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Fier, A (2573) - El Debs, F (2477) [D31]
78th ch-BRA Campinas BRA (3), 12.12.2011
[IM Iljin, T]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4
5.a4 e6 6.e4 Bd4 7.e5 Nd5 8.Bd2 b5
9.axb5 Bxc3 10.bxc3 cxb5 11.Ng5 Nc6
12.Qh5 Qe7 13.Be2

Worthy of attention the multi-purpose move [13.h4!]

reinforcing the knight, and planning, in the case, the inclusion of the h1-rook to the third horizontal. 13...b4 14.Bxc4 bxc3
15.Bc1 Nxd4 16.0-0 h6 (The attempt 16...Qc7 bring only disappointment to black: 17.Rd1 g6 18.Qg4 Nc6 (more resistant is 18...Qxc4 but here is still a good chance for white to develop a devastating attack: 19.Rxd4 Qc7 20.Ba3! Qxe5 21.Qd1! f6 22.Re4 c2 23.Qe1 Qc3 24.Re6+!++) 19.Ba3 Nxe5 20.Bb5+ Bd7 21.Nxe6!

20.Nxe6 Nxe6 21.Qxd5 Rd8 22.Qb3 with very strong attack because the black’s king stuck in the center for a long time.] 13...b4


16.Ne4 0-0 17.Bg5!?
Showy, bright move, that probably shocked the opponent. [17.Ba3!?; 17.Bxc4?!] 17...Qc7 [17...f6!? 18.exf6 Qf7 19.fxg7 Qxh5 20.gxf6 Qxh5 hgx5= and to win is not so easy.] 18.Nf6+! gxf6


19...Nxf6 20.Bxf6 Qf4 now white forced to go into the almost equal endgame 21.Qf3 Qxf3 22.Bxf3

22...Bd7?! Too passive! [22...Bb7! 23.Rf1 (23.Rab1 leads to a very sharp position: 23...Rb7 24.Rxb7 Rb7 25.Bxc6 Rc8 26.Be4 Rfb8 27.Rc1 (27.Ra1? Rb2 28.Kf1 c2 29.Re1 a5) 27...Rb2 where the most likely outcome is a draw.) 23...c2! 24.Rxc2 Nb4 25.Rxc4 Bxf3 26.Rxb4 Bd5 27.Rba4 Kh7 28.Rxa7= and such extra pawn can not turn into something real.] 23.Rxc2 Rab8?!


[28...a6!? 29.Rc5 Rb5] 29.Rc5! Kf8 30.Rh5! Ne7 31.Rxh6 Ng8 32.Rh4 Bc6 33.Bxc6 Rxc6 34.h4 March of a brave soldier can not be stopped by any means. 1–0
7...Qa5 This is a typical computer's move. To my mind, it is wasting of time. The a5-square is for the black pawn, not for Queen in this position. [7...0–0 8.Re1 a5] 8.Ba2 0–0 9.Re1 exd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5


bad 'parking' for the Queen. [The Queen's reassignment to another area does not promise a good life: 13...Qh5 14.a5! Nh4 (In case of 14...Bd8 15.b4 Bd7 16.Nce2 Nxe4 17.f5 suddenly it becomes clear that black loses a knight, in view of the threat of the knight's lunge on f4.) 15.a6!? (Also good is 15.Nce2 d5 16.Ng3 dxe4 17.Rxe4 Qg6 (17...Qc5 18.Rae1! Nxe4 19.Nxe4 Qh5 20.Nd6/+) 18.Rxe7 Rxe7 19.f5! Qg4 20.c3 Bxf5 21.Nxf5 Nxf5 22.Qxf5 Qxf5 23.Nxf5 Re2 24.Bf4 Rxb2 25.a6 with the slight advantage in the endgame.) 15...Bd8 16.Ne2 Bb6 17.Ng3 Qg4 18.Kh1! bxa6 19.h3 Qd7 20.f5 d5 21.e5 Bxd4 22.Qxd4 Ne4 23.Nxe4 Nxf5 24.Qf2 dxe4 25.e6 fx6 26.Bc3+ Very good picture! Lesser of two evils is a modest 13...Qc7!? without causing a fire.] 14.b4! Qb6 15.a5 Qc7 16.b5! Right! If rival makes it possible to attack, we must use this chance! 16...Bf8 17.a6! c5

