

A VENGEFUL RETURN

ICCA Communication

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Kasparov, the World Champion publicly defeated in London, in August 1994, would not be content to count as being dethroned. He insisted on being reinstated as the World's Top, even in the relatively specialized field of rapid chess, in a manner dazzling all and any. His wish was granted.

The *Westdeutscher Rundfunk* (WDR) to its eternal glory broadcast the occasion live from Cologne: it combined high drama with high technology. Imagine a soundproof booth enclosing Kasparov. It was as starkly furnished as could be, containing nothing but a wall clock. Apart from Gary, there was also an operator transferring the Pentium's moves to the board, and a referee.

The camera did all it could to bring out Kasparov's evident emotions: soundproof is not by any means identical with feeling proof. He was spared nothing: his head scratching, his nearly-mouthing his thumb, his desperate and incredulous shaking his hand – all was shown in enlarged close-ups by the merciless camera.

On the second plane, there were the pundits assembled with a great show of informality. Their presence can be summed up as an ideal version of the best of the Viennese chess cafes.

The quintet of occupying this plane were: Claus Spahn as master of ceremonies (MC), Helmut Pflieger and Vlastimil Hort as commentators, Ossi Weiner representing CHES GENIUS and Mr. Wüllenweber who operated FRITZ3 for comment on the game. The latter, the MC stated, was indispensable nowadays: no serious analysis of a game could do without a computer.

On the third plane, the computers were all and the humans were degraded — though some would say elevated — to the rank of intelligent operators. Besides reproducing the board as played, there was an extremely sensitive program to display instantaneously what Grandmaster Dr. Helmut Pflieger thought or wished to highlight or otherwise thought worthy of attention. Coincident with the word he spoke about a diagonal, any particular man, or any block of squares however queerly shaped, the program displayed it, highlighted it, bordered in yellow or otherwise distinguished on the intent.

Next of course, there was CHESBASE, only slightly slower to react. The moment a move was made, the consultation of CHESBASE, within the twinkling of an eye, produced data such as statistically from the position given the chances winning for White are now 61 percent.

Never has so large an audience being so well served, blow-by-blow and richly commented to boot. As to the games, the excitements can be read off from the moves played. In starkest summary on move 22, PENTIUM CHES GENIUS renounced an easy win, on move 25 the program lost any chance to win, it richly had previously; on move 26 it spoiled the draw. Ours is not to inquire why, but very evidently PENTIUM bungled.

The second game was conservative to the point of being a bore. Kasparov, fully aware that he now would be proclaimed the winner when only drawing, aimed for a draw.

¹ Hobby Computer Centrale, Weiner Vertriebs GmbH, Liebigstrasse 28, D-80538 München, Germany. The Editors, transferring Ossi Weiner's contribution into Journal format, wish to record the other sources they have consulted, specifically the WDR television programme recording the event under the title *Die Revanche*.

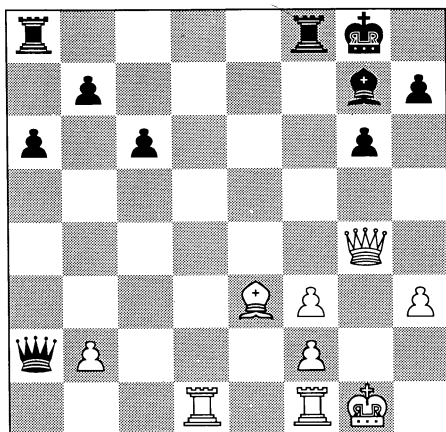


Diagram: Position after 22. ... Qxa2!?

**Kasparov - Pentium (NicKey SL 3.1.5)
Intel World Chess WDR Köln, 1995**

(With on-line analysis by FRITZ 3.0 given in square brackets; other comment is in parentheses)

1. c4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 a6 5. c5 g6 6. Bf4 Bg7 7. h3 0-0 8. e3 Nbd7 9. Bd3 Ne8 10. Rc1 f6! 11. e4? e5 12. dx5 Nxc5 13. exd5 fxe5 14. Be3 Nxd3+ 15. Qxd3 e4 16. Qxe4 Nf6 17. Qc4 Nxd5 18. Nxd5? Be6! 19. 0-0 Bxd5 20. Qg4 Bxf3 21. gxf3 Qd5 22. Rcd1 Qxa2! (it was a winning position for GENIUS 3. 22. ... Qxf3 would have been safer than 22. ... Qxa2, leading to a favourable endgame for Black) 23. Rd7 Rf7 [23. ... Qb3!? 24. Bd4 Bxd4 25. Qxd4 Rf7] 24. Rfd1 Qb3?? (This move loses a decisive tempo, whereas 24. ... Re8 still seems to preserve the lead.

