

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 – February 1, 2006

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

3-Way Tie for First at Corus, Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands

This tournament was played Jan. 13 – 28, and was rated 2719 (FIDE Category 19). It was a 14-player round robin. The participants, including the top three players in the world, were :

GM Veselin Topalov	BUL	2783	1	Bio
GM Viswanathan Anand	IND	2779	2	Bio
GM Vladimir Kramnik	RUS	2766	3	Bio
GM Levon Aronian	ARM	2744	7	Bio
GM Teimour Radjabov	AZE	2729	11	Bio
GM Peter Svidler	RUS	2728	12	Bio
GM Ruslan Ponomarev	UKR	2723	14	Bio
GM David Navara	CZE	2719	15	Bio
GM Alexei Shirov	ESP	2715	17	Bio
GM Magnus Carlsen	NOR	2690	24	Bio
GM Loek van Wely	NED	2683	26	Bio
GM Sergey Tiviakov	NED	2682	27	Bio
GM Sergey Karjakin	UKR	2678	29	Bio
GM Alexander Motylev	RUS	2647	58	Bio

Tied for first, with 8.5 pts. were Topalov, Radjabov and Aronian. Kramnik was fourth, only a ½ pt. behind at 8 pts.. Anand was fifth at 7.5 pts..

Rd. 2 saw a nice win by Topalov against Van Wely, by which Topalov went into a 7-way tie for first, with Kramnik, Anand, Aronian, Navara, Svidler and Radjabov. Here

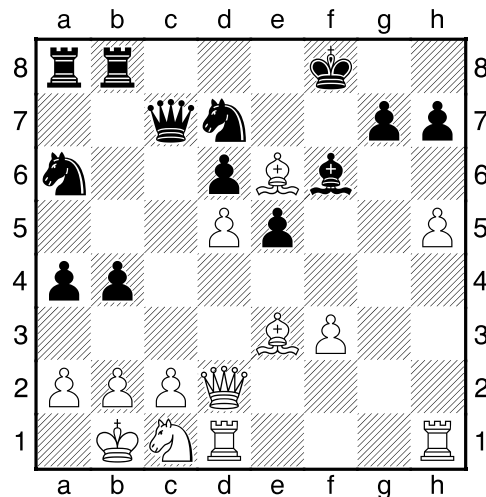
SCTCN&V Website : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>
SCC e – mail : info@ScarboroughChessClub.ca SCC Website : <http://www.ScarboroughChessClub.ca>
Jack Goodlad Community Ctre, 929 Kennedy Road
(½ way between Eglinton Ave. and Lawrence Ave.)

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

Topalov, V (2783) – Van Wely, L (2683) [A00]

Corus, Wijk aan Zee Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (2), 14.01.2007

1.e4 c5± 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 [5...g6±; 5...e6±] 6.Be3 e5± [6...Ng4 7.Bg5 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6±] 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Qd2?± [8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 Be6±] 8...0-0 9.0-0-0?=[9.Rd1 Be6 10.Bd3 Nbd7±] 9...b5 10.f3 [10.h4 Bb7 (10...b4?? 11.Nd5 Be6 (11...Nxe4 12.Qd3 Bf5 13.Bb6 Qd7 14.Qf3 Nc6+-) 12.Qxb4 a5 13.Nxf6+ Bxf6 14.Qxd6 Qc8+-) 11.f3 b4 12.Na4 Nbd7=] 10...Be6?± [10...Qc7 11.g4 Be6 12.Bd3 Rc8=] 11.Nd5 Bxd5 12.exd5 Qc7 13.g4 Rc8 14.Kb1 b4?± [14...a5] 15.g5 Nfd7 16.h4 a5 17.Bh3 a4 18.Nc1 Na6 [18...Ra5 19.h5 a3 20.b3 Rxd5 21.Nd3 Ra5 22.g6 d5 23.Bf5 h6±] 19.h5 Rcb8 20.g6 Bf6 [20...b3 21.gxh7+ Kh8 22.cxb3 axb3 23.Nxb3 Ndc5 24.h6 g6 25.Nxc5 Nxc5±] 21.gxf7+ Kxf7 [somewhat better is 21...Kh8 22.Be6 Ndc5 23.h6 g6±] 22.Be6+ Kf8?+- Topalov gets a " winning " advantage [22...Ke7+/-]



23.b3??± But then he comes up with a lemon ! [23.Qd3 Ndc5 24.Qxh7 Nxe6 25.dxe6 a3+-] 23...Ndc5 [23...Nac5?? 24.Rhg1 (a bad mistake would be 24.Rdg1?? Nxe6 25.dxe6 Nc5 26.Nd3 axb3 27.cxb3 Nxd3 28.Qxd3 Rxa2!! 29.e7+ Ke8 30.Kxa2 e4 (30...Ra8+ 31.Kb1 e4 32.Qb5+ Kxe7 33.Qc4 Qxc4 34.bxc4 b3 35.Kc1 Bc3 36.Kd1 exf3 37.Bc1 Ra1 38.Rf1 b2 39.Kc2 b1Q+ 40.Kxc3 Kd7-+) 31.Qc4 Ra8+ 32.Kb1 Qxc4 33.bxc4 b3-+) 24...e4 25.Bd4 Re8±] 24.Rhg1 Qe7 25.Bf5 Kg8??+- [25...e4 26.fxe4 axb3 27.Nxb3 Nxb3 28.cxb3 Nc7±] 26.Bxc5 Nxc5 27.Qh6 Kf8 28.Qxh7 Besides having a great attack, W now goes up a P 28...Qf7 29.Nd3 axb3 30.cxb3 Nxd3 31.Rxd3 e4 [31...Qg8 32.Qg6 Qf7 33.h6 Qxg6 34.Rxg6 Kf7 35.h7 Rb5 36.Rd2 Rh8 37.Be4 Ra5+-] 32.Be6 exd3?+- [32...Qa7 33.Qg8+ Ke7 34.Qf7+ Kd8 35.Qf8+ Kc7 36.Rc1+ Kb7 37.Qf7+ Ka6 38.Qxa7+ Kxa7 39.fxe4 Be5+-] 33.Bxf7 Rxa2 34.Qg8+ Ke7 35.Kxa2 Loek resigned. There is nothing left for him 35...Rxg8 36.Bxg8 d2 37.Kb1 Bd4 38.Rh1 Bc3 39.Kc2 Kf6 40.Rg1 Ke7 41.Rg4 Kd8 42.Rc4 Ke7 43.Be6 Kf6+- 1-0

In Rd. 3, Shirov vs Radjabov saw some tactical fireworks, as Radjabov won when the smoke cleared, and took sole possession of first place. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Shirov, A (2715) – Radjabov, T (2729) [E97]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (3), 15.01.2007

]

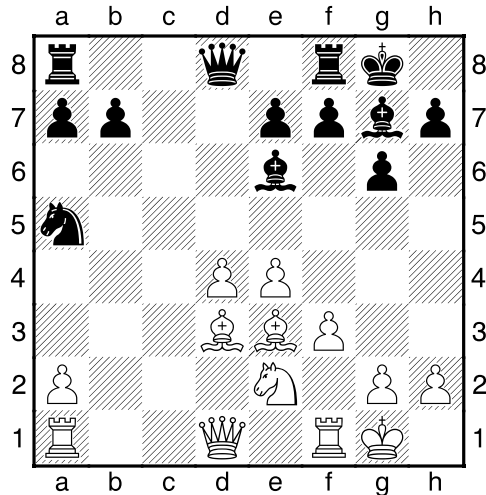
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6± [2...e6=] **3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5** [6...c5? 7.0-0 Qa5 8.Be3 Ng4 9.Bg5 Nc6 10.d5 h6 11.Bh4 g5 12.dxc6 gxh4 13.Nxh4 Ne5 14.cxb7 Bxb7±; 6...Na6 7.0-0 c5 8.e5 Ng4 9.exd6 Qxd6 10.dxc5 Qxc5±] **7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4?=-** [9.Be3 h6 10.Nd2 Nd7 11.Nb5 f5±] **9...Nh5 10.Re1 f5 11.Ng5** [11.exf5? e4 12.f6 Bxf6 13.Nd4 Nf5±; 11.a3 fxe4 12.Ng5 Nf4 13.Ngxe4 Nxe2+ 14.Qxe2 Nf5=] **11...Nf6 12.f3 Kh8** [12...Nh5 13.Qd3 h6 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.dxe6 fxe4 16.fxe4 Nf4=] **13.Ne6 Bxe6 14.dxe6 Nh5 15.g3 Bf6** [15...f4 16.g4 Nf6 17.c5 Nc6=] **16.c5** [16.Bh6 Ng7 17.Rb1 Nc6=] **16...f4?±** [16...dxc5 17.Qxd8 Rfxd8 18.bxc5 Ng7=] **17.Kg2 Nc6 18.cxd6** [18.Bc4 Nd4 19.Ne2 dxc5 20.bxc5 Qe7=] **18...cxd6 19.Nd5** [19.Rb1 Ng7 20.Qd5 Qe7=] **19...Nd4 20.Bb2 Nxe6 21.g4 Nhg7 22.Nxf6 Rxf6 23.Qd5?=-** [23.Qd2 Qb6 24.Rac1 a5±] **23...Qe7?±** [23...Qb6 24.Qd2 h5=] **24.Red1 Rd8 25.Qa5?=-** [25.Rac1 h5 26.g5 Rff8±] **25...b6 26.Qd5 Rff8** [26...h5 27.g5 Rff8=] **27.Rac1 h5** [27...Qg5 28.Rg1 Rf7=] **28.gxh5 Qh4** [28...Nxh5? 29.Bc4 Ng5±] **29.Rc6 g5 30.Rxd6??-+** a fatal mistake; Shirov must establish a defence [30.Rg1 g4 31.Kh1 Kh7=] **30...g4 31.Rxe6** Shirov temporarily sacs his Q, but it will not help [31.Bxe5 Qh3+ 32.Kf2 Rxd6 33.Bxd6 Qxh2+ 34.Ke1 Qg1+ 35.Kd2 Qe3+ 36.Kc2 Qxe2+ 37.Kb1 Rf6-+] **31...Rxd5 32.Rh6+ Kg8 33.Bc4 gxf3+ 34.Kh1 Nxh5??±** Radjabov lets off the pressure; he has Q + P vs B + R (B1 R is pinned and will be won) [34...Rf7 35.Bxd5 Qh3 36.Rg6 f2 37.Rg2 Qd3! 38.Rxd3 f1Q+ 39.Rg1 Qxd3 40.h6 Kh7 41.Bxf7 Qxe4+ 42.Rg2 Kxh6-+ Radjabov would have Q + P vs R + B, with 2 connected, passed P's] **35.Rg1+ Ng3+** [35...Kf7? 36.Bxd5+ Ke8 37.Re6+ Kd7 38.Bxe5 Ng3+ 39.Rxg3 fxc3 40.Rd6+ Ke7 41.Re6+ Kd8 42.Rd6+ Ke8 43.Re6+ Qe7 44.Rxe7+ Kxe7=] **36.Rxg3+ fxc3 37.Rxh4 g2+ 38.Kg1 f2+ 39.Kxg2 f1Q+ 40.Bxf1 Rd2+ 41.Kg3 Rxb2** Radjabov is up the exchange, with Shirov having a P compensation **42.Bc4+ Kg7 43.Bb3??-+** there is no room for inaccuracy at this point; this error is fatal. [43.Rh5 Re8 44.Bb3 a5 45.Rf5 Re7±] **43...Rb1 44.Kg2** [44.Rg4+ Kh6 45.Rh4+ Kg5 46.Rg4+ Kf6 47.Kh3 Rh8+ 48.Rh4 Rxh4+ 49.Kxh4 Rb2-+] **44...Rc8** [44...Kg6 45.Rg4+ Kh5 46.Rg7 Kh4 47.Rxa7 Rb2+ 48.Kg1 Rc8 49.Rh7+ Kg5 50.Rf7 Rc1+ 51.Rf1 Rxf1+ 52.Kxf1 Kf4 53.Bd5 Rxb4-+] **45.Kf3** [45.Rh5 Rc3 46.Rg5+ Kh6 47.Rg3 Rxg3+ 48.Kxg3 Kg5-+] **45...Rc3+ 46.Kg4 Rf1 47.Kh5 Kf6** Shirov resigned. Coming is **48.Rg4 Rh3+ 49.Rh4 Rxh4+ 50.Kxh4 Rf4+ 51.Kh3 Rxe4-+ 0-1**

