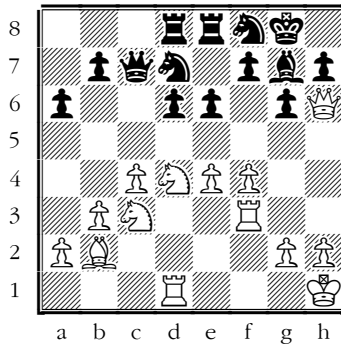
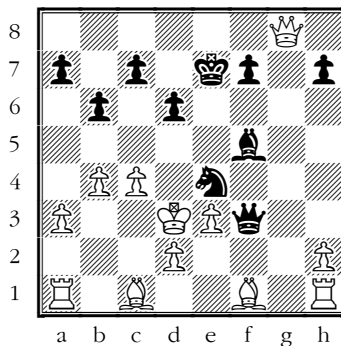


Test Yourself!

Antonio - Dao Thien Hai
 Malaysian Open 2005 (11)



Rogers - Wang Hao
 Malaysian Open 2005 (11)



Here Black played 1...♗f6+?!♞ and later won. But can you find a quicker win?

On this Day...

The famous grandmaster **Lev Polugaevsky** died ten years ago, on 30th August 1995.

Ukrainian women's champion, WGM **Anna Ushenina** -> was born on 30th August 1985. At the ongoing Ukrainian KO Championships in Rivne she produced a sensation by eliminating Oleg Romanishin in Round 1 and Anton Korobov in Round 2.



World Chess News

Ukrainian Championship

Round 3 (quarter-finals) was completed yesterday.

Round 3.2 results:

Efimenko-Brodsky 1-0 Ushenina-
Areshchenko 0-1 Borovikov-
 Kononenko ½-½ Neverov-Kruppa
 ½-½

On tiebreaks, **Borovikov** defeated Kononenko (1½ -½) while Neverov - Kruppa match was decided only in "sudden death game", where **Neverov** achieved the draw which suited him. So, the semifinals on August 30-31 will feature: Efimenko vs Neverov and Areshchenko vs Borovikov.

[Official site](#)

Malaysian Open

The 2nd Dato Arthur Tan Malaysia Open Chess Championship took place in Kuala Lumpur from 20-26 August. The rising Chinese star **Wang Hao** won the tournament with an outstanding **10 out of 11** score. In the final round he defeated GM Ian Rogers, despite missing possibility to delivery mate in 5 at some point.

Final standings after Round 11:

1. Wang Hao - 10,
 2. Antonio - 8,
 - 3-8. Rogers, Adianto, Nguyen Anh Dung, Kunte, Mariano, Jay.Gonzales - 7½,
 - 9-11. Dao Thien Hai, Torre, Wyn Zaw Htun - 7, etc.
- (Humpy Koneru scored 6½ points). [The full results Phoreport](#)

Our thanks to Junior Tay for the information.

Castelldefels (Barcelona)

The 2nd *Open Internacional Fincas Mediterranea* took place from 17–25 August.

Final standings after 9 rounds:

1–2. GMs Hamdouchi (MAR 2567) and Nisipeanu (ROM 2679) – 7½,
3–6. GM Marin (ROM 2537), GM Megaranto (INA 2499), IM L.Milov (UKR 2482), GM Peralta (ARG 2553), IM Hernando Rodrigo (ESP 2351) and Purnama (INA 2337) – 7, etc.

[Official site](#)

Nordic Championship

The Nordic Championships began in Vammala (Finland) on August 24. In the main tournament, GMs Evgeny Agrest, Tiger Hillarp Persson and IM Nicolai Pedersen are leading with 5 points out of 6.

[Official site](#)

3rd Staunton Memorial

Colin McNab and Jonathan Speelman drew in the penultimate round and are leading before the last round with 5½/9.

Results of Round 9:

McNab – Speelman ½–½

Houska – Levitt 0–1

Howell – Day 0–1

[Official site](#)

Collada Villalba, Spain

The Ukrainian grandmaster Georgy Timoshenko won the *XXII Abierto Internacional Collado Villalba* tournament, which took place from 20–28 August.

