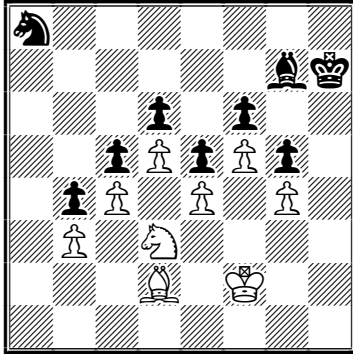


Quiz Today
Simons – Verbeque

Belgium2003



White to play and win.

Penultimate round in Monaco

The 10th and penultimate round of the [12th Amber Tournament](#) was played on 26th March.

Anand ended both games vs. Bareev peacefully. Topalov exchanged wins with Morozevich. There was the first win by Ljubojevic, in a messy blindfold game, depriving Leko from occupying first place. So, all the leaders have played 1-1 and the last round, which will take place on 27th March, will decide everything.

Blindfold results

Shirov–Gelfand 1–0
 Kramnik–Van Wely 1–0
 Leko– Ljubojevic 0–1
 Bareev–Anand ½–½
 Almasi–Ivanchuk ½–½
 Topalov–Morozevich 0–1

Rapid results

Gelfand–Shirov ½–½
 van Wely–Kramnik ½–½
 Ljubojevic–Leko 0–1
 Anand–Bareev ½–½
 Ivanchuk–Almasi ½–½
 Morozevich–Topalov 0–1

Blindfold Round 10 Standings:

1. Kramnik – 7½
2. Morozevich – 6½

- 3–5. Gelfand, Anand and Topalov – 6
6. Leko – 5½
7. Shirov – 5
- 8–10. Ivanchuk, Almasi and Van Wely – 4½
11. Bareev – 2½
12. Ljubojevic – 1½

Rapid Round 10 Standings:

1. Bareev – 7½
- 2–3. Anand and Leko – 7
4. Topalov – 6½
5. Morozevich – 5½
- 6–7. Gelfand and Shirov – 5
8. Almasi – 4½
9. Kramnik – 4
10. Ivanchuk – 3½
11. Van Wely – 3
12. Ljubojevic – 1½

Combined Round 10 Standings:

1. Anand – 13
- 2–3. Leko and Topalov – 12½
4. Morozevich – 12
5. Kramnik – 11½
6. Gelfand – 11
- 7–8. Shirov and Bareev – 10
9. Almasi – 9
10. Ivanchuk – 8
11. Van Wely – 7½
12. Ljubojevic – 3

In the last round Anand plays Topalov, Leko plays Gelfand, Morozevich plays Almasi.

Many of the European regular team competitions end in March. Lets look, what happened recently in Germany, Sweden and Belgium.

German Cup Final

Last years German Teams Cup finalist, [Baden Oos](#), won the Cup this year, thanks to Svidler's first board victory against Lutz.

Berlin, 23rd March 2003

SG Porz – SC Baden–Oos 1½:2½

Lutz – Svidler 0–1

Graf – Krasenkow ½–½

Vaganian – Huebner ½–½

Khalifman – Dautov ½–½

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

Subscription is 19 Euros for 4 months. For further details please refer to <http://www.chesstoday.net/>

Swedish Team Championships

26 GMs participated in the Swedish Team Championships 2002/2003. The winners were Sollentuna SK from Stockholm:

1. Sollentuna SK 19, 2. SK Rockaden 19, 3. Limhamns SK 18 4. Skara SS 18 (12 teams).

The full information is available at www.schacknyheter.com/live/elit03/

Turm Eynatten team wins the Belgian Interclub Championships 2002/2003

(an insider's report by Mikhail Golubev)



Eynatten children with Flag of the club

The [Belgian Interclub Championships](#) ended on 23rd March 2003 with the victory of [SK Turm Eynatten](#). Our team won all our matches, also showing the best board points result, which is a decisive factor in Belgium.

1. Eynatten 64½ board points (11 match points)
 2. Temse 56 (8)
 3. Liege 53 (10)
 4. Rochade Eupen 47 (7½)
 5. Hoboken 46½ (6)
- 12 teams, 11 rounds.

Of course, I can't be disappointed either with the team result or with my personal result (5½/6). Overall, The

Eynatten team used 28 players in the Championship – including 14 Grandmasters, but not one Belgian player! The players that played most for Eynatten were IM Roeder (6½/9), GM Naiditsch (5½/8), G.Welling (4½/8), myself, and GM Van den Doel (4/5). GMs Rogers and Jo. Horvath scored 3/3 each. There were 7 players who played just one game for us, among them Peter Svidler and Ivan Sokolov.

