

ARKADIJ NAIDITSCH

CHESS EVOLUTION

TOP ANALYSIS BY SUPER GMs

JANUARY 2013



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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

THE SAD NEWS FIRST

With the 9th “Chess Evolution January 2013” book, we are ending our periodical series. We made 6 books in the Year 2011 and 3 books in the Year 2012, trying to give You a way to stand even above the newest theory and be able to surprise Your opponent of any chess level.

Due to a company’s decision, we will orient ourselves more to “softer chess material” with books like Konstantin Sakaev’s “Complete Slav I”. Also, we just have no time to keep up with the huge work that was required for the publication of the Chess Evolution periodical.

To be honest, Etienne and me, we are quite sad about it. This is how we started, investing a big amount of time and our chess knowledge to make the Chess Evolution periodical as interesting as possible.

THE CONTENT OF CE JANUARY 2013

As usual, we tried to collect the most interesting games of the past months with Top commentaries for You. We have a total of 40 very well analyzed games with names like: Carlsen, Aronian, Kramnik, Caruana, Anand and many more Top Grandmasters.

In addition, we bring You a small report from the Wijk aan Zee Tata Steel tournament, covering great games like Aronian-Anand, where Black showed an amazing preparation. Here we put a total number of 5 games.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Thanks a lot to all our subscribers for staying with us. We very much hope that the analyses in the books were useful for Your chess and that You at least got 1 win out of theory by following our suggestions :).

And, of course, we would be very happy to see You back again. Chess Evolution is going to produce a lot of nice books in the Year 2013 :).

Arkadij Naiditsch

CONTRIBUTORS

Etienne Bacrot: France, 29 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).



Csaba Balogh: Hungary, 26 years old, GM 2672. Grandmaster since 2004. Won the U-16 section of the 2003 European Youth Chess Championship. Member of the Hungarian national team since 2005.

Best tournament result: winner of the Fischer memorial Super-tournament in 2008, Héviz.

Kamil Miton: Poland, 28 years old, GM 2622. World Junior U-12 Champion in 1996. Number 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, 27 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, 25 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.

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GAME 7

▷ **S. Karjakin (2778)**

▶ **F. Caruana (2773)**

5th Final Masters

Bilbao ESP

Round 2, 25.09.2012, C78

Annotated by Borki Predojevic

The Archangelsk variation is the favorite weapon of GM Caruana. In the following game, Karjakin chose a positional line with 9. ♖e3. In the past, Caruana had good results in this line, but his positions weren't very good. As the reader can see, Caruana had analyzed this line deeply and had a plan with 10... ♗b7 and 11... exd4. Karjakin played the novelty 13. ♖e2N, but Black easily equalized. Later, White played passively and after two mistakes — 21.a4? and 23. ♖d1?? — Black won the game easily. I tried to cover a lot of lines in the setup with 9. ♖e3, and the reader can find many lines like: 10... ♗g4, 11.a4, 13. ♖b1, 13.d5 etc.

1.e4 e5 2. ♘f3 ♘c6 3. ♖b5 a6 4. ♖a4
 ♘f6 5.o-o b5 6. ♖b3 ♖c5

The Archangelsk variation is the favorite opening of GM Caruana, who has been playing it from his youth.

7.c3

7. ♘c3!? was analyzed in the January 2012 issue of Chess Evolution; the game was Grischuk—Lenic, European Team Championship 2011. The readers that would like to play the Archangelsk variation with Black

can follow the notes after 7...o-o! (7...d6 was played by Lenic) — the key move that gives Black a good game.

7...d6 8.d4 ♖b6 9. ♖e3

A positional setup by White. Karjakin played this line in his last game against the Archangelsk, so Caruana probably checked it in his preparation.

The main line is 9.a4 ♖b8 10. ♘a3 o-o 11.axb5 axb5 12. ♘xb5 ♖g4, but Karjakin doesn't want to go into forced lines.

