



CHESS OLYMPIAD

**NORWAY 2014
TROMSØ**

Bulletin

Round 3

04.08.14



GM Hikaru Nakamura played his first game for the American team.
Photo: Georgios Souleidis / chess24

All eyes on top

The last missing stars appeared as more evenly matched teams faced off against each other. Hikaru Nakamura's painfully slow trip to Tromsø was over, and he led the USA against the Netherlands. Although his duel against Anish Giri was over relatively quickly, it was tense while it lasted

By GM Jonathan Tisdall

Nakamura may have regretted putting off his exertions as the match took a dramatic turn after the USA went out in front thanks to GM Alexander Onischuk downing Dutch colleague Loek van Wely. First GM Erwin L'Ami evened the match with a nice technical grind over the nearly indestructible Gata Kamsky, and GM Robin van Kampen completed the comeback by cracking GM Varuzhan Akobian.

The defending champions and 4th seeds Armenia stumbled in today's round, losing 1.5-2.5 to 3rd seeded France. World number two Levon Aronian

was again held to a draw, despite pressing long and hard against rapidly rising star Maxime Vachier-Lagrave. The only decisive result came on board three, where sometime Magnus Carlsen second Laurent Fressinet defeated Sergei Movsesian with black.

The other grudge match on the top boards was Germany-England, and while not reaching football fever pitch, it was a tense affair. The 10th seeded English held two Berlin Defences with the black pieces, but could only trade wins in their white games.

While attention was focused on the top clashes, the quirks of the pairing system had floated the powerhouse Russian team down the table, where they met - and blanked - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). The only other team to post a huge win in the upper levels was Uzbekistan, who won 3.5-0.5 over very slightly higher seeded Brazil, and will rise high up the standings.

Bulgaria moved up to 10 game points by edging out Spain 2.5-1.5. Former world champion Veselin Topalov, playing his first game of the event, won a nice game against Spanish top gun Francisco Vallejo Pons despite the distraction of still waiting for his suitcase to arrive. China pulled a narrow 2.5-1.5 win out of a magician's hat - Hungary's Zoltan Almasi was safe pawn up in an ending but managed to fritter away the full point in tragic fashion.

Other news

The Czech Republic edged out Iran 2.5-1.5 in a match that featured plenty of spectator-friendly play, including a neat finish by GM Viktor Laznicka after a blunder by GM Elshan Moradiabadi. Norway's World Champion shrugged off yesterday's disappointment of a draw, winning against Montenegrin GM Nikola Djukic. Norway 1 finally recorded a business-like result, winning 3-1 after GM Jon Ludvig Hammer also won with white for the Norwegians.

Norway's second team followed up their spectacular 2-2 result against Ukraine with another split decision, this time against Bosnia & Herzegovina. This too was an upset, but one of only minor proportions. One notable shocker of the day was Sudan's victory over Ireland, where the hugely outrated African team's margin of victory was CM Samir Nadir's win over GM Alexander Baburin on board one.

Women's event

The battle at the top of the Women's event sharpened as well, with the favorites having to work hard at last. Second seed Russia looked to be struggling against 9th seed France, but former world champion Alexandra Kosteniuk squeezed out the only win of the match for the favorites. Not only was it a slender victory, but French IM Sophie Milliet agreed a draw in an extremely promising position against GM Valentina Gunina - who is well known to the locals as a frequent tournament visitor from Murmansk.

The USA put up stiff resistance against mighty China, who finally played their ace, World Champion Yifan Hou. Hou, who is closing in on Judit Polgar's top spot on the women's rating list, was the last to finish, after her teammates established a 2-1 lead, with WGM Wenjun Ju supplying the only win up til then. US top board Irina Krush finally had to abandon her grim defensive task, and Hou maintained China's position as pace-setters by making it 3-1.

The sensation of the women's event was also hidden slightly below what appeared to be the focus of attention. Iran's 4-0 demolition of Bosnia & Herzegovina catapulted them to the top of the table. WGM Sarasadat Khademalsharieh's display of aggressive attacking chess against WIM Elena Boric was a highlight of both the match, and the round.

Local news



Elise Sjøttem Jacobsen, Norway 3
Photo: Georgios Souleidis / [chess24](#)

13-year-old Elise Sjøttem Jacobsen from Norway 3 - and Tromsø - made local Olympiad history in round three - the youngest ever Norwegian women's player, and today, also the youngest ever to win a game in the event.

