825 Classical Chess Games Annotated
Chess notation is a wonderful invention – a time machine that allows us to enjoy chess games of all eras, even those played hundreds of years ago. Here we see one of the first great chess masters, Gioachino Greco, in action. While Greco is credited with developing some gambits, his main contribution to chess was to publish witty collections of games that illustrate his theories. Greco considered the following one of his best games.

1.e4 b6 The Queen’s Fianchetto opening. An early fianchetto by Black shows a willingness to defend against a big pawn center, picking away at it from the wings. In ceding so much territory, Black must defend against a big pawn center, picking away at it from the wings. In ceding so much territory, Black must

1.e4 e5 2.\_c4 3.d3 4.\_g5 h6 5.\_xf6 \_xf6 6.\_c3 b5 7.\_b3 a5 8.a3 \_e5 9.\_f3 d6 10.\_d2 \_e6 11.\_xe6 fxe6 12.0-0 g5

Discouraged from castling on the Queenside, White finds himself under siege on the Kingside. 13.\_d7 14.\_h2 h5 15.g3 \_e7 The lines are clearly drawn: Black’s command of space allows him to attack at will. 16.\_g2 d5 17.f3 \_f8 18.e2 \_g6 19.e3 \_ag8 20.d4 \_b6 21.dxe5 \_xe5 22.d4 \_d7 23.\_ae1 h4 24.\_f2 \_c7 25.e2 Passive defense seems worse here than the try 25. exd 26. dxes+ Ke8 27. Nxe6 with chances. 25...\_hxg3 26.\_xg3 \_xg3+ 27.\_xg3 \_f4+ 28.\_h1 \_xh3 29.\_g1 \_xh2+ 30.\_h2 g6 31.\_h5 \_xh5+ 32.\_g3 \_h3+ 33.\_g4 \_h4# 0-1

1.e4 c5 2.\_c3 \_e6 3.d4 \_xd4 Better is 3...exd4. Now White dominates the center. 4.\_xd4 exd4 5.\_xg4 \_e5 6.\_c4 \_e6 7.\_d5 \_f6 8.\_xc3 \_b4 9.\_d2 d6 10.\_b5 \_d7 11.e4 Too many queen moves. The threat of Bxc6 is easily parried. Simply 11. 0-0 is indicated. 11...\_c5 12.0-0 0-0 13.\_d3 \_e5 14.\_g3 \_xb5 15.e5 \_c6 Driving the knight back but weakening the pawn on d6. 16.\_e3 \_c4 17.\_g5 \_g6 18.b3 f6 19.\_c1 \_xg3 20.hxg3 \_d4 21.bxc4 \_xc3 22.b1 \_b6 23.\_d1 \_ae8 Disdaining passive resistance by 23...Rad8, the London team seeks active counterplay. Black stands better – White’s pawn structure is a shambles. 24.\_b3 \_a5 25.f3 f5 26.exf5 \_e2 Also playable is 26...Rxg5. 27.g4 \_xc2 28.\_f4 \_xc4 29.\_xg4 \_e8 30.\_e3 \_h6 31.\_c7 \_e2 32.\_d8+ \_h7 If 32...Kf7 33. Bb6 Re8 34. Rd7 with advantage. 33.\_e8 \_c1+ Better is 33...Rxc2 34. Kh2 Rxb2 but Black has no inking...
of the astonishing sacrifice that White is planning. 34...h2 35.e11 e3 36.h2 f3 37.hxh2 mate. 38...a5 Still playing to win instead of steering for an easy draw by 38...fxf4 39...xg4 Rx2 40. Rxa7 R2xh2 41. Kg3 Rh3, etc. 39...e3 c2 Winning a piece, but appearances are deceptive. 40.g5 hxh2+ 41...e4 f5+ 42...f3 h2+ 43.e4 g6 The only way to parry the threat of g6 and Rh8 mate. 44.g7+ g8 45.e5 Adhering to the Steinizian precept: The king is a fighting piece – use it! 45...e5+ Also futile is 45...Bc3 46. Rxc3 Rxc3 47. Kf6 forcing mate. 46.f6 xf6 47...xg6 48.g7+ g8 49.h6 No more than a draw is gained by 49... Rec7 Bc3. 49...b4 50.e6 f5 The only way to stop the threat of mate in two. 51.h7+ g8 52.g6+ 53.exd6 e5 An exciting moment. If 53...Kg8 54. g6 h4 55. g7 Kh8 56. Rxa7 hxg3 57. g7 Kg8 58. Rc8 Rf8 59.gxf8 Q Qxf8 60. Rb8 61. Kg6 The only chance is 61...Qh8 62. e6+ Kg7 30.cxd7 e4 31. Qxe4 c2 0-1

○ MacDonnell, A.
○ La Bourdonnais

? 62nd Match Game

1834 0-1 B32

In a sense, the MacDonnell-La Bourdonnais encounters marked the beginning of modern chess – a set match of serious games between recognized champions, in which all the games were recorded and published. This was the Frenchman’s most famous win of the match (really a series of six matches, won by La Bourdonnais +45, –13, –27), in which we have the unusual spectacle of a mass of pawns overrunning a Queen.

1.e4 c5 2.f3 c6 3.d4 exd4 4.cxd4 e5 5.gxc6 A positional error, strengthening Black’s central pawns, but such niceties were little known in the 1830’s. 5...Bxc6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bg5 e7 8.c2 d5 9.xf6 xfx6 10.b3 O-O 11.O-O a5 12. exd5 cxd5 13. B.d4 d4 14.c4 Bc6 15. e2 b6 16.b2 17.d2 b4 18.c2 e8 19.f3 e7 20.a1 f5 Not 20...Bxf5? 21.Nxf5 Oxc5 22.Bxb7+. Instead, Black offers an Exchange sacrifice to get his central pawns moving. 21.Bc4+ g8 22.a4 h6 23.fxe8 fxe8 24.c4 g3 25.g2 Not 25.dxc6?, as 25...Qe3+ 26.Kh1 fxg2+ 27.Kxg2 Rf2+ will lead to mate. 25...Rf8+ 26.h1 d8 27.d7 f2 Threatening 28...Qe1+ 29.Qf1 Qxd1 f1Q+. 28.Kf1 d3 29.f3 Qxd7 30.cxd7 e4 31.c8=Q In turn threatening 32.Qxf8+ and 33.d8Q. 31...Qg8 32.Qc4 a1Q 33.a1 d2 34.c5 Qg8 35.d1 e3 36.a3=Qxd1 37.Qd1 e2 White Resigns.

○ La Bourdonnais
○ MacDonnell, A.

? 21st Match Game

1834 0-1 C23

The MacDonnell-La Bourdonnais encounters were, in a real sense, the beginning of modern chess – a series of formally arranged games, all of which were preserved and published. This is one of many wild attacking games in which both sides play for mate. The final position is quite amusing. 1.e4 e5 2.f4 c5 3.gfe2 f6 4.d3 g6 5.c3 c6 6.d4 e4 7.g3 fxe3 8.Nxe3 Nf6 9.Bg2 Bg4 10.Nf3 Nxe4 11.Nxe4 Qe4+ 12.Qe1 Qg2 13.Qf1 Qe4 14.Qg1 Qxh1+ 15.Nf1 d2 Throwing mate with 16.Nh2+ and 17.Qxh2.

○ Ludwik Bledow
○ von der Lasa

Match

Berlin

1839 1-0 C53

Bledow was a math professor who founded "The Pleiades," a society that set itself the task of raising the standard of the game in Germany at a time
when Paris and London were the chess centers of Europe. Morphy's great principles – occupying the center with pawns, opening lines for attack, rapid development even at the cost of material – already were in evidence in this early game. A unique twist is the way White exploits the weakness on f7. 1.e4 e5 2.f3 f6 3.c4 c5 4.d3 d5 One of the earliest defenses to the Giuoco Piano. Nowadays 4...Nf6 is preferred. 5.d4 ♘b6 To hold the center. If 5...exd4 6. O-O dxc3 7. Nxc3 the threat of a passed pawn played a decisive role in this game. 6.O–O d6 7.a4 a5 8. e3 ♘c6 9.dxe5 1-0

Pierre de Saint-Amant
• Howard Staunton
Match (13)
Paris
1843
1-0
D40

The unofficial world championship. The leading player after Labourdouinne in France was the colorful Pierre St. Amant, who served as secretary to the governor of French Guiana – until he protested against the slave trade. Later he tried his hand as an actor, then became a successful wine merchant, and was a captain in the National Guard during the 1948 revolution. In 1851 he became the French consul to California eight years after the Englishman Howard Staunton bested him in a series of memorable matches. On a visit to London St. Amant defeated Staunton 3.5 - 2.5 for a stake of one guinea. This led to a demand for a return match just before Christmas in the same year, which was won by Staunton 13-8, marking an end to French chess supremacy. Here, in almost symmetrical position, White’s sway over the open e-file enables him to launch a combination of unusual beauty. Like so many other losers, however, St. Amant at least had the satisfaction of winning the most brilliant game. 1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.e3 Now considered too passive because it hems in the bishop on c1. 3...♗f6 4.c3 e5 5.c3 ♗e6 6.a3 A slight loss of time, but the principles of positional play were still largely unknown in those days. 6...♗e7 7. ♘d3 O–O 8.O–O b6 9.h3 ♘b7 10.exd5 exd5 Also playable is 10...Nxd5 but Black has no desire to simplify. 11.♗b2 cxd4 12.exd4 ♘d6 More pertinent is 12...Re8 to develop a fresh piece. 13.♗e1 a6 14.♗c1 ♘c8 15.♗e2 ♘c7 16.♗e2 h6 Black could instead contest the file by 16...Re7 either here or on the next move. 17.b3 ♘c8 18.♗d2 ♘d8 19.b4 ♗e6 Walking into a pin. Preferable is 19...b5. 20.♗f5 ♘e4 Staunton later suggested 20...Bf4 but Black’s game is already difficult. 21.♗xe4 dxe4 22.d5 Of course not 22.Bxe4? Bxe4 23. Rx4 Re2 winning a piece. 22...fxe3 The last chance is 22...Bf4 23. Qd1 exf3 24. Rxe6 Qd8. 23.♗xe6 ♘d8 24.♗f6 Shattering the enemy kingside. 24...gx6 25.♗xd6 The spectators broke out into enthusiastic applause. If 25...Qxd6 26. Qhx6 forces mate. 25...♕g7 Nowadays a master would resign here since he only gets a rook in return for his queen. 26.♗xe8 ♘xe8 27.♕d4 fxg2 28.♕e4 ♘c7 29.♕g4+ ♘f8 30.♗h5 ♘e7 31.d6+ ♘xd6 32.♕xb7 ♘c7 33.♗xe6 ♘c3 34.♗xb5 White’s material superiority is just too great. Black resigns. 1-0

Staunton, H.
• St. Amant, P.
Match (5)
Paris
1843
0-1
B21

Howard Staunton was born in 1810. After a brief stint as an actor, he became an eminent Shakespearean scholar and then England’s top player after defeating St. Amant in a series of memorable matches. Because of his plodding style, Staunton’s games are not very impressive. Today he is remembered chiefly for having ducked Paul Morphy who crossed the Atlantic to challenge him to a match. Morphy described him as the author of a chess handbook and some "devilish bad games." 1.e4 c5 2.f4 e6 3.♗f3 ♗c6 4.e3 d5 5.e5 ♘b6 Good alternatives are 5...f6 or d4. 6.♗d3 ♗d7 7.♗c2 ♘c8 8.0-0 ♗h6 9.h3 ♗e7 10.♗h2 f5 11.a3 a5 12.a4 Makes little sense except to develop the knight at a3. 12...d4 right away is better. 12...♗f7 13.d4 h6 14.♗e1 g6 15.♗a3 cxd4 16.♗xd4 ♣xd4 17.cxd4 g5 18.♗b5 ♘xb5 19.axb5 ♘c4 Loss of time. 20.♗d3 ♘c8 Not
...and Rh4...

31...e6

32...gxh3 33...d1 "The latter portion of this game is conducted with remarkable skill by both parties," commented Staunton. Clocks were not used in those days; the game lasted 9 1/2 hours; today it would take between four and five hours.

0-1

○ F. A. Hoffmann

• A. D. Petrov

Match

Warsaw

1844 0-1

C54

The main feature of this ancient game is the simultaneous assault by White on f7 and Black on f2, the weakest square on each side. Black's maneuverers culminate in a magnificent queen sacrifice and a relentless king hunt.

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3...xf4 c5 4.c3 f6 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 Nowadays 6...e6 is preferred. 6...c6 More energetic is the counter-thrust 6...d5. 7...d5 Looking for adventure, but violating principle by moving the same piece twice. Simply 7...exd4 Bb4 8.Bd2 Nxd2 9.Nbx2 would give White a peaceful life. 7...xf4 8.exf4 dxe4+ 9.gxe3 Exposes the king to some danger. Safer is 9.Kc1. But not 9.Bxe3 Bxe3 10.Kxe3 9...cxb2 10...e5 11.g5 Too eager to attack instead of thinking about his own safety. It's time to consolidate with 11...h3 to give the king an escape square on h2. 11...e5 12...e7 O-O Giving up an entire queen to control the f-file. White didn't reckon with this sacrifice! 13...xd8 There's nothing better. If 13.Nh6 gxh6 14.Qxd5 Rf7 15.Qxc5 Qg5 16.Kh3 d6 wins. Or 13.Qxd5 Rxf7 14.h3 Qg5 15.Kh2 Qf6 16.g3 Qf4 17.Qg2 Qxg2 18.Kxg2 Rf2 followed by Rf8. 13...e5 14...e4 15...e4 Threatening mate in two by 17.Rf4 and Rh4. 17...g5 18.h4 g4 19...g4 Threatening mate in two by 17.Rf4 and Rh4. 17...g5 18.h4 g4 19...g4 Threatening mate in two by 17.Rf4 and Rh4. 17...g4

London

1851 1-0

C33

One of Anderssen's masterpieces, known as the "Immortal Game." Black neglects his development, and Anderssen offers both Rooks to show that two active pieces are worth a dozen sleeping at home.

Le4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3...xf4 Wh4+ 4...f5 b5 5...xb5 Wh6 6...f3 Wh7 7...b8 8.h4 Wh5 9...f6 10...e1 11.g4 12...f6 13...h4 Wh5 14...f3 Now threatening to trap the Black Queen with 15.Bxf4. 14...e8 15...xf4 Wh6 16...c3 Wh8 17...d5 Whx2 18...d6 A brilliant move, the main point of which is to divert the Black Queen from the a1-h8 diagonal. Now Black cannot play 18...Bxf6? 19.Nx6+ Kd8 20.Nxf7+ Ke8 21.Nd6+ Kd8 22.Qf8++. 18...Wha1+ 19...e2 Whg1 And not 19...Wxg1 20.Nxg7+ Kd8 21.Bc7++. 20...e5 Wh6 More resistance could have been offered by 20...b6, but White should still win after 21.Nc7+ Kd8 22.Nxa6 b6 23.Qxa6. 21...Whg7+ Whd8 22.Wf6+ Whxf6 23...e7 1-0

○ Anderssen, A.

• Dufresne

?

Berlin

1853 1-0

C52

White sacrifices a piece to open the central files against the uncastled Black King, and despite his seemingly adequate development and counterattacking chances, Black comes out a tempo short in one of the finest combinations on record, justly known as the "Evergreen Game."

Le4 e5 2...f3 Wh6 3...c6 4...c4 Wh8 5...d5 e6 6...e4 c5 4...b4 The Evans Gambit, in which White sacrifices a flank pawn for rapid development and a powerful center. 4...exd4 5...c3 a5 6...d4 exd4 7...e8 8...e6 9...g6 10...e1 Wh7 11...a3 b5 Black in turn gives up a pawn to complete his development, but White's control of the center makes it difficult for Black to coordinate his forces. 12...xb5 Whb8 13...a4 Whc6 14...bd2 Whc7 15...e4 Whf5 16...xd3 Whh5 17...f6+ A temporary piece sacrifice to exploit the exposed position of the Black King. But this is not without danger, as Black now obtains an open g-file for counterplay. 17...gxh6 Whxh6 18...exe6 Whf6 19...d1 Offering a second piece and far stronger than the defensive 19.Be4. 19...Wxf3 20...Wh5+ Wh7 Black cannot escape with 20...Kd8, in view of 21.Rxh7+ Kc8 22.Rd8+ Kxd8 [or 22...Rxd8 23.gxf3] 23.Bxe2+, winning.

21...Whd7+ Whd8 22...f5+ Wh8 23...d7 Whd8 24...xe7 1-0
Paulsen, L.

Morphy, P.

? New York 1857 0-1 C48

Paul Morphy competed in only one tournament in his short career, the 1st American Chess Congress in 1857. In the final round of this knock-out event, he defeated German master Louis Paulsen by a score of +5, =2, -1. In this game, he demonstrates both his better grasp of positional play – Black’s control of the center files makes a marked contrast to White’s flaying on the flanks – and his combinative ability, as he finishes the game with a startling and brilliant Queen sacrifice.

1.e4 c5 2.f3 d6 3.e3 f3 4.b5 c5 5.O-O O-O 6.c4 xe5 7.e8 N Rather than permit the “fork trick” 6...Nxe5 7.d4, Black sacrifices a Pawn for rapid development.

7...exf6 8.b5 c6 9...e2 The seemingly more logical 9.Bb3 fails to 9...Bg4 10.Qe1 [or 10.Ne2 Rxe4 winning the pinned Knight] 10...b4, and if 11.Na4 Rxe4 traps the White Queen. 9...Nxe4 10.Bxe4

Nxe4 11.f3 e6 12.e3 If White were able to follow up with d2-d4, this would be a good move, but he can’t. He should reconcile himself to 12.d3. 12...d3 13.b4 b6 14.a4 bx4 15.Bxa4 d7 16.a2 a8 Threatens mate with 17...Qxf1+.

White’s reply defends against this sacrifice, but allows another, which Paulsen can hardly be blamed for missing. Relatively best was 17.Qd1 17...Nxa6 18.gxf3 18.gxf3 Morphy took 12 minutes to decide on 17...Qxf3, an unusually long time for him. Paulsen, a notoriously slow player, thought for over an hour before capturing the Queen. 18...Bd6+ 19.h1 h3 20.d1 Black threatened 20...Bg2+ 21.Kg1 Bxf3++, and 20.Rg1 fails to 20...Rxg1+ 21.Kxg1 Re1+. The key line, which Paulsen probably missed at move 17, is 20.Qd3 [hoping to win the Queen with 20...Qxg6] 20...f5!, and White is helpless. 20...Bb2+ 21.Kg1 Bxf3+ 22.Kf1 Bg2+ 23.Kg1 h3+ 24.h1 Bxf2 25.Bf1 Bxf1 26. Bxf1 h3 27.a1 B 28.d4 e3 White resigns. 0-1

Morphy, P.

Anderssen, A.

? 9th Match Game, Paris 1858 1-0 B44

A school teacher, later professor of mathematics, Adolph Anderssen had to fit this now-historic match into the Christmas holidays. In some cases, two games were played in one day. This game and many others in the series give lie to the myth that Anderssen was interested only in attacks on the King. Here he answers a sharp assault on the Sicilian - repeated by Fischer more than a century later - with equal energy. The result is a violent miniature.


1-0

Morphy, P.

Count Isouard

? Paris 1858 1-0 C41

Waiting for Anderssen to arrive from Breslau, Paul Morphy enjoyed the delights of Paris - including the Opera House. During The Marriage of Figaro he entertains his hosts with this elegant brilliancy, mating on the 17th move with his last two pieces!

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 Not yet in the Philidor Defense! After a few forced moves White gets a big jump in development. 4.dxe5 Nxe5 5.Bxe5 Bxc6 6.d3 Bg4 Seems natural, but Qe7 was necessary, as this game shows. 7.Qb3 Ne7 8.Bc3 Development, not material! 8...c6 9.Qg5 b5 Far too optimistic, given the congestion of the black pieces. 10.Bxb5 cxb5 11.Qd5 Bc4 12.Qd4 Bxb3 13.d7 12.O-O-O Bb8 13.d6 cxb3 14.exd6 Removing another defender. 13...exd6 14.Bc3 Bb6 Air at last - but now Morphy shows how simple a mate can be. 15.Bxd7+ Bxd7 16.Bb8+ Bxb8 17.Qd8# 1-0

Henry Bird

Paul Morphy

London

England 1858 0-1 C41

In olden times the object was to win with beautiful
strokes, and fans often felt cheated when good defense frustrated a brilliancy. Morphy was the father of positional play, and his style was the antithesis of romanticism. Instead of going for the quick kill, he brought out all his pieces as rapidly as possible. But close scrutiny of his 400 recorded games reveals that many of his combinations were flawed. Here, a pawn ahead with a routine win in sight, he embarks on a celebrated sacrifice that needlessly allowed Black drawing chances.

1.e4 e5 2.\f3 f3 c6 3.\c4 c5 4.b4 \b6 5.O-O d6 6.h3 \f6 7.d3 O-O 8.\c3 h6 9.\e3 \xb4 b 10.\e2 \c6 11.g3 d5 12.\b5 \dxe4 13.\xc6 \xc6 14.\xe5 \xd3 15.\xd3 \we8 16.\xb6 \xb6 17.f4 \d5 18.\h5 f6 19.\g6 \we3+ 20.\h2\f2 21.\fe1 \xd3 22.\ad1 \wc2 The black Queen's foraging expedition has left Black far behind in development. 23.\e7+ \h8 24.\f7 \h3 Black clears the back rank with gain of tempo in order to answer the threat of Ng3-h5 with Rxd8-g8. On other moves, say 24..Bb7, White's point is 25.Rxd5 cxd5 26.Nh5 Rg8 27.Ng6+ Kg7 28.Nxf6++. 25.\e2 \xd1 26.\h5 \g8 27.\xc6 \xc6 28.\e8 Black resigns.

1-0

- Johannes Zukertort
• Adolf Anderssen
Match (9)
Breslau
1865
1-0
C60
After Zukertort lost two title matches to Steinitz, a critic ascribed these setbacks to the fact that he "was not yet Zukertort in 1872" (the first time) and "was no longer Zukertort in 1886" (the second time). Here he thrashes his teacher Anderssen (often considered the world's best player when Morphy retired) after dropping the first three games. This one proved to be the turning point of the match, and it shows how notions of beauty change. Wild sacrifices that were applauded a century ago today usually fail today against ruthlessly precise defense; yet Anderssen was caught off guard, succumbed in a mere dozen moves, then lost the next five games.

1.e4 e5 2.\f3 f3 c6 3.\c4 c5 4.b4 \b6 5.O-O d6 6.h3 \f6 7.d3 O-O 8.\c3 h6 9.\e3 \xb4 b 10.\e2 \c6 11.g3 d5 12.\b5 \dxe4 13.\xc6 \xc6 14.\xe5 \xd3 15.\xd3 \we8 16.\xb6 \xb6 17.f4 \d5 18.\h5 f6 19.\g6 \we3+ 20.\h2\f2 21.\fe1 \xd3 22.\ad1 \wc2 The black Queen's foraging expedition has left Black far behind in development. 23.\e7+ \h8 24.\f7 \h3 Black clears the back rank with gain of tempo in order to answer the threat of Ng3-h5 with Rxd8-g8. On other moves, say 24..Bb7, White's point is 25.Rxd5 cxd5 26.Nh5 Rg8 27.Ng6+ Kg7 28.Nxf6++. 25.\e2 \xd1 26.\h5 \g8 27.\xc6 \xc6 28.\e8 Black resigns.

1-0

- MacDonnell, G. A.
• Boden
?
London
1861
1-0
C51
Once dubbed the "Koh-i-Noor" of chess, this game is quite typical of the period - a slashing attack appears out of nowhere, for defensive technique was little understood even by the best players. The winner should not be confused with La Bourdonnais’ opponent, Alexander McDonnell.

1.e4 e5 2.\f3 f3 c6 3.\c4 c5 4.b4 \b6 5.O-O d6 6.h3 \f6 7.d3 O-O 8.\c3 h6 9.\e3 \xb4 b 10.\e2 \c6 11.g3 d5 12.\b5 \dxe4 13.\xc6 \xc6 14.\xe5 \xd3 15.\xd3 \we8 16.\xb6 \xb6 17.f4 \d5 18.\h5 f6 19.\g6 \we3+ 20.\h2\f2 21.\fe1 \xd3 22.\ad1 \wc2 The black Queen's foraging expedition has left Black far behind in development. 23.\e7+ \h8 24.\f7 \h3 Black clears the back rank with gain of tempo in order to answer the threat of Ng3-h5 with Rxd8-g8. On other moves, say 24..Bb7, White’s point is 25.Rxd5 cxd5 26.Nh5 Rg8 27.Ng6+ Kg7 28.Nxf6++. 25.\e2 \xd1 26.\h5 \g8 27.\xc6 \xc6 28.\e8 Black resigns.

1-0
1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.\_xf4 4.d3 d5 5.\_xe6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.\_c3 g7 8.O–O O–O 9.\_g5 b6 10.\_e3 c5 11.\_b1 \_e8 12.b4 cxb4 13.\_xb4 e5 14.\_a4 The Rook seems aggressive but is out of play. 14...\_d7 15.\_a3 f5 16.\_b1 \_h8 17.\_b7 a5 18.\_b1 a4 19.\_d5 \_e8 20.\_b6 \_a7 21.\_h2 f4 22.\_d2 g5 23.\_c4 \_d8 24.\_f1 a6 25.\_g1 \_h7 26.\_f1 h5 27.\_g1 g4 28.\_hxg4 hxg4 29.\_f3 \_f4 As usual in such positions, everything seems defended but the cramped defender runs out of moves. 30.\_d1 \_g5 31.\_e1 \_h2 32.d4 \_xf3 33.\_xf3 \_h3 Going after bigger stakes. 34.\_f2 \_xg1 35.\_dxe5 \_d8+ 36.\_e1 The King would be soon mated after 36. \_xg1 \_g8. 36...\_xf3+ 37.\_xf3 \_xf3 38.\_c3 White is a full Rook down - but there’s always the h file! 38...\_d5 39.\_d5 \_e8 40.\_f5 \_e5 Enough! 41.\_f6 \_c3+ 42.\_f2 \_d8 43.\_g7 \_e3+ White resigns.

15...f5 16.\_d6 fxe4+ 17.\_f4 \_d5+ 18.\_d5 \_f6+ 19.\_e4 \_e6+ 20.\_b5 a6+ 21. \_a4 b5 22.\_c5 axb5 23.\_d5 \_a5+ 24.\_d6 \_d5+ 25.\_e6 \_d8# 0-1

1866 0-1 C65

In a see-saw match a new force emerges in the person of Wilhelm Steinitz. In this decisive game, the younger man launches a "pawn roller" against White’s King, while the man famous for the "Immortal" and "Evergreen" games pursues a positional attack on the Queenside. The White King runs, but can’t hide.

1.e4 e5 2.\_f3 \_c6 3.\_b5 \_f6 4.d3 d6 5.\_xe6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.\_c3 g7 8.O–O O–O 9.\_g5 b6 10.\_e3 c5 11.\_b1 \_e8 12.b4 cxb4 13.\_xb4 e5 14.\_a4 The Rook seems aggressive but is out of play. 14...\_d7 15.\_a3 f5 16.\_b1 \_h8 17.\_b7 a5 18.\_b1 a4 19.\_d5 \_e8 20.\_b6 \_a7 21.\_h2 f4 22.\_d2 g5 23.\_c4 \_d8 24.\_f1 a6 25.\_g1 \_h7 26.\_f1 h5 27.\_g1 g4 28.\_hxg4 hxg4 29.\_f3 \_h4 As usual in such positions, everything seems defended but the cramped defender runs out of moves. 30.\_d1 \_g5 31.\_e1 \_h2 32.d4 \_xf3 33.\_xf3 \_h3 Going after bigger stakes. 34.\_f2 \_xg1 35.\_dxe5 \_d8+ 36.\_e1 The King would be soon mated after 36. \_xg1 \_g8. 36...\_xf3+ 37.\_xf3 \_xf3 38.\_c3 White is a full Rook down - but there’s always the h file! 38...\_d5 39.\_d5 \_e8 40.\_f5 \_e5 Enough! 41.\_f6 \_c3+ 42.\_f2 \_d8 43.\_g7 \_e3+ White resigns.

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1.e4 e5 2.\_f3 \_c6 3.\_b5 \_f6 4.d3 d6 5.\_xe6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.\_c3 g7 8.O–O O–O 9.\_g5 b6 10.\_e3 c5 11.\_b1 \_e8 12.b4 cxb4 13.\_xb4 e5 14.\_a4 The Rook seems aggressive but is out of play. 14...\_d7 15.\_a3 f5 16.\_b1 \_h8 17.\_b7 a5 18.\_b1 a4 19.\_d5 \_e8 20.\_b6 \_a7 21.\_h2 f4 22.\_d2 g5 23.\_c4 \_d8 24.\_f1 a6 25.\_g1 \_h7 26.\_f1 h5 27.\_g1 g4 28.\_hxg4 hxg4 29.\_f3 \_h4 As usual in such positions, everything seems defended but the cramped defender runs out of moves. 30.\_d1 \_g5 31.\_e1 \_h2 32.d4 \_xf3 33.\_xf3 \_h3 Going after bigger stakes. 34.\_f2 \_xg1 35.\_dxe5 \_d8+ 36.\_e1 The King would be soon mated after 36. \_xg1 \_g8. 36...\_xf3+ 37.\_xf3 \_xf3 38.\_c3 White is a full Rook down - but there’s always the h file! 38...\_d5 39.\_d5 \_e8 40.\_f5 \_e5 Enough! 41.\_f6 \_c3+ 42.\_f2 \_d8 43.\_g7 \_e3+ White resigns.
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.\(\text{c3}\) \(\text{f6}\) 4.exd5 exd5 5.\(\text{c3}\) 6.\(\text{d6}\) 7.\(\text{d3}\) 0-0 8.\(\text{h6}\) 8.\(\text{e1}\) \(\text{e6}\) 9.\(\text{b5}\) \(\text{b4}\) 10.\(\text{c3}\) \(\text{a5}\) 11.\(\text{a3}\) \(\text{g4}\) 12.\(\text{c2}\)

The continuing fight for good squares for the pieces.

12.\(\text{d7}\) 13.\(\text{b4}\) \(\text{b6}\) 14.\(\text{h3}\) \(\text{h5}\) 15.\(\text{e3}\) \(\text{fe8}\) 16.b5 \(\text{e7}\) 17.\(\text{g4}\) \(\text{g6}\) 18.\(\text{e5}\) \(\text{c8}\) 19.a4 \(\text{c6}\)

The exchange of Queens would have left Black with a poor endgame, but now there's worse...

28.\(\text{g2}\) \(\text{c7}\) 29.a5 \(\text{a5}\) 30.\(\text{xa5}\) \(\text{f8}\) If 30...\(\text{Qxa5}\) 31.\(\text{Ng6!}\) (not 31.\(\text{Nxc6}\) \(\text{Qc7}\)++).

31.\(\text{a6}\) A marvelous conception, especially since 31.\(\text{Qc2}\) is safe. 31...\(\text{xf5}\) 32.\(\text{gx5}\) \(\text{d8}\) 33.\(\text{f4}\) \(\text{e8}\) 34.\(\text{f6}\) \(\text{c8}\) Proof It! says Black: 35.\(\text{Qxc6}\) \(\text{Qxc6}\) And he does. Yet the combination is by no means clear: 35...\(\text{Nxc6}\) 36.\(\text{Rxe8+}\) \(\text{Kf7}\).

Steinitz. Here White erred by relinquishing the two bishops too soon and is punished by a sprightly combination.

1.e4 \(\text{e5}\) 2.\(\text{f3}\) \(\text{c6}\) 3.\(\text{b5}\) \(\text{f6}\) 4.0-0 \(\text{Qxe4}\) 5.d4 \(\text{c7}\) 6.d5 Today 6.\(\text{Rg1}\) is preferred. 6...\(\text{d6}\) 7.\(\text{xc6}\) It's better to retreat with 7. \(\text{Rad1}\). But Chigorin was known for preferring knights over bishops. 7...\(\text{dxc6}\) 8.\(\text{dxc6}\) \(\text{f6}\) Preserving the central pawn mass. 9.\(\text{exb7}\) \(\text{AXB7}\) 10.\(\text{e3}\) 0-0 11.\(\text{b1}\) \(\text{d2}\) 12.\(\text{e2}\) \(\text{f5}\) 13.\(\text{h3}\) \(\text{h4}\) 14.\(\text{c4}\) \(\text{e5}\) \(\text{c5}\) The pawns advance like molten lava. 15.\(\text{f4}\) \(\text{f4}\) 16.\(\text{b5}\) \(\text{e8}\) 17.\(\text{f1}\) \(\text{a6}\) 18.\(\text{a4}\) \(\text{Qg5}\) Tearing White's kingside apart due to the double threat of \(\text{Nh3+}\) or \(\text{Qg4}\). Premature would be 18...\(\text{Qg5}\)? 19.\(\text{xf3}\) \(\text{exf3}\) 20.\(\text{d7}\) Equally inadequate is 20. \(\text{Bxg7}\) \(\text{Nh3+}\). Now a king hunt begins in earnest. 20...\(\text{dxg2}\) 21.\(\text{xe7}\) \(\text{h3+}\) 22.\(\text{g2}\) \(\text{f4+}\) 23.\(\text{f3}\) \(\text{d8}\) 24.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{d7}\) 25.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{e6}\) 26.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{c8}\) 27.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{xc5}\) 28.\(\text{xc5}\) Also futile is 28. \(\text{Rg8+}\) \(\text{Qf7}\) 29.\(\text{h5+}\) \(\text{c4}\) \(\text{d4}\) White Resigns. His queen falls after 30. \(\text{Kxd4}\) \(\text{Qg4+}\).

- Chigorin, M.
- Zukertort, J.

London International (1)

England

1883 0-1 C67

This event featured the introduction of the double-faced clock now standardized in tournament play. Russia's Mikhail Chigorin finished fourth in a field of 14 after biting the dust in the first round against Johannes Zukertort, who won with 22.4 – three points ahead of future world champion Wilhelm Steinitz. Here White erred by relinquishing the two bishops too soon and is punished by a sprightly combination.

1.e4 \(\text{e5}\) 2.\(\text{f3}\) \(\text{c6}\) 3.\(\text{b5}\) \(\text{f6}\) 4.0-0 \(\text{Qxe4}\) 5.d4 \(\text{c7}\) 6.d5 Today 6.\(\text{Rg1}\) is preferred. 6...\(\text{d6}\) 7.\(\text{xc6}\) It's better to retreat with 7. \(\text{Rad1}\). But Chigorin was known for preferring knights over bishops. 7...\(\text{dxc6}\) 8.\(\text{dxc6}\) \(\text{f6}\) Preserving the central pawn mass. 9.\(\text{exb7}\) \(\text{AXB7}\) 10.\(\text{e3}\) 0-0 11.\(\text{b1}\) \(\text{d2}\) 12.\(\text{e2}\) \(\text{f5}\) 13.\(\text{h3}\) \(\text{h4}\) 14.\(\text{c4}\) \(\text{e5}\) \(\text{c5}\) The pawns advance like molten lava. 15.\(\text{f4}\) \(\text{f4}\) 16.\(\text{b5}\) \(\text{e8}\) 17.\(\text{f1}\) \(\text{a6}\) 18.\(\text{a4}\) \(\text{Qg5}\) Tearing White's kingside apart due to the double threat of \(\text{Nh3+}\) or \(\text{Qg4}\). Premature would be 18...\(\text{Qg5}\)? 19.\(\text{xf3}\) \(\text{exf3}\) 20.\(\text{d7}\) Equally inadequate is 20. \(\text{Bxg7}\) \(\text{Nh3+}\). Now a king hunt begins in earnest. 20...\(\text{dxg2}\) 21.\(\text{xe7}\) \(\text{h3+}\) 22.\(\text{g2}\) \(\text{f4+}\) 23.\(\text{f3}\) \(\text{d8}\) 24.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{d7}\) 25.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{e6}\) 26.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{c8}\) 27.\(\text{d4}\) \(\text{xc5}\) 28.\(\text{xc5}\) Also futile is 28. \(\text{Rg8+}\) \(\text{Qf7}\) 29.\(\text{h5+}\) \(\text{c4}\) \(\text{d4}\) White Resigns. His queen falls after 30. \(\text{Kxd4}\) \(\text{Qg4+}\). 0-1
1.c4 e6 2.e3 d5 6.d4 d6 7...c3 O–O 8.b3 b6 9...b2 8...c7 10...b5 8.e4 11...xd6 cxd6 12...d2 cxd6 13.f3 cxd2 14...xd2 c4 15...xc4 d5 16...d3 17...c7 18...e4 19...e8 20...f4 g6 21...e3 f5 22...xf6 23...e4 24...xe4 dxe4 25...fxg6 d2 26...gxh7+ 27...d5+ e5 28...xh5 29...f4...e5+ 30...e5+ f8 17...e3 f5 21...g4 32...g6 33...h6 34...xf4 1-0

Black Resigns.

K 30...Kg6 31...Rh3+ Kg5 32...Rg3+ Kh5 33...Rh3+ Kg5 34...Rg3+ Kh5 Black will soon be mated. A typical variation is King, and the strong Bishop on b2 provide the White Rooks, the exposed position of the Black it seems that White must lose a piece, but the active White Rooks, the exposed position of the Black King, and the strong Bishop on b2 provide the basis for an "overloading" combination. 28...b4 8c5 On 28...Qxb4 29.Bxe5+ Kg7 30.Rf7+ Black will soon be mated. A typical variation is 30...Kg6 31.Rf6+ Kg5 32.Rh3+ Kg5 33.Rg3+ Kh5 34.Rf5+ Kh6 35.Bf4+ Kh7 36.Rh5++. 29...f8+ 2xh7 30...xe4+ 2g7 31...xe5+ 2xf8 32...g7+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Zukertort, J.
• Steinitz, W.

7th Match Game, New York 1886 0-1 E57 The first match recognized as a World Championship contest began badly for Steinitz. Then he settled down into a positional game that has ever since been his hallmark. The battle here, and in innumerable Queen's Gambits since, has always been over the strength or weakness of the isolated queen pawn, and, later, the "hanging pawns" in the center.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...c3 d5 6.c3...c6 4.e3 c6 5...f3 e5 6.a3 dxe4 7...xe4 cxd4 8...xd4 a6 9.O–O e5 10.e3...d7 11...d3...c8 12...ac1...a5 13...b2...f8 14...e1...e8 15...b1...g6 16...e2...f8 17...ed1...g7 18...a2...e7 White has failed to solve the problem of the isolated queen pawn, defending it passively, and now tries to set up the flimsy combination 20. Nf5: 21...g5...f5 21...g4 21. Qe1, recommended by Lasker, would hold the queen pawn because of the threat of Bxe6. The desperate text move provokes a simple combination. 21...xd4 22...xd4 e5 23...d5...xc1 24...xc1 exd5 25...xd4...d5 26...xd5...xd5 27...d5...e2 28...h6 White saves himself after 28... Bxb2 29. Qc8 Qd1+ 30 Kh2 Be5+ 31. f4 Qd2+ 32. Kg3. 29...c4 The Queen and two Bishop ending is treacherous, but after 29. Be3 Bxb2 30. Qbl Kg2 31. Bb7 it’s still a game. 29...xf3 30...e3...d1+ 31. Bb2...c6 32...c7...e5+ Finally, the rub. If 32. Qxe5 White is mated by 32...Qh1+ and 33...Qg2+, etc. 33...f4

○ Blackburne, H.
• Lipschutz

New York 1889 1-0 D55 White allows his opponent to obtain two passed pawns on the Queenside in exchange for posting a Rook on the seventh rank. The game was adjourned at move 31, and not only Lipschutz, but the spectators – including Steinitz – were certain that Black must win. The combination initiated by White’s 32nd move brought a rude awakening.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...c3 d5 6.c3...c6 4.e3 b6 5...g5...e7 6.e3...b7 7...c1...bd7 8...d5...d5 32...f4 D55

Finally, the rub. If 32. Qxe5 White is mated by 32...Qh1+ and 33...Qg2+, etc. 33...f4

1-0

○ Chigorin, M.
• Pollock

New York 1889 1-0 C51

Though he demonstrated many ideas well ahead of his time, Chigorin was best known in his own era as a fierce attacker. Here he makes good use of one of his favorite weapons, the Evans Gambit.

1.e4 e5 2...c3...c6 3.c4...e5 4.b4...xb4 5...c5 6.O–O d6 7.d4...xd4 8...xd4...b6 9...c3...c5 At the time a popular defense in this "Normal Position" of the Evans, but later it was realized that, while eliminating the Bc4 was desirable in principle, Black in his undeveloped state
could not afford the time lost. 10. g5 f6 11. f4 e4 12. a4+ f7 13. xc4+ e6 14. d5 d7 15. e2 e8 16. a4+ e7 17. e3 g6 18. xb6 exb6 19. w4 b7 20. g3 a8 21. d4 e5 22. f4 h8 23. d2 e4 24. e6 h4 25. d1 xe6 26. dx e6+ g8 Black has eliminated the intrusive Knight at e6, but the pawn that replaces it is at least as annoying. He should have played 23...Nf8. 27. wg4 g6 28. f5 w e7 29. e7 f7 30. xac1 w c5+ 31. wxc5 w c6 32. e5 With all the Black pieces tied down – the Knight must shield the g7 pawn, and the Queen and Rook are tied to the defense of the d6 pawn – White opens lines to the Black King with this pawn advance.

32...fxe5 No better is 32...dxe5 – 33. Rd8 (threatening e8Q+) Nxe7 34. Qxg7+ Kxe6 35. Nxe7, and there is no good defense to f4-f5 mate. 33. xac6+ ec6 34. fxe5+ f6 35. e8= Q+ xe8 36. d7+ w f8 37. exf6 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Lasker, Em. 
• Bauer 
?

Amsterdam 1889 1-0 A03

An early example of the double-Bishop sacrifice, the "chess mill" theme, and the skill of the then-young Emanuel Lasker, who only five years later would challenge Steinitz for the World Championship.

1.e4 d5 2. f3 e6 3. e3 w f6 4. b3 c6 5. h2 b6 The flank development of his Queen Bishop fits in well with White’s central formation, but Black’s play is rather obliging – he ought to have tried either for an early e6-e5, or ...c7-c5 followed by ...d5-d4. 6. w d3 b6 7. c3 O-O 8. f4 d7 9. e4 c5 10. c3 e4 11. c4 c5 12. xe5 Nxe5 13. e3 w e6 14. c2 a6 15. h5 c5 16. c3 w f4 A bolt from a rather stormy sky. The key factors of the combination are a) the possibility of quickly bringing a Rook into the attack (19.Rf3), and b) the presence of undefended Black pieces, giving the White Queen the chance for a double attack (22.Qd7). 15. wh7! w c5 16. xc5+ xc5 17. g7 xg7 18. f4+ h6 19. e3 e5 20. b3 h8 21. h6+ xh6 22. d7 If it were not for this sting at the end of the combination, Black would have quite enough material for his Queen. Now White has a decisive material and positional advantage. 22... f6 23. exb7 w g7 24. f1 a8 25. d7 f8 26. g4+ f8 27. xex5 g7 Not 27...Bxe5 28. Qe6 28. e6 b7 29. w g6 f6 30. x f6+ xf6 31. wxf6+ e8 32. w h8+ e7 33. w g7+ xf6 34. w b7 d6 35. w xe6 d4 36. wxd4 edx4 37. d4 d3 38. wxd3 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Steinitz, W. 
• Chigorin, M. 
?

4th Match Game, Havana 1892 1-0 C65

Their first match here in 1889 was the bloodiest in world championship history: a single draw out of 17 games! The second time around, there were still only five draws in 23 games, but the champion retained his title only by slugging it out with the ferocious Russian.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 e6 3. w b5 w f6 4.d3 d6 5. e5 6. w b2 d7 7. w g7 8. d2 f5 9. e3 w c5 10. w d1 d5 11. h4 w c7 12. h5 d5 13. hxg6 fxg6 14. d5 w a6 15. w c5 w b5 16. w f4 w b4 17. w c2 e5 18. w e2 w e8 19. w b6 w xh7 20. w xh7+ w f8 21. d4 Now the long-delayed opening of the center. 21... w d4 22. w xd4 w d4 White’s 20th move prevents 22...Nxd4: 23. Rxe7+ Kxe7 and 24. Qh1+ with mate to follow: 23. w x d4 w x d4 24. w x d4 w x h7+ w x h7 25. w h1+ w g7 26. w h6+ w f6 27. w b4+ w e5 28. w x d4+ w f5 29. w f4# 1-0

○ Siegbert Tarrasch 
• George Marco 

Dresden Germany 1892 1-0 C66

For many years Tarrasch was considered Lasker’s strongest contender for the crown. He was the chess teacher to world, and his books have stood the test of time. Here he shows the latent power in the Ruy Lopez and springs one of the deepest traps found in opening theory.

1-0

- Emanuel Lasker
- Wilhelm Steinitz

World Championship Match (13)
Montreal 1894 0-1 C68

Although Lasker won the title by 12-7, the old lion showed his teeth in this game by demonstrating that the absence of queens does not necessarily diminish the action. With singleness of purpose, Steinitz sacrifices a pawn to break up the hostile pawn mass and dominate the open d-file. Noteworthy is the superiority of the bishop over a knight in the ensuing endgame.

1.e4 e5 2.\textit{f}3 2.c6 3.d4 exd4 4.cxd4 5.d5 c5 6.dxc6 Bxc6 7.Qh4 Bb4 8.Qc3 a6 9.Bc4 e6 10.O-O O-O 11.d4 Bd7 12.Bb5 c6 13.Nc3 Bb6 14.Ne4 Qc7 15.f4 Qe8 16.g4 Bd6 17.Bg2 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Qxc3 19.Qxc3 d5 20.exd5 Bxd5 21.Nxd5 Bxd5 22.Bxd5 Bxd5 23.Nxd5 Bxd5 24.Nx5 Bc5 25.Bxc5 Bxc5 26.Nb4 Bb5 27.Nf3 Bc6 28.Nc6 Bf5 29.Nd4 Nc5 30.Qc3 Nxd4 31.Bxd4 Qf6 32.Bf4 Qe5 33.Bxe5 Nxe5 34.Qxe5 Nf4 35.Qxh8+ Kf8 36.Qxf8+ Ke7 37.Qd6+ Kf7 38.Qxe6+ Kf8 39.Qf6+ Kg8 40.Qh6+ Kh8 41.Qg6+ Kxh5 42.Qh6+ Kxg5 43.Qf6+ Kf5 44.Qe6+ Kxe6 45.Qd6+ Ke7 46.Qc6+ Kd7 47.Qb6+ Qxb6 48.Qd6+ Qb7 49.Qe7+ Qxe7 50.Qg8+ Qd7 51.Qf7+ Qc8 52.Qe6+ Qb8 53.Qd5+ Qa8 54.Qc4+ Qa7 55.Qd3+ Qa8 56.Qe2+ Qa7 57.Qf1+ Qa8 58.Qg2+ Qa7 59.Qh3+ Qa6 60.Qg4+ Qa5 61.Qf5+ Qa6 62.Qe6+ Qa5 63.Qd7+ Qa6 64.Qc8+ Qa5 65.Qb7+ Qa6 66.Qa6+ Qa7 67.Qb7+ Qa8 68.Qc6+ Qa7 69.Qb5+ Qa8 70.Qa6+ Qa7 71.Qb7+ Qa6 72.Qc6+ Qa5 73.Qd5+ Qa6 74.Qe6+ Qa7 75.Qf7+ Qa8 76.Qg8+ Qa9 77.Qh8+ Qa10 78.Qg9+ Qb10 79.Qh8+ Qc10 80.Qg7+ Qb10 81.Qh6+ Qc10 82.Qg5+ Qb10 83.Qf4+ Qc10 84.Qe3+ Qd10 85.Qd3+ Qe11 86.Qc4+ Qe10 87.Qb5+ Qe11 88.Qa6+ Qe10 89.Qb6+ Qf11 90.Qc7+ Qg11 91.Qd8+ Qh11 92.Qe7+ Qi11 93.Qf6+ Qj11 94.Qg5+ Qk11 95.Qh4+ Ql11 96.Qi3+ Qm11 97.Qj2+ Qn11 98.Qk1+ Qo11 99.Ql2+ Qp11 100.Qm1+ Qq11 101.Qn2+ Qr11

0-1
Lasker, Em.
• Steinitz, W.
?
7th Match Game, New York
1894 1-0 C62
Lasker comes to the New World and seizes the championship. This game, famous for the deadly error on move 34 by Black, began a run of five straight wins by Lasker in his inimitable style of smoke and mirrors.
1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.Bb5 d6 4.d4 Qd7 5.Qe3 Qg4 A discounted defense that would lead to further weaknesses after 6. Bg5, but Lasker prefers simple development. 6.Qe3 Qg6 7.d2 e7 This commits Black to Kingside Castling, after which White's attack is obvious. 7...a6 had to be tried at once. 8.0-0-0 a6 9.Qe2 exd4 10.Qxd4 Qxd4 11.Qxd4 Qf6 12.Qd2 c6 13.d5 O-O 14.Qg4 Qe8 15.Qg5 Qxd5 16.Qxd5 Qe6 17.Qxe6+ Qxe6 18.Qd6 Qxa2 Black's strategy has succeeded, for he must now obtain a passed pawn on the Queenside. But all the White pieces are poised for an attack on the Black King. 29.Qg4 Qd7 Not 29...Qxa2? 30.Nxf6! and wins. 30.Qf2 Qg8 And now if 30...Qxa2 31.Nf4 Bf7 32.Ng6+ Bxg6 33.fxg6 h6 34.Nxh6 gxh6 35.Qxh6+ Kg8 36.Rf5 wins. 31.Qc1 c3 32.b3 Qc6 33.h3 a5 34.h2 a4 35.g4 axb3 36.axb3 a8 37.g5 Qa3 38.Qg4 Qxb3 39.Qg2 Qh8 40.gxf6 gxf6 41.Qxb3 Qxb3 42.Qh6 Threatening Rg8++. 42...Qg7 43.Qxg7 Qxg7 44.Qg3+ Qxh6 Forced, as 44...Kf8 45.Qg8+ picks off the Rh3. 45.Qh1 A quiet but deadly move – Black is helpless against the threat to close the mating net with 46.Rg1. 45...Qd5 46.Qd1 Qxf5 47.b4+ Qh5 48.Qh4+ Qg5 49.Qxg5 fxg5 50.Qd6+ Qh5 51.Qxd7 c2 52.Qh7# 1-0

Pillsbury, H.
• Tarrasch, S.
?
Hastings
1895 1-0 D55
The story of Harry Nelson Pillsbury is remarkable. In 1895 he traveled to Europe to compete in his first international tournament – and won, ahead of names like Lasker, Tarrasch and Chigorin. Though a frequent and successful tournament player, he never obtained the match for the world championship he sought, and his early death in 1906 deprived the world of one of its greatest players. Among other things, Pillsbury showed the worth of the Queen's Gambit in an era when anything other than 1.e4 e5 was often dubbed "Irregular."
L1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Qc3 Qf6 4.g5 Qe7 5.Qf3 Qb7 d6 6.c1 0-0 7.e3 b6 8.exd5 exd5 9.Qd3 Qb7 10.0-0 c5 11.e1 Qc4 At the time it was thought that Black's Queenside pawn majority should give him the advantage – given time, he will advance his b and c pawns and create a passed pawn on the c-file. But Pillsbury shows that White’s active pieces are of greater importance. 12.a1 a6 13.e5 b5 14.f4 e8 15.f3 f5 16.e2 c4 17.Qxe7 Qxe7 18.Qxe4 dxe4 White does not object to exchanging a few pieces, for the Black Bb7 cannot easily participate in the defense of the Kingside. 19.Qg3 f6 20.Qg4 Qh8 21.f5 Qd7 22.Qf1 Qd8 23.Qf4 Qd6 White has steadily strengthened his position while Black temporalized. 24.Qh4 Qd8 25.Qc3 Qd5 26.Qf2 Qe6 27.Qf1 b4 28.Qe2 Wad4 It seems that Black's strategy has succeeded, for he must now obtain a passed pawn on the Queenside. But all the White pieces are poised for an attack on the Black King. 29.Qg4 Qd7 Not 29...Qxa2? 30.Nxf6! and wins. 30.Qf2 Qg8 And now if 30...Qxa2 31.Nf4 Bf7 32.Ng6+ Bxg6 33.fxg6 h6 34.Nxh6 gxh6 35.Qxh6+ Kg8 36.Rf5 wins. 31.Qc1 c3 32.b3 Qc6 33.h3 a5 34.h2 a4 35.g4 axb3 36.axb3 a8 37.g5 Qa3 38.Qg4 Qxb3 39.Qg2 Qh8 40.gxf6 gxf6 41.Qxb3 Qxb3 42.Qh6 Threatening Rg8++. 42...Qg7 43.Qxg7 Qxg7 44.Qg3+ Qxh6 Forced, as 44...Kf8 45.Qg8+ picks off the Rh3. 45.Qh1 A quiet but deadly move – Black is helpless against the threat to close the mating net with 46.Rg1. 45...Qd5 46.Qd1 Qxf5 47.b4+ Qh5 48.Qh4+ Qg5 49.Qxg5 fxg5 50.Qd6+ Qh5 51.Qxd7 c2 52.Qh7# 1-0

Steinitz, W.
• von Bardeleben
?
Hastings
1895 1-0 C54
Steinitz was definitely past his best in 1895, but as he himself said, "I may be an old lion, but I can still bite someone's hand off if he puts it in my mouth." The choleric von Bardeleben left the room after move 25 and permitted his time to expire, whereupon Steinitz demonstrated to the onlookers a brilliant 10-move mating combination.
L1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.Qc4 Qc5 4.Qc3 Qf6 5.d4 exd4 6.exd4 Qb4+ 7.Qc3 d5 A rare alternative
to 7...Nxe4 8.O-O, when Black may choose between 8...Nxc3 9.bxc3 d5 [9...Bxc3 10.Qb3 has been known to be very good for White since the time of Greco] and the speculative Møller Attack, 8...Bxc3 9.d5, now thought to lead to a draw with best play. 8.exd5 Qxd5 9.O-O c6 10.g5 Qg7 11.Qxd5 Qxd5 12.Nxd5 Nxe7 13.fxe7 Bxe7 Black still hopes to connect his Rooks by castling, but he will be unable to shake off the pressure on the central files. A slightly better try was 13...Kxe7 14.Re1+ Kf8. 14.e1 f6 15.Qe2 Qd7 16.Nac1 c6 Allowing a powerful pawn sacrifice. Better was 16...Kf7, and if 17.Qxe7+ Qxe7 18.Rxe7+ Kxe7 19.Rxc7+, the ending is by no means clear, though White will have enough pawns for the Exchange. 17.d5 A fine move – the d5 square, which Black has been using for his pieces, will be occupied by a Black pawn, the d4 square is made accessible to White, and the c-file will be opened. 17...Qe6 18.d4 f5 19.Qh4 g5 20.Bg3 Qf6 21.Qg4 Qe7 22.Qxe7+ Of course the Rook cannot be captured by the Queen (22...Qxe7 23.Rxe8+) and 22...Kxe7 leads to 23.Re1+ Kd6 24.Qb4+ Kc7 25.Nf6+ Kb8 26.Qf4+. But after Black’s next move, every White piece is en prise, and mate is threatened on c1... 22...Qf8 23.Nf3+ Qg8 No better is 24...Kf8 25.Nxh7+ 24.g7+ Qh8 25.Nxh7+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Bernhard Feissig
• Carl Schlechter
Vienna Austria 1895 0-1 A00

Mild-mannered Schlechter was known as the drawing master but was always a feared opponent – and the only one to nearly dethrone Lasker in their 1910 match for the world championship, which ended in a 5-5 tie. This brilliant game influenced the Hastings tournament committee to invite the youngster of 21, who then had no more than local prominence, to take part in the greatest event of that era. Schlechter finished a respectable ninth in a field of 22.


1-0

○ Chigorin, M.
• Pillsbury, H.
Hastings (1)
England 1895 1-0 C30

Chigorin’s had an outstanding result with second prize at this landmark event which assembled 22 leading masters of the day for the first time. His first round game against a newcomer from America making his European debut was an epic struggle where the caliber of both attack and defense is sensational. After this loss, nobody dared to dream that Pillsbury would finish first.

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.d3 d6 4.Qc4 A well know trap is 4...fxe5 5.dxe5 Nxe5? 6.Qh4+ and wins. 4...e5 5.d3 Qf6 6.d4 g4 7.h3 Qg7 8.Nxf3 Qf6 9.Nxd4 More complex than the tame retreat 9.Qd1. 9...e5 10.Qxg7+ Rf8 11.Kd1 Qe7 12.Qd1 Qc5 13.dxe5 Qxe5 14.d5 Qe7 15.Qxf7 Lasker claimed that 14. Bg5 was stronger, an opinion that has been debated for decades. 14...Qe8 15.Qg5 f8 16.Bf6+ Bf7 17.Bh6 Bh8 18.Qxe5 Bxe7 19.Qh5 Qb6 Lasker recommends instead 19...Bf8 20. Bg5 Bxe7 21.Qxe7+ Kh8 22.Qxe7+ Kf8 23.Qxe7+ g6 24.Qxe7+ f6 25.Kf2. Shattering any illusion that White is safe – with the amusing point of 11...Nxe4 12.O-O, when Black may choose be-

1-0

○ Chigorin, M.
A preview of Russian hegemony in chess a half-century later: Moscow is the venue for Lasker’s easy “return match” victory. The mating combination in this game is spectacular, as if Lasker felt that winning was not enough.

1.e4 e5 2...f3 c6 3.b5 a6 4.c3 g4 5.Qe2 f5 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 Qc3 O-O 8.g4 a5 9.a3 d6 10...c6 Qa6 11.b3 b6+ 12.axb6 cxb6 13.Qc2 Qe6 14.Rc1 e5+ 15.fxe5 Rxe5 16.Rxe5 dxe5 17.Qd5 Qxd5 18.Qxe5 Qxe5 19.Qxe5 dxe5 20.Qe5+ Qd8 21.Qxe5 Qxe5 22.Qe5 Rxe5 23.Qxd8+ Rxd8 24.Qe4 Qe5 25.Qd8+ Qd8 26.Qe6 Qe6 27.Qd6 Qf5 28.Qf5 Qf5 29.Qf5 Qe6 30.Qf5 Qf5 31.Qf5 Qf5 32.Qf5 Qf5 33.Qf5 Qf5 34.Qf5 Qf5 35.Qf5 Qf5 36.Qf5 Qf5 37.Qf5 Qf5 38.Qf5 Qf5 39.Qf5 Qf5 40.Qf5 Qf5 41.Qf5 Qf5

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From the action. 14...xa8 Cooperating by snatching more material but 14. Qc4 was necessary. 14...xb5 15...f4 d5+ 16...c1 e3+ This extraordinary move prepares another extraordinary sacrifice. 17...xe3 O-O For if 18. Bxf2 Qd2 19. Kb1 Qd1 20. Ka2 Qxc2 mate. White Resigns.

0-1

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○ Pillsbury, H.
● Lasker, E.
?

St. Petersburg
1896

0-1

D40

Lasker scores a brilliant combinative victory over arch-rival Pillsbury. The players castle on opposite wings, but White loses time with his prematurely developed Queen – time which Black uses to make a truly profound Rook sacrifice.


28...Qc4+ White Resigns.

0-1

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○ Wilhelm Steinitz
● Emanuel Lasker

World Championship Match (3)

Moscow
1896

0-1

C54

Lasker is the great apostle of common sense in chess. Faced with the dilemma of keeping an extra pawn with an edge or keeping an extra piece with an agonizing defense, he unhesitatingly re- nounces the greater material possession. Steinitz relaxes when the smoke clears and throws away a likely draw in an opposite colored bishop ending. Finally he falls prey to a positional paralysis known as Zugzwang.


28...Qc4+ White Resigns.

0-1
to open lines on the g-file for an attack. The
wrong way to capture would be 19. Bxg5? h6! 19...hxg5 20.hxg5 Qh8 21.f4 d5 22.g3
b7 Material is even and White should be able to
hold a draw. 23.h3 Nb5 24.Bh2 Ne6 25.Qc2
f6 26.Nh4 c6 27.Qd5 Qf5 Regrouping to create
mating threats on the long diagonal. 28.Qe2 Leads
to trouble. Much better is 28. f5. 28...hxg5 29.Qc3
fxg5 30.Qxg5 30. fxg5 was the last chance to fight
for a draw. Now White is reduced to marking time.
30...h4 31.Qf1 If 31. Rg1? Rxg5! 32. fxg5 Qd6
wins. 31...Be8 32.Nd5 a5 33.Nc3 d8 34.f5 Qg8
White is in zugzwang – any move loses material.
35.Nc1 Bxf5 36.Ne5 Qf3 37.Nf5 g3+ 38.Nh1
Nxe5 39.dxe6+ Nxe6 White Resigns.
1-0

○ Tarrasch, S.
○ Marco, G.

Vienna
1898 1-0 C42
Siegbert Tarrasch was the great expeditor of
Steinitz’s theories, but the dogmatic certainty with
which he espoused them in the end provoked the
Hypermodern reaction of the 1920’s. Tarrasch ig-
nore those aspects of Steinitz not congenial to his
style (e.g. defense of cramped positions), but in
the exploitation of a space advantage and the use
of active pieces he had few peers.
1.e4 c5 2.O-O f6 3.d4 xc5 d6 4.Qc3 xe4 5.d4
d7 6.d3 f6 The usual move is...d5, main-
taining the Knight at e4. Black’s choice leads to
a solid but rather cramped position, not a happy
choice against Tarrasch. 7.O-O O-O 8.h3 A
player with a space advantage should avoid ex-
changes [contrariwise, a player with a cramped po-
sition should seek to free himself by exchanging
pieces], and so White prevents the exchange of
the Bc8. 8...e6 9.e4 c6 10.Qc4 a6 11.Qc3 e5
Qe7 12.f4 h6 13.f3 There would be little point in
capturing the Bf6, as White will soon play f4-f5 and
g2-g4, leaving the Bishop with hardly any moves.
13...Qe8 14.Qc2 Bb6 Instead, 14...d5 15.c5 b6
16.b4 a5 17.Na4 leads to a different but not a much
better pawn structure. 15.f5 Qd7 16.Qf4 b5 17.b3
c5 18.d5 b4 19.Qc2 a5 20.g4 White has the ini-
tiative, and so his pawn advances support an at-
tack, while Black’s pawn on h6 only invites the
opening of a file by a later g4-g5. 20.Nb7 21.h4
Qd8 22.Ng3 a4 At last Black succeeds in opening
a line for counterattack, but his pieces lack
sufficient mobility to support the Rook. 23.Qh1
d8 24.ae1 Qe8 25.Qf4 Qf6 26.Qe6 The de-
 cisive breakthrough. The Knight cannot be cap-
tured safely, e.g. I) 26...Bxe6 27.Qxe6 g6 28.exf7+
Rxh7 29.Bxg6 Re7 30.Rxe7 Qxe7 31.Rxe1, with
a huge advantage to White. 26...Nh2+ 27.Qh2
Bb6 28.Qxf8 exf8 29.g5 hxg5 30.hxg5 Qxg5
Or 30...Bxg5 31.f6 g6 32.Bxg6 fxg6 33.Qxg6 and
Black must lose a piece. 31.Qg2 Qg8 32.Qxg5
Qxg5 33.f6 g6 34.Qxg6 Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Lasker, Em.
○ Blackburne, J.

London
1899 0-1 C62
Blackburne was basically a tactician who usually
came to grief against the leading masters because
of his positional faults. But even in his later years
he remained a feared competitor; at age 57 he un-
corked a beautiful victory over the world cham-
pion.
1.e4 e5 2.O-O Qc6 3.b4 d6 4.d4 Qd7 5.d5
Locking the center is dubious. Better is 5. O-
O. 5...b6 6.d3 c5 7.c3 Qd6 8.Qe2 c6
9.e4 Qa6 10.Qe3 Qc5 11.Qd2 Qb5 Mixing it
up. Safer is 11...O-O but Blackburne stakes
everything on an attack. 12.b4 Qh7 13.dxc6 Qd6
14.cxb5 Qxb5 15.a4 Qd7 16.O-O g6 17.h3 h5
Going on the offensive while neglecting the safety
of his own king. 18.Qe3 a5 19.b5 Qa8 20.Qc1
Qc5 21.Qd2 h4 22.Qe2 Qg5 23.Qxg5 White’s
game is so strong that he can simply ignore this
offer and continue with 23. f3 Nh5 24. Ne3.
23...Qg8 24.Qxe4 Qxh4 Qxh4 25.Qg3 Black has
well-posted knights and open files for the
sacrificed pawn. 26.Qc1 Qg4 27.Qf1 Qg5 28.Qh1
Qh8 29.Qc3 Intending to meet 29...Qf6 with 30.
Qf3. 29...Qf4 30.Qd5 Qg5 31.Qf3 Qh1+ 32.Qxh1
Qg3 33.Qxg3 If 33. Qxg4 Qh4+ 34. Kg1 Bf3
mate. 33...Qf2+ 34.Qg1 Qxh1 35.Qf5 Qh5 36.Qf5
Qd2 White is a queen down and resigned in
a few moves.
0-1

○ Janowski, D.
○ Pillsbury, H.

London
1899 1-0 C42
The flamboyant David Janowski had two disas-
trous runs at the world championship - scoring a
single victory in the matches with Lasker. Yet
he left his mark on the game in his insistence on the power of the two Bishops. Here he deftly dispatches the American, Harry Nelson Pillsbury, with a characteristic Bishop move.


1-0

○ Alexander Halprin

- Harry Nelson Pillsbury

Munich

Germany

1900 1-1/2 C67

More proof that draws need not be dull. Running neck and neck with Schlechter and Maroczy for first prize, Pillsbury was slated to face one of the weaker players next. His main rivals showed Halprin some novel and intricate analysis against Pillsbury’s favorite defense to the Ruy Lopez. White merely rattled off the moves that had been shown to him the night before, while the American had to thread his way through an unfamiliar minefield.


1-0

○ Pillsbury, H.

- Marco, G.

Paris

1900 1-0 D55

Harry Nelson Pillsbury’s record is perhaps less well known than it should be; his illness and premature death in 1906 deprived the world of the match against Lasker he had sought. Here he scores another fine victory with the Queen’s Gambit, as Marco thinks to improve on the Pillsbury-Tarrasch game from Hastings 1895.


1-0

○ Marshall, F.

- Burn, A.

Paris

1900 1-0 D55

In his autobiography, Marshall, perhaps tongue in cheek, attributes his victory in this game to the fact that it didn’t last long enough for Burn to light his pipe...


1-0
23. Qf6! Qf7 24. Qd8, etc. Or 20...Qe6 21. Qg5 Qd7 22. Bxg7 Qxg7 23. Qd8 and mate next. Now he is hoping for 21. Rg3 Be6! 21...Bxg7 22. Qg5+ f8 23. Qf3+ Kg7 24. Qg3+ f8 Both sides must be content with perpetual check. A glorious battle.

1/2-1/2

○ Juan Corzo
• Jose Capablanca

Match (8)

Cuba

1901 0-1 C25

Nobody has to be a child prodigy like Capablanca to enjoy playing chess – but it sure helps. At age 13 he narrowly won a famous 13-game match against Cuba's top player. The boy wonder took only five minutes on this clean victory and introduced a new move that has stood the test of time.

1.e4 e5 2...Qf6 3.Qd3 f5 4.g3 d5 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.c3 c5 8.d4 Nbd7 9.Nc3 Nc6 10.Be2 fxe3 11.Qxe3 Nxe3 12.fxe3 Qa5

Capa's new move, a prepared variation, which has given Black's king is secure.

14. Be3 fxe3 15.Qh6+ Kd8

At age 12 Capablanca won this set match with Juan Corzo. Reinfield in THE IMMORTAL GAMES OF CAPABLANCA notes that this game with the Cuban champion "is perhaps the most remarkable of Capablanca's career: the arduous jockeying for position in the middle game, the delightful and carefully calculated Queen sacrifice and the ensuing accurate endgame play - all are worked out with a skill which is astonishing in one so young."

1d4 d5 2...Qf6 3.e3 e6 4.b3 Unusual. In MY CHESS CAREER Capa wrote: "I began to play with the conviction that my adversary was superior to me; he knew all the openings, and I knew none...he had the experience and all the tricks that go along with it, while I was a novice. The first two games were quickly won by him, but something in the third, which was a draw, showed me that he had his weaknesses and gave me the necessary courage and confidence. From there on, he did not win a game, but only scored five more draws before I won the four required. 4...e6 5.b2 Qb4 6.Bd2 cxd4 7.exd4 Qd6 8.d3 O-O 9.O-O h5 Simply 9...Bd7 is called for instead.

10.g3 f5 11...e5 12.f4 Preferable is 12...a3. 12...Qxe5 13.fxe5 Qg4 More logical is 13...Ne4 to centralize the knight. 14.Qe2 b6 15...f3 d7 Stronger is 15...Nb4 first to strive for opposite colored bishops. 16.a3 Qh8 17.h3 Qh6 18.f2 f7 19.g2 g5 Weakens the kingside. More logica is 19...Rc8. 20.g4 Qf7 21.Rg3 g6 22.g6 23.gxf5 f4+ 24.h2 Qxd3 25.Qxd3 exf5 26.c4 Forcing open the long diagonal. 26...e6 27.Qxe6 Qxe6 28.exd6 b5 29.Qxb5 Capa gets carried away by his youthful spirit. A simpler win is 29.Qd2 Bxf7 30. exf7 Qxf7 31. d5+. 29...Qxb5 30.Qd5+ Qg7 31.Qxf7 h6 32.Qd4 Qxf1 There is nothing better. 33.Qxf1 Qxf1 34.Qxf1 Qxf1 35.Qxf1+ Qh7 36.Qe7 The fireworks are over and White prepares for the victorious advance of the d-pawn.

36...e8 37.g2 h5 38.d6 g4 39.hxg4 hxg4 40.e5 h6 41.d7 d8 42...g8+ Qg8 43.Qg6 44.Kf7 45.Kf7 wins. 43...Qg6 44.d8=Q Qxd8 45...Qxd8 b5 46.Qf2 Qf5 47.e3 e5 48.d3 d5 49...c3 g3 50.h4 g2 51.f2 a5 52.b4 Qe4 Hoping for 53. bxa5?. 51...b4 52.Qe5 53...a6 0-1 Black Resigns

0-1

○ Capablanca, J.
• Corzo, J.

Cuban Championship Match

Havana

1902 1-0 D02

At age 12 Capablanca won this set match with Juan Corzo. Reinfield in THE IMMORTAL GAMES OF CAPABLANCA notes that this game with the Cuban champion “is perhaps the most remarkable of Capablanca’s career: the arduous jockeying for position in the middle game, the delightful and carefully calculated Queen sacrifice and the ensuing accurate endgame play – all are worked out with a skill which is astonishing in one so young.”

1d4 d5 2...e6 3.e3 e6 4.b3 Unusual. In MY CHESS CAREER Capa wrote: “I began to play with the conviction that my adversary was superior to me; he knew all the openings, and I knew none...he had the experience and all the tricks that go along with it, while I was a novice. The first two games were quickly won by him, but something in the third, which was a draw, showed me that he had his weaknesses and gave me the necessary courage and confidence. From there on, he did not win a game, but only scored five more draws before I won the four required. 4...e6 5.b2 Qb4 6.Bd2 cxd4 7.exd4 Qd6 8.d3 O-O 9.O-O h5 Simply 9...Bd7 is called for instead.

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36...e8 37.g2 h5 38.d6 g4 39.hxg4 hxg4 40.e5 h6 41.d7 d8 42...g8+ Qg8 43.Qg6 44.Kf7 45.Kf7 wins. 43...Qg6 44.d8=Q Qxd8 45...Qxd8 b5 46.Qf2 Qf5 47.e3 e5 48.d3 d5 49...c3 g3 50.h4 g2 51.f2 a5 52.b4 Qe4 Hoping for 53. bxa5?. 51...b4 52.Qe5 53...a6 0-1 Black Resigns

0-1

○ Pillsbury, H.
• Lasker, E.
Cambridge Springs 1904  1-0  D40

Pillsbury was already suffering from the illness that would snatch him away in another two years. Yet Pillsbury drives to victory in this landmark tournament by beating the world champion in a variation he lost with eight years earlier. The attack on the Black King caught in the center is the finest in the literature of the game.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.dxe6 fxe6 4.Qf3 c5 5.g5 exd4 6.Qxd4 Qc6 7.Qf6 The improvement on 7.Qb4, as played at St. Petersburg, 1896 against the same opponent. (See Classic Game number 23.) 7...gx6 8.b4 dxc4 9.Qd1 d7 10.e3 e5 11.dxe5 fxe5 12.wxf6 wxf6 13.a4 wxb2 The famous “poisoned pawn” lures Lasker from simple development. 14.O-O w8 15.Qd3 e7 16.e4 w7 17.Qd6+ w8 18.Qc4 w5 19.f4 In spite of Black’s compact position this line-opening thrust wins quickly. Best now was 19...e5, giving back the pawn to close lines. 19...exf4 20.wxf4 f6 21.wxf4 w5 22.e5 e8 23.g4 f5 24.wh6+ w7 25.w4 A thunderbolt, made possible by the potential fork at e5. 25...w6 26.wxf5+ wxf5 27.w1 wxf1+ 28.wxf1 d7 29.w5+ w8 30.w5 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Schlechter, C.
● Marco, G.
?

Monte Carlo 1904  1-0  D63

The post-Steinitz era was thought by many to be a time of dull play in comparison to the previous century, culminating in Capablanca’s prediction of a “draw death.” But the greatest masters of the period were still able to rise above the uniformity of style and produce such slybrly games as the following.


1-0

○ Lasker, Em.
● Napier, W.
?

Cambridge Springs 1904  1-0  B34

It is not often that a player will name one of his losses as the best game he ever played, but such was the case with William Napier’s celebrated game against Emanuel Lasker. In many ways this game is archetypal of Lasker’s play; it rarely mattered to him whether he stood better or worse, but only whether the tension could be maintained.

1.e4 c5 2.Qc3 Qc6 3.Qf3 g6 4.d4 exd4 5.Qxd4 d6 6.Qc3 d6 7.h3 The usual plans for White in this “Dragon” variation are Be2 followed by Kingside castling and a central advance with f2-f4, or f2-f3 followed by O-O-O and a pawn attack on the Kingside with h2-h4-h5. Instead White chooses to advance his Kingside pawns before securing his King, and Black correctly responds by opening the center. 7...w6 8.g4 O-O 9.g5 w8 10.h4 w7 11.f4 e5 12.d6 d5 Logical, but safer was the preparatory 12...Bf4. The text leads to unfathomable complications, which at first glance – and even second and third – seem to favor Black. 13.exd5 Qxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd5 A strong intermediate move; after 15.Nxd5 exd4 Black recovers all of his material with advantage. 15.Qf5 Qxc3 16.Qxd8 Qxd8 17.Qe7+ Qh8 It is remarkable how long the Black Knight remains untouched at c3. Now neither 18.Nxc8 nor 18.bxc3 exf4 19.Bd4 Bxd4 20.exd4 Re8 are satisfactory for White. 18.h5 With the sudden threat of 19.hxg6 fxg6 20.Nxg6+ Kg8 21.Bc4+ Nd5 22.Bxd5+ Rxd5 23.Ne7+. 18...e8 19.Qe5 Qxh5 Preventing the threat described above. White still does not wish to take the Ne3, for after 20.bxc3 Bf8 21.Bb5 Rxe7 22.Bxe7 Bxe7 Black would have more than enough for the Exchange. 20.Bf4 exf4 21.Bxf7 Qe4 A very fine conception, which might well have succeeded against a lesser player than Lasker. 22.Qxf8 Qxb2 23.b1 Qc3+ 24.Bf1 Qg4 Despite his extra Rook, White’s position is none too happy – Black threatens Rxh8, Nxc5, Nd2+ and Ng3+. But now Lasker returns all the material to retrace the initiative, and soon proves that the Black King is less safe than the White. 25.Qh5 Qxh5 26.Qxh5 Qg3+ 27.Qg2 Qxh5 28.Qxb7 Qa5 29.Qb3 Qg7 30.Qh3 Qg3 31.Qf3 The once exposed White King becomes a strong attacking piece, and the Black f4 pawn cannot be held, as 31...Be5 is met by 32.Ng6+. 31...Qa6 32.Qxf4
\begin{verbatim}
\textcopyright e2+ 33. \textcopyright f5 \textcopyright c3 34.a3 \textcopyright a4 35. \textcopyright e3 There is no good defense to the threat of g3-g6. 35... \textcopyright f8 36. \textcopyright d4+ \textcopyright g7 37.g6 Black Resigns.
1-0

- Rotlevi, G.
- Rubinstein, A.

\textbf{Lodz Poland}
1907 0-1 D40
Akiba Rubinstein deserved a title match but never got one. Had he faced Lasker in 1910 (instead of Schlechter) he might well have realized his life’s ambition. His most famous brilliancy has been reprinted in numerous anthologies.

1.d4 d5 2.\textcopyright f3 e6 3.e3 Considered too passive because it hems in the bishop. 3...c5 4.c4 \textcopyright c6 5.\textcopyright c3 \textcopyright f6 6.\textcopyright dxe5 Only helps Black develop. Better is 6. Bd3 or a3. 6...\textcopyright xec5 7.a3 \textcopyright b6 8.b4 \textcopyright d6 9.\textcopyright b2 O-O 10.\textcopyright d2 Lasing more time. Either here or on the next move more logical is 10. cxd5 exd5 11. Be2. 10...\textcopyright e7 11.\textcopyright d3 \textcopyright c4 12.\textcopyright xc4 b5 13.\textcopyright d3 \textcopyright d8 14.\textcopyright e2 \textcopyright b7 15.\textcopyright c6 16.\textcopyright d5 \textcopyright f5 17.f4 Sadly weakening the kingside. 17...\textcopyright c7 18.e4 Another display of suicidal tendencies. 18. Rad1 is indicated. 18...\textcopyright ac8 19.e5 \textcopyright b6+ 20.\textcopyright h1 \textcopyright g4 21.\textcopyright e4 \textcopyright h4 22.g3 If 22. h3 Bxe4 23. Nxe4 Ne3 is fatal. 22...\textcopyright xc3 23.gxh4 \textcopyright d2 24.\textcopyright dxe2 \textcopyright dxe2+ 25.\textcopyright g2 \textcopyright h3 White Resigns in the face of ...Rxh2 mate.

1-0

- Marshall, F.
- Capablanca, J.

\textbf{New York}
1909 1-0 D53
Frank Marshall, victor at Cambridge Springs, 1904, wrote that he thought this Cuban student would be a pushover. But the U.S. Championship was on the line, and the match was contested in several cities around New York. Marshall’s lone victory came at Scranton, Pennsylvania, game seven. He took only 45 minutes to contrive an elegant finish.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.\textcopyright c3 \textcopyright f6 4.\textcopyright g5 \textcopyright e7 5.e3 \textcopyright e4 The Lasker Defense, which is revived from time to time, hopes to simplify the position. 6.\textcopyright xe7 \textcopyright xe7 7.\textcopyright d3 More usual is 7. cxd5, gaining a pawn majority in the center at once. 7...\textcopyright xc3 8.bxc3 \textcopyright d7 9.\textcopyright f3 O-O 10.exd5 exd5 11.\textcopyright b3 \textcopyright f6 12.a4 \textcopyright c5 Black can now hold the center with c6, but has underestimated the intent of 12. a4.

13.\textcopyright a3 b6 14.a5 \textcopyright b7 15.O-O \textcopyright c7 16.\textcopyright fb1 \textcopyright d7 17.\textcopyright f5 \textcopyright fd8 This loses a pawn. Black had to return the knight to f6. 18. \textcopyright xd7 \textcopyright xd7 19.a6 \textcopyright c6 20.\textcopyright dxc5 \textcopyright bx5 21.\textcopyright wc5 \textcopyright ab8 Black has allowed Ne5 just to set up this trap. 22.\textcopyright xb8 \textcopyright xb8 23.\textcopyright e5 \textcopyright f5 24.f4 The King is quite safe at f2 and g3. 24...\textcopyright b6 So that 25. Nxc6 allows perpetual check by 25...Rb1+ 26. Rxh1 Qxh1+ 27. Kg3 Qg6+, etc. 25.\textcopyright xb6 Black Resigns.
1-0

- Rubinstein, A.
- Lasker, E.

\textbf{St. Petersburg}
1909 1-0 D32
In this and a famous win over Capablanca, the enigmatic Polish émigré uses the same maneuver, Qc1, at a crucial point. Rubinstein parries the World Champion’s tactical diversions and wins a fine endgame.

1.d4 d5 2.\textcopyright f3 \textcopyright f6 3.c4 e6 4.\textcopyright g5 \textcopyright c5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.\textcopyright c3 exd4 7.\textcopyright xd4 \textcopyright c6 8.e3 \textcopyright e7 9.\textcopyright b5 \textcopyright d7 10.\textcopyright xc6 \textcopyright x6 11.\textcopyright xd5 The win of the pawn is temporary, but this time Lasker’s opponent has seen a little deeper. 11...\textcopyright xd4 12.\textcopyright d4 \textcopyright g5 13.\textcopyright xc6 \textcopyright xc6 14.\textcopyright e3 O-O-O Now 14...Bxg2 15. Rg1 Qa5+ 16. Qd2 Qxd2+ 17. Kxd2 Be4! 18. Rxg7?Bg6. But 18. Re1 would keep the initiative. Lasker chooses to complicate. 15.O-O \textcopyright he8 16.\textcopyright c1 \textcopyright xe3 17.\textcopyright xc6+ bxc6 18.\textcopyright c1 A celebrated "in-between" move that gains an endgame advantage. 18...\textcopyright xd4 19.fxe3 \textcopyright d7 A pawn must go. 20.\textcopyright xc6+ \textcopyright b8 21.\textcopyright f4 \textcopyright f5 22.\textcopyright e5 \textcopyright e7 23.\textcopyright xc6+ \textcopyright xex7 24.\textcopyright xc6+ \textcopyright d8 25.\textcopyright e2+ 26.\textcopyright f3 \textcopyright xb2 27.\textcopyright a5 \textcopyright b7 28.\textcopyright a6 Black is doomed to passive play while the White King and pawns advance: 28...\textcopyright f8 29.e4 \textcopyright e7 30.h4 \textcopyright f7 31.g4 \textcopyright f8 32.\textcopyright f4 \textcopyright e7 33.h5 h6 34.\textcopyright f5 \textcopyright f7 35.\textcopyright e5 \textcopyright b7 36.\textcopyright d6 \textcopyright b6 37.\textcopyright a6 \textcopyright f7 38.\textcopyright d6 \textcopyright f8 39.\textcopyright c6 \textcopyright f7 40.a3 Finally, a waiting move decides. The Black Rook has only one "Safe" square, e7, which allows 41. e6+, and after a King move comes 41. Kg6. Black Resigns.
1-0

- Frederic Lazard
- Amadee Gibaud

\textbf{France}
1909 1-0 C54
These two Frenchmen are famous for the supposedly shortest decisive tournament game ever between two masters, in 1921 (l. d4 Nf6 2. N.d2 e5

19

\end{verbatim}
3. dxe5 Ng4 4. h3!! Ne3! and White resigns as he must either drop his queen or get mated – yet it never really happened! This game, however, is real. “After we have paid our dutiful respects to such frigid virtues as calculation, foresight, self control and the like, we always come back to the thought that speculative attack is the lifeblood of chess. In this game, at any rate, White pawn sacrifice on spec yields rich dividends.” – Fred Reinfeld

1.e4 e5 2. Qf3 c6 3. c4 c5 4.d4 exd4 5.c3 Qf6 Here 5...dxc3 6. Nxc3 would transpose into a Scotch Gambit. 6.cxd4 b5+ 7.c3 xe4

8.O-O xc3 9.d5 f6 A more popular alternative is 9...Ne5. 10.e1 Qg7 11. xe4 d6 12.g4 Aptly named the Bayonet Attack. Better is 12.h6 After 12...O-O! 14. g5 Be5 15. Nxe5 dxe5 16. Rxe5 regains the pawn but White is saddled with several pawn weaknesses. 13.h4 f8 14.h5 To stop ...Ng6. 14...g5 15.d4 c6 Its dangerous to start operations before safeguarding the king. Correct is 15...Kg7 16. Qf3 Re8 when White doesnt have enough for the sacrificed pawn.

16...f3 cxd5 Instead of going after more material 16...Kg7 is essential. 17. d2 c7 Necessary now is 17...Bxd4 18. Rxd4 Be6. 18. ae1 d5 19. b4+ g5 Black expects to win a piece, but now comes a whole series of hammer blows. 20. e7 dxe4 No better is 20...Bxe7 21. Rxe7 Rb8 22. Be3! Qxe7 23. Nf5 Kh7 24. Nxe7. 21. gxf6! Kxf6 22. Be3 22. Qf7+ xf7 23. e7+ g8 24.wf6 h7 25. e8+ If 25...Nxe8 26. Qf8 mate. This glorious battle received a brilliancy prize. Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Janowski, D.  
• Lasker, E.

? 10th Match Game, Berlin

1910 1-0 D94

This game has ignited intense controversies, both from its shrouded history and its play. For many years it was believed that Schlechter, ahead by a point in the final game, had only to draw to win the world championship. Why did he, the “drawing master,” suddenly decide to play for a win? Later research has shown that the match terms forced the challenger to win both games, and this fact entered into Fischer’s controversy with FIDE over the defense of his title in 1973. At a critical stage, Schlechter misses the winning maneuver and becomes only a footnote in chess championship history.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.O-O f5 4.e3 g6 5.c3 g7 6.d3 O-O 7.Qc2 Qg6 8.a3 dxe4 9.Qxe4 b5 10. d3 b4 11.Qa4 bx3 12.bxa3 Bb7 13.Qb1 Qc8 14.Qf5 Qb7 15.g4 Lasker suddenly changes the complexion of the game, which might have been placid after the natural 15. O-O. 15...xe5 16.gxh5 g7 17.hxg6 hxg6 18.Qc4 Qc8 Asking for 19. Bxg6 Be6 20. Bxf7+ Bxe7 21. Qxa6 Bd5 21...e1 22.Qc2 Qh5 23.Qh1 g6 Relying on the simple combination 23...fxg6 24. Qh6+ 25. Qxh6 f7 26.Qxh7 Qe8 The refutation: if now 27. Qx6 Rxf2 28. Rxf2 Rxf2! 29. Qe8+ Kh7 30. Qg4 Rxd2 31. Qf3 Rg2! and wins. 27.Qh8 28.f4 g5 It’s now a dog fight. 29.Qb3 Qxg4 30.exf4 Qh4+ 31.Qe2 Qxe2+ 32.Qxe2 Qxe2+ 33.Qf3 Qf7 With the knight finally in play Black has everything to hope for. 34.Qxe6 Qb5 35.Qc4 Qxf4 With the World Championship in his grasp, Schlechter becomes brilliant, when the methodical 35...Rd8 36. Be3 e5! would have capped
an orgy of pins. Now Lasker escapes, and saves his crown. 36...fxf4 37...e5+ 38...f2
h2+ 39...e1 h1+ The game is drawn if Black can force the exchange of Rook and Queen at
f3 39...Qh4+, etc. But Black had to win to
gain the title. 40...Rxf1 41.d2 Qxh1+ 42.g3
39.g2+ The game is drawn if Black
White saves his Queen pawn. 40...h4+
Rxf1+ 43.gxf1+ 39.g2+ The game is drawn if Black

Lasker struggles to survive the opening. At a
despairing Queen sacrifice, and Lasker swiftly
win a drawn position in the final game (see Lasker-

39.xg7 Qxg7 53...b3 e8 54...b8+ c7
55...xe3 Qxe3+ 56...d6 Qxd7+ 57...b3 Qxb7+
58...e2 Qxe2 59.d3 Qd6 60...g5 Qd7 61...e5
c2+ 62...d2 Qd4 64...f5+ c7 65...e4 c2+ 66...b6
62...d2 Qd8 63...b3 c6 69...c2+ b7 70...d4 a7
71...c5 Black Resigns.

1-0

Lasker, Em.
• Janowski, D.

5th Match Game, Berlin
1910 1-0 D32

Janowski obtains his famous bishop pair and has
Lasker struggling to survive the opening. At a

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...c3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.f3
3...c6 6...e4 dxe4 7...xe4 e6 8...c3 exd4
9...e5+ 10...c3 O-O 11...c6 12...b4 Qc5
13...e5 Qe5 Lasker has been outplayed in his
haste to attack the enemy King. Now he hatches
a plot. 14...c1 a6 15.fxe3 16...c2
17...c3 Qb4+ The Queen sacrifice 17...Qxc3+
18...Nxc3 Nxd4 would have left the White king
dangerously exposed. Now Lasker swarms back.
18...g3 Qg4 19.O-O Qf6 20...fxe6 gxf6 21...f3
Qc5 22...xa7+ Qc7 23...axc6 bxc6 24...xc6+ Qh8
25...b6+ Qg8 26...c1+ Qd7 27...xe6
fxe6 28...b7+ Qe8 29...c6+ Black Resigns.
1-0

Carlschlechter
• Emanuel Lasker

Match (1)

Vienna
1910 1/2-1/2 C66

Lasker saw chess, above all, as a struggle. Strength of
color and iron nerves enabled him to occupy
the throne for 25 years, from 1894-1921, longer
than anyone else. Here he saved his title on a 5-5
tie after losing game five but came from behind to

1.e4 e5 2...c4 Qc5 3.b4 f6 4.O-O d6 5.d4
e7 6...c1 exd4 7...xd4 Qc7 8...e3 0-0
9...c6 Relinquishing the two bishops to wreck
Black’s pawn structure. 9...bxc6 10...g5 Qe8
11...f3 h6 12...h4 Qh7 To ease the cramp by
swapping bishops. A mistake would be 11...Ng4?
12...Bxe7 Qxe7 13...dxd6+ 14...xd6

15...h3 Qg6 16...g3 Qg5 Once again seeking to
relieve pressure by exchanges. 17...Qxg5 hxg5
18...f6 19...f2 Qf7 20...d2 a5 21...b3 Qe8
22...c1 Qc6 23...d3 c5 24...b2 Qe5 After
24...a4 25...Nd5 Bxd5 26...Rxd5 cxb3 27...Rxg5
Black’s a-pawn would become vulnerable. 25...Qd7
26...c3 Qc6 27...c3 28...a4 Qf5 29...c3 Qe8
30...d4 Qc4 31...Qd3+ 32...xc4
33...c3 Qe5 34...fxe5 Qxe5 35...g3 Qh8 36...fxg4
37...d5+ Qf7 38...xf4 White now has a concrete
advantage due to his passed h-pawn. 38...b7
39...g2 c4 Weary of defending, Lasker seeks
counterplay on the bishop file. 40...bxc4 41.c5
Qxa4 42...cxd6 cxd6 43...c7+ Qf6 44...d5+
Qg5 45.h4+ Qh6 46...c7 Qf8 47...d1 Qf7
Trying to hold the pawn is useless. If 45...c4 48.
Kf2 threatens Rd4. 48...cxd6+ Qh7 49...e6 Qg6
50...Qg6 Qxe7 51...ge6 Qxe7 52...xe7+ Qg6
53...c6+ Qf7 53...c4 Ra3 54...Ra6 is the best
winning chance. 54...f3 Qe4 Pitching a second
pawn to prevent c4 followed by Kf4. Inade-
quate is 54...Ra5 55...Ra4 56...Qf1 57...Qf6
58...Qf6 59...Qc5 Qf6 60...a5+ Qf6 61...

62...Qg2 Qf6 64...h3 Qc6 Avoiding the trap 64...f4?
moves.

14...Qh5 is a winning attack, e.g. 14.Re8 15.

...dxe5 8.O–O–O

f5+ 13.Rh5+ Kf7 26.Rxd7+ Kg8


Rubinstein earned his reputation as an endgame specialist with games like this. (See also Classic Game number 36.) To outplay Capablanca, even a pawn up, required the highest artistry.

1.d4 d5 2.e3 c5 3.c4 e6 4.exd5 exd5 5.e3 c6

6.g3 e6 7.g2 e7 8.O–O Oe8 9.dxc5 xc5 10.O–O f6 11.exc6 fx6 12.h3 The beginning of an unusual attack on Black’s weak center.

12...e7 13.g5 O–O 13...Rc8 was necessary. 14.h6+ Kg7 15.h5+ Kh8 h3+ 11.Kc7 11.Bd8) 11.Rd8.

1–0

Rubinstein, A.

Capablanca, J.

San Sebastian

1911

1–0

D33

Lasker, Ed.

Thomas, G.

London

1911

1–0

A80
The noted chess author Edward Lasker should not be confused with his distant cousin Emanuel. The young German player visited a London chess club in 1912 and was invited to play a game with the club champion Sir George Thomas. The result was a brilliancy which has graced the anthologies ever since.

1.d4 f5 2.e3 e6 3.d3 c5 4.f3 d5 5.g3 d7 White meets Black’s Dutch Defense with an attempt to open the game with e2-e4. The most logical response to the placement of the White Knight on c3 is d7-d5, adopting a “Stonewall” formation, but this is not to everyone’s taste. 4...e7 5.exf6 xf6 6.e4 fxe4 7.xe4 b6 8.d3 b7 9.e5 O-O So that if 11.Nxf6+ gxf6, the Queen defends the h7 pawn. With four pieces attacking the Black King and only the Nf6 defending, it seems that there should be a combination, and indeed there is. 10.h5 e7 11.xh7+ xe7 12.f6+xe6 Or 12...Kh8 13.Ng6++. From now on, all Black’s moves are forced. 13.ge4+ gf5 14.h4+xf4 15.g3+xf3 16.e2+ gf2 17.h2+gf1 18.d2
d2# 1-0

○ Capablanca, J.
• Bernstein, O.
?
San Sebastian
1911 1-0 C66
The young Capablanca was admitted to this event, intended to be limited to those who had taken at least two third prizes in international tournaments, only at the insistence of Frank Marshall, who Capa had beaten in a match two years before. The Cuban won the event convincingly, losing only one game to Rubinstein. Ossip Bernstein had been one of the most vocal opponents of Capablanca’s admission to the tournament, and by chance they met in the first round.

1.e4 e5 2.d3 f3 f6 3.b5 f3 d6 4.O-O e7 5.c3 d6 6.bxc6 bxc6 7.d4 exd4 8.xd4 d7 Black has adopted the Steinitz Defense to the Ruy Lopez, in which he obtains a cramped but solid position. The doubled Black c-pawn deprives White of the use of the d5 square, and Black may hope for counterplay on the b-file. On the whole, White stands slightly better. 9.b5 O-O 10.c1 h6 11.h4 h7 12.xe7 xe7 13.d3 In a cramped position, it is generally a good idea to exchange a few pieces to obtain greater freedom of movement. 13.ad1 e5 In the days when this defense was popular, it was more common for Black to regroup with ...Rfe8, Nh7-f8-g6, eyeing the e5 square. 15.ad1 e5 16.e3 fxe6 17.e2f5 ec5 The threat against the a2-pawn proves not to be a real one, for after 18...Qxa2 19.Qc3 (threatening to trap the Queen with 20.Ra1) Qa6, White would obtain a strong attack with something like 20.Nf4 d6 21.Qg3 g5 22.Ng6 Rf7 23.Nxh6 Kg7 24.Nxh6 g5 25.Nxg6 cxd6 26.Rxd6 Kh7 27.e5. 19.ed4 e7 To meet the threat of 20.Nxc6 Bxc6 21.Ne7+ and 22.Nxc6. The a2 pawn still cannot be captured in view of 19...Qxa2 20.Ra1 Qb7 21.Rb1. 20.g4 Rf8 21.f3 e6 22.e2 Rxa2 Seeing no direct threat, Black thinks that it is time to capture the a-pawn, but 22...Qb6 would have minimized White’s advantage. 23.e3xc3 Rxc3 The only chance of defense was 23...f6, to defend the g7 pawn with ...Rf7. 24.e1 b2 25.a5 b5 26.a6 c6 27.c2 b4 28.cxb4 Qxb4 29.Qc3 bxc3 30.Qxc3 b6 31.c4f6+ g5 32.h5 e8 33.f5+ Qxf5 34.Qg3+ Qf4 35.Qh4+ Black Resigns.

○ Rubinstein, A.
• Spielmann, R.
San Sebastian
1912 0-1 A85
Spielmann was noted for his tactical ability. In his book THE ART OF SACRIFICE, he wrote: "The beauty of a game of chess is usually assessed, and not without good reason, according to the sacrifices it contains." He classified this as a King hunt.

conviction that favorable variations would occur as a matter of course” – Spielmann. 26.\textit{xe}4 \textit{f1 26. Bxe4 \textit{Rf1}+ 27. \textit{Kg1}+ 29. \textit{Kf3} \textit{Qh4}+ 30. \textit{Kg2} \textit{Qh6} and Spielmann noted, “He who would not boldly undertake to win such a position with Black will never go far in the domain of the sacrifice.” 26...\textit{f1}+ 27. \textit{xf1} \textit{xf1}+ 28. \textit{g2} \textit{w2}+ 29. \textit{h3} \textit{h1} Black is a Rook down, but drives the King to the fourth rank. Such an attack must get home!” – Spielmann 30. \textit{xf3} \textit{wxb2}+ 31. \textit{g4} \textit{wxb2}+ 32. \textit{f4} \textit{h6}+ 33. \textit{g5} \textit{g5} Threatening...\textit{Qh5} mate. 34. \textit{xe6} \textit{xe6}+ 35. \textit{f5} Also hopeless is 35. \textit{Kxg5} h6+ 36. \textit{Kf4} Re1. 35...h6 36. \textit{d3} \textit{g7} 37. \textit{f3} \textit{f1}+ 38.\textit{xf1} \textit{xf1}+ 39. \textit{g2} \textit{xf1}+ 40. \textit{xf1} \textit{axb4} 41. \textit{axb4} \textit{f6} 42. \textit{f2} \textit{h5} White Resigns 0-1

\textbf{Ossip Bernstein}

\textbf{Akiba Rubinstein}

\textbf{San Sebastian}

\textbf{Spain}

1912 0-1 C80

Tarrasch was noted for his exemplary handling of the two bishops. Here is a striking example.

1.e4 \textit{c5} 2. \textit{f3} \textit{c6} 3. \textit{b5} \textit{a6} 4. \textit{a4} \textit{f6} 5.0-O \textit{xe4} "This I hold to be the best – and completely satisfactory – defense to the Ruy Lopez” – Tarrasch. Half a century later Korchnoi revived it with some success. 6.\textit{d4} \textit{b5} 7. \textit{\textb3} \textit{d5} 8.\textit{a4} "This move that once seemed to strong almost deserves a "?" for after it White has difficulty equalizing” – Tarrasch. Nowadays 8. \textit{dxe5} is routine. 8...\textit{\textc3} 9. \textit{\textd4} \textit{\textd4} 10. \textit{\textc3} \textit{\textc3} 11.\textit{\textx{c}e5} \textit{\textc5} 12.\textit{\textb5} \textit{\texte7} 13.\textit{\textd3} Tarrasch suggests 13. \textit{dxe5} \textit{cxd4} 14. \textit{\textx{c}e5} \textit{\textf5} 15.\textit{\textx{c}e5} \textit{\textd6} 16. \textit{\textb1} Not 16. \textit{\textb2}? Qd7! snaring a piece. 16...\textit{\textx{a}e6} 17.\textit{\textx{b}a6} \textit{\textx{b}a5} 18. \textit{\textb1} \textit{\textc3} Hemming in the bishop and for all. 19.\textit{\textx{g}3} \textit{\textc8} 20.\textit{\textf4} \textit{\textf5} 21.\textit{\textx{d}1} \textit{\texth6} 22. \textit{\textx{h}1} \textit{\textb6} Not 22...\textit{\textx{a}6} 23. \textit{\textx{c}e3} due to the back rank mate. 23.\textit{\textx{h}3} \textit{\textx{b}8} 24. \textit{\textc3} \textit{\textx{a}x{a}6} \textit{\textb5} 25.\textit{\textx{c}1} \textit{\textd1} \textit{\textw{a}1} 26.\textit{\textw{a}1} \textit{\textc4} 27.\textit{\textx{h}2} \textit{\texte7} 28.\textit{\textf{f}1} \textit{\textf5} 29. \textit{\textc1} \textit{\textb4} White’s bishops are locked behind a wall of pawns and he is now forced to weaken his kingside. 30.\textit{\textg{3}} \textit{\texte7} 31. \textit{\textf2} 32. \textit{\textd6} 33. \textit{\textc1} \textit{\texth7} 34. \textit{\textb6} 35. \textit{\textc1} \textit{\texta3} 36. \textit{\textw{e}2} 37. \textit{\textb4} 38. \textit{\textg{5}} 39. \textit{\texth{5}} \textit{\textx{b}1} 40. \textit{\textx{b}1} \textit{\textb1} \textit{\textc4} \textit{\textw{g}4} \textit{\textc1} White Resigns in view of 42. \textit{\textc5} \textit{\textg{6}} 43. \textit{\textq{4}} Bxf4+! 44. \textit{\textx{f}4} \textit{\textg{5}+}.

\textbf{Frank Marshall}

\textbf{Match}

\textbf{Biarritz}

1912 0-1 C42

A surprising queen sacrifice punishes White for his sins in the opening. "One ideal was always
with me: to play the most interesting and beautiful chess of which I was capable. From 1900 to 1925 Janowsky and I must have played something like 100 serious games. This is the most sparking of the lot – Marshall.

1.e4 e5 2.\_f3 \_f6 3.\_xe5 d6 4.\_f3 \_xe4 5.d4 d5 6.\_d3 \_d6 More aggressive than the customary 6...Be7. 7.e4 Premature. Better is 7. O-O Bg4 8. c4 O-O?! 9. cxd5 f5 10. Nc3 as in Spielmann-Marshall, Hamburg 1910. 7...b4 8.\_f1 This has little to recommend it, but if 8. Nbd2 O-O 9. O-O Bxd2! 10. Bxd2 Bg4 gives Black fine play. 8...O-O 9.exd5 \_xd5 10.\_c2 \_e8 11.\_c3 This harmless-looking move proves fatal. Better is 11. Be3. 11...\_xc3 12.bxc3 \_xf3 Some of Marshall’s most sensational moves look like typographical errors. 13.\_xb4 He dare not capture the queen since 13. gx3? Bh3 14. Kg1 Re1 mates. 13...\_e6 14.\_b2 As so often happens, White is a victim of sacrificial shock. Better is 14. h3. Now comes a second shock. 14...\_xb4 15.\_h7+ \_h8 16.\_xf3 Accepting the challenge. If 16. Qc4 Bh3! is unpleasant. 16...\_h3+ 17.\_g1 \_xc2 18.\_xc2 \_e2 19.\_c1 \_c8 No rest for the weary. White is a piece down and the queens are gone, but his attack is still in full swing. 20.\_c3 \_e3 Inelegant – but 20...Rxc3! 21. Rxc3 Re6! is a quicker finish. 21.\_b4 No better is 21. fxe3 Rg2 22. Kg1 Rxe2 23. Kg1 Rg2 24. Kg1 Rxb2 with a winning tactic known as a windmill. 21...\_xf3 Now White is helpless. If 22. Re1 Rfx2 23. Rxe2 Rf1 mate. 22.\_d1 \_f6 Elegant to the end. If 23. Bxf3 Rg6 forces mate. White Resigns.

0-1

○ Levitzky, S.
• Marshall, F.

Breslau
1912 0-1 C10

Though he was not quite the equal of Lasker or Capablanca, Frank Marshall was for many years one of the top half-dozen players in the world, and a formidable tournament competitor. His aggressive attitude, combinational flair and imagination produced an amazing number of brilliant games like this one. It is said that after the startling conclusion, the spectators sawed the board with gold coins.

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.\_c3 \_c5 A double-edged system which Marshall long played with success, for he had no aversion to accepting a positional weakness for tactical chances. 4.\_f3 \_f6 5.exd5 exd5 6.\_e2 \_f6 7.O-O \_e7 8.\_g5 O-O 9.dxc5 \_e6 10.d4 \_xc5 11.\_xe6 A dubious idea; Black obtains strong central pawns and open f-file, and White will never have time to exploit the potentially weak c6 pawn. 11...\_xe6 12.\_g4 \_d6 13.\_h3 \_ae8 14.\_d2 Now Black obtains a clear advantage. The defensive 14.a3 was certainly better. 14...b4 15.\_xf6 \_xf6 16.\_d1 White had to meet the threats of both \_Nf6-e5 and \_d5-d4, but now Black’s Rooks become very active. 16...\_c5 17.\_e2 Embarking on what he believes to be an exchanging combination, but Marshall has seen further. Better was 17.a3 Bxc3 18.Qxc3 Qxc3 19.bxc3, though Black now stands clearly better in the endgame. 17...\_xc3 18.bxc3 \_xc3 19.\_xd5 \_d4 20.\_h5 White had seen this far – on 20.Qe5? \_Nf3+! 21.gxf3 Rg6+ wins, but now if 20...g6 21.Qe5 is playable. However ... 20...\_e8 21.\_e5 Perhaps White had planned 21.Re5, overlooking 21... \_xf2! (22.Rxf2 \_Qe+1, or 22.g3 \_Ne2+ 23.Kh1 \_Rxh1+). 21...\_b6 22.\_g5 On 22.Qg4, 22...\_Nf3+, discovering on the undefended Re5 would win routinely. 22...\_h3 23.\_e5 Not 23.exh3? \_Nf3+. Now White hopes for something like 23...\_Qb4 24.Rc7 g6 25.Qe5, but Black finishes the game elegantly. 23...\_g3 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Nimzowitsch, A.
• Tarrasch, S.
?

St. Petersburg
1914 0-1 D30

Tarrasch was the great explicator of Steinitz’s theories, though he provoked the “Hypermodern” reaction through his dogmatism and rejection of those aspects of the game not congenial to his own style. In the use of a space advantage and active pieces he had few peers, and here he gives another example of the double-bishop sacrifice, as in Lasker-Bauer.

1.d4 d5 2.\_f3 c5 3.e4 c6 4.\_e3 \_f6 5.d3 \_c6 6.O–O \_d6 7.b3 O–O 8.\_b2 b6 9.\_bd2 \_b7 10.\_c1 \_e7 11.exd5 \_xc5 12.\_h4 \_g6 13.\_h3 \_ad8 14.dxc5 \_bxc5 15.\_b5 \_e4 16.\_b6 \_xa6 17.\_e2 \_xe2 18.\_xe2 \_d4 19.\_exd4 \_xh2+ 20.\_g1 \_h4+ 21.\_g1 \_xg2 22.\_f3 If 22.Kxg2 \_Qg4+ 23.Kh2 Rd5 and 24.Rh5++. 22...\_fe8 23.\_e4 \_h1+ 24.\_f2 \_xf1 25.\_d5 The White Queen is lost on 25.Rxf1 \_Qh2+, and 25.Nf6+ \_Kf8 26.Nxe8 \_Qg2+ 27.Kc3 Rxe8+ 28.Kf4 \_g5+ 29.Kf5 \_Qxe2+ 30.Re2 \_Bd3+ leaves Black with an extra Rook. 25...f5 26.\_c3 \_g2+ 27.\_e3 \_xe4+ 28.\_xe4 \_f4+ 29.\_xf4
32.Rd1 Ne5+ 33.Ke2 gxb4, and Black stands well with his centrally posted Knight.

32...Rxd6 33.Ng5 34.Qh1 b7 35.e5

A fine move, capping White’s strategic play with a tactical blow. Now the e5 square will be occupied by a Black pawn, and White will use e4 as a pivot point for his Knight.

35...dxe5 36.Qe4

Annotating 37.Qxe6 38.Qxe6+ Kxe6, with a pawn for his Knight.

35...Rd7 36.fxe5 37.Rd5 38.Qe8 39.Qh8 40.Qf8+ Rg8 41.Qe8 42.c5 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Spielmann, R.
• Flamberg, A.

Mannheim
1914 1-0 C29

Rudolf Spielmann was in many ways a man out of his proper time. Dubbed “the last knight of the King’s Gambit,” he sought a return to the swashbuckling style of Morphy and Anderssen.


A surprising choice in a “must-win” situation, for the Exchange Variation is generally considered to allow Black equality. But the equality is of a dynamic nature, as Black must use his two Bishops to counterbalance the Knight he will post at e6, which will prevent enlivening Black’s play was the Budapest Gambit, in which masters scored against opponents who had not assimilated the “new” principles of positional play but generally drew with one another. One of the attempts to enliven Black’s play was the Budapest Gambit, a sharp pawn sacrifice upset of the mighty Rubinstein.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Nf6 4.Qf3 5.g4 6.Nf3 Qe7 7.d4 exd4 8.Nxd4 Nxe5 9.Bb5+. Now the e5 square will be occupied by a Black pawn, and White will use e4 as a pivot point for his Knight.


\[ \text{a3} 9. c1 f6 10. exf6 If 10.e6 dxe6 11.Qh5+ g6 12.Qxg4, Black recovers the piece with 12...e5. 10...\text{xf6} 11.\text{d2} d6 12.\text{d4} O-O 13.e3 Surprisingly, this turns out to be a fatal error. White must prevent the entry of the Knight into e4 with 13.f3, when Black’s compensation for the pawn is unclear. 13...\text{xd4} 14.\text{cxd4} \text{e4} 15.\text{xc2} \text{a5+} 16.\text{e2} Not much better was 16.Kd1, in view of 16...\text{b5} 17.\text{Bd3 Nxf2+.} 16...\text{xf4} 17.\text{exf4} \text{f5} 18.\text{b2} \text{c8} 19.\text{f3} \text{d2+} 20.\text{g3} \text{e4+} 21.\text{h4} Had White repeated moves with 21.Kf3, Black would have resorted to the winning line 21...h5 22.h3 b4, closing the mating net. 21...\text{e6} 22.\text{e2} \text{h6= 23.\text{h5} =xh5+} 24.\text{g6}+ White Resigns. 1-0
\]

○ Capablanca, J.
- Janowski, D.

? New York 1918 1-0 D30
During the First World War, only a handful of tournaments were held, and those in the United States without most of Europe’s great players. Capablanca performed almost flawlessly during this period, earning the nickname “The Chess Machine.” Here is a splendid example of a brilliancy prize game that is largely positional.

1.d4 d5 2.\text{f3} \text{f6} 3.c4 e6 4.\text{g5} \text{bd7} 5.e3 c6 6.\text{bd2} Usual here is 6. \text{Nc3}. 6...\text{e7} 7.\text{d3} dxc4 Allowing the knight to develop strongly, there was no reason to reduce the central tension. 8.\text{xc4} O-O 9.0-0 c5 10.e4 b6 11.\text{e2} \text{b7} 12.\text{f1} \text{d5} 13.\text{d6} \text{c6} 14.e4 \text{f5} Shutting the b1-h7 diagonal, but at the cost of long lasting positional weakness. 15.\text{xe7} \text{xc7} 16.\text{ed2} e5 17.\text{dxe5} \text{xe5} 18.\text{xe5} \text{xe5} 19.\text{f3} \text{e7} 20.\text{d4} As Black cannot stand the pin Bc4 after Bd7, the following exchange is forced. 20...\text{cxd4} 21.\text{xc6} \text{b4} 22.\text{c4+} \text{h8} 23.\text{e6} d3 24.\text{xd3} \text{e5} 25.\text{d4} b6 26.\text{xb5} \text{a5} 27.\text{c4} \text{b4} 28.\text{h5} All of a sudden, the Black king is in trouble. 28...g6 29.\text{xe6} \text{a8} 30.\text{g7} Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Capablanca, J.
- Marshall, F.

? New York 1918 1-0 C89
Marshall launches a fierce counterattack by means of a subtle opening novelty (now known as the Marshall Gambit), but Capa’s chess instinct enables him to thread his way through the pitfalls.

\[ 1.e4 e5 2.\text{f3} \text{c6} 3.b5 \text{a6} 4.a4 \text{f6} 5.O-O \text{e7} 6.\text{c1} b5 7.\text{b3} O-O 8.c3 d5 Marshall’s innovation, sacrificing a pawn for a strong attack. 9.\text{exd5} \text{cxd5} 10.\text{xe5} \text{xe5} 11.\text{xe5} \text{f6} 12.\text{c1} \text{d6} 13.h3 \text{g4} 14.\text{f3} \text{h4} 15.d4 \text{xf2} 16.\text{e2} \text{d4} 17.\text{hxg4} \text{h2+} 18.\text{f1} \text{g3} 19.\text{xf2} \text{h1+} 20.\text{e2} \text{xf2} 21.\text{d2} \text{h4} 22.\text{wh3} \text{ae8+} 23.\text{d3} \text{f1+} 24.\text{c2} \text{e2} 25.\text{f3} \text{g1} 26.\text{d5} c5 27.\text{dxc5} \text{xc5} 28.\text{b4} \text{d6} Or 28...\text{Be3} 29.\text{Bxe3} \text{Rxe3} 30.\text{Nd2} \text{Qxa1} 31.\text{Qxe3}, and White should win with his material advantage. 29.a4 a5 30.\text{bxa5} \text{xb4} 31.\text{a6} \text{bxc3} 32.\text{xc3} \text{b4} 33.b6 \text{xc3} 34.\text{xc3} \text{b6} 35.h7 \text{c3} 36.\text{xf7+} 37.\text{h8=+} 38.\text{h8=+} \text{h6} 39.\text{h8=} 40.\text{h8=} 1-0
\]

○ Alekhine, A.
- Sterk, K.

? Budapest 1921 1-0 D37
Alekhine considered this game very characteristic of his style — maneuvers on the Queenside divert the Black pieces, setting the stage for a surprising mating attack with threats on both sides of the board.

\[ 1.d4 d5 2.f3 \text{f6} 3.\text{c4} e6 4.\text{g5} \text{bd7} 5.e3 \text{d6} 6.b5 \text{c7} 7.\text{c2} c6 8.\text{c3} O-O 9.\text{d4} \text{dxc4} 10.\text{xe4} \text{c5} 11.\text{dx5} \text{xc5} 12.O-O \text{b6} 13.e4 \text{b7} 14.g5 \text{e8} 15.\text{e2} \text{b4} 16.\text{d3} \text{xc3} 17.\text{f1} \text{xc4} The main variation Alekhine analyzed was 17... \text{Ne5} 18.\text{Rxc3} \text{Bxe4} 19.\text{xh6} Bxh6 20. \text{qxe6} \text{gxh6} 21. \text{b4} \text{Bgl} 22.\text{bcx5} \text{Bxh5} 23.\text{Rxc5}, with good chances for the Pawn. 18.\text{xe4} \text{xe4} 19.\text{Rxe4} \text{c5} 20.\text{e2} \text{a5} 21.\text{ab1} \text{a6} 22.\text{c4} \text{a4} 23.\text{f6} \text{f6} Now if 23...\text{h5} 24.\text{Rg4} \text{Qxe2} 25.\text{Rxe2} \text{Kh8} 26. Ng5, and there is no defense to 26.Rh7+ and 27.Rh8++. 23...\text{f6} 24.\text{e5} The main idea is 24...\text{Qxc4} 25.\text{Qg5} \text{Kf8} 26.\text{Qxg7+} \text{Ke8} 27.\text{Qf6+} \text{Kd7} 28.\text{Ne5+} \text{Kc7} 29.\text{Qf7+} and 30.\text{Nxc4}. 24...\text{e5} 25.\text{Rg3} \text{g6} 26.\text{xa4} \text{d3} 27.\text{f1} \text{ac8} 28.\text{d4} \text{w5} 29.\text{w4f} \text{c2} 30.\text{h6} Black Resigns. 1-0
\]

○ Emanuel Lasker
- Jose Capablanca

World Championship Match (10)

? Havana 1921 0-1 D61
This is generally considered the finest game of the match and the one most characteristic of the Cuban’s style. After Capa won the world title effortlessly by the score of 9-5, he wrote: "The one outstanding feature of the match – the one most critics overlook – is that not once did Lasker have a won game." Capablanca’s claim was challenged by Gyula Breyer, a Hungarian master who claimed Lasker probably missed a win in this game on move 17. Capa’s book on the match doesn’t mention it, and the debate over whether White could have won still rages to this day.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.\&c3 \&f6 4.d4 c5 5.e3 g6 6.\&g5 \&c7 5.e3 \&e5 0-0 6.\&f3 \&b7 7.\&c2 \&c5 Ultra sharp. Safer is the stodgy 7...c6. 8.\&d1 Once popular but risky is 8. 0-0-0 which could expose the king to danger. 8...\&a5 9.\&d3 Threatening Bxh7. Better is 9.\&cxd5. Game 7 was eventually drawn after 9.\&cxd5 \&xd5 10. Bxf6! Bxf6 (not 10...exd5 11. Bxf6) 11. Bxe7 \&e7 12. Bxe7+ \&xe7 13. Bxe7 0-0 14.O-O. Safer is 16...\&c4. After Capa won the world title effortlessly by the score of 9-5, he wrote: "The one most-watched feature of the match – the one most critics overlook – is that not once did Lasker have a won game." Capablanca’s claim was challenged by Gyula Breyer, a Hungarian master who claimed Lasker probably missed a win in this game on move 17. Capa’s book on the match doesn’t mention it, and the debate over whether White could have won still rages to this day.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.\&c3 \&f6 4.d4 c5 5.e3 g6 6.\&g5 \&c7 5.e3 \&e5 0-0 6.\&f3 \&b7 7.\&c2 \&c5 Ultra sharp. Safer is the stodgy 7...c6. 8.\&d1 Once popular but risky is 8. 0-0-0 which could expose the king to danger. 8...\&a5 9.\&d3 Threatening Bxh7. Better is 9.\&cxd5. Game 7 was eventually drawn after 9.\&cxd5 \&xd5 10. Bxf6! Bxf6 (not 10...exd5 11. Bxf6) 11. Bxe7 \&e7 12. Bxe7+ \&xe7 13. Bxe7 0-0 14.O-O. Safer is 16...\&c4. After Capa won the world title effortlessly by the score of 9-5, he wrote: "The one most-watched feature of the match – the one most critics overlook – is that not once did Lasker have a won game." Capablanca’s claim was challenged by Gyula Breyer, a Hungarian master who claimed Lasker probably missed a win in this game on move 17. Capa’s book on the match doesn’t mention it, and the debate over whether White could have won still rages to this day.
o Alekhine, A.

• Yates, F.


London 1922 1-0 D64

An extreme example of the "weak square complex." Alekhine so thoroughly dominates the dark squares that in the end even his King can march across the board to complete the mating net.

1.d4 ²f6 2.c4 e6 3.²f3 d5 4.²xe3 ²e7 5.²g5 O-O 6.e3 ²bd7 7.²c1 c6 8.²c2 ²e8 9.²d3 dxe4 10.²xc4 ²d5 11.²e4 f5 Black’s 9th and 10th moves constitute the so-called "Capablanca freeing maneuver," with which Black hopes to exchange a few pieces and gain time to develop his "problem Bishop" at c8. Black’s last move leads to trouble, for he thus weakens the squares d6/e5/f6 in which the dark-squared Bishops will soon be exchanged. 12.²xe7 ²xe7 13.²e2 b5 Trying to secure a square for the Bc8, but the open file which results will fall to White’s control, and c5 joins the list of weak dark squares.

14.²xd5 cxd5 15.O-O a5 16.²b3 a4 17.²e5 ²xe5 18.²xe5 ²xe5 19.²xc5 b4 With the exchange of Queen, Black’s chance for counterplay has vanished, and his weak queenside pawns will force him to become even more passive. 20.²c1 ²a6 21.²e5 ²xb8 Now on 21...Rec8 22.Rxc8+ Rxc8 23.Rxc8+ Bxc8 24.Nc6 threatens both Ne7+ and Nxb4. 22.f3 b3 23.a3 h6 24.²f2 ²h7 25.h4 ²f8 26.²g3 ²fb8 27.²c7 White prepares to double Rooks on the 7th rank, with the incident threat of 28.Nd7 and 29.Nc5. 27...²b5 28.²d5 ²c6 29.²c5 ²e8 30.²f4 ²g8 31.h5 ²f1 32.²g3 ²a6 33.²f7 ²h5 34.²c7 ²g8 35.²d7 ²h8 36.²f6 ²gf8 37.²g7 A piece sacrifice which prepares the final mating combination. 37...²xf6 38.²e5 Black Resigns.

1-0

o Bogolyubov, E.

• Alekhine, A.

Hastings 1922 0-1 A90

A remarkable game, in which Black gradually takes control of the whole board. A recurring combinative theme is the strength of an advanced passed pawn, which may create mating threats or sneak through to its Queen’s square.

1.d4 f5 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c5 4.²g2 ²b4+ 5.²d2 ²xd2+ 6.²xd2 A better piece formation for White is 6. Qxd2 followed by 7.Nc3 6..²c6 7.²g3 O-O 8.0-O d6 9.²b3 ²h8 10.²c5 e5 Black obtains parity in the center by means of a tactical trick – 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Nxe5? Nxe5 13.Qxe5 Qxd2. 11..e5 a5 12.b3 ²e8 13.a3 ²h5 14.h4 The e5 pawn still cannot be taken – 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Qxe5 Ng4 wins the Queen. 14.b4 is also bad, as 14..e4 forces 15.Ne1, breaking the connection of the two Rooks and allowing 15.axb4 16.axb4 Rxa1 17.Qxa1 Nxb4. 14..²c4 15.²g5 ²d7 16.f3 ²f6 17.f4 e4 18.²fd1 Better was 16.d5. Now Black consolidates his advantage in the center and on the Kingside. 18..h6 19.²b3 d5 20.²d1 ²e7 Black would like to exchange his d5 pawn for the White one on c4, obtaining the fine square d5 for his Knight, and he prepares...a5-a4 22.b4 dxc4. White prevents this, but at the cost of a different concession. 21.a4 ²c6 22.²d2 ²b4

29
23. h1 e8 The main threat of this move can be seen in the game. The other defenses, about equally bad, are 24.cxd5 (giving Black the Queenside). White prefers to sacrifice a pawn. 24. dxe4 dxe4 25.bxc4 axa4 26.f2 d7 27.d2 b5 28.d1 c6 29.ea5 b4 30. da8 On 30.Qa1 Rxa5 31.Qxa5 Qa8 32.Qxa8 Rxa8 the Black Rook, Bishop and Knight will escort the b-pawn in, while the White Bh1 is quite out of play. Instead, White plays an exchanging combination, but his opponent has seen further. 30...exe3 31. dxc3 fxe3 32. h2 dxe4 33. gxf3 xf6 34. xe4 fxe4 35. fxe4 g6 36. xe7 c7 37. dxe5 dxex 38. xe6 xe6 39. xe6 xe6 40. xe6 xe6 41. fxe6 xe6 42. g4 f4 43. fh3 f3 44. g3 f2 45. h2 f1 46. g1 bh1 47. g2 f2 48. f3 xe1 49. hxe1 e1 50. gxe1 gxe1 51. fxe1 gxe1 52. fxe1 fxe1 53. dxe1 dxe1 54. hxh1

0-1

-o- Siegbert Tarrasch

- Richard Reti

Vienna (10)

Austria

1922 1-0 B10

A problem-like finish caps this magnificent contest. The most impressive feature is the relentless march of White’s king from g1 to f7 to mate his luckless adversary.


0-1

-o- Maroczy, G.

- Tartakower, S.

? Teplitz-Schonau

1922 0-1 A85

A marvelous intuitive sacrifice. When offering the Rook at move 17, Tartakower’s judgment told him that White would have no way to secure his King or obtain a counterattack, so that Black would be able to bring up the reserves at leisure.


0-1

-o- Alekhine, A.

- Yates, F.

Carlsbad

Czechoslovakia

1923 0-1 E62

Frederick Yates was England’s outstanding representative after Blackburne was no longer on the
scene. Here is his most celebrated victory which earned him a brilliancy prize.
1.e4 e5 2.f4 c6 3.d4 f5 4.exf5 4... gxf5 5.g3 O–O (C) 6.Qf3 c6 7.d5 d6 8.Nf3 Be7 A hypermodern idea.
Black lures the pawns forward in the hope of undermining them later. Also playable is ...Na5
8. Nd2 c5 8... e4 Qb7 9.0–0 a5 10. b3 Better is 10. 
...e5 cxd4 e5 12.Qxe5 Better is 12. Nd2. Exchanges ease Black's cramp.
25. ... Qxe7? Qg4+ 26. Kh1 Qf3+ 27. Kg1 Rd8 28. Qd7 Re5 and wins. 25...h8 26.Nf3 Bg5 27... h1 d6 28.h3 e5 29.Nc2 h6 30.c3 d4 31.Ne3 dxe5 32.f3 e5 33.g4 g4 Launching a long combination.
34.Qxg4 d5+ 35.Qf2 h5+ 36.gxh5 Qh1+ 37.Qf2 d4+ 38.Qg3 e1+ 39.f3 Qh1+ 40.Qg2 Qh1+ 41.Qf3 e1+ 42.f3 h5 The threat of Qh4 mate wins material. 43.f2 e1+ 44.Qh2 Qh1+ 45.Qh2 f3 h1+ 46.Qg3 Qd1 47.e3 g1+ 48.h3 Qf1+ 49. Qg3 f2+ 50.Qf3 Qg1+ White Resigns without waiting for 51. Kg3 Qf2+ 52. Kh3 Qh2 mate.
25. ... Qe1 To prevent ...Re2. 25...h6 White Resigns.
25...h6 is one of the most remarkable winning moves on record. There is no direct threat, but almost anything White does will eventually lose material – though he is not technically in "zugzwang."
Here are a few possibilities: (A) 26. g4 Rf3! 27. Bxf3 Rf2 mate. (B) 26. a3 a5 27. axb4 axb4 28. b3 Kh7 and White faces the same predicament. (C) 26. b3 a5 and White has still run out of good moves.

0-1

○ Saemisch, F.
● Nimzovich, A.

Copenhagen

1923 0-1 E18

Aron Nimzovich was the greatest player of the hypermodern school. His wizardry was most evident in closed positions when he found moves that were often termed "mysterious." This classic became known as the "Immortal Zugzwang Game."
1.d4 c5 2.e4 c6 3.d4 b5 4.g3 a6 5.g2 g6 6.Nf3 O–O 7... Qe7 8.c3 f5 9.Qf3 Qe8 10.Qf3 c5 11.0–0 e5 12.Qd3 Qc7 13.Qf3 a6 14.Qa4 h6 15.Qf4 Qh4 16.Qd5 Qf5 A tacit admission that Qb3 was wrong. 17...Qb8 18.Qc1 b5 19.Qg1 d6 20.e4 The losing move. 20. e3 still makes a fight of it. 20...fxe4 21.Qe5+ Qd6 22.Qf5 Qc6 23.Qh1 Qf5 24.Qe3 d3

0-1

○ Rubinstein, A.
● Hromadka

? Mährisch-Ostrau

1923 1-0 C30

Rubinstein's lucid play demonstrates the positional basis of the King's Gambit, as his diversionary threats on the open f-file prove a prelude to the decisive combative blow against the Black King on the other flank.
1.e4 c5 2.f4 Qc5 Black may decline the King's Gambit in this manner, for 3...Qxe4? loses horribly to 3...Qh4+ 4.Qg3 Qxe4+ and 5...Qxh1. 3...Qf3 d6 4.Qc3 Qf6 5.Qc4 Qc6 6.d3 Qd4 This old variation has the effect of preventing White from castling, but more in accordance with the position was challenging White's powerful Bishop with 6...Be6. 7.h3 Qf3 8.Qf3 Qd4 9.g3
Capturing the Rook with 9...Nxc2+ 10.Kd1 Nxa1 yields White an overwhelming attack, e.g. 11.fxe5 dxe5 12.Qxg7 Rf8 13.Bg5 Be7 14.Rf1 etc. 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.Qxe5 g8 12.a4 Qg8 13.f1 h6 14.Qe2 O–O–O Black hopes to secure his King on the Queenside, but White will combine action on the f-file and the g1–a7 diagonal via the "pivot point" f2. 15.exd5 Qxd5 16.Qc4 17.a5 Qc7 18.b3 Qb8 19.Qxc2 With his last move, Black threatened to exploit the pin on the d-file with ...Nxe4; this was not on before because of Qg4+. 19.Na8 20.Nf3 Preparing 21.Qe2, when he would threaten both Bxa7 and Bxh6. 20...c5 A clever move, enabling the Knight to reach the "outpost" square f4. The tactical point is 21.exd5? cxd5 22.Ba2 e4 23.Bf4 exf3 24.Bxc7 Rc8, and 25.g1 Nc6 26.Qxc6+ Qxc6 27.Rxg7 Nc4 28.Qxc4 xb7 29.Qb7 on c4. 20...dxc5 21.bxc5 Qh5 is roughly equal.

The outcome of the opening is curious. White stands better because he can occupy the center with pawns, leading to a hypermodern paradox: If you occupy the center immediately, the pawns may become weak. This suggests that occupation itself is not the culprit – just premature occupation. 1...Qxe4; this was not on before because of Qf2.

When Reti popularized the hypermodern opening named after him (1. Nf3), he had some profound positional concepts in mind such as controlling the center from the wings instead of occupying it with pawns. But when confronted with such admirable tacticians as Dr. Trebyal, the game became as wild as anything arising out of the King’s Gambit. 1.e4 f5 2.Nxe4 c5 3.d4 Qc7 4.c3 d6 5.O–O 6.e5 Bc7 7.d5 Nc6 8.exd6 Nxd5 9.Bf4 Qe7 10.e6 Nxe6 11.Bxe6 Bxe6 12.Nf5 Nf6 13.Qh4 g6 14.hxg6 hxg6 15.Qg5 Be6 16.Qxe5 dxe5 17.Qh4 Ng8 18.Qe1 Qd7 19.Qxg6 Rf8 20.Qxh6+ Kg7 21.Qe6+ Kg8. 21...Qf6 22.Qg6+ Kf8 23.Qe6+ Kf7 24.Qg6+ Kg8 25.Qxg6+ f5 26.Qg2 fxe4 27.Qxe4 Qd7 28.Qg2 Qf6 29.Qxh2 Kg7 30.Qg2 Qf2 31.Qxg6+ Kf2 32.Qg8+ 1-0

Richard Reti

• Akiba Rubinstein

Carlsbad

Czechoslovakia

1923 1/2-1/2

Chess would not have advanced to the healthy eclecticism which characterizes it today were it not for the hypermoderns. In the 1920s Reti consistently won high prizes, though he never reached the pinnacle before his untimely death at age 40. Here is a game of immense historical importance, which demonstrated the value of his new opening (1.Nf3) against one of the oldtimers. Curiously, Reti demolishes Black’s pawn center in order to occupy it with his own pawns!
17.O–O "At last! The older masters were often horrified by the lack of precautions that hypermoderns took to defend their king" – Reuben Fine. Of course not 17. Rxa7? Rx.a7 18. Qxa7 Ra8 trapping the queen. 17...e6 18. b4! Qc6 19. d4 Nc4 20. d3 White stands better because, curiously, he is now able to occupy the center with pawns! Now 20...Qxc4 loses to 21. Nd2. 20...a5 20...Qxc4? 21. Nd2 costs Black a piece. 21.d5 Qc5 22. d4 gxf4 23. Bxf4 g7 24. Bc4 Bf6 25. Bf4 e5 26. dxe5 fxe5 27. f4 White stands better. 26...Bf7! and if 24. g4 Ne4+ 25. Bxe4 fxe4 26...h5 27.g4 f5 28.gxf5 h5 29.g4 d6 29.g5 An error. Alekhine showed that 29. Nxd5 would have won. 29...Qg8 Returning the favor. Lasker gives 29...Rd6! 30. g4 Kg8 as the proper defense. 30. Qxd5 f7 31. Qxe7+ Rxe7 32.g4 hxg4 Overlooking an easy draw by 32...Rc2+ 33. Kg3 Re2 34. g6 h4! but Black is still playing to win. 33.Qh7+ Kg8 34.Nf6+ Kg7 35.f5+ g7 36.Nxc6 bxc6 37.Qg4 Qe6 38.Kf7+ Kf8 39.d4 Qe4 40.Nb6 The quickest path to victory. After 40...Rxb6 41. axb6 Kd7 42. e5 a4 43. e6 Kxe6 44. b7 White queens first. 40...Nxa8 41.Nxf6 a4 42.Nf2 a3 43.Na2 Bb7 44.d5 g5 45.Nf3 c4 46.dxc4 Qa8 47. h4 gxh4 48.gxh4 Qc7 49.Nf4 Bxd7 50.Qf5 One of the earliest triumphs of hypermodernism. Black Resigns. 1–0

○ Capablanca, J.
• Lasker, Em.
New York (14)
USA 1924 1–0 D13

This magnificent fighting game took place three years after Lasker lost the title to Capablanca. Lasker won first prize by scoring 80% in this double round robin, but Capa had the satisfaction of posting 1 1/2 out of two in their individual encounters here.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.dxe6 fxe6 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Qf3 Qc6 6.Bb5 c6 7.d3 e5 7...e7 7...Bd6 is worse cramping. 8.Bb3 O–O 9.O–O White should stop for 9. h3 to provide an escape square for his bishop on h2. 9...dxc5 10.d5 f5 More consistent is 10...f6.

11.c1 Nc6 12.f4 dxc5 13.e5 fxe5 14.fxe5 g4 15.Nf3 Be7 16.Nh3 h5 17.Qh4 g6 18.h3 Nf6 19.Qg4 h5 20.Qg5 Qg8 21.Qf4 Be7 22.Nf1 Nd7 23.f4 f5 24.Ne4+ Correct is 23...Bf1! and if 24. g4 Ne4+ 25. Bxe4 fxe4 so that White’s Queen can’t penetrate the kingside. 24.Qxe4 fxe4 25.Qg4 f5 26.Qxf5 A promising sacrifice netting 3 pawns for the piece. 26...exf5 27.Qxh5 h5 28.g4 Qc6 29.Qg5 An error. Alekhine showed that 29. Nxd5 would have won. 29...Qxg8 Returning the favor. Lasker gives 29...Rd6! 30. g4 Kg8 as the proper defense. 30.Qxd5 f7 31.Qxe7+ Rxe7 32.g4 hxg4 Overlooking an easy draw by 32...Rc2+ 33. Kg3 Re2 34. g6 h4! but Black is still playing to win. 33.Qh7+ Kg8 34.Nf6+ Kg7 35.f5+ g7 36.Nxc6 bxc6 37.Qg4 Qe6 38.Kf7+ Kf8 39.d4 Qe4 40.Nb6 The quickest path to victory. After 40...Rxb6 41. axb6 Kd7 42. e5 a4 43. e6 Kxe6 44. b7 White queens first. 40...Nxa8 41.Bf6 a4 42.Bf2 a3 43.Na2 Bb7 44.d5 g5 45.Nf3 c4 46.dxc4 Qa8 47. h4 gxh4 48.gxh4 Qc7 49.Nf4 Bxd7 50.Qf5 One of the earliest triumphs of hypermodernism. Black Resigns. 1–0

○ Emanuel Lasker
• Edward Lasker
New York (6)
USA 1924 1/2–1/2 C99

Emanuel Lasker’s greatest triumph after he was dethroned came at age 55, in this famous double round-robin with 11 stars. Undefeated, he won by a margin of 1.5 points ahead of runner-up Capablanca (who took the title from him in 1921) and four points ahead of Alekhine (who took the title from Capa in 1927). The advantage changed hands when he persisted in trying to win a drawn position against his namesake Edward Lasker (no relation). White’s narrow escape with a knight against rook and pawn added a new chapter to endgame theory. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 g6 4.Nc3 d6 5.O–O O–O 6.e5 dxe5 7.dxe5 Ne7 8.d3 b6 9.b3 O–O 10.c2 e5 11.d3 Nxe4 12.Qd2 Nc6 13.exd4 cxd4 14.Qe1 Qc7 White to hold e5 at all costs in this closed defense to the Ruy Lopez. 12.b2 cxb2 13.cxb2 Nf6 14.Bf4 Qa5 15.Qc1 exd5 16.f3 Nc6 17.g4 hxg4 18.Qf3 Known to the trade as a desperado sacrifice. The knight sells itself for almost as much material as possible. Now 18...Bxg4 19.f5. 18...e6 19.g5 Nf4 20.Qd3 f8 21.Kc2 Pin and counter-pin! 21...Qe4 22.Qf4 Much stronger is 22. Bxc4 followed by Qxc4. 22...Qxe4 23.Qxe4 c5 24.Qxe4+ cxe4 25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.cxd6 Qxe4 27.Qxe4 d5 28.Qd3 Qc6 29.Qe3...
Gives Black an opportunity to turn the tables. Simply 30. Nh2 leaves the enemy knight stranded on d2. 30...a3 "I had no time left to figure through 30...Nxe4! 31. fxe4 Rxe4 32. Rc8 Re8! which would have won a solid pawn and the game," noted Edward Lasker. 31. d1 b4 32.a3 a5 33.b4 c7 Hoping for 34. Ng4? Nxe4! But White has an effective rejoinder. 34.f4 xe4 35.h2 Bd1 36.e4! But not 36. fxe5? Bxe5 37. g3 Rxd2 36...B7 37. xe7 Spoiling the fruits of his labor. Instead 37. Nf1! Rd4 38. Qe3 Bb6 39. Re2 a5 White now tries desperately to win by keeping queens on the board. 39...e7 e8 40.e2 f6 41.a7 e6 42.b7 d5 43.b6 Exchanging queens leads to a draw if 43. Qxa6 Ra8 regains the pawn. 43...a8 44.e3 e6 45.c3 c4 46.a3 f3 c6 47.d3 d6 48.b3 d5 49.b4 f1 50.e6 White's rejection of a draw by repetition allowed Black to steadily improve his position. 50...g4 e2 51.xh6+ 51. Ng2 would hold the balance. In persistently avoiding the draw, White comes dangerously close to losing. 51...xh6 52.g6+ f8 53.xh6+ e8 54.g6+ f8 55.g3 e8 56.d2 f8 57. e2 Here 57. Qb6 would force a draw, but White is still striving for more. 57...d6 58.a3 c3 59.xf3 c7 60.e4 g7 61.e5 c7 62.g5 Trying to activate the knight proves fruitless. 62. Qc2 Kd8 63. Qc3 would still maintain parity. Now White drops his a-pawn. 62...e3 63.e4 f7 64.f6 g8 The point is 65. Nd5? Qh4 wins. Now Black is playing for a win. 65.g3 xaxa6 66.b3 a1 67.d5 h1+ 68.xg2 h7 69.xh7 xh7 70.xf3 b7 71.g4 e6 72.f4 h8 Threatening 73...Rb8 74.Rd8 pinning the knight. Alekhine recommends 72...Rd7 instead. 73.e3 e8+ 74.d4 h4 75.e4 a5 Creating a passed pawn before White's pawns advance too far. 76.bxa5 b4 77.a6 e5 78.a7 b3 79.a1 d1 a8 80.g5 xaxa7 81.g6 d7 82.b2 d2 83.f3 The point of White's brilliant defense. If 83...Rxb2? 84. g7 queens. 83...d8 84.e4 d2 85.d3 d8 86.e4 e6 87.d4 e8 88.g7 e7 89.g8=g 89.xg8 90.c4 d3 91.a4 f6 92.b4 f5 Oddly enough, Black cannot win despite his material advantage. This position was previously unknown to theory and later became famous as the Lasker Draw. 93.b2 e4 94.a4 d4 95.b2 f3 96.a4 e3 97.b2 e4 98.a4 f4 99.a3 e4 100.b4 d4 101.b2 h3 102.a4 d3 Giving up the pawn to break the blockade.

But rook vs. knight without pawns on the board is a well-known book draw with best defense. 103.Qxb3 Qd4+ Draw agreed.

1/2-1/2

○ Richard Reti
• Jose Capablanca
New York (5)
USA
1924 1-0 A15
In this elite event, Capa started slowly with four draws before losing to Reti – the first tournament game he had lost in eight years. It created a sensation. Although Capa’s debacle was due solely to a miscalculation, the game brought the unorthodox theories of the hypermoderns to the attention of the public. Far from being discouraged by such a bad start, Capa showed his mettle by winning 10 and drawing 5 in the remaining 15 rounds to finish second behind Lasker.

1.d4 f3 The Reti Opening is named in honor of the founder of the Hypermodern school which held, in opposition to classical theory, that the center could be controlled from the wings rather than by directly occupying it with pawns. 1...c5 2...e4 3.d3 b4 4.c4 g6 5.b3 d6 6.d4 O-O 5.g3 b6 Capablanca treats the opening simply as well as soundly and, after a few moves, attains a perfectly even position. – Alekhine. 6...d5 7.O-O d6 8.d3 It’s somewhat odd to see both sides fianchetto all their bishops. Here Reti sticks too closely to his hypermodern principles by not occupying the center directly with 8...d4. 8...b6 c5 9.d5 cxd5 10.c2 e8 11.f4 f5 12.a5 e6 13.f1 c5 14.b4 h5 15.e2 c7 Preparing to break with d5 but White beats him to it. 16.d4 Finally advancing the pawn with greater impact than would have been the case on move 8. 16...f4 17.e4 More accurate is 17.Qc3 More accurate is 17.Qc3 it’s an even game. 19.Bd2 cxd4 A miscalculation. Simply 19...Bd2 20.exd4 xexd4 21.Qg7 Qg7 22.Qb2 Qb2 23.xd6 Qc6 24.Qd1 a7 25.c3 Qh5 The center is liquidated but White controls more space and dominates the d-file. It’s all over in a few moves. 26.Nc4 Qg2 27.Qxg2 Qg2 Nothing works. If 27...Rxe3 28. fxe3 29. Nf5! wins. 28.Qc4 Qc6 29.Qe5 Qf6 30.e3 Qe5 31.d5 Trapping the queen. A great personal triumph for Reti as well as a vindication for his theories in general. Black Resigns.

1-0
Black will get mated and resigns. A beautiful final 24. Qxf8 winning a piece.

... Nxe4 14. dxe5 Bc5 15. Kg2 Bd7 16. a3 b4 17. cxb4 Qxb4 White’s opening is less than elegant, but he works up some threats. 18. hxh5 gxh5 19. hxg5 Bxd3 20. Qd3 a5 21. h4 Bf5 Better was 21... Qd5 22. Qg3 h6 23. c4 d5 Still hoping to profit from the pin, but 23... hxg5 24. Nxd6 leads to an equal game. 24. Bc3 Bb5 Now the pin backfires.

... Qc7 13. Qf3 A lesser reply would be 13... Nexf6 14. dxe5 Bc5 15. Kg2 Bd7. 14. Qxd7 15. c4 e5 The only way to save the e-pawn, but it weakens the kingside. Also inadequate is 11... Nf6 12. Qc2.


1-0

Richard Reti

Efim Bogoljubov

New York

USA

1924

1-0

A13

While his victory over Capablanca was a personal triumph for Reti, this win against Bogoljubov in the same event is one of the finest games on record. White’s delayed occupation of the center, combined with subtle positional maneuvers, leads to a problem-like twist. His effort was awarded the very first brilliancy prize given in a tournament.

1. c4 e5 2. c3 f3 e6 3. g3 d5 Occupying the center in a classical style. Another good reply is 3... b6. 4. Qg2 Qd6 5. 0-0 0-0 On 5... dxc4 6. Qa4+ regains the pawn.

... Bb7 8. d3 c6 9. c4 Bb4 10. dxe5 Bxe4 11. Bd5 f6 12. Qe3 Bd6 13. 0-0 Nf6 14. cxd5 Bf5 15. Qc2 Qg5 16. Bd4 Qh5 17. Qe4 Qf5 Better was 17... Qe5 18. Qe2 Nxe4 19. Qxe4 Qxe4 20. dxe4 Bf5. Instead White launches a decisive assault. 20. Qh4 Bf5 21. Qd3 h6 22. Qg3 b5 23. c4 d5

1-0

Reti, R.

Alekchine, A.

Baden-Baden

1925

0-1

A00

Reti was one of the leaders of the "Hypermodern" movement, a group of masters who rebelled against the dogmatism of Tarrasch (who claimed that the center must be occupied by pawns) and demonstrated the power of counterattack against an immobile center. Here, Reti obtains a fine strategic position from his opening experiment, but is ensnared by Alekhine in a whirlwind of combinations. This is an incredibly complicated game where everything is suspended in mid-air. Master-magician Alekhine pulls the strings, finding one stroke after another, each more powerful than the last, so that his harassed opponent is given no breathing space.

1. g3 e5 2. f3 c4 3. d4 d5 4. d3 exd3 5. exd3 Qf6 6. g2 Qb6 7. d2 axd2+ 8. Qxd2 0-0 Black occupies the center with a pawn. White strikes at it from the wings. Chances are roughly even. 9. c4 Qa6 10. cxd5 Qb4 11. Qc4 Qxd5 12. Qb3 c6 Now White has pressure on the h1-a8 diagonal and the c-file; the Knight on d4 aims at c6, where they intersect, and the Nb3 can move to c5, attacking b7. Black must play very energetically to maintain the balance. 13. Qc2 Qc8 14. Qd1 Qd4 15. Qc2 Qxc2 16. dxc5 Bb3 17. Qf3 White correctly declines the pawn sacrifice, for Black wins in a few years because of illness. This celebrated game is his birthday gift to posterity.

1. d4 Qf6 2. f3 e6 3. g5 c5 4. e3 cxd4 5. cxd4 Qe7 6. Bd2 d6 7. c3 Qd7 8. d3 b6 9. c4 Qb7 10. Ne2 Qc7 11. O-O O-O 12. f4 fe8 13. Qd1 Qf8 14. c1 Qd5 15. g5 b5 16. a3 Bb4 17. cxb4 Qxb4 White’s opening is less than elegant, but he works up some threats. 18. h4 Qg5 19. Qxg5 g6 20. Qxd3 a5 21. b4 Qf5 Better was 21... Qd5 22. Qg3 h6 23. c4 Qd5 Still hoping to profit from the pin, but 23... hxg5 24. Nxd6 leads to an equal game. 24. c3 Qb5 Now the pin backfires.

... Qf6 6. Qxf6+ Qxf6 7. Qc2 d6 8. Qg2 Qd4+ 9. Qc3 Qf4+ 10. Qd3 Qf5 A flexible reply that doesn’t commit Black to any course of action.
Nxf3+ 42.Rxf3 Bd5, winning a piece.

26.axb5 e3 One of Alekhine’s most surprising combinations. 27.Qf3 The Rook cannot be taken because of 27.fxe3 Qxg3+ 28.Bg2 Nxe3, and Black threatened 27...Rxe3+ with the same idea. But a better defense, according to Alekhine, was 27.Bf3 Bxf3 28.gxf3 Bxf5 29.Qe4 Qa5, though Black is still somewhat better; 30.Rxd5? fails to 30...Re1+ 31.Rxe1 Qxe1+ and 32...Ra1.

Instead Alekhine recommends 25.e4 Nb6 26.Qb3, but White did not wish to block the diagonal of his Bishop, and Black’s threat is far from obvious. 25...axb5 26.axb5 e3 One of Alekhine’s most surprising combinations. 27.Qf3 The Rook cannot be taken because of 27.fxe3 Qxg3+ 28.Bg2 Nxe3, and Black threatened 27...Rxe3+ with the same idea. But a better defense, according to Alekhine, was 27.Bf3 Bxf3 28.gxf3 Bxf5 29.Qe4 Qa5, though Black is still somewhat better; 30.Rxd5? fails to 30...Re1+ 31.Rxe1 Qxe1+ and 32...Ra1. 27...exf3 28.Qxf3 Qe7 29.Qxh3 Qxh3 30.Qxh3 Qh3 31.Qe2 An amazing position – with so many pieces of both color “en prise” it seems difficult to say even who has the advantage. But with his next move, Alekhine embarks on a 12-move combination that ends in the captured Knight on b7. 31.Qe4 A crazy setting where everything seems to be hanging. Yet Black will trap the knight at b7 after 12 more forced moves. 32.Qc4 Not 32.fx3? Nxd2 winning the Exchange. 32.Qxf3 33.Qe2 Qe6 34.Qc2 Qg4+ 35.Qe3 Qe5+ 36.Qf2 Qxh2 37.Qf2 Qxf2 38.Bxh3 Qe3+ 39.Bh2 Qxe2 40.Qf3 Qd4 41.Qc4 Qd2+ 42.Rxf3 Bd5, winning a piece. 41.Qf2 Qxf3+ 42.Bxf3 d5 White Resigns 0-1

Colle, E.
Grunfeld, E.

Berlin Germany 1926 1-0 A47

The Belgian master Edgard Colle is remembered mostly for the opening named after him – the Colle System. Here is one of his most famous brilliances.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c3 e6 3.e3 b6 The Colle System proper arises after 3...d5 4. Bxe7 5. c3. 4.d3 d5 5.Bd2 c5 6.0-O-O 7.b3 cxd4 8.exd4 d6 9.0-0-O 10.0-0 11. c1=Q 12.e1=Q c7 The start of a hypermodern maneuver to shift the queen to a8! More relevant is 12.Re8. 13.Qe2 Qc8 14.Qf1 Bb8 15.g3 a6 16.axb8 a5 17.Qf7 Qxf7 18.Qxe6+ Qh8 19. d5 c5 20.Qf3+ Qf8 21.Qe3 Qfxg5 22.Qxh6+ g7 23.Qxg7 Qxg7 24.Qxe8 Qh8+ 25.Qf7 27.Qxe8 Black Resigns. 1-0

Nimzovich, A.
Rubinstein, A.

Dresden Germany 1926 0-1 E50

Nimzowitsch’s maneuvers puzzled his contemporaries, and this game is a case in point (Qd7-f5-h7). The justification lies in the importance of the Black pawn on e4, which cramps the White position. It must be “overprotected,” and any pieces engaged in such activity find themselves well-posted for later attack.

1.d4 Qh6 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 b5 4.Qe2 c6 5.O-O 6.d3 Qc5 7.O-O Qxc4 8.Qxc4 d6 9.Qd2 Qe7 14.Qe1 h5 15.Qd2 Qf5 16.Qc2 b7 17.a4 Qf5 18.g3 a5 19.Qg1 Qh6 20.f1 d7 21.c1 Qae8 22.d5 Qh8 23.Qc2 Qg8 24.d2 g5 25.Qd1 Qg7 26.au2 Qd5 27.Qh1 Qc8 28.d1 Qxf4 29.Qe4 Qd8 30.Qf3 c6 31.e2 Or 31.Bd2 Rg6 32.Re1 Ng4+ 33.Qxg4 hxg4+ 34.Kg2 Bxc4 35.Qxc4 e3, and the threat of 36...Qh3+ forces 36.Nxe3 Nxe3+, winning the Queen. 31.Qd4 32.Qe3 Qc8 33.Qc2 Qxh3 34.Qxe4 f5 35.Qxf5 Qxf5 36.Qe2 h4 37.Qg2 hxg3+ 38.Qg1 Qh3 39.Qe3 Qh4 40.Qf1 f8 Qe8 White Resigns. 0-1
Capablanca, J., Spielmann, R.

New York International

USA 1927 1-0 D38

Few people predicted that Capa would lose his title to Alekhine in 1927. Shortly before their match in Buenos Aires, Capa won this event 2 1/2 points ahead of Alekhine – the pinnacle of the great Cuban’s career. This game which demonstrates his proverbial simplicity was awarded the first brilliancy prize.


1-0

Capablanca, J.

World Championship (34)

Buenos Aires 1927 1-0 D51

From the point of view of sheer technique, many critics consider this the finest game of Alekhine’s career. It clinched the title for him – and Capa never got a rematch.


1-0

Capablanca, J.
Black Resigns.


24...f5, e.g. 25.d6 Bxd6 26.Nxd6 Qxd6 27.Rd1

17...exf4 18.Bxf4 g8 19.Bf2 Qf8 20.e3f3 c8 21.d4f1 e6 22.d5f6 23.e5 At the cost of a pawn, White opens the b1-h7 diagonal for his Bishop, obtains the e4 square for his Knight, deprives Black of the e4 square and open e-file, and makes a passed pawn. If Black now plays 23...fxe5, then after 24.Ng5 Nb7 25.Nxe4 Rx f2 26.Qxf2 White has a winning attack on the f-file – 26...Rf8? 27.Qxf8! Bxf8 28.Nfx6+ Kh8

29.Nf7++. 23...d5f4 24.e4 f7 Also poor is 24...f5, e.g. 25.d6 Bxd6 26fxd6 Qxd6 27.Rd1 Qe7 28.Nxe5. 25.Q xg7 Q xg7 26.h4 Qg6

Better is 26...f5 27.Nxg6! hxg6 28.Qxf6 Bxf6 29.Nfx6+ Kh7 30.Qg7+ Kh8 31.Nx e5, and if 31...Rg8 32.Rh5+ Nh6 33. Nf6+. 27.Qxf6 Qxf6 Not 27...Rxf6 28.Qxe5 Qd8 29.Nh5 28.h6 Qxf6 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.gxg6 Qxg6 31.Qe4+ Qg7 32.Qh4 Qg8 There is no defense, despite Black’s huge material advantage – 32...Rxh3 33.Qxh3+ Kg8 34.Qh5+ 33.Qg6 Qxh6 34.Qh5+ Qh6 Or 34...Kf7 35.Rxf6+ Ke7 36.Re6++. 35.Qxf6 Qxh5+ 36.Qh2

Black Resigns.

1-0

- Flohr, S.
- Lustig

Prague
1928
1-0
C77

In the 1930’s, Salo Flohr was the most successful tournament player after Alekhine. He systematically demolishes the Black King’s position, sacrificing a piece for each pawn, and slaughters the denuded monarch. This game was included by Hans Kmoch in his classic “Pawn Power in Chess” to illustrate the “sweeper-sealer” – White’s 23rd move simultaneously frees a square for his pieces and denies one to Black by forcing him to occupy it with a pawn. 1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 c6 3.Bb5 a6 4.a4 a6 5.b4 Qf6 6.Bb5 Qxb2 7.a5 b5 8.Ba4 c5 9.d5 Qd7 10.O-O Qd5! 11.dxe5 Nf6 12.Qh5 Be5 13.Re1 Qb6 14.Bxe5 Nxe5 15.Bd3 Qc5 16.d6 Bxd6 17.c5 Qd5 18.Qh4 Qd8 19.Qxd8+ Rxd8 20.Nf3 Nf6 21.Qg3 Qd5 22.Bf4 Qe5 At the cost of a pawn, White opens the b1-h7 diagonal for his Bishop, obtains the e4 square for his Knight, deprives Black of the e4 square and open e-file, and makes a passed pawn. If Black now plays 23...fxe5, then after 24.Ng5 Nb7 25.Nxe4 Rx f2 26.Qxf2 White has a winning attack on the f-file – 26...Rf8? 27.Qxf8+! Bxf8 28.Nfx6+ Kh8 29.Nf7++. 23...d5f4 24.e4 f7 Also poor is 24...f5, e.g. 25.d6 Bxd6 26fxd6 Qxd6 27.Rd1 Qe7 28.Nxe5. 25.Q xg7 Q xg7 26.h4 Qg6

Better is 26...f5 27.Nxg6! hxg6 28.Qxf6 Bxf6 29.Nfx6+ Kh7 30.Qg7+ Kh8 31.Nx e5, and if 31...Rg8 32.Rh5+ Nh6 33. Nf6+. 27.Qxf6 Qxf6 Not 27...Rxf6 28.Qxe5 Qd8 29.Nh5 28.h6 Qxf6 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.gxg6 Qxg6 31.Qe4+ Qg7 32.Qh4 Qg8 There is no defense, despite Black’s huge material advantage – 32...Rxh3 33.Qxh3+ Kg8 34.Qh5+ 33.Qg6 Qxh6 34.Qh5+ Qh6 Or 34...Kf7 35.Rxf6+ Ke7 36.Re6++. 35.Qxf6 Qxh5+ 36.Qh2 Black Resigns.

1-0

- Richard Reti
- Jose Capablanca

Berlin
Germany
1928
0-1
C74

The Siesta Variation as an antidote to the Ruy Lopez was born this year, and Capa used it to take revenge for the defeat inflicted on him by Reti at New York 1924. Here Reti rejects a drawing line early on, only to watch his king subjected to withering crossfire.


24...f5, e.g. 25.d6 Bxd6 26.Nxd6 Qxd6 27.Rd1 Qe7 28.Nxe5. 25.Q xg7 Q xg7 26.h4 Qg6

Better is 26...f5 27.Nxg6! hxg6 28.Qxf6 Bxf6 29.Nfx6+ Kh7 30.Qg7+ Kh8 31.Nx e5, and if 31...Rg8 32.Rh5+ Nh6 33. Nf6+. 27.Qxf6 Qxf6 Not 27...Rxf6 28.Qxe5 Qd8 29.Nh5 28.h6 Qxf6 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.gxg6 Qxg6 31.Qe4+ Qg7 32.Qh4 Qg8 There is no defense, despite Black’s huge material advantage – 32...Rxh3 33.Qxh3+ Kg8 34.Qh5+ 33.Qg6 Qxh6 34.Qh5+ Qh6 Or 34...Kf7 35.Rxf6+ Ke7 36.Re6++. 35.Qxf6 Qxh5+ 36.Qh2 Black Resigns.

1-0

- Spielmann, R.
- Honlinger, B.

Match
Vienna
1929
1-0
B15

This game is chock full of surprises. In his book "The Art of Sacrifice" Spielmann refers to it as an example of the mating sacrifice.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Qc3 exd4 4.Qxd4 f5 5.g3

Nowadays 5. Nxf6+ is an automatic response. 5...e6 6.Qf3 c5 7.d3 Qd6 8. Qf4 Qxd4?? 9. Bb5+ wins the queen. 8.dxe5 Qxe5 9.a3 O-O 10.O-O b6 11.b4 Qf7 12.b2 Qc7 Loss of time. Correct is 12...Bb7 right away. 13.b5 a5 14.e5 h5 15.g4 Qd8 Spielmann suggested 15...Qf4 as a better defense. 16.e3 d5 Removing a defender from the king-side. 16...Rc8 was essential. 17.h5 g6 18.g4 Qf6 Of course not 18...gxh5? 19. Nh6 mate. 19.Qxf6+ Qxf6 20.h6 Rc8 21.Qd1 Qe7 22.fe1 e8 23.Qf5 Qc5 Also inadequate is 23...gx f5 24. Bxf5 f6 25. Bxe6. 24.Qe5 d5
25...e7+ Black Resigns, thus avoiding the pretty finish 25...Qxe7 26. Qxh7+! Kxh7 27. Rh5+ Kg8 28. Rh8 mate.

1-0

○ Stahlberg, G.
• Alekhine, A.

Hamburg 1930 0-1 E23
A brilliancy prize game, in which White’s seemingly well-founded maneuvers on the Queenside are refuted by the opening of a file near the White King. For the serious student, it is notable that Black’s combination centers on the apparently impregnable f3 pawn, at the intersection of the forces on the f-file and a8-h1 diagonal.

1.d4 ♜f6 2.c4 e6 3...c3 ♜b4 The Nimzo-Indian Defense, popularized by Aron Nimzowitsch, seeks to exert indirect pressure on the light squares d5 and e4, and preserves the option of doubling White’s c-pawn. The formation adopted by White avoids the latter danger, but permits Black an advantage in development. 4...b3 c5 5.dxc5 ♜c6 6.b3 ♜e4 7...d2 ♜xc5 8...e2 f5 Controlling e4, and preparing [after ...O-O] to open the f-file. 9.a3 ♜xc3 10...xc3 O-O 11.b4 ♜e4 12.c3 B6 13...d3 Preserving the dark squared Bishop with 13.Bb2 would lose additional time; one variation given by Alekhine is 13...Bb7 14.Bd3 Qe7 15.Bxe4 fxe4 16.Qxe4 Nxb4! 17.Qxb7 Ndx3+, with advantage to Black. 13...xc3 14...xc3 ♜b7 15.O-O ♜e7 16...e2 ♜e8 17...fd1 ♜d8 18.a4 Losing too much time, as it turns out that White will be unable to do much with the open a-file. Better was 18.Qe5 f4 19.Qc7 Bxc3 20.Bxc3 fxe3 21.fxe3 Nf5, with an unclear position. The attack Black now launches is very instructive. 18...f4 19.a5 fxe3 20...xe3 ♜f5 21...e3 c6 A defensive measure against the coming entry of the White Rook at a7 – now he defends with ...Rd8-d7.

22.axb6 axb6 23...e1 e5 Securing the d4 square for the Black Knight; Black correctly concludes that White will never have time to exploit the weakened light squares. 24...a7 ♜d4 25...e3 ♜d7 26...a2 ♜d7 27.f3 ♜f4 28...d3 ♜b5 29...f1 ♜g5 30...f2 h6 Simple, but very strong. Black now threatens 31...Rxh6 32.Qxg5 Rxg5 winning a Rook because of the mate threat, and if 31.Qd2 Black reaches a won King and pawn ending with 31...Bxf3 32.Nxf3 Nxh3 33.Rxf3 Rxf3 34.Qxg5 Rxf1+ 36. Kxf1 hxg5 37.Ke2 Kf7 38.Kf3 Ke6 39.Ke4 b5!, and the connected passed pawns will win easily. White’s next move fails to defend against the threat. 31...♗h1 ♘xf3 White Resigns. 0-1

○ Sultan Khan Mir
• Capablanca, J.

Hastings 1930 1-0 E12
It is rare when an unknown beats a former World Champion; rarer still when the unknown has only recently learned European moves! Khan flashed across the chess scene in the early ’30s when his “master” brought him to England from India - and then he returned to oblivion. But not before outplaying some of the world’s greatest.

1...f3 ♘f6 2.d4 b6 3...c4 ♘b7 4...c3 e6 5.a3 d5 6...xd5 exd5 7...g5 ♘e7 8.e3 O-O 9...d3 ♘f4 10...f4 ♘d7 11...c2 f5 12...b5 The Indian prodigy eschews castling for an immediate foray - setting the tone for the rest of the game. 12...d6 Better was 12...a6! When 13 Qxh7 axb5 14 Qxb7 Ndc5 15 bx5 Nxc5 16 Qc7 Nxd3 wins. 13...xd6 exd6 14.b4 ♘c8 15.b3 ♘e7 16...d2 ♘f6 17...xe4 fxe4 18.e2 ♘e6 19.g4 The Kingside now belongs to White. 19...♘f8 20.g5 ♘e8 21.g4 The d-pawn can wait. White
forces the action. 21... c1+ 22. Qd2 Qe8+ 23. Rxe2 Qxe2 24. Bxe2 Qe7+ 25. Qd2 Qe4 26. Qe2 Qh3 27. ab1 Qf7 Black’s initiative has run out of gas, and White’s rooks slowly take over the board. 28. hcl Qe7 29. c3 Qa4 30. b4 Qd7 Otherwise, 31. b5 imprisons the Queen.

31. hc1 a6 32. g1 Qa4 33. gcl Qd7 34. h5 Qd8 35. Qe2 Qh3 36. Qc1 Qh4 37. Qb2 Qh3 38. c1 Qh4 39. Qc2 Qh3 40. Qa4 Qh4 41. Qa3 Qh3 42. Qg3 Now everything is in order for the final assault. 42... Qf5 43. Qh4 Qg6 44. Qh5 Qe4 45. gxh5 46. h6 Qd7 45. b5 46. Qg3 Qf5 47. Qf4 Qh3 48. Qa2 Qg2 49. Qb1 Qh3 The pawn is still immune because the Queen would be lost after 49... Qxf2 50. Bh5 Qh4 51. Rh2. 50. Qd1 Qg2 51. Qb2 Qh3 White has “triangled” his King to achieve this position with his move. 52. Qg1 Qe8 The Queen is trapped after the threatened 53. Bg4 and 54. f3. 53. Qe6 At last, the breakthrough. 53... Qh4 54. Qg1 Qg4 55. Qf1 Qh5 The Queen is trapped after 55... Qxf2+ 56. R6c2. 56. e1 Infinite patience, to keep the Queen penned up. 56... Qh1 57. Qcl Qh5 58. Qe3 To make progress the King has to guard e2. 58... Qh4 59. Qg3 Qxg5 60. Qd2 Qf5 61. Qxb6 Qe7 62. Qb7+ Qe6 63. Qb6 + Qf6 64. Qa5 Qh3 65. Qb8 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Alekhine, A.
• Nimzowitsch, A.

San Remo

1930 1-0 C17

In the years following his match with Capablanca, Alexander Alekhine dominated the international chess scene. He was not satisfied with winning a tournament by a small margin, but played every game with a fierce will to win. San Remo 1930, was one of his greatest triumphs, as he won by a margin of 3 1/2 points, and would not agree to draw even in the final rounds. Here his artful use of pins reduces Nimzowitsch, who finished second, to virtual Zugzwang in only 30 moves.

1.e4 e5 2.d4 d5 3.c3 Qb4 4.e5 c5 5.d2 Qe7 6.Qb5 Qxb2 7.Material pressure on the d4 pawn. 9.Qf4 Qa6 10.Qf3 e7 11.a4 Qbc6 12.b4 Qxb4 13.cxb4 Qb7 14.Qd6 f5 After this strategic error, Black’s game becomes critical. The immediate danger lay on the Queenside, and after 14...a5 15.Bb5 axb4 16.O-White’s initiative would be far less than in the game. 15.a5 Qc8 The alternative 15...bxa5 16.b5 and 17.Rxa5 is obviously very good for White. 16.Qxb7 Qxb7 17.Qc7 Not 17...Qe7 18.Bb5 Nxb4? 19.Rb1, trapping the Knight. 18.Qd5 Qc7 19.Qf5 h6 20.Qf1 Qd8 21.Qe2 Qe8 Black cannot simplify with 21...Nd8 22.Rac1 Rc2 23.Rxc2 Rc8 24.Rc8 Nxc8 25.Qc3, followed by 26.Qc7, and the Queenside pawns cannot be defended. 22.Qa6 Qa8 23.Qe3 d7 A desperate attempt to hold his position together on the c-file – Black will bring his King to d8 to give traditional support to the Rc7. 25.Qd1 Qf8 26.Qc1 Qb8 27.Qa4 Threatening to win a piece with 28.b5. Black must surrender the b pawn to gain time to bring his King to the defense, but he will soon find himself with no good move. 27...b5 28.Qxb5 Qe8 29.Qa4 Qd8 30.b4 Qc7 31.b5 Black resigns. For after a few irrelevant pawn moves, Black will have to make a move, say...Qe8, which removes a defender of c7, and b4-b5 will win at once.

1-0

○ Flohr, S.
• Retzlaff, L.

Hastings

1930 1-0 A34

Although Flohr was not admitted to the Masters Section of this traditional chess festival (won by Euwe), he ran away with the Premier Reserve Section by posting an extraordinary 7 wins and 2 draws. Here is the prettiest game of the entire congress.

1.e4 c5 2.Qc3 Qf6 3.g3 d5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.g2 Qc7 Simpler is 5...Nxc3. 6.b3 e5 7.b2 Qe7 8.e1 O-O A Sicilian Defense with colors reversed. A better idea is 8...f5 9. Na4 Ne6. 9.Qa4 Qd7 10.Qf3 f6 11.Qc2 Qe6 No longer effective with the other knight on d7. But if 11...Rb8 12. d4! is quite strong. 12.Qh4 Qb6 More consistent is 12...Re8 or Rb8. 13.Qf5 Qxa4 14.bxa4 Qb8 15.f4 exf4 16.Qf3 Qg4 16...Qe8 If 16...Qxf4 17.Qc4+ Ne6 18. Bd5 Kf7 White can regain the pawn by 19. Nxd5 or continue the attack with Rg1. 17.Qg1 Qf8 The losing move. 17...Kf8 was necessary. 18.Qe6 Qd4 Relatively best move now is 18...Kf8 19. Bxe8 Qxe8. 19.Qh6+ Qxh8 20.Qf7+ g8 21.Qh6+ Gaining time on the clock by repeating moves. 21...Qf8 22.Qf7+ h8 23.Qe8 xe2 24.Qxe2 Qxe2 25.Qxd8 Qxg1 Also inadequate is 25...Rx6 26. Qxe2 Rxe2 27.Rb1 Rxa2 28. Rb8. 26.Qd5+ Qh8 27.Qf7+ Qg8 28.Qf2 Qh3+ 29.Qg3 b5 Desperation. The
knight is trapped. 30.axb5 $b7 31. $c4 $a6 32.a4 axb5 33.axb5 $xf4 34.$xf4 $h5 35. $g1 $h7 36. $x6 Black Resigns. On 36...gx6f 37. Bd3+ leads to mate.

• Kashdan, I.
• Bogoljubov, E.

Bled

Yugoslavia

1931 0-1 D75

"When I am White, I win because I am White. When I am Black, I win because I am Bogoljubov," said the man Alekhine used as a punching bag in two title matches (1929 and 1934). The following game was described by Fine as "the finest positional victory of Bogoljubov's career.

1.d4 $f6 2.c4 $g6 3.$c3 $g7 4.$f3 O–O 5.g3 $d5 6.6.cxd5 $xd5 7. $g2 $xc3 8.$bxc3 $e5 9.O–O $e6 10.e3 It's a bad sign when such a tame move is necessary. 10...$a5 11.$b3 $b8 12.c2 Drifting. Better was 12. Ba3 immediately.

12...$e7 13. $a3 $b6 14.dxe5 $a5 15. $f1 cxd5 16.$d5 The losing move. 16. Qc2 was necessary. 16...$b4 If 17. $xb4 $xa1 18. $xa1 Rfd8 wins. 17. $b3 $d3 18.$c2 $a5 19. $b1 $c4 Inviting 20. Bxc7?? $h2 trapping the queen. 20. $c1 $b6 21.$a3 Asphyxiated, White gives up a pawn for counterpart. 21... $xc3 22. $b1 $xb3 23.$xb1 $c1 24.f4 $f2+ 25.$h1 $h5 Switching to the other wing is crushing. 26.$d2 $xg3 27.$f3 $xh2 28.$xh2 $xd1+ 29.$xd1 $f2+ White Resigns 0-1"

• Alexander Alekhine
• Geza Maroczy

Bled

Yugoslavia

1931 1-0 D66

The scene of Alekhine’s greatest triumph. His heroic figure loomed large as he took undisputed first with 15 wins and 11 draws in a strong field that included most top players of the day. This sprightly victory is typical of his enterprise style. He sacrifices a pawn to drive the enemy king from its lair, and the Hungarian champion goes astray in the complications.

1.d4 $f6 2.$f3 $f6 3.e4 $e6 4.$g5 $bd7 5.e3 $h6 6. $b4 $e7 7.$c3 O–O A standard position in the Queen’s Gambit Declined. 8. $c1 $e6 9. $d3 $a6 10.O–O Another idea is 10. a3 in order to create a retreat for the bishop in case of 10...dxc4 11. Bxc4 b5 12. Ba2. 10...dxc4 11. $xc4 $e5 "It is rather risky to delay the development of the queenside. Instead 11...b5 followed by Bb7 and c5 was still a fairly good alternative." – Alekhine. 12.$a4 $a5 13.$e2 cxd4 14.e3d4 $b6 15. $d3 "Practically leaving the a-pawn to its fate. For the moment, it is true, it cannot well be taken because of 16. Ne4! with a very strong attack; but it remains weak almost until the dramatic end" – Alekhine. 15. $d7 16.$e5 $fd8 17.f4 A sharp attempt to attack at any cost. Alekhine later suggested the simple 17. Qf3 as a better way to exploit White’s spatial advantage. 17...$e8 18.$g4 $xd4 19.$xf6 $xf6 20.$xf6+ $gxf6 21. $e4 $ad8 The correct defense is 21...f5 22. Nf6 Kg7 with an uncertain result. Now White cleverly protects his bishop without losing any time. 22.$xf6+ $f8 23.b7+ $e7 24.$f5 $ad8 Seems to hold everything. But not 24...Rxd2? 25. f6 Kd7 26. Qxd3. 25.$b4 $xb4 Also inadequate is 25...Rxb4 26. Qh5! e5! 27. f6 Kd8 28. Qxh6. 26.$e5 $d7 27.$h8 $xd3 No better is 27...Qb6 28. a5! Qxa5 29. Rc8. 28.f6+ The quietus. If 28...Kd8 29. Qxe8! Kxe8 30. Re8 mate. Or 28...Rx6 20. Qxf6. Black resigns. 1-0"
27. Qc6 Bxf2+ 28. Rxf2 Re1 mates. 26...\(xe2+\) 27.\(xf1 d3\) 28.h5+ g5 White Resigns. If 29. Rd1 Rd2 mate.

- Spielmann, R.
- Eliskases, E.
- Match, Linz 1932 0-1 D31

One of history’s greatest attacking players, Rudolph Spielmann, throws everything at the rising star Erich Eliskases of Austria. A Queen sacrifice caps a brilliant defense.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.c3 dxc4 5.e4 b5 6.e5 b4 7.a3 c6 8.a4 c5 9.d5 Qe6 10.f4 Bf5 11.f5 Qd5 12.fxe6 Bxe6 13.Qxd5 Qxd5

...Now a pawn decides. Black Queen is still lost: The Knight must guard the fork at c7. But the piece down, White offers the exchange. Bb7+ Kd8 leaves too many pieces hanging. 15...fxe6 16.a5 a6 17.Nxe6 Qd5 18.\(xe6\) White offers the exchange. 18...\(xe6\)

The Knight must guard the fork at c7. But the Black Queen is still lost: 19.\(we4\) 17.\(c5\) a6 21.f\(f3\) eae8 22.\(xa6\) Not 22. Qxe2 Bxd4+ and 23...Bxc5. 22...e1+ 23.\(f2\) \(he8\) 24.a5 \(c5\) e8 25.b4 \(g8\) 26.b5 \(b2\) 1e1 27.d\(f1\) c3 Now a pawn decides. 28.a\(c1\) e2 29.\(wxe2\) e2+ 30.\(wxe2\) \(xd4\)+ 31.e3 \(xe3\) 32.\(f1\) \(a3\)+ White Resigns.

0-1

- Philip Milner-Barry
- C.H.O.D. Alexander
- Cambridge England 1932 0-1 C34

After their halcyon days at Cambridge, both of England’s leading players worked to crack Nazi codes during WW2. This donnybrook features threats, counter threats, sacrifices and counter sacrifices. This Pierce Gambit, a throwback to the 19th century, is fraught with danger for both sides.

1.e4 e5 2.\(c3\) \(c6\) 3.\(f3\) \(exf4\) 4.\(f3\) g5 There is nothing better than this classic defense that holds the pawn. 5.d\(d4\) Accepting the challenge. 5...d6 (or Bg7) 6. d5 is in considered in White’s favor. 6...\(c4\) gxf3 7.0-0 d5 8.exd5 \(g4\) 9...f1+ Better is 9. Qe1. Bold but insufficient is 9. dxc6 f10. Rxf2 Bxd1 11. cb7 Bg4 12. Bb5 Bd7. 9...\(ge7\) 10.gfx3 Sharper is 10. Ne4 Bg7 11. gxf3. 10...h3 11.\(xf4\) g8+ 12.\(g3\) a5 13.\(b5\)+ c6 14.\(c4\) Hoping for 14...\(xe5\)? 15. Nf6 mate. But simply 14. dxc6 is the best chance. 14...\(g7\) 15.\(h1\) Now White’s “attack” comes to a standstill after 15. dxc6 Qxd4 forcing an exchange of queens. Also bad is 15. Nd6? Qxd6! 16. Bxd6 Bxd4 17. Kh1 Bg2 mate. 15...\(xd5\)

16.\(c4\) \(d7\) Black defends with extreme care by not opening more lines after 16...Qxd4 17. Qe2. 17.d5 \(f8\) Better than 17...\(xh5\) 18. d6. 18.\(d5\) \(c5\) 19.\(c5\) \(xa3\) 20.\(h3\) \(g2\) 21.d\(f5\) The Schlechter style, and it almost works. 22.\(xe6\) 23.\(f4\) It’s all downhill from here. 23...\(xe6\) 24.\(f4\) \(g6\) 25.\(f5\) White Resigns.

0-1

- Flohr, S.
- Botvinnik, M.
- Match (6) Moscow 1933 1-0 E38

In the early 1930s Salo Flohr was considered the most likely challenger for Alekhine, and his drawn match against Botvinnik was considered a triumph for Soviet chess. Flohr became averse to risk, too often content to settle for draws. His mastery of the endgame was legendary, as in this classic two-bishop finale.

1.d4 \(c6\) 2.e4 c5 3.\(c3\) \(b4\) 4.\(e2\) \(c5\) 5.\(xc5\) a6 6.\(a3\) Flohr’s improvement on 6. g3 in their second match game. 6...\(xc3+\) 7.\(xc3\) \(xc5\) 8.f3 d6 9.e5 10.\(e3\) \(c7\) 11.\(e2\) \(e6\) 12.\(c2\) O-O 13. \(a3\) \(f8\) 14.\(e2\) a6 15.\(c1\) \(cd7\) 16.d\(d2\) \(d8\) Not 16...\(xc4\)! 17. \(d5\) 17.d\(d5\) \(xd5\) Now White gets a bind. Better is 17...\(Kf8\) 18.exd5 \(xc1+\) 19.\(xc1\) \(d8\) 20.O-O 21.\(d2\) \(w7\) 22.\(c1\) \(xc1+\) 23.\(xc1\) \(xc1+\) 24.\(h1\) \(c8\) Despite the advantage of two bishops vs. two knights, it requires tremendous technique to convert this into a win due to the balanced pawn structure. 25.\(g2\) \(g7\) 26.\(e3\) \(d8\) 27.\(g1\) \(c7\) 28.\(d2\) \(e5\) 29.b4 \(cd7\) 30.g3 \(b6\) 31.\(e2\) \(bd7\) A better defense was 31...Na4! 32. Kb3 b5 when the active knight blocks the advance of the queenside pawns. 32.a4 \(b6\) 33.a5 \(bd7\) 34.\(c1\) \(d8\) 35.\(b2\) \(e8\) 36.\(d2\) \(c7\) More active is 36...g6 followed by Ng7 and f5.
Lilienthal, A.
• Capablanca, J.
Hastings
England
1934
1-0

Hungary’s Andre Lilienthal, a regular on the tournament circuit in the 1930s, went to Russia in 1935 and became a Soviet citizen. His most celebrated victory over the mighty Capablanca featured a startling queen sacrifice.