9...o-o 10. ♘bd2



10... ♖b7!?

A small surprise by Caruana. Recently, this move was played by another expert in the Archangelsk — GM Ganguly.

In the past, Caruana played here 10...h6. After 11.h3 ♖e8 12. ♖e1, Caruana made three draws. In 2012, he changed his line and twice played 12... ♖d7. After

(12... ♖b7 13. ♖c2 (The main line is 13.d5. One of the examples on

how to play this setup as Black can be the following game: 13...
 ♖a5 14. ♙xb6 cxb6 15. ♙c2 ♜c4
 16. ♖b1 ♜c8 17. ♙d3 ♜c7 18. a4
 ♜xd2 19. ♜xd2 bxa4 20. ♖xa4 ♜d7
 21. ♖a3 ♖e7 22. ♜c4 ♜c5 23. b4 ♜c7
 24. b5



24... ♜xc4! 25. ♙xc4 a5 26. ♙f1 ♜c5= with good compensation for the exchange. Smirin—Lenic, Aeroflot 2010.) 13... ♜b8!? An uncommon move for the Archangelsk. However, Caruana equalized easily. (After 13... exd4 14. cxd4 ♜b4, White can play 15. d5. After 15... ♙xe3 16. ♜xe3 c6 17. dxc6 ♜xc6 18. a4∞ maybe this was prepared by Svidler?!) 14. dxe5 (14. a4!? ♜bd7 15. axb5 axb5 16. ♖e2 ♜xa1 17. ♜xa1 exd4 18. ♙xd4 c6 19. ♜e1↑) 14... dxe5 15. ♙xb6 cxb6 16. c4 b4 17. ♜f1 ♜bd7 18. ♖d2 ♜c5 19. ♖xb4 ♜fxe4= Svidler—Caruana, Khanty—Mansiysk 2011.)

13. ♖b1!? (Δa4, ♖a2) (13. ♙c2 ♖b8 14. a3 a5 15. ♙d3 ♖a7 16. ♙xb5 exd4 17. cxd4 ♜xd4 18. ♙xd7 ♜xd7 19. ♜xd4 ♙xd4 20. ♜c1 ♙xe3 21. ♜xe3 a4= Navara—Caruana, Wijk aan Zee 2012.) 13... ♜a5 14. ♙c2 c5 15. d5 c4 16. b4 cxb3 17. axb3 ♙xe3 18. ♜xe3 ♜b7 19. b4 ♜h5 (19... a5 20. ♙d3 ♖b6

21. ♙f1↑ also looks somewhat better for White.) 20. ♙d3 ♜f4 21. ♙f1± White was better in the game Hou Yifan—Caruana, Reykjavik 2012.;

A more direct alternative for Black is 10... ♙g4. The critical position comes after 11. h3 ♙h5 12. ♙g5!. Here Black has a few options.



The most direct line is 12... exd4

a) After 12... ♜b8 White was successful, but the position is not so clear. 13. d5!?

(13. g4 ♙g6 14. d5 ♜a5 15. ♙c2 c6?! (The computer offers 15... h6 16. ♙h4 c5!∞ with the idea of ♖e7 followed by ♙d8.) 16. b4 ♜c4 17. ♜xc4 bxc4 18. dxc6 ♜c8 19. ♖e2 ♜xc6 20. ♜ad1 ♖e7 21. ♜h4 h6 22. ♜f5 ♙xf5 23. ♙xf6 ♖xf6 24. exf5± Jobava—Kir.Georgiev, Budva 2009.)