23.Qb3 White brilliantly played the first part of the game, but here is a little 'overcomplicated'. [The 'unpretentious' knight's retreat just ended up fighting: 23.Nc3! after which he could win at least a piece: 23...Rb8 24.axb7 Bxb7 25.Rxa7 и тд] 23...Ne7 24.Ba5 b6 25.Bxb6! Nxd5 26.Qxd5 Rb8 27.Bxd8 Rxb5 28.Rxb5 Qxb5

29.Bc7 [29.Qa8! Qd7 30.Bh4+-- and it is easy to see that black should 'hang up skates on a nail'.] 29...Bxa6 [In event of 29...Be6 30.Qd1 Qc6 31.Bb8 Bc4 32.e5 dxe5 33.fxe5 Be7 34.Qf3 Bd5 35.Qe2+-] 30.Bxd6 Bb7 31.Qe5 Bxd6 32.Qxd6 h6 33.Qd3 Qb2 34.Rd1 a5

35.Qb3 The most reliable move. After the exchange of queens, all of black's illusions evaporate. 35...Qxb3 36.cxb3 Bxe4 37.Rc1 Bd5 38.Rxc5 Bxb3 39.Rxa5 f6 40.Kf2 g5 41.f5 h5 42.g3 g4 43.Ke3 Kg7 44.Kf4 Bc4 45.Ke4 Bb3 46.Kd4 Bc2 47.Rc5 Bb1 48.Rd5 Kh6 49.Kc5 Kg5 50.Kd6 h4 51.Ke7 hxg3 52.hxg3 Ba2 53.Rd6 Bb1 54.Rxf6
Of course, white has a winning position. His plan is simple: the king and rook work together to drive away the black monarch, and then, in good time, pick up a pawn.

54...Bxf5 55.Rf8 Be4 56.Ke6 Bf3 57.Rg8+ Kh6 58.Kf6 Bg2 59.Ke5 Bf3 60.Kd5 Be4 61.Rd8 Kh7 62.Kc6 Bb4 63.Rb7+ Kg8 64.Kb7 Be2 65.Ka6 Bb5 66.Ra7 Kh7 67.Kb7 Bc5 68.Kc6 Bb4 69.Rb7+Bg8 70.Kd7

12...g6?! In my opinion, it's very risky option due to the serious attenuation of kingside's pawn structure. [More promising is 12...0–0 in the following puzzling game White passed through a lot of difficulties, but finally won the game: 13.Ne4 Nc6 14.h4 (if white has a peace-loving mood, he can complete the game with perpetual check: 14.Bxh6 gxh6 15.Qxh6 f5 16.Qg6+ Kh8 17.Qh6=) 14...f5 15.Nd6 Bd7 16.Rh3 Be8! 17.Qd1 Qe7 (17...Na5! 18.Be2 Nbc3) 18.g4! Rd8 19.g5 f4! 20.gxh6 gxh6

5.a4 e6 6.e4 This is, to my mind, the most natural and powerful move, first applied in practice by the famous World Chess Champion Alexander Alekhine, who played bright games and never afraid to sacrifice material for the initiative! [Modern 'seasoned' professionals prefer to play solid 6.e3 which leads us to 'dry' and 'boring' positions like the Queen's Gambit Accepted. Here is an example: 6...c5 7.Bxc4 Nc6 8.0-0 cxd4 9.exd4 Be7 10.Qe2 0-0 11.Rd1 Nb4 12.a5 a6 13.Bg5 Bd7 14.d5 exd5 15.Bxd5 Nbxd5 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Rxd5 Bxg5 18.Nxg5 h6 19.Qd2 hxg5 20.Rxd7 Qf6 21.Rd1 Rf8 22.Rxb7 Rad8 23.Rd7 Rxd7 24.Qxd7 Rb8 and finally black managed to draw in the rook's ending. Izzat, K (2319) – Smeets, J (2610), 21.03.2012.]

