



**CHESS OLYMPIAD**

NORWAY 2014  
TROMSØ

# Bulletin

## Round 7 -09.08.14



## No day to be favorite...

**Arkadij Najditsch beat Norwegian World Champion Magnus Carlsen  
securing the victory for Germany.**



Favorites Russia are of course never far from the center of attention  
Photo: David Llada / COT2014

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## Not late, not here

In yesterday's reports we mentioned the misadventures of the Burundi players - specifically the Women's team and board two from the Open team - who were absent at the start of play for Round 6. Today there were no 'normal' zero tolerance losses, as Chief Arbiter Takis Nikolopoulos created a grace period by making a series of announcements at the end of the countdown.

*By GM Jonathan Tisdall*

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However, there were missing persons. The players from Burundi who missed the sixth round were again nowhere to be found at the start of play. The organizers are investigating.

### Golden tickets

One of the recent announcements was that the organizers of the Qatar Masters Open 2014 will be drawing 10 'golden tickets' to the event during the Olympiad. Men rated over 2300 and women over 2200 can enter at a table at the player exit. Five men rated above 2300 and 5 women over 2200 will get entry to the Qatar Open 2014, free accommodation with full board in a 5-star hotel (25th November to 5th December) plus air tickets provided by the organizers!

Norwegian state broadcasters NRK requested and received a shuffling of tables in order to get the pairings they wanted on camera today. This meant a surprising change of geography in the

top section of the playing hall, and I spotted one of the Chinese women arriving and automatically sitting down at the wrong, but usual table.

The table one Open match, between sole leaders Azerbaijan and Cuba, had been moved to the edge of the top playing area, and the Russia-China women's clash was shifted into the center, where there is room between the boards for cameras.

So today's live national TV coverage focused on Norway's top teams and the top Women's duel, with the Open event relegated to occasional checks - demonstrating that Norwegian audiences want maximum drama, and are not biased to expect this from the "men's" event.

## Early action

China was involved in the early drama of Round 7. In the Open section, leader Liren Ding delivered an early and violent knockout against Serbian board one Milos Petrunovic. Not long afterwards they doubled their lead when prodigy Yi Wei beat A Indjic on board four. In the crunch women's match, China's number one, Yifan Hou lost the exchange early against Russia's recent acquisition, Kateryna Lagno, and despite reacting resourcefully, did not appear to have full compensation.

Cuba have managed to work their way to the top of the table without attracting much attention, but GM Lenier Dominguez Perez changed all that by setting off a large amount of beautiful sacrificial fireworks in the face of Azeri number one Shakhriyar Mamedyarov. The Cuban world number 11 landed a left, then a right, and a knockout blow in a truly spectacular combinational finish.

The Iranian women took an early lead against the other surprise performer of the event, with WGM Sarasadat Khademalsharieh winning on board two against Indonesian WGM Medina Aulia. This

could be a key result as the Indonesians are higher rated on the top two, but lower on three and four - though the teams are very evenly matched.

## Absent from India

The 19th seeded Indian team has had a good start to the Tromsø 2014 Olympiad - their top four boards are all overperforming - and going into Round 7 they were in 14th place. But on a day where the reporting team has been looking at the halftime statistics, we wondered - how strong could India have been? If they were reinforced with their top missing players - former world champion Vishy Anand and current world number 26 Pendyala Harikrishna - India's average for their top four rated players would be 2706 - and make them the fourth seeds.

A query about their absence on Twitter gathered some reactions from Indian fans and players, including this from star chess app programmer Asim Perreira

"Anand has always disliked the "random" nature of the Oly format and rarely played. Hari has his own reasons, maybe AICF being one."

## Watch the Olympiad live with the chess24 app

With more than 600 games each round it's a real challenge to keep up with the action from the Chess Olympiad, especially if you can't stay glued to your monitor all day long. The solution? chess24, the official broadcast partner of the Olympiad, has apps for both iOS and Android that provide by far the best mobile viewing experience. You can follow every single game live and even watch all the video commentary by Jan Gustafsson, Lawrence Trent, Einar Gausel and an array of star guests. And best of all: it's free





Arkadij Najditsch beat Norwegian World Champion Magnus Carlsen securing the victory for Germany.  
Photo: Georgios Souleidis / [chess24](#)

## No day to be favorite...

*By GM Jonathan Tisdall*

The decision of national Norwegian TV to showcase the women's event paid off with a dramatic showdown between the big favorites, China and Russia. Russia's new number one, Kateryna Lagno, brutally upset women's world number two Yifan Hou. With China under pressure on board four as well, it looked as if the fate of the gold medals could already be decided today, and WGM Olga Girya sealed a 3-1 win for Russia with a victory on the bottom table against WGM Zhongyi Tan.

