

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 # 11-1 – September 1 , 2009

SCC 2009-10 AGM

This will be held on Thursday, Sept. 3 (please note that this year it is the Thursday BEFORE Labour Day), from 7:00 – 11:00 PM (will very likely end sooner). There will be the election of a new Executive – most important. There may also be a number of issues and motions for members to decide – whether to change the club policy on handing in of score sheets, and entry of games into the database; what to do about our increasing membership and limited space, etc.

Come out and vote – it is your club – have your say in what it does.

[Note: our first Swiss of the year, the Howard Ridout Memorial Swiss, starts Thursday, September 10, the first Thursday AFTER Labour Day]

Hebert Wins Canadian Championship !

The Canadian Closed/Zonal was played in Guelph, Ontario from Sat. August 8 to Sunday, August 16. It had a rating floor of 2200, was a swiss, and attracted 31 players from across the country – it included nearly all of the top active players in Canada.

The winner was veteran IM Jean Hebert from Quebec with 7.5/9 pts.. Jean has just set a new Canadian record for the most years between Championships – he last won 31 years ago in 1978. Though, in 2007, he finished in a four-way tie for first, and was a semi-finalist in the playoffs (where he lost to 2007 Champion Nikolay Noritsyn after a

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(½ way between Eglinton Ave. and Lawrence Ave.)

marathon set of tie-break games). Jean gets the right to now go to the 2009 FIDE World Cup representing the Canadian Zone. Second was GM Mark Bluvshtein with 6.5 pts. and third on tie-break with 6 pts. was IM Leonid Gerzhoy. They each get to represent Canada at the next Americas Continental Championship..

There was a playoff for the IM title awarded at our Zonal between FM Jonathan Tayar and Louie Jiang. The first game was drawn. Then Jonathan went up some pawns in the second game and won the IM title. Louie and Aman Hambleton won the two available FM titles. As well, Louie won an IM norm, his first.

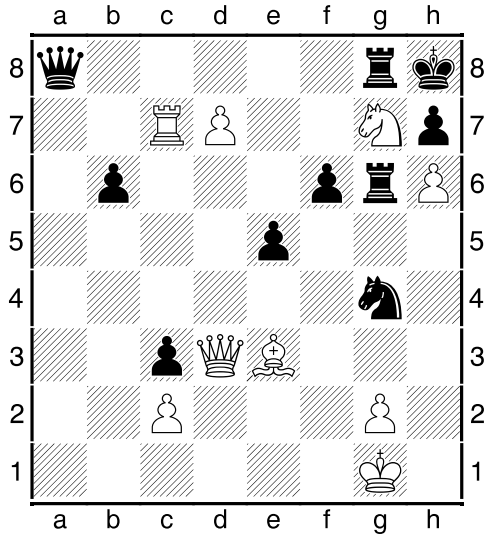
Here is the 9th round win against IM Artiom Samsonkin that put Jonathan into the playoffs – it is a wild one – a win over one of Canada’s stronger players. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Samsonkin, Artiom (2584) – Tayar, Jonathan (2436) [A45]

Canadian Closed 2009 Guelph (9), 16.08.2009

Here is the game [Event "Canadian Closed [Site "Guelph"] [Date "2009. 08. [Round "9"] [White "Samsonkin, Artiom"] [Black "Tayar, Jonathan"] [Result "0-1"] [White ELO "2584"] [White Title "IM"] [Black ELO "2436"] [Black Title "FM"] **1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5 Qb6 4.Nc3!** Artiom sacs his bP [4.Bc1 e6 5.Nc3 exd5 6.Nxd5 Nxd5 7.Qxd5 d6=] **4...Qxb2** Jonathan goes up a P **5.Bd2 Qb6 6.e4 e5** [6...d6 7.f4 Nbd7=] **7.Rb1** [7.Nge2 a6 8.Rb1 Qc7=] **7...Qd8 8.f4** [8.Bd3 d6 9.Nge2 Nh5=] **8...d6 9.fxe5 dxe5 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.Bb5+ Nbd7 12.Bg5?!?** Jonathan gets the advantage [12.a4 0-0 13.0-0 a6 14.Bc4 Nh5=] **12...Qa5 13.Qd2 0-0?!=** [13...a6 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Bxd7+ Bxd7 16.Rxb7 c4?] **14.Nh4** [14.Bxd7 Nxd7 15.Nb5 Qxa2?] **14...c4 15.Bxd7 Nxd7** [15...Bxd7 16.Bxf6 gxf6=] **16.Nf5 Bb4 17.Rxb4** Artiom must sac the exchange **17...Qxb4** Jonathan is up the exchange + P, yet the positional evaluation is = **18.Bh6?!?** enterprising, but not best [18.Be7 Qb6 19.Qg5 Qg6 20.Qxg6 hxg6 21.Nd6 f6 22.Bxf8 Kxf8=] **18...f6 19.Nxg7** Jonathan is up the exchange **19...Kh8 20.0-0 Rg8 21.Ne6?!?** Jonathan gets a " clear " advantage [21.Nf5 Nf8 22.Ng3 Rg6=] **21...Qe7?!?** [21...b6 22.Qe3 Rg6 23.Rf2 Bb7?] **22.Qf2?!?** [22.Nb5 a6 23.Nbc7 Ra7?] **22...Rg6 23.Be3 b6 24.h4 Bb7 25.h5 Rg4 26.h6 Rag8 27.Ng7 Rg6 28.Qe2 Qa3 29.Nb5?!-+** Jonathan gets a " winning " advantage [29.Qe1 a6 30.Kh1 b5?] **29...Qb4 30.a4 c3 31.Qf3?** - 3.48 [31.Bc1 Rc8 32.Nxa7 Rc4+- - 2.54] **31...Ba6?+-** - 2.22 [31...a6 32.Na7 Qxa4 33.Rf2 Ra8 34.Nf5 (34.Nc6 Bxc6 35.dxc6 Qxc6+- - 3.37) 34...Rxa7 35.Ne7 Ra8 36.Nxg6+ hxg6 37.Bxb6 Rc8+- - 3.39] **32.Ra1?+-** - 3.62 [32.Rf2 Bxb5 33.axb5 Qxb5+- - 2.86] **32...Qb2?+-** - 3.12 [32...Bxb5 33.axb5 Nc5 34.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 35.Qf2 Qxb5+- - 3.74] **33.Qd1?+-** - 3.83 [33.Rc1 Bxb5 34.axb5 Nc5+- - 3.12] **33...Bxb5 34.axb5 Qxb5** - 3.57 Jonathan is up the exchange + P [34...Qb4 35.Qf3 Nc5 36.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 37.Qf2 Qxb5+- - 3.78] **35.Rxa7** Jonathan is up the exchange again **35...Nc5 36.d6 Nxe4** Jonathan is up the exchange + P again **37.d7 Nd2 38.Rc7 Qd5 39.Qe2 Nf3+ 40.Kf1 Nh2+?+-** - 4.49 [40...Nh4 41.Bxb6 Rxh6 42.d8Q Qxd8 43.Be3 Qxc7 44.Bxh6 Rxg7 45.Bxg7+ Qxg7+- - 10.37] **41.Kg1 Ng4 42.Qd3 Qa8**

Position after 42...Qa8



43.Qc4?+- - 12.88 Artiom drops his B trying to promote his P [43.Bc1 Nxb6 44.Qxg6 hxg6 45.Bxh6 Kh7+- - 2.43] **43...Nxe3** Jonathan is up R + P **44.Qxg8+!** Artiom's Q-sac is the best shot in the position **44...Qxg8** Jonathan is up Q + P **45.Kf2 Ng4+** **46.Ke1 Nxb6** Jonathan is up Q 2 P's **47.Ne6?+-** - 12.03 [47.Rc8 Nf7 48.Rxg8+ Kxg8 49.Nf5 Kf8+- - 9.16] **47...Nf7+-** - 12.90 Artiom can make no more progress. He resigned. The game could have continued **48.Rxc3 f5 49.Rc8 Rxe6 50.Rxg8+ Kxg8+-** - 15.32 Jonathan would be up R + N + P and the passed P on the 7th cannot promote. **0-1**

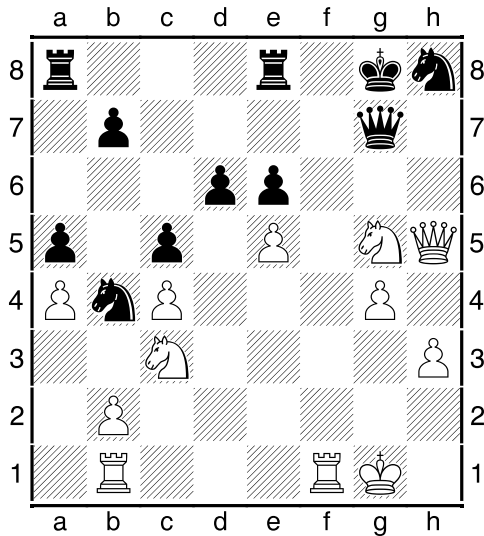
It is nice to note that 3 former SCC juniors played in the Closed, Liam Henry, Aman Hambleton and Shiyam Thavandiran, as well as current member, Erwin Casareno, 2007-8 Club Champion. Here is Erwin's nice attack and win against Kevin Me (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Casareno, Erwin - Me, Kevin [E76]

Canadian Closed 2009 Hewlett-Packard (3), 10.08.2009

318MB, DFritz11.ctg, ADMIN-PC **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6±** [2...e6=] **3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4?!=** [5.Nf3±] **5...0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5?!±** [7.dxc5 Qa5 8.Bd2 (8.cxd6?! Nxe4! 9.Bd2 Nxd6 10.Nd5 Qd8±) 8...Qxc5=] **7...a6** [7...Qb6 8.Be2 Na6 9.0-0 Re8 10.Qd2 Rf8±] **8.a4 a5 9.Bd3 Na6 10.0-0 Nb4 11.Bb1 Qb6?!±** Erwin gets a " clear " advantage [11...Re8?! 12.e5 Ng4 13.Qe1 e6±; 11...Nd7 12.Nb5 Nb6 13.Qe2 e6±] **12.e5 Ng4 13.h3** [13.Qe1 Bf5 14.Bxf5 gxf5±] **13...Nh6 14.Qe2?=-** a more aggressive approach is required; Erwin loses his advantage [14.g4 Rb8 15.Qe1 f5 16.g5 Nf7±] **14...Bf5?±** Erwin gets back his " clear " advantage [14...Nf5 15.Qf2 Nd4 16.Nxd4 cxd4 17.Nb5 dxe5 18.fxe5 Bd7=] **15.g4** Now Erwin plays more aggressively **15...Bxb1 16.Rxb1 e6?!+-** Erwin gets a " winning " advantage [16...Na6?! 17.f5 Rae8+-; 16...Rae8 17.Be3 f6 18.Qd2 dxe5 19.fxe5 Nf7±] **17.f5?!±** [17.Rd1 exd5 18.cxd5 Rfd8+-] **17...Rfe8?!+-** [17...exf5 18.g5 dxe5 19.gxh6 Bh8±] **18.dxe6 fxe6 19.fxg6 hxg6 20.Qe4?+-** 1.52 [20.Bxh6 Bxh6 21.Qe4 Qc7 22.Qxg6+ Qg7 23.Qxg7+ Bxg7 24.exd6 Nc2+- 3.58] **20...Nf7?+-** 3.37 [20...Nf5! 21.gxf5 exf5 22.Qh4 dxe5+- 2.55] **21.Qxg6** Erwin goes up a P **21...Nh8 22.Qh5 Rf8 23.Bh6 Qc7 24.Ng5** 5.85 [24.exd6 Qf7 25.Bxg7 Qxh5 26.gxh5 Kxg7+- 5.70] **24...Rfe8?+-** 11.26 [24...Qe7? 25.Nce4 Nd3 26.exd6 Rxf1+ 27.Rxf1 Bd4+ 28.Kg2 Ne1+ 29.Kh1 Qd7+- 16.16; 24...Rxf1+ 25.Rxf1 Bxe5 26.Nb5 Qe7+- 8.93] **25.Bxg7 Qxg7**

Position after 27...Qxg7



26.Nce4+- Kevin resigns. It is mate **26...Rf8** [26...Nd5 27.cxd5 Rf8 28.Nf6+ Rxf6 29.exf6 Qg6 30.f7+ Kg7 31.Nxe6+ Qxe6 32.dxe6 it is mate in 5 moves] **27.Rxf8+ Rxf8 28.Nf6+ Rxf6 29.exf6 Qf7 30.Qh6! Ng6 31.Nxf7 Kxf7 32.Qg7+ Ke8 33.f7+ Kd8 34.Qxg6 Kc7 35.f8Q+-** mate in 4 moves 1-0

Here is Jean's win against new FM Louie Jiang of Quebec in Rd. 8 (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Jiang, Louie – Hebert, Jean [C18]

