



COLUMNISTS

Checkpoint

Carsten Hansen

**Reviewed this month:*****Informator 83***

by Zdenko Krnic (editor in chief) et al.

The Lion – The Black Weapon

by Jerry van Rekom and Leo Janssen

ECO B – 4th Edition

Zdenko Krnic (editor in chief) et al.

Old Friends

There are some books that I always look forward to receiving, and those from Sahovski Informator definitely belong in this group. An all-time favourite is the *Informator*, but *ECOs* also seem to have improved. The last book to be reviewed this time is according to what I have heard already sort of a cult classic in Europe; it is *The Lion*, which is as we will look at several things, some of it, quite familiar things.

Informator 83 by Zdenko Krnic (editor in chief) et al., 2002
Sahovski Informator, Figurine Algebraic Notation,
Paperback, 398 pp., \$36.00



For regular readers of this column, it should be well-known that *Informator* and I have a special relationship. I love my *Informator*, which I not only find to be an essential tool for the serious chessplayer, but also a source of an almost endless supply of chess entertainment and material for training and study.



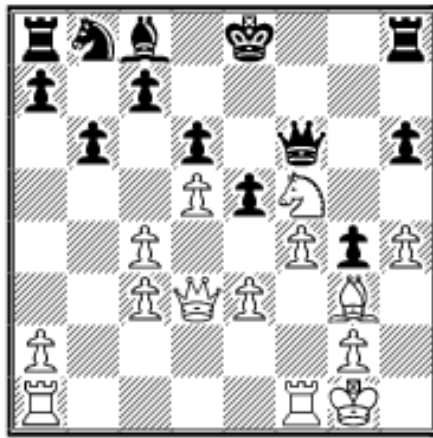
This volume is certainly no exception. With 584 main games or main game fragments in addition to a large number other partial games, there is a substantial volume of material. As usual, each volume starts with the presentation of the best game from the previous *Informator* and the most important novelty. The best game award went to Kramnik for his game against Anand from Dortmund 2001, scoring 71 out of a possible 90. Number two came Romanishin's win against Rublevsky from the European Championship at Ohrid 2001. The award for most important novelty was given to Rogozenko for his game against Filipenko on WICC 2001, which received a very convincing 81 points out of 90. The novelty in question:

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 dxc4
7.e4 g5 8.Bg3 b5 9.Be2 Bb7 10.h4 b4 11.hxg5 bxc3
12.bxc3 Nxe4 13.Be5 Rh7 14.Qb1!!**



By the way, the only game to ever receive the maximum score was Miles-Beliavsky, Tilburg 1986. Just to remind ourselves of Miles' fantastic move, let's take a look at it one more time:

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Nc3 Bb4
5.Bg5 Bb7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Ne4
9.Qc2 d6 10.Bd3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 f5 12.d5
Nc5 13.h4 g4 14.Nd4 Qf6 15.0-0 Nxd3 16.Qxd3 e5 17.Nxf5! Bc8 18.f4!!N**



The rest of the game went as follows: **18...Qxf5 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.c5! Kd8 22.d6! Qe8 23.dxc7+ Kxc7 24.Qd5 Nc6 25.Rf7+ Bd7 26.Raf1! Rd8 27.R1f6 Kc8 28.cxb6 axb6 29.Qb5 1–0.**

After these two award sections, we find the main section with annotated games played and

annotated by the best players in the world, with the addition of the most interesting games played by ‘weaker’ players. There is the usual absence of correspondence games. But people with an interest in correspondence games should by now have found out about this and instead search for these at the prime source for correspondence games, *Chess Mail Magazine* and the database, *MegaCorr2*. In the games section of this *Informator* we find games from the last three months of 2001 and beginning of 2002. One of the more fascinating games is the second match game from the Kasparov-Kramnik match in Moscow. The game is annotated in great detail by Kasparov. In particular, there is a lot to be learned from the endgame where both players missed several opportunities to draw and win. The game, with its annotations, takes up no less than 2½ pages, far more than most others.

