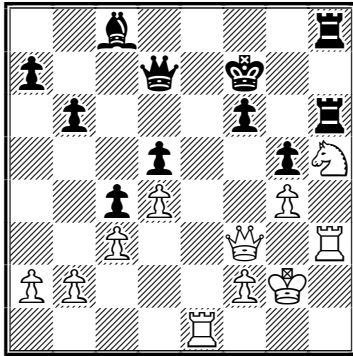


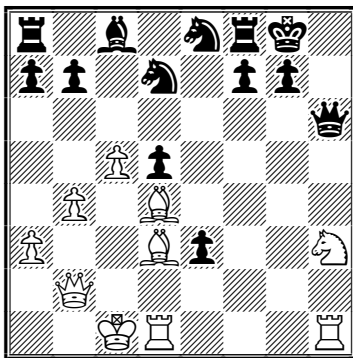
Quiz Today

Stripunsky (2554) – Browne (2484)



White to play

Serper (2556) – Ippolito (2378)
 ch-USA Seattle USA (5), 13.01.2003



White to play

Wijk aan Zee, Round 4

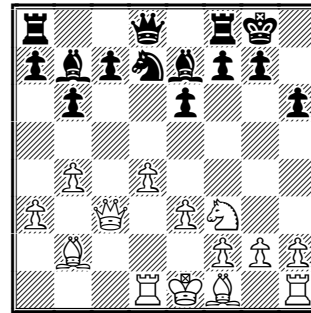
www.coruschess.com

by **IM Yochanan Afek**, especially for
Chess Today; notes to games by GM
 Alex Baburin

Judith Polgar was the heroine of the 4th round in the WAZ festival, scoring her first classical chess victory ever against ex-world champion Anatoly Karpov. Her 12...a5 move seems to be new.

Karpov – Polgar

1.d4 ♟f6 2.♟f3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.a3
 ♙b7 5.♟c3 d5 6.cxd5 ♟xd5 7.♙c2
 ♟xc3 8.♙xc3 h6 9.e3 ♟d7 10.b4
 ♙e7 11.♙b2 0-0 12.♞d1 (D)

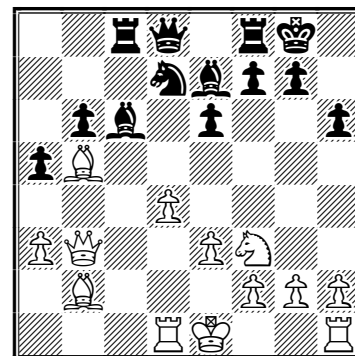


12...a5

"I played it because I didn't want to be tortured again by Anatoly. If I had to lose, at least to have the game my way...".

13.b5 ♞c8 14.♙b3 c6 15.bxc6
 ♙xc6 16.♙b5? (D)

Karpov's 16.♙b5 seems a severe blunder totally ignoring the fine blow 16... ♙b4+!, after which Black got the upper hand and never looked back. The game was awarded with the daily public prize.



16...♙b4+! 17.axb4 ♙xb5 18.bxa5
 ♙c4 19.♙a3 bxa5 20.♙d6 ♙b5
 21.d5 ♞c2 22.♞d2 ♙c8 23.♙a3
 ♞xd2 24.♙xd2 ♟b6 25.♙c3 ♟c4+
 26.♙c2 e5 27.♙b1 ♙g4 28.♞c1
 ♞b8 29.♞c2 f6 30.d6 ♙xg2 31.♟d2
 ♙h1+ 32.♙a2 ♟xd6 33.♙c5 ♞c8
 0-1

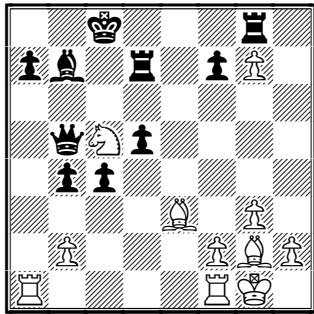
Another upset for White was witnessed in the Ponomarev-Shirov game with a well-known queen sacrifice in the Botvinnik variation of the Slav, first introduced against Shirov himself by Ivanchuk on the very same podium in 1996.

