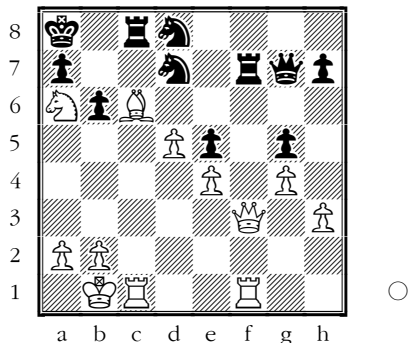


Test Yourself!

Jakovenko (2711) - Svetushkin (2568)
TCh-FRA Top 16 Poule Haute Evry (9), 2008



(Why did Black resign?)



World Chess News

King's Tournament Bazna, Romania

The nostalgic tournament of 13th
Category ended yesterday.

Final standings:

1. Short (2660) - 7
2. Portisch (2523) and Andersson (2537) - 5½
- 4-8. Suba (2487), Beliavsky (2641) Khalifman (2628), Mecking (2565) and Murariu (2483) - 5
- 9-11. A.Sokolov (2596), Vaganian (2617) and Timman (2565) - 4.

[Official website](#)

Mitropa Cup

Yesterday the traditional teams tournament finished in Olbia, Italy.

Final standings Men:

1. Croatia - 21½
2. Hungary - 20
3. Czech Republic - 20 (10 teams)

Final standings Women:

1. Italy - 14½
2. Germany - 13
3. Hungary - 9½. (6 teams)

[Official website](#)

French League

[The Week in Chess](#) informs:

" The final pool stages (Haute and Basse) of the French League took place 29th May - 1st June 2008 in Evry. Clichy took the title by a point from Cannes. Top scorers in the league as a whole by board: 1st Nakamura Hikaru (Antibes) 8,5/11 2nd Nisipeanu Liviu (Clichy) 6/8 3rd Kazhgaleyev Murtas (Cannes) 8,5/11 4th Tregubov Pavel (Clichy) 6/7 5th Philippe Christophe (Vandoeuvre) 8/11 6th Libiszewski Fabien (Montpellier) 8/11 7th Cornette Matthieu (Cannes) 5,5/8 8th Skripchenko Almira (Clichy) 9/10 "

[Official website](#) (in French)

Pivdenny Bank Cup & Annotated Games

by GM Mikhail Golubev

I am grateful to my colleague Ruslan Scherbakov who followed the Odessa rapid tournament and annotated some of the most interesting games in issues CT-2762-6764.

A new venue for the tournament, the [Odessa National Academy of Law](#) was very nice. Massive photo reports are available not only at the [official site](#), which is in Russian, but, for example, at ChessBase (at all of their three sub sites: [English](#), [German](#) and [Spanish](#)). Thanks to my colleagues who covered the event.

There were some videos: [Karpov versus Korchnoi](#) in two parts was posted by organisers at Youtube.

If one thinks that 10 minutes + 5 seconds per move is a fast control, please watch the video. Also, there was a [video report](#) from the opening ceremony, posted at the site of the all-Ukrainian paper *Segodnya*.

I prepared an expanded [report](#) in Russian (in two parts) for ChessPro.ru. There I wrote, in particular, that during the tournament both Ruslan Ponomarev and Anatoly Karpov joined the Association of Chess Professionals. And today I was informed that Judit Polgar also joined the organisation. So: **Karpov**, **Ponomarev** and **Polgar** all are new ACP members!

Other news is that shortly after the Pivdenny Cup ended, the President of the Turkish Chess Federation **Ali Nihat Yazici**, visited Odessa and signed two separate agreements of co-operation with the ACP and with the Pivdenny Bank. The website of the Turkish chess federation has a [report and documents](#) in English.

Returning to the tournament itself: I was clearly under prepared (not surprising as I played only two tournaments in the last 1½ years) and scored 0 out of 7 as Black – unbelievable. With White I did much better – 3½/7.

Having not much time to prepare material in English, before leaving for [Foros](#) (where I should work in the press centre, as it was in previous years), here I will show two of my games against Viktor Korchnoi. The veteran is still full of energy, likes to make jokes and very much dislikes to lose.

White: V. Korchnoi (2598)

Black: M. Golubev (2474)

4th Pivdenny Bank Chess Cup Odessa UKR

(4), 30.05.2008

King's Indian Defence – [E72]

1.c4 g6 2.d4 Qg7 3.e4 d6 4.Qc3 Qf6 5.g3!?

