

INSIDE CHESS 15

The Best In Chess Every Two Weeks



**Karpov
vs.
Kamsky
Conclusion**



**Donaldson
on the
Maroczy
Bind
Part II**



**Dr. Minev
Looks at
the
Caro-Kann
Fantasy
Variation**



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Publisher's Note

After having been an endless source of editorial discussion when it was put on hold, the 1992-95 Men's FIDE World Championship cycle has at last been put to rest. World Champion Anatoly Karpov has successfully defended his crown with his defeat of challenger Gata Kamsky by the score of 10.5-7.5 in their best-of-twenty-game match.

Karpov was the big winner in a number of ways. Besides garnering the lion's share of \$1,200,000, Karpov has put considerable heat on the PCA and its champion, Garry Kasparov. Karpov's victory margin of plus three gave him a rating boost of 12 Elo points in the FIDE rating list; so he may well have become the highest rated player in the world. And he currently enjoys his highest rating ever.

Besides his Elo points, Karpov has something else behind his FIDE title: a structure! It seems only yesterday that Kasparov and the PCA were at their zenith, having organized a fantastic series of tournaments and matches culminating in the 1995 PCA Championship match in New York. Since then the PCA has drifted. It continues to run its fine series of Rapid Chess (G/25) events, but has made no plans toward finding a challenger to Garry Kasparov's PCA crown. Indeed, in a throwback to the days of Alekhine and Capablanca, Kasparov has announced that any legitimate challenger with a \$1.5 million dollar sponsor can have a crack at his title — but he may have to wait.

Conversely, FIDE will either revitalize its traditional Interzonal and Candidate Match series, or try FIDE President Iljumzhinov's \$5,000,000 challenge tournament. At least Karpov can expect a challenger, while Kasparov, like Fischer before him, may become an undefeated FIDE Champion. Of course, Kasparov has remained active, whereas Fischer retreated into retirement for 20 years.

Garry will begin to feel the heat to reenter the FIDE cycle, perhaps through a special reunification match. It would be the sixth match between Kasparov and Karpov, with Karpov yet to win one.

For now, the chess world can enjoy a collective sigh of relief. Kirsan Iljumzhinov was elected FIDE President to complete the FIDE cycle — which he has now done. And he was to bring about a reunification between the FIDE and PCA championships. But he may not get the opportunity to fulfill the second half of his mandate.

FIDE elections will be held during the Erevan Olympiad in September. During his term, Iljumzhinov has angered the chess world with his dictatorial ways as well as his announcement of Baghdad as a potential site for the Karpov-Kamsky match. The federations of Europe and the Americas are aligned against Iljumzhinov's reelection and if he does manage to cling to office, it may well lead to the breakup of FIDE. In that case, *both* champions will be without a structure. The chess world isn't out of the woods yet.

Yasser Seirawan
Publisher, *Inside Chess*

Three Sides to Every Story: Yours, Mine and the Truth

by IM John Donaldson

Inside News 9:7:19 had an article about Georgian GM Zurab Azmaiparashvili and the strange results that occurred in a four-player round-robin in Strumica, Macedonia, last June. Readers may recall that we quoted GM Vladimir Tukmakov's letter to *New In Chess* which pointed out the peculiar scores of the mysterious event in which each player faced his three rivals six times.

Azmaiparashvili won the event with a score of 16-2 for a performance rating of 2843. Local hero IM Roland Kutirov (2440) of Macedonia scored plus-three against the three GMs who averaged 2592. His score of 10.5 was good for a performance rating of 2658 and an 18-game GM norm. Meanwhile, former World Junior Champion Bojan Kurajica (2595) and many-time Soviet Championship participant Nukhim Rashkovsky (2560) made a collective -17! Tukmakov's very understandable conclusion was that something very weird and

not all together above-board had occurred.

The latest issue of *New in Chess* (1996:3) features a sharp counterattack by GM Azmaiparashvili who cries slander to Tukmakov's letter and earlier allusions to the suspicious tournament in Macedonia by GM Mikhail Krasenkov in *NIC*. According to the Georgian GM, he didn't wish to have to even deign to reply to such libel, but he was upset that reports of Tukmakov's charges in various magazines were convincing organizers to stay clear of him.

According to Azmai:

[S]uch actions on the part of organizers forced me in January of this year to appeal to the President of FIDE, Mr. Iljumzhinov, where I suggested to him that a commission be set up regarding this question, the decision of which, as I saw it, would be as follows:

(1) In the event of the facts regarding the buying and selling of points being proved irrefutably, I should be disqualified:

Or:

(2) A law should be introduced to the effect that a publication should bear responsibility for the publication of non-existent facts and libels.

I will briefly describe the tournament:

It did indeed take place from June 1-20 in the Macedonian town of Strumpica, and four players took part: myself, Kurajica, Rashkovsky, and Kutirov. The sponsors of the tournament were the firms *Komental* and *Transped*, and there was a prize fund of DM 10,000 [about \$7000] divided up 1st - 4000, 2nd - 3000, 3rd - 2000, 4th - 1000. The chief arbiter was L. Jancev, an arbiter of international standing. The tournament was staged in old-fashioned style in a restaurant, with usually 25-30 spectators present. Great attention to the tournament was paid by Macedonian Television, which gave reports nearly every day. So that apart from the official records, bulletins and scoresheets, photographs and video material also exist, and if requested they will be offered to any interested party.

As for the competitive results of the tournament, I managed to score 16 out of 18! Amazing! I agree myself that I find it hard to believe, but such things do happen!! This was the first tournament in my grandmaster career where I permitted myself to employ several important theoreti-

(Continued on page 30)

Karpov Defends FIDE Title 10.5-7.5

Anatoly Karpov fairly easily defended his FIDE World Championship against Gata Kamsky by a score of 10.5-7.5. After splitting the first two games, Karpov scored a blistering 5.5 from 7 to take a four-point lead after nine games. At that point the match was effectively over.

Gata Kamsky lost the match because of an inability to "hold serve" with White. He won as many games with White (three) as Karpov, but he also lost three with White to Karpov's none!

Throughout the match Karpov showed the high level of defensive skill that has always characterized his play, although he slipped badly in losing games two and sixteen. It's possible that the lack of consistency that often haunts older players is starting to put in an appearance, but as long as he is a level or two above his young pursuers, it won't do the youngsters much good for some time to come.

The games were played every other day with no timeouts allowed. Time control was 40/2 followed by 16/1 and adjournment. Adjourned games were played to a finish at 16/1 the following day.

Karpov first won the World Championship in 1975 when Bobby Fischer declined to defend his title. After losing the title to Garry Kasparov in 1985, and failing to regain it in three subsequent attempts (1986, 1987 and 1990), Karpov got a new lease on life when Kasparov resigned the FIDE title and formed his own Professional Chess Association (PCA) for his 1993

match with Nigel Short in London. Karpov, who had been eliminated from that FIDE cycle by Short, ended up beating another loser in the cycle, Jan Timman, for the title. Karpov thus gained the dubious distinction of having twice won the FIDE without ever beating the titleholder in a match!

Questions of succession aside, Karpov is now either first in the world by FIDE rating or close to it. Both he and Kasparov have dismissed young challengers with almost contemptuous ease in the last year and a sixth match between the two seems inevitable. Kasparov's PCA really doesn't have a cycle to determine a challenger and Garry has been reduced to offering to play anyone who can come up with the \$1.5 million prize fund. Karpov and Kasparov may not like each other, but it now appears that only these two can generate the kind of money that they like to play for.

All Annotations by GM Yasser Seirawan

Kamsky is set to make a comeback after winning beautifully in game ten. Karpov is equally determined to make sure that it doesn't happen.

Semi-Slav Anti-Meran D45

GM Anatoly Karpov
GM Gata Kamsky

Elista (wc-11), June 26, 1996

1.d4

Kamsky has to address his first problem. The Grunfeld and King's Indian haven't worked well for him; so the cru-

cial decision is, Which defense to play?
1...d5 2.c4 c6!?

The Slav is a good choice against Karpov, because he is known to take a somewhat tame approach to this solid defense. In such cases, Black has good chances of neutralizing White's opening advantage.

3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 e6 5.e3 ♘bd7 6.♙c2

Kamsky could rely upon this Karpov specialty turning up. White avoids the sharp lines of the Meran Variation, 6.♘d3 dxc4 7.♘xc4 b5, with reams of theory to follow. The text has its own logic: White aims for e3-e4, opening up a diagonal for the c1-Bishop.

6...♘d6 7.♘e2 O-O 8.O-O {0:06} ♖e8 {0:02} 9.♙d1 ♙e7

Karpov has reached this position literally dozens of times in his career. Since Black has an easy equality in the offering by expansion in the center with ...e6-e5, the natural reaction for White is to seek a minimal advantage by 10.e4 dxe4 11.♘xe4 ♘xe4 12.♙xe4 e5. Before pressing e3-e4, White pauses for a move on the queenside.

10.a3

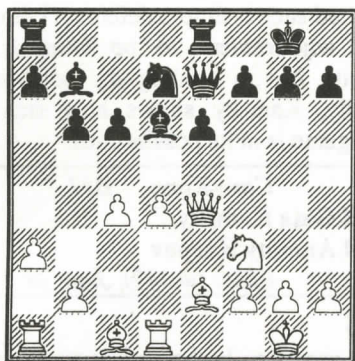
Another useful "pass" is to play 10.h3 for eventual *Luft*. The text feints b2-b4 and a possible c4-c5.

10...b6 {0:10} 11.e4 {0:20}

Back to business. Eventually, White will have to play this break, as Black is ready with 11...♘b7, 12...♙ac8 and 13...c5 with equality.

11...♘xe4 12.♘xe4 dxe4 13.♙xe4 ♘b7

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	T
Karpov	1	0	½	1	½	1	1	½	1	0	½	½	½	1	½	0	½	½	10.5
Kamsky	0	1	½	0	½	0	0	½	0	1	½	½	½	0	½	1	½	½	7.5



This position offers White little chance for an advantage. Black will play for either ...e6-e5 or ...c6-c5 and in either case White will have no targets against which to build an attack. White's sole advantage lies in his momentary space advantage, but translating this into something tangible is very difficult.

14. ♖f4

A difficult choice. The tempting 14. ♖g5 ♘f6 15. ♗h4 looks like it might lead to an attack, but after 15...c5! and an eventual ...h7-h6 White will try to prove an attack exists, when, in fact, it doesn't!

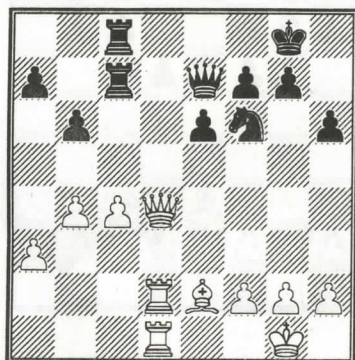
14... ♙xf4 15. ♗xf4! {0:33} c5 {0:18}

After this break, Black has equalized.

16. ♗c7 ♖ab8 17. b4! ♖ec8 18. ♗f4 ♙xf3!

Excellent judgment. In the resulting minor piece middlegame the White Bishop is not an effective attacker, whereas Black's Knight can cover a lot of key squares. Naturally, it would have been a big mistake to play 18...cxb4? 19. axb4 ♗xb4 20. ♖xa7, which just allows White's Rook to crash through on the seventh.

19. ♙xf3 cxd4 20. ♗xd4 ♖c7! 21. ♙e2 ♖bc8 22. ♖a2 h6 23. ♖ad2 {1:14} ♘f6 {1:06}



Black has a nearly ideal defensive formation. The slight imbalance of a queenside majority versus a kingside majority is negligible.

24. ♗e5 {1:15} ♖d7! {1:08} 25. ♖xd7 ♘xd7 26. ♗d4 {1:21} ♘f6 27. h3 ♙f8 28. ♖c1 {1:25} ♘d7 {1:17} 29. ♙f3 e5!?

Kamsky makes an interesting decision in favor of activity, but weakens his pawn structure. An easy road to equality was 29...a5! 30. ♗c3 (on 30.bxa5? bxa5 Black has won the c5-square for his d7-Knight and after 31. ♗a7? ♗xa3 Black has won a pawn) 30...axb4 31. axb4 ♗f6, intending ...♘d7-e5.

30. ♗d3 g6 31. ♖d1 {1:41} ♖c7 {1:32} 32. ♙e2! {1:42}

A key move. White's Queen was tied to the defense of the c4-pawn. Now that this onerous duty is lifted from her shoulders, she is free to roam the board. Superficially, 32. ♙d5 looks better, but 32...♘f6 and a trade on d5 is fine for Black.

32... ♙g7 {1:34} 33. ♗c3 ♘f6 34. ♗e3 h5 35. ♙f1 {1:46} ♖c6 {1:47} 36. ♖c1

Karpov is having difficulties making any headway and the text move is an admission that there is no mischief to be done along the d-file. Now White is hopeful that c4-c5 might lead to something.

36... ♗d6?!

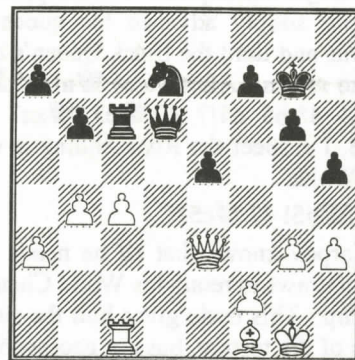
This move isn't a link in any strategic plan, but rather a "pass," because Black is not interested in the invasion ...♗d6-d4, as trading Queens merely isolates the resulting d4-pawn. Since Black is perfectly positioned, once again 36...a5! would force simple equality.

Note that 37.b5?? ♖c5 would result in a strategically winning game for Black. As a consequence 36...a5! 37. ♗e1! axb4 38. axb4 ♖c7 leaves Black eyeing the b4-pawn.

37.g3!

Crafty play. Now White hopes for ♙f1-g2 with tempo, c4-c5 with tempo, and finally c5-c6, when the c6-pawn may give him the advantage. Kamsky realizes that he has misplaced his pieces and scurries to prevent White's c4-pawn from advancing to c5.

37... ♘d7



38.c5!

Excellent judgment by Karpov. As previously mentioned, White's f1-Bishop isn't as effective a piece as Black's d7-Knight. The text ensures a trade of minor pieces and, in the resulting major piece ending, Black's e5-pawn is a target. Karpov gains a clear advantage. Apparently, Kamsky isn't as good at sitting on a position as is his illustrious opponent.

38...bxc5 39. ♙b5! ♖c7 40. ♙xd7 ♖xd7 {1:56} 41. ♖xc5 {1:54}

Karpov could only have dreamt of this position a short while ago. Black's structure contains a number of weaknesses and both of White's majors are more active than their Black counterparts. Whether or not the position is a win will be decided by the relative safety of the Kings. Black usually has the potential of delivering a perpetual check when White's pieces wander. White will have to ensure his King safety, while trying to weaken his opponent's monarch.

41...f6

Let's be clear. This is a major concession. Now the seventh rank is very weak and Black's King could easily fall victim to a mating attack. Karpov's winning chances are much better than Black's drawing chances.

42. h4 {1:58} ♗e6 {2:14} 43. ♙h2! {2:06} ♗a6 {2:21} 44. ♗f3 {2:23}

With the powerful threat of 45. ♖c6, winning the f6-pawn.

44... ♗f1? {2:31}

In a desperate bid for counterplay,

Kamsky throws his Queen far afield. The immediate 44...♖f7 45.♖c6!? ♗b5 was forced.

45.♖c6 ♖f7 46.♗e3?

Until this moment, Karpov has woven a strategic masterpiece. Naturally, White should simply advance his queenside pawns and limit the Black Queen's ability to return. After 46.a4 ♗a1 47.♖a6 ♗d4 48.b5 e4!? 49.♗e3 ♗xe3 50.fxe3, I suspect the Rook ending is won for White.

46...♗b5! 47.♗c5?!

Karpov knows that all he needs is a lot of draws to retain his World Championship. This trade gives him the sunny side of the torture, but not necessarily a winning ending. White keeps more winning chances with Queens on the board, but Karpov is playing the match situation as well as the game.

47...♗xc5 48.♖xc5 g5!

It is important to get this move in. White would love to just play ♖c5-a5-a6. This would tie Black down to the defense of the f6-, g6- and a7-pawns. Then White could try to march his King to the d5-square. The text is the only way to ensure that Black can force trades on the kingside.

49.hxg5 fxg5 50.♗g2 ♗f6 {2:40} 51.b5 {2:50} ♗f5!? 52.a4 h4!? {2:48} 53.a5 {2:56} ♖b7?

The start of troubles, as Kamsky begins to fall headlong into a nasty trap. Black should play 53...♖h7! 54.♖c4 (54.gxh4 ♖xh4 and ...♖h4-b4 is an easy draw for Black) 54...h3+ 55.♗h2 g4 56.b6 axb6 57.axb6 ♖b7 58.♖b4 ♗g5 59.♖b5 ♗f5 60.♗h1 ♖f6 with an easy draw.

54.f3 ♗e6?!

As before, 54...♖h7 appears best.

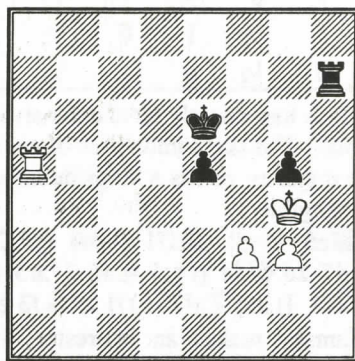
55.b6! axb6 56.♖b5!

White's point. He now threatens 57.♖xb6+, transposing into a winning pawn ending.

56...h3+ 57.♗xh3

Another interesting move was 57.♗h2!?, but I'm unsure of the various tricky pawn endings. Karpov takes the practical approach once again. The immediate capture gives him a very nice, and possibly winning, Rook ending.

57...♖h7+ 58.♗g4 bxa5 {3:01} 59.♖xa5 {3:09}



The game was adjourned here. Without too much analysis, my instincts tell me that White is winning. If 59...♗f6?? 60.♖a6+ ♗f7 61.♖a7+ ♗g6, 62.♖xh7 wins on the spot. And 59...♖g7 60.♖a6+ ♗d5 61.♖f6 e4 62.♖f5+ ♗d4 63.fxe4 ♗xe4 65.♖xg5 ♖a7 66.♖g8 also wins. But the extremely reduced nature of the position and the tricks inherent in Rook endings mitigate against the adjournment being an open-and-shut case, Kamsky might be able to find a hidden resource that the above superficial analysis doesn't show.

59...♖b7

When reviewing this ending with my colleague GM Larry Christiansen, we both missed this simple defensive maneuver. Now Black harasses White's pawns on the third rank and just manages to draw.

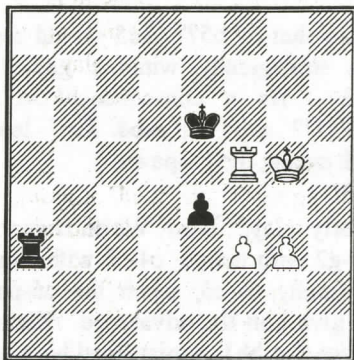
60.♖a6+ ♗e7!

A key, because 60...♗f7?? 61.♗xg5 ♖b3 62.♖f6+ ♗g7 63.g4 gives White the tempo that he needs to win the game.

61.♗xg5 ♖b3 62.♗g4

On 62.♖f6 e4!, with White's g-pawn remaining on g3, Black easily draws.

