

ChessZone Magazine

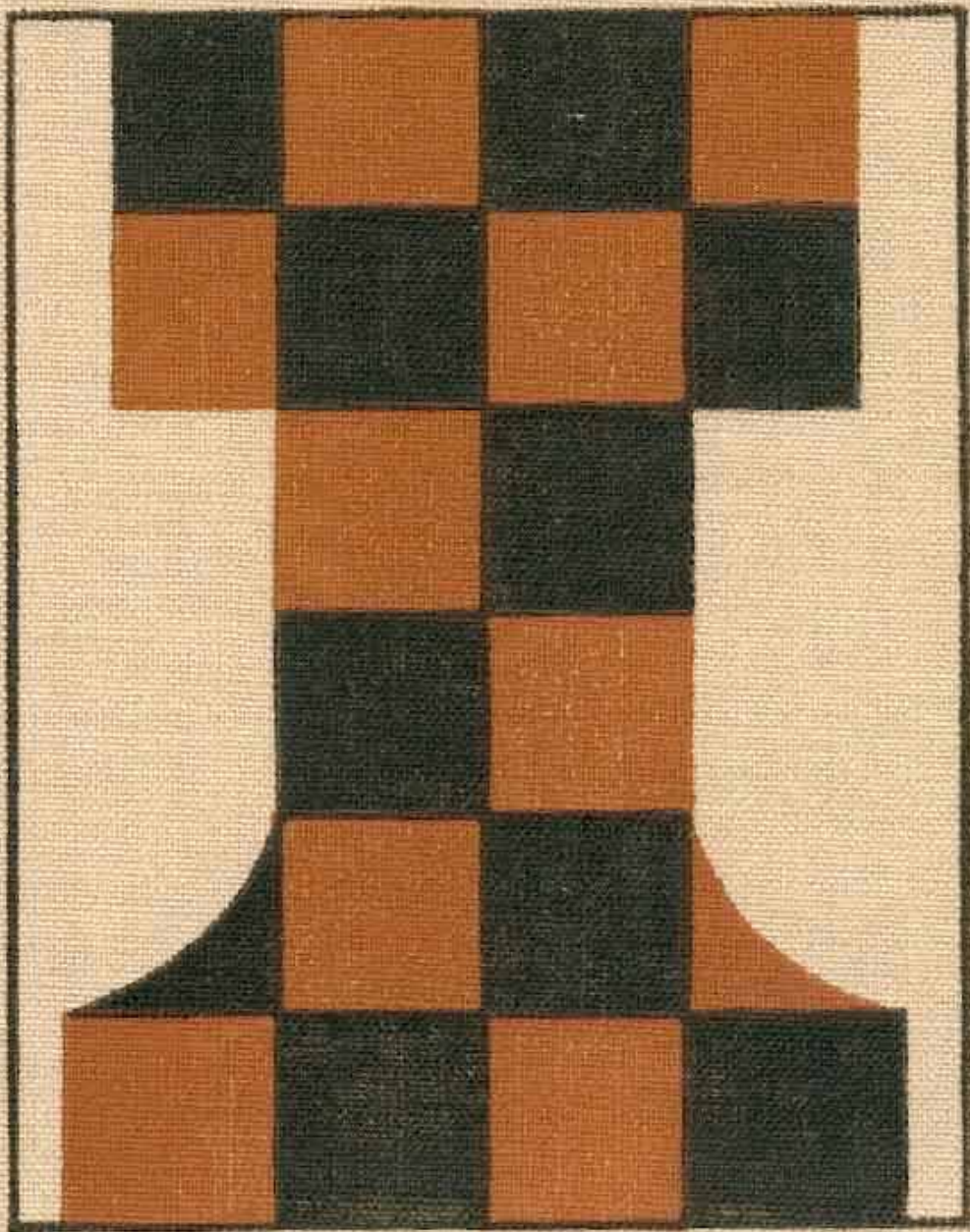


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News

Corus Wijk aan Zee 2010



The 2010 Corus tournament took place in Wijk aan Zee Friday 15th January 2010 - Sunday 31st January 2010. **Magnus Carlsen** took clear first place after many adventures as he battled with Alexei Shirov and Vladimir Kramnik.

Shirov impressed at the start and in truth had a bit of bad luck later on too but it was great to see him perform well in Wijk aan Zee. Vladimir Kramnik too seems to be back to close to his best.

World Champion Viswanathan Anand never really got going, he beat Shirov and Kramnik but otherwise there were quite a lot of pretty dull games. He has sometimes struggled at the start of Wijk aan Zee and here he got going really too late. He tried but his mind seemed to be on upcoming world championship match against Topalov. This is by no means the first time this phenomenon has been seen.

Corus A Wijk aan Zee (NED), 16-31 i 2010				cat. XIX (2719)																
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4			
1.	Carlsen, Magnus	g	NOR	2810	*	0	=	=	=	1	1	=	1	=	=	1	=	1	8,5	2822
2.	Kramnik, Vladimir	g	RUS	2788	1	*	=	0	1	=	=	=	=	=	1	=	1	8	2801	
3.	Shirov, Alexei	g	ESP	2723	=	=	*	0	0	=	=	1	=	1	=	1	1	8	2806	
4.	Anand, Viswanathan	g	IND	2790	=	1	1	*	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	7,5	2770	
5.	Nakamura, Hikaru	g	USA	2708	=	0	1	=	*	0	=	=	=	=	1	1	1	7,5	2777	
6.	Karjakin, Sergey	g	UKR	2720	0	=	=	=	1	*	=	=	=	=	1	=	=	7	2748	
7.	Ivanchuk, Vassily	g	UKR	2749	0	=	=	=	=	=	*	=	=	=	1	=	1	7	2746	
8.	Leko, Peter	g	HUN	2739	=	=	0	=	=	=	=	=	*	=	1	=	0	6,5	2717	
9.	Dominguez Perez, Leinier	g	CUB	2712	0	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	*	=	=	1	6,5	2719	
10.	Caruana, Fabiano	g	ITA	2675	=	=	0	=	=	=	=	0	=	*	=	=	1	0	5,5	2665
11.	Short, Nigel D	g	ENG	2696	=	=	=	=	0	0	=	=	=	=	*	0	=	5	2634	
12.	Van Wely, Loek	g	NED	2641	0	0	0	=	0	=	0	1	=	=	1	*	1	0	5	2638
13.	Tiviakov, Sergei	g	NED	2662	=	=	0	=	0	=	=	=	0	0	=	0	*	1	4,5	2613
14.	Smeets, Jan	g	NED	2657	0	0	0	=	=	=	0	0	=	1	=	1	0	*	4,5	2614

In Group B, **Anish Giri** secured the half point he needed to win the event, and he thus qualifies for next year's A Group.

Corus B Wijk aan Zee (NED), 16-31 i 2010											cat. XVI (2629)									
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4		
1.	Giri, Anish	g	NED	2588	*	=	=	=	1	1	=	1	1	0	1	=	1	=	9	2773
2.	Naiditsch, Arkadij	g	GER	2687	=	*	=	1	=	0	=	=	=	1	1	=	1	1	8,5	2734
3.	Ni Hua	g	CHN	2657	=	=	*	=	=	=	=	0	1	1	=	=	1	1	8	2713
4.	L'Ami, Erwin	g	NED	2615	=	0	=	*	=	=	1	1	=	=	=	=	=	1	7,5	2687
5.	So, Wesley	g	PHI	2656	0	=	=	=	*	=	=	=	=	=	1	1	1	=	7,5	2684
6.	Harikrishna, P	g	IND	2672	0	1	=	=	=	*	=	=	=	1	=	0	=	=	6,5	2625
7.	Negi, Parimarjan	g	IND	2621	=	=	=	0	=	=	*	=	=	=	1	0	1	6,5	2629	
8.	Howell, David W L	g	ENG	2606	0	=	1	0	=	=	=	*	0	=	=	1	1	0	6	2601
9.	Sutovsky, Emil	g	ISR	2657	0	=	0	=	=	=	=	1	*	=	=	1	0	=	6	2597
10.	Muzychuk, Anna	m	SLO	2523	1	0	0	=	=	0	=	=	=	*	=	=	=	=	5,5	2580
11.	Nisipeanu, Liviu-Dieter	g	ROU	2681	0	0	=	=	0	=	=	=	=	*	=	1	=	=	5,5	2568
12.	Reinderman, Dimitri	g	NED	2573	=	=	=	=	0	1	0	0	0	=	=	*	0	1	5	2546
13.	Nyback, Tomi	g	FIN	2643	0	0	0	=	0	=	1	0	1	=	0	1	*	=	5	2541
14.	Akobian, Varuzhan	g	USA	2628	=	0	0	0	=	=	0	1	=	=	=	0	=	*	4,5	2519

8th Gibtelecom Chess Festival 2010



The 8th Gibtelecom Chess Festival 2010 took place Tuesday 26th January - 4th February 2010.

Stars included: Etienne Bacrot, Sergei Movsesian, Francisco Vallejo Pons, Michael Adams, Gata Kamsky, Laurent Fressinet, Ivan Cheparinov, Daniel Fridman etc.

There was a tie for first place. The top four players on tie-break played off in a knockout. **Michael Adams** beat Jan Gustafsson 2-1 and Francisco Vallejo Pons beat Chanda Sandipan 1.5-0.5. Adams beat Vallejo 1.5-0.5 in the final of the playoff to take the title.

Gibtelecom Masters (ENG), 26 i - 4 ii 2010 Leading Final Round 10 Standings (Top 4 played off):

Rank	Name	Ti	Fed.	Rating	Score	TPR	W-We
1	Adams, Michael	GM	ENG	2694	7.5	2764	0.97
2	Vallejo Pons, Francisco	GM	ESP	2705	7.5	2726	0.33
3	Gustafsson, Jan	GM	GER	2627	7.5	2769	1.88
4	Sandipan, Chanda	GM	IND	2622	7.5	2720	1.29
5	Kamsky, Gata	GM	USA	2693	7.5	2719	0.38
6	Bacrot, Etienne	GM	FRA	2713	7.5	2713	0.11
7	Movsesian, Sergei	GM	SVK	2708	7.5	2708	0.07
8	Geetha Narayanan Gopal	GM	IND	2584	7.5	2656	0.95
9	Lenderman, Alex	IM	USA	2560	7.5	2652	1.33
10	Zhukova, Natalia	WGM	UKR	2462	7	2686	3.02
11	Fressinet, Laurent	GM	FRA	2670	7	2666	0.04
12	Koneru, Humpy	GM	IND	2614	7	2663	0.77
13	Halkias, Stelios	GM	GRE	2566	7	2630	0.95

14	Hoffmann, Michael	GM	GER	2508	7	2630	1.73
15	Malakhatko, Vadim	GM	BEL	2549	7	2590	0.67
16	Cheparinov, Ivan	GM	BUL	2660	7	2568	-0.88
17	Istratescu, Andrei	GM	ROU	2607	7	2554	-0.49
18	Speelman, Jon S	GM	ENG	2525	7	2551	0.56
19	Boskovic, Drasko	IM	SRB	2454	7	2506	0.9
20	Guliyev, Namig	GM	AZE	2516	7	2505	0.18
21	Stefanova, Antoaneta	GM	BUL	2545	6.5	2614	1
22	Fridman, Daniel	GM	GER	2654	6.5	2613	-0.45
23	Bindrich, Falko	GM	GER	2512	6.5	2583	1.04
24	Cramling, Pia	GM	SWE	2528	6.5	2546	0.38
25	Hirneise, Tobias	IM	GER	2421	6.5	2541	1.66
26	Naumann, Alexander	GM	GER	2525	6.5	2535	0.31
27	Javakhishvili, Lela	IM	GEO	2493	6.5	2535	0.75
28	Shankland, Samuel L	IM	USA	2491	6.5	2535	0.68
29	Kosteniuk, Alexandra	GM	RUS	2523	6.5	2519	0.05
30	Lemos, Damian	GM	ARG	2556	6.5	2491	-0.64
31	Dzagnidze, Nana	GM	GEO	2506	6.5	2488	-0.02
32	Harika, Dronavalli	IM	IND	2471	6.5	2478	0.35
33	Bhat, Vinay S.	GM	USA	2540	6.5	2477	-0.64
34	Cmilyte, Viktorija	IM	LTU	2489	6.5	2445	-0.36
35	Siebrecht, Sebastian	GM	GER	2468	6.5	2427	-0.34
36	Sarkar, Justin	IM	USA	2378	6.5	2408	0.51
37	Cori T., Deysi	WIM	PER	2412	6.5	2393	-0.05
38	Karavade, Eesha	WGM	IND	2405	6.5	2360	-0.38
39	Reizniece, Dana	WGM	LAT	2341	6.5	2359	0.33
40	Nezad, Husein Aziz	IM	QAT	2408	6.5	2312	-0.99
41	Dworakowska, Joanna	IM	POL	2374	6.5	2273	-1.05
42	Edouard, Romain	GM	FRA	2608	6	2537	-0.83
43	Felgaer, Ruben	GM	ARG	2591	6	2533	-0.52
44	Krush, Irina	IM	USA	2455	6	2495	0.72
45	Kapnisis, Spyridon	IM	GRE	2510	6	2490	-0.09
46	Battaglini, Gabriel		FRA	2411	6	2484	0.98
47	Carlsson, Pontus	GM	SWE	2476	6	2477	0.18
48	Vernay, Clovis	IM	FRA	2442	6	2476	0.58
49	Cori, Jorge	IM	PER	2483	6	2464	-0.02
50	Maze, Sebastien	GM	FRA	2554	6	2456	-0.81
51	Saravanan, V.	IM	IND	2356	6	2365	0.28
52	Bellon Lopez, Juan Manuel	GM	ESP	2440	6	2356	-0.93
53	Demac, Elias		NOR	2104	6	2351	3.16
54	Houska, Jovanka	IM	ENG	2401	6	2350	-0.46
55	Avalos Parra, Joao	FM	CHI	2245	6	2344	1.32
56	Zaremba, Andrie	FM	USA	2360	6	2338	-0.17
57	Forsaa, Espen	FM	NOR	2301	6	2325	0.3
58	Tjolsen, Katrine	WFM	NOR	2212	6	2325	1.45

59	Arvola, Benjamin		NOR	2218	6	2312	1.2
60	Ivanov, Stojan Emilov		BUL	2198	6	2303	1.48
61	Dittmar, Peter	FM	GER	2341	6	2275	-0.72
62	Wantiez, Fabrice	FM	BEL	2315	6	2275	-0.35
63	Perez Pardo, Juan Carlos	FM	ESP	2297	6	2266	-0.35
64	Meskovs, Nikita		LAT	2264	6	2217	-0.61
65	Zatonskih, Anna	IM	USA	2466	5.5	2411	-0.54
66	Lopez Martinez, Josep Manu	GM	ESP	2593	5.5	2390	-2.37
67	Gandrud, Vegar Koi		NOR	2158	5.5	2383	2.51
68	Tania, Sachdev	IM	IND	2398	5.5	2359	-0.41
69	Fokin, Sergey		RUS	2109	5.5	2344	2.91
70	Lovik, Lasse Ostebo	FM	NOR	2343	5.5	2341	0.12

224 players

Moscow Open 2009



The Moscow Open took place from January 30th to February 7th 2010, just before the 9th Aeroflot Open (February 8–19), which meant that many strong players had travelled to the Russian capital to participate in both tournaments.

