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## COLUMNISTS



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# The Ten Best Games of Volume 87

Ivan Markovic  
Chess Informant Editor

The times might have changed as the Chess Informant's best game poll had the first-time-ever computer program entry, but it was Kasparov who firmly held the thick end of the stick against the computer in the first game of the Man vs. Machine match (people generally tend to be overawed by the brute force of the computer's calculating power, but No. 1 had no kid gloves for *Deep Junior*). In the dawning of the new era of virtual beauty queens where screen-deep digital models parade the VR catwalks redefining ideals of gracefulness and charm, human creativity and passion (hand-in-hand with common sense, one might add) prevail over the chessboard despite ever-mounting pressure from top computer engines – beauty and silicon (beasts) still fail to co-exist within the same sentence.

Fortunately enough, the chess world has an undisputed flesh-and-blood queen in Judit Polgar, whose inspired attack along the h-file devastated her young compatriot's futile defensive attempts in front of the home crowd in Budapest, Hungary. Alexei Shirov's "fire on the board" torched Van Wely's overoptimistic effort to put it out with gasoline, despite the Dutchman's quality opening play garnished with an important novelty. Third place went to Nigel Short's win against Christopher Lutz by means of a topical piece sacrifice which opened the door to a tense tactical struggle crowned by the neat finish. Among the top-tenners Kramnik and Leko are the only ones with double entries, which is definitely at odds with their peaceful reputation, as we are led to believe by the chess media.

Finally, I would like to make a honourable mention of two underdogs that should not be left unnoticed only because of the less fancied names: Zelcic – Okhotnik (No. 16) and Sakalauskas – R. Kaminski (No. 22) are true pearls of chess ingenuity and vigor, the latter being an unprecedented case of a correspondence game fragment making it to the Chess Informant Editorial Board's final selection.



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**DESET NAJBOLJIH PARTIJA PRETHODNOG TOMA • ДЕСЯТЬ ЛУЧШИХ ПАРТИЙ ПРЕДЫДУЩЕГО ТОМА • THE BEST TEN GAMES OF THE PRECEDING VOLUME • DIE ZEHN BESTEN SCHACHPARTIEN AUS DEM VORIGEN BAND • LES DIX MEILLEURES PARTIES DU VOLUME PRÉCÉDENT • LAS DIEZ MEJORES PARTIDAS DEL TOMO PRECEDENTE • LE DIECI MIGLIORI PARTITE DEL VOLUME PRECEDENTE • DE TIO BÄSTA PARTIERN I FÖREGÅENDE VOLYM • 上一卷最优秀的十盘棋 • الأشواط العشرة الأهم الواردة في العدد السابق**

**PREDLOG REDAKCIJE  
ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЕ РЕДАКЦИИ  
EDITORIAL SELECTION  
VORSCHLAG DER REDAKTION  
PROPOSITION DE LA RÉDACTION  
PROPOSIZIONE DELLA REDAZIONE  
REDAKTIONENS FÖRSLAG  
编辑部的建议**

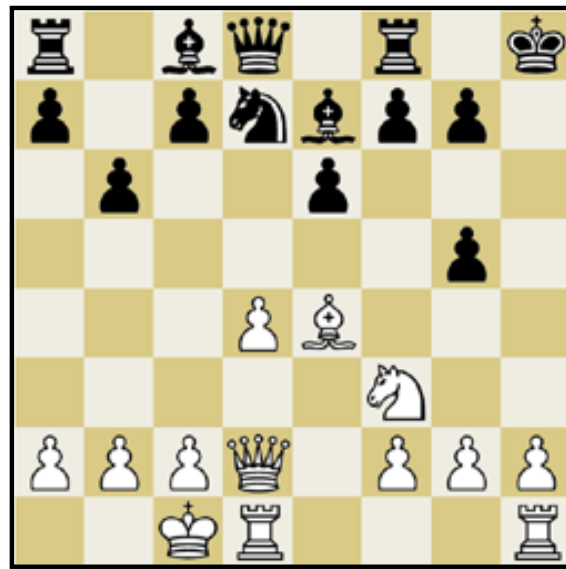
مجلس هيئة التحرير

ALEXANDER BELIAVSKY  
LARRY CHRISTIANSEN  
MIKHAIL GUREVICH  
VIKTOR KORCHNOI  
ALEKSANDAR MATANOWIC  
JEROEN PIKET  
ZOLTÁN RIBLI  
JONATHAN SPEELMAN  
XIE JUN

1. <b>JU. POLGÁR</b> — BERKES	278	9	10	9	10	9	10	7	5	-	<b>69</b>
2. <b>SHIROV</b> — VAN WELY	108	1	5	-	9	8	5	8	10	10	<b>56</b>
3. <b>N. SHORT</b> — CH. LUTZ	162	10	-	3	8	5	-	10	4	9	<b>49</b>
4. <b>DREEV</b> — TIVIAKOV	435	-	9	10	6	-	2	9	3	6	<b>45</b>
5. R. PONOMARIOV — <b>KRAMNIK</b>	115	-	4	-	-	7	8	6	7	7	<b>39</b>
6. <b>G. KASPAROV</b> — R. PONOMARIOV	445	8	7	-	5	-	-	2	2	8	<b>32</b>
7. <b>KRAMNIK</b> — V. TOPALOV	223	-	6	6	-	10	1	-	6	-	<b>29</b>
8. JU. POLGÁR — <b>LÉKÓ</b>	129	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	8	-	<b>20</b>
9. <b>LÉKÓ</b> — T. RADJABOV	276	2	3	2	-	-	9	3	-	-	<b>19</b>
10. <b>NISIPEANU</b> — S. VOLKOV	265	-	2	7	4	-	-	-	-	5	<b>18</b>
11. <b>B. AVRUKH</b> — I. KURNOSOV	465	6	-	-	7	-	-	4	-	-	<b>17</b>
12. <b>KRAMNIK</b> — T. RADJABOV	274	-	-	4	3	-	7	-	-	-	<b>14</b>
13. <b>ANAND</b> — R. PONOMARIOV	307	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	3	<b>13</b>
14. <b>AN. KARPOV</b> — ILIESCAS CÓRDOBA	406	4	-	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	<b>12</b>
15. <b>RUSTEMOV</b> — VALLEJO PONS	359	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	<b>11</b>
16. ŽELČIĆ — <b>OKHOTNIK</b>	60	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>9</b>
17. <b>G. KASPAROV</b> — DEEP JUNIOR	389	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>8</b>
18. <b>J. LAUTIER</b> — ZVJAGINSEV	360	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	<b>8</b>
19. <b>P. ÁCS</b> — LÉKÓ	130	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	<b>4</b>
20. <b>SHIROV</b> — BACROT	296	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	<b>4</b>
21. G. KASPAROV — KRAMNIK	318	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	<b>4</b>
22. <b>SAKALAUSKAS</b> — R. KAMIŃSKI	443	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>4</b>
23. <b>KORCHNOI</b> — BACROT	349	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	<b>3</b>
24. <b>N. SHORT</b> — Š. ŠULSKIS	310	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	<b>3</b>
25. I. SOKOLOV — BOLOGAN	368	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	<b>2</b>
26. O. FOIŞOR — <b>IORDĂCHESCU</b>	449	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
27. <b>SUTOVSKY</b> — DVOIRYS	232	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
28. RUBLEVSKY — BOLOGAN	175	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
29. <b>J. TIMMAN</b> — CU. HANSEN	259	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
30. <b>ZVJAGINSEV</b> — LPUTIAN	371	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

