

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 # 9 - 22 – July 15, 2008

July 1, 2008 FIDE Rating List

There is once again no player over 2800. [Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13th World Champion, now retired, was the first player to break 2800 (highest rating ever in July 1999 – 2851); Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 14th World Champion, was the second player; Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria), the 2005 FIDE World Champion, was the third; Viswanathan Anand, current world champion, was the fourth player in history to break the 2800 barrier].

There are 29 players in the 2700's (a jump of 5 since the April 1 list). Some of the top players are (birth date of younger players in brackets, after country) :

1 : Viswanathan **Anand** (India), 15th and current World Champion, rated 2798 (down from 2803);



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2 : Alexander **Morozevich** (Russia), rated 2788;



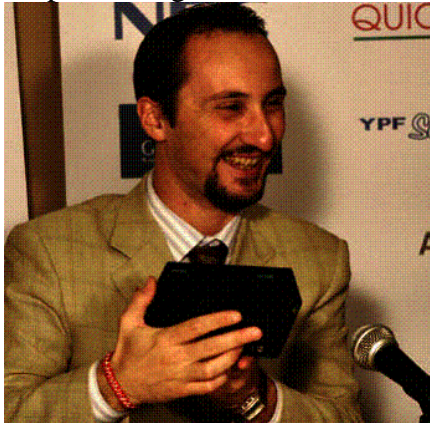
3 : Vladimir **Kramnik** (Russia), 14th World Champion, rated 2788;



#4 : Vassily **Ivanchuk** (Ukraine), rated 2781 (up 41 pts. from # 11 !!);



5 : Veselin **Topalov** (Bulgaria), 2005 FIDE World Champion, 2006 World Championship Challenger, and 2008 Challengers' Match participant, at 2777 ;



6 : Magnus Carlsen (Norway – 1990) – 2775 (up 10 pts., but his recent Aerosvit win is not yet included) ;

7 : Teimour Radjabov (Azerbaijan – 1987) – 2744;

8 : Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Azerbaijan – 1985) – 2742;

9 : Alexi Shirov (Spain) – 2741;

10 : Peter Leko (Hungary), 2004 World Championship Challenger, at 2741;

22 : Judit Polgar (Hungary), the strongest women's player in the world, with 2711.

Some other past World Champions/FIDE World Champions and their current ratings are :

19 : 2002 FIDE World Champion, Ruslan Ponomariov (Ukraine) at 2718;

41 : 2004 FIDE World Champion, Rustam Kasimdzhanov (Uzbekistan) at 2679;

72: 12th World Champion, Anatoly Karpov (Russia) – 2651 ;

94 : 1999 FIDE World Champion, Alexander Khalifman (Russia) – 2634 ;

Here are a number of the younger players we're watching (birth date in brackets):

15 : Sergey Karjakin (Ukraine – 1990) – 2727;

23 : Xiangzhi Bu (China – 1985) – 2710 - won the 2007 Canadian Open;

26 : Evgeny Alekseev (Russia – 1985) – 2708;

30 : Yue Wang (China – 1987) – 2704;

31 : Hikaru Nakamura (USA – 1987) – 2697;

34 : Hao Wang (China – 1989) – 2691;

36 : Ivan Cheparinov (Bulgaria – 1986) – 2687 (down from # 26);

42 : Ernesto Inarkiev (Russia – 1985) – 2687

The 6 highest FIDE rated Canadians (active in the last 24 months, internationally or in Canada) are:

1 : GM Kevin **Spraggett**, 5 times Canadian Champion (last in 1996), at 2601;



2 : GM Mark **Bluvshstein** (1988) at 2548;



(from David Cohen's Canadian Chess website)

3 : GM Pascal **Charbonneau**, 2002 & 2004 Canadian Champion, at 2499;

4 : IM Thomas **Roussel-Roozman** (1988) at 2486.

5 : IM Igor **Zugic**, 2006 Canadian Champion, at 2457.

6 : IM Tomas **Krnan** (1988) at 2439.

