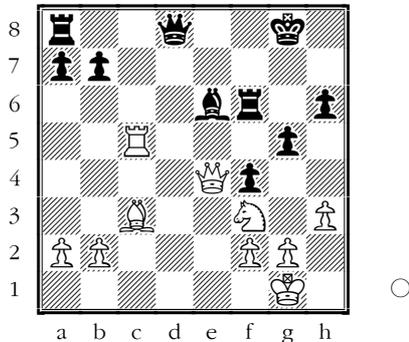


Test Your Carbon!

COMP Rybka 1.0 – COMP Ktulu 7.5
 CEGT 40/40, 2GHz CEGT, 04.12.2005



World Chess News

FIDE World Chess

It seems that the tournament has entered into a stage where strong nerves are of no less importance than the colour of the pieces, ELO level, and anything else taken together. A short summary of the round: the "Black" players won, 4½–3½. The French derby ended peacefully: Lautier was worse but managed to equalise. In the Russian derby, after 22 moves there was an unclear position, which Sakaev lost in six moves, making one blunder after another.

Van Wely vs Ponomariov is also a curious pair. Loek was one of Ruslan's assistants when the Ukrainian prepared himself for the match against Kasparov. GM Hans Ree once provided at ChessCafe a translated quote from the Loek interview where the latter spoke about the seven week long work with Ruslan. Unusual stuff. (At first, I was not able yesterday to find a [link to Ree's article](#) with Google – this puzzled me, until I understood that it would never find it if the "Safe

Search" option is enabled). Yesterday Van Wely lost to Ponomariov in a long game. Quite deservedly, one may add.

Other games ended in draws, with the exception of Grischuk – Kamsky which was won by White – quite confidently as far as I can judge. One of the most intriguing questions now is: how high a place Magnus Carlsen will be able to occupy? Bareev – Carlsen is the main annotated game today.

Round 4.1 results:

Bareev – Carlsen ½–½ Bacrot – Lautier ½–½ Vallejo – Aronian ½–½ Grischuk – Kamsky 1–0 Dreev – Gelfand ½–½ Gurevich – Malakhov ½–½ Sakaev – Rublevsky 0–1 Van Wely – Ponomariov 0–1

Rybka: a Revolution in Computer Chess?

By GM Mikhail Golubev

Sometimes I am amazed by my own ignorance of the chess engine world. I have always liked to annotate games – for the first time my notes were published in Informator in 1985. Since 1998, I use engines' help on a regular basis (with rare exceptions like a 2002 Bundesliga [game](#), which was annotated without any computer assistance for my old site). But, generally, I limit myself by using Fritz8 for checking short tactics. Step by step I learned Fritz's specific weaknesses in evaluating positions, and I know what to expect from it. So we live with my Fritz almost like family. But yesterday many people (who are less handicapped in computer chess than I) suddenly became crazy in the Russian forum, Guestbook.ru – KasparovChess. "Rybka!" "Rybka!!" (What it is? The word means a "small fish" in Russian, while the program's author is IM Vasik Rajlich of the USA). "It crushes Fritz, Shredder, Junior!". "A

Revolution!". "The end of chess!". "A link to download the beta version!" "A link to a Rybka gamefile!". "The beta version is removed from the Internet!". And so on. Mamma Mia. I do not know what to make of this stuff. Perhaps one can show me Fritz5 under a different interface and convince me that it is Deep Blue. So, I decided to ask a real expert's opinion. Here it is, exclusively for Chess Today.

Kirill Kryukov: "Firstly, something about our group, CEGT. Our homepage is at: www.husvankempen.de/nunn. (Rating list, games and statistics: kd.lab.nig.ac.jp/chess/cegt). Our team was created one year ago, when several fans of computer chess decided that we should join our efforts for getting reliable statistics. Now we are approximately 15 people strong, all pure computer chess maniacs. Nearly everyone uses several computers, where all day and night automatic engine tournaments are played. We are updating our rating list twice a week. As a result of direct contacts with the engine's authors, we have a possibility to provide a more or less statistically reliable evaluation of engines. And to do it very quickly. Our group is not a unique one, but I do not think that we have competitors if the dynamism and the quality of statistics are taken into consideration.

