

ChessZone Magazine

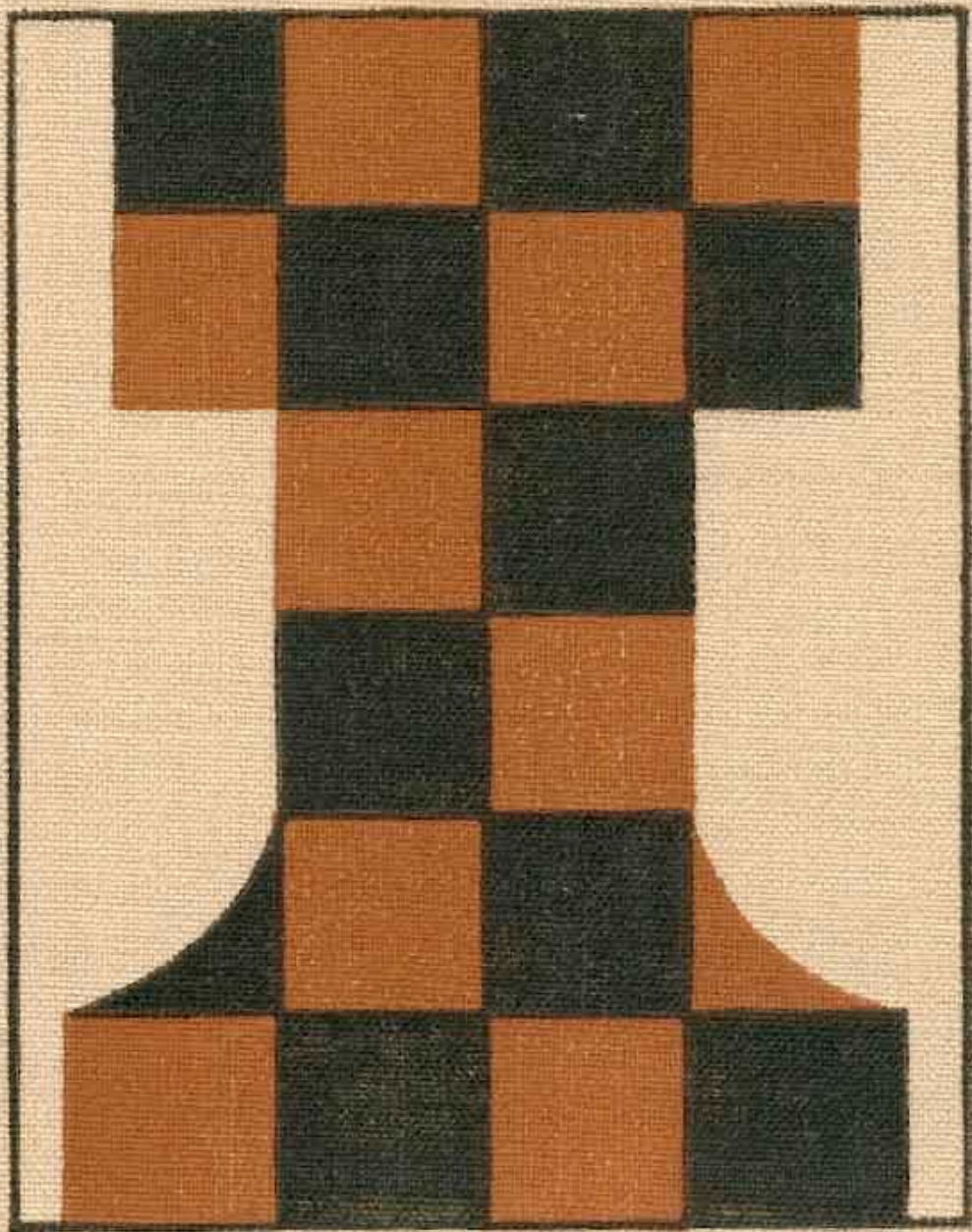


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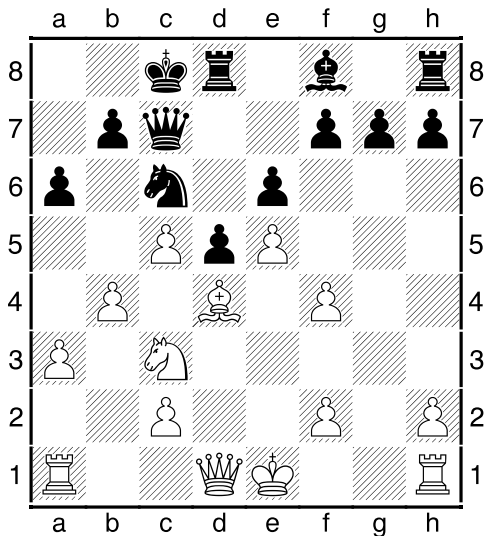
Games

(01) Oparin,G (2487) - Shimanov,A (2591) [B12]

Russian Juniors 2012 Sochi RUS (3),
31.12.2001

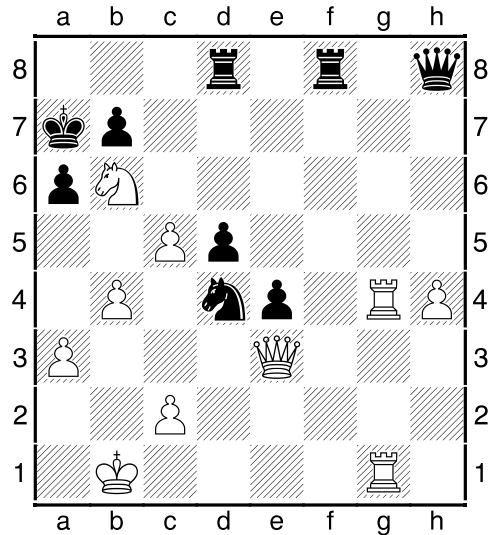
[IM Iljin, T]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.dxc5 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bb5 Qa5+ 7.Nc3 e6 8.Be3 Nge7 9.a3 0-0-0 10.b4 Bxf3 11.gxf3 Qc7 12.Bxc6 Nxc6 13.Bd4 [13.Bf4 a6 14.Bg3 g5 leads to the games Perez Candelario, Man (2559) – Delchev, A (2629), 22.11.2011, CZM 12/2011 and Edouard, R (2607) – Fridman, D (2653), 30.03.2012, CZM 04/2012.] The necessary continuation. Black would not let the White's knight go under the route c3–b5–d6. **13...a6 14.f4**

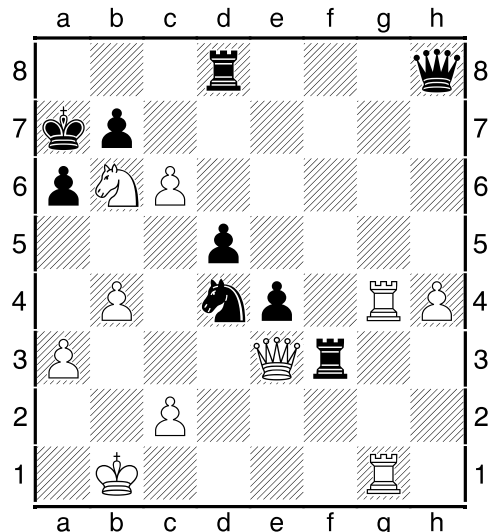


14...f6 [In my opinion, the recommendation of IM A. Polivanov works excellent here: 14...g5! 15.fxg5 h6 16.gxh6 Rxh6f with dangerous initiative.] **15.Na4** [Principled is 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Ne2! (16.Bxf6 Bg7 17.Bxg7 Qxg7 18.Qd2 d4 19.Ne4 d3 20.c3 Qg2 21.Ng3 h5) 16...e5 17.Bb2 Rg8 18.Qd3 Kb8 19.0-0-0! , and to prove the correctness of Black's pawn sacrifice is not the easy task.] **15...Kb8 16.Nb6 g5 17.Bb2 fxe5 18.fxe5 Bg7 19.Qe2 Bxe5 20.0-0-0 Rhe8 21.h4 Qg7 22.Bxe5+ Nxe5 23.Kb1** [23.hxg5!? Nc4 24.Nxc4 Qa1+ 25.Kd2 dxc4+ 26.Ke1 Rxd1+ 27.Qxd1 Qe5+

28.Kf1 Qxg5 29.Rxh7] **23...g4 24.Rhg1 h5 25.Rde1 Nc6 26.f3 Rg8 27.fxg4 hxg4 28.Qd3 Nd4 29.Rg2 e5 30.Reg1 e4 31.Qg3+ Ka7 32.Qe3 Rgf8 33.Rxg4 Qh8**

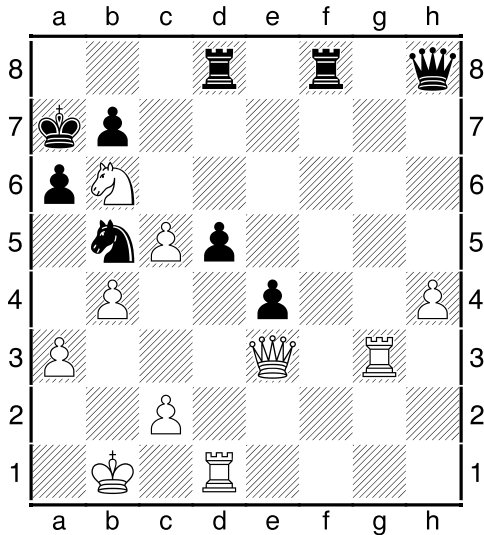


After a rather obscure maneuvers in the middle of the game, we finally came to a position where White has a totally unique, exciting chance to win!**34.Rd1** Oh, no! [White has to play 34.c6!! Rf3

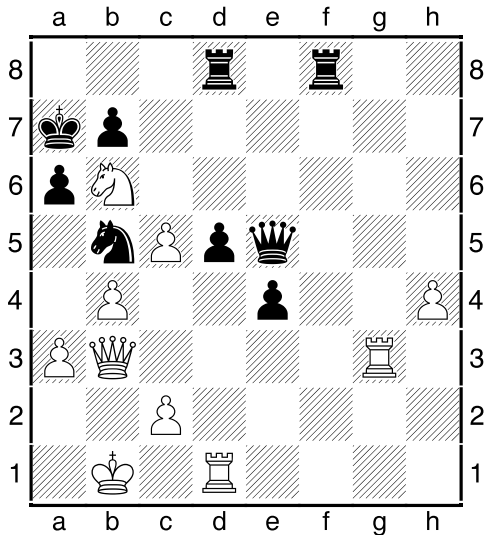


(34...Kxb6 35.Rg7! Rf1+ 36.Ka2 and it is easy to make sure that Black's king gets a checkmate in the near future; The lesser evil for Black is 34...Nxc6 35.Nxd5+ Nd4 36.Qxe4 Nb5 37.Qe3+ Kb8 38.c4 Nd6

39.Qg3 ,and White should gradually implement two extra pawns in a full-fledged point, despite the open position of the king.) 35.Rg7!! Nxc6 36.Qc5 Rf1+ 37.Ka2 Rxc6 38.Nxd5+ Ka8 39.Qxg1+--] 34...Nb5 35.Rg3



35...Qe5? [35...d4! 36.Qxe4 d3!+- (36...Nc3+? 37.Rxc3 dxc3 38.Nd5) 37.Na4 Nxa3+ 38.Ka2 Nxc2 39.Rgxd3 Rxd3 40.Rxd3 Qa1+ 41.Kb3 Qa3+ 42.Kxc2 Rf2+ 43.Rd2 Qxa4+ 44.Kc3 Qa3+ with the total smash.] 36.Qb3?



