

Out from under

WHEN A very strong Grandmaster loses to a weaker one, particularly if the stronger player is White, something special has often happened in the game. Sometimes a new piece of opening analysis is revealed, or a new plan for an early middle-game. In the following encounter the Finnish GM Heikki Westerinen topples the Dutch superstar Jan Timman in such a way that Timman may be forced to revise his entire strategy in the variation of the King's

Indian Defence that he played.

Geneva 1977

KING'S INDIAN DEFENCE

J. Timman	H. Westerinen
1. Nf3	Nf6
2. c4	g6
3. Nc3	Bg7
4. e4	d6
5. d4	0-0
6. Be2	e5
7. d5	a5

- 8. Bg5 h6
- 9. Bh4 Na6
- 10. Nd2 Qe8

Timman is playing the Petrosian system, but Black's 10... Qe8 is an infrequently played move. I played Westerinen at the Haifa Olympiad and he is well known for his aggression, so it is not surprising here that his plan is a king-side offensive.

- 11. a3 Bd7
- 12. b3 Nh7
- 13. 0-0 f5



14. exf5
Objectively 14.f3 was better

but Black has an easy game. Timman probably exchanged pawns on the general principle that if a piece recaptures on f5 White is winning because of the blockade he can set up on e4 with his knights. Seeing that the Finn couldn't reply 14... gxf5 (15.Bh5 Qe8 16.Be7) he decided to swap, but as it turned out White never does control e4.

- 14... Bxf5
- 15. Re1

Immediate occupation of the key square loses after 15.Nde4? Bxe4 16.Nxe4 Rf4.

- 15... g5
- 16. Bg3 Nf6
- 17. Nf1 Nc5
- 18. Ne3 Bg6
- 19. Nb5 Qf7
- 20. Rf1 Nh5
- 21. b4

White's strategy is so in keeping with what has been played in similar positions before that it is hard to condemn this move, even though it permits Black to trade his only dormant piece. As one player said: "White played perfectly in this game and still lost. It just shows you how good the King's Indian is!"

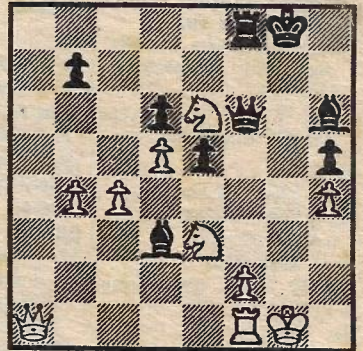
- 21... axb4
- 22. axb4 Rxa1
- 23. Qxa1 Nf4
- 24. Bg4 Ncd3
- 25. Qa7 h5
- 26. Bxf4 Qxf4
- 27. Be2 Nc1!
- 28. Bf3 Nb3!

The killer manoeuvre. On 29.Qa2 Black has 29... Nd4 30.Nxd4 exd4 31.Nd1 Be5 winning.

- 29. Nxc7 Nd2!
- 30. Ne6 Nxf3 ch
- 31. gxf3 Qxf3
- 32. Nxf8

32.Nxf8 gets crushed immediately by 32... Be4 while 32.Qxb7 goes down to the interpolation 32... Bh6, followed by 33... Be4.

- 32... Qf6
- 33. h4 Bd3
- 34. Qa1 Bh6
- 35. Ne6



- 35... Bxe3
- 36. Nxf8 Qg7 ch
- 37. Kh1 Be4 ch
- 38. f3 Qg3
- 39. fxex4 Qh3 mate.

With that effort Westerinen won the prize at Geneva for the best attacking game. Apparently he was also in time-trouble near the end which is why Timman played on until mate.

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