

The Right Move

#41



2010 JUL

English Chess Federation—Junior Chess Magazine

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NORWEGIAN ADVENTURES



U12 Group to Oslo 2010

We assembled at Heathrow Terminal 3 at a sensible time in the afternoon. where we met the group. This consisted of Sam Aggarwal, Natalie Cass, Alexei Davis, Robert Fitzgerald, Alexander Harris, Toby Harris, Tibo Rushbrooke and Katherine Shepherd with Glynis and Peter Purland as leaders. We assembled safely airside having checked in quickly and efficiently (very well done SAS). The flight to Oslo was problem free and we got a train in to the centre where we met Simen and our hosts.

As it was nearly 10 p.m. we then went to our billets for the night. We all met at Simen's school in the morning where we had a rapid play tournament. This consisted of six-20 minute games and both nationalities were hoping to improve on their performances in the Eurovision Song Contest. Our final scores were as follows (obviously some of our matches were inter group):

Sam Aggarwal 3½, Natalie Cass 3, Alexei Davis 4½, Robert Fitzgerald 3, Alexander Harris 4, Toby Harris 3, Tibo Rushbrooke 4. Katherine Shepherd 3. This meant that Alexei got a trophy for 3rd place, Alex came 5th, Tibo 6th.

We then took some group photos before we returned to our billets. Monday the players joined Simen and some of our hosts for a coaching session at the School and had lunch there before heading in to the centre of Oslo. We had a good look round what is a rather small centre (it only has 500,000 inhabitants) seeing the Royal Palace, Waterfront, and Parliament Building before going to the offices of the main newspaper and up to the 10th floor for a panorama of Oslo.

We also saw a game by Arian in Simen's column. We then went, by minibus, to the Opera House where we went to the roof for some more great views before heading for our evening entertainment which was a BBQ and games evening. It took place in an area by some flats where Tibo was staying and all of us had a marvellous evening. The kids played soccer, basketball, boules and, of course, chess whilst the adults cooked and chat-

ted. The kids were perfectly happy so we just watched them enjoying themselves until about 2030 when we dispersed to our billets. Tuesday we had another training morning with arrival after 0900 and some introductory puzzles with both groups working together.

Then Jon-Luvig Hammer, a 2635 gm, dropped in and went over one of his games. In fact he stayed with us all afternoon and joined in all the activities. It was a great morning interacting with two gms.

After a school lunch we headed for the museum area and visited the Kon Tiki and Fram Museums where eight English and four Norwegians spent 1½ hours looking at the boats and reading about the adventures. I was impressed by the interest the kids showed.

Then it was down to the beach with something to eat once we got there and then swimming or chess. Five of our players braved the waters of the Oslo fjord! Natalie claimed first in although Tibo swam the furthest.

Our final stop was Oslo Chess Club where Sverre Johnsen is still in charge of the juniors. I last brought a team here in 1993! The match consisted of two 30 minute games with 10 second add on in the last 5 minutes. The match proved hard, partly because we are not as good at rapid chess and partly because their top five boards are all current or former Nordic Champions.