63...♗f7 {3:11} 63.♖h6 {3:08} 63...♖a3 64.♖h5 {3:11} ♗f6 {3:14} 65.♖f5+ ♗e6 66.♗g5 e4



Draw

There is nothing for White to do. 67.♗g4, ♖xf3 68.♖xf3 exf3 69.♗xf3 ♗f5 is a drawn pawn ending. Karpov, therefore, accepted Kamsky's offer. It is a bit humbling for us to have overlooked such a simple defense. I thought the adjournment to be winning for White, but in holding the position so easily, Kamsky shows how rich the endgame is in its possibilities.

Caro-Kann B17

GM Gata Kamsky

GM Anatoly Karpov

Elista (wc-12), June 28, 1996

1.e4

A surprise. In the previous game with White Kamsky won in fine style with 1.d4, smashing Karpov in his much-vaunted Queen's Indian. Clearly Gata had something in mind.

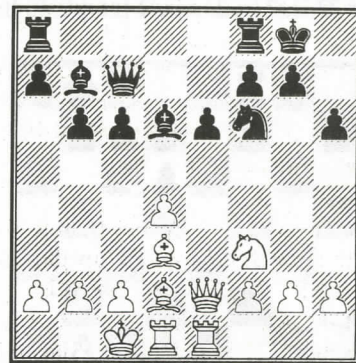
1...c6 2.d4 d5 3.♖d2 dxe4 4.♗xe4 ♖d7 5.♗g5

Amazingly, Kamsky doesn't tire of playing 5.♗g5 into Karpov's main defenses. Both players follow the standard theoretical moves of their previous battles.

5...♖gf6 6.♗d3 e6 7.♗1f3 ♗d6 8.♗e2 h6 9.♗e4 ♗xe4 10.♗xe4 ♗f6 11.♗e2 ♗c7 12.♗d2 b6 13.O-O-O ♗b7 14.♖he1

A kind of waiting move. Apparently Kamsky wasn't satisfied with 14.♗e5 and the advantage which he gained from the previous games. With benefit of hindsight, 14.♗b1 deserves attention, the reason being that if Black castles short, then the Rook is well placed on the h1-square. If Black goes long, the move 14.♗b1 is useful after a likely c2-c4.

14...O-O



A provocative move which Karpov had to study in great depth. Black's h6-

To IM Vassily Gagarin in the computer room:

[I]f you don't stop advanced analysis in this room, I'll arrange a slaughter here.

—Rustam Kamsky, minutes before resumption of game eleven on June 27

pawn is a tempting target and allows White to rip open the kingside.

15.g4!?

Certainly a key part of Kamsky's preparation. White has to be quick, as ...c6-c5 frees Black's position.

15...c5

Using the old logic that an attack on the flank is best met with a counter in the center. The g4-pawn is taboo, as the g-file is nicely opened: 15...♖xg4? 16.♔g1 f5!? 17.h3 ♘f6 18.♙xh6 regains the pawn with a promising attack.

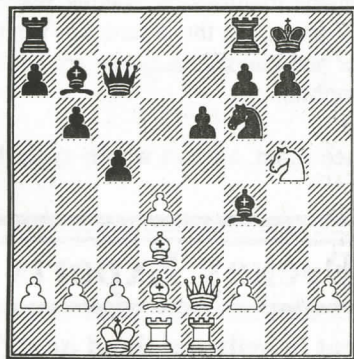
16.g5

Karpov must now play very accurately to survive.

16...hxc5 17.♗xg5

Of course, 17.♙xg5? ♙f4+ is excellent for Black.

17...♙f4!



Often one of the best survival tactics is to trade off pieces; so Karpov's last move is right on the mark. The text throws a spanner into Kamsky's attack and Black also vacates the d-file for possible counterchances.

18.h4?

This move is a lot worse than it looks. White shoves his h-pawn up the board but to what end? The h-pawn isn't going to cause any damage by wasting three more moves and trundling down to h7. It was far more vital to seize the g-file. The most sensible continuation was 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.♔g1, preparing to

go into super-sac mode by ♗g5-h7 with further sacrifices in mind, especially regarding ♔g1xg7+, denuding Black's King.

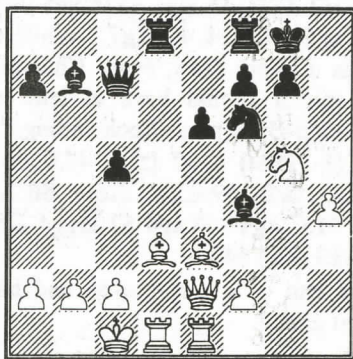
It's conceivable that Kamsky didn't see anything concrete after 19...♙xh2(!) 20.f4!? ♙xg1 21.♔xg1 ♔fd8 22.♗h2, but this is the kind of game that he had to be prepared to play after g2-g4.

18...♔ad8!

Superb judgment! Karpov intuits that after 18...cxd4 it would be difficult to counterattack. The position demands active piece play by both players. In some lines Black is now prepared to play ...♔d8xd3 if necessary.

19.dxc5 bxc5 20.♙e3

Karpov threatened the annoying 20...c4 21.♙xc4 ♔xd2 22.♔xd2 ♙xd2+, dragging White's King into the open. Kamsky felt it necessary to address this threat and it costs him a tempo needed for his attack.



20...♔d4!!

Sterling defense. Black is ready for ...♔d4xh4, grabbing a pawn and defending his King. Judging White's attack is quite difficult. Who stands better? I don't know, but if Black survives, he will have a pleasant endgame. Still, the structure doesn't matter so much right now. Piece play is paramount and both players have their trumps.

21.♔g1

Getting with the main program, but bidding a fond farewell to the h4-pawn. Kamsky avoided 21.h5 ♗e5! 22.♔g1 c4! 23.♙xc4 (23.♙h7+? ♗xh7 24.♔xd4 ♗xd4) 23...♔xd1+ 24.♗xd1 (24.♗xd1 ♙xe3 25.♗xe3 ♗xb2) 24...♙xe3+ 25.fxe3 ♗xe3+ and Black is doing fine.

21...♙xe3+ 22.fxe3 {1:20} ♔xh4 {1:17} 23.♔df1 ♗e5!

Again, Karpov finds an excellent defensive reaction. He covers the f6-Knight, while simultaneously eyeing a number of White units. Kamsky must have been quite disappointed at Black's edge.

24.♗f2

White is setting up ♗f2xf6 and a nasty discovered check. White avoids 24.♗f3 ♙xf3 25.♗xf3 ♗d5!, when Black covers all the key squares and threatens White's e3-pawn.

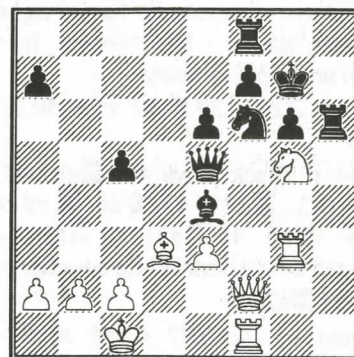
24...♔h6!?

I'm not sure why Karpov objected to the obvious 24...♔h2!?, as 25.♗xf6 ♗xe3+! 26.♗b1 gxf6 27.♗f3+ ♗h8 28.♗xh2 ♔g8 29.♗g4 ♗g5 pins the Knight to the g1-Rook. Perhaps he was still in defensive mode.

25.♔g3 {1:24} ♙e4! {1:32}

Continuing his policy of trading attackers.

26.♔fg1 g6 27.♔f1 ♗g7



Karpov's cold-blooded defense has been very impressive. Gata decides he isn't making any headway and bails out into an inferior ending.

28.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 29.♔xf6 ♙xd3

Naturally, 29...♗xf6?? 30.♗xe4+ would be excellent for White.

30.♔xf7+

An effort to damage Black's structure. White's alternative 30.♔xe6 ♔h1+! 31.♗d2 ♙f5 with the threat ...♔h1-h2+ is good for Black. But, as we shall see, after a forcing sequence Black also wins White's c2-pawn.

30...♔xf7 31.♗xf7 ♔h1+! 32.♗d2 ♙xc2 33.♗d8

Kamsky wasn't anxious to test Karpov's technique after 33.♗xc2 ♗xf7,

but Karpov could force this same Rook ending anyway.

Anatoly has the choice of a straight Rook ending or a Rook and Bishop versus Rook and Knight. After 33...♖d1+ 34.♔xc2 ♗xd8 35.♔c3 Black has excellent winning chances, but top GMs know that a Bishop coordinates much better with a Rook than a Knight; so Karpov decides to keep the minors on the board. In the Rook ending, 35...♗d5 36.♔c4 sets up the possibility of counterplay by e3-e4 and ♖g3-a3. Karpov saw the opportunity to escort his g-pawn up the board and decided better chances lay in the game continuation.

33...♖h2+ 34.♔c3 ♗f6 35.♗b7

Kamsky now picks up the c5-pawn, reestablishing material equality, but the g6-pawn is crucial.

35...♗f5 36.♗xc5 ♖c2+ 37.♔d4 ♗d2+

Karpov repeats moves to make time control. Kamsky must have felt disgusted and nervous: all his opening preparation went for naught and now, in a must-win situation, he has to fight to save the game. His chances in the match are slipping away.

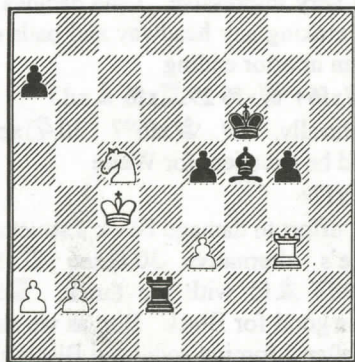
38.♔c3 ♖c2+ 39.♔d4 e5+ 40.♔d5 ♗d2+

Now if Black plays 40...♖xb2 41.e4 ♗c8 (42...♗d2+ 43.♔c6 ♗c8 44.♖f3+ ♔g5 45.♖a3) 42.♖f3+ and ♗d5xe5 next offers White counterspiel.

41.♔c4 ♖c2+

Again 41...♖xb2!? 42.e4 ♗c8 43.♖f3+ ♔g5 44.♖a3 offers White chances to hold.

42.♔d5 ♗d2+ 43.♔c4 g5



This is Karpov's main trump. If he can establish ...g5-g4, he will win, as the threats of ...♗f6-g5-h4 ensure the coronation of the g-pawn.

44.e4!

Anatoly must have realized that his best efforts have fallen short. 44...♗d4+ 45.♔c3 ♗xe4 46.♖g4! ♗d5 (46...♔f5 47.♖xg5+! ♔xg5 48.♗e6+ ♔f6 50.♗xd4 exd4+ 51.♔xd4 leaves a draw of wrong-colored Bishop and a-pawn!) 47.♖xd4 exd4+ 48.♔xd4 ♗xa2 49.♗e4+ ♔f5 50.♗xg5! ♔xg5 51.b4! ♔f6 52.b5 ♔e7 53.♔c5 ♔d7 54.b6 a6 55.b7! leads to the same drawn wrong-colored Bishop ending. Annoyed, Karpov decides to play on using a different tack.

44...♗c8 {2:18}

Trying to induce 45.♖a3? g4? 46.♖xa7 g3 47.♖a3 g2 48.♖g3 ♗h3!, when Black should win, but Kamsky sidesteps this trap.

45.♔c3! {2:19}

Defending the b2-pawn with tempo.

45...♗d1?!

An error which allows Kamsky to reel in the draw after a few more accurate moves. Karpov may have rejected 45...♖f2 46.♗d3 ♖f1 47.♗xe5 ♔xe5 48.♖xg5+ ♔xe4 49.♖g7. While this line is a likely draw, every Championship match should have at least one Rook-and-Bishop-vs.-Rook ending.

46.♖f3+ {2:24} ♔g7 {2:43} 47.♗d3 g4 48.♖g3 ♔f6 49.♗f2! ♖c1+ 50.♔d2 ♖a1 51.♗xg4+ ♗xg4 52.♖xg4 ♖xa2 53.♔c3 ♖a4 54.b4

The end of a well-played and hard-fought game!

Draw

Queen's Indian E15

GM Anatoly Karpov

GM Gata Kamsky

Elista (wc-13), June 30, 1996

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 b6

The Queen's Indian is the only defense that has brought Kamsky any success in the match; so it isn't a surprise that he uses it once again.

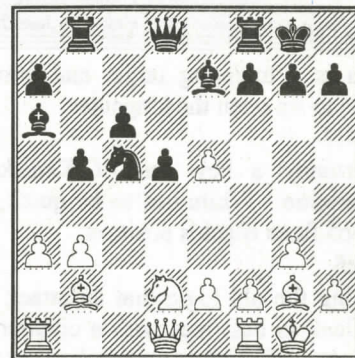
4.g3 ♗a6 5.b3 ♗b4+ 6.♗d2 ♗e7 7.♗g2 c6 8.♗c3 d5 9.♗e5 ♗fd7 10.♗xd7 ♗xd7 11.♗d2 O-O 12.O-O ♖b8 13.♗b2

Karpov tries to improve over his previously played 13.♖e1, which prepares the direct e2-e4. As Black is ready for ...b6-b5-b4, White takes a precaution by first retreating his c3-Bishop. This subtle type of improvement has always been the hallmark of Karpov's play.

13...b5 14.c5 e5 15.dxe5

Another intriguing possibility is 15.b4 e4 (15...♗f6 16.e4!; 15...exd4 16.♗f3 is better for White) 16.f3 f5 17.a4, when White has better chances on the queenside than Black does on the kingside.

15...♗xc5 16.a3!



Thus Karpov neatly reveals the point of his previous play. He does not need ♖f1-e1 to ensure e2-e4. This can be done by playing b3-b4 and e2-e4. In the meantime, Black's play with ...b5-b4 is neatly foiled.

16...♗b7

An indication that Black's pieces aren't harmoniously placed. Gata now searches for a way of mobilizing his queenside majority by making way for the a7-pawn. In the meantime, White's center and kingside majority are healthy and mobile.

17.b4

Once again, a move wholly typical of

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Karpov's style. He first stifles his opponent's play on the queenside before utilizing his own trumps in the center. Others might have preferred 17.♖c1 ♜e6 (17...a5 18.f4 ♜b6?? 19.♙d4) 18.e4 d4!? 19.f4 c5 20.f5 ♜c7 21.f6 with a powerful attack. Kamsky would have had to play 18...c5, seeking exchanges on the e4-square.

17...♙a4

Black had to avoid 17...♙e6 18.♙b3! c5 19.bxc5 ♜xc5 20.♙d4 ♜xb3 21.♜xb3 a6 22.♜ad1, when his d5-pawn is on the chopping block.

18.♙d4 a5 19.♜b3

White is trying to blockade Black's queenside pawns. When White plays ♜a1-c1, he will have mastery over the c5-square as well as pressure on the c6-pawn. A line with ...c6-c5 would only uncover the d5-pawn, as we have seen. Black has to blockade the c-file with his Knight.

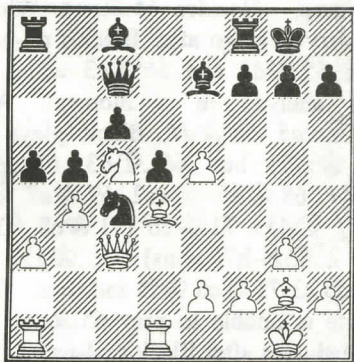
19...♙b6 20.♜c3 ♙a4

Black avoids 20...♙c4 21.♙b3 a4 (21...♙xa3 22.♙xa5) 22.♙c5, which would net White an easy strategic victory. When Black's queenside is totally blockaded, White will turn his trumps over.

21.♜b3 ♙b6 22.♜fd1

White prepares e2-e4 with this natural move, however, 22.♜fc1, continuing his plan of controlling the c5-square, may have been even stronger.

22...♙c4 23.♜c3 ♜a8 24.♙b3 ♜c7 25.♙c5 ♙c8



Karpov has played a fine strategical game and seems well prepared for 26.e4! dxe4 (26...♙g4 27.f3 ♙h5? 28.exd5 cxd5 29.f4 wins) 27.♙xe4 with a clear advantage, but instead he takes another approach. 26.h3!? ♜d8 27.g4!?

White's last two moves are aimed at snuffing out any activity for the c8-Bishop. In view of the possibility of f2-f4-f5, Kamsky decides that he must act on the queenside now.

27...axb4 28.axb4 ♜xa1 29.♜xa1 ♙xc5

An important point in Black's bid to remain in the game. He gives up his better Bishop and the dark squares surrounding his King. In return, he gets a protected passed b-pawn and hopes of saving the ending.

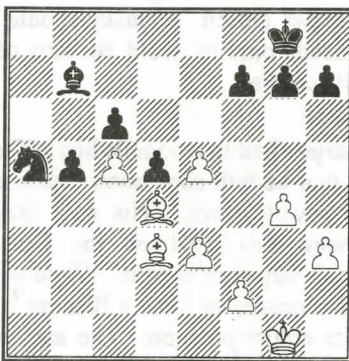
30.bxc5 ♙b7

Black would only walk into the fury of White's attack by 30...♜e8? 31.f4 f6? 32.exf6 ♜xe2 33.♜a8. The text seeks further trades along the a-file.

31.e3

Karpov can squeeze no further, as 31.♜a7 ♜a8 32.♜a1 ♜b8! gains White nothing. White's problem is that, while his d4-Bishop is a dominant force, the g2-Bishop remains passive. Nor does White gain much from 31.e4 ♜a8 32.♜xa8+ ♙xa8 33.exd5 cxd5 34.f4 ♜a5, because with all the Rooks off the board the d5-pawn can be protected. The text prepares to redeploy the g2-Bishop for the upcoming ending.

31...♜a8 32.♙f1 ♜xa1 33.♜xa1 ♜a5 34.♜xa5 ♙xa5 35.♙d3



While Black has neutralized White's ability to uncork a direct attack on his King, this ending isn't much solace. Black's minors are quite passive and White's King threatens to make a bee-line to a5 via b4, even at the cost of a Bishops-of-opposite-colors ending. Kamsky fears 35...♙f8 36.♙f1 g6 37.♙e2 ♙e7 38.♙d2 ♙c4+ 39.♙c3 ♙d7 40.♙b4 ♙c7 41.f4 ♙c8 42.f5 with the unpleasant threat of e5-e6, winning. Gata must make a tough decision.

35...b4!

Now that Black's b-pawn has broken free of its support, Black has to worry about White's King waltzing over to the queenside and harvesting the b-pawn. Despite this fear, this is Black's only way of trying to activate his b7-Bishop.

36.f4 ♙c4

Black plays for ...♙b7-a6-b5, hoping to continue with ...♙c4-a3 to trade Bishops. Karpov, anticipating this defense, takes precautions.

37.♙c2! ♙c8

An awkward retreat, but Kamsky wasn't about to allow ♙c2-a4, chaining his Bishop to the passive b7-square. Of course, 37...♙a6? 38.♙a4 ♙b5? 39.♙xb5 cxb5 40.c6 wins for White.

38.f5!

This move has been a long time coming. White is ready to bring his King into action behind the broad shoulders of his central pawns. Black is in danger of being pushed off the board and must try to utilize his passed b-pawn as a distraction.

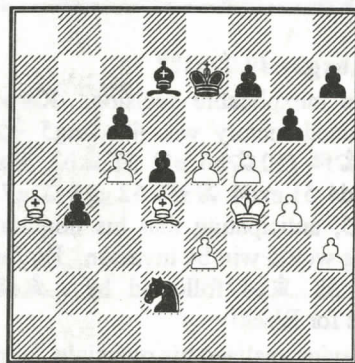
38...♙d2 39.♙a4 ♙d7

Correctly avoiding 39...♙f3+? 40.♙f2 ♙xd4 41.exd4 ♙d7 42.♙e3, when White's King will come to the queenside and pick up the b4-pawn.

