

# Kramnik vs. Deep Fritz

by Karsten Müller



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## **Introduction**

The chess world had to wait quite a long time for revenge following Kasparov's loss against Deep Blue in New York 1997. Kramnik had learned from this match and demanded to have a copy of the program two weeks in advance for his preparation. ChessBase could only change the opening book and the size of the hash tables during the match. Kramnik chose Germany's highest rated player, GM Christopher Lutz as his second, and headed off to the Gulf state Bahrein at the beginning of October 2002.

At the start, the match had many similarities with Kramnik's win over Kasparov in the Braingames World Championship, London 2000. Kramnik drew easily in the first round using the Berlin Wall. In the second game, he won because of his fantastic endgame technique, as in his second game against Kasparov in London. In the third game, he again managed to defeat the computer program and with such ease that everyone expected Kramnik would coast to victory. But in games 5 and 6 the computer showed its teeth. Its tactical abilities and toughness brought it two straight victories and a psychological advantage for the remaining two games. But Kramnik probably remembered Kasparov's disastrous loss in the last round game against Deep Blue in New York 1997 and decided to aim for two draws to at least draw the match. Now we will wait and see if Kasparov manages to win against Deep Junior in Jerusalem, December 2002.

I want to thank ChessBase for allowing me to use my annotations from their website ([www.chessbase.com](http://www.chessbase.com)), and Hanon W. Russell and Mark C. Donlan for preparing the e-book and PDF version.

GM Dr. Karsten Müller  
Hamburg October 2002

## Game One

**Deep Fritz – Vladimir Kramnik (2807)**  
Brains in Bahrain (1), 04.10.2002 [C67]

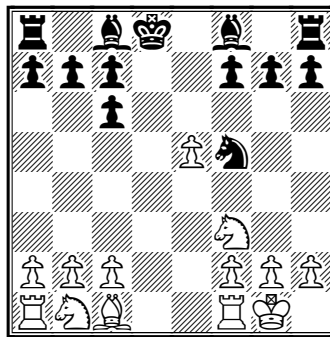
Can Kramnik beat Deep Fritz and avenge Kasparov's defeat against Deep Blue in New York in 1997? The tension was increased by the postponement of this match, but we can hope that Kramnik will strike back first and that Kasparov will win his upcoming match against Deep Junior, so that the ball will be back in the machines court.

A match against a machine is very different from a match against a human, so Kramnik's strategy will be to aim at closed, controlled positions that are difficult to play for a tactical-oriented computer program. But he could also use his preparation from the World Championship match against Kasparov. The Berlin wall is a good weapon, if you are: A) Kramnik and B) the opponent is a computer program (it also worked very well in his match against Kasparov). See for yourself.

**1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♕b5 ♖f6**

The Berlin Defense – also called the Berlin Wall. 3...a6 is the main line.

**4.0-0 ♗×e4 5.d4 ♗d6 6.♗×c6 d×c6 7.d×e5 ♖f5 8.♙×d8+ ♚×d8**



Black's bishop-pair compensates for his weakened pawn structure on the queenside (the pure pawn ending would be lost!) and White's advantage in development. There is a heated debate at the moment as to whether Black's compensation is sufficient, but this is not the interesting question in this match. It is more important how Fritz plays such positions, if it feels at home or not. And so today Kramnik's choice was correct, especially as I think that Kramnik is satisfied with four draws as Black and will try for more with White. We will soon find out.

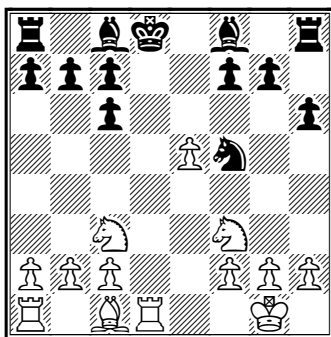
### 9. ♖c3 h6 10. b3

GM Ronen Har Zvi also played the Berlin in a Man vs. Machine event at Kasparov Chess. He did quite well with it, and I'm sure that Kramnik has studied this game carefully.

10. ♖d2 ♖e8 11. ♖ad1 ♖e6 12. ♖fe1 ♖d8 13. a4 ♖b4 14. ♖e4 ♖xd2 15. ♖xd2 ♖xd2 16. ♖fxd2 ♖e7 17. f3 ♖d8 18. ♖f2 b6 19. b4 g5 20. g3 ♖d5 21. c4 ♖d3 22. ♖b1 ♖a3 23. a5 ♖a2 24. g4 ♖h4 25. ♖e3 ♖a3+ 26. ♖b3 ♖xb3+ 27. ♖xb3 ♖xc4 28. ♖d4 ♖d5 29. a6 ♖g6 30. ♖f5+ ♖e6 31. ♖xh6 ♖xe4 32. ♖xe4 ♖xe5 33. ♖f5 f6 34. ♖d4+ ♖d7 35. h3 c5 36. bxc5 bxc5 37. ♖e2 c4 38. f4 ♖d3 39. fxg5 fxg5 40. ♖f5 ♖f2 41. ♖xg5 ♖xh3+ 42. ♖h5 ♖d6 43. g5 ♖xg5 44. ♖xg5 ♖c5 45. ♖f4 ♖b6 46. ♖e5 ♖xa6 ½-½, Deep Junior-Har Zvi, R Kasparov Chess, Internet 2000.

10. h3 Kramnik has done well with this move: 10... ♖d7 (10... ♖e8 11. ♖e4 c5 12. c3 b6 13. ♖e1 ♖e6 14. g4 ½-½, Kasparov, G-Kramnik, V London 2000) 11. b3 ♖c8 12. ♖b2 b6 13. ♖ad1 ♖e7 14. ♖d2 c5 15. ♖fd1 ♖e6 16. ♖e2 g5 17. h4 g4 18. ♖h2 h5 19. ♖d8+ ♖b7 20. ♖xa8 ♖xa8 21. ♖d8+ ♖b7 22. ♖f4 ♖g6 23. g3 c4 24. bxc4?? An unbelievable blunder by Anand. 24... ♖xf4 25. gxf4 g3!! 26. ♖f1 (26. fxg3 ♖c5+ 27. ♖g2 ♖xd8 --) 26... gxf2+ 27. ♖h2 ♖xc4 0-1, Anand, V-Kramnik, V Mainz 2001.

Judit Polgar was able to defeat Garry Kasparov with 10. ♖d1+!? in a rapid event. Kasparov was apparently so impressed with Kramnik's treatment of the Berlin Defense that he introduced it into his own repertoire.



10... ♖e8 11. h3 ♖e7 (11... a5 12. ♖f4 ♖e6 13. g4 ♖e7 14. ♖d4 ♖d5 15. ♖ce2 ♖c5 16. ♖xe6 fxe6 17. c4 ♖b6 18. b3 a4 19. ♖d2 ♖f7 20. ♖c3 ♖hd8 21. ♖xd8 ♖xd8 22. ♖g2 ♖d3 23. ♖c1 g5 24. ♖c2 axb3 25. axb3 ♖d7 26. ♖a2 ♖e7 27. ♖a7 ♖c5 28. f3 ♖xb3 29. ♖xb7 ♖c1 30. ♖xc1 ♖xc3 ½-½, Kasparov, G-Kramnik, V London 2000) 12. ♖e2 ♖h4 13. ♖xh4 ♖xh4 14. ♖e3 ♖f5 15. ♖d4 ♖h7 16. g4 ♖e7 17. ♖g2 h5 18. ♖f5 ♖f8 19. ♖f3 ♖g6 20. ♖d2 hxg4+ 21. hxg4 ♖h3+ 22. ♖g2 ♖h7 23. ♖g3 f6 24. ♖f4 ♖xf5 25. gxf5 fxe5 26. ♖e1 ♖d6 27. ♖xe5 ♖d7 28. c4

c5 29.♙xd6 cxd6 30.♞e6 ♖ah8 31.♞exd6+ ♜c8 32.♞2d5 ♞h3+ 33.♜g2 ♞h2+ 34.♜f3 ♞2h3+ 35.♜e4 b6 36.♞c6+ ♜b8 37.♞d7 ♞h2 38.♜e3 ♞f8 39.♞cc7 ♞xf5 40.♞b7+ ♜c8 41.♞dc7+ ♜d8 42.♞xg7 ♜c8 1-0, Polgar,J-Kasparov,G Moscow 2002.

