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## The Most Important Novelty of Volume 85

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Bad news for White: 2700+ and a firm hand is no longer enough to punish Black for choosing the Sveshnikov Sicilian. It now seems that Anand's convincing win over Kasimdzhanov in Hyderabad proved only that 10...f5 should probably be given preference to 10...Bg7, not to mention that Jakovenko's effort versus Grischuk at Aeroflot Open 2003 in Moscow (22...Qg6 instead of Kasimdzhanov's 22...Qg5 makes way for the rook, followed by 23...Rac8 heading for the fifth rank via c5, with the idea Rh5 or Rg5, instead of 23...f5 as seen in Senff – Halkias, Yerevan 2000) might even regain 10...Bg7 its status of a viable alternative to 10...f5.

Alexei Shirov, arguably the hardest working man in the business, was the last of the giants to pit his wits againsts the Sveshnikov variation aficionados: his win against mighty Kramnik in Wijk aan Zee 2003 was immediately followed by a painful loss to Grischuk due to a horrible blunder; both games, however, hardly yielded any advantage for White, as it could be seen from Shirov's next round choice: he employed the Sveshnikov himself with Black against Judit Polgar, drawing the game effortlessly. His most recent games from Bundesliga and Iceland seem to indicate that his home laboratory has not produced anything tangible for White, as we have witnessed several B 30's (3. Nc3 mostly) on his agenda ever since. If we move on to



Linares immediately, declining the Sveshnikov was the unanimous choice among the players with White pieces, apart from the game Leko – Kramnik, which hardly posed any problems for Black...

...Which brings us back to Leko again, thus completing the full circle: the theoretical survey presented here follows the trail of his novelty launched in the Dortmund semifinals against Shirov. His 18...Rb8! not only impressed the grandmaster jury, but also discouraged any serious contenders: after this game no grandmaster seemed interested in rehabilitating 18.Kh1 (remember – Shirov tried 18.Bb3 both against Kramnik and Grischuk). Such is modern theory – despite the fact that this survey can surely offer a detailed background of the variation with 18.Kh1, it is highly unlikely that it will provide an incentive for anyone willing to try his luck as White.

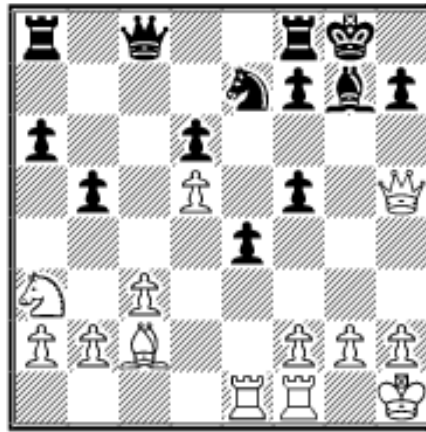
**DESET NAJVAŽNIJIH TEORIJSKIH NOVOSTI PRETHODNOG TOMA • ДЕСЯТЬ ВАЖНЕЙШИХ ТЕОРЕТИЧЕСКИХ ПАРТИЙ ПРЕДЫДУЩЕГО ТОМА • THE TEN MOST IMPORTANT THEORETICAL NOVELTIES OF THE PRECEDING VOLUME • DIE ZEHN WICHTIGSTEN THEORETISCHEN NEUERUNGEN AUS DEM VORIGEN BAND • LES DIX NOUVEAUTÉS THÉORIQUES LES PLUS IMPORTANTES DU VOLUME PRÉCÉDENT • LAS DIEZ NOVEDADES TEÓRICAS MÁS IMPORTANTES DEL TOMO PRECEDENTE • LE DIECI IMPORTANTISSIME NOVITÀ TEORICHE DEL VOLUME PRECEDENTE • DE TIO MEST BETYDELSEFULLA TEORETISKA NYHETERNA I FÖREGÅENDE VOLYM •**  
 المستكرات النظرية العشرة الأهم الواردة في العدد السابق • 上一卷最重要的十点新理论

