# Scarborough Community of Toronto Chess News & Views

Newsletter of / Le Journal de

# **Scarborough Chess Club**

# "FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960"

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Issue # 19 – June 1, 2004

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

#### **Prague Unity Agreement Comes Under Criticism**

The current status of the reunification of the World Championship plan is that Vladimir Kramnik, (Russia) current classical world champion, will play the challenger, Peter Leko (Hungary), September 25 – October 18, in Brissago, Switzerland. On the other side of the draw, there is the FIDE knockout championship, starting with 128 players, in Tripoli, Libya. It was to have commenced May 2, but has been delayed, and is now hoped to start sometime in June. The winner of that knockout is then to play Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13<sup>th</sup> FIDE World Champion, and highest rated player in the world for over a decade.

The winners of these two matches will then play for the unified World Championship.

But everyone is not happy with this new format. Kasparov weighed in initially with an offer that he would relinquish his current right to play the FIDE knockout champion in favour of a tournament of 8 players: Kasparov, Kramnik, Leko and Viswanathan Anand (India), 2000 FIDE World Champion, and currently the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rated player, along with the last four players in this year's FIDE knockout. He proposed a knockout format for this tournament.

Then Yasser Serawan, USA Grandmaster, and one of the architects of the Prague Unity Agreement, came up with an alternate format. He proposed a tournament in which the winner of this year's FIDE knockout would play a six-person quadruple round robin, along with the five most recent FIDE Champions: Ruslan Ponomariov (Russia), Anand, Alexander Khalifman (Russia), Anatoly Karpov (Russia) and Garry Kasparov. The winner of this tournament would then play the Classical World Champion (the winner of

the Kramnik-Leko match ).

Finally, Ponomariov, who was supposed to play Kasparov, before the match fell apart, came in with his own proposal. He suggested a one-stage six player reunification tournament. It would involve Ponomariov, Kasparov, Kramnik, Leko, Anand and the winner of this year's FIDE knockout championship.

So there is no lack of ideas. And there is not much support for the current system now in place. What do you think of the current system? Do you support one of the alternate proposals? Do you have another proposal? Write and let us know. We'll publish your ideas.

### **Canadian Chess History**

( submitted by David Cohen )

Roman Pelts' most important game was on Board 1 for the Gold Medal winning USSR at the 1964 Student Team Championship against William Lombardy of their political rivals, the USA. In trying to track down this game, I first consulted the chess column in the Montreal Gazette. Here, Dudley LeDain gave only a victory in another game by Lombardy. In reporting the names of the winning team members, he listed 'Pelch'. Again, in the British magazine 'Chess', Board 1 was 'Pelch'. When I visited Roman at his home, I was able to figure out what had happened. One of his awards had his name spelled in English as 'Pelc'. The accent on the letter 'c' is supposed to translate as 'ts'. However, the English spreaking press of the day mis-translated it as 'ch'.

The game was first reported in North America by Roman himself in an article he wrote for the Quebec magazine 'Echecs+'. From memory, he gave the first 12 moves. Pelts then gave a variation that showed why Lombardy had made an incorrect sacrifice. By ignoring Pelts' specific move (a different knight move was normal in the position, rather than the retreat to e1), Lombardy had overlooked that White could bring up an extra defender for P/e3. This variation then went into the databases around the world - but it's not what actually happened!

Lombardy realized his mistake, and the game continued, very much in Pelts' favour. Finally, on move 40, Pelts made a very nice combination. In the final position, White can take the Black N/g7 with impunity; if Black recaptures, the P/d6 will stroll in for a promotion. Meanwhile, the Black N/e3 can collect a free piece with check, but can never return home to catch the strolling pawn. Thanks to Adam Umiastowski, who maintains a database of Polish games, for providing the game score.

Roman Pelts - William Lombardy USSR - USA, Board 1, World Student Team Championship, Krakow, Poland, Round 10, 1964.08.01

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 O-O 5. O-O d6 6. c4 Nbd7 7. Qc2 e5 8. Rd1 Re8 9. Nc3 e4 10. Ne1 e3 11. Bxe3 Rxe3 12. fxe3 Ng4 {13.Qd3 Bh6 14.Nc2}13. Qe4 Nb6 14. h3 Nf6 15. Qd3 Qe7 16. Nc2 Be6 17. b3 c6 18. e4 Nh5 19. Kh2 c5 20. e3 Qg5 21. Ne2

Rc8 22. Rf1 Nd7 23. Rf3 b5 24. Nf4 bxc4 25. bxc4 Nb6 26. Nxe6 fxe6 27. h4 Qe7 28. Bh3 Rf8 29. Rxf8+ Bxf8 30. Rf1 Ng7 31. Ne1 Qe8 32. d5 e5 33. Qb3 Be7 34. Nf3 h6 35. a4 Qxa4 36. Qxa4 Nxa4 37. Ra1 Nb2 38. Rxa7 Kf7 39. Bf1 Nd1 40. Nxe5+ dxe5 41. d6 Nxe3 42. Rxe7+ 1-0

In going through 'Chess' magazine, I came across an interesting story. The following was an adjourned position in a game from the Subsidiary Group.

White to move: K/h3; R/c1,d2; P/c2,f4,g3,h2.

Black: K/g6; R/c3,c5; P/f7,h6.

The players discussed the position and, concluding that White could not make progress, agreed to a draw. But Black had been swindled! The sealed move allowed a simple mate in 2 moves: 44. Kh4 {sealed} {44... Rh5+ 45. Kg4 f5#} 1/2-1/2. The lost half-point cost Great Britain a tie for first-place, as they finished ½ point back of Romania.

## **Todd Southam Memorial Chess Tournament - Toronto**

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Sunday, June 13

Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Ave., Toronto

Game/30, CFC Active rated.

Organizer: David Cohen

Tournament Director: Vlad Dobrich (416) 722-9709

Format: Team Scheveningen on 6 boards - you play everyone on the other team.

Round 1 at 11am, break after 3 games, finish by 6pm.

Prizes for each team's top scores: \$125 first, \$75 second.

Prize fund of \$400 is donated by the Southam family (Peter, Elsa, David).

Free entry because tournament expenses of \$100 (for room rental, rating fees, etc.) is provided by the Greater Toronto Chess League.

#### **Juniors**

FM Zhe Quan Christian Stevens Nikolay Noritsyn Shiyam Thavandiran WFM Hazel Smith Irakli Vadachkoriya

Masters

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IM Lawrence Day

FM Denis Allan FM Vinny Puri Maxim Krupnov Doug Bailey Evgeni Miller

First call-up for either team: FM Tomas Krnan Possible additional call-ups for master team: Nava Starr, Yuri Aronov, Andrei Moffat, Bryan Lamb

#### Canada Day Chess Festival (July 1-4)

Martin Jaeger is organizing Premier, Reserves, an Active and junior tournaments for the Canada Day weekend. He may be contacted for details and entry forms at <a href="mailto:m.jaeger@look.ca">m.jaeger@look.ca</a>.

A - Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed., directly, at <a href="mailto:bobarm@sympatico.ca">bobarm@sympatico.ca</a> or through SCC e-mail, to:

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