

Queen's Pawn Opening

Prié Attack QP 9.1 (D00)

A White Chameleon

by Eric Prié

1. d4 d5
2. a3



One of the greatest mysteries of the chess game is the practice of playing with reversed colours. Why, for instance, when the Dutch is a 'living' defence against 1.d4 (1.c4, 1.♘f3), is the Bird Opening 1.f4 a *rara avis* in master practice, like so many other reversed systems?

Well, it's all a question of rhythm! The opening is a dynamic and subtle thing, swinging harmoniously between action and reaction. The black player systematically adapts himself to what White undertakes, and in systems with reversed colours that produce equal positions, the advantage of the first move will quickly fade away.

So is there not a single reversible defence that can serve to break out of this process? A kind of remedy for all ailments, hyper-economical from the viewpoint of theoretical investment, since it is based on a Black system?

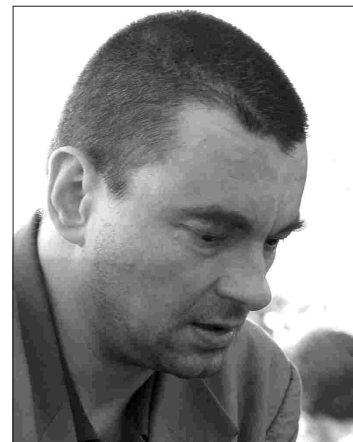
In all their wisdom, the classics recommended using the first move to set foot in the centre and threaten to put the second pawn there as well. But is this a universal law?

After 1.e4 c5 there is the dynamic Bezgodov idea 2.a3 and 3.b4 – see his Survey in Yearbook 74 – but this lies outside the scope of this Survey. The question is: can such modest rook pawn moves be feasible to reach a good reversed system?

'Chromatically', 1.e4 with 2.h3 seems to work well against the two moves that hinder 2.d4, 1...e5 and 1...c5. Which is normal, as controlling the f5 and g4 squares hinders the development of the enemy light-squared bishop, as we regularly see in the Ruy Lopez or the Rossolimo Sicilian...

So what about 1.d4? After 1...d5 2.c4 White must already be prepared for a myriad of black alternatives. A highly popular one nowadays is the Chameleon (Chebanenko) Variation 4...a6 in the Slav Defence, which is a useful move that exerts pressure on c4 without hindering the development of Black's own light-squared bishop.

Now we reach the esoteric use of the a-pawn: If 1.e4 goes well chromatically with 2.h3, the same may go for 1.d4 with 2.a3 and ...a6, when Black has a pawn on d5.

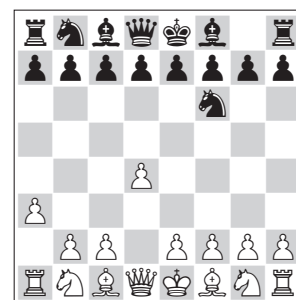


Eric Prié

Multiple Purposes

Let's examine the move 2.a3!? in reply to all Black reactions to 1.d4.

- A) 1.d4 ♘f6 2.a3?!



2...e6 3.c4 c5 4.♘f3 is pleasant for White. He intends ♘c3 and e4 to play against a Hedgehog system in which the critical line 1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 c5 3.c4 cd4 4.♘d4 e5!? is avoided. In the line 2...e6 3.c4, 3...b6 4.♘c3 would

be an improved version of the Petrosian Variation of the Queen's Indian, where White avoids the Bogo-Indian 1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 ♘b4 as well as 1.d4 e6 2.c4 ♘b4 and the move ...♘a6, while at the same time he keeps his king's knight flexible. The problem is, however, Black's reply 2...g6! or 2...d6 since against black squares set-ups, the control of the b4 square is generally of lesser importance, and White usually does not have to support his b-pawn with a2-a3 if he wants to advance it two squares, like in the Bayonet Attack of the King's Indian or the main line of the Old Indian.

B) 1.d4 e6 2.a3!



The move 1...e6 is a multiple-purpose one, avoiding the Trompowsky and keeping many options open. But now 2.a3! is very useful, as White can play c2-c4 without allowing ...♘b4, and e2-e4 is not ruled out yet.

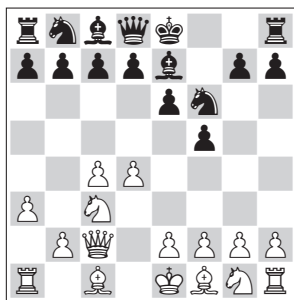
B1) 2...b6?! 3.e4 ♘b7 4.♗c3 is the best line for White in any case in the English Defence;

B2) 2...♗f6 3.♗f3, with the idea of c2-c3, and ♘g5, probably transposing to the Torre-Trompowsky Attack or 3.♘g5 c5 4.dc5 ♘c5 5.e3, which is how Antoaneta Stefanova plays the Trompowsky with 2...c5, see Game 1;

B3) 2...c5 3.c3, possibly followed by b2-b4; this is the Reversed Chameleon, but here

Black's light-squared bishop is already locked inside its pawn chain;

B4) 2...f5 3.c4 ♗f6 4.♗c3 ♘e7?! (Black should really transpose to the English Defence with 4...b6 5.♗f3 ♘b7) 5.♖c2! (opening the attack on the light squares without having to fear a check on b4; on 5.♗f3 ♗e4!? is an interesting possibility)



5...0-0 6.♗f3 d5 (e2-e4 was coming) 7.♘f4, with a 'Trashcan-Stonewall' with White's bishop outside the pawn chain – Game 2.

The Prié Attack Proper

The real Prié Attack is introduced when Black plays 1...d5, so:

C) 1.d4 d5 2.a3.

C1) 2...e6 3.♗f3 (Games 3-9), and now:

Black's first main possibility is 3...c5 4.c3 ♗c6 5.♘f4 ♗f6 (5...♖b6? was Prié-Flear, Marseille 2005, and now, with 6.b4!, White realized the Prié idea most powerfully, which also features in the 'regular' Slav Chameleon!) 6.e3 ♘d6. Now Prié-Flear, Narbonne 2005, went 7.♘g3 0-0 8.♗bd2 a6 9.♘d3 ♖e8 10.♗e5 ♘e5 11.de5 ♗d7 12.♖g4!? ♗de5 13.♘e5 ♗e5 14.♘h7 ♗h7 15.♖h5 ♗g8 16.♖e5 f6, and Black has the centre and a strong bishop, but his king remains exposed. Yet today I would prefer 7.♘d6!? ♖d6 8.♗bd2 0-0 9.b4 b6 10.♘b5.

Black's other main line is 3...♗f6 4.♘g5 ♘e7 (4...c5 5.c3; 4...h6! 5.♘f4 ♘d6) 5.e3 h6 6.♘f4 0-0 7.♗bd2 b6 (7...♗h5 8.♘e5 ♗d7 9.g4) 8.♗e5 ♘b7, Prié-D.Adams 2004/05, and now 9.h4!

C2) 2...♘f5 3.c4 e6 4.♗c3 c6 (2...♘f5!? 3.c4 e6 4.cd5!? ed5 5.♖b3 ♗c6 6.♗f3 ♗a5 7.♖a4 c6 8.e3!?, a5<) 5.♗f3 ♗d7 (5...♗f6 6.♖b3 ♖b6 7.♖a2 ♗e4) 6.♘f4, transposing into C65;

C3) 2...a6!? 3.♘g5!? h6 4.♘h4 c6 5.e3 ♖b6 6.♖c1 (preferable to 6.♖a2), eliminating the critical idea 6...e5? 7.de5, as the black queen has no check on h4 now!

C4) 2...h6. This is not the counterpart of 2.a3. At the very least, White is playing an improved London system with c4, for instance 3.♗f3 and now:

C41) 3...♘f5? 4.c4!, and now 4...c6? is no good because of 5.cd5. Now, after 5...♘b1 6.♖b1 ♖d5 White has the equivalent of an advantage of two tempos, as the a2-pawn is not hanging and White can move the queen to the best square at once with 7.♖c2!.

e2-e4 is threatened and there are concrete problems cropping up for Black: 7...♗f6 8.e3 threatening ♘c4, ♗e5 or ♘d3 and e4, and sometimes b4, which can be interposed to provoke ...a6.

On 5...cd5, White plays 6.♖b3; or 4...e6? 5.♖b3 (no point in exchanging on d5 first when the black queen cannot go to b6) 5...♗c6 6.♖b7+–, as Black no longer has ...♘b4 anymore, e.g. 6...♗a5 7.♖a6 ♗c4 8.♖c6.

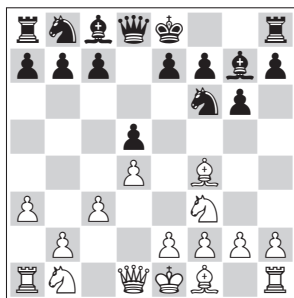
After 4...dc4 5.♗c3 ♗f6 6.e3, White wins back the pawn in a considerably improved version of the QGA or a Slav in which White has played a3 instead of allowing a weakness on b4 with a4.