6...Bb4 7.e5 Nd5 8.Bd2 b5 9.axb5 Bxc3 10.bxc3 cxb5 11.Ng5 h6 [a serious alternative is 11...Nc6, which we consider in the game Fier – El Debs 12.Qh5]

10.bxc3 cxb5 11.Ng5 h6 [a serious alternative is 11...Nc6, which we consider in the game Fier – El Debs 12.Qh5]

12.bxc3 cxb5 11.Ng5 h6 [a serious alternative is 11...Nc6, which we consider in the game Fier – El Debs 12.Qh5]
Matlakov, M (2632) – Bologan, V (2687), 28.03.2012. It seems that in this complicated position Black could tip the scales in his favor: 26...Bh5! 27.Qe4 Nf6 28.Qg2+ Qg5 29.Qxg5+ hxg5 30.Ra5 e5! 31.Rxe5 Rfe8 32.Rxe8+ Rxe8+ 33.Kf1 Bf3! 13.Qh3 f5 14.exf6 e5

[15...Ke7?! 16.g4 Bb7 17.Bg2 Nd7 18.Ne4 Qc7 19.0-0] 16.Ne6+?! [even here 16.g4! gives an excellent opportunity to white, without going into the endgame, to attack the opponent's king, which has not 'built a hut' for himself during entire game. 16...exd4 17.Ne4 Kxf7 18.Bg2 Nc6 (18...Kg7 19.0-0 Nc6 20.Qg3 h5) 19.0-0 Kg7 20.Qg3f] 16...Ke7! [White apparently build his calculations only on 'natural' 16...Bxe6? 17.Qxe6 exd4 18.Qxg6+– Qe7+ 19.Be2 dxc3 20.Bxh6+ Rxh6 21.Qg8#] 17.Nxd8 Bxh3 18.gxh3 Rxd8 In the current endgame white should play carefully because you can not joke with an avalanche of black infantry on the queenside. 19.dxe5 Kfx7 20.Bg2 Nc6

Honestly I do not believe that black can play so boldly, ignoring the development of the pieces. 15.f7+? After this impulsive move the black's idea is fully justified. [At the same time, I could not find any acceptable defense for black after 15.g4! Bb7 (15...Nxf6 16.Bg2 Bxg4 17.Qe3 0-0 18.dxe5 hxg5 19.Bxa8 Nbd7 20.Rxa7 Nxe5 21.0-0 Nf7 22.Rb1 Re8 23.Qd4+-; 15...Qxf6 16.Ne4 Qe7 17.dxe5 Qxe5 18.Bg2 Na6 19.0-0 Nac7 20.Rfe1++) 16.Bg2 Qxf6 17.Ne4 Qe7 18.dxe5 Qxe5 19.0-0+–, and the black king can 'neither hide nor flee'.] 15...Kf8!
21.0-0?! White does not feel dangerous. He should immediately block the opponent's passed pawn: [21.Ra6 Nxe5 22.0-0 and the logical conclusion of the game would be a repetition of moves: 22...Nc7 23.Ra2 Nd5] **21...Nxe5** [In case of 21...a5! there would be a very unpleasant situation for white: 22.Rfe1 (22.f4 Ke6 23.h4 Nce7) 22...Kg7 23.e6 Nce7] **22.f4?!** **N3f4** 23.Ra6 Nxe5 22...Kg7 23.e6 Nce7]


**41...Re8+** [Black misses a great opportunity: 41...b4! 42.cx b4 c3 43.Rc5 c2 44.Rxg4 Kxg4 45.Rg5+ Kh3 46.Rc5 Kg2! 47.Rc7 Re2+ 48.Kf5 Rd1 49.Bf4 Rf2 50.Ke5 Re1+ 51.Kd5 Rx f4 52.Rxc2+ Kh3+ , and only a miracle could save white.] **42.Kf5**

