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News

4th Kings Tournament 2010

The 4th Kings tournament took place in Medias, Romania, Monday, June 14, 2010 - Friday, June 25, 2010.

Magnus Carlsen took clear first place with 7.5/10. A final round win against tail ender Wang Yue extended the winning margin to two points when combined with Radjabov’s win against Gelfand. Carlsen gave the impression that he was experimenting with some new ideas which led to some unconvincing moments. However he managed to get out of these tight spots and make this an even more impressive victory.

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FIDE Ratings July 2010

The new FIDE rating list for July has been released. Magnus Carlsen remains World Number but this time he has extended his lead over Veselin Topalov after his triumph in Medias and Topalov’s loss of points in his world title match against Anand. Anand moved to third in the world and these three players are 2800 and above.

FIDE Rating List July 2010 Top 100

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1) http://www.e3e5.com
3) ChessPro.ru http://www.chesspro.ru
4) CrestBook.com http://www.crestbook.com
5) Chessbase.com http://www.chessbase.com
Games

(01) Ni Hua (2667) - Wen Yang (2520)
[D31]
TCh–CHN Shenzhen CHN (5), 08.06.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]
1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Be7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6 Bx6 7.e3 0-0 8.Qb3 [Another, maybe even more agressive plan – 8.Qd2 with coming 0-0-0, h4, g4...] 8...dx4 [Usually Black holds a center by means of 8...c6. His further play can be connected with Nd7, Rb8, b5 or b6+Bb7. But Yang wants to develop own bishop c8 immediately.] 9.Bxc4 b6 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Rfd1N [Ni Hua pins hopes on d4−d5 advancement. White does the same in the following fragment: 11.Rad1 Nd7 12.e4 Qe7 13.e5 Bg5 14.d5 Nc5 15.Qc2 a5, Christiansen−Ker, Wellington 1988, and now 16.Rd4! with h2−h4 threat was very strong.] 11...c6 Realizing that Nd7−c5 is quite weak weapon against d4−d5, Black has decided to put a block. But c6−c5 is on the agenda anyway. 12.e4 Nd7 13.e5 Be7 14.a4 a6 15.Bd3 c5?


This has to be foresighted on 16th move yet. Now Yang's position is strategically lost in view of white points' weakness. 22...Rfd8 23.Rf5+ Bf6 24.Rf3 Kf8 25.Re3 Qd7 26.Rae1?! [Ni Hua even neglected an exchange after 26.Qb3 Qd5 27.Qxd5 Rxd5 28.Bf4; apparently, he thought, that attack will bring to a success faster.] 26...Rab8 27.g3?! [It's all ready for the assault: 27.Bf5 Qb7 28.Be6 g5 29.Bb3 Kg7 30.Qf5 with letal threat Re7.] 27...Qd5 28.Bg6?! [And again 28.Bf5 was stronger. Now black king is going to retreat.] 28...Kg8 29.Bf5 Kh8 30.Be6 Qh5 31.Ba2 b5 32.Bb1

32...Kg8? [Fatal mistake. After 32...g6! Yang could defend successfully: 33.Re6 Rf8 34.a5 Bd4 35.R1e2 Rf6] 33.Qh7+ Kf7 34.Bf5! Rb6 Black has covered point e6, but the last rank is unsecure now, which is used by White in a tactical way. 35.g4! Qg5 36.f4 [36.f4 Qxf4 37.Qg6+ Kf8 38.Re8+] 1−0
(02) Krush, Irina (2455) - Lenderman, Alex (2598) [D16]
Copper State Int A Mesa USA (9), 09.06.2010 [IM Polivanov, A]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 e6
[Much more infrequent system, than already usual 5...Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.f3 Bb4... 6.e4 [6.e3 c5 7.Bxc4 Nc6 8.0-0 cxd4 9.exd4 is more solid, but not anyone likes to play with isolator.]
6...Bb4 7.e5 Ne4!? [Instead of common 7...Nd5 8.Bd2 b5 9.axb5 Bxc3 10.bxc3 cxb5 11.Ng5 with complications. After move in a game white king will remain uncastled, but Black's position is more cabined, than White's one.] 8.Qc2 Qa5 [8...Qd5 9.Be2 c5 10.0-0 Nxc3 11.bxc3 cxd4 12.cxd4 c3 13.Bd2=±]

Now Bb4 is a very unpleasant idea, and any taking will be bad for the Black. That's why Lenderman protected the own knight. 26...Qe7
27.Na1! Knight a1 is ready to push down its colleague, after that advancement b2–b4 will be a real threat. Black's situation is close to critical...
27...Qd7 28.Nc2! [Krush could defend the pawn d4 – 28.Rg4, but she decided not to waste time on it. Why not?] 28...Nxc2
29.Rxc2 Qxd4 30.Rd3 Qc5? [Should lose at once. 30...Qh4 allows to resist: 31.Be3 c5 32.Rb3 Ka7... 31.Rb3 [31.Rd7 Re7 32.Rd8+ Ka7 33.Bd3! was winning, but 31.Rb3 is also quite good.] 31...b5! Interesting idea by Lenderman which doesn't change the whole estimation of position, but can confuse the game. Black is trying to drive away the rook from "b"-file. 32.axb5 [32.Be3 Qe7 33.Bxb5! cxb5 34.Qxb5 Rd8 35.Rc1!] 32...a4 33.Rbc3 Qb6
34.bxc6 Qxc6 35.f3 Bb4 36.Bb5 Qd5

