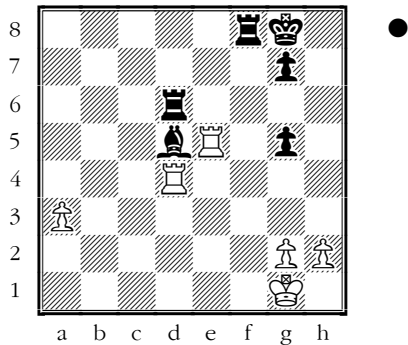
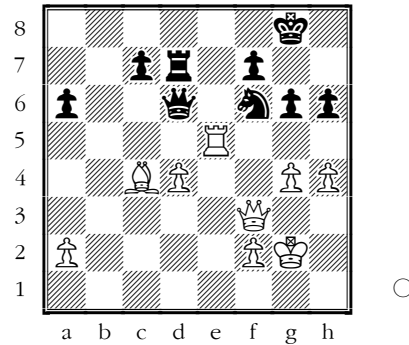


**Test Yourself!**

**Li Shilong (2557) – Wang Hao(2696)**  
China Ch Xinghua Jiangsu, 01.06.2009



**Grandelius (2491) – Berg (2610)**  
Sigeman & Co (4), Malmo, 06.06.2009

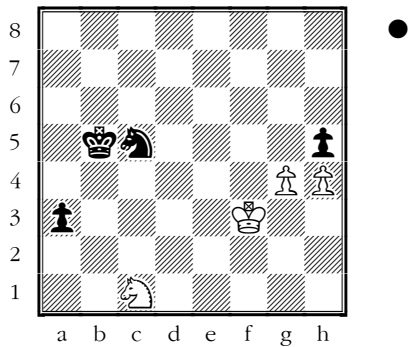


**On This Day...**

by GM Alex Baburin

**Wang Hao (2696) – Liang Chong (2511)**, China Ch, Xinghua Jiangsu (11), 06.06.2009

Ukrainian GM Ruslan Pogorelov turns 50 today.



**World Chess News**

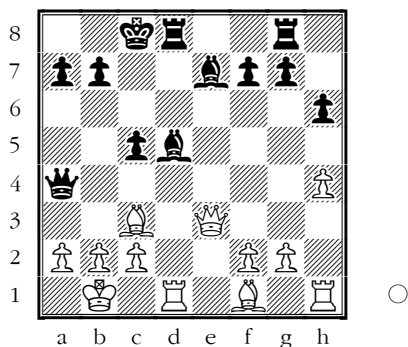
**Chinese Championships**

The Chinese Championships took place in Xinghua Jiangsu between the 26th May and the 6th of June 2009.

**Li Chao (2643) – Bu Xiangzhi (2704)**  
China Ch Xinghua Jiangsu, 02.06.2009

**Main Ch, final standings:**

1. Ding Liren (2458)– 8½/11
2. GM Wang Hao (2696) – 8
3. GM Bu Xiangzhi (2704) – 7
4. GM Zhou Weiqi (2563) – 6½
- 5–6. GMs Li Chao (2643) and Ni Hua (2724) – 6, etc.



I'd like to quote Mark Crowther of [TWIC](#): "Liren Ding won the championship after long time leader Wang Hao lost in the final round. However the story is more dramatic than that. Ding won his final round game by default after his opponent arrived late, I can't even imagine what impact this had on Wang's frame of mind. This follows the round 8 default where Hou Yifan arrived 5 seconds

Assess 18. ♖xe7

late against Liang Chong. I can't begin to say how idiotic these new FIDE regulations are."

### **Ladies' Ch, final standings:**

1. WGM Shen Yang (2420) – 9/11
2. GM Zhao Xue (2531) – 8½
3. Tan Zhongyi (2436) – 8
4. WIM Zhang Xiaowen (2340) – 7, etc

You can find all games from the Chinese championships in our database today. [Official website](#)

## **Lublin, Poland**

This close tournament concluded yesterday. You can find all games from that event in our database today.

