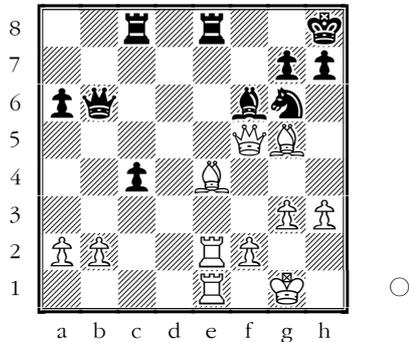
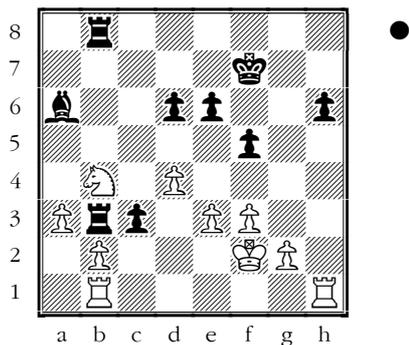


Chess Quiz

T. Kosintseva – Korbut
Russian Women's Championship
chess63.com (3), 17.05.2005



Zaiatz – N. Kosintseva
Russian Women Championship
chess63.com (3), 17.05.2005



Chess News

GM Dlugy Arrested in Russia

It has been [reported](#) in *The Moscow Times* newspaper that former US chess champion, GM Maxim Dlugy (38), was arrested on 12 April in Russia. In 1990–1993 Dlugy was the president of USCF. In Russia, Dlugy worked for a Virgin Islands-registered investment company called the Russian Growth Fund. Michael Greengard also reported this news in his [blog](#).

MTel Masters, Sofia

Round 6 results:

Ponomariov – Kramnik 1–0
Topalov – Anand 1–0
Polgar – Adams 1–0

Standings after 6 rounds:

1. Ponomariov – 3½
2–5. Polgar, Topalov, Kramnik and Adams – 3
6. Anand – 2½

[Official website](#)

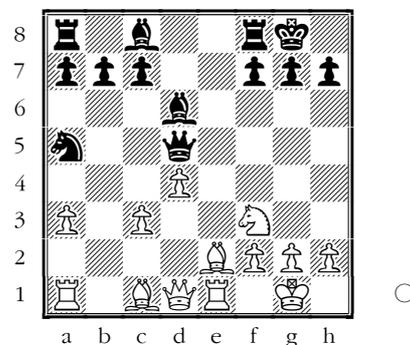
The Sofia Diary; Round 6

by GM Mikhail Golubev

It was an incredible round, as a result of which Ruslan Ponomariov, who was clear last two rounds ago, is now clear first!



Polgar – Adams

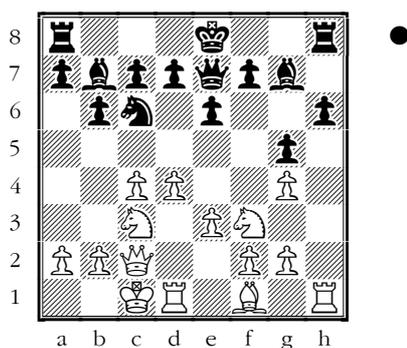


15.♖b1N ♕d7 16.♕e3 ♘c4 17.♘d2
– Polgar called these moves a "strange" plan for White. After **17...♘xe3 18.fxe3 ♖g5 19.♕f3**

(19.♘d3 with approximate equality – Polgar) **19...♖ae8 20.♗c4 b6 21.e4** (21.♗xd6 cxd6 looks equal – MG) **21...♗f4!** Black was at least a bit better. **22.♖c2** and here Adams started to play for checkmate: **22...♗e6** (22...b5!? MG) **23.g3 b5 24.♗b2 ♘d2 25.♗e2 ♗e3+ 26.♖g2**. Only here did Michael notice that the planned 26...♗h6 is refuted by 27.h4! ♗xh4 28.♖xe3. The game continued **26...f5 27.h4 ♖h6 28.exf5 ♗ee8**. Michael thought that he was lost already here, but it seems that he allowed the big mistake later, after **29.♖b3+ ♖h8 30.♖d5 ♗xf5 31.♗be1**. 31...♗d8 was the only move according to Polgar, while after **31...♗e6? 32.♗d1!** things started to look really bad for Black.

