CARLSEN RETAINS WORLD TITLE

- Carlsen - Anand World Championship Report
- Pit your wits against our Quiz of the Year
- John Saunders on the great Sammy Reshevsky
Contents

Editorial.................................................................................................................4
Malcolm Pein on the latest developments

Still the King ..........................................................................................................8
Anand fought well, but Carlsen ultimately prevailed in Sochi

A New Season .....................................................................................................18
The 4NCL returned to action and Guildford to winning ways

Gormally’s Gems .................................................................................................26
Danny Gormally presents two instructive game from his travels

The Queen is Dead, Long Live the Queen.........................................................28
Gary Ruddick previews the new no.1 female player, Hou Yifan

Quiz of the Year ..................................................................................................30
From relatively simple to fiendishly difficult – how well will you fare?

Forthcoming Events ...........................................................................................33
Where will you be playing in the new year?

60 Seconds with... ...............................................................................................34
Grandmaster and acclaimed author John Nunn

How Good is Your Chess? ..................................................................................35
Did you know that Daniel King’s column was popular in Iran?

Find the Winning Moves ....................................................................................38
Outwit the grandmasters and improve your tactical ability

Readers’ Letters ..................................................................................................41

Never Mind the Grandmasters............................................................................42
Carl Portman on the cobra and the python

Sammy Reshevsky ..............................................................................................44
John Saunders looks at a great player and controversial character

Back to Basics: The Philidor Position ...............................................................48
Nick Ivell explains more important endgame principles

Opening Trends ..................................................................................................49
The Reti scored an impressive return to the top spot

Overseas News ....................................................................................................50
Samuel Sevian has become the youngest-ever American GM

Home News .........................................................................................................52
Chess is on the rise once again in the north west

Solutions ...............................................................................................................54

New Books and Software ...................................................................................55
Sean Marsh looks at works by Dworaksky and on the Najdorf

Saunders on Chess .............................................................................................58
John delves into his burgeoning postbag

Solutions

Chess

Founding Editor: B.H. Wood, OBE. M.Sc †
Executive Editor: Malcolm Pein
Editors: Richard Palliser, Matt Read
Associate Editor: John Saunders
Subscriptions Manager: Paul Harrington

Twitter: @CHESS_Magazine
Twitter: @TelegraphChess - Malcolm Pein
Website: www.chess.co.uk

Subscription Rates:

United Kingdom
1 year (12 issues) £49.95
2 year (24 issues) £89.95
3 year (36 issues) £125

Europe
1 year (12 issues) £60
2 year (24 issues) £112.50
3 year (36 issues) £165

USA & Canada
1 year (12 issues) $90
2 year (24 issues) $170
3 year (36 issues) $250

Rest of World (Airmail)
1 year (12 issues) £72
2 year (24 issues) £130
3 year (36 issues) £180

Distributed by:
Post Scriptum (UK only),
Unit G, OYO Business Park, Hindmans Way,
Dagenham, RM9 6LN – Tel: 020 48526 7779

LMPi (North America)
8155 Larrey Street, Montreal (Quebec),
H1J 2L5, Canada – Tel: 514 355-5610

Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors. Contributions to
the magazine will be published at the Editors’
discretion and may be shortened if space is limited.
No parts of this publication may be reproduced
without the prior express permission of the publishers.

All rights reserved. © 2014

Chess Magazine (ISSN 0964–6221) is published by:
Chess & Bridge Ltd, 44 Baker St, London, W1U 7RT
Tel: 020 7288 1305 Fax: 020 7486 7015
Email: info@chess.co.uk, Website: www.chess.co.uk

FRONT COVER:
Cover Design: Matt Read
Cover Photography: Vladimir Barsky

US & Canadian Readers – You can contact us via our
American branch – Chess4Less based in West Palm
Beach, FL. Call toll-free on 1-877 89CHESS (24377).
You can even order Subscriber Special Offers online
via www.chess4less.com

Printed in the UK by The Magazine Printing
Company using only paper from FSC/PEFC
suppliers www.magprint.co.uk

January 2015
The World Chess Championship did not disappoint. In the end, after the mutual chess blindness in Game 6 (see December’s CHESS), the match went the way it was generally predicted to. Carlsen maintained his one-point advantage and, at the crucial moment, it was the champion who managed to keep playing good moves in the 11th game, as John Cox shows in these pages. That win gave Carlsen the required 6½ points.

World Championship matches are all about controlling your nerves and maintaining your level of play at the crucial moment. In that 11th game, with time pressure approaching, Carlsen managed to find the manoeuvre of his king to e4, which held his position together and it was Anand who cracked.

Magnus now intends to play a lot of tournaments, including Wijk aan Zee, Zurich and possibly Baden-Baden, where Anand and Mickey Adams will play. I also look forward to him continuing to build his brand with publicity events, more work for fashion label G-Star RAW and promotional work for chess in schools.

