.

#### 6/ Waldner-Behling, Biel (Bienne) 1978.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.Nc3 Nc7 4.f4 (now the white squares can be challenged successfully) 4.-- d5 5.e5 (Black has beautiful squares for the Knight and Bishop on c7 and c8) 5.-- h5 6.Be3 Bg4 7.Qd2 Nh6! 8.h3 Bf5 9.Nf3 e6 (perhaps he ought to keep e6 for the Knight!?) 10.Bf2 Be7 11.g3 Qd7 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.0-0-0 f6 14.Kb1 Nf7 (see Diagram 6 - next page) 15.Qe3 Qe8 16.Bf1 fe5: 17.Ne5: Ne5: 18.Qe5: Bf6 19.Qe2 c5! 20.Bg2 c4 21.g4 Bg6 22.Rhe1 b5 23.b3 cb3: 24.ab3: Qc6 25.Kb2 Be7 26.f5 Bb4 27.Qd3 ef5: 28.gf5: Rhf8! 29.Re5 Bf5: 30.Qe3 Bc2! 31.Nd5: (31.Kc2: Bc3:) 31.-- Rd5: 32.Bd5: Nd5: 33.Rd5: Rf2: 34.Rc1 Re2 35.Qf3 \* 36.Qe2: Qc1: + 37.Kc1: Be2: 38.Rg5 a5 39.Rg7: Kd8 40.Rg2 Bf1 0-1.

#### 7/ Small-de Bruycker, Malta Olympiad 1980.

DIAGRAM 5



After 40... Kg5:  
(Game # 4)

DIAGRAM 6

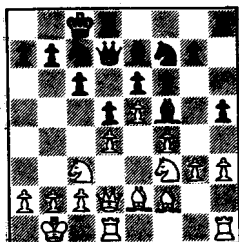
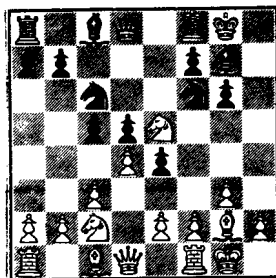


DIAGRAM 7



After 10.Ne5

5.Bg2 d5 6.Nf3 e5 7.d3  
Nf6 8.0-0 0-0 9.d4! e4  
10.Ne5 (Diagram 7) Ne5:  
11.de5: Ng4 12.f4! h5  
(12.-- ef3: 13.ef3: Ne5:  
14.f4, and d5 falls) 13.c4! Be6 14.cd5:  
Bd5: 15.h3 Nh6 16.Ne3 (a thematic move!)  
16.-- Be6 17.Qc2 Nf5 18.Kh2 Qd4 19.Qe4: ,  
winning a pawn, and then a long endgame  
(1-0, 58).

"De Bruycker's Defense" seems to be a viable defense to 1.e4. I hope that you agree after reading this little article.

After 10.Ne5  
and analysis - did most of the job!

Gerard Welling (Ullerberglaan 5, 5628 EG, Eindhoven, Holland)

(25-2) 1.-- Na6, 1.Na3  
Supplement to 25-1

First-move placement of a Knight on the a-file seems to ignore the long accepted principle that one must fight for the center squares or suffer the consequences. Therefore it's not surprising that it hasn't been seen very often in serious competition. The importance of center control, or at least not being clearly inferior in the center, can't be denied. Yet this is misunderstood even by many of the strongest players. Attacking the center squares shouldn't be forgotten, but it can be postponed for a move or two. Curiously, masters who can accept the truth of that regarding moves such as 1.-- g6 or 1.-- a6 will very likely laugh at 1.-- Na6 or 1.Na3 (or 1.-- Nh6 or 1.Nh3). An objective player ought to consider that chess is a struggle in which the purpose of a move is to cause problems for the opponent. It isn't advisable to play 1.Na3 just to be different, but if such moves are played with adequate preparation - a sound plan for the following moves - there's no reason that they can't be successful in practice, especially against opponents who think that they have the better game when actually they don't understand what's going on.

Here is an early game with 1.-- Na6 (one more example of how we should never feel too confident when giving credit for the first playing of an opening, particularly one move only).

Eugene Delmar (1841-1909) was a highly respected player in New York; although not an international master, he did score 18 points at New York 1889, and he outscored Pillsbury at tournaments in New York City in 1893 and 1894.

James Magee (FCC) - Eugene Delmar (MCC), team match 1906,

Franklin Chess Club (Philadelphia) vs. Manhattan C.C. (New York).