What is Rybka? It is a unique, for the moment, chess program, which shows "chess understanding" as opposed to the pure calculation of Fritz, Junior, etc. A contrast between Rybka and other programs is evident from its games. It understands positional nuances and acts in accordance with a human's principles of play. Of course, other programs are trying to do the same, but they limit themselves to a simple evaluation. Thus, Shredder and other programs tend to create doubled pawns for the opponent. I watched a number of games where Rybka accepted the creation of doubled pawns in its camp, but these pawns later proved to be a strength of its position. Rybka controls the board in an amazing way and restricts the mobility of the opponent's pieces.

A quote from my report in the closed CEGT forum: "Scary story from me too. I just started a Rybka – Deep Shredder 9 match, and observed the first game. It was a hair-raising shocker of a game! Deep Shredder 9 (running on 2CPU 512MB, as it should) was lucky with the opening, and managed to grab a pawn soon after it. It was an open position, Shredder was a pawn up, with active pieces and evaluation of about +1.5. Rybka was cool with eval of about +0.1. I expected Shredder to win easily, because I saw many times that it can convert the advantage very well. But then Rybka was doing some manoeuvres, which after 20 moves resulted in all of Shredder's pieces begin totally limited in activity. Shredder could not do anything, all its pieces were bound."

Look also what the expert in anti-computer play, Pablo Ignacio Restrepo, wrote: "1. Usually Rybka changes the queens, playing against antichess style. 2. Plays like as human beingtrying to open h- and b-files. 3. Its rooks have been driving with 100% more intelligence than other engines I have played before. 4. The center of the board has a different conduction by the engine too... 5. Usually Rybka, when blocked, seeks a draw. 6. Look as if it can not play until interface chessbase limit. 7. Has a human being concept about what the Stonewall is. 8. Rybka is really very very smart."

Most of the experts agree that Rybka is a sensational engine, almost a revolution. But it must be said that the current version of Rybka is a beta version and has several weak points, mainly in the endgame. The commercial version, as we know, will be prepared soon, it will cost 34 euros. We were among the first to receive a beta version of Rybka for testing. On Wednesday we will update our rating list, where Rybka is likely to be represented with more than 300 games."

Postscript by M.Golubev: 17 games of Rybka are included in today's game files.

Open Letter :
To M. Iljumzhinov, Fide
President

From Léo BATTESTI
Vice-President, French
Chess Federation
Candidate for FIDE
Presidency

I would like to invite you and the members of the FIDE Presidential Board to give more value to the democratic principles which should govern the forthcoming FIDE presidential elections.

Indeed, several infringements of these ethical principles have taken place recently.

Let's pass over the timely invitations made to numerous presidents or delegates of national federations to come to the World Cup in Kanty-Mansiysk: it earns good money to take part in the Appeal's Committee there! For instance, M. Makropoulos has offered a fee of 5,600€, expenses excluded, to my Président. This sudden generosity, a few months away from the Torino elections, looks, to say the least, rather suspicious.

First of all, the way the FIDE Internet site looks to be handled is scandalous. While my own candidacy hasn't even found the smallest place there, the first three pictures of the main news are portraits of yourself. Isn't it a bit too much?

But you've already gone much further with the threat of forcing potential candidates to put down a \$1,000,000 deposit. This dubious method simply means that only multi-millionaires will be able to run. This is a real shame for chess, whose basic principles are the respect of the rules and the equal opportunities policy. I think that this threat covers up the main thing: money should be the result of good politics.



Taking this into account, I would like to dwell on my own experience.

As President of the Corsican Chess League, I've seen chess players population in Corsica grow from 300 to 5000 within 7 years (for a total of 250,000 inhabitants). This development had the mechanical effect of raising our budget from a mere \$10,000 to \$500,000. Thus, I created one of the most prestigious chess Opens in the world. The 'Corsican Circuit', which takes place every year, has a global budget of \$400,000, half of it being devoted to the cash prizes. No less than 140 Corsican companies are partners of this event!

At the beginning of 2005, I became vice-president of French Chess Federation, in charge of communication. Our main publication is 'Echec & Mat', whose sponsors have been multiplied by 6, including the 3rd bank in the world, and lots of other prestigious companies.

I'm sorry to talk about the results of a hard work for the development of chess. But it was necessary, to show that the most important wealth is the wealth of ideas and projects. This is precisely what the current FIDE management is seriously lacking, as shows its budget, mainly dedicated to operational expenditures.

Let me add that I will not allow any personal attack during the campaign. I will express myself any time the equal opportunities policy will be flouted. Moreover, I will not fail to act in a court of law, if obvious violations of the equity rules are to be observed.