The Moscow tournament was won by four players who shared 7.0/9 points. First prize went to Konstantin Chernyshov on tie-break, with the decisive factor being that he had the most wins.

Open A Moscow (RUS), 30 i-7 ii 2010 Leading Final Round 9 Standings:

Rk.	Name	Ti	FED	Rtg	Pts.	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	Chernyshov Konstantin	GM	RUS	2556	7	6	46.5	33.5
2	Bareev Evgeny	GM	RUS	2643	7	5	52	37
3	Le Quang Liem	GM	VIE	2647	7	5	50.5	37
4	Inarkiev Ernesto	GM	RUS	2649	7	5	49.5	36
5	Sasikiran Krishnan	GM	IND	2653	6.5	5	50.5	35.5
6	Bologan Viktor	GM	MDA	2692	6.5	5	50.5	34.5
7	Andreikin Dmitry	GM	RUS	2635	6.5	5	48	36
8	Kurnosov Igor	GM	RUS	2668	6.5	5	47.5	34
9	Azarov Sergei	GM	BLR	2622	6.5	5	47	32.5
10	Rublevsky Sergei	GM	RUS	2697	6.5	4	51.5	33
11	Bu Xiangzhi	GM	CHN	2673	6.5	4	50.5	34
12	Belov Vladimir	GM	RUS	2595	6.5	4	49.5	34.5
13	Vorobiov Evgeny E	GM	RUS	2621	6.5	4	45	32
14	Savchenko Boris	GM	RUS	2638	6.5	4	44.5	30.5
15	Rakhmanov Aleksandr	GM	RUS	2591	6	6	38.5	25
16	Motylev Alexander	GM	RUS	2697	6	5	52	33.5
17	Khismatullin Denis	GM	RUS	2651	6	5	50.5	32.5
18	Zhigalko Sergei	GM	BLR	2668	6	5	47.5	31.5
19	Volkov Sergei	GM	RUS	2623	6	5	46.5	29.5

20	Pugachov Alexey	IM	RUS	2445	6	5	42	27.5
21	Kazhgaleyev Murtas	GM	KAZ	2643	6	5	41	26.5
22	Matlakov Maxim	IM	RUS	2587	6	4	51.5	33
23	Najer Evgeniy	GM	RUS	2665	6	4	48	31
24	Amonatov Farrukh	GM	TJK	2634	6	4	47	32.5
25	Nepomniachtchi Ian	GM	RUS	2658	6	4	43	28.5
26	Vescovi Giovanni	GM	BRA	2660	6	4	41	27.5
27	Shinkevich Vitaly	IM	RUS	2501	6	4	39	28
28	Grachev Boris	GM	RUS	2653	6	3	51.5	34
29	Khusnutdinov Rustam	GM	KAZ	2513	5.5	5	44	29
30	Krapivin Alexander	GM	RUS	2495	5.5	5	44	27.5
31	Kabanov Nikolai	GM	RUS	2510	5.5	5	43.5	25.5
32	Reshetnikov Alexey	FM	RUS	2447	5.5	4	48.5	31.5
33	Miton Kamil	GM	POL	2586	5.5	4	47	32
34	Bezgodov Alexei	GM	RUS	2490	5.5	4	46.5	28.5
35	Krivoborodov Egor	IM	RUS	2471	5.5	4	44.5	29
36	Iordachescu Viorel	GM	MDA	2629	5.5	4	43.5	29.5
37	Stukopin Andrey	IM	RUS	2423	5.5	4	43	27
38	Sjugirov Sanan	GM	RUS	2610	5.5	4	43	26.5
39	Dvoiryys Semen I	GM	RUS	2539	5.5	4	42.5	27.5
40	Belous Vladimir		RUS	2419	5.5	4	42.5	23
41	Shomoev Anton	GM	RUS	2559	5.5	4	41.5	27.5
42	Ipatov Alexander	IM	ESP	2497	5.5	3	51.5	30.5
43	Zinchenko Yaroslav	GM	UKR	2538	5.5	3	47.5	29.5
44	Kharitonov Alexandr	GM	RUS	2538	5.5	3	45	29.5
45	Zhou Weiqi	GM	CHN	2600	5.5	3	40	23.5
46	Chernobay Artem	IM	RUS	2398	5.5	2	44	25.5
47	Zontakh Andrey	GM	UKR	2540	5.5	2	41	26
48	Ismagambetov Anuar	GM	KAZ	2497	5	5	46.5	27
49	Gasarov Eldar	GM	UKR	2536	5	4	47.5	29
50	Shimanov Aleksandr	GM	RUS	2535	5	4	47	30
51	Krylov Mikhail	IM	RUS	2511	5	4	46	27.5
52	Goganov Aleksey	FM	RUS	2448	5	4	44.5	27
53	Gochelashvili David	IM	RUS	2463	5	4	43	28
54	Pridorozhni Aleksei	IM	RUS	2548	5	4	41.5	23.5
55	Obolenskikh Dmitry		RUS	2435	5	4	37	20.5
56	Nozdrachev Vladislav	FM	RUS	2346	5	4	36.5	18.5
57	Kovalenko Igor	IM	UKR	2486	5	3	48	28.5
58	Shcherbakov Ruslan	GM	RUS	2505	5	3	47	27.5
59	Mozharov Mikhail	IM	RUS	2451	5	3	43.5	28.5
60	Iljushin Alexei	GM	RUS	2551	5	3	43.5	27.5
61	Shukh Nikolai	FM	RUS	2439	5	3	43.5	23.5
62	Evdokimov Alexander A.	GM	RUS	2561	5	3	42.5	26
63	Chadaev Nikolai	GM	RUS	2569	5	3	41.5	26.5
64	Korobkov Piotr		UKR	2482	5	3	41.5	25.5

65	Gabrielian Artur	GM	RUS	2523	5	3	40.5	28
66	Predke Alexandr		RUS	2402	5	3	40.5	22.5
67	Ulko Jaroslav	IM	RUS	2445	5	3	38	25
68	Papin Vasily	IM	RUS	2548	5	3	36.5	22
69	Pushkov Nikolai	GM	RUS	2468	5	3	35.5	25
70	Lintchevski Daniil	GM	RUS	2498	5	2	45.5	26.5
71	Gorovykh Eduard	IM	RUS	2410	5	2	45	25.5
72	Lastin Alexander	GM	RUS	2659	5	2	44	27.5
73	Panarin Mikhail	GM	RUS	2518	5	2	44	27
74	Sokolov Andrei	GM	FRA	2569	5	2	42	26
75	Belozerov Andrei	GM	RUS	2488	5	2	41.5	26
76	Grigoriants Sergey	GM	RUS	2560	5	2	39	24
77	Guerrero Juan Carlos	IM	COL	2241	4.5	4	43	23.5
78	Hou Yifan	GM	CHN	2590	4.5	4	42	23.5
79	Gagarin Vasilij	IM	RUS	2415	4.5	4	40	19
80	Shabalov Alexander	GM	USA	2611	4.5	4	39.5	23.5
187 players								

Sources:

- 1) <http://www.e3e5.com>
- 2) The Week In Chess <http://www.chesscenter.com/twic/twic.html>
- 3) ChessPro.ru <http://www.chesspro.ru>
- 4) CrestBook.com <http://www.crestbook.com>
- 5) Chessbase.com <http://www.chessbase.com>

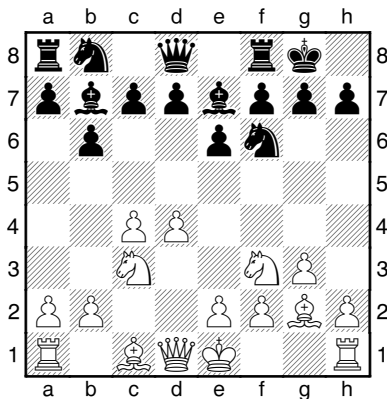
Games

(01) Banikas,H (2608) - Tomashevsky,E (2705) [E17]

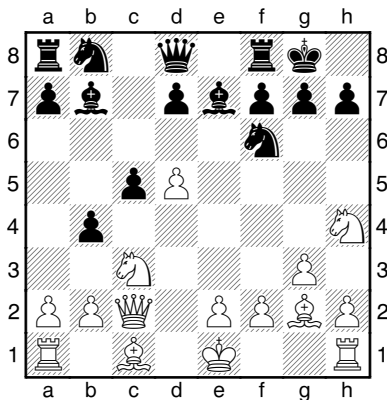
7th World Team Championship Bursa TUR (2), 06.01.2010

[GM Aveskulov, V]

Apparently the main sensation of the World Team Championship-2010 is the result of Greek team. They managed to beat World Champion team of Russia (2,5-1,5) and Olympic Champions from Armenia (3-1). But in the same time they lost to Egyptian team. **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.Nc3 0-0**

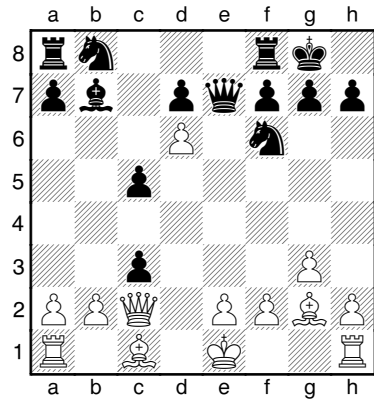


7.Qc2 c5 8.d5 exd5 9.Nh4 First this sacrifice appeared in the game between two fameless players in the France championship, 1938! **9...b5** [Considering the result of the game, it's easy now to advise something different. E.g. 9...Nc6 10.cxd5 Nd4 11.Qd1 Ne8 12.Nf3 Nxf3+ 13.Bxf3 d6= Ilincic-Hoang Thanh Trong, Budapest, 2004.] **10.cxd5 b4**

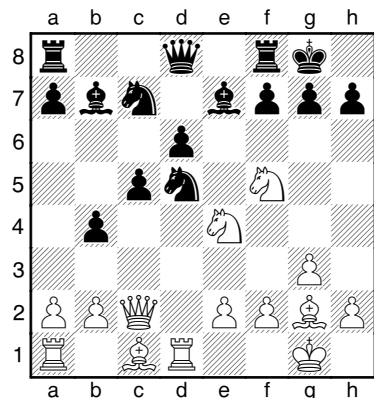


11.Nf5!N A novelty prepared at home. **11...d6** The most natural response. [I can't keep from showing a nice sacrifice of the queen I have

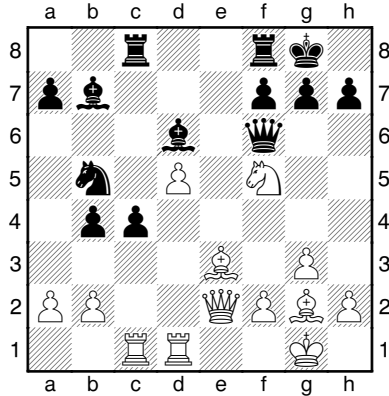
found here (in fact it doesn't work but still nice...) **11...bxc3?! 12.Nxe7+ Qxe7 13.d6**



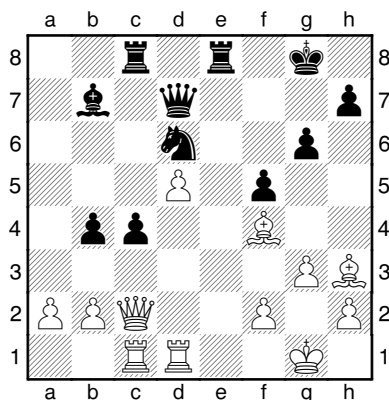
13...Qe4! 14.Bxe4 Bxe4 15.Qxc3 Bxh1 16.f3 bishop has to be immured **16...Nc6 17.Kf2 Rfe8 18.Bd2! Nd4 19.Re1±** and gradually White has to win.] **12.Ne4 Nxd5** [A key moment of the whole opening part. Russian GM needed to exchange a pair of knights **12...Nxe4!** **13.Bxe4** and to play **13...Nd7** Pawn h7 is poisoned: **14.Nxe7+?! Qxe7 15.Bxh7+ Kh8 16.Be4 Nf6 17.Bf3 Bxd5** with excellent play for Black. If so, Black would play **Nd7-f6** and stabilize own position. After **12...Nxd5** Banikas gets an advantage.] **13.0-0 Na6?!** [After **13...g6!**? White has a tactic: **14.Nexd6! Bxd6 15.Nh6+ Kg7 16.Rd1** but chess is so solid game that even here Black is able to get a full-blooded position: **16...Nd7!** (**16...Be7?** is not good because of unexpected **17.Ng4!** and Black can't prevent both White's threats (**Bh6** and **Ne3**): **17...Re8 (17...Bg5 18.Bxd5 Bxd5 19.Qxc5+-) 18.Bh6+ Kh8 19.Ne3±) 17.Bxd5 Bxd5 18.Rxd5 Nb6 19.Rd1 Qe7 20.Ng4** a bit better for White. Move in the game put Black even in more troubles.] **14.Rd1 Nac7**



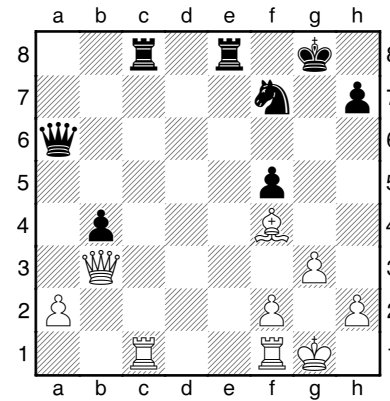
15.Nxc5! White wins a pawn back and gets a strong passed pawn. **15...dxc5 16.e4 Nb5** Establishing a blockade on d6 square. **17.exd5 Bd6 18.Be3 Rc8 19.Rac1** Nxd6 and Bxc5 threat. **19...c4** Now pawn a7 becomes a victim. **20.Qe2! Qf6**



Only. **21.Nxd6?** [A human is always looking for safe and forced variations. And just computer like smoke can realize that unhurried **21.Bh3!+-** wins a pawn c4 and remains a beauty-knight on f5.] **21...Nxd6** c4 pawn is more important than a7 one. **22.Bxa7±** Banikas won a pawn; he has two bishops and the rest of the game is just an examination of his technique. It is good! **22...Rfe8 23.Qc2 Qd8 24.Bh3 f5** [Exchange of pawns a2 and b4 widens a scope of dark squared bishop: **24...Ra8 25.Bc5 Rxa2 26.Bxb4±**] **25.Be3 Qd7 26.Bf4** Provoking g7-g6 that weakens Black king even more. **26...g6**