Canadian Closed 2009 Hewlett-Packard (7), 14.08.2009

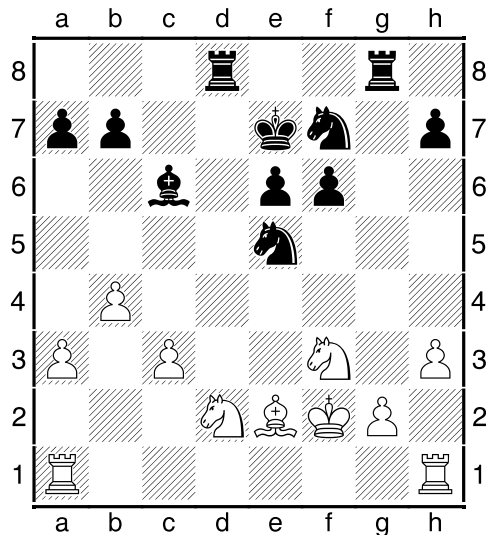
318MB, DFritz11.ctg, ADMIN-PC 1.e4= 0.20 1...e6± [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the French, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Kf8?!± Louie gets a " clear " advantage [7...Qc7?! 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 dxc3±; 7...0-0 8.Bd3 Qc7 9.Bd2 Nf5±] 8.Bd2 Qc7 9.Bd3 b6 10.Nf3 Ba6 11.Bxa6?!± [11.0-0 Kg8 12.dxc5 bxc5±] 11...Nxa6 12.Ng5?!= Louie loses his advantage [12.0-0 h5 13.Qf4 Qc6±] 12...h6 13.Qe2?± Jean gets a " clear " advantage [13.Qh5 g6 14.Qh4 (14.Qh3?! cxd4 15.cxd4 Qxc2±) 14...Kg8=] 13...hxg5 14.Qxa6 Nf5 15.g4 Nh4 16.Qe2 Ng2+ 17.Kf1 Nf4 18.Bxf4 gxf4 19.h4 cxd4 20.cxd4 Rc8?!± [20...Qc3 21.Rd1 Qxa3±] 21.Kg2 Qc3 22.Rad1 Qxa3 Jean goes up a P 23.Qd2 Qe7 24.Qxf4 material equality 24...Ke8?!= Jean has lost his advantage [24...Rxc2 25.h5 a5±] 25.h5 Kd7?!± [25...Rxc2 26.Rc1 Rxc1 27.Rxc1 Kd7=] 26.Ra1 a5 27.Rhb1 Rc6 28.Rb3 Ra8 [28...g6 29.Rab1 Kc7± (29...gxh5? 30.Rxb6 Rg8+- (30...Rxb6 31.Rxb6 Kc7+-))] 29.Rf3 Rf8 30.g5 Rxc2 Jean goes up a P again 31.Rc1?!= [31.h6 gxh6 32.gxh6 Rg8+ 33.Kf1 f5 34.exf6 Qb4±] 31...Rc4 32.Rh1 [32.Rb1 Kc6 33.h6 gxh6 34.gxh6 b5=] 32...Qb4 [32...Rh8 33.Qxf7 Rxd4 34.Rc1 Rg4+ 35.Kf1 Rc4=] 33.Rd3 a4 34.Rhh3??+ Jean now gets a " winning " advantage [34.h6 gxh6 35.gxh6 a3=] 34...Qb1 35.h6 gxh6 - 1.50 [35...Rc1 36.Qf3 Rg1+ 37.Kh2 Rxc5+- - 1.55] 36.gxh6 Rc1 37.Qf3 Rg1+ 38.Kh2 Rg6?!± [38...Kc8 39.Ra3 Rg6+] 39.Rd1 Qe4 40.Qxe4 dxe4 41.d5 [41.Ra1?! b5+- - 1.50; 41.Rb1 Kc6 42.Rb4 Rh8 43.Rxa4 Rgxh6 44.Rxh6 Rxh6+ 45.Kg2 b5±] 41...exd5 [41...Rh8 42.h7 Rg7 43.dxe6+ Kxe6±] 42.Rxd5+?!+ [42.h7 Rh8 43.Rxd5+ Kc6 44.Rd4 b5±] 42...Kc6 43.Rd4 b5?!± [43...Rfg8 44.Rh5 b5 45.Rxe4 Rh8 46.h7 Rg7 47.e6 Rgxh7 48.Rxh7 Rxh7+ 49.Kg3 fxe6 50.Rxe6+ Kc5+] 44.Rxe4 material equality 44...Rh8 45.Rf4?!+ [45.h7 Rg7 46.Reh4 Kd5 47.Rh5 Ke4±] 45...Rgxh6 Jean goes up a P 46.Rxh6+ Rxh6+ 47.Kg3 Re6+- - 2.17 Jean is up a P & has 2 connected. passed P's 0-1

In Rd. 9, Jean, leading by ½ pt., went up a P on a nice tactical shot, and then tied Shiyam Thavandiran up with rooks on the 2nd & 3rd ranks. He went on to go up 3 pawns, and won the game, and the Canadian Champion title. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Thavandiran, Shiyam (2464) – Hebert, Jean (2442) [C02]

Canadian Closed 2009 Guelph (9), 16.08.2009

1.e4= 0.20 1...e6± [1...e5= The only equalizing move for Fritz. For all other normal replies, including the French, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted] 2.d4 d5 3.e5?!= [3.exd5?! exd5 4.Nf3 Nf6=; 3.Nd2 Ne7 4.Bd3 Ng6±] 3...c5 4.c3 [4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bd3 cxd4 6.c3 Bd7=] 4...Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Qd2 Rc8?!± [7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Nge7 9.Nc3 Rc8=] 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Bxc5 Qxc5 10.Qg5?!= [10.Bd3 Nh6 11.0-0 0-0±] 10...Qf8 11.Bd3 f6 12.Qe3 Nh6 13.h3 Nf7 14.exf6 gxf6 15.Nbd2 Qh6 16.a3?!± for the first time in the game, Jean gets the advantage [16.Qxh6 Nxf6 17.0-0-0 e5=] 16...Qxe3+ 17.fxe3 Nce5 18.Be2 Ke7 19.e4?!± Jean gets a " clear " advantage [19.Kf2 Rhg8 20.Rac1 Nc4±] 19...dxe4 20.Nxe4 Rhg8 21.Kf2 Bc6 22.Ned2 Rcd8 23.b4?!+ Jean gets a " winning " advantage [23.Rhg1 Nd3+ 24.Bxd3 Rxd3±]



23...Rxc2+! Jean goes up a P 24.Ke3?+- 4.86 [24.Kf1 Rg5 25.Ke1 Rf5 26.Rf1 Nd3+ 27.Bxd3 Rxd3+- 3.90; 24.Kxg2 Rxd2 25.Kf2 Bxf3+- 5.86] 24...Nxf3?+- 3.04 [24...Nd6 25.Nh4 Rdg8 26.Bg4 (26.Nxg2?? Nf5+ 27.Kf2 Rxc2+ 28.Ke1 Ng3+) 26...Rg3+ 27.Nhf3 h5 28.Kf2 hxc4 29.Nxe5 Rg2+ 30.Ke1 fxe5+- 7.29] 25.Nxf3 Nd6 26.Nd4 Rg3+ 27.Nf3?+- 4.51 [27.Kf2? Ne4+ 28.Ke1 Nxc3+- 4.43; 27.Bf3 Bxf3 28.Nxf3 Rg2 29.Nd4 e5+- 3.52] 27...Nf5+ 28.Kf2 Bxf3 29.Bxf3 Rd2+ 30.Ke1 Rb2 31.Bxb7?+- 7.23 material equality [31.Rf1 Ne3 32.Bxb7 Nxf1 33.Kxf1 Rxc3+- 6.00] 31...Rxc3 Jean goes up a P again 32.Rg1 Rxc3?+- 7.30 Jean goes up 2 P's [32...Re3+ 33.Kf1 Rxc3 34.Rc1 Ne3+ 35.Ke1 Rhh2+- 7.71] 33.Rc1 Re3+ 34.Kd1 Rxa3 Jean goes up 3 P's 35.Rg8?+- -9.35 [35.Be4 Ne3+ 36.Ke1 Raa2+- 6.71] 35...Ne3+ 36.Ke1 Rc2?+- 4.31 at this point, after a long day, Jean just didn't want Shiyam to get any type of counter-play [36...Raa2 37.Bf3 Rf2 38.Rg7+ Kd6 39.Rc6+ Ke5 40.Rg1 Rxf3+- 26.23] 37.Rc8 Raa2 38.Rc7+ Kd6 39.Rc6+ Ke5 40.R1xc2 Nxc2+- 5.45 0-1

Here are the final standings:

SwissSys Standings. 2009 Canadian Closed: 2009 Canadian Closed

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Rd 8	Rd 9	Tot
1	IM Jean Hebert	2442	W28	D6	D8	W16	D2	W3	W5	W7	W10	7.5
2	GM Mark Bluvshstein	2634	D16	W14	D4	W12	D1	W26	W7	D6	D3	6.5
3	IM Leonid Guerzhoy	2524	W17	W23	D12	D6	D5	L1	W22	W15	D2	6.0
4	FM Jonathan Tayar	2436	D8	W22	D2	D15	W20	L7	W16	D12	W6	6.0
5	Louie Jiang	2252	D7	D26	W19	W18	D3	W27	L1	D9	W12	6.0
6	IM Artiom Samsonkin	2584	W20	D1	W27	D3	D26	D12	W14	D2	L4	5.5
7	FM Raja Panjwani	2472	D5	W24	D16	D21	W25	W4	L2	L1	W14	5.5
8	Aman Hambleton	2234	D4	W11	D1	L26	D9	L22	W31	W20	W15	5.5
9	IM Edward Porper	2556	D21	L16	D14	W23	D8	W25	D12	D5	D13	5.0
10	FM Shiyam Thavandiran	2464	L23	W31	L21	L28	W11	W24	W29	W18	L1	5.0
11	FM Igor Divljan	2412	D31	L8	L24	D30	L10	B---	W28	W29	W18	5.0
12	Roman Sapozhnikov	2348	W13	W19	D3	L2	W21	D6	D9	D4	L5	5.0
13	Michael Humphreys	2169	L12	B---	L15	L31	D19	W30	W17	W22	D9	5.0
14	FM Hans Jung	2140	B---	L2	D9	W19	D15	W20	L6	W16	L7	5.0
15	Victor Kaminski	2334	D29	D25	W13	D4	D14	D16	W26	L3	L8	4.5
16	Alex Martchenko	2300	D2	W9	D7	L1	W24	D15	L4	L14	W25	4.5
17	Arthur Calugar	2262	L3	W30	D18	L20	L22	W19	L13	W31	W27	4.5
18	IM Tomas Krnan	2534	D22	D21	D17	L5	D31	W28	W27	L10	L11	4.0
19	IM Nikolay Noritsyn	2534	W30	L12	L5	L14	D13	L17	D24	W28	W29	4.0
20	Trevor Vincent	2290	L6	W28	D25	W17	L4	L14	W21	L8	D23	4.0
21	Liam Henry	2280	D9	D18	W10	D7	L12	D29	L20	L25	B---	4.0
22	FM Dale Haessel	2276	D18	L4	W29	L25	W17	W8	L3	L13	D24	4.0
23	Keith MacKinnon	2251	W10	L3	L26	L9	B---	D31	D25	D27	D20	4.0
24	Nicolas Arseneault	2229	D26	L7	W11	D27	L16	L10	D19	W30	D22	4.0
25	Thomas Kaminski	2183	D27	D15	D20	W22	L7	L9	D23	W21	L16	4.0
26	IM Ron Livshits	2416	D24	D5	W23	W8	D6	L2	L15	U---	U---	3.5
27	Victor Plotkin	2366	D25	W29	L6	D24	W28	L5	L18	D23	L17	3.5
28	Joey Qin	2240	L1	L20	B---	W10	L27	L18	L11	L19	W30	3.0
29	Yves Morin	2160	D15	L27	L22	B---	W30	D21	L10	L11	L19	3.0
30	Erwin Casareno	2264	L19	L17	W31	D11	L29	L13	B---	L24	L28	2.5
31	Kevin Me	2188	D11	L10	L30	W13	D18	D23	L8	L17	U---	2.5

SCTCN&V Starts 11th Consecutive Year of Publication !

We believe we are the longest-running twice monthly/bi-weekly chess publication in the country ! It all started as a one-page bulletin on the SCC bulletin board, informing members of SCC matters. Then it started to introduce reports on results of major international competitions. It progressed to reporting on chess politics, international (FIDE), national (CFC), Ontario (OCA) and local (GTCL). It became longer than 1 page, and we started making hard copies to hand out to members.

Eventually it progressed to an electronic newsletter. This then allowed us to start distributing beyond our current SCC membership. First we put together a mailing group of past SCC members, and started mailing to them as well, free. Next we offered free subscriptions to non-members, and got a very favourable response. So now SCTCN&V goes to almost 200 chess players in the GTA, elsewhere in Ontario and Canada, and we even have some subscribers in USA.

We then introduced board diagrams and pictures. We started using pictures of noted GM's, and as our photo bank expanded, we had pictures of SCC members, and past

members. The newsletter continued to get longer, sometimes going to 5 pages. Next SCTCN&V created its own newsletter website : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>. This was linked to the SCC website, so now people visiting the SCC website could crossover to the newsletter website and see not only the latest newsletter, but also a number of previous Issues. The newsletter kept getting longer as we introduced more games, and started providing analysis of the games, using the Fritz computer chess program. The newsletter sometimes reached 15-20 pages. Some of the games we introduced were those of members from SCC tournaments, where previously, we had actually carried few SCC members' games.

The final major improvement was the creation of a ChessBase/Fritz database to accompany the newsletter, containing all the games/analysis in the newsletter. So now a reader could just click on the database and play over all the games (no longer having to copy the games and transfer them to the readers own program).

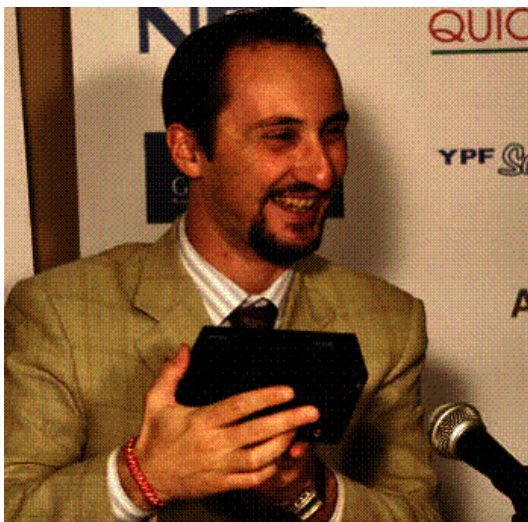
SCTCN&V has enjoyed serving SCC, the GTA and beyond! We look forward to many more years of reporting on great chess!

September 1, 2009 FIDE Rating List

There is once again one player over 2800 – Veselin Topalov. [Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13th World Champion, now retired, was the first player to break 2800 (highest rating ever in July 1999 – 2851); Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 14th World Champion, was the second player; Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria), the 2005 FIDE World Champion, was the third; Viswanathan Anand, current world champion, was the fourth player in history to break the 2800 barrier].

There are 31 players in the 2700's. Some of the top players are (birth date of younger players (22 yrs. & younger) in brackets, after country) :

1 : Veselin **Topalov** (Bulgaria), 2005 FIDE World Champion, 2006 World Championship Challenger, and 2010 Challengers' Match participant, at 2813;



2 : Viswanathan **Anand** (India), 15th and current World Champion, rated 2788;



3 : Levon **Aronian** (Armenia) – rated 2773;



4 : Magnus **Carlsen** (Norway - 1990), rated 2772;



5 : Vladimir **Kramnik** (Russia), 14th World Champion, rated 2772;



6 : Peter **Leko** (Hungary), 2004 World Championship Challenger, at 2762;

7 : Teimour **Radjabov** (Azerbaijan – 1987), rated 2757;

8 : Vassily **Ivanchuk** (Ukraine), rated 2756 (up from # 30 !);

9 : Boris **Gelfand** (Israel), rated 2756;

10 : Alexander **Morozevich** (Russia), rated 2750;

46 : Judit **Polgar** (Hungary), the strongest women's player in the world, with 2687 (a number of years ago, she was in the top 10 ! She has taken periods off to have children);

.