### **Final Standings:**

1. GM Grachev (RUS, 2652) – 6/9
- 2–3. GMs Roiz (ISR, 2635) and Wojtaszek (POL, 2630) – 5½
4. GM B. Socko (POL, 2637) – 5
5. GM S. Zhigalko (BLR, 2622) – 4½
- 6–9. GMs Khenkin (GER, 2630), Dziuba (POL, 2535), Gajewski (POL, 2571) and Bartel (POL, 2601) – 4
10. GM Malakhatko (BEL, 2618) – 2½.

[Official website](#)

## **Guillermo Garcia Memorial**

This closed [tournament](#) finished in Cuba yesterday.

### **Final Standings:**

1. Fidel Corrales – 6/8
2. Emilio Cordova – 5
- 3–4. Holden Hernandez and Lazaro Bruzon – 4½, etc.

## **10th Karpov tournament in Poikovsky, Russia**

### **Round 4 results:**

Inarkiev – Naiditsch 1–0  
Sutovsky – Motylev 0–1  
Efimenko – Rublevsky 1–0  
Onischuk – Bologan ½–½  
Shirov – Gashimov 0–1

### **Standings after 4 rounds:**

- 1–2. Gashimov (2730) and Motylev (2677) – 3½
3. Inarkiev (2676) – 3
4. Naiditsch (2700) – 2½
- 5–6. Bologan (2690) and Sutovsky (2660) – 2
7. Efimenko (2682) – 1½
- 8–9. Rublevsky (2702) and Onischuk (2684) – 1
10. Shirov (2745) – 0.

[Official website](#) (in Russian).

## **Sigeman & Co., Malmo**

### **Round 4 results:**

Short – Hillarp Persson ½–½  
Grandelius – Berg 1–0  
Nyback – I. Sokolov ½–½

### **Standings before the last round:**

1. Short (ENG, 2674) – 3½/4
- 2–3. I. Sokolov (NED 2669) and IM Grandelius (SWE, 2491) – 2½
4. Nyback (FIN, 2655) – 1½
- 5–6. Hillarp Persson (SWE, 2618) and Berg (SWE, 2610) – 1

[Official website](#)

## **39th Capablanca Memorial**

This category XVI tournament (average rating – 2657) starts at the Pan American Hotel in Havana today.

The players are:

- Leinier Dominguez (Cuba, 2721)
- Artyon Timofeev (Russia, 2677)
- Boris Savchenko (Russia, 2655)
- Geor Meier (Germany, 2641)
- Igor Khenkin (Germany, 2630)
- Lazaro Bruzon (Cuba, 2617)

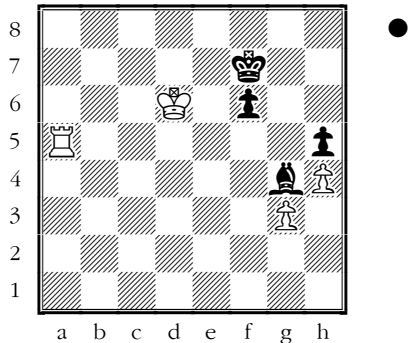
[Official website](#)

## **XXII Leon Tournament**

In the second semi-final match Magnus Carlsen (Norway, 2770) beat Wang Yue (China, 2738) 3½–2½ and will now face Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine, 2751) in the final.

Wang Yue took an early lead after winning game 2, but Carlsen levelled the score in game 3 and finally prevailed in blitz. An endgame position from game 1 is worth mentioning:

**Carlsen (2770) – Wang Yue (2738)**  
XXII Rapid KO Leon (1.1), 06.06.2009



This is a fortress – White can't get his king close to the f-pawn.

[Official website](#)

**Leko vs. Anand**

In game 5 Vishy Anand again opted for the Gruenfeld Defence. For a while the players repeated game 4, which my colleague GM Mikhail Golubev annotated in CT-3132, but Anand deviated from it on move 11. After interesting fight he scored a second victory in this match. Anand also stood better in game 6, but Leko saved the endgame. Anand is now leading 4-2.