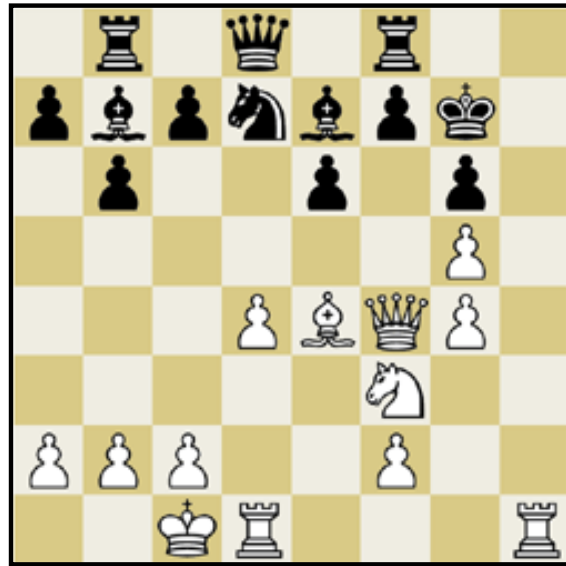
## JU. Polgar 2715 — Berkes 2578 Budapest 2003 – 87/278

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 de4 5. Ne4 Be7 6. Bf6 Bf6 7. Nf3 Nd7  
8. Qd2 0-0 9. 0-0-0 Be7 10. Bd3 b6 11. Neg5 h6 12. Bh7!? (a novelty) Kh8  
13. Be4 hg5? [13...Rb8 14. h4 Nf6 15. Bd3 Bb7 16. Ne5 Kg8 17. Qe2 with  
an attack; 13...Bg5! 14. Ng5 Rb8 15. Nf3 (15. h4 Nf6) Nf6 16. Bd3 Bb7  
equal]



**14. g4!!** [14. Ba8? g4 15. Ne5? Bg5 and Black is winning] **Rb8** [14...Ba6 15. h4 a) 15...f5 16. hg5 Kg8 17. gf5 Rf5 18. Bf5 ef5 19. Qc3! (19. Qe3 Bc4) Bg5 20. Ng5 Qg5 21. Kb1 Rf8 (21...c5 22. Qb3 c4 23. Qa4 and White is winning; 21...Kf7 22. Qb3 Kf6 23. Qd5 Rd8 24. Rde1 and White is winning) 22. Qb3 Rf7 23. Rh8 Kh8 24. Qf7 and White is winning; b) 15...g6 16. hg5 Kg7 17. Qf4 Rh8 (17...Bd6 18. Ne5 Be7 19. Nf7 Bd6 20. Qf3 Qe7 21. Rh7 Kh7 22. Qh3 Kg8 23. Rh1 Kf7 24. Bg6 Kg6 25. Qh5 Kg7 26. Qh7 mate) 18. Rh8 Qh8 19. Ne5 Ne5 20. Qe5 Kg8 21. Qh8 Kh8 22. Rh1 Kg7 23. Ba8 and White is winning; c) 15...Kg8 16. hg5 Re8 17. Bh7 Kf8 18. Bd3 and White is winning; d) 15...gh4 16. g5 Kg8 17. Qf4 f5 18. Qh4 fe4 19. Qh7 Kf7 20. Qh5 g6 (20...Kg8 21. g6 and White is winning) 21. Qh7 Ke8 22. Qg6 Rf7 23. Rh7 Bg5 24. Ng5 Qg5 25. Qg5 Rh7 26. Qg6 Rf7 27. Qe6! Re7 (27...Kf8 28. Rh1 Nf6 29. Rh8 Ng8 30. Qe4 Rb8 31. Qg4 Rg7 32. Qf3 Ke8 33. Qb3! Kf8 34. Qa3 and White is winning) 28. Qg6 Kd8 29. Rh1 Re8 30. Rh7 Nf8 31. Qf6 Kc8 32. Qc6 Nh7 33. Qe8 Kb7 34. Qe4 and White is winning; 14...c6 15. h4 gh4 (15...g6 16. hg5 Kg7 17. Qf4 with an attack) 16. g5 a) 16...Kg8 17. Qf4 f5 (17...h3 18. Rh3 and White is winning) a1) 18. Qh4?! Qc7! (18...fe4 19. Qh7 Kf7 20. Qh5 g6 21. Qh7 Ke8 22. Qg6 Rf7 23. Rh7 Bg5 24. Ng5 Qg5 25. Qg5 Rh7 26. Qg6 Rf7 27. Qe6 Re7 28. Qc6 and White is winning) 19. Bd3 Kf7 20. Qh5 g6 21. Qh7 Ke8 22. Qg6 Kd8; a2) 18. Bc6! Rb8 19. Qh4 Bd6 20. Ne5 Be5 21. de5 Kf7 22. Rd6 and White is winning; b) 16...f6 17. Nh4 Kg8 (17...fg5 18. Ng6 Kg8 19. Bc6 Rb8 20. d5 and White is winning) 18. Ng6 and White is superior] **15. h4 g6** [15...f5 16. hg5 Kg8 17. gf5 Rf5 18. Bf5 ef5 19. Qe3 Nf8 (19...Kf7 20. g6 Ke8 21. Rh8 Nf8 22. Rf8 Kf8 23. Rh1 and White is winning) 20. Ne5 Qd5 21. Qh3 Bg5 22. Kb1 Bh6 23. Rdg1 Kh8 24. Qg3 and White is winning; 15...gh4 16. g5 f5 (16...Kg8 17. Qf4) 17. Qf4 fe4 18. Qh4 Kg8 19. Qh7 Kf7 20. Qh5 g6 21. Qh7 Ke8 22. Qg6 Rf7 23. Rh7 Bg5 24. Ng5 Qg5 25. Qg5 Rh7 26. Qg6 Rf7 27. Qe6 Re7 28. Qg6 Rf7 29. Qe4 and White is superior; 15...Kg8 16. hg5 Re8 17. Qf4 Nf8 18. Rh3 and White is superior; 15...Bb7 16. hg5 Kg8 17. Bb7 Rb7 18. Qf4 Rb8 (18...Re8 19. Kb1! Bd6 20. Rh8 Kh8 21. Qf7 Nf8 22. Rh1 Nh7 23. g6 and White is winning) 19. Kb1! Bd6 20. Ne5 Be5 21. de5 Re8 22. Rd3 and White is superior] **16. hg5 Kg7 17. Qf4 Bb7** [17...Bd6 18. Ne5 Be5 19. de5 Rh8 20. Rh8 Qh8 21. Bc6 Qd8 22. Kb1! a5 23. a4 Kf8 24. Rh1 and White is winning; 17...Rg8 18. Rh7 Kh7 19. Qf7 and White is winning; 17...Rh8 18. Rh8 Qh8 (18...Kh8 19. Qf7) 19. Ne5 a) 19...Ne5 20. Qe5 Kg8 21. Qc7 Bg5 22. Kb1 and White is

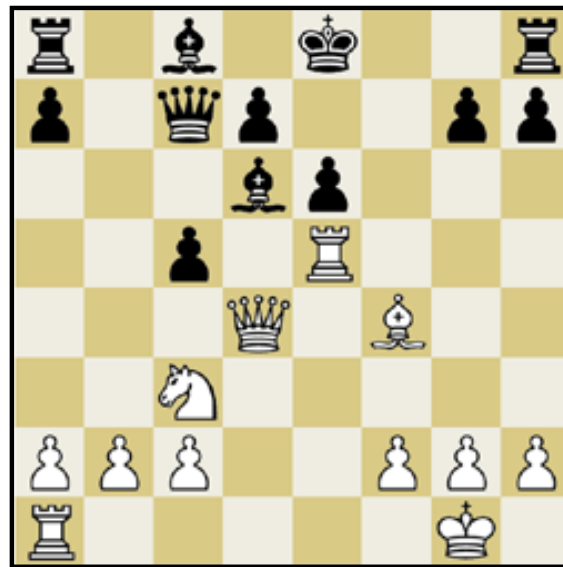
winning; b) 19...Qe8 20. Rh1 and White is winning; c) 19...f6 20. g6 Bf6 21. Rh1 Be5 (21...g5 22. Qf3 Qg8 23. Nd7 Bd7 24. Rh7 and White is winning) 22. de5 Qg8 23. Rh6 Nf8 24. Rh3 and White is winning; d) 19...Qg8 20. Rh1 Bd6 21. Rh7!! Qh7 (21...Kh7 22. Qh2 Kg7 23. Qh6 mate; 21...Kf8 22. Rh8 Qh8 23. Qf7 mate) 22. Qf7 Kh8 23. Ng6 Qg6 24. Bg6 Nf8 25. Qf6 Kg8 26. Bf7 Kh7 27. g6 and White is winning]



