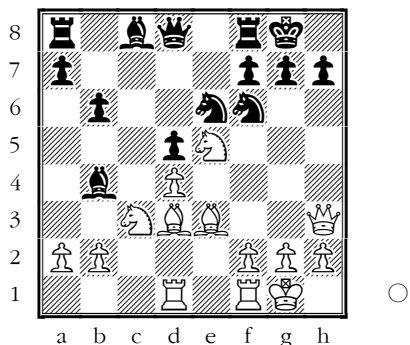
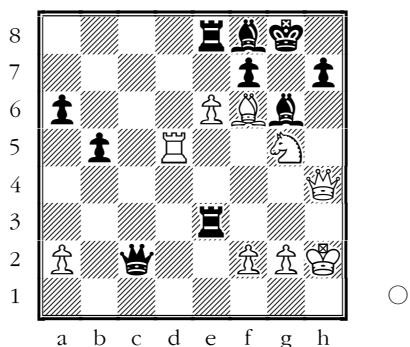


Test Yourself!

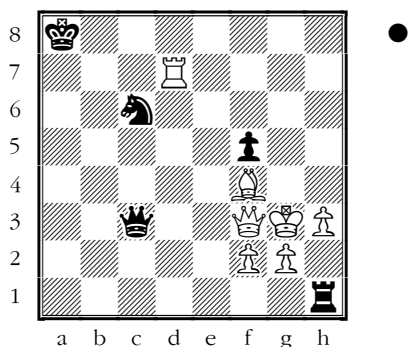
Moiseenko- B. Savchenko
Aeroflot Open, Moscow, 13.01.2006



Muzyczuk (2417) - Bellia (2390)
1st Sat GM, Budapest, 12.02.2006



Klinova (2353) - Spence (2221)
Gibtelecom Masters, 31.01.2006



*Here Black resigned.
Was that a timely decision?*



**World Chess
News**

Aeroflot Open, Moscow

Round 6 top results:

Vachier-Lagrave (4) – Akopian (4)
½-½
Eljanov (4) – Alekseev (4) 1-0
Sasikiran (3½) – Malakhov (4) 1-0

Standings after 6 rounds:

1. Eljanov (UKR, 2655) – 5
2-6. Mamedyarov (AZE, 2709),
Akopian (ARM, 2704), Sasikiran (IND,
2670), Kir. Georgiev (BUL, 2645) and
Vachier-Lagrave (FRA, 2542) – 4½,
etc. 93 players.

Round 7 top boards:

Kir. Georgiev – Eljanov
Vachier-Lagrave – Mamedyarov
Akopian – Sasikiran

In group A2 after 6 rounds three
players are leading with 5 points – GM
Drozdovski (UKR, 2509), IM M.
Hoffmann (GER, 2462) and 17-year
old Chinese player Zhou (2513). GM
Ruslan Scherbakov is among 13
players on 4½ points.

[Official website](#)

1st Sat Festival, Budapest

GM Tournament, after 9 rounds:

1. WGM Radziewicz (2421, POL) – 6½
2. GM L. Vajda (2526, ROM) – 5½, etc.
(13 players). [Official website](#)

Kasparov's Simul

It has been [announced](#) that Garry
Kasparov will give a 40-board
simultaneous exhibition at the
upcoming All-Girls National Chess
Championships in Chicago on 17
March at Palmer House Hilton Hotel.

Korchnoi Interview

Victor Korchnoi gave an [interview](#) to a very informative St. Petersburg chess website www.e3e5.com. The [English](#) version is also available. There are some problems with it (i.e. the editor should use 'space' key more often!), but it's worth checking. One quote:

"I was a talented child, I used to read a lot... As soon as I started studying chess seriously, I gave up reading. For example, I did not read Dostoyevsky – I had neither time nor strength for this. For this reason education should be provided first, and then one can be taught chess. It is quite another matter that chess lessons instil assiduity, develop mental abilities for comprehending other knowledge – it means that chess is useful. There are not many proofs, though."

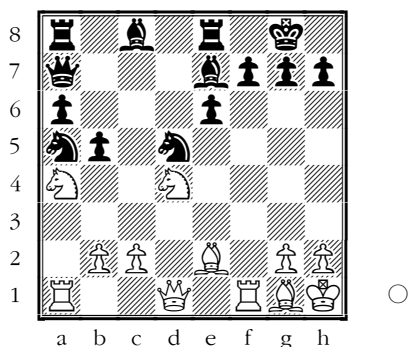
Aeroflot Potpourri

by GM Alex Baburin

Instead of focusing on just one game, today I'd like to look at several fragments.