<b>PREDLOG REDAKCIJE ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЕ РЕДАКЦИИ EDITORIAL SELECTION VORSCHLAG DER REDAKTION PROPOSITION DE LA RÉDACTION PROPOSICIÓN DE LA REDACCIÓN PROPOSTA DELLA REDAZIONE REDAKTIONENS FÖRSLAG 编辑部的建议 مجلس التحرير</b>		VISWANATHAN ANAND	EVGENY BAREEV	ALEXANDER BELIAVSKY	JOEL BENJAMIN	ARTUR JUSUPOW	CHRISTOPHER LUTZ	VALERY SALOV	IVAN SOKOLOV	JAN TIMMAN	
1. <b>SHIROV – LÉKÓ</b>	139	10	4	8	10	9	10	–	10	10	<b>71</b>
2. <b>SAKAEV – BOROVIKOV</b>	375	1	9	9	9	8	9	9	8	–	<b>42</b>
3. <b>J. BOERSMA – SPAN</b>	(264)	7	8	10	5	4	7	10	5	–	<b>54</b>
4. <b>MORÓVIC FERNÁNDEZ – NATAF</b>	134	–	10	–	8	–	5	5	9	–	<b>37</b>
5. <b>HRÁČEK – BOROVIKOV</b>	258	5	–	–	6	5	6	–	1	7	<b>30</b>
6. <b>GREENFELD – POSTNY</b>	19	–	6	–	4	2	–	2	7	6	<b>27</b>
7. <b>S. MOVSESIAN – SUTOVSKY</b>	232	–	3	4	7	10	2	–	–	–	<b>24</b>
8. <b>DREEV – VALLEJO PONS</b>	426	9	1	–	–	–	–	–	6	9	<b>25</b>
9. <b>MACIEJA – TRICHKOV</b>	142	–	–	–	–	–	8	8	–	4	<b>20</b>
10. <b>P. ÁCS – BOROVIKOV</b>	280	3	–	–	–	6	1	–	–	8	<b>18</b>
11. <b>A. BELIAVSKY – M. TUROV</b>	11	–	–	7	–	3	–	4	4	–	<b>18</b>
12. <b>SUTOVSKY – STOHL</b>	78	4	7	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	<b>14</b>
13. <b>B. GELFAND – CH. LUTZ</b>	415	–	–	2	1	7	3	1	–	–	<b>14</b>
14. <b>MOTYLEV – B. LAJIC</b>	141	–	2	6	–	–	4	–	–	–	<b>12</b>
15. <b>BA. JOBAYA – SHENGELIA</b>	393	8	–	–	–	1	–	–	2	–	<b>11</b>
16. <b>B. GELFAND – KHALIFMAN</b>	372	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	<b>11</b>
17. <b>MOTYLEV – M. MAKAROV</b>	(237)	–	–	–	2	–	–	6	–	–	<b>8</b>
18. <b>KRASENKOW – A. GALKIN</b>	357	–	–	5	–	–	–	3	–	–	<b>8</b>
19. <b>NATAF – BRUZÓN</b>	242	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	–	–	<b>7</b>
20. <b>BRUZÓN – GLEK</b>	271	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	3	<b>6</b>
21. <b>J. LAUTIER – O. KASPAROV</b>	16	–	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>5</b>
22. <b>N. VLASSOV – SHAPOSHNIKOV</b>	106	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	1	<b>4</b>
23. <b>SVIDLER – Z. ILINČIĆ</b>	208	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>3</b>
24. <b>LÉKÓ – SHIROV</b>	(240)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	<b>2</b>
25. <b>M. MIKAC – MIKHALCHISHIN</b>	24	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>0</b>
26. <b>FTÁČNIK – LESIŠOZ</b>	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>0</b>
27. <b>KRUSCHIOV – NADANIAN</b>	54	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>0</b>
28. <b>TIVIAKOV – NIJBOER</b>	(193)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>0</b>
29. <b>ARESHCHENKO – KOBALIA</b>	239	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>0</b>
30. <b>R. PONOMAREV – A. BELIAVSKY</b>	329	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>0</b>

