

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 # 11-11 – February 1 , 2010

Corus A, Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands

This 14-player round robin was played Jan.15 – 31. The full roster was:

GM Magnus Carlsen	NOR 2810	Photo
GM Viswanathan Anand	IND 2790	Photo
GM Vladimir Kramnik	RUS 2788	Photo
GM Peter Leko	HUN 2739	Photo
GM Vassily Ivanchuk	UKR 2749	Photo
GM Sergey Karjakin	RUS 2720	Photo
GM Leinier Dominguez	CUB 2712	Photo
GM Alexei Shirov	SPA 2723	Photo
GM Hikaru Nakamura	USA 2708	Photo
GM Nigel Short	ENG 2696	Photo
GM Sergey Tiviakov	NED 2662	Photo
GM Fabiano Caruana	ITA 2675	Photo
GM Loek van Wely	NED 2641	Photo
GM Jan Smeets	NED 2650	Photo

Continued on next page

SCTCN&V Website : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>
SCC e – mail : info@ScarboroughChessClub.ca SCC Website : <http://www.ScarboroughChessClub.ca>
Birkdale Community Ctre, 1299 Ellesmere Road
(between Midland Ave. and Brimley Road)

It's average rating was almost identical to last year's : 2719. It is not one of the strongest tournaments of the year, but is the largest. It did boast though, three of the top players in the world – Viswanathan Anand (India), current and 15th World Champion, Magnus Carlsen (Norway), # 1-rated in the world, and Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 14th World Champion.

Games began at 13:30h local time (15:30 Moscow, 12:30 London, 7:30 a.m. NY), except for the last round on January 31st, which began at 12:30h. There were three rest days, on January 20th, 25th, and 28th. For all three groups (there were also a “ B “ and “ C “ group tournament), the rate of play was 100 minutes/40 moves + 50 minutes/20 moves + 15 minutes + 30 seconds/move.

The winner of the “ A “ Group was Carlsen, with 8 ½ pts.. In second, ½ pt. back, were Kramnik and Shirov.

The winner of the “ B “ Group was 14-year old Anish Giri, with 9 pts. In second, ½ pt. back was Arkadij Naiditsch.

The winner of the “ C “ Group was Chao Li with 10 pts.. Second was Abhijeet Gupta with 8.5 pts..

Here are some key “ A “ Group games.

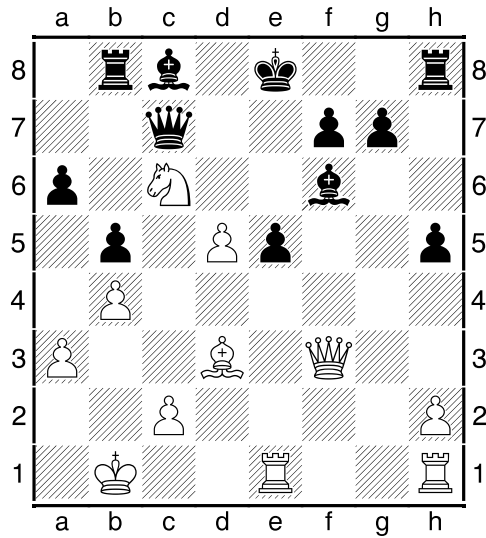
In Rd. 2, Nakamura played a brilliant tactical game against Van Wely. He first sacked an N, then a R, and then a B, finally forcing Van Wely to sac his Q. Nakamura ended up with Q vs R+ N. The win left Nakamura tied for 2nd/3rd with Carlsen, ½ pt. behind Shirov. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Nakamura, Hi (2708) – Van Wely, L (2641) [B96]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (2), 17.01.2010

1.e4= 0.20 **1...c5±** [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the Sicilian, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] **2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Nbd7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.Bxf6?!=** [9.f5 h6 10.Bh4 e5 11.Nb3 b5±] **9...Nxf6 10.g4** [10.Bd3 Be7 11.Nb3 b5=] **10...b5 11.g5 Nd7 12.0-0 Nc5** [12...b4 13.Nd5! exd5 14.exd5 Be7 15.Re1 Nb8=] **13.a3 Rb8 14.b4 Nd7 15.Nd5!** a sac using the fact that the K is still in the centre **15...exd5 16.exd5** Van Wely is up B vs P **16...Be7?!±** [16...Bb7 17.Re1+ Kd8 18.Qe3 Qc8=] **17.Re1 Ne5?!±** Van Wely tries to solve his problems by returning material; Nakamura gets a " clear " advantage [17...Kf8 18.Nc6 Bb7 19.Nxb8 Qxb8±] **18.fxe5 Bxg5+** material equality **19.Kb1 dxe5** Van Wely goes up a P **20.Nc6 Bf6 21.Bd3?!±** Nakamura wrongly refuses to win the exchange [21.Nxb8 Qxb8 22.Rg1 Qd6±] **21...h5?+-** Van Wely wrongly leaves the exchange available. Nakamura gets a " winning " advantage [21...Rb6 22.Rhf1 Bb7±]

Position after 21...h5?



22.Rxe5+! Nakamura now sacs the R, and again rejects winning the exchange [22.Nxb8?! Qxb8±] **22...Bxe5** Van Wely is up a R **23.Re1 Bg4 24.Qf4 0-0 25.Rxe5** Van Wely is up the exchange **25...g6?+-** 3.48 [25...f5 26.Qg3 (26.h3?! Rbe8 27.hxg4 Rxe5 28.Nxe5 Re8 29.Ng6 Qxf4 30.Nxf4 fxc4±) 26...h4 27.Qe3 Qb6+- 2.29] **26.Qf6 Rbe8 27.Ne7+?+-** 2.56 [27.Rg5 Kh7 28.Ne5 Qxe5 (28...Rxe5?? 29.Bxc6+ fxc6 30.Qxc6+ Kh8 31.Qh6+ Qh7 32.Qxf8+ Qg8 33.Qxc8#) 29.Rxe5 Rxe5 30.Qxe5 Rd8+- 9.99] **27...Rxe7 28.Rxe7 Qxh2** Van Wely is up a P **29.Bxc6!** now Nakamura sacs his B; material equality **29...Qh1+ 30.Kb2 Qxd5 31.Bxf7+?+-** 3.25 [31.Be4 Qd2 32.Bd3 a5 (32...Bf5? 33.Re2 (33.Qxf5? Qh6+- 5.80; 33.Bxf5 Qg2+- 5.90) 33...Qxe2 34.Bxe2 Be6+- 8.02) 33.Re5 Rc8+- 7.20] **31...Qxf7** [31...Rxf7?? 32.Re8+ Rf8 33.Rxf8+ Kh7 34.Rh8#] **32.Rxf7 Rxf7 33.Qxa6** Nakamura is up Q + P vs R + B **33...Kg7?+-** 6.00 [33...Rf5 34.a4 bxa4 35.b5 Kf7+- 4.36] **34.Qxb5** Nakamura is up Q + 2 P's vs R + B **34...Kg6 35.Qc4 Rd7 36.b5 Kg5 37.b6 Bf3 38.Qb5+?+-** 6.50 [38.a4 h4 39.Qe6 Rd1+- 9.83] **38...Rd5 39.Qb3+-** 6.80 **1-0**

In Rd. 3, the game between Shirov and Tiviakov was relatively equal until move 23 when Tiviakov grabbed a P, but Shirov got a “ clear “ advantage. Shirov then got a “ winning “ advantage, and on move 26, Tiviakov’s move led to mate about 5 moves later, after a nice King chase by Shirov. This gave Shirov 3 wins in a row, and sole possession of first place by ½ pt... Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Tiviakov, S (2662) – Shirov, A (2723) [B23]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (3), 18.01.2010

1.e4= 0.20 **1...c5±** [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the Sicilian, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] **2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5?!=** [3.Nge2 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e6±] **3...Nd4?!±** [3...g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 a6 6.Be2 d6=] **4.Bc4?!=** [4.Nf3 Nxb5 5.Nxb5 d6±] **4...e6 5.Nge2** [5.Nf3 Ne7 6.Nxd4 cxd4 7.Ne2 Nc6=] **5...Nf6 6.0-0 a6 7.d3 b5 8.Bb3 Nxb3 9.axb3 Bb7 10.f4 d5 11.e5 d4?!±** [11...Ng4 12.f5 exf5 13.Rxf5 d4 14.Ng3 dxc3 15.Qxc3 Qd4+ 16.Qxd4 cxd4=] **12.exf6 dxc3 13.fxc3** [13.bxc3 Qxf6 14.f5 Be7±] **13...Bxc3 14.bxc3** Tiviakov goes up a P **14...Rg8 15.Rf2 Bxc3** Shirov sacs his B temporarily **16.Nxc3** Tiviakov is up an N **16...Qd4 17.Kf1 Qxc3** material equality **18.Ra2 Qd4 19.Qh5?!=** [19.Qe2 Qd5 20.Bb2 (20.Bd2?! 0-0-0=) 20...0-0-0±] **19...c4 20.bxc4 bxc4 21.Ra4**

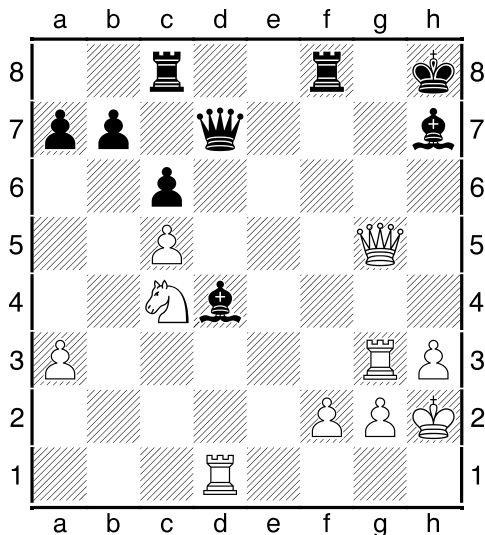
Bd5 [21...Rc8 22.Qh3 Bd5=] **22.f5 e5** [22...Qg4?! 23.Qxg4 Rxc4±] **23.Qxh7??** Tiviakov goes up a P, but Shirov gets a " clear " advantage [23.g3 Rb8 24.Re2 Rb1=] **23...Kd7 24.Qh6?!-+** Shirov gets a " winning " advantage [24.f6 Rab8 25.Qh3+ Kc7≠] **24...Bxg2+** material equality **25.Ke1 Bd5 26.Ba3??-+** this now leads to mate [26.Qe3 Rg1+ 27.Rf1 Qh4+ 28.Qf2 Qxf2+ 29.Kxf2 Rg2+ 30.Ke3 Rh8 31.Rf2 Rxf2 32.Kxf2 Rxh2+ 33.Ke3 Rxc2 34.dxc4 Bxc4-+ - 2.18] **26...Rg1+ 27.Ke2 Qg4+ 28.Ke3 Re1+ 29.Kd2 Qd1+ 30.Kc3 Qa1+ 31.Kb4?-+** leads to a quick mate [31.Bb2 Qxa4 32.Kd2 Qb4+ 33.c3 Qxb2+ 34.Kxe1 Qb1+ 35.Ke2 Qxd3+ 36.Ke1 Rb8-+ mate in 6 moves] **31...Rb1+-+** Tiviakov resigned. It is mate in 2 moves **32.Bb2 Qxb2+ 33.Kc5 Qb5# 0-1**

In Rd. 4, Shirov continued to be " on fire " with a win against Smeets, though perhaps a lucky one. He wrongly sacked a B on the K-side, and ended up with three P's for his piece, but Smeets had a " clear " advantage. Then Smeets got into severe time trouble and his game deteriorated. Shirov then uncorked an exchange sac to help finish Smeets off. This game Shirov sole first place by a full point, having won all 4 first games. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Shirov, A (2723) – Smeets, J (2657) [C42]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (4), 19.01.2010

1.e4= 0.20 **1...e5** For Fritz, the only equalizing move. **2.Nf3 Nf6±** Petroff Defence [2...Nc6=] **3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4** [5.Nc3 Nf6 6.d4 Be7±] **5...d5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.c4** [8.c3 Bf5 9.Qc2 Qd6±] **8...Nb4 9.Be2 0-0 10.Nc3 Bf5 11.a3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Nc6 13.Re1 Re8 14.cxd5 Qxd5 15.Bf4 Rac8 16.h3 h6 17.Nd2?!=** [17.Bd3 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 Bd6±] **17...Na5?!±** [17...Bd6 18.Bc4 Qa5=] **18.Nf1 Qb3 19.Qd2** [19.Ne3 Qxd1 20.Raxd1 Bd7±] **19...Nc4 20.Bxc4 Qxc4 21.Ne3 Qb5 22.c4 Qd7 23.c5?!=** [23.Nxf5 Qxf5 24.Re5 Qd7±] **23...Bg6 24.Rac1 c6?!±** [24...Be4 25.d5 b6=] **25.Nc4 f6 26.Bxf6??** an unsound sac, though perhaps not a terrible one; for the first time in the game, Smeets gets the advantage [26.Qb4 b5 27.Nd6 Bxd6 28.cxd6 (28.Bxd6?! Bf7=) 28...Re4 (28...Rxe1+?! 29.Rxe1 Re8=) 29.Bg3 Rxe1+ 30.Qxe1 Bf7±] **26...gxh6 27.Qxh6** Smeets is up B vs 2 P's **27...Bh7 28.Re3 Bf8 29.Rg3+** Shirov could have grabbed the third pawn immediately [29.Qxf6 Rxe3 30.Qg5+ Qg7 31.Qxe3 Qh6≠] **29...Kh8 30.Qxf6+** Smeets has B vs 3 P's **30...Bg7 31.Qg5?!?** Smeets gets a " clear " advantage [31.Qxg7+! Qxg7 32.Rxg7 Kxg7≠] **31...Bxd4 32.Rd1 Rf8?=
=** under some time pressure, Smeets' play deteriorates; he loses his advantage [32...Re2 33.Ne3 Ra2≠] **33.Kh2**