**18. Rh7! Kh7 19. Qh2 Kg8** [19...Kg7 20. Qh6 Kg8 21. Bg6 (21. Rh1? Bg5! 22. Ng5 Qg5 23. Qg5 Be4) Bg5 22. Ng5 Qg5 23. Qg5 fg6 24. Qg6 Kh8 25. f3! Bf3 26. Rd2 and White is winning] **20. Rh1 Bg5 21. Ng5 Qg5** [21...Kg7 22. Ne6! Kf6 (22...fe6 23. Qh7 Kf6 24. g5! Kg5 25. Qh4 mate) 23. Nd8 Be4 24. Qf4 and White is winning] **22. f4 Qf4** [22...Qh5 23. gh5 Be4 24. hg6 Kg7 25. Qh6 Kf6 26. Qg5 Kg7 27. Rh7 Kg8 28. Qh6 and White is winning] **23. Qf4 Be4 24. Qe4 1 : 0** [Ju. Polgar]

## Shirov 2723 — Van Wely 2668 Deutschland 2003 – 87/108

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bb5 Qc7 5. 0-0 e6 6. Re1 Ng4!? 7. Bc6 bc6!** [7...Qc6? 8. d4 and White is superior; 7...dc6?! 8. e5 Nh6 9. d4 and White is slightly better] **8. e5** [8. d3!?] **f6! 9. d4** (a novelty) **cd4 10. Qd4 Ne5 11. Ne5 fe5 12. Re5 Be7! 13. Bg5!?** [13. Bf4 d6 14. Re3 0-0 unclear] **Bd6?** [13...d6 14. Be7 Qe7 15. Re3 unclear] **14. Bf4!** [14. Rf5!? Rf8! 15. Ne4 (15. Rf8 Kf8 equal) Bh2 16. Kh1 Rf5 (16...d5!? 17. Rf8 Kf8 18. g3 de4 19. Kh2 Qb6 unclear) 17. Qg7 Bd6 18. Qh7! (18. Rd1 Bf8 19. Qh7 Rg5 20. Ng5 Qf4! 21. Qg6 Ke7 equal) Rg5 19. Ng5 Qa5! 20. Qg8 Ke7 21. Rd1! Qe5! (21...Qf5 22. Qg7 Ke8 23. Rd6 Qf2 24. Rd4!? with an attack) 22. Qh7 Ke8 23. Qg6 Ke7 24. g3 Qf5 25. Qg7 Ke8 26. Rd6 Qf2 unclear] **c5**



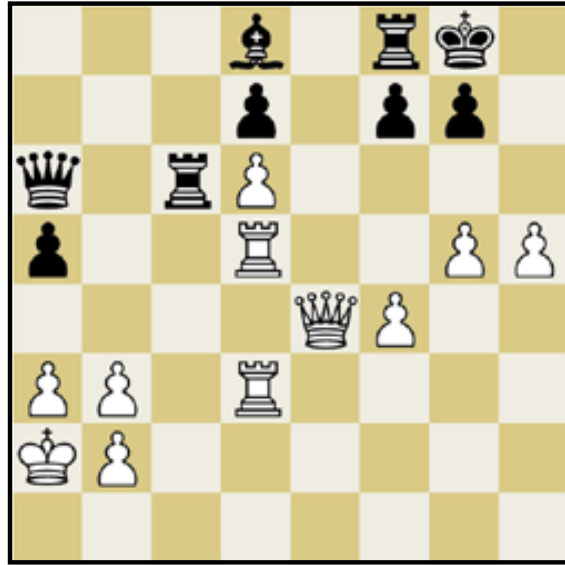
**15. Qe3!!** [15. Re6 de6 16. Qd6 Qd6 17. Bd6 with compensation; 15. Qe4 Be5 (15...Bb7?! 16. Re6 de6 17. Qe6 Qe7 18. Qd6 Qd6 19. Bd6 c4 20. Nb5! and White is superior) 16. Be5 d5 17. Bc7 de4 18. Ne4 with compensation] **a6** [15...Rb8 16. Nd5 (16. Rd1!?) Qb7 (16...Qc6 17. Qg3 Be5 18. Be5 Qd5 19. Qg7 Rf8 20. Bb8 and White is superior) 17. Rf5! and White is superior, with the idea 17...Qb2 18. Re1 Qc2 19. g4 Bf4 20. Qf4 Rb1 21. Nc7 Kd8 22. Qg5 Kc7 23. Rc5 and White is winning] **16. Nd5!?** [16. Qg3!? Bb7 17. Rd1! (17. Re6 de6 18. Bd6 Qc6 unclear) 0-0 (17...0-0-0 18. Rc5 Qc5 19. Bd6 and White is winning) 18. Rc5 Bf4 19. Rc7 Bg3 20. hg3 Bc6 21. Ne2 and White is superior] **Qc6** [16...Qb8 17. Rf5! (17. Qg3? 0-0 18. Rae1 Qb2 19. c3 Rf4 20. Qf4 Bb7!; 17. Rg5 Bf4 18. Nf4 Qb2 19. Rf1 0-0 20. c3 Rf7 21. Nh5 Qb8 unclear) Bf4 18. Rf4 d6 19. b4! and White is superior] **17. Rg5!?** [17. Rf5!?! h6 [17...Bf4 18. Nf4 0-0 19. Qc3 and White is winning] **18. Bd6! hg5** [18...Qd6 19. Rd1 Kd8 20. Nc3 and White is winning] **19. Rd1!** (and White is winning) **Rh6** [19...Qd6 20. Nf6 Ke7 (20...gf6 21. Rd6) 21. Rd6 Kd6 22. Ne4; 19...Bb7 20. Qg5 Qd6 21. Nf6 gf6 22. Qg6 Kd8 23. Rd6 Kc7 24. Qd3] **20. Ne7 Qa4** [20...Qb5 21. Ng8] **21. Qf3 Bb7** [21...Qc2 22. Ng8] **22. Qb7 Rd8 23. Ng8 Rh8 24. Qf3 Rg8 25. Qh5 1 : 0 [Shirov]**

