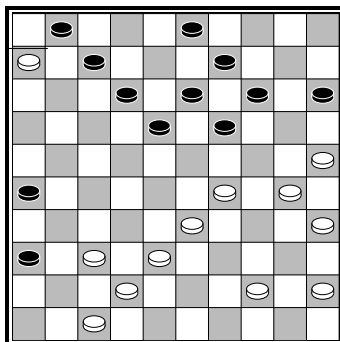


# Section 6:

## Edge pieces



Edge pieces often give the game an extra dimension. Edge pieces influence the game both tactically and strategically. A piece at <36> can be used by the opponent for making shots. On the other hand piece <36> can take space away from the opponent.

We discuss strategies when playing against an edge piece at <36>. Games with this edge piece are very popular. Players who excel in playing against <36> are Harm Wiersma, Alexander Shwarzman and Alexander Baliakin.

The question concerning edge pieces always is: is the edge piece weak or strong?

For example, having an edge piece at <26> often helps controlling the left flank, but the opponent could also use it for tactical purposes.

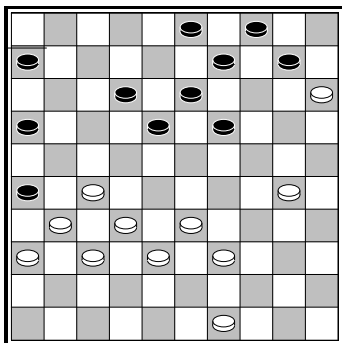
A piece at <16> is rarely strong. We focus on how to exploit situations when you have a strong centre while your opponent has several pieces at the edge of the board, like a piece at <16>.

1. Games with piece 15 / 36
2. Playing against piece 15 / 36
3. Piece 26
4. Piece 16
5. Piece 6

After having studied this section you'll know what kind of strategies are important when edge pieces are involved. You'll also get acquainted with typical tactical ideas for these types of positions.

## 1. Games with piece 15 / 36

Piece 15 is a special piece. It often helps surrounding the opponent's centre, but it can also become inactive. The opponent can use the piece for tactical means.



**M. Sjulman – Ermakov**

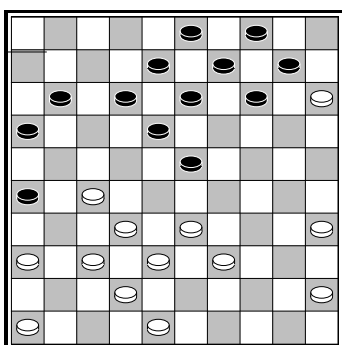
At his left wing white has a strong cannon. He controls the other wing with pieces 15 and 30. Black hasn't got enough formations to be able to control strategic squares. If he plays 1... 3 – 8 with the idea of changing 19 – 24 x 24, white responds 2.33 – 29! with a great position for white. 2... 19 – 23 3.39 – 34 leads to the lethal threat 27 – 22 W+.

1... 19 – 23  
2.49 – 44 6 – 11  
3.30 – 25 10 – 14  
4.33 – 28 13 – 19?

4... 14 – 19 would have been a better defence. Now <19> becomes extremely weak.

5.44 – 40 9 – 13  
6.40 – 35 3 – 9  
7.38 – 33 12 – 17  
8.39 – 34 17 – 21  
9.34 – 30

Threatening 30 – 24 W+. Black sacrificed a piece by playing 23 – 29 and lost.



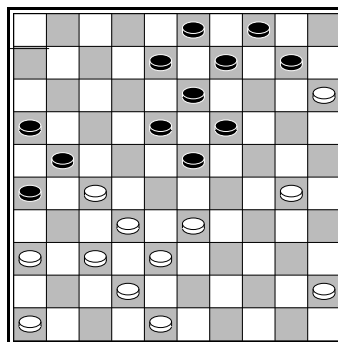
**I. Kuperman – N. Sretenski**

Black has a centrepiece 23 which is dangerous if the opponent has a piece at 15. He needs to take care white can't take control over <28>.

### 1.35 – 30 12 – 17?

A crucial mistake. Black should have played 1... 11 – 17!

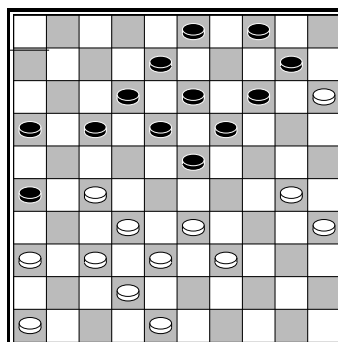
1) 2.33 – 28 14 – 19!  
At 17 – 21 or 17 – 22 white takes a kingshot.  
3.39 – 33 17 – 22! 4.28 x 17 12 x 21



1.1) 5.33 – 28 23 – 29! Black activates his formations. 6.28 – 23 is better for black while 6.30 – 25 is strongly met by 19 – 23! 7.28 x 19 13 x 24 8.45 – 40 10 – 14 with an excellent play for black. White's left wing is inactive. After 9.48 – 43 14 – 20! 10.25 x 14 9 x 20 black has a winning position.

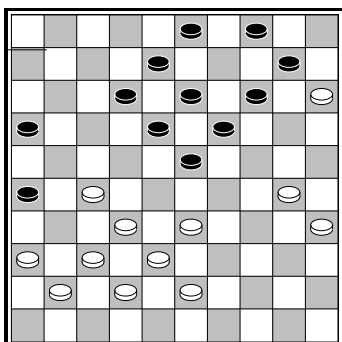
1.2) 5.45 – 40 9 – 14!  
6.33 – 28 is punished by 14 – 20 23 – 29 19 – 23 13 x 44 B+.  
6.40 – 35 23 – 28! 7.32 x 12 21 x 43 8.48 x 39 8 x 17 with advantage for black.

2) 2.45 – 40 14 – 19 3.40 – 35 9 – 14



At 4.33 – 28 black plays 17 – 22 5.28 x 17 12 x 21 6.39 – 33 23 – 28! etc. with an advantage. At 4.30 – 25 black acquires space to play with 19 – 24.  
4.39 – 34 17 – 21 5.33 – 28 23 – 29! 6.34 x 23 18 x 29 gives a great game for black.

The best way to play for white is waiting with going to <28>: 4.46 – 41 17 – 21 5.48 – 43 5.33 – 28 18 – 22!! 6.27 x 20 21 – 27 B+ 5... 12 – 17 6.33 – 28 17 – 22 7.28 x 17 21 x 12 8.39 – 33

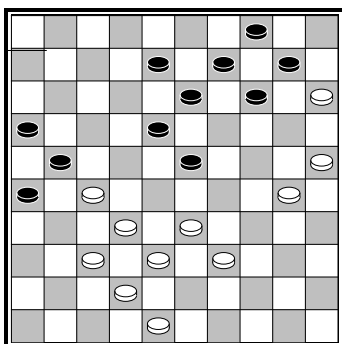


If white could play 33 – 28 at the next move he would have a very good position, but black has a strong pseudo sacrifice:  
8... 23 – 29! 9.33 x 24 14 – 20 with equality.

**2.33 – 28!**

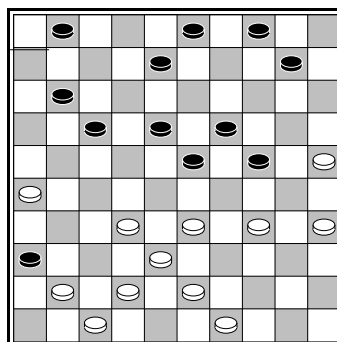
Black can't play 2... 17 – 21 3.28 x 19 13 x 35 due to 4.37 – 31 26 x 28 5.38 – 33 21 x 32 6.33 x 2 W+. As a result of this black has to close <19>. Black misses the 8 / 12 / 17 tail to remove piece 28.

2... 13 – 19  
3.30 – 25 17 – 21  
4.38 – 33 9 – 13  
5.48 – 43 8 – 12  
6.42 – 38 3 – 8  
7.46 – 41 23 – 29



**G. Jansen – G. Valneris**  
Wch 2003

**Exercise 1.1** Black to move. How do you judge this position?



**V. Wirny – N. Samb**

Black has a piece at 36 combined with a strong centre.

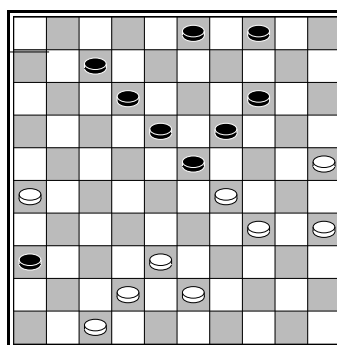
**32.33 – 29**

32 – 28 x 27 might be better. For example 32.32 – 28 23 x 32 33.38 x 27 8 – 12 *Threatening 24 – 30 B+*. 34.43 – 38 1 – 7 35.33 – 29 24 x 33 36.38 x 29 with equality.

32... 24 x 33  
33.38 x 29 10 – 14  
34.43 – 38 8 – 12  
35.49 – 43 17 – 22  
36.32 – 27 22 x 31  
37.26 x 37 11 – 17  
38.37 – 32 17 – 22  
39.41 – 37 1 – 7

Black kept on reinforcing his centre. That's why white changes piece 22.

40.32 – 27 22 x 31  
41.37 x 26



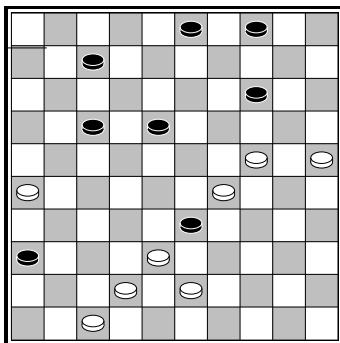
**41... 23 – 28!**

Power play! Black starts a forcing.

**42.34 – 30 28 – 33!**

White can't play 43.29 – 24 33 – 39 +.

**43.30 – 24 19 x 30**  
**44.35 x 24 12 – 17**



45.38 – 32 will be punished by 7 – 11 29 x 38  
 14 – 19 24 x 22 17 x 39 B+.

**45.26 – 21 17 x 26**  
**46.38 – 32 14 – 20**  
**47.24 x 15 33 x 24**  
**48.25 – 20?**

White should have played 48.43 – 39 3 – 8!  
*Prevents 25 – 20 8 – 12 36 – 41 26 – 31 18 – 22 12 x 43 +*

49.42 – 38 18 – 23! 50.25 – 20 23 – 28! 51.32  
 x 23 26 – 31 52.20 x 29 31 – 37 and although  
 white is in trouble he can still defend.

**48... 24 – 30**  
**49.20 – 14 30 – 35**  
**50.14 – 10 35 – 40**  
**51.10 – 5 40 – 45**  
**52.32 – 27 45 – 50**

The endgame is very bad for white.

**53.43 – 38 3 – 9**  
**54. 5 – 19 7 – 12**  
**55.19 – 2 50 – 28**  
**56. 2 – 30 12 – 17**  
**57.30 – 48 17 – 22**  
**58.27 – 21 26 x 17**  
**59.48 – 25 36 – 41**  
**60.25 x 21**

60.25 x 26 41 – 46 is also losing. Now the  
 white king is simply caught by 28 – 5 47 x 36  
 22 – 27 +, so white resigned.

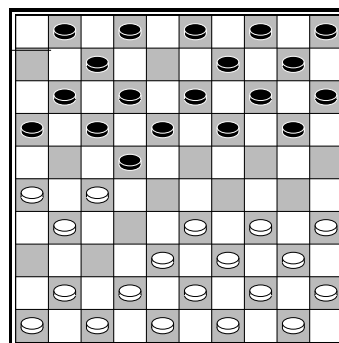
Sometimes there are even more pieces at the  
 edge of the board. This makes the situation  
 even more interesting. This type of position  
 usually is reached after some one taking a 2 x  
 2 exchange to <6> or somebody making an  
 exchanges to <36>. We will give an example of  
 both.

**1.32 – 28 17 – 22 2.28 x 17 11 x 22**

**3.37 – 32 12 – 17**

Black invites his opponent to play the Korchow  
 opening.

**4.31 – 26 6 – 11 5.36 – 31 8 – 12**  
**6.32 – 27**

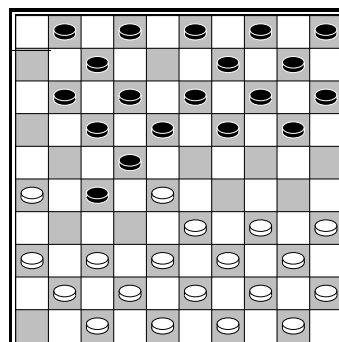


**6... 16 – 21! 7.27 x 16 22 – 28**  
**8.33 x 22 18 x 36**

This opening has been played many times and  
 it usually gives an exciting games with many  
 tactical possibilities, especially for white. Black  
 however has a good centre position, so it is  
 interesting for both players. If you want to know  
 more about the strategy in this Korchow-  
 opening you can check the website of Frits  
 Luteyn.

White can also play differently at the fourth  
 move.

**4.41 – 37 6 – 11 5.46 – 41 8 – 12**  
**6.32 – 28 16 – 21 7.31 – 26 21 – 27**



White can now play 8.36 – 31 27 x 36 9.26 –  
 21 17 x 26 10.28 x 6 with a very interesting  
 game.

White can also choose: 8.35 – 30 2 – 8 9.30 –  
 25 27 – 31

*Black can also play 1 – 6 or 19 – 23 taking a  
 right wing attack with a weakness at <2>.  
 Tsjizjow has played this way many times and it*

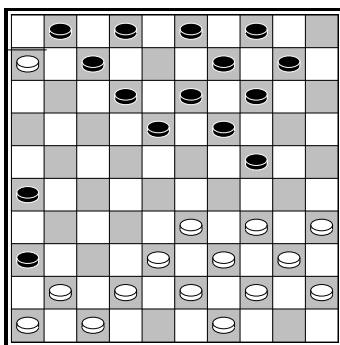
results in exciting games, because the attack isn't without risk.

10.36 x 27 22 x 31 11.34 – 29

White has other options like 11.33 – 29 or 11.37 – 32

11... 31- 36 and white can try to play against piece 36.

In the next game we see that pieces 26 and 36 can be very strong. These pieces control over the left wing of the board.



**A. Chizhov – R. Clerc**  
Masters 1998

Position after 1.34 – 29 19 – 23 2.40 – 34 14 – 19 3.33 – 28 10 – 14 4.38 – 33 17 – 22 5.28 x 17 11 x 22 6.43 – 38 6 – 11 7.48 – 43 12 – 17 8.45 – 40 5 – 10 9.50 – 45 8 – 12 10.32 – 28 23 x 32 11.37 x 28 16 – 21 12.31 – 26 21 – 27 13.36 – 31 27 x 36 14.26 – 21 17 x 26 15.28 x 6 20 – 24 16.29 x 20 15 x 24

White is restricted in his play at the left wing by pieces 26 and 36. White's next move is a bit passive. Better is to keep the 34 / 40 / 45 tail intact and play 41 – 37 and 46 – 41.