13... ♜a5 14. g4 ♜xb3 (14... ♙g6 15. ♜e1 h6 16. ♙h4 ♙h7 17. ♖f3 g5 18. ♙g3 ♙g7∞) 15. axb3 ♙g6 16. ♖e2 h6 17. ♙h4 ♙h7



18. ♔h2! c6? 19. dxc6 g5 20. ♖xg5 hxg5 21. ♕xg5 d5 was played in the game Mil. Perunovic—Halkias, Vrnjacka Banja 2010. Here White could have played 22. ♖f3 ♗xe4 23. ♕xd8 ♖xd2 24. ♖d1 ♗xf1+ 25. ♖xf1 ♖bxd8 26. ♖xa6 ♕c7 27. ♖a7 ♖c8 28. ♖xb5±/+- and it seems like Black can't hold the position, even when he has three pieces for the queen. White has too many pawns.;

b) Another move is 12... ♗a5. Here White should play 13. dxe5

(13. g4 ♗xb3 14. axb3 ♕g6 15. dxe5 dxe5 16. ♗xe5 doesn't bring anything for White after 16...h6! (16... ♖e8? 17. ♗xg6 hxg6 18. ♖f3 ♖d6 19. ♕f4 ♖e6 20. ♖fe1± Jobava—Nguyen Ngoc Truongson, Aeroflot 2008.) 17. ♕xf6 ♖xf6 18. ♗d7 ♖f4! 19. ♗xb6 cxb6 20. ♖e2 ♖fe8 21. ♖e3 ♖xe3 22. fxe3 ♕xe4 23. ♗xe4 ♖xe4 24. ♔f2 b4 25. ♖fd1 1/2–1/2 Belov—Gupta, Chalkida 2009.)

13...dxe5



14. ♕c2 in order to fight for the advantage. 14...h6 (After 14... ♖e8 15. ♖e2 h6 16. ♕h4 ♗b7 17. ♖fd1 ♗d6 18. a4 ♖b8 19. ♗f1 g5 20. ♕g3± Black has a lot of weaknesses. N. Kosintseva—Kosteniuk, Rostov on Don 2011.) 15. ♕h4 ♕xf3?! 16. ♗xf3 ♖e8 17. a4 ♖xd1 18. ♖fxd1 ♗h5 19. ♔f1± led to a better endgame for White in the game Smirin—Ragger, Moscow 2010.;

13. ♕d5 dxc3 (13... ♖d7 14. ♕xf6 gxf6 15. ♕xc6 ♖xc6 16. ♗xd4 ♕xd1 17. ♗xc6 ♕h5 18. a4± happened in the low-level game Nichols—Block, corr. 2008.) 14. ♕xc6 cxd2 15. ♕xa8 ♖xa8 16. ♕xf6 gxf6 17. ♖xd2 ♖xe4. After a couple of forced moves, we got to the critical position. White will probably put a rook on e1, but which rook?



18. ♖fe1

(18. ♖ae1 was played in a recent correspondence game. After 18... ♖f5 19. ♖h2



19... ♗g6! (19... ♖d8? 20. ♖h4! ♖c5 21.f4 ♖d4 22. ♖xd4 ♗xd4 23. ♖f5 ♗xb2 24.g4 ♗g6 25. ♖e7+ ♖f8 26. ♖c6! ♖d7 27.f5+-) 20. ♖e2 d5 21.b4 ♖d7 22. ♖d1 ♖d6+ 23. ♖g1 ♖g7! 24. ♖d4 (24. ♖xd5 ♖xb4↖) 24...c5 25.bxc5 ♗xc5↖ Black had no problems and eventually won the game. P.Petkov—Parushev, corr. 2010.)