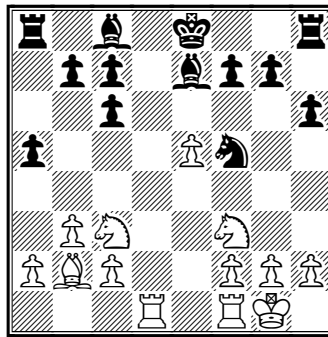
### 10...♜e8

Kramnik voluntarily leaves the d-file and goes for a very solid setup with his bishops on e7 and e6, and pawns at h5 and a5. This position can only be stormed with very long-term plans that are difficult for the computer to find. So it is an ideal position against Deep Fritz, but a disappointment for chess fans who want to see fiery combinations.

### 11.♙b2 ♙e7

Kramnik has certainly studied the following game: 11...a5 12.♗e2 a4 13.♗f4 ♙e6 14.g4 ♗e7 15.♗xe6 fxe6 16.♗d4 (16.♜g2!?) 16...♜f7 17.c4 (17.f4 ♗d5) 17...h5!= 18.♗f3 ♗g6 19.♗g5+ ♜e7 20.♙a3+ ♜e8 21.♙xf8 ♗xf8 22.♞ad1 hxg4 23.♞d4 ♞h6 24.♞xg4 axb3 25.axb3 ♞a3= 0-1, Klovans,J-Dautov,R Minsk 1986.

### 12.♞ad1 a5



Kramnik cleverly holds back his bishop on c8 to retain the bishop-pair.

12...♙e6 13.♗e2 ♞d8 14.♞xd8+ ♙xd8 15.♞d1 ♞g8 16.♗f4 g5 17.♗xe6 fxe6 18.g4 ♗e7 19.♗d4 ♞g6 20.c4 c5 21.♗e2 ♞g8 22.♗g3 ♗g6 23.♗h5 ♙e7 24.♜g2 ♞f8 25.♜g3 ♞f7 26.♞d3 ♙d8 27.f3 b6 28.♜f2 ♞d7 29.♞xd7 ♜xd7 30.♜e3 ♜e8 31.♜e4 ♜f7 32.♙c1 c6 33.♙e3 ♗f8 Now the white pawn majority is a clear danger. 34.f4 gxh4 35.♙xf4 ♜g6 36.♗f6 ♙xf6 37.exf6 ♗d7 38.h3 b5 39.f7 h5 40.gxh5+ ♜xf7 41.♜d3 ♜f6 42.a4 a6 43.a5 ♜f5 44.♜e3 ♗f6 45.h6 bxc4 46.bxc4 ♜g6 47.♙e5 ♗h7 48.♙f4 ♗f6 49.♜f3 ♜f5 50.h4 ♜g6 51.♙e5 ♗g8 52.♙g7 ♗e7 53.♜e4 ♗f5 54.h5+ ♜f7 55.♙e5 ♗xh6 56.♜f4 ♗f5 57.♜g5 ♜g8 58.♜g6 ♗h4+ 59.♜f6 1-0, Klovans,J-Reichenbach,W Berlin 1998.

### 13.a4

13.g4?! doesn't achieve anything: 13...♟h4 14.♞xh4 ♞xh4 15.h3 h5 and Black has no problems.

### 13...h5

Secures the f5-knight and allows ♞h6, if needed.

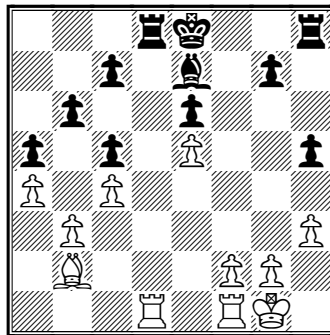
### 14.♞e2 ♞e6 15.c4

15.♞f4!? g5 16.♞xe6 fxe6 17.♞d2 was also possible (or 17.♞d3).

### 15...♞d8!

This is a good strategy, since the black rooks are uncoordinated and White has control of the d-file.

### 16.h3 b6 17.♞fd4 ♞xd4 18.♞xd4 c5 19.♞xe6 fxe6



The bishop-pair has been halved, but the black position is very solid. An important detail is that the e5-pawn is on the same color square as the bishop on b2. This makes it a weak piece with no prospects on either wing (an important restriction technique). Does Fritz see and understand this?

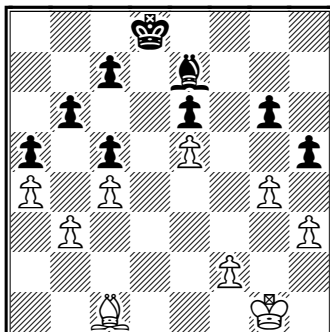
### 20.♞xd8+ ♝xd8 21.♞c1 ♝c8

Kramnik plans to exchange the other rook as well, so that Fritz only has the bishop left.

### 22.♞d1 ♞d8 23.♞xd8+ ♝xd8 24.g4 g6

After 24...h×g4?! 25.h×g4, White has the plan f4, ♝g1-g2-h3 and ♞c1-d2-e1-h4 etc. For this reason Kramnik leaves the white pawn on h3.





### 25.h4?

A human would not play this move, as it leads to an immediate draw. In the post-game press conference, GM Danny King was eager to find out whether such a “poor” move could be avoided by Fritz in future versions. Deep Fritz operator Matthias Feist acknowledged this and provided adequate explanations and excuses. Most were in agreement until the proverbial bubble was burst when Kramnik politely pointed out that 25.h4 was surely White’s best move in the position!

An alternative strategy would have been 25.♖g2 ♜e8 26.♜f3 ♜f7 27.♞e4, with the idea f2-f4-f5. Kramnik will certainly have checked such endgames, but I am unable to quickly find the correct defense. After seeing the analyses of Notkin and Stertenbrink, I reexamined the endgame and found the following lines: 27...♞d8 (27...h×g4?! 28.h×g4 White plans ♜f3-g3-h3 followed by ♞g3-h4. So 28...g5 (28...♞h4 29.♞e3 (29.f4 ♞e1 30.f5 g×f5+ 31.g×f5 ♞e7 32.♞g5+ ♞d7 (Notkin) 33.f6 (33.♞f6 ♞c3 34.♜f4 ♞d2+ 35.♞g4 ♞e3=) 33...♞e8 34.f7+ ♜×f7 35.♞d8 c6 36.♞×b6 ♞b4 37.♜f4 ♞g6 38.♞g4 ♞h6=) 29...♞e8 (29...g5? is wrong, e.g. 30.♞d3 ♞g6 31.♞e2 ♞h6 32.♞d2 ♞g6 33.♞e1 ♞h6 34.f3 ♞×e1 35.♞×e1 ♞g6 36.♜f2 ♞h6 37.♞g3 ♞g7 38.f4 g×f4+ 39.♜×f4 ♞g6 40.♞g3 ♞g5 41.♞h3 ♜f4 42.♞h4 ♜×e5 43.g5 ♜f5 44.♞h5+-) 30.♜f3 (30.g5 ♞×f2 31.♞×f2 is drawn (Stertenbrink): 31...♞d7 32.♞d3 ♞c6 33.♞c2 ♞b7 34.b4 a×b4 35.a5 ♞a6 36.a×b6 c×b6 37.♞b3 ♞b7 38.♞a4 ♞c6 39.♞e1 ♞c7 40.♞b5 ♞b7 41.♞d2 ♞c7 42.♞a6 ♞c6 and White can’t make progress as 43.♞a7?? b5--+ even loses.) 30...♜f7 31.♞g2 ♞e7 32.f4 ♞d8 33.♞h3 ♞e7 34.♞f2 ♞g7 35.♞h4 (35.♞g2 ♜f7 36.♜f3 ♞d8 37.♞e4 ♞e7 38.f5 g×f5+ 39.g×f5 ♞g5=) 35...♞×h4 36.♜×h4 ♞h6 37.♞g3 ♞g7 38.♜f3 ♜f7 39.♞e4 ♞e7 40.f5 g5= and Black’s fortress is impregnable because of the reserve tempo c7-c6.) 29.f4 g×f4 30.♞×f4 ♞g6 31.♜f3 c6 32.♞g3 ♞d8 33.♞h3 with the idea ♞f4-g3-h4.) 28.f4 ♞e7 29.f5 h×g4 30.h×g4 c6 31.f6 ♞d8 and the black position should be quite impenetrable, since the following plan does not succeed: 32.♞e3 ♞c7 33.b4? a×b4 34.a5? b3--+; 25.g×h5?! g×h5 26.♞g2 ♞e8 27.♜f3 ♜f7 28.♞e4 ♞g6 29.f4 c6 is totally drawn of course.