## N. Short 2686 — CH. Lutz 2640 Budapest 2003 – 87/162

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Nc6 5. Nc3 Qc7 6. Be3 a6 7. Qd2 b5 8. f3 Nd4 9. Bd4 Ne7 10. 0-0-0 Nc6 11. Be3 Be7 12. h4** [a novelty; 12. Kb1] **0-0** [12...b4!? with the idea 13. Nd5 ed5 14. ed5 b3! 15. ab3 Na5!] **13. Kb1 Rb8** [13...b4 14. Nd5 ed5 15. ed5 Re8 16. dc6 (16. Bf4?? Bd6 17. Bd6 Qd6 18. dc6 Qd2) dc6 17. Bc4 and White is slightly better] **14. h5 b4 15. Nd5! ed5 16. ed5 b3 17. cb3 Nb4** [17...Bb4 18. Qc2!? Qe5 19. Qc1; 18. Qc1] **18. d6! Qa5 19. a3 Qf5 20. Ka1 Nc2** [20...Bd6 21. Qd6 Nc2 22. Ka2 Ne3 23. Bd3 with the idea Qb8] **21. Ka2 Bf6 22. Ba7** [22. Bf2!? Bg5 23. Qc3 Na3 24. ba3 Bb7] **Ra8** [22...Rb7?! 23. Bf2 Bg5 24. Qc3 Bf6 25. Bd3] **23. Bd3** [23. Bf2? a5 24. Bd3 Nb4! 25. ab4 ab4 26. Kb1 Qa5; 23. Bb6!?!] **Qe5 24. Qc2 Ra7 25. Rhe1 Qg5 26. Bh7 Kh8 27. Be4** (with compensation) **Bb7 28. g4 a5 29. Qf2 Be4 30. Re4** [30. Qa7? Bf3] **Rb7 31. Qe2 Qb5 32. Rd3! Rbb8** [32...Rb6!? 33. f4 a4 34. Ra4 Rd6!; 34. b4] **33. f4 Kg8 34. g5 Bd8 35.**



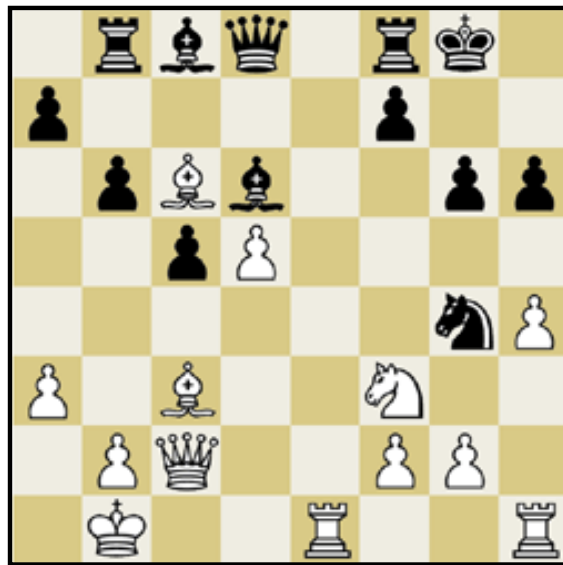
**Re5! Qa6 36. Qe4 Rb6 37. Red5** [37. h6! and White is winning Rd6 38. h7 Kh8 39. Re8 Re8 40. Qe8 Kh7 41. Rh3 Kg6 42. Qe4! f5 43. Qe8 mate] **Rc6**



**38. h6! a4 39. hg7! ab3 40. Kb3 Kg7 41. Rh3 Rg8 42. Rh7 Kf8 43. Rf7! Kf7 44. Qf5 Kg7 45. Qd7! Kg6 46. Qe6** [46...Kh5 47. Qh3 Kg6 48. Qh6 Kf7 49. Rf5 Ke8 50. Qe6] **1 : 0** [Golubev]

**Dreev 2690 — Tiviakov 2636**  
**Dos Hermanas 2003 – 87/435**

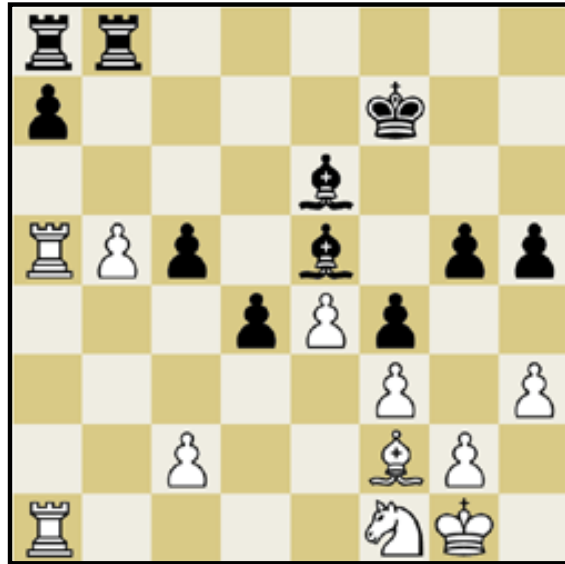
**1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. a3 Bb7 5. Nc3 d5 6. cd5 Nd5 7. Bd2 Nd7 8. Nd5 Bd5 9. Qc2 c5 10. e4 Bb7 11. d5 ed5 12. ed5 Bd6 13. 0-0-0 0-0 14. Bb5!?** (a novelty) **h6** [14...Nf6 15. Bg5] **15. Bc3** [15. h4 Nf6 16. Ng5 (16. Bc3 Nd5) Be5] **Nf6 16. Bc6 Rb8** [16...Bc6 17. dc6 Rc8 18. Qa4] **17. h4** [with the idea Ng5] **Ng4** (the only move) **18. Kb1 Bc8?** [better is 18...Qc7 with the idea 19. Ng5 hg5 20. hg5 f5 21. gf6 Nf6 22. Bf6 Rf6 23. Qh7 Kf8 equal] **19. Rde1!** [with the idea Ng5; 19. Ng5 hg5 20. hg5 f5] **g6** [19...b5 20. Ng5 hg5 21. hg5 f5 22. gf6 Nf6 23. Qg6 (23. Rh6!?) b4 24. ab4 cb4 25. Bd4 and White is winning; with the idea Re4-h4; 19...Bd7 20. Ng5 hg5 21. hg5 f5 22. gf6 Nf6 (22...Rf6 23. Qh7 Kf7 24. Bd7 Qd7 25. Re6 and White is winning) 23. Qg6 Bc6 (23...Qc8 24. Bd7 Qd7 25. Re6 Be7 26. Re3 Qe8 27. Qf5 Qc8 28. Qc8 Rbc8 29. Re7 Rf7 30. Rh8 and White is winning) 24. dc6 Re8 (24...Rf7 25. Rh3; 24...Qc7 25. Re6 Ne8 26. Qh7 Kf7 27. Rhe1) 25. Rd1! Re6 (25...Rf8 26. Rh7) 26. Rh7 Qc7 27. Rdh1 and White is winning; 19...Qc7 20. Ng5 hg5 21. hg5 f5 22. gf6 Nf6 23. Bf6 gf6 24. Rh6 and White is winning; 19...f6 20. Qg6 b5 21. Ng5 hg5 22. hg5 Ne5 23. Qh7 Kf7 24. Rh6 and White is winning]



**20. Re6! Be6** (the only move) **21. de6 f5** (the only move) **22. h5 gh5** [22...g5 23. e7!! Qe7 (23...Be7 24. Rd1 Qc7 25. Qb3 Rf7 26. Qe6 Bf6 27. Rd7 and White is winning) 24. Bd5 Kh7 25. Re1 Qc7 26. Be6 and White is winning, weak point f5] **23. Rh5 Qe7 24. Nh4** (and White is winning) **Qe6 25. Nf5 Be5** [25...Rf5 26. Rf5 Be5 27. Qe4] **26. Bd5 1 : 0 [Dreev]**