Carlsen declined his invitation to the 6th London Chess Classic and as I write the event is just getting under way at Olympia. Vishy Anand agreed to play despite the proximity of the event to the finish of the world championship. A full report next month, but Adams started wonderfully by defeating world number two Fabiano Caruana in the first round.

We will have the eventful 73-move game in the next issue, but in the meantime a puzzle. Mickey sacrificed a piece and after he missed a clear win Caruana appeared to be better until the Italian suddenly started thinking. I suspect that from the position below he had previously intended to play 44...\f8 before realising that it loses. Can you see how?

It can’t have been easy for Vishy Anand to return to the board so soon after losing his match with Magnus, but he acquitted himself well enough in the Super Rapidplay at the London Chess Classic, losing only to speed king Nakamura.

Russell Picot and Vladimir Kramnik advanced smoothly through the Pro-Business Cup, but were left to rue being unable to convert an extra piece against Rajko Vujatovic and Anish Giri, Vujatovic’s blitz abilities proving decisive in the resulting play-off.
and wins, but not 36 \texttt{xd6}+ \texttt{xd6} 37 \texttt{g2 \texttt{d5}}! when Black would be better from a practical perspective.

35...hxg5 36 h6 gxf4 37 h7 \texttt{d3}!!

The only chance. Not surprisingly, Adair was unnerved by the fact that promoting the pawn is not an instant win.

38 \texttt{xf4}?

38 \texttt{e5}! \texttt{f3}+ 39 \texttt{e1} \texttt{f2} 40 \texttt{xf3}+ \texttt{e1} \texttt{h1}+ 45 \texttt{d2} f2 and White must force a perpetual.

38...\texttt{xf4} 39 \texttt{h4}

After 39 h8 \texttt{f3}+ 40 \texttt{e1} \texttt{d2}+ 41 \texttt{g2} \texttt{d2}+ 42 \texttt{e1}, but not 42 \texttt{h3}.

40...\texttt{g3}+!! 42 \texttt{h2} \texttt{f3} 43 \texttt{d5 f4 0-1}

Another high point was the appearance of the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson. Boris arrived to launch Yes2Chess, which is a project organised by Chess in Schools and Communities and supported by Barclaycard. Boris spoke completely off the cuff about chess and the CSC website has both his interview and speech on the stage at Olympia which were typically entertaining.

A couple of gems. Boris told the assembled 400 children to consider that they might be a lowly pawn in whatever company they work for, but to remember that you can be promoted. While I was trying to stop laughing he asked me "How many castles are there?" and "How pieces in total?". I answered four and 32 to which he responded: "Four castles between 32; that demonstrates there is a shortage of affordable housing in London, but we're working on it."

We were also delighted to welcome Sir Clive Woodward to the LCC and he partnered Gawain Jones in the Pro-Biz Cup where business people play tandem chess with GMs. Sir Clive did extremely well, considering that he is self-taught apart from one lesson with Gawain squeezed into his busy schedule. Indeed, congratulations to all the amateur players on the very high level of play.

The decisive blitz play-off game between representatives of HSBC and Merrill Lynch Bank of America.

R.Picot-R.Vujatovic
Pro-Biz Cup Blitz Play-off, London 2014
Queen’s Gambit Declined

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 \texttt{c3} \texttt{f6} 4 \texttt{xd5 exd5} 5 \texttt{g5 \texttt{e7} 6 e3 c6 7 \texttt{d3} 0-0} 8 \texttt{c2} \texttt{bd7} 9 \texttt{ge2 \texttt{e8} 10 0-0} \texttt{f8} 11 \texttt{f3} \texttt{h5} 12 \texttt{xe7 \texttt{xe7} 13 e4 \texttt{e6} 14 \texttt{e5} \texttt{g6}

\texttt{15 f4 \texttt{g7} 16 \texttt{g3} f5 17 \texttt{exf6 \texttt{xf6} 18 \texttt{w2} \texttt{f5} 19 \texttt{xf5 \texttt{xf5} 20 \texttt{xf5 \texttt{xf5} 21 \texttt{d1 \texttt{d7} 22 h3 h5} 23 \texttt{h1 \texttt{f7} 24 \texttt{f3 \texttt{xe1} 25 \texttt{xe1 \texttt{e8} 26 \texttt{xe8 \texttt{xe8} 27 \texttt{we3+ \texttt{f7} 28 \texttt{h2} h4 29 \texttt{f2} g5!}

Garry Kasparov also visited and signed copies of his latest book. A huge queue formed in the foyer as we awaited his arrival. First in line was a mum and baby who really took a shine to Garry despite waiting for an hour, during which time the little ‘un also behaved impeccably.

A full report on the festivities and the games next time. Until then I wish readers the best of the season or in the U.S., Happy Holidays.
Anand gave his supporters hope, but Carlsen ultimately prevailed in Sochi

It was a much better contest than their Chennai match, but the younger man and the one who enjoyed a 71-point rating advantage proved too good in Sochi. Carlsen suffered from a cold for much of the match and found his opponent in much better shape than a year earlier, but that didn't prevent the 23-year-old Norwegian from running out a 6½-4½ winner.

