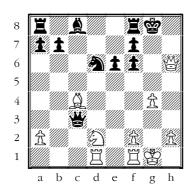
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#### **Test Yourself!**

**Yakovich(2525)-Steinbacher (2385)** Ostend Open, BEL (4), 1993



# On this Day...

The Russian Grandmaster Yuri Yakovich was born in Kuybyshev on 30 November 1962. His highest ELO so far has been 2610, achieved by him in 1997.



# **World Chess News**

# Women's World Ch. Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

Antoaneta Stefanova managed to equalise the score by defeating Anna Ushenina in the, must-win, for the Bulgarian, 4th and last long control game. (See our Annotated Game).

#### Final. Game 4

Stefanova - Ushenina 1-0

The score is 2-2. The fate of the crown will be decided on the 1st of December in a 2-game rapid tiebreak match.

Official website

#### **Tashkent Grand Prix**

In round 8 Fabiano Caruana and Sergey Karjakin drew their game (see the Informator–style notes in our game database) and continue to share the lead in the tournament.

Peter Leko's good win with Black over Gata Kamsky turned out to be the only decisive game of the round.

#### Round 8 results:

Caruana – Karjakin ½–½ Mamedyarov – Ponomariov ½–½ Morozevich – Wang Hao ½–½ Svidler – Kasimdzhanov ½–½ Gelfand – Dominguez ½–½ Kamsky – Leko 0–1

## Standings after 8 rounds:

1-2. Caruana and Karjakin - 5, 3-6. Mamedyarov, Kasimdzhanov, Leko and Morozevich - 4½, 7-9. Ponomariov, Svidler and Wang Hao - 4, 10. Gelfand - 3, 11-12. Kamsky and Dominguez - 2½.

The next round will be played on December 2.

Official website

## **Kostic Memorial, Vrsac**

#### Final standings:

**1.** GM Svetushkin (MDA, 2589) – 7½/10,

2. GM Cvitan (CRO, 2535) - 6,

3–4. GMs Sedlak (SRB, 2572) and Nikolic (BIH, 2650) – 5,

5. GM Ki.Georgiev (BUL, 2660) - 41/2,

6. GM Bogosavljevic (SRB, 2524) - 2.

Official website

# Commonwealth Ch. Chennai

## Round 11 top pairings:

Tiviakov (8½) – Narayanan (8½) Lalith (8½) – Karthikeyan (8½)

**Chess-Results** 

# The 2nd Odessa Chess TV Program

by GM Mikhail Golubev

The second chess TV program by TRC Krug (November 30) can be <u>viewed</u> on Youtube. The main story is the interview with GM Natalia Zhukova who returned to Odessa from the Khanty–Mansiysk women's world championship. In the beginning of the program, three attractive combinations from Zhukova's past games are examined by the program's host FM Ivan Yurkovskiy and his pupil, the young Odessa player. The program is in the Russian language.

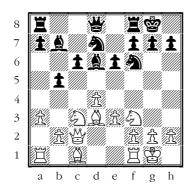
# **Annotated Game**

by GM Mikhail Golubev

# Stefanova(2491) – Ushenina (2452)

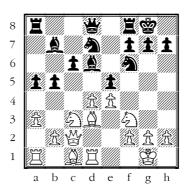
Women's World Ch. Khanty-Mansiysk (4), 2012; *Semi-Slav*; [D46]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.公c3 公f6 4.e3 e6 5.公f3 公bd7 6.營c2 虽d6 7.虽d3 0-0 8.0-0 dxc4 9.虽xc4 b5 10.虽d3 虽b7 11.a3 (D)



**11...a5** The most popular move is 11...a6

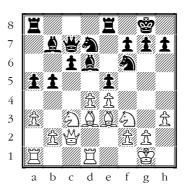
#### 12.e4 e5 13. 互d1!? (D)



Instead of the common, for this particular position, exchange on e5, White just develops a rook. Stefanova had already played like this in the championship.