18... ♖f5 19. ♖h4 ♖g5 20. ♖xg5+ fxg5 21. ♖f5 is another — more popular — option. Here Black played three different moves. However, probably the most precise is 21... ♖b8!?

a) 21... ♗g6 22. ♖e7+ ♖g7 23. ♖ad1 Probably the best for Black is to follow the next correspondence game: (23. ♖d5 ♖b8 24. ♖ad1 ♖f8 25.g4↑ also looks better for White, even though Black finally achieved a draw. Karjakin—Shirov, Tal Memorial 2010.) 23... ♖b8

(23... ♗a5 24. ♖e2 ♖e8 25. ♖f1 h6 26. ♖c6 is better for White. After 26... ♖xe2 27. ♖xe2 ♗b6 28.f3 ♗f5

29. ♖b4! ♗e6 30.b3 a5 31. ♖d5 ♗xd5 32. ♖xd5 the game was one-sided: 32... ♗c5 33. ♖f5 c6 34.f4 ♖g6 35.g4 ♗b6 (35...f6 36.a4 bxa4 37.bxa4±/±) 36.a4 bxa4 37.bxa4 d5?? (37..f6 38.h4± is also worse for Black, but the main move is simply losing.) 38.fxg5 hxg5 39. ♖f1+- Jobava—Grigoryan, Yerevan 2008.)

24.g4 ♗c2! 25. ♖d5 (25. ♖c1 ♗d3 26. ♖d5 c5 27. ♖cd1 c4↖) 25...h6 26. ♖e2 ♗b1 27.b4 ♖f8 28. ♖dd2 ♖g7 29. ♖g2 a5 30.a3 axb4 31.axb4 ♗h7! 32.f3 c5 33. ♖xd6 cxb4 34. ♖c6 ♖a8 35. ♖b2 ♗e3 36. ♖xb4 ♖a1↖ and Black easily achieved a draw. Rauduvč—Parushev ICCF 2011.;

b) Recently, Black played 21... ♗c5, but after 22. ♖e7+ ♖g7 23. ♖d5! ♗d4 (23...c6 24. ♖e7±) 24. ♖xc7 ♗xb2 25. ♖ab1 ♗e5 26. ♖bc1 ♖b8 27. ♖xa6 ♖a8 28. ♖c6 ♗g6 29. ♖d1↑ Black was not able to hold the endgame, but the computer offers 29...h5 with an evaluation of 0.00 on depth 25! Svetushkin—Ganguly, Leon 2012.;



Now after 22. ♖e7+, Black can play 22... ♖f8. 23.g4 ♗g6 24. ♖ad1 ♗c2 25. ♖c1 ♗g6! 26. ♖g2 ♗d3 27. ♖d5 ♗c4 28. ♖xb6 ♖xb6 29.b3 ♗d5+

30. ♖g3 c5 31. f4 gxf4+ 32. ♖xf4 ♕e6= leads to an equal position. A couple of moves later, the players agreed to a draw in Silva—Szczepaniak, corr. 2011. The main problem of the line with 12...exd4 is that Black is not able to get winning chances and he has to find a lot of difficult moves in order to achieve a draw. In correspondence games, Black easily held this position. In classical chess, it isn't as easy and pleasant to defend this endgame with Black.

11. ♖e1

Beside this move, White has other options.

11.a4 is a typical Ruy Lopez's move. The most consistent answer is 11...exd4 12.cxd4 ♖b4 since now the Black knight on b4 can't be attacked by a3. Recently, White played the calm 13.axb5

(After 13. ♕g5 h6 14. ♕h4 g5 15. ♖xg5 hxg5 16. ♕xg5 Black is obliged to play 16... ♕xd4 (16... ♖e8? (J. Polgar—Bacrot, Bastia 1999.) 17. ♖f3! ♕xd4 18. ♖g3+-) 17. ♖f3 ♕c5∞ and it seems that White can only get a draw here.)

13...axb5 14. ♖e2.