[36.a4! d4 37.Qe1 Nc3+ 38.Rxc3 dxc3 39.Nd7 Rxd7 40.Rxd7 e3 41.Qh1 Rf1+ 42.Qxf1 e2 43.Rxb7+ Kxb7 44.Qf7+ Kc8 45.Qg8+ Kd7 46.Qf7+ Qe7 47.c6+ Kd6

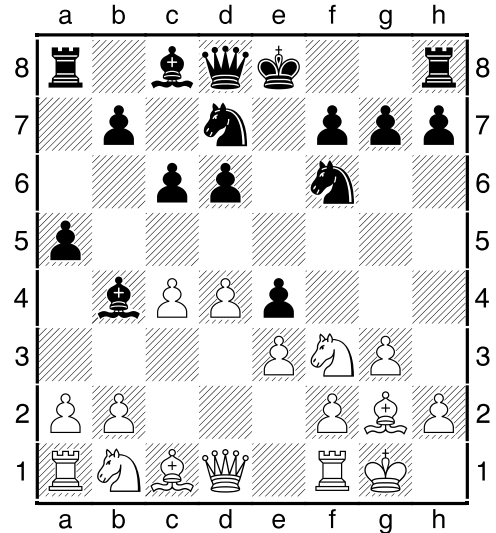
48.Qg6+ Kc7 49.Qg3+ Kb6 50.Qf2+ Kxc6 51.Qf3+ Kd7 52.Qb7+=] 36...d4?! [36...Rf3! 37.Rxf3 exf3 38.Qxf3 Nc3+ 39.Kc1 Nxd1 40.Qxd1 Qa1+ 41.Kd2 Qxa3+] 37.Nc4 Qf6 38.Nd6 Nxd6 39.cxd6 Rxd6 40.Qc4 Rfd8 41.Qc5+ Ka8 42.h5 Rd5 43.Qc7 R5d7 44.Qc4 Qf2 45.Rg8 e3 46.Rxd8+ Rxd8 47.Rxd4 Re8 48.Re4 Rxe4 49.Qc8+ Ka7 50.Qc5+ Kb8 51.Qd6+ Ka8 White's threats are over, and he resigns. 0-1

(02) Potkin,V (2684) - Bruzon Batista,L (2691) [E11]

74th Tata Steel GMB Wijk aan Zee NED (9), 24.01.2012

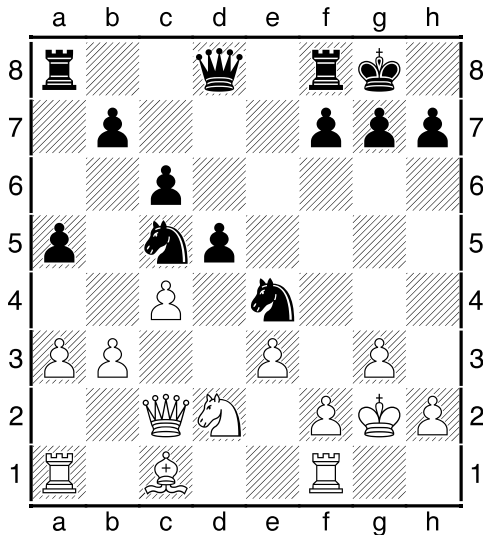
[IM Iljin, T]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 a5 5.g3 d6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.e3 c6 [In Bogó-Indian system Black has to be careful about his dark-squared bishop. And here the template 8...0-0?! after 9.Bc1! forced Black to give up a pawn for the sake of save his bishop: 9...exd4 10.exd4 a4 11.a3 Ba5 12.Qxa4 Nb6 13.Qc2±; Perhaps it is exact time for trading of bishops: 8...Bxd2!? 9.Qxd2 0-0 10.Nc3 c6 with solid position.] 9.Bc1 e4

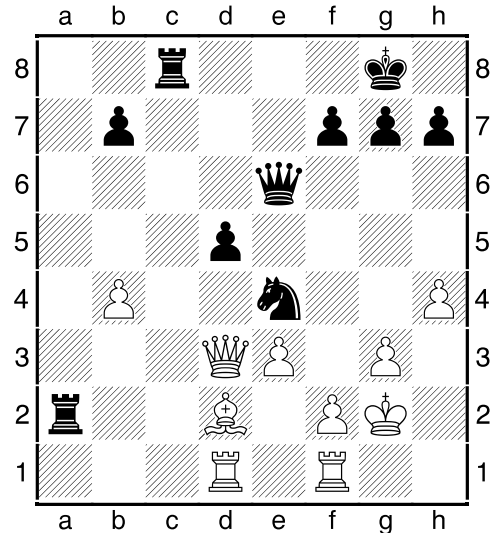


10.a3?! This option is a serious inaccuracy. The following knight's attack is well-looked: [10.Ng5! d5 11.c5 a4 12.a3 Ba5 13.Qxa4 h6 14.Nh3 ,and it's not visible any special compensation for the pawn.] 10...exf3 11.Bxf3 Bc5! It is very important to destroy the White's pawn center. Black

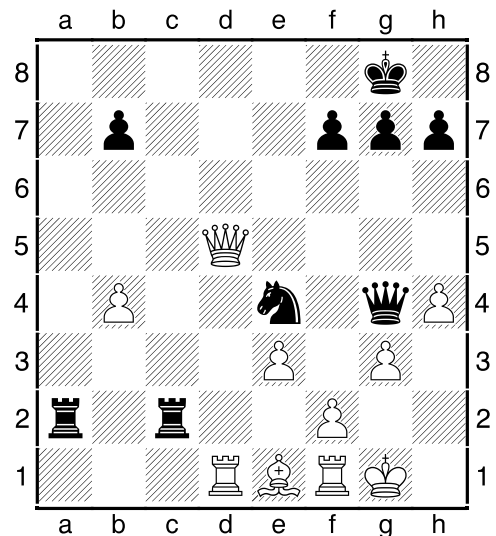
knights capture the great outposts in the middle of the board. **12.dxc5 Nxc5** Black has made a comfort equalization of chances. **13.b3 0-0 14.Nd2 Bh3 15.Bg2** White has to agree to swap the bishops, as the move [15.Re1 meets by 15...Nd3! 16.Re2 Ng4f] **15...Bxg2 16.Kxg2 d5 17.Qc2 Nfe4**



18.Rb1 [It's time to ask the black knight from the center: 18.f3 Nxd2 19.Bxd2 dxc4 20.bxc4] **18...Qe7 19.cxd5 cxd5 20.b4 axb4 21.axb4 Nxd2 22.Bxd2 Ne4 23.Rbd1 Qe6 24.h4?!** White shows surprising composure. He did not drive away the rival's knight, but does the opposite thing: White strengthens the enemy's positions in the center! [24.Qb3!? Ng5 25.f3! h5 26.Kg1] **24...Rfc8 25.Qd3 Ra2**



26.Be1? Fatal Error! Now Black instantly organizes a decisive attack because the g3 pawn is unprotectable! (Sounds incredible, but it's true!) [26.f3 Rc3 27.Qd4 Nxd2 28.Rxd2 Rxd2+ 29.Qxd2 Rxe3 30.Kf2 Re5 31.Ra1 maintaining hope for a draw in this endgame.] **26...Qg4!-+** Here it was right time to stop the clock. But White decided to 'dabble' a few moves in a hopeless situation. **27.Kg1** [27.Qxd5 Qxg3+ 28.Kh1 Qxh4+ with complete and unconditional defeat of White's army.] **27...Rcc2** Absolute triumph of Black's strategy! **28.Qxd5**



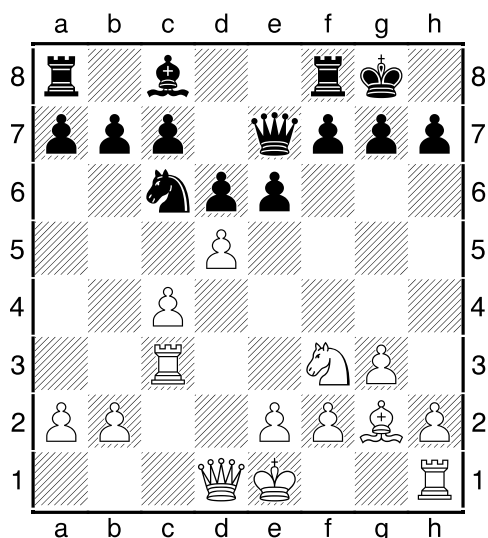
28...Qxg3+! A dagger blow! **29.Kh1** [29.fxg3 Rg2+ 30.Kh1 Rh2+ 31.Kg1 Rag2#] **29...Qxh4+ 30.Kg1 Qg4+ 31.Kh1 Ng3+ 0-1**

(03) Matlakov, M (2632) - Khismatullin, D (2656) [E11]

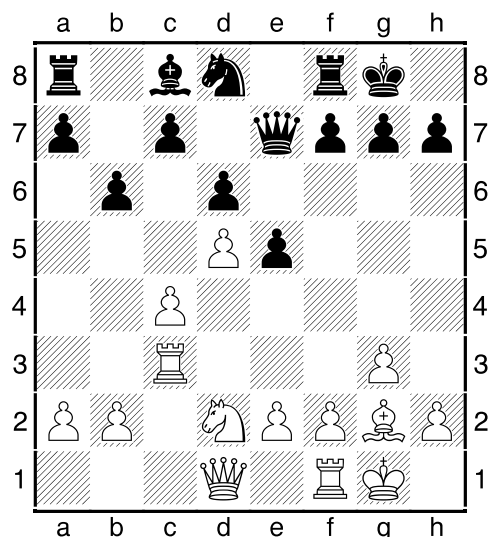
19th TCh-RUS 2012 Sochi RUS (4),
12.04.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.g3 Nc6 6.Nc3 [6.Bg2?! Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 Ne4 8.Qc2 Qb4+ , and Black is OK.] 6...Bxc3 The most common response. 7.Bxc3 Ne4 8.Rc1 Of course, White should not spoil his pawn structure on the vertical 'c'. 8...0-0 9.Bg2 d6 10.d5 Nxc3 11.Rxc3

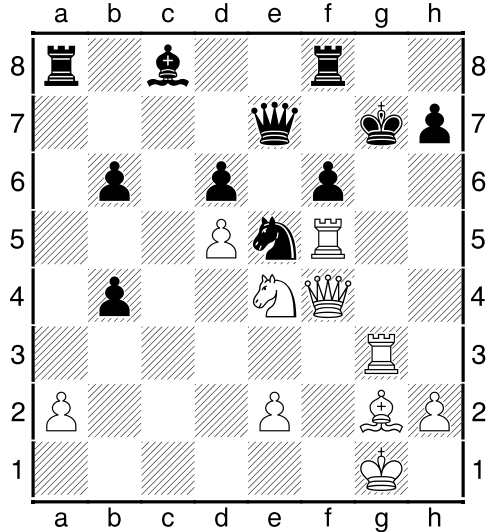


11...Nd8 Again, the most popular extension. As for me, this possibility seems strange, because the knight from d8 does not have a single possibility to move! [Less common is 11...Nb8 12.dxe6 fxe6 13.Nd4 e5 14.Nc2 Nc6 (14...Nd7 15.0-0 Nf6 16.Ne3 c6 17.Rd3!) 15.0-0 Be6 16.b4 a6 17.b5 axb5 18.cxb5 ; here I suggest to play 18...Na7! , forcing White to spend a tempo to defend his b5 pawn. (18...Nd8?! 19.Nb4! with big pressure) 19.a4 c6 20.bxc6 Nxc6 with approximately equal chances.] **12.0-0 e5 13.Nd2** [Also good looks 13.c5!? dxc5 14.Qc2 e4 15.Ne1 (15.Nd2 f5 16.f3 exf3 17.Bxf3 c6 18.Rxc5 Bd7 19.Nb3 Kh8) 15...f5 16.f3 exf3 17.Bxf3 c6 18.Rxc5 Bd7 19.Nd3!] **13...b6**