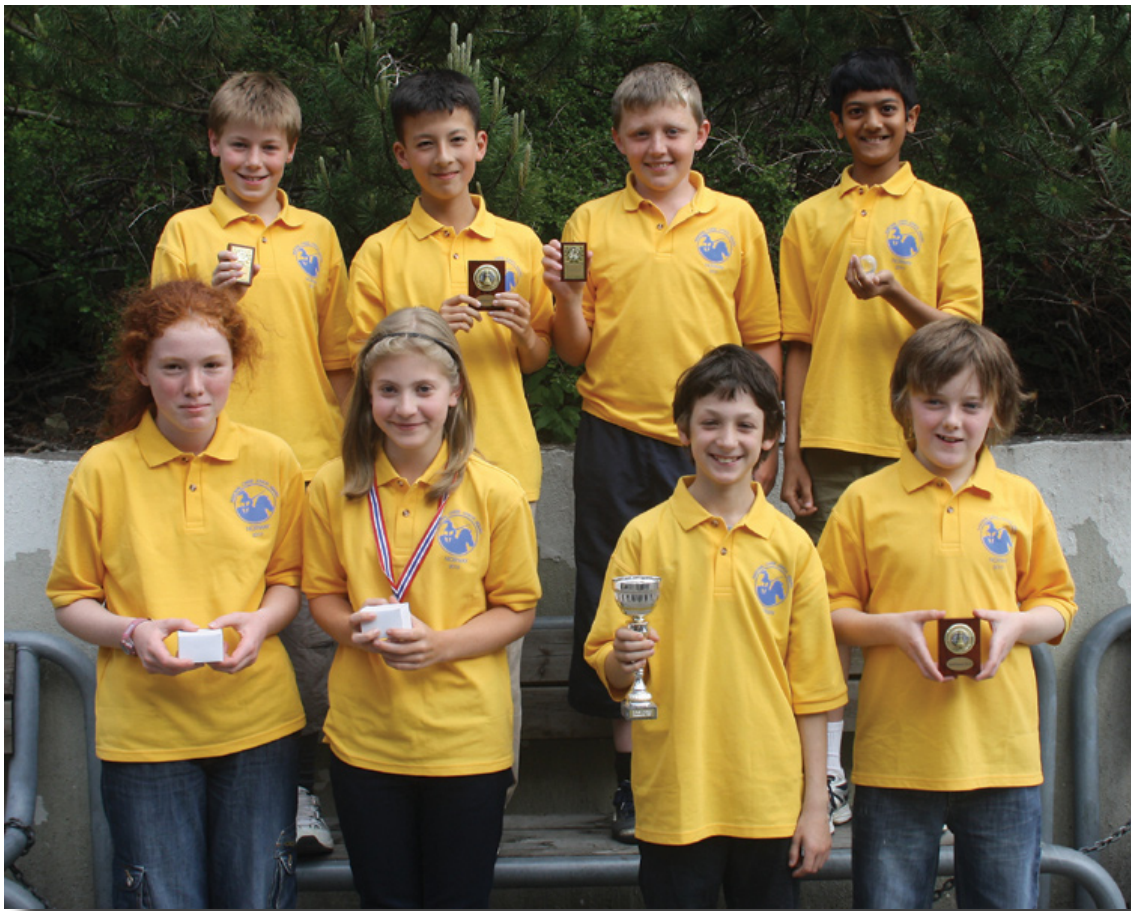
Each round our top 5 boards lost although the bottom three got 2½ points each round. Natalie was the only one to

get 2/2. We then had a short presentation before heading for our billets. Wednesday was our final day and we all met at Mrs Agdestein's where we were to be based.

Our first stop was the new ski slope. Glynis was not sure which way it went but we managed to explain things. We had a look at the landing area and the kids went on a ski simulator which they

to Central Station where we caught the express to the airport and checked in. It was not as good as Heathrow but not too bad and the flight landed 10 minutes early. We did not have too bad a time at the border and all but one of the parents was waiting after a very successful trip.

Peter Purland



thoroughly enjoyed. We then moved on to a fresh water lake in the forest where all the boys went for a swim. Again, a great time was had by all. We then returned to Mrs Agdestein's where she had cooked a meal for 12 of us, a delicious meat stew (with veggie option and gluten free bread) followed by strawberries. She certainly looks after Simen's friends. After a last chat we were taken by Simen

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EDITOR'S FOREWORD AND BASIC ADVICE

**by Andrew Martin
International Master**

Welcome to the latest edition of the Right Move for July 2010. I am very glad that all ECF members are now receiving this publication. I would like to thank Lorin D. Costa and Ian Snape for their kind contributions to this issue and all others who have offered to help. Your assistance will make this a better magazine! Please keep sending in your articles! Write to me at: a.martin2007@yahoo.co.uk



A.M.

Adams, Michael (2704) - Zhigalko, Andrey (2587)