40.♙f2 g6!

Gata Kamsky doesn't shrink from tough decisions. White is ready to play ♙f2-g3-f4 with the idea of e5-e6, making a gate to the e5-square and beyond. While the text weakens the dark squares, in particular the f6-square, Black has no choice. He has to attack White's f5-pawn and remind White that the b-pawn offers counterplay.

41.♙g3 ♙f8 42.♙f4 {2:05} ♙e7 {2:16}



The players have made the time control and now it is up to White to prove

his advantage. Karpov's systematic exploitation of his majority (since the opening!) has been very impressive. He decides the time is ripe for a breakthrough.

43.e6 {2:46}

Nursing the position further by 43. ♖c2 ♖c8 44. ♔d3 b3 45. ♖c3 ♘e4 46. ♖xe4 dxe4 47. ♖xe4 ♖a6 48. ♖f4 ♖f1 49. h4 ♔d3 50. e4 ♖c2 51. e6 fxe6 52. f6+ ♖f7 fails, as Black will be able to hold the Bishops-of-opposite-colors ending. Some might applaud 43.e6 as the crowning achievement of White's sterling play, but it may be a mistake. I think that Karpov simply missed Kamsky's line of defense.

43...fxe6 {2:16} 44.f6+ ♖f7 45. ♖c2

Aiming to soften up the g6-pawn with h4-h5 and ♖f4-g5.

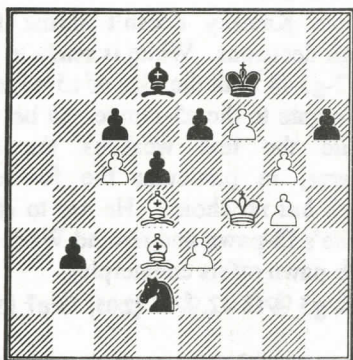
45...h6! 46.h4 {2:47} b3! {2:32}

Well played. Kamsky has to constantly remind Karpov of his passed b-pawn.

47. ♔d3 g5+!

The only defense, but an excellent one! Kamsky cannot play 47...♘c4 48. ♖xc4 dxc4 49. ♖e5 g5 50. h5! ♖e8 51. e4 ♔d7 52. ♖d6 ♖e8 53. e5 and Black is in *Zugzwang*.

48.hxg5



48...hxg5+ 49. ♖g3??

An inexplicable decision. Karpov's intended victory was 49. ♖xg5 ♘f3+ 50. ♖f4 (50. ♖h6 e5! 51. ♖b2 ♖xg4) ♘xd4 51. exd4 ♖xf6 52. g5+ ♖g7 53. ♖e5, anticipating that his dominating King would win by invasion. He forgot that 53...♖e8 followed by ...♖e8-g6 wins for Black!

Having realized his oversight, he panicked. White could easily draw by 49. ♖e5 ♘f3+ 50. ♖d6 ♘xd4 (50...e5 51. ♖b2 ♖xg4 52. ♖xc6 ♖xf6 53. ♖xd5)

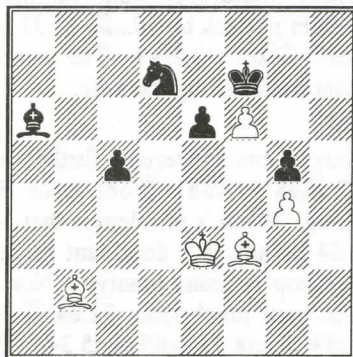
51. exd4 (51. ♖xd7 ♘f3 with the idea of ...♘f3-e5) 51...♖e8 52. ♖e5 ♔d7 53. ♖d6 ♖e8 with a repetition.

Now, with an extra pawn in hand and a firmly blockaded f6-pawn, it is Black who can pursue winning chances! A shocking turn around.

49...b2 50. ♖xb2 ♘b3 51. ♖c2

Karpov realized that 51. ♔d4 ♘xd4 52. exd4 ♖xf6 and ...e6-e5 was an easy win for Kamsky.

51...♘xc5 52. e4 dxe4 53. ♖f2 ♖c8 54. ♖e3 ♘d7 55. ♖xe4 c5 56. ♖f3 {3:32} ♖a6 {2:49}



Karpov thought for 34 minutes before sealing his move. I can well understand his thought processes. At least 20 minutes were probably spent cursing himself for getting into such an predicament — from a near strategical win to a likely two-pawn deficit. Kamsky should win. He needs only to avoid Bishops of opposite colors.

57. ♖a3

Karpov had to reconcile himself to the fact that he will soon find himself two pawns down. His sole drawing chances are based on the fact that Black's structure is split. White will be on the lookout to force a Bishops of opposite colors position. The aim of the text is to tie Black's Knight to the protection of the c5-pawn and fasten it to the d7-square.

57...♖b5 58. ♖f2 {3:25} ♖c4! {2:49}

Well played. The f6-pawn is going nowhere. His first priority is to improve the position of his a6-Bishop.

59. ♖c6 ♘e5 60. ♖f3 ♔d5!

The Bishop is on the ideal square and it's time to harvest the f6-pawn.

61. ♖e2 ♘d7?

I simply don't understand this move at all. Black must ask himself, What is

the ideal setup for my pieces?

Let's start with the pawns. In the interest of gaining space the pawns must move forward to the c4- and e5-squares. The d5-Bishop is ideal. The Black King stands best on the f6-square from where it covers the e5- and g5-pawns and then the Knight is free to roam. It will gravitate to the d4- and f4-squares.

Now we know the ideal, but how to achieve it? This, too, is straightforward. Black should start with 61...c4!, cutting the diagonal of the e2-Bishop. White will be unable to stop the plan. Kamsky undoubtedly considered 62. ♖c1 [62. ♖e7 ♘c6 63. ♖e3(?) e5 shows the importance of establishing the pawns on the e5- and c4-squares. White's King goes nowhere. The f6-pawn falls either as a result of an exchange on e7 or the retreat of the e7-Bishop.] 62...♖g6 (not falling for the embarrassing 62...♖xf6?? 63. ♖b2 with a fateful pin) 63. ♖e3 ♘c6! (Preventing ♖e3-d4. Black is ready to grab the f6-pawn.) 64. ♖b2 in his analysis, but worried that 64...e5 65. ♖xe5 ♘xe5 66. ♖d4 would allow Karpov a chance to escape. After 66...♖xf6 67. ♖xd5 c3 68. ♖d1 ♘xg4 69. ♖d4 ♘f2 70. ♖a4 White may just be able to save the game.

Ahh, but does Black have a better reaction?

Let's reestablish the main line of our analysis: 61...c4! 62. ♖c1 ♖g6 63. ♖e3 ♘c6 64. ♖b2 e5 65. ♖xe5. White plays thus, because Black is now ready for 66...♖xf6 and Black's Knight will start to jump. Besides 65. ♖xe5 White's lone try is to go after Black's c4-pawn with 65. ♖d2 and 66. ♖c3 which we will analyze in a moment. After 65...♖xe5 66. ♖d4, Black plays not 66...♖xf6, but 66...♘d3 67. ♖xd5 ♘f4+ 68. ♖d6 ♘xe2 69. ♖e7 ♘f4 70. f7 ♘d5+ 71. ♖e6 (71. ♖e8 ♘f6+ and ...♘f6-h7 wins) 71...♖g7! 72. ♖xd5 c3 73. ♖e6 ♖f8 and wins. Thus, White is unable to play 65. ♖xe5 and instead goes after Black's c4-pawn.

Return again to the main line as provided in the previous paragraph and now continue 65. ♖d2 ♘d4! 66. ♖f1 ♖xf6 67. ♖c3. Black has achieved his ideal. It is always nice to end such an analysis with "and wins." Still, we have to be sensitive to the fact that even in this, the ideal position, Black still has

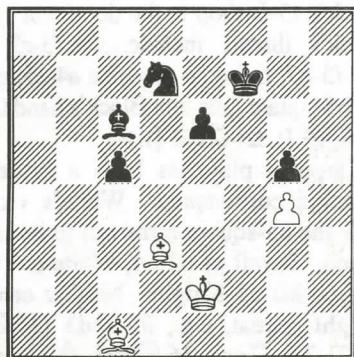
to prove his win.

Black's two most promising continuations are 67...♙e6 68.♙xc4 ♙xg4 and 67...♗b5+ 68.♗b4 ♗d6 69.♗c5 ♗e6 70.♙c1 ♗e4+ 71.♗b4 etc. Both lines are worthy of study. The bottom line: the win lies in this line of play.

62.♗e3 {3:44} ♙c6?! {2:51}

In light of the previous discussion about the ideal setup, it's clear that this move doesn't help. Kamsky is having difficulties establishing what he wants. I still maintain that 62...c4 63.♗d4 ♗xf6 64.♙c1 ♗g6, though it allows White an active King, gives Black winning chances.

63.♙d3 ♗xf6 64.♗e2 ♗f7 65.♙c1 {3:55}



A critical moment. Black's previous play may have made it impossible for him to keep the g-pawns on the board. If so, the game is drawn. Once White has traded g-pawns, his defensive task is remarkably easy. To be fair, I don't see how. Black plays for a win after 65...♗f6 66.♙b2+ e5 67.♙a3, when White intends ♙d3-f5, trying to achieve a Bishops-of-opposite-colors ending.

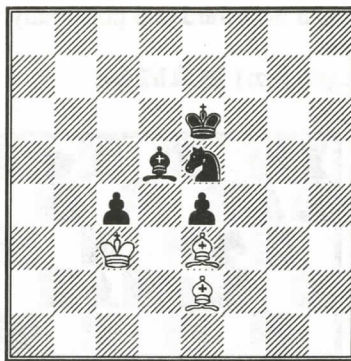
65...♗e5 {3:31} 66.♙xg5 ♗xg4 67.♗d2

Now we will see the strength of the two Bishops as Karpov manages to keep an iron grip on the dark squares.

67...♙d5 68.♗c3 e5 69.♙f5 ♗f6 70.♙h4 ♗e8 71.♙f2 ♗d6 72.♙d3 c4 73.♙h7 {4:15} ♗g7 {4:02} 74.♙c2 {4:29} ♗f6 75.♗b4 ♗e6 76.♙c5 {4:37} ♗b7 {4:28} 77.♙f2 ♗d6 78.♙c5 ♗f7 79.♙e3!

Frustratingly, Black's Knight is beautifully contained. Kamsky has no chance to break White's blockade.

79...♗f6 80.♙d1 e4 81.♙e2 {4:47} ♗e5 {4:37} 82.♗c5 ♙f7 83.♗d4 ♗f5 84.♗c3 ♙d5 85.♗d4 ♗e6 86.♗c3

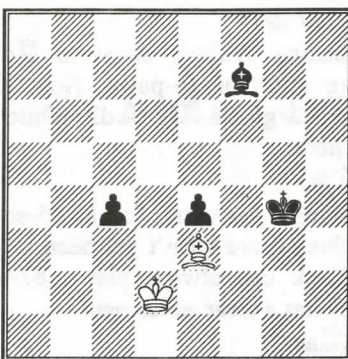


Kamsky has maximized what he can do, but it is not enough. White keeps the dark squares inviolate.

86...♗f5 87.♗d4 ♙f7 88.♗c3 ♗g4 89.♙xg4+ ♗xg4 {4:48} 90.♗d2 {4:55}

There is nothing to be done. After 90...♗f3 91.♙a7 Black gets nowhere.

Kamsky's failure to win this game must be viewed as a terrible setback for his cause, while Karpov must have had mixed feelings. He turned a magical strategic game into a horror show which he managed to save. An unusual, topsyturvy game in one of the most victory driven matches which I've ever followed.



Draw

Nimzo-Indian E41
GM Gata Kamsky
GM Anatoly Karpov
Elista (wc-14), July 2, 1996

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3

Kamsky has been experimenting with allowing the Nimzo-Indian for a few years. Interestingly enough, he avoids taking on the Queen's Indian, a plan which brought him a bright success in game ten.

3...♙b4 4.e3 c5 5.♙d3 ♗c6 6.♗e2 cxd4 7.exd4 d5 8.cxd5 {0:03} ♗xd5 {0:08}

The game has now transposed back into normal lines of a Panov-Botvinnik Caro-Kann. The major difference between this position and the earlier games is that White's e2-Knight is less aggressively posted than it is on the f3-square.

9.O-O ♙d6 {0:21}

A surprising retreat. Usually Black waits to be booted by a2-a3 before retreating the b4-Bishop.

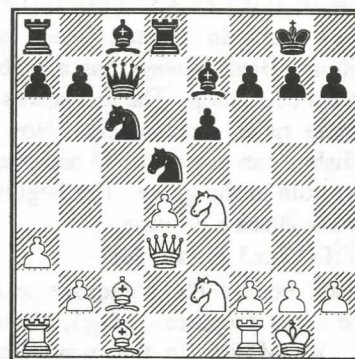
10.♗e4 ♙e7

Karpov has lured White's Knight to the e4-square, lessening its control over d5, but it is strange, to say the least, to provoke White to occupy such a fine central square.

11.a3 O-O 12.♙c2 {0:08}

Preparing to create a battery on the b1-h7 diagonal. Another strategic plan for White is to play 12.b4 b6 13.♙b2 ♙b7 14.♗e5 with a slight plus.

12...♗c7 {0:29} 13.♗d3 {0:10} ♗d8 {0:35}



Well played. A knee-jerk reaction would be to play 13...g6, but after 14.h4

We came to chess not at once. After my divorce, I brought my son up from a very early age... When Gata was one year-and-a-half he could go by bicycle, with the two wheels, of course. When he was two, he could read. At three, he could count from 1 to 10. At 5, he learned the tables of multiplication. At 6, he got musical education and he could play. I decided to develop my son's brain; that's why I taught him chess. At 9, Gata became [a] Candidate Master.

—Rustam Kamsky in *Izvestia Kalmykia*

White has a target in the g6-pawn which he would like to weaken. Black insists that White spend a tempo before he plays ...g7-g6.

14.♘g5 g6 15.♙b3?!

This realignment feels wrong. White should get on with the program of h2-h4-h5. Conceivably, Kamsky feared a breakout with ...e6-e5 followed by ...♙c8-f5.

15...♘f6 16.♖d1 {0:23} ♙f8! {1:00}

This defensive retreat is always useful. In this case, Black makes room on the e7-square. White's attack is stymied by the fact that the e2-Knight is more passive than usual.

17.♙f4 {0:41} ♖e7 18.♖e3 {0:53}

Again sidestepping the possibility of ...h7-h6, combined with ...e6-e5 taking advantage of White's Queen position. However, I don't find the text particularly inspiring, especially as it forces White to give up a Bishop. Perhaps 18.♘f3, preparing to play ♙f4-g5, puts more pressure on Black's position.

18...♘d5 {1:06} 19.♙xd5 exd5! {1:05}

Very neat. In isolated Queen pawn positions, Black always has a problem with his c8-Bishop. The text solves this problem rather handsomely. Now the c8-Bishop can pop out to f5 and play an active role in the game. I'm beginning to prefer Black's position.

20.♘f3 ♖xe3 21.fxe3 f6!

Black covers the e5-square and in some cases prepares ...g6-g5, allowing for ...♙c8-f5-g6. In this way Black's light-squared Bishop is very active and quite untouchable. Also, moves such as ...f7-f6 and ...g6-g5 cover the e5- and f4-squares, effectively taking White's Knights out of the game.

22.♖ac1 ♙f5

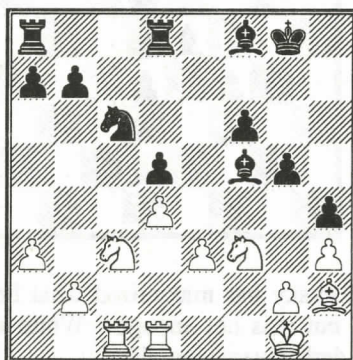
22...g5 23.♙c7 ♖d7 24.♙g3 leaves Black's pieces a bit awkward.

23.h3! {1:17} h5 {1:20} 24.♘c3? {1:20}

White has no clear path to equality, but he's searching for it on the wrong side of the board. It is very important that White find outposts for his Knights, and as quickly as possible! The plan 24.♘g3 ♙e6 25.e4 seems best. If 24...♙g7 25.e5, White is fighting for control of either the g5- or e5-squares. If 24...dxe4 25.♘xe4 ♙e7 26.♘c5!, White is just in time to disturb the harmony of Black's position before he takes full control over the d5-square.

The text also means that the e3-pawn remains a backward and potentially weak target.

24...g5! {1:21} 25.♙h2 h4!



Beautiful play by Karpov. By placing his kingside pawns on dark squares, he covers White's most natural outposts. He also relies on his light-squared Bishop to cover the squares which the pawn pushes have left undefended.

Kamsky is running out of ideas for a plan, whereas Black has a clear focus: complete his development and then turn to the e3-pawn. White is in great danger of falling into a passive position devoid of counterplay.

26.♘d2 ♖f7

Meeting White's threat of ♖d1-f1, going after the f6-pawn. Now if 27.♖f1?! ♙g6 28.♖f2 ♙d3 White gets nowhere.

27.♘b3

White is searching for the c5-square. As this square hasn't yet been secured — Black can always play ...b7-b6 — Black has a clear advantage.

27...♖ac8!

In order to rebuff White by 28.♘c5? b6 and White gains nothing.

28.♘b5 {1:25} a6 {1:35} 29.♘c3

White is now ready for ♘c3-a4 and ♘b3-c5 with reasonable counterplay.

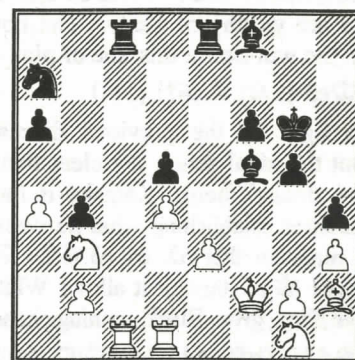
29...b5 30.♘e2?! {1:43}

This is too slow. What is White's Knight doing on the e2-square? White had to play 30.♘c5, grabbing the hard-earned outpost. If 30...b4 31.♘3a4 with the threat of ♘a4-b6 means that White's Knights are working. Perhaps Kamsky feared that 30.♘c5 ♙xc5 31.dxc5 d4 32.exd4 ♘xd4 33.b4 was too drawish and he wanted to keep his winning chances alive. If so, he made an error in judgment.

30...b4! {1:52}

Preventing the possibility of ♘b3-c5 and b2-b4 with a splendid c5-outpost.

31.a4 ♖e8 32.♙f2 ♙g6 33.♘g1 ♘a7



Nicely revealing what is going on. Black's f5-Bishop is the dominant piece! Black's threats include ...♙f5-c2 and ...♙f5-d7, trying to provoke a4-a5, when the b5-square falls into Black's hands.

34.♘c5 {1:52} ♖c6! {1:54}

Karpov's play has been a model of strategic consistency. White's victory over the c5-square turns out to be an illusion. Bereft of b2-b4, White can't reinforce his c5-Knight. Neither can the Knight retreat, e.g., 35.♘d3 (35.♘b3 ♙c2) 35...♖xc1 36.♘xc1 ♙c2 snaps up the a4-pawn.