C42) 3...♗f6 4.♘f4 c5?! (the thematic reaction; 4...♗c6 was a

rapid game Prié-Hamdouchi, where 5.e3 g6 6.♔g3 ♖e4 7.♔b5 ♗g3 8.hg3 ♕g7 9.♗e5 ♜d6 was interesting, but Black lost because his position contained too many holes) 5.♔b8 ♜b8 6.dc5, and Black will not see his pawn back;

C5) 2...e5? 3.de5 ♗c6 4.e4 (Prié-Guadalpi, 2004, Game 13). A gigantic advantage on the clock in a reversed Lemberg Variation, and soon a large advantage instead of pleasant equality with reversed colours.

C6) 2...♗f6 3.♗f3, and now:
C61) 3...g6 4.c3 ♕g7 5.♔f4



The combination of g6 and d5 is dubious as the fianchettoed bishop is biting on the granite of an enemy pawn wall. It's not a Closed Catalan, where Black's queen's bishop is locked inside the pawn chain and cannot contribute to the important control of square e4 (Games 10-11).

There is a game Shipov-Volkov, Moscow 1996 (Game 14), in which Black took on the same set-up as White in our line, with 1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♗c3 a6 5.g3 ♕f5!?, and won. It was analysed in Glenn Flear's book on the Slav Chameleon. With a similar set-up (in various move orders) I myself have won several games with Black.

C62) 3...a6!? (this seems more accurate than 2...a6) 4.♔f4 (4.♕g5 ♗e4 5.♔f4 ♕f5 6.♗bd2 e6=) 4...♕f5 5.e3 e6 6.c4 (with the move 2.a3 White has avoided ...♔b1, followed by ♔b4) 6...c5!? 7.dc5! ♕c5 8.♗c3 ♗c6 9.cd5 ♗d5 10.♗d5 ed5 11.♞c1 ♔b6 12.♔d3 ♕g4 13.0-0 0-0 14.b4, with advantage for White; this is miraculously similar to Dorfman-Vaisser, Aix-les-Bains 2003, and Leko-Kramnik, Brissago 2004 – Games 15-16!

C63) 3...♕f5?! (Game 12) 4.c4! c6 5.cd5! cd5 6.♞b3 ♞b6 7.♞b6 ab6 8.♗c3 ♗c6 9.♔f4 e6 10.e3, with a pleasant advantage for White (Prié-Kahler). The b-pawns are doubled and isolated, Black has abandoned square b5 and White's bishop is outside the pawn chain. All these factors will make White happy in the endgame (10...♗h5? 11.♔c7);
C64) 3...♗bd7 (with the idea

of playing c7-c5 more quickly and possibly recapture on c5 with the knight) 4.♔f4 g6 5.h3 ♕g7 6.e3 0-0 7.♗bd2 (Prié-Flear, Lattes 2005) 7...b6!? 8.c3 ♔b7 9.♞b3! ♗e4 10.♞d1!, controlling e5. White loses two tempi with a3 and h3. This enables him to develop freely but is too slow for a real advantage;

C65) 3...c6. The prophylactic move which will allow Black to equalize without specific problems by allowing the natural development of his queen's bishop out of the pawn chain. What is White able to gain out of the opening then? This is what we shall see in the next issue!

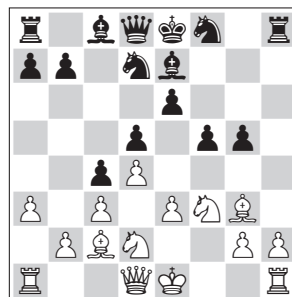
Conclusion

The Prié Attack with 1.d4 and 2.a3 is applicable against all Black replies on the first move, except maybe for 1...♗f6, after which a White 2.a3 serves no real purpose after 2...g6!. And the set-up with 2...♗f6 and 3...c6, which we shall deal with in the next Survey, also seems perfectly viable for Black. In all other cases, this modest little move is quite useful, and not only to gain time on the clock! For those who like an uncommon strategic struggle, this opening holds plenty more than just surprise value.

Multiple Purposes 1.d4 & 2.a3

Prié, Eric 1
Rustemov, Alexander
Bastia rapid 2004 (3)

1.d4 e6 2.a3 ♗f6 3.♕g5 d5 4.e3
♕e7 5.♗d2 ♗bd7 6.f4 c5 7.c3 h6
8.♔h4 g5! 9.fg5 ♗h7 10.♗gf3 hg5
11.♕g3 ♗hf8 12.♔d3 c4 13.♔c2 f5



14.a4?! [14.0-0 ♗g6 15.e4 de4 16.♗e4 fe4 17.♔e4→ ♗f4 18.♗g5 (18.♔f4 gf4 19.♕g6 ♗f8 20.♞e2 ♕f6 21.♗e5 ♕e5 22.de5 ♞h4 23.g3 ♞g5 24.♗h1) 18...♕g5 19.♔f4 ♕f4 20.♕g6 ♗e7 21.♞f4 ♞b6∞] 14...♗g6 15.e4 de4 16.♗e4 fe4 17.♔e4 ♗f4 18.♔f4 gf4 19.♕g6 ♗f8 20.♞e2 ♕h4 21.g3 ♕c1 22.♗d2 ♕h4 23.♞af1 ♞b6 24.♗c1 ♕f6 25.♗d2 ♞h4 26.♞hg1 ♞c6 27.♔e4? ♞a4 28.♞g2 ♗e7 29.♗f3 ♞h8 30.♗e5 ♕e5 31.de5 ♗d8

32.f4 ♖b5 33.f7 ♗c7 34.f1 ♘d8 35.g7 a5 36.h4 ♙a6 37.h5 ...
 [The rest of the game score is missing. White played a reversed Stonewall – which I haven't played since because of the present game – with the bishop outside the pawn chain, allowing the sharp reaction 7...h6 8.f4 g5! 9.f5 ♗h7. This was a wild game in which 2.a3 proved useless] 0-1

Prié, Eric
Baruch, Andrew

England tt-2 2004/05 (4)

1.d4 e6 2.a3 f5 3.c4 ♗f6 4.♗c3 ♖e7 [4...d5 5.f4 (a typical Trashcan Stonewall for Black, with White's queen's bishop outside its pawn chain. White should obviously play c2-c4 and develop the queen to c2, eyeing f5 and the c-file, all possible because after 2.a3 White controls square b4. White has postponed ♗f3 as it may be more useful to play f2-f3 and ♗ge2, in case a black knight appears on e4) 5...♗d6 6.f4 ♖d6 7.e3±] **5.♖c2! d5 6.f4** [Leaving the knight on g1 for the moment also gives White the extra option, in case of an exchange on d6, of first f2-f4 and then ♗f3 and possibly c4-c5!?. It amazes me that in such positions, many white players (1500 to 40 according to my database) prefer g2-g3 above f4, to hinder the development of the black queen's bishop on the long diagonal, even when Black has already committed himself to 4...d5 instead of 4...♗b4. Moreover, in the Stonewall with g3-♗g2, the white queen's knight is often automatically developed to c3, where it exerts no pressure whatsoever on Black's position] **6...c6 7.e3 0-0 8.♗d3 g6** [8...♗bd7 9.cd5! cd5 (9...♗d5 10.♗d5 ed5 11.f5 ♖a5 12.♗f1+- ♗f5 13.♖f5 ♖b5 14.♗e2 ♖b2 15.♖b1) 10.♗b5 ♖a5 11.♖d2] **9.♗f3 ♗e4 10.♗h6 ♙e8 11.g4! ♗h4**



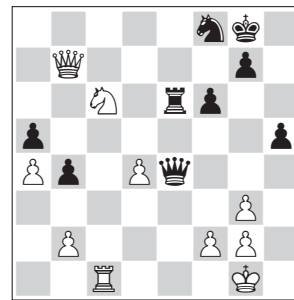
12.0-0 [Slightly optimistic. Simpler was 12.f1!] **12...♗f2 13.g5 ♗g4 14.♗h4 ♗h6 15.♗f3** [15.♗g6!? ♗g4 16.♗e5 (better was 16.♖d2 hg6 17.h3 ♗e3 18.♖e3 c5!∞) 16...♗e3 17.♖e2 ♗d1 18.♖h5 ♖e7 19.g6 (19.♗d1 ♗d7) 19...h6!∞ 20.♗f7 (20.♗d1 ♖g5) 20...♗c3 21.♖h6 ♗a2 22.♗b1 ♖f6 23.♖h7 ♗f8 24.♗d6 ♙e7 25.♖h6 ♖g7+-] **15...♗g4** [15...♗f7 16.h4] **16.♖d2 e5 17.h3 ♗e3** [17...ed4 18.hg4 dc3 19.♖c3 ♙e3 20.♗h7! d4 21.♗d4 ♗h7 22.♗h1 ♗g8 23.♗h8! ♗h8 24.♗f5 ♗g8 25.♖g7X] **18.♖e3 e4 19.♗de1! ♖e6?** [19...♗f8 20.cd5 cd5 21.♗c2 f4 22.♖f2 ef3 23.♙e5; 19...♙e6!? (Fritz) 20.h4 with interesting compensation for the pawn] **20.cd5 ♖f7** [20...cd5 21.♗b5] **21.♖e4 fe4 22.♗e5** [22.♗e4! ♗d7 (22...♗g7 23.d6 ♖d5 24.♗fd2) 23.dc6 bc6 24.♗e5] **22...♗d5** [22...cd5 23.h4 ♗c6 24.♗f7 ♗f7 25.h5] **23.h4 ♗d7 24.♗g4 ♖e7 25.h5 gh5 26.♙h5 ♙f8 27.g6! hg6 28.♙h6 ♖g7** [28...♗g7 29.♙g6 ♗g6 30.♖h6 ♗f7 31.♖h5 ♗g7 32.♗e3 ♖f7 33.♙g1 ♗f6 34.♙f1 ♗g7 35.♗f5 ♖f5 36.♙f5±] **29.♙eh1 ♙f3 30.♖g5 ♙f5** [30...♗f7 31.♗e4] **31.♙h8** 1-0

