Table of contents:
# 08, 2011

Games ......................................................................................................................... 4
(01) Fernandez Cardoso,A (2450) - Hernandez Carmenates,Hold (2570) [B87] .... 4
(02) Holzke,F (2497) - Brkic,A (2598) [D31] ..................................................................... 5
(03) Hector,J (2568) - Grandelius,N (2542) [C50] .................................................... 6
(04) Svidler,P (2739) - Postny,E (2618) [B12] .......................................................... 9
(05) Bachmann,Ax (2550) - Tristan,L (2450) [A89] ................................................. 10
(06) Yu,Yangyi (2672) - Balogh,Csaba (2643) [D10] ................................................ 11
(07) Vachier Lagrave,M (2722) - Pelletier,Y (2590) [C10] .................................. 13
(08) Fier,A (2566) - Georgiev,VI (2559) [C78] ....................................................... 14
(09) Kononenko,Dmitry (2593) - Stefansson,Hannes (2546) [B82] ..................... 16
(10) Kramnik,Vladimir (2781) - Nakamura,Hikaru (2770) [E97] ....................... 17
Editorial staff: ............................................................................................................. 19
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Games

(01) Fernandez Cardoso,A (2450) - Hernandez Carmenates,Hold (2570) [B87]
16th Balaguer Open Balaguer ESP (4), 20.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
9.Qf3 Qc7 10.e5 [Against 10.0–0–0 Black should react 10...Nbd7! (not 10...Bb7?
11.Bxe6; or 10...0–0?! 11.e5 Bb7 12.exf6 Bxf3 13.Qxe7) , and now 11.Bxe6?! isn't
good – 11...Nc6! 12.Bxf7+ Kxf7] 10...Bb7
13.0–0–0 Nc6 14.Bxf6 [Ivanchuk's sacrifice
14.Qxe6+?? fxe6 15.Nxe6 is very inventive,
but after simple 15...Qe7! 16.Rhe1 Qxe6
17.Rxe6+ Ne7 18.Rde1 0–0–0 19.Rxe7
Bxe7 20.Rxe7 Rxe7 Black has nothing to
afraid of – Caillet–Veloso, LSS 2009]
14...gxf6 15.Nd5

[15.Ne4 also practised, but White can hope
at best only for the draw: 15...Bxd4
19.Qh4 h6 20.c3 Qe5 21.Nh7+ Ke8 (after
21...Kg7 22.Bc2 Rhe8 23.Kb1! f5 24.Qf4
Qc7 25.Nf6 Rf8 26.Nh5+ Kh8 27.Re1 very
complicated position arisen) 22.Nf6=+ ,
Kogan–Sutovsky, Ashdod 2006]
15...Qe5!N [That's a step forward in
this line in comparison with 15...Qd8 16.Qf4
(16.c3 Na5! 17.Nf4 Nxb3+ 18.axb3 Qe7 Δ
0-0-0) 16...Bxd4 (16...exd5? loses on the
Kg8 20.Rd3! Bxf2 21.Re2+–) 17.Nc7+ Ke7
18.Rhe1! Qd6 (18...e5 19.Nd5+ Kd6 is too
dangerous) 19.Qxd6+ Kxd6 20.Nxa8 Bxa8
21.c3 Kc5 with slightly worse position, Pa-
vosovic–Karjakin, Kallithea 2008. Now
events are developing in a forced way.]
16.Qxe5 Nxe5 17.Nc7+ [17.f4 0–0–0µ
17...Ke7 18.Nxa8 Bxg2! 19.Rhg1 Bxa8
Black has only a pawn (a doubled one) for
an exchange, but now Hernandez wants to
take on d4 with further Nf3, and that's se-
rious. 20.Rg7?! Intending Nxe6, but this
idea is refuted at once. [Simple 20.c3? is
bad due to 20...Bxd4 21.cxd4 Nf3 22.Rg3
Rc8+ 23.Kb1 Be4+! 24.Ka1 Nxd4; 20.Rg3
was the optimal choice, though after 20...f5
21.Re3 Be4! Black has easy play.]
20...Bxd4 21.Rxd4 Ng6 g7 falls in trap –
Kf8–g7 is on agenda. 22.h4 Bf3! [Two
goals at the same time – preventing h4–h5
and withdrawing bishop from a8 to avoid
22...Kf8 23.Rxh7 Rxh7 24.Rd8+ Kgs

24.Bxe6?! [This sacrifice leads to the end-
game with dubious prospects. Best
chances to save half–point were consisted
in 24.Rc3 Kf8 25.Rxg6 hxg6 26.Rc8+ Kg7
27.Rxh8 Kxh8 28.c4! , and White shows
own trumps, for example: 28...Be2 29.c5]
Bf3 30.a4, and after exchange on b5 white king goes to b4.] 24...Kxe6 25.Re3+ Kf5 26.Rxf7 Nxa4 27.Ra7 Dreaming about passer on "a"-file, but black pawns are gonna be faster. 27...Ng2 28.Ree7 Rbd8 29.b3 Rd1+ 30.Kb2 Bg6! a3 will be attacked. 31.Rxa6 Rd2

32.Rb7? [This is just a waste of time. Was necessary to form passed pawn as soon as possible - 32.a4 bxa4 33.bxa4, and in case of straightforward 33...h5?! White could be OK: 34.a5 h4 35.Ra8 h3 36.a6 Nf4 37.Rh8 Bh5 38.a7 Bf3 39.Re3, achieving draw with bishop chase.] 32...Rx e2 33.Rxb5+ Kg4 Now Kf6 will come ahead. 34.Rc6 f5 35.a4 f4 36.Rb8 [36.a5 Bg6] 36...Ne3 37.a5 Nxc2 38.Kc3 Ne3 Giving no time for a5—a6. 39.Kb4 f3 40.Re6 Nd5+ 41.Kc5 Nf4 42.Rd6 Rc2+ 43.Kb6 f2 One step to promotion. 44.Rd1 Nd5+ 45.Kb7 Rc7+ 46.Ka8 Ne3 47.Rb4+ Kg3 48.Rh1 Rc4! Excellent finish. Kh1 is lost, so Kf2 will be turned to queen. 0-1