Final standings:

1. Timoshenko – 7½,
2–5. Neelotpal, Vázquez Igarza, Moreno Ruiz and Suba – 7, etc (130 players).

[Official site](#)

7. Open Internacional De Sants, Hostafrancs I La Bordeta

The big Swiss event takes place in Barcelona from 27 August – 4 September. After 3 rounds, as many as 19 players have perfect score.

[Official site](#)

Porto San Giorgio, Italy

Round 8 top pairings:

I.Farago (6) – P.Horvath (6)

Collutiis (5½) – Tomescu (6)

[Official site](#)

'Operation Capablanca' GM tournament

The round-robin tournament with GM norm is taking place in Vienna from 24 August till 2 September.

Standings after 5 rounds:

1. A.Braun – 3½,

2–5. G.Meier, Ragger, Sulskis and Van der Weide – 3,

6–7. Beckhuis and Markos – 2½,

8. Balinov – 2,

9. Siebrecht – 1½,

10. Pokorna – 1.

[Official site](#)

Istanbul Chess Festival

The open tournament of Istanbul chess festival takes place from 23 – 31 August.

Round 7 top pairings:

Shengelia (5½) – Karpatchev (6)

Miroshnichenko (5) – Izoria (5½)

[Official site](#)

Rudenko Memorial, Russia

The international women's tournament Rudenko Memorial took place 19–28 August in St Petersburg.

Final standings:

1. Zdebskaja (2390) – 7½ ,

2–4. Shumiakina (2328), Komiagina (2324) and Sudakova (2360) – 6½, etc (48 players).

[The full results](#)

Portuguese Team Championship

by Nicholas Lanier

The Portuguese Team Championship (Division 1) is under way. [Results](#) are available at the Portuguese Chess Federation website, www.fpx.pt. In the first round the favourites Guarda with GM Kevin Spraggett were immediately upset by reigning champions Boavista of Porto with GM Luis Galego – this could be the key result the same as last year, when Boavista ran away with the crown after beating Guarda. A disproportionate number of legionaries are taking part in this team championship, the prestigious Gaia Chess Club (4 : 0 in the first session) has even fielded a team without a single Portuguese player. Diana of Evora is a phantom club without any club activity that only resurfaces each year before the Championship!

Newsgroup News

After the appearance of the famous internet chess activist Sam Sloan's [biography](#) in Wikipedia (the popular free online encyclopaedia) and the followed warm [discussion](#), Sam Sloan himself posted the Wikipedia biographies of several notable chess personalities, as we can judge from the August 29 [rec.games.chess.misc message](#).

Seagaard Chess Reviews



Soren Sogaard has informed subscribers of his newsletter that the popular [Seagaard Chess Reviews](#) site will not be updated with new reviews any longer, due to the lack of sponsorship. Up to now, the site has reviewed 362 chess products (mainly chess books).

Annotated Game

by GM Mikhail Golubev

White: A. Volokitin

Black: L. VanWely

CECLUB Division de Honor I Merida
ESP (3), 26.08.2005

Sicilian defense – [B33]

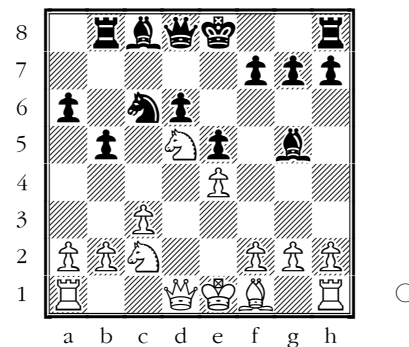
**1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4
4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 e5 6.♗db5 d6
7.♕g5 a6 8.♗a3 b5 9.♗d5**

After the game Ponomarev–Kramnik from the Wijk aan Zee 2005 tournament, this line has become fashionable. In recent years, White's attempts to "refute" the Sveshnikov were linked almost exclusively with 9.♗xf6.