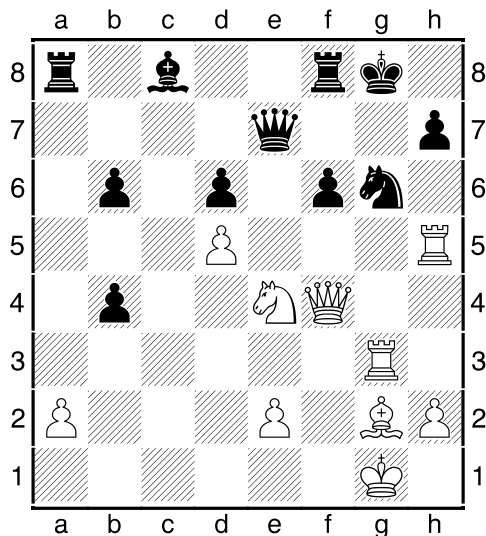


Black strengthens the c5-square, but now White makes a shot on the opposite flank: **14.f4 exf4 15.gxf4 Nb7** To my mind, this option – is a trend of computers. A 'normal human' move is [15...f5!? and after 16.Nf3 Nb7 17.Nd4 Black can make the strong 'non-theoretical' move 17...a5! with the next idea: 18.Ne6 Bxe6 19.dxe6 Rab8 20.e4 (20.Bxb7 Rxb7 21.Qd5 Rbb8 22.e4 Rbe8 23.exf5 Qf6=) 20...fxe4 21.Bxe4 Nc5 without even a shadow of problems.] **16.f5!** Of course, white has to start his attack against the opponent's king as soon as possible! **16...Nc5** [16...f6? 17.Nb3! , and knight goes to e6.; But Black miss the strong continuation 16...Re8! threatening to the e2 pawn. 17.f6 Qxe2 18.Qc1! Nc5! 19.Nf3 Nd3! 20.Qg5 Qe3+ 21.Qxe3 Rxe3 22.Nd4 Bg4 23.fxg7 Rae8 , and the fight comes to a draw: 24.Nc2 Re2 25.Nd4 R2e3] **17.f6 gxf6 18.b4** providing a central e4 post for his knight **18...Nd7 19.Ne4 f5 20.Rxf5 f6 21.Qf1 a5 22.c5** Too rash! White gives up a pawn and a-file to the rival. [22.Ra3!? Kh8 23.c5 bxc5 24.bxc5 dxc5 (24...Nxc5? 25.Rxf6! Rxf6 26.Nxf6 Nd7 27.Nxh7!+-) 25.Qf4 Rb8 26.Qxc7!] **22...axb4 23.cxd6 cxd6 24.Re3** [It should be very interesting to check the next line: 24.Rc7!? Rxa2 25.Qf4 Kh8 26.Nxf6 Qxe2 27.Bf1 Ra1 28.Qd4 Qd1 29.Qh4 Nxf6 30.Rxh7+ (on the 'decisive blow' 30.Rxc8!? there is an adequate response: 30...Rg8+! (30...Rxc8 31.Qxf6+ Kg8 32.Rg5#) 31.Rxg8+ Nxg8 32.Qxb4=)

30...Nxb7 31.Rxf8+ Kg7 32.Qe7+ Kh6
33.Qxd6+ Kh5 34.Qe5+ Kh6 35.Qf4+ Kh5
with perpetual.] To protect the pawn is not
the king's task. The monarch has to be
more royal! **24...Kg7** [Better is 24...Kh8
25.Qf4 Ne5 26.Rxf6 Bb7 27.Rh3 Rxf6
28.Qxf6+ Qxf6 29.Nxf6 Kg7=] **25.Qf4 Ne5 26.Rg3+**

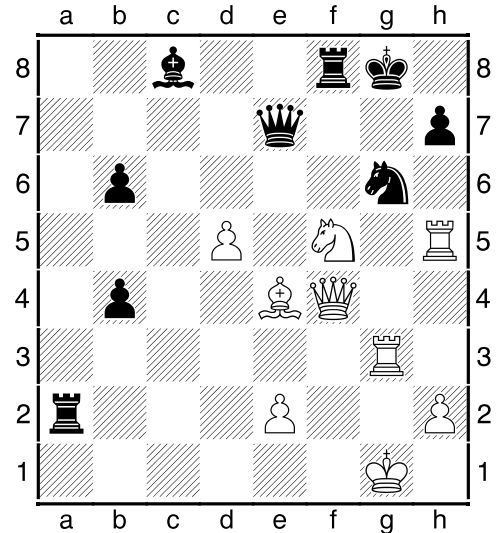


26...Ng6? Serious error, after which White
reaches the residence of Black's leader
very soon. [The move 26...Kh8 maintains
the excellent chances to escape for Black:
27.Rxf6 Bd7 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8 29.Qe3 Bf5]
27.Rh5! Kg8



[27...b3 28.axb3 f5 29.Qh6+ Kh8 30.Ng5+
] **28.Nxd6?** [28.Qh4! Qg7 29.Rxh7! Qxh7

30.Nxf6+ Rxf6 31.Qxf6 ,and Black has to
resign.] **28...Rxa2** [The option 28...b3!
29.axb3 Qxe2 leads to beautiful draw by
perpetual check: 30.Rxg6+! hxg6 31.Rh8+
Kxh8 32.Qh6+ Kg8 33.Qxg6+] **29.Be4?**
[29.Qh6! Qg7 30.Nxc8 Rxc8 31.Qe3 Kf8
32.d6±] **29...f5! 30.Nxf5?**



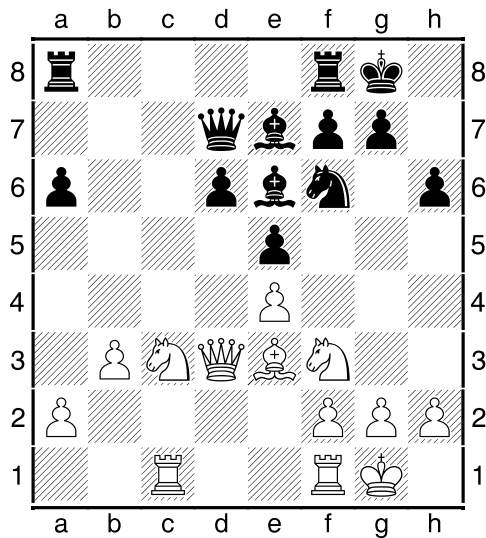
As you know, mistakes never walk alone.
Now White makes a third miss in a row!
30...Bxf5 31.Bxf5 Qxe2?? Such a delu-
sion in the heat of combat! [31...Rxe2! led
to Black's edge.] A curious picture of all the
defenders left the black king, and White
hits the final blow: **32.Rxg6+!** [32.Be6+!?
Qxe6 33.Qxf8+ Kxf8 34.dxe6+-] **32...hxg6**
33.Rh8+ Kg7 Now the Black's king has to
run away. **34.Qh6+ Kf6 35.Rxf8+ Ke7**
36.Qg7+ Kd6 37.Rf6+ [37.Qf6+! Kc5
38.Rc8+ Kxd5 39.Rd8+ Kc4 40.Be6+ Kb5
41.Qg5+ Ka6 42.Ra8+ and mate in two.]
37...Kc5 38.Qc7+ Kd4 39.Qf4+ Kc5
40.Qc7+ Kd4 41.Qf4+ Kc3 42.Qg3+ Kd4
43.Bh3 Rd2 44.d6 Qe3+ 45.Qxe3+ Kxe3
46.d7 b5 47.Rf8 b3 48.Re8+ Kf3 49.d8Q
1-0

(04) Tiviakov,S (2647) - Anand,V (2817) [B51]
Schachbundesliga 2011-12 Baden Baden
GER (14), 14.04.2012

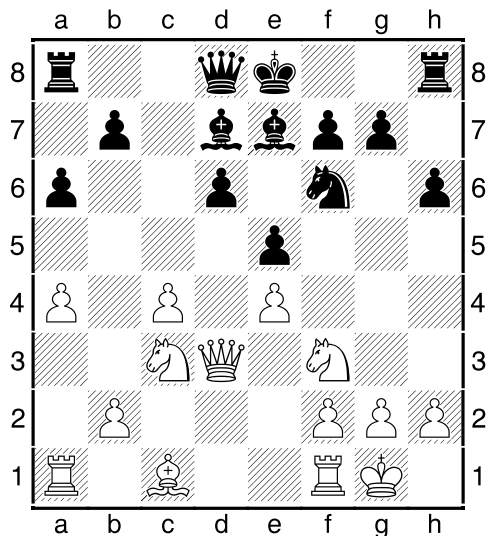
[IM Iljin, T]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.d4 cxd4
5.Qxd4 a6 6.Bxd7+ Bxd7 7.c4 e5 8.Qd3
h6 [On the basis of subsequent events that

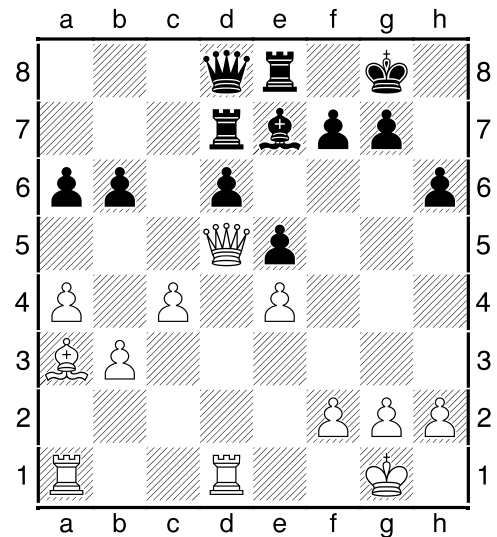
happened in the game, we can recommend Black an active lunge 8...b5 Slightly limiting the capabilities of the opponent and preventing the construction of a strong pawn skeleton a4-b3-c4. Here the chances of the rivals are mutual, because White loses total control over the d5-square, and the pressure on the d6-pawn is not so serious: 9.Nc3 bxc4 10.Qxc4 Be6 11.Qd3 h6 12.0-0 Nf6 13.b3 Be7 14.Be3 0-0 15.Rac1 Qd7



16.Rfd1 Qb7 And Black can be optimistic about the future.] 9.Nc3 Nf6 10.0-0 Be7 11.a4!

