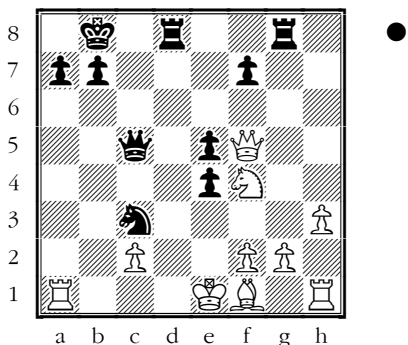


Test Yourself!



World Chess News

Wang Jue (2394) – Kacheishvili (2578) North American Open 2013



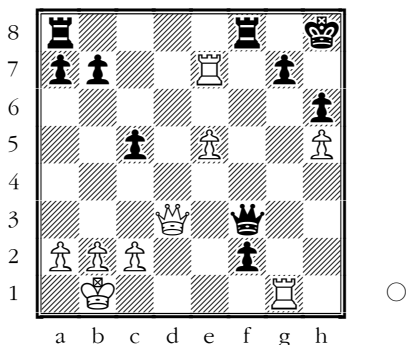
Basel Schachfestival

After the Christmas tournament in Zurich, many of its participants moved to Basel, making it a very strong tournament. It took place from the 1st to the 5th of January.

Final standings:

1. GM Wojtaszek (POL, 2711) – 6/7,
2-7. GMs I. Popov (RUS, 2644), Van Kampen (NED, 2601), Fier (BRA, 2572), Popilski (ISR, 2490), Grachev (RUS, 2669) and Sethuraman (IND, 2553) – 5½, etc (114 players)

McShane (2592) – Gustavsson (2573) Kuppenheim op g/5 (52), 2003



[Official website](#)

Bay Area International

Standings before the last rounds:

1-3. GMs Kovalyov (2617), Shankland (2602) and Macieja (2583) – 6/8, etc (74 players)

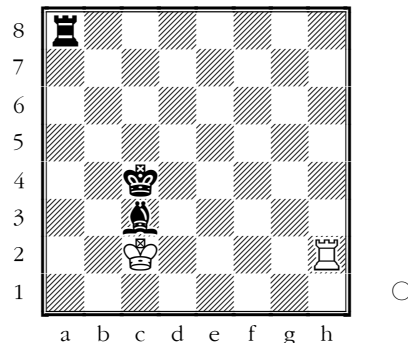
The following endgame shows how important it is to know theoretical endgames:

On This Day

by GM Alex Baburin

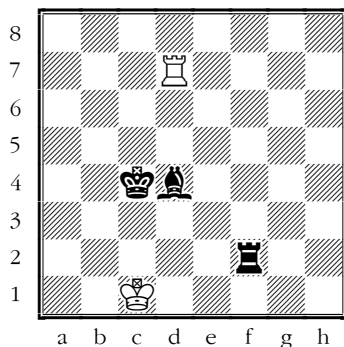
English GM Luke McShane was born on the 7th of January 1984. With his current [rating](#) of 2684, he is the No 2 player in England and No 59 in the world. His best rating so far was 2713 (July 2013).

Banik (2002) – Da. Gurevich (2272)
Bay Area International (7), 06.01.2014



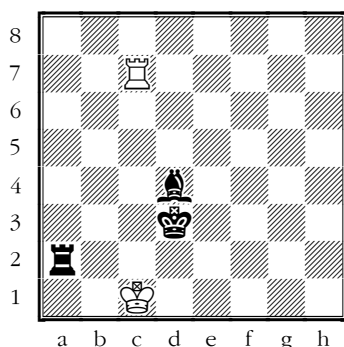
Black had only 23 moves to checkmate the white king – an impossible task, if White defended correctly. Here he could use the "second rank defence" – 98.♖e2!.

98. ♖h4+ ♘d4 99. ♖h3 ♖a2+
 100. ♗d1 ♘c3 101. ♖h7 ♖d2+
 102. ♗c1 ♖f2 103. ♖d7 ♘d4 (D)



104. ♖c7+? Only 104. ♖h7! would still keep the balance.

104... ♗d3 105. ♗b1 ♖b2+ 106. ♗c1 ♖a2 (D)



107. ♖b7?

It was better to play 107. ♗d1! ♖f2 108. ♖e7 ♖g2 109. ♖e8 ♖b2 110. ♖c8 ♘b6 111. ♖c6 (111. ♗c1?! ♖b5 112. ♗d1 ♖f5 113. ♗c1 ♘d4 114. ♗b1 ♖a5) 111... ♘e3 112. ♖d6+ ♘d4 113. ♖c6 ♖d2+ 114. ♗c1 ♖f2 115. ♗b1 ♖b2+ 116. ♗c1 ♖b5 117. ♖d6 ♖a5.

