

ARKADIJ NAIDITSCH

CHESS EVOLUTION

TOP ANALYSIS BY SUPER GMS

JANUARY 2012



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KEY TO SYMBOLS

=	Equality or equal chances
±	White has a slight advantage
∓	Black has a slight advantage
±	White is better
∓	Black is better
+ -	White has a decisive advantage
- +	Black has a decisive advantage
∞	unclear
∞̄	with compensation
↔	with counterplay
↑	with initiative
→	with an attack
Δ	with the idea
□	only move
N	novelty
!	a good move
!!	an excellent move
?	a weak move
??	a blunder
!?	an interesting move
?!	a dubious move
+	check
#	mate

EDITORIAL PREFACE

With the 6th issue of the Chess Evolution “January 2012” we are fulfilling the Year 2011. It has been a very long year for the contributors — a lot of work, but I hope we made a good job, at least we all tried.

I think the Chess Evolution issues improves issue per issue, but we have always tried to keep up the initial idea of Etienne Bacrot and me, which is to make Chess Evolution readers be able to follow the newest opening developments and be informed about the current chess theory at the highest level.

WHAT IS NEW

First of all, we would like to welcome David Baramidze. He has done a very good job and will do more games for the next issues of CE. In case if You are his fan, a warm applause! :)

The cooperation with Quality Chess has ended in a friendly “goodbye-maybe we will see us again”. Thanks to QC for being very professional and helping us with two great books: “CE September” and “CE November”.

The place of QC has been taken by Marie Boyard, with whom I am hoping to establish a long-term cooperation. But You are the ones to judge her work, dear readers :)

FEW WORDS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF CE JANUARY 2012

As usual, we are trying to give a many interesting ideas and answers on the new openings and novelties.

We have the usual “puzzle section” made only from the practical games of the ETCC.

For the first time, the book includes two different endgame sections. One is made by our “CE master of the endgames” Etienne Bacrot and the 2nd section is the “crazy” one, made by Mikhail Zaitsev.

I WONDER...

We are offering “free interactive services” for our subscribers, which basically means that You send us Your questions concerning the content of the book. This service has been used till now very rarely. I am wondering why? It is not like my Team and I do not have enough work, but I personally think it is a great service, and in case I would be a CE subscriber, I would definitely make use of it.

FUTURE PLANS

A few words about Chess Evolution for the Year 2012: In the current year 2012 we are changing from 6 books a year to 3 books a year. It has been a hard decision to take, with many pros and cons. Finally, the 3 books won against the 6 books/year with 51%–49%.

That means, in 2012 will be coming :

- ◆ CE May (games January 1st–April 30th)
- ◆ CE September (games 1st May–August 31st)
- ◆ CE January 2013 (games 1st September till December 31st)

We are starting a new periodical project “Chess Evolution Weekly Newsletter”, that will be first published on the first Friday of March 2012. The newsletter will include: 4 commented games, one commented game from some World Champion, a puzzles section, an endgame section, a few articles on what has happened in the past week and a small surprise section, which will change every week. The newsletter is intended for club level players and will be available in 6 different languages: English, German, Spanish, French, Italian, Hungarian.

Prize for the Yearly subscription will be 38 Euro/year.

CONTRIBUTORS

Etienne Bacrot: France, 28 years old, GM 2714, number 29 in the world. Became GM at the age of 14, a record at the time. Six times French Champion starting from 1999.

Winner of many international events including: 2005: 1st place in Poikovsky, 3rd in Dortmund and 3rd of the World Cup in Khanty-Mansiysk. 2009: 1st in Aeroflot Open, second in Montreal and Antwerp. 2010: First equal in Gibraltar, 3rd in Nanjing and winner of Geneva Open. 2011: First equal in Basel, Geneva (rapid) and Rabat (blitz).



Yannick Gozzoli: France, 28 years old, GM 2549. For the last few years Yannick was an extremely high-rated IM, and he recently completed the requirements for the Grandmaster title.

