

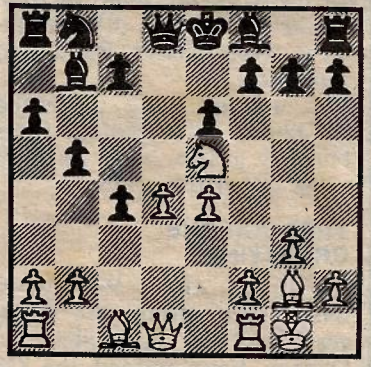
Crushing brevities

BEGINNERS' MOVES still work — even in Olympiads. Sitting in our hotel in Buenos Aires during the 23rd Chess Olympiad, certain members of the New Zealand chess team were amusing themselves by playing through a few crushing brevities from earlier rounds, when we came across the following game.

Gennardy Sosonko from Holland had beaten Lars-Aroirk Schneider of Sweden in just 21 moves. But what caused great consternation in the Kiwi ranks was the winning move, which looked exactly the sort a beginner would play hoping his opponent missed mate in one!

Can you find what Sosonko played?

SCHNEIDER



SOSONKO

Solution: Sosonko found 1. Qh5! which leaves Black with no good defence, e.g. 1... Qe7 2. Bg5.

Schneider instead tried the logical 1... g6, only to fall victim to an astonishing combination.

- 2. N×g6! 1×g6
 - 3. Qe5
- and Black must lose his rook! 3... Rg8 meets*
- 4. Q×e6 ch so Black tried
 - 3... Nd7
 - 4. c h8 Qe7
 - 5. h 0-0-0

But after 6. Bg5 one did not have to know Spanish to understand "las negras abandonan" a few moves later!

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