## R. Ponomarev 2734 — Kramnik 2809 Linares 2003 – 87/115

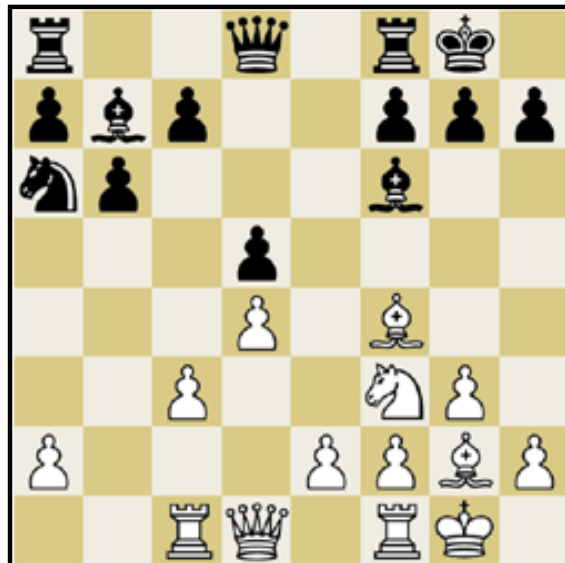
**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 g6 4. Bc6 dc6 5. d3 Bg7 6. h3 Nf6 7. Nc3 Nd7 8. Be3 e5 9. Qd2 h6 10. 0-0 Qe7 11. a3 Nf8** [11...b6 – 83/119] **12. b4 Ne6 13. Na4** [13. bc5 f5 with initiative] **b6!** [13...Nd4] **14. Nh2** [a novelty; 14. bc5 b5 15. Nc3 Nc5 16. Ne2 Ne6 unclear; 15...f5!] **f5 15. f3?** [15. ef5 gf5 a) 16. f3 f4 (16...c4 17. dc4 Ba6 with initiative) 17. Bf2 e4 18. fe4 Ba1 19. Ra1 Rg8 20. Kh1 Rg2 21. Kg2 Qg7 22. Ng4 Qa1 and Black is superior; b) 16. f4! ef4 17. Bf4 Ba1 18. Ra1 Rg8 19. Re1 with counterplay] **f4 16. Bf2 h5!** [16...cb4 17. ab4 Rb8] **17. bc5 b5 18. Nb2 g5** (and Black is superior) **19. d4?!** [19. a4 g4! 20. fg4 hg4 21. Ng4 Ng5 a) 22. Qd1 f3 and Black is superior; b) 22. ab5 Bg4 (22...Rh3 23. Qd1) 23. hg4 Qe6 24. Nc4 (the only move) Qg4 25. Nd6 Kf8! 26. Be1 f3 27. Qg5 (the only move) Qg5 28. Rf3 Kg8 and Black is superior; c) 22. Nh2 Bh3 (22...Nh3!? 23. gh3 Bh3 with an attack 24. Kh1; 22...f3!?) 23. gh3 Rh3 with an attack] **ed4** [19...g4 20. d5 and Black is slightly better; 19...Nd4 20. Bd4 ed4 21. Nd3 a5 and Black is superior] **20. Nd3 Nc5 21. Nc5 Qc5 22. Rfd1** [22. Rad1 Qa3 23. Bd4 Bd4 24. Qd4 Qe3 25. Qe3 fe3 and Black is superior] **Be6 23. Qb4** [23. Bd4 Bd4 24. Qd4 Qd4 25. Rd4 Ke7 and Black is superior with the idea 26. c3 c5 27. Rd2 Rhd8 28. Rb2 Rab8] **Qb6!** [23...Qb4 24. ab4 d3 25. cd3 Ba1 26. Ra1 Rh7 and Black is slightly better] **24. a4** [24. Qd6 c5; 24. Bd4 Bd4 25. Qd4 (25. Rd4 c5) Qd4 26. Rd4 Ke7 and Black is superior] **c5** [24...a5 25. Qd6 Kf7 26. ab5 Rhd8 27. Qc6 Qc6 28. bc6 d3 and Black is superior] **25. Qb5 Qb5** [25...Kf7 and Black is superior] **26. ab5 Kf7 27. Ra5 Rhb8 28. Nf1** [28. Rda1 d3! 29. Ra7 Kg6 30. Rg7 (the only move) Kg7 31. Ra8 dc2! 32. Rb8 (32. Ra1 Rb5) c1Q 33. Nf1 Bc4 and Black is winning] **Be5** [28...Bc4 29. Rb1 a6 30. b6 Bb5 31. Nd2 Rb6 32. Nc4 Rc6 and Black is superior] **29. Rda1** [better is 29. Rb1 Bd7 30. Nd2 Bc7 31. Ra6 Bb5 32. Rh6 Be5 and Black is superior]



**29...d3!** (and Black is winning) **30. Ra7** [30. cd3 Ba1 31. Ra1 Rb5] **Kf6! 31. Ra8** [31. cd3 Ba1] **Ra8 32. Ra8** [32. Rc1 Bb2; 32. Rd1 dc2 33. Rc1 Bb3 34. Nd2 c4 35. Nc4 Ra1] **dc2 33. Rf8 Kg7 34. Re8 Kf7 35. Rf8** [35. Re7 Ke7 36. Bc5 Bd6] **Kg6 36. Re8 Bc4 37. Re5 c1Q 38. Rc5** [38. Kh2 Qf1 39. Bc5 g4 40. fg4 hg4 41. hg4 Qe1] **Qf1 39. Kh2 Qf2 40. Rc4 g4 0 : 1** [Kramnik]

### G. Kasparov 2847 — R. Ponomarev 2734 Linares 2003 – 87/445

**1. Nf3 Nf6 2. d4 e6 3. g3 b6 4. Bg2 Bb7 5. c4 Be7 6. Nc3 Ne4 7. Bd2 Bf6 8. 0-0 0-0 9. Rc1 d5 10. cd5 ed5 11. Bf4 Nc3?! [11...Na6 – 46/378] 12. bc3! Na6?! [a novelty; 12...Nd7 13. Nd2 c5 14. e4 cd4 15. cd4 Bd4 16. Rc7 Nc5 (16...Ba6? 17. Qa4) 17. Nb3 g5 18. Nc5 (18. Nd4!? gf4 19. Nf5 Qf6 20. Ne7 Kh8 21. ed5) bc5 19. Rb7 gf4 20. Qg4 Bg7 (20...Kh8 21. Qf4) 21. ed5 and White is superior; 12...Nc6!? 13. Nd2 Na5 14. e4 de4 15. Ne4 and White is slightly better]**