42...Ne3+ After this move the game is almost forcefully comes to a 'peaceful harbor'. [42...Rd5+! could put a serious problem to the rival: 43.Kg6 Ne5+ 44.Kf6 Rd7 45.Ra6 (After 45.h5 white gradually loses: 45...Rf7+ 46.Kg5 Rg8+ 47.Kh6 Ng4+ 48.Rxg4 Kxg4 49.Rxb5 Rf6+ 50.Kh7 Rg5 51.Rxg5+ Kxg5 52.Kg7 Ra6 53.Kf7 Kxh5 54.Ke7 Kg6 55.Kd7 Ke5 56.Bd6 Ra7+ 57.Kc6 Ke4 58.Kb5 Kd3 59.Be5 Rb7+ 60.Kc6 Re7 61.Bd6 Rh7 62.Be5 Rh5+)]

Wow! The brave black king climbed almost to the 'lair' of his counterpart, but he can't disturb the white king, because there are too many guards around his opponent.) **34.Bd1?!** [Why not just pick up a pawn? 34.Rxa5! Rg8 35.Kh1 Rbe8 36.Rxb5 Rxg3 37.hxg3 Ne2 38.Bg2+ Kxg3 39.Rf3+ Kxh4 40.Rb7 with chances to win] **34...Rg8** 35.Rf3 Rbd8 36.Kf1 Ne5 37.Rxf4 Rxd1+ 38.Ke2 Rgd8 39.Rxa5 R1d2+ 40.Ke3 Ng4+ 41.Ke4
45...Rh7! 46.Rd4 Rh6+ 47.Kf5 Rxa6
48.Bxe5 Rh6 and black has a great chance to win) 43.Kg6 Nd5 44.Rxb5 Nxf4+
45.Bxf4 Rd3 46.h5 Rxc3 47.h6 Rb3 SS

(04) Popov,Iv RUS (2605) - Caruana,F
(2767) [B33]
13th EICC Plovdiv BUL (3.1), 22.03.2012
[IM Iljin, T]
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4
0-0 13.g3 Bg5 14.h4 Bh6 15.Bh3 Be6
Typical maneuver: he is ready for ex-
changes, but on his terms 16.Kf1

16...Qa5 Another standard plan – transfer
black's queen to the blockade c5-square.
[As for me, it's easier to put the pawn on
a5: 16...a5 17.Kg2 Ne7 (Very interesting is
17...Nb6!? 18.Qe2 Bxd5 19.cxd5 Na6!
19.Nxe3 Nc6 with an approximately equal
position.] 17.Kg2 Qc5 18.Qd3 a5

19.Rhf1 Looks like a loss of tempo. [More
conceptual is 19.b3!? Now I'd like to give
an example of a 'fresh' battle on this top-
ic.With the permutation of moves the posi-
tion has arisen in Rasulov, Vu (2526) –
Mista, A (2587), EICC, 29.03.2012. Here
made a strategic mistake by weakening his
queenside pawns without any need: 19...
a4?! 20.Bf5! Ra7?