Sebastien Maze: France, 26 years old, GM 2577. Winner of 2008 Rabat blitz tournament, 1st equal in Marseille 2009 and Menton 2009. Member of the French team in the Olympiad in Dresden 2008.

Was the second of Etienne Bacrot in FIDE Grand Prix Elista 2008, Dortmund 2009 and Nanjing 2010.



Kamil Miton: Poland, 27 years old, GM 2622. World Junior U12 Champion in 1996. No 2 at the World Junior Champion (U 20).

Twice the winner (2002 and 2005) of one of the world's biggest tournaments, the World Open in Philadelphia, USA.

Arkadij Naiditsch: Germany, 26 years old, GM 2712, number 31 in the world. Became International Master at the age of 13, Grandmaster at 15. Winner of 2005 Super-tournament in Dortmund and since 2006 the top-rated German player. In 2007 was German Champion and won the Baku Open. In 2010 Arkadij won a match against Efimenko in Mukachevo and was 1st equal in the European Rapid Championship in Warsaw.



Borki Predojevic: Bosnia and Herzegovina, 24 years old, GM 2642. Gained the GM title at the Calvia Olympiad in 2004 when he was 17. Best Elo was 2654 in September 2009. Joined the top 100 in 2007; highest place so far was 68th on the October 2007 list.

Winner of several international open tournaments including: Open Metalis in Bizovac, Croatia in 2006, Zagreb Open, Croatia in 2007, Hit Open in Nova Gorica, Slovenia in 2008, Acropolis Open in Greece 2009. in 2008, Acropolis Open in Greece 2009.

David Baramidze: Germany, 23 years old, GM 2607. Georgian and German Champion. 3 silver-medals at European and Worldchampionships in junior classes. Qualification to the World-Cup 2007, kicked out Nigel Short in the first round. Member of German National team in the Olympiad in Dresden 2008



Marie Boyard: Luxembourg, 22 years old Student of European Studies/Languages and Inter culture in France, Journalism in UK, speaks 8 languages. Member of the Luxembourg National team in the Olympiad in Turin in 2006. Woman Champion of Luxembourg 2009

— A —

GAME 1	R. Wojtaszek — M. Adams	[A13]	12
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GAME 1

▷ **R. Wojtaszek (2705)**

▶ **M. Adams (2734)**

18th European Teams

Porto Carras, Greece

Round 7, 09.11.2011 [A13]

Annotated by Miton Kamil

The Catalan systems have been very popular since always, but recently it has become fashionable to wait with the d4 push, which is very interesting and has a deep meaning in various redactions. In this game, Adams chose 8...a6 which probably does not give full equality to Black (maybe the best option for Black is 9...♖c7!?). Wojtaszek kept a static advantage throughout the entire game, but in the endgame he missed his chance to score the whole point twice.

1. ♖f3 ♗f6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 d5 4. ♔g2 dxc4 5. ♖a4+ c6 6. ♖xc4 b5 7. ♖b3 ♔b7 8. o-o a6

8... ♗bd7 is the main line.

9. ♗e5



9... ♔e7

The main task of Black is to push c5 and to get rid of the potential weakness on c6.

9... ♖d6 Now after the sacrifice of the pawn White will obtain a very promising initiative. 10. d4 The only option. 10... ♖xd4 11. ♔f4 ♖b6

a) 11... ♗d5 12. ♖d1 ♖b6 (12... ♖b4 13. ♖f3 ♗xf4 14. ♗c3 ♔e7 15. a3 ♖b3 16. gxf4 o-o? 17. ♗d5+-) 13. ♖f3 ♖c7 14. ♗c3 ♗xf4 15. gxf4 f6 16. ♗d3 ♗d7 17. ♖ac1

b) 11... ♗bd7 12. ♖d1 ♖b6 13. ♗xd7 ♗xd7 14. ♗d2 c5 15. ♗c4 ♖a7 16. ♔xb7 ♖xb7 17. a4±

12. ♗c3

12. ♗c4 ♖a7 13. ♗d6+ ♔xd6 14. ♔xd6 c5? Black should manage to castle and to equalize the position.

