

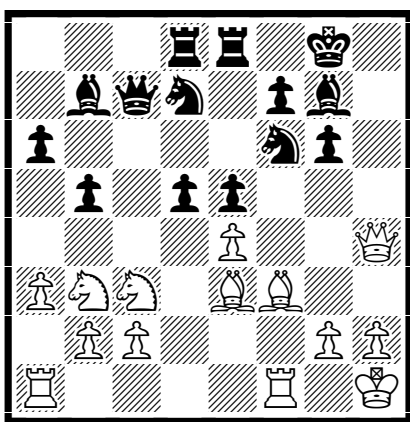
Mikhail Tal: 15 (g/15) Games

M. Tal – D. Bronstein Match (g/15) Riga 1974

In 1974 Tal played a match of 8 games against David Bronstein, with time limit of 15 minutes per player per game. Tal won the match with score 5.5:2.5. The interesting fact is that no game of the match was lost because of time! Below are two games from this match.

B93 D. Bronstein – M. Tal
Riga (m-2) (g/15) 1974

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.O-O g6 8.f4 Bg7 9.Be3 O-O
10.Kh1 e5 11.Nb3 Qc7 12.f5 b5 13.fxg6 hxg6 14.a3 Bb7 15.Bf3 Rad8 16.Qe1 Rfe8 17.Qh4 d5!**

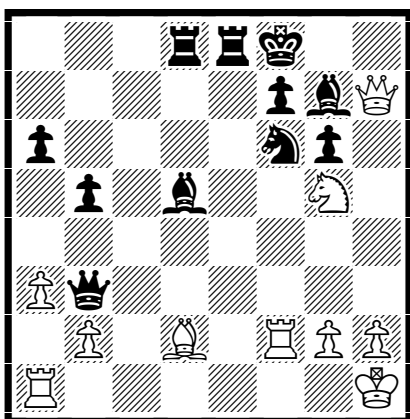


Proving once again that counter play in the center is the best answer to the opponent's attack on the wing.

18.exd5 e4 19.Bxe4 Nxe4 20.Nxe4 Qxc2 21.Ng5 Bxd5 22.Rf2 Qxb3 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.Bd2

In case of 24.Bd4 Black can play either 24...Ne5 25.Bc5+ Re7, or 24...Re5 may be even stronger.

24...Nf6!



25.Rxf6 Bxg2+! 26.Kg1 Rxd2 27.Rxf7+ Qxf7 28.Nxf7 Bd4# 0-1

B34 M. Tal – D. Bronstein

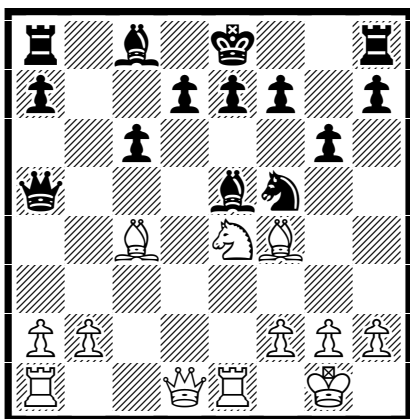
Riga (m-5) (g/15) 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Bc4 Bg7 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.e5 Ng8 9.Bf4

Theoretically, White has more attacking chances with 9.Qf3 f5 10.Bf4 Rb8 11.O-O etc.

9...Qa5 10.O-O Nh6 11.Ne4 Nf5 12.Re1 Bxe5!?

Risky, but forced. After 12...O-O 13.g4 Nh6 (13...Nh4 14.Bg5) 14.h3 White clearly has the advantage.



13.Bxf7+! Kf8 14.b4 Qc7 15.Bxe5 Qxe5 16.Bb3 d5 17.Nc5 Qd4 18.Qe2

Perhaps the immediate 18.c4!? is stronger.

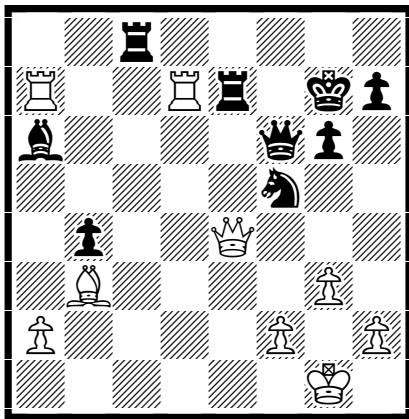
18...a5 19.c4

Sacrificing a Knight, and demonstrating his belief that in games with a fast control, to attack with a piece down is easier than to be in defense with an extra piece. But this time Tal comes up against resilient and ingenious defense by another great grandmaster with an intuitive style of play.