One of the key points of the match was Anand's use of the Berlin, and we're delighted to say that leading Berlin authority John Cox has annotated the decisive encounter.

Notes by IM John Cox

For me it was fascinating to be asked to annotate this game and see how the Berlin endgame's typical motifs have evolved since I wrote a book about it in 2008 (Ed. – The Berlin Wall is still in stock, retailing at £16.99). My experience since then has rather mirrored that of a team-mate who once told me grimly, and with an admirable grasp of modern chess realpolitik, that “once I've got a couple of games in the database I'll have a much better chance of winning.”

As I saw it, Anand's strength has never lain in patient endgame defence (tactical defence is another matter), and although like most of us he's got better at it as he got older, Carlsen is notoriously outstanding on the pressure side of such situations. Surely Anand's chances in this match, such as they were, lay in sharp middlegame situations and in catching Carlsen in preparation.

On that basis it really had to be the Najdorf; to be sure Carlsen made 3...b5+ look like a forced win in game ten of the Chennai match, but preparing that to be better than playing directly into Carlsen's biggest strength is a long time since I've known what he's doing better than I do. 4 0-0

Carlsen heads for the main line of the Berlin, the infamous semi-ending which some think is killing 1 e4, although I venture to predict that if Carlsen is ever going to take up the white side this view won't survive long. (I wonder, incidentally, if Carlsen is ever going to go 1 e4 against Kramnik? If he does and Vlad favours us with his Berlin, connoisseurs of this opening should see a contest for the ages.)

In game two Carlsen had played the move Kasparov wished he'd tried in 2000 and a mysterious opening resulted: 4 d3 c5 5 0-0 d6 (an interesting moment; the careless 5...0-0? 6...xe6 and 0xe5 must be avoided, but for many, many years it has been considered that the problem with White's move order is that after 6...xe6, as Lysyj and Ovetchkin explain in their excellent book on the opening, is that after 6...xe6 White's bishop-pair lives and perhaps he is a little better (anyway Svidler was able to inflict a rare Berlin defeat on Kramnik from this position), but rather can half the bishop-pair with 6...d4! 7...xe6 and 0xe6, and if 10...c4 then 10...a4! 11 b3 bxc6 12 b4 a4! again insists on the exchange. Incidentally, White also can't reach his target Svidler-Kramnik position with 5...c3 0-0 6...0-0 because of 6...xe4! 7...xe5 d6 8...f3 d4. But Magnus has something very different in mind. After 6...0-0 (the Giuoco idea of 6...d4? 7...xe6 bxc6 8...e2 0-0 9 h3...h6 just...
Discover
Two Great Champions
with the
move by move series

Cyrus Lakdawala
Carlsen move by move

Zenón Franco
Anand move by move

432 pages, RRP £19.99
OUR PRICE £15.99

374 pages, RRP £19.99
OUR PRICE £15.99

SPECIAL OFFER

To order call 020 7288 1305
or order online at www.chess.co.uk/shop

EVERYMAN CHESS

www.everymanchess.com
ChessBase 13 with Cloud and Turbo

New in ChessBase 13:

- The ChessBase Cloud makes it possible: with a simple login you are now able to make use of your databases from any computer and later also from any mobile device (via the browser, iOS or Android app). Set up your own repertoire and your own games in private space in our cloud. The cloud is particularly attractive for the preparation of training material or for preparing for your next competition or match. Even if your team-mates do not own a Windows-PC, you can provide them with their opponents’ games and with suggested lines of play. The only condition for access to the cloud is a ChessBase account.

- Optimise the performance of your engines with analysis tasks. First of all define which positions are to be analysed one after the other. Like this your engine will over a long period of time assemble independently and store for you in-depth analyses. For example, have your engines check an opening idea for you overnight and work things out in greater detail.

- White and Black games are like two different pairs of shoes. Therefore, logically, the improved repertoire function distinguishes between the repertoire for White and Black.

- Ergonomic operation:

- Easier analysis and annotation by a new series of buttons below the notation.
- Direct embedding of players’ photos and flags at the top of the notation.
- More efficient input of variations during analysis, new variations accepted without a request for confirmation.
- Closing of board during live broadcasts with a single click, and much more.

Endgame Turbo 4

Perfect end-game analysis and a huge increase in engine performance: Get it with the new Endgame Turbo 4!

Thanks to a new format the Endgame Turbo 4 is smaller, faster and yet has more scope. Four DVDs cover all five- and 27 of the most important six-piece-endgames and top engines such as Komodo 8 and Houdini 4 play these endgames perfectly. But they also play other endgames much better because they can access the perfect knowledge of the Endgame Turbo! A must have for everyone wanting to improve in the endgame, correspondence players, endgame theoreticians, and friends of engine matches!