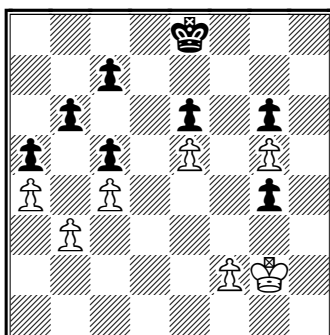
**25...h×g4!**

If Deep Fritz was a human being, one would think that it was hoping for 25...♙×h4??. The danger is 26.g5 and the bishop will never see the light of day. However, Kramnik later told us that he actually considered it, although White can capture the bishop with ♖g1-g2-h3, this does not give him a path to penetrate. In fact, Guenter Stertenbrink, Bjoern Frank and Maxim Notkin proved that the position is still drawn after 26...♙×f2+ 27.♖×f2.

**26.♙g5 ♙×g5 27.h×g5**

The pawn endgame is totally drawn, as there is no way for either king into the enemy camp.

**27...♖e8 28.♖g2 ½-½**



## Game Two

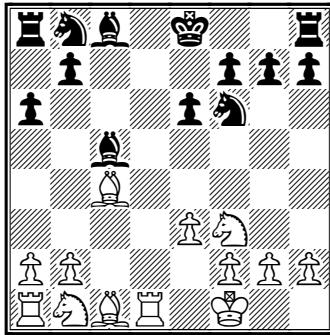
*Vladimir Kramnik (2807) – Deep Fritz*  
Brains in Bahrain (2), 06.10.2002 [D27]

Kramnik has found a good strategy against Deep Fritz. As in his match against Kasparov, he exchanges queens quickly to reach an endgame with just one or two open files that are both firmly under control. This minimizes the danger of tactical surprises by the computer and retains the chance of winning the endgame with his fantastic technique. Well done Vladimir!

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.♟f3 ♞f6 4.e3 e6 5.♙xc4 c5 6.0-0 a6 7.dxc5 ♜xd1  
8.♞xd1**

This move looks modest, but Kramnik knows how to keep increasing the +/- in such positions.

**8...♙xc5 9.♞f1!?**



Did Kramnik want to bring Fritz out of his opening database? Here are some of Kramnik's previous games: 9.♞bd2 b6 10.♙e2 ♞bd7 11.♞c4 (11.♞b3 ♙e7 12.♞fd4 ♙b7 13.f3 0-0 14.e4 ♞fc8 15.♙e3 ♞f8 16.♞d2 ♞e5 17.♞4b3 ♞c6 18.♞ac1 ♞ac8 19.♞xc6 ♞xc6 20.g4 h6 21.h4 ♙c8 22.g5 hxg5 23.hxg5 ♞fd7 24.f4 ♞g6 25.♞f3 ♞c2 26.♙xa6 ♙xa6 27.♞xd7 ♞xb2 28.♞a7 ♙b5 29.f5 exf5 30.exf5 ♞e2 31.♞fd4 ♞e1+ 32.♞f2 ♞f1+ 33.♞g2 ♞h4+ 34.♞h3 ♞h1+ 35.♞g4 ♙e8 36.♙f2 ♞g2 37.♞a8 ♞f1 38.♞f3 ♞h4+ 39.♞e2 ♞h1 40.♞b5 ♙xg5 41.♞c7 ♞e7 42.♞xe8 ♞xf5 43.♙xb6 ♞d7 44.a4 ♞h3 45.♞c5+ ♞c6 46.a5 ♞e3+ 47.♞d1 ♞e7 48.♞c8+ ♞b5 49.♞e4 ♞xe4 50.♞c5+ ♞a6 51.♞c7+ ♞b7 52.♞xf5 ♙e3 53.♙xe3 ♞xe3 54.♞xf7 ♞e5 55.a6+ ♞b6 56.♞xg7 ♞a5 57.♞d2 ♞a1 58.♞c2 ♞h1 59.♞b2 ♞h8 60.♞b3 ♞c8 61.a7 ♞xa7 62.♞b4 ♞b6 63.♞d5+ ♞a6 64.♞g6+ ♞b7 65.♞b5 ♞c1 66.♞g2 ♞c8 67.♞g7 ♞d8 68.♞f6 ♞c7 69.♞g5 ♞f7 70.♞d5 ♞d7 71.♞g6 ♞f1 72.♞c5 ♞c1+ 73.♞d4 ♞d1+ 74.♞e5 ½-½, Kramnik,V-Kasparov,G London 2000) 11...♙b7 12.b3 ♞e7?! (12...0-0 13.♙b2 ♙d5 14.♞ac1 ♞fc8 15.♞fe5 b5 16.♞xd7 ♞xd7 17.♞d2 ♙b4 18.♞b1 ♞b6

19.f3 ♖xc1 20.♖xc1 ♖c8 21.♖xc8+ ♗xc8 22.♗a3 ♗xa3 23.♗xa3 b4 24.♗c2 a5 25.♗a6 ♗b6 26.e4 ♗c6 27.♖f2 ½-½, Kramnik,V-Lautier,J Monte Carlo 1997) 13.♗b2 ♖hd8 14.♗e1 b5 15.♗a5 ♗e4 16.♗f3 ♗xf3 17.gxf3 ♖dc8 18.♗d3 ♖ab8 19.♗xc5 ♖xc5 20.♖ac1 ♖e8 21.♗d4 ♖xc1 22.♖xc1 ♖a8 23.♖f1 e5 24.♗b2 ♗d5 25.♖d1 ♗e7 26.♗b7 ♗c8 27.♖c1 f6 28.♗a3 a5 29.♖c7 b4 30.♗c1 ♗a7 31.♗d6+ ♖d8 32.♖b7 ♗c8 33.♗c4 a4 34.♗d2 axb3 35.axb3 ♖a7 36.♖xa7 ♗xa7 37.♗xb4 ♖c7 38.♖e2 ♖c6 39.♖d3 g6 40.♗e7 ♗c8 41.♗d8 ♖b5 42.♖c3 ♗a7 43.♗d6+ ♖c6 44.♗e4 f5 45.♗g5 h5 46.e4 ♗b5+ 47.♖c4 ♗d4 48.b4 ♗b5 49.♗e7 ♗d4 50.f4 ♗b5 51.exf5 gxf5 52.♗f7 exf4 1-0, Kramnik,V-Karpov,A Frankfurt 1999).

**9...b5 10.♗e2 ♗b7 11.♗bd2 ♗bd7 12.♗b3 ♗f8?**

This move is unconvincing. A human would just not play it. Apparently the computer believed that 12.♗b3 was to be followed by 13.♗d2, repeating for a draw of all things! The Fritz team did not look happy.

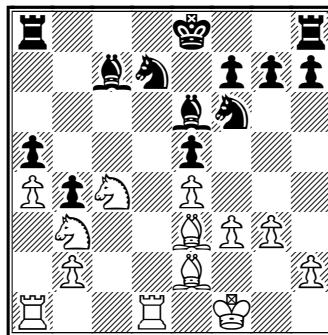
**13.a4!**

A typical strategy to create squares for White's pieces, along with weaknesses in Black's camp.

**13...b4 14.♗fd2**

Kramnik immediately sends his knight to the newly available c4-square.

**14...♗d5 15.f3 ♗d6 16.g3 e5 17.e4 ♗e6 18.♗c4 ♗c7 19.♗e3 a5**



Don't play this kind of move cavalierly! The b5-square and the a5-pawn are now very weak. White has a nice +/- position, which is even nicer against a machine, as Black has almost no counterplay. Black wants to castle and bring his king's rook into play, so Kramnik decides to prevent this and keep the initiative.