In Rd. 4, Topalov won an exciting game against Shirov, employing his trademark exchange sacrifice, to take sole possession of second place, ½ pt. behind Radjabov. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Topalov, V (2783) – Shirov, A (2715) [D89]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (4), 16.01.2007

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6± [2...e6=] **3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4** [7.Nf3 c5 8.Bb5+ Nc6 9.0-0 cxd4 10.cxd4 0-0±] **7...c5 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.Be3 0-0** [9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Qa5+ 11.Bd2 Qh5±] **10.0-0 Bg4 11.f3 Na5 12.Bd3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Be6**



14.d5! Topalov's trademark exchange sacrifice **14...Bxa1 15.Qxa1** Shirov is up the exchange, but Topalov still has a " slight " advantage **15...f6** [15...Bd7? 16.Bh6 Qb6+ 17.Rf2 f6 18.Bxf8 Kxf8±] **16.Qd4?**= [16.dxe6?? Qxd3 17.Kf2 Qd6+; 16.Nd4 Bd7 17.f4 Qc7 18.Qb1 Rfc8±] **16...Bf7?**± [16...Bc8 17.Qc3 e6 18.Nf4 e5 19.Ne2 b6=] **17.Bh6** [17.Qb4? Nc6 18.Qxb7 Ne5 19.Rd1 Nxd3 20.Rxd3 Rb8 21.Qxa7 Ra8 22.Qc5 Rxa2=] **17...Re8 18.Bb5 e5 19.Qf2 Re7 20.f4 exf4 21.Qxf4 Qb6+ 22.Kh1 Bxd5** [22...Qxb5?? 23.Qxf6 Bxd5 24.Qf8+ Rxf8 25.Rxf8#] **23.exd5 Qxb5 24.Qxf6** Topalov is still down the exchange **24...Qe8 25.Qd4** [25.Bd2? Nc4 26.Bc3 Ne5 27.Ng3 Rc8=] **25...Rd8 26.h3** Topalov correctly decides against winning the Q for R + B [26.Rf8+? Qxf8 27.Bxf8 Rxf8 28.Ng1 Rd7=] **26...Rf7 27.Rxf7 Qxf7 28.Qc3 b6 29.Ng3 Nb7??+–** [29...Qb7 30.Qf6 Re8 31.Qd4 Re1+ 32.Kh2 Qc7±; 29...Rxd5?? 30.Qc8+ Rd8 31.Qxd8+ Qf8 32.Qxf8#; 29...Qxd5?? 30.Qg7#] **30.Ne4 Qe7 31.Nf6+ Kf7 32.Nxh7** now Topalov is down the exchange with a P compensation, and has a strong, winning attack **32...Kg8 33.Nf6+ Kf7 34.Ng4** [34.Bg5 Rc8 35.Qa1 Qc7 36.Ng4 Qc3 37.Qf1+ Kg8+–] **34...Kg8 35.Qd2 Re8 36.Qf4 Qd6 37.Qf2 Qc5** [37...Qxd5?? 38.Nf6+ Kh8 39.Nxd5 Kh7 40.Nf6+ Kxh6 41.Nxe8 Kh5 42.g4+ Kg5 43.Qf6+ Kh6 44.Qh4#] **38.Qg3** [38.Nf6+? Kf7 39.Qf1 Re5 40.Ne4+ Rf5 41.Qxf5+ gxf5 42.Nxc5 Nxc5±; 38.Qf1 Qe7 39.Nf6+ Kf7 40.Nxe8+ Kxe8+–] **38...Qd4** [38...Qe7 39.Qf3 Rc8 40.Qf4 Nc5+–] **39.Kh2 Nd8** [39...b5 40.Qc7 Nc5 41.Qc6 Kf7 42.Bg5 Rf8] **40.Qd6 Ne6 41.Be3** Shirov resigned. Coming is **41...Qg7 42.dxe6** Topalov now has B+N+ Passed P on the 6th rank vs R **42...Qe7 43.Qf4 g5 44.Nf6+ Kf8 45.Nh7+ Kg8 46.Nxg5 Rf8 47.Qg3 Rf5+– (+ 16.00) 1-0**

In Rd. 6, Kramnik won a tough positional struggle with Anand, to pull into a tie for second place with Topalov, a point behind Radjabov. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Kramnik, V (2766) – Anand, V (2779) [A00]

Corus, Wijk aan Zee Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (5), 19.01.2007

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 [3.Nf3=] **3...d5 4.Bg2 Be7** [4...dxc4 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Qa4+ c6 7.Qxc4 Qd5=] **5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.Qxc4 b5 9.Qc2 Bb7 10.Bd2 Ra7** [10...Nc6 11.e3 Nb4 12.Bxb4 Bxb4=] **11.Rc1** [11.Bg5 Nbd7 12.Nbd2 Qa8=] **11...Be4 12.Qb3 Nc6 13.e3 Qa8 14.Qd1 Nb8** [14...b4 15.Qf1 a5 16.Be1 a4=] **15.Ba5 Rc8** [15...Bd6 16.a3 Nc6 17.Bd2 b4=] **16.a3** [16.h3 Nc6 17.Bd2 b4 18.Be1 Bd5=] **16...Bd6 17.Nbd2** [17.h3 Bb7 18.Nbd2 Nbd7=] **17...Bd5 18.Qf1** the game has been dead equal to here [18.Qe2 Nbd7 19.Re1 Ne4=] **18...Nbd7?**± [18...Nc6 19.Bc3

Ne7 20.Bb4 Bxb4 21.axb4 Nc6=] **19.b4 e5 20.dxe5** [20.Nxe5? Bxe5 21.dxe5 Nxe5=] **20...Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Nxe5 22.f3 Nc4?±** Kramnik gets a " clear " advantage [22...Nc6 23.e4 Nxa5 24.exd5 Nb7±] **23.Nxc4 Bxc4 24.Qf2 Re8 25.e4 c6 26.Rd1 Rd7 27.Rxd7 Nxd7 28.Rd1 Qb7 29.Rd6 f6?+-** Kramnik gets a " winning " advantage [29...f5 30.Qd4 Nf8 31.h3 Ne6 32.Qb6 Qxb6+ 33.Bxb6 fxe4 34.fxe4 Ng5 35.Rd4 Rb8 36.Bc7 Rf8±] **30.f4 Re6 31.Rd2 Re7 32.Qd4 Nf8 33.Qd8?±** [33.Qb6 Kf7 34.Rd8 Qxb6+ 35.Bxb6 Rd7 36.Rxd7+ Nxd7 37.Be3 Nf8 38.Kf2 Ne6+-] **33...Rd7?+-** [33...Kf7 34.Qb6 Rd7 35.Qxb7 Rxb7 36.Kf2 Rd7 37.Ke3 Rxd2 38.Kxd2 Nd7±] **34.Rxd7 Qxd7 35.Qxd7 Nxd7 36.e5?±** [36.Bh3 Nf8 37.Bc8 Bd3 38.e5 fxe5 39.fxe5 Kf7+-] **36...fxe5 37.Bxc6 Nf6 38.Bb7 exf4** [38...e4 39.Bb6 Nd5 40.Bd4 e3 41.Kg2 Kf7±] **39.gxf4 Nd5 40.Kf2 Nxf4 41.Ke3 g5** [41...Nd3 42.Bxa6 Nb2 43.Bb6 Na4 44.Bd4 Kf7±] **42.Bxa6 Kf7?+-** this time Kramnik will not loosen the screws on Anand [42...Ne2 43.Kd2 Nd4±] **43.a4 Ke7 44.Bxb5 Bxb5 45.axb5 Kd7** [45...Kd6 46.Ke4 Kd7 47.Kf5 h6 48.Bb6 Nd3 49.Kg6 Ne5+ 50.Kh5 Kc8 51.h3 Kb7 52.Be3 Nc4 53.Bd4 Nd6 54.b6 Ka6+-] **46.Ke4 Ne2 47.Bb6 g4 48.Bf2 Nc3+ 49.Kf5 Nxb5 50.Kxg4 Ke6 51.Kg5 Kf7 52.Kf5 Ke7 53.Bc5+ 1-0**

In Rd. 7, Topalov won a very tactical game against Ponomariov, 2002 FIDE World Champion, to take sole possession of second place, a ½ pt. behind Radjabov. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Ponomariov, R (2723) – Topalov, V (2783) [A65]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (7), 20.01.2007