**17.34 – 30 18 – 23**

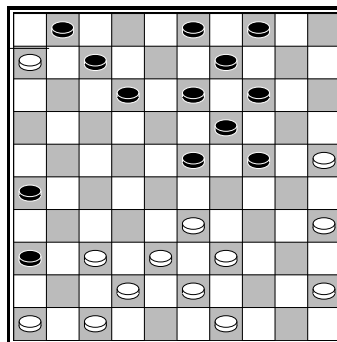
Black keeps piece 10 at his spot and doesn't play 10 – 15. he hopes that he can later centralize piece 10 to <19>.

**18.40 – 34 12 – 18**  
**19.30 – 25 7 – 12**  
**20.34 – 29 23 x 34**  
**21.39 x 30 2 – 7**  
**22.41 – 37 18 – 23**  
**23.33 – 29 23 x 34**  
**24.30 x 39 19 – 23!**

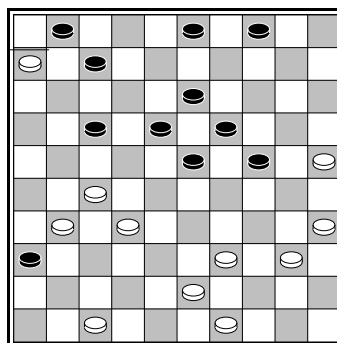
While centralizing piece 10 black builds a strong centre.

**25.39 – 33 14 – 19**  
**26.44 – 39 10 – 14**

Black has no weaknesses and possesses both <23> and <24>. Pieces 26 and 36 make it nearly impossible for white to take control over <27>.



**27.45 – 40 12 – 17**  
**28.46 – 41 17 – 22**  
**29.37 – 32 13 – 18**  
**30.42 – 37 22 – 27**  
**31.32 x 21 26 x 17**  
**32.33 – 28 23 x 32**  
**33.38 x 27 19 – 23**  
**34.37 – 32 14 – 19**  
**35.41 – 37 9 – 13**  
**36.37 – 31**



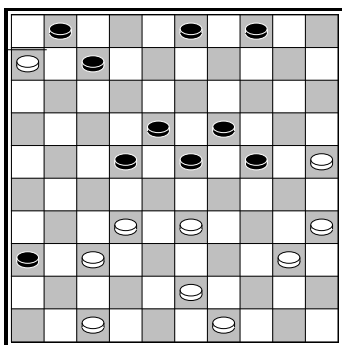
White took <27> but this is only temporary. Black chases him away with powerful moves.

**36... 17 – 22!**

White has to change back, for 37.39 – 33 is punished by 38... 24 – 29! 39.33 x 24 19 x 30 40.35 x 24 22 – 28! B+.

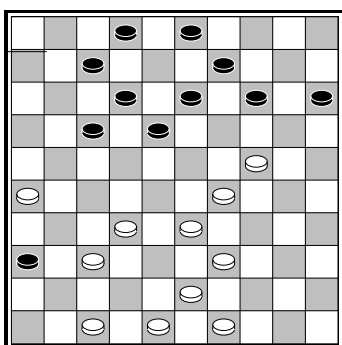
**37.31 – 26 22 x 31**  
**38.26 x 37 18 – 22!**  
**39.39 – 33 13 – 18!**

Black has activated a deadly threat. He uses piece 6 as an object of combination.



40.40 – 34 22 – 27!  
 41.32 x 21 7 – 11  
 42. 6 x 17 18 – 22  
 43.17 x 28 23 x 41  
 44.34 – 29 41 – 46  
 45.29 x 20 46 – 37

Black won after 46.20 – 15 19 – 24 47.43 – 38  
 3 – 9 48.21 – 16 9 – 14 49.16 – 11 37 – 46  
 50.49 – 44 46 – 3 51.44 – 39 37 – 23 52.11  
 – 6 14 – 19 53.39 – 34 23 x 45 54.38 – 32  
 45 – 50.

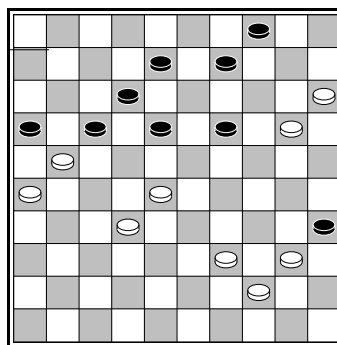


H. Meijer – H. Jansen

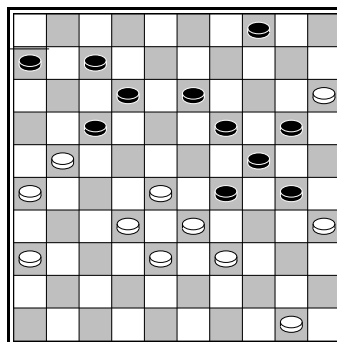
30.43 – 38 14 – 19 31.24 – 20 15 x 24 32.29 x  
 20 9 – 14 33.20 x 9 3 x 14 or 30.43 – 38 14 –  
 19 31.49 – 44 19 x 30 32.29 – 23 18 x 29  
 33.33 x 35 leads to equality. However, white  
 wanted to maintain his outpost at 24, but  
 overlooked black's tactical possibilities...

30.49 – 44 14 – 19  
 31.44 – 40? 19 x 30  
 32.40 – 35 17 – 22!  
 33.35 x 24 13 – 19  
 34.24 x 4 22 – 27  
 35. 4 x 31 36 x 49

In the next exercises white wins using his own  
 piece at <15>.

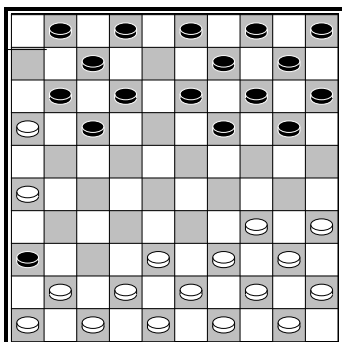


C 1.1

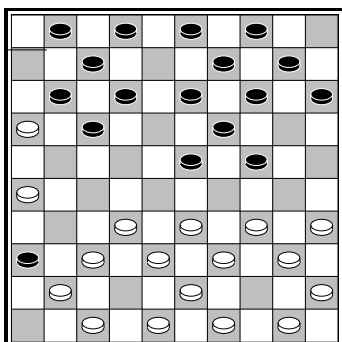


## 2. Playing against piece 15 / 36

A piece at 36 can often be used in tactical ways.



From the Korchov opening the game went 9.41 – 37 19 – 23 10.39 – 33 14 – 19 11.44 – 39 10 – 14 12.46 – 41 20 – 24 13.38 – 32 5 – 10 14.42 – 38



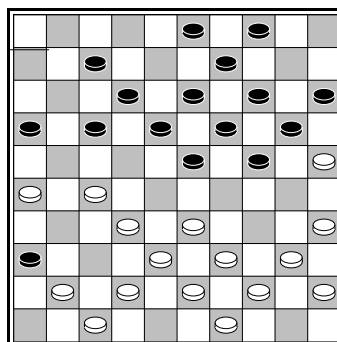
Black should play 15 – 20 followed by 10 – 15 In a Goedemoed – D. Kootstra game (and probably many others) black played:

14... 14 – 20?  
15.47 – 42! 36 x 47  
16.32 – 28 23 x 41  
17.42 – 37 41 x 32  
18.38 x 27 47 x 29  
19.34 x 5

and white won the game.

Now let's look at the correct move:

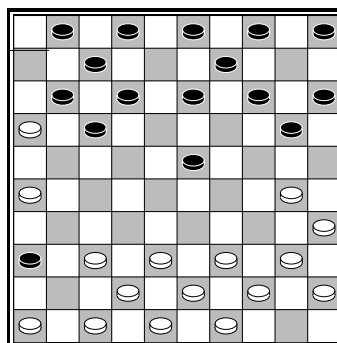
14... 15 – 20  
15.34 – 30 10 – 15  
16.30 – 25 12 – 18  
17.48 – 42 7 – 12  
18.16 x 7 2 x 11  
19.50 – 44 1 – 7  
20.32 – 27 11 – 16  
21.37 – 32



This position has occurred in several games usually after a different move order. Black should play 24 – 29 or 23 – 29. In Mitsjanski - Brouwers the following was played:

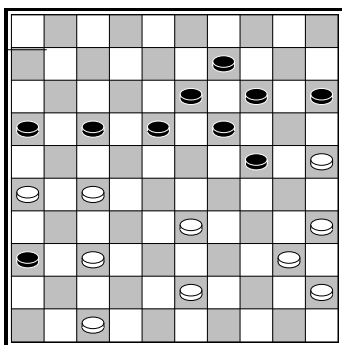
21... 17 – 22?  
22.26 – 21! 22 x 31  
23.21 – 17 12 x 21  
24.42 – 37 31 x 42  
25.32 – 28 23 x 32  
26.38 x 27 21 x 32  
27.47 x 27 36 x 47  
28.39 – 34 47 x 29  
29.34 x 1

In the Korchov opening the game went 9.41 – 37 19 – 23 10.34 – 29 23 x 34 11.39 x 30 14 – 19 12.44 – 39 10 – 14 13.50 – 44 19 – 23?



This combination was performed at least seven times in an official game!

14.30 – 24 20 x 29  
15.47 – 41 36 x 47  
16.26 – 21 17 x 26  
17.37 – 31 26 x 37  
18.42 x 31 47 x 33  
19.39 x 6



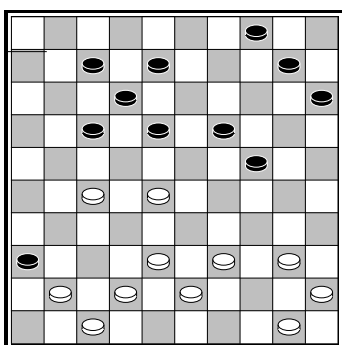
**M. Monteba – J. Okken**

**39... 17 – 22?  
40.37 – 31! 19 – 23**

40... 15 – 20 is strongly met by 41.40 – 34! 19 – 23\* 42.35 – 30 24 x 35 43.34 – 30 35 x 24 44.47 – 41 36 x 47 45.43 – 39 47 x 29 46.39 – 33 29 x 21 47.26 x 10 W+.

**41.47 – 41! 36 x 47  
42.43 – 39 47 x 29  
43.39 – 33 29 x 21  
44.26 x 8**

and white won the endgame.



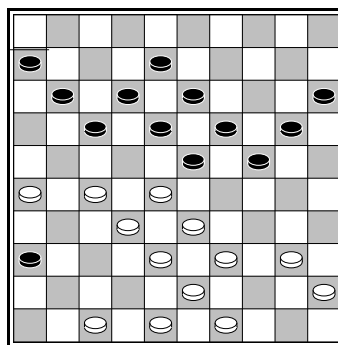
**M. Kouamé – H. Spanjer**

Black has just played 5 – 10? increasing the number of weaknesses. White forced a win in a surprising way:

**29.38 – 33!!**

Threatening both 28 – 22 and 27 – 22 28 – 23 while 29... 18 – 22 (or 17 – 22) 30.27 x 18 12 x 32 is punished by 31.41 – 37 32 x 41 32.42 – 37 41 x 32 33.47 – 41 36 x 47 34.39 – 34 47 x 29 35.34 x 5 W+.

Black thus sacrificed a piece and lost.



**G. Jansen – T. Goedemoed**

White has a classical position possessing 26, 27 and 28. Black has just built the 6 / 11 / 17 tail in order to play 17 – 22. White forced a win using the weakness at <14>.

**30.27 – 22! 18 x 27  
31.32 x 21 23 x 32  
32.38 x 27 19 – 23  
33.47 – 41 36 x 47  
34.21 – 16 47 x 29  
35.16 x 9 8 – 13**

What else? 35... 29 – 47 is answered by 39 – 33! 47 x 29 40 – 34 29 x 40 45 x 34 W+.

**36. 9 x 18 23 x 12  
37.40 – 34 29 x 40  
38.45 x 34**

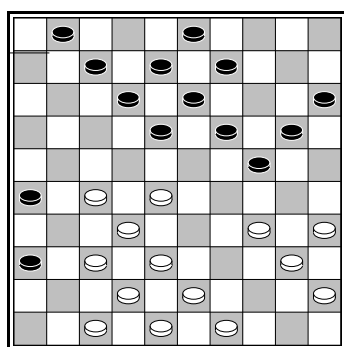
and black resigned



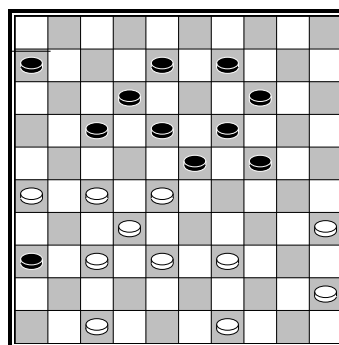
*Alexander Baliakin*

In the next exercise you can practice your tactical skills.

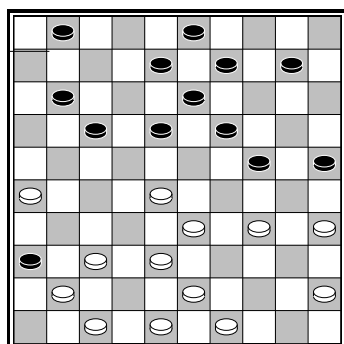
Exercise 2.1 – 2.8:



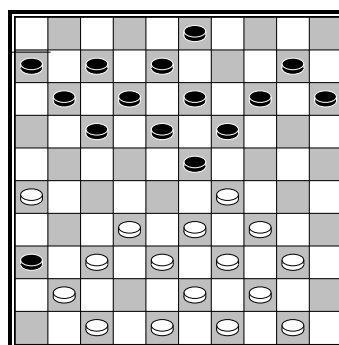
1



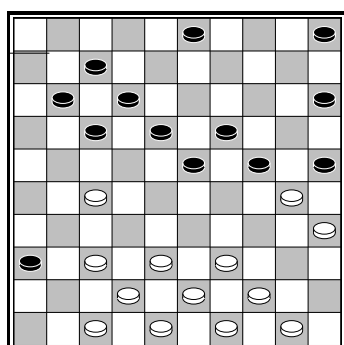
5



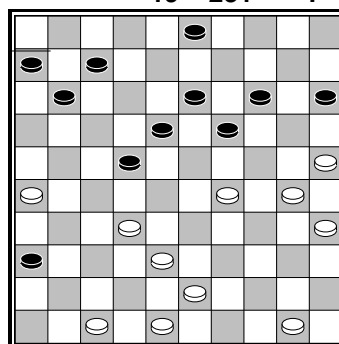
2



6

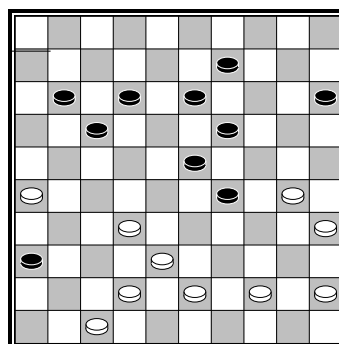


3

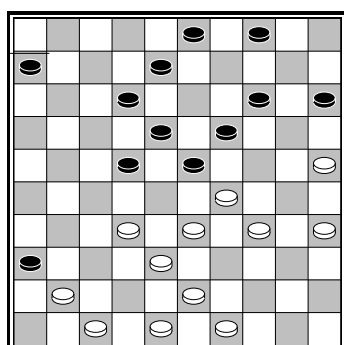


19 – 23?