12... ♗bd7 (12... c5? 13. ♗c4 ♖a7 14. ♗xb5+-) 13. ♗xd7 ♗xd7 14. ♗e4 c5 15. ♖fd1↑ c4 16. ♖f3

16. ♖c2 White has a very strong initiative, but engines somehow manage to hold this position. 16... ♔d5 17. ♖xd5 exd5 18. ♖d1 ♔e7 19. ♖xd5 ♖d8 20. ♗d6+ ♔f8 21. ♔e3 ♖c7 22. ♗f5 ♗f6 23. ♗xe7 ♔xe7 24. ♔c5+ ♔e8 25. ♖f5 g6 26. ♖g5 h6 27. ♖xg6 ♖xc5 28. ♖xf6 ♖d6∞) 16... ♗c5 17. ♖e3 ♔xe4 18. ♔xe4 ♖c8 19. b4 ♗d7 20. ♖xb6 ♗xb6 21. ♔b7±

The option of not losing time on the development of the bishop on e7 and

realizing instead the main plan deserves consideration:

9...♖c7!? 10.d4 c5 11.♙xb7 ♖xb7



12. ♙e3

12.a4 cxd4 13.axb5 ♙d6 14.♗f3 (14.♗c4 ♙c5 15.♙f4 o-o 16.♗bd2 axb5 17.♖xa8 ♖xa8 18.♖xb5 ♗bd7 19.♗b3 ♖c8 20.♖a1 ♖d5 21.♙d6 ♙xd6 22.♖xd5 ♗xd5 23.♗xd6 ♖b8 24.♗xd4 ♖xb2 25.♖a8+ ♖b8 26.♖a7 ♖b1+ 27.♗g2 ♗5b6=) 14...e5 (14...o-o 15.♗xd4 ♙c5 16.bxa6 ♖e4 17.♙e3 ♙xd4 18.♗d2 ♖g4 19.h3 ♖xe2 20.♖fe1 ♖h5 21.♙xd4 ♖xa6 22.♖xa6 ♗xa6 23.♙xf6 gxf6 24.♖c3 ♗g7 25.♖e4 ♖xh3

26.♗f1→) 15.♙g5 (15.♗bd2 o-o 16.♗c4 ♖d5∞) 15...♗fd7 16.♗bd2 o-o 17.♗c4 ♖d5 18.♗fd2 ♙c5=)

12...♗bd7 13.♗xd7 ♗xd7 14.♖c1! The most accurate 14...c4 does not satisfy because of 15. ♖xc4 (14.dxc5 At this point the idea of attacking the bishop on c5 and the pawn on g7 does not work, since: 14...♗xc5 15. ♙xc5 ♙xc5 16.♖c3 ♖b6 17.♖xg7 ♙d4±; 14.♗d2 ♖c8 15.♖fc1 ♙e7 16.dxc5 ♗xc5

17.♖b4 ♗a4 18.♖e4 ♖xe4 19.♗xe4 o-o 20.b3 f5=) 14...♖c8 15.dxc5 ♙xc5 16. ♙xc5 ♗xc5 17.♖a3

Black has to solve the problem with his king. 17...b4?! Weakens the structure: 17...♗e4 18. ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 19.♗c3 ♗xc3 20.bxc3 f6 21.♖d1 ♗f7 22.♖d6 ♖d8 23.♖xa6 ♖xa6 24.♖xa6 ♖c8 25.♖b6 ♖xc3 26.♖xb5 ♖a3 27.♖b2

10. ♖d1

10.a4

10...♖d4

The engine does not like this move, but in other case White will play d4 and keep a small plus.