#### 13...∯c7

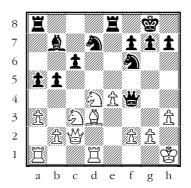
In round 4 game Stefanova-Sebag there was 13... \(\mathbb{Z}\)c8 14.h3!\(\mathbb{N}\)\(\mathbb{D}\)e7 14.h3 \(\mathbb{Z}\)fe8 15.\(\mathbb{Q}\)e3 (D)



### 15...exd4

GM Korobov, who helps Ushenina during the championship (as she revealed after her win in the semifinals), had tried 15... \(\text{\subseteq}\) ac8 against Bacrot in Warsaw 2011 at the European rapid championship.

16.\(\text{\subseteq}\) xd4 \(\text{\subseteq}\) h2+N The immediate 16... \(\text{\subseteq}\) f4 17.\(\text{\subseteq}\) xf4 \(\text{\subseteq}\) xf4 18.\(\text{\subseteq}\) ce2 and now 18...\(\text{\subseteq}\) d6\(\text{\subseteq}\) had occurred in Jakovenko-Grachev, Tyumen 2012.



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17. \$\disph1 \displass f4 18. \displass xf4 \displass xf4 (D)

#### 19.**②ce2!**±

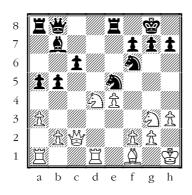
Without knowing what exactly Ushenina had prepared, it is hard to judge what's happened, but White's position seems to be promising. 19... \*b8!?

An important line was 19... 學xf2 20. 量f1 營e3 21. 置f3! 營g5 22. 包f5 包h5 (otherwise 置g3) 23. 包d6 包e5 24. 置f5 包g3+25. ②xg3 營xg3 = and here White has to decide whether she has to take on e5 (and then on b7) or on e8. 20. ②g3!?

20.②xc6?! would have allowed 20...②xc6 21.৺xc6 ②e5 22.৺xb5 ②xd3 23.৺xd3 ③xe4 ≈ attacking both f2 and b2 pawns simultaneously. **20...②e5** 

Black could have preferred 20... ₩e5. Or even back, 20... ₩f4!?

#### $21. \triangle f1 \rightarrow (D)$

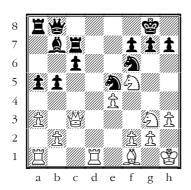


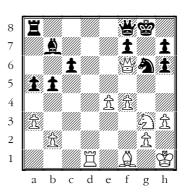
Black is under pressure, but nothing is decided yet. However, now Ushenina makes just a bad move.

#### 21... 宣c8? 22. 公df5 宣c7?

A very strange manoeuvre, to put it mildly. More stubborn would have been to return the rook to e8 (but who is able to play like this?).

## 23.\degree c3!+- (D)



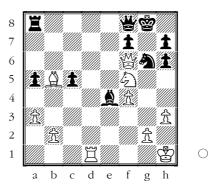


#### 28.**公f**5

An easy win was 28.\begin{aligned}
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Here 29.\(\beta\)d7 and if 29...\(\beta\)xe4 30.\(\beta\)xf7! would have been good enough. **29...\(\beta\)xe4 (D)** 

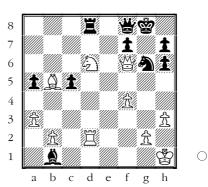


#### 30.**公d**6?±

Finally, Stefanova makes her task much more complicated. 30.2g3!+-would have preserved a totally dominating position.

#### 

Here Black had to retreat the bishop to a8. Her mistake made possible a nice winning combination by White. **31... \( \Db1? (D)** 



#### 32.**公xf**7!!

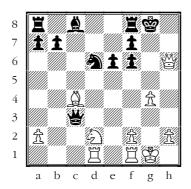
It is pity that there is almost no chance to see such beauty in the men's world championship final.

#### 

And Black resigned because of 33. \( \) \(

# **Solution to Our Quiz:**

Yakovich(2525)-Steinbacher (2385) Ostend Open BEL (4), 1993



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**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.

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