£49.99

The new ChessBase 13 packages

ChessBase 13 - Starter Package:
- ChessBase 13 program
- Big Database 2015 (approx. 6 million games)
- Access to ChessBase Cloud and ChessBase Online Database (over 7 million games)
- Games download until 31st December 2015
- Subscription to ChessBase Magazine for half a year (5 issues DVD + booklet)
£149.95

ChessBase 13 - Mega Package:
- ChessBase 13 program
- Mega Database 2015 (approx. 6 million games, 68,000 with annotations)
- Access to ChessBase Cloud and ChessBase Online Database (over 7 million games)
- Games download until 31st December 2015
- Year’s Subscription to ChessBase Magazine (6 issues)
£224.95

ChessBase 13 - Premium Package:
- ChessBase 13 program
- Mega Database 2015 (approx. 6 million games, 68,000 with annotations)
- 1 year premium membership on playchess.com
- Access to ChessBase Cloud and ChessBase Online Database (over 7 million games)
- Games download until 31st December 2015
- Year’s Subscription to ChessBase Magazine (6 issues)
- Corr Database 2013 + Endgame Turbo 4 (4 DVDs with Syzygy tablebases)
£299.95

ChessBase 13 Upgrade (from any version)
£89.99

All subscribers receive 10% off the above prices and UK based subscribers also receive free postage. To order your copy of ChessBase 13 call 020 7486 7015 or 020 7288 1305 or order online at www.chess.co.uk/shop
James Coleman and Matt Lunn pose some tricky questions about the year that was...

1. Who was famously checkmated by Magnus Carlsen in just 9 moves, the world champion using only 12 seconds of his allotted thinking time?

2. Which Hungarian GM and former Olympiad gold medal winner died this year at the age of 62?

3. Which Grandmaster caused controversy by claiming that Bobby Fischer (above) in his prime would almost certainly lose to the best players of the modern era?

4. Who is the highest-rated player to have taken the "ice bucket challenge"?

5. The recent tournament in the Isle of Man had a preliminary event combining speed chess with which other game?

6. Which newspaper chess column, that had been running since 1962, was recently discontinued?

7. Who won the European Senior Chess Championship earlier this year, and almost did the double at the World Senior Championship, only missing out on the gold medal on tie-break?

8. Which chessplayer was recently featured in an issue of Donald Duck Magazine?

9. Which chess player recently won the inaugural Millionaire Chess Open and in doing so claimed the largest ever prize in an Open tournament?

10. Who is England’s newest Grandmaster?

11. Which International Master held the highest longplay FIDE rating before achieving the Grandmaster title?

12. Which program with an Elo rating of 3303 currently tops the computer rating lists?

13. The 2014 Qatar Masters has been described as the strongest Swiss tournament of all time. How many 2600+ players took part?

14. Who became the USA’s youngest ever grandmaster in November?

15. Which two English Grandmasters won the Silver and Bronze medals at the World Senior Championships in Greece?

16. Which young English player raised his rating from 2029 to 2301 between July and October 2014?

17. Which two-time British Chess Champion appeared as a character in The Imitation Game, and who was he played by?
I always see the New Year as the second half of the club chess season. I take some time to reflect on my game up until Christmas and consider what changes I might need to make to improve my results. It is natural to look at the games of top masters and try to borrow some ideas, but it can also be very useful to look much closer to home. For instance, fellow club mates can (and do) learn an awful lot about an opening or just a line in an opening by putting in very little effort these days. This is thanks to DVDs and other media.

I would like to introduce you to the split personality that is Dan Rowan – a team mate and freethinking maverick. He contradicts the very idea that our style of chess reflects our personality. Away from the board he is affable, amiable and sometimes even jovial. He is always first to buy a round and offer opinions on art, politics, science and even chess. He possesses an acerbic wit and whilst he will admit that at times he cannot walk past a belt without hitting below it, he is in all other matters an all-round good guy and your archetypal Henry Jekyll.

Notes by Dan Rowan

The opening in this game is extremely similar to my game against Paul Colburn (179) at the Witney congress a couple of weeks prior. This was simply bad luck for Sean, as I had just spent the last few days analysing this opening and was more than ready for it. Sean, on the other hand, had no experience playing against...e6 Sicilians such as the Taimanov and was caught off guard.


df6 6 c3

1 e4 c5 2..f3 e6 3 d4 exd4 4.cxd4 c6 5.c4

White aims for a pawn structure that controls the centre. This particular formation is often known as the 'Maroczy Bind'. Whilst this works well against many well-known Sicilian pawn formations, it doesn't work too effectively against a pawn on e6, as Black is threatening to punch through with...d5 regardless.

