

Bulletin

Arctic Securities Chess Stars



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Editor: Axel Smith

Arctic Securities Chess Stars

J. Polgar - J.L. Hammer

1.e4 e5 2.d3 dxc6 3.d4

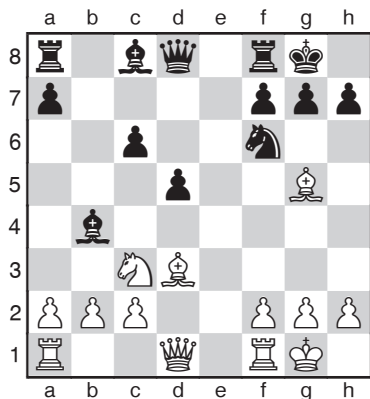
Polgar was afraid of playing 3...b5 d6 a fourth time, since she only made a draw out of three games.

3...exd4 4.dxd4 d6 5.c3

5...xc6 bxc6 6.e5 is the main line.

5...b4 6.dxc6 bxc6 7.d3 d5 8.exd5

cxd5 9.0-0 0-0 10.g5 c6



In the second bulletin there was a game Nordli–Hagen where this position was reached. The opening phase is annotated there, so I leave in without comments this time.

11.d4

A speciality of Nakamura. White's idea is to play c4xd5 and make pressure against the d–pawn.

11...h6 12.g4 g6

In this line play doesn't want to play g6 if it can be hit by d3–c2–f4. Here g6

is a logical move since white has moved in the other direction with the knight g6.

13.c3

13...c1 to prepare c4 once again, is one option.

13...g7

13...d6 is also possible. 14.f3 followed by g6 is nothing black fears.

14.e1 d7?!

Hammer should have played 14...e8 first, to be able to take back with the rook.

15.g7 xe7



16.f4!

Hammer: In the first game I somehow sort of blundered when I allowed 16.f4, but my position was still playable. Polgar: In game one I played this schotch and I think I had a very nice position. With 16.f4 forcing 16...f5, I felt I can gain an advantage.

16...f5

White has a better bishop and control over the dark squares – a slight advantage. Red: 16...f6 17.f5 gxf5 18.f1 g6 19.gxf5 gxf5 20.c2 is better for white.

17.e2 e8 18.f2 d6!

Hammer would be happy changing the a–pawn for the f–pawn.

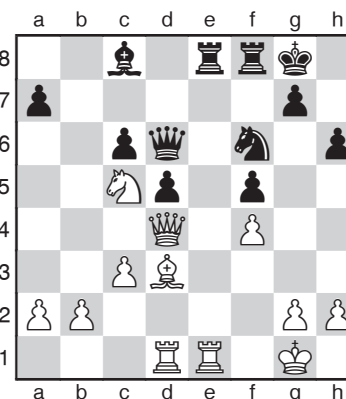
19.ad1 d6 20.c5 c8

Hammer doesn't threaten to go d4 next because of some tactics. 21...d4 22.g4

fxe4 23.dxc4 xf4 24.f4 xf4

25.f6+ xg6 26.e8+. Hammers plan may be to first move the queen to c7 or b8, and then play d4.

21.d4



21...g5

Hammer: At some point I even got so optimistic that I wanted to play 21...g5. In the end it worked out, but I was in some danger. Polgar: After 21...g5 it started to get complicated.

Red: 21...d4 works now. 22.g4 fxe4 23.e4 xe4 24.d4 xf4 when black even looks slightly better.

22.f1!

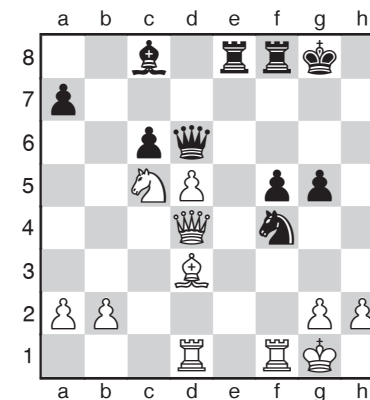
Polgar threatens to take on g5 and f5.

22...g4 should be a real concession, since black has weakened his king's position without gaining anything. Hammer thought for some minutes and continued to play actively.

22...d5 23.fg5 hxg5 24.c4

Polgar: After 24.c4 I should be clearly better, but I misplayed it and I was almost worse.