**13. e4! de4** [13...c5 14. ed5 (14. e5!? Be7 15. Be3) a) 14...Bd5 15. c4 Bf3 16.

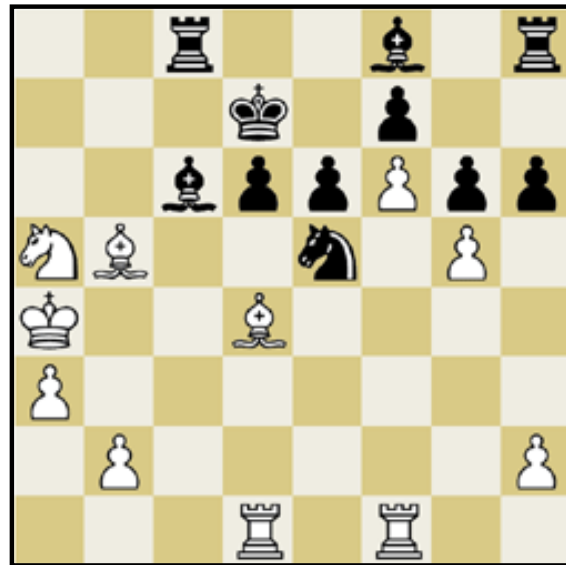


Qf3 cd4 (16...Qd4 17. Qa3 and White is superior) 17. Qa8 Qa8 18. Ba8 Ra8 19. Bd6 and White is superior; b) 14...Qd5 15. c4 Qf5 16. Nh4 Qd7 17. d5 Rfe8 (17...g5? 18. Qh5 gf4 19. Be4 Rfd8 20. Qh7 Kf8 21. Nf5 and White is winning) 18. Qd2 and White is slightly better] **14. Nd2 g5?** [14...Re8 15. Re1 g5 16. Ne4 Be4 17. Be4 gf4 18. Qa4! Rb8 (18...fg3 19. hg3 Re4 20. Re4 Qc8 21. Rce1 Qb7 22. Rg4 Kf8 23. Qa3! c5 24. Qc1 Bg7 25. Rg7! Kg7 26. Qg5 Kf8 27. Qf6 Kg8 28. Re5 and White is winning; 18...Re4 19. Re4 Qc8 20. Rce1 Qb7 21. Rf4 Kg7 22. Qd7 Qc8 23. Rg4 Kf8 24. Qd5 Qg4 25. Qa8 Kg7 26. Qb7 and White is winning) 19. Qa6 and White is superior b5? 20. Bh7] **15. Be3!** [15. Ne4 Be4 16. Be4 gf4 17. Qh5 Re8 18. Qh7 Kf8 19. Bb7! a) 19...Rb8 20. Ba6 b5 21. a4 ba4 (21...c6 22. ab5 cb5 23. Qf5 and White is winning) 22. Bc4 and White is superior; b) 19...c5 20. Ba6 cd4 21. Rfd1 and White is superior] **Re8** [15...Qe7 16. Qh5 c5 17. Rce1! cd4 (17...Rad8 18. Bg5 Bg5 19. Ne4 Be4 20. Be4 h6 21. Bh7 Kh7 22. Re7 Be7 23. Qe2 and White is winning) 18. Ne4 de3 19. Nf6 Qf6 20. Bb7 and White is winning] **16. f4! ef3 17. Bf3 Bd5!** [17...c6 18. Be4 Kg7 19. Qh5 h6 20. Bg5 hg5 21. Qh7 Kf8 22. Qh6 Bg7 23. Rf7! Kf7 24. Rf1 and White is winning] **18. Bd5! Qd5 19. Rf6 Re3 20. Qg4** [20. Qf1!? Rae8 (20...Qa2 21. Rf2! and White is winning; 20...Re6 21. Re6 Qe6 22. Re1 Qa2 23. Ne4 and White is winning) 21. Qa6 (21. Rf5 Qa2 22. Rg5 Kf8 unclear) Rc3 22. Rc3 Qd4 23. Rf2 Qc3 24. Qa7 and White is winning] **Re6** [20...Rae8 21. Rf5 Qe6 22. Qg5 Qg6 23. Qf4 h6 24. Rf1 Re1 25. Nc4 and White is winning] **21. Rf5 Qc6 22. Qg5** [22. Rcf1! Qc3 23. Rf7 Qe3 (23...Rg6 24. Re7! and White is winning) 24. Kh1 and White is winning] **Rg6 23. Qh5 Rf8** [23...Nb4 24. Rcf1 Qc3 25. Rf7 Qd4 26. R1f2 Rg7 27. Rg7 Kg7 (27...Qg7 28. a3! and White is winning) 28. Nb3 Qd7 29. Rf4 and White is winning] **24. Nf3 f6 25. Nh4 Rg7 26. Qh6 Nb8 27. Rh5** [27. Rf2!?) **f5** [only move; 27...Nd7 28. Nf5 Rgf7 29. Rg5 Kh8 30. Rg7 and White is winning] **28. Qf4 Qe4 29. Rf1 Qf4 30. Rf4 Rg4 31. Rff5 Nd7 32. Rf8 Nf8 33. Kf2 Nd7 34. Nf5 Kh8 35. Kf3** [better is 35. Rh6 and White is winning] **Rg8 36. Rh6 Rf8 37. g4 Nf6 38. c4 Kg8** [38...a6 39. Kf4 (39. a4 c6 40. Kf4 b5 41. ab5 ab5 42. g5 Ng8 43. Rc6 Rf5 44. Kf5 Ne7 45. Ke4 Nc6 46. cb5 Na7! 47. b6 Nc8 equal) b5 40. g5 Ng8 41. Ra6 bc4 42. Ke5 and White is winning] **39. Kf4 Rf7 40. g5 Ne8 41. Ke5 Rd7 42. Ke6 Rf7 43. Rf6 Nf6** [44. gf6 Rf8 (44...Kf8 45. Nh6 and White is winning) 45. Nh6 Kh8 46. Ke7 Rc8 47. Nf7 Kg8 48. Nd8 and White is winning] **1 : 0** [G. Kasparov]

## Kramnik 2809 — V. Topalov 2743 Monaco (blindfold) 2003 – 87/223

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Nc6 5. Nc3 d6 6. Be3 Nf6 7. f4 a6 8. Qf3 Qc7 9. 0-0-0 Bd7 10. Nb3!?** [10. g4 – 39/290] **Rc8** [a novelty; 10...Be7; 10...Na5] **11. Kb1** [11. g4 Nb4 (with initiative) 12. Kb1 Bc6; 12...d5] **b5 12. Bd3 Nb4** [12...Na5 13. Na5 Qa5 14. Ne2 and White is superior] **13. g4 Bc6** [13...Nd3 14. cd3 e5 (14...b4 15. Ne2) 15. f5 b4 16. Ne2 d5 17. Ng3 with initiative] **14. g5 Nd7** [14...Ne4!? 15. Be4 (15. Ne4?! d5 16. Nd4 de4 17. Be4 Be4 18. Qe4 Qc4 19. b3 Qd5) d5 16. g6!! (16. Nd5 ed5 17. Bf5 d4 18. Qe2 de3 19. Qe3 Be7 20. Rhe1 unclear) hg6 (16...de4 17. Qh3 with an attack with the idea Qh7) 17. Bg6 d4 (17...fg6 18. Nd4) 18. Qg4] **15. Qf2 g6** [15...Nd3 16. cd3 b4 17. Ne2 d5 18. Ned4 de4 19. Nc6 Qc6 20. Rc1 and White is superior] **16. Rhf1** [16. Bd4 e5 17. fe5 Ne5 (17...de5 18. Rhf1! f5 19. gf6 ed4

20. f7 Kd8 21. Nd4 and White is superior) 18. Qf6 Rg8 and White is slightly better] **Bg7 17. f5** (and White is superior) **Ne5 18. Bb6 Qd7** [better is 18...Qb7 19. Na5] **19. Be2!** [with the idea Nc5] **Qb7 20. Na5** [20. fe6 0-0 21. Na5 and White is superior] **Qb8 21. f6** [21. fe6 fe6 (21...0-0 22. e7 Rfe8 23. a3 Nc2 24. Kc2 Be4 25. Kb3 Bf5 26. Ka2) 22. Qd4 Bd7 only move] **Bf8 22. a3 Nc2 23. Kc2 Be4 24. Kb3 Ba8** [24...Bf5 and White is superior] **25. Ba7** [25. Ka2 h6 26. h4 and White is superior] **Qc7 26. Qb6 Qb6 27. Bb6 h6** [better is 27...Nd7 28. Bf2 h6 29. h4] **28. Nb5! Kd7** [only move; 28...ab5 29. Bb5 Nc6 (29...Nd7 30. Rc1 Bd5 31. Ka4 Rb8 32. Rc7) 30. Rc1 Kd7 31. Rc6 Bc6 (31...Rc6 32. Rc1) 32. Nc6 Rc6 33. Rc1] **29. Bd4!?** [29. Nc3 Rb8 30. Na4 and White is superior] **Bd5 30. Ka4 ab5 31. Bb5 Bc6** [31...Kc7 32. Rc1 Kb8 33. Rc8 Kc8 34. Rc1 Kb8 35. Ba6 and White is winning; better is 31...Nc6 32. Bb6 (32. Rd3!? hg5 33. Rc1) Rb8 only move (32...hg5 33. Rd5 ed5 34. Rc1 Rh4 35. b4 and White is winning) 33. Rd5 Rb6 34. Nc4! Rb8 35. Ne5 Kc7 36. Nc6! (36. Rc1 ed5 37. Nf7 Rh7 38. Bc6 Rb2 39. Bd5 and White is superior) Ra8 37. Na5 ed5 38. Rc1 Kb8 (38...Kd8 39. Kb4 and White is winning, with the idea Nb7) 39. Bd7 hg5 40. Kb5 Bh6 (the only move) 41. Bg4! Re8 42. b4 and White is winning]

