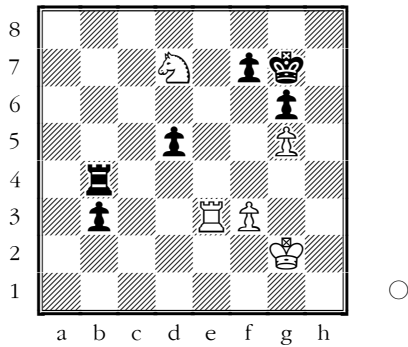


Test Yourself!

Miezis – Iordachescu
Dubai Open (7), 21.04.2012



But Aronian easily improved with **16...♖e6!N**
Instead of Muzuchuk's incorrect 16...♖d6 Gunina-A.Muzychuk, Gaziantep 2012.

17.cxd7 ♖xd7
As suggested, for example, in CT-4144 Now Black is, crucially, in time to organise counterplay against the d5 knight. It turned out that he may be even somewhat better. Kramnik's choice was not optimal. He went for **18.♖a4**
18.b3!? is possibly preferable, and there were more choices.
18...♙b7 19.♖xc4 ♙xd5 20.exd5 ♖xd5! 21.♖xd5 ♖xd5 (D)



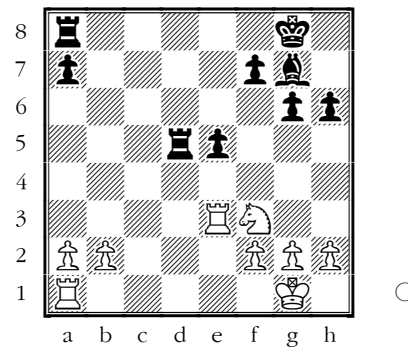
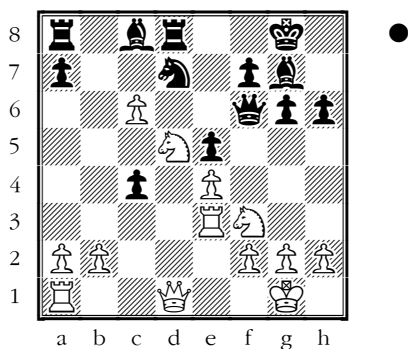
World Chess News

Kramnik vs Aronian

Vladimir Kramnik, despite playing with White, lost the first encounter of his friendly match versus Levon Aronian in Zurich, Switzerland.

It was not a particularly interesting game.

Kramnik – Aronian



Later White did not manage to hold this typically unpleasant ending where the bishop is stronger than the knight, albeit Kramnik initially expected that he would be able to draw here. There is a [video](#) by Evgeny Surov, showing the opponents analysing the game starting from this point.

A rare example of bad opening preparation by Kramnik, who has not played seriously for more than 4 months prior to this game, which did not help him either.

[Official website](#)

Kramnik was inspired by the decisive win by Gunina over A.Muzychuk at the European Women's Championship, which he briefly saw and did not analyse with a computer, but anticipated that it all was Gunina's (deep) computer preparation.



Dubai Open

On Friday there was a free day at the main tournament, and the blitz [tournament](#) was played, won by GM Baadur Jobava who scored 7½/9 (Vijay Kumar's [video](#) is available at Youtube).

On Saturday, rounds 6 and 7 took place. Normunds Miezis had a certain amount of luck in his game against GM Viorel Iordachescu and is now leading.

Standings after 7 of 9 rounds:

1. Miezis – 6,
2–10. Ni Hua, Akopian, Mchedlishvili, Sandipan, Miroshnichenko, Andriasian, Negi, Kuzubov and Gupta – 5½, etc.

[Chess-Results](#)

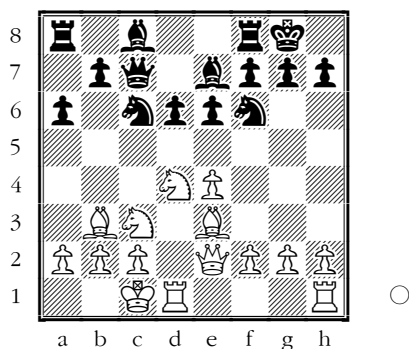
Annotated Game

by GM Mikhail Golubev

D. Petrosian (2463) – L. Van Wely (2691)

Dubai Open UAE (7), 21.04.2012
Sicilian, Sozin; B89

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♖c6 5.♗c3 d6 6.♕e3 a6 7.♗c4 ♗f6 8.♞e2 ♞c7 9.0-0-0 ♕e7 10.♗b3 0-0 (D)



The Velimirovic Attack in its purest form is not popular at GM level nowadays. (Both sides tend to avoid these positions). So I primarily want to bring attention to the fact that this new game has been played.

11.♞hg1

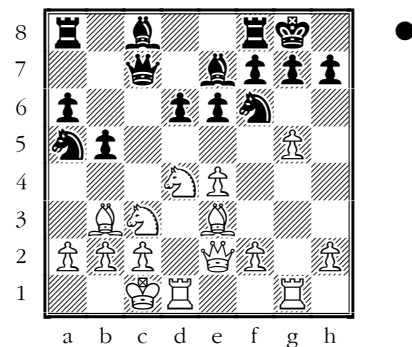
The main alternative is 11.g4 which allows 11...♗xd4 with the idea of

12.♗xd4 (as a rule White plays 12.♞xd4) 12...e5. But 11.♞hg1 has certain drawbacks too.

11...♗a5

This can be called a well-known sideline. Two better researched continuations are 11...♗d7 (where 12.g4 ♗c5 13.♗f5 was considered to be unsafe for Black), and 11...b5 where after 12.g4 b4 13.♗d5 exd5 14.♗xc6 ♞xc6 15.g5 ♗xe4 16.♗xd5 ♞a4 17.♗xe4 ♕e6 in Ivanchuk–Grischuk, Odessa rapid 2007 White came up with a novelty of disputable value, 18.♞d4∞.