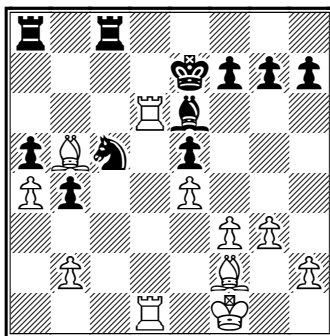
**20.♗c5 (20.♖ac1!?) 20...♗xc5 21.♗xc5 ♗d7 22.♗d6+ ♖f8**

22...♖e7? 23.♗f5+ ♖f6 24.♙e7+ ♖g6 25.♞ac1±.

**23.♙f2 ♙x d6**

Deep Fritz cedes Kramnik the bishop-pair to ease the pressure, but the bishops constitute a long-term advantage. 23...♖e7 24.♗f5+ ±.

**24.♞x d6 ♖e7 25.♞ad1 ♞hc8 26.♙b5 ♗c5!**



This looks like a tactical mistake, but computer programs do not commit such errors. So think hard and you will see what Fritz had up his sleeve.

**27.♙c6 ♙c4+!**

27...♞a6?? 28.♙xc5 ♞axc6 29.♞xc6+ +- with check.; 27...♞xc6? 28.♞xc6 ♗xa4 29.♞d2±.

**28.♖e1 ♗d3+ 29.♞1xd3 ♙xd3 30.♙c5! (30.♞xd3?? ♞xc6+-) 30...♙c4**

30...♙c2 31.♖d2 ♙xa4?? 32.♞d5+ ♖f6 33.♙xa4+-.

**31.♞d4+ ♖f6 32.♞xc4 ♞xc6 33.♙e7+ ♖xe7 34.♞xc6**

The rook ending is better for White, as Black's rook must passively defend the a-pawn. The main principle of rook endings is: activity at all costs.

**34...♖d7**

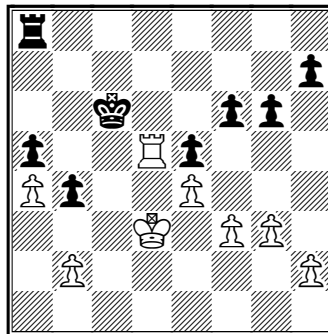
34...♞d8 35.♖e2 does not help.

**35.♞c5 f6?**

Now Black has to stay passive. Notkin showed in *Chess Today* No.699 that 35...♞c8! is stronger, as the rook is activated after 36.♞xa5 ♞c2. The pawn

endgame after 36.♖xc8 is drawn, but the points are very deep – so even Deep Fritz has difficulties spotting them. The main line of Notkin’s analysis goes: 36.♖xc8 ♜xc8 37.♞d2 ♞d7 38.♞d3 ♞d6 39.♞c4 ♞c6 and Black has the opposition. White can’t win the fight for tempi, e.g. 40.h4 g6 41.g4 h5 42.g5 ♞d6 43.♞b5 f6! 44.gxf6 g5 45.hxg5 ♞e6 46.♞xa5 h4 and the resulting queen endgame is drawn.

**36.♞d2 ♞d6 37.♖d5+ ♞c6 38.♞d3 g6?!**



This weakens Black’s position. 38...♖a7 is better.

**39.♞c4 g5 40.h3 h6 41.h4 g×h4 42.g×h4 ♖a7 43.h5**

Kramnik has all the time in the world and improves his position as much as possible before playing ♖d8.

**43...♖a8**

Now Kramnik maneuvers to lose a tempo and thus bring Fritz into zugzwang. He could do this by b2-b3, but this may waste an important reserve tempo. Rubinstein and Capablanca would certainly be impressed!

**44.♖c5+**

44.♞d3, with the plan ♞e3 and f4, also comes into consideration.

**44...♞b6 45.♖b5+**

45.♞d5?? ♖d8+ 46.♞c4 ♖d4+ -+.

**45...♞c6 46.♖d5 Zugzwang. 46...♞c7?!**

46...♖a7 47.♖d8 ♖c7 48.♖f8 ♞d6+ should lose as well, but at least it is more active.

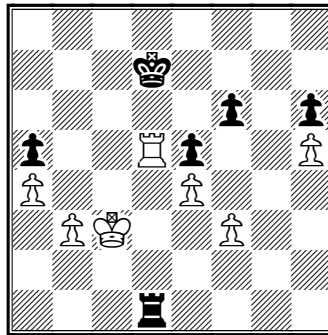
47. ♖b5 b3 48. ♘d3 ♘a7 49. ♗x b3 ♖b7+ 50. ♕c4 ♘a7

The pawn endgame after 50... ♗x b3 is lost because of White's distant passed pawn: 51. ♕x b3 ♖b6 52. ♕c4 ♖c6 53. b4+-.

51. ♖b5 ♘a8 52. ♕d5 ♘a6 53. ♗c5+ ♕d7 54. b3 ♘d6+

54... ♘a7 55. ♖b5 ♖e7 56. ♕c6 ♘a8 57. ♖b7 ♘d8 58. ♗x a5+-.

55. ♕c4 ♘d4+ 56. ♕c3 ♘d1 57. ♗d5+ 1-0



Simplifying into a pawn ending is the easiest way to win: 57... ♗x d5 58. exd5 ♕d6 59. b4 axb4+ 60. ♕xb4 ♖x d5 61. ♖b5 ♕d6 (61... f5 62. a5 e4 63. fxe4+ fxe4 64. a6 e3 65. a7 e2 66. a8 ♖+-) 62. a5 f5 63. a6 ♖c7 64. ♕c5 e4 65. fxe4 fxe4 66. ♕d4 ♖b6 67. ♕xe4 ♖xa6 68. ♖f5 ♖b6 69. ♖g6 ♖c7 70. ♕xh6 ♕d7 71. ♕g7+- . Until now Kramnik has managed to impose his will and reach simple technical positions with everything under control. Let's see if Fritz manages to complicate matters in two days.

## Game Three

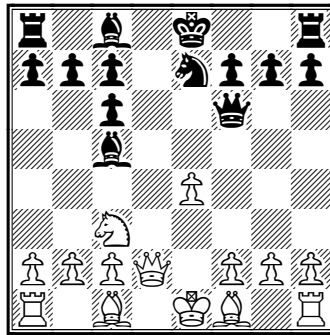
*Deep Fritz – Vladimir Kramnik (2807)*  
Brains in Bahrain (3), 08.10.2002 [C45]

This time Fritz decided to circumvent the Berlin Wall, but Kramnik had another good anti-computer strategy prepared. He seems to have done a very thorough job of adjusting to playing against computers!

1.e4 e5 2.♟f3 ♞c6 3.d4 e×d4 4.♞×d4 ♙c5 5.♞×c6

The principled reply. White hopes to neutralize Black's initiative, and then win with his pawn majority on the kingside after d×c6.

5...♞f6 6.♞d2 d×c6 7.♞c3 ♞e7



Kramnik probably wanted to bring Fritz out of his opening book. Did he already know that a2-a3 would follow? In the Kasparov-Short match, the following line was discussed: 7...♙e6 8.♞a4 ♞d8 9.♙d3 ♙d4 10.0-0 ♞e7 (10...a6 11.♞c3 ♞e7 12.♞e2 ♙b6 13.♞f4 ♞g6 14.♞×f6 g×f6 15.♞g3 h5 16.♙e2 h4 17.♞f5 ♙×f5 18.e×f5 ♞e5 19.♞e1 ♞f8 20.♙f4 ♞d4 21.g3 ♞g7 22.♞ad1 ♞e4 23.♞g2 h×g3 24.h×g3 ♙×f2 25.♞×f2 ♞h2+ 26.♞f1 ♞e×e2 27.♞e2 ♞h1+ 28.♞f2 ♞×d1 29.b3 ♞d7 30.♞d2 ♞×d2+ 31.♙×d2 c5 32.♞e3 c6 33.♞e4 c4 34.b4 b5 35.♙f4 ♞d7 36.♞d4 ♞f8 37.♙c7 ♞e7 38.g4 ♞f8 39.♙d6+ ♞g7 40.♙c7 ♞f8 41.a3 ½-½, Kasparov,G-Short,N London 1993) 11.c3 b5 12.c×d4 ♞×d4 13.♞c2 ♞×a4 14.♞×a4 b×a4 15.♙c2 ♙c4 16.♞e1 ♙b5 17.♙e3 ♞c8 18.♙c5 ♞b6 19.♞ad1 ♞×d1 20.♞×d1 a6 21.f4 ♞d7 22.♙a3 h5 23.♞f2 ♞h6 24.e5 c5 25.♙f5 ♞b6 26.♞d2 g6 27.♙c2 ♞e6 28.♞g3 ♞b6 29.♙×c5 ♞c4 30.♞d5 ♞×b2 31.f5 ♙c6 32.♞d2 g×f5 33.♞f4 ♞c4 34.♞e2 f6 35.♙×f5 ♞e5 36.♙d3 ♙d5 37.♙d4 ♞e2 38.♙×e2 ♞e7 39.♙×h5 ♙×g2 40.♙d1 a3 41.h4 ♙d5 42.h5 ♞e5 43.h6 ♙×a2 44.♙c5+ ♞f7 45.♙c2 ♙c4 46.h7 ♞g7 47.♙f8+ ♞h8 48.♙e7 ♙d3 49.♙×f6+ ♞×h7 50.♙×e5 ♙×c2 ½-½, Kasparov,G-Short,N London 1993.



