



## COLUMNISTS



**Chess Informant**  
Subscription Service

## Peter Leko Annotates

Zdenko Krnic  
Editor-in-Chief

Wijk aan Zee remains on the chess map of Europe as a traditional gathering place of the world's top players (Garry Kasparov was the only one missing), with a supporting cast of amateur players competing in the festival groups. All true fans of the elite summit, whether they were visitors, members of the press, or the chessplayers themselves, breathed a sigh of relief when Corus' representatives announced that sponsorship for the main event was secured until 2010.

Finishing first in such a prestigious event has never been an easy task. This time it was Peter Leko who gave a great performance, in spite of the fact that it was his first appearance after his grueling experience in Brissago against Kramnik. Failing to win the title was certainly upsetting, yet he managed to persevere and come back even stronger. His second round win with Black against the unanimous pre-tournament favorite, Anand, made a clear statement about his aspirations. Leko was the only participant that remained undefeated throughout the tournament and he could have won the event by an even greater margin had he managed to convert his dominant positions against Sokolov and Topalov into full points.

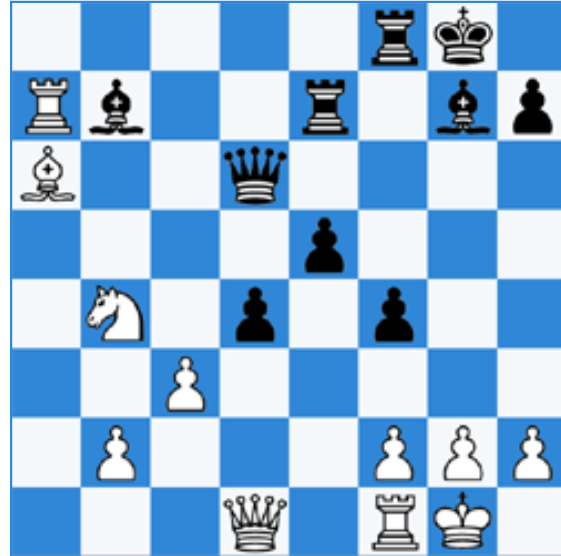
Whereas Leko's win against Anand became an instant classic; the way he outplayed Short was typical of his style: impeccable opening preparation followed by technically superb execution. In the post-game press conference, Leko emphasized the guidance and support that he received from his father-in-law, Arshak Petrosian. The Armenian grandmaster was the one who discovered the key move 23.Bd3!! and after 25.Qg5!! Black was already in big trouble.

Linares comes next and with it so does Kasparov. We wish Peter the best of luck, and a chance to prove his worth against the very best – where he most certainly belongs.

### ANAND 2786 – LEKO 2749 Wijk aan Zee 2005

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Bf6 gf6 10.Nd5 f5 11.c3 Bg7 12.ef5 Bf5 13.Nc2 0-0 14.Nce3 Be6 15.Bd3 f5 16.0-0 Ra7 17.a4 Ne7 18.Ne7 Re7 19.ab5 ab5 20.Bb5 d5 21.Ra6 [21.Nc2 see 74/(178)] f4!? [21...Kh8] 22.Nc2!? [22.Re6] Bc8! [a novelty;

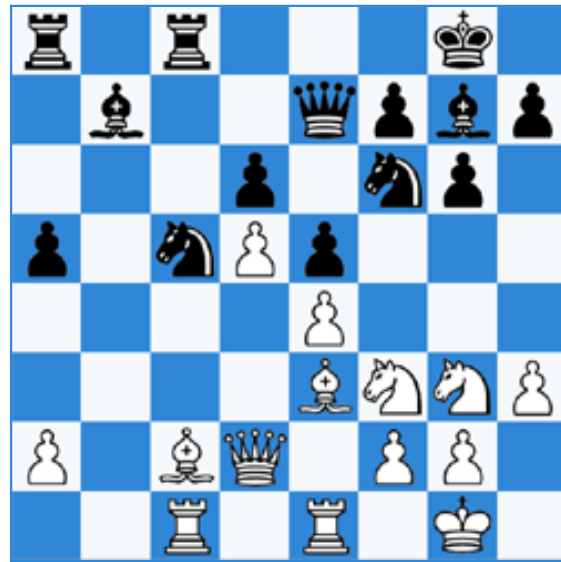
22...f3] **23.Ra8 Qd6! 24.Nb4** [24.Bc4 Bb7 25.Ra7 (25.Rf8 Bf8 with the idea Rg7) Rd8 with initiative] **Bb7 25.Ra7** [25.Rf8 Bf8! 26.Bc4 (26.Qa4? Rg7 27.Bc6 Qg6 28.g3 fg3 29.hg3 Bc5! and Black is winning) Rd7 27.Bb3 Kh8 with compensation] **d4!** (with counterplay) **26.Ba6?** [26.Bc4? Kh8 27.Bd5 Bd5 28.Re7 Bg2!; 26.Bc6 Bc6 27.Re7 Qe7 28.Nc6 Qe6 with compensation; 26.Bd3!? Qc5 (26...e4? 27.Rb7 Rb7 28.Be4) 27.Rb7 (27.Qh5 Bf6) Rb7 28.Be4 with compensation; 26.Qa4!?]



