

4th open (rapid) Kavala (Greece) 10-11.9.2005



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On September 10-11, 2005, the traditional 4th open rapid (20'+10") tournament "[Kavala 2005](#)" was held in Kavala, Greece. The winner, Ilias Kazantzidis, scored a 100% result, outplaying much stronger ranked opponents! Ilias is 12 years old, he is a standard member of the 1st team of the Kavala Chess Club (which is coached and captained by myself, I am only proud to add), with whom we recently won this years professional 1st Division Team Championship. Young Ilias also won the prize for the best junior board result there. His result in Kavala has even more value, having in mind that in the final round 7, he managed to win the reigning Greece BU12 champion Antonios Pavlidis, another chess jewel from Kavala and probably the biggest talent in Greece in this decade. Ilias had never defeated Antonios before, in tournaments with rapid and normal time controls! This time he did it convincingly, as we shall see.

Both of these juniors are among the 25 selected ones in the newest 4-year [Greece Chess Federation](#) Junior Program, which ambitiously aims to produce new grandmaster candidates by the age of 15, a target for which five experienced local and foreign trainers have been engaged. If you understand Greek, read all about it [here](#). The past (too) many years of junior chess stagnation has turned the local Federation radically towards junior chess. Greece chess has been improving tremendously lately, breaking all historical records, both in men's and women's team and individual senior international competitions, results that certainly deserve respect. The most recent successes were sharing 3rd place at the European Chess Championships in Sweden 2005 (men's team) and qualification of Grandmaster Vasilios Kotronias and Woman Grandmaster Yelena Dembo for the respective final World Chess Championships! Now, it is time for the juniors to have their say as well!? Continuous professional support from the Greece Chess Federation towards its trainees aims to overcome the popularity of last years national football team winning the European Championship!?

Back to Kavala, below are the complete [final standings](#), in the original Greek language (which still resembles Chinese to me...), and the 7th round decisive game played on the 1st board!

Rank	Name	Score	Bucholz
1	Καζαντζίδης Ηλ.	7/7	
2	Μανελίδης Σ.	6	
3	Δαγκάκης	5,5	
4	Παυλίδης	5	22,0
	Σεχλίδης	5	20,0
6	Μανελίδου	4,5	21,5
	Βαλσαμίδης	4,5	19,5
	Ιωσηφίδης Ευ.	4,5	19,5
	Μισαηλίδης	4,5	16,5
10.	Θεοδορίδης Γ.	4	19,5
	Μουρατίδης	4	19,0
	Ιωσηφίδης Γ.	4	19,0
	Θεοδορίδης Θ.	4	18,5
	Καφετζής	4	18,0
	Τσακίρης	4	16,5
	Μπαρούτης	4	16,0
	Βαλσαμίδου	4	15,0
	Μανελίδης Αλ.	4	14,0
	Ταχταζτής	4	13,0
20	Σαλπιστής	3,5	15,0

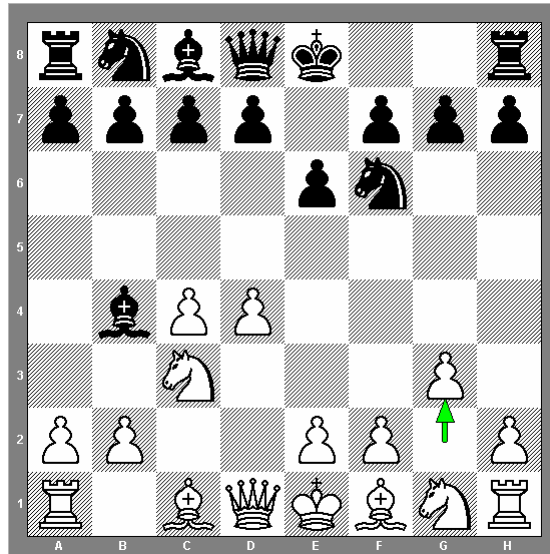
	Μπαρμπακάτζε Ν.	3,5	13,0
22	Λίμα	3	15,0
	Νεοφυτίδης	3	14,0
	Χατζηπαντελής Αρ.	3	13,0
	Μπαρμπακάτζε Ι.	3	13,0
	Βάτκαλη	3	12,0
	Χατζηπαντελή Θ.	3	11,0
	Κυπράκη Ν.	3	9,5
	Ανδρέογλου Αλ.	3	6,0
30	Τσαουσίδου	2,5	8,5
	Μισαηλίδου	2,5	8,5
	Σερεφίδου	2,5	7,5
33	Παπαϊκονόμου	2	10,0
	Γανιάρδης	2	9,0
	Χατζηπαντελή Κ.	2	7,0
36	Ανδρέογλου Στ.	1,5	
37	Τσομπάνογλου	1	7,0
	Ψιλίδου	1	6,0
	Κουμτζής	1	5,0
	Ελένας	1	5,0
41	Μπακιρτζής	0,5	