[Usually this move is being made after preliminary 12...0-0 13.Re1 – 13...e5 14.b4 Qa4, Rad1, and White has enough compensation. But now there is an additional possibility for White, and Holzke uses it.] 13.Nxe5! This is the first piece’s sacrifice. Now comes another one. 13...fxe5 14.Bh5+ g6 15.Re1 Qh4 [15...Qxc4 16.Rxe5 Be6 17.Be2++] 16.Rxe5 [As promised, but such feeling, that 16.Bf3! even stronger: 16...0-0 17.Rxe5 Nc5 18.g3! Qf6 19.Re3, Goloschapov–Halasz, Austria 2001, and now Black can easily resign because of 19...Qg5 20.Qd4 Ne6 21.Rxe6++] 16...gxh5 17.Qf3!? N

(02) Holzke,F (2497) - Brkic,A (2598)
[D31]
Biel MTO Open Biel SUI (5), 21.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
[Interesting novelty. 17.Qd6 Bd7 18.Rd1 met before, and now 18...0-0! 19.g3 Qf6 guarantees a draw: 20.Rxe7 (20.Qxf6 Rxf6 21.Rxe7 Bg4!) 20...Qxf2+ 21.Kh1 Qf3+ ; maybe, Brkic figured on this line, but...] 17...Bg4? [White’s innovation could be parried by 17...Bd7! 18.Re4 (18.g3 Rf8; 18.Rxh5 Qxc4 19.Bxh8 Bg4) , and only now 18...Bg4 (18...Rf8 19.Qxf6+ Kxf6 20.Rxh4 Be8) with possible repetition by means of 19.Rxe7+ Qxe7 20.Qxc6+ Kf7 21.Re1 Be2 22.Qd5+ Kg6 23.Qc6+]

18.Qxc6+ Kf7 19.Qh6! Very strong move, which probably was underestimated by Black. 19...Ng8 [19...Ng6 20.Rg5 Rg8 21.f4! , and queen h4 will be lost.] 20.Rf5+! [White does the right thing, continuing to attack. Materialistic 20.Qf4+?! Qf6 21.Re7+ Kxe7 22.Qe4+ Kf7 23.Qxa8 is met by 23...Ne7!? 20.Qe3!? was also powerful.] 20...Bxf5 21.Qg7+ Ke8 22.Re1+ Be4 23.Qxh8 Now after check by queen (or f2–f3) bishop e4 will be doomed, and Re1 connects to the game. 23...Nc5?! [198...Kd7 24.Qd4+ Kc8 25.Rxe4 Qd8 , though after 26.Qe5 Whites grabs pawns "h".] 24.Qxg8+ Kd7 25.Qf7+ Black is losing more material. 25...Kd6 [25...Qe7 26.Qxe7+ Kxe7 27.f3+-] 26.Rd1+ Nd3

[26...Kc6 27.Be5+-] 27.Rxd3+! Bxd3 28.Bb4+ Kc6 [28...Ke5 29.f4+! Qxf4 (29...Kd4 30.Qd5+ Ke3 31.Qf3+ Kd4 32.Bc3+) 30.Bd6+] 29.Qd5+ Kc7 30.Bd6+ Kc8 31.Qxa8+ Kd7 32.Qxa7+ Ke6 [32...Kxd6 33.Qa3+! 33.Qxb6 Three pawns up, so even opposite-coloured bishops don't help. 33...Qxc4 34.h3 h4 35.b3 Qe4 36.f3 Qe1+ 37.Kf2 Qd2 38.d4+ Ke6 39.Qb6 Kd5 40.Bf4 Qe7 Realizing, that time control is passed, Black surrendered. 1–0]

(03) Hector,J (2568) - Grandelius,N (2542) [C50]
ch–SWE Master Elite Vasteras SWE (8), 23.07.2011

[IM Polivanov,A]

7...a5 8.Bg5 [8.a4?! Be6! , and white bishop has to abandon a diagonal a2–g8: 9.Bc2 (9.Nbd2 Nh5!)] 8...dxe4 9.dxe4 a4 10.Bc4 h6 11.Bh4


23...Qb3? [Black wanted to prevent white king's castle, but missed Hector's reply. Actually, White's castling is even favorable, for example: 23...Rd6 24.0-0-0 Rfd8 25.Bb1 (otherwise Qa2) 25...Bxa3! 26.bxa3 Qb3 27.Rxd6 Qxc3+ 28.Qc2 Qxa3+ – three pawn for a piece is too much here.] 24.Bb1! Now queen has to step back. 24...Qe6 25.Ba2! To the native diagonal. 25...Qe7 26.Rd1 Kh8 27.h4! Yet another strong move – White threatens by g5 or h5. 27...Rd6?! [Worth to try 27...f6 28.h5 (28.g5?) 28...Rxd1+ 29.Kxd1 Rfd8+ 30.Kc2 Nf8 , although White is more perspective already; 27...Rxd1+ 28.Kxd1 Bxa3 is not enough – 29.bxa3 Qxa3 30.Qc2 , and king is escaping to e2.] 28.h5 Rxd1+ 29.Kxd1 Qd6+ 30.Qd2! Very reasonable decision – bewaring of sacrifice on a3, Hector has decided to fix his edge in the endgame. 30...Ne7 31.Qxd6 Bxd6 32.g5 [32.Nh4 f6 33.g5! , aiming to seal black king after g5–g6, looks effective: 33...hxg5? 34.Ng6+ Nxg6 35.hxg6 with mate.] 32...Ng8 33.Ke2 hxg5 34.Nxg5 Nh6
Black is looking for salvation in opposite-coloured bishops’ ending. 35.Nxf7+?! [White keeps the rooks, but full exchange would make a victory closer: 35.Rxf7! Nxf7 36.Nxf7+ Rxf7 37.Bxf7 c5 38.Be8 b4 39.Kd3++, and Black’s defence will be stretched by two passed pawns; besides, 35.Rd1!? was simple and good.] 35...Nxf7 36.Bxf7 c5 37.Rd1 Be7 38.Bg6Bg5 intending to attack white ∆. 39.Rd5 Bc1 40.Rxe5 To make a passer along "e"-file. 40...Bxb2 41.Rxc5 Rb8 42.e5 Bxa3 43.Rc7 b4