7

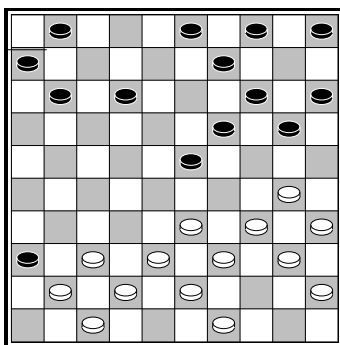


8



4

White plays and wins!



### B. Messemaker – F. Guseynov

White has a strong position with many active formations. Black has a couple of weaknesses. Piece 5 isn't developed yet and <13> is opened. . Black should thus have reinforced his position with 9 – 13.

**20... 11 – 17?**

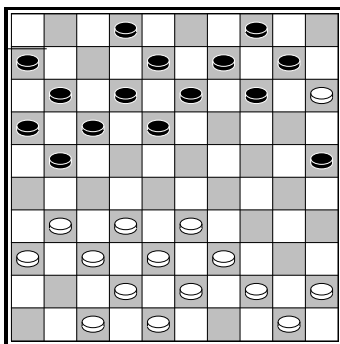
White shows that <12> becomes vulnerable due to the piece at 17 combined with piece 36.

**21.33 – 29! 12 – 18**

21... 1 – 7 22.29 x 18 12 x 23 is met by 23.30 – 24! 24.37 – 31 25.38 – 33 26.43 x 1 W+.

**22.29 – 24 20 x 29  
23.37 – 31 36 x 27  
24.38 – 32 27 x 38  
25.42 x 11 6 x 17**

Winning a piece and the game.

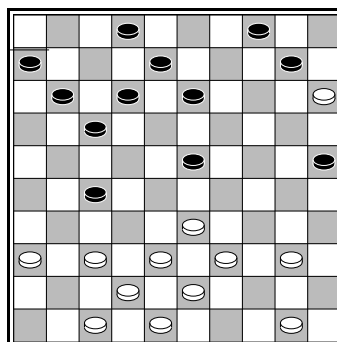


### H. Vermin – A. Chizhov

The construction Messemaker built is more often used to play against a piece at 15 / 36. Tsijzjow built the same construction with black.

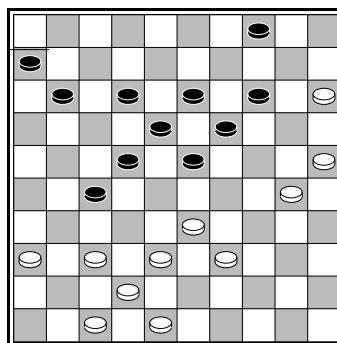
**19.45 – 40 13 – 19  
20.33 – 28 9 – 13  
21.39 – 33 21 – 27!  
22.31 x 22 18 x 27  
23.32 x 21 16 x 27**

**24.44 – 39 19 – 23  
25.28 x 19 14 x 23**



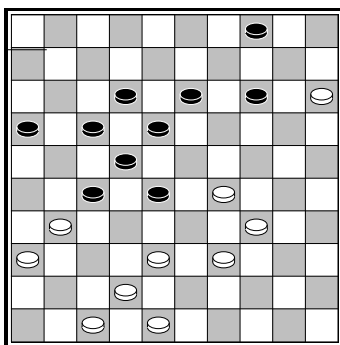
Black has a nice attack and is controlling the centre, while white has a weakness at <49>. In the next phase black strengthens his centre.

**26.40 – 34 13 – 18  
27.34 – 30 25 x 34  
28.39 x 30 10 – 14  
29.50 – 44 8 – 13  
30.44 – 39 2 – 8  
31.39 – 34 17 – 22  
32.30 – 25 13 – 19  
33.34 – 30 8 – 13  
34.43 – 39**



Black's piece are all working together. Piece 6 moves to <17> now.

**34... 11 – 17  
35.30 – 24 19 x 30  
35.25 x 34 6 – 11  
36.33 – 29 11 – 16  
37.37 – 31 23 – 28**

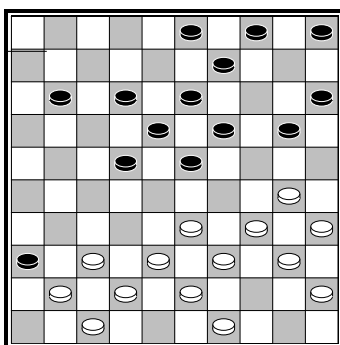


**38.47 – 41?**

The only good move was 38.29 – 24. . After this weak move, black now forces a win.

**38... 16 – 21!  
39.38 – 33 28 – 32!  
40.31 – 26 32 – 38  
41.42 – 37 27 – 32  
42.37 x 28 21 – 27  
43.33 x 42 22 x 44**

And white surrendered after a few moves.



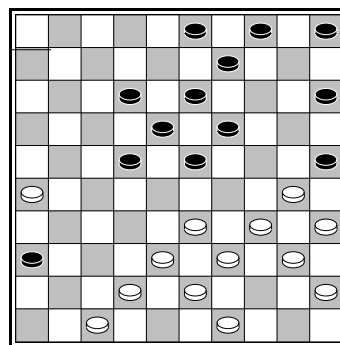
**A. Shwarzman – A. Bezwersjenko**

White has built the well-known construction. Black has taken a lot of space, but his piece distribution isn't perfect.

**22.37 – 32 11 – 17**

After 23.41 – 37 17 – 21 white can't play at his left wing anymore. Therefore he makes a pseudo sacrifice to get some space.

**23.32 – 27 22 x 31  
24.41 – 37 20 – 25  
25.37 x 26 17 – 22**

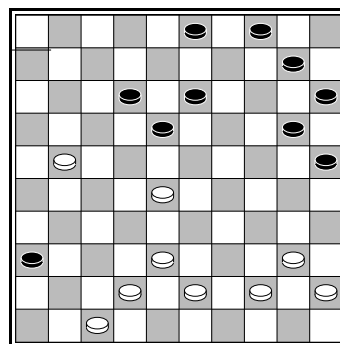


It looks like black controls the position entirely. But white had already anticipated on this situation, spotting a beautiful sacrifice.

**26.30 – 24!! 19 x 30  
27.35 x 24**

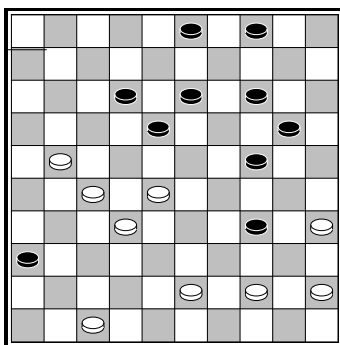
A brilliant move! White sacrifices a piece but after this white gets a tremendous attack at the left wing.

**27... 23 – 29  
28.34 x 23 18 x 20  
29.26 – 21! 13 – 18  
30.49 – 44! 9 – 13  
31.33 – 28 22 x 33  
32.39 x 28 5 – 10**



Now it becomes clear how strong white's left wing attack is. Piece 21 will be supported by more troops soon. Black's pieces at the right wing of the board are inactive.

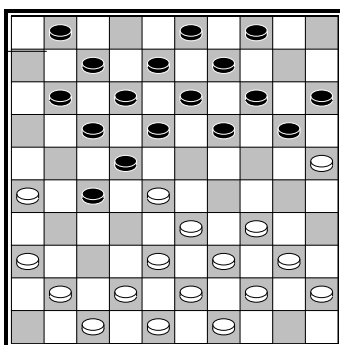
**33.38 – 32 10 – 14  
34.32 – 27 20 – 24  
35.42 – 38 25 – 30  
36.38 – 32 15 – 20  
37.40 – 35 30 – 34**



Before breaking through white neutralizes the counter attack by black.

38.43 – 38 13 – 19  
 39.44 – 39 34 x 43  
 40.38 x 49 24 – 29  
 41.21 – 17 12 x 21  
 42.27 x 16

White won after 29 – 34 43.16 – 11 34 – 39  
 44.11 – 7 3 – 9 45.35 – 30 18 – 23 46.30 – 25  
 23 – 29 47.7 – 1 29 – 34 48.1 x 40 39 – 44 40  
 – 1 W+.



**N. Mitsjanski – G. Jansen**

16.36 – 31 27 x 36  
 17.26 – 21 17 x 26  
 18.28 x 6 7 – 11

No a strong response. The piece at 21 isn't active. More active is 18 – 23 12 – 18 and 8 – 12 building strong formations to keep control over the centre and especially <29>.

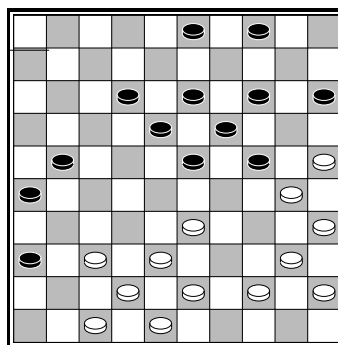
19.6 x 17 12 x 21  
 20.41 – 37 8 – 12  
 21.33 – 29 1 – 7  
 22.39 – 33 18 – 23  
 23.29 x 18 12 x 23

The battle about control over <29> has began. White is going to build strong formations to reconquer <29>. White needs space at his

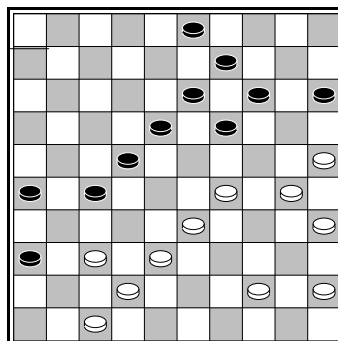
right wing. Therefore <29> is a strategic square in these types of positions.

24.34 – 30 7 – 12  
 25.40 – 35 13 – 18  
 26.44 – 40 9 – 13  
 27.49 – 44 20 – 24

26... 23 – 29 27.33 x 24 20 x 29 might be better.

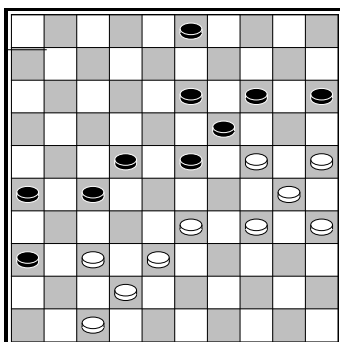


28.33 – 29! 24 x 33  
 29.38 x 29 23 x 34  
 30.40 x 29 4 – 9  
 31.43 – 38 12 – 17  
 32.38 – 33 17 – 22  
 33.42 – 38 21 – 27  
 34.48 – 42



All white's pieces are active and work together. Piece 44 defends <29>.

34... 19 – 23  
 35.44 – 40 23 x 34  
 36.40 x 29 13 – 19  
 37.29 – 24 9 – 13  
 38.45 – 40 18 – 23  
 39.40 – 34!



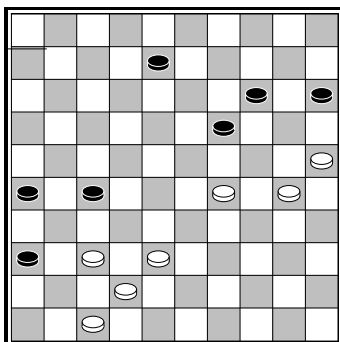
48... 23 – 29 49.34 x 23 19 x 39 50.38 – 33 39  
x 28 51.24 – 20 15 x 24 52.30 x 10 leads to a  
bad endgame for black.

39... 13 – 18  
40.24 x 13 18 x 9  
41.34 – 29 23 x 34  
42.30 x 39 9 – 13  
43.39 – 34 13 – 18  
44.34 – 29 18 – 23  
45.29 x 18 22 x 13  
46.33 – 29 3 – 8

White still has <29> under control. Now he has space to advance piece 35 threatening to take <24>.

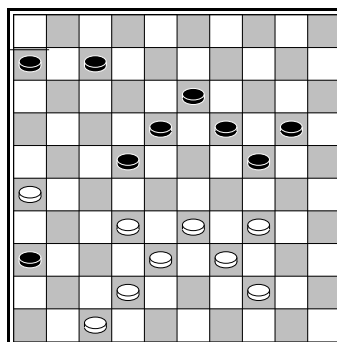
**47.35 – 30! 13 – 19**

A poor defence. Black should have played 47... 8 – 12 48.30 – 24 14 – 19 etc.



48.29 – 23! 19 x 28  
49.38 – 32 27 x 38  
50.42 x 22

After 50... 8 – 12 51.30 – 24 it's game over for black. He played 50... 8 – 13 51.30 – 24 and resigned.



## A. Baliakin – G. Valneris

Black has occupied <22> and <24>. White takes advantage of this by tactical means.

38.33 - 29 24 x 33  
39.39 x 17 7 - 11  
40.26 - 21 11 x 22  
41.21 - 16

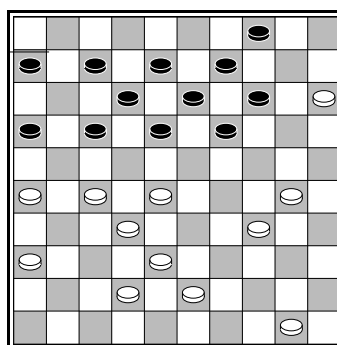
White is going to play 42 – 37 threatening 16 – 11 37 – 31 etc.

41... 19 – 23  
42.42 – 37 20 – 24

42... 20 – 25 43.37 – 31 36 x 27 44.32 x 21 22  
– 28 45.21 – 17 13 – 19 46.16 – 11 18 – 22  
47.44 – 40 19 – 24 48.38 – 32! etc. W+.

43.47 – 41! 36 x 47  
44.34 – 30! 47 x 50  
45.30 x 17 50 x 11  
46.16 x 7

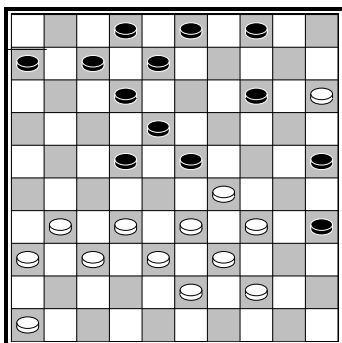
Black resigned.



**F. Drost - W. van der Sluis**

Black played 7 – 11? but could have forced a beautiful shot by 31 ... 6 – 11!!

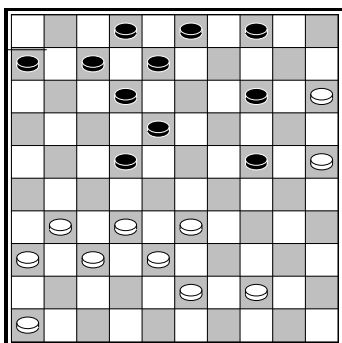
**Exercise 2.9** How does black win after 32.30 – 25?



**B. Derkx – M. Palmans**

Black showed a beautiful forcing using pieces 15 and 25.

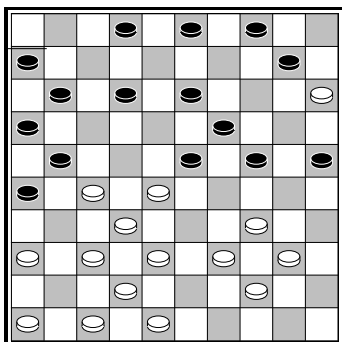
**27... 25 – 30!**  
**28.34 x 25 23 x 34**  
**29.39 x 30 35 x 24**



Black is threatening 24 – 30 14 – 20 22 – 27 8 x 48 B+. At 30.32 – 28 black also takes the 24 – 30 shot! If white takes 28 x 17 12 x 21 25 x 34 14 – 20 15 x 24 piece 31 is transported to 13 by 21 – 27 B+.

