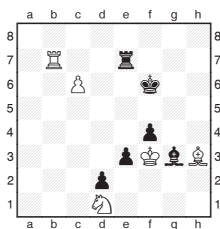


**Michael Adams**



## Grand moves from three superstars

With the London leg of the FIDE Grand Prix just past the halfway point, here is some scintillating play by its three highest-rated stars, taken from the recent Olympiad.



**H. Nakamura - V. Kramnik**  
Istanbul Olympiad 2012

### 60.Rb7xe7

White should gradually win after 60.Bh3-f1, but Hikaru comes up with a very eloquent solution. You don't see this kind of beauty often in over-the-board play.

**60... Kf6xe7**  
**61.c6-c7 e3-e2**

### 62.c7-c8N+

62.Kf3xe2 f4-f3+ saves the day, so the awesome underpromotion is the only way to win.

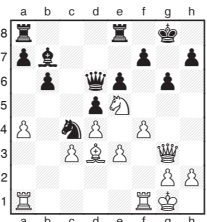
**62... Ke7-f6**  
**63.Kf3xe2 Kf6-e5**

Although two knights can't mate a lone king, here the opposite bishops make the technical task very easy, as the Black king is gradually escorted to his fate in the corner of the board.

**64.Nc8-b6 Ke5-d4**  
**65.Bh3-g2 Bg3-e1**  
**66.Nb6-d5 Kd4-e5**  
**67.Nd5-b4 Be1-h4**  
**68.Nb4-d3+ Ke5-f5**  
**69.Ke2xd2 Kf5-g4**

**70.Kd2-e2 Bh4-f6**  
**71.Nd1-f2+ Kg4-g3**  
**72.Bg2-f3 Bf6-d8**  
**73.Nf2-e4+ Kg3-h4**  
**74.Nd3-e5 Bd8-c7**  
**75.Ne5-g6+ Kh4-h3**  
**76.Ng6-e7 Bc7-d8**  
**77.Ne7-f5 Bd8-b6**  
**78.Ke2-f1 Kh3-h2**  
**79.Bf3-g4 f4-f3**  
**80.Nf5-h4**

Black resigned before 80...Kh2-h1 81.Nh4xf3 Bb6-c7 82.Ne4-f2 mate.



**V. Ivanchuk - Wang Hao**  
Istanbul Olympiad 2012

**19... Qd6-c7**

Black should have played 19...Qd6-e7, as if White continues as in the game with 20.Bd3xc4 d5xc4 21.f4-f5 e6xf5 22.Rf1xf5 he has the option of 22...f7-f6.

**20.Bd3xc4 d5xc4**  
**21.f4-f5 f7-f6**

21...e6xf5 22.Rf1xf5 Bb7-d5 23.Ra1-f1 was unenticing, but had to be tried.

### 22.f5xg6

22.Ne5-g4 Qc7xg3 23.Ng4xf6+ is good, but instead Ivanchuk calculates very deeply to the mate at the end of the game and finds a much stronger continuation.

**22... f6xe5**  
**23.Rf1-f7 Qc7-c6**  
**24.g6xh7+ Kg8xf7**  
**25.Ra1-f1+ Kf7-e7**  
**26.h7-h8Q**

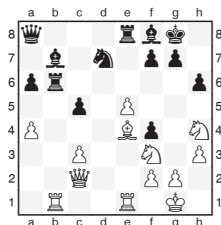
26.Qg3-g7+ Ke7-d6 27.h7-h8Q reaches the same position.

**26... Re8xh8**  
**27.Qg3-g7+ Ke7-d6**  
27...Ke7-d8 28.Qg7xh8+ Qc6-e8 29.Rf1-f8 also wins.

### 28.d4xe5+

Wang Hao may have thought there was nothing better here than 28.Qg7xe5+ Kd6-e7 29.Qe5-g7+ with perpetual, but Vasily has seen further.

**28... Kd6-d5**  
and Black resigned, as after 29.Rf1-d1+ Kd5-e4 the lethal quiet move 30.Qg7-g5 forces mate next go. The other option 28...Kd6-c5 29.Qg7-e7+ Kc5-d5 30.Rf1-d1+ Kd5-e4 31.Qe7-g5 only delays the inevitable.



**A. Grischuk - Z. Almasi**  
Istanbul Olympiad 2012

Grischuk alertly seizes the opportunity to exploit his opponent's weak light squares.

**32.Be4-h7+ Kg8-h8**  
**33.Rb1xb6 Nd7xb6**  
**34.e5-e6 Bb7xf3**

Black was still in trouble after 34...Bb7-d5, but it was a better try.

### 35.Nh4xf3 g7-g6

After 35...Re8xe6 36.Re1xe6 f7xe6 37.Nf3-e5 Qa8-a7 38.Qc2-g6, threatening Ne5-f7+ wins.

**36.Bh7xg6 f7xg6**  
**37.Qc2xg6 Qa8-c8**

With his pawn cover decimated, Black's king can't survive long in the line 37...Bf8-g7 38.Nf3-e5 Bg7xe5 39.Qg6xh6+ Kh8-g8 40.Re1xe5.

**38.Nf3-e5 Bf8-g7**  
**39.Ne5-f7+ Kh8-g8**

**40.Nf7xh6+**  
Black resigned, as 40...Kg8-h8 41.Nh6-f7+ Kh8-g8 42.Nf7-d6 mops up.