44.cxb4?! [White hasn’t calculated properly a variation 44.e6 b3 45.e7 Bxe7 46.Rxe7 a3 47.Ra7 a2 – black pawns are stopped, 48.c4++] 44...Bxb4 45.Ra7 a3 Now win-

56.g4! [56.Kxg7? would lead to the simple draw after 56...Rg5+ 57.Kh6 Rg8; now White is going to bring ∆ to g5, and finish off ∆g7 after that.] 56...Ra7 57.Re3+ Kd6 58.Re8 Ra4 59.g5 [59.Kg5?? Ra6! 60.Rg8 Ke7!=] 59...Ra5 60.Re1 [60.Rg8 wins faster than anything else: 60...Ke7 61.Rxg7+ Kf8 62.Kh7!=++] 60...Rb5 61.Rg1 Rb7 62.Kh7 Ke6 63.Kg6? [63.g6? Kf6 64.Rf1+ Kg5 65.Rf7 Rb6 66.Rxg7 Kh5!=] 63...Ra7 64.Re1+ Kd6 65.Kh7 Rb7 66.g6 Ra7 67.Re8 Rb7 68.Rg8 Pawn g7 falls finally. 68...Rb2 69.Kxg7 Ke6 70.Rf8 Rg2 71.Rf1 Re2 72.Kh7 Ke7 73.Rf4 [№8.Rh1] 73...Re1 74.Rh4 1-0
(04) Svidler,P (2739) - Postny,E (2618) [B12]
8th World Teams Ningbo CHN (8),
25.07.2011

[IM Polivanov,A]
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2
c5 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Nc3 Nc6 [7...Qxb2 8.Qb1
Qxb1+ 9.Rxb1 - Inarkiev–Eljanov, CZM
06/2010] 8.0-0 Qxb2 [This line is very
dangerous, but 8...c4 isn't resort too –
even stronger) , and 9...dxc4? virtually los-
es: (only 9...Qxb2 10.Nb5 is suitable here)
10.d5 Qxb2 11.dxc6 bxc6 12.Qd4 Bb4
13.Rfd1! Qxc3 14.Qd7+ Kf8 15.Qb7 Re8
9.Qe1 cxd4 [9...c4 10.Rb1 Qxc2 11.Bd1
Qxb1 (11...Qd3? 12.Ba4 Rc8 13.Rxb7 1-0,
Smirin–Popov, Peterburg 2010) 12.Nxb1
Bxb1 13.Ba4 Bd3 14.Qa5! , and after
14...Bxf1 15.Qc7 queen brings destruct-
ion.] 10.Bxd4 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Bb4

Tukhaev, CZM 11/2010, hasn't found a lot
of support – as it turned out, after 12...Ba5!
13.Rb1 Qxc2 14.Rb3 Ne7 White should
17.Nd6 Ba5 18.Bb7 1/2, Smirnov–Maletin,
RUS Cup final 2010.] 12...Bxc3 [In above-
named game mentioned 12...Qxc3
16.Nxf5 exf5 , but as we'll see, it's the
same.] 13.Rxb2 Bxe1 14.Rxe1 b6 [14...0-
0-0 15.Reb1 b6 16.Nc6+-] 15.Bb5+ Kf8

16.Nxf5 exf5 17.Rb3! Quite direct ap-
proach – white ⚔ wants to the 7th rank.
17...Ne7 18.Rc3 Rc8N [Attempt to improve
Black's play, because in the following
game one couldn't do almost nothing:
18...a6 19.Bd7 g6 (19...Ra7 20.Bxf5)
Rb6 24.Rc3 h5 25.Bc8 Rh7 26.Rcc7 f4
27.Ra8 1–0, Gashimov–Ivanchuk, Regio
Emilia 2011; so, Postny decided, that an
exchange a couple of rooks will ease a de-
[Svidler does right, declining an immediate
21.c4 : 21...Ng6 22.cxd5 Ke7! (22...Nxe5
23.Re1 f6 24.f4+-) 23.d6+ Ke6 , and Δe5
deprived of any help.] 21...g5 [21...f6
22.exf6 gxf6 23.dxe5 Ng6 (23...dxe5 24.Rd8+
Kg7 25.Rd7 Kg8 26.Bxc4+)–] 24.exd5 Ke7
25.d6+ Ke6 26.g3+- feel the difference
with previous annotation.] 22.fxg5

22...h6 [Apparently, Black couldn't pick one
from rook endings, so he decided to post-
pone a choice; 22...Kg7 23.c4 dxc4 (as
well as 23...Rc8 24.cxd5 Rc5! 25.d6 Rxb5
26.dxe7 Rxe5 27.Rd7 Kg6 28.Rxa7 Kg5) 24.Rd7
27.Bxc2 Rxc2 28.Rxa7 – both situations
have quite equal, good chances for salv-
ation.] 23.c4 hxg5? [But that's a mistake
(maybe, even decisive). Only 23...dxc4
24.Rd8+ Kg7 25.Rd7 c3 (the same trick)
26.Rxe7 Rc8 27.Bd3 (27.gxh6+? Kf8+) 27...c2
28.Bxc2 Rxc2 29.gxh6+ Kxh6
30.Rxa7 Kg5 – evalution is the same, as in
24. cxd5 Two such pawns - is a terrible force. 24... Ng6 25. Rf1 [25. d6 was possible right away, but Svidler evokes f5-f4 move - maybe, to avoid jumps like Nf4.] 25... f4 26. d6 Kg7 [26...Nxe5 27. Rc1 Kg7 28. d7 a6 29. Rc8+--] 27. Re1 Nf8 Knight is transferring to the better position. But bishop is doing the same thing. 28. Bd3! Ne6 29. Bf5 Nd4 30. Bg4 Re8 31. Kg7 [26...Nxe5 27. Rc1 Kg7 28. d7 a6 29. Rd8 a5 30. Bc6! a4 31. h4! Rxe5 32. fx6! Nxe6 33. Rh6 Nf4 34. Bxe6 Nxe6 35. Rxe6+ Kf7 36. Rh6+ Kg7 37. Bg4] 32. Rc1 Ne3 33. Bf3 b5 34. Bc6 Rd8 36. e6! Nxe6 37. Rd7 So, this Qb6 system in a crisis... 1-0

