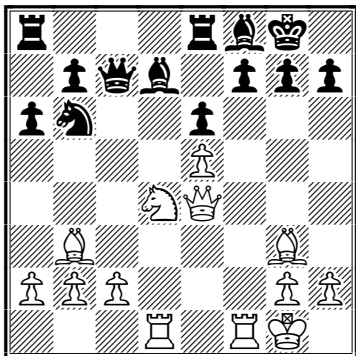


## Quiz Today

### Golubev (2528) – Vanderstricht (2403)

Fontaine l'Eveque 15' (4), 01.12.2002



White to play and win

## Tournament news

The strong Spanish [Team Chess Championships](#), an Open in [Santo Domingo](#) and the [Greek Championship](#) are among the events underway at the moment.

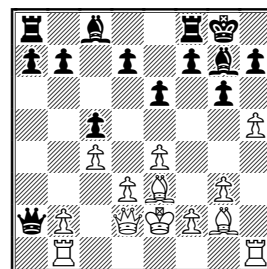
Six games from Santo Domingo and Spain are available in this issue's CBV file, some with brief comments.

♦ On December 1st 2002 I took part in a rapid (15 min per game) tournament in [Fontaine l'Evêque](#) (Belgium). 1–2. GM P.Popovic 2525 Yug and T.Gharamian 2245 Arm 7½/9; 3–7. GM A.Barsov 2525 Uzb, IM M.Roeder 2476 Ger, IM E.Cekro 2432 BiH, IM K.Shirazi 2439 USA and IM G.Vanderstricht 2403 Bel all 7.0; 8–12. MF I.Solomunovic 2429 BiH, GM V.Chuchelov 2591 Bel, GM S.Belkhodja 2497 Tun, GM Golubev 2528 Ukr and J–M Degraeve 2575 Fra all 6½... (118 participants).

As you can see, I was not that successful. Still, there were a few interesting fragments – a simple instructive combination that is presented in the Quiz Today section, and I also can show the following fragment:

### NN – Golubev

Fontaine l'Eveque 15' (8), 01.12.2002

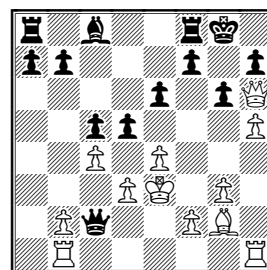


Unfortunately I didn't save the name of my opponent (a player rated slightly below 2300), and was unable to find the full tournament crosstable on the web. It is Black to move, and he is in trouble. 16.♘h6, followed by 17. ♘xg7 and 18.hxg6, 19.♖h6+ is the strongest White threat. Fortunately, an interesting defensive idea attracted my attention...

**15...♖b3!? 16.♘h6?**

16.♘xc5 was less ambitious, but stronger

**16...♘xh6! 17.♖xh6 ♖c2+ 18.♖e3 d5!**



**19.♖bd1**

19.hxg6 d4+ 20.♖f3 fxc6+ (check!) 21.♖g4 e5+ 22.♖g5 ♖f7 –+ was the main point.

**19...♖xb2 20.hxg6 d4+!**

The same motif. Black is winning.

**21.♖f4**

Or 21.♖f3 fxc6+

**21...♖xf2+ 22.♖g4**

Or: 22.♖e5 ♖xc3+ 23.♖f6 fxc6+ 24.♖e7 ♖c7#; 22.♖g5 ♖xc3+

**22...e5+ 23.♖h4 ♖f6+ 24.♖g5 fxc6**

My opponent heroically played on for a few dozen more moves, creating the maximum technical problems possible. Still, I sacrificed an extra pawn, than a second and managed

somehow to queen the third and final one... **0-1**

### ◆ **The Fedor Bohatirchuk-110 Chess Memorial**

On 1st December 2002, The Fedor Bohatirchuk-110 Memorial Email Tournament started, with many strong correspondence players participating. The Tournament Director is International Arbiter J. Ken MacDonald (Canada).