I hope that you will pay attention to this reasoning, and that you will guarantee our democratic principles to be respected.

Yours Truly,
Léo Battesti

Annotated Game

by GM Mikhail Golubev

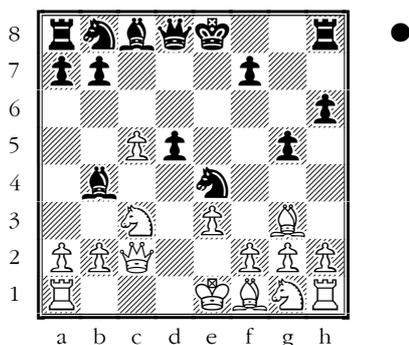
White: E. Bareev (2675)

Black: M. Carlsen (2570)

FIDE WCup Khanty Mansyisk RUS
(4.1), 06.12.2005

Nimzo-Indian, Classical, Noa variation, 5. cxd5 exd5 - [E35]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4 4.♙c2 d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♕g5 c5 7.dxc5 h6 8.♗h4 g5 9.♗g3 ♗e4 10.e3 (D)



10...♙a5!

At the top level, this move was introduced by Short in the 1993 PCA World Championship Match. An interesting story by Short's former coach, GM Kavalek

(chesscafe.com/text/skittles247.pdf)

tells of how this novelty was prepared.

11.♗ge2!

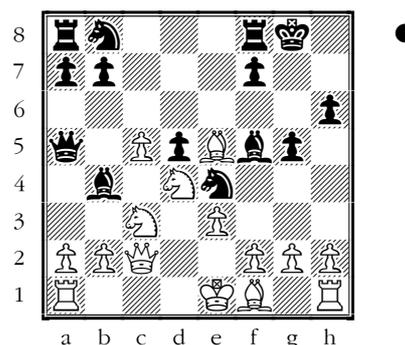
The 5th game of the Kasparov-Short match followed 11.♗e5 0-0 12.♗d3 ♗c6 13.♗xe4 ♗xe5 14.♗xd5 ♗g4 15.♗f3 ♗xf3 16.♗xf3 ♗xf3+ 17.gxf3 ♖ac8 18.0-0 1/2-1/2. Kavalek comments: "The analysis Short and I did during the pre-match preparation in Reston ended here, and I made the following note, paraphrasing Jimi Hendrix's Purple Haze: slight edge for White, but with good technique you can kiss the sky. Some historians may note that after 18.0-0 a draw was agreed in the fifth game of the Kasparov-Short match, London 1993. They might also add that Kasparov used almost an hour-and-a-half for those eighteen moves against Short's eleven minutes. Of course, Short could have played all the moves in one minute. What a waste of ten minutes!"

11...♗f5 12.♗e5! 0-0!

In Chess Today we earlier examined two games with other moves: 12...♗xc3?! Karpov-Short, Eurotel

rapid 2002 (issue 539); and 12...f6 Popov-Loginov, Russian Cup 2001 (issue 339)

13.♗d4 (D)



13...♗xc3

This move was not even mentioned by Kasparov in his Informator notes to the 9th game of the match, which followed 13...♗g6? 14.♗b3! ♗xc3 15.♗xc3!±; There are also other possibilities. 13...♖e8 14.♗xb8 was tested in Bareev-Topalov, Monaco (blindfold) 2004 and several other games - it is easy to suspect that Bareev was ready to play this line again.; 13...♗c6 ('unclear' - Kasparov) is hardly good in view of 14.♗xf5 ♗xe5 15.♗e7+ ♖g7 16.♗exd5± Se.Ivanov

14.♗xf5!?