27.Bf1! Now a pawn's c4 turn is. **27...Ba6 28.b3!+- cxb3 29.Qxb3 Bxf1 30.Rxf1** Tomashevsky is helpless. **30...Nf7 31.d6 g5** Remaining own king without a cover though destroying a pawn d6. **32.Bxg5 Qxd6 33.Bf4 Qa6**



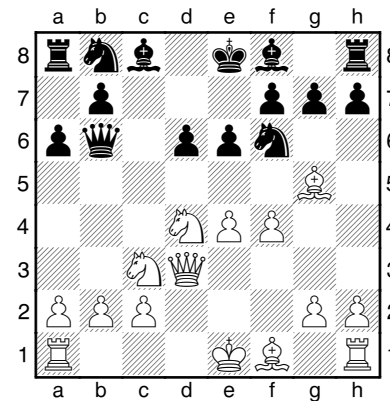
[**33...Qb6 34.a3** winning a pawn b4.] **34.Rxc8 Rxc8 35.Re1 Ra8 36.Qd5** Transfer to attack. **36...Rd8** [**36...Qxa2?** **37.Re8+!** **Kg7 38.Be5+ Kg6 39.Re6+ Kg5 40.Bf4+ Kg4 41.Qd1+** with a checkmate.] **37.Qxf5 Qxa2 38.Bg5!** Bishop goes to f6. **38...Ra8 39.Bf6 Qc4 40.Re4 Qc1+ 41.Kg2** Black resigned. 1-0

(02) Gashimov, V (2759) - Grischuk, A (2736) [B97]

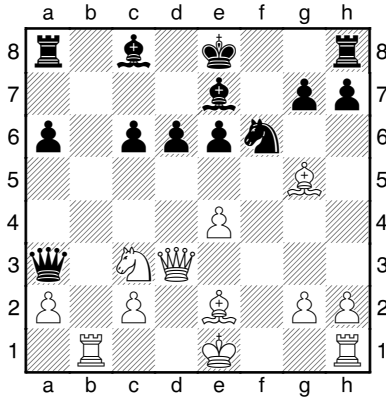
7th World Team Championship Bursa TUR (4), 08.01.2010

[GM Aveskulov, V]

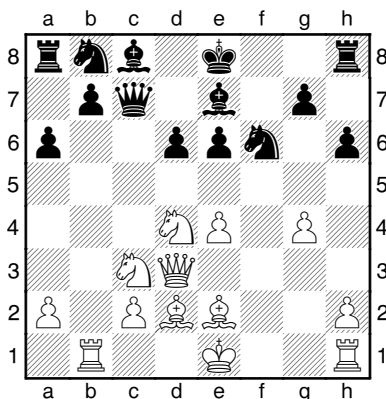
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 This line could be named as a "Fischer's variation". **8.Qd3**



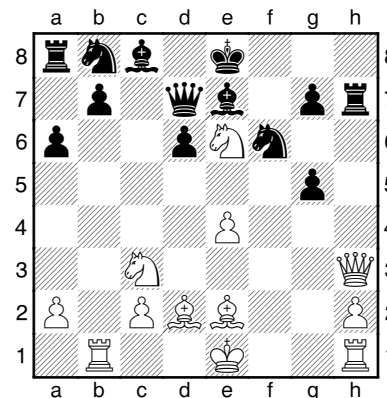
[This move becomes popular nowadays. But old 8.Qd2 is still being played more often.] **8...Qxb2 9.Rb1** [9.Nb3 is also possible but it would be totally different story.] **9...Qa3 10.f5 Be7** [In 8.Qd2 line Black usually replies with **10...Nc6** but here after **11.fxe6 fxe6 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Be2 Be7**



White has a trick 14.Bh5+!? It can be dangerous if you have not studied this. In fact this is not a big deal for White: 14...Nxh5 (14...g6? is not good 15.e5! Nd5 (15...dxe5? 16.Rb3 Qc5 17.Bxg6+! hxg6 18.Qxg6+ Kd7 19.Bxf6±) 16.Rb3 Qa5 17.Bxe7 Nxe7 (17...Kxe7 is even more risky 18.exd6+ Kxd6 19.0-0 and White starts a crushing attack) 18.exd6 Qxh5 19.dxe7 Qh4+ 20.g3 Qxe7 21.0-0± Position is completely winning for White as Black just has a terrible structure and unsafe king, R.Mamedov-Kokarev, Plovdiv, EU-ch, 2008: 21...Rf8 22.Ne4 e5 23.Nd6+ Kd8 24.Rfb1 Qe6 25.c4 Ke7 26.Rb7+! Bxb7 27.Rxb7+ Kd8 28.Qa3 a5 29.Qc5 1-0) 15.Bxe7 Nf4 (15...Kxe7?? 16.Nd5+-) 16.Qd4 e5 17.Qxe5! dxe5 18.Bxa3 Nxe2+ 19.Kf2 Nf4 20.Bd6 Ng6 and Black is fine. Thus, 10...Nc6 is quite possible.] 11.fxe6 fxe6 12.Be2 Qa5 [Here he could transfer to above mentioned variations with 12...Nc6] 13.Bd2 Qc7 14.g4! [Previous game between these players was continued with 14.0-0 0-0 15.Qc4 Qd7 16.Qb3 Kh8 17.Bc4 d5 18.exd5 b5 19.Be2 Bc5 20.Kh1 exd5 (Gashimov-Grischuk, Elista, 2008). Azerbaijani even has managed to win that game but unlikely he was happy about his opening.] 14...h6

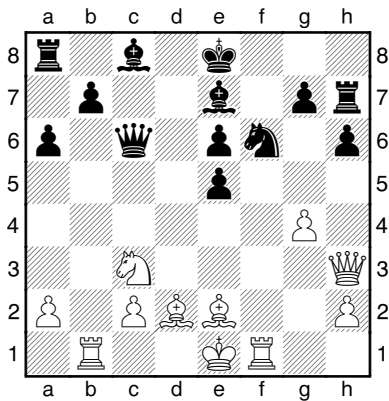


[14...h5? 15.g5 Ng4 16.Qh3!± Qc5 17.Bxg4 Qxd4 18.Bxe6 Nd7 19.Rf1 Kd8 20.Nd5 Qxe4+ 21.Kd1 Nb6 22.Bxc8 Qxd5 23.Be6 Qd4 24.Qd3! 1-0, Lastin-Kokarev, Saint-Peterburg, 2002.] 15.Qh3N Aiming g4-g5. [Almost all the games in this variations were played by Gashimov's teammates. Surprisingly he didn't want to play 15.e5!? how all of them were doing before: 15...dxe5 16.Qg6+ Kf8 (16...Kd8!? this move should be considered as it was made by another Azerbaijani player: 17.Nf3 Nc6 18.g5 Ne8 19.0-0 Nd4 20.gxh6 Nxe2+ 21.Nxe2 gxh6 22.Bc3 Bd6 23.Rbd1 Bd7 24.Rxd6 Qxd6 25.Bxe5 Qf8 26.Bxh8 Qxh8 27.Nfd4 Qg7 1/2, R.Mamedov-Safarli, AZE-ch, 2009.) 17.Nf3 Bd7 18.g5 Be8 19.Qd3 hxg5 20.Nxg5 Bf7 (20...Kg8 21.Rg1 Qd7 22.Qg3 Nh5 23.Qxe5 Bd6 24.Qe4 Bxh2 25.Bc4 Nf6 26.Qg2 Qd4 27.Bxe6+ Kf8 28.Nf3 1-0, R.Mamedov-Chernousek, Pardubice (rapid), 2009.) 21.Nxf7 Kxf7 22.Rg1 Bd8 23.Ne4 Nxe4 24.Qxe4 Nc6 25.Qg6+ Kf8 26.Rf1+ Bf6 27.Rxf6+ gxf6 28.Qxf6+ Kg8 29.Rb3 Rh7 30.Bh6 Qa5+ 31.Kf1 1-0. Radjabov-Rowson, Olympiad, 2004. Apparently this line will appear at the highest level more than once.] 15...Rh7 A bit awkwardly Black has prevented g4-g5. [Another logical idea is to trade a knight d4: 15...Nc6!? 16.Nxc6 Qxc6 17.g5 (White has nothing after 17.0-0 0-0) 17...Nxe4! even Rybka doesn't help too much to say who is better here: 18.Qh5+ Kd7 (18...Kd8 also can be played 19.Bf3 Nxd2! only (19...d5? 20.Nxe4 dxe4 21.Ba5+ Kd7 22.Rd1+ Bd6 23.Qf7#) 20.Bxc6 Nxb1 21.gxh6 bxc6 22.Qa5+ Kd7 23.Na4! with complications(23.Nxb1? Rxh6-+)) 19.Bf3 d5 20.Nxe4 dxe4 21.Bg2 Rf8 22.gxh6 Rf5 with unclear position.] 16.Rf1?! [Both players missed that tactic after 16.g5! hxg5 17.Nxe6 Qc6 a) and Black can't play 17...Qd7??

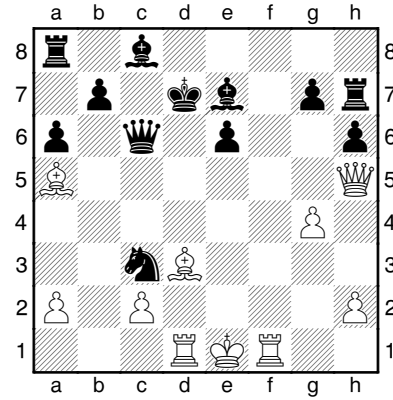


because 18.Qxh7! Qxe6 (18...Nxh7 19.Bh5+

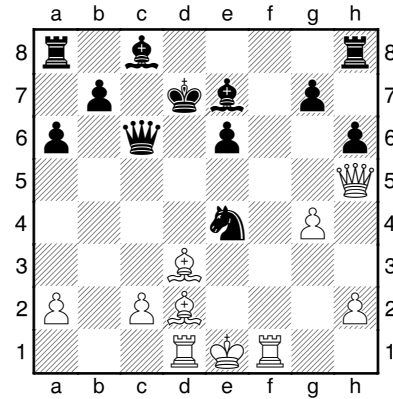
g6 20.Bxg6#) 19.Qxg7+-; b) 17...Bxe6 18.Qxe6 Qd7 19.Qb3 the same variation; 18.Qf5 Bxe6 19.Qxe6 Qd7 20.Qb3 and he is better.] **16...Nc6** Destroying the knight d4. **17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.e5** Vugar decides to attack directly. [Probably more preferable was 18.Bd3!? e5!? trying to build a round defence (opening of position is unlikely good for Black: 18...Rh8?! 19.g5 Nd7 (19...e5? weakens even more 20.Qh4 Nd7 21.Qh5+ Kd8 22.Rf7+-) 20.Qh5+ Kd8 21.Qf7 hxc5 22.Qxg7 Re8 23.Ne2 Black is in real troubles.) 19.Nd5 Be6 20.Qh4 Bg8!? (preventing g4-g5 and thinking of Nxd5). Position is very complicated.] **18...dxe5**



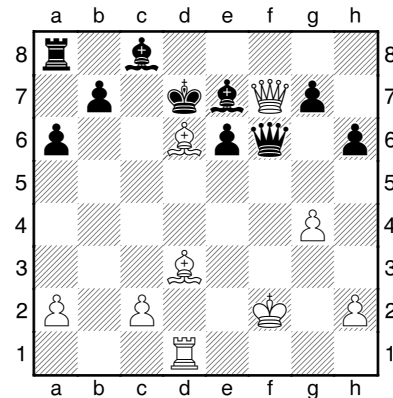
Capture is forced. **19.Bd3 e4** [19...Rh8?! again allows White to open a position: 20.g5 Nd7 (20...Nd5 21.Nxd5 exd5 (21...Qxd5? 22.c4! Qc5 (22...Qd4 23.Bg6+ Kd7 24.Ba5+-) 23.Bb4 Qxb4+ 24.Rxb4 Bxb4+ 25.Ke2+-) 22.Qh5+ Kd7 23.gxh6 e4 24.Rf5! with a strong attack) 21.Qh5+ Kd8 22.Ne4 with a pressure.] **20.Nxe4!** [20.Rxf6?! doesn't make any sense: 20...exd3 21.Qh5+ Kd8 22.Rf2 dxc2 23.Rc1 e5! 24.Rxc2 Bd7 25.Qxe5 Qe6+] **20...Nxe4 21.Qh5+** He continues the attack. [More primitive 21.Qe3!? also leads to a good position 21...Nxd2! (21...Nf6 22.Bg6+ Kd8 23.Qd3+! attacking one more time on h7 23...Bd7 24.Bxh7) 22.Bg6+ Kd8 23.Qxd2+ Bd7 (23...Qd5 24.Bxh7±) 24.Bxh7 Rc8 with a compensation for an exchange.] **21...Kd7** [21...Kd8?? 22.Ba5+ Kd7 23.Rd1 Nc3



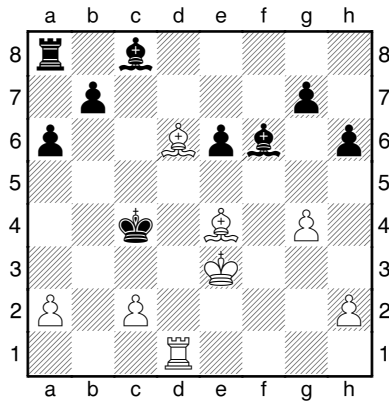
24.Qe8+!! not only but the most effective **24...Kd6** (24...Kxe8 25.Bg6#) **25.Bb5+ Nxd1 26.Bxc6 bxc6 27.Kxd1+-]** **22.Rd1 Rh8**



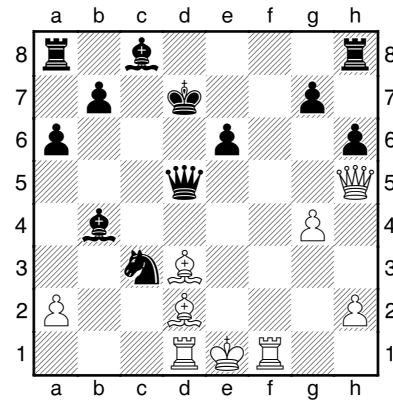
A key moment. **23.Bf4??** Too optimistic. [White needed to throw in one more piece to attack: 23.Rf7! Nd6 the most natural (23...Nxd2 24.Rxd2 Qc3 25.Qh4! Qe5+ 26.Be2+ Kc7 27.Qxe7+ Kb8 28.Qd6+! exchanging only active Black piece 28...Qxd6 29.Rxd6± he has a huge edge.) 24.Bb4! Rf8 25.Bxd6 Grischuk would have a difficult choice. Kind of Black can survive in a case of 25...Qc3+! (25...Rxf7 leads to problems 26.Qxf7 Qc3+ only 27.Kf2 Kxd6 (queens are not being traded 27...Qf6+