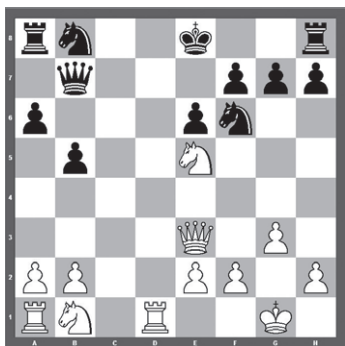
10...♖c7 In comparison with the line 9...♖c7 it seems that this is a worse version for Black, because the bishop will lose a tempo recapturing the pawn on c5, and the white rook is already on d1.

11.d4 c5 12. ♙xb7 (12. ♙f4?! ♙xg2 13.♗xg2 (13.♗xf7 ♙d5±) 13...♗c6 14.♖f3 ♗d5 15.♗c3 ♗xf4+ 16.gxf4 ♖c8 17.♗xc6 ♖xc6 18.d5 ♖c7 19.dxe6 fxe6=)

12...♖xb7 13.dxc5 (13. ♙e3 cxd4 14. ♙xd4 o-o 15.♗d2 ♗bd7= 16.♖f3 ♖xf3 17.♗dxf3 ♗xe5 18.♗xe5 ♖fc8=)

13...♙xc5 14. ♙e3 (14.a4!± A thematic move with the idea to gain control of the c4 square) 14... ♙xe3 15. ♖xe3

In this kind of positions, White is usually slightly better, because black structure on the queenside is slightly weak. 15...♗c6



15...0-0 16. d3 dxc6 (16... dbd7 17. dxd7 dxd7 18. dxe4± xd6; 16...b4 17. da4 dxc6 18. dc5 ♖b5 19. dxc6 ♗xc6 20. ♖ac1± the black pawns are too advanced and it is easy to attack them.) 17. ♗f3 ♖ac8 18. ♖d6 ♗b8 19. ♖xc6 ♗xe5 20. ♖xc8 ♖xc8 21. ♗b7±) 16. ♗f3 ♖c8 17. ♖d6 d5 18. dxc6 ♖xc6 19. ♖xc6 ♗xc6 20. d3 e7 (20... d7!?) 21. dxd5+ ♗xd5 22. ♗c3 ♖d8 23. ♗xg7 ♗d2↔

10...0-0 11. d4 ♗c8 12. e3 c5 13. exb7 ♗xb7 14. dxc5 dxc6 15. dxc6 ♗xc6 16. d2 g4 17. ♖ac1 ♖ac8 18. d3 dxe3 19. ♗xe3 exxc5 20. d5 e5 ♗c7 21. ♗f4±

10... d7 11. dxd7 (11. d4 dxe5 12. dx5 In order to play the structure after dx5, White has to be sure that he can manage to create threats on time (for example by transferring the knight to d6). In other case, Black can easily take over the initiative. 12... ♗c7 13. d3 d7 14. d4 dxe5 15. ♗c3↑)

11... dxd7 12. d4 0-0 13. d3 ♗c8 (13... ♗b6 the queen is badly placed. 14. e3 c5 15. d5±) 14. e4

a) 14. a4?! c5 15. d5 (15. axb5 exg2 16. exg2 c4 17. ♗c2 axb5 18. ♖xa8 ♗xa8+ 19. e4 ♗b7=) 15...c4 16. ♗c2 b4 17. dx6 fx6 18. de4 dxc5 19. e3 dxe4 20. ex4 b3 21. ♗b1 g8
b) 14. e3 c5 15. d5 c4 16. ♗c2 d6 17. d6 d8∞; 14...c5 15. d5 c4 16. ♗c2 d6 17. dx6 fx6 18. de4 g8 Thanks to a better structure, White should have an advantage.

11. ♗c3 ♗b6 12. d4
12. b4!?