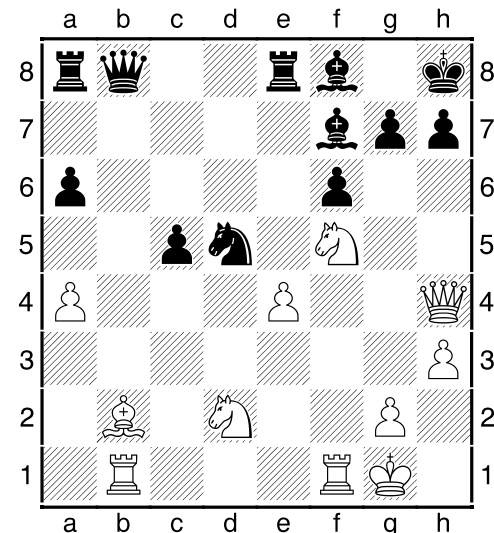
Rcd8??+- a blunder; Smeets needs to stop the N from coming to the K-side; Smeets, as usual, was in serious time pressure by this time; Shirov gets a "winning" advantage. [33...Rce8 34.Qh6 Qd5=] **34.Ne5?+-** 2.86 [34.Rxd4! Qxd4 35.Ne5 Rd7 36.Qh6 Qxf2 37.Ng6+ Kg8 38.Rg4 Rf6 39.Nf4+ Bg6 40.Nxg6 Qf5 41.Qh8+ Kf7+- 6.18] **34...Qc7 35.Rxd4!** an exchange sac to get rid of the defending B, and continue the attack **35...Rxd4** Smeets is up R vs 2 P's, but is lost **36.Ng6+ Kg7?+-** 12.89 this now loses the exchange, and more [36...Bxg6 37.Qh6+ Qh7 38.Qxf8+ Qg8 39.Qxg8+ Kxg8 40.Rxg6+- 2.63] **37.Nxf8+-** 13.14 Smeets resigned – he will also now lose his other R and Q **37...Kxf8 38.Qf6+ Qf7** 14.58 [38...Ke8? 39.Qh8+ Kd7 40.Qxd4+ Ke6 41.f4 Bc2+- 17.16] **39.Qxd4 Bg6** [39...Qh5?? 40.Qg7+ Ke8 41.Re3+ Be4 42.Rxe4+ Qe5+ 43.Rxe5+ Kd8 44.Re7 b5 45.Qf8#; 39...Qa2?? 40.Qg7+ Ke8 41.Re3+ Be4 42.Rxe4+ Qe6 43.Rxe6+ Kd8 44.Qf8+ Kc7 45.Re7#] **40.Rf3+-** 14.59 **1-0**

In Rd. 5, two potential future World Champions met in an exciting game, that perhaps foretellingly ended in a draw. Nakamura had a minor vs 3 P's for Carlsen, but Carlsen managed to squeak out a draw. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Nakamura, Hi (2708) – Carlsen, M (2810) [C77]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (5), 21.01.2010

1.e4= 0.20 **1...e5** for Fritz, the only equalizing move **2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Bxc6** [5.0-0 Be7 6.d4 exd4 7.Re1 b5 8.Bb3 d6=] **5...dxc6 6.d3 Bd6 7.Nbd2 Be6 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3?!?** [9.Qe2 Nd7 10.Nc4 h6=] **9...Nd7 10.Bb2 b5 11.d4 f6?!=** [11...Qf6 12.Qe2 Rfe8] **12.h3?!?** [12.a4 Qe8 13.axb5 cxb5=] **12...c5?±** for the first time in the game, Nakamura gets the advantage [12...Qe8 13.c4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Nc5] **13.d5 Bf7 14.a4?!=** [14.Nh4 Nb6 15.Qg4 Qd7] **14...Nb6 15.c4** [15.Nh4 bxa4 16.bxa4 Qd7=] **15...c6 16.Nh4?!?** Carlsen gets back the advantage [16.axb5 axb5 17.Rxa8 Qxa8=] **16...Re8?±** [16...bxc4 17.dxc6 cxb3=] **17.Nf5** [17.axb5 axb5 18.Rxa8 Qxa8 19.Nf5 Bf8] **17...Bf8 18.Qg4 Kh8 19.f4 exf4 20.Qxf4 bxc4 21.bxc4 cxd5 22.cxd5 Qb8 23.Qh4?±** allows Carlsen to sac his N for 3 P's [23.Bc3 Qxf4 24.Rxf4 a5] **23...Nxd5!** Carlsen goes up a P **24.Rab1**



Qb4?!= [better than getting the three pawns is 24...Nb4 25.Nh6! Ra7 26.Rxf6! Ba2 27.Nf5 Qd8 28.Qh6! Kg8 29.Rxf8+! Rxf8 30.Nxg7 Rff7 31.Ne6 Qe7] Carlsen would be up the exchange, but Nakamura would have a P compensation.] **25.Bc1 Qxa4 26.exd5** Nakamura is up N vs 2 P's **26...Qxh4 27.Nxh4 Bxd5** Carlsen has 3 P's for his N **28.Ba3 Re3 29.Ra1 Rd3 30.Rfd1 a5 31.Nhf3** [31.Nf1 Rxd1 32.Rxd1 Be6=] **31...a4 32.Rdc1 Kg8?!±** now Nakamura gets the

advantage [32...Rc8 33.Nc4 Bc6=] **33.Kf2 c4?!±** Nakamura gets a " clear " advantage [33...Bxf3 34.Nxf3 Ra5±] **34.Bxf8 Kxf8 35.Nxc4** Nakamura is up N vs 2 P's **35...Rb3 36.Nfd2 Rb4 37.Ra3 Rc8 38.Rac3 Be6 39.Na3 Rd8 40.Nf3 Rb3 41.Rxb3** [41.Re3 Bf5 42.Rcc3 Rb2+ 43.Kg3 Bg6±] **41...axb3 42.Rc6 Bd5** [42...Bf7 43.Rb6 Ra8±] **43.Rb6 Rc8 44.Nb5 Rc2+ 45.Kg3 h5 46.Nbd4 Ra2 47.Ne6+?!±** [47.Nf5] **47...Kf7 48.Nf4 Be4 49.Rb4?!=** Nakamura should just take the P [49.Rxb3 h4+ 50.Kxh4 Bxf3 51.gxf3 g5+ 52.Kg3 gxf4+ 53.Kxf4 Kg6± Nakamura would be up a P (passed)] **49...h4+ 50.Kg4 b2** Carlsen has made progress with his passed P **51.Nd2 Ba8 52.Nc4 g5 53.Rxb2** Nakamura has to sac his N to neutralize the pawn on the 2nd rank **53...Rxb2!** Nakamura is temporarily down the exchange, with Carlsen having a P compensation **54.Nxb2 gxf4 55.Kxf4 Bxg2** Carlsen is up a P **56.Kg4 f5+ 57.Kxf5 Bxh3+ 58.Kg5 Be6 59.Kxh4=** material equality ½-½

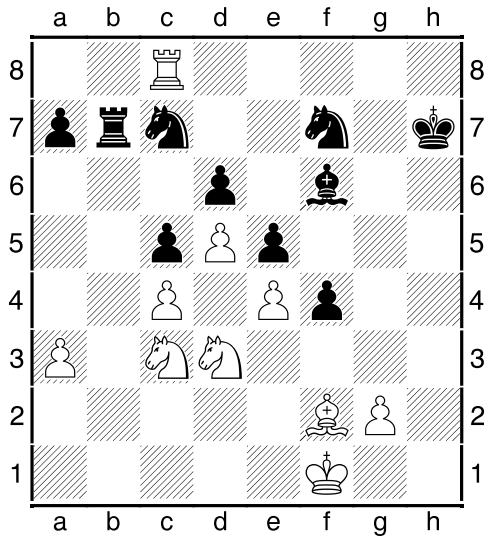
In Rd. 6, Kramnik sacked an B for 2 pawns, for queening chances. Van Wely then sacked back to get one of the pawns. But the other queened, and Van Wely had to sac his N to get it. Then Van Wely got his own passed P to the 2nd rank, but Kramnik got into position to sac for it, and then win the ending. The win left Kramnik in a 4-way tie for second, 1 ½ pts. behind Shirov. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Kramnik, V (2788) – Van Wely, L (2641) [E92]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (6), 22.01.2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6± [2...e6=] **3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6** King's Indian Defence **5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.Be3 c6 8.d5 Ng4 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 c5 11.0-0 Nh6 12.a3 Na6 13.Ne1** [13.Qd2 Qb6 14.b4 Nf7 (14...cxb4?! 15.Na4 Qc7 16.axb4 f5±) 15.Rfb1 Bh6±] **13...Qe7** [13...g5 14.Bg3 f5±] **14.Nd3 g5 15.Bg3 f5 16.f3 f4 17.Bf2 Rf6 18.b4 b6** Kramnik gets a " clear " advantage [18...Rg6 19.h3 Nf7±] **19.bxc5 bxc5 20.Rb1 Nf7 21.Qa4 Nd8 22.Rb2 h5 23.Rfb1?!=** [23.Rb5 Nc7 24.Rbb1 Rg6±] **23...Rg6 24.h3 Bf6?!±** [24...Nc7?! 25.Rb8 g4±; 24...g4 25.hxg4 Rh6 26.gxh5 Rxb5=] **25.Kf1 Qd7 26.Bd1 g4** [26...Qxa4 27.Bxa4 g4 28.hxg4 hxg4 29.fxg4 Rxb5±] **27.fxg4 hxg4** [27...Qxa4 28.Bxa4 hxg4 29.hxg4 Rxb5± material equality] **28.hxg4 Qxa4 29.Bxa4** [29.Nxa4?!=] **29...Bxg4** [29...Rxb4 30.Bc6 Nxc6 31.dxc6 Rg7±] **30.Bb5** [30.Bc6 Nxc6 31.dxc6 Rc8±] **30...Nc7 31.Bc6 Rc8 32.Rb8 Rxb8 33.Rxb8 Kh7 34.Ba4 Rg7 35.Bd1** [35.Bc2 Kh6 36.Nb5 Nxb5 37.cxb5 Rb7±] **35...Na6** [35...Bxd1 36.Nxd1 Nf7±] **36.Ra8 Bxd1 37.Nxd1 Rb7 38.Nc3?!=** [38.g3 fxg3 39.Bxg3 Nf7±] **38...Nc7 39.Rc8 Nf7?!±** allows Kramnik to sac to get P's moving; Kramnik gets a " clear " advantage [39...Ne8 40.a4 Kg6 41.Ke2 a6=]

Position after 39...Nf7?



40.Bxc5! dxc5 41.Nxc5 Van Wely is up B vs 2 P's **41...Nd6 42.Nxb7 Nxc8 43.c5 Na6 44.Ke2 Kg6?!+-** [44...Bg7 45.Na4 Bf8±] **45.Kd3?±** [45.Nb5 Kf7 46.c6 Be7+-] **45...Be7?!±** [45...Kf7 46.Na2 Ke7±] **46.Na4 Kg5 47.Kc4 Bxc5?!+-** Van Wely sacs back, hoping to stop a P from queening [47...Nxc5] **48.Naxc5** Kramnik is up a P **48...Nxc5?+-** 4.20 [48...Nb6+ 49.Kb5 Nb8 50.d6 Kg4+- 3.07] **49.Kxc5 Kg4 50.d6 Nb6 51.Kc6 Kg3 52.Nc5 Kxg2** material equality **53.d7 Nxd7 54.Nxd7** Kramnik is up N vs P **54...f3 55.Nxe5** Kramnik is up an N **55...f2 56.Ng4+-** 4.39 Van Wely resigns. He cannot queen **56...f1Q 57.Ne3+- 1-0**

In Rd. 7, Shirov, leading by 1 ½ pts., finally suffered a loss at the hands of Nakamura. Nakamura dominated, with Shirov not getting the advantage the whole game. By the two-thirds mark, Nakamura had a “winning” advantage. Nakamura then managed to attack Short’s K on the Q-side, and his position collapses, and he will end up losing his Q. The win put Nakamura into a second-place tie with Carlsen, ½ pt. behind Shirov. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Nakamura, Hi (2708) – Shirov, A (2723) [B33]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (7), 23.01.2010