1.d4 2.c4 3.e6 4.c3 4.a3 The Saemisch Variation was in vogue but has since fallen into disfavor. White forces an exchange saddling him with doubled pawns but in return gets the two bishops.

1.2f6 2.c4 3.e6 4.a3 4.a3 5.bxc3 b6 Nowadays 5...e5 is preferred. 6.f3 d5 7.g5 h6 8.h4 a6 9.e4 xc4 Avoiding complications that arise from 9...g5 10. Bg3 dxe4 11. Be5 Nbd7 12. Qa4! Bb7 13. c5! 10. xc4 dxc4 11. wa4+ wd7 12. xc4 wd6 13. d3 bd7 14. e2 d8 Aimed at stopping 15. c4? Ne5 but walking into a pin is troublesome. 15.O-O a5 16. c2 wc4 17. f4 Renews the initiative. Black would welcome 17... e5 Nd5 18. Bxd8 Kxd8. 17... e8 More loss of time. Black should castle to get his king out of the center before it is too late. 18.f5 c4 Better defense. Relatively best is 18...O-O. 19.dxe5 wxd4 The last chance to fight back is 19...Ng4! 20.EXf6 This surprising riposte is crushing. White gets only a minor piece for the queen, but his attack is brutal.

20... wxc2 21.fgx7 wxg7 22. d4 wc4 23. c5 No better is 23...Qe5 24. f6! 24. xe4+ xe4 25. e1 xg7 26. xe4+ Black Resigns. If 26...Kf8 27. Be7+ Kg8 28. Bf6. This game was published around the world.

E24

1935
1-0

The American prodigy rose to the championship contender rank with games like this in the 1930s. Here he stranglers the former World Champion with adroit positional play, then makes a long King march to prepare the final combination.

1.d4 2.c4 3.e6 4.c3 d5 4.g5 bd7 5.exd5 6.e3 e7 7.O-O O-O 8.Ec5 5 Motivated by White’s threat to castle queenside, this advance is riskier than 8...e6. 9. f3 c4 10. f5 Ec8 11. O-O g6 12. h3 c5 13. xc6 Ec8 14. xc6 xf6 15. b3 wa5 The Queen’s pawn is lost if 15...xb3, so Black goes swimming in troubled waters. 16.b4 wd8 16...Qxb4 17. Rh1 followed by 18. Rxh7 is decisive positionally.

17. wa4 a6 18.b5 ec6 19. ab1 20. b2 c7 21.bxa6 xa6 22. wa2 c6 23. b3 ec7 24.a4 cc5 25. ce5 wc8 White has no immediate breakthrough, but he keeps up the pressure.

26.f4 wd7 27. g4 wd7 28.h3 g7 29.f2 d3 30. b2 c3 31. fdl f5 32. b5 a5 33. xa7 c7 34. c3 a5 Now the Knight again attacks Black’s weak White squares.

34... wa6 35. wa5 b6 36. Ec3 Ec8 37. ab2 cc7 Defending the d-pawn indirectly if 38. Bb5 axb5 39. Bxb5 Qa3 40. Nxd5 c3! 38...c4 41. b3 axb3 42. bx a3 cc8 43. a2 d4 44. b2 d3 45. c4 d2 46. b3 c1 47. a3 d1 48. b4 d2 49..b3 wa5 The break comes in the Kingside. 40.fxg4

41.hxg4 We6 42. g1 wd7 43. a2 a7 44.g7 wd7 45. e5 ed7 46. f4 d5 47. g6 f5 48. b5 ec7 49. bx a6 50. axb6 We8 51. ab2 d4 52. a5 Wa6 53. b4 Ec7 54. a4 Ff1+ 55. d2 Black Resigns.

1-0

A90
The "Pearl of Zandvoort" was undoubtedly the most striking game of the 1935 world championship, in which Max Euwe unexpectedly took the title from Alekhine. When White sacrifices a piece for three central pawns, Black must play for counterattack, but his own King proves to be too exposed.

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 b6 4.d3 e5 5.e4 c5 6.d4 b5 7.Bd3 c4 8.0-O-O b4 9.e5 Qe7 10.e6 Qf6 11.d6 cxe3 12.Qxe3 f6 13.c3 Nxe5 14.fxe5 Qg7 15.d6, nothing better, since 32...h6 loses to 33.Nf7+ Kh7 34.Qxe6 Rxe6 35.Rxe6 Nxe6 36.f4, White's attack is decisive.

Keres, P.
Winter, W.
Olympics Warsaw 1935 1-0 B29

Paul Keres was a young unknown when he represented Estonia at the world team championship. This swashbuckling gambit against England's William Winter made him famous.


Glucksberg
Najdorf, M.

Warsaw 1935 0-1 A85

Polish-Argentine Grandmaster Miguel Najdorf has had a long and remarkable career. Never lacking in self-confidence, he declared in 1947 that he would soon become world champion. Though his natural ability was perhaps the equal of that of any player in the world, he lacked the discipline and persistence required in the age of Botvinnik to reach the highest level. In this game, sometimes called the "Polish Immortal," Black strips bare the enemy King, finally sacrificing four pieces to drive it into mating net.


Botvinnik, M.
Tartakower, S.

Nottingham 1936 1-0 A55

Future World Champion Botvinnik wins a brilliance prize game against the imaginative but erratic Tartakower. The attack beginning at move 20 is notable for the manner in which White closes the mating net with a series of "quiet" (non-checking) moves.

1.f3 f6 2.c4 d6 3.d4 Bd7 4.g3 e5 5.g2 c5 6.O-O O-O 7.Qc6 e8 8.e4 Wc7 9.h3 c5 10.b4 e7 11.a3 g8 12.d5 d7 13.a4 c6 14.f4 Bf4 15.gxf4 Qg7 16.exd5 Qxe5 17.c4 Qc7 18.d6 Qd8 19.cxd5 Qf6 20.g4 Qd6 21.Qxd5 Qc7 22.Qxf6 Qxf6 23.Qh5 Qg6 24.Qf5 Taking away the flight square e7 from the Black King, with the threat of 25.Qxh6 and 26.Bg5++. The Knight is immune, as 24...Bxf5 25.exf5 both attacks the Ng6 and discovers an attack on the Qc6. 24...Qg8 25.Qh6
Fine, R.
• Grunfeld, E.

Amsterdam
1936

Reuben Fine was one of the strongest players in the world in the 1930's. His best result was undoubtedly his first place tie with Paul Keres in the great AVRO tournament of 1938, in a field of the eight best players in the world. Unfortunately, he gave up serious play after World War II to pursue a career in psychoanalysis. Here he defeats opening theoretician Ernst Grunfeld at his own game, refuting a system then considered favorable for Black.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 f6 3.c3 dxc4 The Vienna variation, thought at the time to be a strong answer to White's "inaccurate" move order. 4.e4 d6 5.d3 e5 6.Bb5 Nf6 7.e5 cxd4 8.Qd4+ Qe6 9.0-0–0 Bg4 10.Qc1 e4 11.exf4 Bxf4 12.Bh4 Bb4 Previous analysis ended at this point, claiming, a win for Black as White must lose his Queen (13.Qa3 Nd3+), but Fine's next move proves this to be incorrect. Better was 12...Rc8, when Black has three pawns for the piece and the position is far from clear.

13...xb4 14.Qxf6+ Bf8 15.Qxd4 Now White wins a third piece for the Queen and maintains a strong attack.

15...a5 16.Qd7+ Bf8 The Black King is stuck in the center, for 16...Kg7 17.Bf6+ Kg6 18.Ne5+ wins at once. 17...xf6+ 18.Qxf6 19.Bh3 b5 20.Bd1 Bf6 21.Qd5+ Be5 22.Bg3 Qg8 23.h3 Qg7 24.a3 b6 25.h4 Bb6 26.axb4 Qxb4 27.Bb2 Qc2 28.Qxb4 The initial move of the new combination that will leave White with a decisive material advantage in the endgame.

28.Qxb4 29.Qxf6+ Bf8 30.Bd7+ Qf8 31.d6+ Qd6 32.Qd6 Qxf2 33.d3 Ne7 34.0-0-0 Nf5+ 35.d1 Avoiding the trap 35.Ka2? Rc5!, winning a piece. 35...Qg8 36.Qd4 e5 37.Qb6+ Qe6 38.Qg2 Qd8 39.Qd4 Qe8 40.Qf4 Qf8 41.Qd4+ Qf6 Not 41...Ke5? 42.Nf3+ Qxf3+ 43.Kxh1 Qa3+ 44.Kxe3 Qc3 45.b4 d1=Q 46.Qe6+ Kxe6 47.Qd2 c5 48.Qd3 Qf5 49.Qd2 Qg5 50.Qe4 Qh4 51.Qxg5 Qh3 52.Qxf4 Black Resigns.

1-0

Alexander Alekhine
• Mikhail Botvinnik

Nottingham (5)

England
1936

1/2-1/2

This first encounter between a past and future world champion is brief but exciting. It illustrates how a flank thrust is best parried by a counter-thrust in the center. The normal balance of position is maintained throughout all the various complications.

1.e4 c5 2.Bf3 d6 3.d4 "On another occasion I would probably have played 3. b4, a sacrifice for which White has to my mind sufficient strategical reasons. But playing for the first time with the Soviet Champion, for whose play I have the greatest appreciation, I did not like the idea of being accused of overweening confidence, undue boldness (and this independent of the result of the game) or of such things as under-estimating, bluster, etc." – Alekhine.

3...cx4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.c3 g6 6.e2 g7 7.e3 c6 8.d4 b5 9.d5 e6 Fischer recommends 8...O-O first, and if 9. f4 a5! 10. a4 Be6 11.g4 N b4! and the knight cannot be dislodged by a3. 9.f4 O-O 10.g4 The usual continuation is 10. O-O Nf5. This thrust permits White to force a quick draw – but no more. 10...d5 11.f5 Sharper than 11. e5 d4! 12. Nxd4 Nxd4 13. Bxd4 Nxf4 14. Qd3 a6 15. O-O-O with about even chances, as in Levenfish-Botvinnik, Moscow 1936.


13...Qd6 Of course not 13...exd6? 14. g5 Ne8 16. f6 entombing the bishop. 14.Qc5 Black is in no danger after 14. Qxd6 exd6 15. O-O-O gxf5 14...f4 Again the only move. If 14...Qxd5 15. Rxd5! Nc6 (not 15...Nxc2? 16. Kxd5) 16. g5 gives White a distinct advantage.


17...Qg3+ 18.Qf2 Otherwise 18. Ke2? Bh6 19. Ke2 Qe3 mate. 18...Qg1+ 19.Qf1 Qg3+ 20.Qf2 g1=Q Draw agreed. "A short but sharp and well-played game" – Alekhine.

1/2-1/2

Keres, P.
Max Euwe held the World Championship for only a year – his good sportsmanship in granting his rival so early a rematch was widely admired at the time – and he has always been overshadowed by the towering figures of Alekhine and Botvinnik. But at his peak he was a very strong player indeed, and his best games are models of logic and precision. Here he thoroughly outplays Paul Keres, whose nervous attempt to break open the position is calmly refuted.

White’s loss of a tempo is not so important in such a closed position, but the defense of the e5-pawn will cause him some headaches. More usual is 4...c5. 6. ad8 c7 7. g3 d5 8. d4 c6 9. b3 g6 10. e4 e6 11. 0-0 Be7 12. dxe5 dxe5 13. f4 d3 14. c3 O–O 15. f3 b4 16. a4 bxc3 17. bxc3 d6 18. d2 e8 19. e5 Qe7 20. c2 f5 21. Qe3 Bf6 22. d4 Qd6 23. Nxe5 Qxe5 24. f3 Rf8 25. fxe6 fxe6 26. Bf4 a5 27. Bxe5 Qe7 28. Bf4 Nc5 29. b3 Qe3+ 30. Kh1 Qh3+ 31. Kh2 Nf5 32. Nh3 Qxh3 33. Bxh3 Qe3 34. Bf5 Nh4 35. Bg4 Qe4 36. Bxe7 Qxe7 37. Bf6 Qxf6 38. Bxe7 Bxe7 39. Qe7+ Qxe7 40. Qxe7+ Kf8 41. Qf7+ Kg8 42. Qf6+ Kh8 43. Qf1+ Kg8 44. Qg1+ Kh8 45. Qh1+ Kg8 46. Qg8+ Kf7 47. Qe6+ Kf6 48. Qf7+ Kg6 49. Qe8+ Kf6 50. Qf8+ Kg6 51. Qg8+ Kf6 52. Qf8+ Kg6.

0-1

Mikhail Botvinnik

* Euwe, M.

? Zandvoort

1936 0-1 C02

Sponsored by the state, the Soviet Union dominated chess after WWII – but it didn’t happen overnight. A remarkable series of international tournaments in the 1930s proved to be a harbinger of things to come. Here Botvinnik took first, despite losing to runner-up Capablanca in time pressure. The first 37 moves show Botvinnik at his best – the next two at his worst. Later that year he and Capa shared first at the great Nottingham tournament in England, ahead of the era’s other leading players.

• Fine, R.

Nottingham

England 1936 1/2-1/2 A09

An exciting draw. In his memoirs Fine writes: “Many players look with boredom on a drawn game. They want blood, and not enough flows if neither side wins. Yet frequently the skill required in holding off an attacking opponent is much greater than that needed to beat a weak defense. This is one of the most difficult games I ever played. Out of a seemingly innocuous opening the Russian grandmaster suddenly built up a most ominous attack, and it required very exact calculation to hold him off.”
1. â³f3 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3. â³a3 c5 4. â³xc4 â³c6 5.b3
"I have always felt that White gets the worst of it here. Probably best is 5. Nce5 (Keres-Fine, Semmering-Baden 1937) which forced an early draw" – Fine. 5...f6 6. b4 e6 7.g3 â³ge7 8. g2 â³d5 An inaccuracy. Better is 8...Nf5. 9.0–0 â³e7 10. â³b4 O–O 11. wâ³b1 â³f7 12. â³f5 If 12. Be4 g6 is tenable. 12... â³e6 13.f4 exf4 14.gxf4 â³b6 "The most difficult move I was called on to make. White has emerged with a strong attack. Given enough time he can double on the g-file with all kinds of threats; Black must simplify as quickly as possible" – Fine. 15. â³e4 â³xe4 16.hxe4 â³xe4 17. â³c3 â³d4 18. â³xd4 cxd4 19. â³xb6+ â³xb6 20. â³b4 d3 "Sacrificing a meaningless pawn for the sake of clarification. If instead 20...Qxb6? 21. Bxe7+ Qd7 22. Qd3+ with a powerful attack" – Fine. 21. â³xe7+ â³xe7 22. â³xd3 â³xd3 23. ed3 Nf6 24. e4 Nf0 25. â³ac1 â³d5 26. a3 â³e7 "The smoke has cleared. White’s extra pawn has no meaning. The rest requires little comment" – Fine. 27. â³g2 b6 28. â³f3 â³e7 29. â³c3 â³a6 30. â³c3 â³c5 31. â³f2 â³d4 32. â³f5 â³a4 33. â³g2 â³ad4 34. â³f2 â³a4 35. â³g2 â³ad4 36. â³c4 â³d6 Draw by Agreement.

1-2/2

o Alekhine, A.
  • Fine, R.
Hastings
England
1936
1-0
C90
Fine describes it as "the best game I ever lost" in his memoirs. "I held out well until move 28 when a choice between two knight moves arose. Later analysis showed that one would have won; the other, which I picked, lost. In spite of my mistake I have always admired the originality and ingenuity which Alekhine displayed in his conduct of the attack."

1.e4 e5 2. â³f3 â³c6 3. b5 a6 4. â³a4 â³f6 5.0–0 â³e7 6. â³c3 b5 7. â³b3 d6 8.c3 â³a5 9. g4 c5 10.d4 â³c7 11. â³bd2 O–O 12. â³f1 Theory recommends 12. h3 to prevent Black’s reply. 12... â³g4 13. â³e5 â³c3 14. â³xf3 cxd4 15. â³h5 dxc3 16. â³xc3 â³f8 Forced but good. Black now holds the pawn. 17. â³g3 â³f8 18. â³d3 â³c6 19. â³g5 â³e8 20. â³ac1 â³b7 21.a3 g6 22. â³h6+ â³xh6 23. â³xh6 â³d4 24. â³e1 b4 25.f4 exf4 26. â³xf4 bxa3 27.bxa3 â³c3 28. â³xf2 â³c6 "A seemingly innocuous move which losses victory away. Correct is 28...Nc6! when Black’s defense is impregnable, e.g. 29. Bb1 Ne5 30. Ba2 Rac8 and White has no real continuation. Time pressure was beginning to add to my other worries here" – Fine. 29.a4 â³ac8 30. f1 â³c7 "The defense has become too difficult. If 30...Nc5 31. Bb1 Nxa4 32. Ba2 Rxc7 33. Rb1 Qa7 34. Bxf7+ Rxf7 35. Qxa7 and wins, for if 35...Rx7 36. Rf8 mate. 31. â³b1 â³c6 32. â³a5 â³c5 "Perhaps the best chance was to give up the exchange with 32...Qc5 33. Be3 Qxa5 34. Bb6 Qe5" – Fine. 33. â³c4 â³d7 34. â³a2 â³xe4 Desperation. But if 34...Ne6 35. Bxe6 Qxe6 36. Qxe6 fxe6 37. Rf8 mate. 35. â³xf7 â³xf7 36. â³xf7+ â³xf7 37. â³e6 Black Resigns 1-0

o Keres, P.
  • Hromadka, K.

Prague
1937
1-0
E61

Hromadka pioneered the system of defense now known as the Modern Benoni, though it did not achieve real respectability until Tal took it up twenty years later. Here Keres demonstrates the danger of exchanging the Bg7; even if Black wins material in the process, his King position is not easy to defend.

1.d4 â³f6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 g6 4. â³c3 d6 5.g3 g7 6.â³g2 O–O 7.e4 a6 8.a4 â³e8 9. â³ge2 e5 10.0–0 exd5 11.â³xd5 â³bd7 By transposition, we have arrived at a position from the Modern Benoni Defense. White will strive for f2-f4 and e4-e5 in conjunction with a Kingside attack; Black seeks tactical counter chances against b2 and e4. 12.b3 â³b8 13.a5 â³e5 Proves a loss time; he should play 13...h5 14. axb6 Rxb6 at once. 14.f4 â³ed7 He apparently intended 14...Nc4 15.Qa4 b5, but after 16.axb6 Nxb6 17.Qc2, White would have two extra moves in comparison with the position that could have arisen from the last note. 15.g4 b5 16.axb6 â³xb6 17.g5 â³h5 18. â³f3 â³d4+ Black had counted on this, as 19.Nxd4 cxd4 20. Na4 Qb4 21.Bxh5 gxh5, despite Black’s pawn weaknesses, gives him strong counterplay against the e4-pawn. But White’s subtle reply refutes the idea. 19. â³g2 â³g7 20. â³a4 Black has been forced to block the Bishop’s only retreat, and now White forces its exchange for a Knight. 20... â³xc3 21. â³xc3 b5 22. â³e1 â³d8 23.b3 â³b6 White prepares to take control of the a1-h8 diagonal, but Black can make a few threats against the b3 pawn. 24.â³xf5 â³xe1 25.â³xe1 â³xf5 26. â³a2 â³f8 Both players conclude that Black cannot spare the time to capture the b3 pawn, for White’s threat of h3-h4-h5-h6 is very dangerous. 27. â³e2 â³d8 28.h4 â³xb3 29.h5 â³d7 30.h6 â³e8 31. â³h5 â³g6 32. â³xg6 hxg6 33. â³e7
a5 34...d1 e7 35...e2 2 A simpler way to win was 35.Rg7+ Kh8 36.Qe7 Qxe7 37.Rxe7, winning a piece. But in Black’s time trouble, White plays for mate. 35...xd5 2 A tougher defense was 36...Nb5, but White is still winning after 36.Rg7+ Kh8 37.Bb2 Nd4 38.Bxd4 cxd4 39.Rxg6, and the d6 pawn will fall as well (39...Be8 40.Rxd6 Qxd6 41.Qe8+ mates). 36.h7+ Black Resigns.

- Euwe, M.
- Alekhine, A.

5th Match Game, Amsterdam
1937 1-0 D28

Although Alekhine regained the World Championship handily in 1937, the mathematician Dr. Max Euwe was a worthy rival, producing masterpieces like this in a losing cause. A slight opening advantage leads to a crisp middlegame with a Bishop trapped in an open board. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.f3 a6 4.e3 f5 5.xc4 e6 6.0–0 c5 7...e2 e6 8...c3 b5 9...b3 e7 White’s 8th move prepared a spot for the bishop, if 9...c4 10. Bc2 Nb4 11. Bb1. 10...c5xe5 11.f4 b4 12.e5 Opening up the position favors the one with open lines. 12...exf4 13...xf6 gxf6 14.e4 eb6 15...xc3 e4 16...d4 Black’s position hangs by a thread - moves like this can only mask the inherent weaknesses. 16...xd4 e4 17. a4+ e5 18. c3 xc3 19. bxc3 eb6 20. axd1 d5 21.f4 The Bishop has no haven from the marauding Rooks. 21...hxh2 22...f3 d7 If 22...fxg4 23. Rb3 Bf6 24. Bc6 wins the Rook. 23...a3 24. xa3 axa3 25. xg8 25. g3 xg3 26.hxg3 d5 27. a3 b3 xh3 28.axb3 xg8 29. b4 db8 30. e5 c8 31. a1 c6 32. f2 f5 33. e3 f6 34. d4 d4 e7 35. e4 g6 36. d1 b5 37. d6 d6 x6e6 38. x6e6 d6 39. xg3 40. xf6 xg4 41. e5 Black Resigns.

- Paul Keres
- Samuel Reshevsky

7th Olympiad
Stockholm
1937 1-0 C90

After an opening inaccuracy, Reshevsky struggles to obtain equality. He manages to beat back the first wave of attack but his positional weaknesses still remain. The second wave of attack, when it comes, proves irresistible. 1.e4 e5 2...f3 e6 3. b5 a6 4. a4 f6 5.O–O e7 6. c1 b5 7. b3 d6 8.c3 a5 A more accurate sequence is 8...O–O 9. h3 Na5. The text White can save time by dispensing with h3. 9.b2 c5 10.d4 c7 11.a4 b4 Weakens the queenside but if 11...Bd7? 12. axb5 axb5 13. b4 snare a piece. 12...cxb4 cxb4 13.h3 Unnecessary. Better is 13. Nbd2 at once. 13...O–O 14.c2 Black More to the point than 14...Bd7 15. Nf1 Rc8 16. Ne3 as in Keres-Tylor, Margate 1937. 15...f5 16. c6 More active than 16...Ne8 17. b3 f6 16. Bb2 Bd8 17. Bb2 f6 18. Bb2 Bb2 19. Bb2 as in Keres-Berg, Kemer 1937. 17.h3 h5 18. g4 f5 19. c1 exd4 20. xd4 d7 21. b1 c5 22. d5 f5 "After the exchange of bishops, Black remains in a most dubious position, since both his knights are badly placed on the edge of the board and also have no point of support in the center. Much better chances are offered here by the quiet protection of d6 by 22...Be5! - after which White would not find it easy to increase his initiative. Black could, however, hardly have attained full equality. White could then play, for instance, 23. Bd4! For the rest, Black cannot well accept the piece sacrifice, since after 22...gx5 23. exf5! Bxf5 24. Bxf5 Rxh5 25. Qg4 Ng7 26. Bxf6 would win." – Keres 23...exf5 24. xb4 24...xb4 25. c5 ! "The first inaccuracy, which allows Black the opportunity of activating his pieces. Much stronger here was 25. Qg4 Qe7 26. Qd4! and Black would experience difficulties in protecting his d-pawn." – Keres 25...c6 26...d4 27. d4 After beating back the first wave of attack, Reshevsky should try 26...Rc7 27. Bf1 Re4. Passive defense proves futile. 27. d5 bc5 28.fxe6 hxg6 29.xg6 fxg6 30.xg6+ gh8 31. Bf1 c5 32. Bb5 33.f2 f5 34.g3 35.f4 e6 36. f5 g5 37. h5 h6 38.e5 xe5 39. dxe5 d6 40. xe5 xe5 41. Bxe5 Black Resigns.

- Paul Keres
- Alexander Alekhine

Margate
England
1937 1-0 C71

Alekhine suffers one of the shortest defeats in his career after leaving his king in the center too long.
Even world champions cannot violate basic principles, and this incisive victory, coupled with a tie for first, firmly established young Keres (then 21) as a leading contender for the title.

1.e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 d6 5.c4

"Alekhine was fond of using this variation and employed it in some important games, achieving a number of fine successes with it. So, since my opponent was very well acquainted with the opening I decided to try this move, which was seldom played, and from the positional aspect barely compares with the usual 5. c3." – Keres 5... dxc4 6. Nxc4 Qf6 7. d3 Qxe4 8. Nxe4 Nf6 as in Unzicker-Keres, Hastings 1954. 8. ... e5 9. d4 Qh5 wins. "With the text move Alekhine sets a trap and forces Black to trap himself." – Keres


Better to relieve the cramp or exd4. Black's inability to castle becomes a real drawback. 9.dxe5 dxe5 10. O–O Nf6 as in Unzicker-Keres, Hastings 1954. 10... O–O 11. h3 Ne7 12. c3 g6 13. e5... Nxe5 14. Qe2 f6 15. f4 e6 16. Be3 Qc6 17. e5 Be6 18. Rd1 and wins.

On 22...Qg7 23. Qd4 (threatening Qa7 or Ne5) the win would not be in doubt. 23... Qxd7 24. Re8 mates.

1.0

Botvinnik, M.

Capablanca, J.

AVRO (11)

Holland

1938 1-0 E49

Ranks among the great masterpieces. Botvinnik finished third behind Fine and Keres but ahead of Alekhine, Capablanca, Euwe and Flohr at this double round event sponsored by a Dutch radio station that ushered in the new generation.


Alexander Alekhine

Eero Book

Margate

England

1938 1-0 D28

Another splendid combination by Alekhine, the master-magician who pulls all the strings and sacrifices a rook without any obvious follow-up or immediate return. In the Queen's Gambit Accepted, Black must be careful not to advance his queenside pawns too fast or he may face a punishing breakthrough in the center – which happened here!

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3. Nf3 g6 4.e3 e5 5. d3 c5 6. O–O Qd6 Usually 6...a6 is played right away before deciding whether this knight belongs on c6 or d7. 7. Qe2 a6 8. c3 b5 9. b3 b4 Either 8...Bxe7 or cxd4 first is more prudent.
A remarkable combination based on intuition that could not be analyzed to the very end.

13...bxc3 14. Bxd7 Qxd7 15. e5 a7 16.bxc3

A full rook down, White calmly stops to recapture the pawn. The forcing 15. Qh5 g6 16. Nxd5 hxg6 17. Qxh8 Kf7 is good for Black.

The Bishop is unable to make a living from chess, became a psychiatrist Reuben Fine has produced many sparkling games like this: sharp tactical play springing right out of the opening.


There are too many threats on all sides. The most immediate one is 31. Rd7 Re7 32. Rxa4! Rxh4 33. Rd8+ – Fine.

1-0

○ Fine, R.
● Flohr, S.
?

Amsterdam 1938 1-0 C17

The American Grandmaster, prolific author, and psychiatrist Reuben Fine has produced many sparkling games like this: sharp tactical play springing right out of the opening.


There are too many threats on all sides. The most immediate one is 31. Rd7 Re7 32. Rxa4! Rxh4 33. Rd8+ – Fine.

1-0

○ Pleci
● Endzelins
?

Buenos Aires 1939 1-0 C10

A lesser-known masterpiece from the last pre-war Olympiad. With a flurry of sacrifices, White demonstrates that an advantage in development remains of decisive importance even after the exchange of Queens.


14. Qe7 Qxe7 15. Bxe8 a6 16. c2 e4 17.f4 b5
18. e8! f6 19. f8+ g6 20. h4! h8 21. h5+ Black Resigns.

○ Ernst Rojahn
• Moshe Czerniak
8th Olympiad
Buenos Aires
1939
1/2-1/2 B00

A great fighting draw – wild, woolly, madcap. Czerniak was born in Poland but remained in Argentina along with several other European masters when this world team championship ended at the outbreak of World War II. In 1950 he settled in Israel, won the national championship and then represented his adopted country in nine consecutive Olympiads.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d6 3.e5 fxe5 4.dxe5

Or 24...Kd7 25. Qb5.

11...Qe2 O-O 15. Nc3 Rce8 gives Black good counterplay.

12...Nxe5?! 13.g5


18. Bc7 Nb7 26. Bxd8 Nxd8 with an even endgame.

2. Nf3 g6 3. h4 e5 4.g4

4...Bh5 An alternative is 4...Bg4 17. Bc7 Nb7 26. Bxd8 Nxd8 with an even endgame.

22. a6 c6 23. Qc5+ Kh1 24. Qf2! xd4 15. dxe5 16. Qxe5 17. f4 A brave decision to sacrifice the Exchange. 17.Rf4 or Bxg4 are feasible alternatives.


23. Qe6 or ever to win the U.S. Championship. Here Reshevsky again nosed him out for the title by snatching a draw from the jaws of defeat. "Unemployed from 1939 to 1941, Fine saw that a future dedicated to chess was bleak at best, and he obeyed the dictates of common sense, returning to school in the mid 1940s and earning a psychology doctorate in 1948 from U.C.L.A. I believe that in American events, Fine often found himself wondering why he was playing chess for pennies and let his mind wander." – Denker and Parr in "The Bobby Fischer I Knew And Other Stories."

16. Kh1 Qf2 19. Rf4


17. Qd3 Qg1 Expecting 18. R xg1 Nd5! and all is well. 18. b5+ c6 19. cxd6+ Rxd8 20.AXB7 Qxc2 21. w a5+ w c7 22. wxe6+ fxe6 23. w g5+ w e7 All roads lead to Rome. If 23...Ke8 24. Qh5. Or 23...Ke7 24. Qb5. 24. w a5+ Any attempt by Black to escape perpetual check is disastrous. For example, 24...Ke8 25. Bc6 Ke7 26. Rf1 Kxg7 27. Rxg1 Kh8 28. Qe6 Qg7 29. Bx a8. Or 24...K e7 25. Qh5 Ke7 26. R c1 Bxd4 27. Rxc2 Kb8 28. Re8! Rx c8 29. Bxc8 Kxf8 30. g8/Q!

1/2-1/2

○ Reuben Fine
• Samuel Reshevsky
USA Championship (17)
New York
1940
1/2-1/2

Reuben Fine (1914-1993) was America’s greatest international star in the 1930s, sharing first with Keres at AVRO 1938 ahead of Alekhine, Botvinnik, Capablanca, Euwe, Flohr and Reshevsky (his chief rival on the domestic scene). Fans spoke of a “jinx” when referring to Fine’s inability to convert winning positions into a win against “Sammy” or ever to win the U.S. Championship. Here Reshevsky again nosed him out for the title by snatching a draw from the jaws of defeat. "Unemployed from 1939 to 1941, Fine saw that a future dedicated to chess was bleak at best, and he obeyed the dictates of common sense, returning to school in the mid 1940s and earning a psychology doctorate in 1948 from U.C.L.A. I believe that in American events, Fine often found himself wondering why he was playing chess for pennies and let his mind wander." – Denker and Parr in "The Bobby Fischer I Knew And Other Stories."


An alternative is 4...Bg4 17. Bc7 Nb7 26. Bxd8 Nxd8 with an even endgame.

16. Kh1 Qf2 19. Rf4


22. a6 c6 23. Qc5+ Kh1 24. Qf2! xd4 15. dxe5 16. Qxe5 17. f4 A brave decision to sacrifice the Exchange. 17.Rf4 or Bxg4 are feasible alternatives.


23. Qe6 or ever to win the U.S. Championship. Here Reshevsky again nosed him out for the title by snatching a draw from the jaws of defeat. "Unemployed from 1939 to 1941, Fine saw that a future dedicated to chess was bleak at best, and he obeyed the dictates of common sense, returning to school in the mid 1940s and earning a psychology doctorate in 1948 from U.C.L.A. I believe that in American events, Fine often found himself wondering why he was playing chess for pennies and let his mind wander." – Denker and Parr in "The Bobby Fischer I Knew And Other Stories."


27...Qxc4 28. Bxc4 g5 29.g3 Qg4 Hoping to snare a piece with the pin. If now 30.Ne4 Q6 31. Qxe6 Qxe6 32. f3 f5 33. Qf4 Qf4 34. g2 Qd6 35. Bf2 Qc7 36. Qb2+ xf2 37. Qxf2 Qxf2 38. c4 a5 39. b3 Qe8 40. a3 Qe8 White’s victory has become problematic because the rook is so active.

41. Qc3! If 41. Ke3! busts up White’s connected pawns.

42. e3 Qe5 43. d3 b6 44. h5 d8+ 45. Qc2 h5 46.b4 axb4 47.axb4 h4 48.c5 hxg4 49.gxh4 Qxd5 Not 49...Rb8? 50. c6! Rxb5 51. c7 and queens.

50.d5? Tosses away winning chances. Correct is 50. Nd6! A possible variation is 50...Ke6 51.b5 Rg8 52.b6 Rxc3 53.b7 Rg8 54. Nc8 and the pawn queens.

50... Qg8 51. c3+ Qc6 52. e2 Qg4 53. c3 Qd5 54. Qf4+ c6 55. Ne4 The last try but it’s not enough to win.
Qe7 57...d5 $g 1 \text{ A} 58...d3 $d 1 \text{ A} 59...c4 $b 1 \text{ A} 60...f4 $b 2 \text{ A} 61...d5 $b 1 \text{ A} 62...b6+ $c 7 \text{ Draw by Agreement. Another hard-fought duel between the two greatest rivals in American chess. Once again Fine let his nemesis escape.}

1/2-1/2

○ Reshevsky, S.
● Fine, R.

New York State Championship
USA
1941 1/2-1/2 E49

This event began in 1878 and is probably the longest running ANNUAL event in the world. The rivalry between America’s two leading players was legendary; here’s how Fine himself described this seesaw battle: “Although we played on a par with the best of that time our own games displayed a fantastic series of blunders. Either he rescued a lost position against me, or I did against him. Nor were these subtle mistakes; many of them were so obvious that the rankest amateur could have seen them. Each wanted to beat the other, yet unconsciously each was reluctant to do so.”

1.d4 $f 6 2.c4 $e 6 3...c3 $b 4 4.e3 $d 5 5.a3 $c 3+ 6.bxc3 $c 5 7.exd5 exd5 8...d3 $O-O 9...e2 $b 6 10...$O 5 11...a6 $a 6 12...d3 An improvement on 12. Bb2 (see Botvinnik-Capablanca. AVRO 1938. 12...$c 8 13...b2 $d 4x d4 “I had counted on the opening of the c-file to give me adequate counterplay, but this hope proved illusory. Consequently the coldblooded 13...c4 14. Qc2 Re8 15. Ng3 Ne4! was preferable” – Fine. 14...cxd4 $f 7 15...f 1 $c 7 16...f 3 $f 8 17...g 3 $c 6 18...e 1 Not 18. e4? dxe4 19. fxe4 Ne5! snaring the e-pawn. 18...$a 8 19...a 1 $d 1 20...d 2 $c 4 21...b 1 $b 3 "I was still under the impression that the counter-action along the e-file was adequate. Since it is not, I should have tried 21...Red8 when it is still quite difficult for White to advance his e-pawn” – Fine. 22...f 5 $e 7 23...e 4 $e 8 24...d 3 $a 4 But not 24...Qc2? 25. Qxc2 Rxc2 26. Ne7+ and $x e 8. 25...$e 8 26...e 3 $b 5 27...d 2 $b 3 28...d 3 $b 5 29...d 2 $a 5 Black should repeat moves with 29...Qb3. 30...d 1 $b 5 31...g 3 $d 6 32...f 4 $e 5 33...f 3 $d 8 34...g 7 35...f 5 36...g 5 $f 7 37...f 4+ $h 8 38...c 1 $x 6 Otherwise Black has no constructive plan. 39...f 6 40...e 1 $x 6 41...a 4 The sealed move – to clear a3 for the bishop. Now 41...Qxa4 42. Qxd5 is obviously bad for Black. 41...$c 7 42...f 2 $c 7 43...e 2 $f 7 44...c 1 $e 8 45...a 3 $f 6 “Missing the point to White’s last move. After 45...Kg7 46. Qe2 Nf6 47. Qe5 Nh4 was probably still tenable for Black” – Fine. 46...Qb 8+ $g 7 47...f 8+ $g 8 On 47...Rx f 8 48. Rxc7 pins the queen. 48...d 6+ Missing 48. Qxd5! which is decisive. The queen can’t be captured because Bh6 mates. 48...e 4 49...e 5 $e 7 50...a 8 $e 6 51...h 3 $e 5 52...d 5 $x 4 53...c 8 $f 8 54...e 6 $g 7 55...e 7 $x 4 56...d 3 $f 5 57...c 2 $h 4 Missing a chance to win by 57...Qa 1+ 58. Kh2 Qe5+ 59. Qg3 Qxe7. Now the comedy of errors continues. 58...e 2 White in turn can win by 58. Rxe8! Rg5+ 59. Kh2 Qf4+ 60. Kh1 Rg3 61. Rg8+ 58...g 5+ 59...g 2 $x g 2+ 60...xg 2 $x f 7 61...xd 5 Draw. On 61...Qe 2+ 62. Kg1 Qe 2+ 63. Kg2 compels Black to take perpetual check. “This may have been the most important game of chess played in the Western hemisphere in 1941” – Chess Life, June 1999

1/2-1/2

○ Keres, P.
● Botvinnik, M.

USSR Absolute Championship
Moscow
1941 0-1 E35

A charming miniature. Botvinnik with Black crushes the Estonian in 22 moves after Keres castles too soon on the wrong wing.

1.d4 $f 6 2.c4 $e 6 3...c3 $b 4 4...e 5 5.cxd5 $e 5 6.dxe5 $f 5 7...d3 $O-O $f 8 8...d 4 $c 5 9...e 2 $d 5 10...$d 2 $d 8 11...e 2 $b 5 12...d 2 $c 4 13...d 4 $c 5 14...d 2 $d 5 15...d 1 $e 8 16...f 4 $f 6 17...d 3 $a 4 18.d4 $d 8 19...g 5 $x f 5 20...$c 5 $x d 5 21...$f 3 $h 5 22...$g 3 $g 8 23...$c 1 $x f 6 Otherwise Black has no constructive plan. 39...e 6 40...g 5 $f 6 41...a 4 The sealed move – to clear a3 for the bishop. Now 41...Qxa4 42. Qxd5 is obviously bad for Black. 41...$c 7 42...f 2 $c 7 43...e 2 $f 7 44...c 1 $e 8 45...a 3 $f 6 “Missing the point to White’s last move. After 45...Kg7 46. Qe2 Nf6 47. Qe5 Nh4 was probably still tenable for Black” – Fine. 46...Qb 8+ $g 7 47...f 8+ $g 8 On 47...Rx f 8 48. Rxc7 pins the queen. 48...d 6+ Missing 48. Qxd5! which is decisive. The queen can’t be captured because Bh6 mates. 48...e 4 49...e 5 $e 7 50...a 8 $e 6 51...h 3 $e 5 52...d 5 $x 4 53...c 8 $f 8 54...e 6 $g 7 55...e 7 $x 4 56...d 3 $f 5 57...c 2 $h 4 Missing a chance to win by 57...Qa 1+ 58. Kh2 Qe5+ 59. Qg3 Qxe7. Now the comedy of errors continues. 58...e 2 White in turn can win by 58. Rxe8! Rg5+ 59. Kh2 Qf4+ 60. Kh1 Rg3 61. Rg8+ 58...g 5+ 59...g 2 $x g 2+ 60...xg 2 $x f 7 61...xd 5 Draw. On 61...Qe 2+ 62. Kg1 Qe 2+ 63. Kg2 compels Black to take perpetual check. “This may have been the most important game of chess played in the Western hemisphere in 1941” – Chess Life, June 1999

1/2-1/2

○ Alexander Alekhine
● Klaus Junge

Prague (11)

Czechoslovakia
1942 1-0 E03

Going into the last round, Junge led by a half point and needed only a draw to take first prize. Alekhine launched a far-sighted but risky pawn sacrifice that paved the way for a spectacular and unexpected
rook sacrifice. This dramatic game was used in "Knight of the Id," a play by Richard Laurie about Alekhine’s last days, when he was shunned by the chess world as a Nazi collaborator after the war. Speaking of this game, the fictional Alekhine says: "There is a moment in chess when your opponent knows he is lost. He knows he can do nothing to save himself. All moves lose. It is not checkmate. It is before checkmate. Everything he can do is wrong. There are no good moves. All moves lose. It is a very terrible spot to be in, but it is fun to watch him squirm. He stares at the board, but it does not change. Nothing can be changed and there is no hope. He is a mouse and I am the cat. I watch him very closely as he suffers. When the game is over, I will feel sympathy for him, but not now. Now I watch him twist and turn and tear himself to pieces. His agonies are mine."

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 Qf6 4.g3 dx4 5.Qa4+ Qbd7 In an earlier game at another Nazi-sponsored tournament in Munich 1942 between the same players (with colors reversed), Alekhine chose the more usual plan 5...Bd7 6.Qxc4 Bc6. White has anything better than a draw by perpetual after 22...Kd6. It is unclear whether 22.Qxb8 picks up the rook. 21.Qd6 is crushing.

18...Rc8 Nd7 (or 18...Kd8 19.Qxc5 Bxc5 20.Bxb5!) 18.Bxe3 Qe6. Botvinnik has a surprise in mind which had not appeared in any Soviet tournaments. T10. Qbd2 0-0 11.Qc2 Qxf2 Black can be criticized for trying to seize the initiative so early, but it is not easy for White to solve all the problems that will face him. Reinforcing the knight by 11...f5 is probably the best plan (see the aforementioned Smyslov-Reshovsky game).


15.Qd2 e5 Black should strive to castle as quickly as possible by 15...Be7. 16.Qb3 Qc5 Neglecting the safety of his king. White still would be hard-put to justify his pawn sacrifice after 16...Be7! 17.e3 dxe3 18.Bxe3 Qe6. 17.Qxc5 xc5 If 17...Qxc5 18.Bc6 Nd7 (or 18...Kd8) Qxc5 Bxc5 20.Bxb5! Qxc5 Bxc5 20. Ra5 regains the pawn advantage. 18.a6 A bolt from the blue.

18...Qxa6 19.Bxc5 Qe6 If 19...Nd7 20.Bc6 f6 21.Qd6 is crushing. 20.Qe6+ Qd7 21.Exd7+ Exd7 Forced. If 21...Qxd7 22.Qxe5 Qxe7 23.Qxb8 picks up the rook. 22.Qa7+ Qe6 Loses by force After 22...Kd6. It is unclear whether White has anything better than a draw by perpetual check.

23.Qd2 Qb8 24.Bd4 Bb3 25.a1 b4 Trying in vain to create an escape square for the king on b5. 26.axb6+ axb6 27.a5+ Qe6 28.Qc5+ Qd7 29.a7+ Black resigns, as he gets mated on 29...Ke6 30.Qe7. A German soldier, Junge was killed in action at 21, just before the war ended in 1945.

1-0

○ Vassily Smyslov
• Mikhail Botvinnik
Moscow Championship
USSR
1943 1-0 C82
Chess flourished in the Soviet Union despite the bloodiest war in its history. The intense rivalry between two of its leading players extended to more than 100 games and three title matches in the course of their long careers. In this early encounter, Botvinnik varies on move 11 from a variation made famous two years later in the 1945 USSR-USA Radio Match (see Smyslov-Reshovsky). Smyslov obtained a material advantage of two pieces for a rook and then patiently suffered while untangling his pieces from the back rank.

1.e4 e5 2.Qc4 Qc6 3.Qc3 Qf6 4.Qf3 b5 5.a4+ Qbd7 6.Qf4 The Open Defense has withstood the test of time.

White has nothing after 11.dxe5 Bxe5 12.Qxc5 Bxc5 13.axb5 axb5 14.axb5 cxb5 15.a4 trading a pawn to seek the initiative. 11...Qxf3 Spurning his pawn sacrifice after 16...Be7! 17.e3 dxe3 18.Bxe3 Qe6. 17.Qxc5 xex5 If 17...Qxex5 18.Bc6 Nd7 (or 18...Kd8) Qxc5 Bxc5 20.Bxb5! Qxc5 Bxc5 20. Ra5 regains the pawn advantage.

18.a6 A bolt from the blue. 18...Qxa6 19.Bxc5 Qe6 If 19...Nd7 20.Bc6 f6 21.Qd6 is crushing. 20.Qe6+ Qd7 21.Exd7+ Exd7 Forced. If 21...Qxd7 22.Qxe5 Qxe7 23.Qxb8 picks up the rook. 22.Qa7+ Qe6 Loses by force After 22...Kd6. It is unclear whether White has anything better than a draw by perpetual check.

23.Qd2 Qb8 24.Bd4 Bb3 25.a1 b4 Trying in vain to create an escape square for the king on b5. 26.axb6+ axb6 27.a5+ Qe6 28.Qc5+ Qd7 29.a7+ Black resigns, as he gets mated on 29...Ke6 30.Qe7. A German soldier, Junge was killed in action at 21, just before the war ended in 1945.
33...d8 34...h1 In time trouble, White overlooks 34...Bf4! right away. 34...d4 35...exd4 exd4 36...f4 c5+ Not 35...gxh4 37. Bf5! Rxf5 38. Qxg7 mate. 37...xe1 xf4 38...d7 xd7 39...xd7 d3 40...g4 White’s extra piece is decisive. Also sufficient is 40. Bxb5. 40...d2 41...d3 42...e2 43...g1 b6 44...b3 xc7 45...f3 xf7 46...f2 xe6 47...e3 xd6 48...d1 d5 49...g4 h7 50...c2 Black could have resigned long ago. After a spite check by 50...Qg2 51. Kd3 it’s all over. Black Resigns.

1-0

David Bronstein
• Mikhail Botvinnik
13th USSR Championship (5)

Moscow 1944 1-0 C92

David conquers Goliath! 20-year-old Bronstein was 15th in his first try for the Russian championship, then the strongest series of tournaments in the world. Soviet tournaments thrived despite WWII. Were it not for this victory for the winner and future world champion, his performance (15th in a field of 18) would have gone unnoticed. This tense encounter features a sharp opening and a difficult ending that should have been drawn but Botvinnik tried too hard to win. In 1951 they drew a title match 12-12.

1.e4 c5 A departure from Botvinnik’s habitual French Defense with 1...e6. 2.d4 f3 c6 3.d5 b6 4.a4 f6 5.O-O c7 6.e1 b5 7.h3 b6 8.c3 O-O 9.h3 e6 The usual continuation is 9...Na5. 10. Bc5. The text is a result of Botvinnik’s search to rehabilitate forgotten moves. 10.d4 Better than 10. Bc5 d5! 11. exd5 Qxd5 12. d4 exd4 13...b5 Nd4. 14. exd5 13. e5 Ne4 14. Nc3 Nxc3 15. bxc3 Na5 16. Qc2 Nc4 17. Nd2 Qf7 18. Nxc4 bxc4 19. f4! Not 12...exd4 13.exd4 c5 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.e5 d7 In a later round Lilienthal tried 15...c5! 16. e5 b4 17.c3 c6 18.d2 d1 19.f3 d4 More prudent is 18...Qc7 19. Bf4 Qc6. 19...g4 Misjudging Blacks reply. The critical line is 19. Qf4! Qe7 20. g3 Nxe5 21. g4 Nh4 with unclear prospects. Now Black gets a better endgame. 19...xf2+ 20.gxf2 0-0 21. xd8 Qg4+ 22.hxg4 dxe8 White’s development is backward. Black stands better with a rook and two pawns for bishop and knight. 23.axb5 axb5 24. d3 d5 25. a5 a5 b3 26. c1 This retreat is necessary. Not 26. Bc3? b4 27. Bd4 c3. 26...f6 27. a3 d3 28. xd3 cxd3 29. e3 e4 30. f3 b4 31. e1 g5 32. g3 c4 33. e3 h5 Banking on his long experience, Botvinnik embarks on a faulty plan and spurns a draw by repetition with 33...Rb4 34. Be1 c4 35. Be3 Rd4, etc. 34.gxh5 g4+ 35. f2 c2+ 36. d2 xb2 37. f4 a2 38. e3 Once Black succeeds in winning the d-pawn and blocking the b-pawn the two pieces will win easily. 38...a3 39. d4 f7 40. e4 b4 41. d4 a5 42. h6 b5 43. c4 b6 44. e5 Avoiding 44. Nb3 Rc6! 45. Kxb4 Rec2 drawing. 44...b7 45. d3 The point. Black no longer has a check on the c-file. 45...g6 46. c4 b6 47. e5 h7 48. b3 d2 49. xd2 d6 50. f4 d1 51.e4 Skirting the last trap. Not 51. Kxb4 Rd4 52. Kc3 Rxh4! and wins. 51...g6 52. f2 b1+ 53. c2 e1 54. b2 c3 55. xg4 c3 56. e3 e3 d3 57. c2 d1 58. xb4 Completing the winning process outlined at move 38. 58...f5 59. c6 d7 60. c3 e4 61. c4 f5 62. c5 e4+ There was no need for the king to be so active. After 62...Kg6 it is still not clear how White can win. After Botvinnik’s mistake in this simple endgame, White wins in two moves with a short but nice combination”– Bronstein. 63. c6 e5 64. g4 f8 Finally reeling in a big fish. If 64...Rf7 65. Bd6 followed by h7 nets the rook. Black Resigns.

1-0

Reshevsky, S.
• Vasconcellos

Boston 1944 1-0 C02

By no means a typical game by Reshevsky, a player noted for dour maneuvering and resourceful defense. The explanation: Reshevsky had clinched first place in the U.S. Open with a round to spare, and was determined to have fun in his last game. When Black wastes time capturing the worthless b2 pawn, White sacrifices a Knight to rip open the center and checkmates the defenseless Black King. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.dxc5 dxe7 5.g4 f6 6.d3 d7 7.0-0 c6 8.f4 d7 Hoping to win the e5 pawn. Safer was 8...Rf7 followed by 9...O-O, but not 8...O-O? 9.Bxh7+ Kxh7 10.Ng5+ with a winning attack. 9.c3 a6 Black cannot win a pawn with 9...Nxe5? 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 because of 11.Qh5! [11...Bd6 12.Nb5]. 10...e1 c6 11.g3 xb2 Pointless; he should play 10...Nb6 followed by ...Bd7 and ...O-O-O. 11...e1 g3 xb2 Consistent, but fatal. 12...xd5 exd5 13.e1 b1 14.a3
14.e6 \( \text{xf6} \) White also has a strong attack after 14...fxe6 15.Ng5 N6f 16.Qf3 N8d 17.Qxd5.

15.exf7+ \( \text{xf7} \) 16.h4 \( \text{h4} \) 17.b4 \( \text{b4} \) It is logical to eliminate the Bd3, but surrendering control of the e5 square quickly proves fatal. A better try was 16...Be7. 17.e5+ \( \text{f8} \) Black avoids 17...Kg8 because of the variation 18.Bxf6 Nxd3 19.Qxd3 Qxd3 20.Nxd3 Bxf2+ 21.Kxf2 gxf6 with a winning ending, but the text leads to a far worse debacle. 18.xf6 \( \text{xd3} \) Forced – if 18...gxf6 19.Qh5! fxe5 20.Rxe5 Bd7 21.Qf3+ Kg7 22.Rg5+.


Throughout the 1930s the United States was a dominant force in world chess. American teams led by Reshevsky and Fine won gold medals at four straight Olympiads. The first important sporting event after WWII and one that marked the beginning of Soviet chess supremacy was a ten board match in September 1945 where moves were transmitted by short wave radio. Each player faced his opponent twice and the result was totally unexpected. Reshevsky lost both his games to a future world champion as the USSR crushed the USA 15.5 - 4.5.


1-0

○ Denker, A.
• Botvinnik, M.

USA-USSR Radio Match, New York/Moscow
1945 0-1 D44

The U.S. had dominated international team competition in the 1930’s and this postwar match was expected to be one-sided. So it proved, but in the other direction, as the Soviet team won 15-1/2 to 4-1/2. This was the first-board encounter between the U.S. and Soviet champions.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.e4 c5 4.d3 f3 5.g3 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.h4 g5 9.xg5 hxg5 10.xg5 \( \text{bd7} \) A novelty in 1945, this is now known as the Botvinnik System, or the Anti-Meran Gambit.

11.exf6 \( \text{h7} \) 12.e2 \( \text{h6} \) 13.O-O O-O 0-O 14.a4 b4 15.e4 c5 16.h1 \( \text{b7} \) 17.cxd4 \( \text{xd4} \) 18.xc4 \( \text{xc6} \) 19.f3 d3 20.wc1 c5+ 21.h1 \( \text{xd6} \) 22.wf4 Also insufficient is 22.Bf4, e.g. 22...Rxb2+ 23.Kxb2 Rh8+ 24.Nh5 Rxb5+ 25.Kg3 e5 26.Be3 e4+ 27.f4 Qxf6 28.f2 Qxf4+, and wins. 22...\( \text{xb2} \) 23.xh2 \( \text{h8} \) 24.wf4 \( \text{xb4} \) 25.wb4 \( \text{xf4} \) White Resigns.

1-0

○ Smyslov, V.
• Reshevsky, S.

USA-USSR Radio Match
New York & Moscow
1945 1-0 C82

Abounds in delightful tactics! Fighting an uphill battle, White finds moves that are just short of winning by force. The endgame has all the pungency of a composed problem.

1.f3 \( \text{f6} \) 2.c4 d6 3.g3 g6 4.d2 g7 5.O-O \( \text{bd7} \) 6.d4 e5 7.e3 O-O 8.d5 Closing the center is inferior to 8. e4 or h3. Bronstein did much to popularize the King’s Indian Defense; in this team.
match his individual score with it was 4-0. 8...a5
9.e4  c5 10.d3  f7 11.e3  f5 12.d2  b6
13.e5  e6 14.a3  f6 15. f3  e7 16.exf5
gxf5 17.h1  h5 18.a5b5  h7 19.h3  e8
20.Qxe2  c8 21.Qf2 Better is 21. a3 Qf7 22. b4
Nh7. The text prepares an unclear pawn sacrifice.
21.a4  c5 22.Qe6  f7 23.d3  xe6 24.dxe6  c6
25.d5  d8 26.a3  cxd6 27.b4 axb4 28.axb4
Qd8 Careful! Not 28...Nd4? 29. Bxd4 exd4
30. Bxf5! 29.a7 e8=Q mate. 0-1

The long-term impact of the post-war Soviet mas-
13. e4 d6 14.b3  d7 15. f3  g4 16. h3  f3
c8 17.e3  xal 18. xal  xf2 Now Black
wins back the pinned Knight on d4 after 19.Kxf2
in the long run.
58. Kxe3 though Black’s extra pawn should prevail
61. Kxf2 e8=Q mate. Like finish caps a hard game. On 59. h3 Rg1+
60. Rxa1 f4 61. b8=Q+ Kc5 62. Qe7+ Kd4?? 63. Qxe3 mates.

0-1

● Bronstein, D.

? Prague
1946 0-1 E68

The long-term impact of the post-war Soviet mas-
isters lies in their exploration of unbalanced posi-
tions – how much piece activity is worth a struc-
tural weakness? This period saw a renaissance of
the King’s Indian Defense, in which Black accepts
a space disadvantage for tactical counter-chances.
1.e4  c5 2.d3  f6 3.f3  d6 4.d4  b7 5.g3
g6 6.h4  g5 7.0-0 O-O 8.b3  e8 9.e2
c6 10.e4  exd4 11.Qxd4  h6 12.Qd2  e5
13. f3e1 a5 14. a1b4 a15. a1 ab3 16.axb3
g4 17.h3  xal 18. xal  xf2 Now Black
wins back the pinned Knight on d4 after 19.Kxf2
Nh3, and 19.Qxf2 Nd3 is even worse. 19. e3
xe3+ 20. h2  f2 21.f3  exf4 22. Qxf4
Qg4+ 23.h1 f5 24.Qxe4  xe4 25.Qxd6
x4d 26. Rb6  d8 27. a8  e5 28.Qa7  b4
29.Qa2 Qf8 30. h3 Qb6 White Resigns.

0-1

● Geller, E.

? Odessa
1946 1-0 B53

Even at the beginning of his career, it was evident
that Efim Geller was a player of great potential. He
correctly assesses the myriad tactical possibilities
as Black and White attack on opposite wings, and
drives the Black King across the board with a re-
leasant attack.
1.e4  c5 2.f3  d6 3.d4  exd4 4.Qxd4  g6 5.Qf3
d6 6.Qd2 Even an attempt that does not
justifiably lose a tempo. 6...e6 7.g3 a6 8.Qg2
xf7 9.0-0 f7 10.b3 O-O 11.a2 b5 12.a3
Qd2 immediately is better. 12...d3 13.Qd2
b7 14.a1 a8 15.h3 d5 After 50 minutes
of thought. Instead simply 15...b4 is suffi-
cient for an advantage. 16.exd5 b4 17.Qxe3
bxc3 Leads to immense complications. “I would prefer
17...exd5 with subsequent play against White’s nu-
erous weaknesses” – Bronstein. 18.Qxc6  xal 19.
xd1 exb2 20.bxb7  d8 21.a3 Qd8+ 22.a3
xe2 3a3 23.b1  d1+ If 23...Bxd6 24. Qd4
picks up the b-pawn. 24.Bh2  d6 25.Qc3
xc2 26.d4 Throws away a win by 26. Qb6!
Bf8 27. Qd4! 26...d5 27.Qd5  d7 28. Nxd5
xe5 29.Qxe5  xc3+ 30.g2 h6 Finally Black finds the right
moment to make luft. 31.b8=Q+ h7 32.Qd8
b1=Q 33.Qg8+ Qg6 34.Qd6+ Qf6 35.Qxf6+
xf6 36.Qd8+ Qe6 Black could retain winning
chances with 36...Kg6 37. Qxd5 Qf5 38. Qd6+
Qe6. 37.Qe8+ Qd6 38.Qd8+ Qe6 39.Qe8+
fxd6 40.Qf8+ Qf7 41.Qe8+ Draw. If Black tries
too hard to escape the perpetual by 41...Kb6 42.
Qd8+ Kc5 43. Qe7+ Kd4?? 44. Qe3 mates.
1/2-1/2
Bishops to obtain a slight advantage in development. Nowadays 6...bxc6 is more popular. 7...c3 8.g6 e6 9.O–O 10...e7 11.ad1 O–O
12.h3 b5 13...h2 Oxf8 14.d3 a5 15...f3 b4 16...xf6 bxc3 17...g4 h5 18...h6
Three White pieces are en prise, but none can be taken – 18...gx6 19.Nx6f+ Bx6 20.Qxf6, 18...gxf6 19.Nxf6+ Kh7 20.Rxf7+, or 18...hxg4 19.Rg6 e5 20.Rxg7+ Kh8 21.Qd1 and Black will not last long. 18...e5 19...hxg4 20...xg7
19...h6+ 21.g8 22...f5...e8 23...h5 24...f4...e8 25...h8+ 26...f7
27.Qf7...d7 There is nothing better – 27...Qc7 28.Qxe4+ mates.
18...fxe6 19.f5 O–O 20...c6 21...xe2
21...Qc8 22...b2 Black Resigns.

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**Marshall Club Championship**

**New York City**

**1946** 1-0 **C13**

A number of America’s most promising young players cut their teeth at the world famous Marshall chess club at 23 West 10 Street in Manhattan. This brilliancy brought 14-year-old Larry Evans to the attention of the chess fraternity.

16.Kxh7 Qe2+ 17.Kf1 Qxf1. 18.Kg1 Bc8 19.Qe2 O–O 20.Qd1 and Black has nothing to fear from castling into it. He has made no weaknesses, lost no tempi and therefore goes about completing his development in the calm assurance that premature attacks should be repulsed. And he is right. 8.O–O–O e5 9.h4 exd4 10...c2 Qc6 11.f4 Bf6 12.Bb2 d3 13.Kc1 Qxf1. 14.Kc2 Qe1+ 15.Kd1 Qxf1. 16.Kxc2 Qd1+ 17.Kd1 Qd7 Leads to trouble. 14...f5! would bring the attack to an abrupt standstill. However, Pilnicks becomes too intent on his own counterattack. 15...g6 16.d4 h5 17.hxg5 18.Bxh5 f4 19.Qh6+ Kf8 20.Qh8+ Qg7 21.Bxg7 Bf6 22.Qxf6+ Kg7 23.Qf7+ Kh8 24.Qf7+ Kg8 25.Qf7+ Kh8 26.Qh5 f3 27.Qf5+ Kg8 28.Qh5+ Kg7 29.Qf7+ Kg6 30.Qg6+ Kh7 31.Qh6+ Kxh6 32.Qg7+ Kxg7 33.Kf6+ Kh8 34.Kg7+ Kxg7 35.Kf6+ Kxh7 36.Qg7+ Kxg7 37.Kf6+ Kh8
38.Qf7+ Kg8 39.Qg6+ Kh8 40.Qxe4+ and Black with a clear advantage.

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**Evans, L.**

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**Pilnicks, C.**

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**Bronstein, D.**

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**Levenfish, G.**

**USSR Championship**

**Moscow**

**1947** 1-0 **D48**

After Black misses a chance to equalize, his king becomes a target in the center. Thereafter Bronstein prosecutes the attack with vigor and elegance.
1.d4 d5 2.c4 f6 3.c3 c6 4.e3 e6 5.d3 dxc4 The Meran Variation. A good alternative is 5...Bd6. 6.exd4 7.Qb3 8.Qb5 9.Qb3 Weakens is 8. Bb3 b4 9. Ne2 Ba6. 8...a6 9.e4 c5 10.e5 Qb5 11.d4 A novelty at the time. The main line is 11. Nb5. 11...d5 12.O-O b7 Black never recovers from this error of judgment. 12...Be7 leads to equality.

Black never recovers from this error of judgment.


Boris Spassky

2. Leningrad Junior Championship

1949 1-0 D28

Fame came to a future world champion at age 12 when this sprightly miniature was published in chess magazines around the world. Unlike many juniors, young Boris preferred 1. d4 before he discovered 1. e4 but this early game already showed his talent for attack.


1-0

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11...Be7. 12.d5 ♗xd5 13.♗g5 ♔e7 14.♗xf6 gxf6 15.♗xd5 ♘xd5 15...exd5 holds out longer. 16.♗xd5 exd5 17.♘d4 ♘f8 More tenacious is 17...♗d7 18.♗e1 ♙f8. 18.♘f5 ♙h5 Black’s pawn structure is a shambles. He hopes to resist in the ending after 19. ♘xe7 but Spassky finishes off in style. 19. ♘xd5 ♘xd5 20.♗xe7+ ♘g8 21.♗xf6 Black cannot parry two mortal threats. If 21...♖h7 17...♗d7 18.♗e1 ♙f8.

16. ♘e4 ♘e7 6. ♗c2 0-0 7.♗e5 exd5 8.♗f3 c6 9.♗d3 ♕e8 10.0-0 ♘f6 11.♗a1 ♙e4 12.♗xe7 ♘xe7 13.♗b4 The minority attack has been played thousands of times. Basically White’s plan is to weaken the opposing queenside pawn majority by using his two pawns as a battering ram to create a weakness on c6. 13...♘a6 14.♗a4 ♘xc3 An unmotivated swap. More active is 14...♘g6 followed by f5 to create counterplay on the kingside. 15.♗xc3 ♗g4 16.♗d2 Pointless is 16. ♘e5 ♘b5 followed by f6 driving the knight back. 16...♗g5 17.♗e1 ♘e6 18.♗b5 ♘xb5 19.axb5 ♘h3 20.g3 ♘ae8 21.♗xc6 ♘xc6 22.♗f1 Easy does it! White has achieved his objective of weakening the base of the pawn chain but the hasty 22. ♘xb6? Rxe3! 23. fxe3 Qxe3+ 24. Kh1 ♙f2 25. ♘g1 (or 25. ♖f1) 25...♖e1 forces mate. 22...♖xf1 23.♖xf1 ♗g6 24.♗b6 ♗e7 Black’s attack has backfired and he is saddled with a target on c6. 25.♗h4 ♙h5 26.♖b8 ♙xb8 27.♖xb8+ ♘h7 28.♗xf4 ♖xf4 Weak. Black should never exchange queens unless his back is to the wall. Correct is 28...♖g6. 29.♗xf4 g6 30.♗d2 ♗d6 31.♖f1 ♗g7 32.♖a1 ♘d7 33.♖b3 ♔b7 34.♗c5 ♘h2 35.♖a7 ♗f6 36.♖a6 ♕b1+ 37.♗g2 ♗b2 38.♖a7 ♕b1 39.♘c7 ♕a1 Better is 39...♖b2 to prevent White from playing f3 in the future (see note to move 45.) 40.♗d3 ♕e6 The best defense is 40...♖a6. White now discovers an amazing forced win based on a magical mystery knight’s tour. 41.♗c5+ ♕f6 42.♗d7+ ♕e6 43.♗f8+ ♕f6 44.♔d6 Never 43...♔d6? 44. ♖d7 mate! 44...♗h7+ 45.♗e6 45...♗g5+ 46.♔d6 The point of the circular maneuver becomes clear after 45...♗f6 46. ♕f3! with the deadly threat of ♕e4+e5. This would not be possible with Black’s rook on b2 (note to move 39.) 46.♗b7 f6 Or 46...f5 47. ♗h7+ ♕e6 48. ♖f8+ ♕f6 49. ♕xg6 50.♗x7 White is a pawn ahead, true, but the ending is still difficult because of his doubled pawns. 50...♗f5 51.♗e7 ♘c1 52.♖e8 ♘g6 53.♗g3 ♘c2 54.♗h4 ♘f5 55.♖h8 ♗g6 56.♗f5+ ♘xf5 57.♕h5+ ♘g6 58.♖h1 The first phase of the ending is over. White dissolved his doubled pawn and created a passed h-pawn. 58...♗f5 59.♖g8 ♘c1 60.♕a2 ♘a1 61.♖h5 ♘a7 62.♕g3 ♘h7 63.♘h3 Rooks belong BEHIND passed pawns! 63...♗g5 64.♗f3 ♘h6 Although White can’t retain the extra pawn, he continually threatens to enter a winning king and pawn ending by using a “sword of Damocles” motif whereby the h-pawn is held over Black’s head to force him to further inroads. If 64...♖hxh5 65. ♕h1 ♘h5 66. ♕f4 transposes into the game. 65...♗h5 66.♖g3 ♘g5 On 66...♖h8 67. ♕f4 transposes into the game. 67.♖h4 ♘f5 68.♖f4+ ♘g5 69.♖g4+ ♘f5 Again 69...♖hxh5 70. ♕f4+ ♘hxh5 71. ♕h4+ ♘g5 72.♖b6 ♗a1 Trying to get behind the passed pawn instead of remaining passive. 73.♗g3 ♘h1+ 74.♖h3 ♕g1 75.♖f3+ The hasty 75. ♕h7? ♕g4+ 76. ♕g5 ♕xg5 77.♖xg5 ♕g6 78.♖g4 ♕xe6 79.♖g4 ♕e7 Zugzwang. If 79...♖f5 80. ♕e5 wins. Black would like to pass but can’t! 80.♖f5 ♘f7 81.f3 White has the opposition and invade either at g6 or e6. E.g. 81...♖e7 82. ♕g6 Kg6 83. f4 (or 83...♖e7 84. f5) 84. Kg5. Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Efim Geller
• Josef Vatnikov
USSR Championship Semi-Finals
Kiev 1950 1-0 B88
It’s impossible to lose without making a mistake, but sometimes it’s not easy to figure out exactly where this mistake occurred. Even after White found a refutation to this line over the board,
For many years FIDE rules gave Soviet champion Botvinnik the advantage of a game match and a rematch clause if they lost. In the 1960s, 6...e6 7.0-0 e7 8...e5 O-O 9...b3 A precautionary retreat before taking action in the center. Other tries are 9...a6 Qc7 10. Ba6 or 9...f4 d5 10. exd5 exd5 11. Be2 Re8 and Black stands well. 9...a5 "This maneuver is not without its advantages since: 1. Black exchanges the bishop at b3; 2. The bishop reaches a7 a move earlier in comparison with...a6 and b5. Even so, the diversion of the knight to the edge of the board causes serious doubts," noted Botvinnik.


Black's ninth move, placing his knight on the rim, continued to be adopted in other games!


Illustrating the maxim that "knight on the rim equals a pawn."
Every player has games which are especially memorable. I include this one: my first ever meeting at the board with the leader of the Soviet Chess School. Whether or not to give perpetual check was what Botvinnik had to decide on his 26th move. The position was level, but this was not the dynamic equilibrium of a middlegame where one can hope to tip the scales in one’s own favor, but equilibrium which demanded an accurate evaluation of the coming endgame.” – Geller

**Moscow 1951 0-1 B63**

A heartbreaking loss for Bronstein, who never got another crack at the title. He started with four draws and a win, but this debacle in the next game almost broke his spirit. Bronstein attributed his final blunder on move 57 to a slip of the hand: “Time trouble was over and I started thinking about the opening, immersing myself in all the details of Black’s 8th move for a full 45 minutes. Then I accidentally touched my king and had to move it.” Botvinnik retained his title on a 5-5 tie with 14 draws in this 24-game title match.

**David Bronstein**
**Mikhail Botvinnik**

**World Championship Match (6)**

Mikhail Botvinnik

David Bronstein

1.d4 ♘f6 2.g3 d5 3.c4 dxc4 4.♘f3 ♘c6 4...c5 is also possible and then 5. ♘a4 followed by ♘xc4 transposes into the Catalan Opening. White should now continue with 5. ♘a4 anyway. 5...♗e7 6.♘c3 ♘f6 7.dxe5 ♘d5 8.♗g2 ♘xe5 9.♗xe5 ♘xe5 10.♗xe5 ♘f3 11.♗c2 ♘e7 12.♗c5 ♘d6 13.♗d5 ♘e6 14.♗e5 ♘d6 15.♗xf6 gxf6 16.♘e2 ♘e5 17.a3 ♘b6+ 18.♗d2 ♘c8 19.♗f4 ♘xf4 20.♗xe5 ♘g3

**Moscow 1951 0-1 D00**

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46. ♘f4 ♘xf4 47. ♗xf4 ♘d5 48. ♘xe5 ♘d6 49. ♘xf7

...c6 53. ♘f6+ ♘d5 54. ♘xa6 The last hope was 54. ♘b4 Re4 55. ♘d1 Rxe2 56. ♘f3 Re1 57. ♘d2 Bxd3. 58. ♘h5 gxh5 59. ♘xh5. 54...♗xe3 55. ♘a1 ♘c3 56. ♘d1 ♘c4 57. ♘e1 ♘b3 58. ♘d2 ♘b2 White has no more good moves. If 59. ♘e4 Rd3. 59...♖c2+ 60. ♖d3 ♖b3 61. ♘e4 ♖c4+ 62. ♘e5 ♖b4 White resigns. 0-1

0-1
Bronstein's famous slip of the hand. Instead 57...Nxe2+ 18. Qxe2 Qd3 holds.


Another drawing line is 50. fxe6 Kxc4 51. e7 Bc6 52. Qxe6 Rxe6 53. Be7 Bb5 54. Kxb3 Kc4 55. a4 Kc3 56. Qa8 bxa4 57. Qxa8+ Kb4 58. Qa4+ Ka5 59. Qa5+ Ka4 60. Qa4+ Ka5 61. Qb5 Kxb5 with a draw.

White Resigns.

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White Resigns.
Keres, P.
• Taimanov, M.

USSR Championship, Moscow
1951 1-0  A17

In a critical last-round game, Keres selects an old-fashioned opening setup in which judgment and experience are more important than preparation, and he converts his space advantage into a slashing attack on the poorly defended Black King. 

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.b3 d5 4.c3 e4 5.d3 exd3 6.Qxd3 Bb8 7.d4 White’s move order was chosen in order to avoid the Nimzo-Indian and Queen’s Indian Defenses, in which Taimanov was a great expert. 7...b6 8.d3 dxc4 9.bxc4 c5.10.Q–O

cxd4 11.exd4 Qc8 12.Qb1 Nb6 13.dxc5 Qxc5+ 14. Nd4. Black chooses to give his opponent the so-called “hanging pawns” on c4 and d4, which may become weak in the endgame – but which may also advance powerfully in the middlegame. 12.Qc2 Nc8 Avoiding a little trap – 12...Nxd4? 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.Nf3 Kg8 15.Qd5, and to avoid mate Black must play 17...Kf5, losing a piece. 13.Qg4+ Kg8 14.b4 Rd8 15.Bc2 c4 16.dxc5 bxc5 17.Qh4. Better is 15...g6+ 16.Kh1 Bg5 17.Qh5 Kg7 18.Qxg5+ Kh8 19.Qxh4.


George (Kolty) Koltanowski, the greatest showman and promoter that chess ever knew, died at age 96 in 2000. A diamond cutter by trade, he left Belgrade before the second World War and created a daily chess column that ran without interruption for 52 years in The San Francisco Chronicle. Though his tournament results were modest, he wrote more than a dozen chess books and made headlines in 1937 by taking on 34 opponents at once without sight of the board to set a blindfold record with 24 wins and 10 draws. He even took on the Chessmaster development team at the age of 94 in five simultaneous games, easily winning all of them. He was a tireless exhibitor and raconteur who entertained fans with his speciality, the Knight’s Tour. Spectators posted random words and phone numbers in the 64 squares of a giant chessboard. Kolty memorized the hodgepodge in seconds and, while blindfolded, called out the path required for a knight to touch every square on the board as he recalled these scraps of information in order. “I don’t know how he does it,” said his wife. “He can’t even remember to bring home a loaf of bread from the supermarket. ” “Pawns are like buttons,” Kolty often said. “Lose too many and the pants fall down by themselves.” In his newspaper office he played without sight of the board against movie star and chess expert Humphrey Bogart, who lost by a mere pawn.

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\textbf{Re8 28.Qg3.} 25...e7 b6 g6 28...\textbar h4? The queen is already on a strong outpost and should stay there. Simply 28.Re1 is indicated to challenge the e-file. \textbf{28...h5?} Bogart in turn misses his main chance. 28...Re2! 29.Rf2 Re1+ 30.Rf1 Re2 draws. 29...\textbar e1+ 30...\textbar e1\textbar d6 31.xc6 ec6 32.e7 ec8 33.h3 ec6 34.b4 xc3 35. ec8+ \textbar h7 36.xf7+ \textbar h6 37.e7 ec1+ Comes close to drawing – but not quite. 38.xf2 ec4+ 39.ec2 ec4 40.xf3 \textbar g5? Making it easy. The best try is 40...h4! forcing White to find a move like 41. Qe4! in order to win. If 40...Qf1+ 41. Kg3 h4+ 42. Kh2 Qf4+ 43. Kg1 Qc1+ 44. Kf2 Black eventually will run out of checks. 41.f7+ Black resigns. Bogart once worked in a chess stall at Coney Island and was arguably the strongest player in the Hollywood community.

\textbf{0-0}

\textbf{◆ Erno Gereben}
\textbf{Efim Geller}
\textbf{Budapest}
\textbf{Hungary}
\textbf{1952} 0-1 B90

Geller was awarded a brilliancy prize for this, as he first sacrificed a bishop, and then both of his rooks on the altar of attack. Such generous offers are not excessive when in pursuit of the enemy king – all is repaid in the event of success.

1.e4 c5 2.\textbar f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.xd4 d5 5.e3 e6 6.h3 e7 7.g4 A serious loss of time. 7. Be3 is indicated. 7...xd4 8.xd4 e5 9.Wd3 G7 10.\textbar g2 \textbar e6 11.b3 Further neglect of the law of rapid development. More consistent is 11. \textbar f4. 11...0-0 12. \textbar b2 b5 13.O-O-O Castling into it. Better is 13. O-O even though the kingside has already been weakened by premature pawn advances. 13...\textbar b4 14.\textbar e2 Black’s attack also progresses on 14. Nd5 Bxd5 15. exd5 Nd7. 14...a5 15.\textbar f7 16.\textbar f5 \textbar c5 17.\textbar f3 a4 17...Bd7 is fine but this is much more vigorous. Now if 18. fxe6 fxe6 19. Qg3 Bh4 20. Qh2 Re2 21. Rxe7 Rg8 wins quickly for Black. 18.h4 axb3 19.axb3 \textbar a2 Decisive penetration on the open file. Black’s attack almost plays itself. 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Wg3 \textbar a5 22.c4 \textbar b2 23.\textbar xb2 \textbar a3+ 24.\textbar b1 \textbar e8 25.\textbar c1 \textbar a1+ 26. \textbar e2 a2+ The final sacrifice gets everything back in spades. 27.\textbar x a2 28.\textbar c1 \textbar b3+ 29.\textbar x b3 \textbar x b3 White’s king is stripped bare and it’s just a matter of time before black gets his bishop into the game.

30.\textbar d2 \textbar c3+ 31.\textbar c2 \textbar e3+ 32.\textbar h2 \textbar a3+ 33.\textbar b1 b3 34.\textbar b2 \textbar b4 35.g5 \textbar d8 36.\textbar c1 \textbar b6 37.\textbar h3 \textbar a7 38.h5 \textbar d4 39.g6+ hxg6 40.hxg6+ \textbar e7 White resigns. Hopeless is 41. Rf1 Bxb2 42. Rf7 Ke8 43. Kxb2 Qxc4.

\textbf{0-1}

\textbf{◆ Keres, P.}
\textbf{Smyslov, V.}

\textbf{Zurich}
\textbf{1953} 0-1 A34

This was a game of great sporting importance: Keres desperately needed a win to retain any hope of ousting the tournament leader Smyslov. White finds an aggressive and original means of bringing both Rooks into the attack, but Black’s careful defense and central counterattack carry the day. Smyslov went on to win the tournament, and the right to challenge Botvinnik for the world championship in 1954.

1.e4 \textbar f6 2.\textbar c3 e6 3.\textbar c5 c5 4.e3 \textbar e7 5.b3 O-O 6.\textbar b2 b6 7.d4 exd4 8.exd4 d5 9.\textbar d3 \textbar e6 10.O-O \textbar b7 11.\textbar c1 \textbar e8 The strategic point of the next few moves will be whether or not Black plays ...d5xc4. This would open a diagonal for his Bh7 and give him pressure against the d4 pawn, but would allow White a mobile pawn center c4/d4. Black postpones the decision. 12.\textbar e1 \textbar b4 13.\textbar f1 \textbar e4 14.a3 \textbar xc3 15.\textbar xc3 \textbar c6 Preparing the transfer of the Rook to the Kingside. Obviously bad was 15.Bxc3 Na2. 15...\textbar c6 16.\textbar e5 \textbar xe5 17.\textbar xe5 Now both White Rooks are active, and Black must play with great care. 17...\textbar f6 18.\textbar h5 g6 19.\textbar ch3 dxc4 Smyslov thought a long time on this move, the more so as there is no forced mate to be seen, but in the end chose the positionally better counterattack in the center. His judgment was correct, for though a forced win is not evident, White would have a strong attack after 19...gxh5 20.Qxh5 Re8 21.a4! threatening to cut off the Black King’s escape with Ba3, e.g. 21...Qd6 22.c5 bx5 23.Qh6 Bg7 24.Qxh7+ Kh8 25.dxc5. 20.\textbar xh7 Keres persists in playing for a win. He could still make a draw with 20.Qg4 c3 21.Bxc3 Rxc3 22.Rxc3 Qxd4 23.Qxd4 Bxd4 24.Rc7 g5h5 25.Rxb7. 20...\textbar c1 21.\textbar c1 Obviously bad for White are 21.Bxc3? Rxc3 22.Rxc3 Kxh7 and 21.Bc1 Qxd4. Keres finds a way to keep the attack going a bit longer. 21...\textbar xd4 But not 21...exb2? 22.Qh6 Qxd4 23.Rh8+ Bxb8 24.Qh7++. 22.\textbar h6 \textbar f8 23.\textbar c1 \textbar g7 24.\textbar g5 \textbar f6 25.\textbar g4 c2 26.\textbar a2 \textbar d4 27.\textbar f4 \textbar d1+ 28.\textbar x d1 \textbar d4+ White Resigns.

\textbf{0-1}

\textbf{◆ Taimanov, M.}
\textbf{Evans, L.}

64
USA-USSR Match (4)
New York
1954 0-1 E99

A Soviet team came to New York at the height of the Cold War. America lost badly, but one of its few bright spots was Evans’ plus score in his four game set with Taimanov, whose prepared variation met with a shocking rejoinder.

1...e4 2...e5 3...c6 4...g7 5...e4 O-O Inviting 5...e5 Ne8 6. d4 d6 putting White’s advanced center under pressure. 5...d4 d6 6...e2 e5
7...O-O f6 8.d5 c5 9...e1 d7 10...d3 f5
11.f3 f4 12...d2 g5 13...c1 g6 14.e5 Better is 14. b4 h5 when both sides race to attack each other on opposite wings. 14...xf5 15...xe5 dxe5
16...a4 b6 17.b4 cxb4 18...xb4 Bxe7 19...e1 b5 20...xf3 Qxe7 21.Bxe7 Qxe7 22.Bxe7 Qxe7 23.Bxe7 Qxe7
More consistent is 19...Qb3. 19...f5 A bolt from the blue! White hoped for 19...Qc7? 20. d6 Qd8 21. dxe7 Bxe7 22. Bxe7 Qxe7 23. Qd5+ and Qxe8. 20...xf8 f6 21...a3 O–O
22...e1 g7 23...f2 c5 24...e3 dxe5 25...b2 g3
26.hxg3 Qxg3 27.f1 c8 27...Rh6 also wins.
28...e1 b5 29...e2 h4 30.g3 fxg3 31...xe3 Qxf1
Another winning path is 31...Qxe3 32. Rg2 Qxg2+ 33. Bxg2 Nxe4 34. Kxe4 Re2+. 32...f5 g6+ 33...xf1 Wh8+ 34...e2 fxe2+ 35...xf1
wxel+ 36...wxel Hg1+ White Resigns. When Taimanov went to have a drink at the bar, he was heard to mutter, “What did that little boy do to me?”

0-1

o Botvinnik, M.
• Smyslov, V.

12th Match Game, Moscow
1954 1-0 D18

This see-saw match reached a turning point in this game midway through. With both kings under fire, Botvinnik drops the poison with 31...f4+, a combination worthy of a composed problem. The match was drawn, but it was clear that the title was vulnerable.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...f3 c5 4...f6 5.a4 a6 6...e2 e5 7.b4 O–O 8.O–O b5 9...h4 cxb4
10...g4 10...g5 wb6
11.h3 exd4 “A highly unpleasant surprise, leading to great tactical complications.” – Smyslov.
12...a4 wxe6 13...h4 b5 14...xd4 Black stands well on 14... cxb5 cxb5 15... Nxd4 bxax4 16. e5 Bb7; or 14... Be7 Re8 15... Bxd6 bxax4 16...
easy win for Botvinnik. 35...xf6 36...xf2 exf5+ 37...f3 38...g4 Black Resigns.

- Bronstein
- Keres
- ?

Goteburg 1955 1-0 E41

In this brilliancy Prize game David Bronstein shows that his draw match for the World Championship in 1951 was no fluke. Bronstein is famous for his innovative attacking combinations.

1.d4 2.e4 e6 3...e3 b4 4.c3 c5 5...d3 b6 6...e2 b7 7.O-O cxd4 8.exd4 O-O 9.d5 This makes a claim to Black’s territory. If Black plays 9...exd5 10 cxd5 Nxd5 11. Nxd5 Bxd5 then 12. Bxh7 Kxh7 13 Qxd5 is strong. 9...h6 10...c2 The Knight is misplaced here. 11...b5 The start of Bronstein’s sacrifices. He threatens 12 a3 Be7 13 d6 winning the bishop, so Black is forced to capture pawns while White attacks the king. 11...exd5 12.a3 e7 13...g3 dxc4 14. ...xh6 gxh6 15...d2 Black must now deal with the terrible threat of 15. Qxh6, 16. Nf5 and 17. Qg7. Keres finds a defense by giving back his extra material.

15...h7 16...xh6 f5 17...xf5 18...xf5 19. Ad1 Material is roughly equal, but White’s control of the center and attacking chances make for a decisive advantage.

19...g5 20.h5 w6f6 21.d6 e6 22.wg4 h8 23. e4 h6 24. wxe6 dxe6 25.wxe4 c5 26.b4 c6 27.wxc6 Bronstein has gained a decisive material advantage as well. The rest is just technique.

27...h8 28...c4 w6 29. d6 g7 30.f4 w4 31.h3 w2 32. g3 w3+ 33. h2 d4 34.w4d5 c8 35. h5 c2 36. g7 w3+ 37. hx1 xf4 or 37...Qxg7 38. Qh5 Qg8 39. Qxe2 38...f3 c2 39. h6+ Black Resigns.

- Byrne, D.
- Fischer, R.
- ?

New York 1956 0-1 D97

Known as "the game of the century" until that title was usurped by a later Fischer brilliancy, this game saw the 13-year-old Bobby Fischer defeat one of the strongest American players with a startling Queen sacrifice that many players would not even have considered. It was already clear that Fischer was far ahead of his contemporaries, and he would soon overtake even the resilient Reshevsky.

1.f3 c5 2.e4 d6 A quick transposition from the Reti Opening to a Sicilian Defense. 3.d4 exd4 4.cxd4 f6 5.e3 a6 6.e2 e5 Creates a backward pawn on d6 but gains a tempo by attacking
the knight. This system was considered too ugly to be playable before 1940. \(7.\text{c}b3 \text{c}e7 8.0-0\) O–O 9.\(g5\) A quiet line aimed at increasing the pressure on d5. 9...\text{bd7} 10.a4 \text{b6} A bit more accurate is 10...h6 inviting 11. \text{Bxf6 Nxf6} 12. \text{Bc4 B6!} 11. \text{c4 d7} 12. \text{cxd2} \text{c7} 13. \text{f3} \text{d3} 14.\text{d2 h6} If now 15. Bh4 g5! is okay for Black. 15.\text{xh6} \text{xf6} 16. \text{b3} \text{c6} 17.\text{c4} \text{xe4} \text{xe4} A freeing combination that should equalize. 18.\text{xh6} 19.a5 \text{xc4} 20.\text{xc4} \text{f8} If 20...\text{Bxe}4 21. \text{Qxe}4 \text{Bd5} 22. \text{Qf5!} increases the pressure on f7. 21.\text{a66 Bxb6} 22. \text{d6} \text{b5} 23.\text{cxb5} \text{a6} 24.\text{c5} \text{d5} \text{e1} 25. \text{e1} \text{c5} After defending well, Black begins to go astray. Correct is 25...Qc5! 26.\text{e8} \text{f8}+ The losing move. The best chance is 26...Rxa8 27. \text{Qxa8} Bf8 28. \text{Qd5} Qa7. Another possibility is 26...Qc7 27. \text{Rx}f8 Kxh8. Now a series of forced exchanges converts White’s initiative from the midgame into a won ending. 27.g1 \text{f1} 28.\text{xf7}+ \text{xf7} 29. \text{fxf7}+ \text{xf7} 30. \text{b6} 31. \text{xc6} A neat simplification. Now White can create an outside pawn on the queenside and penetrate with his king on the other wing. 31...\text{e7} 32.\text{d3} 33.\text{c4} \text{b5} 33.\text{d}4 \text{b4} Passive defense also fails. If 33...Kc6 34. c3 Kd6 35. b3 Kf5 36. h4 h5 37. c4 Qc4 38. bxc4 Kd6 39. g3 g6 40. c5! Kxc5 41. Kxe5 with Kf6 coming next. 34.c3 b3 35.c4 g6 36.g4 h5 37.gxh5 g×h5 38.b4 \text{c}c6 Black has run out of good moves. If 38...Kc5 39. Kxe5 Kxc6 40. Ke4! gains the opposition and eventually captures the pawn on b3. 39.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 40.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 41.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 42.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 43.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 44.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 45.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 46.\text{dxe5} \text{dxe5} 47.\text{c5} \text{c5} Black resigns. “White queens first. I still consider this one of my most beautiful games” – Larsen. The finale could have been 47...Kg4 48. b4 Kxh4 49. b5 Kg4 50. b6 h4 51. b7 h3 52. b8=Q h2 Qb7. 1-0

○ Evans, L.
- Najdorf, M.

Dallas (14)

USA 1957 1-0 A04

A prime example of asphyxiation. At the end material is even but Black resigns because all good moves have been snuffed out. 1.\text{f3} c5 2.g3 \text{c6} 3.g2 g6 4.0-0 \text{g7} 5.e4 d6 A Sicilian Defense by transposition. 6.e3 e5 7.d3 \text{b6} More natural is 7...Nge7 towards the center. 8.\text{e1} O–O 9.f4 exf4 10.\text{f4} \text{e4} 11.\text{c3} \text{g5} 12.\text{h1} \text{b6} 13.\text{d2} \text{e6} Both sides have staked out their prospects: White on the kingside, Black on the queenside. 14.\text{c2} \text{a6} 15.d4 \text{c4} 16.\text{xc4} \text{xc4} 17. \text{f2} \text{cxd4} 18.\text{xd4} \text{e8} 19. \text{f6} \text{a5} Hoping for a swap to break the attack. A good alternative is 19...Bh8. 20.\text{xd4} \text{xd4} 21.\text{xd4} \text{xd4} 22.\text{xd4} \text{ad} 23.\text{f6} \text{e5} 24. \text{g5} \text{xf5} 25. \text{xe6} \text{d6} 26.d1 \text{f5} 27. \text{xd6} \text{xe6} 28. \text{d2} \text{c8} 29.b3 \text{e6} Centralizing looks natural but a better chance to hold is 29...Bf6. Now White’s two bishops sweep the board. 30.e5 b6 31. \text{c6} 32. \text{g2} \text{h6} 33.\text{f3} \text{h7} 34. \text{d7} Black Resigns. Disgusted, Najdorf throws in the towel without waiting for disaster. If 34...\text{Bxd7} 35. \text{Rxd7} g5 (or 35...Kg8 36. e6 fxe6 37. Rg7+ Kh8 38. Rxe6+ 36. e6 Kg6 37. e7 Re8 38. Rd8 Ne7 39. Rxh8 Kf6 40. Ke4 wins in the long run.

1-0

- Bobotsov, M.
- Tal, M.

Varna Bulgaria 1958 0-1 E81

A blow to tradition! Black’s queen sacrifice revolutionized the whole evaluation of this opening, and it’s amazing how his attack gains momentum with each move. 1.d4 \text{f6} 2.c4 \text{g}6 3.\text{c}3 \text{g}7 4.\text{d}4 4.d6 5.f3 O–O 6.\text{e}2 \text{e}5 7.\text{c}3 \text{f6} 8.\text{d}2 \text{a}6 9.0-0-0 \text{c}5 10.\text{b}1 \text{b}5 Setting the stage for a queen sacrifice by ignoring the threat of Nd5. Cramped but solid is 10...\text{Re}8 11. Nc1 (Evans- Mednis, USA Championship 1964) and now 11...\text{Rb}8 is correct. 11.\text{d}5 Nowadays most players interpolate 11. dxc5 dxc5 first. 11...\text{d}5 A shocker! Inferior is 11...Qd8 12. dxc5. 12.\text{xa}5 \text{xe}3 Black has two knights for the queen and hopes to use the latent power of his g7 bishop for an attack against b2. White should be able to exploit his material advantage, but how? Theorists still disagree about who stands better. Probably the better player! 13. \text{c1} \text{xe}4 14. \text{xe}4 White is too willing to return material and open the b-file in the bargain. Sturdivit is 14. Qe1 edx4 15. Nf4. 14...\text{bxc}4 15.\text{c}1 \text{b}8 16. \text{xc}4 \text{b}6 17. \text{b}3 A trifle better is 17. Be2 but Black already has enough compensation for the queen, which is a helpless spectator. 17...\text{d}4 18.\text{d}2 \text{g}7 19.\text{e}2 \text{e}4 20. c2 c3 Opening more lines. If 21. Nxc3 Nc4 wins outright. 21.\text{d}3 \text{cxb}2 22. \text{d}4 \text{d}7 23. \text{d}1 \text{f}8 24. \text{b}3 \text{a}4 25. \text{xa}4 \text{xa}4 26. \text{b}3 \text{c}3 27. \text{xa}6 \text{xb}3 28.\text{axb}3 \text{b}8 29.\text{a}3 \text{d}1+ 30. \text{xc}1 \text{xc}1+ It’s mate next move, so White Resigns.
0-1

David Bronstein
• Boris Spassky
25th USSR Championship (10)
Riga
1958  0-1  E54
On his road to the world championship, Spassky, like his Russian rivals, honed his talent in strong Soviet championships. Meanwhile, Bronstein, after tying a title match in 1951, never again reached the heights because he sought beauty at the expense of practical results. His predilection for outlandish ideas and eccentric maneuvers produced many memorable games, but he frequently paid a price for his overflowing imagination. Here, for example, he goes out on a limb by misplacing his rook on the rim – an idea that meets with a drastic refutation.

1.d4  d5 2.c4  c6 3.Øc3  b6 4.e4  dxe4 5.Øf3  e5 6.O–O  O–O

Refutation.

6...Øc5 7.Øf2 b6 8.a3 a6

Varying from the theoretically recommended e5. Better is 16. Bb3.

16...Øe7

Black's material superiority is decisive and the knight on e7 is stranded. 24.Øc1  Ùe3+ 25.Øa3  Ùc3 26.Øxc3  Øxc3

One bad move leads to another. White should concede the error of his ways and retreat to d1. 14...e4 15.Ød4  Øe5 16.Øf5 Trying to justify his eccentric maneuvers. Better is 16. Bb3. 16...Øc5 17.Øa4  Ùa5 18.Øe7+  Ùh8 19.Øb3  Ùxe1 20.Øxe1  Øf6+ The finishing touch. White must lose his misplaced rook. 21.Øgx3  Ùg5+ 22.Øh1  Ùxh4

23.Øg1  Ùh5 Black's material superiority is decisive and the knight on e7 is stranded. 24.Øc1  Ùxf3+ 25.Øg2  Ùad8 26.Øxf3  Ùxf3 27.Ød2  Øxb7  Øxf2

Elegant to the end. White's back rank is vulnerable. If 29. Kg1 Rg2 30. Kf1 Ng4 is the quietus. 29.h3  Øe4 30.Øf5  Ùg2 White resigns. It's mate next with Nf2.

0-1

• Boris Spassky
• Mikhail Tal
25th USSR Championship (19)
Riga
1958  0-1  E26
This crucial last round encounter decided first place. "On move 23 I offered a draw. Spassky decided that he could without risk continue the struggle, and perhaps he was right. In any case, it was I who committed the first mistake after which he seized the initiative. He conducted the middle game superbly and at adjournment my position gave serious call for alarm. When the game resumed, I considered that it should finish as a draw. For a long time I maintained the equilibrium, though it is true I had to find a number of difficult moves. The strength of one of these was evidently underestimated by Spassky who by inertia continued playing for a win in a now level position. Suddenly the advantage changed hands and my counter-attack became irresistible."

1.d4  Øf6 2.c4  e6 3.Øc3  b4 4.a3 The Saemisch Variation is a surprising departure from Spassky's pet 4. Bg5. 4...Øxc3+ 5.Øxc3  e5 6.Øe2  Øe6 7.Ød3

E5 Varying from the theoretically recommended 7...Øf6 8. Ne2 b6 9. e4 Ne8. 8.Øe2  e4 9.Øb1


12.Øf5 O–O 13.Ød6  Ød3 14.Øxd3 exd3

15.Øxd3 exd4 16.Øxd4  Øe8 Putting the question to the knight: either swap or retreat! 17.Øf3

d5 18.a4  Ød6 19.Øxd6 Too risky is 19. Ba3 Nxe4 20. Bxa4 Qc5 19...Øxb2 20.Øf2

White refused a draw here. 24.Øxb4 a5 25.Øf2  Ød6 26.h3 Better is 26. Kf1 Qe6 with equality. Now Black can grab the initiative with 26...h5!

26...Øf8 27.Øc2  Øxc2+ 28.Øxh6 g6 29.Øb1

Ød7 30.Øc6  Øxc6 31.Øxc6  Øa6 "More accurate was 31...Rx a4 32. Rx b6 Ke7 bringing the king over towards the rook. Most probably the game would then have been drawn, whereas now the struggle flairs up with renewed vigor." – Tal

32.a5 b3 33.a x b6 34.b7 b1=Ø 35.Øc8+  Øg7 36.Øb8=  Øf6+  "It is amusing that the two pawns have queued on the same file. Black now gives the first check, but this is not very important."

– Tal 37.Øg3  Øg1+ 38.Øh2  Øxe3 39.Øg8+  Øf6

Black’s task would be easier after 39...Rxf6 40. Qg5 41. Qxf7 Rxf7!

42. Qxg2 Qd2 with perpetual check. 40.Ød6+  Øe6 41.Øf4+  Øf5 42.Ød6+  Øe6 43.Øg3  Øe3 44.h4  Ùc2  "Weaker is the tempting 44...Ra1 45. Qd6 Qg6 46. Qf4! Qf5 47. Qf4. Qh6."

– Tal 45.Øf6+  Øe6 46.Øf4+

The sealed move, and the game was adjourned. 46...Øf5 47.Øh6  Øe7 48.Øf8+  Ùg6 49.Øf7+  Øe7 50.Ød8  Ød7 Forced to stop the threat of Ra7. 51.Øf8+  Øf6 52.Øa6+  Ùe6 53.Øb7+  Øc5 54.Øa8  Øc1 55.Øg3 h5 Preparing a refuge for the king on f4. 56.Øc2  Øe6 57.Øc8 58.Øf8+  Øf6 59.Øe8  Øe6 60.Øh8+  Øf5
26.

B post at d4” – Tal.

an attack on White’s king using the open e-file and queenside, and therefore Black decides to build up it is very difficult to realize the extra pawn on the jcal stage begins. With opposite-colored bishops B

22.a4 b6 23.b3 e5 24.e2 h5 25.e2 xe2 26.xe2 h4 White has eased his defensive task by exchanging a rook but storm clouds are gathering on the kingside. 27.h1 27. h3 looks better. 27...fxe4 28.g3 f6 29.d1 d8 30.g4 xf2 31.e2 Seems to win the pinned bishop. Also futile is 31. Qf3 Qxh3 32. Bxf3 hxg3 33. hxg3 Rd2. 31...d2 This neat trick saves the bishop and decides the game. If 32. Qxd2 Qc6 mates. 32.e8+ g7 33.xh4 d4 34.g6 h3 d3 35.g2 Or 35. Qe5 Kh7 36. Qf4 Qd5! 37. Bg2 Qxg2 38. Kxg2 Be3 39. Kh1 Bxf4 40. Rxf4 Kh7 leaves White a pawn behind in a hopeless ending. 35...d1 If 36. Qb5 Rxh1 37. Bxf1 Qe4 38. Bg2 Qxb4 wins a second pawn. White Resigns.

0-1

○ Yuri Averbakh
• Mikhail Tal
25th USSR Championship
Riga 1958 0-1 A76

Vintage Tal. A sharp Benoni Defense, a piece sacrifice, a stupendous finishing touch. Later it was discovered that Tal’s combination was dubious, but it worked over-the-board!

1.d4 c5 2.g3 c4 3.d4 cxd4 4.e4 d5 5.exd5 Theory condemns 5. Nxd5 Nxd5 6. Qxd5 Nc6 because the Queen will be driven away from d5 with loss of time. 5...dxe4 6.d4 g7 7.e4+ g6 8.dxe5 "The characteristic position of this popular variation has been reached. Black creates a weakness on d6 and allows White to seize the center. In return he obtains counterplay associated with his pawn majority on the queenside. An important role is played by the bishop on g7 which exerts strong pressure along the a1-h8 diagonal." – Tal 8...f6 O-O 9.0-0 e8 An alternative is 9...Bg4 10. h3 Bxf3 11. Bxf3 Nbd7. 10...e5 More usual is 10. Nd2 aiming to post this knight eventually on c4. 10...a6 11.c4 b4 12.b3 b1 c4 13.c3 e5 A typical Tal gamble. More prudent is 12...Nh5 or Qe7. 13.gxe4 f5 14.g2 d5 15.xd6 Already a decisive error. Later analysis showed that White gets an advantage in all variations after 11. Bg3! Qe7 12. Bf3 Rad8 17. Re1! Now Black regains his piece and remains a pawn ahead. 15...f6 16.f3 c4 17.c4 xe4 18.xe4 xe4 19.c2 e7 "The technical stage begins. With opposite-colored bishops it is very difficult to realize the extra pawn on the queenside, and therefore Black decides to build up an attack on White’s king using the open e-file and the possibility of his bishop occupying an active post at d4" – Tal. 20.c3 ace8 21.ad1 d4 22.a4 b6 23.b3 c5 24.d2 h5 25.d3 xe2 26.xe2 h4 Black really enough for his Queen?

Qb5 Rxf1 37. Bxf1 Qe4 38. Bg2 Qxb4 with a winning attack. 17...Qxh3 19.f4 Now White has calculated that he can survive 19...Nf3+ 20.Kf1 Qh2+ 21.Ke1, with the powerful counter-threat 22.Rh1. 19...e6 20.g2 c2 Of course not 20.fxg5? Be3+. 20...f7 21.f2 h2+ 22.g3 d5 23.exd5 h4 24.f1 h1 It seems that Black has overextended himself, but 24...xf4 25.h2 The alternatives are clearly bad – 25.Nx4 Nxc2+, 25.gxf4 Bxf4+ 26.Nxf4 Nxc2+, and 25.Bxe5 Rf3+ 26.Kd4 Qf2+. But has Black really enough for his Queen? 25...f3+ 26.d4 g7 27.a4 He must meet the threat of 27...b5 followed by 28...Nxc6++. 27...c5+ 28.dxc6 bxc6 29.d3 Now the threat was 29...c5++.

30.cxd3 30.c4 e5+ 31.exd5 exf5+ 32.b5 b8+ The entry of the last piece into the attack is immediately decisive. 33.a5 c6+ White Resigns.

0-1

○ Polugaevsky, L.
• Nezhmetdinov, R.

2015 Sochi

Black drives the White King into a mating net in the center of the board with an amazing intuitive Queen sacrifice. The game is far more impressive than similar examples from the 19th century, for White’s defense is by no means weak.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 d6 3.c3 e4 c3 e4 exd4 5.exd4 Qb5 Rxf1 37. Bxf1 Qe4 38. Bg2 Qxh4 wins a pawn behind in a hopeless ending. 31...Qe5 Kh7 36. Qf4 Qd5! 37. Bg2 Qxg2 38. Kxg2 Be3 39. Kh1 Bxf4 40. Rxf4 Kh7 leaves White a pawn behind in a hopeless ending. 35...d1 If 36. Qb5 Rxh1 37. Bxf1 Qe4 38. Bg2 Qxb4 with a winning attack. 17...Qxh3 19.f4 Now White has calculated that he can survive 19...Nf3+ 20.Kf1 Qh2+ 21.Ke1, with the powerful counter-threat 22.Rh1. 19...e6 20.g2 c2 Of course not 20.fxg5? Be3+. 20...f7 21.f2 h2+ 22.g3 d5 23.exd5 h4 24.f1 h1 It seems that Black has overextended himself, but 24...xf4 25.h2 The alternatives are clearly bad – 25.Nx4 Nxc2+, 25.gxf4 Bxf4+ 26.Nxf4 Nxc2+, and 25.Bxe5 Rf3+ 26.Kd4 Qf2+. But has Black really enough for his Queen? 25...f3+ 26.d4 g7 27.a4 He must meet the threat of 27...b5 followed by 28...Nxc6++. 27...c5+ 28.dxc6 bxc6 29.d3 Now the threat was 29...c5++.

30.cxd3 30.c4 e5+ 31.exd5 exf5+ 32.b5 b8+ The entry of the last piece into the attack is immediately decisive. 33.a5 c6+ White Resigns.

0-1
Tolush, A. • Taimanov, M.

Riga 1958 1-0 B65

Alexander Tolush was one of those players who, though not quite of top rank, produced an amazing number of brilliant and original games in his career. In this game, the players attack on opposite wings, and it seems that Black’s attack is quite as strong as White’s. But Tolush nonchalantly sacrifices the exchange to eliminate Black’s best attacking piece, and threads his way through a maze of complications to take that point.

1.e4 c5 2.f4 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 f6 5.Qc3 d6 6.Qg5 e6 White’s system is known as the Richter-Rauzer Attack. He prepares to eliminate Black’s important defensive Nf6, and his plan usually entails castling Queenside and advancing his Kingside pawns. 7.Nf3 d5 8.O-O-O Qxd4 9.Qxd4 O-O 10.f4 h6 11.Qh4 a5 12.Qg1 Preparing g2-g4-g5 to open lines against the King; he is also ready to answer 12...e5 with 13.f5. 12...Qd7 13.g4 White does not win a piece with 13.ex5 dxe5 14.fxe5, as Black plays not 14...Qxe5 15.Bxf6 but 14...Bc5 15.Bf2 Bxf2 16.Qx2 Qxe5. But now this is a real threat. 13...e6 14.Qe1 Qc7 15.Nd3 d5 16.Nxe5 Qc4 17.Nc4 dxe4 18.b4 b3 19.Qg3 b4 20.Qe2 d5 White’s attack seems to have bogged down [he cannot yet open a file with 21.g5 because of 21...h5], but his next move gives the game a new aspect.

21.Qxd5 exd5 22.Qxd1 Qd8 Too passive – he should try to regain the initiative with 22.Bc5 23.Qxd5 Be3+ 24.Kb1 Rad8 25.Qxe4 Rd2 26.Nc4 Rc8, and the position remains unclear; 27.c3? is answered by 27...Rxb2+! 23.Qd4 Qc4 24.Bb1 Qc5 25.Qf2 a5 26.g5 h5 27.Qe6 A strong move – White lures away the f7 pawn to permit g5-g6, closing the net around the Black King. 27...Qxe6 28.g6 a4 The last chance was 28...Bxd4 29.Bxd4 e3, and after 30.Re1 [30.Bxe3 Qe4 eliminates the dangerous pawn at g6] 30...e4 31.Rxe3 the outcome remains in doubt.

29.Qxe6 d4 On 29...Bxd4 30.Qhx5 the King has no escape.

30.f5 d3 31.Qxc5 b3 Desperately trying to complicate matters. On 31...Qxc2+ 32.Qx2 dxc2+ 33.Qxc2 Rd5 34.Bd4 White should win routinely. 32.Qxb3 Simpler was 32.exd3 Qxd3+ 33.Qxd3 Rxd3 34.Re1. Tolush continues to play for the attack, and sets off another round of fierce complications.

32...axb3 33.axb3 Qd6 34.a3 d2 35.Qh8 But not 35.Qh5? when 35...Qd3+ 36.Ka2 Rxa3#! even wins for Black! 35...Qd3+ 36.Qa2 e3 37.Qb2 Still not 37.Qxh5? since after 37...Rxa3+ 38.Kxa3 Qd6+ the White King will be unable to escape the checks.

...Qxh5 and 44.Nxe3, with a winning ending. Now White goes over to the attack again. 38.Qf6 Qxf6 39.Qxh5 a7 40.Qh1 Qd3 41.Qc5 e3+ 43.Qxa3 d1=Q 43.Qd1 Qxd1 44.Qf7 Black Resigns.

1-0

Fischer, R. • Larsen, B.

Interzonal Portoroz 1958 1-0 B77

After an ill-advised attempt by Larsen to complicate the game, Fischer slays the Dragon. It’s an object lesson in how to maintain an assault against a fianchettoed king position by playing open the h-file.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 f6 5.Qc3 g6 6.e3 e6 7.f3 O-O 8.Qd2 Qc6 9.Qc4 Qxd4 Since then Black has sought many ways to neutralize the Yugoslav Attack. More popular now is 9...Bd7.

10.Qxd4 e6 11.Qb3 Qa5 12.Qe4 OxO 15.Qd1 b4 The counterattack is stymied on 12...Qxb3 13.cxb3! 14.Qd5 Qd5 15.Qxd5 It’s better to seek pressure along the e-file and abandon the attack by 15...exd5 Qb6. Rhel a5 17. Qe2! (Tal- Larsen, Zurich 1959).

15.Qe8 In a higher sense the, losing move. Correct is 15...Nxd5! 16.Bxg7 (or 16.exd5 Qxd5 17.Qxe4) 16...Qxe4 17.Nc4 Qb6 18.h5 e3 19.Qxc6 Qc5 20.Qf2 b3 Now the bishop enters a watchful eye on the kingside and can’t be dislodged. 16...Qf7 17.h4 Qf5 Fischer gives 17...h5 18.g4! hxg4 19.h5! gxh5 20.fxg4 Nxe4 21.Qc3 Ne6 22.g5 e5 23.h6 and wins. 18.h5 Qf8 Again if 18...gxh5 19.g4! is strong. 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.g4 a5 21.g5 Qh5 21...Nxe8 doesn’t work either after 22.Bxg7 Nxe7 23.Rh6! e6 24.Qh2 Nh5 25.Bxe6 fx6 26.Qxg6+ Ng7 27.Rh1. 22.Qh5 "I’ve made this sacrifice so often, I feel like applying for a patent" – Fischer.


1-0

Mikhail Tal • Efim Geller
25th USSR Championship

Riga
1958  1-0  C96

On his path to the world championship, Tal established his credentials by taking first in the powerful Soviet national championship with 9 wins, 3 losses, 7 draws in a field of 20. "In the present game I wanted to try a dubious idea involving an immediate flank blow, but I did not obtain an advantage." – Tal

Blow follows counter-blows until Geller, after a brilliant defense, finally stumbles and loses his way in a welter of complications.


Geller had to give back the Exchange by 27...Kg7 28. Bf5

Nxd5 would have dampened White’s aggressive intentions."

Tal

"Thanks to this move White is able to keep his initiative alive, whereas moves by the other rook would let it die away." – Tal

"An unexpected blunder which distorts the logical course of the game. Necessary was 25...Qxf6 26. Qxf6 gxf6 27. d7 with an interesting ending. Black would probably have had to give back the Exchange by 27...Kg7 28. Bf5 Re5 29. Rc8 Rx5 30. Rxd7 Rxd5 when White cannot realize his minimal advantage. Now, however, it is all over." – Tal

"If 26...Qxe7 27. Qg4 does the trick. 27...fxe6 28. exf6 29. c2 d6 30. e5 31. fxe2 32. Qc8+ Kg7 33. Qx7 If 33...Rd2 (to stop the threat of Bd5) 34. Ra7 Rd4 35. Be2 effectively ends all resistance. Black Resigns.

1-0

Bobby Fischer

USA Championship (6)
1958  1-0  B35

Its no longer possible for a master just to sit down and play a tournament game. To achieve good results, preparation is half the battle. Fischer used to ransack obscure chess periodicals for opening novelties whose true worth was overlooked; here he bags Reshevsky’s queen in a dozen moves with a trap he found between two unknowns in a Russian chess magazine.
11...Kxe6 12. Qd5 Kf5 13. g4 Kxg4 14. Rg1 Kh4 15. Bg5 Kh5 16. Qd1 mates. 12...xd8 16.6 For all intents and purposes the game is over, because Black only has two minor pieces for the queen. Reshevsky’s stubborn resistance just delays the inevitable and the rest requires no comment. 13. dx2 xe5 14.O-O 15. f4 c6 16.e2 xf4 17.xc4 g7 18. d4 e7 19. d5 f6 20.c3 e5 21.d1 d8 22.c7 d7 23.xh4 e6 24.g5 e5 25. f4 e4 26.xe7+ f7 27.a3 e6 28.d6 x6d 29.xd6 f6 30.b4 e8 31.b5 d8 32. d5 f7 33.e5 a6 34.b6 e4 35.e1 c6 36.xc6 bx6 37.b7 ab8 38.xa6 d8 39.eb1 40.h3 e8 41. xb7+ 42. al8 If 42...Rd7 43. a4 costs Black more material. White’s winning technique was efficient and instructive. Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Tal, M.
• Petrosian, T.

Candidates’ Tournament

Yugoslavia

1959 1/2-1/2 B94

A genius of attack versus a genius of defense. The outcome is a stupendous draw marked by mutual give-and-take.

Draw.

1/2-1/2

○ Tal, M.
• Polugaevsky, L.

26th USSR Championship

Tbilisi

1959 1-0 B94

Polugaevsky survives a ferocious attack and seems well on his way to recovery. However, after swapping queens, he is beguiled by the calm setting and underestimates the force of Tal’s initiative.

1-0

○ Tal, M.
• Nievergelt, E.
Zurich

Switzerland

1959 1-0 B63

The magician from Riga embarks on a typically speculative sacrifice to maintain the initiative. One surprise follows another but good counterplay.

1/2-1/2

○ Tal, M.
is that Black straightened out his doubled pawns and opened diagonals for his bishops. White must attack now or perish in the long run. 23. \texttt{c5} \texttt{d8} Safer is 23...\texttt{Ka8}. 24. \texttt{c6+} \texttt{a8} Not 24...\texttt{bxc6} 25. \texttt{Rb3} pinning the queen. 25. \texttt{e3} 26. \texttt{c3} Tal notes: "After 26. \texttt{Nxd8} Qxd8 White has no attack, and Black would be better. Therefore I decided to sacrifice a piece. Because of this I was criticized considerably, and heard: 'It was incorrect...Tal was lucky...It was a bluffed...Tal was dead lost' – but I did not see at what point I was dead lost, and concerning other accusations of the wise critics, I console myself with pleasure that chess fans, spectators and readers are happy only when grandmasters risk rather than just push wood.' 26...\texttt{bxc6} 27. \texttt{xc6} \texttt{wb7} 28. \texttt{xd6} Black gets too much for the queen on 28. \texttt{Bxa6} Qxa6 29. \texttt{Rxa6+} Bxa6 and so decides to capture a second pawn to step up the pressure. 28...\texttt{e4} Stronger is 28...Qe7 29. \texttt{Rc3} e4. 29. \texttt{d3} \texttt{c7} 30. \texttt{f6} \texttt{d8} After 31...\texttt{Rc3} White has no immediately decisive blow. 32. \texttt{b3} \texttt{a5} 33. \texttt{e3} \texttt{wa7} 34. \texttt{wxe6} The final jolt. Had Tal not taken risks, such a complex setting would not have occurred. Of course the queen is immune because of Rxe8+. 34...\texttt{d8} 35. \texttt{xa6} \texttt{d2} 36. \texttt{wa6} \texttt{ad7} 37. \texttt{xc8} On 37...Rxc8 38. Ra6+ is fatal. A startling climax. Black Resigns.

\texttt{1-0}

\section*{Fischer - Benko}

\textbf{Bled 1959 1-0} \texttt{B57} A vintage Fischer brilliancy, as he makes the demolition of a top Grandmaster look easy with a precisely calculated Kingside attack.

1.e4 \texttt{c5} 2. \texttt{f3} \texttt{d6} 3. \texttt{d4} \texttt{cxd4} 4. \texttt{xd4} \texttt{f6} 5. \texttt{c3} \texttt{d6} 6. \texttt{c4} The Sozin Attack, long a favorite of Fischer’s.

6...\texttt{b6} 7. \texttt{c2} e6 8.0-0 \texttt{e7} 9. \texttt{b3} O-O 10. \texttt{h1} \texttt{a5} 11. \texttt{g5} \texttt{e5} 12. \texttt{f4} \texttt{b5} 13. \texttt{g3} \texttt{b4} Better was 13...\texttt{Nd3} 14. axb3 b4. After the text Black is in trouble. 14. \texttt{e5} dx\texttt{e5} More or less forced – 14...\texttt{bxc3} 15. \texttt{exf6} Bxf6 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Ne4! Qf5 18.Nxd6 Qg6 19.Rf3 Kh8 20.Rqg3 Qh6 21.Qg4, threatening 22.Qg8+ and 23.Nxh7++. 15. \texttt{xf6} gxf6 Slightly better was 15...\texttt{bxc3}, but White still has a strong attack after 16.Ne4 Qh4 17.Qd4 Bxf6 18.Nxf6+ Kh8 19.Qh4 h6 20.Ng4. 16. \texttt{c4} \texttt{e4} \texttt{xd4} 17. \texttt{c5} \texttt{b6} \texttt{a3} Also insufficient are: 1) 17...Kh8 18.Qh6 Rg8 19.Nxf6 Rg7 20.Nh5 and II) 17...exf4 18.Nf5! exf5 19.Rxf4 Qxe4 (else 20.Rh4 will mate) 20.Rxe4 fxe4 21.Qxa5. 18. \texttt{wh6} \texttt{exf4} Or 18...f5 19.c3!, and after the Queen leaves the a1-h8 diagonal Nh5 will mate. 19. \texttt{h5} f5 20. \texttt{ad1} \texttt{we5} 21. \texttt{e6+} \texttt{xf6} 22. \texttt{xf6+} \texttt{xf6} 23. \texttt{xf6} Now White wins routinely. 23...\texttt{e5} 24. \texttt{g5+} \texttt{h8} 25. \texttt{we7} \texttt{a6} 26. \texttt{xc5} \texttt{xf1} 27. \texttt{xf1} Black Resigns.

\texttt{1-0}

\section*{Kholmov, R.}

\section*{Keres, P.}

\textbf{Tbilisi 1959} 1-0 \texttt{B30}

When Black adopts a provocative defense that leaves his pieces scattered, White essays a long-term piece sacrifice to confine the Black King to the central files. The game is particularly impressive because of several variations in which White had to judge that his initiative would persist even after the exchange of Queens.

1.e4 \texttt{c5} 2. \texttt{f3} \texttt{c3} 3. \texttt{b5} \texttt{f6} 4.e5 \texttt{g4} 5. \texttt{xc6} \texttt{dxc6} 6.0-0 \texttt{g6} 7. \texttt{c1} \texttt{g7} 8. \texttt{h3} \texttt{b6} 9. \texttt{c3} \texttt{b7} 10.d4 \texttt{exd4} 11. \texttt{xd4} \texttt{e5} If Black can consolidate and complete his development, he will stand well with his two Bishops, so White must act at once. 12. \texttt{c6} \texttt{d7} Black discovers that he cannot exchange Queens – 12...\texttt{Qxd1} 13. \texttt{Rxd1} \texttt{b7} 14. \texttt{Nb5}! \texttt{Bxc6} 15. \texttt{Nc7+} \texttt{Kf8} 16. \texttt{Nx8}, and he cannot recapture because of the mate threat at \texttt{d8}. 13. \texttt{xe7} \texttt{xe7} There were many defenses to consider. The obvious 13...\texttt{Qxd1} 14. \texttt{Rxd1} \texttt{Kxe7} works poorly after 15.Bg5+! \texttt{Ke6} 16. \texttt{Rd6+} \texttt{Kf5} 17.\texttt{f4}; the threat is 18.\texttt{Bxh6} and 19.\texttt{Rf6+}, and 17...\texttt{Ng8} allows 18.\texttt{g4++}, while 17...\texttt{Be6} runs into 18.\texttt{Ne2}. Other moves also have their drawbacks – 16...\texttt{Ke8} by 19.\texttt{Nxb6+}. There remains only 17...\texttt{Bxe5}, surrendering material after 18.\texttt{Rd5} \texttt{f6} 19.\texttt{Bxh6}. Slightly better than the game was 13...\texttt{Qxe7}, but Black is still in trouble after 14. \texttt{Nd5} \texttt{Qd8} 15.\texttt{Nf6+} \texttt{Bxf6} [or 15...\texttt{Ke7} 16.\texttt{Bg5} 16.\texttt{exf6+}. 14. \texttt{xe6} \texttt{xe6} 15.\texttt{xf3} \texttt{g7} 16.\texttt{d5+} \texttt{xf8} Other moves also have their drawbacks – 16...\texttt{Ke8} 17.\texttt{Nf6+} \texttt{Bxf6} 18.\texttt{exf6+} and 19.\texttt{Qxa8}, or 16...\texttt{Kf8} 17.\texttt{f6} \texttt{Qb7} 18.\texttt{e7+} \texttt{Ke8} 19.\texttt{Qf6}! \texttt{Qxd5} 20.\texttt{Qxg7} \texttt{Qd4} 21.\texttt{Re5}. 17. \texttt{ad1} \texttt{b7} 18. \texttt{b3} \texttt{c6} There is no escape – 18...\texttt{Kc8} is answered by 19.\texttt{Nxb6+} and 18...\texttt{Ke8} by 19.\texttt{Nf6+}. 19. \texttt{xb6} \texttt{axb6} 20. \texttt{xf7} \texttt{xe5} 21. \texttt{xd7+} \texttt{xa7} 22. \texttt{xe5} \texttt{c7} 23. \texttt{e7} \texttt{ad8} 24.\texttt{a4} \texttt{g5} 25.\texttt{xd5} \texttt{he8} 26. \texttt{wh7} \texttt{g4} 27.\texttt{a5} \texttt{gxh3} 28.\texttt{axb6+} \texttt{xb6} 29. \texttt{xd7} Black Resigns.

\texttt{1-0}

\section*{Evans, L.}

\section*{Bisguer, A.}

73
USA Championship
New York City
1959  1-0  C42

Bisguier plays with the recklessness of an angry bull charging a locomotive in this rare sideline of the Petrov Defense. The final move alone is worth the price of admission.
1.e4 e5 2.d3 f6 3.c3xe5 Another try for advantage is 5. d4 exd4 5. e5 Ne4 6. Qxe4? (Fischer-German, Stockholm 1962 instead of 7. Qxd4 d5. 3...d6 Necessary. A standard trap is 3...Nxe4? 4. Qxe2+ Kd7 5. dxe5 and Black is a piece ahead.


Black was hoping for drawing chances after 27.

27. Bf3xe4 5.c4 Playable but rather harmless, this offbeat alternative to 5. d4 was introduced by Dr. Kaufmann of Vienna in the 1890s.

Also futile is 26...Kg8 27. Bxh7+ and Rxe6 next.

Qa2 27. Qb4+ Kg7 28. Qd4+

Black defended sensibly but can't recover from his Qb4+ lags. Safer is 5...Nf6.

Bd5 Necessary. A standard trap is 5...Nxe4? 4. Qxe2+ Kd7 5. dxe5 and Black is a piece ahead. This offbeat alternative to 5. d4 was introduced by Dr. Kaufmann of Vienna in the 1890s.


10...Qxc3 11.bxc3 Qxc3 Not only attacking a rook but also preventing a check on the king file. But it is the setting for a debacle.

12...Bb2 Qe2+ 13.b3 Qc6+ A vital in-between-move. The point is that Black must move his king, thus forfeiting the right to castle.


20.Wxe4 Wxe4 21.Wf4 Wxd5 22.e1f1 Wxe4 Unwise is 22...Qxd3? 23. Rxe8+ Bxe8 24. Qb+ 23...Wxe4 Wxe6 24.b4+ Qe8 25.Wxa7 b6 Black defended sensibly but can’t recover from his faulty opening. Only 25...g6 offers some fighting chances but White is still on top after 26. Qxb7 Qxa2 27. Qb4+ Kg7 28. Qd4+ 26.Wa3+ We7 Also futile is 26...Kg8 27. Bxh7+ and Rxe6 next. 27...Qe6 The point is 27...Qxa3 28. Rxe8 mate. Black was hoping for drawing chances after 27. Qxe7+ Kxe7 28. Bxh7+. Black Resigns.

1-0

o Tal, M.
• Smyslov, V.
?

Bled
1959  1-0  B10

Throughout the 1950’s it seemed that the duel between Botvinnik and Smyslov would continue until the years took their toll on the older player. It was then that Tal arrived on the scene, and his imagination, daring and calculating ability brought him to the World Championship in 1960. In this game from the 1959 Candidates’ Tournament, he downs Smyslov with a sustained initiative and a flurry of combinations.

1.e4 c5 2.d3 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.fxe4 Qxe4 5.a3+ Qd7 5.d4

Despite the seeming loss of time, White in this variation of the Caro-Kann forces open the center before Black has completed his development. 5...dxe4 6.Qxe4 exd4 7.Wxd4 Qf6 8.Qg5 Qf6 9.O–O–O O–O 10.Wd6 Qa5 11.Cb5 12.Qd2 Qa6 13.Qf5 Qd8 14.b4 bxc4 15.Qg5 Qb5 Black is in serious trouble – after 15...g6 16.Bc3 White has many threats, starting with 17.Qh6 gx5 18.Rxd7 Bxd7 19.Ng5, with unavoidable mate.


1-0

o Letelier, R.
• Fischer, R.

Leipzig Olympics
East Germany
1960  0-1  E70

In a hunt for material, Letelier overextends his center but neglects to safeguard his rear. His hapless monarch, unable to castle, is soon forced to abdicate.


0-1

○ Botvinnik, M.
• Tal, M.
World Championship (6)
Moscow
1960 0-1 E69
By mixing it up with his famous opponent and launching wild sacrifices, Tal won the title 12.5 - 8.5. This game is typical. At a critical moment Botvinnik goes astray when posed with problems that are hard to solve over the board.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 d5 4.Ng2 O-O 5.d4 d6 6.c3 Bbd7 7.0-O e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 wB6 10.d5 Locking the center to avoid surprises. 10...cxd5 11.exd5 c5 12.e1 d5. Re1 is a better try for an advantage. 12...d7 13.d3 cxd3 14.cxd3 f6 c8 Already Black has achieved easy equality. 15.b1 h5 16.e3 wBb4 17.e2 c4 18.f1 f6 19.Bh2 f5 20.exf5 xf5 21.a1 f4 Typical Tal. He prefers to sacrifice a piece rather than retreat by 21...Nf6. 22.gxf4 exf4

23.d2 wBxb2 24.a1 f3 25.Bxb2 The losing move. Subsequent analysis showed that White can win with 25. Bxf3! Bxb1 26. Rxb1 Qe2 27. Be4! Rxe4 28. Nxe4 Qxb1 29. Nxd6 Rf8 30. Qe6+ 25...fxe4 26.a1 Bb4 27.a5 Bc3 28.a6 Be5+ 29.g1 f4 A quicker win is 28...Rxc3! 29. Rbxc3 Rd1 30. Re4 Bb2. 29...xe2 30.xe1 30...dxd4 31...xf4 32...xe1 Black’s extra pawn is now decisive. 32...e2 33.f4 wF6 34...xd7 wD5 Now if 35. Rxa7? Rxe2 36. Bxe2 Bxd5+ and Bxa7 wins. 35...c7 36.xa2 36...xc4 37.a8+ wc7 38.wc7 39. ed5 40.wf2 wB4+ 41. We2 w6 42.wxg3 xg3 43.We3 e4 44.wxh3 wD5 45. wc7 46. wc7 wD4 47...d7+ and White Resigns.

0-1

○ Mikhail Botvinnik
• Mikhail Tal
World Championship Match (6)
Moscow
1960 0-1 E69
Tal was famous for making intuitive sacrifices that were hard to refute but not completely sound. This strategy helped him wrest the title from Botvinnik in their first title match. When critics upbraided Tal, he replied: "Extraordinarily tense, full-blooded struggles that are absolutely without any mistakes are only to be found in distant interplanetary chess tournaments."

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 d5 4.Ng2 O-O 5.d4 d6 6.c3 Bd7 7.0-O e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 This move is generally considered necessary to prevent the bishop from getting harassed by ...Ng4 after it gets to e3. For 9. Be3 Ng4 10. Bg5 Qb6 see Botvinnik-Sмыслов, 1954. 9...wBb6 10.d5 cxd5 11.cxd5 c5 12.e1 d7 13.d3 cxd3 14.wfxd3 wfe8 "A critical position. I took a long time to choose which plan to use. A detailed analysis proved that 14...Ne8 14. Be3 Qd8 is worth consideration. White cannot create any real threat on the queenside and Black carries out ...f5 without any trouble." – Tal 15.b1 Subsequently, the position of the rook gives Black a very important tempo. Instead Tal suggests 15. Qe2. 15...c5 16.e3 wB4 17.wc2 wC4 18.e1 wCc8 19.f2 f5 20.exf5 xf5 21.a1 wF4 In my opinion the arguments which this move raised were completely pointless. All the other continuations are bad, and if the knight sacrifice is incorrect, then a question mark should be placed after Black’s 17th move.” – Tal 22.gxf4 exf4 23.d2 Another critical line is 23. a3 Qb4 26. Bxa7 Bb5. "It is possible that subsequently there will be found a way to strengthen White’s defense, but I am sure the double-edged knight sacrifice on f4 appeared to be a correct decision.” – Tal 23...wxb2 24.a1 f3 25.b1 Botvinnik finally buckles under the strain. After 25. Bxf3 Bxb1 26. Rxb1 Qc2 27. Re1 (later it was found that 27. Be4! Rxе4 28. Nxe4!! Qxb1 29. Nxd6 Rf8 30. Qe6 gives White a better ending) Qb2 (if 27...Qf5 28. Bg4 Qe5 29. Qxe5 Bxe5 30. f4 Rxc3 31. Bxc8 wins) 28. Re1 draws by repetition. 25...fxe4 26.a1 Bb4 27.a5 Be5+ 28.g1 wB4 Missing a quick win by 28...Rxc3! 29. Rbxc3 Rd1. 29...xtc2 30.xc1 xd4 31.xf4 32.f1 d4 32...e2 No threat. Rxf7 Bd3. With two active bishops and an extra pawn, Black’s win should be a matter of proper technique. 32...wB5 33.Bf4 wF6 34.Ba7 xd5 Inviting 35. Rxa7? Rxe2! 36. Bxe2 Bxd4 37. Kf1 Bxa7. 35...c7 xxa2 36...xa7 wC4 Now not 36...Rxe2? 37. Ra8! Kg7 38. Bxe2. 37.a8+B wF7 38.wf7 39.wa7+ wC6 39...wa3 d5 There’s no rush. White has some drawing chances after 39...Bxe2 40. Rxe2. 40.h4+ 41.g2 wD6 42.g3 wXg3 43.wxexd4 dxe4 44.wxg5 wD5 45. wa7 c3 46. wC7 wD4 The game was adjourned and Botvinnik saw no way to save it, so he resigned.

0-1
Polugayevsky, L.
• Petrosian, T.
USSR Championship
Moscow 1960 1-0 E54

Petrosian gets caught in the opening and is slaughtered by a 22-year-unknown, who captured the coveted Soviet crown seven years later. Polugayevsky prosecutes his attack with great elan.
1.d4 $\text{f}_6$ 2.c4 e6 3.$\Box_c3$ $\Box_b4$ 4.e3 O-O 5.$\Box_d3$ d5 6.$\Box_f3$ c5 7.O-O $\text{dxc}4$ 8.$\Box_xc4$ b6 9.$\text{We}2$ It's hard to squeeze anything tangible out of this solid defense. Just for the record White has a half dozen plausible moves: 9. Qd3 and a3 are most frequently seen. 9...$\Box_b7$ 10.$\Box_d1$ $\Box_d7$ More usual is 10...$\Box_d4$ 11. cxd4 $\Box_xd4$. $\Box_d4$ Nbd7 to provide a retreat for the bishop e7. 11.d5 $\Box_c3$ 12.$\text{dx}6$ $\Box_a5$ 13.$\text{ex}d7$ $\Box_c7$ An innocent-looking offender. Correct is 13...Qe7 14. e4 Rad8 15. Bg5 Qxe4 16. Qxe4 Bxe4 17. Bxf6 gxf6 and Black drew the ending in Najdorf-Smyslov, Havana 1962. 14.$\text{e}4$ $\Box_xd7$ 14...Bxe4 15. Bg5 leaves Black in a hopeless tangle. 15.$\Box_g5$ $\Box_a8$ Meets with a charming refutation. But 15...Ne5 16. Bf4 Rae8 17. Qh5 h6 18. Nxf7 Rxg7 19. Bxe5 $\Box_xe5$ 20. $\text{Qxf7+}$ Qxf7 21. Rd8+ Kh7 22. Bxf7 also wins. 16.$\Box_xf7+$ $\Box_xf7$ 17.$\Box_e6$ $\Box_e8$ 18.$\text{exd8}$ $\Box_a6$ The only hope; on 18...Qxd8 19. e5 decides. 19.$\Box_e3$ $\Box_e7$ 20.$\text{wb}3+$ $\Box_c4$ 21.$\Box_a3$ $\Box_e5$ Also inadequate is 21...Qxd8 22. Bg5. 22.$\Box_e3$ $\Boxxe4$ 23.$\Boxxe5$ $\Boxxc5$ 24.$\Boxf3$ Black never saw daylight. If 24...Re7 25. Ne6 Rxe8 26. Rd8 mates. Black Resigns.

Bobotsov, M.
Hastings
England 1960 1-0  B99

An important theoretical game. Today it looks like old hat, but Gligoric’s queen sacrifice was a trial blazer.
1.e4 e5 2.$\Box_f3$ $\text{d}6$ 3.$\text{d}4$ $\text{cxd}4$ 4.$\Boxxd4$ $\Boxf6$ 5.$\Boxe3$ a6 6.$\Boxg5$ $\text{c}6$ 7.$\text{f}4$ h6 8.$\Boxh4$ $\Boxe7$ 9.$\Boxf3$ $\Boxe7$ 10.O-O O-O $\Boxbd7$ 11.$\text{d}3$ $\text{b}5$ More active is 11...g5! 12. $\Boxf3$ Ne5. 12.$\Boxe5$ $\Boxb7$ 13.$\Boxxe6$ $\text{fxe}6$ 14.$\Boxg6+$ $\text{h}8$ On 14...Kd8 15. Qh3! dxe5 16. Qxe6 steps up the pressure. 15.$\text{exf}6$ $\Boxxf7+$ $\Boxg8$ 17.$\text{gx}f6$ $\Boxfe8$ 18.$\text{xf}6$ $\text{gx}f6$ 19.e8=Q+$ $\Boxxe8$ 20.$\text{xe}8$ $\text{d}5$ Later analysis revealed Black might be able to hold a draw with 20...Kf8! 21. Bh5 Rg8 22. f5! 23. Ne4 Rg2. 21.$\Boxd1$ $\Boxh7$ 22. $\Boxh5$ $\Boxe5$ 23.$\Boxhd1$ $\Boxe8$ 24.$\text{d}1$ $\text{f}5$ 25.$\Boxe2$ $\Boxg6$ 26.$\Boxb1$ $\Boxf6$ 27.$\text{a}3$ $\Boxa5$ 28.$\Boxg3$ $\Boxb4$ 29.$\Boxa4$ $\Boxc6$ 30.$\text{b}3$ $\Boxc3$ It’s only a matter of time before White breaks through on the either the g or e-file. 31.$\text{d}4$ $\Boxe5$ 32.$\Boxe2$ $\text{g}1+$ 33.$\Boxh2$ $\Boxc3$ 34.$\text{dd}2$ $\Boxd4$ A little better is 34...Rc8 to prevent the bishop from escaping to e8. 35.$\Boxg2$ $\Boxe3$ 36.$\Boxe8$ $\Boxd3$ 37.$\text{ex}d3$ $\Boxe1$ 38.$\Boxc2$ $\Boxd3$ 39.$\Boxb5$ $\Boxc3$ White forces mate after 39...Rd1 40. Nh5+ $\Boxf7$ 41. Rg7+ $\Boxf8$ 42. $\text{Rc}8$. 40.$\Boxc4$ $\Boxxc2+$ 41. $\Boxxc2$ $\text{e}5$ 42.$\text{fxe}5+$ $\Boxxe5+$ 43.$\Boxa2$ $\Boxf4$ 44.$\Boxe4+$ $\Boxg6$ 45.$\Boxg2+$ $\Boxh5$ 46.$\Boxf2$ $\Boxe8$ 47.$\Boxd3$ $\Boxh4$ 48.$\Boxg4+$ $\Boxh5$ 49.$\Boxg6+$ Black Resigns.

Unzicker, W.

Hamburg 1960 1-0 D30

With his quiet, positional style, Petrosian failed to excite the chess public as did the charismatic Tal, but at his best few could match his depth of conception. Here he paralyzes the Black position by controlling the only open file, then sets off on a long King march to prepare the decisive breakthrough.
1.d4 $\Boxf6$ 2.$\Boxf3$ e6 3.$\Boxf6$ $\Boxg5$ 4.c4 c6 5.$\Boxe2$ $\Boxe7$ 6.$\Boxc3$ O-O 7.$\Boxc3$ $\Boxh6$ 8.$\Boxf4$ $\Boxbd7$ 9.cxd5 $\Boxcxd5$ 10.$\Boxd3$ a6 11.0-O b5 12.$\Boxa4$ b4 13.$\Boxa2$ $\Boxe8$ 14.$\Boxc1$ a5 15.$\Boxb3$ $\Boxa6$ 16.$\Boxxa6$ $\Boxxa6$ 17.$\Boxc6$ $\Boxa7$ 18.$\Boxfc1$ $\Boxd6$ 19.$\Boxxd6$ $\Boxxd6$ 20.$\Boxc6$ $\Boxb8$ 21.$\Boxc2$ $\Boxd7$ 22. $\Boxac1$ $\Boxb6$ 23.$\Boxb5$ $\Boxc4$ 24.$\Boxfd2$ $\Boxxd2$ 25.$\Boxxd2$ $\Boxa8$ 26.$\Boxdc2$ $\Boxd8$ 27.$\Boxc6$ $\Boxg6$ 28.$\Boxg3$ $\Boxg7$ 29.$\Boxf1$ $\Boxg8$ 30.$\text{h}4$ $\text{h}5$ Now White sets out on a remarkable plan – he will transfer his King to b1, advance his Kingside pawns to open another file, and launch a direct attack on the Black King. Black cannot answer in kind, for the White Rooks on the e-file make that part of the board quite unsafe for him.

31.$\Boxc1$ $\Boxe7$ 32.$\Boxe1$ $\Boxg8$ 33.$\Boxd1$ $\Boxh7$ 34.$\Boxc1$ $\Boxg8$ 35.$\Boxb1$ $\Boxh7$ 36.$\Boxe2$ $\Boxh7$ 37.$\Boxc1$ $\Boxg8$ 38.$\Boxb4$ $\Boxa8$ 39.$\Boxf4$ $\Boxh7$ 40.$\Boxe2$ $\Boxb7$ 41.$\Boxg4$ $\Boxxg4$ 42.$\Boxxg4$ $\Boxe7$ 43.$\Boxh5$ $\Boxf6$ 44.$\Boxa2$ $\Boxg7$ 45.$\Boxhx6$ $\Boxxg6$ 46.$\Boxb4$ $\Boxe4$ 47.$\Boxf2$ $\Boxf8$ 48.$\Boxd2$ $\Boxb7$ 49.$\Boxb3$ $\Boxa7$ 50.$\Boxb2$ $\Boxf6$ 51.$\Boxe8$ $\Boxd7$ 52.$\Boxe5$ $\Boxb3+$ Or 52...Ra7 53.$\Boxf1$ Qxf5 54.Rxd8+ Bxd8 55.Qb8+, winning a piece. 53.$\Boxxb3$ $\Boxd6$ 54.$\Boxf5$ $\Boxb6+$ 55.$\Boxa2$ Black Resigns.

1-0
Vassily Smyslov
- Boris Spassky
Match Moscow vs. Leningrad
Leningrad
1960 1-0 B41

Smyslov’s best games are characterized by an absence of error combined with apparently simple but powerful positional maneuvers. Here, he effortlessly demolishes a future world champion in a seemingly equal position by retreating his queen to the first rank, in order to exploit weak dark squares.

A nice illustration of how to use the sweep of two bishops to switch an attack from one flank to the other.

\[ 1.e4 c5 2.\underline{\text{e}5} f3 e6 3.d4 exd4 4.cxd4 a6 \] "An old opening system which first occurred in 19th century games of the brothers Louis and Wilfred Paulsen. It is characterized by the development of the two bishops becomes very real."

\[ \text{Black Resigns.} \]

Now 22...Qxe6 is met by 23. Rxc6! Qxc6 24. Qxf7 of the two bishops becomes very real.

with chances to equalize. Now White's advantage is 10...Ne5 11. Be2 Qc7 12. a3 Bxc3 13. Qxc3 forcastling.

last chance to double the pawns by 9...Bxc3 be-


12. \underline{\text{c3}} dxc4 13. \underline{\text{xc4}} \underline{\text{wc7}} 14. \underline{\text{ac1}} \underline{\text{d8}} This turns out badly. Better is 14...Bd7 right away. 15.f4 \underline{\text{d7}} At first glance, Black seems to have successfully completed his development with a solid but cramped position. 16.\underline{\text{w}}e1 A subtle retreat, aimed at increasing the pressure against b6 combined with kingside threats. 16...b6 No relief is offered by 16...b5 17. Be2 Be8 18. Qf2 Rab8 19. Nb6 invading on the weak dark squares. 17.\underline{\text{f2}} \underline{\text{db8}} Moving the rook again shows why his 14th move was wrong. 18.\underline{\text{f}}e8 Black cannot defend threats on both sides of the board. If 18...exf5 19. Bf4 wins the Exchange. 19.\underline{\text{d4}} Stronger than 19. f6 Ng6 20. fxg7 Qe8 when Black can resist by controlling the strong square e5 with his knight. 19...\underline{\text{xd4}} "It is difficult to suggest anything better. After 19...e5 20. Nxc6 Nxc6 21. Bd5 Qe8 22. f6 White's attack is very dangerous, while if 19...exf5 20. exf5 with the threat of f6" – Smyslov. 20. \underline{\text{xd4}} \underline{\text{c6}} 21.\underline{\text{fxe6}} \underline{\text{xe6}} 22. \underline{\text{xe6}} Now 22...Qxe6 is met by 23. Rxc6! Qxc6 24. Qxf7 and mate next. An impressive crush. Black Resigns.

1-0

- Bronstein, D.
- USSR Championship
Moscow
1960 1-0 C36

Spassky confronts Bronstein with his own favorite weapon – the King’s Gambit. The finale is featured (without credit) in the James Bond movie "To Russia With Love."

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.\underline{\text{d}3} f5 4.exd5 \underline{\text{d}6} 5.\underline{\text{c3}} \underline{\text{d7}} More usual is 5...Nd6. 6.d4 O–O 7.\underline{\text{d}3} \underline{\text{d7}} 8.O–O h6 Losing time. Better is 8...Nd6.

9.\underline{\text{e}4} \underline{\text{xd5}} 10.c4 \underline{\text{xe}3} 11.\underline{\text{xe}3} \underline{\text{fxe}3} 12.\underline{\text{c5}} \underline{\text{e7}} 13.\underline{\text{c}2} \underline{\text{e}8} 14.\underline{\text{d}3} e2 15.\underline{\text{d}6} White can keep the upper hand without risk by 15. Rf2. Nf8 16. Ne5 but Spassky already feels the lure of immortality. 15.\underline{\text{f}8} Black might draw by 15...exf1=Q+ 16. Rxf1 Bxd6 17. Qh7+ Ke8 18. Qxe7 Ke7 19. Rxb6 Rf8 20. Qh8+ Kf7 21. Bg5 Rf6 22. Rxg6 Kf7 23. Kf1 Ke7 24. exf5. 16.\underline{\text{xf7}} exf1=Q+ 17. Kxf1 Bf7 18. Rf7+ Kf8 19. Bxh7+ Ke7 20. gxf7+ Kd6 21. Bxe5 Black resigns. The queen falls on 23...g6 24. Rf7+ and 23...Kh8 24. Rxf8+ followed by Ng6+ mates shortly.

1/2-1/2

- Fischer, R.
- Tal, M.
- Leipzig Olympiad
Germany
1960 1/2-1/2 C17

Any contest between these two giants arouses interest, and this could have gone either way. After a seesaw struggle it settles in a draw by perpetual check – a valid if frustrating result.

1.e4 e5 2.d4 c6 3.\underline{\text{d}3} \underline{\text{c}3} 4.\underline{\text{d}4} e5 5.a3 \underline{\text{a}5} Unpopular retreat – but never refuted. 6.d4 exd4 7.\underline{\text{d}3} f5 8.exf5 gxf5 9.\underline{\text{d}3} dxc5 10.\underline{\text{a}5} xe7 11.\underline{\text{b}5} d6 12.\underline{\text{c}7} xe5 13.\underline{\text{b}5} xe5+ 14.\underline{\text{d}8} xe5+ 15.\underline{\text{e}4}+ Black Resigns. The queen falls on 23...g6 24. Rf7+ and 23...Kh8 24. Rxf8+ followed by Ng6+ mates shortly.

1-0

1/2-1/2

○ Botvinnik, M.
• Tal, M.

? 17th Match Game, Moscow 1960 1-0 B18

The Latvian whirlwind Mikhail Tal became the youngest champion in chess history (age 23) in 1960. To this day he remains one of the most inventive minds over the chess board. In this key game, just when Tal’s attack appears to be obliterating the wall, Botvinnik stumbles in time trouble and is overwhelmed with mating threats.

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.d4 Nc6 5.dxe5...

Bent Larsen

Nimzovich Memorial
Copenhagen 1960 1-0 A09

"I consider this one of my best games ever. I like its logical progress, the queenside action prepared for the destruction of the enemy pawn center, and after this the direct attack against the king became possible" – Larsen.

1.g3 d5 2.g2 e3 3.f3 c6 4.d3 5.d4 leads to an Alekhine’s Defense reversed where White has a move in hand. 4.O-O 5.f6 After 4...e5 5.Ne1 followed by d3 Black has his center to defend. 5.c4 d4 If 5...dxe4 6.Qxa4. Clearly unfavorable now is 5...e4? 6.Ng5 h6 7.Qxd5 Qxd5 8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9. Bxe3 a6 10.b3 c6 11.a3 Bb7 Better is 16...Bh3 although White retains an edge with 17. d4. 17.a2 c6 18.a1 Contesting the open file. If Black replies 18...Rc8 then 19. d4 is coming. 18...xa1 19.gxe3 c5 Black loses a pawn. 20.c5 Qd5 If 20...dxc5 21.bxc5 Qxe5 22.b4 axb4 23.axb4 Qxb4 24.b5 Qa3+ 25.Kb1 Qa1 26.Bxa1 Qxb2 27.Qc3 Qb7 28.Bb1 Qc8 29.Qxc8+ Qxc8 30.Rb1 Rb8 31.Kc1 Qa3 32.b4 Qb3

1-0

○ Gligoric, S.
• Fischer, R.

Bled Yugoslavia 1961 1/2-1/2 E98

This draw has the charm of perfection. The timing and ingenuity produces a harmonious flow of movement, like a graceful ballet.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.Qc3 Qg7 4.e4 d6 5.Qf3 O-O 6.e2 e5 7.O-O 7.d5 If 8. Be3 Re8!
9. dxe5 dxe5 10. Qxd8 (Larsen-Fischer, Monaco 1968) 10...Rxd8! 11. Bg5 Rf8! is roughly equal. 8...Qxh7 9.Qxe1 Qd7 10.Qd3 The older 10. f3 f5 11. Be3 f4 12. Bf2 g5 gives Black good attacking prospects. 10...fxe5 11.exf5 xf5 Also playable is 11...gx5 12. f4 Ng6. After the text Black's grip on d4 offsets White's grip on e4. 12.f3 Qf6 13.Qf2 Qd4 14.Qe4 f6 15.g5 Qd7 16.g3 h6 17.Qe3 c5 An intricate pawn sacrifice. On 22. Kh1 Nxg3+ 23.Nxg3 Qxd6 White retains a comfortable space advantage. 18.Qxd4 exd4 19.b5 a6 20.bxa6 d3 Giving up a second pawn to open the diagonal for his bishop on g7. A fine concept. Black gets adequate counterplay after his extra pawn but his weak squares provide Black with even chances. 22...Qxg3 Anyway! Black had to visualize this resource and determine its soundness when he began this adventure at move 17. 23.Qxc8 Unclear is 23. Nxg3 Qxd6 24. Rab1. White is a pawn ahead but has a weak kingside. 23...Qxf1 24.b6 Qc7 Blow for blow. Black threatens mate-in-2. 25.Qxf1 Qxb6 26.b4 Qxb4 Too precarious is 26...Qxb4 27.e5! Bxe5 28.Nxc5 Qxc5 29.Qxe4+ 27.Qb1 Qa5 Black can hold after 28. Rxb7 Rf7. 28.Qxc5 Qxc5 29.Qxg6+ Qg7 30.Qh8 Qf7 31.Qd3 Qf6 32.Qxf6+ Kxf8 33.Qg6 Qh8 34.Qe6+ draws by repetition. Neither side dares disturb the surface tension. 1/2-1/2

Reshevsky, S.  
Fischer, R.  
Match (5)  
Los Angeles  
1961  
0-1  
D42  
For pure excitement it is hard to match the "desperado" tactics which predominate in the middle game. Reshevsky emerges with the better of it but the clock proves to be his undoing. 1.d4 f5 2.c4 e6 3.d3 c5 4.d5 Nf6 5.e3 Nc6 6.e4 7.O-O d3 8.exd3 ed 8.e5 8.O-O 9.a3 exd4 10.exd4 Qf6 R. Byrne-Bisguier, USA Championship 1964, led to equality by 10...Bd7 11.Qc2 g6 12.Qh6 Re8 13.Qe2 f5 14. Nc3 Bf6. 11.Qb2 b6 12.Qe3 Qb7 13.g5 Qd6 14.Qe1 O-O 15.h4 Qe8 16.Qe1 Qc5 17.O-O 18.Qf5 Threatening incredible complications. 19.Qg5 Qxf4 20.Qe3 Qxd4 21.Qc5 Qxc3 22.Qb1 Qb5 Qxe3 Best. Fischer gives 21...Qd5 22. Qxf4 Qxb5 23. Nxe6 Qxb2 24. Qh6! with an irresistible attack. 22.Qxe3 Qxc2 23.Qg2 Qd4+ 24.Qe4 "I can still hear the audience gasping with each blow, thinking each of us had overlooked it in turn. 'Fischer is winning!' or 'Reshevsky is winning!' The true state of affairs will crystallize in a matter of moves" – Fischer. 24...Qxe4+ 25.Qxe4 Qxb5 26.Qf6+ Qf7 27.Qe8 Qxe8 28.Qf4 Qd6 29.Qe7+ Qf6 Black can ill-afford to part with his rook after 29...Re7 30. Rec1. 30.Qe1 To maintain control of the c-file. On 30. Rxa7 Re8! 30...h6 31.Qxa7 Qe4 32.Qa6 Qd8 33.Qc2 The best way to preserve winning chances. Fischer gives 33. Rxb6 Rd2+ 34. Kg1 g5 35. Rcc6 g4 36. Rxg4 Kg8 37. Rh6 f4 with even chances. 33...Qd3 34.Qxb6 Qxe3 35.Qa5 f4 36.Qf2 Short of time. Reshevsky returns material and banks on his queenside pawns. But he should allow a draw with 36. a6! f3 37. Kf1 Rd3. 36...Qf6 37.Rf4 Qf5 38.b4 Qc3 39.a6 a3 Now White is stymied and Black is ready to mobilize his kingside pawns. 40.Qe6 The only hope is 40. b5 but this was the last move of the time control and White relied on instinct, not calculation. 40...Qg5 41.hxg5+ hxg5 42.b5 g4 43.Qf5 c8 44.b6 g3 45.Kf1 Kc1 46.b2 Qg2 47.Qf8+ Qe4 48.Qxd4 Qf8 49.Qh7 Qg1=Q Sharper is 49...Ke4! 50. Qh8=Q Ra2+ 51. Ke1 Qg1=Q mate! The text also wins – by a hair. 50.b8=Q+ Qf5 51. Qf8+ Qe4 52.Qa8+ Qd4 53.Qd8+ Qc4 54.Qd3+ Qc5 55.Qc3+ Qd6 56.Qd2+ Qe5 57.Qb2+ Qf5 After 58. Qb5+ Kf6 59. Qb2+ stops the torrent of checks and Black's material superiority can finally prevail. White resigns. 0-1

Gaspartiantz,  
Eidlin,  
Moscow  
USSR  
1961  
1/2-1/2  
B98  
Two unknowns enrich the theory of the notorious Goteborg Variation which came into being one day at the 1955 Swedish Interzonal when three Argen-tinians (Najdorf, Panno, PIlnik) suffered terrible defeats with this secret weapon at the hands of three Soviet stars (Keres, Geller and Spassky, respectively). 1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 f6 5.Qc3 a6 6.Qg5 e6 7.Qf4 Qe7 8.Qf3 h6 9.Qb4 Qg5 A remarkable idea. Black voluntarily smashes open his kingside to obtain domination over e5. It’s even more remarkable that as a result of many games with this sharp variation theory now regards it as drawish! Nowadays 9...Qc7 is the prescription
for maintaining tension. 10.fgx5 Bxf7 11.Nxe6
The same move those three Soviets chose on that
dateful day when confronted with Black’s surprise.
11...fxe6 12.Wh5+ Bf8 13.Bb5 The purpose of
this thrust is to clear the way for castling. The
bishop is also able to eliminate on d7 or c6 a knight
which can play a vital role in many lines. 13...h7
Panno lost after 13...Ne5 14. Bg3! Bxg5 15. O–O+
O- O+ Ke5 16. Bxe5 Qb6+ 17. Kh1 dxe5 18. Qf7+. Nadjor and Pilnik promptly switched to 13...Kg7
but fared no better after 14. O-O Ne5 15.Bg3
Ng6 16. gxh6+ Rxh6 17. Rf7+ Kxh7 18. Qxh6
17...Bxh6 Nd4 18. Qd1 Qb6. Now he falls prey
to a sacrifice that is far from obvious. It requires
17...Rxf7 18. gxf7+ Kxf7 19. Qh7+ Kf8
19. Qf2 because of the dual threats of d6 or Qxf6.
19...Qf2 20. Qxf4 exf4 21.e5 Opening lines. If
now 21...Bb4 22. Nf6+ Qxf6 23. exf6 Bxf2+ 24.
Rd1 gives White a bind. 21...Nxe5 22. e6
23. Qxe6+ Qxe6 24.Qd4 Each blow is more
powerful than the last. 24...Bf8 The point is
d8 26. f5+ gxf5 27. Wxh8+ Bg7 28.Qg7+
e6 29.gxf5+ The queen falls after 29...Kxd6 30.

1-0

○ Tal, M.
• Olafsson, F.

Bled
Yugoslavia
1961 1-0 B48
Tal’s intuition leads him into an unsound combina-
tion but he has the clock on his side and luck –
the luck of the strong. Indeed, how many players
in the world would have found the refutation over-
the-board?

d5 6.c3 e6 7.0–0 wC7 8.f4 Nf6 9.g4 White’s
intentions are clearly anything but benign. Object-
ively better is 9. Bf3 but it’s a sound psychological
ploy to play aggressively against opponents who
like to attack. 9...b5 10.a3 b4 11.Nf3
c5 Misplacing the knight. Correct is 11...h6!
12.Nd2 e5 13.Bf5 g6 14.fx5 dxe5 15.h6 The
king is curiously well posted here, mainly be-
cause of the pressure exerted on f7. Not the least
of its merits is the prevention of castling. 15...c6
16.g2 g7 Maybe Black should try 16...Bxh6
17. Bxh6 Nf4 18. Qd1 Qb6. Now he falls prey
to a sacrifice that is far from obvious. It requires
some intricate tactics to justify it. 17...Nc6 18...
f5 d8 Rejecting 18...Bxd5 19. exd5 Nd4

○ Nezhmetdinov, R.
• Tal, M.

28th USSR Championship
Moscow
1961 1-0 B45
The mighty Tal prey falls prey to the kind of dazz-
ling tricks he usually inflicted on others. It’s a
unique experience to see him on the receiving end
of a sacrifice for a change.

e6 6.Nc3 e5 7.O–O wC7 8.f4 Nf6 9.g4 White’s
intentions are clearly anything but benign. Object-
ively better is 9. Bf3 but it’s a sound psychological
ploy to play aggressively against opponents who
like to attack. 9...b5 10.a3 b4 11.Nf3
c5 Misplacing the knight. Correct is 11...h6!
12.Nd2 e5 13.Bf5 g6 14.fx5 dxe5 15.h6 The
king is curiously well posted here, mainly be-
cause of the pressure exerted on f7. Not the least
of its merits is the prevention of castling. 15...c6
16.g2 g7 Maybe Black should try 16...Bxh6
17. Bxh6 Nf4 18. Qd1 Qb6. Now he falls prey
to a sacrifice that is far from obvious. It requires
some intricate tactics to justify it. 17...Nc6 18...
f5 d8 Rejecting 18...Bxd5 19. exd5 Nd4

80
\( \text{xg} 36. \text{xb} 6+ \text{h} 7 37. \text{f} 5 \text{g} 5 38. \text{b} 3 \) Black lost on time.

1-0

○ Bagirov V.
• Kholmov R.

USSR Championship

Baku
1961 0-1 C63

Someone once said that chess is 99% tactics. This game illustrates a typical tactical trick in the rarely seen Schliemann Defense to the Ruy Lopez. Note especially the power of doubled rooks on an open file near the end.

1.e4 e5 2.\( \text{c} \text{f} 3 \text{c} 6 3. \text{b} 5 \text{f} 5 \) It’s a good idea to catch opponents by surprise with offbeat but unrefted opening moves. 4.\( \text{c} 3 \text{f} 6 5. \text{e} 2 \) Better is 5. \text{exf} 5; it’s too early to post the queen. 5...\( \text{e} 5 \text{exf} 7 6. \text{c} 4 \) Kholmov claims that 7. Bxc6 dx6 8. Qxe5 Bxf2+! 9. Kf1 Qxe5 10. Nxe5 Bd4 11. Nf3 Bxc3 followed by Bxf5 only leads to equality. And Black is okay on 7. d3 Nd4 8. Nxd4 Bxd4. 7...\( \text{xe} 4 8. \text{xe} 4 \text{o} 9. 0-0 \text{d} 6 \text{c} 6 \text{bxc} 6 11. d4 \) Black gets compensation for the pawn after 11. Qxc6 Bxf5 12. d3 Rab8 14. b3 Bb4! (if 14. Nbd2 Be2!). 11...\( \text{xf} 2 12. \text{e} 5 \text{xe} 2 13. \text{dxe} 5 \text{d} 5 14. \text{h} 3 \text{e} 4 15. \text{g} 5 \text{f} 5 16. \text{xe} 4 \text{xe} 5 17. \text{wa} 6 \text{exe} 4 18. \text{e} 3 \text{e} 8 19. \text{xb} 6 \text{cxb} 6 \) Black has straightened out his pawns and now has undisputed control of the open e-file, but material is even. 20.\( \text{w} 3 16. \text{b} 1 22. \text{ad} 1 \text{e} 5 \text{wc} 3 \) Preparing the faulty plan of contesting the e-file. More active is 23. \text{c} 4 to strive for counterplay along the d-file. 23...\( \text{c} 5 24. \text{fe} 1 \) Black already has the initiative and trying to challenge the open file is both futile and fatal. 24...\( \text{xe} 1+ 25. \text{xe} 1 \text{e} 2 \) White resigns. Hobson’s choice between getting mated or dropping a rook: 26. Qa1 Qxf2+ 26. Qxf2+ Kxh7 27. Kh2 gxf6.

1-0

○ Ivkov, B.
• Portisch, L.

Bled

Yugoslavia
1961 1-0 C18

Both queens disappear from the board after a sharp theoretical dispute. But White’s attack still rages, and a storm soon descends upon the hapless Black monarch.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.\( \text{c} 3 \text{b} 4 4. \text{e} 5 \text{c} 5 \) Striking at d4, the base of the pawn chain on e5. 5.a3 \( \text{xe} 3+ 6. \text{bxc} 3 \text{wc} 7 7. \text{yg} 4 \) In the long run 7. Nf3 may be more reliable. The question is whether this excursion with the queen is or is not premature. 7...\( \text{g} 3 \text{e} 7 \text{f} 8 \text{w} 4 \text{yg} 4 \) White gets a pull after 8...\( \text{dxc} 4 9. \text{cxd} 4 \text{Ne} 7 10. \text{Bd} 2 \text{O} 0 11. \text{Bd} 3 \text{b} 6 12. \text{Ne} 2 \text{Ba} 6 13. \text{Nf} 4 \text{Qd} 7 14. Bx\text{a} 6 \text{N\text{xa}6} 15. \text{Qd} 3 \text{Nh} 8 16. \text{h} 4 (\text{Reshevsky - Botvinnik, Moscow 1948.}) 9.\( \text{xb} 7 \text{g} 8 10. \text{xh} 7 \text{e} 4 11. \text{d} 1 \) Tal’s idea in order to develop the knight at f3 where it is more aggressive than \( e2 \). 11...\( \text{d} 7 \) Black scores his kingside in return for powerful pressure on the other wing and in the center. 11...\( \text{N} \text{b} 6 \) also is feasible. 12.\( \text{h} 5+ \text{d} 8 13. \text{e} 2 \text{a} 4 \) Lands in brackish waters since the bishop is needed where it is to defend e6. Correct is 13...\( \text{xc} 3 14. \text{f} 4 \text{xe} 5 15. \text{O} \text{e} 4 \text{Qc} 3 16. \text{Ra} 2 \text{Bd} 7 17. \text{Qf} 7 \text{Qe} 6 17. \text{h} 4 \text{is hard to meet.} 15.\( \text{f} 7 16. \text{d} 3 \text{w} 6 17. \text{e} 1 \) Genuinely risky. Safer is 17. \text{c} 4. 17...\( \text{e} 5 \) Underestimating White’s attack. The best chance is 17...\( \text{N} \text{b} 6 18. \text{Nxe} 6+ \text{Bx} 6 19. \text{Rx} 6 \text{Qx} 2 18. \text{a} 4 \text{e} 8 \text{Relatively best. If 18...\( \text{N} \text{b} 6 19. \text{Ba} 3 \text{Qh} 6 20. \text{Nxd} 5! \text{Nxd} 5 21. \text{Qxg} 8 \text{+} 19. \text{e} 6 \text{xe} 6 20. \text{xe} 6+ \text{d} 7 \) Had he foreseen the sequel, he might have gone to c8 directly. 21.\( \text{c} 5+ \text{e} 8 22. \text{ex} 5 \text{bc} 6 \text{e} 2 \) \text{xe} 2 24. \text{xf} 5+ \text{d} 8 \text{There is no good shelter. If 24...\( \text{c} 7 25. \text{Nxf} 5 \) 25. B+ \text{Kb} 6 26. \text{Rb} 1+ \text{Kc} 5 27. \text{Rb} 5+ \text{Kc} 4 28. \text{Bd} 3+ \text{Kx} 3 29. \text{Bd} 2 \text{mate.} 25. \text{xb} 6+ \text{c} 7 26. \text{f} 4 \text{f} 5 \text{Disagreeably forced in view of 26...\( \text{xe} 6 \) 27. \text{Rb} 1+ \text{Ka} 6 28. \text{Bd} 3+ \text{Ka} 5 29. \text{Bc} 7+ \text{Kb} 4 30. \text{Rb} 1+ \text{xc} 6 31. \text{e} 6+ \text{invading} 31...\text{B} \text{xc} 6 32. \text{Nc} 5+ \text{Ka} 5 33. \text{Bc} 7 \text{mate. Black Resigns.} 1-0

○ Tal, M.
• Hecht, H.

Varona Olympics

Bulgaria
1962 1-0 E13

Sheer fantasy! Tal keeps finding an array of bewildering and unpredictable moves until his opponent drops from exhaustion.

1.d4 \( \text{d} 6 2. \text{c} 4 \text{e} 6 3. \text{f} 3 \text{b} 6 4. \text{c} 3 \text{b} 4 5. \text{g} 5 \text{b} 7 6. \text{e} 3 \text{h} 6 7. \text{h} 4 \text{xc} 3+ \) Also seen frequently is 7...\( \text{g} 5 \) 8. Bg3 Ne4 9. Qc2 Bxc3+ 10. Bxc3 d6. 8.\( \text{bc} 3 \text{d} 6 9. \text{d} 2 \text{e} 5 10. \text{f} 3 \text{c} 7 11. \text{e} 4 \text{bd} 7 12. \text{d} 3 \text{f} 8 13. \text{c} 5 \) Ultrasharp. Steadier is 13. \text{Nf} 1 or O-O. 13...\( \text{dc} 5 14. \text{g} 5 15. \text{b} 1+ \text{a} 6 16. \text{c} 6 \text{Qx} 6 16. \text{Nc} 4 \text{transforms} \) the position drastically. On 13...\text{bc} 5 Tal said he was exploring 14. d5 to control c4 and b5 with hopes of exploiting the open b-file. This is murky. 14.\( \text{dc} 5 \text{xe} 5 15. \text{a} 4+ \) Surprises follow with increasing

This unexpected queen sacrifice is just the beginning of an inspired combination. 19...bxa4 20. fxg7 g8 21. f5 With only a bishop as material compensation for the queen, White gives that away as well! 21...xb4 Taking everything in sight. If 21...Qxc4 22. Rfel+ Qe6 23. Rxe6+! fxe6 24. Bxg6+ Kd7 25. Rdl+ Kc7 26. Bg3+ leads to a decisive attack. 22. xe6 a6 23. d6+ e7 24. c4 25. g3 a6 26. xa6 d5

It’s a pity that after defending so well Black faltered in the absence of a threat. After 26...Rb8 he could hardly lose with an extra pawn. 27. ab1 f6 28. f1+ e7 29. e1+ d6 30. f2 c4 Pitching a pawn to squirm out of a potential mating net. 31.g4 e7 32. b7 33. a8 34. x4 d5 35. x5 cxd5 36. b4 e8 37. x4 x3 38. x6 x5 39. h3 hxg4 40. hxg4 h7 41. g5 h5 42. f5 c2+ The sealed move and the game was adjourned but White’s connected pawns are decisive. 43. g3 c4 44. e5 d4 45. g6 h6 46. c5+ d3 47. xc2 xc2 48. f4 g4 49. g5 Inviting 49...Rxg5 50. Kxg5 d3 51. g7 d2 52. g8=Q d1=Q 53. Qb3+ Kd7 54. Qxd1+ Kxd1 55. f4, etc. Black Resigns.

1–0

— Efim Geller
• Bobby Fischer

Candidates Tournament (2)

Curacao

1962

1–0

B92

This positional gem shows why Geller was one of the few players in the world with a plus score against Fischer (5 wins, 4 losses, 2 draws). "A little earlier at the Stockholm Interzonal Fischer had tried the flank development of his queen’s bishop against me but had failed to equalize. It was clear to me that the American grandmaster would not simply abandon his favorite variation but would try to find an improvement for Black. And, of course, counter-measures were taken on my part so that his 10th move did not catch me unawares" – Geller. 1.e4 c5 2. f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. x d4 6. c3 a6. 2.e2 e5. 3.b3 e7. A month later in round 16 Fischer varied with 7...Be6 8. O-O Nbd7 9. a4 Be7 10. f4 Qc7. 11. f5 and again landed in an inferior position. 8.O–O O–O 9. e3 w7 10. Kd1 Universally adopted then, but nowadays considered inaccurate. More precise is 9...Be6 followed by Nbd7. 10.a4 e6 At Stockholm, Fischer had difficulties after 10...b6 11. Qd2 Bb7 12. f3 Bc6 13. Rd1 Nbd7 14. Qe1 h6 15. Qf1 Qb7 16. Bc4 Rfc8 17. Rd2 Nf8 18. Ne3! Ng6 19. Nia2 aiming at d5 as the final destination. 11.a5 b6 12. d5 x d5 White also retains the upper hand on 12...Bxd5 13. exd5 b5 14. axb6 Nxb6 15. c4! But in general Fischer was reluctant to part with the two bishops. 13.exd5 f5 14.c4 g6 15. c1 c5 "Fischer was obviously afraid of sharpening the position by 15...f6 16. c5 f4 17. cxd6 Qxd6 18. Bc5 Nxc5 19. Nxc5 but that is what he should have played, although White’s position would have remained attractive. On the other hand, the attempt to blockade the critical c5 square proves illusory, and Black’s game can no longer be saved" – Geller. 16.xc5 dxc5 17.b4 a8 17...xb4 allows 18. Bb6 and c5 with a complete positional bind. 18.b3 d6 19. f1+ w7 20.bxc5 xc5 21. xc5 xc5 22. a1 "Without the transfer of this rook to b6 it is difficult for White to combine the threat of winning the b-pawn with the advance of his d-pawn" – Geller. 22...d8 23. a4 f5 24. b4 e8 25. b6 d6 26. a6 26...Rxa5 27. b5. B3 wins the pawn on b7. 26.b4 we7 27. xd6 xd6 28. b1 wc7 More tenacious is 28...g6 so that if 29. Qa3 Rxd5! 29.a4 d7 30.a3 xa3 31. xb7 bx7 32. xa5 g6 "The idea conceived in the opening has been carried out, so to speak, in its purest form: the two connected passed pawns in the center are irresistible. All that is required of White now is accuracy" – Geller. 33.b3 b1=Q 34. b3 w4 35. e3 w4 36. f3 xd4 37. xd4 xd4 38.g4 c8 39.c5 a5 40.c6 f8 41.d6 After this sealed move, Black resigned. If 41...Ke8 42. Bd1 Ba6 43.g5 Bb5 44. c7 Bd7 45. Ba4 forces the win. Or 41...a4 42. c7 a3 43. Bc6 a2 44. d7 Bxd7 45. Bxd7 a1=Q 46. c8=Q does the trick.

1–0

— Fischer, R.
• Bolbochan, J.

Interzonal

Stockholm

1962

1–0

B90

Bolbochan, burdened with a bad bishop against a good knight, defends with extreme care but is gradually forced to retreat behind his own lines. Fis-
cher’s invasion on the weak squares, culminating in a keen combination, is a model of accuracy. 1.e4 c5 2.d3 f3 d6 3.d4 xd4 4.e4 d6 5.e3 a6 6.h3 c6 Too loosening is e5 7. Nde2 Be6 8. g4 d5 9. exd5 Nxd5 10. Bg2. 7.g4 xd4 8.wxd4 e5 9.wd3 e7 More accurate is 9...Be6! so as to retreat the knight to d7 without hemming in the bishop. 10.g5 d7 11.e3 e5 Better is 11...Bxg5 12. Bxg5 Qxg5 13. Qxd6 Qe7 holding White to a minimal edge. 12.Qd2 e6 13.O-O–O O–O 14.f3 c8 15.b1 c7 Regrouping. The knight has no future on c5 so Black tries to post it on b6 where it can leap to c4. 16.h4 b5 17. a3 h3 c5 18. bxc6 bxc6 White won the fight for control of d5 and dominates the light colored squares. 20.Qd5 d8 21.f4 It’s instructive to work with threats on both sides of the board to augment his positional superiority. 21...xf4 22.Qxf4 Qd7 23.g5 f6 24.a3 a7 25.c3 Objectively best is 25...Nxe7+ 26.Qxe7 27.Qxe7 28.a4! But I was hoping to win in the middle game. Ironically I wouldn’t have been awarded the brilliancy prize had I chosen the best line here. They don’t give medals for endgame technique” – Fischer. 25...c6 26.Qg4 Qd7 27.Qf3 Qe6 28.Qc7 f6 29.c4 d5 30.Qd5 Qh8 The queen must cover in the corner. 31.a3 h6 Black defended a difficult position rather well, but his back is still to the wall. Fischer gives 31...e6 32. Qb3! Rf7 33. Rxd6 fxg5 34. hxg5 Qe5 35. Rf6! Rf8 36. Rxf8+ Rxf8 37. Ne6 and wins. 32.xb6 Wxb6 33.h5 Qg5 34.hxg6 fxg6 35.hxg3 xc4 What else? If 35...Kh8 36. Nxe6+ Qxe6 37. Qxg5 Qxg5 38. Qh3+ mates. 36.Qe5+ Qf8 37.Qxe8+ Now 37...Kxe8 38. Qe6+ Kh8 39. Qe8 mates. Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Fischer, R.
• Najdorf, M.
Varna Olympics
Bulgaria 1962 1-0 B90
Here the originator of the Najdorf Variation encounters some surprising and effective tactics. After only 24 moves he is bound hand and foot, a victim of Fischer's supreme artistry.

○ Tal, M.
• Mohrlok, D.
Varna Olympics
Bulgaria 1962 1-0 B63
"This is the only game I played in 1962 which I felt satisfied about," wrote Tal. Yet like many of his vintage brilliances it has a murky quality, and one can’t help but wonder how he would have fared had his nemesis, Korchnoi – or a machine – conducted the defense.
1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.d4 xd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qe3 d5 6.Qg5 The Rauzer Variation is aimed against the Dragon Variation (6...g6? 7. Bxg6). It comes and goes out of fashion. 6...e6 7.Qd2 Qe7 8.O-O–O O–O 9.Qh4 Tal-Larsen, 6th match game 1969, continued 9. f4 Nxd4 10. Qxd4 Qa5 11. Bc4 Bb5 12. Qb5 Bc6 13. Bhf1 h6 14. Bh4 Qh5! with even chances. 9...Qb6 10.Qf3 a6 11.g4 "If 11. Bxf6 Bxf6 12. Qxd6 Rg+5 with a good attack. I don’t like to win such pawns” – Tal. 11...b5 12.Qe3 Qe7 13.g5 Qd7 14.b4 b5 15.g6 fxg6 "I played this pawn sacrifice in previous games and Mohrlok was obviously prepared and replied very quickly," wrote Tal. "In a practice game a few years ago my chess trainer Koblenz played 15...hxg6 but then White quickly broke through along the h-file with 16. h5 gxh5 17. Rxh5 Nf6 18. Rh5 d5 19. e5! Nxe5 20. Qh2 Kf8 21. Qh8+! Ng8 22. Bf4 Bf6 23. Rh7." 16.h5 gxh5 17.Qxh5 Qf6 18.Qg5 "White wants
to switch the attack between the h and g files according to Black’s defense, so he posts one rook on each file, with the queen supporting from behind” – Tal. Now 18...b4! 19. Na4 Rd8 would deny White’s knight access later to d5. 18...e5 19. g2 c8 20. e2 “Mohrlok had played very rapidly up to here, but now thought for 20 minutes, so I guessed that 20. Be2 must be a new move. Afterward he told me he expected 20. Bd4 but then comes 20...b4! 21. Rg3 Nh5 22. Rh3 Nf4 winning the Exchange” – Tal. 20...c4 21. xc4 bxc4 22. d4 b8 23. h1 b7 24. h6 “The strongest move in the game. White’s main idea is to play f4-f5 to create a knight outpost at d5, or alternatively f4 and e5 to drive Black’s knight away from the protection of the h-pawn” – Tal. 24...f7 25. h4 b6 26. d1 “The knight goes on the defense, but only temporarily. Black’s queen has to move again” – Tal. 26...c7 27. f4 h6 28. g6 e8 The only chance is 28...Ke8 though 29. f5 e5 30. Nf6 Bxe6 31. Bxe6 (menacing Rxf6) still attacks with full force. 29.f5 e5 30. c3 d8 What else? If 30...exd4 31. Rxf6+! gx6 32. Nxd5 threatens both the queen and Qg6 mate. 31. c6 Black Resigns.

1-0

• Littlewood, N.
• Botvinnik, M.

Hastings

1962

White launches a blitz attack against his renowned opponent which narrowly fails to a very fine saving clause. As Botvinnik remarked at the time, it seemed that White had a 50-50 chance of success. 1.e4 c5 2. f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. exd4 c6 5. e2 c6 6. Bf4 Qc8 7. f3 e5 8. Nc3 b6 9. Nf6 10. d2 f6 Black keeps his king in the center as long as possible until White devalues himself. His queenside maneuvers are designed to discourage White from castling on that wing. Black left the worst of it after 10...h5 11. a4 b4 12. Na2 a5 13. c3 (Bisguier-Reshevsky, 2nd match game 1957). 11.0-0-0 c5 12. b1 cxb3 13. cxb3 Capturing away from the center is frowned on because the resulting pawn configuration gives Black a won king and pawn ending – if he ever get there. A big if. On 13. axb3 Qc7 followed by O-O-O solves Black’s opening problems. 13...0-0 14. h6 b6 15. b5 e5 16. e5 This gamble meets with a stingy refutation. Better is 16. Na4 e5 17. Nc2 a5 18. Ne3 to gain control of d5. 16...d7 17. h4 bxc3 18. h5 dxe5 Barden relates: "A dramatic moment. Here there was hubbub among the spectators, who had the vision of a new Saint George arising to slay the Dragon. Even many of the other masters were taken in and gathered around White’s position, which was viewed with a mixture of amazement and envy. As Botvinnik sat calmly at the board – and even adjusted his tie – while Littlewood’s head remained buried in his hands, doubts began to arise.” 19. hxc6 f6 20. bxc3 Now White remains a piece down and is desperate. He intended 20. Nf5 but saw the catch after 20...c2+! 21. Kxc2 Qc8+ followed by Qxf5. 20...exd4 21. gxh7+ bh8 22. d4 e5 23. c3 d5 24. d2 xe3+ 25. a1 a8 26. c1 xa2+ 27. xa2 xa2 28. d8 Qxd8 An anti-brilliancy! White Resigns.

0-1

O’Kelly, A.
• Penrose, J.

Varna Olympics

Bulgaria

1962

1-2/2 B49

Some draws are more fascinating than many a decisive game; this is one of the most unusual draws on record. Black’s superlative defensive play is rewarded when he marches his king into enemy terrain and lives to tell the tale.