19...axb4 20.cxd5 Qxc5 21.Rac1 Qd6 22.Rxc6 Qf4 23.g3 Qd4 24.d6

Instead 25.g4 Kg7 25.gxf5 Re8 is unclear.

24...Kg7 25.Rd1 Qf6 26.Rc7 Ba6 27.dxe7 Rhe8 28.Qe4 Rac8 29.Ra7 Rxe7 30.Rdd7



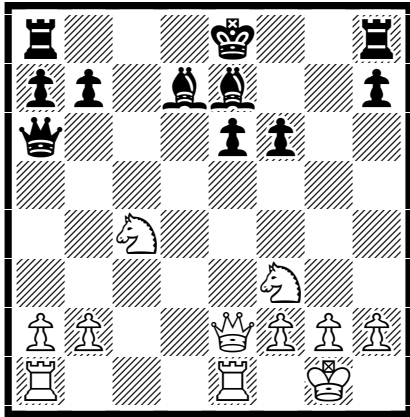
30...Rc1+ 31.Kg2 Bf1+ 32.Kf3 Nd4+ 33.Ke3 Re1+ 0-1

“Sahs” (g/15)

Riga 1986

A03 M. Tal – A. Shabalov
Riga (g/15) "Sahs" 1986

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.Bg5 c5 4.e3 Qb6 5.Nbd2 d5 6.Bxf6 gxf6 7.c4 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nc6 10.O-O Be7 11.d5 Na5 12.dxe6 fxe6 13.Re1 Bd7 14.Qe2 Nxc4 15.Nxc4 Qa6

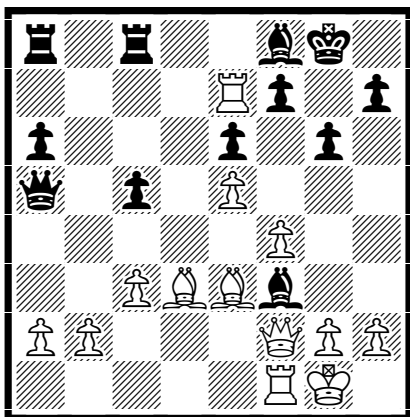


16.Nfe5! fxe5 17.Qh5+ Kd8 18.Nxe5 Kc8 19.Rac1+ Kd8 20.Nf7+ 1-0

B09 M.Tal – A.Vitolins

Riga (g/15) "Sahs" 1986

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Bd3 c5 7.dxc5 dxc5 8.e5 Nd5 9.Nxd5 Qxd5 10.Qe2 Nc6 11.Bc4 Qd8 12.Be3 Qa5+ 13.c3 b5 14.Bxb5 Bb7 15.O-O a6 16.Bc4 e6 17.Qf2 Rfc8 18.Rad1 Ne7 19.Rd7 Bd5 20.Bd3 Bxf3 21.Rxe7 Bf8

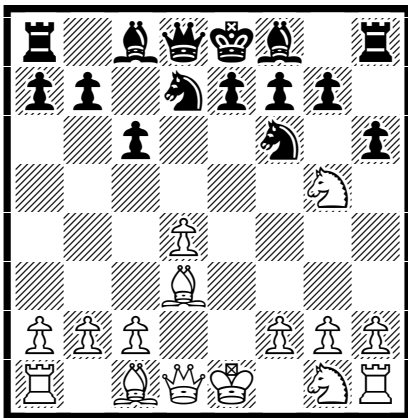


22.Rxf7 Kxf7 23.Qxf3 c4 24.f5! Kg8 25.fxg6 Bg7 26.Bxc4 Rf8 27.Bxe6+ Kh8 28.Qh5 Rxf1+ 29.Kxf1 Rf8+ 30.Kg1 h6 31.Bxh6 1-0