The current 2007 Canadian Champion, 16 year old IM Nikolay **Noritsyn** (1991), is rated 2361 .

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

The top 5 women in the world are :

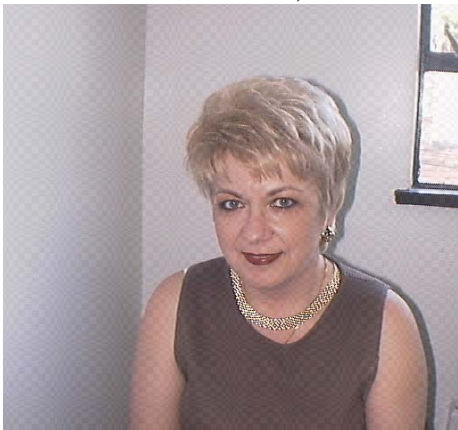
1 : GM Judit **Polgar** (Hungary) – 2711 (first woman player in history to break 2700);



- # 2 : GM Humpy Koneru (India – 1987) – 2622 – up 19 pts. (second woman over 2600);
- # 3: WGM Jun Xie (China) – 2574;
- # 4 : WGM Yifan Hou (China – 1994) – 2557 (14 years old !)
- # 5 : GM Antoaneta Stefanova (Bulgaria) – 2550 – up 12 pts. – former Women’s World Champion;

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

- # 1 : WIM Nava **Starr**, 8 time Canadian Women’s Champion (last in 2001), at 2173.



(from David Cohen’s Canadian Chess website)

- # 2 : WIM Natalia **Khoudgarian**, 2006 & 2007 Canadian Women’s Champion, at 2151.
- # 3 : WFM Yuanling **Yuan** (1994 - SCC member !) at 2146 (up 27 pts. !).



- # 4 : WFM Dina **Kagramanov** (1986), 2006 & 2007 Canadian Women’s Championship Runner-Up, at 2111.
- # 5 : WFM Hazel **Smith** (1991), at 2054.

Dortmund Sparkassen Chess Meeting, Germany

The Sparkassen Chess Meeting took place from June 28th to July 6th, 2008, in the Dortmund Civic Theater, with eight players competing in a single round robin (7 rounds). The average rating is 2695, making the event a Category 18 tournament – the inclusion of 2 local German players reduces the average rating somewhat for this major tournament. There have been a number of stronger tournament this year. Morelia/Linares had an average rating of 2756 and the January Corus Wijk aan Zee tournament had an average rating of 2742. The first FIDE Grand Prix # 1 (Baku), and the Aerosvit, Ukraine, tournaments were 2717.

Playing were:

Player	Age	Nat.	Elo	Rank (Apr. List)
Vladimir Kramnik	32	RUS	2788	2
Shakhriyar Mamedjarov	22	AZE	2752	7
Peter Leko	28	HUN	2741	10
Vassily Ivanchuk	39	UKR	2740	11
Loek van Wely	35	NED	2676	45
Ian Nepomniachtchi	17	RUS	2634	86
Arkadij Naiditsch	22	GER	2624	
Jan Gustafsson	28	GER	2603	

The winner was Peter Leko with 4.5 pts. In second place was a 4-way tie: Gustafsson, Nepomniachtchi, Mamedyarov and Ivanchuk.

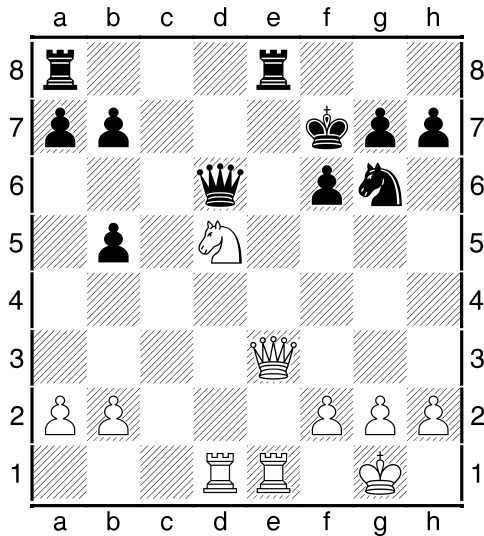
In Rd.3, Naiditsch took out the former world champion, Kramnik, then a co-leader, with a nice win of Kramnik's Queen for a R + N. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Naiditsch, A (2624) – Kramnik, V (2788) [C42]