Kazantzidis, Ilias - Pavlidis, Antonios

Kavala rapid "4th Memorial Lazaros Hadzipantelis", 11.09.2005

["rapid annotations" by IM Jovan Petronic]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.g3!?



Favorite move of Ilias's brother's former trainer, GM Igor Miladinovic. Ilias adopted most of his older brother's opening repertoire.

4...c5

[GM Igor Miladinovic was a prodigy, too, former World U20 Youth Champion! I had the privilege of being selected as his first personal trainer after his success in India. As for the 4.g3!? line, learning an opening line from a master's tournament practice is one way of solving your opening repertoire problems. Below is a selected collection of Igor's games in this variation. 4...0-0 5.Bg2 d5 6.cxd5 (6.Nf3 dxc4 7.0-0 Nbd7 (7...c5 8.dxc5 Nc6 9.Nd2 Bxc5 10.Nxc4 Qe7 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Ne4 Qe7 14.Nxc5 Qxc5 15.Rc1 Rd8 16.Qb3 Na5 17.Qa4 Nxc4 18.Rxc4 Bd7 19.Qb3 Qb5 20.Rb4 Qxe2 21.Bf3 Qe5 22.Rxb7 Rab8 23.Rd1 Be8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8 25.Kg2 a5 26.Qb6 Rc8 27.b3 Kh7 28.Re7 Bb5 29.Qb7 Rc1 30.h4 Bd3 31.Rxf7 Qe1 32.Kh3 Bf5+ 33.g4 Qf1+ 34.Bg2 Rc3+ 35.f3 Bxg4+ 36.Kh2 Qd3 37.Rxg7+ 1-0 Miladinovic,I-Ferretti,F/Rome ITA 2004) 8.Qc2 c5 9.Rd1 h6 10.a3 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 Nb6 12.Qa5 cxd4 13.Rxd4 Bd7 14.Ne5 Qc8 15.Rh4 Rd8 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qd2 Kf8 18.Qxh6+ Ke7 19.Qg7 Be8 20.Ng6+ Kd6 21.Qxf6 fxe6 22.Qf8+ Kc7 23.Qf4+ Rd6 24.Rd1 Qd7 25.Rh7 1-0 Miladinovic,I-Organdziev,O/Istanbul TUR 2002) 6...exd5 7.Nf3 c6 8.0-0 Re8 9.Qb3 Na6 10.Ne5 Qb6 11.Be3 Bd6 12.Qc2 Ng4 13.Nxg4 Bxg4 14.a3 Nc7 15.Na4 Qb5 16.Rfe1 a5 17.Bf1 Qa6 18.Rac1 Bh5 19.Qb3 Qb5 20.Qd1 Qa6 21.Qb3 Qb5 22.Qd1 Qa6 S-S Miladinovic,I-Huebner,R/Corfu GRE 1999]