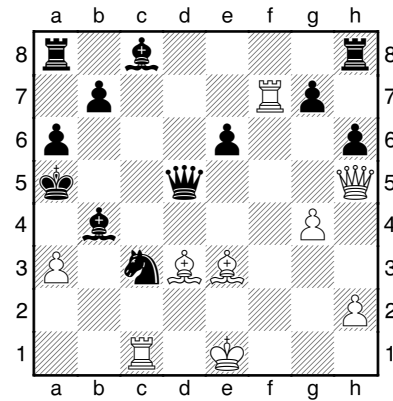
because of unexpected 28.Bf4!! Kc6!
 (28...Qxf7 29.Bb5#) 29.Be4+ (Black is better
 after 29.Qe8+? Bd7! 30.Be4+ (30.Bb5+? Kb6!-
 +) 30...Kb6 31.Qxd7 Qxf4+ 32.Bf3 Qxh2+
 33.Kf1 Bc5! 34.Rd4 (34.Qxb7+?? Ka5-+)
 34...Rf8 35.Qxb7+ Ka5 36.c3 Qh1+ 37.Ke2
 Qxf3+ 38.Qxf3 Rxf3 39.Kxf3 Bxd4 40.cxd4 with
 winning pawn endgame 40...Kb4 41.Ke4 Kc4
 42.Ke5 g6 43.Kxe6 Kxd4 44.Kf6 h5 45.gxh5
 gxh5 46.Kg5 a5 47.Kxh5 a4 48.Kg4 Kc3
 49.Kf3 Kb2 50.Ke2 Kxa2 51.Kd2 Kb2-+)
 29...Kc5 30.Qxf6 Bxf6 31.Bd6+ Kc4 32.Ke3



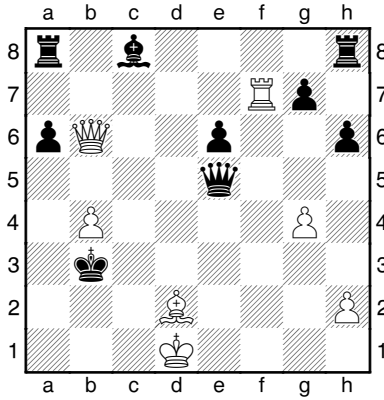
There is safety in numbers.) 28.Be2+ Kc6
 29.Qxe7 Qc5+ 30.Qxc5+ Kxc5 31.Rd8 again
 Black is not developed; only White can win
 here.) 26.Ke2 (26.Kf2?? Kxd6! 27.Be4+ Kc7
 the problem of White is that bishop e7 is not
 hanging now 28.Rxf8 Qc5+ 29.Kg2 Bxf8-+)
 26...Kxd6! (26...Rxf7?? 27.Be5!+- threatening
 both Bxc3 and Bb5 checkmate!) 27.Be4+ Kc7
 28.Rxf8 (28.Rxe7+ Kb8 Black is alive)
 28...Bxf8 29.Qf7+ Kb8 30.Qxf8 Qe5 31.Kf3
 g5= and the most probable is that game will be
 ended with some perpetual. Probably I have
 missed something in my variations. Anyway
 23.Rf7 was the best practical decision. After
 23.Bf4 Black gets a huge advantage.]
23...Bb4+! A natural check puts White in big
 difficulties. **24.c3** Only. **24...Nxc3 25.Bd2** [A
 check gives nothing: 25.Qf7+ Kd8!] **25...Qd5!**



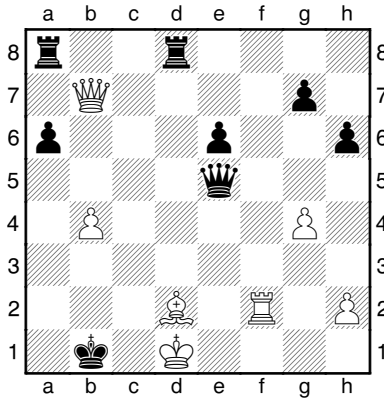
Capturing the center. Now everything is ready
 for route of the Black king. **26.Rf7+ Kc6!** King
 goes to the opponent's camp. **27.Rc1 Kb6**
 [27...Qxd3 also leads to a win 28.Qe5 a5!
 29.Bxc3 Kb6-+ king has a good refuge on a6.
 And White is still piece down.] **28.Be3+** [Vugar
 is not going to come to the lost endgame:
 28.Rxc3 Bxc3 29.Bxc3 Rd8 30.Qxd5 Rxd5
 31.Be4 Rd7 32.Rxg7 Rxg7 33.Bd4+ Kb5
 34.Bxg7 e5 35.h3 (35.Bf5 Bxf5 36.gxf5 Kc5-+)
 35...Be6-+] **28...Ka5 29.a3**



29...Ka4! The move of the game! King unpins
 own queen; goes away from the check after
 a3xb4 and comes to the knight c3 to find a
 safe cover. **30.axb4 Qxd3 31.Qa5+ Kb3**
32.Rxc3+ Black's defence was so great that he
 even managed to create a threat of checkmate
 in 1! **32...Qxc3+ 33.Bd2 b6!** The last precise
 move. **34.Qxb6 Qe5+ 35.Kd1**



35...Bb7! Having a rook up you can sacrifice bishops like this! **36.Qxb7 Rhd8** The rest is not difficult. **37.Rf3+ Ka2 38.Rf2 Kb1!**



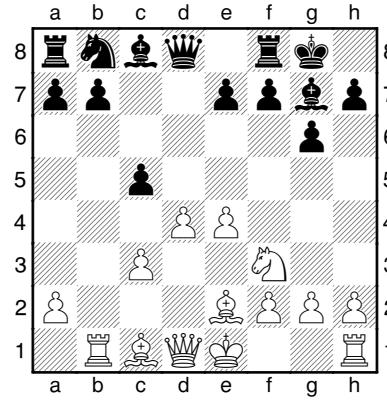
King made impossible: he came from e8 to b1 with major pieces on the board! Bravo! **39.Qf3 Rac8 40.Qb3+ Qb2 41.Qxb2+ Kxb2!** As befits, the last move is made by the hero of the game! White resigned! A brilliant game! **0-1**

(03) Mamedyarov,S (2741) - Morozevich,A (2732) [D90]

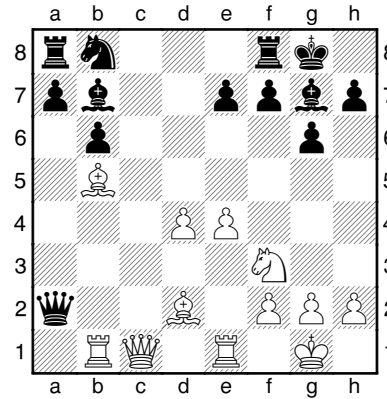
7th World Team Championship Bursa TUR (4), 08.01.2010

[GM Aveskulov, V]

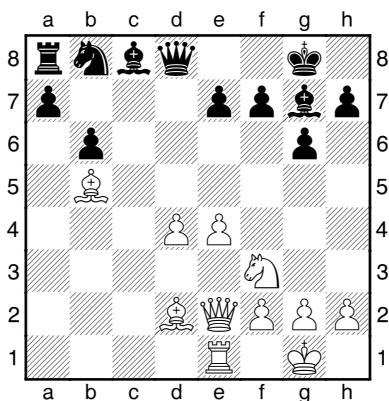
A very strange game for the top-players... **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 c5 8.Rb1 0-0 9.Be2**



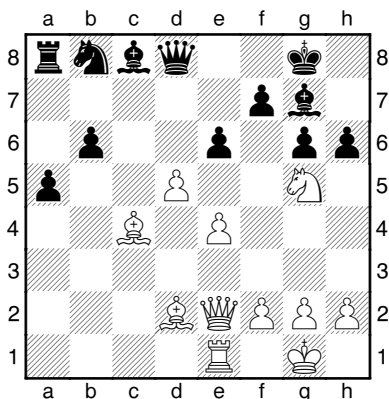
9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+ 11.Bd2 Qxa2 12.0-0 b6 13.Qc1 Bb7 14.Bc4 Qa4 15.Bb5 Qa2 16.Bc4 Qa4 17.Bb5 Qa2 18.Re1



Of course Mamedyarov continues the game. **18...Rc8 19.Qd1** Not being a specialist in the Grunfeld's defence I can just tell that this position happened at least 38 (!) times in practice. **19...Qc2** [Black evacuates own queen to home. Another possibility is 19...e6 20.Ba4 Nc6 21.d5 exd5 22.Bb3 Qa3 23.exd5 Nd4 24.Nxd4 Bxd4 25.Re4 Qc5 26.Be1 White has a lasting initiative for a sacrificed pawn, Chernin-Dvoyris, Podolsk, 1993.] **20.Qe2** Naturally, White is not going to trade queens. **20...Qc7** [Black can even play 20...Nc6 e.g. 21.Bd3 Qa2 22.Bc4 Qa4 23.Bb3 Qa6 24.Qe3 Na5 25.Bxf7+! Kxf7 26.Ng5+ Kg8 27.Qh3 h6 Lautier-Shirov, Belgrad, 1995. According to Shirov's analysis even after the stongest 28.Ne6 he is ok: 28...h5 29.Qg3 Kh7 30.Qg5 Rg8 31.d5 Nc4] **21.Rbc1 Qd8 22.Rxc8 Bxc8**

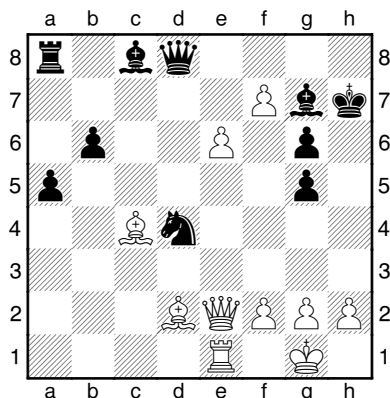


[A few games were continued with 22...Qxc8 23.Rc1 Qd8 24.Bf4 a5 (24...a6?! 25.Ba4 e6 26.Rc7 Bc8 27.Qc4 Bd7 28.Bxd7 Nxd7 29.Qc6 Nf8 30.Ng5 Qxd4 31.g3 with initiative, S.Ivanov-Beshukov, Podolsk, 1990) 25.Ng5 Na6 26.Qa2 e6 27.Bxa6 Bxa6 28.Nxf7! Qf6! (28...Qxd4? 29.Nh6+ Kh8 30.Qxe6± Khalifman-Dvoynis, USSR-ch, 1990) 29.Ne5 Qxf4 30.Qxe6+ Kh8 31.Nf7+ Kg8= and White has no more than a perpetual.] **23.Bc4** White wants to play Bd5 trapping a rook. **23...a5?!** [Considering the continuation of the game it's easy to advice 23...e6 24.d5 e5 with a normal position (to be honest, White is still better).] **24.Ng5!** White starts a winning attack. **24...e6** Only **25.d5!** Ng5 and a7-a5 moves are definitely in favor of White. **25...h6**

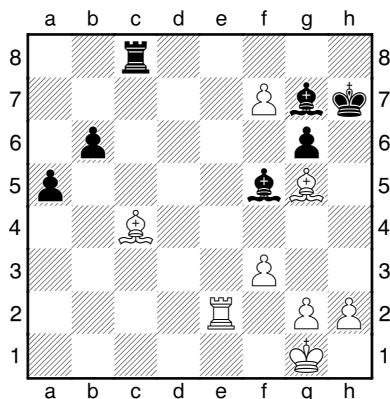


[Here 25...e5? is not good as well 26.d6 Ra7 27.Bxf7+ Rxf7 28.Qc4 Qe8 29.Rb1! Black can't defend on b6 (29.Nxf7? Be6!) 29...Ba6 30.Qxf7+ Qxf7 31.Nxf7 Kxf7 32.Rxb6+...] **26.dxe6!** It would be very nice...unless it was in practice before! **26...hgx5 27.exf7+ Kh7N** From Russian GM's clock this position was not seen by him before. As well I don't know if Shahriyar knew about that old game. [It was continued with: 27...Kf8 28.e5 Ra7 29.e6 Nc6 30.Bc1! Bf6 31.Qe4 Ne7 32.Ba3 Kg7 33.Bd3

Qh8 34.Qf3 (Qf6 threats) 34...Kf8 35.Qc6! Kg7 36.Qxb6 Rb7 37.Qxa5 Bxe6 38.Rxe6 Kxf7 39.Bc4 Kg7 40.Rxf6 1-0. Scherbakov-Conquell, Calcutta, 1996.] **28.e5±** Black is bad. **28...Nc6 29.Bd3?** [Azerbaijani missed a nice end and gives some chances to his opponent: 29.e6 Nd4



only 30.e7!! Nxe2+ 31.Rxe2 Bg4 (31...Bd7 32.exd8Q Rxd8 33.Bxg5 Rc8 34.Ba6 Ra8 35.Re4! Bf8 36.Bf6! g5 37.Bd3 Bf5 38.Re8+-) 32.exd8Q Rxd8 33.f3 Bf5 34.Bxg5 Rc8



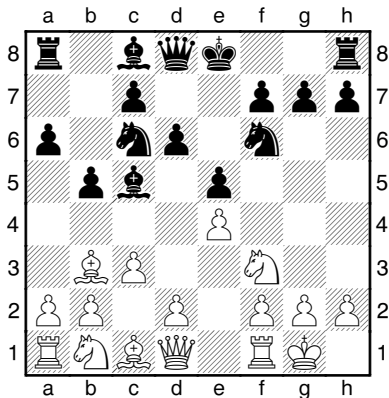
35.Re8! Rxc4 36.Bf6! Rc7 37.Rh8+!!+- But move in the game also seems quite good.] **29...Bf5?** A reciprocal kindness. [Another stopping of Qh5 would give him a good position. 29...g4! e5 is hanging 30.e6 Ne5! e6 is hanging 31.Bg5 (31.Bc3 Bxe6 32.Bxe5 Bxf7 Black is even a bit better) 31...Qxg5 32.Qxe5! Bxe5 33.f8Q Bc3 34.e7 Bd7! 35.Bc4! Bxe1 36.Bg8+ Kh8 37.Bf7+=] **30.Bxf5 gxf5 31.e6?** Another mistake that gave a hope to Russian team. [The right way was 31.Qh5+ Bh6 32.h4! (probably 32.Bc3! is yet easier 32...Ne7 (32...Qd3? 33.Rd1! Qxc3 34.f8Q Rxf8 35.Rd7+ with a checkmate) 33.e6 Qf8 34.Bf6+- taking all the Black pawns at the king side) 32...Qxd2 33.Rd1 Black can build something kind of a

fortress by means of queen's sacrifice:
 33...Qxd1+ (33...Qf4? 34.f8Q! Rxf8 35.Rd7+-)
) 34.Qxd1 Nxe5 35.Qd5 Rf8 36.Qxe5 Rxf7
 37.Qe6 Kg7 38.hxg5 Bxg5 39.Qxb6± with
 some chances to survive.] **31...g4?! [31...Kg6!**
 was stronger; White has to put a lot of efforts
 to get an edge: 32.g4! Qd5 33.e7 Nxe7
 34.Qxe7 Qxd2 35.Qe6+ Bf6 36.gxf5+ Kg7
 37.Qe8 Qb4 38.Re4! Qf8 39.Qxa8! Qxa8
 40.Re8 Kxf7 41.Rxa8 White is almost winning
 but the whole line is not easy to find for White.]
32.h3 Nd4? [Morozevich loses a last chance to
 offer a real resistance: 32...Qd5! 33.hxg4 fxg4
 34.Qxg4 Qxd2 35.Qe4+ (35.Qf5+ Kh6! taking
 g6 square under control 36.Re3 Qc1+ 37.Kh2
 Be5+ 38.g3 Qc5! Black is not losing yet)
 35...Kh6 36.Re3 Qc1+ 37.Kh2 Be5+ 38.f4 Kg7!
 39.Rg3+ Kf6 40.fxe5+ Nxe5 41.Rg8 Qh6+
 42.Kg3 Kxe6! (42...Rf8?? 43.e7! Kxe7
 44.Qxe5+ Kxf7 45.Rg4!+- with a crushing at-
 tack) 43.Rxa8 Qg5+ 44.Kh3 Qh5+ 45.Qh4
 Qf5+ Black takes on f7 and has good chances
 to save the game. The most important is don't
 trade queens.] **33.Qe3!+-** Queen goes to weak
 squares in Black's camp. **33...Nc2 34.Qf4 Qd5**
 [34...Nxe1 35.Qxf5+ Kh8 36.Qh5+ Bh6
 37.Qxh6#] **35.Qg5** Black resigned because of
 inevitable threat Qh5. 1-0