In the previous Olympiad Russia edged out China on tiebreak, both teams scoring 19 match points, but the 2010 Olympiad in Khanty-Mansiysk showed the kind of performance that might be required for gold, Russia posting a perfect 22 over the 11 rounds. Dresden 2008 was full of shock results, and ended with Georgia taking the gold from Ukraine on tiebreak, both scoring 'just' 18 match points.

Azerbaijan struck back to level the top Open match, winning on board four against Cuba to neutralize Dominguez' flashy win over Mamedyarov on board two. Azerbaijan then snatched both match points and moved into sole first by winning on board two, with Teimour Radjabov beating Lazaro Bruzon Batista in a deceptively tricky rook ending.

Even more dramatic were developments on the second table, where top seeds Russia were facing the 16th ranked Czech Republic. Disaster loomed for the favorites after David Navara toppled Alexander Grischuk in energetic fashion on board one, and Viktor Laznicka guaranteed the Czechs at least a draw by downing Peter Svidler with black to sweep the top boards. When Czech GM Zbynek Hracek liquidated to a draw against Sergei Karjakin, the match was secured for the underdogs, who closed out with another draw to make it 3-1.

Russia has now dropped four match points. Checking the statistics of the last three Olympiads, which share the 11-round format, the winner has never scored less than 19/22 match points - in Istanbul 2012 Armenia and Russia reached this total, and Armenia won on tie-break - in Khanty-Mansiysk only the Ukraine scored 19, and in Dresden 2008, only Armenia. Although there are signs that Tromsø could be an unusually even Olympiad, the pressure on the top seeds must now be immense, with 18 match points now being their maximum score.

The next sensation was the shaky collapse of World Champion Magnus Carlsen. Locals were glued to their TV sets in confused horror as their hero, playing White against German first board Arkadij Naiditsch, began gradually turning a clear advantage into a situation of real danger. The Norwegian's normally fearsome technique was absent, and it was clear at the end of the first session that he would need all his vaunted technical skills to avoid defeat. All the other games in the match were drawn, and Naiditsch clinched the match for Germany.

Naiditsch: He started to panic. It was a little bit strange to see him so nervous... I have been as lucky as Magnus Carlsen usually is.

How eventful was the 7th round of the Chess Olympiad? Well, how often do both top seeded teams, and both world champions lose on the same day?

### In other action ...

China's disappointment in the Women's event was avenged in full in the Open, with China adding a third win to complete a 3.5-0.5 mauling of Serbia. Bulgaria continue to fight at the top, beating the Netherlands 3-1, with their hot man Valentin Lotov running his score up to 6.5/7 by beating Sergej Tiviakov, and GM Krasimir Rusev downing Loek van Wely.

Defending champions Armenia dropped another match point, this one to Hungary, despite Levon Aronian's win over the usually indestructible Peter Leko. Csaba Bologh evened things up by beating Gabriel Sargissian and the other boards were drawn. Third seeds France took the up elevator, beating Georgia 3-1, boosted by a successful grinding win in a Q+a-pawn vs Q ending by Vachier-Lagrave over Baadur Jobava.

The 6th seeded USA began what could be a fight back to the top of the table - with GM Sam Shankland running up his score to 6/6 on fourth board, and with leader and world number five Hikaru Nakamura doubling their early lead over Uzbekistan by beating Rustam Kasimdzhanov. Down on table 12, Ukraine belatedly showed their strength by overrunning Kazakhstan by the same score.

The other top matches in the Women's section were grimly even. Poland-France, Armenia-USA, and Indonesia-Iran all ended in 2-2 deadlocks. The rest of the top seeds posted results that should return them to the thick of the fray: 3rd seed Ukraine and 4th seed Georgia won 3-1, against Kazakhstan and Serbia, respectively. The 5th seeded Indian team turned in an impressive 3.5-0.5 rout of 16th ranked Netherlands.