[Let's look the following example: 12.Qg4 Bf8 13.Ke2 Nd7 14.Bd2 Qc7 15.a5 b5 16.axb6 Nxb6+, Svetlov–Shkuran, Kostroma 2008, and knight is heading to d5.] 12...b6?! [Lenderman wants to swap bishops c8 and c4, but he forgets about queen a5. 12...Nd7, as in previous annotation, was better.] 13.Nd2! Now Black has to sound a retreat. 13...Bf8 14.Nb3 Qb4
15.Qd3 a5! But that's is well-played! Fixing the square b4 (and securing point a6), Black prepared a route Na6–b4–d5. 16.Bd2 Qe7
17.Rc1 Qd7 18.h5 Na6 19.Rh3 Nc7 20.Qe4 b6–b5 was threatening. 20...Nd5 21.Rg3 Rook is restricting the bishop f8 from here. In overall, White is undisputably better here, because her king will have an safe place on g1, whereas Black can't boast the same. 21...Bb7 22.Ke1 0-0-0 23.Kf1 Kb8 24.Qe1 White is probably intending to sacrifice a piece on a5 with rook's connection to b3. This can lead to a severe attack, so Black has chosen to set a barrier. 24...Nb4 25.Kg1 Re8 26.Qe2

39.Kh2 Rc8 40.Rd2 Qc4 41.Qe3 Qb3? [If Black wanted to move pawn a4 forward, he
ought to do it right now: 41...Qh4+ 42.Kg1 a3 43.Rd4 (43.bxa3 Rxc3 44.Qxc3 Qe1+) 43...Qg5! with probable draw.\[42.Rd4 Rc4 [Now 42...a3 meets 43.Rb4!]] 43.Rd8+ Bc8 [43...Rc8 44.Rxc8+ Bxc8 45.Qc5→] 44.Qd2 a3 45.Bd4 a2? [However, Black has mistaken by last. 45...axb2 46.Bxb2 Qb4!, counting on 47.Qf2 Rc2 48.Qxc2 Qh4+ was the only choice.] 46.Qa5 Now Black is losing pawn a2 or rook. Lenderman chooses second way... 46...Ra4 47.Qc5! Qb7 48.Rxc8+ Qxc8 49.Qb5+ Qb7 50.Qxa4 Qd5 51.b3 f6 1-0

(03) Naiditsch,Arkadij (2686) - Sutovsky,Emil (2661) [B90]
11th Karpov Poikovsky RUS (7), 09.06.2010 [GM Aveskulov, V]
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 Nbd7 7.g4 h6 8.f4

It is that rare case when we can see a novelty in Najdorf variation at the move 8...e5! The most logical. [After 8...b5 9.Bg2 Bb7 10.0-0 there is a risk do not complete development of the king side.] 9.Nf5 [In favour of Black 9.fxe5?! dxe5 because Bf8 gets extra opportunities] 9...Nc5 [In a case of 9...Qb6?! White convincingly captures square d5: 10.g5 hxg5 11.fxg5 g6 12.Ne3 Nh5 13.Ned5 with advantage] 10.Bg2 [Different kind of positions could happen after 10.Qf3 g6 11.Ng3 Ne6 12.Be3 exf4 13.Bxf4 Nxf4 14.Qxf4 Be6 15.0-0-0 Be7 but this is just a matter of player's taste.] 10...g6 11.Ng3 h5?

Probably this move was missed when Sutovsky played 13...d5. 16...Kg6 [16...Ke8 17.g5 dxc3 18.Qxd8+ Kxd8 19.gxf6 Rg8 20.Kh1++] 17.Nd5 Bg7 18.b4 Ncd7 [Pawn was indirectly defended: 18...Ncxe4 19.Nxf6 Nxf6 20.Qd3+ Kf7 21.g5++; 18...Ne6 19.Qd3++] would change nothing] 19.Qd3 Nb6

20.Nxd4! Naiditsch wins second pawn; game is over. 20...Bd7 21.Nf5?! [21.g5! Nh5 22.Nf5 was a bit more precise since Black has no here even 22...Bb5 because of 23.Nfe7+ Kh7 24.g6#] 21...Bb5 22.Nde7+ Kf7 23.Qxd8 [Game would finish more quickly with queens on the board: 23.Qb3+ Bc4 24.Qf3 Bxf1 25.Bxf1+– and then Bb3, Rd1; Black is undefended.] 23...Rhxd8 24.Rf2

Here Sutovsky also had no any chances to survive.24...Rd1+ 25.Kh2 Bf8 [25...Re8 26.g5 Nh5 27.g6+ Ke6 28.Bf3++] 26.g5 Bxe7 27.Nxe7 Kxe7 28.gxf6+ Kd6 29.f7 Nd7 30.Bf3 Bishop goes to g4 to push Nd7 away. 30...Re1 31.Bg4 Rf8 32.Bxd7! The most precise. 32...Kxd7 33.Bh6! Rxal 34.Bxf8 Bc6 35.Bh6 Bxe4 36.Rg2!

Black resigned. 1-0

(04) Riazantsev,Alexander (2674) - Karjakin,Sergey (2739) [E15]
11th Karpov Poikovsky RUS (8), 10.06.2010
[GM Aveskulov, V]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Qc2 Bb7 6.Bg2 c5

7.d5 exd5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.0-0 Be7 10.Qe4 Na6 11.Nh4 g6

12.Nf5!?N [A novelty. But Karjakin admitted that it was not a surprise for him since he had analyzed this move at home. As well, he already had an experience in playing of this variation: 12.Qe5 f6 13.Qe4 Qc8 14.Rd1 Nac7 15.Nxg6 hxg6 16.Qxg6+ Kd8 17.a3 b5 18.e4 Nb6 19.Nc3 Ne6 20.b4 cxb4 21.Nd5 Nf8 22.Qg7 Rh7 23.Qg8 Nxd5 24.exd5 d6 25.axb4 Qf5 26.Be3 a6 27.Rac1 Rc8 28.Bb6+ Ke8 29.h4 Qg6 30.Qxg6+ Nxg6 31.Rxc8+ Bxc8 32.Rc1 Bf5 33.Ra1 Rg7 34.Kh2 Bc8 35.Rc1 Bb7 36.f4 Bd8 37.Bd4 Kf7 0-1, Svidler – Karjakin, Sochi, 2008.] 12...gx5 13.Qe5 0-0 [King should be evacuated since variations like 13...Rg8?! 14.Bxd5 d6 15.Qxf5 Bxd5 16.Qxd5 Nc7 17.Qf3 are too risky; White will bring his pieces closer (Nb3, Bf4, Rad1, e2–e4 etc) and king will feel itself not good.] 14.Qxf5 [White can simply equalize here with 14.Bxd5 Bf6 15.Qxf5 Bxd5 16.Qxd5 Nb4 17.Qf5 Qe7 18.a3 Nc6 19.Nc3 Qe6= But Riazantsev well–known as an agressive tough player.] 14...Re8 15.Nc3


