

**Scarborough Community of Toronto**  
**Chess News & Views**

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**Scarborough Chess Club**

**“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”**

*ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS*

**Issue # 19 – June 1, 2007**

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

**World Championship Candidates Matches – Some Early Results**

These matches are being played from May 26 – June 14 in Elista, Kalmykia, Russia.

The pairings and results, at time of publication ( after 4 games ), for the first round of candidates' matches are :

1. Levon Aronian ( Armenia - 2759 ) 2.5:1.5 Magnus Carlsen ( Norway - 2693 )
2. Peter Leko ( Hungary - 2738 ) 3.5: .5 Mikhail Gurevich ( Turkey - 2639 )
3. Ruslan Ponomarev ( Ukraine - 2717 ) 1.5:2.5 Sergei Rublevsky ( Russia - 2680 )
4. Boris Gelfand ( Israel - 2733 ) 2:2 Rustam Kasimdzhanov ( Uzbekistan -2677 )
5. Etienne Bacrot ( France - 2709 ) .5:3.5 Gata Kamsky ( USA - 2705 )
6. Alexander Grischuk ( Russia - 2717 ) 3:1 Vladimir Malakhov ( Russia - 2679 )
7. Judit Polgar ( Hungary - 2727 ) 1:3 Evgeny Bareev ( Russia - 2643 )
8. Alexei Shirov ( Spain - 2699 ) 1.5:2.5 Michael Adams ( England - 2734 )

Leko and Kamsky have entered Rd. 2 of the matches.

In the second round, the winner of match # 1 will play the winner of match # 8; the winner of match # 2 will play the winner of match # 7; etc.. Thus the final four from the candidates' matches will be determined, and they will join the top four from the 2005 FIDE World Championship ( Vladimir Kramnik- Russia – 14<sup>th</sup> World Champion - 2772 [ replacing Veselin Topalov, 2005 FIDE World Champion – Bulgaria – 2772 ]; Viswanathan Anand, 2000 FIDE World Champion – India – 2786; Peter Svidler – Russia

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– 2736; Alexander Morozevich – Russia – 2762 ) in the 2007 FIDE World Championship in Mexico in October..

In Game 1 of their match, Aronian defeated Carlsen in a closely-fought game to take the lead. Carlsen won Game 3 and equaled the match. Then Aronian won game 4 to pull ahead again. Here is their game 1 ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### **Carlsen, M (2693) – Aronian, L (2759) [C84]**

WCh Candidates s/f Elista RUS (1), 27.05.2007

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6± [ 2...Nf6=] 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d3?=[ 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Bxc6 dxc6 8.Nxe5 Re8±] 6...b5 [ 6...d6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Bd2 Bg4 9.h3 Bd7=] 7.Bb3 d6 [ 7...0-0 8.Nc3 d6 9.Bd2 Na5±] 8.a4 [ 8.Bd2 0-0 9.Nc3 Na5 10.Nd5 Nxb3 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7=; 8.Qe1 0-0 9.Nc3 Bg4=] 8...Rb8?± [ 8...b4 9.Be3 0-0 10.Nbd2 Qd7=] 9.axb5 axb5 10.Nc3 0-0 11.h3?=[ 11.Nd5 Nd4 12.Nxd4 exd4 13.Re1 Nxd5 14.exd5 Bd7±] 11...Nb4 12.Ne2 [ 12.Qe2 c5 13.Bg5 Be6 14.Ra3 h6 15.Bxf6 Bxf6=] 12...c5 13.Ng3 Be6 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.c3 Nc6 16.Re1 Qd7 17.d4?± [ 17.Be3 b4 18.Qc2 Rb6 19.Ng5 Rfb8=] 17...exd4 18.cxd4 c4 19.Bg5 h6 [ 19...Nb4 20.e5 dxe5 21.Nxe5 Qc7±] 20.d5 [ 20.Bd2? d5 21.Bf4 Rbd8 22.Ne5 Nxe5 23.Bxe5 Bb4 24.Re3 Qf7±; 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Nh5 Nb4±] 20...exd5 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Qxd5+ Rf7 23.Qd2 Ne5 24.Nxe5 Bxe5 25.Ne2 Rbf8 26.Rf1 Rf3?=[ 26...Qc7 27.Rad1 Qc6 28.f4 Bf6±] 27.Ra3??± Aronian gets a " clear " advantage [ 27.Qd5+ Kh8 28.Rad1 R3f7 29.Nd4 Bxd4 30.Rxd4 Rf6=] 27...Rxa3 28.bxa3 Qc6 29.Nd4 Bxd4 30.Qxd4 Ra8 [ 30...Re8 31.Re1 Qc5 32.Qxc5 dxc5 33.Rb1 Rb8 34.Kf1 b4±] 31.Ra1 c3 32.Qb4 Qc5 33.Qb3+ Kh8 34.Ra2?+ Aronian gets a " winning " advantage [ 34.Kh1 Ra7 35.f3 Ra4 36.Kh2 c2 37.Rc1 Rc4±] 34...Ra4 35.Re2?+ ( – 3.79 ) [ 35.Kh2 Rxe4 36.Rc2 Rc4+ ( – 3.24 )] 35...Rxa3 Aronian goes up a P 36.Qd1 Ra8+ 0-1**

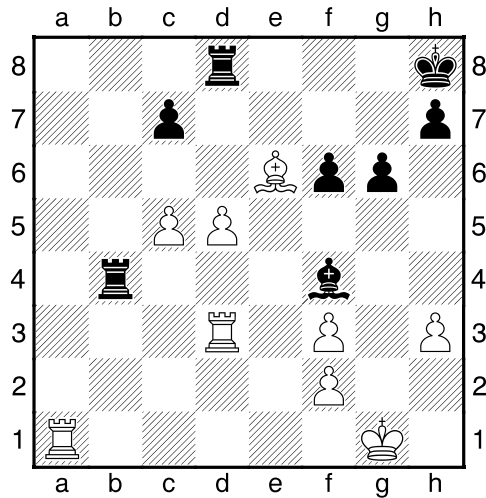
In Game 3 of their match, former World Championship Challenger, and strongest player in the Americas, Gata Kamsky, defeated Bacrot, to take a commanding 2 pt. lead. Here is their game 3 ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### **Kamsky, G (2705) – Bacrot, E (2709) [C88]**

World Championship Candidates Matches Elista, Kalmykia, Russia (3), 29.05.2007

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6± [ 2...Nf6=] 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 [ 6.d4? 0-0 7.d5 Na5 8.Qe1 c5 9.c3 b5 10.Bc2 d6=; 6.Nc3 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.d3 d6 9.Bd2 Na5±] 6...b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.h3?=[ 8.d4 d6 9.c3 Bg4 10.Bc2 exd4 11.cxd4 Nb4 12.d5 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Nd7±] 8...Bb7 9.c3 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.d3 [ 11.Nxe5? Nxe5 12.Rxe5 Bf6 13.Rf5 Qd7 14.Rf3 c5±; 11.d4 exd4 12.cxd4 Nf6 13.Nc3 Na5 14.Bc2 Nc4=] 11...Qd6 12.Nbd2 Rad8 [ 12...Rfd8 13.Ne4 Qg6 14.d4 h6=] 13.Ne4 Qd7 [ 13...Qg6? 14.Ng3 a5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Rxe5 Bf6 17.Re4 a4 18.Bc2 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Nxc3 20.Qf1 Bxe4 21.dxe4 Qf6±] 14.a4 [ 14.Ng3 f6 15.d4 exd4 16.Nxd4 Nxd4 17.cxd4 Kh8=] 14...Kh8 15.axb5 axb5 16.d4 exd4?± [ 16...f5 17.Neg5 e4 18.Nh4 g6=] 17.cxd4 f6 18.Nc3 Ncb4 19.Qe2 Bd6 20.Qxb5 Kamsky goes up a P 20...Nxc3?± Kamsky gets a " clear " advantage [ 20...Bc6 21.Qf1 Rfe8 22.Rxe8+ Qxe8±] 21.Qxd7 Rxd7 22.bxc3 Nd3 23.Rd1 Nxc1 24.Raxc1 Bxf3 25.gxf3 Bf4 26.Ra1 Rd6 27.c4 Rb6 28.Rd3?± [ 28.Bc2 Rb2 29.Bd3 g5 30.Ra6 Kg7±] 28...g6?± [ 28...f5 29.Bc2 Rb2 30.Ba4 g5±] 29.c5 Rb5 30.Bc4 Rb4 31.Be6 Rd8 32.d5**

Position after 32.d5



**Kg7?+-** [ 32...Rb5 33.c6 Bd6 34.Ra7 Rdb8 35.Kf1 g5±] **33.d6 cxd6** material is equal, but Bacrot is lost **34.c6 d5 35.Ra7+ Kh6 36.c7+- 1-0**

Kamsky finished the job in Game 4 by defeating Bacrot and winning the match 3.5 : .5. Here is Game 4 ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

**Bacrot, E (2709) – Kamsky, G (2705)**

Candidates Matches Elista, Russia (4), 31.05.2007

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 [ 3.Nc3=] 3...Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Be7 5.Bg2 d5 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.Qc2 a5?± [ 9...dxc4 10.Qxc4 Nb6 11.Qc1 Nbd5=] 10.Rd1?=[ 10.Nbd2 Nh5 11.Be3 f5±] 10...Ne4?± [ 10...dxc4 11.Qxc4 Nb6 12.Qc1 Nbd5=] 11.Nc3 f5 12.Ne5 Nxe5 13.Bxe5 Nd6 14.Bxd6?=[ 14.b3? g5 15.Qd3 Nf7 16.Rac1 b6=; 14.c5 Nf7 15.Bf4 g5 16.Be3 Ra6±] 14...Bxd6 15.e3 Rb8?± [ 15...Rf6 16.Rac1 Rh6 17.Ne2 b6 18.Nf4 g5 19.Nd3 Ba6=] 16.c5?=[ 16.h3 dxc4 17.Qe2 b5 18.Bxc6 Ba6±] 16...Bc7 17.f4 Bd7 [ 17...Rf6? 18.a3 Rh6 19.b4 Qe8 20.Na4 Qh5=; 17...Ra8? 18.Ne2 Rf6 19.Nc1 g5 20.a4 g4=] 18.a3 Be8 19.b4 b5?± [ 19...Rf6 20.Rf1 Qe7 21.h3 Rg6=] 20.cxb6 Bxb6 21.Na4 axb4 22.axb4 Rf7 23.Qc3?=[ 23.Bf1 Rfb7 24.Ba6 Ra7 25.Bd3 Rba8 26.Nxb6 Rxa1 27.Nxa8 Qxa8±] 23...Rfb7 24.Bf1 [ 24.Nb2 Bc7 25.Nd3 Bd6 26.Rdb1 Qe7=] 24...g5?± [ 24...Bc7 25.Nc5 Rxb4 26.Nxe6 Qd6 27.Nc5 Qh6=] 25.Ba6 Rg7 26.Rd2 h5 27.Rg2 Bc7 [ 27...h4 28.Bf1 hxg3 29.Rxg3 g4±] 28.Nc5 Qf6 29.Bf1 Bd6 30.fxg5?=[ 30.Raa2] 30...Rxg5 31.Ra7 e5 32.dxe5?± for the first time in the game, Kamsky gets the advantage [ 32.Na6 Rd8 33.Nc7 Bd7 34.b5 Bxc7 35.Rxc7 exd4 36.Qxd4 Qxd4 37.exd4 cxb5=] 32...Bxe5 33.Qb3??+ Kamsky gets a " winning " advantage [ 33.Qe1 Bc3 34.Qc1 h4±] 33...h4 34.gxh4 [ 34.Na6 Rd8 35.Nc5 hxg3 36.hxg3 Bxg3+-] 34...Rxg2+ 35.Bxg2 Qxh4 36.Nd3 Bxh2+?± Kamsky goes up a P [ 36...Bd4! 37.Bxd5+ Kf8 38.exd4 Qxd4+ 39.Kg2 Qxa7 40.Bc4 Qd4+-] 37.Kf1 Qc4 38.Qa3?+- ( - 3.25 ) [ 38.Qxc4 dxc4 39.Nc1 Rxb4 40.Ne2 Bd6±] 38...Bg6?+- ( - 1.55 ) [ 38...Rxb4! 39.Qxb4 Qxd3+ 40.Kf2 Bg1+! 41.Kxg1 Qxe3+ 42.Kh2 Qxa7+- ( - 3.36 )] 39.Bf3?+- ( -2.98 ) [ 39.Ra8 Kh7 40.Rxb8 Bxb8 41.Kg1 Bf7+- ( - 1.59 )] 39...f4+- Bacrot resigned. Coming is 40.Qb2 Bxd3+ 41.Kg2 Qc2+ 42.Qxc2 Bxc2 43.Kxh2 fxe3 44.Ra6 Rxb4 45.Rxc6 Be4 when Kamsky is up 2 P's with queening threats. 0-1

