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White bet on the pieces activity. If black can lossless complete the development, he will receive at least equal chances due to a pair of bishops, strong pawn structure and reliable cover for king. This option last years began to meet in high level tournaments. The most striking loyal to it, American grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura, who three times successfully passed the test by black against the harsh guard examiners in the persons of Sergey Karjakin, Vishy Anand, Peter Leko... 19...Ba3 20.0–0N [Or, for example 20.Nb1 Be7 21.c4 Rb8 22.Nd2 0–0 23.c:d5 e:d5 24.0–0 Bf5 and black gradually equalize the game / Leko, P (2744) – Nakamura, H (2767) / FRA 20.04.2013] 20...0–0 21.f5 [After 21.Nb1 Be7 22.c4 f6 23.Nc3 f:e5 24.f:e5 Rc8 white can win a pawn, but then the position becomes opened and powerful black bishops say its word] 21...Rc8 22.R:c8 Q:c8

Timely exchange black solved all the problems, and the draw is not far off. Thus, the attempt of white tip the scales in his favor failed. 25.Rd1 Bc6 26.Rd4 Rb8 27.Ba7 Ra8 28.Bb6 Rb8 29.Ba7 Ra8 30.Bb6 1/2
(02) Akshat,Khamparia (2354) -
L'Ami,Erwin (2640) [E20]
Open NK Dieren (9), 01.08.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.d5
0-0 6.e4 d6

In theory known option: 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6
3. Nc3 c5 4. d5 ed 5. cd Bd6 , next bishop
follows the route d6–c7–a5 , and only then
walks pawn d7–d6. In this game the similar
position, but black managed to hoist the
bishop on the same diagonal by one move!
Under such conditions it is hardly white can
get the opening advantage. 7.Bd2 Nbd7

which gives them a broad margin for ma-
noeuvre. But if pieces one after another
leave the board – what maneuver? Each
exchange on the black hand. In addition,
the center immediately falls under the
shock. Therefore it was necessary to cap-
ture on d5 by pawn... 9...N:d5 10.c:d5 f5
white pawn doomed] 12...Nc5 13.Be2 f:e4
14.0-0 Qg5 15.Qc1

15...Qe5 [Interesting looked 15...e3 16.g3
Bh3 17.f4 Qf6 18.Q:e3 Rae8 19.Qd2 B:f1
20.B:f1 a5 and here, though white have a
powerful outpost e6, black's position is
preferable due to the presence of opened
e4 19.Nd4 Bd7

Pawn structure defines the strategy. White
has a strong centre and space advantage,
Doubled pawns perfectly complement each other: one is ready to protect the knight, and the other does not give the opponent to disturb the knight. 20.Bc4 Rac8 21.d6+ Kh8 22.Bd5 [In case of 22.a3 a5! 23.a:b4 a:b4 24.Bd5 g6 25.Ra7 Ra8 26.R:a8 R:a8 black hold strong placed knight and has great chances to surround the enemy's passed pawn] 22...b6 23.R:f8+ R:f8 24.Rf1 R:f1+ 25.K:f1 g6


Mass pawn exchanges have not changed the position evaluation. Now two pawns are blocked by white one, but this orphan little time to live. 35.Kd4 Na4 36.Nb7+ Kc6 37.Nd8+ Kd7 38.Nb7 Kc6 39.Nd8+ Kb6 40.Ne6 Nc3

And so entered the executioner's axe. 41.Kd3 N:a2 42.Kc2 Ka5 43.Kb2 Nc3 44.Kb3 Ne4 45.Nf8 Nc5+ 46.Kb2 b3 47.Ka3 b4+ 48.Kb2 Ka4 49.N:h7 Nd3+ 50.Kb1 Ka3 51.Ng5 Nc5 Not waiting for a further Na4–c3, white resigned. 0–1

(03) Brunello, Sabino (2593) - Cheparinov, Ivan (2678) [D85] Politiken Cup Helsingor (9), 03.08.2013 [IM Sitnikov, A]

As often happens in Gruenfeld, black arranged a queen on the side of the board, then cut off his retreat, and now even weaken the cover of king. In previously played games such liberty remained unpunished. Here white provides an important strengthening of the option.