The success of Eynatten is, strictly speaking, the result of joint efforts and co-operation between Eynatten and Wirtzfeld chess clubs. President of Eynatten club Werner Paulus, the chess organizers Victor Schleck and Bernard Loo are those who are highly responsible for the victory.



Victor Schleck & Mikhail Golubev

In the highest Belgian League there was not one team from Brussels (!), but as many as three teams represented the small German-speaking community (apart from Eynatten, also SK Eupen 1947, and Rochade Eupen, the winner of League in the years 1993–2001). The derby between Eynatten and Rochade in Round 9 became the strongest match of the Championship:

Eynatten – Rochade Eupen 5–3

Svidler – Vaganian ½–½
Lutz – Chuchelov 0–1
Van den Doel – Kishnev 1–0
Naiditsch – Feygin ½–½
Golubev – Schneider 1–0
Nijboer – Coenen 1–0
Roeder – Ahn 1–0
Welling – Meessen 0–1



Mikhail giving a Simultaneous exhibition in Eynatten, November 2002

A few more statistics: 26 players from various teams played all 11 games in the league, very good results were shown by IM van der Stricht (9/11, perf. 2624) and GM Chuchelov (8/11, perf. 2609). C.Gulbas (ELO 2325) with 10/11 reached a performance of 2599! The best team performance (2503) was, naturally, shown by the Eynatten team. The average ELO of Eynatten players is 2466, and average ELO of players from all teams is 2311.

The games of the Belgian league are available at:

users.pandora.be/vmaes/interclub

Web Watch:

Andy McFarland informed us about recent updates of the [2003 FIDE knockout Qualifiers](#) site, which provides schedule for all continental championships and other information.

An interesting [interview with chess journalist Lev Khariton](#) by Abdul Karim is published at the Pakchess.com site.

Farewell, Jeroen Piket! Is the new ChessCafé.com article by Hans Ree. The permanent URL of this article in ChessCafe Archives is www.chesscafe.com/text/hans81.pdf.

Annotated Game:

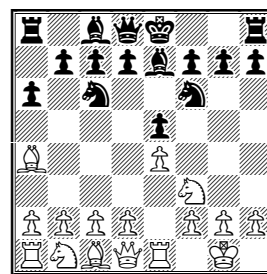
□ **V Topalov (2743)**

■ **A Morozevich (2678)**

Event: Amber Blindfold Monte Carlo MNC (10), 26.03.2003 C87

Annotations: GM Mikhail Golubev

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙b5 a6 4.♙a4 ♘f6 5.0-0 ♙e7 6.♞e1



6...d6

The main lines of the Ruy Lopez begin with 6...b5 7.♙b3, but who knows what is the main line according to Morozevich's own theory?

7.c3

7.♙xc6+ bxc6 8.d4 is a quite logical continuation for White.; less so 7.d4 b5 8.♙b3, where winning a pawn by 8...♗xd4!? 9.♗xd4 exd4 (with idea of 10.♖xd4?? c5-+) should be OK for Black. He can also play 8...♙g4!?

7...♙g4 8.h3 ♙h5 9.♙xc6+

Now (or on the previous move) 9.d3 was possible, with slow play.

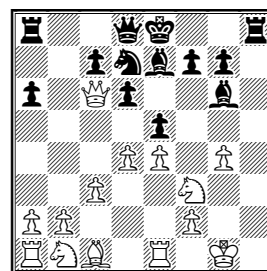
9...bxc6 10.d4 ♗d7 11.g4?!

Very risky. 11.♗bd2 0-0 (if 11...♙f6, then 12.♖a4) 12.♗f1 would be normal.

11...♙g6 12.♖a4 h5!

12...exd4 is certainly less testing for White.

13.♖xc6 hxg4 14.hxg4



14...♗f8!N

After this strong move, Black's serious compensation becomes evident. In the game Matulovic-Cioaltea, Bucharest 1966, Black blundered a pawn: 14...f6? 15.dxe5 ♙f7 (15...fxe5 16.♗xe5! dxe5 17.♖xg6+) 16.exd6 cxd6 (16...♙xd6 17.e5!+-) 17.♙f4!±, and White gradually won.

15.♗bd2 ♞b8! 16.♗f1

16.♖xa6 ♗f6 with an attack after 17.g5 (or 17.dxe5 ♗xg4→) 17...♗h7→; 16.d5? ♗c5, followed by ♞b6 would be nice, but only for Black.

16...♖b6 17.♙c4 exd4 18.♙xd4

18.cxd4? ♟f6≠ is bad for White; , but 18.♟xd4!? ♟e5 19.♙e2 deserved some attention.

18...♙f6 19.♙e3 ♟e5 20.♟3h2

20.♟xe5 was possible, but White's position would be dangerous in this case too.