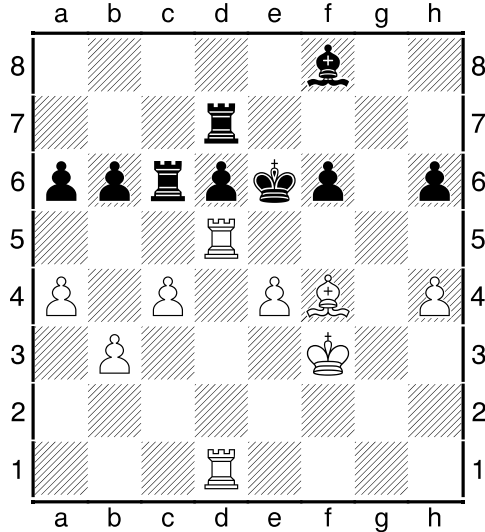


Quite so! [Less accurate is 11.b3?! allowing him to break free from the clamp: 11...0-0 12.a4 b5! 13.axb5 axb5 14.Be3 (14.Rxa8 Qxa8 15.cxb5 Rb8 16.Nd2 Bxb5 17.Nxb5 Qa6=) 14...b4 15.Nb5 Bc6 16.Nd2 Ng4 17.Rxa8 Bxa8 18.Ba7 Qa5 19.f3 Nf6 20.Bf2 Nd7 21.Rd1 Nc5 22.Qb1 Bc6 23.Qa1 Ra8 with Black's initiative, which he later brought to victory. 0-1 Klinova,M (2432)-Zagrebelny,S (2503)/Metz 2002/CBM 087 ext (51)] 11...b6 Seems too passive, but also in case of [11...0-0 12.Be3 (12.a5!? b5 13.axb6 Qxb6 14.Be3 Qb4 15.b3!) 12...Be6 13.a5! Rc8 14.b3 Nd7 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.Qxd5 Black remains 'trapped in a vise' without counterplay] 12.b3 Ra7 Black goes on the defensive with a passive rook on d7. 13.Rd1 Bc8 14.Ba3 Rd7 15.Nd2! White reinforces his advantage by transferring with comfort his knight on the d5-square. 15...0-0 16.Nf1 Bb7 17.Ne3 Re8 18.Ncd5 Nxd5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Qxd5

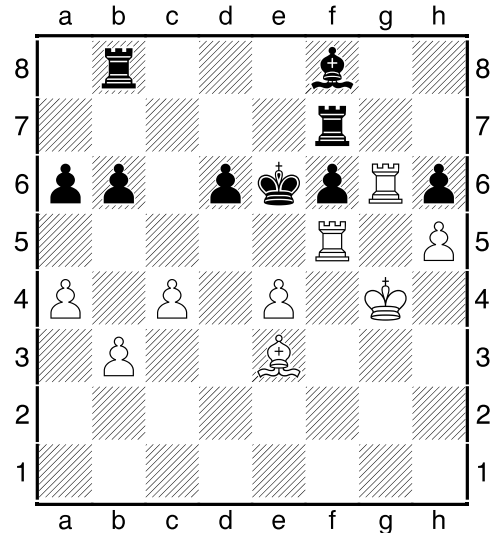


20...Qa8 Transition to the endgame did not ease the Black's problems. White gets a strategically winning position, and instructively, by the method of "two weaknesses," undermines the defense of the contender. 21.Qxa8 Rxa8 22.Rd5 f6 23.Rad1 Rad8 24.g3 g5 25.f4! [The 'natural' move 25.a5?! with the idea to 'organize' the second weakness (a6-pawn) to the opponent does not work because of the 'limpness' of

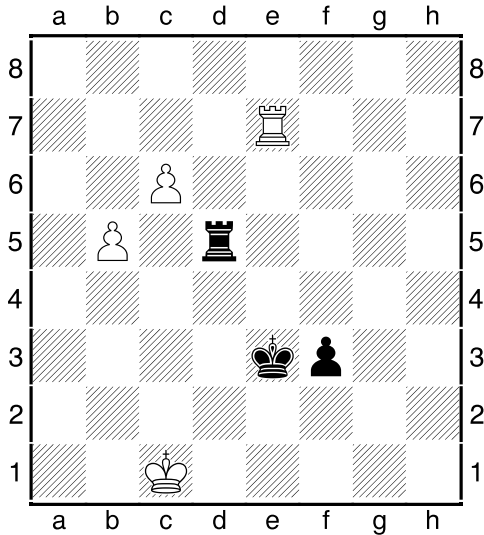
White's b3 pawn, and the game comes to a forced draw: 25...bxa5 26.Rxa5 Rb7 27.Rd3 Rb6 28.Rad5 Rdb8 29.Bxd6 Bxd6 30.Rxd6 Rxd6 31.Rxd6 Kf7 32.Rd3 Ke7 33.Kf1 Rb4 34.Ke2 a5 35.Ke3 a4 36.bxa4 Rxa4=] **25...gxf4 26.gxf4 Kf7 27.Kf2 exf4 28.Kf3 Ke6 29.Bc1 Rc8 30.Bxf4 Bf8 31.h4! Rc6**



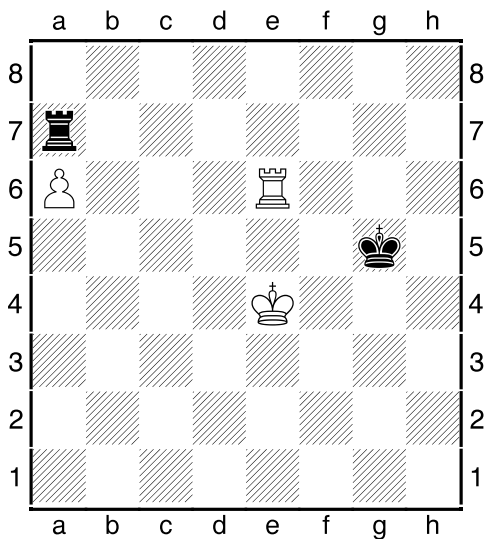
32.h5!+- fixing another weakness in the enemy camp – h6 pawn **32...Rb7 33.Be3 Rb8** [a desperate attempt to release also doesn't help: 33...b5 34.cxb5 axb5 35.a5! b4 36.Rc1 Rxc1 37.Bxc1 Ra7 38.Bd2, and Black's position is absolutely helpless.] **34.Bd4 Rc7 35.Rg1 Bg7 36.Rg6** White methodically enhances the position of the pieces. Black has the only hope for a miracle... **36...Rf7 37.Be3 Rd7 38.Rf5** [Striking breakthrough immediately ended the fight: 38.e5! Kf7 ;It is easy to see that this impudent pawn can not be taken; 39.exf6 Bf8 40.Bxh6 Here, White has already two extra pawns, and all that – is just the beginning.] **38...Rf7 39.Kg4 Bf8**



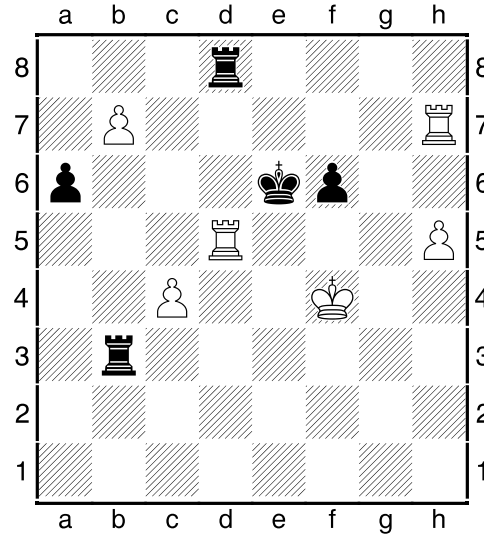
40.Bxh6! Responsible decision, which requires a very precise calculation and "jewelry" endgame technique. Transfer the game to the rook's endgame requires special vigilance because the rook's endgames are well-known for their tie trends. White, of course, could continue to maneuvering, to send the monarch on the queenside, and then, at the right moment to breakthrough into the opposer's camp by a4–a5. **40...Bxh6 41.Rxh6 Rg7+?!** This check by the 'wrong' rook makes White's task easier. Now Black is forced to spend one more tempo to defend the f6 pawn. [After the strongest move 41...Rg8+ 42.Rg6! Rxg6+ 43.hxg6 Rf8! 44.Rh5! (Tempting 44.a5 appears to miss the win: 44...bxa5 45.Rxa5 Rg8 46.Kf4 Rxg6 47.Rxa6 Rh6 48.c5 (48.b4 Rh4+ 49.Ke3 f5 50.exf5+ Kxf5 51.Kd3 Ke5 52.Ra5+ Ke6 53.b5 Rh3+ 54.Kc2, and the remaining material is not enough to win.) 48...Rh4+ 49.Kg3 Rxe4 50.Rxd6+ Ke5 51.Rb6 f5! 52.b4 f4+ 53.Kf2 Rc4 54.c6 Ke4 55.b5 Rc2+ 56.Ke1 Ke3 (56...f3 57.Rb7 f2+ 58.Kf1 Kf3 59.Rf7+ Kg3 60.Rf5 Rc1+ 61.Ke2 Re1+ 62.Kd3 Rc1 63.Kd4) 57.Kd1 Rd2+ 58.Kc1 Rd5 59.Rb7 f3 60.Re7+



60...Kd4! The only saving move! 61.c7 f2 62.Rf7 Rc5+ 63.Kd2 Rxc7=) 44...Rg8 45.Rh6! Ke5 46.Kh5! f5 47.Rh7! fxe4 48.Re7+ Kf6 49.Rf7+ Ke6 50.Kg5 Main-
 taining the essential military unit – g–pawn – White wins: 50...b5 (50...Rh8 51.g7 Rh1 52.Rf6+ Ke7 53.Rg6 Rg1+ 54.Kf5) 51.a5 bxc4 (51...d5 52.Rf6+ Ke5 53.cxd5 Kxd5 54.Kf4 b4 55.Ke3 Ra8 56.Rb6 Rc8 57.Rxb4 Rc3+ 58.Ke2 Rc2+ 59.Kd1 Rc8 60.g7 Rg8 61.Rb7 Ke5 62.Ke2) 52.bxc4 d5 53.Rf6+ Ke5 54.cxd5 Kxd5 55.Kf4 Re8 56.g7 Rg8 57.Rf7 Ke6 58.Ra7 Kf6 59.Kxe4 Rxc7 60.Rxa6+ Kg5 61.Re6 Ra7 62.a6



etc.] 42.Kf4 Rf8 43.a5 Rg1 44.axb6 Rb1 45.b7 Rxb3 46.e5! dxe5+ 47.Rxe5+ Kd6 48.Rf5 Ke6 49.Rh7 Rd8 50.Rd5!



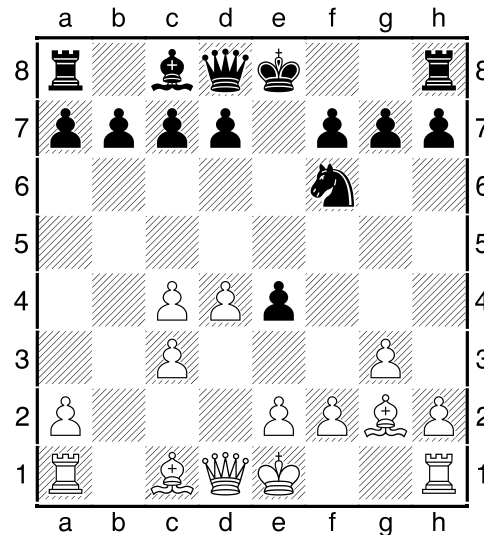
1-0

(05) Romanov,E (2625) - Caruana,F (2767) [A29]

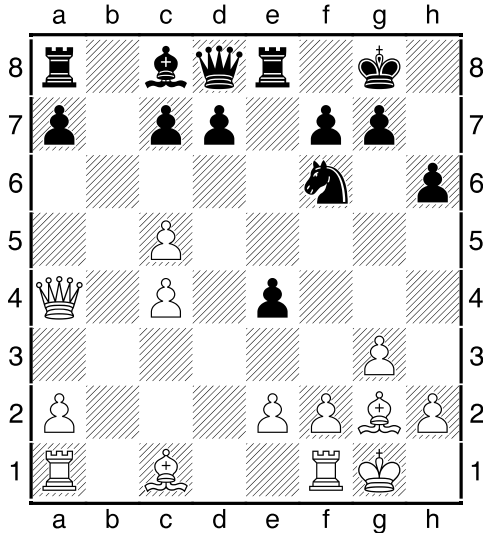
19th TCh-RUS 2012 Sochi RUS (6), 14.04.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

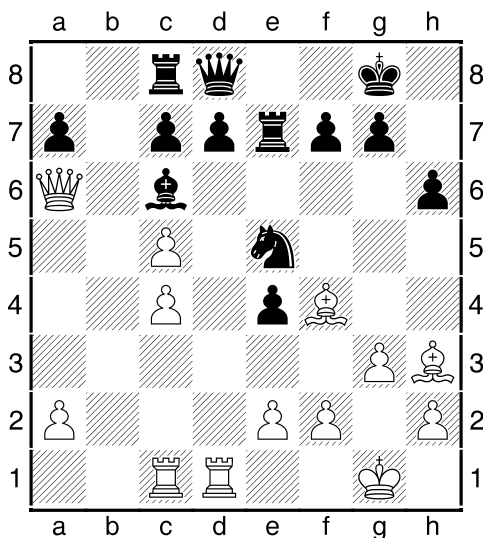
1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.g3 Nd4 5.Bg2 [Dangerous for White is 5.Nxe5 Qe7 6.f4 d6 7.Nd3 Bf5 8.Kf2 0-0-0] **5...Nxf3+ 6.Bxf3 Bb4 7.d4 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 e4 9.Bg2**