This issue is prepared by IM Vladimir Barsky; technical editor Graham Brown

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Ponomariov – Shirov

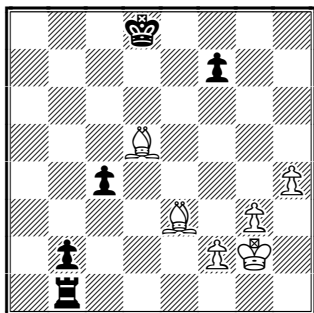
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 e6 5.♙g5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.♙h4 g5 9.♘xg5 hxg5 10.♙xg5 ♘bd7 11.g3 ♙b7 12.♙g2 ♖b6 13.exf6 0-0-0 14.0-0 c5 15.d5 b4 16.♘a4 ♖b5 17.a3 exd5 18.axb4 cxb4 19.♙e3 ♘c5 20.♖g4+ ♙d7 21.♖g7 ♙xg7 22.fxg7 ♙g8 23.♘xc5 (D)



This time Shirov sacked back his own queen at the right moment and easily won with his already advanced pawns on the queenside.

23...♙xg7N

23...d4 24.♙xb7+ ♙xb7 25.♘xb7 ♖b6 26.♙xd4 ♖xd4 27.♙fd1 ♖xb2 28.♘d6+ ♖b8 29.♙db1 ♖xg7 30.♙xb4+ ♖c7 31.♙a6 ♙b8 32.♙xa7+ ♖xd6 33.♙xb8 ♖g4 34.♙d8+ ♖c6 35.♙a1 1-0 Ivanchuk-Shirov, Wijk aan Zee 1996.
24.♘xd7 ♖xd7 25.♙xa7 ♙g6 26.♙fa1 ♙e6 27.♙d4 ♙e2 28.h4 ♙d2 29.♙e3 ♙xb2 30.♙1a5 b3 31.♙c5+ ♖d8 32.♙xb7 ♖xb7 33.♙xd5+ ♖xd5 34.♙xd5 ♙b1+ 35.♖g2 b2 (D)



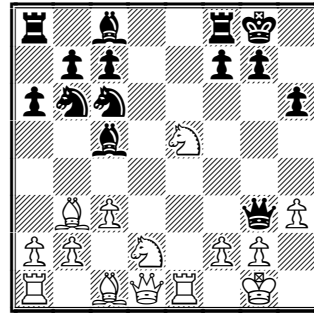
36.♙e4 ♙d1 37.♙g5+ ♖e8 38.♙f6 b1♖ 39.♙xb1 ♙xb1 40.h5 ♖f8 41.g4 ♙d1 42.♙b2 ♖g8 0-1

The honour of White in this round was eventually redeemed by World Champion Vladimir Kramnik, who

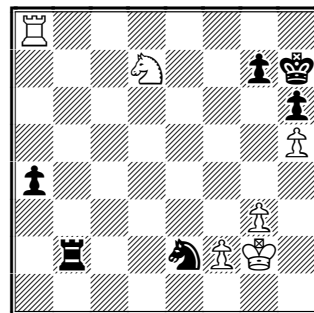
seems to be enjoying his new romance with 1.e4 openings immensely. Yesterday he obtained an edge with the bishop opening against Krasenkov and won a fine ending in a study-like manner starting with 69. h6! and ending with a rare mate net after 7 hours play.

Kramnik – Krasenkov

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙c4 ♙c5 4.c3 ♘f6 5.d3 a6 6.♙b3 0-0 7.0-0 d5 8.exd5 ♘xd5 9.h3 ♘b6 10.♙e1 h6 11.♘bd2 ♖xd3 12.♘xe5 ♖g3