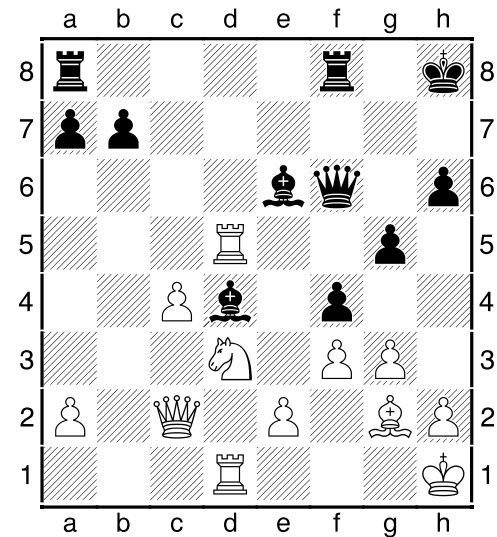
1.e4= 0.20 **1...c5±** [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the Sicilian, W is given a "slight" advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] **2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5?!±** Fritz does not like this line of the Sicilian. Nakamura gets an early "clear" advantage [another common line Fritz does not favour is 5...a6?! 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Ng8±; 5...d6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.0-0 g6±] **6.Ndb5 d6** [6...Bb4 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.Nxc3 d6±] **7.Bg5?!±** [7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8±] **7...a6 8.Bxf6?!=** [8.Na3 Be7 9.Nc4 Nd4±] **8...gxf6 9.Na3 f5 10.Nc4 Nd4 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Ne3 Bg6?!±** [12...Be6 13.Bc4 Rc8=] **13.Ncd5 Bh6 14.c3 Ne6 15.Bd3 Bxe3 16.Nxe3** [16.fxe3 Nc5 17.Bc2 0-0±] **16...Qb6 17.0-0?!=** [17.Nd5 Qxb2 18.0-0 0-0±] **17...Nf4 18.Be2 Rg8 19.Bf3 Nh3+?±** [19...0-0-0 20.Nd5 Nxd5 21.Bxd5 Qxb2=] **20.Kh1** [20.gxh3?? Bc2+ 21.Kh1 Bxd1+] **20...Nxf2+!** Shirov goes up a P **21.Rxf2 Qxe3 22.Bxb7** material equality **22...Rb8 23.Re2 Qb6 24.Bd5 Rg7?!+-** Nakamura gets a "winning" advantage [24...Kf8 25.Qd2 Kg7±] **25.Qd2 f5 26.Rf1 Kd7 27.b4 f4 28.a4?!±** [28.a3 Re8 29.c4 Kc7+-] **28...a5 29.b5 Rd8 30.g3 fxg3 31.hxg3 Kc8 32.c4 Kb8 33.Rf6 Re7?!+-** [33...Bh5 34.Rg2 Qc7±] **34.Kh2 e4** 2.96 [34...Qc7 35.c5! dxc5 36.Ra6 Qb7 37.Qxa5 Rxd5 38.Rb6 e4+- 3.49] **35.Qc3?!±** [35.c5 Qc7 36.cxd6 Rxd6+- 2.75] **35...Rc8?!+-** [35...Ree8 36.g4 Re7±] **36.Re3?!±** [36.Bc6 Qc5

37.Qd2 Re5+-] **36...Ka7?!+-** [36...Qc7 37.Re1 Ree8±] **37.Bc6 Rd8?+-** 4.39 [37...Rxc6! 38.bxc6 Be8 39.Rf5 Bxc6 40.Rxa5+ Kb8+- 2.59] **38.c5 dxc5 39.Bxe4** material equality **39...Rd6 40.Rxd6 Qxd6 41.Qxa5+-** 10.75 Nakamura goes up a P, and now has 2 connected, passed P's. Short resigned. Nakamura will win Short's Q **41...Kb8 42.Rd3 Ra7 43.Qd2 Qxd3 44.Qxd3 Kc7+-** 20.09 **1-0**

In Rd. 8, Kramnik brought himself back into a tie for 2nd/3rd with Carlsen, ½ pt. behind Shirov, with a win over Nakamura. He got a good lead in development, and gained the advantage. Then he managed to go ahead 2 pawns. In the end, he got a pawn to the 7th rank and the threat caused Nakamura to collapse. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Kramnik, V (2788) – Nakamura, Hi (2708) [A88]
 Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (8), 24.01.2010

1.d4 f5± Dutch Defence [1...Nf6=] **2.g3** [2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bg5 d6±] **2...Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.c4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 c6 8.Rb1?!=** [8.h3 Nbd7 9.Qb3 Ne4±] **8...Ne4 9.Qc2 Nxc3 10.bxc3 e5 11.Rd1 e4 12.Ng5 h6 13.Nh3 g5 14.f3 d5?!±** [14...Qe7 15.fxe4 fxe4 16.Ba3 e3=] **15.Nf2** [15.Qb3 Kh8 16.Nf2 Rf6±] **15...Kh8?!±** it is not hard to believe Kramnik has a " clear " advantage, when we see how far behind in development Nakamura is. [15...Rf6 16.cxd5 cxd5±] **16.cxd5 cxd5 17.c4?!±** [17.fxe4 dxe4 18.g4 e3 19.Nd3 fxe4 20.Bxb7 Bxb7 21.Rxb7 Qc8±] **17...e3 18.Nd3 Nc6 19.Bxe3 Nxd4** [19...Qe7 20.Qc1 dxc4 21.Ne5 Nxe5 22.dxe5 Bxe5±] **20.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 21.Kh1 f4?!±** [21...Qc7?! 22.Nf4 gxf4 23.Rxd4 fxe3 24.Qb2 Kh7 25.cxd5 gxh2±; 21...dxc4 22.Ne5 Qe8 23.Rxd4 Qxe5 24.Rxc4 f4±] **22.Rb5?!±** [22.cxd5 Bf5 23.Qc4 Bb6 24.gxf4 Bxd3 25.Qc3+ Qf6 26.Qxf6+ Rxf6 27.Rxd3 gxf4±] **22...Qf6 23.Rxd5** Kramnik goes up a P **23...Be6?+-** this loses a P; Kramnik gets a " winning " advantage [23...fxg3 24.hxg3 Be6±]



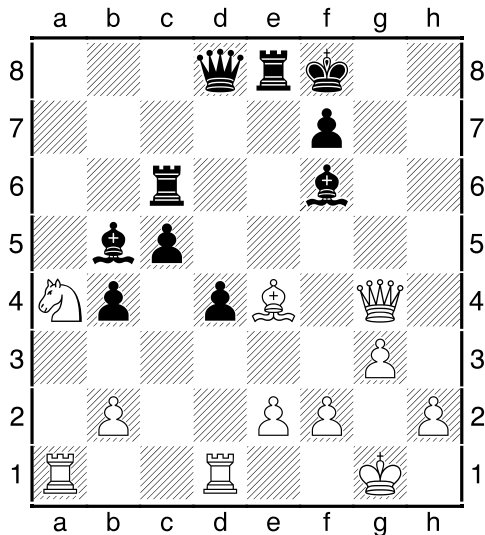
24.Nxf4! Kramnik goes up 2 P's **24...gxf4 25.R5xd4 fxe3 26.hxe3 Rg8 27.Rf4 Qg5 28.Rh4 Rg6 29.Qc3+?+-** 1.93 [29.Qb2+ Kg8 30.Qxb7 Re8+- 2.70] **29...Kh7 30.f4 Qxg3** Kramnik is up a P **31.Qxg3 Rxg3 32.Bxb7** Kramnik is up 2 P's again **32...Rb8 33.Be4+ Kg7 34.Kh2 Re3 35.Rg1+ Kf7 36.Bg6+ Ke7 37.Bd3 Rb2 38.Rg2 Rxa2 39.Rxh6 Bf7 40.Rh7 Kf6?!+-** 3.96 [40...Kf8 41.c5 Bd5+- 3.25] **41.c5** this P is hard to stop **41...Ra4 42.c6 Rxf4** Kramnik is up a P **43.c7 Re8 44.Rxf7+?+-** 2.97 an exchange sac finishes it – it will allow Kramnik to threaten to queen, grabbing a R. Nakamura resigns. [44.e3 Rc8 45.Rh6+ Ke7 46.exf4 Rxc7+- 5.83] The game would have continued **44...Kxf7 45.Bg6+ Kf8 46.Bxe8 Rc4 47.Ba4 Rxc7+-** 3.14 **1-0**

In Rd. 9, Kramnik soundly sacked the exchange to get some advanced pawns rolling, but by move 34, the position was equal. Then Carlsen committed three blunders in a row, first dropping an N, then grabbing a pawn when he should not have, and then falling into mate (though the game was already lost). The win put Kramnik into a tie for first place with Shirov. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Carlsen, M (2810) – Kramnik, V (2788) [E04]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (9), 26.01.2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 Kramnik goes up the gambitted P **5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 a5 7.Nc3 0-0 8.a3 Be7 9.Qa4 c6?!±** [9...b6?! 10.Ne5 Ra7±; 9...Bd7?! 10.Qxc4 c5 11.dxc5 Bc6±; 9...c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.0-0 b6=] **10.Qxc4** material equality **10...b5?!=** [10...Nbd7 11.Rc1 a4±] **11.Qb3** [11.Qd3 Nbd7 12.Ne5 Nxe5 13.dxe5 Nd5=] **11...Ba6?!±** [11...Nbd7 12.Be3 Bb7 13.0-0 a4=] **12.Bg5?!=** [12.Qc2 Nbd7 13.Ne4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Bb7±] **12...Nbd7 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Qc2 b4 15.Na4 Rc8 16.0-0** [16.axb4 axb4 17.0-0 c5=] **16...c5 17.d5** [17.Qe4?! Bb5 18.axb4 f5±] **17...exd5?!±** Kramnik goes up a P [17...Bb5 18.axb4 cxb4=] **18.Bh3?±** for the first time in the game, Kramnik gets the advantage [18.Rfd1 Bb7 19.axb4 cxb4±] **18...Bb5?!=** [18...Rb8 19.Rfd1 Ne5±] **19.axb4 axb4 20.Rfd1 d4 21.Bf5 Ne5** [21...Kg7 22.e3 Ne5! 23.Nxe5 fxe5 24.Qe4 Rc6=] **22.Bxh7+?!±** material equality [22.Qe4 Bc6 23.Qh4 Ng6=] **22...Kg7 23.Nxe5 fxe5 24.Bf5 Rc6 25.Qe4 Rh8** sacking the P is OK [25...Qc7 26.Qg4+ Rg6 27.Bxg6 fvg6±] **26.Qxe5+** Carlsen goes up a P **26...Bf6 27.Qe4 Re8 28.Qg4+ Kf8 29.Be4**



c4! a sound exchange sac ! [29...Rc7 30.b3 d3±] **30.Bxc6 Bxc6** Carlsen is up the exchange + P **31.Qh5?!±** Kramnik gets a " clear " advantage [31.Nc5 Qd5 32.Qf3 Qxf3 33.exf3 d3±] **31...Re5 32.Qh6+ Ke7?±** [32...Kg8 33.Qf4 Re6±] **33.e4?!±** [33.Nc5! Rxc5 34.Ra7+ Bd7=] **33...d3** [33...Rxe4?? 34.Nc5 Qh8 35.Qxh8 Bxh8 36.Nxe4 Bxe4+-; 33...Bxe4? 34.f4 Re6 35.Nc5 Qb6 36.Nxe6 d3+ 37.Kf1 Qxe6±] **34.Qe3?!±** [34.Qd2?! Qa5 35.Qc1 Bxa4 36.Qxc4 Qb5 37.Qc7+ (37.Qxd3?! Bxd1 38.Qxd1 Rxe4-+) 37...Kf8±; 34.Rdc1? Qd4± 35.Qf4 Re6-+; 34.Re1 Qd4 35.Qd2 Rb5±] **34...Bxe4?±** Kramnik has lost his advantage; Carlsen is up the exchange [34...Rxe4 35.Qa7+ Ke8±] **35.Nb6??-+** - 3.98 a blunder - this loses an N; Kramnik gets a won game [35.Qd2 Qa5 36.Qf4 Re6=] **35...Bb7 36.Qf4 Qxb6 37.Qxc4?+-** - 11.92 Kramnik is up 2 B's vs R + P [37.Re1? Qe6 38.Re3 Qd5-+ - 12.35; 37.Rf1 Re2 38.Rae1 Bd4-+ - 9.66] **37...Re2 38.Rf1??-+** mate in 14 moves [38.Qf4 Rxf2 39.Qxf2 Bd4 40.Rd2 Bxf2+ 41.Rxf2 Qc6-+ - 15.48] **0-1**

In Rd. 10, Carlsen defeated another youngster, Karjakin, to move into a tie for second with Shirov, ½ pt. back of leading Kramnik. Carlsen played the French for the first time in high level play. Karjakin tired an exchange sac, and eventually lost. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Karjakin, Sergey (2720) – Carlsen, M (2810) [C11]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (10), 27.01.2010

1.e4= 0.16 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 [3.e5?! c5 4.Bb5+ Nc6=] 3...Nf6 4.e5?!= [4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Be7±] 4...Nfd7 5.f4 [5.Qg4 c5 6.Nf3 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nc6=] 5...c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Be2 a6 10.0-0 [10.a3 b6 11.0-0 Bb7=] 10...b5 11.Kh1 [11.Qe1 Qb6 12.Rd1 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Bc5=] 11...Qc7 12.a3 Bb7 13.Rad1 Rac8 [13...cxd4 14.Nxd4 Nb6=] 14.Qe1 cxd4 [14...f6 15.exf6 Rxf6=] 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bc5 17.Qh4?! [17.Bxc5 Nxc5 18.Qg3 f6=] 17...Bxd4 18.Rxd4 f6 19.Bd3 [19.exf6 Rxf6 20.Qh3 Rcf8] 19...h6 20.exf6 [20.Qh3?! Nc5 21.exf6 Rxf6; 20.Qg4?!] 20...Rxf6 21.f5?! Carlsen gets a " clear " advantage [21.Qg3 Rcf8 22.Rf3 Nb8] 21...Rcf8 [21...Nc5 22.fxe6 Rxf1+ 23.Bxf1 Nxe6] 22.Rg1 Nc5 23.fxe6 Nxe6 24.Rg4?!-+ Karjakin decides wrongly not to win a P [24.Nxd5 Bxd5 25.Rxd5 Nf4 Karjakin would be up a P] 24...Nf4 25.Qg3 Qe7 26.Rxf4 Karjakin decides on an exchange sac 26...Rxf4 Carlsen is up the exchange 27.Ne2 Rf1 28.Nd4 Rxd4 29.Kxd4 Re8 30.h4 Qe1+ 31.Kh2 Qxd4 32.Kxd4 Kf7 33.Kf2 Kf6 34.g3 Bc8 35.c3 Bg4 36.Bc2 g5 37.hxg5+ hxg5 38.Bb3 Ke5 39.Bc2 Rf8+ 40.Kg2 Bd7 41.Nf3+ Kf6 42.Bb3 g4 43.Nd4 Ke5 44.Bc2 a5 45.Bd1 Ke4+ - 2.55 0-1