And it is – a direct tactical blunder, for
which he was to be severely punished!
21.a3! (The game continued in very
strange way: 21.Rhb1? This complacency
has cost dearly: 21...g6 22.Nf6+ Kh8
23.Bh3 Bg7 24.Nd5 f5!→}
with very strong black’s initiative. Finally black managed to win.) 21...Bxd5 22.exd5
g6 23.dxc6 gxf5 24.Qd5! Forcing the transition to a hopeless end for black:
24...axb3 25.axb4 Qxd5+ 26.cxd5 Rxa1
27.Nxa1!+- etc. [19...Ra7 20.b3 Bxd5
21.Qxd5 [21.exd5 Nd4 22.Nxd4 Qxd4
23.Qxd4 exd4 24.Rad1 g6 25.Rxd4 Re7!=] 21...Rd8 [Possible is 21...Nd4 22.Nxd4
Qxd5 23.exd5 exd4 24.Rad1 Re7 25.Re1
(25.Rxd4 Re2!) 25...Rxe1 26.Rxe1 g6
27.f4 Rd8 28.Kf3 Bg7 29.Re2 d3 30.Rd2
[In case of 22...Qxd5 black still has to ‘suffer’ for a draw: 23.Rxd5!! a4
(23...Nd4?? 24.Nxd4
exd4 25.e5) 24.Rad1 axb3 25.axb3 Ra2
etc.] 23.Qb5 [23.a3! bxa3 24.Nxa3 Raa8
25.Qb5 Qc7 26.Qa4 Nb4 27.Bg4 g6
28.Nb5 Qc5 29.h5] 23...Qc7 [Now
23...Qxb5 is not recommended: 24.cxb5
Ne7 25.a3 bxa3 26.Rxa3 , and black has
weak pawns.] 24.Qa4 [24.c5 leads only to exchanges: 24...g6 (24...dxc5?? 25.Qxc6)
25.Rd5 Ne7 26.cxd6 Rxd6 27.Rxd6 Qxd6
28.Bg4 Rc7 29.Rd1 Qc6=] 24...g6 25.Rd3
[‘Greediness’ is out of place here:
27.Rxd4?Bg7] 27...Qc5= On the board –
the full equality, but by the rules of
the Championship to settle for a draw
can not be before the 40th move! 28.f4
Bg7 29.Qxc5 dxc5 30.a4 Re7 31.Kf3 Rde8
32.Re1 f5 33.e5 h5 34.Bg2 Kf8 35.Kf2
Re6 36.Bd5

36...Ke7!? 37.Rdd1 Rf8 38.Kf3 Bh6
39.Rd3 Kd7 40.Re2 Ke7 41.Rd1 SS

(05) Malakhov,V (2705) - Timo-
seev,Arty (2650) [A34]
13th EICC Plovdiv BUL (7.11), 27.03.2012
[IM Iljin, T]
1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5
5.g3 Nc6 6.Bg2 Ng7 7.d3 e5 8.0-0 Be7
the idea related to the victim of a central pawn:
00...0-0 11.Bxc6 Bxc6 12.Nxe5 Be8=] 11.f4
b5 12.Ne3 Rc8

I do not quite understand why the move
12...Rb8 commentators have put the
question mark. After the move 13.Nf5! it is

17.Nxd6+ Ke7?!


37...Kg6? A crucial error – just a blunder! [on the chance of 37...Kh7 black could fight long and hard with the odds for a draw] 38.Qe4+! But now black resigns because of the inevitable exchange of queens. May be he misses mate in 3 in his calculations: 38...Kh6 39.Qh1+ Kg5 40.Qh5+ Kf4 41.Qf5# 1-0

(06) Mastrovasilis,A (2510) - Salgado Lopez,I (2621) [E52]
13th EICC Plovdiv BUL (8.39), 28.03.2012


32.Rxe6 A very responsible decision! Because the Queen's endgame with an extra pawn is not so easy for win. 32...Qxe6 33.Qxc5+ Kf7 [In event of 33...Qe7 White, obviously, does not change the queens, but takes the pawn: 34.Qxa5] 34.Qxa5 Qb3 35.Qa7+ Kg6 36.Qd4 Kh6 37.g4

extremely active and there are 'hard times' for black now.; 17...gxh2+ 18.Kxh2 Qxc8 with an excellent compensation for black.]

As if sensing something was wrong, the black king was about to run away, but too late, friend! 31.f6 Qd7 32.Qh5+ Qf7 33.Qe5+ Kd7 34.fg7 e3 35.Nf6+ Kc6 36.b4 cxb4 37.Qe4+ Kb6 38.Qxb4+ Kc6 39.Qa4+ And black finally resigned. 1-0

(07) Jobava,Ba (2706) - Fridman,D (2653) [D35]
13th EICC Plovdiv BUL (8.12), 28.03.2012
[IM Iljin, T]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.Bf4 Nf6 5.e3 0-0 6.a3 b6 7.Nb5!?N