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6± 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3?=- [5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 c5 7.0-0 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nc6±] **5...0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5** [7.dxc5? Qa5 8.Bd2 dxc5 9.Nf3 Nc6±] **7...e6** [7...h6 8.Bf4 Qa5 9.Qd2 Nbd7=] **8.Bd3 exd5** [8...Na6? 9.Nf3 Nb4 10.Be2 exd5 11.cxd5 h6 12.Be3 Qe7 13.a3 Na6±; 8...Qb6? 9.Qd2 Na6 10.Nf3 exd5 11.cxd5 Re8±] **9.cxd5** [9.Nxd5 Qa5+ 10.b4 Qd8 (10...cxb4?? 11.Bxf6 Na6 12.Qd2 Bxf6 13.Nxf6+ Kg7 14.Nd5 Nc5+-) 11.Nf3 Nbd7=] **9...Re8 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.0-0 h6 12.Be3 Ne5 13.a4** [13.Bb5 Bd7 14.Bxd7 Nfxd7 15.b3 Nb6=] **13...Nxd3 14.Qxd3 b6** [14...Qe7 15.Ng3 Nd7 16.Qd2 Kh7=] **15.Ng3 Nh7** [15...Nd7 16.f4 a6 17.Bf2 Rb8=] **16.f4** [16.Bf4 Nf8 17.Qb5 Bd7 18.Qe2 Qf6=] **16...h5** [16...a6 17.Bd2 Qe7 18.Qf3 Bd7=] **17.f5 h4 18.fxg6 fxg6 19.Nge2 g5 20.Rf2 a6 21.Raf1 Ra7 22.Nb1 g4 23.hxg4 Bxg4** [23...Bxb2 24.Nec3 Bxc3 25.Nxc3 Rg7=] **24.Nd2** [24.b4 Ng5 (24...cxb4?? 25.Nd4 Qe7 26.Rf4 Qd7 27.Nc6 Raa8±) 25.Nd2 Be5=] **24...Bxb2** Topalov goes up a P **25.Nc3?±** [25.Nc4 Bg7 26.Rb1 b5 27.axb5 axb5 28.Rxb5 Qe7 29.e5 dxe5=] **25...Rg7** [25...h3 26.Bh6 Qh4 27.Bf4 Qf6±] **26.Nc4** [26.Bh6 Rg6 27.Be3 h3 28.Ndb1 Bxc3 29.Nxc3 Qh4±] **26...Bxc3 27.Qxc3 Bh5 28.Bf4?±** Ponomariov gives up his eP [28.Rf5 Be2 29.R1f2 Bxc4 30.Qxc4 h3±] **28...Rxe4** Topalov goes up 2 P's **29.Ne3 Qf6 30.Qc2?+-** Topalov gets a " winning " advantage [30.Qd3 Qd4 31.Qxd4 cxd4 32.Nf5 Rd7±] **30...Bg6 31.Ng4 Qd4 32.Nh6+ Kh8 33.Bc1 Re1 34.Qd2 Rxf1+ 35.Kxf1 Bd3+ 36.Kg1 Ng5 37.Kh2** [37.Ng4 Qxg4 38.Rf8+ Kh7 39.Qxd3+ Ne4 40.Rf2 c4 41.Qc2 h3 42.Re2 Qxg2+ 43.Rxg2 Rxg2+ 44.Qxg2 hxg2 45.Kxg2 Nc3-+] **37...Ne4 38.Rf8+ Kh7 39.Qf4 Nc3 40.Qxd4 cxd4 41.Nf7 Ne4** [41...Kg6 42.Ng5 Bc2 43.Ne6 Rf7 44.a5 bxa5 45.Rg8+ Kf6 46.Nxd4 Be4 47.Nc6 Bxd5 48.Bb2 Bxc6 49.Bxc3+ Kf5 50.Bxa5 Rh7-+] **42.Bb2 Bf1 43.Rh8+ Kg6 44.Rxh4 Kxf7 45.Rf4+ Kg8 46.Rxf1 Rh7+ 47.Kg1 d3 48.Rd1 Rh1+! 49.Kxh1 Nf2+ 50.Kg1 Nxd1 51.Bc1 Nb2 52.Kf2 Nxa4 53.Bf4** [53.Ke3 Nc5 54.Bb2 Kf7 55.g3 a5 56.Bc3 Kg6 57.g4 Kg5 58.Bg7 Kxg4 59.Bf8 Kf5 60.Bxd6 a4 61.Bf8 Ke5 62.d6 Ke6 63.d7 Kxd7-+] **53...Nc3 54.Kf3 a5 55.Bd2 Nb1 56.Bf4 a4 57.Bxd6 d2 58.Ke2 Nc3+** Ponomariov resigned. The game could have continued **59.Kxd2 Ne4+ 60.Kc2 Nxd6-+ 0-1**

In Rd. 8, Topalov gave up a R + 2P's for B + N, and went on to win against Anand. This lifted Topalov into sole possession of first place. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Topalov, V (2783) – Anand, V (2779) [A00]

Corus, Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (8), 2007

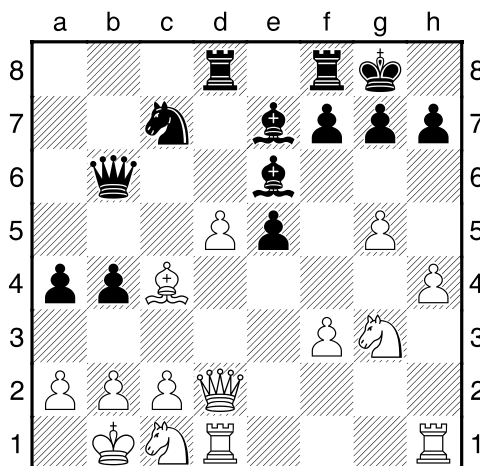
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 [3...d5=] 4.g3= [4.e3±] 4...Ba6 5.b3 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Be7 7.Bg2 c6?± [7...0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.Nc3 c6=] 8.Bc3?=[8.0-0 0-0 9.Qc2 d5±] 8...d5 9.Ne5 Nfd7 10.Nxd7 Nxd7 11.Nd2 0-0 12.0-0 Nf6?± [12...b5 13.Qc2 bxc4 14.bxc4 Nb6 15.c5 Nc4 16.Nxc4 Bxc4=] 13.e4 dxe4 14.a4?=[14.Nxe4 Bb7 15.Qe2 Qc7±] 14...Nd5 15.cxd5?± [15.Nxe4 Nxc3 16.Nxc3 Bb7=] 15...Bxf1 16.d6 Bxg2 17.dxe7 Qxe7 18.Kxg2 f5?=[18...Rad8 19.Qe2 f5 20.Rc1 c5 21.dxc5 Qxc5±] 19.b4?± [19.f3 c5 20.fxe4 Rad8 21.dxc5 Qxc5=] 19...Qd7?=[19...Rad8 20.Qc2 Rd5 21.a5 bxa5 22.Rxa5 Rxa5 23.bxa5 c5±] 20.Qe2 Qd5 21.f3 exf3+ 22.Nxf3 h6 23.Re1 Rfe8?± [23...Rf6 24.Kg1 Rc8 25.Ne5 f4=] 24.Qc2 Rad8 25.Bd2?=[25.Re5 Qc4 26.Kg1 Rd5 27.Re1 a5±] 25...Qd7?± [25...Rf8 26.Re5 Qd7 27.Qc4 Rf6±] 26.Kf2 Rc8 27.Bf4 Qd5 28.Re5 Qd7 29.h4 Ra8 30.Bd2 Rac8 31.Qc4 Kh7 32.Bc3 [32.Bf4 Qe7 33.Re1 c5 34.dxc5 bxc5 35.b5 Rcd8±] 32...Qd6 [32...Rb8 33.Kg2 Rbd8±] 33.Ne1 [33.Kg2 Rb8 34.Bd2 Rbd8 35.Bf4 Qd7±] 33...b5 [33...Rc7? 34.h5 Rf7 35.Nd3 Qd7 36.Re2 Qd6 37.Nf4 Rfe7±] 34.Qc5 [34.Qb3 Rf8 35.Nd3 Rf6±] 34...Qd8??+- a fatal mistake [34...Qd7 35.Nd3 Kg8 36.h5 bxa4 37.Qa5 Rcd8 38.Qxa4 Qf7±] 35.Nd3 Anand resigned [35.Rxe6?! Kg8 (35...Rxe6 36.Qxf5+ Rg6 37.h5 Qf8 38.hxg6+ Kg8 39.Qf7+ Qxf7+ 40.gxf7+ Kxf7 41.a5 Ke6±) 36.Rxc6 Rxc6 37.Qxc6 bxa4 38.Qxa4 Qe7±] the game could have continued 35...Qd7 36.h5 bxa4 37.Qa5 Qf7 38.Nf4 Rcd8 39.Qxa4 Rd6 40.Ra5 Re7 41.Ra6 Rc7 42.Qa5 Rb7 43.Qa3 Rdd7 44.Rxc6 Rb6 45.Rc8 Rc7 46.Ra8 Rbc6+- 1-0

Rd. 10 saw a wild tactical game in which Karjakin sacked his Q for N +R + P, and eventually Anand won the ending. This put Anand back into 3rd/6th, 1 ½ pts. behind the leader, Topalov, and ½ pt. behind Radjabov. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Karjakin, S (2678) – Anand, V (2779) [B90]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (10), 24.01.2007

1.e4 c5± 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 [6...Ng4 7.Bg5 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Be2 Qa5 10.Bd2 Nf6±] 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Qd2 [8.Be2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5±] 8...Nbd7 9.0-0-0??± [9.Be2 Nc5 10.Nxc5 dxc5 11.0-0-0 Qxd2+ 12.Rxd2 Rd8 13.Rhd1 Rxd2 14.Bxd2 c4±] 9...b5 10.f3 [10.Kb1 Be7 11.Bd3 b4 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.exd5 Bxd5 14.Rhe1 Nf6±] 10...Be7 11.g4 [11.Nd5 Bxd5 12.exd5 Nb6 13.Bxb6 Qxb6±] 11...0-0 12.g5 b4 13.Ne2 [13.gxf6 bxc3 14.Qxc3 Nxf6 15.Na5 Rc8 16.Nc6 Qd7 17.Nxe7+ Qxe7 18.Qa3 Rc6±] 13...Ne8 14.h4?± [14.f4 a5 15.f5 a4 16.fxe6 axb3 17.cxb3 fxe6±] 14...a5 15.Kb1 Nb6?± [15...a4 16.Nbd4 exd4 17.Nxd4 Ne5±] 16.Ng3 a4 17.Nc1 d5 18.Bxb6 Qxb6 19.exd5 Rd8 20.Bc4 Nc7



a b c d e f g h

21.dxe6??? the decision to sac the Q is unsound; at last year's Corus, Peter Leko had used this sac against Karjakin, and had been able to draw. Did Karjakin think he had an improvement for W ? Note that Fritz says here Bl has a " clear " advantage " ! [21.Qe2 Nxd5 22.Bxd5 Bxd5 23.Qxe5 Qe6 W would be up a P, but only temporarily.] **21...Rxd2 22.exf7+ Kh8 23.Rxd2 Nb5??** [this is the move Karjakin had used against Leko, where he had only managed to draw, even though Fritz gives Bl a " clear " advantage here. 23...Qc6 24.b3 Nb5 25.Bxb5 Qxb5] **24.Bxb5 Qxb5 25.Nf5 Rxf7 26.Nxe7 Rxe7** Anand has Q vs R + N + P **27.Rd8+ Re8 28.Rhd1 Rg8 29.b3??** this leaves a situation where W must always guard against a b2 mate. [29.R1d5 Qf1 30.R8d7 Qe1 31.Re7 Qxh4 32.Rdx5 a3] **29...a3? =** [29...Qb6 30.Rxg8+ Kxg8 31.bxa4 Qf2 32.h5 Qxf3 33.Rd8+ Kf7 34.Rd7+ Kf8 35.a5 Qa8] **30.R1d5??-+ [30.R8d5 Qb7 31.Rxe5 Qxf3 32.Rde1 Qg3 33.R5e4 h5 34.Nd3 Rb8 35.Kc1 Kh7 =] 30...Qf1 31.Rxg8+ Kxg8 32.Rxe5 Qxf3 33.Rc5 Qh1 34.Rc4 Qe1 35.Rf4 h5??** [35...g6 36.Rc4 h5 37.Rf4 Kg7-+] **36.gxh6?-+ [36.g6 Qd2 37.Re4 Kf8 38.Nd3 Qd1+ 39.Nc1 Qd6 40.Nd3 Qxg6 41.Rxb4 Qg1+ 42.Nc1 g5 43.hxg5 Qxg5] 36...gxh6 37.Rg4+ Kf7 38.Rf4+ Kg6 39.Rg4+ Kf5 40.Rc4 h5 41.Rc5+ Kg4 42.Rc4+ Kf3 43.Rd4??-+ [43.Rc8 Qxh4 44.Rf8+ Kg2 45.Rg8+ Kh2 46.Nd3 Qd4 47.Kc1 h4-+] 43...Qe5 44.c3 Qh2 45.Rd3+ Ke4 46.Rd4+ Kf5??-+ Anand misses a quick win [46...Ke3 47.Rd3+ Kf4 48.Rd4+ Kg3 49.Rd3+ Kxh4 50.Rd4+ Kg5 51.Nd3 bxc3 52.Rd5+ Kh6 53.Rd4 Qd2-+] **47.Nd3 Qd2 48.Rd5+ Kf6?-+ again he misses the quick win [48...Ke4 49.c4 Ke3 50.Re5+ Kd4 51.Re6 Qxd3+ 52.Kc1 Kc3 53.Re2 Qxe2 54.c5 Qe1#] 49.c4 Qd1+ 50.Nc1 Qg4 51.Rd2 Qxh4** Anand has Q vs R + N **52.Nd3 Qd4 53.Kc2 h4 54.Nxb4 Qb2+ 55.Kd1 Qb1+ 56.Ke2 Qe4+ 57.Kd1 h3 58.Nd3 Qh1+ 59.Ke2 h2 60.Nf2 Qg2 61.Ke3 Ke7 62.Rd5 h1Q 63.Nxh1 Qxa2-+ 0-1****