5.Nf3 Nc6

[5...Ne4 6.Qd3 Qa5 7.Qxe4 Bxc3+ 8.Bd2 Bxd2+ 9.Nxd2 Nc6 10.dxc5 b6 11.Bg2 Bb7 12.Qf4 bxc5 13.0-0 Nd4 14.Rfe1 Bxg2 15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.axb3 Qb6 17.Kxg2 Qxb3 18.Qd6 Qb7+ 19.e4 Rc8 20.Ra6 f6 21.Kg1 Qc7 22.Qd2 Rb8 23.Rd1 Rb6 24.Ra3 Rf8 25.Rd3 Rf7 26.b3 Qb7 27.Qe3 Qc7 28.R1d2 Re7 29.Qe2 g6 30.h4 Qe5 31.Qd1 Ra6 32.Qf3 Ra1+ 33.Rd1 Rxd1+ 34.Rxd1 Kf7 35.Qd3 f5 36.Re1 Kg7 37.f4 Qc7 38.h5 Rf7 39.Re2 gxh5 40.Qf3 fxe4 41.Qxh5 Qd6 42.Rxe4 Kf8 43.Kh2 Rg7 44.Qe2 Rg6 45.Re5 Rh6+ 46.Rh5 Rxh5+ 47.Qxh5 Kg7 48.Kh3 Qe7 49.Qe5+ Kf7 50.Qb8 Qf6 51.Qxa7 Qf5+ 52.g4 Qd3+ 53.Kh4 Qd4 54.Qb8 h6 55.Kh3 Qe3+ 56.Kg2 Qe2+ 57.Kg3 Qe3+ 58.Kg2 Qe2+ S-S Miladinovic,I-Bogdanovski,V/Skopje MKD 2002; 5...b6 6.Bg2 Bb7 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 0-0 9.d5 exd5 10.Nh4 d6 11.cxd5 Nbd7 12.Nf5 Ne5 13.f4 Nc4 14.Qd3 b5 15.g4 Bc8 16.g5 Nh5 17.Ne3 Nxe3 18.Bxe3 g6 19.Qxb5 Re8 20.Bd2 Bf5 21.Qc4 Rb8 22.e4 Rb2 23.Rf2 Bd7 24.Qd3 f5 25.gxf6 Nxf6 26.h3 Nh5 27.Raf1 Qh4 28.Bc1 Rxf2 29.Rxf2 Rf8 30.Qe3 Qe7 31.c4 1-0 Miladinovic,I-Del Monaco,A/Venice ITA 2004; 5...cxd4 6.Nxd4 0-0 7.Bg2 d5 8.cxd5 (8.Nc2 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Nbd7 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.c4 N5f6 12.Ba3 Re8 13.0-0 Qa5 14.Rb1 Qh5 15.Rb5 e5 16.Ne3 a6 17.Ra5 Nf8 18.Bxf8 Rxf8 19.f4 Re8 20.fxe5 h6 21.Qd4 Be6 22.Bf3 Qg5 23.Qf4 Nd7 24.Bxb7 Rab8 25.Bc6 Red8 26.h4 1-0 Miladinovic,I-Naumkin,I/Reggio Emilia ITA 2005) 8...Nxd5 9.Bd2 (9.Qb3 Qa5 10.Bd2 Nc6 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.0-0 Bxc3 13.Bxc3 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Ba6 15.Qb4 Qe5 16.Rfe1 Rab8 17.Qa3 Rb6 18.Rad1 h6 19.e3 Rfb8 20.h4 c5 21.Rd7 Rb1 22.Rdd1 R1b6 23.Rd7 Rb1 24.Rdd1 R1b6 S-S Miladinovic,I-Schmaltz,R/Fuerth GER 2002) 9...Nxc3 (9...Bxc3 10.bxc3 Nb6 11.Be3 Nc4 12.Qd3 Nxe3 13.Qxe3 a6 14.0-0 Qc7 15.Rfd1 Nd7 16.Nb3 e5 17.Rd5 b6 18.Rad1 Nf6 19.Rd6 Rb8 20.Qxe5 Bb7 21.Bxb7 Qxb7 22.Nd4 Rfe8 23.Qf5 Rbc8 24.Rd3 Rc5 25.Qf3 Ne4 26.Ne6 Nxd6 27.Nxc5 bxc5 28.Rxd6 Qb1+ 29.Kg2 Qxa2 30.Qe3 Qa4 31.Rxa6 Qd7 32.Qxc5 h5 33.Rd6 Qe7 34.Qd5 Qxe2 35.Rd8 Rxd8 36.Qxd8+ Kh7 37.Qd5 f6 38.h4 Kh6 39.Qd4 Qc2 40.c4 Kh7 41.c5 f5 42.Qd5 g6 43.c6 Kh6 44.Qe6 Qb1 45.Qe3+ Kh7 46.Qe7+ Kh6 47.c7 Qc2 48.Qd8 1-0 Miladinovic,I-Charbonneau,P/Bled SLO 2002) 10.bxc3 Be7 11.0-0 e5 12.Nc2 Nc6 13.Ne3 Be6 14.Rb1 Qd7 15.c4 Rac8 16.Nd5 Bc5 17.e3 b6 18.Bc3 Rfd8 19.Rb2 S-S Miladinovic,I-Arnason,J/Panormo GRE 2001]

