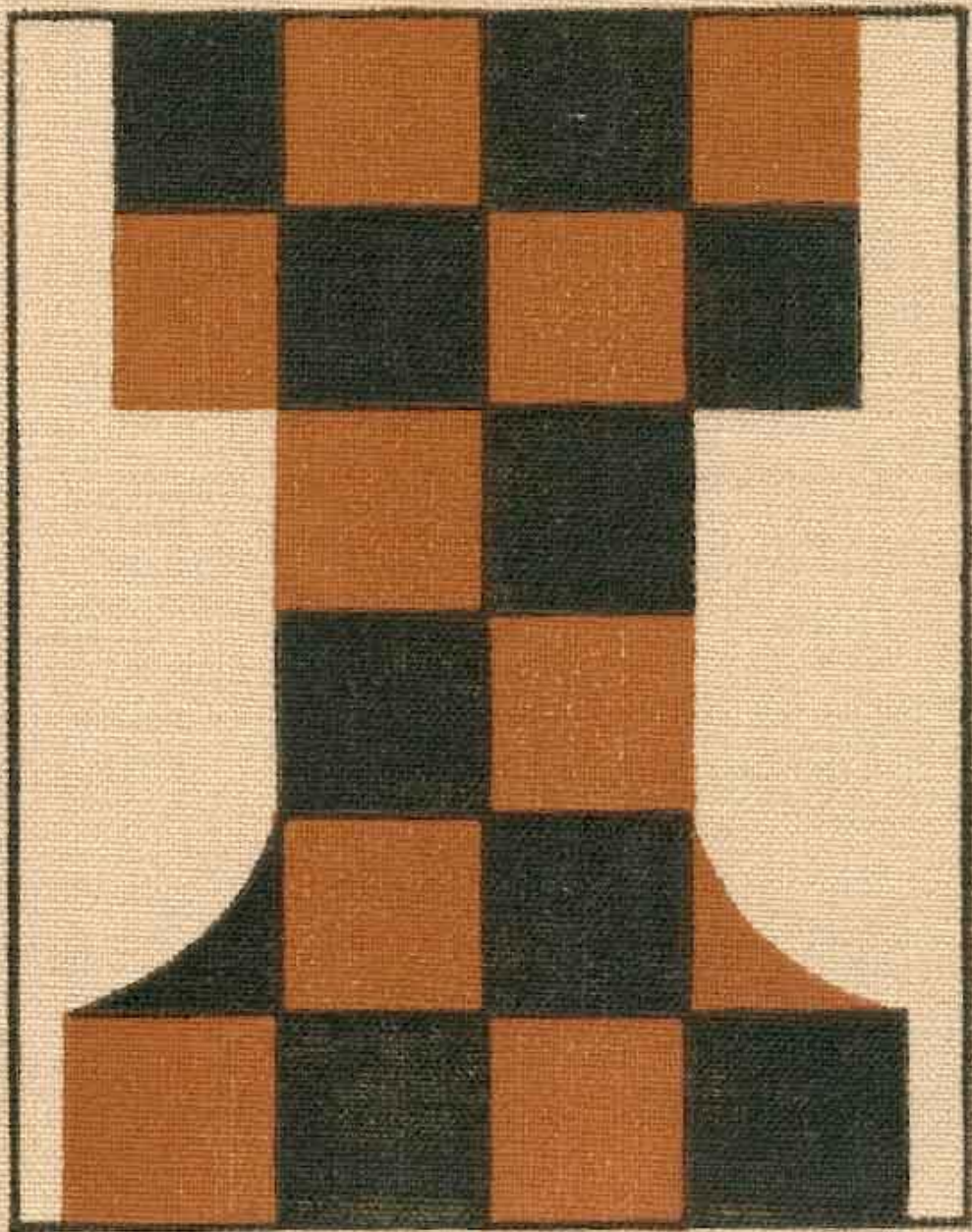


# ChessZone Magazine



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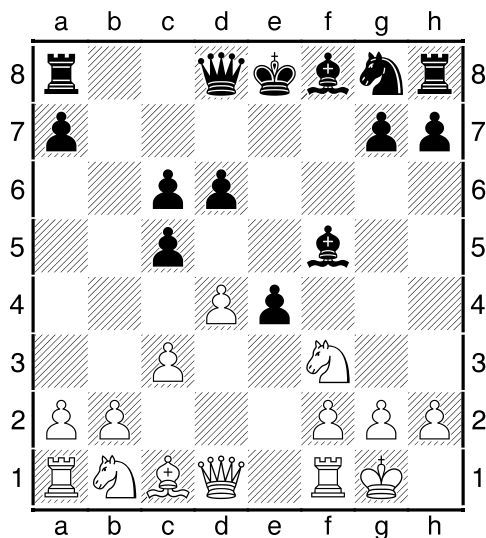
## Games

### (01) Velicka,P (2462) - Markos,J (2596) [B51]

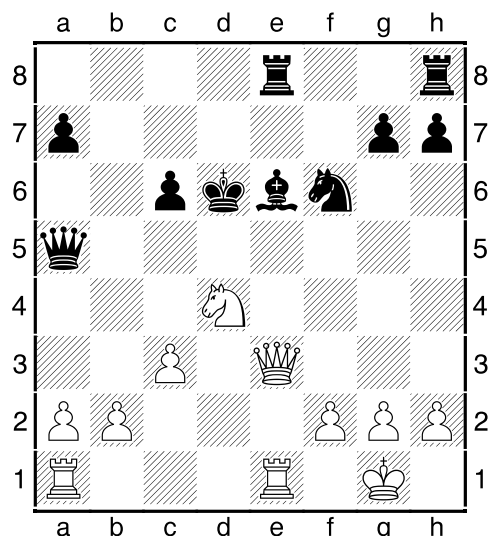
TCh-CZE Extraliga 2011-12 Czech Republic CZE (6.5), 08.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

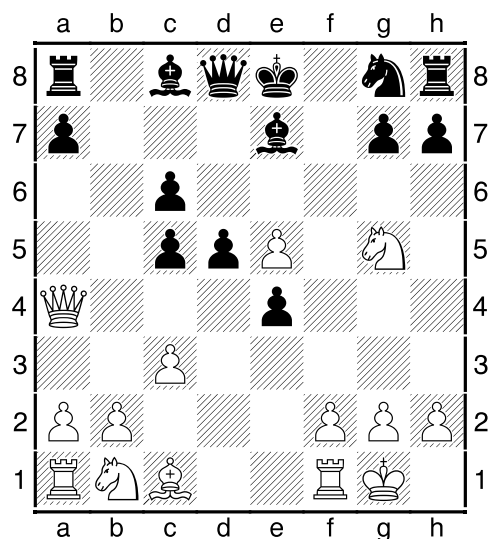
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6 4.Bxc6+ bxc6 5.0-0 e5 6.c3 f5?! This is a very risky opening option. This impudent play only with pawns is very dangerous for black. Now white has nice choice to punish his opponent. It is curious that for black's 6th suspicious move GM commentators have managed to put an exclamation mark (!) in one of the Informants! **7.d4** [One of the samples of white's play in this position is duel Rublevsky – Sveshnikov, 1999 r., in which white has sacrificed his knight for preventing black's castling, and won in a nice style: 7.exf5 Bxf5 8.d4 e4



9.dxc5! exf3 10.Qxf3 Be6 11.Re1! Kd7 12.cxd6 Qf6 (12...Bxd6 13.Bf4 Bxf4 14.Qxf4 Qf6 15.Qb4 Kc8 16.Nd2 Qg6 17.g3 Bd5 18.c4) 13.Bf4 Qf5 14.Nd2 Nf6 15.Qe2 Re8 16.Qe3 Qa5 17.Nf3 Bxd6 18.Bxd6 Kxd6 19.Nd4!+-



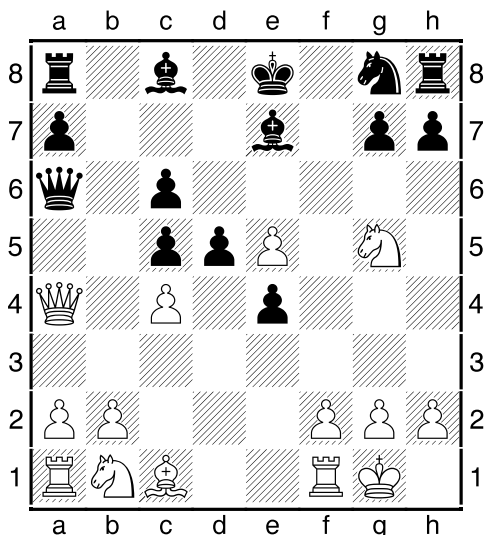
black is unable to avoid the smash because white's queen goes to g3.] But the continuation which white selected in game, is no worse. **7...fxe4 8.Ng5 d5 9.dxe5 Be7 10.Qa4!**



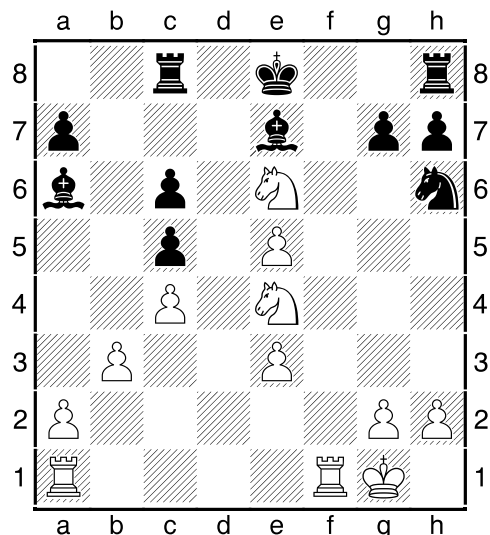
**10...Qb6** Nowadays the white's 10th move is done automatically. Earlier I liked very much to play black pieces this variation with 6...f5. I can't imagine that it would be very questionable, even 'rotten'. So in one rapid tournament (Mariupol, 2006) I played black this opening with GM E. Andreev. He thought for 5 minutes before his 10th move and suddenly shifted his queen to a4! It was a novelty and our game was sent to