Franklin Chess Club (Philadelphia) vs. Manhattan Chess Club (New York)  
 1.e4 Na6 2.Ba6: ba6: 3.d4 e6 4.Nf3 Bb7 5.d5 ed5: 6.ed5: Nf6  
 7.c4 Bb4+ 8.Nc3 0-0 9.0-0 a5 10.Bf4 Ba6 11.Qd3 Qe7 12.Rfe1 Qc5  
 13.b3 Rfe8 14.Be5 Bc3: 15.Bc3: Ng4 16.Re8: + Re8: 17.Rf1 f6  
 18.h3 Ne5 19.Be5: fe5: 20.Ng5 g6 21.Ne4 Qe7 22.d6 cd6: 23.Nd6:  
 Rf8 24.Re1 Kg7 25.Qd5 Rf6 26.c5 Re6 27.f4 Qh4 28.Re5: Qf4:  
 29.Re6: de6: 30.Qf3 Qf3: 31.gf3: Kf6 32.Kf2 Ke5 33.Ke3 Kd5  
 34.Ne4 h6 35.h4 Bb5 36.Nc3+ Kc6 37.Nb5: Kb5:  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ . Black had a  
 playable game, although that final position does look good for  
 White, e.g. 38.Kd4 g5 (38.-- e5+ 39.Kd5) 39.hg5: hg5: 40.a3  $\Delta$   
 41.b4. Anyway, the idea of this opening had a surprising and  
 successful rebirth at the recent U.S. Open tournament.

I should first mention that the Magee-Delmar game was in the June, 1906, issue of the American Chess Bulletin; we thank Alan Glasscoe for having researched it.

One of the "players" in the 1982 U.S. Open was the "world champion" chess computer, Belle. I protested its participation (it wasn't physically present - its moves came by wire - and it had unlimited access to chess books which had been fed to it in their entirety, including all of the contents of the five volumes of ECO), but a motion to that effect was voted down by a wide margin. The explanation for this lemming-like attitude seems to be that certain USCF officials believe that publicity generated by computer participation will lead to a larger USCF membership. There are financial considerations too, as the USCF is said to have received, or made arrangements to receive, income from chess computer manufacturers such as Fidelity Electronics and Mattel Electronics (I'm not saying that there is anything illegal in that; no doubt the USCF's attorney has received assurance from IRS that such commercial entanglements will not affect its "non-profit" tax status). There's a little more on this elsewhere in this issue, but I'll repeat one thing I heard at the Open: "Do they let fork lifts into weightlifting competitions?".

Belle won seven of the ten games it played. One of its losses was to a player who made sure that the computer would get no help from its files of openings books.

Belle (2160) - Kevin Toon (1893), 1982 U.S. Open, St. Paul.

Belle (2180) - Kevin Loon (1855); 1.e2 e3 2.g3 3.h3 4.  
 1.e4 Na6 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4 Bg7 5.Rb1 e6 6.Ba6: ba6:  
 7.Bg5 Qd7 8.Qe2 h6 9.Bh4 Ne7 10.Be7: Qe7: 11.b4 0-0 12.Nd1 Rb8  
 13.Rb3 Bd7 14.Qa6: Bb5 15.Qa5 f5 16.e5 de5: 17.Ne5: Be5: 18.de5:  
 Qd7 19.f4 Rfd8 20.Kf2 Qd2+ 21.Kg3 g5 22.Rf3 gf4:+ 23.Kh3 Be2  
 24.Qc7: Qd7 25.Qd7: Rd7: 26.Rf4: Bd1: 27.Rc4 Be2 28.Rc6 Kf7  
 29.Re1 Bg4+ 30.Kg3 Rb4: 31.h3 Bh5 32.Rc5 Ke7 33.Rc8 Be8 34.Re2  
 Rbb7 35.c4 Rdc7 36.Rb2 Rc8: 37.Rb7:+ Bd7 38.Ra7: Rc4: 39.a3 Ra4  
 40.Ra4: Ba4: 41.Kf4 Kf7 42.Ke3 Kg6 43.Kf4 Bd1 44.g3 Bc2 45.g4  
 fg4: 46.Kg4: h5+ 47.Kf4 Bd1 48.h4 Bc2 49.Ke3 Kf5 50.Kd2, and  
 0-1. That game's opening is different than that of Magee-Delmar  
 in that it had d6, g6, and Bg7 instead of e6 and Bb7, but there  
 is an important similarity that contrasts with the methods of  
 Dunst and de Bruycker, and that is permitting the Knight to be  
 taken on a6 when the only possible recapture is ba6:.

