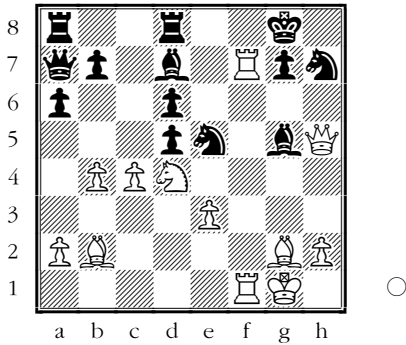
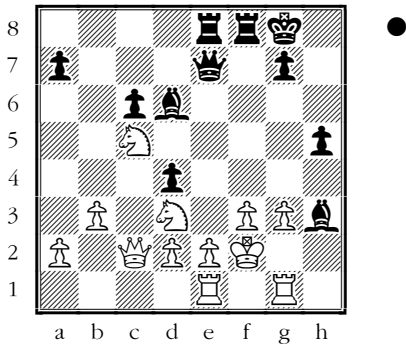


**Test Yourself!**

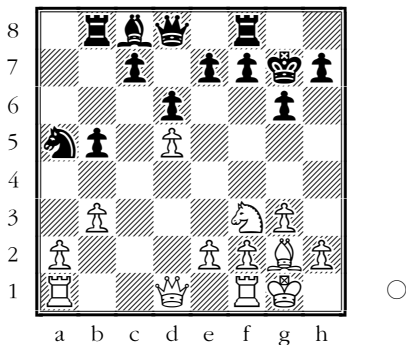
**Ph. Schlosser (2465) - Csom (2505)**  
Elekes mem Budapest (6), 1990



**Fioramonti(2415) - Schlosser(2510)**  
Horgen SKA Horgen (3), 1994



**Ph. Schlosser (2511) - Herejk (2171)**  
Schwaebisch Gmuend Open (9), 2001



**On This Day**

by GM Alex Baburin

German GM **Philipp Schlosser** turns 40 today. With his current [rating](#) of 2567 he is No 14 player in Germany.



**World Chess News**

**Staunton Memorial, London**

This tournament finished yesterday.

**Round 10 Results:**

- van Wely – Cherniaev 1-0
- Smeets – Short 1-0
- L'Ami – Timman ½-½
- I. Sokolov – Adams ½-½
- Werle – Wade 1-0
- Wells – Speelman ½-½

The game Smeets – Short is worth mentioning – young Dutch GM conducted an inspiring attack.

**Round 11 Results:**

- Adams – van Wely ½-½
- Timman – Wells ½-½
- Speelman – I. Sokolov ½-½ 39 D26
- Short – Werle ½-½
- Cherniaev – Smeets 0-1
- Wade – L'Ami 0-1

**Final Standings:**

1. Adams – 8/11;
2. van Wely – 7½;
3. Smeets – 7;
4. Timman – 6½;
- 5-6. L'Ami and I. Sokolov – 6;
- 7-9. Short, Speelman and Werle – 5½;
10. Wells – 5;
11. Cherniaev – 3½;
12. Wade – 0.

[Official website](#)

**Tal Memorial**

**Round 1 Results:**

- Kramnik – Shirov 1-0
- Leko – Mamedyarov ½-½
- Morozevich – Alekseev 1-0
- Ponomariov – Gelfand ½-½
- Ivanchuk – Kamsky 1-0

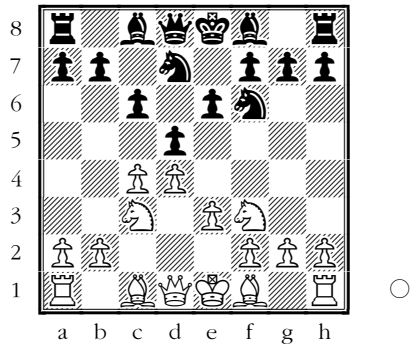
Kramnik and Shirov battled in the Meran Variation of the Slav, where both are experts.

**Kramnik (2788) – Shirov (2741)**

Tal Memorial (10), Moscow 18.08.2008

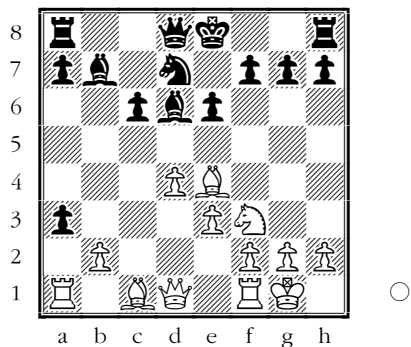
*The Meran Slav; D47*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c6 4.e3 ♘f6  
5.♘f3 ♘bd7 (D)



6.♙d3 dxc4 7.♙xc4 b5 8.♙d3 ♙b7  
9.a3 b4 10.♘e4 ♘xe4 11.♙xe4  
bxa3 12.0-0 ♙d6 (D)

12...♘f6 13.♙d3 axb2 14.♙xb2 a5  
15.♙a4 ♙b4 16.♙a3 ♘d5 17.e4 ♘b6  
18.♙b3 ♙e7 19.♙ab1 ♙xa3 20.♙xb6  
♙b4 21.♘e1 0-0 22.♘c2 ♙fd8 23.♘xb4  
axb4 24.♙xb4 ♙xb4 25.♙xb4 ♙a6  
26.♙xa6 ½-½ Gelfand – Kramnik,  
World Ch, Mexico City 2007.