9...h6 It is the necessary prevention against the hit of white bishop to g5. **10.c5 0-0 11.c4 b6 12.0-0** [In case of 12.cxb6 axb6 13.0-0 d5 Black has comfortable game.] **12...Re8 13.Qa4 bxc5 14.dxc5**

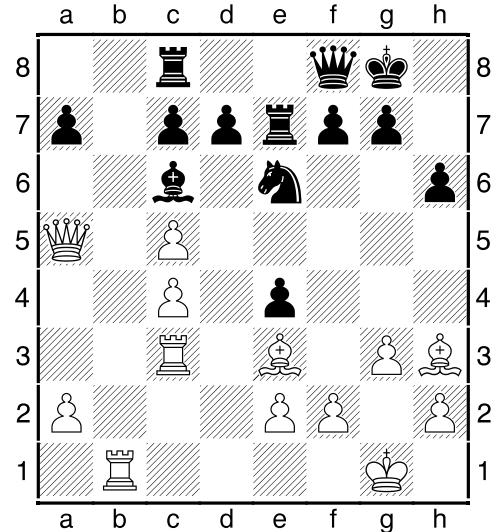


The created position is very insidious. Despite the external well-being, it's not easy to come up with a plan to further amplification White's position because of his double pawns on the vertical 'c'. While Black has a simple play. It turns out that Black doesn't need the promotion of d7-d6, against which White concentrated his efforts. Black's task is to set-up his bishop through b7 to c6, cementing the position, to transfer his knight by the route f6-g4-e5 etc. **14...Bb7 15.Qa5 Ng4 16.Bf4 Ne5 17.Rfd1 Bc6 18.Rac1 Rc8 19.Bh3 Re7 20.Qa6**

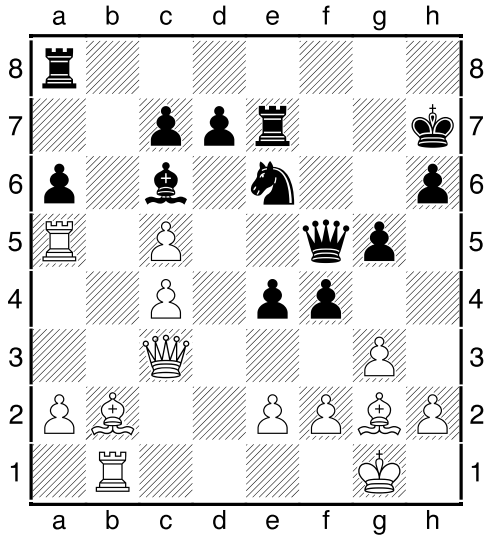


20...Ng6! Black takes his knight to a new good park: the e6-square, from where it

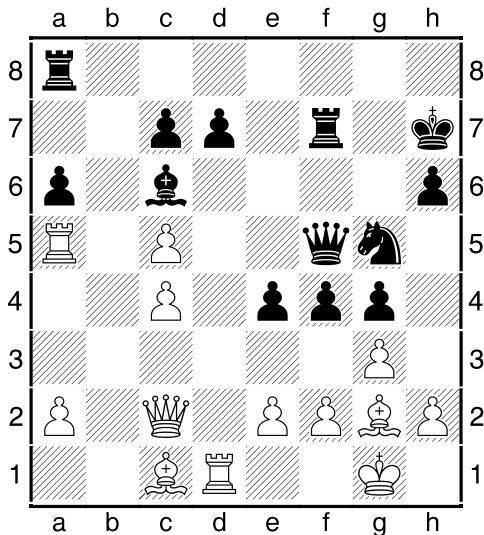
will be able to support the further attack, connected with the moving ahead of the 'f' pawn. **21.Be3 Nf8 22.Rc3 Ne6 23.Qa5** Continuing to stagnate. But a reasonable plan isn't visible. **23...Qf8 24.Rb1**



[Doesn't relieve the fate **24.Bxe6 Rxe6!? 25.Bf4 g5 26.Bxc7 e3 27.f3 Qg7 28.Rdd3 Rce8f 24...f5!** All white pieces are arranged on the principle of 'cat's concert'. So there is nothing surprising in the fact that Black begins to prepare the attack on the White's king. **25.Ra3 Ra8 26.Qc3 a6 27.Ra5 Kh7 28.Qe5 g6 29.Bg2 [29.Bf1 g5 30.Bd2 Qf7 31.Bc3 f4] 29...g5! 30.Qc3** Total confusion. [Harder is **30.Bh3 Rf7! 31.Bd2 Re8** with formidable initiative for Black] **30...f4 31.Bc1 Qf5! 32.Bb2?**



The battery 'Queen + bishop' aimed directly at the black king, but what a bad luck: all squares near Black's king are surely protected, and White's 'team' is shooting nowhere. **32...Rf7** [Fulminantly ends the game **32...f3!** **33.Bf1 e3** And, exploiting the vulnerability of the rook b1, he turns the rival's defensive bastions into a mash.] **33.Qc2 g4 34.Rd1** White has nothing to do but only wait for the 'guests' and humbly hope for a miracle. **34...Ng5 35.Bc1**



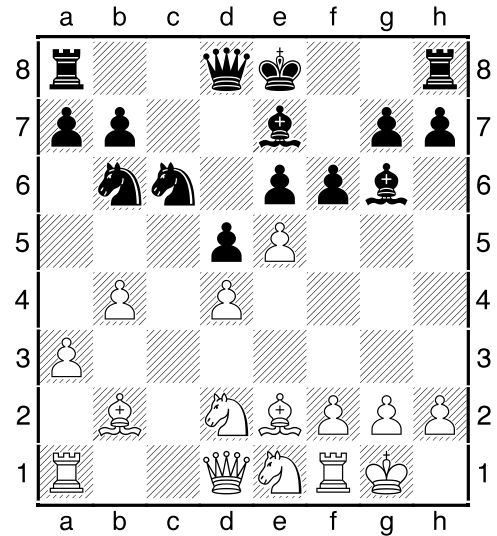
35...fxg3! 36.fxg3 Nh3+ 37.Kh1 Nf2+ 38.Kg1 Nxd1 39.Qxd1 e3 40.Bxc6 dxc6 41.Bxe3 Rd8 42.Qe1 Qc2 An excellent academic game on the topic of positional play! **0-1**

(06) Bologan, V (2687) - Eljanov, P (2704) [B12]

19th TCh-RUS 2012 Sochi RUS (6), 14.04.2012

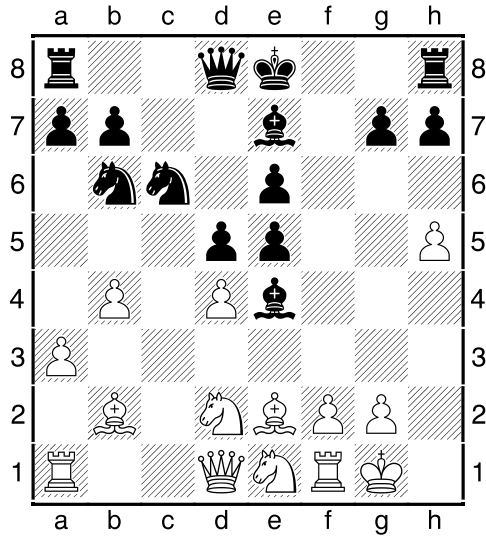
[IM Ilijin, T]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.0-0 Nc6 7.c3 Bg6 8.a3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Nge7 10.b4 Nc8 The main Black's problem in the Caro-Kann defence is a certain passivity, a lack of space. And here: the two black pieces (the bishop and the knight) at the same time claim the e7-square. Therefore, they must somehow cope with this **11.Nbd2 Nb6 12.Bb2 Be7 13.Ne1 f6?**

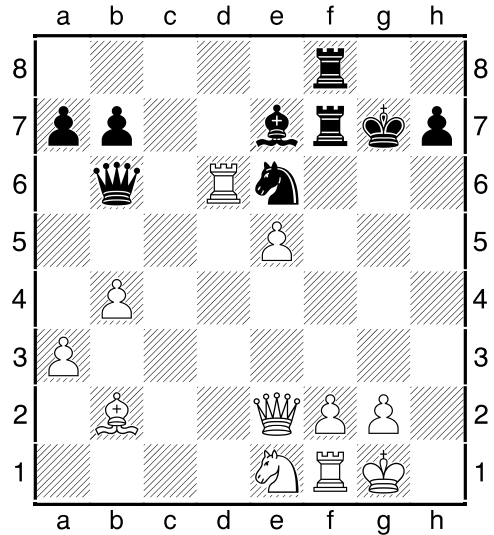


Black hurried to the active actions. I think that first of all he had to make a castling: [13...0-0 14.Rc1 (14.Nd3 Rc8 15.Rc1 Nc4! 16.Nxc4 dxc4 17.Rxc4 b5, and Black can't complain about his position.) At the present time 14...f6 is a strong move (14...Rc8 15.Bd3 Bxd3 16.Nxd3, и ♞ 16...Nc4 17.Nxc4 dxc4 18.Rxc4 Qd5 19.Rc1 Nxd4?? 20.Nf4) 15.h4!? fxe5 16.h5 Be4 17.Nxe4 (17.f3? Bg5! 18.g3 Be3+ 19.Kg2 Bf5 20.dxe5 d4+) 17...dxe4 18.dxe5 Bg5 19.Rc2 e3 with good play for Black.] **14.h4!?** [I wonder what Black planned to play in response to White's natural move 14.Bd3, and White in any case retain the advantage at the expense of the weakness of e6 pawn.] **14...fxe5** [14...0-0 15.h5 Be8 16.h6 g6 17.Nef3! could not

have Black very happy.] **15.h5 Be4?**



[It was necessary reluctantly to agree with 15...Bf7 16.dxe5 0-0 17.Rc1] **16.dxe5 0-0 17.Qb3!** Very strong move – apparently unreported resource by Black. His position immediately becomes hopeless. **17...Nc4?** [Harder was 17...Bf5 18.g4 Bg5 19.f4 Bxg4 20.Bxg4 Bxf4 21.Bxe6+ Kh8 22.Rxf4 Rxf4 23.Qg3 Rf8] **18.Nxc4 dxc4 19.Bxc4 Kh8** [Again not showing tenacity in defending. Better was 19...Bd5 20.Bxd5 Qxd5 21.Qxd5 exd5 22.Rd1 , and Black was forced to play the endgame without a pawn. But it is much better than what happened later in the game.] **20.Rd1 Qb6 21.Bxe6 Rad8 22.h6 Nd4 23.hxg7+ Kxg7 24.Qe3 Nxe6 25.Qxe4 Rf4 26.Qe2 Rdf8 27.Rd7 R4f7 28.Rd6**



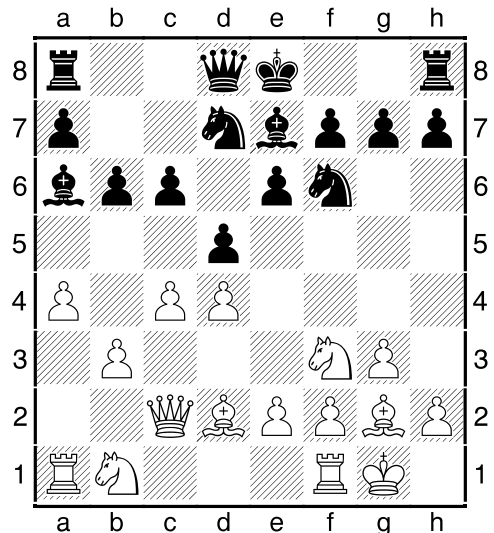
The final accord! **1-0**

(07) Tomashevsky, E (2736) - Landa, K (2645) [E15]