Next follows the indices, first of players, then annotators. Moving along, we find the combination section (27 diagrams), and the endgame section (9 diagrams).

In reference to these two sections, I have a small suggestion. Throughout the book there are dozens of combinations and endgames that could be used for people who want to improve their tactical prowess or their endgame ability. Why not make a reference index for both, where people can look these combinations and endgames up rather than having to browse through the entire book, hoping to come across these

examples. I know it would demand a little extra from the editorial staff, but it would be a neat way of improving this excellent book even more.

Following the endgame section, we find the tournament results from the most important tournaments from the end of September thru January.

Then follows the biography section *The Best of Chess Informant*, that this time takes a closer look at Jan Timman. The biography doesn't give us any personal details such as birthday, but is only concerned with his chess: Best games; Most important theoretical novelties; Excellent moves and combinations; Endings; and Statistics

For future biographies, it might be interesting if they included a graph of the ELO-rating development of the player in question and also the most significant tournament results.

I now return to take a look at the “!!N”, i.e., those novelties that are so strong they deserve a double exclamation mark. Above we saw two examples, and while both moves are quite spectacular, not all are. This time around I found five such moves.

The first example is a Sicilian:

***Salinnikov-Miroshnichenko* Ukraine 2000**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.h3 Nc6 5.Bd3 e5 6.0-0 g5!!N



As you can see this game is a bit older than the other games that are in this volume, but makes the cut due to its theoretical value. The game was played in April 2000, but apparently only now has found its way to our friends in Belgrade. By the way, the move has been played since Negele-Gutman, Dresden 2000 (July), where White also was busted badly. But the move ...g5 is seen in other similar lines of the Sicilian. The way of meeting White's combination of an early h3 and 0-0 with ...g5 has been known since Steinitz, and it's amazing that people keep making

the same or similar mistakes over and over again. Well, I guess that's what happens if you don't study your classics...

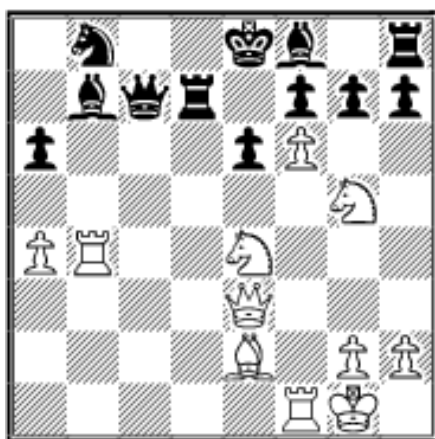
The rest of the game went as follows:

7.Nxg5 [CH: 7 Bc4 and 7 Qb3 are given as possible improvements for White] **7...Rg8 8.f4 exf4 9.Nxf7 Kxf7 10.Bc4+ d5 11.Bxd5+ Nxd5 12.Qh5+ Ke6 13.Qf5+ Ke7 14.Qxh7+ Rg7 15.Qh4+ Kd7 16.Qxd8+ Kxd8 17.exd5 Ne5 18.Rxf4 Bxh3 19.d4 Rxc2+ 20.Kh1 Nd3 21.Rxf8+ Ke7 22.Rf3 Nf2+ 23.Rxf2 Rxf2 24.Bg5+ Kd7 25.Nd2 Re8 0–1**

Next another Sicilian:

Leko-Ghaem-Maghami Yerevan 2001

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 b5 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 Qc7 10.exf6 Qe5+ 11.Be2 Qxg5 12.0–0 Ra7 13.Qd3 Rd7 14.Ne4 Qe5 15.Nf3 Qxb2 16.Qe3 Bb7 17.a4 b4 18.Rab1 Qxc2 19.Nfg5 Qc7 20.Rxb4!!N



