

12th European Individual Chess Championship



Round 8 report

by
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JUDIT POLGAR

The game between Lupulescu and Nisipeanu was the only quick draw of the day in the auditorium. Actually, the round 8 was a nice example of fighting spirit and there is still a tough fight for the lead. After a third draw in a row, Potkin led a small group of players in the top score group: Vitiugov, Iordachescu, Ragger, Mamedov and Parligras all won and now have the nice score of +5.

On the other hand, the top seeded grandmasters Nepomniachtchi, Jakovenko, Jobava, Sutovsky are looking as if they didn't want to joke anymore and joined the +4 rank. Judit Polgar also won yesterday (against Guseinov) and after the wonderful win of the round 7, keeps delighting her fans as she often has for the last twenty years.

Pantsulaia,L
g 2585

Polgar,J
g 2686

ECO A13

1.c4 e6 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.g3 d5 4.♙c2

A very unusual move. Pantsulaia clearly wanted to invite Polgar out of theory.

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4...c5 5.d4?!

Quite dubious. In many games, black was ready to play this position with a tempo less.

5...cxd4 6.♖xd4 e5 7.♗b3Once, a different move was played against Alekhine, more than eighty years ago.
7.♗f3 ♗c6 8.cxd5 ♗xd5 9.a3 ♕e6 10.♕d2 ♕e7 11.♗c3 0-0 12.♕g2 ♖c8 0-1 Takacs,S-Alekhine,A/Kecskemet 1927.**7...♗c6 8.♕g2 ♗b4!**

Black already has an advantage.

9.♖d1 dxc4 10.♗3d2 ♕f5 11.♗a3 b5!! 12.♕xa8 ♖xa8 13.♗f3**13...♗d3+!?**

13...♖c6 14.0-0 ♕h3 15.♖e1 ♕c5 would have been a safer way to ensure the advantage.

14.exd3 ♕xd3

Judit is a rook down at this moment!

15.♗xb5 ♕b4+ 16.♗c3 0-0 17.♖g1 ♗e4! 18.♕d2 ♖d8

The white king is totally encircled.

19.♖c1

19.♗g5 could have been a good try to get some breathing space. 19...♕xc3 20.bxc3 ♗xd2 21.♖xd2 But still 21...h6 22.♗xf7 ♗xf7 gives black a nice initiative.

19...♗xc3 20.bxc3 ♕a3 21.♕e3 ♕xc1 22.♕xc1 ♖b8! 23.♗d2 ♖d5 24.♖a4 a5

White has simply no moves.

25.♖d1 h6 26.♖f3 ♖b1! 27.♗d1

27.♖d1 ♖a1

27...e4 28.♖f4 ♖a1 29.♖b8+ ♗h7 30.g4 ♖d7 31.♖e5 e3!!

Preventing a perpetual check on the light squares.

32.fxe3 ♖a4+ 33.♗e1 ♖xc1+ 34.♗f2 ♖xg1

Another wonderful game from the Hungarian star!

0-1

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