Also of interest is another capture: 14.♙xf5 ♗e4+ 15.♖e2 (after 15.♖d1, sufficient is 15...♗c6 16.♗xc6, Se.Ivanov - Maki-Uuro, Stockholm 2000, and now 16...bxc6 17.♗d3 ♗e1! 18.♖e2 ♖d2+ 19.♖f1 ♙xd3+ 20.♖xe1 ♗xc5!? 21.♙f6 ♙h7 - Se.Ivanov) 15...♗xc5 (15...♗c6 16.♗xc6 ♙a6+ 17.♖f3 ♙xc6 18.♗d3 ♗xc5 19.♗xe4? dxe4+ 20.♙xe4? f6! was winning for Black in Relange-Emms, London 1994 but, normally, White shall be able to fight for advantage in this line: Se.Ivanov's suggestion was 17.♖d1) 16.♗b3 (16.♖f3?! ♗xd4 17.♗xd4 ♗c6) 16...♙a6+ 17.♖d1 (17.♖f3 ♙e6 18.g4 ♗c6 is unclear - Ftacnik) 17...♙a4 (17...♙e6 18.♙xe6 ♗xf2+ deserves a global study, e.g.: 19.♖e1 fxe6 20.♗xc5 ♗xh1 21.♗xe6 ♖e8 22.♗c7 ♖xe5 23.♗xa8 d4!?, etc.) 18.f3! ♗c6 (18...♗f2+? 19.♖e1!) 19.fxe4 and in Lautier-Chuchelov, French ChT (Mulhouse) 2005 Black did not prove that he has compensation for a piece: 19...♖fe8 (19...♗xe5 20.♙xe5 ♖fe8

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

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21.♖f5!?) 20.♙c3 ♙xe3 21.exd5 and White soon won.

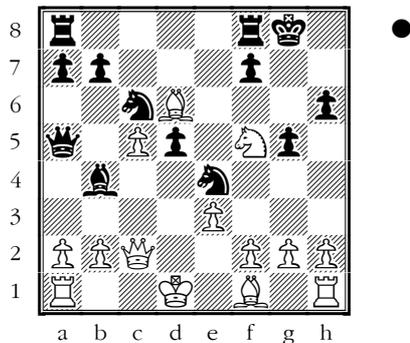
14...♗e4+! 15.♖d1

Not 15.♖e2? ♖a6+! 16.♖f3 ♖e6! and Black wins a piece.

15...♗c6!

15...♖xc5?! 16.♖xc5 ♙xc5 is likely to favour White after 17.♙g3 (or maybe 17.♗xh6+ ♖h7 18.♗g4 f5 19.f3 fxg4 20.fxe4)

16.♙d6 (D)



After 16.♙d4 ♗xd4 17.exd4 (17.♗xd4?! ♖ac8 18.♗b3 ♖d8 Se.Ivanov-T.Hansen, Stockholm 2004) 17...♙e1! gives Black a lot of counterplay: 18.♗xh6+ ♖h8 19.♖c1 ♖ac8! was already better for him in Devereaux-Emms, 4NCL 2005; Or 16.♙g3 ♙xc5 17.f3 ♖fd8!? and the white king does not feel safe, Law-Ward, London 1994.; Also unsafe for White is 16.♗xh6+ ♖h7 17.♗g4 f5 (17...♗xe5!?) 18.♗xe5 ♖ac8 MG) 18.♗f6+ ♖g6 19.♗xe4 dxe4 20.♙c3 ♖xc5 , Se.Ivanov

16...♙xc5!

A very important novelty. Much weaker is 16...♖fd8? 17.♗xh6+ ♖g7 18.♗f5+ ♖f6 19.f3 ♙xc5 20.♙xc5 ♖xc5 21.fxe4! dxe4+ 22.♗d4 ♗xd4 23.♖xc5 ♗b3+ 24.♖d4+ ♖xd4+ 25.exd4 ♗xa1 Dearing-Tan, Birmingham 2000, and here 26.♙e2! with the idea 26...♖d8 27.♖d2 ♖xd4+ 28.♖c3 is likely to be winning for White.; Also not good is 16...♙e1? 17.♗xh6+ ♖h7 18.♙d3 ♖xh6 19.♙xe4 dxe4 20.♖xe1± Richardson-S.Lalic, London 1997

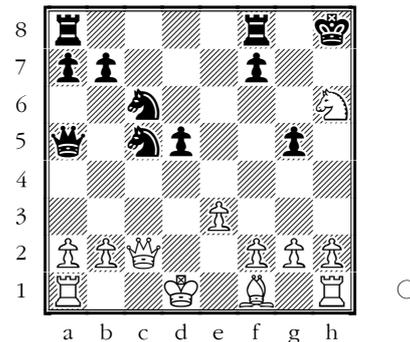
17.♙xc5

17.♙xf8? ♙xf8! (also possible is the straight 17...♗b4), as it turns out, gives Black not just a compensation for exchange, but simply a crushing attack against the White king.; 17.♗xh6+ can be answered by 17...♖h8 and after 18.♙xf8 (18.♙xc5 ♗xc5 transposes to

the game) 18...♖xf8!? White's defence is difficult.