Some other past active World Champions/FIDE World Champions in the top 100 and their current ratings are :

13 : 2002 FIDE World Champion, Ruslan Ponomarev (Ukraine) at 2741;

31 : 2004 FIDE World Champion, Rustam Kasimdzhanov (Uzbekistan) at 2702 (up from # 58 !);

Here are a number of the younger (22 yrs. & younger) players, not in the top ten, but in the top 30, who we're watching (birth date in brackets after country)[note: juniors = U 20 yrs. as of Jan. 1]

15 : Yue Wang (China – 1987) – 2736;

16 : Hikaru Nakamura (USA – 1987) – 2710 (up from # 26 !);

20 : Sergey Karjakin (Ukraine – 1990) – 2722;

23.: Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (France – 1990) – 2718 (up from # 29);

The 5 highest FIDE rated Canadians (active in the last 24 months, internationally or in Canada) are:

1 : GM Kevin **Spraggett**, 5 times Canadian Champion (last in 1996), at 2595 (has dropped below 2600) – now playing out of Portugal;



2 : GM Mark **Bluvshstein** (1988), 2009 Canadian Open Champion at 2574 (up 16 pts. !);



(from David Cohen's Canadian Chess website)

3 : GM Pascal **Charbonneau**, 2002 & 2004 Canadian Champion, at 2509 – now working in USA;



(from CFC Website)

4 : IM Thomas **Roussel-Roozmon** (1988) at 2489.

5 : IM Igor **Zugic**, 2006 Canadian Champion, at 2462.

The current 2009 Canadian Champion, **Jean Hebert**, is rated 2416.

Canada has 3 inactive GM's : Alexander **Le Siege**; Duncan **Suttles**; Dimitri **Tyomkin**.

Canadian GM's with other federations are : GM Anton **Kovalyov** (Argentina) at 2577; GM Bator **Sambuev** (Russia) at 2463.

The top 5 women in the world are :

1 : GM Judit **Polgar** (Hungary) – 2687 (first woman player in history to break 2700);



2 : GM Humpy Koneru (India – 1987) – 2595 (second woman over 2600, but has now dropped below 2600);



3 : WGM Yifan Hou (China – 1994) – 2585 (15 years old !).



4 : GM Xue Zhao (China) – 2542;

5 : GM Tatiana Kosintseva (Russia) – 2536.

The current Women's World Champion, GM Alexandra Kosteniuk (Russia)



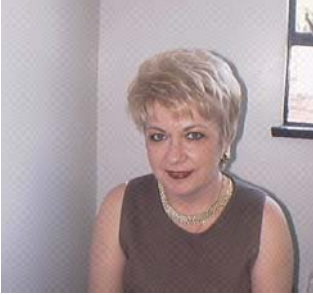
is # 11 at 2516.

The top 5 FIDE rated Canadian women players are (active in the last 24 months, internationally or in Canada) :

.# 1 : WFM Yuanling **Yuan** (1994 - SCC member !) at 2202 ;.



2 : WIM Nava **Starr**, 8 time Canadian Women's Champion (last in 2001), at 2175.



(from David Cohen's Canadian Chess website)

3 : WIM Natalia **Khoudgarian**, 2006 & 2007 Canadian Women's Champion, at 2137.



(from CFC Website)

4 : WFM Dina **Kagramanov**, 2009 Canadian Women's Champion, at 2117 (up 24 pts. !);.

5 : Anastasia **Kazakevich** (1988) at 2049..

There are 4 inactive Canadian WIM's : Vesma **Baltgailis**; Johanne **Charest**; Dinara **Khaziyeva**; Smilja **Vujosevic**.

The highest FIDE-rated Canadian woman is WFM Valeriya **Gansvind**, at 2226, who plays for another federation - Estonia.

5th FIDE Grand Prix (Jermuk)

Before dealing with the upcoming event, a look back on the checkered history of the 2008-9 is in order. ChessVibes gives a nice summary:

To refresh our memory, let's first recapitulate. The FIDE Grand Prix, not to be confused with the Grand Slam (Wijk aan Zee, Linares, Sofia, Nanjing and Bilbao), was designed as a series of six tournaments (Baku, Sochi, Doha, Montreux, Elista and Karlovy Vary) in the years 2008-2009 that would deliver an opponent for the winner of the 2009 World

Cup. These two winners would then play a match to decide on the next opponent for the reigning world champion.

The FIDE Grand Prix Series started reasonably successfully, with tournaments in Baku (April-May 2008) and Sochi (August 2008), but then things started to go less smoothly. Doha was the first host city [to withdraw](#) from the Series in November 2008 and was quickly replaced by Elista. At the same time FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov [announced the Candidates Tournament](#) for the first time at a press conference at the Olympiad in Dresden, which came down to changing the rules of an already running World Championship cycle.

On the one hand, not just the winner, but also the GP runner-up would qualify for this tournament. On the other hand, the GP winner wouldn't be just a match away from playing the World Champion. The sudden rule change and last-minute move to Elista led to [Michael Adams](#) and [Magnus Carlsen](#) withdrawing from the GP Series (and many open letters, including one by top GM [Levon Aronian](#)).

Also at the end of 2008, Karlovy Vary, the Czech host city for the 6th and last Grand Prix in December 2009, [withdrew](#) and was soon to be followed by Montreux, where the 4th tournament was to be held. In the meantime the Armenian Chess Federation had offered to host the 5th event, in August 2009, in Yerevan, replacing the original host city of Elista.

Because of these changes in host cities, not only Adams and Carlsen but also the hosts' nominated players Mohamad Al-Modiahki, David Navara and Yannick Pelletier were removed from the list of participants. They [were replaced](#) by Vladimir Akopian, Evgeny Alekseev, Pavel Eljanov and Rustam Kasimdzhanov.

The replacement host city for Montreux became [Nalchik, Russia](#) and this is where the 4th and last Grand Prix took place, in April 2009. Levon Aronian clinched his second Grand Prix victory, after his first in Sochi last year. The first GP, in Baku, had been a shared victory between Gashimov, Wang Yue and Carlsen while in Elista (December 2008) there were also three winners: Radjabov, Jakovenko and Grischuk.

FIDE Grand Prix 2008-2009 | Standings (Top 10)

Player	Q	Baku	Sochi	Elista	Nalchik	Yerevan	?	Played	Total (Best 3)
Radjabov (AZE)	RL	60	150	153½				3	363½
Grischuk (RUS)	RR	105	45	153½	105			4	363½
Aronian (ARM)	RL		180		180			2	360
Wang Yue (CHN)	PR	153½	120	80				3	353½
Gashimov (AZE)	HC	153½	65	110				3	328½
Jakovenko (RUS)	HC		90	153½				2	243½
Mamedyarov (AZE)	RL	105		80	55			3	240
Kamsky (USA)	CH	60	120		55			3	235
Svidler (RUS)	PR	85	90		55			3	230
Leko (HUN)	RL			80	140			2	220

The recent 5th Grand Prix ran from Aug. 8 to 24, and was to have been held in Yerevan, Armenia. But due to the exceptionally hot weather there in August, it was moved to the cooler city of Jermuk. The Participants were:

Jermuk GP 2009 | Participants

No.	Surname	Name	Federation	July 2009 Rating
01	Aronian	Levon	ARM	2768
02	Jakovenko	Dmitry	RUS	2760
03	Leko	Peter	HUN	2756
04	Gelfand	Boris	ISR	2755
05	Bacrot	Etienne	FRA	2721
06	Kamsky	Gata	USA	2717
07	Karjakin	Sergey	UKR	2717
08	Eljanov	Pavel	UKR	2716
09	Alekseev	Evgeny	RUS	2714
10	Akopian	Vladimir	ARM	2712
11	Ivanchuk	Vassily	UKR	2703
12	Cheparinov	Ivan	BUL	2678
13	Inarkiev	Ernesto	RUS	2675
14	Kasimdzhanov	Rustam	UZB	2672

The top three were: 1st – Vassily Ivanchuk – 8.5 pts.



2nd / 3rd – Levon Aronian; Boris Gelfand – 8 pts.

In Rd. 2, Aronian won a pawn ending against Alekseev, and joined Leko and Cheparinov in first. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Aronian, L (2768) – Alekseev, Evgeny (2714) [D30]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (2), 10.08.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.Qc2 b6?!± [9...dxc4 10.Qxc4 Nb6 11.Qb3 Nbd5=] 10.Rd1?!= [10.cxd5 cxd5 11.h3 Bb7±] 10...Bb7 11.Nc3 dxc4 12.Nd2 Nd5 13.Nxc4 Nxf4 14.gxf4 Rc8 15.a3 Rc7?!± [15...Qc7 16.e3 a6=] 16.e3 Nf6 17.b4 Nd5 18.Rac1 Re8 19.Ne5 Bd6 20.Qa4?!= [20.Ne4 Bf8 21.Nc4 Rd7±] 20...Qa8?!± [20...a6 21.Ne4 Bf8=] 21.Ne4 Be7 [21...Bf8±] 22.Rc2?!= [22.Qc2 Rf8 23.Ng5 Bxg5 24.fxg5 Qd8±] 22...Rec8?!± [22...f6 23.Nd3 Rcc8=] 23.Rdc1 a5?!± Aronian gets a " clear " advantage [23...f6 24.Nd3 Rd8±] 24.bxa5 Aronian goes up a P 24...c5 [24...h6 25.f5 exf5 26.Nc3 b5 27.Qb3 Qxa5±] 25.Ng5?!± [25.Qb5 h6 26.axb6 Nxb6 27.Qxb6 Bxe4 28.Bxe4 Qxe4±] 25...Bxg5?!± [25...b5 26.Qxb5 Nxf4 27.exf4 Bxg2 28.f3 Bxg5 29.fxg5 (29.Rxc5?! Rxc5 30.Rxc5 Rb8 31.Qd7 Bxf3 32.Qxf7+ Kh8 33.fxg5 Rb1+ 34.Kf2 Bh1=) 29...Bxf3±] 26.fxg5 f6 27.Nd3?!± [27.Nc4 Rd8 28.Qb5 cxd4 29.axb6 Rcd7±] 27...Qa6 28.Bxd5 exd5 29.Qb3 [29.dxc5 Qxd3 30.axb6 Rc6±] 29...Qxa5 material equality 30.dxc5 bxc5?!± [30...fxg5 31.Qb4 Qxb4 32.axb4 Ba6±] 31.Nxc5 Aronian goes up a P again 31...Rxc5?!+- [31...Ba8 32.gxf6 gxf6 33.h3 Kh8±] 32.Rxc5 Rxc5 33.Rxc5 Qxc5 34.Qxb7 Qxa3 1.81 [34...fxg5 35.a4 Qc1+ 36.Kg2 Qc4+- 1.63] 35.Qxd5+ Kf8 36.h4 Qb4 37.e4 Qb2 38.Qc5+ Kf7 39.Kg2 Qa1 40.h5 fxg5 41.Qxg5 h6 42.Qd5+ Kf6 43.Qd7 Qb2 44.Kf3 Qa1 45.Qc6+ Ke7 46.Kf4?!± [46.Qc7+ Ke8 47.Qc8+ Ke7 48.Qc5+ Ke8+-] 46...Qg1?!+- [46...Qd4 47.Qb7+ Kf6±] 47.Qc5+ Ke6 48.Qd5+ Ke7 49.Kf3 Qh1+ 50.Ke2 Qb1 51.Qf5 Qc2+ 52.Kf3 Qd3+ 53.Kg2 Qe2 54.Qf3 Qd2 55.Qa3+ Kf7 56.Qb3+ Ke7 57.Qb7+ Kf8 58.Qc8+ Ke7 59.Qc5+ Ke6 60.Qf5+ Ke7 61.Qe5+ Kf8 62.Qc5+ Ke8 63.Qd5 Qb2 64.e5 Ke7 65.Qd6+ Ke8 66.Qc6+ Kd8 67.Qe6 Qb7+ 4.47 68.Kg3 Qh1 69.Qg8+ Ke7 70.Qxg7+ Aronian is up 2 P's 70...Ke6 71.Qf6+ Kd7?+- 7.01 [71...Kd5 72.Qd6+ Kc4 73.e6 Qe1+- 9.04] 72.Qf7+++ 7.01 1-0

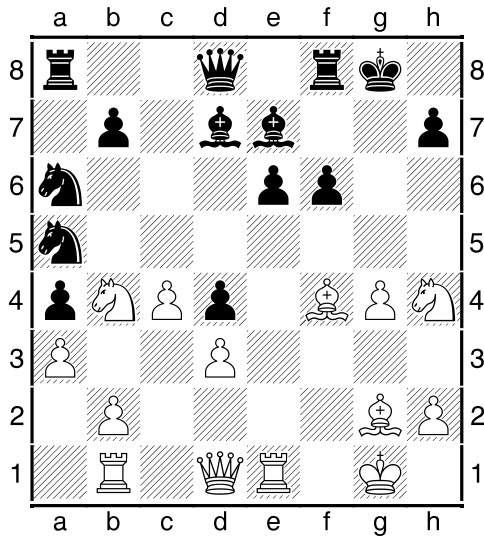
In Rd. 4, Ivanchuk first sacked a P, then an N, and eventually mated Alekseev. This left him tied for 3rd/4th with Cheparinov, a ½ pt. behind the co-leaders, Leko and Aronian. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Ivanchuk, V (2703) – Alekseev, Evgeny (2714) [A13]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (4), 12.08.2009