8. ♖f4 ♙e6 9. ♗×f6

Of course Fritz does not fall for 9. ♗×c7?? ♗×f2+ 10. ♖d1 ♜d8+ -+ .

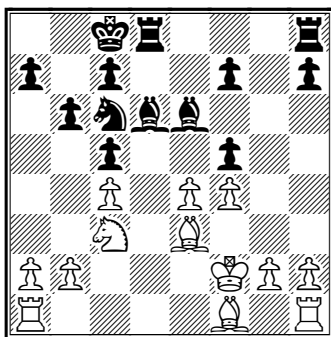
9...g×f6

Kramnik has again succeeded in exchanging queens to reach a position that he understands much better than Fritz. It all looks so easy, but then I think about my own blitz games against Fritz.

10. ♘a4 ♙b4+

It is good to weaken the d3-square, and the a4-knight now looks a bit out of place.

11. c3 ♙d6 12. ♙e3 b6 13. f4 0-0-0 14. ♗f2 c5 15. c4 ♘c6 16. ♘c3 f5!



The position should remain closed for the moment.

17. e5 ♙f8

This introduces the idea ♙g7, followed by f6.

18. b3?!

This is weak, more than it is useful. 18. ♘d5 came into consideration.

18...♘b4!

18...♙g7?! 19. ♘d5 ♙×d5 20. c×d5 ♜×d5 21. ♙c4 ♜d7 22. ♜ad1 and Fritz understands the position much better.

19. a3?

I do not like this move; it weakens a3 and b3 and loses time. Furthermore, Black can now remove White's bishop-pair. 19.♖c1 looks much better. White should try to get control first and then use the weaknesses on Black's kingside.

**19...♗c2 20.♞c1 ♗×e3 21.♝×e3 ♕g7!**

With the idea f6, to open the position for the bishops.

**22.♗d5?! c6! 23.♗f6 ♕×f6 24.e×f6 ♞he8**

White neglected his development too much, and Black now has complete control.

**25.♝f3 ♞d2 26.h3?!**

An odd move, a human would not have found it. But matters were very difficult anyway. Now Kramnik's superb technique takes over.

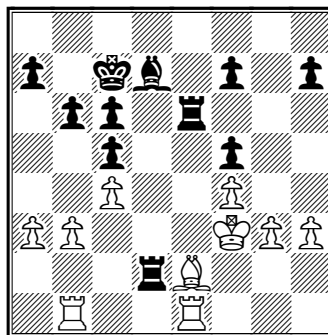
**26...♕d7 27.g3 ♞e6**

First, he eliminates any counterplay based on the far advanced f6-pawn. Capablanca would applaud, I am sure.

**28.♞b1 ♞×f6 29.♕e2**

The first move of this bishop, but it still makes a sad impression.

**29...♞e6 30.♞he1 ♝c7!**



Activating the king, this is a very important fighting unit in the endgame! Then Black will mobilize the queenside pawns or attack the white pawns. This plan can't be stopped in the long run.

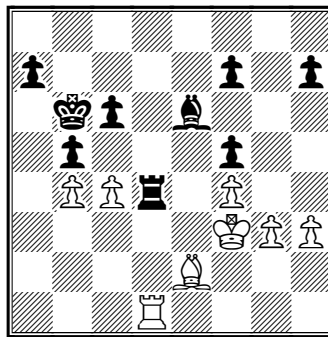
**31.♕f1 b5!?**

31...♖xe1 32.♖xe1 ♖b2 33.♖e3 b5 also came into consideration. But Kramnik does not want to give White any counterplay, and why should he?

**32.♖ec1 ♖b6 33.b4?!**

Fritz fires back, but what else was there?

**33...cxb4 34.axb4 ♖e4! 35.♖d1 ♖xd1 36.♖xd1 ♖e6! 37.♖d3 ♖d4 38.♖e2?!**



38.♖e3 c5 39.bxc5+ ♖xc5 40.cxb5 ♖c4 41.♖c2 ♖xd1 42.♖xd1 ♖xb5 and Black should win.

**38...♖xd1 39.c5+ ♖b7 40.♖xd1 a5!-+ 41.bxa5 ♖a6 42.♖e3 ♖xa5 43.♖d4 b4 44.g4 f×g4 45.h×g4 b3 46.♖c3 ♖a4 47.♖b2 f6 48.♖f3 ♖b5 49.g5 f5 50.♖c3 ♖xc5 51.♖e2 0-1**

A fantastic achievement! Bravo Vladimir! 51...♖b6 52.♖d1 ♖b5 53.♖e2+ ♖a4 54.♖b2 ♖b4 55.♖f3 c5-+.

## Game Four

*Vladimir Kramnik (2807) – Deep Fritz*  
Brains in Bahrain (4), 10.10.2002 [D34]

Somehow Kramnik again managed to exchange queens and to create a position that is easy to play. He seems very well-prepared!

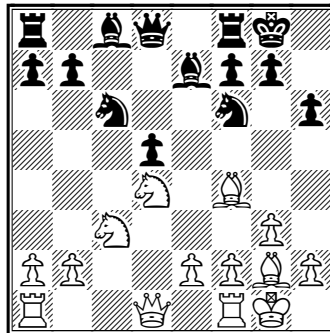
**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 c5**

It is easy to understand that Fritz did not want another Queen's Gambit Accepted, but I am sure the Tarrasch Defense did not come as a surprise to Kramnik.

**4.cxd5 exd5 5.g3**

This is considered best, as the bishop (from g2) can create further pressure against d5.

**5...♗c6 6.♕g2 ♗f6 7.0-0 ♕e7 8.♗c3 0-0 9.♕g5 cxd4 10.♗xd4 h6 11.♕f4**



Kramnik keeps his bishops, as Fritz could be extremely powerful with the bishop-pair.

**11...♕g4 12.h3 ♕e6 13.♖c1 ♖e8 14.♗xe6!? fxe6 15.e4**

A typical transformation, which is especially useful against a computer, as the exchange of queens becomes a possibility.

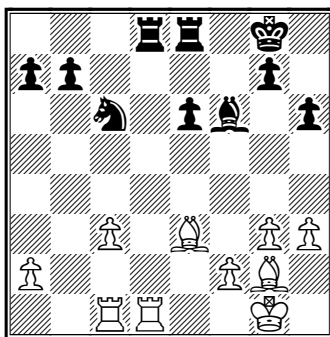
**15...d4 16.e5 dxc3**

16...♗h7?! is unconvincing: 17.♗e4 ♗f8 18.♖g4 ♖h7 19.♖h5 ♗d7 20.h4 ♗dxе5 21.♗c5 ♕xc5 22.♖xc5 ♗d7 23.♖g5 ♖h8?? 24.♖xg7 ♖xg7 25.♕xh6+ ♖h8 26.♕g5+ ♖g8 1-0, Nogueiras,J-Klinger,J Graz 1984.

**17.e×f6 ♖×f6 18.b×c3 ♗×d1 19.♞f×d1**

White is better because of his two bishops and more active pieces, which is very nice against Fritz when you lead 2½-½!