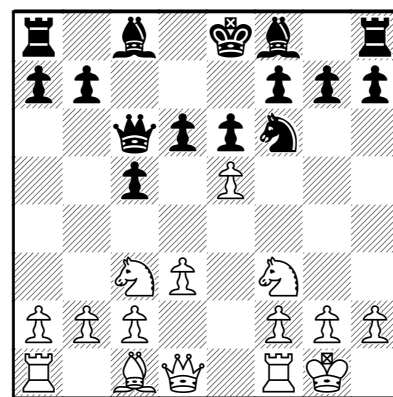
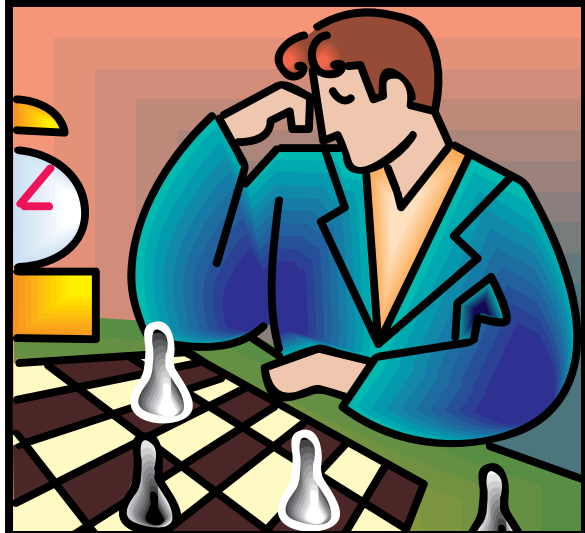
[B30]

EU-ch 11th Rijeka, March 17, 2010

The benefits of rapid development have been known since the days of Paul Morphy. Steinitz taught us that a superior position demands that we attack or the advantage will evaporate. Essentially, better development gives us more options. Outstripping the opponent in the efficient and speedy mobilization of our forces allows us to control the game and often leads to a direct attack on the King. The attack or initiative may not necessarily occur from the opening directly but will surely come at some stage in the game. Here we see Michael Adams sustaining pressure throughout our featured game, eventually turning this advantage into a direct, winning attack on Black's King.

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6
4.Nc3 Qc7 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 e6
7.Bxc6+ Qxc6 8.e5!**

GAME OF THE MONTH



Adams improves on an earlier game against Hamdouchi. He sees no need for

Bf4 as yet and begins his quest for the initiative without delay. [Instead 8.Bf4 Be7 9.e5 Nd7 10.d4 dxe5 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 b6 13.Qh5 0-0 (13...Bb7! is a clear improvement for Black and very acceptable after 14.f3 c4 15.Rad1 0-0=) 14.f3 f5 15.Bg5 Bxg5 16.Qxg5 Qc7 17.Qf4 Ba6 18.Rfd1 Rad8 19.Rd6 Rxd6 20.exd6 Qf7 21.Rd1 Bc8 22.Nb1 Bd7÷ Adams,M (2707)-Hamdouchi,H (2575)/Paris 2006 There is still some work to do after 23.Nd2 Bb5 24.Nc4 Bxc4 25.Qxc4 Rd8 26.f4 Kf8.

8...Nd7 9.d4

Trying to open the position hoping to catch the black King in the centre.

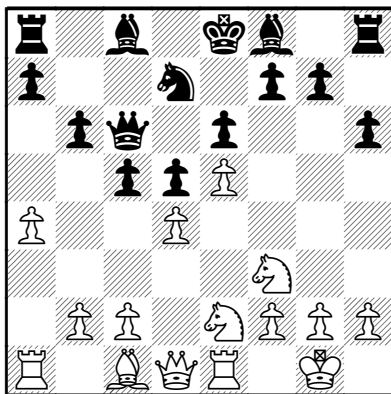
9...d5

Therefore logically closing the position down.

10.a4

Both probing and prophylactic. White dissuades Black from even thinking about castling long. The pawn on e5 gives White more space and the K-side would be his natural theatre of action. But firstly Adams shows restraint.

10...b6 11.Re1 h6 12.Ne2



12...a6

Black should perhaps try to catch up

with development after 12...Ba6 However, White's position is very pleasant if he transfers his Queen to f4 or g4: 13.Qd2 Be7 (13...Bxe2 14.Rxe2 Be7 15.Qf4 0-0 16.Qg4) 14.Qf4 0-0 15.Qg4↑

13.h4!

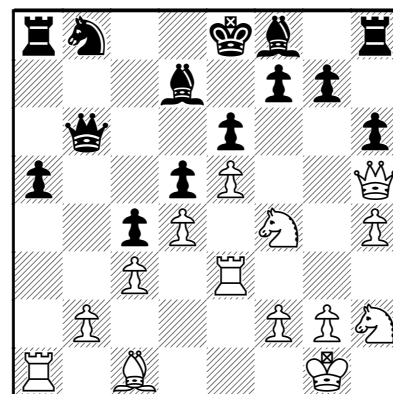
Cramping Black for room and intending to transfer as many pieces as possible over the K-side for an eventual direct attack. Even though the position remains semi-closed, White can bring significant pressure to bear with this plan.