Prié Attack Proper
1.d4 d5 2.a3

Prié, Eric
Sharif, Mehrshad
 France tt 2004 (10)

1.d4 e6 2.a3 [This move is absolutely logical after Black's compromising 1...e6, which closes in his light-squared bishop. The motif of playing c2-c4 without allowing a bishop on b4 gave me the 'Prié idea'] **2...d5** [2...b6 3.e4 ♗b7 4.♗c3; 2...c5 3.c3; 2...♗f6 3.c4 c5 (3...b6 4.♗c3 ♗b7 5.♖c2) 4.♗f3 cd4 (4...d5 5.dc5 ♖c5 6.e3) 5.♗d4 ♗c6 6.♗c3 ♖b6? 7.♗db5 d5 8.♗e3] **3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♗g5 ♖e7 5.e3 b6 6.c4 0-0 7.cd5 ed5 8.♗c3 a5 9.♖c2 ♖a6 10.♖a6 ♙a6 11.0-0 c6 12.♗e5 b5** [12...♗fd7 13.♖e7 ♖e7 14.♗c6!! ♗c6 15.♗d5 ♖d6 16.♖c6!] **13.a4 b4 14.♗e2 ♗e4 15.♖e7 ♖e7 16.♗g3 ♗g3 17.hg3 ♗d7 18.♗c6!** [18.♗d7 ♖d7 19.b3±] **18...♖e6 19.♙ac1 f6** [19...♗h8 20.♗e5 ♗e5 21.de5 ♖e5 22.♙fd1±; 22.♙fd1 ♙h6 23.♙d4±; 19...b3 20.♖c3

attacking a5; 19...♙c8? 20.♗e7] **20.♙fe1! ♙e8 21.e4! de4** [21...b3 22.♖c3 de4 23.d5 ♖d5 24.♙ed1 ♖c6 (24...♖e6 25.♙d7! ♖d7 26.♖c4) 25.♖c6 ♙c6 26.♙c6 ♗e5 27.♙b6] **22.♙e4** [?!] **22...♖e4 23.♖c4 ♙e6 24.♖a6 h5 25.♖b7** [25.♖a5 ♙c6 26.♖a8 ♗b8 27.♖b8 ♗h7 28.♙c6 ♖c6 29.♖b4+-] **25...♗f8** [25...h4 26.♖d7 hg3 27.♗e5! gf2 28.♗f1]



26.♗d8! h4? [27.♖f7+-; 26...♖b7 27.♗b7 ♙e2 28.b3 ♙d2 29.♗a5 ♗e6 30.♗c6 ♗d4 31.♗d4 ♙d4 32.a5! ♙d6 (32...♙d3 33.a6 ♙b3 34.♙a1) 33.♗f1 ♗f7 34.♗e2 ♗e6 35.♙c5 g6 36.♙b5 ♙a6 37.♙b6] 1-0

Prié, Eric
Apicella, Manuel
 France tt 2005 (3)

1.d4 e6 2.a3 d5 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♗g5 ♖e7 5.e3 0-0 6.♗bd2 ♗b7 7.♗d3 b6 8.c3 ♖b7 9.♖b1 h6 10.♗f4 c5 11.h3 a6 12.b4 ♖c8 13.0-0 c4 14.♗c2 ♖c6 15.a4 b5 16.a5 ♗e4 17.♗e4 de4 18.♗e5 ♗e5 19.♗e5 ♗g5 20.♙a2 f6 21.♗g3 f5 22.♗e5 f4 23.ef4 ♗f4 24.♗f4 ♙f4 25.♖c1 ♙af8 26.♖e3 ♖d5 27.♗d1 ♖g5 28.♙e2 ♖g6 29.♙ee1 ♖d5 30.♖g3 ♖f6 31.♖e3 ♖g6 32.♖g3 ♖f6 33.♖e3 ♗h8 34.♗d2 ♖c6 35.♙e3 e5 36.de5 ♖e5 37.♗c2 ♖f6 38.♖e1 ♖b7 39.♗d1 [2.a3 has served to support the 12.b4 push here] ½-½

Prié, Eric
Pons Carreras, David
 Catalunya tt-2 2005 (7)

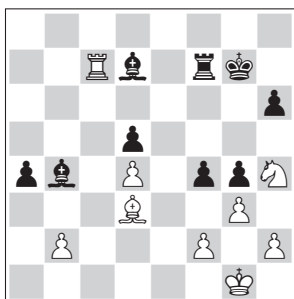
1.d4 e6 2.a3 d5 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♗g5 ♖e7 5.e3 ♗bd7 6.c4 ♗e4 7.♗e7 ♖e7 8.♗bd2 [8.♗d3] **8...♗d2 9.♖d2 0-0 10.♙c1 c6 11.♖a5 ♙e8** [11...b6

12.♖a4] **12.♙e2?!** [12.♖c7 dc4 13.♙c4 e5 14.d5 cd5 15.♙d5 e4 16.♗d2 (16.♗d4 ♖g5) 16...♗f6 17.♖e7 ♚e7 18.♙b3±] **12...dc4 13.♙c4 b6 14.♖c3 ♙b7 15.0-0 c5 16.dc5 ♗c5 17.b4 ♗e4 18.♖b2 ♚ac8 19.♚fd1 ♚ed8 20.♚d8 ♖d8 21.♙e2 ♚c1 22.♖c1 ♖c8 23.♖c8 ♙c8 24.♗d4 ♙d7 25.♙d3 ♗d6 26.f4 f6 27.♗f2 ♗f7 28.♗e1 h6 29.♗d2 e5 30.♗e2 ♗e6 31.♗c3 ♙c6 32.g3 g5 33.♙e2 ♗e4** [Control of the b4 square has its points after having played c2-c4, leaving the a5-e1 diagonal open] ½-½

Prié, Eric **6**
Dobrev, Nanko

San Sebastian 2005 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 ♗f6 3.♗f3 e6 4.♙g5 ♙e7 5.e3 h6 6.♙h4 [6.♙f4!] **6...0-0 7.♗bd2 b6 8.♗e5 c5 9.c3 ♗fd7 10.♗d7 ♗d7 11.♙g3 cd4 12.cd4 a5 13.♚c1 ♚a7 14.♙b5 ♗f6 15.0-0?!** [15.♖c2 (to prevent 15...♗e8!) 15...♙a6 16.♙a6 ♚a6 17.♖c7 with a not so large but very pleasant advantage!] **15...♗e8! 16.♗f3 ♗d6 17.♙d3 ♚c7 18.♗e5 ♙d7 19.♖g4 ♙e8 20.♖e2** [20.♙f4 f5 21.♖h3 with the idea of f3 and g4] **20...b5 21.♚c7 ♖c7 22.♖d2 a4 23.♗f3 ♖b7 24.♙d6 ♙d6 25.♚c1 ♖b8 26.g3 ♙d7 27.♖a5 f6 28.e4 ♚f7 29.ed5 ed5 30.♗h4 f5 31.♗g6 ♗h7 32.♗h4 g5 33.♗f3 g4 34.♗h4 ♗g7 35.♖d2 b4 36.ab4 ♖b4 37.♖b4 ♙b4 38.♚c7 f4**



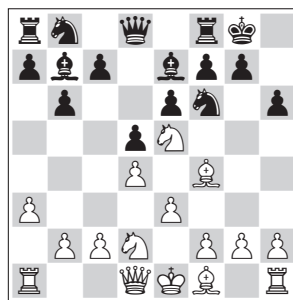
39.gf4? [39.♙g6! ♙d6 (39...♚e7 40.♙f5 ♚e1 41.♗g2 f3 42.♗f3 gf3 43.♗f3) 40.♚b7 ♚e7 41.♙f5 ♙e8 42.♚e7 ♙e7 43.♙g4±] **39...♙d6 40.♗f5?** [40.♚b7 ♙f4 41.♙g6 ♚e7 42.♙f5 ♙g5 43.♗g6 ♚e1 44.♗g2 ♗f6 45.♙d7 ♗g6 46.♙a4±] **40...♙f5 41.♚f7 ♗f7 42.♙f5 ♙f4**

[2.a3 has permitted White to make the surprising recapture towards the centre c3xd4!, because the b4-square was under control] ½-½