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 d4 5.0-0 c5 6.e3 Nc6 7.exd4 cxd4 8.d3 Be7 9.Re1 0-0 10.Na3 Ne8 11.Nc2 f6 12.Bd2 a5 13.a3 a4 [13...e5 14.Qe2 a4=] 14.Nb4 Nc7 15.Rb1 Bd7 16.Nh4 Na5 17.f4 g6 18.f5?!± Ivanchuk sags a P [18.Qg4 Nb3 19.Nxg6 hxg6 20.Qxg6+ Kh8 21.Qh6+ Kg8 22.Qg6+=] 18...gxf5 Alekseev goes up a P 19.g4?!± Alekseev gets a " clear " advantage [19.Bh6 Rf7 20.g4 f4 21.Bxf4 Na6±] 19...f4?± Alekseev loses his advantage [19...fxg4 20.Qxg4+ Kh8 21.Qxd4 Nb3±] 20.Bxf4 material equality 20...Na6

Position after 20...Na6



21.Nd5! Ivanchuk sacs his N for a P to activate his g2B **21...exd5?±** Ivanchuk gets a " clear " advantage [21...Bc5 22.Bh6 exd5 23.Bxd5+ Kh8=] **22.Bxd5+** Alekseev is up N vs P **22...Kg7** [22...Kh8 23.Qd2 Bxg4 24.Ng6+ hxg6 25.Bc7 g5 (25...Qe8?? 26.Qh6#) 26.Bxd8 Bxd8±] **23.Kh1?=-** Ivanchuk loses his advantage [23.Qf3 Rg8 24.Bxg8 Kxg8±] **23...Re8?+-** 2.64 Alekseev gives Ivanchuk back a " winning " advantage [23...Kh8 24.Qf3 Rg8=] **24.g5 Kh8?+-** 8.66 [24...Bc6 25.Bxc6 Nxc6+- 6.00] **25.Qh5 Rg8 26.Bxg8 Kxg8??+-** Alekseev is up B + N vs R + P but Ivanchuk has mate in 9 moves [26...Qxg8? 27.Rxe7 Bc6+ 28.Kg1 Be8 29.Qh6 Bf7+- it is mate in 16 moves; 26...Bc6+ 27.Kg1 Qxg8 28.Rxe7 Be4 29.Be5 (29.dxe4? Nc6 30.Rxb7 fxg5 31.Bxg5 Qxg5+ 32.Qxg5 Rg8 33.Qxg8+ Kxg8+- 20.20) 29...Rf8+- 25.01(29...fxe5?? 30.g6 Qg7 31.Rxg7 Kxg7 32.Qxh7+ Kf6 33.Rf1+ Kg5 34.dxe4 Rh8 35.Rf5+ Kg4 36.Qxh8 Nxc4 37.Qh5+ Kh3 38.Rf3#)] **27.g6 Bc6+ 28.Re4 Bxe4+ 29.dxe4** Alekseev is up an N **29...hxg6 30.Qxg6+ Kh8 31.Qh5+** Alekseev resigns. It is mate **31...Kg8 32.Rg1+ Kf8 33.Bh6# 1-0**

In Rd. 5, Ivanchuk tied with Leko for the lead with a win over Cheparinov. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Cheparinov, I (2678) – Ivanchuk, V (2703) [E21]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (5), 13.08.2009

1.d4 e6± [1...Nf6=] **2.c4?!=** [2.e4±] **2...Nf6** **3.Nc3 Bb4** **4.Nf3 c5** **5.g3 Nc6** **6.Bg2 Ne4** **7.Bd2 Nxd2** **8.Qxd2 cxd4** **9.Nxd4 Qb6** **10.e3 Ne5** **11.b3 Qa5** **12.Rc1 a6?!±** [12...0-0 13.0-0 d6 14.h3 Ng6=] **13.0-0 0-0** **14.f4?!=** [14.a3 Bxa3 15.Ra1 Qc5 16.Ne4 Qe7±] **14...Ng4** **15.Qd3 Be7?!±** [15...d6 16.h3 Nf6=] **16.h3** [16.f5 Qe5 17.Rce1 Nf6±] **16...Nf6** **17.g4 Rb8** **18.g5 Ne8** **19.Ne4 Qd8** **20.Rcd1 Nc7** **21.c5 b6** **22.c6?±** for the first time in the game, Ivanchuk gets the advantage [22.b4 a5 23.cxb6 Rxb6 24.bxa5 Rb8±] **22...a5** **23.Rf3 Ba6** **24.Qd2 Bb4** **25.Qc1 d5** **26.Ng3** [26.Nf2 Qd6 27.a4 b5±] **26...Qd6** [26...Bc5 27.Kh1 Rc8±] **27.Nh5?!±** Ivanchuk gets a " clear " advantage [27.e4 Qc5 28.Qb2 Rfd8±] **27...Qc5?!±** [27...Kh8 28.Bf1 Rg8±] **28.Qb2?!±** [28.Rf2 Rfd8 29.Nc2 Bc3±] **28...Bc3** **29.Qf2 Bxd4** **30.exd4 Qxc6** Ivanchuk goes up a P **31.Rg3 Kh8** **32.Qe3 Qd6** **33.Rc1 Rfc8** **34.Rg4?!+-** Ivanchuk gets a "winning" advantage [34.f5 exf5 35.Qf4 Qxf4 36.Nxf4 Ne6±] **34...Ne8?!±** [34...Nb5 35.Re1 Nc3+-] **35.Re1 g6** **36.Nf6 Nxf6** **37.gxf6 Rc2** **38.Rh4?!+-** [38.f5?! exf5 39.Qe8+ Qf8 40.Qxf8+ Rxf8 41.Rf4 Rc6+-; 38.Rg3 Rg8 39.f5 exf5 40.Qe5 Qxe5 41.Rxe5 Rc6 42.Bxd5 Rxf6±] **38...Rbc8** **39.Qg3?+-** - 3.28 [39.f5 R8c3 40.Qf4 Qxf4 41.Rxf4 Rc1 42.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 43.Kh2 gxf5+- - 2.52] **39...Qb4** **40.f5 Qxe1+!** **41.Qxe1 Rc1** **42.Qxc1 Rxc1+-** - 3.90 Ivanchuk will be up 2 P's. Cheparinov resigned. **0-1**

In Rd. 6, Kasimdzhanov, against Inarkiev, went up a P late in the game, and then brought it home. The win left him part of a four-way tie for first with Aronian, Leko and Ivanchuk. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Inarkiev, Ernesto – Kasimdzhanov, Rustam [C43]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (6), 15.08.2009

1.e4= 0.20 **1...e5** for Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted. **2.Nf3 Nf6?!±** [2...Nc6=] **3.d4 Nxe4** [3...exd4 4.e5 Ne4 5.Qxd4 d5 6.exd6 Nxd6±] **4.Bd3 d5 5.dxe5?!=** [5.Nxe5 Nd7 6.0-0 Bd6±] **5...Nc5** [5...Be7 6.0-0 Nc6=] **6.Be2** [6.0-0 Be7 7.Nc3 Nxd3 8.Qxd3 c6=] **6...Be7 7.0-0** [7.c4 dxc4 8.Qxd8+ Bxd8 9.Bxc4 Be6=] **7...0-0 8.Be3 c6?!±** [8...Nc6 9.Nc3 Be6=] **9.Nbd2?!=** [9.c4 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Nbd7±] **9...Ne6 10.Nb3** [10.c3 Nd7 11.Bd3 Nec5=] **10...c5 11.Re1 b6?!±** [11...Nc6 12.c4 d4 13.Bd2 Re8=] **12.c4 Bb7 13.Bd3?!=** [13.Qc2 d4 14.Bd2 Qc7±] **13...dxc4 14.Bxc4 Nc6** [14...Qc7 15.Bd2 Qd7 16.a4 Ba6=] **15.Qb1** [15.Qc2 Nb4 16.Qb1 Qc7=] **15...Qd7** [15...Qc7 16.Qf5 Rad8=] **16.Qf5** [16.Rd1 Qc7 17.Qf5 Rae8=] **16...Rad8 17.a3 Qc8 18.Rad1?!±** for the first time in the game, Kasimdzhanov gets the advantage [18.Qh5 a5 19.Rad1 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Qc7=] **18...Ng5 19.Qxc8 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Bxc8 21.f4 Be6 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Bxe6 fxe6 24.Rc1 h6 25.Nd2 Nd4 26.Kg2 Nf5 27.Kf3 g5?!=** [27...Kf7 28.Ne4 Rd7±] **28.Ne4 gxf4 29.Bxf4?!±** [29.Kxf4 a5 30.Rc3 Rd1=] **29...Rd3+ 30.Ke2 Rb3 31.Rb1 c4 32.Nd2 Rd3 33.Be3 Nxe3 34.fxe3 b5 35.b3?+-** loses the rear eP; Kasimdzhanov gets a " winning " advantage [35.Rg1+ Kf7 36.Rf1+ (36.b3?! Rxe3+ 37.Kxe3 Bc5+ 38.Kf3 (38.Ke2 Bxg1±; 38.Ke4 Bxg1±) 38...Bxg1 39.bxc4 bxc4 40.Nxc4 Bxh2±) 36...Kg6 37.b3 Rc3±] **35...Bg5 36.Rg1 Rxe3+** Kasimdzhanov goes up a P **37.Kf2 Rh3?!±** [37...c3 38.Nf3 Rxf3+ 39.Kxf3 c2 40.a4 b4 41.h4 c1Q 42.Rxc1 Bxc1+- - 6.34] **38.Nf3 c3 39.Nxg5 hxg5 40.Rxg5+** material equality **40...Kf7 41.Ke2 c2 42.Kd2 Rxb3 43.Kxc2 Rxa3** Kasimdzhanov goes up a P again **44.h4?!+-** - 2.27 [44.Rg1 a6 45.Rf1+ Ke7+- - 1.60] **44...a5 45.Rg4 Ra4! 46.Rxa4?+-** - 5.50 [46.Rg3 Rxh4 47.Rb3 Rh2+ 48.Kc1 b4+- - 4.29] **46...bxa4 47.Kb2 Kg6 48.Ka3 Kh5 49.Kxa4 Kxh4 50.Kxa5 Kg5 51.Kb4 Kf4 52.Kc3 Kxe5 53.Kd3 Kf4+- 0-1**

In Rd. 7, Leko, in a very even game and difficult ending, took sole possession of first place with his win over Cheparinov. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Cheparinov, I (2678) – Leko, P (2756) [E15]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (7), 16.08.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6± [3...d5=] **4.g3?!=** [4.Bg5 h6 5.Bh4 Be7±] **4...Ba6 5.b3 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Be7 7.Nc3 c6 8.e4 d5 9.Bd3 dxc4 10.bxc4 e5 11.Ne2 Nbd7 12.Qc2 0-0 13.0-0 Qc7 14.h3 Rad8 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Qxe5 17.Bc3 Qh5 18.e5 Nd7 19.Nf4** [19.Bf5 Bc5 20.Rfd1 Bc8=] **19...Qh6 20.Rfd1 Bg5** [20...Nc5 21.Bf5 g5 22.Ng2 Bxc4=] **21.Bf5 Nc5 22.Ng2 Bc8 23.Bxc8 Rxc8 24.Qf5 Qg6 25.Qxg6 hxg6 26.Bb4 Be7 27.Kf1 Rfe8 28.Ne1 a5 29.Bxc5 Bxc5 30.Nd3 Bd4 31.Rab1 Rb8 32.f4 g5 33.Nf2 Be3 34.fxg5?!±** for the first time in the game, Leko gets the advantage [34.Ng4 gxf4 35.Ke2 Kf8=] **34...Rxe5 35.h4 Rf5 36.Rb2 b5 37.cxb5 cxb5 38.Kg2 Rxf2+ 39.Rxf2 Bxf2 40.Kxf2 b4** Leko has the better majority **41.Ke3 a4 42.Rb1 Kh7 43.Kd2 Kg6 44.Rf1** [44.g4 b3 45.axb3 Rxb3 (45...Rb4?! 46.Kc3 Rxg4 47.b4 Rxh4 48.b5 Rh8= (48...Kxg5 49.b6 Rh8=)) 46.Rf1 Rb2+ 47.Kc3 Rg2±] **44...Rd8+ 45.Kc2 Rc8+ 46.Kb1 Rc4 47.Rf2** [47.Re1 Rd4 48.Re8 Rg4 49.Rb8 Rxg3 50.Rxb4 a3 51.Kc2 f5 52.gxf6 gxf6±] **47...Rg4 48.Rf3 Re4 49.Rf2?!±** Leko gets a " clear " advantage [49.Rd3 f5 50.gxf6 gxf6±] **49...Re1+ 50.Kb2 Rg1?!±** [50...Re3 51.g4 Re4 52.h5+ Kxg5 53.Rxf7 Kh6±] **51.Rf4 Rxg3 52.Rxb4 a3+ 53.Kc2?!±** [53.Kb1 f5 54.gxf6 gxf6±] **53...Kh5 54.Rf4 g6 55.Ra4??+-** finally Cheparinov really stumbles and gives Leko a " winning " advantage [55.Kb1 Rc3 56.Ra4 Rh3±; 55.Kd1±] **55...Rh3 56.Kd2** [56.Rf4

Rxh4 57.Rxf7 Rh2+ 58.Kb1 (58.Kb3 Rh3+ 59.Kb4 Kxg5-) 58...Rb2+ 59.Ka1 Rc2 60.Kb1 Rc3-+; 56.Kd1-+] **56...Rxh4?+-** - 1.73 [56...Rh2+ 57.Ke1 Rxa2-+ - 2.46] **57.Rxa3 Rh2+ 58.Ke1 Kxg5+** - 1.73 **0-1**

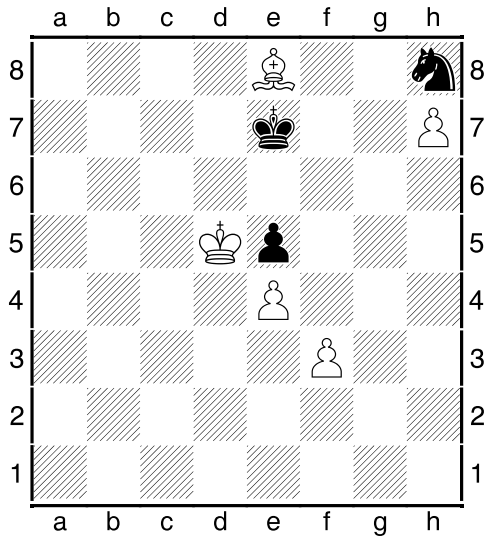
In Rd. 8, Ivanchuk went up 2 P's against Gelfand, and then in a long ending, sacked his B for Gelfand's last P. He was then able to promote. His win allowed him to tie Leko for the lead. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Ivanchuk, Vassily (2703) – Gelfand, Boris (2755) [A20]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (8), 17.08.2009