107... ♖g2 108. ♗b1 ♖g1+ 109. ♗a2 ♖a1+ 0-1

[Official website](#)

North American Open

This tournament took place in Las Vegas on 26–30 December 2013.

Final standings:

1–8. GMs Kacheishvili (2578), Wei Yi (2604), Erenburg (2625), Gareev (2650), Shimanov (2650), Akobian (2625), Lenderman (2549) and IM Wang Chen (2503) – 6½, (78 players)

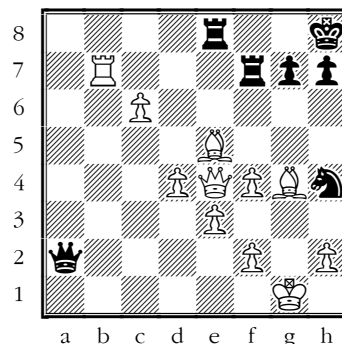
[Official website](#)



Beware: Blunder!

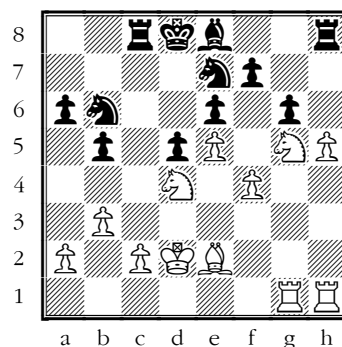
by GM Alex Baburin

D. Berczes (2519) – Friedel (2490)
 Bay Area International (7), 06.01.2014



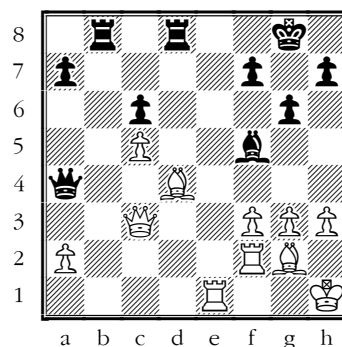
White is clearly winning, but the Hungarian GM made a horrible blunder: 35. ♖xf7?? ♗a1+ 0-1

Gomez Camacho (1898) –
 Assaubayeva (1974) WYCC U16 Girls
 Al-Ain (8), 24.12.2013



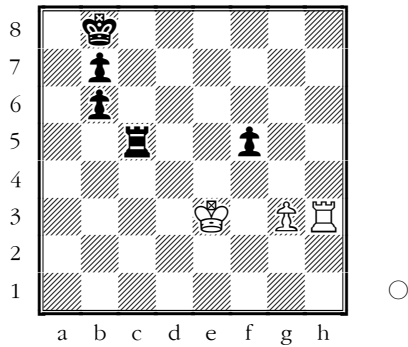
Black is lost, but she sped up her demise: 23... ♘d7?? 24. ♘dxe6+! 1-0

Igambergenov (2323) – Dolnak
 (2164) WYCC U18 Open Al-Ain 2013



Black chose the wrong way to capture on d4: 35... ♗xd4?? 36. ♖e8+! 1-0

Foo (2144) – Lamard (2288)
 WYCC U16 Open Al-Ain (4), 2013



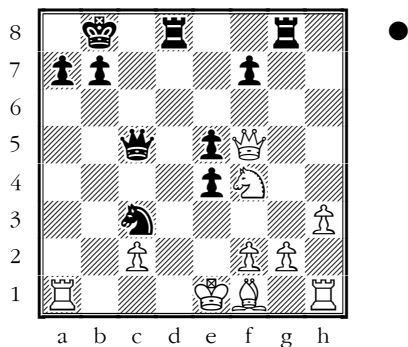
White would have good chances to save the game after 38.♔d4, but he blundered – **38.♖h5?? ♜f4+! 0-1**

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. E-mail: ababurin@iol.ie Website: <http://www.chesstoday.net> Editors: GMs Baburin, Scherbakov and Golubev. Technical editors: Graham Brown, Ivan Baburin and Ralph Marconi.

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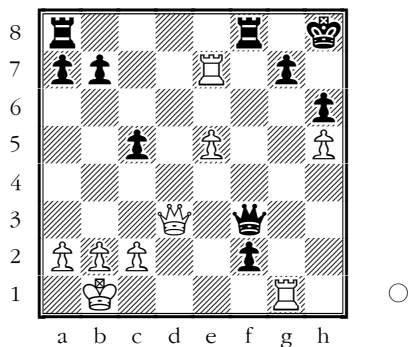
Solutions to our Quiz:

Wang Jue (2394) – Kacheishvili (2578) North American Open 2013



24...♙a5! 0-1

McShane (2592) – Gustavsson (2573) Kuppenheim op g/5 (52), 2003



27.♙h7+!! ♜xh7 28.♖g7+ ♜h8 29.♖h7+ ♜g8 30.♖eg7# 1-0