17...♙xc5 18.♗xh6+ After 18.h4 Black has 18...g4! , as in the game

18...♖h8 (D)



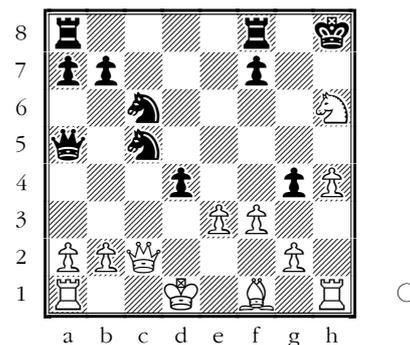
19.h4

This tempting move does not really help White to open the h-file: Black now will close it firmly. So, we can look at the other options. 19.♗g4!? with the idea 19...f5 20.h4 gxh4 21.♖xh4+ ♖g7 22.♗h2 looks unclear: both sides are playing with unsafe kings there.; One more possibility was 19.♗f5 but then 19...♗e4 20.f3 (20.♖e2 d4 21.♗g3 ♖fe8!?) is unpleasant for White) can be answered, for example, by 20...♖fd8! 21.fxe4 dxe4+ 22.♗d4 ♗xd4 23.exd4 ♖xd4+ 24.♖e2 ♖ad8 (24...♖d3 can also be considered) 25.♖c3 ♖f5 26.♖h3+ ♖xh3 27.gxh3 f5! and if 28.♖g1 , then 28...f4! 29.♖xg5 ♖d2+ 30.♖e1 f3 is better for Black

19...g4! 20.f3!

Preventing ...♗e4. Actually, it seems to be virtually the only way for White to stay in the game. After 20.♖c3+? ♖xc3 21.bxc3 f5 the white knight is trapped and will be lost.; Equally disastrous for White is 20.♗xg4? f5! 21.♗h2 ♗e4! , threatening, first of all, 22...♗b4!.; Finally, very dangerous for White is 20.♗f5?! ♗e4 21.f3 . Black can try 21...♖fd8 22.fxe4 dxe4+ 23.♗d4 ♗xd4 24.exd4 ♖xd4+ 25.♖e2 ♖d3

20...d4 (D)



The most natural move: Black plays against the white king and simultaneously prevents the exchange of queens (by 21.♖c3+).

21.♖f5

White forces a draw, which seems to be quite a wise decision. 21.e4?! gxf3 22.gxf3 ♖e5 is likely to favour Black, e.g.: 23.f4 d3! 24.♖c3 ♖xc3 25.bxc3 ♖c4; A bit crazy looking 21.♞c1!? was a more interesting alternative. It is not easy to say what is Black's best then (he has a wide choice), but even the dull 21...dxe3 22.♖c3+ ♖xc3 23.♞xc3 gxf3 24.gxf3 ♞ad8+ 25.♖c1 b6 26.♟f5 ♟b4 27.♞xe3 ♟xa2+ 28.♞b1 ♟b4 29.♞c4 ♞d2 looks OK for him.

21...dxe3 22.♖f6+!

After 22...♞h7 White gives his knight away by 23.♖f5+, with a simple perpetual check. So, a draw was agreed.

1/2-1/2

Contact information. Have some comments about Chess Today? [E-mail us](mailto:ababurin@iol.ie) – we appreciate your feedback! **Chess Today** is published by Alexander Baburin, 3 Eagle Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Tel: (353-1) 278-2276. Fax: (353-1) 283-6839. E-mail: ababurin@iol.ie Website: <http://www.chesstoday.net> Editors: GMs Baburin, Scherbakov and Golubev; IMs Barsky, Notkin and Vlassov. Technical editors: Graham Brown and Ralph Marconi.

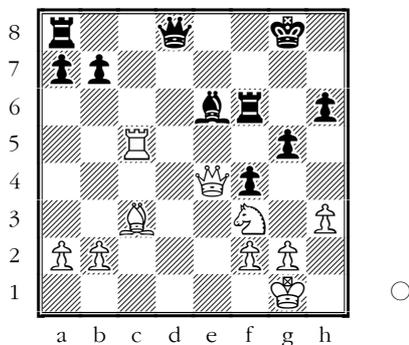
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Solution to our quiz:

COMP Rybka 1.0 Beta 64bit –

COMP Ktulu 7.5 C02

CEGT 40/40, 2GHz CEGT, 04.12.2005



24.♟xg5! hxg5 25.♞xg5+ ♖f7
26.♞xf6 1-0