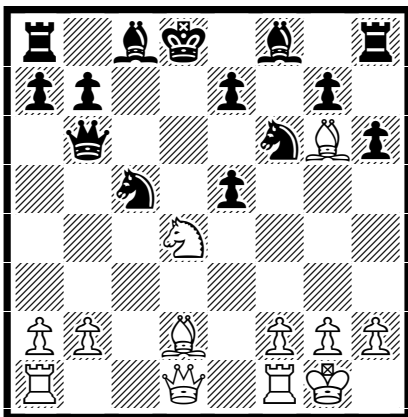
Cup Riga (g/15) Riga October 1986

B17 M. Tal – Oll
Riga (g/15) Cup Riga 1986

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Bd3 Ngf6 6.Ng5 h6



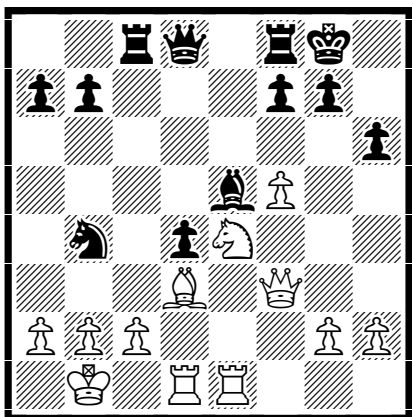
7.Ne6 Qa5+ 8.Bd2 Qb6 9.Nf3 fxe6 10.Bg6+ Kd8 11.O-O c5 12.c4! cxd4 13.Nxd4 e5 14.c5! Nxc5



15.Ba5! exd4 16.Qxd4+ Ncd7 17.Bxb6+ axb6 18.Rac1 e5 19.Qc4 Bc5 20.Rfd1 Rf8 21.b4 Bd4
22.Rxd4 1-0

B64 Klovans – M. Tal
Riga (g/15) Cup Riga 1986

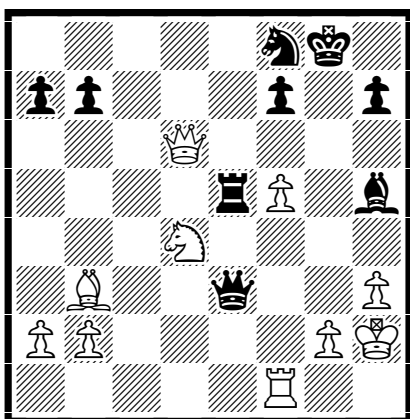
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Bg5 Nc6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.O-O-O O-O 9.f4 h6 10.Bh4 e5 11.Nf5 Bxf5 12.exf5 exf4 13.Qxf4 d5 14.Kb1 d4 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Ne4 Be5 17.Qf3 Rc8 18.Bd3 Nb4 19.Rhe1



19...Qd5 20.b3 Qa5 21.a4 b5 22.Bxb5 Nxc2 23.Re2 Na3+ 0-1

C24 M. Tal – Shulman
Riga (g/15) Cup Riga 1986

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 c6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.O-O d6 6.c3 O-O 7.Nbd2 Nbd7 8.Bb3 d5 9.Re1 Qc7 10.Qe2 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Qxe4 Bf6 13.d4 exd4 14.Bf4 Qa5 15.cxd4 Nb6 16.Bd6 Bf5 17.Qf4 Rfe8 18.Be5 Bg6 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Qxf6 Nd7 21.Qf4 c5 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Qd6 Qb5 24.Rc1 cxd4 25.Nxd4 Qg5 26.f4 Qa5 27.h3 Qd2 28.Rd1 Qe3+ 29.Kh2 Nf8 30.f5 Bh5 31.Rf1 Re5



32.Ne6!! 1-0

E61 V. Bagirov – M. Tal

Riga (g/15) Cup Riga 1986

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Bg5 O-O 6.e3 c5 7.Bh4 Bf5 8.Be2 Ne4 9.Nxe4 Bxe4 10.O-O Nc6 11.d5 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Ne5 13.Be2 f5 14.Qc2 Qd7 15.Rae1 a6 16.f4 Ng4 17.Bxg4 fxg4 18.e4 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 b5 20.b3 bxc4 21.Qxc4 Ra7 22.e5 Qb5 23.exd6 exd6 24.Be7 Qxc4 25.bxc4 Rb8 26.Bxd6 Rb2 27.f5 gxf5 28.Rxf5 Rxa2 29.h3 gxh3 30.gxh3 Rd7 31.Rg5+ Kf7 32.Rf1+ Bf6 33.Be5 1-0