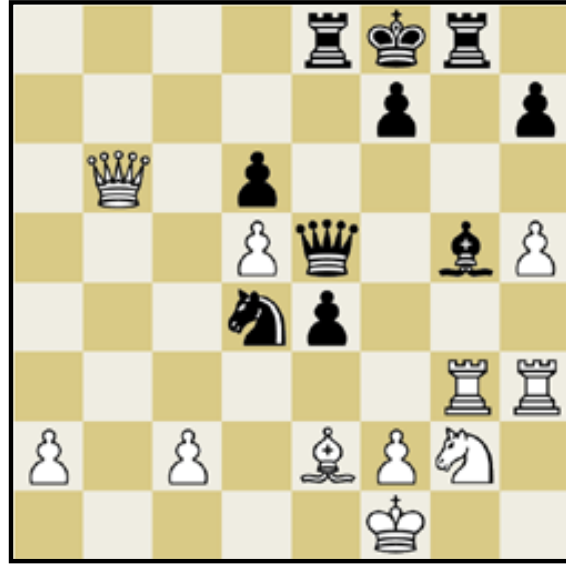


**32. Be5! Bb5 33. Kb5 Rc5 34. Kb6 Re5 35. Rc1 Ra5** (the only move) **36. Rc7!** [36. Ka5 d5 with counterplay] **Kd8 37. Rfc1 Rc5** [37...Ra8 38. Kb7! hg5 39. Ka8 and White is winning] **38. R1c5 dc5 39. Kc6!!** [with the idea Ra7-a8 mate] **1 : 0 [Kramnik]**

### ju. Polgar 2715 — Leko 2746 Budapest 2003 – 87/129

**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. Qh5 Rg8 13. g3 Rg5 14. Qd1 Bd5 15. ed5 Ne7 16. Nb5!?** (a novelty) **Qb6 17. Na3!** [17. Qc1 Bh6!] **Qb2 18. Nc4 Qc3 19. Kf1 Rd8** [19...Nd5 20. Be2! with compensation; 19...e4!?] **20. Rb1 e4** [20...Bh6!?] **21. Be2?** [21. f4!! Rg6 (21...ed3? 22. cd3! Rg6 23. Qa4 and White is winning; 21...ef3 22. Qf3 and White is superior) 22. Be2 and White is slightly better] **f4!** (with an attack) **22. Rb3** [22. Qd2?! Nd5 23. gf4 Rf5! with the idea 24. Qc3 Nc3 25. Rb7 Rb5!; 22. Nb6 Bg7;

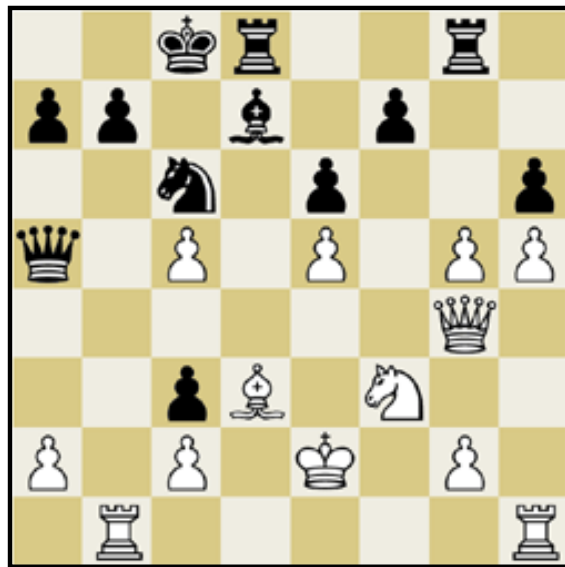
22...Bh6 with an attack] **Qf6 23. gf4 Qf4!?** [23...Rd5 24. Qb1 Qf4 25. Rb8 Nc6 26. Rd8 Nd8 and Black is slightly better] **24. Ne3 Bg7 25. Ba6 Nf5!** [with compensation, with the idea Bd4] **26. Ng2 Qe5** [26...Rg2? 27. Kg2 Bd4 28. Rf1 Nh4 29. Kh1 Nf3 30. Rf3 equal] **27. h4 Rg6 28. Rhh3** [28. Qb1] **Kf8** [and Black is slightly better, with initiative; 28...Bh6!? with the idea Qg7] **29. Qb1!? Bf6** [29...Bh6!?] **30. h5?** [weak point g5] **Rg8** (and Black is superior) **31. Be2? Nd4 32. Rbe3 Bg5** [32...Ne2!? 33. Re2 Qg5! 34. Rg3 (34. Rh2 Be5) Qh5 35. Rg8 Kg8 36. Re1 Kh8 37. Ne3 Bc3 38. Rd1 f5 and Black is winning] **33. Qb6 Re8 34. Reg3**



**34...f5!** (and Black is winning) **35. Nh4?!** [35. Bd1!? f4 36. Rg5 Rg5 37. Nf4 Kg8! and Black is winning] **Ne2 36. Ke2 f4 37. Rb3 f3 38. Kf1 Qd5** [38...Bh4!? 39. Rh4 e3!! (39...Rg1 40. Kg1 Qg5 41. Rg4! Qg4 42. Kf1) 40. fe3 Rg1 41. Kg1 Qg3 42. Kf1 Qg2 43. Ke1 Qe2 mate] **39. Nf3 Qc4 40. Rd3 ed3 41. Qd6 Be7 42. Qh6 Rg7 43. Rg3** [43. Ne5 d2!] **dc2 44. Kg2 Qc3 0 : 1** [Leko]

### Leko 2736 — T. Radjabov 2624 Linares 2003 – 87/276

**1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bc3 7. bc3 Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. Bd3 Nd2 10. Kd2 c5 11. h4 Bd7 12. h5 g5 13. f4 Nc6 14. fg5 Qa5!?** [14...Qg5 – 77/282] **15. dc5! d4 16. Nf3 0-0-0 17. Rab1!** [a novelty; 17. Ke2] **dc3** [17...Qc3!?] **18. Ke2 Rhg8**