13...Bb7 14.c3 c4 15.a5 bxa5

Zhigalko obviously sees what is coming and so opens the queenside in the hope of gaining counterplay there. With counterplay, the defender can sometimes defuse the bomb. The problem is that White has not yet really committed himself to any course of action and can switch his plan at will.

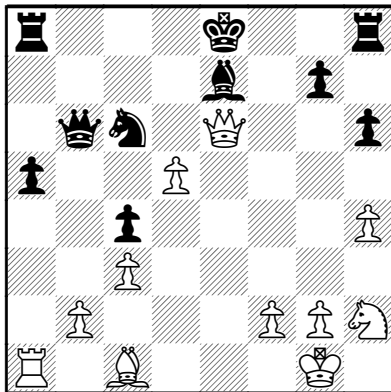
15...b5 16.Nf4 Be7 17.Nh5 0-0 18.Nh2 just gives White a free hand against the black King.

16.Rxa5 Qb6 17.Ra1 a5 18.Nf4 Bc6 19.Nh2 Nb8 20.Qh5! Bd7 21.Re3±



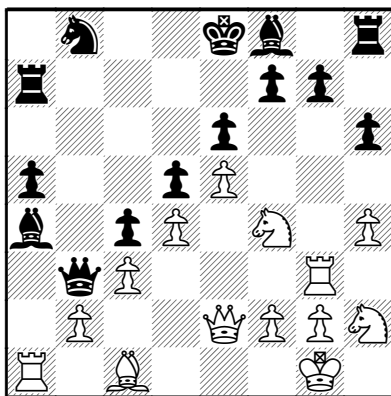
Excellent build-up play from Adams is leading to real problems for Black on the Kingside. Zhigalko has to sit and watch

as White increases the pressure. [Note that Adams rejects the tempting 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.e6 Bxe6 23.Qxd5 Nc6 24.Rxe6+ fxe6 25.Qxe6+ Be7 26.d5



This may well be good for White, but why take any risks at all in such a good position? White does not need to sacrifice yet.

21...Ra7 22.Rg3 Qb3 23.Qe2 Ba4

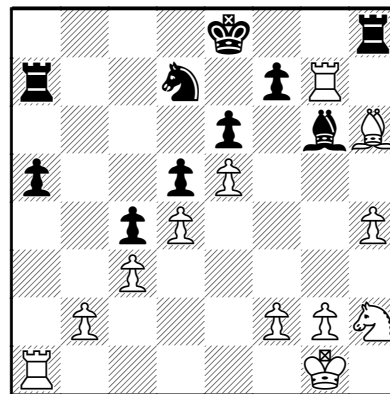


24.Nh5

So, the first real threat. Threats can lead to concessions by the defender and so the preconditions for a decisive attack are built in this way.

24...Qc2 25.Qe1!

Restraint is the order of the day again, as Adams sidesteps 25.Qxc2 Bxc2 26.Nxg7+ Bxg7 27.Rxg7 Bg6 28.Bxh6 Nd7

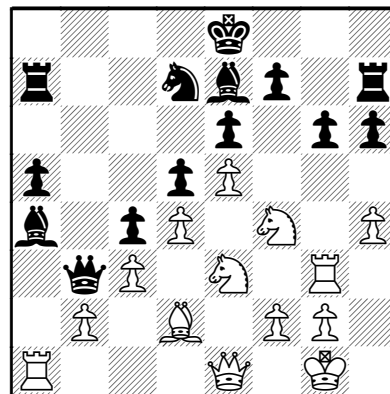


White's Rook may well be trapped!

25...Rh7 26.Ng4 Nd7

26...Qd1 27.Nhf6+

27.Ne3 Qb3 28.Bd2 g6 29.Nf4 Be7



30.Qb1!