98th Informant! Unfortunately, I lost very quickly without tenacity: [10...Qc7 11.c4! destroying the redoubts 11...h6 12.cxd5 Bxg5 13.Nc3 Bf5 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.d6! Qf7 16.Qxe4+- etc. Working on this game after 6 years I came up with an interesting idea; 10...Rb8! 11.Qxc6+ (11.e6 Qc7 12.Nf7 Bxe6 13.Nxh8 Nf6 14.f3 Bd6 15.Kh1 Bxh2 16.fxe4 Nxe4 17.Nd2 Ng3+ 18.Kxh2 Nxf1+ 19.Kg1=) 11...Bd7 12.Qxd5 Bxg5 13.e6 Bb5 14.Qxg5 Qxg5 15.Bxg5 Bxf1 16.Kxf1 Rxb2 17.Nd2 Nf6 18.Nc4 Rc2 19.Ne3 Rxc3 20.Rb1 0-0 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.e7 Rc8 23.Nd5 Ra3 24.Nxf6+ Kf7 25.e8Q+ Rxe8 26.Nxe8 Kxe8 and black close to draw.] Ok, we should return to the game! **11.c4!** Of course! **11...Qa6**



**12.Nc3?** This poor extension pass initiative to black. Much better was [12.Qxa6 Bxa6 13.b3! Rc8 14.Nc3 e3 Here I found a very interesting option wich looks like falling into the trap: 15.Bxe3 d4 Oh dear, double attack! Is this the end?? Of course, no! 16.Nce4! dxe3 17.Ne6! Nh6 18.fxe3+-



In this unique situation black's position is unprotectable!] **12...Qxa4 13.Nxa4 h6** A white horse is forced to retreat to the infamous parking because e6-square is not available for white after his fault. **14.Nh3 g5 15.b3 Rh7 16.Ba3 Rf7 17.Kh1** Freeing up some place for the poor knight **17...Rf5 18.cxd5 cxd5 19.Bxc5 Bxc5 20.Nxc5 Rxe5 21.Ng1 d4 22.b4 Nf6 23.Rae1?** This amused me. White as if specially created unbearable tightness in his camp to loose fast without pain.) [23.Rad1 d3 24.f3 Nd5 25.Rfe1 Nxb4 26.Nxe4=] **23...Rxc5! 24.bxc5 Ba6+- 25.Ne2 0-0-0 26.h3 d3 27.Ng3 d2 28.Rd1 e3 29.fxe3 Bxf1 30.Nxf1 Ne4 31.Kg1 Rd3 32.g4 a5 33.a4 Kc7 34.Kg2 Rc3 35.Kf3 Rc1 36.Nxd2 Rxd1 37.Nxe4 Rf1+ 38.Ke2 Ra1 39.Kd3 Kc6 40.Nd6 Rxa4 41.Nf7 Rb4 42.Kc3 Kxc5 43.Nxh6 a4 0-1**

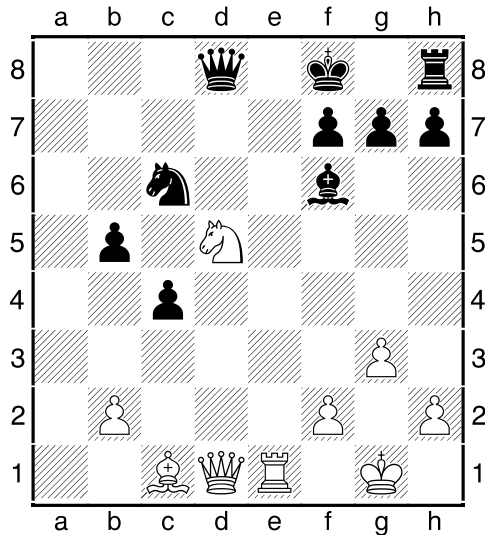
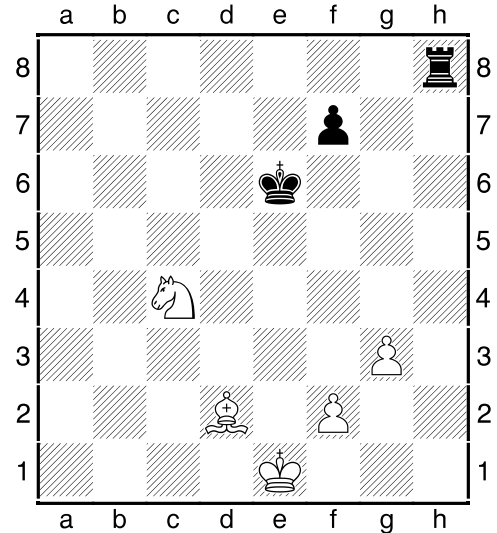
**(02) Gleizerov,E (2566) - Sangma,R (2357) [E04]**

10th Parsvnath Open New Delhi IND (6), 18.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

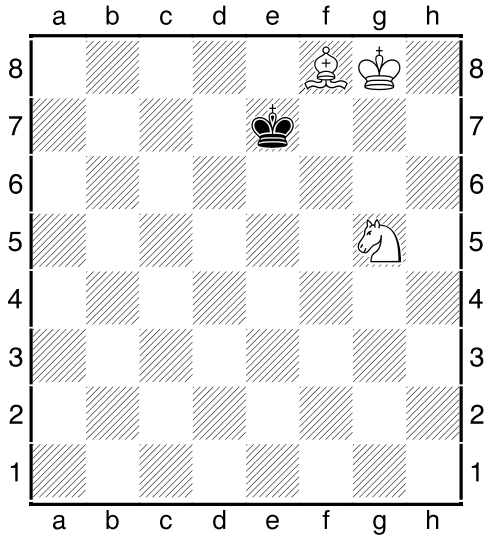
**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.Bg2 a6 6.0-0 b5?!** To my mind, this straight and aggressive line is dubious for black. He penetrates in the extra pawn, but lags behind in development. Moreover, there is an another big drawback: all of these aggressive variations are very well researched! [About popular option 6...Nc6 – look the games Jakovenko – Belov, CZM

05/2010 and Rogozenko – Naiditch, CZM 01/2011.] **7.Ne5 Nd5 8.a4 Bb7 9.axb5 axb5 10.Rxa8 Bxa8 11.e4 Nf6 12.Nc3 c6** At this moment I decided to look into the appropriate section of the GM Avrukh's openings book (vol. 1). Of course, the theory is not over yet! Coming down to the twentieth move the forced line continues and soon ends with the checkmate (!) of the black king! I recognize the great black's opening choice!) **13.d5! cxd5 14.exd5 Bxd5 15.Bxd5 exd5 16.Ng4! Be7** [Also doesn't treat 16...Ne4 17.Nxd5 Bc5 18.b4! cxb3 19.Qd3 f5 20.Qxb5+ Nd7 21.Ne5+– (Avrukh)] **17.Nxf6+ Bxf6 18.Re1+ Kf8 19.Nxd5 Nc6**



**20.b3?!** Black finally get some respite. White could win quickly in several ways, the main thing was just to introduce the bishop in battle: [20.Be3! Be7 (20...g5 21.Bb6 Qd6 22.Bc7 Qd7 23.Nxf6 Qxc7 24.Qh5) 21.Qh5 Bd6 22.Bg5 f6 23.Nxf6!+– ; or 20.Bf4! Bxb2 (20...g5 21.Bc7 Qd7 22.Nxf6 Qxc7 23.Qh5) 21.Bc7 Qd7 22.Nf6!! with the total smash! 22...Qxd1 23.Bd6+ Qxd6 24.Re8#] **20...g5!** Black just does not get mate and can flounder about. Although Black's position is very difficult. surprising that the black could hold out for almost 70 moves! **21.bxc4 bxc4 22.Qf3 Nd4 23.Qxf6 Qxf6 24.Nxf6 Nf3+ 25.Kf1 Nxe1 26.Kxe1 Ke7 27.Bxg5 h6 28.Bd2 Ke6 29.Ng4 h5 30.Ne3 h4 31.Nxc4 hxg3 32.hxg3**

Technically won position. But realization requires the sufficient level of technic and, of course, patience! Further events can be characterized as follows: white as a result of a long grueling maneuvers has exchanged a pair of pawns and finally made his last pawn in the Queen. **32...f5 33.Ke2 Rc8 34.Nb2 Kd5 35.Nd3 Kd4 36.Ne1 Ra8 37.f3 Ke5 38.Nd3+ Kd4 39.Be3+ Kd5 40.Nf4+ Kc4 41.Ne6 Ra2+ 42.Bd2 Kd5 43.Ng7 Ke5 44.Kd3 Kf6 45.Nh5+ Kg6 46.Nf4+ Kf6 47.Bc3+ Kg5 48.Kd4 Ra3 49.Nd5 Ra2 50.Bb4 Rb2 51.Be7+ Kg6 52.Bh4 Kf7 53.Ke5 Rb5 54.Bg5 Ra5 55.Bd2 Rc5 56.Bb4 Rb5 57.f4 Kg6 58.Ke6 Kh5 59.Be7 Kg4 60.Bh4 Kf3 61.Nf6 Ra5 62.Kf7 Ra7+ 63.Kg6 Ra5 64.Kg5 Rb5 65.Ne8 Rd5 66.Kf6 Ra5 67.Ke6 Kg4 68.Nf6+ Kf3 69.Kf7 Ra7+ 70.Kg6 Ra5 71.Kg5 Rb5 72.Nd7 Ke4 73.g4 fxg4+ 74.Kxg4 Rb2 75.Nf6+ Kd4 76.Bg5 Kc5 77.Kf5 Kd6 78.Kg6 Rb1 79.f5 Rf1 80.Nh7 Kd7 81.Bh6 Rg1+ 82.Ng5 Rf1 83.f6 Ke8 84.Kg7 Rf2 85.f7+ Ke7 86.Kg8 Rf1 87.f8Q+ Rxf8+ 88.Bxf8+**



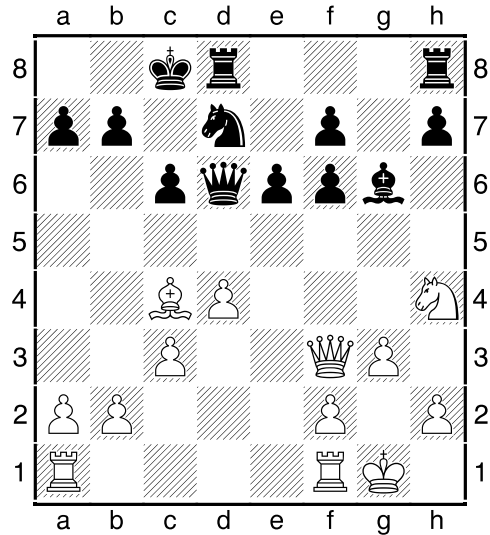
Game could last for more than thirty moves and crowned with a stage of checkmating by king and bishop. But black hadn't strength to continue the game and resigned. **1-0**