[Official website](#)

**Press-release**

**Elementary School Kids in North Carolina Play Live Match with Australian Kids**

*Chess eXpress Ratings* (CXR) teamed up with *Chess Kids* (the biggest scholastic chess organization "down under") to organize a friendly chess match. What was unusual about the match was that half the players were in Rutherford County, North Carolina, and their opponents were in Melbourne, Australia! Students from

Ellenboro Elementary School in North Carolina used their school's computer lab to connect, via the world-wide web, with their counterparts across the globe for this live match

One of the oddities of the match was that the players were 14 time zones apart! The American children were playing on Wednesday evening, June 3, starting at 6:00 PM. But the Australian chess kids were playing on Thursday morning, June 4, at 8:00 AM, before school! Crikey!!

Some of the parameters of the match were:

- each team fielded 10 boards (plus alternates)
- time control was game in 20 minutes (sudden death)
- tournament officials on each side ensured proper conduct of the match
- Video hook-up via Skype connected the two locations allowing the kids to greet each other
- Games will be CXR-rated and all players will receive 1 year of premium CXR service

CXR founder Russ Mollot stated that *Chess Kids* and *CXR* hope to hold several additional intercontinental matches in the near future "to bring this synergy of chess and computer technology to more youngsters in more states. We are looking for more candidates to participate in this ground-breaking project."

June 4, 2009. For any additional information, email: [info@cxrchess.com](mailto:info@cxrchess.com)

**Annotated Game**

by GM Alex Baburin

Today I'd like to show a short draw I made against my friend Sam Collins in the Nagoya Open. This game may appear boring, but there was something hidden beneath the surface...

*This issue is prepared by GM Alex Baburin; technical editor: Ralph Marconi*

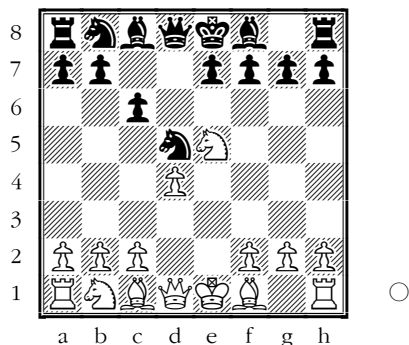
*Subscription is 15 euro for 3 months. For further details please refer to <http://www.chesstoday.net>*

## Collins (2429) – Baburin (2541)

Nagoya Open (2), 23.05.2009

The Alekhine Defence – [B04]

1.e4  $\Delta$ f6 2.e5  $\Delta$ d5 3.d4 d6 4. $\Delta$ f3  
dxe5 5. $\Delta$ xe5 c6 (D)

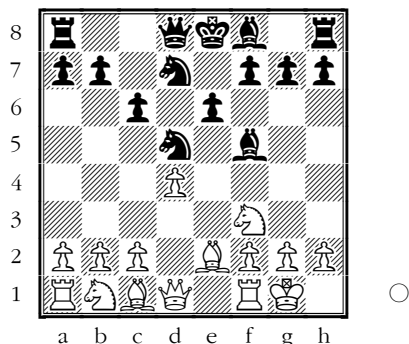


Currently this is Black's most popular system against the Main Variation (4. $\Delta$ f3). It makes sense to support the d5-knight as White has  $\text{♞f3}$  ideas, etc. One important point about this line is that the hasty 6.c4? gives Black an easy game: 6... $\Delta$ b4 7. $\Delta$ e3  $\Delta$ f5 8. $\Delta$ d3? (8. $\Delta$ a3) 8...e5!. I won three games with Black from this position. Try to be in such a great shape after 8 moves in the Najdorf! ☺

6. $\Delta$ e2  $\Delta$ f5 7.0-0

The principled line here is probably 7.g4, for example: 7... $\Delta$ e6 8.c4  $\Delta$ b6 9.b3 f6 10. $\Delta$ d3  $\text{♞xd4}$  11. $\Delta$ b2  $\text{♞d8}$  12. $\Delta$ c3  $\Delta$ a6∞ Kasparov – Short, Moscow 2002.