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Nc3 Nb6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.a3?!? [8.d4?! exd4 9.Nb5 Bf6; 8.a4 a5 9.d3 Be6=] **8...0-0 9.b4 Re8?!=** [9...Be6 10.d3 Nd4=] **10.d3 Bf8 11.Nd2 a5 12.b5 Nd4 13.e3 Nf5?!±** [13...Ne6 14.Nf3 Qd6=] **14.Qc2?!=** [14.Nc4 Nxc4 15.dxc4 Be6 16.Bxb7 Bxc4 17.Bxa8 Qxa8 18.Re1 Re6±] **14...Nd6?!±** [14...a4 15.Nc4 Nd6=] **15.a4 Bf5** [15...Bd7 16.Ba3 c6±] **16.Nb3 Qc8?!±** Ivanchuk gets a " clear " advantage [16...Qd7?! 17.e4 Bh3 18.f4 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 exf4 20.Bxf4 Ndc8±; 16...Qf6?! 17.f4 Rac8±; 16...Ndc8?! 17.Ne4 Bb4 18.f4 Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Nd6±; 16...Nxb5! 17.Nxb5 Bxd3 18.Qxc7 Nxa4 19.Rd1 Rc8 20.Qxb7 Rb8±] **17.Re1?!±** [17.e4 Be6 18.f4 Nd7±] **17...Rd8** [17...Bh3 18.Bh1 Re6±] **18.Ba3??** [18.e4 Be6 19.f4 Ne8 20.fxe5 Bxb3 21.Qxb3 Rxd3±] **18...Bxd3** Gelfand goes up a P **19.Qxd3** Ivanchuk is up B vs P **19...Ndc4 20.Qe2 Bxa3?!=** Gelfand is up a P [20...Nxa3 21.Ne4 c5 22.bxc6 Qxc6; 21.Nd5 Bd6 22.Nxb6 Nxb6 23.Red1 f5 [23...Kh8 24.Qc2 f5=; 23...Rf8 24.Qa2 h5=] **24.g4??** Ivanchuk sacs a P ; Gelfand gets a " clear " advantage [24.Rac1 e4 25.Nc5 Bxc5 26.Rxc5 Qe6=] **24...fxg4** Gelfand is up 2 P's **25.Nd2** [25.Qc2 Rf8 26.Be4 h5; 25...Qe6?!? [25...Kh8 26.Ne4 Qe6 27.Nxd6 cxd6 28.Bxb7 Ra7 29.Bc6 Rf8; 26.Bxb7 Gelfand is up a P now **26...Rab8 27.Bc6** [27.Bh1 Kh8 28.Ne4 Be7; 27...Bb4 [27...Be7 28.Bg2 Bh4; 28.Ne4 h6?!= [28...Kh8 29.Rdc1 Rf8; 29.Kg2?!? [29.Kh1 Rxd1+ 30.Rxd1 Rf8=] **29...Rxd1 30.Rxd1 Rf8 31.Ng3 Kh8 32.Qc2 Qc4?!=** Gelfand has lost his advantage [32...Qf6?! 33.Be4 Be7=; 32...g6?! 33.Be4 Kg7 34.Qxc7+ Rf7 35.Qc2 Be7=; 32...Bd6 33.Be4 Qf7 34.Bf5 h5; 33.Be4 Qxc2 34.Bxc2 Rf7 35.Ne4 Rd7 36.Rc1 Ba3 37.Ra1 Be7 38.Bb3 Rd3 39.Rb1 g6 40.Kf1 Kg7?!± [40...Bb4 41.Ke2 Rd8=] **41.Ke2 Rd7** [41...Rxb3! 42.Rxb3 Nxa4 43.f3 gxf3+ 44.Kxf3 Kf7±] **42.Be6 Rd8 43.Rc1 Nxa4?+-** Ivanchuk gets a " winning " advantage [43...Bd6 44.Bb3 Na8±] **44.Rxc7 Kf8 45.Rc6 Rb8 46.Bb3 Nb6 47.Rxg6** material equality **47...Ke8 48.Rxh6** Ivanchuk goes up a P **48...a4 49.Be6 a3 50.Rh8+?!±** [50.Nc3 Ra8 51.Rg6 Bb4+-] **50...Bf8 51.Rh7 Be7?!+-** [51...Ra8 52.Nc3 Ra5±] **52.Rh8+** [52.Nc3 Ra8 53.Rg7 Bb4+-] **52...Bf8 53.Rh7 Be7 54.Rg7?!±** [54.Nc3 Rb7 55.Rh8+ Bf8 56.Bxg4 Kf7+-] **54...Nd7 55.Nc3?!±** [55.Bc4 Ra8 56.Rg8+ Bf8±] **55...Nf6 56.Rg6 Kd8 57.Kd3 Kc7?+-** [57...Rb6 58.Bb3 Rb8±] **58.Bxg4** Ivanchuk goes up 2 P's **58...Rg8 59.Rxg8 Nxc8 60.Kc2 Bh4 61.f3 Kb6 62.Kb3 a2 63.Kxa2** Ivanchuk is up 3 P's **63...Be1 64.Kb3 Bxc3 65.Kxc3 Kxb5** Ivanchuk is up 2 P's **66.h4 Kc5 67.Be6 Nf6 68.Bf7 Kd6 69.Kc4 Ke7 70.Bg6 Ke6 71.h5 Ng8 72.Kc5 Nh6 73.e4 3.42 73...Ng8 74.Bf5+ Ke7 75.Kc6 Nh6 76.Bg6 Ke6 77.Kc7 Ke7 78.Kc8 Ng8 79.Bf5?+- 2.43 [79.Kb7 Kf6 80.Kc6 Ke6 81.Bf5+ Ke7 82.Kc7 Nh6+- 3.96] **79...Nh6 80.Kc7 Nf7 81.Kc6 Kf6 82.Kd5 Ng5 83.Bg4 Nf7 84.h6 Kg6?+- 4.12 [84...Ng5 85.Kc6 Nf7 86.h7 Kg7 87.Kd5 Kxh7 88.Bh5 Nd8 89.Kxe5 Kh6+- 3.65] **85.h7?+- 3.24 [85.Ke6 Nxh6 86.Kxe5 Ng8+- 4.55] **85...Kf6?+- 8.66 [85...Kxh7 86.Bh5 Nd8 87.Kxe5 Kh6+- 4.00] **86.Bh5 Nh8 87.Be8?+- 3.56 [87.f4 exf4 88.e5+ Kg7 89.e6 f3 90.Bxf3 Ng6+- 8.96] **87...Ke7?+- 15.26 [87...Kg7 88.Kxe5 Kxh7+- 11.15]************

Position after 87...Ke7?



88.Kxe5! Ivanchuk sacs his B for Gelfand's last P [88.Bc6? Ng6 89.Bb5 Kf6+- 3.44] **88...Kxe8** Ivanchuk has 3 P's vs N **89.Ke6 Kf8 90.Kf6 Nf7 91.f4 Nh8 92.f5 Nf7 93.e5 Nh8 94.e6 Nf7 95.Kg6 Ne5+ 96.Kh5 Kg7 97.h8Q+ Kxh8** Ivanchuk has 2 P's vs N and a win **98.e7+-** mate in 7 moves **1-0**

In Rd. 9 Kasimdzhanov defeated Cheparinov and joined Leko and Ivanchuk in the lead. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Kasimdzhanov, Rustam – Cheparinov, Ivan [D45]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (9), 18.08.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 dxc4 9.Bxc4 a6?!± [9...e5 10.Bb3 Qe7=] **10.Rd1 b5 11.Be2 Qc7 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 Bb7 14.Bd3 g6 15.Qh4 c5 16.Ng5 h5?!±** Kasimdzhanov gets a " clear " advantage [16...Nf6 17.dxc5 Qxc5±] **17.g4?=[17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.Bxe4 Rac8±] 17...Nf6 18.gxh5 Nxh5 19.Be2 [19.dxc5 Bxc5 20.Bd2 Rfd8=] 19...Kg7 20.dxc5** Kasimdzhanov goes up a P **20...Be5 [20...Qxc5=] 21.f4 Bf6 22.Bd2 [22.Qf2 Bxg5 23.fxg5 Qxc5=] 22...Qxc5?!±** material equality [22...Bxb2 23.Rac1 Bd5 24.Rc2 Bf6=] **23.Rac1 Qd5 [23...Qb6 24.Bxh5 Rh8 25.Qe1 Rxh5±] 24.Qh3 Rh8 25.Bc3 Qxa2** Cheparinov is up a P **26.Rd7?=[26.Nxf7! Kxf7 (26...Bxc3?! 27.Nxh8 Qxb2 28.Rd7+ (28.Bxh5? Rxh8 29.Rd7+ Kf8 30.Rcd1 Rxh5 31.Rxb7 Bd2 32.Qg2 Bxe3+ 33.Kh1 Rd5 34.Qxb2 Rxd1+ 35.Kg2 Rd2+ 36.Qxd2 Bxd2±) 28...Kxh8 29.Bxh5 Bg2 30.Qxe6 Bb7 31.Rh7+ Kxh7 32.Bxg6+ Kh6 33.Be4+ Kg7 34.Rb1 Bxe4 35.Rxb2 Bxb2 36.Qxe4 Rg8+-) 27.Rd7+ Kg8 28.Bxh5 Bxc3 29.Qg4 Rh6 30.Rxc3 Qb1+ 31.Qd1 Qxd1+ 32.Bxd1 Bd5±] 26...Bxc3 27.Qxe6! Qxe6 28.Nxe6+ Kh6 29.Rxc3** material equality **29...Bc8 [29...fxe6?! 30.Rxb7 Rhc8±] 30.Rxc8 Rhxc8** Cheparinov is up the exchange **31.Rxf7** Cheparinov is up the exchange, but Kasimdzhanov has a P compensation [31.Ng5 Rc1+ 32.Kf2 Rc2 33.b3 Rb2 34.Nxf7+ Kh7 35.Ng5+ Kh8=] **31...Re8?!± [31...Rc2 32.Kf2 Rxb2=] 32.Ng5 Ng7 33.Kf2 Rf8?!±** Kasimdzhanov gets back a " clear " advantage [33...Rad8 34.Nf3 Rd5±] **34.Rd7 Rf6 35.Bd3 b4?!+-** Kasimdzhanov gets a " winning " advantage [35...Rc8 36.h4 Rc1±] **36.h4 a5 37.h5 a4 38.hxg6 a3 3.75 [38...Rf5 39.Ne6 Rd5 40.Rxd5 Nxe6+- 3.35] 39.Nf7+ Kh5 40.Ne5 Rxg6??+-** Cheparinov wrongly sacks his R to try to relieve the pressure; but this leads to mate [40...Rg8 41.bxa3 bxa3 42.Kf3 Re6+- 5.57] **41.Bxg6+** Kasimdzhanov is up B + P and it is mate in 9 moves

41...Kh6 42.bxa3?+- Kasimdzhanov misses the mate. But Cheparinov resigns.[42.Be4 Ra5 43.Ng4+ Kh5 44.Rxg7 Kh4 45.Nf6 Rh5 46.Rg1 axb2 47.Rh1#] **1-0**

In Rd. 12, Kasimdzhanov ran into a determined Gelfand, who went up a passed pawn and won. This knocked Kasimdzhanov out of first and into a 4-way tie for third. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Kasimdzhanov, Rustam – Gelfand, Boris [D47]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (12), 22.08.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7?!± [5...Bd6 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 Nbd7=] **6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5** [7...Bd6 8.e4 e5 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.dxe5 Bxe5 11.Qxd8+ Kxd8±] **8.Bd3 Bb7 9.a3?!=** [9.e4 b4 10.Na4 Qa5±] **9...Bd6?!±** [9...a6 10.b4 a5=] **10.0-0 0-0 11.Qc2 Qe7 12.e4?!=** [12.Rd1 c5±] **12...e5 13.Bg5 Rfe8?!±** [13...exd4 14.Nxd4 Bxh2+ 15.Kxh2 Ng4+ 16.Kg3 Qxg5=] **14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.f4 Bd4+?!±** Kasimdzhanov gets a " clear " advantage [16...Bxc3 17.bxc3 h6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6±] **17.Kh1 h6** [17...Qc5 18.e5 h6 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Ne4 Qxc2 21.Nxf6+ Kf8 22.Bxc2 Red8±] **18.Bh4?!±** [18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.e5 Qe7±] **18...Qc5 19.e5 Nd5 20.Rf3 b4?!±** [20...a5 21.Qb3 a4 22.Qd1 Bc8±] **21.Nxd5?=-** Kasimdzhanov loses his advantage [21.axb4 Nxb4 22.Qd1 Bxc3 23.bxc3 Nxd3 24.Rxd3 Bc8±] **21...Qxc2 22.Bxc2 cxd5 23.axb4 Bxb2 24.Rb1 Bd4 25.Rd1 Bb6 26.Ba4** [26.Bf5 d4 27.Rg3 Kf8=] **26...Rec8 27.Bd7?!±** for the first time in the game, Gelfand gets the advantage [27.f5 d4 28.Rg3 Kh7=] **27...Rc4 28.e6 fxe6 29.Bxe6+ Kh8 30.h3 Rxb4 31.Bxd5 Bxd5 32.Rxd5 a5 33.Bf2?!±** Gelfand gets a " clear " advantage [33.Be7 Re4 34.Re5 Rc4±] **33...Bc7?=-** Gelfand loses his advantage [33...Bxf2 34.Rxf2 a4±] **34.g3?!±** Gelfand gets back a " clear " advantage [34.Bd4 Rd8 35.Rxd8+ Bxd8 36.Rd3 a4=] **34...a4 35.Ra3 Rb3 36.Bc5?!-+** Gelfand gets a " winning " advantage [36.Ra2 a3 37.Rdd2 Ba5±] **36...Ra5 37.Rf5 Kh7??-+** - 1.42 Gelfand misses winning the exchange ! [37...Bd6 38.Bxd6 Rxf5] **38.g4 Rxa3 39.Bxa3 Rxf5 40.gxf5 Bxf4** Gelfand goes up a P **41.Kg2 Kg8-+** - 2.89 **0-1**

In the final round 13, Leko was defeated and Ivanchuk won against Akopian to end up in clear first. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Akopian, Vladimir – Ivanchuk, Vassily [C77]