24...d4 25.cxd5



25...cxd5

Black may want to exchange queen with 25...xd5. 26.g4 d2+ doesn't give white any advantage, but there is 26.f4! gxf4 27.g4, winning.

26.f3

26.g4 doesn't win the pawn due to 26...d2+ 27.g2 xe2 with counterthreat against b2.

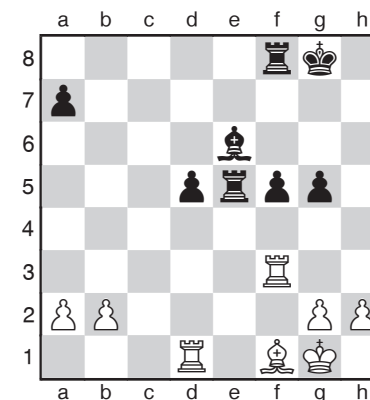
26...e5

The queen exchange helps black to activate is remaining pieces.

27.fxe5 xe5 28.f1

28.h4 undermining the knight seems interesting. If 28...d3 then 29.d3 threatens on e5 and wins the pawn on g5.

28...d6 29.dxe6 gxe6



Black has three pawn islands compared to white's two, but the pawns are quite easy to defend. Black also has an advantage – in space, which makes it easier for him to bring the king to the centre.

30. ♖a3 ♖f7 31. ♔f2 f4 32. h3 ♔g7 33. ♖e1 ♖xe1 34. ♔xe1 ♖b7 35. b3 ♔f5

35...♔f6 followed by ♔e5 looks pleasant for black.

36. ♖a6

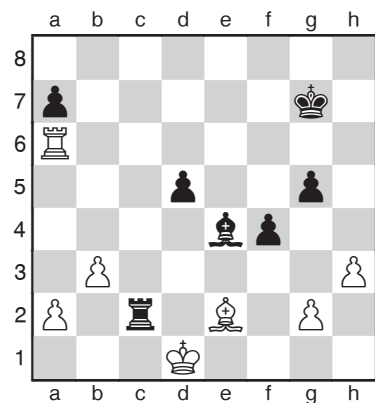
Cutting of the black king.

36... ♖c7

If black starts with 36...♔e4 he allows

37. ♔d2 ♖c7 38. ♔d3 ♔xg2 39. ♖g6+

37. ♔e2 ♖c1+ 38. ♔d2 ♖c2+ 39. ♔d1 ♔e4



40. ♔f3

40. ♖xa7+ ♔f6 wins a pawn for white, but only black can be better here with the passed pawn and active king.

40... ♖b2 41. ♔e1

Stops ♔xf3 followed by ♖f2.

41... ♔f7

41...♔xf3 42. gxf3 ♖h2 is a dubious winning attempt, which is mostly dangerous for Hammer. I think Polgar should wait with capturing on a7, not to allow Hammer's king to reach e3. The following move are not the only ones, but simply one logical continuation. 43. b4

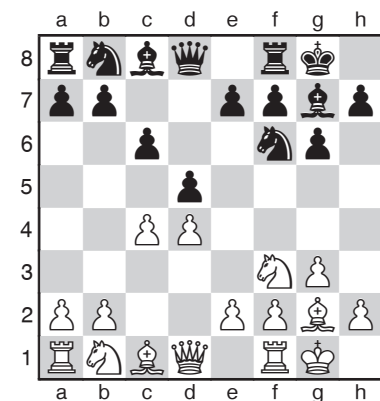
♖xh3 44. b5 ♖xf3 45. ♖xa7+ ♔f6 46. b6 and black can at least not win 46...♖h3 47. b7 ♖h1+ 48. ♔d2 ♖b1 49. ♔c2 ♖b5 (49...♖b6 50. ♖a6! wins for white.) 50. a4 ♖b4 51. a5 f3 52. ♖a6+! Now black can't go to e5 (b8♖ with check) or to f5 (♖f8+, winning the queen on f1). 52...♔f7 53. ♖b6 ♖xb6 54. axb6 f2 55. b8♖ f1♖ and in queen endgames the most important thing is not the number of pawns, but who has the most advanced pawns. White is winning here. **42. ♔h5+ ♔e7 43. ♔f3 ♔f7 44. ♔h5+ ♔e7 45. ♔f3 1/2-1/2**

M. Carlsen - V. Anand

1. d4 ♘f6 2. c4 g6

Anand abandoned Grunfeld after his loss against Topalov in the first game in Sofia, but came back to it once during the match and drew easily.