In Rd. 11, Carlsen defeated Dominguez, while Kramnik drew, so Carlsen was now tied with Kramnik for 1st place. Here is Carlsen's game:

Carlsen, M (2810) – Dominguez Perez, L (2712) [D97]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (11), 29.01.2010

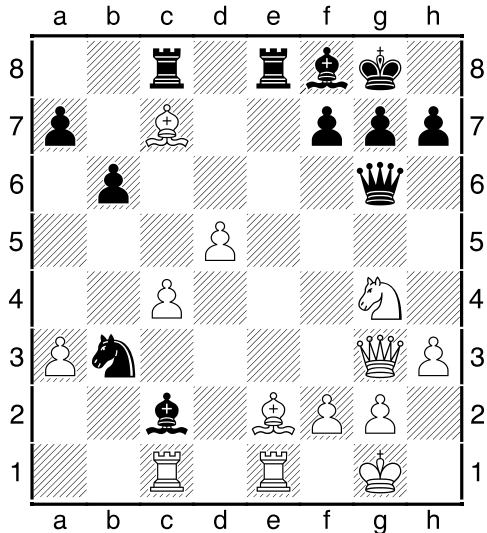
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 a6 8.e5 b5 9.Qb3 Nfd7 10.Ng5 Nb6 11.Be3 Nc6 12.Rd1 Bf5 13.Be2 Na5 14.Qb4 Nac4 15.0-0 f6 16.Nf3 Nxe3 17.fxe3 fxe5 18.dxe5 Qe8 19.Qc5 Rc8 20.a4 Nxa4 21.Nxa4 bxa4 22.Nd4 Rb8 23.g4 Be4 24.Ne6 Rxf1+ 25.Bxf1 c6 26.Ng5 Bd5 27.e4 Bb3 28.Bc4+ e6 29.Nxe6 Bxc4 30.Qxc4 Kh8 31.Nxg7 Kxg7 32.e6 Rb7 33.Qc3+ Kg8 34.Rd6 Re7 35.Rxc6 Qf8 36.Rc8 Re8 37.Rxe8 Qxe8 38.Qf6 Qc8 39.Kg2 Qc2+ 40.Kh3 Qc5 41.Kh4 Qb4 42.Qf7+ Kh8 43.e7 Qe1+ 44.Kg5 Qe3+ 45.Qf4 1-0

In Rd. 12 , Kramnik ran into a resurgent Anand, making his move late in the tournament. Anand defeated Kramnik, and so Carlsen took sole possession of first place, ½ pt. ahead of Kramnik and Shirov (and which gave him the tournament when all the leaders drew in Rd. 13). Anand with this win, and draw in Rd. 13, ended tied for 4th/5th . The game was relatively equal for quite a while, though Kramnik never once got the advantage. Then he allowed Anand to sac the exchange for an attack on the K. Then Kramnik sacked the exchange temporarily to win Anand's N, leaving him up the exchange, but with Anand having a P compensation (& 2 connected, passed P's). Anand then threatened mate and Kramnik resigned. Here is Anand's game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Anand, V (2790) – Kramnik, V (2788) [C42]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (12), 30.01.2010

1.e4= 0.16 1...e5 For Fritz, the only equalizing move 2.Nf3 Nf6± [2...Nc6=] 3.Nxe5 d6 [3...Qe7 4.Nf3 Qxe4+ 5.Be2 Bb4±] 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 [5.Qe2 Qe7 6.Nc3 Nxc3 7.dxc3 Qxe2+ 8.Bxe2 Nc6±] 5...d5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.c4 [8.Re1 0-0 9.Nbd2 Nf6±] 8...Nb4 9.Be2 0-0 [9...dxc4 10.Nc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Nd3±] 10.Nc3 Bf5 11.a3 Nxc3 12.bxc3 Nc6 13.Re1 Re8 14.cxd5 Qxd5 15.Bf4 Rac8 16.h3 [16.Bd3 b5 17.a4 b4±] 16...Be4 [16...b5 17.Nd2 Nd8±] 17.Qc1?!= [17.Bd3 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Qxf3 19.gxf3 Bd6±] 17...Na5?!± [17...Bd6 18.Bxd6 Qxd6=] 18.Qe3 [18.c4 Qd8 19.Qc3 Nc6±] 18...Bf8?!± Anand gets a " clear " advantage [18...Bf5 19.Ne5 f6±] 19.c4 Qd8 20.Ne5 Bf5 21.Qc3 b6 22.Rad1 Qf6 23.Qg3 Nc6 24.Ng4 Qg6 25.d5?!± [25.Ne3 Be4 26.Bxc7 Qxg3 27.Bxg3 Bxa3±] 25...Na5 26.Bxc7 Anand goes up a P 26...Bc2?!± [26...Bc5 27.Bf1 h5 28.Ne3 Qxg3 29.Bxg3 Bd7±] 27.Rc1 Nb3?+- allows Anand to sac the exchange for an attack; Anand gets a " winning " advantage [27...Bf5 28.Bf1 Bc5±]



28.Rxc2! Qxc2 Kramnik is up the exchange, but Anand has a P compensation 29.Nh6+ Kh8 30.Nxf7+ Kramnik is up the exchange, but Anand has 2 P's compensation 30...Kg8 31.Nh6+ Kh8 32.Nf7+ Kg8 33.Nh6+ Kh8 34.Be5 Qg6 35.Bg4 Rxc4?+- 2.80 Kramnik is up the exchange, but Anand has a P compensation [35...Rcd8 36.Nf5 Nd2 37.Qd3 h5+- 2.05] 36.Qxb3 Anand has B + N + P vs R 36...Rxe5! Kramnik correctly temporarily sacs the exchange for counter-play and to win the N 37.Rxe5 Anand is up N + P 37...Rc1+ 38.Kh2 Bd6 39.f4 Bxe5 40.fxe5 gxh6 3.97 Kramnik is up the exchange, but Anand has a P compensation (with 2 connected, passed P's) [40...Qe4 41.Nf7+ Kg8 42.Qf3 Qxf3 43.Nh6+ Kf8 44.gxf3 Rc5 45.Be6 gxh6+- 1.99] 41.Qe3 Qb1 42.d6 Rh1+ 43.Kg3 Re1 44.Qf4 12.14 [44.Qxh6?? Rf1 45.Bf3 Rxf3+ 46.gxf3 Qe1+ 47.Kg4 Qg1+ 48.Kh5 Kg8+- mate in 9 moves] 44...Rf1??+- leads to mate [44...Qd3+ 45.Kh2 Rf1 46.Bf3 Kg8+- 17.70] 45.Bf3+- Kramnik resigned. He is mated. The game could have continued 45...Qg6+ 46.Kh4 Qg5+ 47.Qxg5 hxg5+ 48.Kh5 Re1 49.d7+- it is mate in 11 moves 1-0

The final standings of the A Group were:

Final standings

Group A

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4			
1	Carlson,M	2810	+12	"	0	K	K	K	1	1	K	1	K	K	1	K	1	8.5/13	
2	Kramnik,V	2788	+7	1	"	K	0	1	K	K	K	K	K	1	K	1	8.0/13	50.50	
3	Shirov,A	2723	+77	K	K	"	0	0	K	K	1	K	1	K	1	1	8.0/13	47.00	
4	Anand,V	2790	-22	K	1	1	"	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	7.5/13	49.75	
5	Nakamura,Ili	2700	+66	K	0	1	K	"	0	K	K	K	K	1	1	1	K	7.5/13	45.50
6	Karjakin,S	2720	+26	0	K	K	K	1	"	K	K	K	K	1	K	K	K	7.0/13	44.00
7	Ivanchuk,V	2749	-5	0	K	K	K	K	K	"	K	K	K	K	1	K	1	7.0/13	42.50
8	Ilnik,P	2739	-71	K	K	0	K	K	K	K	"	K	1	K	0	K	1	6.5/13	40.75
9	Dominguez,L	2712	+7	0	K	K	K	K	K	K	K	"	K	K	K	1	K	6.5/13	40.25
10	Caruana,F	2875	-8	K	K	0	K	K	K	K	0	K	"	K	K	1	0	5.5/13	
11	Short,N	2696	-56	K	K	K	K	0	0	K	K	K	K	"	0	K	K	5.0/13	33.25
12	Van Wely,L	2641	+2	0	0	0	K	0	K	0	1	K	K	1	"	1	0	5.0/13	29.25
13	Tiviakov,S	2662	-49	K	K	0	K	0	K	K	K	0	0	K	0	"	1	4.5/13	29.25
14	Smeets,J	2657	-43	0	0	0	K	K	K	0	0	K	1	K	1	0	"	4.5/13	27.25

Seville International, Spain

This one section swiss ran from Jan. 8 – 16. There were 19 GM's in this Here tournament and GM Kevin Spraggett, 5 time Canadian Champion, was ranked 5th (rated 2586). He won his final 9th round game, to come tied 1st/5th:

Rank	SNo	Name	Rtg	FED	Club	Typ	Pts
1	9	GM Vazquez Igarza Renier	2560	ESP	España	7	
2	1	GM Hamdouchi Hicham	2601	FRA	Francia	7	
3	12	GM Bhat Vinay S	2540	USA	USA	7	
4	22	IM Berbatov Kiprian	2455	BUL	Bulgaria	U14	7
5	5	GM Spraggett Kevin	2586	CAN	Canada	S55	7

Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

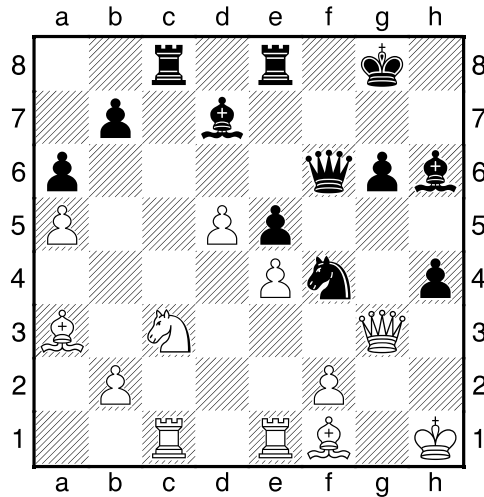
Lalic, Bogdan (2494) – Spraggett, Kevin (2586) [A70]

XXXV Abierto Ciudad de Sevilla (9), 16.01.2010

[Armstrong, Robert]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5± Benoni Defence [3...d5 4.Nc3 Bd6=] 4.d5 exd5 [4...d6 5.Nc3 Qa5±] 5.cxd5 d6 [5...Bd6 6.e3 0-0 7.Nc3 Qe7±] 6.Nc3 g6?!± Lalic gets an early " clear " advantage [6...Be7 7.e4 0-0 8.Be2 Nbd7±] 7.h3?!± [7.Qa4+ Bd7 8.Qb3 Qc7±] 7...Bg7?!± [7...a6 8.e4 b5±] 8.e4 0-0 9.Bd3 a6 [9...Re8 10.0-0 c4 11.Bxc4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 Rxe4 13.Bg5 Qf8±; 9...Qc7 10.0-0 Re8±] 10.a4 Nh5 [10...Re8 11.0-0 Nbd7±] 11.0-0 Nd7 12.Re1?!± [12.Bg5 Qb6 13.Rb1 Ne5±] 12...Re8 [12...Ne5 13.Be2 Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3 Qh4±] 13.g4 Nh6 14.Bf4 h5 15.g5 Nh7 16.h4 Ne5 17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.Be3 f6 19.Qf3?± for the first time in the game, Spraggett gets the advantage [19.Qd2 Bg4 20.d6 fxg5 (20...Qxd6?? 21.Bc4+-) 21.hxg5 Kh8±] 19...fxg5 20.hxg5 [20.a5 g4 21.Qh1 Bf6±] 20...Nxc5 Spraggett goes up a P 21.Qg3 Nh3+ 22.Kh1 Qf6 23.Bf1 Nf4?!= [23...h4 24.Qh2 Nf4±] 24.Bxc5 material equality [24.a5 g5 25.Na4 h4 26.Qg1 Qg6=] 24...Bd7 25.a5 Rac8 26.Ba3?± Spraggett gets a " clear " advantage [26.Be3 h4 27.Qg1 g5=] 26...Bh6?!± [26...g5 27.f3 Kh7±] 27.Rac1?!± [27.Nd1 g5 28.Ne3 g4±] 27...h4

Position after 27...h4



28.Qh2?!-+

[28.Qe3 Bg5 29.Qf3 Nxd5 30.Qxf6 Nxf6 31.Rcd1 Kg7] **28...Bg4 29.Re3 Nh5 30.Rce1 Bxe3 31.Rxe3** Kevin is up the exchange **31...Ng3+ 32.Kg1 Nxf1 33.Kxf1 Rc4 34.f3 Rec8 35.Ke1 Bd7 36.d6?!-+ - 3.98 [36.Qg2 Kg7 37.Qh2 Rd4+ - 3.51] 36...Kg7?-+ - 3.59 [36...Rd4 37.Qg2 g5+ - 6.84] 37.Rd3 h3?-+ - 3.69 [37...Rd4 38.Rd2 Qg5+ - 5.31] 38.Rd5?-+ - 20.10 [38.Qg3 Rh8 39.Qh2 Rh5+ - 4.86] 38...Re8?-+ - 3.24 [38...Qxf3 39.Qxe5+ Kg8+ - 20.10] 39.Qg3 Rh8 40.Rd2 Rh5 41.Rf2 Qd8 42.f4 42...Qh4+- 4.77 0-1**

Congratulations Kevin !