5...Af6 6.Gc3 b4

Now White is going to have to work out how to defend the e4-pawn. 7 f3

Not best, as White should exchange on c6 first: 7.Qxc6 dxc6 8.Wxd8+ Bxd8. Black has a minuscule positional edge, but in the real world this can't amount to anything and both sides can play a proper game of chess free from cheap opening tricks.

7...d5

Thematic in the Taimanov – blowing open the centre with...d5 as mentioned earlier.

8 exd5


8...exd5 9.Qc2 Qe7+

This is all well and good, but at some point our Dan arrives at the chessboard. The Edward Hyde in him rapidly takes control as he becomes a ruthless, psychotic, disturbed freak – in the best possible taste you understand. Let me take you into the New Year with one of his recent triumphs – annotated by Dan himself. This was Banbury against Oxford University. Dan was in charge of the black pieces and Sean Lim had white. It seems that both players were graded ECF 143.

S.Lim-D.Rowan

Oxfordshire League 2014
Sicilian Kan

1 e4 c5 2..f3 e6 3 d4 exd4 4.cxd4 c6 5.c4

White is able to generate forking threats of his own, and this gives him enough tempi to defend the position, such as with 12.Qxe7 13.Qxd4 Qxb8 14.a3; we both missed the knight move when looking at the game afterwards) 12.Qxe7 13.Qxc5 Qc2+. Even if Black is unable to extricate the knight after it takes the rook on a1, White still has a seriously ugly position.

b) In the post-mortem we thought 10.Qe2 Qxc4 would have been White's best option. Although he does end up conceding the c4-pawn, he has definite chances to hold the position.

10...d4

In all the confusion, Sean overlooked this tactic. White is now losing by force.

11.Qxd4 Wxe3+ 0-1

Sean resigned here, in view of going down two pieces.

He took the loss in very good spirits, though, so we went down to bar and played a few games of blitz chess where he took revenge and gave me a fair old pasting.

Dan Rowan - a nice guy, but only away from the board.
In this modern age of instant information a world championship match affects opening choices far quicker than it ever used to. Regulars towards the top of the chart, the King's Indian, Nimzo-Indian and Najdorf all slide, possibly due to not appearing in Sochi, whereas the QGD is one climber. So too, though, and rather impressively is the Reti, which Carlsen didn’t employ, unlike in Chennai.

**V. Kramnik - A. Mista**

*Qatar Open 2014*

**Reti Opening**

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. dxe5 dxe5 4. f4 Nf6
7. e4 Be7 8. Qf3 0-0 9. Be2 a6
10. cxd5 exd5 11. e5 Nbd7 12. Bb3 d4
18. Bd2 Qd7 19. Rd1 Rfd8 20. e4
c5 21. d5! Nxe4 22. dxe6 fxe6 23.
Ba4 Bb5 24. Bb3 f6 25. Bg5 Qf7
26. Bxe6+ fxe6
Kxe5 white is winning.

Thus the black queen lands up where she always wanted to go, but the Polish GM hasn’t quite equalised. Yes, Black is extremely solid, but he lacks an effective pawn break, whereas White has a handy mobile central majority.

**15...a4 16...a8**

A very grandmasterly move. The bishop will be slightly safer here and White may want to press down the b-file.

**16...b5**

Too sophisticated. Critical would have been 18...exd4 19 exd4 when 19...b5
20 cxb5 axb5 21 Qc5 doesn’t quite work for Black, but the equally thematic 19...a3 should supply reasonable counterplay in a typically double-edged hanging pawn position.

**19...Qg5**

Kramnik begins to eye the kingside after this, but unfortunately for the Polish Grandmaster, 19...exd4 20 exd4 b5?! would have been poleaxed by 21 d5!.

**20...Qxe4 21...Qxe4 a5 22 d5!**

Playing directly for the attack. Just count the defenders.

**22...b5 23 cxb5 axb5 24...Qg4 f8**

**25...Qxc5! f5 26...Qg6 fxe4?!**

This loses. White would have enjoyed three good pawns for the piece and a monstrous initiative after 26...Qxc5 27
Qxe6+ Qxf7 28...Qxf5 Qxc4 29 e4, but this was also Mista’s last chance.

**27...Qxe4 a3 28...Qf6+ Qf8 29 dxe6! Qb7 30 e4 Qxf6 31 Qxf6+...e8 32
Qg6+ Qf8 33 Qh6+...e8 34 Qh5+ 1-0**

The finish might have been 34...Qf8 35 
Qh8+...e7 36...Qg7+...e8 37...Qg8+...Qf8 38...Qg6+...e7 39...Qf7#.

---

**Opening Trends**

The top twenty openings as played by International Masters and Grandmasters in November.

