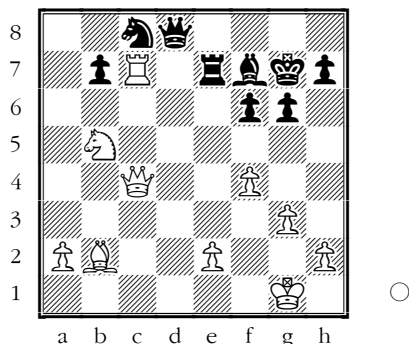


Chess Quiz

Mamedyarov – St Kristjansson
15th ETC Gothenburg (1), 30.07.2005



Chess News

The European Team Championships Gothenburg Sweden

In the second round, Netherlands scored a win over the Olympic champions of Ukraine. The hero of the day was Jan Timman. The Dutch team is leading the event along with Israel, France and Germany and the first host team.

In the women's tournament Russia, Greece, Armenia and Romania are tied for the first.

Round 2 results:

Men

Azerbaijan – Russia 2:2 (all games drawn: Radjabov – Svidler, Dreev – Mamedyarov, Gashimov – Bareev and Guseinov – Timofeev)

Hungary – Israel 1½:2½ (Almasi – Gelfand, Sutovsky – Berkes and Gyimesi – Smirin draws, on the 4th board Avrukh defeated Ruck)

Ukraine – Netherlands 1½:2½ (Ivanchuk – Van Wely, I. Sokolov – Eljanov, Karjakin – Tiviakov draws, on the 4th board Timman beat Kuzubov)

France – Czech Republic 2½:1½ (Bacrot – Navara ½–½, Hracek –

Lautier 0–1, Fressinet – Babula 1–0, Votava – Bauer 1–0)

Germany – England 2½:1½ (Graf beat Wells on the 3rd board), Switzerland – Romania 2:2 (Korchnoi – Nisipeanu draw)

Ireland played Belgium. Alex Baburin drew with White against IM Marc Dutreeuw. The other games in this match were drawn as well.

Women

Serbia and Montenegro – Russia 1:3 (Maric – Kosteniuk 0–1 on the 1st board, Galliamova – Chelushkina 1–0 on the 4th, other games drawn)

Georgia – Poland 2:2 (on the 1st board Chiburidanidze and Radziejewicz drew, Socko defeated Khurtsidze, Zielinska lost to Dzagnidze)

Ukraine – Bulgaria 2:2 (on the 1st board Lahno lost to Stefanova, on the 4th Vasilevich beat Velcheva)

Greece – Hungary 3:1, Netherlands – Armenia 1½:2½

See selected games of the 1st round in today's database

[Official website](#)

Czech Open 2005

GM Andrey Kovalev of Belarus has become the sole winner thanks to victory in the final round. His fellow countryman Sergey Azarov took third place on tie-breaks. Vladimir Potkin of Russia won the second prize.

Final round top results:

Potkin – Najer ½–½

Kovalev – Oleksienko 1–0

Azarov – Moroz 1–0

Sundararjan – Fridman ½–½

Zubarev – Krivoruchko ½–½

Shtyrenkov – Al. Kharitonov 0–1

Final standings:

1. Kovalev – 7½
- 2–5. Potkin, Azarov, Kharitonov, Najer – 7
- 6–22. Henrichs, Shalimov, Oleksienko, Zubarev, Fridman, Sandipan, Grachev, Sundararjan, G. Gutman, A. Zhigalko, Comas Fabrego, Anisimov, Petrik, Kabanov, Szoen, Visser, Krivoruchko – 6½, etc.

[Official website](#)

4th Guelph Pro Am International

This annual 9 round Swiss system event takes place 27 July – 1 August in Guelph University Centre, Canada (One encouraging quote from the official site 'Free refreshments & snacks throughout the event. All equipment provided'). 35 players including 5 GMs and one WGM are participating in the main tournament.

Standings after 6 rounds:

1. Shipov – 5
- 2–5. Kunte, Burnett, Krnan, Noritsyn – 4½
- 6–10. Ganguly, Kogan, Zugic, Matveeva, I. Ivanov – 4, etc.

[Official website](#)

Open Dutch Championship Dieren Netherlands

Sunday was a day-off. After 5 rounds Friso Nijboer and Maxim Turov are sharing the lead with 4½ points.

[Official website \(English version\)](#)

Göteborg Impressions

by GM Alex Baburin

In the past I tried to keep diaries at several chess Olympiads, but learnt the hard way that it was nearly impossible. Between preparing for games, playing and analysing it was always hard to find time and energy to write on a daily basis. Therefore this time I will limit myself to just one short article.