5th FIDE GP Jermuk ARM (13), 23.08.2009

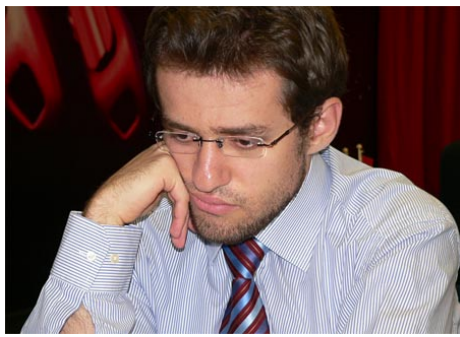
1.e4= 0.20 1...e5 for Fritz, the only equalizing move **2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.c3 g6?!±** [6...Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbd2 Bg4=] **7.0-0?!=** [7.d4 Bd7 8.Bg5 Bg7 9.0-0 h6±] **7...Bg7 8.Re1 0-0 9.Nbd2** [9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 Bg4=] **9...Re8 10.Nf1 h6 11.Ng3 b5 12.Bc2 d5 13.Qe2 Be6 14.h3 Nd7 15.Be3?!±** [15.exd5 Bxd5 16.h4 Qf6=] **15...d4 16.Bd2 Nc5 17.Rec1 Qd6?!=** [17...a5 18.cxd4 exd4±] **18.cxd4 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.Bc3?!±** [20.Be3 Qd6 21.Qd2 Kh7 22.Qc3 Na4 23.Bxa4 bxa4=] **20...Qd6 21.Bb4 Qb6** [21...Bf8 22.a4 Qb6 23.a5 Qa7±] **22.Qe3 Bf8?!=** [22...Nb7 23.Bd2 Qd6±] **23.Bc3?!±** [23.Rd1 Rad8 24.Ne2 Nd7 25.Bxf8 Qxe3 26.fxe3 Kxf8=] **23...Rad8 24.Qf3 Bg7 25.b4 Na4 26.Bd2 Rd7 27.a3 Red8 28.Be3 Qb7 29.Rab1 Ba2** [29...f5 30.Ne2 Rxd3! 31.Bxd3 Rxd3 32.exf5 Qxf3 33.gxf3 Bxf5 34.Ra1 e4±] **30.Ra1 Be6 31.Rab1 Nc3?!=** [31...f5 32.Ne2 Rxd3! 33.Bxd3 Rxd3 34.exf5 Qxf3 35.gxf3 gxf5 36.Rxc7 f4±] **32.Ra1?!±** Ivanchuk gets a " clear " advantage [32.Rb2 a5 33.bxa5 Qa6=] **32...f5 33.exf5 Qxf3 34.gxf3 gxf5 35.Bb3?!-+** Ivanchuk gets a " winning " advantage [35.Bd2 Nd5 36.Re1 f4 37.Ne4 Bxh3±] **35...Bxb3 36.Rxc3 Be6 37.Ba7 Rxd3 38.Rxc7 Rxf3** Ivanchuk goes up a P **39.Re7 Bf7 40.Rc1 Bf6 41.Rec7 Bg5 42.Re1?+-** - 2.85 [42.Rc8 Bc4 43.Rxd8+ Bxd8 44.Rd1 Rd3 45.Rxd3 Bxd3 - 2.03] **42...e4 43.Rc5 Rd7 44.Bb6 Be6 45.Rc8+ Kf7 46.Bc5 Rxa3** Ivanchuk goes up 2 P's **47.Rf8+ Kg6 48.Re8 Kf7** [48...Bf7 49.Rb8 Bd8-+] **49.Rf8+ Kg6 50.Re8 Bc4 51.Rb8 e3?+-** - 3.03 [51...Bd8 52.Kg2 Bc7-+ - 4.93] **52.h4?+-** - 5.50 this just loses a P [52.Bxe3! f4 53.Bc1 fxg3 54.f4! Ra2 55.fxg5 hxg5-+ - 2.73] **52...exf2+ 53.Bxf2 Bxh4** Ivanchuk goes up 3 P's **54.Rb6+ Kg5 55.Be3+?+-** - 9.37 [55.Ne2 Rd2 56.Bxh4+ Kxh4 57.Rxh6+ Kg5 58.Rh2 Re3 59.Rg2+ Kf6 60.Ra1 Rxe2 61.Rxa6+ Ke5 - 7.44] **55...f4 56.Ne4+ Kf5 57.Bf2 Rg7+ 58.Kh2 Bxf2 59.Nxf2??-+** mate in 15 moves [59.Rf6+

Ke5 60.Rxa6 Bxe1 61.Rxa3 Kxe4+ – 28.37] **59...Ra2 60.Kh1** mate in 10 moves [60.Rd1 Rxf2+ 61.Kh1 Be2+ mate in 11 moves] **60...Bd5+ 61.Ne4 Rc7?+ – 12.42** Ivanchuk misses the mate [61...Bxe4+ 62.Rxe4 Ra1+ 63.Kh2 f3 64.Rf4+ Kxf4+ mate in 4 moves] **62.Rf6+ Ke5+ – 12.42 0-1**

The final standings were (from TWIC):

5th FIDE GP Jermuk (ARM), 9-23 viii 2009														cat. XIX (2719)					
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4		
1.	Ivanchuk, Vassily	g	UKR	2703	*	½	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	8½	2830
2.	Aronian, Levon	g	ARM	2768	½	*	1	0	½	1	½	0	½	1	1	½	1	8	2802
3.	Gelfand, Boris	g	ISR	2755	0	0	*	1	1	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	8	2803
4.	Kasimdzhanov, Rustam	g	UZB	2672	½	1	0	*	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	7½	2779
5.	Leko, Peter	g	HUN	2756	½	½	0	½	*	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	1	7½	2773
6.	Alekseev, Evgeny	g	RUS	2714	0	0	½	½	½	*	½	1	½	1	½	½	1	7½	2776
7.	Karjakin, Sergey	g	UKR	2717	½	½	½	½	0	½	*	½	1	½	½	1	½	7	2748
8.	Eljanov, Pavel	g	UKR	2716	½	1	½	½	½	0	½	*	½	0	½	½	½	6½	2719
9.	Bacrot, Etienne	g	FRA	2721	½	½	½	½	½	½	0	½	*	½	1	½	0	6	2689
10.	Kamsky, Gata	g	USA	2717	½	0	½	½	½	0	½	1	½	*	0	½	1	6	2690
11.	Jakovenko, Dmitry	g	RUS	2760	½	0	½	½	½	½	½	½	0	1	*	½	0	5	2628
12.	Akopian, Vladimir	g	ARM	2712	0	½	0	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	*	½	5	2632
13.	Inarkiev, Ernesto	g	RUS	2675	½	0	0	0	0	0	½	½	1	0	1	½	*	4½	2612
14.	Cheparinov, Ivan	g	BUL	2678	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	½	1	½	½	4	2581

FIDE Grand Prix Winner – Levon Aronian !



The Grand Prix series was to be a six tournament series, with the winner of the most number of cumulated points qualifying for the 2010 Candidates tournament of 8 players. Aronian (Armenia) came second in the 5th Grand Prix tournament (Jermuk, Armenia). But with this finish he stands first in the Grand Prix standings with 500 pts. But with one tournament still to go, no one in the last tournament can catch him. So he is the winner of the 2008-9 Grand Prix. It seems likely that the last tournament will likely not be held now.

Gata Kamsky is already seeded into the Candidates tournament as the loser of the 2010 WC Challengers' Match with Topalov earlier this year. As well, the loser of the 2010 WC match between Viswanathan Anand (India) and Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria) will go into the Candidates match. There will then be 2 qualifiers from the 2009 FIDE World Cup later this year, as well as some qualifiers by rating.

FIDE has had difficulty getting acceptable bids in for both the 2010 WC match, and for the 2010 Candidates Matches. So all of this cycle is still very much up in the air.

All-time Youngest GM's

(from ChessNews.com)

Player	Country	Age
Sergey Karjakin	Ukraine	12 years, 7 months, 0 days
Parimarjan Negi	India	13 years, 4 months, 22 days
Magnus Carlsen	Norway	13 years, 4 months, 27 days
Bu Xiangzhi	China	13 years, 10 months, 13 days
Teimour Radjabov	Azerbaijan	14 years, 0 months, 14 days
Ruslan Ponomariov	Ukraine	14 years, 0 months, 17 days
Wesley So	Philippines	14 years, 1 month, 28 days
Etienne Bacrot	France	14 years, 2 months, 0 days
Maxime Vachier-Lagrave	France	14 years, 4 months
Péter Lékó	Hungary	14 years, 4 months, 22 days
Hou Yifan	China	14 years, 6 months, 16 days
Anish Giri	Russia	14 years, 7 months, 2 days
Yuriy Kuzubov	Ukraine	14 years, 7 months, 12 days
Dariusz Swiercz	Poland	14 years, 7 months, 29 days
Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son	Vietnam	14 years, 10 months
Fabiano Caruana	Italy	14 years, 11 months, 10 days

SCC'ers at the Canadian Open

(2nd of a two-part series)

The 2009 Canadian Open was held in Edmonton, Alberta from July 11-19, and attracted 202 players. It was won on tie-break by Canadian GM Mark Bluvstein.

In attendance were 8 players from SCC ! Here are their scores :

Liam Henry – 5.5 pts.

Mario Moran-Venegas – 4.5 pts

Sam Arfin – 4.5pts.

Tyler Longo – 4.5 pts.

Alex Ferreira – 4.5 pts.

Bob Armstrong – 4 pts.

Maurice Smith – 3.5 pts.

Dinesh Dattani – 3 pts.

Also attending were 3 former SCC'ers:

Aman Hambleton – 5.5 pts. (in error we left Aman out of the list last Issue)

Omar Shah – 5.5 pts.

Phil Haley – 4 pts.

I asked everyone to give me their most interesting game: win , loss or draw. Of the responses, here are 4 of the games (we presented 3 last Issue).

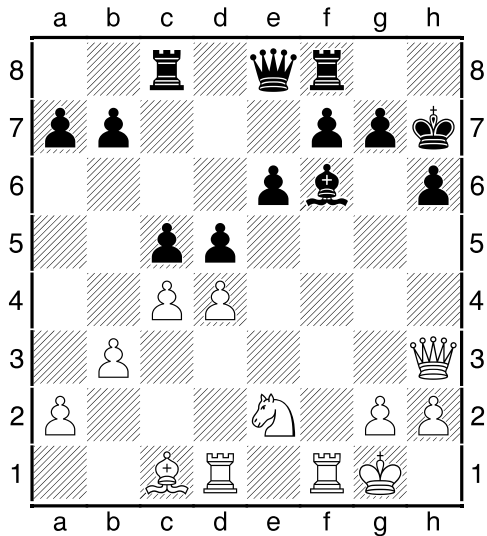
The first is my game in Rd. 9 against young junior Mark Plotkin, who had been having a good tournament for his rating. I managed to develop an attack, and he didn't really meet the threats. I sacked and got a mate. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Armstrong, Robert (1831) – Plotkin, Mark (1536) [D12]

Canadian Open Edmonton, Alberta (9), 19.07.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Bf5 4.Nf3 [4.Qb3 b6 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 e5 7.dxe5 Qg5 8.Kf1 Qxe5=]
4...e6 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 Nf6 7.0-0 Nbd7?!± [7...Qb6 8.b3 Nbd7=] **8.Nc3 Be7 9.b3?!=** [9.e4 0-0
10.Bf4 Qb6 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.e5 Nh5±] **9...0-0** [9...Bb4 10.a3 Bxc3 11.Qxc3 0-0=] **10.Bb2 c5?±** |

get a " clear " advantage [10...Qa5 11.Rfc1 Rac8=] **11.Rad1?**= [11.cxd5 exd5 12.Qf5 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nb6±] **11...Rc8?±** [11...cxd4 12.exd4 Qa5=] **12.e4?**= [12.cxd5 exd5 13.dxc5 Qa5±] **12...h6?+-** Mark now starts playing passively and defensively; I get a " winning " advantage [12...dxc4 13.Qxc4 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Bc5 15.Qa4 Qc7=] **13.e5 Nh7?+-** 2.81 [13...dxc4 14.bxc4 Ng4 15.Qe2 cxd4 16.Rxd4 Nxf2 17.Rxf2 Bc5 18.Nb5 a6 19.Nd6 Bxd4 20.Bxd4 Rc6+- 1.98] **14.Ne2?**= I have lost my advantage [14.cxd5 exd5 15.Nxd5 Nb6 16.Nxb6 Qxb6+-] **14...Ng5?±** [14...dxc4 15.bxc4 cxd4 16.Nexd4 Nb6=] **15.Nxg5 Bxg5?!+-** I get back my " winning " advantage [15...hxg5 16.cxd5 exd5 17.Qf3 cxd4 18.Bxd4 Qa5±] **16.f4** 1.47 [16.cxd5 exd5 17.Nc3 c4 18.bxc4 dxc4 19.Qf5 Be7+- 1.57] **16...Be7 17.f5?±** again I am losing my advantage [17.cxd5 exd5 18.f5 c4 19.bxc4 Rxc4+- 1.99] **17...Qe8?+-** 2.54 again Mark gives me back a " winning " advantage [17...dxc4 18.bxc4 cxd4 19.Bxd4 Qc7±] **18.Bc1?!±** [18.Qg3 Kh8 19.f6 gxf6 20.Qh3 Kh7 21.Bc1 Rh8 22.exf6 Bf8 23.cxd5 Rg8 24.Nf4 Nxf6 25.dxe6 fxe6 26.Nxe6 Rg6+- 5.99] **18...Kh8?!+-** [18...dxc4?! 19.Qg3 Kh7 20.f6 gxf6 21.Qh4 Rh8 22.exf6 Bf8+-; 18...cxd4 19.f6 Nxe5 20.Qg3 Bxf6 21.Rxf6 Ng6±] **19.Qh3?+-** 2.84 [19.f6 Rg8 20.fxe7 Qxe7 21.Qh3 Kh7 22.cxd5 exd5 23.Qf5+ Kh8 24.Qh5 cxd4 25.Bxh6 g6 26.Qh3 Qe6+- 8.72] **19...Kh7?!+-** 4.09 [19...exf5 20.Bxh6! Rc6 21.Bc1+ Kg8 22.Rxf5 g6+- 3.62] **20.f6 Nxf6?+-** 6.89 Mark sacs his N to try to relieve the pressure [20...Rh8 21.fxe7 dxc4 22.bxc4 Qxe7+- 4.43] **21.exf6 Bxf6**