**26...Bg2!! 27.Bc4** [27.Qb3 Kh8!? 28.Re7 Qg6 29.f3 Bf3 30.Kf2 Qg2 31.Ke1 Bf6! and Black is winning; 27...Bd5 and Black is winning; 27.Re7 Qg6! 28.Re6 Bf6 and Black is winning] **Kh8 28.Ra6** [28.Re7 Qg6! 29.Bf7 (29.Re6 Bf6 and Black is winning) Rf7 30.Re8 Bf8 and Black is winning] **Qc5 29.Kg2 f3! 30.Kh1 Qc4 31.Rc6 Qb5! 32.Rd6** [32.Qd3 Qd3 33.Nd3 e4 and Black is winning] **e4 33.Rd4 Bd4** [33...Qh5!? 34.Rd5 (34.Nc6? Qg6! and Black is winning) Be5 35.Re5 Re5] **34.Qd4 Qe5 35.Qe5 Re5** (and Black is winning) **36.Nc2 Rb8 37.Ne3 Rc5 38.h3! Rb2 39.c4 Rg5 40.Kh2 Kg8** time [40...h5!? 41.h4 Rg6] **41.h4 Rg6 42.Kh3 Kf7!** [42...h5 43.Nd5! Kf7 44.Nf4! Rc6 45.Nh5 Rc4 46.Kg3 and Black is superior] **43.Nf5** [43.h5 Rg5 44.Kh4 Kf6 45.Ra1 (45.Ng4 Kf5 46.Ne3 Kf4 47.Nd5 Rd5 48.cd5 Rd2 and Black is winning) Rg8 and Black is winning] **Rc2 44.Ne3 Rd2 45.c5 Ke6 46.c6 Rg8 47.c7 Rc8 48.Kg3 Rc7 49.Kf4** [49.Ra1 Ke5 50.Ra5 Kd4 51.Rd5 Kc3 52.Nd1 Kc2 53.Ne3 Kc1 and Black is winning] **Rd4 50.Ra1 Rf7 51.Kg3 Rd8 52.Ra6 Ke5 53.Ng4 Kd5 54.Nf6?!** [54.Ra5 Kd6 (54...Kd4 55.Ra4) 55.Ra6 Kc5 56.Ra5 Kb6 57.Re5 Rd4 and Black is winning] **Rf6! 55.Rf6 Ke5 56.Rh6 Rg8 57.Kh3 e3 0-1 [Leko]**

## LEKO 2749 – N. SHORT 2674 Wijk aan Zee 2005

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Nb8 10.d4 Nbd7 11.Nbd2 Bb7 12.Bc2 Re8 13.Nf1 Bf8 14.Ng3 g6 15.b3 Bg7 16.d5 Qe7** [16...Rc8 see 90/(308)] **17.c4 c6 18.Be3! Rec8 19.Rc1! a5 20.Qd2 bc4** [a novelty; 20...b4 and White is slightly better; 20...Nc5 and White is slightly better] **21.bc4 cd5** [21...Ba6 22.Ba4!] **22.cd5 Nc5**



**23.Bd3!!** (and White is superior) **h5** [23...Nfd7 24.Bb5 and White is superior, with the idea 24...Ba6 25.Bc6; 23...Nd3 24.Rc8!! (24.Qd3 Rc1 25.Rc1 Bd5!! 26.ed5 e4 with counterplay) Bc8 25.Qd3 Ba6 26.Qa3 Qd8 27.Rb1 and White is superior, with the idea Rb6, with the idea Nd2-b3] **24.Bc5 dc5 25.Qg5!!** [25.Bb5 Ne8! 26.Be8 Qe8 with the idea c4, Qf8 diagonal a3-f8, c1-h6] **Rc7?!** [25...Qc7 a) 26.Qe5? Nd5! 27.Qc7 Nc7 28.Rc5 Ne6 with compensation; b) 26.Bb5 Ne8 27.Be8 Re8 28.Nf1 (28.Nd2 Kh7! with the idea Bh6) Kh7 29.Qd2 Bh6 30.Ne3 and White is slightly better; c) 26.Rc2! and White is superior, with the idea Rec1 weak point c5, e5; 25...Qf8 26.Ne5 Nh7 27.Qf4 Bh6 28.Qf3 Bc1 29.Rc1 and White is superior] **26.Nf1!** [26.Bc4? Ne8 27.Qg6!? fg6 28.d6 Kf8 29.de7 Ke7 with the idea 30.Nh4?! Kf6! unclear] **Rac8 27.N1d2 Ne8** [27...c4 28.Rc4 Qa3 29.Ne5 and White is winning] **28.Qe7 Re7 29.Nc4 Ba6 30.Nfe5!** (and White is winning) **Be5 31.Ne5 c4** [31...Bd3 32.Nd3 c4 33.e5] **32.Bc4 Re5 33.Ba6 Rc1 34.Rc1 Re4 35.f3! Re5?!** [35...Re7] **36.Rc5! h4** [36...a4 37.d6! Rc5 38.d7; 36...Nf6 37.Ra5; 36...Nd6 37.Ra5 Re1 (37...h4 38.Kf2) 38.Kf2 Rb1 39.Bd3 Rb2 40.Ke3 Rg2 41.Ra6] **37.d6!** [37...Rc5 38.d7] **1-0 [Leko]**


[TOP OF PAGE](#)

[HOME](#)

[COLUMNS](#)

[LINKS](#)

[ARCHIVES](#)

[ABOUT THE CHESS CAFE](#)
[\[ChessCafecom Home Page\]](#) [\[Book Review\]](#) [\[Columnists\]](#)
[\[Endgame Study\]](#) [\[The Skittles Room\]](#) [\[Archives\]](#)
[\[Links\]](#) [\[Online Bookstore\]](#) [\[About ChessCafecom\]](#) [\[Contact Us\]](#)

Copyright 2005 Russell Enterprises, Inc All Rights Reserved

"The Chess Cafe®" is a registered trademark of Russell Enterprises, Inc