The European Team Championship in Sweden is a special tournament for me. First of all, I have never played in such a tournament before. Secondly, I had never been to Sweden. My decision to play at this championship was a spontaneous one – and I was somewhat surprised when I made it. After all, the Irish team gets little financial support from our Chess Union, so each member of the team spends about 1000 euro of his own money to play here. Instead I could have played in a strong open in Europe – with chances of making money rather than losing it. But having become a rather inactive tournament player, I wanted to see top-level chess and meet strong opposition. In that sense the tournament should not disappoint – the majority of teams are very strong, which is the main difference between European Team Championships and Chess Olympiads.

The organisation of the tournament so far is very good. The arriving players were picked at the airports and brought to the hotel, which is also the tournament venue. The 4-star *Gothia Towers* hotel has a very large conference centre, where we play. The playing area is both spacious and easily accessible for spectators. The latter can also avail of GM commentary in a special room. There is a large area near the playing hall with free wireless Internet access, which is very important for Net addicts like me. The official website is well-organised, up-to-date and informative.

The only disappointing thing so far has been food. All teams had to pre-pay for it and therefore now the hotel isn't pushed to impress us... The food itself is OK, but there is no choice whatsoever. Still, we should be able to survive it for 9 days. Besides, it makes sense to go out and sample the local cuisine elsewhere anyway.

Göteborg looks like a very nice city. It reminds me of Copenhagen – broad streets, lots of trees and numerous cafes and bars. At the opening

ceremony the players were shown a short film about the city, which I found very useful. All I have to do now is to cut on my Alekhine Defence preparation and find time to visit Gothenburg's museums and exhibitions!

There are 40 teams in the men's competition and 26 ladies teams. In the men's tournament there is no clear favourite: Russia is strong, of course, but this clearly is not its strongest possible team. Meanwhile Ukraine looks less formidable without Ponomarev. I believe that these two teams will have very strong competition from Israel, Armenia, France, Netherlands and Azerbaijan. Several other teams are both very solid and well capable of surprises: Hungary, Georgia, Romania, Poland, Denmark and Bulgaria. The latter would have been a medal-contender with Topalov, of course. All in all, this looks like a very good tournament to play and watch!



Letters to the Editor

by GM Alex Baburin

In *Chess Today* we often write about chess politics in general and FIDE affairs in particular. While our materials tend to be rather critical of FIDE, we are happy to publish the opposite views. For CT-1723 my colleague GM Mikhail Golubev wrote a short article titled "FIDE's Bad Memory". Then I received the following e-mail:

"Dear Mr Baburin,
I would appreciate the inclusion of my reply to GM Golubev's article in your newspaper. Thank you in advance.

*Sincerely yours,
Georgios Makropoulos, FIDE Deputy President"*

GM Golubev's Selective Memory

In a desperate attempt to turn the readers attention elsewhere, concerning the questions I posed to

Anatoly Karpov about the Crisan case, GM Golubev selected a polite FIDE announcement through which FIDE thanked the Romanian Government, the Minister of Sports and the President of the Romanian Chess Federation Alexander Crisan for the excellent hospitality and organisation of the FIDE Presidential Board in February 2003.

That FIDE meeting was organized in Bucharest within the frame of certain FIDE efforts aiming to provide a solution to the problems which Romanian chess-players, arbiters, trainers and journalists had to face with their national federation. Should you ask anyone among the chess people who suffered in Romania during that period for a name of a chess-player or FIDE official who made sincere efforts to help the situation, most likely my name would be mentioned but Karpov's never.

Is this responsible journalism by GM Golubev? By selecting a typical announcement of FIDE and at the same time burking important FIDE decisions, interviews and announcements which resulted in an agreement by all parties in Romania after our intervention? How much more productive that procedure would have been if personalities like Anatoly Karpov would have backed FIDE and the Romanian chess-players against Mr Crisan?

Despite the attempt of GM Golubev to change the topic of discussion, the questions which I posed to the former World Champion remain unanswered. Not only my questions which were published in *Chess Today* but also the rest of my questions which were published at ChessBase.com on the 26th of July.

I would be very interested to read any comment or reply which will be linked directly to the substance of my questions. Afterwards, I have no objection to any change of the discussion subject.

*Georgios Makropoulos,
FIDE Deputy President"*

I am not sure if Mikhail would like to answer, but in any case I will have some comments in a few days. Meanwhile I welcome opinions of Chess Today readers on this subject.