## M-Tel Masters, Sofia, Bulgaria

This tournament is the third major tournament of the year, played May 10 – 20, and was a 6-player double round robin, with average rating of 2725 ( this is stronger than the start of year Corus, Netherlands tournament, which had a rating of 2719, but not as strong as the Morelia/Linares, Mexico/Spain tournament in Feb., rated 2746 ). Half the players came from the top 10 in the world. It features the Sofia “ no draw “ rule, whereby the only draws allowed, to be confirmed by the Arbiter, are a three-move repetition, perpetual check, or a theoretically drawn position. The players were:

Player	Elo	Nation	rank
Veselin Topalov	2772	Bulgaria	2
Shakhriyar Mamedyarov	2757	Azerbaijan	6
Michael Adams	2734	England	10
Gata Kamsky	2705	USA	19
Liviu-Dieter Nisipeanu	2693	Romania	23
Krishnan Sasikiran	2690	India	25

The winner with a trademark come-from-behind victory was Veselin Topalov, with 5.5/10 pts.. 4 players tied for 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> with 5 pts.

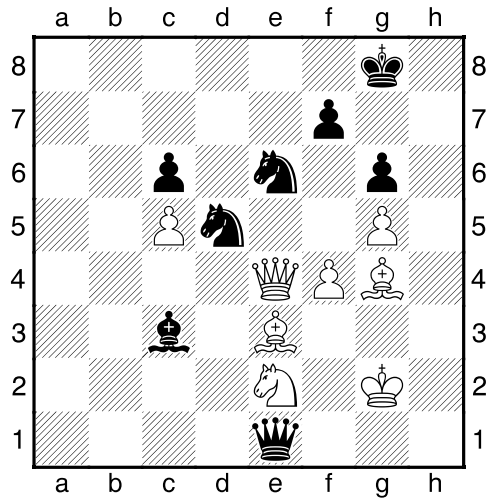
In Rd. 1, the hometown boy, Topalov, started off with a loss to the 2006 European Champion, Nisipeanu. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ) :

### **Topalov, V (2772) – Nisipeanu, L (2693) [B01]**

M-Tel Masters Sofia, Bulgaria (1), 10.05.2007

**1.e4 d5± 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.g3?=[ 4..d4 a6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nge2 e5±] 4...Nf6 5.Bg2 c6?± [ 5...Bg4 6.Nge2 Nc6 7.h3 Bxe2 8.Nxe2 e5=] 6.d4 g6?± Topalov gets an early " clear " advantage [ 6...Bg4 7.Nf3 Nbd7 8.Bf4 Qb4 9.0-0 e6±; 6...Bf5 7.Nf3 Qe6+ 8.Ne2 Qc4 9.c3 Qa6±] 7.Bf4?± [ 7.Nf3 Qe6+ 8.Be3 Ng4 9.Bh3 f5±] 7...Qb4 8.Nge2 Bg7 9.Qc1?=[ 9.a3 Qb6 ( 9...Qxb2?? 10.Bc7 Na6 ( 10...Bg4 11.Ba5 b6 12.Ra2 Qxa2 13.Nxa2 bxa5+-) 11.Ba5 Be6+-) 10.0-0 0-0±] 9...0-0 10.0-0 Bg4?± [ 10...Bf5 11.Re1 Nbd7 12.h3 Rfe8=] 11.a3 Qa5 12.h3 Bxe2 13.Nxe2 Nbd7 14.c4 e5 15.b4 Qc7 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Qc2 a5 18.Rae1 axb4 19.axb4 Rfe8 20.c5 [ 20.Nd4 Nh5 21.Be3 Ra3 22.Bc1 Raa8±] 20...Nd5 21.Bd2 Nd7 [ 21...b5 22.Nf4 Ne7±] 22.Qc4 [ 22.Nf4 N7f6 23.b5 Red8 24.Rb1 Ra3±] 22...N7f6 [ 22...b5 23.Qb3 Qb7 24.Bc3 Nxc3 25.Nxc3 Nf6±] 23.g4?=[ 23.Nc3 Rxe1 24.Rxe1 Qd7±] 23...h5?± [ 23...h6 24.Nc3 Qd7 25.Rd1 Ra3=] 24.Ng3 hxg4 25.hxg4 Qd7 26.g5 Rxe1 27.Rxe1 Ne8 28.Bf3 Nec7 29.Bg4?=[ 29.Qh4 Ne6 30.Bg4 Ra2 31.Ne4 Be5±] 29...Qd8 30.Kg2 [ 30.Bh3 Nb5 31.Bg2 Ndc3=] 30...Nb5 31.Rd1 Ra1?± [ 31...Ra3 32.Ne4 Nd4 33.Re1 Nb3 34.Be3 Nxe3+ 35.Rxe3 Nd2 36.Nxd2 Rxe3 37.fxe3 Qxd2+ 38.Kf3 Bc3=] 32.Rxa1 Bxa1 33.Bf3 Be5 34.Ne2?=[ 34.Bxd5 Qxd5+ 35.Qxd5 cxd5±] 34...Ndc7 35.Be3 Ne6 36.Bg4 Nbc7 37.Qe4 Bg7 38.f4 Qd1 39.Kf2 Bc3 40.b5 [ 40.Nxc3 Qxg4 41.Bd2 Qh3 42.Ke2 Qg3=] 40...Qe1+ 41.Kg2 Nd5 42.bxc6?± after Topalov having the advantage for a significant part of the whole game, for the first time Nisipeanu gets the advantage. [ 42.Bc1 Ng7 43.Be3 Nxe3+ 44.Qxe3 Bd2 45.Qg3 Qxg3+ 46.Kxg3 cxb5=] 42...bxc6**

Position after 42...bxc6



**43.Qd3??-+** Topalov errs; it is so bad that the following errors are due to not sacking his Q ! [ 43.Qf3 Ba1 44.Bxe6 fxe6 45.Qf2 Qd1 $\bar{7}$ ] **43...Bd4 44.Bxe6 $\bar{7}$**  ( - 14.38 ) [ 44.Qxd4 Nxd4 45.Bxd4 Nxf4+ 46.Nxf4 Qe4+ 47.Bf3 Qxd4 ( - 6.23 )] **44...Nxe3+ 45.Kh2?-+** leads to mate [ 45.Qxe3 Bxe3 46.Bc4 Qf2+ 47.Kh3 Qf3+ 48.Kh2 Bxf4+ 49.Kg1 Bxg5-+] **45...Qf2+ 46.Kh3 Qf3+?-+** Nisipeanu misses the mate [ 46...Qg2+ 47.Kh4 Qh2+ 48.Bh3 Qf2+ 49.Ng3 Qxf4+ 50.Bg4 Qxg4#] **47.Ng3 Qg2+-+** Topalov resigned. Coming is **48.Kh4 Qh2+ 49.Bh3 Ng2+ 50.Kg4 Qxh3+ 51.Kxh3 Nxf4+ 52.Kh4 Nxd3+-+ 0-1**

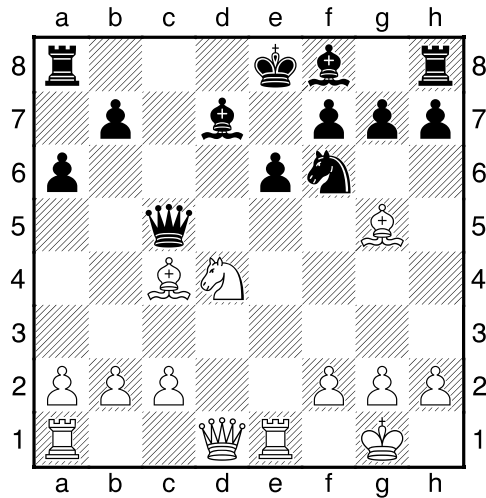
In Rd. 3, Michael Adams won a nice game from Nisipeanu, where he sacked a B for 2 P's, and then brought home the win. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

**Adams, M (2734) – Nisipeanu, L (2693) [A00]**

M-Tel Masters Sofia, Bulgaria (3), 12.05.2007

**1.e4 e6 $\pm$  2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5** [ 4.Ngf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nf6 6.e5 Nfd7 $\pm$ ] **4...Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Nb3 Nc6 9.Nbxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4? $\bar{=}$**  [ 10.Qxd4 Qxd4 11.Nxd4 Bd7 12.Bf4 Be7 $\pm$ ] **10...a6 11.Re1** [ 11.Nf3 Bd7 12.Qe2 Qc7 13.Rd1 Bd6= $\bar{=}$ ] **11...Bd7? $\bar{\pm}$**  [ 11...Qc7? 12.Bd3 Bd7 13.Qf3 Bd6 14.Nf5! 0-0-0 ( 14...Bxh2+ 15.Kh1 0-0-0 16.Ne7+ Kb8 17.g3 Ka8 18.Bf4 Qb6 19.Kxh2 Rde8 20.Be3 Qd6 21.Bxa6! Qxa6 22.Bh6! gxh6 23.Qxf6 Qd6 24.Re5 Kb8 25.Nf5 Qc7 26.Nxh6 Qxc2 $\pm$ ) 15.Nxd6+ Qxd6 $\pm$ ] **12.Bg5 Qc5? $\bar{\pm}$**  Adams gets a " clear " advantage [ 12...h6 13.Bh4 Rc8 14.Bb3 Be7 15.c3 0-0 $\pm$ ]

Position after 12...Qc5?