In Rd. 11, Topalov snatched a loss from the jaws of victory against Svidler. This left him in first place alone, but only ½ pt. ahead of Svidler, Radjabov and Aronian, with Kramnik to play in Rd. 12, and Radjabov in the last round. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Svidler, P (2728) – Topalov, V (2783) [A00]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (11), 26.01.2007

1.e4 c5± 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 [6.Be2 g6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.f4 0-0±] 6...e5 [6...Ng4 7.Bg5 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Be2 Qa5 10.Bd2 Nf6±] 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Qd2 [8.Nd5 Nbd7 9.Qd3 Rc8 10.c4 Nxd5 11.cxd5 Bg4 12.f3 Bh5±] 8...Nbd7 9.0-0-0??? surprising that this move is bad [9.Be2 Nc5 10.Nxc5 dxc5 11.0-0-0 Qxd2+ 12.Rxd2 b5±] **9...Be7 10.f3 h5??±** trying to restrict the future advance of W's K-side P's [10...b5 11.Bd3 b4 12.Nd5 Bxd5 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.f4 Qc7±; 10...0-0? 11.g4 b5 12.g5 b4 13.Ne2 Ne8=] **11.Kb1 [11.Nd5 Bxd5 12.exd5 0-0±] 11...Qc7 12.Bd3? = [12.f4 Rc8 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.exd5 Bg4±] 12...b5 13.Bg5 [13.f4? b4 14.Nd5 Nxd5 15.exd5 Bxd5 16.Qxb4 Rb8 17.Qd2 Nf6±; 13.Qe1 0-0 14.Qg3 Rfc8=] 13...Nb6 14.f4 Rb8 [14...b4 15.Ne2 a5 16.Bb5+ Bd7=] 15.Rhe1 [15.f5 Bc4 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Bxc4 bxc4=] 15...Nc4?± [15...0-0 16.f5 Bc4 17.Qe2 Na4=] 16.Bxc4 bxc4 17.Nc1???** [17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.f5 cxb3 19.fxe6 bxc2+ 20.Kxc2 0-0 21.Qxd6 Qc8 22.exf7+ Rxf7±] **17...Qb7 18.b3 exf4 19.Bxf4??** [19.Qxf4 0-0 20.Nd5 Bxd5 21.exd5 Rbc8±] **19...0-0 20.Bxd6** Peter goes up a P **20...Bxd6?? =** an error by Topalov that gives Peter equality, with a P up [20...Rfd8 21.e5 Bxd6 22.exd6 Rbc8±] **21.Qxd6 Rfc8 22.Nd5 Nxd5??** [22...Bxd5 23.exd5 Qb5 24.Rd4 Qa5 25.Re3 Rd8 26.Qg3 Nxd5 27.Re5 cxb3 28.axb3 Nc3+ 29.Kb2 Nb5 30.Ra4 Qd2=] **23.exd5 Bf5 [23...Rd8 24.Qg3 Rxd5 25.Rxd5 h4 26.Qxh4 Qxd5±] 24.Rd2 Bg6 25.Re7 [25.Ree2 Qb5 26.Qe5 Qa5 27.Qe7 Rd8±] 25...Qb5 26.Rc7??-+ [26.Qa3 cxb3 27.axb3 a5 28.d6 Qc6±] 26...Qa5??** Topalov misses the strongest move [26...cxb3 27.Nxb3 a5 28.Kb2 a4 29.c4 Qe8-+] **27.Rxc8+ Rxc8 28.Re2?-+ again Topalov**

gets a " winning " advantage [28.Qf4 c3 29.Rf2 Qxd5] **28...cxb3 29.axb3 Qc3 30.Qg3 Bxc2+ 31.Ka2 Bb1+?** Topalov blows his easy win [31...Qc5 32.Qe1 Qxd5 33.Re8+ Rxe8 34.Qxe8+ Kh7 35.Qe2 Bg6+] **32.Kxb1 Qxc1+ 33.Ka2 Rc5** [33...Rc2+ 34.Rxc2 Qxc2+ 35.Ka3 Qc5+ 36.b4 Qxd5] **34.Qb8+ Kh7 35.Qb4 f5??±** Topalov blunders ! Now Peter's d5P is dangerous [35...Rb5 36.Qd2 Qc5 37.Re5 Ra5+ 38.Kb1 g6] **36.Qd2 Qxd2+ 37.Rxd2 Kg6** [37...Rc8 38.d6 Kg8 39.Ka3 Kf8 40.Rd5 h4 41.Rxf5+ Ke8 42.Rg5 Rd8 43.Rd5 Kd7±] **38.b4** [38.d6? Rc8 39.d7 Rd8 40.Ka3 Kf6 41.Kb4 Ke7 42.Ka5 h4±] **38...Rc8 39.Kb3** [39.d6?? Kf7 40.Kb3 Ke6 41.d7 Rd8 42.Ka4 Rxd7 43.Rxd7 Kxd7 44.Ka5 h4 45.Kxa6 f4=] **39...Kf7 40.Ra2** [40.d6?? Ke6 41.d7 Rd8 42.Ka4 Rxd7 43.Rxd7 Kxd7 44.Ka5 f4 45.Kxa6 h4 46.h3 g5 47.b5 g4 48.b6 f3 49.gxf3 gxf3 50.b7 f2 51.b8Q f1Q+=] **40...Ra8 41.h4 f4?+-** Svidler gets a " winning " advantage [41...Ra7 42.Ra1 g6 43.Ra2 Rd7 44.Ra5 Rd6 45.Kc3 Kf6 46.Kd4 Ke7 47.Kc5 Rf6±] **42.Re2** [42.Rf2? Kf6 43.Rxf4+ Ke5 44.Rf7 Rg8 45.g3 Kxd5 46.Rf5+ Ke6 47.Rxh5 Rf8±] **42...Kf6 43.Kc4 Rc8+ 44.Kd4 Rb8 45.d6 Rxb4+** [45...g5 46.hxg5+ Kxg5 47.Kd5 Rb5+ 48.Kc6 Rxb4 49.d7 Rd4 50.Re6 Rxd7 51.Kxd7+-] **46.Kc5 Rb1 47.Rd2 1-0**

In Rd. 12, Radjabov won against Motylev to move back into a tie for first place with Topalov. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Motylev, A (2729) – Radjabov, T (2647) [A00]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (12), 27.01.2007

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6± 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.Be3 [7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Bg5 Re8 10.0-0-0 (10.Bxf6?? Bxf6 11.Nd5 Bd8 12.Rd1 c6 13.Nc3 Ba5) 10...Na6±] **7...Ng4 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bh4 g5?±** [9...Nc6 10.0-0 g5 11.Bg3 f5 12.d5 Nb4 13.a3 Na6 14.exf5 Bxf5±] **10.Bg3 Nh6 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Qd5+ Kh8 13.0-0-0 Qe7 14.Qa5 c6 15.Nd2 b6 16.Qa4 Bd7 17.f3 c5 18.Qa3 Nc6 19.Nd5 Qf7 20.Bd3 Be6 21.h3?±** [21.Kb1 Nd4 22.h4 g4 23.f4 exf4 24.Nxf4 Rad8±] **21...f5** [21...Nd4 22.h4 g4 23.f4 b5 24.fxe5 fxe5±] **22.Nb1 Nd4 23.Nbc3 Rfd8 24.Be1 f4 25.Kb1 Ng8 26.Ne2?=[26.Bf2 Qb7 27.g4 Nxf3 28.h4 Nh6 29.hxg5 Nxg4 30.Bh4 Rf8±] 26...Ne7** [26...Nf6 27.Qa6 Bc8 28.Qa3 Be6=] **27.Nxd4 exd4 28.h4 g4 29.Nc7 Rac8 30.Nxe6 Qxe6 31.Bd2 gxf3?=[31...Nc6 32.Qb3 Rf8 33.g3 fxc3 34.f4 Nb4=] 32.gxf3 Nc6 33.Bxf4??-+ this pawn grab is a very bad idea; it allows Bl's R to penetrate [33.Qa6 Bh6 34.Be2 Ne5 35.Rdg1 Rc7=] 33...Rf8 34.Bc1** [34.Bg5 Rxf3 35.h5 h6 36.Bc1 Ne5 37.Ka1 Rcf8+] **34...Rxf3 35.Rhg1 Nb4 36.Qxa7** [36.Rge1 a5 37.h5 Rg8 38.h6 Bxh6 39.Bxh6 Qxh6-+] **36...Rg8 37.Qa3 b5 38.e5 Rxd3** Teimour goes up an N [38...Nxd3 39.Rxd3 Qf5 40.Rg5 Qe4 41.Rg4 Qxd3+ 42.Qxd3 Rxd3 43.cxb5 Rd1 44.Kc2 Rxc1+ 45.Kxc1 Bh6+ 46.Rg5 Bxg5+ 47.hxg5 Rxg5-+] **39.Rxd3 Qf5 0-1**

In the final round, the big match up was Radjabov-Topalov. But they ended in a fairly short draw, tying for first with Aronian. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Radjabov, T (2729) – Topalov, V (2783) [A00]