1. Reti Opening 116 games
2. Slav Defence 92 games
3. King’s Indian Defence 91 games
4. Queen’s Gambit Declined 69 games
5. Nimzo-Indian Defence 65 games
6. 1 d4 Qf6 sidelines 60 games
7. Sicilian, Kan Variation 57 games
8. Caro-Kann Defence 52 games
9. Grünfeld, Classical Variation 51 games
10. Sicilian, Najdorf Variation 50 games
11. Queen’s Indian Defence 50 games
12. English, 1...c5 45 games
13. Ruy Lopez, Berlin Defence 44 games
14. English, 1...Qf6 39 games
15. Sicilian, 2 Qf3 d6 sidelines 37 games
16. Semi-Slav Defence 37 games
17. English, 1...e6 30 games
18. English, 1...e5 30 games
20. Sicilian, 2 Qf3 others 29 games

1,759 games played between 1-30 November where both players were rated over 2400 Elo.

Source: TWIC. Compiled by HIARCS 14.

In association with HIARCS Chess Explorer - www.hiarc.com

and the Week in Chess - www.theweekinchess.com

---

**HIARCS Chess Explorer 2**

FOR BOTH PC & MAC

www.chess.co.uk
The Complete Najdorf: 6

there is marvelous material to be found on this variation receives notable coverage, although it must now be classed as a rarity. Nevertheless, the infamous, bizarre world of the Poisoned Pawn variation. This really keeps the sharp move, making it an ideal candidate for coverage, especially as John Nunn's The Complete Najdorf: 6 4.q5 (Batsford, 1996) is now almost 20 years old.

In this, his debut book, Goh Wei Ming states he "once hated the Najdorf", but "fell in love with the opening" following a smashing success in the 2006 Singapore Championship. Thomas Luther, in his very enthusiastic foreword, remarks that "in the 6 4.q5 line it is victory or glory, nothing else" and highlights White's primal desire to meet b5-b4 with the 4.g5 (Batsford, 1996) is an important and very critical lines, theoretical novelties and analyses. They are very demanding books, requiring a lot of work from the reader, yet offering potentially great benefits at the same time.

This is a very interesting book, but the target audience must be slim (and, indeed, for the whole series). Club players will find themselves out of their depth shortly after leaving the introduction and I doubt many top grandmasters will chose a chunky book over a modern database. Being such a specialised work can be detrimental to its shelf life if theory continues to expand at the current rate. Perhaps the market has been identified as a particular niche – namely, Najdorf aficionados who lap up meaty theoretical tomes on their favourite opening.

E. Kislik – T. Antal
Kecskemet 2011

Black has just captured on e5 and White's next move places a third minor piece en prise:

12  b5+?  axb5  13  xb5  wb6!

Such is the complexity of this position that, according to the author, this is "virtually the only move".

14  xe6!  fxe6  15  ed6+

Now Black's best is the queen "sacrifice":

15... wxe6!

Black went on to win after White went wrong in the complications. The play advocated in such lines is way beyond the capabilities of the average club player – at least as a practical, over-the-board aspiration, but it is definitely possible to sharpen one's general tactical ability by playing through the analysis in the book and checking it over with Fritz (or similar). The engines do not supply instantly trustworthy lines of analysis and sometimes have to change their assessments quite quickly as variations progress.

As entertaining as the Polugaevsky is, it still looks like Najdorf specialists will strongly gravitate towards the irresistible pull of the Poisoned Pawn variation. This really keeps the other lines in the shade and Goh Wei Ming has worked hard to develop the theory even further, offering what he hopes is an improvement on Kasparov's analysis along the way.

This is a very interesting book, but the target audience must be slim (and, indeed, for the whole series). Club players will find themselves out of their depth shortly after leaving the introduction and I doubt many top grandmasters will chose a chunky book over a modern database. Being such a specialised work can be detrimental to its shelf life if theory continues to expand at the current rate. Perhaps the market has been identified as a particular niche – namely, Najdorf aficionados who lap up meaty theoretical tomes on their favourite opening.

Sean Marsh

For Friends and Colleagues: Volume 1 – Profession: Chess Coach
Mark Dvoretsky, 384 pages
Russell Enterprises

Readers will no doubt be very familiar with the books of Dvoretsky – at least by name or reputation. They are very demanding books, requiring a lot of work from the reader, yet offering potentially great benefits at the same time.

His latest work marks the start of a completely different venture and represents a type of chess autobiography. Dvoretsky is very conscious of writing something that may appeal to a different set of readers to his earlier works; so much so that he feels obliged to offer a warning: “This book is not for everyone. I want to forewarn those who may buy and read this book.” His next statement, with its early hints of the controversy to come, is certain to act as an attraction to the book rather than a deterrent: “I do not embellish or gloss over rough edges. I tell everything the way it was and is. I recall both the good deeds and the questionable actions of the people with whom I crossed paths.”

This is not, however, a book full of idle anecdotes and gossip. There is a strong line of narrative, running from Dvoretsky’s own early experiences in chess (including his first trip abroad – the 1966 USSR vs Scandinavia Youth Match in Stockholm, along with Gulko and Karpov, who was down on board six) to particularly noteworthy aspects of his career as a trainer, with two pupils making a particularly strong impression: “The centerpiece of this book is my work with Artur Yusupov and Sergey Dolmatov when they were young; it was the most memorable time for me and the most successful in my coaching career.” There are plenty of games too, featuring Dvoretsky himself and his friends and pupils, plus numerous photographs – all of which were new to me.