**13.Bxe6! fxe6 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Nxe6 Bxe6 16.Rxe6+** Nisipeanu has B vs 2 P's **16...Be7** [ 16...Kf7? 17.Qd7+ Be7 18.Rae1 Rhe8 19.b4 Qxb4 20.R6e4 Qc5 21.Qe6+ Kf8 22.Rg4 Qxf2+ 23.Kh1 Qxe1+ 24.Qxe1 Rad8+–] **17.b4 Qc3 18.Re3 Qc7 19.Qh5+ Kf8 20.Rae1 Re8** [ 20...Bxb4 21.Re8+ Kg7 22.Qg4+ Kf7 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Qxb4 Rd8±] **21.Qh6+?±** [ 21.Rg3 Rd8 22.c4 ( 22.Qh6+ Ke8 23.c4 Rd7 24.c5 Qe5±) 22...Rd7 23.Qh6+ Ke8 24.c5 Qe5±] **21...Kf7 22.Qh5+** [ 22.a3 Rhg8 23.Qxh7+ Rg7 24.Qh5+ Kf8 25.Re6] **22...Kf8 23.Qh6+ Kf7 24.c3 Rhg8 25.Qxh7+** Adams now has 3 P's for his B **25...Rg7 26.Qh5+ Kf8 27.g3 Qd7 28.Re6 Rg5 29.Qh8+ Kf7??+–** Adams gets a " winning " advantage [ 29...Rg8 30.Qh6+ Rg7 31.c4 a5 32.a3 Kg8 33.c5 axb4 34.axb4 Qd5±] **30.Qh7+ Rg7 31.Qh5+ Rg6** [ 31...Kf8 32.h4 b5 33.a3 a5 34.bxa5 Rg8+–] **32.c4** [ 32.f4 Kg7 33.f5 Rg5 34.Qxe8 Qxe8 35.Rxe7+ Qf7 36.Rxf7+ Kxf7 37.Re6 Rxf5 38.Rb6 Kg6 39.Rxb7 a5+–] **32...Kg7 33.Qd5 Qc7 34.Qe4?±** [ 34.b5 axb5 35.cxb5 b6 36.Qc6 Qxc6 37.bxc6 Kf7 38.c7 Rgg8 39.a4 f5 40.Kf1 f4 41.gxf4 Rgf8+–] **34...Kf7 35.c5 Qd7?+–** [ 35...a5 36.Qd5 Kf8 37.Qh5 Rg5 38.Qh6+ Rg7 39.Qh8+ Rg8 40.Rxf6+ Bxf6 41.Rxe8+ Kxe8 42.Qxg8+ Ke7 43.bxa5 Qc6±] **36.Qf5 Kg7 37.Qe4** [ 37.Qh5 a5 38.Kg2 axb4 39.f4 Qd2+ 40.R1e2 Qd7+–] **37...Kf7 38.Qf5 Kg7 39.Qh5+–** ( 3.30 ) **1-0**

In Rd. 4, the leader, Mamedyarov, got into an interesting opening with Nisipeanu, got an early clear advantage, and then lost it. Then he erred and Nisipeanu had the clear advantage. But Nisipeanu was unwilling to play for the win, and took a draw by repetition. Mamedyarov held onto first place with the draw. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

**Mamedyarov, S (2722) – Nisipeanu, L (2693) [A00]**

M–Tel Masters Sofia, Bulgaria (4), 13.05.2007

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5** [ 3...d5=] **4.d5 b5** [ 4...d6? 5.Nc3 Be7 6.e4 0-0±] **5.dxe6** [ 5.cxb5 exd5 ( 5...Nxd5? 6.e4 Nb6 7.Bd3 a6±) 6.e3 Be7=] **5...fxe6 6.cxb5 d5??±** Mamedyarov gets an early " clear " advantage [ 6...a6 7.Nc3 Bb7 8.Bg5 Be7 9.bxa6 Nxa6=] **7.Nc3 Nbd7** [ 7...c4 8.e4 Bc5 9.exd5 exd5 10.Bg5 Be6±] **8.e4 d4 9.e5??=** Mamedyarov loses his advantage [ 9.Na4 Bd6 10.Qb3 Qe7±] **9...Ng4 10.Ne4 Bb7 11.Nfg5 Ndx5** [ 11...Ngxe5??+– 12.f4 Bxe4 13.Nxe4 ( 13.fxe5?? Bd5 14.Bd3 Nxe5=) 13...Qh4+ 14.Nf2 c4+–] **12.f4** [ 12.Be2 Bxe4 13.Nxe4 Qd5 14.Ng3

h5± 15.0-0 d3 16.Bxg4 Nxg4=] **12...Bxe4 13.fxe5** [ 13.Nxe4 Qd5 14.Nf2 Ne3 15.Bxe3 dxe3 16.Qxd5 exf2+ 17.Kxf2 exd5 18.fxe5 c4=] **13...Bf5 14.Bd3 Bxd3??±** [ 14...c4 15.Bxf5 Bb4+ 16.Kf1 exf5 17.a3 Bf8=] **15.Qxd3 Nxe5** Nisipeanu goes up a P [ 15...Qd5?? 16.0-0 Be7 17.Qh3 h5 18.Nf7 0-0 19.Qxh5 Nf6 20.Nh6+ Kh8 21.Rxf6 Bxf6 22.Bg5 Qe4+- ( 22...Bxg5? 23.Nf7+ Kg8 24.Nxg5 Rf5 25.Qh7+ Kf8 26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qxg7+ Kd8 28.Nf7+ Rxf7 29.Qxf7 d3+-) ; 15...c4 16.Qxc4 Qd5 17.Qxd5 exd5 18.Bf4 Bb4+ 19.Bd2 Bc5±] **16.Qh3** [ 16.Qg3? Qd5 17.0-0 Bd6 18.Qh3 Ke7±] **16...Qf6** [ 16...Be7 17.Nxe6 Bh4+ 18.g3 Qa5+ 19.Kd1 Bf6±] **17.Nxe6??±** a mistake; for the first time in the game, Nisipeanu gets the advantage; back to material equality. [ 17.Rf1 Qg6 18.Nxe6 Nd3+ 19.Ke2 Bd6±] **17...Nd3+ 18.Ke2??±** Nisipeanu gets a " clear " advantage [ 18.Kd2 c4 19.Qh5+ g6 20.Qd5 Rc8±] **18...c4 19.Nc7+ Kd8 20.Ne6+ Ke8??=** Nisipeanu decides to take the draw, though having a clear advantage. [ 20...Ke7 21.Bg5 Qxg5 22.Nxg5 Nf4+ 23.Kf3 Nxh3 24.Nxh3 g6±] **21.Nc7+ Kd8 22.Ne6+ Ke8=** ½-½

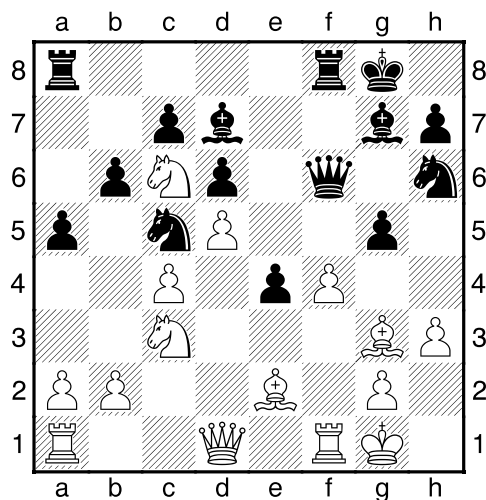
Also in Rd. 4, Topalov came back into form and defeated Sasikiran quite soundly with a King's Indian ( one of my favourite defences ! go Topypy ! ). Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### Sasikiran, K (2690) – Topalov, V (2772) [E92]

M-Tel Masters Sofia BUL (4), 13.05.2007

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6± 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.Be3** [ 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Bg5 Re8 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.cxd5 c6±] **7...Ng4 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bh4 g5** [ 9...Qe8 10.Qb3 Rf7 11.dxe5 Nxe5±] **10.Bg3 Nh6 11.d5?=-** [ 11.dxe5 fxe5 12.h3 Nd7 13.h4 g4 14.Ng5 Nc5±] **11...Nd7** [ 11...f5 12.h3 Na6 13.Qc2 Nc5=] **12.h3** [ 12.Qd2 g4 ( 12...Nc5 13.h3 a5 14.0-0-0 a4=) 13.Nh4 Nc5 14.0-0-0 f5=] **12...f5 13.exf5??±** for the first time in the game, Topalov gets the advantage [ 13.Qd2 f4 14.Bh2 a5 15.Bg1 a4=] **13...Nc5?=-** [ 13...Nxf5 14.Bh2 Nc5 15.0-0 Qe7±] **14.Nd2 Bxf5** [ 14...Nxf5 15.Nde4 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 c6=] **15.0-0 e4??±** [ 15...Bg6 16.Bh5 Qe8 17.Bxg6 Qxg6=] **16.Nb3 b6 17.Nd4?=-** [ 17.Qd2 a6 18.Rae1 Qf6±] **17...Qf6 18.Nc6 a5 19.f4?=-** oh,oh – maybe a wrong decision to try to mix it up on the K-side [ 19.Nb5 Rf7 20.Bh5 Bg6 21.Rb1 Re8=; 19.Rb1 Bd7 20.Bh2 g4 21.hxg4 Qg5 22.Qc1 Qxc1 23.Rbxc1 Nxg4=] **19...Bd7**

Position after 19...Bd7



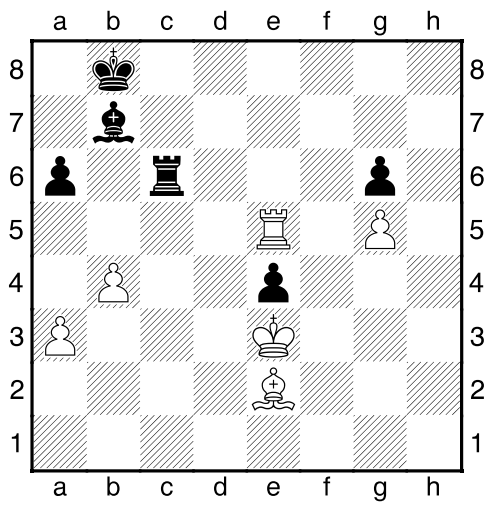
**20.Nb5??-+** Topalov gets a " winning " advantage [ 20.Qd2?? Bxc6 21.fxg5 Qd4+ 22.Qxd4 Bxd4+ 23.Bf2 Rxf2 24.Rxf2 Rf8 25.Raf1 Nf5 26.dxc6 Ng3 27.Kh2 Bxf2 28.Rxf2 Rxf2 29.Kxg3 e3+; 20.Rb1 Nf5 21.fxg5 Qxg5 22.Bf4 Qh4 23.Kh2 Kh8=] **20...Bxc6 21.dxc6 Qxb2** Topalov goes up a P [ 21...Nf5? 22.fxg5 Qxb2 23.Rxf5 Rxf5 24.Nxc7 Rc8 25.Nd5 Rf7 26.Rb1 Qd4+ 27.Kh2 Rxc6#] **22.Rb1 Qxa2 23.Nxc7 Nf5 24.Bf2 e3 25.Be1?-+ ( - 5.14 )** [ 25.Qd5+ Kh8 26.Bd3 exf2+ 27.Rxf2 Bd4 28.Qxd4+ Nxd4 29.Rxa2 Rac8 30.Nd5 Nxd3+ ( - 2.75 )] **25...Nd4 26.Nxa8 Nxe2+ 27.Kh2 Nxf4 28.Rxf4 gxf4 29.Rxb6 ( - 10.62 )** Topalov is up a P **29...f3 30.Qd5+? ( - 16.73 )** [ 30.Qxf3! Rxf3 31.c7 Qxc4 32.c8Q+ Rf8 33.Qg4 Qxg4 34.hxg4 Rxa8+ ( - 10.79 )] **30...Ne6 31.Qxe6+ Kh8 32.Qg4 Be5+ 33.Kh1 f2-+ [ quicker is 33...fxg2+ 34.Qxg2 Rf1+ 35.Qxf1 Qh2#]** **0-1**