7... $\Delta$ d7 8. $\Delta$ f3 e6 (D)



9.c4

White can prepare c2-c4 with 9.a3. After 9... $\Delta$ e7 10.c4  $\Delta$ 5f6 11. $\Delta$ c3 h6 12. $\Delta$ f4 0-0 13.d5 exd5 14.cxd5  $\Delta$ xd5 15. $\Delta$ xd5 cxd5 16. $\text{♞xd5}$   $\Delta$ e6 17. $\text{♞xb7}±$  White eventually won in the game Rublevsky – Carlsen, Moscow 2007. But I think that Black should be fine after the standard move 9...b5!?

9... $\Delta$ b4

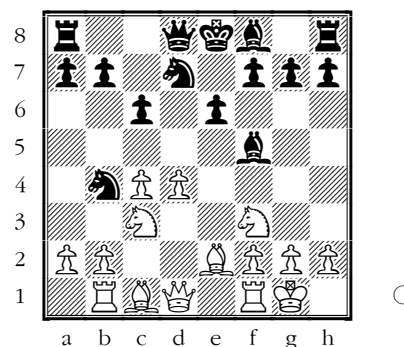
Black can opt for 9... $\Delta$ 5f6, but to me this looks like a concession. White should be better here. One example: 10. $\Delta$ c3  $\Delta$ b4 11. $\Delta$ f4  $\Delta$ xc3 12.bxc3 0-0 13. $\text{♞b3}$   $\text{♞c8}$  14. $\Delta$ h4  $\Delta$ g4 15.f3  $\Delta$ h5 16.g4  $\Delta$ g6 17. $\Delta$ d6  $\text{♞d8}$  18. $\Delta$ xg6 hxg6 19.g5  $\Delta$ e8 20. $\Delta$ e7  $\text{♞c7}$  21. $\Delta$ xd8  $\text{♞xd8}$  22.f4± Shashikant – Short, Nagpur 2008.

10. $\Delta$ c3

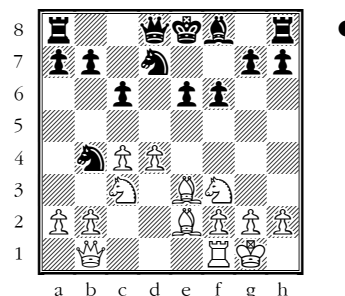
Black was absolutely fine after 10. $\Delta$ a3  $\Delta$ e7 11. $\Delta$ d2 0-0 12. $\Delta$ c3 a5 13. $\text{♞b3}!$  b6 in the game Kostenko – Dergilev, Tomsk 2006.

Things get really heated after 10.a3!?  $\Delta$ c2 11. $\text{♞a2}$  c5! (Black should avoid 11... $\Delta$ xd4? 12. $\text{♞xd4}$  c5 13. $\text{♞c3}$   $\Delta$ xb1 14. $\Delta$ g5 f6 15. $\text{♞xb1}$  fxc5 16. $\text{♞e3}±$  Carlsen – Madsen, Trondheim 2004.) 12.d5 e5 (12... $\Delta$ d4 13. $\Delta$ xd4 cxd4 14.dxe6 fxe6 15. $\Delta$ d3  $\Delta$ xd3 16. $\text{♞xd3}$   $\Delta$ c5 17. $\text{♞e2}∞$  Ramesh – Grunberg, Olomouc 2004.) 13. $\Delta$ g5  $\Delta$ e7 14. $\Delta$ xe7  $\text{♞xe7}$  15. $\Delta$ d3  $\Delta$ xd3 16. $\text{♞xd3}$   $\Delta$ d4∞ Vogt – Loeffler, Austria 2002.

10... $\Delta$ c2 11. $\text{♞b1}$   $\Delta$ b4 (D)



Can White avoid a draw here? I had a feeling that he should be able to do so – after all, he did not do anything wrong ( $\Delta$ e2, 0-0,  $\Delta$ f3, c2-c4,  $\Delta$ c3), did he? But I could not see any reasonable way for White to fight on – and neither could Sam. Curiously, both Fritz 11 and Rybka see it! White had to play 12. $\Delta$ g5 f6 13. $\Delta$ e3  $\Delta$ xb1 14. $\text{♞xb1}$  (D)