Corus A Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (13), 28.01.2007

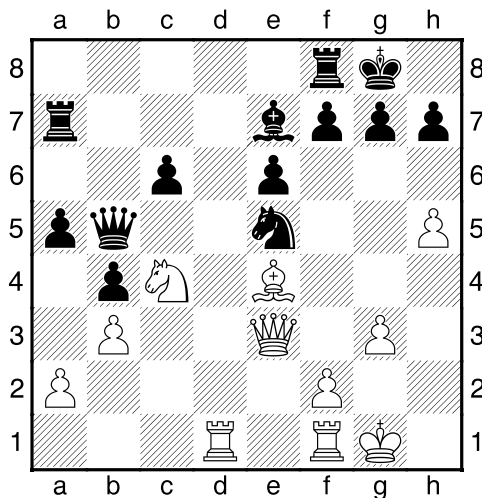
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.Qc2 a5?± [9...dxc4 10.Qxc4 Nb6 11.Qc2 Nfd5=] **10.Rd1?=[10.Nbd2 a4 11.Rfc1 Re8 12.h3 a3±] 10...Nh5?±** [10...dxc4 11.Nbd2 Nd5 12.Nxc4 Nxf4 13.gxf4 a4=] **11.Bc1** [11.Be3? Nhf6 12.h3 b5 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Bf4 Ba6=] **11...b5 12.cxd5** [12.c5? f5 13.Nbd2 a4 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 b4=] **12...cxd5 13.e4 dxe4** [13...Bb7 14.e5 g5 15.h3 Ng7±] **14.Qxe4 Rb8 15.Qe2** [15.Ne5 Nhf6 16.Qc2 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Nd7±] **15...Nhf6 16.Bf4 Rb6 17.Ne5 Nd5 18.Bxd5 exd5 19.Nc3 Nxe5?±** this was Topalov's attempt to improve on an earlier game vs Kramnik. [19...Nf6 20.Nxb5 Ba6 21.a4 Re8 22.Rdc1 Bd6±] **20.dxe5 d4** [20...Be6 21.Qd3 (21.Nxb5 Qd7 22.Nd4 Bh3± W would be up a P) 21...d4 22.Qxd4 Qxd4 23.Rxd4 f6 24.Nd5 Bc5 25.Rd2 Bxd5 26.Rxd5 fxe5 27.Rxe5 Bd6 28.Re6 Bc7 29.Rxb6 Bxb6±] **21.Be3 dxe3 22.Qxe3?=[Radjabov underestimates his position after the Q**

sac ! [22.Rxd8 exf2+ 23.Qxf2 Bxd8 24.Qc5 Re6 25.Nd5 Rxe5 26.Qxc8 Rxd5±] **22...Bg5 23.Qc5 Be7 24.Qe3 Bg5 25.Qc5 Be7 26.Qe3** ½-½

Aronian, who has been just under the radar all tournament, won his final round game, and pulled up into a tie for first with Topalov and Radjabov. Here is his win (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Aronian, L (2744) – Tiviakov, S (2682)
 Corus A Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands (13), 28.01.2007

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6± [3...d5=] 4.g3= [4.Nc3±] 4...Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7??± [5...c5 6.d5 exd5 7.cxd5 Bxd5 8.Nc3 Bb7=] 6.0-0 c6 7.Nc3 d5 8.Nd2?=[8.Qa4 0-0 9.Bf4 Nbd7±] 8...0-0 9.e4 dxc4 10.Nxc4 Ba6 11.b3 b5 12.Ne3 b4 13.Ne2 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 Qxd4 Tiviakov goes up a P **15.Bb2 Qb6 16.Nc4 Qb5 17.Bxf6 [17.e5 Nd5 18.h3 a5=] 17...Bxf6?± [17...gxf6 18.Rad1 Kh8 19.f4 a5=] 18.e5 Be7 19.Rad1 a5 20.Be4?=[20.Rd2 a4 21.Rfd1 Bg5 22.f4 Qc5+ 23.Kh1 Be7±] 20...Ra7 21.h4 [21.f4 a4 22.Kh1 axb3 23.axb3 Nd7=] 21...Nd7 22.h5 [22.Bd3? Nc5 23.Nd6 Qb6 24.Nc4 Qc7≠] 22...Nxe5 23.Qe3**



Ng4??± a bad decision by Tiviakov to sac the R for P's and an attack; the losing move [23...Bc5 24.Bxh7+ Kxh7 25.Qe4+ Kg8 26.Nxe5 a4=] **24.Qxa7 Qxh5 25.Kg2 Bc5 26.Qxa5 Qh2+ 27.Kf3 Bxf2?+-** Tiviakov takes the wrong way [27...Nxf2 28.Qxc5 Nxd1 29.Bd3 Nc3±] **28.Rd8?±** [best is 28.Bxh7+ Qxh7 29.Rd8 Qf5+ 30.Qxf5 exf5 31.Rxf8+ Kxf8 32.Rxf2 Nxf2 33.Kxf2+-] **28...Qxg3+ 29.Ke2 Bc5 30.Rxf8+ Bxf8 31.Qa7 Qh2+?+-** [31...Nh6 32.Qf2 Qxf2+ 33.Rxf2 c5±] **32.Kd1 f6 33.Qd7 Nf2+ 34.Ke1 [34.Kc1 Nxe4 35.Qxe6+ Kh8 36.Qxe4 Qxa2+-] 34...Nxe4 35.Qxe6+ Kh8 36.Qxe4 Qxa2 37.Qe8 Kg8 38.Rf3 Qb1+ 39.Kf2 c5 [39...Qc2+ 40.Kg3 Qd1 41.Qe6+ Kh8+-] 40.Qe6+ Kh8 41.Ne5 h6 42.Nd7 Qc2+ [42...Qa2+ 43.Qe2 Qxe2+ 44.Kxe2 Kg8 45.Nxf8 Kxf8+-] 43.Qe2 [43.Kg3 Qg6+ 44.Kh3 Qh5+ 45.Kg2 Qg6+ 46.Rg3 Qc2+ 47.Kh3 g5 48.Nxf8 (48.Qxf6+ Bg7 49.Qd8+ Kh7 50.Nf8+ Bxf8 51.Qxf8 Qe4 52.Qf7+ Kh8 53.Kh2 Qe2+ 54.Kh1 Qd1+ 55.Kg2 Qe2+ 56.Qf2 Qe4+ 57.Qf3 Qe8+-) 48...Qd1 49.Qxf6+ Kg8 50.Ne6 Qd7 51.Rf3 g4+ 52.Kxg4 Qd4+ 53.Nxd4 h5+ 54.Kg5 h4 55.Qf8+ Kh7 56.Rf7#] 1-0**

FIDE Rejects Kramnik – Topalov Match Without Mutual Consent

Under the World Championship regulations, FIDE has decided that Topalov's \$ 2 million challenge of Kramnik for a world championship match meets some criteria but technically fails to meet the time constraints. So they will not force Kramnik to accept. Only if the two players mutually agree on all dates and conditions will FIDE consider organizing it. Don't expect Kramnik to be running to meet Topalov after " Bathroomgate " ! Here is the reply press release of FIDE on this matter:



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ECHECS

Recognized by the International Olympic Committee

2 Syggrou Ave., 11743 Athens, Greece

Tel: (+30) 2109212047, Fax: (+30) 2109212859, Email: office@fide.com

www.fide.com

PRESS RELEASE, 28 January 2007

The FIDE Presidential Board, meeting 27-28 January 2007 in Antalya, Turkey, issued the following statement:

FIDE received a bank guarantee dated January 19th 2007, on behalf of GM Veselin Topalov for a challenge match against the World Chess Champion Vladimir Kramnik. Whilst the guarantee meets the conditions of the Handbook as per regulation, FIDE has reviewed the possibility of organizing this match as granted by the aforesaid regulation.

In order to organize this match within regulation, and the fact that a challenge match must be concluded no later than six months before the start of the next World Championship Tournament in Mexico City 12th September, this year, the match would have to start no later than 23rd February 2007.

The challenger additionally would need to deposit the required sum of money involved, into the FIDE bank account within 45 days before the commencement of the match in accordance with the regulations which has already passed.

A match for the World Chess Champion title is one of the most prestigious events in the FIDE calendar, and needs careful preparations from everybody involved. In the current situation there will not be sufficient time for proper inspections and negotiations with both players and the organizers. The players will not have enough time to prepare and can only play after having cancelled other contractual obligations.

Even though it might be possible from a pure technical point of view to stage a match before this date, FIDE cannot accept a match to take place under these circumstances.

However, notwithstanding the six month provision in the regulations, if both players can agree to a mutually acceptable date and conditions, then FIDE will assist in the organization of this match.

For further information,
FIDE Public Relations Director Dr. Peter Rajcsanyi
FIDE Legal Director Morten Sand

2006/7 SCC Club Championship

On Thursday, Jan. 4, the club championship started. The Championship Section is a 10-player round robin, consisting of the top 8 rated players registered, plus the 2 winners of last year's Reserves Section. Playing this year are: Bryan Lamb (2169); Imtiaz Husain (2145); John Hall (2057); Donal Deiseach (2014); Alex Rapoport (1979); Jim Paterson (1923); Rick Garel (1921); Randy Moysoski (1918); Richard Douglas (1813); Doug Gillis (1506). There are 34 players registered for the Reserves Section, which is a 7 round, one-section swiss. The 2 top players in this section are your intrepid editor, Bob Armstrong (1834) and Maurice Smith (1795).

In Rd.3, Hall, the third highest-rated, played Deiseach, fourth highest-rated and one of the three club co-champions from last year. In a close game, Hall ended up victorious, and took sole possession of first place, with 3 wins (Lamb is still theoretically tied with him, having 2 pts. and a game in hand). Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Deiseach, D (2014) – Hall, J (2057) [C67]

SCC Club Championship Toronto (3), 18.01.2007

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6± [3...a6=] 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 John plays the more popular line [6...bxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qd3 Nh4 9.Re1 Nxf3+ 10.Qxf3 Rb8±] **7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Bg5?=- [8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Rd1+ Ke8 10.Nc3 Be7±] 8...Qxd1 9.Rxd1 Bd7 10.Nc3 h6 11.Bd2??** the advantage starts to tip John's way [11.Bc1 0-0-0 12.h3 Bb4 13.Bd2 Be7=] **11...0-0-0 12.Ne4 [12.h3 Be6 13.g4 Ne7 14.Be3 Re8±] 12...Be7 13.Bc3 Be6 14.a3 b6 15.Ned2 c5 16.Nf1??** John gets a " clear " advantage [best is 16.Ne4 a6 17.h3 Rxd1+ 18.Rxd1 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Kxd8±] **16...g5 [16...h5 17.b3 g5 18.Ng3 g4 19.Nxf5 Bxf5 20.Ne1 h4±] 17.Rd2 [17.g4 Nd4 18.Nxd4 cxd4 19.Bxd4 Bxg4 20.Rd2 c5 21.Ne3 Bf3 22.Bc3 Rxd2 23.Bxd2 Rd8 24.Bc3 Kd7±] 17...g4 18.Ne1 Bg5 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.b4 [20.Ng3 Nd4 21.b3 f5 22.exf6 Bxf6±] 20...cxb4 21.axb4 Kb7 22.Nd3?+-** John gets a " winning " advantage [best is 22.f3 a6 23.Kf2 Ne7 24.Nd3 gxf3 25.gxf3 Bc4±] **22...Nd4 23.Bxd4 Rxd4 24.Rd1 [24.Ne3 Re4 25.Ra3 Be7 26.Ra1 a6-+] 24...Bc4 25.Nd2 Bxd2 26.Rxd2 Bxd3 27.Rxd3??+-** this loses immediately [this allows W to fight on for a while, though he will lose eventually 27.f3 gxf3 28.gxf3 Kc6 29.Kf2 Kb5 30.cxd3 Kxb4 31.Rd1 a5-+] **27...Rxd3 28.cxd3 a5** Donal resigned. W cannot get over to the a-file fast enough to prevent queening. **29.bxa5 bxa5 30.f3 [30.Kf1 a4 31.Ke1 a3 32.Kd1 a2 33.Kc1 a1Q+--+] 30...a4-+ 0-1**