*Shirov 2697 — Leko 2722*

**Dortmund (m/1) 2002 – 85/139**

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e5 6. Ndb5 d6 7. Bg5 a6 8. Na3 b5 9. Bf6 gf6 10. Nd5 f5 11. Bd3 Be6 12. 0–0 Bd5 13. ed5 Ne7 14. c3 Bg7 15. Qh5 e4 16. Bc2 0–0 17. Rae1 Qc8 18. Kh1



**18...Rb8! N 19. f3 b4 20. Nb1** (20. cb4? Bb2) **20...bc3 21. bc3 Bc3 22. Nc3** (22. Re2 Be5 23. fe4 f4) **22...Qc3 23. fe4 f4!** (23...Qc2 24. ef5 equal) **24. Bb3?!** (24. Bb1! Ng6 [24...Qe5 25. Qe5 de5 26. Bd3 equal] 25. e5! de5 26. Bg6 fg6 27. Qe5 Qe5 28.

Re5 equal) **24...Ng6 25. Rc1 Qf6! 26. Qf5** (26. Rc6!?) **26...Qe7! 27. Rc4 a5! 28. h3** (28. Rfc1 Rb4 and Black is superior) **28...Rb4 29. Rb4** (29. Rfc1 Rc4 30. Rc4 Qh4 with initiative) **29...ab4** (and Black is superior, weak point e4, Kh1) **30. Bd1?! Ra8** (30...Re8 31. Bh5 Qe4 32. Bg6 hg6 33. Qf4 Qd5 34. Qb4 Re2 35. Qg4 Ra2 and Black is slightly better) **31. Rf2** (31. Bh5 Ra2 32. Bg6 hg6 33. Qf4 Re2 and Black is superior) **31...Qa7! 32. Rc2 Kg7 33. Kh2** (33. Bh5? b3! 34. ab3 Qe3 and Black is winning) **33...Qe3 34. Bf3 Qe1!** (and Black is winning) **35. Rc7 Qg3 36. Kh1 Ne5 37. Bh5 Ra2 38. Rf7 Nf7 39. Qf7 Kh6 40. Qf6 Kh5 41. Qf5 Kh6 42. Qf6** (42. Qf8 Qg7 43. Qf4 Qg5 44. Qf8 [44. Qd6 Kh5] Kh5 45. Qf7 Kh4 46. Qh7 Kg3) **42...Qg6 43. Qh4 Kg7 44. Qe7 Qf7 45. Qg5 Kf8 46. Qd8 Qe8 47. Qf6 Kg8** (48. Qg5 Kf7 49. Qf5 Ke7 50. Qe6 Kd8 51. Qd6 Kc8 52. Qc5 Kb7 53. Qb4 Ka8) **0 : 1** (Leko)

## B 33

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e5 6. Ndb5 d6 7. Bg5 a6 8. Na3 b5 9. Bf6 gf6 10. Nd5 f5 11. Bd3 Be6 12. 0-0 Bd5 13. ed5 Ne7 14. c3 Bg7 15. Qh5 e4 16. Bc2 0-0 17. Rae1 Qc8 18. Kh1**

**1** ... Bb1<sup>2</sup> cb4 Nc2 Re3<sup>4</sup> Rh3 f4 g4<sup>5</sup> Rg3  
Ng6<sup>1</sup> b4<sup>3</sup> Bb2 Bc3 Bg7 h6 Ra7 fg4 Ne7<sup>6</sup>  
and White is superior

**2** ... ... f4<sup>7</sup> Qf3<sup>9</sup> Re1 Nc2<sup>11</sup> Rd1 Nd4 Bg6<sup>14</sup>  
... Re8 ef3<sup>8</sup> Re1<sup>10</sup> f4 a5<sup>12</sup> Qc5 Bd4<sup>13</sup> fg6<sup>15</sup> equal

**3** ... ... Nc2 Nb4 Qd1 b3 Nc6 Be4 a4<sup>19</sup>  
... ... f4<sup>16</sup> Re5<sup>17</sup> Qc4 Qc3 Ree8<sup>18</sup> a5 ba4<sup>20</sup>  
and White is slightly better

