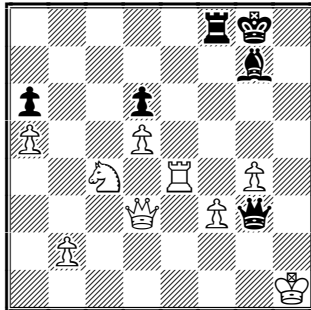


Quiz Today

Kozul-Radjabov

Sarajevo 2003



Black to play

Chess News

Chess Today received the following information about the forth-coming **St. Petersburg vs. Paris match** from Ilya Manakov, administrator and webmaster of www.ruschess.com:

Chess match St. Petersburg vs. Paris will take place on 28 May 2003, on the day of celebration of the 300 years anniversary of St. Petersburg. Its team will consist of:

1. Alexander Khalifman
2. Peter Svidler
3. Victor Korchnoi
4. Konstantin Sakaev

Commentators in St. Petersburg will be Anatoly Karpov and Boris Spassky.

The "NAO chess club" team will be represented by:

1. Vladimir Kramnik
2. Teimour Radjabov
3. Laurent Fressinet
4. Sergej Karjakin

GM Joel Lautier will be commentator in Paris. Chief arbiter: Geurt Gijssen. Games and video coverage of the match will be available at www.ruschess.com.

As much as we would like to conclude our coverage of the 37th [Capablanca Memorial](#) in Havana, we cannot do it at this moment – the tournament Web site seems to be dead and results of the last round are not known...

The traditional [Bosna tournament](#) is in progress in Sarajevo. Round 3 saw the following results:

Kozul-Radjabov 0-1
 I. Sokolov – Damljanovic 1-0
 Kurajica-Shirov ½-½
 Bareev-Dizdarevic 1-0
 Movsesian-Kasimdzhanov ½-½

Our short review of the round:

Radjabov played the King's Indian Defence – maybe he will bring this opening back into fashion, after another 'boy from Baku' has abandoned it?

Damljanovic (by the way, that was another KID!) blundered a checkmate in one move, though his position was already bad. After two losses, Elo-favourite of the tournament Bareev nicely outplayed Dizdarevic in the Semi-Slav. His 19.b4 was classy!

Standings after 3 rounds:

1-2. Radjabov (2644) and I. Sokolov (2677) – 2½ points;
 3-5. Shirov (2735), Movsesian (2659) and Kasimdzhanov (2680) – 2 points;
 6. Kurajica (2551) – 1½ points;
 7-8. Bareev (2734) and Kozul (2601) – 1 point;
 9. Dizdarevic (2491) – ½ point;
 10. Damljanovic (2587) – 0 point.

See games from round 3 in our database.

Round 7 of the [Hungarian Championship](#) saw all games drawn (but only 2 were quick draws):
 Cao – A. Horváth ½-½
 Berkes-Varga ½-½

Sax-Almási ½-½
Ruck-Gyimesi ½-½
Portisch-Ács ½-½

But round 8 proved to be much livelier. It turned out to be a 'black' day for White:

A. Horváth – Ács 0-1
Gyimesi-Portisch 0-1
Almási-Ruck ½-½
Varga-Sax ½-½
Cao-Berkes 0-1

Standings after 8 rounds:

1. Zoltan Almasi (2676) – 6½ points;
2-3. Lajos Portisch (2583) and Robert Ruck (2569) – 5 points;
4. Sax (2511) – 4½ points;
5. Berkes (2578) – 4 points;
6-7. Gyimesi (2567) and Acs (2600) – 3½ points;
8-9. Varga (2533) and Cao (2531) – 3 points;
10. Adam Horvath (2503) – 2 points.

See games from rounds 7 and 8 in our database.

Galway Open.

Yours truly was lucky enough to win the first prize (500 euros) in a small (46 players) open tournament in the west of Ireland, which took place on 17-18 May. It was a very pleasant event, sponsored by HP, and I played a number of good games there. I will show one of them today. Results:

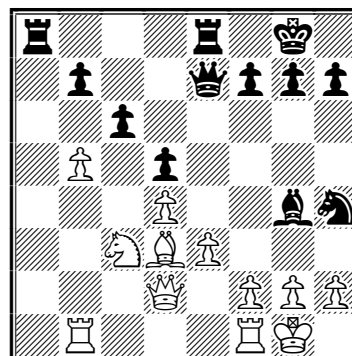
1. Alex Baburin – 5 points out of 5;
2. Paul Walsh – 4½ points;
3-5. Yuri Rochev, Richard O'Donovan and Rory Quinn – 3 points; etc.

Hawk Eye of Chess Today

Those Chess Today readers who are frequent visitors to [ICC](http://www.icc.com) would know that **Hawkeye** is handle of German GM Roland Schmaltz, who excels in bullet chess (one minute per game each).

