

Scarborough Community of Toronto
Chess News & Views

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“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

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Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

FIDE July Rating List

There is still only one player over 2800 : # 1 : Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13th FIDE World Champion – 2817.

There are 15 players in the 2700's. In the April list Viswanathan Anand (India), 2000 FIDE World Champion, moved up into second place, and he remains there, with a rating of 2782, ahead of now # 3, Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 2000 BrainGamesNetwork World Champion, who has 2770; # 4 (from # 7) is Alexander Morozevich (Russia), with 2741; Peter Leko (Hungary), the challenger to Kramnik in their semi-final Prague Unity match later this year, with 2741 is # 5; at # 8 is Judit Polgar (Hungary), the strongest women's player in the world, with 2728; at # 11 is Ruslan Ponomariov (Russia), 2002 FIDE World Champion, at 2722.

12th FIDE World Champion, Anatoly Karpov (Russia) is # 23 – 2682; 1999 FIDE World Champion, Alexander Khalifman (Russia) is now down to # 35 – 2669. Now 2004 FIDE World Champion, Rustan Kasimdzhanov (Uzbekistan) was, at the time of this list, # 54.

Here are a number of the younger players we're watching : Etienne Bacrot (France) is # 14 (up from # 27) – 2712; Alexander Grischuk (Russia) is #16 (down from # 11) – 2705; Francisco Vallejo Pons (Spain) is # 29 (up from # 35) – 2679; Teimour Radjabov (Azerbaijan) is # 41 (down from # 31) – 2664;.

The two highest Canadians with FIDE ratings are : GM Kevin Spraggett, former Canadian Champion, at 2584; GM Alexandre Le Siege, 2001 Canadian Champion, at 2497.

Noted Canadian Chess Player Dies

Sadly, well-known Canadian chess player, IM Bryon Nickoloff, died on August 3, after a lengthy battle with cancer. “ Nick “ recently played his last tournament at this year’s Canadian Open, where he finished with a respectable 6.5/10. He won or shared the Canadian Open title twice, won the Canadian Closed Championship in 1995, and played on six Canadian Olympiad teams.

Anand Wins Dortmund, Germany Grandmaster Tournament

This well-known tournament ended on August 1, with Viswanathan Anand (India) and Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), current classical world champion, tied for first. The first rapid tie-break game was drawn, but Anand won the second playoff game to win the title. It was a well-deserved win for the second highest rated player in the world. Peter Svidler (Russia) came third, defeating Peter Leko (Hungary).

2004 Toronto August Open

This tournament was played August 6-8 at the Bayview Games Club in Toronto. 25 players registered for the tournament. The winner was Raja Panjwani with 4.5/5 – it included a nice tactical win against IM Ron Livshits, highest rated player in the tournament. The A class prize was shared by Morgan Mills and John Chidley-Hill, with 2.5/5. The B class was won by Alex Martchenko with 3/5. The C class was won by Aquino Inigo with 2.5/5.

Bobby Fischer in Detention

Bobby Fischer was recently detained by Japanese Immigration officials for trying to go to the Phillipines on his recently rescinded American passport. He has been ordered deported to the USA, but is appealing the decision, and also asking for asylum in some third country. Fischer faces criminal charges in the USA for his 20th anniversary re-match with Boris Spassky in 1992. At that time USA had placed an embargo on Americans operating in Yugoslavia, where the match was played. There has been some organizing to ask the USA to forgo the prosecution, and recently Boris Spassky sent an open letter to President Bush asking for clemency for Fischer.

Playing for a World Championship (Part 2/2)

(submitted by David Cohen)

My 2002 Internet Slow Time Control World Championship playoff - FICS division semi-final was a two game match. My first game yielded another opening blunder by an opponent: Black didn't make a hole on a7 for his B/b6, and lost it when my Q-side Ps advanced.