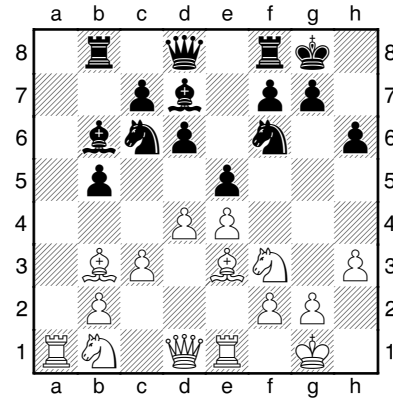
(04) Kamsky,G (2695) - Almasi,Z (2704) [C78]

52nd It Reggio Emilia ITA (9), 06.01.2010
 [GM Aveskulov, V]

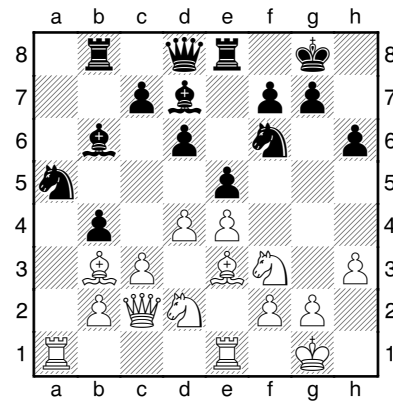
Almasi had a lead one point ahead of Kamsky
 before the game. So, only win in this game
 could bring Kamsky tie for first place. **1.e4 e5**
2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3
Bc5 7.c3 d6



8.a4 Rb8 9.axb5 axb5 10.d4 Bb6 11.h3 0-0
12.Re1 h6 [One of the main adherents of this
 line plays 12...Bb7 Navara-Shirov, Carlsbad,
 2007] **13.Be3 Bd7N**

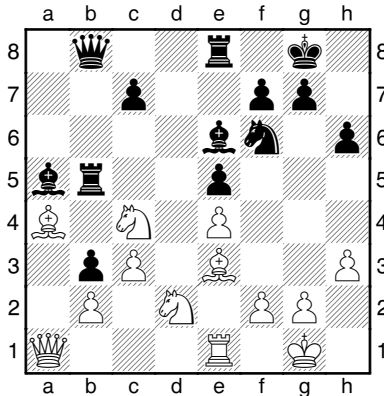


[13...Re8 Janev-Danilov, Kesarovski Georgiev
 Memorial, 2007.] **14.Nbd2 Re8 15.Qb1!?** An
 interesting decision from American GM. Queen
 goes to a2. At least it seems so... [Why not
 15.Qc2 there is still a mystery for me.] **15...b4**
 [Black could get a perfect position by means of
 15...exd4!? 16.cxd4 Nb4 significantly restricting
 opponent's queen. To be honest, 15...b4 is
 also fine.] **16.Qc2** b4 square is occupied and
 somehow it caused this move. [After planned
 16.Qa2 Almasi could reply with 16...Qe7 and
 whole struggle ahead.] **16...Na5?**



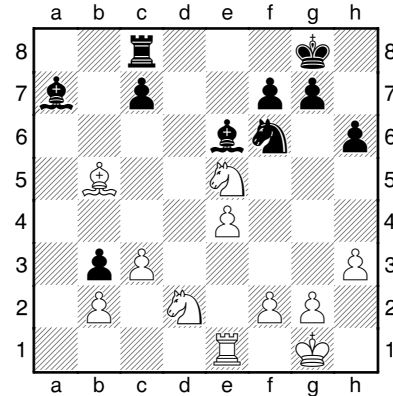
[Hungarian missed an unusual tactic. He
 needed to play more solid. As well 16...Qe7?!
 is not great because of 17.d5! Na5 18.Ba4
 bxc3 19.Qxc3 (an important moment; queen
 takes on c3) 19...Bxe3 20.Rxe3 Nb7 21.b4!
 restricting Nb7 21...Ra8 22.Qc2 (with idea
 Rea3); White is better; that's why at first Black
 has to take on c3 16...bxc3! 17.bxc3 (he is ok
 after 17.Qxc3 exd4 18.Nxd4 Ne5) 17...Qe7
 18.d5 Na5 Knight will be directed to c5 and
 Black has no problems.] **17.Rxa5!** White sacri-
 fices an exchange in order to activate own mi-
 nor pieces to the bitter end. **17...Bxa5 18.dxe5**
dxe5 [18...bxc3 is being met with 19.Nc4! cxb2
 20.Nxa5 dxe5 21.Nd2± gradually White will

take on b2 and start a realization.] **19.Nc4 Rb5!** [Black needs a pawn on e5. 19...Bb6? is very bad: 20.Ncxe5! (natural 20.Bxb6? unexpectedly leads to the good for Black 20...Rxb6! (primitive 20...cxb6? loses 21.Ncxe5 Re7 (21...Be6 22.Nc6+-) 22.Nxf7! Rxf7 23.e5+-) 21.Nxb6 cxb6 22.cxb4 Qe7 White is pawn up but it is doubled and not dangerous.) 20...Re7 (20...Be6 21.Nc6±) 21.Nxf7! Rxf7 22.e5 bxc3 23.Bxb6 Rxb6 24.Bxf7+ Kxf7 25.exf6 Rxf6 26.Qxc3 White won a pawn and has all chances for a win.] **20.Ba4 b3** [Black closes a queen side. In the same time pawn b3 becomes a target in future endgame positions. Alternative could be 20...Qb8!?] **21.Qd1 Qb8 22.Nfd2** Threatening Bxb5, then Nxa5 and Qxb3 winning a pawn. **22...Be6 23.Qa1**

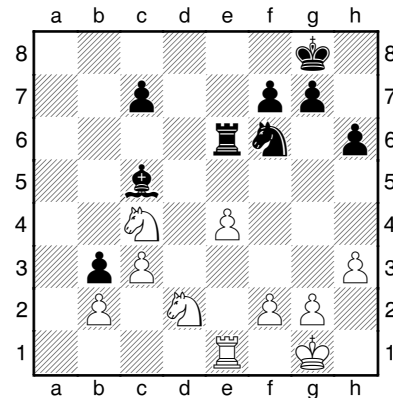


23...Rc8? [A serious mistake. He could get a full-blooded position after 23...Bxc4! 24.Nxc4 Nxe4 Now the strongest for White is 25.Rd1! with invisible idea: Bxb5-Qxb5; Nxa5-Ra8 and here c3-c4!-Qxa5 (otherwise Rd5 comes); Rd8! winning a rook (25.Bxb5 Qxb5 26.Nxa5 is not dangerous for Black 26...Ra8 27.Bxh6 Nd6 (after 27...Nxf2 he needs to consider 28.c4!) 28.Qd1 Rxa5 29.Qg4 Ne8 and then Ra4; Black is ok.) but Black can sacrifice a bishop 25...Bxc3! 26.bxc3 Qb7 27.Bxb5 Qxb5 with excellent compensation.] After 23...Rc8 Kamsky has a nice choice. **24.Ba7?!** [Showily played but simpler and stronger was 24.Bxb5! Qxb5 25.Qxa5 Bxc4 26.Qxb5 Bxb5 27.Ra1!± White has a huge edge as Black is not able to defend all own weaknesses (b3, c7, e5)(27.Nxb3?! is not so precise as Black pieces find some activity after 27...Nxe4 28.Bxh6 Bc6)] **24...Qxa7!?** [Idea of Ba7 is being discovered in such line: 24...Qb7 25.Bxb5 Qxb5 26.Nxa5 Ra8 and here 27.c4! winning a pawn 27...Qa6 28.Naxb3 Rxa7 29.Qxa6 Rxa6 30.Nc5 Ra2 31.Rb1 seemingly is still was the best option for Hungarian; his rook is

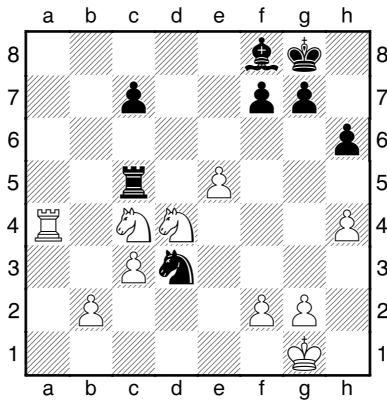
very active and gives him some hopes to save the game.] **25.Bxb5 Bb6?!** [Loses a pawn immediately. He could offer more resistance with 25...Ra8! and White has a long series of moves where he wins a pawn. 26.Bc6 Rd8 27.Qa3 Bb6 28.Qxa7 Bxa7 29.Ra1 Bc5 30.Ra8! exchanging only Black active piece 30...Rxa8 31.Bxa8 Bd6 32.Bc6± and then Nc4-a5xb3.] **26.Qxa7 Bxa7 27.Nxe5±**



The rest is technique matter. **27...Rd8 28.Ndf3 Bb6 29.Bc4 Re8** [He needed to secure d2 square 29...Rd6!] **30.Nd2 Bc5 31.Bxe6 Rxe6 32.Nec4+-**



Winning another pawn. **32...Bf8 33.e5 Nd5 34.Nxb3 Nf4 35.h4** Taking away a pawn for case of Rg6. **35...Ra6 36.Ra1 Rc6 37.Ra4 Nd3 38.Nd4 Rc5**



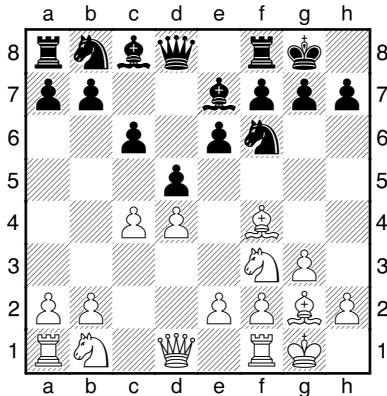
39.e6 Be7? Last miscalculation in the losing position. [The strongest was 39...fxe6 40.Nxe6 Rc6 41.Nd4 Rf6 42.Ra7 Nxf2 43.Rxc7+–] **40.Ra8+ Kh7 41.Re8** Black resigned; Be7 is doomed. 1-0

(05) Aronian,L (2781) - Vescovi,G (2660) [E10]

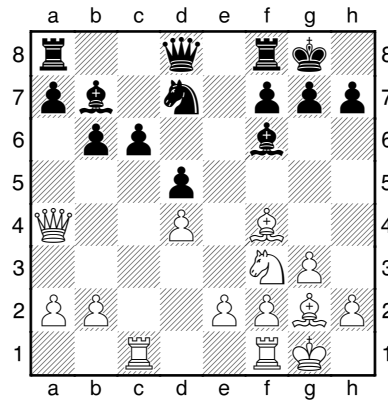
7th World Team Championship Bursa TUR (4), 08.01.2010

[GM Aveskulov, V]

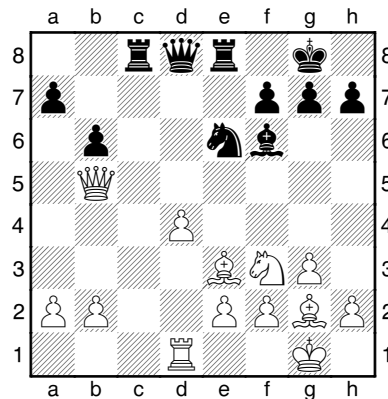
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bf4



8...b6 9.Nc3 Bb7 10.Rc1 Nbd7 11.cxd5 [A typical sacrifice of exchange happened in the game Postny–Gyimesi, Maalot–Tarshiha, 2008: 11.Nd2 Nh5 12.cxd5 exd5 (12...Nxf4? 13.dxc6 Nxg2 14.cxb7 Rb8 15.Kxg2 Rxb7±) 13.e3 Nxf4 14.gxf4 Nf6 15.Nf3 c5 16.Ne5 c4 17.Nxc4! Ba6 18.Ne5 Bxf1 19.Qxf1 with excellent compensation due to a weak pawn on d5.] **11...Nxd5** [11...exd5 is being played more often.] **12.Nxd5 exd5 13.Qa4 Bf6N**

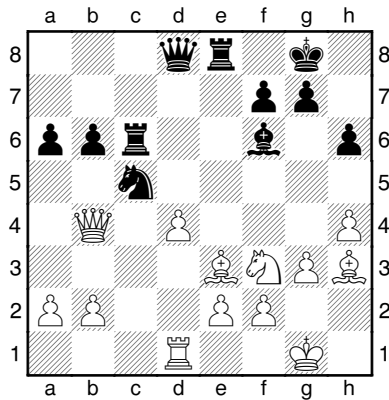


Not the best kind of novelties. [Black has problems in a case of 13...a5 14.Rxc6! (A Finnish GM has not dared to sacrifice exchange: 14.Bh3 b5 15.Qc2 Re8 16.Qd2 f6 17.Rc2 Nb6 18.Rfc1 Bf8 with a complicated game, Nyback–Gelashvili, Heraklio, 2007.) 14...Bxc6 15.Qxc6 Rc8 (after 15...Nf6 White can play 16.Bh3 setting a total control under the board.) 16.Qxd5 Rc2 17.Qb5± Alburst–Strenzwlk, 2002.; Probably he needed to prevent a sacrifice by means of 13...b5! 14.Qc2 Re8 with a position similar to the game Nyback–Gelashvili.] **14.Rxc6!** This sacrifice is natural as a baby's smile. **14...Bxc6** Otherwise White is just pawn up. **15.Qxc6 Re8 16.Qxd5** White got two pawns for exchange plus excellent position. **16...Nf8 17.Qb5 Ne6 18.Be3 Rc8 19.Rd1**