Let's start with a rare case when the same position occurred in two different games in the same round – a modern version of the Gothenburg Variation! That happened in round 5 of the Aeroflot A1 open:

1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♞xd4 ♞f6 5.♞c3 a6 6.♞e3 ♞c6 7.♞e2 e6 8.a4 ♞e7 9.0-0 0-0 10.f4 ♟c7 11.♟h1 ♞e8 12.a5 ♞xa5 13.e5 dxe5 14.fxe5 ♟xe5 15.♞f4 ♟c5 16.♞a4 ♟a7 17.♞e3 ♞d5 18.♞g1N b5?! (D)



Jakovenko – Shchekachev
Aeroflot Open Moscow (5), 12.02.2006

19.♞xb5 ♟b8?

Better was 19...♟d7.

20.♞bc3 ♞d8 21.♞f3 ♞b7 22.♞c5 ♞xc3 23.bxc3 ♞xf3 24.♟xf3 f6 25.♞xe6! 1-0.

T. Petrosian – Smirnov,
Aeroflot Open Moscow (5), 12.02.2006

19.♞d3 ♞f6

Better was 19...♟d7! 20.♞xh7+ ♟xh7 21.♟h5+ ♟g8 22.♟xf7+ ♟h7 and there is no win for White in sight.

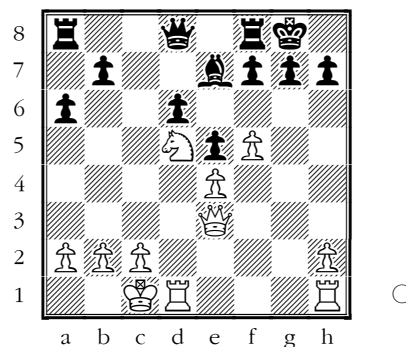
20.♞xb5 ♟d7 21.♞bc3 ♞d8? 22.♞c5 ♟c7 23.♞xd5 exd5 24.♞xa5 ♟xa5 25.♞xh7+ ♟f8 26.♟xd5 ♞a7 27.b4 ♟b5 28.c4 ♟xb4 29.♟d6+ ♞e7 30.♞xf7+ ♟xf7 31.♟d5+ 1-0.

See more in our database – GM Sergey Shipov in his excellent [column](#) gave an extensive analysis of them and I incorporated some of his lines in our database.

Timofeev (2653) – Kharlov (2558)

Aeroflot Open Moscow, 13.02.2006

1.e4 c5 2.♞f3 ♞c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♞xd4 e6 5.♞c3 d6 6.♞e3 ♞f6 7.♞e2 ♞e7 8.♟d2 a6 9.f4 0-0 10.0-0-0 ♟c7 11.g4 ♞xd4 12.♟xd4 e5 13.♟d3 ♞xg4 14.♞xg4 ♞xg4 15.♞d5 ♟d7 16.f5 ♞xe3 17.♟xe3 ♟d8 (D)



Black is a pawn up, but he is strategically lost as his bishop is far less powerful than the enemy knight.

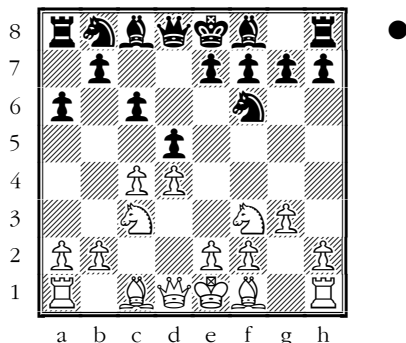
18.♞hg1 ♟h8 19.♞df1 ♞h4 20.♞g4 ♞g8 21.♞f3 g5 22.f6 ♞g6 23.♟b3 ♟d7 24.h3 ♞f8 25.♞f5 ♞e8