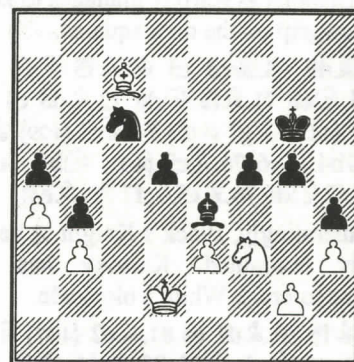
35.♘f3 ♖ec8

Black wins a pawn by force and White must hope that Bishops of opposite colors will give enough compensation to hold the draw.

36.b3 {1:55} a5! {1:55} 37.♙e2 ♙e4!

Black is in no hurry, the c5-Knight is going nowhere. Karpov takes the opportunity to further improve his position.

38.♙d2 ♙xc5 39.dxc5 ♖xc5 40.♖xc5 ♖xc5 41.♖c1 ♖xc1 42.♙xc1 {2:07} ♘c6 {1:58} 43.♙c7 {2:20} f5 {2:24} 44.♙d2



Karpov has played flawless chess, but must decide how to break through with the extra pawn on the kingside.

44...d4! {2:26}

Black has to time his break accurately. If 44...♙xf3 45.gxf3 g4 46.fxg4 fxg4 47.hxg4 ♖g5 48.e4 dxe4 49.♙e3 ♖xg4 50.♙xe4, Black has trouble cashing in. In the Bishop ending after 45.♘xd4 ♘xd4 46.exd4 ♙xg2 47.♙xa5 ♙xh3 48.♙xb4 f4 Black's three connected passed pawns outgun White's two connected passers.

45.exd4 f4 46.♙e2 {2:52}

Kamsky is facing a very disagreeable choice: get fleeced on the kingside or get fleeced on the queenside. If 46.♙b6 (preventing ...♙e4xf3 and ...♘c6xd4) 46...♙d5 47.♙c2 ♙f5, planning ...g5-g4, White has no defense on the kingside. 46...♙d5 {2:37} 47.♙f2 ♙xb3 48.♘e5+

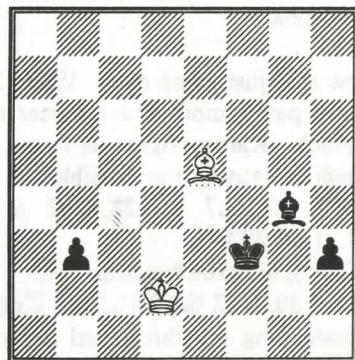
Desperately hoping that the Bishops of opposite colors will secure a draw — no such luck.

48...♘xe5 49.dxe5 ♙xa4 50.♙xa5 b3 51.♙c3 ♙f5 52.♙b2 ♙c6 53.♙f1 {2:56} ♙d5 {2:39} 54.♙f2 ♙e4!

The winning point. Black threatens to invade via the c2-square, forcing White's King back to the queenside and then the breakthrough on the kingside is decisive.

55.♙e2 {2:57} ♙c4+ {2:40} 56.♘d2 {2:58} f3 {2:41} 57.gxf3+ ♙xf3 58.e6 ♙xe6 59.♙f6 g4 60.hxg4 h3 61.♙e5 {3:11} ♙xg4

Karpov's final point. He will just play ...♙f3-g2, push the h-pawn and win White's Bishop. End of story. A fantastic, crystal-clear victory by Karpov from start to finish. Another tough loss for Kamsky as Karpov builds his lead to 9-5. Karpov needs but three draws to clinch the match.



0-1

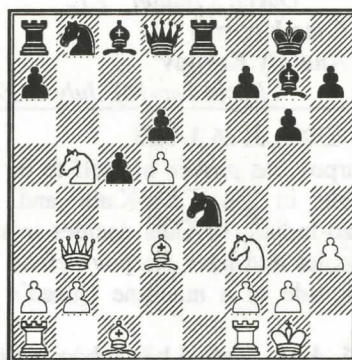
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6

An interesting opening choice by Kamsky. The Benoni is an ultra-sharp Defense very popular in open tournaments. However, at the highest levels it is considered too risky and few of the world's top Grandmasters even consider playing it. Given Kamsky's position in the match, he has to risk playing for victory, even as Black. Since Karpov hasn't had too much experience against the Benoni, it's an excellent choice.

4.♘c3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.♘f3 ♙g7 8.h3 O-O 9.♙d3

At one time it was felt that White's setup was so strong that it virtually sealed the fate of the Benoni Defense. Recent analysis, based on the ultra-sharp move 9...b5, has breathed new life into this variation. The fact that Karpov chose this particular line means that he was prepared for the Benoni.

9...b5 10.♘xb5 ♖e8 11.O-O {0:07} ♘xe4 {0:05} 12.♙b3



I'm not familiar with Karpov's move. The standard move is 12.♙e1, trying to drive Black's e4-Knight away. Tricks abound in this variation and I'm not convinced that 12.♙b3 is the most purposeful move.

12...a6 {0:29}{0:20} 13.♘a3

Black has nothing to fear from 13.♘c3 ♘xc3 14.bxc3 ♘d7 due to ...♙d8-a5 and ...♙a8-b8 with tempo. The text takes some risks. If the planned assault against the d6-pawn by ♘a3-c4 and ♙c1-f4 should fail, White will have spent a lot of tempi getting nowhere.

13...♘d7 {0:32} 14.♘c4 {0:59} ♖b8 {0:47} 15.♙c2 f5 16.♙f4 {1:13} ♘b6 {0:54}

With this move Black solves all his problems. He is able to trade a pair of minor pieces, which is a key consideration for Black in the Benoni. Also he is able to create counterplay by linking his g7-Bishop and b8-Rook together against the b2-pawn.

17.♘xb6 {1:14}

Naturally, 17.♘a5?? ♘xd5 18.♘c6 ♙b6 19.♘xb8 ♘xf4 would be a disaster for White.

17...♙xb6 {1:16} 18.♙ab1 ♙d7

The opening is over and we can see that Black has done very well. All his pieces are harmoniously working (What to say about the b1-Rook?). It is Karpov who must now seek equality. He does this by trying to trade off Black's most active pieces.

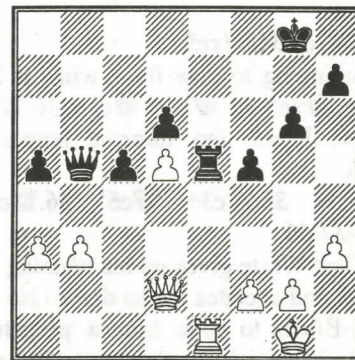
19.♘d2 ♘xd2 20.♙xd2 {1:22} ♙d4!? {1:26}

Black's Bishop takes up an impressive outpost, but I wonder if it wasn't better to play 20...♙b5 or even 20...♙e5!?, trying to trade Bishops.

21.♙fe1 ♙xe1+ 22.♙xe1 {1:31} ♙e8 {1:28} 23.♙d2 a5!? {1:31} 24.b3 ♙e5

White's pressure on the d6-pawn is annoying; so Black "allows" the trade of dark-squared Bishops. Black's Queen was tied down to the defense of the d6-pawn, the text is a natural solution.

25.a3 {1:44} ♙b5 {1:38} 26.♙xb5 ♙xb5 27.♙xe5 ♙xe5 28.♙e1!



Karpov has done an excellent job of hosing down the board.

28...♙f7? {1:54}

In an extremely double-edged decision Black allows White a passed pawn in a Queen ending, which can only give

[From] the first days of our arrival in [the] USA, we never felt any support from [the] American side. After our arrival there, only bad information about ourselves [was] in the air. For example, newspapers said that I was "a criminal and paranoid." That's the way we were presented to [the] American audience.

—Rustam Kamsky in *Izvestia Kalmykia*

White the better chances. The players may have agreed to a draw after 28... ♖e8 29. ♗f1 ♖b5+ 30. ♗g1 ♖e8 or 28... ♖e8 29. ♖xe5 ♖xe5 30. ♖xa5 ♖xd5 31. ♖b5!?, which produces a balanced position.

Again, perhaps Kamsky wanted to play for a win, hoping that White's passed d-pawn could eventually be harvested by his King and Queen.

29. ♖xe5 dxe5 30. ♖h6! {1:47}

Now everything is clear. White will always have at least a perpetual check if ♖h6xh7+ is allowed; so Kamsky must go back. Karpov avoids 30.d6?? ♗e6, which was Kamsky's dream, because the d-pawn is vulnerable.

30... ♗g8 {1:55} 31. ♖d2 ♗f7 32. ♖c3

Of course, Karpov is interested in exploring his winning chances. He could force a repetition by 32. ♖h6, but he plays for more.

32... ♗f6

The only move. After 32...e4 33. ♖e5 (33. ♖h8!?) ♖xb3 34.d6 ♖e6 35. ♖xc5, White has excellent winning chances.

33.f4 ♖e2 34. ♖xc5

Continuing to play for a win. If 34. fxe5+ ♖xe5 35. ♖xc5 ♖e1+ 36. ♗h2 ♖e5+, Black can force a perpetual check.

34...exf4 35. ♖c3+ ♖e5! 36. ♖c6+ ♗g5 37.d6

At last White gives up his winning attempts and accedes to the draw. He allows Black to give him a perpetual check. Karpov knew the moment he got a passed d-pawn that he was in no danger of losing.

37... ♖e1+ 38. ♗h2 ♖g3+ 39. ♗g1 ♖e1+ 40. ♗h2 ♖g3+ 41. ♗g1 ♖e1+ 42. ♗h2 ♖g3+

The players were in time trouble and neither wished to risk claiming a draw

and not having the claim upheld! The five-minute time penalty for a false claim would be enough to cause loss of the game. Reports indicate that the following conversation took place:

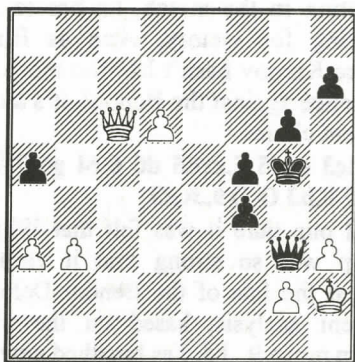
Karpov to arbiter Geurt Gijssen: "Draw?"

Kamsky: "Do you claim a draw?"

Karpov: "Yes."

Kamsky: "I agree, you already made 42 moves."

Karpov: "Really?"



Draw

With this draw, Karpov took another step closer to regaining his FIDE crown. He needs only two draws to clinch the match, or he could win the next game.

Queen's Indian E15

GM Gata Kamsky

GM Anatoly Karpov

Elista (wc-16), July 6, 1996

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3. ♖f3

Karpov has proven himself to be too capable in the Caro-Kann and the Nimzo-Indian; so Gata decides to turn the tables and have Karpov defend the Black side of a mainline Queen's Indian.

3...b6 4.g3 ♖a6 5.b3 ♖b4+ 6. ♖d2 ♖e7 7. ♖g2 c6 8. ♖c3 d5 9. ♖e5 ♖fd7 10. ♖xd7 ♖xd7 11. ♖d2 {0:03} O-O {0:11} 12.O-O ♖c8

Karpov prefers this traditional move over Kamsky's 12... ♖b8, which aims for ...b6-b5-b4. With this move, Black aims for ...c6-c5, massive trades in the center and a hoped for equality. Both players follow the dictates of modern theory for another ten moves or so.

13.e4 {0:03} c5 {0:37} 14.exd5 exd5 15. dxc5 {0:12}

After 15. ♖xd5 ♖f6 16. ♖g2 cxd4 Black favorably regains the pawn.

15...dxc4 16.c6 cxb3

Black's tactics are based on the fact that the c3-Bishop is unprotected.

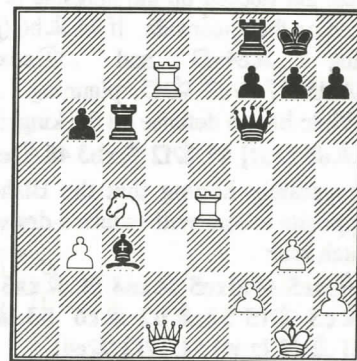
17. ♖e1 ♖b5 {0:51} 18.axb3 ♖xc6 19. ♖xc6 ♖xc6 20. ♖xa7 ♖f6

20... ♖xc3 21. ♖b1 ♖c7 22. ♖xc7 ♖xc7 23. ♖xe7 with advantage to White.

21. ♖c4 {0:15} ♖xc3

Surprisingly, Karpov has spent 70 minutes to establish a mainline position on the board. Conversely, Kamsky has spent less than a minute a move. It is a dangerous mistake to spot your opponent so much time in top level chess.

22. ♖xd7 ♖f6 23. ♖e4 {0:18}



As far as I'm aware, modern theory stops about here and assesses the position as better for White. This certainly is the case, as White's pieces are far more active. Karpov thought for some time and produced a bad novelty.

23... ♖f5? {1:26}

This just loses a pawn. 23... ♖e6 is known — and better.

24. ♖f4 ♖e6 25. ♖dx7 {0:27} ♖e8 {1:39}

A pawn is snipped. Black couldn't play 25... ♖xf7? because of 26. ♖d8+ with mate in short order. Nor was 25... ♖xf7 26. ♖xf7 ♖xf7 (26... ♖xf7 27. ♖f3+ wins the c3-Bishop.) 27. ♖d8+ ♖f8 playable, as 28. ♖d5+ wins the c6-Rook.

26. ♖f3

Now it is just game over. White has an extra pawn, more active pieces and the attack. Karpov fights on to put up as much of a struggle as possible.

26... ♖f6 27. ♖b7 h6 28. ♖g2 {0:40} ♖h8 {1:39} 29.h4!

Utilizing his extra kingside pawn.

29.. ♖g8 30. ♖h2 ♖h8 31. ♖h5 ♖d8

Sidestepping the threatened ♖f4xf6, winning.

(Continued on page 21)

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Inside News

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Short Reports from Around the World

Lausanne, Switzerland

The **July FIDE rating list**, which includes events submitted for rating by May 31st, has PCA Champion **Garry Kasparov** alone on top at 2785. Kasparov was tied for the top spot on the January list with Vladimir Kramnik at 2775, but good results in Holland propelled the champ upward, while his younger rival dipped to third. In the meantime, FIDE Champion **Anatoly Karпов** moved into second at 2775.

The most impressive results for the first half of 1996 were achieved by 21-year-old Bulgarian GM **Veselin Topalov** and his fine achievements show in a 50-point gain to 2750. If Topalov plays as well in the second half of the year chances are he will move into the number one spot.

England has two players in the top 10, Nigel Short and Michael Adams, and 7 in the top 102. An impressive achievement for a country that has a few top level tournaments, but it is not N° 2 in the world on the depth charts. That distinction belongs to **Ukraine**, which has 9 players over 2575, not counting Alexander Beliavsky who now appears on the list for Slovenia. **Russia** is N° 1 with 20!

Other countries with 4 or more players on the list include Hungary with 6 (3 are over 2625 and under 21!), the USA (6), Germany (5), and Israel and Armenia with four. The latter country has the unusual distinction of having a 2635-rated IM! 17-year-old Sergey Movsesian [longtime *Inside Chess* readers may remember the photo of Sergey that we ran in 1990 (3:7:19)] is the only non-GM in the top 100 players in the world, having gained 55 points since

January. Some of his successes have come in Open tournaments in the Czech Republic, where he didn't face the required three GMs due to pairing difficulties. In any event, a monster rating like Movsesian's, which is 135 points higher than the standard for the GM title, means it's only a question of *until* he gets the title, not if!

Gata Kamsky continues to head the American list, up ten to 2745, but must be gnashing his teeth over the failure of FIDE to rate his performance in the PCA World Championship cycle. If his string of match victories in that competition — including a 4.5-1.5 hammering of Vladimir Kramnik — were rated, he would jump up to around 2775. Other top Americans **Yasser Seirawan** 2630 (=30th), **Boris Gulko** 2615 (=44th), **Alex Yermolinsky** 2610 (=49th), **Gregory Kaidanov** and **Patrick Wolff** 2580 (=93rd).

1 Kasparov RUS	2775	2785
2 Karpov RUS	2770	2775
3 Kramnik RUS	2775	2765
4 Topalov BUL	2700	2750
5 Kamsky USA	2735	2745
6 Anand IND	2725	2735
7 Ivanchuk UKR	2735	2730
8 Short ENG	2665	2695
9 Adams ENG	2660	2685
10 Shirov ESP	2690	"
11 Salov RUS	2670	2675
12 Glek RUS	2635	2670
13 Sokolov, I. BIH	2665	"
14 Azmaiparashvili BIH	2660	"
15 Nikolic, P. BIH	2645	"
16 Gelfand BLR	2700	2665
17 Yusupov GER	2655	"
18 Polgar, J. HUN	2675	"
19 Ehlvest EST	2660	2660
20 Almasi HUN	2650	2655
21 Bareev RUS	2645	"
22 Svidler RUS	2630	2650
23 Dreev RUS	2670	2645
24 Rublevsky RUS	2610	"
25 Khalifman RUS	2650	2640
26 Illescas ESP	2635	"
27 Andersson SWE	2630	"
28 Movsesian ARM	2580	2635
29 Kortchnoi SUI	2645	"

30 Miles ENG	2635	2630
31 Leko HUN	2625	"
32 Akopian ARM	2620	"
33 Seirawan USA	2630	"
34 Hracek CZE	2650	2625
35 Smirin ISR	2615	"
36 Speelman ENG	2625	"
37 Epishin RUS	2645	"
38 Chernin HUN	2595	2620
39 Beliavsky SLO	2615	"
40 Lautier FRA	2630	"
41 Tkachiev KAZ	2600	"
42 Georgiev BUL	2615	"
43 Oll EST	2640	"
44 Kotronias GRE	2610	2615
45 Tiviakov RUS	2625	"
46 Gulko, Boris USA	2615	"
47 Sadler ENG	2600	"
48 Dautov GER	2615	"
49 Malaniuk UKR	2585	2610
50 Yermolinsky USA	2565	"
51 Ftacnik SVK	2585	"
52 Rozentalis LTU	2605	"
53 Granda Zuniga PER	2600	"
54 Morozevich RUS	2625	"
55 Kozul CRO	2580	2605
56 Van Wely NED	2570	"
57 Gurevich, M. BEL	2590	"
58 Milos BRA	2565	"
59 Kharlov RUS	2575	"
60 Onischuk UKR	2580	"
61 Krasenkov POL	2610	"
62 Adianto INA	2610	"
63 Nunn ENG	2605	"
64 Gavrikov SUI	2605	"
65 Sakaev RUS	2560	2600
66 Bologan MDA	2590	"
67 Hickl GER	2580	"
68 Portisch HUN	2595	"
69 Agdestein NOR	2585	"
70 Yudasin ISR	2635	2595
71 Komarov UKR	2530	"
72 Lputian ARM	2580	"
73 Hubner GER	2635	"
74 Vaganian ARM	2615	"
75 Hansen DEN	2615	"
76 Ljubojevic YUG	2600	"
77 Alterman ISR	2585	2590
78 Zvjaginsev RUS	2585	"
79 Dorfman FRA	2580	"
80 Morovic CHI	2575	"
81 Timman NED	2620	"
82 Psakhis ISR	2610	"
83 Nikolaidis GRE	2530	2585
84 Conquest ENG	2540	"
85 Lobron GER	2590	"
86 Sokolov RUS	2580	"
87 Eingorn UKR	2580	"
88 Novikov UKR	2590	"

89	Ribli HUN	2590	2585
90	Vyzmanavin RUS	2610	"
91	Hellers SWE	2585	"
92	Vladimirov KAZ	2585	"
93	Piket NED	2570	2580
94	Tukmakov UKR	2595	"
95	Savchenko UKR	2585	"
96	Kaidanov USA	2605	"
97	Nenashev UZB	2595	"
98	Giorgadze GEO	2590	"
99	Lerner UKR	2595	"
100	Wolff USA	2565	"
101	Magin RUS	2590	"
102	Dokhoian RUS	2580	"

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

GMs Alex Yermolinsky and Alexander Goldin shared first place in the **World Open**, held June 29 through July 7. The two good friends, who study together when circumstances permit, scored 7.5/9 to take home the top two prizes of \$15,000 and \$7,000. Yermolinsky won a bonus of one percent of the top prize for winning a special playoff for the title. More than 1300 players competed in the Continental Chess Association extravaganza organized by Bill Goichberg. A more detailed report will appear next issue.