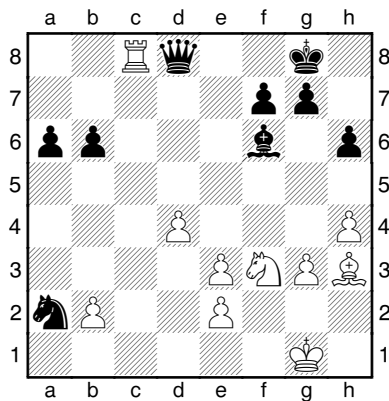


19...Nc5? [White is still better (but not so much as it happened in the game) in a case of the strongest 19...Rc2! 20.Qb3 Qc8 with idea Qc4. From now Aronian masterfully increases his edge.(20...Rxe2? 21.Bf1 Rxe3 22.fxe3±)] **20.h4** [Before playing Bh3 Armenian GM gets some space at the king side. Probably an immediate 20.Bh3! was even stronger 20...Ra8 (20...Rc7 21.d5 Nb7 22.d6! Rxe3 (22...Nxd6? 23.Rxd6+–) 23.dxc7 Qxd1+ 24.Bf1 Nd6

25.Qd7 Re8 26.Qxe8+ Nxe8 27.c8Q Kf8 28.b3± he has a healthy pawn.) 21.Nd2! Nb7 (21...Bxd4?? 22.Nf1+-) 22.Bg2± with a big advantage.] **20...h6** [20...a6 would change nothing: 21.Qb4 b5 22.Bh3 Ne6 23.Qb3 (White can play 23.d5 as well. But here he has to consider with a sacrifice on b2: 23...Rc2 24.Qb3 Rxb2 25.Qd3 Nf8 26.d6±) 23...Rc4 24.Qd3± and then d4-d5-d6.] **21.Bh3 a6** [Vescovi tries to provide own rook with an outpost on c6 but his plans have an obvious flaw. But even the most persistent 21...Rc7 leads to a huge edge of White: 22.Bf4 Rce7 23.e3 Ne6 24.Be5±] **22.Qb4 Rc6?**

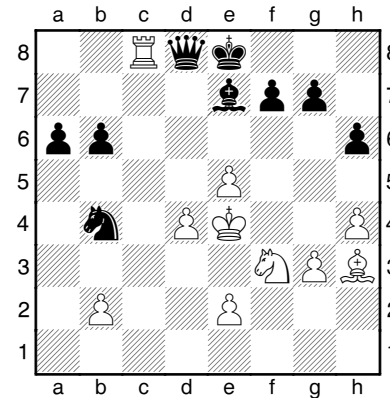


A miscalculation that leads to very poor endgame. [More stubborn was 22...Ra8 23.Nd2 Nd7 24.Bg2 Ra7± trying to deal with threats of White pieces.] **23.Rc1!** Forcing. **23...Rxe3** Only. **24.fxe3 Nd3 25.Rxc6!** Probably this move was not seen by Brazil GM when he made his 22-nd move. Or he saw this but decided that he would have more chances to save the endgame. Anyway following game of Aronian left him no illusions. **25...Nxb4 26.Rc8+- Nxa2**

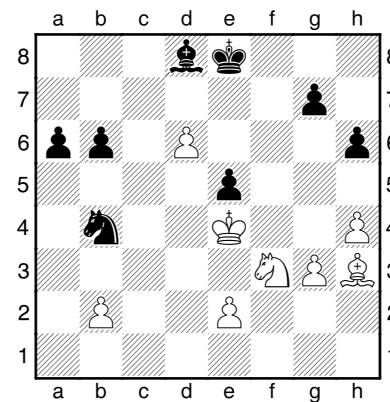


As a result of the forced line White won a pawn and got a domination in the center. The

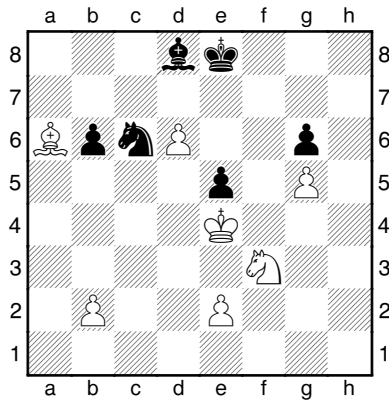
next task is a centralization of the king. **27.e4 Nb4 28.e5 Be7 29.Kf2 Kf8 30.Ke3 Ke8 31.Ke4**



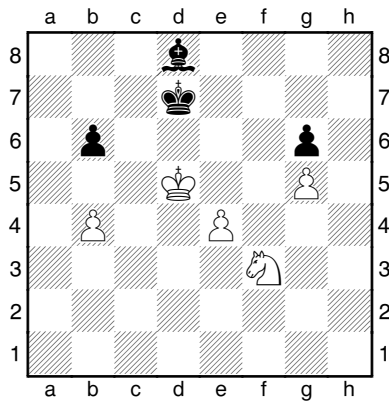
31...f6 [Nothing changes in a case of 31...Qxc8 32.Bxc8 Kd8 33.Bh3 g6 34.g4! (Black could get some counterplay after 34.d5 f5+ 35.Kd4 (35...exf6 gives Black king a good outpost on d6 35...Bxf6 36.Ne5 Kc7 37.b3 b5) 35...Bc5+ 36.Kc4 Nc2 37.d6 Bf2) 34...f6 35.d5 fxe5 36.Kxe5 Kc7 37.g5 hxg5 38.Nxg5+- insuring advancing pawn d5 forward.] **32.Rxd8+ Bxd8 33.d5 fxe5 34.d6**



Note how pawn d6 and Bh3 have nailed Ke8 to the backrank. **34...Nc6 35.Bc8** [An opposite-squared bishops endgame also looks winning: 35.Nxe5 Nxe5 36.Kxe5 Bf6+ 37.Kd5 Bxb2 38.e4 a5 39.Bf1+-] **35...Bf6 36.g4** [The last Black's chance could be such line: 36.Bxa6? Kd7 37.Bb5 Kxd6 38.Bxc6 Kxc6 39.Nxe5+ Kd6 40.Nd3± and White needs to put some efforts to get a whole point.] **36...g6 37.g5** Restricting a bishop and fixing a weakness on g6. **37...hxg5 38.hxg5 Bd8 39.Bxa6**



Now pawn can be taken. **39...Kd7 40.Bb5 Kxd6 41.Bxc6 Kxc6 42.Kxe5** An endgame is absolutely losing for Black; his pieces are too passive while Ke5 and Nf3 control the whole board. **42...Kd7 43.e4 Be7 44.Kd5 Bd8 45.b4**



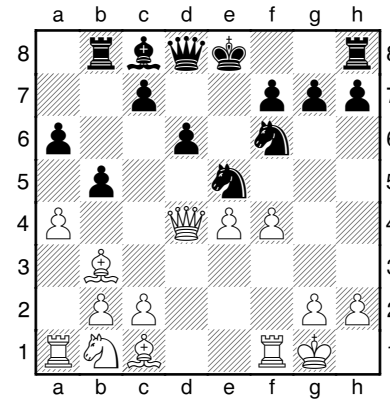
[Black resigned: 45.b4 Be7 46.b5 Bd8 47.Ne5+ Kc7 48.Nf7 Be7 49.Ke6 Bb4 50.Kf6 Kd7 51.Kxg6 Ke6 52.Nd8+ Kd7 53.Nc6+-] **1-0**

(06) Leko,P (2739) - Shirov,A (2723) [C78]

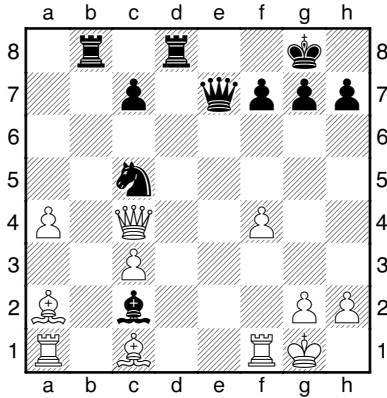
Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (1), 16.01.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 [To my thinking, this redaction of Mueller Defence is more exact than 5...Bc5 6.c3 b5 7.Bc2! – Areshchenko–Gupta, CZM 6/2009.] **6.Bb3 Bc5 7.a4** [Grandmaster's Godena recent games have shown, that after 7.Nxe5 Nxe5 8.d4 Bxd4 9.Qxd4 d6 everything is all right for Black: 10.f4 c5 11.Qc3 Neg4 12.e5 c4 13.exf6 0-0! 14.fxg7 (14.Bxc4 Qb6+ 15.Kh1 bxc4 16.fxg7 Re8 17.h3 Nf2+ 18.Kh2 Bb7 19.Qxc4 Rac8 20.Qb3 Qxb3 21.cxb3 Rc2 22.Nc3? Nd3 23.Rg1 Re1! 0-1, Garro–Costa, TCh–Fra 2008) 14...Re8 15.h3 Bb7! 16.hxg4 Re2 17.Rf2 Qb6, Valsecchi–Godena, ch–ITA 2008.] **7...Rb8 8.Nxe5** [8.c3 d6 9.d4 Bb6 –

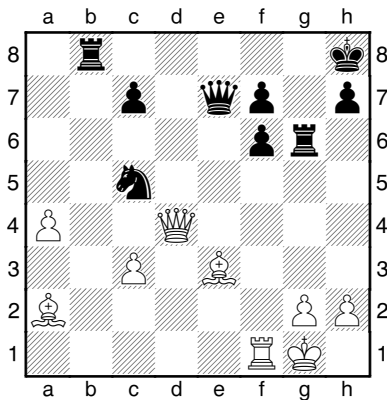
Inarkiev–Shirov, CZM 7/2009.] **8...Nxe5 9.d4 Bxd4 10.Qxd4 d6 11.f4**



Now the situation has been changed a little – considering a2–a4, bishop has square a2, that's why counterplay c7–c5–c4 is not so dangerous already. **11...Nc6 12.Qc3 Ne7 13.Qd3!? N** [13.axb5 axb5 14.e5 Ne4 is a common choice, but Leko leaves pawns "a" for some reason. Now we will see, why.] **13...0-0 14.Nc3 b4 15.e5! Bf5!** [With the help of exclusion method we can see that neither 15...dxe5 16.Qxd8 Rxd8 17.fxe5 Nfd5 18.Nxd5 Nxd5 19.Bg5 Rd7 20.a5±; nor 15...Ng4 16.Ne4 dxe5 17.h3! doesn't fit.] **16.Qxa6** Now the reason of leaving on 13th move pawn a6 alive is obvious – just to eat it! **16...Nd7** [16...dxe5 17.Rd1 (17.fxe5 Qd4+ 18.Kh1 Ng4) 17...Nd7 18.Ne2 Rb6 19.Qc4 Be6 20.Qe4 Nf6!? could appear as attractive, but 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Qf3 Rd1+ 23.Qf1 (23.Kf2? e4+) 23...Rxf1+ 24.Kxf1 should be evaluated in White's favour due to pawn a4.] **17.exd6 bxc3** [17...Nc5 18.Qc4! (18.dxe7? Qd4+) 18...cxd6 19.Nb5±] **18.dxe7 Qxe7 19.bxc3** [One can say with certainty – 19.Qc4! was the most unpleasant here, and difficult ending after 19...Qc5+ 20.Qxc5 Nxc5 21.bxc3 Nxb3 22.cxb3 Rxb3 is the best Black can get.] **19...Nc5 20.Qc4 Rfd8!** Strong move, after which the threat Nxb3 with Bd3 is hard to be parried. Perhaps, this was underestimated by Leko. **21.Ba2** [21.Ba3? Qe3+ 22.Kh1 Nxb3 23.cxb3 Bd3+; 21.Rb1 Nxb3 22.Rxb3 Rxb3 23.Qxb3 Qe2, and Black will win two pawns back.] **21...Bxc2**

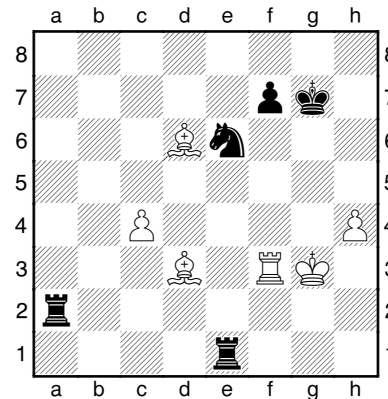


22.f5? [Strange decision. Apparently, White hasn't calculated 22.Ba3 properly. It seems, that 22...Qe3+ 23.Kh1 Ne4! 24.Qxc7 (24.Qxf7+ Kh8 25.Rf3 Nf2+ 26.Kg1 Nh3+ is easy way to draw) meets fabulous 24...Bb1!! (instead of silly 24...Nf2+? 25.Rxf2 Qxf2 26.Bc5+-), but not less fantastic 25.Bc5!! (25.Raxb1? Nf2+ 26.Rxf2 Rxb1+ 27.Bxb1 Rd1+-) guarantees an equality - 25...Nf2+ 26.Kg1 Nh3+=] **22...Bd3 23.f6 gxf6 24.Qg4+ Kh8 25.Bh6 Rg8** Now Black will be with extra exchange in the absence of sufficient compensation. **26.Qd4 Bxf1 27.Rxf1 Rg6 28.Be3**



White is blocking "e"-file (from Qe2) and planning Be3-f2-h4 transition at the same time. **28...Nxa4?!** [Lucrative impulses have prevailed, but it was worth to place emphasis on pieces' energization: 28...Rbg8 29.g3 (29.Bd5 Nxa4 and Rd8) 29...Ne4 (Nxc3 threatening) 30.Bf4 Rd8+- with Ne4-d2 intentions etc.] **29.Bf2 Nb6 30.Bb1** [30.Bh4 Nd7] **30...Rg7 31.Re1 Qd6 32.Bf5 Nd5** [Leko has made own bishops more active, so queen's exchange is not appropriate for Black now: 32...Qxd4 33.Bxd4 Nd5 34.c4!≡] **33.g4!?** [To lead pawn g2 away for avoiding 33.c4 Nf4 34.Qxd6 Rxc2+ 35.Kf1 cxd6 36.Bg3 Rbb2!+-] **33...Rgg8** Rook has nothing to do on g7, so it

comes back. **34.c4 Nf4 35.Qxd6 cxd6 36.Bg3** Pawn d6 is falling, but white king is withdrawn to the center in return. **36...Nh3+ 37.Kg2 Ng5 38.Bxd6 Rb2+ 39.Kg3 Ra8?** [Shirov has missed 39...Rb3+! 40.Kf2 Rf3+! 41.Kg2 Rc3 42.c5 Nf3 with decent chances to win.] **40.Re3!** Now White occupies third rank by its own, and draw outcome becomes the most probable. **40...Kg7** [40...Raa2?? 41.Re8+ Kg7 42.Bf8+-] **41.h4 Ne6 42.g5!** Using rook b2 and king g7, Leko is grabbing pawn h7. **42...Raa2 43.gxf6+ Kxf6 44.Bxh7 Re2 45.Rf3+ Kg7 46.Bd3 Re1**