**19...♞ad8 20.♕e3**



20.♞b1 ♞×d1+ 21.♞×d1 ♖f7 22.c4 ♘d4 23.♕×b7 ♘e2+ 24.♖g2 ♘×f4+ 25.g×f4 ♞d8 26.♞×d8 (26.♞c1!?) 26...♕×d8 27.c5 ♕e7 28.c6 ♕d6 It is completely drawn now because of the opposite-colored bishops. 29.♖f3 ♕c7 30.♖e4 ♖e7 31.♕c8 ♖d6 32.♕d7 ♕d8 33.f3 ½-½, Adler,J-Flueckiger,C Bern 1988.

**20...♞×d1+**

20...♖f7 21.♞b1 ♞×d1+ 22.♞×d1 ♕×c3 23.♞c1 ♕b4 24.♕×c6 b×c6 25.♞×c6 a5 26.♖f1 ♞d8 27.♞c7+ ♖f6 28.♖e2 ♞d5 29.♕c1 ♕d6 30.♞c4 g5 31.h4 g×h4 32.♞×h4 h5 33.♞c4 ♖f5 34.♕d2 ♞b5 35.♕c3 ♕e5 36.♞h4 ♖g6 37.♕×e5 ♞×e5+ 38.♖f3 ♞b5 39.♖g2 e5 40.♞a4 ♖f5 41.♖h3 ♞d5 42.f3 ♖g5 ½-½, Dlugy,M- Petursson,M Nordic-USA 1986; 20...a6 21.c4 ♞×d1+ 22.♞×d1 ♘a7 23.c5 ♞d8 24.♞b1 ♞d7 25.♖f1 ♖f7 26.♖e2± Muir,A-Sathe,B BCF-ch 1987.

**21.♞×d1 ♕×c3 22.♞d7**

Was this still part of Kramnik's preparation?

**22...♞b8 23.♕×c6 (23.f4!? Notkin) 23...b×c6 24.♞×a7 ♞b2 25.♞a6 ♕d2!**

Fritz understands this endgame well and draws it easily because of his active pieces. 25.a4!? ♞a2 26.♞a6 also came into consideration, but Black should be able to draw this, too.

**26.♞×c6**

Kramnik plays it safe. This makes perfect sense as he leads. 26.♕d4 ♞c2 27.♞a7 g5=.

26...♙×e3 27.f×e3 ♖f7

27...♞×a2 28.♞×e6 ♖f7 is drawn.

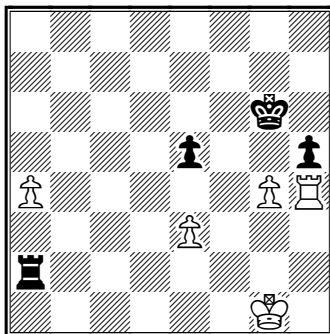
28.a4 ♞a2 29.♞c4 ♖f6 30.♖f1 g5

Fritz starts active counterplay on the kingside, which is an important technique in such positions, as it may become a race.

31.h4 h5 32.h×g5+

32.♞c5 g×h4 33.g×h4 ♞×a4 34.♞×h5 ♖g6 35.♞h8 ♖g7 36.♞h5 ♖g6=.

32...♖×g5 33.♖e1 e5 34.♖f1 ♖f5 35.♞h4 ♖g6 36.♞e4 ♖f5 37.♞h4 ♖g5 38.♖g1 ♖g6 39.g4



Kramnik simplifies into a completely drawn position, with his king on the first rank he can't make real progress anyway.

39...h×g4

39...♖g5 40.♞×h5+ ♖×g4 41.♞×e5 ♞×a4=; 39...♞×a4?? 40.g×h5+ ♖g5 41.♞×a4+-.

40.♞×g4+ ♖f5 41.♞c4 ½-½

Draw offer by Vladimir Kramnik. 41...♞e2 42.♞c3 ♞a2=.

## Game Five

*Deep Fritz – Vladimir Kramnik (2807)*

Brains in Bahrain (5), 13.10.2002 [D57]

Will Kramnik be able to exchange queens early and keep everything under control?

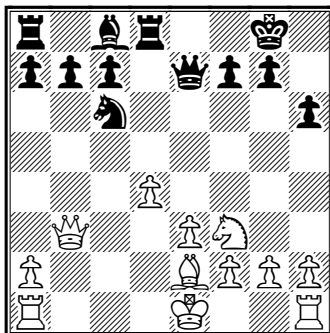
**1.d4**

No, this time it is different, as Fritz's experience with 1.e4 has been unpleasant.

**1...dxf6 2.c4 e6 3.f3 d5 4.c3 e7 5.g5 h6 6.h4 0-0 7.e3 e4**

The Lasker variation has a rock-solid reputation, another advantage is that some pieces are usually exchanged early.

**8.e7 xe7 9.cxd5 exd5 10.bxc3 exd5 11.b3 d8 12.c4 dxc4 13.e4 c6 14.e2**



Deep Fritz does not want to exchange his bishop after e5, of course.

**14...b6!?**

The following bishop fianchetto secures Black's queenside.

**15.0-0 b7**

“Curiously this position already arose in the game between Kramnik (White) and his second in Bahrain, Christopher Lutz, in 1994. Kramnik evaluated it as completely equal in his notes in *ChessBase Magazine*.” (Schulz)

**16.f1**

16.♖ac1 ♘a5 17.♗b2 ♖ac8= Kramnik,V-Lutz,C Germany 1994.

**16...♖ac8 17.♗a4 ♘a5**

A typical maneuver to get rid of the backward pawn on c7 and to activate Black's rooks. In the following game, Black became too active: 17.♗b2 ♖d5 18.♖c3 ♖a5 19.a3 ♘d8 20.♖ac1 ♘e6 21.♘e5 ♖d8 22.♙c4 c5 23.dxc5 ♖xc5 24.f4 ♙d5 25.♙f1 ♖dc8 26.♗b4 ♗b7 27.♖xc5 ♘xc5 28.♖d1 ♙e6 29.♙e2 ♗e4 30.♗d4 ♗c2 31.♙f3 ♗b3 0-1, Kummer,H- Ostrowski,A Oberwart 1998.

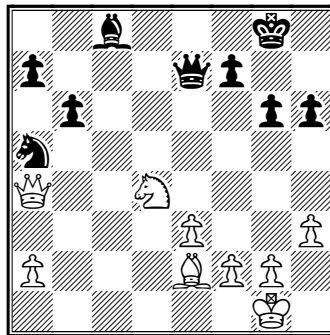
**18.♖c3 c5 19.♖ac1 cxd4 20.♘xd4**

In the game Kosyrev-Podgaets, Moscow 2002, a draw was agreed here.

**20...♖xc3 21.♖xc3 ♖c8**

Kramnik wants to exchange more pieces to emphasize his queenside majority.

**22.♖xc8+ ♙xc8 23.h3 g6?**



I don't like this move, as White gets pressure and the initiative, and both are very dangerous against a computer. Instead 23...♗d7!?

**24.♙f3**

“Deep Fritz has some pressure. The ♘a5 is badly placed.” (Schulz)

**24...♙d7 25.♗c2 ♗c5 26.♗e4**

Of course, Fritz does not want to exchange queens: 26.♗xc5? bxc5 and Black clearly has the better endgame.

**26...♗c1+ 27.♗h2 ♗c7+ 28.g3 ♘c4**

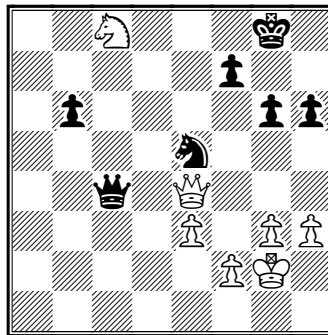


The knight has to come back to help defend the dark squares around Black's king.

29. ♖e2 ♜e5 30. ♖b5

30. ♖f1 is interesting as well, to keep more pieces on the board.

30... ♖x b5 31. ♜x b5 ♖c5 32. ♜x a7 ♖a5 33. ♜g2 ♖x a2 34. ♜c8 ♖c4??



An unbelievable tactical blunder. I think that Kramnik would have seen this against a human. 34... ♜c4?! 35. ♜e7+ ♜g7 36. ♜d4+ ♜h7 37. ♜d5 looks dangerous. 34... ♜e6!? was called for, as the endgame after 35. ♜x b6 ♖x b6 36. ♜x e5 gives Black drawing chances. However, Deep Fritz has access to the endgame database Q+P vs. Q, so Kramnik would have to defend extremely long and tenaciously to escape, if at all possible.

