

Scarborough Community of Toronto
Chess News & Views

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“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Issue # 10-14 – March 15 , 2009

Grischuk Wins Super GM Tournament, Linares, Spain !

This 8-player round robin, the second major tournament of the New Year, was played from Feb. 18 to March 8. The winner took home 100,000 Euros and the trophy; 2nd and 3rd took 75,000 and 50,000 Euros. The average rating of this tournament was 2756; this is much stronger than the recent Corus, Wijk aan Zee tournament in January, which had an average rating of 2716. It is the same rating as the tournament had last year. But it is not as strong as the strongest tournament in 2008, the Grand Slam, in Bilbao, Spain, which had an amazing average rating of 2776.

The participants were:

Viswanathan Anand (IND)	2791
Vassily Ivanchuk (UKR)	2779
Magnus Carlsen (NOR)	2776
Teimour Radjabov (AZE)	2761
Levon Aronian (ARM)	2750
Wang Yue (CHN)	2739
Alexander Grischuk (RUS)	2733
Leinier Dominguez (CUB)	2717

Continued on next page

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Grischuk



and Ivanchuk



tied for first with a score of 8 / 14 pts.. But Grischuk won on tie break because he had more wins than Ivanchuk. In third was Carlsen at 7.5 pts.. 4th was 15th and current World Champion, Anand, with 7 pts..

In Rd. 9, Carlsen



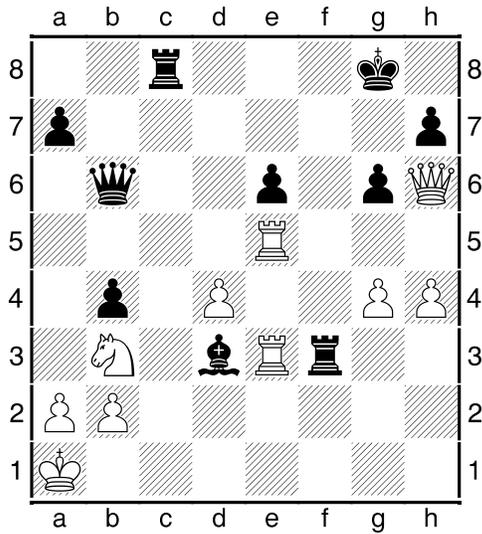
played an exciting tactical game with Dominguez, including the offer of a Q-sac, and ended up in the end, up 2 P's. The win put him in a three-way tie for 2nd/4th with Ivanchuk and Aronian, 1 pt. back of the leader, Grischuk. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Dominguez Perez ,L (2717) – Carlsen, M (2776) [B78]

XXVI Super GM Linares ESP (9), 01.03.2009

1.e4± Fritz evaluation not generally accepted **1...c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6** Dragon Sicilian **6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0-0?!=** [10.0-0 Na5 11.Bd3 Rc8±] **10...Rb8** Chinese Variation of the Dragon [10...Rc8 11.Be2 a6=] **11.Bb3** [11.Be2 b5 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.exd5 Bd7=] **11...Na5 12.Bh6 Bxh6 13.Qxh6 b5 14.g4?!±** we now have the classic attack on opposite wings. Carlsen gets the advantage **14...Nxb3+?!=** [14...Rc8 15.h4 Nxb3+ 16.axb3 b4±] **15.Nxb3 b4 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5** [17.Rxd5?! Be6 18.Rd3 Bc4 19.Re3 Qc7±] **17...Rb6** a novelty by Carlsen (at least at top levels) **18.Rhe1 e5 19.dxe6 fxe6** Carlsen now has 3 pawn islands to 2 for Dominguez – somewhat of a detriment in an ending **20.Re3?!±** [20.h4 Rf7 21.h5 g5=] **20...Rf7?!=** [20...e5 21.h4 Qc7 22.h5 Be8±] **21.Nd2?±** Carlsen gets a " clear " advantage [21.f4 Qf6 22.Red3 d5=] **21...d5?=** [21...Ra6 22.Ne4 d5 23.Nc5 Rc6± (23...Rxa2?! 24.Kb1 Qa5 25.Nb3 Qa6=)] **22.Nb3 Qc7** Is pushing P is better? [22...a5 23.h4 a4 24.Nd4 Qf6=] **23.Kb1?!±** [23.h4 Ba4 24.h5 Bxb3 25.Rxb3 Qf4+ 26.Qxf4 Rxf4=] **23...Rb8 24.Rde1?!±** [24.h4 Rc8 25.Rc1 Qf4 26.Qxf4 Rxf4±] **24...Rc8 25.R1e2 Qb6?=** [25...Rf4 26.Rf2 a5±] **26.h4 d4 27.Re5 d3 28.cxd3 Rxf3** material equality, and almost symmetrical pawn structure **29.d4?+-** this leads to fatal complications. Carlsen gets a " winning " advantage [29.Re1? Bb5 30.Ka1 Bxd3 31.Nc1 Qd6±; an ignominious retreat is called for to hold things together 29.Qd2 Bb5 30.R5e3 Rcf8=] **29...Bb5 30.R2e3 Bd3+ – 3.65** [30...Rf2! as all commentators agree, a most difficult move to find (unless you are a computer) 31.Rc5 Rxc5 32.dxc5 Rf1+ 33.Kc2 Qd8+- – 3.61 now Nd2 is the only move to stave off a mate !] **31.Ka1**