### Burundi update

The organizers have now issued a press release regarding the regularly absent players from Burundi - their women's team, and second board for their Open team, Tony Nininahazwe - face exclusion from the event. Norwegian newspaper VG reported that the location of the players is unknown, and that a security group from the organization were discussing the case.

The organizers said that a follow-up press conference would be convened if they learned anything more.

# Annotated games

By GM Einar Gausel

**Magnus Carlsen (2877) - Arkadij Naiditsch (2709)**  
WCO2014 Tromsø (7.29), 09.08.2014

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4 4.♗f3 c5 5.g3 0-0  
6.♙g2 cxd4 7.♗xd4 d5 8.cxd5 ♗xd5 9.♖b3 ♗c6  
10.♗xc6 bxc6 11.0-0 ♖a5 12.♗e4 ♙a6 13.♖c2 h6  
14.a3 ♙e7 15.b4 ♖b5 15...♙xb4 16.axb4 ♖xa1  
17.♙b2 ♖a2 18.♗d2 ♗xb4 19.♖c3 e5 20.♙a1 ♖c6  
21.♖xb4 ♙xc2 22.♙c1 a5 23.♖c3 ♙b5 24.♙xc5  
leaves White with a clear edge. Black is doing OK  
in terms of material, but White's pieces are  
extremely active.

16.♙e1 ♖c4 17.♖b2 c5 18.♗xc5 ♙f6 18...♙xc5  
19.bxc5 ♖xc5 didn't look like much fun for Black  
as White's pair of bishops would give him a long-  
term advantage.

19.♖a2 ♙ac8 19...♙xa1 20.♖xa1 would give White  
excellent compensation for the exchange due to his  
two bishops and strong knight on c5. However, the  
ending after; 19...♗c3 20.♖xc4 ♙xc4 21.♙xa8  
♙xa8 22.♙b2 ♗xe2+ 23.♙xc2 ♙xc2 24.♙xf6 gxf6  
certainly looks better for Black than the game  
continuation.

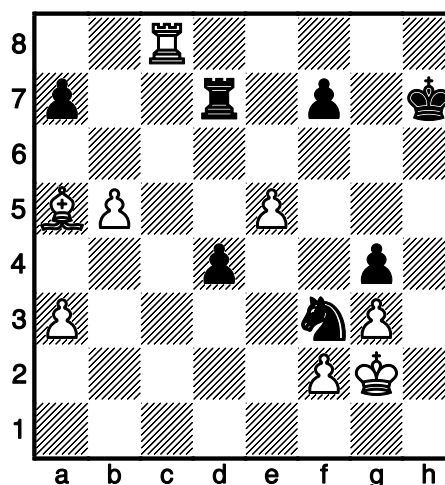
20.e4 ♗c3 21.♖xc4 ♙xc4 22.e5 ♙e7 23.♙d2?!  
White simply seems to be a healthy pawn up after  
23.♙c3

23...♗e2+ 24.♗h1 ♗d4 25.♙ac1 ♙d5 26.♙xd5  
exd5 This pawn might look weak, but Black  
manages to create an amazing amount of  
counterplay with it.

27.♗d7 ♙xc1 28.♙xc1 ♙d8 29.♗c5 ♙xc5 30.♙xc5  
♗f3 "Now the position is quite tricky", Naiditsch  
told Jan Gustafsson and Lawrence Trent in the  
Chess24 studio after the game.

31.♙c3 g5! Is it possible that Carlsen missed this?  
Now the knight becomes a permanent thorn in  
White's side.

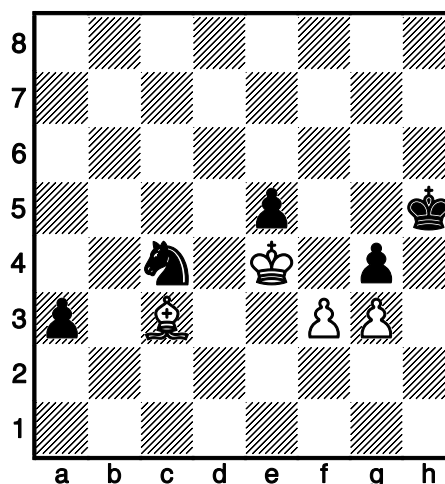
32.h3 h5 33.♗g2 g4 34.b5 ♙d7 35.♙c8+ ♗h7  
36.♙a5 d4 37.hxg4 hxg4



38.e6? At this stage Carlsen was in serious trouble  
on the clock. 38.♙c7 ♙xc7 39.♙xc7 d3 40.♗f1 ♗d4  
41.♗e1 ♗xb5 42.♙d6 ♗g6 43.♗d2 ♗f5 44.♗xd3  
♗c6 45.♙b4 ♗xe5 46.a4 and a draw seems more  
than likely.