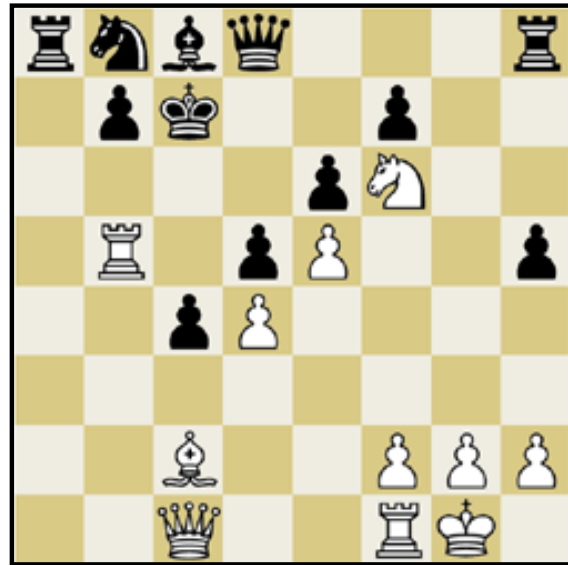


**19. Qe4!** [weak point b7] **Qc7!** [19...hg5 20. g4 and White is superior] **20. g4! Ne7! 21. Bb5!** [21. gh6 Bc6 with counterplay] **hg5** [21...Nd5!? a) 22. gh6 f5! 23. ef6 Bb5 24. Rb5 Nf4 with counterplay; b) 22. c6 Bc6 23. Bc6 Qc6 24. gh6 f5! 25. ef6 Qa6 26. Ke1 Nf6 27. Qf4 Rg4 28. Qf6 Re4 29. Kf2 Qe2 (29...Re2 30. Kg3 Qd6 31. Kh3 and White is winning) 30. Kg3 Rg8 31. Qg7! and White is winning; 27...Qa2!?!; 27...Nd5! equal; c) 22. Bd7 Rd7 23. gh6 f5! 24. ef6 Nf6 25. h7!! Rh8 (25...Rf8 26. Qe5; 25...Nh7 26. c6) 26. Qe5! Rd2 27. Ke1 Qe5 28. Ne5 and White is slightly better] **22. Rb3!** [22. Nd4? Qc5! with an attack, with the idea 23. Ba6? Bc6! 24. Bb7 Kc7 25. Bc6 Rd4 and Black is winning] **Nd5** [22...Nf5? 23. gf5 ef5 24. Bd7 Qd7 25. c6! and White is winning; 22...Bc6 23. Bc6 Nc6 24. Rhb1; 22...Bb5 23. Rb5 Nd5 24. Rhb1 b6 25. cb6 ab6 26. a4 and White is superior; 22...f5 23. ef6 Nd5 (23...Nf5 24. Bd7 Qd7 25. gf5 ef5 26. c6! and White is winning) 24. f7! (24. Bd7 Rd7 25. c6 Qc6 26. Ne5 Qa6 27. Qc4 Qc4 28. Nc4 Nf6 29. Rc3 Rc7 30. Nd6 Kd8 31. Rc7 Kc7 32. Nf7 Rg7 33. Ne5 Kd6) Bb5 25. Rb5 Qf7 26. Rhb1 and White is superior] **23. Rhb1 Bc6?** [23...Bb5 24. Rb5 b6 25. cb6 ab6 26. a4 and White is superior; 23...f5!! 24. ef6 Nf6 a) 25. Bd7 Rd7 26. Qe5 Ng4! (26...Rd2 27. Ke1 Qe5 28. Ne5) 27. Qe6 Qg3!! 28. Qg8 Rd8 29. Qe6 Rd7 equal; b) 25. Qe5 Bb5 26. Rb5 Rd2 27. Ke1 Qe5 28. Ne5 and White is slightly better] **24. Bc6 Qc6 25. Nd4!** (and White is winning) **Qa6** [25...Nf4 26. Kf3 Rd4 27. Qc6 bc6 28. Rb8 Kd7 29. R1b7 mate] **26. Ke1 Rd7** [26...Kb8 27. Rb7 Ka8 28. c6; 26...f5 27. gf5] **27. c6 Rc7 28. Rb7 Rb7 29. Rb7 Nb6** [29...Qa3 30. Nb5 Qc1 31. Kf2 Qd2 32. Kg3; 29...Nc7 30. Qh7] **30. Qh7 Rf8 31. Qg7** [31. Nf5 and White is winning; 31. Rf7 and White is winning] **Qa3 32. Qf8** [32...Qf8 33. Nb5 Qc5 34. Nd6 Kd8 35. c7 Qc7 36. Rc7 Kc7 37. h6] **1 : 0 [Leko]**

### Nisipeanu 2592 — S. Volkov 2624 Saint-Vincent 2003 – 87/265

**1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. Bd3 c5 6. c3 Nc6 7. Ngf3 Be7 8. 0-0 g5 9. a3!? h5** [9...a5!? 10. h3 h5 11. g4!? (11. Re1?! cd4 12. cd4 g4 13. hg4 hg4 14. Nh2 g3 and Black is slightly better; 11. Qa4 Nb6 12. Qc2 cd4 13. Nd4!? Ne5 14. N2f3 unclear) hg4 12. hg4 a) 12...cd4 13. cd4 Qb6 14. Qa4 Qa7 (14...Nf8 15. b4 and White is slightly better; 14...f5!? 15. ef6 Nf6

with counterplay) 15. Kg2 Nb6 (15...Nf8 16. Rh1 and White is slightly better) 16. Qd1 Bd7 17. Nb1 and White is slightly better; b) 12...Qb6 13. Kg2!? cd4 14. Rh1 with compensation] **10. b4 g4** [a novelty; 10...cd4 11. cd4 Qb6 (11...g4 12. b5 Na5 13. Ne1 and White is slightly better) 12. Nb3 g4 13. Ne1 Rg8 (13...Nf8 14. Be3 and White is superior) 14. Bd2 and White is slightly better] **11. b5 Nd4!** [11...gf3 12. bc6 bc6 13. Qf3 and White is superior; 11...Ncb8 12. Ne1 and White is slightly better] **12. cd4** [12. Nd4? Ne5 and Black is superior] **gf3 13. Nf3 c4** (unclear) **14. Bc2 a6 15. Rb1!** [15. ba6 b5! and Black is slightly better] **ab5 16. Rb5 Ba3** [16...Nb6!? 17. h4 unclear] **17. Ng5 Bc1 18. Qc1 Nb8!** [18...Nf8 19. f4 Rg8 20. h4 with an attack] **19. Nh7** (with compensation) **Kd7!** [19...Nc6?! 20. Nf6 Kf8 21. Bh7 Nd4 22. Qh6 Ke7 23. Nd5 Kd7 24. Rc5 and White is superior; 19...Rh7?! 20. Bh7 Nc6 (20...Qh4 21. Qb2 Nc6 22. Rb7 and White is superior) 21. Qf4 and White is superior] **20. Nf6 Kc7**



**21. Be4!?** [with an attack; 21. Qb2 Nc6 22. Rb1 Ra7 23. Rb6 with compensation] **Bd7** [21...Nc6! 22. Bd5 ed5 23. Nd5 Kb8 24. Qc4 Rh6! unclear] **22. Nd5! ed5 23. Rd5 Qh4!** [23...Nc6 24. Qf4!! Kc8 25. Bf5 and White is winning] **24. Qc4 Bc6 25. Bf3 Ra4** [better is 25...Ra3 26. g3! (26. Rd6? Rf3! and Black is winning) Qe7 27. Bg2 with compensation] **26. Qc3!** [and White is superior; 26. Qc5!? Na6! (26...b6 27. Rd7!! Kd7 28. Bc6 Nc6 29. Qd6 and White is winning) 27. Qd6 Kc8 (27...Kb6? 28. Rb1 Ka7 29. Qc6! and White is winning) 28. Rc1 Nc7 29. Rdc5 Rd8 30. Rc6 Rd6 31. Rc7 Kd8 32. ed6 Qd4 and White is slightly better, with the idea Ra1] **Rd8?!** [26...Qf4 27. Rd6 f6 28. Qb3! (28. Bc6 Nc6 29. Rb1 Qe4 unclear; 28. Rb1 fe5 29. Rb7 Kb7 30. Bc6 Kc7! 31. Ba4 Kd6 32. Qc5 Ke6 33. Bb3 equal) Rd4 29. Bc6 Nc6 30. Rf6 Qg4 31. Rb1 and White is superior] **27. Rd8 Kd8 28. d5 Bb5 29. Rb1 Qc4 30. Qe3! Nd7** [30...Qd3 31. Qg5 Kc7 32. Rd1 Qb3 33. e6 and White is winning] **31. Qg5 f6 32. Qg8 Kc7 33. d6 Kb6 34. Qc4 Rc4 35. e6 Ne5 36. Be2** (and White is winning) **Kc6 37. Bc4 Bc4 38. d7 Nd7 39. ed7 Kd7 40. Rb7 Ke8 41. f3 Kf8 42. Kf2 Bd5 43. Ra7 Bf7 44. Kg3 1 : 0** [Nisipeanu, Stoica]





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