Knowing that I would face the Colle Opening in the second game, I chanced upon Koltanowski's classic book on this opening. Devouring it, I felt much better prepared. However, upon reflection, I realized that I could summarize all of what Kolty had said with 'get your pieces out and place them where they'll do some good.' Needing a win in the second game, my opponent dropped his queen to a skewer in a drawn ending. This set up a rematch with FM Ryan Harper for the FICS division title.

This time, I felt ready to take up the challenge of the Sicilian Dragon Yugoslav Attack. Once again, I undertook a rare event for me, the study of an opening. After my initial preparation, I recalled that I had once had some fun with a game based on Brian Hartman's article in *En Passant*. Recalling the name of my opponent, from my personal database I fixed the date of the game as 1987, and soon located the article (which I knew had been published just prior to my game) in EP 83, Feb. 1987, p. 43-4. My opponent of the day avoided the Georgiev Variation discussed by Hartman (17... gxf5). Searching in my database of master games, I quickly discovered that it was not played anymore. Roger Patterson's suggestion (20. Rhg1) had been improved upon by a line with a surprising queen sacrifice leading to an interesting mate (20. Qxg4+ Rg5 21. hxg5 Bxg4 22. gxf6 Bxd1 ? 23. Nc6 Qb6 24. Nxe7#).

In our first game, I never got my attack going, my opponent missed some good chances to win during his counter-attack, and I made the last mistake. For the second game, I wanted to know how the Yugoslav Attack should be conducted, and played the Dragon as Black! I played one of my best games ever, and certainly my best against a master. Strangely enough, the game started out as usual: I messed up the counter-attack, and proceeded to drop the exchange. But my opponent was in a hurry, and assumed that the game was easily won. My tactics caught him offguard, as did my consolidating follow-up, which denied him the chance for an attack on my king.

FM Ryan Harper - David Cohen

2002 Internet Slow Time Control World Championship playoff, division final (2)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Bg7 7. f3 O-O 8. Qd2 Nc6 9. Bc4 Bd7 10. O-O-O Rc8 11. Bb3 Ne5 12. h4 h5 13. Bg5 Rc5 14. Kb1 Qa5 15. Bxf6 Bxf6 16. Nd5 Rxd5 17. Bxd5 Qb6 18. g4 Nxf3 19. Qd3 Bxg4 20. c3 Nxd4 21. cxd4 Bxd1 22. Rxd1 Kg7 23. e5 dxe5 24. dxe5 Bxe5 25. Bb3 Qf2 26. Bc2 Qxh4 27. Rg1 Qf6 28. Rf1 Qb6 29. b3 Bf6 30. Rf4 0-1

In the third game, the tie-breaker, I played the Black side of the Dragon again. I improved upon my second game's opening moves. However, I took too much time away from my counter-attack, yet did not deal effectively with my opponent's attack. And so ended my chance for a World Chess Championship.

Ontario Chess Association Meeting – Saturday, August 28

Barry Thorvardson, OCA President, has scheduled the OCA Meeting for Saturday, August 28th at 10 am at Tartu College (During the finale of the Canadian

Closed). Interested OCA Governors may stay for the awards ceremony (RSVP as seats are preregistered).

Any CFC/OCA members and any persons interested in supporting the chess community in Ontario, are welcome to attend the OCA Meeting.

Local GTA Players Get International Arbiter Titles

Local organizers Mark S. Dutton and David Cohen received approval for their International Arbiter titles from FIDE at its recent 2nd quarter Presidential Board Meeting, held in Tripoli, Libya, 11-12 July 2004.

New GTA FIDE Master

Toronto Champion Yaacov Vaingorten's performances in the Toronto Closed and Toronto Easter Open pushed his published FIDE rating over 2300, thereby earning him the FIDE Master (FM) title.

SCC Closes for the Summer

The last Swiss of the year ended on Thursday, August 5. SCC now closes for the summer. The club will re-open on Thursday, Sept. 9, with our 2004-5 Annual General Meeting. The first Swiss tournament of the new year will begin the following Thursday.

A - Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed. , directly, at bobarm@sympatico.ca or through SCC e-mail, to :

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