Prié, Eric **7**
Adams, David

England tt-2 2004/05 (10)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 e6 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♙g5 [If one has grasped the spirit of the concept, White now plays against a black Colle, which is always pleasant, with or without a2-a3!] **4...♙e7** [4...c5 5.c3; 4...h6 was better, with the idea 5.♙f4 ♙d6] **5.e3 h6 6.♙f4 0-0?!** [6...♗h5 7.♙e5 ♗d7 8.c4 (watch out for the knight on h5!) 8...♗e5 9.de5 dc4? 10.♖d8 ♙d8 11.g4+-] **7.♗bd2 b6** [7...♗h5 8.♙e5 ♗d7 9.g4!] **8.♗e5!** [Signalling the attack. Black cannot afford to play f7-f6 on account of the hole on g6] **8...♙b7**



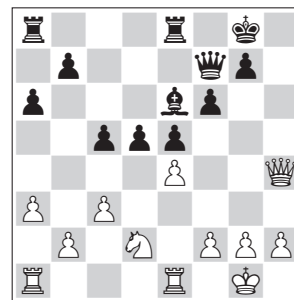
9.♖f3 [White wants to attack with his pieces. Maybe 9.h4 would have been more accurate, to attack with the pawns immediately. The control of square e4 does not seem important when the white bishop is not yet on d3] **9...c5 10.c3 a5** [Another important tempo lost] **11.h4! ♗fd7 12.♙d3** [12.♙h6 ♗e5 13.de5 gh6 14.♖g4 ♗h8 15.♖h5 ♗g7 does not yield more than a draw by repetition, since 16.♚h3? ♚h8 17.♚f3 ♖e8 18.♚g3 ♗f8 19.♖g4 ♙d8 allows the black king to escape] **12...♗c6 13.♚h3! ♗de5** [13...f6 14.♗c6 ♙c6 15.♙h6] **14.de5 ♖c7 15.♖h5** [It's always nice to see when Fritz quickly switches from a black to a white advantage when the mating attack appears on its horizon] **15...♙a6 16.♙c2 ♚fd8** [16...♚fe8 was a tad better: 17.♚g3 ♙f8 18.♖h6 g6 19.♖g5] **17.♚g3 ♙f8** [17...♗f8 18.♚g7! (there's no escape!) 18...♗g7 19.♖h6 ♗g8

20.♖h7 ♗f8 21.♖h8X] **18.♙h6 ♖e5 19.♙g5 f5** [19...g6 20.♙g6 fg6 21.♖g6 ♙g7 (21...♖g7 22.♖e6 ♗h7 23.♙d8) 22.♙f6] **20.♗f3** [20.♙d8 ♚d8 21.♗f3 ♖f6 22.♚g6 also wins] **20...♖d6 21.♙d8 ♗d8 22.♗g5 ♙e7 23.♖h7** [2.a3 has been useful because it delayed a black counter on the queenside with ...c4 and ...b5 and especially as it allowed, if necessary, the recapture toward the centre with square b4 firmly under control] 1-0

Prié, Eric **8**
Flear, Glenn

Narbonne-Plage rapid 2005 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 [The great test against the GM 1...d5 expert] **2...e6 3.♗f3 c5 4.c3 ♗c6 5.♙f4 ♗f6 6.e3 ♙d6 7.♙g3** [7.♙d6!? ♖d6 8.♗bd2 0-0 9.b4 b6 10.♙b5] **7...0-0 8.♗bd2 a6** [8...♚e8 9.b4! b6 10.♙b5 ♙b7 11.♖a4] **9.♙d3** [9.b4!? b6 10.♙d3 ♚e8 11.dc5 (11.0-0?! ♙g3 12.hg3 e5 13.b5 ♗d4! 14.cd4 e4) 11...bc5 12.e4] **9...♚e8 10.♗e5 ♙e5 11.de5 ♗d7 12.♖g4** [This is the idea behind White's last five moves, but if I had to do it again, I would have chosen the alternative given after White's 7th move; 12.f4? c4 13.♙c2 ♖b6] **12...♗de5 13.♙e5 ♗e5 14.♙h7 ♗h7 15.♖h5 ♗g8 16.♖e5 f6 17.♖h5 e5 18.0-0 ♙e6** [18...e4!? (Flear) 19.c4 d4? 20.♖c5] **19.e4 ♖d7 20.♚fe1 ♖f7 21.♖h4**



21...♖g6 [A dubious plan, I think. Closing the centre with d5-d4 was preferable, although White will attack with f2-f4] **22.♚e3** [22.f4 de4 23.♗e4 ♙d5 24.♗g3 ef4 25.♖f4 ♖c2 26.♖f2 ♖f2 27.♗f2=] **22...♗f7?** [22...d4 23.♚g3 ♖f7; 23...♖h7 24.♖f6] **23.ed5 ♙d5 24.♚g3** [Now White obtains a strong attack] **24...♖f5?** [24...♚h8 (Flear) 25.♖a4 ♖f5 26.♗c4 ♖e6 27.♗e3 ♙c6 28.♖c2 g5!∞;

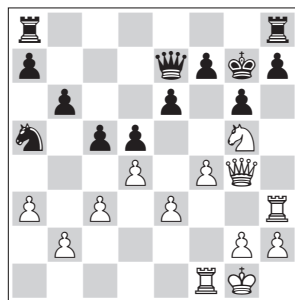
24...♖c2! 25.♗g4] **25.♘c4 ♖e6**
26.♗h5? [A fingerfehler. 26.♗h7! ♚g8
 27.♘e3 ♘f8 (27...♗ad8 28.♘f5) 28.♘d5!
 ♗d5 29.♗d3 ♖e6 30.♗ad1 ♘e7 31.♗d5!
 ♗ac8 32.♗d3 ♘c7 33.♗d8! e4
 34.♗d2+–] **26...♘f8 27.♘e3 ♗f7**
28.♗h7 ♘e6 29.♘f5 ♘f5 30.♗f5
♗ad8 31.h4 ♗d5 32.♗e1 e4 33.♗f4
♗e6 34.♗ge3 ♖e5 35.♗e4 ♖e4
36.♗e4 ♗e4 37.♗e4 ♗d1 38.♘h2
♗d2 39.b4 ♗f2 40.bc5 ♗a2 41.a4
♗a3 42.♗c4 a5 43.♘g3 ♘f7
44.♘g4 g6 45.h5 gh5 46.♘h5 ♗a2
47.g3 ♗h2 48.♘g4 ♗a2 49.♘f5 ♗f2
50.♘e4 ♗g2 51.♘f3 ♗a2 52.♘e3
♘e6 53.♗f4 f5 [Here the crucial function
 of 2.a3 was that this pawn wasn't hanging
 on a2 in various lines!] ½-½

Prié, Eric
Gérard, Nicolas

Nantes open 2005 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 ♘f6 [2...e6 3.♘f3 c5 4.c3
 ♘c6 5.♘f4 ♖b6? 6.b4! (Inspired by the
 famous Slow Slav (or Chameleon by
 transposition) theme with reversed colours:
 1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e3 ♘f5 5.♘c3
 a6!? (5...e6 6.♘h4 is mainstream theory)
 6.♖b3 b5!? (instead of the 'Morozevichian'
 6...♗a7) 7.cd5 cd5 8.a4 b4 9.♖b4 ♘c6
 with complications) 6...cd4 7.cd4 ♘f6 (7...a5
 8.b5! ♖b5 9.♘c3 ♖b6 10.♗b1 ♗d8
 11.♘b5+–) 8.e3 ♘e7 9.♘c3 0-0 10.♘d3
 ♘d7 11.0-0 ♗fc8 12.♘a4 ♗d8 13.♘c5±.
 Compared to the note on the Artiaga game
 below, Black did not even have the possibility
 to exchange the dark-squared bishops with
 ♘d6. Prié-Flear, Marseille 2005] **3.♘f3 e6**
4.♘f4 [4.♘g5 c5 5.c3 (5.e3 ♖b6 6.♘c3
 ♘e4) 5...♖b6 6.♗a2 (6.b4 cd4 7.cd4 a5
 8.b5 ♘e4) The drawback of having the
 bishop on g5] 6...♘e4 7.♘f4 ♘d6=] **4...c5**
 [4...♘d6 is better, I guess, exchanging the
 'good bishop', right, but against White's most
 active piece! 5.♘g3 (5.♘d6 ♗d6 (5...cd6!?
 intending a6, b5, ♘d7-b6-c4) 6.e3 0-0 7.c4
 (otherwise Black will play ♘c6, e6-e5) 7...c5
 8.cd5 ♖c5 9.cd5 ♗d5=; 5.e3!?) 5...♘e4
 6.e3 ♘g3 7.hg3∞] **5.c3** [5.e3 ♖b6 6.♘c3
 ♘d7 7.♗b1 cd4 8.ed4 ♘d6 – the drawback
 of having the bishop on f4] **5...♘e7**
 [5...♖b6 6.b4!? (this idea also seems to
 work, thanks to the extra tempo with the
 black knight better placed on f6 than c6!)]
 6...cd4 7.cd4 a5 8.b5 ♖b5 9.♘c3 ♖c6