3. ♘f3 ♔g7 4. g3 0-0 5. ♔g2 c6 6. 0-0 d5



7. ♘bd2

7. cxd5 cxd5 was the mainline decades ago and was played by Karpov and Kasparov among others. The position is symmetrical but white can try to use the extra tempo. 7. b3 is recommended in Avrukh's book Grandmaster Repertoire: 1. d4. Unlike Carlsen he places the knight

on c3 in most cases.

7... ♔f5 8. b3 ♘e4 9. ♔b2 ♘a6

I haven't seen this move before, but it's nothing wrong with it.

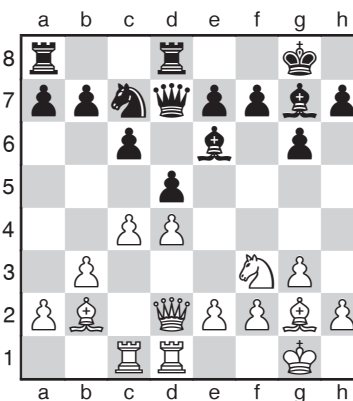
10. ♘h4

White's standard plan.

10... ♘xd2 11. ♖xd2 ♔e6

And black's standard reply. Now it looks like e2–e4 is white's standard break, but it's not as dangerous as it looks. Instead Carlsen simply develops his pieces and takes space on the queen side.

12. ♖ac1 ♖d7 13. ♘f3 ♖fd8 14. ♖fd1 ♘c7



15. ♖a5!?

I am not sure what the queen really does on a5, but it somehow disturbs black.

15... ♘e8 16. e3 ♔g4?!

Anand gives up the bishop pair, to stop ♘e5–ideas, but this gives white a long term advantage. White also has some space advantage on the c–file, but I am not sure if this should be considered as a long term advantage. 16...♖c7 was a better option.

17. ♖d2 ♔xf3 18. ♔xf3 e6 19. ♖dc2 ♘d6

20. a4 f5 21. ♖e1



I don't think Carlsen's next move is a4–a5, since it gives him difficulties to continue taking space. After a4–a5 black probably replies with a7–a6. Then c4–c5 gives up the b5–square, and b3–b4 allows ♘xc4. Instead Carlsen's plan is probably to start with c4–c5, before he plays b3–b4–b5. Since c4–c5 releases the pressure against the d5–pawn, it allows black to play for e6–e5. Therefore I think that Carlsen has to wait some moves before playing c4–c5, probably until he is ready to stop e6–e5 with f2–f4.

21... a5?

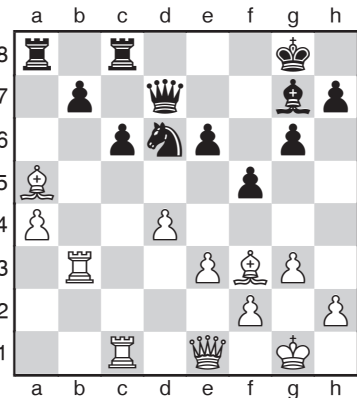
Carlsen: Probably the first game was not faultless, but I felt that I played quite well. I put some pressure on him and managed to win. Well, from this opening white doesn't really aim for much of an advantage, but just to get some position to play and put some pressure. Vishy's 21...a5 is actually a blunder due to 22. cxd5 exd5 23. ♖xc5 which actually wins the a–pawn. Apart from that 21...a5 is positionally a very sound move. In the game I had a bit of pressure, but not decisive. Anand: Essentially I threw away the game in one move, 21...a5. As soon as I went there I saw ♖c5. Magnus

is better even after what he did.

22.♙c3?! Dxc4

22...♜c7 It's not pleasant to have the queen on the same file as white's rooks, but it seems that it's not possible for white to take advantage of this fact. ♖d6–e4 comes next.

23.♙xa5 cxb3 24.♞b2 ♝dc8 25.♞xb3



Black's pieces must defend b7, which gives white some advantage, but white also has problems with the undefended pawn on a4.

25...♙f8 26.♞cb1 ♞a7 27.♙g2 ♖c4?!