25...f5? It's difficult to justify such a serious weakening of the position. It looks like a hara–kiri. [25...Qd2 26.Bb1] 26.Qxe2 Qd5 27.f3 Qd4+

28.Qe3 This transition to the endgame delaying the victory. However, White managed to win because he has very strong technique. [Better is 28.Kf1! Nc5 29.Red1 Qa4 30.Qe5 Rc8 31.Kg1+- with total domination.] 28...Qxe3+ 29.Rxe3 Kf7 30.Rb3 Bd5 31.Rb5 Rd8 32.h5! Kf6 33.Bg6 Rd7 34.Kf2 Ke7 35.Ra5 Rd6 36.Rc8!+- Rb6 37.Bxf5 Bb7 38.Rg8 exf5 39.Rxg7+ Kf6 [In case of 39...Kf8 even a rough 40.Rxb7! Rxb7 41.Nxa8 Bc2+] 40.Rg6+ Ke7 41.Re5+ Kd7 42.Rxb6 axb6 43.Rxf5 Nc5 44.Rf6 b5 45.Rxh6 Nd3+ 46.Ke3 Ne1 47.Rh7+ Kc6 48.Rxb6 Kxb7 49.h6 Nxc2+ 50.Ke4 Nh4 51.h7 Ng6 52.Kf5 Nh8 53.Kf6 1-0

(08) Edouard,R (2607) - Fridman,D (2653) [B12]
13th EICC Plovdiv BUL (10.23), 30.03.2012
[IM Iljin, T]
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 Bg4!? I think this is a good move order, because in event of [4...Nc6 the option 5.c4! gives an unpleasant initiative.] 5.Bb5+ [Here it seems to me that after 5.c4!? cxd4 6.cxd5 Qxd5 7.Nc3 Bxf3 8.Nxd5 Bxd1 9.Nc7+ Kd7 10.Nxa8 Bc2+] black is OK.] 5...Nc6 6.dxc5 Qa5+! [6...e6?! 7.b4] 7.Nc3 e6 with a permutation of moves we've come to the game Perez Candelario, Man (2559) - Delchev, A (2629), 22.11.2011, which has been analyzed in detail by the expert of the Caro-Kann Defense IM Anatoliy Polivanov in CZM 12/2011. 8.Be3 Nge7 9.a3 [9.h3 Bxf3! 10.Qxf3 a6 11.Bxc6+ Nxc6 12.Qg4 0-0-0 13.0-0-0 Nxe5?] 9...0-0-0 10.b4 Bxf3 11.gxf3 Qc7 12.Bxc6 Nxc6 13.Bf4 [13.Bd4 a6 14.f4 g5! 15.fxg5 h6 , and opening the lines on the kingside is to black's favour.] 13...a6 14.Bg3 g5 15.0-0-0? [in the above-mentioned game, white played more stronger: 15.h4!

Now we will see clearly unsuccessful innovation:15.0-0?

24...Qc5?! Inaccuracy! Black had to take advantage of the fact that the white knight is on the edge of the board. Black can strike a decisive blow: [24...g4! 25.fxg4 (25.hxg4 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 Rxe1 27.Kxe1 Qc5 28.Qd1 Qxa3) 25...Rxe5 26.Rhe1 Rxe1 27.Rxe1 Rc8 28.Rc1 a5!+ and the white knight, it seems, does not come to the game.] 25.Qe2 Ka7 26.Nb4 g4


14.Nb1 An interesting idea, although this move is not new. White asks the partner to decide the fate of the c4-pawn. And black has a very wide range of extensions here: to take on b3, to defend the pawn by b6–b5, to move c6–c5 with the knight jumping to h5, and, finally, it can be any neutral move. [In event of simple 14.bxc4 Bxc4 15.Nd2 Ba6 16.Qa4 Bd3 17.Nb3 Bc2 18.Rdc1 Bd3 19.Rd1 Bc2 white can't extract more than draw by repetition.; The different route of knight is also worthy: 14.Ne2 cxb3 15.axb3 Bxe2! 16.Qxe2 a5 with full compensation for the pawn.]