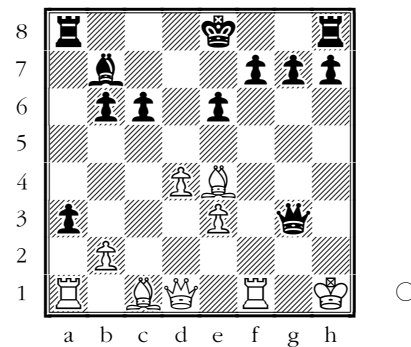


13.♘d2 This is a rare move. More  
common is 13.b3, for example:  
13...♘f6 14.♘d2 ♙c7 15.♙f3 ♙xh2+  
16.♙h1 ♙d6 17.♘c4 ♙e7 18.♙xa3 0-0  
19.♙xe7 ♙xe7 20.♙a5 Topalov –  
Kramnik, Wch Elista 2006. Sometimes  
White plays 13.b4, for example:  
13...♘f6 14.♙d3 ♘d5 15.♙xa3 ♘xb4  
16.♙xb4 ♙xb4 17.♙a6 ♙b6 18.♙d3 0-  
0 19.♙fb1↑ Golod – Malakhov,  
Helsingor 2008.

**13...♙c7N**

13...0-0 14.b3 ♙b8 15.h3 ♙b4 16.♙xa3  
♙xa3 17.♙xa3 f5 18.♙f3 c5± Arencibia

– Abreu, Santa Clara Torre 2002.  
14.♘c4 ♙xh2+ 15.♙h1 ♘b6  
16.♘xb6 axb6 17.g3 ♙xg3 18.fxg3  
♙xg3 (D)



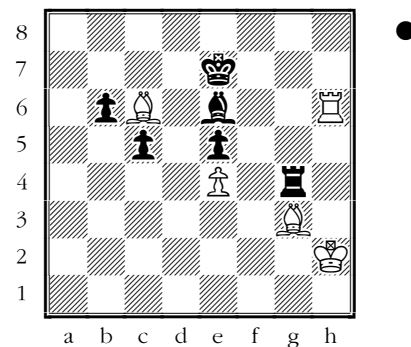
I won't be surprised if both players  
had reached this position in his home  
preparation. Black has 4 pawns for a  
bishop, but his b7-bishop isn't in the  
game.

19.♙h5! ♙a5 20.♙xf7+ ♙d8  
21.♙g2 ♙g5 22.♙f3 ♙xf3 23.♙xf3  
axb2 24.♙xb2 ♙f8 25.♙e4 ♙f6  
26.♙xf6 gxf6 27.♙h2 (D)



The endgame is difficult for Black –  
despite an approximate material  
balance, he has to fight for a draw. His  
main problem is a passive bishop.

27...♙c7 28.♙c3 e5 29.dxe5 fxe5  
30.♙f1 ♙d6 31.♙f7 ♙c8 32.♙xh7  
♙e6 33.♙h6 c5 34.♙d3 ♙d7  
35.♙b5+ ♙e7 36.e4 ♙g4 37.♙c6  
♙g5 38.♙e1 ♙g4 39.♙g3 (D)

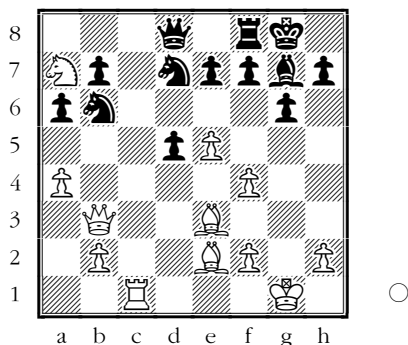


39...♙c4 40.♙xe5 ♘d3 41.♙d6+ ♗f7 42.♙d5+ ♖g7 43.♙e6 c4 44.♖h3 ♖g1 45.♙e5+ ♗f8 46.♖xb6 1-0

Here is a curious-looking position:

### Ivanchuk (2781) – Kamsky (2723)

Tal Memorial (1) Moscow, 18.08.2008



The knight on a7 looks peculiar, but soon it will move to much better places!