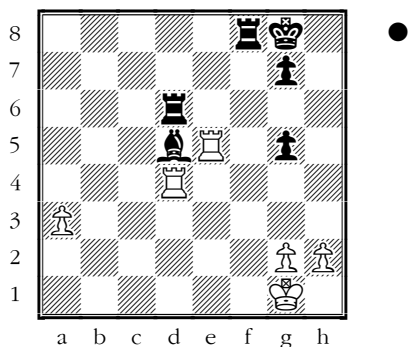


OK, White is an exchange down, but all his pieces are mobilized, while Black still need to play ...♙e7 and castle. The e6-pawn is weak and so is Black's kingside. White is going to play a2-a3 and after ...♗b4-a6 he can choose between b2-b4 and d4-d5!. All in all, White has great compensation for the exchange, but what really impressed me is that computers found this idea - clearly they are no longer just 'bean counters'!

**12.♙a1 ♗c2 13.♙b1 ♗b4 1/2-1/2.**

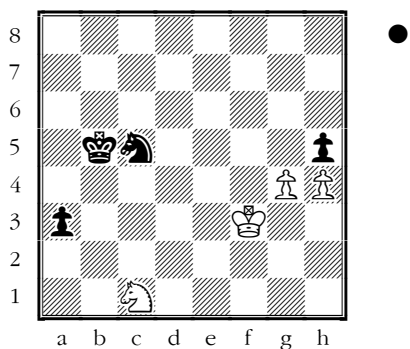
**Solutions to our Quiz:**

**Li Shilong (2557) - Wang Hao(2696)**  
China Ch Xinghua Jiangsu, 01.06.2009



**35...♙c4! 0-1.**

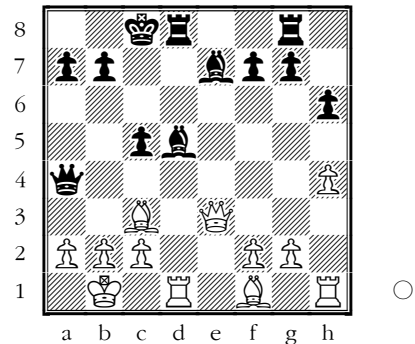
**Wang Hao (2696) - Liang Chong (2511),** China Ch, Xinghua Jiangsu (11), 06.06.2009



**63...♗d3!+- 64.♗a2 ♗e5+ 65.♙f4 ♗xg4 66.♙g5 ♙c4 67.♙xh5 ♗e5 68.♙h6 ♙b3 0-1.**

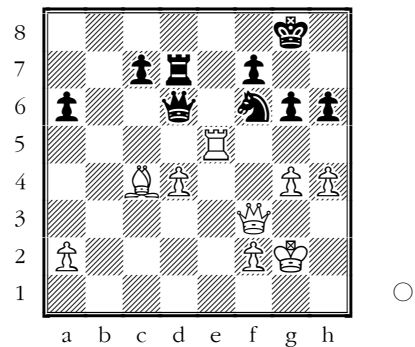


**Li Chao (2643) - Bu Xiangzhi (2704)**  
China Ch Xinghua Jiangsu, 02.06.2009



White had to play 18.b3 ♙c6 19.♙d3±. The game went **18.♙xe7?? ♙xa2+ 19.♙c1 ♙a1+ 20.♙d2 ♙xd1+ 0-1.**

**Grandelius (2491) - Berg (2610)**  
Sigeman & Co (4), Malmo, 06.06.2009



**26.♙e6! ♙e7□ 27.♙xf6 ♙xe6 28.♙xe6 ♙xe6 29.♙xe6 ♙xe6 30.♙f3 ♙f7 31.♙f4+- ♙f6 32.a3 a5 33.g5+ hxg5+ 34.hxg5+ ♙e7 35.♙e5 a4 36.d5 exd5 37.♙xd5 ♙d7 38.♙c5 ♙e6 39.♙b4 ♙d5 40.♙xa4 ♙e4 (or 40...♙c4 41.f4+-) 41.♙b5 ♙d5 42.a4 c6+ 43.♙b6 1-0.**

**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](mailto:ababurin@iol.ie) Website: <http://www.chesstoday.net> Editors: GMs Baburin, Scherbakov and Golubev, IMs Barskij and Notkin. Technical editors: Graham Brown and Ralph Marconi.

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