Moscow 1988

B80 F. Pripis – M. Tal

Moscow (g/15) 1988

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.O-O O-O 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.e5 dxe5 11.Bxc6 Ba6 12.Bxa8 Qxa8 13.Re1 Rd8 14.Bd2 Bc5 15.Na4 Bd4 16.c3 Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Ne4+ 18.Rxe4 Qxe4 19.Nc5 Qf5+ 20.Kg1 Bb5 21.Qe1 h5 22.Be3 h4 23.Qf2 Qg4 24.Bd2 hxg3 25.hxg3 Bc6 26.Rf1 Rxd2 0-1

Riga (g/15) January 1990

B02 M. Tal – A. Stavrinov

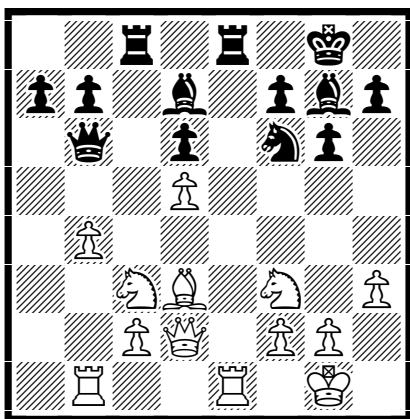
Riga (g/15) 1990

**1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.Nc3 e6 4.d4 d6 5.Nf3 Nxc3 6.bxc3 dxe5 7.Nxe5 Nd7 8.f4 c5 9.Bb5 a6
10.Bxd7+ Bxd7 11.O-O Be7 12.Qf3 Qc7 13.Rb1 Rb8 14.f5 O-O 15.Bf4 Bd6 16.f6 g6 17.Qg3
Bb5 18.Qg5 Kh8 19.Qh6 Rg8 20.Rxb5 axb5 21.Rf3 1-0**

A43 V. Bagirov – M. Tal

Riga (g/15) 1990

**1.d4 c5 2.d5 g6 3.Bd2 Nf6 4.Bc3 Bg7 5.e4 O-O 6.e5 Ne4 7.Nf3 d6 8.exd6 Nxc3 9.Nxc3 exd6
10.Be2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Qa5 12.Qd2 Re8 13.O-O Nd7 14.Rfe1 Nf6 15.a3 Bd7 16.b4 cxb4 17.axb4
Qb6 18.h3 Rac8 19.Bd3**

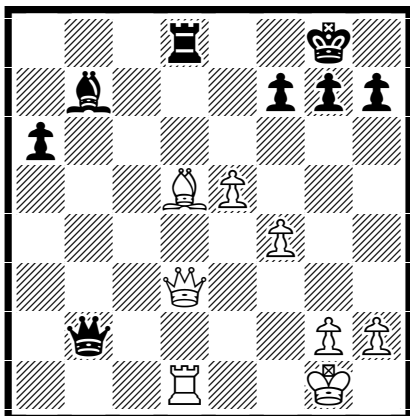


**19...Rxc3!? 20.Qxc3 Ne4 21.Qc4! Qxf2+ 22.Kh1 Bxh3 23.Bf1 Bf5 24.Bd3 Rc8 25.Qxc8+ Bxc8
26.Rxe4 Kf8 27.Rf1 Qg3 28.Bb5 Be5 29.Nxe5 dxe5 30.d6 Bh3 31.gxh3 Qxh3+ 1/2-1/2**

A55 M. Tal – A. Shabalov

Riga (g/15) 1990

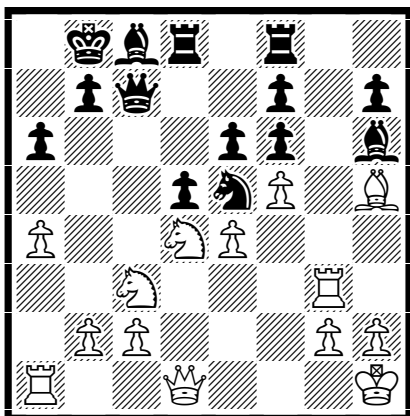
1.c4 c6 2.e4 e5 3.Nf3 d6 4.d4 Nd7 5.Nc3 Be7 6.Be2 Ngf6 7.O-O O-O 8.Be3 Re8 9.Qc2 Qc7
 10.Rad1 a6 11.b4 b6 12.c5 bxc5 13.bxc5 dxc5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Qxe5 16.f4 Qc7 17.e5 Bf8
 18.Na4 Nd5 19.Bxc5 Qa5 20.Bxf8 Rxf8 21.Qxc6 Ne3 22.Qxa8 Qxa4 23.Qf3 Nxf1 24.Qxf1 Qxa2
 25.Bc4 Qb2 26.Qd3 Bb7 27.Bd5 Rd8