9...♗e7 10.♗xf6 ♗xf6 11.c3

Here Black usually plays 11...0–0 and after 12.♗c2 decides between 12...♞b8 and 12...♕g5. There is however an important sideline. Black can combine both plans and delay castling:

11...♕g5 12.♗c2 ♞b8 (D)



13.a4 bxa4 14.♗cb4 ♕d7

14...♗xb4 followed by 15...♕d7 can lead to a transposition.

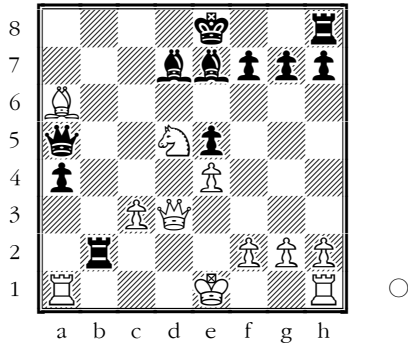
15.♕xa6 ♗xb4 16.♗xb4

After 16.cxb4 0–0 17.0–0 ♗c6 the draw was agreed in Golubev–Rogozenko, Nikolaev Zt 1995. White can sacrifice the exchange by 18.♞xa4! ♕xa4 19.♞xa4 but it is doubtful that his compensation gives him more than equality.

**16...♞a5 17.♞xd6! ♞b6 18.♞d3
♕e7**

Worse is ≤18...♕e6 19.♗c4! (or 19.0–0 0–0 20.♗c4 ♞d8 21.♗d5 ♕e7 22.♞c2! ♗xb4 23.♗xe6 fxe6 24.♞xa4! ♞c5 25.♞b3 ♕a5 26.♞a2 ♗xc3 27.♞a8! as we analysed with Rogozenko during the post-mortem) 19...♞xb4 20.♗xe6 ♞d4 21.♞f3, etc.

19.♗d5 ♞xb2 (D)



20.0-0

Other moves are not dangerous for Black: 20.♖d1 ♗g4 ⇒ 21.♗b5+ ♕f8 22.♜xe7 and by playing 22...♝xb5!? Black urges White to force a draw: 23.♝d8+ ♜e8 24.♜c6 ♗xd1 25.♝d6+=; Or 20.0-0-0 ♗a3!? and White is obliged to continue 21.♜f6+ ♖gxf6 22.♝xd7+ ♕f8 23.♝c8+= with perpetual.; 20.♜xe7 ♕xe7 is not dangerous for Black at all. Importantly, the line 21.0-0-0? ♞hb8! 22.♝xd7+ ♕f8 is in his favour.

20...♝c5!

After 20...♗c5 21.♝g3! Black faces problems because 21...0-0? (21...♝xa6? 22.♜c7+) loses to 22.♜f6+ ♕h8 23.♜xd7

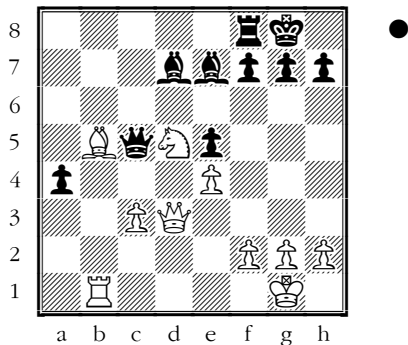
21.♞ab1

After 21.♝g3 0-0 22.♝xe5 ♗d6 23.♝d4 ♞a8!? 24.♗c4 a3= the strong advanced a3 pawn and two bishops ensured Black's compensation in Sharapov-Yagupov, Alushta 2000

21...♞xb1 22.♞xb1

Here the draw was agreed in Palac-Van Wely, Warsaw Ech 2005. Still, White preserves small advantage, so Volokitin plays on.