26. ♖e7 ♜xf6 27. ♜xf6 ♜xe7 28. ♖g1 ♜g7 29. ♖gf1 g4 30. ♖f5 h6 31. hxg4 ♙g5+ 32. ♜b1 ♙f4 33. ♜c3 ♜c6 34. ♜xc6 bxc6 35. ♖d1 ♖e6 36. b4 ♖g6 37. ♜b2 ♙e3 38. ♜b3 ♙d4 39. ♖d3 ♜f8 40. ♖df3 ♖g7 41. a4 ♜e7 42. c3 ♙b6 43. a5 ♙c7 44. ♖f6 ♙b8 45. c4 ♙a7 46. b5 cxb5 47. cxb5 axb5 48. ♜b4 d5 49. exd5 e4 50. d6+ ♜e8 51. ♖3f4 e3 52. ♖e4+ ♜d8 53. ♜xb5 ♖g5+ 54. ♜a6 ♙c5 55. ♜b7 e2 56. ♖xe2 ♖xg4 57. ♜c6 ♙g1 58. ♖xf7 ♖c4+ 59. ♜d5 1-0.

Sasikiran (2670) – Malakhov(2694)

Aeroflot Open, Moscow, 13.02.2006

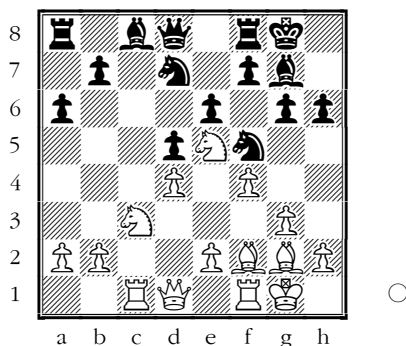
1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. ♖f3 ♖f6 4. ♖c3 a6 5. g3 (D)



5...g6 I feel that this move is illogical – Black transposes to the line of the Gruenfeld Defence where ...a6 looks like a waste of time.

6. ♙g2 ♙g7 7. 0-0 0-0 8. cxd5 cxd5 9. ♖e5 e6 10. ♙g5!? h6 11. ♙e3 ♖fd7 12. f4 ♖c6 13. ♙f2 ♖e7?! Usually in this system Black plays ...f5 at some point.

14. ♖c1 ♖f5 (D)



15. e4! dxe4 16. ♙xe4

16. ♖xe4 looks more natural.

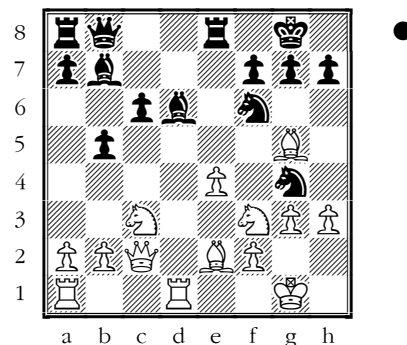
16... ♖f6 17. ♙g2 ♖e7 18. ♜b3 ♖ed5 19. ♖fe1 b5?! 20. ♖xd5 ♖xd5 21. ♖c5 ♜d6? 22. ♖xg6! fxg6

23. ♖xd5 exd5 24. ♜xd5+ ♜xd5 25. ♙xd5+ ♙e6 26. ♙xe6+! ♜h8 27. b3 a5 28. d5+- ♖a6 29. ♖c1 b4 30. ♖c6 ♖fa8 31. ♙d7 ♙f8 32. ♙d4+ ♜h7 33. ♖c7 ♙d6 34. ♖b7 1-0.

Volkov (2629) – Sedlak (2518)

Aeroflot Open, Moscow, 13.02.2006

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. ♖c3 ♖f6 4. e3 e6 5. ♖f3 ♖bd7 6. ♜c2 ♙d6 7. ♙e2 0-0 8. 0-0 dxc4 9. ♙xc4 b5 10. ♙e2 ♙b7 11. ♖d1 ♜b8 12. e4 e5 13. dxe5 ♖xe5 14. g3 ♖e8 15. ♙g5 ♖eg4 16. h3 (D)



Black started a long-term attack:

16... ♙xg3! 17. hxg4 ♖xg4 18. e5 18. ♖f1.

18... ♖xf2 19. ♖f1 ♖xe5!? 20. ♖xf2 20. ♖xe5 ♜xe5 21. ♖xf2 ♙xf2+ 22. ♜xf2 ♜h2+ →.