19th TCh-RUS 2012 Sochi RUS (7), 15.04.2012

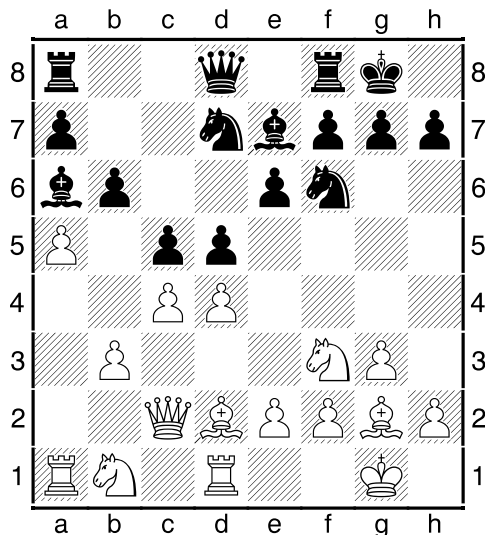
[IM Iljin, T]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2 c6 7.Qc2 b6 8.0-0 Ba6 9.b3 Nbd7 10.a4



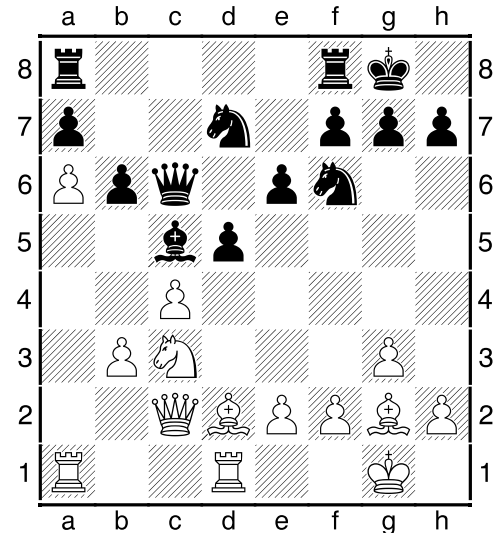
10...c5?! Black memorizes the theory and trippingly makes the initial moves. It is known that the theory – it is a half-blind woman, who often gives a superficial, if not erroneous advice that run counter to logic and common sense. Unfortunately, the main thing for the today's GMs – is to 'rat-

tle off' as much opening moves as possible from the 'book' that promises equal opportunities in almost any scenario. And to my regret, our GMs don't use thought processes in the initial stage of the game. [So here. Any more or less competent chess positional player, even after a fleeting glance at the position becomes clear that the opening of the center through c6-c5 is unreasonable: the white bishop g2 at once transformed into a fearsome force, and still vividly highlights the difference between bishop g2 and the poor bishop a6, which forced always balk against the c4 pawn. 10...0-0 11.a5 Ne4 12.Bf4 b5! 13.Nfd2 (13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Qc6 Qc8 15.Rc1 b4 16.Qa4 Qe8!) 13...Nxd2 14.Nxd2 bxc4 15.bxc4 Bf6! with a full-fledged game. Bishop a6 is just as good, if not better than the white bishop g2.] **11.a5 0-0 12.Rd1**

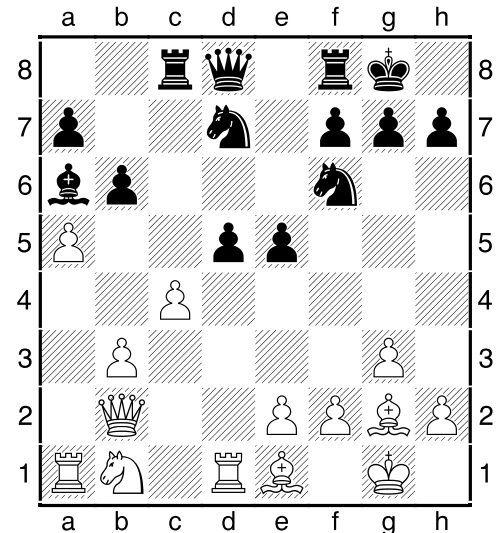


12...cxd4? Another Black's decision which is difficult to explain. His bishop is forced to vegetate on the a6-square until the end of the game. A sad scene! Unfortunately, under the influence of computers, many modern players (GMs included) are able only to click a mouse in search of reinforcements from the 'electronic monster'. And the basic concepts of chess strategy are the things of the distant past, plunged to the bottom. [Unsuccessful is also 12...b5 13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.b4 Nce4 15.c5 Nxd2 16.Nbxd2±; but it's worth to think about 12...Qc8!? 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Nc3 N7f6

maintaining defensible position] **13.Nxd4 Bc5 14.Be1?!** Too academic! [The strong maneuver of white knight puts serious problems in front of the opponent: 14.Nc6! Qc7 15.Nb4 Bb7 (15...Bxb4 16.Bxb4 Rfc8 17.Nc3 Qe5 18.axb6 axb6 19.Qd2 , and White wins d5-pawn.) 16.a6 Bc6 17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.Nc3±

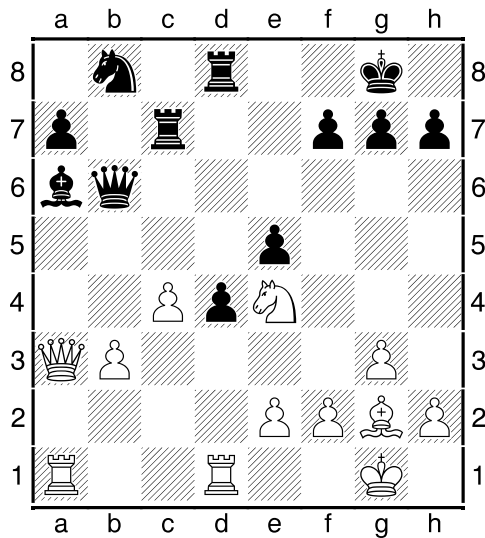


] **14...Rc8 15.Qb2 Bxd4 16.Qxd4 e5 17.Qb2**



17...d4? It is generally beyond good and evil. Black was able to release his bishop from the prison, but instead he only aggravated the situation. [Of course, he had to just pick up a pawn: 17...dxc4 18.bxc4 Bxc4 19.Na3 Ba6 20.Bb4 Re8 21.axb6

axb6 (21...Qxb6 22.Rd6) 22.Bd6 e4
 23.Nb5 Bxb5 24.Qxb5 Ra8 and in my
 opinion, Black can hold this position. White
 'll win back the pawn on b6, but no more.]
18.axb6 Qxb6 19.Qa3 Nb8 [Not good is
 19...Bb7 20.Ba5! Qa6 21.Bb4 , and Black
 loses the exchange.] **20.Bb4** [Also possible
 is 20.e3 with idea to hook up the rook to
 the game with a decisive effect: 20...dxe3
 21.Rd6 Qc7 22.Nc3 Rfd8 23.Rxa6 Nxa6
 24.Qxa6] **20...Rfe8 21.Bd6 Nfd7** [Harder
 21...Bb7 22.Qxa7 Qxd6 23.Qxb7 Nbd7]
22.Bxb8 Nxb8 23.Nd2 Rc7 24.Ne4 Rd8



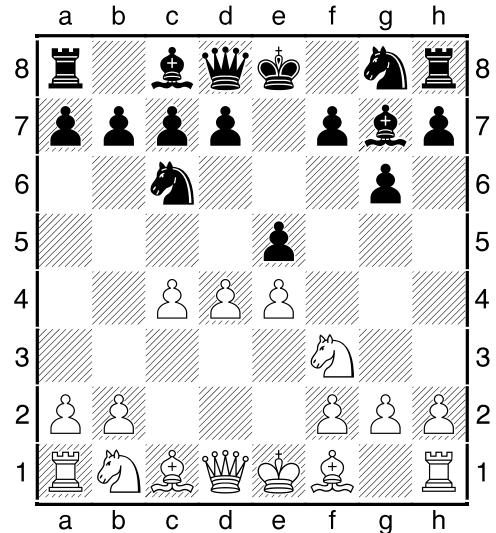
25.Nc3! An elegant solution! White immediately uses the vulnerability of rook d8.
25...Rcd7 26.Na4! Qg6 27.Nc5 Rd6
28.Qa5 Re8 29.Qc7 Bc8? Black continues to stumble on the ill-fate bishop, which feels cramped in a cage, in where he was placed. **30.Qxb8 h5 31.Rxa7 1-0**

(08) Brodsky, M (2558) - Nepomnachtchi, I (2718) [A40]

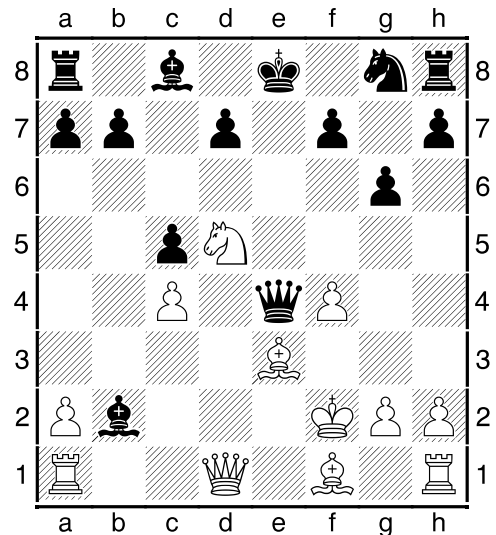
19th TCh-RUS 2012 Sochi RUS (7),
 15.04.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

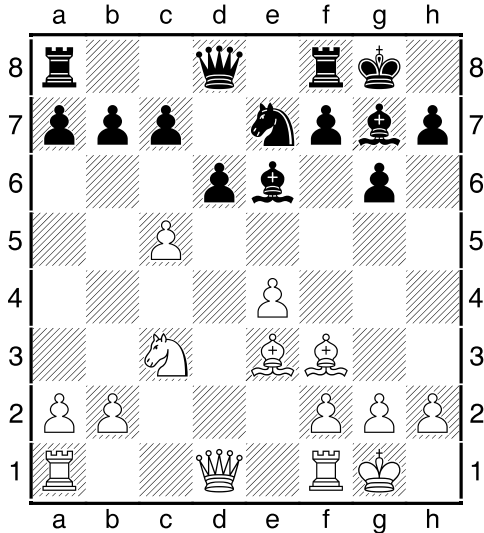
1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.e4 Nc6 4.Nf3 e5



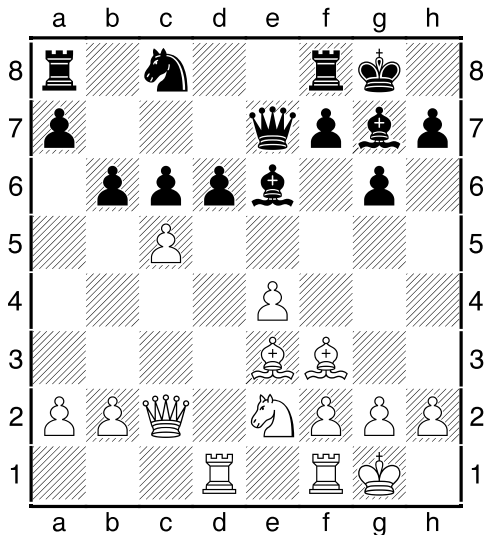
Too pretentiously! In my opinion, it's hardly good to postpone the developing of d-pawn. **5.dxe5** [More energetical possibility is 5.Bg5!? Nge7 (Computer's recommendation 5...Bf6 6.Be3! exd4 7.Nxd4 Nxd4 8.Bxd4 Qe7 9.Nc3 c5? now fails: 10.Nd5! Qxe4+ 11.Be3 Bxb2 12.f3 Qe5 13.f4 Qe4 14.Kf2