Generally, it is considered that the King's Indian lines with g3, but without an early e4 are more

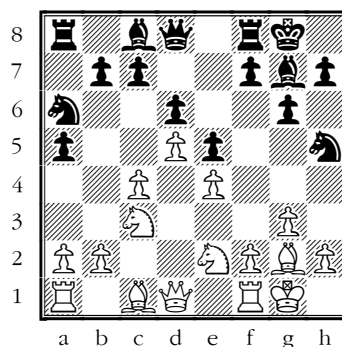


dangerous for Black. But if White delays e4, Black may switch to the Gruenfeld by ...d5.

5...0-0 6.Qg2 e5 7.d5

7.Qge2 has its own drawbacks as it allows 7...Qc6 8.d5 Qd4

7...a5 8.Qge2 Qa6 9.0-0 Qh5 (D)



10.Qh1!N

As I later found in my database, 10.Qf3 was played several times. I intended to reply with 10...Qe8!? **10...Qc5** After 10...f5!? 11.exf5 White fixes the structure: 11...Qxf5 (or 11...gxf5 12.f4) 12.Qe4

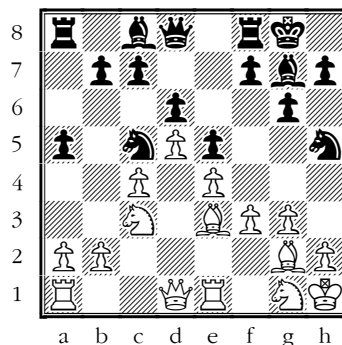
11.Qg1 Qe8

Hardly the best.

12.Qe3! Qf6 I refused to play 12...f5 because of 13.exf5 gxf5 14.Qxc5 dxc5 15.Qb5 Qf7 16.Qxc7 though now I am not sure if Black is much worse after 16...Qxg3+

13.f3 There were many other options such as, for example: 13.Qxc5 dxc5 14.Qh3

13...Qh5 14.Qe1 Qd8 (D)



For the moment White does not like to play f4, and Black does not like to play f5. A bit strange play.

15.a3!? ♖d7 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 ♜xa1 18.♞xa1 ♜b3 19.♞d1 ♜d4 20.♜ce2 ♜xe2

20...♞f6!? probably deserved attention.

21.♜xe2 f5

Finally.

22.exf5 gxf5 23.f4! ♜f6 24.fxe5 ♜g4

The first step in the wrong direction (though only the next move was a real mistake). Quite normal would have been 24...dxe5

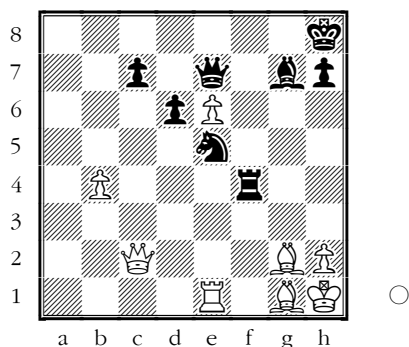
25.♙g1 ♜xe5? 26.♜f4!? ♜xc4 27.♜e6 ♙xe6 28.dxe6 ♞e7 29.♙xb7!? ♜e5

The chess engines suggest 29...♙c3!? with the idea of 30.♞e2 ♙xb4 31.♞b3 c5! though even here White is better.

30.♙g2 ♞h8

Maybe there was some sense in the immediate 30...f4!?

31.♞c2 f4 32.gxf4 ♞xf4 (D)



33.♞c1?

A logical continuation, which I saw, was 33.♞a1 ♞f8 34.♞a7 ♞xe6 35.♞xc7 ♞g6±. The text confused me somehow.

33...c6?

33...♞c4! with all chances for equalising, as it seems

34.♞b3! ♞g4?

This second mistake allows White to penetrate.

35.♞a1! ♙f6 36.♞a7 ♞f8 37.b5!+- ♞g8 38.♞a2!

Or 38.♞h3!

38...cxb5 39.♞a8 ♙d8 40.e7 1-0.

White: M. Golubev (2474)

Black: V. Korchnoi (2598)

4th Pivdenny Bank Chess Cup Odessa

UKR (11), 01.06.2008

Caro-Kann Defence - [B12]



1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♙f5 4.♜c3 e6 5.g4 ♙g6 6.♜ge2 f6

The main move is 6...c5 (which Ponomarev played against me in the 4th round, where I lost, making a bad novelty); While 6...♜e7 is Karpov's move.