Inglewood, California

IM Jack Peters, the top player in Southern California for two decades, recently won another tournament on his home turf. The 45-year-old Peters scored 7.5/9 to win the 1996 U.S. **Game/60 Championship**, held June 21-23 at the Hollywood Park Casino. Tying for second through fifth place at 7 were GM Walter Browne, IM Anthony Saidy, and NMs William Longren and James Maki. The tournament was co-sponsored by USCF and local organizers Randy Hough and the Southern California Chess Federation.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Bobby Fischer may have the U.S. State Department and Internal Revenue Service blocking his return to the United States, but that doesn't mean the

World Champion is hunkering down in his adopted city of Budapest. The 53-year-old Fischer is said to travel frequently around Europe and makes occasional visits to the Philippines, home of his second Eugenio Torre, but all this movement has occurred outside of the public eye. Now, almost four years after Sveti Stefan, Bobby is back.

The following eyewitness report comes from Mark Crowther's homepage.

Bobby Fischer returned to Buenos Aires, Argentina, after 25 years and it was as if he had never left. At a press conference on June 19 in the Argentine capital, the World Chess Champion was received by hundreds of journalists and chess fans, many of whom had come from all over the world. It was apparent from the feeling of anticipation in the room before he arrived that the Fischer mystique is alive and well.

The object of the conference was to publicize the launch of Fischer's new game, **Fischerandom Chess**, and to announce the match . . . between Philippine Grandmaster Eugene Torre and two-time Argentine champion International Master Pablo Ricardi which begins July 12. Both players attended the conference and displayed enthusiasm regarding the match and the new game.

Before taking questions from the assembled press, Fischer spoke out on several topics. He apologized for bringing up subjects unrelated to Fischerandom Chess, and he then began a counterattack on several companies that he claimed had been defrauding him of

huge amounts of money as well as trying to destroy his image. He targeted the British publisher **Batsford** for releasing a forged and unauthorized new edition of his renowned chess classic *My 60 Memorable Games*, for deliberately making erroneous [and "malicious" was added later to the faxed version of this press release] changes in the text itself and for never having paid him royalties for the book.

Bobby also attacked the motion picture company Paramount, producer of the hit film *Searching for Bobby Fischer*, saying he never received "a penny" from the film. He also mentioned a CD-ROM, *Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess*, that had been made using his name unlawfully. He strongly criticized U.S. Secretary of Commerce Mickey Kantor for not protecting his intellectual property rights in direct contradiction with Kantor's position on Red China, which Kantor has denounced for alleged violations of international copyrights. Fischer angrily accused the U.S. government of a double-standard and "disgusting" hypocrisy in this regard. Bobby made the point that his new, improved version of classical chess will eliminate the large amount of opening study and analysis that are involved in playing tournament chess. He stated that many games are prearranged . . . and that even the so-called world championship matches between Russian players Kasparov and Karpov had been prearranged, and that this would be impossible in Fischerandom Chess.

Fischer also ridiculed the U.S. government for indicting him and issuing a federal arrest warrant in his name for his

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alleged violation of an executive order by then President Bush barring U.S. citizens from doing business with Yugoslavia. Fischer claimed one of the reasons the U.S. government has indicted him and issued the arrest warrant, which is valid all over the U.S., was to prevent him from returning to the U.S. to get access to his enormous file on the first "so-called" world championship match between Karpov and Kasparov so that he could write a book proving that that match was prearranged move by move.

After making these impassioned remarks, Fischer answered questions from the press for nearly an hour. In explaining the concepts behind Fischerandom Chess, Fischer said that although the rules are basically the same as those of traditional chess, each game begins from a different starting position, randomly chosen by the **Fischerandom Chess Computerized Shuffler**, making creativity and chess talent more important than analysis and memorization. He also humorously pointed out that due to such long hours in front of the computer screen studying chess databases . . . many top young players today, such as Kamsky, Kramnik and Anand, wear thick glasses. He also mentioned that all of the study necessary to play conventional chess made it into hard work, and that he had got into chess in order to avoid work!

. . . He stated that without access to databases of the millions of opening variations in traditional chess, computers do not really play chess all that well.

Now the world awaits the first Fischerandom Chess match which will commence at Pasaje Dardo Rocha in the Argentine city of La Plata on July 12. The match between Torre and Ricardi will be played until one player accumulates four victories, draws not counting.

The appearance of Robert J. Fischer in Buenos Aires left no one disappointed. After finishing with the questions, Bobby signed autographs for the dozens of fans who had come to catch a glimpse of the legendary genius. Many of the chess fans had clear memories of his last visits to Buenos Aires in the early seventies. Fischer's popularity here was clearly shown as well by the intense coverage by all the local media. Everyone is eagerly looking forward to Bobby Fischer's next move, whether it be on or off the board.

The match start had been delayed, ostensibly due to illness on the part of Ricardi, till July 17. Now we find out that the real reason was that the Argentine organizers had been unable to raise

their portion of the funding (Bobby was to supply part of the prize fund). Fischer and Torre left when their conditions had not been met.

London, England

Statement by B.T. Batsford Ltd.

We at Batsford were appalled by the remarks reported to have been made by Bobby Fischer about our new edition of his book *My 60 Memorable Games*.

Batsford purchased the right to publish this book from Faber and Faber. These rights include the power to make alterations to make the book suitable for the British market. Accordingly, we converted the notation to algebraic, which is standard in all British chess publications. Our intention was to produce an edition that was accurate and faithful to the original. There was no addition or subtraction of intellectual material.

Bobby Fischer is fully aware of the situation regarding royalty payments. Before the publication of the Batsford edition of *My 60 Memorable Games*, Graham Burgess, the chess editor at Batsford, wrote to Bobby Fischer asking where the royalty payments should be sent — obviously it is impossible to make any payments without this information. The letter also inquired whether Bobby would like to be involved in the new edition in any way. We know that he received the letter, but the only reply took the form of a letter from Bobby Fischer's lawyers, querying our right to publish the book. We can only presume

that the response satisfied them, since they have not come back to us in the year and a half since then.

Thus we really don't see any grounds for complaint, and continue to wait for Bobby Fischer to provide an address to which royalties should be sent.

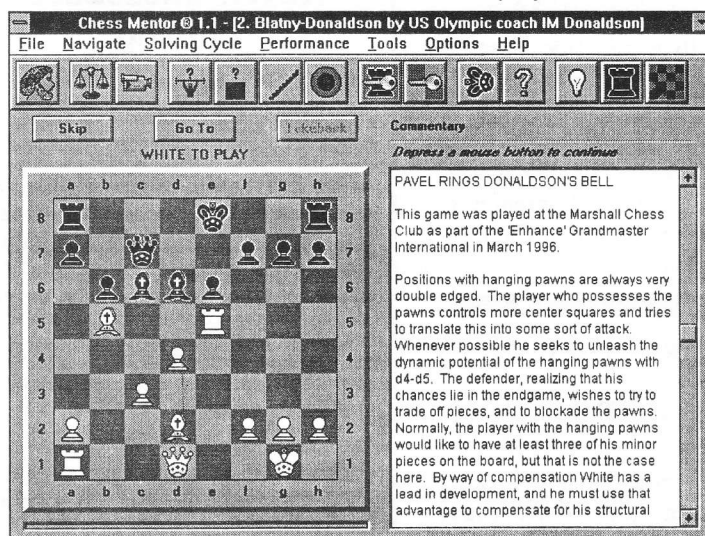
Parsippany, New Jersey

The 1996 Interplay U.S. Junior Championship, held June 22-July 2, featured more than a few surprises. 17-year-old **Jorge Zamora Jr.**, of Providence, Rhode Island, touted as one of America's most promising young talents several years ago, finally lived up to his potential and will be the United States representative in the World Junior Championship scheduled for this November in Medellin, Colombia.

Zamora, who was rated in the middle of the field going into the event, tied with one of the pre-tournament favorites, IM **Boris Kreiman** of Brooklyn, New York. Each player scored 7.5/11, but Zamora won the speed chess tie-break to not only get a trip to Medellin, but also a seed into the 1997 U.S. Championship.

The biggest revelation of the event was the performance of 15-year-old **Eugene Perelshteyn** of Lynn, Massachusetts, who finished third at 7. Perelshteyn, who is coached by GM Roman

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Dzindzichashvili, was an unknown quantity going in. The New Englander, whose father is also a strong Master, had a good result in the 1995 U.S. Open. There he won all 6 of his games, but didn't win the event, since he played the Busy Persons schedule! But there has been little else to predict such a high placing. A good result in the World Open immediately after the Junior further confirms his talent.

Eugene finished above New Yorkers IM Josh Waitzkin and SM Igor Schliperman, equal fourth at 6.5 and GM Gabriel Schwartzman of Gainesville, Florida, sixth at 5.5. The former Romanian junior champion, whose FIDE rating of 2510 was 70 points over the nearest competitor, had a difficult time, and had to struggle to reach 50%.

SM Erez Klein of Forrest Hills, New York, was seventh at 5 followed by SM Dean Ippolito of Boonton Township, New Jersey, and IM Tal Shaked of Tucson at 4.5. Minus-two was a respectable score for Ippolito, who was one of the lowest-rated players in the field, but, for 1996 Samford Scholarship winner Shaked, it was a disaster. The young Arizonan, who was the defending champion, shook off his funk and started playing like Tal in the U.S. Championship which started a week after the Junior. Six rounds in, he had charged into the lead at 4.5!

Rounding out the field were SMs David Arnett of New York and Michael Mulyar of Boulder, Colorado, tied for 10th at 4, and SM Josh Manion of Janesville, Wisconsin, 12th at 3.5.

Julio Bolbochan 1920-1996

Argentine GM Julio Bolbochan, who spent the latter part of his life in Venezuela, died in Caracas on June 28th of a heart attack. One of South America's top players for many decades, Bolbochan didn't play much in Europe, but had many successes on his native continent. Among the highlights were shared firsts in the strong Mar del Plata tournaments of 1951, 1952 and 1956.

Bolbochan, whose older brother Jacobo was a good IM, qualified for the Interzonal on three occasions, but com-

peted only once, Stockholm 1962, where he scored 50%, finishing 13th. He played in seven Olympiads from 1950 to 1970, and when Argentina took the silver medal in 1950, he scored +9 =5 -0, the best second-board result. Bolbochan was a surprise entrant at the 1991 U.S. Open in Los Angeles where he performed extremely well at age 71, scoring 8.5/12, including draws with GMs Alex Yermolinsky and Alexander Goldin.

Former *Inside Chess* proofreader Dan Bailey, now living in Caracas, had this to say about Julio Bolbochan:

Despite his advanced years, GM Bolbochan was mentally as sharp as could be to the last day of his life. He often came to the Simon Bolivar University chess club afternoons where he was long-time trainer of the university team. I personally knew him to be unfailingly gracious, patient and humorous. He had time for questions and games with players of any strength.

One tends to think of ♘d5 and ♙d5 sacrifices as belonging to the Sicilian, but here Bolbochan pulls off both sacrifices in the same game in a Queen's Gambit Accepted.

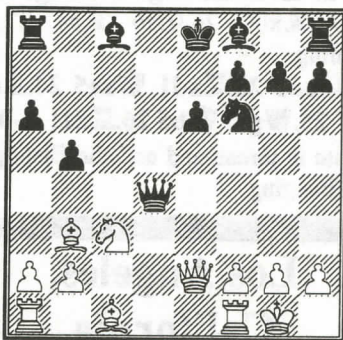
Queen's Gambit Accepted D28

GM Julio Bolbochan

GM Larry Melvin Evans

Helsinki (ol) 1952

1.d4 d5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.c4 dxc4 4.e3 a6
5.♙xc4 e6 6.O-O c5 7.♙e2 ♘c6 8.
♘c3 b5 9.♙b3 cxd4 10.exd4 ♘xd4?
11.♘xd4 ♙xd4



12.♘d5! ♘xd5 13.♙d1 ♘c3

Black has no satisfactory continuation, as 13...♙a7 is met by 14.♙xd5 ♙b7 15.♙xe6! and 13...♙xd1 14.♙xd1 ♙b7 15.♙d4 leaves the second player with insufficient compensation for the Queen.

14.bxc3 ♙b6 15.♙e5 ♙b7 16.♙e3

♙c6 17.♙d5 ♙c8 18.♙xb7 ♙xb7
19.a4 ♙c8 20.axb5 axb5 21.♙d4 e5
22.♙g4!

Extremely accurate to the end! There's nothing wrong with taking on e5, except that after 22.♙xe5+ ♙e7 23.♙xg7 ♙f8 Black can drag the game on. No such option exists after the text.

22... ♙d8

What to do? If 22...♙e7, then 23.♙a7 ♙c6 24.♙xg7 ♙f8 25.♙xe5 is very ugly. 23.♙xd8+ ♙xd8 24.♙d1+ ♙e7 25.♙f5! 1-0

After 25...f6, then 26.♙c5+ ♙e8 27.♙e6+ does the trick.

Moscow, Russia

Vladimir Kramnik, on the heels of his victory in Monaco, further confirmed his status as the world's premier action chess (G/25) player by winning the Kremlin Stars 1996 in early May. Kramnik, who turned 21 on June 25, defeated Nigel Short, Alexander Chernin, Judit Polgar and Garry Kasparov. The matches with Short and Kasparov required the 6'6" (1.98m) Russian to show his expertise at blitz. After going 1-1 with Short in the first round, the two played a 6-5 shootout (White gets the extra minute, but gives draw odds) and Kramnik held on with Black. In the final, the two Ks drew their regulation games and then played a pair of five minutes as the first stage of overtime (an extra stage is added in the final). Kramnik won the first game as Black and then drew with White to win the event.

Quarter-Finals (Dreev, Rubilevsky, Chernin, Bologan, Krasenkov, and Vaganian qualified from a special preliminary event)

Kramnik*	1.5-1.5	Short
Chernin	2-1	Shirov
Polgar	2-0	Bareev
Ivanchuk	2-0	Bologan
Anand	2-0	Krasenkov
Rubilevsky	1.5-0.5	Vaganian
Dreev	2-0	Topalov
Kasparov	2-0	Gelfand

Quarter-finals

Kasparov	2-1	Dreev
Anand	2-1	Rubilevsky
Kramnik	1.5-0.5	Chernin
Polgar	1.5-0.5	Ivanchuk

Semi-Finals

Kasparov	1.5-0.5	Anand
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Kramnik 1.5-0.5 Polgar
Final
Kramnik * 2.5-1.5 Kasparov

Sicilian Scheveningen B84

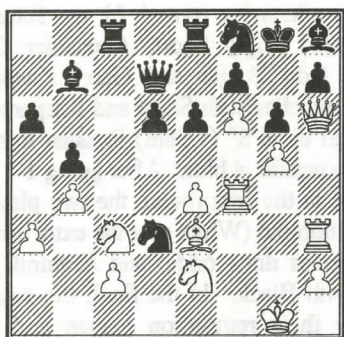
GM Garry Kasparov
GM Viswanathan Anand

Moscow (G/25) 1996

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4
♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 6.♕e2 e6 7.f4 ♕e7
8.O-O O-O 9.♕e3 ♖c7 10.g4 ♗e8
11.g5 ♗fd7 12.♕d3 ♗c6 13.♖h5 g6
14.♖h4 ♕f8 15.♗f3 ♕g7 16.♗de2
b5 17.♗h3 ♗f8 18.f5 ♗e5 19.f6 ♕h8
20.a3 ♖b8 21.b4 ♕b7 22.♗f1 ♖bc8
23.♕d4 ♗c6 24.♕e3 ♗e5 25.♗f4
♖d7??

Necessary was 25...♗xd3 26.cxd3
♖d7 27.♖h6 e5 with an unclear posi-
tion. Now Kasparov has a forced mate.
Can you find it?

26.♖h6 ♗xd3

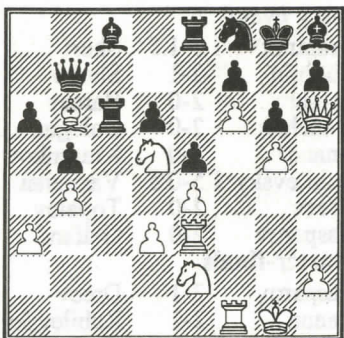


27.cxd3??

Overlooking a knockout with 27.♗fh4!
— ♖xh7+ and mate follows.

27...e5 28.♗f1 ♖c7 29.♕b6 ♖c6 30.
♗d5 ♕c8 31.♗e3 ♖b7??

After 31...♗e6 the position is unclear.



32.♕d8! ♗e6 33.♗e7+ ♖xe7 34.fxg7
♖d7 35.♗h3 1-0

Semi-Slav Anti-Meran D43

GM Vladimir Kramnik
GM Alexander Chernin

Moscow (G/25) 1996

1.♗f3 d5 2.d4 c6 3.c4 ♗f6 4.♗c3 e6
5.♕g5 h6

Avoiding the sharp complications of
5...dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.♕h4 g5 9.
♗xg5 hxg5 10.♕xg5 ♗bd7 — a posi-
tion that Kramnik plays with both col-
ors.

6.♕xf6 ♖xf6 7.e3 ♗d7 8.a3

A useful waiting move that antici-
pates ...dxc4.

8...dxc4

Black used to hold in the center and
develop with ...♕d6. GM Arthur Bis-
guier has probably played at least one
hundred games on the Black side of
this variation. These days, the fi-
anchetto, sort of a mutant Slav-Grun-
feld hybrid, is in vogue and not doing
too badly. Interestingly, Kramnik has
also played this line, though a loss to
Gata Kamsky in the 1993 World Team
Championship seems to have soured
him on it.

9.♕xc4 g6 10.O-O ♕g7 11.♖c2 O-O
12.♗ad1 ♖e7 13.♗fe1 ♗b6

Not a great square, but good moves
are hard to find, e.g., 13...e5? 14.♖xg6!
or 13...c5 14.d5!

14.♕a2 c5 15.♗e5 cxd4 16.exd4 ♖c7
17.h4 ♗d7 18.h5! ♗xe5 19.dxe5 g5
20.♕b1 ♗d8 21.♖h7+ ♕f8 22.♗e4!

Threatening 23.♗f6! Now 22...♕xe5
fails to 23.♖xh6 ♕g7 24.♖xg5 ♕d7
25.h6 ♕xb2 26.♗f6 ♕a4 27.h7!,
queening.

22...♗xd1 23.♗xd1 ♖xe5 24.♗d8+
♕e7 25.♖g8! ♖b5 26.♗d1! 1-0

Mate is threatened and the Bishop on
g7 is hanging.