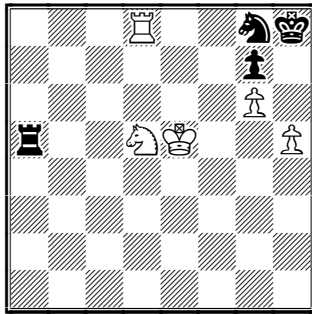


13.♖f3 ♖xf3 14.♘dxf3 ♘e7 15.♘d3 ♙d6 16.♙f4 ♘g6 17.♙xd6 cxd6 18.♙e4 a5 19.♙d4 ♙d8 20.♙d1 d5 21.♘c5 ♘e7 22.a4 ♙e8 23.♙4d2 ♘d7 24.♘xd7 ♙xd7 25.c4 dxc4 26.♙xd7 cxb3 27.♙xb7 ♙ab8 28.♙dd7 ♘c6 29.♙xf7 ♙xb7 30.♙xb7 ♙e4 31.♙xb3 ♙xa4 32.♙b6 ♙c4 33.g3 a4 34.h4 ♘d4 35.♘e5 ♙c5 36.♙b8+ ♖h7 37.♘d7 ♙b5 38.♙a8 ♘e2+ 39.♖g2 ♙xb2 40.h5! (D)



40...♘c3 41.♘e5 ♙b5 42.f4 ♘e4 43.g4 ♘f6 44.♘g6 ♘g8 45.♘f8+ ♖h8 46.♘g6+ ♖h7 47.♖f3 ♙b3+ 48.♖e4 a3 49.♘f8+ ♖h8 50.♘g6+ ♖h7 51.g5 hxg5 52.fxg5 ♙b4+ 53.♖f5 ♙b5+ 54.♖g4 ♙b4+ 55.♖f5 ♙b5+ 56.♖g4 ♙b4+ 57.♘f4 a2 58.♙xa2 ♘e7 59.♙a8 ♘g8 60.♙a7

♖h8 61.♖a8 ♖h7 62.♖f8 ♖h8
63.♖f3 ♖b3+ 64.♖e4 ♖b4+ 65.♖e5
♖b5+ 66.♖d5 ♖a5 67.♖d8 ♖h7
68.g6+ ♖h8 (D)



69.h6! ♖a7

If 69...gxf6, then 70.♖d7!, winning.

70.♖e3

After 70.h7? ♖e7+ Black's rook becomes a **desperado**. 71.♖d6 ♖e6+!=. 70...gxf6 71.♖f5 ♖a5+ 72.♖f4 ♖a4+ 73.♖f3 ♖a3+ 74.♖g4 ♖a4+ 75.♖h5 ♖a7 76.♖f8 ♖b7 77.♖h4

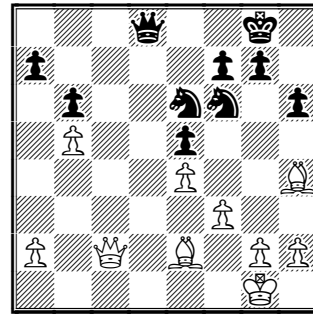
Also good was 77.♖f7! ♖xf7 78.gxf7 ♖f6+ 79.♖g6 ♖d7 80.♖xh6 ♖f8 81.♖h4. 77...♖b4+ 78.♖g3 ♖b6 79.♖e7 ♖g7 80.♖f7+ 1-0

After a single defeat in the third round Jan Timman was back again on the draw track, this time against Vishy Anand. According to Anand he could either follow the theoretical line up to the inevitable draw or risk a worsening of his position.

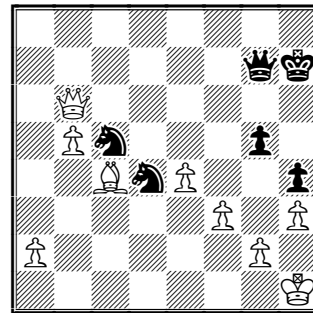
The game Bareev-Topalov saw an interesting duel between a pair of bishops and a pair of knights with queens. White sacked a bishop to collect a few pawns, but Topalov responded with a nice counter knight sacrifice to secure a draw by perpetual check.