**(03) Caruana,F (2736) - Van Wely,L (2692) [B01]**

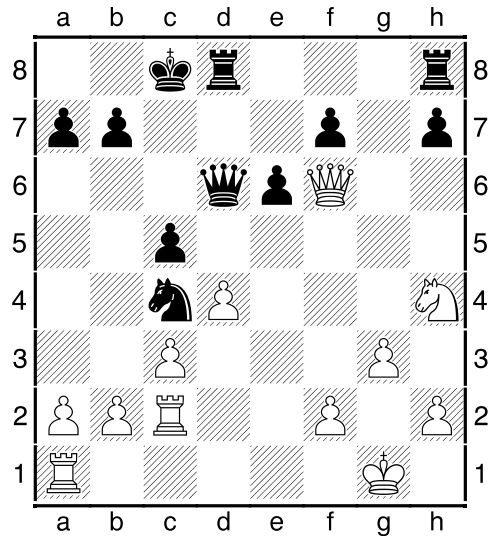
74th Tata Steel GMA Wijk aan Zee NED (6), 20.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

**1.e4 d5** Scandinavian defense at such a high level is always pleasing to the eyes. **2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3** [5.Bd2 – look CZM 07/2007.] **5...c6 6.Bc4 Bf5 7.Bd2 e6 8.Nd5** [Rare continuation 8.Ne4 Qb6 9.Nxf6+ gxf6 10.Qe2 Qxb2 11.0-0 appeared in Nisipeanu – Prie, CZM 04/2006.] **8...Qd8 9.Nxf6+ gxf6 10.0-0** Theory of this variation is based on the game Ponomarev – Papaioannu, in which it was: [10.Bb3 Nd7 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Nh4 Bg6 13.0-0-0 0-0-0 14.g3 Kb8 15.Ng2 Bd6 16.h4 h5 17.Nf4 Bf5 18.Nxh5 c5 19.g4 and white managed to maintain some advantage (Khalifman, vol. 3)] **10...Nd7 11.Nh4 Bg6 12.c3 Qc7 13.Qf3 0-0-0 14.Bf4 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6** in the current position white has small but persistent advantage due to the better pawn structure and a more robust position of his king. but this does not mean you have to turn the game into a hopeless position in just three moves, as did Van Wely. **16.g3**

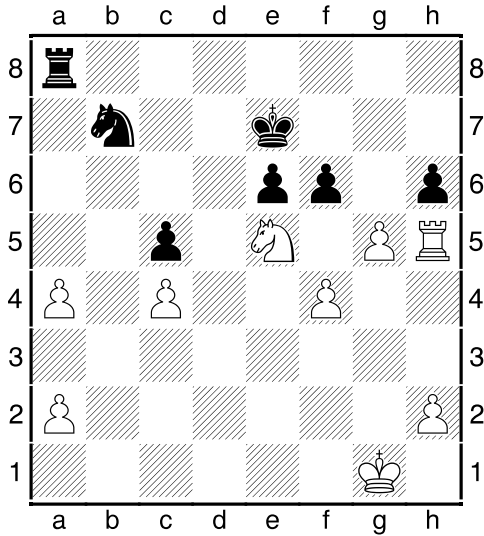


**16...c5?** Where? Why?? Obviously, moving pawns, opening his own king – it is already too much! **17.Rfd1 Bc2?** Look, what is this? But that's not all! **18.Rd2 Ne5?** Continuing to stick his line of errors and inaccuracies **19.Qxf6! Nxc4 20.Rxc2**



**20...Rhf8** People often use the joke about such positions: he has a pawn down but his position is worse! **21.Rd1?!** White plays softly and did not finish the opponent. [After simple 21.b4! white closed to win: 21...cxd4 22.cxd4 Qd5 23.Rac1 b5 24.a4 a6 25.axb5 axb5 26.Ra2+–] **21...Qd5 22.b3 Nd6 23.c4 Qh5 24.Qf3 Qxf3 25.Nxf3 b6 26.dxc5 bxc5 27.Re2 Nb7 28.Rxd8+ Kxd8** In the end white succeeded technically won position, but the mira-

cles continue! **29.Re5! Ke7 30.Rh5 Rh8 31.Ne5 a5 32.f4! a4 33.bxa4! h6 34.g4 Ra8 35.g5 f6**



**36.gxf6+?** [I can not understand why white disdained to take the pawn: 36.Rxh6 fxe5 37.Rh7+ Kd6 38.Rxb7 exf4 39.g6 e5 40.g7 e4 41.Kf2 Ke6 42.a5+-] **36...Kxf6 37.Nd7+ Ke7 38.Ne5 Kf6 39.Kg2 Kg7 40.f5 exf5 41.Rxf5 Nd6 42.Rf2 Rxa4 43.Rc2 Ra3=** Despite little material shortage all black pieces are very active, so game ends to the draw. **44.Kf1 Nf5 45.Ke1 Ne3 46.Re2 Kf6 47.Nd7+ Kf5 48.Rf2+ Kg4 49.Ne5+ Kg5 50.Kd2 h5 51.Re2 Ng4 52.Kc1 Nxe5 53.Rxe5+ Kf4 54.Rxh5 Rxa2 55.h4 Ke3 56.Rd5 Rh2 57.h5 Rh4 58.Rxc5 Kd4 59.Ra5 Rh2 60.Kd1 Kxc4 61.Ke1 Kd4 62.Kf1 Ke4 63.Kg1 Rb2 64.h6 Kf4 65.Ra8 Rb7 66.Kg2 Kg5 67.Ra6 Rh7 68.Kg3 Rxh6 69.Rxh6 Kxh6** And there are only two kings on the board. **SS**

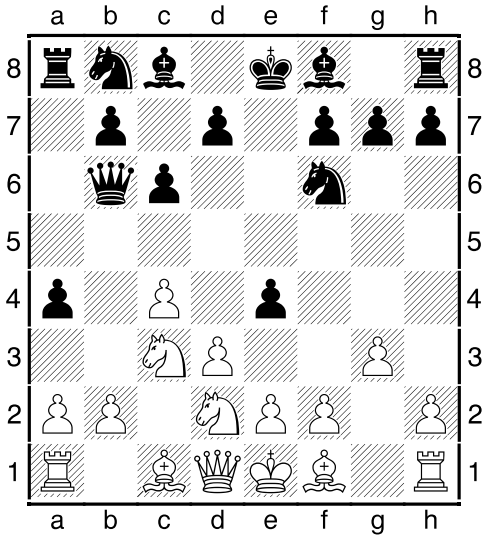
**(04) Nakamura,Hi (2759) - Topalov,V (2770) [A23]**

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

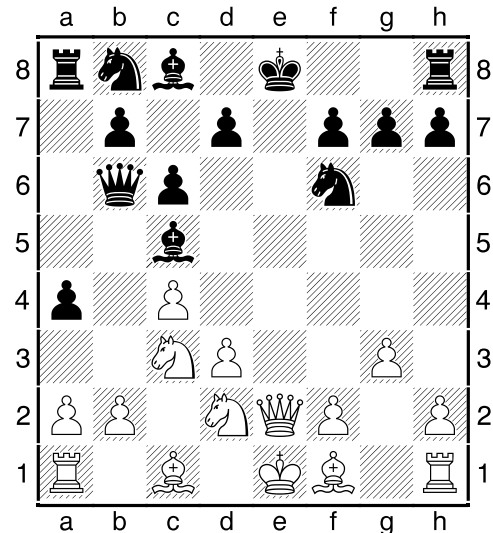
[IM Iljin, T]

**1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 c6** Black tries to impress the opponent by rare Keres variation in English opening. **4.Nf3 e4 5.Nd4 Qb6 6.Nb3** [In the ancient game Najdorf – Rossetto, 1968 was: 6.e3!? d5 7.Qc2 Here I'd like to offer an improvement: 7...Nbd7!?! without fear of 'rebuttal' offered by com-

mentators: 8.cxd5 cxd5 9.Ncb5 due to a simple 9...Bc5 10.b4 Bxd4 11.Nc7+? Qxc7! 12.Qxc7 Bxa1-+] **6...a5 7.d3 a4 8.Nd2**



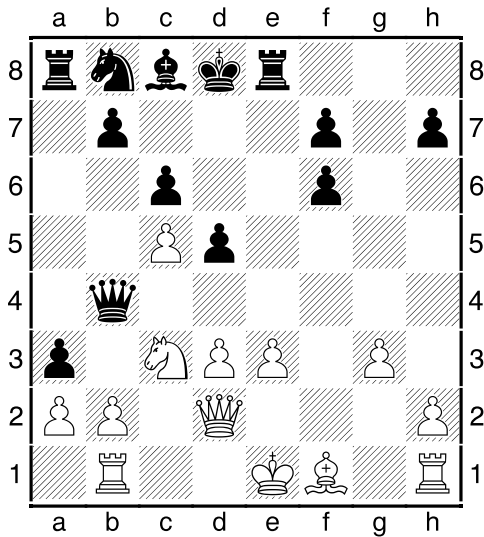
**8...exd3N** Black is very happy to find good novelty on the 8th (!) move! **9.exd3?!** It is difficult to refrain from this automatically taking. But after that white face difficulties because he doesn't have time to hide his king to the castle. [9.Bg2! d5 10.0-0 worth attention] **9...Bc5! 10.Qe2+**



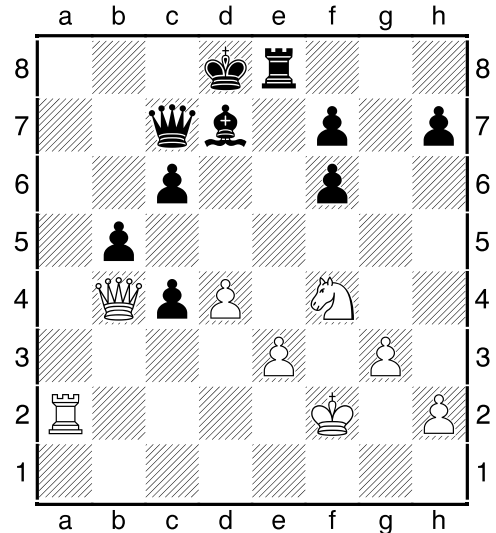
**10...Kd8!** That's the style of real champion! We can state the fact that black gain an advantage already on the 10th move! **11.Nde4 Re8 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.fxe3** [in event of 13.Qxe3 Qxe3+! 14.fxe3 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 d5 16.cxd5 cxd5 17.Nd6 Rxe3+