Le4 c5 2. f3 c6 3.d4 cxd4 4. cxd4 e6 This used to be considered inferior on account of 5. Nb5 d6 6. Bf4 when e5 saddles Black with a hole on d5. However, this weakness is offset by White’s loss of time with the knight. 5. e2 c7 6. e2 More flexible is 6. Be3 reserving the option of going directly to d3 with this bishop. 6...a6 7.0-0 f6 8. e3 b4 9. cxb4 Pressure against his e-pawn compels White to simplify – or to speculate with 9. Na4!? (see Koehler-Evans, 1968). 9...bxc6 10. d3 Now the drawback of 6. Be3 can be seen more clearly since White loses a tempo. But 10. Qd4 c5 11. Qe4 Bb7 12. Bf3 Qd6! 13. Bd2 O-O is slightly better for Black (Gligoric-Taimanov, Buenos Aires 1960). 10...d5 11. exd5 cxd5 12. d4 e7 13. e1 O-O Castling into it "sans peur ni reproche” – O’Kelly. 14. f3 b7 15. e3 f8 16. a1 ad8 17. h3 Preparing a massive attack. Only timely countermeasures will save Black. 17...e4 18. h5 f6 Again the only move, but sufficient. Not 18...g6? 19. Qxh7+ Kxh7 20. Rh3 Kg8 21. Rh8 mate. Or 18...f5? 19. Rh3 h6 20. Bxg7 Ng5 21. Qg6! 19. xe4 White has nothing more than a draw after 20. Rxex4 dxe4 21. Bxf6 gxf6 22. Bxe4 f5. 19...e4 20. Qh7+...

1/2-1/2

○ Lutikov, A.
● Klavins, J.

Team Championship
USSR
1962 1-0 B48

Black is stalked relentlessly after a rather minor slip in the opening. The result is a textbook model that illustrates the power of the initiative.

1.e4 c5 2. Qf3 Qc6 3.d4 exd4 4. Qxd4 e6 5. Qc3 wC7 6. e3 a6 7.a3 b5 8. Qxb6 c6 Gligoric-Darga, Sarajevo 1962, continued 8...dxc6 9. Be2 Bb7 10. O-O c5 11. f4 Be7 12. Bf3 Nf6 13. e5 Rd8 14. Qe1 Nd5 with equal chances. 9. Qe2 Qb7 10. Qf3 wC7 11.e5 wC8 12.O-O wxf3 13.wxf3 d6 If 13...Qxex5 14. Qb7 regains the pawn favorably. 14.exd6 wCxd6 15. Qd4 wCxb2 Snapping the bait. 15...Nd6 16. Be7 maintains parity. 16. wB1 wB 17. d5 wBb8 Not 17...exd5? 18. Bxe5 Qxe5 19. Rf1 pinning the queen. The next sequence is forced. 18. Qxe5 wexe5 19. Qb6 wC8 20. wA1 wCxd1 21. wCxd1 f5 22. wC7 wE4 23.wC3 wE2 24. wB8+ wF7 25. Qe5+ wF6 The king seems to have reached safety and Black has some nasty threats of his own. However, he still has no time to draw a free breath. 26.wF8+ wCxe5 27.wKxg7+ wF6 28.wG3+ wC4 No avail is 28...f4 29. Qg5+ Ke4 30. f3+ Ke3 31. Qc5 mate. 29.wF3+ wC3 30. wC1 wF4 31. wC2 wC2 32.wC4 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Stein, L.
● Portisch, L.

Interzonal
Stockholm
1962 1-0 B42

One careless move costs Black the game when he overlooks a sparkling twist. Remarkable.

1.e4 c5 2. Qf3 e6 3.d4 exd4 4. Qxd4 a6 Black’s move order is quite deliberate. 4...Nc6 allows White to set up a Maroczy Bind after 5. Nb5 d6 6. c4 which many players using the Taimanov Variation would rather not face. 5. wC3 wC6 6.O-O wC7 7. d2 wC6 8. Qxc6 bxc6 9.f4 wC5+ 10. wH1 d6 More consistent is 10...d5 but that’s another story. 11. wC3 e5 12.wF5 wC5 13. wH4 O-O 14.wF5 wE6 15.wC2 a5 16. Qe4 wH8 17. wG5 wD7 Virtually forced. Not 17...Nh8 18. Bxex6 wC9. Qc4! exf5 20. Qxc5, etc. 18. wAd1 wB6 White gets a break. After 18...Bxf5 19. exf5 f6 he would retain an edge but it’s hardly enough to win. 19.wG7 wC4 Forced. On 19...wH7 20. Bf6+ Kg8 21. Qh5 wins. 20. wB6 wE7 Also futile is 20...Nd7 21. Rxd7! Or 20...Bxe2 21. Nf5+ Kg8 22. N6h mate. 21.wF3 If 21...Bxf6 22. Qxf6 Nd7 23. Rxd7! clinches matters. Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Spassky, B.
● Ciric, D.

Student Team Championship
Czechoslovakia
1962 1-0 B29

Good defense can be just as exciting and exhausting as attack. Not convinced? Follow Spassky’s thoughts in the days before he became World Champion.

15.\textit{f3} f6+ 16.\textit{g3} d6+ 17.\textit{f4} "Evidently this reply was overlooked by my rival in the analysis he made at home. He probably reckoned only on 17. Bf4 after which 17...Re3+ would bring him victory" – Spassky. 17...\textit{e6} "It is impossible to see how Black can keep up the dying flame of attack because of the danger to f7" – Spassky. 18.\textit{xex6} xe6 19.\textit{xd6+} g6+ 20.\textit{g4} e3+ After 20...Rxd6 21. Rxe6 Rxe6+ 22. Kf2 it becomes only a matter of time before the power of the two bishops against a rook will be felt. 21.\textit{xe3} x\textit{d6+} 22. \textit{f2} e8 23. \textit{f4} e7 24. \textit{b3} e5 25.\textit{c1} g5 26. \textit{f3} g7 27. \textit{d1} f6 28. \textit{g1} g4 29.\textit{d4} "We found out after the match that the piece sacrifice had been prepared by the Yugoslavs especially for this contest with the Soviets. But the surprise, as you can see, had both its merits and demerits" – Spassky. Black Resigns.

1-0

\textbullet Keres, P.
\textbullet Fischer, R.
\textbf{Candidates Tournament (14)}
\textbf{Curacao}
1962 1/2-1/2 B20

Keres is strategically outplayed but manages to neutralize White's advantage when the game is adjourned. Fischer then refuses a draw and makes progress in the ending until Keres finds an ingenious saving resource.

1.e4\textit{c5} 2.\textit{d2} d6 3.g3\textit{g6} 4.\textit{g2} \textit{g7} 5.0-0 Better is the immediate 5.\textit{e3} Nc6 6.\textit{d4}. 5...\textit{c6} 6.c3\textit{e5} 7.d3\textit{dxe7} 8.a3 Fischer calls this a "lemon." Better is 8. Be3 to strive for d4. 8...0-0 9.b4\textit{b6} 10.f4\textit{exf4} 11.gxf4\textit{d5} 12.e5 "Poker-faced, as always, Keres made this move as though the were the most natural one on the board. But it was the last thing he wanted to do, since it exposes the poverty of White's strategy" – Fischer. 12...\textit{g4} 13.h3 \textit{xe2} 14.\textit{xe2} f6 15.b5\textit{a4} 16.d2 Fischer suggests 16. Ra2 instead. 16...\textit{exe5} 17.\textit{fxe5} \textit{xf1+} 18.\textit{xf1} \textit{b3} 19.\textit{b1} \textit{xc1} 20.\textit{xc1} \textit{xe7} 21.\textit{e1} \textit{d8} "Despite the drawing tendencies of the opposite-colored bishops, White has a difficult game; he's weak on all the squares and his king is somewhat exposed" – Fischer. 22.\textit{h2} d4 23.cxd4 cxd4 24.\textit{f3} Ng4! 25.\textit{xf4}? Rf8 25. \textit{Rf1} would lead to equality. 24...\textit{e6} 25.\textit{g2} a2+ 26.\textit{h8} 26.\textit{g6} e5 25.\textit{d5} Hoping for 27. Nxd4? Qc5 but 26...Nf5! is better. 27.\textit{e2}\textit{e3} 28.\textit{e6} 29.\textit{f3} \textit{g4} 30.\textit{xd4} \textit{xe5} 31.\textit{f3} \textit{d4} 32.\textit{xe3} \textit{xe3}+ 33. \textit{xe3} \textit{g3} 34.\textit{f1} \textit{h3}+ 35.\textit{c1} \textit{f5} 36.d4 \textit{g7} 37.\textit{f2} "The right plan – the king must stay on the kingside to blockade Black’s pawns" – Fischer. 37.\textit{h5} 38.\textit{g3} \textit{g4}+ 39.\textit{h2} \textit{f4} 40.\textit{e7}+ \textit{h6} "The game was adjourned and Keres sealed his move. Upon resuming the next day, he offered me a draw, which I rejected...I felt no harm could come from continuing since there was little danger of losing. Besides, winning this game would still have put me in contention for first place even as late as round 14, the halfway mark" – Fischer. 41.\textit{f2} e5 42.\textit{e3} g5 43.\textit{a2} \textit{g4}+ 44.\textit{f2} \textit{f4} 45.\textit{g2} c2+ "Beginning a series of exploratory checks to see if White goes to the wrong square. For instance 46. Kg3? Rg4+ 47. Kh3 Qg2 mate. Hope springs eternal!" – Fischer. 46.\textit{h1} \textit{b1}+ 47.\textit{g2} a2+ 48.\textit{h3} \textit{f7} 49.\textit{b6} \textit{f6} 50.\textit{g2} \textit{g7} 51.\textit{g3} h4+ 52.\textit{g2} \textit{g4}+ 53.\textit{h1} \textit{g3} 54.\textit{e4} g4 55.\textit{h2} \textit{g5} 56.\textit{d1} "A blunder on the last move of the time-control. Perhaps Keres has allowed me to get a little too much out of the position, but he can still hold a draw with 56. Qe5+! Qxe5 57. dxe5 (threatening Bd7) Rxa3 58. Nxa4, etc." – Fischer. 56...\textit{h3}+ The winning line is 56...Rxa3! immediately. 57.\textit{g1} \textit{xax3} 58.\textit{d5} \textit{g3} 59.\textit{d7} \textit{a1} 60.\textit{f5} \textit{f6} "I must confess that I still expected to win. But now Keres really starts to find moves!" – Fischer. 61.\textit{f4} \textit{e1} 62.\textit{d6} \textit{e5} Another winning try is 62...\textit{Kf7}. 63.\textit{g4}+ 64.\textit{d7} \textit{d5} 65.\textit{g2} \textit{xd7} 66.\textit{xd7} "I thought this was a mistake at the time, but that he was lost anyway. Keres, however, has seen just one move further" – Fischer. 66...\textit{f2}+ 67.\textit{h3} \textit{xf1+} 68.\textit{h4} g2 69.\textit{h4}+ 70.\textit{xd7} 71.\textit{g3}+ \textit{h7} "Now I was sure I had him" – Fischer. 72.\textit{exe5} "What's this? He makes no attempt to stop me from queening?! Gradually my excitement subsided. The more I studied the position, the more I realized Black had no win" – Fischer. 72...\textit{h1}+ 73.\textit{h3} \textit{h8+} On 73...\textit{g1}=Q 74. Qxe5+ Kg7 75. Qh6+! Kg6 stalemate. 74.\textit{h3} \textit{g1}=Q 75.\textit{e7}+ \textit{h8} 76.\textit{f8}+ \textit{h7} 77.\textit{f7}+ Draw. 1/2-1/2

\textbullet Tal, M.
\textbullet Keres, P.
\textbf{Candidates Tournament}
\textbf{Curacao}
1962 0-1 C96

Clashes between these two titans are always memorable. A few rounds later, plagued by illness, Tal was forced to withdraw, paving the way for Petrosian to become Botvinnik’s challenger.

1.e4\textit{c5} 2.\textit{f3} \textit{c6} 3.\textit{b5} a6 4.\textit{a4} \textit{f6} 5.0-0 \textit{e7} 6.\textit{c1} \textit{b5} 7.\textit{b3} 0-0 8.c3 d6 9.h3 \textit{a5}

1-0

○ Gufeld, E.
○ Kavalek, L.
○ Marianskes Lazne

1962 0-1 C64 A sharp opening leads to a remarkable setting, with a Bishop and swarm of pawns overcoming two Rooks.


0-1

○ Tal, M.
○ Gligoric, S.

Moscow USSR

1963 1-0 B99 Since Gligoric himself was an arch exponent of the White side of this opening, it is interesting to watch how he conducts the defense. Tal altered the normal flow of events with a surprising piece sacrifice on move 15, probably a prepared variation. 1.e4 c5 2. Qf3 Qd6 3. d4 Qxd4 4. Qxd4 Qf6 5. Qc3 a6 6. Qg5 Qe6 7. Qf4 Qc7 8. Qf3 Qc7 9. Q–Q–O–O Qbd7 10. g4 b5 11. Qxf6 Fischer wrote: “Gligoric and I have a standing feud with this position, which we reached no less than three times. I lost twice and drew once with Black.”


13...Qxf6 14. g3 O–O–O 15. Qxe6 Highly speculative. Gligoric-Fischer, Candidates’ 1959 won 15. f5!! Bxg5+ 16. Kb1 e5 17. Nxb5 axb5 18. Nxb5 and now Fischer gives 18...Qb6! (instead of his Qc5) 19. Nxd6 Kc7 20. Nxf7 b6 with even chances. 15...fxe6 16. Qxe6 Qc4 Flustered, Gligoric finds a square where the queen turns out to be maladjusted. Better is 16...Qb6! 17. Qd5 Qxd5 18.exd5 Qb7 Slightly better is 18...Kb8 19. b3 Qc8 and if 20. Nd4 Ka8 holds. 19.b3 Qe8 20. Qd3 Qf6 21. Qc3 Qd7 22. Qc7+ Qxc7 23. Qxc7 Qxc7 24. Qc3+ Qb8 25. Qxg7 Qc8 26. Qe1 Qd8 Black can offer only token resistance in view of his pawn deficit. On 25...Rhg8 27. Qxh7 Rh8 28. Rxe7 is good enough to win. 27.Qd4 Qg8 28. Qf8 Qf8 29.b4 Qh6 30.Qf6 Qg8 31. Qh5 Qf5 32. Qe4 Qxh5 33. Qe8 Qxe8 34. Qxe8 Qf5 35.c4 Qbc4 36.Qxc4 Qb3 37. Qd2 Qe3+ 38. Qxe3 Qd4 39.f5 Qxa3 40.c5 Qxc5 41.d6 Qa2+ 42. Qd3 Qa2+ 43. Qc2 Black Resigns.

0-1

○ Miguel Najdorf
○ Paul Keres

Piatigorsky Cup (12)

Santa Monica 1963 1-0

The strongest international tournament in America since New York 1924 and 1927, or Dallas 1957. Keres and Petrovs shared first in a double round robin ahead of Najdorf, Olafsson, Reshevsky, Gligoric, Benko and Panno. Bobby Fischer didn’t go because the organizers rejected his demand for a 2,000appearance fee, but heepinedthatNajdorfspositionalwizard

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Rejecting an invitation to transpose into a French Defense with 2. e4. 2...Qb4 3. Qc3 f5 Transposing into a Dutch Defense but the bishop on b4 is misplaced. 4.e3 Qc6 5. Qd3 O–O 6. Qc2 d6 7.O–O "White could play 7. a3 obligating the
exchange of Black’s bishop. However, why lose a tempo for this when the bishop is not strong here? You must never have fear of poorly placed pieces. Don’t force your opponent to make a good move!” — Najdorf 7...c5 8.b3! White’s last undeveloped minor piece is headed for the long diagonal. 8...c6 9.b2 e5 A strategic error which opens the game too early before Black is fully ready for combat. Better is 9...Ba5 or Qe7. 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.d5! e6 12.g3 g6 A weakening move. But White also stays on top after 12...Nx5 13.exd5 Bxd5 (not 13...Qxd5? 14. Bc4) 14. Bxf5. 13.f4! “A good move and very easy, because every time you want to exploit an advantage you must opening the position even if you have to sacrifice.” — Najdorf 13...exd5 14.exd5 xd5 15.fxe5 e6 16.e2 “The knight has accomplished its purpose at g3 and is now looking for a better strategic square. White’s play is very clear. He must remove the bishop on e6 and weaken the defense of Black’s king. The bishop on b4 is useless.” — Najdorf 16...e7 17.f4 d8 18...f3 “Now is the time for the heavy artillery.” — Najdorf 18...c8 19.ad1 a6 20.c4! xc4 21.bxc4 d7 22.e6 g5 23.d5 c6 “The difference in action of the two bishops must now be compared. If 23...Qc7 24. e7+ Rf7 25. Qd8+ winning. If 23...Ne4 24. Qe5 Nf6 25. Nd5 or Rd7 wins.” — Najdorf 24.e5 xe6 25.h8+ f7 26.xh7+ xe8 27.xe7+ Simplicity itself. 27. Qxg6+ Qf7 wins more slowly. 27...xe7 28.xg6+ xe8 29.xf8 xf8 30.xf5 b5 31.cxb5 axb5 32.h4 a6 33. a3 xa3 34.xa3 xa3 35.xc5 Black Resigned. White has an overwhelming material preponderance.

1-0

— Saidy, A.
• Bednarsky, B.
Tel Aviv
Israel
1964 1-0 E81

White launched an intricate combination only because, at the time, he believed his position to be inferior. Saidy criticizes his own sacrifice — but it turns out to be sounder than his faith in it. Paul Keres noted: “Although not a model performance, I nevertheless like this game and the original conclusion very much. I think most chess fans will too.”

1.c4 g6 2.c3 g7 3.d4 Qf6 4.e4 d6 5.f3 c6 6.Qe2 a6 7.Qd2 b5 This anti-Saemisch system was worked out by Robert Byrne. Instead of passively waiting for White to mount a kingside attack, Black mounts a rapid diversion on the queenside. 8.Qd3 Qb7 9.ge2 0–0 10.O–O bxc4 A good alternative is 10...e5. 11.Qxe4 b6 12.b3 a5 13.Qa4 a6 14.Qf1 Qd7 15.Qc2 “The Black pawn on c6 is backward, but capturing it by 15. Rx6 would give him strong play via 15...Bxb5 16. Nxb6 Nxb6 17. R6c1 a4. But now my serenity is destroyed by the next move” — Saidy. 15...e5 16.Qxc5 Without this sacrifice Black stands well after 16. dxc5 Nxa4 17. Bxa4 Nxc5. “I pondered for 40 valuable minutes, appalled by my own disjointed pieces and the fact Black has so swiftly freed his position. I must admit now that, had I seen a quiet way to retain an edge, no brilliance would have been hatched (with such a long gestation period)” — Saidy. 16...dxc5 17.dxc5 a4 Tougher to meet is 17...Nc8 18. Rd1 Bxe2 19. Qxe2 Qc7 with a hard fight in the offing. 18.Qxf7+ Qxf7 19.exb6 Qxe2 The best practical chance. Saidy was pessimistic about 19...a3 but White has no reason to complain after 20. Rd1 axb2 21. Nc3. 20.Qxe2 Even stronger is 20. b7! Rb8 21. Rac1 Ba6 22. Rc8. 20...Qxb6 21.d1 b8 The decisive error in a flawed contest. Correct is 21...Nd7! 22. Rcd2 e6 and if 23. Qb5 Qb8 saves the piece. 22.Qb5 Qc8 23.Nd8+ Qf8 24.Qd5+ If 24...Kh8 25. Rxf8+ Bxf8 26. Bd4+ is a killer. Black Resigns.

1-0

• Bronstein, D.
• Larsen, B.

Amsterdam
1964 0-1 E73

In the 1960’s, the Soviet chess hegemony was threatened first by Bobby Fischer and then by Danish Grandmaster Bent Larsen. Fischer’s disputes with organizers over playing conditions kept him out of world championship competition for a decade, but Larsen produced a series of tournament victories unmatched since Alekhine, including a tie for first with Spassky, Smyslov and Tal in the 1964 Interzonal. In this game, Bronstein adopts a very aggressive continuation against the King’s Indian Defense, but Larsen combines defense and counterattack to take the point.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.Qc3 Qg7 4.e4 d6 5.Qf3 c6 6.Qe2 a6 7.d2 b5 This anti-Saemisch system was worked out by Robert Byrne. Instead of passively waiting for White to mount a kingside at
11...Ne4 12.Nxe4 Rxe4 would gain a tempo by attacking the Bf4. 11...h5 12.g3 Not 12.Be3 Rxe3! 13.fxe3 Qh4+ 14.g3 Nsxg3 15.Nf3 Qh3, and Black has more than enough for the Exchange. 12.g4 13.O–O 14.hxg3 15.xe2 16.xb2 16.b1 g7 17.b7 17.d7 Now Black threatens to trap the Rook with ... Nb6 and ...Qc8. Rather than retreat it, White tries to use its active position on the 7th rank for attack. 18.f4 b6 19.e1 c3 20.e4 xe1 Now Black has a large material advantage, but his King is poorly defended, and White threatens to break through with a Knight sacrifice at e6 or g6. 21.e6 xf2+ Luring the King to f2 so that Black will have a saving check on the f-file in some variations. Hopeless is 21...fxe6 22.Qg4 Re7 23.Qxg6+ Kh8 24.f5, and if 24...Rxb7 25.Qg8+ Ke7 26.Qf7++. 22.xf2 fxg6 23.Qg4 f8 24.g1 f6 25.h3 This is quickly refuted by a counterattack. The position remains unclear after 25.dxe6; one amusing variation (not forced) is 25...Qf5 26.Qxf5 Rxf5 27.Rxa7!, and Black must acquiesce to a draw by 29...Rb8 30.Rb7 Ra8 31.Rxb6 Re5 32.Nf6+ Kf7 33.Qxg8+ Rxe8 34.Nxe8 Rxe8 35.Rxd6 Rxe4, since the Black Rook has no safe square on the 8th rank. 25...Qf8 26.Qg5 The apparently dangerous 26.Nxf6+ Qxf6 27.Qxh6 fails to 27...Qd4+ 29.Kh2 Qh8, pinning the Queen. 26...f1+ 27.h2 f5 28.fxe6 f6 29.hxh5 gxh5 30.f8 Qh8 White Resigns. 0-1

○ Averbach, Y.
● Estrin, Y.
Moscow Championship USSR
1964 1-0 D39
Prepared variations play an increasing role in modern competition now that huge databases are readily available to all players. In this game White’s novelty on move nine, prepared at home, poses major problems.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.dxe6 fxe6 4.g4 b7 5.xe3 dxc4 The Vienna Variation gives rise to tricky complications where Black tries to profit from the absence of the c1-bishop on the queenside. 6.c5 6.xc5 The main line is 7.e5 cxd4 8.Qxd4+ Qc6 9.O–O (Fine- Euwe, AVRO 1938. 7.cxd4 8...xd4 Meets with a stunning rebuttal. Alternatives are 8...Bxc3+ or Nbd7 or 8...Qa5 9.Bxf6 Bxc3+ 10. Bx3 Qxc3+ 11. Kh1 Qxc4+ 12. Kg1 O–O 13. Qg4 g6 (Trifunovic-Gligoric, Mar Del Plata 1953). 9.Qb3 xc3+ On 9...Nxe4 10.Qb4 Nn4 11. O–O threatens h4. And on 9...Qe5 10. Bxf6 gxf6 11. O–O Qxg4 12. Qg4 Qc2? White Resigns. 0-1

○ Foguelman, A.
● Bronstein, D.
Interzonal Amsterdam 1964 0-1 D25
Bronstein’s speculative pawn sacrifice in the opening pays dividends when Foguelman allows his queen to be cut off from the scene of action. Such gambles, however, don’t succeed that often against precise defense.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Qc3 Qd6 4.e3 Qg4+ More popular is 4...e6 5. Bxc4 c5 5...c6 e6. 6.h3 The acid test, exploiting the absence of the bishop from the queenside. 6...xf3 7.gxf3 Qb6 Black doesn’t want to weaken his queenside with 7...b6 or lose time defending the pawn with 7...Qc8. 8.exb7 Qbd7 Should Black get away with this gambit? White’s kingside is a shambles and his queen has been plucked out of play; but he has the two bishops, and a pawn is a pawn. 9.dxc5 Qxc5 10.f4 O–O 11.O–O An inaccuracy. Much safer is 11. Nc3 to prevent the next move which bars the queen from returning to the queenside. 11...d5 12. d1 Loss of time. Necessary is 12. Bxd5 Rb8 13. Qa6 exd5 14. Qe2 returning the queen to the home front where it is needed. 12...b8 13.f3 14.f4 15.f7 16.f8 Qxf8 16...b4 17.c4 c6 18.b4 19.fxb4 20...f4 21.d5 Qxf4 22.Bxf4 mate. White Resigns. 0-1

○ Velimirovic, M.
● Sofresky, J.
Yugoslav Championship Belgrade
1964 1-0 B89
Sacrificing pieces for rapid development is common in many sharp variations of the Sicilian Defense. But here White’s innovation was so unexpected that it sent theoreticians scurrying back to the drawing board.


The system is Velimirovic’s last resort and the opening theory.

8...a6 9.O-O-O Wc7 10.h3 Qa5 11.g4 b5 12.g5 Qxb3+ Careless is 12...Nd7? 13.Bxe6! fx6 14.Nxe6 Qc6 15.Nxc3. The only try for an advantage, otherwise Black’s solid position coupled with the two bishops must be assessed as favorable. The Trojan Horse must be accepted. If 14...Nd7? 15.Nc5...Nc5 16.Qh5 Nc5 17.Rhg1 Bb7 18.Bf6! featured a curious finish after 12.Bxd4 b5? 13.Qxd8+Nxd8 14.exd5 Nc5 15.g4

16...Bb7! The last word has yet to be uttered the position.

16...Qd7 17.h4 h5 18.Qxh5 Nf6 19.g5 Nh5 20.Qxh8 Qxh8 21.f6 gxf6 22.exf6 Nxe5 23.fxe7 Qxe7 24.bxc3 with a positional advantage.

The only way to return the piece gracefully. If 17...Nxf6 18.gxf6 Bxf6 19.Bb6 Qd7 20.Nxf6+ gxf6 21.Rhg1+ yields a winning attack.


1-0

- Velimirovic, M.
- Nikolic, P.
- Belgrade
- Yugoslavia

1964 1-0 B89
A seminal game which brought young Velimovic and his novel attacking system to the attention of the chess world. In an exhibition of daring and ingenuity, he sacrifices a rook and knight to rip open the position.


Equally unappetizing. The bishop occupied by 10...Nd7 is more stubborn.

10.e5 Qc7 11.Qe2 a6 12.g4 cxd4 Eliminating the bishop by 11...Na5 is more stubborn.


14.Qd5 Qe5 Time-consuming. It’s better to try and erase the bishop on b3 by 14...Ne5. 15.f4 Qc6 16.Qd3 Qb4 17.Qd2 Qd8 18.f5 g6 19.fxg6 hxg6 20.h4 More precise is 20.Qd1 preparing h4-h5. 20...g5 21.Qg3 Qe5 22.h4 Qh7 23.h5 Qb4 24.hxg6 Qxg6 Not 24...bxc3 25.Rh8+! Kxh8 26.Qh4+ Kg7 27.Qh7 mates.

1964 0-1 B40
Evans tries to emulate Tal by pushing his kingside pawns in a sharp middlegame. However, just when a draw seems likely, Tal finds a clever way to exploit the unfortunate position of White’s king by forcing it into enemy terrain. At the end, when a draw by repetition of moves looks inevitable, Black wins by a single tempo.


With the idea of moving the king over to the queenside at the first opportunity, Black does not wish to allow this, and he himself opens the game up, which leads to the White

- Larry Evans
- Mikhail Tal
- Interzonal
- Amsterdam
- Larry Evans
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- Belgrade
- Yugoslavia

1964 1-0 B40
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- Larry Evans
- Mikhail Tal
- Interzonal
- Amsterdam

pieces becoming active. 26...d5 27...cxd5 exd5 28...g3 e8 29. f6 "Once again cleverly played. White avoids the traps." – Tal Inadequate is 29. Nb6 Qd3. 29...a8 30. ef5 d8 31. b6 31. Rd5 is feasible. Riskier is 31. Ne7 Kh8 32. Rx7 Qd3 33. Rf3 Qe4 34. Nc6 Rg8. 31...xd5 32.exd5 e5 33. Rf5 Right idea, wrong execution. White has defended a difficult position very well, but after 37. Qc7! Black has nothing better than to give a few checks and then capture on d5 with the queen – then Rb8 forces a draw ending. 33...d3+ 34. Qg2 e5+ 35. Qg3 b3+ 36. f4 A bad square – but forced. If 36. Kg2 Qxh2; or 36. Kg4 h5 37. gxh6 Rxh6. 36...e8 37. b8 The decisive mistake, the rest is forced. White has chances to hold after 37. Qe5 Qc4 38. Kg3 Qxb3 39. Qd6 g6. 37...e3+ 38. Qg4 f5+ 39. gxf6 h5+ 40. Rf5 f3+ 41. Qg5 fxf6+ 42. Qxf6 Qxf6+ 43. Qxf6 38xb8 44.d6 White comes within an ace of drawing, but no such luck. On 44. Ke7 Rb7! is the only move that wins: e.g., 45. Ke8 Rh7 46. d6 Rxh7 47. d7 Re4 48. Kd8 49. Kc7 Qe4 44...e8 45.h5 39.b7 46. Qe6 Of no avail is 46. h6 Ke7 47. Kg6 Kh7 48. h7 Rb8 49. Kg7 Kxd6 50. h8/Q Rxh8 51. Kh8 Kd5 picking up the queen-side pawns. 46...h7 47...d5 e8 48. c6 d8 White resigns. 0-1

B19

Bakulin, N.
Bronstein, D.

USSR Championship

Moscow 1964

Black’s patient strategic buildup is rewarded when he gets an opportunity to splurge a rook and bishop. The finish is artistic and original.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d6 3...e3 dxe4 4...xe4 Qf6 5...e5+ gxf6 6...c3 6...d7 7...d5 c6 8.Qc7 9.Qc4 C 10.Qd6 White’s knight is not particularly well-placed. More consistent is 10. b4 h5 11. Bd3 followed by castling queenside. 10...e7 11.O-O A courageous but risky decision. White anticipates Black’s castling long and hopes to use his queen-side pawns as battering rams. His own king, however, becomes vulnerable. Safer is 11. O-O-O. 11...h5 12. f4 h4 13. f3 g3 14. Qf3 15.c4 Allowing Black to establish a blockade. More pertinent is 15. b4 e5 16. c4. 15...e5 16.d5 e5 17. ac1 f5 18.b4 d6 Stronger than 18...cxb4 19. c5. White seems to have reached a maximum but Black still has the dynamic break f4. 19.f3 Leads to trouble. More active is 19. f4 though already White has lost his precious initiative. 19...f4 20. f2 e8 21. h1 h8 22. e1 e4 Black clearly holds all the trumps. The threat of ...e3 is horrific. 23. c5 cxc5 24.bxc5 Qxc5 25. d1 c7 26.gxf4 e3 27...e2 The pawn is poisoned: 27. Rxe3 Rxe3 28. Qxe3 Qxe3 29. Nxe3 Bxf4 30. Rc3 Re8 wins. Now begins a sacrificial orgy. 27...d3 28...d3 g1+ 29...xg1 e2+ 30...xc3 No better is 30. Kh1 Qf2. 30...e3 31.f5+ e6+ 32. h1 f2 If 33. Qxh3 Qxe1+ 34. Kg2 Qf1+ 35. Kg3 e1=Q. White Resigns.
0-1

- Fischer, R.
  - Benko, P.
  - USA Championship (10)

New York 1964 1-0 B09

This was the year 20-year-old Fischer made chess history with an 11-0 clean sweep against America’s top players, a feat unlikely ever to be repeated. Benko exhibited some suicidal tendencies in the management of his defense; he scarcely expected the bombshell that exploded on move 19.

1.e4 g6 2.d4 7.0-0-0 3.c3 d6 4.f4 5.f3 O-O 6.d3 g4 Black’s path is thorny. In Fischer-Perez, Havana 1965 White got a pull after 6...Nc6 7.e5 dxe5 8.fxe5 Nd5 9.Nxd5 Qxd5 10.c3

Benko exhibited some suicidal tendencies in the endgame. Here the weak dark squares on Black’s kingside prove fatal after the queens are gone.


13...h1 b6 Black’s problems can be traced to this lackluster response. 14.f5 c5 The best chance is 14...Ne5! 15.Bf4 Qe7. 15.d3 exf5 16.exf5 b7 17.Rd2 e8 18.g3 c6 19.f2 d8 Black lost time regrouping his rooks while White achieved steady development without wasting any moves. 20.h6 h8 21.Rf4 d7 22.g4 c4 23.d2 cxe2 24.c1 e4 25.fxg6 f6 Of course not 25...fxg6? 26.gxh7 mate. 26.g6 Rf7 Again if 26...fxg6 27.Rf8 mates. Now White can also win by 27...gxf6 28.Qh7+ Kxh7.

- Evans, L.
  - Bisuregier, A.
  - USA Championship (4)

New York 1965 1-0 D42

This was one of a series of candidates’ matches to determine a challenger for world champion Pet-...
Moscow
1965 1-0 D41

The hallmark of the artist is simplicity. Keres’ deceptively effortless attack comes like a storm out of a still blue sky.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 d5 4.Qc3 e5 5.Qxd5 Qxd5 Avoids the isolated d-pawn after 5...exd5 that is characteristic of the pure Tarrasch Defense.

6.e3 c6 7.b3 Qa5 This exchange tends to give White’s center a momentary stability. An alternative is 7...exd4 8. exd4 Be7.

9.O–O–O O–O 10.e4 b6 11.Qc3 Qe7 12.a5 Opening lines rebounds to White’s favor. Better is 14...Qc7 awaiting further developments.

13.Qd3 Qc8 14.ad1 exd4 15.Qxe4 Ne4 16.Qxe7+ Kg8 17.Qxe7 Nxe7 A better defense is 17...Bc3

B99

Kholmov’s sacrifices are so startling that one is left with the impression he stumbled into them by accident. Actually, his concept is incredibly beautiful and profound.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qf6 3.Qc3 For 3. e5 Nd5 see Spassky-Ciric, 1962. 3...d6 4.d4 exd4 5.cxd4 a6 6.Qg5 e6 7.Qf4 Qe7 8.Qf3 Qc7 This accurate reply prevents Bc4.


15.Qxf6 Qxf6 16. g1+ h8 17.Qh6 Qe7 18.Qc6 A shocker. Some readers thought it was a misprint! It soon becomes clear that White is fighting to clear e4 for his knight at any cost. 18...Qxc6 19.b5+ If 19...Nxe5 20. Ne4 is decisive; likewise 19...Bxe5 20. f6 Bxf6 21. Bd3. 20.Qg6 f6 21.Qxf6+ Qe7 22. Qg3 Qxc3 23.Qc4 Qxb2+ 24.Qb1 Qd8 25.Qg1 More efficient is 25. d7! Bxd7 26.Rxd7+ Qxd7 27.Qxe6+Qxe6 28.Qxe6 Qd1+ 29.Q xd1 Qxe6 30.Qxb2 Qb+ 31.Qxa1 Qxa2 31...Bg5 offers more fight but in the long run White’s material preponderance would prevail.

Black Resigns.

1-0

o Evans, L.
• Blackstone, J.
1st American Open
Santa Monica
1965 1-0 B84

In this donnybrook neither side is afforded the luxury of castling as both kings are perched precariously in the center with shells exploding around them. White’s knight tour to the edge of the move is one of the weirdest winning moves in chess history!

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 a6 6.Qc2 e6 Also playable is 6...e5 which, however, has the drawback of creating a backward pawn at d6 on an open file.

7.f4 Qf7 8.Qf3 d7 9.g4 h6 A sensible reaction since Black gets some space on the h-file after the inevitable g5. 10.g5 hxg5 11.fxg5 Qf8 12.Qc3 Perhaps White ought to speculate on 12. g6!? fxg6 13. Bg4 although he has no clearcut continuation after 13...Qc8.

12.Qf3 d7 13.Qd7 14.Qc6 Better is 14. Qe2 and O-O-O. 14...g5 15.h5 Qe5 16.Qc2 b5 17.Qd2 Qe4 18.Qxh4 Qc6 19.Qd4 Qxe5 20.Qg2 Qb8 The best practical chance. On 20...O-O-O 21. O-O-O the board belongs to White. Now Black has two bishops, a strong knight on e5 and pressure along the b-file. On the other hand White will mobilize his forces on the f-file and strive for g6. It’s interesting to watch how tactics are wedded to these strategic concepts in this double-edged position. White’s immediate problem is how to defend the pawn on b2. If 21. O-O-O Qb7 22. b3 a5 Black’s attack is likely to come first.

Qxd4 32. Rd1 pinning the queen. 29. \( b1 \) \( d1 \) \( h5 \) Losing patience. Safer is 29...Kc8 30. Be3 Qe5. 30. \( xd6 \) \( b6 \) The best chance is 20...Qa5 31. Rd4 Bf6 32. Rxc4 Bb5 33. Nxb5 Qxb5 34. b3 with an edge. 31. \( f4 \) \( xf4 \) 32. \( xf4 \) \( e8 \) Not 32...Rxh5? 33. Rxd7+ Bxd7 34. Rxd7+ Kxd7 35. Qxd4+ and Qxh5 next. 33. \( e5 \) \( h7 \) 34. \( xd7 \) \( xd7 \) 35. \( d5 \) \( c6 \) Better is 35...Qb7 but 36. Ne3 keeps an advantage. 36. \( b8+ \) \( c7 \) 37. \( c7+ \) \( d8 \) Again forced. If 37...Kf8 (or 37...Ke7 38. Qb4+ Kf6 39. Rf1+) 38. Qxe8+ Bxe8 39. Rd8+ mops up. 38. \( xe6 \) \( xe6 \) 39. \( b6+ \) \( c7 \) 40. \( d6+ \) \( d8 \) 41. \( c7+ \) \( d8 \) 42. \( a8 \) If 42...Ke8 (to stop Qf8 mate) 43. Nb6 is the quietus. Black Resigns.

\( 1-0 \)

- Tal, M.
- Larsen, B.

**Match**

**Yugoslavia**

**1965** 1-0 B82

Tal in the saddle! His reckless and profound knight sacrifice triggers a ferocious struggle; the soundess of this ploy baffles analysts even today.

1.e4 c5 2. \( \f3 \) \( f3 \) \( c6 \) 3. \( d4 \) \( xd4 \) 4. \( xd4 \) e6 5. \( c3 \) d6 6. \( e3 \) In their 8th match game Tal adopted the positional 6. g3. He got some slight pressure but Larsen managed to draw without too much effort. 6... \( f6 \) 7. \( f4 \) \( e7 \) 8. \( f3 \) O-O O-O Some players prefer to delay castling with 8...Bd7 and wait to see where White’s king will live. 9.O-O-O \( c7 \) 10. \( db5 \) \( b8 \) 11. \( g4 \) \( a6 \) 12. \( d4 \) \( xd4 \) 13. \( xd4 \) b5 14.g5 \( d7 \) 15. \( \f3 \) \( b4 \) 16. \( d5 \) "The lightening bolt that shatters open a veritable Pandora’s box of combinative havoc" – R. Byrne. The way to refute a sacrifice is to accept it; an old maxim, but still true. Black can’t decline by 16...Bd8 because of 17. Nf6+. 16... \( exd5 \) 17. \( exd5 \) f5 One of Black’s problems is that he has so many plausible replies! 18. \( \text{de1} \) \( \text{f7} \) 19. \( \text{b4} \) \( \text{b7} \) 20. \( \text{xf5} \) \( \text{xd2} \) \( \text{xd2} \) \( \text{N} \) \( \text{c3} \) \( \text{N} \) \( \text{d6} \) 8. \( \text{b5} \) a6 4. \( \text{c3} \) \( c6 \) \( c5 \) \( c4 \) The threat of Rh8 is looming. 14... \( exd4+ \) 15.e5 Also futile is 15. \( \text{Kh1} \) \( \text{Qb4} \) 16. \( \text{Kg1} \) \( \text{Qh2} \) 17. \( \text{Kh1} \) \( \text{Qh1} \) 18. \( \text{Qf3} \) \( \text{Qh4} \) 19. \( \text{Kg1} \) \( \text{c5} \) \( \text{xe5}+ \) 16. \( \text{xe5}+ \) \( \text{c5} \) \( \text{xe5} \) \( \text{h1} \) \( \text{Ne4} \) \( \text{Qf3} \) \( \text{Qb4} \) 19. \( \text{Kg1} \) \( \text{c5} \) \( \text{xe5} \) \( \text{h1} \) No better is 17. Ne4 \( \text{f3} \) 18. Qxf3 \( \text{Qh4} \) 19. Kf1 \( \text{Qh1} \) mate. 17...O-O-O The threat of Rh8 is looming. "I lost not only the game but the variation," lamented Barendregt, unaware that his misfortune had awakened the interest of Bobby Fischer. White Resigns.

**1-0**

- Johan Barendregt
- Rudolf Teschner

**European Team Championship**

**Hamburg** 1965 0-1 C68

"Opening theory is a strange, speckled animal," observed Bent Larsen. Indeed, certain variations seem to go in and out of fashion for no apparent reason. For example, the exchange variation of the Ruy Lopez lost favor for about 40 years until 1965, when an obscure 41-year-old Dutch professor took up the cause. The widespread publication of this miniature, which he lost, might have doomed it once again, except it caught Bobby Fischer’s eye. A year later the future world champion rehabilitated it. O-O to win several spectacular games at the 1966 Olympiad in Havana. 1.e4 \( e5 \) 2. \( \text{f3} \) \( c6 \) 3. \( \text{b5} \) a6 4. \( \text{c4} \) \( \text{xc6} \) 5.O-O Until now the usual continuation was 5. d4 exd4 6. Qxd4 Qxd4 7. Nxd4 Bb4 8. Bb3 \( \text{b6} \) but Larsen managed to draw without too much effort. 6... \( \text{f6} \) 7. \( \text{f4} \) \( e7 \) 8. \( \text{f3} \) O-O O-O Some players prefer to delay castling with 8...Bd7 and wait to see where White’s king will live. 9.O-O-O \( c7 \) 10. \( db5 \) \( b8 \) 11. \( g4 \) \( a6 \) 12. \( d4 \) \( xd4 \) 13. \( x d 4 \) b5 14.g5 \( d7 \) 15. \( \f3 \) \( b4 \) 16. \( d5 \) "The lightening bolt that shatters open a veritable Pandora’s box of combinative havoc" – R. Byrne. The way to refute a sacrifice is to accept it; an old maxim, but still true. Black can’t decline by 16...Bd8 because of 17. Nf6+. 16... \( exd5 \) 17. \( exd5 \) f5 One of Black’s problems is that he has so many plausible replies! 18. \( \text{de1} \) \( \text{f7} \) 19. \( \text{b4} \) \( \text{b7} \) 20. \( \text{xf5} \) \( \text{xd2} \) \( \text{xd2} \) \( \text{N} \) \( \text{c3} \) \( \text{N} \) \( \text{d6} \) 8. \( \text{b5} \) a6 4. \( \text{c3} \) \( c6 \) \( c5 \) \( c4 \) The threat of Rh8 is looming. 14... \( exd4+ \) 15.e5 Also futile is 15. \( \text{Kh1} \) \( \text{Qb4} \) 16. \( \text{Kg1} \) \( \text{Qh2} \) 17. \( \text{Kh1} \) \( \text{Qh1} \) 18. \( \text{Qf3} \) \( \text{Qh4} \) 19. \( \text{Kg1} \) \( \text{c5} \) \( \text{xe5}+ \) 16. \( \text{xe5}+ \) \( \text{c5} \) \( \text{xe5} \) \( \text{h1} \) No better is 17. Ne4 \( \text{f3} \) 18. Qxf3 \( \text{Qb4} \) 19. \( \text{Kg1} \) \( \text{c5} \) \( \text{xe5} \) \( \text{h1} \) mate. 17...O-O-O The threat of Rh8 is looming. "I lost not only the game but the variation," lamented Barendregt, unaware that his misfortune had awakened the interest of Bobby Fischer. White Resigns.

**1-0**

- Mikhail Tal
- Lajos Portisch

**Candidate Match (2)**

**Bled** 1965 1-0 B10

An engrossing psychological study. Tal’s murky rook sacrifice is probably unsound and good for a
draw at best. Yet when Portisch tries to refute it, he succumbs to a bit of wizardry.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3...e3 dxe4 4...xe4 g4

White’s avoidance of d4 is designed to meet the normal 4...Bf5 by 5...Ne5 Bg6 6...Nc6 h7. Ne5 Bh7 8...Qh5 g6 9...Bc4! e6 10...Qe2 threatening Nxf7.

5...h3...fxe3 6...Qf3...Rd8 7...d4...Bg6 8...Qd3...Nxe4 9...Qxe4 Rd6 10...O-O...c7 11...Qe1...f6 12...h4...d5 13...Qg4...f6 Dodging the obvious trap 13...O-O?

14...Bh6! To which Black has one good reply 15...a3 with the hope in a protracted struggle of exploiting the famous pair of bishops. But the fact that the black king has stood with impunity in the center of the board for 14 moves provoked this reaction.” – Tal

15...Qb2 (less good is 15...Qc7 16...Qxf6 Kg8 17...Qd7 Correct is 17...Qf6 threatening Ng4. 18...Qd5...c6 It’s already difficult. If 18...Bc6 19...Qf2 is hard to meet. 19...Qxf6 20...Qxf6 21...Qxf6 21...d5. 22...Qf6 23...Qc3 24...Qd7. Still out for blood. My first instinct here had been to force a draw at last by 20...Bb6! to which Black has one good reply 20...Qxb2 (less good is 20...Qc7 21...Qxf6 Kg8 22...Bb6! But not every c-pawn can reach a7. I therefore decided on the risky, though not losing, capture of the queen” – Tal 20...Qxe3 21...Qg4...b5 Fischer suggests 21...g5. But not 21...Rxd4? 22...Qc8 Rd8 23...Qxd8! Bxd8 24...bxa7 and the pawn queens. 22...bxa7...c7 Headed for refuge via d6 and c7. “Stronger was the straightforward 22...g6! How the game would have finished in this case, I do not know. But at the board it seemed to me that the pawn on a7 insures White to a significant degree against defeat.” – Tal 23...b4...a8 Instead Tal recommends 23...Kd6 24...b5 Kc7. 24...c1+...d6 25...b5...xa7 Loses instantly. As so often happens, the defender is exhausted by all the tactics. Fischer suggests 24...Rfd8. 26...e6+...c7 27...xf6 On 27...gxf6 28...Qg7 followed by Qxh8 is decisive. Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Pachman, L.
● Uhlmann, W.
Havana Olympics
Cuba
1966 1-0 D86

In 1966 Fidel Castro hosted the Chess Olympiad. Here Wolfgang Uhlmann of East Germany, a specialist in the Grunfeld Defense, faces Ludek Pachman of Czechoslovakia, one of the world’s leading opening theoreticians. Their clash gives off uncommon sparks, especially after White sacrifices the Exchange.

1.d4...f6 2.c4 g6 3...c3 d5 4...xd5 The exchange variation is the sharpest way to proceed against this sturdy defense. 4...Qxd5 5.e4...xc6 6.bxc3...g7 7...e4 O-O 8...e2...e6. More usual is 8...c5 nibbling at the center right away. The idea behind the text is to defer this blow until Black has completed his development with ...b6, Bb7, and Na5 so that he can then maintain his pawn on c5 instead of being compelled to swap it for the d-pawn. 9...O-O 10...e4 11...c3...e7 11...c6...d5 12...d5...e4 A reasonable alternative is 17...Ba6. 18...c3...f7 Kmoch recommends giving up the queen with 18...Qxc4 19...Nd5 exd5 20.Rxc4 Nxc4 21.Qe2 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 dxe4. 19...Qe2...a4 20...Qg4...xc4 Better is 20...k

○ Kavalek, L.
● Matulovic, M.
Bucharest
Romania
1966 1-0 E76

Black’s aggressive formation boomerangs when he runs into a surprising rook sacrifice. What is re-markable is that his position appeared perfectly safe just one move earlier.
23. ... d5 Be8 24. e5 Nxd5 25. Bb7.

22.e4 1-0
Qg7 mate. Black Resigns.

25. Bb7! is crushing.

B 26. Badequate, but so is 19...Nc6 20. Nxf7!

point. If 19...Qxf3 20. Rxc8+ mates.

19...Qxc8 20. Kxg2 h6.


White has only a minimal edge after 18...fxe6! (not

Finally! Now Black should play 16...h6!

12...Qxe4 15...d5 16...Qb7 17...Qxe4+ 18...Qxe4 19...Qxe4 20...Qxe4 21...Qxe4 22...Qxe4

This setup is designed to deaden the scope of the fianchettoed bishop so that, in the words of Nimzovich, it will “bite on granite.” 4...f3 e7 5.O-O O-O 6.d4 ...Qb6 7...b2 c6 Solid yet 7...b6 at once is preferable to profit from White’s last move which exerts no pressure on d5. 8.b3 b6 9...b2 10...c1

...e8 11...c3 dx4 Black opted for 11...Rx7 with the idea of Qa8, Rfc8 and c5 in Keres-Ragozin, USSR Championship 1947. 12...xc4 13...exd4 Qg5 14...Qxb7 15...Qg2

16...Qf1 More natural seems 16. Rfd1. White has an edge in space, but the game has an essentially drawish character due to the symmetrical pawn formation: 2 vs. 2 on the queenside and 4 vs. 4 on the kingside.

16...Qd5+ 18.f3 Qf6 18...Qe7 19...Qe5 Qf8 20...Qd2 Qa5 Black may be lulled into a false sense of security by the absence of any direct threat. Better is 20...a5 to stop b4 and ease the pressure. 21...c1 Qd7 22...c4 a6

23.a3 Qab8 24...c4 a6 25...xc2 Qxc6 26...xc4

b5 27...c3 White won the battle for control of the c-file but it lacks any great significance. If 27. Qc7 Qxc7 28. Rxc7 Bb6 they could agree to a draw. 27...b4 28.axb4 Qxb4 More prudent is 28...Qxb4.

Black is slowly drifting into trouble. 29...Qe3 Qf7

30...Qc4 Qe8 Weary of prolonged defense, Black misses the right move 30...Nf6. The text overlooks one of the most difficult two- move combinations ever seen in a practical game. 31...Qxe6 Qxc4 If 31...fxe6 32. Qc3 wins owing to the double threat of Qxg7 mate and/or Rxg8. 32...Qb6+ Mate is unavoidable on 32...gxh6 (or 32...Kh8 33. Bxg7) 33. Qxh6. Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Byrne, R.
● Evans, L.

? U.S. Championship, New York 1966 1-0
B97

During the 1960’s, Larry Evans was one of the strongest U.S. players after Fischer, known as a “poison-pawn-grabber” for his – well justified – faith in his defensive abilities. Robert Byrne lures him into a prepared line of the “Poisoned Pawn Variation,” a risky but resilient defense in which Black snatches a pawn at the cost of his development. The result is one of the most brilliant games of the decade.

Le4 c5 2...f6 3.d4 exd4 4...xd4 5...c3 a6 6...g5 e6 7.f4 \textit{b6} 8...d2 \textit{xb2} 9...b1 1073 Despite thirty years of tournament practice, it is not yet clear which side stands better in this position, or even what White’s next move should
be. Alternatives to the game are 10.f5, 10.Be2 and 10.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 d5 12.c4 dxc4 The text seems logical, but 12...Qa5 is now considered better. 13.Nb3 Nxc4 14.O-O O-O 15.f6 gxf6 Losing. The only try is 15...Nd6 16.exf6 Rd8, preparing to retreat the Queen or Bishop to f8 for defensive purposes. 16.Bh6 Bxe7 17.f5 It is essential to prevent f6-f5, which would allow the Black Queen to retreat to g7. 17...exf5 18.Bxf5 The third sacrifice clears the third rank for the Rook. Now if 18...fxe4 19.Rh3, or 18...Qxe4 19.Rg3+ Qf4 20.Rxg4+ fxg4 21.Bd3 wins [21...Rd8 22.Bxd8+ Kf8 23.Bg6+ Kg8 24.Qh7+ Kf8 25.Qxf7+]. 18...d2 19.Bxd2 Qd4+ 20.d1 e5 21.Bxe5 Bg4 Also unsatisfactory are 21...Ng6 22.Rh3 and 21...Qg4 22.Qxf6 Ng6 23.Rxg4 fxg4 24.Bxg7+ Kg8 25.Qxf7+ 19...Kf8 20...Bxe5 21.fxe5 Qg4+ 22.Qh3 dxe5 23.Nf6+ Bxf6 24.Qxf6+ Qxf6 25.Re1+ Kf8 26.Rxe5 d6 27.Bg5 Kf8 28.Bxf6 Bxf6 29.g5 Bg5 30.Qd4 Black Resigns. "My sense of self-criticism is probably not strong enough. I really do not blame myself for that mistake on move 17" - Larsen.

1-0

○ Larsen, B.
• Petrosian, T.
2nd Piatigorsky Cup (7)
Santa Monica 1966 1-0 B39
Larsen’s concluding queen sacrifice is frosting on the cake. Remarkably, he ties up the world champion in knots - and makes it look so simple.

1.e4 c5 2.c4 f3 d5 3.d4 exd4 4.cxd4 g6 5.Qc3 Bg7 He could avoid the Maroczy Bind by 5...Nd6 but Petrosian has a predilection for cramped positions.


1-0

○ Bent Larsen
• Tigran Petrosian
Piatigorsky Cup (7)
Santa Monica 1966 1-0 B39
Larsen was Denmark's best player for most of the last half of the 20th century. There is always something heady about a queen sacrifice, especially against a world champion who didn’t lose many games during his reign.

enough. I really do not blame myself for that mistake on move 17." – Larsen

1-0

○ García, G.
• Evans, L.
Havana Olympics (13)
Cuba
1966 0-1 B49

White loses the initiative early on. Watch for the zigzag gyrations of Black’s bishop that starts out at b4 and winds up on h2 just three moves later!


0-1

○ Bobby Fischer
• Boris Spassky
17th Olympiad
Havana
1966 1/2-1/2 C93

This eagerly awaited clash between the USA and USSR, who were in a tight race for the world team championship, was delayed over a week when the Soviets refused to postpone the start of the round from 4pm to 6pm on Friday to accommodate Fischer’s religious convictions – despite assurances before going to Cuba that his request for a change in schedule would be honored. America protested by forfeiting on all four boards. Finally Moscow relented and cabled instructions to play the round on a free day. World champion Petrosian was replaced on first board by Spassky, who fought back heroically after being pinned to the ropes all game.

1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.b5 a6 4.a4 Qxf6 5.O-O Qc7 6.Ne1 b5 7.Bb3 O-O 8.c3 d6 Ending speculation that Spassky would risk his pet Marshall Attack with 8...d5 9.h3 b6 10.d4 e8 11.Qb2 d8 12.Qf1 d7 13.g3 e5 14.Qc2 c5 15.b3 cxd4 Opening the c-file to get some breathing space. Spassky-Portisch, Luagno 1968, continued 15...Nc6 16.d5 Ne7 17.c4 closing the center. 16.cxd4 c6 17.Nb2 g6 An alternative is 17...Re8 18.a3 Qb6 19.b4 a5 as in Janovsevic-Geller, Belgrade 1969. 18.Qe2 g7 19.Qd1 g7 20.Qd1 White Resigns.

21.ad8 21.c3 Wb8 22.Qb1 Wb7 Marking time and regrouping, since there is no way to improve his position. If 22...exd4 23.Nd5 regains the pawn, so Black tries to maintain his strong point on e5. 23.Qc1 Wh7 24.a3 Ac8 In effect, Spassky is saying "come and get me!" White gains too much space whenever Black relinquishes the center. Too dangerous is 24...exd4 25.Nxd4 Nxe4 26.Bxe4 Bxb2 27.Qxb2 Rxe4 28.Nxe6 Bxc6 29.Ng4 (or Qf6). 25.Nc3 Nf7 26.Wb2 Wb8 27.b4 Wg8 28.Cd1 Ac7 29.Nd2 Ng5 In cramped positions, exchanges ease pressure. 30.Cxg5 hxg5 31.dxe5 dxe5 32.d5 Qe7 33.Cxe7+ Cxe7 34.Nd2 White clearly maintains the initiative. 34...f6 35.Cd6 wh7 36.Cxa6 Allows counterplay. Much stronger is 36. Re3! 36...Cf8 37.Cd6 Cxc3 38.Cxf6 Ac6 Turning the tables. If 39.Bxe6 Kxf6! Now White must sacrifice the Exchange and fight for a draw. 39.Cxe6 fxg6 40.Cd1 Wh7 An error on the last move of the time control. Spassky fails to find 40.Qe8! White sealed his reply and the game was adjourned. 41.Cxb7 Cxb7 42.Cxe6 Cxa3 43.Cb2 Ca4 44.Cb1 Cc7 45.f3 Cc6 46.Re5. Rd7 holds. 46.Cb3 Ca3 47.Cb2 a1 48.Ag3 A6 49.Ag4 Cc3 50.d5 Caa3 51.Rh4 g6h4 52.Cxh4 Cg4 53.Cd2 Caa3 54.Cg4 Cf3 55.Ce2 Cac3 56.Ca2 a3 57.Cb2 A draw, as neither side can make progress. Three years later Spassky wrested the crown from Petrovian in 1969 and then faced Fischer for the last time before their famous title bout at Reykjavik in 1972 (see Spassky-Fischer, Siegen 1970).

1/2-1/2

○ Padovsky, N.
• Matanovic, A.
Havana Olympics
Cuba
1966 0-1 B09

White gets an extremely dangerous mating attack at the cost of a pawn. The defender finds an original way to return the pawn, then assumes the initiative and concludes with beautifully sharp tactics.
"Some like it hot" was the title one critic gave to this minor masterpiece. It represents the triumph of the counterattack.

1.e4 d5 2.d4 3...f6 3.c3 g6 4.f4 g7 5...f3 O-O 6.e5 5...d7 Black lands in an inferior ending if he tries to avoid the following wild attack by 6...dxe5 7. dxe5 Qxd1+ 8. Kxd1 Rd8+ 9. Ke1 Nd5 10. Nxd5 Rd5 11. Be4 Rfd1 12. Ng5 (Bronstein-Vasiukov, USSR Championship 1966). 7.b4 The consistent follow-up but 7. Be3 is sturdier. 7...c5 8.h5 9...xd4 For 9. hxg6 see Sorokin-Duborik, 1968. 9...dxc5 10...f2 All part of the master plan. White pitches pawn to get his queen to the h-file. Tamer is 10. fxe5 Nxe5 11. Qh4 Bf5! 10...e4 A vast improvement over 10...exf4 11. hxg6 hxg6 12. Bxf3 Nf6 13. Qh4 when the attack gathers too much momentum. 11...g5 12...f6 12...hxg6 hxg6 13...h4 14...d4 A vital link in the defensive scheme. Now if 14. Nh7 Rd8 repulses the attack. 14...h5 15...b6 16...e4 If 15. Nxe4 Re8 staves off mate (16. Nxf6 exf6+) and White’s forces remain disjointed. 15...g4 16...f5 Threatening to cool the winds in order to activate the bishop on c1. But Black gets the initiative after 16. Nxe4 Nbd7 17. Nf2 Be6. 16...gx5 17.h7 18...f8 18...f8 19...e3 White can only retreat—sad but true. On 19. Bh6 Nh5 20. Bxg7 Qe3+ 21. Kf1 Ng3+ wins. 19...c8 20. h3 c6 21...f2 White’s on the run. Now the offensive is over, his endgame is lost. He evidently forgot Pillburg’s maxim: "Conduct the attack so that when the fire is out...it isn’t!" 21...xf2 22...xf2 23...e3 An amusing line is 23. g3 Bf3 24. Re1 Ng4+ 25. Kf1 Bxd4 threatening Nh2 mate! 23...f4 24. a7 c3 25. xc3 Even less appealing is 25. Kg1 Nh5 26. Kh2 Be5. 25...xe3 26.bxc3 dxc4 27. gxf1 exe3 28. e4 xxc2 29. b1 c2 30. Qb7 Qxe4 31. Qc7 e2 32...f2 d4+ Winning a whole rook. 32...e1=Q+ 33. Rxe1 Bxe1+ 34. Kxe1 would present more technical difficulties. 33...g3 34. e8+ h7 35. e1 e5+ 36. f2 d1+ 37. g1 g3 38. xe2 xe2 White Resigns.

1-0

○ Kozomara, V.
• Byrne, R.
Sarajevo
Yugoslavia
1967 0-1 E60

"My opponent was so impressed by the piece sacrifice that the first thing he asked me after the game was whether it was prepared analysis. Not only was it not prepared analysis, it was not even prepared on my previous move. It was a clear case of shooting from the hip!" – Robert Byrne, longtime chess columnist for The New York Times.

1.d4 1.f6 2.f3 g6 3.c4 g7 4.b4 O-O 5...b2 d6 6.e3 Bb7 7...e2 e5 8.O-O Black recovers the pawn with a comfortable position after 8. dxe5 Ng4. 8...e4 9...e2 10...c3 11.a4 h5 12.a5 13...h8 "It is often difficult to decide, in case of attacks on opposite wings, what if any defensive measures one ought to take time out for. Perhaps I should have played 12...ab but in the face of White’s sweeping pawn avalanche, defensive moves usually turn out to create more weaknesses than they shield" – Byrne. 13.a6 b6 14...f4 exf3 15...xf3 16...f6 "I considered this so essential as to be obvious, but my opponent told me later than in a previous game 15...Rb8 was chosen and he scored quickly against it" – Byrne. 16...h3 17...b6 A thunderbolt! White expected 16...Bxb3 17. Qxf3 Ng5 18. Qf4 Ne6 19. Qf2. 17...xf4 18...f2 19...g4 19...g4 20...f3 A most demanding defense is 20. Nde4 hxg4 21. Qd3 with lots of fight left. 20...g4 21...xe3 22...d5 White looks okay with three minor pieces for the queen. But the next move punctures this illusion. 22...hxg4 23. xg3 24...g3 24...g4 22...d5 25. h2 Byrne gives 25.Kh1 Nf4 26. Ra1 Nxe2 27. Rxe2 Re8 28. Ndf1 Qe4 29. Qf4 Qe4 30. f6+ h8 31. g1 xg2+ 32. f2 f1=Q! The rest needs no comment. On 32. Rxe2 Qxg2 33. B4 Rh8 followed by Rh1 does the trick. 33...xf1 33...c2 34...c3 34...b3 xc4 35. c3 c2+ 36. xc2 xc2 37. h1 xb2 38. xb2 xf6 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Byrne, R.
• Bisguier, A.
USA Championship
New York
1967 0-1 E07

"When you don’t know what to do, wait for your opponent to get an idea – it’s sure to be bad," advised wily Dr. Tarrasch. Here Black encourages White to pursue his fixation with winning a pinned piece, which proves to be his undoing.

1.c4 f5 2.g3 e6 3...f3 d5 4. d2 e7 5.d4 O-O 6.O-O 17...d7 7...xd5 This exchange frees Black’s "problem child," his c8-bishop. A good alternative is 7. b3. 2...exd5 8.c3 c6 9...c2 10...a3 a5
11...g5  b6 12. ad1  c4 13. e5 Better is 13. Rf1 to strive for e4. 13...d6 14.f3  d7 15. f4 More consistent is 15. Bxe7 Qxe7 16. Nxd7 Qe3+ 17. Rf2 Bxd7 18. Rd3 Qe7 19. e4 with chances for initiative. 15...xe5 16.dxe5  wb6+ 17. h1  c4 18. a4  wb5 19.e4 dxe4 20. fe1 The die is cast. White prepares the seemingly devastating threat of Bf1 pinning the knight. 20... e6 21. f1 The consequences of 21. Rxe4 Nxa3 22. bxa3 Nxb3 are ramified but seem to favor Black. 21...exf3 22. e4 ad8 Exploiting the weakness of White’s back rank. 23. b1 g5 24. xc4 The point is 24. Bc1 Nxa3! wins. 24...fxg2 fxg2 36. Qb6 29. c1 xe1 30. xc1 xe4 31. e3  c4 32. a5 h5 33. xd2  e5 Picks up a third pawn for the Exchange and effectively ends all resistance. 34. c1 xe5 35. c1 e4 36. xe4 xe5 37. xe4 fxe4 38. xe7 xe7 39. g4 h4 40. b6  c2 41. xe2  xh3 42.g5  g3 White Resigns. A good illustration of the "creative evolution" that goes into judging an opening. The middle game and endgame flowed directly out of the opening. Theory now decrees White should abstain from this line unless he can produce some improvement.

0-1

○ Pomar, A.
• Szabo, L.

Beverwijk
Holland
1967
0-1

As a child prodigy Spain’s Arturo Pomar at age 13 drew a game with world champion Alexander Alekhine in 1944! Here Pomar adopts a line which was considered to be in White’s favor, but Szabo uncorks a resource that casts doubt on this evaluation.


14... wxg4 15. f2  d4+ An improvement on 15...f5 16. h3 Qxe4 17. Nc4! Bf3 18. Re1 Bf8 19. Nb6 Ra7 20. a5. 16. g2  d7 17.h3  xxc3 18.bxc3  e2 19. g1  d3 20. c3 c4 21. a3 A critical position for the judgment of the whole variation, and the subject of an article by Zaitsev who concluded that White stood better. The key move he considered is 21...f5 22. c5 Nb6 23. Bxd6 Nxd5 24. Rxd3! cxd3 25. c4 and winning chances are with White after he fixes the queenside with a5 and c5, then goes after the d-pawn.

21...b6 22. xd6 d5 23. e1 The interesting course if 23. Rxd3 cxd 24. Ne3 Nc5. 25. Kb5! 26. cxb5 axb5 27. a5 with a stiffl. 23...xc3 24. e5 xe5 25.fxe5 26. a3 No time for 26. Kf3 b5 27. Ra3 b4, etc. 26.c2 e2 27.c2 f3 28.b3 Willy-nilly White should try his luck with 28. Rxe2. 28...c2 29. xc1 xc1 30. xc1 xe4 31. e3  c4 32. a5 h5 33. d2  c5 Picks up a third pawn for the Exchange and effectively ends all resistance. 34. e1 xe5 35. c1 e4 36. xe4 xe5 37. xe4 fxe4 38. xe7 xe7 39.g4 h4 40. b6  c2 41. xe2  xh3 42.g5  g3 White Resigns. A good illustration of the "creative evolution" that goes into judging an opening. The middle game and endgame flowed directly out of the opening. Theory now decrees White should abstain from this line unless he can produce some improvement.

0-1

○ Vladimirov, Y.
• Doda, Z.

Leningrad
USSR
1967
1-0

Players often spend many hours preparing for tournament games; here White’s ultrasharp opening has all the tang of home cooking. Black quite properly nibbles at the dish, as befits a polite guest, but makes the mistake of accepting a second helping.

is about to be scorched. 19...h5+ 20...f8 20...f1
d4+ 21...h1 22...xf5+ 23...h6+ 24...g5+ 25...f7 Of course not 24...Bxg5 25. 
Rf8 mate but Black is lost anyway since 24...Kh8 25. Bg7+! Kg8 26. Qd8+ 26. Bxf6+ 
Kf8 27. Bg7+ Ke8 28. Rf8+ Kd7 29. Qd8+ leads to mate. 25...xf6+ 26...g7+ 27...e6 
Black does not care to take his king for a stroll in view of 27...Kf5 28. Qe4 mate. Black 
Resigns.

1-0

○ Bobby Fischer
● Efim Geller
Monte Carlo (6)
Monaco
1967 0-1 B97

"It was clear to me that the vulnerable point of the American grandmaster was in double-edged, hanging, irrational positions, where he often failed to find a win even in a won position. This led to my decision to challenge Fischer in a very sharp game and, what’s more, in his favorite variation. Players who are devoted to certain opening systems know how unpleasant it can be to play against oneself in the purely psychological sense. To be objective, it must be pointed out that there is always another side of the coin, as was indeed the case here. The opening subleties of the variation were well known to Fischer, whereas I had to search very hard for good continuations in an unfamiliar situation" – Geller.

1.e4 c5 2...f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4...xd4 ...f6 5...e3 
a6 6...g5 e6 7...f4 ...b6 8...d2 Leads to the so-called poison pawn variation. "The less committing 8. Nb3 would have looked like moral capitulation on White’s part.” – Geller. 8...xb2 9...b1 
wa3 10.f5 As Black, Fischer had several times refuted the overly aggressive 10...e5. 10...e6 
11...xe6 fx6 12...xe6 bxc6 13...e5 Opening all 
lines in the center to facilitate the attack. Inadequate is 13. Bxf6 gxf6 14. Be2 Rg8 14. O-O 
14. Bh5 Ke7 leads nowhere) Qc5 15. Kh1 Qg5 
forcing an exchange of queens. 13...d5 Fischer once defended with 13...dx5 14. Bxf6 gxf6 
15. Ne4 Be7 16. Be2! "But I was playing this 
variation for the first time in my life. It was inconceivable to try and work out all the possible complications at the board, and I decided that Black’s pawn center should enable his king to sit it out" – Geller. 14...xd5 cxd5 15...e2 dx5 16.O-O 
...c5+ A better defense is 16...Ra7! 17. c4 Qc5 18. Kh1 d4 19. Qc2 Be7 20. Qa4 Rd7 as in Bednarsky-Sakharov, Varna 1968. 17...h1 ...f8 18.c4 "Up to 
this point Fischer had played very quickly, obviously following his prepared analysis. Here for the first time he sank into thought and made the usual move in this sort of position" – Geller. 18...fxf1+ 
19...xf1 b7 20...g4 "Fischer’s only mistake, made after 20 minutes thought. It was here that 
my correctly evaluated aspect of his character came into effect: in unfamiliar sharp positions he was apt to lose his way. He had to make a choice between: (a) Rf3; (b) Bd1; (c) 20. Qc2; (d) his continuation in the game. After the game I pointed out that 20. Qc2! makes it difficult to carry the threat against h7" – Geller. Three months later in Tal-Bogdanovic, USSR vs. Yugoslavia, White won after 20. Qc2! e4 . Bg4 Be7 22. Qf1! O-O-O 23. 
20...dxec4 21...xe6 ...d3 22...e1 ...e4 "The idea is to paralyze White’s heavy pieces. The bishop in the center is simultaneously both a shield and a sword. Fischer at this point looked very dismayed” – Geller. 23...g4 ...b8 24...d1 
...d7 25...f7+ ...e6 White resigns. "Contrary to the normal state of affairs, Black’s king in the center is now safe, whereas its colleague, which is in its customary place, is in a trap. On 26. Rxg7 Bxg2 27. Kxg2 
Rb2 28. Kh1 Qd5 mates.” – Geller. 0-1

○ Hennings, A. 
● Moehring, G.
National Championship
East Germany
1967 1-0 B89

It’s amazing how much hot water a master can wade into in the first dozen moves despite a century of opening theory. Here Black’s defensive setup is mangled even though every one of his moves seems plausible.

1.e4 c5 2...f3 ...e6 3.d4 cxd4 4...xd4 ...f6 5...e3 
a6 6...g5 e6 7...f4 ...b6 8...d2 Leads to the so-called poison pawn variation. "The less committing 8. Nb3 would have looked like moral capitulation on White’s part.” – Geller. 8...xb2 9...b1 
wa3 10.f5 As Black, Fischer had several times refuted the overly aggressive 10...e5. 10...e6 
11...exe6 ...xe6 12...xe6 bxc6 13...e5 Opening all 
lines in the center to facilitate the attack. Inadequate is 13. Bxf6 gxf6 14. Be2 Rg8 14. O-O 
14. Bh5 Ke7 leads nowhere) Qc5 15. Kh1 Qg5 
forcing an exchange of queens. 13...d5 Fischer once defended with 13...dx5 14. Bxf6 gxf6 
15. Ne4 Be7 16. Be2! "But I was playing this 
variation for the first time in my life. It was inconceivable to try and work out all the possible complications at the board, and I decided that Black’s pawn center should enable his king to sit it out" – Geller. 14...xd5 cxd5 15...e2 dx5 16.O-O 
...c5+ A better defense is 16...Ra7! 17. c4 Qc5 18. Kh1 d4 19. Qc2 Be7 20. Qa4 Rd7 as in Bednarsky-Sakharov, Varna 1968. 17...h1 ...f8 18.c4 "Up to 
this point Fischer had played very quickly, obviously following his prepared analysis. Here for the first time he sank into thought and made the usual move in this sort of position" – Geller. 18...fxf1+ 
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my correctly evaluated aspect of his character came into effect: in unfamiliar sharp positions he was apt to lose his way. He had to make a choice between: (a) Rf3; (b) Bd1; (c) 20. Qc2; (d) his continuation in the game. After the game I pointed out that 20. Qc2! makes it difficult to carry the threat against h7" – Geller. Three months later in Tal-Bogdanovic, USSR vs. Yugoslavia, White won after 20. Qc2! e4 . Bg4 Be7 22. Qf1! O-O-O 23. 
20...dxec4 21...xe6 ...d3 22...e1 ...e4 "The idea is to paralyze White’s heavy pieces. The bishop in the center is simultaneously both a shield and a sword. Fischer at this point looked very dismayed” – Geller. 23...g4 ...b8 24...d1 
...d7 25...f7+ ...e6 White resigns. "Contrary to the normal state of affairs, Black’s king in the center is now safe, whereas its colleague, which is in its customary place, is in a trap. On 26. Rxg7 Bxg2 27. Kxg2 
Rb2 28. Kh1 Qd5 mates.” – Geller. 0-1

Hennings, A.
Moehring, G.
National Championship
East Germany
1967 1-0 B89
also wins. 22...fxg7+ Kf7 23.h4+ f6 24.xe4
d5 25.g8=Q Kg8 26.xh7+ Enough is enough! Black Resigns. 1-0

Fischer, R.
Dely, P.
Skopje
Yugoslavia
1967 1-0 B88

A crisp miniature. Black tries to solve his opening problems superficially and is on the receiving end of two fatal jolts.

1.e4 "Best by test" – Fischer. 1...c5 2.f3 d6 3.d4
cxd4 4.exd4 Qf6 5.c3 Qc6 6.e4 e6 7.b3
a6 8.f4 White got good attacking prospects after 8...Na7 9. f5! Nxb3 10.axb3 Be7 11.Qf3
O-O 12. Be3 Bd7 13. g4 e5 14. Nde2 (Fischer-
A better solution is 9...d5 10. Nxc6 bxc6 11. f5 with a slight initiative, but nothing serious. 10...d4
d5 Na7 trying to free his game with Be5. The lesser evil is 10...Qc5 11. Qxc5 dxc5 although White has an endgame advantage with 12.
a4. 11.c3 Qxe4 Better but far from good is 11...dxe4 12. Nxe4 Be7 13. Nd6+. 12.Qxe4 dxe4
13.f5 Qb4 Fischer gives 13...exf5 14. g4! Be6 15. gx5 Bxb3 16. axb3 Qb4 17. Ra4 Qxd4 18. Rxd4
Be7 19. Rxe4 Kf8 20. f6! Bxf6 21. Rfx6 gx6 22. Bh6+ and mates. 14.fxe6 Qxe6 Overlooking the concluding combination. 14...fxe6 is now the only hope. 15...Qxe6 fx6 16...Qxf6+
Qxf8 17.Qxf6=Q Mate or heavy material loss is unavoidable, so Black Resigns. If 17...b5 18. Qxe4 Rd8 19.
Qc6+ Rd7 20. Rd1 Qe7 21. Bb6! and the threat of Qc8+ is devastating. 1-0

Evans, L.
Zuckerman, B.
USA Championship
New York City
1967 1-0 B76

5-time national champion Larry Evans received the brilliancy prize against Bernard Zuckerman, who often was called “Zuckerbook” in chess circles because of his encyclopedic book knowledge. Here he displays a rare piece of bad judgment by gobbling a tainted pawn in the opening. The dose is lethal.

1.e4 c5 2.f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.exd4 Qf6 5.c3
g6 6.e4 c6 7.d3 Qg7 8.a3 O-O 0-0 Postponing castling with 8...Bd7 or Rc8 has been found wanting, since Black’s king is not secure in the center and he is minus the serves of his rook on h8.” 9.O-O O The main alternative is 9. Be4. 9...dxe4
Nbd5! 12.h4 f6 13.e5 g5 Opening the file is too dangerous. Correct is 13...Qa5 14. hxg6 hxg6 15. a3...Rah8 16. g4 b5 (Evans- Zuckerman, USA Championship 1970.) 14.xg7
15.g4 Qf6 16.We6+ Qg8 17.e5 dxe5 18.g5 Qh5
19.d3 Qxe5 20. Rxh5 gxh5 20. Bd3 transposes into the same line. 19...e4 Black has no valid defense to the threat of Rxh5. If 19...fxe4 20. Rxh5 gxh5 21.Qxe4 Better than 21. Bxe4 Qe5. 21...Qf4
22.e6+ Qf8 23.Bh7+ Qd8 24.Qf5+ Qg8
25.Wh7+ Qf8 26.Wh8+ Etiquette dictates that a
An object lesson in how to sustain the initiative. Each time Black is on the verge of equalizing, Spassky finds an ingenuous way to prevent it.

1.e4 c5 2...f3 g6 3...c3 e6 3...e5 is also playable but creates a hole on d5. 4.d4 exd4
5...xd4 wC7 6...e3 a6 7...e1 A dubious attempt to improve on either 7 a3 or Bd3. 7...f6 8.f4
b4 9...d3 O-O Lacks vitality. More forceful is 9...d5 10.e4! 11.Nxd4 N5. 10.O-O dxc3
Again better is 10...d5. Black should not swap his good bishop just to double the c-pawns. 11.bxc3
d6 In accordance with classical theory, Black tries to keep the center closed to minimize the scope of White’s two bishops. More forcing, however, is 11...d5 12.e5 Nd7 followed by an eventual f5. 12...f3 e5 13.f5 d5 14.g3 h6 14...fxe4 would be met by 15.Bh6. 15.exd5 e7 15...Nxd5 allows the powerful stroke 16.Qh5 Nxe3 17.f6
g6 18.Qh6 Rg8 19.Rxe3 Qd8 20.Ne4 Qf8 21.Qh4 with a bind. 16...c5 17...dxe5 18...g4
e8 18...h3 19...g5 20...f6 21...e4 21...b7 Black could ease the pressure somewhat with 21...bxc5 22.Bxc5 Rb8 (but not 22...Nxd5? 23.Rxh7+). 22...dxe5 23.Qxe5 Qd6 No rest for the weary. If 23...Qxe7 24.Rxh7+ wins. 24...b6
e4 25...ec6 26...d6 Again Black is allowed no breathing space. After 26. Rxb6 Ne4 regains the pawn. The text eliminates drawing chances stemmmg from opposite colored bishops.

26...xb3 27.axb3 0...e4 28...xb6 0...xc3 29.f6 Material is even but White has managed to preserve his initiative despite the disappearance of queens. 29...g8 30.fxg7+ 0...xg7 31.b7
e2+ 32.h1 0...f4 33.e3 0...g6 If 33...Ne6 34.Bd6 Nd8 35.Rd7 e4 36.Bc7 nabs at least a pawn. 34.d6 35.ee4 0...g6 36.g4 37.ee6 38.h5 39.e3 40.g2 41.g6+ 41.b6
This insures the gain of a pawn and with it the game. Note the power of the bishop contrasted with the immobile knight. 41...e2 42.e1 e8 43.b4 a5 44.ee2 axb4 45.eex6+ fxe6 46.e5
h5 47.e6+ 48.d6 hxg4 49.hxg4 0...g7 50...xb8 0...xh8 51...xb4 0...xb6 52.e4 d5
Black is hoping for a miracle. He should resign.

53...c1 0...g8 54...g3 0...c6 55...f4 0...f8+ 56.e5
g8 57.ef5 0...f8+ 58.ee6 0...g8 59.e1 Of course 59...Kxc5 60.g5 is fatal. White’s smooth transition from a superior midgame to a won ending illustrates once again that a chess game is an organic whole. Black Resigns.

1-0

Bogdanovic, R.
Lein, A.

Match: Yugoslavia vs. USSR

Belgrade 1967 1-0 B49

Blow and counterblow – a violent clash of wills from start to finish. Exhausted by all the complications, Black falls into a deadly snare while trying to avoid a draw.

1.e4 e5 2...f3 e5 3.d4 exd4 4...xd4 c6 5...c3 wC7 6...e4 0...e5 The popularity of this Taimanov System is due largely to the great latitude it offers the second player. Here Black ignores the kingside to start a diversion on the other wing. 8...xc6 0...xe6 9...e2 e3 3...Nf6
5...gf6 8...f6 9.d5 O-O
e8 10...d4 0...xb2 11...xb5 0...a1 12...a5
axb5 If 12...Kf8 13...Nd6 yields a strong bind. 13...a7 0...a6 15...d3 c3+
16...h1 0...h6 17...xb8...h6 17...Ne7 looks better but the text gives the knight access to g4. 18...xb5
e5 19...f3 0...e5 Black seems justified in playing for the win. He spurns 19...Ng4 20...Qxe5 21.Kg1 Nxd1 22.Rd3 Rxc2 23.Rxd1 Rg2+ 24.Kf1 Rxe2 with a draw in view. 20.c4 0...f6
21...xh8 0...xh8 22.b1 0...e2 Still with an eye on the main chance but forgetting about his own back rank. Better is 22...Ra8 23...h3 25...h8+ 0...e7
24...f6+ Satan never sleeps. It’s mate in three. 24...f6 25...d8+ If 25...Kf6 26.Qg5+ Ke7 27.Qe5 mate. Black Resigns.

1-0

Gurgenidze, B.
Lein, A.

35th USSR Championship

Tbilisi 1967 1-0 B29

Everything proceeds serenely until White’s unexpected knight sacrifice on move 11. Black must decline the “gift” but he never recovers from the disruption it caused.

1.e4 c5 2...f3 0...c6 3.e5 0...d5 4...c3 0...xc3 5.dxc3
5...bxc3 d5 is easier for Black to handle. Capturing away from the center violates principle but allows for rapid development. "Before the ending the
A colossal struggle. Black manages to stagger out of a beautiful combination bloody but unbowed – only to falter in the quiet aftermath.


1-0

○ Fischer, R. • Stein, L.
Sousse Interzonal
Tunisia
1967

In this violent clash of wills between the American and Soviet champions, Fischer’s prosecution of the attack is crowned by a brilliant bishop sacrifice. Stein declines, carrying the struggle into the endgame. Won best game of 1967 by the jury of the prestigious CHESS INFORMANT.

1.e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Bxc6 bxc6 5. O–O O–O 6. d4 exd4 7. Qd2 c5 8. O–O cxd4 9. c3 Nf6 10. Qc2 d5 11. Bc4 Nxd2 12. Qxd2 Ba6 13. Qa5 Bc7 14. Qxf5 Qxf5 15. Nc3 Bb7 16. Bd3 Ne5 17. Nxe5 dxe5 18. Nc4 f6 19. Be2 Be7 20. f3 Bd7 21. Bc2 f5 22. a3 Bf7 23. Ng4 Bg8 24. Rb1 Ne4 25. f4 Bf6 26. Rb3 Nh5 27. Rb2 Ng3 28. fxe5 Nxe5 29. Be3 Nf3 30. gxf3 Nxe5 31. fxe5 Nxe5 32. fxe5 Nxe5 33. fxe5 Qg6 34. Be2 Bxe5 35. Nxe5 Qxe5 36. Bc4 Qg6 37. e6 fxe6 38. Qd2 Qg5 39. Qd4 g6 40. Ne4 Ne7 41. Be2 Qg6 42. Bb5 Qg5 43. Bc4 Qg6 44. Bd5 Qg7 45. Be4 Bf5 46. Bc2 Qg6 47. Be4 Qg7 48. Bd5 Qg6 49. Be4 Qg7 50. Bd5 Qg6 51. Be4 Qg7 52. Bd5 Qg6 53. Be4 Qg7 54. Bd5 Qg6 55. Be4 Qg7 56. Bd5 Qg6 57. Be4 Qg7 58. Bd5 Qg6 59. Be4 Qg7 60. Bd5 Qg6 61. Be4 Qg7 62. Bd5 Qg6 63. Be4 Qg7 64. Bd5 Qg6 65. Be4 Qg7 66. Bd5 Qg6 67. Be4 Qg7 68. Bd5 Qg6 69. Be4 Qg7 70. Bd5 Qg6 71. Be4 Qg7 72. Bd5 Qg6 73. Be4 Qg7 74. Bd5 Qg6 75. Be4 Qg7 76. Bd5 Qg6 77. Be4 Qg7 78. Bd5 Qg6 79. Be4 Qg7 80. Bd5 Qg6 81. Be4 Qg7 82. Bd5 Qg6 83. Be4 Qg7 84. Bd5 Qg6 85. Be4 Qg7 86. Bd5 Qg6 87. Be4 Qg7 88. Bd5 Qg6 89. Be4 Qg7 90. Bd5 Qg6 91. Be4 Qg7 92. Bd5 Qg6

1-0

Tarrasch. 5...c7 Hoping to mobilize the queen-side and perhaps castle there, but he never gets the chance. Nimzovich opined that 5...d5 is best. He once played 5...b6? overlooking 6. e6! f6 7. Ne5! fx e5 8. Qf3 (Votolchek-Pachman, Prague 1944).


Overprotecting e5 in order to free the knight. Now Black should reply 9...h6 followed by Bb7 and O–O–O.

9...f5 10. Bb4 g6 The final error. Necessary is 10...Nd7 after which White would not find it easy to exploit his initiative. If 11. Qd6 Ne5! equalizes.


Thwarts c5 and prepares a dominating buildup by Nc4. Black is helpless.

13...d5


A pity that after having survived the worst Black fails to offer the best resistance with 30...Re4 31. Rf6 Nf5 32. b5 cxb5 33. Bcxb5 Qxb5+ 34. Kh2 Qf5 35. Bxb8 Rxb8 36. Qxe6+ Kh7 37. Qe7+ Kg8 38. Qf7+ Kh8 39. Qg7+ Kh7 40. Qh7+ Kg6 41. Qg6+ Kh7 42. Qf6+ Kg8 43. Qe5+ Kh8 44. Qf4+ Kg8 45. Qe5+ Kh8 46. Bxc5 dxc5 47. Qd6+ Kg8 48. Qc6+ Kh8 49. Rd6+ Kg8 50. Rxe6+ Kh7 51. Qd7 mate.

It's all over after 37...Nxc3 38. Rxe7+ Kd8 39. Qg7+ Kd7 40. Qg6+ Kc8 41. Kh2 Qd8 42. Kh3 Qxe8 43. Re8+ Kd7 44. Rxe8++ Kxe8 45. Qd7+ Kf8 46. Qf5+ Kg8 47. Qg4+ Kh8 48. Qf5+ Kg8 49. Qd5+ Kh8 50. Rxe4+ Kg8 51. Qd8#
The passive 16. Nxc6 Qxc6 17. Qd3 Qg6! ties White up, but he still has a chance to live after 18. Re1 f4 19. Nd2. 26...xf5 17. xd5 16.gxf4 Nxe4. The best way to decline the offer. Fischer gives 29...gxf5 30. Qg3+ Kf7 31. Ng5+! Bxg5 32. Bxg5 Qd3 33. Qc7+ Kg6 34. Qf7+! Kxg5 35. Qg7+ Kf4 36. Rad1! Bh5 37. Nxc5. Korchnoi and Tarrasch. Here Keres springs an im-
portant variation debated for ages is whether Black has enough material equality – at the cost of his king. The
rest is forced. 26...xd5 37. fx5. Bxg5 38. fxg5. White finally established 39. Qxh4 Qxf5 40. Qd8+! Kxg5 41. Qc7+
xb5+ 42. Qa3 mate.
Nxc3 11. Qc2 Bronstein enjoyed some success
with this rare attempt to dislodge the knight. It
avoids the simplifications arising after 11. Nd2,
which is the normal move here. 11...d7 This
pawn sacrifice was originally recommended by Dr.
seems to be no good way for White to keep his
14. Ng5 Bg4 15. f3 Bc5+ 16. Kh1 Rae8 Black
gets great activity. 13...h8 Anchoring the knight
on e4. The game reaches its climax right here.
White’s last two moves were intended to
dislodge black’s knight but the text sets his game
16. Rxd7 exf3 17. Qd1 Bxd7 18. Qxd7 Rad8. With
Black’s king still on g8, this line could be refuted
by 19. Qe6+ and Bc3. 14...b3 xf5 15. b4 h5
16. xf5! Desperately fishing in troubled waters.

○ Tal, M.
• Keres, P.
Moscow USSR 1967 0-1 C83
The Open Defense to the Ruy Lopez never enjoyed
a wide following despite the advocacy of Euwe,
Korchnoi and Tarrasch. Here Keres springs an
improvement that gives him a won game before Tal
can even get all his pieces out of the box.
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.b4 b5 4.a4 a6 5.O-O
Nxc3 10.Bxc3 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 dxe5
Nxe5 13. Qb3 Qc6 14. Qe2 f6 15. Nxe4 Ng4
16. c3 Qc7 17. Bxe5 Qxe5 18.Qd4 Qd5 19.Nc3
gerates greater resistance is offered by 20. dxe5
cxd5 21. Bb5+ Qd6 22. Bc4 Qb8 23. Qc3 Qc8
19. b4 a5 20. b5 axb5 21. axb5 a4 22. bxc6
cx6 23. Qb3 Qc8 24. Qc4 Qc5 25. axb5
Qxb5 26. Qb3 Qxe4 27. Qxe4 Qc6 28.Qf4
Qf2+ 29.Qg1 Qe3 30.Qxe2 Qf1+ 31.Qg2
Qd8 32.Qf1 Threatening mate.

• N. Radchenko
Unknown USSR
1967 0-1 C59
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen. Some
masterpieces were created by players nobody ever
heard of, and just one great effort can make you
famous. Inside Chess unearthed this obscure game
and noted: "Radchenko is not a household name
even in his native Russia, but he is the creator of a
brilliant game that deserves to be considered as one
of the best of the century.” Noteworthy are the gy-
ration of Black’s queen from one side of the board
to the other. The final queen sacrifice on move 25 is
truly inspired.
c6 4. Nf6 5.O-O
cxb4 6.d4 e4 7.Nf3 d5 8.exd5
Nf6 9.Nc3 O-O
Nxc3 10.Bxc3 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 dxe5
Nxe5 13. Qb3 Qc6 14. Qe2 f6 15. Nxe4 Ng4
16. c3 Qc7 17. Bxe5 Qxe5 18.Qd4 Qd5 19.Nc3
gerates greater resistance is offered by 20. dxe5
cxd5 21. Bb5+ Qd6 22. Bc4 Qb8 23. Qc3 Qc8
19. b4 a5 20. b5 axb5 21. axb5 a4 22. bxc6
cx6 23. Qb3 Qc8 24. Qc4 Qc5 25. axb5
Qxb5 26. Qb3 Qxe4 27. Qxe4 Qc6 28.Qf4
Qf2+ 29.Qg1 Qe3 30.Qxe2 Qf1+ 31.Qg2
Qd8 32.Qf1 Threatening mate.

○ Rossolimo, N.
• Reissman, P.
1-0

Puerto Rico Open
Río Piedras
1967
C54

Rossolimo was awarded a special brilliancy prize for this fantastic queen sacrifice. The elegant finale is reminiscent of Marshall's famous win over Levensky in 1912 where spectators were so delighted that they showered the board with gold pieces.

If 24...Qxg6 25. Nxg6+ fxg6 26. Rxh7 mate. Black can last a few moves by giving up his queen 20...c5.


White's quiet buildup 20...Qc7 He must try 16...Re7 to create a retreat for the bishop at c8. 17. a6 b6 18. h3 f4 19. Qg4 ed5 20. a3 A fine idea. The inactive rook swings over to the kingside to reinforce the attack. 20...Qe6 His predicament is critical. If 20...f6 21. Bxd5+ Nxd5 22. Qe6+ Kh8 23. Ng6+ hxg6 24. Rh3 mate. The best chance to fight back is 20...c5. 21. Qxd5 exd5 22. Qf6+ Qh8 23. Qg6+ hxg6 25. Rh3 mate. Black can last a few moves by giving up his queen for two knights by 23...fxg6 24. Qxg6+ Ng7 25. Rg3 Kg8 26. Nxf7+ Qxf7 27. Qx7. The text evokes a beautiful point. 24. h3 Black Resigns. If 24...Qxg6 25. Nxe6+ fxg6 26. Rh7 mate.

1-0

○ Fischer, R.
• Miagmarsuren, L.

Interzonal
Sousse
1967
1-0

A08

Fischer dropped out of this world championship qualifier over a scheduling dispute when he was leading and delayed his prospects for several years, but he created a number of beautiful games. Here the Mongolian champion is so intent on breaking through on the queenside that he forgets about his king. Fischer's concluding queen sacrifice is captivating and perfectly timed.

1.e4 e5 2. f3 d6 3. d4 c6 4. c2 d5 5. df3 e6 6. Qg4 f5 7. Qe4 O–O 8. Qc2 Qe7 7.0–0–0 White's quiet buildup postpones sharp hand-to-hand battle until the middle game where operations will take place behind closed lines. 8.e5 Qd7 9. Qe1 b5 10. We2 b4

11.h4 a5 12. Qf1 a4 13. a3 "Believe it or not, I actually spent more time on this innocuous push (15 minutes) than on any other move in the game! I didn't want to allow Black to get in ...a3 thereby creating holes (weak squares) on c3 and a3. On the other hand, by stopping to meet his positional threat I am forced to postpone my own schemes for at least two moves. Chess is a matter of deliberate judgment, knowing when to punch and how to duck" – Fischer. 13. Bxa4 14. Bxa4 15. Qa5 This decentralization is inadvisable. Black should try 14...Ne4 or Nf6 right away. 15. Bd7 Qe5 16. Bd3 Permanently discouraging the f6 freeing maneuver. 16...d4 17. Qf1 Fischer is a law unto himself. He abandons from the natural 17. Ng4 because this knight is headed instead for e4. Meanwhile Black has secured d5 for his knight. 17...b6 18. g5 d5 It's remarkable that such an obvious move is inferior. 18...h6! 19. Ne4 c4 offers reasonable counterplay. 19. Qd2 Qxg5 19...c4 was still a better try. But not 19...h6? 20. Nxe6 fxe6 21. Bxe6+ Kh8 22. Bxa5 Qxa5 23. Bxd5 gaining two buttons. 20. Qg5 d7 21. h5 "Make way for the heavy artillery" – Fischer. Black should now take the precaution of 21...Kh8. 21...f8 22. Bf2 Qd7 23. Bh3 Qh5 Again 22...c4 is the best chance. With all Black’s pieces clustered on the other wing, his king is ripe. 23. Bf6 Qe8 Forced. Not 23...fxg6 24. Qxg6+ Kh8 25. Ne3 Nf5 26. Bg5 Qh6 27. Bf8 28. Bf8! and wins. 24. Qe4 Qc6 25. Qg5 Qe4 26. Qf4 Qc4 27. h5 Qd3 28. Qd4 Qa7 To defend the second rank after 29. Qxh6 Qxf6.

29. g2 A subtle move whose sly purpose soon becomes apparent. 29...dxc2 Also lost is 29...Q8 30. Be4! dxc2 31. hxg6 fxg6 32. Bxg6! hxg6 33. Rhh+ Kh7 34. Rhh+ Ke8 35. Rxa7 Bxd3 36. Rxa5. 30. Qh6 Qf8 31. Qh7+ Black Resigns. It’s mate after 31...Kxh7 32. hxg6+ Kxg6 33. Be4.

1-0

○ Gheorghiu, F.
• Uhlmann, W.

Sofia
1967
1-0

A08

A quiet opening gives rise to splendid tactics. White positional sacrifice of the Exchange is fully justified, and the final twist is simply delicious.

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3. cd5 c6 4. Qg4 Qe7 5. g3 c5 6. Qg2 Qc6 7.0–0–0 8. Qe1 A King's Indian Reversed. This is a well-known position where each side is about to attack on the opposite wing. Who will get there first? 8...b5 9.e5
\[ \text{chess notation for game} \]

o Reshevsky, S.
- Seidman, H.
**USA Championship New York 1968**

1-0

Despite stout resistance, Reshevsky transports a small advantage into the endgame. His startling sacrifices of a knight for two pawns unleashes the full fury of two bishops vs. two knights.

1.d4 [f6 2.c4 \text{e6} 3.[\text{c3} \text{d5}] 4.[\text{c3}] 5.\text{f4} \text{O-O} 6.[\text{c1}] This quiet, positional system was favored by Hungarian grandmaster Lajos Portisch and world champion Tigran Petrosian. It yields a shaded advantage.

6...\text{c5} 7.\text{dx}5 \text{\text{e6}} 8.\text{e3} \text{\text{wa5}} 9.\text{\text{d4}} \text{\text{d4}} 10.\text{\text{a6}} \text{\text{exe6}} 11.\text{\text{wa4}} \text{\text{xc5}} 12.\text{\text{b5}} \text{\text{\text{xb5}}} 13.\text{\text{exb5}} \text{\text{gb8}} More forceful is 13...\text{Na5} 14. \text{Be2 Rac8} 15. O-O \text{Nc4} (Portisch-Evans, Havana 1964).

14. \text{d3} \text{\text{bd7}} 15. \text{\text{e5}} 16. \text{\text{g4}} 17. \text{\text{\text{b1}}} \text{\text{\text{a8}}} 18. \text{\text{\text{a4}}} 19. \text{\text{\text{g4}}} 20. \text{\text{d3}} 21. \text{\text{f3}} 22. \text{\text{g4}} 23. \text{\text{e5}} 24. \text{\text{\text{dxe4}}} 25. \text{\text{\text{dxe4}}} 26. \text{\text{\text{dxe6}}} 27. \text{\text{\text{g5}}} \text{\text{Harder to beat is 26...\text{Nf7} 27. \text{Rc6} Rd8. Judging from a casual inspection, Black’s worries are over. White’s reply is so startling that Seidman can be forgiven for overlooking it.}

27. \text{\text{\text{dxe6}}} 28. \text{\text{\text{dxe6}}} 29. \text{\text{dxe6}} 30. \text{\text{f2}} 31. \text{\text{e6} 32. \text{\text{e6}}} 33. \text{\text{g1}} 34. \text{\text{f1}} 35. \text{\text{d5} a4}

36. \text{c7} 37. \text{e4} 38. \text{d5} 39. \text{b4}

The clincher. “It is imperative to advance the a-pawn, and in order to effect this advance White b-pawn has to be at b4” – Reshevsky.

40. \text{e4} 41. \text{b6} 42. \text{a7} 43. \text{d7} 44. \text{d7} 45. \text{\text{a6} \text{xb2}} 46. \text{\text{b6}}

Black Resigns.

o Addison, W.
- Sigurjónsson, B.
**Reykjavik Iceland 1968**

1-0

Black springs an opening novelty, but White goes one better. Addison’s sprightly bishop sacrifice on move 15 is followed by equally energetic tactics.

1.d4 \text{\text{\text{f6}}} 2.c4 \text{\text{e6}} 3.[\text{c3} \text{\text{d5}}] 4.[\text{c3}] 5.\text{f4} \text{O-O} 6.\text{c1} W

Or 46...\text{Nxb8} 47. \text{Bxb8 Bxb8} 48. \text{b6} and a7 wins.

1-0

o Donner, J.
- Portisch, L.

**Beverwijk Holland 1968**

1-0

Grandmasters are doomed to heavy material loss already by move 13. Here is the spectacle: a sudden refutation of a recognized line, then a sudden matting attack.

1.d4 \text{\text{\text{f6}}} 2.c4 \text{\text{e6}} 3.[\text{c3} \text{\text{b4}} 4.[\text{c3}] 5.\text{d3}

O-O 6.\text{f3} 7.\text{f3} 8.\text{g4} 9.\text{d1} e5 10.\text{\text{b6} \text{g4}} 21.\text{\text{d4} \text{xe4}} 22.\text{\text{d4} \text{d5}} 23.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{a6}}} 24.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{b6}}} 25.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{c4}}} 26.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{d5}}} 27.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{e4}}} 28.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{f4}}} 29.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{g4}}} 30.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{h4}}} 31.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{a6}}} 32.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{b6}}} 33.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{c6}}} 34.\text{\text{d4} \text{\text{d7}}} 35.\text{\text{d4} a4}

36. \text{c7} 37. \text{e4} 38. \text{d5} 39. \text{b4}

The logical reply, bottling
up the center to cramp Black’s game. An alternative is 7. O-O Bb7 8. Na4 cxd4 9. exd4 Qc7? 10. a3 Be7 11. Nc3 d5 (Gligoric-Smyslov, Mal- 
lorca 1967). 7...b7 This doesn’t help break the grip. 7...b5!? offers more practical chances. But 7...exd5 8. cxd5 Nxd5? 9. Bxh7+ Kxh7 10. Qxd5 Nc6 11. Qh5+ Kg8 12. Ng5 wea 
ving a mating net. 8.e4 b5 Safer is 8...exd5 9. cxd5 Re8. 9.e5 bxc4 10.a1 Qxd5 Falling for a stock com-
nbination as old as chess itself. The best chance is 10...Bd5 11. Bg5 h6 12. Bh4 Qa5 13. exf6 Bxc3+ 14. bxc3 Qxc3+ 15. Qd2 Qxd2+ (not 15...Qxa1?) 16. O-O! 16. Kxd2 and Black can fight on with three pawns for his piece. 11. a6.h7+ 12.xh7 Of no avail is 11...Kh8 12. Ng5 g6 13. Qg4 Kg7 14.Qh4 Rh8 15. Nxe6+ fxe6 16. Qh6+. 12.g5+xg5+ 13.a6.e4+ Even worse is 15...Ba5 16. Bd2. Further resistance proves futile since two 
major pieces can’t match a queen. 16.axb4 a6 17. e5 Qxb4 18.O-O c2 19. a1.Qe3 20.Qfe3 21.d4 f5 22. exf6 Qxf6 23. c1.f8 24. dxe6 Qxe6 25.b5.e4 26.b4 xf8 27. b8.Qf7 28.Qe1.a7 29.h4.g6 30.g4.b6 31.b8.Qb8 32.b7 Qf8 36.33.g3 4.Qc4 The minor pieces can’t do much. If 33...Nf5 34. Qf7 Ng5 35. g5+ Kh6 36. Qf4+ picks up more material. 34.Qf7 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Horowitz, A.
● Evans, L.
USA Championship (2) New York 1968 0-1 A79 Passive play is punished drastically. White drifts and gets outplayed in this model example of a good 
king vs. a bad bishop. 1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 e4 4.c3 Qb6 5.exd5 d6 6.e4 d5 7.Qf3 There are many ways to meet 
the Benoni Defense ranging from this quiet po-

sitional approach to the sharp 7. f4. 7...Qg7 8.e2 O-O 9.O-O Qe8 Black also can aim to simplify with 9...Bg4. 10.Qd2 Qa6 11.f3 More flexible is 11. Re1 reserving the option of 
f4. 11...Qc7 12.a4 b6 13.Qc4 A better idea is 13. Rbl aiming for b4. 13...a6 14.Qg5 b6 15.Qb4 Qd7 16.g4 Drastically weakening the f4 square – the source of White’s future problems. More sensible is 16. Qd2. 16...Qab8
17.g3 Qxc4 18.Qxc4 a6 19.e1 b5 20.axb5 axb5 21.f1 b4 22. Qe2 h5 23.b3 hxg4 24.hxg4 Qb5 25.g2 Qa8 26.d3 Qh7 27.Qd2 Qe7 White has "won" the two bishops but his prospects are lifeless and his weakness on the dark squares is evi-
dent. 28.Qd3 Qd4 29.Qxa8 Qxa8 30.Qxd4 Qxd4 31.e2 g5 For all practical purposes the winning move. The bishop on f1 is no match for the knight aiming at Nf8-g6-f4. 32.Qb5 h5 33.Qc6 a1.Qe8 34.Qf8 35.Qxe5 Qxe5 36.Qf5 Qg6 37.Qxe5 Qxe5 38. Qf4 The complete triumph of Black’s strategy – he will create a passed pawn while White watches helplessly. 39.Qg3 a2 40.Qe2 b3 White Resigns. The threat of c3 is devastating. 0-1

○ Szabo, L.
● Sigurjónsson, G.
Reykjavik Iceland 1968 0-1 D47 Tiny Iceland produces the largest number of grand-
masters per capita than any nation in the world. In this sleeping beauty GM Sigurjónsson’s pieces spring to life after the prick of his 21st move that 
spectacularly opens diagonals for his hemmed in bishops. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 Qf6 4.Qg3 4.e6 Divert-
ing from a Slav Defense to the Queen’s Gambit Declined. Also feasible is 4...dxc4. 5.e3 b6 6.d3 dxc4 7.Qxc4 b5 8.Qe2 Sharper is 8. Bd3 but White has a twist in mind. 8...Qb7 9.a3 This is it – to prepare b4. 9...a6 More natural is 9...Bd6 with the idea of meeting 10. b4 with a5 (thus saving a tempo). However, Black’s strategy is to let White expand on the queenside while counter-punching in the center. 10.b4 Qd6 Szabo-
c5. Necessary is 19. f4. 19...Qxe5 20.Qd4 Qd7 21.Qc5 Qf8 A surprising stroke that refutes 

Larsen gives 25...Qh4 26. Qe3 Qg4 27. d5! Qf5 even but Black's problem is his weak back rank.

23. Ba3 Qd5 24. Qg3 costs Black a pawn.

R stable is 20...Bd5. Now Black will have to weaken
Rxc3! 21. Bg5 f6 22. hxg6 Rc7!

20...

19. mate..

"I do not deliberately play openings that are obviously bad, but I emphasize the surprise element," wrote Larsen, who is famous for flank attacks by advancing his rook's pawn during a lull. After his trademark offer of his h-pawn on move 14, he noted: "I suddenly got this idea and couldn't resist it! It is doubtful whether White gets enough for the pawn by correct play, but in practice such a sacrifice offers good chances, as surprise is an important psychological weapon."

1...c4 f6 2...c3 e6 3...f3 d5 4.d4 c5 5.cxd5 xd5 By recapturing with the knight, Black avoids the isolated pawn resulting from exd5 in this Tarrasch Defense. 6.e3 c6 7.e4 cxd4 8.exd4 e7 9.O-O O-O 10.e1 xc3 11.bxc3 b6 12.e2 b7 13.d3 g6 14.h4 "The book move 14. Bh6 must still be considered best." – Larsen 14...c8 "Unzicker only thought for a few minutes, then declined the kind offer. White hopes to exploit the weakness of the dark squares after 14...Bxh4 15. Bh6 Re8 16. Nxe4 Qh4 17. Qd2 but it is doubtful whether he gets enough for the pawn by correct play." – Larsen 15.d2 f6 16.Now it's too late to grab a pawn in view of 15...Bxh4? 16. Qh6 Bf6 17. Ng5 Bxg5 18. Bxg5 f6 19. Rxe6 fxg5? 20. Rfx6 hxg6 21. Qxg6 Kh8 22. Qh7 mate. 16.h5 a5 Decentralizing this knight is dangerous. Much better is 16...Ne7 coming to the aid of the kingside. 17.e5 xe5 18. xe5 e4 19...xe4 xc4 20.d3 Stronger than 20. Qh6 Rxe3! 21. Bg5 f6 22. hxg6 Re7! 20... More stable is 20...Bd5. Now Black will have to weaken his kingside even more to avoid losing a pawn.

21...xc5 bxc5 22.hxg6 fxg6 Otherwise 22...hxg6 23. Ba3 Qd5 24. Qg3 costs Black a pawn. 23...b6 Stronger than 23. Ba3 Re6? 24. Bxc5?? Rxc5. 23...f7 24. b1 cxd4 25.cxd4 d5 Material is even but Black’s problem is his weak back rank. Larsen gives 25...Qh4 26. Qe3 Qg4 27. d5! Qf5 28. Rb5! a6 29. Rc5 when the invulnerable d-pawn divides Black’s position in two. 26.g3 e7 To prevent the threat of Qh8. 27.b5 c1+ Makes the win easier but if 27...Qe4 28. d5! is hard to meet. 28...xc1 xb5 29.b8+ f7 30.a3 e5 31.d6 g5 White threatened mate in two by Qe7. If 31...Qe8 32. Qc7 Kg8 33. Qxb7 picks up the bishop. 32.dxe5 c6 33.e6+ Qxe6 A pretty under-promotion arises after 33...Kf6 34. e7! Qxd6 35. e8=N! Ke6 36. Nxd6. 34.c7+ h5 Again forced. If 34...Qxd6 35. e8=Q is the winning touch. 35.f3 g4 Black has no good defense. If 35...Qxd6 36. e8/Q Qg6 37. g4 Kh4 38. Qe1 Kh3 39. Qf1 Kg3 40. Bd6! Qxd6 41. Kg2 Kh4 42. Qh1 Kg3 43. Qh2 Kxh3 44. Qxd6 snags the queen. 36.e5+ Black resigns. 1-0

○ Bent Larsen
● Wolfgang Unzicker
13th Olympiad
Lugano 1968 1-0 D41

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...xh6 25.£xg7 £d5 Black could still put up a whopping fight with 25...Ne6! 26. Rf7 Rd8. 26.g3 £e3+ 27.£xe2 £g4+ On 26...Nxc2 28. Rd1 keeps the knight locked up while the kingside pawns advance. 28.£xe2 £b7 29.£e1 £xh2 30.£f2 £d8 Of no avail is 29...h5 31. Re6+ Be6 32. Rgg6 Ng4+ 33. Ke2 Rc8 34. f5. 31.£e6+ £c6 32.£g4 £d2+ 33.£e2 £e6 34.f5 £d4 35.£g3 £f1+ 36.£h4 £d2 37.f6 £f3+ 38.£g3 h5 39.£xh5 £d1 40.f7 £d4 41.f8=£ Black Resigns. 1–0

○ Koehler, W.
• Evans, L.
USA National Open (2)
Las Vegas 1968 0–1 B49
After a brief theoretical skirmish a remarkable endgame blooms in only 15 moves. Black gambles on an Exchange sacrifice, proving once again that ingenuity will out even in well-trodden paths. 1.e4 £c5 2.£f3 £e6 3.d4 £cxd4 4.£xd4 £c6 5.£e3 £a6 6.£ce2 £f6 7.£e2 8–0–0 It’s debatable whether White should stop for 8... £a3 to prevent Black’s next move. 8... £b4 9.£a4 £d6 Black has a welter of interesting choices. For 9...£o–o!? see Garcia-Evans, 1966. Another offbeat idea is 9...£e7!? 10. £c4 £xe4 11. £f3 £c5 12. £a3 £xh4 13. £xh4 £e6 14. £xh8 15. £g5 £h6 16. £f4 £d7 17. £f3 £f5 18. £e5 £xh8 19. £xh8 £e7 20. £g4 £xh8 21. £xh8 £e7
11. £xc6 12. £xc6 £b7 The real point is to save this bishop. White keeps the upper hand after 12...Rb8 13. £xh8 £xh8 14. £d3. The next few moves are forced. 13.£xa8 £xe4 14.£f3 £xf3 15.£xf3 £xf3 16.c6 £b5 Black has a pawn for the Exchange and his minor pieces are stationed magnificently. The immediate threat is h4. 17.h4 Maybe 17. a4 right away is better. But not 17. h3? 18. £g4 £xg4 19. £hxg4 £h3 17...£g4 18.a4 £e7 19.axb5 £xb5 20.b4 £xe3 21.fxe3 £c6 22.c4 £xg3 23.exb5 £xb5 24.£xe1 £b8 25.£e8+ £f6 26.£a7 £xh4 Black just keeps eating pawns. 27.£e7 £g3 28.£xb5 £xc7 More efficient than 28...£xb5 29. Rxd7 £h4 30. Rxa7 with drawing chances. 29.£xc7 £xb4 30.£e8+ £e7 31. £a8 £b4 32.£f2 g5 The rest is a visit to the butcher shop. The knight is now match for no pawns. 33.£g7 £b2+ 34.£f3 £f5 35.£h5 £e5 36.e4 £g4+ 37.£e3 £f4+ 38.£xf4 exf4+ 39.£xf4 £g3 40. £h8 £h2 White Resigns.

0–1

○ Bilek, I.
• Gheorghiu, F.
Bucharest Romania 1968 1–0 B25
Seldom is premature castling punished so drastically. White’s energetic combination reveals the potential of his hitherto unfashionable opening system. 1.e4 £c5 2.£f3 £d6 3.g3 £e6 4.£g2 £g6 5.d3 £g7 6.f4 £e7 7.£h3 £ge7 8–0–O 8–0–O Careless. The right plan is 8...£xf4! 9. Nxf4 £o–o 10. Nfd5 £xd5 11. £xd5 £e6 12. £f3 £d7 13. £d3 £b5 with equal chances (Bilek-Evans, Lugano Olympiad 1968).
9.£f5 £xf5 Necessary is 9...£e6 either here or on the next move. 10.£xf5 £xh4 11. £f3 £f5 12. £e4 £xf4 12...£e6 is refuted by 13. £xh4+ £xh4 14. £h3 £g5 15. £g5 £g4 16. £d5 £e6 17. £f1 £xe2 18. £g6 The finishing touch. Black’s king can’t escape from its tight wedge. If 18...£xg6 19. £xg6. 18...£d4 19. £h6 Black Resigns.

1–0

○ Bilek, I.
• Evans, L.
18th Olympiad (7)
Lugano, Switzerland 1968 0–1 B25
A classic illustration of how Black should handle the closed Sicilian. 5-time USA champion Evans first makes sure his king is impregnable and then sacrifices a piece to penetrate on the queenside. 1.e4 £c5 2.£f3 £c6 3.g3 £g6 4.£g2 £g7 5.d3 £d6 6.f4 £e5 7.£h3 £ge7 8–0–O £xf4 The point is 8. £xf4 f5 stops the attack cold. 9.£xf4 0–0 10.£f5 £xd5 11.£f3 £e6 12.£f4 £h7 13.c3 £b5 14.a3 Creates a new weakness without stopping Black’s strategy to break with b4 and thus activate his bishop along the a1–h8 diagonal. Better is 14. £d2 or £e3. 14...£a5 15.£c5 £d3 16.£f4 £a7 17.£d2 £c6 18. £f2 £b8 19. £af1 £d7 20.£d1 £b7 White’s prospects on the kingside have come to a standstill while Black masses for the inevitable b4. 21.£c1 b4
22.axb4 Better is 22. cxb4 a4x b3 24. d4. 22...exb4 23.e4 b3 24. h2 a6 25. e1 b7 White is reduced to marking time while Black quietly prepares to double rooks followed by a3. 26. e3 a3 27. c4 The most efficient winning method. 28. dxc4 dxc4 29. d3 e5 30. d4 b2 31. e6 a2 32. e5 b1= 33. x6 d6 e8 34. c7 c7 35. c3 Also hopeless is 35. Qf6 Rxe5. 35...exf1 36. xa1= 37. xc7 b7 White Resigns 0-1

○ Spassky, B.
○ Geller, Y.
Match (6)
Moscow 1968 1-0 B25

Spassky’s lopsided score in this match of 3 1/2 - 1/2 with the "closed" system against the Sicilian did much to revive its popularity. Geller is defeated with apparent ease when his queenside counterplay proves ineffective.

1.e4 c5 2. e5 Chigorin employed this move with success at the turn of the century. White plans on dominating d5 which means that it will be difficult for either player to open the center. Thus the system is known as "closed" because the struggle mostly will be confined to the wings. 2...d6 3.g3 d5 4.g2 g6 5.d3 g7 6.f4 An elastic count 20...f6 Reserves f3 or h3 for his knight. The older moves were 6. Nge2 or Be3. 6...f6 For 6...e5 see Bilek-Gheorghiu, 1968. A more viable plan is 6...e6 followed by Nge7 and f5. Only after this crushing defeat did Geller switch to that idea in their last match game. 7.f3 O-O 8.O-O 9.b3

28. xg7+ e8 29.g5 f5 A last gasp. Mate is unavoidable on 29...fxg5 30. Bxg5. 30. xg6+ f7 31. f6= 32. exf5+ Black Resigns. After 32...Kb6 33. Qxb7+ Qb7 34. Bxb7 Kxb6 35. f6 the pawns can’t be stopped.

1-0

○ Tal, M.
○ Gligoric, S.
Match (1)
Moscow 1968 0-1 C93

Tal, one of the greatest attackers in history, lost a lot of his fire due to poor health. Yet he remained a dangerous opponent even after losing the crown back to Botvinnik in 1961. Here he is stymied by ruthlessly precise defense after failing to land a roundhouse blow.

1.e4 e5 2. f3 d5 3. b5 a6 4. a4 b6 5.0-O 6. c7 6. be1 c5 7. b3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9. h3 b6

The idea is to hold the center by Re8 and Bf8 while preventing the Ng5 which aims at f7. 10. d4 e8 11. b2 d7 12. c4 d6 13. e2 a5 14. e3 c6 15. a4 d5 16.b3 After 16. exd4 exd4 Black drew without difficulty in Stein-Spassky, Amsterdam 1964. 16...dxe 17. c4 18. b4

18...xe4 19. xe4 20. g4 A wild try for advantage. Steadier is 20. Re1 Na5 21. a5 Nb5 22. Rxe4! with equality. 20...a5 21. b6 22. x3 23. a3 M3 ing it up. The rook is untouched in view of 22...Bxa3? 23. Rxg7+ Kh8 24. Ng5 Re5 25. Qh5. Later their fifth match game was drawn after 22. Rb1 23. Bxa3 24. e5 Be4! 25. f4

19. a4 b5 20...d5 21. e5 d5 22. c5 d6 23. e5 b4 24. c4 d5 25. b4 e5 26. a3 f5

26...e3 27. e1 d5 28. e4 Simple 28...g6 when White must sacrifice a rook on g6 to obtain a draw. 29. x4 d1 30. c1 b2 31. h5 22. b4 33. bxc6 34. b4 32. b4 35. d1 This is what Tal overlooked. The mate threat compel White to plunge into unfavorable simplifications. 36. x7+ x7 37. x6+ e6 38. g6+ d5 39. f5 b7 40. e3 A witty way
to eliminate technical problems. 41.fxe3 \text{\textit{c7}}

Adhering to the principle that rooks belong BEHIND passed pawns. The rest is window dressing. 42.\texttt{g3} c4 43.\texttt{xf4} c3 44.e4+ \texttt{xe4} 45.\texttt{a6} e2 46.\texttt{a1} \texttt{d3} White Resigns.

0-1

\begin{itemize}
\item Ivkov, B.
\item Donner, J.
\end{itemize}

Capablanca Memorial

Cuba

1968 1-0 C81

"This is the kind of game I always admire: a new idea in the opening, an excellent conception of the middle game and, finally, a spectacular kingside attack involving sacrifices" – Rossolimo.

1.e4 \text{\textit{d6}} 2.d4 \texttt{f6} 3.\text{\texttt{g3}} \text{\texttt{c6}} 3.\texttt{b5} a6 4.\texttt{a4} \texttt{f6} 5.\texttt{e5} 6.\texttt{d4} \texttt{e4} 6.\text{\texttt{dxe4}} \texttt{c5} 7.\texttt{b3} d5 8.\texttt{dxe5} \texttt{e6} 9.\texttt{c4} e5 10.\texttt{d1} \texttt{xc3} 11.\text{\texttt{exb3}} Violating principle by capturing away from the center is an original idea. White hopes to exploit the open c-file. 11...\texttt{e7}

Perhaps Black should regroup with 11...\texttt{Nf8} 12.\texttt{Bg5} \texttt{Be7} 13.\text{\texttt{Bxc3}} \texttt{O–O} 13.\text{\texttt{e3}} \texttt{a5} 14.\text{\texttt{b1}} \texttt{c1} 15.\texttt{e4} \texttt{g4} 16.\texttt{e5} \texttt{f4} 17.\text{\texttt{Kb1}} \texttt{c6} 18.\texttt{Bc1} Black’s has lost control over c5. If 15...\texttt{Rc8} 16.\texttt{Nd5} \texttt{Rc4} 17.\texttt{Bxe4} 18.\texttt{Qf4} 19.\texttt{Qf3} 20.\texttt{Qxf4} It’s also over after 20...\texttt{exd5} 21.\texttt{Rxc8} \texttt{Qxc8} 22.\texttt{Bxc8} With a family fork. 21.\texttt{b6} Black Resigns. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item Tal, M.
\item Donner, J.
\end{itemize}

Postal Game

Holland

1968 1-0 C82

Ordinarily it is difficult to launch an attack in this variation of the French Defense because of the barricaded Black’s king to the center and then proceeds to open lines with wild abandon. 1.e4 \text{\textit{c5}} 2.d4 \texttt{e5} 3.\texttt{d4} \texttt{c6} 4.\texttt{e5} \text{\texttt{d5}} 5.\text{\texttt{c3}} \texttt{xc3}+ 6.\texttt{bxc3} \text{\texttt{b7}} White reinforced his center at the cost of doubled pawns and Black hastens to exert pressure along the c-file. 7.\texttt{f3} \texttt{b6} 8.\texttt{a4} \texttt{a6} 9.\texttt{xe6} 9...\texttt{xe6} 10.\texttt{we2} \texttt{e2} Avoiding the trap 10...\texttt{cxd4} 11.\texttt{Qb5}+ \texttt{Kd8} 12.\texttt{Qxe6} \text{\textit{Qxc3}}+ 13.\texttt{Ke2} \texttt{Qxa1} 14.\texttt{Bb5}+ winning the queen. 11.\texttt{a5} \texttt{bxa5} 11...\texttt{cxd4} 12.\texttt{O–O} is unclear but White’s attacking prospects remain bright. 12.\texttt{Qa3} \texttt{d7} 13.\texttt{dx5} \texttt{c7} 14.\texttt{c6} This thematic pawn sacrifice opens the a3-f8 diagonal and hems the Black king in the center. 14...\texttt{Wxc6} 15.\texttt{O–O} \texttt{Wxc3} The purpose is not so much to gain another pawn as to prevent \texttt{Nd4}. 16.\texttt{Wd1} \texttt{d6} \texttt{Tal} feels that 16...\texttt{Qc4} 17.\texttt{Qd2} \texttt{Nc6} may be somewhat better; in that case White can continue his attack with 18. \texttt{Bd6} followed by 19. \texttt{Ra3}. 17.\texttt{d5} \texttt{c4} 18.\texttt{we3} \texttt{e4} 19.\texttt{d2} \texttt{f6} Desperately trying to swap queens and diminish the force of the attack. 19.\texttt{Wb3} \texttt{b6} Preventing \texttt{Qb7}. With two extra pawns Black’s position looks cozy and his king is ready to go to \texttt{d7} with a measure of safety. But the next move shatters his illusions. 20.\texttt{we4} \texttt{xc4} 21.\texttt{a3} \texttt{a6} 22.\texttt{we1} \texttt{c1} \texttt{e8} Black could organize a better defense with 22...\texttt{Nc4} immediately. 23.\texttt{d2} \texttt{f6} It’s hard to conceded that Black’s solid position already is lost. Another possible defense is 23...\texttt{Nd4}. 24.\texttt{exe6} \texttt{fxe6} 25.\text{\texttt{Wf3}} \texttt{d7} Relatively better is 25...\texttt{Nd7}. 26.\text{\texttt{exf6}} \texttt{he8} Even worse is 26...\texttt{Kxh6} 27.\texttt{Nxe4} \texttt{Ke8} 28.\texttt{Wc4} \texttt{c5} 29.\texttt{dxc5} \text{\texttt{Qc4}} 30.\texttt{dxc7} \texttt{Bxh2} Black Resigns. The point is 30...\texttt{Rxh2} 31.\texttt{Rxd5}+. One is left with the impression that Black could have considerably improved his defense somewhere along the way, but that doesn’t detract from Tal’s courageous performance. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item Sorokin, E.
\item Duborik, N.
\end{itemize}

Postal Game

USSR

1968 1-0 B09

Correspondence chess takes place far from the hurly burly of the tournament arena, but it doesn’t lack tension. Many theoretical novelties are rigorously tested by mail, and this one contains its share of fireworks. 1.e4 \text{\textit{d6}} 2.d4 \texttt{g6} 3.\texttt{c3} \texttt{g6} 4.\texttt{f4} \texttt{g7} 5.\texttt{f3} \text{\textit{O–O}} 6.e5 Less sharp but also playable is 6. \texttt{Bd3}. 6...\texttt{f3} 7.\texttt{h4} \texttt{c5} 8.\texttt{hxg6} 9.\texttt{cxd4} \texttt{hgx6} A wild piece sacrifice. For 9. \texttt{Qxd4} see Padevsky- Matanovich, 1966. 9...\texttt{dx5} 10.\texttt{fxg7} \texttt{xf7} 11.\texttt{c4} \texttt{e6} Hoping for 12. \texttt{Bxe6}. \texttt{Nxe5}! Another possible defense is 11...\texttt{Nd7}. 12.\texttt{Nf3} 13.\texttt{Kf3} \texttt{Kg8} 14.\texttt{a4} \texttt{g5} 15.\texttt{b4} \texttt{a5} 16.\texttt{a3} \texttt{Qd6} 17.\texttt{Nc2} \texttt{Bb5} 18.\texttt{Bb5} \texttt{Bb5} 19.\texttt{Nc4} \texttt{e4} 20.\texttt{Qf3} \texttt{e5} 21.\texttt{Bxe5} \texttt{Qxe5} 22.\texttt{Qxe5} \texttt{Nd6} Returning the piece to destroy the center. 23.\texttt{fxe5} The real test of whether this line is sound would come after
13. Qh5 h6. 13...xa5 Sets everything right again. Black misses a clear win by 13...cxb2! 14. Qh5 Qxg5! 14...h5 The queen will return twice more to this square, and each time with new threats. 14...xe5+ 15...e2 f5 16.g4 cxb2 16...Qg3+ 17. Kd1 Rd5+ 18. Bd3 Rxd3+ is exquisitely refuted by 19. Ke2! and the king slips out while Black is faced with deadly mating threats. 17.gxf5 a5+ 18...d1 d5+ 19...d3 xh1+ 20...xh1 bxa1= An ingenious defense. Now White is at the crossroads: play to win a rook down or take a factory alternative. He could try 13...f5 14. Qb5 e4 15.dxe4 dxe4 16.Rd2 Qf6 17.g4! h5 18.Rxf5 sets everything right again.


26.xh6+ Black Resigns. Neat to the end. To 26...Kxh6 27. Qb5+ Kg7 28. Qc6+ Kg8 29. Ng4+ Kh7 30. Qc7+ Kh8 31. Ng5+ Kg7 32. Nf7+ wins the house.

25...Qg7+ 26. Qf7xh6+ Black Resigns. Neat to the end. If 26...Kxh6 27. Qh4+ Kg7 28. Qg6+ Kh7 29. Qxe5+ g6 Forced. If 24...Kh8 25. Nf7+ wins the house. 25...xe5+ 26. Qxe5+ Qg7


Botvinnik was noted for his strategic depth. His opponent analyzes wins against either 22...Qe7 or Bxe6 but perhaps Black can find an escape clause. 23.e7 Qg4+ 24...xg4 d5 On 24...Ne5 25. Bxh7+ Kh8 26. Qh3 still demolishes the defense. 25...h5 Black Resigns. If 25...Qxe7 26. Bxh7+ Kh8 27. Ba3! Qxa3 28. Qf7 mate.

1-0

○ Smyslov, V.
• Liberzon, V.

Riga

USSR 1968 1-0 A25

“My best game in ten years,” said former world champion Smyslov. His queen sacrifice is very deep and proves to be an unexpected bonus for his positional superiority.

1.e4 e5 2...c3 c6 3.g3 g6 4...g2 g7 5.b1 d6 6.b4 a6 Also playable is 6...f5 right away so as not to create a queenside target. Evans-Spassky, Lugano Olympiad 1968, continued 7. d3 Nf6 8. b5 Ne7 9. e4 O–O 10. Qe2 a6 with equality.

1.e4 e5 2...c3 c6 3.g3 g6 4...g2 g7 5.b1 d6 6.b4 a6 Also playable is 6...f5 right away so as not to create a queenside target. Evans-Spassky, Lugano Olympiad 1968, continued 7. d3 Nf6 8. b5 Ne7 9. e4 O–O 10. Nge2 a6 with equality.

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1.e4 e5 2...c3 c6 3.g3 g6 4...g2 g7 5.b1 d6 6.b4 a6 Also playable is 6...f5 right away so as not to create a queenside target. Evans-Spassky, Lugano Olympiad 1968, continued 7. d3 Nf6 8. b5 Ne7 9. e4 O–O 10. Nge2 a6 with equality.

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1.e4 e5 2...c3 c6 3.g3 g6 4...g2 g7 5.b1 d6 6.b4 a6 Also playable is 6...f5 right away so as not to create a queenside target. Evans-Spassky, Lugano Olympiad 1968, continued 7. d3 Nf6 8. b5 Ne7 9. e4 O–O 10. Nge2 a6 with equality.

1.e4 e5 2...c3 c6 3.g3 g6 4...g2 g7 5.b1 d6 6.b4 a6 Also playable is 6...f5 right away so as not to create a queenside target. Evans-Spassky, Lugano Olympiad 1968, continued 7. d3 Nf6 8. b5 Ne7 9. e4 O–O 10. Nge2 a6 with equality.
subjected to unrelenting harassment. 31...h6 w6e6 32.b4 wxe3+ 33.h2 w3e4 34.wf1 c4 35.wf2 w1e1 36.wxg5 wxb5 37. d2 wb1 The queen is almost more trouble than it’s worth. She has to be constantly protected and is inefficient both for defense and attack. 38.d5+ w8h8 39.c3+ w5e5 40.wxe5 dx5e5 41.wx5e5 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Benko, P.
• Horowitz, A.
USA Championship
New York
1968 1-0 A14
Black single-mindedly pursues a consistent strategic theme: exploiting White’s weak square on b3. This obsession proves to be his downfall when he is caught off guard on the opposite flank.

1.c4 e6 2.d3 f5 3.b3 c6 4.g3 e6 Passive. 4...Bf5 (or g6) is more enterprising. 5.g2 e7
6...b2 O-O 7.O-O a5 8.a3 c5 An obvious loss of time, since the pawn took two moves to reach a square it could have reached in one. Better is
8...Nbd7 but not 8...a4 9. b4 dx4 10.Ne5 favorably regaining the pawn. 9.cxd5 exd5 10.d4 a6 A strange place for the knight, but consistent with his attempt to exploit b3. More flexible is 10...b6. 11.0-0 a5 12.e5 cxd4 13.wxd4 c5 Apparently White fell into a trap and left b3 vulnerable. If he is obliged to retreat with 14. Qd1 Qb6 15. Nxd5 Nxd5 16. Bxd5 Rad8 would be tough to meet. 14.wxd5 xb3 15.wf4 xd5 Necessary is 15...Bc2 16. Nxe7+ Qxe7 17. Rael Rd8 with fair chances of survival. 16.wxg5 wxa1 17.wxg7 The killer. Black was hoping for 17. Rd1 Ne3!
17...wes8 If 17...Nc2 18. Bxe4! Rd6 19. Qh5! Rh6 20. Qxh6! Equally hopeless is 17...Rx7 18. Bxd5. 18.h6+ w8h8 19.wxh5 a7 c2 20.w7g8+ Black Resigns. A man shamed mannerly mate after 20...Rxg8 21.Nf7.

1-0

○ Medina, G.
• Pomar, A.
Malaga
Spain
1969 1-0 B89
Another testament to the infinite richness of chess. Black’s refinement on move 14, aimed at thwarting the Velimirovic attack, spawns a host of new complications.

1.e4 c5 2.d3 d6 3.d4 Qf6 4.Qc3 The scant experience with 4. dxc5 Nxe4 5. cxd6 e6 6. Qd3 Nxd6 7. Ne3 indicates that White holds the edge. 4...cxd4 5.wxd4 Qc6 6.wc4 w7e7 7.b3 a6 8.e3 e6 9.wc2 w7e7 10.Qb3 c5 11.g4 wxb3+ 12.axb3 b5 13.g5 w7e7 14.a5 b4 Apparently Pomar has no taste for 14...exf5 15. Nd5 as in Velimirovic-Sofrevsky, 1966, but his medicine may be even more bitter. 15.wxg7+ An imaginative gamble. The prudent 15. Nxe7 bxc6 16. Nxc8 Rxc8 gives Black some counterplay despite his abysmally weak d-pawn. 15...w7f8 16.w7h5 w7g7 The complications are also monstrous after 16...bxc3 17. Qh6! Qa5. 17.d4+ w7e5 18.f4 Saving the knight with 18.Na4 would lose the momentum of the attack after 18...Bb7. 18...hx5 19.wxe3 w7b7 Black can hope to weather the storm by returning the piece by 19...d6 20. fxe6 Bxb5+ 21. Kb1 dxe6 22.h4! is very strong. Desperate measures are needed and the answer is 19...Qxc3! 20. bxc3 Ng6 netting three pieces for the queen. 20.wxe5 dxe5 21.Qe2 w7d7 22.Qg6+ Qh8 23.Qxe5 f6 24.gxf6 c5 Or 24...Bb5 25.Rg1+ Kf7 26. Qh5 mate. 25.Qf7+ Qxg5 26.fxg7 Rarely does one pawn win two rooks! 26...Qxg7 27.Qxh8=Q w7xh8 28.Qxh8 w7e4 29.Qf3+ Qf3 An Exchange and pawn down, Black could safely resign instead of dragging it out to the bitter end. 30.Qg5 e5 31.Qf4 c5 32.b1 Qg6 33.Qf4 w7d7 34.e4 Qa5 35.Qe3 Qb6 36.wf1 w7f6 37.e3+ Qb5 38.Qf4+ Qc5 39.Qf3+ Qg2 40.Qg3+ Qf2 41.Qh2 Qh5 42.Qg8 a5 43.e4 Finally gets the passed pawn moving! 43...Qh4 44.Qe3+ c6 45.Qd4 Qf6 46.b4+ a4 Qd2 47.Qb3 Qxb4 48.c5 Qc4 49.e6 Qc6 50.Qa4 Qd5 51.Qb5 Qe4 52.Qf6 h3 53.Qb8 e4 54.Qd5 Black Resigns. At last the pawn triumphs after 54...exd5 55. e7.

1-0

○ Tal, M.
• Bobotchan, J.
Havana Olympics
Cuba
1969 1-0 B89
One expects Tal to prevail in positions replete with attacking themes. But the unique twist he gives the task each time is truly marvelous. Here his "quiet" maneuver on move 25 is the straw that broke the camel’s back.

1.e4 c5 "It is more desirable to try 1...e5 against Tal but Bobotchan is a hard-headed opponent who steps aside for no one" – R. Byrne. 2.d3 f3 Qc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.wxd4 e6 5.Qc3 d6 6.Qe3 w6f6 7.Qf4 e7 8.Qc2 O-O 9.Qb3 a6 The immediate 9...Na5 snuffing out the bishop on b3 is the
right way to get into the fight. 10.O–O–O \( \text{a}5 \)
It’s preferable to reserve this square for the knight. Better is 10...Qc7. 11.\( \text{b}1 \) \( \text{e}8 \)
More active is 11...Bd7 and b5. Black mistakenly assumed that the breakthrough will come with f4-e5 and braces himself against that pawn advance. 12.\( \text{g}1 \) \( \text{d}7 \)
13.g4 \( \text{cxd4} \) 14.\( \text{xd4} \) \( \text{c}6 \) 15.g5 \( \text{d}7 \) 16.\( \text{d}3 \) \( \text{g6} \)
17.\( \text{h}4 \) \( \text{c}5 \) 18.\( \text{h}5 \) \( \text{xb3} \) Capturing the rook would allow White’s bishops to rake the kingside, so the kind offer is declined. On 18...Nx\( \text{d}3 \) 19.\( \text{Qxd}3 \) Bx\( \text{g}5 \) 20.\( \text{hxg}6 \) fx\( \text{g}6 \) 21.\( \text{e}5 \) gives a potential attack. 19.ax\( \text{b}3 \) \( \text{e}5 \) 20.\( \text{d}2 \) \( \text{e}7 \)
This retreat exposes the folly of 10...\( \text{Qa}5 \). 21.\( \text{d}2 \) \( \text{ad}8 \)
22.\( \text{h}1 \) \( \text{f}8 \) 23.\( \text{w}4 \) \( \text{b}5 \) 24.\( \text{h}4 \) \( \text{b}4 \) 25.\( \text{d}1 \) \( \text{d}5 \)
Bolbochan is a very stubborn, indefatigable defender, and he has managed to prime a promising counterattack. 26.\( \text{e}3 \) \( \text{dxe}4 \) 27.\( \text{g}4 \)
The knight’s mission is revealed. Now if 27...exd3 28.\( \text{Nf}6+ \text{Kh}8 \) 29.\( \text{hxg}6 \) dxc\( \text{4} \) 30.\( \text{Qxe}4 \) Quite a road traveled all the way from d1! 30...\( \text{exd}4 \) 31.\( \text{gxh}6 \) \( \text{g7} \) 32.\( \text{dh}3 \) \( \text{d}5 \)
33.\( \text{h}5 \) \( \text{d}7 \) 34.\( \text{wxe}8+ \) Black Resigns. Brilliant to the very end. On 34...\( \text{Kxe}8 \) 35.\( \text{h}8=\text{Q}+ \text{Bxh}8 \) 36.\( \text{Rxh}8+ \text{Ke}7 \) 37.\( \text{Bxb}4+ \) nets a whole rook.
1-0

### Tishkovsky, V.

#### USSR Championship

Moscow 1969 1-0 C41

Black attempts a refutation of a book refutation, but one more refutation restores the original judgment. The more things change, the more they remain the same.

1.e4 \( \text{e}5 \) 2.\( \text{c}3 \) \( \text{f}6 \) 3.d4 \( \text{c}6 \) 4.\( \text{f}3 \) \( \text{c}3 \) Weaker is the once popular 4. dxe5 N\( \text{xe}4 \) 5. Nbd2 Nxd2 6. Bxd2 Be7! 7. exd6 Qx\( \text{d}6 \) 8. Be3 O-O 9. Qxd6 Bxd6 with a drawish ending (Bolshavsky-Keres, Moscow 1962). 4...\( \text{bd}7 \) 5.\( \text{e}4 \) \( \text{c}4 \) \( \text{e}7 \) 6.0-0 O-O 7.a4 \( \text{c}6 \) 8.\( \text{we}1 \) \( \text{exd}4 \) Better is 8...Qc7 to maintain the central tension. Obviously Lutikov is steering for a prepared variation since he already used this same defense against Smyslov at the Chigorin Memorial in 1960. That game continued 8...a5 9. h3 exd4 10. Nxd4 N\( \text{ce}5 \) 11. Q\( \text{c}7 \) 12. Bf4 with a freer game. 9.\( \text{xd}4 \) \( \text{xe}4 \) Without this follow-up the previous move abandoning the center loses much of its point. 10.\( \text{xe}4 \) \( \text{d}5 \) 11.\( \text{f}5 \) Black undoubtedly had some improvement in mind over Suetin-Gusev, Tula 1950 which went 11. Ba2 dx\( \text{e}4 \) 12. Rd1 Bf6 13. Nf5 Qc7 14. Qxe4 N\( \text{c}5 \) 15.Qf3 B\( \text{e}5 \) 16. Bg5! with clear advantage. 11...\( \text{dc}4 \) This must be Lutikov’s novelty. In case of 11...\( \text{dxc}4 \) White need not retreat his bishop as in the previous note and would thus gain an extra tempo for the attack. An old Keres analysis runs 11...dxe4 12. Qxe4 Bf6 13. Nh\( \text{f}6+ \) g\( \text{h}6 \) 14. Bd3 Re\( \text{e}8 \) 15. Qx\( \text{h}7+ \) Kf\( \text{8} \) 16. Bx\( \text{h}6+ \) Ke7 17. Rf1+ Kd6 18. Bf4+ Be5 19. Qxf7 but Black by no means can be counted out. 12.\( \text{h}6 \)

### Smekal, J.

#### Hastings

England 1969 1-0 B06

Tournament winner’s Smyslov only loss was against this young Czech player. After one inadvertent move the roof caved in.

1.e4 \( \text{g}6 \) 2.d4 \( \text{g}7 \) 3.c3 An unpretentious system aimed at bolstering the center. 3...\( \text{d}6 \) 4.f4 \( \text{f}6 \) 5.e5 \( \text{d}5 \) 6.\( \text{f}3 \) O-O 0 The game has earmarks of Alekhine’s Defense where White has refrained from driving the knight away with c4. Black has nothing to fear – yet. 7.\( \text{c}4 \) \( \text{c}6 \) 8.a4 \( \text{a}6 \) 9.0-0 \( \text{ac}7 \) 10.\( \text{e}1 \) \( \text{f}6 \) A handy defensive move which assails the central pawn wedge and mutes the maneuver \( \text{Qh}4 \) and Ng5. 11.\( \text{h}4 \) \( \text{e}6 \) 12.\( \text{a}3 \) \( \text{d}7 \)

13.\( \text{d}2 \) \( \text{b}5 \) 14.\( \text{d}3 \) \( \text{b}6 \) 15.ax\( \text{b}5 \) cxb5 16.\( \text{ae}1 \) \( \text{a}6 \) Underestimating the attack. Better is 16...\( \text{dx}5 \) 17. fxe5 a6 with a hard game for both sides. Now

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1-0

○ Milko Bobotsov
● Bent Larsen

Busum
West Germany
1969 0-1 A17

“Light desert after dinner” is how Larsen describes
this game, his shortest win over a grandmaster.
After all the warnings against leaving the king
in the center too long, this illustrates the danger
of castling too soon. Bobotsov carelessly drops a
pawn on move six and goes from bad to worse as
he desperately tries to regain it. As usual, one bad
move leads to another.
1.c4 2.e4 c5 3.d4 e5 4.e5 d6 Black has no scope
and serves only to obstruct the White
Kingside and his pawns are ready to ad-

tance on the other wing.

9...dxc4 10.bxc4 22.Qxe3 23.Ne4 24.fxe3 is crush-

11...Qg4 12.Qxe4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Bc5 14.Qb7
Forced. If 27...Nxg5 28.Qh5+ Ke6 29.fxe3 Qg3 30.Nxe4

White loses nothing by repeating moves to gain time
on the clock.


Piling more pressure on the pinned rook and hitting
the bishop as well. Now if 30...Bg8 31.Bxh8.
The end is near. 30...Qf7 31.Kg6 32.Nh5

Black Resigns. On 32...Nxf7 33.Qg7 Black must

how can he develop his queenside? Also hopeless
was 4.Ne5 Bd7 5.Qf3 g4 6.Qe2 Qg7 7.axb4 Bxe4 8.Qxc4
d3 9.exd6 Qf6 10.Qe2 Bg4 11.d3 Bxh3+ 12.Kh1

White has won back the pawn, but

31...Qxh3 32.Bxh3 Qg4+ 33.Kf2 Qh4+ 34.Kg1

Qf3+ 35.Kh2 Kf5 36.Nxf3+ Kg4

15...Qxg6 16.h3 This surprising riposte decides the game.


White resigns. Black prefers to win the pinned knight, rather
than 15...Bxf1 16.Kxh6 which also wins. Note that

the bishop on c1 played no role in the action.

0-1

○ Petrov, T.
● Gligoric, S.

? Rovinj-Zagreb
1970 0-1 E97

It is when both sides play to win that the most ex-

citing chess is produced. In this game, Gligoric of-

fers a consistent and sound piece sacrifice, which

ought only to have maintained the balance. Pet-

rosian’s attempt to hold on to everything results in

his being exiled to h1.

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 c6 3.d4 cxd5 4.e5 Bg4 5.Nf3

White has a winning at-

10...Qd6 7.Qc2 Qf7 8.Qc2 Qf7 9.Qxd6 Bc5 10.Qd5

Black is already lost.

116

0-1

○ Petrosian, T.
- Gligoric, S.
- Rovinj - Zagreb (5)
- Yugoslavia

1970 0-1 E97

Petrosian was a hard man to beat because he took few risks and seemed content to draw with his peers. Here Gligoric upends him with a thematic piece sacrifice in a sharp line of the King's Indian Defense. The effort was awarded a brilliancy prize.

1.c4 \[g6\] 2. [f3] \[g7\] 3.d4 \[f6\] 4.c3 \[O-O\] 5.e4 \[d6\] 6.e4 \[e5\] 7.0-0 \[\text{Qe6}\] 8.d5 \[\text{Qe7}\] 9.b4 \[\text{hx5}\] Also playable is 9...Nd7 but Black seeks his for-

10...f6 11.a4 \[f5\] 12...[b6] 13.f4 \[e6\] 14. [Je1] \[\text{Na5}\] 15. \[\text{d3}\] with which he ac-


30...\[\text{xe6}\] \[\text{d6}\] 30. [e4] \[f8\] A waste of time. More pertinent is

1970 1-0 E97


30. [e8\] 28. [\text{xe4}\] \[xb2\] 29. [\text{g3}] \[\text{e5}\] 30. [na3] \[\text{h8}\] 31. [h1] \[\text{f7}\] 32. [f1] \[\text{g3}\] 33. [xg3] 33. Nxc3 lasts longer but is just as bad. 33...\[\text{xe4}\] White Resigns. If

1.d4 \[\text{xf6}\] 2.c4 \[g6\] 3. [f3] \[d5\] 4.cxd5 \[\text{Qxd5}\] 5.e4 \[\text{xexd5}\] 6.\[\text{bxc3}\] \[g7\] 7. [\text{c4\} e5\} 8. [\text{e2}\} \[\text{e6}\] 9. [\text{c3}\} \[O-O\] 10. [\text{O-O}\} \[\text{e7}\] The main line is 10...\[\text{cxd4}\] 11. [\text{cxd4}\} Bb4 12. [f3] Na5. Karpov later re-

○ Boris Spassky
- Bobby Fischer
- 14th Chess Olympiad
- Siegen, Germany

1970 1-0 D87

The most eagerly awaited game in the entire Olympiad took place in the USSR-USA match between the world champion and his inevitable challenger. This victory was of the utmost importance for Spassky, who prevailed after a tense struggle, raising his record to three wins and two draws out of five games against Fischer before their 1972 showdown for the crown. Fischer stood well in the opening but lost his way in the midgame, as Spassky succeeded in imposing his own will on the course of events.

1. [c4] \[g6\] 2. [f3] \[d5\] 3. [\text{e4\} c5\} 5. [\text{cxd5\} \[\text{xd5}\] 6. [\text{e4}\} \[\text{xc3}\] 7. [\text{bxc3}\] \[\text{exd4}\] 8. [\text{cxd4}\] \[\text{b4+}\] 9. [\text{d2\} \[\text{xd2+}\] 10. [\text{xd2}\ It had been assumed for
many years that Black could equalize in this vari-
ation, since he could exchange several pieces. But
Polugaevsky and Spassky analyzed it in prepara-
tion for Spassky's 1969 match with Petrosian, and
discovered that things were not so simple if White
found the right squares for his Rooks.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>10...O–O</th>
<th>11.</th>
<th>d4</th>
<th>c5</th>
<th>12.O–O</th>
<th>b6</th>
<th>13.</th>
<th>a4</th>
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<th>b7</th>
<th>14.</th>
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Neither Rook is placed on an open file, but both
support the advance of the central pawns at the
right moment. White's plan may involve cre-
a- tion of a passed d-pawn, or a cramping advance
of the e4-pawn in anticipation of a Kingside at-
tack.

14...a5 15. d3 e8 16.d5 exd5 17.e5
At the cost of a pawn, White has activated his
Bishop and deadened Black's. The Black minor
pieces are a long way from Kingside ...

17...c4 18.Qf4 b2 19. xh7+ xh7 20.g5+ xg6
Forced; 20...Kh6? 21.Ne6+ is obviously out,
and 20...Kg8 runs into something like 21.e6 fx6
22.Qh4 Re8 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.Qh8+ Ke7 25.Qxg7+
Kd6 26.Nf7+, or 22...Rf5 23.Qh7+ Kh8 24.Qh8+
Ke7 25.Qxg7+ Kd6 26.Rx6+ Kc5 27.Qxb2 Rg5
28.Qc3+ and mate soon.

21.h4 The point of the combination; White threatens 22.h5+ Kxh5 23.g4+
Kg6 24.Qf5+ Kh6 25.Qh7+ Kxg5 26.Qh5+ Kf4
27.Qf5++.

21...c4 22.h5+ xh6 23.Qxf7+ xh7 24.Qf5+ xg8 25.e6 f6 Now on 25...Qe7
26.h6! is crushing: 26...Nd1 27.h7++, 26...gxh6
27.Qg6++, or 26...Rxh7 27.exh7+ Qxf7 28.h7+. 26.Qxe6 gxh6 27.d2 c6 The Knight cannot
be saved, for on 27...Nz4 comes 28.Nd6 Rc7
29.e7. 28.xb2 e8 29.h6+ xh7 30.Qf5
e6 31.Qxe6 xe6 32.xc2 c6 33.e2
e8 34.Qe7+ xh8 35.Qh4 f5 36.Qg6+ xg8
37.Qa7 Black Resigns.

1-0

- Westerinen, H.
- Evans, L.
- Olympiad (7)
- Siegen, Germany
- 1970 0-1 B99

"A typical Evans game!" sneered my team-mates,
implying that the win was routine once I had the
pawn in my pocket. But to be on the defense
through an entire game is a little hard on the nerves
– even one. One would prefer not to play such
hard chess every round, but trying to win with
Black always requires a certain degree of risk" –
Larry Evans.

1.e4 c5 2...xf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3
a6 6.Qg5 e6 7.Qf4 c7 8.Qb3 e6 9.b4 w7 7"In
many variations it is important to prevent Bc4 and
subsequent sacrifices on e6" – Evans. 10.O–O–O

10.Qh4 11.Qd3 g5 12.e5 This prepared variation is
hard to refute but basically unsound because Black
is solid. More usual 12. fxg5 Ne5. 12...gxh4
"Very risky is 12...dxe5 13. Nxex6 fx6 14. Bg6+
Kf8 15. hgx5 hxg5 16. Bxg5 Kg7 17. Qg3! If
there is a hole in this attack, it certainly would
be unpleasant to have to find it over the board
with the clock ticking" – Evans.

13.exf6 Qxf6 14.Qe1 d7 15.f2 O–O–O Black is healthy
as long as he can castle but 15...d5 is even more
accurate. 16.f5 c6 17.Qa7 The only way to
increase the pressure. If 17. Nxe7+ Qxe7 18.
Qxb4 Bxg2 holds the pawn. 17...he8 18.Qd4
White can’t regain the pawn. If 18. Nxe6 Bf8;
or 18. Nxb4 Nh5 19. Qf2 Nxf4! (20. Qxf4?
Bg5 pins the queen).

18...d7 Curiously, the fact that Black has a number of plausible moves
complicates his defensive task! 19.f5 Qe5 20.Qxe6
g5+ 21.b1 fx6 22.a3 d7 Snatching a second
pawn by 22...Bxg2 23. Nxe6 Rxe6 24. Bf5
Qf7 is okay but too complicated in time pressure.
Black’s aim is to consolidate as fast as possible.

23. e4 w8 24.w6 d5 25.d3 Now White gets
pushed off the board. He must mix it up by 25.
Bxd5! exd5 26. Nxd5. 25...f4 26.Qe2
Necessary was 26. h3 to save the pawn but the rest of
the game was played "blitz" by both sides in acute
time pressure. 26...xh2 27.f1 w7 28.w7
e6 29.Qxc6 wxc6 30.Qf7 b8 Now Black’s
king is safe and the rest is technique. 31.w4 d4
d3 32.Qg7 e5 33. f6 c6 34. xe6 wxe6 35.Qh7
b8 36. d2 c6 37.Qd2 f2 38.Qc3 d4
39.Qc2 e3 40. d3 d4 41. b3 e4 White Resigns

0-1

- Fischer, R.
- Larsen, B.
- Interzonal (9)
- Palma, Mallorca
- 1970 0-1 B89

This game is memorable because it was Fischer’s
only loss in this qualifying event before an in-
credible winning streak that brought him the world
championship in 1972. A year later Fischer wiped
out the Great Dane 6-0 in their candidates’ match.

1.e4 c5 2...xf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3
e6 6.Qg5 e6 7.Qf4 c7 8.Qb3 e6 9.b4 w7 7"In
many variations it is important to prevent Bc4 and
subsequent sacrifices on e6" – Evans. 10.O–O–O

11.Qd3 g5 12.e5 This prepared variation is
...


h6 23. Bg4 f4 Larsen’s cool defense now precludes 24. Nxe6? Qc8 25. Rxd6 Re7. White has only two pawns for the piece, but Black still faces technical problems. 30. Bb6 Bxf3 31. Bxb4 Bc8 32. Bb2 f2 33. c1 f7 Winning an important pawn, after which the path will be cleared for the advance of his own h-pawn. 34.a5 Bb8 35. Bb5 Bxb5 36. Bxe5 Bc2 37. c5 h5 38.e5 Bf3 39. Bxc3 b4 40. d3 Bc2 41. Bf1 d8+ 42. c3 Bc4 43. Bb4 Bb8+ 44. Bxa3 h3 45.e6 Bxc2 45...h2 is also sufficient. Here it was adjudged.

17.axb3 It poses too few problems. 21.a4 Bb6 22. a5 Unwise is 26. Nf5 Bxf5


Geller, E. 

Grigory Sargsyan, S. 

USSR Versus World

Belgrade 1970 1–0 C93

"When you play the Ruy Lopez, it's like milking a cow," said Bronstein, referring to the gradual squeeze on Black. Grigory reaches a tenable position but carelessly lets the Russian execute a surprising combination.


Anatoly Karpov

Alexander Zaitsev

USSR Championship Semi-Finals

Kuibyshev 1970 1–0 B17

One of the wildest games you would ever expect to see from the normally conservative Karpov, who marches his king into the center and finally wanders to the queenside for safety. "It can't be classified as correct, but what is a correct game? One

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that is ideally played by both sides; considering that neither is a machine, perhaps there will be a slight inaccuracy." – Karpov.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.c3 dxe4 4.Qxe4 Qd7 5.f3 Qf6 6.Bf4+ Qxf6 7.Qd5+ Qf5 The bishop will be harasseed on this square. Another plan is 7...Be6 followed by g6 andBg7. 8.e6 9.g4 10.h4

"Inspired by the games of Tal, the pawns want to underscore the insecure position of the bishop on g6. The point is that h6 is not playable because ofNxg6, and it is simply not possible to switch to another diagonal by 10...Be4 11. f3 Bd5 12. c4" – Karpov. 10...d6 11.e2 Inadequate is 11. h5 Be4 12. f3 Bxe5! 11...c5 12.h5 An oversight. 12. Bg2 gives White a small advantage. 12...e4 13.f3 exd4 14.Nb5+ Qd7 "I forgot about 15. Nxd6 Be6! And on 15. Qxd6 Qxd6 16. Nxd6 Bf3 would be very unpleasant. When I got about 15. Nxd7 Bc6! And on 15. Qxd7 Qxd7 16...d3+ 17.e3 Qf6 Also good is 17...Kxf6 18. Kxe4 Nf6. 18...exd4 Qxf7 19. Nf3 Ne6 20. Ng5 h6 Stronger is 20...e5! 21. Rxg3 Nc5 22. Ke3 O-O 23. Rh3 Rad8 threatening ...Ne4. 21. Ne3 e5 "It may be hard to believe, but White already has the advantage. Zaitsev should take the forced draw: 21...Nf6 22. Kxd4 Nxe4 23. fxg4 Qxf1 24. Kc2 Qxh3 25. Qxe6 Kf8 26. Qd6 Kc8 27. Qf5 Kf8 28. Bh4 and Black cannot avoid perpetual check. But how can one resist playing for mate in such a position?" – Karpov. 22.Nxd4 f4 23.g1 Q-O–O 24.c2 Qxcl 25.Qxcl Returning the pawn, but completing mobilization of all the pieces. 25...Nxa2 26.Nc2 Qb8 27.Qd2 Qa4+ 28.Bd1 Voila! Safe at last. Now, a mistake would be 28...Rxf3 29. Red1 controlling the d-file. 28...Qe7 29.d3 Qc5 Any capture on f3 is futile in view of the pin by 30. Bf5. 30.e4 Qb6 31.a6 Qxe6 32.Qd1 Complete domination! A classic example of the superiority of a bishop over a knight. 32...Qf6 33.g6 Qc7 34.e1 Qb5 35.a2 d2 36.Qf5 dxe5 Black gives up the Exchange rather than the weak pawn on e5. 37.Qxf5 d4+ 38.Qa1 Qx5 39.Kf5 Qa4+ 40.Kh4 Qf5 41.Qe7 d7 42.Kd5 Qe8 43. Qc5 Qb7 The only defense against Rc4. The rest is a matter of technique. 44.Qa8+ Qc7 45.Qa7+ Qd8 46.Qa6 Qhx5 47.f4 Qf5 48.Qa8+ Qc7 49.Qb5+ Qc6 50. c4 Qb4 51.Qxb4 Qc6 52.Qxe5 Qc7 53.Qa5+ Qb7 54.Bb5+ Qb6 55.Qd5+ Qc7 56.Qb1 Qf2 Black’s last futile threat is Qxb2 mate! 57.Qa2 Qf5+ 58.Qc4 Qxe4+ 59.Qx4 Qc5 60.Qe3 Qe6 61.Qc2 g5 62.Qc3 h5 63. b4 a6 64.c5 a3+ 65.Qe4 Qxe3 66.Qxe3hx4 67.b5 Qd8 68.b6 Qd7 69.Qd3+ Qc8 70.Qd6 h3 Too little, too late. 71.Qxe6 g4 72.Qh6 Black Resigns

1-0

o Fischer, R.
• Petrovian, T.
• USSR Vs. World (1)
Belgrade 1970 1-0 B13

An important historical contest. After an absence of almost two years from tournament chess, Fischer agreed to take second board behind Larsen in this ten board match and roared back with 3-1 over Petrosian in their set. This sweet taste of victory restored Fischer’s confidence to renew his assault on the citadel.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Qc3 Qc6 5.c3 Qf6 6.Qf4 Qg4 7.Nb3 Qa5 8...Qe8! is more accurate. If 8. h3 Bh5. 8.Qa4+ 9.Qd7 9.Qc2 e6 Hems in the Bishop. Petrosian suggested 9...a6. Capablanca once played 9...Qb6 in this position. 10.Qf3 Qb6 11.a4 To saddle Black with a bad bishop by stopping ...Bb5. There is nothing to fear from 11...Nc3 12. Ra2. 11...Qe8 12.Qb2 Qc6 13.Qb1 Qh5 14.Qe3 h6 15.Qe5 Qf6 16.h3 Qd6 17.Qf3 Qg8 18.f4 Qe8 19.Qf2 Qc7 20.Qh4 Qa4 21.f5 Qxe5 22.dxe5 Qxe5 23.Qf6 Qf6 24.Qxf7 Qxf7 25.Qf3 Qxe4 26.Qxe4 Qxe4 27.Qg6+ Qxg6 28.Qxg6 Qe7 29.Qf5 Qd8 30.Qg6+ Qxg6 31.Qf5 Qh4 32.Qe5 Qc7 33.Bc4 Qc6 34.Qd4 Qc5 35.Qf7 36.O-Q 37.Qe7 Qd8 38.Qh8+ Qe7 39.Qe1+ Black Resigns 1-0

o Vassily Smyslov
• Bobby Fischer
• Mallorca Interzonal (2)
Spain 1970 0-1 A36

The better player will win with either color, but it takes longer with Black. Fischer said the turning point in his career came with the realization that Black should play to win instead of just steering for equality, and this solid triumph with Black over a former world champion proves his point. His victory ahead of the powerful Soviet contingent in a field of 24 launched his remarkable run to the title in 1972. In order to pave the way for Fischer to compete in Mallorca, however, every American who played in the previous zonal qualifying round had to sign a waiver and step down!
1.e4 g6 2.d3 c6 3.g3 c5 4.g2 d6 5.b3 e6 6.b2 ge7 7.de4 Smyslov tries to improve on his draw with Fischer earlier in the year at Buenos Aires which continued 7. Nf3 O-O 8. Na4! e5! (inviting 9. Nxc5? e4! 10. Bxg7 exf3). Fischer wrested the initiative and at first refused Smyslov’s offer of a draw by saying, “I don’t take draws in under 40 moves!” 7...xb2 8.xb2 O-O 9.e3 d5 10.cxd5 edx5 11.e2 b6 12.d4 White pays dearly for failing to castle here. The king looks safe enough for now, but Fischer finds ways to put it under acute pressure. 12...a6 13.dxe5 Wf6 14.c4 c5 15.exc3 Wxc3+ 16.Wf1 Wf8 17.Wc1 Wh4+ 18. Wxc4 Wd3+ 19. Wg1 Wa8 20.cx6 bx6 21.Wb2 Wa5 22.h4 The result of Black’s pawn sacrifice is activity for all of his major pieces. Necessary is 20. Bf1! Nxc4 23. Qf6 Qd5 24. Bxe4 Rxc6 and now only 25...h4 with good drawing chances for White. Soon the pressure becomes unbearable. 22...Wxe4 23.Wf6 Wf5 24.Wxf5 Wxf5 25.h5 Wd2 26. Wc1 Wc5 27. Wf4 Wc5 28. Wxc5 bxc5 29. Wd4 c4 Black’s advantage has been translated into an active passed pawn and a good knight against a bad bishop. 30.h6 Wf8 31. Wa8+ Wg7 32. Wf8 Wxh2 33. Wf1 Wc2 34. Wg4 Wg4 35. Wf1 Wxf1 36. Wxc4 Wf3 37. Wg2 Wxe3 38. Wb3 Wh6 39. Wd2 Wg4 40. Wf5 Wb6 41. g6 Wb5 42. Wg1 We5 43. Wa8 Wb5 Black’s two extra pawns are decisive. In his heyday Smyslov was nearly invincible with White. This dynamic victory with Black over a former world champion showed that Fischer was on his way to the top. White Resigns. 0-1

O Evan Gasiuk
Alexander Matanovich
Skopje
Yugoslavia
1970
1-0
Players frequently complain that you can only get away with brilliant games against relatively weak opposition. Maybe. But the victim here was no slouch. GM Matanovich was the former editor-in-chief of the prestigious Chess Informant and he boasts a solid record of achievements in chess. This unknown masterpiece has never been included in the standard works about spectacular attacking games. One critic noted that “it ushered in 70s-style attacking chess without attracting much attention at the time.” White’s spectacular 30th move alone is worth the price of admission!


0-1
the open h-file. 27.\(\text{c5}\) \(\text{f5}\) \(\text{c7}\) Guarding the second rank. Of course not 27...Rxal? 28. Nh6+! gxh6 29. Nxe5+ followed by Nxc6. 28. \(\text{e3}\) \(\text{xa1}\) 29. \(\text{xa1}\) \(\text{a4}\) 30. \(\text{c4!}\) \(\text{xc4}\) Matanovic remarked drily that on 30...bxc4 31 \(g3\) Black is powerless against the threat of Kg2, Rh1 and h6! Even so, that remains to be seen. 31. \(c1\) \(\text{xb2}\) Tempting but wrong. The best defense against the threat of b3 is 31...Ng5. 32. \(g6!\) \(\text{b7}\) The main point is that 32...Qxb6 is refuted by 33. Nxf8 Qc7 34. Nd7! Qxd7 35. Nh6+ snaring the queen. 33.\(\text{xc4!}\) The reason for this sacrifice soon will be apparent. White appears to be after the king but his real goal is the queen! 33...\(\text{xc4}\) 34. \(\text{h6+!}\) \(\text{gxh6}\) 35. \(\text{c7}\) \(\text{f8}\) 36. \(\text{g8}\) \(\text{xe7}\) 37. \(\text{wh7+}\) \(\text{e6}\) The absence of the bishop on c4 rules out an interposition on f7. 38. \(\text{xb7}\) \(\text{xb6}\) 39. \(\text{xb6}\) f5 40. \(\text{xb5}\) d8 41. \(\text{d5}\) \(\text{f6}\) 42. \(\text{exf5}\) \(\text{xf5}\) 43. \(\text{h7+}\) \(\text{e4}\) 44. \(\text{wc7}\) Black resigns. The house of cards collapses. Any rook move loses the rook, and if 44...Be7 45. Qxe7.

1-0

- Mark Taimanov
- Bobby Fischer

Candidates Match (3)
Vancouver 1971

Fischer’s 6-0 victory in this historic match catapulted him on the road to the World Championship. In the next match, he also eviscerated Bent Larsen by 6-0 in the semifinals, and then trounced Petrosian in Buenos Aires to qualify for his title match with Spassky at Reykjavik in 1972. “Our third game holds a special place in my chess biography. It caused me acute suffering at the time and tormented me for many years,” noted Taimanov in his book entitled “I Was Fischer’s Victim!”

1...\(\text{e5}\) 2. \(\text{c4}\) \(\text{c6}\) 3. \(\text{c3}\) \(\text{g6}\) 4. \(\text{d4}\) \(\text{e5}\) 5. \(\text{e4}\) \(\text{e4}\) 6. \(\text{e5}\) \(\text{d5}\) 7. \(\text{c4}\) dxc4 8. bxc4 \(\text{d6}\) 9. \(\text{h3}\) \(\text{h6}\) 10. \(\text{d3}\) 11. \(\text{e3}\) \(\text{b6}\) 12. \(\text{d1}\) 13. \(\text{d3}\) 13. \(\text{d3}\) A handy waiting move before deciding on a plan. 13...\(\text{e7}\) 14. \(\text{e3}\) \(\text{d8}\) 15. \(\text{e3}\) 15. \(\text{e5}\) 16. \(\text{a1}\) \(\text{xe3}\) 17. \(\text{f3}\) \(\text{d7}\) Black has “won” the two bishops but meanwhile White fortified his center. 18. \(\text{h1}\) e8 19. \(\text{a2}\) \(\text{c8}\) 20. d5 \(\text{b5}\) 21. dxe6 fxe6 22. \(\text{xd8}\) 23. \(\text{d4}\) \(\text{c7}\) A bit better is 23...Rd6. Now Black gets tied up. 24. \(\text{e5}\) e8 Even more insecure is 24...Bxe3 25. Rd1! Bc8 26. Ng6! Qe8 27. Rxd8 Qxd8 28. Qxc8! Qxc8 29. Ne7+ and Nxc8. 25. \(\text{e4}\) Suddenly Black faces threats to his king after Bb1. 25...\(\text{c6}\) 26. \(\text{g6}\) \(\text{f6}\) 27. \(\text{f4}\) \(\text{e5}\) Giving up a pawn. Unpalatable is 27...Kf7 28. Rf1. 28. \(\text{xe6}\) \(\text{xe6}\) 29. \(\text{xe6+}\) \(\text{b8}\) 30. \(\text{xe5}\) \(\text{xe5}\) 31. \(\text{d5}\) \(\text{d3}\) 32. \(\text{c2}\) \(\text{c5}\) Black’s last hope to reach parity is to retain the opposite colored bishops. 33. \(\text{c3}\) \(\text{f2+}\) 34. \(\text{g1}\) \(\text{e4}\) 35. \(\text{c4}\) \(\text{g5}\) 36. \(\text{xc5}\) \(\text{xc6}\) 37. \(\text{b5}\) 38. \(\text{b4}\) \(\text{c7}\) 39. \(\text{f5}\) \(\text{d1+}\) 40. \(\text{f1}\) \(\text{d2}\) 41. \(\text{f2}\) \(\text{d1+}\) 42. \(\text{b2}\) \(\text{e1}\) 43. \(\text{f7}\) \(\text{b5}\) 44. \(\text{d5}\) \(\text{e2}\) 45. \(\text{b3}\) \(\text{d2}\) 46. \(\text{d7}\) \(\text{xa3}\) Black can put up a better fight with 46...Rb2 47. a4 Na3 48. b4 a5 49. bxa5 b5 50. Rc7 and Rc5 wins anyway. 47. \(\text{d8+}\) \(\text{h7}\) 48. \(\text{f6+}\) \(\text{gxf6}\) 49. \(\text{xd2}\) \(\text{b7}\) 50. \(\text{d5}\) Black Resigns

1-0
turned to 20. Qh3, again worked through dozens of variations, and again without success. And meanwhile the clock was ticking, time trouble was approaching. According to the arbiters’ reckoning, I pondered over the position for 72 minutes! Perhaps in all the fifty years of my career I have never spent so much time on one move! And I simply collapsed psychologically. My energy dried up, apathy set in, everything lost point, and I made the first move that popped into my head. It lost, of course.” – Taimanov

20. Bb7 21. Qg6 Bf4 22. exf4 exf4 “At the cost of worsening of his pawn structure in the center, Fischer opens up the position, after which his bishops become irresistibly strong. This is another example of his favorite method of transforming one type of advantage into another.” – Taimanov

20...Bd5 is threatened.” – Taimanov

Develops his offensive over the entire board. Now seizing the initiative, with impressible energy he...

Fischer varied with 4...a6 in their seventh match game. 5. Bb5 d6 6. f4


12. exd5 cxd5 13. b4 a6 14. dxc5 Qxe5 15. Bc4 Bb8 16. d1 Qf5 Also strong is 16...Rxa2 17. Qd2! Qd6 18. Qa5 d3 e5 19. Be2 Qxa2 19. Qe3 Ne5 with active winning chances. 18. Bxf3 Qxd4 19.0–0 Bb8 20. Nf1 Qxa2 Leads to trouble. More viable is 20...f5 21. f4 f6 with even chances. 21.f4 Bc8 22. c4 Qb6 White also keeps the advantage on 22...Qxa2 23. Rhf1! 23.exd3 Bc2 24. Nxe3 dxe3 25. fxe3 f5 26. fxe5 e7 The pawn can’t be defended by 26...Qxa2 27. Re2! Ne4 because of...

Fischer seized he initiative with a sensational 11th move. After this...

Fischer-Taimanov, 6th match game 1971.

20...Bd6 21. Bc4 Bc7 22. f4...

More solid is 20...f5 21. f4 f6 with even chances. 21.f4 Bc8 22. c4 Qb6 White also keeps the advantage on 22...Qxa2 23. Rhf1! 23.exd3 Bc2 24. Nxe3 dxe3 25. fxe3 f5 26. fxe5 e7 The pawn can’t be defended by 26...Qxa2 27. Re2! Ne4 because of...

White leaves White in an awful position. 30. Qe8 After this mistake, White could resign. 30...Qc6 31. Bxc4 Wxc6 32. Bxd8 Wf6 33. We6 We7 34. Qf1 Qf7 Breaking the pin and freeing the bishop. White’s rook and knight are no match for the mighty queen. 35. Qd4 Bg7 36. h5 Be5 37. a3 Bd7 38. Qe8 f3 gxf3 Bxf3 xd7 40. g2 Wg7+ 41. Bxh2 Wxe5+ White Resigned. 42...Qxe2 is coming next. "Here the game was adjourned and, of course, I resigned without resuming. I was able to play a match with an outstanding Grandmaster who was to occupy an honored place in history, and to experience enormous creative pleasure, since it was generally considered that, despite the sensational catastrophic result, the games themselves were exceptionally interesting and hard-fought.” – Taimanov

0-1

○ Bobby Fischer
● Tigran Petrosian
Candidates Match (1)
Buenos Aires
1971 1-0 B44

Riding the crest of a 19-game winning streak, Fischer faced the imperturbable ex-world champion. Petrosian was well prepared and refuted one of his opponents pet weapons against the Sicilian Defense. Departing from his usual cautious style, he seized his initiative with a sensational 11th move. But he went astray, swapped pieces and drifted into an inferior ending where his great defensive genius was foiled by the clock. Short of time, Petrosian missed good drawing chances. 1.e4 c5 2.Bf3 e6 3.d4 d4 4.e4...
by 6 1 2 - 2 1 2. Fischer won their last four games, starting with this positional masterpiece reminiscent of Capablanca.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 f5 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 a6 5.d5 c3 6.dxc6 bxc6 Nowadays 6...dxc6 is considered safer. 7.0-0 d5 8.c4 More forceful than 8. Nd2 Nf6 9. Qe2 Be7 leading to equal chances, as in Spassky-Petrosian, 9th match game 1969.

8...f6 9.exd5 cxd5 10.exd5 exd5 White wrested the advantage after 10...Nxd5 11. Bd4! is also in White’s favor, accepting an isolated pawn. 11...Nxd5 11. Bd4! is also in White’s favor, accepting an isolated pawn. 11...Nxd5 12.d5 12.Nc3 Bb7 13. Qa4+ Qd7 14. Qxd7+ Kxd7 15. Rfd1 in Averbach-Taimanov, 27th USSR Championship 1960.


1-0

- Bobby Fischer
- Tigran Petrosian

Candidates Match (7)

Buenos Aires 1971 1-0 B48

Petrosian was a hard man to beat and held Fischer even in the first five games before losing four in a row. This match proved to be the last obstacle in Fischer’s path to the summit. This clean victory, where he simplifies to an ending with only a good bishop against a passive knight, reminiscent of Capablanca at his best, is generally considered Fischer’s finest effort in this match.


1-0

- Keres, P.
- Byrne, D.

Church’s Fried Chicken (8)

San Antonio 1972 1-0 D94

This game was awarded the brilliancy prize in one of the greatest international tournaments ever held in the United States. Despite making a second queen, Black was unable to stave off mate.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 g7 5.e3 This modest continuation leads to a quieter game than 5. Bb4. 5...O-O 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e4 Bg4 Also feasible is 7...Nxc3 8. bxc3 c5 9. O-O Qc7. 8.b3 c5 9.O-O After 9. dxc5 Nxd5 Black regains the pawn with easy equality. “It is not in character with White’s opening strategy to capture on c5” – Keres. 9...exd4 10.exd4 c6 11.d5 Nc5 12.d5 Indirectly protecting the pawn on d5 by exerting pressure on e7. Now on 12...Nxb3 13. Qxb3 Bxc4 14.Qd5 (or 14...Qxd5 15. Bxe7) 15. Rad1 Nce5 16.Nf4 Bf7 17.axb3 Nxe3 18.Bxe3 Nc6 19.Ne5 Not the best way to protect the a-pawn. Firstly, it will remain attacked by White’s rook and secondly the c6 square is weakened. A better move was 19...Nd5 – Keres. 20.d4 Nxd4 21.Nd4 Keres recommends 21...g4 or Be5 at once. 21.Na6 Bc4 22.g5 a5 23.d5 e5 c5 24.h4 fxe5 "White dominates the
7...cxd4 9...exd5 10.dxc5 bxc5. More resistant is 8...Bxc3 9.bxc3 a5 10.O-O. More natural is 8...Bxc3 9.bxc3 a5
11.dxc5 bxc5. 9...e2 Too tame. A better try for advantage is 9...exd5 10...dxc5 11.bxc5 12.bxc3 13...c3 14...d7 15...d8 16.b2 17...d7 Keres pondered 32 minutes and decided his position was lost. Necessary but unpleasant is 23...exd5 24. Nxd5 Qf6, 24...xd7 25.c6 More resistant is 24...Rxd7 25. Re7. 25...xb7 exd5 26...xd5 27...e6 28...xe1 28...xd5 30...d4 e7 31...b6 32...f3+ If 32...Nd7 33. Nf5+ Kf8 34. Bxd6+ leads to mate. 33...xf3 34.c6 35.d7 Black Resigns.

| o Boris Spassky |
| Bobby Fischer |

World Championship (1)
Reykjavik 1972 1-0

This loss at the outset of their famous title match brought Fischer’s lifetime record against Spassky to 4 losses and 2 draws. After 29...Bxh2?!! in a dead drawn position, a roar ran through the playing hall. “One move and we hit every front page in the world!” exclaimed a joyous Icelandic organizer. Years later a fan noted: “It was undoubtedly the most famous single move played in my lifetime. The popular press described it as a terrible gaffe, and I even remember a report that Spassky looked up from the board in disbelief. He trapped the bishop and eventually Fischer resigned, yet my computer finds nothing wrong with the pawn grab. Was it truly the losing move?”

1.d4 2.c4 3.e6 4.e3 5.a3 5.e3 White can’t win a piece by 5. Qa4+ Nc6 and chooses a solid line. 5...O-O 6...d5 This thrust makes it hard for White to seize the initiative. Fischer got into trouble against Reshevsky in their 7th match game 1961 with 6...Nc6 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8. bxc3 Na5 9.Nd2 c5 10.O-O. 7.O-O c6 8.a3 More natural is 8...Bxc3 9.bxc3 c6 10. dxc5 bxc5. 9...e2 Too tame. A better try for advantage is 9...exd5 10...dxc5 11.bxc5 12.bxc3 13...c3 14...b2 15. 26.a3 More resistant is 26...a5 27...e2 28...f1 29...d7 White has a slight space advantage but no points of entry. 16...e4 17...d4 18...b3 19...xb3 10...d1 11...c1 20...Se7 21...Rd8 22...c1 More simplification. They could agree to a draw right now. 23...xc1 24...xc1 25...a5 1.e4 2.d4 3.e5 4.Nc3 5.Nf6 6.b3 21...e2 22...e4 23...c3 24...d4 25...c5 26...d7 More decisive – Tarrasch. Keres avoids exchanges. 18...e7 19...e1 20...h3 21...b2 He could try to ease the pressure with 20...b6 but this pawn remains weak no matter what. 21...e3 22...d5 23...e5 24...d7 Keres pondered 32 minutes and decided his position was lost. Necessary but unpleasant is 23...exd5 24. Nxd5 Qf6.
it? Afterwards he told me he miscalculated, thinking that after 30...g3 h5 31. Ke2 h4 32. Kf3 e7 32...f7 Too late Fischer saw that his intended 32...h3 33. Kg4 Bg1 34. Kxh3 Bxf2 35. Bd2! seals off his bishop's escape route. But Black still has drawing resources. 33.gxh3 34.fg3 fxg3 35.gxg3 d6 36.a4 d5 Black has 2 pawns and an active king for the piece. 37.a3 e4 38.c5 a6 Every pawn that goes off the board increases Black's drawing chances. But not 38...b6? 39. Bxb6! axb6 40. a5 bxa5 41. b6 and the pawn queens.