16.Be4 [Again we see a totally equal position after primitive capture on d5: 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Bxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxd5 Bf6 19.e3 Qc7=] 16...Bf6 17.Qxh7+ Kf8

23.Qe4! [After the game Karjakin said that he had studied only perpetual 23.Bg5+ Bf6 24.Rfe1+ Ne6 25.Rxe6+! dxe6 (25...Kxe6? 26.Qe4+ Kd6 27.Bf4+ Be5 28.Rd1+ Kc7 29.Bxe5+ Rxe5 (29...d6? 30.Rxd6+-- 30.Qxe5+ d6 31.Qd5) 26.Bxf6 Kxf6 27.Qh4+ Ke7 28.Qh4+ Kf8 29.Qh8+ Ke7 30.Qh4+ f6 31.Qh7+ Kf8 32.Qh8+ Kf7 33.Qh7+ but his opponent was more insistent and have found an interesting continuation of White's initiative] 23...f6 [Pawn's sacrifice deserves a serious attention: 23...d5!? 24.Qxe5+ Kd7 25.Qf5+ Kc6 26.Qh7+ Kd6 27.Qh4+ Kc6 28.Qg6 Kc5 29.Raf1 Freeing square d5 for the queen 29...d4 [29...Qd6 30.Rt6 with idea Bf8 30...Rg8\□ 31.Rg7 Rxg7 (31...Rge8 32.Rxa7(+-) 32.Bxg7 Kd7 33.Qf5± and pawn e5 falls down] 30.Rt6 Qd5 31.Rxa7! Pawn is taken back. 31...Rad8

It looks that Black king is safety surrounded by own pawns and pieces; but in fact White has enough power to get it out. 28.Qg6 Kc6 29.Raf1 Freeing square d5 for the queen 29...d4 [29...Qd6 30.Rt6 with idea Bf8 30...Rg8\□ 31.Rg7 Rxg7 (31...Rge8 32.Rxa7(+-) 32.Bxg7 Kd7 33.Qf5± and pawn e5 falls down] 30.Rt6 Qd5 31.Rxa7! Pawn is taken back. 31...Rad8

32.a4?! Being short of time Riazantsev began to play badly and finally loses this good game. [Precise 32.Qf7! would crush Black's position 32...Kb5 (32...e4?? 33.a4!!+ with mating attack) 33.b3! threatening Bd2 and a2-a4 pushing Black king back to White major pieces. E.g. 33...c4 34.bxc4+ Qxc4 (after 34...Kxc4 35.Rf1-- black king is undefended) 35.a4+ Kb4 36.Re7! Rxe7 37.Qxe7+ Qc5 (37...Nc5 38.Rxb6+ Kc3 39.Qxd6---) 38.Bd2+ Kxa4 39.Qxe6+ with extra piece] 32...c7? A crucial moment of the whole game. [32...d3!? was the best chance 33.Qf7 Qd4+ 34.Kg2 Kd6 (34...Qxb2+? 35.Kh3 Kd6 and computer move 36.Rxe6+ Rxe6 37.Bd2 Qd4+) 35.Kh3! (here 35.Bg5? is not crushing because of 35...d2 36.Rxe6+ Rxe6 37.Bxd6 Qe4+ 38.Kh3 Rh6+ 39.Bh4 Rxh4+ 40.gxh4 Qe3+ 41.Kg2 Qe4+ 42.Kh3 Qe3+=)].

33.Qf7? Here Russian GM misses his best chance in the game. [33.Bf8! Rxh8 34.Rxe6+ Rd6 (34...Kc5 35.Rc7+ Kb4 36.Rxb6++) 35.Qh7! the point of the whole line (analogic 35.Qg7?? misses a win 35...Rf1! 36.Kxf1 Qf3+ 37.Kg1 Qd1+ 38.Kg2 Qe2+ 39.Kh3 Qh5+=) 35...Kc5 a) 35...Rf1+ now square h5 is covered 36.Kxf1 Qf3+ 37.Kg1 Qd1+ 38.Kg2 Qe2+ 39.Kh3 Qf1+ 40.Kh4+-; b) 35...Rxe6 36.Qc7\#; c) 35...Qxe6 36.Qb7+ Kc5 37.Ra5+ bxa5 (37...Kb4 38.Rb5+ Kxa4 39.Qa6\#) 38.Qb5\#; 36.Qc7+ Kb4 (36...Rc6 37.Qe7+ Rd6 38.Rxe5+++) 37.Qxd6+++] 33...Kc5 34.Bd2 [Another inaccuracy. White could get a position without risk by means of 34.Rc7? Kb4
(34...Nxc7? 35.Qxc7+ Kb4 36.Qxb6+ Kxa4 37.Qa6+ Kb3 38.Qa3+ Kc2 39.Rf2+ Kb1 40.Rf1+ Kc2 41.Rc1#) 35.Re7! Rxe7 36.Qxe7+ Qc5 (36...Nc5? 37.Rxb6+ Kxa4 38.Qa7++) and here the choice is between endgame with extra bishop 37.Rxe6 (or with extra pawn 37.Qxe6 d3+ 38.Kf1 d2 39.Bxd2+ Rxd2 40.Qxb6+ Qxb6 41.Rxb6+ Ka5 (41...Kxa4 42.h4±) 42.Rc6±) 37...Qxe7 38.Rxe7 Kxa4 39.Rxe5 c3± I don’t know which one is more winning. But definitely both are quite promising.] 34...c3