A third opportunity to sacrifice unnecessarily is rejected: 30.Nfxd5 exd5 31.Nxd5 Bxh4 32.Rh3 Bd8 33.e6 Nf6÷

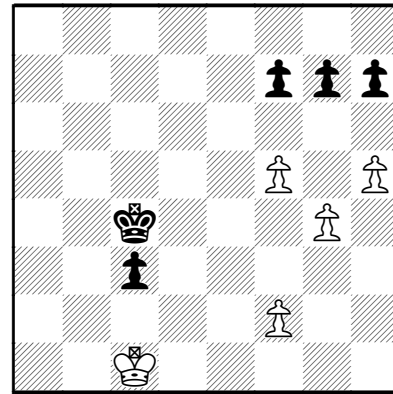
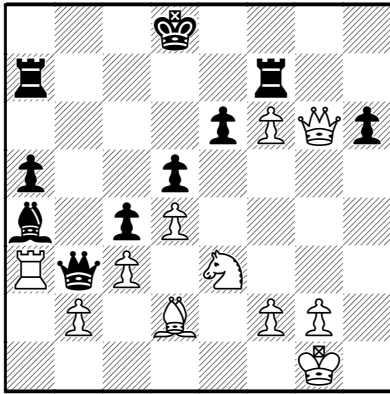
30...Bxh4 31.Rh3 Be7 32.Nxg6!

Down to business. White has his pieces in the right places and begins the final attack. Very good timing by Adams and completely decisive.

He could also play 32.Nxe6! which looks very strong too: 32...Bc6 (32...fxe6 33.Qxg6+ Rf7 34.Rf3+-) 33.Nf4 Qb5 34.Nxg6±

32...fxg6 33.Qxg6+ Rf7 34.Rf3 Bf6 35.Rxf6 Nxf6 36.exf6 Kd8

37.Ra3



37...Qb5

White's tactical control is seen in the short variation: 37...Qxb2 38.Rxa4 Qxd2 39.Qg8+-

38.Ng4

Threatening Ne5.

38...Rad7 39.Ne5 Qxb2 40.Nxf7+

1-0

After 40....Rxf7 41 Rxa4 wins.

Lasker,Ed - Molle Berlin 1904

If we re-run the ending, Black could have made life simple with:

1...f6!

White cannot now break through:

2.h6

2.f4 h6! (2...Kd5 is okay: 3.g5 h6--)

2...gxf6 3.f4 Kd5-- 0-1

Second-best will not do when it comes to the pawn ending.



ROOK AND BISHOP VERSUS ROOK

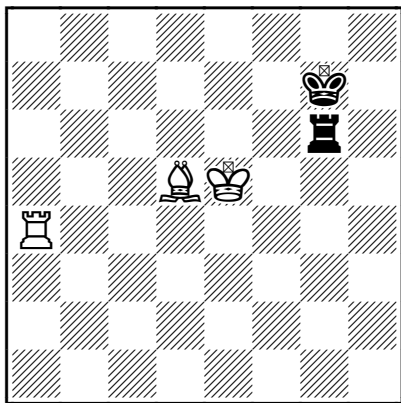
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Patterns, patterns, patterns, chess is all about patterns; be they plan patterns, tactics patterns or endings patterns. The more you can stick into memory, and then recognise on the board, the stronger a player you will be. Rook and Bishop versus Rook isn't the most frequent ending – only 1 in 1000 games or thereabouts. However, without prior knowledge, the winning technique is not easy and the defensive technique very hard. This article gives an introduction to the patterns.

The ending occurred recently at the final weekend of the 4NCL in May this year. We will look at in two parts:

- (a) The first phase where White drives Black to the edge of board; and
- (b) The key second phase when the position becomes critical.



Pert, Nicholas (2541) - Povah, Nigel E (2336)
BCF-chT 0910 (4NCL) England, 01.05.2010

White has just taken the last Black pawn on a4. The standard strategy for the first phase is to drive the opposing King to side of the board by:

- Advancing the King and Bishop in tandem so that the King protects the

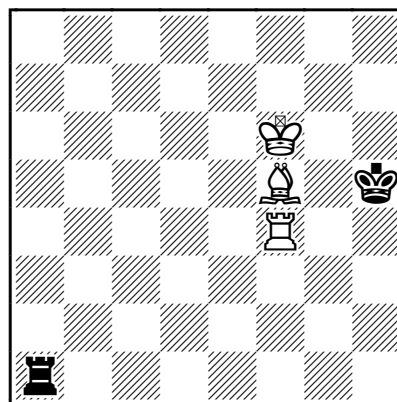
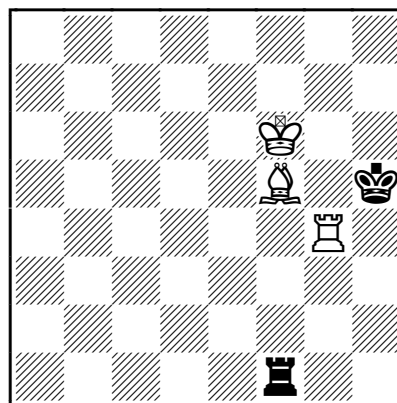
Bishop and the Bishop shields the King from checks.