Position after 31.Ka1



Qxd4?!? Carlsen goes up a P. Though flashy, it is not best. [31...Rf2 32.Re1 Rxb2! 33.Rc1 (33.Kxb2?? Rc2+ 34.Kb1 Qa6-+ mate in 9 moves) 33...Rxc1+ 34.Qxc1 Rb1+ 35.Qxb1 Bxb1 36.Kxb1 Qa6-+ - 3.24 Carlsen would be up Q + P vs R + N] **32.Rxe6** material equality [32.Nxd4?? Rc1#] **32...Rf1+ 33.Re1 Qxg4** Carlsen goes up a P **34.Rxf1 Qxe6 35.Nc5 Qe2 36.Rc1 Bf5 37.Qf4 a5** [37...Qg4 38.Qxg4 a) 38.Qd2?! Qxh4 39.Qd5+ Kg7 40.Qe5+ (40.Qb7+ Kh8 41.Qxa7 h5-+) 40...Qf6-+; b) 38.Qf2?! Be6-+; 38...Bxg4+] **38.h5 Qe7?!?** Carlsen is losing his advantage [38...Rd8 39.Qg3 Qxh5+] **39.Qc4+?-+** unfortunately, Dominguez now gives Carlsen back a "winning" advantage [39.hxg6 hxg6 40.Qc4+ Qf7+] **39...Be6 40.Qc2 Qg5 41.hxg6 hxg6 42.a3** Dominguez is in zugzwang - he cannot move any piece without loss !! **42...bxa3** Carlsen goes up 2 P **43.Qc3** [43.bxa3?? Qe5+ 44.Qc3 Rxc5-+] **43...axb2+ 44.Kxb2 Qd5 45.Rc2 a4 46.Ka1 a3 47.Qe3 Bf7 48.Qc3 g5 49.Qe3 Re8?-+** - 5.43 [49...Qh1+ 50.Rc1 Qg2 51.Qxa3 Ra8 52.Na6 Qe2-+ - 10.27] **50.Qc3??-+** - 14.24 wrong square [50.Qc1 Rb8 51.Na4 Qe5+ 52.Nc3 Bg6-+ - 6.25] **50...Re2?-+** - 9.34 [50...Qd4! 51.Nd3 (51.Qxd4?? Re1+ 52.Qd1 Rxd1+ 53.Rc1 Rxc1#)] **51.Nb3 Rxc2?-+** - 5.29 [51...Qd1+ 52.Rc1 Qxb3 53.Qxb3 Bxb3 - 9.75] **52.Qxc2 Qe5+ 53.Kb1 Kg7?-+** - 7.62 [53...g4 54.Qc1 Bxb3 55.Qc8+ Kh7 56.Qb7+ Kh6 57.Qxb3 Qb2+ 58.Qxb2 axb2 59.Kxb2 g3-+ - 15.19] **54.Qd2??-+** - 40.13 little matter - the game is lost anyways [54.Qf2! Bxb3 55.Qa7+ Bf7 56.Qxa3 Qe4+ 57.Kc1 Qe1+ 58.Kc2 Bg6+ 59.Kb3 Qe3+ 60.Kb4 Qxa3+ 61.Kxa3 g4-+ - 12.39] **54...Bxb3-+** Dominguez can win nothing in compensation **0-1**

In Rd. 10, Wang

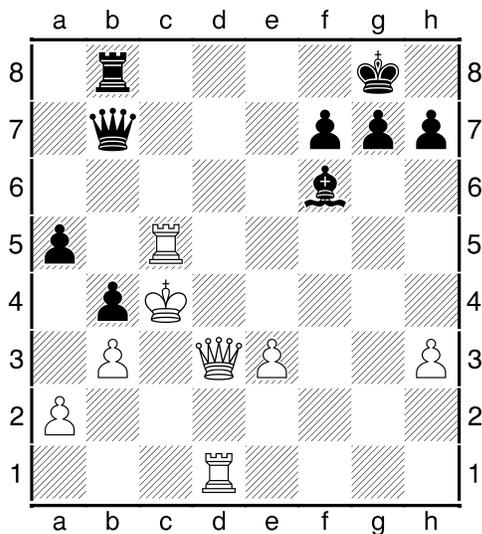


uncorked an exchange sac on the Q-side, and then went on a K-hunt on the K-side for Carlsen's K, driving it all the way up to c5. Eventually the Q got pinned against the wandering K, and Wang went up Q + P vs 2 R's. He went up another P and went on to win. Here is the exciting game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Carlsen, M (2776) – Wang Yue (2739) [D10]