Black violently punches a road for his king. [E.g. 34...Qd6 would remain king in the dangerous area 35.Qb7! Qc6 36.Bb4+ Kd5 37.Qf7→ with idea Qh5–f3] 35.Rc7+? Another mistake; from now Black is totally OK. [A primitive 35.bxc3! dxc3 36.Bxc3± leaded to about winning position with open king.] 35...Kb4 36.bxc3+ Kb3! King goes on stubbornly. [After 36...Nxc3 37.Bxc3+ Ka3 it’s also not easy to find decisive continuations. But why does he need to clear the board near king?] 37.c4? After this mistake White starts being in troubles. [An unclear position is coming after 37.Rb7 dxc3 38.Rxb6+ Kc4 39.Be3 Nd4; But 37.Qg6! would allow White to continue chasing of Black king: 37...d3 (37...Nxc7?? 38.Rxb6+ Kxa4 (38...Kc4 39.Rb4+ Kc5 40.Qb6#) 39.Rb4+ Ka3 40.Bc1+ Ka2 41.Qb1#) 38.Rc7→ and queen goes to d1; white is still better.] 37...Qd6

38.Rb7 Rook was under attack. 38...d3 39.a5 Qd4+ 40.Kf1 Qe4 Surprisingly Black creates threats himself. 41.Kg1 Kc2!

Seeing this brave manoeuvre of Black king I recollect the game Gashimov – Grischuk that was played at the team world championship of 2010 in Turkey and was analyzed by us in the #2, 2010. In both game Black king at first avoids its checkmatig and then starts own attack. 42.Rxb6 Kxd2 [42...Nd4 also was leading to advantage 43.c5 (43.Bg5? d2+) 43...Kxd2 44.Qa2+ Nc2 45.Rf2+ Ke3 46.Rb3 Kd4 47.Qa4+ Kd5 48.Qb5 Qe1+ 49.Rf1 Qe3+ 50.Kh1 (50.Kg2? Ne1+! 51.Rxe1 Qd2+!-+ nice check) 50...Qe4+ 51.Kg1 Nd4++] 43.Rbx6 Rxe6 44.Qxe6 [44.Rxe6 Kc2+] 44...Kc2+
Pawn "d" is unstopped. 45.c5 Qd5! [Queen has to be covered. 45...d2?? 46.Qa2+=] 46.Qg4 [46.Qf5 Qxc5+ 47.Kg2 Qd5+ 48.Kg1 e4+] 46...Qd4+ 47.Rf2+ A countercheck. [Rook endgame is completely lost 47.Qxd4 Rxd4] 47...d2 48.Qf3 e4 49.© XABCDEFGHY

Complicate position has emerged – four pawns for the rook. Perhaps, White's chances are a little bit better – because if black pawns will set out (do they have any choice?), king g8 may become vulnerable. 17.h4! Standard method – rook develops in a "lateral" way. 17...Qc5 [Pawn's "e" raid doesn't make a progress: 17...e5 18.Rh3 (18.Nxe5? Re8) 18...e4 19.Rxc3! dxc3 20.Qxc3 Qc5+ 21.Qe3, and White is better.] 18.Nd2 d4–d3 was threatening. 18...Nb4 19.Qf2 Rd8 20.Rh3 Nb5 21.Rd3 [Pawn d4 is untouchable: 21.Nb3 Qb4 22.Nxd4? Ne4+] 21...e5 22.Re1 Liren is catching on black pawns. 22...Qc7 [There is nothing for it – after 22...Nf4 23.Rxc3! (17.h4 was such a good move) 23...Qxc3 24.Rxe5 Ne6 25.Bc4 White's advantage is obvious.] 23.Ne4 Nxa4 Jianchao takes one pawn more, but White is starting to create threats to the opponent's king now. 24.Rg3 Nf4
25.Nf6+ Kh8 26.Ne8! Excellent idea – White rids of obstacles for heavy artillery’s sake. 26...Rx e8 [Maybe, it was worth to swap the queens: 26...Qc5 27.Nxg7 d3 28.Qxc5 Nxc5 29.Nf5 f6 30.Nh6 Rf8, though after exact 31.Rc1 b6 32.Rxc5! bxc5 33.Bxd3 Nxd3 34.Rxd3 draw will be hard-hitting.] 27.Qxf4 Re7 28.Qg4 f6 [It’s useful to make an air-hole for the king: 28...g6, but 29.h5! makes White’s attack too dangerous.] 29.Ra3 Qc6 30.Rea1 Nb6 [Pawn a7 can’t be defended: 30...b5 31.Bxb5] 31.Rxa7 e4

32.Qh5 [Here Liren had two beautiful paths to win. First one is 32.Ra8+! Nxa8 33.Bb5! Qxb5 34.Rxa8+ Re8 35.Qc8!; the second one – 32.Bb5! Qxb5 33.Rxb7! (33.Ra8+? Re8) 33...Rxb7 (33...h5 34.Rxb6) 34.Ra8+; but third way also conduces to victory.] 32...h6 33.Qg6 Qc8 34.Re1 [34.Be2!, heading to f5, is good.] 34...Qc6 35.Kh1 [35.Bd3! wins immediately due 35...Qc3 36.Rxe4 Qxd3 37.Rxb7, but bishop will step to d3... one move later!] 35...d3? 36.Bxd3 Qc3 37.Raa1 That’s all. 37...f5 [37...Qxd3 38.Rad1++] 38.Qxf5 Hasn’t made any huge mistake, Black’s found oneself in lost position. Apparently, sacrifice on e4 was incorrect. 1-0

(06) Ivanchuk,Vassily (2741) - Alekseev,Evgeny (2700) [E20]
45th Capablanca Mem Elite Havana CUB (2), 11.06.2010
[GM Aveskulov, V]
If you have a file with examples of masterful playing by two bishops you should put this game there. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c6 Idea of this variation is to restrict White central pawns at the dark squares and then to exchange light squared bishops via a6. 7.e3 0-0