18.Kd2 Re7 white faces suffering in the endgame.] **13...a3!** Continuing to shake white's house. **14.Rb1 d5! 15.c5 Qb4 16.Nxf6 gxf6 17.Qd2**



**17...axb2?!** [To strike at the center was more stronger: 17...d4! 18.Ne4 Na6! Very technical, black save an important tempo 19.Be2 f5 20.Nd6 Rxe3 21.Nc4 Re7 22.Qxb4 Nxb4 23.Kf2 Nxa2 24.Nxa3 Nc3! etc.with big advantage. But the frantic world ex-champion has never sought the easy ways, related with simplifications! He continues to complicate and tangle the position and eventually lose all his advantage.] **18.Nd1 Qxc5 19.d4 Qd6** [More accurate was 19...Qe7 not allowing to activate a white knight.] **20.Rxb2 b5 21.Bd3 Bh3 22.Nc3 Nd7 23.Kf2 Nb6 24.a4 Nxa4 25.Ra1 Re7** This blunder of pawn leads to the forced draw. To my mind the knight's retreat retain winning chances. Although to gain the victory will not be easy: all white pieces occupy almost ideal position and the black's pawn structure on the kingside is compromised. [I want to specify a cute, but not a mandatory option, which I have found while studying of the position: 25...Nb6 26.Rxa8+ Nxa8 27.Ne2 Nb6 28.Nf4 Bd7 29.Qa5 Qc7 30.Qb4 Nc4! 31.Bxc4 dxc4! 32.Ra2



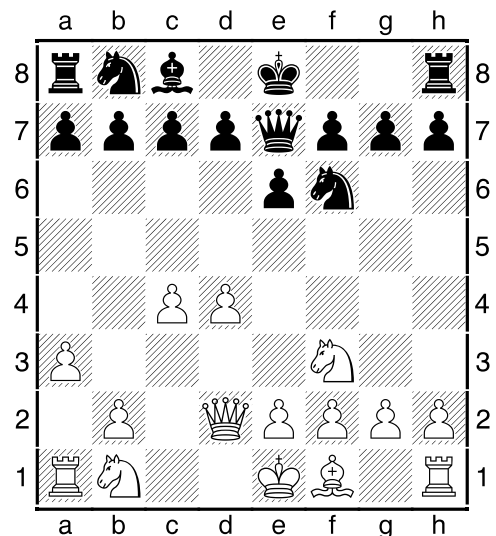
**32...c5! 33.Ra8+ Ke7 34.Nd5+ Kd6! 35.Nxc7 cxb4 36.Nxe8+ Bxe8 37.Rxe8 b3+]** **26.Rba2= Rea7 27.Qc2 h6 28.Nxa4 bxa4 29.Rxa4 Rxa4 30.Rxa4 Rxa4 31.Qxa4 Ke7 32.Qa7+ Kf8 33.Qc5 Qxc5 34.dxc5 Bg4 35.Bc2 Ke7 36.Ba4 Kd7 37.Ke1 Bf5 SS**

**(05) Mamedyarov,S (2747) - Nabaty,T (2563) [E11]**

Gibraltar Open Caleta ENG (2.2), 25.01.2012

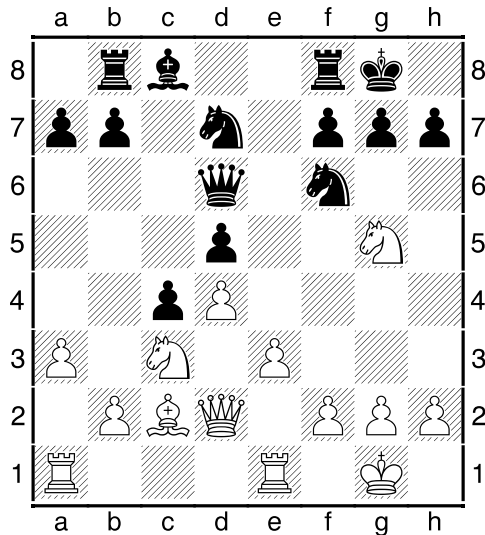
[IM Iljin, T]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.a3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2**

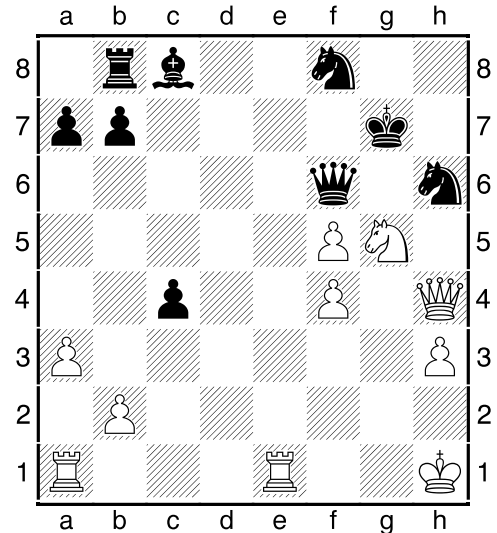


**6...d5** Of course I know that every man to his taste, but even so I can't understand

how does the strong chessplayer allow himself to put his pawns on light squares after exchanging dark-squared bishops. **7.Nc3 0-0 8.e3 Nbd7 9.cxd5! exd5 10.Bd3 c5 11.0-0 c4 12.Bc2 Rb8?! Black completely ignores the center [It was necessary to quickly develop his bishop on b7 in order to prevent breakthrough e3-e4. 12...b6 13.Rfe1 Bb7] 13.Rfe1 Qd6 14.Ng5**



Seeing that the rival marks time, white starts his attack. [14.e4 dxe4 15.Bxe4 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 Qc7 17.d5 Ne5 18.Nf6+ (18.Nxe5 Qxe5) 18...gxf6 19.Nxe5] **14...Ng4?** It looks like a very strange move. Black just gives the pawn up. Maybe he was hoping to "arrest" the bishop in his camp?! [To my mind black had better option: 14...h6 15.e4!? hxg5 16.e5 Qb6! 17.exf6 Nxf6 18.Re5 g4 19.Rae1 And white keeps some pressure, but black is OK.] **15.Bxh7+!** White has accepted the challenge of course **15...Kh8 16.f4** White has said "no" to blunders on h2!) **16...f5 17.h3 Nh6 18.Qf2 Rf6 19.g4 g6 20.Qh4 Kg7 21.Bxg6 Kxg6 22.gxf5+ Kg7** [if 22...Rxf5 then 23.Kh2 and white rook goes to g-file to meet black king.] **23.e4! dxe4 24.Ncxe4 Qxd4+ 25.Kh1 Nf8 26.Nxf6 Qxf6**



**27.Re7+!** White put the bullet in the game! **27...Qxe7 28.Ne6+! Kf7 29.Qh5+!** Interestingly that this is only winning option for white! [After the careless 29.Qxh6? Nxe6 30.Qh5+ Kf8 31.Qh8+ Kf7 White must be content with just a draw] and behind the scene it's a spectacular checkmate: **29...Kf6 30.Qxh6+ Kf7 31.Qh5+ Kf6 32.Re1 Bxe6 33.Rxe6+! Nxe6 34.Qg6#! 1-0**

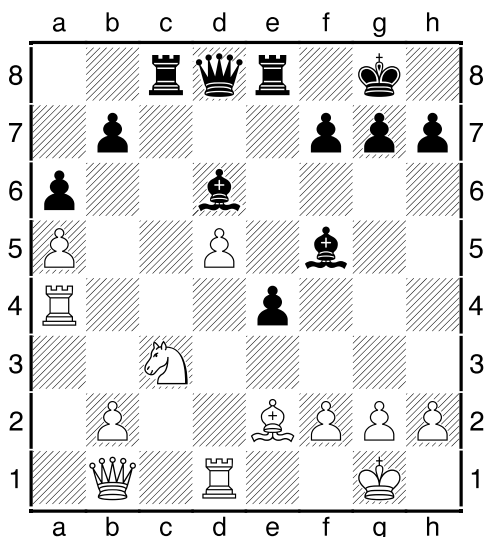
**(06) Dzagnidze,N (2535) - Movsesian,S (2700) [D11]**

Gibraltar Open Caleta ENG (5.4), 28.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

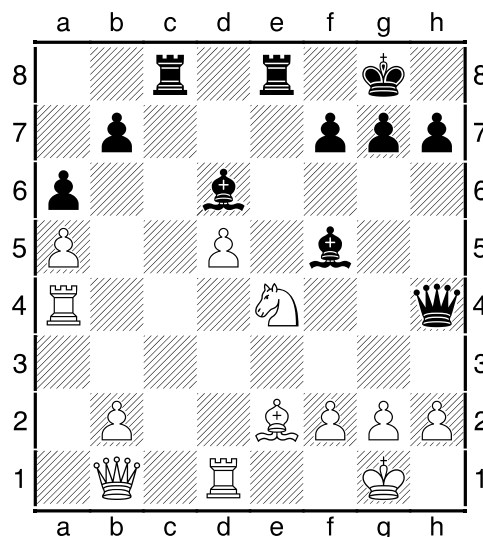
**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 a6 5.Bd2** In this position I've seen a lot of things: [5.Nc3; 5.Bd3; 5.Nbd2; 5.c5 etc., except the text move of dark-squared bishop).] **5...e6** [As a result of my reflection on the meaning of fifth white's move, I realized that its main task – to prevent the pawn activity on the queen side: 5...b5?! 6.cxd5 cxd5 7.a4! tied to the opponent's queenside. Further is possible 7...bxa4 8.Ne5 e6 9.Qxa4+ Bd7 10.Qb3! Nc6 11.Nxd7 Nxd7 (11...Qxd7 12.Bb5!) 12.Rxa6 Rb8 13.Qc2 Nb4 14.Bxb4 Bxb4+ 15.Nc3 and white gain extra-pawn from the opening.] **6.a4?!** It is not clear how this move is combined with the previous one? It looks like a simple weakening of the own queenside. **6...c5!= 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Bc3 Nc6 9.Be2 Be6 10.a5?!** Another waste of

time. Besides, this pawn – just an extra headache for White, which will need constant attention. **10...Ne4 11.0-0 Be7 12.dxc5 0-0 13.Bd4 Nxc5i 14.Nc3 Rc8 15.Nd2** What happened? Where it skidded the white knight? **15...Bd6 16.Qb1** The maneuvers of the white pieces are very cryptic. Black, in turn, has placed his pieces at the ideal positions and ready to attack. **16...Re8 17.Rd1 Nxd4 18.exd4 Ne4! 19.Ndxe4 dxe4 20.d5** ['Distrustful greediness' loses immediately: 20.Nxe4? Bf5! 21.f3 Qh4 22.g3 Bxe4 23.gxh4 Bxb1 and after a short skirmish, white loses the bishop op e2.] **20...Bf5-+** There is no one able to help the white (except for the opponent, as it turns out later). All white's pieces are very clumsy, and the king – completely defenseless. **21.Ra4**