A very deep novelty in the Polugaevsky Variation of the Najdorf Sicilian. Peter Leko and his trainer Amador Rodriguez give almost a page of analysis to support the idea, which by best play from Black should afford White no more than a slight edge. Black, however, didn't find the best moves, and promptly lost the

game:

20...Bxe4 21.Nxe4 Bxb4 22.fxg7 Rg8 23.Nf6+ Kd8 24.Nxg8 Bc5 25.Nf6 Bxe3+ 26.Kh1 Kc8 27.Nxd7 1-0

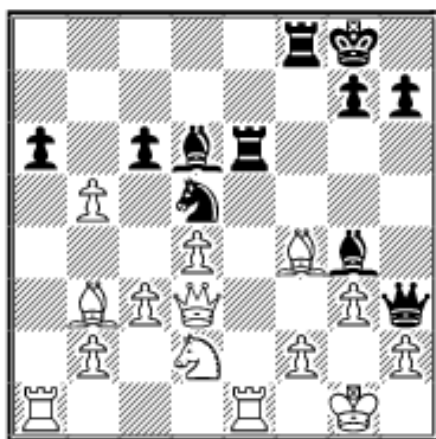
I have some doubts about the next one:

M. De Oliveira-Maffei Corr. 1999/2000

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0–0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0–0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Rxe5 c6 12.d4 Bd6 13.Re1 Qh4 14.g3 Qh3 15.Be3 Bg4 16.Qd3 Rae8 17.Nd2 Re6 18.a4 f5? 19.axb5!!

This move is given without referring to a newsgroup rec.games.chess article in which Daniel J. Quigley published his analysis on this move under the headline “Marshall Gambit: Busted!”. He wrote that he had discovered the move towards the end of the 80s, but as it is pointed out in a survey on the brilliant *Total Marshall* CD that I reviewed in my previous column, this move was also discovered by other people around the same time.

19...f4 20.Bxf4!!N



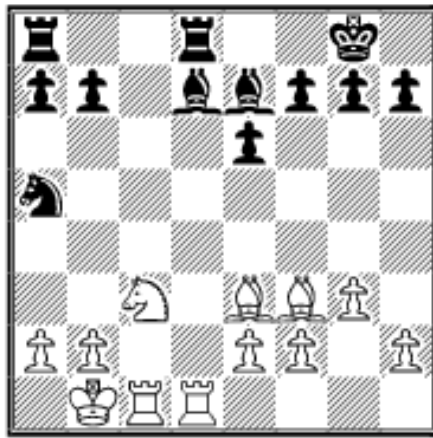
This move is the one that gets the ‘!!N’, but it was played as far back as in 1987 in the German correspondence game, Gorges-Kling, as well as on another dozen games prior to the present game. The fact that no credit is given to anyone else gives reason to be upset. Although it’s a clever conception, I hope the jury for next volume’s most important novelty does not give this move the award.

The rest of the game was conducted very convincingly by White: **20...Bxf4 21.Rxe6 Bxe6 22.bxa6 Bxd2 23.Qxd2 Nc7 24.Qc2! Ra8 25.a7 Qh6 26.Bxe6+ Qxe6 27.c4 Qd6 28.Qe4 Qb4 29.b3 Qc3 30.Ra4 Qxb3 31.Qxc6 Qc2 32.Ra1 Qb2 33.Re1 Rf8 34.Rf1 Na8 35.Qc5 Qe2 36.d5 Qd3 37.d6 Re8 38.Qd5+ Qxd5 39.cxd5 Rd8 40.Rb1 Kf8 41.Rb7 h5 42.Kg2 g6 43.Rb8 Ke8 44.h4 Kd7 45.Kf3 1–0.**

The last novelties in our category are two little bishop moves by Gelfand. The first one is the following in a Semi-Tarrasch Queen’s Gambit:

Gelfand-Delchev Moscow 2001

1. Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 c5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ndb4 9.Nxc6! Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Nc6 11.Be3 Bd7 12.Rc1 Be7 13.Kc2 0–0 14.Rhd1 Rfd8 15.Kb1 Na5 16 Bf3!!N



In Keres-Kortschnoj, USSR Team Championship (Moscow) 1963, White played 16.Ne4, but after 16...Bb5, the game soon was drawn: 17.Rxd8+ Rxd8 18.Bc5 Kf8 19.Bxe7+ Kxe7 20.Rc5 a6 21.Nc3 Bc6 ½–½. The idea behind Gelfand's move isn't that obvious for most of us, but he wants to keep the e2-pawn

guarded and simultaneously have the g2 bishop defended. The text move accommodates both wishes excellently. The rest of the game is conducted in excellent fashion by Gelfand:

16...Bc6 17 Rxd8 Bxd8 18 Ne4 Be7 19 Bc5! Bxc5 20 Rxc5 f5 21 Nd6 Bxf3 22 exf3 Rd8 23 Ra5 Rd6 24 Rxa7 Rd1+ 25 Kc2 Rf1 26 Rxb7 Rxf2 27 Kd3 Rxh2 28 a4 Rh1 29 Rb3 Kf7 30 a5 Ra1 31 Ra3 Rd1 32 Kc4 1-0.

The last novelty is in a Queen's Indian:

Bacrot-Gelfand Leon 2001

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.a3 Bb7 5.Nc3 d5 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Qa4+ Qd7 8.Qxd7+ Nbx d7 9.Nb5 Bd8!!N



It's amazing that this, in my opinion, incredibly obvious move have never been played before, whereas Black has played 9...Kd8 more than a dozen times and 9...0-0 on several occasions too. Whether it deserves two exclamation marks is a different story; personally, I don't think so, as it really does nothing to reverse the current evaluation of the position, it is hardly a stunning move, but due to the importance of this line, it may actually end up winning the award for best novelty. For


comparison, in Informator 82, in the game Dreev-Karpov, Kazan 2001, Black equalized painlessly after 9...Kd8 10 cxd5 Nxd5 11 e4 h6 12 Bxe7+ Nxe7 13 Nc3 f5 14 Bd3 fxe4 15 Bxe4 Bxe4 16 Nxe4 Nf6 17 Ned2 Kc8.

In the present game, Gelfand soon obtained a pleasant game...

10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.e4 N5f6 12.Rc1 Bxe4 13.Nxc7+ Bxc7 14.Rxc7 Nd5 15.Rc1 h6 16.Bd2 Gelfand gives 16 Bh4 Nf4 17 Rc7 Nd5 18 Rc1 with equality.

16...Bxf3 17.gxf3 Ke7 18.Ba6 N7f6 19.Rc4 Rad8 20.Ke2 Nh5 and Black has the better chances.

I will end this review by once more recommending this excellent book. If you are serious about your chess, this is something for you.

My assessment of this book: 

[Order](#) *Informator 83*

The Lion – The Black Weapon by Jerry van Rekom and Leo Janssen, 2001 Schaaknieuws, Figurine Algebraic Notation, Hardback, 347 pp., \$40.00

This is a book I was curious about before I even received it. I had heard about it, and having an interest in some of the lines that supposedly were covered in the book, I thought it could be an interesting read.



Having received the book, I was pleased with the hardcover production and the way it opens nicely and lays flat on the table, but does it end there? Well, let's take a look.

First of all, there is the question, "What is the Lion?" On the back cover the authors write; "The Lion – This black weapon is the dream of every chess player: a proven system that has been analysed in detail, and is suitable against almost every white opening: 1. d4 and 1.e4. It is also guaranteed to be a real surprise! The Lion is the black answer to your opening problems."

It almost sounds like black magic, doesn't it? But if you look

inside the book and the index of variations in the beginning of the book, you will soon realize that this is somewhat of an exaggeration since only lines starting with 1 e4 are covered, and White by no means is forced to play their lines if he doesn't want to!