(05) Bachmann,Ax (2550) - Tristan,L (2450) [A89]
II Grafica Yael GM Torre Blanca ARG (3), 25.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
1. Nf3 d6 [If Black wants to play Dutch, one can apply this order of moves to avoid any gambit like 1...f5 2.e4!? fxe4 3.Ng5] 2. d4 f5 3. g3 Nf6 4. Bg2 g6 5. 0-0 Bg7 6. c4 0-0 7. Nc3 Nc6 8. d5 Na5 [Another continuation


[This is more aggressive, than 12. dxc6 Nxc6 13. b4 h6 (13... Nxb4? 14. Bd2) 14. Qd5+ Kg7 15. Ne6+ Bxe6 16. Qxe6 Bf6, and White's compensation is not enough.]
12...f4?!N Quite strange novelty. Giving away such pawn out of the blue... [But Black's idea appears more clear after examining the following lines: 12...fxe4 13.Nh4! Bf6 14.Bxe4 Bxg5\footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}} (14...e5 leads to disaster after 15.Nxh7! Bxh4 16.Nxf8 Qxf8 17.gxh4 Bf5 18.f3+) , Piorun-Malaniuk, Poland 2010) 15.Bxg5 Rf7 16.Re1\footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}} with such plan – Bh6, Qd3 and sacrifice on g6; 12...Bf6 13.exf5 (13.Nh4?) 13...Bxf5 14.Nh4 e5 15.dxe6 Qe7 16.Nxf5 Rxf5 , Brodsky-Caspi, Hoogeveen 2009, and 17.Nf7! guarantees an edge; 12...Bf6 wins a tempo in comparison with 12...fxe4: 13.exf5 (13.Nh4? e5) 13...Bxf5 14.Nh4 Bd7 15.Be4 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 , but still there is no time for counterplay like 16...b5? – 17.Bxg6! hxg6 18.Nxg6 Rf7 19.Re1+-; So, 12...f4 is designed to prevent white bishop's transfer to e4.] 13.Bxf4 Bg7 14.e5 h6?

\[17...Bh6 loses after 18.Ne4! Rxf4 19.Qxg6+ Bh7 20.gxf4 Qf8 21.f5 , and rook just aims to h3. So, Black wants that bishop will be protected at h6; 17...Rxf7 can be depriving of last defender. 22...Nd8 23.Nxd8 [23.g5? Nxf7 24.gxf6 Bxf6 25.exf7+ Qxf7\footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}}] 23...Qxd8 24.g5 Rxe6 [Equally matched to capitulation, but what else? 24...Rf5 25.Bxf5 gxf5 26.g6 Qf8 27.Qh7 and Bh6+-] 25.dxe6 Bxe6 26.Bxe6 Qd7 27.Re1 \footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}} goes to f4, and that's the end of story. 27...Rb8 28.Re4 1-0\]

17.Qg4 Qf8

[17...Bh6 loses after 18.Ne4! Rxf4 19.Qxg6+ Bh7 20.gxf4 Qf8 21.f5 , and rook just aims to h3. So, Black wants that bishop will be protected at h6; 17...Rxf7 can be deprived of last defender. 22...Nd8 23.Nxd8 [23.g5? Nxf7 24.gxf6 Bxf6 25.exf7+ Qxf7\footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}}] 23...Qxd8 24.g5 Rxe6 [Equally matched to capitulation, but what else? 24...Rf5 25.Bxf5 gxf5 26.g6 Qf8 27.Qh7 and Bh6+-] 25.dxe6 Bxe6 26.Bxe6 Qd7 27.Re1 \footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}} goes to f4, and that's the end of story. 27...Rb8 28.Re4 1-0]

\[No4...dxe5 15.Bxe5 h6 16.Ne4 b6 , and a5 has some chances to come back in the game.] 15.e6!! Brilliant decision. Now Bachmann is gonna attack without a rook, but the whole Black's queenside is cut off instead. [Apparently, Black hoped only for 15.Ne4 g5] 15...hxg5 16.Nxg5 Now Qg4–h4 is on agenda. 16...Rf6 [16...Rxf4 17.gxf4 Qf8 18.Nf7 Bd4 appears to be a decent try, but 19.Kh1! leaves no chance, for example: 19...Qg7 20.Be4 Kf8 21.Rg1 Bxf2 22.Rxg6 Qd4 23.Bd3++; 16...Bd4 17.Be4 Kg7 doesn't save too – 18.Bxg6!++]

[17...Bh6 loses after 18.Ne4! Rxf4 19.Qxg6+ Bh7 20.gxf4 Qf8 21.f5 , and rook just aims to h3. So, Black wants that bishop will be protected at h6; 17...Rxf7 can be deprived of last defender. 22...Nd8 23.Nxd8 [23.g5? Nxf7 24.gxf6 Bxf6 25.exf7+ Qxf7\footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}}] 23...Qxd8 24.g5 Rxe6 [Equally matched to capitulation, but what else? 24...Rf5 25.Bxf5 gxf5 26.g6 Qf8 27.Qh7 and Bh6+-] 25.dxe6 Bxe6 26.Bxe6 Qd7 27.Re1 \footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}} goes to f4, and that's the end of story. 27...Rb8 28.Re4 1-0]

