

This was one of the biggest upsets at the 2009 North American Open in Las Vegas. The White player was four-time US Champion Alex Shabalov, the Black – 14 year old Daniel Naroditsky from California. In this position White has skewered Black's Queen with his bishop (if black moves his queen away, the rook is under attack). However, black found a move after which the champ immediately resigned. Can you find it?

The answer is at the bottom.



There are a few takeaways here:

1. Never underestimate your opponent.
2. When under attack, think of fighting back, not just running away.
3. Don't forget your defense when attacking.

The answer is below:

Black queen to c5 threatens checkmate either on f2 OR,

**IF** white queen moves to f3 to safeguard against it, black check mates by moving his queen first to g1 (white king HAS TO go to e2) and then to d1 check-mating the white king.

**IF** white brings his bishop for help to e1, then black checks Qg1. 2. Ke2 Qg2+  
3. Bf2 QxB #(checkmate).