Here I suggest 14... ♖d7N. After (14... ♖xe4?! 15. ♖xb5 ♖xd2 16. ♖xd2 ♖c6 17. ♖c4 ♖a7 18. ♖f5± Hracek—Holzke, Germany 2011.) 15.d5 ♕xe3 16. ♖xe3 ♖fe8 17. ♖xa8 ♕xa8 18. ♖c3 c5 19.dxc6 ♖xc6 20. ♖c1 h6= Black doesn't have any problems.;

An interesting idea is 11.d5!?. The main idea of this move is to go into a typical setup with ♕xb6 cxb6, but to avoid the move h3, since usually White has problems to play g3 and take control over the f4 square (with the pawn on h3). On the other hand, Black's rook is on f8, which is better for him — the break with f5 can be prepared faster. 11... ♖a5 (11... ♖e7 12. ♕xb6 cxb6 13. ♖e2 ♖g6 14.g3∞) 12. ♕xb6 cxb6 13. ♕c2 ♖c4 14. ♖b1 ♕c8∞ leads to a complicated position.

11...exd4

Caruana starts the action in the center.

Another option is 11...h6. Here White can try to play 12.d5!? (12.h3 ♖e8 leads to the position that was analyzed after 10...h6.) 12... ♖e7 13. ♕xb6 cxb6 14. ♖f1 with the same idea as after 11.d5!? — saving the move h3. The game can continue with 14... ♕c8 15.a4 bxa4 (15... ♕d7 16.axb5 ♕xb5 17. ♖3d2↑ with ♕c4 next.) 16. ♕xa4 ♖b8∞. The final position can be analyzed further, but we already showed the main ideas for both sides in this type of position.

12.cxd4 ♖b4



13. ♖e2N

A novelty by Karjakin, but not a natural move for the Archangelsk. I'm not sure if this was his home preparation, because after a couple of natural moves, Black had a good position.

Another idea is 13. ♖b1!?. After 13... c5 14. a3 ♖c6 15. d5 (15. dxc5 dxc5 16. e5 ♖g4 17. ♔g5 ♖c7 18. ♖f5 ♖xf2! ♣ Oparin—B. Socko St. Petersburg 2012.) 15... ♖e7 (15... ♖e5 16. ♖xe5 dxe5 17. ♔d1! c4 18. ♖c2 ♖c8 19. h3 ♔xe3 20. ♖xe3± offers White a pleasant edge. Enders—Mainka, Binz 1994.) 16. h3 h6 17. ♖f1 ♖d7 18. ♖g3 Black has two possibilities:



18...c4

(18...f5!? 19. exf5 (19. ♖xf5 ♖xf5 20. exf5 can be met with the strong 20... ♖e8!). The main idea of this move is to prepare c4 in order to play ♔xd5 nest. After the strange — and best — move 21. ♔a2 c4 22. b3 ♔xd5 23. bxc4 bxc4 24. ♖d1 ♖f6 25. ♖d2 ♔xe3 26. fxe3 ♖c8 27. ♖c1 c3 28. ♔xd5+ ♖xd5 29. ♖c4 ♖c5 30. e4 the game should finish in a draw after 30... ♖f6 31. ♖xd6 ♖xd6 32. exd5 ♖xe1+ 33. ♖xe1 ♖xd5 34. ♖e8+ ♔h7 35. ♖g6+ ♔g8 36. ♖e8±) 19... ♖f6 20. ♖c2 ♖exd5 21. ♔a2 ♖e8 22. ♖ad1 ♖c7∞)

19. ♔c2 ♔xe3 20. ♖xe3 f5 21. ♖xf5 ♖xf5 22. exf5 ♔xd5 23. ♖d4 (23. ♖d1 ♔xf3 24. ♖xf3 ♖f6 25. ♖e6 d5↔ looks nice for Black.) 23... ♖f6 24. ♖d1 ♔f7 25. ♖d2 ♖ae8 26. ♖d1 (26. ♖ae1 ♖xe3 27. ♖xe3 ♖e8 1/2–1/2 S. Hansen—Rogozenco, Hamburg 2002.) 26... ♖c5 27. ♖c3 ♖xe3 28. fxe3 ♖e8↔ Swiercz—Sethuraman, Kermer 2009.;

13. d5 was played lately. After 13... c5 14. dxc6 ♖xc6 (14... ♔xc6 15. ♖c1 ♔b7 (Macieja—Zherebukh, Warsaw (rapid) 2009).