XXVI Super GM Linares ESP (10), 02.03.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3 a6?!± [4...e6 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Bd6=] 5.Nf3 b5 6.b3 Bg4 7.Bd2?!= [7.Bd3 e6 8.0-0 Nbd7±] 7...Nbd7 8.h3 Bxf3 [8...Bh5 9.Qc2 e6=] 9.Qxf3 [9.gxf3 dxc4 10.bxc4 e5=] 9...b4 10.Na4 [10.Ne2 e5 11.Ng3 h5=] 10...e5 11.Rc1?!± Wang gets the advantage [11.Qd1 Be7 12.Bd3 0-0=] 11...Bd6 12.cxd5 [12.c5 Bc7 13.Bxb4 Ba5±] 12...cxd5 13.dxe5 [13.Nc5 0-0 14.Be2 Rc8±] 13...Nxe5 14.Qd1 0-0 15.Be2 a5 16.Rc2 Qe7 17.Bc1 Rad8?!= [17...Rac8 18.Bb2 Ned7±] 18.Bb2 Ng6 19.0-0 Ne4 20.Bd4 Nh4 [20...Qe6 21.Nc5 Qe7 22.Na4 Qe6=] 21.Bd3 Nf5?!± [21...Bb8 22.Qh5 g6 23.Qd1 Qd6=] 22.Bb6 Rb8 [22...Qe5 23.f4 Qe6±] 23.Bxe4?± [23.g3 Rfe8 24.Qf3 Qe6±] 23...Qxe4 24.Rd2 [24.g3 Rfc8 25.Rd2 Bxg3! 26.fxg3 Nxc3 27.Qf3 Nxf1 28.Qxe4 dxe4 29.Kxf1 Rc1+ 30.Kf2 f6±] 24...Rxb6! Wang decides to sac the exchange 25.Nxb6 Carlsen is up the exchange 25...Qe5 suddenly there are K-side threats 26.Re1?+ Wang gets a " winning " advantage [26.g3 Nxc3! 27.Nxd5 Nxf1 28.Kxf1 Qe6±] 26...Qh2+ 27.Kf1 Qh1+ 28.Ke2 Qxg2 Carlsen is up the exchange, but Wang has a P compensation 29.Rxd5 Carlsen is up the exchange 29...Ng3+ 30.Kd3 Bc7 31.fxg3 Bxb6 32.Kc4 the K is wandering pretty far afield to keep the troops together 32...Rb8 33.Kb5 Bd4+?-+ – 2.55 Wang misses the very strong line [33...Bd8+ 34.Kc5 Be7+ 35.Kc6 Qf2+ – 10.32] 34.Kc4 Bf6 35.Qd3?!+ – 3.12 [35.e4 Qxg3 36.Qd2 h6+ – 2.77] 35...Qxg3 – 1.92 [35...Qxh3 36.Qf5 Qg2+ – 2.28; 35...Qxa2 36.Rd1 g6 – 1.65] 36.Rd1 Qc7+?± better to eliminate the back rank mate problem [36...h6 37.Qe4 Qxh3 38.Kd3 Rc8+] 37.Rc5 Qb7?!= Wang has lost his advantage [37...Qe7 38.Qd7 Qf8 39.Rdd5 a4±]



38.Qd6??+ But Carlsen blunders and gives the game right back to Wang. [38.Qd7 Qa6+ 39.Rb5 Rc8+ 40.Kd3 Qa8= (40...Rd8?! 41.Kc2 g5 (41...Rxd7?? 42.Rb8+ Qc8+ 43.Rxc8+ Rd8 44.Rcxd8+ Bxd8 45.Rxd8#) 42.Qb7±)] 38...Qe4+ 39.Rd4 Carlsen is spending a lot of time protecting that wandering K 39...Qc2+ shepherding the K to behind the Q for the R-pin 40.Kd5 Qg2+ 41.e4 – 2.39 [41.Kc4? Qe2+ 42.Kd5 Re8!+ – 5.39] 41...Rd8?!+ – 1.85 though winning the Q, it is not in fact best [41...Rf8 42.Rd3 Re8+ – 2.45] 42.Qxd8+ Bxd8 43.Rc8 g6 44.Rxd8+ Wang is up Q + P vs 2 R's 44...Kg7 45.Rd3 Qc2 46.Kd4 a4 47.bxa4 Qxa2 48.Kc5 b3 49.Rb8 b2 50.Rdb3 Qxa4

51.Rxb2 Qxe4 Wang goes up 2 P 52.R8b3 Kh6 53.Rc3 f5 54.Rbb3 Qe5+ 55.Kc4 Kh5 56.Kd3 Kh4 57.Kd2 f4 58.Rf3 g5 59.Rfd3 Qc5 60.Rbc3 Qf2+ 61.Kd1 Qf1+ 62.Kd2 Qg2+ 63.Kd1 Qe4 64.Kd2 h5+- - 5.89 0-1

In Rd. 11 , the leader Grischuk faced a rather standard Radjabov King's Indian Defence, with Radjabov eventually going up a P. But it could not be won. The draw left Grischuk alone in first, a point ahead of Ivanchuk in second. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Grischuk, Alexander (2733) – Radjabov, Teimour (2761) [A00]

Linares Linares, Spain (11), 03.03.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6± [2...d5=] 3.c4 Bg7 [3...c5 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0±] 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4?!= [9.a4 a5 10.Be3 Nd7 11.Qd2 f5±] 9...Nh5 [9...a5 10.b5 Nd7 11.Be3 h6=] 10.Re1 f5 [10...h6 11.Bd3 f5=] 11.Ng5 [11.exf5 e4 12.f6 Bxf6 13.Nd4 Nf5=] 11...Nf6 [11...Nf4?! 12.Bxf4 exf4 13.Rc1 Bf6± (13...h6 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.dxe6 Bxc3 16.Rxc3 fxe4±)] 12.f3 [12.Bf3 c6 13.b5 cxd5 14.cxd5 h6 15.Ne6 Bxe6 16.dxe6 fxe4 17.Nxe4 Nxe4 18.Bxe4 d5=; 12.Qd3 h6 13.Ne6 Bxe6 14.dxe6 Qc8=] 12...Kh8 [12...Nh5 13.c5 h6 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.dxe6 dxc5 16.Qxd8 Rfxd8 17.bxc5 Nf4=] 13.c5 [13.Ne6 Bxe6 14.dxe6 Nc6=] 13...h6 [13...a5 14.b5 fxe4 15.cxd6 cxd6 16.Ngxe4 Qb6+ 17.Kh1 Nf5=] 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.dxe6 d5 16.exd5 Nfxd5 17.Nxd5 Qxd5 18.Qb3 Qxb3 19.axb3 Nc6 20.Ra4 Rfe8 finally getting around to trying to win the far-advanced dP [20...Rae8? 21.b5 Nd8 22.Rxa7 Nxe6 23.Rxb7 Rb8 24.Rxb8 Rxb8±] 21.Bc4 a6 22.b5 axb5 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Bxb5 Re8 25.Rd1 Rxe6 Radjabov goes up a P 26.Rd7 Bf8 27.Rxc7?! [27.Kf1 Nd4 28.Bc4 Re7=] 27...Bxc5+ 28.Kf1 Re7 29.Rxe7 Bxe7 30.Bb2 Nd4 31.Bxd4 exd4 32.g4 Kg7 33.gxf5 gxf5 34.Bd3 Kf6 35.h3 Kg5 36.Ke2 Kf4 37.Bc2 h5 38.Bd3 Bf8 39.Kf2 Kg5 40.Kf1 Bc5 41.Ke2 h4 42.Bc2 f4 43.Kd3 b5 44.Ke4 b4 1/2