Los Angeles, California

Three players tied for first in the Pa-
cific Southwest Open held the July
4th weekend. IM Miladen Vucic,
SM Mark Duckworth and NM
James Todd shared top honors at
6/7. Duckworth had a tremendous
result, winning his first six games,
including upsets of IM Jack Peters

and SM Levon Altonian, before losing
to Vucic in the final round.

NM David Kerman scored 5.5 to earn
the best under-2300 prize. Top experts
were Joseph Blitzstein, Gordon Brooks,
WIM Ivona Jezierska, Richard Mattern,
and Ike Miller, all at 4.5. Michael Carr,
Fred Parks, Gene Rubin, and Jaime Sa-
langua scored 4 to tie for first in Class A.

Director Randy Hough fretted over
the low number of pre-tournament en-
trants, but the final count of 153 players
enabled the tournament to pay all of its
expenses and the \$5,000 prize fund.
For the 36th consecutive year, the Santa
Monica Bay Chess Club sponsored the
tournament.

Leon, Spain

Elo ratings were remarkably accu-
rate predictors of a Category 17
(2659) event held this past June.
Top seeds Veselin Topalov (2700)
of Bulgaria and Judit Polgar (2675)
of Hungary shared first place in the
4-player double round-robin with
3.5-2.5. Another Hungarian teen-
ager, GM Peter Leko (2625), was
third at 3 followed by native son
Miguel Illescas (2635) at 2. Elo rat-
ings go up or down in units of five.
Topalov and Polgar, who traded a
pair of wins, were unchanged, while
Leko gained five and Illescas lost the
same amount.

Sicilian Dragon B71

GM Judit Polgar
GM Veselin Topalov

Leon (1) 1996

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4
♗f6 5.♗c3 g6 6.f4 ♗c6 7.♗f3 ♕g7
8.♕d3 O-O 9.O-O ♕g4 10.♖e1
♕xf3 11.♗xf3 e6 12.♗h1 ♖c8 13.
♗f1 ♖e8 14.♖f2 a6 15.f5 ♗d7 16.
♖g3 ♖b6 17.♗d1 ♗ce5 18.♕e3
♖a5 19.♕g5 h6 20.♕e3 ♖h7 21.
♖h3 exf5 22.exf5 ♖b4 23.♗f2 ♗c5
24.a3 ♖a4 25.♗ae1 ♗cxd3 26.cxd3
h5 27.♕d2 ♗g4 28.♗e4 ♖c2 29.
♖c1 ♖xb2 30.♖f3 ♗e5 31.♖e3
♖xa3 32.♕c3 ♖g8 33.fxg6 fxg6
34.♖b6 ♖f8 35.♖xb7 ♖a2?? 36.
♕xe5 1-0

FIDE Championship

(Continued from page 14)

32.♖f7

With the same threat as before. The f6-Bishop is forced to give way, as 32... ♖e8 33. ♖g6 is terrible.

32...♙d4 33.♖f8+ ♖xf8 34.♖xf8+ {1:10} ♙h7 {1:46} 35.♖f3 ♙c5

Black's Bishop has been kicked from his strong defensive f6-position. This, in turn, has left Black's King a bit more vulnerable, but there is some solace in the fact that on the c5-square, the Bishop points at the f2-pawn.

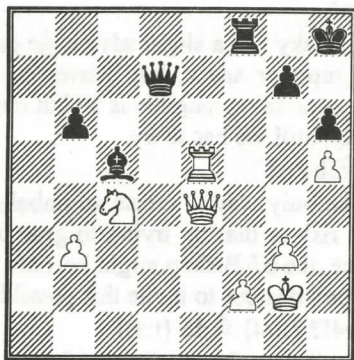
36.♖f5!

The endgame after 36.♖d3+ ♖g6 37.♖xg6+ ♖xg6 is a bit burdensome for White.

36...♖c8 37.h5! {1:19}

Cementing some gains on the king-side. It is easy to visualize the Knight hop ♖c4-e5-g6, when Black's King is in a mating net.

37...♖d8 {1:53} 38.♖e5 ♖d7 39.♖e4+ ♙h8 40.♙g2 {1:39} ♖f8 {1:55}



Karpov has made the time control and he can't like what he has achieved. White has the dominant pieces, an extra pawn, and a combination like ♖e5-e6 and ♖c3-e5 in the air, all of which will ensure a smooth victory. Kamsky merely has to keep his exuberance in check to seal the victory.

41.f4? {1:41}

The combination 41.♖xc5 bxc5 42. ♖e5 ♖e8 43.♖g6+ ♙g8 44.♖c4+ ♖f7 fails; so White is forced to move his f-pawn, but 41.f3 is clearly the indicated move. Why? What could go wrong with White's position after moving the f-pawn? Well, White's King is more vulnerable for one thing. There is the possibility for a future

...♖g1+. In that case, White's King could be chased to h3 and g4. This wouldn't be so bad, as the f3-, g3- and h5-complex of pawns provide perfect protection. But with the pawn on the f4-square, White's King on g4 will be vulnerable to a check from d1.

41...♖d8 {2:11} 42.♖f3

An embarrassing retreat. White had intended 42.♖e6 and the simple ♖c4-e5, winning. Now he realizes that 42.♖e6 ♖d1! (eyeing the h5-pawn) 43. ♖e5?? ♖d2+ 44.♙h3 ♖xh5 mates! Needless to say, if White's pawn were on f3, this line would win for White. Now White has to react to his suddenly vulnerable King position.

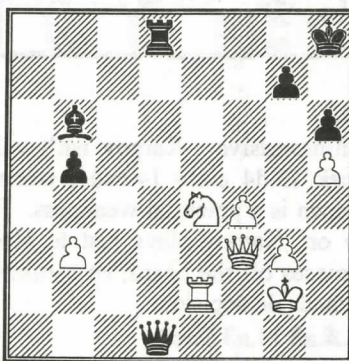
42...♙d4!

Black is just in time to prevent ♖c4-e5.

43.♖e2 {1:50} b5 {2:23} 44.♖d2 ♙b6?!

A surprising retreat. I think that Karpov missed a tactical shot around these parts, as otherwise he would certainly have played 44...♙f6 (44...b4!?, 44... ♙a1!?) 45.♖e4 ♖c6, trying to keep the Bishop near his King.

45.♖e4 {2:03} ♖d1 {2:26}



46.♖f2! {2:05}

This must have come as a rude shock to Karpov who undoubtedly had been anticipating nice counterplay for his major pieces. He likely expected to be able to play 46...♙xf2, ridding himself of White's Knight, but 47. ♖e8+! ♙h7 48. ♖e4+ is immediately fatal.

46...♖b1 {2:41} 47.♖g4! {2:06}

Now it works like a charm. The Knight is headed for the e5-square and tactics include grabbing the h6-pawn or going to the f6-square. There is no counterplay: 47...♖g1+

48.♙h3 and Black has no further checks. If 47...♖d1, 48.♖e8+ ♙h7 49.♖f6+ gxf6 50.♖b7+ and White mates soon.

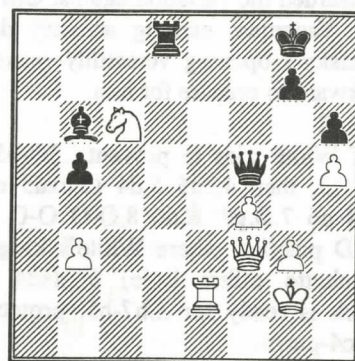
47...♖f5? {2:51}

In a very unpleasant position, Black allows ♖g4-e5. For better or worse, Black had to play 47...♙d4 if 48.♖d2!? ♖g1+ 49.♙h3 ♖e8 and the game continues. Once White's Knight gets to the e5-square, it's all over.

48.♖e5 ♙g8? {2:54}

The 47th and 48th are not two of Karpov's best moves. He seems to have collapsed at the very end.

49.♖c6 {2:16}



With the twin threats of ♖c6xd8 and ♖c6-e7+, winning. Karpov gave it up.

I can only express my deepest admiration for Kamsky. Faced with a nearly hopeless match situation, he continued to fight fiercely in the face of tremendous odds. Contrast this unflinching spirit with Anand's pathetically fatalistic agreement to short draws when behind against Kasparov in his 1995 PCA duel.

The match score is now 9.5-6.5 with Karpov needing a point more to clinch the match. Had Karpov won the match by a plus-four or a plus-five margin, it would have catapulted his rating to first in the world on the FIDE Elo rating list. Certainly this point wasn't missed in Karpov's calculations and he hated to lose this game!

1-0

Needing but one point to retain his FIDE crown, Karpov decides to go for draws, but in this game his play is uncharacteristically uncertain. As a result, Kamsky gains easy equality and takes the fight to Karpov.

1. ♘f3

Karpov blinks. This is the first game that he hasn't opened with his d-pawn. He wants a slow, steady game, thank you very much.

1... ♘f6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 a6

An amazing move for a World Championship match. Kamsky shows his determination to avoid standard lines and to force new problems upon Karpov.

In 1985, I prepared for the Interzonal with legendary GM Viktor Kortchnoi. We did some nice work on this line and I hazarded the variation against GM Rafael Vaganian, earning an easy draw. Kamsky's opening versatility makes it awkward to prepare for him.

4. ♖g2

If White tries to prevent ...b7-b5 by 4. ♘c3, then 4...d5 5.d4 (5.cxd5 exd5 6.d4 c6 7. ♖g2 ♘d6 8.O-O O-O is a QGD position where White's kingside fianchetto offers little) 5...dxc4 and Black is ready for ...b7-b5, protecting the c4-pawn.

Another intriguing idea is the pawn sac 4. ♘c3 b5!? 5.cxb5 axb5 6. ♘xb5 ♖a6 7. ♘c3 d5 8.d4 c5 9. ♖g2 ♘c6 with easy play for the pawn. This sac needs practice to determine its soundness.

4...b5 5.b3

Karpov declines the opportunity to win a pawn. In a vein similar to the above line, White can try 5. ♘d4 c6 6.cxb5 axb5 7. ♘xb5 d5 8. ♘5c3 c5, but Black gets reasonable play for the pawn.

5...c5!

An important nuance. Kamsky isn't worried about the discovered attack against his a8-Rook, but he was concerned about a possible d2-d4-d5. For instance, 5... ♖b7 6.d4 c5?! 7.d5! with advantage for White.

6.O-O

Continuing to avoid lines based on c4xb5. If 6.cxb5? axb5 7. ♘d4? ♖a5! with advantage for Black. Also, 6. ♘e5 ♖a7 7.d4 d6 8. ♘c6 ♘xc6 9. ♖xc6+ ♖d7 gets White nowhere.

The players drift into a standard position where Black's early ...a7-a6 hasn't been punished. Black has won the opening battle and equalizes with no problem.

6... ♖b7 7.e3 ♖e7 8. ♘c3 ♖a5

Kamsky avoids the tame position af-

ter 8...b4 9. ♘a4 d6 10.d4 ♘bd7, when White will be able to engineer a number of trades at will.

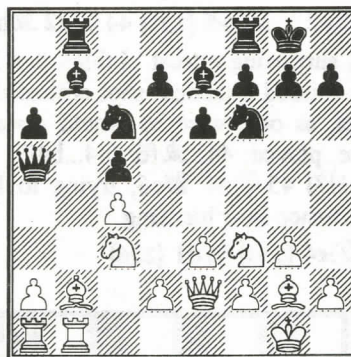
9. ♖b2 O-O 10. ♖e2 ♘c6!?

This attempt to keep the c4/b5 tension alive doesn't pan out. Is the Knight well placed on the c6-square? Perhaps 10...bxc4 11.bxc4 d6 12. ♖fb1 (12.d4 cxd4 13.exd4 ♘bd7 gives Kamsky what he wants, an unbalanced game. White may be better after 14.d5 e5, but the c4-pawn sticks out like a sore thumb.) 12... ♘bd7 Black has a more flexible position.

11. ♖fb1

White again declines the challenge to capture on b5: 11.cxb5 axb5 12. ♖xb5 ♖xb5 13. ♘xb5 ♖a6 14.a4 ♖ab8 and Black will recapture the pawn.

11...bxc4 12.bxc4 ♖ab8



13.d3

Unimpressive. Karpov isn't willing to risk 13.d4 cxd4 14.exd4, when the c4-pawn is a potential weakness. From now on, Karpov plays just to Hoover the pieces off the board, an entirely understandable decision.

13... ♖a8 14.a3 ♖fc8

Kamsky goes nowhere after 14... ♖b3 15. ♖c2 ♖fb8 16. ♘d2! ♖3b6 17. ♖c1, trading Rooks. If not for the match situation, most GMs would start to consider peace negotiations.

15. ♖c2 ♘d8?!

Kamsky decides that his c6-Knight is awkwardly placed after all. Still, I'm not enthusiastic about this decision. Preparing ... ♘c6-e5 is a better way to try for an edge. I'd prefer 15...d6 16. ♖c1 ♘d7 17. ♖d2 ♖c7 18. ♖xb8 ♖xb8 19. ♖b1 ♘ce5 as the way to go.

16. ♖c1 d6 17. ♖d2 ♖c7 18. ♖xb8 ♖xb8 19. ♖b1 ♖c6 20. ♖xb8 ♖xb8 21. ♘e1

Karpov has successfully implemented a series of trades. He should have con-

tinued this policy with 21. ♖b1 ♖xb1 22. ♘xb1, when, in the ending, he could try ♘f3-g5-e4 with a more active Knight.

21... ♖xg2 22. ♖xg2 ♖b7+ 23.f3!

There is no reason not to play this move. Later White will continue with f3-f4, achieving a pawn structure which the late Hans Kmoch labeled the "quart-grip," whatever that means. In any case, the game is still equal.

23... ♘d7 24. ♖b1 ♖xb1

Not a happy decision. Kamsky could risk playing for a win by allowing the Queens to remain on the board, but why? White's Queen would control the only open file and be more active; so White's winning chances would be better than Black's.

25. ♘xb1 ♘c6 26. ♖c3 f5

Kamsky is first to apply the dreaded quartgrip.

27. ♘d2 ♖f7 28. ♖f2?!

This is excessively passive. After 28. f4! g5 (What else?) 29.h3 h5 30. ♘f3 g4 31.hxg4 hxg4 32. ♘g1 and ♘g1-e2 the game is hopelessly drawn.

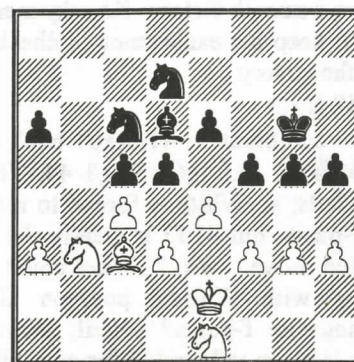
28...g5 29.h3 h5 30. ♖e2 {1:35} ♖g6 {1:27}

Kamsky has a slight advantage due to his superior space, but converting this into something tangible is all but impossible. Still, he has to try.

31. ♘b3 d5

The only way to create an imbalance. The risk is that by trying to grab more space, the e7-Bishop might become bad. Karpov decides to invite this possibility. 32.e4!? {1:44} ♖d6 {1:36}

Declining the invitation for 32...d4 33. ♖d2!? ♖d6 34.f4!?, when the d6-Bishop could become a liability. 32...dxc4 33.dxc4 ♖d6 also deserved attention, as the c4-pawn might be more vulnerable than the c5-pawn.

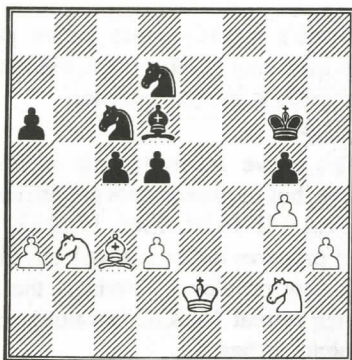


33.cxd5

Karpov has to break the symmetry. After 33.♖f2 dxc4 34.dxc4 ♕e5 35.♙d2 ♙d4+ with the idea ...♗d7-e5, Black has the superior position.

33...exd5 34.exf5+ ♔xf5 35.g4+ ♔g6 36.♗g2 hxg4 37.fxg4 {1:53}

Karpov recaptured this way, considering it easier to trade pawns by h3-h4 than by f3-f4. Now the fight will revolve around trying to prevent or attain h3-h4 and further trades.



Black has the slightly better position, as his candidate can more easily become a passed pawn. So long as Black's g5-pawn holds up the h3- and g4-pawns, Black remains a pawn up in the center.

37...♙e7 {1:46} 38.♗a5! ♗xa5 39.♙xa5 ♔f7

In order to protect the d5-pawn, Black needs to nurse his advantage a bit before launching his center forward.

40.♗e3

White is unable to achieve h3-h4 by 40.♙e1 ♗e5, as the g4-pawn is weak. In this line it would be a dreadful mistake to continue 41.♙c3 ♔e6 42.♙xe5?? ♔xe5, as in endings with pawns on both sides of the board the e7-Bishop is superior to the g2-Knight.

40...♔e6

With the time control reached, the seconds could consider how their players had performed. Black has the advantage due to his more mobile pawns and superior space, but there isn't enough in the position to try for a win. Adjournment is still 16 moves away.

41.♗f5 ♙f6 42.♙d2! ♗f8!

The Knight is far too passive on d7. Still, the key point of preventing h3-h4 remains. The only way to create a fur-

ther imbalance is by ...♗f8-g6-f4.

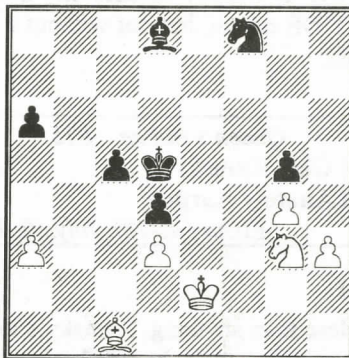
43.♙e3!

Trying to sap the mobility of Black's center.

43...d4! 44.♙c1 ♙d8!?

Of course, Black would like to get on with the program of 44...♙d5, 45...♗e6 and 46...c4, winning. Unfortunately, it is not that simple. After 44...♙d5 45.h4! gxh4 46.g5 ♙d8 47.♗xh4 White has successfully dissolved the g5-pawn and should save the game.

45.♗g3 ♔d5



By dint of some fine chess, Kamsky has managed to build up a threatening position and is now poised for further gains based on ...c5-c4 and ...♗f8-e6. Karpov is in trouble.

46.♗f1!

A fine defensive resource. White's problem is that his g3-Knight is misplaced. Its ideal square is f3. There the Knight will attack the g5-pawn and put pressure on Black's center pawns. If 46.♗e4? ♗e6, Black is ready for ...c5-c4-c3, winning. Since the Knight has to move again, 47.♗d2? ♗f4+ wins; the Knight would only be misplaced on the e4-square. After 46.♗f1! the Knight can go via the h2- or d2-squares to the f3.

46...♗e6?

This move seems to miss an important tactical nuance in the future. Kamsky's winning chances involve weaving together the following three actions: keeping the g5-pawn on the board thereby giving him, in effect, an extra pawn; bottling up White's pieces based upon his superior space; playing ...c5-c4 and achieving a passed pawn.

Gata may have felt that 46...c4!? 47.♗d2 (47.dxc4+ ♔xc4 48.♗d2+ ♔c3 49.♗e4+?? ♔c2 wins) 47...c3

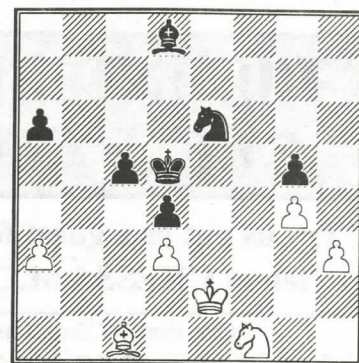
48.♗e4 ♗e6 49.♔f3 wouldn't secure the win, as White is poised to play h3-h4 and g4-g5 with counterplay.