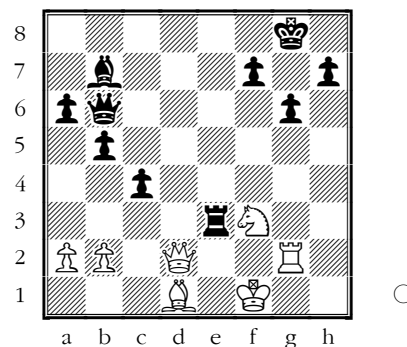
20... ♙xf2+ 21. ♜xf2 ♖xg5 22. ♖xg5 ♜h2+ 23. ♜e3 Computer prefers White here, but don't forget that it can change its assessment after a while and that it's harder to defend than to attack, particularly when your king has no pawn cover.

23... ♖e8+ 23... ♜g3+!? 24. ♖f3 ♖e8+.

24. ♖ce4 ♜g3+ 25. ♖f3 25. ♜d2.

25... c5 26. ♖g1 ♜h3 Worse was 26... ♙xe4 27. ♖xg3 ♙xc2+ 28. ♜d2.

27. ♜f2 ♖xe4 28. ♖g3 ♜e6 29. ♜d2 29. ♙d3 29... ♜b6 30. ♜f1 c4 31. ♙d1 g6 32. ♖g5 a6 33. ♖g2 ♖e3 (D)



Klinova (2353) – Spence (2221)
Gibtelecom Masters, 31.01.2006

34. ♖f2=

Black got the upper hand and only further inaccuracies did not allow him to win the game.

34... ♖e6?!

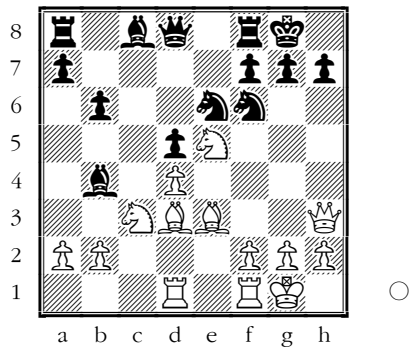
34... h6!?

35. ♗g5 ♖e7 36. ♗xf7 ♖h3
37. ♖d8+ ♖xd8 38. ♗xd8 ♖h1+
39. ♖e2 ♗d5 40. ♖d2 ♖h3 41. ♗g4
♖d3+ 42. ♖e1 h5 43. ♗c8 h4
44. ♗xa6?! ♗f3 45. ♖h2 ♖xd8
46. ♖xh4 g5 [46... ♖d1+ 47. ♖f2 ♗c6]
47. ♖h6 g4 48. ♖h5 ♖d1+ 49. ♖f2
♖d2+ 50. ♖g3 ♖xb2 51. ♗xb5 c3
52. ♖c5 c2 53. ♗d3 ♗d1 54. ♗xc2
1/2-1/2

Solutions to our quiz:

Moiseenko– B. Savchenko

Aeroflot Open, Moscow, 13.01.2006



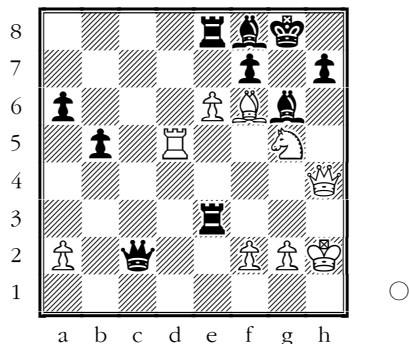
First, an exchange operation, setting the scene for the final blow:

16. ♗c6! ♖d6 17. ♗xb4 ♖xb4

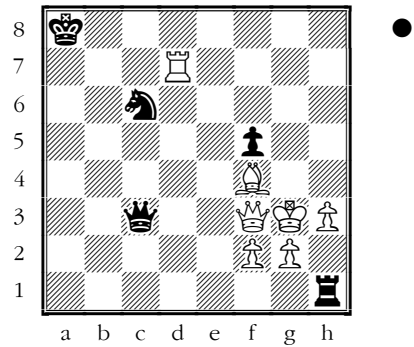
Now all is ready: 18. ♗xd5! 1-0

Muzyczuk (2417) – Bellia (2390)

1st Sat GM, Budapest, 12.02.2006



39. ♖xh7+! 1-0.



*Here Black resigned.
Was that a timely decision?*

Certainly not – he missed a wonderful opportunity to save the game: 42... ♖g7+!! 43. ♖xg7 ♖xh3+, with a stalemate! I found this position in Tim Krabbe's excellent Open Chess [Diary](#).

Contact information. Have some comments about Chess Today? [E-mail us](#) – 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>

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