

Event : Master Class Tournament

Opponents : East Germany

Date : 1982/83

Board :

White : M Read

Black : H-D Pässler

1 e4 c5
2 Nf3 d6
3 Bb5+ Bd7
4 Bxd7+ Qxd7
5 O-O Nc6
6 c3 Nf6
7 d4 cxd4

Normal is 7 ... Nxe4 8 d5 Ne5 returning the pawn, although 8 ... Nb8 is interesting.

8 cxd4 d5

Black declines the pawn sacrifice.

9 e5 Ng8

If 9 ... Ne4, the reply 10 Ne1!, threatening to trap the knight, ensures White the advantage.

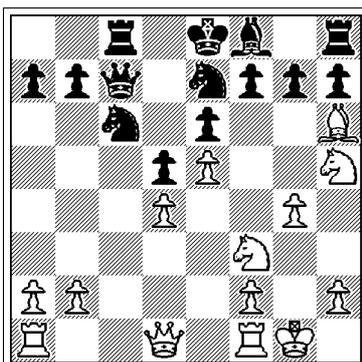
10 Nc3 e6
11 Ne2 Nge7
12 Nf4 Nf5
13 Nh5 Rc8?

The white knight on h5 was an embarrassment to Black. This move allows it to wreak havoc on the kingside. 13 ... Be7 was called for and if 14 g4 then 14 ... g6!

14 g4 Nfe7
15 Bh6! Qc7

If Black saves his pawn by 15 ... Rg8, White does not involve himself in the forcing line 16 Ng5 Qc7 17 Nxh7 (and not 17 Qf3? Ng6 18 Nxh7 Nxd4 when 19 Qd3 Nxe5! and 19 N7f6+ gxf6 20 Nxf6+ Kd8 are both winning for Black) 17 ... gxh6 18 N5f6+ Kd8 19 Nxe8 Nxg8 20 Nxf8 Qe7 21 Nh7 f5 22 Nf6 Nxf6 23 exf6 Qxf6 when Black has good compensation for the exchange.

Instead he simply plays 16 Be3 with the idea of moving the knight from f3 and attacking by advancing his f-pawn. With the black king stranded in the centre, this plan would have every chance of reaching a successful conclusion.



(position after 15 ... Qc7)

16 Bxg7 Bxg7
17 Nxg7+ Kd7
18 Nh5

To deprive Black of counterplay (18 ... Rg8?? 19 Nf6+).

18 ... h6
19 Nf6+ Kd8
20 Qd2 Qb6
21 Rfc1 Rc7
22 Rc3

Black has no useful plan and can therefore only wait for White to attack. White is thus quite prepared to postpone his assault until all of his pieces are in their optimum positions.

22 ... a6
23 Rac1 Kc8
24 Kg2 Kb8
25 h4

Preparing for the possibility of an endgame.

With his previous move White advanced his king one square nearer to the centre, and with this one he sets up the possibility of obtaining a passed pawn by advancing the g-pawn and then after it is taken, moving the h-pawn to the 5th rank instead of recapturing.

25 ... Ka8
26 a3

Now White intends to begin the queenside attack by 27 b4.

26 ... Nc8
27 Rc5

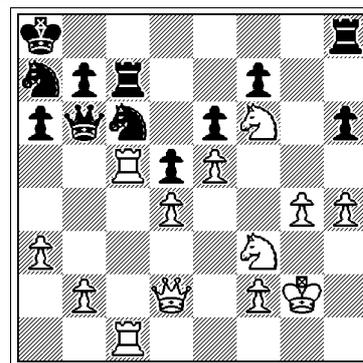
Black has been totally passive as White has patiently manoeuvred for the last ten moves, (or the best part of a year).

White reasons that he must be heartily sick of the game by now and sets a trap which is not too deep

27 ... N8a7??

.... and Black falls into it.

Of course c5 would have been a good square for the rook anyway as it would have supported the queenside pawn thrust.



(position after 27 ... N8a7)

28 Rxd5! Resigns

White has won a second pawn and Black still has no counterplay.