(06) Yu,Yangyi (2672) - Balogh, Csaba (2643) [D10]
8th World Teams Ningbo CHN (9), 26.07.2011
[IM Polivanov, A]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 dxc4 4.e3 b5 [\footnote{\cite{PiorunMalaniuk}} can be defended differently: 4...Be6!? 5.Nge2 (5.Nf3 is the main choice here) 5...b5 6.Nf4 Bc8 7.a4 , and after 7...e5! Black has good chances to equalize the game.] 5.a4 b4 6.Ne4 Qd5 7.Ng3 Nf6
8.Be2

With firm intention to conduct e3–e4. 8...Ba6 [8...h5 9.e4 Nxe4 10.Bf3 Bf5!? mentioned in Shabalov–Lenderman, CZM 12/2010 – but maybe this pin is not very dangerous, so some useful move can be made instead 8...h5?] 9.e4 Nxe4!N [That's it. After 9...Qa5 10.Nf3 e6 11.Ne5 White is clearly better.] 10.Bf3 f5 Now White is without two pawns, so he has to hurry with compensation. 11.N1e2 Heading to f4 and preventing unpleasant c4–c3. 11...g6 [11...c3 12.bxc3 bxc3 13.Qc2±] 12.Nf4 Qf7 13.Nxe4 fxe4 14.Bg4! [14.Bxe4 Bg7 , and Black is gonna castle with clear conscience. But now Ne6 is threatening.] 14...h5 15.B6e [15.Bh3? g5 16.Ne6 g4+?] 15...Qf6 16.Bh3 c3?! Looks like the most reasonable decision – White king is also delayed at center. But that's a mistake. [16...Bh6? fails too: 17.Ne6 e3 18.0-0!+– (not 18.fxe3?? Qh4+ 19.Kd2 Qf2+ 20.Qe2 c3+) ; 16...g5! is the best – 17.Nxh5 Qg6 18.Bg4 (18.Ng3 allows exchange's sacrifice on h3) 18...Nd7 19.Ng3 0-0-0 20.Qd2!+ with complicated play.] 17.Ne6 [17...cxb2 , and there is no Ne6 anymore.] 17...cxb2

18.Bxb2?! [18.Bg5!! , playing in old master's spirit, makes life hard for Black: 18...bxa1Q 19.Qxa1 Qf7 20.d5! (connecting queen a1) 20...Bc8 21.Qe5! , and White's attack seems decisive – 21...Bxe6 (21...Na6 22.dxc6+) – 22.Bxe6 Qg7 23.Qc7 Qa1+ 24.Ke2 with mate. But of course, it's difficult to foreseen all this at 18th move.] 18...e3! The only counterstrike at Black's disposal. 19.Qf3 [19.fxe3?! Qh4+ 20.Kd2 Qf2+ 21.Kc1 Qxe3+ 22.Qd2 Qxe6! 23.Bxe6 Bh6†] 19...g5! Disturbing the bishop h3 with g5–g4. 20.Nc7+ Kd8 21.Ne6+ [21.Nxa8 g4] 21...Ke8 22.Bf5?! Apparently, Yangyi didn't want to give up with white pieces so quickly (especially in the team tournament). But most likely perpetual check was the best option. 22...Bc8! 23.Nc7+ [If 23.fxe3 Bxe6 24.Bxe6 Qxe6 25.d5 , then 25...cxd5 26.Bxb8 g4 27.Qe2 Bh6 28.Bd4 Nc6 , and Black develops.] 23...Kd8 24.Nxa8 Qxf5 [Black could include 24...exf2+ 25.Qxf2 , but Balogh has something else in mind.] 25.Qxe3 Qd5! That's the key move – queen block any breaks like d4–d5, so Black can easily be engaged in c8a8’s taking. 26.Rc1 White wants to push queen away after Rc5, even by cost of sacrifice. 26...e6 [26...Qxg2 27.Qe5 Na6l 28.Rf1 Rh6 also was strong.] 27.Rc5 Bxc5 28.dxc5 Rf8 King d8 is in full view, but White hasn't enough recourses already to attack him. 29.0-0 Ba6 Ready for Kc8–b7–a8 route. 30.Qg3
30...Rf4!? [At first glance this move appears as mistake: why not 30...e5 31.Qxg5+ Kc8 32.Qe7 Nd7+? But Balogh considers everything.] 31.Bf6+ Kc8 32.Nc7 Seems to be a game changer. But... 32.Bxg5 Rf7 32...Kxc7 33.Bxg5 Bxf1 34.Bxf4+ Kb7 35.f3 [As it turned out, ending after 35.Bxb8 Qxg2+ 36.Qxg2 Bxg2 37.Be5 Bf3 with further Ka6–a5–a4 is hopeless.] 35...Bc4 36.Qg7+ [36.Bxb8 Qd7 37.Qh8 Na6 38.Bd6 Nxc5! 39.Qb6+ [39.Bxc5 Qd1+ 40.Kf2 Qd4+ 36.Qf2 Qd1+] 36...Qd7 37.Qh8 Na6 38.Qxb6 Nxc5 39.Qa7+ [39.Kb1 b6 40.Nc6 Bxb7 41.Bxb7 Nc5 42.Qa5 a6 43.Qb5 Qd1+] 36.Qg7+ Na6 38.Bd6 Nxc5! 39.Qb4+ Kc8 40.Qf2 Qd5+ 41.Kg3 Qg5+ 42.Qc6 a6 43.Rf1 Nxc5 44.Qxc5 Qd4+ 45.Kh1 e6 46.Qe4 Nxc5 47.Qe1 Re8! 48.Qxe5 Rxe5 49.Bxd5 Rd8 50.Bf4 Rd7 51.Ba4 Rb8 and Black has won the rook endgame,

