

Scarborough Community of Toronto
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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 ?

Topalov/Kramnik Match Negotiations Break Down

In an earlier Issue, we had brought you news that Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), Classical World Champion, had made a substantial, lucrative offer to Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria), 2005 FIDE World Champion, for a world championship match. The offering sponsor was a new German event agency, called Universal Event Promotion (UEP). We have now learned that there was \$ 1.4 million prize fund put on the table. But on Nov. 14, negotiations broke down. It appears that originally, Kramnik and Topalov had come to agreement in principle, and a final draft contract had been submitted to both sides. Kramnik accepted the contract, but Topalov then refused. It seems that FIDE had made known to Topalov that it was not satisfied with the terms and conditions agreed to. They also had questions as to what it would mean in terms of chess politics should Topalov be defeated. Finally Topalov increased his monetary demands to \$ 1 million for himself, and \$300,000 for FIDE. UEP said the request was unrealistic, and was only willing to renew their original offer.

Shortly after this, Sylvio Danailov, Topalov's manager, issued a formal press release clarifying their view of what had transpired. Here is the press release :

“ We regard Mr. Kramnik as a challenger, and nothing more.

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We shall not accept the offer In regard to the [UEP press release](#), we would like shed clarity on several points:for a match against Mr. Kramnik due to several reasons:

1. We do not recognise Mr. Kramnik as a champion. The World Champion's title belongs by law to FIDE and, after his refusal to participate in the official World Championship in San Luis, Mr. Kramnik automatically lost his right to be designated the World Champion. However, by the looks of it, he has decided to seize the title for the rest of his life. Let us remember that he's only 7th in the World Ranking list, scoring quite mediocre results recently. At the same time, in addition to being the official World Champion, Veselin Topalov is Number 1 in the World Ranking List of 1 January 2006.

2. We proposed to UEP the match to be an official one under the auspices of FIDE. According to the new rules of FIDE, due to be published very soon, each grandmaster with Elo of over 2700 can officially invite the World Champion to a match for the title if he provides an appropriate prize fund and pays a 20% charge to FIDE as designated by law. Of course, our proposal to the organizer UEP was rejected.

3. We have never made any preliminary arrangements with UEP. Agreement exists only when there are signed papers; everything else is just words.



In conclusion, we would like to stress once again that the World Champion Veselin Topalov is ready to play the challenger Mr. Kramnik, as well as any other grandmaster with a rating of over 2700 in an official match for the title under the auspices of FIDE.

Silvio Danailov,
Manager of the World Champion Veselin Topalov “

Then a few days later , FIDE weighed in with its view of what had happened. Deputy President Georgios Makropoulos, issued a letter stating :

“ I would therefore like to clarify the following:

1. FIDE hasn't received yet any official proposal concerning such a match.
2. When we were informed by Mr Danailov, the manager of World Champion V. Topalov, that negotiations were starting I immediately expressed the view that such a match should be for the World Championship Title and it should be

organized under FIDE's auspices and in accordance with regulations which everyone should agree.

3. To this direction I suggested a meeting with all parties concerned.
4. To the question of Mr Danailov about FIDE's financial demands, I referred to the relative FIDE regulations which state that FIDE receives a 20% share of or above the prize fund.

Two days ago I was informed by Mr Danailov that the Kramnik side rejected the idea of holding the match within FIDE's authority and the proposal for a meeting of all sides was rejected as well. “

Then on Nov. 17, Carsten Hensel, Kramnik's manager, replied. He stated that Kramnik was more than willing to have the title match under the auspices of FIDE, and that he had never received a formal invitation to an all-party meeting under FIDE, either from FIDE directly, nor from Mr. Danailov. He further indicated that Mr. Danilov had now changed his position from immediately after the FIDE championship match. At that time he had indicated that Topalov recognized Kramnik's Classical Champion title, whereas now he did not. He also stated that FIDE had recognized Kramnik's legitimate Classical title in signing the Prague Unity Agreement, for the title reunification schedule, which later broke down, but now seemed to be renegeing on that position.

This seemed to leave it open for a future meeting called by FIDE, bringing all parties together, if FIDE would be so inclined. So on Nov. 22, Makropoulos issued an open letter that, to clarify things, FIDE's invitation to an all party meeting was still open. Neither Kramnik nor Topalov have yet responded to this new invitation.

So, for now, the hoped-for title reunification match is still off, and the chess world has to carry on with competing claims to be World Champion.

FIDE World Cup – Charbonneau Loses in First Round

This knockout tournament is being held in the city of Khanty-Mansiysk in Russia. It runs from Nov. 27 – Dec. 17. 128 players have qualified for it in regional zonal, and continental tournaments, throughout the world, or by special inclusion. It is the first phase of the 2005-2007 World Championship Cycle. The top 10 finishers qualify to go into the second phase of the cycle, the Candidates Matches.