The Tournament web site is [correspondencechess.com/marconi/bohatirchuk-110.htm](http://correspondencechess.com/marconi/bohatirchuk-110.htm)

A few words about **IM Fedor Bohatirchuk**, MD (1892.11.27, Kiev, Ukraine - 1984.09.04, Ottawa, Canada):



For a non-professional chess-player, he had a unique career record +3,-0,=1 against Botvinnik. Three of these games were played in the USSR Championships.

After the third win, Stalin's Minister of Justice Krylenko approached him and said, 'You will never beat Botvinnik again!'

Bogatirchuk was an enemy of communism. Botvinnik once said that he 'would hang this man myself in the centre of the city!' - in reality, however, Botvinnik never had such a chance, the same as Bogatirchuk had no more chances to meet Patriarch at the chess board.

Bogatirchuk lived in the second part of his life in Canada, being (until the escape of Kortchnoi), *persona non grata* #1 in Soviet chess.

Anyone who is interested to know more about IM Fedor Bohatirchuk, MD can take a look [at article by ICCF IM Yeremenko](#), which is posted on the site of

our technical editor Ralph Marconi. (At my site I have <http://chess-sector.odessa.ua/fb110eng.htm> posted article too, and also published its [Russian](#) version.)

And one more link leads to the game [Bohatirchuk-Botvinnik](#), annotated by Bohatirchuk himself.

### Web Watch

◆ The London Chess Center site changed IP, so the famous [TWIC](#) was unavailable for some hours. People at the newsgroup [rec.games.chess.misc](http://rec.games.chess.misc) were worried, but now everything is OK.

◆ The KasparovChess site (or Kasparov.com) is, however, unavailable. Maybe it has 'ceased trading', as [predicted](#) by former leading KC journalist [M.Greengard](#), with whom I had the pleasure to co-operate in 2000.

Still, Michael (Mig) Greengard opens his own site, [chessninja.com](http://chessninja.com).

◆ The [Chess Base](#) site is discussing Erotic Chess now. The same site provided a very good service to the chess community several days ago, as they were the first to stop the completely erroneous rumours about Peter Leko and a car accident. This news was sent worldwide by Sam Sloan, who believed some unverified information, that was earlier forwarded to him by email. So, Peter Leko slept in bed, and many of his chess colleagues in other countries at the same time were crying over Sam Sloan's message.

◆ The [New in Chess](#) site is totally reconstructed again. Magazine, Yearbook, Shop and Online Database are the main sections now, and I do not see the well-known Links collection.

But, understandably, now it is almost impossible to maintain a complete

chess links site. Even [Iraqi chess life](#) is covered on the internet nowadays, as I found via [chess.about.com](#) and [Google News](#).

◆ The ChessCafé published, in the [Checkpoint column](#), a [review](#) on Gligoric's *Mar del Plata Variation* book, giving one point (out of five!) for a book that the great Yugoslav wrote about his own opening system. So, also one point from me to ChessCafé for the inadequate review. (See also the Najdorf–Gligoric game in the CBV to find out more.) Other recent ChessCafé updates were better. In the Special [offer] of the Week section I saw *Beating the King's Indian and Benoni* by GM Vaissier – one of the rare opening titles that I used to buy as gifts for my chess-friends in Western Europe.

◆ The [FIDE Online](#) site published a message called *To All National Federations*, which is addressed in fact to 19 countries, and not quite clear to me. Also at this new FIDE site, full details of the recently finished [World Youth Championships 2002](#).

◆ Garry Kasparov gave a long radio interview in Russian on November 27. The text is available at [echo.msk.ru](#). Kasparov mainly discusses World politics, but from interview it is also clear that there is little certainty about the Kasparov vs. Junior event.

◆ Some news items that were recently posted at [chess-sector.odessa.ua](#):

◆ Ex-Ukrainian GM Leonid Gofsh-tein is now [organising tournaments](#) in Tel Aviv and Ramat Gan this winter.

◆ The Dannemann Masters in Brissago, Switzerland: [Kosteniuk vs Karjakin match](#) on 1–6 February 2003 is announced.

◆ The [Time Control in Professional Chess](#), important news for chess grandmasters from Yasser Seirawan.