White pawn could only dream of such a career! And soon will join her colleague, by e4–e5 planting second black elephant in a cage. Strategically the battle is won... 17...Q:a2 18.Bd3 Qa4 19.Qc7! c4 [In case of 19...Rf7 20.Qd6 Be7 21.Qg3 Arsenal white is added by the idea of storming h2–h4–h5] 20.Bc2 Qa3 21.e5


26.Q:a5 [Immediately won 26.Qb8 Be7 27.c7 Qa6 28.h3 Kg7 29.Rd1 b5 30.Nd4 material losses inevitable for black] 26...b:a5 27.Nd4 Bc7 28.f4 g5 29.g3 g:f4 30.g:f4

Both in the endgame black die as a result of helplessness of bishops. 30...a4 31.Bb1 Ba5 32.Ba2 B:c3 33.Nb5 Bb2 34.B:c4
Ba6 Like finally found a long-awaited freedom - but too late. 35.Rb1 B:b5 36.B:e6+ Kh8 37.R:b2 B:c6 38.f5

38...a3 39.Rd2 Be4 40.f6 h5 41.Ba2 Bg6 42.Kf2 Kh7 43.Rd7+ Kh6 44.Ra7 Kg5 45.f7 1–0

(04) Negi, Parimarjan (2634) - Brunel, Sabino (2593) [C63]
Politiken Cup Helsingør (10), 04.08.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]

In the previous edition of our magazine we saw the game Kovalev - Oleksienko, where after 6. Qd3 Bb4 black managed to prevent the journey of the white knight on a route b1-c3-d5. Thus, the immediate castling is stronger... 6...Bc5 7.Nc3 d6 8.Bg5 0–0 9.Nd5 Kh8 10.Nh4 Be6 11.B:f6 g:f6 12.Qh5 Rg8 13.Bd3!?N

Here bishop takes more sensible position... 13...Qf8 14.Qf3 Rg5 [The idea of the 13th white move is manifested by option 14...B:d5 15.e:d5 Ne7 16.Nf5 N:f5 17.B:f5 with the fixation of weak fields, and then white can open the game by f2–f4 at the right moment] 15.g3 Nd4 16.Qg2 c6 17.Nc7 Rc8 18.N:e6 N:e6 19.Kh1

The position of white is better, because when emerging actions kingside black may not be enough protective resources - his
bishop only shoots into the void. But how much realistic is this factor – the game will show. 19...Rd8 20.Rad1 Nf4 21.Qf3 Ng6 22.Bc4! The move is good itself because it does not gives black conduct d6–d5, and in addition, it is interesting provocation... 22...N:h4 23.g:h4

Black could not resist the temptation to violate the pawn structure of the opponent, but now when line "g" opened, pinpoint accuracy is required of black... 23...Rg6 24.h5 Rg5 25.h4 Rg7 26.Rg1

26...Rdd7??! Such a play has no salt, no pepper. Needed, through f6–f5, strike up any fight. 27.h6 Rg6 28.h5 Q:h6 29.Q:f6+ Qg7 30.Qf5

8.g4!N Great idea. White extend the scope of action and the opponent already unlikely to do short castling. After move g4–g5 white keeps diagonal h3–c8 and black bishop can not boast of easy life...