Excitement to come

The fourth round pairings will see the upstart Iranian team on first board against 18th seed Slovakia. China will face 22nd seed Azerbaijan, Russia meets 12th seeds Germany and third seeded Ukraine have 33rd ranked Turkey to overcome.

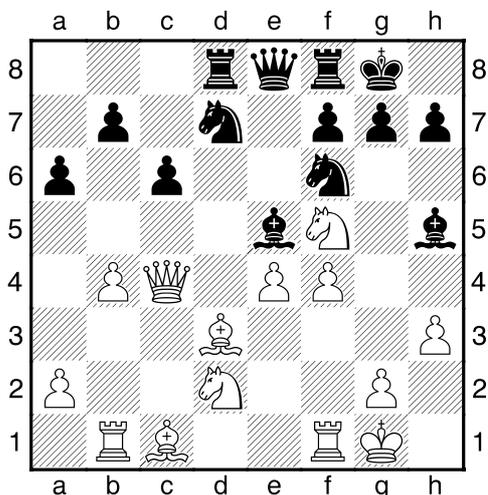
Annotated games

Annotations: GM Einar Gausel

Elshan Moradiabadi (2598) - Viktor Laznicka (2676)
WCO2014 Tromso (3.27), 04.08.2014

1. d4 d5 2. d4 f6 3. c4 c6 4. e3 a6 5. d3 g4 6. bd2 e6 7. c2 dxc4 8. xc4 bd7 9. h3 h5 10. b4 d6 11. 0-0 e7 12. Bb1 0-0 13. e4 e5 14. dxe5 xe5 15. h4 ad8 16. f5 e8
White now turns up the heat by setting his kingside pawn majority in motion.

17. f4



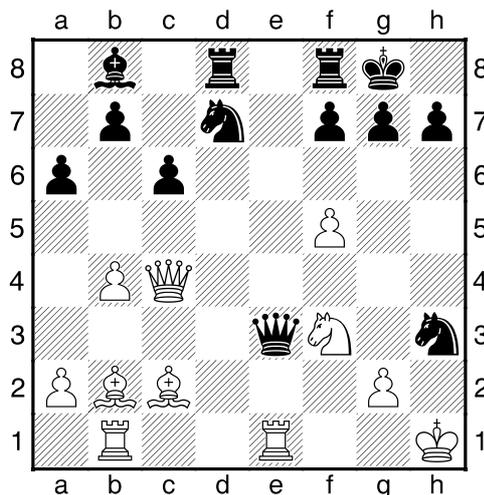
17...xf4!? This counterblow leads to some mind-boggling tactical complications. White apparently doesn't like the looks of them.

18. f3? After 18. Bxf4 e5 White has the incredible resource 19. c5!! dxd3 20. dxg7! You would expect someone to have a forced win with so many pieces hanging, but all lines seem to lead to fairly balanced positions. For example 20...xc5 (20...xg7 21. g5+ g6 22. xf6+ g8 23. f3!) 21. dx8 fxe8 22. bxc5

18...b8 19. c2 g6 20. b2? White should have tried 20. h3h4 . The text move allows

Black to execute a devastating attack on the dark squares.

20...xf5 21. exf5 e3+ 22. h1 h5 23. fe1 g3+ 24. h2 e4+ 25. h1 f2+ 26. g1 xh3+ 27. h1