22...0-0 23.♗b5 (D)



23...♗xb5

A counter-intuitive but interesting move 23...♗e8!? was tested in Motylev-Timofeev, Russian Ch

(Moscow) 2004: 24.♗xe8 ♞xe8 25.♞b7 (25.♝a6 a3 26.♞b5 ♜d6 27.♞b6 ♜d8) 25...♗d6! 26.♝a6 a3 ½-½. Knowing how Volokitin deals with the Sicilian, it is easy to expect that he prepared some improvement.

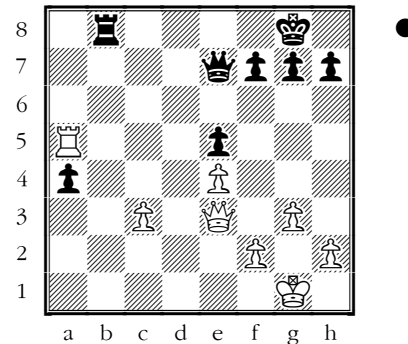
24.♞xb5 ♝a7 25.♝e3! ♜d7

Of course, not 25...♝xe3?? 26.♜xe7+ ♕h8 27.fxe3

26.♞a5 ♞b8

Now Black's prosaic threat is 27...♞b1+ and at the same time he wishes to play 27...♗f8, preparing ...a3. So, Volokitin decides to exchange his knight.

27.♜xe7+ ♝xe7 28.g3! (D)



It is hard to believe that a player of Van Wely's level can lose such a position, but in fact Black has certain problems.

28...♝d6?!

After 28...a3?! 29.♝a7; or after 28...♝e8?! 29.♝a7 ♞c8 30.♝b7 ♞b8 31.♝a6! ♞c8 32.♞xe5 White just wins a pawn without visible compensation for Black.; The best solution, as it seems, was 28...♝a3! and 29.♞xe5 (29.♝a7 ♞c8!= leads to absolute equality) is double-edged, because Black's a-pawn becomes quite dangerous. He can continue 29...♞a8!?

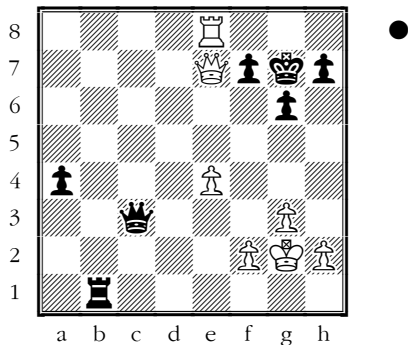
29.♝a7 g6 30.♞d5 ♞b1+ 31.♕g2 ♝c6 32.♞xe5!

Stronger than 32.♝e7 ♞b8! 33.♝xe5 ♞a8

32...♝xc3?

A blunder. It is hard to understand, what exactly was missed by Van Wely, but in any case Black's task was already not simple at all. 32...♞b6!? was, possibly, the best chance.

33.♞e8+ ♕g7 34.♝e7!+- (D)



Black is not able to defend his king.

34...h5

Or 34...♖b4 35.♖e5+ ♜h6 36.♞g8!

♖b2 37.♖f4+ ♜h5 38.♖h4#

35.♖f8+ ♜h7 36.♞e7 1-0

Solution to our quiz:

19.♖xg7+!! ♜xg7 20.♠d5

20.♠d5 exd5 21.♠f5+ ♜g8 22.♠h6#

1-0

Black played

1...♠f6+?!?

and later won. Instead, possible was

1...♠c5+! 2.♜c3 ♠a4+ 3.♜b3 ♜d1+

4.♜a2 ♜c2+ 5.♠b2 ♜xb2#

0-1

"If anything, grandmasters often consider fewer alternatives; they tend not to look at as many possible moves as weaker players do. And so, perversely, chess skill often seems to reflect the ability to avoid calculations."

– GM David Norwood

Contact information. Have some comments about Chess Today? [E-mail us](#) – we appreciate your feedback! **Chess Today** is published by Alexander Baburin, 3 Eagle Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Tel: (353-1) 278-2276. Fax: (353-1) 283-6839. E-mail: ababurin@iol.ie Website: <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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