Along the way, we get a plethora of new and interesting tales about some of the greatest champions of chess, such as Tal (friendly, supportive), and Botvinnik (cold and strict); he expelled Psakhis from the Botvinnik School because he played the Cochrane Gambit in a training game). Others, such as Krogius and Gufeld, have clearly not earned the respect of the author. One of the highlights of the book is the
coverage of Yusupov’s experiences in the Candidates events, with particular attention given to his big match with Karpov in 1989, which was held in London. I was there for a couple of the games (they were played on stage at the same time as the Timman–Speelman match), and remember being surprised at how well Yusupov was playing against the man few doubted would be heading for yet another match with Kasparov.

Dvoretsky’s inside story of the match is revealing, instructive and entertaining. One of the games I witnessed live saw Yusupov build up a very strong attack with the black pieces, which was something that certainly didn’t happen very often against Karpov at the time.

Unfortunately Yusupov missed the best continuation and played 23...e4?, instead of the stronger 23...c3! and 24...c1 which, according to Dvoretsky, would have led to a winning position. Karpov slipped out of trouble with 24...d1! and drew after 33 moves. 24...e2? would have lost to 24...xh3+! 25 gxh3 xh3, but after 24...d1 Karpov could meet the same sacrifice with 26...e2!.

The match finished in a very narrow victory for the former (and future) world champion. For Yusupov to come so close to success against the man few doubted would be

Endgame Turbo 4 – Syzygy Tablebases
ChessBase PC-DVD
RRP £54.95 SUBSCRIBERS £49.46
This detailed endgame product consists of four separate DVDs, which contain the tablebases for all five-piece endings and 27 six-piece endings. The latter takes in some practically very useful material, like rook and two pawns against rook. Once the DVDs are set up, through a ChessBase interface your engines will be able to link directly to the tablebases and so evaluate more accurately towards the end of a game.

French Defense: Solid Rubinstein Variation
Hannes Langrock, 204 pages, paperback
RRP £15.99 SUBSCRIBERS £14.39
The French has rather dominated the openings market in recent years, but this work is different to your standard repertoire book on it, since the German IM eschews the main and trendy lines, focussing instead on the solid 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 c3 dxe4 4 c4 d4 5 g3 f6. Langrock shows that Black’s position is much healthier than theory has often given it credit for, as well how Black can play for a win without needing to know too much theory. Helpfully the work also contains recommendations should White deviate on the second or third move.

Liquidation on the Chess Board
Joel Benjamin, 224 pages, paperback
RRP £16.95 SUBSCRIBERS £15.26
How often do you mess up or see someone
mess up an endgame by misassessing the transition into a pawn ending? In this work, subtitled ‘Mastering the Transition into the Pawn Ending’, Joel Benjamin explains how to prevent such accidents from occurring, offering advice on which pawn endings one should be aiming for and how best to simplify. The topic may appear straightforward, but a book on this important area of the game has long been overdue.

Sveshnikov vs. the Anti-Sicilians
Evgeny Sveshnikov, 272 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 SUBSCRIBERS £17.96

Having spent a lifetime both playing and fighting against the Sicilian Defence, Sveshnikov is well placed to supply a decent repertoire for Black against the many and varied anti-Sicilian lines. His lines are generally good, although the reader may become a little tired of being referred to his works on the c3 Sicilian and Grand Prix Attack, as well as his forthcoming book on the d5 variations, which will also be published by New in Chess.

Don’t forget that Andrew Soltis also won the 2014 ECF Book of the Year award for Mikhail Botvinnik: The Life and Games of a World Chess Champion, which we’re pleased to announce is back in stock, retailing at £29.95 or £26.95 for Subscribers.

Tactics Time 2
Tim Brennan & Anthea Carson, 144 pages, paperback
RRP £12.95 SUBSCRIBERS £11.66

This follow up to the popular Tactics Time 1 features another 1,001 positions to solve, largely taken from the games of club players. The puzzles cover a wide range of common tactics, such as forks and exploiting under-defended pieces.

The Inner Game of Chess
Andrew Soltis, 348 pages, paperback
RRP £13.99 SUBSCRIBERS £12.59

The experienced American Grandmaster and author has updated another of his classic works, this time for Mongoose Press. Soltis’s focus is on calculation and now a whole new generation of players may find not just their visualisation improved, but will also learn about when to stop their calculation of a line and how to accurately assess the position at the end of it.

Don’t forget that Andrew Soltis also won the 2014 ECF Book of the Year award for Mikhail Botvinnik: The Life and Games of a World Chess Champion, which we’re pleased to announce is back in stock, retailing at £29.95 or £26.95 for Subscribers.