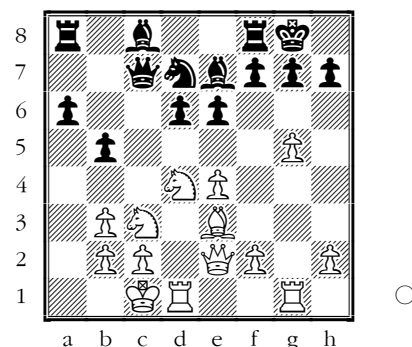
12.g4 b5 13.g5 (D)



13...♗xb3+

13...♗d7 occurs rarely: 14.♗d5 is dangerous then (threatening not only the banal capture on a8, but also ♗xe6!). In my 2001 book "The Sicilian Sozin" I was overly optimistic (for Black), while assessing this position. 14...♗b7? 15.g6 exd5 is fact loses to 16.gxh7+ ♞h8 17.♞xg7!, etc.

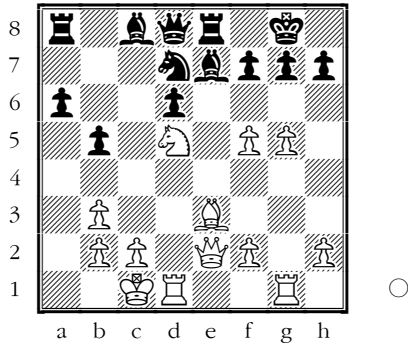
14.axb3 ♗d7 (D)



15.♗f5

According to pre-computer theory, this is premature, and White's best is 15.f4! with the idea of 15...b4 16.♗f5.

15...exf5 16.♗d5 ♞d8 17.exf5 ♞e8∞ (D)



Maybe Black is really doing well here (but it can be good to check it in the future again, with Houdini 12).

18. ♖f3

Also 18.f6 ♖f8 19.fxg7 ♖xg7! (if 19...♗e7 20.♖h5 ♗e5 21.f4! ♠♗g6 22.♗b6 ♖d7 23.♞de1!±) was tested a couple of times and White failed to show anything inspiring. Maybe the lesser of evils is 20.♖d2!±. After 18.g6, 18...fxg6! is likely best. 19.fxg6 and now Black has several options. One idea is 19...♗f6 and if 20.♖f3 ♞b8 21.gxh7+ ♖h8 22.♖g3 ♞b7!

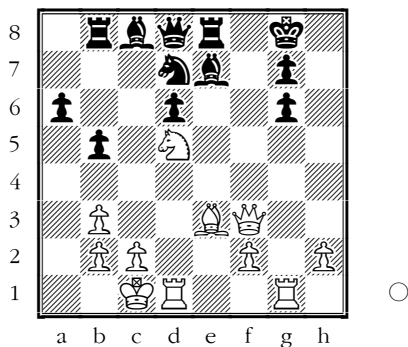
18... ♞b8

Possibly the most precise?

19.g6?N

Previously had occurred 19.f6 ♖f8 and after 20.fxg7 (Trabattoni-Grimaldi, Tripoli 1976) Black should most probably play 20...♗e7!. Here, after 21.♖h5 ♗e5 important is that the b6 square is protected by a rook.

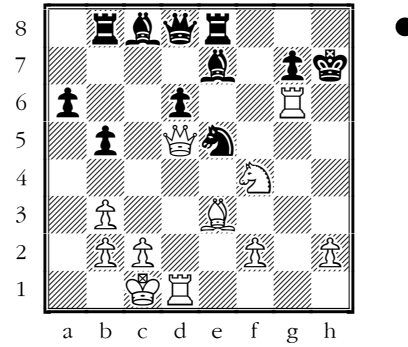
19...fxg6 20.fxg6 hxg6+- (D)



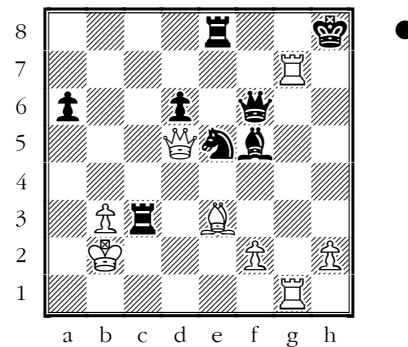
21. ♗f4

This is pretty hopeless. But Black's main, and nice, idea was 21.♞xg6 ♗e5 22.♞xg7+ ♖xg7 23.♞g1+ (or 23.♖h5 ♗g4! 24.♖h6+ ♖f7, etc.) 23...♗g5! 24.♖h5 ♗g4!-+.

21... ♗e5 22. ♖d5+ ♖h7 23. ♞xg6 (D)



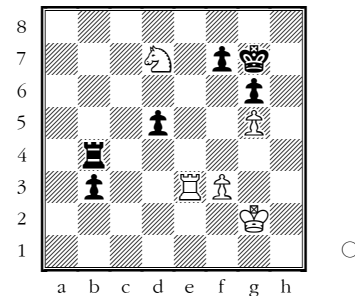
23...♗f6 24.♞g3 ♗f5 25.♗h5 ♞c8 26.c3 b4 27.♞dg1 bxc3 28.♗xf6+ ♖xf6 29.♞xg7+ ♖h8 30.bxc3 ♞xc3+ 31.♖b2 (D)



31...♗c4+ 0-1

Solution to our Quiz:

Miezis – Iordachescu



46.♞e8!+- 1-0
46.♗f6 ♞b8

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