38...fxe6 39.♙c7 ♙xc7 40.♙xc7 d3 41.♗f1 ♗d4  
42.♗e1 ♗xb5 43.♙b8 ♗xa3 44.♗d2 44.♙xa7 ♗c4  
45.♙c5 ♗g6 46.♙b4 ♗f5 47.♙c5 ♗e4 48.♙b4 ♗f3  
49.♙c5 e5 50.♙a7 e4 51.♙d4 e3 52.fxc3 ♗xg3  
leads to a trivial win for Black.

44...a5 45.♗xd3 ♗g6 46.♗e4 a4 47.♙e5 ♗c4  
48.♙c3 a3 49.♗f4 ♗h5 50.f3 e5+ 51.♗e4



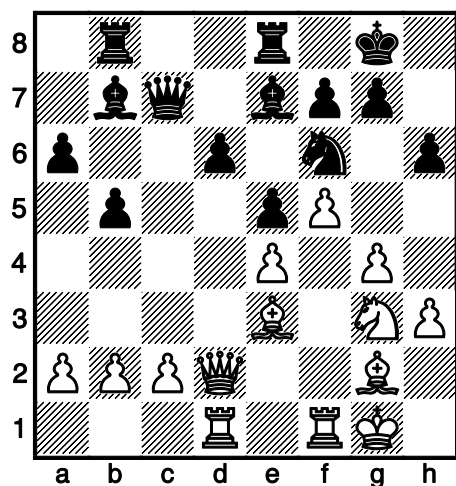
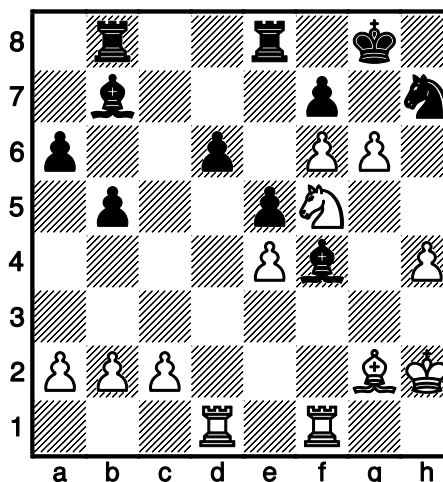
51...♗d6+ 52.♗e3 52.♗xe5 gxf3 and one of the  
black pawns will queen.

52...♗g5 53.fxg4 e4 54.♗d2 ♖b5 55.♙e5 ♗xg4  
56.♗e3 ♗f5 57.♙a1 ♖d6 58.♗d2 ♗g4 59.♗e3 a2  
60.♙c3 ♗xg3 61.♙a1 ♗g4 62.♗d2 ♗f3 62...♗f3  
63.♗e1 e3 64.♗f1 e2+ 65.♗e1 ♖c4 66.♙b2 ♖c5  
67.♗d2 ♗f2 68.♙d4+ ♗f1 and the e-pawn queens.

0-1

David Navara (2716) -  
Alexander Grischuk (2795)  
WCO2014 Tromsø (7.21), 09.08.2014

1.♖f3 c5 2.e4 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♖xd4 ♖f6 5.♖c3 a6  
6.h3 e6 7.g4 h6 8.♙g2 ♙e7 9.♙e3 ♖c6 10.f4 ♖d7  
11.0-0 ♖xd4 12.♙xd4 0-0 13.♙d2 ♙b8 14.♙ad1  
b5 15.♖e2 ♙c7 16.f5 ♖f6 17.♖g3 ♙e8 18.♙d4 e5  
19.♙e3 ♙b7



20.♙xh6!? gxh6 21.♙xh6 ♖h7 22.f6 ♙f8 23.♙h5  
♙c5+ 24.♗h2 ♙e3 25.h4 ♙h6 26.♙xh6 ♙xh6  
27.g5 ♙f8? This leads to serious trouble. Black is  
still in the game after 27...♙cc8

28.g6! ♙h6? 28...fxg6 runs into 29.f7+; Black's  
best try was still 28...♙cc8

29.♖f5 ♙f4+

30.♙xf4! ♖xf6 30...exf4 esthetically pleasing  
31.♖h6+ ♗h8 32.g7#

31.gxf7+ After massive exchanges White obtains a  
winning endgame.