(9...♖c4 10.♗c1 ♘a3 11.♘b5 ♘c1
 12.♘d6 ♘e7 13.♘c4 ♘f4 14.♘ce5 ♘e5
 15.de5) 10.♖b3! with promising
 compensation... (10.♗c1 ♘a3 11.♘e5
 ♘c1); 5...♘bd7 6.e3 ♖b6 7.b4 cb4 8.cb4
 ♘d6 9.♘d6 ♗d6 10.♘c3± Prié-Artiaga,
 Lattes open 2005] **6.e3 0-0 7.♘bd2 b6**
8.♘e5 ♘fd7 [8...♘a6 9.♘c6! (9.♘a6
 ♘a6 10.♖a4 ♘b8) 9...♘c6 10.♘a6 ♗d7
 11.♖f3 ♘d6 12.♘g5±] **9.♘d3** [Not the
 most accurate. In fact, White can win a
 tempo here with 9.♖g4, 9.♖h5 or even the
 more compromising 9.h4] **9...♘e5**
10.♘e5 ♘a6 11.♖g4 ♘f6 [11...g6?
 (this provides White with the target he has
 been looking for) 12.♘a6 ♘a6 13.h4 h5
 14.♖e2 ♘b8 15.g4 hg4 16.♖g4 ♘c6 17.f4
 (17.h5 ♘e5 18.de5 g5) 17...♘h7 18.♘f3!
 (extremely perilous for Black) 18...f6 19.♘g5
 fg5 20.hg5 ♘g8 21.♖e6 ♗f7 22.♗h8X]
12.♘a6 ♘a6 13.f4 ♘b8 14.0-0 ♘c6
15.♗f3 [This rook is required on the
 kingside to frighten Black! 15.♘f3 ♘a5
 16.♘f6 ♖f6 17.♘e5 ♖f5! 18.♖e2 f6
 19.♘f3 ♖e4] **15...g6 16.♗h3 ♘g7**
17.♘f3 [17.♘g7 ♘g7 18.♘f3 ♘e7]
17...♖e7 [17...h5 18.♖g3 ♘e7 19.♘g7
 ♘g7 20.♗f1 ♘f5 21.♖e1 ♘d6 22.♘d2,
 the weakening move 17...h5 gives White
 some hopes of an attack] **18.♘g7 ♘g7**
19.♘g5! [19.♘e5 ♘e5 20.fe5 f6 21.♖h4
 h5 22.♗f1 ♗a8 23.♗h3 f5 24.♖e1
 (threatening h2-h4, followed by the
 installation of a rook on g5, but...) 24...h4!
 and White has nothing!] **19...♗h8!** [19...h6
 20.♘f3 intending ♗f1 and ♘e5 is more
 effective when Black's h-pawn has already
 advanced; 20.♗h6? ♘h6 21.♖h4 ♘g7
 22.♖h7 ♘f6 23.e4 ♗h8 24.e5 ♘f5
 25.♖g7 ♗ag8; 19...h5 20.♗h5? gh5
 21.♘e6 ♘f6] **20.♗f1! ♘a5** [After having
 defended well since the beginning of the
 game, Black decides it is time for a counter-
 offensive]



21.f5!? [It is now or never!] **21...ef5**
22.♗f5 h5 [22...gf5 23.♘e6 ♘f6
 24.♗h6X; 22...f6 23.♗d5 fg5 24.♗d7]
23.♖g3 f6 [23...gf5 24.♘e6 ♘f6
 25.♖e5 ♘g6 26.♖g7X] **24.♘f3 ♖e3**
25.♘h1 ♗a8 26.♗d5 [No panicking,
 everything has been forecast...] **26...♗e7**
 [26...♖c1! 27.♘g1 ♗e1 28.♗d7 ♘h6
 29.♖f2? (so I would have had to content
 myself with perpetual check? 29.♗h5!
 ♘h5 (29...gh5?? 30.♖g7X) 30.♖h3 ♘g5
 31.♖g3 ♘f5! (yes, but there is no
 perpetual!) 32.♖f3 (32.♗d5 ♘e6 33.♖d6
 ♘f7 34.♖c7 ♗e7) 32...♖f4 (32...♘e6?
 33.♖d5X) 33.♗d5 ♗e5 34.♖f4 (34.de5?
 ♗h2X is the problem of the whole 'holy'
 line initiated by White some 13 moves
 ago...) 34...♘f4 35.de5 fe5 36.♘f3 ♘c4
 (36...e4 37.♘e5; 36...♗e8 37.♘d2 e4
 38.♘g1=) 37.b3 ♘a3 38.♘e5 ♘e4 39.c4
 ♗h8 40.h4! when White has not said his
 last word) 29...♗f1 (completely missed. I
 am almost sure I would have played
 29.♖f2? instantaneously instead of the
 more realistic 29.♗h5!; 29...♗h8 30.♗h5!
 ♘h5 (30...gh5 31.♖f6X) 31.♗h7 ♘g5
 32.h4 ♘g4 33.♖f3X) 30.♖e3 ♖e3
 31.♗e3 cd4 32.♗d4 ♗c8, with the
 annoying idea of ♘c4 and ♗b1] **27.dc5**
bc5 28.♗d1 [28.♗dh5 ♗h5 (28...♖c1
 29.♘g1 ♗e1 30.♖c7) 29.♗h5 ♘c4
 30.♗h4 ♘e5 31.♖h3 ♘f3 32.♗h7 ♘g8
 33.♗h8 ♘f7 34.♗h7] **28...♗he8!**
 [Missed again!] **29.♗h5 ♘c4 30.h3?**
 [30.♗h4! (a draw would have been a fair
 result to this game but I doubt I was in
 such an objective state of mind as to look
 for it!) 30...♘b2 31.♖h3 ♘d1
 (31...♖e1?? 32.♗e1 ♗e1 33.♘g1)
 32.♗h7] **30...♘b2 31.♗f1 ♖c3??**
 [31...♖d3! (keeping the queen protected
 on the third rank) 32.♘g1 c4 33.♗h4
 ♘d1!! 34.♖f4 (34.♗f4 ♘c3; 34.♗d4
 ♘c3!) 34...g5 35.♘g5 (35.♖c4 ♖c4;
 35...♖e3 36.♘h2 gh4 37.♗d1) 35...♖e3
 36.♖e3 ♘e3] **32.♗h4??** [From this
 stage, with a few minutes left on the clock
 for both players, plus the increment of 30
 seconds per move for the rest of the
 game, things are going to 'swing' a little.
 32.♗h7 ♘h7 (32...♘f8 33.♖g6) 33.♘g5
 fg5 34.♖c3 ♘a4 35.♖c2 ♗e1 (35...♗e4
 36.♗f7) 36.♗e1 ♗e1 37.♘h2 ♘b6
 38.♖c5 ♘h6 39.♖f8 ♘h7 40.♖f7 ♘h6
 41.♖a7+–] **32...♖d3 33.♘g1 c4**
34.♗f4 ♗e6! [34...c3 35.♗f6 c2! 36.♗c6

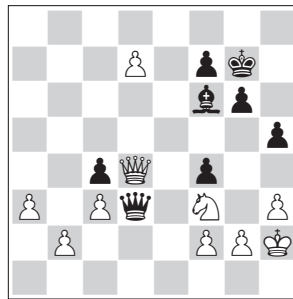
♘c4 37.♗h2! (otherwise the ♖e3 check prevents any activation of the white queen) 37...♗f7 (37...♗f1?? 38.♗g6 ♗h8 39.♗h4 ♗h7 40.♗f6) 38.♗c1 is not so clear; 34...♗a3 35.♗f6!! ♖c5 36.♗h1 ♗f6 37.♗d4 ♗g7 38.♗f5 ♗h7 (38...♗f5 39.♗f5 idem) 39.♗h4 ♗g8 40.♗g5! ♗h8 (40...♗e6? 41.♗h6 ♗h8 42.♖c5; 40...♗d3 41.♗g6 ♗h8 42.♗e7 ♖e7 43.♗f5) 41.♗h4! (g6 has to be captured with check! 41.♗h6? ♗h7 42.♗g6 ♗f8) 41...♗g8 (41...♗h7? 42.♗f6 ♗g8 43.♗g6) 42.♗g5 with repetition of moves] **35.♗d4 ♖e3?** [35...♗a3] **36.♗h2 c3??** [36...♗a3 37.♗g4 ♖c5 38.♗h4 ♗g5+] **37.♗e1 ♖d4 38.♗e6?** [38.♗d4 ♗e1 39.♗f5 ♗h7 (39...♗f7 40.♗d6 ♗g7 41.♗e8 ♗e8 42.♖c3 ♗e2 43.♖c7 ♗h6 44.♗a7+-; 39...♗f8 40.♖g6) 40.♖c7 Yes, the knight on f5 also controls the e7 square] **38...♖d8?** [38...♖d7] **39.♖c6 ♗d1?** [39...♗e3! 40.♗c7 ♗e7 41.♗d4 ♗f7 42.♗e7 ♖e7 43.♖c3] **40.♗h4!** [40.♗d6? ♗e3!! 41.♗d8 ♗f1 42.♗g1 (42.♗h1?? ♗g3) 42...♗g3 43.♗e8 c2 44.♗e1 ♗e2 45.♗f2 c1♖ 46.♗c1 ♗c1. Strangely, I somehow perceived this black resource which seems far more complicated than the trivial mistakes preceding it!] **40...g5 41.♗f5 ♗g6 42.♗d6 ♖b8?** [It is almost unbelievable considering the placement of his pieces, but Black can still hold on with 42...♗a5! 43.♗h4 ♗f7 44.♗d1 gh4 45.♖h4 ♖e5! 46.♗h1 ♗g6 47.♗d3?? ♖e1 48.♖e1 ♗e1 49.♗h2 c2] **43.♖d3 ♗f2** [43...♗f7 44.♖d1] **44.♗e7! ♗f7 45.♖g6** [And Black lost on time just one move before getting mated] 1-0