22.a5 ♖c4 23.♙xc4 dxc4 24.♖xb7 g5 25.♖c6 ♗e8 26.♖xc4 gxf4 27.♙xf4 ♖h8 28.♙g3 ♖g8 29.♗f1 e6 30.♖d4 ♖c5 31.♖b6 ♖d7 32.♖c7 ♖b8 33.♖d8 ♖b5+ 34.♗g1 h6 35.♖xf7+ What a career! 35...♖h7 36.♖c2+ 1-0

[Official website](#)

## Acropolis Open

by Spiros Ilandzis

Israeli GM Ilia Smirin won this tournament for the second consecutive year. This time he tied for first place with Romanian GM Mircea Parligras, but had superior tie-breaks (average rating of opponents). In the last round Smirin preferred not to take any chances against Bulgarian GM Atanas Kolev, while Parligras played a very double-edged game against Moldavian GM Dmitry Svetushkin, which eventually ended in a draw after many adventures.

Half a point behind the leaders were Kolev, German GM Alexander Graf (who beat Zubarev) and two female players – Georgian IM Nana Dzagnidze and Armenian IM Elina Danielian. Dzagnidze finished third on

tie-breaks, making a GM norm in the process.

### Last Round Top Results:

Kolev – Smirin ½–½

Parligras – Svetushkin ½–½

Zubarev – Graf 0–1

Danielian – Kotanjian 1–0

Salgado Lopez – Banikas ½–½

Dzagnidze – Al. Maric 1–0

### Final standings:

1–2. Smirin (ISR, 2637) and Parligras (ROM, 2588) – 7/9;

3–6. Dzagnidze (GEO, 2458), Graf (GER, 2621), Danielian (ARM, 2495) and Kolev (BUL, 2565) – 6½;

7–11. Salgado Lopez (ESP, 2532), Banikas (GRE, 2572), Svetushkin (MDA, 2587), Managadze (GEO, 2444) and D. Mastrovasilis (GRE, 2563) – 6, etc (84 players)

[Official website](#)



## Chess Reviews

by Dennis Monokroussos

Christoph Scheerer, *The Greatest Ever Chess Opening Ideas* (Everyman Chess 2008). 368 pages, \$25.95

German IM Christoph Scheerer has written a book that isn't really an opening book in the traditional sense and isn't really an historical work, either. What it is, is a book that offers a potpourri of theory, an entertaining if non-scholarly window into the past, and a lot of entertainment. Scheerer (previously named Wisnewski) takes a look at 50 different opening ideas he deems the greatest based on ratings given on four criteria:

*Shock Value* – What was running through the opponent's mind?

*Effectiveness Rating* – How did the opening idea fare in the initial game(s)?

*Longevity Rating* – How long did the idea keep its Effectiveness rating?

*Creativity Value* – How much effort did it take to discover the actual idea?

This issue is prepared by GM Alex Baburin; technical editor: Graham Brown

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

Scoring each on a 1–5 scale, Scheerer has presented old ideas (e.g. the Giuoco Piano, dating to the 1500s) and new (e.g. Topalov's/Cheparinov's 12. ♖xf7 in the Anti–Moscow Gambit against Kramnik from Wijk aan Zee 2008), simple (e.g. the Sicilian, after move 1) and deep (e.g. Anand's brilliant Anti–Zaitsev prep vs. Adams in San Luis 2005), wildly tactical (e.g. the Botvinnik Semi–Slav) and deeply strategic (e.g. the Benko Gambit). There's a bit of everything, as you can see. When presenting older ideas, Scheerer does a nice job of searching mostly secondary but also primary sources to present the earliest games and analyses he can find. In the newer lines, he typically provides commentary and opening analysis that even a strong player can find useful. And most chapters have a bit of both.

Are these the 50 greatest opening ideas of all time? I doubt that anyone else would come up with exactly the same list; in fact, it's unlikely that any two players would devise identical lists. But maybe that's part of the fun: it becomes another topic for argument among chess enthusiasts, like whether Fischer or Kasparov was the greatest player of all time. So who should buy this book? Let's start with who shouldn't. If you're looking for intensive, ground–breaking historical research a la Edward Winter or John Hilbert, this isn't the place. Nor will this book substitute for the Encyclopaedia of Chess Opening or any particular monograph.

If your opening knowledge isn't very broad, however, this book can expand your horizons. Further, while you won't learn enough to play any particular opening, you might find useful information to supplement what you already know. Finally, the historical games and digressions are interesting and entertaining, and not easy for most of us to dig up for ourselves. In short, while this won't be the most useful opening book on the market, it might be the most enjoyable one you'll ever buy.

## Solutions to our Quiz:

**Ph. Schlosser – Csom**, Elekes mem Budapest (6), 1990:

23. ♖xg7+! ♗xg7 24. ♖f7+! ♜xf7  
25. ♜e6+ 1–0

**Fioramonti – Schlosser**, Horgen (3), 1994:

26... ♗e3+!! 0–1

**Ph. Schlosser – Herejk**, Schwaebisch Gmuend Open (9), 2001:

15. ♗d4+! ♗g8 16. ♗a7! ♜d7  
17. ♗xa5 b4 18. ♗a7 ♖b6 19. ♖fc1  
c5 20. dxc6 ♜xc6 21. ♜d4 1–0

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