14...b5 [In the course of 14...cxb3 15.axb3 Bb5 16.Rxa7 Ra8 17.Rxa8 Qxa8 18.Nc3 white's advantage can be seen without evidence.] 15.bxc4 bxc4

16.Nc3N Conceptual novelty! Though at first sight these knight's maneuvers produce very strange impression, I think that this is the strongest plan in this position. [16.Nbd2?! c5 an attempt to comfortably win back the pawn – falls.] 16...Bb4?! Risky plan. It's clear that black wants to win a pawn, but he overlooks that his light-squared bishop falls into a trap. [As for me, it was worth to perform such a waiting move: 16...Nh5 17.Be3 Nh6; or 16...h6!]


41.Kf2?! Out of harm's way, no need to move white's king away from the f4–pawn. [Better looks 41.Kf3 Rh1 42.f5 exf5 43.e6 fxe6 44.Bxe6+ Kh8 45.Bd6= g6??]
With the appearance of two connected passed pawns, the save of the game become a very difficult task. 53.Bc6 Ra3 54.Kf2 Kg7 55.Be4 f5 56.Bc6 e5 57.Bg5 Ke6 58.Bg2 Ra4 59.Kf1 Ra2 60.Bb3 Rb6 64.Bf4 Kd4 65.Kf2 b5 66.Kg3 e4 67.Bf3 Kd3 68.Bd6 Rb6 69.Bc7 Rb4 70.h5 Rb1 71.Kf4 Ra8 72.Bc6 e2 73.Ba5 Kc4 74.h6 Kc5 75.Bc3 Kd6 0-1

(10) Giri,A (2717) - Zontakh,A (2556) [E11]
13th EI CC Plovdiv BUL (11.52), 31.03.2012
[IM Iljin, T]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 0-0 7.Bg2 Nbd7 8.0-0 dxc4 [I like the continuation of 8...c6 ,building up a reliable barrier to the powerful white’s Catalan bishop.] 9.Rc1

9...c5?! Black tends to a straight-line simplifications and equation, but fails to achieve his goal,because the white’s light-squared bishop becomes very strong. 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Ne5! Keeping the pressure. [11.Rxc4 If white immediately takes back the pawn, then black managed to develop his queenside pieces: 11...b6 12.Ne5 Bb7 with almost equal chances: 13.Rxc5 Bxg2 14.Qxd8 Rfxd8 15.Rc7 Bh3 16.Nc3 Nd5 17.Nxd5 Rxd5 18.Rac1 Rad8 19.Nd3 Bg4

] 11...Nd5?! It's an understandable desire to barricade a large white diagonal, but now both black knights are unstable and are subject to pawn thrusts. [11...Qe7 12.Rxc4 Rd8 13.Rd4 Rxd4 14.Qxd4 Bd7

13.b4! Na4 Black has to either go into exile with his knight somewhere in the 'suburbs', or to give up the pawn after [13...Nd7 14.Bxd5 exd5 15.Qxd5] 14.e4 Nc7 15.e5 re-opening a very dangerous diagonal a1-h8 and seizing a bridgehead for a c4-knight. 15...Qxd2 16.Nbx4 Nd5 17.Nd6 Rb8 18.Bxd5 exd5

19.Rc7! White pieces occupy the key places of the board, as if to schedule. 19...a5 20.bxa5 bxa5 21.Nb3 Bh3 [Black could resist with more tenacity: 21...Be6 22.Nxa5 Rb2 23.f4 g6 24.Nc6 Rd2 without giving up, at least, the d5-pawn.] 22.Nxa5 Rb2 23.Nc6 h5? Black is under distraction. [And again black could show more persistence: 23...Be6 ] 24.Ne7+ Kh7 25.Nxd5 Rfb8

with a quiet hope to announce mate in the first line. 26.Nxf7! White has already won a third pawn, and black resigned, as the checkmate was not there: 26...Rb1+ 27.Rc1 1-0
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