Closing <39> won't help because 30.43 – 39 (or 44 – 39) is met by 30... 4 – 10!! 31.15 x 4 24 – 29 32.33 x 24 3 – 9 32.4 x 13 8 x 30 33.25 x 34 22 – 28 34.32 x 23 18 x 49 B+.

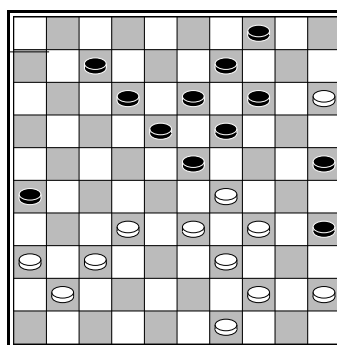
White gave a piece playing 30.15 – 10 and eventually lost.



**M. Koopmanschap – M. Palmans**

Black has just played 24... 18 – 23. Sometimes it is possible to play a classical position after the opponent has gone to <15>. Black controls both wings, while white's left wing isn't developed well (piece 46). White played 25.40 – 35?, after which black could have forced a beautiful shot.

**25.40 – 35 24 – 29!**  
**26.44 – 40 19 – 24!**  
**27.28 x 17 11 x 31**  
**28.36 x 27 3 – 8**  
**29.34 x 23 4 – 9**  
**30.15 x 13 8 x 28**  
**31.32 x 23 21 x 45**



**T. Brouwers – A. Gantwarg**

Black's position is very solid. White, on the other hand, has a weak defence. There is only one piece in the heart of his defence <38 / 42 / 43 / 47 / 48 / 49>.

**34.33 – 28**

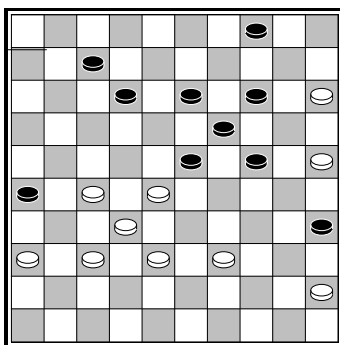
There are no other sensible moves. 34.49 – 43? 19 – 24! 35.29 x 20 23 – 28 B+.

**34... 25 – 30!**  
**35.34 x 25 23 x 43**  
**36.49 x 38 19 – 24**  
**37.36 – 31 13 – 19**  
**38.31 – 27 9 – 13**

Threatening 24 – 30 25 x 34 14 – 20 15 x 24 19 x 48 +.

**39.44 – 39 18 – 23**

A piece at 15 / 36 gives many tactical possibilities



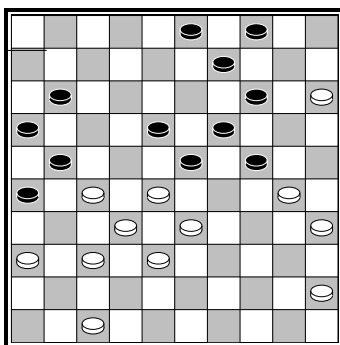
Black has made the position classical. Piece 41 is a weakness.

**40.41 – 36?**

White should have played 40.38 – 33 7 – 11 41.41 – 36 with advantage for black. After 41.45 – 40? 35 x 44 42.39 x 50 black can force a win by 23 – 29! and after capturing 24 – 30 25 x 34 14 – 20 15 x 24 19 x 48 follows.

**40... 35 – 40!**  
**41.45 x 34 4 – 10**  
**42.15 x 4 14 – 20**  
**43.4 x 29 24 x 44**  
**44.25 x 23 44 – 49**

White resigned.



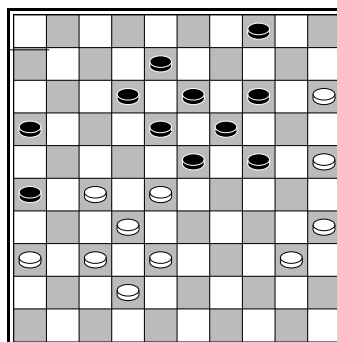
**M. van IJzendoorn – M. van Gortel**

Black created a closed classical position. White's main problem is that he has a weak piece at <36>. White also has to take care he isn't frozen out.

**34.47 – 42?**

A severe strategic mistake! White's piece at 36 is staying behind, while piece 42 is dangling at the moment. This gives black the opportunity to freeze his opponent out. White should have played 47 – 41, 36 – 31 and 41 – 36 to activate piece 36.

**34... 11 – 17**  
**35.30 – 25 9 – 13**  
**36.45 – 40 17 – 22**  
**37.28 x 17 21 x 12**  
**38.33 – 28 3 – 8**

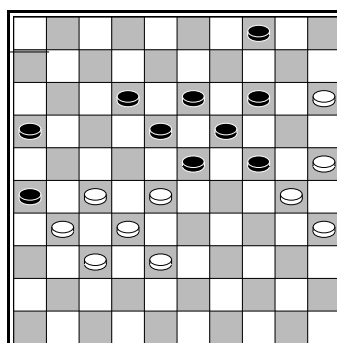


39.40 – 34 isn't possible now because of the Harlem shot 16 – 21 27 x 16 18 – 22 28 x 17 12 x 21 16 x 27 26 – 31 37 x 26 23 – 29 34 x 23 19 x 48 B+.

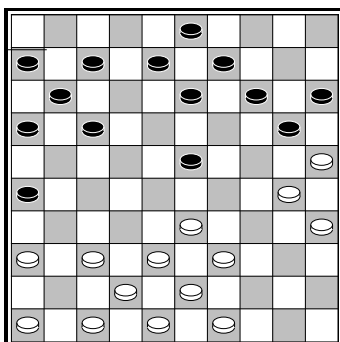
**49.38 – 33 12 – 17**

50.35 – 30 24 x 44 51.33 – 29 23 x 34 52.28 – 22 17 x 28 53.32 x 3 leads to a bad endgame for white after 53... 44 – 50 54.3 x 20 34 – 39 55.20 – 38. However, since the game doesn't give white any chance to survive, he should have chosen this variation, which gives him an endgame in which he can still fight.

**50.42 – 38 8 – 12**  
**51.40 – 34 17 – 21**  
**52.34 – 30 12 – 17**  
**53.36 – 31 17 – 22**  
**54.28 x 17 21 x 12**  
**55.33 – 28**



White has no way to escape from the freeze out anymore. After 55... 12 – 17 56.38 – 33 17 – 21 57.28 – 22 23 – 29 58.33 – 28 18 – 23 white had to sacrifice and lost soon.



### A. Chizhov – Diakité

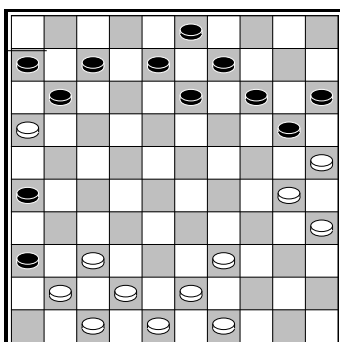
It seems a quiet classical position, but in a few moves black will go to 36... White wants to take <27>.

**24.36 – 31 17 – 22**  
**25.46 – 41 16 – 21**

Black doesn't allow white to take <27> after 25... 13 – 18 26.31 – 27 22 x 31 27.41 – 36. However, the next exchange gives white a lot of space.

**26.31 – 27! 22 x 31**  
**27.33 – 28 23 x 32**  
**28.38 x 16 31 – 36**

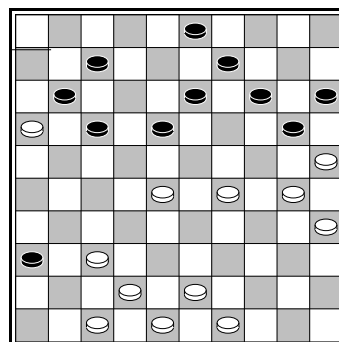
White wants to control square 29. A piece at 29 is very strong combined with the active arrow 25 / 30 / 35. In this way white gains control over black's left wing.



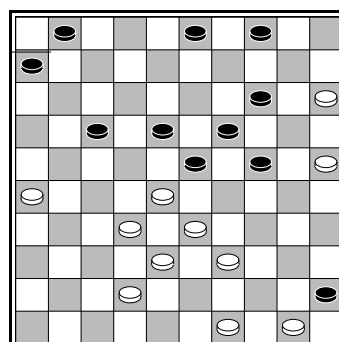
**29.37 – 32 13 – 18**  
**30.39 – 33 8 – 13**  
**31.33 – 29! 11 – 17**  
**32.41 – 37 6 – 11?**

A decisive mistake. White forces a win.

**33.32 – 28!!**



White is threatening 28 – 22 47 – 41 43 x 1. Changing back won't help because after 28 – 22 47 – 41 43 x 12 piece at 12 is extremely strong. Because 33... 18 – 22 is punished by 34.30 – 24! 22 x 33 35.29 x 38 20 x 29 36.37 – 31 36 x 27 37.38 – 33 29 x 38 38.43 x 1 black doesn't have any good move any more and surrendered!



### Vermeulen – M. Podolski

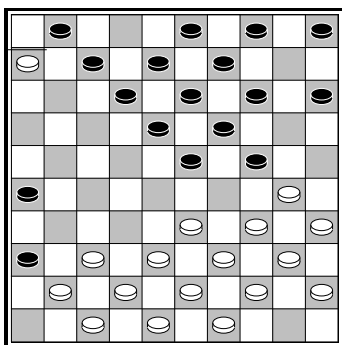
The presence of pieces 15, 25 and 45 brings about many tactical possibilities. Black played 36... 23 – 29 but even stronger was building the 6 / 11 / 17 tail.

**36... 6 – 11**  
**37.42 – 37 1 – 6**  
**38.28 – 22**

38.37 – 31 18 – 22 39.31 – 27 22 x 31 40.26 x 37 17 – 22 41.28 x 17 11 x 22 42.37 – 31 24 – 30! 43.25 x 34 22 – 28 44.33 x 22 23 – 29 45.34 x 23 19 x 26 B+

**38... 18 x 27!!**  
**39.32 x 12 3 – 8**  
**40.12 x 3 23 – 29**  
**41.3 x 20 29 – 34**  
**42.20 x 40 45 x 41**

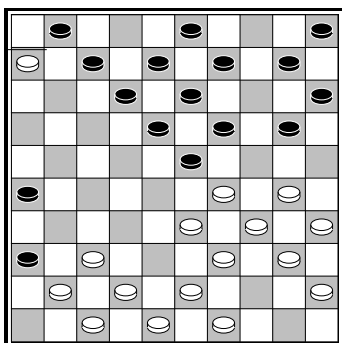
All of a sudden piece 45 becomes the hero by making an unexpected shot.



### A. Baliakin – W. Van der Kooij

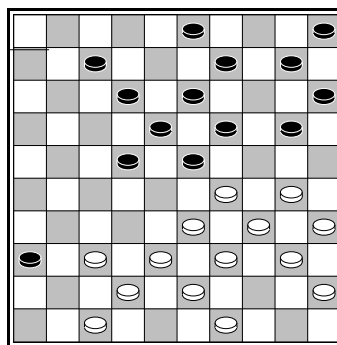
Black has pieces at <26> and <36> while white has an edge piece at <6>. White needs active play at the right wing, otherwise he will have too little space to play. This explains the next move.

15.33 – 29 24 x 33  
16.38 x 29 14 – 20  
17.39 – 33 4 – 10  
18.44 – 39



The position after 18... 12 – 17 arose in a Dibman – Clerc game (Kislovodsk 1981). Both grandmasters missed a kingshot: 19.37 – 31! 26 x 46 20.47 – 41 36 x 38 21.43 x 32 46 x 28 22.33 x 2 with good chances to win for white.

18... 7 – 11  
19.6 x 17 12 x 21  
20.37 – 32 8 – 12  
21.42 – 38 21 – 27  
22.32 x 21 26 x 17  
23.41 – 37 17 – 22  
24.48 – 42 1 – 7



White changes in order to get an active game at his right wing.

25.30 – 24 19 x 30  
26.34 x 14 10 x 19  
27.49 – 44 23 x 34  
28.40 x 29 5 – 10

White takes <24> now, although there is no black piece at <25>.

29.29 – 24 19 x 30  
30.35 x 24 10 – 14  
31.37 – 32 22 – 27

White makes a pseudo sacrifice in order to get rid of piece 24. A little better would have been to do this with 31... 22 – 28 32.33 x 22 18 x 27 33.32 x 21 14 – 19 etc.

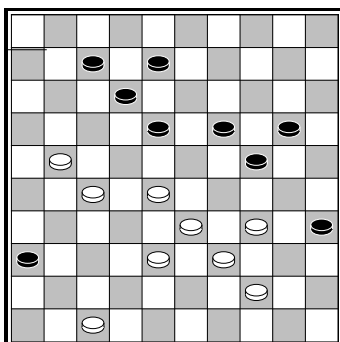
32.32 x 21 14 – 19  
33.32 x 21 19 x 30  
34.33 – 28 9 – 14

White will strengthen his centre first, and then launch a left wing attack.

35.38 – 32 14 – 19  
36.40 – 34 30 – 35  
37.42 – 38 15 – 20  
38.39 – 33 19 – 24  
39.43 – 39 13 – 19

39... 3 – 8 40.32 – 27 7 – 11 41.28 – 22 20 – 25 42.38 – 32 11 – 16 43.32 – 28 (24 – 30 44.33 – 29) leads to a complete freeze out.

40.32 – 27 3 – 8

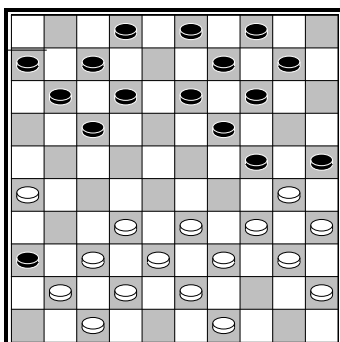


**41.28 – 22! 8 – 13**  
**42.22 – 17!**

Black can't stop a breakthrough anymore.

**42... 20 – 25**  
**43.17 x 8 13 x 2**  
**44.21 – 17 18 – 23**  
**45.17 – 11**

After 45... 24 – 30 46.21 – 16 19 – 24 47.17 – 11 7 – 12 48.11 – 6 2 – 7 49.38 – 32 24 – 29 50.33 x 24 30 x 19 51.32 – 28 23 x 32 52.6 – 1 black resigned.



#### **A. Gantwarg – M. Balcerowicz**

White's right wing is locked, but he still has a lot of formations. White uses them to break the lock and start a centre attack.

**19.33 – 28! 3 – 8**  
**20.28 – 23 19 x 28**  
**21.32 x 23 24 – 29**  
**22.23 – 18 13 x 22**

Black can't take 12 x 23 because of 37 – 31 36 x 27 38 – 33 29 x 38 43 x 3 W+.