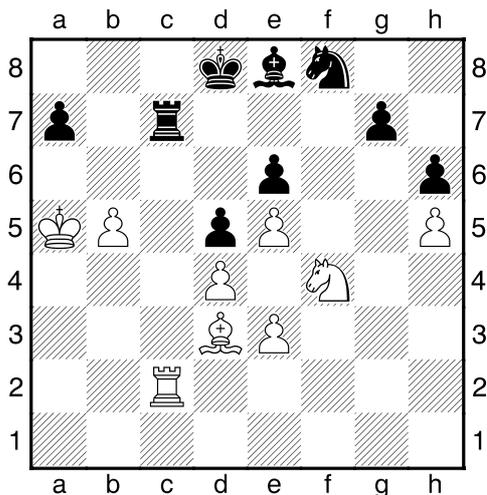


27...g1+ 27...g1+ 28. xg1 f2#

0-1

Erwin L'Ami (2631) - Gata Kamsky (2706)
WCO2014 Tromso (3.22), 04.08.2014

1. d4 f5 2. c3 f6 3. g5 d5 4. e3 e6 5. f3 e7 6. d3 0-0 7. 0-0 bd7 8. e2 h6 9. f4 b6 10. xf6 Bxf6 11. e5 d6 12. h5 f8 13. f4 c5 14. c3 d7 15. g4 xe5 16. fe5 g5 17. f4 e8 18. g3 fxg4 19. Bxg4 Bxg4 20. Bxg4 Bc8 21. Bf4 cxd4 22. cxd4 f7 23. b3 d7 24. h4 f8 25. f2 f7 26. e2 c1 27. Bf1 Bxa1 28. Bxa1 g6 29. Bf1 e8 30. d2 c7 31. e2 g6 32. h5 f8 33. f4 c6 34. Bc1 f7 35. b4 Bc8 36. b5 d7 37. Bf1 e7 38. a4 b6 39. Ba1 Bc7 40. a5 bxa5 41. Bxa5 Bb7 42. c3 e8 43. b4 f7 44. Ba2 e8 45. a5 d8 46. Bc2 Bc7

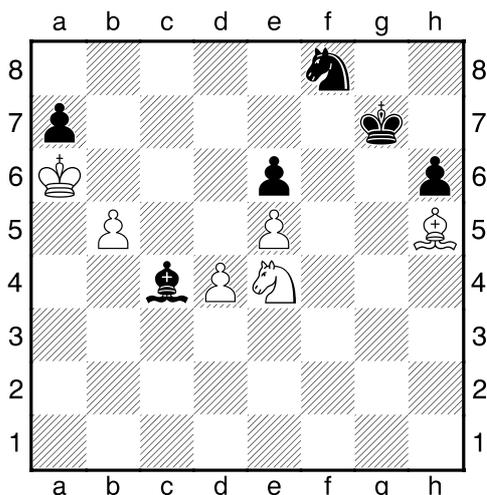


47. Bc5 White is in complete control. In addition to a substantial space advantage and more active pieces, he has juicy targets on a7 and e6. All Black can do, is defend passively and hope for the best.

47... Qd7 48. e4 dxe4 49. Qxe4 Qc8 50. Bc2 Bxc2 51. Qxc2 Qb7 52. Qd1 Qe7 53. Qg4 Qf7 54. Qd3 g6 54... Qe7 55. Qc5 Qc8 (55... Qa8 56. Qa6) 56. Qe4 g6 57. Qd6 amounts to the same thing.

55. Qc5 Qd5 55... Qc8 56. Qe4 Qe7 57. Qd6 Qd7 58. Qa6 and a7 drops.

56. Qa6 Qc4 57. Qe4 gxh5 58. Qxh5+ Qg7

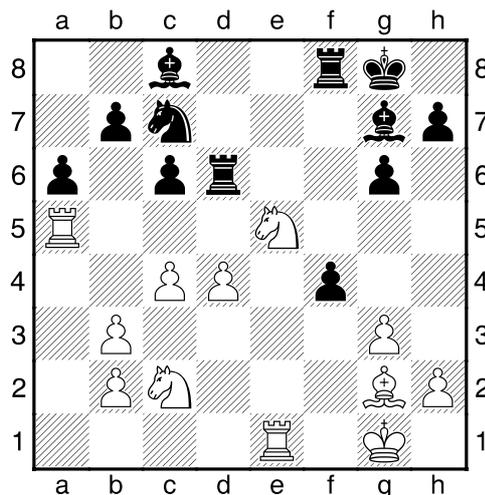


59. Qd6 Qd5 60. Qxa7 and Black resigned as there's no stopping the b-pawn.

1-0

Sergei Movsesian (2672) -
Laurent Fressinet (2708)
WCO2014 Tromso (3.27), 04.08.2014

30... f4!

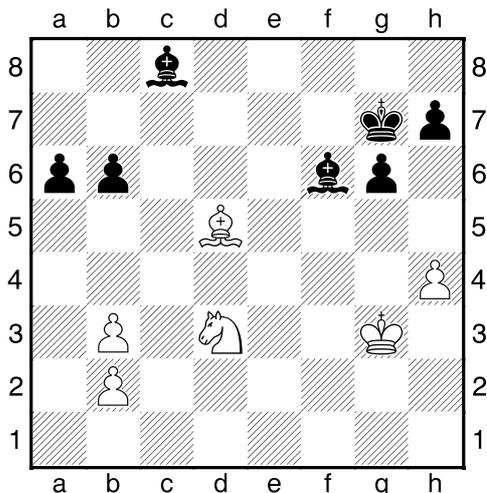


31. gxf4 31. b4 Qf5 32. Qe4 fxg3 33. hxg3 Qe6 34. Qxf5 Bxf5 35. Bc4 Qxd4 36. Qxd4 Bxe5 also leads to an ending where Black will be a healthy pawn up, but White might have some practical drawing chances after 37. Baxe5 Qxe5 38. Bxe5 Qxd4 39. Qe8+ Qf7 40. Bb8 ; 31. Qh1

31... Qe6 32. c5 Bdd8 33. d5 33. Ba4 Qxf4 also looks extremely pleasant for Black.