8.Nh3 [Ivanchuk remains forever one. From the very beginning he evades main lines and goes to something unusual. The main move here is 8.Bd3] 8...Re8 [Rozentalis played this position more coherently 8...b6 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.a4 Qc7 11.Bd2 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Qe2 Nbd 14.0-0 Nbd 15.e4 e5 and Black is fine, Bareev – Rozentalis, USSR ch, 1990.] 9.Nf2 e5 10.Be2 Nbd 7N [A novelty. Black was good in the game Cebalo – Ogloblin, European ch, 2009: 10...Qc7 11.0-0 Be6 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.dxe5 Qxe 5 14.Rb1 Qc7 15.Bb2 Nbd 7 11.0-0 Nf8 12.cxd5 cxd 5 [would not change too much 12...Nxd5 13.Qd3 (13.c4? Nc 3?) 13...exd4 14.cxd4 White has a mobile pawn center and pair of bishops; he is better.] 13.dxe5 Rxe 5
14. c4! Instructive moment! Ukrainian GM consequently exchanges pawns in the center and gives his bishops more power by this. 14... Re8

15. Re1 Ng6 [An invitation to trade off at least one bishop would be declined: 15... dxc4 16. Bxc4 Be6 17. Bf1 and White is better]

16. Rb1 b6 17. cxd5 Nxd5

18. Bf1?! [Considering that activity that was shown by Black knight later, we can see that 18. Bb3!? Nf6 19. e4 would be more accurate.]

18... Nc3! Knight goes to c5. 19. Qxd8 Rxd8

20. Rb3 Na4 21. e4

21... Be6? [Here it was the moment to fulfill opening's idea: 21... Nc5 22. Rc3 Ba6! 23. Bxa6 (23. Rxc5 Bxf1 24. Rc7 Bb5) 23... Nxa6 24. Be3 Rac8 25. Rc1 Rxc3 26. Rxc3 f6 with only minimal advantage of White. From now Ivanchuk is again ahead.] 22. Rb4 Nc5 23. f4 Ne7

[An interesting alternative could be 23... f5! preventing f4-f5. 24. exf5 (24. e5? Ne7) 24... Bxf5 25. g3 Rac8 and Black has enough space for own pieces.] 24. Be3 Rac8 25. f5 Bd7


30... Rc7? A mistake one step away from the total equality [Active 30... Ra2! was the strongest 31. Nc3 Rxa3 32. Bc2 Nc5! 33. Bxc5 Rxc3 34. Rd1 h5 35. Bxa4 Rxc3 36. Rd8+ Kh7 37. Rd7 Ng8 38. Rxa7 Nf6=] 31. Nb2 From now everything starts again; White has two bishops and
31...Bc6 [Intrusion 31...Rc3 is not dangerous for White 32.Ba6 bishop a4 is hanging 32...Be8 33.Nd1 rook is attacked 33...Rc2 34.Re2 once again; exchange of rooks is good for White since two bishops will have more space to show their power 34...Rc7 35.Bf4 once again 35...Rd7 36.Nc3 White is definitely better] 32.Kf2 Rd7 33.g4 If Ivanchuk makes such moves he has an advantage. 33...Kf8 34.h4 b5? Unclear decision. Alekseev without any necessity weakens his queen side. [He had to play passively; 34...Bb7 35.Bc2 Nc5 36.Bxc5 bxc5 37.Ke3 Nc6 white is better but black has a lot of resources to make a draw.] 35.Rd1! Ukrainian GM immediately reacts on the weakness. After rooks trade off Black weaknesses become more vulnerable. 35...Ke8?

[35...Na5!? was more stubborn] 36.Bc2 Rxd1 37.Nxd1 Na1 Otherwise pawn a7 would be captured. 38.Bd3 a5 39.Bd4 Double attack and first material trophy. 39...Nb3 40.Bxg7

Established continuation, after which Black has to sacrifice a piece on e4. Frankly speaking, this variation leaves almost zero chances to play for the victory for the Black, but it is impossible not to admit that its position has a big margin of safety. 8...Bxe4 9.fx4 Nxe4 10.Bd2 10.Qf3 provides nothing more than a draw: 10...Qxd4 11.Qxh7+ Kd8 12.Bg5+ Nxg5 (12...Kc8!? 13.Qxg5 Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 Qxc3+ 15.Ke2 Qc2+ with perpetual check.] Next

40...Nc5 41.Ke3 Nxd3 42.Kxd3 Nc8? Now it’s over. [Last chance was to organize a passed at the queen side hoping to change it for something. 42...b4! 43.axb4 axb4] 43.Bc3 From c3 bishops controls a5, b5 pawns and supports own pawns at the opposite side. 43...Nd6 44.Nf2 Nc4 45.g5+-

They are unstoppable. 45...Bb7 46.h5 [46.Ng4+- winning the pawn h7 was also possible.] 46...Ba6 47.g6! This break finishes the game. 47...fxg6 48.fxg6 hxg6 49.h6 b4 [49...Nd6 50.h7 Nf7 51.Ke3+-] 50.h7 Ne5+ 51.Ke3 Nf7 52.Bg7 bxa3 53.Ng4 Black resigned because of Nh6 threat. Two bishops are power! 1-0
moves are considered as nearly forced.
exact, as after 15.Qe3 White will take on c4 by
the bishop. 14...Na6 hurries him.] 15.Nxc4 0-0 16.Qe5 It's very logical, that White is trying to
weaken an Black's attacking potential by
queen's exchange. 16...Rab8 [Prophylactic
move in some sense. 16...f6 has a bad reputa-
tion in view 17.Qxd5 cxd5 18.Nd6 − now pawn
b7 will be protected; 16...Rfd8 follows the simi-
lar goal.] 17.Re1N

[17.a5 is a basic move here, amortizing b7–b5
advancement. But Giri, apparently, thinks, that
this is not dangerous. Let's see!] 17...b5
18.Qxd5 Nb4+! [Useful intermediate move.
18...exd5 is not good due 19.Ne5 Nb4+ 20.Kd2
bxa4 21.Nd7; 18...xd5 has the same motives:
[19.Kd1 Nxd5!] 19...exd5 20.Ne5 bxa4 As rook
e1 is unprotected, plug on d7 is not dangerous
anymore. But Giri follows this path anyway.
24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 Knight d3 captures an impor-
tant square c5, so... 25.Kc2 [25.Rd1 Re3!]
25...Nf4 [Now 25...Re3 meets 26.Ra1!] 26.Kd2
Ne6 27.Rc1 Rd8 28.Nc5 Rb8