**23.34 x 23 25 x 34**  
**24.40 x 29**

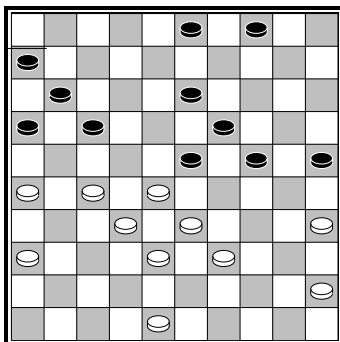
With a strong centre attack for white, who won the game.



*Gantwarg (l) and Wiersma in Salou (Spain)*

### 3.Edge piece 26

Depending on the situation at the board an edge piece at <25> / <26> can be either strong or weak. Sometimes the piece can be used for tactical purposes. If no formation is aimed at the edge piece it's usually strong.



**A. Baliakin – A. Dibman**

Black can use piece 26 tactically. His own piece at <25> is strong.

**35... 25 – 30!**

36.45 – 40 will be answered by 36... 24 – 29

1) 37.33 x 24 17 – 21 38.26 x 17 11 x 44 39.40 x 49 30 – 34

1.1) 40.49 – 44? 19 x 30 41.35 x 24 23 – 29!  
42.24 x 33 34 – 39 B+.

1.2) 40.24 – 20 34 – 39 and the infiltrated piece at <39> gives black an advantage.

2) 37.35 x 24 29 x 20

*Threatening 23 – 29 17 – 21 B +*

*After 38.40 – 34 20 – 24 there is no way to stop the 24 – 30 23 – 29 threat.*

38.39 – 34 17 – 21 39.26 x 17 11 x 31 40.36 x 27 20 – 24 and white can't parry the plan 3 – 8 followed by 24 – 29 B+.

**36.27 – 22 23 – 29**

White's left wing is fork-locked now. This economic lock is a good one, because black is going to control the other wing.

**37.45 – 40 4 – 10**

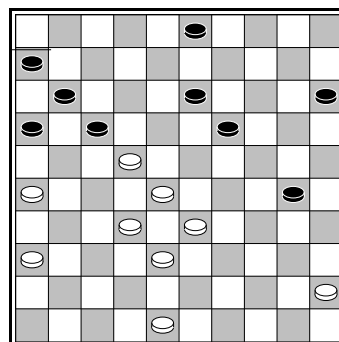
**38.40 – 34 29 x 40**

**39.35 x 44 30 – 35**

**40.44 – 40 35 x 44**

**41.39 x 50 10 – 15**

**42.50 – 45 24 – 30**



Black is winning the fight for control over the right wing. The fork lock is doing a good job.

**43.33 – 29 19 – 24**

**44.29 x 20 15 x 24**

**45.38 – 33 13 – 19**

**46.32 – 27 30 – 34**

The piece at <34> is very strong.

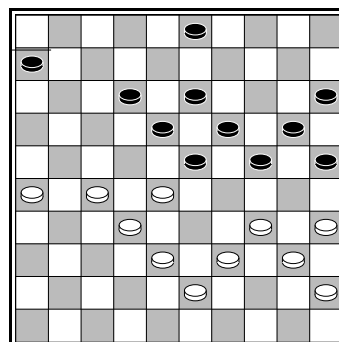
**47.48 – 42 24 – 30**

**48.42 – 37 30 – 35**

**49.37 – 32 3 – 9**

**50.36 – 31 9 – 13**

White sacrificed a piece playing 22 – 18 13 x 22 27 x 18 17 – 21 26 x 17 11 x 13 and lost.



**M. Dolfing – C. van Dusseldorp**

**38... 3 – 8?**

Black should have played 38... 6 – 11. Now white can use tactics against piece 25 in order to get space at the left wing. Note that piece 25 is weak while piece 26 is strong!

**39.27 – 21!**

Because of the 28 – 22 threat black has a forced reply.

**39... 24 – 30**

**40.35 x 24 19 x 30**

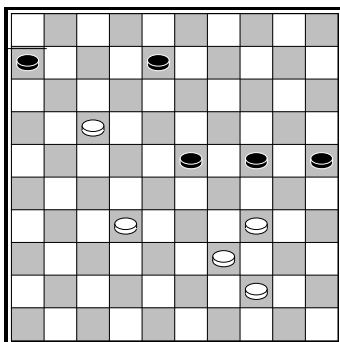
**41.28 x 19 13 x 24**

**42.21 – 17 12 x 21**

**43.26 x 17**

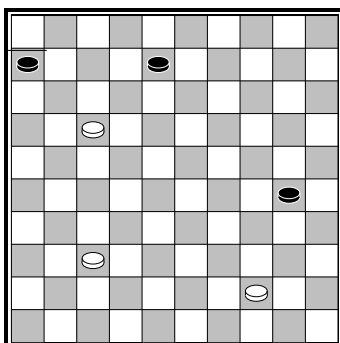
As a result of black's forced play white is able to take the strong square 17.

**43... 30 – 35**  
**44.38 – 33 35 x 44**  
**45.39 x 50 18 – 23**  
**46.43 – 39 24 – 29**  
**47.33 x 24 20 x 40**  
**48.45 x 34 15 – 20**  
**49.50 – 44 20 – 24**



The next exchange results in a winning 3 x 3 position for white.

**50.32 – 28 23 x 32**  
**51.34 – 29 24 x 33**  
**52.39 x 37 25 – 30**



White played 53.37 – 32? 8 – 13 54.17 – 12 6 – 11 55.32 – 27 11 – 17 56.12 x 21 13 – 18 57.21 – 17 30 – 34 58.17 – 11 18 – 23 59.11 – 7 23 – 29 and the players agreed on a draw.

White should have played:

**53.37 – 31 8 – 13**  
**54.17 – 12 6 – 11**  
**55.31 – 26 11 – 17**

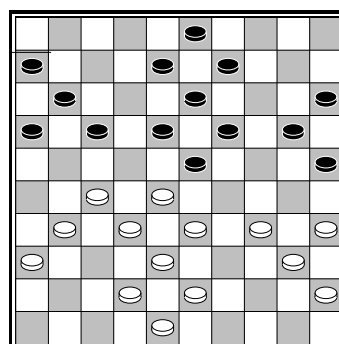
55... 30 – 34 56.26 – 21 11 – 17 57.12 – 7 17 x 26 58.7 – 2 13 – 18 59.2 – 19 wins easily.

**56.12 x 21 13 – 18**

**57.21 – 17 18 – 23**  
**58.17 – 12 23 – 28**  
**59.12 – 8**

White goes to <3>. Both after 59... 28 – 33 60.8 – 3 33 – 38 61.3 – 25! 30 – 35 62.25 – 48 W+ and 59.28 – 32 60.8 – 3 32 – 37 61.3 – 14 37 – 42 62.14 – 37! 42 x 31 63.26 x 37 white wins.

Another example of a Dolfing game in which piece 26 is strong while the edge piece of his opponent at <25> is weak.



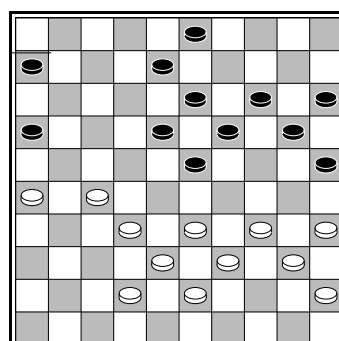
**M. Dolfing – A. Kosior**

Both players have a fork at their right wing. White's fork is much more active, because of the piece at <25>.

**28.43 – 39 9 – 14**  
**29.48 – 43 17 – 22**

After 29... 17 – 21 white constructs a strong chain lock with 30.33 – 29! 3 – 9 31.39 – 33 etc.

**30.28 x 17 11 x 22**  
**31.31 – 26 22 x 31**  
**32.36 x 27**



White's edge piece at <26> is very strong. White controls the left flank of the board. Piece 6 can't be played because of 32 – 28 W+. Black has a weakness at <9>. White is threatening to play 27 – 22 (coup Philippe). So

black has to close the gap at <9> weakening the golden square 3.

**32... 3 – 9**  
**33.33 – 28 20 – 24**

After 33... 8 – 12 34.34 – 30 25 x 34 35.39 x 30 black pieces <9> and <15> are kept inactive.

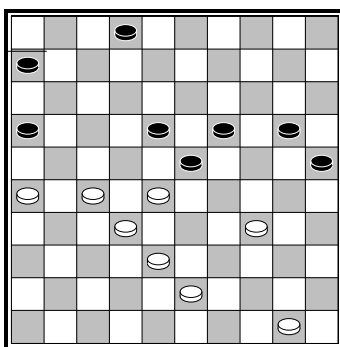
**34.28 – 22!**

Prohibiting both 6 – 11 and 8 – 12 (35.32 – 28 W+ or 35.27 – 21 W+). Black flees to the edge of the board. 34... 14 – 20 would have been a better defence.

**24... 24 – 30**  
**35.35 x 24 19 x 30**  
**36.38 – 33 14 – 19**  
**37.40 – 35 9 – 14**  
**38.35 x 24 19 x 30**  
**39.45 – 40 30 – 35**

After 39... 14 – 19 40.40 – 35 black has no sensible move left.

**40.22 – 17 35 x 44**  
**41.39 x 50 14 – 19**  
**42.33 – 28 15 – 20**  
**43.42 – 38 8 – 12**  
**44.17 x 8 13 x 2**



**45.38 – 33 20 – 24**

45... 6 – 11 should not be answered by 46.28 – 22? 23 – 28! etc. =, but by 46.43 – 38!  
*Making 11 – 17 impossible because of 47.34 – 29 & 48.27 – 21 W+*  
 and now:

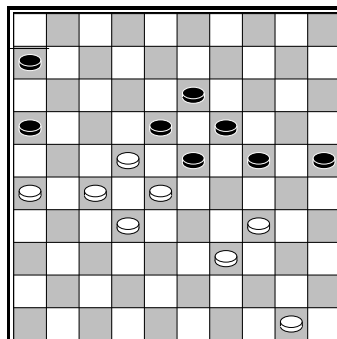
1) 46... 20 – 24 47.28 – 22 2 – 7 48.22 x 13 19 x 8 49.33 – 28 with a winning breakthrough for white.

2) 46... 2 – 8 47.28 – 22 8 – 13 48.26 – 21 11 – 17 49.21 x 12 18 x 7 50.33 – 29 W+

**46.43 – 39! 2 – 8**  
**47.28 – 22**

A good plan with the goal of freezing black out.

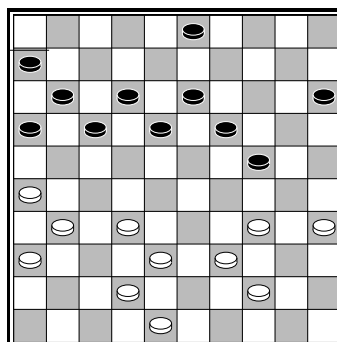
**8 – 13 48.33 – 28**



**48... 6 – 11**  
**49.26 – 21 24 – 30**  
**50.50 – 44 11 – 17**  
**51.22 x 11 16 x 7**  
**52.21 – 16 30 – 35**  
**53.39 – 33**

Black is frozen out completely so he resigned.

### The strong piece at <26>



**Georgiev – Watoetin**

Piece 26 can't be exploited. Black needs a lot of pieces to make a formation. At this moment piece 8 is dangling. Black needs to play 3 – 8 at some time. Six pieces are aimed at the piece at <26> which isn't economic at all. White strengthens his right wing. His strategy is to keep pieces 26 / 31 / 36 in place and get active at the right flank.

**35.39 – 33 15 – 20**

After 35... 3 – 8 36.34 – 30 piece 15 stays behind.

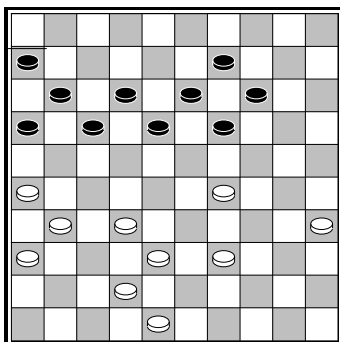
**36.44 – 39 20 – 25**

Black might have been afraid to be surrounded after 36... 18 – 23 37.34 – 30 20 – 25 38.39 – 34 12 – 18 39.33 – 29 24 x 33 40.38 x 29 etc.

**37.34 – 29 3 – 9**  
**38.29 x 20 25 x 14**

More logical would have been 37... 3 – 8 38.29 x 20 25 x 14 of course, but after 39.33 – 29 white also has a big advantage.

**39.33 – 29**

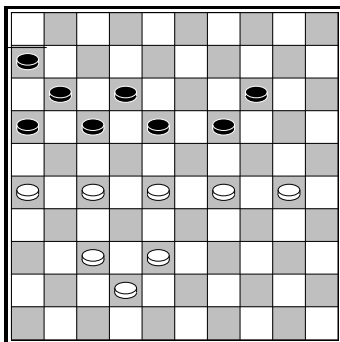


Piece 12 is dangling now. The next move doesn't solve black's problems.

**39... 18 – 22**  
**40.31 – 27 22 x 31**  
**41.36 x 27**

White has a winning position. The weakness at <8> is horrible.

**41... 14 – 20**  
**42.35 – 30 9 – 14**  
**43.39 – 34 20 – 25**  
**44.42 – 37 14 – 20**  
**45.48 – 42 13 – 18**  
**46.32 – 28 20 – 25**  
**47.29 x 20 25 x 14**  
**48.33 – 29**

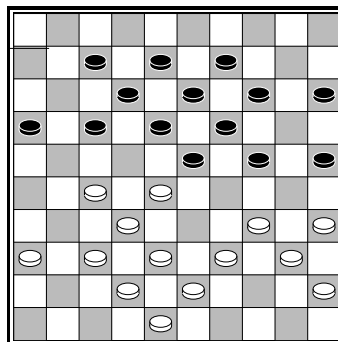


The 26 / 27 / 28 / 29 / 30 front looks impressive.

**48... 14 – 20 49.37 – 32**

49... 20 – 25 is met by the stick move 50.27 – 22 25 x 23 51.22 x 24 W+.

After 49... 18 – 23 50.29 x 7 11 x 2 51.30 – 25 black resigned.



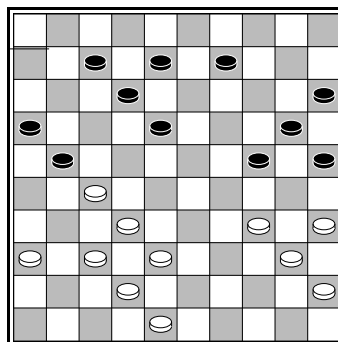
**E. Merins – A. Gantwarg**

Having pieces at both <25> and <23> is dangerous but can also be strong.

**26... 24 – 29!**

27.34 – 30 25 x 34 28.39 x 30 18 – 22 29.27 x 18 13 x 33 30.40 – 34 29 x 40 31.38 x 18 12 x 23 32.45 x 34 gives black a small advantage. In the game black will get great wing control.

**27.39 – 33 14 – 20**  
**28.33 x 24 19 x 39**  
**29.43 x 34 17 – 21**  
**30.28 x 19 13 x 24**



Black's 15 / 20 / 24 / 25 fork is much stronger than white's 34 / 35 / 40 / 45 fork. White's both wings are disconnected. Black controls both wings.