22.Rxf6! gxf6 23.Qxh6+ I am up B + N vs R + P, and have mate **23...Kg8 24.Rd3+-** Mark resigned. It is mate **24...cxd4 25.Rg3# 1-0**

The second game is Omar's last round win against expert Ben Daswani, which gave Omar 2nd/3rd in the U 2000 Class. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Shah, Omaray (1972) – Daswani, Benedict (2115) [B07]

Canadian Open Edmonton, Alberta (9), 19.07.2009

[Armstrong, Robert]

1.e4= 0.20 **1...d6**± [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the Pirc, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] **2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6?!±** the Pirc Defence; Omar gets a " clear " advantage [3...e6 4.Be2 Be7±] **4.Be3 c6** [4...Bg7 5.Qd2 0-0 6.0-0-0 c6±; 4...d5 5.e5 Ng4±; 4...Ng4 5.Bf4 Bg7 6.Be2 e5 7.Bxg4 exf4±] **5.Qd2 b5 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.Nf3 e5** [7...Ng4 8.Bf4 e5 9.h3 Nxf2 10.Kxf2 exf4 11.Qxf4 Be7±] **8.0-0-0?!±** [8.d5 Bb7 9.dxc6 Bxc6 10.Bxb5 Bxb5 11.Nxb5 Nxe4 12.Qd3 (12.Qd5 Rb8±) 12...Rb8±] **8...b4** [8...Qa5 9.h3 b4 10.Nb1 exd4 11.Bxd4 Qxa2±] **9.Ne2 exd4?!±** [9...Qa5 10.Kb1

Ng4 11.h4 Ndf6±] **10.Nexd4 c5 11.Ne2 Qa5 12.Kb1 Bb7 13.Bg5?!±** [13.Ng3 h6 14.a3 (14.h3?! 0-0-0 15.a3 d5±) 14...Bg7 15.Bc4 Nb6 16.axb4 cxb4±] **13...Bg7 14.Bh6 0-0 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Ng3 Nb6??+–** a blunder, missing a nice tactic Omar now has; Omar gets a " winning " advantage [16...Qc7 17.Qf4 Rae8±] **17.Qg5?+–** 2.09 Omar misses the tactic [17.Nf5+! Kh8 18.Qh6 Rg8 19.Nxd6 Rgf8 20.Nxb7 Qa4+– 7.64 Omar would be up B + P] **17...Bc8 18.Nh4?!±** [18.Nd4! Ne8 19.Ngf5+ Bxf5 20.exf5 d5+–] **18...Nbd7?!+–** [18...Ne8 19.Nhf5+ Kh8 20.Nd4! f6 21.Qh6 Rg8±] **19.Nhf5+ Kh8 20.Nxd6** Omar goes up a P **20...Rb8?+–** 5.23 [20...Ne8 21.Bc4 f6 22.Qh6 Nxd6 23.Rxd6 Qd8+– 3.79] **21.h4?+–** 4.46 [21.Bc4 Ba6 22.Nxf7+ Kg8 23.Nh6+ Kh8+– 5.18] **21...Qc7** 4.88 [21...Ne8? 22.h5 Nxd6 23.hxg6 fxg6 24.Qxg6 Nf6+– 7.64] **22.Bc4 Rb6 23.e5 Ba6?+–** 6.08 [23...Rxd6 24.exd6 Qc6+– 5.13] **24.h5 Rxd6!** an exchange sac to try to relieve some of the pressure **25.exd6** Omar is up the exchange + P **25...Qc6?+–** 8.93 [25...Qc8 26.hxg6 fxg6 27.Be6 Bb7+– 7.22] **26.Bxa6?+–** 6.21 [26.Be6 b3 27.Bxd7 bxc2+ 28.Kxc2 Nxd7 29.hxg6 Qa4+ 30.Kb1 Qxd1+ 31.Rxd1 fxg6+– 19.01] **26...Qxa6 27.hxg6 fxg6 28.Rhe1?+–** 5.38 Omar should just win the P [28.Qxg6 Qc4 29.Rde1 Qf7+– 6.66] **28...c4 29.Re7 c3??+–** a blunder – this leads to mate [29...b3 30.cxb3 cxb3 31.axb3 Rb8+– 9.04] **30.Qh6 Rg8 31.Rh1 Nf8 32.Ne4?!+–** mate in 14 moves [32.Qf4 Ne8+– mate in 8 moves] **32...Nh5 33.Ng5 Rg7 34.Rxg7?+–** 16.32 Omar misses the mate [34.Nxh7! Nxh7 35.Rxg7 Qf1+ 36.Rxf1 Nxg7 37.Re1 Ne6 38.Rxe6 Kg8 39.Re7 cxb2 40.Qg7#] **34...Nxb7 35.Nxh7?+–** 11.12 Omar misses a computer mate. Omar is up the exchange + 2 P's [35.d7 Qa5 36.Nxh7 Kg8 37.Nxf8 b3 38.axb3 cxb2 39.Kxb2 Kxf8+– mate in 15 moves] **35...Kg8 36.Ng5?+–** 8.61 [36.Nxf8 b3 37.axb3 cxb2 38.Qh8+ Kf7 39.Kxb2 Qxd6+– 12.95] **36...Nh5 37.g4?+–** 9.14 [37.d7 Qd6 38.g4 Qxd7 39.gxh5 Qg7+– 9.84] **37...Qc6?+–** 12.38 [37...Qb7 38.Rd1 Qg7+– 9.66] **38.Rd1?+–** 8.78 [38.f3 Qxd6 39.gxh5 Qe5+– 25.50] **38...Nf6 39.Ne6 Nxe6 40.Qxg6+ Ng7 41.Qxf6** Omar is up the exchange + 3 P's **41...Qd7 42.f3?+–** 17.58 [42.Re1 a6 43.g5 Qf7 44.Qd8+ Kh7+– 28.13] **42...a5?+–** 18.23 [42...Ne8 43.Qg6+ Ng7+– 16.61] **43.Re1 Qb5 44.Qd8+ Kh7 45.f4?+–** 30.21 Omar misses the mate [45.g5 Qf5 46.Rh1+ Nh5 47.Rxh5+ Kg6 48.Rh6+ Kg7 49.Qe7+ Kg8 50.d7 Qxc2+ 51.Kxc2 b3+ 52.Kxb3 a4+ 53.Kxa4 cxb2 54.d8Q#] **45...Qd5** 30.51 [45...a4? 46.Rh1+ Kg6 it is mate in 12 moves] **46.Qe7?+–** 17.26 Omar misses the mate [46.b3 Kg6 47.f5+ Kh7 48.d7 Qf7+– it is mate in 5 moves] **46...a4** 30.76 [46...b3? 47.axb3 a4+– it is mate in 15 moves] **47.Qe4+?+–** this leads to mate, but Omar misses the quick mate [47.d7 b3 48.Qh4+ Nh5 it is mate in 7 moves] **47...Qxe4 48.Rxe4 b3** leads to mate [48...cxb2 49.d7+– it is mate in 12 moves; 48...a3 49.b3 mate in 11 moves] **49.d7 a3** mate in 10 moves [49...bxa2+ 50.Kxa2+– mate in 10 moves] **50.d8Q cxb2 51.Qg5 Ne8 52.Re7+ 1-0**

Aman Hambleton sent us a nice win where he piled up on the f7P and Black's defenses slowly collapsed. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Hambleton, Aman (2206) – Ebrahim-Shirazi, Behrooz [D36]

Canadian Open 2009 Scarborough (2), 13.07.2009

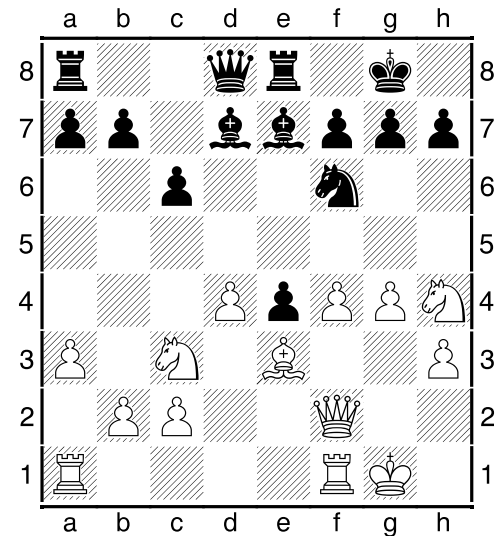
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7?!± [5...c6 6.e3 h6 7.Bf4 Qb6=] **6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.Nge2 0-0 9.Qc2 Re8 10.0-0 Nf8 11.f3 Qa5 12.a3 Be6 13.b4 Qb6** [13...Qd8 14.Ng3 a5 15.Rab1 axb4 16.axb4 N6d7±] **14.Na4 Qc7** [14...Qd8 15.e4 N6d7±] **15.Nc5** [15.e4 dxe4 16.fxe4 Bg4±] **15...Bc8?!±** Aman gets a " clear " advantage [15...Bd6 16.Kh1 Nh5 17.g4 Nf6±] **16.Rac1?±** [16.e4 Qd8 17.e5 N6d7 18.Bxe7 Qxe7±] **16...Nh5?±** [16...Ng6 17.Nc3 Bd6=] **17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.e4 dxe4 19.fxe4 Qg5?!+–** Aman gets a " winning " advantage [19...b6 20.Bc4 Ne6±] **20.Bc4** 1.41 [20.e5 Re7 21.Rf2 Bg4 22.Rcf1 Rd8+– 1.95] **20...Re7** 1.55 [20...Qe3+ 21.Kh1 Nf6 22.e5 Nd5+– 1.52] **21.Qb3** focusing on the f7 weak point **21...Ne6?+–** 2.46 [21...Qg6 22.e5 a6 23.Qe3 Bg4+– 2.17] **22.Qf3?!±** [22.Rxf7! Rxf7 23.Nxe6 Bxe6 24.Bxe6 Raf8+–] **22...Qg6?!+–** Behrooz is having trouble deciding how to defend against this strong attack [22...Nf6 23.e5 Nxc5 24.bxc5 Bg4 25.Qf4 Qxf4 26.Nxf4 Nh5±] **23.Nxe6 Bxe6 24.Bxe6 Rxe6 25.Rc5 Rxe4?+–** 2.73 this sac doesn't help [25...Nf6 26.Nf4 Qxe4 27.Nxe6 Qxe6+– 1.72] **26.Rxh5** Aman is up N vs P **26...Rae8 27.Ng3?+–** 2.38 [27.Rg5! Re3 28.Qf4 R3e4 29.Rxg6 Rxf4 30.Rxg7+ Kxg7 31.Nxf4 Re4+– 3.97 Aman would be an N] **1-0**

The last game is one of Phil Haley's, former CFC President, who is now somewhere above 80 years old, and who had a great tournament. Here is his game against.....

Pradzinski, Tim (1969) – Haley, Phil (1715) [C01]

Canadian Open Edmonton, Alberta (8), 18.07.2009

1.e4= -20 1...e6± [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the French, W is given a "slight" advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] 2.d4 d5 3.exd5?!= [3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7±] 3...exd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Be3?!± [5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 c6=] 5...Bd6 6.Bd3 c6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.h3 Re8 9.a3 Qc7 10.Qd2 Nbd7 11.0-0 Ne4 12.Bxe4 dxe4 13.Nh4?!± Phil gets a "clear" advantage [13.Ng5 f5 14.f3 f4 15.fxe4 h6 16.Bxf4 Bxf4 17.Rxf4 hxg5±] 13...Nf6 14.Qe2?!+ Phil gets a "winning" advantage [14.g4?! h5 15.Bg5 Nd5-+; 14.Rae1 h6 15.Ne2 a6±] 14...Bd7 15.f4 15...Qd8 16.Qf2 Be7 17.g4



Nxg4?!± Phil sacs his N and goes up a P, but the B-sac is stronger [17...Bxg4 18.Qg3 (18.hxg4 Nxg4 19.Qe2 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Bxh4-+ -2.60) 18...Be6-+ - 2.64] 18.hxg4 Bxh4 19.Qg2 Be7?!± [19...Be6 20.Qh3 Bf6±] 20.Kf2?+ [20.f5 c5 21.dxc5 Qc8±] 20...f5 21.g5 g6?!± [21...Be6 22.Rh1 Bf7 23.Qg3 Bd6-+] 22.Rh1 Bf8 23.Qh3 Re7 24.d5 Rg7 25.Bd4 Qe7?± Phil wrongly decides to sac the exchange, being up a P; for the first time since the early opening, Tim gets the advantage [25...Rf7 26.Qe3 Be8±] 26.Rae1?± Tim should just win the offered exchange [26.Bxg7 Qxg7 27.Rad1 Rc8±] 26...Rf7 Phil corrects his error 27.b4?!± [27.Rd1 Qd8 28.Qe3 Rc8±] 27...Rc8 28.Bxa7?!+ [28.Rd1 Qe8 29.Be5 c5±] 28...Qd6 29.Qe3 cxd5 Phil goes up a P 30.Bc5 Qc6 31.Bd4 Bg7 32.Ne2 Bxd4 33.Nxd4 Qc3?!± [33...Qa6?! 34.Rh3 Bb5±; 33...Qc4 34.Qd2 Ba4-+ (34...Re7?! 35.Rh3 Qa2±; 34...b6?!±)] 34.Rh3?+ [34.Qxc3 Rxc3±] 34...Qxe3+ [34...Qb2 35.Rd1 Ba4 36.Qc1 Qa2-+] 35.Rhxe3 - 1.70 [35.Rexe3 Ba4 36.c3 Rfc7-+ - 1.46] 35...Ba4 36.c3 Rfc7 37.Rc1?+ - 2.83 [37.Ne2 Bc2 38.Rh3 Kh8-+ - 1.66] 37...Rc4 threatening to win the N, given the pin on c3 38.Ne2?+ - 4.44 [38.Rg1 Rxc3 39.Rxc3 Rxc3 40.Rg3 Rc4 41.Ke3 Kf7-+ - 3.53] 38...d4! again making use of the c3 pin 39.Rh3 d3 40.Ng3?+ - 9.38 [40.Ke3 dxe2 41.Kxe2 Rd8-+ - 5.63] 40...Rxc3?+ - 7.52 Phil goes up 2 P's [40...d2 41.Rb1 Rxc3 42.Rhh1 e3+ 43.Ke2 Bb5+ 44.Kf3 Bc6+ 45.Ke2 Bxh1 46.Nf1 (46.Rxh1? - 35.12) 46...Rc1-+ - 19.24] 41.Rxc3 Rxc3 42.Ke3 Rxa3 Phil goes up 3 P's 43.Kd2?+ - 11.52 [43.Rh1 d2+ 44.Kxd2 Rxc3-+ - 9.80] 43...Ra2-+ - 11.52 the pawn will now queen, and Tim will have to sac to get it. 0-1

Hamilton Summer Open

This 2 day swiss in three sections (Open; U 1900; Junior) was played August 22-23 and attracted 68 players. Here is the report on ChessTalk by Garvin Nunes, organizer/TD:

The second day of our modest open was so violent there was blood all over the chess pieces.