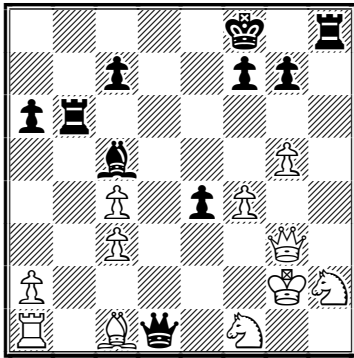
20...d5!? 21.g5

21.exd5 ♟d3 22.♖e2 ♖d6≡ , and a strong initiative compensates Black's material losses.

21...♟c4 22.♙g3

Also 22.♙c5+ ♙e7 23.♙xd5 ♙xd5 24.exd5 ♟xb2 would be better for Black.

22...♙e5 23.f4 ♙d6 24.b3 ♙c5+ 25.♙g2 ♙xe4+ 26.♖xe4 dxe4 27.bxc4 ♙d1≠



28.♙g4

Black is clearly better, and the tricky move 28.♙f2?! wouldn't refute such evaluation. For example, 28...♙c6!? (28...♙xf2 29.♙a3+ ♙d6 30.♙xd6+ cxd6 31.♙xf2 ♖h3 is also not bad, but after 32.♟g4!? White somehow manages to co-ordinate his pieces.) 29.♙d2 ♖xh2+ 30.♙xh2 ♙h5+ followed by 31...♖d6! with a crushing attack.

28...♙c2+ 29.♙d2 ♖e6! 30.♙f5

30.♙d1 ♙d3!

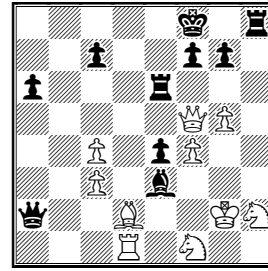
30...♙e3!

Morozevich's play in this blindfold game is very impressive.

31.♖c1

31.♙d5 ♙xf4!-+; , or 31.♙h1 ♖xh2+! (better than 31...♙xd2 32.g6) 32.♟xh2 ♙xd2 33.g6 ♖xg6 34.♙c8+ ♙e7 35.♙xc7+ ♙d7 should be winning for Black.

31...♙xa2 32.♖d1?



32.♖a1!? ♙xa1 33.♟xe3 followed by ♟hf1 should give some practical chances to White - at least there he controls squares around his king.; 32.♙h1 ♖xh2+!-+ would be even worse for White than on the previous move.

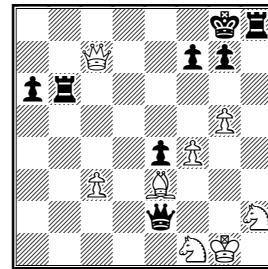
32...♙xc4!

Possibly, Topalov missed this move, which practically finishes the struggle.

33.♙xe3?! ♙e2+ 34.♙f2 ♙xd1-+

It's clearly winning now.

35.♙c5+ ♙d6 36.♙a7 ♙g8 37.♙e3 ♖e8! 38.♙b7 ♙d3 39.♙c6 ♖e6 40.♙c5 ♙e2+ 41.♙g1 ♖b6 42.♙xc7



42...♖xh2!

Prepared decisive blow.

43.♙c8+ ♙h7 44.♙f5+ ♖g6 45.♟xh2 ♙xe3+ 46.♙g2 f6 47.♟g4 ♙f3+ 48.♙g1 fxe5 49.♟e5 ♙g3+ 0-1

Solution to Quiz Today: 1.♟xb4! Not 1.♟xc5?? dxc5 2.d6 ♙f8 3.d7 ♙e7

1...cxb4 2.♟xb4 ♙f8 3.♙a5!+- Black resigned: he loses his knight for a pawn, and the resulting endgame is easily won for White. 3.♙a5 ♙g8 4.b4 ♙f7 5.b5 ♙e8 6.b6 ♟xb6 7.♟xb6 ♙d7 8.♙e2 ♙c8 9.♙d3 ♙e7 10.c5 and then, for example, 10...dxc5 11.♙c4 ♙f8 (11...♙d7 12.♙xc5 ♙d8 13.♙b5 ♙c7 14.♙b4 ♙b8 15.♙b6 ♙c7+ 16.♙b7 ♙d8 17.d6+-; 11...♙b7 12.♙xc5 ♙d8 13.♙b5+-) 12.♙xc5 ♙g7 13.♙b5 ♙d7 14.♙a6 ♙h6 (14...♙c7 15.♙e7+-) 15.♙b7 ♙g7 16.♙a3 ♙h6 17.♙e7! ♙g7 18.d6 ♙h8 19.♙f8+- 1-0

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