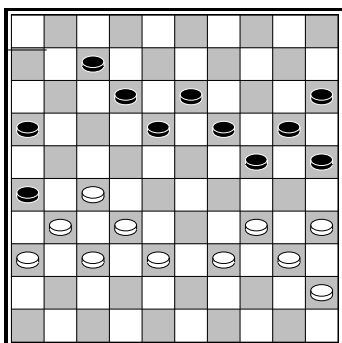
**31.37 – 31 21 – 26**  
**32.42 – 37 9 – 13**

Preventing 32 – 28 by 18 – 22 27 x 9 8 – 13 9 x 18 12 x 41 36 x 47 26 x 37 B+.

**43.48 – 43 13 – 19**

Black connects his both wings. 44.27 – 22 18 x 27 45.31 x 22 is punished by 45... 8 – 13 (threatening 24 – 30) 46.43 – 39 16 – 21 (threatening to win the outpost) 47.22 – 17 12 – 18 48.17 – 12 18 – 23 49.12 x 1 21 – 27 and black wins.

**44.43 – 39 8 – 13**



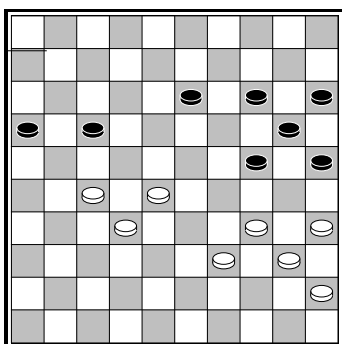
White's space to play is severely restricted by black's wing control.

**45.32 – 28 18 – 23  
46.28 – 22**

After 46.38 – 32 12 – 18 white is frozen out completely.

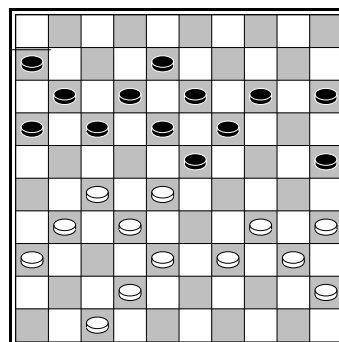
**46... 12 – 18  
47.22 – 17 16 – 21  
48.27 x 16 18 – 22  
49.17 x 28 23 x 41  
50.36 x 47 26 x 37**

White is completely lost. After 51.38 – 33 both 51... 19 – 23 and 51... 24 – 30 52.35 x 24 20 x 38 53.39 – 33 38 x 29 54.34 x 14 25 – 30 win for black.



**R. Heusdens – R. Van der Pal**

**Exercise 3.1** Black to move. Would you play 14 – 19, 13 – 18 or 17 – 21 and why?



**Tiemensma – Oudshoorn**

Black occupies both <23> and <25>. Since white misses a piece at <43> the edge piece is strong. Black pushes his opponent away from <27>.

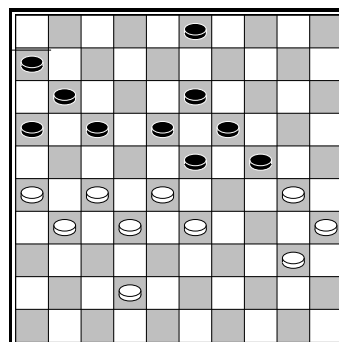
**29... 17 – 22  
30.28 x 17 11 x 22**

White should defended by playing 31 – 26 x 37 with an advantage for black.

**31.42 – 37? 6 – 11**

White already resigned. After 32.47 – 42 11 – 17 33.31 – 26 22 x 31 34.36 x 27 17 – 21 34... 23 – 28 35.32 x 23 19 x 28 is also very strong.  
35.37 – 31  
35.38 – 33 or 35.39 – 33 is punished by 23 – 28!! B+  
35... 21 – 26 36.42 – 37 8 – 12 37.33 – 28 20 – 24 and white can resign.

## Exploiting the edge piece



**A. Schotanus – V. Agafonov**

Piece 26 is weak. Black can use it for tactical purposes. Piece 31 is weak because it is dangling. Black could simply play 40... 3 – 9 41.40 – 34 9 – 14 42.42 – 37 (only move) 24 – 29 43.33 x 24 17 – 21 44.26 x 17 11 x 33

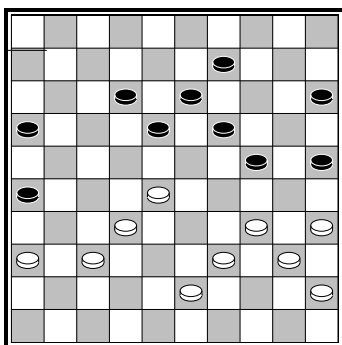
(45.31 – 26 6 – 11 46.37 – 31 11 – 17 B+) but he forces a win in a surprising, tactical way.

40... 23 – 29  
41.42 – 38 3 – 9  
42.28 – 23

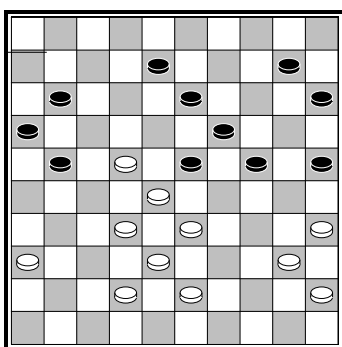
Since 42.30 – 25 9 – 14 is losing because 40 – 34 x 44 is punished by a coup Philippe, white has to play like this. Black has a big surprise for his opponent.

42... 19 x 39  
43.30 x 8 9 – 13  
44.8 x 19 29 – 34  
45.40 x 29 18 – 22  
46.27 x 18 17 – 21  
47.26 x 17 11 x 42

Having pieces at both <25> and <23> can be dangerous. There are many tactical ideas to exploit this situation.



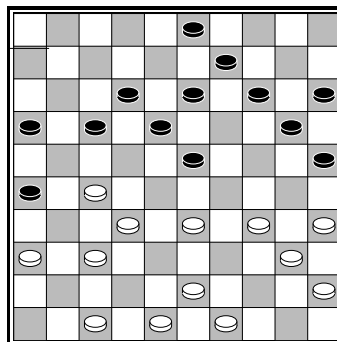
**Exercise 3.2** White can force a win. What is the winning move for white?



**G. Westerveld – T. Sijbrands**  
(1962)

Black occupies <25> and <23> at the same time while having a weakness at <9>. White could have exploited this by taking a coup Raichenbach.

**Exercise 3.3** What winning shot could white take?



White forces a win:

1.33 – 28! 13 – 19

1... 14 – 19 is met by a Harlem shot: 2.28 – 22 17 x 28 3.34 – 30 25 x 34 4.40 x 29 23 x 34 5.32 x 25 W+.

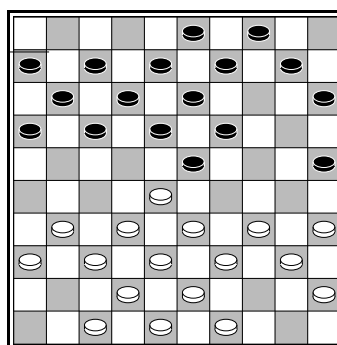
1... 23 – 29 2.34 x 23 18 x 29 loses a piece after 3.28 – 22 of course.

2.48 – 42 9 – 13

Threatening 28 – 22 17 x 28 27 – 21 16 x 38 42 x 4 W+.

2... 17 – 21 is met by 3.37 – 31 26 x 30 4.35 x 4 W+.

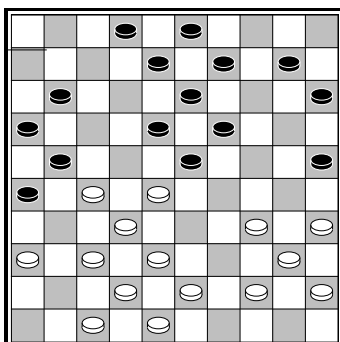
3.28 – 22 17 x 28  
4.27 – 21 16 x 38  
5.42 x 22 18 x 27  
6.34 – 30 25 x 34  
7.40 x 7



1.28 – 22 17 x 28  
2.33 x 22 18 x 27  
3.31 x 22

White is threatening 22 – 18 13 x 22 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 27 W+. Of course, black can't play 3... 12 – 17, because of a Harlem shot to <5>. After 3...12 – 18 4.37 – 31 18 x 27 5.31 x

22 black can't parry the 22 – 17 34 – 30 threat anymore.



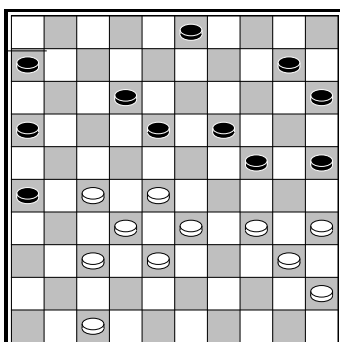
**1.43 – 39!**

Threatening with an arch shot: 27 – 22 38 – 33 37 – 31 with king at <5>.

**1.... 10 – 14 2.39 – 33**

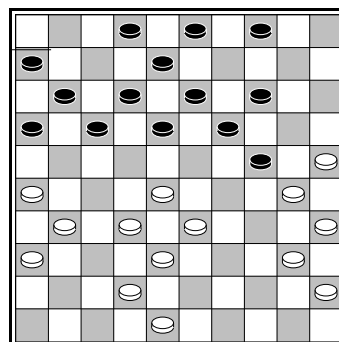
Threatening with a pingpong shot: 27 – 22 34 – 30 40 x 18 28 x 6 W+. After black's forced reply white has another pingpong shot.

**2... 11 – 17  
3.27 – 22 18 x 27  
4.37 – 31 26 x 37  
5.42 x 11 16 x 7  
6.34 – 30 25 x 34  
7.40 x 18 13 x 22  
8.28 x 26**



**1.37 – 31! 26 x 37  
2.32 x 41**

Threatening 27 – 21 16 x 27 38 – 32 27 x 29 34 x 5 +.  
2... 10 – 14 3.34 – 30 loses a piece, while 2... 18 – 23 is met by 4.33 – 29 24 x 31 5.34 – 30 25 x 34 6.40 x 7 W+.



**Tsjizjow – Valneris**

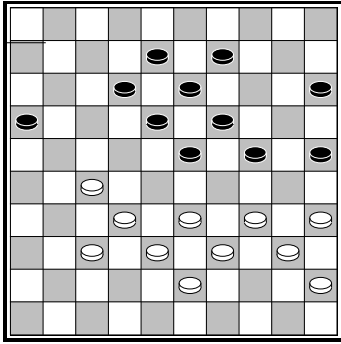
During the Mind Games Olympiad in Beijing (China) Tsjizjow fell victim to a combination, which happens rarely. Removing piece <38> gives black the opportunity to take a kingshot.

**1... 24 – 29!  
2.33 x 24 17 – 21  
3.26 x 17 11 x 33  
4.38 x 29 14 – 20  
5.25 x 23 12 – 18  
6.23 x 21 16 x 47**

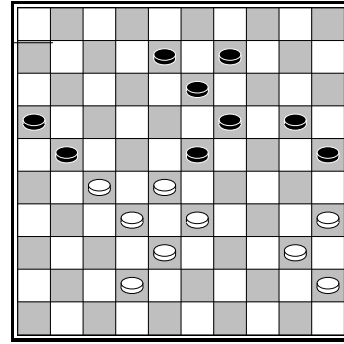
and black won the game.



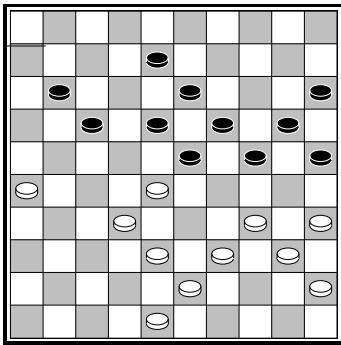
*Guntis Valneris*



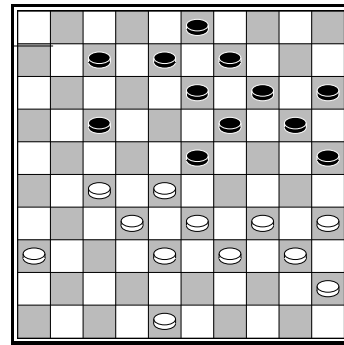
**C 3.4** Why is it wrong to take the 27 – 22 shot?



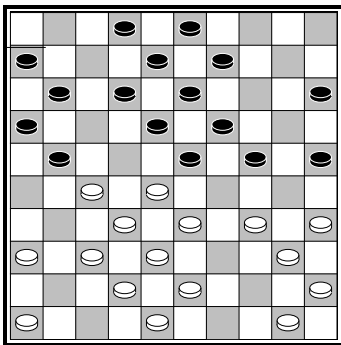
**F 3.8** How does white force a winning breakthrough?



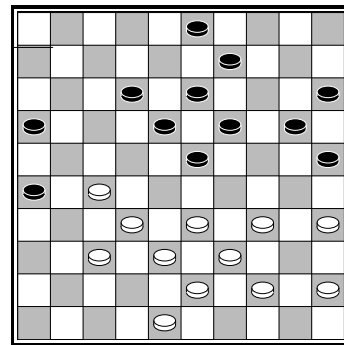
**C 3.5** Why is the 26 – 21 shot no good?



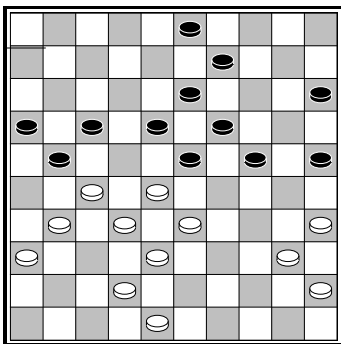
**F 3.9** White forces a win.



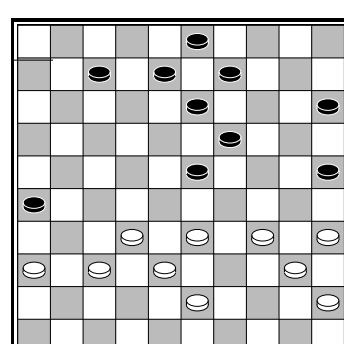
**C 3.6** Why does the 27 – 22 shot fail?



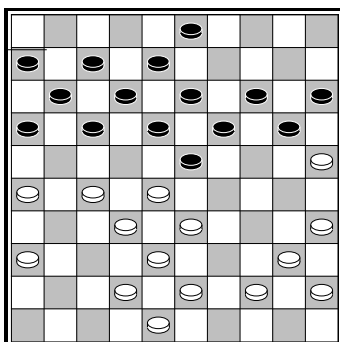
**F 3.10** White forces a kingshot!



**C 3.7** White wins a piece!



**F 3.11** White forces a coup Weiss!



**Welling – Grisser**

**Exercise 3.12** Answer the questions!

White has just played 24.39 – 33. Black took his opportunity to use piece <26> tactically.

**24... 23 – 29!**  
**24.33 x 24 20 x 29**

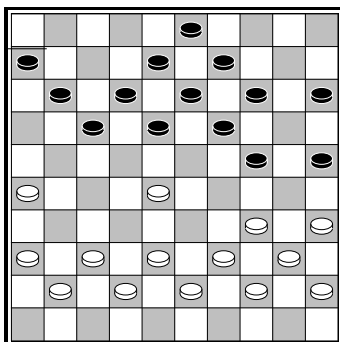
A) Black is threatening with what move?