The Modern Tiger
Tiger Hillarp Persson, 536 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 SUBSCRIBERS £17.99

Back in 2005 Tiger’s Modern almost went viral as thousands of players flocked to the Modern with an early ...a6. Rather than simply update that work, the highly-creative Swedish Grandmaster has written an entirely new book, if one which still draws heavily on the original framework. Hillarp Persson has corrected and updated much of his original analysis, while adding a second line against the Austrian Attack, enabling readers to choose between 4...a6 and 4...g6 after the critical 1 e4 g6 2 d4 b5 variations.

The Soviet Chess Primer
Ilya Maizelis, 400 pages, paperback
RRP £15.99 SUBSCRIBERS £14.39

Quality Chess are well known for their ChessBase opening DVDs tend to focus on a single opening, but not this one. Kasimdzhanov is well known as a theoretician and worked for Anand when he was world champion, so is well placed to take a look at several topical variations, including sub-variations of the Najdorf, Berlin and Ragozin. The player who likes to follow grandmaster trends across a wide range of openings should find that Kasimdzhanov makes them much more up to date in terms of their theoretical knowledge.

Winning Record Against World Champions
Boris Spassky & Israel Gelfer, 304 pages, paperback
RRP £17.99 SUBSCRIBERS £16.19

11 stars of the 20th Century come under the microscope in this work, which aims to determine who was the best. Surprisingly Fischer is absent, perhaps because this work is Israeli produced, but otherwise the roll call is pretty impressive: Keres, Botvinnik, Petrosian, Geller, Korchnoi, Beliavsky, Smyslov, Reshevsky, Larsen, Karpov and Kasparov. Each player receives a brief biography, but while some games are annotated, several are languageless and the exact input from the tenth world champion isn’t entirely clear.

Last month we promoted the release of Tony Rotella’s The Killer Sicilian, which was scheduled for publication in November. Unfortunately, just after going to press we heard from the publisher that due to problems at their printers the book will now not be with us until January. CHESS and Everyman Chess would like to apologise to all readers who have ordered this book for the inconvenience caused.
Garry Kasparov on Garry Kasparov
The concluding part in a three-volume autobiographical series chronicaling the chess battles played by the greatest chess player of all-time. The series has received great critical and public acclaim for both its rigorous analysis and comprehensive detail regarding the developments in chess that occurred both on and off the board. The first two volumes in this series saw Kasparov emerging as a huge talent, toppling his great rival Anatoly Karpov and then defending the World Championship title on three occasions. This third volume focuses on the final 12 years of Kasparov’s career up until his retirement from full-time chess in 2005.

Part 2: 1985-93 (496 pages, hardback).

RRP £30 / Subscribers’ £27 per volume if bought separately.

Special Offer for Subscribers: Get all 3 volumes of Kasparov on Kasparov for just £67.50 (RRP £90).

Chess Pawn Cufflinks
RRP £10/Subscribers’ £9
Show your love of the game by sporting these rather smart cufflinks. This set of cufflinks comes in a beautiful chrome gift box. Made from rhodium silver so they’ll never tarnish.

DGT Easy + Digital Chess Chess Timer
RRP £29.95/Subscribers’ £26.95
Combining simplicity with a sturdy and elegant design. Features include: Move timer & game timer, Delay & Increment settings, Manual programming for all timing methods. Game timer count-up option, simple one-touch reset, a large and clear display, low battery indicator and optional buzzer. Individual time settings possible for each player. Includes: 2 x AA (penlight) batteries give 2 years of operation.

The Lewis chessmen (or Uig chessmen, named after the bay where they were found) are a group of 12th-century chess pieces, along with other gaming pieces, most of which are carved in walrus ivory. This replica set is made from crushed marble and stone resin. The pieces have a natural weight to them and are felted on the base. King height: 89mm (3.5”).

Isle of Lewis Chessmen (without board) RRP £69.95/Subs’ £62.95
Isle of Lewis Chessmen (with board) RRP £95/Subs’ £85.50

Isle of Lewis Chessmen (without board) RRP £69.95/Subs’ £62.95
Isle of Lewis Chessmen (with board) RRP £95/Subs’ £85.50

Komodo Chess 8 (PC-DVD)
RRP £64.99/ Subs’ £58.49
Reinvigorate your chess in 2015 by acquiring the strongest chess engine in the world! Rated at 3303 Elo (source: CCRL / Nov’2014). Komodo 8 uses the popular Deep Fritz 14 interface, and has the widest range of playing, training and analysis features of any program on the market! Komodo supports 64-bit operating systems and can utilise up to 64 processors and 16GB of hash memory. Includes online access to the world’s largest analysis database “Let’s Check”, with over 200 million extensively analysed position and Premium membership to Playchess.com (6 months), as well as a database with over 1.5 million games.

To order from this advert please call 020 7288 1305 or 020 7486 7015 or order online at www.chess.co.uk/shop