12...0-0

12... d5?! 13. ♗c2 c5 14. dxc5 exxc5 15. d3 Very often in similar structures, especially in the endgame, one of the best places for the knight is the d3 square. 15... d7 16. e4 (16. dxc5 ♗xc5 17. ♗xc5 dxc5 18. b3 0-0 19. e2 fd8 20. d2 ♖ac8 21. ♖ac1±) 16... d5f6 17. dxc5 ♗xc5 18. ♗xc5 dxc5 19. e3 dxc4 20. f3 d5 21. dxd5 exd5 22. fx4 dx4 23. d2±



13. e3?! Wojtaszek does not like too much this move, but White still keeps pressure and prevents Black from playing c5.

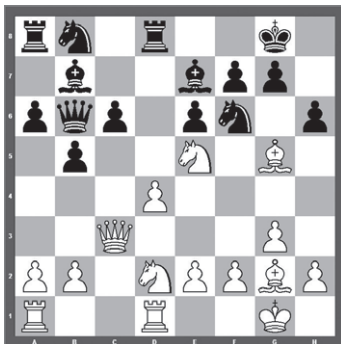
13. ♔g5! Gajewski, the second of Wojtaszek, suggested that this move gives White an advantage and some of the variations prove that he is completely right. 13... ♖d8

- a) 13...c5 14.dxc5 ♔xc5 15. ♔xf6 b4 16. ♖d3 gxf6 17. ♖c4 ♖c7 18. ♔xb7 ♖xb7 19. ♖bd2±
 b) 13...h6 14. ♔xf6 ♔xf6 15. ♖d2±
 c) 13... ♖c8 14.a4

14. ♔xf6 ♔xf6 15. ♖e3 (15. ♖d2 c5 16.dxc5 ♖xc5 17. ♖e3 ♔xg2 18. ♖xg2 ♖b7+ 19. ♖df3 ♖c7 20. ♖ac1 ♖c6 21. ♖xc6 ♖xc6 22. ♖e4 ♖c7 23. ♖xb7 ♖xb7=) 15... ♔xe5 16. ♖xe5 ♖d7 17. ♖d6 ♖c7 18. ♖xc7 ♖xc7 19. ♖d2 c5 20. ♔xb7 ♖xb7 21.dxc5 ♖xc5 22. ♖ac1 ♖a4 23.b3 ♖b6 24. ♖e4± Like usual, the c5 and d6 squares are weak.)

14...c5 (14... ♖d5 15. ♖f3 f6 16. ♖g4 c5 17.e4↑; 14...b4 15. ♖c2 c5 16. ♖c4 ♖a7 17. ♔xf6 gxf6 18.d5±) 15.axb5 ♔xg2 16. ♖xg2 ♖xb5 17. ♖f3

14. ♖d2 h6

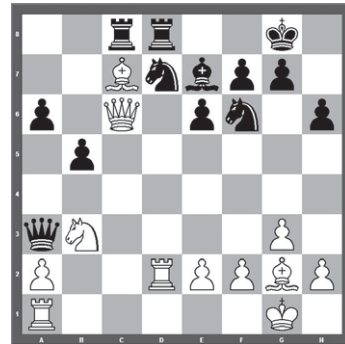


14... ♖xd4 15. ♖xd4 ♖xd4 16. ♔e3 ♖d8 17. ♖b3 ♖d5 18. ♔c5 ♔f6 19. ♖d3 a5 20.e4 a4 21. ♖d4 e5 22.exd5 exd4 23. ♔b6±) 15. ♔f4!

15. ♔xf6 gxf6 16. ♖d3 ♖xd4

Of course, after exchanging the queens, White will have compensation, since he controls the dark squares (c5).