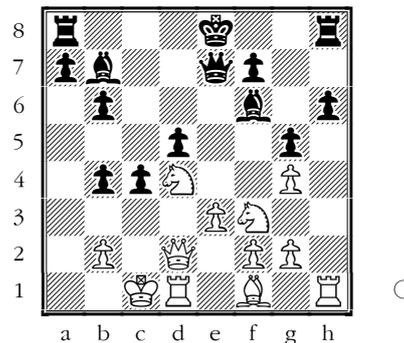


Ponomarev – Kramnik



12...♗b4N 13.♖d2 c5 14.d5 exd5 15.a3 and here instead of the obvious 15...♗xc3 Kramnik decided to sacrifice a piece by **15...dxc4(!) 16.axb4 cxb4**. Here Kramnik noticed 17.♗d5 c3 18.♖d4!! ♗xd4 19.♗xe7 with White's advantage and was happy when Ponomarev played **17.♗b5!?**. After **17...d5 18.♗bd4** (If 18.♗fd4 a6 19.♗f5 axb5!, then 20.♗xe7?? loses to 20...♖a1+ 21.♖c2 b3#, so White must

play 20.♗xg7+ with a complicated position). Now, according to Kramnik, he should have played 18...♖c5! with unclear play. He decided to change the order of planned moves and opted for **18...♗f6 (D)**



But then **19.e4!** led to White's advantage. **19...c3 20.bxc3 dxe4 21.♗f5 ♖c7 22.♗b5+** (Ponomarev was proud of his knight on f5 and therefore did not even consider, the possibility, which I liked for White, i.e. 22.♗d6+!? ♖f8 23.♗xb7 ♖xb7 24.♖d6+) **22...♖f8 23.♗3d4 ♗c8** (23...a6!?, as I see, was suggested by GM Shipov at ChessPro.ru) **24.♗e2 e3 25.♖xe3 ♗xg2 26.♗hg1**. Here 26...♗xc3!? with idea 27.♗xc3 ♗e4 (Fritz) was a possible, but still insufficient (according to Kramnik) chance. He played **26...♗c6 27.♗xc6 ♖xc6 28.♗d6 ♖a4 29.♗xf6 ♖a1+** but White easily avoided the perpetual by **30.♖d2 ♖a2+** (30...♖b2+?! 31.♖e1 ♗e8 32.♗xf7+ ♖xf7 33.♗d6+ +-) **31.♖d1!** (If 31.♖e1 ♗e8 with idea 32.♖d2 ♖a1+ 33.♖d1 ♖xc3+ 34.♖f1 ♖xf6), and **31...♗e8 32.♖d3 ♖a4+ 33.♖c2 ♖xc2+ 34.♖xc2 ♗xe2+ 35.♖b3** led to a totally winning endgame for White.

The opponents were asked (by me and by other journalists) a couple of political questions. Regarding FIDE's formula for defining the field for the upcoming **FIDE Wch** in Argentina, Ponomarev said that he normally should complain because he does not play, but in fact he is glad that something will happen. **If** it will happen, because Ruslan recalled his experience with the FIDE announcement of his 2003 match vs. Kasparov in Argentina.

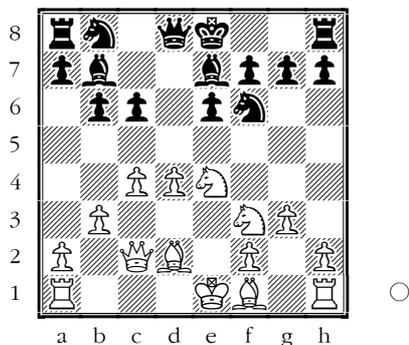


Kramnik said that the formula is normal, but taking in account the whole story, Ruslan should have been included as well. Kramnik will not play in Argentina, because if he would have played, the match with Leko "had no sense".

