

**Michael Adams**



## Korchnoi still has the power

The Geneva Chess Club organised an unusual event that allowed their best players to take on some legends of the game. It was good to see the visitors demonstrate their class.

Viktor Korchnoi played his games in a wheelchair, but at the age of 81, his play remains fresh despite some tiring double-round days.

decisive effect.

**36.Bf3-c6 Re8-d8**

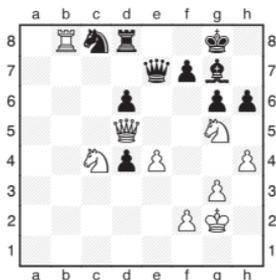
36...Re8-e5 37.d6-d7 Bc8xd7 38.Bc6xd7 Kg8-f8 was the last practical try.

**37.d6-d7 Bc8-a6**

37...Bc8xd7 38.Rf6-d6 is straightforward.

**38.Rf6-f3**

Black resigned as the threat of Rf3-e3 is deadly.



**V. Korchnoi - R. Gerber**  
Geneva 2012

Here the great man spots a neat tactic.

**37.Rb8-b7 Rd8-d7**

**38.Ng5xf7 Kg8-h7**

White wins after

38...Qe7xf7 39.Rb7xd7 and

38...Rd7xb7 39.Nf7xd6+

Kg8-h7 40.Nd6xb7 regains the material.

**39.Rb7xd7 Qe7xd7**

**40.Nf7xd6 Nc8xd6**

**41.Nc4xd6** and Korchnoi's technique easily converted the extra pawn.



**K. Spraggett - R. Gerber**  
Geneva 2012

Spraggett commences a simple plan to swing his rook along the third defending c3 and allowing his Queen access to black's King.

**21.Rd1-d3 e6-e5**

The desperate 21...f7-f5 was the only hope.

**22.g2-g4 Bc8-b7**

**23.Rd3-h3 Re8-e6**

23...Bb7xe4 24.Qh4-h7+ Kg8-f8 25.Qh7xg7+ Kf8xg7 26.Bg5-f6+ Kg7-g8 27.Rh3-h8 mate is a neat finish.

**24.Qh4-h7+ Kg8-f8**

**25.Bg5-h6 Bg7xh6**

Or 25...f7-f6 26.Qh7-h8+.

**26.Qh7xh6+ Kf8-e8**

**27.Qh6-h8+ Ke8-e7**

**28.Rf1xf7+**

Black resigned as

28...Ke7-d6 29.Rh3-d3+

Kd6-c6 30.Rf7xc7+ wins.



**A. Vuilleumier -**

**U. Andersson**

Geneva 2012

**17.Bb2xf6**

The pressure along the light-squared diagonal is uncomfortable, so White should have played 17.Qc2-c3 preparing f2-f3.

**17... Ng4xf6**

**18.Rf1-d1 h7-h6**

**19.Nd2-b3 Qc7-e5**

Ulf continues squeezing.

**20.Rd1xd8 Rf8xd8**

**21.Ra1-d1 Rd8-b8**

**22.Nb3-d2 Bb7-c6**

**23.Nd2-f3**

It was better to play 23.Rd1-b1 Rb8-d8 keeps White off balance.

**23... Qe5-e4**

**24.Qc2-c3**

Exchanging Queens is not often a good idea against Andersson, but here 24.Qc2xe4 Nf6xe4 25.Nf3-e5 relieves the pressure a little.

**24... Nf6-d7**

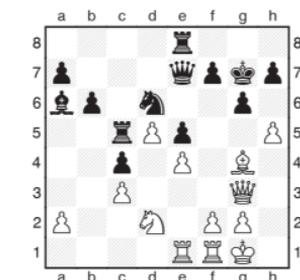
**25.Qc3-d3**

The only chance was 25.Kg1-f1 f7-f6 26.Kf1-e1.

**25... Qe4xd3**

**26.Rd1xd3 Bc6xf3**

Black resigned as 27.Be2xf3 Nd7-e5 wins.



**V. Korchnoi - S. Dubessay**  
Geneva 2012

**26.f2-f4**

Ramping up the pressure on the kingside.

**26... e5xf4**

**27.Qg3xf4 Qe7-e5**

**28.h5-h6+**

28.Qf4-f2 planning Nd2-f3 was also good.

**28... Kg7-g8**

**29.Qf4-f6**

29.Qf4xe5 Re8xe5 30.Rf1-f6 was more precise.

**29... Qe5xf6**

Black should have rerouted his bishop with 29...Ba6-c8.

**30.Rf1xf6 Rc5xd5**

**31.e4xd5 Re8xe1+**

**32.Kg1-f2 Nd6-e4+**

32...Nd6-e8 33.Rf6-c6

Re1-e5 34.d5-d6 Ba6-b7

35.d6-d7 is winning.

**33.Nd2xe4 Re1xe4**

**34.d5-d6 Re4-e8**

**35.Bg4-f3 Ba6-c8**

After 35...Re8-d8 36.Bf3-d5 Rd8-d7 37.Kf2-e3, White's King supports the pawn with