**4** ... g4<sup>21</sup> cb4 gf5<sup>22</sup> Rg1<sup>23</sup> Qh6 Re4<sup>24</sup> Qh3<sup>25</sup> Qb3<sup>26</sup>  
Rb8 b4 Nd5 Kh8 Bb2 Qc3 Qf6 Rg8 Rg1<sup>27</sup>  
equal

**1** 18... Re8? 19. f3! b4 20. cb4! Bb2 21. fe4 Ba3 22. Ba4! Bb4 (22...f4 23. Rf4 Bb2 24. Rh4 and White is winning; At. Kolev – Echavarria, Istanbul (ol) 2000 – 80/151) 23. Rc1 Bc5 24. ef5 and White is winning; Smikovski – Shariyazdanov, Russia (ch) 2000 – 79/126

**2** **19. f4** b4 (19...ef3? 20. Rf3 Re8 21. Ref1 and White is superior; G. Singh – Harikrishna, Kolkata 2001) 20. cb4 (20. Nb1 bc3 21. Nc3 Bc3 22. bc3 Qc3 23. Bb1 with compensation) 20...Bb2 21. Re3 Ba3 22. Rh3 Re8 equal; Galkin – Va. Filippov, Tomsk 2001;

**19. Re3** Rb8 20. f4 b4 21. cb4 Rb4 22. b3 Re8 unclear; B. Vuckovic – Krush, Bermuda 2002

**3** **19...Be5** 20. f4 Nf4 21. Qg5 Ng6 (A. Kovalev – Krasenkow, Aalborg 1995 – 64/168) 22. Rf5 b4 23. cb4 Bb2 24. Nc2 Re8 25. h4 and White is superior (Krasenkow);

**19...Rb8** 20. Nc2 Re8 21. Nb4 h6 22. f3 and White is superior; A. Umbach – A. Zozulia, Zurich 2002

**4** **22. Re2** Bg7 23. f4 ef3 24. Qf3 f4 25. Ne1!? (with the idea Nd3, with attack; weak point f4) 25...Qc4 26. Qe4 (26. Nd3 Rfe8 with counterplay) 26...Rfc8 27. Nd3 a5 28. ba5 (Leko – Krasenkow, Batumi 1999 – 77/149) 28...Ra5 29. Rc1 Bc3 30. Qc4 Rc4 31. Rec2 Ra3 32. Nf2 Ne7! 33. Re2 Nd5 34. Ne4 equal (Krasenkow);

**22. Rc1** Bb2 23. Rce1 Bc3 24. Rc1 Bb2 1/2 : 1/2 A. Galkin – Krasenkow, Saint-Vincent 2000

**5** 25. Ne3 Rc7 26. Qf5 Rc1 27. Qe4 Rf1 (27...Re8? 28. Qe8! Qe8 29.

Rc1 Nf4 30. Rf3 and White is winning) 28. Nf1 Re8 29. Qf3 (29. Qd3 Qc1 30. Rf3 Re1 31. Bc2 Nh4 32. Rf2 Nf5! with compensation) 29...Qc1 30. Bg6 (30. Bd3 Nf4 31. Rg3 Re1 32. Ba6 Nd5 with counterplay) 30...fg6 31. Qd3 and White is slightly better (Motylev)

**6 26...Rc7** 27. f5 Ne5 28. f6 Bf6 29. Rf6 Rc2 30. Bc2 Qc2 31. Qh6 Rc8 32. Rg1 Qe2 33. Rf5! and White is winning (Motylev);

**26...Ne7** 27. f5! and White is superior; Motylev – B. Lalic, Kolkata 2002 – 85/141

**7** 20. f3 b4 (20...ef3 – 20. f4) 21. cb4 Bb2 22. fe4 (22. Nc2?! Bc3 23. Re2 Qc4! 24. fe4 [the only move] 24...Re4 25. Ref2 Re5! and Black is slightly better; Bologan – Va. Filippov, Russia 2001 – 81/126) 22...Ba3 23. ef5 Re1 24. Re1 Qc3 25. Rf1 Qc4 26. Rd1 Rf8 27. Qf3 Bb4 28. fg6 fg6 29. Qd3 equal; K. van der Weide – Nunn, Paington 2000 – 81/(126)