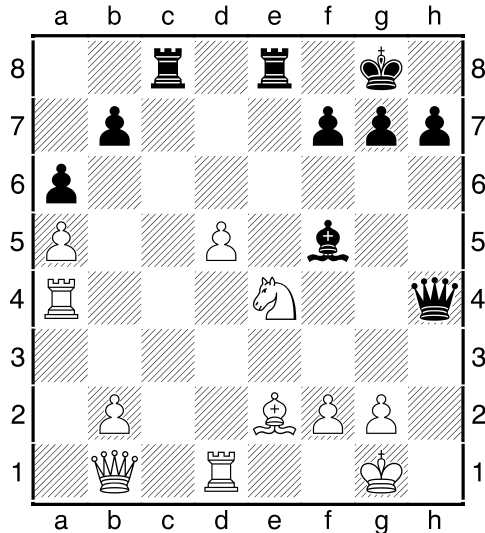


White checks the last chance – to try to pull the sting out of position. And, surprisingly, that chance has worked to the fullest! **21...Qg5??** It's an astounding mistake! It is hard to even imagine what has missed leader of the black pieces. [Many paths leading to success. Here are the most compelling: 21...Qd7 This move has a dual purpose: to protect the bishop to carry out pawn break e4–e3, and also to 'glance' at the white rook a4. 22.Rad4 e3 23.Bd3 exf2+ 24.Kxf2 Bg4-+; or 21...Qf6 and 22.Nxe4 is impossible due to 22...Qe5! ] **22.Nxe4!=** After the grossest black's blunder, the chances of the players are

roughly equal. **22...Bxh2+** [And yet, let's try to figure out what could count on a strong grandmaster, a member of the elite club of 2700 +, making his twenty-first move? I think that Sergey previously prepared 22...Qh4



with a seemingly irresistible threats from all sides, but have not noticed a beautiful and deadly opposition 23.Nxd6!! Here is a picture! Lovely! It has all combinational motifs: a fork, a pin, an open attack – whatever you want! 23...Qxa4 24.Bd3! (24.Nxf5? Rxe2 25.d6 Rxb2 26.Qd3 Rd8; 24.Qxf5?? Qxd1+ 25.Bxd1 Re1#) 24...Bg4 (24...Bxd3 25.Qxd3 Qxa5 26.Nxc8 Rxc8 27.d6) 25.Rf1 Qxa5 26.Bxh7+ Kf8 27.Bf5 Rcd8 28.Nxe8 Bxf5 29.Qxf5 Rxe8 30.g3 with unattractive and dull defense.] **23.Kxh2 Qh4+ 24.Kg1**



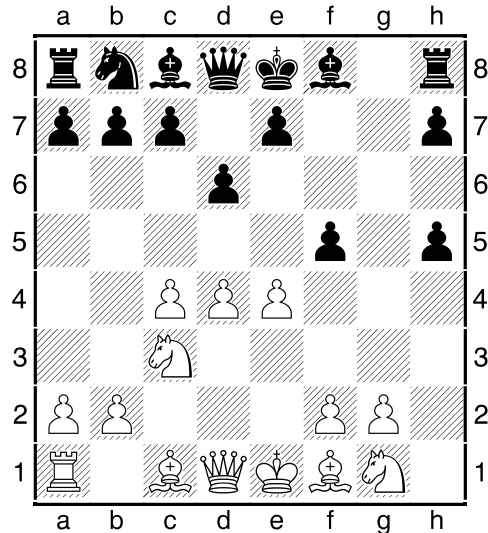
**24...Bxe4?!** [continuing to swim against the tide. It was better to go with the flow, after such experiences. And after 24...Rxe4 25.Rxe4 Bxe4 26.Rd4 Bxb1 27.Rxh4 Rc2 28.Bf3 Rxb2 29.Rc4 f5 30.Rc7 Be4 31.d6 Rd2 32.Bxe4 fxe4 33.d7 Kf8 34.Rxb7 Ke7 black has all chances to stick to the safe harbor.] **25.Bf3!±** In the second part of the game White started playing virtually error-free! A wonderful transformation! **25...f5** [Also in white's favour 25...Bxb1 26.Rxh4 Bc2 27.Rd2 Bf5 28.d6± Rc5 29.b4 Rb5 30.Rc4 Rd8 31.Rdd4] **26.d6! Rcd8 27.Qa2+ Kh8 28.d7! Re7 29.Rad4 Qf6 30.Qb3! h6 31.Bxe4 fxe4 32.Qxb7** And here is the first harvest! White does not give to the opponent even the slightest respite! **32...e3 33.fxe3 Rxe3 34.Qb6! Qe7 35.Qxa6 Re2 36.Qd3!** Very accurate play! **36...Rxb2 37.Re4 Qc5+ 38.Qe3 Qxe3+ 39.Rxe3 Rbb8 40.a6 Kh7 41.Rc3 Ra8 42.Rc7 Kg6 43.a7 Kf6 44.Re1 Kf7 45.Rb7 h5 46.Re8** An incredible loss! And even more incredible victory! **1-0**

**(07) Koziak,V (2493) - Bernasek,J (2464) [A85]**

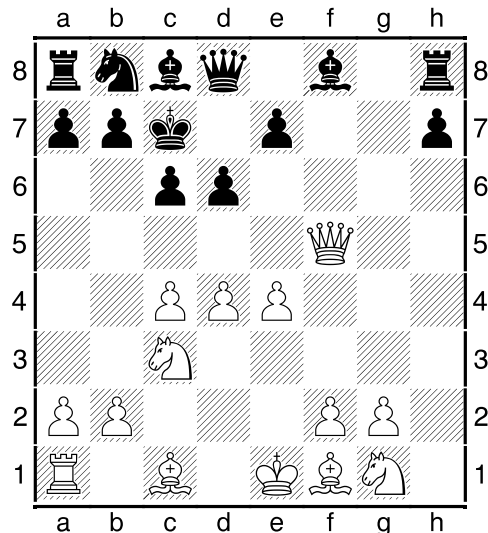
TCh-CZE Liga 1 Zapad Czech Rep CZE (7.1), 29.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

**1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.h4!? d6 5.h5 Nxb5 6.Rxh5 gxh5 7.e4**



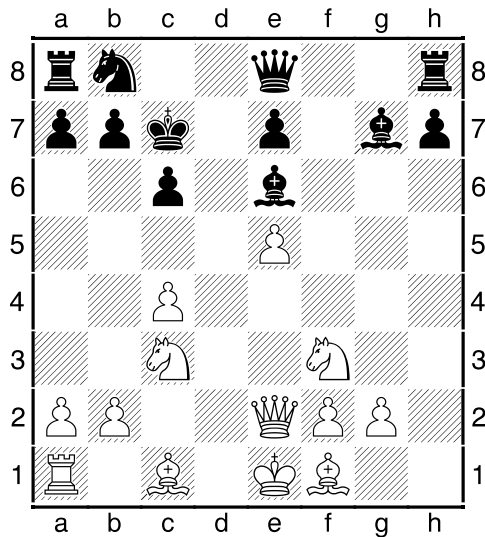
Very acute and principled response to the black's attempt to play the Leningrad version of Dutch defense. **7...c6** [7...Qd7!? without weakened of pawn structure was also encountered in practise. I suggest 8.Nh3! Kd8 9.e5 Bg7 10.Ng5 Qe8 11.e6 Qg6 12.Nf7+ Ke8 13.d5 and black is really 'packed'.; 7...e6? took place in duel Bartel – Firman, CZM 03/2010.] **8.Qxh5+ Kd7 9.Qxf5+ Kc7**



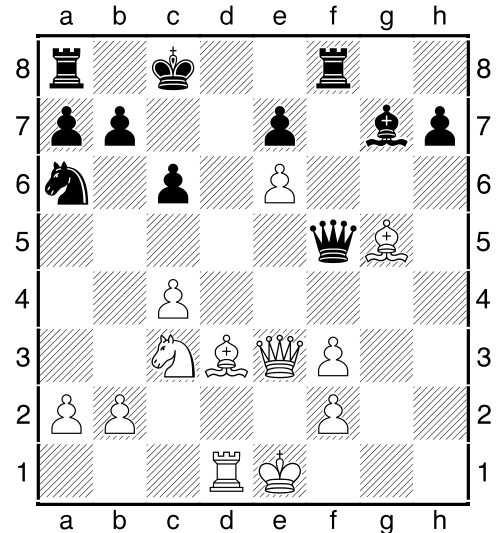
**10.Qh5?!** This move is too abstract! Further white step by step lost his initiative because he permits black to continue development. [But in case of 10.Qf7! it would not be easy to 'unwind' for black: 10...Bd7 (10...b6 11.c5! Kb7 12.a4→) 11.c5! Qe8 12.Qb3 Bg7 13.cxd6+ exd6 14.Be3 Qg6



(14...Be6 15.d5 Bf7 16.Rc1 a6 17.Qb6+ Kc8 18.g3 Nd7 19.Bh3 Kb8 20.Bxd7 Qxd7 21.dxc6 Qxc6 22.Nd5 Qxb6 23.Nxb6 Be6 24.f4; 14...b6 15.0-0-0 Qg6 16.Nge2) 15.Rc1 b6 16.Nge2 Kb7 17.Nf4 Qe8 18.a4→] Dream, dream!..But in reality, all black pieces quickly revived, and the whole white's concept is in doubt. **10...Bg7 11.e5 Qe8 12.Qe2 dxe5** Black grew his bolder and began to 'poking around' in the center. It doesn't look the best solution because of poor position of black's king. **13.dxe5 Be6** Violating the children's rule: first develop the knights, then – the bishops. While white did not enter a knight in the game, it is difficult to determine the best square for black's bishop. [13...Na6! 14.Nf3 Bg4 15.Bf4 Now comes the turn of rooks: 15...Rd8 16.Qe3 Rf8 17.e6+ Kc8 Black's advantage is clear without magnifier.] **14.Nf3**