33... cxd5 34. c6 Qxf4 35. c7 Bd6 36. Qb4 Bc8 37. Qbd3 Qxd3 38. Qxd3 Qd4+ 39. Qh1 Bxe1+ 40. Qxe1 Qb6 41. Bxd5 Bxd5 42. Qxd5+ Qg7 43. Qd3 White continues his resistance, but he is unable to escape his fate. Black will soon be a pawn up, and White's doubled pawn will be an obvious target for the two bishops.

43...♔f6 44.♖g2 ♕xc7 45.h4 ♕d6 46.♔f3 b6
47.♗f2 ♕e7 48.♔f4 ♖g7 49.♖g3 ♕f6 50.♗d3



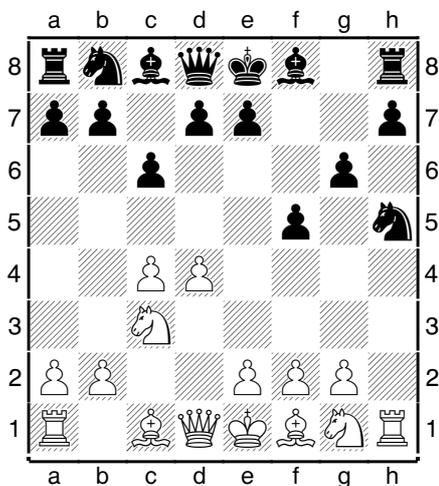
50...♕f5 51.♗f4 ♕xb2 52.♔f3 ♕f6 53.h5 ♕e5
54.♗e6+ ♔f6 55.♗f8 gxh5 56.♕e4 ♕g4+ and
White finally decided to throw in the towel.

0-1

Sarasadat Khademalsharieh (2324) -
Elena Boric (2196)
WCO2014 Tromso (3.10), 04.08.2014

1.d4 f5 2.c4 ♗f6 3.♗c3 g6 4.h4!? c6 White
scores well after 4...♕g7 5.h5 ♗xh5 6.e4 , but
it's not clear how dangerous this attack really
is. The point of the text move is to bring the
queen out and vacate d8 for the king.

5.h5 ♗xh5



6.♖xh5!? White decides to unleash the dogs
without further ado.

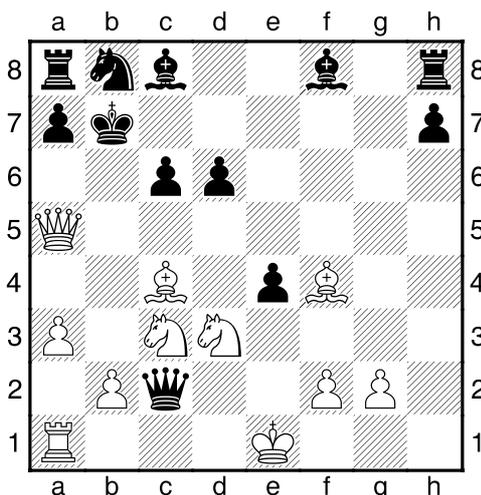
6.e4 was also tempting.

6...gxh5 7.e4 ♖b6? 7...d6 8.♖xh5+ ♔d7
9.♖xf5+ ♔c7 would have provided Black's king
with a relatively safe hiding place. Now both
the king and queen end up in dire straits.

8.♖xh5+ ♔d8 9.c5 ♖b4 10.♗f3 b6 If this is
Black's best, her position was already beyond
salvation.

11.a3 ♖b3 12.♗e5 ♔c7 13.♕c4 ♖c2 14.♗d3
Now White threatens to trap the black queen
with Nb4.