31...♗xf7 32.♖xd6+ ♗e7 33.♖xe8 exf4 34.♖xf6  
♗xf6 35.♙d6+ ♗e5 36.♙b6 f3 37.♙xf3 ♙f8  
38.♗g3 ♙xe4 39.♙xe4 ♗xe4 40.♙e6+

1-0

Kateryna Lagno (2540) – Yifan Hou (2661)  
WCO2014 Tromsø (7.25), 09.08.2014

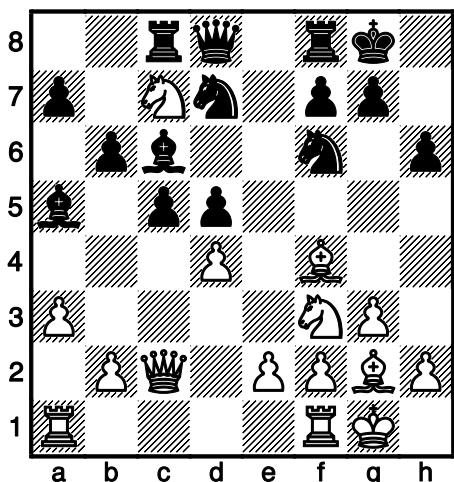
1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♖f3 d5 4.♖c3 ♙b4 5.cxd5  
exd5 6.♙g5 ♖bd7 7.♙c2 c5 8.g3!? The most  
common continuations are 8.e3 and; 8.dxc5 . The  
text is quite logical, though, as Bg2 will put d5  
under pressure.

8...h6 9.♙f4 0-0 10.♙g2 b6 11.0-0 ♙b7?! 11...♙a6  
was clearly preferable.

12.♖b5 ♙c6? Now things go from bad to worse.

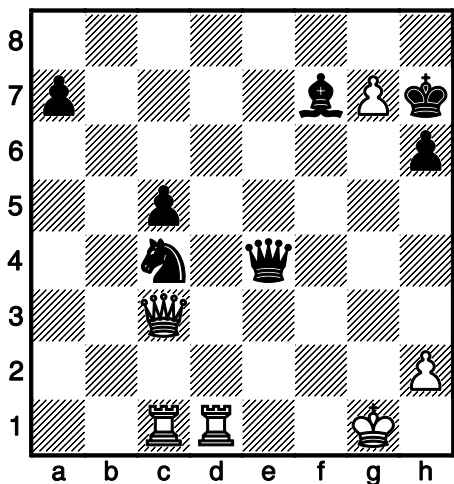
13.♖c7 White is winning material by force.

13...♙c8 14.a3 ♙a5



15.b4 ♖e4 16.dxc5 bxc5 17.bxa5 ♖xc7 18.♙xc7 ♗xc7 19.♘d2 f5 20.♞ac1 ♔h8 21.f3 ♘xd2 22.♗xd2 f4 23.gxf4 ♞xf4 24.e3 ♞a4 25.f4 ♗xa5 26.♞fd1 ♖b6 27.♗b2 ♞xa3 28.f5 ♞a2 29.♗e5 ♗b4 30.e4 ♘c4 31.♗c3 ♗b7 The grim alternative was a lost ending.

32.exd5 ♞xg2+ 33.♔xg2 ♙xd5+ 34.♔g1 ♙f7 35.f6 ♗e4 36.fxg7+ ♔h7



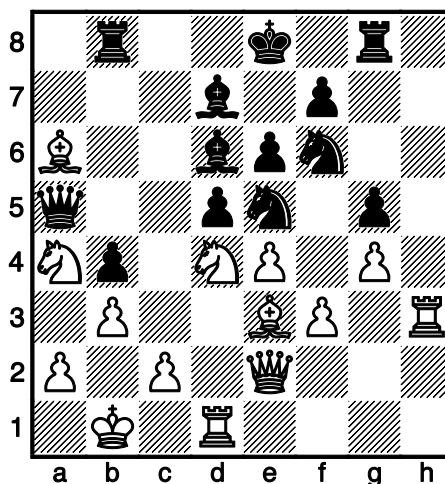
37.g8♗+! ♔xg8 37...♙xg8 38.♞d7+ ♔g6 39.♞g7+ with a quick mate to follow.