(07) Vachier Lagrave,M (2722) - Pelletier,Y (2590) [C10]
Biel ACCENTUS GM Biel SUI (8), 27.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.g3!? Curious continuation, directed against fianchetto of bishop c8. Mikhail Botvinnik applied this system one of the first - against Guimard in 1946. 5...Be7 6.Bg2 Ng6 7.Nxf6+ [Two days before, in the game Carlsen–Pelletier was 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Nf3 Nf5 9.Qd3 Na4 10.Qd2! c5 11.0-0 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nb6 13.a3 e5! 14.axb4 exd4

attack $\Delta a5$. 17...c6 [17...h6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Re5 Ra7 20.Rae1 with idea Rc5 and Ree5 has no prospects for Black, so Pelletier transfers his rook to d5.] 18.Re5 Rd7 19.c3 bxc3 20.bxc3 Rd5 21.Rae1 h6 [It's hard to manage without this move. 21...Qd7 22.Bxf6 gxf6 23.Rxe4, and major pieces aims to "h"-file.] 22.Bxf6 gxf6?

[22...Qxf6 23.Qa6 leads to material loss, but after 23...Rxe5 (23...c5?! 24.Rxd5 exd5 25.Qxf6 gxf6 26.dxc5 Rc8 27.Rb1! Rxc5 28.Rb5 Rxc3 29.Rxd5 , and this endgame is lost) 24.dxe5 Qd8 25.Qxc6 Qc8! 26.Qf3 Qc7 $\Delta c3$ is rather weakness, than strength.] 23.Rxe6!! [Black expected 23.R5e4 f5 24.Rh4 Qf6] 23...fxe6 24.Qg6+ Kh8 25.Qxh6+ Kg8 26.Qg6+ Kh7 27.Re4! f5 28.Qh6+ [28.Rh4+?? Qxh4 29.gxh4 Rh8] 28...Kg8 29.Rxe6 Of course, White eagers more, than perpetual check. Now a mate is threatening after Rh6, Rg7 and Qe6. 29...Rd7 30.Qg6+ Kf7 31.Rxe6? [White has missed 31.Qh5! , and there is no defence from Rh6 with mate: 31...Ke7 (31...Ke8 32.Re6#) 32.Qe2+! Kf7 33.Qe6#] 31...Ke8 Black king hides, but position remains dangerous. 32.d5 Re7 33...c4 [33.d6 Re1+ 34.Kg2 Qa8!, and White should force draw - 35.d7+ Kxd7 36.Qd6+ Ke8 37.Qg6+] 33...f4! Reminding, that king g1 also can have some troubles. Now f4–f3 is menacing. 34.Qh5+ Rf7 35.Kg2 Going to h3, but this is not the safest place. 35...f3+ [35...Qb8!? was also good.] 36.Kh3

36...Qd7+? [36...Kd7! suggests itself, and White hardly has anything better, than 37.Qg4+ Ke8 38.Qh5 (38.Qg6+ Rf8 39.Qf6+ Rf7 40.g4 Kf8?? 38...Kd7 with repetition – 39.Rh6?! isn't good due to 39...Qf8! , intending to take on h6.] 37.g4 Now king has time to reach square g3. 37...Kd8 38.Qg5 Rg7 39.Qf4 Ke8 40.Kg3 Qb7?! Loses practically at once, but it's difficult to advice a reasonable alternative. 41.Qf5! Rc7 [41...Kd8 42.c5+-] 42.Rh7 Rh7 43.Re6+[Black resigned because of 43.Re6+ Rhe7 (43...Rxe7 44.Qh7) 44.d6] 1-0

(08) Fier,A (2566) - Georgiev,VI (2559) [C78]
Open NK Dieren NED (9), 28.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
12...Re8 The most logical reply – White is forced to determine in center. [Another, more dynamic continuation – 12...exd4 13.cxd4 Nb4 14.Qb1 c5 15.a3 Nc6, and so on.] 13.d5 [13.Qb1 Nb8! 14.Bc2 Nbd7 15.a4 d5=} 13...Ne7 14.Bxb6 cxb6 15.Bc2 White’s plan lies in a2–a4, but at first Fier wants to put own bishop on d3. 15...Ng6 16.Bd3 Otherwise going to c5 and preparing f7–f5 breakup simultaneously. 17.Bf1 [17.b4 Rc8 18.Rc1 f5! 19.exf5 Nf4 20.Ne4 Nb6 21.Nxf6+ Qxf6 22.Be4 Qf7=] 17...Rc8 18.a4 bx a4 19.Qxa4!N [This is stronger than 19.Rxa4 b5 20.Ra3 Rf8 21.Nh2 f5 22.exf5 Ne7 23.c4 Nxf5 24.Ng4 , Zontakh–Vujosevic, Nis 1995, and after 24...Nb6! 25.b3 Black would have been a little bit better (Ea3 can’t transfer at the kingside).] 19...b5 20.Qa3 Nb6 [20...Nc5? 21.c4±] 21.Nb3 White is planning Na5–c6 strike, and if so, that pawns a6 and b5 will be doomed. So Black has to undertake something. 21...f5! No time to hesitate – Black blowing a center in order to stir up a bishop b7. 22.Na5 Ba8 23.exf5?! [Fier wrongly rejects contemplated 23.Nc6 – 23...Bxc6 24.dxc6 fxe4 25.Rxe4 d5 26.Rg4 Re6 27.Qb4 (27.Qxa6? Ra8) 27...Ra8 , and White should make a sacrifice 28.Rxg6! Rxg6 29.Nxe5 Re6 30.Qd4= with full compensation.] 23...Nf4 24.Nd2 [Now 24.Nc6 is deprived of such power as before: 24...Qd7 25.Qxa6 Nbxd5 26.Na7 Nc7 27.Qa3 Qxf5! (27...Rb8?! 28.Nh4+) 28.Nxc8 Nxe3 29.Qxe3 Qh3+ , and Black has a draw at least, for example – 30.Qc6 Ng5+ 31.Kg3 Bxf3 32.Qxc7 Qg4+ 33.Kh2 Qh4+ 34.Kg1 Nh3+! 35.gxh3 Qg5+=] 24...Bxd5 25.Ne4 In view of 26,Nf6, Georgiev has to part with bishop. 25...Bxe4 26.Rxe4 Qd6! But Black doesn’t morn it, because there is a new goal – 27.f5. 27.Re3 [27.Re1 Qxf5 28.Qxd6 Re6 29.Qd2] 27...Rf8!? [27...Qxf5?! meets 28.Nb5! Nc4 29.Qxd6 – by the way, without 26,Nf6 would have come.] 28.g3 Nfd5 29.Re2 Qxf5! [29...Rxf5 30.Bg2 , and black pieces are somewhat misplaced.] 30.Qxd6 [30.Bg2 Qd3!] 30...e4 Ready for e4–e3 ramming. 31.Bg2 Rcd8?! [31...Rf6! was more correct: 32.Qa3 e3 33.fxe3 Nxe3, and if 34.Nc6 , then 34...Kh7! 35.Ne7?! Qd3 36.Rae1 Nqx2 37.Rxg2 Nc4 38.Qa1 Re8+ 32.Qa3? [Why not 32.Qc6! , and Black almost forced to make draw: 32...Rf6 (what else?) 33.Qb7 Rf7 34.Qc6=] 32...e3 33.f4 [33.fxe3 Nxe3 34.Qc6 fails again: 34...Qd3 35.Rae1 Nxg2 36.Rxg2 Nc4+!] 33...Qg6 34.Kh2 h5! 35.h4
(09) Kononenko,Dmitry (2593) - Stefansson,Hannes (2546) [B82]
CZECH OPEN 2011 Pardubice (CZE) (9.1), 30.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
8.Ndb5 Qa5 9.e5 has come in fashion recently – usually White obtain here an ac-