6.Bg2 Ne4 7.Bd2 Bxc3! 8.bxc3 d6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Qc2 Nxd2 11.Qxd2 e5! 12.e3 Qc7?!

Not the best place for the Black Queen.

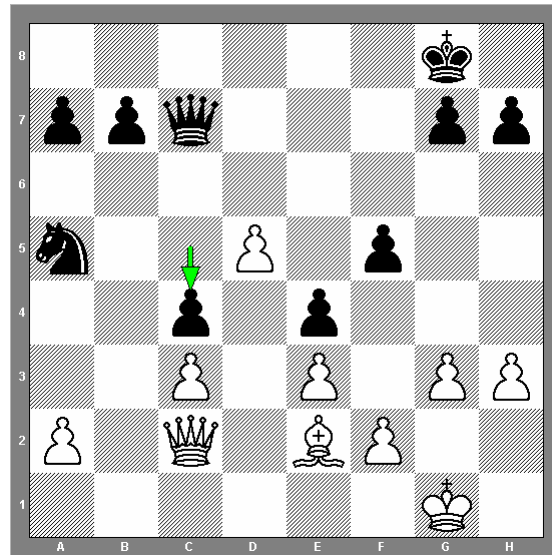
13.Rfd1! Na5!?

Too early, Black should continue to develop his pieces. [13...Bg4!?!; 13...Bf5!?!]

14.dxe5! dxe5 15.Qd5! Bg4 16.h3 Rad8 17.Qe4 Bxf3! 18.Bxf3 f5! 19.Qc2 e4! 20.Be2 Rxd1+

[20...Nc6= is the obvious move, improving the position of the Knight, which, as we shall see, stayed on the edge of the board, out of play.]

21.Rxd1 Rd8 22.Rd5 Rxd5! 23.cxd5 c4?



24.Qa4!

A very energetic move, best on the board. White is threatening mate in one (Qe8), while preparing small, but efficient tactics along the way.

24...Kf8

[24...Qd8 25.Bxc4±]

25.d6! Qd8 26.Bxc4

White is a Pawn up, Black has more weaknesses to worry about.

26...Nc6 27.Qb5! Qxd6 28.Qxf5+! Qf6

[28...Ke7 29.Qxe4++-]

29.Qxf6+! gxf6 30.Bd5! f5 31.Bxc6!

Excellent. White plays the best moves for long while now. The Pawn endgame is an easy win. [31.g4! fxc4 32.hxc4 would have won another Pawn for White, but I prefer the game continuation, as time trouble can turn the Knight's disadvantage over the Bishop into an - advantage! The Knight is known to jump around fast, his main threatening weapon being - the double attack, increases power when minutes or seconds are left on the clocks.] **31...bxc6 32.Kf1?**

[32.f3! should have won the game a bit faster. But, having in mind we are recreating a rapid junior game, such unprecise moves can be common, especially in the endgame, when the time is scarce. 32...exf3 (32...Kf7 33.fxe4 fxe4 34.Kf2+-) 33.Kf2+-] White's previous move 32.Kf1? may lead to a forced draw! However, a lot of variations are necessary to prove this, the "rapid" character of this game does not call for such deep analysis.