◆ And, finally: The [Chessville.com](#) site reviewed our own Chess Today! The author clearly likes CT. The only weak point in CT, according to him, is the presentation of the material – two columns, instead of one, as he would prefer. A possible point of view! So, we probably should wait till someone will propose us to use three columns. Then we can keep our two, and say that we are truly democratic. ☺

## **Brief History of Online Chess Auction**

*by Alexander Baburin*

Online auctions are nothing new on the Internet. In fact, of all former dotcom giants, online auctions (such as eBay) seem to be the only ones making money rather than burning it. The Internet is a perfect medium for auctions as it allows people to bid in real-time (well, almost!) without having to leave their houses or offices.

Chess auctions are also quite well known – once in a while there is a big collection going up for sale and an auction house is only too happy to help to dispose of it. About three years ago I decided to combine the idea of a regular chess auction with the convenience of the Internet – by creating an online chess auction. It started in January 2000 and the first few auctions were conducted via e-mail: people looked at lots online, e-mailed me their bids and I updated the site. While the auction was very popular with chess collectors, I quickly realised that updating the site manually was very backward and inconvenient. So, I started looking for appropriate software, which would register bids online and update the site in real-time mode. Search engines proved to be helpful and soon I came across some auction software. To my horror, it was priced at \$5,000! Things only got worse when I discovered that in fact I had accidentally come across the cheapest auction software available – all other programs were

between \$15,000 and \$30,000! That put things on hold for a while.

Yet, a year later prices came down and some free auction programs even emerged. I chose one program based on Perl script and parted with \$300 for their basic version. It was promptly installed at GM Square and I thought that I would be a happy customer. Not for long – immediately something went wrong, as I could not post any lots online. I e-mailed the guy who sold me the software and a couple of days later he solved the problem. Then I found that something else was seriously wrong with the program. This time it took him 2 weeks to deal with my query. But while problems kept on coming, I never got a reply to my third e-mail. Probably the guy went to the Bahamas with all those \$300 he collected from guys like me... This blow slowed things down, but luckily a Russian friend of mine mentioned that he knew a Russian programmer who was very good at Perl. I got in touch with that guy – Evgeny lived in Moscow and indeed liked to work with that programming language. We exchanged many e-mails concerning the problems I was having with the auction software and in 2 weeks he solved all of them for a very reasonable fee. In fact, he re-wrote the program completely, only the interface remained the same.

The new program worked fine and the first real-time online auction, which took place at GM Square about 18 months ago, was a big hit. Since then I have got many more clients and now stage chess auctions quite regularly. One such [auction](#) started yesterday and I invite you to have a look at it. There are 57 lots in it, but more will be added today. The first part (lots 1-57) will be closed on Saturday, while the second part of the sale will be finished on Sunday. To bid one needs to register, but everyone can browse the auction without restrictions and there are many curious items to look at! For example, a book signed by the famous pianist David Oistrakh, along with

signatures of Botvinnik, Tal, Fischer and a few other GMs. By the way, Oistrakh was a strong player and once even played an official match against Prokofiev, another keen chess fan. Talking of chess memorabilia, one should mention a program of the match in Buenos Aires between Fischer and Petrosian, signed by both players.

Naturally, chess books dominate the auction and here one can choose between a book published in 1766 (starting bid is 1400 euros!) and more recent publications. There are many tournament books and game collections, most of them are quite affordable – have a look and have fun!

## Annotated Game

□ **M Cornette (2355)**

■ **T Petrosyan (2324)**

*Event:* World Youth Chess 2002 – B18 (9.4), 22.11.2002 – B78

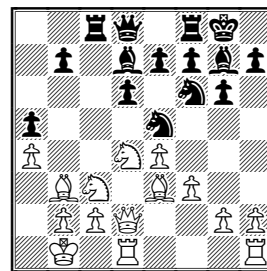
*Annotations:* **GM Mikhail Golubev**

Black's play in a recent Youth world championship game is an example of courage that deserves respect. And, yes, I noticed that Tigran Petrosian (or Tigran Petrosyan) is not a rare name among Armenian chess-players.