35. ♜e7+ 1-0

35... ♜f8 36. ♜x e5+-, as the e7-knight is protected by White's queen.

## Game Six

*Vladimir Kramnik (2807) – Deep Fritz*  
Brains in Bahrain (6), 15.10.2002 [E15]

Deep Fritz again showed that it is very strong tactically and that it defends tenaciously. If Kramnik doesn't manage to get easier positions and complete control, then Deep Fritz will win the match.

**1.d4 ♘f6**

This time Fritz avoids d7-d5, which makes it easier for Kramnik to play quieter systems.

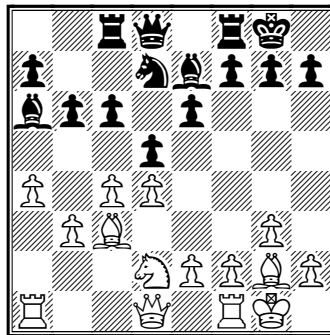
**2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 b6 4.g3 ♘a6**

Black wants to provoke b3 to create weaknesses on the dark squares on White's queenside.

**5.b3 ♘b4+ 6.♘d2 ♘e7**

This looks like a loss of tempo, but White's bishop on d2 is badly placed.

**7.♘g2 c6 8.♘c3 d5 9.♘e5 ♘fd7 10.♘×d7 ♘×d7 11.♘d2 0-0 12.0-0 ♖c8 13.a4**



Kramnik wants to stop any counterplay based on b6-b5. Also possible is 13.e4 dxc4 (13...c5 14.exd5 exd5 15.dxc5 dxc4 16.c6 cxb3 17.♖e1 ♘b5 18.axb3 ♘xc6 19.♘xc6 ♖xc6 20.♖xa7± 1-0, Kamsky,G-Karpov,A Elista 1996) 14.bxc4 b5 15.♖e1 bxc4 16.♗c2 ♗c7 17.♘f1 e5 18.♘e3 exd4 19.♘xd4 ♘c5 20.♘xc5 ♘xc5 21.♘xc4 ♖fd8 22.♖ad1 ♖xd1 23.♖xd1 ♖d8 24.♖xd8+ ♗xd8 25.h4 ♗d4 26.♗b2 ♗xb2 27.♘xb2 f6 28.f3 ♖f7 29.♘f1 ♘b5 30.♖f2 ♖e6 31.♘c4+ ♖d6 32.♖e3 ♘d7 33.f4 ♘b6 34.♘g8 h6 35.♘d3 ♘d7 36.♖d4 c5+ 37.♖c3 ♘c6

38. ♖f2 ♖b6 39. ♗b3 ♖a8 40. ♜d3 ♖b6 41. ♗c2 ♗b5+ 42. ♜c3 ♖a4+ 43. ♜d2 c4 44. e5+ ♜e5 45. ♖e4+ ♜e6 ½-½, Karpov,A-Kasparov,G URS 1986.

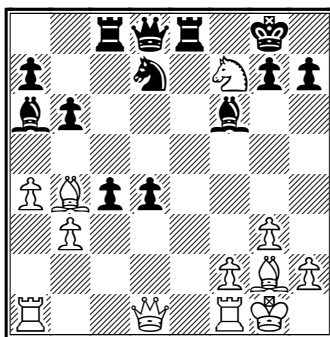
**13... ♗f6 14. e4 c5 15. e×d5 c×d4 16. ♗b4 ♜e8**

16... ♗e7 17. ♗xe7 ♜xe7 18. d×e6 ♜e6 19. ♜c2 ♜ce8 20. ♜ae1 e5 21. ♗c6 ♗c8 22. h4 ♜h8 23. ♖e4 ♜d8 24. ♖g5 ♖f6 25. ♗g2 h6 26. ♖e4 ♗f5 27. ♜d3 ♜fe8 28. ♜e2 ♗g4 29. ♜d2 ♖d7 30. ♜b1 a5 31. ♜e1 0-1, (41) Morrison,G-Miles,A Amsterdam 1978.

**17. ♖e4!? e×d5**

Deep Fritz is playing with fire, but the computer is comfortable with the tactical complications.

**18. ♖d6 d×c4 19. ♖×f7?!**



A very courageous decision, as Fritz is a tenacious defender. 18... ♗e7? 19. ♖×c8 ♗×b4 20. ♖×a7 ♗c3 21. ♜c1 ±.

**19... ♜×f7**

19. ♗d5!? was a serious alternative: 19... ♖c5 20. ♖×e8 (20. ♗×f7+?! is answered by 20... ♜f8.) 20. ♖×e8 ♜×d5 (20... ♜×e8 21. b×c4 ♗b7 22. ♜e1 ±) 21. ♖×f6+ g×f6 22. b×c4 and the position is very complicated, but probably easier to play for Kramnik than the game continuation.

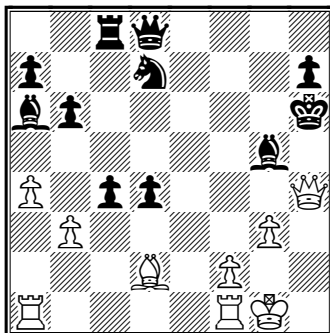
**20. ♗d5+ ♜g6**

20... ♜e6? 21. ♜h5+ g6?! 22. ♜×h7+ ♗g7 23. ♗×e6+ ♜×e6 24. ♜×g6+ ♜f6 25. ♜ae1++-.

**21. ♜g4+ ♗g5 22. ♗e4+**

22.f4? h5 23.♙f7+ ♖xf7 24.f×g5+ ♖g8 25.♗h5 ♘e5 26.g6 ♘×g6 27.♗×g6 ♗d7→ (Schulz).

22...♞×e4 23.♗×e4+ ♖h6 24.h4 ♙f6 25.♙d2+ g5 26.h×g5+ ♙×g5 27.♗h4+?



After this mistake, White's attack will come to nothing. It is a pity that Kramnik's courage was not rewarded! 27.♗e6+! was called for: 27...♘f6 (27...♗f6? 28.♙×g5+ ♖×g5 29.♗×d7±) 28.♗h3+ ♘h5 29.f4 ♙h4 (29...♙f6 30.g4) 30.g4 ♘g3 31.f5+ ♖g7 32.f6+ (Schulz) and the position is difficult to assess. It is very difficult for a human to solve all these problems – even for Kramnik.

27...♖g6 28.♗e4+ ♖g7 29.♙×g5 ♗×g5 30.♞fe1 c×b3 31.♗×d4+ ♘f6 32.a5 ♗d5?

32...♗c5 should win easily.

33.♗×d5 ♘×d5 34.a×b6 0-1

This position is not as easy as I first assumed. Professor Ingo Althoefer has drawn my attention to analysis of the Computer Chess Club, which indicates that Kramnik should have played on: 34...a×b6 35.♞×a6 b2 36.♞a7+ ♖g6? (36...♖f8! 37.♞d7 ♘c3 38.♞d2 b1♗ 39.♞×b1 ♘×b1 40.♞b2 ♘c3 41.♞×b6 (Althoefer) offers good winning chances, of course. But Kramnik should have continued to see if Fritz found this line.) 37.♞d7 ♞c1 38.♞d6+ ♘f6 39.♞dd1 b1♗ 40.♞×c1 ♗f5. My analysis ended here, but White has 41.♞c6! b5 42.♞ee6 b4 43.♞b6 h5 44.♞×f6+ ♗×f6 45.♞×b4= and White's fortress is impregnable.

## Game Seven

*Deep Fritz – Vladimir Kramnik (2807)*  
Brains in Bahrain (7), 17.10.2002 [E19]

Fritz again chooses 1.d4, but Kramnik's Queen's Indian is very solid.

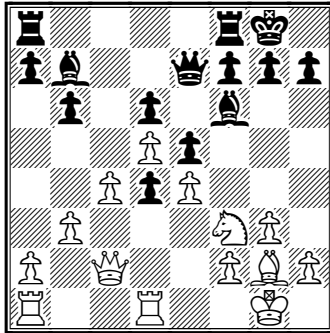
**1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 e6 3.♞f3 b6 4.g3 ♞b7 5.♙g2 ♙e7 6.0-0 0-0 7.♞c3 ♞e4**

Black occupies the center and plans to reduce the pressure by exchanging knights.