However, if we had to choose a reader

with super vision, I would certainly nominate IM John Donaldson (Berkeley, USA). A while ago he spotted something special about the following position:



White to play

It arose in the game Grabarczyk-Jakubowski (see CT-898) after the following moves: 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♟f3 ♟f6 4.♞c3 ♞e7 5.♞g5 0-0 6.e3 ♟bd7 7.cxd5 exd5 8.♞c2 ♞e8 9.♞d3 ♟f8 10.0-0 c6 11.♞ab1 a6 12.b4 ♟e4 13.♞xe7 ♞xe7 14.a4 ♟g6 15.b5 axb5 16.axb5 ♞g4 17.♞d2? ♟xd2 18.♞xd2 ♟h4!. Black won the game after 19.♞e2 ♞h3! 20.g3 ♞f6! 21.♞d1 ♞xf1 22.♞xf1 ♟f3+ 23.♞g2 ♟g5 24.bxc6 bxc6 25.♞b6 g6!? 26.♟xd5? ♞d8! 0-1

As John Donaldson promptly pointed out, that game had a famous predecessor: Taimanov-Nezhmetdinov, Kiev, 1954, which went: 19.f3 ♞xe3+ 20.♞xe3 ♞xe3 21.fxg4 ♞xd3 22.bxc6 bxc6 23.♟e2 ♞d2 24.♞f2 h6 25.♞bf1 ♟g6 26.h3 f6 27.♟g3 ♞xd4 and Black was two pawns up. Despite that, he failed to win the game – Nezhmetdinov was not the best chess technician. However, he was a brilliant attacking player, who had positive score against Tal. If you would like to learn more about him, see excellent book *'Nezhmetdinov's Best Games of Chess'*, available at the GM Square [online shop](http://www.gmsquare.com).

Annotated Game

□ **A. Baburin (2558)**

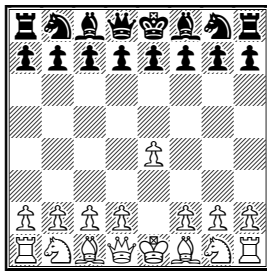
■ **D. O'Donoghue (1713)**

Event: *Galway Open (1), 17.05.2003*

Sicilian Defence; Kalashnikov Variation [B32]

Notes by GM Alex Baburin

1.e4 (D)



No, this is not a mistake in the game input! But if Kramnik can learn to play 1.e4, so can I! :-) But seriously, I just hoped that 800 rating points difference would help me to survive the damage done by my first move!

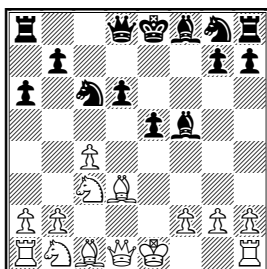
1...c5 2.♟f3 ♞c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♞xd4 e5 5.♞b5 d6

This is so-called Kalashnikov Variation, which is similar in structure to the Sveshnikov Variation. The important difference is that here Black allows c2-c4, but can in his turn activate his f8-bishop via e7 and g5 (the knight is not on f6 yet!). By the way, what a load of crap that name (Kalashnikov) is – if UK chess publishers will have their way, soon we will have UZI Variation and Browning System! :-)

6.c4 a6

I guess this is inaccurate and 6...♞e7 7.♞1c3 a6 8.♞a3 should have been preferred. See more on this subject in the book 'Sicilian Kalashnikov' by Jan Pinski and Jacob Aagaard, available from GM Square [online shop](#).

7.♞5c3 f5 8.exf5 ♞xf5 9.♞d3 (D)



9...♞xd3?!

Now the white squares in Black's camp become rather weak. I would have played 9...♞e6.

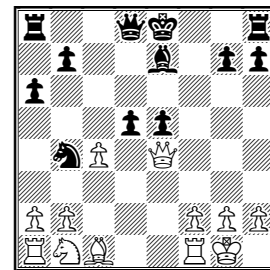
10.♟xd3 ♞f6 11.0-0 ♞e7 12.♞d5

Another example: 12.♞e3 0-0 13.♞d2 ♟e8 14.♞d5 ♞xd5 15.cxd5 ♞b8 16.♞ac1 ♞d7 17.♞c7 b6 18.♞e4 ♞c5 19.♞xc5 bxc5 20.♟h3 and White soon won in the game L. Bronstein-Perucca, Buenos Aires 1992.

12...♞xd5 13.♟xd5 ♞b4?!

I thought that Black should challenge the annoying d5-queen by 13...♟a5. Then after 14.♞c3 ♟xd5 15.♞xd5 White has an edge in the endgame, but game goes on.

14.♟e4 d5? (D)



Obviously, this is the point of Black's previous play – now 15.cxd5 ♟xd5 16.♞c3 ♟xe4 17.♞xe4 would be OK for his. But White can refute this idea:

15.♟xe5! ♞c2

After 15...0-0 16.♞c3 dxc4 17.♟e6+ Black is a pawn down with little compensation, but that was already the lesser evil. Now he has trapped the a1-rook, but at a very high cost:

16.♞c3!

This is far better than 16.♟xg7 ♞f6.

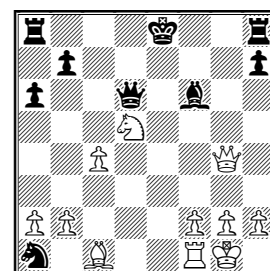
16...♟d6

Or 16...0-0 17.♞xd5 ♞xa1 18.♞xe7+ ♟h8 19.♞g5+-.

17.♟xg7 ♞f6 18.♟g4

Of course, White is also winning after 18.♟xb7 ♞b8 19.♟xd5 ♟xd5 20.♞xd5.

18...♞xa1 19.♞xd5 (D)



So, we have three pawns for a rook, the enemy king is stuck in the centre and his pieces are uncoordinated – all of this means that the end is near!

19...♙e5 20.♞e1 ♘c2 21.♜h5+ ♜d8 22.♞xe5 ♘b4 23.♙g5+ ♜c8 24.♞e8+ 1-0

Solution to our quiz:

Kozul–Radjabov: 43...♜f7!

44.♘xd6+ ♜xd6 45.♜g2 ♞h8

46.♜b3 ♜h2+ 47.♜f1 ♜h1+ 0-1

Contact information. Do you want to report a tournament or have a suggestion concerning Chess Today? E-mail us at ct@gmsquare.com. We always appreciate your comments and feedback!

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