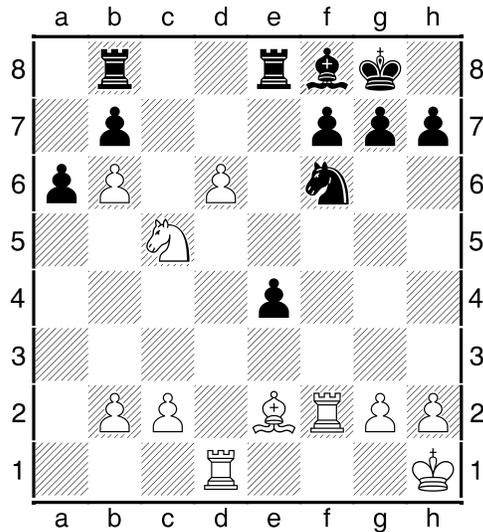
In Rd. 12, Carlsen closed in on the leader, Grischuk, with a nice win against him. He climbed into 2nd/3rd, with Ivanchuk, ½ pts. back. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Carlsen, M (2776) – Grischuk, A (2733) [B84]

XXVI Super GM Linares ESP (12), 05.03.2009

1.e4± Fritz evaluation not generally accepted 1...c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e6 [6...g6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.f4 0-0±] 7.0-0 Be7 8.a4 [8.Qd3 b5 9.f4 b4 10.Nb1 0-0±; 8.Be3 0-0 9.f4 Nc6±] 8...Nc6 9.Be3 0-0 10.f4 Qc7 11.Kh1 Re8 12.Bf3?!= [12.Qe1 Bd7 13.Rd1 Nb4±] 12...Bf8?!± [12...Na5 13.Bf2 Bd7=] 13.Qd2 [13.Nb3 e5 14.g4 d5 15.exd5 exf4 16.Bd2 (16.Bxf4?! Qxf4 17.dxc6 Nxc4=) 16...Ne5±; 13.Qe1?! e5 14.fxe5 dxe5 15.Qg3 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bb4=] 13...Rb8 [13...Na5 14.b3 Nc6 15.Nxc6 bxc6±] 14.Qf2 e5 15.fxe5?!= [15.Nde2 Nb4 16.Ba7 Ra8 17.Bb6 Qc6±] 15...dxe5 16.Nb3 Nb4?!± [16...Be6 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Nd5 Bxd5 19.exd5 Nb4=] 17.Ba7 Ra8 18.Bb6 Qe7 19.Rad1 Be6?!± Carlsen gets a " clear " advantage [19...Bg4 20.Bxg4 Nxc4 21.Qe2 Qe6 22.a5 Rac8±] 20.Nd5 Bxd5 21.exd5 e4 22.d6 Qe6?!+- Carlsen gets a " winning " advantage [22...Qe5 23.d7 Nxd7 24.Rxd7 exf3 25.Qxf3 f6±] 23.Nc5 Qf5 24.Be2 Qxf2 25.Rxf2 Nbd5 1.59 [25...Nfd5 26.Ba5 Bxd6 27.Bxb4 Nxb4 28.Rxd6 Rac8+- 1.71] 26.a5? Carlsen loses his advantage [26.Rxf6! Nxf6 27.a5 Reb8+-] 26...Nxb6 27.axb6 Rab8?!± Grischuk gives Carlsen back a " clear " advantage [27...Rec8 28.Rf5 g6 29.Rxf6 Rxc5=]

Position after 27...Rab8?



28.Rxf6! Carlsen sacks the exchange. This is not for a K-side attack. He does not want the N being able to slow the progress of his central/Q-side P's **28...gxf6** Grischuk is up the exchange **29.Nd7 f5 30.c4** there is no rush to win the exchange, since Carlsen has 2 options **30...a5?!+-** [30...Bg7 31.Nxb8 Rxb8 32.d7 Rd8±] **31.c5 Bg7** 3.88 [31...f4 32.Ba6! Bxd6! 33.cxd6 bxa6 34.Nxb8 Rxb8 35.d7 Rd8 36.b7 h6 37.h3 Kg7 38.Rc1 f3 39.gxf3 e3 40.Kg2 e2 41.Kf2 h5 42.Rc8 e1Q+ 43.Kxe1 Rxd7 44.b8Q Re7+- white mates in 11 moves] **32.Nxb8 Rxb8** material equality **33.Ba6!** a sac, which if accepted, allows the P's to roll on **33...Bf6 34.Bxb7!** another sac offer to the same effect. Grischuk is up the exchange, but Carlsen has a P compensation. But Grischuk is lost. **34...Rxb7** Grischuk has B vs P, but he can't stop the pawns **35.c6 Rxb6** Grischuk is up a B **36.Rc1 Bxb7+-** 5.27 Grischuk is up B + P [36...Rxc6 37.Rxc6 Kg7+- 4.02] **37.d7+-** 5.46 **1-0**