By the way, if the names of the authors don't sound familiar to you, don't worry, I didn't know who they were either before I received the book. I still don't know exactly how strong they are, but my guess is somewhere between ELO 2000 and 2200 based on positional evaluations and general understanding of the examples presented.

The authors are both from Dordrecht in the Netherlands, and the system is named after Leo Janssen.

The present book is in effect the third edition, but the first one in English. The previous two editions were published in Dutch and quickly sold out. The authors write reasonable English, and although it isn't always perfect, it is relatively easy to figure out what they mean. An example can be given from the Preface written by Leo Janssen himself:

“...this idea has grown into an addictive, mystical religion in chess, with which each white player is provoked and taken off balance. The point is rather a certain chess style than specific variations; one has to grow into the system, as it were, with its many whimsical turns. This whimsicalness often provides equal opportunities, no equal positions.”

The contents is divided up as follows:

- 1 The Cub (6 pages)
- 2 The Lion's Den; variation after 4.f4 e5 (52 pages)
- 3 The Lion's Claw; attacking through h6 and g5 (48 pages)
- 4 The Lion's Head; double castling on the King side (100 pages)

- 5 The Lion's roar; sacrifices on f7 (56 pages)
- 6 The Lion's yawn; the advanced e7-e5 (26 pages)
- 7 The Lion's mouth; white advance with f3 and/or g4
- 8 Illustrative Games

I guess it's time to reveal what the Lion really is. It arises after 1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 3 Nc3 Nbd7.



Before going into the variations covered, I have to mention that the diagrams, of which there are many throughout the book, seem to cause eye strain; this should be fixed in future editions.

In chapter one, we are given a relatively short introduction to the system and shown couple of games by the authors, who also admit that many of the lines lead to the Philidor Defence (1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6), although the Hanham Variation (1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 Nf6 4 Nc3 Nbd7) would be a more accurate description. In fact, the entire system is built up around the fact that Black wants to play the Philidor Defence without having to deal without many of the lines that might be encountered on the way, such as the King's Gambit (1 e4 e5 2 f4) or 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 Nf6 4 dxe5, the Vienna Game/Gambit (1 e4 e5 2 Nc3 with f4 to follow) or the Bishop's Opening (1 e4 e5 2 Bc4). That aside, they did not cover 1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 3 Bd3, which is becoming increasingly popular or 3 Nd2, or for that matter 3 Nc3 Nbd7 4 g3, while the silly looking 4 g4 is covered in some detail.

However, in chapter 7, they recommend 3 f3 Nbd7, something that isn't even mentioned in ECO. It should be said that this line may transpose to a line in the Old Indian

Defence after 4 c4 c6 5 Nc3 e5 6 Be3 Be7. While I find their coverage of the 3 Nc3 fairly insightful, I find many of their lines and evaluations in the Old Indian type positions quite amusing. One such line is the following 7 d5 [diagram]. Here they give three options:

a) 7...c5 “followed by 8...a6, 9...b6, 10...0-0 and 11...Nh5, Black still has a well playable position.”

Interesting, but not a word about how White might be able to open the queenside without any problems at all by a3 and b4. Why make life more complicated than it is...?

b) 7...Qc7 8 Nh3 (they love developing the knight this way and don't mention Ng1-e2-c1-d3/b3 at any point) 8...h6 9 Nf2 c5!? 10 Qd2 Nf8 (the authors claim that 10...Nh7 is dubious on account of 11 Rd1! +=. I'm sorry, but this makes no sense at all; why on earth would White want to put his rook on d1? In fact, Black is probably doing better in this line, than in the main line we are following. However, after 11 Bd3 Bg5 12 Bxg5 Nxd3 and now castling in either direction should leave White a little better) 11 Be2 b6, and here the authors say “In this position the chances are equally divided; White has more room, but the black defense is solid and after White possibly castles on the King side Black can attack through g7-g5. That is why: =. In the game R. Van Liere-Ton Slagboom, Delft 1990, the move 12 Nd3 a5 resulted in a well-known draw-hedgehog position.” Hmmm! A well-known draw-hedgehog position is exactly what? In the resulting position, White is clearly better after a move such as 13 Bd1 intending Ba4+ followed by a3 and b4, which will leave White marching in on the queenside.