Answering another question, Kramnik said that it is not he but FIDE who should be asked whether they (FIDE) will try to create some artificial obstacles for the Argentina winner to play against him. But, said Kramnik, he does not understand for whom it will be worse if such a unification match takes place.

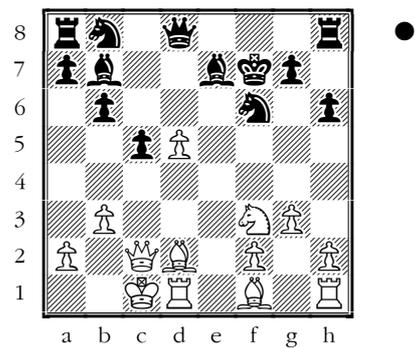


Topalov - Anand

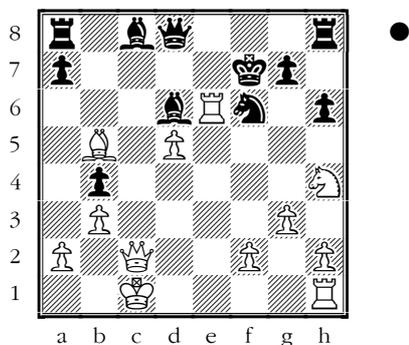


Topalov-Leko, Monaco (blindfold)
2005 saw 11. Qg2, but this time Veselin

continued **11. Qg5! N** which "not necessarily wins" (Topalov) but seems to be so strong that at the press conference Anand not only admitted Topalov's powerful novelty but also did not try to propose any improvement of Black's further play. If 11...h6, then both 12. Qxf7 and 12. Qxe6 are dangerous (Anand) and after 11...0-0 White plays 12.0-0-0, Topalov (where he always has h4 in answer to ...h6) or possibly 12. Qd3. Anand played **11...c5 12.d5 exd5 13.cxd5 h6** and here Topalov sacrificed a knight by **14. Qxf7! Qxf7 15.0-0-0 (D)**



White has purely positional compensation for a piece. I am afraid to say that neither of my engines would assess the position in White's favour - there are plenty of playing programs now, which at different levels of depth show different moves and evaluations. So, I will simply admit that Topalov's concept is extremely impressive from a human's point of view. **15... Qd6 16. Qh4** (16. Qd3 Rf8!? MG) **16... Qc8** (Anand used a lot of time already at this point) **17. Re1 Qa6 18. Re6 Qb4** (18... Qc7 19. Qg6+ Qg8 20. Qf5 Qf8 21. Qc4) **19. Qxb4** (It is not clear what White achieves by 19. Qg6+ Qg8 20. Qf5 and now 20... Qf8 or 20... Qxa2+) **19... cxb4 20. Qc4 b5** (Other possibilities were 20... Qf8 and 20... Qg8 with idea 21. Qg6 b5!). Black attempts to distract White's bishop from attack but Topalov shows that he is not in hurry at all by simply playing **21. Qxb5! (D)** (I do not see anything quick and concrete for White after 21. Qg6+ Qg8!).