Annotated Game

by IM Maxim Notkin

White: A. Moiseenko (2664)

Black: J. Lopez Martinez (2507)

15th ETC Gothenburg SWE (1),

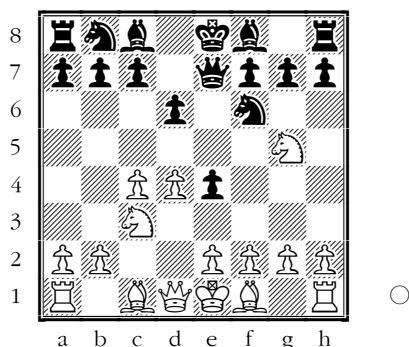
30.07.2005

Old Indian, Ukrainian variation - [A54]

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 d6 3.♙c3 e5 4.♙f3 e4

In a sense this advance is implied by the move order chosen by Black. If he wanted to reach some Indian positions arisen for instance after 4...♙bd7 5.e4 g6 (or 5...♙e7 he could have played 3...g6 or 3...♙bd7. True in the complicated ending after the exchange on e5 Black's chances aren't inferior but the attempt to exploit White's delay with e2-e4 is somewhat risky.)

5.♙g5 ♜e7 (D)



More often Black protects the pawn by 5...♙f5 to which the main reply is 6.g4!? (the first game on the subject Boleslavsky - Bronstein, Budapest 1950, Candidates saw 6.♙c2 h6 7.♙gxe4 ♙xe4 8.♙xe4 ♜h4 9.♙xd6+ ♙xd6 10.♜xf5 ♙b4+ 11.♜d1 ♜xd4+ 12.♜c2 ♜xc4+ 13.♜b1 ♙d7 14.e4 ♜c5 15.♜xc5 ♙xc5 with an equal ending) After 6.g4 Black usually recaptures with the bishop. The game Moiseenko - Romanishin, Alushta 2005 went 6...♙xg4?! 7.♙gxe4 ♙e7 8.♙g2 ♙h4?! 9.h3 ♙f6 10.♙xf6+ ♜xf6 11.♙d5 ♜d8 12.♜b3! ♙c8 13.♜e3+ ♜f8 14.♙d2 ♙c6 15.0-0-0 a5 16.♞hg1 and White obtained a noticeable edge

6.f3!?

This move is played once a decade! The main line is 6.♜c2 ♙f5 and here White chooses between 7.g4 and 7.f3 (Perhaps Moiseenko disliked his compatriot's active idea for Black tested in the latest Bundesliga season - 6...♙c6 7.d5 ♙d4 8.♜b1 e3 9.fxe3 ♙f5 10.e4 ♙h4∞ Gyimesi - Volokitin. Or may be he liked the active idea for White that another Ukrainian GM once applied)

6...exf3 7.gxf3

The powerful white centre is about to erect itself.

7...g6 8.e4

The game in which 6.f3 was first seen Andruet - Apicella, Rouen 1987 continued 8.♙g2 ♙g7 9.0-0 ♙c6 10.e4 0-0 11.♙e3 ♙d7 12.♜d2 ♞ae8 13.♙h3 ♜d8 14.♙f2 ♙h5 15.f4 f5 16.e5 g5!? 17.e6 gxf4 18.♙xf4 ♞xe6 19.♙g5 draw agreed (19.♙d5? ♙xf4 20.♜xf4 ♙xd4 21.♙xe6+ ♙xe6 22.♜h1 ♙e5=)

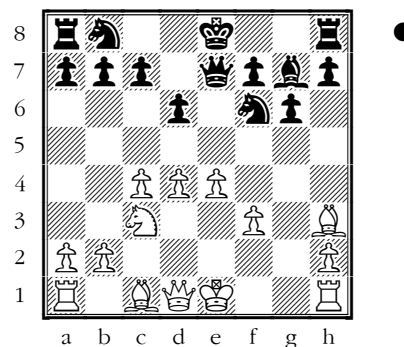
8...♙g7 9.♙h3

By this unforced withdrawal White tries to give more freedom to his bishops. The dark-squared one could now be developed at g5 while its partner after ♙f4 (or maybe ♙f2) would be able to choose between the fianchetto and the e2 and d3 squares. Moreover a devilish trap is set up

9...♙xh3?!

Black couldn't contain himself.

10.♙xh3 (D)



10...♙xe4? 11.♙xe4 ♜h4+

The only way to regain material. 11...f5 loses to 12.♙g5

12.♙f2 ♙xd4 13.0-0 ♙xf2+ 14.♜g2!

The point. Black is two pawns up but he has desperately fallen behind in development.