c) 7...h6 (“With the intention to become active on the King wing, but also to prevent a white piece from being played to g5.” – Which piece, if I may ask? The

exchange of the dark-squared bishops is in Black's favour...) 8 Qd2 Nf8 9 Rd1 g5 10 Nge2 Ng6 11 Ng3 Rg8. "In the resulting position (typical of Jansen [sic!]) Black has the initiative on the King wing, while White will work with b2-b4 and c4-c5; =+." This is what the authors have to say. Aside from fairly obvious ideas, including 10 h4!?, White is doing very well in the final position, e.g., 12 Nf5!? Bxf5 13 exf5 Nh4 14 Bd3 with a clear edge or 12 dxc6 bxc6 13 c5!? dxc5 14 Qc2 with better chances for White.

In chapter two, they look at 1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 3 Nc3 Nbd7 4 f4, which according to ECO is the critical line, so let's take a closer look at what they have to say about this. After 4...e5 5 Nf3 [diagram], Black has the choice between two lines, both of which lead to a slightly better game for White according to ECO:

a) 5...c6 6 dxe5 dxe5 7 fxe5 (both ECO and the present book also mention 7...Bc5, which is awarded a '?' by the authors of *The Lion*, quoting the game Leo Jansen-Ton Slagboom, Dordrecht 1991: 8 Nxe5 0-0 9 Nd3! With a clear advantage for White; In ECO, they don't make any mention of 9 Nd3 (which certainly deserves attention and may be a clear improvement), but instead quotes Smirin-Weinstein, Israel 1992, which went 9 Nxf7!? Qe7!? 10 Ng5+ Kh8 11 Qe2 Nb6 with chances to both sides) 7...Ng4 8 e6 (here the ECO gives 8 Bf4 as an alternative, quoting Graf-Ermenkov, Dubai 2000, but this move is strangely enough not covered in the book. This is by the way something that often occurs – grandmaster games are often not quoted although easily accessible in current databases) 8...fxe6 9 Ng5 Nde5 10 Qxd8+ Kxd8 11 h3 Nh6 12 Bf4 Ng6 13 0-0-0+ Ke8 14 Bc7, and here ECO only quotes 14...Be7, while our subject gives 14...Bc5! as best, giving some analysis leading to equal chances.

b) 5...exd4 6 Qxd4 c6 7 Be3 d5! (the ECO has 7...Be7 as main line, which in the present book is given a ‘?’, but this is mainly due to not having checked the analysis in Informator properly) 8 exd5 Bc5 9 Qd3 0-0 (ECO only mentions 9...Qe7) 10 0-0-0 Qb6! (or “10...cxd5, which seems to be sufficient for keeping the game in balance. White cannot play 11 Nxd5 because of 11...Nxd5 12 Qxd5 (12 Bxc5!?) fails because the bishop remains at e3.” But the suggested 12 Bxc5! leads to an edge for White after 12...Nxc5 13 Qxd5, so what are they talking about?) 11 Bxc5 Nxc5 12 Qd4 cxd5, and here they claim a clear edge for Black, although the chances probably is about equal. However, with 12 Qc4! White can improve, as he after 12...cxd5 now can play 13 Nxd5 since 13...Nxd5 is answered with 14 Rxd5 +/-.