Toronto Closed Starts

The 2010 Toronto Closed will be played Jan. 26 to March 23 (March 9 for the Reserves) at Willowdale CC. There is a 10-player Championship Group, and an 8-player Reserves Group. Here are the line-ups:

Championship Section:

Roman Sapozhnikov 2398
FM Michael Barron 2368
Victor Plotkin 2362
Arthur Calugar 2350
Michael Kimelman 2249
Wajdy Shebetah 2246
Erwin Casareno 2204 (SCC Member)
Ruperto Frilles 2192 (former SCC Member)
Michael Kleinman 2129
Vladimir Semyonov 2053

Reserves Section:

Mickey Stein 2038 (former SCC Member)
Alexandru Florea 2035
Anthony Cheron 1925
Ed Zator 1911
Robert Armstrong 1810 (SCC Member)
Dmitry Chernik 1801
Mark Plotkin 1784
Joe Bellomo 1748 (SCC Member)

Chess in the Library Program Update

(Posted on ChessTalk by Organizer, Yuanling Yuan – SCC Member)

Hey everyone,

It's been a while since I last posted on ChessTalk. For those of you who have been following the program through [our website](#) or [my blog](#), I want to say thank you for all your support. However, for those of you who rely solely on ChessTalk for chess news, I'd like to provide you with some updates of our Chess in the Library program!

Brief Summary of the Program in 2009

The Chess in the Library program started in June 2009 and since then, the program has expanded to 5 different locations as well as attracted a total of 22 volunteers for the program. During these 6 months, my team and I have been through the wind and the rain, encountering numerous barriers and difficulties with the program. Looking back, it's hard to imagine that what we've actually accomplished with the program is a reality. Especially the fact that we have a website that people visit quite often! Overall, the 2009 year for the Chess in the Library Organization was quite a success. More importantly, the program was made my dream of promoting chess in Canada come true. I want to thank all the kind individuals and organizations that have donated and sponsored the program in the 2009 year. A list of these donors and sponsors can be found at our website. Without these people, we definitely couldn't have done it. Thank you so much for supporting us!

New Year Resolution

Our new year resolution for the program is to build the team larger, perhaps we will form an executive board and expand the program to 15 different locations in total (10 more than what we have now). I personally have lots of faith in my team and I believe that this goal is definitely achievable.

2010 Changes of the Program

1. We will try to rate our games with CMA rating as often as possible. Thanks to Larry and the Chess'n Math Association who have agreed to sponsor us 3 months of free rating!! Of course, with the ratings in place, more kids would be interested to play because seeing their ratings go up and down is big motivation for them. This is a huge step in our program and I cannot express how much I appreciate Larry's support toward our program!

2. We will set up an activity for the first 20 minutes of the program each week. We have currently decided to rotate between basic teaching (thanks to Maurice Smith for the demo boards!!), puzzle competitions and simuls with our volunteers. We have already tested out each one of the 3 at different location and they seem to do well.

3. New flyers for the program! Well, of course you guys won't be able to see it here but it does look much better than the old one!

4. We consider purchasing 1-2 clocks for the program at each library. Sometimes when the kids play too slow and we need to end the program, we'll need a clock to speed up the games. I've always hated the idea of counting pieces to see who wins. My teammates and I are currently voting on whether we should purchase them and how many. You all know that our budget is very small because we are a free program that relies on donations and volunteers who give up their free time to keep it running. We do hope to slowly get more and more equipment for the program, especially clocks, since my teammates and I have been talking about it for months now. Thus, we would greatly appreciate it if more members of the chess community in Canada would show their support toward our program. I was really touched at fast people responded to my call of needing demo boards last time. Again, thanks to Maurice Smith who donated 6 demo boards, we are now able to introduce this wonderful game to people who don't even know how to play. Some pictures of us teaching can be found at my blog. 😊

Finally, during the last two weeks, the program opened at 2 new libraries (included in the 5 that I was talking about earlier since they were planned in 2009)- Northern District and Fairview branches. Each one of them were extremely successful. The program at Northern District attracted many strong players (average of 1900 CFC of those who had rating) and the one at Fairview broke the record of most participants! Guess how many? 50!!! Of course, this couldn't have been possible without the help of many librarians and most importantly, internal teamwork. We all worked hard with promotions, recruiting new volunteers, organizing the program, etc. A shout-out to all my teammates: Great job everyone!! 🏆

We hope that you guys will continue to give us support as we work hard to increase chess popularity in Canada. 😊

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 ! This Issue we introduce

Jim Paterson

I joined the Scarborough Chess Club in the spring of 1975 (almost 35 years ago). So I had “ the Macey Hall experience “. Macey Hall was a cute little club house, not unlike 929 Kennedy Road, except it had a basement where a more serious game of chess

could be played. Also revered member, Howard Ridout, born Sept. 30, 1914, held court down in the basement conducting the game of Kriegspiel with his young fry chess students of the day.

I played in a 5-round chess tournament at a U of T building on Classic Ave. (Spadina and Harbord area) in February 1975. In round 3, 2nd game on Saturday, I was paired with Gordon Blackman. We adjourned our game to 8 AM on Sunday. It was a Q + P's end game that was rather drawish in nature. That night I worked on an idea that might work to my advantage, but crafty old Gord saw through my plan and I think we only played about 6 moves before agreeing to the draw. It would only be something like 8:30 AM, in plenty of time for the 10 AM start to Rd. 4. Gord and I got talking. I had never been a member of a chess club. Gord, who joined SCC in 1961 interested me in playing at SCC. He took my phone number with the promise he would call me when the next tournament was about to begin.

There was no such thing as chess in schools when I was young. I didn't know anyone who played the game. My Father taught me the moves of the chess pieces. He had never studied chess. I think his only exposure to chess was at the Broadview Ave. YMCA when he was in his 20's in the 1920's. I'm sure the early games my dad and I played would be error-filled affairs, but gradually I began to beat my parent with regularity.

We had an adult friend of my Dad's generation who came over to the house on Saturday nights. He was a chemist for the O'Keefe Brewing Company at Dundas St. and Victoria St. downtown. When he played he would drink beer (naturally) and smoked a pipe (like old-time player Amos Burn, one of the players at the first chess congress at Hastings, 1895).

At first, the Paterson tag-team partnership of my dad and I couldn't give the beer-swilling , pipe-smoking visitor much competition. But again, gradually, I was able to upgrade my game and eventually I started to get the upper hand when I played our guest.

The next stage of my development involved the gift of a chess book, My Fifty Years of Chess, by American Grandmaster, Frank J. Marshall. Marshall was born in 1877. He lived in Montreal in 1893, when Wilhelm Steinitz came to town to do a chess simultaneous and the neophyte Marshall gave the World Champion a stern challenge.

Harry Nelson Pillsbury (1872 – 1906) was an early American champion and he was the first place finisher at Hastings 1895, which arguably was the strongest tournament of the 19th century. Other strong events had been held at London 1851 and London 1883. Obviously Germany must have held very strong tournaments as did Russia.

It was the Tsar of Russia incidentally, who first awarded the title of Grandmaster at St. Petersburg. There were 5 recipients only of the Honourary title of Grandmaster. I believe they were Dr. Siegbert Tarrasch (Germany), Dr. Emmanuel Lasker (Germany), Frank Marshall (USA), Jose Capablanca (Cuba), and Alexander Alekhine (Russia).

Pillsbury unfortunately died at age 34 in 1906, the unchallenged USA Champion. Frank Marshall was proclaimed USA Champion in 1909, and held sway until 1936, when he stepped aside to let younger players try for the title.

Another important step in my own chess development was getting a Christmas gift of a subscription to Chess Review magazine (later Chess Life and Review). I learned from studying the tournament games of the top players of the day.

In 1963 I commenced playing postal chess in Chess Review tournaments. Even today, I still play postal chess with pen, paper and postage stamp with 4 other old fossils, 3 of whom are older than me. I didn't play in over-the-board tournaments until Oct. 1973. The site was the Virginia State Penitentiary, 500 Spring St., Richmond, Virginia. The tournament director was Claude Bloodgood, an inmate, originally on death row for the murder of his stepmother.

At the end of the 1960's, five players that played in Chess Review's Golden Knight postal tournaments, decided to form our own postal chess club. We wanted a group of friendly individuals, who would faithfully play chess even though the chess game may be soon won by our opponent. There was a high incidence of players abandoning games among the Chess Review postal players. By the way, when I started postal play in 1963, domestic postage was 3 cents, and US mail was 4 cents. Claude Bloodgood learned of our breakaway postal club and asked our tournament director, Conrad Goodman, if he could play with us. About that time, I had a Chess Review opponent who moved to Germany and of course he abandoned our play. I had sent the texts of the games to Conrad to show him the interesting positions (one white, one black) that were about to go unfinished. Conrad asked if I would play the games out with Claude Bloodgood. I won both games. I did find out in subsequent play with Claude that he was a good player.

The state of Virginia abolished the death penalty before Claude was to be executed. He was given a 12-year sentence instead. I imagine it was Claude who got approval of penal authorities to form a chess club. There was also a prison farm installation that was allowed to play chess. Claude was the best player in the group. It seems they all joined the US Chess Federation and it seems they were very, very busy playing USCF-rated tournaments.

Early on, Claude pointed out in a letter to USCF that it would theoretically be possible through bonus rating allowances from superior tournament result and possibly participation rating point bonuses, for a player's rating to shoot through the roof. Sure enough, about 1996, unknown player Claude Bloodgood became # 2 rated player in all the USA !

Claude was more confidence man than killer. I can picture him reporting fictitious tournament results where the players would take their turn at being unbeatable. Or perhaps, Claude did it the old-fashioned way – 2 rating points at a time.

Claude was a chess author. There were some liberals, who became interested in him and befriended him. Using their influence and money, he did 2 chess books. Former SCC member, Richard Tursman, loaned me one of Claude's books. It was well-written and well-bound and would have been a welcome addition to anyone's chess library.

I met Claude, of course, at the tournament in Oct. 1973. He seemed like a courteous southern gentleman, about 50 years old, bald, medium-sized. The administrator at " Vapen " was enthusiastic about the chess programme and a plan was cooked up to hold a chess tournament, outside the prison walls at a Howard Johnson Motor Inn in Richmond in Feb., 1974. To promote the tournament, in Jan. 1974, the administrator took Claude and another prisoner to downtown Richmond for a promotional simultaneous. Apparently, Claude and the other prisoner were not shackled and for whatever reason, I don't know, the administrator dropped into his own home briefly on the way back to 500 Spring Street. Inside the house, the 2 prisoners overpowered the administrator and made

their escape. The prisoners were not stupid enough to do him any harm. Of course, everyone in our unofficial club knew about Claude's escape. I confess, it was nervous time for me, knowing that a convicted murderer was on the loose. He probably had written me so frequently, that he could come up with my address from memory. Luckily, it was January and Claude was a southern boy, so he did the predictable and went to Florida. He was captured after only about 2 weeks of freedom.

I played in my first local over-the-board tournament in the Great Hall at Hart House in the Toronto Open at Easter, 1974. I was unrated, went in the premier, at age 35, and scored 2.5 – 3.5, good for an 1806 rating I believe.

My individual best accomplishment occurred at the Canadian Open at Calgary in 1975. On the first Sunday, they had a double header day. In the morning, I beat Kevin Spraggett, at 19 already rated 2295, and in the afternoon, I beat Jacques Faille, who I was told was the Quebec Closed champion at the time.

My best rating was 2149 heading into the Canadian Open at the Primrose Hotel in 1995. My lackluster result of 4.5 – 5.5 cost me 108 rating points.

In 2010 I still play the game.

Rick's Chess Trivia

(questions/presentations researched by Rick Garel,



former SCC Executive, SCC member, Orillia CC President)

Last Issue's Chess Trivia was the **question:**

A certain grandmaster in 1967, with black, quickly beat Fischer in two games, one in 25 moves and the other in 23 moves. Fischer, on the other hand, back in 1961 had defeated him in 22 moves. Who was this grandmaster?

The Answer: (We had no winner for this Issue) **Geller**

The late Efim Geller, who retains a lifetime record of +5-3 =2 against Fischer, is the one who lost in 22 moves.

Today's Trivia Question is:

I was born on the 19th of November 1905 in New York, USA. Awarded the GM title in 1954 and the IA title in 1960 I played on five US Olympiad teams between 1928 and 1937 and defeated [Lajos Steiner](#) (+5, =2, -3) in 1930 and was US Open Champion in 1938 (jointly) and 1947 but never won the Closed Championship. I tied with [Samuel Reshevsky](#) in 1942 but lost the subsequent play-off match (+2, =3, -6). In my role as an arbiter I directed the two Piatigorsky Cup tournaments of 1963 and 1966 and later was involved in administration in the US Chess Federation.