Prié, Eric 10
Wagner, Claude

France tt 2005 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 ♗f6 3.♗f3 g6 [As mentioned in the introduction, this move does not harmonize well with 1...d5] **4.c3 ♗g7 5.♗f4 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.♗bd2 b6 8.h3 ♗b7 9.♗e2 ♗c6 10.♖b3 ♗e4 11.♗d1 ♗d2 12.♗d2 c4 13.♖c2 ♗a5 14.♗d1 ♗c8 15.♖b1 ♗f5 16.♗c2 ♗c2 17.♖c2 ♗c6 18.e4 e6 19.0-0 de4 20.♖e4 ♗e7 21.♗e5 ♖d5 22.♖e2 b5 23.♗e1 ♗ad8 24.♗g4 h5 25.♗e5 ♗c6 26.♗f3 ♗d7 27.♗g5 ♖f5 28.♖f3 e5**

29.♖c6 ef4 30.♗f3 ♗fd8 31.♗de2 ♖d5 32.♗e8 ♗f8 33.♖f6 ♖d6 34.♖g5 ♗e8 35.♗e8 ♗e7 36.♗e7 ♖e7 37.♖b5 ♖e2 38.♖b8 ♖d1 39.♗h2 ♖e2 40.d5 ♖d3 41.♖d8 ♗g7 42.♖d7 ♖e2 43.♖a7 ♗d6 44.♖b6 ♗e7 45.d6 ♗f6 46.d7 ♖d3 47.♗d4 ♗h4 48.♗f3 ♗f6 49.♖d4!

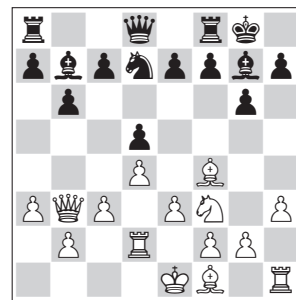


49...♗d4 50.cd4 [2.a3 has won White an hour on the clock! Black was visibly torturing his mind to think of some set-up where the move 2.a3 would be superfluous. Later, a hole created on b3 lured Black into releasing the central tension with c5-c4, to install a knight there. Then White seized the advantage with the classic central reaction e3-e4] 1-0

Prié, Eric 11
Flear, Glenn
Lattes 2005 (6)

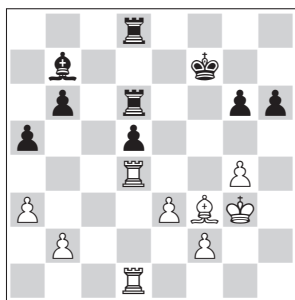
1.d4 d5 2.a3 ♗f6 3.♗f3 ♗bd7 4.♗f4 g6 5.h3 ♗g7 6.e3 0-0 7.♗bd2 b6 8.c3 [8.♗b5 ♗b7 9.♗e5 a6 10.♗c6? ♖e8 11.♗a4 ♗b8 12.♗b8 ♖a4 13.♗c7 ♖b5+] **8...♗b7** [8...♗e4!? 9.♗e4? (an instructive mistake. I should have played 9.♖a4! ♗b7 (9...♗d2 10.♗d2 ♗b7 11.♗b5 (11.♗a6?! ♗a6 12.♖a6 c5 (12...e5 13.de5 ♗e5 14.0-0-0) 13.0-0 ♖c8 14.♖e2 ♖c6) 11...♗b8 (11...♗f6 12.♗c6) 12.0-0) 10.♗d1; 9.♗b5 ♗b7 10.♗e4 (10.♖a4 c6! 11.♗c6 ♗dc5 12.dc5 ♗c5 13.♖b5 (13.♖c2 ♗c6) 13...♗a6 (13...a6 14.♖c5 bc5 15.♗b7 ♗a7 16.♗c6) 14.♖b4 ♗d3) 10...de4 11.♗e5 ♗e5 12.♗e5 ♗e5 13.de5 e6 (13...a6 14.♗c4) 14.♖d7 a6 15.♗c6 ♖d7 16.♗d7 b5 17.0-0-0 ♗d5) 9...de4 10.♗d2 (10.♗g5 ♗b7 11.♖c2 e5! (11...♗f6 12.♗e5 ♖e8! 13.h4∞) 12.de5 ♗c5 13.♗d1 ♖e7 14.b4 ♗d3 15.♗d3

ed3 16.♖d3 ♗ad8 17.♖c2 ♗d1 18.♖d1 ♗g2 19.♗g1 ♗b7) 10...♗b7 11.♖c2 e5! (compared with the game against Wagner where the black knight was on c6, the idea is to mount the pressure with a quick ...c7-c5 and a possible recapture with the knight on c5. 11...f5 12.♗c4 ♗h8 13.0-0-0) 12.♗e5 (12.♗g3 ed4 13.cd4 c5) 12...♗e5 (12...♗e5) 13.de5 ♗c5 14.0-0-0 ♗d3 15.♗d3 ed3] **9.♖b3! ♗e4 10.♗d1!** [White is ready. He has maintained control of square e5] **10...♗d2 11.♗d2**



11...e5? [11...f6 12.♗h2 (12.e4!? e5 13.♗e3 ed4 14.cd4 f5 15.ef5 (15.♗g5 ♖e8 16.e5 h6 17.♗f4 g5) 15...♗f5 16.♗d3; 12.c4 e5 13.de5 (13.♗h2 transposes) 13...fe5 14.♗g5 ♗c5 15.♖c2 ♖d7 16.cd5 e4 17.♗d4 ♗d5) 12...e5 13.c4 (13.♗d1 e4 14.♗d2 f5 15.c4 c6; 13.de5!? fe5 14.♗d5 ♗d5 15.♖d5 ♗h8 16.♗b5 ♗c5 17.♖d8 ♗ad8 18.♗e5) 13...c6 (13...ed4 14.♗d4 ♗c5 15.♖c2 ♗e4? 16.♗e6; 13...e4 14.♗g1 c6 15.♗e2) 14.cd5 cd5 15.♗b5 e4 16.♗g1 a6? 17.♗d7 ♖d7 18.♖b6] **12.de5 ♖e7 13.♗e2 ♗e5 14.♗e5 ♗e5 15.♗e5 ♖e5 16.0-0 ♗fd8 17.♗fd1 ♗d6 18.♗f3** [This position is typical in a Slav with colours reversed. The pressure on d5 is tough] **18...♗ad8 19.♖a4 a5 20.c4! c6** [20...♖e6 21.♖c2! (threatening c7 after a general exchange on d5. 21.c5 ♗c6 22.♖d4 bc5 23.♖c5 a4 is horrible for Black, but maybe defensible) 21...c5 22.b4!? (the deeper purpose of 2.a3!; 22.♗d3 ♗c6 23.♗d5 ♗d5 24.♖d2 ♗f3 (24...♗g2 25.♗d6 ♗d6 26.♖d6 ♖h3 27.♖h2 ♖g4 28.♗d8 ♗g7 29.♖g2) 25.♗d6 ♗d6 26.♖d6 ♗d1 27.♖d1 ♖c4 28.♖d8 ♗g7 29.♖b6) 22...ab4 23.ab4 cb4 24.♖a4 dc4 (24...b3 25.cd5 ♗d5 26.♗d5 ♗d5 27.♗d5 ♗d5 28.♖a8 ♗g7 29.♖d5; 24...♗c6 25.♖b4

d4; 25...♘a8 26.cd5 ♘d5 27.e4) 25.♚d6 ♚d6 26.♚d6 ♚d6 27.♘b7 c3 28.♘e4±; 20...♘a8 21.cd5 (21.c5!? (the secondary effect of 20.c4!) 21...♘c6 (21...bc5 22.♚a5 c4 23.♚c7) 22.♚c2 bc5 23.♚c5 a4 24.♚d4 ♚b8 25.♚1d2 with a large advantage for White) 21...♘d5 22.♚b5 c5 23.♘d5 ♚d5 24.♚d5 ♚d5 25.♚d5 ♚d5 26.♚b6] **21.cd5 cd5 22.♚d4 ♚e7 23.♚c1** [Such positions are also won with other trumps than the weakness of the isolated pawn; 23.b4 ♘c6 (23...ab4 24.♚b4 ♚f6 25.e4) 24.♚b3 h5] **23...♚d7 24.♚d7 ♚d7 25.♚cd1 f5 26.g4** [With two black pawn weaknesses, White has excellent chances in the ending] **26...fg4 27.hg4 h6** [27...♚f7 28.g5] **28.♚g2** [28.e4 ♚f6 29.♘h1! (I saw this after the game. White wins d5) 29...♚df7 30.ed5 ♚f2? 31.d6+—] **28...♚f7 29.♚g3 ♚d8** [29...♚e6 30.g5 h5 31.♘g2]