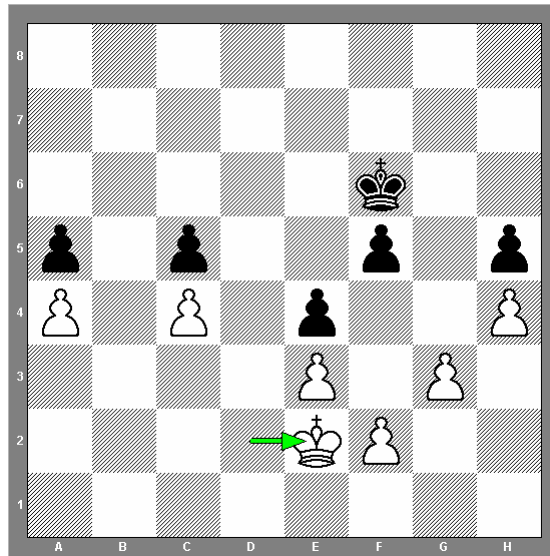
32...Ke7 33.Ke2 Ke6?

One cannot expect precise moves in rapid endgames. [33...Kd6? 34.g4!+-; 33...h5!]

34.c4 Kd6 35.Kd2 Kc5 36.Kc3 h5! 37.h4 a5 38.a4 Kd6 39.Kd4 c5+ 40.Kc3 Ke5 41.Kd2

White returns to the correct plan of trying to materialize his minimal advantage on the Kingside, where the extra Pawn is "dreaming" to be promoted.

41...Kf6 42.Ke2



42... Kg7??

Such a move really hurt my eyes. And not only the eyes! Antony just played one of the losing moves in a draw position! Punishment well deserved is about to come! [42...Ke6!! would have saved the game, believe it or not! Black can draw now. Here is Antony's short and clear analysis, made at home after the game: 43.f3 exf3+! 44.Kxf3 Ke5! 45.Kf2 Ke6!= (or: 45...Kf6= ; 45...Ke4?? 46.Ke2 Ke5 47.Kf3+- Antony followed the coaches' advice, by annotating and analyzing each and every game of chess he plays, even a rapid one. This is a sure, proven method of rapid improvement in chess, advice which all experienced, not only licensed trainers must give to their students, and follow if it is being done. Encouraging fighting spirit among young chess prodigies, and friends, too, is another reminder to be given often.)]

43.f3!+-

Now all is over. No more mistakes are made, and the game, from this point onwards, ends logically.

43...Kg6 44.Kf2 Kf6

[44...exf3 45.Kxf3 Kf6 46.Kf4+-]

45.fxe4!

[White could have fallen into the trap, by playing: 45.Kg2?? when 45...exf3+! 46.Kxf3 Ke5= would lead to the same position annotated above.]

45...fxe4 46.Kg2! Kg6 47.Kh3! Kf5 48.g4+! Ke5

[48...hxg4+ 49.Kg3+-]

49.gxh5

Black resigns. 1-0

Opening ceremony held by Mr. Vasilis Theodoridis, Vice-President of the Greece Chess Federation:



Ilias Kazantzidis in action in round 1:



The happy winners (many other [youth] prizes were awarded, too) at the Closing Ceremony: 2nd place- Savvas Manelidis, 1st place- Ilias Kazantziadis and 3rd place- Panagiotis Dagakis:



Oh, yes, it is certainly worth mentioning that the 15-year old Savvas Manelidis comes from, maybe, the largest chess family around! By one chess playing child larger than the World's most famous three Polgar sisters! They are not planning to challenge Susan's, Sofia's or Judith's chess genius (for this we may have to wait for a century or so). Maria, Savvas, Sandro & Michael - are four chess-loving children of the chess "dynasty" Manelidis, permanently residing in Kavala, originally from Georgia, country with the most Women World Chess Champions! Savvas and his 13 year-old sister Maria are also members of the 1st team of Kavala, and are reigning Team Champions of Greece, 19-year old Sandro plays and teaches chess to beginners in the Chess Club, working along with the eldest fourth child Michael, who plays chess on tournaments, when his father's successful Internet service company [MANBIZ](#), hosting the [Kavala Chess Club](#) website, allows him! All four of them played at the recently finished 14th International Open of Kavala, possibly challenging some Guinness World Chess Record!?