However, the exchange on f6 is not as useful as before. 17. ♖xd4 (17. ♖c1 ♖d7 18. ♖b3 ♖b6 19. ♖xh6 c5 20. ♖f4 ♔f8 21. ♖h4 ♔xg2 22. ♖xd7 ♖xd7 23. ♖h5 ♖d5 24. ♖xf6+ ♖g7 25. ♖xg2 ♖d8 26. ♖xd5 ♖xh4 27.gxh4 exd5∞) 17... ♖xd4 18. ♖b3 ♖d6∞) 15... ♖bd7 16. ♖xc6 ♔xc6 17. ♖xc6 ♖xd4 18. ♖b3 ♖xb2 19. ♖d2 ♖a3 20. ♔c7 ♖ac8



21. ♖c1 ♖f8 22. ♔b7±

13... ♖d5 14. ♖c1 ♖d8 15. ♖c3 ♖d7 16. ♖d3

Wojtaszek felt that Black should have somewhere the possibility to equalize the position.

16...a5

Black agrees that pushing c5 is not that easy, so finally he decides to acti-

vate the bishop through a6. The problem of this plan is that any advance of the pawns weakens the structure of Black. We will be witnesses of this fact in the endgame.

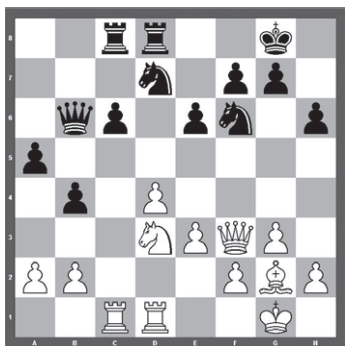
16... ♖xe3 17. ♔xe3 ♕f6 (17... ♖f6 18. ♖c5 ♖d5 19. ♔d2±) 18. ♖c5 ♖xc5 (18... ♕xd4 19. ♖xd4 ♖xc5 20. ♖ad1±) 19. dxc5 ♔c7 20. ♖ab1 a5 21. ♖e4 ♖xd1+ 22. ♖xd1 ♕xb2 23. ♔d2↑

16... ♖ac8 17. ♖e4

17. ♖e4 b4 18. ♖e5 ♕a6

Did not equalize: 18... ♖xc5 19. ♖xc5 (19. dxc5 ♔c7 20. ♕d4 ♕a6=) 19... ♕a6 20. ♕f3 ♕b5 (20... ♖xe3 21. ♔xe3 ♕c4 22. ♖ac1 ♕d5 23. ♖a4 ♔b5 24. b3; 20... h6 21. ♕d2 e5 22. ♖xa6 exd4 23. ♖xb4 axb4 24. ♔c4) 21. ♕g5 f6 22. ♕d2 e5 23. ♖e6 ♖d6 24. e4 ♖c7 25. ♖xc7 ♔xc7 26. dxe5 fxe5 27. ♕e3

19. ♖xa6 ♔xa6 20. ♕g5 ♕xg5 21. ♔xg5 ♔b6 22. e3 h6 23. ♔h5 ♖ac8 24. ♖ac1 ♖5f6 25. ♔f3



25. ♔e2 c5 26. dxc5 ♖xc5 27. ♖e5! According to Wojtaszek, he saw this

line during the game, but he did not expect that Black would have any serious problems in this position. However, engines like the position of White.

25...c5 26. ♔b7

26. dxc5 ♖xc5 27. ♖e5 ♖ce4

26... ♔xb7

26...c4 27. ♖c5 ♖c7 28. ♔xb6 ♖xb6

An interesting position, which should be better for White since the c4-pawn is not safe. Black can try to achieve some counterplay by playing e5 or the simple ♖fd7.

27. ♕xb7 ♖b8

27... ♖c7 28. ♕a6 (28. ♕f3 c4) 28... ♖a8 29. ♕b5 ♖ac8 30. dxc5 ♖xc5 31. ♖e5 ♖d5

28. ♕f3 cxd4 29. exd4 ♖bc8

Probably Adams decided to play this structure, because he thought that he should not experience any serious problems with the d5 square and the isolated pawn on d4. However, he did not sense that soon the pawns on the queenside will fall under a strong pressure.