Here Anand played **21...♙e7?** – the move which Topalov did not understand. Of course, it was just a decisive mistake. Better 21...♜g8!?, but both opponents considered White to be practically winning after for example 22.♙c4 or 22.♞d1 (Topalov). Maybe! Less clear could be 22.♜g6 h5! (MG). **22.♜g6!?** ♜xd5 (22...♙xe6 23.dxe6+ ♜g8 24.♞d1 ♜d5 25.♜xh8 +-) **23.♞xe7+?!** (Inaccurate is 23.♜xh8+ ♜g8 24.♞e5 ♜xh8, but 23.♞e5! seems to win on the spot: e.g. 23...♙b7 24.♜f5+ ♜g8 25.♙c4 +- MG) **23...♜xe7 24.♙c4+ ♜f6 25.♜xh8 ♜d4 26.♞d1 ♜a1+ 27.♜d2 ♜d4+ 28.♜e1 ♜e5+ 29.♜e2** (29.♜f1? ♙h3+) **29...♜xe2+ 30.♜xe2 ♜f5** (30...♙g4+ 31.f3) **31.♜f7** and White converted his material and positional advantage without much problem. A painful loss for Viswanathan, who nevertheless expressed hope to improve his result.

[ChessFM](#) runs live coverage of this tournament. The show starts at 7:30 ET (12:30 London time) on the following days: 19, 20 and 21. On 22 May the show starts at 6:30 ET.

Hungarian Championship

GMs **Zoltan Gyimesi** and **Zoltan Almasi** shared victory. While in the final round Gyimesi made a quick draw, Almasi sacrificed a piece to defeat the great Lajos Portisch, thus catching up with the leader.

Final standings:

1-2. Gyimesi and Almasi – 6 out of 9;
3-6. Ruck, Balogh, Berkes, Erdos – 4½
7-9. Varga, Portisch, A.Horvath – 4
10. Cao Sang – 3

In the women's championship after 7 rounds **Lakos** and **Madl** are the joint leaders with 5½ points. Scheider has 5 and A. Gara is on 4½. [Official website](#)

Capablanca Memorial

Ivanchuk keeps on showing great chess. He is already 3½ points ahead of the field!

Round 12 results:

Ivanchuk – Arencibia 1–0
 Bruzon – Nogueiras ½–½
 Dominguez – Delgado ½–½
 Jovaba – bye

Standings after 12 rounds:

1. Ivanchuk – 9/11
 2. Bruzon – 5½/10
 3. Delgado – 5½/11
 4–5. Dominguez, Nogueiras – 4½/10
 6. Jovaba – 4/10
 7. Arencibia – 3/10

In *Premier I* after 11 rounds Gonzalez leads with 8 points, half a point ahead of Flores and a point ahead of Kallio and Luis Perez. In *Premier II* Quezada is clear first with 7½. Gongora and Giacchio are half a point behind.

[Official website](#)

Russian Women's Championship

Kovalevskaya scored her third win to take sole lead. Yakovich produced a small sensation scoring her first half point against Kosteniuk. The encounter between the Kosintseva sisters (as always) saw a quick draw.

Round 4 results:

Kovalevskaya – Kochetkova 1–0
 Pogonina – Matveeva 1–0
 N.Kosintseva – T.Kosintseva ½–½
 Yakovich – Kosteniuk ½–½
 Galliamova – Zayats ½–½
 Korbut – Gunina 0–1

Standings after 4 rounds:

1. Kovalevskaya – 3½
 2–4. T.Kosintseva, Kosteniuk, and Pogonina – 3
 5. N. Kosintseva – 2½
 6–7. Matveeva and Gunina – 2, etc.

[Official website](#)

This issue is prepared by IM Max Notkin; technical editor Graham Brown

Subscription is 15 euro for 3 months. For further details please refer to <http://www.chesstoday.net>

Young Stars of the World

After 4 rounds in this tournament in Kirishi, near St Petersburg, GM **Alekseev** is sole leader with 3 points. Kuzubov, Karjakin, Zhigalko and Khairullin are half a point behind. [Official website](#)

1st Saturday GM, Budapest

Yesterday we made a few mistakes in the final standings. Below are the correct results.