29.Nd3! Grandmaster's hand is felt! Giri pre-
fers to take on a4 by the bishop, instead of the
knight. Thus pawn c6 will feel oneself not very
well. 29...Nd4 30.Bd1 Kf8 31.Bxa4 Rb6 Black
pieces are burdened by pawn's c6 defence. Now
the white king takes the field. 32.Ke3
Nh5+ 33.Kf4 Ne7 34.Ke5

34...Ke8? [The only one serious mistake of
Van Kampen, which, anyway, is enough to
lose a game. It was necessary to choose
34...c5! − 35.Nxc5 (35.Rxc5? Re6+−) 35...Rxb2
36.Kd6 Rxg2 37.Nd7+ Ke8 38.Re1
Kd8, and Black is keeping one's balance.] 35.Kd6
Now pawns c6, d5 will be lost inevita-
ably. 35...Kd8 36.Re1 [White even has refused
36.Bxc6 − he is going to take on c6 by knight!]
[41.Kxd5 wins too: 41...Nc3+ 42.Kc4 Nxa4
43.Nd4 Nb2+ 44.Kc3] 41...Rxc6 42.Bxc6 Kxc6
43.Ra1 Nd2 44.Ra6+ Kb7 45.Ra2 Nxb3+
[45...Ne4 saves the knight, but not the game.
Nf1 50.Rh4 Summing up, we can say, that
17...b5 plan has not justified oneself − pawn
chains transformed to the couple of islets,
which made pawns vulnerable. So, it's worth to
find something different on 17.Re1. 1-0

(08) Timofeev,Artyom (2677) - Ste-
vic,Hrvoje (2599) [A33]
9th TCh–BIH Premier Bihac BIH (9),
13.06.2010
[IM Polivanov, A]
5.Nc3 e6 6.g3 Qb6 7.Ndb5

20.Bb4?! [For some reason Timofeev gives pawn g4 away. Better was 20.Rd1 Rxd1 21.Kxd1 Kf7! (21...fxg4? 22.Rc5) 22.Ke2= Threat h5−h4 makes bishop c3 to move on e1, which leads to inevitable zugzwang. 33.Ke2 h5 34.Be1 Bc6 At first Black is placing white pawns on "wanted" squares... 35.a5 e5 Now Stevic makes own king more active. 36.Kd3 Ke6 37.Kc3 Kd5 38.Kd3 Ke5 39.Ke3 Kc4 40.Bc3 Kd5 [40...h4!? could miss a winning: 41.gxh4 gxh4 42.Bxe5 g3 43.Bc7 Kb3 44.Kf4!, and black passers will be blocked.] 41.Be1 Ba4 42.Kd3 Bc6 43.Ke3 Be8 Now bishop switches to diagonal b1−h7, wherefrom it will limit the white king. 44.Kd3 [44.b4 Bc6 (44...Bg6? 45.b5!) 45.Kd3 e4+ 46.Kc3 Bb5 47.Bf2 (47.Kd2 Bb3 48.Kc3 Bf1) 47...e3=+] 44...Bg6+ 45.Ke3 Bb1! [45...Kc4 is premature due 46.Bc3] 46.Bf2 Kc4 47.Be1 [47.Kd2 Kb3 48.Kc1 Bg6 49.Be1 Bd3 50.Kd2 e4 51.Kc1 e3] 47...e4 [47...Kb3? 48.Bc3 e4 49.Bf6] 48.b4 Bd3! Either pawn b4 will be lost, or h5−h4 will be performed. That's why White resign. 0−1

(09) Malakhov,Vladimir (2722) - Caruana,Fabiano (2675) [A29] 4th Ruy Lopez Masters Villafranca ESP (3), 14.06.2010 [GM Aveskulov, V] 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.g3 Nd4 5.Bg2 Nxf3+ 6.Bxf3 Bb4 7.0−0 0−0

At first look one can say that Black has problems with that pawn on c5; but in fact it is just a very beginning of the theory and Black is totally fine. 14... d5 15. cxd6 If white does not take this pawn there would be nothing at the queen side to play against. 15... Qxd6 16. Bb4 Qc7 17. Nc5Bg4 [17... Be6 was also tested: 18. Nxe6 Rxe6 19. e3 Rd8 20. Rfd1 Bb6 21. Bh3 Ree8 22. Qc4 Nd5= Timofeev – Kobalia, Aeroflot, 2010] 18. Rfe1

32.Rcd1 Rb2 33.Qa1 Qe7) 30...Nb5 (the trick of move 30.Rc3 can be seen here: 30...Nf3+?! 31.Bxf3 Rxd2 32.Rd3 Rb2? 33.Rxa3!! here we are! 33...Rxb1 34.Rxa8+ Kh7 35.Rxb1± with advantage) 31.Rc2 (31.Rd3 Rxd3 32.exd3 Qd6±) 31...Rd6 preparing tripling at the d-file; Black has excellent chances.) 28...Nc5

29.Rb1 Step in the wrong direction. [b1 was a good square for the queen 29.Qb1!? (more far from Black pieces) 29...axb3 30.axb3 and although white is passive he is fine 30...Ra3 (30...Qc8 31.b4 Nd3 32.Rd1) 31.b4 Nd3 32.Rd1] 29...axb3 30.axb3 Nf3 31.Qc3 Ba5 32.Qc4 [is bad because of 32.b4? - 32...Nxb4! 33.Rxb4 c5! and Black wins material 34.Qxc5 (34.Qc4 Bxb4 35.Bxb4 Rd1+ 36.Bf1 Raa1++) 34...Qxc5 35.Rxc5 Bxb4 36.Bxb4 Ra1+ 37.Bf1 Rdd1+] 32...b5 33.Bxa5 [33.Qxc6? Qxc6 34.Rxc6 Bb2+] 33...Qxa5