Bareev - Topalov

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♖c3 ♖b4 4.♖c2 d5 5.cxd5 ♖xd5 6.e3 c5 7.♖d2 ♖xc3 8.bxc3 b6 9.♖f3 ♖bd7 10.c4 ♖d6 11.♖e2 ♖b7 12.♖d1 ♖c8 13.0-0 ♖c7 14.dxc5 ♖xc5 15.♖d4 0-0 16.f3 ♖fd8 17.♖e1 ♖e7 18.♖h4 ♖c6 19.♖b5 h6 20.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 21.e4 ♖xb5 22.cxb5 e5 23.♖d1 ♖e6 24.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 (D)



25.♖c1 ♖d6 26.♖f2 ♖d7 27.♖c4 ♖d4 28.h3 ♖c5 29.♖h2 g5 30.♖a3 ♖d7 31.♖g3 ♖e7 32.♖b4 h5 33.♖h1 ♖f6 34.♖a3 ♖g7 35.♖xa7 h4 36.♖xe5 ♖xe5 37.♖xf7+ ♖h6 38.♖f8+ ♖g7 39.♖d6+ ♖h7 40.♖xb6 (D)



40...♖xf3 41.gxf3 ♖a1+ 42.♖g2 ♖b2+ 43.♖f1 ♖c1+ 44.♖f2 1/2-1/2

Dutchman Loek van Wely scored a fourth draw in a row, this time a hard fought one (80 moves) against young Tejmour Radjabov.

In group B Dutch Junior Champion Daniel Stellwagen proved he can beat a man too by beating his countryman Jonkman. In one of the sharpest encounters of the round Peter Acs scored his first victory over the Nestor of the group, John van der Wiel. The young ladies derby between Kostenjuk and Koneru ended in a draw, while German hope Arkadi Naiditsch scored a fine victory over Sergei Karjakin. Chinese GM Zhong is leading the field after beating Swede Jonny Hector.

Results of the 4th Round:

Bareev - Topalov 1/2:1/2
van Wely - Radjabov 1/2:1/2
Timman - Anand 1/2:1/2
Karpov - Polgar 0:1

Ivanchuk – Grischuk **½:½**
Ponomarev – Shirov **0:1**
Kramnik – Krasenkow **1:0**

Round 4 Standings:

1. Polgar – 3 points
2-5. Kramnik, Anand, Shirov, Bareev – 2½
6-10. Van Wely, Ivanchuk, Grischuk, Topalov, Karpov – 2
11-12. Timman, Ponomarev – 1½
13-14. Radjabov, Krasenkow – 1

Pairing for the 5th Round:

Krasenkow – Bareev
Shirov – Kramnik
Grischuk – Ponomarev
Polgar – Ivanchuk
Anand – Karpov
Radjabov – Timman
Topalov – van Wely

Tournament 'B'.

Results of the 4th Round:

Hector – Zhong **0:1**
Koneru – Kosteniuk **½:½**
Jonkman – Stellwagen **0:1**
Naiditsch – Karjakin **1:0**
Acs – van der Wiel **1:0**
de Vreugt – Rogers **½:½**
Nijboer – Cmilyte **1:0**

Round 4 Standings:

1. Zhong – 3½ points
2-4. Naiditsch, Nijboer, Stellwagen – 3
5-6. De Vreugt, Rogers – 2½
7. Karjakin – 2
8-11. Hector, Van der Wiel, Koneru, Acs – 1½
12-13. Jonkman, Kosteniuk – 1
14. Cmilyte – ½

Pairing for the 5th Round:

Cmilyte – Hector
Rogers – Nijboer
van der Wiel – de Vreugt
Karjakin – Acs
Stellwagen – Naiditsch
Kosteniuk – Jonkman
Zhong – Koneru

◆ There was a rest day after the 5th Round of [the USA Championships](#). So it's a suitable time to read a new report by **John Henderson** from Seattle.