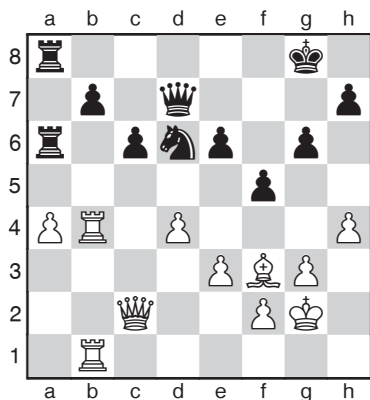
This helps white to move the bishop from a5.

28.♙b4 ♙xb4

28...♞xa4 29.♙xf8 ♞xf8 30.♞xb7 and black will soon collapse.

29.♞xb4 ♖d6 30.♞c3 ♞ca8 31.♞c2 ♞a6

32.h4



32...h5?!

Anand: 32...h5 was not very necessary, at least at that point.

33.e4

This is a good strategic idea when black has weakened the pawn on g6.

33...♞8a7

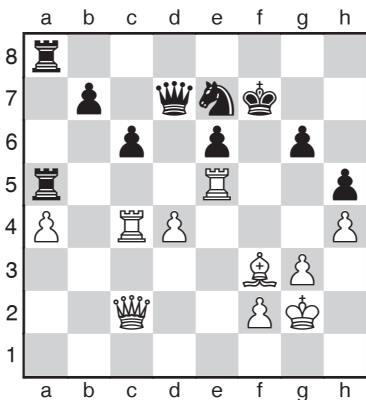
Preparing to take on f5 with the knight. gxf5 weakens the king and exf5 allows d4–d5. 33...fxe4 Anand should have played 34.♙xe4. 34...♖xe4 35.♞xc4 gives white a double threat against b7 and g6 but black has 35...♞d5! 36.♞xd5 cxd5 37.♞xb7 ♞xa4 38.♞c7 ♞xd4 39.♞bb7 and I am not sure if white can win.

34.exf5 ♖xf5 35.♞e1 ♞a5 36.♞b3 ♙f7

36...♖xd4 37.♞xd4 ♞xd4 38.♞xc6 should be winning for white.

37.♞e4 ♖e7 38.♞c2 ♖d5 39.♞c4 ♞a8

40.♞e5 ♖e7?



41.♙xh5

Carlsen: I know I was winning essentially when I got in Bxh5, it should be more or less winning, because black has too many weaknesses.

41...♞xe5

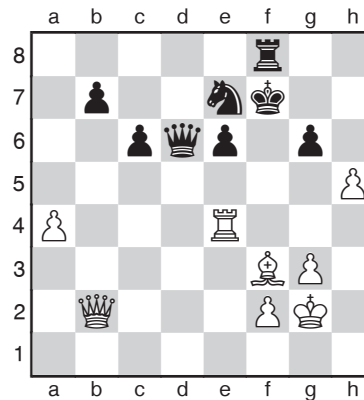
Anand: When I played 40...♖e7 I missed 41...gxf5 42.♞h7+ ♙f8 43.♞h6+! ♙g8 44.♞g5+ which collects the rook on a5.

42.dxe5 ♞d5+ 43.♙f3 ♞xe5 44.♞e4 ♞d6

45.h5!

Exchanges the last pawn in front of black's king.

45...♞f8 46.♞b2

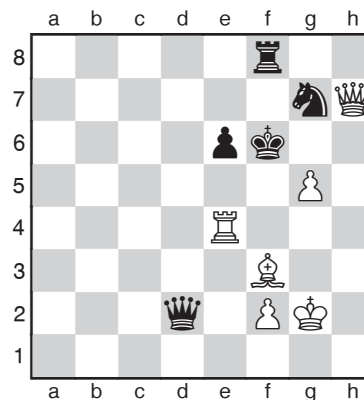


46...b5

Anand sacrifices a pawn to get a tempo defending. That's a good decision, since a queen exchange still gives black very good drawing chances.

47.axb5 cxb5 48.♞xb5 ♖f5 49.♞b7+ ♙f6 50.♞h7! gxf5 51.♙xh5 ♞d5 52.♙f3 ♞d2?

52...♞d8 is best, with the idea 53.g4 ♞h8 53.g4 ♖g7 54.g5+! 1–0



54.g5+ ♞xg5+ 55.♞g4 and black can't defend the knight on g7.