**25.35 – 30 17 – 21**  
**26.26 x 17 11 x 33**  
**27.43 – 39**

B) How did black force the win of a piece now?

Let's look at what happens if white played 27.40 – 35 first and then attacks piece 33:  
27...12 – 17 28.43 – 39 3 – 9 29.39 x 28 18 – 22 30.27 x 18 13 x 33 31.48 – 43 7 – 12 32.43 – 39 12 – 18 33.39 x 28 18 – 22 34.44 – 40 22 x 33 35.40 – 34 29 x 40 36.45 x 34

C) How can black take a winning kingshot now?

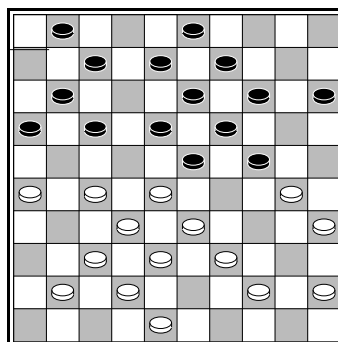


**Adema – Scholma**

**Exercise 3.13** Black to move can force a win. What did he play?



*Auke Scholma*



**Wagenaar – Heslinga**

**1... 1 – 6!?**  
**2.41 – 36?**

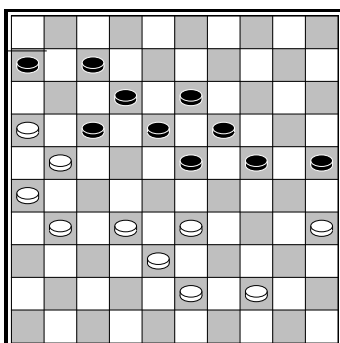
**Exercise 3.14** Two questions:

A) How did black win after 2.41 – 36?

B) How could white have won himself?

Depending on the situation piece 25 / 26 can be strong or weak.

## 4.Edge piece 16



**B. de Harder – A. Shwarzman**  
*Barnsteen 2009*

White has some pieces at the edge of the board, 16 / 21 / 26 which aren't very active. Black's piece 6 isn't active either but will be developed soon. Black has control over the centre possessing <23> and <24> and the right wing with a strong piece at <25>.

**42.31 – 27 17 – 22**  
**43.44 – 40 22 x 31**  
**44.26 x 37**

Breaking the 32 / 33 / 38 / 43 fork playing 43.43 – 39 gives black the opportunity to block white's position, going to <22>.  
44... 6 – 11 45.37 – 31 11 – 17 46.31 – 26 18 – 22! 47.44 – 40 13 – 18 48.40 – 34 22 – 27 +.

**44... 6 – 11?**

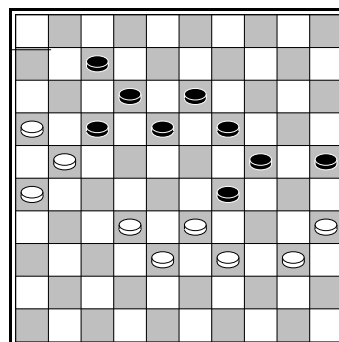
Black could have forced a win playing 44... 18 – 22!!

*Threatening* 12 – 17 21 x 1 23 – 29 1 x 34 24 – 30 35 x 24 19 x 48 +.

45.43 – 39 12 – 18 46.40 – 34 22 – 28! 47.33 x 22 18 x 27 48.21 – 17 13 – 18 49.32 x 21 18 – 22 50.17 x 28 23 x 41 B+.

**45.37 – 31 11 – 17**  
**46.31 – 26 23 – 29**  
**47.43 – 39?**

White should have prevented the 18 – 22 move by playing 47.32 – 27!



**47... 18 – 22!**

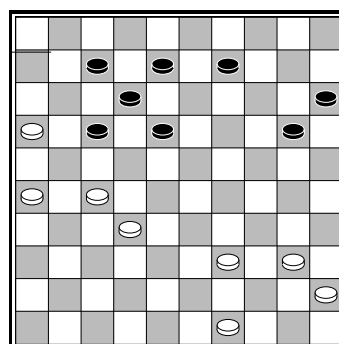
Isolating white's edge pieces. White is lost.

**48.40 – 34 29 x 40**  
**49.35 x 44 19 – 23**  
**50.44 – 40 23 – 29**

White can't play 32 – 28 because of 24 – 30 +.

**51.40 – 35 25 – 30**

White is frozen out (52.32 – 28 13 – 19+) and lost.

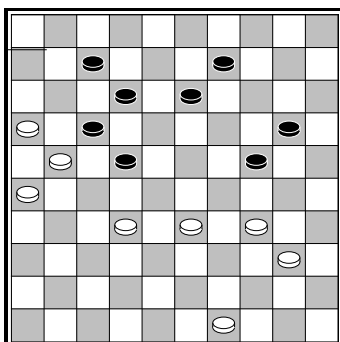


**F. Fennema – R. Boomstra**

White has edge pieces at 16 and 26 which are not active. The next move only makes things worse.

**41.27 – 21 8 – 13**  
**42.40 – 34 20 – 24**  
**43.45 – 40 15 – 20**  
**44.39 – 33 18 – 22**

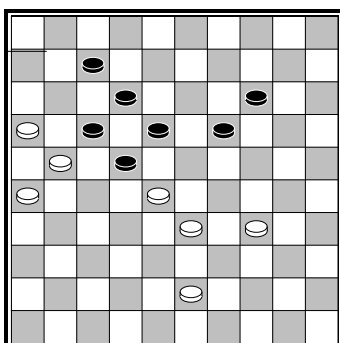
A strategically very strong move. Pieces 16 / 21 / 26 are isolated from the rest of white's forces.



45.34 – 29 13 – 18  
46.40 – 34 9 – 13  
47.32 – 28?

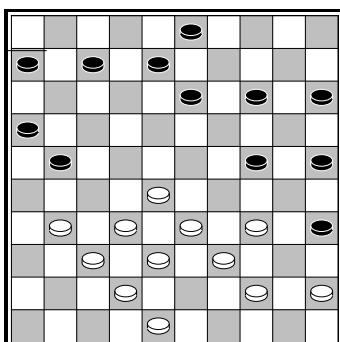
After this move white will be completely frozen out. After 47.49 – 44 13 – 19 48.44 – 40 19 – 23 49.40 – 35 20 – 25 50.29 x 20 15 x 14 51.32 – 27 22 x 31 52.26 x 37 17 x 26 53.35 – 30 white still has drawing chances.

47... 13 – 19  
48.49 – 43 20 – 25  
49.29 x 20 25 x 14



50.34 – 29 (or 50.34 – 30) is punished by a kingshot: 7 – 11! 51.16 x 7 12 x 1 52.21 x 23 1 – 7 53.28 x 17 19 x 48 B+.

50.43 – 38 18 – 23  
51.38 – 32 14 – 20  
52.34 – 30 20 – 24  
53.30 – 25 23 – 29



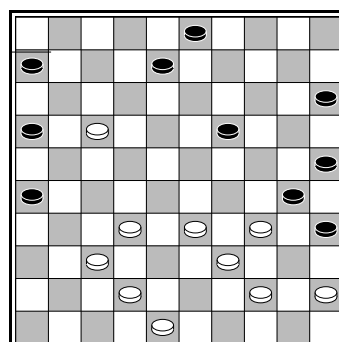
D. Staal – R. Slood

White has a strong centre position. Black fled to the edge of the board.

32.31 – 26 7 – 12  
33.26 x 17 12 x 21

After having weakened black's right wing, white begins an attack here.

34.28 – 22 24 – 30  
35.32 – 28 21 – 26  
36.38 – 32 14 – 19  
37.22 – 18 13 x 22  
38.28 x 17

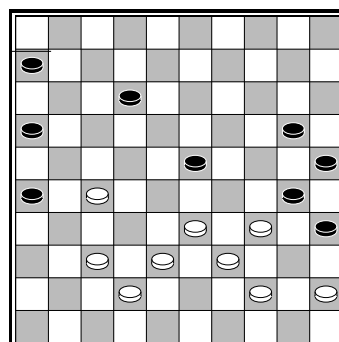


Aggressive play! Black can't change the strong piece at <17> because of the 44 – 40 threat. After the played 19 – 23 he piece at <23> gives white an object to play against.

38... 19 – 23  
39.42 – 38 15 – 20  
40.48 – 42

Black has a hidden defence in playing 23 – 28! 41.32x23 16 – 21 now. White could have prevented this by playing 40..32 – 27 immediately.

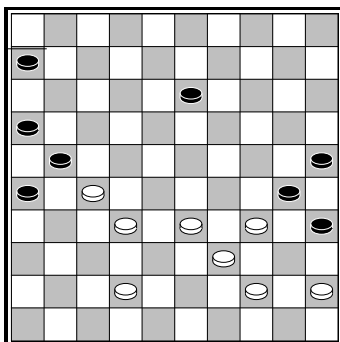
40... 8 – 12  
41.17 x 8 3 x 12  
42.32 – 27



At both the left and the right wing black has passive edge pieces.

42... 12 – 18 is met by 43.37 – 32 6 – 11 44.42 – 37 20 – 24 45.37 – 31 26 x 28 46.33 x 13 W+.

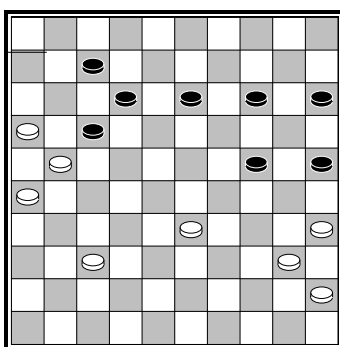
42... 12 – 17  
43.37 – 32 17 – 21  
44.33 – 28 20 – 24  
45.28 x 19 24 x 13  
46.38 – 33



Because of his two inactive arrows, black has only two playable pieces left.

46... 6 – 11  
47.33 – 28 11 – 17  
48.28 – 23 13 – 18  
49.23 x 12 17 x 8  
50.34 – 29 8 – 13  
51.39 – 33 13 – 19  
52.33 – 28 19 – 24  
53.29 x 20 25 x 14  
54.45 – 40

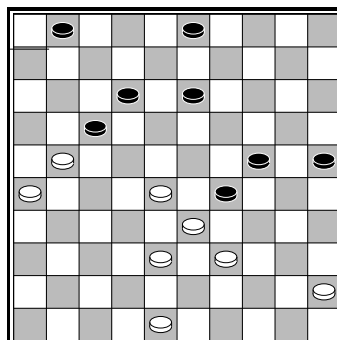
After 54... 14 – 19 55.42 – 37 19 – 24 56.28 – 23 it's game over. Therefore black sacrificed a piece and lost soon after that.



**M. van Dijk – K.H. Leijenaar**

**Exercise 4.1** Black to move. What strong move did black play?

Pieces 16 / 21 / 26 often become passive.



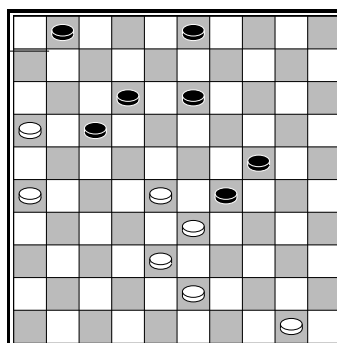
**W. Wesselink – G. Valneris**

The white piece at <21> is more active than it would have been at <16>. Black would like to force this piece to go to the edge square. Black has a good defence at this wing while having space to attack on the other wing.

47... 25 – 30!  
48.45 – 40?

White should have broken free by 28 – 22 17 x 28 33 x 22, with a small disadvantage due to black's better defence, but still easy to draw.

48... 30 – 35  
49.48 – 43 35 x 44  
50.39 x 50



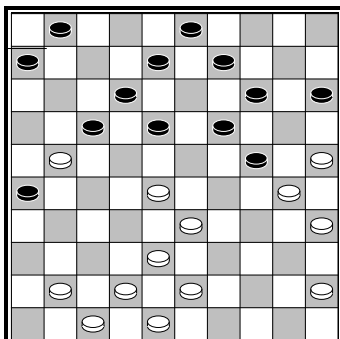
Black played 50... 29 – 34 and won the game, with some help of his opponent. We show an even better way to play, resulting in a forced win.

50... 13 – 18!

Threatening 18-22 followed by 24 – 30 B+. Therefore white is forced to play 21 – 16, moving to the weak square 16.

51.21 – 16 29 – 34  
52.38 – 32 1 – 7

White is frozen out rapidly. After 53.50 – 44 3 – 8 54.43 – 38 34 – 39 55.44 – 40 18 – 22 56.33 x 44 22 x 42 B+ follows.



### B. Hollander – T. Goedemoed

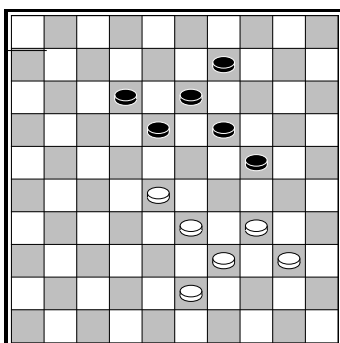
White doesn't want to play 21 – 16, because his piece at <21> is much more active than at <16>.

Black played 27... 6 – 11, hoping for 28.21 – 16? 26 – 31!! 29.16 x 7 14 – 20 30.25 x 23 18 x 29 and now:

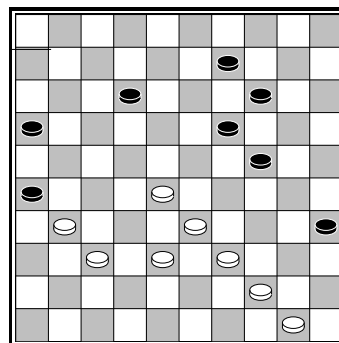
1) 31.7 x 18 8 – 13 32.30 x 8 2 x 32 33.38 x 36 29 x 49 B+

2) 31.30 x 19 9 – 13 32.7 x 9 3 x 32 33.38 x 36 29 x 49 B+

However, after 27... 6 – 11? white can keep his piece at <21>. Black could better have played 27... 26 – 31 after which 28.21 – 16 fails to the mentioned combination. White should respond 28.41 – 36 17 x 26 29.36 x 27 and the annoying piece at <21> for black, is eliminated.

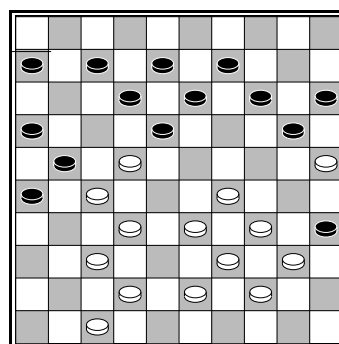


**Exercise 4.2** How can white to move force a win?

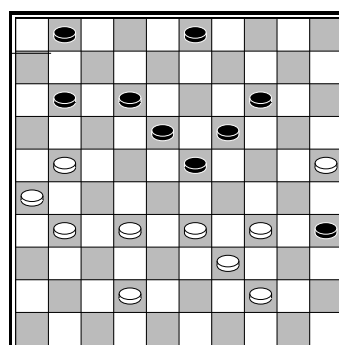


### H. Stroetinga

**Exercise 4.3** How can white force a winning shot?



**Exercise 4.4** What kingshot can white take?



**Exercise 4.5** White can take a break through shot. How?

## 5. Piece 6

In the first lesson of this section we saw situations with a white piece at <6> and black pieces at <26> and <36>. Sometimes there is only an edge piece at <6>.