Who am I ?

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 Falling Leaves Swiss

This second SCC Swiss of the season ran from Nov. 5 to Dec. 17. 43 players showed up for the Open section. It was headed by 7 masters (!) and 6 experts, some of whom are former masters. 25 players registered for the U 1700 section. The total of 68 players was lower than our average last year of mid-70's per tournament (though in the Howard Ridout tournament we had 82 players). The executive felt we could take 80 players at maximum (though admittedly quite crowded) in our old location, given byes, and so for then, the pressure on our maximum was relieved.

The winners were:

Open Section:

1st – 6 pts. – junior WIM Yuanling Yuan (only gave up 2 draws).



2nd/4th – 5 pts. – Master Rune Pedersen; Master Andrei Moffat; Master Erwin Casareno

U 1700 section:

1st – 6 pts.- junior Magas Yusuf (only gave up 2 draws)



2nd – 5.5 pts. – junior Yutong Luo

3rd – 5 pts. – Andrew Philip

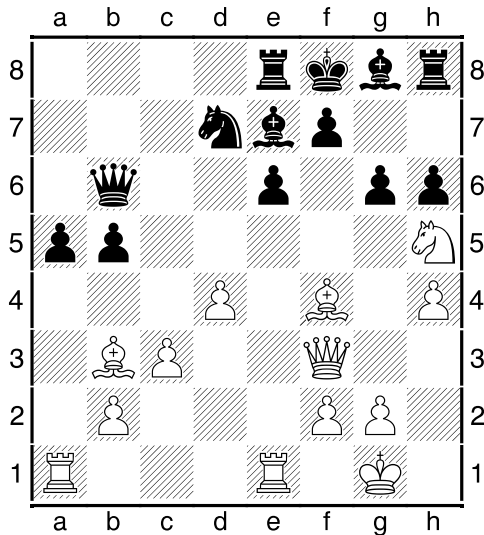
Publication of games under the SCC Policy on the Games Database is delayed until the end of the tournament. So in this Issue, the last Issue, and the next 2 issues, we are presenting some of the more interesting games from various rounds. In this Issue, we see some games from rounds 5 & 6

In Rd. 5 in the Open section, Ian Mahoney, who last tournament, was playing in the U 1700 section, played substantially higher rated Mike Conte (300 pt. rating difference). But Ian came up with a nice R-sac, which couldn't be taken because of mate, and then next move sacked it again, with the same threat, going up 2 P's. He went on to win the exchange and won. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Mahoney, Ian (1494) – Conte, Mike (1802) [B18]

Scarborough CC Falling Leaves (Open) Toronto (5), 03.12.2009

1.e4= 0.20 1...c6± [1...e5= For Fritz, the only equalizing move. For all other normal replies, including the Karo-Kann, W is given a " slight " advantage. This evaluation is not generally accepted.] 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.N1e2?!= [6.Nf3 e6 7.Bd3 Nf6 8.0-0 Bd6±] 6...e6?!± [6...Nd7 7.Nf4 Qb6=] 7.h4?!= [7.Nf4 Qc7 8.h4 Bd6 9.Nxg6 hxg6±] 7...h6 8.Nf4 Bh7 9.Bc4 Nf6 10.0-0 Be7 11.Re1 Bg8?± Ian gets a " clear " advantage [11...0-0 12.Bxe6 g5 13.Bf5 gxf4 14.Bxf4 Re8±] 12.c3?!± [12.Ngh5 Nxh5 13.Qxh5 g6±] 12...b5?+- Ian gets a " winning " advantage [12...Nbd7 13.Qf3 Nb6±] 13.Bb3 [13.Bd3 Bh7+-] 13...Nbd7 14.a4?!± [14.Qf3 Rc8 15.Bxe6 fxe6 16.Ng6 Rh7 17.h5 c5+-] 14...Qb8?!+- [14...b4 15.Qe2 Qc7±] 15.axb5 cxb5 16.Ngh5 Kf8 3.39 [16...Nxh5 17.Qxh5 Nf6+- 3.04] 17.Nd3?+- 1.44 Ian misses the sac on e6 [17.Bxe6! Qb7 (17...fxe6? 18.Ng6+ Ke8 19.Nxh8 Bf8+- 8.13) 18.Bd5 Nxd5 19.Qf3 N7f6 20.Nxf6 Bxf6 21.Nxd5 Rd8+- 4.84 Ian would be up a P] 17...a5 18.Bf4?!± [18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.Rxe5 a4 20.Qe2 Qc8+-] 18...Qb6?!+- [18...Qb7 19.Nxf6 Nxf6±] 19.Qf3 Re8 20.Ne5 g6?+- 10.54 [20...Nxe5 21.Rxe5 a4 22.Bc2 Bh7 23.Bxh7 Nxh5 24.Qxh5 Rxh7 25.Rxb5 Qc6+- 2.27] 21.Nxd7+ Nxd7



22.Rxe6! a nice sac; taking is mate; Ian goes up a P 22...Qd8?+- 15.77 [22...fxe6?? 23.Bxh6#, 22...Qxe6? 23.Bxe6 Nf6 24.Nxf6 Bxf6 25.Bd7 Re7 26.Bxh6+ Rxh6 27.Qxf6 Rxd7 28.Rxa5 Re7 29.Ra8+ Re8 30.Qd6+ Kg7 31.Rxe8 Rxh4+- mate in 12 moves; 22...gxh5 23.Rxb6 Nxb6+- 14.07] 23.Rxg6! again the R cannot be captured – mate results. Ian is up 2 P's 23...Nf6 20.43 [23...Bxh4? 24.Bxh6+ Rxh6 25.Rxg8+ Ke7 26.Qxf7+ Kd6 27.Rxe8 Bxf2+ 28.Kf1 Qxe8 29.Qxe8 a4 30.Kxf2 Kc7+- mate in 15 moves; 23...fxg6?? 24.Bxh6#] 24.Bxh6+?+- 14.95 Ian goes up 3 P's [24.Rxg8+ Nxg8 25.Bc7 Rh7 26.Bxd8 Rxd8+- 23.58] 24...Rxh6 25.Rxh6 Ian is up the exchange + 3 P's 25...Nxh5 26.Qxh5?+- 8.19 [26.Rxh5 Qd6 27.Re1 Qg6+- 11.17] 26...Bf6 27.Qf3?+- 7.46 [27.Qxb5 Bxh4 28.Qc5+ Kg7+- 8.50] 27...Bg7 28.Ra6?!+- 7.89 [28.Rh5 a4 29.Bd5 Qf6+- 8.49] 28...a4 29.Bd5?+- 7.00 [29.Qh5 Bf6 (29...axb3?? 30.Ra8 Bh7 (30...Qe7

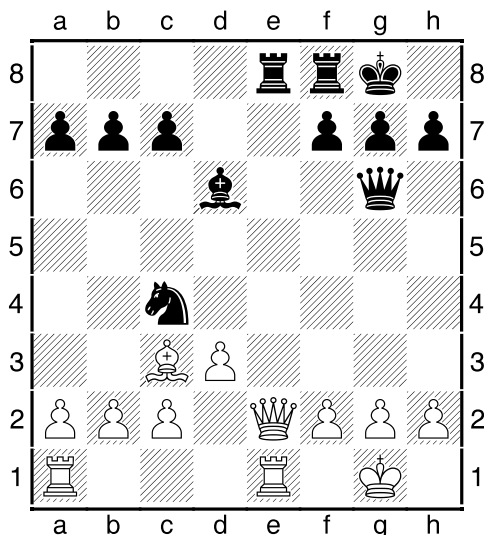
31.R1a7 Rd8 32.Rxe7 Rxa8+- mate in 10 moves) 31.Rxd8 Rxd8 32.Qxh7 Re8+- 37.04) 30.Bd5 Qe7+- 9.44] **29...Qxh4** Ian is up the exchange + 2 P's **30.Ra7?+-** 6.57 [30.Bc6 Rd8 31.Bxb5 Qg5+- 8.48] **30...Bf6 31.Ra8?+-** 5.05 [31.Rb7 Kg7 32.Rxb5 Bh7+- 7.29] **31...Rxa8 32.Bxa8 Bh7 33.Re1 Qh6 34.Bc6 b4 35.Bxa4 bxc3 36.bxc3** Ian is up the exchange + 3 P's **36...Qd2 37.Qe3 Bg5 38.Qxd2 Bxd2 39.Re8+ Kg7 40.c4+-** 6.83 1-0

In Rd. 5 in the Open Section, Ken Kurkowski offered Richard Douglas 2 R's for a Q, but didn't see that at the end of the process, he'd also drop his B. Richard won. Here is the game (Annotations by Ken Kurkowski, using Fritz):

Douglas, Richard (1885) – Kurkowski, Ken (1635) [B01]

SCC Falling Leaves Swiss (Open) Toronto (5), 03.12.2009

79MB, Fritz11.ctg, KENCOMPUTER **1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Be2 e5** The e-pawn will be weak. 4...Nc6 or 4...Bf5 were preferable. **5.Nc3 Qa5 6.0-0 Be7 7.Re1** [7.d4 exd4 8.Nxd4 and White has a clear advantage] **7...Bd7** [Here Black could have equalized with 7...0-0 8.Bb5 e4 9.Nd4 Qb6 10.Nb3 Rd8] **8.Bc4 Nc6 9.Qe2 0-0 10.Nxe5** Richard goes up a P **10...Bd6** [a mistake- better was 10...Nxe5 11.Qxe5 Bc5 12.d4 Rae8 13.Bd2 Rxe5 14.Rxe5 Qb6 15.Rxc5 Qxb2 with a slight edge for Black] **11.Nxd7 Nxd7 12.d3** It's an uphill struggle for Black from here on. **12...Nf6 13.Bd2 Rae8** [A bad move in a difficult position. A better try was 13...Nd4 14.Qd1 Qf5 15.Ne4 b5 16.Nxd6 cxd6 17.Bb3 Rfe8 but White's game is still superior.] **14.Ne4 Qe5** [If 14...Qf5 15.Nxf6+ gxf6 16.Qxe8 Rxe8 17.Rxe8+ Kg7 18.Re4 White still gets a decisive advantage.] **15.Nxf6+ Qxf6 16.Qh5** [White loses most of his advantage. After 16.Qxe8 Rxe8 17.Rxe8+ Bf8 18.Bc3 he would be winning.] **16...Ne5** Another mistake. I should have exchanged Rooks on e1, followed by taking the b2 pawn. **17.Bc3 Qg6 18.Qe2** [18.Qxg6 hxg6 19.Bb3 was better.] **18...Nxc4** This again allows the advantageous Q for two Rooks trade.



19.Qxe8 Ne5 I should have just taken the Queen. This move doesn't help at all. **20.Rxe5 Rxe8 21.Rxe8+ Bf8 22.Bb4** A hopeless position for Black. **22...h6 23.Rxf8+ Kh7 24.Re1 Qb6 25.Bc3 Kg6 26.Re7 Qc5 27.Rxf7 Qd5 28.Rxg7+ Kh5 29.g4+ Kh4 30.Bf6+** Mate is coming soon, so **BLACK RESIGNED. 1-0**

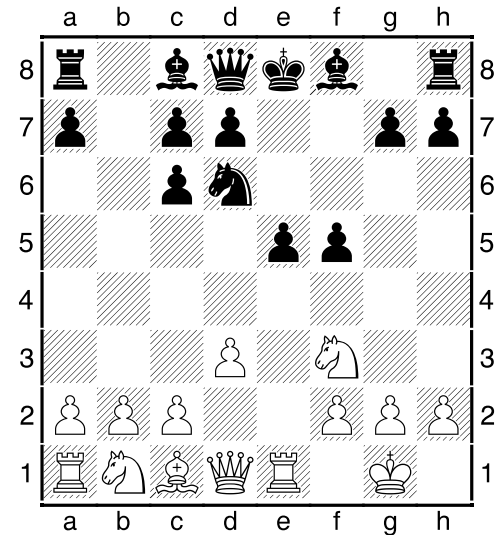
In Rd. 5 in the U 1700 section, junior Peter Xie played Hassan Pishdad. The game shows that openings can be messy if you let down your guard – Hassan is faced with a number of detrimental positions, but Peter, by the same token, misses taking

advantage of them. Peter won. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Xie, Peter (1514) – Pishdad, Hassan (1442) [C67]

SCC Falling Leaves Swiss (U1700) Toronto (5), 03.12.2009

79MB, Fritz11.ctg, KENCOMPUTER 1.e4= 0.20 1...e5 For Fritz, the only equalizing move 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6?!± [3...a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7=] 4.0-0 Nxe4 Hassan goes up a P 5.Re1 f5?!± weakening the K-side; Peter gets an early " clear " advantage [5...Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7±] 6.d3 Nd6?+- Peter gets a " winning " advantage [6...Nf6 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Nxe5 Be7±] 7.Bxc6 bxc6?+- 7.21 This loses a Q; Hassan had to sac the N [7...Be7 8.Bd5 c6 9.Bb3 Nf7 10.Bxf7+ Kxf7 11.Nxe5+ Kg8+- 4.82 Peter would be up an N]