If White's pawn on a5, then Black could draw by steering for stalemate. One possible variation: 41. Bd4 e5 42. Bc3 fx4 exf4 44. Kg4 Ke5 45. a5 g5 46. Kxg5 Kh6 47. Kf4 Kg7 48. Kg5 Ke6 49. Ke5 Kg6 50. Kd5 Kb6 51. Kd6 Kc7 stalemate (but with the pawn still on a4 White wins because 53...a5 is forced.) Now it was adjourned and Spassky sealed his move. 41.exf4 Bxf4 42.h5 Af5 43.e3 e4 44.f2 f5 45.h4 e5 "Excuse me, Boris," said Bobby, springing out of his chair to rush backstage and order the cameras turned off. This cost Fischer 33 minutes on his clock, but his position can no longer be saved. 46.g5 e4 47.e3 f6 48.g4 e5 If White's pawn were on a5, then Black could draw by steering for stalemate. 49.e5 g5 50. f5 a5 51. f2 g5 52.xg5 e4 53.f5 b4 54.e4 xe4 xa4 55.d5 d5+ 56.b6 Black gets in zugzwang again after 56...a4 57. Kc7 Ka6 58. Bc5 Kb5 59. Bf8 Ka6 60. Be7, etc. Fischer smiled and extended his hand to resign.

1-0

○ Spassky, B.
• Fischer, R.

World Championship Match (3)
Reykjavik
1972 0-1 A77

Fischer now trailed by two points after losing the first game and forfeiting the second when he refused to show up unless the cameras were turned off. Spassky, reportedly defying orders to return to Russia, saved the match by agreeing to play in a private room away from cameras instead of on stage in front of a full house. "Just this once," he said. "Never again." Good sportsmanship cost Spassky the title, and he was punished for it when he got back home. For the first time ever he lost a game to Fischer and then went on to drop the match 12.5 - 8.5

1. d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3. f3 c5 4.d4 exd5 5.exd5 d6 6.c3 g6 7.d4 The idea is to swing this knight to c4 and then bear down on the backward pawn on d6 with Bf4. A drawback is moving the same piece twice. More usual is 7...e4 8.e4 g7 9.e2 O-O 10.O-O c8 Pressing e4 limits White's freedom of action.

11.c2 A good alternative is 11...a4 to help restrain Black's strategic threat of a6 and b5. Another approach is Petrosian's 11...f3 which gives solid protection to the central pawn chain. 11...h5 12.xh5 gxh5 13.e4 A month later at the Skopje Olympiad, White sought an edge in Gligoric-Kavalek with 13...a4 Ne5 14. Nd1 Qd1! 15. Qb2 Qf3+ Spassky pondered his predicament for five minutes when the game was adjourned. Upon resumption his hopes for a draw on opposite colored bishops. Not 39...Qxd5? 40. Qg5+. Fischer now trailed by two points after losing the first game and forfeiting the second when he refused to show up unless the cameras were turned off. Spassky, reportedly defying orders to return to Russia, saved the match by agreeing to play in a private room away from cameras instead of on stage in front of a full house. "Just this once," he said. "Never again." Good sportsmanship cost Spassky the title, and he was punished for it when he got back home. For the first time ever he lost a game to Fischer and then went on to drop the match 12.5 - 8.5

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b4 15.d2 The bishop is passive here. Better is 16...d3 to reinforce the e-pawn and prevent Black's next move. 15...c4 16.axb5 hxg4 Undoubling the pawns eliminates Black's major weakness. 17.d4 fx6 18.g3 Creating a serious weakness on the light squares and weakening e4 since now f3 can be met by gxf3. Better is 18...Qd2 or 18...b6! 19.e3 b6 20.ae1 d5 21.b5 22.d6 This is White's last chance to break in the center with 22...axb5 axb5 23. Rxa8 Rxa8 24. e5 dxe5 25. Rxe5. 22...g6 23.h3 e7 24.d3 b8 25.axb5 axb5 26.d4 To stop the threat of b4 and Bb5. If 27. cxb4 Na2. 26...e4 27.d2 e5 28.fxe4 Be6 29. exe6 dxe6 30. Bxe4 fxe5 31. Rxe5 Bxe5 32. Bxe5 Bxe5 33. Bxe5 Bxe5 34. Bxe5 Bxe5 35. Bxe5 Bxe5 36. Bxe5 Bxe5 37. f1 f5 38. e2 e4+ 39. Bf2 Bf2 White is pinning his hopes for a draw on opposite colored bishops. Not 39...Qxd5? 40. Qg5+. Black must remember that his own king is insecure. 40.d2 Bb3 41.d4 The only chance to fight on is 41...d3+ "I sealed a crusher!" exclaimed Fischer when the game was adjourned. Upon resumption Spassky pondered his predicament for five minutes before tipping his king. If 42. Ke1 Qxb4+ picks up a second pawn. Or 42. Ke3 Qd1! 43. Qb2 Qd3+ 44. Kd4 Qe4+ 45. Kc3 Qe1! 46. Bd2 Qe5 mate.

0-1

○ Portisch, L.
• Larsen, B.
Church’s Fried Chicken (15)
San Antonio
1972 1-0 A70

This crucial last round victory catapulted Hungary’s Lajos Portisch into a tie for first at 10.5 - 4.5 with future world champion Anatoly Karpov and past world champion Tigran Petrosian in their American debut. Larsen confesses that he didn’t know what Portisch was planning when he gave up the Exchange.

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Declining 2...e4 entering the French Defense. 2...c5 3.d5 exd5 4.cxd5 d6 5.e3 g6 6.Qf3 g7 7.Qf4 Qf6 8.Na4+ Nbd7 9.Nb3 c7 10.e4 O-O 11.Nc2 h5 12.Ne3 Qa6 13.d2 f5 More thematic is 13...Rab8 fighting for b5.

14.exf5 gxf5 15.O-O b5. "It was here I realized that White has been outplayed – the result of all this maneuvering has been to transfer the Rook from a1 to h3, where it participates in the attack. 23...a5 24.Qd3 Qc7 25.Bh3 Qd7 26.e5 Qxe5 27.Qxe5 Black Resigns.

1-0


1-0

○ Browne, W.
• Zuckerman, B.

New York
1973 1-0 D60

Perhaps the most successful American player of the post-Fischer era, Walter Browne from 1974 to 1983 won or tied for first in the U.S. Championship more times than any other recapture is met by 15. g4. 15...Qxh7+ Kxh7 16.Nxe5+ Kxe5 17.g5+...Rab8 fighting for b5. 14.exf5 Qxf5 "It was here I realized that White may very soon get strong threats against my king, and that he is also planning to send this knight to e6. White’s pawn plus is not very important, but his pieces can produce threats before Black can“ – Larsen.


1-0

○ Fischer, R.
• Spassky, B.

6th Match Game, Reykjavik
1972 1-0 D59

Once the “sideshow” events had been put aside and he settled down to play chess, Fischer clearly demonstrated his superiority in his World Championship match with Boris Spassky. Many observers suggested that Fischer’s limited opening repertoire would prove his undoing (he had rarely begun with any move but 1.e4), but in the 6th game he showed an equal mastery of Queenside play.
\[\text{21...cxb2+ 22. Kb1 Kxe7 23. Rf7+ wins the house.}\]

17. gxf6! Rxg3 18. fxe7 Rg5 19. Bxg5 hxg5

Black relied on this thrust, rejecting 16...dxe5 for White to make progress.


White gets 3 pieces for the queen and a strong initiative on 11...b5 12. e5! Bb7 13. exf6! Bxf3 14. Bxf3 Bxf6 15. Bxg6. The sharp 7...Qb6!? is also feasible. Though Black’s pieces are poorly coordinated and he has lost the right to castle, it’s hard for White to make progress. 13. h1! g5 14.fg5 e5 15.f3 b5 Necessary is 15...hxg5. 16. xe5 b4 Black relied on this thrust, rejecting 16...dxe5 17. gxf6!Rxg3 18. fxe7 Rxg5 19. Bxg5 hxg5 20. Bh5! 17. xf7 bxc3 18.gxf6 \(xg3 19.fxe7\) \(g5 20...xg5 hxg5 21...xd6+ Black Resigns. If 21...cxb2+ 22. Kb1 Kxe7 23. Rf7+ wins the house. 1-0

\[\text{Bronstein}\]

Ljubojevic

1973 1-0 B03

One of the most exciting games of the "interregnum" between Fischer’s retirement and the rise of Karpov. The meeting of two courageous tacticians produces a fierce battle in which both Kings are under attack.

1.e4 c5 2.\(\text{\underline{\text{d3}}} 3.d4 cxd4 4...xd4 a6\) This move order allows White the opportunity to set up a Maroczy Bind with 5. c4. 5...e3 f6 6. g5 e6 7.f4 h6 A useful interpolation, though it weakens g6. The sharp 7...Qb6!? is also feasible. 8. h4 e7 9. \(\text{\underline{\text{f3}}} 10.d7 10.O-O O 11...c7 12.h2 13.h8 14.e5 15.f3 Nh5 Necessary is 15...hxg5. 16. xe5 b4 Black relied on this thrust, rejecting 16...dxe5 17. gxf6!Rxg3 18. fxe7 Rxg5 19. Bxg5 hxg5 20. Bh5! 17. xf7 bxc3 18.gxf6 \(xg3 19.fxe7\) \(g5 20...xg5 hxg5 21...xd6+ Black Resigns. If 21...cxb2+ 22. Kb1 Kxe7 23. Rf7+ wins the house. 1-0

David Bronstein

Oscar Panno

Interzonal (13)

Petropolis

1973 1-0

"Bronstein won the longest game of the tournament, and it was wonderfully rich in strategic and tactical surprises. He eventually queen a pawn (in front of his castled king!) but still had to work hard to win as Black's remaining forces mutually defended each other," stated the tournament book. Bronstein didn’t qualify for the next stage of the world championship, but he had the satisfaction of creating the craziest game of 1973. An editor asked him to annotate the game. "It's impossible!" exclaimed Bronstein. "Neither of us knew what the next move was going to be. I can’t even tell you if I was winning. Such a game is played in the air."

1.e4 c5 2.\(\text{\underline{\text{f3}}} 3.e6 3...b5 4...f6 2\) At his title match vs. Kramnik in 2000, Kasparov failed to win a single game against the Berlin Defense after 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nf6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8. 4...e7 5.c3. Departing from 5.0-0 d6 6.d4 exd4 7.Nxd4 Bxd7 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Bd3 0.10.Nc3 Re8 (Janowski-Winawer, 1897). Also innocuous is 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nxe5 Qd4 regaining the pawn. 5...d6 6.d4 \(\text{\underline{\text{d7}}} 7.d5 \(\text{\underline{\text{b8}}} 8.d3\) Naturally! When your opponent is cramped, avoid exchanges. 8...\(\text{\underline{\text{c6}}} 9.c4 \text{\underline{\text{a6}}} 10.e3 O-O 11.h3 \text{\underline{\text{c5}}} 12.e2 \text{\underline{\text{cxd5}}} 13.\text{\underline{\text{cxd5}}} \text{\underline{\text{xf5}}} \) Setting a little trap (14. b4? Nxc4!) but 13...Rc8 seizing the open file, looks more flexible. 14. \(\text{\underline{\text{d2}}} 15.b4 \text{\underline{\text{a6}}} 16.a3 \text{\underline{\text{h5}}} 17.g3 \text{\underline{\text{ac8}}} 18.b3 \text{\underline{\text{h8}}} 19.O-O-O\) Believe it or not, the king is safe here, despite Black’s temporary control of the c-file. 19...b5 20.\(\text{\underline{\text{b2}}} 21.\text{\underline{\text{b7}}} 22.\text{\underline{\text{h6}}} 23.g8 24.f6 25.g5 \) Much more active is 24...a5 and if 25.bxa5 Qa7. 25.\(\text{\underline{\text{e2}}} \text{\underline{\text{bd7}}} Unnecessarily giving up a pawn for counterplay. Correct is 25...\(\text{\underline{\text{c7}}} 26.\text{\underline{\text{xb5}}} \text{\underline{\text{c7}}} 27.\text{\underline{\text{c1}}} 28.\text{\underline{\text{a6}}} 29.\text{\underline{\text{f7}}} 30.e3 \) db8 31.\(\text{\underline{\text{d2}}} f5 32.g5 A good alternative is simply 32.b3. 32...\(\text{\underline{\text{h7}}} 33.h4 f6 34.gxf6+ \text{\underline{\text{xf6}}} 35.h1
Hanriede Mecking was a boy wonder who won the Brazilian national championship at 13. His greatest success was winning this qualifier for the world title by a wide margin. Unfortunately his career was cut short by a debilitating nerve disorder.


0–1

○ Gudmundur Sigurjonsson
● Pal Benko
Costa Brava (2)
1974 1–0 B85
The only thing more painful than a loss is a short loss. Alas, this appalling fate befell the normally cautious Benko, who gobbled a dangerous pawn and never recovered from this fatal error of judgment. He extricated his queen by returning the pawn, but his king remained hostage in the center – proving once again that failure to castle is a major cause of disaster in the opening, even among grandmasters.


○ Smyslov, V.
● Mecking, H.
Interzonal
Petropolis, Brazil
1973 0–1 A29
18. Bc7 snaring the queen by discovered check. 16...c1 axb4 17...d7 18...d2 Even 18. Qe2 is strong but White wants to keep queens on the board. 18...c8 Black has no defense. If 18...Nc6 19. Be2 traps his queen. Or 18...Bf6 19. Bd6 Kg8 20. Bc5 Nc6 21. Be2 leads to the same debacle. 19...xd5 Black resigns, because on 19...Nc6 20. Qe3! Bf6 21. Nx6 Bxc6 22. Qc5 mops up. 1-0

- Bisguier, A.
- Browne, W.

USA Championship Chicago 1974 1-0 C42

Enroute to the first of his six victories in America’s highest title, Walter Browne (born in Australia) smashed veteran Arthur Bisguier (who won the title in 1954) with a prepared variation on move 14 that has an interesting history.


- Larry Evans
- Pal Benko

5th Lone Pine (5) California 1975 1-0 D31

Louis Statham, a wealthy inventor, sold his house in the Holmby Hills of Los Angeles to Playboy’s Hugh Hefner and retired to Lone Pine. This tiny town is about ten blocks long and three blocks wide nestled at the foot of Mount Whitney with Highway 395 running through it. In the 1970s Statham paid all expenses to lure masters from far and wide to the strongest series of Swiss events ever held in America until then. He also donated a Town Hall to Inyo County with the proviso that it be available for these chess tournaments, which unfortunately ended with his demise. In this game, White gets a withering attack when Black leaves his king in the center too long. The final combination adds a piquant flavor.


- Lubomir Luboyevic
- Sergei Makarichev

Amsterdam Holland 1975 0-1 C42

What’s new under the sun? Many players are so
busy studying new wrinkles that they neglect old openings. We have a tendency to forget that "The Book" is merely the accumulated wisdom from master games of the last two centuries. Here Yugoslavia’s Luboyevic, the victor in this annual IBM series of tournaments (since cancelled), was the victim of some musty analysis against his runner-up, a hot prospect from Russia who faded from the scene.


1-0

Efim Geller
Mikhail Tal
Alekhine Memorial
Moscow
1975

1-0

B08

Strategic struggle, tactics, a trap, an attack – this game has it all – plus an original finish. Under fire from a sharp offensive, White’s king elbows its way through the ranks of its own and enemy forces deep into opposing territory until it is within a handshake of its Black colleague. "Throughout my wide tournament experience, I do not recall a similar king march," noted Geller.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 O-O 3.c3 g6 4.f3 g7 5.e2

"Harmoniously developing pieces in the center, White avoids disclosing his plans." – Geller

5...O-O 6.0-0 c5 7.d5 c6 8.dxe6 dxe6 9.d5 c5 10.ad1 "White has an advantage in space and must seek some way to attack. It is difficult to do this on the queenside, since the knight at c3 hinders the advance c4. Therefore he plans f4. Black too must aim for ...f5 since he has no other plan. White’s last move prevents ...c6, although also possible was 10. a4 which I played in a later game."

– Geller

10...f5 11.e1 Bg4 12.hg xg4 13.f3 d7 14.f4 exf4 Also feasible is 14...Bg4 15. Rb1 as in Karpov-Timman, Tilburg 1977. 15. Bxf4 f5 16.gxf5 Bxe7 17.xe7 dxe7 18.d1 ef d7 19.e5...d6 20.d7 19..eg5 "The result of the strategic battle is obvious. White has set his sights on e6 and Black is faced with a difficult defense." – Geller

19...ae8 20.c4 Bolstering d5 and preparing Nd4. White wants to occupy e6 with a knight, not a rook. 20...e8 21.d4 dxe4 22.dxe4 e8 23.fxe8 Oxe8 24.h3 d7 25.d6 c6 26.e6 27.b3 Jf6 Swapping rooks eased the pressure but Black is still cramped. The immediate threat was Nd8 and Nb7. So, Black sacrifices a pawn to get counterplay. 28.xc7 a1+ 29.xh2 d4 30.f2 White could win immediately by 30. Qc1! Qxa2 31. Qe1 with a mating attack. But without this inaccuracy the marathon march of his king from h2 to f8 would never have occurred.

1-0

Ljubojevic, L.
Andersson, U.

? Wijk aan Zee
1976

1-0

B85

When two players of contrasting styles meet, the result is a battle of ideas which can only enrich the game. Ljubojevic is one of the most dangerous attacking players of the modern era, while Ulf Andersson is one of the most difficult players to defeat. With a sharp pawn sacrifice, White places many practical problems before his opponent, and with the clock ticking, Andersson is unable to find the hidden path to the draw.
1.e4 c5 2.\f3 f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\f4 xd4 \e6 5.e3 \e7 6.d2 a6 7.0-0 \f6 8.\e3 \e7 9.f4 d6 10.\e1 0-0 11.\e3 g7 12.e5 dxe5 13.fxe5 14.\f4 \d6 15.\e1 \d8 16.\d3 White will combine threats against the pinned Knight with the transfer of pieces for an attack on the King. 16...\e8 17.\e4 \e7 18.\e3 \c6 19.\xe7 \xd4 20.\d3 Of course not 20.Bxb8 Nxe2+ and 21...Nxe3. 20...\a7 21.\e5 \b5 22.\e5 \c6 23.\xe7+ \xe7 24.\f4 \f6 25.\h4+ \g8 26.\b3 \d8 27.\d4 \b6 28.\xe6 \xe6 29.\xe6+ \f7 30.\e4 \g5 Correct was 30...\xa2. Then 31.Qxa2 is bad – 31...\g7 32.Rh3 Qb1+ 33.Kf1+ 34.Kg1 Qf4++, or 32.Qg4 Nd6 33.Qf3 Qb1+ 34.Kf1 Qf1+ 35.Kg2 Ng5+ 36.Kh3 Kg7 and 37...Rh8+. So White must play 30...\xa2! 31.Qh7+ Kf7 32...Qh5+, with a draw by repetition. 31.\h6 \a7 32.\h3 \g7 33.\g6 \a7 34.a4 Black Resigns.

\textbf{1-0}

\section*{Efim Geller}

\section*{Mikhail Tal}

\section*{44th USSR Championship}

\section*{Moscow 1976 1/2-1/2 B85}

Some drawn games are endowed with enough fantasy and unheard melodies to please those who value not only results but beauty. Here, Geller’s unexpected 19th move, although inferior, caused his opponent to note it was dictated “by the soul of a chess artist.”

1.e4 c5 2.\f3 f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\f4 xd4 \e6 5.e3 \e7 6.d2 e6 7.0-0 \f6 8.\e3 \e7 9.\e1 More usual is 9. f4. Black sometimes can dispense with...Qc7. White’s move order forces it to move off the d-file after the imminent Rd1. 9...0-0 10.\e1 \e7 Voilà! By transposition they reach the main line of the Scheveningen Variation 11.f4 \xd4 12.\xd4 \b5 13.\e5 \dxe5 14.fxe5 \d7 15.\f4 Heading for the kingside where the main battle will take place. Now 15...Nxe5? is refuted by 16. Qg3; and if 15...Qxc2 16. Bd3 leads to an irresistible attack. 15...b6 16.\f6+ \h8 The only defense. Not 16...gx6 17. Qg3! Kh8 18. exf6! Qxg3 19. fxe7 and White emerges with more material. 17.\h4 \h6 18.\h5 \e5 19.\f2 \f1 expected 19. Nxd7 Qxd7 20. Bxc5 Qc6 regaining the piece. But after considerable thought Geller made another move, dictated, as soon becomes clear, by the soul of a chess artist. I must confess that this came as a surprise. At first I examined a continuation which seemed satisfactory: 19...Bxd4 20. Rxd4 Nxe5 21. Rh4 Rfd8 (not 21...Ng6 or Qc5 22. Qxh6!! leads to mate) and here, to my horror, I noticed 22. Qg5!! White would force immediate capitulation. Of course, to be co-author of such a work of art would have been honorable, but I nevertheless declined. It would have been a terribly crushing defeat” – Tal. Yet in his notes, Geller pointed out that simply 19. Kh1! is stronger. 19...\ad8 20.\g4 \e4 Gets to the kingside in the nick of time. 21.\xh6 \xh6 22.\xh6+ \g8 23.\d3 It is here that White’s 19th move becomes important! With his king on h1 23. Bd3!! would now be decisive. 23...\xd4 But not 23...Nxe5? 24. Rh3 forces mate. Or 23...Bxd3 24. Bxd3. Draw agreed. White must take the perpetual check by 24. Rg3 Bg6 25. Qxg6 Kh8 26. Qh6, etc. But 24. Rxd4? Bg6 25. Rh4 is parried by Qxe5. 1/2-1/2

\section*{Efim Geller}

\section*{Mikhail Tal}

\section*{44th USSR Championship, Moscow 1976 1-0 C16}

Garry Kasparov once suggested that Grandmasters could be divided into “maximalists” and “minimalists” – those who try to find the best move in every position, and those who economize their time and effort to achieve the best tournament standing. Efim Geller belongs to the first group. One of the top Soviet GMs since the early fifties, he has produced many fine games, and here he outplays the World Champion, concluding with a spectacular Queen sacrifice.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.\c3 \b4 4.e5 \d7 5.\f3 \b6 A provocative defensive system – Black quietly prepares to exchange his “bad” Bishop, and dare White to exploit his laggard development in this closed position. 6.\d2 \a6 7.\xa6 \xa6 8.0-0 \b8 9.\e2 \e7 10.\c1 \b5 White threatens to open a file on the Queenside, which Black temporarily prevents. 11.\f4 \h5 12.\b3 \a3 13.\b1 \a5 14.\c6 \e6 White refrutes 14...bxc4 15.bxc4 dxc4 with 16.d5! exd5 17.e6, opening lines against the Black King after, say, 17...fxe6 18.Re1. 15.\e5 \b4 16.\c1 \a4 17.\d3 \a5 18.bxa4 \bxa4 19.\xa4 White has won a pawn, but the a2 pawn is weak and White’s Bishop would have little scope in an endgame. So White prepares an Exchange sacrifice to keep the initiative. 19...\a7 20.\e5 \c7 Nearly forced, as Black gets into trouble on the Queenside after 20...Qa6 21.Rb3 Ne7 21.Rg1 Nd7 22.Ra3. 21.\xb8+ \xb8 Not 21...\xb8? 22.Qxc6+ Kf8 23.Qc8++. 22.\xc6+ \f8
23...f4  a7 24...h4  e8 White threatened to win back the Exchange with a two-pawn profit with 25.Nh6+ fxg6 26.Nxg6+. 25...exf6 capturing on e6 with the Queen leads to about the same thing as the game, and other moves do not defend against White's threat to win the Queen with 26.Nfg6+. 26...fg6+  xg6 Or 26...Kf7 27.Nxh8+ Kf8 28.N5g6+, and Black must play 28...Qxg6 anyway. 27...xg6+  e8 28...xh8  a4 29...d1  c7 30...e7  xe7 31...g6+  f7 32...f4  xe5 33.dxe5  xf4 Black pawn has won back a pawn, but the passed White c-pawn and the active White Rook leave him with no real hope of saving the game. 34...c1  e8 35.e6  d8 36.c7+  e8 37.g3  a4 38...e6  xa2 39...xe6 g5 40...d6  d2 41.e6  xc7 42.c7 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Korchnoi, V.
• Polugaevsky, L.

7th Match Game, Evian 1977 1-0 D47
Karpov's first challenger for the World Championship was Victor Korchnoi. Though playing under many handicaps — after his defection to the West in 1976, Soviet Grandmasters boycotted tournaments in which he competed, and it is difficult for any master to stay in top form without top-flight competition — he came to the Candidates’ Matches armed with many new ideas and a fierce will to win, and scored decisive victories over Tigran Petrosian, Lev Polugaevsky and Boris Spassky.

1.e4  f5 2.e3  c5 3.d4  c6 5.e3  bbd7 6.d3  dxc4 7...xc4  b5 8.d3  b7 9.O-O  b4 10...e4  c7 11...fxe6+  xe6 12.e4 O-O 13...c2  h6 14...e3  e8 15...d1  c5 16.dxc5  g4 17...e5  e5 18.h3  exd4 19...xg4  xc5 20...d2  a5 21...e1  d7 22...xe5  xc5 23.g5  hgx5 24...wg5  e7 25...h5  g6 26...h6  w f6 27...c4  d3 28...e5  f5 29...xd3  e4 30...d6 A “diverting” sacrifice — on 30...Bxd6 Black No longer has 31...Qxd2, and 30...Bxf3 removes one of the guards from g6, allowing 31.Rxg6+ (the f7 pawn is pinned). 30...g4 31...f6  f5 32.b3  d4 33...xd4  w xd4 34...xg6+  xg6 35...xg6+  h8 36...h6+  g8 37.e6  w e4 38.exf7+  x f7 39...f6  wb1+ 40...h2  h7+ 41...g3  d3+ 42.f3  xc4 43...d8+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Stefano Tatai
• Anatoly Karpov

Las Palmas 1977 0-1 A34
Las Palmas was the sunny setting of another resounding triumph for the world champion, who made it look easy by scoring 90% in a strong field. As a rule Karpov is prepared for long games, patiently nursing small advantages. His style engenders no seething or turbulence; he prefers positions which seem drab, stodgy and drawish, yet he won numerous brilliancy prizes. This melee, capped by his stunning queen sacrifice, is a textbook illustration on the perils of pawn snatching.

1.e4  f5 2.e3  c5 3.d4  d5 4.d4  c6 5.e3  e6 6...e4  f5 7...e2+ 26...Kf7 27...xg6+  Kf8 28...5g6+, and Black must play 28...Qxg6 anyway. 27...xg6+  e8 28...xh8  a4 29...d1  c7 30...e7  xe7 31...g6+  f7 32...f4  xe5 33.dxe5  xf4 Black pawn has won back a pawn, but the passed White c-pawn and the active White Rook leave him with no real hope of saving the game. 34...c1  e8 35.e6  d8 36.c7+  e8 37.g3  a4 38...e6  xa2 39...xe6 g5 40...d6  d2 41.e6  xc7 42.c7 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Mikhail Tal
• Efim Geller

46th USSR Championship, Tbilisi 1978 1/2-1/2 D55
Another fighting draw between these great antagonists. Tal plays in the spirit of Tal and Geller de-
fends sharply in the spirit of Geller. A series of combinational blows drives Black’s wobbly king into the center, but White sacrificed so much material to achieve this goal that he must be content with perpetual check.


1/2-1/2

○ Christiansen, L.
• Seirawan, Y.

Berkeley 1978 1-0 B08
In the round-robin which predominate at the international level, every player may expect a reasonable prize, but in American "Swiss" tournaments (a large number of players compete over a weekend, with equal scores being paired in each round), a last-round game may mean the difference between a substantial prize and a long walk home. In this game, Seirawan outplays his opponent strategically, but Christiansen launches a clever counter-attack which leads to a King-hunt and a very long discovered check.

1.g3 f6 2.e4 g5 3.d4 d6 4.c3 fxe4 5.e2 O-O 6.O-O c6 7.d5 Not a very strong system for White; though he obtains a temporary space advantage, the Black position is without weaknesses, and Black will obtain counterplay by attacking the advanced pawn with...c6 or e6. 7...dxe4 8.g5 c6 9.d2 Qe7 10.d1 Qb7 11.f1 fe1 a5 12.a3 Too passive would be 16...Bd7 17. Ne5 Qe7 18. e4! with continued pressure on c6. 19.a5 Qd4 "An unusually picturesque position: doubled White and Black pawns, and both White knights are hanging. It would be a blunder to play 19...Qxa4? 20. cxd5 when cxd4 fails to 21. Nxc6! – Geller 20...f5 "On 20. Nf5?! dxe4 21. Bb5 the initiative passes to Black, although he has only two pawns for the piece." – Geller 20...dxe4 Blow and counter-blow! White’s attack flourishes after 20...Bxg4 21. Qxg4 Qxa4 22. e5! 21.Qxe4 Rejecting 21. Rxe4 Rxc8 22. Nf6 gxf6 23. Qg4 Kh8 24. Rxf6 Rc1 25. Bf1 Qe6! when it is White who must concern himself with how to hold the draw. 21...Qxe4 22.Qxg4 Qxa4 23.Qxf7 Maintaining the tempo of the attack. If 23. Bb3 Qa5 holds. 23...xf7 24.Qxf7+ xf7 25.Qf5+ Qe7 Black loses after 25...Kg8? 26. Qd5 Kh7 27. Qxe4 g6 28. Qh7. 26.Qxe4+ Qd7 27.Bb7+ Qe6 28.Qe4+ Qd7 Also drawn is 28...Be5 29. Re6 Kf7 30. Qd5 Kf8 31. Qc5 Kg8 32. Qd5 Kh8 33. Rxe6 gxh6 34. Qxe6 35. Bb7+ A draw. It’s perpetual check after 29...Ke6 30. Qe4.

1/2-1/2
38.Qh6+ Kg8 39.Nf6+. 36...d2 37...xd5 37...h6+ f5 38...xf7+ Short of time, White misses several quicker wins, such as 38.Nxd6+ Ke5 39.Nxf7+ Kd4 40. Qe3+. 38...e5 39...g7+ e6 40...f6+ e5 41...xd6+ f4 42...g3+ Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Belle
• Chess
?
Detroit
1979 1-2/1 A79
At the American computer championship White plays a masterful game that even Karpov pronounced "very grand." The breakthrough 44. e5! is worthy of a Grandmaster, but thereafter technique fails the machine, and the endgame is drawn. 1.d4 e5 2.c4 c5 3.d3 e6 4...e3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e3 g7 7.f3 O-O 9.O-O 8...d7 10...d5 21...h5 11.f4 f5 22.e1 f4 23...h1 a6 24.g3 b5 25.axb5 axb5 26.xa8 xa8 27...f1 b4 28.e2 b3 29...f1 b1 If 29...Qxb3 Ba4 wins the exchange. 29...h5 30...f2 e5 On 30...Qxb2 31...Qxb2 Bxb2 32. Rb1 Ra7 33. Nc4 is all right for White. 31...c4 xe2 32...xe2 b5 33...g3 a4 34...e1 f8 35...d2 d8 36...f1 h5 37...g1 h4 38...f2 g7 39...e3 x2 40...xe2 bxe2 41...d1 a2 42...d3 bxB2 43...c4 c2 44.e5 A fine pawn sacrifice which produces a powerful passed d-pawn. 44...f5 45...xe5 dx5 46...xb3 e2 47...f1 c4 48.NO D7 a2 49...b6 h3 Black is losing a piece, but has some chances due to the advanced pawns. 50...xc7 f6 51...d8+ xd8 52...xd8 xg2 53...e1 Most humans would play d6, winning easily. Computers often have difficulty in the endgames. 53...c3 54...xe5 c2 55...e8+ g7 56...xg5 xg5 57...e8 g2 58.d6 xh2 59.d7 d2 60...xg1 xd7 61...xc2 d3 62...f2 f6 63...h2 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Mahia, G.
• Quinteros, M.
San Miguel Open
Argentina

1980 1-0 B97
At this obscure South American tournament an unknown named Gustavo Mahia, who was never heard from again, created a gem destined for the anthologies. In the words of Gray's ELEGY: "Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, and waste its sweetness on the desert air." A thunderbolt that shatters on the enemy on the spot is wondrous to behold, and White's fantastic bishop sacrifice on move 24 elevates this game to greatness. His victim was GM Miguel Quinteros, once an aide to Bobby Fischer.

Le c5 2...f3 a6 3...c3 d6 4...d4 exd4 5...xd4 f6 6...g5 e6 7.f4 d6 8...d2 The "poison pawn" variation. 8...h4 is rather tame. 8...xd2 9...b1 a3 10...e5 dxe5 11...e5 0-0 12...e2 For 12. Bc4 Bb4 see Byrne-Evans, USA Championship 1966. 12...b4 13...b3 a5 14.O-O O-O 15...f6 An improvement over 15...fxe5 16. Qh6! 16...exf6 17...fxg7 ...xd4 Instead 17...Bc5! seems to refute the attack. 18...h6 e5 If 18...Bxe3 19. Rxe7! Kxe7 20. Qxh7 looks strong. 19...e4 ...xe4 20...h5 e7 21...d3 c5+ 22.g1 h4 23.g3 c6 24.h3 d5 loses beautifully. So does 23...f5 24. Qxh7+ Kxh7 25. g5=Q+. 24...g6 ...g6 If 24...fxg6 25. Rf8 mate; or 24...hxg6 Qh8 mate. 25...g6 d7 26...xf7 +xf7 27...g5=Q+ ...g8 28...h6+ ...f1 29...e8# Mate 1-0
the Exchange, a three-to-One pawn majority on the Queenside, and a powerful dark-squared Bishop. But now White advances his center pawns, and the position becomes very sharp and unclear.

16.e4 a6 17.\(\text{c1}\) b5 18.e5 \(\text{f5}\) 19.e6 \(\text{b7}\) 20.\(\text{c3}\) a5 21.\(\text{e2}\) e3 22.e7 \(\text{d7}\) 23.e8=\(\text{f}^+\) After 23.Nxe5 dxe5 24.d6, Black seizes the advantage by returning some material: 24...Re8 25.dxe7 Qx7, with two good pawns for the Exchange. 23...\(\text{xe8}\) 24.\(\text{xe8}\) \(\text{xe8}\) 25.\(\text{e3}\) \(\text{f6}\) 26.\(\text{xa5}\) \(\text{g7}\) A curious reversal: White has maintained the material balance and will now get the upper hand on the Queenside, but Black will launch a decisive attack against the weakened White King position.


28...e4 29.a4 \(\text{xf4}\) 30.axb5 \(\text{c3}\) 31.b6 c2 32.\(\text{c1}\) White could set a trap with 32.Qe1 Bb2? 33.\(\text{b3}\) c1Q 34.Qxc1 Bxc1 35.b7, getting a new attack. But Black would play instead 32...Nxd5! 33.Rb3 Qxc6 34.b7 c1Q 35.b8Q+ Kg7, winning easily.

32...\(\text{xd5}\) 33.\(\text{b3}\) \(\text{xb6}\) 34.\(\text{xb6}\) \(\text{e4}\) 35.\(\text{h3}\) Or: I) 35.Qf4 c1Q 36.Qxc1 Qg4+, II) 35.Bg2 Bxg2 36.Kxg2 Qg4+ 37.Kf1 Qd1++; III) 35.f3 Bxc6 Rh8+ Kg7 37.Qxc2 Qa7+.

35...\(\text{f5}\) 36.\(\text{g2}\) Slightly better was 36.Qd4, but after 36...Qg5+ 37.Qxg5 Bxg5 38.Rc3 c1Q 39.Rxc1 Bxc1 White emerges two pawns behind.

36...\(\text{g5}\) 37.\(\text{c7}\) \(\text{g7}\) 38.\(\text{f5}\) \(\text{xf5}\) 39.\(\text{xf5}\) \(\text{g5}\) \(\text{xf2}\) White Resigns.

0-1

○ Korchnoi, V.
• Kasparov, G.

2 Olympiad, Lucerne 1982 0-1 A64 A Titanic struggle. Karpov chose not to play in the match in which he would have to face his bitter enemy Korchnoi, and so the first-board encounter was between the former challenger and the next one. Kasparov chose a sharp and risky piece sacrifice to stir up threats against the White King, and even Korchnoi’s great defensive skills prove insufficient.

1.d4 \(\text{f6}\) 2.c4 g6 3.g3 \(\text{g7}\) 4.\(\text{g2}\) c5 5.d5 d6 6.\(\text{c3}\) O–O 7.\(\text{f3}\) f6 8.O–O \(\text{exd5}\) 9.\(\text{exd5}\) a6 A position of the Modern Benoni has been reached by transposition from the King’s Indian Defense. White now adopts a strategy aimed at preventing ...b7-b5; he hopes to stifle Black’s counterplay and gradually assume the initiative in the center.

10.a4 \(\text{e8}\) 11.\(\text{d2}\) \(\text{bd7}\) 12.\(\text{h3}\) \(\text{b8}\) 13.\(\text{c4}\) \(\text{e5}\) 14.\(\text{a3}\) \(\text{h5}\) 15.\(\text{e4}\) \(\text{f8}\) A refinement. Earlier, the immediate 15...f5 had been tried, but it was eventually discovered that White could get the advantage with 16.exf5 Bxf5 17.g4 Bxg4 18.hxg4 Qh4 19.gxh5 Rf8 20.h6 Bh8 21.Ne4 Ng4 22.Qxg4 Qxg4 23.Nxd6 Bc5 24.Ne4, and the three pieces and passed d-pawn will prove stronger than the Queen.

16.\(\text{h2}\) f5 17.\(\text{f4}\) b5 On a retreat of the Ne5 Black’s position would collapse at once – after 18.exf5 he cannot recapture without losing a piece, and without the cooperation of the Ne5 Black would have no real attacking chances. 18.axb5 a6 19.\(\text{xa6}\) Qb6+ 20.\(\text{c1}\) \(\text{d8}\) 21.\(\text{g1}\) \(\text{b8}\) 22.\(\text{e3}\) \(\text{b7}\) 23.\(\text{d2}\) \(\text{d8}\) 24.\(\text{d1}\) \(\text{e5}\) 25.\(\text{e2}\) 0-1

○ Smyslov, V.
• Ribli, Z.

5th Match Game, London 1983 1-0 D42 The old lion proves that he can still bite, as Vassily Smyslov, World Champion in 1957, crushingly defeats favored Hungarian Grandmaster Zoltan Ribli. Smyslov won the qualifying Candidates’ Match 6 1/2–4 1/2, avoiding modern theoretical variations and relying on classical positions in which
his greater experience gave him the edge.

1.d4  f6 2.e3  e5 3.c4  d5 4.c3  c5 5.exd5  xd5 6.e3  c6 7.d3  e7 8.0–0 0–0 9.a3  

cxd4 10.exd4  f6 11.e2  h6 A typical "isolated Queen pawn" position – White has more space  

greater freedom of movement, while Black will try to maneuver against the potentially weak  
d4 pawn. Experience has shown that the chances are dynamically equal. 12.d1  b6 13.c4  

f8 14.e2  d7 15.e4  c7 16.d3  a4 Black assumes that the penetration of the White Queen to h7 will not be  
dangerous, but he's mistaken. 16...Ng6 would prevent the attack which arises in the game, and  

16...Ng6 would prevent the attack which arises in the game, and 16...Ng6 would at any rate gain a tempo over  

the game continuation. 17.h7+  f8 18.e1  b5 19.xb5  xb5 20.g3  g6 21.e5  de7  

22.xh6 A fine move, permitting the other White pieces to assist the Queen in the attack. 22...gxh6? is  

obviously impossible (23.Qxh7++, and both 22...Rxh4 23.Nxg6+ 24. Nh5 gxh6 25.Nxf6 and  

22...Bxe5 23.Re5 Nxe5 24.Qxg7+ Ke8 25.dxe5 are as bad as the game (25...Ng6 26.Qg8+ Ke7  

27. Bg5+). 22... xe5 23.h5  f3+ In view of variations like 23...Rxh4 24.Nxf6 gxh6 25.  

Qxh6++ and 23...Nfx6 24.Bxg7+ Bxg7 25.Qxg7+ Ke6 26.Nf6++, the Knight sells its life as dearly  

as possible, doubling the White pawns. 24.xf3  

f5 25.xf6  xh6 26.d5 The thematic line-opening advance of the isolated pawn. Now on  

26...gx6, White wins with the variation 27.dxe6 Qg5+ 28.Kh1 fxe6 29.Rg1 Qf4 30.Rg7 Qxf3+ 31.Kg1  

Rd1+ 32.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 33.Kg2 Qd5+ 34.f3 Qd2+ 35.Kh3, escaping the checks. 26... xb2  

27.xb2 27.h8+ e7 28.xh6+ A sacrifice combination that wins the Black Queen. 28... xe6  

29.xe6+ f7 Or 29...Kd6 30.Ne4+. 30.d6+  

x6 31.d5+  xd5 32.xb2 b6 33.b4+  

f6 34.e1  h8 35.h4  d8 36.  

e4 37.c3+ e5 38.xe5  xe5 39.f4  f7 40.fxe5+  

e6 41.e4 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Nesis, G.
• Blocker

?  

Correspondence 1984 1-0 E04

An unusual game demonstrating that the effects of a positional piece sacrifice can be felt far into the  

dojigame stage; this game is even more unusual because it was played by correspondence. In "postal"  

chess, many players feel a sacrifice must be calculated to the very end, yet it is clear that in this game  
such depth of calculation wasn’t possible. Whatever the method, the result is very good chess.

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.c3 f6 4.g3 The Catalan. White announces his willingness to give up the c- 

pawn for development, central control, and coordination. 4...dxc4 Before 4.g3, this capture could  

be met with e2-e3 and Bxc4, but White is unlikely to weaken the Kingside if he plans this development:  

the Bishop is firmly committed to development on g2. 5.g2 a6 6.0–0 b5 7.e5  d5 8.a4  

b7 9.e4  f6 10.axb5 axb5 11.xa8  xa8 12.c6 13.g5  b7 14.xf7  xf7 15.e5  

h6 16.xf6 gxf6 17.h5+ g7 18.a1 Heading for a7. Although Black has a whole extra piece, the  

only one he has developed is the sad specimen on b7, blocked in by his own pawns. Furthermore,  

Black’s King finds little shelter. 18...f5 19.e2  g8 20.f4  d7 21.a7  h8 22.xe6  

Gainning control of the seventh rank, and planning the win of both e- and f-pawns. Later, White  

will advance his pawn mass with great effect. 22... xe6 23.xb7  g7 24.f8 25.f8 26.xf8+  

xf8 27.h3  a6 28.xf5  e7 28.g6  b4  

29.e4  d7 30.f1  d5 31.f4 b4 Black is almost in Zugzwang, as to move any piece severely  

worstens his position. The only plan left is to push Queenside pawns, and they soon run out of moves.

32.e2 c3 33.b3 c5 34.dxc5  xc5 35.xh6+  

g8 36.d6+  xf4+ 37.xf4  

And now the final stage where two connected passed pawns prove sufficient to overcome the drawing power of the "opposite color" Bishops. 38.f3  

f7 39.xf7+  

xf7 40.h4  

e7 41.b1  

e6 42.g4  

d6 43.h5  e5 44.h6  

d4 45.h4  

e3 46.g4  

d2 47.g5  

f4 48.h5  

c2 49.xc2  

xc2 50.g6  

Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Beliavsky, A.
• Nunn, J.

?  

Wijk aan Zee 1985 0-1 E81

Despite the vast amount of theory that has accumulated on the King’s Indian Defense over the last  

40 years, it is still possible for a creative player to produce an original game. John Nunn is one of  

the new generation of GMs who have made England one of the world’s leading chess powers (sil-  

ver medal in the 1986 Olympiad, behind the Soviet Union), while Beliavsky is one of the top Soviet  

players after Kasparov and Karpov.
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 ♘g7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 The popular Saemisch Variation – White securely defends his e4 pawn, and is ready in some lines to advance his Kingside pawns (g2–f3, h2–h4–h5–xh6), in conjunction with Queenside castling. 5...0–0 6.♗e3 e5 7.dxe5 ♘d7 8...d2-cent A logical plan, increasing the activity of the Bg7. The alternative is something like 7...e5 8.d5 Nh5 followed by ...f7–f5, but this is the sort of thing the Saemisch is designed to meet. 8.d5 ♘e5 It is usually incorrect to move the same piece twice in the opening, but Black’s move discourages Nge2 (...Nx5c4), Nh3 (...Bxh3 and ...Nxh3+), and f4 (...Neg4, exchanging the important Be3). The right reply is paradoxical 9.Bg5, threatening 10.f4, as played in Timman-Nunn in a later round of the same tournament. 9.h3 ♘h5 10.♗f2 The most reasonable alternative is 10.Qf2, but White would have tactical problems based on the juxtaposition of his King and Queen on the same diagonal, e.g. 10...e6 11.f4 Bf6 12.g3 Nxe3. 10...f5 11.exf5 ♘xf5 Offering a piece sacrifice to get at the uncastled White King. 12.g4 ♘xf3 13.gxf3 Of course not 13.Nxf3? Nxf3+, forking King and Queen. No better is 13.0-0 Rf1 14.gxf5 Qg8, skewering the two bishops, e.g. 15.Ne4 Bxh2 16.Bd3 Bxh3 17.Qxh3 Rxh3. Possible is 13.Bxh2 Rxf2 14.Kxf2, but after 14...Qf8+ Black has more than enough for the Exchange. 13...Qf8 14.gxf4 A good defensive move, which should enable White to hold the balance. 14...♖f6 15.♗e2 The critical point of the game. White tries to hold all his material, but fails to set up a solid defense. Correct was 15.Qe2, attacking the Rook in earnest, and after 15...Nd3+ 16.Qxd3 Rxd3 17.Bxd3 Qd4 18.Rd1, it seems the White can hold the position, though the Black pieces remain very active. 15...Qf4 16.Qe2 Taking the Rook now leads to an inferior endgame – 16. Nxf3 Nxf3+ 17.Kd1 Bxf3 18.Bg5 Qc3 19.Bf2 Qxe4 Bxe4 21.Bg2 R8, and though White has apparent material advantage, the active Black Bishops cooperate far better than the clumsy White Rooks. 16...♗xf2 17.Qxf2 Qf3+ 18.Qd1 ♖h4 19.Qd3 The only way to save the Knight, in view of the threat of ...Qe1++. 19...♗f5 Threatening 20...Ne1, and if 21.Nxe1 Bxe2+ 22.Nxc2 Qg5 and wins. Relatively best now is 20.Nc3, but Black is still on top after 20...Nd2, e.g. 21.B3 Nxf1 22.Rxfl Qh5+ 23.Ke1 Qxh3 24.Rd1 Qg3+ 25.Rf2 Be3. 20.♗e1 ♙d2 Threatening now the "staircase" maneuver 21.Qe4 22.Rg1 Qe3 23.Rhl Qf3+. 21.hxg6 hxg6 22.h2 ♕xe4 23.Qf2 ♕e3+ 24.Qe2 ♕e4 25.Qf3 ♘f8 26.Qg1 ♙c2 Threatening to confiscate the Bf3 as well with...Nd4 and ...Bxd3.

27.Qd1 ♘xd3 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Yusupov, A.
• Nogueiras, J.

Montpellier
1985 1-0 D35

Even in a quiet Queen’s Gambit, opening inaccuracies may meet with a drastic refutation. It is true that in closed positions maneuvering may be more important than rapid development – but you must be certain that the position will remain closed.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 c5 4.♕f3 ♗f6 5.♗g5 ♘bd7 Black avoids the sharp Anti-Meran Gambit (5...dxc4 6.e4) and transposes into the Queen’s Gambit declined. 6.cxd5 exd5 7.♗e3 ♘d6 8.♗d3 ♘f8 9.♗e5 ♘b6 Or 9...Qg6 10.f4 O-O 11.0-0, with a good attacking formation for White, as Pillsbury demonstrated at the turn of the century. 10.0-0 ♘xe5 Black does not care for 10...Qxb2 11.Rc1 Bxe5 12.dxe5 Nfd7 13.f4, but if he doesn’t plan to take the b2 pawn, his 9th move makes little sense. 11.dxe5 ♘g4 12.♗d4 White is only slightly better after 12.Bf4 N6g 13.Bxg6 hxg6 14.h3 Nb6. Now White threatens 13.Nxd5, and 12...Bd7 runs into 13.e6 Bxe6 14.Nxd5 Bxd5 15.Qxg4, with two Bishops and a development advantage. 12...♗xb2 13.a4 ♘d7 14.♗d4 With a plethora of threats – 15.Nxd5 Qxd5 16.Nc7++ and 15.Ne4 Qb6 16.Nd6+ chief among them, while 14...Qb6 fails to 15.e6 Bxe6 16.Qxg7. 14...♗f6 15.exf6 ♗xf6 16.♗xf6 ♗g8 No better was 16...Nxf6 17.Qxf6 Rg8 18.Nxd5. 17.♗b5 ♘xb5 Since 17...Qxd4 18.Nd6 is still mate. 18.♗xb5 ♘xe6 19.♗b2 ♘xb5 20.♘4 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Karpov, An.
• Kasparov, G.

24th Match Game, Moscow
1985 0-1 B85

Once more a game in which the sporting factors outweighed the chess ones. After 23 games, Kasparov led by a score of 12-11, but a 12-12 tie would allow Karpov to retain the World Championship, and he had White in the last game. Kasparov remained true to himself, eschewing passive defense and once more adopting the double-edge Sicilian Defense. Karpov obtains an attack sufficient for a draw, but his attempts to obtain more lead only to

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a slashing counterattack and a decisive victory for the challenger from Baku.

\[1.e4\,c5\,2.d3\,f3\,d6\,3.d4\,cxd4\,4.cxd4\,f6\,5.exd5\,a6\,6.e2\,e5\,7.0-0\,\text{\#e7}\,8.d4\,f5\,9.a3\,h7\]

Black adopts the solid and flexible Scheveningen System. His pawns on e6 and d6 deny White the use of the central squares d5/e5/f5, and he can prepare counterplay with ...b5, ...d5 or ...e5 as events dictate.

\[10.a4\,c6\,11.b3\,e8\,12.f3\,b8\,13.h2\,d2\,14.d3\,b6\,15.g4\]

White must choose between two fundamentally different plans: the piece attack, with something like Qd2-f2-g3 and f4-f5, and the pawn storm, as adopted in the game. The drawback of the latter plan is that the Rh4 can prepare counterplay with ...b5, ...d5 or ...e5 as events dictate.

\[10...\text{\#c8}\,16.g5\,\text{\#d7}\,17.f2\,f8\,18.g2\,\text{\#b7}\,19.ad1\,g6\,20.e1\,\text{\#f3}\]

Freeing the third rank so that the Rd1 may be transferred to the Kingside. \[20...\text{\#b8} \]


\[21.d3\,\text{\#b4}\,22.h3\,\text{\#g7}\,23.e3\]

A preparatory move typical of Karpov, but according to Kasparov the immediate 23.f5 would be more dangerous for Black.

\[23...\text{\#e7}\,24...\text{\#g1}\,\text{\#e8}\]

A strange-looking idea, but Black defends his second rank (especially f7) and discourages f4-f5, for the opening of the e-file may be to his advantage.

\[25.d1\,f5\]

Suddenly taking the initiative at the cost of a pawn sacrifice. If 26.Qd2 e5! 27.exf5 gxf5, the doubled Rooks on the e-file no longer look so silly.

\[26.gxf6\,\text{\#xf6}\,27.g3\,\text{\#f7}\,28...\text{\#b8}\,29.e3\,\text{\#h5}\,30.g4\,\text{\#f6}\,31.b4\,\text{\#b6}\]

Objectively best was to repeat moves with 31.Rg3 Nh5, but this would be equivalent to resigning the World Championship.

\[31...\text{\#g5}\,32.fxg5\,\text{\#g4}\,33.d2\,\text{\#xe3}\,34.dxe3\,\text{\#xe2}\,35.\text{\#b6}\,\text{\#a8}\]

Now it is clear that the Rh4 is quite out of play, and the White position is very loose.

\[36.d6\]

A losing blunder in a difficult position. The game remains unclear after 36.Qxb8 Rxb8 37.Bh3, when best play seems to be 37...Re7 38.Rxd6 Rx3 39.Rd8+ Kf7 40.Rxa8 Rxb2, when Black has sufficient compensation for the pawn.

\[36...\text{\#b7}\,37.\text{\#xa6}\,\text{\#xb3}\]

Even better, according to Kasparov, was 37...Nb4 38.Qa5 Qxd6, for if 39.e5 Qd3 40.Bxb7 Qe3+ mates.

\[38.\text{\#xe6}\,\text{\#xb2}\,39.\text{\#c4}\,\text{\#h8}\,40.\text{\#e5}\,\text{\#a7+}\,41.\text{\#h1}\,\text{\#g2+}\,42.\text{\#g2}\,\text{\#d4+}\]

White Resigns.

\[0-1\]

Korchnoi, V.
Hulak, K.

Zagreb
1987
1-0

The King’s Indian Defense can still reach independent positions with unique positional and strategic elements.

\[1.d3\,f6\,2.c4\,g6\,3.d3\,g7\,4.e4\,0-0\,5.e2\,d6\,6.d4\,e5\,7.0-0\,c6\,8.d5\,\text{\#f7}\,9.d3\]

Preparing f2-f3 and routing the Knight to d3, where it supports Queenside action.

\[9...d7\,10.e3\]

Another interesting plan for White is the fast prophylactic g2-g4.

\[10...f5\,11.f3\,f4\,12.f2\,g5\,13.b5\,a6\,14.g7\]

Korchnoi seems to prefer to delay the thematic play c4-c5 in favor of first gaining some other advantage. After this move, Black cannot afford to allow Na7xc8, since that Bishop is essential to both offense and defense, so a material imbalance is forced.

\[14...\text{\#a7}\,15.\text{\#xa7}\,b6\,16.b4\,\text{\#b7}\,17.c5\,\text{\#dxc5}\,18.\text{\#c1}\,\text{\#e8}\,19.bxc5\,\text{\#a8}\,20.c6\,\text{\#f6}\,21.\text{\#xb6}\,\text{\#xb6}\,22.\text{\#xa6}\]

White has a Rook and two pawns against Black’s two minor pieces, but more importantly the maneuvers on the Queenside to achieve this have advanced White’s objectives there while Black has been doing nothing on the other wing. Black would now like to focus on the White King, but finds this difficult with his Bishop out of play on a8.

\[22...g4\,23.d3\,g3\,24.h3\,\text{\#e8}\,25.c5\,\text{\#b8}\,26.a4\,\text{\#d6}\,27.a5\,\text{\#bc8}\,28.\text{\#h1}\,\text{\#a7}\,29.\text{\#c2}\,\text{\#e7}\,30.\text{\#b1}\,\text{\#g6}\,31.\text{\#c1}\,f6\,32.\text{\#f1}\,\text{\#xc6}\,33.\text{\#d6}\,\text{\#xa5}\,34.\text{\#a1}\,\text{\#b4}\,35.\text{\#d3}\,\text{\#b5}\,\text{\#d3}\]

Black Resigns. The main threat is to trap the Queen with Rc1-b1.

1-0
a6 17...b3 b5 18...d1 c4 19.a4  a5 Black is willing to give up a pawn to plant his Knight on d3. 20.axb5  cxb5 21...xd3 22...xd3 And White is willing to give up a Rook to remove it. White gets plenty of compensation for the Exchange, but in the end it isn’t enough to win. 22...cxd3 23...d5 axb5 24...e7+  h7 25...xa8  xa8 26...xf5  xf5 27...xd3  e4 28...xb5  a8 29...d2  d8 30...e5  e6 31...f4  xb2 32...h4  f6 33...xf5+  xf5 34...xf5 h5 35.g4  hxg4 36.hxg4  g6 37...g2  h2 38...e7+  f6 39...c6  d7 40...b8  d8 41.d7  e6 42...f3  a3 43...c7 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Karpov, An.
  • Kasparov, G.
  ?

5th Match Game, Seville
1987  1-0  D87

These two giants have played well over 150 serious tournaments games over the years, and the difference between them is only two or three points overall (in Kasparov’s favor). They don’t get along well away from the board, but their feuds seem to end eventually in friendly post-mortem analysis of their games. This is, Kasparov explains, because they are the only people who truly understand what the other is doing on the chessboard.

1.d4  c5 2.e4  g6 3.d3 d5 4.cxd5  xd5 5.e4  xc6 6.bxc3  g7 7.e3 c6 8...e2  d6 9.e3 O–O 10.O–O  g4 11.f3  a5 12. f7+ Even though this line was played several times by Karpov and Kasparov in World Championship matches, it never caught on with anyone else. This was either because no one else understood what was going on, or they did and the two contenders for the throne were too stubborn to give it up. In either case, this unusual line of the Grunfeld led to some very hard games. 12...xf7 13...xg4  xf1+ 14...xf1  xd6 15.e5  d5 16...f2  f8 17...g1  h6 18.b4  h7 19...g3  e3+ 20...h2  e4 21...b1  b6 22...b2  d5 23...d3  e4 What does Black get for his pawn? A firm blockade of the central pawns, and all of his pieces active. However, White’s King remains fairly safe, and with a pair of Rooks and two minor pieces exchanged, any storm Black can manufacture will be small, or at least smaller than if all of the pieces were still on. 24...h1 b5 25...h3 a6 26...g1  exd4 27...f3  d8 28.a4  dxc3 29...xc3  e6 30...h2  bxa4 31...b4  c2 32...xa4  f1+ 33...h3  d1 34...e2  c1 35...e2 h5 Well, this storm doesn’t look so small now that it has centered on the White King! But White’s defensive resources aren’t so small, either. In fact, White will prove in just a few moves that Black has over-extended. 36...d1  e7 37...xa6  a1 38...g6+ Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Korchnoi, V.
  • 1.Juubojevic, L.
  ?

Tilburg
1987  1-0  E56

When Korchnoi goes after the King, sometimes it is necessary to have some heavy duty shears to get out of the net. Ljubo left his shears home this day. 1.d4  f6 2.e4  e6 3...c3  b4 4.e3  O–O 5...d3 d5 6...f3  c5 7.O–O  c6 8.a3  a5 9.h3  xc4 10...xc4  d7 11...d3  e7 12...e4  e4 13...xe4  exd4 14...xd4  h6 15...b6  b6 16...a5  a4 17.a4  f6 18...a3  f4 20...b1  a6 21...d3 g6 22...d2  f5 23...e3  Viktor doesn’t want to try his luck in the endgame with his vulnerable d-pawn: his target wears the crown with the cross. 23...b5 24...e5  axb5 25...xa5  xa5 26...f4  e8 27...g4  f8 28...f6  g5 29...e5  h4 30...g4  b4 31...b6  b5+ 26...e5+  f6 32...f6+  a8 33...d1  e7 34...e3  h5 35...xd3  h3 36...h6  h4 37...f5  e5 38...xe5  exf5 39...e3 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Ftacnik, L.
  • 1.Farago, I.
  ?

Altensteig
1987  1-0  E12

Grandmaster Lubomir Ftacnik, now of Slovakia, has been among the top players in the world for several years. In this game he wins Farago’s Queen for two Rooks, normally a poor trade, but also picks up some pawns. The odd feature is the length of time that the Queen actually stays on the playing field. Both players know it is gone, so why bother to remove it?

1.d4  f6 2.f3  c6 3.c4  b6 4...c3  b7 5.a3 d5 6.exd5  xd5 7...c2  xc3 8...xc3  h6 9...f4  d6 10...g3  O–O 11.e3  d7 12...b5  xg3 13...c5  e5 14...d1  c7 15...xd7  a6 16...f3  fxf5  xd7 17...xc5  e6 18...e4  bxc5 19...h5  f8 Black would avoid the following problem if he used the other Rook. 20...f5 In this apparently simple position, Black cannot afford to exchange his weak e-pawn with 20...cxb4 because of the blazing back-rank tactic, 21.Rd8+! Kh7 22.Qxc6
Rxc6 23.Rxa8. Ftacnik specializes in the transitional stages of the game, and it is when things appear to be getting simpler that you must really be careful. 21.bxc5 fxe4 Again not 21...Qxe5 because of 22.Rd8+! 22.Qxe5 exf3 23.Qxe8+ Rxe8 24.Qxe6 Qf7 25.Qe6+ g6xh6 26.Qxh6 White has calculated that the two major pieces working together will lead either to mate or the win of the Queen. 26...Qe8 27.Qe6 Qb8 28.Qg5+ White shows he is in no hurry to actually capture the Queen. 28...Qf8 29.Qf4+ Qf7 30.Qe6 Qe8+ 31.Qd1 Qd8+ 32.Qc2 Qd7 33.c6. Again, no hurry. Where can she go? 33...Qe8 34.Qxf3 Qc7 35.Qe7 Qd6 36.Qd4 Qe8 37.Qf3 Qxf6 38.Qe4+ Qe7 39.Qg6 Qc7 40.Qd5 Qe7 After 41.Kd6, White can win by a variety of methods, so Black Resigns. 1-0

- Gulko, B.
- Campora, ?
- Biel

Gulko's Queenside ambitions are stymied, so he switches his attention to the King. A sustained attack follows. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 Qc7 4.g3 Qf6 5.Qg2 O-O 6.Qe2 c6 7.0-0 b5 8.Qc5 a6 9. Qd2 Qb7 10.e4 Qxe4 11.Qxe4 dxe4 12.Qxe4 Qa6 13.Qc1 Qc8 14.h4 Qf6 15.Qe2 Qd5 16.Q4 b4 17.Qe5 Qc7 18.Qe4 A familiar battery is formed to provoke Kingside weaknesses. White's pieces coordinate well for the coming Kingside attack. 18...g6 19.h5 Qf6 20.hxg6 hxg6 21.Qg6 fxg6 22.Qxe6+ Qf8 23.Qe4 Qe7 24.Qg5 Qf8 25.Qf4 Qd8 Not 25...Qxf4 26.Qg7+ winning the house. 26.Qxf6 Qxf6 27.Qe1 Down by a Rook, White takes time to bring his remaining pieces into play. 27...Qd5 Black is effectively in Zugzwang; any move he makes damages him. 28.Qf7+ Qe8 29.Qxe6 Qa7 30.Qg6+ Qa8 31.Qf7 Qxf7 32.Qe5 Qf3 33.Qg8+ Black Resigns. 33...Qf8 34.Qxe6+ is the end. 1-0

- Beliavsky, A.
- Portisch, L.
- Szirak

1987 0-1 A79

A model Modern Benoni game by the veteran Hungarian Lajos Portisch.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 d5 4.Qc3 e5 5.Qb7 6.Qd3 Qe7 7.Q-O O-O 8.Qe4 Qxe4 9.Qxe4 c6 10.Qc5 Qf5 11.Qb2 Qb7 12.Qe2 Qxd4 13.Qxd4 Qc5 14.Qxe5 Qxe5 15.Qf3 Qc7 16.Qe5 Qb8 17.Qd1 Qb7 18.Qg4 Qxg4 19.Qxg4 Qf6 20.Qc2 Qe7 21.Qxd6 Qxd6 22.Qe1 Qe5 23.Qh4 This seems to be where White starts to go wrong. He should settle for rough equality after 23.Qf4. 23...Qf8 24.Qh5 Qb4 25.Qe2 Qd7 26.Qf5 Qd1+ 27.Qh2 Qd2 28.Qe6+ Qh8 29.Qd5 Qf4+ 30.Qg5 f5 31.Qh4 Qg6 32.Qxg3 Qxd5 33.Qxd5 Qxd5 White had apparently hoped this series of desperado sacrifices would fail in view of 33...Qxe2 34.Qd8#, but now Black's battery will keep White busy. 34.Qb4 Qf3+ 35.Qf4

141

Hjartarson, J.

- Ljubojevic, L.
- Belgrade

1987 0-1 D46

Candidate Johann Hjartarson of Iceland here falls victim to a Kingside attack.
White Resigns.
running material advantage.
e3-pawn giving a Rook on d3 a target. Better seems 19...
ral exploitation of the open d-file. B
12.a4 influence over the d3 outpost square to his advan-
tune over the d3 outpost square to his advan-
hold on to the c4-pawn for a while. Rather than
because he holds an extra pawn, Sveshnikov in-
dxc4 10.Qh2+ 47.Rh3 Qf4#. Resigns. Now 46.Qg3 Qd4+ mates and 46.Rg3

Evgeny Sveshnikov is well known for his eccentric
taste in opening variations; he even has one major
variation of the Sicilian named after him.
1.c4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Qb3
h6 6.a3 a6 7.g3 g6 8.f4 f5 9.O–O O–O
142

The main alternative, 17.Nxc5, loses slightly better after 17...Nxc5 18.dxe5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
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26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
26...Rxd6 27...Rxe6 28...Rxb5 29...Rxb5
Capturing the d-pawn in such a way that other pawns are likely to fall as well.
22...h5 23...xd7+ 24...f6+ 25...c1+ 26...b8 27...e7 28...c7 29...e7 30...xe7 31...xf5 32...g5 33...h6 34...xa2
Black may be lost anyway, but it is hard to imagine it is worse to capture the h-pawn with check on one of these moves.
34...b4 35...e5 36...g7 37...f6 38...e7+ 39...b6 40...b3+ 41...f6+ This series of checks is necessary
because White threatens Rh3xb2. 42...h7 43...e6 44...h6 45...g7 46...g8 47...h5 48...h6 49...h6 50...xb2 51...b1 52...d3 52...e7 Black Resigns. After 52...Rf1 53...Rf6 White promotes, and 52...Rh7 53...Ke8 leads to a Rook vs Pawn ending where Black is much too slow.
1-0

○ Lukacs, P.
● Sosonko, G.

Rotterdam
1987 1-0 D38
If you’re behind in development, space, and central control, why not grab a pawn for your troubles? Gennadi Sosonko of the Netherlands is given a fairly clear explanation in this game.
1.d4 2.e4 3...f3 d5 4...c3 b4 5...g5 h6 6...xf6 7...c1 8.a3...x3+ 9...xc3 dxe4 10...xc4 11.e4 12...e6 13...d3 14...g1...h3 15...e2 16...d5 exd5 Capture with a piece allows Rc4-h4, trapping the Queen. 17...h4...e6 18...d4...b6 19...e6
At the minimal cost of another pawn, White gains a square for his Queen and cuts off communications along the sixth rank. 19...xe6 20...e5...f8 21...b5...f5 22...xf5...xf5 23...xg7+...e7 24...xh6...g8 Not 24...Qxb5 25.Qe5+ Be6 26.Rxe6+ Qxe6 27.Rg7+ and mates. 25...e5+...e6 26...f6+ 27...f4+...e7 28...f6+ 29...xg8 30...xf7...g1+ 31...f1...a5+ 32...h4 33...xf1...b5+ 34...e1...d7 35...f4+ Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Yusupov A.
● Ljubojevic L.

Tilburg
1987 1-0 D37
Yusupov’s sharp, tactical play against Ljubo’s hanging center pawns leads to a passing pawn ending where the passed pawn decides.
1.d4 2...f6 2.e4 3...f3 d5 4...c3...e7 5...f4 O-O 6.e3 7...c1 c5 8.dxe5 bxc5 9...e2...b7 10.O-O...bd7 11.exd5...d5 12...e5...b6 13...a4 14...f3...e8 15...h5...a6 16...xd3...c4 The hanging pawns, side-by-side on open files in the center, are notorious. They are strong only if they are impervious to attack or can advance with disorganizing effect; they are weak when forced to advance into a blockade. Here the White forces are coordinated, and the pawns are weak. 17...c7...d7 18...e5...c8 19...b3...a8 20...xc4...c7 21.exd5...d6 22...e4...c5 23...xa5...xa5 24...xc5...d8 25...d6...xd6 26...xa5...xd5 27...d4...e6 28...xc5...xc5 29...d1...c8 30...c5...xc5 31...xe5 h5 32...e4...e4 33...h3...g6 34...c6...b4 35...a6...a5 36...b7...a4 37...b1 Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Timman, J.
● Short, N.

Belgrade
1987 1-0 D36
This game was played in Yugoslavia in 1987 between the two players who are now each challenging for the World Championship against the two players (Kasparov and Karpov) who have owned the title for nearly twenty years. There are two ways of playing the Exchange variation of the Queen’s Gambit Declined: the normal way, planning a minority attack on the Queenside, and Jan Timman’s way, with e2-e4 accepting an isolated pawn and attacking the King.
1.d4 2...f6 2.e4 3...f3 d5 4...c3...e7 5...xd5
The Exchange variation has a quiet reputation, since it allows the Black Bishop on c8 to freely develop. White’s normal plan is to develop pieces and begin play with the Queenside minority of pawns: b2-b4, a2-a4, b4-b5 intending to weaken the Black pawn that normally will be found on c6. 5...exd5 6...g5 6...e2 6...c6 Black wants to develop the Bishop aggressively to f5, but this move weakens the Kingside and provokes the Dutch Grandmaster to switch plans. 8...dxe4 9...xf6 10...xe4+...f8 Even after 10.Qc7 White will maintain an initiative, but perhaps that move is safer. 11...c4...g7 12.O-O...e8 13...f4...e6 14...xe6...xe6 15...c1 16...xe1 17...e4...e7 18...h4...b8 19...f5...g5 20...g5...f8 21.h5...gxf5 22...f5...e8 23...d7 Discovering an attack against the Bishop. 23...exd7 24...xd7 25...xe7+...g6 26...f3 26.Nxh7 looks good, since it regains a pawn and sets up the trap.
26...Rd8 27.Rxd7! Rxd7 28.Nf8+, but Black can jettison a second pawn instead: 26...Nb6! 27.Rxb7, when the White Knight is looking clausrophobic. White may well pick up two or even three pawns for this piece, but the more conservative method chosen by Timman is better. 26...d8!
27.Bh2 Qf8 Short finds it impossible to save all of his pawns on the seventh rank, so he offers some of them to gain piece activity. 28.Bxb7 Qe6 29.Qxa7 Qd4 30.Qh4+ Qg5 31.Qg3 f5 32.f4 Qf6 33.Qxh7 Qe6 34.Qh6+ Qd5 35.Qxh5 Qe4 36.Qh7 Qd3 37.f7 Qd5 38.b4 Qe4 39.a3 Qb3 40.Qa7 Qc2 41.Qa5 Qd2+ 42.Qh3 Qxa3 43.Qa6 Qc2 44.Qxf5 The two connected passed pawns decide... 44...Qh5 45.Qe7 Qd4 46.Qb6 Qc3 47.Qg4 Qa4 48.Qb7 Qc2 49.f5 Qxb4 50.Qxb4+ Qxb4 51.f6 Qa3 52.f7 Qa8 53.Qxc6+ Qc5 54.Qe5 Qd6 55.Qg6 Black Resigns. 1-0

- Boensch U
- Chekhov V.

? Halle
1987 1-0 D20

The Queen’s Gambit doesn’t have the mad-dog attacking reputation that its Kingside counterpart has earned, but somebody forgot to tell Uwe Boensch!

- Miles, A
- Seirawan, Y.

? Zagreb
1987 1-0 D20

An instructive endgame. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 dx4 3.a3 a6 4.e4 b5 5.a4 b4 6.Qa2 Qb7 7.Qf3 e6 8.Qxe4 c5 9.Qe2 Qc7 10.Qc3 Qxd4 11.Qxd4 Qxc6 12.Qb3 Qxd1+ 13.Qx1 White has a slight advantage in the endgame due to Black’s weaknesses on the queenside. 13...Qe5 14.Qe2 Qc6 15.Qc1 Qxa4 16.Qc8+ Qc7 17.Qac1 Qxb3 18.Qxb3 Qd7 19.Qxa6 Qa6 20.Qxb8 Qb7 21.Qe8 Qg6 22.Qe2 Qd6 23.Qc1+ Qc6 24.Qxh8 Qxh8 25.Qf4 Qxc1 26.Qxg5 27.Qf5 Qd6 28.Qd3 Qb5 29.Qf4 Qg4 30.Qg5 Qxg5 31.Qxg5 Qf7 32.Qh4 Qg5 33.Qf6 Qhx6 34.Qd2 Qf8 35.Qc4 Qh6 36.Qf6 Qf4 Qh4 37.Qh3 Qc6 38.Qc6 39.Qe7 Qc7 40.Qc2 Qe4 41.Qf6+ Qg6 42.Qxg6 Qf5 43.Qf3 Qf5 44.Qd2 Qh4 45.Qc2 Qh2 46.Qg2 Qf4 47.Qe2 Qxe4 48.Qh4 Qh4 49.Qxe5 Qxe5 50.Qf4 Qe5 51.Qg5 Qd4 52.Qe5 Qd5 53.Qxg6 Qh4 54.Qf7 Qe4 55.Qb2 Qf2 56.Qd6 Qc5 57.Qe8 Black Resigns. 1-0

- Donchev, D.
- Nikolov, Sa.

? Bulgaria
1987 1-0 B97

Grandmaster Dimitar Donchev, one of Bulgaria’s strongest players, is noted for his attacking prowess. His opponent, countryman Sasho Nikolov, is an International Master. This game serves as a reminder that in the Sicilian Black must always be especially vigilant about his opponent’s tactical opportunities.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 Qc6 3.d5 Qxd5 4.Qd2 Qxb2 5.Qa3 Qa3 6.Qf3 Qe5 7.Qf6 Qd6 8.a3 The text avoids the complex lines of the Poison Pawn variation of the Najdorf Sicilian (8.Qd2 Qxb2), while indirectly protecting the b-pawn. 8...Qc6 Capturing on b2 would be a grave error as 9.Na4 traps the Queen.

9.Qb3 Qe7 10.Qf3 Qb6 11.Qc3 Qd5 12.g4 Qb5 13.Qg2 A classic Sicilian position with opposite side castling has arisen. The plan for both players is well known: attack the enemy King as quickly as possible. Here White is ahead in development but Black has compensation in the pawn on a3 which invites ....b7-b5-b4 quickly opening lines.

13...Qb8 Sharp Sicilian middlegames often allow little room for error. Here Black makes one small imperceptible error and never gains a chance to recover. The text, preparing ...b5-b4, looks completely natural, but leaves the Knight on c6 loose. Correct was 13...Bb7 giving the Knight extra protection. 14.Qe5 Qd5 15.Qxd5 The start of a brilliant combination that seeks to exploit the lack of harmony in Black’s position. 15...Qxd5 16.Qxd5 Qd7 Note that 16...Qd8 fails to 17.Na5! Qxa5 18.Qxe7+ Qh8 19.Qf5 Qg7 Now the threat of f5-f6, plying open the Black Kingside, is in the air. Note that 19...f6? offers no relief as 20.Ng6+!
K.K

1-0

21.Qh3+ Kg8 22.Bd5+ Rf7 23.fxg6 wins. 20.f6 A fantastic conception that required great imagination. Donchev sacrifices his Queen for only one piece but draws the enemy King out into the open. 20...xf3 21.fxg7+ xg7 22.f6+ xh6 23.xf3 24.g1 Hoping for 24.h4 Rxg4! breaking the attack. 24...xh7 25.h5+ xg8 26.g7+ xf6 27.f6+ xf8 28.d1 The smoke has cleared and White is way ahead despite being the Exchange down. All of his pieces are active while Black’s Rook on g8 is bottled up. 28...c4 29.d7 b6 30.a7 e8 31.c4 e6 32.h4 hxg5 33.hxg5 e8 34.b7 c4 35.d5 g7 36.xg7+ xg7 37.xf7 d6 38.e6+ Simplifying down to an easily won Bishop versus Knight ending. 38...xb7 39.e8 40.a6 41.a3 42.c4 bxc4 43.xc4 f4 44.a4 xc4 45.bxc4 46.d2 f2 47.d3 f3 48.a5 e4+ 49.d4 e3 50.a6 e2 51.a7 e1=Q 52.a8=Q+ f4 53.e8=Q+ Now Donchev demonstrates how to win with Queen and pawn versus Queen. Note how he centralizes his Queen before trying to advance his pawn. This allows for more chances for cross-checks (answering a check with an interposition that also gives check). The cross-check, which threatens to trade down to a check with an interposition that also gives check). 1-0

Poznan 1987 1-0 B97

1.e4 c5 2.d3 f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.xd4 g6 5.xf6 a6 6.Qg5 e6 7.f4 wb6 8.wd2 wxb2 The Sicilian Poison Pawn is one of the most analyzed variations in chess. Some of its lines include multiple piece sacrifices by White; all feature attacks against the Black monarch. Yet for all of the high-powered analysts that have placed this position on their boards, the line continues to elude definition. The overall soundness of the gambit is still in doubt. 9.b1 wa3 10.f5 c6 11.fx6 xf6 12.xc6 bxc6 13.e2 c7 14.o-o wa5 15.f3 e5 16.h5+ g8 The 16...Nh5 is out of the question, since 17.Bxe7 Kxe7 18.Nd5+ wins the Queen. 17.e3 Threatening the Queen again, with Be3-b6+. Since these direct threats appear to lead to a White advantage by force, one could conclude that the move 14...Qa5 was faulty. 17...e5 18.xf6 gxf6 19.h6 g8 The Rook was in jeopardy from Bishops coming to f7 and g7. 20.f5 Fork! 20...xg2+ 21.xe2 xxc3 22.xh1 xxe2 23.c1 xxe2 24.exa8 w8 c4 25.b1 xxe5 26.c8+ f8 27.wf8+ e7 28.xc8 cd1+ With a huge material deficit, Black's only hope is perpetual check. The method White uses to evade the checks is worthy of study - and of course White needed to work all of this out before he grabbed the Rook. 29.wc8+ xg8+ 30.xg8 w3+ 31.xf8+ wxf8 32.f3 e5 33.d5 w6 34.wf1 c4 35.d4 e3 36.b3+ 37.f2 c3+ 38.g1 xg1+ 39.wg1 f5+ 40.exf5 w4+ 41.a3 wg1+ 42.a2 Black Resigns.

1-0

Estevez, G.

Canda, D.

Managua 1987 1-0 B62

According to Averbach, in his "Chess Tactics for Advanced Players," all chess tactical motives can be distilled into one common theme, the double attack. Still, the series of double attacks ending this game make a pleasing impression.

1.e4 c5 2.d3 f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.xd4 f6 5.xc3 c6 6.g5 e6 7.h5 d7 8.xf6 bxc6 9.xf3 h6 10.h4 e5 11.b3 e6 12.o-o o7 13.xf6 gxf6 14.d5 Actually, this is a common sacrifice in the Sicilian. The setting here is a bit unusual. 14...exd5 15.exd5 b7 16.wf6 w8 17.c1 w8+ 18.c5 w8 19.cxe7 wxe7 20.xb7+ c6 21.wc3 xxc8 22.wb4 c7 23.g3 g5 24.a5 w2 25.a4+ w7 26.wd6+ Driving the King into the tactic. 26...w8 27.w8+ A double attack, in a way: d6 is hit and f7 is pinned. 27...w8 28.wc6+ w4 29.e6+ And the e6 square. Now the fork wins too much material. Black Resigns.

1-0
Sometimes the tactics in correspondence games are so deep that a quick overview of the game makes you wonder if both players set up the pieces wrong. Even after careful study, the tactics and positional evaluations Black arrived at in this game are impressive.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 d6 6.Qd4 The dreaded Keres attack. 6...h6 7.g1 Qe7 8.Qe3 a6 9.Qe2 Qe6 10.Qd2 g5 11.O-O-O Qd7 12.Qh4 Qxh4 It’s hard to imagine that the weak, doubled extra pawn just created will eventually promote. 13.f4 Qc7 14.Qf3 b5 15.e5 White regains the pawn with this move, but yields Black an enduring initiative. 15...Qf6+ 16.Qf3 Qe5 17.Qxe5 Qdxe5 18.Qb3 Qxb3 19.Qa1 Qc6 20.Qf4 Qc5 21.Qe4 Qxe4 22.Qb2 Qxh6 23.Qxe2 Qb7 24.Qb3 Qxe6 25.Qa3 a5 26.Qh7 Qb2 27.Qg8 28.Qh2+ Qf6 29.Qh6 exd5 30.Qf5 Qe5 31.Qf3 Qc6 32.Qe3 Qd7 33.Qg4 Qe3 34.Qf3 Qc6 35.Qa4 Qb3 36.Qb1 Qb6 37.Qg4 Qc5 38.Qc7 Qa1 39.Qa1 Qc5 40.Qb1 Qb3 41.Qc7 Qa1 42.Qg2 Qf5 43.Qd3 a4 44.Qc1 Qc1 45.Qe3 Qe2 Qa2+ And the h-pawn Queens – White Resigns.

1-0

Vladimirov, E.
• Epishin, V.

? USSR 1987 1-0 B81

There are three basic ways to attack the Sicilian structure seen in this game: e4-e5, f4-f5, and g4-g5. Usually the g4-g5 idea is to drive away the defending Knight-f6, but here White uses it to open the g-file, then follows up with f4-f5, which is normally used to soften the d5-square.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 e6 6.Qg4 An attacking idea attributed to the great Estonian Grandmaster Paul Keres. It certainly sets unpleasant problems for Black, who must have second thoughts about castling after a move like this. 6...h6 7.b4 Qe7 8.g5 Qxg5 9.Qxg5 Qe6 10.Qd2 a6 11.O-O-O Qd7 12.Qf4 Qxd4 Black tries to clear some space for his cramped pieces by exchanging. 13.Qxd4 Qe6 14.Qg1 Qa5 15.Qb3 Qc5 16.Qd3 b5 17.f5 b4 Understandably, Black would prefer to drive the c3-Knight away before reacting...e6-c5, since a Knight hopping into d5 would be very strong. 18.Qe3 Qa5 19.Qe4 Qb7 20.Qxe6 Qxc3 21.Qxg7 Qd5 Hoping to reduce the effect of the White Queen on the a2-g8 diagonal. Black’s King is caught in the center, and the passed pawn that will soon appear on f7 will make some serious threats. 22.Qb3 Qxb2+ 23.Qb1 Qb5 It isn’t easy to suggest an improvement for Black. With this move he hopes to reduce the attacking force by exchanging Queens. 24.Qxf7+ Qf8 25.Qd1 Qxb3 26.Qh6 Qg4 27.Qh7+ Qxh6 28.Qxh8+ Qxf7 29.Qh7+ Black Resigns. The Black Knight is a goner, since even after 29...Qe8 30.axb3 Nf7 31.Rg7 wins pieces. 1-0

Junn, N.
• Marin, M.

? Szirak 1987 1-0 B80

British Grandmaster John Nunn knows his stuff in several openings. At the Interzonal tournament in 1987, he got to demonstrate a thing or two about the Sicilian.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 a6 6.Qe3 e6 7.Qd2 b5 8.f3 Qbd7 9.g4 Qh6 10.O-O-O Qb7 11.Qd3 Qe5 12.Qf1 Qfd7 13.Qf4 b4 Black has made several moves with Knights while White has been compactly centralizing his forces. Now Black hopes to force the Knight c3 to retreat before his own steed flees the scene, but Nunn seizes the chance to advance! 14.Qd5 Qxd3+ 15.Qxd3 exd5 16.Qxd5 Qe7 17.Qc6 Qxc6 18.Qxc6 Qf6 19.Qb6 Many lines were opened by White’s excellent thematic sacrifice of a Knight on d5, and naturally his major pieces are well prepared to take advantage. 19...Qxb6 20.Qxe7+ Qf8 21.Qxe7 Qxe7 21.Qxd6+ and 22.Re1+. 21.Qxd6 Qe8 22.Qg5 Qxh5 23.Qxh5 Qc8 24.Qc7 Qxd6 25.Qxd6 Qg4 26.Qd8+ Qh7 27.Qe7 Black Resigns. 1-0

Ljubojevic, L.
• Beliaevsky, A.

? Belgrade 1987 1/2-1/2 C95

The Breyer variation of the Ruy Lopez features complex strategic play that can degenerate into a devastating Kingside attack for White, or a swap
full of pawns rolling up the Queenside for Black. As played by these two strong Grandmasters, it is all of the above.

1.e4 e5 2...f3 c6 3.b5 a6 4.a4 f5 5.O-O e7 6.e1 b5 7.a3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.h3 b8 10.d4 bd7 11...bd2 b7 12.c2 e8 13.f1 f8 14.g3 g6 15.d5 c6 16.d4 c7 17.g5 h6 18.e3 e5 19...d2 h5 20.g5 e7 21.h6 h6 22...e3 b3 23.f1 f8 24...xf8 h8 25...d2 c8 26.f4 White begins the Kingside assault, giving up the e5-square to open the f-file. 26...exf4 27...xf4 e5 28...f3 e7 29.axb5 axb5 30.h6 b4 And here come the Black pawns. One recent World Championship game in the related Zaitzev system had the ultimate Black pawn mass - four extra connected passed pawns on the Queenside. However, Black fell into a drawing maneuver rather than speculate on the position after 32.Qxe7 Qxd4+, but now recognizes the dangers in 32.Qxe7 Qxd4+. 33...xf3 34.Bf4 gxf3 35.Bxf3 Qxd4 36.Bxd4 Bxd4 37.Bf2 Bf2 38.ad1 c5 39.bxc3 a5 40.bxa5 bxa5 41.Ba5 Bxa5 42.Bxe5 Bxe5 43.fxe5 Qxe5 44.Bxe5 Bxe5 45.Bxe5 Tactics based on the loose Bishop-b7 and possible connected pawns for White. If 45...gxf3 46.Qxf3+ starts taking pawns to compensate for the Knight. 45...Bxf6 46.Bxf6 e7 47.Bxe6 Bxe6 48.d8 Bxd8 49...e5+ Bg7 50...e6 Bxe6 51...xe6 Bxe5 And after the fireworks, equality. 52.Bf2 g5 53.g3 h4 54.g4 d5 55.Bd5 Bxd5 56.Bf3 Bxf6 57.Bc8 Bxe5 58.Bxe3 f6 59.Ba6 Be6 60.Bb5 Bb5 d5 Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2

○ Short, N.  
• Korchnoi, V.  
? Zagreb 1987 1-0 C54

In 1987, the decidedly youthful British phenomenon Nigel Short did well in a strong international event in Zagreb, Yugoslavia. The sport of chess will be much worse off due to the conflict in Yugoslavia; clearly funding chess tournaments is no longer a priority there.

1.e4 e5 2...f3 c6 3.a3 c4 4.dxc4 d5 5.O-O dxc5 6.b3 a5 7.Bb2 f5 8.Bf4 fxe5 9.Bxe5 Be6 The experienced Korchnoi prefers to finish development rather than speculate on the position after 11...f4. 12.dxe5 Bxe5 13...xe5 g5 14.g3 e2+ 15...xe2 Collecting three minor pieces for the Queen. 15...xe3 16...d3 e6 17.axb3 e8 Three minors are usually more than a match for a Queen, but the presence of other pieces can muddy things up a bit. Also, the placing of the pieces is critical. 18...d4 h6 19...c4 g5 20...g4 xc3 21...h6+ g7 22...xg5 xh5 23...xf7 f4 24...d1 c3 25...d3 Bb2 26...c1 x f2+ 27...g2 a1 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Gligoric, S.  
• Short, N.  
? Zagreb 1987 0-1 C19

Nigel Short is one of the world’s leading experts on the French Defense.

1.d4 e5 2.c3 e6 3.b4 d5 4.c4 e5 5.a3 c6 6.bxc5 dxc5 7.Bb3 Bxc6 8.O-O f6 9...f3 Bb4 10.g3 c4 11...e2 O-O 12.O-O f6 A thematic break against the head of the pawn chain. Nimzowitsch extols the virtues of attacking the base (BASE) of a chain, but the modern game is perhaps a little more flexible. 13...a3 Bae8 14...d6 f7 15...e2 f5 16...e5 b4 17...e2 fxe5 18.dxe5 cxb4 19...xb4 ef8 Black now gets play on the half-open f-file and in the center, where his pawn mass is fairly mobile. 20...g5 e7 21...g4 e8 22.c3 a5 23...a5 Bxa5 24...d2 c6 25...f4 h6 26...f3 d4 27...xd4 Not 27.Nxd4 Nxd4 28...xd4 Qd5 when Black owns the long diagonal to the White King. 27...g5 Opening the file for fireworks against the f3-point. 28...g5 h5 29...h5 Bg3 30...g3 Bxf3 31...a3 Bf5 32...d1 Gligoric now recognizes the dangers in 32.Qxe7 Qxd4+, but it is too late. 32.c3 h7 33.g4 h6 34...h1 f3 White Resigns. 0-1

○ Perenyi, B.  
• Portisch, L.  
? Hungary 1987 1-0 C16

In closed positions, maneuvering becomes the rule, and frequently unusual developments are possible. However, this game played in Hungary in 1987 had both players try something quite rare: the fianchetto of the Queen!

After a weirdly violent opening exchange, Black finds his Knight difficult to extract. 1.e4 d5 2.exd5 xd5 3.c3 a5 4.d4 e5 5.dxe5 e6 6.f3 b4 7.d2 g4 8.a3 d4

Black must rely on tactical devices to remain in the game. 9.h5+ c6 10.O–O xf3 11.axb4 e1 d1 12.bxa5 e2 13.a4 e7 14.xc2 e2 15.a4 Incarcerating the Knight. 15... d8 16.e4 f5 17.gc4 f4 18.d6+ e7 19.f3 c5 20.e2 h7 21.d4 h5 22.xc5 xe5 23.xc5 hxg4 24.xg2 x3 25.d1 rh2 26.gc3 e8 27.e4 h6 28.xg4 h4 29.e1 Finally the trapped Knight decides matters. Black Resigns.

1-0

© Ivanchuk, V.
• Angelov, K.
?

Warne 1987 1-0 B01

After a weirdly violent opening exchange, Black finds his Knight difficult to extract.

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 xd5 3.c3 a5 4.d4 e5 5.dxe5 e6 6.f3 b4 7.d2 g4 8.a3 d4

Black must rely on tactical devices to remain in the game. 9.h5+ c6 10.O–O xf3 11.axb4 e1 d1 12.bxa5 e2 13.a4 e7 14.xc2 e2 15.a4 Incarcerating the Knight. 15... d8 16.e4 f5 17.gc4 f4 18.d6+ e7 19.f3 c5 20.e2 h7 21.d4 h5 22.xc5 xe5 23.xc5 hxg4 24.xg2 x3 25.d1 rh2 26.gc3 e8 27.e4 h6 28.xg4 h4 29.e1 Finally the trapped Knight decides matters. Black Resigns.

1-0

© Hebden, M.
• Jadoul, M.
?

Tarnby 1987 0-1 B00

British International Master Mark Hebden tries to sneak off with some material belonging to his unknown opponent, only to be swamped with a sustained onslaught of Black pieces.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 e5 3.dxe5 xe5 4.c3 xf3 x3 5.xf3 xf6 6.g3 gf6 7.xc7 Hunting for material at the cost of development is often dangerous.


0-1

© Volokov, D.
• Kozlov, V.
?

USSR 1987 1-0 A11

A right smart execution. White’s mating attack is swift and final.

1.e4 a6 2.d4 b5 In the early ’80s, the St. George attack (...b7-b5) gained some popularity when Tony Miles used it to defeat World Champion Karpov. What few noticed was the huge number of offbeat openings Miles had tried against Karpov with zero success first. That he eventually scored with one of them shouldn’t be too surprising, and a careful study of that game proved it was hardly the fault of the opening. However, public taste is seldom based on good logic, and it took several serious setbacks, including this game, before the St. George found the obscurity it truly deserves. 3.xf3 b7 4.d3 f6 5.e4 e6 6.a4 c5 Miles’ success came by playing this move at the right moment and transposing into a tame line of the Sicilian where the advanced Queenside pawns may be useful. The position was equal, but Karpov played too hard to refute the odd opening, and eventually overpressed. Here, White plays accurately, proving the Black Queenside to be advanced too fast, and finding great squares for his Knights. 7.xe5 c5 8.xd2 b4 9.e5 x5 10.e4 e7 11.g5 O–O 12.d6 c6 13.b4 f6 With the White pawn cramping the Kingside
from e5 and the Knight firmly entrenched on d6. Black has few chances to survive. This attempt to drive off the attackers meets with a swift refutation.

14.exf6 gxf6 15.\textit{c}e5 fxe5 16.\textit{w}h5 \textit{f}f5 17.\textit{x}f5 exf5 18.\textit{w}f7+ \textit{h}8 19.\textit{g}6+ And mate next, so Black Resigns.

1-0

\begin{itemize}
  \item Georgiev, Kir.
  \item Rajkovic, D.
\end{itemize}

\textbf{Vrsac} 1987 0-1 A31

By transposition this game reaches the Hedgehog Sicilian, in which White attempts to keep a bind on the center using the Maroczy-style construction c4, e4, f3. This is a very effective strategy against the Dragon formations (Black fianchettos the King Bishop), but active play is harder to develop versus the flexible and reactive Hedgehog. In this game, the White player decides to advance the Kingside pawns in a storm, willy-nilly, and is suitably punished as the Black pieces infiltrate the weaknesses left behind.

1.\textit{c}f3 \textit{e}2 2.\textit{c}4 \textit{b}6 3.d4 \textit{cxd4} 4.\textit{cxd4} \textit{b}7 5.\textit{c}e3 \textit{c}6 6.d3 \textit{d}6 7.\textit{c}e2 \textit{c}6 8.\textit{c}e7 9.\textit{c}e2 \textit{e}7 10.\textit{w}d2 \textit{a}6 11.\textit{c}c1 \textit{f}f6

10...d5 11.\textit{f}d1 \textit{e}8 13.\textit{c}c1 \textit{w}c7 14.\textit{f}f1 \textit{c}ac8 15.\textit{h}h1 \textit{w}b8 16.\textit{f}f2 \textit{d}8 17.\textit{c}c2 \textit{e}7 18.g4 There is nothing wrong with White’s game until this move. White is simply not placed to attack the Kingside; more reasonable is continued maneuvering. Once the e-pawn is secure, White might consider a plan with f3-f4, or a4-a5, or even b2-b4 and c4-c5(??!). Regardless, he will need to consider the potential counterstrikes ...b6-b5 and ...d6-d5 on every single play. If Black achieves one of these, White may go down like a rock.

18...\textit{b}6 19.\textit{h}h5 \textit{d}5 Reaction in the center against the (premature/unprepared) wing attack. White’s Kingside actions amount to hara-kiri.

20.\textit{g}5 \textit{b}3 21.\textit{g}g2 \textit{d}xe4 22.\textit{f}xe4 \textit{d}xe4 24.\textit{c}xe4 \textit{c}5 25.\textit{c}xe5 \textit{d}xe5 26.\textit{d}7 \textit{a}8 27.\textit{c}c1 \textit{d}5 The result of White’s Kingside attack: he lost all of his King’s cover for the temporary gain of a piece. White must now make another material adjustment.

28.\textit{w}g5 \textit{g}2+ 29.\textit{c}c2 \textit{f}4 30.\textit{c}h3 \textit{w}x\textit{c}4 31.\textit{d}d4 \textit{w}x\textit{a}2 32.\textit{c}f1 \textit{e}5 33.\textit{f}f3 \textit{f}6 34.\textit{f}g5 \textit{x}b2 An unusual material imbalance: Queen, Rook, Bishop, and four Pawns vs. two Rooks, two Knights, Bishop, and zero.

35.\textit{w}f7 \textit{e}7 36.\textit{e}7 \textit{x}e7 37.\textit{d}f2 \textit{d}4 38.\textit{f}4 \textit{d}1+ 39.\textit{c}f1 \textit{w}d4 40.\textit{w}f4 It would seem to be in White’s favor to continue the repetition and hope for a draw, but of course Black has just been repeating to reach the time control at move forty.

40...\textit{f}6 41.\textit{h}3 \textit{a}7 42.\textit{x}e6+ \textit{e}7 43.\textit{f}5 \textit{d}2 44.\textit{d}3 \textit{b}5 45.\textit{f}3 \textit{e}5 46.\textit{g}6+ \textit{d}6 47.\textit{g}1 \textit{d}4+ 48.\textit{f}1 \textit{a}5 Meeting 49.\textit{b}xb6 with 49...\textit{Q}d1+ 50.\textit{K}g2 \textit{Qg}1+ and ...\textit{Q}g1x\textit{g}6. White Resigns.

0-1

\begin{itemize}
  \item Kasparov, G.
  \item Karpov, An.
\end{itemize}

\textbf{8th Match Game, Seville} 1987 0-1 A29

This World Championship game was played in Spain between the two players who have dominated the Championship since Fischer’s refusal to defend it in 1975. Karpov defeated Korchnoi in 1975 (Candidates Finals), 1978, and 1981. Karpov and Kasparov have played in every match for the title since, until the odd happenings of this year (1993). Nigel Short qualified to challenge Kasparov, and together they broke away from FIDE, organizers of the title match since the death of Alkineh. FIDE countered by replacing them with Karpov and Timman, who had each lost a match to Short during the qualification process. This may lead to the odd situation of having both Kasparov and Karpov claiming the title, although at this point Fischer himself may have as legitimate a claim as anyone else.

1.\textit{c}c4 \textit{f}6 2.\textit{c}c3 \textit{e}5 3.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 4.g3 \textit{b}4 5.\textit{g}2 \textit{O}–\textit{O} 6.\textit{O}–\textit{O} \textit{e}4 7.\textit{g}5 Another treatment is to retreat the Knight to \textit{e}1. When Black captures on \textit{c}3, White can then recapture with the d-pawn, and maneuver the Knight to \textit{c}2-\textit{e}3-d5. Moves like \textit{c}c1-\textit{g}5 fit in well with this plan. 7...\textit{c}c3 8.\textit{b}xc3 \textit{c}c8 9.\textit{f}3 \textit{e}3 In the next game of the match with these colors, Black captured on \textit{f}3 here and lost badly.

Apparently, between the games analysts for both camps had decided the gambit offered here wasn’t sound. 10.\textit{d}3 The move 10.\textit{d}4 is a possible improvement. 10...d5 11.\textit{b}3 \textit{c}a5 12.\textit{a}3 \textit{c}6 13.\textit{c}d5 \textit{c}d5 14.\textit{f}4 \textit{c}e6 15.\textit{b}1 \textit{w}c7 16.\textit{b}2 \textit{g}4 17.\textit{c}e4 \textit{d}xc4 18.\textit{w}f6 \textit{g}xf6 19.\textit{w}e4 \textit{g}g7 20.\textit{d}xc4 \textit{ad}8 21.\textit{b}3 \textit{d}d4 22.\textit{a}xe3 \textit{w}xc4 23.\textit{h}1 White’s pieces are badly placed to defend against Karpov’s well-coordinated army. 23...\textit{f}5 24.\textit{d}3 \textit{e}2 25.\textit{d}xd8 \textit{xd}8 26.\textit{e}1 \textit{e}8 27.\textit{w}a5 \textit{b}5 28.\textit{d}d2 \textit{w}d3 29.\textit{f}3 \textit{f}3 30.\textit{a}3 \textit{f}f3+ 31.\textit{g}1 \textit{xe}1+ 32.\textit{w}xe1 \textit{c}3 White Resigns.

0-1

149
Kasparov, G,  
• Karpov, An.

2nd Match Game, Seville  
1987 1-0 A21

The two best players in the world essay the English Opening. Kasparov gives away the Bishop pair, in an open position suicide against Karpov, but receives ample compensation in the form of unassailable central squares for his Knights. After lengthy maneuvers he finds a weakness to attack.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 c6 3.g3 d5 4...e5 6.g2 c6 5.a3 g6 6.b4 7.e1 Black’s structure is known as the Botvinnik formation, and it is most commonly played from the White side in the English or as a Black defense to the Closed Sicilian. As a defense in symmetric English variations it is slightly suspect. Black shuts in his own King’s Bishop, and weakens d5 voluntarily. We will see shortly just how important the d5 and e4 squares can become.

8.e3 O-O 9.d3 b8 10...e2 11.b5 12.e6 f5 13.c6 14.e4 Similarly shutting in White’s Bishop, but note how much harder it is for a Black Knight to reach d4.

14...h5 15.f1 16.g5 17.f8 18.g5 19.h5 20.c5 21.e3 22.e4 And now White’s domination of the central light squares is complete.

26.a1 a5 27.f3 c3 e8 28.b6 29.a5 30.b5 31.c6 32.d5 33.e3 34.f5 35.ad1 b6 This will eventually allow White to target the g6-pawn. However, it is very difficult to just sit and play pieces back and forth against the dynamic World Champion; he’ll certainly come and get you eventually.

36.e4 d8 37.a2 e8 38.c3 h5 39.c4 e6 40.d5 e5 41.g2 Supporting the f4-break.

41...g7 42.f4 exf4 43.exf4 e5 44.xg6 xf1 45.xf1 xe4 46.xe4 xg6 Although the material count now appears to favor Black, closer inspection reveals the Black pieces are completely unable to organize a simple defense.

47.f2 e8 48.c5 dxe5 49.b6+ g7 50.d6 Black Resigns. Qf6 will win a piece or more.

1-0

Georgiev, Kir.  
• Tischbierek, R.

Bulgaria-DDR Match, Bulgaria

1987 1-0 A06

White essays a most original and effective Kingside expansion.

1.f3 d5 2.g3 g4 3.g2 d7 4.e4 c6 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.c3 e6 7.d3 gf6 8.O-O e7 9.h3 b5 10.g4 g6 11.h4 Played both to allow the win of the Bishop pair and to free the f-pawn for advance.

11...c5 12.a4 d6 13.e4 d4 14.f4 e5 15.f5 b5 But White isn’t winning a piece with his advance, because his Knight, too, is vulnerable.

16.c3 dxc3 17.bxc3 e8 18.e1 c5 19.f3 a4 20.d2 a6 21.f1 d7 22.d4 db6 23.g2 c7 24.h4 f6 25.fg6 Finally it is necessary to regain the piece.

25...hxg6 26.g5 Normally the open h-file and advanced Kingside pawns would be a source of concern for White, but here the Black King has no safe home, and the White center is surprisingly secure.

26...fxg5 27.hg3 h5 28.xg5 d7 29.g4 xg3 30.dxe5 xe5 31.db5+ Clearing f1 with tempo. When the Knight-f8 is undermined, the light squares it guarding is will open to occupation by the White Queen.

31.axb5 32.a1 f6 33.f6 gxf6 34.xf6 c5+ 35.f1 h6 36.5xf8+ 37.xf8+ 38.f4 h6 39.g5 Winning a Rook. Black Resigns.

1-0

Kasparov, G.  
• Smirin, I.

Moscow  
1988 1-0 E97

An instructive Kasparov combination.

1.f3 f6 2.c4 g6 3.c3 g7 4.e4 d6 5.d4 O-O 6.e2 e5 7.O-O d6 8.d5 e7 9.d2 a5 10.a3 g7 11.b1 f5 12.f2 b6 13.f4 14.a4 axb4 15.axb4 g5 16.c5 f6 17.exd6 exd6 18.h5 d7 19.c4 c8 20.g3 a3 e8 21.g4 Stopping Black’s attack on the kingside.

21...fxg3 22.hxg3 c4 23.c1 gxh3 24.c2 c6 25.g5 a7 26.f2 b7 27.f3 b6 28.b1 b7 29.b2 a7 30.b4 h8 Better is 30...Qe8.

31.f1 This is where the combination starts.

31...xb5 32.xb5 xa4 33.g2 h6 34.h4 xe8 35.xf6 xf6 36.f6 x6 x6 37.f6 Black Resigns. This is the move that Kasparov had to see when starting his combination. The Knight is indirectly protected: 37...Qxc4 38.Re8+ Kh7 39.Qf5# and 37...Rxc4 38.Qf7. 37...Qg8 38.h3 xc4 Overlooking White’s reply, but who would have seen what was coming? Best is 38...Ra7, after which White transposes into a superior endgame.

1-0
with 39.Ne3 Qxf1+ 40.Kxf1. 39.\textit{hxh6} An unexpected way to clear the e6-square for the Bishop! 39...hxh6 If 39...Qc5+, then 40.Kh1 Rc1 41.Be6+. 40.e6+ \textit{h8} 41.\textit{f6}+ Black Resigns. If 41...Kh7, then 42.Qf7+ Bg7 43.Bf5+ Kh8 44.Qh5+ Kg8 45.Be6+ Kf8 46.Qf7#. 1-0

+ Suetin, A.
+ Sale, S.

Sibenik
1988 0-1 E80

Always look for unexpected moves.
1.e4 g6 2.d4 \textit{g7} 3.c4 d6 4.e3 \textit{e6} 5.f3 \textit{c6} 6.e3 a6 7.d2 b8 8.d5 \textit{c5} 9.\textit{h3} \textit{h5} 10.\textit{f2} \textit{f5} 11.\textit{f4} O-O A brilliant piece sacrifice.
12.fxe5 Black also has compensation for the sacrificed piece after 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.fxe5 Bxe5. 12...\textit{fxe5} 13.\textit{h4} \textit{xe}5 Threatening 14.Bg3+. 14.gxe2 \textit{b5} With active pieces and open lines and White’s King stuck in the center, Black has compensation for the sacrificed piece. 15.g4 \textit{g3} Black must go forward with courage. 15...Nf6?! 16.cxb5 followed by 17.Bg2 gives White a large advantage. Black cannot allow White to consolidate. 16.xg3 \textit{f3} 17.g2 \textit{xe}3 18.g2 \textit{f8} 19.xe4 Correct is 19.Nd1. 19...hxg4 20.f2 \textit{xe}2 21.xe2 bxb2 22.f3 \textit{g2} 23.f8+ If 23.Qxg2, then 23...Bxa1 24.Rf1 Qg7 wins. 23...\textit{fxe}8 24.c1 \textit{b7} 25.\textit{f1}+ \textit{e8} 26.d2 c6 27.gxc4 \textit{g3}+ 28.\textit{d1} \textit{xa2} Black’s two Bishops and numerous pawns give him a decisive advantage. 29.g3 \textit{g2} 30.g1 \textit{a1}+ 31.c1 \textit{xc1}+ 32.\textit{d1}+ 33.d1+ 34.d2+ d7 35.\textit{c2} e5 36.d3 c5 37.\textit{c4} \textit{xc4}+ 38.\textit{xc4} e6 39.d1 g5 40.d3 a5 41.\textit{d2} a4 White Resigns. 0-1

+ Beliavsky, A.
+ Kasparov, G.

Belfort
1988 0-1 D97

A sparkling win by the World Champion. Grandmaster Alexander Beliavsky has a reputation for being a fearless fighter but occasionally he seems to lose his sense of danger. Here Kasparov introduces a strong novelty (15...Qf5!) which pays quick dividends when Alexander goes wrong almost immediately (17. \textit{Rd1} - correct was 17.Rd6!). The conclusion is vintage Kasparov with all sorts of tactical complications.

1.\textit{d4} \textit{f6} 2.\textit{c4} \textit{g6} 3.d\textit{c3} d5 4.exd5 \textit{c5} 5.e4 \textit{xc}3 6.bxc3 \textit{xe}4 7.d\textit{c} 8.\textit{e2} c5 9.d\textit{e} 10.\textit{g5} e\textit{d} 11.\textit{fxd} 12.\textit{O-O} O-O 13.\textit{xd} 14.\textit{f6} 15.\textit{e5} 16.e\textit{d} 17.\textit{d} 18.d\textit{b} 19.\textit{xd} f\textit{g}6 20.d\textit{e} 21.\textit{c7} \textit{b6} Things look bad for Black but a few quick thunder bolts, based on White’s weak back rank, make the true nature of the position crystal clear. 22.\textit{b1} 23.\textit{d6} \textit{c6} 24.a3 \textit{d6} 25.exd\textit{e} \textit{d6} 26.axb\textit{e} \textit{b4} 27.\textit{e} 28 \textit{b3} White Resigns. 0-1

+ Yusupov, A.
+ Kasparov G

Moscow
1988 1/2-1/2 D89

One of the reasons for the popularity of openings like the Kings Indian Attack (1.Nf3 followed by 2.g3, 3.Bg2, 4.O-O, 5.d3, 6.Nbd2, and 7.e4) is due to the closed nature of the position that the critical stage of the game tends to be delayed. More forceful openings, like the Grunfeld for example, tend to supernova much earlier on. The following game is a good case in point.

1.\textit{d4} \textit{f6} 2.\textit{c4} \textit{g6} 3.\textit{c3} d5 4.exd5 \textit{c5} 5.e4 \textit{xc}3 6.bxc3 \textit{xe}4 7.\textit{c} 8.e2 \textit{c} 9.e2 \textit{e} 10.\textit{O-O} O-O 11.d\textit{f} 12.d\textit{c} d6 13.exd\textit{f} \textit{f} 14.\textit{c1} A critical juncture where White must choose between the text and the main line - 14.d5. 14.g4 \textit{xa} 22.\textit{a4} 16.d5 \textit{g7} 17.\textit{f} 18.\textit{d1} 19.exd\textit{f} 20.\textit{e} 21.d\textit{d} 22.\textit{c4} 23.dxc6 c2 24.\textit{b2} 25.dxc6 \textit{h} 26.\textit{xe} 27.c\textit{e} 28.\textit{g8} 29.\textit{g}3 Yusupov has no choice but to accept the draw as 29.Kf1?? gets mated by 29...Qd3+ 30.\textit{Ke} 31.\textit{Ke} 32.\textit{Kf} 33.\textit{Kc} 34.\textit{Qd1}. 29...\textit{d1}+ 30.\textit{g} 31.\textit{g} 1 Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2
Exchange variation which involves a pawn sacrifice. White’s ragged pawn structure and slightly insecure King provide some compensation but the real key to this line is whether the Bishop on g7 is active. in game Karpov is so effective at bottling it up that in desperation Kasparov is forced to unsoundly sacrifice the Exchange.

1.d4 ☐f6 2.c4 g6 3.☐c3 d5 4.cxd5 ☐xd5 5.e4 ☐xe4 6.bxc3 ☐g7 7. e4 c5 8.☐e2 ☐e6 9.☐e3 O-O 10.O-O ☐g4 11.f3 ☐a5 12.☐xf7+! Till the mid 1980’s the routine continuation was 12.Bd3 but now the text is all the rage.

12. e5 Qf6 13. Qg7 17. Qc1 f5 14. Qd2+ Kf7

Black Resigns.

• Korchnoi, V.
• Timman, J.

Brussels 1988 1-0

D86

The Grunfeld is one of Black’s most respected answers to 1.d4 because it combines both soundness and the opportunity for dynamic counterplay. If there is one drawback to this defense it’s that it requires careful handling or White’s center can serve as a springboard for a Kingside attack. That’s the case in the following game between Dutch GM Jan Timman and the great Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland. When Black makes an insignificant error on move 11 things quickly start to go downhill.

1.d4 ☐f6 2.c4 g6 3.☐c3 d5 4.cxd5 ☐xd5 5.e4 ☐xc3 6.bxc3 ☐g7 7. e4 c5 8.☐e3 Experience with 7...c5 or 7... O-O. 8.☐e3 This is an usual continuation. Normally Black plays either 7...c5 or 7... O-O. 8.☐e3 Experience with 7...b6 is limited but the traditional answer has been 8.Qf3 threatening e5 in some positions. The text is logical and contains the hidden trap 8...Bb7 9.Qxf7+!, 8...O-O 9.0-0 ☐b7 10.☐e2 Since White plays Re1 shortly one might wonder why not now? The answer is that 9.Qc2 not only guards e4 but also protects c3. This enables the first player to meet 10...c5 with 11.d5. 10...Qc6 11.☐c1 ☐c7 A small but significant error. According to Timman the path to equality was reached by 11...Qd6 12.e5 (otherwise the Bishop is unable to be posted on a3) 12...Qd8 13.e6 f5 14.Ng5 Na5.

12. b1 e6 13. ☐a3 Qd8 14.h4 The lack of pressure on White’s center means a Kingside attack has good chances to succeed.

14...☐a5 15.☐f1 c5 16.dxc5 Necessary as Black would have too much counterplay after ...cxd4. 16...☐xc5 17.☐xc5 18.h5 ☐e6 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.☐g5 A multipurpose move which eyes both the Kingside and c-pawn. 20... Qxb8 21.☐xc5 Qa5 22. Qb5 Qxc3 23. Qb1 24.☐f6 25.g6 h6 a6 Not 24...Ba6 because of 25.Rxb8 Rxb8 26.Ng5 winning. 25...Qb5 26.☐e1 Winning a piece and the game. 26...Qc5 27.☐xd2 ☐xd2 28.☐xe7 ☐xd7 29.☐xb7 ☐xb7 30. Qb6 31.☐d4 31...Qc6 ☐e2+ 32.☐xe2 ☐xe2 33.☐f3 ☐xe4 34. Qa8+ ☐g8 35.☐f8+ ☐h7 36. Qa7 g5 37.☐f7+ ☐g6 38. Qg7 d4 39.☐d2 e1+ 40.☐f1 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Efimov, I.
● Mikhaleishin, A.

? Uzhgorod 1988 0-1

D81

A game of attacks and counterattacks. 1.d4 ☐f6 2.c4 g6 3.☐c3 d5 4.☐h6 5.☐f3 6.☐f4 g7 7.e4 O-O 8. Qd5 9.d5 10. Qe2 d6 11.d5 e5 12.dxe7 13.☐xe7 14.☐xe5 15. Qf4 Qe6 16. Qd7+ If 13.Nxe4, then 13.Bxe5 14.d7 Bxd7 15.Rxd7 Rad8 is good Black because White’s King is stuck in the center. 13...Qd7 14.☐h4 15.☐xe5 16. Qd7+ If 16.Nxb6, then 16...Bb6+ or if 16.d7, then 16...Qxb2 17.dxe8=Q Qc1+ with a strong attack. 16...Qg7 17.☐f5+ Qxf5 18. Qe2 Qb4 19. Qg5+ If 19.Qxb7, then 19...Nxb4 20.a3 Nc6 followed by ...Nd4 is good for Black. 19...Qh8 20.☐h3 f6 21.☐xf5 ☐xb2 22.a3 ☐a5 Stronger is 22.Qc3 threatening ...Qc1+. 23.☐d7 ☐d8 24.☐f4 24.Kd1 would have held out longer. Now White loses a Rook. 24... ☐a1 25.O-O ☐xd2 26.☐d3 ☐f7 27.☐e6 ☐dx7 28.☐c4 ☐e4 29. Qb5 ☐e6 30. Qd8 ☐f8 31.☐f3 ☐e6 32.☐d8 ☐f8 33.☐e6 ☐g8 34.☐f4 ☐xf4 35.☐xf4 ☐xf4 36.☐h4 ☐g5 37.☐f3 ☐g4 38.☐xg4 ☐xg4 39. ☐d1 ☐d4 40. ☐c1 ☐c4 1.☐f1 b6 42. ☐c4 ☐g7 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Knaak, R.
● Christiansen, L.

? Saloniki 1988 1-0

E41

The Art of defense.
1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 ½b4 4.e3 ½c5 5.½f3 ½c6 6.½c2 cxd4 7.½xd4 d5 8.½xd5 ½xd5 9.a3 ½c7 10.½e2 O–O 11.½d3 g6 12.h4 Forsaking castling to start a kingside attack. 12...e5 The best way to meet a flank attack is with a counter-attack in the center. 13.dxe5 ½xe3 If 13...Bf5, then 14.Qxd5 Bxc2 15.Bg5! is good for White. 14.½xe3 ½g4 Black has sacrificed a pawn, but hopes to take advantage of White’s King being stuck in the center. 15.f3 ½e8 Black needs to press forward with his attack. White has a large advantage after 15...Be6 16.Bh6 followed by 17.Rd1. 16.fxe4 ½xe5 17.½b3 Forced. Not 17.Qxe5 Rxc2 18.O–O Bc5 with a strong attack.

17...½xb4 Better is 17...Ng4, although White is better after 18.Bd2 followed by O–O–O. 18.g3 ½xc2 19.½xe4 ½d3+ 20.½f1 ½d5 21.½g1 A brilliant defensive move. 21.Rxh4? and 21.Rh2 lose to 21...Qf3+. 21...½h8 Threatening 22...Re1#. If 21...Qxh1, then 22.Qxd5.

22.½h6 ½xg3 23.½d1 ½xh1 24.½xd3 ½h2 24.Qxh6 would have held out longer, although White has a big advantage after 24...Qxg3. 25.½xe2 Forcing the exchange of Queens, after which White is easily winning. 25...½xe2+ 26.½xe2 ½e5 27.b4 b5 28.½d7 ½a8 29.½d4 a6 30.½c6 ½f6 31.g5 ½b2 32.½e7+ ½h8 33.½d5 a5 34.½xa5 Black Resigns.

1–0

○ Malaniuk, V.
- Ivanchuk, V.

? Moscow
1988 0–1 E20
In 1988 the 19 year old untitled Ukrainian Ivanchuk was suddenly one of the top five players in the world.

1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 ½b4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 ½e7 6.e4 dxe4 7.½xe4 e5 8.½d5 ½g4 9.½f3 Better is 9.b4 to prevent Black’s next move. 9...½e5 10.b4 ½f2+ 11.½e2 White has had to forego castling, but 12.h3 is threatened. What is Black going to do with his Bishop? 11...½e5 Black intends to retreat his Bishop to d4. 12.½b5 If 12.h3, 12.dxc6, or 12.bxc5, Black replies 12...d4. 12...a6 13.½a4 axb5 13...O–O 14.h3 would be to White’s advantage. 14.½xa8 ½d4 15.½xd4 Better would have been 15.Ra2, although Black still has a big advantage after 15...Nd7. 15...exd4 16.½xb8 O–O 17.½e1 If 17.h3, then 17...Qh4 wins. 17...h4+ 18.g3 ½h6 19.½f4 The best chance. If instead 19.Ra2, then 19...Qf3 20.Bg2 Qc3+ 21.Bd2 Qb3 wins. 19...g5 Stronger is 19...d6? 20.c5 Suddenly Black has lost his advantage and the game is unclear. 20...exf4 21.½d6 ½g7 22.½d3 ½e5 23.½d2 f3 24.½xb8 g4 25.½e7 ½g6 If 25...Qh6+, then 26.Kc2 Qe3 27.Qxe5 Qc3+ leads to perpetual check. 26.½g5 Better is 26.Qd6 with an equal position. 26...h6 27.½h5 d3 28.½xd3 A blunder in time pressure. 28.e5 is necessary with an unclear position. 28...½e8 The Queen is trapped! 29.h3 ½e5 30.hxg4 ½xh5 31.gxh5 ½e5 32.½e1 ½g5+ 33.½c2 f2 34.½d1 ½e3 White Resigns.

1–0

○ Karpov, An.
- Portisch, L.

? Tilburg
1988 1–0 E18
A positional masterpiece by Karpov.

1.d4 ½f6 2.c4 e6 3.½c3 b6 4.g3 ½b7 5.½g2 ½e7 6.½e3 ½e4 7.½d2 f5 8.0–0 O–O 9.½e5 10.d5 exd5 11.½xd5 ½xd5 12.½d2 d6 13.½c4 ½a6 14.½b3 ½xc4 15.½xe4 This leaves weak pawns at a6 and b6. Better is 15...Nd7. 16.½d7 17.½e3 ½e5 18.½e2 ½c4 19.½e4 Guarding the d3-square. 19...½e8 20.½c2 ½e8 21.½e4 ½e7 22.½b3 ½xh3 23.½xb3 ½d7 24.½exh8+ 25.½b1 White targets the weaknesses in Black’s position. 25...½f5 26.½d2 ½b8 27.½d1 White would like to play Nb3-d4 hitting the weakness at c6. 27...½e8 28.½h3 ½f6 29.½d4 ½b7 30.½c2 g6 If 30...Qxd5?! then 31.Rxb6. 31.½c2 ½g7 If 31...Qxd5, then 32.Bxa6 Nf3+ 33.Nxf3 Qxf3 34.Qc7 is good for White. 32.½b3 ½d7 33.½e6 ½a8 34.½b4 ½c7 35.½g2 ½h5 Preventing Bh4. 36.½h3 ½g8 37.½d1 ½e8 Better is 37...Kg7. 38.½g4 hxg4 39.½xg4 ½e7 If 39...Nc5, then 40.Qxb6 Qxb6 41.Rxb6 Nxa4 42.Rxa6 with a large advantage for White. 40.½xd7 ½xd7 41.½f4 Not 41.Qxb6? Qf5 with an unclear position. 41...½h8 42.½g4 ½e8 If 42...Qc7, then 43.f4. 43.½xb6 ½h4 44.½f3 ½xa4 45.½b8 ½d7 Much better is 45...Qe4 exchanging Queens. 46.½a8 ½h4 47.½e6 ½f6 48.½d3 ½b7 49.½b8 ½d7 50.½c2 ½a3 51.½b3 ½a1 Better is 51...Rxb3, although White has a huge advantage after 52.Qxb3 followed by 53.Qa3. 52.½f3 There is no defense against 53.Rxf6 and 54.Qc3+ picking up the Rook. 52...½b7 53.½xg6 ½f5 54.½c3 ½f1+ 55.½g3 ½g1+ 56.½h4 Black Resigns.

1–0
1.d4 1.e4 2.c4 3.g6 4.d5 c5 5.g2 cxd4 6.cxd4 cxd4 7.e5 b5 8.Bb3 a6 9.e4 e5 10.d5 Nb8 11.b4 With his central wedge, White has the choice of playing for the Queenside with b2-b4-c4-c5 or the Kingside by Ne1-d3 and f2-f4. It’s rather a matter of taste, but I feel that the Queenside is the right choice. White’s problem is his Bishop. My problem is that I need to exchange a few pieces to breathe. 11...a5 12.a3 Against a6 3.c6 White could also consider the immediate 13.Nf3-e1, and b4xa5 might follow. 13...c6 14.dxc6 A shock. It’s rare to see Viktor voluntarily cede the center. His treatment is not so easy to meet. With an eventual Nb3, he hopes to force me to exchange on b4. He’ll then attack d6 and c6 by either c4-c5, or b4-b5. For my part, if I can relocate my Knight from a6 to d4, I’ll gain a sizable advantage. 14...bxc6 15.e5 A perfect response. If I wanted to exchange pieces, I’m late. Instead of wasting time, I should have played 15...Nb7 (not fearing c4-c5) or 15...Rg8 (fearing c4-c5), while preparing Nb7-e6. In either case the game would be dynamically equal. 16.b4 A wonderful, multi-purpose move. It immediately threatens Nh5 when, after the exchange, White’s Bishop will return to life with a vengeance. It also protects the pawn on e4, thereby freeing the Knight for d2-b3-a5. I now disappeared into deep thought, well aware of my growing troubles. 16...Bb8 Lasker said “long think, wrong think.” This move helps nothing. Both 16...g6 and 16...Ne7 were better choices. 17.Bb5 Viktor trusts me. He made this move is response to my rhythm. The threat against b4 is pure imagination. Being an optimist, I’d rate my game as lousy after 17.Nf5. 17...c7 18.b3 A hard move to judge, as it facilitates my plan of ...Ne7-e6. My choice is 18.Nb3, when White’s play on the Queenside comes too fast. 18...a5 19.bxa5 Both Viktor and I love pawns, but what a grub! This completely destroys the Queenside structure, and gives up c5 to boot. White’s position demands 19.Nf5 with a big edge. Viktor plunges head over heels into quicksand. 19...a6 20.b6 e6 21.a1 d8 22.b3 c5 The first indication that things have run afoul. Viktor continues to swim ahead, believing that the drum beats his tempo. Not so. I’m preparing my counterblow ...Bd7-a4, in order to gain d4 for one Knight and vacate d7 for the other. In the post-mortem, Viktor found ways to make the desperate sortie Nh4-f5 work now and on subsequent moves. Such tactics shouldn’t work. Still, Viktor is right. After 19.bxa5 White’s position has become desperate. 23.a6 c8 24.a5 Viktor plunges deeper into self-made quagmire. The kicking is soon over. Absolutely forced is 24.Nf5. 24...d7 Immediately decisive. Loss of the Exchange is unavoidable. If 25.Rc6, then Bb7 or Nh8; while if 25.Rb5, then Bxa6. 25.Rd2 Bxb6 26.axb6 Bc7 The little guy on a6 shouldn’t be allowed to wonder far. 27.Ba7 a6 28.Bb8 xa7 29.Bc3 d4 30.h2 Bb6 31.Bd8+ Bxd8 32.f3 Bh3 B8 Imprecise. Better first is 32...Bf3+. Time pressure has become a factor. 33.Bxd4 cxd4 34.Ba4 35.Bf1 g7 35...Qa7 kills. 36.g5 dxe5 37.Bxc5 Bc5 38.Bb6 f5 39.a4 Bb7 40.f4 exf4 With time control reached, the game is over. 41.Bxf4 Bb8 42.Bxg2 Bd7 43.f5 Bf4 44.Bxd4 Bxd4 45.Bc7 fxe4 46.Bxe4 Bxe4 47.Bxe7 Bxe7 48.Bf5 a7 49.Ba6 Bc8 50.Bc5 Bc7 51.Ba4 Bc7 52.axd7 Bxd7 53.Bc5 Bc7 54.Ba8 h5 White resigns. An invigorating victory!
White doesn’t actually win back his pawn with this move, as b2 will soon fall, but he does gain the two Bishops which is very important. 19...\textit{Q}xb7 20.\textit{Q}xb7 \textit{b}xb7 21.\textit{Q}a6 \textit{xb}2 22.\textit{Q}a4 \textit{b}8 23.\textit{Q}f1 \textit{f}5 24.\textit{Q}a3 \textit{b}6 25.\textit{exf}5 \textit{d}4 26.\textit{ab}1 \textit{c}6 The losing move in a tense position. Correct was 26...Ned5 when 27.Bc4+ Kh8 28.Bxb4 Rxb4 29.Rxb4 Qxb4 30.Qxb4 leaves White much better but with no immediate win. 27.\textit{g}2 \textit{d}8 28.\textit{Q}xc6 \textit{g}xc6 29.\textit{Q}xb6 \textit{w}xb6 30.\textit{c}4+ \textit{h}8 31.\textit{Q}f7 \textit{g}8 32.\textit{f}6 \textit{d}8 33.\textit{g}7 \textit{c}e7 \textit{xe}7 34.\textit{fxe}7 \textit{w}d7 35.\textit{d}3 A strong move which threatens \textit{Rf}3 and \textit{Qxg}8+. 35...\textit{h}6 The tempting 35...\textit{e}4 allows 36.\textit{Rxd}4 \textit{Qxd}4 37.\textit{Qxg}8+ winning. 36.\textit{fxe}3 \textit{c}8 37.\textit{f}8+ \textit{h}7 38.\textit{f}7 \textit{c}1+ 39.\textit{g}2 \textit{w}c6+ 40.\textit{h}3 \textit{w}c6+ 41.\textit{h}4 \textit{Black Resigns.} 1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item Beliavsky, A. 
\item Portisch, L.
\end{itemize}

\section*{Linares 1988} 1-0 E04

Grandmasters Alexander Beliavsky of Ukraine and Lajos Portisch of Hungary are two of the greatest players in the history of chess. Both players are noted for their scholarly approach to the game and have done much to enrich opening theory.

1.d4 \textit{f}6 2.c4 \textit{e}6 3.g3 The Catalan, an opening that is seldom seen at the amateur level but which is a favorite is a favorite in Grandmaster praxis. White can easily obtain terrific Queenside pressure if Black isn't careful. 3...\textit{d}5 4.\textit{g}2 \textit{dxc}5 5.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 7.\textit{xc}6 \textit{xc}6 8.e3 \textit{d}5 This attempt to hold onto the pawn seems to risky. Concentrating on development with 8...Qd7 seems more solid. 9.\textit{O-O} \textit{e}7 10.\textit{e}2 \textit{b}6 11.\textit{d}1 \textit{O-O} 12.\textit{d}2 \textit{a}5 13.\textit{f}3 \textit{e}8 14.\textit{d}2 \textit{c}6 15.\textit{c}3 \textit{b}4 16.e5 \textit{c}5 17.\textit{e}1 White wants to win back the pawn but on his own terms - maintaining the two Bishops. 17...\textit{c}5 18.\textit{a}1 \textit{cxd}4 19.\textit{c}x4 \textit{e}8 20.\textit{xd}4 \textit{c}8 21.b3 \textit{b}5 22.\textit{d}1 \textit{c}5 23.\textit{d}3 \textit{b}4 24.a4 \textit{wa}6 25.\textit{xb}4 \textit{xb}4 26.\textit{d}6 A dream position for the Catal- an. White’s pieces rake the Black Queenside. 26...\textit{c}6 27.\textit{e}5 \textit{a}5 28.\textit{xc}5 \textit{xc}6 \textit{bxc}6 29.\textit{xc}6 \textit{xc}6 A pawn up and with the better position to boot the rest is a formality for Beliavsky.

30.\textit{c}5 \textit{e}3 31.\textit{f}3 \textit{g}5 32.\textit{d}2 \textit{e}7 33.\textit{d}4 \textit{e}5 34.\textit{d}6 \textit{e}4 35.\textit{e}2 \textit{h}6 36.\textit{a}5 Black Resigns. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item Dlugy, M. 
\item Wedberg, T.
\end{itemize}

\section*{New York 1988} 1-0 A77

Grandmaster Maxim Dlugy, a former World Junior Champion and Interzonalist, is one of the strongest players in the United States. His opponent, IM Tom Wedberg, has represented Sweden in several Chess Olympiads. The game between these two players is a model demonstration of how to play against the aggressive but risky Modern Benoni.

1.d4 \textit{f}6 2.c4 \textit{e}6 3.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}5 4.d5 \textit{exd}5 5.\textit{cxd}5 \textit{c}6 6.\textit{c}3 \textit{g}6 7.\textit{d}2 The Knight prepares to go to its ideal post at c4 where it would hit the key squares e5 and d6. The text also has the virtue of sidestepping ...Bg4 after White plays e4. 7...\textit{bd}7 Meeting Nc4 with ...Nb6. 8.e4 \textit{g}7 9.\textit{e}2 \textit{O-O} 10.\textit{O-O} \textit{e}8 11.\textit{a}4 \textit{e}5 12.\textit{c}2 \textit{h}5 This aggressive move first caught the public eye when Fischer used it to defeat Spassky in their World Championship match in Reykjavik. The advantages of 12...Nh5 are clear - after 13.Bxh5 gxh5 Black has the two Bishops, an open g-file, and the use of the g4 square. However the dark side of 12...Nh5 shouldn’t be ignored. Black’s Kingside pawn structure gets ripped apart and he has a permanent hole on f5. 13.\textit{xb}5 \textit{gxh}5 14.\textit{d}1 The Knight immediately heads to e3 where it can eye the f5 square. An added bonus is that Ra3 - g3 is now possible. 14...\textit{h}4 15.\textit{a}3 \textit{d}7 16.\textit{h}3 \textit{h}5 17.\textit{axb}5 \textit{xb}5 18.\textit{c}1 \textit{f}5 19.\textit{e}3 \textit{f}4 20.\textit{c}5 \textit{f}6 21.\textit{xc}7 Chess is often like alchemy. Here White trades his beautiful Knight on f5. Why? Because once the Bishop on g7 is gone Black’s King will be especially vulnerable. 21...\textit{fxg}7 22.\textit{f}3 \textit{f}8 23.\textit{xc}5 \textit{xe}5 24.\textit{f}3 \textit{f}7 25.\textit{c}2 \textit{e}8 26.\textit{e}1 \textit{e}8 27.\textit{e}3 \textit{e}7 28.g3 The killing blow and the logical conclusion to White’s play. The rest is a well well orchestrated King hunt.

28.\textit{g}5 29.\textit{h}1 \textit{e}8 30.\textit{xf}4 \textit{h}4 31.f5 \textit{f}4 32.\textit{g}3+ \textit{h}8 33.\textit{h}6+ \textit{e}7 34.\textit{ge}3 \textit{d}3 35.\textit{g}1 \textit{xf}5 36.\textit{hxh}7+ \textit{d}8 37.\textit{a}5+ Black Resigns. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item Agdestein, S. 
\item Ljubojevic, L.
\end{itemize}

\section*{Wijk aan Zee 1988} 1-0 A61

Norwegian Grandmaster Simen Agdestein has achieved a unique distinction - he is both a world class chess and soccer player. Here he boots Yugoslav Grandmaster Ljubomir Ljubojevic all over the board in a good old fashioned king hunt.
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♕c4 g6 7.♗g5 h6 8.♗h4 ♜d7 9.♗d2 g5 10.♗g3 ♘h5 11.♗e4 ♘b6 12.c3 ♘xg3 By ...h6, ...g5, and ...Nh5 Black has managed to hunt down the White Bishop but at a definite cost. Black’s Kingside has been loosened and the f5 square looks weak. 13.hxg3 ♗f6 14.a4 ♘g7 15.♗d2 ♘xc4 16.♗xe4 ♘d7 17.a5 ♖f6 The start to a bad plan. Black would be perfectly okay after 17...b5 18..axb6 ♘xb6. 18.♗a3 A multi-purpose move which prepares Rh3 as well as strengthening White’s position along the third rank. 18...O–O–O Typical Ljubojevic who loves to live on the edge. The Black King now makes a very inviting target. 19.♗b3 ♘de8 20.♗b6 ♘e5 21.♖d3 ♘f6 22.♖xa6 Ljubo put his head in the Lion’s mouth and now he must pay the price. 22...♗xa6 23.♘xe6+ ♘d8 24.♗b7 This quiet move contains a very nasty threat - Rxd7++. 24...♘e8 25.♗a4 Black’s last move freed e8 for his King so White brings in reinforcements to continue the attack. 25...♗e8 26.♖b6 ♘g4 27.♗c4 ♖xd5 28.♖a8+ ♘d8 29.♗f3! The final shot. Having won the Queen for only Rook and Bishop the rest is quite easy. 29...♗e7 30.♗xd5 ♘c7 31.♖h7 ♗d8 32.♖b6 ♘xb6 33.♖xb6 ♗d7 34.♖c7+ ♘e7 35.♖f7 ♗e6 36.♖o–o ♗d8 37.♗d1 ♘a4 38.♗b8=♗ Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Hoi, C.
• Gulko, B.
?

Saloniki
1988 1-0 A47
A modern day brilliancy. 1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♕c4 g6 7.♗g5 h6 8.♗h4 ♜d7 9.♗d2 g5 10.♗g3 ♘h5 11.♗e4 ♘b6 12.c3 ♘xg3 By ...h6, ...g5, and ...Nh5 Black has managed to hunt down the White Bishop but at a definite cost. Black’s Kingside has been loosened and the f5 square looks weak. 13.hxg3 ♗f6 14.a4 ♘g7 15.♗d2 ♘xc4 16.♗xe4 ♘d7 17.a5 ♖f6 The start to a bad plan. Black would be perfectly okay after 17...b5 18..axb6 ♘xb6. 18.♗a3 A multi-purpose move which prepares Rh3 as well as strengthening White’s position along the third rank. 18...O–O–O Typical Ljubojevic who loves to live on the edge. The Black King now makes a very inviting target. 19.♗b3 ♘de8 20.♗b6 ♘e5 21.♖d3 ♘f6 22.♖xa6 Ljubo put his head in the Lion’s mouth and now he must pay the price. 22...♗xa6 23.♘xe6+ ♘d8 24.♗b7 This quiet move contains a very nasty threat - Rxd7++. 24...♘e8 25.♗a4 Black’s last move freed e8 for his King so White brings in reinforcements to continue the attack. 25...♗e8 26.♖b6 ♘g4 27.♗c4 ♖xd5 28.♖a8+ ♘d8 29.♗f3! The final shot. Having won the Queen for only Rook and Bishop the rest is quite easy. 29...♗e7 30.♖xd5 ♘c7 31.♖h7 ♗d8 32.♖b6 ♘xb6 33.♖xb6 ♗d7 34.♖c7+ ♘e7 35.♖f7 ♗e6 36.♖o–o ♗d8 37.♗d1 ♘a4 38.♗b8=♗ Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Magerramov, E.
• Oll, L.
?

Klaipeda
1988 1-0 D44
Azerbaijani GM Elmar Magerramov took second place in the final USSR championship. His opponent, Estonian GM Lembot Oll, has been rated over 2600. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.e3 d5 5.♗e5 0–0 6.♗b5 ♗e7 7.g4 ♘d3 8.♗xe7 ♘xe7 9.c3 ♘f6 10.♗c4 ♘f6 11.♗xf6 ♘xf6 12.♗g3 ♗f8 Black has an excellent defensive setup. He is now preparing to break with ...e6-e5. Afterwards, his only concern would be the potential weakness of the f5 square. 13.♗f5 h6 This move doesn’t fit in with the plan of ...e6-e5, so Black decides on another course. I prefer ...Qc7 followed by ...g7-g6, ...Bg7, and ...e6-e5. 14.♗d2 ♗c7 15.♗c2 White is floundering without a plan. A normal course would be to press matters on the Queen-side with 15.Ba6 and a2-a4-a5. Like the text, this plan would step out of the ...e6-e5-e4 hit. 15...d5 Black tries immediately to take advantage of the weakening of e4. The deployment of the Bishop is very provocative and gives White a plan. Perhaps the modest 15...Bc6 preparing ...b6-b5, se-

156
20. c6  \( \text{x} \text{c} \text{6} \) 21. a1  b7 22. 4x6 A stunning shot that puts White in the driver’s seat. Now 22...Nd3 fails because of 23.Rxc6 Ne5 24.Nd6+. 22...fxe6 23. 4x6 4x6 24. c1+ 4d7 25.f7 3d3 26. 4f6+ 4d6 27. e8+ e7 28. 4g5+ 4xg5 29. 4c7+ Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Gavrikov, V.
● Khaitonov, A.
?

Moscow 1988 1/2-1/2 D37

A rare example in which it is better to promote a pawn to a Knight rather than a Queen.

1.d4 4f6 2.c4 e6 3.4f3 d5 4.4c3 4e7 5.4f4 0-0 6.e3 7.dxe5 4x5 8.exd5 4xd5 9.4xd5 exd5 10.a3 4c6 11.3d3 4b6 12.0-0 4d4 13.h3 4h5 14.b4 4e8 15. 4a2 Planning Rd2 to threaten the weak d5-pawn. 16.b5 4xf3 17.4xf3 4d3 Correct is 17...Na5 or 17...Ne5.

18.bxc6 4xd3 19.exb7 exf2+ 20. 4h2 20.Rxf2 Qxf3 21.gxf3 Rab8! would result in an equal position.

20...4xf1 If 20...Qxf3, then 21.gxf3 Rab8 22.Bxb8 Rxb8 23.Rb2 Rx7 24.Rxf2 wins.

21.bxa8=4g1+ 22.4g3 f1 23.4h4 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Kasparov, G.
● Andersson, U.
?

Belfort 1988 1-0 D36

Swedish GM Ulf Andersson has a reputation for being one of the hardest players in the world to beat but Garry Kasparov is equal to the task. The Exchange Variation of the Queen’s Gambit Declined enjoys its popularity in part to its great flexibility. It can be interpreted as a Queenside middle game when White castles short and goes for the minority attack (Rab1 and b2-b4-b5). Or it can be seen as an aggressive attacking scheme when White goes long and throws his Kingside pawns up. Here Kasparov elects to follow a third plan - short castling and playing for e3-e4.

1.d4 4f6 2.c4 e6 3.4c3 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.4g5 c6 6.4c2 4e7 7.e3 4bd7 8.4d3 0-0 9.4ge2 The Knight can also go to f3 but on e2 it supports the plan of e4 much more efficiently. The f-pawn is left free to advance and the Knight can come to g3.

9...4e8 10.4-O-O 4f8 11.f3 4e6

12.4e1 4c8 13.4h1 4d7 14.4x7 4xe7 15.4f4 4c7 16.4f2 4f6 17.e4 dxe4 18.fxe4 4cd7 19.d5 exd5 20.4b5 4c7 21.exd5 4d7 22.4e2 4c8 23.4xa7 White’s efforts have borne fruit. The captured pawn on a7 will not win the game itself but instead Kasparov will trade it for other advantages that will do the trick.

23...4b6 24.4a6 4e4 25.d6 Clearing the d5 squares for his Knights and preparing to trade the weak d-pawn.

25...4xd6 26.4f5 4e5 27.4xb6 4f5 28.4xd8 4xd8 29.4d3 The rest is simple technique but it is instructive to see how Kasparov systematically converts his advantage.

29...4x1 30.4x1 4g6 31.4a4 4f8 32.a5 4d4 33.4g6 hxg6 34.4q1 4e6 35.4b6 4c6 36.4xd8+ 4xd8 37.b4 4e6 38.b5 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Karpov, An.
● Yusupov, A.
?

Moscow 1988 1-0 D36

This was voted best game in the last half of 1988 by Chess Informant.

1.4c4 e6 2.4c3 d5 3.4d4 4e7 4.4f3 4f6 5.4xd5 exd5 6.4g5 4c6 Black takes advantage of the premature exchange of pawns on d5 in order to develop his light-squared Bishop.

7.4c2 4g6 4e4 A double-edged decision. White accepts an isolani in order to prevent Black from developing his Bishop. The tame 8.e3 Bf5 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Nbd7 is equal. 8...4xe4 Better is 8...dxe4 9.Bxe6 Bxf6 10.Qxe6 Kf8 with approximate equality. The text lands Black into some unexpected difficulties.

9.4xe7 4xe7 Forced. If 9...Qxe7, then 10.Nxd5 is awkward to meet.

10.4xe4 4dxe4 11.4xe4+ 4e6 12.4c4 4a5+ 13.4f1 4f5 14.4e3 An unusual position has arisen. Both sides have compromised their King position, making routine development impossible. Therefore, normal considerations such as White’s isolated pawn become less of a factor. At any rate, White’s development is straightforward. He intends Re1, h2-h4, Rh3, and Ng5. It’s hard to believe that Black should have difficulties equalizing, but where to put the King?

Going Kingside walks into White’s intended h2-h4. Going Queenside is more inviting, but will require a number of tempi.

14...4d7 15.4e1 4a8 16.d5 Is this really the Karpov we all know and (grudgingly) admire? If so, what is he doing sacrificing pawns? Has Kasparov forced him to add another element to his style? Certainly we could
have expected 16.Bxe6 fxe6 17.Qa3+ Kf7 18.h4 with advantage to White. But the pawn sacrifice is even stronger. It completely gums up Black’s pieces. Also, it really leaves Black in a quandary concerning his King. Suddenly the Queenside isn’t so inviting. Since Black’s last moves have been solid developing ones, we must trace his problems to 8...Nxe4. 16...cxd5 17.b5 a6 18.wa3+ By using a series of ladder checks with his Queen, White is able to retreat his Bishop with tempo and recover his sacrificed pawn. 18...d8 19.wa5+ e7 20.b4+ f6 21.d4+ e7 22.d3 h5 23.b4 Preparing the introduction of the Knight and King’s Rook into the attack. Black can’t stop Ng5 with 23...h6 because 24.g4 wins the Queen. 23...d8 24.g5 h8 25.e2 Shoving the Black Queen into an even worse hiding place. White’s domination of the position is nearing completeness. Yaacov Murey once told me that the Queen placement is the dominant theme in all middlegame positions. He would therefore state that Black is lost. I agree. 25..h6 26.f3 e7 27.f4 The start of a forced sequence of moves that nets a material plus. 27...f6 28.d6+ d7 29.f4 g8 30.g4 e8 A merciful end would be 30...Bxg4 31.Rb8 checkmate. 31.xe6 fxe6 32.c1+ d8 33.e6+ e7 34.xf8+ xf8 35.xf8 36.h3 e7 37.h5 g7 38.h6+ f6 39.e4 40.e1+ d6 41.f6+ e7 42.g4 c6 43.e8 Black Resigns. An absolutely superb game by Anatoly Karpov. Has chess really evolved to a point where a single opening inaccuracy can be so ruthlessly exploited?

1-0

○ Kasparov, G.  
• Campora, D.

?  

Saloniki 1988 1-0 D35 1.e4 c5 2.d4 e5 3.d5 cxd4 4.exd4 d6 5.dxe5 dxe5 6.d3 g5 7.e3 0-0 8.d3 d7 9.e4 e7 10.f4 f5 11.g3 b6 12.c2 c6 13.g4 f4 14.e2 Preparing a kingside attack with g2-g4. 14...e5 15.g4 cxd4 16.exd4 b6 17.d2 a6 18.e2 Moving the Knight to g3 where it can hop into d5. 18...e7 19.g3 g6 20.g2 d7 21.h1 e8 22.df1 Threatening f4-f5. 22...g8 23.c3 h8 If 23...Qf4, then 24.Nh5 Qh6 25.f4 is strong. 24.h5 g6 If 24...f6, then 25.Nf5 Bxf5 26.gxf5 followed by 27.Qg2 with a strong attack. 25.f4 gxh5 26.h4 b5 27.axb5 The only move. Black needs to keep the g-file closed. 27.fxe6 fxe6 28.g7 if 28...Ng6, then 29.Bxg6 hxg6 30.Qf2 Re7 31.Ng4 is winning. 29.Qg4 Qg7 30.h6 b6 If 30...Qe7, then 31.Rg4 followed by Rg4 winning. 31.g6 Opening a line for the entry of the Queen. 31...hxg6 32.Qf7+ g8 33.h6 h7 If 33...Rxf7, then 34.Bxh7 is decisive. 34.Qxg6+ Qxg6 35...Qg6 36.h6 Black Resigns. If 37.Qh8# is threatened and if 36...Rxf7, then 37.Rg1+. 1-0

○ Huzman, A.  
• Lin, Ta.

?  

Belgrade 1988 0-1 D28 An example in which the wrong Rook is moved. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 cxd4 3.e3 a6 4.e3 e6 5.f3 b5 6.O-O Qc7 7.Qg4 Threatening 19...Rg8. 19...c5 20.axe6 If 20.Nxa6, then 20...Rxe6! 21.Bxa6 Rg8 22.Qh3 Ng6 followed by 23...Nf4 wins. 20...c4 Not 20...Ra7! 21.Bb5+ Kf8 22.Ne4 and White wins. 21.Qxa6 b5 22.g3 Qg6 23.h3 c7 Not 23.Qg3 Kf8 threatening 24...Nh4 winning. Also bad is 23.Qb8 Qxb8 24.Nxb8 Nf4. 23...a8 24.Qd6 Threatening 25.Nc7#. 24...c8 25.d6 dc1 An error in time pressure. Correct is 25.Rac1. The Rook is needed on d1 to cover the d2-square as we will see in some variations that follow. 25...b4 26.c7+ Also losing is 26.Re7 Nxf3+ 27.Kh1 Ne5 as is 26.Nxa4 Bxg2. 26...c7 27.Qc7 cxd8 28.Qd7 Removes immediately. 28.Kh1 would have held out longer, although Black is much better after 28...Qd8. 28...c4+ White Resigns. If 29.Qxc4, then 29...Nd2+ wins. Now it’s clear why the wrong Rook was moved to c1. 0-1

○ Psakhis, L.  
• Speelman, J.

?  

Hastings 1988 0-1 D21 Grandmasters Lev Psakhis and Jonathan Speelman of England are two of the most creative players
in the world. Despite their fancy for invention they both have achieved some significant results - Speelman is a two time Candidate and Psakhis twice won the USSR championship.

1.e4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 f3 e5 4.d6 5.e3 exd5 6.xd5 7.xd5 8.d2 9.xc4 x5 10.xd5 11.xc6+ x8

This line of the Queen's Gambit Accepted pioneered by GM Yasser Seirawan, is quite controversial. is quite controversial as Black willingly gives White the two Bishops. Compensation comes in the form of a lead in development and a harmonious position. 12.g3 c6 13.g2 f6 14. g5+ f6 15.d2 d6 16.O–O ad8 17.fc1 b6 18.e1 a5 19.e5 g6 20.ab1 db4 21.a3 a2

Expecting the Knight to go back to d5 but the ever inventive Speelman has something else in store even if it isn’t quite exactly sound. 22.e4 d4 23.b3 The natural question is why not 23.Ra1 attacking the trapped Knight? Speelman planned the variation 23...Nh3 24.Rxa2 Rd1 25.Re4+ Kf7 26.Rf4 Rb1 27.Kf2 Nc1! but as New York GM Joel Benjamin points out White can improve with 27.Re3! meeting 27...Nc1 with 28.Be4. 23...b5 24.b2 c3 25.a4 d1 26.b1 a3 27.cc1 Bb2 28.Bb1 f5 29.b7 White is the Exchange down but the two Bishops are good compensation. Tarrasch was the first to note that two Bishops and a Rook, while inferior on a purely materialistic level, often are of equal practical value to two Rooks and a Knight. 29.g5 30.a6 f4 31.d3 A blunder caused by time pressure. Correct was 31.Bb5 with equal chances. 31...xd3 The standard way of winning an Exchange up is to give it back for a pawn. This game is a good practical example. 32.exd3 xd3 33.e2 d5 34.gxf4 gxf4 35.e1 Bb2 36.c3 g3 37.Nf1 Qb4 38.g7+ Qf8 39.Bb2 d3 White Resigns.

1-0

- Speelman, J.

- Bielavsky, A.

- Tal, M.

- Speelman, J.

- Karpov, An.

Brussels
1988 1-0 D20

Anatoly Karpov, World Champion from 1974-1985, is one of the greatest players of all time. His opponent, Jonathan Speelman of England, is a two-time Candidate who is noted for his original play.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 f6 4.e5 Bb4 5.xc4 b6 6.b3 Bb7 7.e3 f5 8.e2 e6 9.O–O a5 10.a4+ c6 Here 10...Nxa4 11.Qxa4+ Nc6 (10...c6 11.Bd2) 12.Nbc3 a6 13.Ng3 Bd3 14.Rfe1 is slightly better for White (Karpov and Zaitzev). Note that while Black has the d5 square it doesn’t quite compensate for White’s space advantage. 11.Nc2 g6 12.bc3 ac4 13.c1 e7 14.xg6 hxg6 15.e4 h4 16.g3 d5 17. xe2 O–O–O 18.g5 5.xg5 A strong positional move. After the exchange of Bishops White will have a strong grip on c5, d6, and g5. 19.xg5 f7 20.f3 f4 21.ad1 g5 22.wc1 Classic Karpov. The modest looking text conceals a nasty threat - 23.b3. Now Speelman is forced to sacrifice the Exchange for insufficient compensation. 22...fxf3 23.gxf3 fxf3 24.fe1 f4 25.e4 xh2 26.d2 a4 27.wg2 a3 28.xg6 g6 29.e4 g8 30.g3 g7 31.h4 g6 32.h3 f4 33.xg2 wh6 34.d3 add6 35.qd4 g5 36.h4 db5 37.h3 c5 38.f3 db4 39.qg5 e7 40.a3 b2 41.wx4 Black Resigns.

1-0
1.e4 c5 2.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}3}} d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}d}4} e6 5.c3 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}6}} 6.g5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}6}} 7.f4 b6 The famous Poison Pawn variation of the Najdorf Sicilian. A long time favorite of Bobby Fischer, it is still one of the most controversial variations in chess. Black breaks the rules by going pawn grubbing with his Queen in the opening but a clear refutation has yet to be discovered.

8.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}2}} bxb6 9.g3 bxa5 10.f5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{c}6}} 11.fx\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}6}} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}6}} 12.e5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}e}5} 13.e4 dxe5 14.g4 e4 15.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}e}4} d3 16.e5 f5 17.e2 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{g}5}} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}6}} 18.b5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{c}6}} 19.g5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}4}} 20.bxc6 bxc6 21.e5 xe5 22.bxc6 bxc6 23.e4 xe4 24.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}e}4} b5 25.b3 bxa4 26.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{c}3}} f5 27.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}f}5} g5 28.e4 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{g}6}} 29.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}4}} e5 30.g3 xe5 31.b3 xe5 32.b4 xe5 33.dxe5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}e}5} 34.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}e}5} Black Resigns.

0-1

\begin{itemize}
\item Catarian, V.
\item Bangiev, A.
\item Tolnai, T.
\item Georgiev, Kir.
\item Saint John
\end{itemize}

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\item URS
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\item 1988 0-1 B99
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\end{itemize}

An attack against the uncastled King.

\begin{itemize}
\item 1.e4 c5 2.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}3}} d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}d}4} e6 5.c3 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}6}} 6.g5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}6}} 7.f4 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}7}} 8.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}f}3} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{c}7}} 9.0-0-0 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}7}} 10.g4 b5 11.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}f}6} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}f}6} 12.g5 \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}7}} 13.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}5}} e5 14.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{g}6}} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}6}} 15.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}6}} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{g}8}} 16.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}h}5} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{g}8}} Better is 16...\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}7}}. 17.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{e}5}} Opening the position up. 17...\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}xe}5} Better is 17...\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}7}}. 18.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{a}5}}+ Bxb5 19.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{c}xb}5} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{b}6}} 19...\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{c}5}}? loses immediately to 20.Nc6. 20.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{xe}5}} a6 20...Ra7? loses to 21.Nxa7 Qxa7 22.Nc6 and 20...Bb6+ loses to 21.Kb1 Rg5 22.Nc7+ Kf8 23.Nxa8. 21.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{f}5}} Bb7 21...Qc5 22.Ng7+ and 21...Bd7 22.Nbd6+ both win for White. 22.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{h}1}} c6 If 22...Rd8, then 23.Nbd6+ Bxd6 24.Rxd6 Qc5 25.Ng7+ Rxe7 26.Rxd8+ Kxd8 27.Qxe5 Nxc5 28.fxe7 wins. 23.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{d}6}+} \textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}d}6} 24.\textit{\textcolor{red}{\textbf{x}d}6} Black Resigns. If 24...Qc5, then 25.Ng7+ Rxe7 26.fxg7 Qxd6 27.Rxd6 wins.

1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item Short, N.
\item Ljubojevic, L.
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\begin{itemize}
\item Amsterdam 1988 0-1 B66
\end{itemize}

Though his results have been uneven, young British GM Nigel Short is considered by many the West's best hope to regain the world championship. After a tiny inaccuracy, he is able to sacrifice two pieces to smoke out the Black King and drive it all the way to h2 before administering the coup de grace.
1.e4 c5 2.\f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\xd4 e6 5.\xe3 e7 6.g5 e7 7.\dd4 a6 8.O–O–O h6 9.\e3 f7 10.f4 b5 11.\d3 g7 12.\bd1 b4 13.\c2 e6 14.\e3 \e7 15.\g4 \b7 16.\g3 \xd4 17.\xd4 \c6 18.\he1 \fe8 Better was 18...Rfd8 – it turns out that the e8 square will be needed for the Knight. 19.\g5 \h8 20.\fxg5 \d7 21.\xe6 \xg7 22.\h5+ 23...fxe6 24.\f3 \c4 25...\d6 26.\c1 \e4 27.\d6+ \h2 On 27...\g8 28.\Qg4+ \h2 29.\Rc2 Bxe8 30.\Qc4+ \d6 31.\Qb4 \b4 32.\Qe4 \xe4 Black Resigns. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
  \item Georgiev, Kir.
  \item Sax, G.
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\begin{itemize}
  \item Pieniazek, A.
  \item Zaitshik, G.
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  \item Tal, M.
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  \item Pieniazek, A.
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  \item Sobura, H.
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  \item Pieniazek, A.
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  \item Pieniazek, A.
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  \item Poland
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A brilliant Rook sacrifice.

1.e4 c5 2.\f3 f6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\xe6 f6 5.\xe3 \e6 6.g4 h6 7.\he1 \e7 8.\f3 h5 9.\gxf6 \xf6 10.\g5 \c6 11.\xc6 \bc6 12.O–O–O \cxb6 13.\xg5 Better is 12...Rb8. Black clearly overlooked White’s 16th and 17th moves. 13.\hxg5 \xg5+ 14.\b1 \e7 Even are is 14...Qe5 15.e5! and 14...d5? 15.\xd5 exd5 16.Nxd5! \xg5 17.Rxd5 winning. 15.\c2 g6 16.\xd6 \xd6 17.\wxf7 The key move. The King cannot retreat. 17...a5 Other moves also offer no hope. For example, 17...c5 18.Rd1+ Kc6 19.Bb5+ or 17...e5 18.Rd1+ Ke5 19.Na4+. 18.\d1+ \e5 If 18...Kc5, then 19.Na4+ Kb4 20.Rd4#. 19.\bxh5 \h5 20.f4+ \xc6 21.\Qg7 Black Resigns. If 21...Qf6, then 22.Qc7#. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
  \item Tal, M.
  \item Zaitshik, G.
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  \item Pieniazek, A.
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\begin{itemize}
  \item Sobura, H.
\end{itemize}
White sacrifices a Knight and then a Rook right in the opening.
1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 a6 5.Qc3 e6 6.Qe3 Qf6 7.g4 e5 8.Qf5 g6 9.g5 Qxf5 10.exf5 d5
11.Qf3 d4 12.O-O-O g6 Better is 12...Nd6.
13.Qxd4 A new move. Previously 13.Bd2 had been tried. Black’s King will be under a vicious attack for the rest of the game.
13...exd4 14.Qxd4 Qe5 15.Qxe5 Qxe5 16.Qd4 Qf6 17.e1+ Qf8 18.Qxf6 Qxf6 Not 18...Qxc4? 19.Qg3 winning immediately.
19.Qe3 White is threatening 20.Qe8+ Kg7 21.Rg1+ and mate in a few moves. 20.Qxf5+ Qxf5 21.Qe5 Qe8 If 21...Qh6+, then 22.Qxe6 wins. Perhaps Black’s best chance was 21...Rd8 although White would have a large advantage after 22.Qe3 Qd6 23.Nb6. 22.Qe3 Qxc4 If 22...Qh6, then 23.Qf4 Rxe8 24.Qd4+ f6 25.Qe7+ wins. 23.Qg1+ Qg6 If 23...Qg6, then 24.Qe5+ wins.
24.Qxf6 Qxf6 If 24...Rxe2+, then 25.Kb1 wins.
25.c3 Qxc8 26.Qxe5 Qe8 27.Qg5 Qf7 28.Qh8 Qh8 29.Qg5 Qe8 30.Qe3 Black Resigns.
1-0

Ljubojevic, L.

Timman, J.

Amsterdam 1988 1-0 B80

Grandmasters Jan Timman and Ljubomir Ljubojevic have been among the World’s best players for close to two decades. Each is noted for his original play and fighting spirit.
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 c6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Qxd4
Much less common than 5.Nxd4 but well motivated. White is prepared to surrender the Bishop pair (Bb5 and Bxc6) in return for rapid development.
14...Qd5 15.Qd5 Qe7 16.Qc4 Qxf2 17.Qd2 Qxb6 18.Qd6 Qe6 19.Qc5 Qc7 20.c4 The killing blow as 20...fxe5 is met by

Short, N.

Sax, G.

Saint John

Saint John 1988 1-0 B33

The Svesnikov variation of the Sicilian is typical of the sort of openings that have developed after the Second World War. Rather than just play to equalize Black immediately aims for the initiative by creating imbalances from the word go.
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Qc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qe5 Qd6 6.Qe3 Qxe5 7.Qxe5 Qxe5 8.b3 Qf6 9.Qxf6 Qxf6 A key position in the Svesnikov. Black has compensation for his inferior pawn structure in the two Bishops, the g-file, opportunities for...f5, and the awkward pawn structure of White’s Knight on a3.
10.Qd5 f5 11.d3 Qe6 12.Qb5 Qg7 13.O-O f4 14.c4 bxc4 15.Qxe4 O–O 16.Qac1 c7 17.Qd1 Qc8 18.Qxe7+ Qxe7 19.Qc3 A very effective consolidating move that plans b3 and Red3 pressuring the d6 move. It also contains a trap - 19...Rc6?? would lose a piece to 20. Bxc6 Rxc6 21.Bf5. 19...b8 20.b3 f5 21.Qh3 h6 22.Qxe6 Qxe6 23.Qd3 White has a clear positional advantage. His next step is to activate his one poorly placed piece - the Knight on a3 - while Black’s Bishop on g7 languishes.
23...Qd8 24.Qe2 Qxe4 25.Qxe4 f3 26.Qh4 Consistently increasing the pressure. The natural 26.Qxh3 allows Black to mobilize his center pawns after 26...d5 27.Qh4 Rfe6 threatening...e4. 26...Qf4 27.Qe5 Qg4 28.Qf3 Qxf3 29.Qxf3 Qxf3 30.Qg5 Qf6 31.Qxf1 Qf6 32.Qb6 Forcing the pawn to d4 after which White’s King enters the Black position through the c4 and e4 squares.
32...Qd4 33.Qe2 Qg5 34.Qc4 Qf4 35.Qh5 Qe8 36.Qb4 Qg2 37.a4 Qg7 38.h5 axb5 39.axb5 Qf6 40.Qb6 Qe6 41.Qb7 Qg8 42.Qb1 Qb8 43.Qb5 Qd7 44.Qa5 Qe7 45.Qd3 Qd6 46.Qh4 Qe7 47.Qb2 Qb2 48.Qe4 Qf4 49.Qc2+ Qd7 50.Qd3 Qh2 51.Qc1 Qf4 52.Qg1 Qd6 53.Qc4 Black Resigns.
1-0

Judith Polgar

Pavlina Angelova

Women’s Olympiad Greece
1988 1-0 B31

There’s an old saying that “Chess is a sea in which a gnat may drink and an elephant may bathe.” One of the allure of this ancient pastime is that no two games are ever alike; but we do know that among the vast number of recorded games there are some curious coincidences — identical twins born years apart. At age 12 Judith Polgar played for Hungary in this world team championship and earned a brilliancy prize for her effort that unwittingly duplicated a brevity played ten years earlier by two obscure Russians (Levchenkov vs. Egarian). Polgar went on to become the highest rated woman in chess history.

1.e4 c5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{b}5 g6 4.O-O \textit{g}7 5.c3 e5 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 \textit{cxd4} 8.\textit{cxd4} cxd4 9.e5 \textit{\&}e7 White sacrificed one pawn for the initiative but it would be fatal to snatch a second one by 9...\textit{B}xe5 in view of 10. \textit{R}e1 f6 11. f4 winning the bishop. 10. \textit{g}5 O-O 11.\textit{R}xe4 \textit{c}6 Stronger is 11...\textit{Nf}5! 12.\textit{N}xh4 \textit{b}6 13.\textit{c}3 \textit{a}xe5 14. \textit{N}ae1 \textit{xc}3 Taking the bait. White would still have to find compensation for the pawn after 14...Bg7! 15.\textit{B}xc3 \textit{h}b5 16.\textit{B}h6 \textit{f}5 Alas, Black no longer has any defense. If 16...f6 17. Bxf6! Rx\textit{f}6 18. \textit{R}e8 \textit{Kf}7 19. Qf8 mate. 17.\textit{Q}xf8+ \textit{xf8} 18. \textit{\&}h6+ \textit{g}8 19.\textit{\&}e8# A fine illustration of how to exploit a weak back rank.

1-0

\begin{itemize}
  \item Van der Wiel, J.
  \item Timman, J.
\end{itemize}

\textbf{Amsterdam 1988 1/2-1/2 C95}

This wild game, between two of Holland’s best players, is a good example of counterattack being the best defense. Van der Wiel sacrifices the Exchange for a central pawn roller and Kingside attacking chances which look to be unstoppable. Timman saves the day by launching a sharp counterattack which ends in perpetual check.

1.e4 e5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{b}5 a6 4.\textit{\&}a4 \textit{f}6 5.O-O \textit{\&}c7 6. \textit{e}1 \textit{b}5 7. \textit{b}3 \textit{d}6 8.\textit{c}3 0-0 9.h3 \textit{b}8 10.\textit{d}4 The Breyer variation of the Ruy Lopez whereby Black loses some time relocating his Knight to a better square. In return the e-pawn becomes free to advance, the Bishop has a clear diagonal, and the Knight on d7 helps strong point the e5 pawn. 10...\textit{\&}bd7 11.\textit{\&}bd2 \textit{\&}h7 12.\textit{c}2 \textit{e}8 13.\textit{\&}f1 \textit{f}8 14.\textit{\&}g3 \textit{g}6 15.\textit{a}4 \textit{c}5 16.\textit{d}5 \textit{c}4 17.\textit{\&}g5 \textit{h}6 18.\textit{\&}e3 \textit{\&}e5 19.\textit{\&}d2 \textit{\&}h7 20. \textit{\&}g5 \textit{\&}e7 21. \textit{h}6 \textit{\&}h7 22. \textit{\&}a3 \textit{\&}b8 23.\textit{\&}e3 Van der Wiel, in his notes to this game, which appeared in Chess Informant, mentions that only with this move have the players left the theoretical highway in the highly analyzed Ruy Lopez. 23...\textit{f}6 24.\textit{a}xb5 \textit{a}xb5 25. \textit{e}a1 \textit{\&}e8 26.\textit{\&}e2 \textit{d}7 27.\textit{\&}c1 \textit{\&}e7 28.\textit{\&}a2 \textit{\&}a8 29.\textit{\&}b4 \textit{\&}xa3 30. \textit{\&}x3 \textit{c}8 31. \textit{\&}a7 \textit{\&}d8 32. \textit{\&}xc5 \textit{dxc}5 33. \textit{\&}c6 \textit{\&}b6 34. \textit{\&}xd7 The logical follow up to White’s previous play but not necessarily correct. 34...\textit{\&}xd7 35.\textit{\&}fxe5 \textit{\&}d6 36.\textit{\&}f4 \textit{\&}f6 Van der Wiel suggests that with the interpolation of 36...Bc7! 37.g3 and only now 37...\textit{N}f6, Black would be slightly better. 37.\textit{\&}f2 \textit{\&}c7 38.\textit{\&}g3 \textit{h}7 39.\textit{\&}xf7 \textit{\&}xf4 Blow for blow. The text is forced as 39...\textit{\&}xg7? loses to 40.e5 \textit{Q}d5 41.\textit{Q}xg6+ \textit{K}f8 42.\textit{Q}h6+. 40.\textit{\&}xg7+ \textit{\&}f8 41.\textit{\&}d6 \textit{a}8 Counterattack is the only defense. 42.\textit{\&}e5 \textit{\&}a1+ 43. \textit{\&}b1 \textit{\&}c1+ 44. \textit{\&}h2 \textit{\&}xb1 45.\textit{\&}xc7 \textit{\&}g1+ 46.\textit{\&}g3 \textit{\&}e1+ 47. \textit{\&}h2 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

\begin{itemize}
  \item Nunn, J.
  \item Beliavsky, A.
\end{itemize}

\textbf{Brussels 1988 1-0 C95}

Mastery of the Ruy Lopez is the hallmark of many top GMs. So rich and complex is this opening that certain players, like Anatoly Karpov, are quite content to play either color of the "Spanish Torture". The players in the following game, Grandmasters John Nunn of England and Alexander Beliavsky of Ukraine, are noted for their virtuosity in 1.e4 e5 openings and their attacking skills. This sharp encounter does both players credit.

1.e4 e5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{b}5 a6 4.\textit{\&}a4 \textit{f}6 5.O-O \textit{\&}c7 6. \textit{e}1 \textit{b}5 7. \textit{b}3 \textit{d}6 8.\textit{c}3 0-0 9.h3 \textit{b}8 10.\textit{d}4 \textit{\&}f7 11.\textit{\&}f2 \textit{h}7 12. \textit{\&}c2 \textit{e}8 13.\textit{\&}f1 \textit{f}8 14.\textit{\&}g3 \textit{g}6 15.\textit{a}4 \textit{c}5 16.\textit{d}5 \textit{c}4 17.\textit{\&}g5 \textit{h}6 18.\textit{\&}e3 \textit{\&}e5 19.\textit{\&}d2 \textit{h}5 20. \textit{\&}g5 \textit{\&}e7 21. \textit{h}6 \textit{\&}h7 22. \textit{\&}a3 \textit{\&}b8 23.\textit{\&}e3 Van der Wiel, in his notes to this game,
very easy for Nunn. 38...\textit{xe}4 39.\textit{xc}7 \textit{e}2 40.\textit{b}5 Black Resigns.
1-0

\textbf{\textit{Lau, R.}}
\textbf{\textit{Luksacs, P.}}

1988 0-1 C93
A trite but true chess maxim is that the best answer to a wing attack is a counterattack in the center. Hungarian Grandmaster Petar Luksacs gives an excellent demonstration of how effective a pawn break can be in the following game against German GM Ralf Lau.

1.e4 e5 2.\textit{d}4 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{b}5 \textit{a}6 4.\textit{a}4 \textit{f}6 5.0-0 \textit{e}7 6.\textit{e}4 \textit{c}5 7.\textit{d}3 \textit{d}6 8.c3 \textit{e}6 9.h3 \textit{c}8 10.\textit{d}4 \textit{b}7 11.\textit{g}5 \textit{f}8 12.\textit{f}3 \textit{e}8 13.\textit{bd}2 \textit{f}1 14.a3 \textit{h}6 15.\textit{e}2 \textit{b}8 16.b4 \textit{bd}7 17.\textit{h}2 \textit{g}6 18.\textit{wb}1 \textit{g}7 19.\textit{b}3 \textit{e}8 20.a4 \textit{d}5 21.\textit{xe}5 \textit{xe}5 22.dxe5 \textit{xe}4 23.\textit{f}3 \textit{g}5 24.\textit{c}5 \textit{xf}3+ Black decides to strike while all the White pieces are sleeping on the Queenside. 25.\textit{gx}f3 \textit{g}5+ 26.\textit{h}1 \textit{gw}3+ 27.\textit{g}2 \textit{wh}3+ 28.\textit{g}1 \textit{xe}5 29.\textit{g}f1 As 29.Rxe5 would be met by 29...\textit{Qg}3+. 29...\textit{g}5+ 30.\textit{h}2 \textit{b}4+ 31.\textit{e}3 \textit{e}8+ 32.\textit{d}3 \textit{d}4+ 33.\textit{d}2 \textit{f}4+ 34.\textit{d}3 \textit{c}4+ 35. \textit{d}2 \textit{xe}2+ 36.\textit{xe}2 \textit{f}4+ 37.\textit{e}1 On 37.Kd3 Black wins with 37...\textit{Be}8! 38.\textit{Qe}8+ \textit{K}h7 39.\textit{Qx}e8 \textit{R}g2! 37...\textit{g}1+ 38.\textit{f}2 \textit{g}3+ 39.\textit{e}3 \textit{g}2 40.\textit{d}1 \textit{e}5+ 41.\textit{d}3 \textit{c}8 White Resigns. 0-1

\textbf{\textit{Sokolov, A.}}
\textbf{\textit{Portisch, L.}}

1988 1-0 C92
Opening preparation continues to advance at a frightening rate. Hungarian Grandmaster Lajos Portisch is well known for his opening erudition but here he falls victim to a powerhouse novelty prepared by Andrei Sokolov and his second master Yurkov. Everything had been seen before 24.b3!!.

1.e4 e5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{b}5 \textit{a}6 4.\textit{a}4 \textit{f}6 5.0-0 \textit{e}7 6.\textit{e}4 \textit{c}5 7.\textit{d}3 \textit{d}6 8.c3 \textit{e}6 9.h3 \textit{b}7 10.\textit{d}4 \textit{e}8 11.\textit{g}5 \textit{f}8 12.\textit{f}3 \textit{e}8 13.\textit{bd}2 \textit{f}8 14.a4 \textit{h}6 15.\textit{e}2 \textit{ex}d4 16.\textit{ex}d4 \textit{b}4 17.\textit{b}1 \textit{c}5 18.d5 \textit{d}7 19.\textit{a}3 \textit{c}4 20.\textit{d}4 \textit{e}5 21.axb5 \textit{b}6 22.\textit{xc}4 \textit{xc}4 23.\textit{g}3 \textit{c}8 24.\textit{h}3 This replaces the earlier 24.Bxb6. White still intends to take on h6 but first wants to ensure that the f-pawn will advance with tempo.

24...\textit{e}5 25.\textit{e}3 A necessary move to take along as the immediate 25.f4 would be strongly answered by 25...\textit{Nd}3! 25...\textit{g}6 26.f4 \textit{d}8 27.\textit{f}5 \textit{e}5 28.\textit{d}2 \textit{a}5 29.\textit{h}x\textit{h}6 \textit{b}4 30.\textit{h}2 \textit{d}7 31.\textit{g}5 \textit{h}5 32.\textit{f}1 \textit{g}6 33.\textit{c}6 \textit{c}6 34.\textit{d}6 \textit{e}8 35.\textit{fx}g6 \textit{f}xg6 36.\textit{c}7 \textit{bc}8 37.\textit{b}6 \textit{h}7 38. \textit{xf}8+ \textit{xf}8 39.\textit{xd}6 Everyone knows the normal value of the pieces but here everything is topsy turvy. White is a Rook down but two big passed pawns, passive Black pieces, and very active White ones spell victory for the first player. 39...\textit{bc}6 40.\textit{f}6 \textit{xf}6 41.\textit{xf}6 42.b7 Black Resigns. 1-0

\textbf{\textit{Psakhis, S.}}
\textbf{\textit{Smagin, S.}}

1988 1-0 C92
A game featuring an attractive central pawn mass.

1.e4 e5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{b}5 \textit{a}6 4.\textit{a}4 \textit{f}6 5.0-0 \textit{e}7 6.\textit{e}4 \textit{c}5 7.\textit{d}3 \textit{b}7 8.\textit{d}6 \textit{a}6 9.\textit{d}5 \textit{b}7 10.\textit{d}6 \textit{a}5 11.\textit{d}5 \textit{b}6 12.\textit{d}5 \textit{b}6 13.\textit{f}4 \textit{b}6 14.\textit{c}3 \textit{c}6 15.\textit{e}3 \textit{d}7 16.\textit{c}3 \textit{c}6 17.\textit{c}3 \textit{c}6 18.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 19.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 20.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 21.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 22.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 23.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 24.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 25.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 26.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 27.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 28.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 29.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 30.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 31.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 32.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 33.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 34.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 35.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 36.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 37.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 38.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 39.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 40.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 41.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 42.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 43.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 44.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 45.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 46.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 47.\textit{e}3 \textit{c}6 48.\textit{e}3 Black Resigns.

1-0
Hjartarson, J.

- Korchnoi, V.

Saint John 1988 1-0 C82

One of the biggest surprises of the 1988 World Chess Festival in Saint John, New Brunswick, was Icelandic Grandmaster Johann Hjartarson’s elimination of Viktor Korchnoi in the first round of the Candidates.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 c6 3.d4 b5 4.a4 a6 5.Qf6 O-O Qxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Qb3 d5 8.Qxe5 Qe6 9.Qb2 c5 10.c3 e7 11.c2 Qg4 12.Qe1 O-O 13.Qf1 Qh5 14.Qe3 Qg6 15.Qg3 Qe8 16.h4 A strong move which forces Black to yield control of his f5 square. 16...Qxe2 17.Qxe2 Qd7 18.Qf4 Qd8 19.Qh5 Qe6 20.e3 a5 21.Qad1 Qc4 22.Qc1 e5 Black has succeeded in mobilizing his Queenside pawn majority but Ivanchuk’s Kingside action counts for more. 23.Qe5 a7 24.Qe4 b6 25.Qeg5 Qxg5 26.Qxg5 Qe8 27.Qe3 h6 28.Qh4 Qc7 29.Qg4 Qg5 30.Qf5 Qxe5 Black has no satisfactory answer to the threats of Bxg5 and f4-f5 followed by Nhxh6. 31.Qf4 Qxf5 32.Qxf5 Qxf5 33.Qxc7 34.f4 Qe6 35.g4 Qxg7 36.gxf5 37.Qe2 Qh8 38.Qe5 Black Resigns. 1-0

Vasyukov, E.

- Rantanen, Y.

Belgrade 1988 1-0 C78

Yrjo Rantanen is one of three Grandmasters that Finland has produced. Evgeny Vasyukov is one of several hundred that the USSR produced. Both players are noted for their skill in attacking the enemy King.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.b5 a6 4.a4 Qf6 5.O-O Qxe4 The Open Ruy Lopez differs from the Closed (5...Be7) in that Black eschews maintaining a strong point on e5 in favor of easy development for his pieces. The strategic plans are determined by the pawn structure. White, with four pawns versus three on the Kingside aims for the Kingside while Black is King on the other side of the board.

6.d4 b5 7.Qb3 d5 8.Qxe5 Qe6 9.Qb2 c5 10.c3 e7 11.c2 Qg4 12.Qe1 O-O 13.Qf1 Qh5 14.Qe3 Qg6 15.Qg3 Qe8 16.h4 A strong move which forces Black to yield control of his f5 square. 16...Qxe2 17.Qxe2 Qd7 18.Qf4 Qd8 19.Qh5 Qe6 20.e3 a5 21.Qad1 Qc4 22.Qc1 e5 Black has succeeded in mobilizing his Queenside pawn majority but Ivanchuk’s Kingside action counts for more. 23.Qe5 a7 24.Qe4 b6 25.Qeg5 Qxg5 26.Qxg5 Qe8 27.Qe3 h6 28.Qh4 Qc7 29.Qg4 Qg5 30.Qf5 Qxe5 Black has no satisfactory answer to the threats of Bxg5 and f4-f5 followed by Nhxh6. 31.Qf4 Qxf5 32.Qxf5 Qxf5 33.Qxc7 34.f4 Qe6 35.g4 Qxg7 36.gxf5 37.Qe2 Qh8 38.Qe5 Black Resigns. 1-0
to 29.exf5 Rf8 30. Bxh6 Qc7 31.Bb3 Kh8 32.Bg5. 28...Qf8 29.a5h6 e8 Qe7 White wins after 29...gxh6 30.Qxb6+ Kg8 31.Bb3 Bf8 32.Qg6+ Kh8 33.Bxh7. 30.Qh7 e8 31.Qg8+ d7 32.Qxe7 xe7 On 32...Rx7 33.Bxg7? followed by pushing the h-pawn does the trick. 33.Qg5+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Beliavsky, A.  
• Petursson, M. ?

Reyjavik 1988 1-0 C42
One mistake and it’s all over.

1.e4 e5 2.d3 f3 d6 3.Qxe5 dxe5 5.d4 d5 6.Qd3 d6 7.0-O-O c6 8.c3 d5 exd5 9.O-O .Qc6 10.Qc3 Qxc3+ 11.bxc3 Nf6 12.h3 Nh5 13.Nb1 Nf7 14.Qb5 Bb6 15.c4 Qf3 16.gxf3 dxc4 17.Qc2 White is planning a4-a5. 17...a6 Better is 17...Qc7. 18.Qg5 bxb5 Black decides to give up his Queen. If 18...Qc7, then 19.Bf6 results in a decisive kingside attack. For example, if 19...axb5 or 19...gx6, then 20.Bxh7+. 19.Qd8 exd8+ 20.Qh5 g6 21.Qxb5 Qc7 22.h4 Qd4 23.Nc5 de7 24.Qg3 e8 If 24...Nxe4, then 25.Bxe4 Rxa4 26.Qb5 wins. 25.a5 Qd5 26.Qb4 Qd5 27.Qxb7 de7 28.Qa6 b6 29.Qd8+ g7 30.Qxc4 e7 31.Qa4 e2 32.Qh3 Qb3 33.Qb4 Qa7 34.Qc4 e2 35.Qd3 Qd2 35...Ra2 would have held out longer, although White is still winning after 36.Qd6. 36.Qf4 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Short, N.  
• Huebner, R. ?