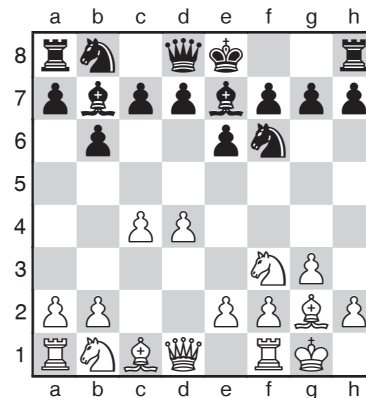
J.L. Hammer - J. Polgar

1.d4 ♖f6 2.♖f3

This move order avoids some of black's minor lines: Czech Benoni, Budapest gambit. It can also be some sort of general Anti-Benoni, for example 2...e6 3.c4 c5 4.g3, which doesn't allow black to use the setup in Hammer–Carlsen.

2.♖f3 also has some drawbacks, limiting white's possibilities against Grunfeld and King's Indian. It also forces white to enter the Queens Indian rather than the Kings Indian.

2...e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 ♙b7 5.♙g2 ♙e7 6.0-0



6...d5

This transposes into the Catalan, the same line as in the best game in yesterday's bulletin, Tiger Hillarp – Kjell Tore Sandum. Black did play this line some decades ago, but now it's considered slightly dubious. 6...0-0 is the normal move in Queen's Indian.

7.cxd5 exd5

When this kind of position arises white has usually spend a tempo on a3, ♞e1 or b3. Three of the members in Kristiansund Sjakkklubb reached this position with wh ♖b3 ite this summer. Independent of each other all played an early ♖e5, so this

seems to be the main plan for white.

8.♖e5 0-0 9.♗c3 ♘a6 10.♙g5?!

Exchanges the bishop and makes black's life a bit easier. Most common is 10.♙f4

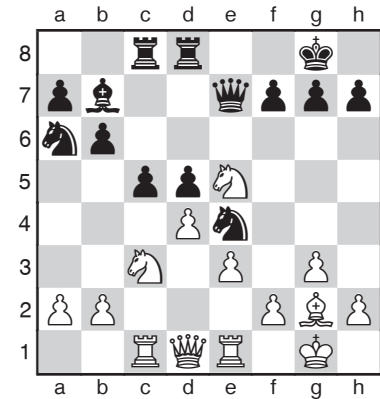
10...♗e4 11.♙xe7 ♜xe7 12.♖c1 c5

In the previous mentioned game Sandum played with c6, which is too passive.

13.e3 ♖ac8 14.♗e1

I am curious to know the reason to this move.

14...♗fd8



15.♙h3! ♖a8

15...♖c7? 16.♗b5 wins the exchange. I can't really understand why Polgar didn't play 15...♗xc3 followed by ♖c7. The rook must be better on c7 than a8.

16.♜a4 ♗c7 17.♗c6!?

Transposing the active placement of the pieces to a slight material advantage.

17...♙xc6

17...♜e8 18.♗xd8 wins for white.

17...♜f6 but 18.♗xe4 (18.♗xd8 ♜xf2+

19.♗h1 also wins.) 18...♜xc6 19.♜xc6

♙xc6 20.dxc5 dxc4 21.cxb6 axb6 22.♖xc6

is a safe pawn up for white.

18.♜xc6 ♗xc3



This is a critical position and Hammer thought for a while here. Black will probably play c5-c4 next. In that position black has a queenside majority while white has an extra e-pawn. White's plan in that kind of position is to advance e3-e4. When this is done d4 loses its protection. Therefore Hammer played

19.bxc3!

protecting the pawn on d4.

19...c4

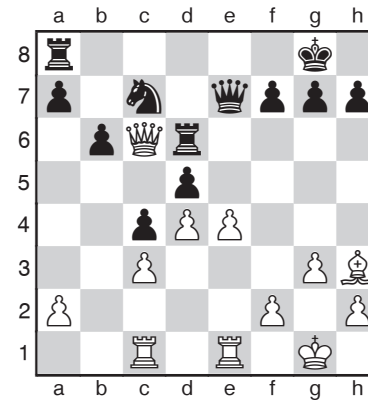
19...♗d6 Polgar: In game two I was very happy with my opening. I wanted to play 20.♜a4 c4. I thought that I had an even better version, but I missed 21.exd5. After that I was trying hard with all kind of tricks, but it was not enough.