Sparkassen Dortmund GER (3), 01.07.2008

1.e4± Fritz' evaluation not generally accepted **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nf6** [2...Nc6±] **3.Nxe5** [3.d4?! exd4 4.e5 Ne4 5.Qxd4 d5 6.exd6 Nxd6=] **3...d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4** [5.Nc3?! Nf6 6.Be2 Be7=] **5...d5 6.Bd3 Nc6** [6...Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.c4 Bg4±] **7.0-0 Be7 8.Re1 Bg4 9.c4 Nf6 10.Nc3?!=** [10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.Nc3 Qh5±] **10...Bxf3** [10...dxc4 11.Bxc4 0-0 12.d5 Na5 13.Bd3 c6=] **11.Qxf3 Nxd4** Kramnik goes up a P **12.Qd1 Ne6?!±** [12...dxc4 13.Bxc4 c5 14.Qa4+ Kf8=] **13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Bb5+?!=** [14.Qf3 c6±] **14...c6 15.Nxd5 cxb5 16.Bf4 Nxf4 17.Rxe7+ Kf8 18.Re5 Qd6 19.Qd2?!±** for the first time in the game, Kramnik gets the advantage [19.Rf5 Rd8 20.Qf3 Nxd5 21.Rd1 Qe6 22.h3 g6 23.Rfxd5 Rxd5 24.Rxd5 Qc6=] **19...Ng6?±** Naiditsch gets a " clear " advantage [19...Qxe5 20.Qb4+ Ke8 21.Qxb5+ Kd8 22.Rd1 Ne2+ 23.Kh1 Nd4 24.Qxb7 Rc8± Kramnik would be up R vs P] **20.Ree1 f6 21.Rad1 Kf7?!+-** Naiditsch gets a " winning " advantage [21...Re8 22.Rxe8+ Kxe8 23.Qa5 Kf7 24.Qxb5 Rb8±] **22.Qe3 Rhe8**

Position after 22...Rhe8



23.Ne7 Qxe7 [23...Qb6?? 24.Qb3+ Qe6 25.Qxe6+ Kf8 26.Qg8#] **24.Qb3+ Kf8 25.Rxe7 Rxe7**
 Naiditsch is up Q vs R + N+ P **26.Qxb5** Naiditsch is up Q vs R + N **26...Rae8 27.g3 Ne5 28.Kg2**
Nc6 29.b4 a6 30.Qb6 h6 31.a4 Ne5 32.Qc5 Kg8 33.b5 axb5 34.axb5 Nf7 35.h4 Kh8 36.Rd2
Kg8 37.Kh3 Kh8 38.f4 Kg8 39.h5 Kh8 40.Qf5 Nd8 41.Rd7 Ne6?!+- 4.47 [41...Rxd7 42.Qxd7
Rf8 43.Kg4 Kh7 44.Qd6 Re8+- 3.78] 42.Qd5+- 5.32 1-0

In Rd. 4, 17 year old Ian Nepomniachtchi climbed into a 3-way tie for first with Gustafsson and Leko, with a win over Van Wely. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Nepomniachtchi, Ian (2634) – Van Wely, Loek (2677) [B90]