Tilburg 1988 1-0 C42
A super Grandmaster suffers a "Short" defeat. Robert Huebner is known as the strongest "amateur" chess player in the world, although what that means in chess is that he has another career. It certainly doesn’t mean he refuses any prize money! Being a non-professional has serious disadvantages in these times of advancing opening theory and computer-aided study, and Huebner has found it more and more difficult to compete successfully against players like Short.

1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Qf6 3.Qxe5 d6 4.Qf3 Qxe4 5.d4 d5 6.O-O O-O-O 8.c4 c6 9.Qc3 Qxc3 10.bxc3 dxe4 11.Qd4 g4 12.Qd3 Qd7 13.g5 f6 14.Qh3 Kh5 14...Bd7 15.Re1 is slightly better for White. 15.f4 Threatening to win the Bishop with g4 and f5. 15...h6 16.Qg4 xh5 17.fxg5 Qxg4 18.Qxg4 Qd7 If 18...Bxg4, then 19.Qe4 Qd7 20.g6 is strong. Instead Black sacrifices a piece for an attack on the open King, but it is insufficient. 19.Qxh5 Qg4+ 20.Qf2 Qe8 Black is threatening 21...b5 22.Bb3 Bg3+ 23.Qxg3 Re2+. 21.Qg1 Qh4+ 22.Qg2 b5 23.Qh3 c5 If 23...Re4, then 24.Qf3 is forced and strong. 24.Qf1 25.Re2 Black Resigns. White wins after 24...Qg4+ 25.Kf1 c4 26.Bd1 Qe1+ 27.Kxe1 Qg2 28.Qxe2 Qxh1+ 29.Kd2.

1-0

○ Hjartarson, J.  
• Nogueiras, J. ?

Belfort 1988 0-1 C18
Grandmasters Johann Hjartarson of Iceland and Jesus Nogueiras of Cuba have reached the Candidates stage of the World championship cycle. Both players are known for doing their homework but Nogueiras is especially noted for his diligence in finding novelties in the opening. Here he applies a known idea (16...Na5) in a new setting.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 Qb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.a3 Qxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qxb5 This move, which can initiate wild play, is not for the faint-hearted. White wins a pawn, a passed h-pawn at that, but matters are hardly clear. Black has a lot of counterplay that shouldn’t be underestimated. 7...Qc7 8.Qg7 Qg8 9.Qxb7 Qd4 10.h2 Qd6 11.h4 Qd7 12.Qf3 Qd8 13.Qe3 Qf5 14.Qb1 Qd8 15.Qd1 Qd5 16.Qf3 Qf5 17.Qc2 d6 18.Qa4 e5 19.Qc4 Qd2 20.Qa2 Qd5 21.Qg2 Qe3 Four outstanding moves in a row have caught the White King in the middle. 22.Qxe3 Qxe3 23.Qg3 Qd2+ 24.Qd1 Qf2 25.Qc2 d1=Q+ 26.Qxd1 Qd8 27.Qxd1 Qxf1+ 28.Qd2 Qb5 29.Qc3 Qe4+ 30.Qe4 Qf2 31.Qc2 Qxg2 32.Qd3 Qxf4+ 33.Qxf4 Qd2+ White Resigns.

0-1

○ Karpov, An.  
• Farago, I.
Former World Champion Anatoly Karpov has a tremendous feel for the game. His positional understanding is so fine that it is rare to find a game of his where things get out of control. The Poison Pawn variation of the French Winawer would hardly seem his cup of tea but the following game flows.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c3 dxc4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 xc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.wg4 wc7 8.wxg7 xg8 9...xb7 exd4 10...b2 c6 11.f4 f6 12.wd3 dxec3 13.wxc3 ef5 14.b1 b8 White Resigns.

1-0

○ Nunn, J.
● Yusupov, A.

This move, which looks like it loses a tempo, is actually well motivated. After...b6 Black is threatening g4, which is a good illustration that sometimes the standard numeric values for the pieces don't apply. Yusupov has sacrificed more material and after 31.Nxc4 Nxc4 he would have only two Knight's and two pawns - a winning position. Instead of winning the Exchange Nunn elects to eliminate the dangerous a-pawn. 31...wa1 ef7 32...xa4 w8b8 33...a5 ef4 34...xc4 h6 35.h4 f6 36...xa4 Black's plan is clear - attack the c-pawn three times and win it. 36.g5 b5 37...f3 e5 38...a7 xc3 39...xe3 xc3+ 40...h2 h3+ 41...g1 bxh3 42...b8+ bh7 43...xe5 g6 44...d6+ ef6 45...df5 g4+ 46...h2 xf5 47...e4+ The position is an easy win for Yusupov as the White Queen is helpless without an outside support. It's instructive to see how Yusupov patiently improves his position and prepares to win Nunn's f-pawn. 47...df5 48...d3 g5 49...g3 f4 50...e4 e5 51...e2 e4 52...f3 e5 53...f4 gd4 54...d3 d6 55...d6+ bh7 56...d3 g6 57...d7 g4 58...a7 g7 59...d4+ f6 60...h2 h7 61...b7 d5 62...a7 xf4 63...d7 e6 64...b7 f4 65...b5 h4+ 66...h3 g5 67...b7 h8 68...d5 h6 69...d6+ g6 70...d2 g4+ 71...g2 h5 72...d5+ f5 73...d7 h3+ 74...g1 g3 75...h7+ fg5 76...hxh3 bh4 White Resigns.

0-1
In Nunn-Yusupov, we saw 13.Ba3, here the English GM varies. 13...g6 14. g3 cxd4 15. xd4 White captures this way because 15.cxd4 would be met by 15...Nb4. If Black can exchange off the Bishop on d3 the first player’s chances for a successful Kingside attack are greatly reduced. 15...a5 16. e3 c4 17. xc4 xc4 18.h4 xax4 19.h5 c5 e7 20. f4 f5 A neat tactical defense of the Kingside - 21.Nxf5 Qxf5 22.c3 35.sxd4 15. d7+ 22.b1 a5 23.g4 Nunn understands exactly what is happening. White is losing on the Queenside so he needs to get something going on the Kingside. 23...xd4 24. xd4 c7 Black needs to stay on the e-pawn to delay g4-g5. 25.f3 e8 26.c4 dxc4 27.g5 hxg5 28.h6 c6 Capturing the Bishop leads to an unstoppable White attack - 28...gxh6 29. h5 Kh7 30.Qg4+ Kh8 31.Qh5+ Kg7 32.Qg5+ followed by 33.Rf4 wins. 29.g4 gxh6 30. xg5 f5 31.exf6 hxg5 32.xg5+ The start of 22 consecutive checks! Nunn’s training as a mathematician (he has a doctorate) is in evidence. 32...f7 33.h5+ xf6 34.h4+ f7 35. f4+ e8 36. xf8+ xf8 37.h8+ f7 38.h7+ f6 39.h6+ f7 40.h7+ f6 41.h6+ e5 42.g5+ d6 43.g3+ d5 44.g5+ e5 45.d4+ e4 46.e3+ f5 47.h3+ g6 48.g4+ f7 49.f5+ g8 50. e6+ Try as he might Black is unable to escape from the checks and he must finally agree to split the point. 50...g7 51.g4+ h8 52.h3+ g8 53.e6+ g7 Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2

○ Kasparov, G.
• Karpov, A.
?
Amsterdam 1988
1-0 B17

The following game, between two of the greatest players of all time, is a classic demonstration of the realization of a small advantage. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.c3 dxe4 4.xe4 d7 5.g5 Moving the Knight three times in the first five moves may look like it violates basic opening principles but 5.Ng5 is a based on an idea - to force e6 to shut in Black’s c8-Bishop. 5...d6 6.c3 e6 7.c1 f6 6.0–0 h5 8.O–O h6 9.f4 xe4 10.xe4 0–0 11.e5 c5 12. c2 e5 13. c1 exe4 14. xg8+ xg8 15. xd4 Despite all of the simplification White’s small lead in development and greater board room give him an annoying little edge. 15...d6 16. f4 5 f4 17. xg4 f8 18. xg6 e6 19. d4 d8 20.h4 b5 21. e3 b6 22. cxe6 fxe6 A serious error that shows that even the great players occasionally err. Karpov, whose positional understanding is second to none, knows that 22...fxe6 creates a terrible weakness on e6 and that 22...Nxe6 is right. So why did he play 22...fxe6? Perhaps because he didn’t want to lose a tempo after 22...Nxe6 23.Qe4 Nf8 and that he wanted more room to maneuver on his second rank. However, as the game shows in no uncertain terms, the weakness on e6 is more than Black’s position can stand. 23.xg4 dxe2 24. b3 h8 25. e6 26.g3 a6 27. g2 a8 28. e3 c7 29. f3 d7 30. h5 e7 31.w5 e5 d8 32.a4 b5 33.ec4 ec7 34. f4 c5 35.xf6 d6 36.axb5 axb5 37. f7 b8 38. a7 b4 39. c2 bxc3 40. bxc3 e5 41. f7 e7 42.g4 g8 43. c7 f8 44. f3 f8 45. e4 e8 46. g6 b7 47. f7 f8 48. e8 Normally Queen and Knight work better together than Queen and Bishop but this position is an exception. The passive placement of the Black Knight, the vulnerable King, and the weak pawns on e6 and c4 spell defeat. All of this explains why White

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...Nf6 53...h2 54.Kh7 55.Ne6 56.Nf4+ 57.g8=2 58.e7+ 59.Ke6 b6 60.Nb8+ 61.Kh7+ 62.c4 Na6 63.c5 Black Resigns.

1-0

o Short, N.
- Speelman, J.

Hastings

1998 0-1 B17

Hastings has the longest tradition of any tournament in the world, going back to 1895. England’s top two players take each other on.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Nc3 dxe4 5.Nxe4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Qc7 7.Nc3 Qf6 8.h3 b6 9.Bg5 e5 10.Nd5 c5 11.Nf4 b5+ 12.ad2 b4+ Forced. White can’t be allowed to complete his development with Nd1-f3 and O-O, as Nd2-c4 would come too strongly. 13.ad4 exd4 14.ad4 O-O. Again, Black isn’t comfortable with development as usual. If 14...cxd4 15.Nf3 Be7 16.O-O and after the eventual Nd2-b3, Black’s Queen is missing a home. With the text, Jonathan tries to make d5 available for his First Lady. 15Nb4 Nigel must have seen some variations in which the Black Queen gets trapped. Perhaps he overlooked that after 15...Qxb4 16.Rb1 Qa5 17.Rb5, the reply ...Qc3 is possible since the back rank is weak. If Black’s Queen isn’t trapped, then Nigel has pitched a pawn for nebulou compensation. 15...Nxb4 16.Nb3 Qa5 17.Bb5+ Bd7 18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Bxd7+ Nxd7 20.d5 qualifies as good compensation. 16.Bb1 a6 17.b5+ d6 18.a6 a6 19.c3 f3 Against 19.d5. Black has 19...Qxa2 defending 16. 19...cxd4 20.b5–O A natural mistake. The Knight on b6 is an excellent defender. It blocks the b-file, controls c8 (check out the e-file), and lends a hand to the support of Black’s King. Thus, it should be pushed back by 20.Bxd7+ Nxd7 21.O-O, when White has play on the b-file. 20...d8 21.a4 e7 22.xd4 b6 23.b4 Cool defense by Jonathan. His King is well protected by the wall of pawns on f7, f6, and e6. Gradually, his pieces can gain activity with moves like...f6-f5, or ...Rh8-g8-f6. Also, Black’s Queen may land up on the monster square e5. Black is better. 23.d1 f5 24.g3 Better is 24.Bxd7. 24...xb5 25.axb5 c5 Centralizing the Knight and setting up multiple forks on c3. 26.b3 h5 Black has taken over the initiative completely. 27.d4 Better is 27.Nxh5. 27.f4 A high-class move, combining defense and attack. White’s pieces are poised for sacrifices against e6 and f5. The text move addresses such threats while opening up the d-file for annoying exchanges and pins. That’s the defensive part - the really good news is that White has no convenient way to guard e1. If 28.Qf3 or 28.Qc2, then 28...Rxd4 and 29...Qe1+ decides immediately. 28...f1 Both players were in time trouble here. 28...xa2 “Give me your pawns, baby.” 29.f3 h4 A marvelous move. Who could guess that the Rook on h8 would put decisive pressure along the d-file? 30.gxf5 exf5 31.fxe4 f6 32.a1 Better is 32.Rxf5. 32...d2 33.e2 The only move was 33.Qc4, although Black would still have a large advantage. 33.e6 34.Nf5 Qxe2 35.e1 c6 36.e1 f6 White Resigns. There is no good defense to 36...Rd1+.

1-0

o Short, N.
- Speelman, J.

London

1998 0-1 B09

The 1998 Candidates Match between GMs Nigel Short and Jonathan Speelman of England was extremely hard fought. The following game, the fourth of the match, is a good demonstration of the danger of playing for a win without just cause.


0-1
10...c5 6...Nc6 7...e5 8...g4 8...e6 I confess; I’ve faced this situation as Black many times. And like the blind leading the blind I’ve followed my peers and played 8...Bxb5 9.exf7+ Kd7 10.Nxb5 Qa5+ 11.Kc2! Qe4+ 16.Qc2 Qxc2+ 17.Kxc2 with an unclear position.

11.Nc3... One day when preparing for the Zagreb Interzonal, NM James Blackwood, IM John Donaldson, and I asked ourselves what happens if we just take the e-pawn? This then is our joint analysis: 8...fxe6 9.Qg5 Qxb5 10.Qxe6 Qxd4 11.Qxd8 Our analysis runs 11.Nxb5 Qa5+ 12.Qc3 Bf2+ 13.Kd2 Be3+ 14.Kc2 Qa4+ 15.Kb1! Qe4+ 16.Qe2 Qxe2+ 17.Kxe2 with an unclear position. Naturally, Gyula didn’t like having to call it peace so quickly with White. Thus, he did the proper thing. He thought for 72 minutes, and then took my Queen.

11...f2+ 12.d2 e3+ Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

o Balashov, Y.
• Torre, E.

Lugano 1988 0-1 B07

Grandmaster Eugenio Torre of the Philippines was the first Asian player to participate in the Candidates. He is also well known for having served as Bobby Fischer’s second during his 1992 match with Boris Spassky. His opponent, Yury Balashov of Russia, has been rated over 2600 and has a win over Anatoly Karpov to his credit.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Qf6 3.Qc3 g6 4.f4 Qg7 5.Qf3 c5 6.Qb5+ Qd7 7.e5 Qg4 8.e6 I confess; I’ve faced this situation as Black many times. And like the blind leading the blind I’ve followed my peers and played 8...Bxb5 9.exf7+ Kd7 10.Nxb5 Qa5+ 11.Nc3...

One day when preparing for the Zagreb Interzonal, NM James Blackwood, IM John Donaldson, and I asked ourselves what happens if we just take the e-pawn? This then is our joint analysis: 8...fxe6 9.Qg5 Qxb5 10.Qxe6 Qxd4 11.Qxd8 Our analysis runs 11.Nxb5 Qa5+ 12.Qc3 Bf2+ 13.Kd2 Be3+ 14.Kc2 Qa4+ 15.Kb1! Qe4+ 16.Qe2 Qxe2+ 17.Kxe2 with an unclear position. Naturally, Gyula didn’t like having to call it peace so quickly with White. Thus, he did the proper thing. He thought for 72 minutes, and then took my Queen.

11...f2+ 12.d2 e3+ Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

o de Firmian, N.
• Miles, A.

Cambridge Springs 1988 1-0 B07

One rarely sees a strong Grandmaster lose in 20 moves as in this game from the U.S. championship. 1.e4 d6 2.d4 Qf6 3.Qc3 c6 4.f4 Qa5 The English GM is known for playing unorthodox openings. 5.Qg5 Qxb6 6.Qf3 Qg4 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qxe5 Qf7 9.Qf4 b4 White gets too big of an advantage after 9...Ba3! 10.Bd2 Bxb2 11.Nb5 Qd8 12.Nd6+ Kf8 13.Rb1. 10.O-O O-O 11.Qf5 An unexpected Knight sacrifice. For the piece White will have two central pawns and the d3-h7 diagonal will be opened. 11...c5 It is better to accept the sacrifice, although White will have a strong attack: 11...fxd5 12.exd5 and because of the threat of 13.Bxh7+, Black should play 12...Be7. 12.Qh1 Qd4 It was still better to play 12...fxd5. 13.e6 fxe6 14.Qc7 Qa4 15.Qe7+ Qh8 16.Qg5 h5 If 16...Bxh1, then 17.Rxf8+ Nxf8 18.Nf7#. 17.Qxf8+ Qxf8 18.Qf1 Qbd7 19.Qf7 f6 20.Qe5 Black Resigns.

1-0

o Andersson, U.
• Greenfield, A.

Saloniki 1988 1-0 A30

Sweden’s top player Ulf Andersson is known for his quiet style, but he is also capable of quite the opposite. 1.Qf3 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Qg2 Qb7 5.O-O Oe7 6.Qc3 Qe7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 Qh3 9.b3 Qbd7 10.Qc5 Qe5 11.Qd1 Qe4 12.Qb4 A strong exchange sacrifice. 12...Qf6 13.Qe3 Qxe1 14.Qxe5 bxc5 15.Qg5 Qd4 If 15...Qxg5, then 16.Qxg5 Nxf5 17.Bxb7 Rb8 18.Bxg5 wins. 16.Qxd4 exd4
17.\textit{xd}4, c5 18. bx7, \textit{xb}7 19. xf7, xf7
18. f3+ g8 If 20...Qf6, then 21.Qxb7+ Kg6
22.Rg+ wins. 21. xb7 The threat is 22.Rg4
g6 23.Bh6. 21...b8 22. ec4, ef7 23. ea3, ef6
24. c5, c6 25. db2+ 26. g2
26...Ra8? 27.Rxb6 Ra3 28.Rc6 followed by Rc7
24. Nf3 25. Nf5 27. Nf3 g5 If 27...Kg6, then 28.Rf4 or if 27...Kg8, then 28.Rd7 wins for White.
28.h4 h6 29.g4 Black Resigns. If 29...Qg6+, then
30.h5 Qc2 31.Qf3+ Kg8 32.Rd7 wins.
1-0

○ Andersson, U.
• Speelman, J.

Reykjavik
1988 1/2-1/2 A30
Black needs to play originally to hold the balance.
1. e4, c5 2. c4, f6 3. g3, b6 4. a3, g2 5.0-O
6. b3, g7 7. b2, O-O 8. e3, a6 9. c1, e6
10. d4, d5 11. exd5, cxd5 12. e4, a4 13. d2,
d4 White would end up with a slightly better
position after 13...Qf7 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.Bxg7
Kxg7 16.Nxc5 Rxc5 17.Qb2+ Kg8 18.Rxc5 Qxc5
19.Ne5. Andersson is famous for grinding his
opponents down in very simple positions.
14. a3, a2 Black must play this move to hold the
balance. 14...Nc6? 15.dxc5 is good for White.
15. ec2 If 15.Ra1, then 15...b5 is good for Black.
15...d5? 15...Be4? 16.dxc5 Bxc2 17.Qxc2 Bxb2
18.Qxb2 b5 19.Qxa2 bxa4 20.b4! is good for
White. 16.dxc5, xb3 17. a3, e7 18. xa2, xd2
18...Bxa2 19.Qxa2 Nc5 is slightly better for White.
19. \textit{xd}2, \textit{xa}4 20. cx\textit{b}6, axb6 21. d6,
d6 White has a slight advantage in the endgame due
to his more active pieces and Black’s weak
pawn. 21...\textit{xc}6 22. \textit{xc}6, \textit{xc}6 23. b1, \textit{b}8
26...Ra8? 27.Rxb6 Ra3 28.Rc6 followed by Rc7
with a large advantage to White.
27. f4, b5 Threatening simplification with...
Naf6 followed by...b4.
28. \textit{c}6, \textit{a}6 29. \textit{b}3, c5 30. \textit{b}4, a6 31. \textit{b}2,
b6 32. c5, c7 Not 32...b4? due to 33.Nd3
b3 34.Kf2 with a large advantage to White.
33.a4, b4 34. \textit{d}3, d5 35.e4, c3 36. \textit{xb}4 Draw by
Agreement.
1/2-1/2

○ Ehvest, J.
• Kasparov, G.

Reykjavik
1988 0-1 A28
A Kasparov combination.

1...c4, f6 2. \textit{c}3, e5 3. f3, f6 4.e3, b4 5.\textit{e}2
O-O 6.d3 Better is 6.Nd5. 6...e8 7. d2
\textit{xc}8 8. \textit{xc}3, d5 9.\textit{ex}d5, \textit{xd}5 10. e2, f5
11. d1 If 11.e4, then 11...Nf4 12.exf5 Nd4 is
strong. 11...a5 12.O-O \textit{e}7 13.a3 If 13.e4, then
13...Nd4 14.Qb1Bg4 is good for Black. 13...a4
14. \textit{e}1 Better is 14.Rf1. 14...g6 15.\textit{e}4 Better
is 15.Rc1. 15...\textit{d}8 16.\textit{d}2 The decisive
error. 16.d4! was necessary. Now comes a
Kasparov combination.
16...d4 17.\textit{d}4, f4 18. \textit{f}3, xd4 19. \textit{b}5, b5 19.Qc3 is
better, although Black has a big advantage after 19...Rad8. 19...c6
20. \textit{xc}6, Qb6 Rad6 traps the Queen.
20...\textit{xc}6 21.\textit{w}x\textit{c}6, \textit{d}8 22. \textit{f}3, d6 23.\textit{b}5, b5
If 23.Qb7, then 23.Rb6 traps the Queen.
25.Nd4 would have held out longer, although Black is winning
after 25...Qb4. 25...\textit{e}2+ White Resigns.
0-1

○ Vaganian, R.
• Chernin, A.

Naberezhnye Chelny
1988 1-0 A28
Two top Soviet Grandmasters battle it out.
1.c4, e5 2. \textit{c}3, f6 3. \textit{f}3, \textit{c}6 4.a3, d5 5.\textit{xd}5
\textit{xd}5 6.\textit{wc}2, \textit{xc}3 7.\textit{bxc}3, d6 8.g3 \textit{e}7 9.d3
0-O 10. \textit{g}2, d7 11.O-O \textit{a}5, 12. d2, c5
13. \textit{e}4, f5 If 13...f5, then 14.e4 followed by Ne3-
d5 is good for White. 14. \textit{xd}6, \textit{xd}6 15.f4 White
needs to open the position up for his two Bishops.
15...a8 16.fxe5, \textit{xe}5, 17. \textit{f}2, \textit{e}6, 18. \textit{xc}6
19. \textit{b}4, \textit{f}7 20. \textit{g}4, \textit{a}5, 21. \textit{c}4, \textit{c}6 Not 21...b6
due to 22.gxf5 winning a pawn.
22. \textit{d}2, \textit{d}6 If 22...fxg4, then 23.Rxf7 Kxf7
24.Qc4 is good for White. 23. \textit{g}1, \textit{g}6 24. \textit{g}5,
\textit{e}6 Not 24...h6?! as 25.Qc4+ Kf8 26.Qxe7+
and 27.Rxf5+ is strong.
25.e4, g6 26.\textit{wb}3, \textit{a}5
27. \textit{c}2, \textit{e}4 An error in time pressure. Better is
27...Nc6. Now Black will lose a pawn.
28.\textit{ex}f5, \textit{gx}f5 29.d4, \textit{e}4 30.\textit{wa}4, \textit{xe}4 31.\textit{xf}5, \textit{xf}5
32. \textit{h}1, \textit{x}5 33. \textit{xf}5, \textit{c}6 If 33...N\textit{b}3, then
34.Bf4, 34. \textit{c}5, \textit{e}4, 35. \textit{xc}4, \textit{f}7 36. \textit{c}5,
\textit{g}6 37. \textit{g}1, \textit{e}2, 38. \textit{f}4, \textit{e}7 39. \textit{f}1, \textit{a}2
40. \textit{c}1, \textit{f}5 41.d5, \textit{h}4 42. \textit{d}1, \textit{c}2, 43. \textit{d}2,
\textit{f}5 44.d6, Black Resigns. Black’s position
is hopeless after 44...K\textit{e}6 45.K\textit{d}5 K\textit{d}7 46.Rd4
trapping the Knight.
1-0

○ Kasparov, G.
• Sokolov, A.
Belfort 1988 1-0 A19

Russian GM Andrei Sokolov stunned the chess world when he reached the Candidates final in 1987. He hasn’t been able to repeat that success but he does hold the distinction of being one of the few players in the world to have beaten both Karpov and Kasparov. This game however is not one of his more golden moments. Kasparov plays a very sharp pawn sacrifice and Sokolov, who is better noted for his attacking play rather than defensive prowess, quickly goes down.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 c6 3.e4 The text, which keeps the game going along pure English lines and sidesteps the Nimzo-Indian (3.d4 Bb4), is perfect for Kasparov’s aggressive style. 3...e5 A more circumspect choice was 3...d5 aiming for 4.e5 d6 5.exf6 Qxf6 6.d4 e5. The text offers White a choice to play a very promising gambit. 4.e5 g6 5.dxe5 dxe5 6.d4 e5 7.dxe5 Qxe5 8.c4 d6 9.d5 e6 10.Bb1 e7 11.c3 So far so theory. For the sacrificed pawn White has the two Bishops, a lead in development, and lots of play on the dark squares.

11.Qe7 12.b6 13.c5 d6 14.a5 15.O-O-O 16.f4 c5 17.Wd6 f8 18.a5 b7 19.c4 c7 20.d5 g6 21.Qg1 Grandmaster Sergey Makariachew, one of Kasparov’s coaches, gave this move two exclamation marks in Chess Informant 45. Why? Partly because 21.Qxd6 is messy but also because the text will open lots of lines which should favor the better developed player - White. 21...gx5 22.g5 h8 23.fxg6 e6 24.Wx6 d5 25.exd5 Wfd6 This move seems like it loses a piece but Sokolov has seen a trick a few moves down the road. Unfortunately for him Kasparov’s evaluation of the position has gone much deeper. He foresees that despite being temporarily a pawn down in the ending he has all the winning chances thanks to his two Bishops. 26.Wxf6+ xf6 With the point that 27.dxc6 is met by 27...Rxc6 check picking up the Bishop. 27.Qb1 Qd8 28.e5 Qc8 29.e7 Qf7 30.Qd6 Qf3 31.Qg3 e4 32.Qe2 f6 33.Qg4 Qd6 White’s two Bishops have done their job and the rest is easy. 34.Qxf3 Qxg3 35.Qxe4 fxe4 36.Qxg3 Qg7 37.Qd4 Qf7 38.Qxe4 Qd8 39.Qc7 Qd5 40.Qxb7 h5 41.Qa7 a5 42.Qa4 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Speelman, J.
• Karpov, An.

Saloniki 1988 0-1 A15

Karpov shows how to win in a simple position.

1.f3 f6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 e4 4.g2 Qh7 5.O-O Qe7 6.c3 O-O 7.h3 d5 8.exd5 Qxd5 9.b2 c5 10.Qc1 Qd7 11.Qxd5 Qxa5 12.Qd4 Qe8 13.Qd2 Qxd4 14.Wxg3 Better is 14.Qxd4 with an equal position. The text allows Black’s Queen to take up an active role. 14...Wxh8 15.Wxd4 Qe6 16.Qc1 Wa6 Winning a pawn. 17.Qe4 Qxa2 18.Qc2 Qc5 19.Wc5 Qd6 20.Wc4 Qa3 21.Qxa3 Qxa3 22.Qf7 Qxg2 23.Qf7 Qe7 24.Qc4 Qxb3 25.Qxa7 Qc2 Threatening ...Ne4. 26.Qe5 If 26.Nxb6, then 26...Ne4 27.Qf3 Qxf2+ 28.Ke4 Qf5#. 26...Qxc4 27.Qd3 Qd2 28.Qe5 h5 29.Qxh3 Qf4+ 30.Qf2 Qf7 A move in time pressure. Better is 31.Qxc4 bxc4 or 31.Ne5 Qc2 32.Nad Na6 33.Qh2 Qf4+ 34.Qg3 Qf5 35.dhxg5 Qxg5 White Resigns. There is no defense to 36...Qg6 37.Kg2 Ne5+. 0-1

○ Piket, J.
• Kasparov, G.

Tilburg 1989 0-1 E99

The 20 year old Hollander Piket has a great future. But currently the World Champion Kasparov remains out of his league.

1.d4 Qf6 2.Qf3 g6 3.e4 Qg7 4.Qc3 O-O 5.e4 d6 6.Qe2 c5 7.O-O c6 8.Qd5 Qd7 9.Qc1 Qd7 10.Qd3 f5 11.f3 e4 12.f2 g5 13.Qb2 Qf6 14.Qc5 Qe5 The King’s Indian Defense often results in positions in which there is a race between White’s attack on the queenside and Black’s on the kingside. 15.Qxd6 Qxd6 16.Qc1 Qf7 This is both a defensive and offensive move. The rook defends the 7th rank and the Bishop is moved to f8 for defensive purposes, but later this Rook can be moved to the g-file for attacking purposes. 17.Qa4 Qf8 18.Qd7 19.Qd5 Better is 19.Kh1 perhaps followed by Bg1. Now Black’s attack comes fast. 19...Qg4 20.Qe7 Qg3 21.Qxh8 Better is 21.hxg3 fxg3 22.Bxg3 although Black is better in this complicated position after 22...Bh6. 21.Qh5
22.\textcircled{h}1 The only move. White loses quickly after 22.Bxa7 Qh4 23.h3 Bxh3 24.gxh3 Qxh3 25.Rf2 gxf2+ 26.Kxf2 Nh4. 22...gxh2 23.\textcircled{x}f2 G3+ 24.\textcircled{g}1 The attack is too strong. 24.hxg3 fxg3 followed by ...Qh4+ immediately ends the game. 24...\textcircled{x}xa8 25.\textcircled{e}4 26.\textcircled{d}3 26.hxg3 fxg3 27.Rb2 Qd8 28.Kf1 Bb6 29.Kc2 Qg5 is also hopeless. 26...\textcircled{a}7 27.b5 axb5 28.\textcircled{x}b5 \textcircled{h}1 White Resigns. 29.Kxh1 Qxf2 leaves White a piece down. 0-1

\section*{Polugaevsky, L.}
\section*{Haiffa}
1989 1/2-1/2 E97
An instructive tactical game.

1.d4 \textcircled{f}6 2.e4 g6 3.\textcircled{c}3 \textcircled{g}7 4.e4 d6 5.\textcircled{e}2 O-O 6.\textcircled{f}3 e5 7.O-O \textcircled{d}6 8.d5 \textcircled{c}7 9.d2 c5 10.\textcircled{h}1 \textcircled{e}8 11.b4 b6 12.bxc5 bxc5 13.\textcircled{g}3 f5 14.\textcircled{g}5 h8 15.exf5 gx6 16.f4 \textcircled{g}8 17.\textcircled{e}1 Threatening 18.Qh4. 17...\textcircled{d}7 18.\textcircled{h}5 a6 19.\textcircled{b}4 e4 The only move. If 19...Nh8, then 20.Bg6 Bf8 21.Bxe8 Qxe8 22.fxe5 dxe5 23.Bf6+ wins. 20.\textcircled{x}e4 fx4 21.\textcircled{x}e7 \textcircled{x}e7 22.f5 Threatening f5-f6. White has a large advantage.

22...\textcircled{x}f1 23.\textcircled{x}f1 c4 24.\textcircled{x}c1 \textcircled{b}7 25.\textcircled{c}2 \textcircled{e}5 If 25...Qxd5, then 26.Bg6 is strong. 26.f6 \textcircled{e}7 27.f7 \textcircled{d}5 28.fxg6=+ \textcircled{x}g8 29.g5 \textcircled{g}7 30.\textcircled{f}5 \textcircled{e}3 31.\textcircled{e}5 \textcircled{x}g2 Not 31...dxe5 32.f6. 32.\textcircled{f}2 \textcircled{f}4 If 32...Nh4, then 33.Rd5 Qa1+ 34.Qf1 wins. 33.\textcircled{x}f4 \textcircled{x}e5 If 33...dxe5, then 34.Ng6+ wins. 34.h4 Threatening 35.Ng6+. 34.e3 35.\textcircled{f}3 h6 36.\textcircled{f}7 White was in time trouble. 36.Ng6+ would have won more quickly. 36...\textcircled{e}2 37.\textcircled{c}6 \textcircled{e}6 Completely blowing the win. 38.Qh5 would have won easily. Now White has to fight for a draw. 38...\textcircled{x}g5 39.h5 g4 40.\textcircled{f}8=+ \textcircled{h}7 41.\textcircled{f}4 g3 If 41...c3, then 42.N6e. The text move threatens 42...g2 winning. 42.\textcircled{g}2 The only move. 42...\textcircled{h}2 43.\textcircled{f}3 \textcircled{f}2+ 44.\textcircled{e}4 \textcircled{c}2+ 45.\textcircled{f}3 g2 Black sacrifices his Queen to promote a new one. 46.\textcircled{e}4+ \textcircled{x}e4+ 47.\textcircled{c}4 g1=\textcircled{w} 48.\textcircled{f}5+ \textcircled{h}6 49.\textcircled{f}6+ \textcircled{h}7 50.\textcircled{f}5+ \textcircled{h}8 51.\textcircled{f}8=+ \textcircled{h}7 52.\textcircled{f}5=+ Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2

\section*{Christiansen, L.}
\section*{Gurevich, I.}
?

\section*{Philadelphia 1989 1-0 E90}
Black has a ferocious kingside attack, but White defends by counterattacking.

1.e4 g6 2.\textcircled{c}3 \textcircled{g}7 3.d4 g7 4.\textcircled{c}3 O-O 5.e4 d6 6.e2 e5 7.\textcircled{e}3 h6 8.0-0 \textcircled{g}4 9.\textcircled{e}1 \textcircled{c}6 10.d5 \textcircled{e}7 11.\textcircled{e}1 f5 12.\textcircled{x}g4 \textcircled{x}f4 13.\textcircled{c}2 \textcircled{g}5 14.\textcircled{c}3 \textcircled{f}4 15.\textcircled{d}2 \textcircled{d}7 16.b4 \textcircled{g}6 17.\textcircled{c}1 Black plans to continue his attack on the kingside with ...Nh4 followed by ...Qe8 and ...Qh5. 17...\textcircled{h}4 18.\textcircled{h}1 White needed to play 18.f3 gxf3 19.g3 right away. Now he is in trouble. 18...\textcircled{e}8 19.f3 Black was planning to play 19...Qh5 followed by 20...Nf5 21.gxf3 gxf3 and 22.Rh4. Black would have a big advantage after 19.Nf5 Nxf5 20. Bxf4 gxf4 21.exf5 Bxf5 followed by 22.Qg6. Even worse is 19.g3 Nf3 followed by 20...Qh5. 19...gxf3 20.g3 Even worse is 20.gxf3 Qh5 followed by 21...Nxf3. 20...\textcircled{h}5 21.qh4 Also bad is 21.gxf4 exf4 followed by 22...Bh3. White’s best hope is 21.Rf2. 21...\textcircled{h}4 22.\textcircled{f}4 23.\textcircled{f}1 \textcircled{h}3 Threatening 24.g3. 24.\textcircled{g}1 \textcircled{g}6 Again threatening a decisive breakthrough with 25...g3. 25.\textcircled{g}3 White is threatening to stop Black’s attack with 26.Nf5 Bxf5 27.gxf5 Qxf5 28.Qc2 followed by Ne4. 25...\textcircled{f}8 26.\textcircled{f}5 Otherwise Black will breakthrough with 26...h5 followed by 27...h4. 26...\textcircled{f}5 27.exf5 \textcircled{f}5 28.\textcircled{e}2 Now White has no defense against ...g3. He can only postpone the inevitable. 28...\textcircled{e}2 29.\textcircled{e}3 d3 30.\textcircled{d}1 g3 31.hg3 \textcircled{e}4 White Resigns. 0-1
Queen with 22.Qb3. 21.b4 e8 22.fe1 b6 23.a5 h5 Better is 25...Qc8 to prevent White’s 25th move. 24.bxc5 bxc5 25.a6 Now the Rook has an infiltration square at b7. 25...g4 26.b7 f5 27.d3 Not 27.Rxa7? Rxc3+ 28.gxh3 Rh5 29.Ng1 f3 winning. 27.g6 28.ax7 g6 29.g1 Better is 29.Rxb7 Ng4+ 30.Kg1 Rxe3 31.a7 winning. Now Black’s attack becomes very dangerous. 29...e4 Not immediately 29...Rxe3 due to 30.Nxe5.

- Leibov, J.
- Martin, And.

Glasgow 1989 1-0 E87

This game features a well-known sacrifice of the Queen for a two pieces and a pawn.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3.e3 d5 4.e4 O–O 5.f3 d6 6.e3 e5 7.d5 ed 8.d2 h4+ 9.g3 xg3 10.g2xf2 xf1 11.xh4 xe3 12.e2 xc4 13.c1 a6 14.a1 d1 15. c3 d7 16.h3 f6 17.e2 f5 18.d3 e5 19.g3 e6 20.h4 g5 Better is 20...Bxe3. 21.a4 xd3+ Not 21...Bxa4 22.b5 g5 23.Nf5 Bd7 24.h6 with a winning advantage. 22.xd3 b4+ 23.e2 f5 24.h5 xe3 White’s kingside attack is very dangerous. 25.hxg6 h5 26.Bxc1, then 26.gxh7+ Kbh 27.Rgl wins.

- Seirawan, Y.
- Kasparov, G.

Skelleftea 1989 1-2/1-2 E73

Every move and then a GM plays a game so complicated that he doesn’t know what’s going on.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3.e3 d5 4.e4 d6 The last time I played this position, Garry was White and I was Black. 5.e2 O–O 6.g5 e5 7.d5 h6 8.e3 e6 9.d2 exd5 10.exd5 e8 11.f3 h5 An important move. Black uses his h-pawn to gain space on the Kingside. White has won some fine games by playing g2–g4 and h2–h4. 12.a4 a6 13.a5 Both players are waiting. White wants to play Ng1-h3-f2. Of course, Black is waiting for the opportunity.
to play Bc8xh3. The question is: who will benefit more from the waiting game? Kasparov’s next move answers that question. Black will. White should have played 13.h4. 13...h5 An important new idea in the position. Black intends f7-f5, attacking White’s trump, his powerful center. If Black succeeds in destroying the center, he wins. White’s position will be ruined. I now had to undertake a major rethink of the position. 14.\underline{N}b5

Not pretty, but necessary. 14...\underline{d}7 The waiting game is over. Black has won the first battle. White has been forced into an ugly scheme of development. 15.\underline{g}e2 \underline{e}5 16.\underline{h}3 \underline{h}b4

More natural is 16...f5. 17.\underline{f}2 \underline{f}6 18.\underline{e}3 Continuing to misuse all my pieces, while only a couple of Black’s are clumsily placed (Qf6, Nh7). Better is 18.Be3. 18...h5 Another benefit of 11...h5. White can’t allow h4-h3 but, by playing h2-h3 myself, my King’s side becomes a rigid target. Black will also keep the mighty outpost on e5. 19.h3 \underline{g}5 20.\underline{O}–\underline{O} \underline{d}7 I ain’t happy. How often do you see a Bishop voluntarily “developed” at d1? My Knights are particularly sad. The Knight on e2 is an object of ridicule. Look at those Black pawns. My King is the object of Black’s attentions. My Bishops are wonder-fully “developed” at d1? My Knights are particu-larly sad. The Knight on e2 is an object of ridicule. In an instant, my Rooks have no clue! In short, if I were the World Champion, with White’s position, I’d offer a draw and excuse myself. Before all else, my King needs protection. 21.\underline{f}h1 \underline{f}8 22.\underline{g}1 \underline{g}6 23.\underline{h}2 \underline{c}4 When making this move, Garry literally screwed the pawn into the c4-square, then he rubbed the pawn on the square hard enough to rock the table. I was so delighted by this move and its accompanying motions that I couldn’t repress a smile. In an instant, my Rooks now know where to play. The Knight on e2 is offered the d4-square, while my Queen is unleashed on the g1-a7 diagonal. 24.\underline{b}1 \underline{a}8 25.\underline{a}7 \underline{f}4 As good as anything else. Black is impairing himself on White’s defenses. 26.\underline{b}xc4 After the simple 26.Bxf4 gxf4 27.Qxb7, Black is in real trouble. 26...\underline{xc}4 27.\underline{x}b7 A capture made with high hopes. I’m amazed that I could play such a bad move. Once again, I was too sure of my King’s defenses. 27.Bxf4 was forced. Now Black has a ferocious attack against my King. 27...\underline{d}2 28.\underline{g}1 Here, my confidence in victory was ab-solute! After all, isn’t Black’s Bishop simply trapped? In fact, the position is harrowingly com-plicated. 28...\underline{x}h3 29.e5 My intended resource. The structure g2-f3-e4-d5 was supposed to cor-ral Black’s Knights. They’ve jumped the fence. My best chance to save the game is 29.Rxd7. 29...\underline{x}e5 29...Qf5! causes White real problems.

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30.\underline{x}d7 \underline{x}g1 31.\underline{x}g1 In making this move, I was once again fully confident of victory. Most of the little horrors hovering around my King have disappeared. I’m ahead in material. Things never appeared so rosy; the only drawback was the time control. At least that was mutual. I had 5 minutes left until move 40 while Garry had 6 minutes left. Unfortunately, my confidence was not fully warranted. White’s Knights on c3 and e2 step on each other’s hooves. My Queen is passive. And the f3-pawn can easily be undermined by h4-h3. Both players were beginning to tense up. I felt my mind had slipped into high gear and was speeding at 100 miles per hour! 31...\underline{e}8 Correct is 31...h3! 32.\underline{x}d6 \underline{f}5 33.\underline{a}4 Garry had overlooked this grab from the crypt when playing 33...\underline{Re}8. I had been dreaming of such a moment ever since 14.Bd1. 33...\underline{d}3 A tremendous reaction to the shock of 33.Ba4. Black’s Queen is omnipresent on d3. My Knights are in concrete shoes. The bum’s rush d5-d6-d7 is nigh impossible, as the Queen is behind the d-pawn. 34.\underline{x}e8 \underline{x}e8 35.\underline{e}6 I’ve no doubts the position is fully won for White. Am I not a full piece up? Proving the matter, however, is not easy. 35...\underline{h}3 His only chance. 36.\underline{g}3 Correct is 36.Qf2! 36...\underline{hx}g2+ 37.\underline{Q}xg2 \underline{xf}3 38.\underline{d}6 \underline{e}6 An unpleasant surprise. I hadn’t reckoned on being mated on the h-file. 39.\underline{f}g4 40.\underline{c}8+ The normal last-move-of-time-control mistake. If a win still exists, it must be 40.Kg2!. 40...\underline{h}7 Now that the time control had been reached, I sank into deep thought and couldn’t believe my eyes. My mind had stopped working. I couldn’t find a win. After a thirty-seven minute think, I decided to force a repetition. 41.\underline{f}f4 \underline{h}6+ 42.\underline{g}2 \underline{e}1+ 43.\underline{g}1 \underline{f}3+ Draw by 3-fold Repetition. 1/2-1/2

- Gelfand, B.
- Ftacnik, L.

Ftacnik, L.

Gelfand, B.

Budapest

1989 1-0 D85

Another example of attacking the King. 1.d4 \underline{f}6 2.c4 \underline{g}6 3.\underline{c}3 \underline{d}5 4.exd5 \underline{x}d5 5.e4 \underline{c}3 6.bxc3 \underline{e}5 7.\underline{f}3 \underline{g}7 8.\underline{b}1 \underline{O}–\underline{O} 9.\underline{e}2 \underline{c}6 10.d5 \underline{e}5 11.\underline{xe}5 \underline{xe}5 12.\underline{d}2 \underline{b}6 13.\underline{f}4 \underline{g}7 14.\underline{c}4 e5 15.\underline{O}–\underline{O} f5 16.\underline{b}2 \underline{w}d6 17.\underline{w}c3 \underline{e}8 18.\underline{d}3 \underline{e}7 Correct is 18...\underline{fx}e4 19.Bxe4 Re7. Now Black’s kingside is weakened. 19.\underline{ex}f5 \underline{gx}f5 20.\underline{fx}e5 White sacrifices a pawn to get his pieces at the Black King. 20...\underline{xe}5 21.\underline{d}2 Not 21.Qd2? Bxh2+ 22.Kh1 Qh6. 21...\underline{hx}h2+ 22.\underline{h}1 \underline{e}5 23.\underline{g}5+ \underline{g}6

175
24...Bd3.
24...Threatening g4-g5.
1-0
24.Qxh7+ White has a big advantage.
Not 22...Qc8, although after 23.Re3 threat-
ance with 22...Qc8, although after 23.Re3 threat-

19...d7 20.d4 f6 21.d5 Bxf8 22.dxe5 fxe5 23.Bxe5 Qc7
White Resigns. If 37...Qxf6, then 32.Rh7 followed by mate.
1-0

Vaisser, A.
• Pein, M.

Budapest 1989 1-0 D85
Black, the well-known British chess merchant Malcolm Pein, does not find the right defense.
1.d4 c5 2.c4 g6 3.c3 d5 4.cxd5 Qxd5 5.e4
x3 6.bxc3 g7 7.c4 e6 8.Qe2 0-0 9.a3
4.d4 10.cxd4 Qa8+ 11.Nbd2. This is a well-
known sacrifice that has been played many times before.
Black will lose a lot of time returning his Queen. 11...xe6 12.a4 b6 13.Nxe6
e4 15.Nf3 Bb7 16.c4 dxc4 17.exd5
Sacrificing the exchange to get open lines for his pieces. 17...fxe6 18.Ng5 Qc6 A new
move in this theoretical variation. 19.Bxe6
Threatening 21.Nxd7 Kg7 22.d5+.
20...fxe6 21.Bf6 g8 Correct is 21...Rf7. After 22.Nc5 Qc8 23.Bxf7 bxc5 24.Bxc6 Qg8 25.Be4
the position is unclear. 22.a3 Qg7 Now Black is
loss. He could have put up some resistance with 22...Qc8, although after 23.Re3 threat-
ening 24.Qxh7+ White has a big advantage.
23.Qg4
Threatening Qxg4. 25...Qc5 if 23...Qg5, then
24.Bg3.
24.d3 Qc5 25.axb4 Qg7 26.c4 27.d5 Qxd5 28.Qg7+ Qh8
29...Qxh6 Black Resigns. Of course if 29...hxg6, then 30.Qh8#.
1-0

Browne, W.
• Nickoloff, B.

New York 1989 1-0 D89
Grandmaster Walter Browne has won the most US championships since Bobby Fischer.
Ld4 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5 Qxd5 5.e4
f5 6.exd5 c5 7.exf5 e6 8.Qxe6 cxd5 9.Qe2 O-O 10.0-O-0
g4 11.f3 a5 12.d5 c4 13.Qc4 f6 14.g4 a6 15.d5 b5 16.h4 b6
17.Ne5 e1 18.hxg5 19.h6 White will win back the exchange because Black’s kingside is
weak.

Reggio Emilia 1989 0-1 D88
An interesting endgame.
Ld4 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 d5 4.cxd5 Qxd5 5.e4
f5 6.exd5 c5 7.exf5 e6 8.Qxe6 cxd5 9.Qe2 O-O 10.0-O-0
g4 11.f3 a5 12.d5 c4 13.Qc4 f6 14.g4 a6 15.d5 b5 16.h4 b6
17.Ne5 e1 18.hxg5 19.h6 White will win back the exchange because Black’s kingside is
weak.

Nickoloff, B.
49. \[b8+ \text{f7} 50. \text{d7 b2} 51. \text{f8+} \text{if} 51. \text{d8=Q, then} 51...\text{b1=Q+} 52. \text{Kg2 Qg1#}. \] 51...\text{e6} 52. \text{d8=Q+} \text{White Resigns.}

0-1

- Zakharov, A.
- Khenkin, I.
- URS

1989 1-2-1/2 D87

An endgame results with Queen versus Rook, Bishop, and Knight. 

1.\text{d4 f6} 2.\text{c4 g6} 3.\text{c3 d5} 4.\text{cxd5} \text{exd5} 5.\text{e4} \text{xc3} 6.\text{bxc3} e5 7.\text{c4} \text{g7} 8.\text{e2} \text{e6} 9.\text{e3} \text{O-O} 10.\text{O-O} \text{g4} 11.\text{f3} \text{a5} 12.\text{xf7+} A variation played by Karpov during the world championship match. 12...\text{xf7} 13.\text{fxg4} \text{xf1+} 14.\text{xf1} \text{d6} 15.\text{wa4} A new move. 15...\text{hxh2} Black sacrifices a Knight to start attacking the King. 16.\text{wa5} \text{f8+} 17.\text{g1} The only move. Not 17.\text{B2?} \text{Qh4} 18.\text{g3} \text{Qh1-} 19.\text{Ng1} \text{Qh2 winning.} 17...\text{h1+} 18.\text{g1} White must play precisely. 18.\text{Bg1} \text{Bh6} 19.\text{Qxc5} \text{Qxg2} followed by \text{Qf1 wins.} 18...\text{Bxg2} If 18...\text{Bb6}, then 19.\text{Kd2} is unclear. 19.\text{Bb5} \text{h6} 20.\text{c2} \text{g3+} Wins the Queen, but White gets lots of material for it. 21.\text{c2} \text{f2} 22.\text{xf6} \text{exe2+} 23.\text{exe2} \text{wh3} Not 23...\text{Qxg4} 24.\text{Rf1} followed by 25.\text{Rf8#}. 24.\text{e3} Good for Black is 24.g5?! c4. 24...\text{wg4} Material is roughly equal. A Rook, Bishop, and Knight is about equivalent to a Queen and two pawns. 25.\text{f1} Threatening 26.Bh6. 25...\text{h6} 25...\text{Kg7} 26.\text{Nf4} is good for White. 26.\text{whxe4} 27.\text{f8+} \text{wh7} 28.\text{c4} \text{exe4} 29.\text{a4} \text{cxd4} 30.\text{cxd4} \text{wh2+} 31.\text{e1} \text{xa4} 32.\text{f7+} \text{g8} 33.\text{exe7} \text{b4+} 34.\text{f2} a5? Its a race between White’s attack and Black’s a-pawn. 35.\text{f6} \text{wb6} Not 35...\text{Qd6?} 36.\text{Rg7+} \text{Kf8} 37.\text{Be5} followed by \text{Nf4} with a strong attack. 36.\text{g5} \text{a4} 37.\text{c4} \text{wb2+} Both players are playing accurately in time pressure. Not 38...\text{Kf8?} 39.\text{Bb7+} nor 38...a3? 38.Ne6. 38...\text{gl1} \text{c1+} 39.\text{h2} \text{b2+} 40.\text{g1} \text{h1+} 41.\text{h2} \text{b2+} Draw by Agreement. 

1-2-1/2

○ Simoncini, R.
- Demaro
- Correspondence

1989 1-0 D87

The following game was a correspondence game played between two of the finest correspondence players in the world. In this type of chess game each player mails a move at a time to his opponent. Sometimes the games last several years! The benefit of such games is that both players can literally analyze the games to death...

1.\text{d4 f6} 2.\text{c4 g6} 3.\text{c3} 4.\text{exd5} \text{xd5} 5.\text{e4} \text{xc3} 6.\text{bxc3} e5 7.\text{c4} \text{g7} 8.\text{e2} \text{e6} 9.\text{e3} \text{O-O} 10.\text{O-O} \text{g4} 11.\text{f3} \text{a5} 12.\text{xf7+} The players are in the main variation of the Grunfeld Defense. 12.\text{Bd5} and 12.\text{Bd3} \text{cxd4} 13.\text{cxd4} \text{Be6} 14.\text{d5} \text{Bxa1} 15.\text{Qxa1} f6 They are among the most topical ways to meet the Grunfeld. 12...\text{d7} 13.\text{b1} \text{wc7} 14.\text{f4} \text{wc8} 15.\text{e5} \text{c6} 16.\text{e4} \text{c4} 17.\text{wa4} \text{xe2} 18.\text{f2} \text{a6} 19.\text{wa5} This little tactical skirmish has allowed White to exchange his passive Knight. The position favors White because his Bishops control more space than their counterparts. 19...\text{exd4} 20.\text{exd4} \text{wd7} 21.\text{e3} \text{b1} 22.\text{f2} \text{c8} 23.\text{f4} \text{e6} 24.\text{d5} \text{e5} 25.\text{cxd5} \text{c6} 26.\text{d1} \text{c5} 27.\text{wa4} \text{g5} 28.\text{f2} Black is ambitious. He was anxious to clear a diagonal for his g7- Bishop but simultaneously weakened his King. It would’ve been better to play 27...\text{h5} preparing ...\text{Rc7-e2} with reasonable chances. 28...\text{gxf4} 29.\text{d4} \text{xe5} 30.\text{g3} \text{g5} 31.\text{c4} \text{xf7} 32.\text{h7} \text{xe6} 33.\text{f4} \text{h4} The game gets more complicated. The immediate 33.\text{Bxe4} \text{Rc4} 34.\text{Qxc4} \text{Qe6} 35.\text{Khl} \text{Qxe5} leaves Black with a playable position. 33...\text{c3+} Again 33...\text{Qxe5} fails because, 34.\text{Bxe5} allows the unpleasant choice of how to lose a rook: 34...\text{Kxf7} 35.\text{Qd7+} or 34...\text{Bxf7} 35.\text{Qg4+}; a familiar friend. 34.\text{c1} \text{c2} 35.\text{Bf7+} \text{xf7} 36.\text{d6} \text{g7} 37.\text{c3} \text{e5} 38.\text{d3} \text{xb4+} 39.\text{g3} \text{g4} 40.\text{f3} \text{f6} 41.\text{g1} \text{f8+} 42.\text{e5} Black gives up. He has no way of meeting White’s threat of \text{Rf3-g3+}. Thus 42...\text{Bb6+} or 42...\text{Qc1+} 43.\text{Khl} \text{Qb6+} 44.\text{Rc4} \text{Qe5} 45.\text{Rg3+} wins.

1-0

○ Cvitan, O.
- Terzic, S.
- Zencic

1989 1-0 E60

How to take advantage of dark-squared weaknesses.

1.\text{d4 f6} 2.\text{c4 g6} 3.\text{f3} \text{g7} 4.\text{g3} \text{O-O} 5.\text{g2} \text{c6} 6.\text{O-O} \text{d6} 7.\text{b3} \text{c6} 8.\text{e2} \text{b5} 9.\text{c3} \text{d7} 10.\text{c1} \text{wc8} Better is 10...\text{cxd4} 11.\text{Nxd4} \text{Nxd4} 12.\text{Qxd4} \text{a6} with a slight advantage to White. 11.\text{d4} 12.\text{d5} \text{xc2} 13.\text{xc2} \text{a5} The Knight is completely out of play on the edge of the board and this is one of the reasons why White has such a large advantage. 14.\text{e4} White’s plan is
e4–e5. 14...a6 15. fxe6 fxe6 16.e5 dxe5 17. cxd5 b5 18.cxb5 axb5 19. e4 c5 20. e4 Threatening 21.b4. 20...d6 21. d1 Qxa5? Qxd5 22.f3 Ra8 is unclear. 21... a8 22.h4 f8 Black is better 22...h5. 23.h5 e6 24.h6 If 24.Nxf7, Black should play 24...Qxd5!, but not 24...Kxf7? 25.dxe6+. 24...Qxd5 If 24...Bf8, then 25.Ng4 or if 24...Bh8, then 25.Nxf7. 25.Qf4 Because of the threats of 26.hxg7 and 26.Qxf7+, Black must give up his important Bishop and he becomes very weak on the dark squares. Control of the a1-h8 diagonal is so powerful that White even gives up a Rook for it. 25... Qxe5 26. Qxe5 Qxd1 27.Wf6 Wf8 28. Wf4 Wd5+ The only move. 29.f3 Wb7 30.Wg6+ c8 31.Wg8+ d7 32.Wf7+ c6 33.Wxh7 e7 If 33...Qb6, then 34.Qxg6 wins. 34.Qxg6 e8 If 34...Rxh7, then 35.Qxe6# or if 34...Rd2+ 35.Kh3 Qc8, then 36.h7 wins. 35.Wf8 e7 The only move. If 35...Rxh7, then 36.Qxe6+ wins. 36.h7 d2+ 37.Kc1 Wd7 38.Wc4+ b6 39.Wb8+ b7 40.Wh8+ d1+ 41.Kf2 Wd2+ If 41...Kd2+, then 42.Ke3 Rxa2 43.Rb7+ wins. 42.Kc2 Wd5 43. c3 b4 44. a5 45. c6 Wd7 46.Wb8 h7 47.Wa7+ c7 48. e5+ d7 49.Wxb7+ Black Resigns. 49...Qxb7 50.Qxd3+ Kc6 51.Qe4+ wins. 1-0

○ Belavsky, A.
○ Timman, J.

Lucerne 1989

A battle between two super Grandmasters. 1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3.Qc3 b4 4.Wc2 O-O 5.a3 Qxc3+ 6.Wxc3 b6 7.Wg5 a5 8.f3 d6 9.e4 c5 10.d5 Qbd7 11.h3 h6 12.Wf4 e8 Black sacrifices the d-pawn, believing that the Bishop will get trapped. This does not turn out to be the case. 13.dxe6 Wxe6 14. Wxd6 e5 15.O-O O-O 16.e2 Wc8 If 16...Ne8, then 17.Bxe5 Rxe5 18.Rxd7 wins. 17. d3 g8 18. h1 Wc6 19.b4 Not 19.Bc7 Ne6. 19...exb4 If 19...Nd6, then 20.b5 Qc5 21.Qd2 wins back the piece with a large advantage. 20.Wxb4 Hence White has won a pawn, but Black has some compensation because White’s King position is open and the c-pawn is weak. 20...Qf6 21.Wb3 a5 22. Qc3 Q6 23. d3 Qc8 24.Wb1 Qb7 Correct is 24...Bxc4 25.Bxc4 Qxc4 26.Qxc4 Rcxc4 27.Bb2 followed by Nf2-d3 with a slight advantage to White due to the weak e5-pawn. 25.Qb2 Qd6 Again 25...Bxe4 was correct. 26.c5 Qb5 If 26...Bxe2, then 27.Qxe6 Bxd1 28.Rxd6 Qxc5 29.Rxd1 Qc2+ 30.Ka2 Qxd1 31.Qxc8 wins. 27.cxb6 Wxb6 28.Wa1 a4 29.Wb4 Not 29.Qa4 Nc3 30.Qax6? Qb3 winning. 29.h8 Wb8 30.f4 White gets his pieces into action. 30...Wc7 Not 30...exf4 31.Nxf4 Rexe4 32.Bd3 winning. 31.Wxe5 Wxe5 32.Wc1 Of course not 32.Bxe5?? Qxe5+ followed by ...Nd3. 32...Wc7 33.Wxe7 Wxe7 34.e5 Qd7 35.Wf6 Qf8 36.Wf4 g5 If 36...Nxe6, then 37.Bd3+ Kg8 38.Nxe6 Rxe6 39.Be4 wins. 37.Wd5 Wxe6 38.Wf6+ Wg6 39.Wh5+ Black Resigns. If 39...Kg7 40.Nd7+ or 39...Kf5 40.Rf1#. 1-0

○ Malaniuk, V.
○ Kveinys, A.

URS

1989 0-1 E20

White’s Queen hunts down a Rook but his King is leftstanding in the center. 1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3.Qc3 b4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 c7 6.d4 dxc4 7.Qxc4 e5 8.d5 Qc5 9.g5 h6 10.Qh4 Qd4 11.O-O Safer is 11.Qc2. 11...Qxb2 12. b1 a6 The only move. Very bad is 12...Bd4 13.Nxd4 exd4 14.e5. 13. Qxf6 exf6 14.Wa4 A dubious idea. Better is 14.Rxb4. 14...axb5 15.Wxa8 If 15.Qxb5+, then 15...c6 16.Qxb2 Qa5+ followed by 17...Qxa3 leads to a great advantage for Black. 15...Qc3+ 16.Qd1 Qa6 17.O-O O-O Enticing the White King to expose itself. 18.Wxc3 Qd6 19.Qxb5 If 19.Rb3, then 19...Qb6 wins. 19...Qxa3+? 20.Kd2 does not give Black anything. 20...Qa5 Better is 20.Rb3. 20...Qxd5 21.Qxa6 Qxa6 Better is 21...d4+. 22.Qxb5 Threatening 23...Rd8. 23.Wd3 Qd8 24.Wg3+ Qh7 25.d3 a5 26.Wc2 Qd7 27.Qc2 Qa4+ 28.Wa1 a3 29. Wf1 A fatal error in time pressure. Correct is 29.Qf3! with an unclear position. 29...Qxa3+ 30.Qd2 Wxc4 31.Qc1 Qb2+ 32.Qd1 If 32.Kc3, then 32...Bxd3 33.Nxd3 Qxd3+ 34.Kxd3 Qb5+ wins. 32...Qd3 White Resigns. 33.Nxd3 Qb1+ 34.Ke2 Qc2+ wins. 0-1

○ Shirov, A.
○ Eingorn, V.

Stockholm

1989 1-0 E20

White wins a pawn in the opening, but his King is left stuck in the center. Will he be able to defend? 1.d4 e6 2.c4 b4+ 3.a3 Qf6 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Qe7 6.c4 e5 7.exd5 exd5 8.dxe5 Qxe5 9.e5

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Karpov, An.  
Karpov, Anatoly

Adorjan, A.

Adorjan

Reggio Emilia 1989 1-0 E14

Black’s King is forced to go on a death march.

1.d4 ♕f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 b6 4.e3 ♖b7 5.♗c4 d5 6.♕c2 ♕e7 7.♗b3 d4 8.♗xe4 d5 9.h3 ♗h5 10.g3 ♘f6 11.♗h4 ♘c5 12.♖f3 cxd5 13.exd5 ♘xd5 14.♘xd5 ♕xd5 15.♗b4 ♗d7 The decisive error. Almost any other Queen move that does not lose it en prise was better. For example, 15...♕a5 or 15...♕d8. 16.♗xd6 The Knight comes into e5. This is why d7 is such a bad square for the Queen. 16...♗xe5 17.♗xe5 ♕b7 18.♗xa8+ This is the real point of White’s exchange sacrifice. 18...♖xb8 If 18...♖xh7, then 19.♕xh5+ Kh8 20.♕xf7+ Kh7 21.Qg6+ Kg8 22.d5 winning. 19.♗xe5 ♗b4 20.♗d4 g6 Not 20...♗xe5 21.♗xe5+ Re7 22.Qh8 checkmate. Also bad is 20...♖xg2 21.♖xg2 21.♖h6+ ♗xh6 22.♕g4 ♗xf5 23.♖xf5 ♗xg4 24.♖h4+ ♗g5 25.♗xc6 ♗xc6 26.♗e4 ♗xe4 27.♗xe4 ♗xe4 28.♖xf7+ ♗g8 29.♖xh6+ ♗xh6 30.♗d7+ Black Resigns. 30...♖xf7 31.♖xh7+ or 30...♖h8 31.c7+ win easily.

1-0

Portisch, L.  
Bogoljubov, E.

Young Champions of the World 1989 E05

A King hunt.

1...♘f6 2.d4 ♖f6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 ♖f6 5.♗c2 ♖c7 6.♖c2 ♖c7 7.♘f3 ♕e7 8.♗xe4 ♘b8 9.Bb5+ ♚a6 10.Ba8+ ♚b6 11.Bb2 ThREATening 23...Bb5 22.Bxb4 Rxh4. 23.♗c7 24.♗c7 Threatening a3. 24...♗b5 Perhaps the exchange sacrifice 24...Rxh4 25.Qxd4 Bxe5 offers more chances. Now White gets a large advantage.

1-0
33.\f6 A surprisingly strong move. If instead White takes the Rook, then Black is all right after 33...Qxd4. 33...\d5 If 33...Qg8, then 34.Qf3+ Kb6 35.Bc5+ wins, or if 33...Qf8, then 34.Qe5 is strong. 34.\xe7 \b6 35.f3 \g8 36.\c5+ \a5 37.\f4 \c3 37...Kxa4 would have held out longer. 38.axb5 axb5 39.a4 \e8 40.axb5+ \xb5 41.\b1+ \e4 42.\e3 Black Resigns.

1-0

- Cranbourne, C.
- Crespo, R.
- Christiansen, L.

Cranborne Correspondence

1989 1-0 A69

Correspondence games are interesting because they involve a lot of deep calculation.

1.d4 \f6 2.c4 \e5 The Benoni defense leads to very sharp positions. 3.d5 \e6 4.\c3 exd5

5.exd5 \d6 6.\e4 \g7 7.f4 \a7 8.\f3 O-O 9.\e2 \e8 10.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 \d4 12.\g6 f6 13.exf6 \a6 14.d2 \f5 15.O-O \xg5 16.\xf5 \a5 17.\g5 Despite the exchange of Queens, the position is still very sharp. White has a large advantage in the endgame due to his active pieces.

17...\e3 18.\b5 \d8 19.\f1 \e1 A spectacular sacrifice. Black’s King will be in a lot of danger.

19...\c2 20.\e7 \a6 If instead 20...\xg4, then White would continue his attack with 21.g4!.

21.\c4 \b5 22.\f1 \bxc4 If 22...\xg4, then 23.Nxe4+ will win.

23.g4 \c3 If 23...Bxg4, then 24.Rf7 results in a mating attack.

24.\xf5 \xf5 If 24...\xg1, then 24...\xg1 25.f6 \f8 26.\g7+ \h8 27.Rxh7+ \g8 28.\f3+ wins.

25.\c7 \d7 26.\e4 Threatening 26.Rxd7 Rxd7 27.\f6+. 26...\f8 27.\f6+ \xb8 28.\xg5 \xf5 29.\e6 \d6 30.\g7 Black Resigns. The threat is 31.Rg8 checkmate and 30...\xg6 allows 31.Rxb7 checkmate.

1-0

- Yusupov, A.
- Karpov, An.

Yusupov Correspondence

London 1989 1-0 A46

One needs to play a very spectacular game to defeat Anatoly Karpov.

1.d4 \f6 2.\f3 \e5 3.\g6 \c5 4.e3 \b6 This is a common opening mistake. It is surprising that Karpov fell into it.

5.d5 White gains a dominating position with this move.

5.exd5 6.\c3 \e7 7.\xd5 \b7 8.\xf6 \xf6 9.\d5 O-O 10.\c4 \b6 11.O-O \h5 12.\b3 Better is 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Bd5 Nc6 14.Qd2 d5 15.Rdf1 Rd1f 16.a4 with a large advantage to White.

12...\d6 13.\d2 \d7 14.\a1 \c5 15.\xf5 \b6 16.\c6 \b2 17.\g6 \e8 18.\d1 \c7 19.\e4 Worth considering is 19.h4, because 19...h5 would not be possible. After 19...\g7 20.h5 \e7 21.g3 followed by Kg2. White has an initiative.

19...\g7 20.\h4 \e7 21.\f5 \f5 22.\e5 \xg5 23.\g3 \d8 24.\h5 \d7 Not 24...Rd6 because of 25.hxg6 and if 25...hxg6, then 26.Bxf7!.

25.b3 \f8 26.\e4 \g5 27.\f3 \h6 28.\e4 \c7 Black wants to play Nb6-d7-f6 to hit the weakness at h5.

29.\d3 \d7 30.\f7 With both players short on time, White complicates the position with a spectacular Bishop sacrifice.

30...\f7 Not 30...Qxf7? because of 31.Qh3 winning the Knight.

31.\f2 White’s compensation for the piece is that Black’s pieces are pinned to the Knight, he has weak pawns, and the King has little protection.

31...\c8 32.\a5 \xc4 If 32...Rc6, then 33.cxb5 axb5 34.Qxb5 Qe6 35.Rd5 with a strong attack.

33.\b4 \e8 The decisive error. Black wanted to play 33...Nf8.
34.\textit{wa4} Threatening 35.Rd6. 34.\textit{c}e7 35.\textit{xa6} b8 36.\textit{g6+} 37.\textit{f8} 36...Kd8 would have held out longer, although 37.Rd6 Kc8 (or 37...Qe8 38. Qxh6) 38.Rf6 Nf8 39.Rxe7 Nxe6 40.Re8 Kg7 41.Rb1+ is winning. 37.\textit{f3}+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Sokolov, I.
・ Belavsky, A.
?

\textbf{Palma}
1989 1-0 A46
A risky pawn grab backfires in this game.

\textbf{1.d4 f6 2.f3 e6 3.g5 c5 4.e3 \textit{b6} 5.\textit{bd2} \textit{xb2}} This well known variation leads to very sharp positions. Black has a pawn more, but he loses a lot of time moving his Queen. He may later find it difficult finding a safe place for his King. 6.\textit{d3} e4 7.0-0 d5 8.\textit{xf6} gxf6 9.c4 \textit{b4} 10.\textit{c2} a3 11.e4 White must not waste any time opening up the position. 11...\textit{xe4} 12.\textit{xe4} \textit{e7} 13.\textit{xd2} \textit{d7} 14.\textit{e4} O-O-O 15.\textit{xf6} e4 16.\textit{e4} d6 17.\textit{xb5} a5 Better is 17...Bxb5, although White still has a good position after 18.cxb5 Bd6 19.Qe4 Nd5 20.Bf3 Kf8 21.Rad1. 18.\textit{xe4} xe4 19.\textit{xf7} A spectacular piece sacrifice. Black is unable to defend all his weak points. 19...\textit{d7} 20.\textit{xe6} c6 21.g4 Threatening 22.Qxe7. 21...h5 Both 21...Kb8 22.Qe5+ and 21...Re8 22.Rad1 Qd8 23.Nxa7+ lose. 22.\textit{h3} d8 23.\textit{ad1} \textit{h7} 24.a3 \textit{c2} The Knight has no good squares. 24...Na6 25.Nxa7+ also loses. 25.\textit{g6} Forking the Knight and Rook wins a piece. 25...\textit{e7} 26.\textit{xc2} a6 27.\textit{a7}+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Seirawan, Y.
・ Korchnoi, V.
?

\textbf{Barcelona}
1989 0-1 D48

\textbf{1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.\textit{c3} c6 4.e3 \textit{f6} 5.\textit{f3} \textit{bd7} 6.\textit{d3} dxe4 7.\textit{xe4} h5 8.\textit{d3} a6 9.e4 c5 10.d5 \textit{c4} 11.dxe6 cxd3 12.exf7+ \textit{xf7} 13.\textit{xe5} w\textit{e7}} The only move. 14.\textit{g5+} \textit{f8} 15.0-0 Qa7 winning. 15...\textit{xe5} 16.\textit{c1} h6 17.f4 Overlooking Black’s 18th move. Correct is 17.Nge4. 17...hxg5 18.\textit{xe5} \textit{xe5} 19.\textit{xe5} \textit{c5}+ 20.\textit{e3} If 20.Kh1, then 20...Nhg4 wins, or if 20.Kf1, then 20...Rh2 21.Qxd3 Rh1+ 22.Kg2 Bg4+ wins. 20...\textit{xe3}+ 21.\textit{f1} \textit{h5} Better is 21...Rf8. 22.\textit{xd3} \textit{f8}+! 23.\textit{e1} \textit{f2}+ 24.\textit{f1} \textit{e3}+! 25.\textit{e1} \textit{f4} 26.\textit{we4 } a7 27.g3 If 27.Qc6+, then 27...Bd7 28.Qe4 Rc7 followed by ...Bc6 wins. 27...\textit{h7} 28.\textit{h7} \textit{e2} 29.\textit{e4} \textit{xe4} 30.\textit{xe4} \textit{f2}+ 31.\textit{f1} If 31...Kf2, then 31...Bc6! 32.b4 Nd4 followed by ...Bb4 wins. 31...\textit{xc2}+ 32.\textit{d2} \textit{f4} 33.\textit{d1} \textit{e7} 34.\textit{d6} \textit{d8} 35.\textit{d5} \textit{xd6} 36.\textit{xd6}+ \textit{f7} 37.\textit{b4} \textit{c7} 38.\textit{xa6} \textit{c2}+ 39.\textit{f3} Better is 39.Kf1. 39...\textit{xe5} 40.\textit{h3} \textit{f6} 41.\textit{xe4} \textit{c4}+ 42.\textit{e3} \textit{xb4} 43.\textit{c6} \textit{f4} 44.\textit{f2} \textit{h2}+ 45.\textit{f1} \textit{xa2} 46.\textit{xb5} \textit{e3} 47.\textit{c6} \textit{f2}+ 48.\textit{e1} \textit{e5} 49.\textit{h5}+ \textit{e5} 50.\textit{e8}+ \textit{f4} 51.\textit{b8}+ \textit{f3} 52.\textit{a8}+ \textit{g3} 53.\textit{a3} \textit{e3} 54.\textit{c2} \textit{e5} 55.\textit{c7} \textit{f4}+! 56.\textit{d1} \textit{h3} 57.\textit{g7} g4 58.\textit{c2} \textit{f4} 59.\textit{g8} \textit{f1} 60.\textit{d3} \textit{e1} White Resigns.

0-1

○ Meszaros
・ Zagorskis
?

\textbf{Budapest}
1989 1-0 D46
An unexpected sacrifice leaves Black without a defense.

\textbf{1.f3 d5 2.d4 \textit{f6} 3.c4 e6 4.e3 \textit{e5} 5.\textit{bd2} \textit{bd7} 6.\textit{d3} \textit{d6} 7.0-0 O-O 8.e4 \textit{dxe4} 9.\textit{xe4} \textit{xe4} 10.\textit{xe4} \textit{e6} 11.\textit{c2} h6 12.b3 c5 Black should complete his development with 12...b6. 13.\textit{b2} \textit{cxd4} 14.\textit{xd4} \textit{f6} 15.\textit{ad1} \textit{d8} 16.\textit{h4} \textit{e7} 17.\textit{xd8}+ \textit{xd8} 18.\textit{d1} \textit{e7} 19.\textit{e5} White has a very big advantage due to his active pieces. 20.Ng4 is threatened. 19...\textit{f8} 20.\textit{g4} \textit{e8} If 20...Nhg4, then 21.Bxg7+. 21.\textit{xg7}+ \textit{g7} 22.\textit{f6} White is threatening 23.Qxh6 and 24.Qh8 checkmate. Not immediately 22.Qxh6 due to 22...f5. 22...\textit{e5} There is no defense. If 22...Bd8 23.Qxh6 Qxh6 24.Qh8 checkmate. White has a large advantage after 22...Nf5 23.Bxf5 Kg7 24.Qg4. 23.\textit{h7}+ \textit{e8} Black could have held out longer with 23...Kg8. White intended to then play 24.h4. 24...Qxb4 would lose to 25.Rd8+ Bxd8 26.Qxd8# Ne8 27.Nf6. White would have a big advantage after 24...Qb6 25.c5. 24.\textit{f6} \textit{h5} 25.\textit{h3} \textit{e5} This saves the Knight but loses the Queen. If 25...\textit{f5}, then 26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qf8# checkmate. 26.\textit{d8}+ \textit{xd8} 27.\textit{xe5} f6 28.\textit{g6}+ \textit{d7} 29.\textit{f8}+ Black Resigns, as he has the unpleasant choice between 29...Ke7 30.Qc5# or 29...Kc6 30.Be8+. 1-0

○ Kasparov, G.
・ Hjartarson, J.
Tilburg 1989 1-0 D39

The Icelandic Grandmaster Hjartarson tries to challenge Kasparov in a very theoretical opening, but the world champion is always well prepared. 1.d4 Qf6 2.Qf3 d5 3.e4 c6 4.Qc3 dxe4 5.e5 b4 The old Vienna variation has become very popular lately. 6.g5 e5 7.Qxe4 Qxe4 8.Qxd4 Qxe3+ 9.Qxc3 Qxa5 10.b5+ Qd7 11.Qx6 gx6 12.Qh3 a6 13.Qe2 Qc6 14.0-0 Wc7 15.Qa1 Qa5 16.Qa3 Wc8 17.Qd1 Wxe3 This pawn grab is too risky. Better is 17...Qc5.

18.Qd6 Threatening 19.Nf5. 18...Qc7 19.Qf5 exf5 Also bad are 19...Nc6 20.Qg7+ Kd8 21.Qa3 and 19...Qxe6 20.Qxe6+ Ke7 21.Qxc6. 20.Wxf6 O-O 20...Rg8 would have held out longer, although White would have an extremely strong attack after 21.exf5. 21.Qf3 d4 The only move to stop 22.Rg6+. If instead 22.Rfé8, then 23.Rg6+ Kf8 24.Rg7 Bf5 25.exf5 Rxe2 26.Qb1 Qg2 27.Qb2 Qg7 wins.


1-0

○ Lautier, J.
• Kupreichik, V.

Palma de Mallorca 1989 1-0 D38

The Frenchman Lautier shocked the chess world in 1988 when at 15 years old he won the world junior championship. Since then he has become one of the strongest Grandmasters in the world. Here he outmaneuvers the Soviet Grandmaster Kupreichik, who is a former KGB agent.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3.Qf3 d5 4.Qc3 g6 5.Qg5 h6 6.Qxf6 Wxf6 7.Wb3 c5 8.exd5 exd5 9.a3 Qxc3+ 10.Wxc3 c4 11.Wb3 O-O Not 11...Be6? 12.bxc4 dxc4 13.e4 Black sacrifices a pawn in order to gain time. 12.bxc4 dxc4 13.Wxe4 Wxe6 14.Wb5 Qg4 15.Wb5 Black is a pawn ahead but he is behind in development and his King is still in the center. With the text he sacrifices back the pawn. 15...Qf5 16.gxf5 Wxf3 17.Wg2 Qf6 18.Qe1 Not 18.Rg3? Nxd4! 18...Wf8 19.Qg3 Wxe4 Better is 19...Qf6. 20.Qg2 Black did not believe this was possible due to his next move, but...

20...Qxd4 If 20...Qe7, then 21.Bxc6 Wxg6 22.Qxg6 Qxa3 23.Qh6 wins. 21.Qb2 Qc2+ 22.Wf1 Wc4+ 23.Wg1 Qf5 If 23...Qg6, then 24.Bd5 wins. 24.Qd6 Qe6 If 24...Rad8, then 25.Bd5 threatening 26.Rg6+ wins. 25.Qxe6 Wd8 Threatening 26...Rd1+ winning. If 25...fxe6, then 26.Qf6 wins. 26.Wf1 Wxe6 If 26...Rd1, then 27.Re1+ leads to mate. 27.Wxc2 After the smoke has cleared, White is a piece up. 27...Qe8 28.Wb2 Wc4 29.Wf6 Wc6 30.Wxc6 Wxc6 31.Qg4 Qe1 32.Qa4 a6 33.Qb4 Qa4 34.a5 Qe5 35.d4 Wf8 36.Qg2 Qe7 37.b5 b6 38.d7+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Nikolic, Pr.
• Vaganian, R.

Lucerne 1989 0-1 D55

Converting a small advantage into a win.


23.d4 Qb4 24.Qa3 Qd8 25.Qh3 Qe7 26.bxa4 26.exd4 Nxb3 wins for Black. 26...Qb4 27.Qxb4 Qxb2 28.Qxb2 Qxb2 29.Qb2 Qb2 31.Qe1 Good for Black is 29.a5 Nd2 30.Re1 Nxf3+ 31.gxf3 Rxd2 32.Rf1 Qg5 and White is all tied up. 29...Qa5 Fixing the a-pawn on the same color as the Bishop.

30.Qh3 Qf8 31.Qd1 Qe7 32.Qd8 Qxd8 33.Qd1 Qc5 34.Qd3 Qe4 35.Qd4 Qb4 A blunder would be 35...Nxf2 36.Bc2 trapping the Knight. 36.Qc1 Not 36.Qf4 axb4 37.Qf1 b3 winning the Bishop.

36...Qd2 37.Qc3 Qc3 38.Qf1 Qf5 39.Qf1 Qf7 40.Qf3 Qd2+ 41.Qg2 Qe2 42.Qc3 Qf2 Black targets the weak a-pawn. 43.Qc2 Qe2 46.Qd6 Not 43...Nxa4 44.Qa3. 44.Qc2 Qb5 A strong move. Black fixes the pawns on the kingside. 45.f4 Qh4 46.Qf8 White decides to give up his a-pawn in exchange for one of Black’s kingside pawns. 46.Qa3 g6 47.Bb3 c5 48.Qxe5 Kxe5 49.Qd2 Ne4 is winning for Black. 46...Qxa4 47.Qxa4 Qxa4 48.Qg8 Qa2+ 49.Qf3 Qc2 50.Qg7 Qc7 51.Qg8 Qa7
A very important concept. Black wins because he is able to get his Rook behind the passed pawn. 52.\texttt{c2} d4 53.\texttt{d8+} e7 54.\texttt{d2} a3 55.\texttt{a2} \texttt{d6} With White’s pieces tied down to the passed pawn, the Black King’s entry into the game is decisive. 56.\texttt{d2} d5 57.\texttt{d3} a8 58.\texttt{c3} e4 59.\texttt{d2} d8+ White Resigns. If 60.\texttt{Ke2}, then 60...\texttt{Rd3}.

\textbf{0-1}

\textbullet\ Malinin, V.
\textbullet\ Zagorskis

\textbf{Correspondence}
\textbf{1989} \textbf{1-0} \textbf{D61}

In correspondence chess, the players do not need to calculate quickly and there are no exciting scrambles in time pressure. However, the strategic ideas tend to be deeper and the players must calculate much farther.

1.\texttt{d4} \texttt{d5} 2.\texttt{c4} \texttt{e6} 3.\texttt{c3} \texttt{d4} 4.\texttt{g5} \texttt{e7} 5.\texttt{f3} \texttt{O-O} 6.\texttt{w2} c5 7.\texttt{e3} c6 8.\texttt{d2} d5 9.\texttt{b1} bxc4 10.\texttt{xc4} exd4 11.\texttt{e5} \texttt{dxe5} 12.\texttt{b4} \texttt{e6} White’s attack on the h-file is unstoppable after 12...hxg5? 13.hxg5. 13.\texttt{h3} This game is simply a race between whose attack will come first. White on the kingside or Black on the queenside. Therefore Black should have considered sacrificing a pawn with 12...b5. 13.b5 14.\texttt{xe6} A sacrificial attack begins. Black’s kingside is ripped open. 14...\texttt{fxe6} 15.\texttt{dxc6} b4 White’s attack is too strong after 15...\texttt{gxh6} 16.\texttt{Qg6+} \texttt{Kh8} 17.\texttt{Rg3} \texttt{Rg8} 18.\texttt{Qxh6+} \texttt{Nh7} 19.\texttt{Rg4}. 16.\texttt{g3} \texttt{f7} 17.\texttt{g5} \texttt{gxh6} 18.\texttt{xf7 +} \texttt{Kxf7} 19...\texttt{Kxh7} 20.\texttt{Qg6+} \texttt{Kh8} 21.\texttt{Rf4} loses quickly. 19.\texttt{dxc6} \texttt{h5} Worse is 19...\texttt{bxc3} 20.\texttt{Qg6} threatening 21.\texttt{Qg8+}. 20.\texttt{g6} \texttt{b5} If 20...\texttt{bxc3}, then 21.g4 \texttt{Qxh4} 22.g5 is strong. 21.\texttt{xf6+} \texttt{xf6} 22.\texttt{e4} \texttt{e7} If 22...\texttt{Qxh6}, then 23.\texttt{Nxf6} and Black’s King has no defenses. 23.\texttt{e7} \texttt{d7} 24.\texttt{c5} \texttt{xc5} If 24...\texttt{Qxh6}, then 25.\texttt{Qxe5} \texttt{Bxe5} 26.\texttt{Qxc5+} \texttt{Ke8} 27.\texttt{Rg4} \texttt{Qh7}+ 28.e4 \texttt{Rb8} 29.\texttt{Qe5} \texttt{Rc8} 30.h5 is winning. 25.\texttt{xc5+} \texttt{e8} 26.\texttt{g4} \texttt{xb7} 27.\texttt{g8+} \texttt{f7} 28.\texttt{xg8} \texttt{h7+} 29.\texttt{a1} \texttt{wh4} If 29...\texttt{Qd3}, then 30.\texttt{Qf6+} \texttt{Kg6} 31.h5+ \texttt{Kxh5} 32.\texttt{Qh6}+ leaves the Black King in a mating net. 30.\texttt{Kf8+} Black Resigns. After 30...\texttt{Kg6} 31.\texttt{Qg8+} \texttt{Kf5} 32.\texttt{Rf8+} \texttt{Ke4} 33.\texttt{Rf4}+ wins the Queen.

\textbf{0-1}

\textbullet\ Kasparov, G.
\textbullet\ Deep Thought

\textbf{Exhibition, New York}
\textbf{1989} \textbf{1-0} \textbf{D20}

The World Champion was invited to New York to face off with the world’s leading main-frame computer program in a two-game exhibition at the Marshall Chess Club. The first game was a typical grandmaster crush, as Deep Thought was tied down to defense of the King pawn. In this, the second game, Kasparov opens the game up tactically and shows how a hesitant computer can be hung out to dry.

1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.e3 \texttt{f6} 4.\texttt{f3} \texttt{g5} 5.d5 \texttt{f6} 6.\texttt{e5} \texttt{c6} 7.\texttt{f4} \texttt{g6} 8.\texttt{e3} \texttt{cxd5} 9.exd5 \texttt{f5} Deep thought loses time moving the same piece twice in the opening. Kasparov jumps at the chance to exploit his advantage in development. 10.\texttt{d4} \texttt{xf3}+ 11.\texttt{gxf3} \texttt{xf3} 12.\texttt{dxe4} \texttt{d6} Black could not play 12...\texttt{Bxh1} 13.\texttt{Bb5+}, but 12...\texttt{a6} would have been a better defense. 13.\texttt{b5} \texttt{f6} 14.\texttt{e5} \texttt{e6} 15.\texttt{a3} \texttt{e5} 16.\texttt{Qc7}+ \texttt{xc7} 17.\texttt{b5}+ \texttt{c6} Black has nothing better. 18.\texttt{dxe6}+ \texttt{bxc6} 19.\texttt{d5} \texttt{xc5} 20.\texttt{Qxf3} \texttt{b4} 21.\texttt{e2} \texttt{d5} A human would probably resign in this position, but Deep Thought doesn’t mind playing out a lost game. 22.\texttt{g4} \texttt{e7} 23.\texttt{Qf3} \texttt{f8} 24.\texttt{e7} \texttt{d8} 25.\texttt{d5} \texttt{b7} 26.\texttt{Qf6} \texttt{wa4} a5 27.\texttt{b1} \texttt{h6} 28.\texttt{h5} \texttt{c8} 29.\texttt{b4} \texttt{xb2} 30.\texttt{bxa5} \texttt{e8} 31.\texttt{wa4} \texttt{b4} \texttt{d6} This is hopeless, but otherwise White plays 32.\texttt{Qc7}. 32.\texttt{f6} \texttt{dxc6} 33.\texttt{b8}+ \texttt{xb8} 34.\texttt{Qxb8+} \texttt{h7} 35.\texttt{wa4} \texttt{d6} 36.\texttt{a4} \texttt{e4} 37.\texttt{wa3} \texttt{d7} Black Resigns.

\textbf{0-1}

\textbullet\ Polugaveisky, L.
\textbullet\ Torre, E.

\textbf{Biel}
\textbf{1989} \textbf{1-0} \textbf{D18}

The Soviet GM Polugaveisky and Filipino GM Torre have both been world championship candidates in the past.

1.d4 d5 2.e4 c6 3.\texttt{f3} \texttt{g6} 4.\texttt{d3} \texttt{xc4} 5.a4 \texttt{f5} 6.e3 \texttt{f6} 7.\texttt{xe4} \texttt{cxd4} 8.\texttt{b4} \texttt{e4} 9.\texttt{h4} \texttt{f4} 10.\texttt{f3} \texttt{h5} 11.\texttt{g4} \texttt{g6} 12.\texttt{e4} \texttt{bd7} 13.\texttt{g3} \texttt{e8} 14.\texttt{xg6} \texttt{hxg6} 15.\texttt{e3} \texttt{d6} 16.\texttt{e2} \texttt{a5} 17.\texttt{h1} \texttt{e7} 18.\texttt{b1} \texttt{f8} 19.\texttt{b4} \texttt{xb4} Black takes the bait. White would have a large space advantage after 19...\texttt{Be7} 20.\texttt{f4}. 20.\texttt{xb4} \texttt{f5} 21.\texttt{exf5} \texttt{xb4} 22.\texttt{d2} \texttt{exf5} If 22...\texttt{gxh5}, then 23.g6 is strong. 23.\texttt{h1} White has a large advantage because the two Bishops are much better than a Rook. 23.\texttt{wa5} 24.\texttt{Bxb7} \texttt{wa8} 25.\texttt{Bxb8} \texttt{xb8} 26.d5 Opening up the position makes his

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pieces more active. 26...cx5d 27...b5 28...b6 Better is 27...Ne5 although White has a large advantage after 28.Bf4 Nxf3 29.Qd3. 28...d4 A very powerful diagonal for the Bishop. White is planning Qf4-e5. 28...c4 29...f4 f8 30.h4 Wb4 Better is 30...a6, although White is still winning after 31.Bc6 Rd6 32.Bb7 Qd8 33.h5 Qd7 34.h6! 31.Wc7 f8 32...xc4 dxc4 White is winning in the endgame after 32...xc4 33.Qxc4 dxc4 34.Bxa7.

1989 0-1 D11

How to attack an exposed King.


20...fxe4 21...dxe4 Intending Ng5. 21...cxd8 22...d6 d5 23...e4 Nxe7 24...xb7 Rb8 25...b7 c7 26...e6 c6 27...e4 e5 28...e3 Qxg4+ is winning in the endgame after 32...Qxc4 33.Qxc4 dxc4 34.Bxa7.

1989 1-0 D10

Timman tries a new move out from his home laboratory.


1989 1-0 A87

Black makes a mistake in the opening and suffers a quick knockout.

1.d4 f5 2.g3 Qf6 3.Qg2 g6 4.c4 g7 5.Qc3 O–O 6.Qf3 d6 7.O–O Wb8 8.b3 e5 9. dxe5 dxe5 10.e4 Qb6 11.d5 Qd7 12.Qa3 e8 Correct is 12...Rd8. 13.exf5 e4 If 13...fxe5, then 14.Nh4 is strong. 14.Qg5 xf5 If 14...Qxf5, then 15.f4. 15.Qxf6+ Qxf6 16.Qh5 White has no objection to sacrificing the exchange here, as his Bishop will control the a1-h8 diagonal. 16...Qa1 17.Qx1 Qb8 18.Qxa2 Qd7 19.Qc4 Qe8 20.Rxe4 fxe4 21.Nxe4 wins.

1989 1-0 A88

Black Resigns. 40.Qg5 wins.

1-0
This was voted the second best game during the first half of 1989 by Chess Informant.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 c6 3.g3 g6 4.f4 f5 5.e3 d6 6.Qc3 O-O 7.0-0 c8 8.b3 Qc7 Planning ...e7-e5.

9.Qa5 a6 Planning ...Na6-b4. 10.c1 a6 11.d2 d7 12.f1Planning e2-e4. 12...b4

13.hb b5 Better is 13...Ra8. Black misses White’s 16th move. 14.a3 a6 15.dxe5 dxe5

16.b5 cxb5 The only move. 17.exb5 c5

18...e5 b6 19...f6 xf6 20.d5+ Winning back the piece. 20...xe6 21.xd7 ad8

22.c6 White had to see this move when playing his 16th move. 22...xd7 Worse is 22...hx6

23.Qxe6+. 23...xb6 c5 24.b4 axb4 25.axb4 c4 26.e3 d7 27.h4 White is two pawns up and Black has little chance against Karpov’s great technique. 27...b8 28.c1 e7 29.d4 e7

If 29...Bxd4 30.exd4, then 31.Rc7+ Rhd7 32.Rxd7+ Kxd7 33.Bxe4 fxe4 34.h5. 30...xe4

fxe4 31.Qxe6 d8 32.Qg5+ Qxg5 33.Bxg5 Qe8 34.c4 d7 35.Qf2 f7 36. Qd6 h6 37.gxh6+ Qxh6 38.b6 Qe5 39.Qf7 Qf8 40.Rb7 Qf5

41.Qd2 b5 42.d4 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Hodgson, J.

* Gurevich, M.

? Haifa

1989 0-1 A80

The English GM Hodgson has been very successful with an unorthodox style, but will it work against a super Grandmaster like Gurevich?

1.d4 f5 2.b3 f6 3.h3 An unusual move in this position. The idea is to play Bf4 and to have a retreat square at h2 in case of...Nh5. 3...g6 4.f4 f7 5.e3 d6 6.b2 e6 7.c3 O-O 8.Qb3+ Qh8 9.0-0-0 O If 9.Ng5??, then...e5 is good for Black.

9...e8 Threatening e7-e5. 10.d5 a5 11.a3 b6 12.b3 Not 12.b4? Nxd5! 13.bxa5 Nxc3. 12...e4 13.g3 The only way to defend f2, but now White’s pawn structure is weakened. 13...Qg3 14.fxg3 e6 Sacrificing a pawn in exchange in exchange for open lines. 15.Qxa5 bxa5 16.Qxa5 c6 17.dxc6 Qxc6

18.Qb4 d5 19.h4 Threatening h4-h5. 19...d7 Not 19...h6 20.Ne5 Qe8 21.Bb5 winning. 20.d4 Qc8 21.h5 g5 22.h6 f6 23.g4 f8 24.a3 Qe8 Not 24...fxg4?! 25.Bd3 followed by Rfd1 with good attacking chances. 25.d3 a4 26.b3 Weakening the queenside. Correct is 26.Bc2.

26...d7 27...b1 e5 28.Qxf5 Sacrificing a pawn to open the h8-a1 diagonal. 28...e4 29...c2 Qxf5 30.gxf5 c6 31.c4 The only move. 31...fd8

Not 31...Qxe4?? 32.Qxf8+ winning. 32...e5 b5 33.Qxe4 Qe5 34...Qa7 Qc8 Black has a winning position. Both players were in time pressure here. 35.Qxd5 b5 Black has an even quicker win with 35...Rxd5 36.Re1 Rd1! 37.Rxd1 Qd4+ 36...d2 36...Rc1 37.Rxc1 Qd3+ was threatened. 36...Qxd5 37.Qf7 38.f2

If 38.Rxd6, then 38...Qxf5+ wins. 38...Qxf5 39...c1 Qxc2+ White Resigns. If 40.Rxc2, then 40...Rd1+ mates. 0-1

○ Purgin, N.

• Kantsler, B.

? Belgorod

1989 1-0 A43

White sacrifices a Knight to open up the King position.


19...Qxh2 20...Qxf3 Qe8 21.g4 Threatening 22.Qh3+. 21...Qg7 If 21...e6, then 22.Be4+ Kg8 23.Qh3 Qf7 24.Be3 followed by Rf1 and g5 wins. 22...Qe4 23.d4 23...f1 Threatening 24.Bh6+. 23...d7 24.Qg3 e5 If 24...Qg6, then 25.Be5+. 25.h6+ Bringing the King out into the open. 25...Qxh6 26.Qh4+ Qg7 27.g5+ Qg6 28.Qh7+ Qh6 29.Qh4+ Qg7 30.Qg7+ Qh6

31.Qxf8 Qe8 If 31...Rxh8, then 32.Qxf8+ Kg5 33.Qe7+ wins. 32.Qh4+ Qg7 33.Qh8# 1-0

○ Kasparov, G.

• Speelman, J.

? Barcelona

1989 1-0 A42

This was voted the third best game in the first half of 1989 by Chess Informant.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c5 3.dxc5 Qa5+ 4.d4 d4 Qxc5 6.Qd4 Qd6 7.e4 Qb8 8.h4 Better is 8...f5.

9.Qh2 f5 If 9...O-O, then White gets a strong attack after 10.Qd2 Kh7 11.g4. 10.exf5 Qxf5
11.\textbf{xf5} \textbf{xf5} 12.\textbf{d2} \textbf{c7} Better is 12...Qf6. 13.0–0 O–O–O It was better to try 13...h5 followed by ...O–O. White’s attack on the queenside will be unstoppable. 14.b4 \textbf{xb4} 15.\textbf{c5} \textbf{d5} If 15...Bxa1, then 16.Qxb4 Be5 17.Nxa7+ Kb8 18.Bf3 is strong. 16.\textbf{f3} \textbf{d5} Trying to block the h1–a8 diagonal. Either 16...Bxa1 17.Nxa7+ Kb8 18.Rb1 or 16...Nxa1 17.Nxa7+ Kb8 18.Qa5 c6 19.Nb5! is winning for White. 17.\textbf{xd5} \textbf{xa1} 18.\textbf{xa7}+ \textbf{h6} 19.\textbf{xb4} \textbf{d5} If 19...c5, then 20.Bf4+! Ka8 21.Qa5 wins. 20.\textbf{cxd5} \textbf{c2} 21.\textbf{wa5} \textbf{xe3} 22.fxe3 \textbf{c8} 23.\textbf{b5} \textbf{xd5} 24.\textbf{wxe7}+ \textbf{a8} 25.\textbf{wa5}+ Black Resigns.

\begin{itemize}
  \item Wahl, M.
  \item Huebner, R.
\end{itemize}

\textbf{Germany}

1989 1/2-1/2 B89

The players castle on opposite sides of the board and wildly attack each other’s King.

1.e4 \textbf{c5} 2.\textbf{f3} \textbf{c6} 3.d4 \textbf{cx}d4 4.\textbf{xd4} \textbf{f6} 5.\textbf{b5} c6 6.\textbf{d4} \textbf{e6} 7.e5 \textbf{d5} 8.\textbf{Qf3} \textbf{c7} 9.\textbf{Qe2} 10.0–0–0 O–O–O 11.g4 \textbf{xd4} 12.\textbf{cxd4} b5 13.g5 \textbf{d7} 14.f4 \textbf{e5} 15.f5 \textbf{exf5} 16.\textbf{d5}+ \textbf{b8} 17.\textbf{exf5} \textbf{b4} 18.Bxf5 18.Rf1 also leads to an unclear position. 18.\textbf{g6} 18.Ne4 Bb5 19.Ng3 Bg6 would be better for Black. 18...\textbf{hxg6} The Knight is poisoned. Not 18...Bxc3 19.Qh5 h6 20.Bxh6 winning immediately. 19.\textbf{fxg6} \textbf{e6} 20.\textbf{xe6} \textbf{axe6} 21.\textbf{d5} White must give up the exchange, but his attack is very strong. 21...\textbf{xd4} 22.\textbf{xd4} \textbf{g6} 23.\textbf{b1} \textbf{b7} 24.\textbf{g5} Not 24.Qg2 Bh6 25.Re1 Rf6 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8+ 27.Nf6+ Kh8 winning for Black. 24...\textbf{h6} 25.\textbf{f6}+ The only way to continue the attack. 25...gxh6 Not 25...Kh8 26.Rg1 threatening 27.Qh6+. 26.\textbf{g6} \textbf{fg6} 27.\textbf{xbxc6} \textbf{f7} Not 27...\textbf{b5} 28.Bxf6. 28.\textbf{h3} Protecting his King against back rank mates. 28.Rxg6+ Rg7 or 28.Qxg6+ Rg7 29.Qxf6 Rxf1+ 30.Bxg1 Qe4 are good for Black. 28...\textbf{e8} 29.\textbf{h4} Again 29.Rxg6+ Rg7 30.Bxf6 Qh1+ 31.Kb2 Rxc2+ 32.Kxc2 Qe4+ followed by 33...Rxg6 is good for Black. 29...\textbf{h7} White has a strong attack after 29...Qe7 30.h5 Qxe2+ 31.Ka1 and if now 31...g5?, then 32.Rxg5+ wins immediately. 30.\textbf{f6}+ \textbf{g7} 31.\textbf{h5} \textbf{h1}+ 31...Rxg6 32.Qxg6+ Qg7 33.Qf5 allows White a strong attack. 32.\textbf{xb2} \textbf{xe2} Black decides to force a draw by perpetual check. Otherwise White’s attack would be too strong. 33.\textbf{xc2} \textbf{e4}+ 34.\textbf{d1} \textbf{c1}+ 35.\textbf{b2} \textbf{e2}+ 36.\textbf{c1} \textbf{c1}+ Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

\textbf{SHORT, N.}

\textbf{lujoboevic, L.}

\textbf{Belgrade}

1989 1-0 B81

How to blow away a super Grandmaster.

1.e4 \textbf{c5} 2.\textbf{f3} d6 3.d4 \textbf{cx}d4 4.\textbf{xd4} \textbf{f6} 5.\textbf{e3} e6 6.g4 \textbf{h6} 7.h4 \textbf{c6} 8.\textbf{e5} h5 9.gxh5 \textbf{g5} 10.\textbf{f4} \textbf{c5} 11.\textbf{f3} \textbf{a6} 12.\textbf{e2} \textbf{c7} 13.0–0–0 \textbf{b5} 14.\textbf{g5} \textbf{a5} If 14...Rxh4, then White gets a strong attack after 15.f4 and Qf2. 15.f4 White wastes no time. 15...\textbf{b4} 16.\textbf{b1} \textbf{xa2} 17.\textbf{e5} \textbf{dxe5} 18.\textbf{fxe5} \textbf{d5} 19.\textbf{g2} \textbf{c7} 20.\textbf{c7} With Black’s Queen off to the side of the board, the position is ripe for such a sacrifice. 20...\textbf{xf7} 21.\textbf{e4} \textbf{e8} 22.\textbf{xe8} 23.\textbf{xe8} 24.\textbf{h7} 25.\textbf{d5} If 23...Nxe5, then 24.Rxe7+ wins or if 23...Nxe3, then 24.Rg8+ Bf8 25.Qg7! wins. 24.\textbf{xd5} \textbf{exd5} 25.\textbf{e6} \textbf{e8} 26.\textbf{b6}+ \textbf{e8} 27.\textbf{f4} \textbf{e7} 28.\textbf{a7} 29.\textbf{xa7} \textbf{xb4} 29.\textbf{g3} \textbf{c4} 30.\textbf{xe7} Black Resigns. If 30...Nxe7, then 31.Qh8#.

1-0

\textbf{NUNN, J.}

\textbf{Thorsteins, K.}

\textbf{Lugano}

1989 1-0 B81

The English Grandmaster John Nunn was awarded his doctorate in mathematics from Oxford when he was 21, but since then has chosen a career as a chess player. He is known as an aggressive attacking player.

1.e4 \textbf{c5} 2.\textbf{f3} \textbf{e6} 3.d4 \textbf{cx}d4 4.\textbf{xd4} \textbf{f6} 5.\textbf{c3} \textbf{d6} 6.\textbf{g4} \textbf{e7} 7.\textbf{g5} \textbf{f7} 8.h4 O–O–O 9.\textbf{e5} \textbf{e5} 10.\textbf{c4} \textbf{xc4} 11.\textbf{xd4} \textbf{a6} Better is 11...\textbf{Ne5}. 12.0–0–0 b5 13.\textbf{h3} \textbf{b3} 14.\textbf{f4} \textbf{a5} 15.\textbf{h5} \textbf{b4} 16.\textbf{e6} \textbf{e5} It appears that White is losing a piece. 17.\textbf{f5} But Nunn has seen further ahead. 17...\textbf{xb3}+ 18.\textbf{f4} Now 18...\textbf{dxe4} loses to 19.Nxe7+ Kh8 19.hxg7+ Kxg7 20.Bxd4+ f6 21.gxf6+ followed by 22.Rxd1+ results in mate in a few moves. 18.\textbf{xb3} \textbf{a5} 19.\textbf{xe7}+ Kh8 20.\textbf{b4} 21.\textbf{ anticlimactic! 19...\textbf{dxe4}+ 20.\textbf{d1} \textbf{e7} This loses the Queen. But if 22...Kh8, then 23.Nxg6+ hxg6 24.Qxg6 Ra7
25.exf6 threatening 26.Qg7+ wins. 23.e6+ Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Sax, G.
○ Ehvest, J.
?

Skeleftea
1989 1-0 B81
A super Grandmaster makes an error in the opening and suffers a quick knockout.
1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 f5 5.Qc3 d6 6.g4 e7 7.g5 Qf6 8.h4 Qd6 9.Qe3 O-O 10.Qh5 d5 Better is 10...a6. 11.O-O-O dx4
12.Qxe4 Qa4+ 13.Kc2 Qxc6 Not 14...Qxa2? 15.Nf6+ Qxf6 16.Qxf6 g6 17.Qf5 winning. 15.Be3 Qxa2 If 15...Qc7, then 16.Rxd7! Bxd7 17.Bd3 g6 18.Qh6 wins. 16.Qd7 Qd7
17.Qf6+ Kxf6 If 17...gx6, then 18.Qxf6 Bxf6 19.Rg1 Bg7 20.Qh6 wins. 18.Qxf6 a1=Q+ Correct is 18...Qe6, although after 19.Bh3 Qxe6 20.Bxd7 White has a large advantage. 19.Qd2 a4 20.b4 Preventing ...Qg4. The threat is now 21.Qg5 62.22.Qh6 mating. 20...Qd8 If now 21.Qh5, then 21...Bf5+ and 22...Bg6. 21.Qd3 Qxf6 22.a1 Qb5 23.Qxb7+ Qf8 24.Qh6+ Of course not immediately 24.Bxb5?? due to 24...Bf5+. 24...Qe7 25.Qxb5 exb5 26.Qe3 Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Damjancic, B.
○ Kasparov, G.
?

Belgrade
1989 0-1 B70
The world champion can beat even the strongest Grandmasters swiftly and powerfully with the Black pieces.
1.d4 f5 2.c4 c5 3.d5 cxd4 4.Qxd4 e6 5.Qc3 d6 6.Qg5 Qe7 7.Qe3 Qf6 8.O-O Qe7 9.Qe2 Qc6 10.Qf3 Qe6 11.Qe3 Qxe2 12.Qxe2 Bxe2 13.Qf1 Qf2 14.Qf2 Qf2 15.Qf2 Qf2 16.Qf2 Qf2 Better is 16.e5 Nb4 with an unclear position. 16...a4 17.Qc2 d7 18.Qe3 Better is 18.c3. 18...Qa5 19.Qe5 Qxd5 20.Qxd5 Qb6 21.Qg6 Qg6 Black has a big advantage because White’s pieces are awkwardly placed. 22.Qf3 Qf3 23.Qf3 Qxh4 24.Qxh4 Qh4 25.Qg5 Qxh5 26.Qxh5 Qd4 Better is 26...Qb4 with a large advantage to Black. 27.Qd3 A fatal error in time pressure. Better is 27.Bg5! Qxh2 28.Ra7 Bf5 29.Be3 Be5 with just a slight advantage to Black. 27...h6 The e7-Bishop is in danger of getting trapped. 28.Qc1 Qc1 The final error. White’s best chance is 28.Bxh6 Qxh6 29.Qxh6 Bxh6 30.Qxh6 Rh1 with a large advantage to Black. 28...Qe8 White loses a piece. 29.Qe4 Qb4 30.Qe6 Qg7 31.Qe4 Qf5 32.Qf3 Qe1+ White Resigns. 0-1

○ Speelman, J.
○ Beliavsky, A.
?

Amsterdam
1989 1/2-1/2 C92
Two former world champion candidates square off in the Ruy Lopez opening.
1/2-1/2
White cracks open Black’s King position with sacrifices.


17.Qg3 h6 This unnecessarily weakens the kingside. Better is 17...g6. 18.Qh4 White intends to play 19.Qf3. 19...Bxe4 19...Qe4 19...Nxe4 Bxh4 is all right for Black. 19...Qxe4 20.Qxe4 Qh4

21.Qf5 d5 If 21...Bf6, then 22.Bxh6! is strong. 22.Bxh6 Not 22.Qxd5? Qxc3. 22...g8 23.Qxg5 hxg5 24.Bxg5 g6 25.h6+ Kh8 26.f5 Kg7, then 26...Ng4 wins. 26.Qxg6 wins. 26.Qxg6 Qh8 The only move. Not 26...fxg6 27.Qf6#. 27.Qh4 Bf6 If 27...fxg6, then 28.Qxg6 Nd6 29.Rd1! wins. 28.Qxf7 Qh6 29.Qg8+ Better is 29.Bxh5. White was short on time here.

29...Qe7 30.Qxe8 Qxe8 31.Qxd5

White has a large advantage because Black’s King is exposed and his numerous pawns outweigh the Knight.

31...N6d 32.Qxe5+ Qf8 33.Qf4 e4 34.Bb6 Qe6 35.Ba6 Qa+ 36.Qe1+ Qxe1+ 37.Qxe4 Black’s best chance was 37...Qe5+ 38.g3 Ne4. 38.Qf6 Threatening 39.Qe5 and 40.f3. 38...Bb1 39.f3 Bf2 40.Qc8+ Qh7 41.Qb7+ Black Resigns. Black loses his Knight after either 41...Kg6 42.Qb6+ or 41...Kg8 42.Qa8+ and 43.Qa7+.

1-0

○ Van der Wiel, J.
○ Sokolov, I.
?

Haninge
1989 1-0 C91

One error allows Black a fierce kingside attack.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 Qd7 6.d4 Nge7 7.h3 b6 8.Bbd2 Qf6 9.c4 Qe7 10.Qc3 Qg5 11.Qxg5 White gains the Bishop pair but gives Black an open h-file. 11...hxg5 12.g3 Preventing the Knight from coming into f4. 12...exd4 13.exd4 Qh8 This is the safest spot for the King. 14.O-O Qh3 15.f3 Qd7 16.Qd1 Qe8 17.Qf5 This move is an error because the Knights outpost cannot be held. Correct is 17.Be2. 17...g4 18.Qe3 If 18.Qd3, then 18...Qe5 wins immediately. 18...Qh5 19.Qh4 The only defense to 19...Rxh5. 19...Qxh4

20.Qxh4 Qxh4 White will find it impossible to defend his King. 21.Qd5 Qf7 22.Qc4 Qe5 23.Qc3 If 23.Qd3, then 23...Nxd4 wins immediately. 23...Qe4 24.Qf1 Qxd4 25.Qe3 Qf3+ 26.Qh1 Qxf1 27.Qxf1 Qg6 28.Qa1 Qe7 White Resigns. There is no defense to 29.Qh4.

0-1

○ Makarichev, S.
○ Tukmakov, V.
?

Palma de Mallorca
1989 1-0 C46

How to take advantage of a weak square in your opponent’s position.


1-0

○ Makarichev, S.
○ Razuvaev, Y.
?

Moscow
1989 0-1 C28

A contest between two strong Soviet Grandmasters.

1.e4 e5 2.Qc4 Nc6 3.Qd3 Qe6 4.d3 Bf5 5.Qg2 Qc4 6.dxc6 Bxc6 7.h3 Of course White...

23...Rf8 24.g4 h5!

22.f6

18...d4 Black has won the exchange, but can he withstand White’s coming attack. 20...h4 Not 20...Be5 21.f6. 21.f3 21.e1 The saving move. Not 21...Be5? 22.Bg3 Qe7 23.f6 with a very good position for White. 22.f6 If 22.Nxd6, then 22...Bb4 or if 22.Bxd6, then 22...Rfe8. 22...g5 23.h2 If 23.Bxd6, then 23...Rf8 24.g4 h5?. 23...f8 Not 23...d5? due to 24.Nxd6 followed by 25.Nf5.

25.hxg4 Better is 25.Qxg4 Qxg4 26.hxg4 although Black has a large advantage after 26...Bb4 followed by 27...Re6. 25...h6 26...h2 Threatening 27...Re5+. 27...h3 If 27...g3, then 27...Qh3 wins. 27...e1+ 28.g1 e3 29.h2 29.xg1 White Resigns. If 30.Qxg1, then 30...Qh4+ 31.Qh2 Re1#.

1-0

o Ernst, T.
• Rogers, I.

? Lugano

1989 0-1

Tactics in the endgame.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Bg5 Nc6 5.dxe5 Nx e5 6.Bxe5 Qe7 7.Qd4 Qxe5 8.f4 Bf5 9.Bxe5 Qd5 10.f3 f6 11.g4 c4 The only move. 12.e2 fxe2 13.exf2 fxe2 14.f6 h5! Not 14...Kh6 because of 15.Qf7+ Kh8 16.Qf3 winning. 15...f8 16.g5 g6 17.h3 Not 17.Qxh6 Rxh6 winning. 17...e5 18.g2 0-0 19.gxh6 Bxh6 20.exd4 20.xe2+ Sacrificing the exchange to open up the King’s position. The position is unclear after 20...Qf5 21.Be3 Qxc2 22.Bh7! Kh8 23.Rd1. 21...x e2 22.f5 22...b5 23...c1 c3 24...cxb4 25.axb4 26.c2 Not 26.Kxb4? Qxc2 followed by ...Rb8 winning.

26...a6 27...a6Bx a8+ 27...Nxa8? 28.h7+ Kh8 29.Kd2 followed by Qg5 is good for White.

28...h2 The King is too exposed after 28.Kxb4 Rb8+. 28...f6 29.h7+ Now White is able to start his own counterattack.

29...h8

30...f4 Threatening 31.Bf5+. 30...a2 Not 30...Qe2 31.Be5+ Kxh7 32.Qh8+ Kf7 33.Ng5#. 31...d3+ The only move. White was threatening 32.Bf5+. 32...d1 White must play precisely. 32.Kd2 Rf8 33.Kxd3 Qc4+ wins for Black.

32...c8 The losing move. 32...Nh2+, 32...Qa1+, or 32...Qb1+ all would have given Black an equal position.

33...g5 Threatening Qf6+. 33...Bb1+ 34...c1 35...c6 34...Qxc1+ 35.Qxc1 Nxe1 36.Rxe7 is winning for White as is 34...Nb2+ 35.Kd1 Nd3+ 36.Kf1.

35...h6 Threatening Qf8+. 35...c8 36...c5 37...c1 38...xc1 39...h7+ 40.g8=Q 40...Qh8+ 41.f7+ 42...f7+ 43...f8=Q 44...h8=Q 45...h3+ 46...h6 46...e5+ h6 If 46...Kg4, then 47.h3+ leads to mate. 47...e4+ g5 48...h3+ Black Resigns. If 48...Kg6, then 49.Qh7#.
...Bd4–g1. 48...e3+ g5 49...g2 White plans to play Nh4–f3. 49...b2 Black’s plan is to sacrifice the exchange for the b-pawn and then win with his advanced a-pawn. 50...d5 f6 51...h4 e5 52...g8 e4 53...h7+ d5 54...g8+ c5 55...d6 If instead 55.Nf5, then 55...Kbf4 56.Nxh6 Rxh3 and the a-pawn cannot be stopped. 55...b4 56...e7 a3 Not 56...Rxb3? 57.Nc6+ Ka3 58.Bxb3 Kb3 59.Nxa5 with an equal position. 57...c6 25...d2 58...c4 26...d6 59...a7 b4 60...g8 c6 61...d5 26...d6 62...g8 27...d4 63...e8 28...d8 64...e6 If 64...Ne7, then 64...Rxg8 followed by 65...Kxb3 wins. 64...e5 The Knight cannot escape. Now Black wins just by capturing the b-pawn. 65...g4 29...d3 66...h5 28...xb3 67...xb3 68...xb3 69...xh6 4a 69...g4 a3 70...g5 a2 71...g6 d4 White Resigns.

0–1

○ Rubin, D.
• Glik, I.

Correspondence
1989

1/2–1/2

C07

This correspondence game features lots of sacrifices and some very sharp tactics.

1.e4 e5 2.d4 d5 3...c4 e6 4...e5 2.dxe5 5...g5 3...d2 c5 4...exd5 5...h5 4...cxd5 6...e4 4...d6 7...O–O 5...f6 8...b3 28...c6 9...bxd4 29...xd4 10...xd4 66...d6 11...b3 25...e4 12...d2 26...e6 13...c5 37...f5 The fireworks begin. 13...2exe2+ 27...xh1 O–O 15...xg7 28...e5 Not 15...xg7 16...Bxb2 29.O–O 17.Qh5 winning. 16...e5 18...e3 16...b6 Qxe2 17.Bxe2 Be5 leads to an equal position. 16...e5 17...c3 b5 17...Qxe3 18...Bxb2 wins for White. 18...d3 19...d8 Unclear is 18...Qxc3 19...Bxb2 Qxe6+ 20...f3. 19...e4 20...xe4 21...xe4 20...xe3 If 20...Rb8, then 21.Qxe5 threatening both 22.Qxb8 and 22.Nh5. 21...h5 Black has a big advantage after 21.Qxa8 Qxg7. 21...d3 22...g4+ 23...h4 e5 24...xe2 e5 25...h2 White is down in material but Black’s kingside is very weak. 25...d8 Black must give back the exchange to keep the White’s bishop out of play. 26...f6+ 27...xe8+ 28...xe8 29...e1 29...f6+ Bad is 29.f4 h6 30.Rc7 Qe4 31.Qg4+ Kf8 and White cannot defend his King. 29...g6 30...xf5+ d8+ Black is better in the endgame, but will it be enough to win? 31...e7 27...d5 32...d7 33...c7 34...e8+ Black could have kept his extra pawn with 33...Rb8, but decides to activate his Rook instead. 34...d4 Worse is 34.Rxa6+ Kf5 with a strong attack. 34...e2 35...xa6+ 29...c6 36...g3 f6 37...f4 d5 38...a1 e4 39...a7 e3 40...e7 d2+ White’s kingside pawns would become quite dangerous after 40...Rxa2 41.Bxf6. 41...xf2 29...d6+ 42...f1 28...e7 43...e2 27...d7 44...f5 h5 45.gxh5 27...fxg5 46...xe3 g4 47...h6 48...f7 Draw by Agreement.

1/2–1/2

○ Dreev, A.
• Azmaiparashvili, Z.

Moscow 1989

1–0

B07

A contest between two Soviet super Grandmasters ends quickly.

1.d4 g6 2.e4 g7 3...c3 d6 4...g5 f6 5...f4 O–O 6...f3 c6 7...d2 h6 8...d3 26...g4 9...e5 b4 10...e2 29...xf3 11...xg3 c5 12...e4 a5 13...O–O–O White is intending to weaken Black’s kingside with f4–f5. 13...d7 14...f5 This pawn sacrifice opens lines and gains time for White’s attack. 14...xf5 15...g3 28...e6 16...dxe5 29...d6 17...xd6 18.fxg6 hxg6 19...d1 exd4 Better is 19...f5. 20...g5 30...f5 If 20...exf5, then 21.Bh6. 21...xg7 e3 If 21...xg7, then 22.Bh6 Qe5 23.Rg5 Qe4 24.Bxh5 exd5 25.Re1 wins for White. 22...xe3 23...dxe3 Threatening 24.Qxe6. 23...xg7 24...f7 25...h5 25...xg6+ Black Resigns. If 25...Kxf7, then 26.Rf1+ Ke8 27.Rxf8+ Kxf8 28.Qd8+ Kf7 29.Qg8#. 1–0

○ Kudrin, S.
• Miles, A.

USA 1989

0–1

B00

This game from the U.S. championship features a Russian born Grandmaster against an English born Grandmaster, the latter well known for his creative but sometimes unorthodox style.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c4 e5 4...xe5 5...d6 5...b4 6...b6 6...e6 7...h4 7...f5 8...d3 28...c6 9...xe7 9...e7 10...d4 10...f4 O–O 11...e4 12...g6 12...f5 d8 Black is willing to sacrifice a pawn to open lines for his pieces. 13...ed6 13...e8+ 14...e2 15.O–O 16...b6 16...e7 17...d7 18...d4 18...c8 19...a1 20...f1 20...e7 25...e3 21...d7 26...b4 Black is a weak pawn, but his active pieces gives him the advantage. 20...c7 21...f1 a6 22...c4 19...e7 22...xe1 24...h1 25...d8 25...a4 27...h5 26.h4 This weakens the kingside. Better is 27.a5. 27...g4 28...e7 h4 Black calculated
many moves ahead before playing this strong sacrifice. 29. \( \text{Qxh4} \) 30. \( \text{gx3} \) This obvious move loses for White. Better was 30.Nf3, although after 30...Qxh4! 31.Nxh4 Nf2+ 32.Kg1 Ne4+ 33.Qe3 Bxe3+ 34.Rxe3 d5 Black has the better position. 30...\( \text{Bxh3} \) 31.\( \text{Bxe3} \) 32.b3 \( \text{Bd5} \) This position is full of tactics. Black threatens both 33...\( \text{Qxd4} \) and 33...\( \text{Rxd4} \). 33.\( \text{Bxf3} \) \( \text{Bxf3} \) Beautiful! 34.gx3 is met with 34...Rg1 checkmate! 34.\( \text{Bc4+} \) \( \text{Bxc4} \) 35.\( \text{Bxh3} \) \( \text{Bxh3} \) 36.\( \text{Bf2} \) \( \text{Bf2} \) Black wins back the pawn and is left at least a piece ahead. 37.\( \text{Bf1} \) \( \text{Bxd2} \) 38.\( \text{Bxe7} \) White’s only hope is a counterattack on the Black King, but this proves futile. 38...\( \text{Bxh4} \) 39.\( \text{Bxg7} \) 40.\( \text{Bb6} \) \( \text{Bb6} \) White Resigns.


\( \text{Bb6} \) 26.\( \text{f4} \) \( \text{Bxf4} \) 34.\( \text{Bd5} \) \( \text{Bd5} \) \( \text{g1} \) 36.\( \text{Bf6} \) \( \text{Bf6} \) Better is 36...\( \text{Bf6} \), but a strong one as well. White’s kingside is many moves ahead before playing this strong sacrifice. 29. \( \text{Bxh4} \) 30. \( \text{gx3} \) This obvious move loses for White. Better was 30.Nf3, although after 30...\( \text{Qxh4}! \) 31.Nxh4 Nf2+ 32.Kg1 Ne4+ 33.Qe3 Bxe3+ 34.Rxe3 d5 Black has the better position. 30...\( \text{Bxh3} \) 31.\( \text{Bxe3} \) 32.b3 \( \text{Bd5} \) This position is full of tactics. Black threatens both 33...\( \text{Qxd4} \) and 33...\( \text{Rxd4} \). 33.\( \text{Bxf3} \) \( \text{Bxf3} \) Beautiful! 34.gx3 is met with 34...Rg1 checkmate! 34.\( \text{Bc4+} \) \( \text{Bxc4} \) 35.\( \text{Bxh3} \) \( \text{Bxh3} \) 36.\( \text{Bf2} \) \( \text{Bf2} \) Black wins back the pawn and is left at least a piece ahead. 37.\( \text{Bf1} \) \( \text{Bxd2} \) 38.\( \text{Bxe7} \) White’s only hope is a counterattack on the Black King, but this proves futile. 38...\( \text{Bxh4} \) 39.\( \text{Bxg7} \) 40.\( \text{Bb6} \) \( \text{Bb6} \) White Resigns.
21.\text{f}3 a6 22.\text{h}b1 \text{c}e7 23.\text{d}6 \text{f}5 24.b5 \text{axb5} 25.\text{axb5} \text{xd6} Black had been doing fine up to here. But this move is a mistake and Kasparov does not give him a second opportunity. Correct is 25..\text{B}x3 26.\text{N}x5 \text{B}xe2 27.\text{N}e7+ \text{Kf7} 28.\text{b}6 \text{Ne8} 29.\text{c}6 \text{Kxe7} 30.\text{c}7 \text{Bf3} 31.\text{Ra7} \text{Rbc8} 32.\text{exd8}(Q)+ \text{Rx}d8 33.\text{Nc5} \text{Nd6.} 26.\text{bxc6} \text{xc4+} 27.\text{e}1 \text{bxc6} 28.\text{xb8} \text{N}b\text{b}x\text{b}8 Black’s problem now is that both his c- and d- pawns are weak. 28...\text{xb8} 29.\text{a}4 \text{e}3 30.\text{xe}6 \text{e}5 If 30...\text{R}d8, then 31.\text{Ra7} \text{Ned5} 32.\text{Kb}2 \text{Rb}8+ 33.\text{Rb}7 \text{Rxb7} 34.\text{Bxb7} \text{Nc}3 35.e4 followed by \text{Kb}3 and \text{Kc}4 with a large advantage to White. 31.\text{fxe5} \text{fxe5} 32.\text{xe}5 \text{e}6 33.\text{a}5 \text{c}5 34.\text{d}2 \text{xf8} Not only is \text{White} a pawn ahead, but his pieces are also better placed. Black has no hope. 35.\text{d}3 \text{e}7 36.\text{a}7+ \text{f}6 37.\text{d}7+ \text{g}5 38.\text{f}3 \text{f}5 39.\text{h}4+ \text{g}6 40.\text{a}6 \text{f}7 41.\text{d}5 \text{e}8 42.\text{e}5+ \text{f}6 43.\text{f}3 \text{Back} Signs. In order to stop 44.\text{Ng}5, Black must play 44...\text{h}6. But after 45.g4 \text{Ne}3 46.\text{B}xe6 \text{Rxe6} 47.\text{Rxe}6+ \text{Kxe}6 47.\text{Nd}4+ \text{White} wins. 1-0

- Kasparov, G.
- Short, N.

Barcelona 1989 1-0 A20

When the number-one and number-three rated players get together to rumble it’s always an eagerly awaited match-up. The audience didn’t disappoint the players, nor did the players disappoint the audience.

1.\text{c}4 \text{e}5 2.\text{g}3 \text{d}6 3.\text{g}2 \text{g}6 4.\text{d}4 \text{exd}4 5.\text{W}xd4 \text{f}6 6.\text{c}3 \text{g}7 This gives \text{White} an advantage in the ending. The middlegame after 6...\text{N}e5 7.\text{Q}d2 \text{Bg}7 8.b3 is also better for \text{White}. 7.\text{W}c3+ \text{e}7 8.\text{W}xe7+ \text{xe}7 9.b3 A powerful move that Nigel had missed when allowing the exchange of Queens. The move has several points. It protects \text{c}4, making counterplay based on ...\text{B}c8-e6 impossible. Also, when \text{Black} plays ...\text{c}7-c6, protecting \text{d}5 and neutralizing the Bishop on \text{g}2, \text{White} then can play \text{B}c1-a3 press against \text{d}6. \text{Black} has a bleak future. He’ll have to sit passively, waiting to counterpunch. The question is, what is the best defensive arrangement for \text{Black’s} pieces? Should he forgo playing ...\text{c}7-c6 and play ...\text{a}7-a5 with ...\text{Na}8-\text{a}6 in mind? Or should he bite the bullet, play 9...\text{R}d8 intending ...\text{c}7-c6, ...\text{B}c8-e6, ...\text{Nb}8-d7-b6, and ...\text{d}6-\text{d}5? The choice is not an easy one even with hindsight. 9...\text{a}5 Nigel didn’t like this move and blamed it for his problems in this game. He felt 9...\text{R}d8 aiming for an eventual ...\text{d}6-\text{d}5 was better. 10.\text{W}b2 \text{c}6 11.\text{W}a4 A very strong move. Black is sentenced to keep watch over the \text{b}6 square while his Kingside his kingside is paralyzed on the a1-\text{h}8 diagonal. White already has a significant advantage. It’s moves like this -moving the same piece twice, decentralizing the Knight, etc. - that gives chess teachers nightmares. 11...\text{W}e6 It’s hard to question a move like this, but \text{Black’s} position craves exchanges. Better is 11...\text{Nh}5 or 11...\text{Ne}8 intending to exchange Bishops and use \text{e}6 for the Knight. This would have relieved some of the pressure on \text{Black’s} position. With the benefit of hindsight, it’s plain that \text{Black} had to be willing to make a major concession to trade these Bishops. 12.\text{W}f3 \text{bd}7 Nigel is drifting. In combination with ...\text{a}7-a5, this method of development is not logical. 13.\text{W}d4 Now all of \text{White’s} pieces are working. As
soon as the first player doubles on the d-file Black can resign. 13...h6 14.0–0 a6 15.a4 White is wrong to discourage ...b7–b5. After the indicated 15.Rfd1, followed by Rd2, Black is history. If 15...b5?!, then 16.exb5 cxb5 17.Nc3 b4 and 18.Ncxb5, intending Na7, and the game would end before it had properly begun. 15...e8 16.f3

The handwriting is on the wall. Black has to hold his breath and play some ugly moves before things get any worse. 16...c5 The best move, but I can’t bring myself to give such a move an exclamation mark! Review my earlier notes. 17.h5

The Knight on b6 is a dead piece. The White pawn structure of b3–c4 stifles its movements. White has a won game. 20...a4 21.d2 a7 22.e4

Garry tightens the noose. 22...e8 Forced. If 22...Bxa4 23.bxa4 Ne8 (If 23...Nb6, 24.Rxd6 Nxa4 25.Rd3 intending Ra3 wins material.) 24.Rb1 at once, Black is forced to play ...b7–b6, after which material losses will become unavoidable. 23...ac3

e6 24.cd1 d8 White has achieved all he can on the queenside and in the center, and it’s not enough to win the game. How to step up the pressure? It’s clear that the Kingside has to get involved. The winning idea will be to play e2–e3, f2–f4, g3–g4–g5 and then to push the h-pawn. Garry now sets this plan in motion. 25.g4

Black isn’t given the chance to exchange pieces by ...f7–f5 and Bc6xg2. 25...ac7 26.a4 Once again preventing any freeing of the Black position by ...b7–b5. White can work in peace. 26...e6 27.d3

36.dxe5 37...d8 38.dxe6 Threatening 17.Nxe6. White has compensation for the sacrificed pawn because Black’s King is stuck in the center. 16...e8 17.e1 f7 If 17...Be7, then 18.Rxc4 Qxc4 19.Qa8+ is slightly better for White. 18...e2 19...f6

Not 19...Qb7?, as 20.Nxe6+ wins at once. 19...e8 20...f3 f6

Black’s King is left in the center. 1...f3 2...f6 3.exf6 4...b7 5.de3 White intends to play Bc2 and d4. 5...e4 6.g4

7...a5! 8.f5 9.exf6 10...e6 Threatening 27.Qxh7. 10...d6 24.b4

Taking advantage of the open h-pawn. 24...e8 25.Rxe6

White wants to play g4–g5 and force the exchange of h-pawns. If Black avoids this with ...h6–h5, then f4–f5–f6+ comes in decisive fashion. 30...d7 31.d5 Precise play. It’s too early to play 31.g5 hxg5 32.hxg5 f6, when lines will be opened on the kingside because White isn’t completely mobilized to take advantage of them. Parting with the Bishop by 31...Bxd5 32.Bxd5 Nf6 33.Bf3 doesn’t help matters. 31...f8 32.d2

Readying the blow g4–g5 andBg2–h3. 32...e6 33.g5 hxg5 34.hxg5 35.d6 36.f6

h7 37.xc7 38.g2 Nothing is accomplished by 38...Rh2, as 39.Kg1 forces exchanges on g2. 39.xc6 xc6 40.g2

Harnessing Black’s Rook. White now wants to protect his pawn with e3–e4–e5. 40...b8 41.d3 d5 Desperation. If 41...Rh7, then 42.e4 Rxh3 43.e5 Rxb4 44.Rc3 Rxh4 45.Ne4, with the intention of Nxd6 or Rh1–h8+ and Ne4–g5 mate, quickly decides matters. 42.exd5 exd5 43.d5

It now seems logical for White to fall into the trap 44.e4 Nxf6 45.Rxc5 Rgx3+, winning for Black. Unfortunately for Nigel, the strongest part of Garry’s game is his fine tactical ability, which he now demonstrates once more. 44.e4 A superb move. White utilizes all his pieces to weave a mating net. White intends Rd5–e5 and Rd1–d8. 44...exf3 45.e5

hx5 Nigel is still kicking. When I first saw this position I thought that Nigel had squirmed out. Indeed, after 46.Nxc5 Rxe5 47.Nd7+ Kf7 48.fxg5 Ne7, Black has good blockading chances. Garry’s next move removes all hope. 46.e6

Renewing the threat of Rd1–d8. 46...e2+ Nigel can choose his own execution: 46...Nc7 47.Rd8+ Kf7 48.Re7 mate or 46...Nxf6 47.Rd8+ Kf7 48.Rxf6+ Ke7 49.Rf8 and the Knight on e4 is taboo because of Re8+ and Rxe4. 47...f3

Threatening 48...h2+ 49...f2 50.fxg8=+ 51.e1 Black Resigns. A clinical masterpiece by Garry Kasparov.

1-0

○ Speelman, J.
• Short, N.

Barcelona

1989

1-0

A17

Black’s King is left in the center. 1...f3 2...f6 3.exf6 4...b7 5.de3 White intends to play Bc2 and d4. 5...e4 6.g4

7...a5! 8.f5 9.exf6 10...e6

11.d4 xf6 12.e3 xf3 13.b5 e8 14.f4 a6 15...d4 16.d1 Threatening 17.Nxe6. White has compensation for the sacrificed pawn because Black’s King is stuck in the center. 16...e8 17.e1 f7 If 17...Be7, then 18.Rxc4 Qxc4 19.Qa8+ is slightly better for White. 18...e2 19...f6

Not 19...Qb7?, as 20.Nxe6! wins at once. 19...e8 20...f3 f6

Black intends to play Be7. If 18...Qxc4 19.Qa8+ is slightly better for White. 18...e2 19...f6

Not 19...Qb7?, as 20.Nxe6! wins at once. 19...e8 20...f3 f6

Black Resigns. A masterpiece by Garry Kasparov.

1-0
Black’s advantage is 20...Kg3 Bxh4+ 21.Rxh4 Rxf2 and even worse is 20.h5 Bh4. 20...hxg5 21.h5 a8=Q Good for White is 21...Ne7 22.Bg4. 22.b4 White suddenly switches the focus to the queenside. 22...cxb4 23.axb4 d8 24.exb4 a7 25.cxd6 Better is 25Nb2. Then Kasparov intended to play 25...Rxf2+ 26.Nxf2 Ng6 with attacking chances. 25...xg6 26.c5 Threatening 27.c6. 26...g4 Better is 26...Nf6 to meet 27.c6 with 27...Nxe4. 27.c6 g3 28.d3 bxc6 29.dxc6 e8 30.f3 Not 30...exd7? Rxc1 31.Nxc1 Rf2+ 32.Kg1 Qxe4 winning. 30...fxg3 31.hxg3 a4 32.axg3 Not 32.Qe3?Bg5 winning. 32...hxg4+ 33.Kh1 Correct is 33.Kh2. 33...c6 34...d6 e6+ 35.Rc6=Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Korchnoi, V.
• Ye, J.
?
Novi Sad
1990 0-1 E99
An incredible back-and-forth tactical marvel, played at the Olympiad between the former Soviet Korchnoi, now playing for the Swiss, and the top board for the Chinese team, relative newcomers to the world of top-level chess. In this game, Ye, Jiangchuan proves that age and experience are not always victorious over inventive youth. 1.d4 ef6 2.c4 g6 3.d3 g7 4.c3 d6 5.e2 O-O 6.d3 e5 7.0-0 fd8 8.d5 c7 9.e1 d4 10.d3 f5 11.d2 c6 12.f3 b8 13.e1 c5 This makes it more difficult for White to attack on the queenside. 14.g4 And this makes it more difficult for White to attack on the kingside. 14...a6 15.f2 h6 16.h4 fxg4 17.fxg4 e8 18...g2 h7 19...h1 f6 20.g5 White sacrifices a pawn to keep Black’s pieces inactive. To

0-1

○ Gelfand, B.
• Kasparov, G.
?
Linares
1990 1/2-1/2 E99
A titanic struggle between two giants. 1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3.d3 g7 4.c3 d6 5.e2 O-O 6.d3 e5 7.0-0 c6 8.d5 c7 9.e1 d4 10.d3 f5 11.d2 c6 12.f3 b8 13.e1 c5 This makes it more difficult for White to attack on the queenside. 14.g4 And this makes it more difficult for White to attack on the kingside. 14...a6 15.f2 h6 16.h4 fxg4 17.fxg4 e8 18...g2 h7 19...h1 f6 20.g5 White sacrifices a pawn to keep Black’s pieces inactive. To
and slow the c-pawn’s advance. 13...b6 14.b4 a6 15.c3 h5 16.h1 f6 17.c5 g4 18.exb6 cxb6 19.e1 g3 Black is more than willing to sacrifice a pawn or two to open Kingside lines.

20.g1 gxh2 21.gxf4 h4 22.d4 8h8 23.b5 axb5 24.xb5 8h5 25.xh2 8g3 26.g1 8g6 27.d3 h7 28.b4 h3 29.xe8 Basically forced, due to Black’s increasing initiative. Now Korchnoi hopes to get some pawns for the exchange. 29...xe8 30.gxh3 8h8 31.xb6 8e7 32.d3 b8 33.c6 8g8 34.f2 8h4 35.f3 8f7 36.c1 8xb6 And Black returns the material to set up an unusual diagonal pin against the loose Knight f2. 37.xb6 8a7 38.h3 8b8 39.h1 8f6 40.e4 8xf3+ 41.e2 8h4 42.g1 8d8 43. 8xd6 8xb6 44.e4+ 8g7 45.xb6 8xb6 46.ed7+ 8h6 47.e6+ 8g6 48.e2 8g7 49. 8d7+ 8e7 50.d6 Walking into mate, but there is no real defense. 50...h4+ 51.g1 8b1+ 52.h2 8f1+ White Resigns.

0-1

○ Stohl, I.

- Uhlmann, W.

Euuwe Memorial, Amsterdam

1990 0-1 E97

The text is a model King’s Indian Defense game, where Black first stymies White on the Queenside, then goes for a full bodied attack on the King.

1.d4 8f6 2.c4 g6 3.e4 8g7 4.e5 0-0 5.d4 d6 6.e2 8g4 7.g5 8c6 8.d5 8xf3 9.gxf3 8e5 10.h4 8c6 11.f4 8d7 12.h5 8xd5 13.exd5 8xe5 Better is 13...Qa5. 14. 8a5 15.0-0-0 b5 16. 8xf6 8xf6 Worse is 16...exf6. White gets a very strong attack after 17.hxg6 fxg6 18.Rxh7 Kxh7 19.Rh1+ Kg7 20.h5. 17.h6 8h8 18.f5 Completely shutting in the Bishop. Now it will as if Black is a piece down. 18...b4 19. 8xe4 20. 8xe4 8e8 21. 8xe2 22. 8d3 8f8 23. 8d1 8a1+ 24. 8d2 8a5 25. 8xe8+ 8xe8 26. 8c1 8e5 If 26...b3+, then 27.Qc3 Qxc3+ 28.bxc3 Rxe1 29.Kxe1 and Black’s King will be no match for White’s King and Bishop.

27. 8e3 8xf5 28.f4 8xe3 29. 8xe3 8c5+ 30. 8g1 31. 8xf5 8a5 If 31...Qh1+ 32.Kg3 Qxb6, then White creates a strong passed pawn with 33.c5. 32.h3 8h1+ 33. 8g3 8g1+ 34. 8g2 8c3+ 35. 8f3 8g1+ 36. 8h3 8f7 37. 8e2+ 8d8 38. 8g2 Forcing an exchange of Queens. 38... 8xg2+ 39. 8xg2 8c7 40. 8f3 8b6 41. 8c6 Black Resigns. White wins after 41...Kc5 42.Kd3 Kb6 43.Kd4 Kc7 44.c5 or 42...a4 43.bxa4 b3 44.Kc3.

0-1

○ Karpov, An.

- Kasparov, G.
23rd Match Game, Lyons 1990 1-0 E87
This was the next to the last game of the 24 game match. Kasparov had a two game lead, and was therefore assured of at least a drawn match, enough to retain his title. But there was still something to play for! As well as the honor Karpov could gain by winning the last two games to tie the score, there was a 1,000,000 bono astrophotograph, the clear winner. There was also the boost Karpov made about "crushing" Anatoly thistime. In

1.d4 2.c4 g6 3.Qc3 g7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.e3 e5 7.d5 Qh5 8.Wd2 h4+ 9.g3 Wf7 10.O-O-O Playing the Samish against the King’s Indian and castling on opposite wings announces Anatoly’s intention to fight. 10...f5 11.exf5 gxf5 12.Qh3 Qa6 13.g1 Qf6 14.Qf2 h8 15.Qe2 d7 16.Qg5 Qc5 17.g4 Battling for positional control of e4. 17...e4 18.fxе4fxе4 19.Qe3 Qa4 20.g5 Qxc3 21.bxc3 Qg8 22.Qc4 Qe5 23.dxc6 Qxc6 24.h4 Qd5 Played hastily, this is apparently based on faith in the phantom of Black Queen, Bishop, and Rook coordinating an attack against the White King on the dark square. 25.Qexd5 Qxd5 26.Wxd5 Qxc8 No better is 26...Qa3+ 27.Kb1 Qxc3 28.Bd4. The move 28.Bd4+ also refutes 27...Bxc3 in this line, in fact winning another piece. 27.Wd6 Blocking the Queen’s route to a3, and effectively ending the game. 27...Qxc3+ 28.Qh1 Wf7 29.Qd4 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Beliavsky, A. • Kasparov, G.

? Linares 1990 1-0 E84
A tactical skirmish White the exchange ahead, but Black seems to have enough resources to hold the position.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.Qc3 Qg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.e3 Qe6 7.Qd2 a6 8.Qe2 b8 9.Qc1 e5 10.b3 exd4 11.Qxd4 Qe5 12.Qd1 c6 13.Qe2 b5 14.Qxb5 Qxb5 15.b4 e5 16.Qe2 cxb4 17.Qxb4 Qe6 18.O-O Black has the better position after 18.Qxd6 Qxh6 19.Qxh6 Ne4 20.Qxc4 Bxc4. 18...Qa5 19.Qxh6 Qh4+ Not 19...Rxh8 20.Qb6. 20.Qxc4 bxc4 21.Qd6 Not 21.Rb1 Qa3. 21...Qxc3 22.Qd4 Qxe4 23.Qc3 Not 23.Qxe4 Bxd4+ 24.Rxd4 Qb7 with a slight advantage to Black. 23...Qd6 24.Qg7 Qxg7 25.Qxb8 Qf5 26.Qd7 Qe8 27.Qb6 Qc6 Black has enough for the exchange due to his active pieces and passed c-pawn. 28.Qb1 c3 29.Qb4 Qxa2 30.Qc1 c2 31.Qf2 h5 32.Qe2 Qe6 33.Qd2 Qd6+ Both players were very short on time. 34.Qxe2 This is a mistake. Correct is 34.Qe2 with an equal position. 34...Qxe2+ 35.Qg2 Qxg2 36.Qc4 Qd3 Black misses 36...Rd5 37.Qxd6 Rf2. 38.Qc2 Rxg2 39.Kxc2 Ne4+ 40.Kd1 Nf3 with big advantage. 37.Qe5 Qe3 38.Qf6 Qf6 39.Qxe3 Qxe3 40.Qd3 Qd5 41.Qe1 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Marin, M. • Mascarinas, R.

? Manila 1990 1-0 E80
White throws everything he can at Black’s King.

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.Qc3 Qg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.e3 e5 7.d5 Qh5 8.Qd2 h4+ 9.g3 Qf7 10.O-O-O Playing the Samish against the King’s Indian and castling on opposite wings announces Anatoly’s intention to fight. 10...f5 11.exf5 gxf5 12.Qh3 Qa6 13.g1 Qf6 14.Qf2 h8 15.Qe2 d7 16.Qg5 Qc5 17.g4 Battling for positional control of e4. 17...e4 18.fxе4fxе4 19.Qe3 Qa4 20.g5 Qxc3 21.bxc3 Qg8 22.Qc4 Qe5 23.dxc6 Qxc6 24.h4 Qd5 Played hastily, this is apparently based on faith in the phantom of Black Queen, Bishop, and Rook coordinating an attack against the White King on the dark square. 25.Qexd5 Qxd5 26.Wxd5 Qxc8 No better is 26...Qa3+ 27.Kb1 Qxc3 28.Bd4. The move 28.Bd4+ also refutes 27...Bxc3 in this line, in fact winning another piece. 27.Wd6 Blocking the Queen’s route to a3, and effectively ending the game. 27...Qxc3+ 28.Qh1 Qf7 29.Qd4 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Seirawan, Y. • Gelfand, B.

? Tilburg 1990 0-1 E73
A fairly new idea by which Black sidesteps the main lines of the Averbakh System and quietly “develops.” But, can it be good to develop your Knight to the rim? 7...e6 This aims to refute Black’s sixth move. The normal 7.Qd2 e5 8.d5 Ne5 9.f3 would be a straight transposition. I wanted to punish Black’s opening. 7...e6

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text is a restrained response to White’s pawn-mass, preparing subtle undermining moves like ...Qd8-b6 and ...Na6-c7-e6. 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.d5 Qh5 Another nibbling move. Black avoids direct confrontations but continues to feint and jab. 10.f5 gxf5 This move deserves a commendation for bravery, but it is plainly bad. 11.exf5 Qf6 12.dxe6 White chooses to give up the center in order to focus on the Black King. 12...bxc6 13.g4 White’s primitive plan (Qd1-d2, Bg5-h6) may decide the issue. 13...b8 14.Qd2 a6 15.Qd4 Qb6 My plan in this position was simple: Stop black on the queenside and kill him on the kingside. This led me to mistakenly shore up my queenside with 16.a3

Correct is 16.b3. 16...Qb4 The only move, but a good one. While stopping Bg5-e3, Black introduces the possibility of ...Nxa2. I now went into a "long think, wrong think” routine. White wants to move the Bishop on g5 and play g4-g5. 17.h4 Understandable but wrong. The position demanded the Karpovian retreat 17.Bd1!. 17...xa2 18.xa2 Qxb3 19.O–O My last move was played with great confidence. I couldn’t believe that Black could survive. White’s threats include g4-g5, f5-f6, as well as Ra2xa7xe7. Now Boris went into a deep think and uncorked a masterful defensive stroke. 19...Qe8 This move goes to the very heart of the position. Black will allow White to sacrifice an Exchange only on his own terms. White must occupy g5 with a pawn, and in the meantime Black simply protects e7. After having launched myself into the position, I felt as if I had stepped into a cold shower. Black still has his Queenside pressure while White’s attack is chimerical. 20.a1 Qe4 21.Qe3 Qxc3 22.axb3 Qd4 23.Qxd4 Qe2+ 24.f2 Qxd4 25.a4 Black is slightly better, but time pressure was about to affect my play. 25...Qb6 26.Qe1 Qf8 27.e4 Qb3 28.axb3 Qxb3 29.Qc3 Qxe3 30.Qxe3 a6 31.c5 Qd5 32.Qa4 Qe6 33.Qf6 Qh4 Natural, but bad. White puts another pawn on a light square. Best was 34.Bg3 with a rather simple draw. 34...d4+ Black’s only chance to win. 35.Qe4 Qe6 36.Qa6 Qd5+ 37.Qd3 Qg2 38.Qg5 Yes Virginia, Grandmasters really do blunder Rooks! 38.Rb6 should draw. 38...Qf1+ White Resigns. Why does the realization that you’ve made a blunder wash over you the moment you release the piece?

Biel
1990 1-0 E69

Anatoly Karpov was the World Champion from 1975-1985. Here he faces the young French Champion Joel Lautier. Does the young man have what it takes to push the former World Champion aside? 1.Qf3 Qf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 g7 4.Qg2 O–O 5.O–O d6 6.d4 Qd7 7.Qc3 e5 8.b3 c6 9.e4 Qb6 10.e1 exd4 11.Qxd4 Qe8 12.Qf3 Qe5 13.Qxe5 A simplifying move which is the hallmark of Karpov’s game. Karpov tries to channel the game into quiet lines of play where his superior positional skills can be demonstrated. 13...dxe5 14.Qa4 Qa5 15.a3 Qc7 16.Qc3 Qxb2 Ambitious youth at work! The text puts Black’s Queen in imminent danger in return for a pawn. On the other hand, 16...Qa6 17.Bf1 would secure White a clear plus. 17.Qc1 b5 18.Qd1 Qxc4 Not much choice here. If 18...b4?? 19.Na4 snags a Queen. 18...b6 19.Qd6 threatens 20.Rab1 similarly winning Black’s Queen. The text makes her retreat possible. 19.Qc5 Qe6 Black is forced to cough up material. White has the double threat of 20.Rab1 and 20.Bxf8 winning. 20.Qd4 Qb3 21.Qf1 22.Qf1 Although White has won an exchange, Black has two pawns as compensation. White’s advantage lies in the fact that Black’s c-pawns are doubled. This clue should show us how to win the game. 22...Qd4 23.Qxc4 Qxd1 24.Qxd1 Qc6 According to Karpov’s notes, this is a mistake. More resistance could have been offered by 24...Qxa3 25Nb6 Qb8 26.Qa4 Bb4 27.Nc4 when White will play Nc4xa5 but it’s still a fight. 25.Qe3 Qd8 26.Qg2 Qb8 27.Qc5 Qb2 28.Qd3 Qa2 29.Qd4 Qb3 30.Qa1 Qxc3 31.Qxc3 Qb3 32.Qe4 a4 33.Qf4 Qb5 34.Qxe5 Qg7 35.Qc1 Qxe5 36.Qxe6 Qxa3 Black has managed to win White’s a3-pawn. But his pieces are dominated by the d3-Bishop and White Rook. 37.Qg1 Qf8 38.Qf3 Qb2 39.Qd2 Qd1 40.Qe7 Qe5 41.Qc5 Qd4 42.Qc8+ Qf7 43.Qg7+ Qf6 44.Qf3 Qb2 45.Qb7 Qc1 46.Qf2 h5 47.Qe2 Qb3 48.Qd4+ Qe5 49.Qxb3 axb3 50.Qxb3 Qxe4 51.Qd3+ Black Resigns. Continuing to keep Black’s a3-Knight locked up. After 51...Qd4 52.Qd4 Black’s kingside pawns are targeted for termination.

1-0

○ Gelfand, B.
● Smijkal, J.
?
Novi Sad
1990 1/2–1/2 D85

197
This game is a relatively short draw, but there are some sharp tactics on the way. No "GM" draw here; both sides are clearly at risk.

1.d4 ♞f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♞xd5 5.e4 ♞xc3 6.bxc3 ♟g7 7.♗f3 The move Nf3 was once thought to be undesirable in the exchange Grunfeld Defense, due to Black's ability to pin the Knight and put more pressure on the d-pawn. However, tactical resources were uncovered, and the move is now played routinely. 7...c5 8.♗b5 O–O 9.♗c2 ♞e6 10.d5 ♞e5 Capture on e5, even with check, would lead only to the forcible exchange of the critical fianchettoed Bishop and the time-losing retreat of the Knight - far too large a price to pay for a mere pawn. 11.♘xe5 ♟xe5 12.♘d2 b6 13.f4 ♟g7 14.O–O e6 15.♗xe6 ♟xe6 16.♗e3 ♟b7 17.♗c4 ♟d7 18.f5 The beginning of an attractive plan to tactically profit from the pin of the weak e-pawn. 18...♗xf5 19.♘xf5 ♟d5 20.♘d3 ♟e6 21.♖g5 Finally connecting the Rooks, but now Black obtains equality through tactical means. 21...♗e4 22.♗h3 ♖xf5 23.♗xf5 ♘b1 Naturally not 23...♗xf5 24.♘xf5. 24.♗xe6+ ♗h8 25.♗f1 ♖g6 26.♖c4 ♖d6 27.♖f5 Draw by Agreement. 1/2–1/2

○ Gelfand, B.
● Ivanchuk, V.
?

Tilburg 1990 1–0 D85

This text features a match-up between two of today’s youngest chess stars. This game was played in Tilburg, Holland in an atmosphere where the winner was expected to clinch first place in the tournament.

1.d4 ♞f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♞xd5 5.e4 ♞xc3 6.bxc3 ♟g7 7.♗f3 e5 8.♗b5 O–O 9.♗c2 cxd4 10.♗xd4 ♖a5+ 11.♗d2 An important theoretical pawn sacrifice. The position after 11.Qd2 Qxd2+ 12.Bxd2 Rd8 is considered equal.

11...♖xa2 12.0–0 ♗g4 13.♗g5 h6 14.♗e3 A surprising retreat. Both players evaluated the position after 14.Bxe7 Re8 15.Rxb7 Nc6 16.Bc5 Rxe4 as balanced. 14...♗e6 15.Qd5 ♘a5 16.♗c2 ♖f6 17.♗g5 ♘xe5 18.h3 It appears that White has made an oversight as 18.Nxe5?? Bxc2 works well for Black. Also 18.Bxe7 Rf8 19.d6 Nc6 doesn’t offer White much. Still, he has calculated well. His next move clarifies who is in charge. 18...♗xf3 19.♗xf3 ♖e8 Black cannot give up control of the a1 square. Example: 19...b6 20.Bxd6 exd6 21.Ra1 winning the Knight a5. 20.d6 ♖c4

Black is forced to respond to the threat of Bf3–d5 which would trap his Queen. Thus 20...exd6 21.Bd5 Nc4 22.Rxb7 dxc5 23.Bxf7+ Kh8 24.Bxe8 Rxe8 25.Qd7 wins. 21.d7 ♘xc5 22.dxe8+ ♗xe8 23.♗a4 The scorpion's sting at the tail of the combination. Black will soon find himself in an exchange-down ending. The result is a python-like squeezing to death. The technical phase is worthy of our highest compliments and deserves careful study.

23...c6 24.axb7 ♗e8 25.♗xc6 ♖xc6 26.♗xe7 ♖xe7 27.♖xc6 ♗d4 28.♖d5 ♗b6 29. ♗g5 30.♖g2 ♗g7 31.♗b1 ♗e2 32.♗f3 ♗e6 33.♗c3 ♗h7 34.♗c1 ♖d5+ 35.♗f3 ♖d7 36.♗d1 ♗e7 37.♗d3 ♗g7 38.♖c6 ♗e2 39.♗f3 ♗a2 40.♖c3+ ♗g8 41.♖b3 ♖xb3 42.♖xb3 ♗f3 43.♗d3 ♗e7 44.♗e2 ♖e6 45.♗e4 ♖d6 46.♖d2+ ♗e7 47.♗f4 ♗f6 48.♖c2 ♗d4 49.♖e4 ♗b6 50.♖e6+ ♗e7 51.♖d7 52.♖f6 ♖e7 53.♗c6 ♗d7 54.♗d5 ♗c7 55. ♗c4 ♗a5 A considerable mistake. Although the position is losing, this accelerates defeat. Now White can get his Rook behind Black’s passed a-pawn, a crucial point. In that case, the Rook will attack the Kingside too. 56.♖c6 ♗d8 57.♖a6 ♗e7 58.♗e4 ♗c7 59.♖d5 ♗d8 60.♖a7+ ♗f6 61.♖a8 ♗e7 62.♖xa5 Black Resigns. 1–0

○ Yusupov, A.
● Gulko, B.
?

Hastings 1990 0–1 D86

White hunts down a pawn with his Queen, but leaves his kingside undefended.

1.d4 ♞f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 The Grunfeld defense is a very sharp and theoretical opening. 4.cxd5 ♗xd5 5.e4 ♞xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♗c4 O–O 8.♗e2 ♗c6 This is a less common move than 8...c5. 9.0–0 ♗b6 10.♗g5 ♗h7 11.♖d1 ♖d6 12.♗ad1 ♗a5 13.♗d3 ♗e5 14.d5 ♗e7 15.c4 ♗a6 16.♗c2 ♖xd5 17.♖xd5 ♗d7 Black prevents 18.Qa4 followed by Bd4. 18.♖g3 ♗ae8 19.♗e2 ♗c7 20.♗e4 ♖d6 21.♗xd6 ♖xd6 22.♗a4 The start of a very risky plan. Better is 22.Rf1 with an equal position. 22...♗c8 23.♗xa7 ♗e5 White has won a pawn, but with his Queen out of play, Black quickly mobilizes his forces for a kingside attack. 23.Bc3. This weakens the kingside. Better is 24.f4. 24...♗d4 Threatening 25...♗xh3 26.gxh3 Qg3+. 25.♗h1 If White tries to bring his Queen back in play with 25.Qa3, then 25...♗xh3 26.Bxg6 Bxg2 27.Bxh7+ Kxh7 28.Kxg2 Rg8+ is winning for Black. 25...♗f6 26.♗e3 If White tries
to bring his Queen back into play with 26.Qc7, then 26...Be5 27.Qc6 Qh4 threatening 28...Bxh3 wins for Black. 26... hx3 White’s King is under a bloody siege. 27...xd4 cxd4 28.Qh6 if 28.gxh3, then Black has a winning attack after 28...Qh3+ 29.Kxg2 Rg5+. 29.f4 d3 30.Rb7 White loses very quickly after 30.gxh3 Qh4. 30...h4 31.Bxg1 hxg2 Now White must give up his Queen to avoid getting mated. 32.Rxg2 Qg3 33.e4 Qxg2+ 34.Re2 g6 35.Re6 d6 36.d5 Rxd7 37.d5 Re7 38. f3 Re5 39.Re1 Re5 40.f6 Re8 41.Reh1 g4 42.f5 e6 43.Qh5 e5 44.Reh2 d3 45. Qxf7+ Rxf7 46.Rxh7+ Qg6 47.f7 Rxf7+ White Resigns. It’s checkmate after 49.Rg1 Qg3+ 50.Kh1 Rh5.

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Dolmatov, S.
Speelman, J.

Hastings 1990 1-0 E54

White’s sacrificial attack on Black’s king eventually wins Black’s Queen.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d6 3.exd5 cxd5 4.e4 The Panov-Botvinnik attack is popular method of combating the Caro-Kann defense. White usually concedes weaknesses in his pawn structure in exchange for active pieces and strong attacking chances. 4...Qf6 5.e5 c6 6.dxc6 Qxc6 7.d3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Bxc5 9.O-O Oxd5 10.g4 Bg4 11.h4 Nf6 12.g5 Nc6 13.dxc5 Qd4 14.Qb3 Qf6 15.g6 Qg5 16.hxg6 Qxh6+ 17.gxh7+ Black has won a pawn, but can he defend against the coming attack? 17.gxh6 18.Qxh6+ Black’s defenders are knocked out. 18...Qh7 Worse is 18...Qe5 19.Qxf6 Qxf6 20.Qf6 winning immediately. 19.Qd2 Bringing the Rook into the attack will win Black’s Queen. 19...Be5 20.Qxe3 Qxe3 21.Bxe3 White has a big advantage for his passed pawn. 26...Qa4 27.b4 Qd7 28.Qe7 g5+ 29.Qf3 Black decides not to tie his pieces down to the f-pawn and instead concentrates on creating his own passed pawn on the queenside. 30.Qf7+ Qe6 31.Qe5+ dxe5 White has a big advantage because of his passed h-pawn. 26...Qa4 27.b4 Qc7 28.Qd4+ f7 29.Qxe5 f6 30.hxg6 fxg6 31.Qxc6 Qa8 32.bxc6 Qa6 33.Bxe5 Qxe5 34.Bxe5 Qxe5 35.Qxe5 Qxe5 36.Qxe5 Qxe5 37.Qe5 Qxe5

1-0

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Karpov, An.
Kasparov, G.

17th Match Game, Lyons 1990 1-0

After a mass of King’s Indian Defenses with Black, Kasparov returns to the Grunfeld in this game in the second half of the 1990 New York-Lyons World Championship match. Kasparov seemed happy enough with this decision, and his straightforward thematic play brought him a needed victory.


1-0

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\[ \text{xd6 66. exd6 a2 67.d7 a1=\# 68.Bb7+ Black Resigns. 68...Kc3 69.d8=Q is hopeless.} \]

1-0

○ Sokolov, I.
● Korchnoi, V.
?

Novi Sad
1990

1-0

E44

The Nimzo-Indian Defense, played often by and named after Aron Nimzowitsch, whose plan in this position was to capture the Knight on c3 and double White’s c-pawns. There are many plans available to White, some of which avoid the doubled pawns, and some of which allow the doubling. In this case, White chooses to avoid the doubling, and the games transpose into a non-standard line of the Queen’s Indian.

1.d4 \( \text{d5} \) 2.c4 \( \text{e6} \) 3.\( \text{c3} \) \( \text{b6} \) 4.e3 \( \text{b5} \) 5.\( \text{c2} \) \( \text{e4} \) 6.\( \text{c7} \) 7.a3 \( \text{xc3+} \) 8.\( \text{xc3} \) \( \text{xc3} \) 9.\( \text{xe3} \) \( \text{h4} \) Played against the natural central expansion f2-f3, e2-e4.

10.b3 \( \text{O-O} \) 11.\( \text{b2} \) \( \text{f6} \) To avoid being mated after d4-d5.

12.d5 \( \text{exd5} \) 13.\( \text{d1} \) \( \text{d4} \) 13...dxc4 14.Bxc4++ would open too many lines against the Black King.

14.\( \text{xd4} \) \( \text{b5} \) 15.\( \text{e2} \) \( \text{g6} \) 16.\( \text{g4} \) \( \text{b1+} \) 17.\( \text{d1} \) \( \text{e6} \) 18.O-O Now 19.Bc2 is a nasty threat. White has gained time with a unique Rook-lift and now the Bishop-pair are preparing to drive home the point.

18...\( \text{fxf5} \) 19.\( \text{g3} \) \( \text{wxe5} \) 20.\( \text{wxd2} \) \( \text{wxe8} \) 21.\( \text{c2} \) \( \text{e5} \) 22.\( \text{h4} \) \( \text{d6} \) 23.\( \text{wce2} \) \( \text{f5} \) 24.\( \text{f4} \) \( \text{f4} \) 25.\( \text{xf5} \) \( \text{xf5} \) 26.\( \text{wxe4} \) \( \text{f7} \) 27.\( \text{wxe7} \) \( \text{d7} \) Two pawns down, Black decides to try his luck in the endgame. Alas, no help is forthcoming, even with opposite-color Bishops.

28.\( \text{wxd7} \) \( \text{xd7} \) 29.\( \text{c3+} \) \( \text{f8} \) 30.\( \text{f5} \) \( \text{e8} \) 31.\( \text{f6} \) \( \text{e4} \) 32.\( \text{f4} \) \( \text{g6} \) 33.\( \text{f2} \) \( \text{f7} \) 34.\( \text{h5} \) Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Kasparov, G.
● Spassky, B.
?

Linares
1990

1-0

E35

A current world champion against a former world champion.

1.d4 \( \text{d5} \) 2.\( \text{c4} \) \( \text{e6} \) 3.\( \text{c3} \) \( \text{b6} \) 4.\( \text{c2} \) \( \text{d5} \) 5.\( \text{exd5} \) \( \text{exd5} \) 6.\( \text{c5} \) \( \text{b5} \) 7.\( \text{h4} \) \( \text{c5} \) 8.\( \text{xc5} \) \( \text{c6} \) 9.\( \text{e3} \) \( \text{g5} \) 10.\( \text{g3} \) \( \text{e4} \) 11.\( \text{f3} \) \( \text{w6} \) 12.\( \text{b5} \) \( \text{xc3} \) 13.\( \text{xc6+} \) \( \text{bxc6} \) Correct is 13...\( \text{Qxc6} \) 14.\( \text{bxc6} \) \( \text{Bxc5} \) 15.O-O with only a slight advantage to White.

14.a3 \( \text{g4} \) 14...\( \text{Bf5} \) 15.Qd2 is much better for White. 15.e5 Black is all right after 15.Nd4 Nb5.

15.\( \text{e4} \) 16.axb4 \( \text{wxf5} \) 17.\( \text{Qh8} \) \( \text{gxf3} \) 18.\( \text{g1} \) Good for Black is 18.gxf3 \( \text{Qxf3} \) 19.Rg1 \( \text{Bg4} \) 18...\( \text{g4} \) Better is 18...\( \text{fxg2} \) 19.\( \text{d5} \) \( \text{e4} \) 21.\( \text{e5}+ \) \( \text{c6} \) 22.\( \text{f4} \) \( \text{w6} \) 23.\( \text{wxf6} \) 24.\( \text{w4} \) \( \text{f7} \) 25.\( \text{f3} \) \( \text{g5} \) 26.\( \text{d2} \) \( \text{d1} \) \( \text{Rf8} \) 27.\( \text{Rxa7+} \) loses immediately.

27.\( \text{h4} \) \( \text{xf4} \) 28.\( \text{exf4} \) \( \text{h7} \) 29.\( \text{g4} \) Black Resigns. 30.g5 is coming and 29...\( \text{Rg8} \) 30.\( \text{Rxa7+} \) is hopeless.
1-0

○ Seirawan, Y.
● Korchnoi, V.
?

Novi Sad
1990

1/2-1/2

E38

The following game was played at the 1990 chess Olympiad. The featured game was played between the USA's top board Yasser Seirawan and Switzerland's Victor Korchnoi. In a team event no one wants to risk the wrath of one’s teammates by losing, but winning is nice too.

1.d4 \( \text{d5} \) 2.e4 \( \text{e6} \) 3.\( \text{c3} \) \( \text{b6} \) 4.\( \text{c2} \) \( \text{c5} \) 5.\( \text{xc5} \) \( \text{a6} \) 6.a3 \( \text{b5} \) 7.\( \text{d2} \) \( \text{g5} \) 8.\( \text{c1} \) \( \text{e4} \) 9.\( \text{xe4} \) \( \text{f6} \) 10.f4 \( \text{xf4} \) 11.\( \text{e2} \) \( \text{c4} \) 12.\( \text{xf6} \) \( \text{gxf6} \) 13.\( \text{e4} \) After a sharp opening, the players have found themselves in a 'simple' ending. I had hoped to exploit Black’s fractured pawn structure.

13...\( \text{a5} \) 14.\( \text{d3} \) \( \text{g8} \) 15.\( \text{c2} \) Laying a trap that Black immediately falls for. But the question soon becomes, "Who is trapping whom?" If White wanted, he could have secured an advantage with 15.f4! in order to develop by Ng1-f3.

15...\( \text{hxg2} \) 16.\( \text{g3} \) \( \text{axb4} \) 17.\( \text{axb4} \) \( \text{e5} \) Now that the g2-Rook’s retreat has been cutoff, I had expected Black to try 17...Nc5 18.Bf1 Rxg3 19.hxg3 Ra1+ 20.KKe2 Nxe4 21.Rxh7 with a likely win.

18.\( \text{f1} \) \( \text{d3+} \) A spectacular move. It is very rare in chess to see such a tactic. Black’s Knight attacks White’s Bishop. The Bishop moves. Then Black moves the Knight to the same square the Bishop just came from! Now 19. Ke2 Rxg2+ 20.Kxd3 Ra3+ 21.Rc3 Rf3+ costs White the game.

19.\( \text{xd3} \) \( \text{b4} \) 20.hxg3 \( \text{a1+} \) 21.\( \text{g2} \) \( \text{h1} \) 22.\( \text{a2} \) \( \text{d6} \) 23.\( \text{e8} \) \( \text{d7} \) 24.\( \text{e2} \) \( \text{f1} \) Draw by Agreement.
1/2-1/2

○ Miles, A.
● de Firmian, N.
?

Manila
1990

0-1

E38

Under the new program to qualify a challenger for
the world championship, this single tournament in the Philippines produced seven contenders to join Karpov in a series of play-off matches. Former U.S. champion Nick de Firmian just missed qualifying, but had the satisfaction of winning the Brilliance Prize with this game. From the beginning Black looks for a slugfest against White’s safe positional play. Black escalates the sacrifices until his opponent’s “safe” play at a critical juncture is anything but safe.

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♘b4 4.♗c2 e5 5.♕c5 ♗a6 6.♗a3 ♘xc3+ 7.♖xc3 ♘xc5 8.♗f3 ♙d5 9.exd5 ♙b6 Black is playing for quick development. If 10. dxe6 Bxe6 Black would have more than enough

23...Qc3+ 24. O-O with a safe positional advantage, but

22...Qd2 23. e6, beginning great complications.

22...Qd2 This is Black’s point. His pieces take up dominating positions while White’s pieces are blocked in by the fence of Black’s central pawns. A brilliant concept.

23. ♗g4 d3 24.exd3 No choice here. If 24.Bxe3 dxe2 25.Rfe1 Rd3! 26.Bb6 Nd6 wins back the piece with interest. 24...♕xd3 25.c5 ♖f2 26.♗xf2 The unpleasant point is that Black threatens 26...Qe4 with ...Qe4-h1 mate the principal threat. The other way to meet this is by 26.Bf3 e2! 27.Kxf2 Rxf3+ promotes. 26...exf2+ 27.♗xf2 ♖c4 28.♗e4 ♖d5 29.♗d2 ♗xd2+ 30.♗xd2 ♖d8 31.♗f3 ♗xf3+ 32. ♗xf3 a1=♕ 33.♕b7 The final spectacular point is revealed. Capturing by 33.Nxa1 allows the knight fork 33...Nd4+ winning because Black is an exchange up in the ending. A marvelous game. 33...♕h1+ 34.♗e2 ♖b8 White Resigns.

0-1

• Seirawan, Y.
• Timman, J.

? Eastbourne

1990 0-1 E21

Even Grandmasters occasionally “oops”. Here’s one featuring Dutch hero Jan Timman against an American Grandmaster.

…b7

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♘f3 b6 4.♗c2 ♗b4 5.♗b3 c5 6.a3 ♘a5 7.♗g5 ♕e6 8.0-0-0 ♘xc3 9.d5 The only move to keep an advantage. After 9.Qxc3 Ne4 Black is quite comfortable. 9...exd5 A terrible mistake. In a fact a losing mistake! The whole point is that Black voluntarily removes his e6-pawn for White’s c4-pawn. Why is this so crucial? Consider White’s Bishop on f1: with the c4-pawn missing, suddenly the Bishop is released with devastating effect. Amazingly, Jan had prepared 9...Be5 10.dxe6 Bc7 = 10..exd5 ♗e5 11.dxc6 ♕e7 12.cxd7+ ♘xd7 13.e3 ♘d8 14.♖xd7 Morphy would be proud. White doesn’t waste a tempo in attacking. After 14.Bb5? Bd6 Black is still kicking.

14.♖xd7 15.♗d5 ♗d6 16.♗d1 0-0 17.♘xd7 ♘xd7 18.♗f4 c4 19.♘xc2 ♘e8 20.♗g5 f5 21.♗xe4+ ♘h8 22.♖xd6 ♘xd6 23.♘d5 ♕d8
24.\texttt{e6} \texttt{c8}+ 25.\texttt{b1} \texttt{d7} 26.\texttt{xd6} Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Polugaevsky, L.

• Wojtkiewicz, A.

? Haninge
1990 1-0 E17
A good example of how to play against hanging pawns.

1.d4 \texttt{f6} 2.\texttt{c3} \texttt{e6} 3.c4 \texttt{b6} 4.\texttt{g3} \texttt{b7} 5.\texttt{g2} \texttt{e7} 6.0-0 \texttt{O-O} 7.b3 \texttt{d5} 8.\texttt{cxd5} \texttt{exd5} 9.\texttt{b2} \texttt{e8} 10.\texttt{e3} \texttt{f6} 11.\texttt{c4} \texttt{e6} 12.\texttt{c5} \texttt{d5} 13.\texttt{a3} \texttt{c7} 14.\texttt{a4} \texttt{e6} 15.\texttt{dxc5} \texttt{bxc5} 16.\texttt{g4} \texttt{d4} Better is 16...\texttt{Nc6} 17.\texttt{Qxg4} \texttt{Qe7} 18.\texttt{Rfd1} \texttt{Red8}.

17.\texttt{f3} \texttt{g6} 18.\texttt{f4} Not 18.\texttt{Nxc5} \texttt{Nxe4} 19.\texttt{Qf1} \texttt{Qc8} 20.\texttt{Rxc5} \texttt{Rb8} 21.\texttt{Nd3} \texttt{Nxc5} 22.\texttt{Bxe4} \texttt{Qe7} 23.\texttt{Qxe7} \texttt{Kxe7} 24.\texttt{Rd1} \texttt{Rb7} 25.\texttt{Nc5} \texttt{Nc4} 26.\texttt{Bxc4} \texttt{Qxc4} 27.\texttt{Rxa7} \texttt{Nc4} 28.\texttt{Qa1} \texttt{Qxc2} 29.\texttt{Qxc2} \texttt{Kf7} 30.\texttt{Rd8}+ \texttt{Ke7} 31.\texttt{Kf1} \texttt{Qd3} 32.\texttt{g3} \texttt{Qf5} 33.\texttt{Qxf5} \texttt{gxf5} 34.\texttt{Qf3} \texttt{Qf5} 35.\texttt{Qxf5} \texttt{Qxf5} 36.\texttt{Qf1} \texttt{Qf5} 37.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 38.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 39.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 40.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 41.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 42.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 43.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 44.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 45.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 46.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 47.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 48.\texttt{Qd3} \texttt{Qf5} 49.\texttt{Qd3} Black Resigns. Black loses after either 49...\texttt{Rxb7} 50.\texttt{Rbb7} \texttt{Rb7} and 52.\texttt{f6} or 49...\texttt{Rc8} 50.\texttt{Rb8} followed by \texttt{a7}, \texttt{b4}, and \texttt{g5}.
1-0

○ Yusupov, A.

• Ljubojevic, L.

? Linares
1990 1-0 E15
A brilliant tactical shock can strike when least expected.

1.d4 \texttt{f6} 2.\texttt{c4} \texttt{e6} 3.\texttt{e3} \texttt{b6} 4.\texttt{g3} \texttt{a6} 5.\texttt{bd2} \texttt{b7} 6.\texttt{g2} \texttt{c5} 7.0-0 \texttt{cxd4} 8.\texttt{b3} \texttt{e7} 9.\texttt{bxd4} \texttt{O-O} 10.\texttt{b3} \texttt{d6} 11.\texttt{b2} \texttt{a6} 12.\texttt{c1} \texttt{d7} 13.\texttt{b4} \texttt{b8} 14.\texttt{a3} \texttt{c8} 15.\texttt{b3} \texttt{f8} 16.\texttt{f1} \texttt{d5} 17.\texttt{g5} \texttt{dxe4} 18.\texttt{xc4} \texttt{xc4} 19.\texttt{xe4} \texttt{b5} Black has played well up to here, but this move is a mistake. Correct is 19...\texttt{Ne5} 20.\texttt{Qb3} \texttt{Kxg2} 21.\texttt{Kxg2} \texttt{Qb7}+ with equality.

○ Cramling, P.

• Psakhis, L.

? Tel-Aviv
1990 0-1 A70
The official world of international chess has long been divided into the men’s half (95%-+) and the women’s half (5%-+), with tournaments exclusively for women and events that attracted only men, although they were in theory open to all. This was not entirely bad for the women players, because in truth none was good enough to compete with the best male players. All this began to change in the 1980s, however, and now there are a few women players who choose to play almost exclusively with the men. Most of these are the Polgar sisters, but in this game we see one of the brave non-Polgars, Sweden’s Pia Cramling, in a losing effort against Israeli GM Lev Psakhis.

1.d4 \texttt{e6} 2.\texttt{c4} \texttt{c5} 3.\texttt{f3} \texttt{c5} 4.\texttt{d5} \texttt{d6} 5.\texttt{c3} \texttt{exd5} 6.\texttt{cxd5} \texttt{g6} 7.\texttt{e4} \texttt{a6} 8.\texttt{h3} The modern Benoni is a dangerous opening for both sides. Black may be positionally busted: the d-pawn is a target, he has fewer center pawns, and the White e-pawn threatens to advance with cramping effect. But in compensation, he gets a powerful Bishop on the long diagonal and Queenside play in the form of b7-b5... if White allows it. Normal in these positions is a2-a4 to delay the Queenside expansion and to secure the c4 square for the White Knight (Nf3-d2-c4). Presumably White was worried about ...\texttt{Bg4} pinning this Knight, but the side-effects of the \texttt{b7-b5} push. 8...\texttt{b5} 9.\texttt{\texttt{d3}} \texttt{d7} 10.0-0 \texttt{c4} Opening the c5 square for a Black Knight. 11.\texttt{\texttt{e2}} \texttt{O-O} 12.\texttt{\texttt{f4}} \texttt{b7} 13.\texttt{d2} \texttt{b6} 14.\texttt{\texttt{e3}} \texttt{c7} 15.\texttt{a3}
3. Ne5 Bxf3 34. Bc4+ Kh8 35. Ng5+ is strong.
33. ... e5 34. ... Nh3+ If 33... Rxe3, then 34. Bc4 Bd5 35. Bxd5 Qxd5 36. Rxe7+ Kxe7 37. Qxe7+ followed by 38. Qh6+ and 39. Qxe3.

34. e4 Stronger is 34. Rxe7+ Kxe7 35. Qc7+. 34... h1+ 35. f2 h2+ Better is 35... Bd5, although White would retain his advantage with 36. Qg6.

36. g1 h1+ 37. f2 h2+ 38. g3 h3+ Better is 38... Rxc2 39. Bxe6+ Kf8 40. Ng6+ Ke7 41. Nf4 with only a slight advantage for White. 39. f4 h4+ If 39... Bd5, then 40. Bxd5 Qxd5 41. Qe8+ picks up the Rook. 40. g4 Here Black lost on time, but his position was hopeless in any case.

1-0


○ Akopian, V.
○ de Firmian, N.

Moscow

1990 1/2-1/2 A63

A sharp game full of tactics.

1.d4 Qf6 2.Qf3 e6 3.c4 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.exd5 d6 6.Qc3 g6 7.h3 A new move. The idea is to prevent Black from having access to the g4 square.

7...a6 8.a4 Preventing Black from expanding on the queenside with ...b7-b5. 8...e7 9.g5 Qg7 10.Qf2 Bb7 11.e3 O-O 12.d3 h6 13.Qb4 Qb8 14.Qe3 Qe5 15.a2 g5 16.Qg3 b5 17.axb5 axb5 18.f4 Qf4 If 18...Nd3, then 19.Bxd3 Qxe3+ 20.Kh2 Qxd3 21.f5xg5 hxg5 22.Bxd6 with a large advantage. 19...xc4 bxc4 20.f5xg5 hxg5 21.Qx6f6 Eliminating this Knight shatters Black’s position. 21...Qxf6 If 21...Bxf6, then White starts a mating attack with 22.Qh5.