34.Qc3?? [Decisive mistake. White still had chance to save the game: 34.b4 and all variations lead to equal rook endgame: 34...Nxb4 (34...Qa3 35.Qc3 (35.Qxc6? Nxb4+) 35...Qxc3 36.Rxc3 Nxb4 37.Rxb4 Rd1+ 38.Bf1 Raa1 39.Kg2 Rxf1 40.Rxc6=) 35.Qxb4 Rd1+ 36.Bf1 Qxb4 37.Rxb4 Raa1 38.Kg2 Rxf1 39.Rxc6 Rfb1 40.Rxb1 Rxb1 41.Rc5 f6 42.f4=] 34...Qxc3 35.Rxc3 Nb4+ Both rooks are ready to enter at the 2nd rank; Nb4 controls everything at the queen side; white pieces are totally helpless. So, endgames is supposed to be simple for Black. 36.Rc5 Rd2 37.Rf1 [37.Rxe5 is followed by 37...Rxf2! 38.Kxf2 Nd3+ 39.Ke2 Nxe5+ with a winning endgame] 37...f6

38.h4 Raa2 39.g4?? Obviously, Malakhov had no any desire to defend this stuff. [39.Bh3 was more stubborn 39...Kf7 (39...Rxf2? 40.Rxf2 Rfx2 41.Rxc6! while bishop was on g2 Black had Rgxg2 move 41...Nxc6 42.Kxf2=) 40.Rcc1 Ke7+ and Black should win this accurately] 39...Rfx2 [White resigned because of simple variation 39...Rxf2 40.Rxf2 Rfx2 41.Kxf2 Nd3+ 42.Ke2 Nxc5 43.b4 Na6+ Play by Caruana was simple and natural. But such spectacular end would never happen without opponent’s assistance on move 24 and 34.] 0-1

(10) Gelfand,Boris (2741) - Wang Yue (2752) [D10]
4th Kings Tournament Medias ROU (1), 14.06.2010 [GM Aveskulov, V]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 a6 5.Nf3 b5 6.c5 g6 7.Ne5 Bg7 8.f4 This variation became quite popular last years mostly thanks to efforts of Russian GM Vladimir Malakhov. 8...a5
This continuation is not the main but still good; for some case Black captures some space at the queen side. 9.Be2! Deep move. [The point is that after 9.Bd3 Black happily trades off light squared bishops: 9...Bf5 10.Bxf5 gxf5 (Bacrot - Wang Yue, Elista, 2008) that definitely makes his position more loose. But if Bishop is on e2 there is a problem with employment of Bc8.] 9...Qc7 10.0-0 0-0 11.a3 Be6 [Black is not ready yet for capturing of central squares: 11...Ne4?! due to 12.Nxe4 dxe4 13.a4! and now 13...f6 is followed by 14.axb5! fxe5 (there is a terrible structure for Black in a case of 14...cxb5 15.Ng4±) 15.b6 Qb7 16.Bc4+ Kh8 17.fxe5± with overwhelming position.] 12.Bf3 Square e4 is covered. 12...Nbd7 13.Nd3 XABCDEFGHY 8r+-+-trk+ (7+-wqnzppvlp' 6-+p+lsnp+& 5zppzPp+-+-% 4-+-zP-zP-+$ 3zP-sNNzPL+-# 2-zP-+-+-+" 1tR-vLQ+RmK-! xabcdefghy Once again Israel GM declines invitation to trade off some pieces. 13...h6?! Obviously, Chinese player wanted to close position totally and to build up an undefended fortress. That's why he did not look for something more convincing. [I would not advice 13...h5?! as well 14.h3 Bf5 15.g4 Be6 and Black has got nothing except of danger of opening one more file against his king.; Much more logical move is 13...Qb7!? now White should follow for b5−b4 threat. If he plays 14.Bd2 Black already can play in the center 14...Bf5 15.Qe2 Ne4 16.g4 Nxc3 17.Bxc3 Be4= exchanging all bad pieces.] 14.g4! Gelfand grabs a space at the king side. 14...Nh7?! While Wang Yue continues his strategy “to close everything”. [There still was a possibility don't give up an initiative to opponent by means of 14...Qb7!? 15.h3 with idea Bg2 and then f4−f5 (after 15.b3 Black gets a counterplay in such way 15...b4 16.axb4 axb4 17.Na2 Ne4 attacking on c5) 15...b4!? aiming on Ne4; Black is fine.] 15.h4 f5 [Here it is too late to avoid of closing the position: 15...Qb7 16.Bg2 and 16...f5 is forced 17.g5 with the same picture of play.] 16.g5 hxg5?! Wang Yue gives up a rook file hoping to build a fortress. But his dreams have not come true. [16...h5?! was also risky because of bishop's sacrifice 17.Bxh5?! gxh5 18.Qh5 Kh8 19.Qf3 Rg8 20.Bd2 gradually bringing pieces to the king side and then pushing pawns forward. Position of Black is very unpleasant.; Move 16...Bf7!? was the most solid 17.Bd2 (17.gxh6 presents square f6 to black knights 17...Bxh6 18.Ne5 Nh6±) 17...h5 and now it's really difficult to break through] 17.hxg5

White's advantage is undoubted; his opponent has no even the least counterplay. 17.Kf7 18.Kg2 Rfb8 [Attempt to advance b5−b4 does not give dividends: 18...Qb7 19.Bd2 b4? 20.axb4 axb4 21.Qb3 Rxa1 22.Rxa1 Rb8 23.Ne2±] 19.Bd2 Nh6 [Here 19...b4? is also bad 20.axb4 axb4 21.Rxa8 Rxa8 22.Nxb4±] 20.Be2 Knight is being transferred to f3 and then maybe to h4; while bishop goes to d3. 20...Ke8 21.Ne1 Bg8 Bishops have covered all squares on file “h”. 22.Nf3 Rb7 23.Bd3 23...Nb8 24.Ne2 This knight moves to g3 to support possible sacrifices on squares f5, g6. 24...Qd8 25.Ng3 e6 7−th rank is opened. 26.Rh1 Bh7? [I could not realize why Wang Yue decided to bring his bishops to h-file where they are under direct attack of white
rooks. It seems that keeping them on g7 and g8 was more defensible: 26...Raa7!? 27.Rh3 Nbd7 28.Qc2 Nb8 29.Rah1 Ra8 30.R1h2 Raa7 31.Qd1 Ra8 32.Nh4 Raa7 33.Be2 Qe7 34.Qe1 a4 35.Nh1 Ra8 36.Nf2 Nbd7 37.Nd3 Rc8 38.Nf3 Ra7