tive position with two bishops.] 8.Qf3 The most aggressive approach – long castle
and pawn assault. 8...a6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.g4 Nxd4 [After 10...0-0 11.g5 Nd7
12.Rg1 b5 White can attack in many different ways – for example, 13.f5!? Nde5

tvious reply, though 11.Rxd4!? is also possible: 11...e5 12.Rc4 Bxg4 13.Qg3 Qd7
swap at d4 would be pointless. 12.fxe5 dxe5 13.Qg3 Bd6 14.Be3 Be6 [Taking
14...Bxg4 practically loses because of 15.h3! – 15...Bxd1 16.Qxg7 Rg8 17.Qxf6
Bh5 18.Nb5++; maybe, worth to choose 14...0-0 , while there is such opportunity,
but 15.Bg5! (only not 15.g5 Nh5 16.Qh4 Nf4) 15...Be7 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.g5 Bd8
18.Nd5 Qc6 19.Bd3 guarantees a stable edge – White is going to push pawns "h"
and "g", whereas it's hard to see any countergame for Black.] 15.Bb5+

15...Ke7?! It's naturally, that Stefansson wanted to connect h8, but king is situated
very poor at e7. [15...Nd7 16.Nd5 Bxd5 17.Bxd7+ Qxd7 18.Rxd5++; perhaps, only
15...Kf8! 16.Ba4 (16.Be2 Rc8") 16...Qxf4+ [40...Qxf4+ 41.Kg1
Qf2++; 42.Rxf2 exf2+ 43.Kf1 fxe1Q 44.Kxe1 Rxd2 with quick mate.] 0-1

[Variation 35.Nb7 h4! also can't be satis-
factory: 36.Nxd8 hxg3+ 37.Kh1 Rxd8++; 37...Nxf4 , and if 38.Qa2+ (38.Rxe3 Nc4) , Black wins after 38...Nc4
39.b3 Qh5! 40.Rae1 Nxd2 41.Rxd2 Rf2
42.Re2 Nd2-+] 35...Qg4! 36.Rae1 Nxf4!
Very nice finishing blow – Georgiev uses
strength of €e3. 37.gxf4 Rd2 38.Qb3+
Kh8 [38...Kh7? 39.c4 Rxe2 40.Qd3+]
39.Nc6 Nc4!? [There was nothing wrong
with 39...Rxe2 40.Rxe2 Qxe2 41.Ne5 Rf6
too.] 40.Nd4 Qxf4+ [40...Qxf4+ 41.Kg1
Qf2++; 42.Rxf2 exf2+ 43.Kf1 fxe1Q+
44.Kxe1 Rxd2 with quick mate.] 0-1

15...Ke7?! It's naturally, that Stefansson wanted to connect h8, but king is situated
very poor at e7. [15...Nd7 16.Nd5 Bxd5 17.Bxd7+ Qxd7 18.Rxd5++; perhaps, only
15...Kf8! 16.Ba4 (16.Be2 Rc8") 16...Nxd4 is the only reasonably option – if suffering,
than at least with pawn in a pocket.] 16.Ba4 b5N [In Kinlan–Mestel, London
1978 16...Qa5?! applied, and 17.Bg5! would lead to a winning position (instead of
occurrence 17.Kb1?! Rhc8) , as 17...Rhc8
is late due to 18.Bxf6+ gxf6 19.g5++;
16...Nxd4 failed as well: 17.Rxd6! Qxd6
(17...Kxd6 18.Rd1+ Ke7 19.Nd5+ Bxd5
20.Qxg4++) 18.Rd1 Qb4 19.a3 Qa5
20.b4++] 17.Bb3 Rac8? [There is nothing else, but 17...b4 18.Nd5+ Nxd5 19.exd5
Bd7 with defendable position.] 18.Bg5!
Now White conducts Nd5 in improved con-
ditions. Besides, point f6 will be easy tar-
get. Black's situation is despairing. 18...b4
22.Rf1! ♫f6 is very difficult to protect.
22...Qb6