22.Qe4 Qg6 Not 22...Qxb2 23.Rb1 winning. 23.Qxd6 Not 23.Bxd6 Bf5. 23...f5 24.Qxc4 For the exchange, White has two pawns and open lines. Black’s position is also full of weaknesses.

24...b4 25.d3 Qb7 If 25...Ba6, then 26.Ne5.

26.Qxe2 f4 27.Qxe5 Qf3 If 31...fxe3, then 32.Ne5 is strong. 32.gxf3 Both players were getting short on time here. 32...fxe3 If 32...Qxe3, then

203
1.d4  ♗f6  2.c4  ♘c5  3.d5  ♘b5  The Benko Gambit is one of the most popular defenses to 1.d4. 4.cxb5  a6  5.b6  d6  6.♗c3  ♗bd7  7.a4  ♙xb6  Better is 7...a5.  8.a5  ♗c7  9.e4  g6  10.f4  White has a very commanding center and will later try to play e4-e5.  10...  ♗g7  11.♗c4  O–O  12.♗f3  ♗e8  13.0–0  ♘e5  14.♗xe6  fxe6  15.♗g5  ♘f8  16.f5  h6  Not 16...exf5 17.Bf4 Rd8 18.exf5 winning.  17.e5  dxe5  If 17...hxg5,  then 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.Nd5 wins.  18.fxg6  hxg5  If 18...Nxg6,  then White wins with 19.Rxf6 Bxf6 20.Qh5 Qg7 21.Nge4.  19.♗xe5  ♗xe5  20.Qh5  ♘d6  21.Nge4 wins.  18...Qe8 24.dxe5  ♗f8  Worse are 24...Nb6 25.Rd7+ Nxc4 26.Rxf6 Qxf6 27.Qh5+ Kg8 28.Rxa7 or 24...Qe8 25.Rd7 Qxc4 26.Bxf6.  25.♗h7 Threatening both Bb6 and Rd7.  25...♗d5  26.♗g6  ♗e8  27.♗xe5  ♘xe5  28.♗h6+ ♗g7  29.g5  ♘xh6  If 29...Rg6, then 30.Qf8+ Nx8 31.gx8=Q=+ Ke6 32.Bg5 wins.  30.♗xe7  ♗xh7  Or 30...Kd6 31.Qh6+ winning.  31.g8=♕+ ♗e7  32.♕d8+ Black Resigns.

Annotations by Yasser Seirawan. This was my first game with the world’s fourth-highest-rated player. I looked forward to the opportunity to test him, but as the game got underway I began to feel nervous. Ivanchuk is a shy, reserved young man who has several distracting habits at the board. For instance, he rarely looks at the board. Usually, he looks directly up in the air, or at the space behind your head. I began to wonder what was going to fall down on me - or sneak up on me!

1.d4  ♗f6  2.c4  ♘c5  3.d5  ♘e5  I sometimes enjoy playing this closed Benoni variation because it leads to rich strategic positions. I wanted to steer my opponent as far away as possible from a sharp theoretical struggle. This didn’t prevent Ivanchuk from playing the most topical line.  4.♗c3  d6  5.e4  ♘d7  6.h3  O–O  7.♗f3  ♗bd7  8.g4  The Kingside expansion is crucial for White in this variation. Black’s plan is...Ng6-e8, ...g7-g6, ...Ne8-g7, and...f7-f5. By employing a King’s Indian Defense attacking motif, Black’s position takes on a lot of the advantages of that opening with fewer drawbacks than usual. Black has stopped White’s play on the Queenside with c7-c5. Also, Black’s “bad” Bishop on e7 is actually on the right square. Black often plays...Bg7-f8 or...bg7-h6 in K.I.D. positions. From e7 the Bishop, if allowed, will play to g5 - or to d8 and a5.  8...♗e8  9.♗d3  g6  10.♗e3  It’s common for White to play 10.Bh6 Ng7 11.Rg1, etc. In this case, Black usually plays...Kg8-h8 and ...Nd7-f6-g8 chasing away White’s Bishop on h6. This works out nicely for Black because his King is no longer on the g-file. Therefore, 10.Be3 is more exact.  10...♗g7  11.♗g1  ♗f6  12.♗e2  h5  An interesting attempt to force a resolution of the kingside situation. I had become disenchanted with the idea of forcing...f7-f5 through. This loss of resolve, however, constituted a severe psychological problem. Because of my attempt to avoid the basic confrontation in the position, White gains a clear advantage. Best was 13...Ng6!  13.♖d2  ♘d7  The only way to justify the eccentric...h7-h5. Still the move took a long time: my mind went swimming in a stream of tactical complications.  14.f3  Played without hesitation. This left me cursing all the time I had wasted on 13...Qd7. The drawbacks of f2-f3 are clear. White weakens a whole complex of dark squares on the Kingside. Also, the Knight can’t return to f3, and White’s Queen no longer hits h5. This allows Black good play on the dark squares. Better is 14.Bc2!.

14...♗e8  15.0–0  ♗g5  By trading dark-squared Bishops, Black solves his strategic problems.  16.♗xg5  ♘xg5 17.♖g2  ♘e7  18.h4  ♘h7  19.♗g3 The critical moment in the game. My approach to this position was quite lazy. I was satisfied with myself for “outplaying” my opponent through exchanging Bishops. Clearly, White’s only chance in the position is g4-g5 and f3-f4. In this case, I reasoned that the Kingside would become closed, and that I would get two key squares: g4 and e5. So, without further ado, I played the “obvious”...  19...a6  ...essentially losing the game. Obviously Black wants to play b7-b5 - but who does this favor? Look at that lousy Knight on d2. Let it jump to c4, however, and it becomes an entire cavalry. No, it is still correct to play defensively, completely killing White’s only play in the position (g4-g5 and f3-f4) with 19...Ng6!  20.g5  Nd7 when it’s clear that the first player is going nowhere on the Kingside. Black can then prepare a Queenside advance:...Ng7-e8-c7 and...a7-a6.  20.g5 I was now horrified to discover that both my Knights had been cut out of the action. White intends Rd1, f3-f4, and Nd2-f3. If White gains control of the e4-square, the game is over.  20...♗a6 A panic reaction to what I felt was my impending doom. Black can still fight with 20...Rae8. Now, though, I open up
the position in the worst possible way. 21.gxf6 e6 22.d1f7 d7 23.f4 e4f4 24.exf4 f4 25.wxf4 f8 26.wxh6 e8 27.e5 As simple as a baby’s smile. Black’s position is completely devastated. 27...wxh5 28.wxg6 hxg6 If 28...Nh6, 29.Nf3 is embarrassing. 29.wxg6 h8 30.e4e4 f5 31.exh5 d4 32.wxh5+ dxe5 33.wxg6 f4 34.b6 b4 35.b3 b1+ 36.a2 b2 37.a1xb7 g5 38.a3xe4 39.a4xe4 Black Resigns. Once Ivanchuk got his chance, he exploited his opportunity with ruthless precision.

1-0

- Gelfand, B.
- Beliavsky, A.

? Linares

1990 1-0 D37

Castling on opposite sides of the board leads to sharp play.

1.d4 2.c4 e6 3.d3 f5 4.e3 e5 5.d4 O–O 6.e3 c5 7.dxc5 h6 8.c2 2xe6 9.a3 wao 10.O–O–O d7 11.g4 fe8 11...Nxe4 just opens lines for White on the kingside. 12.a1h1 b8 13.g5 h5 14.d1c4 e7 15.a1e1 b6 16.b1c6 a1f6 17.gxf6 xf6 18.d3 b1g5 19.e4 dxe4 20.b1h4 xg5 21.bxg3 f3 22.g4 d7 23.b1f6 b5 24.xg6 bxg6 25.h5 b6 Not 25...Rd8 as then White plays 26.c5 followed by Qc4+. 26.b1b3 a1f8 27.c5+ was threatened. If 26...Qc5, then 27.Rd7 a2 28.d6b6. 27.b1h7 d8 If 27...a6, then 28.Qb4 a2x5 29.Rxa7. 28.b1h1 w6f6 If 28...a6, then 29.Rxg7 Kxg7 30.Qc4+ with a decisive attack. 29.e5 d2 30.a1g7 xg7 Not 30...Qxg7 31.Nc7 threatening both 32.Nxa8 and 32.Ne6+. 31.c7 e5 Black must give up the Rook. If 31...Rb8, then 32.Rb8 Kxb8 33.Qb3+ Kg8 34.Bc4+ Kf8 35.Qh6+ wins. If 31...Rx6e2, then 32.Ne6+ Kg8 33.Ng5+ Kg7 34.Rh7+ wins. 32.xa8 b6 33.a7 wxc7 Black will lose his Rook after this. But 33...Rx6f3 34.Qxb7 loses even faster. 34...c3+ d8f7 If 34...Kf8, then 35.Qf6+ Ke8 36.Qe6 followed by Rh8+ wins. 35.a1c4+ f6 36.a1xe2 a1xc5 37.e1 d5 38.d1c1 a5 39.d7 c6 40.d1a1 a6 41.a1d8 d5 42.a1b3 a5 43.a1g3 c7 Not 43...Kf7 44.Rd6. 44.b1b8 b6 45.d2 c6 46.d8 b6 47.a4 g5 48.d4 49.d1 Threatening 50.Rh1. 49...e5 50.d7+ c5 51.1xe5 e4 52.wb8+ w5 If 52...Kf5, then Black soon gets mated after 53.Qg3+ Ke2 54.Rc1 Qd4 55.Rc2. 53.d1a8 54.b1c1 b4 55.a1e8 56.b6f6 e7 57.wc6 a6 a5 58.c7 Black Resigns. It’s all over after 58...Ng6 59.Rg7 Qe1+ 60.Ka2 Qxf2 61.Rxg6+ Kf4 62.Rf6.

1-0

- Gurevich, M.
- Beliavsky, A.

Moscow

1990 1-0 D37

A positional masterclass by Gurevich.

1.c4 c6 2.2.c3 e6 3.2.f3 d5 4.d4 e7 5.wf4 O–O 6.e3 c5 7.dxc5 a6 8.c2 xc4 9.a1x4 a6 10.wb2 b5 11.d3 b7 12.O–O d7 13.wd1 f6 Threatening ...e6-e5-e4. 14.g5 e8 15.a4 b4 16.b1 c5 17.h3 d5 18.b4 b6 19.e4 c5 20.d7 xb7 xbx7 21.xf6 gx6 22.d4 White is slightly better because of Black’s weaknesses at a5 and h6. 22...f5 23.c5 b3 24.b5 b1d1+ 25.b1 xd1 b8 26.wb6 c7 27.g4 c4 Not 27...fxg4 28.Qxg4+ Kh7 29.Qh5 Rd7 30.Rd4 winning. 28.c4xe5 xdx1+ 29.d1 xdx1 xdx4 29...fxe4 30.b3 is good for White. The Knight is much better than the Bishop. 30.f6+ g7 31.b3 w6 32.h5+ f8 33.gxf5 exf5 34.g3 Now Black has weaknesses at a5, f5, f7, and h6. 34...f4 Black sacrifices a pawn to give White some pawn weaknesses and create more scope for his Bishop. 35.exf4 w6 36.f3 c7 37.a2 w7 38.3a3 e7 39.d3+ White cannot yet go into an endgame as Black’s King would too be active: 39.Qxe6+ Kxe6 followed by Kd5-d4-c3. 39...e8 40.a3 c6+ 41.wg4 w6+ 42.d5 w6 43.d5 w6 44.a3 f6 45.c4 White transfers his Knight to a more active post. 45...b4 46.d5 c5 w4+ 47.e2 e5+ Not 47...Qxe2 48.Qf2 49.Qb8+ Qc6 50.Qd8+ Kc5 51.e3 e5 52.f6 b6 53.b1 d6 54.a5+ is coming. Black Resigns.

1-0

- Bellon Lopez, J.
- Georgiev, Kir.

Tarrasa

1990 1-0 D58

Sometimes when you need to win, a satisfying way is to start an all-out attack on the King. Here the Spanish Grandmaster throws caution to the wind, storms the Black King, and even gives away his most powerful piece to continue the attack. His optimism is well rewarded.

surrenders the Bishop pair in order to launch a Kingside attack. 9...\textit{xf}6 10.\textit{cxd}5 \textit{exd}5 11.\textit{g}4 \textit{c}5 12.O–O–O \textit{cxd}4 13.\textit{exd}4 \textit{c}6 14.h4 \textit{g}6 15.g5 \textit{hxg}5 16.\textit{hxg}5 \textit{g}xg5+ 17.\textit{b}1 \textit{f}6 18.\textit{b}3 \textit{d}3 \textit{b}4 19.\textit{a}6 And now the Queen is offered. For the Queen, White gets two minor pieces and forces the Black King to take a long walk. 19...\textit{xc}2 20.\textit{h}7+ \textit{g}7 21.\textit{d}g1+ \textit{g}5 22.\textit{xc}5 \textit{f}6 23.\textit{h}6+ \textit{e}7 24.\textit{xc}2 25.\textit{e}1+ \textit{d}8 26.e5 \textit{xc}7 27.\textit{f}5 \textit{d}8 28.\textit{e}6 \textit{f}6 29.\textit{xd}5 \textit{fxe}5 30.\textit{h}7+ \textit{b}8 31.\textit{xb}7+ \textit{c}8 32.\textit{e}6 \textit{exd}4 33.\textit{xd}8 \textit{dxc}3 34.\textit{e}6 \textit{f}5 35.\textit{c}7+ \textit{b}8 36.\textit{d}7 \textit{c}2+ 37.\textit{xc}2 \textit{xf}2+ 38.\textit{xc}3 Black Resigns.

\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{c}
1-0
\end{tabular}
\end{center}

\begin{itemize}
\item Seirawan, Y.
\item Dreev, A.
\end{itemize}

\begin{center}
\textbf{Reykjavik 1990} 1-0 D10
\end{center}

The poisoned pawn.

1.d4 \textit{d}5 2.\textit{c}4 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{c}3 \textit{c}6 4.\textit{cxd}5 \textit{exd}5 5.\textit{f}4 \textit{b}6 A very bold pawn grab. An early teacher of mine had a memorable way of warning against capturing the b-pawn with the Queen in the opening: "In the ending with gusto! But never in the opening!" 6.e3 \textit{xb}2 Consistent. Vlastimil Hort got a bad game against me in the 1986 Wijk aan Zee tournament after 6...\textit{Nc}6?! 7.\textit{Bd}3! \textit{Bg}4 8.f3 when the Black Queen on b6 was dreadfully misplaced. 7.\textit{b}5+ 8.\textit{gc}2 \textit{a}3 Dreev feared a2-a3 and Ra1-a2 trapping the Queen. 9.\textit{a}4 My best move of the whole game. The move has three purposes: it threatens \textit{Nc}3-b5, cuts off the Black Queen’s retreat to a5 making Ra1-b1-b3 a threat, and opens the b-file. Black’s reply is forced. 9...\textit{a}6 10.\textit{b}1 \textit{e}6 11.O–O The crucial position. Black must find a defense. He is reduced to two choices: chasing White’s black-squared Bishop away by ...\textit{Nf}6-h5, ...\textit{f}7-f6, and ...\textit{Qa}3-\textit{e}7 etc., or biting the bullet with 11...\textit{b}5. As it turns out, Dreev makes the wrong choice. 11...\textit{h}5 12.\textit{e}5 \textit{f}6 13.\textit{xc}6+ \textit{bxc}6 14.\textit{c}7 Black’s game is in shambles. He can’t develop his Kingside because the Queen is lost after Rb1-b3. The Knight on h5 is still on the laundry list. My main line lasted only two moves. After 14...\textit{f}5 15.\textit{Qc}2 \textit{Bd}7 16.\textit{Na}4, White is left with an overwhelming position. Dreev decides to chase away the meddlesome Bishop. 14...\textit{f}7 15.\textit{a}5 Keeping the b-file open for operations. 15...\textit{f}7 As good as anything else. If 15...\textit{f}5, 16.\textit{Qc}2 \textit{Bd}7 17.\textit{Na}4 is positional overkill. 16.\textit{c}2 Winning. The double threat of \textit{Nc}3xd5 and g2-g4 is impossible to meet. 16...\textit{e}5 17.\textit{d}c5 With my opponent short on time, I decided to play for a direct attack rather than pick up the Knight on h5. My threat is Qc2-c4+. Play is forced. 17...\textit{d}7 18.\textit{d}e4 \textit{c}5 19.\textit{e}6 \textit{exd}4 20.\textit{b}7 \textit{xc}6 21.\textit{d}f7 \textit{gxf}7 22.\textit{xe}2 \textit{b}5 23.\textit{xd}4 \textit{xf}1 24.\textit{wc}6 \textit{Ec}4 25.\textit{wa}8 \textit{g}5 26.\textit{wc}8 Moving in on the Black King and keeping his pieces paralyzed. 26...\textit{g}7 27.\textit{c}3 \textit{g}8 28.\textit{g}4 \textit{h}5 29.\textit{f}5 \textit{xf}5 30.\textit{gx}f 5 Dreev now happily watched his flag fall.

1-0
own position. This move forced Black to return the piece, but he would have to do it anyway. Correct is 21.Kh1! and Black is helpless to prevent the loss of d6, after which White’s center rolls forward. 21...dxe6 22.Nf5 e6 23.Nxe6 Qxe6 24.Rxb7 Rxe8 25.Bf5 Rxb2 26.Rc7 Rxb7 27. Bxb7 This is the position that I saw when playing 21.Bf4. I now expected the simple execution 27...Rb8 28.Rxc6 Rxe6 29.Nxg7 Kxg7 30.Bxd6 with a win. Black jolted me back to reality with a brilliant counterstroke. 27...c8 The game is now in doubt. 28.Bxc8 Qxc8 29.Qd4 Qe4 30.Qf4 d4 Black feels the remorseless ticking of his clock. Black wants to activate his Rook by driving the Knight from c7. He’s unsuccessful. Best was the immediate activation 30...Rb8! 31.Ne6 Rb2! 32.Nxg7 Nf2+ 33.Kg2 Nd3+ 34.Kh3 Kxg7 with good drawing chances. The text loses a tempo. 32.Nxg7 Nf2+ 33.Kg2 Nd3+ 34.Kh3 Kxg7 with 1-0

The defenses around Black’s King are ripped open. 23...Qxh7 24.Qh3+ Kg8 25.Qxc3 Material is back to even, but Black has weaknesses all over the board and his King is not very safe. 25.Qb6 26.d3 Qd7 27.g6 Qe6 28.Qh3 Qd4 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.Qh8+ Ke7 31.Qxc7+ Qxc7 32.Qf8+ Qd7 33.Qe1 Qd6 34.Qa8+ Qc4 35.Rc4 Qb5 36.Qa1+ a5 37.Rd3 Black Resigns. There is no good defense to 38.Qa3#

1-0

○ Korchnoi, V.  
● Gurevich, M.  
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Rotterdam  
1990 1-0 A81

Many consider Viktor Korchnoi to be the strongest player of all time never to become world champion. He is now past his prime, but even at age 59 he is still one of the best.

1.d4 f5 The Dutch defense is considered to be anti-positional, but it creates dynamic chances. 2.g3 Qf6 3.g2 g6 4.h3 d6 5.c3 e5 6.Qf4 c6 7.d5 Qe7 Black temporarily sacrifices a pawn to get his pieces developed. 8.dxe6 d5 Not immediately 8...Qe7 because of 9.e4 fxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Qc4 Bxe6 12.O-O O-O 13.Re1 with a large advantage to White. 9.h4 White must take the time to get his pawn back, White provokes weaknesses on the kingside. 9...Qf7 10.h5 g5 11.h6 Qg7 12.Qh5 Qg8 13.Qxf6+ Qxf6 14.Qxd5 A daring piece sacrifice. 14...Qxh6 Black should have taken the Bishop. After 14...exd5 15.Nxd5 Qd8 16.Qd4 Bxe6 17.Qxe6+ Qf8 18.Qxf8+ Qxf8 the position is unclear. 15.Qxe6 Qxe6 16.c4 Qxh6 If 16...fxe4, then 17.Qh5+ Qg7 18.Bxg5 winning. 17.Qf3 Qxe4 18.Qxe4 Qg6 19.Qc3 Qd7 20.O-O O-O O-O 21.Qa4 Also possible is 21.Qxe6 Rxe6 22.Rxe6 Rxe6 23.Qb5. Instead White directs his attention at the Black King. 21...a6 22.Qh6 Qh8 23.Qg5 Qg8 24.Qh6 Qxh6+ 25.Qb1 White has a big advantage. He is a pawn ahead and Black’s King’s position is full of holes. 25...Qe6 26.Qd4 Qf6 27.a3 h5 28.Qa4 Qe5 29.Qd3 Qc7 Both players were getting short on time here. 30.Qc3 Qc8 31.f4 Qd7 32.Qd4 Qg8 33.Qg3 Qd8 34.f4 c6 35.Qb2 Qc7 36.Qa4 Qd5 37.Qc4 Qf6 38.Qb6+ Qe8 39.Qc5 Qd7 40.Qe2+ then 40.Kb3. 40.Qa7 Qc7 41.Qa4 Also strong is 41.Nxa6. 41...Qh7 42.Qd4 h4 42...Qf7 would have held out longer. 43.Qd6 Qc2+ 44.Qb3 Qd5 45.Qd6+ Black Resigns. 45...Qxb6 46.Qd8 checkmate.

1-0
Kasparov, 33...f3 would have won.

34. B prepared in his home analysis.

move in the game, which Kasparov had no doubt


20... are ripped open.

1990 0-1 B97

1.e4 c5 2. d3 d4 3... e4 5... c6 6. a6 6. g5 e6 7.f4 e7 8... f3 h6 9. h4 c7 10.O–O–O c8d7 11. c8e2 b8 12. g3 g8 13. h1 f1 Better is 13... g5 14.fg5 Ne5. 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 c8f4 16. dxe4 c8xe4 17.f4 Black’s King is stuck in the center and is in a lot of
danger. 17... c8h4 18. c8d4 c5 Not 18...Qxe5? 19.Nc6 followed by mate on d8. Also good for White is 18...Ng5 19.Bh5+! axb5 20.Nxb5 Qe7 21.Nd6+ Kf8 22.Nxf7 followed by Rd8#. 19. c8b5 axb5 20. fx7 The defenses around Black’s king are ripped open. 20...fx7 If 20...g5, then 21.Rxc7 gxh4 22.Bh5+ wins. 21. d5+ g6 22. e6 c8e8 23. f6+ c8g6 24. c8h6+ c8d7 If 24...Kc7, then 25.Qb7+ Ke8 26.Qxc7 Nd7 27.Rxd7 wins. 25. f1+ c8e7 26.f8# Black Resigns.

Las Palmas

1990 1-0 B99

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

The first new

R

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

1.e4 c5 2. d3 d4 3... e4 5... c6 6. a6 6. g5 e6 7.f4 e7 8... f3 h6 9. h4 c7 10.O–O–O c8d7 11. c8e2 b8 12. g3 g8 13. h1 f1 Better is 13... g5 14.fg5 Ne5. 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 c8f4 16. dxe4 c8xe4 17.f4 Black’s King is stuck in the center and is in a lot of
danger. 17... c8h4 18. c8d4 c5 Not 18...Qxe5? 19.Nc6 followed by mate on d8. Also good for White is 18...Ng5 19.Bh5+! axb5 20.Nxb5 Qe7 21.Nd6+ Kf8 22.Nxf7 followed by Rd8#. 19. c8b5 axb5 20. fx7 The defenses around Black’s king are ripped open. 20...fx7 If 20...g5, then 21.Rxc7 gxh4 22.Bh5+ wins. 21. d5+ g6 22. e6 c8e8 23. f6+ c8g6 24. c8h6+ c8d7 If 24...Kc7, then 25.Qb7+ Ke8 26.Qxc7 Nd7 27.Rxd7 wins. 25. f1+ c8e7 26.f8# Black Resigns.

Las Palmas

1990 1-0 B99

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

The first new

R

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

1.e4 c5 2. d3 d4 3... e4 5... c6 6. a6 6. g5 e6 7.f4 e7 8... f3 h6 9. h4 c7 10.O–O–O c8d7 11. c8e2 b8 12. g3 g8 13. h1 f1 Better is 13... g5 14.fg5 Ne5. 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 c8f4 16. dxe4 c8xe4 17.f4 Black’s King is stuck in the center and is in a lot of
danger. 17... c8h4 18. c8d4 c5 Not 18...Qxe5? 19.Nc6 followed by mate on d8. Also good for White is 18...Ng5 19.Bh5+! axb5 20.Nxb5 Qe7 21.Nd6+ Kf8 22.Nxf7 followed by Rd8#. 19. c8b5 axb5 20. fx7 The defenses around Black’s king are ripped open. 20...fx7 If 20...g5, then 21.Rxc7 gxh4 22.Bh5+ wins. 21. d5+ g6 22. e6 c8e8 23. f6+ c8g6 24. c8h6+ c8d7 If 24...Kc7, then 25.Qb7+ Ke8 26.Qxc7 Nd7 27.Rxd7 wins. 25. f1+ c8e7 26.f8# Black Resigns.

Las Palmas

1990 1-0 B99

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

The first new

R

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

1.e4 c5 2. d3 d4 3... e4 5... c6 6. a6 6. g5 e6 7.f4 e7 8... f3 h6 9. h4 c7 10.O–O–O c8d7 11. c8e2 b8 12. g3 g8 13. h1 f1 Better is 13... g5 14.fg5 Ne5. 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 c8f4 16. dxe4 c8xe4 17.f4 Black’s King is stuck in the center and is in a lot of
danger. 17... c8h4 18. c8d4 c5 Not 18...Qxe5? 19.Nc6 followed by mate on d8. Also good for White is 18...Ng5 19.Bh5+! axb5 20.Nxb5 Qe7 21.Nd6+ Kf8 22.Nxf7 followed by Rd8#. 19. c8b5 axb5 20. fx7 The defenses around Black’s king are ripped open. 20...fx7 If 20...g5, then 21.Rxc7 gxh4 22.Bh5+ wins. 21. d5+ g6 22. e6 c8e8 23. f6+ c8g6 24. c8h6+ c8d7 If 24...Kc7, then 25.Qb7+ Ke8 26.Qxc7 Nd7 27.Rxd7 wins. 25. f1+ c8e7 26.f8# Black Resigns.

Las Palmas

1990 1-0 B99

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.

The first new

R

White goes on a sacrificial mating attack.
Miskolc-Tapolca
1990 0-1 B70
Who is fooling whom? White tricks Black with the chameleon Sicilian, leading to the Dragon variation. But Black seems to understand the Dragon a lot better than White does.
1.e4 c5 2...c3 d6 3...ge2 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5...xd4 f6 6.g5 g7 7.b5+ A positionally doubtful concept. The Bishop is strongly placed on c4, where is puts pressure on the Kingside. 7...d7 8.e2 a6 9...xd7+ ...xd7 10.O-O-O Announcing his intention to attack, but exchanging the light-squared Bishop and placing the Queen on e2 slow the White Kingside play. Black already has the edge. 10...O-O 11.f4 e8 12.e5 dxe5 13.fx5 a5 14...f3 xe3 A standard sacrifice in Dragon lines, this weakens the White King position. 15...xf6 exf6 16...xd7 fxg5 17.bxc3 ...xc3 18...xb7 a1+ 19...b1 b2+ 20...d2 d8+ 21...d4 White is must return some material. 21...xd4 22...c3 ...a2 23...f2 f4+ 24...g3 ...a3+ 25...d3 ...d4 26...h3 The threat was ...Bf2+ and ...Rh4+. 26...g4+ 27...h4 If 27.Kg3 Qd6 looks tasty. 27...e7+ 28...g3 ...f2+ 29...xf4 ...f6+ 30...xg4 Variation 30...Ke4 Qf5# 30...h5+ White Resigns.

Kalegin, E.
Yuferov, S.

Moscow
1990 1-0 B52
Another amazing attacking gem played in Russia by relative unknowns. White is willing to sacrifice anything from pawns to Rooks to get at the enemy King, with ultimate success.
1.e4 c5 2...f3 d6 3...b5+ This way of avoiding the main lines of the Sicilian is generally thought to be quiet... 3...d7 4...xd7+ ...xd7 5.O-O ...e6 6.c3 ...f6 7.d4 But White has one or two ways of living up the proceedings. 7...xe4 8.d5 ...b8 9...e1 ...f6 10...f5 ...d6 11...xf6 ...xe6 12...bd2 ...xd5 Make that two pawns. 13...e6 14...d4 ...d8 Due to the pin along the e-file, both d- and f-pawns are under attack. 15...b4 16...cxb4 Three. 17...d4 ...d7 18...bxc6 19...e5 ...e8 20...f6 ...xe6 And a Rook. 21.xdxe6+ ...xe8 22.gx4 a5 23...f8+ ...f5 Black's turn. 24...xf5+ ...e6 25...f6 ...d7 26...e1 ...e7 27...c4 ...dxe4 28...xe6+ ...b8 29...f4+ ...a8 30...c7+ ...xe7 31...xe7 ...b8 32...xa5+ ...b7 33...c7# 1-0

Hodgson, J.
Suba, M.

Blackpool
1990 1-0 B50
A sharp tactical match-up. English GM Julian Hodgson at twenty-five represents the young lions of today, while his opponent, Mikhail Suba, is one of the venerable old guard of Romanian chess.
1.e4 c5 2...f3 d6 3...f6 4...e2 ...e6 Avoiding the transparent trap: 4...Nxc4 5.Qa4++. 5...d4 cxd4 Now 5...Nxe4? 6.d5! and 7.Qa4+. 6...xd4 ...e4 It is considered to be very dangerous to grab the e4-pawn in this line. Suba takes the approach, "If it's not nailed down, why not take it?" 7...d5 ...a5+ A necessary check. 8...e3 ...xe3 9...xc3 ...d8 Also seen is 9...Ne5 10...xe5 Qxc3+ when Black wins many pawns but suffers from lack of development. 10.O-O e5 11...dxe6 White has gambled a pawn for open lines for his pieces. It is only natural for him to open the game as much as possible. Black's problem is that his King is stuck in the center. 11...e6 12...d4 ...e7 13...b5+ ...f8 14...b1 ...b5 15...c7 ...e6 16...e6 A powerful move. Black's c8-Bishop is forced to cover the b7-pawn while avenues to Black’s King are being opened. 16...f6 17...e1 ...e5 18...f3+ ...f6 19...a3 The best amongst a tempting array. The tries 19...b6 and 19...b5 look good, but this one sets up the shots 20.Qd5 and 20.Rxe5 which bring down the curtains. 19...d4 20...d5 ...c7 21...e7 ...xe7 22...e1+ ...f6 Black has to walk the plank. If 22...Kd8 23.Bxd6 wins, while 23...Kd7 24...Re6 is equally decisive. 23...d6 ...d7 Again no choice. The materialistic 23...Qxc3? 24.Be7+ Kg6 24.Re6+ would be decisive. 24...e5 ...e8 25...f3+ ...g6 26...h5+ ...f6 27...f3+ ...g6 28...h5+ ...f6 29...e8 ...xd6 30...d4 Very nice. Black has no moves. The grab 30...Qxd4 31.Rf8+ Ke7 32.Qf7+ Kd6 33.Rd8 wins, while developing with 30...Bg4 31.Qe5+ wins. 30...h6 31...h4 ...a5 32...f3+ ...g6 33...h5+ ...g5 Admitting defeat. However 33...Kh7 34.Qe4+ g6 35...g6+ Qxg6 36.Re7+ wins. The rest is a massacre. 34...e5+ ...xe5 35...dxe5 ...e6 36...xb7 ...g8 37...e7+ ...f5 38...g4+ ...xe5 39...f4+ ...xf4 40...xe6 ...d8 41...f7+ Black Resigns.

Kasparov, G.
Karpov, An.
Annotations: Schussler. This was a disappointing game for Karpov, as with the victory Kasparov essentially clinched the Championship in the New York-Lyons match. And the bad part was that Karpov’s team of seconds had prepared this line in advance, and Kasparov walked right into it. His improvement found at the board refuted the gambit and destroyed Karpov’s chances. One lesson to be learned is that if you are going to play chess, trust other people’s analysis only as far as you can verify it yourself.


1-0

Kasparov, G.
Karpov, An.

20th Match Game, Lyons 1990 1-0 C92

In the split match for the World Championship in 1990, the scene changed from New York to Lyon, France. But the scene on the chessboard stayed much the same, with the contestants essaying the King’s Indian Defense when Karpov was White, and the Ruy Lopez when Kasparov played the White pieces. Some variety occurred late in the match, but most of the time the chess world was treated to, or forced to endure, depending on your orientation, a seemingly endless series of similar lines. This is one of the games that Kasparov won brilliantly - and when this occurred, even the critics found time to wonder.


1-0
1.e4 e5 2. Nf3 Qc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. a4 Qf6 5. O-O Nc7 6. Bc4 b5 7. Bb3 d6 8. c3 O-O 9. h3 Bb7 10. d4 Qe8 11. O-O d5 12. a4 h6 13. c2 exd4 14. cxd4 Bb4 15. Bb5 h4 This capture was also played by Karpov in his match against the Ice-lander Hjarndorson in Seattle. There Johann failed to make much from the White pieces, and openings theoreticians were suggesting White might have to vary from this pattern early - that perhaps the Ruy was at best equal for White! 16. exd4 a5
17. Nxa4 18. Nc3 This is where GM Hjarndorson tried 18. Rxe3, with little success. The World Champion was watching, of course, and found an improvement that may make 15...bxa4 doubtful.

18...g6 19. Nf3 Bxd7 20. c4 Bb5 21. c3 Nc8 22. e3 Nh7 23. Nc1 e6 24. Qg4 Here is the point. White’s pieces coordinate against the Black King, and capture of the Knight on g4 would open the h-file with nasty consequences. 24...Qe8
25. Nh6 An interesting sacrifice, leading to favorable complications. In this match-up, dynamic tactical complications generally favor Kasparov, while quiet positional games seem better for Karpov.

25...Nxe6 26. Qxe6 Nh6 27. Qxd6 Qb6 28. Qxe8 Qxd4+ Although hardly commented on (after all, why not win a center pawn with check?), this gives White extra play on the open d-file. Simply 28...Qd8 is safer. 29. Qh1 Qd8 30. Nf5 e7 31. Bc2 Qe7 32. a3 Bd8 33. f4 Bc6 34. Qf3 Nxe7 35. Qe2 Qe5 36. Qf2 With this maneuver White gains the critical diagonal for his Queen, with threat of mate on h8. 36...Qe7 37. Qd4 Qg8 38. Qe5 Qd5 39. Qxe6+ Qxe6 40. Qxe6 Qd8 41. Qxe7+ Qd7 42. Qxa6 Qd1+ 43. Qg1 Qd2 44. Qf1 Black Resigns.

1-0

o Martin, B.
• Garcia Palermo, C.

Kuala Lumpur
1990 0-1 C92

The winner of this match would play Kasparov later in the year for the world championship.

1.e4 e5 2. Nf3 Qc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. a4 Qf6 5. O-O Qc7 6. Bc4 Qe7 6. Be2 b5 7. Bb3 d6 8. c3 O-O 9. h3 Bb7 10. d4 Qe8 Karpov is an expert on the Zaitsev variation of the Ruy Lopez. This variation would be played many times in his world championship match later that year against Kasparov.


18...Qf6. 19. Qe2 e5 20. Qf1 Qxf3+ 21. gxf3 Qh4 22. h2 e5 23. Qd2 Qh3 24. Qxf4 bxa4 25. Qg4 Qg4+ 26. Qxg4 Qe8 27. Qa4 The endgame is slightly better for White because of his central pawn mass.

27... Qb5 28. Qf3 Qb6 29. Qg2 Qf7 30. d1 c4 31. e3 White would like to play e4-e5, but his d-pawn needs protection.

31...b3 32. e4 c4 33. e5 dx5 34. Qg6+ Qg8 35. Qg4 The position is unclear after 35.Bxe8 Rxe8 36.Ng4 Nxb3 37. Qd3 Qxh6+ gxh6 38. Qd3 Qe8 39. Qd2 An error in time pressure. Better are either 39.Bf7 or 39.bxe5. 39...Qc4 40. Qc3 a5 41. bxa3 Black’s outside passed pawns give him the advantage. 42. a5 Rxd5 43. e6 Qa3 If 43...a2, then 44. Qx d1 Qxd1 45.e7 Not 45.Rd2? Ba4 46.e7 Kg7 47.Rd8 a2 winning.

45... Qa4 The position is equal after 45...bB3? 46.Re2. 46. f7 The decisive error. White needed to start advancing his f-pawn with f4-f5. 46...b8 47. Qf2 Qb4 48. Qf2 Qc4 49. Qxd7 Bf6 50. Qxe1 Qe2+ 51. Qxe2 b5 52. Qd3 Qd7 53. Qe6 Qh6 54. Qf3 Qc8 55.c4 Qxe7 56.c5 Qe8 White Resigns.

0-1
White Resigns.
28...hxg4 29...hxg3+ 30...hxg6+ 31...hxg6+ 32...h8 32...h4 Black Resigns.
1-0

- Garcia, G.
  • Beliavsky, A.

Novi Sad 1990 0-1 C78
1.e4 e5 2...f3 3...e6 4...e4 5...f6 5...O-O b5 6...b3 7...b7 One of Beliavsky's pet lines. Note that...
Nxe4 is met variously with Bb3-d5, Rf1-e1, or d2-d4, in all cases regaining the pawn. Big AI prefers this compact development with...Bb3-b7 and...
Bf8-e8-c5.
13.O-O h5 14...d2xe5 15...e2xe5 16...e5 17...a4 18...b5 a6 19...xf1 20...c2 f3 21...f8 22...h1 23...h2
26...xc2 27...h1 28...xg4 29...h3 30...e4 31...xg2 h3 32...c2 33...c2+ 33...xg4+ White Resigns. 0-1

- Hector, J.
  • Fernandez Garcia, J.

Spain 1990 0-1 C47
Johnny Hector is known for his exciting play and specialty openings, but here he essays the ancient
Four Knights Game, and his opponent was well prepared.
1.e4 e5 2...e4 3...e6 4...d4 No, it's the Scotch Four Knights! 4...exd4 5...d5 6...e7
6...d4 6...d4 O-O 7...xf4 8...h5 White will soon be made to pay for moving his Knights around too much. But without this attack, it is hard to see how he can gain any advantage. 8...xd5 9...xd5 10...xg5 11...xd2 12...e5+ 13...e2 a6
13...f4 14...d4 14...e8 15...e4 15...f3 is met by 15...h1! Although White is up a Rook, he is in trouble. 15...xc2 16...e3 16...e6 The ending is OK for White, because the Knight e2 cannot escape. 17...b6 18...c4 19...h3 The
Queen cannot be saved except by even greater expense, so White takes the practical decision to jet-
tison her. 19...xf3 20...xf3 21...h4 22...d2 22...d2 23...d2 24...e4 25...f4 26...f1 h6 27...h3
28...f4 28...f4 29...xd5 30...b1 30...h3 31...c3 31...c3 32...c4 32...c4 Leading to an ending with
Queen and six Pawns against two Rooks and three.
32...xf3 33...xf3 34...xa2 34...xa2 a5 35...f3 36...h2 36...h2 37...e2 38...g5 38...g5 39...e2 d5
40...d5 40...d5 41...c2 Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2

- Kasparov, G.
  • Karpov, An.

14th Match Game, Lyons 1990 1/2-1/2 C45
Kasparov re-introduces the Scotch into World Championship play after more than a century. The real surprise was that he played it again and won! Even with these fine results, the Scotch is unlikely to gain general popularity, as most of its sting was removed by analysts in the 1800's.
1.e4 e5 2...e4 3...e6 4...d4 exd4 5...xd4 6...e5 7...e7 8...d5 8...d5 9...b6 10...f6 10...f6 11...g6 11...g6 12...g5 13...e2 13...e2 14...h2 15...ad8 16...h6 17...b4 17...b4 18...f3 18...f3 19...d2 20...a4 20...a4 21...c3 21...c3 22...d2 22...d2 23...h1 23...h1 24...f6 24...f6 25...h2 25...h2 26...g3 26...g3 27...f2 27...f2 28...h2 28...h2 29...e1 29...e1 30...e2 30...e2 31...b5 31...b5 32...f1 32...f1 33...b8 33...b8 34...d8 34...d8 35...h5 35...h5 36...g4 36...g4 37...h1 37...h1 38...d8 38...d8 39...g1 39...g1 40...e4 40...e4 Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2

- Polgar, J.
  • Knaak, R.

Cologne 1990 1-0 C18
The youngest of the three Hungarian Polgar sisters, Judit, would go on to become the youngest Grand-
master ever: in 1992 at the age of 15, she eclipsed Bobby Fischer’s record by several months. In this
game the strong German GM Rainer Knaak is out-
combined by a 13-year-old girl. Her marvelous sharp tactical style has in fact accumulated many
GM scales.
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c3  4.e5 c5 5.axc3  6.bxc3  7...g4 8...c7 9...d3 An unusual line of the French Winawer. White normally captures on g7 here with wild complications - which are theoretically well known several moves deep. 8.Bd3 suggests a willingness to explore lesser-known lines. 8...cxd4 9.e2  10...f6  11...g5  12...d4 Refusing the draw by repetition. 12...h5 13...h4  14...f4  15...d2  16...e4  17...g4  18...g1  19...f6  20...d4  21...xc6  22...g7  23...f4  24...xe5 Black wins the exchange, but the Knight and Queen were the only defenders of the dark squares. Black's position was in any case desperate. 24.fxe5  25...f2  26...g1 27...b4 28...e1  O–O 1–0 Returning a piece to find a haven for the King. 29...x6  30...xf6  31...e3  32...f3  33...c3  34...xc2  35...c3+  36...b2+  37...d1  38...e2  39...d2  40...xd5 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Van Riemsdijk, H.
• Hmadi, S.

? Manila
1990  1–0  C13

This game features a double Rook sacrifice. 1.e4  2.d4  3...c3  4...f6  5...g5  6...f7  7.h4  8...g4  9...xg5  10...xg6  11...h7  12...h6  13...xg5  14...e2  15...f1  16...e4  17...d4  18...xh2  19...g1  20...h6  21...d2 The second Rook could be taken: 20...gxh6 21.Qxh6 Rxh7 22.Qxg7+ Kxh7 23.Qf4 and White’s attack is too strong. 21...h7  22...xf4  23...xe5  24...h5  25...xg6 Black must give back some pieces. Not 23...Nxd3 24.Rxg7+ Kh8 25.Nf3 followed by Ng5, Rh7+, and g7. 24...xg7+  25...h8  26...xh8  27...g7  28...e7  29...b8 followed by 29...Rb7 would have held out longer. 29...exe4  30...f6  31...e4  32...Rxa4  33...xa4  34...e4  35...xa4

1-0

• Geller, E.
• Dreev, A.

? New York
1990  1–0  C08

A contest between two different generations. White is more than 44 years older than his opponent, and his rating is 90 points lower. However, in his prime Geller was one of the best players in the world and should never be underestimated. 1.e4 e6  2.d4  3...c3  4...a6  5...e5  6...c2  7...e4  8...d6  9...f6  10...b4  11...xc4  12...e7  13...Ne7  14...f6  15...f6  16...e5  17...f4  18...xe5  19...xe5  20...xh6  21...d4  22...e4  23...a2  24...f4  25...xf6  26...e7  27...c2  28...f4  29...e5

1-0

• Ermenkov, E.
• Kovacevic, Vlado

? Kavala
1990  0–1  C04

The pawn grab is King in this game. Some pawns seem to be worth more than Queens, even. 1.e4  2.d4  3...d2  Initiating the Tarrasch variation. White maintains some of the tension in the center, but doesn’t put the Knight on c3, where it can be pinned. These lines are considered to yield White a very small but fairly persistent advantage. 3...c6 Black’s main choices are 3...c5, 3...Nf6, and 3...Nc6, although many other moves have some validity. After the move chosen, Black will have to move the Knight again.
to allow ...c7–c5, and then will probably return it to the natural c6 square. But since the position will remain closed (after e4–e5) this loss of time may not be too serious. 13...Qe7 14.Bf6 5.e5 15.d7 6...b5 Since White doesn’t really intend to capture at c6, which would leave Black the possibility of playing the strong freeing move ...c5 twice(!), this seems to just lose time. 6...a5 7.e3 7.a7 8.d3 c5 9.O–O e6 10.e1 cxd4 11.cxd4 a4 By a simple tempo count, White is ahead in development. However, things are rarely so simple in chess, and a quick quality check shows that the unmoved Rook on a8 is at least as well placed as the "developed" White Rook, and pieces for both sides will need to be shifted several times to find the right homes. Considering Black’s Queenside space advantage, it is possible he already stands better. 12.d1 e7 13.Qg3 h5 14...e2 b6 15.g3 b4 16.b1 b7 17.h4 c4 18...f4 b6 19.g2 Qe8 20.g5 Qxg5 21.hxg5 g6 22.e2 e6 23.Qh1 e7 24.b4 Qxb2 25.Qd2 a3 26.Qf4 Qe7 27...Qxf7 Qf8 28...Qxg6 Qd1 29.f4 Qb2 30.Qc2 Qxa1 31.Qxd1 Qxf4 32.gxf4 Qxa2 33.Qf1 Qb1 34.Qc3 Qxc1 35.Qxe6 Qxc3 36.Qxd7 Qxd4 37.Qd6+ Qb6 38.e6 a2 39.Qf3 Qc5 White Resigns. 0-1

- Galdunts, S.
- Tavadian, R.

**URS 1990 1-0 B19**

The former USSR was a chess powerhouse, with seemingly inexhaustible supplies of world-class players. The restrictive travel policies imposed by the state prevented most Soviet players from ever playing in international tournaments, so by the time the rest of the world found out about a player he was already very strong. In this game two unknowns play a fine battle.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Qd2 dxe4 4...xe4 Qf5 5.Qg3 Qg6 6.h4 b6 7.f3 Qd7 8.h5 Qh7 9.d3 Qxd3 10.Qxd3 Qg6 11.a2 Qc7 12.O–O–O c6 13...e2 This is a main line in the Caro Kann; the retreat puts pressure on e6 and defends the e5 square, as well as removing the Queen from possible attack along the d-file should Black castle long. 13...e5 Normally, this is a desirable move; it breaks in the center and gives the Black pieces more room. In this position, it may be slightly premature - the weakness of the Black Queenside isn’t at all obvious, though. 14.Qb1 Getting off the c-file and preparing to bring a Rook over. 14...Qc8 15.c4 Qxd4 Again well motivated, preventing d4–d5 which would render the c-file battery useless and pressure e6. But the newly centralized Knight also hits at e6, and develops some Queenside action, too. 16.Qxd4 Qc5 Of course, 16...Qxc4 17.Rc1 is unacceptable, but 16...a6 may run into 17.Nxe6. 17.b5 Qc6 18.b4 Suddenly Nb5xa7 is a problem. The Knight attacks many dark squares in the heart of the Black position, so it must be eliminated. 18...a6 19.Bxc5 axb5 20.Bxb5 Qxb2 21.Qd1 Qh3 22.c6 bc6 23.Bxc6 Qxc6 24.b4 Qd4 25.a3 Qb6 26.Qb2 Qd5 27.Qd4 Qd8 28.Qxd5 Qe5 29.Qe2+ Qe6 30.Qf5 Qb6 31.Qxg7+ Qd8 32.Qxe6+ Qxe6 33.Qg7 Qf8 34.h2 Qf4 35.Qd1 Qe8 36.Bh8+ Qf8 37.Qc3+ Qd8 38.Qg7 Black Resigns. 1-0

- Short, N.
- Seirawan, Y.

**Manila 1990 1-0 B12**

This was a crucial game on Nigel Short’s path to challenge Kasparov for the world championship in 1993.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Qf5 4.c3 A Short specialty. 4...e5 5.Qe2 c5 6.Qf3 Qc6 7.0–0 h6 8.Qe3 Qxd4 9.Qxd4 Qxe7 10.Qc3 Qe8 11.Qc1 a6 Better is 11...Nbd6. 12.Qd4 Qb6 13.Qe5 Qxe5 14.Qxe5 O–O 15.Qb3 Qd7 16.Qc3 Qb6 17.Qf1 Qxb3 18.Qf4 Qb8 19.Qd2 Qf8 20.h4 With Black tied down on the queenside, White switches his attention to the kingside. 20...Qg8 21.g4 Qd7 22.h5 Qd8 Better is 22...Kd8, although after 23.f4 White has a space advantage. 23.Qb3 Qb6 24.Qb3 Qa4 If 24...Rxh8, then 25.Nc5 is strong. 25...Nd7 would be met with 26.Nxb7. 25.Qc7 Qxb2 26.Qc5 White has a winning advantage. 26...b5 27.Qg5 The decisive breakthrough. 27...Qc4 If 27...Qhg5, then 28.Bxg5 followed by 29.Re7+ is decisive. 28.gxh6 Qxh6 29.Qd7 Qxc3 30.Qf3 Qf5 31.Qf2 Qb7 32.Qf6+ Qf8 33.Qg1 Black Resigns. If 33...Rxc7, then 34.Qg8+ Kc7 35.Qe8#.

0-1

- Kotronias, V.
- King, D.

**New York 1990 1-0 B12**
To win at chess, it is necessary to take risks. Here the young Greek player Kotronias gives up the center to develop a flaming attack against his English colleague.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 dxe5 4.Qxe5 Bf5 5.dxe5 Nf6 6.Qe2 Qe7 7.Qe2 Qd7 8.O-O Nbd7 9.a4 c5 10.a5 Qc6 11.dxc5 An inspired move. But if White plays 11.f4 Nf5! gives Black a fine game. Perhaps throwing in 11.a6 in order to justify the a-pawn advance was best. The text gives up a pawn in the hopes of crushing through in the center. 11...exd5 12.g3 Qg6 13.Bd4 Qxe5 14.Qe3 e5 Such a weakening move deserves a strong rebuke. However, Black is already on the slippery slope of defeat. The solid move 14...Qc8 15.Ncb5 Nc6 16. Nd5+ costs Black an Exchange and the opportunity to castle. 15...Bd5 16.Bx6 cxb6 17.Qxb6+ Kd7 18.Qa5+ b6 19.Qxb7 Qxb7 20.axb7 Qxb7. The piece sacrifice is immediately decisive. If 19...Qd4 Black sidesteps the wipeout: 15...d4 16.Bxd4 (16.Ne4 is also strong.) exd4 17.Nc7+ Kd8 18.Nxa8 dxc3 19.Rd1+ Kc8 20.Nb6+ axb6 21.axb6 wins. Analysis by Andrianov. This nice comment illustrates Black’s problem: his vulnerable King.

16.a6 b6 17...d1 d4 18.Bh3 A killing move. If Black captures on either c3 or e3 White plays 19.Nd6+ which will be devastating. The text sidesteps Black’s tempo ...Ne7-f5 and also fixes to keep Black’s King trapped in a crossfire. 18...Qc8 19.Qxd4 The piece sacrifice is immediately decisive. If 19...exd4 20.Nxd4 Qc7 21.Qf3 Rb8 22.Nc6 wins. Black has no answer for Rf1-e1+ and Nc3-b5. 19...Qd6 20.Qe1 Qxb5 21.Qxe5 Qe7 22.Qxb5 O-O Black dare not accept the second piece offering. If 22...Qb5 23.Bxg7 Rg8 24.Qxh7 wins. 23.Qd4 Qe5 24.Bd4 Qc4 25.Qf5 Qxb4 26.Bh6 Black Resigns. A painful finale. Black is reminded about his endangered King. The point 26...gxh6 27.Nxh6+ is indeed a beauty. 1-0

Van der Wiel, J.
• Seirawan, Y.

Annotations by Yasser Seirawan. It’s always a good idea to make sure none of one’s favorite lines have been busted and before this game I quickly scanned the games in New In Chess Yearbook 15. Sure enough, right on cue, GM Khalifman had just clobbered someone who played my favorite variation of the Rat Defense. Rats! He had annotated the game, and had gone so far as to give my 8...fxe6 a question mark. The cheek! His notes were short and succinct. Was it the end of my idea? I refused to believe it, and spent a whole night and early morning mulling the variation over. I hoped things were patched up successfully because my next opponent was the dangerous GM John van der Wiel.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3...c3 g7 I prefer this move over to that of the classical Pirc (2...Nf6) because I consider it more flexible. In the variation where White plays Bc1-e3 and Qd1-d2, angling for Be3-h6, it’s sometimes useful to have a Knight on g8. 4.f4 Qf6 5.Qf3 e5 6.Qb5+ d7 7.e5 Qg4 8.e6 fxe6 9.Qxe5 Qxb5 10.Qxb5 Qa5+ 11.Qc3 Qxb5 12.Qxg4 edx4 13.Qxe6 This position was evaluated as winning for White by Khalifman. As we had both played quickly up to now, I immediately played my novelty. 13...Qc4 After making this move, I got up to get a glass of mineral water. While at the refreshment stand, I heard the other players joking, “How can this guy be leading the tournament? he leaves his pieces hanging with check!” After a pause, John found his only chance for an advantage. 14.Qxg7+ Qf7 15.Qf5 Avoiding Black’s trap. On 15.Nh5? dx5! (threatening...Qc4-e4+ and ...g6xh5) 16.Ng3 exb2 17.Bxb2 Qb4+. Black safely recovers his piece with the better game. 15...Qe6+ 16.Qe3 Qxe3 17.Qf5 In my preparations I had decided that this was the only way for White to attain an advantage. Of course, 17.Qxe6+ Kxe6 18.Bxe6 Nc6 is completely equal. 17...Qxf5 18.O-O Qe6 The try 18...Nd7 19.Rxf5+ Nf6 seemed equally plausible. After a lot of late-night deliberations, I preferred the text because of the game continuation. It seemed to me that Black’s King was quite safe on d7 with a Knight protecting e7. The open files on the Kingside guarantee Black adequate counterplay. 19.Qxf5+ Qe8 20.d8=Q White is thinking along classical lines only and mistakenly plays into an ending where he believes he stands better because he has a Bishop versus a Knight and Black has three pawn islands to White’s two. But for White to retain any real threats he had to keep the Queens on the board. Better is 20.Qf3!. 20.Qf5 21.Qe6+ Qxe6 22.Qxa8 Qxa8 23.Qe3 Qf8 24.Qd1 Losing a tempo. The game is quickly drawn after 24.Rf1!. I was happy to see John trying to win this ending as my next move proves that it is Black who has the pull. 24...Qd5 25.g5 Another wasted tempo. Again 25.Rf1 is correct. 25...e5 26.Qd1+ Qe6 27.Qd3 When I saw this move, I realized that John was oblivious to the danger. He is trying to play without his Queenside majority and without his King! Black is well ahead in the race already. Time to drive the point home. 27...d5 28.Qh3 White consistently carries out his
mistaken plan. White’s Rook on h3 is apparently active, but the Black Rook on f7 does more - it cuts off White’s King. 28...\(\texttt{c3}\) 29.\(\texttt{d2}\) d4 Now White began to sense the danger. Black is ready to transfer his King to e4, dominating White’s Rook along the third rank. 30.\(\texttt{f3}\) d7 After White finally discovers that his Rook belongs on the f-file, Black refuses the exchange. My center pawns are lusting to advance further. 31.\texttt{exd4} exd4 A difficult move to sort out. Both ...\texttt{Rxd4} and ...\texttt{Nxd4} appear to be better, but this isn’t the case. After 31...\texttt{exd4}, Black’s Rook is nicely placed behind the passed pawn. The e5-square becomes available for the Knight - which transfer to c4 - while the d-pawn itself is one square further advanced. 32.b3 \(\texttt{e5}\) 33.\(\texttt{f4}\) \(\texttt{g6}\) 34.\(\texttt{g4}\) White is worried about the possible transfer of the Black Rook to the c-file. But the White Rook is poorly placed here. I had expected 34.\texttt{Rf1} when, despite the best efforts of both White and Black, the position is only slightly better for Black. 34...\texttt{d5} Freeing the Rook. 35.\texttt{f1}\ Just in time. White activates the King in preparation for 35...\texttt{Rc7} 36.\texttt{Ke2} \texttt{Rc2} 37.\texttt{Kd3} and the game is equal. 35...\texttt{b2} 36.\texttt{e1} \texttt{e5} 37.\texttt{h4} b7 38.\texttt{h2} b6 39.\texttt{f4} An interesting practical decision. Black is offered a Rook and pawn ending with an extra unit, but the extra h-pawn isn’t fantastic. Still, White has problems. 39...\texttt{d3+} 40.\texttt{e2} \texttt{xf4+} 41.\texttt{xh4} \texttt{g2}+ 42.\texttt{xd3} \texttt{h2} 43.\texttt{xd4+} \texttt{e6} The only winning chance Black has in this ending is to place his Rook behind his h-pawn, h7 being the ideal square. Then Black has but a single weakness on the Queenside. Karpov said the ending was a draw - but both sides have their problems. 44.\texttt{a4} \texttt{h5} With the transparent threat of ...\texttt{Rh5-d5}. On a deeper level, Black plans ...\texttt{Rh5-d5} - \texttt{d7} and switching behind the h-pawn. 45.\texttt{g4} \texttt{f7} Black brings his King to the Kingside in order to assist the h-pawn’s advancement. 46.\texttt{b4} A probable error. White had to use this moment to penetrate with his Rook: 46.\texttt{Rf4+} \texttt{Kg6} 47.\texttt{Rf8}. 46...\texttt{e5} 47.\texttt{d4} \texttt{e6} 48.\texttt{d5} h5 49.\texttt{h4} \texttt{h6} This is the crux. The passive White Rook makes the rest look easy. 50.\texttt{xe5} \texttt{g6} 51.\texttt{f4} \texttt{f6} Zugzwang! White must retreat. Now White intends to blockade with his King. This leaves the White Queenside easy pickings. 52.\texttt{g3} \texttt{e5} 53.\texttt{h3} a6 54.\texttt{c4} \texttt{d5} 55.\texttt{c8} \texttt{c6} 56.\texttt{a8} b5 57.\texttt{axb5} axb5 58.\texttt{a1} \texttt{c4} White Resigns. If 59.\texttt{Rb1}, then ...\texttt{Rd4} with the unstoppable threat ...\texttt{Kc4-c3} and ...\texttt{Rd5xd4}.

\begin{itemize}
\item Smagin, S.
\item Sahovic, D.
\item Biel

\textbf{1990} \textbf{1-0} \textbf{B00}
\end{itemize}

This game was played at the annual chess festival in Biel, Switzerland. Russian Grandmaster Smagin used a startling Queen sacrifice, catapulting him to victory over his Yugoslav colleague. 1.e4 \texttt{c5} 2.d4 \texttt{d5} 3.e5 \texttt{f3} 4.c3 \texttt{e6} 5.\texttt{d2} \texttt{f6} Black attacks the head of the pawn chain, rather than preparing the positionally superior ...\texttt{c5}, which has the drawback of costing too much time. Another plan for Black is to blockade the light squares with h5, g6, and Nh6. This would be risky unless the Bishop f5 can be exchanged, so it is normally played only if White has provided a Knight on f3 that can be pinned. It is also stronger if White has committed his f-pawn to f4, since from f3 it can support the blockade-busting move g2-g4. 6.\texttt{f4} Now that Black has chosen to play ...\texttt{f6}, this move is desirable. 6...\texttt{fxe5} 7.\texttt{fxe5} \texttt{h6} 8.\texttt{d3} \texttt{f3} 9.\texttt{e2} \texttt{e7} 10.\texttt{g3} \texttt{g4} This work’s out badly. Better was 10...\texttt{Bh4} pinning the g3-Knight. 11.\texttt{e3} \texttt{g5} 12.\texttt{g5} A spectacular move. White sacrifices his Queen for two minor pieces and a dangerous attack. Black is forced to accept the Trojan offer. 12...\texttt{xb6} 13.\texttt{xe6} \texttt{xb8} 14.\texttt{xc7}+ \texttt{d8} The first critical moment. Black must choose between this defense and the more testing: 14.\texttt{Kf7} \texttt{Bh6} 15.\texttt{Bf4} 16.O-O \texttt{Kg8} 17.\texttt{Nf3} \texttt{Bf6} 18.\texttt{Rf4}! \texttt{Bf6} 19.\texttt{Bxf6} \texttt{Nd8} 20.\texttt{Be4} \texttt{Bxh6} 21.\texttt{Bxd5+} \texttt{Kg7} 22.\texttt{Nh5+} \texttt{Kg6} 23.\texttt{Rf6+} \texttt{Kxh6} 24.\texttt{Bf3+} \texttt{Kg5} 25.\texttt{g3} - a remarkable variation given by Smagin which demonstrates the dangers Black faces. 15.\texttt{b4} White has two minor pieces and two pawns for his sacrificed Queen. More important, though, is that Black’s “extra” Queen is neatly buried on the Queenside. The rest of the game is a struggle between keeping the Queen entombed or reviving her. 15...\texttt{h5} 16.\texttt{e6}+ \texttt{e8} 17.\texttt{f5} \texttt{f8} A poor choice. Black should have tried 17...\texttt{Qb6} 18.\texttt{Nd4} \texttt{Rd8} 19.\texttt{Ne3} when White is for choice, but it is still a fight. Black didn’t want to put his Queen into a possible Knight fork. 18.\texttt{f1} \texttt{b7} 19.\texttt{h6} \texttt{hxh6} 20.\texttt{e5}+ \texttt{e8} 21.\texttt{c7} \texttt{e7} 22.\texttt{c2} \texttt{g6} 23.\texttt{c7} Black Resigns. 1-0

\item Olafsson, H.
\item Levitt, J.

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A startling Rook sacrifice.

1.e4 c5 2.\(\text{\textit{f6}}\) c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.\(\text{\textit{xc6}}\) cxd4 5.\(\text{\textit{e2}}\) e5 6.Qg5 3.g3 b6 6.Qg2 b7 6.Qb7 O-O 7.d4 Qh6 8.Qxe4 \(\text{\textit{xe4}}\) 9.Qf4 O-O 10.Qxc5 \(\text{\textit{xc5}}\) 11.Qd2 \(\text{\textit{b6}}\) 12.Qfd1 Qd8 Better is 12...Nd6. 13.Qc3 Qb7 14.Qd6 Sacrificing a pawn to keep Black tied down. 14...Qd6    


A game of unusual pins and material imbalance.

1.e4 e5 2.Qc3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Qc6 5.Qe2 Qf6 6.Qg3 Qe6 7.e4 \(\text{\textit{e7}}\) 8.b3 \(\text{\textit{xe4}}\) White has lost a little time with his double fianchetto, and Black finds a fine tactical method of exploiting his developmental advantage. 9.Qxe4 d5 10.Qg2 The piece cannot be saved, since retreat to c5 allows d5-d4 and Be7-b4 pinning the Queen, and 10.exd5 Bx5 pins the Knight to a Rook and renews the threat of Bd4. 10.Qb4 But Black isn’t in a hurry to simplify the position. The piece isn’t going anywhere, is it? 11.Qc3 d4 12.Qb2 Qf6 13.Qge2 O-O-O 14.Qc1 dxc3 15.Qxc3 Qe5 With threats on the center files, Black prevents White’s escape by O-O... but isn’t there a piece hanging again? 16.Qxc6 bxc6 17.Qxb4 Qh3 18.Qc3 Qf5 19.g4 Qxg4 20.Qf3 Qd3 21.Qfxg4 White has little choice but to surrender the Queen for as much material as possible. Normally a Rook and two minor pieces is more than enough, but here there is the small matter of King safety. 21...Qe4 22.Qd3 Qxd3 23.Qd1 \(\text{\textit{d1}}\) 24.Qg3 Qxg4 25.O-O h5 26.Qh1 h4 27.Qf5 Qe4+ 28.Qg1 h5 29.Qe7+ \(\text{\textit{xb7}}\) 30.Qd2 Qg5+ 31.Qf2 Qg2# 0-1

○ Seirawan, Y.
• Karpov, An.

Haningr 1990 1-0 A20

Scaling K2.

1.e4 e5 2.g3 g6 3.d4 Attempting to lure Anatoly into unfamiliar terrain. 3...d6 4.Qxe5 Qxe5 5.Qxd8+ Qxd8 6.Qc3 c6 How nice! A mistake. This move took Karpov about a quarter of an hour. Obviously Black is concerned about the position of his King, so he prepares a home for him on c7. The problem is that by playing this move now..., Black throws his timing off and allows White a strong attack. After 6...Be6! 7.b3 Nd7, White has a slight advantage. 7.f4 Only this move exposes the vulnerability of Black’s position. White wants to open the center and deny Black’s King the c7-square. It also is a prelude to a long and complex pawn sacrifice. 7...Qe6 8.Qf3 Qc4 9.Qf3 h5 10.b3 This goes to the very heart of the position. The key question facing White is: "What are you going to do with the Bishop on c1?" Is it going to g5 with check? That is attractive to be sure, but it implies f4xe5 which involves a large tempo loss. Beside, doesn’t the Knight want to go to e5? So that leaves Bc1-e3. Hardly inspiring. 10...Qb4 Karpov finds the only defense! But when in his career has it happened that after 10 moves he has only 27 minutes left for the last 30 moves of time control? 11.Qb2 Qd5 12.Qe4 Fantastic! I’m fighting for the initiative at all costs. Somehow White has managed to develop all his minours and play c4,d4,e4, and f4 while Black has only managed to move his Bishops, pawns and put his King on a bad square! 12...fxe4 The only move. 13.O-O-O Qxc3 Excellent. Black finds the only chance: sacrifice an Exchange! A cursory glance shows he had no choice. If 13...Nd6 then 14.Ngs5! (again not Nf3xe5), and Black is about to be slammed dunked. 14.Qxc3 Qxf3 15.Qxe5 Qd7 16.Qh8 Qe7 Up to this point, the moves of the game have been incredibly complex and have taken a considerable toll on both player’s clocks. I had foreseen this position when playing 12.e4 and had thought, “Okay, Black has a pawn for the Exchange.” But I reasoned that Black’s little fella on c3 was too far from the supply lines, and that after a few deft
moves the game would be over. So I nonchalantly made a lazy piece of analysis and played a mistake. 17...Rhe1! 17...f5 Five minutes for the next 23 moves! 18.d4 h5 Forced. White threatened Bh3-g4xh3. 19.g4 hxg4 20.fxg4 h4 21.g2 g2 At this point, I realized that Karpov would lose on time. It would be physically impossible for him to make the time control. But this didn’t stop Karpov from trying! 22.g1 h4 23.h3 e7 24.h2 f6 25.f5+ b6 26.fxe6 g4 27.hxg4 g8 28.e6 a5 29.g5 xg6 30.d2 About this time, my flag was beginning to rise, preparatory to precipitous descent. It was time to put the criminal on f3 under lock and key! 30...f8 31.a6 Black is still worse after 31.Bg3. 31...e6 In the postmortem, we agreed that 31...Qe7! was equal. As my flag continued to rise, we played at lightning speed. 32.f2 f5 33.g4 e5 34.g3 g6 35.h1 e5 36.e1 In this position, my opponent’s flag fell! After 36...Rf5 37.Re8 b6 38.Rd8 (intending Rd8-d6) 38...Kb7 39.Rh3 Rxf5 40.Rh7+ Ka6 41.a4, Black gets mated.

1-0

- Mestel, J.
- Flear, G.

? Eastbourne 1990 1-0 A14

A crucial match-up to determining the British Championship in 1990 was this tactical land mine laid by Jonathan Mestel.

1.e4 e5 2.e2 d5 3.b3 f6 4.g3 g7 5.e2 c5 6.f3 O-O 0-0 c6 6.h3 e4 7.d4 d5 8.b2 h6 9.d7 w2 10.e5 f5 11.e1 d6 12.f3 f6 13.c2 c5 14.a3 a5 15.b1 b6 16.b2 f5 White has succeeded in playing a modern Benoni with several extra tempi. But, if Black is able to secure his game with ...Qd8-d7, he should have a fine game. White goes for a long winded combination. 16...xh4 17.xd4 exd4 18.xe6 xe6 19.d5 h8 Black relinquishes his Knight. A line like 19...Ra6 20.Qe2! Qd7 21.Re1 Kf7 22.Nxd4 would be catastrophic. 20.xe6 xa3 A fine response. Black takes advantage of the fact that the Bishop on e6 is hanging. Thus 21.Nxa3 Qe7 is fine for Black. White had to calculate his next move, which sets up the threat of Qd1-h5. 21.xa3 xe7 22.f5 g6 23.c2 exe5 24.xd4 f4 25.xf3 fxg3 Thus far Black has given as well as he’s taken. Had he tried 25...Rad8! 26.Ne2 (26.Qxf4 Qd6) fxg3 first the game would have been unclear. By failing to drive White’s Knight backwards, he cedes White an advantage. 26.hxg3 xe8 27.f5 b4 28.e2 f7 29.h6 h8 30.f5 f7 31.h6 f8 32.h1 e7 33.f5 d7 34.h4 g7 35.f5 g8 36.e6+ h8 37.f5 g7 38.d6 g7 39.f5 g7 40.e1 This sets up the trap 40...Qxb3? 41.Qxf7 Rxh7 42.Re8+ Rf8 43.Rxf8 check mate. Instead of playing for this trick, White had a stronger continuation by 40.Rh6! Qc5 41.Nd6 Qc6+ 42.Kg1 Kg8 43.Qh3 wins! 43.Rxf6 Qxd6 44.Qg4+ wins. Analysis by G. Fleer. While White has achieved positional dominance, he must still win the game. 40.w5 c5 41.d4 w6+ 42.d5 w3 43.e4 b6 44.d6 w6 45.e7 w8 46.g1 a4 47. bx4 g7 48.f5 a7 49.d7 wd8 50.d4 xa4 51.w7 c7 Black Resigns.

1-0

- Azmaiparashvili, Z.
- Wahls, M.

? Dortmund 1990 1-0 A05

A brilliant pawn sacrifice allows White a sudden mating attack.

1.g3 g6 2.g2 g7 3.f3 f6 4.e4 O-O 5.O-O c6 6.h3 e4 7.d4 d5 8.b2 b6 9.d7 w5 10.e5 f5 11.e1 d7 Better is 11...a5. 12.f3 d6 13.g2 e6 14.e4 a5 White has good attacking chances after 14...Nxe5 15.dxe5 Nc8 16.f4. 15.d3 Threatening 16.Nf4. 15...e8 To meet 16.Nf4 with 16...Nf8. 16.e5 c5 xe5 17.dxc5 xb2 18.xxb2 e8 19.exd5 exd5 20.w4 w7 21.w1 ac1 dxe4 22.wxe4 a7 If 22...f6, then 23.c6 bxc6 24.Rxc6 is strong. 23.g5 f5 24.g4 A very good move. Black’s king’s position is soon ripped open. 24...xg4 If 24...Bd3, then White wins with 25.Bd5 e6 26.Nxe7! Kxe7 27.Rf3. 25.d5 f8 If 25...e6, then 26.Ne4 exd5 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxd5 wins. 26.g5 fxg5 If 26...Bxf5, then 27.Rxf5 gxf5 28.Ne6! fx6 29.Bxe6+ Rf7 30.Re2 followed by Rg2 wins. 27.f4 Threatening 28.Rxg4. 27.h5 28.xg4 hxg4 29.fxf5 exf5 30.d4 f8 If 30...exe5, then 31.Nf6+ and 32.Ne8+ wins the Queen. 31.h5 e5 32.xe5 c6 33.g5+ h8 34.h4 xe7 35.f6+ d7 36.f5+ xe7 37.wxf7# 1-0

- Karlsson, L.
- Seirawan, Y.

? Haninge 1990 0-1 A03
Annotations by Yasser Seirawan. This game features the rare Bird’s opening. When Black plays the move order I play in this game, White has a problem with his Queen’s Bishop. 1.f4 d5 2.Qf3 g6 3.g3 g7 4.Qg2 c5 5.O–O @b6 6.Qc3 @e6 Objectively speaking a “good move,” but at this precise moment it would have been better to play 6...O–O. Black needs the Knight on b8 for the flexibility this offers in being able to play ...d5-d4 when the King must go to a6. Then after some remedial action comes the standard ...Na6-c7-d5 with good play. Also, once on c6, the Knight becomes a tactical target to Nf3-e5 or Nf3-g5 in case of ...b6. 7.d3 O–O 8.Qd2 Better is the straightforward 8.e4!. 8...Qf5 9.Qh1 White seems blissfully unaware of what is about to happen to him. Black is aiming for the following pawn structure: c5,b6,a7 vs. a2,b2,c2,d3. In this position, White’s Queenside pawn majority is being clamped down. Since White is unable to take action on the Queenside without creating a weakness, Black will use his majority on the Kingside for an easy strategic win. White must avoid the above structure, and the simplest way is with 9.e4.

9...d4 At last! 10.a4 b6 11.g4 Black is ideally placed for ...Qd8-c7, ...b8-b7 and ...e7-e5 when the handwring is on the wall. White has an offside Knight on a4 and no clear line of play. With the text, White regains some control of his e3-square and tries to challenge in the center. 11...c6 12.h3 Qb7 13.e4 White is forced to allow Black his strategical aims. Why? Because Black has more space. By mobilizing his pieces behind his pawn wedge, Black can build a menacing position. White needs some space before he is pushed off the board. 13...dxe4 14.xe3 Qd7 15.c3 f5 16.g5 Black is in his strategic glory. His remaining goal is to win complete mastery of the d4-square for a minor piece. Once this is done, White will be forced to play c2–c3 when Black will swarm over the resulting weaknesses. This means getting rid of the White Knight on f3 - preferably not in exchange for the Black Knight on c6 as he is ticketed for d4 - combined with the idea of utilizing my Kingside majority. The next series of moves is easy to see. 16...Qf7 17.Qd2 a8 18.ae1 e5 19.fxe5 Qxe5 20.Qxe5 e5 All the links in the plan are coming together. Still, it was important to be vigilant to White’s counterplay. Lackadaisical is 20...Bxe5? 21.Bd5+ and Qd2–g2 when Black’s domination of d4 is hindered. 21.Qf4 xe1 22.Qxe1 Qd4 Mission accomplished. Black has a protected passed pawn on the Kingside, which becomes more important as the minor pieces get exchanged. At the moment, White’s immediate problem is how to cope with the beast on d4. He decides to sacrifice a pawn for activity. 23.xb7 Qxb7+ 24.Qg2 Qxg2+ 25.Qxg2 Qxe2 26.Qe7 Qf7 27.e6 Qf8 28.Qe7 Qd8 This move is a hallmark of Karpov’s. He is fantastic at limiting his opponent’s pieces while maximizing his own after he has achieved his strategic aims. In this situation White’s Rook has been allowed to penetrate, but Black keeps White’s Knight on c3 nicely bottled up. It musn’t be allowed the trip Nc3-d5–f6+. In the meantime, the pawn on d3 is about to be slurped. 29.Qxa7 Qf6+ 30.b6 Qxe5 Once again, emulating Karpov. White is certainly having trouble maximizing his Knight, while Black’s f5-pawn is waiting for his role. 31.c7 Qd7 32.Qa4 In time trouble, Whitechucks the game away. Obviously Black’s play to limit the Knights mobility had made a strong impression on White’s psyche. This attempt at mobilizing the Knight is really no choice at all. Black’s pieces just work better. Probably the best line for White was 32.Qb6 Rx alf 33.Bxa7 Nxf2 34.Ne2 c4 when Black is winning, but White is still kicking. 32...b5 33.Qb6 Black is getting pounded on a lot of meaningless squares. 33...Qd4 Still preventing the Knight from reaching d5. 34.Qa8+ Qf7 35.Qa7 Qe6 36.Qa6 Qb4 37.Qa5 Qd1+ 38.Qxe2 Qb1 39.Qb5 Qb2+ 40.Qf3 Qd4 Black’s pieces are working together flawlessly. 41.a4 Qa2 42.Qa5 Qd3 43.Qa8 At this point I had a really long think. Of course the position is a win, as Black’s pieces are all ideally placed. I’m also a pawn up and having a mating attack. Great. Now, stop for a moment and see if you can find the win. At first the idea of ...Nd3–c1+ and ...Bd4–f2+ seems very appealing. Or perhaps the simple ...Rd4–f2+ and ...f5–f4–f3. Hmmm, not so simple. After staring at the board for a long time, I finally found the right idea, a really strange Knight move - away from the action! 43...Qf2+ 44.Qg3 Qc1 45.Qe8+ Qf7 46.d8 Qe2+ 47.h4 Qf4+ 48.Qf4 Qf2+ 49.Qg3 Qxg3# mate is a nice finish.

0–1

○ Korchnoi, V.
● Kasparov, G.
?
Amsterdam
1991 0–1 E99

Even when played by two of the greatest players alive, the King’s Indian Defense is a game of opposite wing attacks, decided in favor of the player whose attack is the more efficiently planned - or
more likely against the player who wastes time. Kasparov is the world’s foremost expert on the dynamic Black side of this defense.


Kasparov is the world’s foremost expert on the dynamic Black side of this defense.


The h-file will become a place of confrontation.


White is preparing a dubious sacrifice. Better is 23.Nc3 Qxa4 24.Nxa4 Bg3 with an equal position.

23... g3 24. cxd6+ exd6 25. Bxc5 h4+ 26. g1 f6 27. b4 a5 28. c3 Bf7 Not 28.Ne5? Qb6 or 28.Bxa5? Na6 29...Qxa4 Black has found a good route to activate the Queenside.


Black begins operations on the queenside.

19. g5 Bg6 20. h4 hxg5 21. hxg5 Nc6 22. c4 Bg7 23. e5 Ng8 24. f3 Bf6 25. dxe5 Nxe5 26. fxe5 Nxe5 27. dxe5 Qh4 28. fxe5 Bxe5 29. Qf3 Nf6 30. h4 Bh6 31. Bf4 Kf8

There are lines in which this move can play an important part, but there doesn’t seem to be any hurry about playing it. Better is 13.Nd3 followed by c4-c5, c5x6d, Ra1-c1, and Nb3-b4, when the Knight retains options of advance on that wing. The move played intends Nd3 and c5, when the Knight retains options of swinging on the Queenside with Nb4 or heading back to defend the King, usually from f2. 9...c4

10. e5 dxe5 11. dxe5 Nf6 12. a3 c6 13. b4 cxb4 14. cxb4

Black Black continues to press Black, when Black usually forced to offer a pawn to maintain the Kingside tempo. 13...g6 14. d3 c6 15. c5 h5 16. h3 Bf7 An important move, giving Black options to use the Rook on the g- or h-files while defending c7 along the rank and allowing the Bishop to defend d6 from f8 if necessary. 17. c6 White still does better to capture on d6, transferring the base of the pawn chain. The move chosen costs too much time, and Black’s attack breaks through. 17...a5 Slowing down the occupation of c6 by the Knight (d3-b4-c6) and winning a tempo. Perhaps this excellent defense is what Korchnoi overlooked; it is often a bad idea to make defensive pawn moves on the side of the board that is being attacked by the opponent.

18. cxb6 axb6 19. b4 a6 20. bxa5 bxa5 21. b4 g4 22. c6 b8 23. f3 hxg4 24. h4 g5 Black has found a good route to activate the "bad" dark-squared Bishop. 25. f3 b6 26. e1 h4 27. bxh4 bxc4 28. g5 h6 29. e2 ab4 30. b1 g3 31. d3 h4 White Resigns.


Black begins operations on the queenside.

9...h5 10. g3 f5 11. g5 Bf6 12. f3 f4 13. c5 dxc5 14. e6 cxb4 15. d6+ Kh8 16. Bb5 Trying to win a piece with 16.dxe7 leaves White’s minors seriously uncoordinated. After 16...Qxe7, Black threatens both ...e7-c5+ and ...h7-h6 regaining the material with interest.

16...e6 17. Bh7+ Kf8 18. Bxf7 cxd6 19. Qxd6 g7 20. h3 h7 21. f2 c6 22. b1 Bb7 23. c1 d4 24. gxf4 Bb5 25. fxe5 Bxe5 26. Bf7

Hansen, Cu.

• Nunn, J.

Wijk aan Zee

1991 0-1 E97

The tactics start in the opening and never stop.

1.e4 g6 2.d4 c5 3.d4 e6 4.d5 cxd5 5.Qd2 0-0 6.e2 e5 7.O-O c6 8.d5 Bb7 9.b4 Called the "Bayonet" in this variation of the Classical King's Indian Defense, White plays an early b4 to rush the Queenside. 9...Nf5 10.g3 f5 11.Qf2 Qf6 12.f3 f4 13.c5 dxc5 14.Qb4 15.d6+ Kh8 16. Bb5 Trying to win a piece with 16.dxe7 leaves White’s minors seriously uncoordinated. After 16...Qxe7, Black threatens both ...e7-c5+ and ...h7-h6 regaining the material with interest.

16...e6 17.Bh7+ Kf8 18. Bxf7 cxd6 19. Qxd6 g7 20. h3 h7 21. f2 c6 22. b1 Bb7 23. c1 d4 24. gxf4 Bb5 25. fxe5 Bxe5 26. Bf7
Legky, N.
• Martinovic, S.

Fournies

1991 1-0 E94

White sacrifices two pieces to get to the King.

1.d4 2.e4 3.e5 4.c3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.e2 e5 7.O-O exd4 8.Qxd4 c5 9.g3 h5 10.g4 f6 11.e5 b5 This weakens the kingside. Better is 11...Nc6.

12.g5 Qh7 13.f4 a6 With the idea of playing 14...c5, which is not possible immediately due to 14.Ndf5.

14.Nf3 h6 15.f5 f6 16.Qh5 The keys opening the kingside. 16...gxh5


19...Bxf5 20.exf5 21.Bxe3 If 20...Bxc3, then 21.f6 is strong. 21.f6 22.fxe6 If 21...Nxe6?, then 22.gxf6 Nfx6 23.Ndx5 wins immediately. 22.gxf6 Qg3+ 23.Bh2 Bxf6 24.Qf5 g7 25.Qg1 Exchanging off a key defender. 25...Bxd7 If 25...Rgx1, then 26.Kxg1 Nbd7 27.Ndx6.

26.Bd5 Bh7 26...Qf8 would have been more tenacious. 27.Be6+ Bxh8 28.Qxh7 Qh4+ If 28...Kg7, then 29.Rg2+ Kh8 30.Ne7 wins.

29.Qg1 Kg7 30.Bh2 Bc5 If 30...Nfx8, then 31.Rg2+ Nge5 32.Qe7+ Kh8 33.Rxg5 winning. 31.Bc3 Bd8 32.Bg3+ h8 33.Bc3+ Kg8 34.g2+ Black Resigns.

1-0

Gelfand, B.
• Nunn, J.

Belgrade

1991 1/2-1/2 E90

White sacrifices a piece to activate his pieces and start a mating attack.

1.d4 2.c4 g6 3.e4 g7 4.e4 d6 5.e3 O-O 6.Qb4 e5 7.d3 h6 8.0-0 Qc7 9.Nc3 b5 10.d5 Qe7 11.d2 f5 12.Bxe4 c4


Bxh6 Better is 24...h4. 25.d6 c6 If 25...Be6, then 26.Nxc7 Rxc7 27.dxc7 Qxc7 28.Qb6 wins. 26.a7 e6 27.a6 Bxa6 If 27...b5, then 28.Nxb6 wins. 28.Qd8 a7 29.Qe6+ Qh7 30.Qd4 h4 31.Qf1 Better is 31.Nb6 Qe8 32.Rad1 threatening d6-d7 and White has a winning position.

31...e8 32.Bb6 g3 It is clear now that the wrong Rook was moved to f1. 33.Qf5 Bxf2+ 34.Qxf2 Rh6 35.Qe3 Qf8 36.Qxf4 exf4 37.Qd5 Qxf5 38.Qxf6+ Bxf6 39.Qxf5 Qd6 40.h1 40.Rxa6?? is not immediately possible due to 40...Bc5+. But better is 40.Re1 Qb5 41.Re6 winning. 40...h3 Black’s only hope is an attack on White’s exposed King. 41.Qxh6 Bxe3 42.Qf1 If 42.Rxh6 Qxh6 43.Qc7+ Kg8 44.Qxd6, then Black draws with 44...hxg2+ 45.Kxg2 Qe2+.

42.Qg4 43.Rxd6 Rxd6 44.Qc7+ Kg8 45.Qxd6 still only draws due to 45...hxg2+ 46.Kxg2 Qe4+ 46...hxg2+ 44.Qxg2 d3 45.g1 Bc5 46.g2. White must give back the exchange, because if 46.Re1, then 46...Qxg5 followed by 47...f3 is good for Black. The position is equal after 46.Qxg4 Bxg1 47.Qh4+ Kg7 48.Rxf4 Bd4. 46...Bxg1 47.Qxg4 Bxf5 Not 47...Be3? 48.Qg6+ Kg7 49.Qg6+ mating. 48...Bh4+ 49.Qh3+ Rh6 49.Qg7+ Kxg7 50.Qxf5 Bxf6 leads to a drawn position.

46.b8+ Bb7 48.b7+ Qg8 50.b6+ Bg7 51.Bc7+ Qg8 52.Bd6+ Bf7 53.Bc7+ Qg8 54.Bb8+ White is repeating moves to save time on the clock. 54...Bg7 55.Bb7+ Qg8 56.Bxh6 Bxe3 Threatening both...Bxh6 and...Qf1 checkmate forces the draw. 57.Bb8+ Bf7 Not 57...Kg7?? 58.Qh8+. 58.Bb8+ Qg7 59.Bd8+ Bf7 60.Qc7+ Bg8 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

Raicavic, V.
• Vasiljevic, D.

Belgrade

1991 1-0 E90

White sacrifices a piece to activate his pieces and start a mating attack.

1.d4 2.c4 e5 3.d5 g6 4.c3 g7 5.e4 O-O 6.Qb3 d6 7.h3 e6 8.d3 Bc6 9.O-O 10.Qe2 d7 11.a4 Weakening the b4-square but preventing Black from starting counterplay on the queenside. 11...Qb4 12.Qb1 h5 13.Qa3 This Rook will later be transferred over to the Kingside. 13...f4 14.exf4 Qxf5 15.Qg5 f6 16.Qd3 e4 17.Qe6 Qxe6 18.Qxh6 Qe8 19.h5 Qf6 20.Qxe4 Sacrificing a piece to open up the b1-h7 diagonal. 20...fxe4 21.Qxh4 Bxh6 22.Qxe4 23.Qxe4 24.Qh4 Bxh4 25.Qxh4 Bf6 If 25...Qxe1, then 26.Rxg7+.
\[26. \text{g5} \text{xb2} \text{f} \text{f2} 26...\text{hgx5}, \text{then} 27.\text{Qh7+ Kf7} 28.\text{Rh3 wins.} \quad \text{27.} \text{xe6} \text{e2} 28. \text{h7+ Black Resigns.} \quad \text{Black has the unpleasant choice between} 28...\text{Kf7} 29.\text{Qe7# or} 28...\text{Kxh7} 29.\text{Bxg7+.} 1-0\]

○ Beliavsky, A.
• Timman, J.

Linares
1991 1-0 E86

The Saemisch is one of White’s sharpest variations against the King’s Indian, frequently displaying opposite-wing castling and pawn storms. Here Russian “Big Al” Beliavsky allows Dutch GM Jan Timman to capture Queenside material to his heart’s content, while relentlessly storming the King. The resulting endgame yields a textbook example of winning with a Knight and passed pawns against a Rook.

\begin{align*}
1.d4 & f6 2.c4 g6 3.e3 \text{g7} 4.e4 d6 5.f3 &
\text{The defining moment for the Samish variation.} &
\text{White plans Bc1-e3, Qd1-d2, O-O-O, Be3-h6, and h2-h3 with a Kingside attack. A similar attacking strategy against the Sicilian Dragon is called the Yugoslav Attack.} &
\text{5...O-O} 6.b3 c5 7.\text{Qe2 c6} 8.\text{Bd2} &
\text{Black runs back for his heart’s content, while relentlesslly storming the King.} &
\text{The last thing Black wants to do is open files on the Kingside, therefore he probably didn’t even consider capturing the h-pawn. Also, b5xc4 wins a pawn and opens the b-file, but it allows White a respite and is slower than the text.} &
\text{Everything depends on being first with the attack.} &
\text{12.} &
\text{h6} &
\text{xe6} 13.\text{Bxe6 b4} 14.\text{b3} &
\text{bxa2} 15.\text{g3} &
\text{b6} 16.c5 &
\text{White doesn’t immediately have enough force to break through on the other side, so first he plays in the center. This move requires the following exchange sacrifice.} &
\text{16...\text{xe4}} 17.\text{dxe4} &
\text{dxe4} 18.\text{dxe4} &
\text{a1+} 19.\text{b1} &
\text{e6} 20.\text{e3d5} &
\text{Bxa1} &
\text{Black runs back for the defense.} &
\text{If White manages to dislodge the Black Knight from f6, then mate will follow on h7.} &
\text{This was the point of 16.c5, to remove the Black pawns from d6 and e5, and place at least one White unit on e5, attacking the Knight.} &
\text{21.\text{e5}} &
\text{d8} 22.dxe5 &
\text{d7} 23.\text{h6} &
\text{g5} 24.\text{c4} &
\text{h8} 27.e6 &
\text{White obviously has more than enough for the exchange.} &
\text{27...\text{e5}} &
\text{28.} &
\text{dl} &
\text{White could win a piece with 28.e7 instead, but this would allow Black to eliminate all of the dangerous center pawns, and in fact the White King would remain exposed. Play might continue (after 28.e7) 28...\text{Qd6} 29.\text{exd6} &
\text{Qxd6} \text{or} 29.\text{Rxh8} &
\text{Qe7+} &
\text{Rf8} 31.\text{Qxh8} \text{Qe5} &
\text{...Qe5-f7 removing it.} &
\text{8.} &
\text{1-0} &
\text{28...Kf7} 29.\text{Qe7# or} 28...\text{Kxh7} 29.\text{Bxg7+.} 1-0
\end{align*}
an original breakthrough that unleashes the power of the passed d-pawn. 30...c6 31.gxd4 cxd4 32...b5 33...e7 34.h3 Black must lose material for the d-pawn. Nunn struggles to confuse matters, but there is no escape. 34...f6 35...h6 d3 36.d7 37...c8+ 38...h7 38...d8= 39...d8 39...xd8 40...g1 45...h4 46.g7 42...f2 46.e3 43...e5 44.g3 Black Resigns. White’s rook will win one of the Black queenside pawns, after which the White queenside pawns would advance.

1-0

○ Timman, J.
• Kasparov, G.
?
Tilburg
1991 0-1 E67
On move 19 Kasparov bangs his Knight onto f2 and the board is in flames. 1.d4 2.e5 3...d5 4.g3 3...O–O 5...e2 d6 6.O–O 6...e7 7...d7 8...c3 8...we2 c6 9...d1 9...e7 10.b3 exd4 11...xd4 11...e8 12...d2 12...e5 13...e5 14...a3 h5 15...b4 16...e4 16...d5 17...h8 Each player is playing on opposite sides of the board. Worth considering was 17...a4 h8 18.Re1 with equality. 17...h4 18.a4 Even Timman, with all his experience, did not expect the strike from out of the blue that follows. Better is 18.Re1 or
18...Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Re1. 18...hxg3 19...hxg3 20...f2 20...f2 Worse is 20.Kxf2 Ng4+ 21.Kg1 Qxe3+ 22.Kh1 Qh6+ winning. 20...g4 21...f3 21...f3 ...xe3 22...Nxd1 and 22...Bg4 are threatened. 22...e1 23...xd4 23...d5 24...g4+ 24...xd4 25...xe1 25...xe1 26...e1 f5 26...e1 27...xd5 27...xd5 28...e8 28...e8 28...Bc3 Rx f1+ 28...e6 29...b7 29...b7 30...e6 30...e6 31...e4 31...e4 32...a8+ 32...a8+ ...h7 33...b6 33...b6 34...xa5 34...xa5 If 34...b7, then 34...Rbb1 35.Qa6 Bc4 wins. 34...Rbb1 35...g2 Rb2 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Ivanchuk, V.
• Yusupov, A.
?
Brussels
1991 0-1 E67
This game was the first of a two-game tie breaker that was to decide the Candidates semifinalist, the chess world’s version of the Final Four. The game was played at the odd time limit of 60 moves in 45 minutes, so it’s impossible to imagine what the players were seeing.
1.e4 e5 2.g3 d6 3...g2 g6 4.d4 4.d4 47...e3 47...e3 4...g7 6...e5 6...e5 7.0–0 0–0 8...we2 8...we2 This is a dubious deviation from the well-trodden path of 8.e4, which gives White a pull. 8...e5 Better is 8...exd4 9.Nxd4 Nbd4! The text allows White an even more favorable transposition into the normal 8.e4 lines. 9...d1 c6 10.b3 10.b3 Not a happy placement of the Queen. 11...a3 This is asking for trouble. After 11...e4! exd4 12.Nxd4 Ne5 13.f3 a5 14.a3 White keeps a persistent advantage. The text anticipates ...e5–e4, because it prevents the follow-up ...d6–d5.
11...e4 Forced. Also, at this time control it’s nice to have the initiative. 12...g5 e3 13.f4 This natural-looking move is actually a careless blunder. It makes White’s kingside structure quite brittle. Black can now concentrate on such conceptions as ...h7–h5–h4xg3 and ...Nf6–h5. Therefore, correct was 13.f3! 13...f8 Black’s attack is suddenly very ominous. Ivanchuk slowed down around this point to try and comfort his King and then pressed ahead on the queenside. 14...b5 15...b3 h6 16...f3 ...e4 17...b5 g5 18...xc6 bxc6 19...e5 It takes nerves of steel to play a move like this one. Black’s pieces are flooding the kingside and White moves away a key defender. Vassily is playing with fire. But what else is he to do? After 19...fxg5 hgx5 White’s game lacks vitality, while Black’s attack is still picking up steam. 19...gxh4 20...xc6 21...d5 In the hopes that the Bishop can serve a defensive role on the d6–h2 diagonal. 21...g6 22...d5 White is trying to rush his pieces back to the kingside. 22...h5 The natural looking move to induce a weakness, but 22...fxg3 23.Bxg3 h5 appears to be winning. 22...h4 23...h4 The fun begins. Black is also for choice after 23...fxg3 23.Bxg3 h5 appears to be winning. 23...h4 24...h4 The crucial moment. I thought that Black’s attack could now be repulsed by 25.Nce7+!, grabbing the Knight on f2.
Ivanchuk thought for several minutes, hesitated, reached out his hand, and grabbed the wrong Knight! Now, holding the wrong Knight, Ivanchuk looked grieved, then continued as if nothing was wrong. How can the world’s number two player grab the wrong piece? My guess is nerves. 25...d7+ A gross error. The Knight on d5 was fulfilling a brilliant function, it hit the kids on f4 and e3 and it was just a hop from the kingside, whereas the Knight on c6 is obviously useless. 25...h8 26...xf5 27...d1 28...b7 28...b7 White will soon have to return his hoard of pieces to save his King. Now ...Qb2+ is the King-Kong threat. 29...xa8+ I like this very much! If you’re going to go down in flames, take as much with you as you can! 29...h7 30...g8+
White’s exposed King.

A very good try. If White accepts the Exchange Qslightly uncoordinated Knights will lead to bigger
attack in the long term.

This game from the strong Linares tournament in 1991 pits the very popular Russian Grandmaster Artur Yusupov against the resourceful Brit, Jonathan Speelman. The advantage of the initiative is well illustrated here, as Yusupov continually pressures Speelman’s King until finally material is won.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 c5 4.e3 e5 5.O–O O–O 6.c4 cxd5 7.Nf3 c6 8.e3 cxd5 Better is 8...e6 9.Nf3 cxd5 9.Qe1 Forcing weaknesses. 9...e6 The only way to avoid losing a pawn. 10.Qh4 Nxe4 10...Nf6 11.Qf4 10...e6 11.Nf4 O–O 12.Bd3 Nc6 13.b4 is good for White. 11.Ne3 f5 12.g4 Opening up the position. The Black King will not be able to find a safe home. 12...O–O 13.Qxf4 gx5 If 13...Rxf5, then 14.Bd3. 14.g1 Threatening a double attack with 15.Qg2. 14...e6 The only move. 15.c2 c6 Transferring the Knight to a very strong outpost at f4. 16.Qf4 Qh5 17.e4 Better is 17...Qc7. 18.Qe2 Qxf4 19.Qg5 8f7 20.Qag1 Qc7 21.Qh5 Qd8+ A desperate attempt to prolong the game. 22.exd4 Qxf4 23.Qxh7 Black Resigns. If 23...Kf8, then 24.Rxg7 Rxg7 25.Qh8+ wins.

White sacrifices a pawn in the opening and has sufficient compensation. But Black plays a very good defense.

24.h4 White still retains enough central control to casually advance the h-pawn to open lines. White’s attack doesn’t look like much, but the Kingside initiative combined with Black’s slightly uncoordinated Knights will lead to bigger and better things. 24...a6 25.h5 f5 26.exf5 Qxf5 26...Kxg6 27.hxg6 Qxg6 26...Qe4 Qe6 29.Kh1 Qf3 A very good try. If White accepts the Exchange sacrifice, Black will take over the initiative against White’s exposed King. 20.h6+ But White has a method of simplifying while retaining a tactical edge. 20...Qxe4 21.Qd4 22.Qe1 23.Qa1 h6 24.Qa3 Qh7 25.Qf3 Moves like Ng4-e5 and Rd6-d7 are threatened, but this loses a piece without compensation. 24.Qd4 25.Qf3 26.Bb2 27.Nf3 Nxf3+ 28.Qxf3 Black Resigns. If 28...Qxh3, then 29.gxf3 28...Qxh3 29.Qe3 dxe3 30.Qxe3 xe3 Black Resigns. 1-0

An example of a quick knockout of a Grandmaster.

White’s doing great, but White has a method of simplifying while retaining a tactical edge. 30...Qxe4 31.Qxe4 32.Qe4 33.Qf3 Qb4 34.Qe1 h6 35.Qd3 Black Resigns. 1-0
White does not have enough compensation for the pawn. 25.axb5 axb5 26. a2 Threatening Ra7 followed by Rc7 winning the c6-pawn. 26...e5 Threatening to block in the Bishop with 27...e4. 27. a7+ e7 28. a8+ d7 Better was 28...e4. 29. d8 e8 30. e4 f4 31. g4 Both players were in time pressure. 31...g5 32. h4 h6 33. hxg5 g6 34. f1 xg5 35. e2 dxg5 36. h1 g7 37. a1 h6 38. aa8 f7 39. a6 e7 40. d6 f6 41. d8 g6 42. d2 White would like to infiltrate with his King via a5. 42...g5 43. c2 e6 44. e8 g6 45. a1 f6 46. h1 a7 47. b2 b4 48. g5+ Worse is 48.cxb4?! c3+. 48...hxg5 49. xe6+ White gives up the exchange to stop g5-g4. His position has become quite bad. 49...xe6 50. g4+ f6 51. cxb4 g7 Threatening 52.Rh6. 52. h5 h6 53. xg5+ h7 54. g6+ xg6 55. f3 f6 56. c3 e7 57. xxe4 a3 58. h5 d7 59. g4+ e7 60. h5 b7 61. e4 a1 White Resigns. Black wins after 62.Bd7 Re1+ 63.Kb3 Rd1 64.Bg4 Ka6 65.Be6 Rd3+ 66.Kc4 Rxf3.

0-1

○ Shirov, A.
● Kozul, Z.
?

Biel
1991
1-0
D87

20 year old Latvian GM Shirov proved himself to be one of the best players in the world by winning this strong tournament in Biel, Switzerland.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3.e3 d5 4.exd5 gxd5 5.e4 xc3 6.bxc3 g7 7. e4 c5 8. e2 O-O 9. e3 c6 10. e1 cxd4 11.exd4 a5+ 12. f1 White forgoes castling because he intends to open up the h-file by advancing his h-pawn. 12...d7 13.h4 f8 14.h5 g8 15.f3 b5 16. e3 a6 17. xcl wb6 Better is 17...Rc8. 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.f1 Transferring the Queen to the h-file.

19...e8 20. g5 Not 20.Qh4?! Rxcl+! 21.Nxc1 Qxd4 with counterplay. 20...e6 21. xex7 g5 This is Black's only defense against Qh4. 22.d5 23. g5 b4 24. e3 wb6 25. cxd4 xc4 26.xd2 e7 27.d6 b5 28. xf7+ The finishing touch. 28...f8 If 28...Kxf7, then 29.Qd5+ Kf8 30.Qf5+ Kg8 31.Qe6+ Kf8 32.Rh5 results in a decisive mating attack. 29. e6+ cc1+ If 29...Bxe2+, then not 30.Qxe2 Rc1+, rather 30.Kf2. 30. xc1 xc2+ 31. xcl d2+ 32. xcl wd6+ 33. f4+ e7 34. h7+ Black Resigns. Black loses his Queen after 34...Kxe6 35.Rh6+.

1-0

○ Karpov, An.
● Kamsky, G.
?

Tilburg
1991
0-1
D85

An instructive ending.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3.e3 d5 4.exd5 gxd5 5.e4 xc3 6.bxc3 g7 7. e3 c5 8. e2 a5 9. b1 a6 10. c1 cxd4 11.exd4 xd2+ 12. xd2 O-O 13. f3 e4 14. e4 b5 15. h1 d7 16. c1 a5 17. e2 fb8 18. d2 e6 19. c3 a7 20. d2 b5 Better is 20...a6. 21.e5 c6 22.a4 a7 23. a1 d5 24. f1 White intends to maneuver his Knight to d3 via e1. 24...c6 25.a5 Fixing Black’s pawns on the queenside. 25... c7 26. e3 f8 27. e1 b4 28. d1 This position is much better for White. 28...xe1 Otherwise Black would get into a very cramped position after the Knight comes to d3.

50...e5 Better was 20...e4.

51.Kf2 h3! winning. If 50...Rh2+ 51.Ke3 h3 and the passed pawn outside passed pawn with 48.g5. 51... d2 52.Rd3 d4 53.g5+ h5 54.Kg1 Rg3+ 55.Kh2. 55...Rg2+ 56.Ke3 Rxe2 57.Kxe2 Bc4 wins.

52.Rd3 d4 53.g5+ h5 54.Kg1 Rg3+ 55.Kh2. 55...Rg2+ 56.Ke3 Rxe2 57.Kxe2 Bc4 wins.

56...e2 57. f1 xe2 58. fxe2+ Bf1 59.Bxf1 xe2 60.Kd4 c3 61.Kc5 Ne5 White must sacrifice a pawn to get his Black’s King could get into a mating net with 61...b6 62.Ke4 Nf3 63.Kf4 Ng5 64.Kg3 65.Ne2 xh2 66.Kh4 f3+ 67.Kg5 d3 68. Ke2 xd2 69.f5 c4 70.d4 xa5 71.Ke4 c6 72.Ke3 a5 Better was 20...a6. 21.e5 c6 22.a4 a7 23. a1 d5 24. f1 White intends to maneuver his Knight to d3 via e1. 24...c6 25.a5 Fixing Black’s pawns on the queenside. 25... c7 26. e3 f8 27. e1 b4 28. d1 This position is much better for White. 28...xe1 Otherwise Black would get into a very cramped position after the Knight comes to d3.

50...e5 Better was 20...e4.

51.Kf2 h3! winning. If 50...Rh2+ 51.Ke3 h3 and the passed pawn outside passed pawn with 48.g5. 51... d2 52.Rd3 d4 53.g5+ h5 54.Kg1 Rg3+ 55.Kh2. 55...Rg2+ 56.Ke3 Rxe2 57.Kxe2 Bc4 wins.

56...e2 57. f1 xe2 58. fxe2+ Bf1 59.Bxf1 xe2 60.Kd4 c3 61.Kc5 Ne5 White must sacrifice a pawn to get his Black’s King could get into a mating net with 61...b6 62.Ke4 Nf3 63.Kf4 Ng5 64.Kg3 65.Ne2 xh2 66.Kh4 f3+ 67.Kg5 d3 68. Ke2 xd2 69.f5 c4 70.d4 xa5 71.Ke4 c6 72.Ke3 a5
A tactically complex middlegame between Britain's top two players leads to a simple, theoretically known Rook ending.

1.d4 2.c6 2.c6 3.d3 g7 4.g2 O–O 5.f3 d5 6.cxd5 cxd5 7.f3 b6 8.a3 c6 9.e3 e8 10.h3 a5 11.b1 a4 12.ae1 e5 13.e4 d7 14.c2 e5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.f4 It is clear that Black has already more than equalized. This move will cause trouble later along the diagonals to the White King. 16...e4 17.f3 e7 18.b3 axb3 19.axb3 a6 20.b4 e6 21.e5 22.b5 23.2b2 e5 24.b3 f5 25.c3 xg3 26.xg3 f6 27.g4 Leads to a pawn-down Rook endgame. Better chances to hold are given by 27.exf6, although Black’s pieces gain activity. 27...fxe5 28.fxe5 d5 29.b6+ bxb6 30.axb6 a5 31.g4 a8 32.eb2 e+ 33.xe3 a3 34.b4 e3 35.f3 f3 36.f3 f3 37.b5 f8 38.f8 c2 f6 39.f6 f5 40.f5 f3 41.f3 e6 42.e6 f4 43.e4 b5 44.a2 g6 45.a4 c5 46.bxc5 e5 47.e5 c8 48.d5 49.d5 f6 50.e5 b1 51.xb1 b6 52.e5 c5 53.xg5 c6 54.a5 a1 Slightly more testing is 54.Kf5, bringing the King one file closer with tempo on the Rook. However, the theory of these endings is well known, and Short seems completely competent to win against the best defense. 54...e5 55.b1+ a4 56.a1 b4 57.b1+ a3 58.c1 c6 59.f4 c4 White Resigns. 0-1

Yusupov sacrifices a Rook and follows up with some masterful strokes, winning a sparkling tactical brilliancy.

1.d4 2.e6 2.e6 3.d3 c6 4.e3 b6 5.d3 b7 6.c3 O–O 7.O–O e5 8.d2 cxd4 9.exd4 d5 10.cxd5 cxd5 Black tried 10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 Qxd5 12.Re1 Nbd7 13.Qe2 Qh5 14.a4 a6 15.Re1 Rd8 with equality in Reshevsky-Smyslov, Zurich 1953, but giving up a Bishop for a Knight while improving your opponent’s pawn structure is not to everyone’s taste. 11.c1 c6 12.e1 c8 Black cannot generate proper pressure against the d-pawn: 12...Nf6 13.Bg5. 13.e4 c7 Yusupov badly needed a win, so extraordinary measures can be easily justified. You don’t see Roos being transferred to h4 this early very often. 14.xd5 xd5 Forced, as 14...exd5? 15.Rh4 loses and 14...Bxd2 15.Nxe7+ Qxe7 16.Qd2 Bxe4 17.Bxe4 also fails to simple tactics. 15.h4 g6 I can think of players who would not hesitate to go for 15...f5 16.Rh3. The strangely placed Rook seems like a good reason for a permanent weakening of pawn structure. 16.xe8 xe8 17.g5 There is only one direction - forward. 17...e7 18.g4 a6 Already playing with fire. Much safer was 18...Nf6 19.Qh3 h5. 19.h5 h5 20.xh5 gxh5 21.h7+ g8 22.xh5 f6 A terrible move that tries to cope with the threat 23.Bf5! Nf6 24.Nxe6+. Better was 22...Bg5!. 23.xe6+ fxe6 24.h6+ h8 25.f5+ g8 26.g5+ h8 27.h4+ g8 28.g5+ h8 29.h4+ g8 30.g3+ h8 31.h3+ g8 32.g3+ h8 33.h3+ g8 34.xe6 xe6 The Black Queen goes because of the mate threat. The other way round with 34...Rh8 35.Qg5+ Kf8 36.Bxc8 Bxc8 37.Qb8 could not save the day. 35.xe6 Qd8 The tempting 35...Re8 would not be good after 36.Bg5! 36.g4 exf5 37.gxf5 c4 38.g5 Black Resigns. Black is cornered after the simple 38.g5 Ng5 39.Qd7+ Kf8 40.g6. 1-0

Gual, A.
• Garbarino, R.

Spain
1991 1-0 E42
Black starts a quick counterattack, sacrifices a piece, and then his Queen!
1.d4 2.e6 2.e6 3.d3 c6 4.e3 b4 4.e3 b6 5.c2 d5 6.a3 a5 7.b1 a6 8.d2 O–O 9.d5 b7 10.e4 dxe5 11.exd5 c4 12.g3 b4 13.e2 c8 14.c4e4 White is having trouble finding safety for his King. If 14.h3, then 14...Nxf2! 15.Kxf2 f5 followed by 16...f4. 14...xh2 15.d6 f5 Black must keep on attacking. 16.xh7 The decisive error. Correct is 16.Nxe8 or 16.Bxa5. 16...f4 17.e1 f3 This pawn has a great future. 18.xh2 xh2 19.xh2 fxg2 20.xa5 g1=Q+ White Resigns. White’s position is hopeless after 21.Kd2 Qxh2 22.Bc3 Rxh2. 0-1
17...Bxe5 20.fxg5 21.fxg5 d6
Better is 18...Nfe4. Now the attack comes in full force.
19...Bb7 9...Qb6 8...Bb4
White maneuvers his pieces in preparation for a kingside attack.
18...d6 Better was 18...Nf6. Now the attack comes in full force.
19.c4 Bc6 20.d4 dxc5
If 20...hxg5, then White's attack is very strong after 21.fxg5. 21...Ne6 22.Qc2 g6 23.Rxg7 loses immediately while White wins back his piece after 21...Nfe4 22.Nxe4 Nxe4 23.Bxe4 Bxe4 24.Qd4 with a double attack.
21.e2 c7 22.h5
Now there is no way to stop White from making a direct hit deep into Black's kingside.
22...hxg5
23...hxg5 24...xf6 24...xf6+ 25...xf6 26...xf6 27...xf8 28...g6
If 27...Bf6, then 28.Qh8+ Ke7 29.Qxg7! Bxg7 30.Rxh7+ Ke8 31.Rxc7+ Kf8 32.Rxb7 wins.
28...h1 d5
Worse is 28...Rd7 29.Qh8+ Ke7 30.Qxg7.
30...f7+ 31.Kg7 32...g7+ 33.Kf6+ Black Resigns.
1-0

o Karpov, An.
• Ljubojevic, L.
• Sax, G.
• Epishin, V.

Berga
1991 1-0 E38
Another instructive kingside attack.
Better was 16...Be4. This diagonal is later used for a dangerous attack.
18.Qg3 White now has a slight advantage for White.
25...g5+ 26.Kf3 f5 27.Qh6
27...Qh6 28.Qd4 Better is 28.Rd1 with an equal position.
28...Qg4+ 29.Qe2 Not 29.Kf3 Rf8 30.Qe2 Nxe2! 29...Qf6 Black has a slight advantage due to his better placed pieces.
30.Qf3 Qe6 31.Qe5 Qxf5+ 32.Qg2 Qe8 33.Qd4 Qxd4
34.Qxd4 Qc3 Threatening 35.Qf3.
35.Qe1 Qd3 36.Qe5 Qf3 37.Qe7 Qa5 38.b4 Correct is 38.Be5! 38...Qh5 39.Qxa5 Qxg3 40.Qxc3
The losing move. White could have held the position with 40.axb6 Nxb6 41.Re1 Nf4+ 42.Kg1 Rh3 43.Re1.
40...Qxg3+ 41.Qh2 Qxb5 42.Qd7
More tenacious is 42.Re5. 42...Qg3 43.Qg2 Qxg2 44.Qxd4 Qf3 Qd3+ 46.Qe2 Qxa3 47.Qxd5 Qb7 48.Qf2 Qh6 49.Qe5 Qg5 50.Qg2 Qh5 51.Qd5 Qh4 Black Resigns.
0-1

o Bareev, E.
• Sax, G.

Hastings
1991 1-0 E31
This wild attacking game was played in the traditional Christmas tournament at Hastings, England. GM Bareev is now acknowledged as one of the strongest players in the world, with good chances to eventually challenge for the World Championship title, and GM Sax of Hungary is also among the elite. Any game between these players should be watched with interest.
1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3.Qc3 b4 4.d4 Qxc6 5.d5 d6 7.e3 Qxe3+ 8.Qxe3 e5
In Nimzo-Indian lines, Black often captures on c3, then tries to blockade the center and build up a slow attack against the White weaknesses. By playing Bg5, White sharpens the struggle; the Bishop is placed offside for defensive duty, but the pin can be decidedly unpleasant for Black.
9.Qxf5 Qc5 10.Qg3 e4 11.Qh4 Qg4 12.Qh5
Regaining the h4 square for the Bishop.
12...Qxf3 13.Qxf3 Qf7 14.Qh4 Qxe3+ 15.Qe2 Qxe2+ 16.Qd2 Qxe2
17.Qe5 Qe5–O–O–O
White offers many pawns, but each capture opens a line against the Black King.
17...d7 18.Qxg4 Qg7 19.Qg3 Qf8 20.Qxe4 Qxe5 21.Qd6 Qxg4 22.Qe1 Qf3 23.Qe7+ Qg8 24.Qe3 f5 25.Qe2 Qg5 26.Qxg4 Qxg4 27.Qg1
Now it is clear the White has woven a net around the monarch. 27...Qh7 28.Qxg4 Qg6 29.Qe3
30.Qh5 31.Qxg5+ Black Resigns.
1-0

o Epishin, V.
• Ehleivst, J.
An instructive example of a kingside attack.

1.d4  f6 2.c4  e6 3.f3  b6 4.g3  b7 5.g2  
e7 6.0–O  O–O  7.c3  e8 8.d2  f6 9.e1  
d6 10.d5  xd2  11.Wxd2  e5 12.h4  White does not 
hide his intentions. 12... d7 13.h3  g6  
This allows White to open up the h-file. Worth 
considering is 13...Be7 followed by 14...Nf6.

14.e4  g7 15.h5  f6 16.hxg6  hxg6 17.g2  
Preparing to transfer his Rooks to the h-file.

17... e7 18.h1  f8 19.h2  f8 20.ch1  
b6 21.we2  If 21.Ng5, then Black is fine after 
21...Nh7.  21... e7 22.d7  xd7  23.xh6  
g7 24.wd2  Threatening 25.Nh4 followed by 
26.Nf5++.  24... g8 25.g5  e7 26.b5  
With Black tied up on the kingside, White makes threats 
on the other side of the board. 26... d8  If 26...a6, 
then 27.Rh7+ Kf8 28.Nxc7 Nh7 29.Qxe7+ Kh8  
30.Nxa8 with a large advantage to White. 27.h4  
xe4  If 27...Kf8, then 28.Nxg6+ wins immediately.  
28.h7+ f8 29.xg6+  e8  White wins 
immediately after either 29...Rxg6 30.Rh8+ or 
29...fxg6 30.Qh6+ Ke8 31.Nc7+.  30.f5  
d7 31.xe4  xg6 32.xe7+  The icing on the 
cake.  32... xc7 33.xg6  e7 34.xf7  xf7  
35.h8+  e7 36.h7  f8 37.e6+  d8 38. 
f7 Black Resigns.

1-0

Agdestein, S.  
Karpov, An.  

Reykjavik  

1991  1-0  E18

Karpov conducts a magnificent space game, simple 
but agonizingly tricky in execution.

1.d4  f6 2.c4  e6 3.f3  b6 4.g3  b7 5.g2  
e7 6.0–O  O–O  7.c3  e8 8.d2  f6 9.e1  
d6 10.d5  xd2 11.xd2  e7 12.e4  d7 13.d4  
xd4  Black trades off his Bishop before locking 
the pawns on that color.  14.xd4  e5 15.d5  
a5  White is also better if Black tries to 
challenge White on the kingside after 15...g6 16.f4  
5.f4 16.f4  e5 17.f5  f6  White has a large 
spatial advantage. The only drawback is his 
bad Bishop.  18.f3  g5  Blocking the kingside allows 
White to switch his attention to the kingside. 19.b3  
Not immediately 19.a3? due to 19...a4 fixing the 
quenise.  19... c8 20.d1  d7 21.a3  a7  
22.b4  b7 23.f2  d8 24.xe3  axb4 25.axb4  
f7 26.b4  b8  Black starts counterplay along 
the g-file.  27.f1  White uses the second rank 
to deploy his Rooks and moves his King over 
the queenside where it will be safer.  27... g8  
28.cc2  f8 29.f3 29.Rf3, then 29.Ra2.  29.a2  
xa2 30.xa2  gxc4 31.gxc4  g7 32.e1  h6  
33.a7  e8 34.d2  g4  Black sacrifices a 
pawn for counterplay. Good for White is 34...Ng4  
35.Bxg4  Qxg4 36.Qh6.  35.c1  f7  If 35...Rg3, 
then 36.Qd2 but not 36.Rxh6 Rxc3+.  36.xc7  
g3 37.d2  h3 38.b2  g7 39.e8  The 
players were in time trouble here.  39... d7  
40.c7  e8  41.e2  xh4  42.c5  Creating a 
pawn passed in the center. 42...bxc5 43.xc5  
f8 44.e6  h2 45.e8  f2 46.b8  c5  47.e2  
g5 48.b3  g2 49.b5  a7 50.d6  b5  
51.c4  d4 52.c3  f6 53.d5  c8 54.d3  
f6 55.c2  g2 56.d3  d7 57.b7  c5  
58.d5  b5 59.b7  c5 60.b3  h4 61.c4  
xc4 62.xf4  If 62...h3, then 63.c7 h2  
64.h4=Q 1/2–0 65.Qd8 winning.  63.b5  d4+  
64.c3  h3  If 64...Rc2, then 65.Ba4.  65.c7  
xb5 If 65...Rxb5+, then 66.Nxb5 Rc2+ 67.Nc3 wins.  
66.e8=Q 67.e6  Black Resigns.

1-0
37.\texttt{c6} If 37.e6, then 37...a6 38.Nc7 Rbb2 wins. 37...a6 38.e6+ \texttt{g7} 39.e7+ \texttt{f8} 40.e8+ \texttt{e7} 41.e7+ \texttt{d8} 42.a7 If 42.Rg7, then 42...g5 43.fgx5 hxg5 wins. 44.Rh6+ is threatened and if 44.Nd6, then 44...Rbb2. 42...g5 43.a8+ If 43.fgx5 hxg5 44.g4, then 44...f4! wins. 43.e7 44.a7+ \texttt{f8} 45.e8+ \texttt{g7} 46.a7+ \texttt{g6} The King escapes the checks on h5. 47.g4 fxg4+ 48.xg4 \texttt{xe4} 49.xg3 \texttt{e4} White Resigns. 0-1

- Karpov, An.
- Andersson, U.

Reggio Emilia
1991 1-0 E15
Sweden’s Ulf Andersson has a reputation as a hard man to beat.

1.d4 \texttt{f6} 2.c4 e6 3.d3 \texttt{b4} 4.b2 d6 5.g3 \texttt{a6} 6.e\texttt{e} 7.e2 \texttt{f6} 8.d2 \texttt{xc} 9.xd2 O-O O-O 10.e4 \texttt{e7} 11.b3 \texttt{x} 12.e3 \texttt{bd} 13.d3 \texttt{e} 14.xc1 b6 15.b3 \texttt{a} 16.b3 \texttt{c} 17.d2 \texttt{g} 18.d2 \texttt{d} 19.b1 a6 Black puts his defensive faith in the third-row pawn wall. It seems in the long run White’s spatial advantage and Bishop pair are going to win through, so the opening must be judged unsuccessful for Black. 20.g2 \texttt{c} 21.a3 \texttt{e} 22.d3 \texttt{c} 23.d2 \texttt{b} 24.f3 \texttt{h} 25.b2 \texttt{a} 26.b4 \texttt{h} 27.e5 d5 28.h5 a5 29.a1 \texttt{a} 30.b2 b4 If the Queenside gets entirely locked up, White will have free reign on the other wing. The problem is that White is well-placed to contest any open lines on the left as well. 31.a1 \texttt{c} 32.a4 \texttt{b} 33.xa3 34.xa3 \texttt{a} 34.c3 \texttt{e} 35.a5 \texttt{b} 36.a4 This is one of those positions that a Grandmaster respects in, but most players look at and wonder “why?” Black is an uncompensated pawn down, will lose control of the a-file, has awkwardly placed Knights, and is playing Anatoly Karpov. Better to end the suffering now. 1-0

- Khalifman, A.
- Ivanchuk, V.

Reykjavik
1991 0-1 E12
Both sides make errors in a time scramble.

1.d4 \texttt{f6} 2.c4 e6 3.d3 b6 4.b3 \texttt{c} 5.a3 d5 6.a4+ \texttt{d} 7.e2 dxe4 8.e3 c5 9.xc4 \texttt{c} 10.a2 \texttt{e} 11.e4 b4 12.a4 \texttt{c} 13.xc5 \texttt{e} 14.e5 bxa3 15.e6+ \texttt{e} 16.b4 \texttt{c} 17.dxc5 bxa3 18.e5 \texttt{e} 19.d4 \texttt{x} 20.f3 \texttt{d} 21.e3 axb2 22.\texttt{x} 23.b2 White has compensation for the pawn because Black is a little bit behind in development. 23...\texttt{c} 24.e4 \texttt{c} 25.f4 26.a1 The wrong Rook. Correct is 24.Rd1. White’s Rook is not well placed on d1 because the Knight could become pinned. 24...\texttt{a} 25.f4 \texttt{g} 26.f5 Trying to keep Black off balance, but the sacrifice is unsound. Better is 26.Bb1, although Black is much better after 26...Rd5 (preventing f4-f5). 26...\texttt{xf} 27.\texttt{x} 28.\texttt{d} 29.\texttt{xe} 30.\texttt{x} 31.\texttt{h} 32.\texttt{h} 33.\texttt{h} x6 The Knight cannot move due to the attack on g2. 32...\texttt{x} 33.\texttt{h} 34.\texttt{h} 35.\texttt{h} 36.\texttt{h} 37.\texttt{h} 38.\texttt{h} 39.\texttt{h} 40.\texttt{h} 41.\texttt{h} 42.\texttt{h} 43.\texttt{h} 44.\texttt{h} 45.\texttt{h} 46.\texttt{h} 47.\texttt{h} 48.\texttt{h} 49.\texttt{h} 50.\texttt{h} 51.\texttt{h} 52.\texttt{h} 53.\texttt{h} 54.\texttt{h} 55.\texttt{h} 56.\texttt{h} 57.\texttt{h} 58.\texttt{h} 59.\texttt{h} 0-1

- Polgar, Sz.
- Christiansen, L.

San Francisco
1991 1-0 E14
The Polgar sisters, Szusza, Sofia and Judit, from Budapest, have defied the conventional wisdom that women cannot compete on equal terms with men. Their answer is results: at the age of 15 in 1991 Judith is an eyelash from becoming a Grandmaster. At the 1990 Olympiad, the Hungarian women’s team did the previously impossible: took first place above the Soviets. Szusza, the oldest of the trio, won the Brilliancy Prize for this relentless Kingside attack at the Pan-Pacific tournament in 1991.

1.d4 \texttt{f6} 2.c3 e6 3.e4 c5 4.d3 b6 5.e4 \texttt{d} 6.c3 \texttt{e} 7.exd4 8.cxd4 \texttt{e} 8.0-0 \texttt{d} 9.exd5 \texttt{d} 10.e5 O-O O-O 11.g4 \texttt{d} 12.b4 \texttt{bd} 13.d1 c4 14.b3 c6 15.d5 The pawn moves to a square guarded four times! 15...\texttt{c} 16.bxc3 \texttt{d} 17.\texttt{c} 18.\texttt{c} 19.h4 \texttt{b} 20.h3 White tries to wriggle out from the pressure White
gained from the pawn sacrifice, but Polgar instead adds fuel to the fire. 19.\_xg6 fxg6 20.\_xh6 \_h7 21.\_xg6+ \_h8 22.\_xe7 \_xe7 23.c4 \_h4 Black could not move the bishop away as 24. R7d would win. 24.cxd5 \_xf2+ 25.\_h1 \_f6 26.\_e4 exd5 27.\_xd5 \_g8 28.\_h3 \_f5 29.\_f1 \_xf1+ 30.\_xf1+ 31.\_h2 \_g7 32.\_d4 The queen and knight work very well together. Christiansen has material equality, but cannot defend his king against Polgar’s slow attack. 32...\_f6 33.\_h4 \_g8 34.\_g4 \_f8 35.\_g5 \_e6 36.\_g4 \_e7 37.\_h5 \_d7 38.\_g6 \_e5 39.\_f6+ \_f8 40.\_f4+ \_e8 41.\_f5 \_xg6 42.\_hxg6 \_xg6 43.\_h8+ \_f7 44.\_xg7 \_e7 45.\_g4+ \_d8 46.\_a4 \_e8 47.\_b3 \_c6 48.\_g3 \_e3+ 49.\_f4 \_h3 50.\_e5 Black Resigns. 1-0

o Kamsky, G.

\* Wolff, P.

Philadelphia

1991 1-0 A48

A contest between the 1991 and 1992 US champions. 1.d4 \_f6 2.\_f3 g6 3.\_f4 \_g7 4.e3 O-O 5.h3 Preserving the Bishop in anticipation of ...Nh5. 5...\_e5 6.c3 \_xd4 7.\_xd4 d6 8.\_c2 \_b6 9.\_b3 \_bxd3 10.axb3 White is slightly better in the endgame, partly due to his open a-file. 10...\_e6 11.O-O e5 12.\_xe5 \_d5 13.\_h2 dxe5 14.\_d1 \_b6 15.\_bd2 \_e6 16.\_b4 Threatening 17.\_b5 winning the e-pawn. 16...f6 17.\_e4 The Knight eyes an outpost at c5 or d6. 17...\_d5 Better is 17...Rf7 or 17...Be4. 18.\_d6 \_e7 19.\_c4 \_fd8 20.\_c5 \_a6 21.\_a5 \_f8 22.\_g4 Threatening g4-g5, isolating the e-pawn. 22...\_g5 An ugly move to have to play because of the hole at f5, but g4-g5 had to be prevented. 23.\_b5 \_xb5 24.\_xb5 \_a4 25.\_xd5 Sacrificing the exchange to get two connected passed pawns. 25...\_xd5 26.\_xb7 \_db8 27.\_e7 28.\_d4 A nice way to activate his pieces. 28...\_xe4 Also bad is 28...\_Ke8 29.\_e7 \_Re8 30.Nd6+ winning. 29.\_xb8 \_xb8 30.\_c7 \_e8 31.\_d6 \_xc7 32.\_b8+ \_c8 33.\_xc8 5 Yes 33...Kf7 would have held out longer, although White is winning after 34.Nd6+ \_Ke6 35.Nf5. 34.\_b6+ Black Resigns. 1-0

o Gelfand, B.

• Lobron, E.

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Munich

1991 1-0 D43

White’s kingside attack is strong, but Black had a way to defend. 1.d4 \_f6 2.\_c4 e6 3.\_f3 d5 4.\_e3 c6 5.g3 \_bd7 6.\_g2 dxc4 7.\_a4 \_b4 8.0-0 O-O 9.\_e2 \_e5 10.\_f4 \_f5 11.\_d1 \_d5 12.\_c1 \_d6 13.\_e4 \_b5 14.\_f5 \_f5 If 14...h6, then 15.Nxd6 hx5 16.Ne4. 15.\_xd6 \_xd6 16.\_b4 17.\_e2 \_h6 18.\_h3 \_xf4 19.\_xf4 White’s weakened kingside gives White compensation for the sacrificed pawn. 19...\_a7 If 19...\_Nf6, then 20.Qg6 is strong. 20.\_f4 White could have forced a draw with 20.Bxh6 gxh6 21.Qg6+. 20...\_b6 21.\_e2 \_e8 22.\_h5 \_f6 23.\_xf6+ \_xf6 24.\_f4 The Bishop repositions itself on the powerful e5-square. 24...\_d5 25.\_e5 \_f8 26.\_e4 The Bishops menace the Black King. 26...\_d8 27.\_h4 White continues his kingside attack with a pawn storm. 27...\_d7 Better is 27...\_Ba6. 28.\_g4 \_e8 29.\_f4 \_f7 30.\_g5 \_xf4 Black could have stopped White’s attack with the exchange sacrifice 30...Rf5. After 31.Bxf5 Qxf5 32.gxh6 Bh5 Black has sufficient compensation. 31.\_h2 Not 31.Qg4? h5. 31...\_d3 32.\_g6 \_xe5 33.\_g5 \_xh6 If 33...Qd6, then 34.Rxh7! Qxe5 35.h7+ Kxf7 36.dxe5 Rxd1+ 37.Kf2 wins. 34.\_xf7 \_xf7 35.\_h1 \_wd6 36.\_fd6 \_f8 37.\_f1 \_d7 38.\_h8+ \_e7 39.\_g6 \_d5+ 40.\_h2 \_d6 Black Resigns. White wins after 41.Qh8 Rc7 42.Rxf7. 1-0

o Gelfand, B.

• Kamsky, G.

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Linares

1991 1-0 D47

A battle between two future contenders for the world championship. 1.d4 \_d5 2.\_c4 e6 3.\_f3 \_f6 4.\_e3 e5 5.e3 \_bd7 6.\_d3 \_d4 7.\_c4 \_b5 8.\_d3 \_b7 9.0-0 a6 10.e4 \_c5 11.d5 \_e4 12.\_c2 \_e5 13.\_e2 \_d6 14.\_g5 O-O 15.\_b4 \_e7 If 15...g6, then White would play 16.Nd1 followed by 17.Ne3. 16.\_g5 \_xd5 17.\_e5 If 17.Bh6, then 17...Nxc3 18.Qg4 Ne2+ is unclear. 17...\_xg5 18.\_c6 \_b8 Better is 18...\_Nc5. 19.\_xb7 \_xb7 20.\_d6 White has compensation for the sacrificed pawn because of his advanced passed d-pawn and more active pieces. 20...\_b6 21.\_f1 \_g8 22.\_a4 \_b4 Better is 22...\_Bf6. 23.\_c5 \_b8 23...\_Bxe3 24.axb6 cxb2 25.Rxa6 is good for White. 24.\_d5 Better is 24.Ne4. 24...\_c3 Black sacrifices back the
pawn to get his own passed pawn. 25...bxc3 b6 26...b1 c5 27...c7 Doubious is 27...Qxe5?! Re8 28.Ne7+ Bxe7 29.Qxc5 Bxd6. 27...e4 Opening up the h8-a1 diagonal for the Bishop. 28...xe4 f6 29. Qc6 fxe3 30. ab1 xa5 31. e5 f6 32. d5 Threatening 33.Ne7+. Both players were getting short on time here. 32...f6 33. f4 Qh8 34. e7+ Correct is 34.Qh6 Qd6 35.Nf4 threatening Nxg6+ winning. 34...g7 35.b4 d7 36...h1 c5 Correct is 36...Be5 with an unclear position. 37. h3 b3 c5 38. g3 b4 39. f5+ Qh8 If 39...Kh7, then 40.Qh6 gx5 41.Rg7+ Ke6 42.Re7+ wins. 40.h6 f7 41. d5 gx5 42. xf7 g4 Also losing is 42...Ng4 43.Rxg4 Rxg4 44.f3 Rg7 45.Be6. 43. h5 gxh4 44.fxg3 g4 45. xf5 f2+ 46. h2 a7 47. e1 g7 48. e7 xe6 49. xa7 d4 50. g8+ Black Resigns. 50...Qxa7 51.Qxh7+ wins the Queen. 1-0

o Wells, P.
• Conquest, S.
? London 1991 1-0 D47

White displays a shocker.
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3. d3 f3 f6 4. c3 e6 5. e3 b7 6. d3 dxe4 7. dxe4 b5 8. d3 d6 9. e4 c5 10. e4 cxd4 11. b5 a5 12. c4 b6 13.0-O Not 13.Bf4 due to 13...b3+. Now it appears that Black will be able to hold on to his extra pawn. 13...c5 14. f4 Intentionally placing a Bishop en prise to break Black’s blockade. 15.Nxe5 is threatened. 14...d6 White gets a strong attack if Black takes the Bishop: 14...fxe4 15.e5 Nd5 16.Nxd4. 15. g3 Threatening 16.Nxd4. 15...c7 Not 15...Nh5? due to 16.Nxe5! 16. c1 White has sufficient pressure for the sacrificed pawn. 16...O-O 17.b3 d6 Better is 17...Bb7. Now White wins back his pawn. 18. xd7 xd7 Not 18...Bxd7 due to 19.Rxc7. 19. d4 f6 Better is 19...Bb7. Both players were getting short on time here. 20. c6 Sacrificing the Queen for two Rooks is not bad, but even better is 20.Re5. 20...xd1 21. xd1 b5 22...xb8 a4 22...Qxb8 23. Bxe5! Loses immediately. 23...c7 24. e8+ c8 25. e6 h5 If 25...Kf8, then 26.Nxe5 threatening Nc4 and Nd6. 26. h4 Correct is 26.Rxe8+ Kh7 27.Rd8. Now Black gets a big advantage. 26...h7 27. e8+ xe8 28. xe5 Material is even, but White’s pieces are disorganized. 28...f6 Correct is 28...Qc2. 29. e7 g4 30.f3 e6 31. xa7 g6 32. h2 f7 33. c7 b5 34. c5 e2 35. d7 h6 36. xf6 Black has fallen apart in time pressure. 36...gxf6 37. xf7 xg2 38. xf6+ g7 39. b6 xb5 40. d6 Black’s flag fell here but he was lost in any case. 1-0

o Karpov, An.
• Anand, V.
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Brussels 1991 1-0 D45

A masterful performance by Karpov.
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3. d3 f3 f6 4. c3 e6 5. e3 b7 6...c2 d6 7. e2 O-O 8.O-O dxc4 9. xc4 c7 10.h3 a6 11.e4 Of course, this is the only way to test Black’s opening setup. After d5xc4, if White doesn’t use his central majority, then Black gets fine queenside play. 11...e5 12. d1 Awaiting developments while reinforcing the center. Clearly the d-file will be opened and the Rook is well-positioned on d1. Black’s...a7-a6 has committed him to queenside play, thus the roles are clear. White will play in the center, Black on the queenside. The following moves are consequential for both players. 12...b5 13. f1 e5 14.d5 c4 Forced. White mustn’t be allowed to play b2-b3 and a2-a4. 15.a4 h6 16.axb5 axb5 17. a5 Both forced and good. Black can’t be allowed to play ...Nd7-c5 and Bc8-d7 with an excellent game. Now Black’s pawns are forced into a kingside shift. 18...Bb4 19. a4 Very good. Although the Rook’s retreat on a5 is cut off, it will happily roost on a7. A Knight on c5 would be formidably placed, so White ensures its exchange. 18...d8 19. a7 b3 A major compromise. Black’s risky strategy has better chances after 19...c3. 20.e2 After 20.Qxc4?, ...Rb4 followed by ...Nd6xe4 solves Black’s problems. 20...c5 21. xe5 xe5 22. a1 Both players have been on a collision course to this position. Anand has put his faith in his far-flung queenside pawns, Karpov in his center. The outcome is more than just a matter of victory or defeat in one game. The result will test the mettle of Black’s entire opening strategy! 22...c5 23. xe5 c2 It’s not every day that you get a protected passed pawn on c2! Frightening to be sure. However, the rascal is completely blocked and White’s center is extremely menacing. So despite Black’s queenside gains, White is for choice. 24. d3 Well played. From this perch, the Rook supports the d-pawn, eyes the b3-pawn, and has the potential for a kingside shift. White’s problem is his vulnerable e4-pawn, Black has to be quick with his tactical shots, else
Kxd7 16.Nb3+ winning the Queen. 25...c6 17.b6 26.c3 xf4 Black is forced to enter a long, but narrow, tactical path. The result is a loss after 26...Bxe3 27.Qxe3, hitting the b3-pawn, Black has no chances. 27...xc5 28.e3 Well played. After 28.Ne7+ Kh8 29.Rc3 Ba6! 30.Qe7 Na4! Black is making it messy. With the text, Karpov controls the flow. 28...d7 29.e4 Every move is a blow. If the Knight moves, the b3-pawn falls. 29...xc6 30.dxc6 Bd5 31.e1 Bxd6 32.e3 Consolidating the extra wood. If 32.Ra5 Qd6 33.c7 Qd1 34.a5 e4 35.c3 xc3 36.d3 Not 36.bxc3?? b2. 36...a2 37.Rxb3 f5 38.d4 c4 The last difficult move. Black has no remaining tricks. 38...g6 39.h3 a5 c1=Q 40.f4 xc1 41.bxc3 e8 42.h3 e5 43.f1 Black Resigns. 1-0

Ljubojevic, L.

Timman, J.

Reyjkjavik
1991 1-0 D39

Black makes an error early and is under pressure the rest of the way.

1.d4 Qf6 2.e4 c5 3.d3 cxd4 4.Nc3 e5 5.c4 b6 6.g5 c6 7.cxd4 exd4 8.Qd2 Qc6 9.bxc3 Qa5 10.b3+ b4 11.Qxb4 f6 12.Qa5+ Better is 12.Qb2+ 13.Kf1 gxf6. The King is better placed on e2 than f1 as he is able to develop his King Rook quicker. 13.Qc1 b4 Not 13...Qa5? 14.Rxc8+ Rxc8 15.Bxd7+ Kxd7 16.Nb3+ winning the Queen. 14.Qe4 g7 15.Qf5 0-0 16.Qc7 a6 17.Qf4 Qd6 18.Qd1 c5 If 18...Nb6, then 19.Rc3 Nxa4 20.Rg3+ wins. 19.Qf5 Qb4 20.Qh4 Qb6 21.Qe7+ Qg6 22.Qc3 Qc6 23.Qxc6 Not 23.Nxc6? Rxc8 24.Rxc8 Rxe8 25.Qxc8 Qxd4 losing. 23...hxg6 24.e5 Opening up the King's position. 24...fxe5 25.Qe3 Qg8 26.Qxe5 Qb4 27.Qh3 f6 Black has no defense after the major pieces attacking his King. 28.Bxe3 Bb2+ 29.Qf5 g5 Black had to defend against Qh6. For example, if 29...Qe5, then 30.Rg7+ Kg8 31.Qh6+ Kh7 32.Qh7#. 30.hh7 Qd8 31.cg7+ f8 32.Qc5+ Black Resigns. 1-0

Nenashov, A.

Vaganian, R.

Moscow
1991 1-0 D58

A nice strategical game from the last USSR championship.

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Qf6 3.Qc3 d5 4.d5 c6 5.Qb5+ c6 6.h4 O-O 7.Qf3 b6 8.d3 d5 9.d4 Qd7 10.Qe2 Qe4 11.g3 White avoids exchanges which would make it easier for Black to equalize. 11...d6 12.cxd5 exd5 13.h4 c5 14.Qd1 Qxc3 15.Qxc3 e4 After this move is played, White tries for the e4-e5 break. 16.b5 h5 17.Qc1 e4 18.e5 Qf8 19.f4 d6 20.g4 Sidestepping 20.e4 dxe4 21.Qxe4 Bg5. 20.g5 Qe8 21.h4 Qd6 22.Qe2 Qb6 23.Bg5 Qxe5 24.fxg5 Qf6 25.f4 exf4 26.exf2 Qg3 Better is 26...Qf6 making it more difficult for White to advance his pawns. 27.g4 b4 28.Bg3 0-0 29.d2 a5 30.a6 e4 31.g5 Qc6 32.g4 The Knight heads to the outpost at f6. 32...Qe4 If 32...Qd7, then 33.Re5 is strong. 33.Qe4 Not 33.fxe4?? Qxe4+ 34.Qxe4 34.Qg3 h6 In a losing position Black allows White to play a nice combination. 35.d5 Qxd5 This loses a piece, but alternatives are also bad: 35...Qb6 36.Nf6 or 35...Bxd5 36.Qd4+ Kh8 37.fxe4. 36.Qxd5 Qd5 37.Qf6 e3 Also bad is 37...Bd6 38.Nxh5+ gxh5 39.fxe4. 38.Qxd5 Qd8 39.Qf3 b2 40.Qe4 Qxb2 41.f6 Qd8 42.Qxc4 Qxa2 43.Qc8 Qd2 44.h1 Qd3+ 45.Qxd3 Qe4 Black Resigns. If 45...Qxe4, then 46.Rh7+ Kh8 47.Rh8+ and 48.Rh8 easily wins. 1-0

Korchnoi, V.

Short, N.

Tilburg
1991 1-2/1 D54

The average rating of the eight participants at the Tilburg tournament was 2666, at that time the highest in history.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 Qf6 3.Qc3 d5 4.Qb5+ c6 5.Qc4 Qf7 6.b3 b6 7.a4 Qd7 8.b4 Qb6 9.Qb3 d6 10.Qb5+ Qd7 11.Qd3 12.d4 Qe8 13.h4 Qh5 14.h5 White is intending to start advancing his kingside pawns. 15.Qf3 Qf4 16.Qd2 Qh4 White has decided to leave his King in the center and start a kingside attack.
16...g6 17.h4 d6 18.g2 g7 19.d1 The start of a dubious King march. 19...e8 20.c2 e4 21.h5 e7 22.f4 g5 23.f5 White tries to prevent the ...f7-f5 break by Black. But this will be impossible to enforce, as Black will bring his Knight on b6 to d6. 23...e8 24.exd4 25.axf5 26.gxf5 27.f1 xf5 28.a4 29.g4 b6 Better is 29...Rx f2. 30.axa7 c4 31.d5 Not 31.Nxe4? Rx e4 32.Rxe4 N d2+. 31...cxd5 32.d4+ g8 33.cxe4 dxe4 This allows White to enter an equal ending. 34.c4xe4 35.c4xe4 x f2 36.gxf2 d6 37.c4xe4 x h5 Now it’s a race between White’s pawns on the queenside and Black’s pawns on the kingside. 39.a5 b4 40.e8+ f7 41.b8 a4 42.xb7+ g6 43.b6+ h7 Black decides to take a perpetual check. It is risky to block the pawns with 43...Kh5. White is better after 44.Rb5 Kh4 45.b3 Re4 46.a6. 44.g7+ g6 45.b6+ h7 46.h4+ h7 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Kozul, Z.
○ Dorfman, I.

Cetinje 1991 1-0 D27

Both players sacrifice pieces to get at each other’s Kings. The two Bishops are the deciding factor in the endgame.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.c3 f6 4.f4 e5 5.d3 dxe4 6.c2 xe4 c5 The opening transposes from a Slav defense into a Queens gambit accepted. 7.e5 a5 8.a2 b7 9.b3 c6 10.b4 c7 12.a1 b8 13.c4 d4 14.xd4 c6 Not 14...O-O 15.Nxe6 winning. 15.g3 O-O 16.f3 b8 17.e3 White plans on playing 17.b4 and Nd4-b3-a5, however Black’s next move changes the direction of the game. 17.h5 b4 h4 19.g4 f8 Maneuvering the Knight toward the newly created hole at f4. 20.g2 g6 Underestimating White’s next move. Better is 20...h3. 21.c6 xe6 fxe6 22.xe6+ f8 If 22...Kb8, then 23.Bf5 and White on h4 falls. 23.f5 e5 If 23...Kf7, then 24.Qa2+ wins immediately. If 23...Ne7, then 24.g5 is good for White. 24.b6 fxe3+ Black decides to sacrifice his piece back. 24...Be7 25.Bd6+ Kg8 26.g5 is good for White. 25.axf3 xh2+ 26.g2 x d1 26...Bc7 27.Bc5+ Kg8 28.g5 wins for White. 27.g3 28.xg3 xg3 29.g5 xe8 29...Nh5 would have held out longer. 30.d5 b5 Also losing is 30...Be5 31.Bc5+ Kg8 32.Nb6. 31.d5 b8 32.c5+ g8 33.d7 White is winning because of his active pieces. The two Bishops control the whole board. 33...e7 34.h3 e8 35.g6 e8 36.d4 e8 37.e5 e1 38.e6 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Karpov, An.
○ Timman, J.

Tilburg 1991 1-0 D24

Karpov’s games are always extremely instructive. 1.d4 f6 2.c4 e6 3.d3 f5 4.g3 c6 5.b4 a6 6.axb5 Qxb5 7.b3 b6 8.b5 g6 9.e3 a6 10.Bb2 Qxb2+ Not 10...Nxb2 11.Ne5 hitting the c-pawn. 11.d3 b4 12.c4 d4 13.c1 Sacrificing a pawn for the initiative. Black is fine after 13.exd4 Qxd4 14.c3 White will win back the weak a-pawn. 17...g7 18.a1 O-O 19.a2 White is better because of Black’s weak pawns. Black should try to make liquidations with ...c6-c5 or ...f5-f4. 19.c7 20.b3 Trying to restrain the ...c6-c5 break. 20.c5 Black must play this move now while he has the chance. 21.c4 e8 22.b5 h6 23.a4 a7 24.b5 b7 25.a5 cxd4 26.cxd4 b8 Black has compensation for the pawn because White’s pieces are awkwardly placed. 27.a4 f8 29.a1 Qf6 29...c5 c4 30.a3 c6 A bad mistake. Better is 30...Bxd4 or 30...Qd6. 31.a7 Qc7 The only move. 32.b4 Reinforcing the c5-Knight and protecting the c1-Rook. Black’s game is so bad now that he must give up the exchange. 32...fxb4 33.c4xe4 fxe4 34.c6 xd5 35.b5 Qg3+ Qxg3 36.hxg3 e3 37.dxe3 Qf6 38.exd8 Qxd8 39.c1 Pinning the Bishop. Black has a pawn for the exchange, but White’s passed b-pawn gives him good winning chances. 39...Qg7 40.a5 e6 41.a2 c7 42.b5 f5 43.c2 d5 44.d1 b1 45.b6 c5 46.d6 d6 48.exd6 Black must try to eliminate the passed b-pawn, after which White cleans up on the kingside. 47.e2 e5 48.b5 49.xh7 xh5 50.b7 d4 51.d6 a6 52.a5 Qxg3 53.f4 xg4 54.b7 a7 55.g7 56.h1 a4 57.b6 Black Resigns, as his King is cut off from the kingside and hence the situation is hopeless.

1-0

○ Sokolov, I.
○ Piket, J.
An instructive example of how to play with an isolated pawn. When playing against an isolated pawn, it is a good idea to control the square in front of the pawn with a Knight. 10...e5 11...c3 12...d5 12...e6 13.a3...c7 14...e1...d8 15...f3...c8 16...c2...f6 This leads to a favorable endgame for White. 16...b5 17...f6+ would give White a slight advantage. 17...b5 18...d6 19...xe8...xe5 20...xe7+...f7 21...xe5...g6 22...g5...e4. If 22...h5?, then 23...d5...f6 followed by 25...f3 wins for White. 23...e1...d6 24...f4...f5 will be decisive. 24...c5 25...e5 Not 25...b5? Nxe6 26...f5 Rfd4 and Black will maintain equality. 25...d5 26...d5...xe7 27...xc4...fx5 28...xf5...g7 29...f4 30...xf5...e8 31...xe8...xe8 32...f7+...c8 33...h7...d5 34...h4...d6 35...f4 Black Resigns.

- Speelman, J.
- Short, N.

5th Match Game, London
1991 1-0 A92

For many years the British struggled to create even one Grandmaster, and now they can boast at least a half-dozen. Whether this is due to the success of some great plan, is the result of an increase in the game’s popularity, or is just blind luck is uncertain. Nigel Short is the first English player to challenge for the World Championship since the days of Howard Staunton in the mid 1800's. In this game, though, he falls victim to another strong Brit, the inventive Jonathan Speelman.

1.d4 e6 2.c4...e4 3.d4 f5 2.e4...g5 4...f3...d5 Setting up the Stonewall, descriptively named for the wall of Black pawns on the light squares. Its biggest disadvantage is the truly bad Bishop on c8, which usually must reposition itself via d7-e8-h5 in order to get any activity. However, Black will make a virtue of this necessity and try to begin a Kingside attack involving this theme. 6...Qf7 7...c2...d7 8.b3 Not to fianchetto, but to play out all the way to a3 and exchange for Black’s good minor piece. 8...a5 9...a3 c6 10...xe7...xe7 11...e5...e8 12...d3...h5 13...f4...f5 14...h5 The White Knight has made a rather extensive tour just to exchange for the bad Bishop. This does reduce Black’s Kingside chances. 14...xe5 15...d2...d7 16...a3...h6 17...c3...b6 18...a1...f7 19...e4...d4 15...a1 Not 15...f7? Black Resigns.

- Dreev, A.
- Malaniuk, V.

Moscow
1991 1-0 A81

A game from the last-ever USSR championship. White shows how to take advantage of holes in your opponent’s position.

1.d4 f5 2.g3...f6 3...g2 d6 4...f3 g6 5.b3...g7 6...b2 O-O 7.O-O...e6 8...c4...e8 9...e2...a6 10...b2 c6 11...e1 One of the disadvantages of the Dutch defense is that it leaves a weakness at e6. White tries to take advantage of this by playing for the e2-e4 break. 11...c5 12...c3 Not immediately 12.e4 due to 12...fxe4 13...xe4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Bf5 15...xg7 Bxd3 or 15...Qe4 Nb4. 12...g5 13...c4...fxe4 14...xe4...d7 15...fxe6+...xe6 16...d5 Taking advantage of the hole at e6. 16...c5 Not 16...xd5 due to 17...Nxe5 followed by Bxd5. 17...e6 The hole at e6 allows White to break through. 17...e7 Worse is 17...Bxe6 18.dxe6 Qe7 18...Qxe6 19.Qf5 followed by 20.Nd2 and 21.Be4. 18...xd6...d7 19...xd7...d7 Now there are no holes in

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Black’s position at f5 and g6. 20...d1 Threatening 20.d6. 20...ad8 21.b4 21.d4 Not 21...cxb4 which gives up the d4-square. 22.bxc5 bxc5 23.d6 e8 24...g6 Taking advantage of the hole at g6. 24...h8 The best move is 24...Qf7, although White is much better after 25.Ne5! Qxg6 26.Nxg6 Rf7 27.Bd5. 25.Qxg5 fxg5 If 25...hxg5, then 26.Qh5+ Kg8 27.Bd5+ Rf7 28.Ba5 winning. 26.wxh6+ g8 27.d5+ f7 28.wg5 f8 29.dxf7 e7 30.xg7 c7 31.cxc5 Black’s Knight is no match for White’s pawns. 31.e8 32.h5+ e8 33.h8+ f7 34.h5+ Short on time, White repeats moves. 34...f8 35.c5 e6 36.d4 d7 37.h8+ f7 38.h7+ f8 39.f4+ Black Resigns. A pawn is promoted after 39...Rf7 40.Rxf7+ Qxf7 41.Qxf7+ Kxf7 42.d7.

1-0

○ Isaev, A.
○ Timoshenko, A.
?

Correspondence 1991 0-1 B99

In the ending opposite colored Bishops can be drawish, but in the middlegame they can be deadly because it is hard to confront an attack. 1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qe3 a6 6.a4 g6 7.f4 Qb4 8.Qf3 b6 9.Qf4 e6 10.Qe3 h5 11.Nh4 g5 12.e5 If 12.fxg5, then 12...Ne5 13.Qe2 Nf4 winning back the pawn. 12...gxf4 13.exf4 Qxf4 14.f5 e5 15.Qe2 d5 16.Qd4 Qf5 17.Qxe5 Qxe5 18.Qf4 Qf5 19.Qf4 b6 20.Qb3 e6 21.c2 c5 22.a5 c4 23.Qe3 Qb6 24.Qc2 Qc5 25.d3 Qe5 Believe it or not, this is the first new move in the game! 26.h1 f8 27.c3 b4 28.c4 White is hoping to establish a blockade with 29.Qe4. 28...e4 Sacrificing a pawn to open the diagonal for the Bishop. 29.Qb3 xe4 30.d5 a5 31.g4 a3 32.bxa4 e5 33.dxe5 bxa4 34.bxa4 bxc3 35.bxc3 a5 The best defense was 37.Qa4. 37...Qa4 g2 37...Rh3+ does not immediately work due to 38.Kc1 Bb2+ 39.Kd1. 38.Qd1 b3+ 39.Qe1 b2+ 40.Qb1 d4+ White Resigns. 41.Kc1 Be3+ wins.

1-0

○ Gipslis, A.
○ Hracek, Z.
?

Brno 1991 1-0 B56

White sacrifices both his Rooks. The classical double Rook sacrifice is the subject of a fascinating book by GM Seirawan and IM Minev, titled "Take My Rooks."


1-0

○ Bielczyk, J.
○ Kiroski, T.
?

Dojran 1991 1-0 B67

In this game there are lots of sacrifices and in the end an amazing King hunt. 1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 Bc5 6.d5 exd5 7.Wxd5 Nf6 8.Wxd6 Qxd6 9.Qf3 Qf6 10.Qe2 Qf6 11.Qxg7 Qxg7 12.Qh5 Kh8 13.f4 e6 14.f5 Qf6 15.Qxf6 gxf6 16.Qxh7 Qf7 17.Qf3 Qf7 18.Qg5 Qg5 19.Qxg5 Qxg5 20.Qf5 Qf5 21.Qxf5 Qxf5 22.Qe5 Qe5 23.Qd6 Qd6 24.Qc6 Qc6 25.Qb6 Qb6 26.Qa5 Qa5 27.Qb6 Qb6 28.Qa4 Qa4 29.Qc2 Qc2 30.Qd3 Qd3 31.Qe3 Qe3 32.Qf4 Qf4 33.Qg5 Qg5 34.Qh6 Qh6 35.Qi7 Qi7 36.Qj8 Qj8 37.Qk9 Qk9 38.Ql7 Ql7 39.Qm6 Qm6 40.Qn7 Qn7 41.Qo8 Qo8 42.Qp9 Qp9 43.Qq10 Qq10

1-0
36. Qe6+ Kxh2 Black has to give back the exchange. If 36...Rc4, then 37.Qb8+ wins. 37. Qxc7 bxc7 38. Qe7+ Kf6 39. Qb4+ wins. 38. h5+ Qxh5 40. Qe4 a5 41. Qd5+ Qb6 42. Qd6+ Qb7 43. Qd5+ Not 43.e5? Qxc3 44.e6 Qe7 and Black wins. 43... Qb6 44. Qd4+ Qb7 45. e5 White is winning because his pawn is farther advanced, his Queen is centrally positioned, and his King is safer from checks. 45... Qb4 46. Qd7+ Qb6 47. Qd6+ Qb7 48. e6 Qg5 49. Qd7+ Not 49.e7? Qg4! and the threat of ...g3+ stops the e-pawn. 49... Qb6 50. Qd8+ Qa6 51. Qf6 An important position for the Queen as after 51... g4 52. hxg4, Black does not have 52...Qb4+. 51... a4 52. e7+ Qb7 53. Qxg5 Qc7 If 53... a3, then 54.Qb5+ Kc7 55.e8=Q wins. 54. Qa5+ Qd6 55. Qd8+ Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Kasisky, G.  
• Kasparov, G.  

Tilburg 1991 1/2-1/2 B85

Kamsky and Kasparov are sworn enemies. 1.e4 c5 2. Qf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Qxd4 Qf6 5. Qf3 d6 6. Qe2 a6 7. Qd1 a5 8. Qc3 e5 9. 0-0 Qf6–0–0 10.Qf4 Qe7 11.Qh1 Qe8 12.Qf3 Qb8 13.Qd2 Qd7 14.Qd1 Qa5 5 is a common outpost for the Knight in the Sicilian defense. 15. b3 Preventing the Knight from invading. 15... Qc8 16. Qd2 Qe8 17. Qa7 Qa8 18. Qd4 Qc6 Black sacrifices a pawn to try to gain the initiative. Worse is 18...Nbd7 19.f5 with a large advantage to White. 19. Qxf6 Qxf6 20. Qxd6 Qb6 Black could have maintained equality with 20...Qxd6 21.Rxd6 g5 22.g3 Qxf4 23.gxf4 Nb4. 21.e5 Qe7 22.Qa2 Qd5 23.Qd3 Qf8 24.Qf4 Qe5 25.Qa2 Qd2 26.Qc3 d5 Preventing b3-b4. 27.Qac1 Qxc1 28. Qxe5 Qxe5 This allows a shot by Black. Better is 29.Qf1 with a large advantage to White. 29... Qc4 30. Qd1 Qxc3 31.bxc3 Qxb7 Qxb3 32. Qd8 Qd8 33.c4 Qd4 34. Qxe4 Qd3 35. Qg1 Qxe4 This becomes an exchange sacrifice. Black hopes to later attack the King with his Queen and Knight. 36. Qe8 Qf8 37. Qf5+ Qg8 38.Qe7 Qg6 Not 38...Bc6? 39.Bxe4 and Black cannot re-capture without getting mated. 39.Qxe8+ Qg7 40. Qxh4 Qxe4 41. Qd2 Qg7+ 42. Qxh8 Qxh5 43. Qh2 Qxf4+ 44. Qg1 Qh3+ Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Sisniega, M.  
• Vera, R.  

Mexico 1991 1-0 B80

White sacrifices his Queen to get to the King. 1.e4 c5 2. Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Qxd4 Qf6 5. Qc3 a6 6. Qc4 e6 7.f3 Qc6 8.g4 e7 9. Qd2 O–O 10.Qe2 O–O–O Its a wild race between White’s attack on the kingside and Black on the queenside. 10... Qd7 11.h4 de5 12.Qg2 Qc7 13.g5 Qh3 14.f4 Qxd4 15. Qxd4 e6 16.e4 Qf6 b5 17.Qd4 Qb7 18.Qf1 ac8 Much better is 17...Qc5 18.Qe2 Qc6 18. Qf2 Qe8 19. Bb5 Qxb8 20.Qh4 Qb6 21.Qe2 Qe5 22.Qg3 Not 22.Qxe5? Bxe4. 22... Qc4 23.Qe2 Qa8 24. Qc3 Qd3 25. Qd4 Qe4 Better is 25...Qf8. 26.Qxe4 Qxe4 Better is 26...Nxe5. 27.Qg4 Qg6 If 27...Bb6, then 28.Bc5 or if 27...Rf8, then 28.Nf5 winning in each case. 28.Qh5 Qh5 28...h6 would have held out longer. 29. Qc5 Qe5 Better is 29...Nf6 although White is much better after 30.Bxb4. 30.Qxc5 Qxc5 This Queen sacrifice immediately ends the game. 30... Qa3+ If 30...Bxe5, then 31.Bxe4+ Kf8 32.Rh1+ Ke7 33.Rf7#. 31.bxa3 Black Resigns.

1-0

○ Short, N.  
• Khalifman, A.  

Germany 1991 1-0 B78

The Yugoslav variation of the Sicilian Dragon leads to wild attacks on the opposite sides of the board. 1.e4 c5 2. Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Qxd4 Qf6 5. Qc3 g6 6. Qc4 Qg7 7.f3 O–O–O 8.Qf4 Qc6 9. Qf5 Qd7 10.Qg4 Qc8 11. Qh4 Qf5 12.Qe2 O–O Qd4 13.Qc4 Qxc4 14.Qh5 Sacrificing a pawn to open up the h-file. 14... Qxh5 15.Qg4 Qf6 16.Qf5 Qf8 17. Qa7 Qh6 18.Qg5 Qc8 19.Qd1 Qxc3 Better is 19...Nxc4 20.fxg4 Bxg4 21.Re1 h5 with an unclear position. 20.bxc3 Qe6 20...Qxg4 was still better. 21.Qd1 Threatening 22.Rxh7 Nxf7 23.Qh6 winning. 21... Qg7 22.e5 This keeps Black’s King Bishop tame. 22... Qxe5 If 22...Nd5, then 23.Rxh7 Bxe5 24.f4 followed by Qb2 wins. 23. Qxe6 Qxe6 24. Qxe6 Qxe6 Threatening to stop White’s attack by exchanging Queens with 25.Qf6#. 25.Qd1 Qg4 If 25...Bg7, then 26.Qe7+ Kg8 27.Qb6+ Kf8 28.g5+ Kf7 29.Rg1 wins. 26.Qg2 Qg7 27.Qh3 f5 28.Qe5 c8
If 28...Bd5, then 29.Nd7 threatening 30.Rxg7+ wins. 29.gxf5 exf5 29...Qxf5 would have held out longer although White is winning after 30.Qh4 followed by Ne4. 30.Qe6 f6 31.g7+ Qxg7 32.Nh7+ Kf8 34.Qh8+ Ke7 35.Qxe8+ Qg7 36.Qxe7+ Qg8 37.Nd1 Black Resigns. There is no defense to 38.Rd8#.

1-0

○ Zezulkin, J.
• Kulagin, A.
?

Czestochowa
1991 1/2-1/2 B78

A game of King hunts and tactics.
1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 g6 6.Qb5+ e6 7.Qxe6 Qxe6 8.Qf3 Qe6 9.Qd2 Qd7 10.O-O O-O 11.Qc3 Qd4 12.h4 Qc4 13.Qxc4 Qxc4 14.h5 Qh5 15.Qg4 Qf6 16.Qb3 Qe8 17.Qb6 Qh8 18.Qg5 Qe8 19.Qxe4 Qg6 The only move. 19...Qxe5 20.Qxf6 loses a piece. 20.Qxf4 Qxe5 21.Qd5 Qe6 22.Qd3 Not 22.Nxe4? Rxe7 23.Qxe7 Bf4 winning as is 22.c3? Bxd5 23.Qxd5 Rxc3+. 22...Qa4 23.Qb1 Qc6 24.Qf2 Qa6 25.Qd5 Not 25.a3 Rxa3 26.bxa3 Qxa with a strong attack. 25...Qxa2 26.Qc1 Qe4 27.Qh7 Not 27.Qh4? h5 or 27.Qc7? Ra1+ 28.Nxa1 Qa2+. 27...Qxh7 28.Qh4+ Qg8 29.Qh1 Qc8 The only move. Not 29...Qh5? 30.Qh7+ Kf8 31.Bh6+ Kf8 32.Nc7+ winning the Queen. 30.Qc7+ Qf8 31.Qh6+ Not 31.Nxc8? Ra1+ winning. 31...Qe8 32.Qxe8 Qxe8 Better is 32...Qa1!+ 33.Nxa1 Qa2+ 34.Kc1 Qxb2 with a strong attack. 33...Qf8 34.Qd7 Not 33...Qxf8? 34.Qd8+ Kg7 35.Qh8#. 34...Qc5+ Opening up the King. 34...Qxc5 35.Qe7+ Qc6 36.Qxc5 Qd7 37.Qd1+ Qd4 38.Qc7+ Qc6 39.Qd6+ Qb5 40.Qd5+ Qb6 41.Qd6+ Qb5 42.Qd5+ Qb6 43.Qd8+ Qb5 44.Qd5+ Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Rodriguey, J.
• Gil, J.
?

Spain
1991 0-1 B53

A good example of how to counterattack.

0-1

○ Ivanchuk, V.
• Kasparov, G.
?

Linares
1991 1-0 B51

The annual tournament in Linares, Spain, is one of the strongest in the world. The winner of this event, in the words of Kasparov, can consider himself the "tournament World Champion." In 1991, the youthful Ivanchuk scored a stunning victory over Kasparov in Linares, and laid claim to being a legitimate challenger for the title.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.Qb5+ Qd7 4.d4 Qf6 5.O-O Qc6 4.Qxd4 Capture of the e-pawn can lead to trouble. White gets quick development and play on the e-file. 6.Qxd4 a6 7.Qxd7+ Qxd7 8.Qg5 h6 9.Qxh6 Qxh6 10.Qc4 For the Bishop pair, White gets development and a space advantage. This move is an attempt to keep control of d5, since in the long run, ...d6-d5 might open the position to Black's gain. 10...Qe8 11.Qxe3 Qc6 12.Qf6+ Qh5 13.Qc4 And this is to control the ...b7-b5 break. A closed, maneuvering game where White's Knights can remain in the center would suit Ivanchuk just fine. 13...Qh7 14.Qe3 Qf5 15.b4 a5 16.b5 Qc7 17.Qd2 Qe5 18.Qd3 The two Bishops have better chances to shine in the endgame, so White avoids the exchange of Queens. 18...Qg8 19.Qg5 Qf1 Although White seems to be defending passively, it will turn out that the Black Queen and Rook are insufficient attacking force, and White will drive them away with gain of time. 21...Qb6 22.Qe2 Qh6 23.Qf6 Making a square for a Knight. 23...Qc5 24.Qc4 Qf8 25.Qxb6 Qc8 26.Qf4 f5 27.Qxf5 Qxf5 28.Qf5 Qc6 Qg7 As can be seen from many great attacking games, the factor most important to the evaluation of a position is King safety. Here the Black King fails to find a comfortable home, and the White pieces move to box him in. 29.Qg4 Qe5 30.Qxc5 Qxe5 31.Qxe5 Qf6 32.Qe7 33.Qe8 Qg6 34.Qe6 Qh5 35.Qg4 exf5 36.Qf4 Qh8 37.Qe6+ Qh7 38.Qd5 Black Resigns.

1-0


1-0

Kasparov, G.

• Anand, V.

Tilburg
1991 1-0 B48

Anand has always been a difficult opponent for the world champion.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf7 5.Qc3 e6 6.Qc2 a6 7.Qd3 f5 8.Qc2 Qe5
9.h3 Qf3 10.Qh1 d6 11.f4 Qc6 Better is either 11...Ng6 or 11...Ned7. 12.e5 Qxe5 Other
moves were bad for Black too. For example, 12...Qxe5 13.Nd5+ axb5 14.Bxc5 Nd4 15.Bxd4
exd4 16.Bxb5+ Bd7 17.Qxd4 and White is a pawn ahead. 13.Qxe5 dxe5 14.Qh5+ axb5 15.Qxb5
c6 16.Qxc5 xc6 17.Qd6+ Qe7 Also losing is 17...Kf8 18.Nc4. 18.Qxf6 Qxf6 19.Qc4 Black's
King is stuck in the center and he will be unable to defend it. 19...Qf6 20.Bb5+ Bf8 21.d1
Qe3 22.Bb4 Qf4 23.Bf1 Threatening 24.Qb4. 23...Qd4 If 23...f5, then 24.Qb4 fxe4 25.Nxe4+
Queen from infiltrating. 24...Rd8 25.Qc7+ Bd7 26.Nc6+ Rxc8 27.Rxd7+ also wins for White.
25.Bxd4 Qf1+ 26.Bh2 exd4 27.Qe5 Qd7 if 27...Qf4+, then 28.g3 Qe5 29.Nxc8+ Kd7 30.Nb6+ with
mate to follow. 28.Qb5 Qf4+ 29.Qg3 Black Resigns. If 29...Qe5, then 30.Nf6+ Qxf6 31.Qd6+ Ke8
32.Nc7#. 1-0

Short, N.

• Gelfand, B.

Brussels
1991 1-0 B23

British GM Nigel Short defeats Gelfand in a match along the road to becoming the first non-Russian
challenger to the world championship since Bobby Fischer.

1.e4 c5 2.Qc3 d6 3.f4 Qf6 4.Qf3 g6 5.Qc4
g7 6.Qd2 e6 7.d3 Qg7 8.Qc1 White transfers
his Queen to h4 for attacking purposes. 8...Qd4 9.Qxd4 cxd4 10.Qc2 O-O 11.Qc3
Qc6 12.Qd2 Preventing ...Na5. 12...d5 13.Qc5 f6
14.Qxf6 Qxf6 15.Qh1 Planning Ng1-f3 controlling
the weakness at e5. 15...a5 16.a4 Qd6
17.Qg1 Qd7 18.Qf3 Qb4 Better is 18...Rae8. Now
Black starts having trouble with his weak d-pawn. 19.Bf2 Qe5 20.Qe3 Qc6 21.Qae1
b6 22.Bd2 Qb4 Better is 22...Rae8 followed by
23...Re7 and 24...Be8. Now White starts a quick attack
on the Kingside. 23.Qg3 b5 Black is short on
time. 24.Qf5 The decisive breakthrough. Open lines
are created for the Bishop and Rook with this pawn
sacrifice. 24...exf5 25.Qg5 Qe8 Not 25...Bxe5
26.Qxe5 Rae8 27.Bxb4 winning. Most tenacious
was 25...Rc7 although White remains much better
27.Qxf5 Qh8 28.Qxf6 Now Black's kingside will
be indefensible. 28...Qxf6 29.Qg4 Bf5 Other
Rook moves allow Qe5+. 30.h6 h5 31.Qf4
Black Resigns. 32.Qf8+ and 32.Qf6+ are both
threatened. 1-0

Benjamin, J.

• Kamsky, G.

Los Angeles
1991 0-1 C89

The US championship in this year was played as a
knockout tournament and the two survivors square
off for the final match.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.b5 a6 4.Qa4 Qf6 5.O-O
Qe7 6.c4 Qb5 7.Qb3 O-O 8.c3 d5 The
Marshall attack. Black sacrifices a pawn but gets
very active play. 9.exd5 Qxd5 10.Qc5 Qxe5
11.Qxe5 c6 12.Qc4 Qe6 13.g3 A common
move here. 13...Qf7 and 13...Qf5 are
possible here. This temporarily blinds Black's attack, but it
weakens the light squares. 13...Qd7 14.d3 Qh3
15.Qe4 Qxd7 16.Qd2 f5 17.Qc1 Qh8 18.Qh5
Qf6 19.Qh4 Qc5 Black is planning to put pressure
down the a8-h1 diagonal. 20.Qf3 b7 21.Qg5
b6 22.Qc2 Qc6 23.f3 Qc4 This wins back the
pawn. 24.Qd1 Otherwise f3 falls. For example,
24.Qxc4? Nh7 wins for Black. 24...cxd3 25.Qe6
Qf7 26.Qg2 Qc5 27.Qg5 Qf8 28.Qe6 Qg4
Sacrificing the exchange to keep the attack
going. 29.Qxf8 Qxf8 30.b4 Qd6 31.Qh5 Qb6
32.Qf1 Qe3+ 33.Qxe3 Qxe3 34.Qh3 Both
players were in time pressure here. 34...Qd2+ 35.Qf2
Qxc3 36.d1 Qxb4 Black has a large
advantage. 37.Qg6 Qd2 38.Qdxd2 White correctly
catches back the exchange to get rid of the passed d-
pawn. 38...Qxf3+ 39.Qxf3 Qxd2+ 40.Qf2 Qxe3
41.Qf7 Qe4+ 42.Qh3 Qg4+ 43.Qg2 Qxg6
44.Qxg6 Qf6 45.Qxf5 Opposite colored Bishop
endings can be hard to win, but along with Black's
extra pawn, the presence of pawns on both sides
of the board and Rooks gives Black excellent
winning chances. 45...Qc5 46.Qf1 Qg5 47.Qd3
Qd6 Exchanging Rooks would lead to a dead draw.
48.Qd1 Qg7 49.Qe2 Qd4 50.Qf3 Correct was forcing a pawn exchange with 50.Qh4.
51...c1 Again better is 51...h4. 51...c3 52...d1 b6 53...d7+ f6 54...d5 e5 55...b3 f6 56...b4 Better is 56...b3 followed by g4. Now his pawns are fixed on the same square as the opponent’s Bishop. 56...g4 57...g7 h5 58...e7+ Winning a pawn allow Black’s King to infiltrate: 58...Rg5+ Kd4 59.Rxh5 Ke3 threatening ...Rf2+. 58...d4 59...d7+ e4 60...f7 f6 61...f2 a5 62...f7 h6 63...b3 e3 64...f1 a6 Threatening ...a5-a4. 65...a4 g6 66...e8 d1+ 67...g2 e1 68...c2 d5 69...f2 If 69.Bc6, then 69...Bd2 followed by 70...Rf2+. 69...e5 70...d7 d3 71...f1 d2 72...h3+ c3 73...b1 c2 74...h3 e1+ 75...f2 d2 76...b5 a1 77...c4 a4 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Kamsky, G.
• Ivanchuk, V.

Linares
1991 0-1 C89

In 1991, Ivanchuk was the heir-apparent to the chess throne, and Kamsky was an even younger upstart who had defected from Russia to the USA. The Marshall Gambit is well regarded theoretically, but at the highest levels it is usually only expected to draw. 1.e4 e5 2...f3 c6 3.b5 a6 4...a4 d5 5...e6 0-0 c7 6...e1 b5 7...b3 O-O 8.c3 d5 The defining move of the Marshall Gambit to the Ruy Lopez. It was introduced by Frank Marshall in a famous game against the World Champion J. R. Capablanca, and in a rare event for a first-time appearance of a new gambit, Capablanca refused an unsound variation at the board. Marshall refined his concept, and the gambit returned with greater success in later games. 9.exd5 cxd5 10...xe5...xe5 11...xe5 c6 Marshall originally played 11...Nf6, intending ...Be7-d6 and ...Nf6-g4 with attack. It was this line that the great Cuban Champion Capablanca refused with incisive defense. 11...c6 is the improvement. 12.d4 d6 13...e2 Somewhat more common is 13...Re1, with difficult and well-analyzed variations. 13...g4 14.f3...h5 15...xd5 cxd5 16...d2 f5 17...h3 f7 18...f1 f4 19...d2...d7 20...a1 Although White now appears to control the e-file, there are no entry points. White is soon reduced to passively moving the same pieces back and forth. 20...a5 21.a3 a4 22...d1 c6 23...c1...f7 24...h3 An attempt to get some maneuvering room for Nf1-h2-g4, but it also makes another weakness on the Kingside. 24...f5 25...h2 h5 26...f2 a8 27...f1 f6 28...h2 h8 29.b3 Now, rather than await execution on the Kingside, Kamsky tries for activity on the Queenside. But this just creates another weakness, and Black happily overtop the attack to new targets. 29...e8 30...b2...h7 31...f1...f8 32...fe2...c7 33...h2...fe8 34...f1 b4 35...xb4 35...xb4 loses control of the c2 square (35...Bc2). 35...a3 36...xa3...xc3 37...h2...a8 38...b2...d3 39...c1...e8 40...c2...xc2 41...xc2...g6 42...f2...xb4 43...e5...d1 Black’s Rooks and minor pieces have thoroughly infiltrated White’s game. 44...e2...b1 45...g5...c6 46...e2...c2 The exchange of Queens would leave unguarded two minor pieces simultaneously, so Black manages to get the Queen in, too. White now wins a pawn with check, but soon must capitulate. 47...hx5...g8 48...e6+...f7 49...h8+...h8 50...xf7...c6 Protecting against the unending checks; White cannot save both pieces. 51...c3...xc3 52...f8+...h7 53...f5+...g6 White Resigns.

0-1

○ Polgar, J.
• Anand, V.

Munich
1991 1-0 C83

There has never been a chess phenomenon like Judit Polgar. She would later become the youngest Grandmaster in history. 1.e4 c5 2...f3...c6 3.b5 a6 4...a4 d6 5...e6 0-0...e4 6.d4 b5 7...b3 d5 8...dxe5...e6 9...c3...e7 10...bd2...d7 11...c2...xd2 12...xd2...g4 13...f4...xf3 14...f5...d8 15...xf3 Sacrificing a pawn for open lines. 15...xf5 16...e2...d6 17...e1...c6 18...g5 Preventing Black from castling. 18...f8 Other moves are worse. For example, 18...f6 19.Qh5+ Kg8 20.Re6 Qc5 21.Rxf6+ gxf6 22.Be6 wins. 19...e3...g6 20...h6+...g8 21...g4...f6 22...c2 If 22.Re5, then Black should play 22...Ne5! 22...f8 23...g5...d6 24...f4...d8 25...ad1 Black’s misplaced King’s Rook gives White a large advantage. 25...a5 26...h4...h5 27...h5...c4 28...hx5 Creating weaknesses in the Black King position. 28...hxg5 29...b3...d6 If 29...Nh2, then 30.Bxg6 fxg6 31.Qxg6+ Bg7 32.Qe6+ Kf8 33.Bd6+ winning. 30...xg6...fxg6 31...e6 If 31.Qxg6+, then 31...Bg7 and 32.Bxd6 is met with 32...Re6. 31...h7 32...x6 Not 32.Rxg6+ Rg7 33.Bxd6 Qxd6 winning. 32...g7 If 32...Bxd6, then 33.Rxg6+ Kh8 34.Qd4+ winning. 33...d1 Better is 33.Rxg6 with a winning position. 33...h6 34.g3...d7 35...f4 g5
36. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{x}g5}}}  \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{g}6}}} 37. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{f}5}}} Better is 37.f4. 37. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{x}e}6}} 38. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{x}e}6}+} Better is 38.Rxe6 Re8 39.Rxe8+ Qxe8 40.Bf6 winning. Now White has only a slight advantage. 38... \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{x}e}6}} 39. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{f}6}}} 40. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{d}2}}} 41. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{c}1}}} e5 42. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{f}1}}} c4 43.bxc4  \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{d}4}}} 43...bxc4 44.Bb1 d4 with only a slight advantage to White. 44. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{c}1}}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{e}6}}} 45. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{e}2}}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{d}4}}} 46. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{cxd}4}} 47. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}4}} 48. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{e}4}}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{b}4}}} 49. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{d}2}}} White wins with her two connected passed pawns. 49... \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}6}} 50. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}2}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}5}} 51. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}3}} 52. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}6}} 53. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}4}} 54. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}4}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}2}} 55. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}1}} 56. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{a}4}} 57. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{e}5}} 58. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}5}} 59. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}3}} 60. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}6}} 61. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}5}} 62. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}2}} 63. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}6}} 64. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{a}5}} 65. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}3}} Black Resigns.

\texttt{1-0}

\textbf{o} Gipslis, A.
\textbf{?} Dobrovolsky, L.

Bardejevskoe Kup 1991 0-1 C54 A brilliant kingside attack.

1.e4 e5 2. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}3}} 3. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}6}} 4. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}4}} 5. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}5}} 6. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}6}} 7. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}6}} 8. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}2}} O-O 9. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{e}1}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}7}} 9. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}1}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}6}} 10. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{h}3}} 11. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}3}} 12. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}6}} h6 13. d4 \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{h}7}} 14. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{e}3}} Better is 14.Bc2 followed by 15.Nf5. 14... \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}6}} 15. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}2}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}8}} 16. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{a}1}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}8}} 17. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}2}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}5}} 18. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{x}g}5} hxg5 Black’s commanding control over the f4-square give him the advantage. 19.dxe5 dxe5 20. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\texttt{b}6}}} axb6 21. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{e}3}} b5 22. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}1}} g4 23.hxg4 \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{x}g}4} 24. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}4}} e8 25. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{a}3}} Black sacrifices the exchange for a strong attack. But later Black sacrifices a piece.