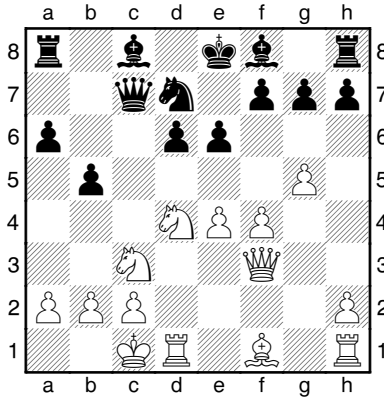


47.Be7? [White has forgotten about its main trump – passer c4, which should be promoted! 47.c5 Rd2 48.c6 Rc1 (48...Nd4? 49.c7 Re8 50.Be5+-) 49.c7! Nxc7 50.Bf4 Rg1+ 51.Kh3=] **47...Rd2! 48.Bf6+** [It's found out, that 48.c5 meets 48...f5!! 49.Bxf5 Nd4 – tactics is everywhere.] **48...Kg8** Now pawn c4 is blocked surely, and White is lacked of useful moves... **49.Kg4** [49.Bc3 Rg1+ 50.Kh3 Nf4+ 51.Rxf4 Rxd3+ 52.Kh2 Rc1+-] **49...Nc5 50.Bf5 Ne4! 51.Bxe4** [51.Be5 Rg2+ with Nd2] **51...Rxe4+ 52.Kh5 Rxc4 53.Rg3+ Kf8 54.Bg7+?!** Yet another arguable decision – for what to let black king out? **54...Ke7 55.Re3+ Kd7 56.Bf6 Rf2+-** Block from pawn f7 is taken off and it will move forward without any obstacles. **57.Be5 Rf5+ 58.Kh6 Rxh4+ 59.Kg7 Rg4+ 60.Kf8 Rf1 61.Rd3+ Ke6** [Shirov evades of last trap: 61...Kc6? 62.Rd6+ Kc5 63.Rf6=] **62.Bc7 Rc4 63.Rd6+ Kf5 64.Rd7 Kg4 0-1**

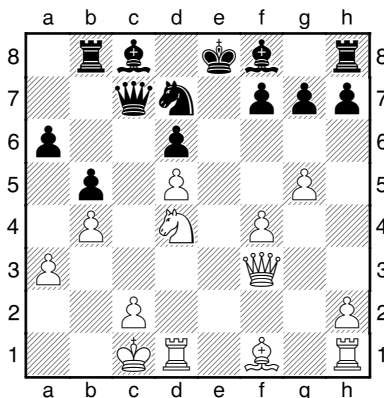
(07) Nakamura,Hi (2708) - Van Wely,L (2641) [B96]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (2), 17.01.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 Najdorf System – Van Wely's speciality! **7.f4 Nbd7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.Bxf6 Nxf6 10.g4 b5 11.g5 Nd7 12.0-0-0**

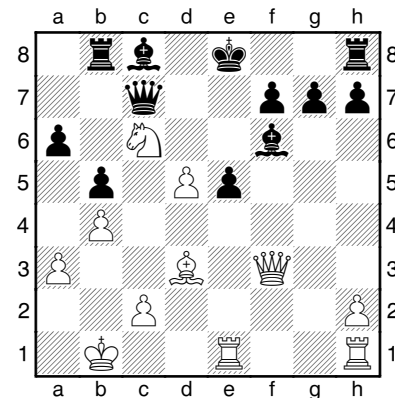


12...Nc5!? [An opening surprise from Loek. Main variation here is 12...Be7 13.f5 and so on...; quite a number of unanswered questions are in line 12...b4 13.Nd5 (basic motive) 13...exd5 14.exd5 Bb7 15.Qe4+, and now Black has to choose: 15...Kd8 16.Nc6+ Bxc6 17.dxc6 Nb6 or 15...Be7 16.Nf5 Nc5 17.Nxg7+ Kf8 18.Qd4 Rg8 19.Nf5 b3!±, Radjabov-Volokitin, Biel 2006.] **13.a3!?** [The main idea of 12...Nc5 – pressure to point e4, and b5–b4 is essential part of it: 13.f5 b4 14.Nd5? (14.Nce2 Bb7 15.Ng3) 14...exd5 15.exd5 Nd7±, Hector–Negi, Sigeman & Co 2007 – so, one can make a conclusion, that it's worth to forget about f4–f5 if we have Nc3–d5 in view; drastic 13.b4!? is possible, but a2–a3 (for pawn b4 supporting) still will be required.] **13...Rb8** Intending b5–b4 anyway... **14.b4!** But now is the appropriate time! **14...Nd7** [14...Na4 doesn't come off due 15.Ndxb5 axb5 16.Bxb5+ Rxb5 (under rook on a8 it will be just Bc8–d7) 17.Nxb5 Qb6 18.Qd3!± with next possible variation: 18...Ba6 19.Nxd6+ Bxd6 20.Qxd6 Qe3+ 21.Kb1 Nc3+ 22.Ka1 Nxd1 23.Rxd1 Qc3+ 24.Kb1 Qc8 25.f5!+–] **15.Nd5** Did anyone doubt? **15...exd5 16.exd5**

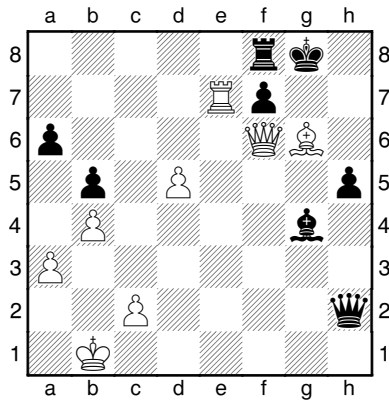


Now we see another advantage of waiting move 13.a3 – there is no Nd7–b8, which would

be handy, considered Nd4–c6. **16...Be7** [Another way to protect from Re1 is king's escape: 16...Bb7 17.Re1+ Kd8 18.Qe3 Qc8 19.Bg2 (preparing for the main idea Nd4–c6) 19...Kc7 20.Qc3+ Kb6 21.Nc6 Ra8, and here comes a strong 22.h4!+– with Qd4 and Rh3–c3.] **17.Re1 Ne5** [Dutchman has decided to pay off by the knight. It could be conducted differently: 17...Kf8!? 18.Qe4 (18.Nc6 Bb7!) 18...Nb6 19.Nc6 Nxd5 (19...Rb7 is bad because of 20.Bd3 with further tripling on line "e") 20.Qxd5 Be6 21.Qf3 Re8, and Black beats a first wave of attack off.] **18.fxe5 Bxg5+ 19.Kb1 dxe5 20.Nc6 Bf6?** [Black miss the good chance to castle – that's opportunity will not be given more. 20...0-0 21.Rxe5 f5 is still playable (only not 21...Bf6 22.Rh5+– with Bd3, Rg1...)] **21.Bd3!**



Of course, Nakamura has not tempted by exchange b8, preferring to attack instead. **21...h5** For the purpose of Bg4, or maybe even Rh6 with artificial castle Kf8–g8. [21...0-0 is going right under white rooks, like 22.Rhg1 Kh8 23.Bxh7! Kxh7 24.Qxf6!! gxf6 25.Re4+–; 21...Rb6 was better than that, but king is left in center for a good long time anyway.] **22.Rxe5+!** White is exploding line "e" with exchange sacrifice. **22...Bxe5 23.Re1 Bg4** [23...f6 24.Rxe5+! fxe5 25.Bg6+ Kd7 26.Qf5+ with mate; 23...0-0 24.Rxe5 (much weaker is 24.Qxh5 g6 25.Bxg6 fxe6 26.Qxg6+ Bg7 27.Ne7+ Qxe7 28.Rxe7 Rf1+)=) 24...Bg4 25.Qf4! – as in a game.] **24.Qf4 0-0 25.Rxe5** White's threat is Ne7 and Rxh5 (or vice versa). What is Black gonna do? **25...g6?** At one stroke letting to white queen go on f6 and creating weakness on g6... [25...Rbe8? doesn't work also: 26.Rxe8 Qxf4 27.Ne7+; but 25...f5! was correct again.] **26.Qf6 Rbe8 27.Ne7+ [27.Rg5 Kh7 28.d6! wins even faster, but that's OK too.] 27...Rxe7 28.Rxe7 Qxh2 29.Bxg6**

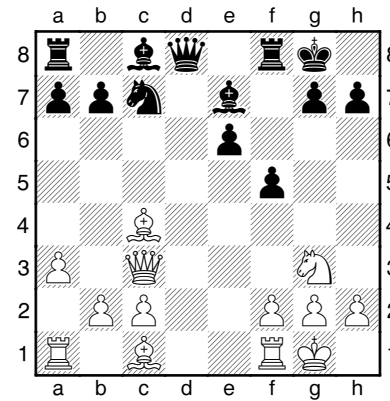


Final strike. Now the maximum what Black is able to achieve will be an endgame Q vs R+B, but it's lost anyway. **29...Qh1+ 30.Kb2 Qxd5 31.Bxf7+ Qxf7 32.Rxf7 Rxf7 33.Qxa6 Kg7 34.Qxb5 Kg6 35.Qc4** All simple – by one eye White watches on pawn h5, by another – pushing passer "b" forward. **35...Rd7 36.b5 Kg5 37.b6 Bf3 [37...h4 38.Qb5+ Kf4 39.Qxd7] 38.Qb5+ Rd5 39.Qb3 1-0**

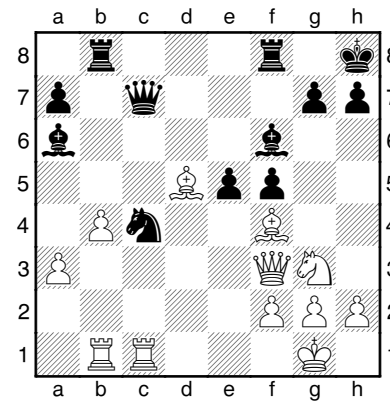
(08) Ni Hua (2657) - Sutovsky, E (2657) [C07]

Corus B Wijk aan Zee NED (2), 17.01.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3!? [Applied by those, who wants to avoid a variation 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4] **4...cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nf6 6.exd5 Qxd5 7.Nb5** [For 7.N2f3 I highly recommend Efimenko-Ivanov, CZM 5/2009.] **7...Na6 8.Nc3 Qd8 9.a3** I'm not sure, whether Bb4-Bxc3 such a strong menace, but if Ni Hua thinks so – let it be. **9...Be7 10.Bc4 Nc7N** [Sutovsky decided, that maneuver Nc7-d5 is more perspective than Nc5-d7: 10...0-0 11.Qe2 Nc5 12.0-0 a6 13.b4 Ncd7 14.Bb2, Timofeev-Ni Hua, Taiyuan 2006 – maybe, exactly after this game Ni Hua had added 4.Ngf3 to own armoury?] **11.0-0 0-0 12.Qf3** Rather logical – White is preparing moves Nde4 and Rd1. Black in one's turn prepares to meet white knight with f7-f5. **12...Nfd5 13.Nde4 f5 14.Ng3 Nxc3 15.Qxc3**

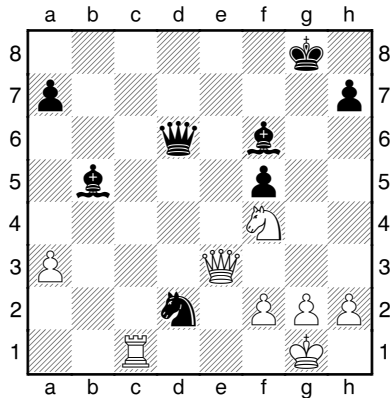


15...Nd5!? [It's difficult to find any reasonable objection to normal 15...b5 16.Nh5 Rf7 17.Bb3 Bb7 with good play.] **16.Qf3 b5** In many respects, this sacrifice is forced by previous Black's move – because it's hard now to find any other way to develop own queen's flank. **17.Bxb5 Qc7 18.c4 Nb6 19.Bc6?!** [19.Re1! suggests itself – now on 19...e5 White has at disposal wrecking move 20.Qc6!] **19...Rb8 20.b4** To all appearance, White was supposing, that pawn c4 is untouchable. But Black's following move changes a situation. **20...Bf6!** [Good in-between. 20...Nxc4 21.Bf4 e5 22.Rac1! Ba6 23.Bd5+ Kh8 24.Bxc4 Bxc4 25.Bxe5 Qxe5 26.Rxc4 is hardly convenient for Black, but with 20...Bf6 there will be no 25.Bxe5.] **21.Rb1 Nxc4 22.Bf4 e5 23.Bd5+ Kh8 24.Rfc1 Ba6**

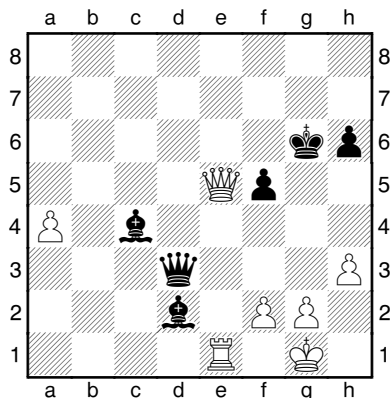


25.Nh5!? [Ni Hua uses every opportunity to confuse his opponent. 25.Bd2 Nxd2 26.Rxc7 Nxf3+ 27.Bxf3 e4 28.Be2 Bxe2 29.Nxe2 was roughly equal, but no more than.] **25...exf4 26.Nxf4 g6 27.b5!** [25.Nh5 just doesn't make any sense without this poke: 27.Ne6 Qd6 28.Nxf8 Ne5!±] **27...Rxb5** [All is working in case of 27...Bxb5 28.Ne6 Qd6 29.Rxb5 Rxb5 30.Bxc4 Rc8 31.Rd1] **28.Rxb5 Bxb5 29.Ne6 Qd6?** [Sutovsky haven't realized, that after

rooks' exchange on "b"-file 8th rank can be weakened. Otherwise he would have chosen 29...Ne5 30.Rxc7 Nxf3+ 31.gxf3 Re8 32.Rxa7 Bc6 with excellent chances for a draw.] **30.Nxf8 Nd2** [30...Nb6 31.Ne6] **31.Qe3! Qxd5 32.Nxg6+?** [Unbelievable! White takes a false step in one inch from the victory: 32.Qh6 Qf7 33.Rc8 Be8 34.Rxe8+–] **32...Kg8 33.Nf4 Qd6**