In that case, why not 46...♗g6!, stopping ♗f1-d2? In this way, Black plays to dominate White's Knight. The h3-h4 break is also kept under lock and key. If 47.♗h2 ♗e5! 48.♗f3 ♗xf3 49.♔xf3 c4 50.♔e2!? (50.dxc4+ ♔xc4 51.♔e4 ♔c3 and wins) 50...c3, Black has achieved a protected passed pawn. But is it good enough for the win? If Black tries to reroute his King back to the g6-square and bring his Bishop to the f4-square, White is in time for ♔e2-d1-c2 and to route his Bishop to the a3-square.

If Black's King goes to the g6-square, then White has ♔f3-e4 pressuring the d4-pawn. Black should go after the a3-pawn. Let's have a look, after 50...♔c5, instead of 50...c3, Black wins easily, as on 51.♔d1 ♔b5 52.♔c2 ♔a4 his King will penetrate to the b3-square.

As White can't hold the queenside, his hope is to use his kingside pawns. White has to try 50.h4! gxh4 51.g5 ♔c5 52.♔g4 ♔b5 53.♔xh4 ♔a4 and by snapping the a3-pawn, Black should win.

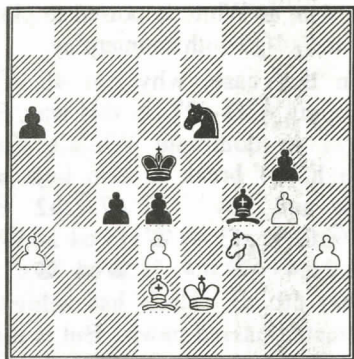
While this long analysis may contain a number of missed resources for White, the bottom line is that 46...♗g6 offered Black good winning chances and would leave Karpov in trouble.



47.♗h2 ♙c7

Forcing the win of the Bishop for Knight now would be a big mistake, i.e., 47...♗f4+?? 48.♙xf4 gxf4 49.♗f3 c4 50.h4 and White's pieces are ideally placed to blockade Black's pawns.

48.♗f3 ♙f4 49.♙d2 c4!



At last, the big break. But White is in time to get his own break on the kingside in as well.

50.dxc4+ ♖xc4 51.h4! gxh4 52.♗xh4 d3+

Although Black has the more dangerous passed pawn as well as a positional advantage, there simply isn't enough wood left on the board. It's like fighting down to a position with a King and extra Bishop versus a King. You're the moral victor, but the position is still drawn.

53.♖d1 ♗xd2 54.♖xd2 ♗g5 55.♗f5 ♗f3+ 56.♖e3 ♗e5

Kamsky gains nothing from 56...d2 57.♗e2 ♖c3 58.♗e3 ♗d4+ 59.♖d1 ♗d3 60.♗f1 ♗f3 61.g5 with a draw.

57.♗d6+!

This seals the draw, as White is able to bring his Knight to a more effective square to stop Black's passed d-pawn.

57...♖c3 58.♗e4+ ♖c2 59.g5 ♗g6

Karpov now sealed:

60.♖d4

and the game was agreed drawn without resumption. There is nothing left in the position, White goes after Black's last pawn on a6 after agreeing to sacrifice his Knight for the d3-pawn. A narrow escape for Karpov and a valiant effort by Kamsky, who has earned everyone's respect for his fighting spirit.

Draw

The match reaches its conclusion today as Karpov successfully defends his FIDE crown, but not without a hard battle.

Queen's Indian E15

GM Gata Kamsky

GM Anatoly Karpov

Elista (wc-18), July 10, 1996

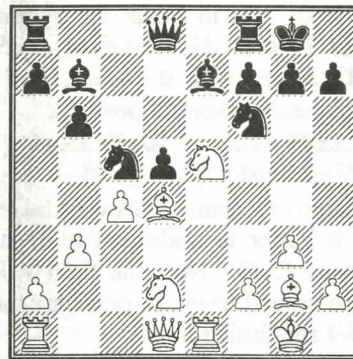
1.d4

More than anything, Kamsky's loss in this match has to be attributed to his abysmal score with 1.e4 as White.

1...♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 b6 4.g3 ♗a6 5.b3 ♗b4+ 6.♗d2 ♗e7 7.♗g2 c6 8.♗c3 d5 9.♗e5 O-O 10.O-O ♗b7

Deviating from the positions arrived at after 10...♗fd7 11.♗xd7 ♗xd7 12.♗d2, which both players have played as Black in this match.

11.♗d2 ♗a6 12.e4 c5 13.exd5 {0:24} exd5 {0:14} 14.♗e1 {0:30} cxd4 {0:39} 15.♗xd4 ♗c5



White's slightly more active pieces give him a small advantage, but making it tangible is another question.

16.♗g4

This move succeeds only in trading pieces, but improvements are difficult to suggest. If 16.b4 ♗e6 17.♗c3, 17...♗b8 prepares either ...d5xc4 or ...d5-d4 with few problems. Perhaps the Karpovian retreat 16.♗b2, awaiting developments, is best.

16...dxc4!

Solving all problems, as the tactics work out fine for Black.

17.♗d2xc4 {1:21}

Only White has problems after 17.♗xc5? ♗xc5 18.♗xb7 ♗xg4 19.♗xg4 ♗xd2, hitting the f2-pawn. Also 17.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 18.♗xc5 bxc5 19.♗xb7 ♗xa1 20.♗xa8 ♗c3 gets White nowhere.

17...♗xg2 {0:52} 18.♗xg2 ♗xg4

Karpov chooses his own method of equalizing. His choices included 18...

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21. ♖e6 19. ♙xf6 ♙xf6 20. ♖xd8 ♙xd8
21. ♖ad1 ♙c7 22. ♖ge3 ♖ad8 23. ♖d5,
when he may have felt that White had
achieved something.

19. ♖xg4 ♙f6 20. ♖ad1 h5!

This is what Karpov had in mind.
The Queens come off the board and the
ending is only a pinch better for White.

21. ♙xf6 hxxg4 {1:24} 22. ♙xd8 ♖axd8
23. ♖e3?! {1:36}

This gives away any pull that may
have existed in the position. Better
was 23. ♖xd8 ♖xd8 24. ♖e7 ♖d7
25. ♖e8+ ♙h7 26. b4 [26. ♖e5 ♖d2
(Black has to play actively, else the
g4-pawn falls without compensation)
27. ♖xf7 ♖d3 gives good counter-
play] 26... ♖d3 27. a3 with White hav-
ing a slight edge.

23... ♖d3! 24. ♖e2 ♖e5!

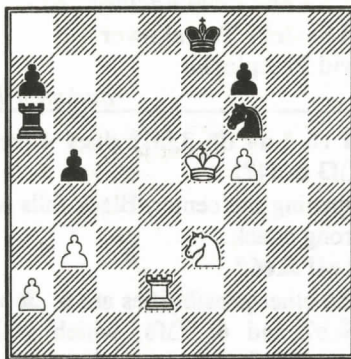
Now everything is copacetic. The g5-
pawn is not even weak and the players
can agree to a draw.

25. ♖ed2 ♖xd2 26. ♖xd2 g6 27. h3
gxh3+ 28. ♙xh3 ♖e8 29. ♙g2 ♙f8
30. f4 ♖c6 31. ♙f3 ♖e6 32. g4 b5

Although Kamsky does his best to
press, he can't squeeze anything out of
the position.

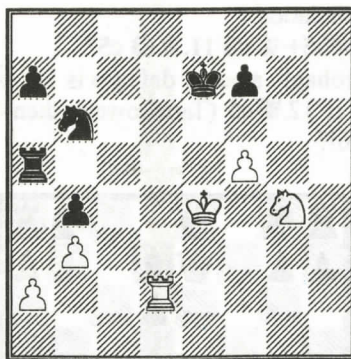
33. ♖d7 ♙e8 34. ♖d1 ♖e7 35. f5 gxf5
36. gxf5 ♖c6 37. ♙e4 {1:52} ♖g8 {1:52}
38. ♙e5 ♖a6 39. ♖d2 ♖f6

Despite White's superior King,
Black can easily hold the position.
Now the players work their way to ad-
journment.



40. ♖c2 {1:57} ♙d8 {1:57} 41. ♙d4 ♖b6
42. ♙c5 {2:10} b4 {2:25}

Setting up the possibility of ... ♖f6-e4-c3.
43. ♙d4 ♖d6+ 44. ♙e5 ♖a6 45. ♖c4
♙e7 46. ♖e2 ♖d7+ 47. ♙f4+ ♙f6
48. ♖d2 ♙e7 49. ♖h2 {2:33} ♖b6 {2:46}
50. ♖e2+ ♙f8 51. ♖e3 ♖a5 52. ♙e4
♙e7 53. ♖c2 {2:44} ♙d6 {2:55} 54. ♙d4
♙d7 55. ♙e4 ♙d6 56. ♖d2+ {2:56}
♙e7 57. ♖g4 {3:01}



The game was now adjourned. There
isn't much for Kamsky to do, but he has
no choice but to continue and hope for
the best.

57...f6 58. ♖e3 ♖e5+ 59. ♙f4 ♖a5
60. ♙g4 ♖e5 61. ♙f3 ♖a5 62. ♖h2
♙e8 63. ♙e4 ♖e5+ 64. ♙d4 ♖a5
65. ♙e4 ♖e5+ 66. ♙f4 ♖a5 67. ♙g4
♙e7 68. ♖d2 ♖e5 69. ♖d3 ♙f7 70.
♙f4 ♖a5 71. ♖d6

Hoping to create an imbalance after
71... ♖xa2 72. ♖g4, winning the f6-
pawn.

71... ♙e7 72. ♖e6+ ♙f7 73. ♖e4

As 73. ♖g4 ♖d5+ 74. ♙e4 ♖c3+ is
good for Black.

73... ♖xa2 74. ♖xb4 ♖a5 75. ♙f3 ♖e5
76. ♖d4 ♖b5 77. ♖d3 ♖c8

Black's b5-Rook is on its ideal
square. Now the Knight is heading for
the e7-square, tying White's pieces to
the defense of the f5- and b3-pawns.

78. ♖d5 ♖e7 79. ♖xe7 ♙xe7 80. ♙g4
{4:41} a5 {4:44}

Kamsky gave up his fruitless attempts
to win and Karpov won the FIDE World
Championship Match 10.5-7.5! ■

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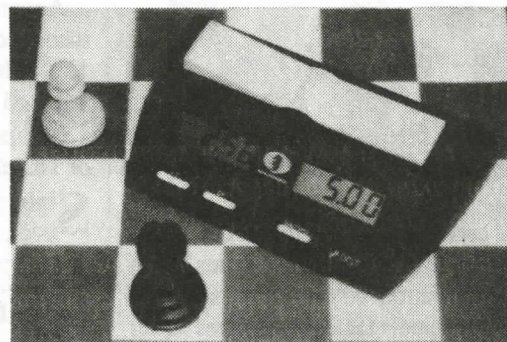
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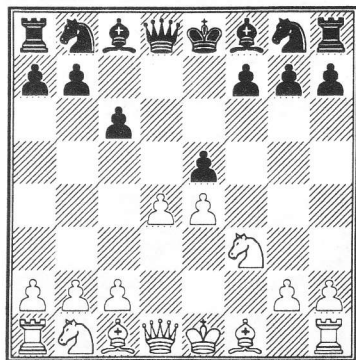
"FANTASY" AND TACTICS

by IM Nikolay Minev

Usually the Fantasy Variation in the Caro-Kann Defense: 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? is connected with the name of Savielly Tartakower, though before him it was already known and played in high-level competitions, e.g., twice by Geza Maroczy in London 1899. The Fantasy Variation was also included in the opening repertoire of Alekhine, Spielmann, Smyslov, Averbakh, and more recently has been used by Hodgson, Smagin, Leko, Lein, Murey, etc.

There are many possible answers for Black against the Fantasy: 3...d6, 3...g6 or the much recommended 3...e6. These continuations don't pretend to refute the Fantasy, but try to slow down White's principal idea of a quick initiative. Not surprisingly, practice shows that the Fantasy Variation enjoys its best success when Black yields to the temptation for an immediate refutation of White's controversial third move with the counterattack 3...dxe4 4.fxe4 e5.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.f3



This creates great tension in the center and stirs up interesting tactics. The games presented below show some of White's typical tactical chances after Black's probably worst reply 6...exd4!? The first example is doubtlessly the most classical.

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
GM Savielly Tartakower
David Przepiorka

Budapest 1929

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.f3 exd4?!

Opening the center, Black falls under a strong attack.

6.f3 c4! f3 e6?

The other possibilities are 6...b4+?, 6...e7 and 6...d6, which will be shown in following examples.

7.f3 exd4 8.O-O e7

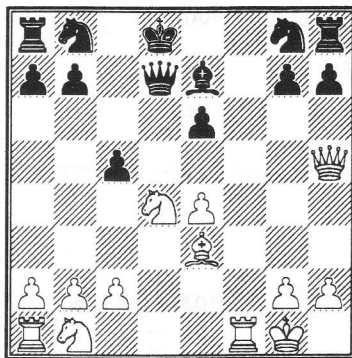
If 8...c5?, then 9.d5! No better is 8...e7 9.d5 f6 10.h1 bd7 11.xd4 c5 12.a4 d6 13.f4 d4 14.c4 xe4 15.c3 O-O-O 16.b5 (16.c6 wins immediately) 16...d2+ 17.xf2 xf2 18.xa7+ c7 19.d3+ xf4 20.xf4 a8 21.xe6+ d6 22.d1+ 1-0, Piha-jlic-Mandic, Novi Sad 1988.

9.d4 d7

Already Black has no satisfactory continuation.

10.h5+ d8 11.e3 c5?

Probably a better defense is 11...d6, and if 12.e5 (Tartakower), then 12...d6!



12.d1! cxd4

According to Tartakower, more resistance would be offered by 12...d6.

13.xd4 d6 14.e5 f6 15.exf6 gxf6 16.c3 1-0

The position is hopeless: if 16...c6 or 16...e5, then 17.xd6 and 18.d1.

Sixty years later White's attack was even improved upon!

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
Zoltan Petyko
Marcin Dluzniewski

East Germany 1989

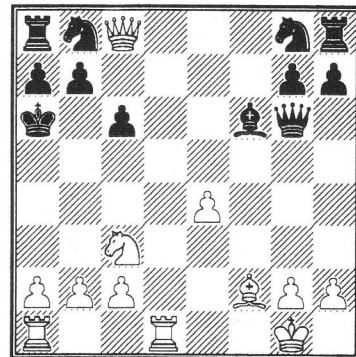
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? dxe4 4.fxe4 e5

5.f3 exd4?! 6.f3 c4! f3 e6 7.f3 exd4 8.O-O e7 9.f3 exd4 10.h5+ d8 11.d1!?

Instead of the previously seen 11.f3 e3. 11...c8 12.f3 exd4 13.f3 exd4 14.f3 exd4 15.f3 exd4 16.f3 exd4 17.f3 exd4 18.f3 exd4 19.f3 exd4 20.f3 exd4 21.f3 exd4 22.f3 exd4 23.f3 exd4 24.f3 exd4 25.f3 exd4 26.f3 exd4 27.f3 exd4 28.f3 exd4 29.f3 exd4 30.f3 exd4 31.f3 exd4 32.f3 exd4 33.f3 exd4 34.f3 exd4 35.f3 exd4 36.f3 exd4 37.f3 exd4 38.f3 exd4 39.f3 exd4 40.f3 exd4 41.f3 exd4 42.f3 exd4 43.f3 exd4 44.f3 exd4 45.f3 exd4 46.f3 exd4 47.f3 exd4 48.f3 exd4 49.f3 exd4 50.f3 exd4 51.f3 exd4 52.f3 exd4 53.f3 exd4 54.f3 exd4 55.f3 exd4 56.f3 exd4 57.f3 exd4 58.f3 exd4 59.f3 exd4 60.f3 exd4 61.f3 exd4 62.f3 exd4 63.f3 exd4 64.f3 exd4 65.f3 exd4 66.f3 exd4 67.f3 exd4 68.f3 exd4 69.f3 exd4 70.f3 exd4 71.f3 exd4 72.f3 exd4 73.f3 exd4 74.f3 exd4 75.f3 exd4 76.f3 exd4 77.f3 exd4 78.f3 exd4 79.f3 exd4 80.f3 exd4 81.f3 exd4 82.f3 exd4 83.f3 exd4 84.f3 exd4 85.f3 exd4 86.f3 exd4 87.f3 exd4 88.f3 exd4 89.f3 exd4 90.f3 exd4 91.f3 exd4 92.f3 exd4 93.f3 exd4 94.f3 exd4 95.f3 exd4 96.f3 exd4 97.f3 exd4 98.f3 exd4 99.f3 exd4 100.f3 exd4

After 15...c7 16.d3 Black is also fully paralyzed, as in the game.

16.d3 c7 17.c8 g5 18.f2 f6



19.d5! f5

If 19...cxb5, then 20.a4!

20.d3 f7

Hoping for 21.a3+ b5 22.b3+ a6 etc.

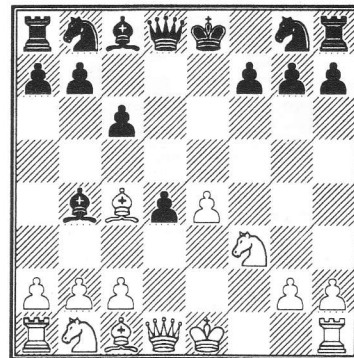
21.c4! a5

21...xc4 22.a3+ b5 23.b3 mate. 22.a3+ b4 23.b3 xc4 24.a4+! xa4 25.b3+ 1-0

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
IM Stefano Tatai
GM Sergio Mariotti

Reggio Emilia 1967/68

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.f3 exd4?! 6.f3 c4! f3 b4+?



7.c3! dxc3 8.f3 xf7+ gxf7

If 8...e7 9.b3!

9.xd8 cxb2+ 10.e2 bxa1= 11.g5+ g6 12.e8+ 1-0

For if 12...♔f6 13.♚f1 mate, or 12...♔h6 13.♚e6+ and mate follows.

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
IM Roland Ekstrom
Wick

Bern 1987

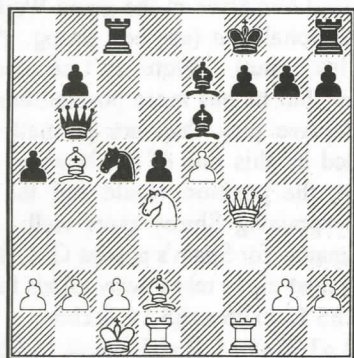
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5
 5.♚f3 exd4?! 6.♙c4! ♚f6

A continuation not mentioned in most of the books, ...♚f6 avoids immediate tactical traps, but still is not enough improvement of Black's position.

7.e5 ♚d5 8.♚xd4 ♙e6 9.♙d2 ♙e7
 10.♚c3 a5 11.O-O-O ♚a6 12.♚xd5
 cxd5

After 12...♙xd5 13.♙xd5 Black loses at least a pawn.