14...bxc5 15.♕f4+ d6 16.dxc5 fxe4 17.cxd6+
exd6 18.♖a5+ ♔b7

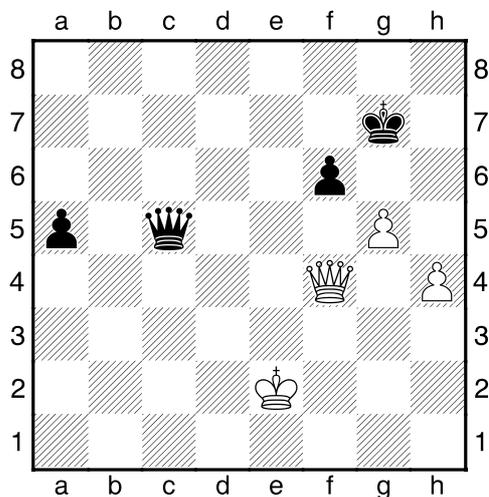


19.♗c5+! 19.♗c5+ dxc5 20.♖c7#

1-0

Zoltan Almasi (2690) -
 Yangyi Yu (2668)
 WCO2014 Tromso (3.7), 04.08.2014

81. ♖e2?



This slip allows Black to force a winning pawn ending.

81... ♖e5+ 82. ♖e3 ♖xe3+ 83. ♖xe3 f5! 84. h5 a4 85. ♖f4 a3

0-1

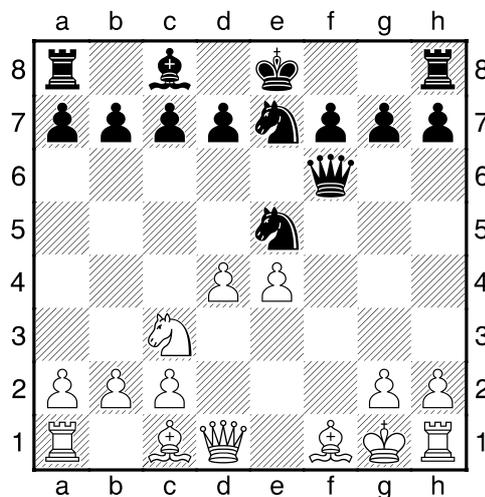
All games and the previous bulletin are available here:
<https://chess24.com/en/olympiad2014/games/pgn>

Blunders, upsets and Knockouts

By GM Einar Gausel

Nava Starr (2145) -
 Luzia Pires (1538)
 WCO2014 Tromso (3.24), 04.08.2014

1. e4 e5 2. ♘f3 ♘c6 3. ♘c3 ♙c5 4. ♘xe5 ♙xf2+
 5. ♖xf2 ♘xe5 6. d4 ♗f6+ 7. ♖g1 ♘e7



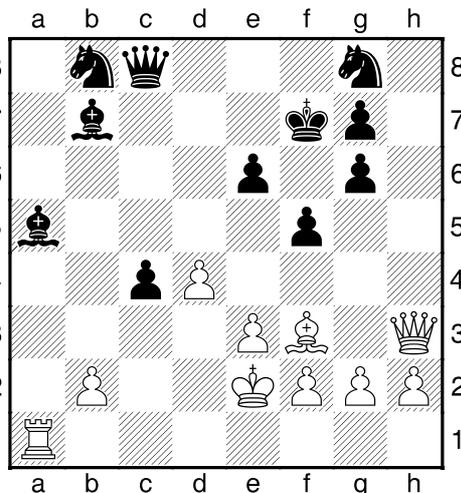
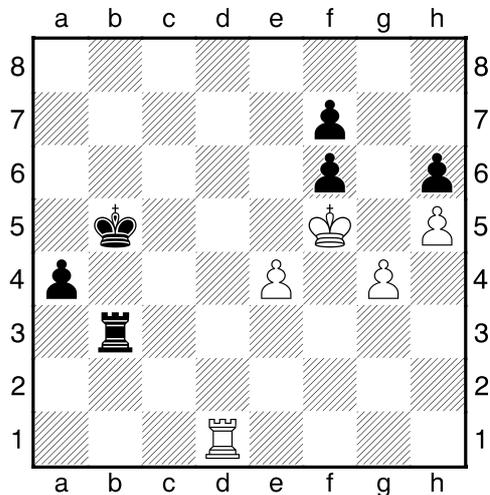
8. dxe5?? ♗b6+

0-1

**Dlamini Sbonelo -
Tandin Wangchuk**
WCO2014 Tromso (3.37), 04.08.2014

22...♙xd6 23.♖xa5 ♘b4+ 24.♔e2 ♙xa5
25.♖a1

49.♖d1?



49.♖d5+ ♔b4 50.♖d4+ ♔a5 51.♔xf6∞

25...c3! 26.♖xa5 ♖c4+ 26...♖c4+ 27.♔e1
cxb2

49...♖f3#

0-1

0-1

**Zaheeruddeen Asefi (1996) –
Basheer Al Qudaimi (2396)**
WCO2014 Tromso (3.48), 04.08.2014

22.♘d6+?