In Rd. 5, Adams had chances to win and choked and ended up with a draw, leaving Mamedyarov in the lead at the half-way point in the tournament, ½ pt. ahead of Adams in second. Here is their draw ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ) :

**Adams, M (2734) – Mamedyarov, S (2757) [A00]**

M-Tel Masters Sofia, Bulgaria (5), 14.05.2007

**1.e4 c5± 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 [ 4...Nf6±] 5.Nc3 a6 6.Nxc6 [ 6.Be2 Qc7 7.0-0 Nf6±; 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 Bb4±] 6...bxc6 7.Bd3 d5?±** Adams gets an early " clear " advantage [ 7...d6 8.0-0 Nf6 9.Qf3 e5±] **8.0-0 Nf6 9.Re1?± [ 9.Bf4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 Qxd1 12.Rfxd1 Bd7±] 9...Be7?± [ 9...d4 10.Na4 e5±] 10.e5 Nd7 11.Qg4 g6 12.b3?± [ 12.Bh6 c5 13.Qh3 Rg8±] 12...c5?± [ 12...h5 13.Qf4 g5 14.Qd2 Qc7±] 13.Bh6 Bb7 14.Na4 Qc7 15.Qf4 Bf8 [ 15...Rg8 16.Rab1 g5 17.Qe3 Nf8 18.Bxf8 Bxf8±] 16.Bxf8?± [ 16.Rad1 Bxh6 17.Qxh6 0-0-0±] 16...Rxf8 17.c4 f6?± [ 17...d4 18.Be4 0-0-0 19.Bxb7+ Qxb7±] 18.cxd5?± [ 18.Qg4 f5 19.Qg3 d4±] 18...fxe5 19.Qe3 exd5 20.Rac1 e4?±** Adams now holds onto his " clear " advantage [ 20...Qd6 21.Nxc5 Nxc5 22.Rxc5 Kf7±] **21.f3 Qf4 22.Qxf4 [ 22.fxe4 Qxe3+ 23.Rxe3 dxe4 24.Bxe4 Bxe4 25.Rxe4+ Kf7 26.Rf4+ Kg7 27.Rxf8 Kxf8 28.Nxc5 Nxc5 29.Rxc5 Rd8±] 22...Rxf4 23.fxe4 dxe4 24.Nxc5 [ 24.g3? Rf5 25.Bxe4 Bxe4 26.Rxe4+ Kf8±] 24...Nxc5 25.Rxc5 Kf8 26.Bc4 Re8 27.Rf1 Rxf1+ 28.Kxf1 Re7 29.Ke2 [ 29.Ra5 Rc7 30.Bxa6 Bxa6+ 31.Rxa6 Kf7±; 29.b4? Rd7± ( 29...e3? 30.Ke2 h6± ) ] 29...Rd7 30.Ke3 Ke7 31.h4 [ 31.Re5+ Kf6 32.Ra5 Rd6 33.g4 g5 34.Rf5+ Kg6±] 31...Kd6 32.b4 Ke7 33.g4 Kd8 34.Be2 h6 35.a3 Rd6 36.g5 hxg5 37.hxg5 Rd7 38.Ra5 Rd6 39.Re5 Kc7 40.Rc5+ Kb8 41.Re5 Rc6?+-** Adams gets a " winning " advantage; this will lose a P [ 41...Kc7±]





**42.Kd4?** Adams wrongly decides not to capture the P and loses his winning advantage [ 42.Kxe4 Rc3+ 43.Kd4 Rxa3 44.Bd3 Kc7 45.Re7+ Kb8 46.Bxg6 Rb3 47.Kc4 Rg3 48.Re5 Kc7+-] **42...Rd6+ 43.Kc3 Rc6+?+-** but he gets it back again [ 43...Kc8 44.a4 Kd8 45.a5 Kd7±] **44.Bc4 Rc7** [ 44...Rc8 45.a4 Rc7 46.Kb3 Ka7 47.b5 axb5 48.axb5 Bc8+-] **45.a4 Ka7 46.a5** [ 46.Kb3? Ba8 47.Ra5 Rc6 48.Re5 Rc7 49.Re6 Bc6 50.a5 Ba4+ 51.Kc3 Bb5 52.Rxe4 Kb7±; 46.b5? Rc8 47.Kd4 Rd8+ 48.Ke3 axb5 49.Bxb5 Rd6±] **46...Kb8 47.Kd4 Rd7+ 48.Ke3 Ka7** [ 48...Rc7 49.Bd5 Kc8 50.Bxe4 Bxe4 51.Rxe4 Rb7 52.Re6 Rxb4 53.Rxa6 Ra4 54.Rxg6 Rxa5+-] **49.Re6 Rc7 50.Kd4 Rd7+ 51.Ke3 Rc7 52.Kd4 Rd7+ 53.Ke5??=** Adams errs and again loses his win [ 53.Kc3 Rc7 54.Rxg6 Bd5 55.Rxa6+ Kb8 56.Rb6+ Ka8 57.Kd4 Bxc4 58.Kxe4 Re7+ 59.Kf5 Rf7+ 60.Kg6 Rf4+-] **53...e3 54.Kf6 Rc7 55.Bxa6?±** for the first time in the game, Shakhriyar gets the advantage ! [ 55.Be2 Rc6 56.Rxc6 Bxc6 57.Kxg6 Bb5 58.Bf3 e2 59.Bxe2 Bxe2 60.Kf5 Kb7 61.Ke4 Kc6 62.g6 Bc4 63.g7 Bd5+ 64.Kd3 Be6=] **55...Bxa6 56.Rxe3 Rc6+ 57.Re6?±** Shakhriyar gets a " clear " advantage [ 57.Kf7 Bc4+ 58.Kg7 Ka6±] **57...Rxe6+ 58.Kxe6 Bb5?±** [ 58...Bd3 59.Ke7 Ka6 60.Ke6 Kb5 61.Kf7 Bf5 62.Kf6 Bb1 63.Ke6 Be4±] **59.Kf6 Bd3 60.b5 Bxb5?±** [ 60...Kb7 61.a6+ Ka7 62.Kg7 Kb6±] **61.Kxg6 Bd3+ 62.Kf6 Ka6 63.g6 Bxg6 64.Kxg6 Kxa5=** ½-½

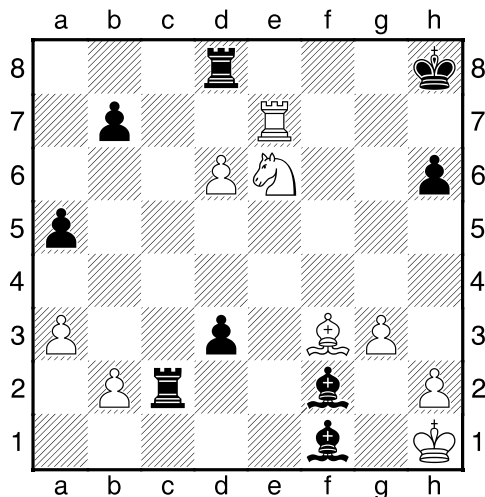
In Rd.7, Sasikiran defeated his co-leader, Mamedyarov, when Mamedyarov blundered right at the end, after winning all game. Sasikiran moved into first place, 1 pt. ahead. Topalov was tied 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### **Mamedyarov, S (2757) – Sasikiran, K (2690) [A20]**

M–Tel Sofia BUL (7), 17.05.2007

**1.c4 e5 2.g3± d6?±** [ 2...Bc5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nf6=] **3.Bg2 g6** [ 3...Nf6 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.0-0 Be7 6.Nc3 0-0=] **4.Nc3 Bg7 5.d3** [ 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.0-0 Nge7 7.h3 0-0=] **5...f5?±** [ 5...Ne7 6.f4 Nbc6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 f5=] **6.e4?±** [ 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Nf6 8.Qd2 h6±] **6...Nf6 7.Nge2 a5 8.exf5 gxf5 9.d4 0-0 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.0-0 h6 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.c5 Nc6 14.Nb5 Qe7?±** [ 14...Qd8 15.Re1 a4 16.cxd6 cxd6=] **15.Nec3 Qg7 16.cxd6 cxd6 17.d5 Nd4 18.Nxd4 exd4 19.Nb5 f4 20.Nxd6** Mamedyarov goes up a P **20...Bg4 21.Qd3 Be7 22.Nb5** [ 22.Nxb7 f3 23.Bh1 Ra7 24.Qb3 Bb4 25.a3 Rxb7 26.axb4 Rxb4 27.Qa3 Qg5±] **22...f3 23.Bh1 Bc5?±** Mamedyarov gets a " clear " advantage [ 23...Rad8 24.Nc7 Qf6 25.Rad1 Bc5 26.Rfe1 Rf7 27.Ne6 Rxd5 28.Nxc5 Rxc5 29.Qxd4 Qxd4 30.Rxd4 Bh3±] **24.d6 Kh8** [ 24...Rf7? 25.Rad1 Kh8 26.Nxd4 Rd8 27.Qc4 Bxd6 28.Bxf3 Rc8 29.Qd5 Bxf3 30.Nxf3 Bc7+-; 24...b6 25.Rae1 Rf7 26.Qc4 Bd7 27.Nc7 Rc8±] **25.Rad1?±** [ 25.Rae1 Rf7 26.Nc7 Rd8 27.Ne6 Bxe6 28.Rxe6 Rxd6 29.Rxd6 Bxd6±] **25...Rad8** [ 25...Rae8 26.Nxd4 Bh3 27.Nb3 Bxf1 28.Rxf1 b6±] **26.a3 Bb6?±** [ 26...Bxd6 27.Qxd4 Be7 28.Qb6 Rc8 29.Qxb7 Rb8 30.Qa6 Bc5 31.Qxa5 Qxb2±] **27.Rfe1 Bf5 28.Qd2 Qf6?+-** Mamedyarov gets a " winning " advantage [ 28...Qg6 29.Nxd4 Qxd6 30.Nxf3 Qxd2 31.Rxd2 a4±] **29.Re7 Bd7 30.Rde1??±** [ 30.Qc2 Bf5 31.Qc1 Rd7 32.Bxf3 Bd8 33.Rxd7 Bxd7 34.Nxd4 Bb6 35.Qe3 Qxd6+-] **30...Qg5 31.Qd3** [ 31.Qc2 Qf5 32.Qc1 Qg5 33.Nc7 Bc5±] **31...Qf5 32.Qd2 Qg5 33.Qc2** [ 33.Qxg5 hxg5 34.R1e5 Bxb5 35.Rxb5 Rxd6 36.Rxg5 Rc6±] **33...Qf5 34.Qxf5 Rxf5 35.Nc7 d3?±** [ 35...Bc5 36.Ne6 Bxe6 37.R1xe6 Bxd6 38.Rxh6+ Kg8 39.Rg6+ Kf8 40.Reg7 Be5±] **36.Rd1 Rc5 37.Bxf3 Rc2 38.Rf1??=** Mamedyarov loses his advantage [ 38.Nd5 Bxf2+ 39.Kh1 Bc6 40.Rxd3 Rxd6±] **38...Bh3 39.Ne6 Bxf2+ 40.Kh1 Bxf1**