1.e4 e5 2. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}3}} 3. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}6}} 4. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}4}} 5. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}5}} 6. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}6}} 7. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}4}} 8. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{d}5}} O-O 9. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}1}} e5 10. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}2}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{x}e}5} 11. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}3}} g4 12. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}4}} a6 13. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}3}} f5 14. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}1}} d4 15. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}2}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}6}} 16. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}1}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}8}} 17. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}3}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}6}} 18. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}5}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{h}6}} 19. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{h}4}} 20. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}3}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}5}} 21. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}3}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{e}5}} 22. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}4}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}6}} 23. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}3}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}7}} 24. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}1}} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{g}7}}

\textbf{o} Kasparov, G.
\textbf{?} Karpov, An.

Tilburg 1991 1-0 C45 This is the 159th game played between the current and former world champion. Kasparov comes up with a novelty in the opening. Karpov fights back but cannot save the game.

1.e4 e5 2. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}3}} 3. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}6}} 4. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{x}e}5} d4 5. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{x}e}5} \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}5}} 6. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{b}6}} 7. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{c}7}} 8. \texttt{\textcolor{red}{\texttt{f}6}}

\texttt{1-0}
27.\texttt{h2} \texttt{c8} 28.\texttt{d3} \texttt{e5}\textdagger If 28...\texttt{Rxc3}, then 29.\texttt{Qd4} forces Black to take a perpetual check with 29...\texttt{Qg3+} 30.\texttt{Kg1} \texttt{Qe3+}. 29.\texttt{g3} \texttt{xc3} 30.\texttt{f4} \texttt{e7} 31.\texttt{g3} \texttt{c3+} 32.\texttt{h2} \texttt{c7} 33.\texttt{g3} \texttt{c3+}

Draw by Agreement.

\section*{o Nunn, J.}
\section*{Nikolic, Pr.}

\section*{Belgrade}

1991 \hfill 1-0 \hfill C19

British GM Nunn is like a loose cannon capable of blowing away the defenses of the world’s most sturdy GMs.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.\texttt{c3} \texttt{b4} 4.e5 c5 5.a3 \texttt{xc3+} 6.bxc3 \texttt{e7} A slightly unusual move for Predrag. He often times side steps the Winawer pawn sacrifice (7.Qg4) by playing 6...\texttt{Qc7} anticipating 7.Qg4 f6 with a different middlegame plan. Of course White can play 7.Nf3 reverting back to main lines where Black has committed himself to ...\texttt{Qd8-c7}, thereby losing several options. 7.\texttt{f3} John is rightly regarded as one of the world’s foremost theoreticians and practitioners of 1.e4. he can be counted upon to challenge the sharpest lines. Interestingly, he eschews the debate over 7.Qg4. 7...\texttt{b6} The text is a favorite of Nikolic. Black plays for the exchange of his problem Bishop (...\texttt{Bc8-a6}). 8.\texttt{b5+} \texttt{d7} 9.\texttt{d3} Strategically, a very sharp decision. White permits ...\texttt{Bd7-a4} which hampers the development of White’s queenside (a3-a4, Bc1-a3). More common is 9.a4 with a strategically complex game. 9...\texttt{a4} Accepting the perch to roost. 10.\texttt{dxc5} An ugly move. White wants to insure that the game is opened for his two Bishops. The move implies the sacrifice of the e5-pawn. 10.\texttt{bxc5} 11.0-0 \texttt{c4} 12.\texttt{e2} \texttt{g6} According to Nikolic, this reasonable looking move is his only mistake of the game! It took 23 flawless moves by White to demonstrate why the move was bad! I suppose Nikolic missed something in his calculations! Essentially, White has already sacrificed his game positionally. He is banking on an attack based on \texttt{Nf3-d4/g5}, \texttt{f2-f4-f5}. From this perspective Black should be developing pieces towards a defense. Thus 12...\texttt{Nd7} or 12...\texttt{Qa5}, playing for ...\texttt{Qa5x3}, ...\texttt{Ba4xc2} defending the kingside are preferable. 13.\texttt{g5} A forced and powerful pawn sacrifice. Black must accept the gift, as otherwise \texttt{f2-f4-f5} is a free attack. 13...\texttt{xe5} Not 13...\texttt{h6}? 14.Nx\texttt{e6} fxe\texttt{6} 15.Bh\texttt{5} winning a pawn. 14.\texttt{f4} \texttt{d3} In general, when defending it is a good idea to exchange pieces. This move has the unfortunate drawback of allowing White to play \texttt{Qd1-h5} in one move. 15.\texttt{xd3} \texttt{xd3} 16.\texttt{f5} e5 17.\texttt{h5} And this is the rub. Black’s King is now trapped in the center. Surprisingly both players now embark on a forced line in which White must sacrifice a piece. 17...\texttt{e7} The best. After 17...\texttt{Qb6+} 18.Kh\texttt{1} g6 19.Qh\texttt{6} is a smash. Black is close to consolidating, but it is White’s move. 18.\texttt{e6} \texttt{d7} A sad reality. After 18...\texttt{g6} 19.fx\texttt{g6} fx\texttt{e6} 20.g\texttt{7}+ or 19...fxg\texttt{6} 20.Qxe\texttt{5} is a clobber. Meanwhile, White threatens Bc1-g5 developing with tempo. Black prepares to meet this with ...\texttt{f7-f6}. 19.\texttt{g5} \texttt{f6} 20.\texttt{e3} Around this time, White has to be satisfied with the idea of 10.dxc5 opening up the b-file. 20...\texttt{a6} 21.\texttt{cxd3} \texttt{g6} The most testing. If Black doesn’t try to undermine the Knight on e6 he may as well resign. 22.\texttt{g4} \texttt{e6} 23.\texttt{d4} A wonderfully intuitive piece sacrifice. Neither player was able to calculate all the lines. Black is forced to go for the ride, while White felt that Black’s exposed King and disorganized pieces were sufficient. Certainly, in practice, White’s role is easier. 23...\texttt{exd4} 24.\texttt{xd4} \texttt{h5} 25.\texttt{hd3} \texttt{h5} 26.\texttt{fe1} \texttt{f8} 27.\texttt{e6} \texttt{h6} 28.\texttt{e3} A powerful move. White prevents ...Na6-c7 because Bd4-c5 wins the d6-square. Besides controlling the e-file, the a7-pawn is also given attention. 28...\texttt{h8} 29.\texttt{e1} \texttt{c7} 30.\texttt{e5} \texttt{f7} 31.\texttt{e7} Only this move justifies White’s attack. Black threatens to simply waltz away with his King. Now 31...\texttt{Kc8}? leaves the Bishop en prise. White threatens Re6-d6xc6. 31...\texttt{b7} 32.\texttt{e5} \texttt{b5} 33.\texttt{e7} Killing. Now 33...\texttt{Bc6} 34.Rd6+ \texttt{Kc8} 35.Rb1 \texttt{Bb5} 36.Rx\texttt{b5} \texttt{Nxb5} 37.\texttt{Qa8+} \texttt{Kc7} 38.Qc6+ soon mates. 33...\texttt{c8} 34.\texttt{b1} \texttt{xe7} 35.\texttt{xb7} Black Resigns. 1-0

\section*{o Timman, J.}
\section*{Ljubojevic, L.}

\section*{Amsterdam}

1991 \hfill 1-0 \hfill C19

Ljubomir Ljubojevic has long been one of the top players in the world, although he has never challenged for the World Championship. He is known for his inventive tactical style, which explains the Dutch Grandmaster’s avoidance of complications in the opening. Timman’s restraint pays off when his Yugoslav colleague allows a strong blockade on the central dark squares.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.\texttt{c3} \texttt{b4} 4.e5 c5 5.a3 \texttt{xc3+} 6.\texttt{bxc3} \texttt{e7} 7.\texttt{f3} \texttt{c7} 8.a4 Rather than one of the tactical maelstroms available in the Winawer
French (7.Qg4 is often followed by Qxg7 and mass complications), White has chosen a positional treatment. 8...b6 9.Qb5+ This looks like a loss of time, but actually it is an important move directed against ...Bc8-a6, exchanging the light-squared Bishops. After the Bishop interposes against the check, White retreats to a useful square and if Black were to try ...Be7-c8, it would be he who loses time. 9.Qd7 10.d3 c6 11.0-0 h6 12.Qe1 O-O 13.Qf4 f5 One of many standard ideas in the French. Black hopes to block the Kingside attacking lines, assuming that White will not wish to both open the f-file for Black’s Rook and lose the Bishop pair. But White understands the important idea of blockade, and sets out on a thoroughly "Nimzowitschian" course. 14.exf6 xf6 15.Qxf6 c5 16.b4 Qc7 17.Qe2 c8 With the weak e-pawn, Black no longer desires to exchange this Bishop. 18.Qe5 White now firmly controls e5 with pieces. Black’s game is cramped. 18...d8 Normally, cramped positions desire exchanges, but in this one the exchange of Queens doesn’t help. The Bishop on c8 is especially passively placed for an endgame. Black’s game is to exchange this Bishop.

With the weak e-pawn, Black no longer desires Kg7-h8+ were too much. 33.Qxe5 Qxe4 34.Qe3 Qd7 35.Qf3+ Qf4 36.Qg3 Qf7 37.Qh8+ Qe7 38.Qxg7 Qf4 39.Qxf4 Qxf4 40.Qh7+ Qe8 41.Qa1 Qd8 42.Qg3 Qd6 43.Qxh6 Qc7 44.Qh8 Qc8 45.Qf4 Black Resigns. The final effect of the e5-blockade; White will play Qh8-e5 next, winning easily.

1-0

○ Shirov, A.
• Nikolenko, O.
?

Moscow 1991 1-0 C11

An attack on an open King.

Le4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e3 c5 4.e5 f6 5.Qd7 5.Qe2 c6 6.c3 Qc7 7.a4 b5 8.a3 Slowing down Black’s attack on the Kingside.

14...a5 9.Qf3 b4 10.axb4 cxb4 11.f5 White sacrifices a pawn to create an outpost for his Knight at f4 and to weaken Black’s pawn structure. 11...exf5 12.Qf4 Qb6 13.Qb5 Qb7 Worse are 13...Qc7 14.c4 or 13...Qd7 14.e6 Qxe6 15.Nxe6. 14.e6 d6 Bad is 14...f6 15.Ne5! Qxe6 15.Nfx5+. 15.Qxf5+ Qxf5 16.Qxf5 Qxf5 17.Qd5 Qxd5 18.Qxd5 Qd3 19.Qd3 White will get a ferocious attack after 17...Nxd5? 18.Qg5+ Kg6 19.Rxf5!. 18.Qxh2 Qxh2+ White sacrifices a Rook but threatening a deadly discovered check. 23.Qxf1 Qe6+ Kg7 25.Qe7 Threatening 26.Qxe7+ Kg8 27.Kg8+ Ke7 28.Bg5 is winning. 26.Qc7+ Short is a huge underdog vs Garry Kasparov, while Timman has better but not quite equal chances against Anatoly Karpov.
Kengis, E.

Djurhuus, R.

Gausdal

1991 0-1 C05

It is very rare when a strong Grandmaster with the White pieces is knocked out so quickly.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c6 4.e5 f6 5.f4 c5 6.c3 c6 7...d3 b6 8.a4 cxd4 9.exd4 e7 10.a3 Preventing Black’s pieces from having access to the b4 square. 10...0-0 11.g3 f6 Opening up the f-file. 12.d3 fxe5 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.dxe5 A new move. Black sacrifices a Knight for two pawns and gains lots of activity for his pieces. 14...exf5 15...e2 Of course not 15.Nxe5?? Qxf2+. 15...d7 16...xe5 White mistakenly thinks that he can get away with this. Correct is 16.Rf1. 16...fxe5 17.d2 ac8 Preventing the White King from fleeing to safety with Kc2 and Kb1. 18.b3 Other moves lose as well. For example, if 18.Nxd7, then 18...Rf4 followed by 19...Rd4+ or 18.Nf3 Rxf3 19.gxf3 Bg5+ 20.Kd3 Bb5#. 18...g5+ 19...d3 If 19.Kd1, then 19...Qd4+ 20.Nd3 Ba4 wins the Queen. 19...f4 Threatening mate on d4. 20...f3 If 20.Bxf4, then 20...Qxf4 and there is no way to prevent mate. Likewise 20.Bxe3 Rf3! wins quickly. 20...e8 White Resigns. 21...Bg6+ will be decisive. 0-1

Bareev, E.

Christiansen, L.

Biel

1991 0-1 B09

The Russian Bareev is one of the top ten players in the world, but the American Grandmaster is a tough fighter who excels in sharp tactics.

1.d4 d6 2.e4 c6 3.d3 g6 4.f4 g7 5.c3 a6 6.e4 O-O 7.e5 h6 8.e3 c5 9.0-0 cxd4 10...xd4 f5 11...f2 e5 12...d1 c6 13...g5 The threat of 14.Bxc4+ Rx7 15.Qe4 forces Black’s reply. 13...e8 14...b5 b8 15...e2 Better is 15.Qb4 and if 15...h6, then 16.Nxd7. 15...h6 16...f3 hxc2 17...d2 f5 18...b4 d7 19...d1 If 19.g4, then 19...Nf6 20.exf6 Bxf6 attacking both the Queen and Knight. 19...f6 20.f5 If 20.exf6, then 20...Bxf6 attacking both the Queen and Knight. 20...dxe5 21.Bb4 a5 22...a3 c4 23...xe4 dxe4 24.f1 g5 25.f6 Creating a square for the Knight at f5. 25...exf6 26...f5 c7 Black must sacrifice the exchange to relieve some of the pressure, but his pawn majority gives him the advantage. 27...e7+ h8 28...xe8 c8 29...e7 The players were short on time. 29...e6 30...xc7 c7 31.d8+ c7 32.g4 White must try to hold pawn back Black’s pawn mass. 32...f5 33.gxf5 33.Bd3 should have been considered. 33...xa2 34.f6 Correct is 34.Ra1. Now Black’s kingside pawns become unstoppable. 34...xf6 35.h5 e6 36.b6 c8 37...c8 c8 38...xa5 g6 39...c4 h3 40...e1 e4 41...e3 d7 42...b4 f8 43...a1 d6 44...d1 f4 45.h5 b6 46.g1 c6 47...g4 47...d5 If 47.h3, then 47...Be3+ 48.Bxe3 Nxe3. 47...hxh2+ 48...g2 e5 49.h3 a8 50...f6 b4 51...e3 h3+ 52...g1 g4 White Resigns. There is no good defense to 53...h2+ and 54...Bf3. 0-1

Belavsky, A.

Anand, V.

Munich

1991 0-1 B09

Viswanathan Anand from India is known for the incredible speed of his play. This is both a strength and a weakness: he never suffers from time pressure and his opponents can be unnerved by his quick responses, but most of his losses come from failing to double-check tactics. Here we see him at his best, trading blows with the powerful Al Belavsky.

1.d4 d6 2.e4 c6 3.c3 g6 4.f4 Although it started with 1.d4, the game has transposed to the Austrian Attack against the Pirc Defense. 4...g7 5.f3 O-O 6...e6 6.Bf5 Black does not want to fianchetto, but to support the central challenge...c7-c5. 7.e5 g4 8.g1 c5 9.h3 h6 10.d5 b7 11...d2 f5 12.h2 dxe5 13...xe5 f6. Black’s mission in these modern defenses is to allow White to build a big pawn center, then challenge it from the wings and smash it with pawn levers. The classical masters of the last century would be scandalized to allow White pawns to reach the fifth rank; Anand is pleased because he will prove they are overextended. 14.O-O O-exd5 15...xd5 c6 16.c3 cd4 17...f6+ xf6 18.exd4 g7 19.d5 Here we go again. Now the important strategic feature is that the Kings are castled on opposite wings. Each side will mount an attack. 19...c4 20...e2
21. h4 c3 25.bxc3 æxc3 26.h5 Æe3 27.Ng5 Qf7 28.Qxh7 No defense for either side, just go, go, go. White appears to have come in first, with serious consequences after 28...Kxh7 29.hxg6++ Kg8 30.Rh8+ and mates. Otherwise, surely 29.Nf6+ will be too strong? 28...b3+ Obviously, Black had to see this when playing 21...Bh6. Now it is White who is mated, and all with check. Work it out. White Resigns.

1-0

o Short, N.
• Timman, J.

? Tilburg
1991 1-0 B04
A strategical masterpiece with a beautiful King march at the end.

1.e4 Æf6 The Alekhine is a rare guest in today’s big leagues. 2.e5 Æd5 3.d4 d6 4.Æf3 g6 5.Æe4 Æb6 6.æb3 Æg7 7.Æe2 Currently, this is the most topical way of meeting Alekhine’s defense. Usually is 7...a4 or 7.Ng5. Here White sidesteps an early Queen exchange and strengthens his e5-pawn. If this pawn can be maintained, Black’s game will be cramped and the Bishop on g7 will have to re-deploy. 7...æc6 8.0-0 O-O Obviously 8...Bg4? 9.Bxg4 is a sucker’s trap. 9.h3 a5 10.a4 Æxe5 11.Æxe5 Æd4 In a cramped position, Black correctly seeks exchanges. 12.Æxd4 Æxd4 13.Æc1 A critical moment. Black has to decide on his scheme of development. What will he do with his light-square Bishop? If he blocks it in with ...e7-e6, then the only chance for activation is by a fianchetto. That will cost a lot of tempi. Playing 13...Bf5 develops the Bishop, but it’s a useless development, since there is no harmony with the rest of Black’s pieces. 13...æe6 Best. But this development takes a lot of time.

14.Æd2 Æd5 15.Æf3 Æc5 16.Æe4 A nasty move. White prevents 16...æb6, as 17.c4 picks up a piece. 16...æb4 17.Æc4 A beautiful move. Grabbing a pawn by 17.Bxd5?! exd5 18.Qxd5 B6d gives Black excellent compensation. The text invites Black to weaken White’s pawn structure in exchange for tempi. If Black doesn’t go along with the menu, then White develops by hitting the Black Queen. 17...æb6 18.b3 Æxc4 19.bxc4 æc8 20.æd1 Æc5 This strikes me as being overly cooperative. A line like 20...æa6 21.Qb4 Æc6 22.Rd8 Qf8 23.Ba3 Rxd8 24.Bfx8 Rxf8 loses material, but offers kicking chances. 21.Æb6 22.Æc3 Æb6 Reluctant to defend passively with 22...Qf8 23.Ng5 h6 24.Ne4 Bxe5 25.Bxh6, when White has an excellent game, Timman drifts towards a lifeless position. 23.Æb6 Æh8 This is excessive. The position after 23...Bb7 24.Bxg7 Kxg7 25.Qf6+ Kg8 26.Rd4 is a positional crunch, but what happens is even worse! 24.Æd8 b7 25.Æd1 Æg7 Reversing an earlier decision. White was threatening Qb4-e7 and Rd1-d7. 26.Æd7 Æf8 If 26...Bxe5 27.Rxf7 followed by Rd1-d7 is over. 27.Æxg7 Æxg7 28.Æd4 Preventing a possible Qc6-e4. 28...æe8 29.Æf6+ Æg8 30.h4 h5 Up to now, we applaud the wonderful way that Short has tied up his opponent, and the following exploitation of his advantage is breathtaking. 31.Æh2 Æc8 32.Æg3 æe8 33.Æf4 æc8 34.Qg5 Black Resigns. There is no defense to 35.Kh6 and 36.Qg7#.

1-0

o Wojtkiewicz, A.
• Bellon Lopez, J.

? Klooster
1991 0-1 A37
When White gets tied up hunting down the pawns on the queenside, Black goes hunting on the kingside.

1.Æf3 c5 2.e4 Æc6 3.Æe3 c6 4.Æf3 g6 5.Æg2 Æg7 6.a3 æ5 7.0-0 d6 8.Æe1 æe6 9.d3 Æg7 10.Æc2 Æd5 11.Æxd5 Æxd5 12.Æc3 Æde7 13.Æe4 b6 14.Æa4 O-O Black feels that he has enough compensation for the pawn sacrifice. Also possible is 14...æc6. 15.Æxe5 Æbxc5 16.Æxc6 Æxc6 17.Æxc6 White has won a pawn, but giving up his King Bishop leaves his kingside weak. 17...æe8 18.Æa4 Æf5 19.Æc4 Æf4 20.Æxa5 Æg5 21.f3 e4 Opening up lines for his pieces. 22.Æa6 If 22.g4, then 22...Bd4+ 23.Kh1 exd4 23.Qxd4! 25.fxg4 Bd5+ wins. 22...h3 23.Æxf4 If 23.dxe4, then 23...Bd4+ is very strong. For example, 24.Rf2 fxg4! 25.Bxg4 Bxg4 26.Kh1 g2#. 23...æf4 24.dxe4 Æd4+ 25.Æh1 If 25.e3, then 25...Rf6 wins. 25...æf8 26.Æfd1 æxe4 27.Æxe4 Æh5 28...æc3 If 28.Rxd4, then 28...Qxe2 29.Rd2 Rf1+ wins. 28...æxc3 29.Æc4+ Æg7 30.Æc3+ Æd4 31.Æxc4 Æd4 32.Æxd4+ Æf6 33.Æa7+ If 33...æe5, then 33...Æe6 34.Rc1 g5 35.Rc7+ Kh6 36.Qd8 Qg6 wins. 33...æh6 34.Æe3+ Æg5 35.Æg1 36.a5 would have held out longer. 35...Æf7 White Resigns. There is no defense to 36...Rf1+.

0-1

o Hansen, C.
• Ftacnik, L.
Groningen
1991 1-0 A34

White rips opens Black’s King position and Black is hard pressed to find a defense.

1.e4 c5 2.e3 c6 3.e3 c6 4.e3 Qc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.Qxd4 Qb7 7.f3 e5 8.Qe3 Wb8 9.Qd2 Qe7


A more common development of the Knight-b8 in this systems is d7, from whence it eyes c5 and e5. White usually builds up for a Kingside attack, keeping control of the center with his c4, e4 bind. 12.e1 Qxd4 13.axd4 Qb6 14.fdl O–O 15.a3 Qfd8 16.h3 Qa8 17.d2 h6 18.Qb4 d7 19.e3 b5 20.exb5 axb5 21.e5 Qd5 22.Qxd5 Qxd5 23.Qxd5 Wd8 24.e6 fxe6

25.a5 a5 26.Qxa5 Wf6 27.Qxh6+ d5 27.Qxd5 28.Qxd5 Qd6 29.Qe6 Wf8 30.Qd7 31.Qf7 Qd8 32.Qf6 Qxf6 33.Qf6+ Qh7 34.Qd6 Qf8 35.Qc7+ Qh8 36.Qc6+ Qh7 37.Qd3+ Qh8 38.Qd4+ Qh7 39.Qg2 Qe7 40.Qd4+ Qh8 41.Qxb5 Qe5 42.Qe6 Black Resigns.

Hastings
1991 1-0 A31

This lively game was played at the annual Christmas Tournament in Hastings, England, between the popular British Grandmaster Jonathan Speelman and Gyula Sax from Hungary. Appropriately, they played the English Opening, and the English player won with some very nice tactics in the transition stages of the game.

1.f3 f6 2.c4 e5 3.Qc3 Qc6 4.Qd4 exd4 5.Qxd4 Wb6 6.Qb3 e6 7.a3 d5 8.Qe3 Qd8 9.exd5 Qxd5 10.Qxd5 exd5 11.g3 Qc7 12.Qg2 Qf6 13.Qd2 d4 Traditional Nimzowitschian strategy against the isolated pawn is to first blockade it, then surround and destroy it. Black acts quickly to prevent the physical blockade of the pawn, advancing it as a gambit to win the Bishop pair and hopefully inconvenience the White King.

14.Qxc6+ bxc6 15.Qxd4 Qd5 16.Qd3–Qd5 Sax may have thought he was winning a piece here, but this move allows 16...Qxb3 to be met by 17.Bx6 with threat of mate. The opening stage is over, and the transitional tactics here favor White.

16...Qg5 17.f3 Qxb3 18.Qg7 Qe7 19.Qh8 Qf6 20.e4 White is temporarily ahead the Exchange and two Pawns, which would normally be more than a match for the Bishop pair. But Black soon wins the Bishop on h8, and then will have two Bishops for the Rook and Pawns. As can be seen in many of these games, King safety plays a major role in the evaluation of the position, and soon Speelman heads into an endgame where tactics again predominate.

20...Qf7 21.Qf3 Qb6 22.Qd5 Qh1 Qa6 23.Qc2 Qxc2 24.Qxc2 Qh8 25.d7 Qd8 Black’s light-squared Bishop is in trouble. The passive 25...Ra8 barely merits consideration, if only because of 26.e5. Other
Vaganian, R.
• Hjartarson, J.

European Cup 1991 1-0 A30
Many strong Grandmasters are hired by chess clubs to play for them in team competitions. The Armenian and Icelandic Grandmaster play for German clubs.


White sacrifices two pieces to hunt down the opposition King.

Vaganian, R.
• Sokolov, I.

Rogatska Slatin 1991 0-1 A29
White makes one mistake after which Black grabs the initiative and never relinquishes it.
the game. The position is not about material, it’s man recognizes that timing is crucial. 17...Re8?

King. The text envisages opening the b-file to White’s had added Qe2xb5 to his menu of possibilities.

ensuing positions do not work out well for White. 6...Re2 9.Qe2 c2 Forcing Black to resolve the tension to White’s advantage. 6...Qg5 Over the board inspiration? Black’s game lacks dynamic chances after 6...Nxc3 7.bxc3 c5, but the text cedes a large center for free. 7...Qxe2 Qxg5 8.Qxd5 exd5 9.Qd4 Qe7 10.Qe3 O–O 11.O–O–O A sharp decision. White wins with a kingside pawn storm. Thus he must only prevent a hit to his center. The text annuls ...c7-c5.

h6-pawn! If 16.Bxb5 or 16.Nxb5 Rb8!, it is ev-

out it, White plays alone. A move 15.f4! 14.b5 A courageous offer by Timman. Most GMs are loath to offer a pawn to Korchnoi. But here a pawn sacrifice is necessary. Without it, White plays alone. 15.Qc2 Winning the h6-pawn! If 16.Bxb5 or 16.Nxb5 Rb8!, it is evident that Black has reasonable counterattacking chances. White shouldn’t be distracted from his own designs. 15...b8 Again well played. White had added Qe2xb5 to his menu of possibilities. The text envisages opening the b-file to White’s King. 16.Qd3 g6 17.Qh6 b4 Masterful. Timman recognizes that timing is crucial. 17...Re8? 18.h4 b4 19.axb4 gives White several tempi over the game. The position is not about material, it’s about King safety. That means cutthroat chess. 18.axb4 Qxb4 19.Qg3 A crucial moment. The ensuing positions do not work out well for White. His Queen is misplaced and his kingside attack grinds to a halt. Better is 19.Bxf8. 19...Qh4 But this is the rub. Black hits the Queen and forces her to a bad square. Additionally, the Bh4 does a nice job of delaying White’s h-pawn attack. In passing, White’s threat of Bc2xg6 is stopped. A move with multiple bonuses! 20.Qf4 c6 An easy move to second-guess. Black defends his d5-pawn and opens the way for ...Qd8-b6. However, 20...Be6 offers much the same, while developing a piece. 21.Qc1 Played after a long think. Korchnoi completely underestimates Timman’s threats. His idea of Rd1-e1-c3-g3 is far too slow. It also leaves the d-pawn vulnerable. Better is 21.Bxf8 Bg5 22.Bxb4. 21...e6 22.Qc3 c5 Classical chess. An attack on the flank is best met by a counter in the center. 23.Qxf8 Qg5 24.Qg3 Qxf8 White’s game is a wreck. With time-trouble to boot, the end is clear.

b4...h6 26.h5 g5 27.Qa2 Qb8 Played without hesitation. Timman wants to keep his pressure on the b2- pawn. Still, 27...Rxd4 is much better for Black. I see no defense against ideas like ...Na5-c4 and ...g5-g4. 28.dxc5 Qg4 29.Qa1 Qc4 30.Qb3 Qd2+ 31.Qa1 @xb3+ 32.Qxb3 Wxa5 Black has great pressure for his two pawns, but I felt White could draw with 33.Bc2 d4 34.Qa3 Qxa3 35.bxa3 Bd7 36.Re1 Qb5 37.Nb4 Qxc5 38.Kb1 etc. With his flag flying high, Korchnoi uncorks a howler. 33.Qd1 Qxb5 The game is over now. 34.Qd3 Qf5 35.Bd5 Qb3+ 36.Qxb3 Qxb3 37.c6 Qd3 38.Qb4 Qd5 39.Qxh8 Qxe8 40.Qb6+ Qg8 41.f3 Qxf3 42.Qxf3 Qg6 43.Bf8 Qg8 44.Qb4 Be5 45.Qh7 Qe5 46.Ba4 Qe3 47.Bh6 Qc6 48.Qb8 Qe4 Qb4 49.h3 Qc4 50.g4 Qd5 51.Qh6 Qe5 52.Qc2 Qf4 White Resigns.

Salamanca 1991 0-1 A19

White makes some dubious moves in the opening, but he is able to recover.

1.c4 Qf6 2.Qc3 e6 3.e4 d5 These days 3...c5 4.e5 Ng8 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.d4 Qxd4 7.Qxd4 Nxe5 8.Nd5 is considered a fearsome pawn sacrifice, especially in the hands of Kasparov. 4.Qe5 Qxe4 5.Qf3 Qe7 6.Qc2 Forcing Black to resolve the tension to White’s advantage.

4.exd6 Qxd6 5.Qf3 Nc6 6.d4 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nxe5 8.Qd5 This is the rub. Black hits the Queen and forces her to a bad square. Additionally, the Bh4 does a nice job of delaying White’s h-pawn attack. In passing, White’s threat of Bc2xg6 is stopped. A move with multiple bonuses! 20.Qf4 c6 An easy move to second-guess. Black defends his d5-pawn and opens the way for ...Qd8-b6. However, 20...Be6

○ Korchnoi, V.

Salamanca 1991 0-1 A19

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1.c4 Qf6 2.Qc3 e6 3.e4 c5 4.Qe5 Qg8 5.Qf3 d6 6.exd6 Qxd6 7.Qxd4 Qxd4 8.Qxd4 c6 9.Qe3 Qf6 10.Qf3 O–O 11.O–O–O The King is very exposed on the queenside. 11...Qd7 Preventing 12.g4 due to 12...Qe5. 12.Qh1 If 12.Qxe6, then 12...fxe6 13.Rxe6 Ne8. 12.Qh3 c7 13.Qc3 Not 13.Nd5? axb5 14.Nxb5 Qa5. 13...Qe5 14.Qe2 Qd7 15.Qc3 Better is 15.Bf4. 15...Qg6 16.Qg3 Qe5 17.Qf2 Qc3 18.Qh6 Qc8 19.Qxc3 e5 Black is a bit better because his King is safer than White’s. 20.h4 Qh5 21.Qd6 Qe8 22.Qc5 Qc6 23.Qg3 e4 24.Qh2 exf3 Better is 24...Qb8. 25.Qxf3 Qf5 26.Qd3 Qxf3 27.Qxf3 Qxf3 28.Qg1 Qa8 Better is 28...Ng4. Now White is able to restore the equilbrium. 29.Qg6 fxg6 30.Qxg6 Qc6 31.Qxc6 Qxc6 32.Qc7

○ Korchnoi, V.

Salamanca 1991 0-1 A19

White makes some dubious moves in the opening, but he is able to recover.

1.c4 Qf6 2.Qc3 e6 3.e4 c5 4.Qe5 Qg8 5.Qf3 d6 6.exd6 Qxd6 7.Qxd4 Qxd4 8.Qxd4 c6 9.Qe3 Qf6 10.Qf3 O–O 11.O–O–O The King is very exposed on the queenside. 11...Qd7 Preventing 12.g4 due to 12...Qe5. 12.Qh1 If 12.Qxe6, then 12...fxe6 13.Rxe6 Ne8. 12.Qh3 c7 13.Qc3 Not 13.Nd5? axb5 14.Nxb5 Qa5. 13...Qe5 14.Qe2 Qd7 15.Qc3 Better is 15.Bf4. 15...Qg6 16.Qg3 Qe5 17.Qf2 Qc3 18.Qh6 Qc8 19.Qxc3 e5 Black is a bit better because his King is safer than White’s. 20.h4 Qh5 21.Qd6 Qe8 22.Qc5 Qc6 23.Qg3 e4 24.Qh2 exf3 Better is 24...Qb8. 25.Qxf3 Qf5 26.Qd3 Qxf3 27.Qxf3 Qxf3 28.Qg1 Qa8 Better is 28...Ng4. Now White is able to restore the equilbrium. 29.Qg6 fxg6 30.Qxg6 Qc6 31.Qxc6 Qxc6 32.Qc7

○ Korchnoi, V.

Salamanca 1991 0-1 A19

White makes some dubious moves in the opening, but he is able to recover.
Both players were in time pressure here. 34...g5 f7 35.e5 Correct is 35.Re5. 35...e8 36.xb7 e4 37.a5 xh4 38.b4 This pins the c-pawn, which he needs to start advancing. Better is 38.Ka3. 38...e4 39.xc5 h4 40.b6 h3 41.c5 e2 42.c6 b2+ White has good chances after 42...h2 43.Bxh2 Rxh2 44.c7. 43.a7 b5 Not 43...h2 44.c7 h1=Q 45.c1=Q with an unclear position. Now White is in trouble because his Bishop is pinned to his Rook. 44.c7 xc7 45.xg7+ f8 46.g5 e8 White Resigns. There is no defense to 47...h2.

1-0

○ Korchnoi, V.  
● Timman, J.  
?

4th Match Game, Brussels  
1991 1/2-1/2 A19

White sacrifices a pawn in the opening which has been known to give him dangerous attacking chances. Black gives the pawn back to transpose into the endgame.

1.e4 e5 2...c6 3.d4 c5 4.e5 g5 5.f3 c6 6.d4 cxd4 7.exd4 e4 8.cxd5 9.b6 10.axb6 11.xb6 12.b5 f6 13.b4 e7 Better is 13...Qe7. 14.c5 xc5 15.O-O Qc5 16.c3 c6 Sacrificing the pawn back to break the bind that White has on the position. 17...xc6 It is better to retain this Bishop with 17.Ba3. The d-pawn is weak and cannot be held in any case. 17...xf6 18.Bxd6 19.Qd7 20.e3 Re8 21.Bh3 Underestimating Black’s next move. Better is 21.Bg2. 21.c5 Now White has trouble with his advanced c-pawn. 22.hd1 Qd8 23.g2 xe5 24.dxe5 b6 25.Qf2 Qd4 26.Qf3 Be7 27.g3 Qd2 28.f4 Fixing Black’s pawn weaknesses. 28...b5 29.e1 h6 30.d4 b4 31.c1 g5 32.a3 xg4 33.Bd3 34.xe4 35.d4 xe4 36.dxe4 c3 37.Qd2 a6 38.Qc3 xe5 39.bxc3 d4 40.Qe4 d5+ 41.Qd3 Qd6 42.Bc1 e5 43.Qa6 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

○ Salov, V.  
● Beliauskas, A.  
?

Linares  
1991 1-0 A14

Salov makes a gutsy but dubious sacrifice, then gets lucky. This game is a testimony to never giving up.
○ Shirov, A.
○ Nunn, J.

Germany
1992  1-0  E99
A Latvian GM and English GM square off in the German chess club league.

1.d4  f5 2.c4  g6 3.d3  c5 4.e3  d6 5.f3  O-O 6.e2  e5 7.0-0  c6  8.d5  e7 9.d2  a5 10.a3  d7 11.b1  f5 12.b4  h8 13.f3  g8 14.e2  c6 15.h5  axb4 16.axb4  h5 17.g3  d6 18.e5  c5 19.b3  h6 20.e3  d4 21.cxd6
A Kasparov novelty that he worked out in his home laboratory.
21.cxd6 Taking the Bishop is dubious: 21.gxf4?!  Nxf4. Black threatens 22...Nxe5+ as well as 22...Nf5 followed by 23...Qg5+.
21...cxd5 22.hxg3 White can throw it in after 22...Qh5.
22...dxc3 23.Nf3 Threatening 24.Bxf5 with a discovered attack on the Bishop.
23...a5 24.a3  a6 25.b4  e6 White is threatening to control the important a1-h8 diagonal with 25.Rc1 Bb4 26.Bb2.
25...h4 26.e6 Not 26.Rc1? due to 26...Ng3+ 27.hxg3 hxg3 28.Rxe3 Rxf4 winning the Knight on g5.
26...c6 If 26...Bxe6, then 27.Nxe6 Rxe6 28.Qxe6+ Nf7 29.dxe6 wins.
27.Qh7+  g8 28.d3  xg6 29.hxg6+ gaining control of the a1-h8 diagonal. White now threatens Bb2 and Ne4.
29...g8 30.h2 Black Resigns. If 30...Bxh7, then 31.Ne6+ wins the Queen.
1-0

○ Gurevich, M.
○ Gelfand, B.

Munich
1992  1/2-1/2  E97
1.e4  f5 2.e3  c6 3.d3  g6 4.g3  d6 5.d3  O-O White’s move order is used to reach the King’s Indian Defense positions without allowing the Grunfeld Defense, in which Black plays ...d7-d5.
6.e2  e5 7.0-0  c5 8.d5  e7 9.d2  a5 10.a3  d7 11.b1  f5 12.b4  h8 13.0-0  c6 14.e3  c5 15.d3  f6 16.b5  b6 17.0-0  b2 18.g2  e8 19.g4  fxg3 20.hxg3  g4 21.fxg4  g5 22.d3  d6 23.e3  xg4 24.dxe5  h3 25.e6  axb4
26.f2 bxa3 27.axa3  h6 28.e5  dxe5 29.cxe5

○ Kasparov, G.
○ Karpov, A.

Germany
1992  1-0  E94
Black sacrifices a piece for a kingside attack, but will it work?
1.d4 ԑf6 2.c4 ԑg6 3.ԑc3 ԑg7 4.e4 O–O 5.ԑe2 d6 6.ԑf3 ԑe5 7.0–0 ԑa6 8.ԑc3 ԑg4 9.ԑe5 ԑe8 10.ԑxe5 ԑxe5 11.h3 ԑh6 12.ԑc1 ԑf6 13.ԑe3 ԑh5 Moving the Knight to the outpost on f4. 14.ԑc4 ԑf4 15.ԑb5 ԑe6 16.ԑe1 16.Qa4? Not 16.Nf5 d4 17.Nfxd4 at the end pares the shot 20.Nxc6 bxc6 21.Nxa7 winning a pawn. Currently this fails to ...d5-d4 at the end of the line, when the e2-Bishop ends up hanging. 19...ԑh6 This is the rub. Black has beautiful moves in the opening. 1-0

Gelfand, B. 
Kasparov, G. 1992 0-1 E92

Gelfand tries to improve on a game that Kasparov had in the previous world championship. 

1.d4 ԑf6 2.c4 ԑg6 3.ԑc3 ԑg7 4.e4 d6 5.ԑe2 O–O 6.ԑf3 ԑe5 7.0–0 ԑc6 8.ԑd2 exd4 Black plays for a counterattack against the e4-pawn. If that fails White will be able to obtain a bind. 9.ԑxd4 ԑe8 10.f3 ԑd5 11.ԑxd5 ԑxe5 12.0–0 ԑc6 13.c5 White will try to convert his control of the d6- and d4-squares into outposts for his pieces. 13...ԑxc8 Black’s main compensation for the exchange will be his powerful King Bishop. 14.ԑxc8 ԑf8 15.ԑeb5 This is the novelty that Gelfand had prepared. Karpov played 15.Nxc6 against Kasparov in the 1990 world championship. 15...ԑxc5 16.ԑa1 Not 16.Nf5? 17.Qb6 and White loses material. 16...ԑb6 17.ԑd7 Black needs to start immediate activity while White’s pieces are unstable in the center of the board. 18.ԑd1 ԑe8 19.ԑf1 White prepares the shot 20.Nxc6 bxc6 21.Nxa7 winning a pawn. Currently this fails to ...d5-d4 at the end of the line, when the e2-Bishop ends up hanging. 19...ԑh6 This is the rub. Black has beautiful dark-square play. White has to deal with the twin threats of ...Bh6xc1 and ...Bh6-e3. Black has seized the initiative. 20.ԑc3 ԑb4 21.ԑc2 Perhaps the decisive error. White plays into an ending but underestimates the dangers. Better is 21.a3. 21...ԑxf2+ 22.ԑf1 ԑxc2 23.ԑxc2 ԑe3+ 24.ԑe1 Not 24.Kg3 because of 24...g5. If 25.h3, then 25.Bg1 leads to mate and 25.h4 is also bad after 25...Nh5+ 26.Kh2 Bf4+ 27.Kg1 gxh4. 24...ԑf4+ 25.ԑf2 ԑe3+ 26.ԑe1 ԑg1+ 27.ԑd2 ԑxh2 With two pawns for the exchange Black has a large advantage in the ending. 28.ԑe1 ԑd8 An important principle in such positions is to avoid exchanging the major pieces when an exchange down. The extra major piece acts as an important defender. Also, the difference in strength between Rooks and minors are emphasized when the minors have to face the Rook alone. 29.ԑd1 ԑf4 30.ԑd4 ԑa6 31.ԑd3 ԑh5 For Black to win he has to create targets in White’s camp. This means pounding out some outposts on the kingside. 32.ԑa3 ԑh4 33.ԑc2 ԑg3 34.ԑe2 ԑg7 35.ԑb3 ԑb8 Not 35...Bc8? 36.Re7 Kf8 37.Reb7 and White has good chances to draw. 36.ԑd2 ԑb5 Black wants to give his Rook a bit more operating space. The a6-weakness is easily covered. 37.ԑa3 ԑb6 38.ԑb4 ԑd6 39.ԑb3 ԑb5 40.ԑe2 ԑe6 Since the ending began, Kasparov has played masterfully. White’s pieces are still clumsy, the Rooks are ineffective and the Bishop hasn’t arrived on b3 in time to harass the d5-pawn. Meanwhile Black has taken a grip on the Kingside and is ready to increase the pressure on. 40.ԑe2 ԑe6 41.a3 ԑg5 42.ԑd4 ԑf6 43.ԑxe6 White would lose quickly after 43.Rc3 Bf4 44.Re2 Be5 45.Rd2 Nf4. 43...ԑxe6 44.ԑd3 ԑf4 45.ԑe3 ԑd4 As Bobby Fischer once said, “To get squares, you gotta give squares.” Black stakes a claim for the e3- and c3-squares, while White gets e4 and others. Black makes the better deal. 46.ԑe8 ԑd5 47.ԑe2 ԑg4 47.Re2 Ne5+ 48.Ke1 would have held out longer. 47...ԑf4 48.ԑc2 ԑe3 49.ԑf2 White gives back the exchange, hoping that he will have chances in the ending with opposite colored Bishops. 49...ԑg3+ 50.ԑg1 ԑxc2 51.ԑxc2 ԑg4 Played in order to get connected passed pawns. If White tries 52.Be4 gxf3 53.gxf3 h3 54.Rc6 Rxc6 55.Bxc6 d3 wins because of the outside passed pawn. 52.ԑxf4 ԑg5 53.ԑf1 ԑe5 54.ԑc2 ԑxd4 55.ԑe8 ԑf6 56.ԑd4 Better was 56.Rg8+ 57.ԑf1 ԑf4 58.ԑb8+ ԑh5 59.ԑd5 ԑg5 60.ԑc4 ԑxg2 Adjourned but White resigned without resuming. After 60.Kxe5 Bf6+ 61.Kxf6 Rxf8 62.Bxg8 d3 is a case of the overworked Bishop. Another very impressive game by
Kasparov.
0-1

○ Timman, J.
● Kasparov, G.
Linares
Spain
1992
0-1

Even against his most serious rivals Kasparov carries risk strategy to the maximum. In one of the strongest series of the decade, he was undefeated and led the field by a clear 2 points.

1.d4  ♗f6 2.c4  ♗e6 3.d3  ♗g7 4.e4  d6 5.f3
O-O 6.♗e3  ♘e5 7.d5 Establishing a giant pawn wall to constrict Black. 7...♗h5 8.♕d2  f5
9.0-0 O-O 10.♗d3  ♘c5 A provocative innovation. 10...♘d6 is usual. Now, with both sides on opposite wings, savage attacks can be expected.

11.♗c2 a6 12.♕e2 b5 13.b4 ♗d7 14.cxb5 axb5
15.♗xb5 ♘xa2 16.♗e3 ♘a8 17.♗b2 ♗df6
18.♗e7 ♗xe4 19.♗c6 ♗d7 20.g4 Overreaching. Better is the humble 20. ♗xe4. 20...♗f5 21.g5 ♗xd5 A surprise. Inferior is 21...♗h5. 22.♗xe4 dominating the board. 22.♗xd5 ♘d3+ Of course not 22...♕x6?? 23.♘e7+ 23.♗xd3 ♕b4
24.♕e7+ ♗h8 25.♗xc8 ♗e4+ White Resigns. If 26.♗h3 ♗a4+ 27.♔c2 ♗b5
26.♗f6 ♗b5 27.♗b1 ♘c7 38.♗b7 Better is the ending because of Black's weaknesses at a5 and d6. 20.♗d2 ♗xc1 21.♗xc1 ♘c8+ 22.♗b1 ♗f8 23.b3 ♘c7 24.♗b2 ♘c3 Better is 24...♕b7.
25.♗e1 Black is unable to defend his position after the exchange of Rooks. 25...♗xc1+ A better fighting chance was 25...♕xc5 26.bxc5 ♕g8 27.♗e4 ♘c7 28.f5 ♘c5 29...♗e5 Also losing is 30...♕xh4 31.♕xg5 ♖g7 32.Nc4 and the pawn on a5 falls. 31...♗g7 32...♖x5 ♗xe5 33.♖c4 ♗e8 34.d6+ ♗d8 35.d7 ♗xd7 36.♖xd7 ♘b7 37.♘xa5 ♘c7 38.♘c4 Black Resigns. Black's King is tied down to the passed a-pawn and his Bishop is completely shut-in, hence White's King and Knight will be free to roam the board picking up Black's pawns.
0-1

○ Lautier, J.
● Bologan, V.
?
Manila
1992
1-0

The young French Champion, Joel Lautier, uses a swarm of Knights to win this game, played in the Olympiad, or international team tournament, in Manila. The Philippines have a long chess history and many strong players, it is also the home of the president of FIDE (the international chess federation), Florencio Campomanes.

1.c4  ♗f6 2.♘c3  ♗e6 3.e4  d6 4.d4  ♗g7 5.f3
O-O 6.♗e3  ♘bd7 7.♘c3  ♗c6 8.♗d2  ♗e5 9.♘f2  ♗e6
10.♗xe4  ♗xc4 11.♗d1  ♗d5 12.♗xd5 Black Resigns. In this type of position arising from the King’s Indian Defense, Black seeks compensation for his weak d-pawn in Queenside expansion and active play. Lautier shows in this game that White is not without a certain activity, too.

13.a3 ♗xc4 14.♗xc4 ♗d5 15.♘a2 ♗b7 16.0-0 ♘c7 17.♗e1 ♘bd8 18.e5 A good plan to push Black's pieces out of position and ultimately weaken his Kingside. 18...♗e8 19.e6 ♗xe6 20.♗xe6 ♗e6
21.♗e1 ♗f7 22.b4 And this blocking move prevents ...♖c6-c5. 22...♗a5 23.♗a4 ♘xb4 24.axb4
♗a8 25.♗b3 ♗f8 26.♗e5 ♗c8 27.♗xf6 ♗xf6 28.♗xf6 ♗xf6 29.♗e5 Spurning the chance to regain the sacrificed material with 29...♘b6. 29...♖f7 30.♗e4 ♗c7 31.♗xb2 ♗g7 Necessary to prevent 32...♖b6 mate! 32.♗f6+ ♗f7 33.♗a4 ♖h6 34.♗g4 ♗h8 35.♗f6+ ♗h7 36.♗e8 ♗xe8 37.♗xe8 ♖f7 38.♖e5 ♖h5 39.♖b6 ♖d7 40.♗xf8+ ♗h7 41.♗xd7 Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Bareev, E.
● Shirov, A.
?
Dortmund
1992
1-0

A positional masterpiece.

1.d4  ♗f6 2.c4  ♗g6 3.♗c3  ♗g7 4.e4  d6 5.♗c2
O-O 6.♗g5 ♗h6 7.♗e3 ♗b7 8.♗d7  ♘e5 9.d5 c6
10.h4 h5 Allowing h4-h5 would weaken Black’s kingside. 11.♖h3 ♗xd5 12.cxd5 ♖a6 13.♗g5 ♖b8 14.♗f4 If 14...♖b6, then 15.a5 is strong. White would later like to maneuver his Knight to c6 via a2 and b4. 15.♗d1 a5 16.♖c1 ♗b7 17.♗c7 ♗b8 18.♗b5 ♗c8 19.♖xb8 ♘xb8 White is better in the ending because of Black’s weaknesses at a5 and d6. 20.♗d2 ♗xc1 21.♗xc1 ♗c8+ 22.♗b1 ♗f8 23.h3 ♗e7 24.♗b2 ♘c3 Better is 24...♖e5. 25.♖c1 Black is unable to defend his position after the exchange of Rooks. 25...♗xh7+ 26...♗xh7 Black Resigns. A better fighting chance was 25...♖xd5 26.exd5 ♗xd5 27.♗e4 ♗g7 28.♖xe5 ♗xe5 29...♗xe5 Also losing is 30...♖xh4 31.♖xg5 ♖g7 32.Nc4 and the pawn on a5 falls. 31...♖xg5 ♗e5 32.♗xe5 ♖xe5 33.♖c4 ♗e8 34.♖e6+ ♗d8 35.♖d5 ♗xd7 36.♖xd7 ♗bd7 37...♘xa5 ♘c7 38.♘c4 Black Resigns. Black’s King is tied down to the passed a-pawn and his Bishop is completely shut-in, hence White’s King and Knight will be free to roam the board picking up Black’s pawns.
1-0

○ Hubner, R.
● Kasparov, G.
Dortmund (6)
Germany
1992
1-0

Kasparov managed to hold back a field of hungry lions by tying for first with Ivanchuk at 6-3. The sensation of the tournament was the first-ever victory of veteran Robert Hubner over the reigning
world champion. A wild and wooly midgame is typical tactical chess at its best.

1.d4  Qf6 2.c4  g6 3.g3  Bg7 4.g2  O-O 5.e3  d6 6.e3  Bb7 7.O-O  e5 8.e4  c6 9.h3  Qb6 10.c5 Leads to great complications. More usual is 10. d5  Nc5. 10...dxc5 11.dxe5  a6 12.Qa4  Wa6 13.Qb5  b4 14.Qc3  Qe7 15.Qe7  Wf8 16.Qd6  Qe7 17.a4  b4 18.Qe2  Qa5 19.Qd2  a6 20.f4  c4 21.Qc6  Qb6 23.Qd1 f8 24.Qf3  c3 25.Qxd4  Qxd4 26.Qxd4  cxb2 27.Qxb2  Qxb3 28.Qb3  Qb6 29.a5  Qb7 30.Qxf8  Qxf8 31.e6  Qc4 32.Qf3  Qg7 33.exf7+  Qxf7 34.Qc6  xd1 35.Qd1  Qxe5 36.Qd5  Qc4 37.Qc2  Qg4 Leads to a lost endgame. 37...b3! offers much better chances to survive...

8.hxg4  e2+ 9.Wxe2  Qxe2 40.Qf7  Qxf7 41.Qc4  b3 42.Qxa7  b2 43.Qa2  c2 44.Qg2  g6 45.Qf3  Qe7 46.Qd3  b1=Q 47.Qxb1  Qxb1 48.Qb5  Qd7 49.Qa6  Qe6 50.Qf5 Black Resigns. If 50...gx5 51...gx5 Bx5 52. N6d6! and the threat of a7-a8 is decisive.

1-0

Seirawan, Y.

Mecling, H.

Sao Paulo

1992 1-0 D85

Mecling is widely considered to be the greatest Latin American chess talent since Capablanca. A debilitating disease forced him to retire but he is now making a comeback.

1.d4  Qf6 2.c4  g6 3.Qc3  d5 4.exd5  Qxd5 5.e4  Qxc3 6.bxc3  Qg7 7.Qf3  c5 8.Qb1  a6 9.Qe2  Qa4 10.O-O Sacrificing a pawn to gain time in development. 10...Qxa2 11.Qg5 Making it difficult for Black to castle. 11...Qa5 12.Qxc1  Qd7 13.e5  Qd8 Worth considering is 13...Qc7 followed by b6 and ...b7. 14.Qd1 cxd4 15.Qxd4 Qh6 If 15...Qe4, then White gets a strong attack with 16.Bf4 followed by Rh4. 15...Qc4 16.Qd2 Qd7 17.Qc1 Qc4 18.Qd4  Qxd4 19.Qc4  d6 20.Qe2  Qe6 21.Qe2 Qc6 22.Qc4 Qd8 23.Qxe6+ Qd6 24.Qg7 25.Qe2 Qd8 26.Qd8 Qc7 27.Qg7 Qf8 28.Qd6 Qf6 29.Qg7 Qg6 30.Qg6 Qg6 31.Qg6 Qe4 32.Qxd1 Qxg2 33.Qxg2 Black has no good defense left. 33...Qf8 34.Qh5+ Qd8 35.Qxe5 Qc6 36.Qd1+ Qe8 37.Qd5 Qg6 38.Qd4 b6 39.Qxh8 Qd7 40.Qg3 Black Resigns. White will play 41.Qe5 threatening 42.Qf6+ and 42.Qb8+.

1-0

For further details, please refer to the source material.
1992 1-0 D88

A piece sacrifice turns the tables.
1.d4 2.e4 g6 3.d3 d5 4.cxd5 5.e4
1...exd5 6.bxc3 7.g7 8.e5 9.e3
0-0 10...a5 11...d3 e5 12.d5 b6 13.0-O
Better is 13.c4. 13...f5 14.f3 f4 15.d2 c4 16.e2
h5 This weakens the g6 square. Better is 16...g5.
17.g3 18...h1 19...h8 19...e1 20...f2
21...g1 22...f7 Better is either 21...fxg3 or
21...Bh6. 22.gxf4 xf4 23...xf4 This piece
sacrifice will deflect Black’s Queen away from
the important f4 square. 23...xf4 24.e5
If 24...Qd8, then 25.e6 Rf8 26.Rc1 Bf6 27.Rg6
25.b4 Qf5 If 25...Bd7, then 26.Rg5
26...xb5+ g6 27...xf5 wxf5 27...Rxf5
28.Rxg7+ Kg7 29.Rg1+ wins. 28...xg7+ xg7
29...g1+...f8 The move 29...Kf6 would have
held out longer, although White is much better after
30.Qh4+ Ke5 31.Rg5. 30...hb5+ g7 31...xa8
26...d6 If 31...Qd3, then 32.Qxa7+ Kf6 33.Qxb6+
32...e1 Bringing the Bishop into play via
a3. 32...g7 If 32...Ke5, then 33.a4 followed by
34.Ba3+ wins. 33...a3+...d5 34...e8 Black
Resigns. There is no defense to 35.Rg5 Qxg5
36.Qe4#.

1-0

- Nikolic, Pr.
- Epishin, V.

Wijk aan Zee 1992 1/2-1/2 E60

A great fighting game between two of the world’s
top Grandmasters.
1.d4 2.e4 d6 3.c3 g6 4.g3 c5 5.d5 d6
6...g2 a6 7.a4 e5 8.dxe6...xe6 9...g5...c4
9...Ng6 10.Nxe6 fxe6 11.Nc4 is slightly better for
White. 10...d2 e6 11...b7 12...g2
O-O 13...e5 fxe6 14.O-O c5 15...b5 d5
16.e4...e5 17...b3 c4 18...d4...b6 19.a5 Not
19...dxe5 dxe5 20.Be3 Neg4 21.Bf4 Ne4 with
advantage to Black. Now Black appears to be in
trouble. He needs to keep his e-pawn guarded,
but 19...Qd6 20.f4 followed by e5 loses a piece.
19...d6 20.f4...e4 Black gets good
compensation for the sacrificed piece. 21...f5 Not
24.Bd7 with a large advantage to Black.
21...xf1+ 22.wxf1...xe5 23...f3...d6 24.e3
25.wc1...b4 Threatening 26...Nc3. 26...h3
c3 27...xe6...h8 28...xb3...xb1 29...xb1
30...g2...b2+ 31...f1...b5 32...b6
26...c3 33...d7...b2 34...e6 White has just
enough resources to hold the position. 34...f6
35...xa6 c3 36...e1 c2 37...xc2...xc2 38...b7
b2 39...xd5...g7 40.a6...xb6 41.a7...a6
42.a8=Q= 43...xa8 44...xa8 Draw by Agreement.
1/2-1/2

Shirov, A.
- Georgiev, Kir.

Biel 1992 0-1 E25

Sometimes there is no justice. In this game,
poor Alexi Shirov must have been asking himself,
"What did I do wrong?" as his pawn-grabbing
is punished by an old-fashioned King hunt.
1.d4 2.e6 3...c3...b d4 4.f3 d5 5.a3...c3+ 6...b3
c5 7.exd5 8.wd3 White’s Queen
is vulnerable to attack on this square, but he had
to defend the c3-pawn in order to advance e2-e4.
8...b6 9.e4 a6 10...d2...xf1 11...xf1
e7 12...e2...b6 And Black has taken advantage
of the situation to prevent White from castling.
Now White’s strong center could provide him
some King safety, but rather than settle for quiet
position-building, he sets off on a material quest
that leaves his King in grave danger. 13...e8 14.wc3
O-O 15...b6...d8 16...xb2...xa6 17...b1
...e5 With the capture of the d3 square, Black rules
the board. The loss of material is an unimportant
consequence. 18.wb6...c4 19...c3...d3+
20...g3 f5 21...g5...d7 22...d4 f4+ And the
board played "Waltzing Matilda..." 23...h4...g6+
24...h5...f8 25...c6...a2 26...h1 White can’t
even afford to capture a whole Rook, as Black’s
Queen would gain decisive proximity to the White
King. 26...e5 27...ea8...f7+ 28...h4 b6 29.g4
hxg5+ 30...h3 exd4 31...xc4...f2+ 32...g2...a2
Threatening a big discovered check. 33...b8
...d3+ 34...h1...e2 35...g1...xd4 36...b3+
...h7 37...b5...d6 Iden:...Rh6 and mate. 38.h4
g6 39...xf5...hx4 40...xb4+...h6 41...hx6?
White Resigns.
0-1

Shirov, A.
- Karpov, An.

Biel 1992 0-1 E25

Shirov uses the same line against Karpov that
he used without success in his game with Kiril
Georgiev. Karpov varies first, but he wins anyway.
Will these youngsters never learn?
1.d4 2.c4 e6 3...c3...b 4.f3 d5 5.a3...c3+
6...xc3 e5 7.exd5...xd5 8...d6 9.e4
32...Rdd7. and Rdd7. then White doubles on the seventh with 30.Re7

The famous "Bishop Pair" are not to be underestimated. Strong in the middle game, they are even more effective when facing two Knights on an open board in the end game stage. Such is the case here.

1.d4 e6 10.dxe6 fxe6 11.Qe2 Qc6 12.Qe2 Qc6 13.dxc5 Qc7 Georgiev was happy with 13...Qxe6. 14.Qf4 e5 15.Qg4 O-O 16.Qf2 Qa5 17.Qxb6 Qxb6+ 18.Qe3 Qxe6 19.Qd1 Qd4 20.g5 f6 21.Qc1 b6+ 22.Qg3 f5 23.exf5 Qxf5+ 24.Qh3 c6 25.Qxe3 Qxe3 26.Qe4 Qe6+ 27.Qg3 Qxd1 So much for White's extra pawn. It is clear that King safety is much more important than the material in this opening.

The famous "Bishop Pair" are not to be underestimated. Strong in the middle game, they are even more effective when facing two Knights on an open board in the end game stage. Such is the case here.

Black Resigns.
? 1st Match Game, Linares 1992 1-0 A52

The first game of the quarterfinal world championship match. Short shocks everyone by playing a dubious opening.

1.d4 مستشفى e5 2.c4 The Budapest Gambit is unsound. Nigel must’ve found something in Karpov’s historical record against this opening that he liked. 3.dxe5 象xe5 4.Qf3 e5 5.Qh5 象c6 6.Qxc6+ bxc6 A conservative choice championed by Akiba Rubinstein. White gains the two Bishops and a better game.

6.Qa7! Qe8 22.Rab1 winning when the Bishop pops out to the c6-square, it attack. But the b7-square is a light square, mean-

...Qe7-e4. The text pins the Bishop preventing this connected with the moves ...Bd7-c6, ...Re6-g6, and It’s clear that Black’s only source of counterplay is 20...

Rc8 21.Qd5! is very unpleasant for Black. An extra pawn, active spirit that he nearly saves the game! Play on.

20...Qf6 21.c4 e5 22.Qd4 Qe5 or 22.Bf3 Bxf3 23.Nxf3 b5 20...Qxe7+ We can already speak about the position as being won for White. An extra pawn, active Queen, solid King...It’s to Nigel’s credit and fighting spirit that he nearly saves the game! Play on.

20...Qe8 21.Bb7 Right idea, wrong execution. It’s clear that Black’s only source of counterplay is connected with the moves ...Bd7-c6,...Re6-g6, and ...Qe7-e4. The text pins the Bishop preventing this attack. But the b7-square is a light square, meaning when the Bishop pops out to the c6-square, it is with tempo. Simplest was 21.Qa7! Qe8 22.Rab1 Bc6 23.Rb8, exchanging pieces while eyeing the a5- and c5-kids. 21...Qe8 22.Qb1 h5 Naturally Black makes White’s life as difficult as possible. Now, should Black achieve ...Re6-g6 and ...Bd6-c6, the defense Bf4-g3 runs into ...h5-h4. Black also avoids 22...Bc6? 23.Qxc8 Qxc8 24.Rb8 exchanging pieces. 23.f3 While in the long run this is a likely precaution, perhaps 23.h4! first would better neutralize matters. 23...Qd6 24.Qb2 h4 25.h3 f5 26.Qh2 Qg6 27.Qc3 a4 28.f2 象ce8 29.Qd1 象f5 30.Qe2 象g6 31.Qf1 Qf6 Overcoming the horrible opening hasn’t been easy, but Karpov’s do-nothing approach has allowed Short to do well. He now threatens ...g7-g5 and the question of who’s better comes to mind. 32.Qb2 象e7 I suspect that Karpov was in time pressure and that Short was entertaining the possibility of winning. After 32...Kf7, in order to ensure ...g7-g5, Black should draw comfortably. 33.Qd2 g5

34.Qd6 象f7 35.Qxc5 g4 36.Qxg4 fxg4 37.Qd2 象h5 When declining the Queen swap, Short undoubtedly had visualized the diagrammed position and thought it was yummy. The c5-Bishop hangs as does the h3-pawn - the drawbridge to White’s monarch. Sadly for Short, White has a powerful answer in ...

38.Qe2 Indirectly protecting the c5-Bishop, e.g., 38...Qxc5 39.Qxg4+ Kh8 40.Qxh4+! (if 40.Rf7, then 40...Bxg2+ gives some kicking chances) 40...Kg7 (now 40...Kg8 41.Qg4+ Kh8 42.Rf7 is fatal, since White has picked up the h4-pawn gratis) 41.Rf7+ Kxf7 42.Qh7+ Kf6 43.Rf1+ Ke5 44.Qf5+ Kd6 46.Rd1+ wins the Queen. 38...Qf6 A time-trouble mistake which lightens White’s task, Black still has some attack after 38...Re4, avoiding exchanges. 39.Qd6 The clincher. White offers a piece exchange. 39...Qe4 The last lemon of a bad day. Certainly Black can try 39...Rxh6 40.Bxh6 Qg6 41.Qxg4 Qxg4 42.hxg4 h5 with chances. 40.Qb8 象h7 41.Qf7+ 象g7 42.Qg7+ 象xg7 43.Qb2+ Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Adams, M.
• Kasparov, G.

? Dortmund 1992 0-1 D45

20 year old Michael Adams is fast becoming one of the top players in the world, but he is still no match for the world champion.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Qc3 c5 4.e3 f6 5.Qf3 象bd7 6.Qc2 象d6 7.Qg4 White does not hide his aggressive intentions. 7...dxc4 7...Nxc4? 8.Qg1 just favorably opens lines for White. 8.Qe4 Better is 8.Bxc4. 8...Qe5 9.g5 exd4 10.Qxd4 Qg6 If 10...Qxg6, then 10...Qxg6 attacks both Knights. 10...Qe5 11.h3 11.Qf5? Nd5 12.Nxg6+ Kf8 13.Nh5 Nf3+ wins. 11...Qg5 12.Qe3 Not 12.f4? 13.Nf5+ 14.Kd2 Nf4 winning. 12...Qh5 13.O–O–O Qe3+ 14.Qb1 象e7 Black’s Knights have White in a stranglehold. 15.Qg1 g6 Preventing the Knight from coming into f5. 16.Qg2 O–O 17.Qa1 17.Nde2 would have held out longer. 17...Qf4 18.Qxf4 Qxf4 19.Qd8 20.Qh2 Threatening 20.Nxc6. 20...Qf6 21.Qef3 象e4 22.Qd2 22.f3 Qe5 or 22.Bf3 Bxf3 23.Nxf3 b5 24.e5 Bd5 win for Black. 22...Qe5 White resigns, as he loses quickly after 23.Nc2 Nxb2 24.Kxb2 Rd3.

0-1
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.d3 dxe4 4.c3 c5 5.e3 c6 6..c2 d6 7..e2 O–O 8.0–0 dxc4 9..xc4 b5 10..e2 e8 11..d1 w7c7 12.b3 e5 With this central break Black hopes to equalize, but the pressure White is able to exert with his active pieces against the Kingside proves too much. 13..b3 b7 14..d2 b6 15..e5 xe5 16..d4 w7c7 17..e4 dxe4 19..f3 b4 20..g3 Eyeing f5 and h5. With his next move, Shirov hopes to avoid the weakening of his dark squares that would result from ...g6, but instead the light squares suffer. 20..f6 21..xe5 Removing the only real light-square defender. 21..wxe5 22..d3 h6 23..g6 f8 24..f5 c5 25..h5+ axh5 26..g7 w7c7 27..h4 d1+ 28..xd1 w8c8 29..g4 w6c6 Of course, 29...Rxa7 would lose to 30.Qe6+ and 31.Qe8 mate. 30..b7 wxb7 31.w6+ h8 32..e4 Black Resigns. Not so much for the effect of the skwer, but to allow the Knight to check on g6.

1-0

Krasenkov, M.

Sveshnikov, E.

? Moscow 1992 1-0 D45 A vicious and direct assault, launched with the gambit of a pawn... this is the Romantic chess that was supposed to have died 100 years ago!

...Qf3 d5 2..d4..f6 3..c4 e6 4..c3 c5 5.e3..d7 6..c2 d6 7..g4 Up to this point, the opening has been one of the most boring and conservative possible. By any rational understanding of the opening, Black has done nothing wrong; certainly nothing that would justify this!

8..g1 h6 Hoping for 9.Rxg7? Qf6 with a double attack on g7 and f3. 9.e4 dxe4 10..xe4 b4+ Otherwise the Kingside will be ruined by the combined assault of the White pieces. 11..d2 xd2+ 12.wxd2..f5 13.0–0–0..f6 14..d3 O–O 15..g2 xe4 16..xe4 w6f6 17..e5 e8 18..g4 w7c7 Not 18...Qxd2? 19.Nh6+! after which Black loses too much material: 19...Nxb6 20.Qxd4; 19...Kb8 20.Nxf7+; 19...Kf8 20.Qb4+

c5 21.Rxd4 wins. 19..xf5 exf5 20..h6+...h8 21..xg7 A brilliant destruction of the King’s remaining guard. The true justification of White’s original pawn sacrifice can be seen in the fact that even as the final hammer blow falls, Black’s Bishop remains on its original square. 21...w7g7 22..g1+...h8 23..e2 Black Resigns.

1-0

Salov, V.

Ivanchuk, V.

? Dortmund 1992 0-1 D45 Black grabs the initiative and never relinquishes it.

1.d4..f6 2..c4 e6 3..c3 d5 4..c3 c6 5..d7 6..c2..f6 7..e2 O–O 8.0–0 w7c7 9..d1 dxc4 10..xc4 dxe4 15..d4 xe4 16..c8 17..e5 f6 18..d4 xe4 19..ab1 w7c7 20..g3 h5 Creating weaknesses on White’s kingside. 21..e2 Threatening 22.Bxa7 and 23.Bb6. 21...d7 22..f4 Not 22.Bxa7? is met with 22...h5. The best move is 22.Bg2. 22...e5 23.e5 Worth considering is 23.Nd4. Now White’s King becomes exposed. 23..xf2+ 24..xf2 w5a5 25..d4..b4 26..b3..a3 27..d4 Better is 27..Be2. 27...e5 28..d2..e6 29..bd1..xd2+ 30..xd2..xe4 31..xe4..c4 32..d6..d4 33..e1 A dubious King march. 33...b6 34..d2 f6 This wins a pawn as now 35.exf6 is met with 35...Re2+. 35..fxe5..f5 36..f7 37..f6 37.Nd2 followed by 38.Ne4 would have held out longer. Now Black wins a piece. 37...c4 38..d2 w8a3+ White Resigns.

0-1

Van Wely, L.

Kramnik, V.

? Manila 2000 0-1 D44 20 years old Van Wely and 17 year old Kramnik are two very promising players.

1.d4 d5 2..f3 c5 3..c4..f6 4..c3 e6 5..g5..dxc4 6..e4 b5 7..a4..b7 8..e5 h6 9..h4 g5 10...f6 gxf4 11..e5..d7 12..h5 Unsound is 12.Nxf7? Kxf7 13.Qh5+ Kxf6. 12...xf6 13..d7..xd7 14..xb5 cxb5 15..xb5+..c6 16..w6c4..d6 17..a6 White plays for a direct attack as Black is slightly better after 17.Nb5 Qf4 18.Nxd6
Qxd6. 17...hx8 18...xc6 xc6 19...a4 g5 20...b5 20.Bd3 Qc1+ 21.Nd1 Rb8 is good for Black. 20...xg2 20...Qc1+ 21.Nd1 leads to nothing. 21.d5 21.Rf1 a6 22.d5 axb5 23.Qxa8 exd5 is good for Black. 21...xh1+ 22...e2 e8 23...xc6 b8 24...b5 Bad is 24.Qxa7 Rxh2+ 25.Qf1+. 24...exd5 25...a5+...e7 26...xa7+ f8 27...e3 g8 28.h3 f8 29...f4 e4+ 30...xe4 dxe4 31...e3 b6 32...d7 f6 33.b3 e5+ 34...xe4 xf2 35...d5 b4 36...d4 g7 37...c4 f4 38...d5 f6 39...e8 f1 40...g4 e4 41...f3 f6 42...xb4+...g5 43...f3+...f4 44...b4 f2 45...e8...g5 White resigns. 1-0

○ Gelfand, B.
● Yusupov, A.

Linares 1992 1/2-1/2 D37

Some sharp tactics in a theoretical opening. 1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e6 3...f3 d5 4...c3 e7 5...f4 O-O 6.e3 c5 7.dxc5 bxc5 8...e2 c6 9.a3...a5 10.O-O-O e4 11...b5 a6 12...c7 e5 13...xd5 Bad is 13...Bxe5 Nxe5 14...Nxe8 Ng4 or 13...Qc5 14...Qxe4 15.dxc6 gxc6 16...d7 Not 13...Bf5 14...Nh4 or 13...exf4 14.Qe4. 14...g5 14.Qxf2 exf4 15...Qxe4 Re8 is unclear. 14...f5 14...f5 15.Qe2 exf4 16.Qxf4 is good for White. 15...xf2 Black is able to start a counterattack after 15...Qxf5 g6 16.Nf6+ Kh8 17.Qd7 Bxa3. 15...exf4 16...xf4 g7 Bad is 16...Bg6 17...h4 with attack. 17...exe7+...exe7 18...d5...e1+ Weak is 18...d3? Bxa3 19.Qxf5 Qc3+. 19...d1...a5 20...d5...e1+ 21...d1 Draw by 3-fold repetition. 1/2-1/2

○ Vera, R.
● Garcia, Gil.

Havana 1992 1-0 D37

White’s plan of castling long against the Tarrasch Defense is slightly unusual. Normally in this line, one side or the other ends up with an isolated d-pawn, which is blocked and attacked. In compensation, the player with the isolated pawn hopes to develop piece activity. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...c3 Qf6 4...f3 e7 5...f4 O-O 6.e3 c5 7.dxc5 bxc5 8...e2 c6 9.a3...a5 10.O-O-O c7 11.g4 However, it is clear that White wants to develop a mad-dog attack on the Kingside. Violent opposite-wing attacking is the rule with opposite-wing castling. 11...f8 12...b1 Qf8 13...g5 g6 14.h4 g7 15.h5...e8 16.hxg6 hxg6 17.f3 b5 18...cx5...e7 19...e5 d4 20...xd4...ed5 21...xd5...xe2 22...xf6+...f8 Capturing the Knight leaves Black’s King in a coffin. 23...gh7+...e7 24...e5+ Black resigns. 1-0

○ Karpov, An.
● Short, N.

7th Match Game, Linares 1992 1-0 D58

Another Karpov masterpiece. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...f6 4...g5...e7 5.e3 O-O 6...f3 h6 7...h4 b6 8...e2...b7 9...xf6...xf6 10...e5 exd5 11.h4 Inhibiting...c5. Black plays it anyway, but does not get a strong pawn center. 11...e5 Otherwise White plays 12...b5. 12.bxc5 bxc5 13...b1...a5 14...d4 cxd4 15...xd4...d4 16...d4 a6 17...b5...d8 18.O-O...c6 19...f1...f6 20...f1...a8 21.a4...e8 22...b3...xb5 23.axb5...d8 24...a2 White starts building up on the weak a-pawn. 24...c7 25...a3...f5 26...e3 Not 26.Ra7? Re2. 27.Re8+ Kh7 28.Bd3 is threatened. 26...e6 Not 26...Re2 27.Re8+ Kh7 28.Qxe2 Qxe2 29.Ba3+ winning. 27...e5...g4 28...eb2...g6 29...a4...bc8 30...h5 Not 30.Rxd5? Rc2 winning. Black also has a good position after 30.Qxd5 Rd8 31.Qc4 Qxe4 32.Rxe4 Rcd7 winning the d-pawn. After the text White wins a pawn. 30...f6 31...xd5 Threatening 32.Bxf7+. 31...g6 32...e2...e4 33...h4...a3 34...d4...e4 35...e3...g2...g7 36...d5...e5 37...d4...e2 38...e8...a2 38...Qxd4 would have held out longer, although White is much better after 39.Rxd4 Raa2 40.Kf3 Ra3 41.Re3. Now White wins the Queen. 39...g8+...xg8 40...xf6...xe2 41...a1...e4 42...xa2...xa2 43...d4...xf2+ 44...g1...e2 45.d6 Black resigns. 1-0

○ Magerramov, E.
● Sherbakov, R.

Cheliabinsk 1992 1-0 D52

White sacrifices a pawn in the opening for open lines. Later he sacrifices even more for higher returns. 1.d4 d5 2...c4 c6 3...f3...f6 4...e3 e6 5...g5...bd7 6.c3...a5 The Cambridge Springs was first...
played by Marshall at the turn of century, but it is still popular today. 7.cxd5 8...d2 7.bxc6 8...d2 9.d3 This is a pawn sacrifice. 10...xc3 11.O–O Not 11.Re1? Nxc3 followed by ...Bb4. 11...xc3 12.e2 13...c2 14...d1 15...d2 16...d3 17.a3 18...b2 f6 Not 18...O–O? 19.Be7 Re8 20.Bb4 winning. 19...h4 20...d5 21...f1 Black’s misplaced Queen gives White more than enough compensation for the pawn. The threat makes a kingside attack. The text move clears the third rank for the Rook. 22...g7 Threatening Nh4. 23...h8+ 24...g6 25...c4 26.e5 The decisive breakthrough. 27...xe5 28...xe5+ 29...b8 wins. 21...e8 30...f8 31...e4 32...d5 33...f3 34...g7 35...h6 36...h6 37...f3 38...e5 39...f2 40...h2 41...e4 42...b1 43...e4 44...d5 45...e4 46...d6+ Black Resigns. Qh7 is coming.

1–0

○ Kamsky, G.  
● Shirov, A.  
?

Dortmund 1992 1–0 D36 White defers castling and instead opens the h-file and kingside attack. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3...f3 f5 4...e3 c6 5.exd5 cxd5 6...g5 7...c2 g6 8...e4 O–O 9...e5 10...h6 11...d3 ...xc3 12...e7 13.h4 Preparing to open the side and weaken Black’s kingside. 14...d4 15...h6 16...h6 17...e4 18...f6 19...e4 20...g5 21...xg5 22...e2 f5 23...g3 24...h7 wins. 22...xe7 23...xe7 If 22...Qxe5+, then 23...Kxe7 24.R1f Qf6 25.Rxe6 Rxe6 26.Nxe6 Qxe6 27.Rh8+! wins. 23...f1 24...e4 25...h7 The only defense to 25...Kh6 and 26...Kh8+. 25...h6 26...h4 27...d4 28...e5+ 29...xf7+ 30...xf7 31...exf7 Black Resigns. White has an easily winning position after 30...Kxf7 31...cxd4.

1–0

○ Spassky, B.  
● Fischer, B.  
Return Match (6)

Sveti Stefan 1992 1/2–1/2 D27

At a press conference Bobby Fischer predicted the day was fast approaching when computers would beat the best humans; and he suggested that perhaps the starting position might have to be changed before each game. “I think we’re coming to the end of the history of chess with the present rules,” he said with regret. “We have to get away from the game becoming simply a question of memorization.” Going into this encounter Spassky led by a point and while it was in progress IBM’s Deep Thought pointed out where he missed several chances to increase his lead. From now on machines would play a dominant role in analyzing master games.

1.d4 d5 2...c4 c6 The Queen’s Gambit Accepted. It’s not a real gambit because White can regain the pawn. 3...f3 ...f6 4...e3 e6 5...c3 c5 6.O–O 6.a6 7...c5 ...xd1 8...xd1 ...xc5 9.b3 b6 10...b2 10...b5 Varying from 10...b6 in game 4. Match play may lack variety, but it’s interesting to see what improvements the players hatch between rounds. This line is drawish and Spassky denies his legendary opponent a chance to mix it up in double-edged positions. 11...c3 12...c3 12...c3 12...c3 13...d6 14...e7 13.h4 14...h5 15...h5 16...h5 17...xh7+ 18...xh7 19...xh7+ 20...xh7 21...xh7+ 22...xh7 23...xh7 24.Rh7 wins. 22...xe7 23...xe7 If 22...Qxe5+, then 23.Kf1 Rxe7 24.Re1 Qf6 25.Rxe6 Rxe6 26.Qxe6 Qxe6 27.Rh8+! wins. 23...f1 24...e4 25...e4 26...h7 27...d4 28...e5+ 29...xf7+ 30...xf7 31...exf7 Black Resigns. White has an easily winning position after 30...Kxf7 31...cxd4.

1–0
Karpov, An.

Ivanchuk, V.

Reggio Emilia 1992 1/2-1/2 D20

When this game was played, Ivanchuk had temporarily taken over the number two position in the world from Karpov.


Karpov’s style is to play like a python and squeeze his opponent to death. But Ivanchuk is not a willing customer. 10...h6 11.h4 g6

Karpov conceded this game after this narrow escape. Despite this reprieve, he clearly was not his old self.

1/2-1/2

Shirov, A.

Anand, V.

Dortmund 1992 1/2-1/2 D20

A game full of tactics.


Karpov is upset.

Linares 1992 0-1 A21

Karpov is upset.


Karpov is upset.
has a slight advantage due partially to his control of the e4-square. 13.b3 e8 14.h2 h5 15.Qe5 g6 16.Qf3 g7 18.Qd4 Better was 18.e3. 18...Qxe4 19.Qxe4 Qh4 20.b4 Preventing the Knight from coming into f4 with 20.e3 is met with 20...e5. 20...Qf4 21.e3 Qxg2 22.Qxg2 a5 23.a3 Qf8 24.ad1 Correct is 24.f3. Now Black gains a slight advantage. 24...axb5 25.axb5
dxe3 26.f3 If 26.fxe3, then 26...Rxf1 27.Rxf1 Qe7 followed by ...Be6 and ...h5. 26...Qe7 27.Q+1 h6 28.dcl Qh6 Not 28...Qxb4 29.g5. 29...Qxe3 xe3 30.Qxe3 Qxb4 31.Qb1 Qe7 32.Qf2 Qf7 33.wh2 If 33.Nd3, then 33...e4 34.Qxe4 Bxe4 is strong. 33...Qxe4 34.Qxb7 Qf4 35.Qxc6 White is forced to give up the exchange. 35.Qc3 Bdf5 is too strong. 35...Qxe3 36.Bxc4+ h8 37.Bb3 White is hoping to play Qe2 followed by Re3 setting up a defensive fortress. 37...Qf6 38.Qe8 39.Qd3 Qf4 40.Qe3 In time pressure White misses a way to hold the position. Better is 40.Qc2 followed by Qe2 and Re3. 40...Qe8 41.Bb2 Qb4 Black would like to play either 42...Rc8 or 42...Rd4. 42.Qd2 h5 43.Qh4 Bf8 44.Qe3 w7 45.d2 Qf5 46.d2 Qxe2 47.Qxe2 Qh7 48.Qf2 Qc1 49.Bh4 Qc2+ 50.Qg2 Qf5 51.Qg3 Qe1 52.h4 Qg6 53.Qxg5 53.f4 offered more chances. 53...Qxg5 54.f4+ exf4 55.Qf3 Qd2 White is in zugzwang. 56.Qg3 Qf1+ Not 56...Qxf2 58.Qxf2 Rxf2 stalemate. 57.Qg2 Qxf2 White Resigns.

1-0

○ Kasparov, G.
• Nikolic, Pr.

? Manila

1992 1-0 A21

This game won the first brilliancy prize at the Olympiad.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Qc3 e5 4.dxe5 d4 5.Qe4 Qa5+ 6.d2 Qxe5 7.Qg3 Qd6 8.f3 Qf6 9.Qe2 Qe7 10.Qh4 0-0 11.e3 d3 12.f3 weaken is 12.Bxe3 Qc7 with equality. 12...Qh4 13.Qg3 Qg4 Better is 13...Na6 14.a3. 14.d3 Qd7 15.Qf5 Threatening 16.Rxd7. 15...Qxh5 White has a strong attack after 15...Rad8 16.Bxg4 Nxg4 17.Bxg7 Nxe3 18.Qd2. 16.Qxf5 Qf8 17.0-0 Ripping open Black's kingside. 17...Qxg7 18.Qxf5 Qf8 Weaker would be 18...Qxf8 19.Qg5 h6 20.Rxd7 Qxd7 21.Nh7+ or 18...Rad8 19.Rdf1 Nf8 20.Qg5+ Nge6 21.Qh4. 19.Qh4 White brings in reinforcements. 19...Qh6 20.g4 Better is 20.Qg4+. 20...Qxe8 21.Qxe8 White's attack would remain strong after 21.Qc2 Kg8 22.g5. 21...Qxc8 22.g5 Qd7 23.e4 Not 23.Rxd7? hxg5 24.hxg5 Kg6. 23...Qd8 23...Kf8 offered better chances. 24.Bf1 Qf8 25.Qxg6 Qf6 If 25...Qxf6, then 26.Ne5. 26.e5 Qg7 27.Qxh1 Qe5 28.Qe2 Qc6 29.Qg4 Qh8 White still has strong pressure as can be seen from the variation 29...h5 30.Rf4 Bxf6 31.Rxf7+ Kxf7 32.Ng5+ Kf7 33.Rf7+ Ke8 34.Nxe6 winning. 30.b4 b6 31.bxc5 bc5 32.Bb1 a6 33.Bb2 g7 If 33...h5, then 34.Rf4. 34.Bf4 a7 35.Qb3 a6 36.Qe6 Qe6 37.Qg7 Black Resigns.

1-0
Karpov, An.

Short, N.

IT Linares

1992 1-0 A81

An interesting situation. These two are to meet the month after this game is played in an elimination match for the World Chess Championship. How should each proceed. Are ego points to be struck? Is this a throw-away game to avoid tipping the hand as to opening preparations for the "big match"? Your guess is as good as mine! A dubious opening novelty gives White an immediate advantage.

1.d4 f5 2.g3 c6 3.d4 g6 4...h3 e7 5.O-O O-O 6.e4 d6 7.c3 w8 8.f4 g5 This weakens the kingside. Better are either 8...Bd8 or ...c6. 9.d5 w6 10.f4 h6 11.d5 a6 12.b4 Karpov is known as a python for the way he strangles his opponent’s pieces. 12...exd5 13.xd5 Worth considering is 13.cxd5 in order to attack the weak c-pawn on the c-file. 13...xd5 14.xd5+ h7 15.b5 c5 16.xe5 dxe5 17.wc2 If 17...d5 White needs to try to get his queenside pieces developed. 18.a4 w8 19.xf5 xh5 20.a3 c6 If 20...Be6 21.Bxe6 Qxe6 22.Re6 Qf6 23.g4 wins. 21.g2 g4 is threatened. 21...f6 22.c3 d4 23.xd4 cxd4 24.e3 dxe3 25.xe3 c6 26.g4 w6 27.bxc6 bxc6 28.c5 Not 28.Bxc6 Rc8. 28...f6 If 28...Bd7, then 29.Rd3 followed by 30.Rd6. 29.xc6 w8 30...d6 If 29...Qd4, then 30.Qc3 Qxg4 31.Rg3. 30.gxf6 w7 27 31.Qf5 Qxf5 32.Bxe4. 31...g2 b2 32.Bc3 wxc3 33.bxc3 d8 34.c6 d2 35.b4 e4 36.c7 w4 37.e8=## Black Resigns. 0-1

Shabalov, A.

Smirin, I.

Manila

1992 1-0 B64

This game won the third brilliancy prize at the Olympiad.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 w6 5.c3 c6 6.g5 e6 7.d2 d7 9.d4 c5 8.O-O 9.Qf4 h6 10.h4 More risky than the normal 10.Bh4. 10...d4 11.wd4 a6 12...hg5 12.hxg5 gives White too strong of an attack on the h-file. 12...e2 w5 13.d3 c8 14.g4 w7 15.g6 Rippen open Black’s kingside. 15.gxh6 g8 16...g8 17.Nh5.h5 Trying to keep the kingside closed. 17...Qc5 18.gxh6+ Kh7 19.Qd2 followed by Qg2 is very strong. 18...hxh5 Threatening 19.Bxf7+ Kxf7 20.Qh8 Ng7 21.g6+ Kg6 22.Kh6. 18...e8 19.f5 w5 20.d2 Threatening 21.g6 f6 22.g7. 20...fxe5 21.g6 fxg6 Even worse is 21...f6 22.g7. 22...g6+ f7 23.h5 fxe4 24...f6 would have offered more resistance. 24.h6+ g6 25.g6+ h7 26...xe8+ h6 26...Kf8 27.Qxh6+ Ke8 28.Qg6+ also loses. 27.g6+ g7 28.e4+ f7 29.exf7 w5 Black’s position remains difficult because of his open King and White’s active pieces. 29...h8 30.d5+ w8 31.wd2 d8

O Rogers, G.

30th Chess Olympics (10)

Manila

1992 1-0 A41

This game won the second brilliancy prize at the Olympiad’s Australia vs. Brazil matchup. This was one of the prettiest games in the entire event, and the finishing touch is very nice indeed.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 d6 3.d3 c3 g4 e4 e5 5...h5 6...e2 Reinforcing e4 before playing g4. More natural is 6. Be2. 6...c6 7.g4 g6 8...e5 e7 9.xf6 x6 10.b4 White controls more space, but he could get overextended and Black’s two bishops might be dangerous in the future. 10...h6

11.O-O-O d7 12...b1 w7 13.g1 Preparing g4-g5 or h4-h5. 13...h5 14.g5 w7 15.d5 e5 16.h3 O-O-O 17...d2 w8 It’s always a good idea to break pins right away. 18.c4 b6 Trying to reduce White’s pressure on the queenside. 19.xb6 wxb6 20.d3 Preparatory to the third rank along after an imminent Nd5. Now Black should consider 20...c5 to close the lines on the queenside. 20...a8 21.a3 d8 22.f5 Stopping Black from starting his own counterplay with ...f7-f5. 22...h7 Black wants to open up diagonally for his Bishops with ...g7-g6 and ...f7-f6. 23.g1 d6 26 Again 22...c5 looks right. 24.dxc6 bxc6 Not 24...gxg5 25.Nd5 winning immediately. 25.d7 w7 The best try is 25...Rb8! 26.b3 Qc7 although White retains an edge with 27.Bh3. 26.xc6+ wxc6 27.d5 d8 If 27.Qd7, then 28.Rc3 Rc8 30.Qa6! wins. 28...c7 w7 29.b3 w6 If 29...Qc8, then 30.Rd3 Ba5 31.Rb5 wins. 30.d3 d5 31.a3 d7 32.xc3 w7 Black resigns. If 32...Qxa6, then 33.Nc7# or if 32...Rc8, then 33Nb6+ Kb8 [33...Qxb6 34. Rxb6 Rb8 35. Rxb8+ Rxb8 36. Qc6+] 34.Nxc8 Kc7 35.Rxc3. 1-0
32...e1+ h5 33.g4 e6 34.g5 g7 35.e7 d8 36.a5+ b6 Worse is 36...Kc8 37.Qb6. 37.Qc5+ A blunder in time pressure. Better is 37.Qxa6 and if 37...Rxe7, then 38.Qb7+ Kd8 39.Qxb6+. 37...d8 38.Qxd7 39.Qc6+ e7 40.Qxe7+ f6 41.dxe7+ f5 42.Qd7+ e5 Returning the favor. The position would be roughly equal after 42...Kf4. 43.Qf7 Qf8 44.Qd5+ White plays several checks before deciding on the best way to win. 44...Qf6 45.Qf3+ e7 46.Qb7+ f6 47.Qxc6+ f5 48.Qf2+ e5 49.Qg3+ f6 50. Qf4+ e7 51.Qc7+ f5 52.Qe6+ e5 53.Qd5+ f6 54.Qf3+ e7 55.Qd7+ d8 56. Qb8+ e7 57.Qa7+ d8 58.Qa8+ e7 59.Qa7+ d8 60.Qb6+ e7 61.Qc6+ d8 62. Qb6+ e7 63.Qc6 Qe6 64.Qd4+ Qe6 65.Qd5+ Qe7 66.Qe5+ Qd7 67.Qf7 Threatening 68.Qa7+. 67... Qh6 68.Qg4+ Qe7 69.Qf4+ d6 70.Qxd6+ Qxd6 71.Qxd6 Qxd6 72.Qf7 Qf8 73. Qg6 Qf+ 74.Qd2 Qf+ 75.Qe3 Qh2 76.Qh5 Qe7 77.Qd3 Qd5 78.Qc3 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Adams, M.

- Salov, V.

Germany 1992 1-0 B33

A nice kingside attack by White. 1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qe3 e6 6.d5 d6 7.Qg5 a6 8.Qa3 b5 9.Qxb7 Qe7 10.Qd5 Qg7 11.Qc3 Qd5 12.Qxf5 Qxf5 13.Qe2 O–O 14.Qe3 White will have an advantage if he can keep control of the d5 square. Otherwise Black’s two Bishops and center will become very strong. 14...Qe6 15.Qg3 Qe7 16.Qg2 Qb8 17.Qc7 Qxd4+ Better is 17...f5. 18.Qxd5 Qh8 19.a4 Opening up the a-file for his Rook. 19...Qh6 20.axb5 axb5 Better was 20...Bxe3. 21.Qe2 Now the Knight takes up a very strong position on b4. 21...Qd7 22.Qa6 Qh3 23.Qe1 Not 23.Qg2?? Bxg2 24.Kxg2 Qb7+ picking up the Rook. 23...Qg5 24.Qb4 Qd8 Black hopes to exchange off White’s active Rook with 25...Rb6. 25.Qc4 Qb6 25...Rb6 is met by 26.Qh5 with a strong attack. For example, 26...f6 27.Qf6 Qf7 28.Qxb6 Bxb6 29.Bxh7 winning. 26.Qd5 Qf5 27.Qxb6 Qd8 28.Qd7 Qxd7 29.Qxd6 Qd7 30.Qd5 Qd7 31.Qc2 e4 This loses quickly. Black could have offered more resistance with 31...Re8. 32.Qd4+ Qf6 33.Qa7 Qh6 34.a1 b4 35.Qd4+ Qf6 36.Qa7 Qxd4 37.cxd4 Black Resigns. There is no defense to 38.Rxh7+ followed by 39.Bb3 or 39.Rag7.

1-0

○ Dolmatov, S.

- Chekhov, V.

Germany 1992 1-0 B33


1-0

○ Luther, T.

- Shirov, A.

Germany 1992 0-1 B33

This game was played in the Bundesliga. The strongest chess clubs in Germany meet every few weeks for team competitions. The German International Master Luther plays for Sindelfingen and the Latvian Grandmaster Shirov plays for Hamburg. 1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qe3 c6 6.Qd5 d6 7.Qg5 a6 8.Qa3 b5 9.Qxb7 Qe7 10.Qd5 Qg7 11.Qc3 Qd5 12.Qxf5 Qxf5 13.Qe2 O–O 14.Qe3 White hopes to exchange off White’s active Rook with 25...Rb6. 25.Qc4 Qb6 25...Rb6 is met by 26.Qh5 with a strong attack. For example, 26...f6 27.Qf6 Qf7 28.Qxb6 Bxb6 29.Bxh7 winning. 26.Qd5 Qf5 27.Qxb6 Qd8 28.Qd7 Qxd7 29.Qxd6 Qd7 30.Qd5 Qd7 31.Qc2 e4 This loses quickly. Black could have offered more resistance with 31...Re8. 32.Qd4+ Qf6 33.Qa7 Qh6 34.a1 b4 35.Qd4+ Qf6 36.Qa7 Qxd4 37.cxd4 Black Resigns. There is no defense to 38.Rxh7+ followed by 39.Bb3 or 39.Rag7.

1-0
○ Romero Holmes, A.
● Salov, V.
?
Wijk aan Zee
1992 0-1 B33
Black plays a risky but sharp opening.
1.e4 c5 2.d4 f6 3.f3 e6 4.d4 exd4 5.cxd4 c6 6.Qxd5 d6 7.f4 e5 8.g5 a6 9.Qa3 b5
The Sveshnikov is a very theoretical and popular opening.
10.Qxf6 gxf6 11.Qd5 f5 12.g3 fxe4 13.Qe2 Qe6 14.Qxe4 Qg7 15.Qh5 Qf6+ Qxf6 16.Bxc6+ Ke7 17.Bxa8 Qxa8 is good for Black.
18...Nc8 16.c3 e7 17.d1 c5 18.Qb4 Nf6 19.Qg5 Qf8 20.Ne3 h5 21.d3 Bad is 21.Nxa7 Bb6, but not 21...Qxa6??
22.Qxc5 dxc5 23.Rd8#. 21...Qc6 22.Qx6N Qxc6 Black has sufficient compensation for the exchange. White had several weaknesses in his position.
28...Qg5 29.Qe2 Qd8 The Bishop is transferred to the a7-g1 diagonal.
30.h1 b6 31.Qg3 b4 32.Qd4 An unsound sacrifice in a difficult position.
32...exd4 33.Qhx4 Qxh4 34.Qxd4 Qxc3 35.Qxc4 Qe7 36.g5 Qe3 37.Qf2 Qf5 38.Qf4 Qh4 White Resigns.
0-1

○ Georgiev, Kir.
● Shirov, A.
?
Biel
1992 1-0 B33
Played at the Festival in Biel, Switzerland, in 1992. Kiril Georgiev seems to shine especially against Shirov - for Georgiev, Shirov is a "good customer." It is sometimes this way in top-level chess, that for stylistic or psychological reasons, relatively equal strength players may have very lopsided results against each other.
1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qe3 Qc6 6.Qd5 d6 7.f4 e5 8.g5 a6 9.Qa3 This is the defining position of the Sveshnikov Sicilian, but oddly enough it can be reached in another way that requires fewer moves. 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nbd5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3... looks familiar, no? The reasons for choosing one way over the other have to do with minor sub-variations that are possible in each line: the shorter route allows White to choose 7.Nd5 instead, which some wish to avoid; the longer version doesn’t really force Nd4-b5. 9...Qe6 Black usually plays 9...b5 to prevent White from bringing his Knight back into the game via c4. Then White might play Nd5, c3, Nc2, and Nce3 to control the d5 square - or he might sacrifice a piece on b5 to try to take immediate advantage of the weaknesses Black has created by all of these pawn moves.
10.Qc4 11.Qx6 Qxe6 12.Qe3 Qh6 13.Qd3 Qe3 Even though this makes a weakening on e3, it also exposes Black’s doubled f-pawns to direct assault on the file.
14.Qxe3 Qh6 15.Qc1 Qa5 It turns out Black doesn’t have time for this maneuver, and the off-side Knight allows White’s decisive tactics.
15...Nb4 makes sense.
16.Q-O Qe7 17.Qe1 h5 Played both to allow ...Rh8-h6, defending the f6-pawn, and because 17...Qxb2 loses to 18.Qa4 (Qa3 19.Qxa5).
18.Qb3 Qc5 19.Qd5+ Due to the threat of b3-b4, among other things, Black must capture.
19...Qxd5 20.exd5 Qxd5 21.Qd1 White threatens to make a decisive discovery, but Black cannot move the Queen away without hanging the Knight.
21...Qg8 22.Qf2 Qh6 22...Qe6 23.Bf5 is even worse, if that is possible.
23.Qg6 Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Kengis, E.
● Akopian, V.
?
Manila
1992 0-1 B34
The break-up of the Soviet Union created the opportunity for many more countries to participate in the Olympiad. Here Latvia and Armenia square off.
21.Bxd3 Qxd5 22.Qh1 Qb4 23.Qh6 Qe2 24.Qxe2 Qxe2 25.Qe4 Qc5 A time trouble error. 28.Nc4 would have given Black only a slight advantage.
28...Qxe2 29.Qxe2 Qxe2 30.Qxe2 31.Bf5 32.dxe4 Qxe4+ 33.Qc1 Qe1+ 34.Qc2 Qe4+ 35.Qc1


1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.d5 exd5 4.f4 e5 5.e5 Qc7
6.xc6 bxc6 7.e6 e4 8.e7 f6
9.dxe4 Bxe7 10.Kf2 g6
11.Kg3 Bd6 12.Qd4 O–O
13.f3 Nd7

[1992 0-1 C99]

A game full of sacrifices.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.b5 a6 4.a4 Nf6 5.O–O
10.bxc3 bxc3 11.dxc3 Bxc3 12.Qd3 Bxe1
17.Qb2 Bxb2 18.Ba6 Qc7


Forcing 19.Rf4 Qe5 20.Qe4 Nh5
21.Qxe5 Qe6 22.Qf4

Black starts counterplay on the
h5

If 28.Qb4, d3

28...c3

The Ruy Lopez has been
throughly analyzed, but new moves are con-
stantly being found. Previously 18...Nh5 fol-
lowed by ...Nf4 had been played.

19.axb4 20.Bxe8 Qxe8

White releases and no further resistance
is possible. 19.Qd4

20.bxc5

White sacrifices the exchange to get a
strong passed pawn. The position is equal

21...Na6

Black’s Rook is in danger of getting trapped.

22...Qa4

23.c4 Better is 23.Re3 followed by 24.Qb2 with an unclear po-

tion; 23...h5

Black starts counterplay on the other side
of the board. 24.Qb1 Qd7 25.e3
g6 26.Qc2 If 26.Nxe5, then 26...dxe5 27.d6 Bb8
28.dxe7 Bxe7 with a winning position.

26...b4

27.axb5 28.axb5

29.Kg2 Rxb4 followed by ...Qxf2+.

28...b4
29.Bxb4 Bb6 30.g3 Again 30.gxh3 is not possible due to 30...Nhxh3+ and 31...Qxh2. The position is roughly equal. White has a strong passed pawn but his kingside is weak. 30...Bh5 31.d3 Better is 31.Nd2 and if 31...Nxc3? then 32.Nc4. 31.Bxg3 32.Bxe5 Bxh5 Not 32...dxe5? 33.Qxe7 and White is winning with his two passed pawns. 33.c4 d8 34.f1 f4 35.Bb3 White brings his Queen over to the queenside for defensive purposes. Not 35.Bxh3 Nhxh3+ 36.Kf1 Nxf2! 37.Kxf2 Bb4+ winning. 35...Bh4 Black must get his Queen into the attack. In order to do so, he sacrifices a Bishop, bringing the White King into the open in the process. 36.Bxb3 Bf2+ 37.Bxf2 Bc8+ 38.Bf1 Bb6 39.Bf3 Not 39.Re2 Qf4+ 40.Kg2 Qg4+ winning. 39...f5 Black gets his final piece into the attack. 40.c7 White seeks counterplay by trying to promote his passed pawn. 40...g5 Not 40...fxe4? 41.Qxf8+ followed by 42.Qxg7=Q+ winning. 41.Bg6 Bxe4+ 42.Bxe2 c5 43.Rxe3 Better is 43.Kd2, escaping quickly to the kingside. 43...c4 44.Bd1 Bxe5 45.Bc2 The losing move. Correct is 45.Rf1! Nxc4+ 46.Kd4 and White will be all right. 45...Bc4+ 46.Bxc4 Bg5+ 47.Bxe4 f4+ White resigns, as he loses quickly after 48.Kd3 Qg3+ followed by ...Rxc4.

1-0

○ Fischer, R.
● Spassky, B.

Return Match (1)

Sveti Stefan 1992 1-0 C95

Chess fans were giddy when theesclusive American, now 49, made a comeback. He showed up in war-torn Yugoslavia to play his first tournament game in 20 years in a "millions of duel billed as" The Return Match of the Century Bobby Fischer vs. Boris Spassky - probably forever.

1.e4 c5 2.Bf3 g6 3.d4 Bb6 4.e5 d6 5.O-O 6.dxe5 c6 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Theory deems this better than 9.d4 Bg4!...b8 This retreat caters the Breyer variation of the Ruy Lopez. The Knight will reposition to d7, and moving it allows the c-pawn to advance. 9...Nc6 is the main alternative. 10.d4 cxd7 11.Bxd2 Bb7 12.Bc2 Qc8 13.Bf1 Varying from their tenth game in 1972: 13. Bf8 14. a4 Nb6 15. a5 Nbd7 which Fischer (white) won in 56 moves. 13...Bf8 14.g3 g6 15.Bg5 h6 16.d2 g7 Later Spassky varied with 16...exd4 17.cxd4 c5. 17.a4 e5 18.d5 c4 19.b4 The novelty. 19...h7 Dooming Black to passivity. Capturing en passant with 19...cxb3 20. Bxb3 Nc5 leaves the position fairly even and gets some breathing space along the c-file. But Spassky knew his opponent had something special prepared, and was rightly worried that Fischer would be well prepared for the obvious capture. 20.e3 h5 21.Bd2 f8 22.a3 Qe6 23.e1 Bxd7 As Dr. Tarrasch observed, "Crammed positions bear the germs of defeat." Instead of trying to contest the a-file Black should consider 23...Rb8 followed by Bc8-d7 to post his bishop on a better square. 24.axb5 axb5 25.f1 White is following a remarkably direct plan to dominate the a-file after it is opened - and it will be opened by axb5 at White's discretion. Now the Knight is repositioned at b1 so that after mass exchanges it will be able to hop up to a3, probably winning the b pawn. 27...Qe7 28.c4 28.d2 Bg7 29.b1 c4 Weary of waiting, Spassky makes a desperate bid for freedom, sacrificing a piece to shift the momentum from White's a-file buildup. This sort of sacrifice can be especially effective when the opponent's pieces are all busy doing something else, as they seem to be here. 29...Rab8, though unpleasant, may be tenable. But not 29...Bf8 30.axb5 Ra7 31.Ra7 g6 32.Rxa7 Qxa7 33.g4 Qa8 (34...a6 35.Qa7 Re6 34.Bd2 Ba7 35.Ba7 Qa7 36.g4 Fischer finds the most accurate route to victory. Most GMs would have relaxed a little here. 36...hxg4 37.hxg4 Bxa7 38.Bxa7 f4 39.Bxe4 fxa4 40.f5 Bf8 41.c4 Bxc4 42.d5 Bc3 43.Bf1 Bf1 44.Bf1 Qf1 45.Bf1 Bf1 46.Bf1 Bf1 47.Bf1 Bf1 48.Bf1 Bf1 49.Bf1 Bf1 50.Bf1 Black resigns.

1-0

○ Akopian, V.
● Adams, M.

Oakham 1992 1-0 C88

When played successfully, it can bring immediate equality or more, sometimes much more. But if it doesn’t work, it can help the White pieces spring into powerful attacking posts, and expose the often awkwardly placed Black forces to newly opened lines. Such is the case here, as Black discovers he must meet one direct threat after another.

17.exd5  

18.£xe4  

£xe3 The c5 pawn was attacked. 19.£xe3 Now White’s Rook has been helped to the third rank, where it defends the d-pawn and may participate in a Kingside attack. 19...£a5 Trying to support the move ...£c5-c4, but also decentralizing. 20.£fd2 £e8 21.axb5 axb5 22.£f3 £c4 To block the a2-f7 diagonal. 23.£xf6+ gxf6 24.£g3+ £g7 If the King moves, 24...Qxg3+ 25.hxg3 £e7 26.£xh6 £xh6 27.£xh6 £g8 28.£xg8+ £f7 29.f3 £g5 Straightening out the doubled pawns, but only to reach a lost endgame. The loose Knight on a5 now takes its toll. 30.£xg5 fxg5 31.£xc4  

£xe4 32.£xc4 bxc4 33.£a7 £b8 33...£c7 makes no difference. 34.£xe4 £e6 35.£b4 And the two passed pawns decide. 35...£e4 36.£xe4 £xe4 37.£a6+ £e7 38.£d2 £d3 39.£c6 £a8 40.£f2 £f5 41.£c7+ £f6 42.£d7 £b5 43.£d5 £e8 44.£g4 £g6 45.£d6+ £g7 46.£b5 £a3 47.£b6 Black Resigns.

1-0

Kasparov, G.

• Short, N.

Linares 1992 1-0 C45

A battle between the two contestants for the 1993 world championship.

1.e4 e5 2.£f3 £c6 3.£d4 This old opening has been re-popularized by Kasparov. 3...exd4 4.£xd4 £c5 5.£e3 £f6 6.c3 £g7 7.£e2 O–O 8.0–0 £b6 9...£c6 10.£xe7 £xe7 11.£f5 £g5 Gaining control of the e5-square, but weakening the kingside. Better is 11...£e6. 12.£f3 £c5 13.£e2 £d7 14.c4 g5 This weakens the kingside even further. 15.£c3 £h5 16.£d2 £h8 17.£f4 £c6 18.£e3 £d7 Better is 18...£g8. 19.£xg4 Sacrificing a piece to open up the kingside. 19...£xg4 20.£xg4 £xh4 21.£f3 £g6 22.£e3 £xg4 If 22...£g7, then 23.£xg6 £xg4 24.£xg7 wins. 23.£xh6+ £g8 24.£h3 £xh3 The only reasonable defense to 25.£h4#. If 24...£f6, then 25.£xg6 £f6 26.£g3 wins. 25.£xh6 £xh6 26.£f6 £xf6 27.£xf6 £ae8 28.£h1 £g6 29.£h4 £e6 30.£g5 £fe8 31.£h5 £e5 32.£h6 £xe4 33.£xe4 £xe4 34.£xg1 £xe5 35.£g4+ would have offered more resistance. 35.£g5+ £h7 36.£f5+ £h6 37.£f1 £e2 38.£f6+ £h7 39.£g5 £e4 If 39...£xh2 40.£Rx7 £xh7 41.£g6+ £h8 42.£Qf6+ and £g3. 40.£h6 £g6 £h4 £e4 42.£h5 £g4+ 43.£xg4 £xg4 44.£xh6+ £fx6 45.£f7+ £xh6 46.£xe7 £e5 47.£xb7 £xc4 48.b3 Black Resigns.

1-0

Kasparov, G.

• Anand, V.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c3 2e4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 xc3+ 6.bxc3 
7...h4 8...bd6 9...d2 cxd4 10...xd4 wa4 11...f3 This is a sacrifice if White.

Previously 11.Bc3 had been played. 11...xexd4 12.f3 White is planning to play
14.Rh4. 13...xf3 Better is 13...Nf5. 14...xf3 b6 Better is 14...Qd4. 15...h6 Creating holes in the
kingside. 15...a6 Worse is 15...g6 16.Qf6 Rd8 17.Rh4. 16.hxg7 17...xa6 Black would get counter chances with 17.Rxh7 Nxe5. 17...xa6+ 18.g1 xg7 Not 18...Nd4? 19.Qf6 threatening Bg5. 19...f6 20...xh7 b7 21...g5 Qd4 Black is planning to play ...Ne2-c3-e4. 22...c4 Trying to open up lines for his Queen's Rook. 22...e2+ 23...h2 Qe3 24...h8 Qxh8+ 25...xh8+ Qd7 26...h7 Qf8 27...h6 Qe8 28...xf7+ Qe7 29...g6 Short on time, White starts making errors. Better is 29.Qg8 which prevents Black's next move. 29...h8 30.exd5 cxd5 Not 30...Qxe5+ 31...f4! Qh6 32...e6+ Rxe6 33...Q7+ winning. 31...d1 White could still have won with 31...f4. 31...exe5+ 32...f4 Qh8 33.f5 Qe5+ 34.Qh1 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

o Anand, V.
• Bareev, E.
?

Dortmund 1992 1-0 C11

An example of Knight versus bad Bishop.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c3 2e6 4.e5 f6 5.f4 c6 6...c3 7...e6 8...d5 b5 9...c5 xc5 10...xc5 e6 11...f6 2w6 12...d3 Qb6 13.O-O 2b4 14...d1 O-O Better was 14...Na4. 15...e2 d7 16...e4 White's command of the d4 square and Black's bad Bishop gives White the advantage. 16...bxd3 17...a4+ 18...f3 Controlling the c5 square and fixing Black's pawn mass on the same color as his Bishop. 18...a5 19.a3 Qb8 20...d1 axb4 21.axb4 2xe1+ 22...xdl c8 23...xc8+ 2xc8 24...c2 2d7 25...d2 2f8 26.g4 2e8 27...e3 f6 28...h4 2b8 An important move. 28...Kf7? 29.exf6 gxf6 30.g5 allows White to control the e5-square. 29...c1 2f8 30...e7 31...e5 2f8 If 31...c3, then 32.Kd2 Na2 33.f5 is strong. 32.f5 2e8 33.g5 33.exf6 gx6 34.fx6+! Bxe6 35.Nxe6 Qxe6 36.Qxe6+ Kxe6 37.Nd4+ Kxe5 38.Nxb5 Kf4 is only drawn. With the text move, White forces a breakthrough in Black's position. 33...exf5 34.gxf6 Qxf6 35...b6 e5+! If 35...Qh8, then 36.exf6 is strong. 36...xe5+ 37...f6 38.g5+ 37...e7 39...g7+ 38...f6 40...f7+ 39...e7 41...e5 White is winning because his pieces are so much better placed. White is threatening to transpose into a winning endgame with 42.Qxd7+, so Black must give up his b-pawn. 41...b6 42...xb5+ 43...d4 44...f3 45...f2 44...e8 45...f7 46...f6 47...f6 48...f4 49...h8 50...g5 51...f3 52...g7 53...d7+ 54...f4 55...b6 56...f6 Black Resigns. If 56...Qxf6, then 57.Nd7+ followed by 58.Nxf6 and 59.h6 easily wins.

1-0

o Shirov, A.
• Bareev, E.
?

Hastings 1992 0-1 C11

Black sacrifices a piece to get a dangerous pawn mass in the center.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3...c3 2e6 4.e5 2f6 5...c2 c6 6...h4 7.f3 8...d4 9...xd4 10...xd4 2c5 11...d3 O-O 12...f3 f6 13...d4 Better is 13.Be3 or 13.exf6. 13...xe5 Also worth considering is 13...Qc7 14.exf6 Rxf6 followed by 15...e5. 14...exf5 2xe5 Black has compensation for the sacrificed piece in his central pawn mass and White's open King. 15...c2 16...e2 e4 17...e2 c5 18...e3 2h4 19.g3 White decides to sacrifice the exchange to untangle his pieces. 19...g3 20...xh3 2h1 21...d2 a6 22.g2 2h2 23...g1 e6 24...f1 2e2+ 25. 2e2 2ac8 26.b4 2d8 27...b6 Weak is 27.Bc5 d4 28...xexd4 29.Nxd4 Rxc5. 27...d7 28.a4 bxa4 29...e5 2c6 30...e3 2c7 31...a1 32...e2 a5 33...e3 axb4 34...xb4 The decisive error. Correct is 34.Bxb4. 34...xb5 35...xc5 Now there is no stopping Black's pawns. 36...c1 3xc1 37...c1 3d6 38...c2 d4 39...h5 3b3 40...a1 h5 41...xb3 axb3 42...e8 e3 43.gxh5 d3 White Resigns. If 44.Bd1, then 44.b2+ 45.Kxb2 e2 wins.

1-0

o Kasparov, G.
• Anand, V.
?
Reggio Emilia
1992 0-1 C07
Not only is the Indian Grandmaster Anand one of the best in the world, he is also one of the fastest. He often uses less than half the time of his opponent. This was his second win against world champion Kasparov in less than three months.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.c3 c6 4.exd5 cxd5 5.dxc5 xc5 6.g3 f6 7.0-0 O-O 8.0-0 c6 9.e4 b6 9...Ne4+ 10.Be3 Qh5 11.O-O Nf6 leaves White with a slight advantage. 10.Qxc5

11.e5 12.d4 Qb7 13.O-O-O looks risky, but on 13.O-O, Anand had planned 13...Ng4 14.Bxh7+ Kh8! and now Black threatens 15...Bxh5 16.Nf6+ Kh7...

18...Qxe5, then 18...Qa4+ 19.Kc1 bxc3 wins. The Bishop is transferred to e4 and now White switches his attack over to the queen-side.

19...Qxe5 20.h4 Qd5 20...Qh5 21.Qf4+ Qg5 22.Ng6+ Qxg6 23.Qxg6

23...Qh3 Threatening mate in two. 23...f5 24.Qh4 f4 25.Nxf3 White could have maintained equality with 25.g3 Rac8 26.gxf4. Now Black has a slight advantage. 25...Qa8 26.Qxf4 Qc5 27.e3 Qg7 28.hh4 Correct is 28.Rh4 Qg5 29.Kc2 Qf5 30.Qxf5 exf5 31.Rd4 with only a slight advantage to Black. 28...Qe5 29.g3 Qe1+ 30.Qc2 Qe8 31.d4 Q5 32.Qf4 c6 33.Qb2 Qg6 34.Qd8 Qxd8 35.Qe4 Qd5 36.Qg4 Better is 36.f4 with only a slight advantage to Black. 36...Qg7 37.Qg6 Qd6 38.f3 a5 39.Qe2 Qe6 40.h2 Qf5 41.Qg3 If 41.Qh6+, then 41...Kg8 42.Kb3 Rd2 winning. 41...Qd7 42.Qe1 b4 Black starts putting the King under pressure. 43.Qxb4 If 43.Rxe5, then 43.Qa4+ 44.Kc1 bxc3 wins. The best move is 43.b3, although Black would have a large advantage. 43...Qa4+ 44.b3 If 44.Qc1, then 44...axb4 45.Rxe5 Rd8 followed by 46...Rc8+ wins or if 44.Qc3, then 44...Qc6+ 45.Qc4 axb4+ wins.

44...Qa4+ 45.Qc3 a4 46.bxa4 Qa3+ 47.Qc2 Qxa4+ 48.Qc3 Qa3+ 49.Qc2 Qd3 White Resigns. Black threatens 50...Qb3# and 50.Qb1 is met with 50...Qc3#.

0-1

* Kasparov, G.
* Karpov, An.
Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Kasparov, G.
• Karpov, A.

Linares (2)
Spain
1992 1-0 B17

Yet another chapter in the greatest rivalry of all time. Kasparov nurses an from the opening and transforms it into a striking victory after some original maneuvers. Keep your eye on White’s king’s rook!

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d5 3...c6 e5 4.c4 e6 5...c3 Bb4 6...g6 Bb6 7...e2 g5 8...b3 h6 9...f3 f6 10...e2 cxd4 11...f4 c5 12...e4 0-0 13...d2 O-O-O 14...d5 15...e4 Ne8 16...f3 dxc5 17...b3 d6 18...c1+ 19...c1 c7 20...f4 fxe4 21...xc4 exf4 22.b3 axb3 23.axb3 a5 Black Resigns. A flawed treatment. More sensible seems 17...Rhf8 followed by 18...Nc3 so that Black’s king is discouraged from seeking refuge on the kingside.

Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Hansen, C.
• Akopian, V.

Groningen
1992 0-1 A29

White makes a mistake early in the game. Black grabs the initiative and never relinquishes it. Watch how Black makes use of pins throughout the game.

1.c4 e5 2...e3 Bf5 3...e2 d6 4...g3 e6 5.d4 exd4 6...xd4 Fg6 7...f4 0-0 8.O-O e8 9...c6 dxc5 10...h1 a6 11...c1 d5 12...e4 g5 13...c3 h5 14...d3 f5 15...f4 f5 16...e5 dxe5 17...dxe5 Bf5 18...e3 e4 19...a4 b6 20...d1 Bc5 21...b3 f4 22...xe4 fxe4 23...b2 Bf5 24...e3 Bc5 25...b1 axb5 26...xb5 Bxe3 27...xe3 fxe3 28...xe3 Bxe3+ 29...f2 Bf5

White Resigns. A flawless demonstration of Kasparov in top form.
1-0
White Resigns. 47.Qg2 Qe1+ wins.


For Black in this game, the strategy would have been difficult for Black to win after 35.Kh3 Qf5 36.Qxf5 gxf5 37.Kg2 followed by Rxe2 winning.

White's position is very bad because of his weak pawns. 25...Rxe2 winning. 26...Qg1+ 39.Kh3 g4+ 40.Kh4 Qxh2#. White must give up his Queen to force White's Queen out of play and get the King in a mating net. The threat is 38...Qg1+ 39.Kh3 g4+ 40.Kh4 Qxh2#. 38...Qxb3 39.Kh2 g4+ 40.Kh3 Qxh2#. 39...Qf2 40.g3 Qxf6 41.Qe6 Qf2+ 42.Kf4 Qf1+ 43.Qe3 Qf3 44.Qe2 Qg2+ 45.Kf1 Qh1. If instead 46.Kf1, then 46...Be3 47.Bc1+ 48.Kg2 Qg1+ 49.Kh3 Bf4 wins. 46...Qf2 47.Kh3 Qe3 White Resigns. 47.Qg2 Qe1+ wins.

- Korchnoi, V.
- Romanishin, O.

Polanica Zdroj
1992 1-0 A29

Korchnoi is fond of reversed openings, especially reversed Sicilians, where White plays a position normally associated with the opposite color, with one extra move in hand. Surprisingly only a few modern openings lend themselves to this strategy; apparently even the best defenses gain from the fact that as White, the opponent is expected to try to DO something. In Grandmaster play, the player of the Black pieces is often content to draw, therefore a strong defense can afford to be reactive rather than active.

1.e4 e5 2.g3 Qf6 3.g2 d5 4.cxd5 Qxd5 5.f3 Qc6 6.O-O Qh6 7.d3 e7 8.Qc3 O-O 9.a4 Played from either side of the board, the Sicilian Dragon is a strong weapon, promising play on the half-open c-file and along the long diagonal of its fianchettoed Bishop. When the formation is played by White, many of the most aggressive plans are no longer available to the opponent, such as castling on opposite wings and pawn storming. For Black in this game, the strategy would have been too slow. He therefore chooses a cautious plan, which unfortunately allows White to control the pace. 9...a5 10.Qe3 a6 11.Qc1 f5 12.Qb5 f6 13.d2 d7 14.c5 e8 15.e4 f4 16.gxf4 exf4 17.d4. With his big pawn center and total control of the Queenside, it is clear that White is better. Count on Korchnoi to find a quick and artistic way to finish up. 17...h8 18.e5 g5 19.Qc3 h6 20.Qxb6 Qxb6 21.c4 a6 22.e6 According to Nimzowitch, the passed pawn is a criminal who must be locked up or he will escape by running forward. The pawn's "lust to expand" can be seen clearly here. The mobile pawn center advances at the cost of the enemy pieces. 22...Qxe6 23.d5 g6 24.dxe6 Qg5 25.Qxg3 Qxg5 26.fxg5 Smooth defense of Black's last few threats. White now threatens Rf8 mate. 26...f6 27.Qxf6 Qxf6 28.cxb7 Black Resigns.

- Christiansen, I.
- Sokolov, I.

Groningen
1992 0-1 A28

Black combines defense with counterattack. 1.e4 e5 2.Qc3 Qc6 3.Qf3 Qf6 4.e4 b4 5.d3 d6 6.g3 a6 7.g2 b5 8.exb5 axb5 9.O-O Oxc3 10.bxc3 d7 11.h4 White's plan is to attack on the kingside starting with 12.f4. 11...O-O 12.f4 h6 13.fxe5 Better is 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14.exf5 d5 15.g4 with a strong attack. 13...dxe5 14.Qe3 Qe7 15.Qh1 Removing the King from the a7-g1 diagonal, but 15.Nf5 was still preferable. 15...f6 16.Qc2 Oxd6 17.Qad1 Qg4 18.Qd2 Worse is 18.Bf3 Bxf5+ 19.Rxf3 Nxe4 20.Qh3 Qxd6. 18...b4 19.h3 e6 20.c4 a3 21.Qd1 Qd4 22.Qb2 c5 23.Qh2 Qa6 24.Qd4 Qxd4 25.e5 Qd7 White's position is very bad because of his weak pawns. 26.Qxe2 Qb6 Planning to transfer his Knight to the outpost at c3. 27.Qe2 Qa4 28.Qc1 Qc3 29.Qd2 Qxa2 30.Qd1 Qc3 31.Qh5 White's only hope is a desperate attack on the kingside. 31...b3 32.Qg4 Worth considering is 32.Rf6. 32...Qe2 33.g5 The best chance was 33.Nf5 Bxf5 34.Qxf5. 33...hxg5 Not 33...Rxd2? 34.Qh6+. 34.Qxg5 Qb8 35.Qd5 Qxd2 36.Qxd2 Qa2 36...b2 37.Rg2 would be very strong for White. 37.Qxe6 Clearly hopeless is 37.Rxa2 bxa2. 37...Qxe6 38.Qe6 Qf7 39.Qxa2 bxa2 40.Qe7+ White must give up his Knight and hope for a perpetual check. There is nothing in 40.Nf4 a1=Q 41.Qg6+ Kg8 42.Qxh6+ Kh8. 40...Qxe6 41.Qxe6+ Qh7 42.Qf5+ Qg8 42...Kxh8 43.e6 would only draw. 43.Qe6+ Qh8 44.Qe6 Qh7 Black must be careful. 44...Rb1 45.Qc8+ Kh7 46.Qf5+ would draw. 45.Qe6 Qb2+
46...g3 47.h4 e1 48.e7 xe7 49.h5 e1 50.g6+ g8 51.a6 a1=Q 52.Qc8+ f7 53.Qd7+ f8 54.Qf5+ e7 55.Qxe5+ d7 56.Qf5+ c7 White Resigns. The Black King slippes away to safety after 57.Qf7+ Kb6 58.Qg6+ Ka5.

0-1

- Webster, A.
- Akopian, V.
- Chernin, A.
- Romanishin, O.

Oakham 1992 0-1 A25

A game of many pins. At first, Black’s pins are relative, with his Bishops bearing down on the open diagonals to White’s Queenside, but then they turn their attention toward the King to produce a quant ending.

1.c4 e5 2.g3 g6 3.Qg2 c6 4.Qc3 g6 5.e3 f6 6.Qg2 Qe8 7.0-0 d6 8.d4 exd4 9.exd4 Qc5 10.h3 h5 11.b3 Setting the stage for Black’s later play on the long diagonal, but in any case the d4 pawn is a target, unable to be supported by another pawn unless it advances - which increases the action of the once-defended Knight, but Black has played the opening too efficiently for this tactic to function. Notice how nicely the Black piece work together, and how clumsy the White ones appear.

16...hxg4 17.hxg4 Qb2 18.Qd2 d3 19.Qf3 Hopeless is 19.Qxb2, since 19...Rxe2 not only regains the piece, but wins another: 20.Qc1 Rc2. The pin can be an immensely powerful tactical element.

19...Qe7 20.a2 Now on 20.Qxb2 White may be fortunate enough to survive to a bad endgame: 20...Bxe2 21.Qxe2! Bxc3 22.Qxe7 Rxe7 and ...Rae8 with total control of the open e-file. But Black would probably continue as in the game, 20...Be5! with Kingside threats.

20...e5 21.g5 Qd7 22.e1 a1=Q 23.a3 Qd4 24.Qb1 a6 25.Qg3+ 26.Qe2 Qxe2 27.Qxe2+ White Resigns.

0-1

- Korchnoi, V.
- Shirov, A.

Biel 1992 0-1 A13

Viktor Korchnoi was Anatoly Karpov’s only challenger for the World Championship during the late 1970’s, until Garry Kasparov came along. Of course, the long shadow of Bobby Fischer was cast over all the pretenders to the throne during this period. Korchnoi never did break through against his arch rival Karpov, and in this game he succumbs to the young Latvian, Alexi Shirov.

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Qg2 c6 4.Qc2 dxc4 5.Qxc4 b5 6.Qc2 Qb7 7.d3 Qf6 8.Qc3 a6 9.a4 Qe7 10.Qf3 Qd7 11.0-0 Qe8 12.d1 Qc8 13.e4 Qb6 14.axb5 axb5 15.d4 c5 16.d5 exd5 17.e5 d4 Shirov sacrifices a piece to gain passed pawns, active pieces, and a space advantage. These are more than enough compensation.

play, but this proves insufficient. 28...gx6 29... f4
d6 30...c3 d4 31...c4 d6 32...d2 dxe2 Two pieces are often more than a match for a Rook and a Pawn. But here they have two passed pawns to deal with, and in the endgame the Knights fail to coordinate. 33...xe2 a8 34...e1 a2 35...e8 g7 36...e3 d5 37...g4 c2 38...h4 h5 39...g5 fxg5 40...hxg5 b3 41...b8 b2 42...g2 42...Rxb2 is met by Rdx2!, leaving Black with a simple win after either 43...Bxd2 Rxc4 or 43...Rxc2

stronger is 34...Rb7.

0-1

- Browne, W.
- Kamsky, G.

National Open (5)
Las Vegas 1993 0-1 E97

Kamsky tied for first in a field of 940 players. INSIDE CHESS noted: “The best played game of the tournament was Gata’s stubborn defense against Walter Browne’s virulent queenside attack. Gata digested the sacrified material and scored the point.”

1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3...c3 g7 4.e4 d6 5...f3 O-O 6...e2 e5 7.O-O c6 8.d5 e7 9...d2 a5 It’s debatable whether Black should take time to slow the coming queenside offensive or start his kingside attack right away with Nd7 and f5. 10.a3 d7 11...b1 f5 12.b4 e8 13.f3 strictly speaking, this move is not yet really necessary. More consistent is 13...Nbd7. 13...g8 14...c2...g6 15...d3 f4 16...b5 b6 17...b2 e8 18...c5 bxc5 19...b3 a4 20...a5 b8 21...xa4 g5 22...c2 g4 23...b3...g8 24...xc5 Browne didn’t like the looks of 24... bxc5 gxf3 25...Rxf3 Ng4 and instead gives up a piece for two pawns with more in the offing. 24...dxe5 25...xe5...e6 26...d6...e7 27...bxc5...bd7 of course not 27...Qxe5??

28...Nd7 mate. White has plenty of compensation for the piece. 28...d4...e8 29...xg7+...xg7 30...f5...e5 31...dxc6...d6 32...h6...g7 33...fg4...xg4 34...b2 probably a time-pressure error. Stronger is 34...Rb7. 34...xc5+ 35...h1...h5 36...e5...xh6 37...xf6...xf6 38...e5 f3 39...xf3...h3 40...g1...ag8 41...g7...xg7 42...g3...w6 43...w2...g2+ 44...g1...xf3+ 45...f1...xc6 46...d4...e8 47...h4...g7 48...b2...g4 49...xg7+...xg7 50...b6...e5 51...e2...a8 52...b3...f6 53...d2...a4 Black gradually makes inroads with his extra piece. 54...g3...c4 55...d3...h6 56...c3...xa3 57...xa3...xa3 58...f4...d5 59...b7...c4 60...d3...e5 61...c2...e6 62...e4...g4 63...c2...h5 64...e4...g6+ 65...g3...e7 white resigns. The fatal threat of Nf5+ compels White to swap his bishop for the knight.

0-1

- Christiansen, L.
- Karpov, A.

Wijk aan Zee (2)

Holland 1993 1-0 E12

The shortest loss of Karpov’s illustrious career. Wijk aan Zee’s annual Hoogovens Chess Festival broke with tradition this year and ran the premier section as a knockout. Although top-seed Karpov won the event, he was almost eliminated early on by America’s Larry Christiansen.

1.d4...f6 2.c4 e6 3...f3 b6 4...a3 popularized by Petrosian, this quiet move seems to have no bearing on the center. It prevents a pin by ...Bb4, thus preparing an eventual Nc3 and d5. 4...a6 5...b7...b5 disrupts White from casting. 5...c2...b7 an apparent loss of time but White no longer can enforce d5 with his queen on c2. Another idea is 5...c5 right away. 6...c5 c5 7...e4...d4 8...xd4...e6 9...xe6...xe6 10...f4...h5 11...e3...d6 a misguided way to put pressure on f4. On 11...Bc5 Black’s position is perfectly playable, but he simply overlooks White’s reply, winning a piece. 12...d1 Black Resigns. The double attack on d6 and h5 is lethal. When grandmasters drop a piece without compensation, they usually resign on the spot. 1-0

- Short, N.
- Kasparov, G.

PC A World Championship (8)

London 1993 1/2-1/2 B86

This might have been the most brilliant game of the match – and Short’s immortal effort – if he had only faced Kasparov when he had the chance! He had to wait until game 16 for his first and only victory but Kasparov, after several narrow escapes, defended his title decisively with a final score of 12.5 - 7.5.

1.e4 c5 2...f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4...xd4...f6 5...c3 a6 6...e4 a favorite of Fischer’s against the Najdorf Sicilian. In two earlier match games Short essayed 6. Bg5. 6...e6 7...h3...bd7 8...f4...c5
9.e5 White accepts a weak pawn on e5 in return for greater mobility. In game 6 Short got an edge with 9. b5 c7 10. Qc7 O–O 11. Be5 c6 12. Nde2 b5 13. Bd5. 9...dxe5 10.fxe5 Qf7 11. Nf3 b5 12. Ng4 h5 13. Nh3 b4 14. f4 g5 Launching incredible complications. Now 15. Bxg5 Nxe5 favors Black; so does 15. Qxg5 Qxg5 16. Bxg5 Bg7. Instead Short decides on a startling piece sacrifice. 15.O–O–O Qe7 15.0–0–0 Qe7 Probably insufficient. 15...gx4 is hard to crack. Short said he intended 16. Nxe6 which looked too dangerous to Kasparov, but the jury is still out. 16.c6 Qb7 17.axb3 Qe5 18. Qe4 Qxc6 19. Qg4 b7 20. d6 Qxd6 Kasparov repeatedly finds the only defense. Not 20...Qxe4? 21. Rxe6+! Be7 22. Rxe7+ Kf8 23. Qxd7. 21...Qxd6+ 22.f1 Qxe5 23. Qxe6 d5 24. Qf7+ After this Black hangs by a thread but the fabulous 24. Qf6!! Rh7 (not 24...Kg8? 25. Nh5+ Bh8 26. Nh5) Re8 27. Rd1 Qe6 28. Rd8! Bc6 29. Ne7+ wins. 24...Qxf7 25. g7+ Qg8 26. Qf6+ Qh7 27. Qxf7 Wh5 Forced. There is no other way to thwart Ng5+. 28. Qg5+ Qg8 29. Qf6+ Qg7 30. g4 f5 31. Kb1 b3 O–O 32. a4 a6 4. b5 a6 3. b5 a6 4. a4 a6 3. a4 a6 4. a4 5. b5 a6 4. b5 a6 5. Qd3 Qf3+ 41. Qd2 Qf2+ Draw by Agreement. What a game!
1/2 – 1/2

○ Engbersen, J.
• Simmelink, J.
Postal Chess (7)
Via Mail
1993 0-1 B78
Postal chess affords unknown players enough time to research openings deeply and search for important innovations. “Where can one find more art and less sport?” inquired one dyed-in-the-wool postal-chess expert. There are many ways to thwart Ng5+. 28. Qg5+ Qg8 29. Qf6+ Qg7 30. g4 f5 31. Kb1 b3 O–O 32. a4 a6 3. b5 a6 4. a4 5. Qd3 Qf3+ 41. Qd2 Qf2+ Draw by Agreement. What a game!
1/2 – 1/2

○ Kasparov, G.
• Short, N.
PCA World Championship (1)
London 1993 1-0 C88
Incredibly, both Kasparov and Short were among the top 20 players in the world chess body, then they formed the Professional Chess Association (PCA) for their own mutual benefit. Kasparov criticized this move and suggested

9...Qd2 10.d7 10.h4 h5 Black has had considerable success with this simple counter. Kasparov's decision to play this was highly questionable. Kasparov's decision to play this was highly questionable. Kasparov's decision to play this was highly questionable. Kasparov's decision to play this was highly questionable. Kasparov's decision to play this was highly questionable.
14...Bf8 followed by g6 andBg7. 15.\texttildelow xd4 exd4 16.\texttildelow d5 \texttildelow x d5 But this is the real culprit. More prudent is 16...Bd8 17. Bf4 Qb7. 17.exd5 \texttildelow d7 18.\texttildelow d2 \texttildelow f6 19.\texttildelow xe8+ \texttildelow xe8 20.\texttildelow e2 Stronger is 20. Qe1 Qb7 21. Qe4 followed by Re1. 20...\texttildelow b5 21.\texttildelow e1 \texttildelow xc4 22.dxc4 h6 23.b3 c5 24.\texttildelow f4 \texttildelow d7 25.h3 \texttildelow d8 26.\texttildelow e4 h5 27.\texttildelow e2 g6 28.\texttildelow f3 \texttildelow g7 29.\texttildelow e4 \texttildelow f3 30.\texttildelow e2 \texttildelow c7 Going after the pawn leads to disaster. 30...Qf5 looks more natural. 31.\texttildelow g5 \texttildelow e8 32.g4 hxg4 33.\texttildelow f6 Kasparov claimed he missed a win with 33. hxg4 Qxg5 34. Bf6 Qa1+ 35. Kg2 d6 36. Qf3 dxc2 37. Bxc1 c1/Q 38. Qf6 Qb6 39. Re1 Bg7 40. Qxd6 Bxa1 41. Qxa6 Re8 42. Qxa1 Qf4 43. Qd1. 33...\texttildelow x h3 34.\texttildelow g4 \texttildelow a8 Now 34...Bg7 35. Re7 Bxf6 36. Rxc7 Rxc7 is the only chance to hold the ending. 35.\texttildelow x h3 \texttildelow g7 36.\texttildelow x g7 Flag hanging. Kasparov again misses a win by 36. Re7! Qe8 (not 36...Qd8 37. Rxh7?) 37. Qxc8+ Rxc8 38. Bxg7 Kxg7 39. Rd7. 36...\texttildelow x g7 37.\texttildelow b4 \texttildelow f3 The attack is over and Short rightly refused a draw. 38.\texttildelow h7+ \texttildelow f8 39.\texttildelow g4 \texttildelow e8 Short was thunderstruck when the arbiter informed him that his flag fell. Both sides agreed Black is winning. Kasparov said: “I thought at first I could play 40. Qe6+ but it loses to 40...fxe6 41. Rxc7 exd5 42. cxd5 Rf8 43. Rc6 Rf3! 44. Rxa6 Rc3. 1-0

\begin{itemize}
\item \textbf{Khalifman, A.}
\item \textbf{Gulko, B.}
\end{itemize}

\textbf{World Team Championship (4)}

Lucerne, Switzerland 1993 1/2-1/2 C07

In a field of ten top teams, the USA won resoundingly with 22 1/2 out of a possible 36 points, a full 2 1/2 points ahead of one dominant Russia. Four out of six stars on the American lineup including Boris Gulko were emigres from the former Soviet Union. This fighting draw is from the USA-Russia matchup which was tied 2-2 on four boards.

1.e4 e5 2.d4 d5 3.\texttildelow d2 c5 4.\texttildelow g3 e5 5.\texttildelow x d5 \texttildelow x d5 6.\texttildelow b c4 \texttildelow d6 7.\texttildelow xe5 \texttildelow f6 8.\texttildelow b3 \texttildelow c6 9.\texttildelow x bd4 \texttildelow x d4 10.\texttildelow x d4 a6 Black lags in development but takes time out to guard b5. It’s hard for White to develop an initiative against this solid formation. 11.\texttildelow e1 \texttildelow c7 12.\texttildelow b3 \texttildelow d6 13.\texttildelow f5 Giving up a pawn for an attack. On 13. h3 O-O equalizes easily. 13...\texttildelow x h2+ 14.\texttildelow h1 O-O 15.\texttildelow x g7 \texttildelow d8 A vital intermezzo. If 15...Kxg7 16. Qd4! poses many problems. 16.\texttildelow f3 More active than 16. Qe2 Kxg7 17. g3 Bxg3 18. fxg3 Bd7. 16...\texttildelow x g7 17.\texttildelow b6+ An attempt to improve on 17. g3 b5 18. Kxh2 Bb7 19. Qf4 Qe6 (Wolff-Gulko, USA Championship 1992). 17...\texttildelow c6 18.c3 \texttildelow d5 19.\texttildelow e4 \texttildelow h6 20.\texttildelow g4 \texttildelow f4 Stops 21. Qh3 mate cold. 21.g3 \texttildelow d3 22.\texttildelow x f4+ \texttildelow x f4 23.gxf4 The attack is over. White remains a pawn down without compensation after the straightforward 23. Rxf4 Bxg3 24. fxg3 f5. 23...\texttildelow h3 24.\texttildelow g2 \texttildelow h5 25.\texttildelow h1 \texttildelow d7 Now White must fight hard for a draw. Also feasible is 25...e5 26.Rg5. 26.\texttildelow x h2 \texttildelow c6+ 27.\texttildelow g1 \texttildelow x h2 28.\texttildelow x h2 \texttildelow d8 29.\texttildelow f5 \texttildelow e5 30.\texttildelow d4 \texttildelow e8 31.\texttildelow f7 \texttildelow e2 32.\texttildelow g3 \texttildelow x b2 33.\texttildelow d5 \texttildelow x d5 34.\texttildelow x d5 \texttildelow x a2 35.\texttildelow x f5 After excellent defense Khalifman has finally reached a theoretical draw. 35...\texttildelow g6 36.\texttildelow c6 \texttildelow b2 37.e4 h5 38.f3 \texttildelow b4 39.\texttildelow f4 b6 40.\texttildelow c5+ \texttildelow f7 41.\texttildelow e5 h4 42.\texttildelow h6 \texttildelow x c4 43.\texttildelow x b6 a5 44.\texttildelow f5 a4 45.\texttildelow b7+ \texttildelow e8 46.\texttildelow h7 a3 47.\texttildelow a7 \texttildelow c3 48.\texttildelow g4 \texttildelow d8 49.\texttildelow x h4 \texttildelow e3 50.\texttildelow x g4 \texttildelow b3 51.\texttildelow f4 \texttildelow e8 52.\texttildelow e4 \texttildelow b8 53.\texttildelow a4 \texttildelow b7 54.\texttildelow d4 \texttildelow h3 55.\texttildelow e5 \texttildelow h5+ 56.\texttildelow b4 Draw by Agreement. 1/2-1/2

\begin{itemize}
\item \textbf{Chernin, A.}
\item \textbf{Polgar, S.}
\end{itemize}

\textbf{Zonal Budapest}

1993 0-1 A28

Susan Polgar, 24, the eldest of three grandmaster sisters, went on to capture the Women’s World Championship. This game is a model example of a one-move disaster.

1.e4 c5 2.\texttildelow c3 \texttildelow f6 3.\texttildelow f3 \texttildelow f3 \texttildelow c6 4.e3 A slower system than 4. d4 exd4 allowing early central exchanges. The idea is to delay d4 until White can gather more force behind it. 4...\texttildelow b4 5.\texttildelow c2 \texttildelow x c3 It’s unusual to swap a bishop for knight without provocation but if 5...O-O 6. Nxd5 could prove awkward. 6.\texttildelow x c3 \texttildelow e7 7.d3 d5 8.exd5 \texttildelow x d5 9.\texttildelow c2 \texttildelow o-O 10.a3 a5 11.b3 \texttildelow g4 11...f5 12. Bb2 f4 13. e4 Nf6 14. h3 Kh8 15. Bc2 Bb7 16. Rc1 Rae8 17. O-O slightly favors White (Ermenkov-Bisguier, Lone Pine 1980). 12.\texttildelow e2 \texttildelow a8 13.O-O f5 14.h3 \texttildelow h5 15.\texttildelow b2 If 15. Nxe5!? Qxe5 16. Bxe5 f4 (not 16...Qxa1? 17. Bb2 Qa2 18. Ra1 traps the queen) 17. Bf3 fxe3 18. Bxd5+ Qxd5 19. Bxe3 Qxd3 leads to equality. 15...e4 16.dxe4 fxe4 17.\texttildelow c5 Sharper than 17. Nxd4 Nxd4 18. Bxd4 Bxe2 19. Qxe2 b6 17...\texttildelow x e2 Polgar unexpectedly allows her pawn structure to be ruined for the sake of an attack; but the pawn on e4 may be weak in the long run after 17...Nxe5 18. Bxe5 Nd3 19. Be2 Nxb2 20. Qxb2. 18.\texttildelow x c6 Bxc6 19.\texttildelow x c2 \texttildelow d6 20.\texttildelow a1 Careless. White can’t afford this loss of time. Necessary is 20. Bd4! Rg6 21. f4
with chances for both sides. 20...\text{g}6 21.\text{d}4 \text{f}3 Ends the show. Perhaps Chernin was hoping for 21...Qg5 22. f4 exf3 23. Rxf3 Qxg2+ 24. Qxg2 Rxf3 25. Qxg6 hxg6 26. Kg2 Rf7 27. Rxc6 with advantage. 22.g3 \text{h}4 23.\text{h}2 gxf3 24.fxg3 \text{h}xg3 25.\text{h}1 \text{wxh}3+ 26.\text{g}1 \text{g}3+ 27.\text{f}2 \text{h}4 One critic described this impressive and deadly quiet move as "the jewel in the crown." 28.\text{h}1 \text{h}3+ White Resigns, as he gets mated after 29. Qg2 Qg3+ 30. Kf1 Rxh1. 0-1

\begin{itemize}
  \item Gelfand, B.
  \item Karpov, A.
\end{itemize}

Linares (8)

Spain 1994 0-1 E54

A typically magnificent effort by Karpov who defends with deadly precision. Note how he nurses his back rank, provoking his opponent to charge forward like a raging bull.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.c4 \text{f}6 5.e5 \text{c}6 6.d5 \text{f}6 7.dxe5 \text{b}4 A Nimzo Indian Defense by transposition. 7. \text{d}3 \text{d}xe4 8. \text{c}x\text{c}4 0-0 9.0-0 \text{b}6 10.\text{g}5 \text{b}7 11.\text{e}1 \text{c}x\text{c}3 12.\text{b}xc3 \text{bd}7 Supporting f6. Now it’s clear why Black delayed placing this knight on c6. 13.\text{d}3 \text{wc}7 14.\text{e}2 \text{f}6 15.\text{h}4 \text{fc}8 16.\text{g}3 \text{a}3 17.\text{e}4 \text{f}8 Not an easy defensive move to spot, but as Larsen once said, "With a knight on f8 I never get mated!" 17...\text{Qxa}2 is just asking for trouble after 18. Ne5! 18.\text{e}5 \text{g}6 19.\text{e}3 \text{f}8 A typical Karpovian retreat, like waving a red flag in front of a bull, daring White to lunge forward. 20.\text{f}4 Burning bridges by going for an all-out attack. More prudent is 20. \text{a}4. 20...\text{d}8 21.\text{b}1 \text{e}7 22.\text{h}4 Again 22. \text{a}4 comes into consideration but White is focused on the kingside. 22...\text{g}6 23. \text{g}5 Declining a likely repetition by 23. Bg3 Ne7. 23...\text{b}5 Playing for a win. If 24. cxb5 Qd5 regains the pawn with advantage. 24.\text{g}x\text{g}6 \text{hxg}6 25.\text{h}3 \text{c}7 Guarding against the threat of Rh8+. Now White has little choice but to sacrifice a pawn since on 26. c5 Qd5 Black seizes the initiative. 26.\text{d}5 \text{exd}5 27.\text{c}5 \text{eb}8 Brings the attack to a screeching halt. 28. \text{h}3 \text{ew}8 29.\text{d}4 \text{f}5 30.\text{e}3 \text{we}8 31.\text{x}f6 \text{gx}f6 32.\text{f}3 \text{e}4 33.\text{d}2 f5 Suddenly Black has an extra pawn and a safe king. White’s last trump is his passed c-pawn. 34. \text{ec}3 a5 35.\text{c}6 The pawn is weaker here. Better is 35. a3. 35...\text{b}4 36.\text{b}3 \text{d}6 37.\text{f}2 \text{b}4 38.\text{c}5 \text{a}4 39.\text{d}4 \text{d}3 40.\text{d}2 \text{e}4 41.\text{x}b4 \text{xf}4 42.\text{we}3 \text{eb}8 Once again Karpov’s unique style has completely bamboozled a world class grandmaster. All Black’s pieces are better placed than their counterparts. 43. \text{d}1 \text{c}3 44.\text{c}1 \text{e}4 45.\text{a}1 \text{e}8 Guarding the back rank. 46.\text{a}5 \text{a}3 47.\text{b}1 \text{e}3+ 48.\text{h}1 \text{xe}2 49.\text{f}3 \text{h}3 The bishop has played a major role in the defense. First it blocked the e-file, then the e-file and finally the b-file. The end is near. 50.\text{e}1 \text{f}4 51.\text{e}1 \text{c}2 52.\text{a}1 \text{b}6 A last humiliation. The rook is trapped. White Resigns. 0-1

\begin{itemize}
  \item Polgar, J.
  \item Kasparov, G.
\end{itemize}

Linares (5)

Spain 1994 0-1 B85

Hungarian whiz Judith Polgar, the youngest of three sisters who all became grandmasters, earned this exalted title in 1992 at age 15, thus shattering Bobby Fischer’s record by a few months. Judith became the highest rated woman ever and her first encounter with world champion Kasparov created a sensation because he took a move back!

1.e4 c5 2.\text{f}3 d6 3.d4 \text{xd}4 4.\text{xd}4 \text{f}6 5.e3 a6 6.f4 \text{e}7 7.e2 \text{c}7 8.0-0 \text{wc}7 9.\text{e}1 \text{bd}7 10.\text{a}4 \text{b}6 11.\text{f}3 \text{b}7 12.\text{h}1 \text{d}8 Not an ideal post for the rook but Black probably was concerned about 12...O-O 13. e5 dxe5 14. fxe5 Ne8 15. Bf4 with the freer game. 13.\text{e}3 Sharper is 13. Qg3 O-O 14. f5 right away. 13...O-O 14.\text{g}3 \text{e}5 15.\text{f}5 \text{e}6 16.\text{h}6 \text{e}8 17.\text{g}3 \text{d}7 Since White’s knight is relatively ineffective on b3, Kasparov avoids the swap and keeps the tension. 18.\text{ad}1 \text{h}8 19.\text{e}3 \text{e}6 20.\text{f}2 \text{f}8 21.\text{f}1 Drifting. 21. g4 is more in the spirit of attack. 21...\text{f}8 22.\text{g}5 \text{b}6 23.\text{h}4 \text{e}8 Breaking the pin and reassigning the rook to a higher mission on the open c-file. 24.\text{f}1 \text{e}7 25.\text{d}2 \text{e}5 26.\text{b}3 \text{b}4 Playing to win. Polgar has already signalled her readiness to draw by repetition after 26...\text{Qc}7 27. Nd2 etc. 27. \text{e}2 \text{xe}4 28.\text{xe}4 \text{xe}4 29.\text{xe}7 \text{xe}7 30.\text{f}3 \text{ef}6 31.\text{x}a6 \text{ee}8 Escwewing 31...Rxc2 32. Nd4 threatening Nxc2 and/or Ne6. Now Black has a strategically won game if he can mobilize a pawn steamroller in the center with e4 and d5. 32.\text{e}2 \text{g}8 33.\text{b}7 \text{c}4 34.\text{d}2 \text{xd}4 35.\text{w}xd6 \text{xc}2 36.\text{d}2 \text{d}8 A better way to exploit his extra pawn is 36...\text{Qf}4 37. \text{Rf}1 Qd4. But Kasparov already touched the knight by playing 36...Ne5? and froze before changing his mind in view of 37. Be6 skewering his queen and rook. Polgar, clearly startled, glanced at Kasparov and then at the arbiter, who was monitoring the game.
as it neared the time control at move 40. But she lodged no protest, as required by the rules to establish a claim, and the arbiter later said that since Kasparov’s hand was still on the knight, he had the right to move it to another square. “I was playing the World Champion and didn’t want to cause unpleasantness during my first invitation to such an important event,” Polgar explained afterwards. “I was also afraid that if my complaint was overruled I would be penalized on the clock when we were in time pressure.” A few days later The London Times carried a front page story, “Kasparov Cheated, Opponent Claims.” A video replay taken by a Spanish film crew during the game showed that his hand did quit the piece for a mere fifth of a second. Deliberate foul or an attempt to change his grip on the knight? Shaken by the controversy, Kasparov stated: “I have the feeling I did not take my hand off the piece. My conscience is clear.” 37.Qxe4 Qd8 38.Qxf6+ Qxf6 39.Qxb6 Qg4 40.f1 e4 41.d5 e3 42.b3 Qe4 43.Qxc2 Qxc2 44.Qd8 Qxd8 45.Qxd8+ Kh7 46.Qe7 Qc4 White Resigns. If 47. Re1 Qf4 is decisive.

Here is the famous touch move controversy, where Kasparov took a move back either by accident or design. His 17-year-old opponent failed to lodge a protest and didn’t complain until after she had resigned. “I was playing the world champion and I didn’t want to cause unpleasantness during my first invitation to such an important event,” she explained. “I was also afraid that if my complaint was overruled I would be penalized on the clock when we were in time pressure.” It turns out, however, that the game was being videotaped. Examination of the frames later determined Kasparov removed his hand from his knight on move 36 for 1/4 of a second. “I have the feeling I did not take my hand of the piece. My conscience is clear,” he said. The press had a field day with this incident. Kasparov’s enemies accused him of cheating, and it damaged his reputation.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.b3 Bb4 6.e3 a6 6.f4 c6 7.0–0 Bc7 8.O–O Qe7 9.h4 Qc7 10.a4 This push weakens the queenside but stops Black’s expansion by b5. 10...b6 11.Qf3 Qb7 12.h1 b5 13.Qg5 Qf3 14.Qxf3 a5 15.f5 e5 16.b4 Qb8 17.Qb3 Qd7 An unusual retreat to avoid simplifications. More logical is 17...Kh8 18.ad1 g6 19.g3 Qe6 20.Qf2 fe8 21.Qe1 Qf8 22.g5 h6 23.Qb4 Qc8 24.f1 Qe7 25.Qd2 This retreat bolsters e4 but 25.Qd3 is better. 25...Qe5 26.Qe3 Qf4 Exploiting the fact that White cannot dislodge the queen by a3. 27.Qe2 An inconsistent retreat. More natural is 27.Qd3. 27...Qxe4 28.Qxe4 Qxe4 29.Qxe7 xe7 30.Qf3 Qf6 31.Qa6 Qe8 Also feasible is 31...Qxe2 32.Nd4 Qc4. 32.Qe2 Qg8 33.b7 Qc4 34.Qd2 Qxa4 35.Qxd6 Qxc2 36.Qd2 Qf8 At first Kasparov played 36...Nc5 but changed his mind when he saw 37. Be6! is too powerful. Deliberate foul or an attempt to change his grip on the knight and reverse direction? “Kasparov did not take his hand off the knight, so he had a perfect right to change his move,” opined the arbiter, who was watching closely. Obviously the naked eye can be fooled. 37.Qe4 Qd7 38.Qxf6+ Qxf6 39.Qxb6 Qg4 40.f1 e4 The march of this pawn is decisive. If 41.h3 e3! 42.hxg4 e2 wins. 41.d5 e3 42.b3 Qe4 43.Qxc2 Qxc2 44.Qd8 Qxd8 45.Qxd8+ Kh7 46.Qf1 Qc4 Polgar threw in the towel in view of 47. Kg1 e2 48. Re1 Qd4 49. Kg1 Qh5 50. Kg1 Nh3+ 51. Kh1 Qg1+! 52. Rxg1 Nf2 smothered mate.

0-1

Judith Polgar
Gary Kasparov
Linares (5)
Spain 1994 0-1 B85

These two "wunderkinder" first played each other at the New York Open in 1989 when Judith was 12 and Gata was 14 when he defected with his father to the USA. She won but Gata soon got revenge at a tournament in India. Their first two games were bitterly hard fought, and this third encounter is no exception.


12.d4 Qd6
13. e1 h4 14. g3 h3 15. e3 g4 16. d3 e8 17. d2 e6 Black mobilizes his heavy artillery in order to get compensation for the pawn. 18. a4 f5 19. f1 h5 20. f4 bx a4 Opening the b-file for Black’s rook but giving White an open a-file in return. 21. xa4 b8 22. xd5 exd 23. g2 Also feasible is 23. Rx a6 Qe 8 24. Bf 7 Qd 7 25. Rx e6 Qx e6 26. c4 Qc 4 27. Qe 4 Qxe 4 28. Bc 2 Be 6 29. Rc 6 with an edge (Chandler-Littlewood, London 1987).

23... e8 24. xd5 h8 25. c4 xf 4 Looks brilliant but this has all been analyzed! 26. xf4 g6 27. d6 f3+ Leads to a draw. An unclear try is 27... Bh3+ 28. Kg 2 Rxa 2 29. Re 2 Rg 2 30. Qxg 2 Rxe 2 31. Qxe 2 Qh 5+ 32. Qf 3 Bg 4 33. Qxg 4 fxg 4 (Canfell-Blatny, Altenteig 1988). 28. f1 xd 5 29. xe 8 xe 2 30. e2 White must consent to a repetition since 30. Re 1 Bd 6 leads to trouble. 30... b1 31. e1 b2 32. e 2 B 1+ Draw by 3-fold repetition.

1/2-1/2

Karpov, A.
• Topalov, V.
Linares (4)
Spain
1994

In the 90s top players got younger and younger. French prodigy Joel Lautier made his debut at the super-tournament in Linares with a 7-6 plus score. In the last round he scored a well-deserved victory over the world champion that the teenager is sure to treasure for a long time.

1.e4 c5 2. f3 e6 3. d4 c6 4. f4 d5 5.c3 Kasparov later successfully revived the Evans Gambit 4... b4! in some critical games. 4... c6 5.d3 This slow system is more popular nowadays than 5. d4 exd 4 6. cxd4 Bb 4+ which resolves the central tension too soon. Also see Waitskin-Xie Jun, 1995. 5... d6 6. b3 h6 7. h3 a6 8. b2 d6 Now 9. Bxd 6 exd 6. Qb 3 Qe 8 leads to naught. 9. e2 a7 10. e2 c7 Each player refrains from castling until the other commits himself first. 11. b4 Black's antidote to this flank attack is to break in the center. More feasible is 11. Nf 1 O-O 12. Ng 3. 11... d5 12. a4 b5 13. O-O O-O 14. a 5 bx a 5 15. d4 Ultra sharp, dangerous, preventing the threat of Bxf 2+. 15... exd 4 16. e5 dxc 3 17. exf 6 wxf 6 Black gets a bushel of pawns for the piece and newens the threat of Bxf 2+. The next few moves are forced. 18. b3 cxb 4 19. b4 d1 20. x a7 c2 Stronger than 20... Rxa 7 21. Nbd 4 Bc 4 22. Qe 4. Now if 21. Bxc 2 Rxa 7 22. Nbd 4 Bc 4 23. Qe 4 Nx c 2 is crushing. 21. x a8 ex a 7 = 22. xf 8+ xf 8 23. x b 5 xb 5 24. h b 8+ e 7 25. x c 7+ e 8 26. d 2 w d 8 27. w e 5 w f 8 28. x d 4 x d 3 29. w e 3 w c 4 White Resigns. Somebody forgot to tell the lad he was supposed to get creamed.

1-0
Cifuentes, R.  
Zvaginsetv, V.  
Wikel aan Zee Open  
Holland  
1995  
0-1  
D45

The "Everygreen Game" (see Andersen - Dufresne 1853) is still fresh today. But tastes change and now we prefer brilliancies to be less one-sided. Here Vadam Zvaginsetv, 18, an unknown Russian new to the international arena, creates a modern everygreen against a Chilean grandmaster.  

1.d4 e6 2.\f3 d5 3.c4 \f6 4.\c3 c6 5.e3 \bd7 6.\xe2 b6 7.\e2 b7 8.\e8 9.\d1 O-O 10.e4 dx4 11.\xe4 \c7 Black is solid. Now White retreats his knight to avoid swaps which would ease Black’s cramped.  


15.\b4 g6 16.\h6 \e8 17.\d2 \d6 18.g3 b5 19.\f3 b4 20.\e2 \e4 21.\c2 \d6 22.\g2 \d7 An alternative is 22...c4 23. Ne3 Rac8.  

23.\e3 \ad8 24.\g2 Careless. White should try 21. \c4.  

24.\xf2 25.\xf2 \xe3 26.\xe3 The best defense is 26. Kxe3 Ng4+ 27. Kd2 Nh6 28. Kc2 \d6 29.\e1 \c3 30.\e2 31.\c4 \c5+ 32. \xe4 \xe3 33.\g4 \e5+ 34. \g5 \e4 \c6 35.\h6 \e5 White Resigns. The threat of Bf8 or Rh5 mate can’t be stopped. 0-1

Seirawan, Y.  
Polgar, J.  
Donner Memorial (8)  
Amsterdam  
1995  
1-0  
D38

Yasser Seirawan was America’s top-ranked player for several years – until his interest shifted to creating INSIDE CHESS, where he wrote: “In preparing for my first rated tournament game against Judith Polgar, I was astonished at the number of games that she has played. Although only 19, she is a veritable veteran of the tournament circuit. As baseball great Yogi Berra might say, ‘They’re getting old early these days.’”  

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.\c3 \b4 Inviting 4. Qa4+ Nc6. More usual is 3...Be7 or Nf6.  

4.\cxd5 \exd5 5.\f3 \f6 6.\g5 \h6 7.\xf6 \xf6 8.b3 \c5 9.e3 \e5+ 10.\e5 O-O 11.dxc5 d4 Forced. Black lacks compensation for the pawn on 11...Bxc3+ (or 11...Bxc5 12. Nxd5) 12. Qxc3 Qxe3+ 13. bxc3 Na5 14. Nd4.  

12.\e6 dxe3 13.\xb4 exb2 14.\b1 bxc6 15.O-O There’s no rush to win a pawn. If 15. Qxb2 Qg6 16. O-O Bh3 17. Nh4 Qg5 18. Qb4 Rad8 Black gets active piece play.  

15...\a6 16.\f1 \a8 17.\a3 \c4 18.\d4 \e8 Best. If now 19. Rxb2 Rxb2 20. Qxb2 Bxa2! 21. Qxa2 Qxd4 22. Qxa7 Qd5 offers good drawing chances.  

19.\f5 \g5 20.\xc6 \bc8 A tougher defense is 20...Rb5 21. Nd4 Rxc5.  

21.\f5 \d5 22.\e5 \xc5 23.\xc5 \xc5 24.\xb2 \e6 “The presence of the a2-pawn gives White good chances. Converting this position to a victory is a long journey and I wasn’t terribly optimistic. This move gave me hope. After 24...Bd5! 25. e4?! Ba8 26. Rbe2 f6 27. Nf3 Re4 Black’s pieces are very active and White has to forego e4” – Seirawan.  

25.a4 \f6 26.\f3 \a5 27.\a1 \d7 28.\f2 \c8 29.\b4 g5 Gains space and forces pawn exchanges. With every trade Black comes closer to a draw.  

30.\f5 \xg5 31.\d4 \c7 32.\h3 \f7 33.\g4 \e7 34.\a3 \d6 35.\g3 \e5 “I think it was better to remain on the kingside with 35...Ke7. Black might have a source of counterplay against the g4-pawn” – Seirawan.  

36.\b8 \d5 37.\f8 \e5 38.\f7 \ac5 39.\ac5 “At last my a-pawn is no longer a problem. White has made a lot of progress” – Seirawan.  

39...\e8 40.\f8 \g6 41.a6 \f7 42.h4 \xh4 43.\xb4 \xe4 44.\g3 \xe5 45.\d4 \d5 The idea is Nf3+ followed by Kf4 making inroads with the king.  

45...\c6 46.\e8+ \d6 47.\xc4 \xc4 48.\b5+ \d5 49.e4+ \f6 50.\xc7 \xc7 51. \b6 \d7 52. \f6 \xe4 53. \f7+ \xe4 54. \xa7 \e4 55. \b7 "It isn’t too late to spoil matters. After 55. Ra8 Kb6 56. a7? Kg7! Black draws. The not-so-secret key to winning rook endings is the active rook” – Seirawan.  

55...\f6 Of course on 55...Rxa6 56. Rh6+ spears a rook.  

56.a7 \g5 57.\f3 \f4+ 58.\e3 \a4 59. \g7+ \f6 60. \c7 \g5 61.\d3 \a1 62.\d4 Black Resigns. The end of a long haul. On 62...Kxg4 63. Kc5 Kf5 64. Kb6 Ke6 65. Kb7 Rh1+ 66. Kc8 Ra1 67. Kb8 Rb1+ 68. Rb7 wins. 1-0

Kasparov, G.  
Anand, V.  
PCA World Championship (10)  
New York City  
1995  
1-0  
C80

Anand surged ahead with a win in game 9 after a string of eight draws. The turning point came in this amazing game that sheds light on Kasparov’s deep opening preparation. Blitzing out his first 22 moves in under five minutes, he caught Anand by surprise with a brilliant rook sacrifice on move 17. Demoralized by this defeat, Anand failed to win
another game as Kasparov proceeded to defend his PCA title by the lopsided score of 10.5-7.5.

1.e4 e5 2..df3 dc6 3. dxe5 d6 4. d4 f6 5.O-O de4 The Open Defense to the Ruy Lopez has never been as fashionable as the solid 5...b5 6. Bb3 Be7. 6.d4 b5 7. dxe5 dxe5 8.dxe5 dc6 9.e3 de5 10. bd2 d4 11. g5 This startling sacrifice was Karpov’s innovation against Korchnov in game 10 of their 1978 title match. For the record 11...Qxe5 12. Qf3 Qe7 13. Bxe6+ fxe6 14. Qxe6 Qxe6 15. b4 is good for White. 11...dxe3 12. dx e6 fx e6 13. bxc3 14. c2 Improving on 14. Nf3 O-O-O! (Karpov-Korchnov was later drawn after 14... Qxd1 15. Bxd1 Be7) in game 10. 14... dx e6 15. Bb3 cxb3 16. Bd2 Qxe5 17. Bxe6+ fxe6 18. Qf3 Qe7 19. f5

If 38...b3 39. f6+ Kf8 40. e6 Nxe6 41. Bxb3 Nxg5 22. Qf7 mate.

24...Rxd5 35. Kxd5 Nxf4+ 36. Kc4. Kasparov now demonstrates impeccable technique as his kingside pawns carry the day. 25...c6 26.f4 a5 27. fxe2 a4 28. c3 b4 29. d1 a3 30.g4 31. c4 32. e4 33. c5 34. d5 35. e8 Equally futile is 34...Rxd5 35. Kxd5 Nxf4+ 36. Kc4. 35.f5 36. c4+ 37. g5 38. c1 39. d6 Black Resigns. If 38...b3 39. f6+ Kf8 40. e6 Nxe6 41. Bxb3 Nxg5 42. Rd8 mate.

1-0

1. e4 e5 2. df3 dc6 3. c4 de5 4. c3 dx e6 5. d4 d5

This is currently considered the standard way to play this opening, replacing the older 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4 f5 7. dxe5 Be6 8. d2 Nf6 9. Nxe4 Qe7 10. Bd3 Nc6 11. Nf3 Nf6 12. Nc3 Nf6

22. Qf7 mate. 24. Re1 loses to Nd3. White is now all tied up and gives up a pawn to survive for a few more moves.

The modern method instead of the old 5...Ba5.

Kasparov created a sensation by reviving the hoary Evans Gambit and blew Anand away in 25 moves. This opening all but vanished from the master repertoire last century, but surprises like this are not letting Black mobilize his pawns by c5. Kasparov now demonstrates impeccable technique as his kingside pawns carry the day. 25...c6 26.f4 a5 27. fxe2 a4 28. c3 b4 29. d1 a3 30.g4 31. c4 32. e4 33. c5 34. d5 35. e8 Equally futile is 34...Rxd5 35. Kxd5 Nxf4+ 36. Kc4. 35.f5 36. c4+ 37. g5 38. c1 39. d6 Black Resigns. If 38...b3 39. f6+ Kf8 40. e6 Nxe6 41. Bxb3 Nxg5 42. Rd8 mate.

1-0

1. e4 e5 2. df3 dc6 3. c4 de5 4. c3 dx e6 5. d4 d5

This is currently considered the standard way to play this opening, replacing the older 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4 f5 7. dxe5 Be6 8. d2 Nf6 9. Nxe4 Qe7 10. Bd3 Nc6 11. Nf3 Nf6 12. Nc3 Nf6

22. Qf7 mate. 24. Re1 loses to Nd3. White is now all tied up and gives up a pawn to survive for a few more moves.

The modern method instead of the old 5...Ba5.

Kasparov, G.

- Anand, V.

Tal Memorial (4)
Riga, Latvia 1995
C51

1. e4 e5 2. df3 dc6 3. c4 de5 4. c3 dx e6 5. d4 d5

This is currently considered the standard way to play this opening, replacing the older 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4 f5 7. dxe5 Be6 8. d2 Nf6 9. Nxe4 Qe7 10. Bd3 Nc6 11. Nf3 Nf6 12. Nc3 Nf6

22. Qf7 mate. 24. Re1 loses to Nd3. White is now all tied up and gives up a pawn to survive for a few more moves.

The modern method instead of the old 5...Ba5.

Kasparov created a sensation by reviving the hoary Evans Gambit and blew Anand away in 25 moves. This opening all but vanished from the master repertoire last century, but surprises like this are not letting Black mobilize his pawns by c5. Kasparov now demonstrates impeccable technique as his kingside pawns carry the day. 25...c6 26.f4 a5 27. fxe2 a4 28. c3 b4 29. d1 a3 30.g4 31. c4 32. e4 33. c5 34. d5 35. e8 Equally futile is 34...Rxd5 35. Kxd5 Nxf4+ 36. Kc4. 35.f5 36. c4+ 37. g5 38. c1 39. d6 Black Resigns. If 38...b3 39. f6+ Kf8 40. e6 Nxe6 41. Bxb3 Nxg5 42. Rd8 mate.

1-0
6.d4  @a5 7. @e2 Less forceful is 7. Nxe5 Nxc4 8. Nxc4 d5. 7...exd4 8. Qxd4 Black has fewer problems on 8...exd4 d5. Leaving the pawn on c3 looks awkward but Black clearly will have problems getting his pieces out of the box; his first priority is meeting the threat of Qxg7. 8...Qf6 9.e5 @c6 10. Qh4 To force the knight to d5, an improvement on the stem game 10. Qf4 Nh5 11. Qg4 g6 (Meltz-Gajewsky, Russia 1981). 10...@d5 11.g3 g6 12.O–O  @b6 Instead of this lackluster retreat, he should seize the opportunity to castle come what may. 13.c4 d6 14.d1  @d7 15.h6 Giving up a second pawn to keep Black from castling. 15...Qxe5 16.cxe5 Qxe5 17.c3 In true gambit style. Kasparov isn’t about to let Anand escape for just an Exchange by 17. Bg7 Bf6 18. Bxh8 Bxh8. 17...f6 18.c5  @f7 A better defensive try is 18...Bf8. 19.exd6 cxd6 Else 19...Bxd6 20. Bb5+ c6 21. Re1+ Bd7 22. Rad1! Bb5 23. Ne4 looks terrific. White’s next move keeps the Black king hemmed in the center. 20.Bxe3  @xh6 21.Bxh6  @f8 What else? If 21...Kf7 22. Bc4+ Be6 23. Bxe6+ Bxe6 24. Re1+ Kf7 25. Nd5 Bf8 26. Qh3 Qc8 27. Qb3+ with Rac1 looming spells annihilation. 22.Be3+  @f7 If 22...Qe7 23. Qf3 (also strong is 23. Ne4) 23...Be6 24. Re1 O-O-O 25. Be4 Bxc4 26. Rxe7 Bxe7 27. Qg4+ wins. 23.Qd5  @e6 24.Qf4 @e7 25.c1 An insidious and lethal little move. If 25...Bb6 26. Be4; or 25...Bb5 26. Bd7 27. Qb3+; or 25...Bd7 26. Qb3+ Kg7 27. Bb5 Qd8 28. Bxd7 Qxd7 29. Ne6+. Seeing no defense to all the various threats, Anand threw in the towel.

1-0

○ Berzinsh, R.
• Meijers, V.

Pan Pacific Tournament (5)
San Francisco 1995

Korchnoi, still going strong at age 64, captured one of the few international round robins ever held in the USA with 8-3 in a field of 12 grandmasters. This miniature against one of Germany’s best players is typical of his fighting style.


0-1
More forceful is 13...Qf6 and if 14. Rd1 e5 15. by force into an ending clearly in White’s favor.

11. and logically strives to obtain a bind.

White has the advantage of the two bishops and that’s all because there are few practical tests. White has the advantage of the two bishops and logically strives to obtain a bind. 10...e4 11. a4 d4 12. a3 c5 5. e2 d5 6.a3 xc3+ 7. xe3 cxd4 8. xd4 c6 9.c5 O-O 10. f4 ECO says this move deserves attention, and that’s all because there are few practical tests. White has the advantage of the two bishops and logically strives to obtain a bind. 10...e4 11. xe4 dxe4 12. d6 Qd8 13. d2 e5 Leads by force into an ending clearly in White’s favor. More forceful is 13...Qf6 and if 14. Rd1 e5 15. d5 Nd4 because now 16. Bxe5? can be refuted by Nf3+. 14.dxe5 Qxe5 15. xe5 Qxd2+ 16. Rxe2 Qxe5 17.b4 Qc3+ To obtain counterplay and stop Ke3. 18.fxe3 Nf5 19. e2 d8+ 20. d1 xe3 21. b2 e7 22. ad1 Nikolay Minev wrote: "Sure to become a notorious case of the Wrong Rook Syndrome! However, the grandmaster’s blunder is inexplicable to me. Even if he had been in serious time trouble, which is clearly not the case here, instinct, common sense and the basic knowledge of any more or less experienced player should suggest the right decision. I showed this position to four players with ratings ranging from 1600 to 2000. All, and I repeat all, decided without thinking on 22 Rhd1! The explanation for this intuitive decision was also unanimous: White’s rook on h1 does not participate in the play while the other rook on a1 is already in place to support the imminent passed pawn on the queenside. 22...Qxe5+ White Resigns. The point is White drops a piece after 23. Kxe2 Bg4+. But had he challenged the file with 22. Rd1 Rxe2+ 23. Kxe2 Bg4+ 24. Ke1 Bxd1 25. Rxd1 Rxd1+. 26. Kxd1 Ke8 27. Ke2 would lead to a king and pawn ending where White retains all the winning chances.
1-0

- Kasparov, G.
- Anand, V.
Las Palmas
Canary Islands
1996
1/2-1/2
B92
The world’s top six stars clashed in the strongest round robin of 1996 at Las Palmas. PCA champion Kasparov, 33, added another laurel to his seemingly endless string of triumphs (3 wins, 7 draws). For over a decade he and Karpov, 45, towered above their rivals, but Karpov posted his worst result ever in this event (8 draws, 2 losses). The average age of their four foes was 24! In this fighting draw Kasparov missed several good chances against runner-up Anand, his last challenger for the PCA crown.

- Lugo, B.
- Van Wely, L.
14th New York Open (8)
Manhattan
1996
0-1
B80
Newcomer Blas Lugo, who defected from Cuba, turned in a performance rating of 2740 to tie for first in a field of 520 at the strongest open tournament in the world, then lapsed into obscurity. In this critical game, played in the penultimate round, Lugo nearly won all the marbles by sacrificing a knight for a ferocious attack but went astray in a maze of complications.
21. Bf8+ Kd8 22. g5 hxg5 23. Bxg5. 19... c6 20.g5 hxg5 21. hxg5 d7 22. b8 Q c8 Another fine defensive riposte. But not 22...Qc7? 23. Rxd5+! 23... Qa7+ 24. c3 d6 25. c5+ d8 26. cxe6+ gxf6 27. x d5 cxd5 28. c6+ e6 29. cxe6 c6 0-1

- Smyslov, V.
- Bacrot, E.

Six Game Training Match (3)

France 1996 0-1 B72

Athletes often have short careers, while chessmasters usually improve with age — up to a point. Ex-world champ Vassily Smyslov, now 75, was demolished by 13-year old French prodigy Etienne Bacrot, who won four and drew two games. Smyslov, considered nearly invincible in his heyday, made few obvious blunders and yet the lad outplayed him in a positional style reminiscent of the old master himself.

1.e4 c5 2.e3 c6 3.f3 d4 6.d3 cxd4 5.exd4 e6 6.e2 g6 7.e3 g7 8.b4 O–O 9.h5 d5 In accordance with the principle that a flank attack is best met by a reaction in the center. 10.hbx6 g6 11...dxc6 Varying from 11. exd5 Nxd5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13. Nxd5 Qxd5 14. Qxd5 cxd5 15. O–O with which Smyslov had defeated Botvinnik in the fifth game of their 1958 title match. 11...bx6 12.e5 e4 13.cxe4 dxe4 14.wxd8 w x d8 15. f4 e6 16. d1 d5 17. x d5 cxd5 18. w d2 w d4 19.f3 e3+ Liquid center pawns advance like molten lava.

20. w c1 e8 21. d1 g5 Also strong is 21...Bf5. 22. g5 x g5 x e5 23.b3 f6 24. h4 g7 25.f4 f5 26.e4 x f4 27. wx d4 w d6 28. f3 h8 29.g3 30. White's bishop is locked out of play on b4 the rook return to do damage on the queenside. 30. d5 e6 31. d3 c5 32. d1 a5 33. c2 a4 34. d1 d1 A loss of time. Better is 34. g4 right away to try and activate the bishop on h4. 34... b8 35. d3 b6 36.g4 axb3 37.axb3 a6 38.b4 White is bogtied. If 38. Be1 Ra2+ 39. Kf1 Kg6. 38...a2+ 39. d1 x b4 40. x c3 x c4 41. e4 41. Be4 offers more resistance. 41... b3+ 42. c1 d2+ White gave up without waiting for 43. Kbh1 Be3 followed by Ra1 mate.

37. Bb3+ 40. Bd2+ White Resigns. The fire is out.

0-1

- Shaked, T.
- Yermolinsky, A.

43rd USA Championship (9)

 Parsippany, New Jersey

1996 0-1 B22

Alex Yermolinsky, 38, captured this nation’s highest title when Russian emigres began to dominate American chess after the fall of the Soviet empire. Newcomer Tal Shaked, 18, the early leader in this event, faded in the stretch and finished near the cellar in 14. A year later, however, the rapidly improving lad who hails from Arizona won the World Junior Championship.

1.e4 c5 2.e3 d5 Since this Alapin Variation doesn’t develop a piece, Black can afford to strike quickly in the center. Also playable is 2...Nf6 3. e5 Nd5 which resembles Alekhine’s Defense but the pawn on c3 is not an asset. 3.exd5 w x d5 4.d4 f6 Seldom seen. More usual is 5.Bg4 to exert more pressure on d4. 6. a3 Qg7 7. b5 Much more forceful is 8. Be3 Qe4+ 9. Be3 (a cute mate ensues after 9. Kd2? Bh6) threatening Bxf7+. 7...a6 8.e4 cxd4 9.w x d4 f6 10. w x d4 O–O The resulting endgame looks drawish. 11.O–O Qd7 12. b3 f6 13. d1 c5 14. c3 e5 15.a4 a6 16.d4 e5 17. b3 d5 18. w x d5 x d5 19. a5 b6 20. f3 “Concentrate! A single move can cost you the game,” Fischer wrote in his 1969 BOYS’ LIFE column. This is the single move that costs Shaked the game because of his weak back rank. Correct is 20. Nc4. 20...e4 21. w x e4 Qe8 Now mate looms on 22. Bxd5? Re1. 22. f3 w x c3 23. c6 w x c6 24.c x c6 a4 25. w x a4 e1+ 26. w x e1 w x c1 27. e7+ w f8 28. w d5 e2+ 29. g3 g2 30. a4 w x d4 31.f4 h3+ 32. b4 w g7 33. b5 34. b7 g1 Decisive in view of 35. b3 B2+ 36. Kg4 Kc3+ 37. c7 x h2 36. e8+ w x g8 37. f6+ w x f6 38. e8+ It’s common for players to repeat moves when short of time as they approach the control at move 40. 38... w b8 39. w d6 f6 40. f7+ w g8 41. w x f6 b4 42.g4 w f3 43.f5 g3+ White Resigns. If 44. Kg5 Bf4+ 45. Kh4 g5+ 46. Kh3 Rh3 mate.