Final Standings:

1. Chernyshov (2531) – 7;
2–5. Koneru (2508), Nguyen Ngoc (2527), Hoang Thanh Trang (2470) and Berczes (2342) – 6½, etc,
12 players. [Official website](#)

Annotated Game

by IM Maxim Notkin

White: A. Delchev

Black: I. Nataf

48. Festival SSSCG–m Herceg Novi
2005 (1), 15.05.2005

Sicilian, Dragon, Yugoslav attack – [B75]

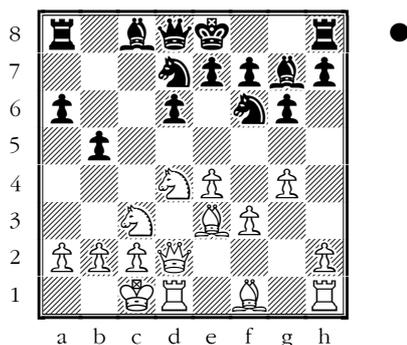
1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♞xd4 ♟f6 5.♞c3 g6 6.♞e3 ♞g7 7.f3 a6

A dodgy line whose main merit is that it leads away from the main theoretical paths. According to the database it was first played by Alekhine against Medina Garcia in 1945. The World Champion lost.

8.♞d2 ♞bd7 9.0–0–0 b5

Fridman against Volkmann at the European Ch. in Istanbul 2003 opted for 9...h5 preventing g2–g4.

10.g4 (D)



White makes all the natural Dragon moves as if he plays the normal Dragon while the advantages of Black's set-up are not obvious. He hasn't castled yet and so White's targets on the kingside are not distinct but the king could hardly stay in the centre for long

10...♞b7 11.a3

A novelty in Leko's style. White makes a prophylactic move inviting his opponent to show his hand. 11.h4 would have been met by 11...h5 12.g5 ♞h7 closing the kingside; In two recent games 11.g5 ♞h5 12.♞ce2 was tested. After 12...♞b6 13.♞g3 ♞xg3 14.hxg3 d5 15.exd5 (Perez Candelario – Cheparinov, Dos Hermanas 2005 went 15.♞b3 ♞a4 16.e5 ♞xe5 17.♞d4 ♞c7 and here instead of 18.♞h3? (White should have played 18.f4 ♞xd4 19.♞xd4 with compensation for a pawn) 18...♞xg3! and 19.♞xh8 fails to 19...♞f4) 15...♞xd5 16.b3 ♞e5 17.f4 ♞d6 18.♞g2 ♞d5 19.♞xd5 ♞xd5 Black is fine, Shirov – Williams, West Bromwich 2004

11...♞b6

11...♞e5 is possible as well and if 12.♞h6 ♞xh6 13.♞xh6 the queen may enter at b6

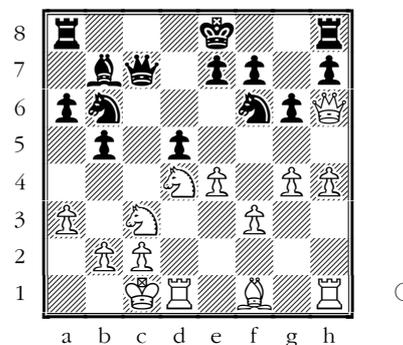
12.♞h6 ♞xh6 13.♞xh6 ♞c7

Simpler is 13...♞c8 preparing the standard exchange sacrifice. Perhaps Nataf disliked the ♞d1–♞d8 opposition due to the straight 14.e5 except for 14...♞xg4 which is probably the best but leads to a very sharp play (Black has the less obligatory 14...♞fd5 15.♞xd5 ♞xd5 16.♞g7 ♞f8 17.e6 ♞f4!? 18.exf7+ ♞d7)

14.h4

The queen on h6 prevents h7–h5. Who said she's bad at blockading?

14...d5 (D)



Black anticipates h4–h5 with a counterattack in the centre. Delchev's reply surely came as a surprise

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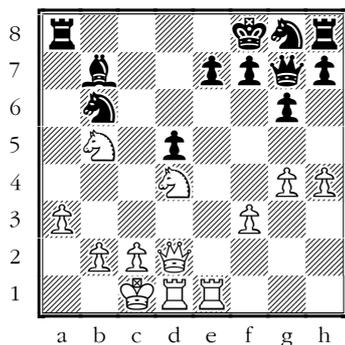
15.e5!? ♖xe5 16.♗xb5+! axb5
17.♖he1 ♕g8?