So they have both found something new and missed something old in their coverage. This seems to be symptomatic, but overall the authors have added a lot of ideas of their own and a lot of independent analysis as well as many games that were not previously known to existing theory. As we have seen, not all of it is correct, and it should have been checked carefully with an analysis engine, while the text should have been edited by someone who speaks English better than the translator, Marlies van der Wal; there are many odd sentence constructions throughout, e.g., an exchange sacrifice a “quality sacrifice”, the kingside is the “King wing”, etc.


The book ends with a selection of illustrative games, something I find completely unnecessary in this case as the games really do not contain particularly instructive value nor anything else we couldn’t gather from the theoretical chapters, so that is plainly a waste of space.

Although the backcover blurb claims that the book presents Black with a repertoire against 1 d4 too, I didn’t find any

evidence of this, but I will suggest to those who finds this book of interest to use *An Explosive Chess Opening Repertoire for Black* as source for material regarding what to do against 1 d4, 1 c4 as well as any other first move.

The authors have impressed me with their willingness to offer new ideas and independent analysis over existing theory, these are things I rate very highly in opening books, and both are often very scarce in new books, but not this one.

Therefore I will recommend this book to players with a rating up to around 2100 who would like a new weapon against 1 e4 and who are willing to go through the lines carefully to see if they make sense to them too, because not all of the lines made sense to me. Stronger players may also be able to make use of the present book, but clearly they need to spend much more time going through the lines carefully and objectively, because objectivity is something the authors quite often have left at home.

My assessment of this book: 

ECO B – 4th Edition Zdenko Krnic (editor in chief) et al.,
2002 Sahovski Informator, Figurine Algebraic Notation,
Hardback, 672 pp., \$36.00

It wasn't long ago when I was very unhappy with the state of the new ECOs. The only new material they added to new editions of the ECOs were games and analysis that could already be found in the Informators. Clearly this practice was unacceptable as many other important games were played and published.



In the old days, they used to have a world class player edit the chapters where they had some experience, like for

example, Kasparov would write about the Tarrasch Queen's Gambit, Larsen about 1 b3 and 1 f4, just to mention two examples. That is unfortunately no longer so.

ECO B covers a lot of important ground, in fact all openings starting with 1 e4, except those where Black replies 1...e6 and 1...e5, can be found in the present Encyclopaedia.

The coverage is roughly split up as follows:

- B00 – 1...a6, 1...b6 and 1...Nc6 (5 pages)
- B01 – 1...d5 (13 pages)
- B02-05 – 1...Nf6 (31 pages)
- B06 – 1...g6 (10 pages)
- B07-09 - 1...d6 2 d4 Nf6 (43 pages)
- B10-19 - 1...c6 (64 pages)
- B20 – 1...c5 2 b4, 2 b3, 2 d4, 2 Ne2 and 2 g3 (4 pages)
- B21 – 1...c5 2 f4 (1 page)
- B22 – 1...c5 2 c3 (24 pages)
- B23-26 – 1...c5 2 Nc3 (12 pages)
- B27-29 – 1...c5 2 Nf3 not including 2...Nc6, 2...e6 and 2...d6 (7 pages)
- B30-39 – 1...c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 (68 pages)
- B40-49 – 1...c5 2 Nf3 e6 (86 pages)
- B50-59 – 1...c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 Bc4 and 6 Be2 (50 pages)
- B60-69 - 1...c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 Bg5 (40 pages)
- B70-79 - 1...c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 (48 pages)
- B80-89 - 1...c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 (90 pages)
- B90-99 - 1...c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 (56 pages)

Despite the ECO not being as outstanding as in the old days, it is still a tool the serious player should not be without as it gives an good overview over the current standing in the lines

covered.

My assessment of this book: 

[Order](#) *ECO B – 4th Edition*

The Ratings

 — **A poor book, not recommended.**

 — **Not a particularly good book, but perhaps useful for some readers.**

 — **A useful book.**

 — **Good book, recommended.**

 — **Excellent book, highly recommended.**

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