38.♞d8+ ♔h7 39.♞h8+ ♔g6 40.♗g3+ 40.♗g3+ ♔f5 (40... ♔h5 41.♗h3+ ♔g5 42.♗xh6+) 41.♞f1+ ♔e6 42.♞xh6+ ♔d7 43.♞xf7+

1-0

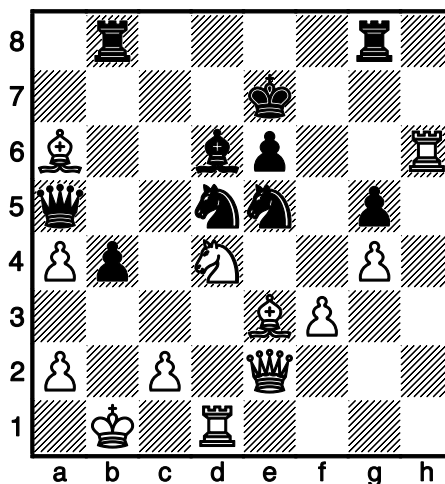
Leinier Dominguez Perez (2760) -  
Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (2743)  
WCO2014 Tromso (7.37), 09.08.2014

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 6.f3 ♗b6 7.g4 ♘c6 8.♘b3 e6 9.♗e2 ♗c7 10.♙c3 b5 11.0-0-0 ♘d7 12.♗f2 ♘ce5 13.♔b1 ♙e7 14.♞g1 g5 15.h4 h6 16.♞h1 ♞g8 17.hxg5 hxg5 18.♞h3 ♞b8 19.♘d4 b4 20.♘a4 ♘f6 21.b3 ♙d7 22.♙xa6 d5 23.♗h2 ♙d6 24.♗e2 ♗a5



25.♞h6 ♔e7? 25...♙c7 looked like Black's best try. After the text move White's attack quickly becomes overwhelming.

26.exd5 ♙xa4 27.dxe6! fxe6 28.bxa4 ♘d5



29.♘c6+! White puts an end to the proceedings with a series of brutal blows.

29...♘xc6 30.♙xg5+! ♔f8 30...♞xg5 31.♗xc6+ ♔d8 32.♗xd6+ ♔e8 33.♞e1+ ♘c7 34.♞h8+ ♔f7



35.♖c6+ ♔g7 36.♖h7+ ♔xh7 37.♖f7+ ♔h8  
38.♖h1+ ♖h5 39.♖xh5#

**31.♖xc6** 31.♖xc6 ♔c3+ 32.♔a1 ♖xg5 33.♖f6+  
♔g7 34.♖f7+ ♔h8 35.♖h1+ and Black gets mated.

**1-0**

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## Press release: Burundi no-shows in rounds 6 and 7 of the Chess Olympiad

Chief Arbiter Panagiotis Nikolopoulos and his staff will decide tonight if Burundi will be allowed to continue in the tournament. Today, for the third time in the event, they failed to appear for the start of play. In order to prepare the pairings for the next (8th) round, a decision about whether they may continue must be made tonight. It is likely that they will be excluded for the rest of the event.

One player on Burundi's Open team has also repeatedly failed to appear for play. It is likely that this individual will be excluded, but the team allowed to continue in the tournament, but with just three players.

The final decision will be taken by Chief Arbiter Panagiotis Nikolopoulos and his staff later this evening.

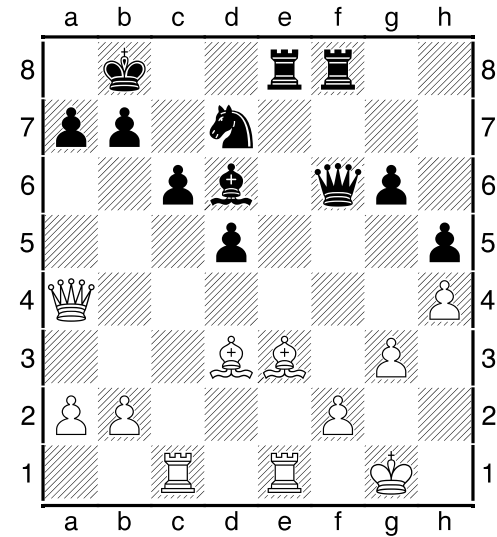
This press release was made public at the international press conference at 18:30 (6:30 p.m.) on Saturday, 9 August.