7.♜f4 fxe5 8.♜xg6

The main line according to Podgaets & Karpov is 8.♜xe6!? ♞e7 9.♜xf8 exd4+ 10.♙e2 dxc3

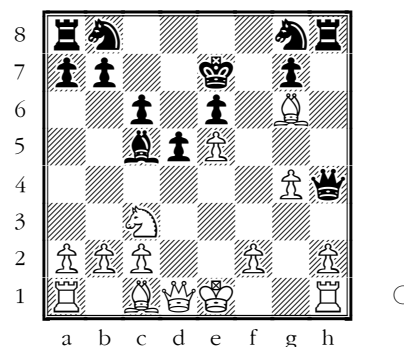
8...hxg6 9.dxe5 ♙c5

In the distant past, Korchnoi twice played 9...♜d7, and he remembers it.

10.♙d3 ♞h4?N

A pawn sacrifice is hardly the best idea. There were some games with 10...♜e7 11.♙g5

11.♙xg6+ ♞e7 (D)



12.♜e4!

After 12.♞f3?! Black may easily develop the initiative by 12...♜d7! 13.♞f4 ♜h6

12...dxe4 13.♙e3! ♙b4+ 14.c3 ♜a6
I thought that 14...♞h6 15.♙xe4! was the main line, but Black is more or less lost after 15...♙a5 16.♞a4! ♞xg4 17.♞xa5 ♞xe4 18.♞c7+ ♜d7 19.0-0-0 **15.cxb4 ♞d8 16.♞e2**

16.♖c1 ♗xg4 17.♙g5+ ♔f6! looked unclear to me.

16...♗h6 17.b5! ♗xg4?!

After 17...cxb5 18.♖xb5 (18.♙g1!? is maybe interesting, but I certainly would not get such an idea.) 18...♙d7! 19.♙d1 ♙xd1+ 20.♖xd1 ♗xg4+ 21.♖c1 ♙c8+ 22.♖b1 ♗xg6 23.♖xb7+ ♙c7 24.♖xa6 ♔f5± Black resists in a worse position.

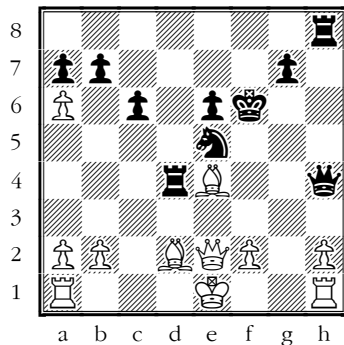
18.bxa6 ♗xe5 19.♙xe4!+-

Stronger than 19.♙c5+?! ♖f6 20.♙xe4 b6! . After the text White is winning.

19...♖f6 20.♙d2

More precise was 20.axb7 and it is not clear what Black should do, other than 20...♖xe4 21.♙g5+ ♖f5 22.♖xe4+ ♖xe4 23.♙xd8 ♙xd8+- with an obviously lost ending.

20...♙d4 (D)



21.♙c2?

Correct was 21.♙g2! ♔d3+ 22.♖f1+- . The text allows Black to complicate matters, I noticed that too late.

21...♙xd2!

Preventing White from castling long.

22.♖xd2 ♖f4+! 23.♖e1!

23.♖d1 leads to a draw after 23...♙d8+ 24.♖e1 ♔f3+ 25.♖f1 ♔d2+ 26.♖e1= (not 26.♖g2?? ♖g5+ 27.♖h3 ♙h8+ , "finita la comedia")

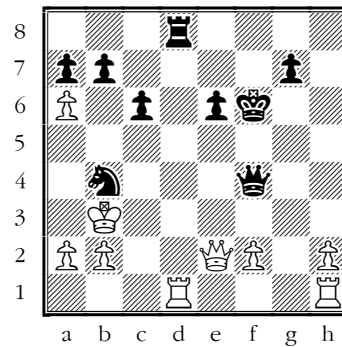
23...♔f3+ 24.♖f1 ♔d2+

After 24...♔xh2+ I somehow intended to play 25.♖e1 (also good is 25.♙xh2 ♙xh2 26.♙e4+-) 25...♔f3+ 26.♖xf3 ♖xf3 27.♙xh8+-

25.♖e1 ♔f3+ 26.♖d1! ♙d8+ 27.♙d3 ♔e5

27...♖f5 (a move mentioned later by Korchnoi; I did not see it at all) is refuted by 28.♖c2 ♔d4+ 29.♖b1! (the only move), and wins.