A significant line reads 24. ... Re8 25. Rxf7 Qxf7 26. Rd7 h5! 27. Rxf7 hxg4 28. Rxb7 gxf3) 25. R1d3! Qxb2 [25. ... Qa2 26. Rxf7 Qxf7 27. Rd7 Qb3 28. Bd4+-] 26. Qc4!! [26. Rxf7 Qb1+ 27. Kg2 Qxd3 28. Rxb7] 26. ... Raf8 (The decisive mistake. According to a deep analysis by CHES GENIUS 26. ... Qf6! would still have drawn) 27. Rxf7 Rxf7 28. Rd8+ Bf8 29. Bh6+- Qa3 30. Qe6! Qc5 31. h4 Qb4 32. f4 Qb1+ 33. Kh2 Qb4 34. Kg2! [34. f5 Qxh4+] 34. ... Qa3 35. h5 gxh5 36. f5 Qb4 37. Rxf8+ Qxf8 38. Bxf8 Kxf8 39. f6 Rxf6 1-0

Pentium - Kasparov (NicKey RE 21.1.3)

Intel World Chess WDR Köln, 1995

1. Nf3 c5 2. g3 g6 3. Bg2 Bg7 4. 0-0 Nc6 5. Nc3 d6 6. d3 Nf6 7. Bg5 0-0 8. Qd2 Rb8 9. Bh6 b5 10. Bxg7 Kxg7 11. a3 a5 12. Ng5 Bd7 13. Nce4 Nxe4 14. Nxe4 h6 15. e3 b4 16. axb4 axb4 17. Qe2 Qc8 18. Rfc1 Bg4 19. Qf1 Qc7 20. Ra6 Rb6 21. Rca1 Rxa6 22. Rxa6 Bc8 23. Ra1 Bb7 [23. ... f5!? 24. Nd2 Bb7 25. Qe2 e6] 24. Qd1 Rc8 25. b3 Qb6 26. Ra2 d5 27. Qa1+ Kg8 28. Nd2 e6 29. Nf3 Qc7 30. h3 Qd6 31. Nh2 e5 32. Ng4 h5 33. Nh2 Qd8 [33. ... d4!?] 34. Nf3 Ra8 35. Rxa8 Qxa8 [35. ... Bxa8? 36. Nxe5] 36. Qxa8+ Bxa8 37. g4 hxg4 38. hxg4 f6 39. g5 Kf7 40. Nh2 Nb8 41. Ng4 Nd7 42. gxf6 Ke6 43. f4 exf4 44. exf4 Nxf6 45. Nxf6 Kxf6 46. Kf2 Kf5 47. Kg3 g5 48. Bh3+ Kf6 49. fxg5+ Kxg5 50. Bg2 Kf5 51. Kf2 Ke5 52. Ke2 1/2-1/2

CALENDAR OF COMPUTER-GAMES EVENTS 1995/1996

October 14-15, 1995

The 6th Harvard Cup, to be held at the Computer Museum in Boston, USA.

Details from Christopher Chabris, P.O. Box 2967, Harvard Square Station, Cambridge, Ma 02238, USA. Telephone: (+1) 617 876 5759, Fax: (+1) 617 491 9570. Email: cfc@isr.harvard.edu.

February 10-17, 1996

A six-game match between World Champion Kasparov and DEEP BLUE to be held in Philadelphia, Penn., USA. For details see p. 130.

1995 WORLD MICROCOMPUTER-CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

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At the time of writing the ICCA is in discussion with three (!) possible sponsorship finders for this year's World Microcomputer-Chess Championship. Of course all three attempts may come to nothing but if any of them is successful we will hold the tournament in Europe, probably during late September or October.

Will anyone who is interested in taking part in the event please let me know, so that I can send you information if and when a definite arrangement is agreed.

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