[22...Rhg8 23.Qf3 Rg6 24.h4+–] 23.Qh4!
Now black queen is carried away to the
kingside, whereas white queen will pene-
trate the opposite flank. 23...Qe3+
[23...Bc7 24.Rxf6 Qxf6 25.Rd7+] 24.Kb1
Qg5 25.Qf2 Rhd8 [25...Rc7 26.Rxd6 Kxd6
27.Qb6+ Kd7 28.Rd1+ Kc8 29.Bc4!+] 26.h4 Qg6 27.h5 Qg5 28.Qa7+ Rd7
29.Qxa6 Rcc7 30.Ba4! The most exact
way to achieve the victory. 30...Ra7
[30...Rd8 31.Qb6! Rcc8 32.Rfd1 Qxg4
33.c3++ (33.Rxd6?! Qxd1+) ] 31.Qc6
Qxg4 32.Rxd6! [32.Rxd6 Rxa4 33.Rd5 ;
thus Kononenko wins this game and the
whole event in overall. This game is an ex-
cellent example of opening preparation im-
portance in modern chess – Stefansson
lost almost without a fight...] 1–0

(10) Kramnik,Vladimir (2781) - Nakamura,Hikaru (2770) [E97]
39th GM Dortmund GER (10), 31.07.2011
[IM Polivanov,A]
This game has a special intrigue. Kramnik
already secured first place at that moment,
but victory against Nakamura would have
allowed to reach 2800+ level again! 1.d4
Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0
6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4 Nh5
[9...a5 – Iturrizaga-Mamedov, CZM
04/2009; 9...Ne8 – Atalik–Ganguly, CZM
09/2010.] 10.c5 Nf4

11.a4!? [Quite rare system. Usually ap-
plicated 11.Bxf4 exf4 12.Rc1 with further Nd4;
or 11.Nd2 f5 12.f3 , keeping the pawn cen-
ter; or at least 11.Bc4 , though in this game
it will be the same.] 11...f5 ♫d5 is shaking.
12.Bc4 fxe4 13.Nxe4 h6 14.Re1N Per-
haps, this is prevention to Bf5 – but Naka-
mura has different plans for his bishop.
[Earlier met 14.g3 Nh5 15.Nfd2 Kh8
16.Ra3 a6 (16...dxc5 17.bxc5 Nxd5 18.Rd3
c6 19.Nd6=) 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.b5 Bf5
22.Bb5 Qe7 23.Bc6 Ndf4! 24.gxf4 Nfx4
25.Qe1?! Rac8 and Black won, Bareev–
Amonatov, Dagomys 2008.] 14...Bg4
15.Ra3 g5 16.h3 Bh5 17.Bxf4 ♫xf4 should
be destroyed now, otherwise his colleague
from e7 will help. 17...Rxf4 Of course,
Black is keeping "f"-line open. 18.g3 Rf8
19.a5 Kh8 Useful move – now Black is
able to take dxc5, if there will such need.
20.Kg2 Rb8 21.Qd2
21...b6! Nakamura fights for an initiative. Now 22...bxc5 23.bxc5 dxc5 is threatening, and there is no 24.Nxc5 – Qd6! 22.axb6?! [Maybe, this swap is not the best decision. It’s possible to suggest 22.c6 , and if 22...bxa5 , then 23.b5! with coming Qxa5 and Nfd2.] 22...axb6 23.Nfxb6 [Now 23.c6 is carried by 23...Ra8! , winning file “a”, and Black is clearly better. Maybe, that’s why Kramnik decides to entangle the situation with "s’s sacrifice."] 23...hxg5 24.Qxg5 [24.Nxg5 gives nothing: 24...Bf7 25.Rf3 Kg8 26.Re4 Ng6! 27.Rxf8 Qxf8 28.Qe2 Bh6+] 24...Bg6 [Black has to control square h7 in order to avoid 24...Bf7? 25.Qh4+ Kg8 26.Ng5; by the way, Nakamura has an excellent alternative: 24...Rf5 25.Qh4 Bf6! , and after 26.Nxf6 Ng6 27.Qxh5+ Rxh5 28.Nxh5 Qg5 29.Be2 Qd2 his advantage is tangible.] 25.cxd6 cxd6 26.Ra7 Rc8!? [Good-looking move (with Rc7 idea), but simple 26...Rf7 seems safer. Now, white rook at e7 will by very undesirable guest.] 27.Rxe7 Rxc4 28.f3 Now Rc1 wants to be transferred at 7th rank (through square a1 or c1). [Artful 28.Kg1 Rxb4 29.h4 isn’t enough: 29...b5! (no need to hurry with 29...Rxe4?! 30.Rxe4 Rf7 31.Rx7 Qxg5 32.hxg5 Bx7 33.Bd4) 30.h5 Rxe4 31.Rxe4 Rf7+!] 28...Rc2+?! [Another controversial choice, because 'b4 probably could be taken: 28...Rxb4 , and in case of 29.Ra1 (29.Rc1 – the same) 29...Rxe4! comes: 30.fxe4 Bxe4+ 31.Kg1 Bg6 32.Ra7 Qc8!+] 29.Kg1 Rc8 Black in-
37...Qa6! Queen is going to e2. 38.Qg6 [38.g5 Qe2 39.Ra1 Qb2 40.Rf1 Rc2 41.Qg4 Bg7++] 38...Ke7 39.g5 Bh8 40.Re1 Qa3 Time to gather in the harvest. 41.Nd4 Qxb4 [41...Rc1 wins too, but this way also will do.] 42.Nf5+ Kf8 43.Rd1 [43.Qxd6+ Qxd6 44.Nxd6 Rd8 45.Nxf7 Kxf7 is hopeless.] 43...Rc2 44.Nd4 exd4 45.Qxc2 Qc3 Without queen all ends quickly. 46.Qe4 Qe3+ 47.Qxe3 dxe3 48.Kg2 Bc3 49.Kf1 Rxf3+ 50.Ke2 Rxh3 0–1

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