In the Reserves Section, going into Rd. 3, there was a 4-way tie for first, including your intrepid editor, Bob Armstrong, and my opponent, Josh Sherman, on Bd.2. I got a bad opening, and struggled thereafter all game. Josh eventually won, and I got knocked back into a tie for third, and Josh went into a 2-way tie for first with Pino Verde (who had done his Houdini trick again and in the dying minutes converted a loss to a win against Joe Bellomo on Bd. 1). Here is our game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Sherman, J (1701) – Armstrong, R (1834) [B06]

SCC Club Championship (Reserves) Toronto (3), 18.01.2007

1.e4 g6± 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.Qe2 0-0 6.0-0 c6 7.e5 dxe5 8.dxe5 Ng4?± this error causes me no end of grief in the opening [8...Nd5 9.Nc3 (it was this move that led me to reject 8...Nd5 – it shouldn't have. 9.Rd1? Bg4 10.Nbd2 Nd7=) 9...Be6 10.Bb3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Bd5±] **9.h3 Nh6 10.Bxh6 Bxh6 11.e6 f6** [I misanalyzed after 14.Re1, and that's what led me to reject this line 11...Bxe6 12.Bxe6 fxe6 13.Qxe6+ Kh8 14.Na3 (14.Re1 Qb6 15.Qxe7 Qxb2 16.Nbd2 Qg7±) 14...c5±] **12.Nc3 b5 13.Bxb5??±** [13.Rfd1 Qb6 14.Bb3 Na6±] **13...Qb6??±** [I did not see this line – just that I was going to lose my R. 13...cxb5 14.Qe4 Qb6 15.Qxa8 Bb7 16.Nd5 Qa6 17.Nc7 Bxa8 18.Nxa6 Nxa6± BI would have 2 B's vs R + P] **14.Bc4 Qxb2 15.Ne4 Qb6?+-** I thought I had to get my Q back to help defend; I give Josh a " winning " advantage [15...Qa3 16.Rfd1 Kh8 17.Qd3 Qa5±] **16.Nd6!** I saw this move, but didn't think it was terrible to have it go to f7, though it would be inconvenient **16...a5** [this would be a big mistake 16...exd6?? 17.e7+ d5 18.e8Q Bd7 19.Q8e7 Rf7 20.Qd6 Bf8 21.Qf4 dxc4 22.Qexc4 Qa6+-] **17.Nf7?±** [17.Rab1 Qc5 18.Nxc8 Rxc8 19.Rfd1 Bg7+-] **17...Bg7 18.Qe4** [18.Rfd1 Qc5 19.Rab1 Na6 20.Nd2 Nc7±] **18...Ba6 19.Bxa6 Nxa6 20.Rab1 Qc7 21.Qc4 Nb4?+-** I thought my N would be well placed on d5 – wrong plan [21...Rfb8 22.c3 Rxb1 23.Rxb1 Rb8 24.Rd1 Qb6±] **22.Rfd1 Qc8?+-** I take my Q to the wrong square [22...Qb6 23.a3 Qa6 24.Qc5 Nd5 25.Re1 Rfc8+-] **23.Rd7 Nd5** [23...c5 24.a3 Qa6 25.Qxa6 Nxa6+-] **24.Nd4 Rxf7?+-** my position now was so bad, I thought drastic measures were called for – but this just gets me in deeper [24...Qa6 I'm in trouble; this best line involves me losing my N ! 25.Qc5 Rfc8 26.c4 Bf8 27.cxd5 cxd5 28.Qxd5 a4+-] **25.exf7+ Kxf7??+-** [not much better is 25...Kh8 26.Qxc6 Qxc6 27.Nxc6 Nc3 28.Rb3 Nxa2 29.Rxe7 Rf8 30.Re8 Nc1 31.Rbb8 f5 32.Nd8 h6 33.Rxf8+ Bxf8 34.Ne6 Ne2+ 35.Kh2 Kh7 36.Rxf8 h5 37.Rg8 Nf4 38.f8Q Nxe6 39.Rh8#] **26.Qxc6?+-** [much better is 26.Rbb7 Kf8 27.Qc5 Qe8 28.Nxc6 Rc8 (28...Nf4? 29.Rxe7 Ne2+ 30.Kh2 Qc8 31.Rxg7+ Ke8 32.Qe7#) 29.Qxd5+-] **26...Qxc6 27.Nxc6 Ke6** I am down the exchange **28.Ra7** [28.Rbb7 Rc8 29.Nxe7 Nxe7 30.Rxe7+ Kd5 31.Rxg7+-] **28...Rc8 29.Nxe7!** Josh goes up the exchange + P **29...Nxe7 30.Re1+ Kd6 31.Rxe7 Bf8 32.Rxh7 Rxc2 33.Rxa5** I'm down the exchange + 2 P's; I was going to resign, but thought I'd see if I might be able to get at least one P back. **33...Rc1+ 34.Kh2 Kc6 35.Ra8** [35.Ra6+ Kb5 36.Rxf6 Bc5 37.Rb7+ Ka5 38.h4 Rc2 39.Rc6 Rc3 40.Rb3 Rxb3 41.Rxc5+ Kb6 42.axb3 Kxc5+-] **35...Bd6+ 36.g3 Bc5 37.Rc8+ Kd6 38.Rd8+ Ke6 39.Rd2** my vain hope of trapping the W K in the corner by getting my R to c2 is now dashed; I resigned **1-0**

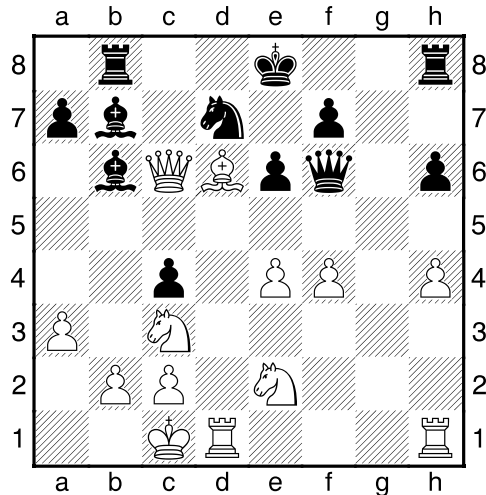
In Rd. 4, two interesting games took place in the Reserves on Bds. 1 & 2. Pino Verde and Josh Sherman were tied for the lead, each undefeated. On Bd. 1, in a very tactical game, Josh defeated Pino to take sole possession of first place after 4 rounds. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Sherman, J (1701) – Verde, P (1782) [B00]

SCC Club Championship (Reserves) Toronto (4), 25.01.2007

1.e4 g5??± Pino tries to keep Josh entertained ! **2.d4 h6 3.Bc4 e6 4.Nc3 c6 5.d5 Qf6?+-** giving Josh a " winning " advantage at move 5 is not a good omen for the rest of this game [5...b5 6.Bb3 b4 7.Na4 Nf6±] **6.Be3 Bb4 7.Nge2 Ne7 8.dxe6?±** [8.a3 Ba5 9.0-0 cxd5 10.exd5 Nf5+-] **8...dxe6 9.Qd2** [9.a3 Ba5 10.Qd6 Bb6 11.0-0 Nd7±] **9...Nd7 10.0-0 Ba5** [10...Ng6 11.a3 Ba5 12.Ba2 Nh4±] **11.h4** [11.Rhf1 Rg8 12.f4 gxf4 13.Rxf4 Qe5 14.Nd4 b5 15.Bb3 Bxc3 16.Qxc3 Rxg2±] **11...g4** [11...gxh4 12.f4 Rg8 13.e5 Qh8±] **12.f4** [12.Kb1 b5 13.Bb3 c5 14.a4 c4 15.Ba2 bxa4±] **12...gxf3 13.gxf3 b5 14.Bb3 c5?+-** Josh gets back his " winning " advantage [a very interesting line is 14...Qxf3 15.Rdf1 Qg4 16.Rfg1 Qf3 17.Bd4 Rh7 18.Rf1 Qg4 19.Rf4 Qg2 20.Rg1 Qh3 21.Rg3 Qh1+ 22.Ng1 Bc7 23.e5 Nxe5 24.Rh3 Nc4 25.Bxc4 Bxf4 26.Qxf4 e5 27.Rxh1 exf4±] **15.a3** [15.Qd6 b4 16.Nb5 a6 17.Nc7+ Bxc7 18.Qxc7 Ng6+-] **15...Nc6** [worse is 15...Qxf3 16.h5 c4 17.Nd4 Qf6 18.Rhf1 Qg7 19.Ndx5 cxb3 20.Nd6+ Kf8 21.Nxf7 bxc2 22.Kxc2 Qxf7 23.Bxh6+ Ke8 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.Qf4+ Ke8+- W has Q + 2 P's vs B + N + R] **16.Qd6 Nce5**

17.f4 Nc4 18.Bxc4 bxc4 19.Bxc5 Josh goes up a P **19...Bb6** [19...e5 20.Qd5 Rb8 21.Bd6 Bxc3 22.Nxc3 Bb7 23.Qb5 Qxf4+ 24.Kb1 a6 25.Qa4 Rd8 26.Rd5 Rg8 27.Rxe5+ Qxe5 28.Bxe5+-] **20.Qc6** [better is 20.Bxb6 Qe7 21.Qxe7+ Kxe7 22.Bc7 Bb7+-] **20...Rb8** [better is 20...Bxc5 21.Qxa8 Qd8 22.e5 Qc7 23.Qg2 Bb7 24.Qg7 Rf8+-] **21.Bd6 Bb7**



22.Qxd7+?+- the Q sac is enterprising, but not best [22.Qa4 Bxe4 23.Bxb8 Be3+ 24.Kb1 Bxc2+ (24...Bf3?? 25.Qxd7+ Kf8 26.Rhg1 Bxg1 27.Rxg1+- and mate follows) 25.Qxc2 Qf5 26.Qxf5 exf5+-] **22...Kxd7 23.Bxb8+ Bd4??+-** there is no need for this unnecessary sacrifice [23...Ke8 24.Be5 Qg6 25.Bxh8 Bxe4 26.Nxe4 Qxe4+- W has 2 R's + N vs Q] **24.Rxd4+?+-** [the best is 24.Be5! Qe7 25.Rxd4+ Ke8 26.Bxh8 a6 W would have 2 R's + 2N's + P vs Q!] **24...Qxd4 25.Nxd4 Rxb8** W is up N + P **26.Rg1 Ke7 27.e5 Rd8 28.Ncb5 a6 29.Nd6 Bd5** [of no real help is 29...Rxd6 30.exd6+ Kxd6 31.Rg7 Ke7 32.Rh7 Bd5 33.Rxh6 Kf8 34.Kd2 Kg7 35.Rh5 Kf8+-] **30.Rg7 Rf8 31.Rh7 Rg8 32.Rxf7+ Kd8 33.Rf6** [better is 33.f5 Rg1+ 34.Kd2 c3+ 35.Kxc3 Rf1 36.Nxe6+ Bxe6 37.fxe6 Rxf7 38.exf7 Ke7+-] **33...Ke7 34.Rxh6 Rg4 35.Rh7+ Kf8 36.Rf7+ Kg8 37.Kd2 Rxh4 38.Kc3 Rh3+ 39.Kb4 Be4?+-** this tactic fails to a second one ! [39...c3 40.bxc3 a5+ 41.Kxa5 Rxc3+-] **40.Nxe4 Kxf7 41.Ng5+ 1-0**