8.Nxe5?+- 4.27 material equality. Peter misses winning the Q [8.Bg5 Be7 9.Rxe5 Rf8 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Qe1 Qxe5 12.Qxe5+ Kf7+- 7.30 Peter would be up Q vs R] 8...Be7 9.Qh5+?+- 2.85 Peter misses winning the exchange [9.Bg5! 0-0 10.Nxc6! dxc6 11.Bxe7 Qd7 12.Bxf8 Kxf8+- 4.43 Peter would be up the exchange + P] 9...Kf8 10.Ng6+! nice sac 10...Kg8??+- 9.22 Hassan must accept the sac and lost the exchange; otherwise he loses even more material [10...hxg6 11.Qxh8+ Kf7+- 2.75] 11.Nxe7+ Peter is up an N 11...Kf8 12.Ng6+?+- 7.53 the most natural move but it is not best [12.Nxf5 Nf7 13.Re7 Qxe7 14.Nxe7 Kxe7+- 9.77 Peter would be up Q + P vs R] 12...Kg8 13.Nxh8 Kxh8 Peter is up a R 14.Bf4 g6 15.Be5+?+- 7.26 [15.Bg5 Qf8 16.Qh4 Bb7+- 9.80] 15...Kg8 16.Qh6 Qe7?+- 9.40 [16...Qf8 17.Qh4 Ba6+- 8.09] 17.Nc3?+- 7.69 [17.Bc3 Qf8 18.Qh4 c5+- 11.00] 17...Qf7?+- 11.06 [17...Bb7 18.Bxd6 Qxd6+- 9.42] 18.Bxd6 cxd6 19.Re2 19...Bb7 20.Rae1 Qf8 16.00 [20...g5? 21.Qxg5+ Kf8 22.h4 Qg7+- 23.84] 21.Qxf8+?+- 8.99 [21.Qh4 d5 22.Re7 h6 mate in 12 moves] 21...Rxf8 22.Re8 c5 23.Rxf8+ Kxf8 24.Nb5 a6 25.Nxd6 Peter is up R + P 25...Bc6 26.Re8+ Kg7 27.Re5 Kf6 28.Rxc5 Peter is up R + 2 P's 28...Ke6 29.Nc4 Bb5 30.Re5+ Kf6 31.f4 h6 32.Nd6 Bc6 33.Ne8+ Kf7 34.Nc7 Bb7 12.25 [34...Ba4? 35.c4 h5+- 14.14] 35.Ra5+- 12.51 1-0

In Rd. 6, in the Open section, your intrepid editor, Bob Armstrong,



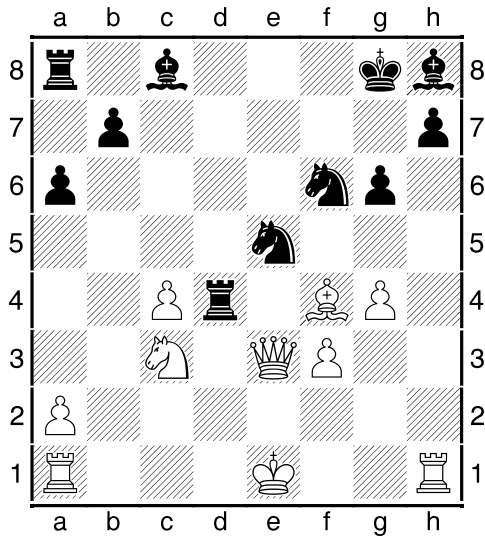
got to play his favourite King's Indian Samisch. Gord Marcille and I turned it into a tactical feast – and we both got lost a number of times in the complications, as the advantage swung back and forth between us. It is good fun to see the lines we should have played – material is hanging often, and untouchable. I finally came out on top. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Armstrong, Robert (1776) – Marcille, Gord (1842) [E81]

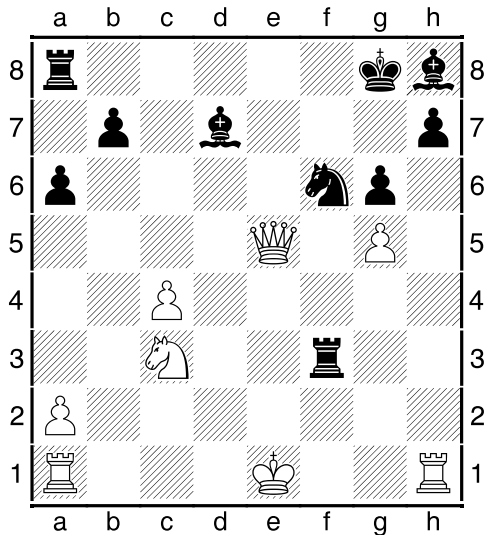
Scarborough CC Falling Leaves (Open) Toronto (6), 10.12.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6± [2...e6=] **3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6** Kings Indian Defence **5.f3=** Samisch Variation [5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 Na6 7.0-0 c5±] **5...0-0 6.Be3 Nbd7** [6...Nfd7 7.h4 c5 8.h5 cxd4 9.Bxd4 Bxd4 10.Qxd4 g5=; the gambit line of the Samisch 6...c5? 7.dxc5 dxc5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Bxc5 Nc6 10.Nd5 e6 11.Ne7+ Nxe7 12.Bxe7 Rd7 13.Ba3 b6±] **7.Nge2 c5 8.g4 e6?!±** [8...a6?! 9.g5 Nh5 10.Ng3 Nxc3 11.hxg3 Qa5±; 8...Qa5 9.Qd2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5=] **9.h4** [9.g5 Nh5 10.dxc5 dxc5 11.f4 f6±] **9...cxd4** [9...h5 10.g5 Ne8 11.Qd2 Qa5±] **10.Nxd4 a6** [10...h5 11.Be2 hxg4 12.fxg4 Nc5±] **11.Qd2** [11.Be2 h5 12.Qd2 hxg4 13.fxg4 Ne5±] **11...Ne5 12.Be2 Qc7 13.b3 Rd8?!±** this plan is flawed; I get a " clear " advantage [13...Bd7 14.h5 Rac8±] **14.Bh6?±** but I make the plan workable; Gord gets the advantage for the first time in the game [14.h5 Qa5 15.hxg6 fxg6±] **14...Bh8?±** I get back my " clear " advantage [14...Bxh6 15.Qxh6 d5 16.Qg5 Kg7± (16...dxe4?! 17.Qxf6 exf3 18.0-0-0 fxe2 19.Ndxe2 Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Bd7=)] **15.h5 d5 16.hxg6?±** I lose my " clear " advantage again [16.exd5 exd5 17.hxg6 fxg6 18.Bf4 Re8 19.0-0-0 b5 20.cxb5 axb5 21.Bxb5 Bd7±] **16...fxg6?±** I get it back again [16...Nxc6 17.0-0-0 dxc4 18.Ndb5! Qd7 19.Nc7! Ra7 20.N7b5 Ra8=] **17.exd5 exd5 18.Bf4?±** I lose it again – I do not seem to want to win this game [I looked at the following line, but wrongly thought the one I chose was better, which it is not. 18.0-0-0 dxc4 19.Ndb5! Qd7 20.Nc7! Ra7 21.Qf4 Nd3+ 22.Bxd3 cxd3 23.Qc4+ Qf7 24.Qxf7+ Kxf7 25.Be3 b6 26.Bxb6 Rb7 27.Ne6! Rdd7 (27...Rd6 28.Nd8+ Kg8 29.Nxb7 Bxb7±) 28.Nd8+ Kg8 29.Nxb7 Bxb7±] **18...dxc4 19.Bxc4+ Qxc4??+–** An unsound Q–sac. Gord thought he was going to get back his Q, but he is wrong. I get a " winning " advantage [19...Nxc4 20.Bxc7 Nxd2 21.Bxd8 Nxf3+ 22.Nxf3 Bxg4 23.Bc7 (23.Bxf6?! Bxf6 24.0-0 Bxc3 25.Rac1 Rc8±) 23...Bxf3 24.0-0 Bg4=] **20.bxc4 Rxd4!** I am up Q vs B + N **21.Qe3??±** the R is untouchable. But I blow my win; Gord gets a " clear " advantage [21.Qxd4?? Nxf3+ 22.Kf1 Nxd4-+; 21.Bxe5 Rxd2 22.Kxd2 Ne4+ 23.Nxe4 Bxe5 24.Rae1 Bd7+– I would be up the exchange]

Position after 21.Qe3??



21...Rxf4??+- now Gord blows his advantage; I get a "winning" advantage [21...Nfxg4! 22.fxg4 Nd3+ 23.Kf1 Rxf4+ 24.Ke2 Bxg4+ 25.Kxd3 Rf3 26.Qxf3 Bxf3 27.Rh4 b5±] **22.Qxe5?+-** 1.71 the R is still untouchable; I am up Q vs 2 B [22.0-0-0 Bxg4! 23.fxg4 (23.Qxf4? Nh5 24.Rxh5 Bxh5+- 3.15) 23...Rxc4 24.Qxe5 Re8 25.Rd8! Rxc3+ 26.Qxc3 Rxd8+- 6.18; 22.Qxf4?? Nd3+ 23.Kd2 Nxf4+] **22...Rxf3** 1.71 I am up Q vs @ B + P [22...Nxg4?? 23.Qxf4 Bxc3+ 24.Ke2 Bxa1 (24...h5?? 25.Rag1 Bf5 26.fxg4 hxg4 27.Qe3 Bg7+- 11.38) 25.Rxa1 h5 26.Qd6 Bf5 27.fxg4 Bxg4+ 28.Kd2 Kh7+- 7.94] **23.g5 Bd7**



24.Qd4??-+ I blunder in all the tactical complications; Gord gets a "winning" advantage [24.Rf1! Re8 25.Qxe8+ Bxe8 26.Rxf3 Ne4 27.0-0-0 Nxg5+-] **24...Re8+** - 3.14 [24...Bc6? 25.0-0-0 Nh5 26.Qg4 Rxc3+ 27.Kb1 Bg7 (27...Bxh1?? 28.Qe6+ Kf8 29.Qd6+ Kg7 30.Qe7+ Kg8=) 28.Rh3 Rxh3 29.Qe6+ Kh8 30.Qxh3 Re8+- - 1.46] **25.Kd1** - 3.53 [25.Ne2 Bc6 26.0-0-0 Rxe2 27.Qd8+ Re8 28.gxf6 Bxf6 (28...Rxd8?? 29.Rxd8+ Kf7 30.Rxh7+ Kxf6 31.Rf8+ Ke5 32.Rxf3 Bxf3 33.Rxh8 Kd4=) 29.Qb6 Bg5+ 30.Kb1 Re6+- - 3.14] **25...Rxc3??+-** now Gord blunders in the complications. I get back a win. [25...Bc6 26.gxf6 Bxf6 27.Qxf6 Rxf6+- - 3.73 Gord would be up 2 P] **26.gxf6** 3.15 the R is untouchable still. I am up Q vs 2 B + P [26.Qxc3?? Bg4+ 27.Kc2 Nh5

28.Rae1 Bf5+ 29.Kb3 Bxc3 30.Rxe8+ Kf7 31.Rb8 Bd2 32.Rxb7+ Kg8=] **26...Ba4+?+-** 4.60 [26...Bxf6 27.Qxf6 Rce3+- 3.47] **27.Kd2 Rc2+ 28.Kd3 Kf7??+-** a fatal blunder; mate in 6 moves [28...Bxf6 29.Qxf6 Rce2+- 5.41] **29.Rxh7+ Kg8** [29...Kf8 30.Qc5+ Kg8 31.Qd5+ Re6 32.Qxe6+ Kxh7 33.Rh1+ Rh2 34.Rxh2#] **30.Rxh8+** I get the mate the hard way with an exchange sac [30.f7+ Kxh7 31.Rh1+ Rh2 32.Rxh2#] **30...Kxh8 31.f7+-** Gord resigned. It is mate **31...Re5 32.Qxe5+ Kh7 33.Rh1+ Rh2 34.Rxh2# 1-0**

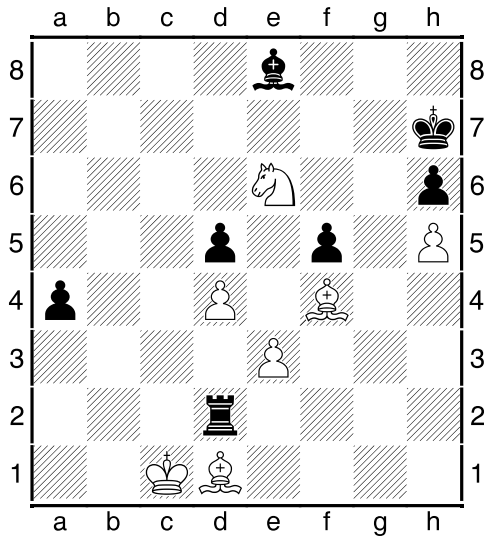
In Rd. 6 in the Open Section, Masoud Jizan erred early and got his B trapped by Pepin Manalo. But he did manage to end up with a R vs B + N + P. He then played gritty chess, winning back the pawn first, and then winning a second pawn. By move 51, he was still down the exchange, but had 2 P's compensation. Finally he sacked his R to queen one of his pawns, and had a "winning" advantage. But mutual time trouble meant he had to accept a draw – nevertheless, a good comeback. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Manalo, Pepin (1829) – Jizan, Masoud (1743) [D02]