The first round was a 2-game match, played Nov. 27 & 28. Pascal Charbonneau, 2004 Canadian Closed Champion, played Alexey Dreev (Russia), rated 2694, and # 22 in the world. The first game went 76 moves, with Pascal having white. At one point, Dreev was up 2 P's, and then sacrificed the exchange for a third P. Pascal got one of the P's back, but then Dreev threatened to win Pascal's final P, and Pascal resigned. Here is the first game :

(11) Charbonneau,P (2500) – Dreev,A (2694)

WCC 2005 0:01.22-0:02.51 (11), 27.11.2005

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Be3 e6 5.Nd2 Nd7 6.Be2 Qb6 7.Nb3 Bg6 8.f4 a5 9.a4 Bb4+ 10.c3 Be7 11.Nf3 h5 12.h3 Nh6 13.Bf2 Nf5 14.0-0 h4 15.c4 dxc4 16.Bxc4 Qd8 17.Bd3 Nb6 18.Bb1 Nd5 19.Qc1 Bh5 20.Be4 Qb6 21.Nc5 Bxf3 22.Bxf3 Bxc5 23.dxc5 Qb4 24.Re1 Nxf4 25.Be4 g5 26.Bxf5 exf5 27.Qc2 Ne6 28.Rad1 Qf4 29.Qb3 0-0 30.Qxb7 Rab8 31.Qxc6 Rxb2 32.Rf1 Rfb8 33.Rde1 Ra2 34.Be3 Qxa4 35.Qxa4 Rxa4 36.Rc1 Re4 37.Bf2 Rxe5 38.Rfd1 Rc8 39.Rd7 Rc6 40.Ra7 Nf4 41.Rb1 Ne2+ 42.Kf1 Ng3+ 43.Kg1 Rxc5 44.Bxc5 Rxc5 45.Ra1 Kg7 46.R7xa5 Rc6 47.Ra6 Re6

48.Ra7 Kg6 49.Ra8 Kf6 50.R8a4 Kg7 51.Ra5 Kf6 52.R5a4 Ne4 53.Ra7 Kg6 54.Ra8 f4 55.Rg8+ Kf5 56.Rf8 f6 57.Ra5+ Kg6 58.Ra1 Re5 59.Rfa8 Kf5 60.R8a4 Ng3 61.R4a2 Kg6 62.Ra3 Nf5 63.Ra4 Re3 64.R4a3 Rg3 65.R1a2 Ne3 66.Rf2 Nc4 67.Ra8 Ne5 68.Ra5 Re3 69.Raa2 f3 70.gxf3 Nxf3+ 71.Kg2 Nd4 72.Ra6 Rg3+ 73.Kf1 Nf5 74.Ra5 Ng7 75.Ra6 Nh5 76.Rh2 Nf4 0-1

The second game went 40 moves, and material was equal when Pascal resigned, as he was going to lose the ending. Here is the second game :

(11) Dreev,A (2694) – Charbonneau,P (2500)

WCC 2005 0:17.45-0:15.12 (12), 28.11.2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Nf3 c6 6.Be2 d5 7.e5 Ne4 8.0-0 Nxc3 9.bxc3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 c5 11.Bf4 cxd4 12.cxd4 Bg4 13.d5 Nd7 14.Re1 Rc8 15.Bb3 f6 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Bh6 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Bxa1 19.d6+ e6 20.Bxe6+ Kh8 21.Bxf8 Qxf8 22.Qxf8+ Rxf8 23.Rxa1 Nc5 24.Bg4 Rd8 25.Rc1 b6 26.Re1 h5 27.Bf3 a5 28.Rd1 Kg7 29.Bc6 Kf6 30.h4 Ke6 31.f3 Nd7 32.Bb5 Nf8 33.d7 Nxd7 34.Kf2 Ke7 35.Ke3 Nf8 36.Rxd8 Kxd8 37.Ke4 Ne6 38.Ke5 Ke7 39.Bc4 Nd8 40.Kd5 1-0

The biggest upset of the first two rounds was the loss by Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine) in the second round, to the Bulgarian, Ivan Cheparinov.

2005 World Junior - Report

This tournament, held in Istanbul, Turkey, finished on Nov. 22. Canada did not send a representative this year in either the boys or girls categories. The winner of the boys section (92 players) was GM Shakhriyar Mamedyarov of Azerbaijan with 10 ½ / 13 pts.. He is also playing in the FIDE World Cup starting on Nov. 27. He had also won the World Junior in 2003. The winner of the girls section (68 players) was WGM Elizabeth Paetz of Germany with 10/13 pts..

The Holidays Open – Upcoming Tournament

This 6 round, one section swiss will be held at the Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Ave. (south of Eglinton Ave. E.), Suite 202, from Dec. 26 to 30. There will be 2 games on Monday, Dec. 26 (11 :00 am & 5:30 pm), and one game per day thereafter (6:30 pm). Entry fee is \$ 55 (by Dec. 24), and \$ 25 extra for non-BGC members (there is a \$ 10 late fee on the day of the tournament). It is CFC rated. Maximum 60 players. For more info, contact Vlad Dobrich : 416-722-9709.

Chess Movie – Knights of the South Bronx

This 2 hr. movie is about an English teacher turned chess coach, who takes a group of inner city school kids inside the elitist world of chess competition, and teaches them if they can win at chess, they can win at life. It will air on the A & E Network on Tuesday evening, Dec. 6, at 8:00 pm. There is an SCC connection to this movie since two of our SCC members, Sascha Rapoport and Maurice Smith, acted as chess consultants on the filming.

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

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