And even computer does not see direct ways for attack. Of course it does not mean Black makes a simple draw; but his chances are quite good. 27.Qc2 Kf7 28.Rh3 Kg8?! [It was not late yet to bring bishops back: 28...Bg8!? 29.Ne5+ Ke8] 29.Rah1 Raa7 30.Kf1 Qe8 31.Be1 Bh8 32.Rh6 Bg7 33.R6h4 Bh8 34.R1h3 Re7 35.Qh2 Queen is placed behind of rooks. 35...Re7 36.Rh6 Now Black even has no Bg7 move. 36...Re7
White has achieved maximum on both sides; time of actions is coming. 42...Reb7 43.Nh4 Bg7 [Idea of 43.Nh4 can be demonstrated by such line: 43...Re7 44.Nxg6! Nxg6 45.Bh5 Bg6 46.Bxg6 Bxg6 47.Rh8+ Kf7 48.Ne5+! Bxe5 49.fxe5++] 44.Rxh7! Nxh7 [44...Kxh7?? 45.Nxg6+ Kg8 46.Rh8+ Kf7 47.Nde5+ Bxe5 48.Nxe5+ Ke7 49.Qh6+--] 45.Nxg6! Nd7 [45...Qxg6?? 46.Bh5+--] 46.Bh5 [White is not going to exchange pair of knights: 46.Rxh7?! Qxg6 47.Rh4 Qe8] 46...Qd8 47Nb4 Rc7

48.Nh8! Very strong and nice move! [After alternative 48.Nh4 Nh8 49.Nf3 Rc8 50.Nd3 Rb7 51.Ke2 Ra7 Black defends somehow.] 48...Ndf8 [Probably the best chance was 48...Kxh8 49.Bf7 Ndf8 50.Rxh7+ Nhx7 51.g6 Bh6 52.Qxh6 Rxf7 53.gxf7 Rxf7 54.Nxc6 Qf6 55.Qh5± with overwhelming position; 48...Bxh8 49.Bf7+! Kxf7 50.Rxh7+ Bg7 51.g6+! Kg8 52.Rh8+ Bxh8 53.Qh7+ Kf8 54.Qf7#] 49.Nf7! Knight comes to d6. 49...Rx f7 [Amazing zugzwang could happen after 49...Qe7 50.Nd6 Qd8 51.Be8! Qa8 52.Ke2!++]

50.Bxf7+ [50.Nxc6 was also winning 50...Qc8 51.g6! Nhx6 (51...Qxc6 52.gxf7+ Rxf7△ (52...Khf?? 53.Bg6+++) 53.Bxf7+ Kxf7 54.Rxh7 Nhx7]

55.Qxh7+--) 52.Nxa7 Rxa7 53.Bxg6 Nh6 54.Rg3++) 50...Rxf7 51.Rxh7! Qe8 [51...Nhx7 52.g6 Rc7 53.Qxh7+ Kf8 54.Bh4 Qd7 55.Bg5++) 52.Rh3±]
64.b3 Nf8 65.Rh2 [Check was odd in this moment 65.Ne5+? Kg8 66.Rh3 Bxe5 67.dxe5 axb3+ 68.Kxb3 Ng6 and win is not easy now.] 65...axb3+ 66.Kxb3 Ke8 67.Ra2! a3–a4 is ready. 67...Kd7 68.a4 bxa4+ 69.Rxa4 Rxa4 70.Kxa4+

Black is not able to keep this attack. 70...Kc8 71.Ba5 Ng6 72.Nb4 Kd7 [72...Kb7 73.Bd8 Nf8 74.Bf6 Bxf6 75.gxf6++] 73.Na6 Kc8 74.Bc7 Bf8 75.Ka5 Kb7 76.Bd6 Be7 77.Bxe7 Nxe7 78.Nb4 Ng8 79.Nd3 Ne7 80.Ne5 Ng8 81.g6 Nf6 82.g7 Black resigned. 1-0
Chess School. Tactics
IM Sergey Perun

(11) Bukavshin, Ivan (2427) - Lyaskovsky, Valentin (2271)
Dagomys, 2010
[Perun, Sergey]

31.Qxc4!++ Rxal 32.Ne7+! 1-0

(12) Gashimov, Vugar (2740) - Karjakin, Sergey (2725)
Nice, 2010
[Perun, Sergey]

24.Qxe3 Qxe6 [24...Bxe6 25.Be4 Qd7
27.Qh5+ Kg8 -

(13) Grandelius, Nils (2515) - Plukkel, Sjoerd (2279)
Wijk aan Zee, 2010
[Perun, Sergey]

24.d6!!++ Rxb5 25.d7 Bf5 [25...Rbb8
Kg8 27.Re8+ Kh7 28.dxc8Q Bxc8 29.Rxc8
Rxb2 30.a3–] 1-0

(14) Kobalia, Mihail (2637) - Loncar, Robert (2424)
Rijeka, 2010
[Perun, Sergey]

21.f5!+– exf5 22.e6!→ Qe7 23.gxf5 Bxf5
24.Qe5! fx6 [24...Rxd2! 25.Qxf5!++
(25.Kxd2? Qg5+ 26.Ke1 Qc1+ 27.Kf2 Qxh1
27.Qb8+ Kd7 28.Qc7+ 1-0
(15) Kwiatkowski,Feliks J (2248) - Gregory,Stephen J (2126)
Hastings, 2010
[Perun,Sergey]

17...bxc4 18.dxc6 f5 19.gxf6 Nxf6 20.Qg5+

18.Bd3 g6 19.Qxh7+! 1-0
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email: chesszone@ya.ru