Scarborough CC Falling Leaves (Open) Toronto (6), 10.12.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.c3 Re8?!± [7...b6 8.h3 Bb7=] **8.Qc2 b6 9.b4?!=** [9.e4 Bb7 10.e5 Nd7±] **9...Qd7?!±** [9...Bb7 10.e4 a5=] **10.Bb2 a6 11.Rad1?!=** [11.a3 Bb7 12.c4 Rec8±] **11...Bb7 12.h3 Rad8 13.Ne5 Qc8 14.a3?!±** Masoud gets the advantage [14.Nd3 Bd6 15.Nf3 Nd7=] **14...Nd7?±** [14...Nxe5 15.dxe5 Nd7±] **15.f4?!=** [15.Nxd7 Qxd7 16.c4 Na7±] **15...Bd6?±** Pepin gets a " clear " advantage [15...Nxe5 16.fxe5 c5=] **16.c4 Ne7?!+-** Masoud traps his own B; Pepin gets a " winning " advantage [16...Ncb8 17.Rc1 f6±] **17.Nxd7** [17.c5?! Bxe5 18.fxe5 Qa8±] **17...Qxd7 18.c5 Nf5 19.cxd6** Pepin goes up a B **19...Ne3** the fork will give Masoud some compensation **20.Qxc7 Qxc7 21.dxc7 Rc8 22.Rc1 Nxf1 23.Kxf1** Pepin has B + N + P vs R **23...Re7 24.Nf3 Rexc7** Pepin has B + N vs R **25.Rxc7 Rxc7 26.Ne1 a5 27.bxa5 bxa5 28.Kf2 Ba6 29.Ke3?!±** [29.Bf3 Rb7 30.Bc3 Rb3 31.Bxa5 Rxa3+-] **29...Rb7 30.Bc1 Rb3+?!+-** [30...Rb1 31.Kd2 (31.Bd2? Rb3+ 32.Kf2 (32.Nd3 Rxa3=) 32...Rxa3= Pepin would have B + N vs R + P (passed)) 31...Bxe2! 32.f5 a4±] **31.Kd2?±** Pepin is losing his advantage [31.Nd3 Bxd3 32.exd3 g6+-] **31...Rxc3** Pepin has B + N vs R + P **32.e3 f5?!±** [32...a4 33.Kc3 Bc4 34.h4 Bb3±] **33.Bb2 g5 34.fxc3 Rxc3 35.Bc3 a4 36.Bb4 Rg7 37.Bf3 Bb5 38.h4 Rg3 39.Bd6 Rg7?!+-** Pepin gets back a " winning " advantage [39...Rh3 40.h5 h6±] **40.Kc3** [40.Bh5 Rd7 41.Bc5 Rg7+-] **40...Rg1 41.Kd2** [41.Nd3?! Ra1 42.Bh5 Kg7±] **41...Rg7 42.Bd1 Rd7 43.Bc5?!±** [43.Bf4 Rg7 44.Nd3 Rg2+ 45.Kc3 Ra2+-] **43...Rg7 44.Nf3 h6 45.Bd6 Rb7?!+-** [45...Rg2+ 46.Kc3 Be8±] **46.Bf4 Kg7 47.h5** [47.Ne5 Be8 48.Nd3 Kg6+-] **47...Be8 48.Ne5 Rb2+ 49.Kc3 Rb1 50.Kc2** [50.Bc2 Ra1 51.Kb4 Rh1+-] **50...Rb3?+-** 2.27 [50...Ra1 51.Nd3 Ra2+ 52.Kb1 Rd2 (52...Rxa3? 53.Nc5 e5 54.Bxe5+ Kh7 55.Bf4 Rc3 56.Nxa4 Ra3+- 2.47 Pepin would be up B + N vs R) 53.Be5+ Kg8 54.Nb2 Kf8+- 1.51] **51.Nd3 Rxa3** Pepin is up B + N vs R + 2 P's **52.Nc5?!±** [52.Nc1 Ra1 53.Kb2 Rxc1 54.Be5+ Kf8 55.Kxc1 Kg8+- 2.20] **52...Ra2+ 53.Kb1 Rd2 54.Kc1 Ra2?!+-** [54...Rf2 55.Bxa4 Rf1+ 56.Kd2 Bxa4 57.Nxa4 Kf6±] **55.Nxe6+** Pepin is up B + N vs P **55...Kh7 56.Kb1??=** Pepin gives Masoud drawing chances [56.Nc7 Bf7 57.Kb1 Rf2+-] **56...Rd2?±** [56...Rf2 57.Bc2 Rf1+ 58.Kb2 Rf2 59.Nc7 Bxh5 60.Kb1 Rf1+ 61.Kb2 Rf2=] **57.Kc1??-+** a blunder – Pepin gives Masoud a win [57.Bc2 Bxh5 58.Bxf5+ Kg8 59.Bxh6 Bf7±]

Position after 57.Kc1??



57...a3! Masoud sacs the R to get a Q **58.Bc2 a2 59.Kxd2** Pepin is up B + N **59...Bxh5?+-** - 1.79 Pepin is up B + N vs P [59...a1Q 60.Bxf5+ Kg8+- - 3.36] **60.Bxf5+** Pepin is up B + N **60...Kg8 61.Nc5 a1Q+-** - 1.91 Masoud is up Q vs B + N. There was mutual time trouble, and hostilities ended with a draw handshake 1/2-1/2

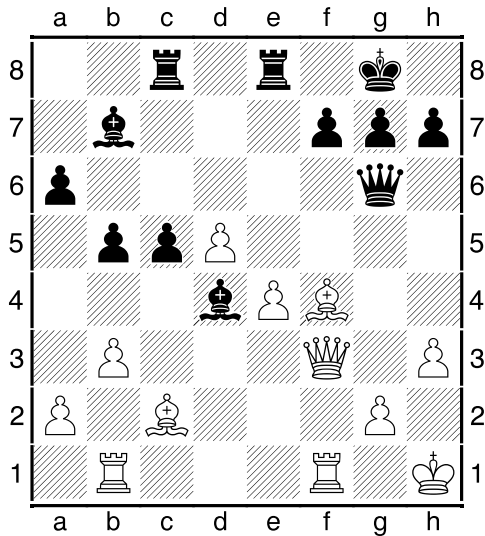
In Rd. 6 in the U 1700 section on top board, sole leader Yutong Luo, took on second place Magas Yusuf. The game was fairly close until Magas managed to win a P in the middle game. He then got a “winning” advantage. Though Yutong got a passed pawn to the 7th rank, Magas got a mate. The win gave Magas sole possession of first place. Yutong finished tied 2nd/4th. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Luo, Yutong (1454) – Yusuf, Magas (1553) [C97]

Scarborough CC Falling Leaves (U 1700) Toronto (6), 10.12.2009

1.e4= 0.20 **1...e5** For Fritz, the only equalizing move **2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5?!±** [5...Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6=] **6.Bb3 Be7 7.Re1?!=** [7.d4 d6 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Qxd8+ Bxd8 10.Nc3 0-0±] **7...0-0 8.h3 d6 9.c3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Nbd2 Re8?!±** [12...cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb7=] **13.Nf1 exd4** [13...Nc4 14.d5 a5±] **14.cxd4 Bb7 15.d5 Nd7 16.Ng3 Nc4 17.b3 Nce5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.f4?!=** [19.Bb2 Bf6 (19...Bg5?! 20.Nh5 Bh6 21.f4 Ng6 22.Qf3 f6± (22...Rac8 23.g4 f6±)) 20.Qc1 Qe7±] **19...Bh4?!±** [19...Bf6 20.Bd2 Ng6 21.Rc1 Bb2 22.Rb1 Bd4+ 23.Kh2 Bc8=] **20.fxe5?±** for the first time in the game, Magas gets the advantage [20.Re3 Nd7 21.Qd3 g6±] **20...Bxg3 21.exd6 Qxd6 22.Rf1 Be5 23.Rb1 Qg6?!=** though inferior, this does set up a small tactical threat [23...Rf8 24.Qh5 f5±] **24.Qf3 Rac8** Magas misses the win of a P [24...Bxd5! 25.exd5 Qxc2 26.Qxf7+ Kh8 27.Bg5 Qxa2= Magas would be up a P] **25.Bf4?!±** this loses a P [25.Bd3 Re7 26.Bb2 Rcc7 27.Bxe5 Rxe5=] **25...Bd4+ 26.Kh1**

Position after 26.Kh1



Bxd5! Magas goes up a P **27.exd5 Qxc2 28.d6 Rcd8 29.Rbe1?!?** Magas gets a " clear " advantage [29.Bh2 Qg6 30.Qb7 h6] **29...Rxe1 30.Rxe1 Qf5?!?** [30...h6 31.Bg3 c4] **31.Qc6 g5?!=** [31...h5 32.Qc7 Rd7 33.Qc8+ Kh7] **32.Re8+?+ Magas gets a " winning " advantage** [32.Bg3 g4 33.Qxa6 Qd3=] **32...Rxe8** - 1.46 [32...Kg7 33.Be3 (33.Rxd8?? Qb1+ 34.Kh2 Qg1+ 35.Kg3 Qe1+ 36.Kf3 Qf2+ 37.Ke4 Qe2+ 38.Kf5 Qe6+ 39.Kxg5 Qg6+ 40.Kh4 Bf6+ 41.Bg5 Qxg5#) 33...Qf1+ 34.Kh2 Bxe3 35.Rxe3 Qf4+ 36.Rg3 Qe5+ - 2.01] **33.Qxe8+ Kg7 34.d7??+ leads to mate in 9 moves** [34.Be3 Be5 35.Qe7 Bf6 36.Qe8 Qf1+ 37.Kh2 Qa1 38.d7 Be5+ 39.g3 Qxa2+ 40.Kg1 Qb1+ 41.Kf2 Qc2+ 42.Kf1 Qd3+ 43.Kf2 Bf6+ - 1.67] **34...Qb1+ 35.Kh2 Qg1+ 36.Kg3 Qf2+ 37.Kh2 Qxf4+ Magas goes up B + P 38.Kh1 Qf1+ 39.Kh2 Bg1+ 40.Kh1 Bf2+ 41.Kh2 Qg1# 0-1**

SCC Jack Frost Swiss

Open to SCC members only
 No field limit
 Two sections (Open and U1700)
 January 7 – February 11
 Entry Fee: None
 Tournament Director: Bryan Lamb
 Time control: G/90
 Rounds: 6
 Type: Swiss

60 players showed up in our new location for the Open section – we were pleased to see a number of new members, including some new juniors, and some members from long past who were returning to the scene of the crime. The Open Section is headed by 8 masters (!) and 4 experts. 23 players registered for the U 1700 section. The total of 83 players is the highest number we have had since the start of the millenium (though we did have as well 82 players for the Howard Ridout Swiss at the start of this season). Our new location has a maximum capacity of about 100 players, and so our former space problem is solved for the foreseeable future.

The leaders after 4 rds. are:

Open Section:

1st/4th – 3.5 pts. – Master Rune Pedersen; Master Kevork Hacat; Expert David Southam; Master Andrei Moffat.

U 1700 Section:

1st – 4 pts. – Zaidun al Ganabi (has won 4 in a row)
2nd/4th – 3 pts. – Maurice Smith; John Walker; Michael Rogers.

Though original score sheets (white copy) are collected each week (mandatory to hand them in), there will be no games of this tournament sent out to members in database format, nor published, until the tournament has concluded. This is because of the new policy adopted at the September 2009-10 SCC AGM concerning, score sheets, the games database, and the newsletter. If you are interested in finding out about this new policy, just e-mail me at bobarm@sympatico.ca and I will forward to you the new policy. My thanks to SCC member Ken Kurkowski who is now volunteering to work with me on entering the SCC games each week into the tournament database, which will be sent out to members when the tournament is concluded.

Express Your INNER Self !!

Got a chess issue that has been bothering you for a while? Got a favourite chess topic that you've always wanted to share with other chess players? Read something in SCTCN&V that you profoundly agreed with, or maybe (surely not !) disagreed with?

SCTCN&V may be for you. We are very open to publishing freelance articles from our readers – David Cohen and Erik Malmsten have presented us with material in the past. Now we have a new columnist, Rick Garel. Maybe there's a writer inside just waiting to get going !

Also, if you would like us to cover some topic, send us your idea, and we'll see if we can write something up on it.

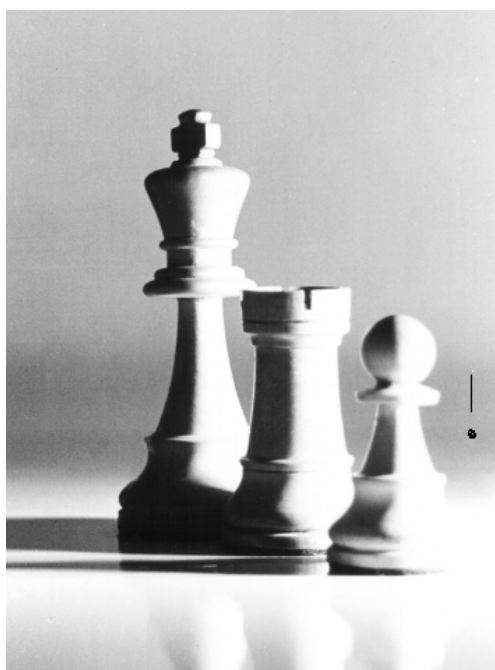
This may be the chance you've been waiting for ! Want to express your inner self???

Members enjoy an evening at SCC !



(thanks to Erik Malmsten for this picture, and a number of others he took for the club)

An Impressive Trio !



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

1. Be added to the free e-mail list; 2. Submit content (fact, opinion, criticism, recommendations!).
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