0-1

- Deep Blue
- Kasparov, G.

Six Game Match (1)

Philadelphia 1996 1-0 B22

February 10, 1996, is a historic date. Not only because the world’s best human was pitted against a dull, black IBM machine 6.5 feet tall and weighing 1400 pounds, but also because the computer defeated him on that day. Deep Blue coolly repulsed
a very moment that he had a draw in hand! A month after the game was over a German chess fan discovered the hidden resource Timman missed. A curious case of chess blindness.

1.e4 e5 2.f3 c6 3.b5 a6 4.a4 f6 5.O–O cxd5 6.d4 e6 7.b3 d5 8.exd5 Qc6 9.d3 Nc6 10.exd4 Qb4 The bishop is in danger of getting misplaced. More usual is 10...Be7 11. Nc3 Qd6. 11.a3 a5 12.h3 cxd4 13...c6 Qd8+ Kf5 39. Nxf3 wins. Kasparov was very upset that took place a year later.

Few people were prepared for the upset that took place a year later. Trailing by a point before this game, the defending champion was hampered by inferior pawn structure. More prudent is 25...Ne7. If 26.b4 c5 d4 28.Qf4+ Kh8 22.axb5 axb5 23.ad1 xe6 24.fxe1+ d5 25.xc3 c4 26. a5 xb3 27. b1+ c4 28.e1 c5 d5 29.c6 c6 Black regained the piece but has new problems. 30.xb5 b8 31.b4+ e6 32.e1+ f6 33.e7+ f7 34.d5 h8 35.d7 g8 36.g3 b6 37.c1 b3 38.c5 d3 39.d1 c8 40.g2 f8 41.xf6 42.Qb4 xd3 43.d3 f7 44.f4 e7 45.f4 e6 46.d8+ f7 47.d7+ e8 48.Qxe7+ 49.g5 Black Resigns. Discouraged, Timman failed to find a draw by 49...Kd6! 50.h4 Kxe6 51.f5 Kd6! in his mind’s eye he probably saw only 51...gxf5? 52.h5 Kd5 53.g6 hxg6 54.b4 (and the pawn queens) 52.f6 Ke6 53.Kf3 Kd6 54.Ke4 Ke5 55.Kd4 Kd6 56.Kc4 Kc6 57.Kb5 Kd7 58.Kdc5 Kd8 59.Kde6 59...Kd8 60.f7 Kf7 61.Kxc7 Kxh7 62.Kd7 Kf8 63.Ke6 Ke8 64.Kf6 Kf8 and White can make no further progress.

1-0

○ Polgar, S.
• Xie Jun

Women’s World Championship (7)
Jaen, Spain
1996 1-0 C45

Women’s chess took a great leap forward in the 90s, prompting observers to wonder whether separate titles for men and women should be abolished. Be that as it may, Hungary’s Susan Polgar dethroned China’s Xie Jun by the lopsided score of 8 1/2 - 4 1/2. Most games were exciting, but the defending champion was hampered by inferior opening knowledge. "Chess literature is still hard to get in China, but the game is getting very popular there," said Xie Jun. Trail by a point before this game, she desperately sought complications in order to even the score but faltered after only a dozen moves.

1-0

○ Shirov, A.
• Timman, J.

58th Wijk aan Zee
Holland
1996 1-0 C80

White’s knight sacrifice on move 11 was introduced in Karpov- Korchnoi, 10th match game 1978. Kasparov repeated it twice in his PCA title defense against Anand in 1993. White declined the knight in all three games but Timman bravely accepted it and wound up fighting an uphill battle. At the very end, however, he gave up the ship at
1.e4 e5 2.\f3 f3 c6 3.d4 exd4 4.\xd4 xd4 c5 5.\xe6 c6 6.d2 dxc6 7.\xc3 e6 8.\xa4 More direct is 8. Bd3 O-O-O 9. O-O with a sharp battle in the offing. 8...\d6 9.\xe3 h6 10.\h3 O-O 11.\e2 f8 12.\c3 e5 The queen isn’t well placed here. Better is 12...Qg6 13. O-O f5. 13.\f3 a5 14.\d2 b4 15.a3 \f5 A tactical trick that almost worked. 19...Rd8 offers the best hope. 16.exf5 \c4 17.\d4 \xc3 18.\xc3 xe2+ 19.\xf1 The fly in the ointment. Black has no good discovered check. If 19...Re8+ 20. Qxc4 Rxc4 21. Bxa5 gains a piece. Now Black has to guard his queen as well as the threat of Qxg7 mate. 19...\xc3 20.bxc3 c4+ 21.\xf2 \xd4 22.cxd4 \xd8 23.\he1 \f8 24.\xe4 g6 25.\f6 \d6 26.\e7 \xf6 27.\xc7 \xf7 28.\e3 \e6 29.\xb7a7 a6 30.\e1 \f1 31.g4 g5 32.\b6 \g2 33.\g1 d5 34.\g3 \c4 35.d5 Simplifies the task by creating a passed a-pawn. 35...\xd5 36.\xd6 \g7 37.\e7 \f4 38.a4 \g6 39.\d2 \e2+ 40.\c1 \e5 41.a5 \d4 42.\b2 \e4 43.\b7 \c5 44.\b6 Black Resigns.

1-0

Kamsky, G.

Karpov, A.

FIDE World Championship (6)

Elista, Kalmykia 1996 1-0 C43

In 1989 Gata Kamsky, 14, defected from the USSR. He rapidly rose to the pinnacle of American chess and earned the right to challenge Karpov for the FIDE title. Going into this game Kamsky was trailing by a point and had his last chance to catch up, yet he lost the thread with a series of aimless maneuvers. After returning with his share of the purse (over half a million dollars) Gata announced he was quitting chess to study medicine. “We feel completely exhausted after many years of fight against dark and mighty forces,” said his father. “We no longer want to deal with corruption, dirty tricks and the Chess Mafia.”

L.e4 e5 2.\f3 f3 \f6 3.d4 \xe4 4.\d3 d5 5.\xe5 \d7 6.\xd4 \xd7 7.0-0 8.\c3 A relatively new move instead of the usual 8. c4. The idea is to pursue rapid development by trading knights after which the open b-file discourages Black from castling long. 8...\h4 Taken by surprise Karpov spent 43 minutes on this reply. On 8...Nxc3 9. bxc3 O-O 10. Qh5 f5 11. Rb1 b6 12. Rb1 Qf6 13. Qf3 gives White an enduring advantage (Kharlov-Nielsen, Kemerovo 1995. 9.g3 \xc3 10.bxc3 \g4 11.\e1+ \d8 12.\e2 \f5 13.\b1 Possibly better is 13. c4 right away.

O Hernandez, G.

Korchnoi, V.

Training Match (2)

Merida, Mexico 1996 0-1 C00

Mexico’s premier player Gilberto Hernandez, 25, was trounced 5 1/2 - 2 1/2 by Korchnoi 65, a deadly counter-puncher and master of defense. “I like to coax my opponents into attacking and to let them taste the joy of the initiative so that they may get carried away, become careless, and sacrifice material,” said Korchnoi early in his career. This struggle illustrates his philosophy in action. Not many players would coax White into building up such a strong attack, but Korchnoi massed his heavy artillery along a central file and coolly marched his king to safety on the queenside.

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.\e2 c5 4.\f3 \c6 5.g3 \dxe4 6.dxe4 e5 7.c3 a6 A curious loss of time. 8.\g2 \e7 9.0-0 \c7 10.\f3 \d6 11.\c4 \e6 12.\g5 \xe4 13.\xe4 O-O 14.f4 b5 15.\e2 c6 16.\h3 \e5+ 17.\h1 \f8 18.f5 \e8 19.g4 h6 20.g5 \hxg5 21.\xg5 \d6 22.\e1 \f8 Black sees a storm brewing and starts a relentless trek to the other wing. 23.\f2 \d7 24.\a1 \d8 25.\f1 \f7 26.\d2 \a7 27.\c3 \e8 28.\h3 \e8 29.\g4 \xg4 30.\hxg4 Black is better after 30. Bxh8 Nf2+ 31. Rxf2 Bxf2. 30...\f6 31.\c1 \d7 32.\h2 \e8 33.\h7 \d7 34.\h2 An inaccuracy that permits Black to invade on the dark squares. Steadier is 34. Kg2. 34...\f2 35.\f1 \e3 36.\x3 \xe3 \xe3 37.\g1 \xg1+ 38.\xg1 \e7 39.\f2 \b6 40. \g2 \a5 41.g5 \a4 42.gx6 \xb6 43.\hxg6 \xg7 44.\xg7 \b3 45.\e7 \xb2 46. \xe5 \xc3 47.\e6 \d7 48.\xa6 45 The knight is clearly

285
more potent than the ineffectual bishop. 49.Qd2
e2 50.e6 d3+ White gave up without waiting for 51 Kg3 c3 and c2.

0-1

- Lonoff, M.
- Gurevich, D.
9th Masters Open
Chicago
1996 0-1 A13

Dmitry Gurevich, 37, is one of many Russian emigres who have enriched American chess. He set a torrid pace in a field of 79 including 15 grandmasters by taking calculated risks with Black. This strategy paid off when he swept this event with seven straight wins, a streak reminiscent of Fischer’s 11-0 in the star-studded 1964 USA Championship.

1.c4 e5 2.g3 d5 3.Qf3 f6 4.g2 c6 5.b3 bd7
6.O-O a5 7.Qc3 a4 8.h4 Qa7 9.Qd4 O-O 9...Qc7 b6 10.e4
a6 11.e5 Qe8 Black has gone into a defensive crouch, but his position contains no weaknesses.

12.Qe2 Qc7 13.a1 d4 14.h4 Qe7 15.Qg5
e8 16.Qxexe7 xe7 17.Qf4 Qf8 18.Qd1 Qc8
19.Qh4 f3 20.Qg2 Qc5 A bold stroke to open the position that leads to rousing complications. More prudent is 20...axb3 21.Qxb3 Rac8. 21.bxa4
Better is 21. cxd5 Nxd5 22. Nxd5 Bxd5 23. bxa4 with equal chances. 21...Qxe4 22.Qxb6 cxd4
23.Qxd4 Perhaps White intended 23. Rxb7 RxRb7
24. Nxd4 before realizing that 24...Nd5 is better for Black. 23...Qg4 24.Qxg4 Qxg4 Suddenly White’s pieces are placed awkwardly. 25.Qc6
a8 26.Qab1 Qd5 27.Qb1 a6 28.Qb8
a6 29.Qxb6 Qb4 White’s stranded knight causes his downfall. 30.Qe2 c3 31.Qf3 Qxa4
32.Qb7 Qe8 33.Qf4 c2 34.Qe2 Qxb8 White Resigns.

0-1

- Kasparov, G.
- Deep Blue
Six Game Rematch (3)
New York City
1997 1/2-1/2

Kasparov once again chose a modest opening to take advantage of its book. He got a nice positional advantage but couldn’t seem to crack Deep Blue’s ingenious defense. It was now becoming clear that he was in for the fight of his life.

1.d3 e5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.Qc4 f6 4.a3 d6 5.Qc3 e7
Most masters prefer the fianchetto 5...g6 and Bg7 but the machine places a higher priority on rapid rather than long-range development.

6.g3 O-O 7.Qg2 Qe6 8.O-O Qd7 9.Qg5 "If I had played 9.b4 instead I would have crushed it," said Kasparov after the game. 9...Qf5 10.e4
Qg4 11.f3 h5 12.Qc3 Qd4 13.Qf2 h6 14.Qc3
e5 15.b4 b6 16.Qb1 Qh8 The kind of mysterious king move that also cropped up in games one and four. The machine probably was devising a plan to rescue its bishop via g6, h7 and g8.

17.Qb2 a6 18.bxc5 bxc5 19.Qh3 Qc7 Rejecting 19...Bxf3 (not 19...Nxf3+? 20. Kh1 Qc7 21. g4) 20. Bxd7 Bxd7 21. Rxd1 Nxd7 22. Rd8
Rfd8 23. Nd5. 20. Qg4 Qg6 21.f4 exf4 22.gxf4
Qa5 23.d2 Qxa3 24.Qa2 Qh3 25.f5 Qxd1
26. Qxd1 Qb7 27.Qh3 Qfb8 28.Qf4 Qf8
Black is cramped but a pawn is a pawn. 29.Qfd5
c6 30.f4 Qe5 31.a4 Qxd5 32.Qxd5 a5
33.Qb3 Qc4 34.Qse5 g5 35. Qxe5+ dxe5 36.f6
To prevent f6 and Bg8. White’s bind compensates for his lost pawn but he can’t seem to make serious progress. 36...Qg6 37.h4 Qh4 38.Qh3
Qg8 39.Qh4 Qh7 40.Qg4 Qc7 41.Qc7 Re-
gaining the pawn leads to a draw but it’s not clear White can make more headway after 41. Ne7
Rf8 42. Rh1 h5+ 43. Kg5 Bd4 44. Nf5 Rg8.
41...Qc7 42.Qxa5 Qd8 43.Qf3 Qb8 44.Qh4
Qh8 45.a3 Qb3 46.b6 Qh7 47.a3 Qb8
48.Qd6 Draw by Agreement.

1/2-1/2

- Fracnik, L.
- Cvitan, O.
Hamburg vs. Freiburg
Germany
1997 1-0 E97

One of the flashiest games in the modern era took place at a league match in Germany’s famous “Bundesliga” where rival cities hire foreign grandmasters to play on their teams. A stunning queen sacrifice capped Black’s violent onslaught as both sides rushed to breakthrough on opposite wings.

1.d4 Qf6 2.Qf3 a6 3.Qc4 g6 4.Qg7 4.Qc3 O-O 5.e4
d6 6.Qc2 c5 It’s well-known in this King’s Indian Defense that the attempt to gain a pawn by 7. dxe5 dxex5 8. Qxd8 Rxd8 9. Nxe5 is foiled by 9...Nxe4.

7.Qf3 8.Qe6 d5 9.Qe7 Qxe4 10.b4 f5 11.5.c5
c6 12.Qf3 f4 13.Qc4 g5 14.a4 Qg6 Both sides waste no time attacking opposite flanks. Who comes first is an important theoretical question. 15.Qa3 Qf7 16.b5 dxc5 17.Qxc5 Qh5 18.a5 g4
19.b6 g3 20.Qh1 Qh7 21.d6 A necessary precaution is 21. Re1 in order to vacate f1 for the bishop. The reason soon becomes clear. A hard struggle is then in the offing after 21...cxb6 22. axb6 a6.

21...Qh4 22.Qg1 Qh3 23.bxc7 With the rook on
e1 this could be met by Bf1. Giving up the Exchange by 23. Rf2 gx2! 24. Bxg2 
Kh3+ 25. Qh3 Qg5+ 26. Qg2 Qh4+ Black Resigns without waiting for 27. Kh1 g2 mate.
1-0

○ Seirawan, Y.
- Ivanchuk, V.
FIDE Interzonal (2)
Groningen 1997 1-0 E70
FIDE, in its ongoing rivalry with Kasparov’s PCA, sponsored a playerknockout todetermineachallenger for FIDE world champion Karpov. Seirawan headed to America to survive
1.d4 ∆f6 2.c4 e6 3. ∆c3 ∆c6 4.e4 d5 5. ∆c5 e5 6.d5 ac6 7. de2 ac7 8.f3 f6 9...Qe7. 10.e3 Qe7 11. ∆d3 f6 It’s too soon to open the center before deciding where his king belongs, but White still has attacking prospects after 11...Qf8+ 12. g3 Qg7 13. h4 Nac5 14. O-O-O. 12. h6 Preventing casting. "It would be a terrible error to play 12. O-O? Qb6! when Black’s dark-square strategy would be crowned with success" – Seirawan. 12...Qd5 Better is 12...Nac5 13. Rd1 Nbd6 14. b3 Qe7. 13. d1 Qb6 The final error, diverting the queen from defense of the kingside. More tenacious is 13...Qc7 14. Bc2 Bb7. 14. b1 Qe7 The king can’t survive in the center. But if 14...Qxb2 15. dxc6 bxc6 16. Rxd6 is too strong. Now White proceeds to rip open lines on the kingside. 15.f4 e4f6 16. f1 e8f8 17. Qhf1 The queen has done its job by preventing casting. Now now it’s time to return to the scene of action in the center. 17...f6 18.dxc6 Qxc6 19. d4 e8 Black keeps getting pushed around. No better is 19...Qd7 20. Nd5+ Kd8 21. Nb6 winning a whole rook. 20. Qd5+ Qd8 21. xd6+ Qd7 22. b5 Black Resigns. It’s a massacre. The immediate threat is Qb6+ followed by Nd6+. 1-0

○ Shaked, T.
- Gyiemesi, V.
World Junior Championship (8)
Poland 1997 1-0 E42
The World Junior Championship has been held for players under 20 every other year since 1951. Three Russian teens – Spassky, Karpov, Kasparov – all won it on their way to the crown. Shaked, 19, who hails from Tucson, Arizona, was the sixth American to gain the title. This key victory against a young Hungarian grandmaster set the stage for his final surge to the top.


○ Bacrot, E.
- Korchnoi, V.
Training Match (3)
Albert, France 1997 1-0 D41
In 1996 French prodigy Etienne Bacrot, 13, stunned the chess world by defeating former world champion Smyslov in a training match. The lad won four and drew two games in a quiet positional style reminiscent of the old master himself. The following year veteran grandmaster Korchnoi, 66, won three, drew two, but was caught napping
in this game by failing to cope with a wild pawn marching down the center of the board.

1.d4 2.c4 e6 3.d3 f5 4.e3 c5 5.exd5 
xf3 21. xf3 b4 22. xfx6 gxf6 23. e4 24. c4 fd8 24. d6 a5 25. f4 f6 26.b4+ He can’t break the grip by 26...Nh4 because 27. f5! will trap the knight. 27.b5 Qf8 28.h6+ hXb6 29.g5+ qh7 30.xf6+ g8 31. e6 32.f5 e7 33. d3 b6 34. c4 a6 35. c3 f8 36. e8 b8 37. xb5 Black Resigns. Bacrot’s only win in this match, but a beautiful one.

1-0

○ Deep Blue
• Kasparov, G.

Six Game Rematch (2)
New York City 1997 1-0 C93

This game truly stunned – or just plain terrified – many observers. Deep Blue caught the world champion in its boa constrictor grip and swallowed him whole. Depressed to the point of despair after being roundly outplayed, Kasparov actually gave up in a position later found to be drawn. He never recovered from this emotional scar. 1.e4 e5 Already a surprise. Kasparov abandons his pet Sicilian Defense with 1...e5 to confuse the machine. 2. f3 c6 3. b5 a6 4. a4 f6 5.O–O e7 6. c3 b5 7. b3 d6 8.c3 O–O 9.h3 h6 The Smyslov System. Black holds the center and defers a decision on whether to put his knight on a5 or b8. 10.d4 d8 11. bd2 f8 12. f1 d7 13.g3 c5 14. e2 c5 15.b3 c6 16.d5 e7 17. e3 g6 18. f2 e7 19.a4 Opening lines on the queenside. Up to here Deep Blue consumed only one minute on its clock. 19...h4 20.xh4 c5 21.c4 b4 22.b4 c7 23. c1 c4 Locking the position leads to a serious cramp. A reasonable alternative is 23...cxb4 24. cxb4 Qb7. 24. c3 e8 25. c1 d8 26.f4 Opening a second front on the kingside. 26...f6 27.fxe5 dxe5 28.f1 e8 This is Black’s last chance to make a bid for freedom with 28...a5. 29.d2 c6 30.b6 e8 31. a2 e7 32. c5 f8 33. f5 x f5 34.exf5 f6 Black is reduced to passivity. Kasparov suggests 34...e4 sacrificing a pawn for play on the dark squares. 35. x d6 x d6 36.axb5 axb5 37. e4 A startling un-computer like move that caused Kasparov to suspect some sort of human intervention. He was hoping to draw with 37. Qb6 Rx a2 38. Rxa2 Ra8 39. Rxa8 Qxa8 40. Qxd6 Qa1+ 41. Kh2 Qc2 42. Qb8+ Kh7 43. Qxb5 Qf4+. 37...a2 38. x a2 d7 39. a7 a7 40. b6 b6 41. b7 42. b7 43. e6 44. f1 Simply 44. Kh1 squelches all counterplay. 44...b8 45. a6 Black Resigns. Kasparov blue it! Analysis later showed he could draw with 45...Qe3! 46. Qxd6 Re8!! (the star move) 47. Bf3 Qc1+ 48. Kf2 Qd2+ 49. Be2 Qf4+ 50. Ke1 Qd1+ 51. Bd1 Qxc1+ 52. Kf1 Qf1!! There are many more lines, of course, but White has been unable to demonstrate a forced win.

1-0
of time since the king has nowhere to go. But if 14...Qf6? 15. Bh4 pins the queen. 15.axb5 cxb5 16.Qd3 Qf6 17...c4 Nb4 18. Qc3 bxc4 19. Qxc4+ Bc6 20. Rxe6 is decisive. 17...e5 f5 18. Qxe7 Rxe7 19.c4 Deep Blue 3.5 - Kasparov 2.5. The champion didn’t even wait for 19...bxc4 (or 19...Nb4 20. Qxf5 bxc4 21. Ne5 Rdb 22. Nxc6 Nxc6 23. Qf4) 20. Qxc4 Kb7 21. Qa6 mate. "Kasparov’s resignation was probably premature," said one commentator. "But what we have seen today is psychological weakness of the sort I’d never expect from him." In a press conference Kasparov lashed out at IBM, claiming it was difficult to prepare for an opponent whose games were not made available to him beforehand.

1-0

○ Kasparov, G.
• Deep Blue
Six Game Rematch (5)
New York City 1997 1/2-1/2 A06

Kasparov emerged with a strong endgame advantage after a complex up-and-down struggle. In an exciting finish, with White’s pawn poised to queen, the computer forced a draw in the nick of time by perpetual check – providing yet another frustration for the world champion.

5...fxe3 6.dxe3 e6 7.e4 c5 8...c7 9...e5 10...f2 11...d5 12...e4 13...d7 14...g5 15.h4 e5 16.f3 exd4 17...xd4 O–O–O 18...g5 Qg4 19.O–O–O Qh8 20...d6 Oxg5 21...xh5 22...e5 g5 23...e5 f3 dxe1+ 24...xe1 bxc3 25...b1 Qa6 26...a4 h5 27...b4+ Qb8 28...c2 Qc7 29...d6 Qd7 30...c4 hgx5 31...e5 Inviting the risky snatch 23...h5 Qxh5 24...dxe1+ 25...xd1 Qe4 26...a4 d8 Just in time to maintain parity since now 27...Rxd8 Qxd8 28. Qxc4? Qd1 mates. 27...e1 Qb6 28...e2 Qd6 29...c4 Qg6 Okay but even better is 29...Qd3. 30...e5 Qxe5 31.h3 Qxf2 32...e6 Qc7 33...dxe6 Qxd7 34...e4 c8 35...d5 Qd6 36. ...e6 Qb5 37...cxb5 Qxd5 38...g6 Qd7

289

Deep Blue
Kasparov, G.
Six Game Rematch (6)
New York City 1997 1-0 B17

Today was Kasparov’s bluest day – the shortest, saddest loss in his career. He played the opening slowly, spending two minutes on the risky 7...h6?! which is known to be dubious (instead of the usual Bd6). After this inversion of moves he shook his head and rolled his eyes as Deep Blue instantly sacrificed a knight. The champion crumbled instead of putting up a strong defense.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3...c3 dxe4 4...xe4 d7 5...g5

This strange move became popular over the last decade. One of the ideas behind it is to win the two bishops after 5...h6 6. Ne6! Qb6 (of course not 6...fxe6? 7. Qh5 mates) 7. Nxf8. 5...g6 6. d3 e6 7...f3 h6 It’s a mystery why Kasparov tried to revive this discredited move since he was familiar with the standard 7...Bd6 8. Qe2 h5 9. Ne4 Nxe4 10. Qxe4 Nf6. 8...xe6 e7 It’s questionable whether the queen is better on e7 or c7. Some previous games continued 8...fxe6 9. Bg6+ Ke7 10. O–O Qc7 11. Re1 with a dangerous attack for the piece, though Black actually won and drew several games in this variation. 9.O–O Qxe6 10...g6+ Qd8 11. ...f4 b5 11...b6 looks safer. Surely Deep Blue’s database contained a key game showing this line as strong for White. Chandler-Hubner, Biel 1987, went 11...Nd5 12. Bg3 Qb4 13. Re1 Be7 14. Qe2 Bf6 15. c4 Ne7 16. a3 Qb3 17. Bd3 and White won in 27 moves. However Black can improve with 17...Nf8 18. Rad1 Bd7 19. Ne5 Be8. 12.a4 b7 Black’s problem is that his king is never safe. 12...b4 was the last chance to keep lines closed. 13...e1 d5 14...g3 c8 A waste
39.\text{f5} 40.\text{c4} 40.\text{xg7} d1+ 41.\text{c2} d2+ 42.\text{xe1} xa2 43.\text{xh5} 44.\text{d4} The key move to save a dangerous position. Despite White’s dangerous g-pawn Deep Blue had already calculated a beautiful draw. 44.\text{f4} Another try is 44.\text{f6} Nxb3+ 45.\text{Kb1} Rh2+! 46.\text{Kf1} Nf6 47.\text{Kc1} White must repeat moves since 48.\text{Kd1}? Rh1+ 49.\text{Kc2} Nf4+ forks the rook. 44...\text{Bxh5} 45.\text{Bxh5} \text{d2} 46.\text{e4} c4 47.\text{e5} \text{b6} "The king is a fighting piece—use it!" (Stevitz). The concluding moves are so well timed that they look like a bullet. 48.\text{g6} \text{Bxb5} 49.\text{g7} \text{b4} Draw by Agreement. If 50.\text{g8/Q} R6+! 51.\text{Kxh2} R6+ etc. "I’m not afraid to admit that I’m afraid. and I’m even afraid to say why I am afraid," confessed Kasparov. "Deep Blue goes beyond any known program in the world. It makes decisions that still cannot be made by any computer. Facing such a challenge with virtually no preparation before the match, I have to be extremely cautious."

1/2-1/2

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27. than ceding White absolute control of the c-file.

22.e3 20...a6 21.f5 13.N8 8.Na right to challenge Kasparov for an announced
not be best but which unnerve his opponent.
in a straight four-game rapid match, however,
Kasparov wiped out the same opponent 4-0. This
seems to indicate that computers aid the weaker
player.

1.d4 Qf6 2.Qf3 g6 3.c4 Qg7 4.g3 O-O 5.d4 e6 6.Qc3 d5 7.exd5 exd5 When two top players
finally use strong computers to their heart’s content, they arrive at total symmetry! 8.e5 e6 9.O-O Qf7 10.f4 Qc6 11.Qc3 f6 12.Qf3 f5 13.Qe5 Qb6 14.b3 Qd7 15. Qd3 Qc8

The cause of Black’s future problems. Better is the
15...Qc8. 16.Qxe1 Qxe5 17.Qxe5 Qf7 18.Qc3
Qc6 19.Qf1 Wa5 20.a3 White’s space advantage is virtually decisive already. 20.a6 21.d4 Qf8
22.e3 Qc8 23.Qd2 Wd8 24.Qf1 Qf7 25.Qb2 Qc6 26.Qa4 Qxc1 26...b5 looks more natural than ceding White absolute control of the c-file.
27.Qxc1 Qc6 28.Qe5 Wc8 29.a4 a5 30.Qc3 Qf7 31.Qb5 Qxb5 32.axb5 h6 33.Qa4 Qa3
34.Qxe8+ Qxe8 35.Qxe8+ Qh7 36.B6 Black Resigns. There’s no defense against 37. Qc7 with a deadly pin on the seventh rank.

1-0

Kasparov, G.
• Topalov, V.
Advanced Chess match (2)
Spain 1998 1-0 D79
Advanced Chess describes an experimental computer-assisted format where each side can access a computer. It’s like an open book test. After six one-hour games, this match ended 3-3. The best help Topalov got from the computer, ironically, was that Kasparov constantly got into time-pressure consulting it! A month earlier in a straight four-game rapid match, however, Kasparov wiped out the same opponent 4-0. This seems to indicate that computers aid the weaker player.

1.d4 g6 3.c3 d5 Transposing into his favorite Gruenfeld Defense, though this move ord-
Karpov only needed was a draw to clinch his title. His position was fine until he blundered in time pressure. This unexpected loss in the final game sent the match into overtime at 3-3.

For Anand who, as one of the world’s fastest players, was now favored to win the tiebreaker.

Here are all 8 games from the shortest world championship match in history. Scheduled for 6 games, it went into overtime when Anand came from behind twice to tie 3-3. The time control then increased to 25 minutes for each side. In this initial encounter Anand walked into an opening novelty and succumbed despite a heroic struggle. “Since I had to play a short match and Anand was already in fine form, I decided to play actively from the start. This is a different strategic approach to long round robins where you have the luxury of playing yourself into a rhythm,” wrote Karpov.
1-0

○ Karpov, A.
• Anand, V.
FIDE World Championship (3)
Switzerland
1998  1/2-1/2  D47

After fireworks in the first two games, they settled for a serene draw. In match play such a result is considered a moral victory for Black. With the score tied at 1.5 apiece, Anand will enjoy the advantage of White in the last three games.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3...e5 4.c3 c6 5...e6 6.e4 dxe4

Karpov varied with 6.Qc2 to get an edge which he fails to exploit.

1.d4 d5 2.e4 c6 3...e3+ 4...f2 5...e2+ 6...f3 95...e2+ 76.2e3+ 8.f2 96.9.g5 5h8+ 97...h4 5d8+ 98...h3 5d1 99.e2+5f3 100.h2 "I was in time trouble so missed 100. Re1! which wins immediately, since both 101. Rf1+ and Rf6+ are threatened" (Karpov).

100...Rd8 101...e3+ 102.b7 5b6 103.e4+ 5f3 104.2e3+ 5f2 105.e7 5d6+ 106.h3 5b8 107.e3+ 5g1 108.g7+ Black Resigns. On 108...Kf2 109. Rf7+ Kg1 110. Re1 mate.

9.0-0 10...O–O 11.O–O cxd5 12.exd5 5b6
13...d6
14.e4 5xe4 15...e5
16.e5
17.Bxe5
18.h3
19.Bf4
20.Bg5

Draw by Agreement.

18.5xe7
19.5e4
20.5e5
21.5xe5
22.5xe5
23.5xe5
24.5e6
25.5e5
26.5e4
27.5a7
28.5g7
29.5d2
30.5e7
31.5bd6
32.5ed5

A novel recent approach is 7. Bd2!! followed by O-O-O. 7...O–O 8.0–0 dxc4

10...xc4 11.5d1 b5 12.5e2 5e7 12.5e4

Innocuous. More promising is 12. e4 c5 13. h3. 12...xc4 13.5xe4 e5 13...Bb7 followed by c5 is simpler. 14.Bb4 15.g3 16.5e2 exd4

It’s better to keep the tension and complete development with 16...Bb7. 17.xd4 18.5f6


20.5g3
21.xg3
22.5b2
23.5g7
24.5d6
25.5ad1

To mobilize his pawn majority on the queenside. The immediate threat is Ne8.

25.5xf6
26.5e4
27.5a7
28.5b5
29.5e7
30.5g7
31.5bd6
32.5ed7
33.5f6
34.5g5
35.5b2
36.5d6
37.5b5
38.5b8
39.5d4
40.5e4
41.5b2
42.5d2
43.5d2
44.5xf4
45.5d5
46.5d2
47.5d3
48.5e4
49.5b5
50.5b4
51.5d4
52.5b3
53.5b5
54.5h8
55.5b5
56.5c4

Draw by Agreement. White’s extra pawn is doubled and meaningless. 1/2-1/2

○ Anand, V.
• Karpov, A.
FIDE World Championship (4)
Switzerland
1998  0-1  D42

Anand ambitiously tries to attack but creates weaknesses by advancing his pawns. Karpov defends with precision and forges ahead with a model victory as Black.

1.e4 5c6 2.d4 5d5 3...xd5 5xd5 4...e4

The Panov-Botvinnik Attack against the Caro-Kann gained popularity in the early 1930s but is seldom seen today.

4.exf6 5.g3 5e6 6.5g3 5f7 7.exd5
8.5d3 5e6 9.O–O O–O 10.5e1 5f6
11.5e4 5xe7 12.5h4 5f5
13...e4 14.bxc3 15.Bxc3 16.h5
17.Bxe4 18.dxe5
19.5xe4
20.5d1

Another slip. 20. Ba3 Rh7 21. Rad1 is roughly equal. 20...5b5
This game simply took my breath away. I experienced fascination, awe, amazement. Lputian obviously knows how to defy gravity, he sacrifices pieces with the light touch of a genius. All his offerings were given for medium or long-term chances. Such a clear breach of common chess wisdom fascinates, and at the same time provokes. The final truth proves elusive.” – GM Ftacnik.

16th New York Open (4)
Manhattan
1998 1-0 D26

Even at 67 veteran Viktor Korchnoi continued his winning ways. Always a tenacious defender, here he pockets a pawn and clings to it for dear life.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.e4 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 The draback to this classical Tarrasch Defense is the isolated d-pawn. In return Black gets open lines for his pieces. 5.g3 g6 6.h4 h6 7.O-O O-O 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 g5 10.Qa4+ Qe7 11.0-0 Qc6 12.h3 Qe6 13.Qxe6 fxe6 14.e4 d4 15.e5 Sacrificing a pawn for the initiative and a strong pair of bishops is often a successful tactic. 15...dxe3 16.Qf6 Qxf6 17.Bxe3 Qxe3 18.Bb5+ Qd7 Sturdier than 18...Na5! 19.Qg4 Qf8 20.B3 Rd8 21.Rfd1 a6 22.Bb6 Rxd1+ 23. Rxd1 Nc6 24. Rb6 and White won in 41 moves (Gonzales-Vera, Havana 1984).

1.d4 d5 2.e5 g6 3.dxe5 h5 4.g5 h4 5.e4 f5 6.e3 e5 7.d4 d3 x3 8.xd3 d7 9.e4 c4 A new idea instead of the usual 9...Ng6. The knight heads for the outpost on f5 to harass the bishop. White should now castle but gets too aggressive. 10.c5 \(a5+ 11.c3 b6\) It’s important to undermine the pawn chain before White gets in a3 and b4. Now 12.cx b6 is necessary but Anand recklessly sacrifices two pawns to confine Black’s king to the center. 12.b4 \(xb4 13.O-O \(f5 14.f81 bc1 bxc5 15.a1 Do or die!\) His only compensation for the lost material is activity on the open file.

15...c6 16.xc2 wa5 17.b7 wa6 18.ch1 d6 "Materialistic computer programs wanted to select 18...Nb6 but I already have enough material to win the game. What Black is lacking is development and a safe king. Therefore I prefer the text which in my view more accurately meets the demands of the position and match situation." (Karpov). 19.e4 \(xb4 20.xb4 xB 21.Bb8 22.Bxb8 Bxb8 22.exd5 cxd5 23.Bg6 Desperation to prevent Black from casting. 23...fxg6 24.Bxg6+ \(d8 25.wxg7 xC 26.wxh6 wa5 27.wg5+ xC 28.wxg6 xF 29.xC 1.Bb6 30.xe2 e5 31.h5 xF 32.F1 \(h8 White Resigns. Thus Karpov remained FIDE champion by a score of 5-3.

- Timman, J.
* Van Wely, L.
10-game match (4)
Holland
1998 1-0 B50
In a dogfight to determine the best Dutch player, Loek van Wely, 25, held veteran Jan Timman, 47, to a 5-5 tie and then won a speed playoff. "A century ago the spectators threw coins at the chessboard after a battle such as this," noted one critic.
1.e4 c5 2.Cf3 d6 3.Cc3 \(f6 4.e2 g6\) An old trap is 4...Nxe4? 5. Qa4+ snaring the knight. 5.0-O \(g7 6.h5+ More consistent is 6. d3 instead of moving the piece twice in the opening. 6...d7 7.xd7+ xD7 8.e1 c6 9.d4 cxd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 e4 12.e3 Sharper than 12. Bxd2 cxd2 13. Qxd2 O-O 14. b3 Rac8 and a draw was agreed in Timman-van Wely, Wijk-aan Zee 1998. 12.xc3 b5 13.bxc3 O-O 14.b4 \(a8 15.h5 \(a5 Also playable is the Karpovian retreat 16.Nd8 to inhibit c6. 16.g5 \(c6 17.e6 fxe6 18.hxg6 hxg6 19.g4 \(f6 20.h3 \(c4 Who will come first – White on the kingside or Black on the queenside? 21.Wh7+ f8 22.h3 \(d6 23.g5 \(f5 24.f4 xd2 25.e3 \(c3 26.e2 \(c3 27.d4+ 21.h1 \(xc3 28.wxg6 \(g7 29.xf1 \(c4 Blocking the open file. But not 29...Qd7 30. Bh6 Bxh6 31. Qxh6+ Ke8 32. Ng5 Rf6 33. Qe5+ Qh8 34. Rc8+! 35.0-e1 \(f7 31. \(xe6 \(a3 32. \(h4 \(e3 33.g5 \(c1+ 34.h2 \(g4+ 35.h3 \(xf4 Threatening mate-in-two with 36. Qh1. 36. \(e1 \(c3+ 37.g3 \(f6 No better is 37...Nf2+ 38. Kg2 Nd3 39. Ne6+ Kg8 40. gxf4! 38.h7+ \(g8 39.f6+ \(xf6 40.wx7 \(c8+ 41.g2 Black Resigns 1-0

- Sergei Tiviakov
* Luke McShane
Kilkenny Chess Festival (6)
Ireland
1998 0-1 B33
British prodigy Luke McShane is a name to reckon with. At age 14 he came from behind to tie for first by upending the pre-tournament favorite, Russian grandmaster Tiviakov (rated 2655). The kid is outplayed most of the way and finds himself with a bad bishop against a good knight. When given a chance, he lands a Sunday punch.
1.e4 c5 2.Cf3 \(c6 3.d4 \(xd4 4.Cxd4 \(f6 5.c3 e5 6.Cc3 d6 More complex than 6...a6 7. Nd6+ Bxd6 8. Qxd6 Qf6. Black is saddled with a backward d-pawn in this complex Sveshnikov Variation. 7.g5 Stronger than 7. Nd5 Nxd5 8. exd5 Nb8 when Black gets a broad center by f5. 7...a6 8.a3 b5 9.Cb5 Trying to exploit the doubled pawns, although some players favor the positional approach 9. Nd5 Be7 10. Bxf6 Bxf6 11. c3. 9...fxe6 White stays on top after 9.Qxe6 10. Nd5 Qd8 11. Be3. 10.d5 \(f5 11.e5 \(xe5 12.f4 \(e5 13.d4 14.g3 O-O 15.Cc2 C3 16.O-O \(b8 17.d2 An improvement on 17. b4!? once adopted by Anand which merely created weaknesses in White’s position. 17...d7 18.Cd1 f5 19.Ce3 Temporarily vacating d5 in order to exchange as many pieces as possible on d5 to saddle Black with a bad bishop against a good knight on d5. When this plan works, White usually wins. When it doesn’t – watch what happens! Now 19...f4? is refuted by 20. Qxd6. 19...Bd8 20.d5 \(e7 21.Cxe6 \(xe6 22.Cd5 f4 23.d4 \(e7 24.d5+ \(h8 25. \(fe1 \(f6 26.e2 \(h6 27.Bxf5 White has achieved his goal but snatching the pawn is perilous. The right plan is 27. b3 f3 28. Re4 Qf5.
29. Rd3 Qh3 30. Ne1. 27...f3 28. e4 b8 29. a5 Isolates the queen on the wrong wing. 29. Qd5 Rxh2 30. Ne1 is necessary to stay alive. 29...xb2 Nimzovich termed such a marauding rook a "pig." 30. c3 c2 31. g4 g6 32. Bb4 f4 The silent bishop comes to life and changes the outcome completely. 33. h3 g3 34. d5 f5 34. fxe3 Qc2 35. Rf1 Rg2 36. Kh1 Rh2! 37. Nxh2 Qg2 mate. 34...xf2+ 35. f1 c5 36. b7 g2 The threat of...Rg1 is horrendous for White. White Resigns.

0-1

- Shahalov, A.
- Smirin, I.

16th New York Open (5)
Manhattan
1998 0-1 B43

Many unknowns made their name at this stellar event and earned FIDE titles here. The 16th New York Open attracted 804 players, including 60 grandmasters vying for a piece of the 175,000 prize fund. One of the noisiest exciting games ever played there featured a David vs. Goliath story (check that failed by White) via Internet against Peter Svidler (3 time Russian champ) who competed from St. Petersburg.

1.e4 c5 2. f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4. exd4 a6 The Kan Variation gives White the option to increase his grip on the center with 5. c4 which can be met by 5...Nf6 6. Ne3 Bb4. More appealing is 5 Bd3. 5. c3 b5 6.g3 b5 7.g2 f6 8.O-O Preparing a pawn sacrifice. More prudent is 8. a3 or Qe2. 8...b4 9.d5 Otherwise 9. Na4 Bxe4 10. Bxe4 Nxe4 gives White no compensation for the pawn. 9...exd5 10.exd5 c5 11. e1+ f8 12. f5 d6 13. f4 c8 14. d4 e4 15. c6 h6 This fine defensive move creates an escape square for the king on h7. Too dangerous is 15...Bxf3+ 16. Kh1 Bxe1 17. Bxd6+. Black already has enough material and must find a way to consolidate. 16. d2 Bb7 17.a3 a5 18.axb4 axb4 19. a8 b8 20. b1 c6 21. f6+ White’s compensation for the piece is nebulous, so he tries to mix it up. Inadequate is 21...Rxa8 22. Qd2 d4 23. exd6 Qxd6 24. Qb7 f6 25. Qc6+ Qg8 26. Qxe6+ Qxe6 27. Qxg8 h7 28. exf7+ Qxf7 29. Qc3 Qe5 30. c4 Qd8 31. b3 The storm is over and White fails to make the most of his drawing chances with 31. b3. 31...d4 32. Qg2 d3 33.f3 Qg7 34.b4 Qd6 35.Qh2 f6 36.Qe2 Qc5 37.Qg1 Qd4 Now it’s apparent that the bishop is poorly placed on b3. Once the queens are off, White is lost.

38.c3 bxc3 39.bxc3 Qxc3 40. Qg5 41.Qd2 Qc5 42. Qf3 Qd1+ 43.Qg2 Qd2 44. Qe7 We5 45.Wa6 Qd4 Black makes constant inroads and eventually forces the exchange of queens. 46.Wf1 Wb2 47.Wf1 Wf8 48.Wf1 Qd2 49.Qg1 Qe7 50.Qg2 Qf8 51.Qd1 g4 52.f3 Qg8 53.Qe4 Qc1 54.Qb5 be1 55.Qe8+ Qg7 56.Qe5+ Qh7 57.Qf3 Qc3+ 58.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 59.Qf4 Qg7 60.g4 Drops a pawn. 60. Bf3 offers more resistance. 60...h3 White Resigns.

0-1

- Kasparov, G.
- Smirin, I.

Clock Exhibition (1)
Israel
1998 1-1/2-1 B43

Kasparov introduced a new concept by taking on the best players of entire nations at once under tournament conditions. Here me faced the Israeli Olympic team – a powerhouse of young Russians – all grandmasters. In the first round he won 2 and drew 2. In the second round he wiped them out 4 - 0! This was his only close call. Afterwards, while still in Tel Aviv, he won two games via Internet against Peter Svidler (3 time Russian champ) who competed from St. Petersburg.

1.e4 c5 2. f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4. exd4 a6 5. c3 b5 6.d3 b6 7.b3 c7 A loss of time justified by driving the knight from its dominant outpost on d4. 8.O-O Qf6 9.e1 d6 10.g3 b4 11.e2 c6 12.ed4 13.cxd4 h5 Good aggression, though it’s dangerous to leave the king in the center. 14.e1 f4 h4 15.g2 hxg3 16.hxg3 17.b2 e5 18.c3 b5 19. e5 dxe5 20.e4 21. g3 e7 22. Bxe5 Bxe5 23.Qxe5 Qxe5 24.Qxe5 Qxe5 25.h3 Nf5 26.Bb2 Qc6 27.Qb2 Qd5 A viable alternative is 26. cxd5. 26...Qd8 27.Qf1 Qc8 28. e6 a8 29.Qxh5 f5 30.c7 f5 31.d4 A better winning try is 31. Rac1 f4 32. c8=Q gxf3 33. Qxe8+ Kf8 34.Qxf8+ Kxf8 35.Qxf8+ Ke7 36.Qe7 f5 37.Qd6+ Kf7 38.Qf4+ Ke7 39.Qxe5+ Black must allow a perpetual check in view of 38...Kh8 39. Kh1 Kg6 40. Qe6+ Rf6 41. Qe8+ Rf7 (not 41...Kg5? 42.Qh5 mate) 42. Qe6+ etc.

1/2-1/2

- Anand V.
- Shirov, A.

FIDE Knockout (5)
Holland
1998 1-0 C78

FIDE’s new Wimbledon-style knockout format with a prize fund of...
Anand finally blasted his way to the top, thanks in part to this lovely positional effort which a critic dubbed "the very best game from Groningen."

1.e4 e5 2.\(cxf3\) \(c6\) 3.\(b5\) a6 4.\(a4\) \(\text{a}f6\) 5.\(O-O\) \(b5\) 6.\(b3\) \(c5\) Shirow is a sharp tactician who blazed new trails by reviving the antiquated Moller Defense to the Ruy. 7.\(a4\) \(\text{b}8\) 8.\(c3\) d6 9.\(d4\) \(\text{b}6\) 10.\(\text{a}3\) \(O-O\) 11.\(\text{axb}5\) \(\text{AXB}5\) 12.\(\text{x}b5\) \(\text{g}4\) 13.\(\text{c}e3\) \(\text{exd}4\) 14.\(\text{xd}4\) \(\text{we}8\) Eschewing 14...\(\text{xe}4?\)

15. \(\text{Bd}5\) \(\text{Qe}8\) 16. \(\text{Qc}2\). 15.\(h3\) \(d7\) 16.\(\text{c}e3\) \(\text{xe}4\) 17.\(\text{f}1\) \(\text{xe}3\) 18.\(\text{bxc}3\) \(\text{we}8\) 19.\(\text{e}4\) Creating an imbalance in a position which looks equal on the surface. Suddenly the bishop on \(b6\) is in peril. 19...\(\text{f}5\) 20.\(\text{e}2\) \(\text{a}5\) 21.\(\text{e}2\) c5 22.\(d5\) \(\text{d}8\) 23.\(\text{d}2\) \(\text{e}2\) Exploiting the misplaced knight on \(a5\) is the key to White's strategy. 23...\(\text{wa}6\) White gradually is increasing his advantage in space. An alternative is 23...\(\text{Nb}7\) right away in order to meet 24.\(\text{Be}3\) with \(\text{Ba}5\) to ease the clamp. 24.\(\text{wa}4\) \(\text{Qa}8\) 25.\(\text{c}c3\) \(\text{b}7\) 26.\(\text{d}1\) Trading pieces only helps Black uncramp. 26...\(\text{a}5\) 27.\(\text{b}2\) \(\text{b}4\) 28.\(\text{h}4\) \(\text{g}6\) 29.\(\text{f}4\) Now that the situation on the other flank has been stabilized, White launches a kingside offensive that remains potent even after queens are gone. 29...\(\text{wa}4\) 30.\(\text{xa}4\) \(\text{xa}4\) 31.\(\text{f}5\) \(\text{fa}8\) 32.\(\text{xe}7\) \(\text{h}5\) 33.\(\text{g}4\) \(\text{f}6\) 34.\(\text{g}xh5\) \(\text{xa}2\) 35.\(\text{xe}2\) 36.\(\text{h}6\) This blow demolishes Black's hope of salvaging a draw. If 36...\(\text{gxh6}\) 37. \(\text{Bx}f6\) \(\text{Na}8\) 38. \(\text{Rg}7+\) \(\text{Kf}8\) 39. \(\text{Rx}h7\) is the quietus. 36...\(\text{xb}2\) 37.\(\text{xe}7+\) \(\text{b}8\) 38.\(\text{xe}8\) \(\text{xe}7\) \(\text{c}3\) 39.\(\text{d}7\) \(\text{g}8\) 40.\(\text{xd}8+\) \(\text{xf}7\) 41.\(\text{f}4\) \(\text{h}8\) \(\text{d}4+\) 42. \(\text{xf}1\) Black Resigns. Not bothering with a last "spite check" by 42...\(\text{Rf}2+\) 43. \(\text{Ke}1\). 1-0

○ Polgar, J.
○ Karpov, A.

Exhibition Match (2)

1998 1-0 B17

One trend that emerged in the 90s was Active Chess, where each side is allotted 25 or 30 minutes to complete the entire game instead of the standard 40 moves in 2 or 1/2 hours followed by either an adjournment or sudden death. The modern mania for speed was reflected in this eight game match, contested at the rate of two games a day, which Polgar won 5-3. Quality obviously suffers, the clock forces error, but chess marches on.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 \(\text{d}5\) 3.\(\text{d}xe4\) 4.\(\text{xe}4\) 5.\(\text{g}5\) \(\text{gf}6\) 6.\(\text{d}3\) \(\text{e}6\) 7.\(\text{f}3\) \(\text{d}6\) 8.\(\text{e}2\) \(\text{h}6\) Inviting 7. \(\text{Nh}6!\) \(\text{fxe}6\) 8. \(\text{B}g6\) \(\text{Ke}7\) followed by \(\text{Nh}8\) when White doesn't have enough compensation for the piece. 9.\(\text{e}4\) 10.\(\text{xe}4\) 11.\(\text{xe}4\) \(\text{g}8\) Best. Blacks want to avoid weakening a pawn by pushing it and if 11...O-O? 12. \(\text{Bx}b6\) wins. 12.\(\text{e}5\) \(\text{dxe}5\) 13.\(\text{dxe}5\) \(\text{xc}5\) 14.O-O-O \(\text{f}6\) 15.\(\text{wh}4\) \(\text{xe}3+\) 16.\(\text{fxe}3\) \(\text{d}7\) 17.\(\text{Bf}1\) \(\text{e}8\) 18.\(\text{Bc}1\) \(\text{e}6\) 19.\(\text{e}4\) \(\text{g}8\) 20.\(\text{e}3\) \(\text{d}7\) 21.\(\text{e}2\) \(\text{e}5\) 22.\(\text{xe}5\) \(\text{xe}5\) 23.\(\text{f}2\) \(\text{f}6\) 24.\(\text{xa}7\) \(\text{Wh}2\) 25.\(\text{e}5\) \(\text{xe}5\) White also keeps the initiative on 25...\(\text{f}5\) 26.4. \(\text{f}1\) \(\text{c}7\) Black should try to get the queens off by 26...\(\text{Qb}8!\) 27. \(\text{Qxb}8\) \(\text{Rxb}8\). 28. \(\text{Rxe}6\) \(\text{Kf}7\) breaking the attack. 27.\(\text{xe}5\) \(\text{f}7\) 28.\(\text{b}3\) \(\text{g}6\) 29.\(\text{d}4\) \(\text{hd}8\) Finally the rook is free but the king is in trouble. 30.\(\text{Q}+\) \(\text{b}7\) 31.\(\text{c}2+\) \(\text{g}8\) 32.\(\text{xd}8+\) \(\text{xd}8\) Hoping for 33. \(\text{R}x\) 34. \(\text{h}f8\) 35.\(\text{e}4\) \(\text{e}5\) 36.\(\text{we}2\) \(\text{wd}7\) 37.\(\text{we}4\) 38.\(\text{a}3\) 39.\(\text{g}4\) \(\text{g}8\)

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Is the king safer here? More tenacious is 39...Qd6.
40.\textit{f5} d6 41.\textit{e2} e8 42.\textit{d1} c5 43.\textit{g6}
\textit{d8} 44.\textit{e3} \textit{e7} 45.\textit{d4} \textit{e8} 46.\textit{c4} \textit{f7}
47.\textit{c5} Correct is 47. \textit{Bd5!} 47...\textit{c8} 48.\textit{f5} \textit{xc5}
49.\textit{xd8+} \textit{f8} A gross blunder in extreme time pressure. The only hope is 49...Qe8. 50.\textit{h7+} Timber! The queen falls. Black Resigns.
1-0

\hspace{1cm}
\begin{itemize}
\item Morozevich, A.
\item Iordachescu, V.
\end{itemize}

**Chebanenko Memorial-Kishinev**

**Moldavia 1998** 1-0 B17

At 16 young Alexander Morozevich had a fantastic breakthrough by scoring 9 1/2 out of 10 at the 1994 Lloyds Bank Tourney in London, and he was hailed as a future contender. Then he endured a long dry spell before winning the First Chebanenko Memorial with 8 1/2 out of 9 to obtain a magic Elo rating of 2700, suddenly catapulting him into the world's top ten.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.\textit{c3} dxe4 4.\textit{xe4} \textit{d7} 5.\textit{g5}
\textit{xf6} 6.\textit{e3} e6 7.\textit{f3} \textit{d6} Reminiscent of Deep Blue - Kasparov, 6th match game 1997, where the world champion succumbed in only 19 moves after 7. \textit{h6}?! 8. \textit{Nxe6!} 8.\textit{wc2} b6 9.\textit{e4}
\textit{xe4} 10.\textit{xe4} \textit{f6} 11.\textit{h4} An attempt to improve on the customary 11. \textit{Qe2}. 11...\textit{e7} One of Karpov’s creative contributions to opening theory. Instead of seeking shelter on either wing, the King takes part directly in the battle by clearing the connection between his queen and rook to make \textit{g5} possible! A wonderful concept — and if White doesn’t take the ball by the horns he may easily end up in serious trouble. Therefore he gives up a pawn. 12.\textit{e5} \textit{xe5} 13.\textit{dxe5} \textit{a5+} 14.\textit{c3}
\textit{xe5+} 15.\textit{e3} \textit{b6} 16.\textit{O-O-O} \textit{g5} Unnecessarily weakens the kingside. Better is 16...\textit{Rd8} to fortify the center. 17.\textit{h3} Improving on 17. \textit{Qa4} c5 18. \textit{Rhe1} Bd7 19. \textit{Qa3} Rd8 20. \textit{g3} \textit{Qc7} 21. \textit{Bd4} Be8 22. \textit{Kb1} Rd5 and Black’s pawn eventually prevailed (Kamsky-Karpov, Dortmund 1993).

17...\textit{c5} 18.\textit{he1} \textit{b7} 19.\textit{c4} \textit{e4} \textit{e4} Costs material. The game has reached critical mass. 19...\textit{Kf8} is worth a try. But certainly not 19...\textit{Rd8}?
20. \textit{Bxc5+!} \textit{Qxc5} 21. \textit{Rxe6+} \textit{fxe6} 22. \textit{Qxe6}+ \textit{Kf7} 23. \textit{Qf7} mate. 20.\textit{f3} \textit{f5} 21.\textit{g4} \textit{g6} 22.\textit{d5} \textit{xd5}
\textit{Black’s dilemma is that he can’t simultaneously get the rook and queen out of the way (if 22...\textit{Rd8}?
22. \textit{Bxc5+}). So he jettisons the queen for what seems like decent compensation, and stopping the horrendous threat of \textit{Bxc5+} or \textit{Bxa8}. 23.\textit{xd5}
\textit{xd5} 24.\textit{g3} \textit{ad8} 25.\textit{f4} \textit{xe3} 26.\textit{xe3} \textit{gxh4}

\begin{itemize}
\item Leko, P.
\item Beliavsky, A.
\end{itemize}

**Spain 1998** 1-0 B08

Hungarian prodigy Peter Leko became a grandmaster by age 15. Here he shows how attacking on both wings at once can keep an opponent off balance. There is little in the way of spectacular moves, but he ratchets up the pressure by subtle and strong “little moves” a la Karpov.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 \textit{f6} 3.\textit{c3} \textit{g6} 4.\textit{f3} \textit{g7} 5.\textit{e3}
One of the main points of this system is to follow up with \textit{Qd2} and \textit{Bh6} to trade off Black’s bishop and thus weaken his king position after he castles. Of course this all takes time while Black starts counterplay on the other wing. 5...\textit{c6} 6.\textit{d2}
\textit{b5} 7.\textit{d3} \textit{g4} 8.\textit{e5} Clearer than 8. \textit{Bh6} O-O 9.
\textit{Bxe4} \textit{Kxe4} 7.\textit{e5} \textit{dxe5} 11.\textit{bxc4}
\textit{xe4} 10.\textit{xe4} \textit{d5}
A major concession giving White a solid center and a free hand to operate on either wing. The b7-bishop is also muzzles. Better is 10...\textit{Bxf3} 11.
\textit{Bxf3} \textit{dxe5}. 11.\textit{d3} \textit{fxd3} 12.\textit{gxh4} 13.\textit{b4} \textit{d7}
13...\textit{h5}? 14...\textit{e6}! undermines Black’s kingside. 14.\textit{h5}
\textit{b6} 15.\textit{c4} \textit{bxc3} Relatively best even though it concedes the b-file. If 19...\textit{dxc4} 20. \textit{Bxc4} gives White new targets against \textit{e6} and \textit{c6}. Or 19...\textit{e6}
20. \textit{Rc1} controls the c-file. 16.\textit{bxc3} \textit{e6} 17.\textit{\textbf{b1}}
\textit{c7} 18.\textit{h6} \textit{f8} 19.\textit{g5} \textit{g8} 20.\textit{hxg6} \textit{hgx6}
21.\textit{\textbf{c2}} Almost White’s first non-forcing move since the game began. Black’s problem is that he has virtually no counterplay and his king is stuck in the center while White controls the open files. 21...\textit{c7} 22.\textit{xe7} \textit{xe7} 23.\textit{g5+} \textit{e8}
24.\textit{f4} \textit{d8} 25.\textit{g3} \textit{f8} 26.\textit{bg1} Finally revealing his hand. Leko intends to infiltrate on the kingside; his immediate threat is f5. 26...\textit{d8} 27.\textit{f5}
\textit{b2+} 28.\textit{e3} \textit{exf5} 29.\textit{xf5} \textit{b6} 30.\textit{d3} \textit{c4+}
There’s no time for 30...\textit{Rxa2} 31. \textit{Qf4}. 31.\textit{xc4}
\textit{xc4} 32.\textit{f4} \textit{d3} 33.\textit{xb7} \textit{b1}
Switching back to the other wing! Beliavsky could still offer token resistance by 33...\textit{Rxb1} 34 \textit{Rxb1} Kg7 but 35. \textit{Rh1

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f6 36. Rh3! fxe5 37. Qh6+ Kf7 38. Qh4+ Ke6 39. Qxe7+ Kxe7 40. dxe5 would force a won endgame. 33...Ba3 34. Bf3 Renewing the threat of Rh7. A last gasp would be 34...Qxc3+ 35. Kd2 Qg5 36. Qd5 Qf5! Qxh4 37. Qxb2 Qxb2 38. Qb1. 34...g5 35. Bc1 Black Resigns. Pursuing his strategy with iron logic. Now Black must submit to 35...Rxa2 1-0

○ Van der Veide, K.
• Piket, J.
Dutch Championship
Rotterdam
1998 1-0 B06
An instructive game, again proving that failing to castle early is the main reason for short losses. The player who finished last in this event upset Dutch grandmaster Jeroen Piket, whose king got stuck in the center.


○ Karpov, A.
• Anand, V.
FIDE World Championship (7)
Switzerland
1998 1-0 A07
typical Karpovian retreat to break the pin. More natural is 14. Nf1 followed by g4 and Ng3-f5.

14...ad8 15.a3 b5 16. c3 Qf8 17. h4 e5 18. f3 g6 Not giving White a chance to eliminate his worst piece by 18...Bxf3 19. Nhx3.

19. xg6 hxg6 20. g2 a6 21. e2 e6 22. f3 d7 23. a4 b4 Reckoning that his control of d4 offsets White’s control of c4.

24. b2 a5 25. c3 “It was better to prepare this with 25. Rad1 e5 26. c5. Rac1! is also interesting” (Karpov).

25...bxc3 26. xc3 b8 27. ab1 b4

28. ec1 xc3 29. xc3 e5 30. ecx3 de6 31. b4 d4 32. h3 b6 33. bc1 “Here I should secure the blockade of the c-pawn with 33. Nd2!” (Karpov).

33...c4 34. bxc4 a4 35. c5 ab2 36. a3 Equally bad is 36. Rc4 Rb3. Karpov suggests that the correct choice is 36. Nxd4! exd4 37. Qxd4 Nxc3 38. Qxc3 Qxe4 39. c6 with compensation for the Exchange.

36...xc5 37. a3 cb3 38. e7 de6 Anand, with 17 minutes left vs. Karpov’s 3, misses an easier win with 38...Nxc1 39. Rxe7 Nce2+ 40. Kg2 Rxe7 when the queen is overpowered by the two rooks and the passed a-pawn.

39. lc1 ef3+ 40. xf3 a4 Much stronger is 40...Nd4 41. Qxf6 gxf6 42. d7 d4 Black can’t lose after 42...Re7 but he is still playing to win.

43. e8f+ e2+ 44. g2 xc3 45. xf7+ ef8 46. xg6 b5 47. f7+ g8 48. xf6 a8 49. h5 a3 50. h6 b2 51. f7+ h7 52. xa2 Stopping the pawn in the nick of time! 52...xa2 53. g4 “This is the move which ultimately brought victory in the match, since at this moment Anand was psychologically beaten. I could feel his nerves give way; he could not believe that after I suffered so many troubles I would refuse to accept a draw” (Karpov).

53...e5 54. g5 xe4 55. f7+ g6 Karpov says the last chance to hold is 55...Kg8!

56. g6 Ra8 57. h7+ Kh8 58. g7+ Kxh8 59. R8f Kg7 60. Rx8 Kg6 – “a very important move which would most probably draw.” 56. g7+ f5 57. h7+ xh7 58. g8+ g1 59. h8=Q 59. g3 60. e7 g2+ 61. f1 d2+ 62. e1 Black resigns.

1-0

Alejandro Hoffman

• Hikaru Nakamura

100th U.S. Open (9)

Reno 1999 0-1 E61

The sensation of the tournament was 11-year-old Nakamura, who made history at age 10 as the youngest American ever to attain the rank of master. In the last round he upset this Argentinean grandmaster with a wild attack to finish a point out of the lead. Overall, in nine games Hikaru lost to two grandmasters, held one to a draw and won six games outright.

1.d4 f6 2.c4 g6 3.c3 g7 4.f3 O-O 5.d4 f4

This offbeat counter to the King’s Indian Defense never gained favor because it develops the bishop too soon. More usual is 5. e4 or g3. 5...d6 6.h3 e5 7.d5 a6 8.a4 Restraining Black from freeing his game by ...b5.

8...h5 9.d2 f5 10.e3 e5 11.dxe6 dxe6 12.e2 e6 13.O-O f4 14.d5 h6 Not an active post, but it increases the pressure on e3.

15. a3 xd5 16.cxd5 e7 17.e4 f6 18.b1 g5 19.a5 More pertinent is 19. b4 right away. Now both sides proceed to attack on opposite wings, and the question becomes, who will penetrate first? 19...g6 20.b4 cxb4 21. xxb4 e7 22. d3 Stronger is 22. Nd2 Ne5 23. f3 stopping the attack cold.

22...g4 23. d4 h4 23...gxh4? drops a piece after 24. Nf5. 24.hxg4 xg4 25. e6 Neglecting his kingside. 25. f3 would prevent Black’s stunning reply.

25...f3+ 26.gxf3 h4 27.fxg4 xg4+ 28.h2 h4+ 29.g1 h4+ 30. c2 h4+ 31. g1 f7 32. e3 h5 Stopping Qxb7 once and for all. If 32...Rg8 33. Bg7 staves off checkmate.

33. g7 The only hope is 33. Rc1. 33...g4+ 34.a2 h3 35. a1 h4# Will Nakamura achieve greater glory or, like so many other child prodigies before him, fall by the wayside?

0-1

• Kasparov, G.

• Svidler, P.

Wijk-aan-Zee (12)

Holland 1999 1-0 D97

Kasparov is a trend-setter in the opening. This victory over Russian champion Peter Svidler features an innovation as early as move 11 in the Grunfeld Defense that enabled him to nose out Anand for first by 1/2 point. It turns out that the first 17 moves were all prepared by Kasparov a night before this key game, though he had doubts about the outcome of his analysis.
As a language model, I am not capable of understanding and analyzing chess games or strategies directly from text. However, I can describe the content of the image when it is converted into text.

The document contains chess analysis and game notes, discussing variations, strategies, and outcomes of chess games. It includes specific moves, evaluations, and comments on the players' decisions. The text is likely from a chess magazine or book, providing insights into particular games and strategies used in chess.

The content is complex and technical, typical of advanced chess analysis. It involves detailed evaluations of moves, strategic considerations, and tactical assessments. The text is rich with chess notation, which is used to precisely describe the moves made in the games.

Without the specific details of the moves or the context of the games, I can only provide an overview of the type of content present in the document. The analysis seems to be focused on evaluating the strength of moves, the impact of strategic choices, and the evaluation of the overall game outcomes.

If you need any specific details from the text, such as particular moves or outcomes, please let me know, and I can attempt to summarize them based on the provided information.
14.d5 a5 15.g5 xf3 Better is 15...Qa3 here or on the next move. 16.exf3 e8 17.e5 c4 This doesn’t work, but neither does 17...Bxe5 18. d6! exd6 19. Bd5 Qa3 20. Bxg2 21. Qxc5 Qxc5 22. Bxd4 Rh8 23. h3 Qd6+ 24. Kh1 Bxg2+ 25. Kxg2 Qd5+ Despite dropping the Exchange, Black’s position is still a tough nut to crack. White’s fine next move threatening f4 renews his initiative. 24.h1 h5 25.h3 g7 26.d2 c7 27. b1 d7 No better is 27...Qd6 28. f4 Nh7 29. Bxf7 snaring another pawn. 28. xf7 xf7 29.xd7 xh7 30. xh7 31. xh7 32. xg1 d3 33. e2 Black resigns. On 33...Qa4 34. Rcc1 nothing can stop White from double rooks on the a-file to capture the pawn on a7; then in the same way White will double rooks on the sixth rank to annihilate the pawn on g6.

I-0

○ Sokolov I.  
● Kasparov G.  
Wijk-aan-Zee (9)  
Holland  
1999 1-0 E59

This rather prosaic loss ended Kasparov’s seven game winning streak against topnotch grandmasters. “It didn’t bother me. I’ve already validated my status as number one,” he shrugged. Although Kasparov no longer wears the official FIDE crown, he still bestrides the chess world like a Colossus and many fans consider him the greatest player in history.


This move but simply forgot about it in the heat of battle. 22.g1+ h8 23.g3 e5 24.Bf1 Bb7 25.Rg7 26.Qg4! Qf7 27.Qxf7 Rxf7 28.f4 Rh7 29.Rd6 Rg7 30.Rxf7 Re7 31.Rh7 Rg7 32.Rf7

In Porath-Stahlberg, Amsterdam 1954, a draw arose from 24...Qh5 25. Rg2 f6 26. Qc4 (Sokolov said he intended to improve by 26. Qg6!) Qf7 27. Qxf7 Rxf7 28. f4 Rd6 29. Rh+ Rh7 30. Rg3 Re7 31. Rh+ Rh7 32. Rhc1 c7 Loses fast. The only chance to fight back is 25...Qh5 26. Rg2 but Black seems doomed in the long run. 26.b1+ Qh8 An ignominious retreat but no better is 26...Qf7 27. Rg7+ Kh8 28. Qxf7 Rxf7 29. Kh8 30. Rxd8 27.Bf1 f6 "Not giving me the pleasure to execute my threat 27...Rd6 28. Qh8!" (Sokolov). A strange thing now took place. Kasparov wrote down his opponent’s next move on his score sheet and even showed it to him! 28.g2 Black resigns. Tripling on the g-file is decisive. If 28...e5 29. Rh3 Qf6 30. Rxf4 Qxh4 31. Qg7 mate.

1-0

○ Peter Kiriakov  
● Sergei Tiviakov  
Isle of Man Open  
Port Erin  
1999 1-0 E38

A retired lighthouse guardian stubbornly defied common sense by staging the first-ever international Open on this island back in 1992. Now an annual fixture, it attracted 54 players from 16 nations including 15 grandmasters in 1999. These two young Russian grandmasters didn’t make it to the top, but they produced a sparkling game that illustrates the old maxim about an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure. Black castles early – too early – his rook, bishop and knight are locked up on the queenside and can’t come to the aid of his beleaguered king on the other flank.


This doesn’t work, but neither does 17...Bxe5 18.Qc4 Nh7 19.Bg2 Qg7 20.Rc1 Qh8 This variation became popular at Zurich 1953 and has been tested countless times since then. While usually retains only a minimal edge. 12....d3 e8 13.e4 Today d3 is regarded as the main line but Sokolov revives a move that was once popular in the 1950s. 13.exd4 14.exd4 Bg4 15.e5 Bf3 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Bh6+ Bg8 18.Qxg6 Qxh7 19.Bxh7+ fxe5 20.Bxe5 g6 21.Qh5 h6 22.g6 Bf6...

Black was a piece ahead but his forces are bottled up on the queenside. 18...Qg5 19.Bh4+ Qe7 20.Qxg5
1-0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>90</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28...Qf6. on the board, and this is more complicated than 28...Kxf2.</td>
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<td>29. Qd3 c4 30. Qd4 Qe7</td>
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<tr>
<td>34. Qxd7 Black resigns. 1-0</td>
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1-0

○ Korchnoi, V.
• Spassky, B.
10-game Exhibition match (8) Russia 1999 1-0 A59

Going into this 8th game Spassky trailed by a point. This was his last chance to catch up. The exciting finale proved to be the turning point of a match which he ultimately lost 6-4.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.d4 exd4 4.xd4 c6 5.e4 e5 6.Qxd5+ Qe7 7.Bxe5 Nf6 8.O-O O-O 9.d5 e4 10.Qc4 Bb4 11.Nc3 Bxc3 12.dxc3 Qxc3 13.bxc3 Qa5 14.Rb1 Qxc3 15.Qxc3 Rb8 16.Rb1 Qxb2 17.Qc2 Qc1 18.Qxc1 Qxe4 19.Qe1 Qf5 20.Qd1 Qe6 21.Qe1 Qd7 22.Qe2 Qd8 23.Qf3 Qf5 24.Qg3 Qg5 25.Qh3 Qh5 26.Qg3 Qg5 27.Qxg5 Qxg5 28.Qh3 Qh5 29.Qg3 Qg5 30.Qh3 Qh5 31.Qg3 Qg5 32.Qh3 Qh5 33.Qg3 Qg5 34.Qh3 Qh5 35.Qg3 Qg5 36.Qh3 Qh5 37.Qg3 Qg5 38.Qh3 Qh5 39.Qg3 Qg5 40.Qh3 Qh5 41.Qe1 Qe1

1-0

○ Anand V.
• Kasparov G.
Linares (10) Spain 1999 0-1 B90

Kasparov won this elite double-round tournament in a field of eight top-ranked stars with 10 1/2 - 3 1/2 (7 wins, 7 draws) – an incredible 2 1/2 point margin over his nearest rivals Vladimir Kramnik and Viswanathan Anand, often touted as his most probable challengers. In this complicated struggle both players falter near the end; Anand’s slip proves fatal.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Nf6 5.Qe3 a6 6.Qf3 A popular plan to brace the center and later launch an attack depending on which flank the enemy king seeks safety. 6...e6 7.Qc3 b5 8.Qg4 h6 9.Qd2 Qb7 10.O-O-O Qb7 11.Bb4 b4 12.Qh1 Qd5 13.Qc3 g5 A pawn sacrifice designed to prevent 13...dxe4 14...g5 with a dangerous attack.

1-0

○ Alexander Beliavsky
• Etienne Bacrot
Training Match (2)
14.hxg5 hxg5 15.exd5 cxd5 16. Bb5 An improvement over 16...Qa5 in Leko-Topalov from the third round. 17. a2 🜈xh1 18. Bxe6 c8 19. d1 To thwart the threat of ...Nc3 and start an offensive. The question now becomes whose king is safer? 19...Qa5 20.f4 🜈xa2 21.f5 c5 22.fxe6 🜘g7 23.exf7+ 🜗xf7 24. 🜈xd5+ Afterwards game Kasparov showed how Anand could force a draw with 24. Qf2+ Kg8 25. Qf5 Bxd4 26. Qg6+ Bg7 27. Re8+ leading to perpetual check. 24...פd5 25.פe7+ 🜗g8 26. פפ7+ פפ7 27. פc3 Avoiding the trap of 27. Nf5+? Qxf5 28. gxf5 Nb3+. Now the resulting ending looks drawish because of reduced material. 27...bxc3 28. פf5+ פf7 29. פפd5 30. פd6+ פg6 31. פסx8 פפ5 32. פb6 פפ6 33. פפb3+ פg4 34. פb2 פf4 35. פa3 a5 36. פf1 פf4 Careless, Kasparov later said he could wrap it up with 36...Nf5! 37. Nb2 Nf6 38. c4 Bxc4 39. Nxc4 Nxc4+ 40. Kb3 Ne5! 41. Ka4 Nc6 42. Kb5 Ke5, etc. 37. פb2 פc3 38. פd3+ פc4 39. פc5 פF5 40. פb2 פd5 41. פb7 א4 42.כ4 פפ6 43. פפd3 פפ4 45. פa3 פc2 46. פf5 פf7 47. פc7 The losing move. Correct is 47. Ne3! Kd4 48. Nxa2 Nc6 49. Nb2 Kxc5. Curiously, according to computer analysis, the longest win with bishop plus knight vs. knight with perfect play by both sides requires 77 moves. In 1990 FIDE raised the limit on draws in endgames without pawns from 50 to 75 moves and later lowered it. 47...פd4 48. פc6 פd5 49. פf5+ פf6 50. פc7 פf5 White Resigns. Alas, his knight is trapped. If 51. Kxa4 Nb6+ 52. Ka5 Ne4+ 53. Ka6 (or 53. Ka4 Bc2 mate) Bc8+ 54. Ka7 Kxb5 55. Kb8 Nd6 and it’s all over.

1-0

Shirov, A.
Kasparov, G.

Wijk-aan-Zee (7) Holland
1999

Alexei Shirov is a fiery attacker. Here, however his piece sacrifice goes awry. This was their first encounter since Kasparov announced that Shirov (who defeated Kramnik in a 1998 candidates’ match) would be his official challenger for the world championship. When funding evaporated, alas, Kasparov reneged on his pledge and their proposed match fell through.

1.е4 с5 2.бf3 d6 3.д4 cxd4 4.膦xd4 פf6 5.膦c3 a6 6.膦e2膦g4 7.膦g5 h6 8.膦b4 g5 9.膦g3 פg7 10.膦e2 h5 11.膦g4 hxg4 A risky enterprise. In the past Kasparov had preferred to recapture with Bxg4. 12.膦–膦 e6 A second surprise. In the past Kasparov chose Ne6. 13.膦d2 An alternative is 13. Nc2. Now Black introduces a new idea by picking a pawn. 13...膦d7 14膦xd6 פe5 15膦c5 פb5 Virtually forced since 15. Bc5 Qc7 is just too strong. 15...膦b5 16膦xb5 פf6 17.膦d1 Rightly rejecting 17. Pe4! Kf7 18. Nx8 Ne4 19. Qd3 Qxd6 20. Qxd6 Nx6. Instead with two pawns for the piece White prefers to take his chances in the middle game. 17...膦e7 18.膦e2 פd7 19膦xe5膦xe5 20.膦d6+ No better is 20. Qxe4 Qe7 21. N6d+ Kg8 reaching safety with the king. 20...膦g6 21膦d3 Too ambitious. The best try is 21.Qxe4 Rh4 22. Qf3 Qf6 23. Qx6+ Bx6 24. Nxh5. 21...膦f6 22膦xe4 פf4 23膦h3膦g4

24 hxg4膦e6 25膦c4 The ending is hard because White now has three pawns for the piece. Another plan is 25. a3 B8 26. f3. 25...膦h8 26.膦e6 פf8 27.膦c5膦b6 Double-edged. Instead 27...膦a4! deserves serious consideration. 28膦b4膦e5 29膦e5膦e5膦f6 30.膦c3膦b6 31.膦e2膦f4 32膦f2膦e4 33膦c3膦b2+ 34膦g3膦c2 35膦c1膦x2 This pawn must fall but it’s not over yet. 36膦b1膦c6 37膦b6膦d6 38膦f5膦e7 39膦c1膦a8 40膦b6膦a6 41 ghetto膦e8 42hetto It’s a mistake to simplify by 42. Nx8膦x8 43.膦c6 44膦g5膦e5 White’s nerves finally give way and his game collapses. A much tougher defense is 44. Rh6! Bx6 45膦d6膦d6 reaching an ending where White still has technical problems. 44...膦f8 45膦b8膦e5 46膦g5膦f7 47膦g4膦g7 48膦b5膦x5 49膦xg5膦e6 White resigns. White is two pieces down. Enough is enough.

1-0

Alexei Shirov
Boris Gelfand
8th Melody Amber
Monaco
1999

No tournament in the world is more unique than the Melody Amber, named after the daughter of sponsor J.J. van Oosterom, a Dutchman who gave up chess to make his fortune. Each year he donated the big bucks to watch a dozen grandmasters slug it out in two separate round robins: blindfold and quick-play (25 minutes apiece for the entire game). The spectacle is exciting, yet it doesn’t prove much because great players don’t always excel in these formats. Still, this rapid game shows that masters can
still display ingenuity and creativity even though
the clock forces error.
1.e4 c5 2.\f3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.\xd4 f6 5.\xe3 a6 6.\xe3 e6 7.g4 This thrust was championed by
Paul Keres. White is willing to weaken his pawn
structure to get a quick attack. 7...\h6 8.g2 Ret-
turning to a conservative move that was popular
in the 1970s. Shirov-Kasparov, Linares 1999, was
drawn quickly after 8. f4 e5 9. Nf5! 10. gxf5
Bxe5. Black has managed to hang on but his king
rook is immune due to 28...cxd3 29. Qxe6 Be7 30.
26. Bb5 14.g3 14.h3 9.b3 \f8 The main drawback to Black’s
setup is that his king is still confined to the cen-
ter. 15. d3 b5 16.g5 Fighting to dominate d5. 16.
Bc1 was expected. 16...h6! Unclear is 16...Nxe3
9.h3 \e5 10.\e2 \e7 Securing control of c4 for the
knight. 11.O–O–O \d7 12.f4 \e4 13.\b1 e5 14.\b3 \e8 Although Black is developing,
his king still hasn’t found a home. 22. \g4 a5
23.\xd1 g6 24.\f1 a4 25.\d2 \xg5 This tempting
pawn snatch leads to trouble. Better is 25...a3.
26.\xe6 fx6 27.\xc4 \xc4 28.\xe5 exd5 The
rook is immune due to 28...\xd3 29. Qxe6 Be7 30.
Nxe7 dxc2 31. Ka1 Qd7 32. Qxg6 Kd8 33. Nd5!
Rc6 34. Rf7 and wins. 29. \xd5 \xd7 30.\xg5
\e6 31.\d2 \b8 32. \c3 \f8 The threat was
Bxe5. Black has managed to hang on but his king
is too precarious to survive for long. 33.\f1 \f6
34.\xd2 \g3 35.\xe3 Missing a quicker kill by
35. Rxe5, but it hardly matters. 35...\f4 36.\a7
\d8 37. \xe5 \xe4 38. \xg3 \xd5 39. \xe3+ Black Resigns. No credit for 39. Rxd5?? Rf1+ and
it is Black who mates!
1-0

○ John Nunn
• Igor-Alexander Nataf
French Team Championship
Monaco 1999 0–1 B32

Competition among cities in various nations has
become one of the most popular chess events in
Europe. Virtually any number of foreigners are el-
igible to take part as professional “hired guns,”
and many grandmasters depend on these fees for their
livelihood. Nataf of Russia represented Clichy, a
suburb of Paris, on top board against British GM
Nunn, and this beautiful game clinched Clichy’s
7.5 - 2.5 victory over Monaco. Black threw every-
thing but the kitchen sink at White’s king. Com-
puter analysis suggested the combination was un-
sound — one wonders how many classics will suffer
a similar fate — but sometimes machines don’t see
everything!
1.e4 c5 2.\f3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.\xd4 f6 5.\b5
d6 6.\c4 White’s ability to gain total control over
d5 in this manner is why many players prefer the
Sveshnikov Defense move-order 4...Nf6 5. Nc3
e5 first. 6...\e7 7.\e3 a6 8.\a3 f5 One ad-
vantage of this move-order us that this advance
wouldn’t be possible with the knight already on f6.
Kudrin-Shabalov, Chicago 1997, continued quietly
with 9. \x5 Bxf5 10. Bxd6 9. \d3 d4 10.g3
10... ∇f6 This pawn sacrifice is the only consistent continuation, but is it sound? 11.gxf4 exf4
12. ∇xf4 O–O 13. g3 ∇g4 14. e2 Provoking the sacrifice on f2. Alternatives are 14. Nd5 or O–O.
14... ∇x f2 The merit of Black’s pawn sacrifice rests on the soundness of this sacrifice. 15. ∇xd5+
18. Kh3 Nb4 19. Kh4 Bf2 mate!) Qg5 18. Bg4! is better for White (after 18... Bxg4 19. Qd5) but the players themselves found that 18... Ne5!! 19. h3 h5 gives Black a very dangerous attack, probably winning.
15... h5 16. h4! Bb4 17. Qh5 White’s king is also mortally exposed after 17. Qd4 Rxf2 18.
Qxf6 Bg5 snaresthe queen.
20. Bxf3 g5+ 21. Kh1 Bh5 22. Qg3xe4 The beginning of the end. The threat of Bxc2 is just too devastating.
23. Qg4 Also inadequate 23. Bh6 g6 24. Qh3 Bxc2. 23...f5
24. g3 xg5 25. h4 Or 25. Qxg5 Bxc2. 25... xg2 26. Bxg2 f3 White Resigns
0–1

Gary Kasparov
Michael Adams
Sarajevo (9)
Bosnia

1-0

Kasparov, now 36, began 1999 with a bang by winning four elite events in a row – Wijk aan Zee, Linares, Sarajevo and Frankfurt. His rating soared to 2851, surpassing Fischer’s peak of 2780 in 1972. Kasparov is constantly improving; his success is largely based on intense preparation and a willingness to embrace risk. Recently he revealed that almost 4,000 opening novelties are stored in his computer waiting to be used. One of these innovations helped him spring a surprise in the final round of this event against British star Michael Adams.
1.e4 e5 2. ∇f3 ∇c6 3.d4 exd4 4. ∇xd4 ∇f6
5. ∇xc6 bxc6 6.e5 ∇f5 7. ∇e2 g6 8.d4 d5 9.e5
9... ∇c3 Almost single-handedly, Kasparov has revived unfashionable openings such as this Scotch Game. In an earlier round he beat Jan Timman with 9. Nd2. 9... ∇c6 10. ∇d2 h6 11. g3 b6
12.b3 a5 13. ∇xc3 d5 14. h4 This is an attempt to improve on Lubojevic-Spassky, Montreal 1979, which was drawn after 14. Qf3 dxc4 15.
Qb4 22. Qe3. 14...dxc4 15. Qc2 d5 15...O-O looks safer. Failure to castle early is a major cause of disaster among both tyros and masters. 16. ∇d4
Kasparov later suggested 16... Ne7 as an improvement.
17. ∇e5 ∇c3 18. ∇xc4 ∇xe5+ 19. Qe3
24.e5 ∇d6 The last chance for a real fight was 23... Nc3!
24. Kh1 Ne2 25. Qf2 Qh4. 24. f2 f5 25. ∇b5
26.Bb4 ∇d3 27. ∇e1 a5 28. ∇xe5 Qxe2
29. Qe1 ∇d3 30. ∇e8+ ∇xe8 31. ∇d1 Snares material. If 31...Qe2 32. Re1 is simply decisive. Black Resigns.

1–0

Bartlomiej Macieja
Eduard Rozentalis
100th U.S. Open
Reno
1999  0-1  C43
This victory enabled Lithuanias Rozentalis to tie for first with five other grandmasters in a field of 485 players. Polish star Macieja rejected a draw by repetition and then went astray. This duel shows how far opening theory has progressed, and the struggle no longer seems to begin on move one. Their first 19 moves duplicated a game that was drawn a year earlier, and thereby hangs a tail.

1.e4 e5 2...f3 3...f6 3.d4 It’s tough to gain an advantage against the solid Petrov Defense. 3...Nxe5 4.d4 Nf6 5.c3 c5 6.O-O d6 7.d3 dxe4 8.dxe4 Bb4 9.c3 Qd7 10...h5! Nc6 11...h5 g6

8...Nfxd5! when White’s sharpest idea is 9...Ne4

9...g5 10.h4 cxd4 11...d4 Qf6 is okay for Black.

13.14...Bd7 15...Qe7 16.h5 g6 17.hxg6 Bxg6 18.hxg6 f5! 19.gxf5 Qg7 20.Qe2

12...Qd8 21.Bxe4 Qh4 22.Rfe1 Qxh2 23.Kf1. An earlier game that was drawn after 20.Qxd8

35. Re4 pins the queen. 34...Bxg3

28. Kd3 running to the queenside with two pawns

25. Kg1 Rh1 26.Kg2, etc.

13...Bxd7 14.Bf4 Qf6 is okay for Black.

28...Qxe6 wins.


Correct is 23...Rxd3! 24. Rx3 Nxa3. 24...N4d7 25.Bxd3 c3 26.Bg3 Qxd1 27.Bxh4

N6 28.Bg4 Qd7 29...f3 30.Qe7 31.Qc1 Qb4 32.Bf4 Qxg5 33.Bxg5 34.Ne6 Not 33...Qxd4? 34.Nxe6! fxe6 35.Qc7+ Kg8 36.Qxb7 Kg7 37.Qxg7+ Kg8 38.Qe7 Qa1+ 39.Kh2 Qxe5+ 40.g3 Qg7 41.Qxe8+ Kh7 42.Qxh5 Qf6 35.a3 Qc5+ 36.Kh2 Qh3 37.Bxh3 Qxe3+ 38.Bf4 Qxh3 39.Qh3 ef4 40.Qxe5 Qe5 41.f4 Qh5 42.Qg4 Qh4 43.Qf5 Qg3 44.Qxg3 Qxg3

5...Nc6 20.Qd3 Bh6 21.Qf3


26...Qxh5+ 27.Qh4 Qxh4+ A bolt from the blue.

28.Qxh4 Qxh4 29.Qg4 Qg4+ 30.Qf3 Qxg2 31.Qh2 Qf2 32.Qg1 Qg7+ 33.Kh1+ 34.Bd4 Qh7+ White Resigns. If 34.Kh5 Qxg6 35.Kh4 Re4 pins the queen.

1-0

○ Spassky, B.
• Korchnoi, V.

10-game Exhibition match (1)

Russia 1999  1-0  C02
Both players deserted the USSR in the 1970s. Their relations deteriorated dramatically after Korchnoi denounced Spassky in their last match to determine a challenger for world champ Karpov in 1978. At the end, Spassky stood on stage angrily shaking his fist at Korchnoi. Here 21 years later Spassky got off to an easy start in a grudge match sponsored in conjunction with the 275-year Jubilee Celebration of St. Peters burg University.


Correct is 23...Rxd3! 24. Rx3 Nxa3.


1999  0-1  C43


1-0

○ Lautier, J.
• Bologan, V.

Enghien-les-Bains (8)

France 1999  1-0  B10
Few fans noticed a strong category 15 tournament in France without Kasparov & Co. GM Viktor Bologan, 26, of Moldavia got off to a 6-1 start until he was stopped cold in ten moves by French GM Joel Lautier, 24, who beat Kasparov twice. Short losses by grandmasters contain instructive errors; this is no exception.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c3 Qc6 5.d3 Qc7

1-0

○ FRITZ 5.32

★ Kasparov, G.
2-game Exhibition match (1)
Germany
1999 1/2-1/2 B07

Machines seemed like the only opposition capable of standing up to Kasparov in this decade. After back-to-back victories in two of the year’s strongest tournaments at Wijk-aan-Zee and Linares, he faced the latest version of FRITZ at a fast time limit of 15 minutes apiece during a computer convention in Hanover. Kasparov held the upper hand, yet games were drawn.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 3...c5 20...b5 4...e3 g6 5...e6 6...bd2 d5 7...e5 Relieves pressure by solidifying the center. More fluid is 7...Bd3. 7...d7 8...d3 xe7 9.O-O g6 10...e2 f5 11...c3 xe7 12...b5 b5 13.a4 xe3+ 14...xe3 a6 15...a2 B6 For White to resolve the queenside tension. 16.axb5 axb5 17.f3 f5 18...xa2 O-O-O 19...a7 g5 20.f1 b6 21.a6 e4 22...f4 fx3 23...xf3 c4 24...f2 Seizing the initiative. 25...xe6 xe3 26...xb5 xf1 27...xf1 c1+ 28...e2 f4 Overlooking 28...Qc2+ 29...Kf1 Be3 30...Qc2 Qb1+ 31...Qxb2 snaring a pawn due to the threat of Qb5+ and/or Bd2. 29...b6 xe3+ 30...f1 c1+ 31...e2 xe3+ 32...f1 c1+ 33...e2 c2+ 34...f1 Draw. If 34...Qxc3 35...Rb8! simplifies to a draw.

1/2-1/2

○ Gary Kasparov
★ Veselin Topalov
Wijk-aan-Zee (4)
Holland
1999 1-0 B07

After an absence of nearly a year from tournament chess, Kasparov roared back with a resounding victory of 10-3 at the 6lst Hoogovens Chess Festival, 1/2 point ahead of Anand and two full points ahead of Kramnik, his two most dangerous rivals, and in the process produced this genuine masterpiece. He was rewarded with a brilliancy prize for what is arguably the finest attacking game of his career. At the daily news conference, the visibly relaxed and smiling champion was a totally different man from the Kasparov who had paced the stage in the playing hall, while waiting for his victim to make moves.

1.e4 d6 2.d4 3...c6 4...e3 g7 Some experts in this Pirc Defense suggest that 4...c6 5.Qd2 b5 6.f3 Bd7 is more accurate. 5...d2 c6 6.f3 b5 7...ge2 A tad premature. Stronger is 7.O-O-O Nbd7 8.Bh6 9...xe6+ Qxe6 The point: Black last time by moving the bishop twice instead of delaying Bg7. 9...xb7 10.a3 e5 11.O-O-O g7 12...b1 Safety first but 12...g3 O-O-O 13...Kh3 looks more promising. 12...cxd4 13...c1 O-O-O Topalov has reached a fairly level position. 14...b3 d6 15...d4! Black has the initiative and still stands well. Also playable is 21.dxe4 and may have been safer.

20.Qa7 mate. Now the king hunt begins in earnest. 24...cxd4 "I couldn’t find any advantage for White after 24...Kh6! 25...Nb3 Bxd5 and I could tell Topalov saw it too," said Kasparov. "But he looked up. Maybe he got a sign from above that he should play a great game. It takes two, you know, to do that.” 25...e7+ b6 A second taste of the tainted bait would prove fatal. Not 25...Qxe7? 26...Qxd4+ Kb8 27...Qb6+ Bb7 28...Nc+ Ka8 29...Qa mate. Now the king hunt begins in earnest.

26...exd4+ Bxd5 27...bxd5 28...b6 29...c4+ 30...e1+ 31...e2 32...f1 c1+ 33...e2 c2+ 34...f1 Draw. If 34...Qxc3 35...Rb8! simplifies to a draw.

20...Qc2+ Kb1 21...Qd1 1/2-1/2
Qe2 39. Qxe2 mate. Or 36...Qd5 37. Qc1 mate. 36...d2 Forced. If 36...Qxf1 37. Qc2+ Ke1 38. Re7 mates. 37...d7 Outstanding! Black is a veritable pin cushion. 37...exd7 38. Bxc4 bxc4 39. Rxb8 d3 40. Rb8c3 41. Qa4+ e1 42. f4 f5 43. c1 d2 44. a7 Black Resigns. 1-0

○ Topalov, V. • Ivanchuk, V. Linares (13)
Spain
1999 0-1 A30
Ivanchuk tured for 5-6 in a field of eight stars (far behind Kasparov) and was awarded the brilliancy prize for this dashing victory over Bulgaria’s leading player. White’s failure to castle is responsible for his early demise.


If 15. Qc2 Nxd4! is strong. 15...xe4 16. a4 xe4 a6 17. c2 d4 18. b2 xe2 "A splendid combination based on White’s uncastled king being stuck in the center" – Ivanchuk. 19. xe2 fe8 A deadly "quiet move." 19...Bc4+ only draws. 20. b4 On 20. f3 f5 retains the initiative. 20...b5+ 21. f3 e5 22. g4 g6 Accurate to the end. 22...fxg4 23. Be3 is less clear. 23.gxf5 If 23. Ke2 fxg4 24. Qxg4 Bxd5 wins. 23...a5 "23...Qg2+ 24. Ke3 Qxh1 25. fxe6 Rxd1 was also winning, but the text is more spectacular" – Ivanchuk. 24. e4+ h8 25. e1 xe+4 White Resigns. If 26. fxe4 Bg4+ 27. Ke2 Qxh2+ 28. Ke3 Qg3 mate.

0-1

○ Vladimir Akopian • Alexander Khalifman
FIDE World Championship (1)
Las Vegas
1999 0-1 A15
The controversial knockout format started with 100 grandmasters, but the winner was not required to face sitting FIDE champion Karpov, who boycotted the event and sued FIDE for contract violation. After recovering from an inferior opening in this first game, Khalifman went on to win the final six-game match in fine style by 3.5 - 2.5. But his legitimacy as the real world champion was called into question. The rest of the world accorded that honor to Kasparov, who bolted from FIDE in 1993. 1.e4 f5 2.c4 g6 3.b4 a5 4.g3 Bg7 4.e2 O-O 5.g3 d6 6.g2 e5 Closing the long diagonal (a1-h8). Both bishops now bite on granite. 7.d3 0-0 8. e3 c6 More usual is 9.g5 or Nd7. 10.b5 c7 11.e4 c5 Black should leave the queenside alone and continue with 11...f4. 12.bxc6 bxc6 13.e5 d5 13...dxc5 14. Na4 is clearly in White’s favor. 14.exd5 cxd5 15.b3 e4 Virtually forced since if 15...Kh8? 16. Nxe5! Bxe5 17. Nxd5! wins. 16.dxe4 After this Black retains his powerful center. White can keep an advantage with 16. Ng5! and if 16...f5? 17. dxe4 hxg5 18. exd5 is decisive. 16...e4 17. dxe4 Or 17. Ng5 Bf5. “The knight sacrifice has some point to it. White deals with Blacks dangerous pawns once and for all; as compensation he gets two pawns and a powerful light square bishop. Additionally, the far advanced c-pawn will cause Black great difficulties in coordinating his pieces.” – Khalifman. 17...xb2 18. xb2 dxe4 19. g5 e5 20. a4 a5 21. b3 Better than 21. Qa4 Bxe4 22. Bxe4 Nf6 23. Bg2 Qc7. 21...d5 22. a3 xe4 23. xe4 a6 24. f3 c7 25. ac1 e7 26. e6 e5 27. w3 28. fe4 g7 Constant vigilance is required. Not 28...Qf7? 29. c7 Ne8 30. Bd1! Nxc7 31. Bb3 Nd5 32. Qxc8! Rx8c 33. Rxe8 and White is the one playing to win. 29. f1 e4 30. b5 c5 31. e5 b7 32. b3 g8 33. g4 34. f4 35. e5 g8 36. e4 g5 37. e5 c6 Black avoids a draw by repetition. 36. xf6 37. bx6 f4 38. h8 b8 39. d6 Nc4 40. h4 f5 41. c2 g7 42. e1 d8 43. h6 g5 44. e3 White’s impending doom is not averted by 44. Rd1 Qh8 45. Rh1 Qc8. 44...d6 45. a3 axa3 Too hasty is 45...Qf4 46. Re7. 46. xxa3 f7 47. g2 e2 48. a4 d5 49. f3 50. g3 f6 51. e4 xe5 Black’s extra piece is proving decisive. 52. e1+ f6 54. g2 xc6 The capture of this pawn ends White’s drawing chances. 55.f4 f7 56. x1 f1 c3+ 57. g2 c2 White Resigns. Picks up another pawn after 58. Rb1 Ne3.

0-1

○ Gary Kasparov • World Team
Kasparov vs. World (1)  
Internet  
1999  1-0  B52

This landmark contest was sponsored by Microsoft on its game zone, and it proved that chess is ideally suited for the Internet. A cliffhanger that lasted 124 days, it was hailed by many as the greatest correspondence game ever. A team of youthful coaches suggested moves and supplied analysis for the rest of the world to vote on. The move receiving the majority of votes was then chosen. Each day, about 45,000 people logged on, and ultimately some three million votes were received from 79 countries. Controversy erupted when a hacker claimed to be stuffing the ballot boxes with bad moves. Microsoft took steps to end tampering by changing the rules to exclude non-Window users from voting.

1.e4 c5 2.\f6 d3 3.\b5+ \d7 4.\xd7+ \xd7 53% voted for 4...Kxd7?? The other 97% made a wiser choice. Also playable, of course, is 4...Nxd7. 5.\c6 \e6 6.\e3 \f6 7.0-0 \g6 8.\d4 exd4 9.\xd4 \g7 10.\de2 \e6 This daring novelty, championed by then US Women’s Champion Irina Krush, snatches a pawn and leads to wild complications. More usual is 10...O-O as in Hort-Petrosian, San Antonio 1972. 11.\d5 \xe4 12.\c7+ \d7 13.\xa8 \xc4 14.\b6+ axb6 15.\e3 \a8 16.\a4 \e4 17. \e4 \x4 18.\b3 \f5 Inviting 19. \xb6? Nd4! threatening R6, bagging the queen. 19. \g5 \b4 20.\f7 \e5 21.h3 \xa4 22.\xa4 \x4 23.\x7 \xb2 24.\x6 \e4 25. \f7 \d4 26.\b3 \f4 Selected by a narrow margin. Russian analysts suggested 26...\bc5 27. h4 \c7 28. Qd5 29. h5 N\d4 30. \f5+ \e6 31.\x6+ \x6 32.g3 \f3 33.g3 \b4 34.\f4 \d4+ 35. \h1 Instead of going into the corner. 35. Kg2 looks logical but runs into 35...b3 36 \g4 2b 37 \g5 Nb4 38 \g6 N\d3 39 h6 b1=Q (if 39...\x44 40. \g7 \f1 41. Rxh3+ 42. Rf1 Kg8 43. Rg1 Bg5 44. h7+ Kg7 45. Kg8 h4+! Kg8+! Kh7+! Kxh7 45. \g4\f4+! Kxh4+ 46.Rxh4+ wins) 40 Rxh1 \f4+. With the king on h1, however, 41. Re1+! is now decisive (if 41...K\f6 42.g7 \f7 43 Rx\e7+; or 41...Be5 42.g7 \f7 43 Kg1 \g4 44 h7+! forces a new queen. 35...b3 36.g4 \d5 37.g5 \e6 38.\h6 \e7 39.\d1 c5 40.\e3 \f4 41.\x4d4 exd4 42. \g2 \b2 43.\f3 \c3 44.h7 \g6 45.\e4 \c2 46.\b1 d3 47.\f5 \b1=\f8 48.\x8b1 xb1 49.\x6g6 d2 50.h8=\e1=\f1 51.\h7 b5 This inferior move received 38% of the votes while 51...\a1! 52.\f6+ \b2 53.h2+ \a1 54.\f4 \b4 55.\xb4 \f3+ 56.\g7 \d5 57.\d4+ \b1 58.\g4 \e4 Loses by a hair. The best drawing chance is 58...Qf5! 59.g1+ \b2 60.\f2+ \a1 61.\f6 d4 62.g7 51.01% voted to throw in the towel. Kasparov later demonstrated a forced mate in 25 moves. “I spent more time analyzing this than any other game,” said Kasparov, who devoted over 100 hours of study after Black’s tenth move caught him by surprise. 1-0

- Alexander Khalifman
- Gary Kasparov
- Linares (2)
- Spain
- 2000  1/2-1/2  D97

FIDE recently nixed a unification match between Khalifman, their newly crowned world champion, and Kasparov, the strongest player in the world. With his usual ‘modesty’ Kasparov proclaimed: “There is no clear number two in the world. The gulf is so wide and my superiority is so obvious that sponsors fear a title match with any of my challengers won’t generate much interest.” At the annual super tournament in Linares, six stars faced each other twice. Kasparov shared the lead with Kramnik at 6 points while the other four all tied for last (or third, if you will) at 4.5 points. This closely-watched contest between two rival titleholders brought Khalifman’s overall record against Kasparov to a respectable four draws.

1.d4 \f6 2.c4 \g6 3.\e3 \d5 4.\f3 \g7 5.b3 \xc4 6.\xc4 \f6 7.\e4 \a6 8.\c5 \d5 9.d5 \e6 10.0-0 \xe5 11.\x5 \f5 12.\c3 \b6 13.b3 \x8b8 14.\f2 \d8 A solid choice. Alternatives are 14...R\xf6! or \n4. 15.\b3 \a5 16. \d7 17. \c4 \b4 18. \g5 Later it was determined that 18. Bd2! is better. But 18. N\xc5! \x5c5 19. Bxc5 \c5 20. b4 \f4 21. \f1 \x4d4 22. \x4d4 Snuffing out complications that would ensue after 22. b4 \x4d4 23. \x4d4 \x4c4 \x4c4 \x4d4 4 \x4c4 24.\x8b4 \x8c5 25.\e5 \b4 \x8c3 Hoping for 27. \x8b7 Re2 with a dangerous attack. 27.\c4
 thirty games in this event, 23 were drawn! Capablanca once predicted the "draw death" of chess, and Emanuel Lasker explained why draws were on the rise: "Games played by men of equal strength, and played accurately, will end in draws and are apt to be dull. Brilliancy occurs usually from combinations that are afforded by errors in combination."

1/2-1/2

Alexander Khalifman

• Peter Leko

Linares (8)

Spain

2000

D85

Revenge is sweet. A few weeks after Leko crushed Khalifman in an exhibition match, the FIDE champion demonstrated his recuperative power when they met again. Their first 21 moves replicated Kramnik-Kasparov at Linares 1998, which ended in a draw just one move later. But Khalifman uncorked a new move that turned the game in White’s favor at the cost of a pawn, once again demonstrating the value of prepared variations at the highest level.


White wants to enter the endgame a pawn down without queens on the board and then use his d-pawn to gain material. 26...Qxd4 27.cxd4 Qxd4 28.Qc4+ Kd7 29.Qc6+ Kd8 30.Qc7+ Kd6 31.Qxc5+ Kc6 32.Qc8+ Kd7 33.Qc7+ Ke6 34.Qc8+ Kd6 35.Qc6 Qxd5 36.Bxd5+ Ke5 37.Kc2 Re3+ 38.Kb2 Qc3+ 39.Ka3 Qa5+ 40.Kb3 Qb5+ 41.Kc4 Qc6+ 42.Kd4 Qd5+ 43.Ke4 Qe5+ 44.Kf5 Qf5+ 45.Ke6 Qe6+ 46.Kf6 Qf6+ 47.Ke7 Qg5+ 48.Kf8 Kg7 49.Qd8+ Kf6 50.Qc7+ Ke5 51.Qb6+ Kd5 52.Qe6+ Kc6 53.Qe6+ Kb6 54.Qc4+ Ka5 55.Qe4+ Kb5 56.Qc6+ Ka4 57.Qd7+ Kxa3 58.Qd8+ Kxa2 59.Qe7+ Kxa1 60.Qe6#
41...\textit{ex}c7 42.\textit{h}5 e5 43.\textit{xh}6 \textit{d}6 44.\textit{g}5\textit{e}6 45.b4 f4 46.h5 f3 47.\textit{g}4 Hopeless is 47...e4 48. Kf4 Kf6 49. Kxe4. Black Resigns.

\begin{itemize}
  \item Jeroen Piket
  \item Veselin Topalov
\end{itemize}

Melody Amber
Monaco
2000 1/2-1/2 A73

Philidor’s blindfold display against two opponents at Paris in 1744 was considered little short of miraculous. The Melody Amber, named after the sponsor’s daughter, required 12 grandmasters to face each other twice without sight of the board at a fast clip of 25 minutes per side, which is not conducive to precise chess. The main feature of this double blind test is the position that arose after 43. g4. The rules state that en passant capture is optional, yet here it is forced, because it’s the only way to prevent mate. This predicament is so rare as to be almost nonexistent.

1.d4 2.e4 c5 3.d3 f5 4.d4 d6 5.h3 Taking the game out of book. A good way to exploit this loss of time is 5...exd5 6. cxd5 b5 or even 5...b5! immediately. 5...g6 6.e3 exd5 7.exd5 \textit{g}7 8.e4 O–O 9.d3 b5 Ultra-sharp because Black never succeeds in regaining the pawn. Another idea is 9...Na6 10. O–O Nc6. 10. \textit{xb}5 \textit{xe}4 11. \textit{xe}4 \textit{a}5+ 12. f2 \textit{xb}5 13.xd6 \textit{a}6 14. f4 \textit{d}7 15.O–O \textit{b}6 16. \textit{xb}6 \textit{xb}6 Gives Black more counterplay than 16...axb6. 17. \textit{xc}8 18.b1 \textit{d}8 Black must regain the d-pawn or he is lost. 19. \textit{f}4 \textit{h}7 20.d6 \textit{f}8 21.d3 \textit{xd}6 22. \textit{xd}6 \textit{c}6 23. \textit{fd}1 \textit{d}7 Black prefers to keep queens on the board rather than go for the unpromising ending after 23...Rxh6 24. Qxd6 Rxh6 25. Rxh6. 24.\textit{wa}3 \textit{xd}6 25. \textit{xd}6 \textit{wa}6 26. \textit{wa}7 \textit{e}8 27.\textit{wa}3 \textit{c}2 Black is still a pawn down but has active counterplay, thanks to his control of the central files. 28.\textit{wc}3 \textit{wb}6 29.a4 \textit{c}4 30. \textit{f}1 \textit{h}3 Inviting 31. Qxh3 exh3 32. Rb1 Re4 33. Ra1 Re2 34. a5 Rxh2 35. a6Ra2 which draws in the nick of time. 31.\textit{e}1 \textit{xa}4 32.\textit{d}4 \textit{a}6 33. \textit{xc}4 \textit{xb}2 34.\textit{d}8+ \textit{g}7 35. \textit{e}8+ \textit{b}1+ 36.\textit{h}2 \textit{e}6 37. \textit{d}4+ Black is walking a tightrope owing to his back rank weakness. 37. Qh8 Kh6 38. Qh8 Kg5 39. Re5 f5 40. Qd8 looks more dangerous. 37...\textit{h}6 38. \textit{g}8 \textit{e}7 Stops the threat of Qh4 mate. 39.h4 f6 40.\textit{d}2+ g5 40...Kh5 looks precarious but is also playable. 41.f4 \textit{xb}4 42.f5+ \textit{h}5 43.g4+ Desperately trying to weave a mating net. If 43. Qf4 Rb4! avoids the trap 44...Qe5? 45. Rg5! Kh6 46. Rg6 Kh5 47. Rh6 mate. 43...h\textit{g}3+ En passant capture is absolutely forced – otherwise Black is checkmated! This setting occurs in composed problems but rarely over-the-board. 44. \textit{xa}3 \textit{e}5 45.\textit{d}7 \textit{e}2+ Black is out of the woods and can even try 45...Qb2 46. Rg2 Qb7! 46. \textit{g}2 \textit{e}5+ Forcing a draw by repetition after 47. Rg3 Qe2, etc. It’s hard to shake the feeling that White missed a win somewhere along the way in this exceptional blindfold game.

\begin{itemize}
  \item Gary Kasparov
  \item Alexander Morozevich
\end{itemize}

Sarajevo (7)
Bosnia
2000 1/2-1/2 D39

A thrilling draw. The world champion offered a series of pawns to Morozevich, who eagerly scooped them up. After casting on opposite sides, Kasparov won a piece but the young Russian whipped up a dangerous counterattack. Kasparov responded by sacrificing an Exchange and then a bishop to force a draw by perpetual check. When two chess Kamikazes collide, it’s the sort of result you’d expect!

1.d4 e6 2.f3 f5 3.d3 d5 4.c4 xc4 5.e4 b4 6.\textit{g}5 e5 Black can also try to hold the pawn by 6...b5 7. e5 h6. 7. \textit{xc}4 \textit{xc}4 8. \textit{xd}4 \textit{a}5 9. \textit{d}2 O–O "A novelty. I'm not sure whether it is really good." – Kasparov 10. \textit{x}e2 \textit{xc}3 11. \textit{xc}3 \textit{g}5 12. \textit{e}2 Instead 12.Qf3 offers White a slight advantage. 12...\textit{xe}2 13.O–O–O \textit{xe}4 If 13...Nxe4 14. Bxg7! gives White a good attack.

14. \textit{hg}1 \textit{g}6 Other replies are worse. If 14...Qxe2 15. Rxe2 Kg7 16. Rg1 Kh6 17. Bxe2 threatening Bd2 mate. Or 14...e5? 15. Rxe5 Kxg7 16. Rg1 Kh7 17. Bxe5 Qc6 18. Nb4 wins. 15.\textit{e}5+ 15...Nd7 16.Rd4 is bad for Black." – Kasparov 16.\textit{f}4 "Before, I had in mind 16. Rfd6 Bf6 17. Rxd6 Qxe2 18. Nxf6 Kg7 19. Bxe2 Kxf6 20. f4 Kg7 21. Bxe5 Kg8 and in this position the two bishops' advantage should equalize an extra-pawn. However, I was looking for more." – Kasparov 16...\textit{e}6 17. \textit{d}3 \textit{xf}4 18. \textit{gf}1 "At this moment I understood that after 18.Rdf1 Qh4 19. Be1 Rc8+ 20.Kb1 Qa4 21.b3 Qc6! White has serious problems with the e-file. The compensation for three extra pawns is not sufficient." – Kasparov 18...\textit{h}4 Just dropping a piece. Stronger is 18... Qg5. 19. \textit{e}1 \textit{a}4 20. \textit{f}6+ \textit{g}7 21. \textit{xf}6 "Another 'brilliant' idea. It is enough for a draw... but White could win after 21. b3! Unfortunately I didn’t have enough time to calculate these complex lines."

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21...\(\text{d4}\) Much better than 21...\(\text{fxe6}\) 22. \(\text{Bc4}\) \(\text{Nd4}\) 23. \(\text{Rxd4!}\) \(\text{exd4}\) 24. \(\text{Bxe6}\) with a crushing attack.

22.\(\text{Qxg4}\) \(\text{wxa2}\) 23. \(\text{Bxg6}\) A fascinating finale that seems to end too soon in a draw. After 23...\(\text{hxg6}\) (or 23...\(\text{fxg6}\) 24. \(\text{Rxd6}\) \(\text{Kh8}\) 25. \(\text{Rxd4!}\)) 24. \(\text{Rgx6}\) \(\text{hxg6}\) 25. \(\text{Qxg6}\) \(\text{Kh8}\) White has nothing better than to take the perpetual check by 26. \(\text{Qh6}\). Black can get mated if he tries to avoid a draw by 23... \(\text{Nb3}\) 24. \(\text{Kc2}\) \(\text{Rac8}\) 25. \(\text{Bc3}\) \(\text{fxg6}\) 26. \(\text{Rxg6}\) \(\text{Kh8}\) 27. \(\text{Qxe8!!}\) \(\text{Rxc8}\) 28. \(\text{Rd8}\) \(\text{Kxd8}\) 29. \(\text{Bxe5}\) mate.

1/2-1/2

- \text{Vladimir Kramnik}
- \text{Alexei Shirov}

\text{Linares (5)}

\text{Spain}

\text{2000} 1-0 D17

"I can’t remember making any really serious mistakes in this tournament," said Kramnik after sharing first with Kasparov in a double round robin (ahead of Leko, Khalifman, Anand and Shirov). This game sheds light on a critical variation of the Slav Defense that has baffled theory for decades. After only a dozen moves an ending is reached where Black has three pawns for a piece. "In general I have the feeling that it might be slightly better for White, although close to a draw," noted Kramnik, whose flawless endgame technique helps avenge his loss of a match to Shirov in 1998.

1. \(\text{f3}\) \(\text{d5}\) 2. \(\text{d4}\) \(\text{c6}\) 3. \(\text{c4}\) \(\text{Nf6}\) 4. \(\text{e3}\) \(\text{d5}\) 5. \(\text{a4}\) \(\text{Bc5}\) 6. \(\text{e5}\) Kramnik has used this Krause Attack rather consistently since 1994 and scored good results with it. Two rounds earlier against Anand he tried 6. \(\text{e3}\) 6... \(\text{e6}\) 7. \(\text{f3}\) \(\text{b4}\) 8. \(\text{e4}\) \(\text{xe4}\) This piece sac is virtually forced, since White regains the pawn advantageously after 8...Bb6 9. Bxc4. 9.\(\text{fxe4}\) \(\text{exe4}\) 10. \(\text{d2}\) \(\text{xd4}\) 11. \(\text{cxd4}\) \(\text{exe4}\) 12. \(\text{e2}\) \(\text{xd2}\) 13. \(\text{xd2}\) \(\text{xd5}\) 14. \(\text{c2}\) \(\text{a6}\) 15. \(\text{xe4}\) \(\text{b5}\) More active than 15...Rd8 16. Qe5 Qxe5 17. Nxe5 Nb4 18. Kb3 Nd5 19. Bc4 as in Evans-Kramer, New York 1951. Nowadays, no way has been found for White to show a real advantage after 15...-O-O 16. Qe5 Rd8 17. axb5 \(\text{xb4}\) 18. \(\text{c3}\) \(\text{bxc3}\) 19. \(\text{Bxb4}\) \(\text{Bb8}\) 18... \(\text{c5}\) "This might be called a novelty, though it was played in Topalov-Anand, Dos Hermanas 1997. More usual is 18... \(\text{bxc4}\) 19. \(\text{Rxd5}\) \(\text{Nxd5}\) 20. Kd2. It’s not easy to break Black’s position, but it’s no fun for him as he is suffering all game long and the best he can hope for is a draw." – Kramnik

19. \(\text{exe5}\) \(\text{dxe5}\) 20. \(\text{bxc5}\) \(\text{bxc6}\) White stands well after 20...Qxd5 21. \(\text{Nxd6}\) \(\text{Kf8}\) 22. \(\text{Qxd5}\)\(\text{exd5}\) 23. \(\text{Nxb5}\) 21. \(\text{fxb3}\) \(\text{xd5}\) 22. \(\text{e2}\) "This is a very good move, which set him thinking for a long time. After the game Shirov told me he had not looked at this possibility in his preparation. 22. \(\text{Qxg7}\) was possible and does not lose by force or anything, but it is very dangerous for White after 22...Qd1 23. \(\text{Ka2}\) Qa4 24. Na3. I think he was mainly expecting 22. \(\text{Qxd5}\) \(\text{exd5}\) 23. \(\text{Na5}\) but I did not like the idea that his king might come into the center. I opted for the text since it forces him to castle and remove his king from the center." – Kramnik

22...O-O Simply bad is 22...Qxg2? 23. \(\text{Nd6}\) \(\text{Kf8}\) 24. \(\text{Rf1}\). 23. \(\text{Qxd5}\) \(\text{exd5}\) 24. \(\text{e5}\) \(\text{f6}\) \(\text{e5}\) 22. \(\text{Qxe4}\) \(\text{Qxe4}\) It’s useful to stop back rank mate threats once and for all. 29. \(\text{d7}\) \(\text{Qc2}\) 30. \(\text{a3}\) \(\text{Qg7}\) "This position requires deep analysis. There were some alternatives such as 30...a6 which during the game I actually believed to be his best option but still 31. \(\text{Bd5}\) \(\text{f6}\) 32. \(\text{Nd4}\) Qa5 \(\text{f8}\) 38. \(\text{gxf3}\) \(\text{Rxf3}\) 39. \(\text{Rc3}\) (the point of 35. \(\text{Rc7}\)!)

"Black does have a material edge, but it is clear that some of his pawns are going to fall. I still believe that with very accurate play Black must be able to make a draw. But it is an uphill struggle, as witness the fact that Alexei, who is a good player, tried and failed." – Kramnik

31. \(\text{Rc1}\) \(\text{f3}\) 32. \(\text{Qc2}\) \(\text{Qe4}\) 33. \(\text{b3}\) \(\text{b3}\) 34. \(\text{Bxb3}\) \(\text{Bxb3}\) 35. \(\text{Qxb3}\) \(\text{g5}\) 36. \(\text{Bb2}\) \(\text{Bc7}\) 37. \(\text{Qc4}\) \(\text{f4+}\) 38. \(\text{Qd4}\) \(\text{xc4}\) 39. \(\text{Qd5}\) \(\text{g4}\) 40. \(\text{b4}\) \(\text{e1}\) "He had probably overlooked that after 40...\(\text{Qxe1}\) 41. \(\text{Qxe1}\) \(\text{Qxe1}\) White should be winning." – Kramnik

38. \(\text{Qxe4}\) \(\text{f5}\) 39. \(\text{Qxh4}\) \(\text{Qxf6}\) 40. \(\text{b4}\) \(\text{e1}\) He had probably overlooked that after 40...\(\text{Qxe1}\) 41. \(\text{Qxe1}\) \(\text{Qxe1}\) White should be winning."

- \text{Jeroen Piket}
- \text{Vladislav Tkatchiev}

\text{Match (4)}

\text{Cannes}

\text{2000} 1-0 D10

313
Tkatchiev, 26, a relative newcomer, drew an exciting eight game match with established Dutch star Piket, 31, who made a profound positional queen sacrifice and then lost the thread. Instead of continuing his attack on the kingside, Piket inexplicably bunched his pieces on the other wing and suffered a reversal of fortune. Even fine conceptions require proper follow-ups.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Qc3 dxc4 4.e3 b5 5.a4 b4

Black's forces are bunched on the queenside without any future, leaving his kingside vulnerable. If Black's kingside. Czech grandmaster Movsesian, 22, got his attack on the kingside, Piket inexplicably bunched his forces on the other wing and suffered a reversal of fortune. Even fine conceptions require proper follow-ups.

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d6 10.\textit{w}e1 O–O After a transposition of moves the Scheveningen Variation of the Sicilian Defense appears on the board. 11.\textit{w}g3 \textit{c}x\textit{d}4 12.\textit{w}x\textit{d}4 b5 13.a3 \textit{c}c7 14.\textit{h}h1 \textit{c}6 15.\textit{ae}1 \textit{w}b7 16.\textit{d}3 \textit{b}4 On 16...\textit{a}5 White can try to prevent \textit{b}4 by 17. \textit{b}4!? or launch an attack by 17. \textit{e}5. 17.\textit{d}1 Allowing Black to split White’s pawn structure on the queenside is inadvisable. More sensible, in view of the fact that even a draw would enable Shirou to keep the lead, is 17. axb4 Qxb4 18. Ne2. 17...\textit{bxa3} 18.bxa3 \textit{ac8} 19.\textit{f}2 An attempt to improve on 19. Ne3 Bxe4 20. Bxf6 Bxf6 21. Ng4 Bxg2 22. Rxf6 Kb8 23. Rxe7+ Kh8 24. Qxe8+ Rxe8 25. Rxc8. White opens his own veins by weakening his even chances.

28. Qf3 g6 29. Qg4 d5 30. cxd5 Bxd5 31. Qf3 Bxe4 32. Bxe4 Qxf3+ 33. Kg1 Bxg2 34. Bxg2 Qxg2 35. Rxf6 and wins. 33... Bb2 34. c4 Bxc3 35. bxc3 Qd4 36. Rb8 Qc3 37. Qd4 Qb3 38. Re8+ Kh7 39. Qxe8+ Rxe8 40. Rc8. Black wins brilliantly after 38.Qd4 Rh3! 39. Kg1 (39. gxh3 Qxh3 40. Kg1 Rg7) 39...Bh2 40. Kf1 Be4 41. Ree2 e3! 38...\textit{xf3} 39.\textit{x}xf3 exf3 40.\textit{xe}6 \textit{xe}6 White Resigns. The time control has been reached and White sees that 41. Rx\textit{d}6 \textit{f}2! 42. Rd1 Bc4 snarls a rook.

o Alexander Morozevich
● Predrag Nikolic
Wijk-aan-Zee (13)
Holland
2000 1-0 C00

Although Hoogovens Steel Company was acquired by Corus, the new owner thankfully continued 61 years of a rich chess tradition under a new name. The top section of this annual chess festival was again won by Kasparov, but a likely championship contender emerged in youthful Alexander Morozevich, who finished fifth in a field of 14 grandmasters. This last round effort earned Morozevich the daily spectators’ prize but angered Kasparov, who felt he was more deserving. Kasparov thus left the windy seaside resort in a foul mood, sensing that he was treated with a lack of respect.

1.\textit{e}4 \textit{c}5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{e}3 \textit{d}5 4.\textit{cxd}5 \textit{xc}5 5.g3 \textit{c}6 6.\textit{g}2 \textit{c}7 The purpose of this retreat is

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1.\textit{e}4 \textit{c}5 2.\textit{f}3 \textit{c}6 3.\textit{e}3 \textit{d}5 4.\textit{cxd}5 \textit{xc}5 5.g3 \textit{c}6 6.\textit{g}2 \textit{c}7 The purpose of this retreat is
to enforce e5. But not 6...e5? 7. Nxe5! sniping a pawn. 7.d3 e5 This English Opening has transposed into a reverse Sicilian where White is a move ahead. 8.0-0 ♕e7 9.♘c3 ♗d7 10.♗c4 O-O A well-known pawn sacrifice. The alternative is 10...f6 11. ♤f4. 11.♗xe6 ♘xe6 12.♗f5 ♘d7 13.♗d3 ♘f6 14.♗c4 ♘d4 Improving on 14...b6 15. Nxf6+ Qxf6 16. Qe4 Ne6 17. Be3 as in Ribli-Chandler, Lugano 1985. 15.e3 Shrinkimg from 15. Qxb7? Rb8 16. Qg2 f5 17. Ne3 f4 18. Ne4 f3 19. exf3 Bxe3 20. bxc3 Qxd3. 15...♘xc3 16.♗xc3 ♖b6 17.f3 ♘b5 18.♗f2 ♘d7 Black seems unable to get tangible compensation for the pawn he sacrificed. 19.e4 ♖e6 20.♘e3 ♖a5 21.♗ad1 ♙ad8 If and when White advances his backward e-pawn, then Black will pressue d3. 22.♗d2 ♖e6 23.♗c1 ♗b7 24.♗f4 ♘g2 ♙e8 This move does nothing to improve the position. Simply 25...h6 is indicated to prevent any future back rank mating threats. 26.♗b1 ♖fd8 27.♗xd4 ♙xd4 28.f4 Finally, White frees his cramped position. 28...a5x b4 29.axb4 ♖d7 30.♗xc5 ♖b5 31.♗b2 ♖h6 32.♗ba2 ♘h7 Unable to improve his position, Black simply marks time. 33.♗c3 ♖b8 34.♗xc5 ♖e3 35.♗d3 ♖xd3 36.♗xd3 ♖xd3 37.♗f1 ♖b3 38.♗xe2 ♖xe2+ 39.♗xe2 h5 40.f4 g6 Better is 40...f6. 41.♗c5 ♖d3 A clear mistake. Necessary is 41...Rd7. Now White’s king walks into Black’s crumbling bulwark. 42.♗h3 ♖e3 43.♗h4 ♖g7 44.♗g5 ♖e1 45.♗c7 ♖e2 46.♗e7 ♖a2 Black can no longer hold the ending. No better is 46...Kh2 47. e6. Black must move his rook, since if 26...Kh8 27. Kg6 penetrates decisively. 47.♗f5 ♖xf5 48.e6 ♖b4 49.♖xf7+ ♕g8 50.♗f6 Black Resigns.
1-0

○ Vladimir Kramnik
• Gary Kasparov
Brain Games World Championship (2)
London 2000 1-0 (GM Larry Evans – CM9K Game 1)
Five years elapsed since Kasparov, now 37, faced a new challenger after defending his title against Anand in 1995. Brain Games Network (a private British dot-com entry that later was absorbed by Einstein TV in England) raised $2 million for a title match with Kasparov’s former apprentice, Vladimir Kramnik. The “fiercest and most specta

mortemtoaggratefulaudience.

1.♗f3 ♖f6 2.e4 ♕c5 3.g3 ♕d5 4.d4 dxc4 White gets a better ending after 4...xc4 5.♗g2 dxe6. 6.Qxd4 Qxd4 7. Nxd4 a6 8. Nde2 9. Nxe4! 5.♗a4+ ♘d7 6.♘xc4 ♖c6 A risky pawn sacrifice. More usual is 6...cxd4. 7.dxe5 ♕d5 8.♗a4+ ♘c6 9.♕c4 ♕d5 10.♗c2 After testing Black’s intentions, Kramnik tactically declines a draw by repetition. 10...e6 11.♗g2 ♕e4 12.♗c4 ♕d5 13.♗h4 Again avoiding a repetition of moves by 13. Qc2 Be4 but now Black regains the pawn. 13...♗xc5 14.♗e3 ♖c6 15.0-0 ♕e7 Inaccurate. The right plan is 15...Nd7 16. Bg5 Be7 17. Rd1 Qb6 18. Rac1 O-O. 16.♖d1 ♙a5 17.♗d2 ♘bd7 18.g4 Launching a wild attack that nearly succeeds instead of the staid 18. Rab1. 18...h6 19.♗g3 ♖a6 20.h4 ♖c4 21.♗f4 ♖b4 So many queen moves while his king is still unsafe! After prolonged thought Black rejected 21...g5!? 22.a3 More prudent is 22. Nd4 Bxg2 23. Kxg2 Rc8 24. a3 Qb6 25. Rac1 O-O 26. Ndb5 with an unclear game. Now the complications are difficult to fathom over-the-board. 22...♖xh2 23.♗d5 g4 24.♗xe6 gxf4 25.♖d3 bxc6 26.♖xe6 0-0 There’s no time for 26...Rd8? 27. Rd1 trapping the queen. 27.♕xa8 ♕e5 28.♖d4 ♖xd4 29.♗xe5 Another critical turning point. A likely draw results from 29. Rab1 Qxe2! 30. Nxe2 Nf3 31.Kh1 Nxd4 32. Rxd4 Bxa3. 29...♖c8 Better than 29...Nd5 30. Rab1 Qxc3 31. Rd5. 30.♖c4 ♖c1+ 31.♗d5 ♖xe5 32.♖xe7+ ♕g7 33.♗xe8 ♖xe2 The activity of the queen is sufficient to draw in view of the scattered White forces. 34.♗g8+ ♖f6 35.♗d7 ♖e1+ 36.♗g2 ♖e4+ 37.♖h2 ♖c2 38.g5+ ♕xg5 39.♗g5 ♖xf2+ Leads to perpetual check. Draw agreed.
1/2-1/2
gambit which few players had the courage to ac-
cept in the past because White’s kingside will be friddled with weaknesses. 11...Nxb7 12...Nf3
dxe6 13...c4 Rejecting 13...e5 cxd4 14...cxd4
Qxd2+ 15...Kxd2 16...Bxd2 Nxd4. 16...d5 17...c3 A critical decision. Black re-
jects 16...Qxd2 17...Bxd2 Ne5 18...Bb4 and opts to re-
main a pawn down in a drawish-looking opposite
colored bishop ending. 17...e1 18...xd4
dxe4 19...xe7 a7 20...a7! 20...xa7 21...f4
d8 22...c3 18...b8 23...f3 19...h4 24...e5
g5 25...e1! Kasparov confessed that he overlooked this shot which returns the
pawn to keep the initiative. If now 25...gx f4 26
e6! fx e6 27...Rxe6 very dangerous. 25...Rxf4
d6 26...fxe4 gxf6 27...e6 fx e6 28...xe6
g7 29...xa6 f5 A pawn down, Black is clearly fighting for a
draw. 30...e4 e5 31...f3 e7 32...a4 e7? - Almost certain-
ly the losing move. The best chance
to draw is 32...Ba7+ 33...Kg2 Be3. Now Black’s
pieces get entangled. 33...b6 e5 34...b4
d7 35...g2 d2+ 36...h3 h5 37...b5 36...a5
d2 39...d6+ e7 A final mistake in a hope-
less position. But 39...Kg7 40...a6 Bd4 41...Rg6+
also wins in the long run. 40...d5 Black Resigns.
If 40...Rx a5 (or 40...Re2 41...Re6+ Kd7 42...a6)
41...Re6+ Kd7 42...Rxe5 Kd6 43...Rhx5 Rd5 44...
Rx d5+ Kxd5 45...Kg4 is easy. "It’s nice to start
the match like this, but there’s no reason to relax,”
said a jubilant Kramnik. After two games more
than three million viewers had followed live moves
and commentary by GM Larry Evans and other au-
thorities on the official match website. But other
websites also transmitted moves and the sponsors
found themselves unable to recoup their investment by charging
viewers.

1-0

○ Gary Kasparov
○ Vladimir Kramnik

Brain Games World Championship (3)
London
2000 1/2-1/2 (GM Larry Evans – CM9K Game 2)

After Bobby Fischer gave up competitive chess the
crown remained in the hands of Russians whose
names begin with K: Karpov, Kasparov – until
FIDE scrapped the system of long title matches
and introduced a Wimbledon style knockout in 1999.
Kramnik effectively revived the old Berlin
Defense to the Ruy Lopez where both queens
vanish on move 8. It was promptly dubbed the
Berlin Wall and Kasparov failed to crack it in four
games, which were all drawn, a result that greatly
eased Kramnik’s defensive task with Black. After
a sudden flurry of exchanges both players had three
passed pawns on opposite sides of the board.
"At some point I realized it would be drawn. It
was not a good result from the opening,” conceded
Kasparov after an inauspicious start (a loss and a
draw in the first two games). Meanwhile, adding
to the pressure against him, Alexei Shirov filed a
lawsuit against Kasparov in a Spanish court for
1.3 million pounds, claiming that the system only
granted him a genuine challenge.

1.e4 e5 2...f3 c6 3...b5 4...f6 4.0-0 5...e4
d5 6...e6 The main line of the Berlin Defense.
Black is okay after 6...dxe5?! Nxe5 7...a4 N d6
8...fxd8+ 9...xd8 This queenless endgame is
hard to defend but limits White’s options. Now
he must choose between 8...Rd1+ or g5 or the
text move. 9...c3 d7 10...h3 b6 11...b2 a6
12...ad1 Their first game was quickly drawn after
12...h3 b6 13 Rad1 Ne7 14...Nd5 Rd8 15...e6.
16...d5 e7 17...f3 c6 18...a4 19...f4! 19...c3
This queenless endgame is
hard to defend but limits White’s options. Now
he must choose between 8...Rd1+ or g5 or the
text move. 9...c3 d7 10...h3 b6 11...b2 a6
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This queenless endgame is
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12...ad1 Their first game was quickly drawn after
12...h3 b6 13 Rad1 Ne7 14...Nd5 Rd8 15...e6.


- Gary Kasparov

**Brain Games World Championship (4)**

**London 2000 1/2-1/2 (GM Larry Evans – CM9K Game 3)**

"The endgame doesn’t seem to happen very often anymore," proclaimed Kasparov before this match began. Kramnik’s match strategy, however, was precisely to aim for queenless endgames as fast as possible and thus rob his renowned opponent of dynamic middle game tactics. Although drawn, this game was the longest and most exciting in the entire series. A draw seemed imminent after the queens were swapped on move 7, yet Kramnik stormed ahead with his kingside pawns to exploit an imperceptible edge. Kasparov, squirming, dropped a piece before the first time control. He said he saw the right path by 58. Rg8! Rh7 (if 58...Kxc7 59.a7 wins; or 58...Ra1 59. Nf5+! Ke5 60. Rg5) 59. Rb8+ Ka7 but thought 60. Rb7 into the abyss for so many moves Kasparov finally drops his guard. 59...b2? Kramnik has a mirage. He said he saw the right path by 58. Rg8! Rh7 (if 58...Kxc7 59.a7 wins; or 58...Ra1 59. Nf5+! Ke5 60. Rg5) 59. Rb8+ Ka7 but thought 60. Rb7 was stalemate instead of mate! 59...h8 Incredibly, although a knight and a pawn down, Black now wriggles out. 60. b3 e8 61.a7 xa7 62. b4 b6 Black must defend with care but this ending is a known theoretical draw. Kramnik tests his opponent by playing on.

- Vladimir Kramnik

- Gary Kasparov

**Brain Games World Championship (10)**

**London 2000 1-0 (GM Larry Evans – CM9K Game 4)**

This game marked the end of an era. Kasparov, unable to win a single game out of 15 in the title match, later conceded that he was outprepared and outplayed. He seemed weary and defeated after suffering this second loss which sealed his fate. "I feel that my relationship with Kasparov now is much the same as before – good," said Kramnik when it was all over. “He didn’t have a chance to show his best chess. It can’t be nice to lose your title after so long, but he took it with good grace and accepted me as the new World Champion.”

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ily. 4...O–O 5. d3 d5 6. f3 c5 7–0 O cxd4
8. exd4 dx4 9. dx4 b6 A typical double-edged position where White's attacking chances usually outweigh the weakness of his isolated d-pawn. 10. g5 b7 11. e1 bd7 12. c1 e8
13. wb3 e7! This optimistic and seemingly natural retreat leads to severe problems. Correct is 13...Bxc3 14. bxc3 Re8 bolstering the weak point on e6. 14. xf6! xf6 On 14...Bxf6 15. Nb5! is hard to meet. 15. xe6! xe6 16. xe6+ b8 17. xe7 xf3 18. gxf3 xd4 19. b5! Incredibly, this has all been played before but nobody has found a way for Black to equalize. White's attack is powerful despite his exposed king and doubled pawns. 19...xh2 20. xc8 xc8 21. d6 b8 22. Bf7?? g8 23. xe6 b7 24. a3 d5 25. Qe2 White Resigns. "It's not often that 1'sm lost in the opening, but I still have six games left and if I play like 1'sm capable of playing, I might still change the result," said Kasparov. But the last five games were drawn and the 16th was cancelled because even a win would not have dug him out of a two-point hole.

1-0

Viswanathan Anand
Alexei Shirov
FIDE World Championship (4)

Iran 2000

1-0 (GM Larry Evans – CM9K Game 5)

Fans wonder if the traditional title, which always has been the main instrument for promoting chess, will even survive. A month after Kramnik scored a major upset by dethroning Kasparov in London, FIDE held its rival 100-player knockout in India where native son Viswanathan Anand, 31, and Latvia's Alexei Shirov, 28, reached the finals. Their brief playoff took place in Iran where chess was banned by Ayatollah Khomeini in 1989! Anand won easily (3 wins, 1 draw) but only FIDE loyalists regard him as the true champion because Kasparov trounced him in their 1995 title match. "A tournament filled largely with unknowns capped by a short match without much human drama doesn't excite a lot of interest except among dedicated chess junkies. FIDE forgot what Western man has known ever since Aristotle wrote about drama: We come to see tragic heroes, not the chorus," opined one critic. In this last game, trailing by two points, Shirov desperately sacrifices a piece to keep his hopes alive. Fireworks erupt but Anand, under fire, defended with his usual aplomb.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e3 c6 4.e5 dxe5 5.cxd5 c5

In the words of the hypermoderns, White has his center to defend. The purpose of this awkward retreat is to bolster the center with c3 to keep the pawn chain intact. 5...e5 6.f4 c6 7.c3 wb6 8.Qf3 f6 Biting at the center to relieve the cramp. 9.a3 c7 10.h4 O–O 11. b3 Qd7 12.b3


c3 28. d1 c4 29. e2 e4 30. c1 e6 31. f3 g6 32. b2 d3 33. b3 xd3 The two passed pawns look dangerous but it's only an illusion. 34. b2 d2 35. bxd2 g3 36. b5 b5 37. c2 c8 38. d3 g4 39. c5 e5 d1 40. b1
c2 41. h4 Black Resigns.

1-0

Frank Poole
HAL 9000

? Discovery 1

2001

0-1 C86

In Stanley Kubrick's 1968 film, "2001: A Space Odyssey", super-computer HAL 9000 engages astronaut Frank Poole in a game of chess en route to the planet Jupiter. Although only the last few moves are seen, the beginning of the game has been reconstructed here. Frank and HAL undoubtedly played the Ruy Lopez-Morphy defense opening. 1.e4 e5 2. Qf3 c6 3. b5 a6 4. Qa4 f5 6. Qe2 The so-called Worrall attack, in lieu of the usual 6. Re1. The idea is to use the King's
Rook more profitably on d1, but Black has other plans. 6...b5 7...d5 O–O 8...c3 This is an invitation to a variant of the "Marshall Gambit," which is usually seen only against 6. Re1. 8...d5 And here it is, even more effective because of the White Queen in a vulnerable position. 9.exd5 Wiser would have been the tame 9. d1, holding the strong point e4. 9...xd5 10...xc5 Qf4 This "in-between" move takes advantage of the Queen’s vulnerability to gain time. 11.e4 Qxe5 12...xa8 With three pieces to capture, none is a bargain: 12. Qxf4 allows the other Knight to sink into d2, with gain of a tempo, and for the pawn Black has wonderful lines and a constricted enemy. 12...d3 Depriving the White Queen of the last safe retreat at e4, throttling the White center, and opening the brutal discovery by the Queen’s Bishop on the next move. White is busted. 13...d1 What else? Perhaps 13. Qa7, but then Nf3+ 14. gxf3 and mate to follow after 15. Ne2+ Kg2 16. Bh3+. 13...h3 Of course! The White Queen could play prosaically to a7, but the result would be the same: 14...xa6 The film picks up the game at this point. Frank: "Anyway, Queen takes Pawn, okay." 14...g2 HAL: "Bishop takes Knight’s Pawn." 15. e1 Frank: "What a lovely move. Rook to King one." 15...f3 HAL: "I’m sorry Frank, I think you missed it: Queen to Bishop move. Rook to King one." 16.bxa6 O–O 17. c4 c6 18. Qa4 White Queen of the last safe retreat at e4, throttling the White’s Bishop on the next move. White is busted. 19. Qd2 Hitting the White Queen with an advantage 15...Qxd5 is also okay. In either case White has no advantage. 16. e1 c7 17. e1 c6 18. e3 c7 19. d2 It doesn’t make much sense to bring the knight back from whence it came. 19. Qa4 looks more feasible. 19...b6 20. b4 c8 It’s not clear that the Knight will be better on c6 than e6. Better is 20...Rb8 to occupy the open file. 21. f4 Preferable is 21. Nb3 Nc6 22. Qd2 to improve the position of the queen. 21...c6 22. a4 xd4 23. h4? - Remaining a pawn down without real compensation. Necessary is 23. Bxb8 Rxb8 (if 23...Bxb2+ 24. Kxf2 Qh2+ 25. Ke3 Re8+ 26. Be4 seems to hold) 24. h4. 23...c8 More forceful is 23...Rb8 but now Black is winning anyway. 24.b5 c6 25.e3 d4 When ahead in material, it’s generally a good policy to swap pieces and head for the ending. Simpler is 25...Bxe3 26. Rxe3 d4 27. Qxh5 Bh5. 26.a4 e5 27. g2 f6 28. b5 b6 29. c6 xc6 30. e7 f6 31. e3 c8? Needlessly passive. Black could wrap it up with 31...Bc5! 32. Rxb7 Bc8 33. Rb8 Bh3+ 34. Kxh3 Rxb8 snaring the Exchange. 32...e1 e5 33. xd4 xd4 34.b4 b2 Good enough, but a human probably would choose 34...Rc3. 35.e1 b1 e5 36.f4 d4 Again a human would prefer to drive the rook off the seventh rank by 36...Bd6. In any event Black’s
win with an extra pawn should now be a matter of technique. 37. d1 b6 38. d1 d8 39. e2 g4 A human would pay more attention to the vulnerable king on the back rank and take time out to create an escape square by 39...g6. 40. e2 d6 41. c2 d4 42. b3+ h8 43. c2 White is all tied up. If 43. Re7 Rc1. 43...d7 Rooks belong behind passed pawns. A human might prefer 43...Re8 to bolster the passed pawns. 44. e7 d6 45. c2 d6+ 46. f1 d7 47. xd7 xd7 48. c4 c7 49. a5! - White is desperately fighting for a draw and comes closer by inviting this swap. 49...xa5 50. bxa5 c6 51. f2 a6 To stop a6 dissolving the doubled pawns. 52. e2 d8 53. c1 d3 54. e3 d2+ 55. d1 g6 56. c4 a4+ 57. b3 b5 A series of dilatory moves has diminished Black's advantage. The endgame is looking drawish after 57...Bxb3+ 58. Bxb3 Rd7 59. Rd2 h5 60. Rxd2. 58. a4 c6 59. e2 g2 60. f2 e2 A bad mistake would be 60. Rd3? Bf1! 61. Kxf1 Rxd3 60...f5 61. d3 d4 62. dxe2 c4 63. e5 e3 Achieves nothing. It's time to activate the king with 63...Kg7. "The king is the king. Use it!" advised old Steinitz.

64. h5 g7 65.g4 fg4 66.hxg6 hxg6 67. g5 f3 68. gxd6+ g7 69. g4 g6 70. exg4 xa5 71. c3 a4 Black's best winning chance is to push his pawns as fast as possible with 71...b5! What good is an extra pawn if you don't use it? 72. h4 d5 More loss of time. Why not 72...b5 right away? 73. h6 a5 A theoretical draw ensues after 73. Rxf4 74. Bxa6! bxa6 75. Rxa4. 74. d6 c6 75. c4+ e7 Ordinarily Black would expect to win but the problem is that White has now created a dangerous passed pawn of his own. 76. e6+ d7 77. e5 d6 78. e6+ d7 79. e7+ b6 80. e1 a3+ 81. d4 c3 82. e5 a4 Black finally gets his pawns moving but White's passed pawn is now menacing. 83.f5 a5 84. c6 b5 85.f6 e6 86. h1 g6 If 86...b4 87. Rh8. 87. g1 c3+ Draw Agreed. A wondrous save! Black can no longer win after 88. Kh6 Bh5 89 Rh1 harassing the bishop.

1/2-1/2

© Gary Kasparov

Viswanathan Anand

Corus Tournament (3)

Wijk aan Zee, Holland 2001

Holland hosts the first super tournament each January sponsored by Corus, a steel company. The 63rd edition of this classic featured Kasparov's first appearance after losing his title to Kramnik who, along with new FIDE champion Anand, competed in this star-studded field of 14. Kasparov proved he was still king of the hill, emerging undefeated with 9 points (5 wins and 8 draws), nosing out Kramnik by a full point and Anand by a half point. In this eagerly awaited encounter each player botched his winning chances.

1/2-1/2

○ Peter Leko
● Vladimir Kramnik
Exhibition Match (2)
Budapest 2001 1/2-1/2
The line between classical and rapid chess became increasingly blurred in the new millennium when FIDE pushed for faster time controls in rated games. Most serious fans thought it was a terrible idea guaranteed only to produce poorly played games. Despite the decline in quality, however, events that took weeks were now finished in days. After Vladimir Kramnik, 25, wrested the title from Kasparov, the first opponent he faced was Hungary’s Peter Leko, 20, in a 12 game match at a speed of 25 minutes per side. Again utilizing the Berlin Defense, Kramnik won this series by two points (7-5). A year earlier Leko won a similar exhibition match at a regulation speed against newly-crowned FIDE champion Alexander Khalifman. In this fascinating endgame Leko missed an incredible shot on move 64 found later by a computer. It’s not clear that any player could find such a stunning resource over the board at any speed!

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 4.O–O c5 5.d4 Theory considers this better than 5. Re1 Nd6. 6. Nxe5 Nxe5 7. Rxe5+ Be7. 5...Nxe4 6. Be2 White does not get enough compensation for the pawn after 6. dxe5 Nxb5 7. a4 Nd6 8. exd6 Bxd6. 6...dxe5 7.dxe5 Ng5 8.Nf6+ Nh8+ 9.Nh4+ Not many players are comfortable defending this ending with Black since his reward is usually a draw after a long and patient maneuvering. 9.Qc3 Qh4 Again...

10.b3 White decides to develop before deploying his rooks to the center. In games 4 and 8 Leko varied with 10. Rd1 Ke8 11. Ng5 Be8. 10...Qf4 11.a4 e5 12. Bb3 a5 13.h3 b5 14.Nc3 a4 15.Qc2 Qe5 16.b5 To prevent e6 once and for all. One computer suggested 15...Nh4+! 16.a5 xe4 fx6 17.bxc5 e3 18.axb3 Qa1+ 19.bxa1 d8 20.Qf1 d1+ 21.Rb1 Qd5 Black’s defensive task is unenviable. He avoids exchanges because if all the pieces go off the board White probably wins by virtue of his kingside pawn majority. 22.Qd2 a5 23.Qc5 e4 24.Qe3 a2 25.Qd7 26.b5 g5 e6 27.bxe6 dxe6 28.Qg5 e5 29.Qe4 e4 30.Qd3 a2 31.Qf2 b5 32.Qg5 g4 33.Qxg4 b4 34.Qxe4 Qa8 35.Qf1 White signals his intention to play for a win by avoiding a repetition of moves. 35...Qe7 36.f4 d6 37.Qf4 e4 38.a2 39.g4 hxg4 40.hxg4 c5 Black seeks counterplay with his weak doubled pawns, inviting 41. f5? Qxf5+ 42. gxf5 exf5+ 43. Kxf5 b4 44. Be1 Bh4. 41.Qg3 Qg7 42.Qh2 Qg8 43.Qh1 a8 44.f5! Qxf5 45.Qxf5 b4 Of course not 45...exf5? 46. e6 with mate looming on h8. 46.Qb2 a2 47.Qa1 c4+ 48.Qc4 a2 49.Qe4 a1 50.Qf6 d5 51.Qd4 Qd4 52. Qxd4 Qc2 53.Qf1 b2 54.Qxb4 White has made remarkable progress. 54...h4+ 55.Qe5 e4 56.Qc6 Qf7 57.Qxc7 Qxe5 58.Qb5 Qe1 59.e5 Qxf6 60.Qe6 61.Qb7 Qe7 A more active drawing chance is 61...e5 62. c7 Kf5 63. c8/Q+ Rxc8 64. Kxc8 e4 65. Qc7 Ke5 66. Kd5 Qd4 67. h3 Qf5+ 68. Qd3 e3 69. Qf5 c2 70. Qc5 Qd7 71.Qf4 Qd2 Draw by Agreement. White is a tempo short. If his king were now on f3, then Kf2 would win. 1/2-1/2

○ Gary Kasparov
● Anatoly Karpov
Linares (5)
Spain 2001 1-0
Despite losing his title to Kramnik several months earlier, Kasparov still remained number one because of his incredible tournament results. He blazed to victory in this double round robin with 5 wins and 5 draws, 3 full points ahead of Peter Leko, Judit Polgar and his old foe Anatoly Karpov (their rivalry was the greatest in chess history). At Linares, Kasparov posted a win and draw against Karpov, raising his lifetime record to 30 wins, 20 losses and 123 draws in 173 games. Here Kasparov’s fabled defensive genius is foiled by a slashing attack.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Considered inferior to 3. Nc3 because it enables Black to free his queen’s bishop. 3...Qf5 4.c4 c5 5.g4 This aggressive thrust proves that Kasparov is out for blood. 5...Qg6 6.Qg2 Qe7 A typical Karpovian maneuver. Most mortals would opt for 6...c5 immediately. 7.Qf4 e5 8.dxc5 Varying from 8.h4 cxd4 9.Nb5 Nc6 10.h5 Be4 11.f3 a6 12.Nd6+ Bxd6 13.exd6 g5 14.Nh3 h6 15.fxg4 Qdxe4 16.Bg2 f5 17.O-O O-O 18.c3 Qxd6 19.gxf5 exf5 20.Qb3+ Kh8 which Black won (Topalov-Anand, Linares 322)
The first time Kasparov has tried this relatively new (and very sharp) variation, which has been seen mostly in blitz and rapid games. Kasparov went for a new (and very sharp) variation, which has been seen mostly in blitz and rapid games.

14...Qa5+ 15.Bd2 Qd8 16.h6! Qxe5 17.f4 exd5 18.Qc4! and Black is in trouble. The only drawback is the weakening of d4.

16...Qc7 is met by the already-known 17.Nb5! with the idea of getting the queen to h5. If 17...Qd8 then 18.Nxd6! (but not 18.Qh5 g5 19.Rg5+ Bg7 20.Rg3 mates. Black resigns, because if 18...Bxh5 19.Nf5! forces mate. 14.f4 h7 15.Nf5! Not many players will venture to follow in Rublevsky's footsteps, even though he has defended this position many times.

16...Qc7 17.d4! Black must pin the bishop. If 17...BxDc 24.Rxd8+ Bxd8 25.Bd6 does the trick. Or 23...Nd7 24.Qg4 (even 24.Rh5! works). 24.Qe2 Qc7 25.Qf5 d7 26.c3 f6? - Black has 3 minor pieces for the queen; the last hope was 26...Rh6! 27.g1 Qd8 28.Qg4 e8 29.h5 f8 30.Qx5 Qxc5 31.Qh5+ White Resigns. White will be too far ahead in material after 31...Rdf7 32.Qxc5. Another sparkling game by Kasparov, who conducted the attack with tremendous energy.

1-0

- Sergei Rublevsky

Europe vs. Tatarstan (2)
Kasan 2001 1-0

The level of worldwide activity exploded in the new millennium, with tongue-twisting names popping up as chess continues its inexorable march towards Asia. This match was held in Tatarstan, an autonomous Russian republic, pitting a "European" team of Anatoly Karpov, Alexander Khalifman, Vladimir Korchmoi, Maya Chiburdanidze, Vladimir Akopian, and Victor Bologan against a Tatarstan team of Alexei Dreev, Sergei Rublevsky, Andrei Khalar, Alisa Galliamova, Ildar Ibragimov, and Artyom Timofeev. Europe trailed by a point on the first day but caught up on the second day for an overall 6-6 tie. In the best game of the event, FIDE champion Khalifman seized the initiative right away and converted it into an exemplary victory.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 The Paulsen Variation of the Sicilian Defense. 5.Nc3 d6 More usual is 5...Nc6 to exert immediate pressure on d4. 6.O-O O-O 7.d5 Black has allowed White to gain space but meanwhile set up a hedgehog formation. 7...e5 8.dxe5 c6 9.Qxc6 Qc7 10.b4 preparing to develop the bishop on b2 while creating an eventual threat of b5. The only drawback is the weakening of the pawn on c4. 10...b6 11.Bb2 Be7 12.Bxe2 O-O 13.ad1 d7 White controls more space and has good attacking prospects on the kingside. One example of a quick and merciless slaughter of the hedgehog is 13...Qc7 14.f4 Rad8 15.Kh1 Bb7 16.Rf3 g6 17.Rh3 Nd7 18.Nb5! and Black resigned, because if 18...axb5 19. Qh5! forces mate. 14.f4 h7 Not many players will venture to follow in Rublevsky's footsteps, even though he has defended this position many times. 15.Bf3 g6 16.h3 Bf6 17.Qc7 is met by the already-known 17.Nb5! with the idea of getting the queen to h5. If 17...Qd8 then 18.Nxd6! (but not 18.Qh5 g5 19.Rg5+Bg5!) 18...Bxd6 19.Qh5 gxh5 20.Rg3 mates. 17.e5! Exploiting a flaw in Black's setup. Rublevsky's queen has lingered on d8! 18...dxe5 17.4.e4 c7 19.axb7 axb7 20.dxe4 d6 A mortal pin along the d-file ensues on 20...Be7 21.fxe5 Rac8 (or 21...Rfd8 22.Qf3! threatening Ne4-f6+ and at some point Rh3xh7!) 22.Rh3 Rfd8 23.Nd6 Bxd6 24.Rxd6. 21.fxe5 c7 The pawn is taboo: 21...Nxe5? 22.Nd6! 22.f6+ Bxf6 22...Nxf6 does not work in view of 23.exf6 Bb8 24.Qe3! followed by Qh6. 23.exf6 White is much better. He is threatening the...
queen’s trip to g7 and also an attack on the poor Black knight with heavy pieces. 23...e5! 24. Bf3! Preserving his f6-pawn and reserving the threat of Qd2-h6-g7. Less convincing is 24.Rh3 Nxf6 (24...Qxc4? 25.Qe3! Nxf6 26.Qxe5) 25.Rd6 (25.Bxe5 Rae8?) 25...Qe7 26.Qxe5 (an unclear position arises after 26.Rxb6 Rd8 27.Rxd8+ Rxd8 28.Rxa6 Ne4!) 26...Qxe5 27.Bxe5 Ng4. Then one of Black’s rooks is transferred to e8. 24...Rfd8 25.Rd5 A critical move for White. Inferior is 25.Qe3? Qxc4 26.Qh6 Nxf6! 25...h5 26.Rd6 Bf5 Avoiding the pitfall of 26...Nxf6 27.Qxe5! Qxe5 28.Rxd8+ Qe8 29.Bxf6. Or 26...Qxc4 27. Qd4. 27...xe5 28. xe5 29. xd5 30. cxd5 Then White winds up with an extra pawn and a won endgame. 29...e6 30.c5 bxc5 31.bxc5 e8 32. d6 g5 33. e2! Destination ...d7! The rest, as they say, is a matter of technique. 33...h7 34. e7 g6 35. e3 h8 36. d2 f5 37. d3 b4 38. c3 b1 39. c4 c1+ 40. f5 d4 41. c6 g4 42. d6 g3 43. hgx3 hgx3 44. d7 e3 45. d6 xf6 46. c7 Black Resigned. The pawn has advanced too far! 46...Nxc7 47. Bxc7 gains a piece.

1-0

- Shahade, Jennifer
- Sagalchik, Gennady
- USA Championship (1)
- Seattle 2002

Men and women finally competed together for the first time at this Championship. College student Jennifer Shahade was 16th in a field of 56 but captured the women’s crown ahead of 7 other females.

The average rating of the women was low and there was a fear we would get crushed. Winning my first game against grandmaster Sagalchik and drawing the next two against GMs Kudrin and Seirawan gave me a great shot of confidence that lasted the whole tournament,” she wrote. Here she introduces a spirited novelty in the opening and gains an advantage, then goes astray. Yet she won thanks to the clock when Black overstepped on time in a superior position. Who says there is no luck in chess?

1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 c6 3.b5 a6 4.Qb3 a4 5.O-O Oxe4 The Open Defense to the Ruy Lopez, a longtime favorite of Korchnoi, is more active but less popular than 5...Be7 (the Closed Defense). 6.d4 b5 7. Bb3 d5 8.exd5 ed6 9.Bd2 Also seen frequently are 9. Qe2 or c3. She apparently has a prepared variation in mind. 9...e5 10.c3 g4 Sagalchik’s pet line. More usual is 11...d4. 11...c2 wd7 Attempting to improve on Smirin-Sagalchik, Minsk 1987, which continued: 11...Be7 12.Rxe1 O-O 13.Nf1 Bd5 14.Ng3 Bg6 15.Bf3 Qd7 16.b4. 12.e1 c7 In several previous games Sagalchik played 12...Rd8 instead. 13.f1 A less promising plan is 13. Na3 Ne6 14. h3 Nh5 15. Bf5 Ncd6 16. Bc5 a5 17. Be5 Nxe5 18. Bxe7 Qxe7 as in Karpov-Korchnoi, Baguio 1978. 13...h5 14.b4! ? - A sharp novelty. A previous game continued 14.Ne3 Rd8 15 b4 because now Na4 is refuted by 16 Bf5! trapping the queen. 14...a4 15.g3! - Launching extreme complications by not bothering to defend the pawn on c3. Less ambitious is 15. Bx4 bx4 16. Bf4. 15...xc3 16.d2 q4 Not 16...Bxf3 17. Bf4! Ne2+ 18. Rxe2 Qd8 19. gxf3. 17.xe3 x4 18.e3 xf3 19. f5 xe7 20. d2 Instructed play. White is two pawns down but threatens to win a piece. Weaker is 20. Qxf3 Nfd4! 21. Qxd5 Rdd 22. Qxe4 Bxe1 23. Qxe1 c5. 20...g6 21. bx4 bx4 22. fx3 Good enough but even stronger is 22. e6! 22...d4 23. d7+! xd7 24.xf7+ c8 25. ac1 a7 26. xd5 White is winning but again 26. e6! is more forceful. 26...c6 27. e5? - Both sides are short of time. White misses a forced win by 27. Red1! Rd8 (or 27...Rd7 28. Rxc6+ Kd8 29. Rxd6) 28. Rxc6+! 27...d7 28.e6 c6 29.wxg4 xc7 30.e7 xd8 31.g5? The advantage slips away. Stronger is 31. Qf4. 31...c6 32. xe6 xe6 33.d5 cxd5 34. Shahade won on time but stands worse. She would be hard-pressed to hold a draw after 34. Qe5+ Qd6 35. Qxd6+ Kxd6 36. Rd1 c5 37. Ne2 Rxg7 38. Nxd4 cxd4 39. Rxd4+ Kc5 40. Rd1 Re2. As time limits accelerate in modern chess, the clock plays an increasingly dominant role.

1-0

- Shahade, Jennifer
- Seirawan, Yasser
- USA Championship (3)
- Seattle 2002

Shahade, rated 2302, proved her mettle by holding a draw against defending champion Seirawan, rated 2644. This hard-fought game went right down to the wire. The tricky queen ending with both sides rushing pawns toward the queening square is exciting and instructive.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 The once-dreaded Panov-Botvinnik Attack, introduced in the 1930s, is aimed at exerting pressure against d5. It is no longer considered very dangerous. Less
forcing is 4. Bd3 (to prevent Black from developing his bishop to f5). 4...Qf6 5.Qc3 Qc6 6.Qg5 e6 7.Qc5 To cramp Black and control the queenside by a3 and b4, given enough time. Trying to win a pawn by 7.cxd5 exd5 8. Bxf6 Qxf6 9. Nxd5 Qd8 leads to nought. 7...Qe7 8.Qb5 Qd7 9.Qxc6 Usually 9. Nf3 is played first. 9...Qxc6 10.Qf3 Qe4 11.Qxe7 Qxe7 12.Qc2 12. Nxe4 dxe4 13. Ne5 e3 is okay for Black. 12...e5! Striking quickly in the center before White achieves a bind. 13.Qxe4 Qxd4 14.Qf3 Qe5. Simpler than 14...d3 15. Qxd3 dxe4 16. Qc3 O-O 17. Rfe1. 15.Qxd4 O-O 16. Qxc6 Qxe6 17. Qf4 Qxf4. 18. ad1 ad8 19.b4 Qe6 20.a4 a6 21.Qc2 Better is 21. h3 to secure the back rank before trying to exploit White’s superior pawn structure. Now Black gets active counterplay. 21...Qh3 22.Qxd8 Qxd8 23.a6 Qxb4 24.Qc1 Qa3 25.Qc4+ Qd5 26.h3 h5. Turns out to be a weakness. More prudent is 26...h6. 27.Qc3 Qb2 28.Qe5 29.Qd2 e3 30.Qxd5 cxd5 31.Qe2 f4 32.Qxe3 fxe3 33.Qc6 Qc3. A better winning try is 33...Qa1+ 34. Kh2 Qxa4 35. Qxh5 Qxc6 36. Qe5 d4 37. Qxd4 Qe6. 34.a5 d4 Once again better is 34...Qa1+ 35. Kh2 Qxa5. 36.a6 Qc1+ 36...h2 Qxc6 37.Qa2+ Qh7 38.a7 e2 39.Qxe2 Qc7+ 40.Qd3 Qxa7 41.Qxh5+ Qg8 42.Qe8+ Qh7 43.Qh5+ Qg8 44.Qc8+ Qh7 45.Qh5+ Draw by Threefold Repetition. Neither side can make progress.

1/2-1/2

- Ruslan Ponomariov
- Zhu Chen

Dubai World Cup (1)
United Arab Emirates 2002

32 stars arrived for the first event of FIDE’s new Grand Prix and learned to their dismay that the prize fund was cut in half. The format called for two games restricted to an hour apiece: 25 minutes per side with an increment of 10 seconds a move. Ties were broken in 10-minute games, prompting critics to note that ignorance is bliss. ”Speed destroys quality. It is not even about blunders creeping in; it is about embracing the very content of the game,” said Gary Kasparov, who fears that FIDE’s fast new time limit will toll the death knell of classical chess. FIDE champ Ruslan Ponomariov, 18, was eliminated at the outset by China’s Zhu Chen, 26, the women’s titleholder. Observers noted that it was the first time a women’s world champion in any competition defeated her male counterpart. In their first game she pressed for 71 moves and missed a few wins before conceding a draw. Then, with Black, she scored this historic victory, albeit at a fast time limit.

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Qc3 a6 6.f3 e5 Russian analysts in the 1940s demonstrated that Black’s counterplay offsets the weakness of the backward d-pawn. 6...e5 is the chief alternative. 7.Qb3 Qe6 8.Qe3 Qf7 9.Qd2 h5!? Creates a weakness but stops g4 once and for all. Other setups seen frequently are 9...O-O 10. g4 b5; or 9...Nbd7 10.g4 h6. 10.Qe2 Reserving the option of casting kingside. Instead Gerber-Nemeth, Swiss Championship 2001, continued 10. O-O Nbd7 11. Kh1 Re8. 10...Qb7 11.Qf5 Qxc5 12.exd5 Qf5 13.O-O O-O 14. Qa5! Qc7 15.c4 Qf6 16. Qac1 b6 17. Qc6 a5 The knight on c6 is a bone in Black’s throat. Black removed it by 17...Nba8 18. Qxb8 (stronger is 18. f4!) Raxb8 19. b4 Qd7 20. b5 cxb5 21. bxc5 dxc5 22. Qxc5 Be7 in David-Dinshult, Germany 2000. 18.Qf4 exf4 19.Qxf4 Qg6 20.Qd3 Qxd3 21.Qxd3 Qa8 Rejecting 21...Bxb2 22. Qe6! (of course not 22...Bxc1??) 23. Ne7+ Kh8 24. Qxh5 mate. 23.Ne7+ Bxe7 24.Qxe7. 22.Qd2 Qb8 23.Qg3 h4 24.Qf3? - Not 24.Bxd6? Qxc6! But stronger is 24.Qa3! Be5 25. Nxe5 dxe5 26.Bg5 f6 27.Bxh4 snaring a pawn. 24...Qxc6 25.Qxc6 Qe6 The other rook is planning 26...Rc8. 26.d2 Qc8 27.Bb3 Qwc6 28.Qd5 Qe8 29.a4 Qc7 30.g4 Better is 30. h3. White is a pawn down but has strong pressure.

30...Qe5 31.g5 Qe7 32.d2 Qb2!? - Hoping to get the bishop to a3 and c5. 33.f5 Qf5 d4+ 34.Qh1 Qf3 35.Qd5 Black keeps the edge after 35. Qg4 Re4 36. Rf4 Rx4 37.Bxf4 Be3. 35...e5 36.Qc3 Qg6 37.Qe1 Qd8 38.Qg2 Better is 38. Re4 going after the pawn on b4. 38...Qa8 39.Qxa8 Qxa8 40.e7 f6 41.g3 f5 42.e2 d4 43.Qe4 fxg4 44.Qg4 Qf8 45.Qxf8 Qxf8 46.Qe5 Qe5 h3? Correct is 46...d3. 47.Qh3? Missing 47.Bxa5! A comedy of errors courtesy of the ticking clock. 47...Qg4+ 48.Qxg4 Qxg4 49.Qf3? - 49. Rd5 Rxd5 50. Kg3 still offers resistance. Now it ends abruptly. 49...Qf6 50. Qe4 d2 51.Qd2 Qf2+ 52.Qg3 Qxd2 53.Qxg4 Qd3 White can resign right here but is hoping the clock will save him. 54.h4 Qxb5 55.Qf4+ Qg8 56.Qf5 Qh7 57.Qh5 Qh3 58.Qg4 Qa3 59.h6 Qxh6 60.Qf5 Hoping for Rh4 mate. Anything can happen at this speed! 60...Qg6+ White resigns. A historic game. Is it likely that FIDE will abandon its obsession with speed over quality and restore slower time controls?

0-1

- Gary Kasparov
Ruslan Ponomariov
Linares (13)
Spain
2002 1-0
Linares, which began in 1990, is usually the strongest tournament held each year. Kasparov has dominated the event by winning it eight times and finishing second twice. His performance at this super-tournament in 2002 marked his ninth straight tournament victory in classical (slow) chess. He confirmed his number one ranking in grand style, outdistancing six hungry rivals with an 8-4 performance (4 wins, 8 draws). In the penultimate round he had the satisfaction of bashing FIDE champion Ruslan Ponomariov, 18, of the Ukraine, his runner-up who trailed by a full 1½ points. At the closing ceremony Kasparov retracted all the harsh things about his young rival. “That was wrong and I will correct that. Ruslan made an excellent impression on me. He is very strong and I am sure that we will play many more games,” generously conceded Kasparov.

1.e4 e6 Ponomariov plays the French Defense for the first time. 2.d4 d5 3.Qc3 dxe4 4.Qxe4 Qd7 5.c3 f3 Qgf6 6.Qxf6+ Qxf6 7.c3 Bolstering the center. By delaying Bd3 White retains the option of Bb5. 7...c5 8.Qc5 Qd7 Throwing the knight, but Retreating a developed piece is dubious. More prudent is 8...a6. 9.Qb5 d6 10.Qg4 Qe8 Losing the right to castle is unpleasant. But if 10...O-O? 11.Bh6 gains material. Now Kasparov sacrifices a pawn to get a dangerous initiative. His willingness to take risks is what endears his games to chess fans. 11.O-O? 11...Qxe5 12.dxe5 Qxe5 13.g5 f6 14.Qd1 Qe7 Kasparov later said he expected 14...Qe7 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 and now intended either 16.Qg5 regaining the pawn or 16.Qh5 pursuing the attack. 15.Qh4 Qg5 16.Qxg5 f6 17.Qh5 g6 18.Qh6+ Qf7 19.Rd8+ Kf7 20.Bxe8+ Qxe8 21.Qxg7+ Kxg7 22.Rxe8 snatches the Exchange. 19.Qd3 a6 20.h3 Qe7 21.Qd3 f5 22.g4?! - Magically conjuring new threats and spurning 22.Qxh7+ Rhx7 23.Rxh7+ Kf6 24.Rxe7 Kxe7 which regains the pawn with an equal ending. 22...Qf6 23.Qd1 b5 It’s hard to shake the bind after 23...fxg4 24.Rg3 e5 25.Bc4 Ke8 (if 25...Ke7 26.Rgd3) 26.Rd5. 24.Qe2 e5 25.Qh6 Qh3? - Now it’s all downhill. Black must try to diminish the attack by getting the queens off by 25...fxg4 26.Rd6 Qf4 27.Rxg6 Qxh6 28.Rxh6. 26...Qxe7 27.Rc6. 27...Qe3 e4 28.a4 e4 Returning the pawn to get some breathing room. 29.axb5 axb5 30...xa8 31.Qxg5 Qc7 32.Qh6 Qe6 33.Qf4 A mad time scramble. A quicker win is 33...gx5 fx5 34.Be2. 33...Qb8 If 33...Rhe8 34.gx5 fx5 35.Kh1! c4 36.Qh6 is annoying. 34.Qb6 Qe6 35.gxf5 Qxf5 36.Qe2 Bringing more force to the attack is decisive. A new and lethal threat is Bh5+. 36...Qxf6 37.Qh5+ Kf7 38.Qe7 39.Rg6+ Black Resigned. Hopeless is 38...Kxe6 or 38...Qxe6 39.Qg7+ Kd6 40.Qxf6+.

Alexei Shirov
Gary Kasparov
Linares (14)
Spain
2002 0-1
Kasparov only needed a draw in the last round to clinch first place but Shirov, who is a great fighter over the board, bravely sacrificed a piece for two pawns as early as move 11 in an exciting melee. Alas, Kasparov won, raising his overall score against Shirov to a stupefying 14-0 (not counting draws). They began a protracted feud when Kasparov choose Kramnik instead of Shirov as his challenger in 2000. Shirov, who had defeated Kramnik in a qualifying match, sued. Since then they no longer shake hands before their games.


1-0
White the game. The best try is 18.Ndc7 Bh3 19. Ra2! 18... b7 19. a2 e3 20. Qxe3 e4 21. e1 Equally futile is 21. Re2 Nd4! 22. cxd6 Qh6 21... Qxb4! 22.cxb4 bxc6 22.e2 Relentless. The pressure on g2 is unbearable. 23. h1 h3 24. e2

○ Veselin Topalov
- Alexander Morozevich
NAO (1)
France 2002 1-0
It takes more than money to produce a great chess culture, but subsidizing players can't hurt. Stalin did it when using chess to prove that the Soviet system was superior to the decadent West. Many Russian players died or dispersed to the four corners of the globe. Korchni defected to Switzerland, and Spassky moved to France where a new patron is determined to make that country a leading chess nation. Nadej Ojjeh, the daughter of Syria's longtime defense minister, poured a fortune from her deceased husband's oil and arms empire into chess. The first NAO tournament (bearing her initials) was the strongest ever held in France. The average age of ten players was 28, ranging from ex-world champion Anatoly Karpov (50) to French champion Etienne Bacrot (19). They both landed in a massive 5-way tie, 1 point behind Bulgaria's Veselin Topalov, 26, and Israel's Boris Gelfand, 33. Russia's Alexander Morozevich, 24, ranked #5 in the world, was dead last, but his games were undeniably exciting. In this one White's last move is simply superb. At the end every piece on the board is hanging, notably Black's king.


○ Peter Leko
- Alexander Morozevich
NAO Tournament (2)
France 2002 1-0
"This was a very important fight, because we both lost in the first round," said Leko. Black repeats a line with which he lost earlier (see Topalov-Morozevich) and it quickly turns into a sharp theoretical duel that was awarded the best game prize in Cannes. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 c6 3.b5 a6 4.a4 f6 5.O-O b5 6.b3 c5 7.a4 b4 8.c3 White intends to enforce d4 and drive the bishop on c5 back. 8...d6 9.d4 b6 10.a3 O-O Ignoring the pawn. Black may be able to hold the endgame after 10...b4 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5+ dxe5 13.Qxd8+Kxd8 14.Nc4 Be6. 11.axb5 axb5 12.Qxb5 g4 13. c2 h6 14.d5 Bold and somewhat risky, but White holds his extra pawn. Topalov chose the less ambitious 14.dxe5 against Morozevich. 14...e7 15.h3 Qh5 16.h1 A subtle prophylactic move. Black took 55 minutes on his next move, searching for a way to get compensation for the pawn. The point is that 16...Bxf2 is not made with check and can be met by 17. Nxd6! 16...Qxe4 A sharp, temporary sacrifice to mix it up. 16...Qd7 first also comes into consideration. 17. Qxe4 f5 18.c2 Meeting fire with fire! Simplifying with 18.Bd3 e4 19.Be2 exf3 20.Bxf3 Bxf3 21.Qxf3 Ng6 gives Black good counterplay. 18...e8 "A big surprise for me. I had calculated for about 40 minutes the following line 18...e4 19.g4 fxg4 20.Nh2 Nf5 21.hxg4 Qh4, which looked very messy. But after 22.gxh5 Bxf2 23.Qg4 Ng3+ 24.Kg2 Nxf1 25. Qxb4 Bxb4 26.Nxf1 Rd2+ 27.Kh3 Rxh1 28.Kxh1 Rxb5 29.Bxe4, I had nothing to worry about, since White has a big advantage." – Leko 19...a4 e4
20...\text{xd}c7 21.\text{e}6 \text{exf3} 22.\text{gx}f3 “On 22.g3 Bg4! White’s king could get into serious trouble.” – Leko 22...\text{xf6} “A quiet move with a lot of poison. My first impression was that with a powerful knight on e6 and two extra pawns I should be easily winning. However even after more then 30 minutes struggling I was unable to find a clear decision and Black’s threats seemed more and more serious.” – Leko 23.\text{xf}8 24.\text{b}5 “This is the point! White wants to activate his rook on a4 and in an emergency the bishop can return to e2 to protect the f3 pawn.” – Leko 24...\text{h}4 25.\text{g}2 \text{g}5 “This is simply a blunder. I expected the natural 25...Ng6 26.Ra4 f4 27.Be7 Bf5 28.Bxc4 c6 is O–O a bit safer. Maybe 9...dxc4 10.Nc3 Bf5 11.Bxc4 c6 is better.” – Leko 9...d5 6...Bb4+ 7.c3 Bb4 8.c4 d6 9.Bd2 c5 10.Bd3 0–0 14.b4 d5 6...\text{d}3 \text{c6} 7.0–0 \text{e}7 8.c4 \text{b}4 Also seen frequently is 8...Nf6 9.Nc3 0-0 10.h3. 9.\text{e}2 0–0 Maybe 9...\text{dxc}4 10.Nc3 Bf5 11.Bxc4 c6 is a bit safer. 10.\text{c}3 \text{f}5 11.a3 \text{xc}3 12.bxc3 \text{c}6 13.\text{e}1 \text{e}8 Karpov’s plan deviates from Shirov-Karpov in the semi-finals, which continued 13...\text{dxc}4 14.Bxc4 Bd6 15.Ra2! doubling on the e-file by Rae2. 14.\text{f}4 An attempt to improve on 14.Bf1 Qd7 15.cxd5 Qxd5 16.Ne5 Qd6 17.Bc4 Nxc5 18.Rxe5 Bg6 19.Qe2 Qd7 20.Be3 Bd6 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Bxd3 Bxd3 23.Qxd3 b5 24.a4, ending in a draw, Pfreundtner-Buerger, Germany 1996. 14...\text{dxc}4 15.\text{xc}4 \text{d}6 A questionable move by Black. Preferable is 15...Rc8 to guard the pawn on c7. 16.\text{xe}8+ \text{xe}8 17.\text{g}5 \text{g}6 18.\text{xd}6 \text{exd}6 19.\text{b}4 \text{e}7 The net result of all these maneuvers is that Black’s pawn structure has been ruptured. How Anand exploits this weakness is instructive. Perhaps the best defense is 19...b6 20.h5 Bxh5 21.Qxh5 g5 22.Qxg5 Qd7. 20.\text{g}4 \text{b}6 21.\text{h}3 Threatening Qxg6. Unsound is 21.Ne6?, d5! 22.Bxd5 fxe6 23.Qxe6 and White has just lost a piece. 21...\text{f}6 22.\text{e}1 23.\text{f}3 \text{f}8 24.\text{f}4 \text{d}7 A frustrating but necessary retreat for Black. Not 24...Re8? 25.Rxe8+ Kxe8 26.Nh5 Qf6 27.Qxf6!! Qxf6 28.Nxg7+ Kf8 29.Qxg6 Re8+!! 25.g3 \text{e}8 26.\text{e}8+ \text{e}8 27.\text{e}4 \text{g}5 28.hxg5 Also good is 28.Nd5 Qg6 29.Qxg6 fxg6 30.hxg6 h5 31.Nf6 with an advantage for White. 28...\text{g}5 Now Black’s pawns are split like bowling pins. But even worse is 28...hxg5 29.Nd5 Qe6 30.Qh7. 29.\text{d}5 \text{d}7 29...Qf6 would avoid loss of material. 30.\text{h}7 \text{f}6 Costs a pawn and the game. But on 30...Qg7 31.Qb1 b6 32.Qb5 Ndb 33.Qc4 is hard to meet. 31.\text{f}7 Splat! 31...\text{e}7 Immediately fatal is 31...Qxf7? 32.Ng6+ Ke8 33.Qh8+. A pawn down, Black tries to hold the ending, but Anand’s endgame technique is flawless. 32.\text{b}3 \text{b}5 33.\text{h}5 \text{h}7 34.\text{xf}6 \text{g}6 35.\text{g}4 \text{g}7 36.\text{e}3 \text{e}4 37.\text{g}4 \text{f}6 38.\text{h}2 \text{b}6 39.\text{g}3 \text{g}5 40.\text{f}7 Unnecessary, but it does no harm. Anand is reluctant to commit himself on the last move of the time control with either 40.f3 or f4+. 40...\text{f}6 41.\text{c}4 \text{g}5 42.\text{b}3 \text{f}6 43.\text{f}3 \text{g}6 44.\text{f}4 \text{e}4 45.\text{c}4 \text{d}6 46.\text{d}3 47.\text{b}7 48.\text{h}4 \text{c}4 49.\text{d}5 Karpov finally tries to activate his knight. 49.\text{g}3 \text{d}1 50.\text{xd}6 \text{xc}3 51.\text{f}5 \text{g}6 52.\text{d}5 \text{a}4 52...\text{Nd}5 loses a piece to 53.Ne3 with a discovered check. 53.Bd6 \text{g}7 54.\text{h}4 \text{g}5 55.\text{d}4 \text{d}1 56.\text{h}5 b5 57.\text{h}6 e6 58.g5 \text{xd}6 59.g6 Black Resigns. White’s passed pawns are too fast. This smooth positional effort by Anand is reminiscent of Karpov in his prime. 1-0

○ Viswanathan Anand
• Anatoly Karpov
Eurotel Trophy Finals (5)
Prague
2002
32 stars – including Gary Kasparov, 39, and Vladimir Kramnik, 27, the man who conquered him for the title – competed for a 500,000 purse at the Eurotel Trophy in Prague. But not before two games of classical chess with a seven-hour time limit – unlike all the fast contests in previous rounds, which were after two games of classical chess with a four-hour limit. Still, unlike the fast contests in previous rounds, which were all decided before the time limit, Karpov was confident enough to play Kramnik, 32, beat Anand, 32, beat Anand, 32...