**14...Bg4?** Black's position is not so luxurious to bouncing in one place. By entering his knight in game, black got even slightly better position: [14...Na6 15.Ng5 Qg6 16.Nxe6+ Qxe6 17.f4 Rad8] **15.Bf4** Alarm bell! Black Monarch comes under 'oblique views' **15...Rf8 16.Qe3 Bxf3 17.e6+ Kc8 18.gxf3 Qh5 19.Rd1 Qf5** The most interesting is that black did not bother to enter a half of his pieces to the game, which punished in the corner by their leader. **20.Bg5 Na6 21.Bd3**



**21...Qxf3?** Blundering the important pawn. [After the accurate 21...Qc5! black comes out dry: 22.Ne4 (22.Qxc5? Nxc5 23.Bxe7 Nxd3+ 24.Rxd3 Re8⌘) 22...Qxe3+ 23.fxe3 Re8! 24.Rd2 h6] But now the battle is over: **22.Qxf3 Rxf3 23.Bxe7 Rh3 24.Ke2 Kc7 25.Bf5 Rh5 26.Rd7+ Kb6 27.Bg4 Re5+ 28.Kf3 h5 29.Bh3 Bf8 30.Bf6 Re1 31.e7 Nc5 32.Rd8 Bxe7 33.Bxe7 Rxd8 34.Bxd8+ Ka6 35.b4 b6 36.bxc5 Rc1 37.Bf6 bxc5 38.Bc8+ Ka5 39.a3 Rg1** And black resigned without waiting for the mate in 1 move. **1-0**

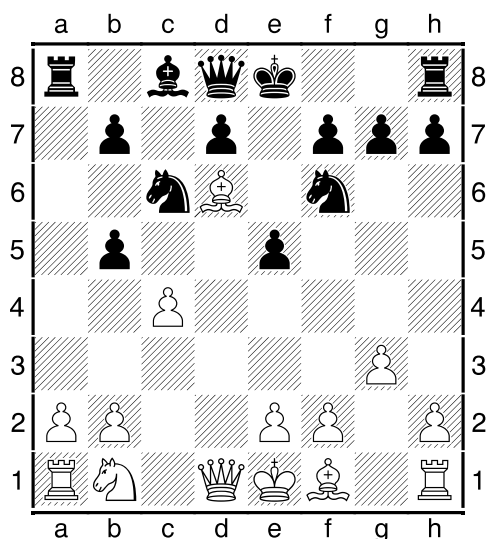
**(08) Ernst,S (2606) - Bruzon Batista,L (2691) [A31]**

74th Tata Steel GMB Wijk aan Zee NED (13), 29.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

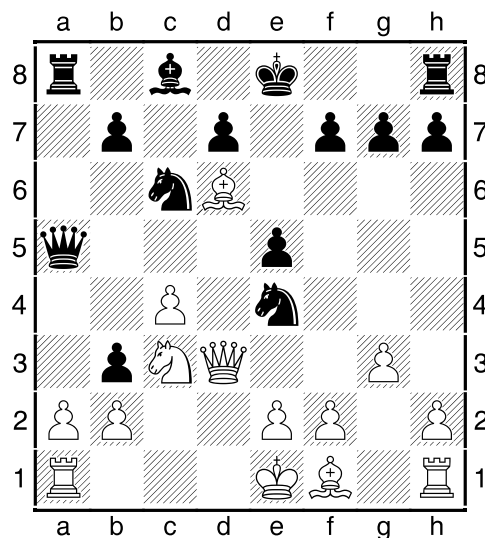
**1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.g3 e5 6.Nb5 Bb4+** Good-looking opening option wich amanates the recency. [I don't like move 6...d6 in this position, because, in contrast to the Chelyabinsk variation, the continuation e2-e4 is not played, and the austere bishop will rage over a main diagonal.] **7.Bd2 a6 8.Bxb4** [On this subject, I found a recent game Lalith, B (2484)- Istratescu, A (2627), Hastings, 30.12.2011, where White played a less ambitious: 8.N5c3 d5 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Bg2 Be6 11.0-0 Nb6 12.Na4 Be7 (Better was 12...Bxd2! 13.Bxc6+ (13.Nxb6 Qxb6 14.Qxd2 0-0 15.Nc3 Rfd8 16.Qe3 Nd4i 17.Rab1 f6 18.f4 Nf3+ 19.Kf2 Qxe3+

20.Kxe3 Nd2) 13...bxc6 14.Nxb6 Qxb6 15.Qxd2 0-0 and black is slightly better because of the bishop's advantage over the knight in the open position) 13.Nxb6?! leads to a worse position (stronger is 13.Nbc3 0-0 14.Nxb6 Qxb6 15.Nd5!=) 13...Qxb6 14.Nc3 Rd8 15.Qc1 0-0 16.Be3 Nd4! Black has a comfortable advantage. Onwards white is literally squeezed from the board. 17.Rd1 Rd7 18.b3 Rc8 19.Bxd4 Rxd4 20.Qb2 Qa5 21.Rxd4 exd4 22.Ne4 f5 23.Nd2 Qc3 24.Rb1 Qxb2 25.Rxb2 Rc1+ 26.Nf1 Bb4+)] **8...axb5** **9.Bd6**

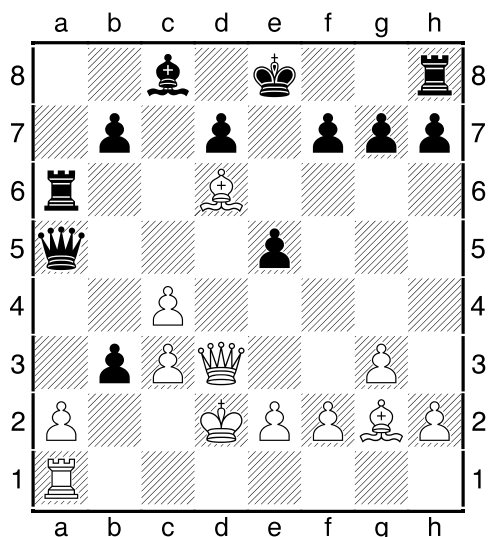


White plays very ideologically but risky! It is clear that the bishop is excellent on d6 by itself. Moreover, it does not allow the black to make castling and immure his 'colleague' locked up on c8. It's all very well, but white for a moment forget about their leader, and black must remind them of it: **9...Qa5+**! **10.Nc3** Once again, he chooses the most militant continuation, and the board begins a storm. But two other defense were also acceptable for white: [Soft continuation 10.Nd2 leads to the loss of a pawn, for which white gets a good compensation because of the terrible c8-bishop sleeping lethargy in his booth. 10...Ne4 11.c5 Nxd6 12.cxd6 Qb4♞; Interesting is 10.Qd2 ,voluntarily going... under the double attack! 10...Ne4! 11.Qxa5 Nxa5 White's bishop is under attack, and the white rook suddenly fell into the danger too. 12.Bxe5! Nb3 13.Bg2! f6 14.Bf4 Nec5

15.Bd6 Nxa1 16.Bxc5 d6 17.Bxd6 Rxa2 18.0-0 Rxb2 19.Nc3 b4 20.Na4 Ra2 21.Nb6 Be6 22.Bxb4 Kf7 etc. with very fun and unusual game in which the chances of black are still slightly higher.] **10...b4** **11.Nb5 b3+** **12.Nc3** [Worthy alternative – 12.Qd2!? Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Ne4+ And again white king goes under the 'fork' with determination!– 14.Kd3! Nxf2+ 15.Kc3! Rxa2 (15...Nxb1 16.Nc7+ Kd8 17.Nxa8) 16.Bg2 Nxb1 17.Rxb1 b6 (17...Nd4 18.Bxe5 Nxb5+ 19.cxb5 0-0 20.Bd6 Re8 21.Bd5♞) 18.Rf1 f6 19.Bc7 Ke7 20.Bxb6 Mess prevails on the board. But we can consider that white has full compensation for all material is given away.] **12...Ne4** **13.Qd3**



**13...Nxc3?!** I think that black should destroy the more dangerous enemy: [13...Nxd6! 14.Qxd6 Nb4 15.c5 Kd8! not allowing to take the e5 pawn with check but without weakening the royal residence. (attempt 15...f6? leads to failure: 16.e3! bxa2 17.Bc4 Nc2+ 18.Kd1! Nxa1 19.Nd5 Qd8 20.Kd2!! Nb3+ 21.Bxb3 a1Q 22.Rxa1 Rxa1 23.Nc7+--)] 16.Bg2 Ra6 17.Qb8 Nc2+ 18.Kd2 Qxc5 19.Rad1 Rd6+ 20.Kc1 Nd4 21.axb3 Nxe2+ 22.Kc2 Rb6 and black keeps advantage in sharp position] **14.bxc3 Nd4** **15.Bg2 Nc2+** **16.Kd2 Nxa1** **17.Rxa1 Ra6?!**



[as they say, success is never blamed, but objectively this move is weak. Black, I think, ought to sacrifice his queen and force the draw: 17...Qxa2+!? 18.Rxa2 bxa2 19.Qe3! f6 20.Bxe5 fxe5 (20...0-0?? 21.Bd5+ Kh8 22.Bxf6! Ra6 23.Bxg7+ Kxg7 24.Qe7+ Kg6 25.Qxf8 a1Q 26.Be4+ Kh5 27.Qf5+ Kh6 28.Qxh7+ Kg5 29.Qh4#) 21.Qxe5+ Kd8 22.Qg5+=] **18.c5??** [White received the necessary breathing space, but an absurd blunder crossed the fruits of his previous artistic beautiful play. It would be interesting to see the black's reaction on white's quite move 18.a3! After which no combinations on promoting a pawn to queen are scheduled, and black is alone with his sorrows in a hopeless position. Here is the example: 18...Qd8 19.f4 Qf6 20.fxe5 Qh6+ 21.Ke1 b2 22.Rb1 Qc1+ 23.Kf2 Rxd6 24.exd6 0-0 25.Be4 f5 26.Bd5+ Kh8 27.c5+-] **18...Qxa2+ 19.Rxa2 bxa2+ 20.Qe4 f6 21.Bxe5 fxe5 22.Qxe5+ Re6 23.Qxg7 Rf8 24.Bf3 Ref6 0-1**