- Using the Rook to check laterally.

White was fortunate in that, at the starting position, much of the preliminary work was done with the King and Bishop already on the 5th rank. One of Black's defences was therefore ruled out.

The game continued:

53.Rxa4 Rg5+ 54.Ke6 Rg6+ 55.Kf5 Rf6+ 56.Ke5 Rf1 57.Rg4+ Kh6 58.Rg3 Kh5 59.Bf3+ Kh6 60.Be4 Kh5 61.Bf5 Kh4 62.Rg4+ Kh5 63.Kf6



We have now reached the critical position (the top diagram). The black King has been driven to the side of the board and the white pieces are aggressively

placed. It is important when defending to understand the opponent's threats. In these sorts of positions White has two winning ideas:

- Bishop check and Rook mate. In this scenario, if the Bishop is not pinned against the white King and the white Rook is somewhere between a4 and f4, White will simply play Bg6+ and Rh4 mate; and

- The swinging Rook. Here the Black Rook is on the sixth rank (a6-d6), the white Bishop is on e6 and the white Rook is somewhere between a4 and e4. White swings the Rook to the 8th rank and after Black's forced Kh4 swings it back to the 3rd rank. Mate on h3 can only be avoided by giving up Rook for Bishop.

This tells us the correct defence. Black must maintain the pin with Rf3 or Rf2. However, in the game, Black erred with **63...Ra1?** releasing the pin and the losing move (first time round). Now the spotlight turns to White. **64.Rb4?** A slip, giving Black the chance to play Rf1 and reinstate the draw.

The correct winning move is 64.Rf4! taking away the option of a pin on the f-file (the bottom diagram on page 8). Rh1. The only fighting move. Black covers the h file.

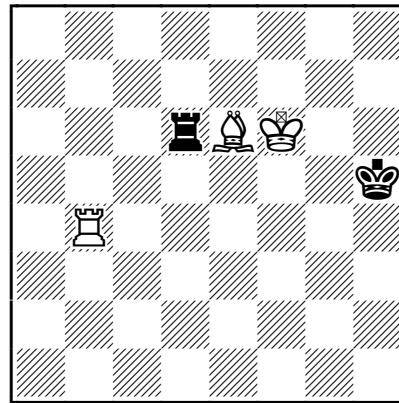
a) 64...Rg1 65.Be4 Rg3 66.Bf3+ +- is a simple Bishop check and mate scenario.

b) 64...Ra6+ 65.Be6 leads to the swinging Rook as in the game. 65...Rb6 (65...Ra3? 66.Bf7+ Kh6 67.Rh4#; 65...Rc6 66.Rf3+-) 66.Ra4 Rd6 67.Ra8 Kh4

68.Ra3+-.

65.Be4 White's plan is to drive the Black King to h6 (so that Rh4 mate is a threat), cover 3rd rank checks with his Bishop and then swing his Rook to the 8th rank; mating or winning the Rook. 65...Rh3 66.Bd5 Rh2 67.Bf3+ Kh6 68.Rb4 Rh3 69.Bg2 Rh2 70.Rb8+-

64...Ra6+? The losing move second time round. [64...Rf1=] **65.Be6** Now the black Rook must stay on the 6th rank to stop Bf7+ and Rh4#. **Rd6** but now White can use the swinging Rook technique.



66.Rb8 1-0. As after 66...Kh4 67.Rb3 forces mate on h3 or win of the black Rook.

As I said, hard for White but much harder for Black.

•

(Ian Snape is a retired Chartered Accountant who now coaches a number of aspiring England juniors including two players selected to represent England in the European Youth Championships in September. He will be playing in the 2010 British Championship in Canterbury).

The Oslo, Norway story from page 1



On Roof of Newspaper Offices





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the D'COSTA COLUMN...

PART I Lesson One

Lorin D Costa is a tremendous young player with a lot to offer as a coach and player. He is a strong International Master. I was delighted to receive this two-part article from him, which we continue next month. A.M.

Using a pawn centre to attack I will start with a game of one of my pupils, Aidan McGiff, who played a nice attacking game in last year's UK Chess Challenge. Watch how he uses a large pawn centre to gain space, push his opponent back, then improve the position of his pieces before a final assault on the black King, culminating in a sacrificial combination.