**8.♝c2 ♞×c3 9.♞×c3 c5 10.♞d1 d6 11.b3 ♙f6 12.♙b2 ♝e7 13.♝c2 ♞c6 14.e4 e5 15.d5**

Good news for Kramnik: the position is closed.

**15...♞d4 16.♙×d4 c×d4**



16...exd4 17.♝d3 (17.♞ab1 ♞ae8 18.♞e1 g6 19.♞d3 ♙g7 20.♞e1 ♙c8 21.f4 ♝c7 22.♞f2 ♞e7 23.♙h3 f5 24.♞e2 g5 25.♙×f5 g×f4 26.g4 ♙×f5 27.g×f5 f3 28.♞ee1 ♙e5 29.♝h1 ♞g7 30.♞d3 ♝e7 31.♝f2 ♞g2 32.♞g1 ♝h8 33.♞×g2 f×g2+ 34.♝×g2 ♞g8 35.♝f3 ♙f6 36.♞e1 ♝g7 37.♞f1 ♝g5 38.♞f4 ♙e5 39.♞d3 ♙f6 40.♝f2 ♝g4 41.♝f3 ♝g5 ½–½, Drasko, M- Marjanovic, S Sarajevo 1984)  
17...♞ae8 18.♞e1 ♙c8 19.♝f1 ♙g4 20.h3 ♙×f3 21.♙×f3 ½–½, Friedrichs, K- Breder, D Paks 2000.

**17.♙h3**

17.a4 a5 18.♞e1 ½–½, Vaganian, R- Petrosian, T Tallinn 1983.

**17...g6 18.a4 a5!?**

This stops White from playing a5 and makes it much more difficult for White to open the queenside. It seems that Kramnik doesn't want to go into an open

fight again. 18...♔g7?! 19.a5!? bxa5 20.♖xa5 f5 21.♗d2 ♕c8 22.c5 fxe4 23.♕xc8  
 ♖axc8 24.♗xe4 dxc5 25.d6 ♖f7 26.♖c4 ♖xc4 27.bxc4 ♖fd8 28.♖a7 ♖c6  
 29.♖b1 ♖cxd6 30.♗xd6 ♖xd6 31.♖b8+ ♕f8 32.♗f1 ♖e6 33.♗e2 1-0, (41)  
 Polugaevsky,L-Gulko,B Moscow 1976.

### 19.♖ab1

Planning b3-b4.

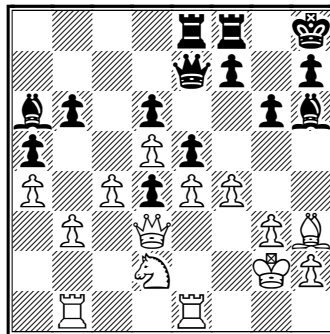
### 19...♕a6!

Kramnik takes measures against White's plan.

### 20.♖e1

Fritz did not like 20.b4?! ♖c7, as it is very difficult to make further progress on the queenside.

### 20...♗h8 21.♗g2 ♕g7 22.♖d3 ♖ae8 23.♗d2 ♕h6 24.f4!?



Fritz does not just want to sit and wait. But it can't simply open the position, as this might favor Black's bishops.

### 24...♖c7

Kramnik just makes with good prophylactic moves.

### 25.♖f1 ♗g8 26.♖be1 ♖d8 27.♗g1

Fritz does not see a way to make progress. His pieces are on good squares and it is not easy to realize pawn breaks.

### 27...♕b7 28.♖e2 ½-½

## Game Eight

*Vladimir Kramnik (2807) – Deep Fritz*  
Brains in Bahrain (8), 19.10.2002 [D68]

Kramnik allows early simplifications, so as to avoid any risks, and not suffer the same fate as Kasparov did in his last game against Deep Blue.

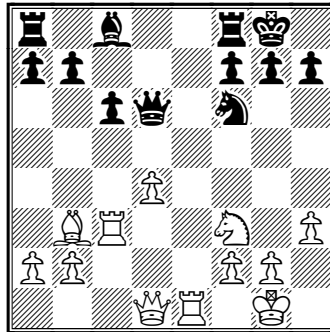
**1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 e6 3.♞f3 d5 4.♞c3 c6 5.♙g5 ♙e7 6.e3 00 7.♙d3 ♞bd7 8.00 dxc4 9.♙xc4 ♞d5**

An old maneuver to reduce the pressure.

**10.♙xe7 ♞xe7 11.♞c1 ♞xc3 12.♞xc3 e5**

This solves the problem of Black's c8-bishop.

**13.♙b3 exd4 14.exd4 ♞f6 15.♞e1 ♞d6 16.h3**



Not very aggressive, other choices were: 16.♞e5 ♙f5 (16...♙e6 17.♙xe6 fxе6 18.♞b3 ♞ab8 19.♞ce3 ♞d5 20.♞e4 ♞f6 21.♞d3 b6 22.g3 ♞c8 23.♞1e2 ♞c7 24.h4 h5 25.a3 g6 26.♞c4 c5 27.dxc5 bxc5 28.♞c2 ♞h7 29.♞c4 ♞f5 30.♞xc5 ♞xc5 31.♞xc5 ♞xc5 32.♞xc5 ♞f4 33.gxf4 ♞xc5 34.♞xe6 a5 35.♞e5 ♞c2 36.f5 ♞xb2 37.fxg6+ ♞xg6 38.♞g5+ ♞h6 39.♞xa5 ♞d2 40.♞a4 ♞d3 41.♞g2 ♞g6 42.f3 1-0, Khenkin,I-Sulskis,S Koszalin 1998) 17.♞f3 ♙g4 18.♞xf6 ♞xe5 19.dxe5 ♙xd1 20.♙xf7+ ♞xf7 21.♞xf7 ♞xf7 22.♞xd1 ♞e6 23.f4 a5 24.♞f2 ♞a6 25.♞d6+ ♞e7 26.♞e3 ♞b6 27.b3 a4 28.♞d3 ♞e6 29.g4 c5 30.h4 ♞b4 1-0, (52) Karpov,A-Campora,D Villarrobledo 1997; 16.♞ce3 ♙g4 17.h3 ♙h5 18.g4 ♙g6 19.♞e5 ♞ad8 20.♞c1 ♞d5 21.♙xd5 cxd5 22.♞c5 ♞f6 23.♞e7 ♞c6 24.♞5e3 ♙e4 25.♞e5 ♞h6 26.♞xf7 ♞f4 27.♞xd8 ♞xd8 28.♞xd8 h5 ½-½, Rey Ardid,R-Almirall Castell,V Zaragoza 1935.

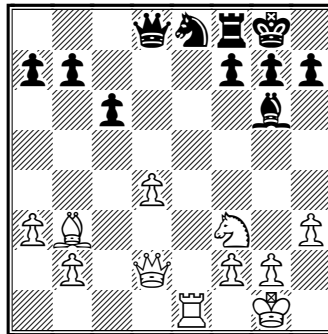
**16...♙f5 17.♞ce3 ♞ae8**

17...♖ad8 18.♗d2 a6 19.♞e5 ♘g6 20.♜a5 ♚d7 21.♞1e3 ♜fd8 22.g4 ♜f8  
 23.♜e1 h6 24.d5 cxd5 25.♙xd5 ♜g8 26.♙b3 ♚c7 27.♜h4 ♙c2 28.♙xc2 ♚xc2  
 29.♞e8+ ♚xe8 30.♞xe8+ ♜xe8 31.♜xe8+ ♜f8 0-1, Selensky,A-Chekhov,V  
 Orel 1998.

**18.♞e5 ♘g6 19.a3**

White has an isolated d-pawn, but this weakness is of no consequence, as all his pieces are active.

**19...♜d8 20.♞xe8 ♜xe8 21.♜d2 ½-½**



Kramnik's draw offer was accepted. Kramnik started very well in the match and was leading 3-1, but he suffered two defeats because of the machines tactical power. So man and machine have completely different strengths and weaknesses in chess, which makes these matches all the more fascinating. I am already curious as to whether Kasparov will manage to beat Deep Junior in December.