Sparkassen Dortmund GER (4), 02.07.2008

1.e4± Fritz' evaluation not generally accepted **1...c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6**
6.Be3 e5?!± Nepomniachtchi gets an early " clear " advantage [6...Ng4 7.Bg5 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6±]
7.Nb3 Be6 8.Qd2?=[[8.Nd5 Nbd7 9.Qd3 Rc8±] **8...Nbd7** [8...Be7 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.Qd3 Nc5
 11.Nxc5 dxc5 12.0-0-0 Qxd3 13.Rxd3 b5=] **9.0-0-0** [9.Bd3 Be7 10.0-0 Ng4 11.Nd5 Nxe3 12.Qxe3
 0-0=; 9.a3 Nb6 10.Be2 Nc4 11.Bxc4 Bxc4=] **9...Be7 10.f4 Ng4 11.g3 Nxe3 12.Qxe3 b5** [12...Rc8
 13.h4 0-0 14.Bh3 Qc7=] **13.Kb1** [13.Nd5 0-0=] **13...Qb6 14.Qe2 b4?!±** [14...0-0 15.Nd5 Bxd5
 16.exd5 Qc7=] **15.Na4?!=** the N is trapped [15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.exd5 Ra7±] **15...Qc6 16.f5 Bxf5?!±**
 Van Wely goes up a P [16...Bxb3 17.axb3 0-0=] **17.exf5 Qxa4 18.Bg2 0-0?!±** this is a bad
 exchange sac. Nepomniachtchi gets back his " clear " advantage [18...Rb8 19.Rd5 Rb5 20.Qc4
 Nc5±; 18...Ra7 19.Rd5 Nf6 20.Ra5 Qd7±] **19.Bxa8 Rxa8** Nepomniachtchi is up the exchange,
 but Van Wely has a P compensation **20.g4 Qc6 21.Na5** [21.g5?! a5 22.f6 Bf8±] **21...Qc7**
 [21...Qc5?! 22.Nb7 Qc6 23.Nxd6 Bxd6 24.Qd3 Nf6 25.Qxd6 Qxd6 26.Rxd6 Nxd6+-] **22.Nc4 a5**
23.Nxd6 Nepomniachtchi is up the exchange **23...Bxd6 24.Qd3 Nf6?!+-** Nepomniachtchi gets a
 " winning " advantage [24...Rc8 25.Qxd6 Qxc2+ 26.Ka1 Nf8±] **25.Qxd6 Qxd6 26.Rxd6 Nxd6** Van
 Wely again has a P compensation for being down the exchange **27.Rg1?!±** [27.Re1 Nxd2
 28.Rxe5 h5+-] **27...Nxd2** Van Wely has 2 P compensation for being down the exchange **28.f6 g6**
29.Rg2 Nf3 30.Re2 h5 31.Re3 [31.Rd3?! Nd4 32.Rxe5 Ne6±] **31...e4 32.Rxe4** Van Wely has 1 P
 compensation for being down the exchange **32...g5 33.Rd3** [33.Re?? g4=; 33.Rd5?! Kh7±]
33...g4 34.Rd5 Ra6 35.Rf4 Re6 36.a4 this pawn will become a runner [36.c4 Kh7 37.Rxd5+ Kg6
 38.Rd5 Nh2±] **36...Re1+?!+-** right piece; wrong square [36...Re5 37.Rxe5 Nxe5 38.Rf5 Nf3

39.Rxh5 g3 40.Rh3 Nd2+ 41.Kc1 Ne4±] **37.Ka2 Rh1 38.Rxa5** Nepomniachtchi is up the exchange **38...Kh7 39.Rd5 Kg6?+-** 2.53 [39...Ne1 40.Rxb4 Nxc2 41.Rf4 Kg6+- 1.43] **40.a5 Re1?+-** 3.77 [40...Rh2 41.Rc5 Rd2 42.a6 Rd7+- 1.83] **41.a6 Re8 42.a7 Ra8 43.Ra5 Nh2 44.Rxb4** Nepomniachtchi is up the exchange + P **44...g3 45.Rb8 Rxa7 46.Rg8+ Kxf6 47.Rxa7** Nepomniachtchi is up 2 R vs N + P **47...Ng4 48.Ra3+-** 6.15 **1-0**