McGiff, Aidan (161) - Sanghani, Nikhil (125)

[C90]

Terafinal Challengers (2), Sep. 22, 2009

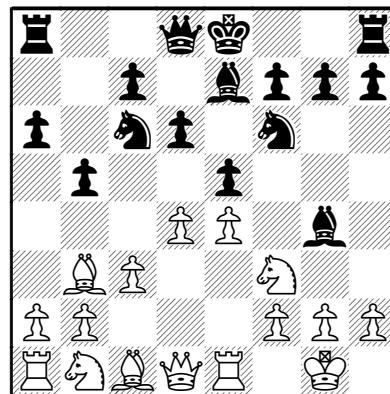
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5

The Ruy Lopez Variation (otherwise known as the Spanish) has been a favourite of many of the best players, including many world champions. I like the methodical attacking build up Aidan McGiff, aged just 12 at the time of this game, uses to finally attack the black King.

3...a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 d6 7.Re1 Be7 8.c3 Bg4

8...0-0 9.h3 to stop ...Bg4 is the more popular variation, with many different positions but all with a key theme; White will play d4 and erect a large pawn centre, with pawns on e4 and d4. We know this is good because it gains space for White to develop his pieces whilst simultaneously stopping Black using many central squares. Of course, Black has a foothold in the centre in the shape of a pawn on e5, and relatively easy development.

9.d4



This obvious move actually isn't played that often, as it vindicates Black's idea to play ...Bg4 early (although after this game, the chess theorists may have to take a different view!) 9.h3 Bh5 10.d3 0-0 11.Nbd2 Na5 a typical idea for Black, to launch the c-pawn down the board. 12.Bc2 c5 13.Nf1. This idea of Nb1-d2-f1 is one of the key strategies in the Ruy Lopez, and is very useful to know. White can play Ne3 covering the d5-square, or Ng3 (more commonly played) and target the h5-Bishop. By moving the Knight like this, it also allows the c1-Bishop to look all the way to h6. Not bad for one

manoeuvre!

9...exd4

I'm not such a fan of Black ever giving up the centre like this, as this game shows. Of course it's not losing on the spot, but Black will find it quite hard to gain any obvious counterplay (White has an unchallenged centre and easy enough development).

10.cxd4 Bxf3 11.gxf3

11.Qxf3 Nxd4 winning a pawn is Black's whole idea here.

11...0-0 12.Nc3

Here is the key position for the variation with 9.d4. With the f3-pawn on g2 White would be clearly better, but here he has a big centre and two Bishops to compensate for the slightly weak King. I remember when I was 12-years old, I never wanted to allow this gxf3 around my King—maybe the sign of the times that young players these days are willing to play dynamically like this!

12...Qd7

12...Na5 13.Bc2 c5 an idea we have seen above to attack the white centre. 14.dxc5 dxc5 15.e5 Nd7 16.Qd3 f5 17.Qd5+ Kh8 18.Rd1 Ra7 19.e6 Nb6 with an unclear position, [Polzhin 2491-P.Nikolic 2603, German Bundesliga, March 10](#). Bosnian Grandmaster Praedrag Nikolic is a very strong and experienced player and here he shows what Black's counterplay should be in this position with the c7-c5 advance. Compare this to the McGiff-Sanghani game where Black 'developed' but wasn't able to do anything constructive. Middlegame planning is very important in chess!

13.Kh1

Preparing Rg1 at some point to attack down the g-file.

13...Bd8

With this move Black's position starts to go downhill, though credit to Aidan for taking advantage of this. Black now becomes boxed in and has no room for his pieces.

14.Bg5 h6

Be careful before playing such moves! It does give the black King a flight square on h7 thus avoiding back rank checkmates, but sometimes it can be a target... as shown here.

15.Be3 Ne7 16.Rg1 Kh8

Avoiding the threat of Bxh6.

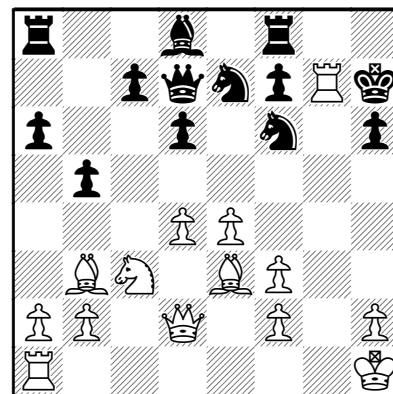
17.Qd2 Kh7

The threat which was renewed. 17... Ng6 18.a4 (18.Bxh6 Qh3! is a very nice trick the computer gives, attacking h6 and f3. [18...gxh6 19.Qxh6+ Nh7 20.Nd5 c6 21.Nf4! shows the dangers of Black's position.]) 18...b4 19.Ne2 a5.