The latter is a basic characteristic of Robert Durkin's handling of 1.Na3. Durkin has claimed that he was the first to play 1.Na3 (1.Na3 e5 2.Nc4 Nc6 3.e4, 1-0, 35, Durkin-McCormick, 1948 New Jersey Open), and he named it "The Durkin Attack." He seems to have started his specialization on it in 1955, and in 1959 he presented his ideas in a booklet titled Knightmare-1, A New Chess Opening, 1.N-QR3, The Durkin Attack.

Although in Exploring The Chess Openings (p.23) I gave some

defense to naming 1.Na3 after Durkin, that was really a negative reaction to Harding's unwieldy "Durkin-Goldschmidt Attack" (Irregular Openings, 1974). Harding claimed that an English junior player named Martin Goldschmidt had won some games with 1.Na3. Apparently Goldschmidt did have his own ideas (if 1.-- d5, he recommended 2.d4 and 3.c4), but Harding's only example was a loss by White that started 1.Na3 e5 2.Nf3!? e4 3.Nd4 d5 4.d3 c5 5.Nb3 ed3: 6.cd3: Nc6 7.Bf4. Although that reversed Alekhine's Defense has some interest, it hardly justifies memorialization in connection with 1.Na3.

I regret that now I can't support Durkin's name for 1.Na3 either. Certainly he has promoted it more than anyone else, but as one move it doesn't constitute an opening. It can be the first move of an opening which has a specific strategy, but Durkin showed that he had no clear idea of how it should be followed up. He wrote in his booklet that after 1.Na3 e5, the best moves, in order of preference, were 2.e3, 2.g3, 2.b3, and 2.c4, and that 2.d4 "should be playable" - and he also played 2.Nc4. As for 1.-- d5, his favorite was 2.f4, but he also played 2.d4, 2.g3, and 2.Nf3. So for him 1.Na3 was a transpositional move, used to transpose to a variety of openings; he deserves credit for the theoretical contribution of showing the playability of varied methods, but not for having invented an opening consisting of 1.Na3. By itself, 1.Na3 is not an opening at all.

As mentioned above, Durkin's opening philosophy has been consistent in one thing: he hasn't believed that White should try to avoid Ba3: and then ba3:. He considered that having the two Bishops would offset the doubled pawns on the a-file. The open b-file would also be a consideration. Durkin wrote this: "When Black exchanges his KB (B on f8) for the QN (N on a3), White should adopt the following policy: Place the Q properly, often on the K2-square (e2). Then institute central or Q-side action, getting both R's into play as soon as possible either on the QN (b) file or in the center. If the central action is not feasible then work the R's upon the QN (b) file. Black, when he created the weakness of the doubled RP's, also gave White a ready-made path of attack," and "The handicap of doubled RP's can be offset by hanging on to the Queen, for pawn-protection against a simple end-game. White would lose out in a simplified end-game due to his P-structure."

It might be better to remember Durkin for all of that instead of his claim to 1.Na3. Delmar might have felt the same way, but his game had no apparent influence.

However, it's still unclear if their willingness to accept doubled a-pawns should be called correct. Ted Dunst must not have thought so, at least with the black pieces, and we give him credit for blazing the b8-a6-c7 trail for the Black Knight. Gerard Welling, in article 25-1, suggests that Dunst's 1.d4 Na6 is inferior to 1.-- c6 and 2.-- Na6 because White, after 1.d4 Na6, might play e2-e3 instead of e2-e4, thereby giving Black fewer chances for counterplay in the center. I don't think that would be sufficient reason to declare 1.-- Na6 unplayable, and Welling was not depreciating Dunst's contribution by naming 1.-- c6/ 2.-- Na6/ 3.-- Nc7 "de Bruycker's Defense." It's still reasonable to credit Dunst with that maneuver (and the concept of recovering the piece by Qa5+ if Ba6:) if 1.d4 Na6 is played, and that is followed up by d7-d5, not d7-d6. De Bruycker, however, can be credited with an opening which includes the same basic maneuver, especially when it starts 1.-- c6 and is then

followed by g7-g6 and d7-d6.

Dunst also played 1.Na3, but not in the same way as Durkin. This game from the 1956-7 Marshall CC Champ. has the basic Knight maneuver that he played after 1.d4 Na6.