16. ♖g5! ♙xe3 17. ♜xe3 ♘c6 18. ♗df3 h6 19. ♙xf7+ ♜xf7 20. ♗xf7 ♙xf7 21. ♗d4±) 15. ♗f1 (15. ♙e2 ♜e8 16. ♜ac1 ♜c8 17. a4 ♙xe3 18. ♙xe3 h6=) 15... ♙xe3 16. ♜xe3 ♗a5 17. ♗g3 ♜e8↔ Black had no problems in the game Iordachescu—Ganguly, Jakarta 2012.

13...c5 14.a3 ♗c6 15.d5 ♗e7=

Black achieved a nice setup. The main problem for White is his queen on e2. It's not so easy to find a useful plan, while Black's moves are easy.

16.h3

Too soft.

White should start to play on the other wing with 16.a4!? c4 17. ♙c2. The main point is to use the queen on e2 for a possible exchange on e3, or even to take on b6 and play ♙e3. Also, White takes control over the d4 square. Black continues with his plan 17... ♜e8. After 18. ♗f1 ♗g6 19. ♙xb6 ♙xb6 20. ♙d2 ♜ab8 (20... ♗d7 21. ♗e3↑) 21. ♙d4 ♙xd4 22. ♗xd4 b4∞ the position should be around equal.

16... ♜e8 17. ♙c2 ♗g6 18.b3



18... ♙a5!

Nice move. Black is activating his dark-squared bishop.

19. ♜ab1 ♙c3 20. ♜ec1

20. ♙d3 b4 21. axb4 ♙xb4↔

20...b4

Another idea is 20... ♗d7 21. ♙d3 ♙f6 22. a4 ♗de5 23. ♗xe5 ♗xe5 24. ♙c2 h6↔ and Black has no problems.

21.a4?

The first mistake by White. Karjakin didn't achieve anything from the opening, but he was never worse. After this move, Black has the initiative. His bishop on c3 is paralyzing White's rooks.

After 21. axb4 ♙xb4 22. ♙d3 a5 23. ♜a1 h6∞ the position should be around equal.

21...a5 22. ♙d3 h6≠/±

Now we see the main problem for White. He has no space to maneuver.



23. ♙d1??

The decisive mistake. After this, White has a really bad position.

The computer suggests 23. ♖f1, but it's clear that White is forced to play passive moves. The simple 23... ♗e7 24. ♜d1 ♚c7 25. ♜bc1 ♜ae8↑ increases the pressure on White's position.

23... ♗a6!

Suddenly, White is not able to defend the e4 pawn.

24. ♗c2

After 24. ♖f1 ♗xd3 25. ♚xd3 ♜a7! 26. ♜e1 ♜ae7-+ White is losing the e4 pawn and his position remains passive.

24... ♜a7

Here the computer offers a better idea: 24... ♗e7!! with ♚e8 next and a sacrifice on e4. I will analyze this position further just by saying that on depth 22, my computer gives 22. ♜a1 as the best move for White!!

25. ♗h2 ♜ae7-+ 26.g4

Desperation. Already here, Black has numerous ways to win the game.

26... ♗xe4!

A human move.

26... ♗xd2 27. ♗xd2 ♗xd5!! 28.exd5 ♜xe3 29.fxe3 ♜xe3-+ is an even more attractive way to win the game.;

26... ♚c8!?-+ also wins. White simply has no moves.

**27. ♗xe4 ♜xe4 28. ♗xe4 ♜xe4
29. ♚c2 ♚e7 30. ♜g1**



30... ♜xe3!