30.e4!! [Fritz did not 'see' this winning move in ten moves!] **30...♚e6 31.ed5 ♘d5? 32.♘d5 ♚d5 33.♚e1 ♚f6** [33...♚d6 34.♚d5 ♚d5 35.♚d1] **34.♚f4 ♚g5** [34...♚g7 35.♚e7 ♚g8 36.♚ff7 g5 37.♚g7 ♚f8 38.♚ef7 ♚e8 39.♚b7 ♚f8 40.♚h7 ♚g8 41.♚h6 ♚d3 42.♚g2; 42.f3? ♚f8] **35.♚f7! ♚d3 36.f3 ♚d5** [36...h5 37.♚e5 ♚h6 38.g5X] **37.♚e6 h5 38.♚ff6 hg4** [38...h4 39.♚h3 ♚b5 (39...b5 40.♚g6 ♚f4 41.♚gf6 (41.♚h4 ♚f3 42.♚gf6 ♚g2 43.♚e2 ♚g1 44.g5) 41...♚g5 42.♚f7 b4) 40.♚g6 ♚f4 41.♚gf6 ♚g5 42.a4 ♚b2 43.♚f5X] **39.♚g6 ♚f5** [39...♚h5 40.♚h6 ♚g5 41.♚eg6 ♚f5 42.♚f6 ♚g5 (42...♚e5 43.♚g4 b5 (43...♚5d4 44.f4 ♚d5 45.♚f5 ♚c4 (45...♚e4 46.♚e5X) 46.♚c6 ♚b3 47.♚b6 ♚a2 48.♚a5) 44.♚e6 ♚d4 45.♚e4 ♚c5 46.b4 ab4 47.ab4X surprising!) 43.♚hg6 ♚h5 44.♚g4 ♚d6 (44...♚b3 45.♚h4 ♚g5 46.♚fh6! with another mating net!) 45.♚f8

♚d8 46.♚f5 ♚h6 47.♚f6 ♚h7 48.♚b6] **40.♚h4!! ♚f4** [40...g3 41.♚gf6X] **41.♚gf6 ♚f5 42.fg4 ♚f6 43.♚f6 ♚e4 44.♚b6** 1-0

Prié, Eric
Driessens, Patrick

Belgium tt-2 2005/06 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 ♘f6 [2...♘f5 3.c4 e6 (3...e5? 4.de5 d4 5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.e3± courtesy 2.a3!) 4.cd5 ed5 5.♚b3 ♘c6 6.♘f3 ♚b8 7.♘c3 ♘ge7 8.♘f4±] **3.♘f3 ♘f5?! 4.c4! c6** [4...e6 5.cd5 ed5 6.♚b3 ♘c6 7.♚b7 ♘a5 8.♚a6! c6 (8...♘b3 9.♚a4) 9.♘bd2 ♘c8 10.♚d3±] **5.cd5 cd5 6.♚b3 b6** [6...♚b6 7.♚b6 ab6 8.♘c3± (b5<, b6<) 8...♘c6 9.♘f4 e6 10.e3 ♚c8 (10...♘b4 11.♘b5 ♚e7 12.♚d2) 11.h3 (11.♘e2!? ♘h5 (11...♘e7 12.♘d2) 12.♘e5 f6 13.♘g3 ♘g3 14.hg3±) 11...♘e7 12.♚c1 0-0 13.♘d2 ♚fd8 14.♘e2 ♘d6 15.♘d6 ♚d6 16.g4 ♘g6 17.♘b5 ♚dd8 18.f3 ♘e8 19.♚f2 ♘c7 20.♘c7 ♚c7 21.♚c3 ♚cc8 22.♚hc1 f6 23.♘b5?! (23.♘a6! ba6 24.♚c6 ♚c6 25.♚c6+—) 23...♘e8 24.♘b3±, White missed the bus and finds himself back with his nice advantage, obliged again to use a 'ginding-down' endgame technique he does not really master! Prié-Kahler, Germany tt 2005/06] **7.♘c3 e6 8.♘f4 a6** [8...♘c6 9.♘b5 ♚c8 10.♚a4 ♚d7 11.♚c1! ♘e7 12.♘e5 ♘e5 13.♚c8 ♚c8 14.♘d6] **9.e3** [threatening something...]



9...♘bd7 [9...b5 was already the only move: 10.♚c1 ♘bd7 11.♘h4±] **10.♘a6!! ♚a6 11.♘b5 ♚c8** [11...e5 12.♘e5 ♘h5 13.♘c6 ♘f4 14.♘d8 ♘d3 15.♚e2 ♚d8 16.♚hd1+—; 11...♚a5 12.♘c7 ♚e7 13.♚b4 ♘c5 14.dc5 ♚c5 15.♘a6+—] **12.0-0!** [The point] **12...♚a5** [12...♘c2? 13.♚ac1] **13.♚ac1** [In the following

variations, I didn't want Black to have the possibility of ♚b5 at the right moment, provoking the queen exchange because the pawn was pinned to the rook on a1] **13...♚b7 14.♚c7 ♚a6 15.a4! ♘e7** [15...♚a4 16.♚a4! ♚a4 17.♚c8 ♚e7 18.♘d6X was the whole idea of the attack; 15...♘e4 16.♚d7 ♚d7 17.♘e5 ♚e7 18.f3 ♘d2 19.♚b4 ♚f6 20.♚d2 ♚a4 21.e4 ♘b4 22.♘g5X] **16.♚d7! ♚d7 17.♘e5 ♚d8** [17...♚c8 18.♚c1 ♚b7 19.♚c7 ♚a8 20.♚c3! (even stronger than 20.♚e7 ♚c8! (20...♚a4 21.♘c7 ♚b8 22.♘a6) 21.♘c7 (21.h3? ♘c2 22.♚b4 ♚a4) 21...♚c7 22.♚c7± ♚a4 23.h3! ♚a1 24.♚h2 ♚f1? 25.♚b6 ♚g1 26.♚g3 ♘e4 27.♚h4 ♚f2 28.g3 g5 29.♚h5 ♚e2 30.♚h6) 20...♘c5 21.♚c5 ♘e4 (21...♚a4 22.♘c7 ♚b7 23.♘a6 ♚a1 24.♚c1 ♚c1 25.♚c1 ♚a6 26.♘f7) 22.♚c1 bc5 23.♘c7 ♚b7 24.♘a6 ♚a6 25.f3 ♘f6 26.♘f7+—] **18.♘f7 ♚d7 19.♘h8 ♚a4 20.♘f7! ♘b4** [20...♚b4 21.♘e5 ♚d8 (21...♚e8 22.♚b4 ♘b4 23.♘c7) 22.♘c6 ♚d7 23.♚b4 ♘b4 24.♘b8 is another fork to king and queen!; 20...♘g4 21.h3 ♚b4 22.♚d1 ♚b5 23.hg4 ♘e4 24.♘e5 ♚d8 25.♚a1! (25.♚c1 ♚b2 26.♘c6 ♚e8 27.♘e7 ♚e7 28.♚c7 ♚d7) 25...♚a4 26.♚c1+—] **21.♘e5 ♚d8** [21...♚e7 22.♘c7 ♚f1 23.♚f1 ♚a1 24.♚e2 ♚e1 25.♚f3 ♘e4 26.♚g3 ♘h5 27.♚h4] **22.♘c6 ♚c8 23.♚c1** [23.♘ba7 ♚b7 24.♘b4 ♚a7 25.♚c3 would have been more in the spirit of the game, e.g. 25...♚b4 26.♚c7 ♚a8 27.♚c8 ♚b8 28.♚b8X] **23...♚a1** [23...♚b7 24.♘d8 ♚a8 25.♚a4 ♚a4 26.♚c8X] **24.♚d1 ♚b5** [24...♚c1 25.♚c1 ♘d2 26.♘ca7 ♚d8 27.♚c7 ♚e8 28.♘d6 ♚f8 29.♚f7X] **25.♘a7 ♚b7 26.♘b5 ♚c1 27.♚c1** 1-0

Prié, Eric
Guadalpi, David

Val d'Isère ch-FRA 2004 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.a3 e5? [2...c5 3.cd5 (the move 2.a3 is above all meant to hinder the reaction ...c7-c5 and force Black to lock in his queen's bishop with a move like e7-e6) 3...e5 4.b4 a5 5.♘b2 ab4 (5...♘d7? 6.♚d5! Prié-Lorenzi, Bastia rapid 2004) 6.ab4 ♚a1 7.♘a1 b6 8.e3 bc5 9.♘e5 ♘c6 10.♘b5 ♚b6 11.♘c3±] **3.de5 ♘c6 4.e4 de4 5.♚d8 ♚d8 6.♘c3 ♘f5 7.♘f4 ♘ge7**

8.0-0 ♖c8 9.♞e1 ♗g6 10.♙g3
 ♗ge5 11.♗e4 ♙g6 12.f4 ♗d7
 13.♗f3 ♗c5 14.♗c3 ♙d6 15.♗b5
 ♗e4 16.♗h4 f5 17.♙d3 ♗g3 18.hg3
 ♞f8 19.♗g6 hg6 20.♗d6 cd6
 21.♞h7 a6 22.♞g7 b5 23.♞e6 1-0