Position after 40...Bxf1



**41.d7??-+** a blunder; all of a sudden, Sasikiran has a "winning" advantage [ 41.Nxd8 Rc1 42.Nf7+ Kg8 43.Nxh6+ Kh8 44.Nf7+ Kg8 45.Nh6+=] **41...Rg8?+-** ( - 3.65 ) [ 41...Bg2+! 42.Kxg2 Bc5+ 43.Kh3 Bxe7 44.Nxd8 Bxd8-+ ( - 5.48 ) Sasikiran would have R vs P] **0-1**

In Rd. 10, Sasikiran led Topalov by ½ pt. and thus only needed a draw to secure sole possession of first place. But Topalov, in true come-from-behind fashion defeated Sasikiran and took first place himself – Topalov has proved his is still a force to be reckoned with, despite his dismal performance in the Morelia/Linares tournament. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### Topalov, V (2772) – Sasikiran, K (2690) [E43]







M-Tel Masters Sofia BUL (10), 20.05.2007

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6±** [ 4...0-0=] **5.Bd3 Bb7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 d5 8.a3 Bd6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.b4?±** [ 10.Qc2 Re8 11.Nb5 Ba6 12.Bd2 Be7=] **10...Nbd7 11.b5 Ne4** [ 11...a6 12.Qc2 Be7 13.bxa6 Bxa6=] **12.Bb2 Re8 13.a4 Re6** [ 13...Rc8? 14.Qe2 c5 15.bxc6 Bxc6±; 13...Qf6 14.Qe2 Rac8 15.a5 bxa5 16.Rxa5 Bb4 17.Ra6 Nxc3 18.Bxc3 Bxa6 19.Bxb4 Bb7=] **14.Ne2** [ 14.Qc2 Rc8 15.a5 c5 16.bxc6 Bxc6 17.axb6 Nxb6 18.Rfc1 a5=] **14...a5?±** [ 14...Rh6 15.h3 c5 16.bxc6 Bxc6=] **15.Ba3 Rc8 16.Bxd6 cxd6** [ 16...Rxd6 17.Qb3 Ndf6 18.Rad1 Ng4±] **17.Rc1 Ndf6?±** Topalov gets a "clear" advantage [ 17...Rxc1 18.Qxc1 Ndf6 19.h3 Re8±] **18.h3** [ 18.Rxc8? Qxc8 19.Nh4 Ng4 20.Ng3 Nxh2 21.Re1 ( 21.Kxh2?? Rh6 22.Nh5 g6 23.g4 Qd8 24.Nf5 gxf5 25.g5 Nxf5±) 21...Rf6±] **18...Re7** [ 18...Rxc1 19.Qxc1 Re8 20.Qc2 Qe7 21.Rc1 Rc8 ( 21...Nxf2? 22.Kxf2 Qxe3+ 23.Kf1 h6+-) 22.Qxc8+ Bxc8 23.Rxc8+ Ne8±] **19.Qb3 h6 20.Rxc8** [ 20.Qb2 Rec7 21.Rxc7 Rxc7 22.Rc1 Rxc1+ 23.Nxc1 Qe7±] **20...Qxc8 21.Rc1 Rc7 22.Rxc7 Qxc7 23.Qc2?±** [ 23.Qb2 Bc8 24.Nd2 Bf5 25.Nf1 Ng3 26.Bxf5 Nxf5±] **23...Qe7?±** [ 23...Qxc2 24.Bxc2 Bc8 25.Kf1 Kf8±] **24.Qc1 g6 25.Nh2 Kg7 26.h4 Ne8 27.f3 N4f6 28.Nf1 h5 29.Nf4 Nd7 30.Qe1 Nf8 31.Qg3 Kh6 32.Nxh5??±** Topalov tries an unsound sacrifice [ 32.Bc2 Ng7 33.Bb1 Kh7 34.Ne2 Nfe6±] **32...gxh5** Sasikiran has N vs P **33.Qg8 f5 34.Ng3 Ng7 35.Bxf5** Topalov has 2 P's vs N [ 35.Kf1 Bc8 36.Ne2 Be6 37.Qh8+ Kg6 38.g3 Kf7=] **35...Ng6 36.Bxg6 Kxg6 37.Nxh5 Qxe3+ 38.Kh2 Qe7??+-** [ 38...Qxd4 39.Kg3 Kh6 40.Qh8+ Kg6 41.Qg8 Kh6= Sasikiran would

have B vs P] **39.Nf4+ Kf6 40.g4 Qf7 41.Qd8+ Qe7 42.Qg8** ( 2.36 ) [ 42.Qxb6 Ne6 43.Nxe6 Kxe6 44.Kg3 Kf7+- ( 2.81 )] **42...Qf7 43.Qd8+ Qe7 44.Qxe7+** [ 44.Qxb6 Ne6 45.Nxe6 Kxe6 46.Kg3 Kf7+-] **44...Kxe7 45.Kg3 Ne6** [ 45...Kf6 46.Ne2 Bc8 47.f4 Nf5+ 48.gxf5 Bxf5+-] **46.Nxe6??=** Topalov loses his advantage [ 46.Ne2 Bc8 47.f4 Ng7 48.Nc3 Be6+-] **46...Kxe6 47.f4 Bc8??+-** Topalov gets his " winning " advantage back [ 47...Kf7] **48.f5+ Kf7 49.h5** [ 49.Kf4?? Bd7 50.g5 Kg7 51.h5 Be8 52.Kg4 Bd7 53.Kf4 Be8=] **49...Bd7** [ 49...Kg7 50.Kh4 Bd7 51.Kg5 Be8 52.h6+ Kf7 53.h7 Kg7 54.h8Q+ Kxh8 55.Kf6 Kg8 56.Ke7 Bf7+-] **50.h6 Kg8 51.Kf4 Be8 52.Kg5 Kf7 53.h7 Kg7 54.h8Q+ Kxh8 55.Kf6 Bxb5?+-** ( 12.82 ) [ 55...Kg8 56.Ke7 Bf7 57.Kd8 Kh8 58.Kc7 Be8 59.Kxb6 Kg7 60.Kxa5 Kf6+- ( 9.95 )] **56.Ke7?+-** ( 8.83 ) [ 56.axb5 Kg8 ( 56...a4 57.Kf7 a3 58.g5 a2 59.g6 a1Q 60.g7+ Kh7 61.g8Q+ Kh6 62.Qg6#) 57.Ke7 Kg7+- ( 13.16 )] **56...Bd3 57.f6 Bg6 58.f7 Bxf7 59.Kxf7+- 1-0**

The final cross table of results is :

### Final standings MTel Sofia BUL 2007

				1	2	3	4	5	6		
1		<b>Topalov,V</b>	2772	-21	**	0 ½	½ ½	0 1	1 1	½ ½	5.5 / 10
2		<b>Mamedyarov,S</b>	2757	-38	1 ½	**	1 0	½ ½	½ 0	½ ½	5.0 / 10 25.25
3		<b>Kamsky,G</b>	2705	+24	½ ½	0 1	**	½ ½	0 1	½ ½	5.0 / 10 25.00
4		<b>Nisipeanu,LD</b>	2693	+38	1 0	½ ½	½ ½	**	½ ½	0 1	5.0 / 10 25.00
5		<b>Sasikiran,K</b>	2690	+42	0 0	½ 1	1 0	½ ½	**	½ 1	5.0 / 10 24.25
6		<b>Adams,Mi</b>	2734	-45	½ ½	½ ½	½ ½	1 0	½ 0	**	4.5 / 10

### Ontario Open – Report

This tournament was held May 19-21 in Thunder Bay. The winners were:

**1st - Barry Thorvardson \$600 + Trophy - Brampton**

**2nd - David McTavish \$300 - Thunder Bay**

#### **U1800**

1st - Ernie Katainen \$300 - Thunder Bay

Vahid Sadeghi Aval \$300 - Thunder Bay

#### **U1600**

1st - Daniel Lukasek \$100 + Trophy - Thunder Bay

### Guelph Spring Pro-Am - Report

87 players registered for this 5 round swiss in sections, held May 26 & 27. The winners were:

Open Section : 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> – 4 pts. – Nikolay Noritsyn

Artem Samsonkin

Doug Bailey

U 2000 : 1<sup>st</sup> – 5 pts ( perfect score ) – David Wilson-Grange

U 1700 : 1<sup>st</sup> – 4.5pts. ( undefeated ) – Michael Prysiazny  
U 1400 : 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> – 4.pts – Mark Anthony Biong  
Nicholas Jackson

### **Ontario Chess Association 2007 AGM**

Here is President, Barry Thorvardson's, report for 2006-7:

#### **2006-2007 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The OCA has continued to make great progress in many areas. Our players have directly benefited by the active year of tournaments throughout the province. Each League held many events, as well as Ontario again held major Canadian Events, including the Canadian Open, the CYCC (Canadian Youth Chess Championship), The Canadian Closed and The Canadian Women's Championship! All these events were well run, and players appreciated the quality event preparations, as well as the competitive play. A special thanks is extended to all of our Organizers and Tournament Directors for all their successful hard work! It continues to be the volunteers and dedicated people who work all year helping with organizing and/or with events at the provincial, League and club levels.

We especially thank our sponsors of chess. At the provincial level we have significantly benefited from the Ontario Government's Trillium Foundation's support of our York Region Chess Program. This two year program has seen thousands of youth participate in events throughout York Region. Activities included school chess clubs, tournaments, special teacher training, chess camps, and simultaneous chess challenges. In addition both women and seniors have participated in adult events in York Region. This area now has the most active chess in the entire province! We are working with Trillium staff on a plan to extend this program province-wide, hopefully commencing this Fall! We thank the York Region Public and Secondary School Boards, their schools, volunteers, the Chess'n Math Association, the York Region Optimists Clubs, The Chess Academy of Canada, and the York Region Sports Association for all their work in the region.

We again thank Sid and Alicia Belzberg for their sponsorship of the 2006 Canadian Closed, which was a fantastic quality event with good prizes, great competition, and a great celebration banquet. Special thanks to International Arbiter, Mark Dutton, for his capable tournament direction, and to Eric Malmsten, for the special commemorative event book which was given to all contestants. The players were very competitive, and thanks to Monroi technologies, the all games were broadcast live on the internet, and with 32 million hits, [www.monroi.com](http://www.monroi.com), became one of the top 3% of the World's Websites, during this event. And finally special praise to all the players, they are all champions, and particularly to our new Canadian Chess Champion, IM Igor Zugic!

The OCA has expanded its support of youth chess across the province, and has assisted or provided chess equipment and/or clocks for the Canadian University Chess Championships which were held in Ottawa, to the Toronto District School Board Regional Championships, to the St. Catherine's School Board Regional

Championships, and to the Association of Christian Schools International. A special mention is made to highlight the great success of Denis Nadeau, who has spearheaded a program of chess instruction in the regular program of 29 schools in Northern Ontario. The youth are the future of chess and we are proud of the growth of active youth chess across the province.