The final sacrifice. Black is dominating the board. After

31.fxe3 ♚xe3 32. ♜bf1

32. ♜g3 ♗d3 33. ♚d1 ♗xb1 34. ♚xb1 ♚f2+--;

32. ♚g2 ♗f4 33. ♚g3 ♗e2 34. ♜be1 (34. ♚g2 c4!?-+) 34... ♗xe1 35. ♜xe1 ♗xg3 36. ♜xe3 ♗f1+ 37. ♚g1 ♗xe3-+

**32... ♗e2 33. ♚f5 ♗d3 34. ♚d7 ♗e5+
35. ♗h1 ♗e4 36. ♚e8+ ♗f8**

Karjakin resigned the game.

0-1

– D –

| | | | |
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— E —

| | | | |
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TATA STEEL CHESS 2013

WIJK AAN ZEE

As usual, January began with probably the most spectacular chess event of the upcoming Year, the “Tata Steel Chess”, which already celebrated its 75th edition! Just at the opening ceremony, the organizers gave a great present to all the chess community, announcing that the Tata Steel Chess tournament will continue in 2014!!!

But let us go back to the Year 2013:

- 3 round robins with 14 players in each group and a very big open section — what can be more exciting for a chess spectator?!
- The A group with chess superstars like Carlsen, Aronian, Anand, Karjakin, Nakamura, Caruana ...
- The B group was also a very strong event with Naiditsch, Movsesian, Edouard, Rapport....
- The C group was a mixture of GMs combined with talented Dutch players and young talents.

GROUP A

All in all, it was a clear domination by Magnus Carlsen, who managed to score an amazing 10/13. Magnus has been showing — as he usually does — some great play combined with many practical decisions. He was just unstoppable.

The 2nd place was well deserved by Levon Aronian, who was pretty unlucky in quite a few games. Losing with white to Anand just out of opening and not converting a few winning positions made it impossible for him to compete with Magnus Carlsen, so his final result was 8,5/13.

The 3rd place was shared by Anand and Karjakin with 8/13, both showing solid/good play. However, in comparison to Carlsen or Aronian, their play lost some brightness.

STANDINGS OF GRANDMASTER GROUP A

| | | Score | Rating | TPR | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|----|-----------------|------------------|--------|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | Carlsen, M. | 10.0 / 13 | 2861 | 2933 | | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | Aronian, L. | 8.5 / 13 | 2802 | 2837 | ½ | | 0 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 |
| 3 | Anand, V. | 8.0 / 13 | 2772 | 2816 | ½ | 1 | | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ |
| 4 | Karjakin, S. | 8.0 / 13 | 2780 | 2816 | 0 | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 |
| 5 | Leko, P. | 7.5 / 13 | 2735 | 2789 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 |
| 6 | Nakamura, H. | 7.0 / 13 | 2769 | 2758 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ |
| 7 | Harikrishna, P. | 6.5 / 13 | 2698 | 2735 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | | 1 | ½ | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ |
| 8 | Giri, A. | 6.0 / 13 | 2726 | 2704 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | | ½ | ½ | 0 | 1 | ½ | ½ |
| 9 | Wang, H. | 6.0 / 13 | 2752 | 2702 | ½ | 0 | 1 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | | 0 | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ |
| 10 | van Wely, L. | 6.0 / 13 | 2679 | 2707 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 1 | | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 11 | Hou, Y. | 5.5 / 13 | 2603 | 2685 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ½ | | ½ | ½ | 1 |
| 12 | Caruana, F. | 5.0 / 13 | 2781 | 2642 | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | | 1 | 1 |
| 13 | L'Ami, E. | 4.0 / 13 | 2627 | 2599 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | | ½ |
| 14 | Sokolov, I. | 3.0 / 13 | 2667 | 2526 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | |

GROUP B

Here, things were very exciting until the last hour of play. As announced by the organizers, the winner — and only the winner — of the B group is qualified for next year's A group.