21.e4 I think white has some advantage here.

White can either choose to play for activity with exd5 or for a better pawn structure with e4-e5. After e5, white's plan is f4-f5 and either e6 or f6, weakening black's king.

20.e4 ♗d6

20...♜d6 21.exd5 ♗xd5 22.♖e8+ also wins for white.; 20...dxc4 21.♖xc4 and c4 drops off.



21.exd5! ♗d8

21...♖xc6 Surprisingly black can hold on to the material with 22.♖xc7 ♗xd5 23.♗d7 ♗f6 24.♙g2 ♖cc8! 25.♖e7 ♗f8 26.♖ce1 ♖e8!! which is difficult to find in a rapid game. Instead, white can play 25.♖b7 with a clear advantage due to the active pieces.

22.♜xc4 ♗xd5 23.♖e5

Just like in his win against Carlsen Hammer continues to play actively after he won material. This is what you should do, but many players become satisfied and start to defend in such conditions.

23...♖b8 24.♖ce1 a5 25.♙g2 ♗f6 26.♖e7 ♜f8 27.♜c7 ♖bd8 28.♙c6

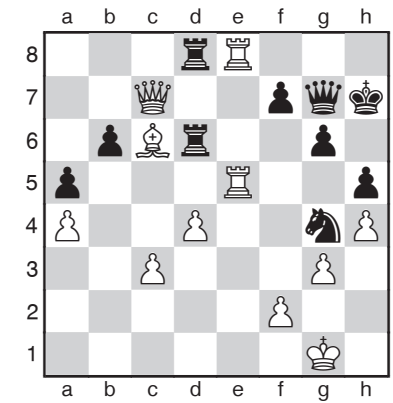
Black is almost without moves here, but it's also difficult for Hammer to find a good plan.

28...h5 29.h4 g6 30.a4 ♜g7 31.♖1e5

31.♜xb6 picks up another pawn and

31...♖c8 is simply met by 32.♖c7

31...♗g4 32.♖e8+ ♗h7



33.♖xd8?

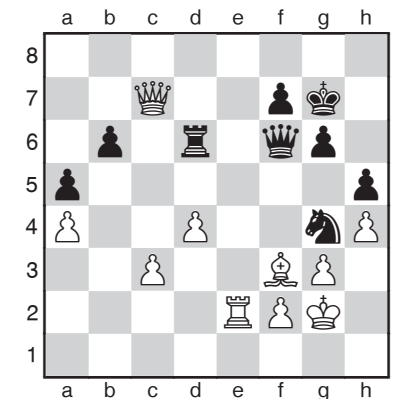
This move was played instantly by Hammer and is in fact a mistake.

33.♖xh5+! gxh5 34.♙c4+ ♖g6 35.♜xd8 forces resignation. 33.♖5e7 also wins on the spot.

33...♜f6! 34.♖e2!

34.f3 ♖xc6 35.♜b8 ♖xc3! (35...♜xf3 36.♖h8+ ♗g7 37.♜f8+ ♗f6 38.♜d8+ ♗g7 39.♖g8+ ♗h7 40.♖xh5+ gxh5 41.♖h8+ ♗g7 42.♜g8+ ♗f6 43.♜g5+ ♗e6 44.♖c8+ ♗d6 45.♜d8# is no line you want to calculate in a rapid game; 35...♗xc5 36.dxc5 and black is forced to retreat to g7.) 36.♖cc8 ♖c1+ 37.♗g2 ♖c2+ 38.♗g1 draws.

34...♖xd8 35.♗g2 ♗d6 36.♙f3 ♗g7



37. ♖e7!

White is still a pawn up, but black is not completely passive anymore. A wise and good decision. The endgame is easily winning for white.

37... ♖d8 38. ♗xf6+ ♟xf6 39. ♕c6 ♜d6 40. ♕b5 ♔d5 41. ♜c2 ♜d8 42. ♔f3 ♔f6 43. ♔e4 ♔c7 44. ♕c6 ♔e7 45. ♖b2 ♖b8 46. ♕d5 b5!?

A last desperate try, which is born out of necessity. 46... ♔xd5 is the ⊕hard⊕ defence, which Kramnik should have chosen, but Hammer shouldn't have any problems winning this with his active king.