14...a6 15.♞c1 d4 16.g4 ♙g6 17.e4
 ♞e8 18.♞e1 ♞c8 19.e5 ♗e7
 20.♙c4 ♞c4 21.♞c4 ♞d5 22.♗d2
 ♙d3 23.♞c1 ♙b5 24.♞b3 ♙c6
 25.♞d5 ♗d5 26.♙g3 d3 27.♗c4
 ♙a4 28.♞ed1 ♙c2 29.♞d2 ♞c8
 30.♗b2 ♗c3 31.♞cc2 [Missing a rare
 and fantastic combination: 31.♗d3!! ♙d3
 32.♗h2 ♙e4 33.♞d6! (winning back the
 piece) 33...♙a7 34.♞c3+—] 31...dc2
 32.♞c2 ♞c6 33.♗g2 g5 34.h4 h6
 35.hg5 hg5 36.f3 ♗f8 37.♙e1 ♙d4
 38.♙c3 ♞c3 39.♞c3 ♙c3 40.♗d3
 ♗e7 41.f4 gf4 42.♗f3 b5 43.♗f4 a5
 44.ba5 ♙a5 45.♗e4 f6 46.♗b4 ♗f7
 47.ef6 ♗f6 48.♗d5 ♗g5 49.♗c6
 ♗g4 50.♗b5 ♙d8 51.♗c6 ♙c7
 52.♗d4 ♙f4 53.a4 ♙d2 54.♗c4
 ♗f4 55.♗d5 ♙e1 56.♗c6 ♗f5
 57.a5 ♙a5 ½-½

♙c5 28.♞b5 ♞c8 29.♗d2 ♙e6 30.♗e4
 ♙f8 31.♙d6!± Istratescu-Malakhatko,
 Patras 2002) 24...♙c5 25.♞c1 ♙f8
 26.♗d4 ♙g6 27.♞c7 h6 28.h4 Karpov-
 Anand, Moscow tt 2002] 24.gf3 ♙d8
 25.♞b1 ♙f6

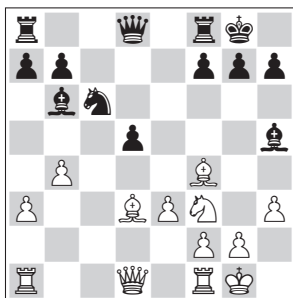
Material for Comparison

Shipov,Sergey 14
Volkov,Sergey
 Moscow 1996 (9)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♗c3
 a6 5.g3 ♙f5 6.♙g2 e6 7.0-0 h6
 8.♗e5 ♙e7 9.♙f4 0-0 10.♞b3 b5
 11.cd5 cd5 12.♞ac1 ♞b6 13.♞fd1
 g5 14.♙e3 ♞d6 15.f3 ♗bd7
 16.♗d3 ♞fc8 17.a3 ♞ab8 18.♗b1
 ♞c4 19.♙f2 ♞c6 20.♞c3 ♞b7
 21.g4 ♙h7 22.e3 a5 23.♙f1 b4
 24.ab4 ♙d3 25.♙d3 ♞b4 26.♞a3
 ♙d6 27.♞c2 ♞b6 28.♙e1 ♞d4
 29.♞a5 ♞d3 30.♞d3 ♗e5 31.♞b6
 ♞b6 32.♞d1 ♗f3 33.♗f2 ♗h2
 34.♞c8 ♗h7 35.♙c3 ♗hg4 36.♗f3
 e5 37.♗d2 ♗g6 0-1

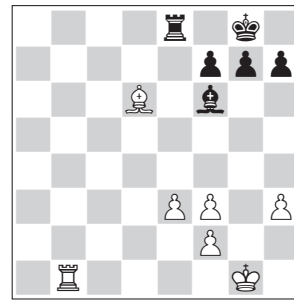
Dorfman,Iosif 15
Vaisser,Anatoli
 Aix-les-Bains ch-FRA 2003 (7)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.♗c3
 ♙e7 5.♙f4 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.dc5 ♙c5
 8.cd5 ♗d5 9.♗d5 ed5 10.a3 ♗c6
 11.♙d3 ♙b6 12.0-0 ♙g4 13.h3
 ♙h5 14.b4



Leko,Peter 16
Kramnik,Vladimir
 Brissago Wch-m 2004 (5)

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 d5 4.♗c3
 ♙e7 5.♙f4 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.dc5 ♙c5
 8.cd5 ♗d5 9.♗d5 ed5 10.a3 ♗c6
 11.♙d3 ♙b6 12.0-0 ♙g4 13.h3
 ♙h5 14.b4 ♞e8 15.♞c1 a6 [15...d4?!
 16.g4 ♙g6 17.♙g6 hg6 18.b5±
 Gagunashvili-Sammalvu, Plovdiv Ech-tt
 2003] 16.♙a6 [16.g4 ♙g6 17.♙g6 hg6
 18.♞c3 d4! 19.♞d3 ♞d5 20.ed4 ♞e4±
 Van Wely-Kasparov, Wijk aan Zee 2001]
 16...♞a6 17.b5 ♞a3 18.bc6 bc6
 19.♞c6 ♞a7 [19...♞e6 20.♞c1 (20.♞e6
 fe6 21.♞c1 ♞a8 Atalik-Short, Ohrid Ech
 2001 (21...♞a6 22.♞c6 ♞e8 23.♞c1 ♞c6
 24.♞c6 ♞a1 25.♗h2 ♙f3 26.gf3 ♞b1
 27.♞e6 d4 28.♗g2 d3 29.♞d6 ♙c7
 Schenk-Zumsande, Germany Bundesliga
 2002/03) 22.♗g5!±) 20...♞c6 21.♞c6 ♙f3
 22.gf3 ♞a8 23.♞b1 ♙a5 24.♞d1 ♞c8
 25.♞d5 ♙c7 Dreev-Kir. Georgiev, Sarajevo
 2001] 20.♞d6 [20.♞b3 ♙f3 21.gf3 ♙c7
 22.♞c7 ♞c7 23.♙c7 ♞c7 24.♞d5 ♞e5
 Malakhatko-Pigusov, Ohrid Ech 2001]
 20...♞d7 21.♞d5 ♞d6 22.♞d6 ♞d6
 23.♙d6 ♙f3 [23...♞d8 24.♙g3 (24.♙f4
 ♙g6 25.♞c1 ♙e4 26.♞c4 ♙d5 27.♞b4



26.♗g2 [26.♞b5 g6 27.f4 ♞d8 28.♙b4
 h5 29.♗g2 ♞d1 30.♙a5 ♗g7 31.f5 gf5
 32.♞f5± Gritsak-Kruppa, Alushta tt 2002]
 26...g6 27.f4 ♗g7 28.♞b7 ♞e6
 29.♞d7 ♞e8 30.♞a7 ♞e6 31.♙c5
 ♞c6 32.♞a5 ♙c3 33.♞b5 ♞a6
 [33...♞c8 Barsky; 33...f5] 34.♞b3 ♙f6
 35.♞b8 [Δ 36.♙f8X] 35...h5 36.♞b5
 ♙c3 37.♞b3 ♙f6 38.e4 ♞a5 39.♙e3
 ♞a4 40.e5! [40.♗f3 ♙d4] 40...♙e7
 41.♞b7 ♗f8 42.♞b8 ♗g7 43.♗f3
 ♞c4 44.♗e2 ♞a4 45.♗d3 ♙h4
 46.♙d4 ♞a3 47.♗c2 ♞a2 48.♗d3
 ♞a3 49.♗c4 ♞a4 50.♗d5 ♞a5
 51.♗c6 ♞a4 52.♗c5 ♙e7 53.♗d5
 ♞a5 54.♗e4 ♞a4 55.♞c8 ♙h4
 56.e6 ♙f6 57.e7 ♞d4 58.♗e3 ♙e7
 59.♗d4 ♙h4 [59...f5?! 60.♞c7 Δ
 61.♗e5] 60.f3? [60.♞c2! ♗f6 (60...f5
 61.♗d5! ♙f6 62.♞c7 ♗g8 63.♞c6 ♗f7
 64.♞f6! ♗f6 65.h4 ♗f7 66.♗d6 ♗f6
 67.♗d7 ♗f7 68.f3+— Yakovenko) 61.♗e4
 ♗e6 62.f5! gf5 63.♗f4+— Motylev]
 60...f5 61.♞c7 [61.♗d5 ♙f6] 61...♗f6
 [61...♗f8 62.♗e5 ♗g8 63.♗e6 ♗f8
 64.♞c8 ♗g7 65.♞b8X] 62.♗d5 ♙g3?
 [62...♙e1 (Yakovenko) 63.♞c6 ♗f7
 64.♗e5 ♙a5 65.♞c8 ♙b6=] 63.♞c6
 ♗g7 64.♗e5 h4 65.♞c7 ♗h6
 66.♞c4 ♗g7 67.♗e6 ♙h2 68.♞c7
 ♗h6 69.♗f7

1-0
 Timman
 M/04-7-17 M/05-1-95