From the opening this can happen like this:

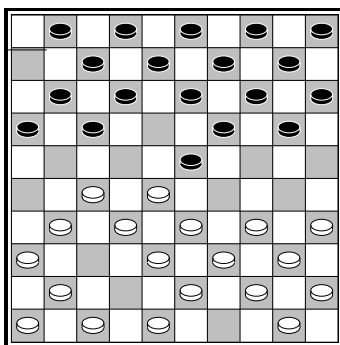
**1.32 – 28 18 – 23 2.38 – 32 17 – 21**  
**3.31 – 27 11 – 17 4.43 – 38 21 – 26**

After 5.37 – 31? 26 x 37 6.42 x 31 black wins with the Harlem shot.

**5.49 – 43 6 – 11**

White has two attractive variations: 6.34 – 29 23 x 34 7.40 x 29 or:

**6.37 – 31 26 x 37**  
**7.42 x 31**



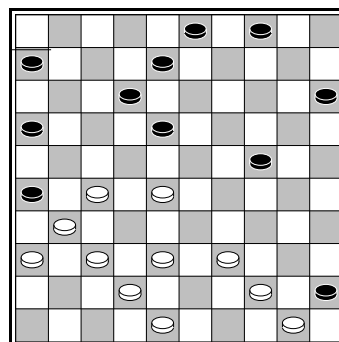
**7... 23 – 29**  
**8.34 x 23 17 – 22**  
**9.28 x 6 19 x 26**  
**10.36 – 31 26 x 37**  
**11.41 x 32**

With an interesting game.

Let's see an opening with this type of play:

**1.33 – 28 17 – 22 2.28 x 17 11 x 22**  
**3.39 – 33 6 – 11 4.35 – 30 20 – 25**

**Exercise 5.1** How does white get a piece at <6>?



### A. Groenendijk – Trimester

White exploits the weakness at <13> with help of the edge piece at <45>.

**1.37 – 32 26 x 37**  
**2.42 x 31 8 – 13**

3.27 – 21 was threatening.

**3.48 – 43! 24 – 30**

Black can't parry the 44 – 40 threat by 3... 3 – 8 because of 4.44 – 40 35 x 44 5.39 x 19 13 x 24 6.27 – 21 16 x 27 7.31 x 2 W+

**5.39 – 33 30 – 35**

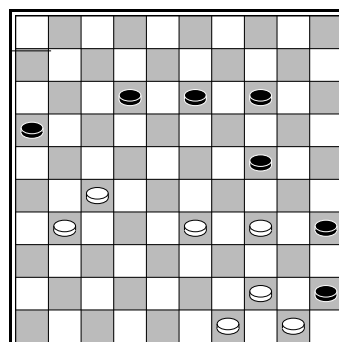
Forced again, because of the 28 – 23 threat.

**5.33 – 29!**

Threatening 44 – 40 again.

**5... 3 – 8 6.29 – 24!**

The king after 44 – 40 45 x 23 28 x 19 13 x 24 27 – 21 16 x 27 31 x 2 is immediately caught. Now black can't do anything against the 24 – 19 27 – 21 W+ threat.



### T. Sijbrands – R. Jharap

This was one of the blindfold games Sijbrands played during his world record simultaneous blindfold of 28 games. Pieces 35 and 45 are

not very active. White's defence 44 / 49 / 50 is very solid. His other pieces are active. White occupies much more space than black. Before playing 45.34 – 29 white should have improved the position of piece 31, by playing 45.31-26!

1) 45... 12 – 17 46.34 – 29 24 – 30 47.29 – 23! and white wins like in the game.

2) 45... 13 – 18 46.34 – 29 24 – 30 47.33 – 28 30 – 34 (what else?) 48.29 x 40 45 x 34 and instead of 49.50 – 45? 35 – 40! 50.44 x 35 12 – 17 = white simply plays 49.28 – 22 18 – 23 50.22 – 18! and white wins (also after 16 – 21 51.26 x 8 23 x 3 52.50 – 45 etc.).

**45.34 – 29 24 – 30  
46.33 – 28 12 – 17?**

Black could have escaped by playing a sacrifice: 46... 30 – 34! 47.29 x 40 45 x 34

1) 48.50 – 45 35 – 40!! 49.44 x 35 13 – 18!  
*50.28 – 22 will be met by 16 – 21! That's why piece 31 is better at <26>!*  
50.31 – 26 12 – 17 51.49 – 44 14 – 19 52.44 – 40 16 – 21! 53.27 x 16 18 – 22 54.40 x 29 22 x 24 =

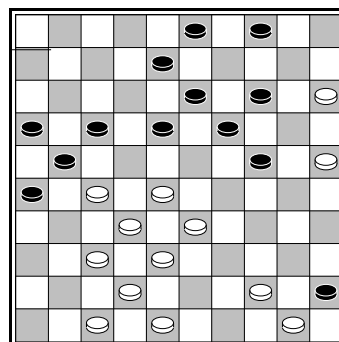
2) 48.31 – 26 12 – 17! 49.27 – 22 14 – 19 50.22 x 11 16 x 7 51.50 – 45 35 – 40  
51... 13 – 18 is also drawing  
52.44 x 35 13 – 18 and white cannot win.

**47.29 – 23!**

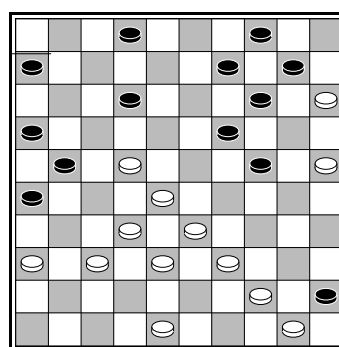
Now black is without a chance. White's attack is unstoppable.

**47... 13 – 19  
48.31 – 26 19 – 24  
49.27 – 22 14 – 20  
50.22 x 11 16 x 7  
51.23 – 18 30 – 34  
52.18 – 13**

After 52... 34 – 40 53.13 – 9 24 – 29 54.9 – 3 20 – 25 55.3 – 8 7 – 11 56.26 – 21 black resigned after more than 41 hours of play...



**Exercise 5.2** White can perform a nice breakthrough shot, try to find it!



**Exercise 5.3** Black played 12 – 18? 22 x 13 9 x 18. How could white have won now?



*Draughts art by Zolotnisky*

## Solutions section 6

### Lesson 1: Games with piece 15 / 36

**1.1** The position is very good for white! Black has a lack of space. The game was:

**14... 14 – 19 15.48 – 43 8 – 12 16.33 – 28 23 – 29 17.39 – 33** Black lost a piece and the game.

**C 1.1** 39 – 33 16 x 29 28 – 23 19 x 28 20 – 14 9 x 20 15 x 2 W+

**C 1.2** 28 – 23 19 x 37 39 – 34 30 x 28 35 – 30 24 x 35 15 x 2 W+

**C 1.3** 15 – 10 4 x 15 (15 x 4 26 – 21 17 x 37 41 x 3 +) 38 – 33 28 x 39 30 – 25 39 x 30 35 x 4 W+

**C 1.4** 32 – 28 7 – 11 28 x 17 11 x 22 37 – 31 36 x 27 38 – 32 27 x 38 29 – 24 38 x 20 15 x 2 W+

### Lesson 2: Playing against piece 15

**2.1** 27 – 22 18 x 27 32 x 21 26 x 17 28 – 23 19 x 28 37 – 31 36 x 27 38 – 32 27 x 38 42 x 2 +

**2.2** 34 – 30 25 x 34 28 – 22 17 x 39 38 – 33 39 x 28 47 – 42 36 x 38 43 x 5 +

**2.3** 27 – 22 18 x 27\* 39 – 33 25 x 34 33 – 29 24 x 33 38 x 18 12 x 23 47 – 41 36 x 38 43 x 1 +

**2.4** 47 – 42 36 x 47 32 – 28 23 x 32 38 x 27 47 x 16 43 – 38 16 x 30 35 x 2 +

**2.5** 47 – 41 36 x 47 27 – 22 47 x 50 22 x 4 50 x 22 4 x 36 +

**2.6** 47 – 42 36 x 47 26 – 21 17 x 26 37 – 31 26 x 28 33 x 22 18 x 27 29 x 20 15 x 24 38 – 33 47 x 29 34 x 5 +

**2.7** 19 – 23? 30 – 24 23 x 34 24 – 20 15 x 24 47 – 41 36 x 47 43 – 39 47 x 44 50 x 10 +

**2.8** 47 – 41 36 x 47 32 – 28 23 x 32 38 x 27 47 x 40 45 x 3 +

**2.9** 31... 6 – 11 32.30 – 25 4 – 10 33.15 x 4 19 – 23 34.28 x 10 9 – 14 35.10 x 19 13 x 24 36.4 x 22 17 x 30 37.25 x 34 16 – 21 38.26 x 6 7 – 11 39.6 x 17 12 x 43 B+.

### Lesson 3: Edge piece 26

**3.1** 13 – 18? is met by 27 – 21 16 x 38 39 – 33 38 x 29 34 x 21 =.

17 – 21? Is met by 39 – 33! 24 – 30 35 x 24 20 x 38 32 x 43 21 x 23 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 20 15 x 24 =.

The winning move is 14 – 19! 39 – 33 (27 – 22 17 – 21 +) 16 – 21 27 x 26 24 – 30 35 x 24 20 x 27 B+.

**F 3.2** 37 – 31 26 x 37 32 x 41 (threatening 28 – 23 19 x 28 34 – 30 W+) 18 – 23 39 – 33 23 x 32 33 – 28 32 x 23 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 7 W+

**3.3** 22 – 17 21 x 12 33 – 29 24 x 22 35 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 9 (10 – 14 9 x 20 15 x 24 32 – 28 22 x 33 38 x 20) W+

**C 3.4** 27 – 22? 18 x 27 32 x 21 16 x 27 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 7 27 – 32 37 x 28 24 – 29 33 x 24 19 x 30 35 x 24 8 – 12 7 x 18 13 x 44 (or 13 x 42) B+

**C 3.5** 26 – 21 17 x 26 28 – 22 18 x 27 32 x 21 26 x 17 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 9 8 – 13 9 x 18 19 – 23 18 x 29 24 x 44 B+

**C 3.6** 27 – 22 18 x 27 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 7 24 – 29 33 x 24 19 x 30 35 x 24 8 – 12 7 x 18 13 x 33 38 x 29 27 x 47 B+

**C 3.7** 27 – 22 18 x 27 31 x 11 16 x 7 33 29 24 x 22 35 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 16 W+1

**C 3.8** 27 – 22 20 – 24 22 – 17 21 x 12 33 – 29 24 x 22 35 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 7 W+

**C 3.9** 48 – 43 and black has no good move left:

1) 7 – 11 27 – 21 17 x 26 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 18 13 x 22 28 x 6 W+

2) 20 – 24 34 – 29 23 x 34 40 x 20 15 x 24 28 – 23 19 x 37 38 – 32 37 x 28 33 x 2

3) 8 – 12 27 – 22 7 – 11 34 – 30 W+

4) 23 – 29 34 x 23 17 – 22 27 x 18 13 x 22 28 x 17 19 x 37 17 – 12 ad lib. 38 – 32 37 x 28 33 x 2 W+

**F 3.10** 44 – 40 12 – 17 27 – 21 16 x 27 32 x 12 18 x 7 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 18 13 x 22 37 – 31 26 x 37 38 – 32 37 x 28 39 – 34 28 x 30 35 x 4 W+

**F 3.11** 34 – 30 25 x 34 40 x 18 13 x 22 32 – 28 22 – 27 (after 7 – 12 28 x 17 12 x 21 36 – 31 followed by 38 – 32 and 31 – 27 white wins piece 21) 43 – 39 19 – 24 28 – 22 27 x 18 36 – 31 26 x 37 38 – 32 37 x 28 33 x 11 W+

**3.12** A) 29 – 34 40 x 29 17 – 21 26 x 17 11 x 24

B) 18 – 23 39 x 28 14 – 20 25 x 14 19 x 10 28 x 19 13 x 35 (Kung Fu shot)

C) Black plays either 6 – 11 38 x 29 14 – 20 25 x 21 16 x 47 or 15 – 20 38 x 29 19 – 23 29 x 18 9 – 13 18 x 9 14 x 3 25 x 14 3 – 8 14 x 21 16 x 47 B+

**3.13** 15 – 20! threatening 17 – 21 26 x 17 11 x 33 38 x 29 24 x 33 39 x 28 25 – 30 35 x 15 14 – 20 15 x 24 19 x 50 (or 19 x 48) B+.

15 – 20 34 – 30 25 x 34 39 x 30 is met by a pingpong shot with 17 – 21 etc.

At 38 – 33 black plays 24 – 29 33 x 15 17 – 21 26 x 17 11 x 33 39 x 28 14 – 20 15 x 24 19 x 50 B+

**3.14** A) 17 – 22 28 x 17 11 x 31 36 x 27 23 – 28! 32 x 1 13 – 18 1 x 20 14 x 41 B+

B) 27 – 22 18 x 27 32 x 1 23 x 25 33 – 29! 24 x 33 44 – 39 33 x 44 26 – 21 16 x 27 35 – 30 25 x 34 1 x 7 W+

#### **Lesson 4: Piece 16**

**4.1** 25 – 30 reducing black's space even more! White will be frozen out.

**4.2** 34 – 29 24 – 30 43 – 38 (40 – 34? 12 – 17 34 x 25 17 – 21 isn't enough to win!) 30 – 35 40 – 34 9 – 14 28 – 22 (or also 34 – 30 35 x 24 29 x 9 13 x 4 28 – 23 ad lib. 33 x 13 W+) 17 x 27 34 – 30 35 x 24 29 x 7 W+

**4.3** 31 – 27! threatening with a coup Weiss: 37 – 31 27 – 21 28 – 22 38 – 32 33 x 4 W+. After 31 – 27 9 – 13\* white wins with a shot: 44 – 40 35 x 44 37 – 31 26 x 37 27 – 21 16 x 27 28 – 23 19 x 28 33 x 42 44 x 33 38 x 7 W+

**4.4** 34 – 30 35 x 24 32 – 28 21 x 45 22 – 17 12 x 21 44 – 40 45 x 34 39 x 10 15 x 4 25 x 1 W+

**4.5** 21 – 17 11 x 22 32 – 28 23 x 32 34 – 30 35 x 24 33 – 29 24 x 33 39 x 8 3 x 12 31 – 27 32 x 21 26 x 8 W+

#### **Lesson 5: piece 6**

**5.1** 34 – 29 25 x 23 32 – 28 23 x 32 38 x 6

**5.2** 44 – 40 45 x 34 28 – 23 19 x 39 37 – 31 26 x 28 50 – 44 21 x 43 44 x 11 16 x 7 48 x 10 W+

**5.3** 28 – 23 18 x 29 32 – 27 21 x 34 44 – 40 29 x 38 40 x 9 4 x 13 15 x 4 W+