**8** 20...Ne7 21. g4 Nd5 22. gf5 Nf6 23. Qh4 Qf5 24. Rg1 Qh5 equal; P. Thipsay – R. Ramesh, Nagpur 2002

**9** 21. Re8 Qe8 22. Qf3 f4 23. Bg6 hg6 24. Qf4 Be5 25. Qf3 (25. Qf2 Kg7 with compensation; E. Hossain – Su. B. Hansen, Istanbul (ol) 2000] Qe7 with compensation; Konguvel – Harikrishna, India (ch) 2002

**10** 21...f4 22. Bg6 fg6 23. Qf4 Re1 24. Qf7 Kh8 25. Re1 Qf8 26. Qf8 Rf8 27. Kg1 b4! 28. cb4 Bd4 29. Kh1 Bb2 30. Nb1 Rf4 equal; Odeev – Mehyo, Dubai 2002

**11** 23. Bg6 hg6 24. Qf4 Be5 25. Qe4 (25. Qf3 Kg7 with compensation; K. Kerek – A. Peter, Budapest 2000) 25...Qc5 26. Nc2 Qf2 27. Qd3 a5 with compensation; Palac – Balinov, Makarska 1997

**12** 23...Qd8 24. Nb4 and White is slightly better; Hugentobler – A. Czebe, Zurich 2001

**13** 25...b4? 26. Nf5! and White is superior; Z. Almasi – Krasenkow, Malmoe 1994 – 61/184

**14** 26. cd4 Qb4 27. Qf2 Qc4 equal

**15** 27. Rd4 Re8 28. h3 Re5 equal (Z. Almasi)

**16** 20...Nf4 21. Qg5 Nd5 (21...Nd3 22. Ne3 h6 23. Qf5 Ne1 24. Re1 Re5 25. Qf4 f5 26. g4! with initiative) 22. Nd4 Ne7 23. f3 d5 24. g4! (24. fe4 fe4 25. Qh5 Rf8 26. Nf5 Nf5 27. Rf5 Qe6 28. Rd5 f5 unclear (Rogozenko)]



*a)* 24...h6 25. Qh5 b4 (25...fg4 26. fe4 Ng6 27. Rf7! and White is winning) 26. fe4 bc3 27. e5! and White is winning;  
*b)* 24...Kh8 25. gf5 Bd4 26. cd4 Qf5 27. Qf5 Nf5 28. fe4 Nd4 29. Rd1 Nc6 30. ed5 Ne5 31. d6 and White is superior;  
*c)* 24...fg4 25. fe4 Ng6 (25... Qd7 26. e5! Ng6 27. e6! fe6 28. Bg6 hg6 29. Qg6 and White is winning; Zeliakov – Rogozenko, WICC 2002) 26. Nf5 (26. Rf7!? Bd4 27. e5!! and White is slightly better; Nijboer – Krasenkow, Wijk aan Zee II 2002 – 83/127) 26...Qe6 27. Qg4 (27. a3!? Qe5 28. Qg4) 27...d4 28. cd4 Bd4 29. Bc2! and White is superior, with the idea Bb3; with attack (Krasenkow)

**17** 21...Qc4!? with the idea 22. Nc6 e3

**18** 24...f3? 25. Ne5 fg2 26. Kg2 Be5 27. Re4 and White is winning; Nijboer – A. Czebe, Ohrid 2001 – 82/(137)

**19** 26. Re2 b4 27. Rfe1 Kh8 28. h3 Qc5 29. Rc2 Bc3 30. Ree2 Kg7 31. a4 Ne5 32. Ne5 de5 33. Red2 Qd6 34. Qg4 Kf8 35. Rd3 h6 equal; Bakre – Mehyo, Dubai 2002

**20** 26...ba4 27. ba4 Qa3 28. Qc2 (28. Bd3!? Rogozenko) Qc3 29. Qb1 and White is slightly better; R. Ramesh – Al Sayed, Kolkata 2002;