Although this last year has had great success, there were many challenges and growing pains. Two of our major chess tournaments, the York Region (formerly Guelph) Pro-Am, and the Macedonian Open, both had guaranteed prize funds and had significant losses. We must learn from these mistakes and only offer guaranteed prizes where sponsorships cover the prizes. This was probably a result of too many events scheduled in the summer. Similarly we had so many chess events in York Region that the York Region City Championships had poor registrations and were rescheduled. Learning from this, the OCA cancelled its planned 2007 Canadian Zonal and suggested the either the Canadian Open Organizers or the Kitchener Chess Festival Organizers, consider holding the Zonal and Women's Championships. I am pleased that Hal Bond and Patrick McDonald successfully arranged sponsorships and are including these events as part of the Kitchener Chess Festival on August 3-6, 2007.

The OCA reorganization has proven successful, and restructuring is further being initiated to allow better management and more input and involvement of OCA members across the province. We are planning to move to central OCA AGMs (Annual General Meetings) as full business meetings, independent of chess tournaments, and scheduled every June. This will allow internet conferencing for participation of members without even worrying about travel. Furthermore we are expanding the roles of Leagues and their voting rights and changing OCA Governors to becoming Chess Ambassadors who visit/communicate with chess clubs and schools and chess organizations in their areas to promote OCA and to communicate and facilitate our support. By quarterly reports the OCA can maintain better feedback and communications.

I am very proud of our last years results, and want to extend particular thanks to the many chess players who answered our OCA Emergency Player Fund request and donated to contribute towards treatment expenses for our fellow chess player, Viktor Chuprys, who was playing in July's Canadian Open, when he learned he had terminal Lymphatic Cancer. Special treatment was arranged in China with world renown, Dr. Gu Juan, and Viktor has traveled to China four times for continuing treatment. He has responded well, but continues to battle a very serious disease. Please continue to pray for his continued success in this very difficult battle. It is heartwarming to see so many chess players banding together to help a fellow chess player.

The OCA is growing stronger with increasing chess activity, greatly expanding youth chess throughout the province, and needs your continued support. Please volunteer to assist events in your own area, help your chess clubs and organizations to create better and more frequent activities. Your help is needed and will be appreciated.

Barry Thorvardson

President, OCA

email: Barry Thorvardson [barry@cybersolutions.net](mailto:barry@cybersolutions.net)

## **Canadian Open Update**

The 2007 Canadian Open will be staged from July 7 to 15 at the Ottawa Marriott. For more information and to register online or reserve accommodation, visit:

[www.canchess.ca](http://www.canchess.ca).

The organizing committee has announced an increase in the prize fund and has now given a projected breakdown as follows:

Projected \$25,000 prize fund based on 200 paid entries

Open: 5000, 3000, 2000, 1200, 700, 600, 500, 400

Class Prizes:

U2400: 1200, 650, 450

U2200: 1100, 600, 400

U2000: 1000, 550, 350

U1800: 850, 450, 300

U1600: 700, 350, 250

UNR: 250, 150

Special Prizes

Top Junior (18 or under) : 400, 200

Top Woman: 400, 200

Top Veteran (60 + ) : 400, 200

Biggest upset (largest difference by rating): 200

Age prizes â€" age determined as of July 7, 2007.

Plus: \$1,000 to be awarded to players achieving the highest cumulative scores in the Canadian Open and the top section of the Quebec Open combined. Prize split TBD.

14 foreign GM's and one Canadian GM ( Mark Bluvshstein ) have now registered.

## **Our Readers Write !! Why Low Toronto Weekend Tournament Turnout?**

Two Issues ago, our lead article investigated whether increasing class prizes in weekend swisses, or giving class discounts on entry fees, might attract more chess players. Allan Kaufman, who has two chess tournament playing sons, felt we were missing the critical issue – time controls ! Here is his e-mail to SCTCN&V :

“Bob:

Thank you for sending me your informative newsletter. You raised a very important issue of how to increase registration at chess tournaments.

My view is that by focusing on reducing the entry fees, and increasing or spreading around the prize money, you are focusing on the wrong issues.

You astutely alluded to the real problem in your article when you observed that with today's busy lifestyle, people just don't have the time any more to devote an entire weekend to play in a chess tournament. But having identified the crux of the problem, your article then suggested a remedy - increased prize money, and reducing the entry fee - which have nothing whatsoever to do with the problem. In other words, if the problem is that younger players do not want to devote an entire weekend to chess, then proposals to change the distribution of the prize fund, or the amount of the entry fee, are of little importance to the many chess players who do not wish to devote an entire weekend.

I will speak for the younger teenage chess players whose situations I know best. They have many items on the weekend competing for their time. It is very hard to ask them to sit through Vlad's interminable 5 hours per tournament game, since it kills the entire weekend. You have encouraged Vlad to maintain the same time 5 hour time controls - even though he is the only club in the Province, as far as I know, to do so. Other tournaments, such as Hal Bond's, offer shorter games, with either increments on the clock, or a bonus of time if the player makes "x" moves in so many minutes. This gives the players an incentive to move more quickly.

As long as Vlad clings to his out-of-date 5 hours per game, he will never get enrollment up, since he has not dealt with the basic problem. Vlad offers so much time, that a chess player can go out for a pizza, leaving his opponent bored at the chess board, and still return with more than enough time to complete the match. This is why in Vlad's March 2007 tournament that I attended with my two sons, 4 out of the top 5 boards were more than 20 minutes late getting started in round no. 4. The message to you and Vlad is clear - even the top players do not actually need a 5 hour game! Even FIDE tournaments for GM's do not offer 5 hours without some form of incentives of making "x" moves in so many hours.

My sons do not enjoy being bored in Vlad's unduly lengthy tournaments. If he scheduled shorter games, the advantages are:

- It would not "kill" the entire weekend for the younger players.

- The players would have an incentive to arrive on time, since every minute counts, and the opponent who arrives on time would not have to sit at the board looking bored, until his opponent finally shows up 30 minutes late.
- By scheduling the rounds at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, and 3:00 pm. on Saturday (instead of Vlad's 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. time slots), the younger players would be out in time to enjoy their Saturday night! This might give more of them an incentive to register for the tournament. My sons don't give a hoot for the size of the prize fund, or the entry fee. It's the time commitment that is the key, and they don't want to kill both Saturday afternoon plus Saturday night.
- With Vlad's current rounds at 11:00 a.m and 5:00 pm., players who finish the first match early have the problem of whether to hang around for many hours and be bored until the 5:00 pm. round arrives, or go all the way home and then come back. Many of them do not have their own cars, so they have to hang around and be bored - not a good state of mind if you are trying to attract more players. If, however, the rounds were at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., then players who finished the first round early, could go out for lunch in the area. By the time they returned, it would almost be time for the 3:00 pm. round.
- For those traditionalists (like yourself) who favour a 5 hour game, you would still sign upon for a tournament with a new format like I am suggesting, since you have nowhere else to go to find a tournament that offers you 5 hours per match! Yet by giving up your coveted 5 hour games, you might just attract the younger players to the tournament. After all - why do you think that my sons have stopped coming out to Monday night chess at Vlad's? When the game starts at 7:00 pm. and can go until midnight, they simply cannot justify that kind of time when they have school the next morning.

Unless Vlad stops boring people with his unduly long and interminable tournaments, players will continue "to vote with their feet". Remember that even the all weekend cricket tournaments have been shortened because people just don't have the time anymore.

Even if Vlad were to adopt my solution for one tournament, as an experiment, I caution you not to expect to get the enrollment up right away. It will most likely take a number of tournaments in a row to be run in the manner I have suggested before you will see any change. This is because now that these players have lost interest due to the boring format, it will be very difficult to get them back.

If you wish to send this e-mail to any other people, please do so. Thank you for considering my views.

Allan Kaufman “

What do you think of Allan's views? I note that there are many juniors who do play in Vlad's 5 hr. weekend tournaments. Is Allan right that there would be many more with shorter time controls? I also note that Barry Thorvardson, OCA President, and York Region organizer, has tried shorter time controls - Game/ 90 min. and Game/ 60 min., but his turnout has been no better than Vlad's. Would shorter time controls



attract more juniors and more adult players? Write and give us/Allan your comments !

### SCC at the GTCL Team League

The Greater Toronto Chess League has 2 team leagues, one 2000 & Over, and one Under 2000. There are 3 teams in the Premier League : Chess Academy of Canada, Willowdale CC and Brampton CC. This year SCC has both an " A " and " B " team in the U 2000 league. There are 8 teams in this division. The others are Chess Academy ( 2 ); BOTSB ( Conrad Ho ); Willowdale CC; Brampton CC and Knights of Chess.

On Monday, May 15, SCC A met Chess Academy B at Earl Bales Community Centre. Unfortunately the fourth board had to be cancelled as Michael Perez of SCC could not make it, and neither could a member of the Chess Academy B. Of the three games, Chess Academy won 2:1. Players were:

<u>SCC</u>		<u>Chess Academy A</u>
Donal Deiseach	0 : 1	Roman Sapozhnikov
Josh Sherman	1 : 0	Jesse JB Wang
Marc Ben-Avraham	0 : 1	Simon Gladstone

Here is Josh's quick win against Jesse ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### **Wang ( Chess Academy B ), J (1850) – Sherman ( SCC A ), J (1745) [B23]** GTCL U 2000 Toronto, 15.05.2007

**1.e4 c5± 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6 4.Bxc6+?= [ 4.Nf3 a6 5.Be2 e5 6.0-0 Nf6±] 4...bxc6 5.d3 e5 6.f4 Nf6?± [ 6...exf4 7.Bxf4 Rb8 8.b3 Ne7=] 7.Nf3 [ 7.fxe5? dxe5 8.Nf3 Bg4 9.Be3 c4 10.0-0 Rb8=] 7...Qc7 [ 7...exf4 8.Bxf4 Rb8 9.0-0 Nh5 10.Ne5 Nxf4 11.Nxc6 Qb6 12.Nxb8 Ng6 13.Nd5 Qxb8±] 8.fxe5 dxe5 9.0-0 Be7?± Jesse gets a " clear " advantage [ 9...Rb8 10.Rb1 Be6 11.Kh1 Bd6±] 10.Be3??= but then loses it [ 10.Qe1 Bd6 11.Nd2 Be6 12.Nc4 Rb8±] 10...Ng4 11.Bd2 c4 12.Na4 Ba6 13.Ng5??± Now Josh gets a " clear " advantage [ 13.Nh4 h5 14.Nf5 Bf8 15.h3 g6 16.hxg4 gxf5 17.Rxf5 Bb5=] 13...Nf6 14.dxc4 [ 14.Rf5 cxd3 15.Bc3 Bc8 16.Bxe5 Qb7 17.cxd3 ( 17.Rf4? Qb5 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Nxf7 Kxf7 20.cxd3 Rd8+) 17...Bxf5 18.exf5 0-0±] 14...Bxc4 15.Re1 h6 [ 15...Rd8 16.b3 Bb5 17.Nf3 0-0 18.Qc1 h6±] 16.Nh3 Rd8 17.b3 Bb5 18.Nc3?+ [ 18.Nf2 0-0 19.Qc1 Ba3 20.Qxa3 Rxd2 21.Qc1 Qa5 22.c3 Rfd8±] 18...Bb4 19.Qc1?+ Jesse finds the wrong answer to his being pinned dilemma [ 19.Nd5! Bc5+ 20.Ne3 Qd6 21.b4 Bb6 22.c4 Qxd2 23.Qxd2 Rxd2 24.c5 ( 24.cxb5? Ng4 25.bxc6 Nxe3 26.Kh1 Nc2 27.c7 Bxc7 28.Red1 Rxd1+ 29.Rxd1 Nxb4+) 24...Bc7+] 19...Qa5+ Jesse resigned. Coming is 20.Re3 Bc5 21.Be1 Ng4 22.Nxb5 Qb6 23.Nc7+ Kf8 24.Kh1 Nxe3 25.Na8 Qb7 26.Bf2 Rd1+ 27.Qxd1 Nxd1 28.Bxc5+ Kg8 29.Rxd1 Kh7 30.Nf2 Rxa8+ when Josh would be up Q vs N + B 0-1**

On May 24, SCC B played Knights of Chess, and won ( final score in dispute ). Here were the results: Stephen Lung – draw; Patrick Lung – won ( but opponent claimed a draw because Patrick was not making any progress and was trying to just flag his opponent who had only seconds left ); John Graham – won; Aaron Wu – won.