18.Bc2

Certainly a good move, but apparently there was a thunderbolt on the board:

18.Rxg7+!



18...Kxg7 19.Bxh6+ Kg8 (19...Kh8

20.Bxf8 leaves White two pawns ahead and clearly winning.) 20.Qg5+ Ng6 21.Qxg6+ Kh8 22.Qg7# would have been a fitting way to end the game.

18...Ng6 19.Ne2

For me, this is a very nice but understated move. Aidan realises the Knight on c3 is developed and on a good square, yet he brings it to an even better square, f4. Instead of 19.Ne2, I challenge the reader to think of what other attacking plans White could have used; this will help your middlegame and attacking technique.

19...Re8 20.Nf4 Rb8

20...Nxf4 21.Bxf4 g6 is another trick

the computer wants to use, the idea being 22.Bxh6 Qh3 attacking h6 and f3.

21.Nxg6 fxg6 22.e5! Re7

22...dxe5 23.Bxg6+ Kh8 24.Bxh6! Re7 (24...gxh6 25.Qxh6+ Nh7 26.Bxe8 Qxe8 27.Qg7#) 25.Bxg7+! Rxd7 26.Qh6+ Kg8 27.Bf5! Qe7 28.Be6+ Kf8 29.Qh8+ Ng8 30.Qxg8+ Rxd8 31.Rxd8# is a spectacular variation ending in checkmate. I recommend playing this through on a board to improve one's tactical/calculating ability.

23.exf6 Rxe3 24.Qxe3 Bxf6

25.Rxg6 Kh8 26.Rxf6!

Very nice, White wins in all lines.

26...gxf6 27.Qxh6+ Kg8 28.Rg1+ Kf7 29.Qh7+ 1-0.

Wales v SE and SW England

Our annual match was held at Grange School, Monmouth on Saturday (SE) and Sunday (SW) 5th and 6th June. Our thanks go to Mrs Thomas for letting us use this excellent venue again and, as always, the sun shone.

The U14 match was hard fought although the SE always had a slight edge and won the two rounds 8-4 and 7-5 giving a winning total 15-9.

The competitive nature of the match was shown as only Nicholas Jelacic, Jonathan Pein and Adam Taylor (all SE) got 2/2. Unfortunately this was not true at U12 level where Wales could only manage 4 draws and went down 22-2.

A new feature was an U10 match and here the first round proved very competitive ending up 7-5 for England. (This was

a nationwide team). However experience told in the second round with England winning 11-1 giving an overall score of 18-6.

Sunday saw teams from the SW on parade and Welsh hopes were higher as they had stronger teams out. Unfortunately for Wales these hopes were not to be realised. A strong SW U14 team took an 11-1 first round lead whilst the U12s also led 8½-3½. The second round proved better for the Welsh although the overall result was never in doubt. The U12 match ended up 7½-4½ to England to give an overall score of 16-8.

The U14 ended up the same score although this time the overall score was 18½-5½ to England.

Peter Purland

POPULAR QUIZ



Best Answers to Quiz on page 12

1. 1. Bxf5!
2. 1. Qf3!
3. 1. Qd4 wins the house!
4. 1... Rd1 drops the hammer!
5. 1. Qh5+ g6 2. Qxe5 Classical!
6. 1. Bxf7+ wins the Q!

ANSWERS

The Right Move

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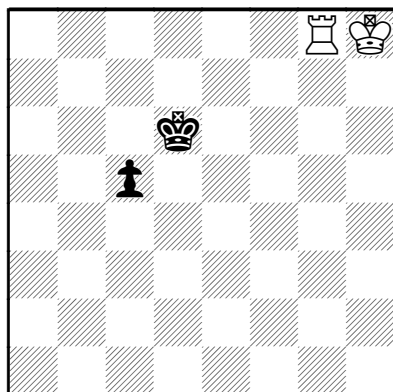
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PRIZE PUZZLE FOR JULY



White to play. What result?