47. axb5 f5+ 48. ♔e5 ♜xb5 49. ♜xb5 ♔xb5 50. c4 ♔c3 51. c5 a4

Now black threatens to promote the a-pawn after 52... ♔xd5.

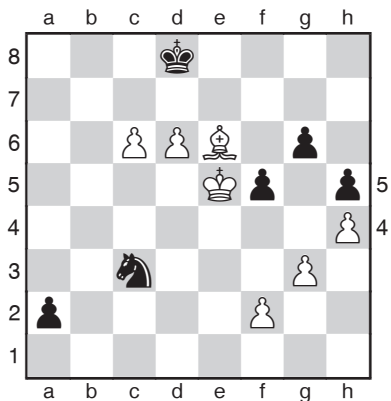
52. ♕e6 a3 53. d5 a2 54. d6+ ♔d8?

54... ♔c8 is the best move, although white wins easily with 55. ♕xa2 ♔xa2 56. ♔f6

One possible finish could be 56... ♔c3 57. ♔xg6 ♔e4 58. ♔xh5 ♔xf2 59. c6 ♔e4 60. d7+ ♔d8 61. ♔g6 ♔xg3 62. h5

55. c6 1-0

Polgar resigned due to 55. c6 a1 ♖ 56. c7+ ♔c8 57. c8 ♖#



V. Anand - M. Carlsen

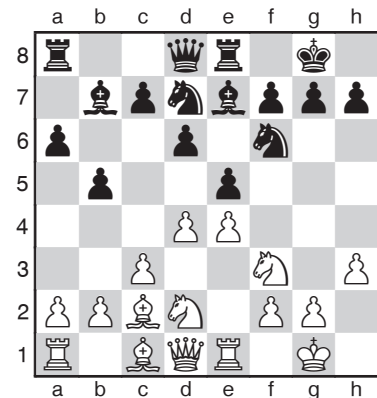
1. e4 e5 2. ♖f3 ♔c6 3. ♕b5 a6 4. ♕a4 ♔f6 5. 0-0 ♕e7 6. ♖e1 b5 7. ♕b3 0-0 8. h3

For the opening phase, see Berg-Kosteniuk in the second bulletin.

8... d6 9. c3 ♔b8

This is Breyer, an old and trusted line in Ruy Lopez. Black uses two moves to place his knight on the best square and prepare c5.

10. d4 ♔bd7 11. ♔bd2 ♕b7 12. ♕c2 ♜e8



13. a4

The main move is 13. ♔f1, continuing with the standard knight maneuver.

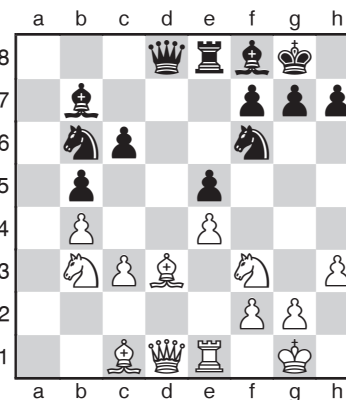
13... ♕f8 14. ♕d3 c6 15. b4 ♔b6 16. axb5

After 16. a5 black simply goes back with 16... ♔bd7, and is happy that the a-file is closed. Now, when there's no pressure against b5 anymore, c6-c5 is a strong pawn break.

16... axb5 17. ♜xa8 ♕xa8 18. ♔b3 ♕b7

19. dxe5 dxe5

Anand exchanges in the centre, thus creating identical pawn structures.



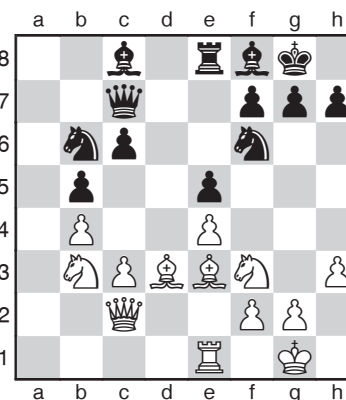
20. ♕e3?!

I think this move is a slight mistake, and that white should play ♔a5, ♖c2, ♕c2 and c3-c4.

20... ♕c8

Carlsen: In the second game I chose an opening variation where I am almost known to be slightly worse, but it's very solid. I thought I had some good moves and then I was completely okay.