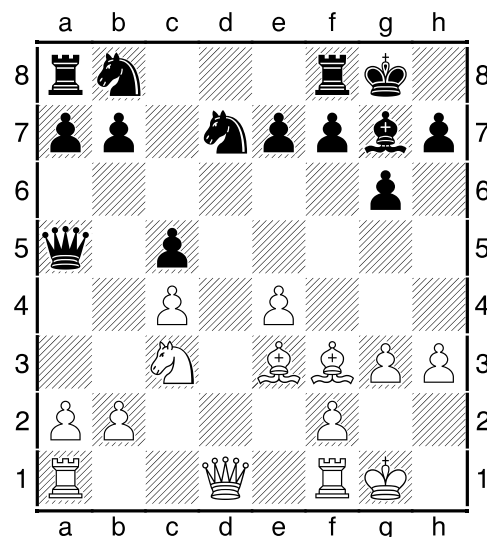
**(09) Erdos, V (2634) - Mamedyarov, S (2747) [E62]**

Gibraltar Open Caleta ENG (6.3), 29.01.2012

[IM Iljin, T]

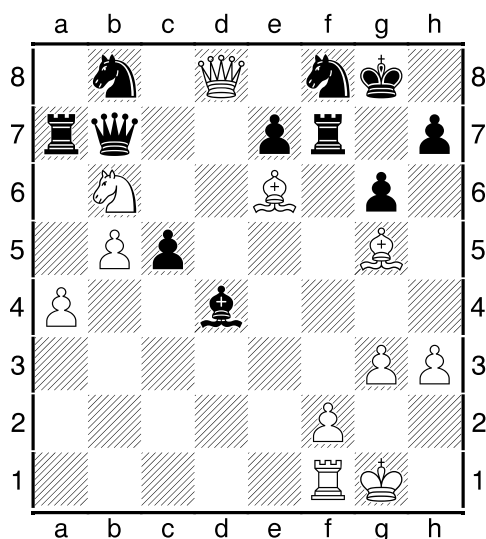
**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.Nc3 c6 7.0-0 Qa5 8.e4 Bg4 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Bxf3** Experimental and passive opening leads to some problems for black. White has so called long-term 'ad-

vantage of two bishops'. **10...Nfd7?!** This move caused some confusion because the knight banned the natural way to his 'friend' b8. [10...Nbd7] **11.Be3 c5** Of course it's a dubious continuation because black left behind in the development. **12.dxc5 dxc5**



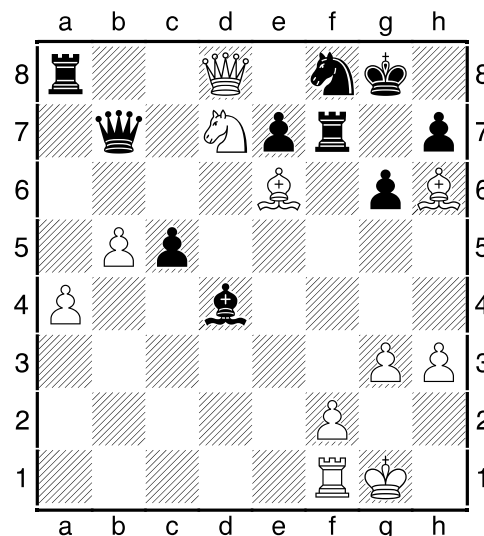
[In case of 12...Bxc3!? 13.bxc3 Nxc5 14.e5! Nc6 15.exd6 Rfd8 16.Bd5 Rxd6 17.Rb1 white maintains the pressure because of two powerful bishops.] **13.e5!** Black's position is unenviable. Now black should lost another tempo because it's impossible to defend the b7 pawn, not hitting at the same time under the hoof of a white horse.) **13...Qc7 14.Nd5! Qd8** [pawn isn't tasty: 14...Qxe5? 15.Bf4 Qxb2 16.Rb1 Qxa2 17.Nxe7+ Kh8 18.Bxb7+-] **15.e6!** White certainly takes the opportunity to destroy the black's pawn structure in the vicinity of the king. [15.Nf6+ leads to very complicated non-standard positions: 15...exf6 16.Bxb7 Nb6 17.Bxc5 N8d7!? 18.Bxf8 Bxf8 19.Bxa8 Qxa8 20.exf6 Ne5! 21.f4 Nexc4 22.Qe2 Bc5+ 23.Kh2 Ne3 24.Rf3 Qe4=] **15...fxe6 16.Nf4 Qb6 17.Bg4 Rf6 18.b4!** New hit! Using the fact that the black queen is obliged to defend the e6-pawn, white start his attack on the queenside! **18...Qc6 19.b5 Qc8** [19...Qb6 20.a4! a5 21.Ra2 black is bad primarily because of his immured knight on b8.] **20.Nd3!** [The capture of the pawn was quite possible: 20.Bxe6+ Rxe6 21.Nxe6 Bxa1 22.Qxa1 Nf6 23.Qe5 Nbd7 24.Qf4

keeping the advantage. But yet in this case white allows black to finish his development.] **20...a6 21.a4 axb5 22.cxb5 b6 23.Bg5 Nf8 24.Ne5 Ra7 25.Nc4?! Unforced retreat. The best place for the knight is e5! What else to ask for?! [After 25.Re1 Qe8 26.Ra3 black can only dutifully wait for his defeat.] 25...Rf7? [More resistant was 25...h5 26.Bxf6 Bxf6 27.Bf3 Bxa1 28.Qxa1 Qd8 keeping the chances to fight off.] 26.Nxb6 Qb7 [Here is all the bad: 26...Qc7 27.Nc4 Nbd7 28.Ra3+-] 27.Qd8! Bxa1 28.Bxe6 Bd4**



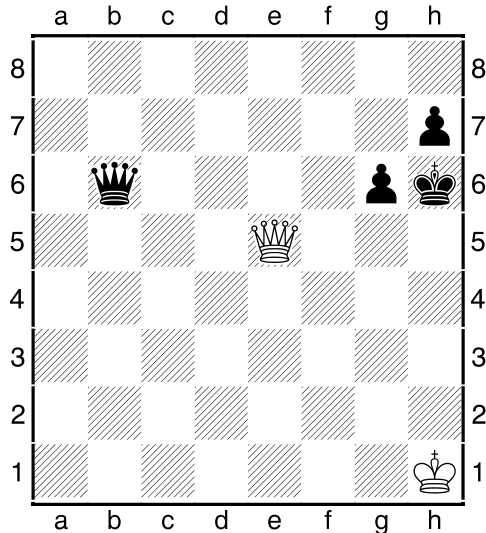
**29.Bh6??** [Probably white believed that his position is winning in any case and momentarily lost his concentration. All black pieces are pinned-tied, moreover, there is a threat of mate in one move! But white haven't taken into account 'hidden' defense...However after the simple 29.Qe8! black would have to give up because white picks up his rook and takes his king in prison. The attempt 29...Qf3 also doesn't work because of overlap 30.Bf4!] **29...Nbd7! 30.Nxd7?** Unfortunately, mistakes will never walk alone. Although it is possible that White stayed here in delusion and anticipated the resignation of his rival. The continuation [30.Qe8! was still correct and forcefully led straight to the bleak ending for Black: 30...Qf3 31.Kh2! (Here the move 31.Bf4? encountered on the non-obvious rebuttal 31...Ne5! 32.Nc4 Qa8! 33.Qxa8 Rxa8 34.Bxf7+ Nxf7!-+) 31...Bxf2

**32.Qxf7+ Qxf7 33.Bxf7+ Kxf7 34.Rxf2+ Ke8 35.Nxd7 Nxd7 36.Ra2±] 30...Ra8!**



Did not expect? Now the situation is turned upside down **31.Qb6 Qf3!** Black does not have to change the queens and turn into a decisive counter-attack **32.Bxf7+ Kxf7! 33.Qc6 Qxg3+ 34.Kh1 Qxh3+ 35.Kg1 Rxa4 36.Nxf8 Qxh6 37.Qf3+ Bf6 38.Qb3+ c4 39.Qxa4 Qg5+ 40.Kh1 Qh4+ 41.Kg1 Qg4+ 42.Kh2 Be5+ 43.f4 Bxf4+ 44.Rxf4+ Qxf4+ 45.Kg2 Qd2+ 46.Kh3 Qc3+ 47.Kg2 Kxf8 48.Qa8+ Kg7 49.Qe4 e5 50.b6 Qb2+ 51.Kh1 Qb5?** Carelessness, for which Black could pay dearly [51...Qxb6 52.Qxe5+ Qf6 53.Qc7+ Qf7 54.Qe5+ Kg8 55.Qb8+ Qf8-+ There are no checks more and one of the 3 black pawns somehow gets to his goal.] **52.Qb7+ Kh6 53.Qe7?** White missing his big chance! [It sounds incredible but after 53.Qc7! c3 54.Qxc3 Qxb6 55.Qxe5=





accurate assessment of the position is 'draw' in accordance with the Nalimov endgame tablebases! Black can not win, because the position is close to the edge of the board, and the black king does not have sufficient freedom to maneuver. This position has recently opened by the Crestbook site users, for which a special thank. All readers – both amateurs and GMs were pretty surprised by this assessment of this end. Indeed, at the sight of this position, you want to give up immediately, because it seems that the black pawns inevitably become queens. But no!]