Location pawns in the centre almost symmetrically, but white is far ahead of the opponent in development. Here you can remember the loss of time in the opening by moves e7–e6–e5. In addition, white no movement d2–d3, and this gives the opportunity at the right moment to throw a Queen on c4 and b5. At the same time, his black colleague only get in the way of his own pieces... 15...h6 16.g5 Qe7 17.g6?! It is quite logical pawn sacrifice. White do not allow the opening of "h" line and leave the black pieces in the role of extras... 17...f:g6 18.Rc1 Perhaps it is more accurate f2–f4, adding in the asset new open lines. 18...g5?! [After cold–blooded capture 18...Q:h4 19.Be6 Qf4 20.Rh3 Be7 21.Rf3 Qg5 is there something other than moves repetition for white?] 19.h5 Bc8 20.B:c8 R:c8 21.R:c8+ K:c8 22.Rc1+ Kb8 23.Qb5 24.Qc6+ Kb8 25.a5 Ka8 26.Qc4 Be7 27.Ba3 Bf8 28.Bb4 [Another way to victory: 28.a6 Qe8 29.Qc4 Qd7 30.Qc7 Q:c7 31.R:c7 Re8 32.Ba3 Bf8 33.Rd7 Kb8 34.Kc2 and black remains only to stall, and white, with a decisive effect transfers the king to the right flank] 28...b:a5 29.b:a5 Qe8 30.Rc6 Qd7 31.Qc4 Kb8 32.a6 Rc8 33.Ba3 Bf8 34.Ka2 Be7 35.f3 Bf8 36.Bb4 Be7
37.Ba5 The threat Bb6, no good defense... 37...Bd8 38.Qb5+ Ka8 39.R:c8+ Q:c8 40.Qb7+ Q:b7 41.a:b7+ K:b7 42.B:d8 1–0

(06) Naroditsky,Daniel (2503) - Vovk,Andrey (2581) [B31] RTU Open, Riga (7), 09.08.2013 [IM Sinitkov, A]
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0–0 Bg7 5.c3 e5 6.Na3 Nge7 7.Nc4
7...Qc7? This option has never met in the repertoire of the Lviv grandmaster. Queen move is a big mistake because white soon occupy the outpost d6 for a long time... [Theory advises 7...0-0 8.Nd6 Qc7 9.N:c8 Ra:c8 10.d3 d5 with mutual chances] 8.d4! The pieces have taken ideal positions, and burst of thunder soon... 17...b5 18.Bd5 b4 [In case of 18...Bb7 19.Qc5 Ba8 20.Bg5 Bf6 21.f4 d3 22.Rf1 Rc7 23.Rf2 h6 24.B:f6 Q:f6 25.Rc3 a pawn is captured, and when

13...Nc6 14.Qa3 a6 15.Bc4 Ra7 16.Rac1 Qe7 17.Rf1

10.N:d4 e:d4 11.Qf3 And white "all the moves written" ... 11...0-0 12.Bf4 Qd8 13.Nd6...
the material equality white lead strong at-
tack] 19.Qg3 d3 20.e5 Rc7

21...Qe8 22.N:g7 K:g7 23.Q:d3 N:e5
27.Q:c1 Qd8 28.Qh6

There is no way back... 28...d6 29.Qh4+ Kf5 30.g4+ 1-0

(07) Socko,Bartosz (2646) -
Kveinys,Aloyzas (2491) [E32]
RTU Open, Riga (9), 11.08.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0
5.a3 B:c3+ 6.Q:c3 b6 7.Bg5 Bb7 8.e3 d6

9.Ne2 Nbd7 10.Qd3 Qe7 11.Nc3 c5
12.Rd1 Rfd8 13.f3N

20.a4 Bc8 21.0-0 Ne5 22.e4 Ng4 23.Qd2
27.Qe3 Re8 28.Bc4 Ng4 29.Qe2 h5 with
the initiative for black / Flumbort, A (2516)
- Kveinys, A (2544) / Bundesliga 2007]
13...h6 14.Bh4 Nf8 15.Be2 Ng6 16.B:f6
Q:h6 17.0-0 d5

The position is equalized, and further de-
pend on the art of maneuvering by both
sides. 18.c:d5 e:d5 19.Rfe1 Rac8 20.Qd2
Nh4 21.Bf1 Nf5 22.Qf2 Qg5
(08) Nabaty,Tamir (2567) - Nevednichy,Vladislav (2573) [D01]
22nd OPEN KAVALA www.chesskavala.gr (8), 12.08.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]