34.Rd1?! [Now the business is not in the least simple, as White will be deprived of knight f4. Much better was 34.Nh5 Bd8 35.Qc3 Qd7 36.Rd1 Ba5! 37.Qa1!, and threat Nh5–f6 guarantees a promising prospects.] **34...Bg5 35.Rxd2 Qxf4 36.Rd8+ Kg7 37.Qxa7+ Kh6 38.Qb6+ Kh5** King is driven miles away, but it doesn't complain – could be much worse. **39.Rd1 Be2 40.Re1 Qd2 41.Qb4 Qc2** [Black does the right thing, declining switch to the endgame – as king's remoteness could tell upon: 41...Qxb4 42.axb4 Bd3 43.Rd1! (after 43.Re5 Kg6 44.b5 Kf6 45.b6 Bf4 Black is in time) 43...Bc4 44.Rd4, and bishop has to occupy unsuccessful position.] **42.Qf8 Bc4 43.Qg7 h6 44.h3 Qd3 45.Qe5 Kg6 46.a4 Bd2?**



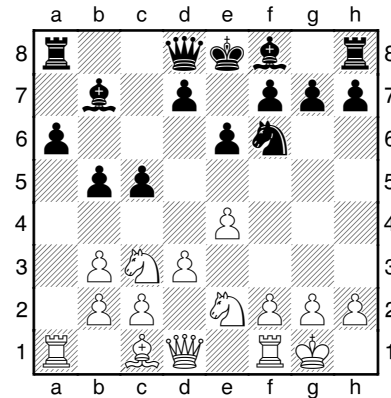
[Black defended with fortitude, but now he made a crucial mistake. Pawn a4 should be

supported by rook on a1, and from that point of view 46...Bf6! is the strongest here.] **47.Rd1!** Now Sutovsky can't escape of transition to queen ending. **47...Bb3** [47...Qc2 48.Qd6+–] **48.Rxd2 Qxd2 49.Qg3+ Kf6 50.Qxb3 Qc1+ [50...Qe1+ 51.Kh2 Qxf2 52.a5+–] 51.Kh2 Qf4+ 52.Qg3 Qxa4 53.Qd6+** White quickly achieve a win, using king's vulnerability and pawn fragmentation. **53...Kg5** [53...Kg7 54.Qe5+] **54.Qe7+ Kh5** [54...Kg6 55.Qe6+ Kg5 56.g3 Qc2 57.Kg2+–] **55.Qf7+ Kg5 56.g3 f4 57.g4 1-0**

(09) Tiviakov,S (2662) - Shirov,A (2723) [B23]

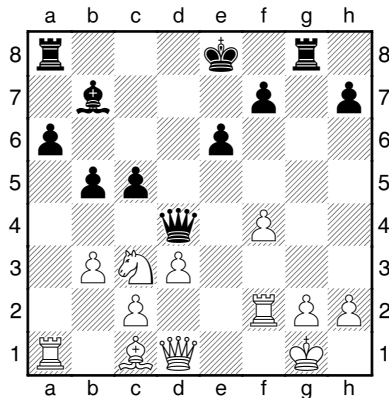
Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (3), 18.01.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5!? This system is popular among chessplayers, who don't like to follow the opening fashion, preferring to obtain a little-known positions. **3...Nd4** Black is not delighted with pawn's "c" doubling. **4.Bc4 e6 5.Nge2 Nf6 6.0-0 a6!** [Such move is indispensable, as 6...d5? loses after 7.exd5 exd5 8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd4 cxd4 10.Qh5 Be6 11.Re1, and there is no 11...Nf4 because of 12.Bb5+ Ke7 13.Qg5+; with pawn on a6 check on b5 is impossible.] **7.d3** [7.a4 d5!] **7...b5** [7...d5? 8.exd5 exd5 9.Nxd5 again!] **8.Bb3 Nxb3 9.axb3 Bb7**

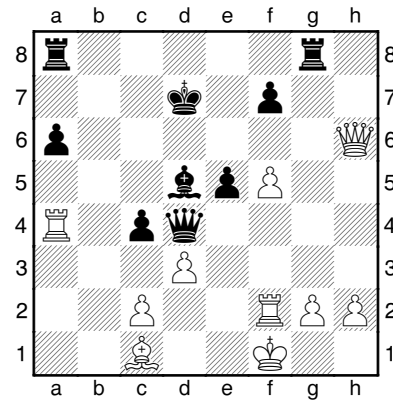


Shirov is finally ready to conduct d7–d5 for bishop's b7 opening. It's possible to suggest, that White should be kept a prudent strategy, for example 10.Ng3, holding point e4. But Tiviakov lost 2,5 years ago to Kotronias after this move, so this time he maybe decided to try something else. **10.f4 d5 11.e5** [11.Ng3 b4] **11...d4 12.exf6** [Exposing a game once and for all. In a game Movsesian–Eljanov, Sarajevo 2005, which is one of the first attempts in this theoretical direction, was 12.Nb1 Ng4 13.h3 Nh6 14.Nd2 Nf5 15.Ne4] **12...dxc3 13.fxg7**

[13.f5!? is a nice effort. It should be parried by means of 13...Qxf6 14.fxe6 cxb2! (14...Qxe6 15.Nf4 Qd7 16.Re1+ Be7 17.Qe2, Petrosian-Kotanjian, Dubai 2007)] **13...Bxg7 14.bxc3 Rg8N** [Quite logical novelty – Black is beginning to use own bishop b7, on the way winning pawn c3 back. Earlier met 14...Qd7 15.f5 Qc6 16.Nf4? (why not 16.Rf2 ?) 16...Bxc3 17.fxe6 0-0-0 18.exf7 Bxa1+, Jotic-Ermenkov, Subotica 2002; 14...Bxc3 15.Nxc3 Qd4+ 16.Rf2 Rg8 leads to the same (obviously, not 16...Qxc3? 17.Ra2 Rg8 18.Bb2 Qb4 19.c3+-)] **15.Rf2 Bxc3 16.Nxc3 Qd4**



17.Kf1 [Perhaps, Tiviakov pinned hopes on attack for the black king, that's why he had decided not to simplify a position. But he could do so: 17.Ne4!? Bxe4 (17...Qxa1 18.Nd6+) 18.Be3!, and now Black has a wide choice: 18...Bxg2 (the simplest) **a)** 18...Rxb2+ 19.Rxb2 Qxe3+ 20.Rf2 0-0-0 21.Qg4, covering vital line "g"; **b)** 18...Qxe3 19.dxe4 Qxe4 20.Qd6= (or even 20.f5!?!); 19.Bxd4 Bf3+ 20.Kf1 Bxd1 21.Bxc5 Bg4= with probable draw.] **17...Qxc3 18.Ra2 Qd4 19.Qh5** Controlling hardly not everyone black pawn... **19...c4!** Excellent! Despite everything, Shirov tears White's defence. **20.bxc4 bxc4 21.Ra4** [And again 21.Qe5 with exchange was more reasonable. Apparently, Tiviakov was solid in intentions to punish Black's risky play.] **21...Bd5 22.f5 e5** [Threat fxe6 could be retorted by 22...0-0-0, but Shirov leaves rook a8 for "b"-file.] **23.Qxh7?** White has withdrawn a queen from active place and opened line "h" for black rook... And all that just for one miserable pawn?! [It's worth to use move's 22...e5 shortcoming: 23.Qh6 Rb8 24.Qxa6 f6! (24...Rb1? 25.Qc8+ Ke7 26.f6+-), and here 25.Rb4! Rxb4 26.Qc8+ Ke7 27.Qc7+= results to the draw.] **23...Kd7 24.Qh6?**

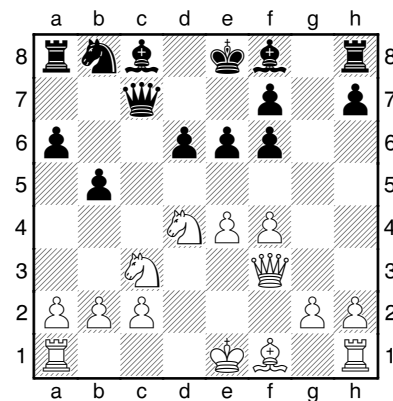


[White overlooks Shirov's strike. The only continuation there was 24.f6 in order to bring queen h7 back to life (Qf5+ or Qh3-e3).] **24...Bxg2+! 25.Ke1** [25.Rxb2 Rxb2 26.Kxb2 Rg8+ (thanks to queen h6) 27.Kf3 Qg4+ 28.Ke3 Qg1+ 29.Ke4 Rg4+-] **25...Bd5 26.Ba3** [Rook's arrival on g1 can't be stopped: 26.Kf1 Rg1+! 27.Kxb2 Qg4+] **26...Rg1+** Now it's all forced. **27.Ke2 Qg4+ 28.Ke3 Re1+ 29.Kd2 Qd1+ 30.Kc3 Qa1+ 31.Kb4** [31.Kd2 c3#] **31...Rb1+ 0-1**

(10) Smeets, J (2657) - Ivanchuk, V (2749) [B96]

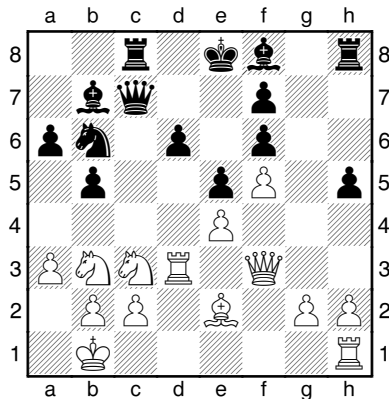
Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (3), 18.01.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qc7 8.Qf3 b5!? Black doesn't want to waste the time on Nd7 or Be7, and immediately switches to b7-b5-b4 advance. **9.Bxf6 gxf6**



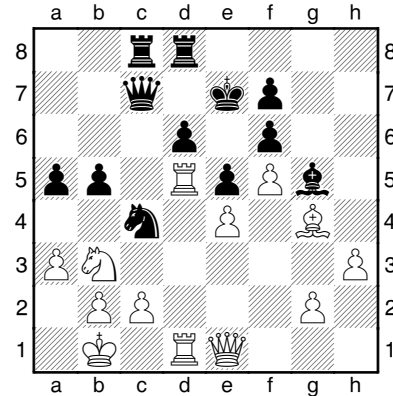
10.a3 [Smeets prevents it. For another continuation – 10.0-0-0 b4 11.Nce2 – it's worth to pay attention on the game Shirov-Papaioannu, CZM 11/2009.] **10...Bb7 11.Be2** [11.Qh5 meets 11...Qc5!] **11...h5** [This is a necessity, as 11...Nd7 isn't good due 12.Qh5! Nc5 (12...Qc5 now is useless – 13.Nxe6 Qxh5

14.Bxh5+-) 13.f5 0-0-0 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Bg4±]
12.0-0-0 Nd7 13.f5N [White compels e6-e5 to occupy point d5 afterwards, as it often occurs in such positions. This plan is more natural than pawn-eating 13.Qh3 0-0-0 14.Bxh5 Kb8 15.Qg4?! f5! 16.Qe2 Nf6 17.Bf3 fxe4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Bxe4 d5+, Unzicker-Balashov, Munich 1979, with losses on f4 and h2.] **13...e5 14.Nb3 Rc8** Meanwhile Black embarrasses Nc3-d5 by pressure on point c2. Those actions is also ordinary thing here. **15.Kb1 Nb6 16.Rd3**



Smeets wants to strengthen knight c3 in the event of Nb6-a4, besides rook doubling through file "d" also can come in handy. **16...Bh6!?** Black is cutting off important squares c1 and d2, but taking pawn h5 away instead. It's very obligative move - for this moment pawns "g" and "h" are not dangerous, but in the endgame... In short, by 16...Bh6 Ivanchuk engaged to checkmate his opponent. **17.Qxh5 Ke7 18.Qf3 Nc4 19.Rhd1** [White wants to burden knight c4 with point's d6 defence. But maybe it was worth to think about pawn h2: 19.h4] **19...Bg5** Black immediately makes use of rook's departure. **20.h3 [20.Rh1!?] 20...Rh4!?** Ivanchuk constantly keeps his opponent in tension - now an idea consists of Bxe4 blow with further Nxa3, assaulting pawn c2. **21.Qf2 Qb8** [21...Rxe4 22.Bf3; 21...Bxe4? 22.g3 Bxd3 23.Nd5+ - that is why Black stepped away on b8; besides, it helps in pre-arranged a6-a5 promotion.] **22.Bg4 a5 23.Qe2?!** Pawn e4 has to be protected, but e2 - is very unsuitable square for the queen, what Smeets admits by his next move. **23...Rhh8** [Vassily has preferred not to

choose unclear variation 23...b4!? 24.axb4 (24.Nb5 Ba6!) 24...axb4 25.Na2 (25.Nd5+? Bxd5 26.Rxd5 Qa7-+) 25...Qa8 26.Nxb4 Qa4 27.Na2 Bxe4 28.Nc3 (28.Qxe4 Na3+) 28...Bxd3 29.Qxd3 with some compensation owing to point d5.] **24.Qe1 Rhd8 25.Nd5+ Bxd5 26.Rxd5!** [26.exd5 is weaker, as after 26...b4 27.a4 Kf8! black queen goes after pawn a4.] **26...Qc7!**



[Ivanchuk discovered Smeets' intentions: 26...Ne3?! 27.R1d3 Nxd5 28.exd5±, and knight is getting to c6 (through a5 or d4) with huge advantage.] **27.Qe2?** [White makes indifferent move by queen again, and quickly finds oneself in hopeless situation. It turned out, that threat to pawn c2 is not so dangerous: 27.Rxb5 Nxa3+ (27...a4 28.Qb4 Nxa3+ reduces to the same) 28.bxa3 Qxc2+ 29.Ka1 a4 30.Qb4 Rc4 (30...axb3? 31.Qxb3) 31.Rb7+ Kf8 32.Qa5 axb3 33.Qxd8+ Kg7 34.Rxf7+! Kxf7 35.Qd7+= with deserved draw.] **27...a4 28.Na1?** Smeets goes on the way of the least resistance. [28.Nd2!?! was a tricky chance, but after 28...Bxd2 (28...Ne3 29.Nf3) 29.R1xd2 b4! (29...Nxd2+ 30.Qxd2 Qc4 31.Bf3 leads to the fortress) 30.axb4 a3 31.b3 a2+! Black on top; 28.Nc1! is the most persistent - 28...b4 29.axb4 a3 30.Na2 axb2 31.R1d3, and White has rebutted initial threats.] **28...b4 29.axb4 a3 30.Nb3** [30.bxa3 Nxa3+ 31.Ka2 Ra8 32.Kb3 Rdc8-+] **30...Nxb2 31.Ra5 Ra8!** An elegant move. Black is not hurried to take on d1, having in stock Na4-c3 idea. **32.Ka2 Nxd1 33.Qxd1 Qc3 34.Qa1 Qxc2+ 35.Kxa3 Rxa5+ 36.bxa5 Rb8** [36...Rb8 37.Qb2 Bc1!-+] **0-1**

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