In Rd. 13, Ivanchuk made it seem rather effortless as he went up a pawn in the middle game against Aronian, and then kept piling up his "winning" advantage, until Aronian resigned in frustration. Here is the game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Ivanchuk, V (2779) – Aronian, L (2750) [D45]

XXVI Super GM Linares ESP (13), 06.03.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.b3 0-0 8.Be2 b6 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Bb2 Rc8?!± [10...Qc7 11.a4 a6=] **11.Rac1?!=** [11.e4 c5 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.exd5 exd5 14.Rad1 dxc4 15.Bxc4 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Qc7±] **11...c5 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Rfd1 Qe7 14.g3?!±** [14.a3 a6 15.Rd2 Ne5=] **14...Rfd8 15.cxd5 exd5 16.Nh4 Bb8?!=** [16...Be5 17.Bf3 Qe6±] **17.Bf1 Ne5** [17...Qe6 18.Bg2 Ne5 19.h3 Re8=; 17...Be5 18.Bg2 Nb6 19.Bh3 Nfd7=] **18.Bh3 Rc7 19.Bg2 d4?!±** [19...Rcc8 20.Ba3 g6=] **20.Nf5 Qe8?!±** Ivanchuk gets a "clear" advantage [20...Qf8 21.exd4 Nf3+ 22.Bxf3 Bxf3±] **21.exd4 cxd4 22.Nxd4** Ivanchuk goes up a P **22...Bxg2 23.Kxg2 g6 24.Ne4 Qe7?!+-** Ivanchuk gets a "winning" advantage [24...Nxe4 25.Qxe4 Rxc1 26.Rxc1 f5±] **25.Nxf6+?+-** 1.79 [25.Nf5!! gxf5 26.Nxf6+ Qxf6 27.Bxe5 Rxc2 28.Bxf6 Rxd1 29.Rxc2 h6 30.Rc8+ Kh7 31.Rxb8 Rd2+- 6.88 Ivanchuk would be up B + P] **25...Qxf6 26.Qe2 Rxc1** 2.72 [26...Rdc8? 27.Rxc7 Bxc7 28.Rc1 Qb6+- 3.53] **27.Rxc1 Qd6?+-** 3.65 [27...Qe7 28.f4 Qb7+ 29.Kf2 Qb6+- 2.72] **28.Qe4?+-** 1.46 [28.f4 Qd5+ (28...Nd7 29.Nc6 Nb6 (29...Rf8?? 30.Ne7+ Qxe7 31.Qxe7+-) 30.Nxd8 Qxd8+-) 29.Kg1 Bd6 30.fxe5 Bc5+- 3.53] **28...Qb4** 1.46 [28...Qd7 29.f4 Ng4+- 1.70] **29.Rc2 f5 30.Qe2 Qb7+ 31.Nc6 Re8?+-** 5.01 [31...Nxc6 32.Qe6+ Kf8

33.Qxc6 Qxc6+ 34.Rxc6 Kf7+- 1.46] 32.Kg1 Nf3+?+- 9.59 [32...a6 33.Nxe5 Kf8 34.Qe1 Bxe5 35.Re2 Kf7 36.Rxe5 Qb5+- 7.00] 33.Qxf3 Re1+ 34.Kg2 Qb5 35.Rc4+- 13.43 1-0

The final standings were:

Final standings

XXVI SuperGM 2009

					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1		Ivanchuk, V	2779	+23	**	½½	½½	½½	½½	½½	1 1	½½	10/14	5<30
2		Gelashvili, A	2733	+75	½½	**	½0	½½	1 ½	1 ½	1 ½	½½	10/14	5<00
3		Carlsen, M	2776	+1	½½	½1	**	1 ½	½0	½½	½0	½1	7.5/14	
4		Anand, V	2791	-48	½½	½½	0 ½	**	1 ½	1 ½	0 ½	½½	7.0/14	
5		Wang Yue	2739	-5	½½	0 ½	½1	0 ½	**	½½	½½	½½	6.5/14	4<75
6		Badjaber, T	2761	-38	½½	0 ½	½½	0 ½	½½	**	½1	½½	6.5/14	4<25
7		Aronian, L	2730	-18	½0	0 ½	½1	1 ½	½½	½0	**	1 ½	6.5/14	4<30
8		Domínguez, L	2717	-5	½½	½½	½0	½½	½½	½½	0 ½	**	6.0/14	

Aeroflot Open , Moscow, Russia

Etienne Bacrot beat Arman Pashikian in the final round to finish on 6.5/9 alongside Alexander Moiseenko. Bacrot took first place on the basis that he played more games with the black pieces than Moiseenko.

Cappelle-la-Grande, France

This nine-round open swiss went from Saturday, February 28th to Saturday, March 07. A total of 611 players took part, amongst them 102 GMs and 78 IMs, from 60 different countries.