In Rd. 5, Gustafsson won a miniature against Van Wely, going up 3 P's and then threatening to win a B. This put Gustafsson alone in first place, ½ pt. ahead of Leko and Nepomniachtchi . Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Van Wely, L (2677) – Gustafsson, J (2603) [D31]

Sparkassen Dortmund GER (5), 04.07.2008

1.c4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 c6 4.e4 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Qxd4 Gustafsson goes up a P **7.Bxb4 Qxe4+ 8.Be2?!±** Gustafsson gets the advantage [8.Qe2 Qxe2+ 9.Nxe2 b6=] **8...Na6?!=** [8...Qxg2 9.Bf3 Qg5±] **9.Ba5 b6 10.Qd6 Bd7 11.0-0-0?!±** [11.Bc3 f6 12.Qg3 Qg6=] **11...0-0-0 12.Bc3 f6 13.Bf3 Qxc4** Gustafsson goes up 2 P **14.Be2??+-** a blunder – Gustafsson gets a " winning " advantage **14...Qxa2** Gustafsson goes up 3 P **15.Nf3?+-** – 5.09 [15.Qd3 Nc7 16.Qc4 Qxc4 17.Bxc4 Ne7+- – 3.83] **15...Nc5 16.Ne5!** – 5.24 [16.Bd3? e5 17.Nxe5! Ne7 (17...fxe5?? 18.Bxe5 Nxd3+ 19.Rxd3 Qa1+ 20.Kc2 Qa4+ 21.b3 Qa2+ 22.Kc1 Kb7+-) 18.Bc4 Qa1+ 19.Kd2 Qa4+- – 6.26] **16...Ne4** [16...fxe5?? 17.Bxe5 Qa1+ 18.Kc2 Qa4+ 19.Kb1 Qe4+ 20.Bd3 Qxe5 21.Qxe5+-] **17.Bc4 Qa1+ 18.Kc2 Qa4+-+ – 5.46** Van Wely resigned. He must lose more material **19.Bb3 Qxb3+ 20.Kxb3 Nxd6 21.Rxd6 fxe5 22.Bxe5 Nf6+- – 5.77** Gustafsson would be up N + 2 P **0-1**

In Rd. 6, Gustafsson, leading, met Leko, who was tied for 2nd/3rd. Leko got the advantage in the middle game and didn't give it up, going up 1 pawn, and then 2. This win gave him sole possession of first place, with a round to go, ½ pt. ahead of Gustafsson and Nepomniachtchi. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Gustafsson, J (2603) – Leko, P (2741) [E15]

Sparkassen Dortmund GER (6), 05.07.2008

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6± [3...d5=] **4.g3?!=** [4.Bg5 Bb7 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Ne4±] **4...Ba6 5.Qa4 Bb7 6.Bg2 c5 7.dxc5 bxc5 8.0-0 Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Rd1 Qb6 11.Bf4 Rd8 12.Rd2 d6 13.Rad1 Ne8 14.e4 Bc6 15.Qc2 Qb7 16.Qb3 Qxb3 17.axb3 f6 18.Ne1** [18.Nb5 Bxe4 19.Nxd6 Nxd6 20.Bxd6 Bxd6 21.Rxd6 Nc6!=] **18...Nd7 19.Ra1** [19.Nd3 g5 20.Be3 Rdb8 21.b4 cxb4 22.Ne2 Ne5=] **19...Rdb8 20.Ra3 Rb7** [20...g5 21.Be3 g4=] **21.e5?±** Leko gets a " clear " advantage [21.Nd3 Kf7 22.Nd5! a5=] **21...Nxe5 22.Bxe5 Bxg2 23.Bxd6 Nxd6 24.Kxg2 Nf5 25.Ra6 Nd4 26.Nf3 Nxb3** Leko goes up a P **27.Rd3 e5 28.Rd5 Rd8 29.Rxd8+ Bxd8 30.Rd6?!+-** Leko gets a " winning " advantage [30.Ne4 Kf8 31.h3 Be7±] **30...Be7 31.Ra6 Nd4 32.Nxd4 cxd4 33.Nb5 d3 34.Kf1 Bc5 35.Rc6 d2?!±** [35...Bb4 36.Ra6 Rd7 37.Rxa7 Rd8 38.Ra1 Kf7-+] **36.Ke2 Rd7 37.Nc3 Bd4?!±** Leko is losing his advantage [37...Bb4?! 38.Kd1 Bxc3 39.bxc3 Rd3±] **38.Kxd2** [38.Ne4?! Kf7 39.Nxd2 Bxb2±] **38...Bxf2+ 39.Nd5 a5 40.b3 Kf7 41.g4 Rb7 42.Ke2?!±** [42.Kc2 e4 43.Nc3 e3 44.Rd6 Re7 45.Kd1 Bg1 46.h3 Rb7±] **42...Bd4 43.h4 e4** [43...Kg6 44.c5 Rxb3 45.Rc7 h5±] **44.h5?!+-** [44.Rd6?! Rxb3 45.Rd7+ Ke6 46.Rxg7 a4-+; 44.Nf4 Be5 45.Ke3 Rxb3+ 46.Kxe4 Rb7±] **44...Rxb3** Leko goes up 2 P **45.Rc7+ Ke6+- – 1.54 0-1**