) **6.dxe5 Nxe5 7.Nxe5 Bxe5 8.Nc3 0-0 9.h4!?** d6 **10.h5** , and White may be pleased by the results of the opening.] **5...Nxe5 6.Be2 d6 7.0-0 Nxf3+ 8.Bxf3 Ne7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Be3** White plays deliberately modest. [More active looks **10.Bg5!?** Be6 11.Nd5 f6 12.Bf4 Nc6 13.c5! Ne5 14.cxd6 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3 cxd6 16.Rad1 with the clear edge.] **10...Be6 11.c5**

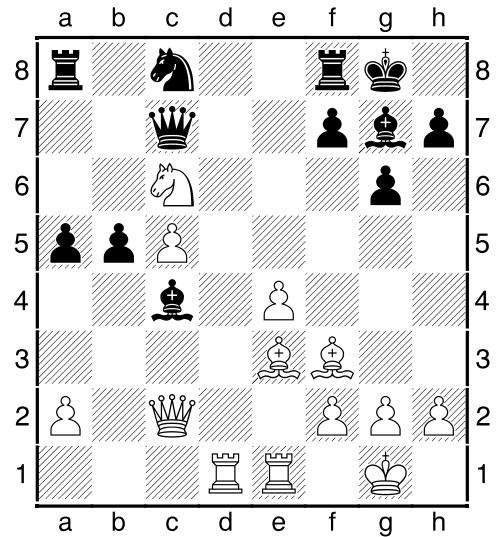


11...Nc8 Too 'deep' retreat. Why not the simple pawn exchange? [11...dxc5 12.Bxc5 Qxd1 13.Rfxd1 Rfe8 14.Nb5 Bxb2!? (14...b6!? 15.Bd4 Bxd4 16.Nxd4 Bd7=) 15.Nxc7 Bxa1 16.Rxa1 Rac8 17.Bd6 Rxc7 18.Bxc7 Nc6 with mutual chances.] **12.Qc2! c6** [In current position the continuation 12...dxc5 hardly equalizes the game: 13.Bxc5 Nd6 14.Rad1 Re8 15.Nd5 Rc8 16.Rfe1 with White's advantage.] **13.Rad1 Qe7 14.Ne2! b6**

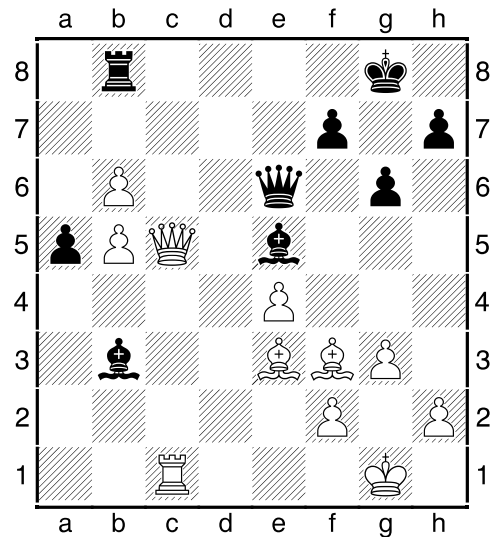


15.b4! Of course, White doesn't want to give up the post on c5. [Worse is 15.cxb6?! axb6 16.Qxc6 Rxa2, where the black rook is too active.] **15...dxc5 16.bxc5 b5 17.Nd4 Bc4 18.Nxc6! Qc7 19.Rfe1** [Very

good is also 19.Nb4! Bxf1 20.Nd5 Qc6 21.Kxf1 Be5 22.Bg4 Kh8 23.f4 Bg7 24.e5 with the huge White's advantage despite the less amount of material.] **19...a5**

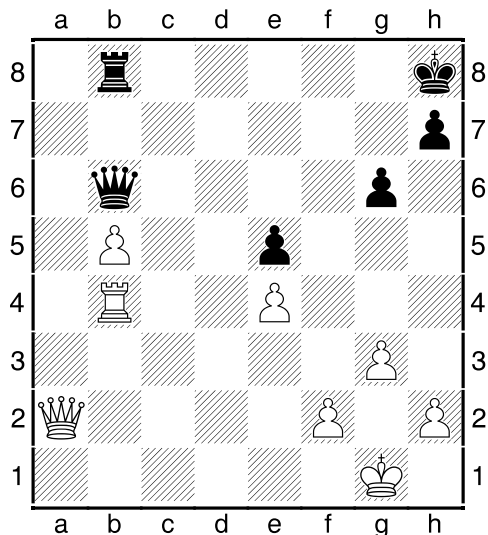


[19...Ne7 20.Nxe7+ Qxe7 21.Be2 Bxe2 22.Rxe2+--] **20.Nd4** [Stronger is the active blow 20.e5! with idea 20...Ra6 (20...Na7 21.Nxa7 Rxa7 22.c6+-) 21.Rd6! Nxd6 22.exd6 Qd7 23.Ne7+ Kh8 24.Qd2 Be5 25.Bg5 f6 26.Rxe5! fxe5 27.c6 sweeping away the enemy from the board, like a hurricane.] **20...Na7 21.a4 Rab8 22.g3 Nc6 23.Nxc6 Qxc6 24.Rd6 Qc8 25.Rc1 Be5 26.Rb6 Rxb6 27.cxb6 Qe6 28.axb5 Bb3 29.Qc5 Rb8**



30.Bd4 [White could win very quickly by

activating his light-squared bishop:
 30.Bg4! Qf6 31.b7 a4 32.f4 Bd6 33.Qa7]
30...f6 31.Be2 a4 32.Bc4 Bxc4 33.Rxc4
a3 34.Bxe5 fxe5 35.Ra4 a2 36.Qc2 Qxb6
37.Qxa2+ Kh8 38.Rb4



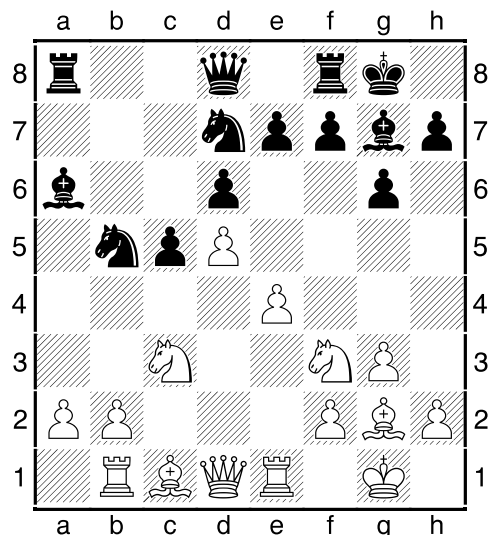
Further is easy technic! **38...Rf8 39.Qc2**
Rf6 40.Rb2 Kg7 41.Qc3 Re6 42.Kg2 Qb7
43.Qd3 Rb6 44.Qd5 Qb8 45.Qc5 Kf6
46.Rb3 Rb7 47.b6 Qe8 48.Qd6+ Kg5
49.Qd2+ Kf6 50.Rf3+ Kg7 51.Qd6 h5
52.Rc3 Kh6 53.Rc7 Rb8 54.h4 Rd8
55.Qf6 Rd7 56.Rxd7 1-0

(09) Baryshpolets,A (2486) - Tovmashian,V (2420) [A58]

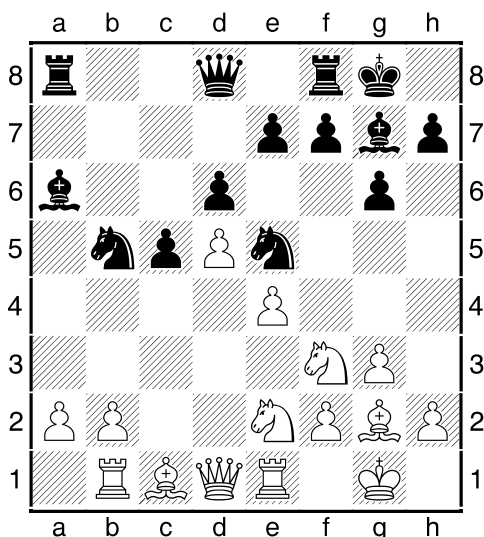
10th Nabokov Mem GM Kiev UKR (4.4),
 22.04.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

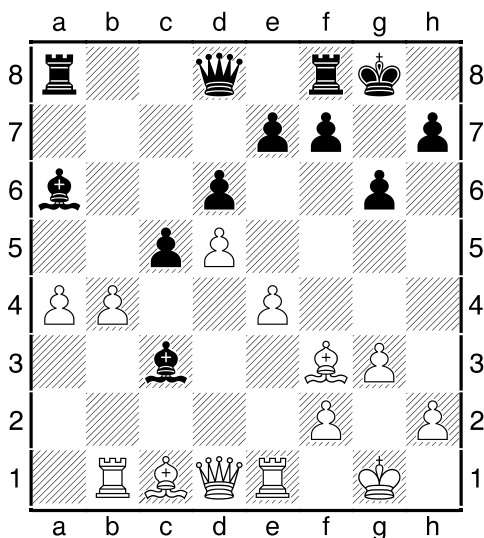
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6
5.bxa6 d6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.Nf3 g6 8.g3 Bg7
9.Bg2 Nbd7 10.Rb1 0-0 11.0-0 Ne8
12.Re1 Nc7 13.e4 Nb5



Black Knight was on his long route g8–f6–e8–c7–b5 to exchange for a white counterpart c3, to facilitate Black's counterplay on the queenside. Frankly speaking, the whole this variation with the knight on e8 seems to me rather doubtful that confirmed, in particular, in this game too.[A prominent theorist, strong grandmaster B. Avrukh in his fundamental work 'Grandmaster Repetoir' as to improve the Black's play suggests here the move 13...Bc4 with words: 'And the weakness of the b3–square gave Black decent counterplay'. I don't agree with him. In fact, the particularly Black's counterplay is not visible, and White's superiority is obvious: 14.a4 Qb8 (14...Na6 15.e5 Nb4 16.e6 fxe6 17.Ng5f) 15.Bg5! Bb3 16.Qc1 Re8 17.Bh3! e6 (17...Nb6 18.Bh6) 18.Ra1±] **14.Ne2!** Strong maneuver! Now black pieces huddle on the queenside, they begin to interfere with each other, and fall under the opponent's pawn 'thrusts'. [Surprisingly, but it's not easy for Black to achieve equal opportunities, even after 14.Nxb5?! Bxb5 15.a3 Qb6 16.Bf4 Qa6 17.e5! Bd3 18.Rc1 c4 19.b3] **14...Ne5?**

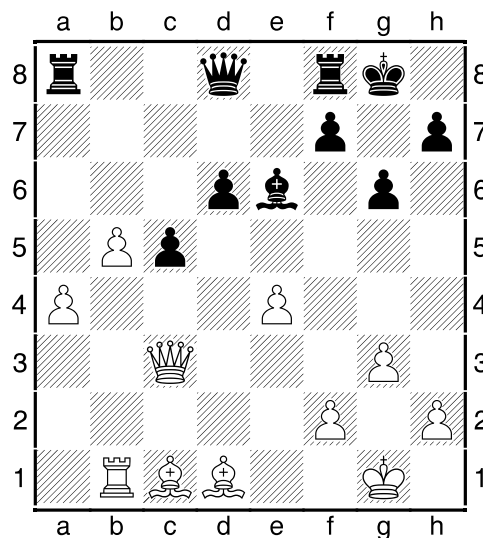


Black, who is playing Benko Gambit, sacrificing a pawn, clearly should not seek to massive swaps of pieces. If it doesn't give specific benefits. **15.a4! Nxf3+** [15...Nc7 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.b4 Bxe2 18.Rxe2 cxb4 19.Rxb4 Na6 20.Rc4±] **16.Bxf3 Nd4 17.Nxd4! Bxd4 18.b4!** Exploiting the vulnerability of the black bishop, White organizes connected passed pawns 'a' and 'b' and the struggle in this game will soon decide in his favor. **18...Bc3**