The final standings were:

#	Player	Titl.	Nat.	Rtng	Pts.	Perf
1	Vovk, Yuri	GM	UKR	2545	7.5	2814
2	Zakharov, Viacheslav	GM	RUS	2529	7.0	2714
3	Dzhumaev, Marat	GM	UZB	2529	7.0	2700
4	Jaracz, Pawel	GM	POL	2518	7.0	2652

Anand-Topalov Delayed

(FIDE Press Release) The FIDE Presidential Board meeting in Istanbul, Turkey, has decided to postpone the World Championship match between Viswanathan Anand and Veselin Topalov until latest April 20th, 2010, and opened the bidding process. Originally the match was scheduled for September this year.

FIDE Fixes 2010-11 World Championship Cycle

(FIDE Press Release) The FIDE Presidential Board acknowledged and accepted the bid from Universal Event Promotions (UEP) , [who organized the 2008 World Championship match between Viswanathan Anand (India), then 15th World Champion, and the challenger, Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 14th World Champion], for the world chess championship cycle 2010-2011. In 2010, there will be a Candidate Matches/Tournament consisting of GM Kamsky, the loser of the Anand-Topalov match, two players from the Grand Prix series and one player from the World Cup, two highest rated players not already qualified and a player nominated by the organizer. The winner will play the World Champion in 2011.

The European Women Ch./ the Women Grand Prix



To the astonishment of ECU President Boris Kutin and everybody else (well, perhaps except for our distinguished FIDE President, [Ed. - Kirsan Ilyumzhinov]), two highly important women events are taking place at the same time: the European Championship in St. Petersburg and the first Grand Prix in Istanbul (from Chess Vibes).

Surely FIDE can do better than this. There are few enough top level women's events – they should not conflict, so top women players have to choose.

New Super Tournament in December in London. England

(from The Week in Chess)

Cream of world chess to play in new London tournament. [Press release 9th March 2009]

London Chess Centre is proud to announce a world-class chess tournament to be held in London in December, 2009. The event will be an elite eight-player all-play-all in the most prestigious tournament in the capital since former world champion Anatoly Karpov won the Phillips and Drew Masters in 1984.

Since then, despite London hosting three world title contests, there has not been a tournament in which England's leading players could lock horns with the world's best on home soil. The December 09 tournament will be the first in a series of events designed to reinvigorate UK chess and promote the game and its undoubted educational benefits in schools and communities.

The tournament will be FIDE Category 19 with an average FIDE rating of 2700 and a minimum prize fund of €100,000. The eight players will comprise of three English and five world-class Grandmasters from abroad. Included in the prize fund will be a €10,000 Brilliant Game award along with separate prizes for each victory with the White and Black pieces. Matches will be covered live online where fans will be able to vote for Game of the Day.

The tournament has applied for membership of the prestigious annual **Grand Slam of Chess** which culminates in Bilbao and boasts a €400,000 prize fund.

The games will be under Classical Chess time control; 40 moves in two hours, 20 in the subsequent hour then an additional 15 minutes plus an increment of 30 seconds a move until the end of the game. The tournament will further benefit from the use of Sofia Rules which disallow early draws. Players will receive three points for a win and one for a draw.

The opening ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 10 and will include a blindfold chess display and charity simultaneous. Play will take place daily from Friday, December 11 to Thursday, December 17 inclusive.

The list of players and venue will be announced in April.

Malcolm Pein (IM), Director London Chess Centre

SCC Use of Carbon Score Sheets – Our Readers Write!!

(note: these submissions were written BEFORE the change of policy by the executive – see article below)

Last Issue, we explored the fact that SCC is now using carbon score sheets for the Club Championship – Top Section. The current policy of the Executive is that handing in the carbons is “ voluntary “ – SCC requests the carbons, but the players have the right to refuse, without consequence. The issue was raised of whether the policy should be changed to be “ mandatory “, to eliminate some perceived unfairness in the policy, and to guarantee that all members get the opportunity to enjoy other members’ games (or at least mandatory in the Championship section of the Club Championship).

Here are a few responses to SCTCN&V on this issue:

From **Rick Garel**,



Orillia CC President, former SCC member, former SCC Executive

“The score sheet issue is more difficult then I imagined. I thought that you presented the executive's point of view quite fairly, so that is why I'm having such a hard time coming up with an opinion about whether it should be mandatory or not. The SCC is and has been a friendly club since it was created. But that doesn't mean the SCC doesn't have rules. It certainly does. For the most part we follow the rules of Chess. (touch move etc.) I was just looking at the club constitution and there is no lengthy list of rules except that all members should be in harmony with the objectives and the club and its constitution. I love the fact that you have taken the SCC database idea and have made it into something truly wonderful. I think that you can learn a lot from your peers going over their games. It's value as a resource is difficult to over estimate. Having said that and considering both sides of the argument, I am forced, reluctantly to agree with the executive on this one. Score sheet handing in of the carbon copies should not be mandatory. But please continue to urge the players to pass in their score sheets. I think for the most part as you mentioned in your recent issue players will comply. “

From **John Brown**, Peel CC President, former SCC member, tournament organizer

“You can still have the players submit their carbons. Have them give them to the organizers after the event has finished. Just Don't post the games until the championship is over. Who cares when the members see the games as long as it is after the tournament is over.

Just because the organizer owns the score sheets does not mean he has the right to post games if the majority don't want it during the tournament. Keep your club friendly and it will do better. Hard nose it and you'll see a decline in your memberships. “

Club Tournaments – Mandatory or Voluntary Score Sheets ? – Executive Decides !!

(posted on CFC Chess Forum on March 6 by Bob Armstrong - edited)

Three issues have surfaced at Scarborough CC around:

1. the handing in of game score sheets;
2. the inclusion of games handed in in the club games database;
3. the publication of some database games in the club newsletter.