Before the last round, 3 players shared the first place: Movsesian, Rapport and me. I had the better tiebreak, so in case of a win, I was sure to join the A group next year. Movsesian did not manage to win his game against Ipatov, but Rapport won with Black against Nikolic, so it was up to me now. After a 6 hours fight against Sipke Ernst, I was the lucky one to receive the promotion for next year!

STANDINGS OF GRANDMASTER GROUP B

| | | Score | Rating | TPR | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|----|----------------|-----------------|--------|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | Naiditsch, A. | 9.0 / 13 | 2708 | 2755 | | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | Rapport, R. | 9.0 / 13 | 2621 | 2761 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | Smeets, J. | 8.5 / 13 | 2615 | 2731 | 0 | 1 | | ½ | ½ | 1 | 0 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 |
| 4 | Movsesian, S. | 8.5 / 13 | 2688 | 2725 | ½ | 0 | ½ | | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 |
| 5 | Dubov, D. | 7.5 / 13 | 2600 | 2679 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 |
| 6 | Edouard, R. | 7.0 / 13 | 2686 | 2644 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 0 |
| 7 | Timman, J. | 7.0 / 13 | 2566 | 2653 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ½ | 0 | ½ | | ½ | ½ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 8 | Tiviakov, S. | 6.5 / 13 | 2655 | 2618 | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 9 | Turov, M. | 6.0 / 13 | 2630 | 2591 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 |
| 10 | van Kampen, R. | 5.5 / 13 | 2581 | 2566 | 1 | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | 1 | 0 | ½ | | 0 | 0 | ½ | 1 |
| 11 | Grandelius, N. | 4.5 / 13 | 2572 | 2514 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 12 | Nikolic, P. | 4.5 / 13 | 2619 | 2510 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | 1 | 1 | | 0 | 1 |
| 13 | Ipatov, A. | 4.0 / 13 | 2587 | 2482 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 1 | | ½ |
| 14 | Ernst, S. | 3.5 / 13 | 2556 | 2450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ½ | |

GROUP C

In the C group, it was a fight between Brunello and Peralta. Both had a very good tournament scoring an amazing amount of points.

Before the last round, both had 10/12. Amazing! Brunello managed to continue crushing when Peralta could not reach more than a draw against Kovchan, so the decision was made. Congrats for Brunello, who will play in 2014's B group.

STANDINGS OF GRANDMASTER GROUP C

| | | Score | Rating | TPR | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|----|------------------|------------------|--------|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | Brunello, S. | 11.0 / 13 | 2572 | 2764 | | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | Peralta, F. | 10.5 / 13 | 2617 | 2716 | ½ | | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 |
| 3 | Swinkels, R. | 8.5 / 13 | 2508 | 2583 | ½ | 0 | | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 4 | Mekhitarian, K. | 8.0 / 13 | 2543 | 2558 | 0 | ½ | ½ | | ½ | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 5 | Kovchan, A. | 7.5 / 13 | 2579 | 2525 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 |
| 6 | Burg, T. | 7.0 / 13 | 2492 | 2504 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | | ½ | 0 | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 |
| 7 | Klein, D. | 7.0 / 13 | 2445 | 2507 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ½ | ½ | | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 8 | Gretarsson, H. | 6.5 / 13 | 2516 | 2473 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 |
| 9 | Bitensky, I. | 5.5 / 13 | 2400 | 2425 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 0 |
| 10 | Romanishin, O. | 5.5 / 13 | 2521 | 2415 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 |
| 11 | Admiraal, M. | 4.5 / 13 | 2321 | 2378 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 0 | | 0 | ½ | ½ |
| 12 | Goryachkina, A. | 3.5 / 13 | 2402 | 2306 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 1 | | ½ | ½ |
| 13 | van der Werf, M. | 3.0 / 13 | 2450 | 2267 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | | 0 |
| 14 | Schut, L. | 3.0 / 13 | 2295 | 2279 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | |

In the next pages, we bring You a few of the very exciting moments from the great games that were played in the Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2013.