# Blunders, upsets and brilliancies

By GM Einar Gausel

**Milos Perunovic (2602) –  
Liren Ding (2742)**

WCO2014 Tromso (7.1), 09.08.2014

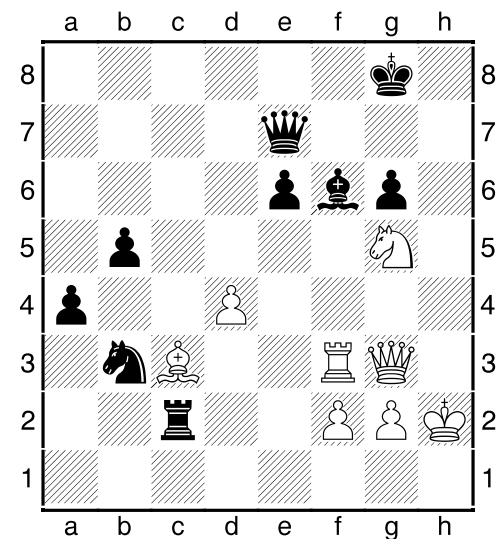


26...♖xe3! 26...♖xe3 27.♖xe3 (27.fxe3 ♕f2+  
28.♔h1 ♕f3+ 29.♔g1 ♖xg3+ 30.♔h1 ♕h2#)  
27...♗xf2+ 28.♔h1 ♖xe3-+

0-1

**Valentin Iotov (2553) –  
Sergei Tiviakov (2664)**

WCO2014 Tromso (7.7), 09.08.2014



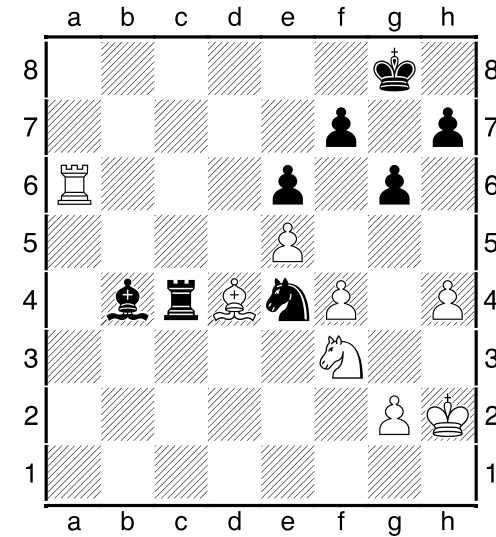
35.♕b4! ♖c7 35...♗xb4 36.♖xf6 and there's no  
saving Black's king.

36.♗xc7 ♖xc7 37.♖xf6 ♔xd4 38.♕d6 ♔g7  
39.♖f4

1-0

**Peter Svidler (2751) –  
Viktor Laznicka (2676)**

WCO2014 Tromso (7.22), 09.08.2014



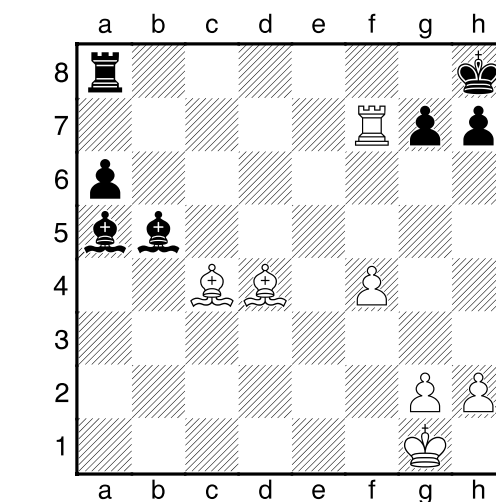
34...♔d2! 35.♖a8+ ♔g7 36.♕f2 36.♕e3 ♔f1+  
37.♔g1 ♔xe3-+