T.Dunst-J.Donovan 1.Na3 d5 (1.-- f5 2.c3 Nf6 3.d4 b6 4.Nf3 Bb7 5.g3 e6 6.Nc4 Be7 7.Bg2 0-0 8.0-0 Qe8 9.Nce5 Nc6 10.Ng5 Nd8 11.Bb7: Nb7: 12.Qd3 Nd6 13.Nh3 a5 14.a4 Ng4 15.Ng4: fg4: 16. Nf4 g5 17.Ng2 Qh5 18.Bd2 Rf6 19.Qe3 Rh6, 0-1, 35, Dunst-Bernstein 1956-7) 2.c3 e5 3.Nc2 d4 4.Nf3 dc3: 5.Ne5: Qd5 6.d4 cb2: 7.Bb2: Qa5+ 8.Qd2 Qd2+: 9.Kd2: Nf6 10.f3 Bd6 11.e4 Nfd7 12.Nd3 0-0 13. Be2 Nc6 14.Rhd1 Bh2: 15.Ne3 Nb6 16.g3 Na5 (16.-- Bg3: 17.Rg1 Δ d4-d5) 17.Ra1 Bg3: 18.d5 f6 19.Rc5 Nd5: 20.Nd5: b6 21.Rc2 Rf7 22.Rg1 Bh4 23.e5 c6 24.Nf6: Kh8 25.Ne4 +-; later play was erratic, but it was 1-0, 40.

Dunst sent me the score of another game that I think is particularly important for the theory of 1.Na3. Starting 1.Na3 d5 2.c4, it doesn't conform to Durkin's preferences, and it is not a colors reversed form of 1.d4 Na6 (if 1.d4 Na6 2.e4 c5?!, 3.Ba6: practically forces 3.-- ba6: because 3.-- Qa5+ 4.Nc3 Qa6: 5.dc5: wins a pawn [due to 4.-- cd4:, 4.c3 could be more accurate] ). Durkin's 1.Na3 d5 2.f4 and 1.Na3 d5 2.g3 are positions that could be reached equally well by 1.f4 d5 2.Na3 or 1.g3 d5 2.Na3, but 1.Na3 d5 2.c4 is distinctly a variation of 1.Na3 because that is the only reasonable order of moves for arriving at the position after 2.c4 (one would expect 1.c4 d5 to be answered by 2.cd5:).

T.A.Dunst-August Rankis, Marshall CC, 7/59. 1.Na3 d5 2.c4 d4 3.e4 (this is a reversed form of what has been called "the Semi-Benoni", the theory of which would say that Black should prepare placement of a Knight on c5 and a break with f7-f5, but White's extra move should make a difference) 3.-- e5 4.Nc2 Nc6 5.d3 Bd6 6.g3 Be6 7.Bg2 Nge7 8.Ne2 Qd7 9.f4 Bh3 10.0-0 f6 11.a3 a5 12.b3 Qg4? 13.Bf3 Qd7 14.Rf2 0-0 15.f5 g6 16.g4 h5 17.Ng3 hxg4 18.Bxg4 Bxg4 19.Qxg4 Rf7 20.Qh4 Raf8 21.Bd2 Rh7 22.Qg4 Kh8 23.Qe2 Rg8 24.Kh1 Qe8 25.b4 gxf5 26.Nxf5 Nxf5 27.Rxf5 axb4 28.Nxb4 Bxb4 29.axb4 Qf8 30.Raf1 Nxb4 31.Bg5 +- Rxxg5 32.Rxxg5 Qh6 33.Rg3 Nc6 34.Rfg1 Ne7 35.Qg2 Qf8 36.Rh3 Ng8 37.Rxh7 Kxh7 38.Qg6 Kh8 39.Rg3 1-0. "Not scintillating, but a good example of the trench warfare that usually results from opening moves such as Na3 and Nc3" (Dunst).

Ted Dunst is now in his 70's, but this year he won the 45th Grand National, the CCLA's 1977 U.S. Open Correspondence Chess Championship. Our sincere congratulations! He has reacted very courteously to my reluctance to call 1.Nc3 "the Dunst Opening", even subscribing to the M.O.B. after seeing 22-5 (pp.22-23), although he honestly believes that the name is deserved. In his letter to me, he said, "For many years (including a period during which I held a USCF master's rating), I played 1.Nc3 successfully against all comers in the Marshall Chess Club Championships, the team matches of the Metropolitan Chess League of New York, and various correspondence tournaments" (a similar statement in the 9/82 issue of The Chess Correspondent lists authors who have accepted the name).

Now it seems that we are also weakening the connection of Dunst's name with 1.-- Na6 by calling 1.-- c6/ 2.-- Na6 "De Bruycker's Defense", but I hope that this article has made it clear that we consider that an opening may be constituted by a series of moves, not just the first one or two, and that the most appropriate name may be one that refers to the series.

As for 1.Nc3, I find it difficult to name it after anyone