The current policy is that the handing in of games is " voluntary ". An issue of level playing field arose re our club championship, Championship section, if some were handing in their games, and not others. One player requested that the policy become that all games (in the Championship section only) must be handed in or " mandatory ".

This issue led to the SCC executive reconsidering all policy on these three issues. They considered three options:

Option 1:

- a) Handing in of games - " Mandatory " - all games must be handed in.
- b) Database & Publication – all games will be entered into the database, and made available each week to all members. The club is free to publish such games as they see fit in the club newsletter. No objections to entry nor publication will be entertained from any players.

Option 2:

- a) The handing in of Games - will be " voluntary ". No one is forced to hand in their game.
- b) Database & Publication: Objection Based - Allow any individual to request that their games do not appear in the database or be published irrespective of whether their opponent wants the game entered and published (if suitable).

Option 3:

- a) submission of game scores - " voluntary " (except a decision is outstanding on the proposal that next year the championship section of club championship will be the one case where collection is mandatory, as is done in top sections of weekend tournaments, etc. - it is too late to do this in mid-stream in this year's championship);
- b) Database & Publication - where a party wishes his game to go into the database , and be published, this shall be done, and the opponent cannot block either.

The Executive has had as much discussion of the three options as time allowed.

They have chosen the second option - total voluntary - one opponent can block the entry and publication of the game by their opponent.

They have also said that the total policy will be reviewed at the upcoming SCC AGM in September, to ascertain the decision of the members on this.

{ Note: 1. after this posting, the Executive further decided that all championship games voluntarily handed in, in both the Championship and Reserves Sections, will not be immediately entered into the database, but be held back until after the tournament is over, so that it will be a level playing field for all tournament players.

2. for those interested in a full review of the issues involved, please e-mail me [Bob Armstrong], and I will send you my lengthy article entitled “ Scarborough CC 2008-9 Club Championship: Use of Score Sheets “ (it was originally published in the Chess Canada Webzine, under the section “ General Interest “, but due to some controversy about it, the editor, Vincent Chow, pulled it.]

King walk - Part 2

(Written and copyright 2009 by David Cohen)

Here we go again, taking a stroll with our king in the middle game! This one starts out as a king hunt. The White king is harassed by checks and pins, all the while driven further out into the centre of the board. But it turns out to be safe enough there. Then - still in the middle game - the king takes an active role, helping a pawn to promotion.

G. Michelet - Lionel Kieseritzky
Paris, France, 1844

1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Nf3 g5 4. Bc4 g4 5. Ne5 Qh4+ 6. Kf1

The harassment starts, as the White king loses the right to castle.

6... f3 7. d4 Nf6 8. Nc3 Bg7 9. g3 ?

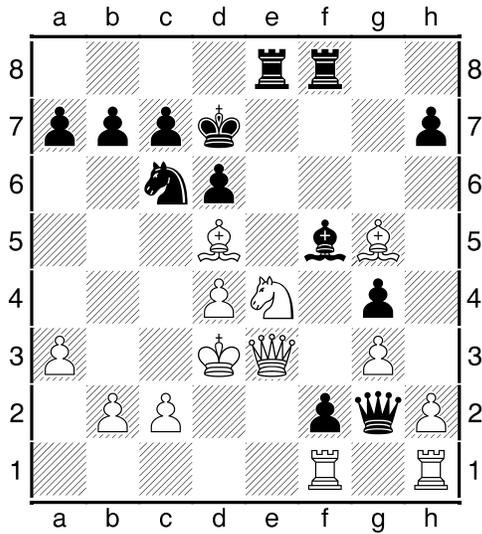
Inviting the Black queen into the hole on h3, to start the king hunt.

9... Qh3+ 10. Kf2 d6 11. Nxf7 Rf8 12. Ng5 Qg2+ 13. Ke3 Bh6 14. Kd3 Nc6 15. a3 Bxg5 16. Bxg5 Nxe4

Black renews the attack with a gamble.

17. Qe1 Bf5 18. Nxe4 f2 19. Qe3 Kd7 20. Bd5 Rae8 21. Raf1

Position after 21.Raf1



21... Bxe4+ ?

Black releases the tension by liquidating the pin, with the aim of winning White's queen - only to discover that White can get along just fine without it!

22. Bxe4 Rf3 23. Qxf3 gxf3 24. Bf5+ Re6 25. d5 Ne5+ 26. Ke4 h5 27. dxe6+ Ke8 28. Bf6 h4 29. Bxe5 dxe5 30. Kxe5

Ironically, it is Black's king that is in a mating net.

30... hxg3 31. h3 Qxh1 32. Kf6 Qxf1 33. Bg6+ Kd8 34. e7+ Kd7 35. e8=Q+ Kd6 36. Qe6+ 1-0

Rick's Chess Trivia (New Regular Feature !!!)

(questions/presentations researched by Rick Garel, former SCC Executive, former SCC member, Orillia CC President)

Today's Question is: Which GM holds the record for most games without a loss?

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 !!

[Ed. – Our thanks to Rick Garel for being willing to join us as a regular columnist !!
Welcome]

SCC 2008-9 Club Championship

The club championship is in 3 sections this year.

The Championship Section is a 10-player round robin comprised of the top 8 rated players in the club registered (this year is exceptionally strong with 6 masters , 3 experts and 1 “ A “ Class player) – master Liam Henry, WFM/master Yuanling Yuan, master David Krupka, master John Hall, master Bryan Lamb, master Karl Sellars, expert Hugh Siddeley, and expert Andrei Moffat, along with the two winners of last year’s Reserves Championship – expert Oscar Villalobos; A Class Kevin Wu.