30. ♕f1 ♕f8

30... ♖xc1 31. ♖xc1 ♖b6 Wojtaszek thought that he can minimum win the pawn back. 32. ♕e2 ♖xd4 33. ♖c5 a4 34. ♕e3 ♖d8 35. ♖xb4 White has an advantage thanks to the better pieces and the weakness on a4.

31. ♖e2 ♖e7 32. ♙b7 ♗b8 33. ♙c6
 ♗bc8 34. ♙b7 ♗b8 35. ♙f3 ♗bc8
 36. ♗xc8 ♗xc8 37. ♗c1 ♗xc1

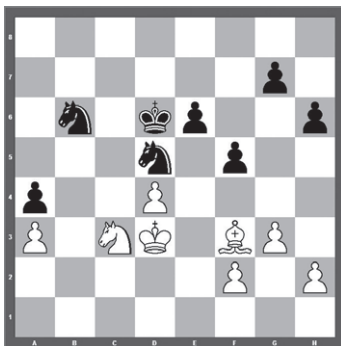
37... ♙d8 38. ♗xc8+ ♖xc8 39. ♖e3
 ♖c7 (39... ♗b6 40. ♗e5 ♗e8 41. ♗xf7
 ♗c4+ 42. ♙d3 ♗xb2+ 43. ♖c2 ♗c4
 44. ♗e5) 40. ♗e5 ♗xe5 41. dxe5 ♗d7
 42. ♖d4

40. a3 bxa3 41. bxa3 ♖d6 42. ♗a2
 ♗fd5

Does not help 42... ♗e8 with the
 idea to transfer the knight to c4 and
 try to exchange the pawn. 43. ♖c3
 (43. ♗c3 ♖e7 44. ♙d1 ♗d6 45. ♗xa4
 ♗bc4=) 43... ♗d5+ 44. ♖c4 ♗ec7
 45. ♗c1 ♖c6 46. ♗d3 ♗b5 47. ♗b4+
 ♖b6 48. ♗xd5+ exd5+ 49. ♖b4 ♗xd4
 50. ♙xd5±

43. ♗c3 f5

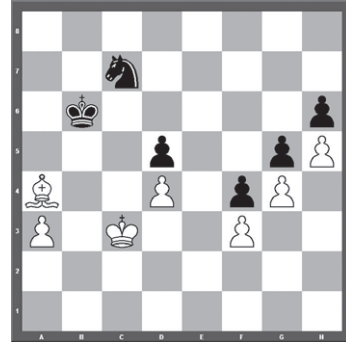
43... ♖c6 44. ♙d1 ♗xc3 45. ♖xc3
 ♖b5 46. ♙e2+ ♖a5 (46... ♖c6 47. ♖b4
 ♗d5+ 48. ♖a5±) 47. ♙d3± and the
 White king will come to c5 soon.



44. ♙d1

44. ♗xd5! This is the first moment
 where Wojtaszek has missed good
 chances to obtain a probably win-

ing position. 44... exd5 45. ♖c3 ♗c4
 46. ♖b4 ♗d2 47. ♙e2 ♗e4 48. f3 ♗g5
 49. ♙d1 f4 50. g4 ♗e6 51. ♖c3 ♖c7
 52. h4 g5 53. h5 ♖b6 54. ♙xa4 ♗c7
 This position is supposed to be win-
 ning for White?



44... ♗xc3 45. ♖xc3 g5

Advancing the pawns should help
 Black to create some counterplay on
 the kingside after White has won the
 a4 pawn.