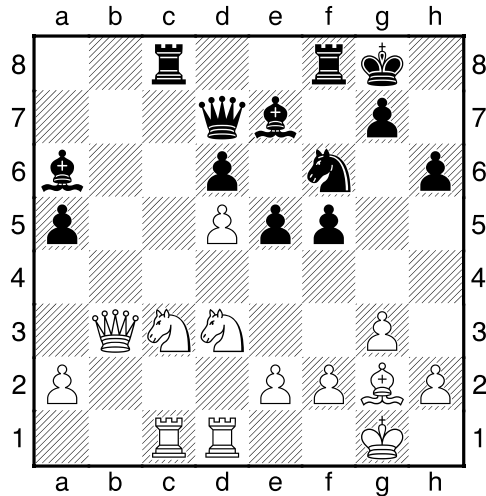
There was an 8-way tie for third after 3 rounds in the Reserves. Your intrepid editor (one of them) played on Bd. 2 against another in the tie, Mario Moran [normally I would not use 2 of my own games; but I was encouraged to publish this game, because of the lengthy combination, involving my hanging queen; also this is a win, whereas my other was a loss!!]. This win left me in a 5-way tie for second, a point behind Josh. Here is our game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Armstrong, R (1834) – Moran, M (1630) [A92]

SCC Club Championship (Reserves) Toronto (4), 25.01.2007

1.d4 f5± 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 e6 4.Bg2 Be7 [4...Bb4+ 5.Nc3 Ne4 6.Qb3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 0-0±] **5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 b6 7.Ne5 c6 8.Nc3 Bb7 9.Bf4** [9.d5 cxd5 10.cxd5 Qc8 11.d6 Bd8 12.Nf3 Ne4±] **9...d6 10.Nd3 Nbd7 11.d5?=[11.Rc1 Qc8 12.Qc2 c5 13.d5 e5 14.Bd2±] 11...cxd5 12.cxd5 e5 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.b4?±** I hoped to be allowed to go b5, then Nb4 – c6. [15.Nxe5?! dxe5 16.d6 Bxg2 17.dxe7 Qxe7 18.Kxg2 Rad8 19.Qb3+ Qf7 20.Qxf7+ Rxf7 21.Rfd1 Rfd7 22.Rxd7 Rxd7

23.Rd1 Rxd1 24.Nxd1 b5̄; 15.Nb4 a6 16.Nc6 Qd7 17.Qb3 Bd8 18.h3 Rc8=] **15...Rc8 16.Rc1 a5?=-** [16...a6 17.Qb3 Rf7 18.b5 axb5 19.Nxb5 Ne4=] **17.bxa5** [17.Qb3 Ba8 18.f3 Nd7 19.a4 axb4 20.Qxb4 Bb7=] **17...bxa5 18.Qb3 Ba6** [18...Rb8 19.Rb1 Ba6 20.Qa4 Rc8 21.Nb5 Qb6 22.Na3 Qd8=] **19.Rfd1 Qd7??±** this allows for a long combination by W which eventually ends up winning a P [19...Nd7 20.Nb5 Qb6 21.a4 Nc5 22.Nxc5 Rxc5 23.Rb1 g6=]



20.Nxe5! dxe5 21.d6+ Bc4?± though seeming good, this is not best [21...Kh7 22.dxe7 Qxe7 23.e4 fxe4 24.Nxe4 Kh8 25.Qb6 Rxc1 26.Rxc1 Qb4 27.Qxa6 Nxe4 28.Qe2 Qa3 29.Re1 Nf6±] **22.dxe7 Qxe7** [22...Bxb3?? 23.exf8Q+ Kxf8 24.Rxd7 Nxd7 25.axb3 Nf6 W would be up a B] **23.Nd5! Bxd5** [23...Bxb3?? 24.Nxe7+ Kf7 25.Nxc8 Bxd1 26.Rc7+ Kg8 27.Ne7+ Kh7 28.Nxf5 Kh8 29.Kf1 Rd8 30.Bc6 Bc2 31.Ne3 Bh7+- W would be up a P] **24.Bxd5+ Kh7** [24...Nxd5 25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Rxd5 Kh7 27.Rxa5 Rf8± W would be up a passed P] **25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Be6 Rd8?+-** I'm going up a P, and I get a "winning" advantage [26...Rc7 27.Bxf5+ g6 28.Bh3 e4±] **27.Bxf5+** [27.Rxd8 Qxd8 28.Bxf5+ Kh8 29.e4 Qc7+-] **27...Kh8 28.Rxd8+ Qxd8 29.Qe6** [29.e4 Qg8 30.Qxg8+ Nxc8 31.f4 exf4 32.gxf4 g5 33.Kf2 Kg7 34.Kf3 Ne7 35.Kg4 gxf4 36.Kxf4 Nc6 37.e5 Kf7+-] **29...Qc7** [no better is 29...Qd1+ 30.Kg2 Qd5+ (30...Qxe2?? 31.Qc8+ Ng8 32.Qa8 Qxa2 33.Be4 a4 34.Bd5+-) 31.f3 Qxe6 32.Bxe6 g5 33.f4 gxf4 34.gxf4 Nh5 35.e3 exf4 36.e4 Kg7 37.Kf3 Kf8 38.Bb3 Ke7 39.e5 Ng7 40.Kxf4 Ke8+-] **30.Bd3** It seemed a hard ending to win, even though I was winning ! I thought of trading Q's with Qc8+, but wasn't sure about the ending of N vs B. Mario had less than 10 min. on his clock, and I had 34 min. I decided to play out the clock, and felt he was the one who had the most chance of going wrong in the time pressure. [30.e4 Qc2 31.Kg2 Qc7 32.f4 Qc2+ 33.Kh3 Qe2 34.Qc8+ Ng8 35.Qe8 (35.Be6?? Qh5+ 36.Kg2 Qe2+=) 35...Qf1+ 36.Kh4 Qe2 37.Be6 Qxh2+ 38.Kg4 h5+ 39.Kf5 g6+ 40.Kxe5 Qb2+ 41.Kd6 Qb6+ 42.Qc6 Qb8+ 43.Qc7 Qb4+ 44.Qc5 Qb8+ 45.Kd5 h4 46.gxh4 Nf6+ 47.Kc4 Qxf4+-; 30.Qc8+ Qxc8 31.Bxc8 Ne4 32.Be6 Nc3 33.Kf1 g6 34.f3 e4 35.Kf2 Kg7 36.Ke3 Kf6 37.Bc4 Ke5 38.f4+ Kf5 39.Kd4 Nb1+-] **30...Nd7??+-** aware of the clock, and the position being potentially dangerous for Bl, Mario is struck with chess blindness ! [30...Qc5 31.Bg6 Qd5 32.Qc8+ Qg8 33.Qxg8+ Nxc8 34.f3 Ne7 35.Be4 Kg8 36.e3 Kf7 37.Kf2 Nc8 38.Ke2 Nd6 39.Kd3 h5+-] **31.Qe8+** and it's mate **1-0**

Zoltan Sarosy Honoured

On Sunday, November 12, 2006, an active tournament was held at the Bayview Games Club called “ The Friends of Zoltan Sarosy Tournament “. Zoltan is well known in the GTA (and beyond) where he has been involved in playing chess (and selling and repairing chess clocks) for decades. Zoltan attended and all chess players who know him were invited to come out and meet him and play in the tournament. Zoltan just celebrated his 100th birthday, and is the oldest active chess player, still playing chess, in the world (we believe, based on our sources). We wish Zoltan all the best, and many more birthdays and years of chess !

Zoltan Sarosy - far right



GTCL League

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

On Tuesday, January 23, the Scarborough "A" team played Chess Academy "A" at the Willowdale Club, and lost 3.5 - .5. Here were the individual results :

Scarborough "A"			Chess Academy "A"
Joshua Sherman	0	1	Alexander Martchenko
Michael Perez	0	1	Konstantin Semianiuk
Petar Zlatanov	1/2	1/2	Sergiy Orlov
Marc Ben-Avraham	0	1	Yelizaveta Orlova

Josh had an especially tough game, and put up a good fight. Alex, after the rating bonus, has an expert rating, and has been an improving junior over the last few years. He can still play though in the U 2000 league because it goes by the rating you had at the start of the league in 2006. Here is Josh's game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Sherman (SCC A), J (1701) – Martchenko (Chess Academy A , A (2148) [B22]