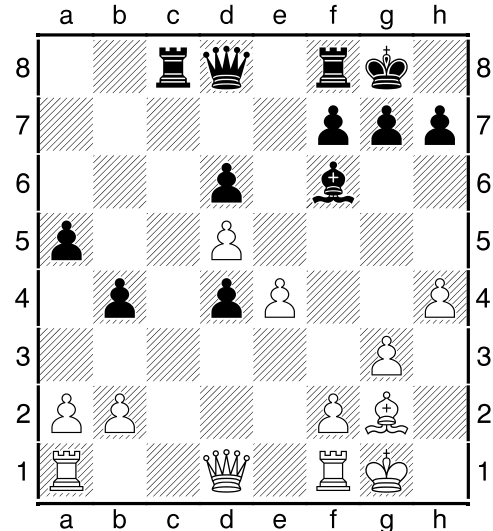
**53...Qb1+ 54.Kh2 Qc2+ 55.Kg3 Qd3+ 56.Kg2 Qe4+ 57.Kg3 Qf4+ 58.Kh3 c3** Now feel the difference! From the e7 square White is not in a position to control the black passed pawn 'c', which will become queen soon. **59.b7 c2 60.b8Q c1Q** It was possible to drop the curtain, but White does not want to part with such an exciting game. **61.Qbf8+ Qxf8 62.Qxf8+ Kh5 63.Qf3+ Kg5 64.Qg2+ Kh6** That's it! Checks were over, and, as said one well-known chess player, he is especially strong with three extra pawns! But, as it turned out, two extra pawns might not be enough for the victory! **65.Qf3 Qf4 66.Qa8 e4 67.Qe8 Kh5 68.Qg8 Kh6 69.Qe8 e3 70.Kg2 Qf2+ 71.Kh1 Qf3+ 72.Kg1 e2 73.Kh2 Qf2+ 74.Kh3 e1R 0-1**

**(10) Shirov,A (2710) - Baron,Ta (2498) [B33]**

Gibraltar Open Caleta ENG (7.12), 30.01.2012

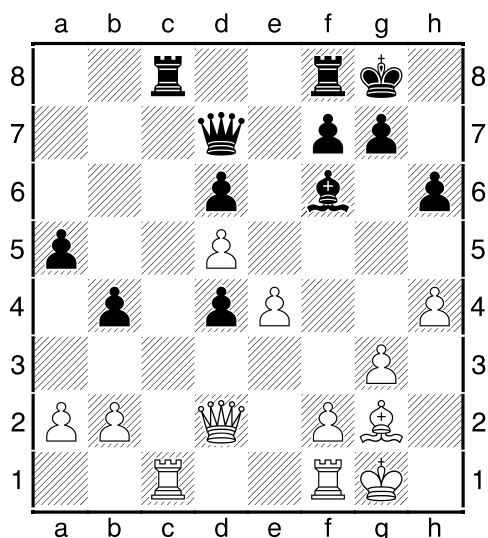
[IM Iljin, T]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c4 b4 12.Nc2 0-0 13.g3 a5 14.h4 Be6 15.Bg2 Rc8 16.0-0 Bxd5 17.cxd5 Nd4 18.Nxd4 exd4**

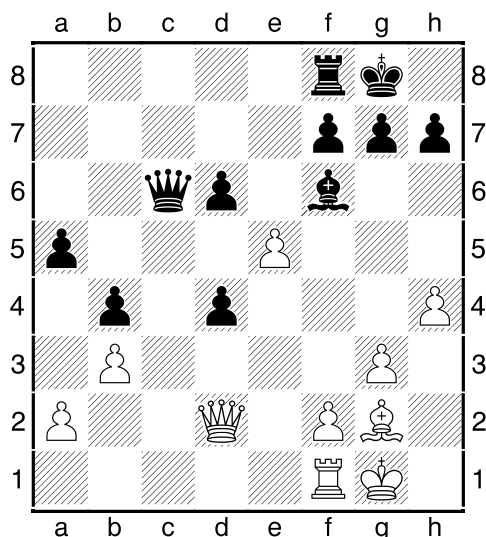


On the board is well-studied and played almost to the holes Sveshnikov system in the Sicilian defence. So I am not surprising that even such a leading expert, as Alexei Shirov, could not achieve anything by opening, and the game, it would seem, inevitably came to a draw. However, white gradually overplayed his rival and achieve the goal. **19.Qd2 Qd7?!** This template move can not be considered as the best. [Attempt to free the bishop deserve good attention: **19...d3! 20.Rac1 Qb6 21.Rc6! (21.b3 Rc3 22.Rxc3 bxc3! 23.Qxd3 g6=)** 21...Qd4! 22.b3 Rxc6 23.dxc6 Rc8 24.Rc1 Qb2 25.Qxb2 Bxb2 26.Bh3! d2 27.Rd1 Rxc6 28.Rxd2 Bf6=] **20.Rac1?!** in chess, one of the most difficult problem is to choose the right place to the rooks. And even great players don't solve it always correctly. [I think that **20.Rfc1!** without removing the protection from the a2 pawn, was better. Now in the case of relatively better **20...d3 21.Rc6 Bd4! 22.Rac1 Bc5 23.e5 (23.Qxd3 Rxc6 24.dxc6 Qxc6**

25.Rc2) 23...Rce8! white can try 24.R6xc5 dxc5 25.f4! f6 26.e6 Qd6 27.Qe3 a4 28.Bf3 Re7 29.Rxc5 d2 30.Bd1! and achieve good compensation.] **20...h6?**

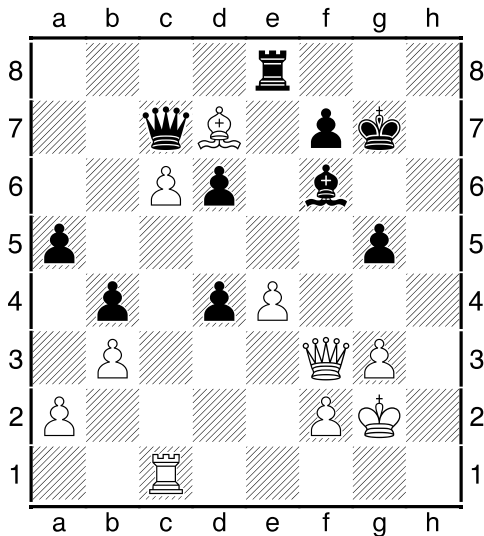


Black plays too blithely. Apparently, he had the illusion that the mutual annihilation of all heavy pieces will happen soon with a draw. But no such thing! White immediately punish the opponent, capturing c6 – square.[Instead of passively observing the slow death of his army, Black could embark on a life-saving counter-attack: 20...Qa4! The point is that in the case of obvious continuation 21.b3 c3-square is strongly attenuated. The question is whether the black will be able to use this fact. (21.Rc6 associated with the exchange of pawns a2 and d6.Then black arranges passed pawn on the queenside, and reaches at least draw: 21...Qxa2 22.Rxd6 Be5 23.Ra6 d3 24.Qxd3 Qxb2 25.Rxa5 Rc3 26.Qb1 Qxb1 27.Rxb1 Rb8 28.Bf1 b3 29.Kg2 b2 30.Rb5 Rxb5 31.Bxb5 Rc1 32.Bd3 f6 etc.) 21...Qd7 22.Rc6 It seems very strong! But let us check the double-take on c6: 22...Rxc6 23.dxc6 Qxc6 24.e5



One look at this position is enough to give up, but reluctantly teeth continue to fight: 24...Qc3! 25.Qxc3 bxc3! 26.exf6 d3 and in spite of white's extra piece, he can not make even a draw: 27.Be4 d2 28.Bc2 Re8 29.Rd1 Re1+ 30.Kg2 d5-+] **21.Rc6!** Typical and strong solution! White establish an outpost on c6 that will lead either to full control under the c-file or to the formation of a strong passed pawn, and a serious weakening of the light squares. **21...Rxc6?** Obediently following the rival's lead. Such moves are possible only as a last resort. To create any sort of counter-play was necessary: [21...b3!? 22.axb3 Rb8 23.Qd3 Rb4 24.Ra1 Rfb8 25.Ra3 Bd8 and white will have much work to do.in order to break through the black's fortress.] **22.dxc6 Qc7** [Here 22...Qxc6?? of course, doesn't work due to 23.e5 and the saving maneuver to c3 is unavailable for black queen.] **23.Rc1+-** Here already, in my view, the situation is almost hopeless for black. Later,white still realized his advantage, but with some adventures.) **23...Rb8 24.Bf1 Re8 25.Qd3 Kf8 26.Be2 Rb8 27.Bd1 g5 28.hxg5 hxg5 29.Kg2 Kg7 30.Bg4 Rh8 31.b3 Re8 32.Qf3?** Something very strange begins to happen. Players start to make serious flaws at every move! There was no need to remove the sight from the d4 pawn, allowing the black's rook to shift to active e5 and c5 squares. [The win was close: 32.Bd7! Rd8 (32...Re5? 33.Qxd4 Rc5 34.Qd2+-)

33.Qc4 Rh8 34.Qb5 Rf8 35.Qb7 Bd8  
 36.Rc4+–] **32...Re7?** Black is afraid even  
 to raise his head! [After 32...Re5! black is  
 close to the equalization: 33.Bd7 Rc5  
 34.Re1 Rc3 35.Qf5 Rc5 36.Qh3 Qd8  
 37.Rh1 Kf8 38.Qh6+ Ke7 39.Qh5 Kf8  
 40.Qe2 Qe7 41.Re1 Qe5] **33.Bf5?** [33.Qf5!  
 led to victory: 33...Re5 34.Qd7! Re7  
 (34...Bd8 35.Qxd8! Qxd8 36.c7) 35.Qxc7  
 Rxc7 36.Bd7 White bishop 'arrested' the  
 rook, and the march of the white king must  
 lead to victory.] **33...Re8? 34.Bd7?**



Funny, that white is literally forcibly

dragged the black rook to the saving place,  
 but it is too stubborn! [34.Qh5! Kf8  
 (34...Re5 35.f4 gxf4 36.gxf4 Rc5 37.Qh7+  
 Kf8 38.e5! Bg7 39.Rg1+–) 35.Bd7 Re5  
 36.Qh7 Rc5 37.Rxc5 dxc5 38.Qf5 Be7  
 (38...Kg7 39.f4) 39.e5 Kg7 40.Be8 Bd8  
 41.e6 fxe6 42.Qg6+ Kf8 43.Bd7!+–]  
**34...Rh8?** Fail again. But here's the prob-  
 lem, re-examination is canceled!  
 [34...Re5! 35.Rh1 Rc5 36.Qh5 Kf8 etc.]  
**35.Qf5!+–** Finally! It's time to stop this  
 comedy of errors **35...Rh6 36.Rd1 Kf8**  
**37.Rd3 Ke7 38.Rf3 Qb6 39.Qd5 Qc5**  
**40.Qxc5 dxc5 41.Rf5 Kd6** Black tries to  
 perform his first active move in this game,  
 but... **42.Rxf6+! 1-0**

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