In the open section, Artiom had to fend off Hamiltonians back to back with victories over Doug Bailey in round 4 and then Alexander Friedman,(the co-winner of the 09 Winter Open) in round 5.

Current Hamilton Club Champion, Doug Bailey had a come back in round 5, though, when he won over Roman Sapozhnikov (the other co-winner of the Winter Open).

Mike Dougherty and John Upper, along with Doug, all tied for second with 3.5/5.

In the U1900 Section Jaime Solis and Joe Bellomo [SCC member] tied for first/second with 4/5 points. Solis got a win over Matthew Nicholson in round 4 and then a draw against Boris Iriarte in round 5; while, Joe got a win over Mario Moran-Venegas [SCC member] in round 4 and a draw against Matthew Nicholson in round 5.

Tied for third were Ferdinand Supsup and Doug Gillis [SCC member] with 3.5/5 points each

The prize fund was \$1422 and was given out as follows:

Open

1st - Artiom Samsonkin 5/5 \$ 438

2nd-3rd - Doug Bailey, Michael Dougherty, John Upper 3.5/5 \$ 140 each

Under 1900

1st-2nd - Jaime Solis, Joe Bellomo 4/5 \$ 222 each

3rd - Ferdinand Supsup, Doug Gillis 3.5/5 \$ 60 each

KIDS!

There was plenty of excitement in the Junior section (age 15 and under) including an exciting 3 way tie breaker for the second place trophy.

Big kudos must be given to Leslie Tang who came clear first with 4.5/5. Leslie also won Hamilton's Junior Championship in July, so you know this is one twelve year old with a lot of hardware.

Special mention to James Law who is the only opponent Leslie didn't defeat. (Their game ended in a draw in round 5). Claudio Sottile, Jeffrey Lee along with James Law all tied for second place with 4/5 and a tie breaking formula was demanded to see who would get which trophy. Standings and ratings were not affected by the tie breakers.

The organizers decided to do a double blitz (5 minute) round robin so that each player could get a chance to play black and white. A coin toss was used to see who would have to play back to back, and who would get the rest break. When the dust settled the results of the round robin were as follows:

Jeffrey Lee:2.5
James Law:2.0
Claudio Sottile:1.5

As you can see even in blitz there wasn't much difference between our second place finishers and all deserve credit for putting up a hard fight.

To see the overall Standings for the Hamilton Summer Open, and, the pairings for round 4 and 5 please visit the following link:

<http://chess.servegame.com/hamilton/...009Results.htm>

Don't forget to keep checking our web site at chess.servegame.com/hamilton for pictures of this event.

“ Chess in the Library “ Website is Finally Here!!
(posted by Yuanling Yuan on ChessTalk – SCC junior)

I have excellent news to announce! The Chess in the Library website is finally up on the Internet! 😊 www.chessinthelibrary.com is the official site for our program. It will be updated regularly with news, pictures, progress and more! Make sure to check it out!

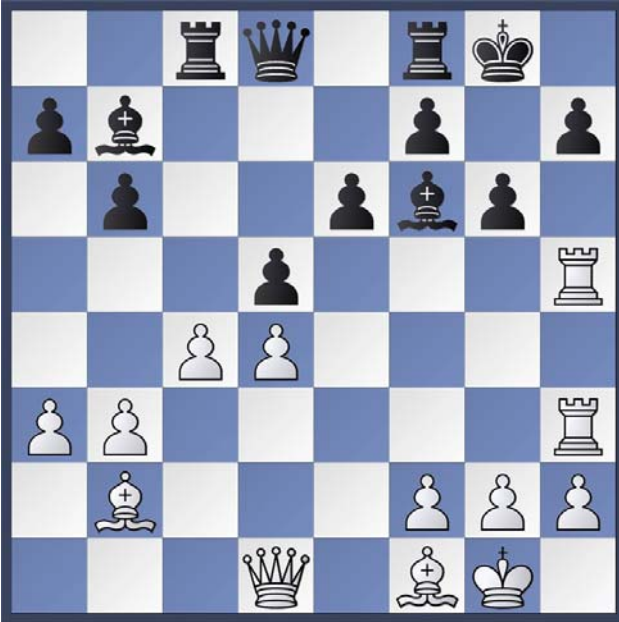
[Ed. – the e-mail for the program is info@chessinthelibrary.com]

PwC Toronto Open Chess Trivia Contest

In this recent most successful Toronto tournament, the CMA Trivia Contest Winners were Omar Shah, IM Hans Jung, Liam Henry, FM Shiyam Thavandiran, Keith Wight - \$ 50 each

Here is the third of a set of four “ famous position “questions in the contest (the final one will be published in the next Issue). Can you answer who the players were?:

Position C



- a) Keres - Smyslov
- b) Botvinnik - Reshevsky
- c) Kasparov - Short
- d) Armstrong – Lamb !!??

Rick's Chess Trivia

(questions/presentations researched by Rick Garel,



former SCC Executive, former SCC member, Orillia CC President)

Last Issue's Chess Trivia was the question:

Who were the Oldest and the Youngest to receive the **Grandmaster** title ?

The Answer : it is still somewhat in dispute !!

Here was Rick's intended answer:

Enrico Paoli (1908-2005) of Italy was awarded Grandmaster title at the age of 88, the oldest ever.

Sergey Karjakin (b.1990) of Ukraine was awarded Grandmaster title at the age of 12, the youngest ever.

Note: The Patriarch of them all!

The oldest living Grandmaster is Andre **Lilienthal** of Hungary, born in 1911 and now 98 years old. We all wish to see him complete a well-deserved century!

Rick's source for the "oldest" to receive the GM title was <http://www.mychessblog.com/chess-trivia-what-the-list-of-grandmasters-reveal/>

The Winner ! : SCC member, Michael Perez has been declared the winner and gets this Issue's bragging rights, although part of the question is still outstanding. He got Karjakin right as the youngest. But as to the oldest, he answered:

Oldest GM: Jaanis Klovans

Reference: <http://www.chesscircle.net/forums/general-chess-forum/32013-oldest-to-obtain-the-grandmaster-title.html>

. We therefore have somewhat competing sources. Which one is right? One would expect Paoli to be right because it says he was 88, while the source of Michael's just says Klovans was over 60 years old. But can we rely on Rick's source over Michael's? What do you think? What is the right answer? Are there other sources available that can resolve this?

Help Rick out !! Send him your opinion on which is the right answer, and quote any sources.

Today's Trivia Question is:

At which tournament was Fischer's performance the worst?

You can use any resource available to answer the question ! Just find it fast and send it in as fast as you can, by e-mail, to Rick : rickgarel@gmail.com .

The first correct e-mail received wins, and gets bragging rights. Also, we will publish the honoured winner's name in the next newsletter, along with a few details they provide as to their chess experience (if they wish), along with Rick's researched answer.

Thanks for playing !!

Chess History is fun !!

Also write Rick if you have any chess trivia questions or presentations you'd like him to consider for his column. He will give credit to the author if he uses your suggestion.
Write Rick Garel : rickgarel@gmail.com

SCC – Who Are We ??

This is a series, in each Issue, where we introduce to our subscribers, the members who make up SCC, the friendliest chess club in Canada ! Because we closed for July and August, and the first tournament of new season doesn't start until Sept. 10, we are suspending this series for the summer, and it will begin again in the September 15 Issue.

SCC'ers “ Blast from the Past “

One evening at the club, Karl Sellars and Yuanling Yuan found themselves with some time, so they took on cleaning up the disastrous-looking SCC closet chess library. Karl discovered some old En Passant magazines, and started leafing through them. To his surprise he found a number of games of current SCC members from years gone by. So we are going to present some of them over the next few Issues. Thanks to Karl for his research skills !!

This game is from the 1987 Toronto Canadian Open, Open section (there were three sections). SCC member Andrei Moffat was then rated 2106 and scored a respectable 5/9 points, finishing 21/44. Here is his loss to expert Kevin Pacey (2165), who finished 14th (Annotations are by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Moffat, Andrei (2106) – Pacey, Kevin (2165) [E44]

1987 Canadian Open Toronto (8), 01.08.1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6?!± [4...c5 5.Nf3 cxd4 6.exd4 d5=] 5.Nge2?!= [5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nf3 c5±] 5...Ne4 6.Qc2 Bb7 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 Nxc3 9.Qxc3 0-0 10.f3 [10.b3 Qh4 (10...d6?! 11.Bb2 Qg5±) 11.Bb2 Be4=] 10...Qh4+ 11.g3 Qh5 12.e4 f5 13.Bg2 fxe4 14.fxe4 c5 15.d5 exd5 16.cxd5 Ba6 17.Qc2 d6 18.Bf4 Rxf4?!± Kevin makes an unsound exchange sac [18...Rf6 19.Qd1 Qf7 20.Qc2 Qh5=] 19.gxf4 Andrei is up the exchange 19...Nd7 20.Qf2 Rf8 21.Kd2?? Kevin gets a " clear " advantage [21.Bf1 Bxf1 22.Rxf1 Re8±] 21...Rxf4?= Again Kevin goes for an unsound exchange sac [21...Qe5 22.fxe5 Rxf2+ 23.Kc3 Rxf2 24.exd6 Nf6±] 22.Qxf4 Qe2+ 23.Kc1 Qxg2?!± Andrei is up 2 R's vs B + N +P; Kevin misses the draw by repetition [23...Qc4+ 24.Kb1 Qd3+ 25.Kc1 Qc4+ 26.Kd1 Qe2+=] 24.Rd1 [24.Re1 Ne5 25.Qd2 Qh3=] 24...Ne5 25.b3??-+ Andrei misses the royal fork ; Kevin gets a " winning " advantage [25.Qe3 Nc4 26.Qc3 Qxe4±] 25...Nd3+ 26.Rxd3 Bxd3 Kevin is up B + P 27.Qd2 Qg1+ 28.Qd1 Qd4 29.Kd2?+- - 8.52 [29.Qg4 h5 30.Qc8+ Kh7 31.Qf5+ g6 32.Qf7+ Kh6 33.Ra2 Qc3+ 34.Kd1 Qxb3+ 35.Kd2 Qxa2+ 36.Kxd3 Qxa3+ 37.Ke2 Qb2+-+] 29...Bb1+-+ - 8.52 the R is now lost 1-0

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PwC Toronto Open Trivia Quiz Answer:

Position C : a) Keres - Smyslov

2009 Toronto Labour Day Open Chess Tournament

September 5th, 6th & 7th (Sat, Sun & Mon)

Macedonian Community Hall

76 Overlea Blvd Toronto

Style: 6 round Swiss in 5 sections:

OPEN (w/ U2300 -- FIDE-rated), U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600 (w/ U1400 & UNR)

Rounds: 11:00AM & 5:30PM on Saturday, 10:00AM and 4:30PM on Sunday & Monday

Time Control: 40/2, SD/1

Byes: Maximum of 2 in rounds 1-5

Entry Fees: \$75 if payment is received in advance

\$80 if registered in advance but paying onsite

\$90 cash only onsite

AMATEUR: \$30 Adult, \$25 Junior (under 20) (for U1800 and U1600 only)

(Amateur entries not eligible for cash prizes & do not contribute to prize fund)

Discount 1: \$20 less for Juniors (under 20), Seniors (60 and older), Women, and FMs.

\$30 less for Juniors (under 12), and IMs. Free entry for GMs.

No discount for Amateur players; only one discount per player.

Discount 2: \$5 discount per tournament to play in both Labour Day and Thanksgiving Open.

This discount applies to all players.

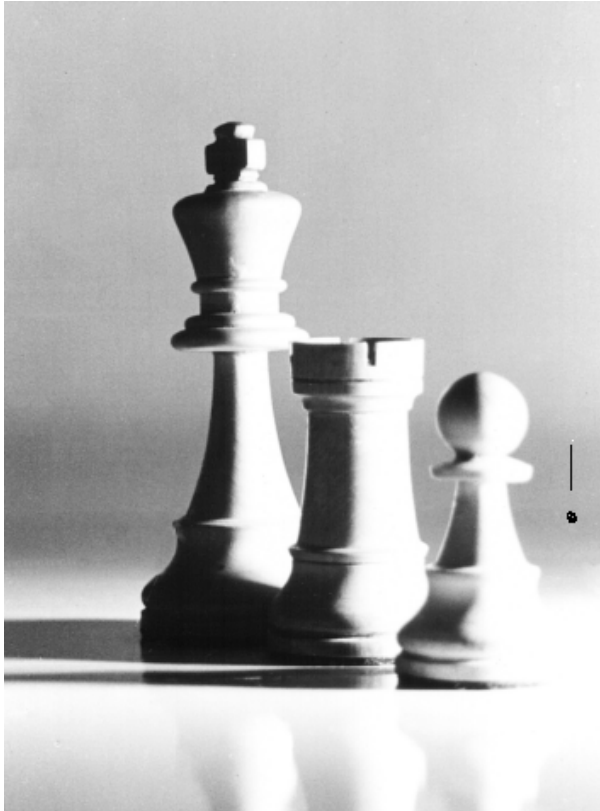
Registration: 9:00-10:30AM on Saturday, September 5th

Registrants after 10:30AM are not guaranteed to be paired by 11:00AM

In advance by mail to: Bryan Lamb 95 Ferncliffe Crescent, Markham ON L3S4N6
Make cheque payable to Bryan Lamb. No postdated cheque please.

Email registration to bryan.lamb@rogers.com. Email registrants who haven't paid must arrive onsite before 10:30AM to pay or will be charged the onsite fee.

An Impressive Trio !



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

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