28.♖c2 ♔xd3 29.♙ad1! ♔b4+ 30.♖b3!± (D)



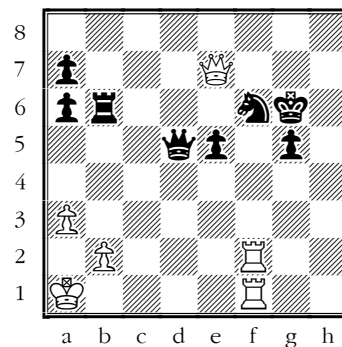
In the long further play White converted the advantage. Indeed, 5 seconds per move is not the best rate, if one seeks perfection.

30...♔d5 31.a3 bxa6 32.♖a2 ♙b8 33.♙he1 ♖f5 34.♖c4 g5 35.♖xc6+- ♙b6 36.♖c8 ♖g7 37.h4?

Basically, blundering two pawns. But the opening of files to some extent compensated for these losses – White is still better.

37...♖xf2! 38.♖c1 ♖xh4 39.♖c2 ♖f4?! 40.♙h1 ♔f6 41.♙hf1 ♖e5 42.♙d2 ♖b5 43.♙df2

Here I missed the following idea: 43.♖c7+ ♖g6 44.♙xf6+ ♖xf6 45.♙f2+ ♖f5 46.♙xf5+ exf5 47.♖xa7 43...♖d5+ 44.♖a1 e5?! 45.♖c7+ ♖g6 46.♖e7!+- (D)



46...♖e6

Or 46...♖f7 47.♖xe5+-

47.♙xf6+ ♖xf6 48.♙xf6+ ♙xf6 49.♖xe5

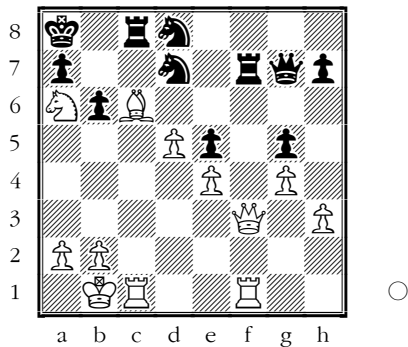
And, with a queen against rook I won. Not without difficulties.

49...g4 50.♖b1 ♙f5 51.♖e8+ ♖g5 52.♖e7+ ♙f6 53.♖e5+ ♙f5 54.♖g7+ ♖f4 55.♖d4+ ♖f3 56.♖d3+ ♖f4 57.♖f1+ ♖g5 58.♖g1 a5 59.♖c2 a6 60.♖d3 ♙f3+ 61.♖e4 ♙f4+ 62.♖e5 ♙f5+ 63.♖e4 ♙f4+ 64.♖e3 a4 65.♖e2 ♙f5 66.♖g3 ♙b5 67.♖c3 ♖h4 68.♖f2

♖b3 69.♗g7 ♕h5 70.♖g2 ♖b5
 71.♗f6 ♖b3 72.♗d4 ♕h4 73.♗f2+
 ♕h5 74.♗e2 ♕h4 75.♗e1+ ♕h5
 76.♗a5+ ♕h4 77.♗xa6 ♖xb2+
 78.♕f1 ♖b1+ 79.♕e2 ♖b2+ 80.♕e3
 ♖b3+ 81.♕e4 g3? 82.♕f4 ♕h3
 83.♗xa4 ♖d3 84.♗e4 ♖d1?!
 85.♗h7+ ♕g2 86.♗c2+ 1-0.

Solution to our Quiz:

Jakovenko (2711) - Svetushkin (2568)
 TCh-FRA Top 16 Poule Haute Evry (9), 2008



(Why did Black resign?)

Answer: Because of 35.♗xc6+ ♖xc6
 (or 35...♗xc6 36.♗xf7!+-) 36.dxc6!
 ♖xf3 37.c7! **1-0.**

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 Barskij, Notkin and Deviatkin. Technical editors: Graham Brown and Ralph Marconi.

Chess Today is copyright 2000-2008 by Alexander Baburin and protected intellectual property under the International Copyright convention. Subscribers are allowed to non-commercially distribute copies of Chess Today at their chess club, chess tournaments and via e-mail (on an occasional basis). Any other use and distribution (reproduction, via print, electronic format, or in any form whatsoever), as well as posting on the Web, is strictly prohibited without express written permission.