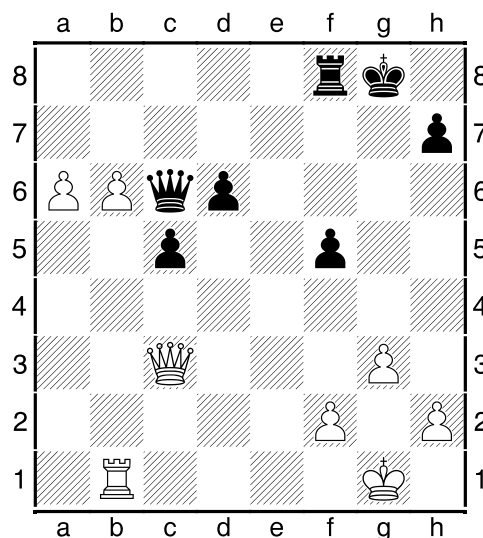


19.b5! The loss of exchange in this position plays no role. Much more important thing is to keep a couple of pawns on the queenside. **19...Bxe1 20.Qxe1 Bc8 21.Bd1!** [21.b6?! Rxa4 22.b7 Bxb7 23.Rxb7 Re8±] **21...e5 22.dxe6 Bxe6** [A

little bit harder is **22...fxe6**, but after **23.Bb2 e5 24.Bc3** White finishes all the preparations, and the pawns will run ahead.] **23.Qc3**



23...Qe7?! Black becomes disheartened and doesn't prevent a simple threat. **24.Bh6 f5 25.Bxf8 Rxf8 26.exf5 gxf5 27.b6 Bd5 28.Bb3 Qe4 29.Bxd5+ Qxd5 30.a5 Qc6 31.a6**



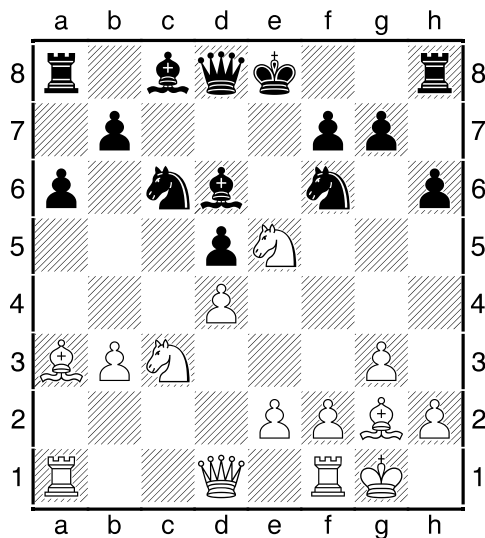
In such position nothing can stop the White's soldiers so Black committed an act of capitulation. **1-0**

(10) Tan Zhongyi (2430) - Hoang Thi Nhu Y (2238) [D30]
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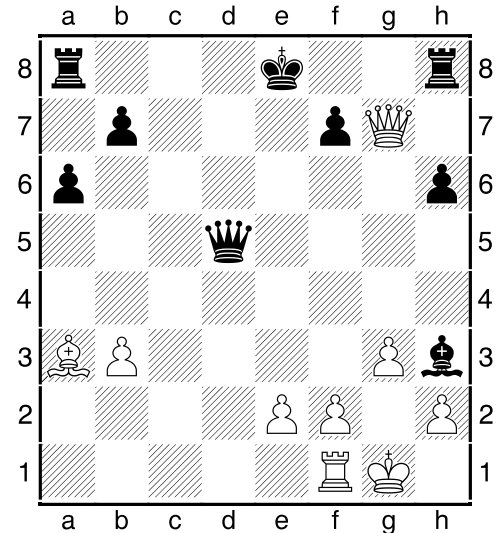
VIE (1.3), 05.05.2012

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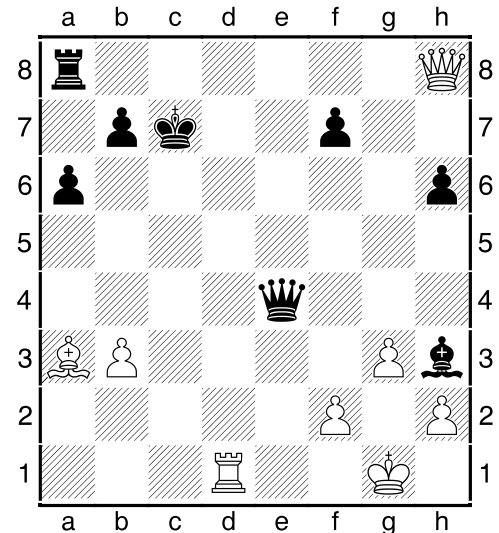
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 d5 4.g3 c5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg2 Nc6 7.0-0 c4 8.b3 cxb3 9.axb3 Bd6 [In the long-standing game Black acted modestly and better: 9...Be7 10.Ba3 0-0 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.e3 Rfc8 14.Ne2 Rc7 15.Nf4 Qd6 16.Ng5 Smyslov, V – Lisitsin, G, 1955, and here, after the obvious 16...Bf5, withdrawing his bishop from the blow and preventing the weakening of his pawn structure, Black get slightly better chances.(but the game continued by 16...Rac8?! 17.Qb1 h6 18.Ngxe6 fxe6 19.Bh3! and White developed a serious pressure, however he lost this game at the end.)] **10.Nc3 h6 11.Nb5 Bb8 12.Ba3 a6 13.Nc3 Bd6 14.Ne5**



offering an interesting pawn sacrifice **14...Ne7?! A strange retreat.** This passive maneuver gives White the opportunity to advance in the center. [Let's consider the possible alternatives to Black's 14th move. In case of accepting of the pawn sacrifice 14...Nxe5 15.dxe5 Bxe5 White strikes at the center: 16.Nxd5! Bxa1 (16...Be6 17.Nxf6+ Qxf6 18.Ra2! Rd8 19.Rd2+-) 17.Qxa1 Nxd5 18.Bxd5 Qxd5 19.Qxg7 Bh3

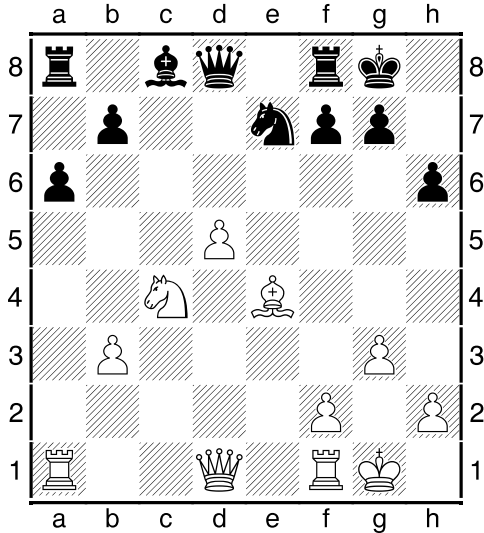


20.e4!! (In fact, i am commenting this game precisely because of these curious variations, which remain, unfortunately, behind the scenes. Of course, White wants to take the rook with the check, even before starting to think about this position. But such negligence would have cost him dearly: 20.Qxh8+?? Kd7 21.e4 Rxh8 22.exd5 Bxf1, and suddenly Black wins!) **20...Qxe4** Now White wins by force, but with strictly only moves: 21.Qxh8+ Kd7 22.Rd1+ Kc7

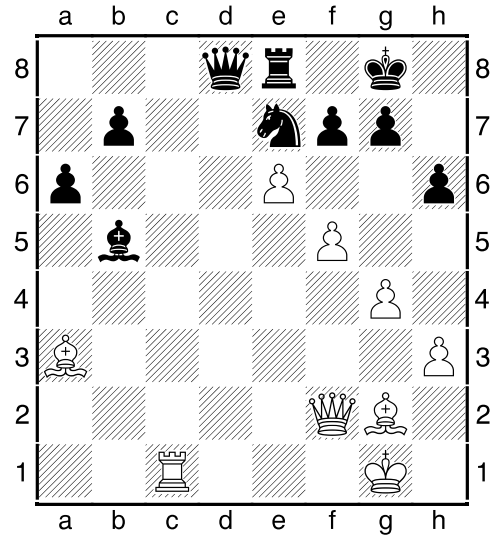


23.Qc3+! Kb8 24.f3! (The 'easy' 24.Bd6+? doesn't lead to the checkmate: 24...Ka7 25.Qc5+ b6 26.Qc7+ Qb7) **24...Qc6 25.Qe5+ Ka7 26.Rd6 Qc7 27.Rxa6+!** and the game is over.; However, it should be noted that Black is not obliged to accept

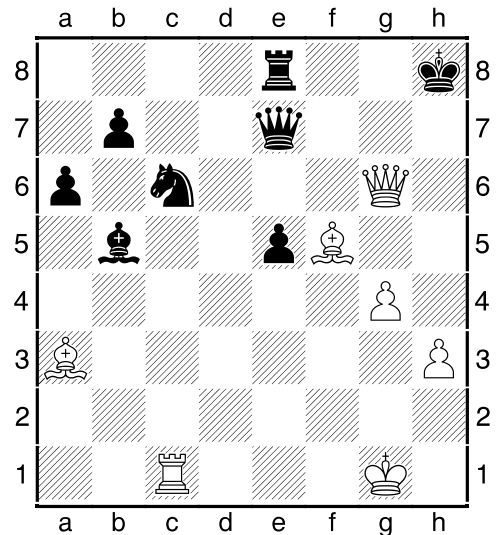
any sacrifice of a pawn or a knight retreat to a passive position. Instead, it was necessary to exchange the white dark-squared bishop – the causer of all Black's ills: 14...Bxa3! 15.Rxa3 Qd6 16.Ra1 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qxe5 18.Nxd5 0-0 , solving his all opening problems.] **15.Bb2** [The energetic 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.e4! meets the requirements of position: 16...Nxe4 17.Nc4 Qd8 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Bxe4 0-0 20.d5!±



, and the central white passed pawn is a formidable force.] **15...Be6 16.h3** [More vigorous is 16.Na4! 0-0 17.Nc5 Qb6 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Bh3 Nf5 20.Qd3 , and it's not easy for Black to protect his weaknesses.] **16...0-0 17.e3 Rc8 18.g4 Nd7 19.f4 Nxe5** [19...f6!? 20.Nd3 Re8 21.f5 Bf7 with a very solid position.] **20.dxe5!** Of course, it is desirable to maintain a mobile pawn chain for an attack on the kingside. **20...Bc5 21.Qd3 d4** [The option 21...Bxe3+!? is good-looking: 22.Qxe3 d4 23.Qf2 dxc3 24.Ba3 c2 25.f5 Bxb3 26.f6 Nc6 27.Bxf8 Qxf8 , and Black is OK.] **22.Ne4 dxe3 23.Nxc5 Rxc5 24.Qxe3 Rb5 25.f5 Rxb3 26.Qf2 Bc4 27.Rfc1 Bb5 28.Ra3 Rxa3 29.Bxa3 Re8 30.e6**



30...fxe6? The decisive mistake! Black, with his own hand, destroys the trenches, where his king was hiding. [In this difficult position Black has a life-saving resource: 30...Qd3! 31.exf7+ Kxf7 32.Qa2+ Kf8 33.Bc5 Bc6 34.f6 gxf6 35.Qe6 Qd2 36.Qxf6+ Kg8 37.Bf1 Bd5! 38.Rc3 Rf8 39.Qxe7 Rxf1+ 40.Kxf1 Qxc3 41.Qf8+ Kh7 42.Qf5+ Kg7 43.Qxd5 Qxh3+ 44.Ke1 Qxg4=] **31.f6! gxf6 32.Qxf6 Nc6 33.Qg6+ Kh8 34.Qxh6+ Kg8 35.Qg6+ Kh8 36.Be4 Qd7 37.Bb2+ e5 38.Bf5 Qe7 39.Ba3!**



The checkmate is inevitable, and Black folded his arms. **1-0**

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