**26... b4!?**

**21** 19. f3 b4 20. Nb1 (20. cb4? Bb2) 20...bc3 21. bc3 Bc3 22. Nc3 (22. Re2 Be5 23. fe4 f4) Qc3 23. fe4 f4! (23...Qc2 24. ef5 equal)  
*a)* 24. Bb3?! Ng6 25. Rc1 Qf6! 26. Qf5 (26. Rc6!?) 26...Qe7! 27. Rc4 a5! 28. h3 (28. Rfc1 Rb4 and Black is superior) 28...Rb4 29. Rb4 ab4 and Black is superior (weak point e4, Kh1) Shirov – Leko, Dortmund (m/1) 2002 – 85/139;  
*b)* 24. Bb1! Ng6 (24... Qe5 25. Qe5 de5 26. Bd3 equal) 25. e5! de5 26. Bg6 fg6 27. Qe5 Qe5 28. Re5 equal (Leko);

**19. Bb1** b4 20. cb4

*a)* 20...Bb2 21. Re3 Nd5 22. Rh3 Nf6 23. Qh6 (23. Qg5 Kh8 24. Qd2) 23...Qe6 24. f3 with compensation; with attack;  
*b)* 20...Rb4 21. b3 (21. f3!?) 21...Nd5 22. Nc4 Qe6 23. f3 Nf6 (23...Nc3!?) 24. Qh3 with compensation; B. Svensson – Ma. Nielsen, Kobenhavn 2002;

**19. Bb3** a5 20. f3 b4 (20...Ng6 21. fe4 f4 22. Rf3 Re8 23. Rh3 h6 24. Qf3 a4 25. Bc2 b4 (Sakelsek – S. Barrientos, Iraklion 2002) 26. cb4 Rb4 27. b3 and White is slightly better] 21. cb4 (21. Nb1!?) 21...Rb4 22. fe4 fe4 23. Rc1 Qd7 24. Nc2 Rbb8 25. Ne3 f5 26. Bc2 Rf6 (26...Rb2 27. g4 with compensation; 26... Bb2 27. Rb1 with compensation) 27. g4 Rbf8 equal; Bratovic – Ig. Jelen, Bled (ol) 2002

[22](#) 21. Be4 fe4 22. Qd5 Rb4 23. Re4 Re4 24. Qe4 Re8! 25. Qd5 Qg4 26. Nc4 Qe4 27. Qe4 Re4 28. Nd6 Re2 equal (Leko)

[23](#) **22. Bb3** Nf6 23. Qg5 d5 24. Nc2 Qb7 with compensation; Antoniou – E. Hossain, Bled (ol) 2002;

**22. Be4** Nf6 23. Qf3 Rb4 with counterplay (Leko)

[24](#) With the idea Qh7, Rh4#; 24. Be4 Qf6 (Leko)

[25](#) 25. Rh4 Qh6 26. Rh6 Ba3 (26...f6!? 27. Nc4 Nb4 unclear) 27. f6 Nf6 28. Rf6 Bb4 with the idea 29. Rh6 f5! (Leko)

[26](#) 26. Rf1

*a)* 26...Qc3 27. Qc3 Nc3 28. Rh4! Ba3 (28...f6 29. Nc4 Rb4 30. Re1!) 29. f6 Rg6 30. Bg6 fg6 31. Re1 with counterplay;

*b)* 26...Rb4!?

*c)* 26...Ba3 27. Qa3 Rbc8! 28. Bd1! Nc3 29. Re3 d5 30. Rg3! d4 (30...Ne4 31. Rg8 Rg8 32. Qe3 unclear) 31. Bf3 d3!? 32. Qb2 Qd4 33. Qd2 (33. Rd1? Rg3!! 34. hg3 Rc4! and Black is winning; V. Topalov – Leko, Dortmund (m/2) 2001 – 85/140) Ne4 34. Be4 Qe4 35. f3 [35. Kg1!? Qf5 and Black is slightly better) Qf5 and Black is slightly better (Leko)

[27](#) 27. Kg1 Nc3 (27...Ba3 28. Qd5 Bb4) 28. Re3 d5 29. Nb1 Rg8 30. Kf1 Nb1 31. Bb1 equal (Leko)



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