**1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 g6**

The 9th World Champion Tigran Petrosian also used the Dragon Variation for Black sometimes.

**6.♕e3 ♗g7 7.f3 0-0 8.♖d2 ♗c6 9.♗c4 ♗d7 10.0-0-0 ♗e5 11.♗b3 ♖c8 12.♖b1 a5 13.a4!**



The inclusion of ...a7-a5 and ...a2-a4 is generally considered as profitable for White in the Yugoslav (Rauzer) Attack positions, because of White's

control of the important b5 square. Probably correct, but the featured game shows just how cautious White should be even in this instance.

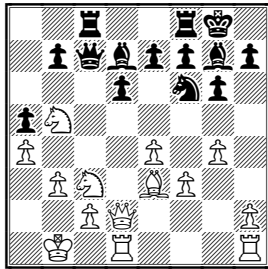
**13...♘c4 14.♙xc4 ♖xc4 15.b3**

Deserving of attention is 15.g4!?, as in Sluka-Hajek, Czech Cht 1997/8

**15...♖c8 16.g4**

16.♗db5!± Lanka-Bindrich, Leutersdorf 2001

**16...♖c7 17.♗db5?!**



A mistake. It is not easy to prove White's advantage here. 17.♗cb5 was, in any case, a better move and after the approximate line 17...♖b8 18.♖xa5 d5!? 19.g5 ♗h5 20.exd5 ♖e5 21.♖he1 Black's compensation is under question.

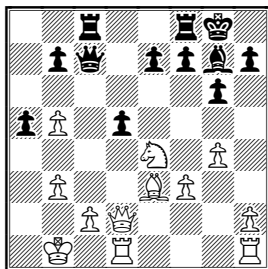
**17...♗xe4!N**

17...♗xb5? 18.♗xb5 ♖d8 occurred in Papp-Kinez, Harkany 2000

**18.♗xe4**

18.fxe4? ♗xc3±

**18...♗xb5 19.axb5 d5!±**



I really like Black's idea and I suspect that it is not only nice, but also correct, he should not be worse in any of the lines:

**20.♗f2**

20.♗g3 a4 21.♗e2 (in order to prevent ...♗c3) is important alternative. Perhaps, Black can continue 21...♖fd8!± (also deserves study 21...axb3 22.cxb3 ♖a8 23.♗d4); Other White moves are, at least, unambitious: 20.b6 ♖e5 (20...♖c6!? is possibly stronger) 21.♗d4 ♖xd4

22.♖xd4 ♗xd4 23.♖xd4 dxe4=; or 20.♗c5 d4!; or, finally, 20.♗f4 e5!

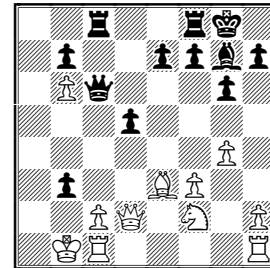
**20...a4! 21.b6**

Hardly pleasant for White would be also 21.♗d3 axb3 22.cxb3 ♗c3!→

**21...♖c6 22.♖c1?**

A mistake in a worse position.

**22...axb3**



**23.c3**

Only now White probably noticed that he loses after 23.cxb3 ♖f6! 24.♖c7 ♖a8!→

**23...♖a8**

Correct, Tigran Petrosyan! The decisive attack. Let's leave the banal 23...♗xc3?! for the older players.

**24.♗d3 ♖c4→**

There is no defence against ...♖a2 and then ...♖fa8.

**25.♗b4?!**

With this blunder White loses in one move, but otherwise it would be two or three, perhaps.

**25...♖xb4! 0-1**

### Solution to Quiz Today:

**19.♖xf7! ♖xf7 20.♖xh7+- ♗b5**

**21.♗xe6 ♖xe6 22.♖f5+ ♖e8**

**23.♖xe6+ ♖e7 24.♖g6+ 1-0**

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*This issue is prepared by GM Mikhail Golubev; technical editor Graham Brown*

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