The Reserves are split into two. There is an Open Section, and an U 1700 Section. In the top Reserves, 30 players registered, and the roster is headed by a master, 2 experts and a number of A Class players who were formerly experts. In the U 1700 Section, 31 players registered. The winner of the Open Reserves gains entry into next year’s Championship Section, so there is something very worthwhile to play for in that section. The total of 71 players is the highest number we have had out since early in the millennium. The previous highest we had had out this 2008-9 year was 68 players for the Howard Ridout Swiss in the early Fall, 2008.

After 3 rounds, the leaders are:

Championship Section:

1st/3rd – 2.5 pts. – Masters Yuanling Yuan, Bryan Lamb and John Hall.

Reserves – Open Section:

1st/5th – 2.5 pts. – Master Josh Guo, Experts Geordie Derraugh and Alex Ferreira, Marcus Wilker, and Martin Maister

Reserves – U 1700 Section:

1st – 3 pts. – Maurice Smith
2nd/3rd – 2.5 pts. – Dinesh Dattani and Stephen Bao

A concern has arisen, that it is not a level playing field in the Championships, where some are voluntarily handing in their games, and others are not (the SCC policy is that the handing in of games for the database is “ voluntary “. Those cooperating with the club’s request to hand in games, are at a disadvantage because their games are available for opponents to use to prepare against them. But the cooperating members have no games to use against those refusing to hand in their games (as they have the right to do). So the executive has decided that all games voluntarily handed in will not be immediately entered into the database. They will be held back and only entered into the database, and distributed, and some published, AFTER the tournament is over.

Therefore, no further games from the club championship will be reproduced here until the tournament has concluded.

PwC Toronto Open Championship – April 17-19

click on the icon below to open the tournament flyer



2009 PwC Toronto
Open w Logos.pdf

The 2009 Canadian Junior Championship – July 25-28

The **Canadian Junior Chess Championship** is a qualifier for the World Junior being held in Mar del Plata, Argentina from 16 to 29 October 2009.

Dates: July 25 - 28, 2009

Place: Victoria, BC

Tournament site: Hotel Grand Pacific located in downtown Victoria on the inner harbour.

Registration: \$150 [Registration Form](#)

Time Control: Game 90 minutes plus 30 seconds per move

Schedule: 7 Round Swiss Opening Ceremony 11:45 July 25

Round Times:

July 25 12 noon Round 1 6 pm Round 2

July 26 12 noon Round 3 6 pm Round 4

July 27 12 noon Round 5 6 pm Round 6

July 28 10 am Round 7 Closing Ceremony 3:30 pm

Eligibility:

- Must be born in 1989 or later
- Must have a CFC rating of >1800 or be a 2009 Provincial Junior Champion or submit a written application for permission to register (email to braymer@telus.net). The application should give a summary of chess

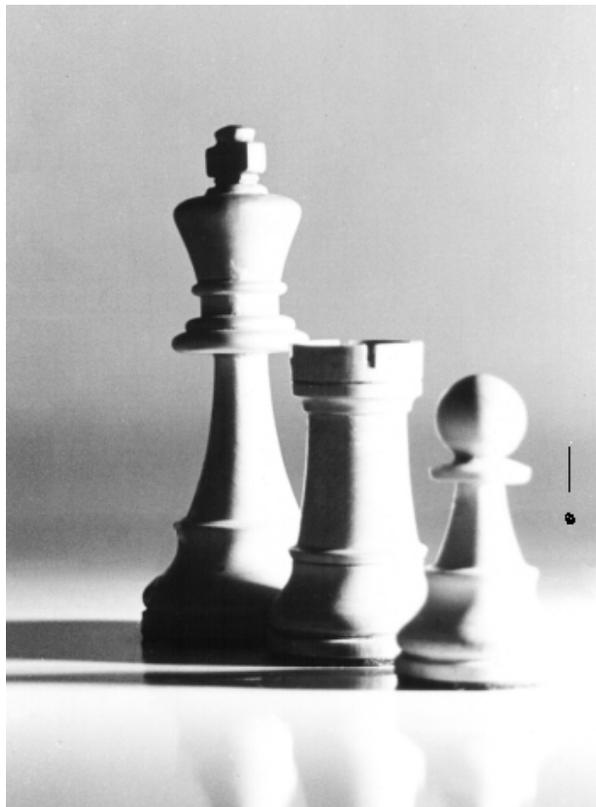
performance that indicates a past performance of equal to or near 1800. Applications will be reviewed by the Canadian Junior organizing committee and decisions will be made within 4 weeks of receipt.

- Must be a Canadian citizen or Permanent Canadian resident for at least 12 months. Players with any question about their own eligibility to compete should contact Ellen Nadeau, Canadian Youth Chess Coordinator at ellennadeau@yahoo.ca to verify eligibility. Failure to do so and not meeting the requirements could result in withdrawal from the tournament and/or ineligibility for awards.
- The total number of participants may be limited. Qualified players should register early to ensure a space.

Other events will take place before and during the Canadian Junior from July 20th to 26th, 2009. See the [Schedule of Events](#) for details.

Winner(s) will receive funding toward travel to the World Junior. Value of contribution toward travel will depend on the number of participants and the funds available after expenses. Expenses for the event are being kept to a minimum and will be in accordance with the bid for the Canadian Junior. A travel contribution of \$1500 is available based on 20 players registered.

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 some of the archived newsletters, 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.