36...♖xf4-+ 37.♔g3 ♖f5 38.♕e3 ♔xf3 39.gxf3  
♕e1+ 40.♔g2 ♕xh4 41.♕c5 h5

0-1

**Gadir Guseinov (2613) –  
Reynaldo Ortiz Suarez Isan (2603)**

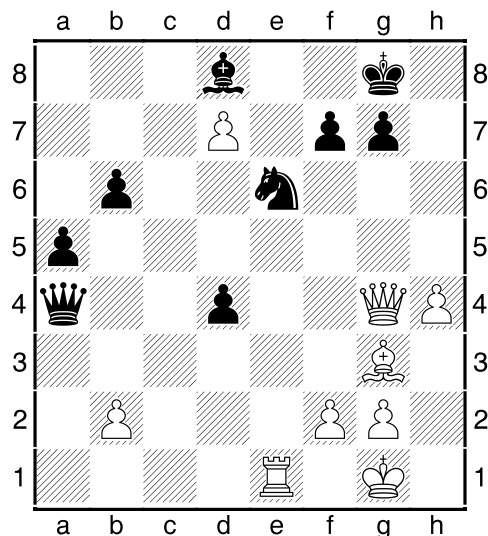
WCO2014 Tromso (7.40), 09.08.2014



39.♖xg7! ♕xc4 40.♖g5#

1-0

**Yi Wei (2638) – Aleksandar Indjic (2539)**  
WCO2014 Tromso (7.4), 09.08.2014

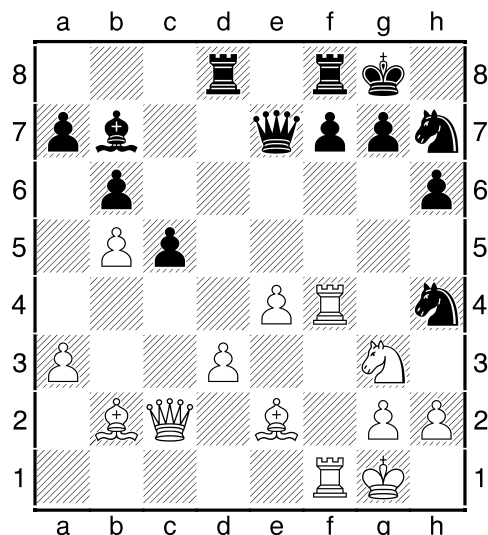


31. ♖xe6! ♜xd7 31...fxe6 32. ♜xe6+ ♔h7  
33. ♜e4+ g6 34. ♜e8+-

32. ♜e4 f5 33. ♜xd4

1-0

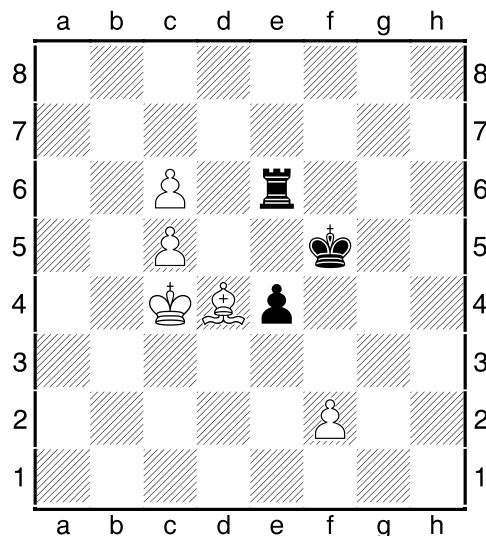
**Sevag Mekhitarian Krikor (2568) – Arturs Neiksans (2572)**  
WCO2014 Tromso (7.3), 09.08.2014



25. ♖xh4! ♜xh4 26. ♜f5 ♜g5 27. h4 and seeing that his queens is trapped, Black resigned.

1-0

**Elina Danielian (2490) – Irina Krush (2474)**  
WCO2014 Tromso (7.9), 09.08.2014



58... ♖xc6? 58... ♜e8 and Black is probably holding.

59. ♔d5 ♜c8 60. c6 ♜d8+ 61. ♔c5 ♔e6 62. c7 ♜c8 63. ♔c6 ♜g8 64. ♙e3 ♜c8 65. ♙g5 ♔f5 66. ♙h4 ♔g4 67. ♙f6 ♔f5 68. ♙e7 ♔e6 69. ♙d8! 69. ♙d8 ♜a8 70. ♔b7

1-0