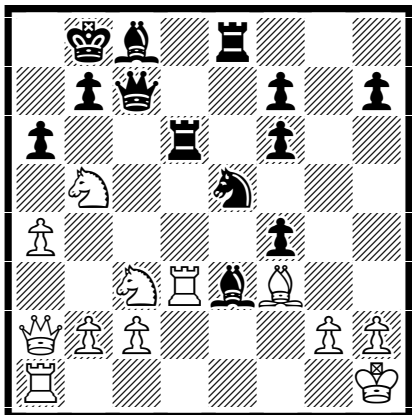
28.Bxf7+ Kxf7 29.Qf5+ Ke7 30.Qg5+ Kf7 31.e6+ Kxe6 32.f5+ Kf7 33.Rxd8 Qb6+ 34.Kf1 Qb1+
 35.Kf2 Qb6+ 36.Kg3 Qc7+ 37.Kh3 Qc3+ 38.g3 Qc6 39.Rd2 a5 40.Qh5+ Ke7 41.Qg5+ Kf7
 42.Qh5+ Ke7 43.Qxh7 1-0

B96 E. Kengis – M. Tal
 Riga (g/15) 1990

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qc7 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.Be2 Nc6
 10.Nb3 Bd7 11.Bh5 Bg7 12.O-O Rf8 13.Kh1 O-O-O 14.Rf3 Kb8 15.f5 Ne5 16.Rg3 Bh6 17.Nd4
 Bc8 18.a4 d5



19.exd5 exf5 20.Qg1 Nc4 21.Rd3 Rfe8 22.Bf3 Be3 23.Qb1 f4 24.Qa2 Ne5 25.d6 Rxd6 26.Ndb5



26...Nxd3!! 27.Nxc7 Nf2+ 28.Kg1 Ne4+ 29.Kh1 Ng3+!! 30.hxg3 f5 31.Bh5 Rh6 32.Qxf7 Rf8 33.Nxa6+ bxa6 34.Qb3+ Bb7 0-1

C91 M. Tal – J. Klovans
Riga (g/15) 1990

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.d4 Bg4 10.d5 Na5 11.Bc2 c6 12.h3 Bc8 13.dxc6 Nxc6 14.Nbd2 Qc7 15.Nf1 Bb7 16.Ne3 g6 17.Ng5 Rad8 18.Nd5 Nxd5 19.exd5 Na5 20.Nxh7 Kxh7 21.Qh5+ Kg8 22.Bxg6 fxg6 23.Qxg6+ Kh8 24.Qh6+ Kg8 25.Re3 Bf6 26.Rg3+ Bg7 27.Qe6+ Rf7 28.Bh6 Kh7 29.Qg6+ Kg8 30.Rd1 Bc8 31.Qh5 Nc4 32.Rdd3 e4 33.Bxg7 Rxg7 34.Rxg7+ Qxg7 35.Rg3 Qxg3 36.fxg3 Rf8 37.Qg6+ Kh8 38.Qxe4 Bf5 39.Qe7 Kg8 40.b3 Ne5 41.Qxd6 1-0

D86 M. Tal – V. Bagirov
Riga (g/15) 1990

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 c5 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 b5 11.Bd5 Bd7 12.Rc1 Rc8 13.O-O O-O 14.Bxc6 Rxc6 15.Rxc6 Bxc6 16.d5 Bd7 17.Bxa7 Qa5 18.Bc5 Qxa2 19.Bxe7 Rc8 20.Qd3 Qc4 21.Qe3 b4 22.Rb1 Bb5 23.Rc1 b3 24.Rxc4 Bxc4 25.Ba3 Ra8 26.Qc5 Bxe2 27.Qb4 Bd1 28.d6 Bf8 29.e5 Bc2 30.g4 b2 31.Bxb2 Ra4 32.Qc3 Rxg4+ 33.Kf1 Ba4 34.Qc8 Bb5+ 35.Ke1 Rc4 36.d7 Re4+ 37.Kd1 Ba4+ 38.Kd2 1-0