14...♙d4

The only move again. 14...♙c5 fails to

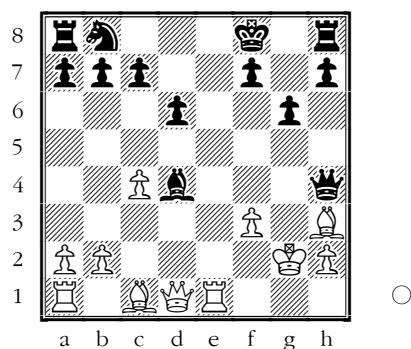
the sudden 15.♖e1+! ♜xe1 (15...♞e7 16.♙g5 ♞e5 17.♙f6) 16.♞xe1+ ♜d8 (16...♞f8 17.♙h6+ ♞g8 18.♞e8#) 17.♙g5+ f6 18.♙xf6#

15.♞e1+

The ever-funny 15.♙c8? takes one pawn back but after 15...♙d7 16.♙xb7 ♞b8 Black is fine.

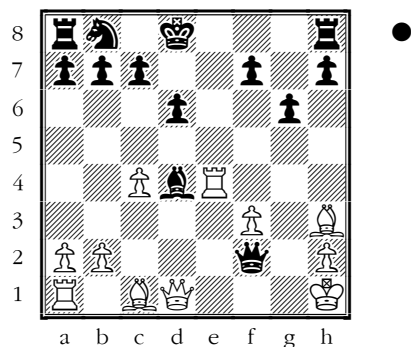
15...♜d8

Most likely Lopez Martinez wasn't aware of the game S. Savchenko – Savon, Alushta 1999 that went 15...♞f8? (D)



16.♜xd4! ♜xd4 17.♙h6+ ♞g7 18.♞e8+! ♜xe8 19.♙xg7 and Black resigned in view of 19...♞g8 20.♞e1+ ♜d8 21.♙f6# The text move is obviously better but it doesn't help to prolong the fight substantially; If 15...♙e5 then naturally 16.f4

16.♞e4 ♜f2+ 17.♞h1 (D)



17...♙f6

17...♙c6 18.♙g5+ f6 19.♙h4 ♜xb2 20.♞xd4! g5 (20...♜xd4 21.♜xd4 ♙xd4 22.♙xf6+ ♜e8 23.♙xh8+-) 21.♞d2 and in this position three pawns is poor compensation for the bishop.; If 17...♙g7 18.♜d5! ♜xf3+ (18...♙c6 19.♜xf7) 19.♙g2 ♜h5 (19...♜f5 20.♜xb7) 20.♙g5+ ♜c8 (20...f6 21.♜f7) 21.♞h4 Surely Moiseenko had it all prepared. For him the game has just begun.

18.♙e3! ♜xb2 19.♞b1 ♜c3

In case of 19...♜xa2 20.c5 four pawns in Black's purse don't save him from suffering. Except for the capture on d6, 21.♞a4! threatens ensnaring the black queen.

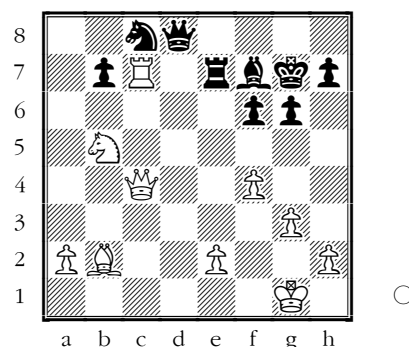
20.♜d5 ♙c6 21.c5 ♙e7 22.cxd6

1-0 Black resigned. 22.cxd6 cxd6 (22...♙xd6 23.♜xf7) 23.♞xb7 ♜e1+ 24.♙g1

Solution to our quiz:

S. Mamedyarov (2646) – St. Kristjansson (2459)

15th ETC Gothenburg SWE (1), 30.07.2005



36.♙xf6+! ♜xf6 37.♜c3+ ♜f5

37...♜e6 38.♜e5#

38.♙d4+

38.♙d4+ ♜g4 (38...♜f6 39.♙e6+!; 38...♜e4 39.♜f3+ ♜xd4 40.♙d3#) 39.♜f3+ ♜h3 40.g4+ ♜h4 41.♜g3#

1-0

Contact information. Have some comments about Chess Today? [E-mail us](mailto:mailto:us) – we appreciate your feedback! **Chess Today** is published by Alexander Baburin, 3 Eagle Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland. <http://www.chesstoday.net> Editors: GMs Baburin, Scherbakov and Golubev; IMs Barsky, Notkin and Vlassov. Technical editors: Graham Brown and Ralph Marconi.

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