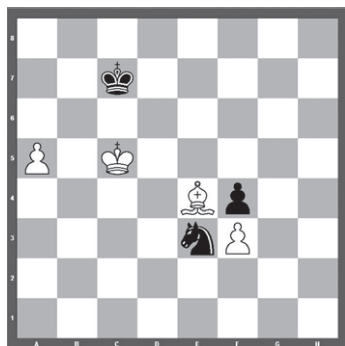
46. ♙f3 e5 47. dxe5+ ♖xe5 48. ♖b4
 ♖d4 49. ♖b5

49. ♙c6! Another mistake by Wo-
 jtaszek, who thought that the end-
 game should be winning and Black
 could defend this position only by
 a few tricks. 49... h5

49... f4 50. gxf4 gxf4 51. h4±

50. ♖b5 (50. ♙xa4 ♗d5+ 51. ♖a5 (51.
 ♖b3) 51... ♖c5 52. h4 gxh4 53. gxh4
 ♗f4 54. ♙e8 ♗g2 55. ♙xh5 ♗xh4
 56. ♖a6 f4 57. a4 ♗f5 58. a5 ♖c6
 59. ♙f3+ ♖c7 Now white has to place
 the pawn on f3, as in other case it is
 not possible to escape the king on
 b5. 60. ♙e4 ♗d4 61. f3 (61. ♙g2 ♗e6

62. ♖b5 f3 63. ♙f1 ♖g5 64. ♙d3 ♖b7
65. ♙f5 ♖a7 66. ♖c5) 61... ♗e2 62. ♖b5
♗c3+ 63. ♖c4 ♗d1 64. ♖c5 ♗e3



The knight on e3 is placed very well for two reasons. If White tries to promote the pawn (by ♖b6-a6), Black has always a check on c4. Besides, if White attempts to win the f4 pawn, Black can protect it by placing the knight on g2. The position is draw-ish?) 50... ♗c4 51. ♖xa4 ♖c3 (51... ♖c5 52. ♙e8 h4 53. gxh4 gxh4 54. ♙g6 f4 55. ♖b3 ♗d2+ 56. ♖c3 ♗f3 57. h3±) 52. h4 (52. ♙b5 ♗xa3 53. ♖xa3 ♖d2) 52... gxh4 53. gxh4 ♖d2 54. ♖b4 ♗xa3 55. ♖xa3 ♖e2 56. f3 ♖f2 57. ♖b3 ♖g3 58. ♖c3 ♖xh4 59. ♖d4 ♖g3 60. ♖e5 f4 61. ♖e4+-

49... ♗c4 50. ♖xa4 ♖c5!

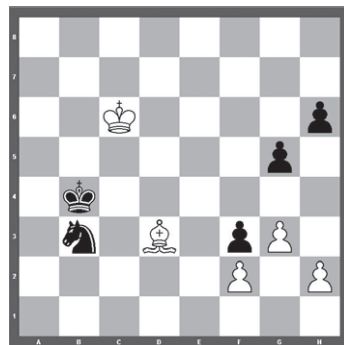
And Wojtaszek missed that his king is now cut. 51. ♙e2 ♗d2 52. ♖a5 f4 53. a4 f3 Fixing the weakness on f2.

54. ♙d3

54. ♙d1 ♗c4+ 55. ♖a6 ♗b2 56. ♙c2 ♖b4 57. a5 ♗c4 58. ♙e4 ♗xa5 59. ♙xf3 ♗c4=

54... ♗b3+ 55. ♖a6 ♖b4 56. ♖b6 ♖xa4 57. ♖c6 ♖b4

Black can exchange the material on time.



58. ♖d5 ♖c3 59. ♙e4 g4 60. ♖e5 ♖d2 61. ♖f4 ♖e2 62. ♖xg4 ♗d2 63. ♙xf3+ ½-½

GAME 2

▷ V. Kramnik (2800)

► I. Nepomniachtchi (2730)

6th Tal Memorial

Moscow, Russia

Round 1, 16.11.2011 [A37]

Annotated by Borki Predojevic

The following game leads us into the English Opening, where Black played the setup with e5 and ♗ge7. We will use some notes from the book English Opening Vol.3 and also see some new games with this setup. After 6... d6 Black chose a particularly concrete line which comes after 8.b4 e4!?. Here White opted for 9. ♗e1 (9. ♗g5 is alternative). Black answered with 9...f5