27...Qe5? The inexplicable mistake. Do black expected "with all the amenities" to save a pawn... [Very well looked 27...Qe7 28.Ra4 Nc4 29.e4 N:b2 30.e:d5 Qc5 31.Q:c5 R:c5 32.R:a7 R:c3 33.R:b7 Nd3 34.Ree7 Rc2 and white can be satisfied only with perpetual check] 28.Qd2 Qc7 29.Rd1 Tangle black pieces already not unravel... 29...b5 30.N:d5 B:d5 31.b:a3 1-0
15...Q:d1? Do grandmasters like to play the endgame without pawn?.. [After the cold-blooded capture 15...Q:f4 16.B:e6 Nd7 17.Qd3 Qf6 18.Rae1 0-0-0 it is unclear whether white has any advantage] 16.B:g6+ Ke7 17.Ra:d1 Nd7 18.Rfe1 Raf8 19.f5 Rf6 20.f:e6 K:e6 22.Re1+ Kd6 23.Re8!

This is a situation where aesthetic considerations are not taken into account. Let the beauty of pawn structure is disturbed, but by reply capture black has to make side curtsy knight, and at this time on the opposite board side the white infantryman cheerfully aspires to the goal... 27...N:a4 28.f5 Nc5 29.f6 Nd7 30.f7 Ke7 31.g4! h:g4 32.Re8+ Kf6 33.h5 1-0

Signal to a direct assault... 24...Bf8 25.Nh6+ g:h6 26.B:f6 Bg7 27.e5! Nc3 28.Qf2

Two passed pawns supported by pieces could give black chances for win, but windy position of the king leaves no doubt as to the result of the battle. 28...B:f6 29.e:f6 Kh8 30.Rd7 Qc6 31.Qd4 Re8 32.Rd8 Qe6 33.Qg4 Q:g4 34.R:e8+ Qg8 35.Rc1 1-0


13...Be6 Missing an excellent opportunity
13... Ne5 – and in view of the threat b7–b5 white has to give up one of bishops for a knight, then black dictates terms on the board. 14.Nbd2 B:c4 15.N:c4 d5 16.e:d5 N:d5 17.Nd6 c:d6 18.Q:d5 Ne5 19.Nd4 Qd7 [It is also good 19...Qc8 20.Bd2 a5 with approximate equality] 20.Bg3 Rc8 21.Rae1 Nc6 22.R:e7 Q:e7 23.Nf5 Qe6


Q6 30.Nf5 Rc1 31.R:c1 N:c1 32.Qe3 Q:f5 33.Q:c1 d4 34.Kg1 d3 35.h3 Qe4 36.Bf4 g5 37.Be3 Bd6 38.Kf2 Kg7 an interesting situation arises where related white passed pawns immobilised and black gradually intensifying pieces and in combination with pawns movement can fight for the victory] 26...Nf3+ 27.g:f3 Q:f5 28.Q:a7 Rc2

29.Rf2 [Quite reliable protection: 29.Qa8 d5 30.Rf2 Rc4 31.b5 Qh3 32.Rf1 Rc2 33.Bf2 Q:f3 34.b6 Qg4+ 35.Kh1 Qe4+ 36.Kg1 Qg6+ 37.Bg3 Q:b6 38.Q:d5 and here, despite missing pawn cover, white king is well protected by faithful security – queen, rook and bishop] 29...Rc1+ 30.Kg2? White underestimates about the danger threatening them, and quickly dies... [Cost of a pawn, could change rooks: 30.Rf1 R:f1+ 31.K:f1 Q:f3+ 32.Kg1 Qd1+ 33.Kg2 Qd2+ 34.Bf2 Q:b4 35.a4 – passed "a" pawn is so strong that in order to avoid the worst, black should look for perpetual check] 30...Qb1 31.Qa5 Rg1+ 32.Kh3 g5
The king got into a trap. 33.Qd5 Qg6 34.Bh4 Qh5 35.Qe4 d5 0-1

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