In the last round, Ivanchuk and Kramnik had an equal game throughout, but then on the 48th move Kramnik blundered, and Ivanchuk threatened to win the exchange, and









have a passed pawn. The loss tumbled Kramnik to 7th place. The win lifted Ivanchuk into a 4-way tie for second. Here is their game (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz):

Ivanchuk, V (2740) – Kramnik, V (2788) [C42]

Sparkassen Dortmund GER (7), 06.07.2008

1.e4± Fritz' evaluation not generally accepted 1...e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5= [3.d4 Nxe4 4.Bd3 d5 5.Nxe5 Bd6± symmetrical position] 3...d6!?! [3...Qe7 4.d4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nxe5 6.dxe5 Qxe5=] 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 [5.Qe2?! Qe7 6.d3 Nf6= symmetrical position] 5...d5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Re1 Bg4 9.c4 Nf6 10.Nc3?!= [10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Nc3 Nf6±] 10...Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Nxd4 12.Qd1 Ne6 13.cxd5 Nxd5 Kramnik goes up a P 14.Bb5+ c6 15.Nxd5 cxb5 16.Qh5 0-0 17.Nxe7+ Qxe7 18.Qxb5 material equality 18...Rfd8 19.Be3 a6 20.Qb3 Rac8 21.h3 h6 22.Rad1 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 b5 24.Rd3 Rc6 25.Qd5 Qe8 [25...Rc8=] 26.Rd2 Qc8 27.b3 Rc3 28.h4 a5 29.Rd1 Rc2 30.Qxb5 Rxa2 31.h5 Nf8 32.Rd4 Qc7 33.Rd1 Rb2 34.Rc1 Qd7 35.Qb8 Rc2 36.Ra1 Qf5?!± Ivanchuk gets the advantage [36...Rc3 37.Qb6 Rd3 38.Qxa5 Rxb3=] 37.Qd8 Qxh5 [37...Rb2±] 38.Rxa5 Qg4 39.Ra4 Qd7 40.Rd4 Qb7 41.b4 Rb2 42.Bd2 [42.Rg4 f5 (42...Rxb4?? 43.Bd4 g6 44.Qf6 Rxd4 45.Rxd4+-) 43.Rg3 Rb3± (43...Rxb4?! 44.Bd4 Rxd4 45.Qxd4±)] 42...Rb1+ 43.Kh2 Qb5 44.Qd5 Qe2 45.Be3?!= [45.Qf5 Rf1 46.Rf4 Qe8±] 45...Ng6?!± [45...g5 46.Kg3 Qh5 47.b5 Rh1=] 46.Qf5?!= [46.Re4 Rd1 47.Qf5 Qf1±] 46...Qf1 47.Kg3 Rb3?!± Ivanchuk gets a " clear " advantage [47...Qh1 48.Qh3 Qe1=] 48.Re4?!± [48.Rd8+ Kh7 49.Qxf7 Rxe3+ 50.Kh2 Ne7±] 48...Nf8??+- a blunder; Ivanchuk gets a " winning " advantage [48...Qh1 49.Qd5 Rb1 50.Rg4 Qd1±] 49.Rf4+- 3.41 Kramnik resigned. He must lose material 49...Rxe3+ [49...f6?? 50.Qd5+ Kh7 51.Qxb3+-] 50.fxe3 Qe1+ 51.Kh2 f6 52.Qd5+ Kh7 53.Qd3+ Kh8+- 4.31 Ivanchuk would be up the exchange, with a passed P 1-0