A totally wrong idea. Black should have undergone the onslaught after 17...♗b8 It is the best place for the queen on the h2-b8 diagonal as White can't win a tempo by attacking her one more time. To illustrate the possibilities of both sides let's analyse 18.♕f5!? (18.♗g7?? loses to 18...♗f4+ 19.♗b1 ♖g8; but perhaps the cool 18.♕cxb5 is the strongest continuation) 18...e6 (18...gxf5? 19.♗xf6 with a double attack on h8 and b6; in the event of 18...♕c8 19.♗g7 ♖f8 20.♗xf6 gxf5 21.♕xd5 ♗xd5 22.♖xd5 White's attack promises to be long and successful) 19.♗g7 gxf5 20.♗xf6 (the ending after 20.♗xh8+ ♖e7 21.♗xb8 ♖xb8 should be better for Black) 20...♖f8 21.gxf5 (very interesting is 21.♖xe6+!? fxe6 22.♗xe6+ ♖d8 23.♗xb6+ ♖c7 24.♗h6!? but White's initiative is more sufficient for a draw than for a win) 21...♗f4+ 22.♗b1 Here by 22...♕d7 Black nearly forces the desirable exchange but the white queen slips away 23.♗g7 and after 23...♗xf5 24.♕xb5 White still has a long-term initiative for a piece in the middlegame

18.♗d2 ♗g7?

18...♗b8 was better as in the position after 19.♕dxb5 f6 20.♗d4 ♖a6 21.♖e6 ♕d7 22.♖xa6 ♗xa6 23.♗xd5 ♗xb5 24.♕xb5 Black's material advantage is merely arithmetical

19.♕cxb5 ♗f8 (D)



If 19...♕c4 20.♗h2 threatening both ♖c7 and b2-b3. The king is trying to flee from ♕d6+ but unfortunately he finds too many of his servants in his way. Meanwhile White has another knight able to create a similar threat. But first he pulls out the Great Sealing Pawn.

20.g5!

With his ugly kingside bunch Black is absolutely helpless.

20...♖c8 21.♗f4 ♕f6 22.♖xe7!
♕h5

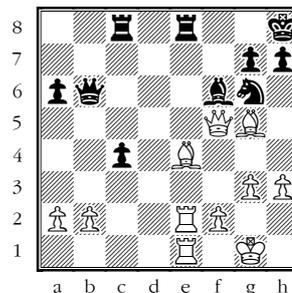
22...♗xe7 23.gxf6+ ♗xf6 24.♖e1+

23.♗d6 ♕c4 24.♖e8+! 1-0

24.♖e8+ ♗xe8 25.♖e1+

Solutions to our quiz:

T. Kosintseva - Korbut



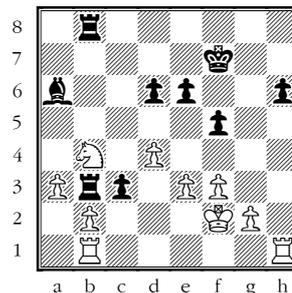
29.♗b7! ♖f8

29...♗xb7 30.♖xe8+; 29...♖xe2

30.♗xc8+

30.♗xc8 ♗e7 31.♗xe7 1-0

Zaiatz - N. Kosintseva



36...♖8xb4! 37.axb4 ♗d3-+

38.♖bc1 cxb2 39.♖c7+ ♗g6 40.♖e7

♗c4 41.♖b1 ♖xb4 42.d5 exd5

43.♖e6+ ♗g7 44.♖xd6 ♗a2

45.♖xb2 ♖xb2+ 46.♗g3 ♗c4 0-1

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