13.♙b5+ ♔f8 14.♚hf1 ♚c5 15.♚f4
 ♚c8 16.♚d4 ♚b6



17.♙xa5! 1-0

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
Richard Teichmann
Jacques Mieses

Berlin (m) 1910

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? dxe4 4.fxe4 e5
 5.♚f3 exd4?! 6.♙c4! ♙e7

Probably the most popular continuation. The idea is a quick evacuation of the King from the center. But, as we shall see, even after castling Black's King has no sweet life.

7.O-O ♚f6 8.♚g5 O-O 9.♚xf7!?

Tartakower recommends 9.e5!? ♚d5 10.♚h5 ♙xg5 11.♙xg5, when White has the advantage.
 9...♚xf7

For 9...♚b6?, see next game.

10.♙xf7+ ♔xf7 11.e5 ♔g8 12.exf6
 ♙xf6 13.♚d2 ♙e6

Perhaps 13...♚d5, and if 14.♚e2
 ♙e6 15.♚e4 ♚d7, deserves attention.

14.♚e4 ♙e7 15.♚h5! ♚d7 16.♙g5
 ♚a5 17.♚h4 ♙f8 18.♙d2 ♚d5 19.
 ♚g5 ♙f5 20.c4!

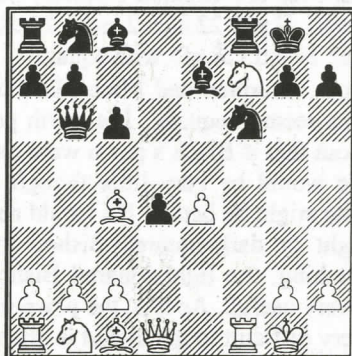
White very skillfully increases his attacking chances.

20...dxc3 21.♙xc3 ♙g6 22.♚ad1
 ♚c5+ 23.♚h1 ♚b6 24.♚e6 ♚h5 25.
 ♚d8! 1-0

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
Mikhail Levin
Machavariani

USSR 1971

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5
 5.♚f3 exd4 6.♙c4 ♙e7 7.O-O ♚f6 8.
 ♚g5 O-O 9.♚xf7 ♚b6?



This natural-looking reply loses by force.

10.♚xf6!! d3+ 11.♙h1 gxf6

If 11...♙xf6 or 11...dxc2, then 12.
 ♚h5! wins.

12.♚h5 f5 13.♚g5+ ♔g7 14.♚xh7+
 ♔f6 15.♚h6+ ♔e5 16.♚f3+ ♔xe4
 17.♚c3 mate

There are many attempts from Black's side to improve the defense with 6...♙e7, but, almost as a rule, White's tactical possibilities prevail. The next spectacular game shows that Black's King has no calm on the Queen's wing either.

Caro-Kann Fantasy B12
Udov
Yury Kaem

Moscow 1965

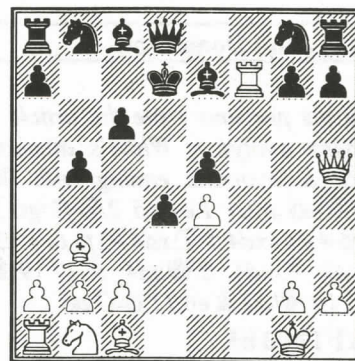
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? dxe4 4.fxe4 e5
 5.♚f3 exd4?! 6.♙c4 ♙e7 7.O-O ♚f6

With the idea to stop 8.♚g5. Looks bad, but even worse is 7...h6? 8.♙xf7+
 ♚xf7 9.♚e5+ ♔e6 10.♚g4+ ♔xe5
 11.♙f4+ and White wins.
 8.♚e5!?

Initiating a promising attack. Also good, but not so attractive, is 8.♚xd4
 c5 9.♚b5 a6 10.♚xd8+ ♔xd8 11.
 ♚d1+ ♚d7 12.♚5c3 ♔e8 13.♚d5
 ♙d8 14.♙e3 (Murey-Kelecevic, Zurich 1991), and White won in 53 moves.
 8...fxe5 9.♚h5+ ♔d7 10.♚f7!

Not 10.♚xe5?! ♙d6!

10...b5 11.♙b3



11...♔c7

If 11...♔d6 12.♚xe5+!! ♔xe5 13.
 ♙f4+ ♔xe4 14.♚d2 mate!

12.♚xe5+ ♔b6

Or 12...♚d6 13.♙f4! and wins.

13.a4 ♚d7 14.♚g3 ♚gf6 15.axb5
 cxb5 16.e5 ♚e4 17.♚e1 ♚dc5 18.
 ♚d2 ♚xb3 19.♚xb3 ♚c5 20.♙d2

When all the pieces participate in the attack, usually success is near!

20...♚b7 21.♚a5 ♚f8 22.♚e4 ♚d7
 23.♚xe7! ♚c5 24.♚xa8 1-0 ■

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The Bind Unbound

The Maroczy Bind Shorn of its Terrors

by IM John Donaldson

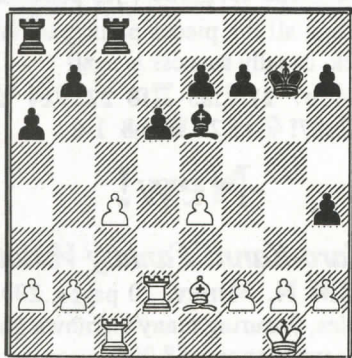
In the previous issue the article had been analyzing White's attempt to reach a favorable ending with ♖xf6 and ♖d5 after 1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 g6 3.c4 ♖c6 4.d4 cxd4 5.♗xd4 ♖f6 6.♖c3 d6 7.♙e2 ♖xd4 8.♙xd4 ♙g7 9.♙g5 O-O 10.♙d2 ♙e6 11.O-O a6

A1 12.b3 b5

A2 12.b3 ♙a5

B 12.♙a1 ♙a5

and we were just beginning the analysis of C 12.♙f1 ♙a5 13.♙xf6. The diagram below arises after 13.♙a1 (instead of 13.♙xf6) ♙fc8 14.♙xf6 ♙xf6 15.♖d5 ♙xd2 16.♖xf6+ ♖g7 17.♖h5+ g7h5 18.♙xd2 h4!



(a) 19.b3 ♙c5 20.f4 ♙ac8 21.♙f1 f5 is equal. Black must answer f4 with the active ...f5 and not the passive ...f6. Black can get a passed d-pawn after a later ...b5. After 20...f5 Black had very good play in Hamdouchi-Alterman, Cap d'Agde 1994, and even went on to win. Also tried was (b) 19.♙dc2 a5! 20.f4 f5 21.♙f3 ♙c7, equal, Smuter-Alterman, Rishon-le-Zion 1994.

Chess Informant 62 gives the two Alterman games and affixes 18...h4 with an exclamation mark, but I can't see anything wrong with 18...b5 of Biolek-

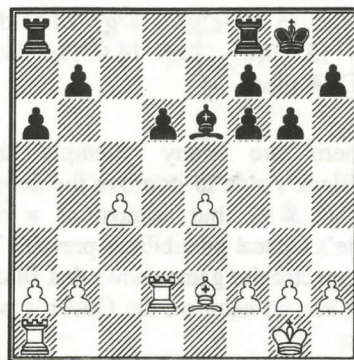
Michenka, Ostrava 1993, which continued 19.♙dc2 h4 20.f4 (On 20.cxb5 ♙xc2 21.♙xc2 axb5 22.a3 b4! 23.axb4 ♙a4 24.b5 ♙xe4 Black's superior pawn structure vis-a-vis ...exf6 is apparent. The passed d-pawn makes a big improvement over the doubled f-pawn.) 20...f5 21.cxb5 ♙xc2 22.♙xc2 axb5 23.♙xb5 ♙xa2 24.exf5 ♙xf5 with equality.

Both Alterman and Michenka's treatments seem adequate. It's worth pointing out that if Black's pawn were on g6, there would be very little thought that White might be better. He would need a Knight or dark-squared Bishop to do something, the light-squared Bishop is not very useful. As it is, the pawn on h4 is very difficult to get at and is often exchanged after g2-g3.

13...♙xf6 14.♖d5

This is probably the most optimal sequence for ♙xf6 and ♖d5.

14...♙xd2 15.♖xf6+ exf6?!



Here 15...♖g7 looks much better. After 16.♖h5+ g7h5 17.♙xd2 ♙fc8 18.b3, both 18...h4 and 18...b5 look fine.

16.♙xd2 ♙fc8

In view of what soon transpires, it's worth looking for improvements, but it may be too late. For example, 16...b5 leaves Black with problems to solve after 17.cxb5 axb5 18.♙xb5 ♙fb8 19.♙e2 ♙xa2 20.♙xa2 ♙xa2 21.b4!

♙e6 22.b5 ♙d7 23.♙b2 or 18.a3 b4 19.♙xd6.

17.♙xd6! (17.b3 b5!) ♙xc4 18.♙f3 was better for White in deFirmian-Fine-gold, Key West, U.S. (ch) 1994. Black drew after having to defend an arduous Rook-and-Bishop-vs.-Rook ending.

Now to return to the main game.

Sicilian Maroczy Bind B38

GM Alexey Shirov

FM Oliver Brendel

Bundesliga 1995

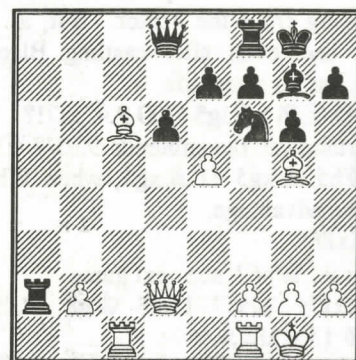
1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 g6 3.c4 ♖c6 4.d4 cxd4 5.♗xd4 ♖f6 6.♖c3 d6 7.♙e2 ♖xd4 8.♙xd4 ♙g7 9.♙g5 O-O 10.♙d2 ♙e6 11.O-O a6 12.♙a1

With the text Shirov signals his intention to play f2-f4. If Black plays 12...♙a5, after 13.f4 ♙fc8 14.b3 ♙c5 we find ourselves in the game Wojtkiewicz-Donaldson (see box on pg. 29 of the last issue). White isn't necessarily better, but he has more possibilities for aggressive play than are normally afforded by this line of the Maroczy. In short, the position would suit the uncompromising Shirov quite well. Unfortunately for Spain's newest GM, Brendel's next move takes away all his fun.

12...b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.♙xb5

14.a3 ♙a5 15.♙xb5 ♖xe4 16.♖xe4 ♙xb5 17.♙xe7 ♙fb8! with compensation (Andres). Alternatively Klinger-Brendel, Bern 1988, saw White pressing too hard after 14.a3 ♙b8 15.b4 ♙d7 16.♙fd1 ♙fc8 17.e5 ♖e8 18.♖d5 ♙xd5 19.♙xc8 ♙xc8 20.♙xd5 e6 21.♙d4 ♙xe5 22.♙a7 ♙b2 23.h4 ♙b7 24.♙a5 d5 25.♙f4 e5 and Black went on to win.

14...♙xa2 15.♙c6 ♙a6 16.♖xa2 ♙xa2 17.e5



17.♖c2 ♗b8 was equal in Ortega-Andres, Cuba (ch) 1984/85.*

17...dxe5 18.♗xd8 ♜xd8 19.b4

Shirov has temporarily put the Bishop on g7 out of play, but has mobilized his passed pawn and has two frisky Bishops. Compensation for a pawn, but no more, as Brendel shows with accurate defense.

19...h6 20.♕e3

Black holds comfortably after 20.♕xf6 exf6. One possibility is 21.b5 ♜b2 22.♜b1 ♜xb1 23.♜xb1 ♕f8 24.b6 ♕d6 25.g3 ♖f8 26.♖a1 ♜b8 27.b7 ♖e7 with a firm blockade on b8.

20...♗d5 21.♜fd1 e6 22.b5 ♕f6!

*The citation for this game is a bit of a guess. The names of the players are clear, but exactly where and when it was played isn't. *Chess Informant* 40 gives this game as a fragment and says it was played in the 1984 Cuban Championship. *NIC YB* 5 inside the game De Boer-Peelen gives Ortega-Andres, Holguin 1984 ch-CU. Unfortunately, *Tournament Chess* 15 gives crosstable for the 1984 Cuban Championship (played April 15-30 in Holguin) and neither Ortega or Andres played! A later *Chess Informant* gives a game of Andres from the 1984/85 Cuban Championship. Perhaps this game with Ortega is from there? Does any reader have the answer to this mystery and the complete game score?

The right time to return material. The text brings the Bishop into play and guards d8.

23.♙xh6

Shirov can't keep tension in the position and has to spend time recovering material. After 23.b6 Black has 23...♗xe3, when White can choose between 24.fxe3 and 24.♜xd8+ ♙xd8 25.b7 ♜b2 26.fxe3. As soon as Black gets in ...e4 and puts his Bishop on the h2-b8 diagonal, he has little to fear. After 26...♖g7 (not 26...♕g5? because of 27.♜a1 ♕xe3+ 28.♖f1, winning) 27.♕e4 ♕e7 28.♜c8 ♕d6 29.♜d8 ♕c7 30.♜d7 ♕b8 White has no way to improve his position, as Black is threatening ...♜b4 followed by ...e4.

23...♖h7

It's very useful for Black to have his King off the back rank and, more important, the h6-Bishop has no convenient square to retreat to.

24.♙xd5

24.♕e3 ♗xe3 25.fxe3 ♜xd1+ 26.♜xd1 ♜b2, while not the same as

the variation given after White's twenty-third move, leaves more life in the position. This shouldn't affect the result of the game, but it's surprising that Shirov didn't try it against his much lower-rated opponent. Perhaps the score between the two teams in this Bundesliga match had some influence.

24...♜xd5 25.♕e3 ♜xd1+ 26.♜xd1 ♜b2 27.g4

Bailing out to a draw, as 27.b6 would be met by 27...♕d8!.

27...♜xb5 28.g5 ♕g7 Draw

In view of 29.♜d7 ♖g8 30.♜d8+ ♖h7 31.♜d7.



This was neither the most complicated nor the fascinating game ever played, but it is impressive nonetheless. How many players are able to shut down Al-exey Shirov's wild style so effectively, especially players rated over 300 points lower! (Shirov was 2695 and FM Oliver Brendel of Germany 2385). No need to fear the Binds that tie! ■

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Ratings

(Continued from page 3)

cal novelties, which were developed together with World Champion Garry Kasparov, and which after our separation I did not need to keep secret.

As for the games, which as far as I know have not yet found their way onto any database, after the tournament I asked the participants and the tournament organizers not to send them before the start of the match between Kasparov and Anand, since I considered myself morally obliged not to divulge the secrets to Anand, but evidently the organizers showed excessive zeal and altogether forgot... Therefore I consider myself obliged to fax several of my original scoresheets and by post or via the Macedonian organizers I will send a disc with the games.

As for anyone having doubts about my number 17 ranking, I should say that not so long ago, in 1993, I was rated number 11 and I hope to return there, but for this I need to play..."

Light Years Away

One can sympathize with GM Azmaiparashvili if he is truly a wronged party, but it's easy to see why Tukmakov's suspicions were aroused. Statistically, the final results are light years from the normal deviation. Not only did Azmai perform 220 points over his Elo rating for 18 games, but so did the little-known Kutirov! The number of IMs who have made GM norms in nine round events averaging close to 2600 can be counted on one hand — as for an event as long as this one, it's probably never happened before, let alone by a player rated 2440. Lack of opportunity could be offered as a possible explanation for the IM's result, but the reality is, barring a great result by some unknown Russian Master from Siberia who rarely travels, that such things just don't happen. It should be mentioned

that Kutirov, despite his 2658 performance, just barely made the GM norm because FIDE rules require that a tournament's Category be calculated by adding the ratings of *all* players in the event. Factoring in Kutirov's rating drops the event to Category 13 (2554) where the GM norm just happens to be exactly Kutirov's score of 10.5!

Tournament Site Exists

What can we be sure about besides the unusual final results? Well, Strumica definitely exists. It's a small town in Macedonia not far from the area where Macedonia meets with Bulgaria and Greece. We also have yet to see a crosstable of the event, let alone one in the *Chess Informant*. It seems very odd that such a strong event should escape the attention of Belgrade-based *CI*, unless, of course, Azmai's plea for a temporary blackout extended to any mention of the event at all! Rather a pity for the organizers who put up good money.

If this event did take place the way that Azmai suggests it did, and he really didn't want to let Anand see the novelties he helped develop as part of Team Kasparov, the Georgian GM would seem to be incredibly naive. Is it really possible to believe that such an event could be kept secret for three months (mid-June till the start of the PCA Championship in September)? Granted Strumica is hardly a major European city. That said, Azmai says the event was very well publicized locally, leading one to surmise that someone in chess-crazy Yugoslavia would have noticed Azmai's incredible performance. Once *Politika* or another big Belgrade paper picked up the story all of Europe would have soon been informed.

And what about Kurajica and Rashkovsky, the two big Elo-point losers? We know little about Bojan Kurajica

other than that he is a strong player who is an important member of the Bosnian Olympiad team. GM Nukhim Rashkovsky is different matter. Well known as a player with a flexible conscience, Rashkovsky has been involved in shady practices. The former Soviet GM was part of a team that nearly won the 1994 World Open. Rashkovsky got off to a good start that quickly became a great start when some of his less-advantageously placed teammates (typically paired with him when they were half-a-point behind) conveniently lost. The dreams of Team Rashkovsky were foiled when tournament director Bill Goichberg decided to pair the last round in an unusual way. Instead of the standard swiss pairings, when Rashkovsky was likely to get a "team" member, Goichberg went out of his way to avoid pairing players from the same country. GM Loek Van Wely of Holland ending up sharing first with GM Minasian when he ground down Rashkovsky in a long game.

GM Rashkovsky is hardly the devil, but neither is he a good character witness. The participation of a Jonathan Speelman or Margeir Petursson — to mention but two of the many honest GMs — in Strumica would be enough to clear this event of the dark cloud hovering over it. The inclusion of Rashkovsky only makes us more suspicious about Azmai's golden tournament.

We Know It's Out There

Where do things stand now? A game from Strumica between Azmaiparashvili and Kurajica, featuring a strong TN in the Taimanov Sicilian (1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 a6 5.♘c3 ♖c7 6.♙d3 ♘f6 7.O-O ♘c6 8.♙e3 ♙d6 9.f4 ♘xd4 10.e5!!) has recently been published in many chess magazines around the world, including *Chess Informant*, but no other details have been forthcoming. While one would like to believe this event was on the up-and-up, until more corroborating evidence appears, it's impossible to say for sure what exactly happened in Strumica. Was it played at a fast time control? Information from readers, especially those who live near Macedonia, would be greatly appreciated. The truth is out there. ■



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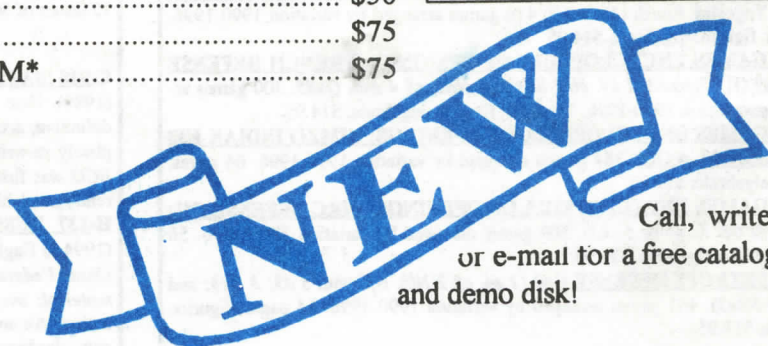
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