ROUND FIVE

Morphy's Law

As in many countries the championship title gradually evolved through time. Whilst many in the world would immediately identify with legends of the game such as the great Paul Morphy or perhaps George Mackenzie (a Scottish mercenary who became a Captain fighting for the North during the Civil War), they, along with little known first champion Charles Stanley, only became US Champions by "popular acclaim" – hailed as such by virtue of their playing strength in matches and tournaments of that particular era. In the days before such official titles were organised to be fought over, they rightly were acclaimed champions one and all in the record books: Stanley 1845-57; Morphy 1857-71, and MacKenzie 1871-90. For the purists however, the first official champion was actually the 'Kentucky Lion' Jackson Showalter (who also has another claim to fame as being reputedly accredited with the invention of the curve ball in baseball) who won the title in 1890. For nearly half a century thereafter, the US title was decided by a match between the two top players in the country – another legend Frank Marshall being the last incumbent to reign in such a way, who held the title from 1905 through to 1936. This all changed in 1936 when the national title became an invitational affair between the top players in the country – dominated in the process (and in order) by three players: Sammy Reshevsky, who won the first of his six titles in 1936 (his last in 1969!); Bobby Fischer, who broke all the records for the championship; and the redoubtable Walter Browne, a competitor in this year's championship, with six titles to his name. The new-styled Open format of the championship created by the America's Foundation for Chess has breathed new life – and money – into an ailing tournament; one which unbelievably was all but cancelled by the USCF until the intervention at the

eleventh hour of the then Seattle Chess Foundation in 2000. This new format created by the AF4C has added an extra dynamism and prestige to the championship as the elite field of the US's finest battle it out for a world record prize fund for a national title of \$253,000, with \$25,000 slotted to the winner. And, as the competition hots up for this year's title, the race is well and truly open as the championship reaches its metaphoric midway point of the rest day. A tough top-board encounter between the leaders Gregory Kaidanov, looking for his first title, and former champion Alexander Shabalov ended after a 31-move draw. This left the door open for a number of former champions to play 'catch-up' with some decisive play. First to join the chasing pack was local hero and four-time title winner Yasser Seirawan, who wasted no time in dispatching Yury Lapshun as the 'Greek Gift' of Bxh7+ won the day with a brisk 24 move win. Next up was two-time winner Joel Benjamin, whose timely exchange on c3 against Eugene Perelshteyn led to a positionally won game. Another two-time winner Alex "The Yerminator" Yermolinsky gradually ground down tournament veteran Anatoly Lein (a sprightly 71) in a long ending. Draws between former champion (both US and USSR) Boris Gulko and 2002 Samford Fellowship recipient Varuzhan Akobian, and defending champion Larry Christiansen and US Junior champion Hikaru Nakamura, kept not only two top juniors in the hunt for a dream first title and their final GM norms, but also another two seasoned champions. In a round with many spectacular games, that will no doubt feature in the list of best game prizes, check out, apart from Seirawan-Lapshun and Perelshteyn-Benjamin, Stripunsky's win over six-time champion Walter Browne with a beautiful combination, and Serper's stunning 24 Rh8+!! over Ippolito - all likely candidates for the Paul Albert Jnr. \$1,000 Brilliancy Prize. It's Murphy's law I suppose (the principle that if anything can go wrong, it will),

but with no clear runaway leader the logjam now at the top, especially with the addition of more ex champions and a couple of hungry young wannabes to the chasing pack, means that this year the title could yet again be decided by a nerve-wracking playoff, which will be slotted in for Sunday the 19th if needed.

♦ The 5th game of [match in Astana, Kazakhstan](#) Victor Korchnoi vs. Darmen Sadvakasov was drawn. So the score is 3½:1½ in Sadvakasov's favour. There will be 3 more games there.

Annotated Game

□ **A Karpov (2688)**

■ **J Polgar (2700)**

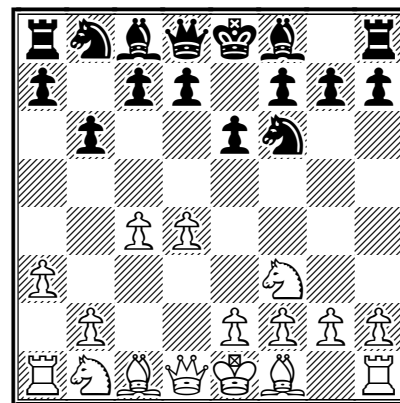
Event: GMA Wijk aan Zee NED (4), 15.01.2003 - E12

Annotations: **IM Vladimir Barsky**

A Karpov (2688) - J Polgar (2700)
E12

GMA Wijk aan Zee NED (4), 15.01.2003

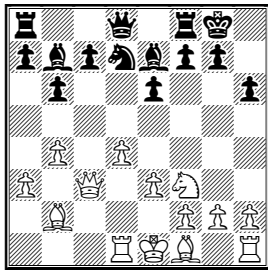
1.d4 ♘f6 2.♗f3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.a3



The Petrosian system of the Queen's Indian. Just recall that in the 1st Round of Wijk, Karpov played this line with Black vs. Krasenkov.