21. ♖c2 ♖c7



Let's stop here and think about the position. White has lost five tempos so far (♕b5-a4-b3-c2-d3 and ♜xa8) while black has lost eight tempos going forth and back (♔b8-c6-b8, ♕c8-b7-c8, ♕b7-a8-b7 and ♕f8-c7-f8). The last

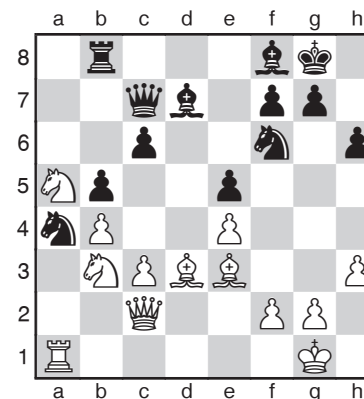
one can't really be seen a loss of tempo, because black castled in between and the bishop is quite well placed at f8. Anyway, the white's and black's position is identical except that white has three extra tempos (♕d3, ♕c3, h3). It's not easy to use this tempo for something. c3-c4 should probably be white's plan, but first he needs to protect the pawn on b4.

22. ♔a5 ♕d7 23. ♖c1?!

I don't understand this move, and Anand didn't manage to show the point of it during the game. 23. ♖b1 followed by c4 suggests itself.

23... h6 24. ♔d2 ♔a4 25. ♔db3 ♖b8

26. ♖a1



26... c5!

Black was the first to get in the important pawn break.

27. bxc5 ♔xc5 28. ♔xc5 1/2-1/2

Anand has a slightly worse position here, but it will probably equalize in a few moves. I am surprised that he didn't play on, since the difference between drawing (1/2-1/2) and losing (0-2) is only academic. Perhaps he thought that 0-2 would put in a difficult psychological situation at upcoming games against Carlsen.

Interviews

Viswanathan Anand



About the tournament

- I would say more or less I am satisfied, but also against Hammer I was suffering. The problem is that I have not played rapid tournaments since Mainz, so it was nice to play one.

- Obviously it's a pity to lose the final. Basically it was pretty pathetic. It would have been nice to play some decent game, but today it was not happening.

How important was this match, since you may meet Carlsen later in a World Championship match?

- Well, you never want to do badly, but it's not necessary to put everything in context. Magnus is a huge talent, he was stronger today.

About his tournament schedule

- After Bilbao we [Anand & Carlsen-red] play four tournaments together.

Do you have a campaign taking back the place as the world's highest rated player?

Magnus Carlsen



About the tournament

- Well, it's nice to win if you play the world champion, that's for sure. But of course, it would have probably made little bit if there had been more games, but obviously it's still great. I am very happy with the games I played today, at least compared to what I did previous days. As everyone can see it was not very impressive.

About his tournament schedule

- Well, basically I will always be playing tournaments, like in New York, then Bilbao and Nanjing.

Jon Ludvig Hammer



About the tournament

- I am very happy about myself for sure. In this field I am the rook, but I got a lot of good position. I spoiled a couple, so I feel I can do even better.

About his ambitions

- Well, my ambition is to play good chess, and if I play good chess, it will hopefully be visible in my results. That is my goal.



Final

Magnus Carlsen - V. Anand 1½-½

Bronze Final

J.L. Hammer - Judit Polgar 1½-½

Judit Polgar



About the tournament

- In the first game I had clearly favourable position after the opening. Then I was over optimistic. If the first games goes well, it can continue in the tournament. Definitely I need some positive results to feel better.

About her ambitions

- I want to come back to top 20 in the world. But well, generally speaking I played very little, actually most of my mistakes depended on the lack of playing. So I try to play more in the future and hope to get back my practical strength.

About her tournament schedule

- In a week time I meet Magnus in New York, I try to help the audience to beat Magnus. After that I go to the Olympic, then a rapid in Rome, and a rapid in Cap d'Adge, and then Mexico. So I am pretty busy.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
GM Judit Polgar	0 ¹	0 ²³	½ ⁴	½ ²	0	½ ³
GM Viswanathan Anand	1 ³¹	1	½ ⁴³	1	1 ¹⁴	½
GM Jon Ludvig Hammer	0 ²	0 ⁴	½ ¹	0 ²	1 ⁴¹	½
GM Magnus Carlsen	1 ¹	1 ³²	½	½ ¹³	0	½ ²