### SCC Early Summer Swiss

This 40 player one-section, 8-round, swiss started on May 10 and runs to June 28.

After 4 rounds, the leader is expert John Hall, with a perfect record of 4 wins. Tied for 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> are master Bryan Lamb and Gr. 7 junior girl, Yuanling Yuan, with 3.5 pts. Tied for 4<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> with 3 pts. are Rick Garel, Donal Deiseach, junior Aaron Wu, and Tom Muir.

In Rd. 1, young unrated junior Peter Xie put up a fierce battle against junior Richard Douglas, having winning chances for a while. He hung on to the ending, but then lost. A fine game by one of our young juniors, though a loss. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### **Douglas, R (1645) – Xie, P [B12]**

SCC Early Summer Swiss Toronto (1), 10.05.2007

**1.e4 c6± 2.d4 d5 3.f3?=[ 3.exd5 cxd5±] 3...Na6?± [ 3...e5 4.Nc3 ( 4.dxe5 Bc5 5.Be2 Ne7 6.Nc3 d4 7.Nb1 0-0=) 4...Bd6=] 4.Nc3 dxe4 5.fxe4?=[ 5.Bxa6 bxa6 6.Nxe4 Nf6 7.c3 e5±] 5...Nf6??±** Richard gets a " clear " advantage [ 5...e5 6.Nf3 exd4 7.Bxa6 dxc3 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Bd3 cxb2 10.Bxb2 Bb4+ 11.Ke2 Nf6=] **6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Bc4 e6 8.h3?± [ 8.0-0 Qb6 9.e5 Nd5±] 8...Bxf3 9.gxf3 c5?± [ 9...Qb6 10.Bxa6 Qxa6 11.Be3 Qa5±] 10.Be3 cxd4 11.Bxd4?± [ 11.Bb5+ Nd7 12.Qxd4 Nb4 13.Bxd7+ Qxd7 14.Qxd7+ Kxd7±] 11...Bc5 12.Bb5+ Nd7 [ 12...Kf8 13.Bxc5+ Nxc5 14.Qd2 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 a6 16.Be2 Rd8+ 17.Ke3 e5±] 13.Bxc5 Naxc5 14.Qd2 a6 15.Bc4??±** for the first time in the game, Peter gets the advantage [ 15.Bxd7+ Qxd7 16.Qg5 f5 17.Rh2 Qe7 18.Qxe7+ Kxe7±] **15...0-0?=[ 15...b5 16.Bb3 Ne5 17.Qxd8+ Rxd8±] 16.0-0-0 Ne5 [ 16...b5 17.Bf1 Qa5 18.Kb1 b4 19.Ne2 Rfd8=] 17.Qf2??+ Peter gets a " winning " advantage [ 17.Be2 b5 18.f4 b4 19.Na4 Nxa4 20.fxe5 Nc5 21.Rhg1 Qxd2+ 22.Rxd2 Rfd8 23.Rgd1 Rxd2 24.Rxd2 a5=] 17...Qc7??±** but loses it [ 17...Qb6 18.Qf1 Rfc8 19.Qe2 Qa5 20.Rhg1 Na4-+] **18.Be2 a5??± [ 18...b5 19.Rd4 Rab8 20.Nd1 f5 21.exf5 exf5±] 19.Rhg1 [ 19.Nb5? Qc6 20.Qe3 Rfd8±; 19.f4 Ng6 20.Rhf1 Rac8 21.Bh5 Qc6±; 19.Qh2 Rfd8 20.Kb1 f6±] 19...Ng6 20.Nb5??± [ 20.Kb1 Rfd8 21.h4 h6 22.Qe3 Rxd1+ 23.Rxd1 Nxh4±] 20...Qf4+ 21.Kb1 Nxe4** Peter goes up a P with a nice little tactic of the pinned f3P **22.Qd4 Nf6 23.Qb6?+ [ 23.Qf2 Nd5 24.Bd3 Rac8 25.Rg4 Qe3 26.Qg3 f5 27.Re1 Qb6 28.Rxg6 hxg6±] 23...Nd5 24.Qxb7?+ ( - 2.23 ) material equality again, but Peter has a " winning " advantage [ 24.Qf2 Qe3 25.Qxe3 Nxe3 26.Rd3 Nd5+ ( - 1.66 )] 24...Qe3 25.Rge1 Qb6??±** wrong idea to exchange Q's like this; Peter loses his advantage [ 25...Rfb8 26.Qc6 Ne5 27.Qd6 Rb6 28.Qa3 Qxa3 29.Nxa3 Nc3+ 30.Kc1 Nxd1 31.Rxd1 Rb4-+ Peter would be up the exchange] **26.Qxb6 Nxb6 27.Bd3?=[ 27.c4 Nf4 28.Bf1 Rfc8±] 27...Nd5 [ 27...Nf4 28.Re4 Nxd3 29.Rxd3 Rfd8 30.Red4 Rxd4 31.Rxd4 Kf8=] 28.Bxg6 [ 28.c4 Ndf4 29.Be4 Rac8 30.Nd6 Rc5=; 28.Be4 Rab8 29.c4 Ngf4! 30.Rd4 Ng2 31.Rg1 Nde3=] 28...hxg6 29.c4 Nb6??±** Richard gets a " clear " advantage [ 29...Nf4 30.h4 Rfd8 31.a3 Rac8 32.Rxd8+ Rxd8=] **30.b3 a4 31.Rd6 Nc8 32.Rd4 Nb6?+ Richard gets a " winning " advantage. [ 32...Ne7? 33.Kb2 Rfd8 34.b4 Rxd4 35.Nxd4 Rc8 36.c5 Rd8 37.Kc3 Nd5+ 38.Kc4 Nxb4 39.Nxe6 fxe6 40.Kxb4 Rd4+ 41.Kb5 Kf7+-; 32...axb3 33.axb3 Nb6 34.Kc2 Ra2+ 35.Kc3 Rf2±] 33.Rh1??± [ 33.b4 Rab8 34.Na7 Rfd8 35.Rxd8+ Rxd8 36.c5 Nd5+-] 33...Rfd8 34.Rhd1 Rxd4 35.Rxd4 f5??+-** allowing the R to fork the N and eP [ 35...axb3 36.axb3 Kf8 37.Nd6 Ra5±] **36.Rd6 Nc8 37.Rxe6 Kf7 38.Rc6 axb3 39.axb3 Ne7 40.Rc7 Rc8?+-** falling into an N fork **41.Nd6+ 1-0**

Another one of our up and coming juniors put a scare into one of our club co-champions from last year, Alex Rapoport, in Rd. 1. Aaron managed to go up a P and have a winning advantage, but eventually took a draw. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### **Rapoport, A (2002) – Wu, A (1627) [B07]**

SCC Early Summer Swiss Toronto (1), 10.05.2007

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nd2 g6± [ 2...d5=] 3.e4 d6 4.Ngf3 Bg7 5.Bc4 0-0 [ 5...Nxe4 6.Nxe4 ( 6.Bxf7+ Kxf7 7.Nxe4 Rf8 8.h4 Kg8 9.h5 d5 10.Nc3 gxh5 11.Rxh5±) 6...d5 7.Bd3 dxe4 8.Bxe4 0-0±] 6.Bb3?=[ 6.0-0 Nxe4 7.Nxe4 d5 8.Bd3 dxe4 9.Bxe4 Qd6±] 6...Nbd7?± [ 6...c5 7.dxc5 dxc5 8.e5 Nh5 9.0-0**

Nc6=] **7.0-0 e5 8.c3 b6 9.Re1 Bb7 10.h3?**= [ 10.Bc4 a6 11.a4 exd4 12.cxd4 d5 13.exd5 Re8 14.Rxe8+ Nxe8±] **10...h6 11.g3?** for the first time in the game, Aaron gets the advantage [ 11.Qc2 Re8 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 dxe5=] **11...Re8 12.Qc2 exd4** [ 12...Rc8 13.Qd3 a6 14.Qc4 Qe7] **13.cxd4 Nf8** [ 13...a6 14.Qd3 b5 15.a4 c5] **14.e5 N6d7 15.Nh4??-+** [ 15.Ne4 dxe5 16.Qc4 Ne6 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Bxe5] **15...dxe5 16.Nxg6! exd4 17.Rf1 Nxg6 18.Qxg6 Qf6 19.Qxf6 Nxf6** Aaron is up a P and has a " winning " advantage **20.Nc4 Rad8 21.Bd2 Ne4 22.Bf4 Re7 23.Rfe1 Rde8 24.Ba4 c6 25.Bc2 Ng5 26.Rxe7 Rxe7 27.Bxg5 hxg5 28.Bd3 Ba6 29.Rd1 Bxc4?** [ 29...Bc8 30.Kh2 Be6 31.Nd6 Bxa2 32.Nf5 Rd7 33.h4 gxh4 34.gxh4 Be5+ 35.Kg2 c5-+] **30.Bxc4 b5 31.Bd3?** though up a P and with a " clear " advantage, Aaron accepted the draw offer. ½-½

In Rd. 2 , one of our club co-champions from last year, Jim Paterson, lost a King and Pawns ending to Tom Muir, who had managed to go up a pawn in the middle game. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