GTCL U 2000 League Match Toronto, 23.01.2007

1.e4 c5± 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3??? [3.Nf3 e5 4.c3 Nc6 (4...dxc3? 5.Nxc3 Nc6 6.Bc4 Bb4±) 5.Bb5 Bc5±] **3...Nf6???** [3...Nc6?? 4.cxd4 d5 5.exd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Nc3 Qa5 8.d5 0-0-0 9.Bd2 Rxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Be2 e5±; accepting the sac is good for Bl. 3...dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Be2 g6 7.e5 dxe5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Bc4 Nh6 10.Be3 Kc7; 3...d5?? 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.cxd4 e6±] **4.e5 Nd5 5.cxd4** [5.Qxd4? e6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Qe4 f5 8.Qe2 d6=] **5...Nc6 6.Nf3 d6 7.Bc4** [7.Be2 e6 8.0-0 Be7±] **7...Nb6 8.Bxf7+???** this sac is unsound; Alex gets a " clear " advantage. [8.Bb5 e6 9.0-0 Be7±] **8...Kxf7** Alex is up B vs P **9.Ng5+ Kg8 10.e6 Qe8 11.Qf3?+ Alex** gets a " winning " advantage [11.d5 h6 12.Nf7 Nxd5 13.Qxd5 Bxe6 14.Qxe6 Qxf7 15.Qh3 Rd8; Bl is up a P] **11...Nd8** [11...g6? 12.d5 Nb4 13.0-0 Nc2 14.Bd2 Nc4 15.Bc3 Ne5 16.Qg3 Nxa1 17.f4 Qb5 18.fxe5 Qxd5 19.exd6 Bxe6 20.Bxh8 Kxh8; Bl is up a B] **12.d5 h6 13.Nh3 Qg6??** [13...Nxd5 14.Qxd5 Bxe6 15.Qd1 Bxh3 16.gxh3 e6-+] **14.Nf4?+ [14.Nc3 Nxe6 15.dxe6 Qxe6+ 16.Be3 Qg4 17.Qxg4 Bxg4; 14...Qf6 15.Nc3 g5 16.Qg3 [16.Qg4 Bg7 17.Nce2 gxf4 18.Nxf4 Qe5+ 19.Qe2 Qxe2+ 20.Kxe2 Kh7-+] 16...Qe5+???** [16...Qf5 17.h4 Bg7 18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Rxh8+ Bxh8-+] **17.Be3 Kh7 18.Nfe2 Qxg3 [18...Bg7 19.0-0-0 Nc4; 19.hxg3 Kg6? =** though down material, Josh has equality [19...Bxe6 20.dxe6 Nxe6; **20.g4???** [20.Bd4 Bg7 21.Bxg7 Kxg7 22.Nd4 Kf6 23.f4 gxf4 24.Rf1 Rf8 25.Rxf4+ Kg7 26.Kf2 Nc4 27.Rh1 Ne5=] **20...Bg7 21.0-0-0 [21.Rd1 Nc4 22.Bc1 Ne5 23.Nb5 a6 24.Nbc3 Nxd4; 21...Nc4?? [21...Nxe6 22.dxe6 Bxe6; 22.Bd4 Ne5 [22...Nxe6 23.dxe6 Bxe6; 23.f3 [23.f4?? Nxd4 24.fxg5 Be5 25.g3 h5 26.Nf4+ Bxf4+ 27.gxf4 Rf8 28.Rhf1 b5 29.a3 Bb7-+] 23...b6 24.Ng3 Nb7??± [24...Bxe6 25.dxe6 Nxe6; 25.Nf5 Bf6 26.Rh5 Nc5?±** Now Josh has a " clear " advantage; Josh gets mate threats and material equality [26...Nd8 27.Rdh1 Bxe6 28.dxe6 Nxe6 29.Rxh6+ Rxh6 30.Rxh6+ Kf7 31.Bxe5 Bxe5±] **27.Bxc5 bxc5 28.Rdh1?±** though this threatens mate, it is not best [28.Ne4 Bxe6 29.dxe6 Nc6 30.Rdh1 Bg7 31.g3 Raf8±] **28...Nf7** Alex must defend against the mate, even at the expense of a piece **29.exf7? =** taking the N immediately is not best [29.Ne4 a6 30.b3 a5 31.exf7 Bxf5 32.gxf5+ Kxf5 33.Rxh6 Rxh6 34.Rxh6 Rf8 35.Rh7 Kg6 36.Rh3 Rxf7±] **29...Bxf5 30.gxf5+ Kxf5 31.Rxh6 Rxh6 32.Rxh6** Josh is now up a P, and has equality; quite a comeback so far. **32...Rf8 33.Rh1 Bxc3 34.bxc3 Rxf7** material is now equal **35.Re1 Kf4?± [35...e5 36.dxe6 Re7 37.c4 Rxe6 38.g4+ Kf6 39.Rd1 Ke5 40.Re1+ Kf6 41.Rd1=] 36.Re4+ Kf5 37.Kc2 Rh7 38.Kd3 a6 39.Ke2? = [39.a3 Kf6 40.Re6+ Kf7 41.c4 Rh1 42.Kc3 Rg1 43.Re2 Kf6±] 39...Kf6 40.Re6+ Kf7 41.Re4 [41.Kd3 Rh1 42.Re2 Rf1 43.c4 Rd1+ 44.Kc3 Rc1+ 45.Kb3 Rb1+ 46.Kc2 Rf1 47.Kb2 g4 48.fxg4 Rf4 49.Kb3 Rxd4=] **41...Rh1 42.Ra4 Rg1 43.Kf2 Rc1 44.c4???** [44.Ke3 Rc2 45.Kd3 Rxd2 46.Rxa6 Rg1 47.a4 Rd1+ 48.Ke4 Kf6 49.a5 Ra1 50.Ra7 Ra4+ 51.Kd3 e6=] **44...Kf6 45.Ke3 Rc2 46.g3??+ [46.Kd3 Rxd2 47.Rxa6 Rg3 48.Ke2 Ke5 49.Ra7 Kd4 50.Kf2 Rh3 51.Rxe7 Kxc4 52.Rg7 Rh2+ 53.Ke3 Kxd5 54.Rxd5+ Kc4 55.Rg4+ Kc3 56.Rg5 Rd2 57.f4 d5; 46...Rc3+ 47.Ke4 Kg6??** [**

47...a5 48.g4 Kg6 49.a3 Kf6 50.f4 Kg6 51.f5+ (51.fxg5 Kxg5 52.Rxa5 Rxc4+ 53.Kf3 Rf4+ 54.Ke3 Rxc4 55.Ra7 Kf6 56.a4 Rg5+) 51...Kf6 52.Rxa5 Rxc4+ 53.Kf3 Rf4+ 54.Kg3 Rd4 55.a4 Rxd5-+] **48.g4?+ [48.a3 Kf6 49.Rxa6 Rxc4+ 50.Kd3 Rd4+ 51.Ke2 Rxd5-] 48...Kf6 49.f4 Kg6 50.fxg5 [50.a3 Kf6 51.fxg5+ Kxg5 52.Rxa6 Rxc4+ 53.Kf3 Rf4+ 54.Ke2 Rxc4 55.Ra8 Re4+ 56.Kf3 Rd4 57.Ke3 Rxd5-+] 50...Kxg5 51.Rxa6 Rxc4+ 52.Kd3 [52.Kf3 Rf4+ 53.Ke3 Rxc4 54.Ra7 Kf6 55.Kf2 Rg5 56.Ke2 Re5+ 57.Kf2 Rxd5-+] 52...Rxc4 53.a4 Kf5 54.Ra7 Ke5 55.Rxe7+ Kxd5** Josh is down a P and has a lost ending **56.Ra7 0-1**

On the same night at Upper Canada College, the Scarborough “ B “ team took on BOTSB (Conrad Ho) and got swept away 4 – 0 . The team members were Steve Karpik, Stephen Lung, Patrick Lung and Aaron Wu.

2007 Ontario High School Qualifier Tournament

Saturday, February 10th, 2007

[Stephen Leacock Collegiate Institute](#)

2450 Birchmount Rd Toronto, Ontario MIT 2M5

Advance Registration Only: \$15 per player. Pay at site.

Sections:	<u>Beginner</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Championship</u>
	Players rated < 1100 CFC or unrated, with less than 2 years of tournament experience	Players rated < 1500 or unrated, who have played on school teams or tournaments for 2+ years	Players rated 1500+ or unrated, who have tournament experience and compete with stronger players

Prizes: For every 4 participants, 1 player will receive a fully paid entry to the **Ontario High School Chess Championship**, a thirty-five dollar value.

Automatic free ribbon / chess champion button prizes for all participants.

Schedule:	Check In	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Round 3	1:35 pm – 3:05 pm
	Round 1	9:30 am – 11:00 am	Round 4	3:10 pm – 4:40 pm
	Round 2	11:05 am – 12:35 pm	Round 5	4:45 pm – 6:15 pm
		Lunch 12:35 pm – 1:35 pm	Closing	6:15 pm – 6:30 pm

Bring: **Chess Set & Clock.**

We'll be selling **chess sets** and **clocks**, and other **merchandise** at location.

There will also be **pizza** and **pop** on sale for lunch at 12:15 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Edward Phung
Tournament Director

edward.w.phung@gmail.com

~~The Ontario High School Chess Championship 2007 (Fri May 11 — Sun May 13) will be held at Trent University, Peterborough. A highway coach service will be available from Toronto.~~

Students in Grades 7 and 8 (“Junior High School”) are most welcome.

Students in Grades 1 through 6, who can compete with older players, are also welcome.

Students stay in the university residence; some students and parents stay in nearby hotels.

In addition to **Individual Prizes**, the tournament offers **Team Prizes** and **Combined Team Prizes**:

A **team** consists of the top 3 players from a school in one section;

A **combined team** consists of 3 players: the top player in each section from the same school.

For more information, please visit <http://ohsca.on.ca>

or contact Wilson Chan, President: wilachan@hotmail.com

2007 Ontario High School Qualifier Tournament
Saturday, February 10th, 2007
Stephen Leacock Collegiate Institute

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration: Mail all entries postmarked or before **Monday, January 29th, 2007**
Fax / e-mail all entries postmarked or before **Monday, February 5th,**

2007

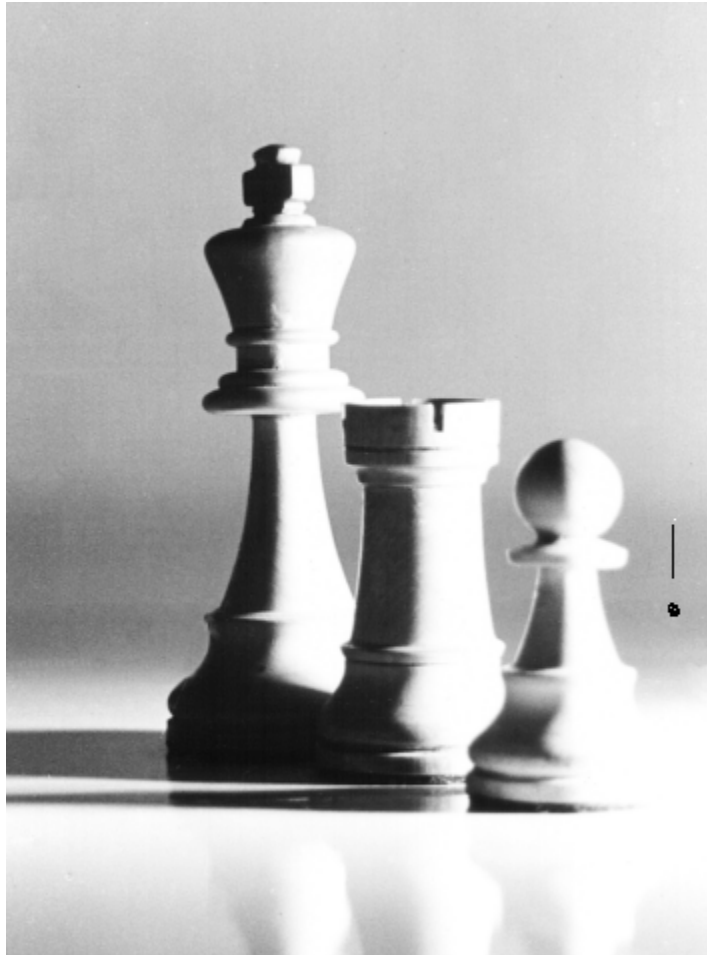
Cost: \$15 per player. With mailed entries, make cheque payable to Stephen Leacock CI. For fax or e-mail entries, it is requested that you pay the cash fee at site.

Mail to: Edward Phung Tournament Director
Stephen Leacock C.I.
2450 Birchmount Rd
Toronto, Ontario M1T 2M5

Fax number: (416) 396-8042

E-mail: edward.w.phung@gmail.com

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!).
- B – An item in any language may be submitted for publication, if accompanied by an English translation.
C – The opinions expressed here are those of the editor, and not necessarily those of the Scarborough CC.
D - To review this newsletter after it has been deleted, or any of the archived newsletters back one year, visit our own SCTCN&V official website at : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>.
E – Please notify us if you wish to be removed from the free subscription list