4...♙b7 5.♗c3 d5 6.cxd5 ♘xd5 7.♚c2 ♘xc3 8.♚xc3

Krasenkov had preferred 8.bxc3
8...h6 9.e3 ♘d7 10.b4 ♙e7 11.♙b2 0-0 12.♖d1

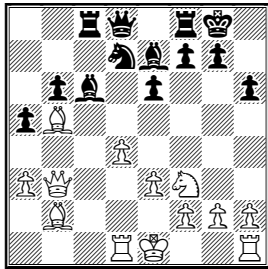


A prophylactic vs. possible 12...c5 13.dxc5 Bf6 and exchange on c5 with equalisation.

12...a5!?

This is a new and interesting idea. Black is ahead in development and therefore she tries to open a file ("a" or "c") for her rook. Karpov vs. Krasenkow did the same: he began complications as soon as possible.

13.b5 Bc8 14.♖b3 c6 15.bxc6 ♗xc6 16.♗b5?

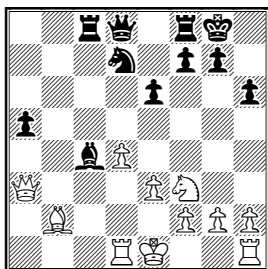


What a silly mistake! After, for example, 16.♗e2! Black still has to fight for equality.

16...♗b4+!

Simple, but nice. White's king has to stay in the centre now.

17.axb4 ♗xb5 18.bxa5 ♗c4 19.♖a3 bxa5



20.♖d6?!

Karpov begins to play rather riskily. Maybe better was the quieter 20.♗d2!? ♗b5 21.f3!? preparing Kf2 and Rhe1.

20...♗b5

A prophylactic against the move 21.Ne5, exchanging Queens.

21.d5!?

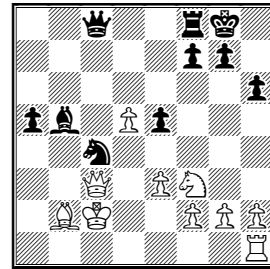
This was the point of White's idea,

but Black has a strong reply.

21...♗c2! 22.♗d2 ♖c8 23.♖a3

23.dxe6 ♗xb2!

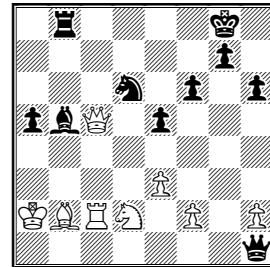
23...♗xd2 24.♖xd2 ♗b6! 25.♖c3 ♗c4+ 26.♖c2 e5



Pity the king on c2! He dreams of finding a quiet corner like h1...

27.♖b1 ♖g4 28.♗c1 ♗b8 29.♗c2 f6

30.d6 ♖xg2 31.♗d2 ♖h1+ 32.♖a2 ♗xd6 33.♖c5



Final blunder after which Black wins immediately:

33...♗c8

Black wins the rook, so White resigned. **0-1**

Solution to Quiz Today: ONE: 34.♗xf6! ♗xh3 34...♗xf6 35.♗xh8 ♗xf3 36.♗h7+ ♖f8 37.♗xd7+- 35.♗xd7+ ♗xf3 36.♗e5+ ♖g7 37.♖xf3± ♗h3+ 38.♖g2 ♗h4 39.♗h1! ♗xh1 40.♖xh1 ♖f6 41.♖g2+- 1-0 TWO: 23.♗g5! ♖xg5 24.♗h8+!! 24.♗h8+ ♖xh8 25.♖h2+ ♖g8 (25...♖h6 26.♖xh6+) 26.♖h7# 1-0

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