### Paterson, J (1858) – Muir, T (1523) [A01]

SCC Early Summer Swiss Toronto (2), 17.05.2007

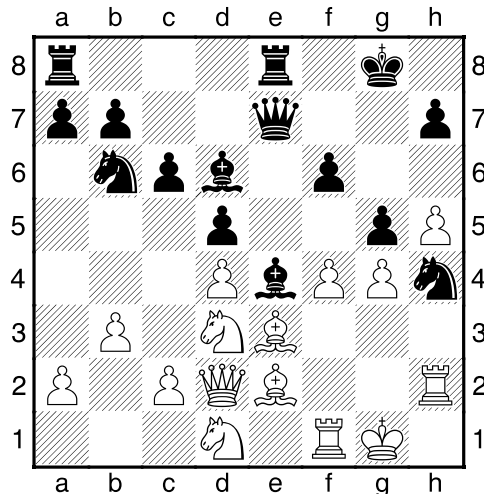
**1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6** [ 2...d6? 3.d4 e4 4.d5 c6 5.Nc3 Nf6=] **3.c4** [ 3.Nf3 e4 4.Nd4 Nxd4 5.Bxd4 Nh6 6.e3 d5; 3.e3 d5 4.Bb5 e4 5.Ne2 Qg5 6.Nf4 Bg4 7.h4 Qxf4 8.exf4 Bxd1 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 10.Kxd1 Nf6] **3...Nf6 4.Nc3 d6 5.g3 Be7?**= [ 5...Bf5? 6.Bg2 Be7 7.e4 Bg4 8.f3 Bd7=; 5...Bg4? 6.Bg2 Qd7 7.h3 Bh5=; 5...Be6? 6.Bg2 Qd7 7.Nd5 0-0-0=; 5...d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bg2 Be6 8.Nf3 Be7] **6.Bg2 0-0** [ 6...Bf5 7.e4 Bg4 8.f3 Bd7 9.Nd5 Nxd5 10.cxd5 Nd4=; 6...Be6 7.Nf3 Qd7=] **7.Nf3 Bg4 8.h3 Bf5 9.0-0 Qd7 10.Kh2 Rfe8 11.d3 a6?**± [ 11...Rac8 12.Nh4 Be6 13.f4 exf4 14.gxf4 d5=] **12.Ng5 Rab8 13.Nge4 h6** [ 13...Nxe4 14.dxe4 Be6 15.f4 f6 16.Nd5 Bf8±; 13...Bg6 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.Nd5 Bd8 16.f4 f6±] **14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.Nd5 Bd8 16.e4 Bh7 17.g4?**= [ 17.f4 Nd4 18.Ne3 b5 19.f5 Kh8±] **17...Nd4 18.f4 c6 19.Ne3?** [ 19.Nb4] **19...exf4 20.Bxd4 fxe3 21.Bxe3 d5 22.Bf4** [ 22.cxd5 cxd5 23.Bf4 Bc7 24.Kh1 Bxf4 25.Rxf4 dxe4 26.dxe4 Qe7] **22...Bc7 23.Qf3?**+ interfering in the protection of the eP; Tom gets a " winning " advantage [ 23.Kh1 Bxf4 24.Rxf4 dxe4 25.Bxe4 Bxe4+ 26.Rxe4 Rxe4 27.dxe4 Qe6] **23...dxe4 24.dxe4 Bxe4** Tom goes up a P **25.Qg3 Bxg2 26.Kxg2 Bxf4 27.Qxf4 Re2+ 28.Kh1 Rbe8 29.Rad1 Qe6 30.Rd2 Rxd2 31.Qxd2 Qe4+ 32.Kh2 Qe2+ 33.Rf2 Qe5+ 34.Kg2 Qc7?** [ 34...Qe4+ 35.Kh2 Qe7 36.Qf4 b5-+] **35.Rf5?**+ [ 35.Re2 Rxe2+ 36.Qxe2 Qd7] **35...Re6 36.Rf2 Qe7 37.Qf4 Rf6?** [ 37...Re5 38.Qg3 c5 39.Qd3 Re3 40.Qf5 g6 41.Qf6 Qc7-+] **38.Qb8+ Kh7 39.Rxf6 gxf6 40.Qf4** [ 40.Kf3? Kg7 41.Qc8 Qb4 42.Ke2 Qa3 43.Kf3 Qxa2 44.Qxb7 a5-+] **40...Kg7 41.Kf2?**+ [ 41.a4 Qe2+ 42.Kg3 Qb2 43.Qe3 Qe5+ 44.Kf3 Kg6] **41...b5?** [ 41...Qe5 42.Kf3 Qb2 43.Qc7 Qc3+ 44.Kf2 Qd2+ 45.Kg3 Qe3+ 46.Kg2 Qe2+ 47.Kg1 Qxa2 48.Qb6 a5-+] **42.h4?**+ [ 42.cxb5 axb5 43.Kf3 b4 44.Qe4 Qd6] **42...Qe5?** [ 42...Qa3 43.Qd2 bxc4 44.bxc4 Qc5+ 45.Kg3 Qxc4 46.g5 hxg5 47.hxg5 Qd5-+] **43.Qxe5?**+ [ 43.Kf3 Qb2 44.g5 hxg5 45.hxg5 Qe5 46.cxb5 cxb5 47.gxf6+ Qxf6 48.Ke3 Qxf4+ 49.Kxf4 Kf6-+] **43...fxe5 44.Kf3 Kg6?**+ ( - 3.38 ) [ 44...b4 45.Ke4 Kf6 46.Kf3 Kg6 47.Ke4 f6 48.c5 a5 49.g5 hxg5 50.h5+ Kxh5 51.Kf5 Kh4+ ( - 15.07 ) ] **45.Ke4 f6 46.b4?**+ ( - 9.48 ) [ 46.cxb5 cxb5 47.a3 f5+ 48.gxf5+ Kf6 49.h5 a5 50.b4 a4 51.Kd5 Kxf5 52.Kc5 e4 ( - 7.17 ) ] **46...h5?**+ ( - 3.99 ) [ 46...bxc4 47.a4 h5 48.gxh5+ Kxh5 49.Kf5 c3-+ ( - 9.48 ) ] **47.g5** ( - 10.78 ) [ 47.cxb5 cxb5 48.g5 fxg5 49.hxg5 Kxg5 50.Kxe5 h4-+ ( - 10.39 ) ] **47...fxg5 48.hxg5 Kxg5?**+ ( - 7.29 ) [ 48...bxc4 49.Ke3 Kxg5 50.Kd2 Kf4 51.Kc3 e4 52.Kxc4 e3-+ ( - 14.92 ) ] **49.Kxe5 h4 50.Ke4 Kg4-+ 0-1**

In Rd. 3, this year's club champion, Master Bryan Lamb, met one of last year's club co-champions, Jim Paterson, and Bryan ended up coming out on top. Here is their game ( Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz ):

## Lamb, B (2204) – Paterson, J (1858) [B11]

SCC Early Summer Swiss Toronto (3), 24.05.2007

1.e4 c6± 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.h3 Bh5 5.Be2?=[ 5.d4 e6 6.Bd3 Nf6 7.Qe2 Qb6±] 5...e6 6.0-0 Bg6??± [ 6...Nf6 7.e5 Nfd7 8.d4 Be7 9.Bf4 0-0=] 7.exd5 exd5 8.Ne5??=[ 8.Re1 Be7 9.Bf1 Nd7 10.d3 Qc7±] 8...Bd6 9.d4 [ 9.Re1 Bxe5 10.Bg4 d4 11.Rxe5+ Ne7 12.Na4 Qd6 13.Qe2 Bxc2 14.b3 b5 15.Nc5 f6 16.Rxe7+ Qxe7 17.Ne6 Kf7=] 9...Ne7 10.f4 Nd7 11.Be3?± [ 11.Bg4 Bf5 12.Bxf5 Nxf5 13.Qd3 Qf6=] 11...0-0?=[ 11...Qc7 12.a3 Nf5 13.Bf2 f6 14.Nxd7 Qxd7±] 12.g4 f6 13.Nd3 [ 13.Nxg6 Nxg6 14.Bd3 Qc7=] 13...Qc7 14.Qd2 Nb6 15.b3 Rfe8 16.Rf2?± [ 16.f5 Bf7 17.Bf4 a5=] 16...Be4?=[ 16...Nd7? 17.f5 Bf7 18.Bf4 Rad8=; 16...Bf7 17.f5 Rad8 18.Bf4 Nec8±] 17.h4 [ 17.Nc5? Bg6 18.Nd3 Rad8 19.f5 Bf7 20.Bf4 Nec8±] 17...Ng6 [ 17...Bxd3 18.Bxd3 f5 19.g5 h5 20.Ne2 a5=] 18.h5 Nh4 [ 18...Bxd3 19.Bxd3 Nh4 20.Nd1 c5=] 19.Raf1 Qe7 20.Nd1 g6?± [ 20...f5 21.g5 h6 22.Ne5 hxg5 23.fxg5 c5=] 21.Rh2??± [ 21.hxg6 hxg6 22.Nc5 Rad8 23.Nxe4 Qxe4 24.c4 Bb8±] 21...g5



22.fxg5! Bryan decides to sac the exchange for a K-side pawn storm 22...Bxh2+??± Bryan gets a " clear " advantage [ 22...Qc7 23.Bf4 Bxf4 24.Qxf4 Qxf4 25.Rxf4 fxg5 26.Rf1 Ng2±] 23.Kxh2 Bryan is down the exchange, but with a P compensation 23...f5 24.Ne5?± [ 24.Nc5 Ng2 25.gxf5 Nxe3 26.Nxe3 Bxf5 27.Nxf5 Qxe2+ 28.Qxe2 Rxe2+ 29.Kg3 Rf8±] 24...Rf8?± [ 24...Nd7 25.Bf4 Nxe5 26.Bxe5 fxg4 27.Bxg4 Rf8±] 25.Kg3??=[ 25.Bf2 Ng6 26.hxg6 f4 27.Bh4 hxg6±] 25...Ng2 26.gxf5 Bryan has 2 P's compensation for the exchange 26...Nxe3 27.Qxe3 Nd7??+- [ 27...Rxf5? 28.Rxf5 Bxf5 29.Nxc6! Qc7+ 30.Qe5 Qxc6 31.Qxf5 Rf8 32.Qg4 Kh8±; 27...Bxf5 28.Ng4 Qc7+ 29.Qe5 Qxe5+ 30.dxe5 Bxg4 31.Rxf8+ Rxf8 32.Bxg4 Nc8=] 28.f6 Qd6?+- ( 3.93 ) [ 28...Nxf6 29.gxf6 Rxf6 30.Rxf6 Qxf6+- ( 1.66 )] 29.Qf4 Nxe5 30.dxe5 Qc7 31.Ne3 31...Rae8 32.Ng4 Re6 33.g6 hxg6 34.hxg6 Bxg6 Bryan still has a P compensation for being down the exchange 35.Qg5?+- ( 6.80 ) [ 35.Bd3 Qh7 36.Qg5 Qh5 37.Qxg6+ Qxg6 38.Bxg6 d4+- ( 11.69 )] 35...Qh7?+- ( 14.54 ) [ 35...Kf7 36.Bd3 Rg8 37.Kh3 c5+- ( 9.36 )] 36.Rh1! Qxh1?+- leads to a quick mate [ 36...Rxf6 37.exf6 Qg7 38.fxg7 Kxg7 and mate follows] 37.Qxg6+ Kh8 38.Qg7# 1-0

## **Toronto Blitz Championship ( Bryon Nickoloff Memorial )**

This will be played Saturday, June 16 at 2:00 PM at Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Ave., Suite 202. It will be a 9-double round swiss. Time control – Game/5 min.. Entry Fee - \$ 37 ( \$ 30 for prize fund + \$ 7 admin. fee ) NB. – BGC will pay the admin. fee for its members.

Registration -1:00 – 1:45 PM on day of tournament

Info: Vlad Dobrich 416-722-9709

An Impressive Trio !



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

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