Final standings

Sparkassen Dortmund GER 2008													
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1		Leko,P	2741	+49	*	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	4.5/7
2		Ivanchuk,V	2740	-1	0	*	½	½	½	1	1	½	4.0/7 13.00
3		Mamedyarov,S	2752	-15	½	½	*	½	½	½	½	1	4.0/7 12.50
4		Nepomniachtchi,I	2634	+119	½	½	½	*	½	½	½	1	4.0/7 12.50
5		Gustafsson,J	2603	+154	0	½	½	½	*	1	½	1	4.0/7 12.00
6		Naiditsch,A	2624	+81	½	0	½	½	0	*	1	1	3.5/7
7		Kramnik,V	2788	-156	½	0	½	½	½	0	*	1	3.0/7
8		Van Wely,L	2677	-290	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	*	1.0/7

“ Gang of 7 “ on Roller Coaster Ride – But Successful !

The following was posted on ChessTalk on July 3:

CFC Executive Blows ItAgain

“ On Tuesday, June 24, the “ gang of 7 “ (Governors Michael Barron, Barry Thorvardson, Cesary Posylek, Chris Mallon, Gary Gladstone, Mark Dutton and Nava Starr) submitted to the CFC 7 restructuring motions:

Motion # 1 – Moved – Barry **Thorvardson**; Seconded – Cesary **Posylek** : Item 1 set out below is acceptable.

“ 1. **Core Roles**: CFC will continue its role re FIDE, international and national events, a national rating system, and a website with membership info, ratings, membership sales, tournament announcements, chess club lists, and news submitted by members (highlights of recent tournament, etc.). Maintenance of these functions will be the responsibility of the Executive Director.”

Commentary: We did not try to put into the platform everything the CFC is doing now, or will continue to do. We wanted a clean minimalist platform, that fundamentally dealt with restructuring issues. Therefore, for example, there is nothing about CFC promoting chess here. Promoting chess, which includes renewing memberships and growing the membership, is a main goal of the CFC, and our platform does not affect that (I can advise we had something in the platform in an earlier version, but in trying to trim it down, and reduce the targets, we deleted it - but this doesn't mean we don't still fully support it as a main goal of the CFC). For the purposes of this motion, it is assumed the ED functions, website and rating system will stay in-house (though outsourcing the website or rating system is not necessarily excluded).

Motion # 2 – Moved – Michael **Barron**; Seconded – Barry **Thorvardson**: Item 2 set out below is acceptable.

“ 2. **CFC Revenue**: CFC revenues to come from memberships, rating fees, investments and donations. With the reduced scope of operation, costs for the organization should be less, and it may be possible to reduce annual membership fees and/or rating fees. “

Commentary: We feel that reducing the annual membership in particular should be a priority, if financially feasible after restructuring, since the magazine will no longer be a membership benefit. But we could not definitely promise it until we see our surplus after restructuring. We have also left open the possibility of lowering the rating fee. But some have also suggested that a modest raising of

the rating fee might allow a further reduction in the annual membership fee, and this is still possible under this motion.

Motion # 3 – Moved – Barry **Thorvardson**; Seconded – Chris **Mallon**: Item 3 set out below is acceptable.

“ 3. **CFC Membership**: CFC to eliminate tournament memberships – if you want to play in a CFC tournament, you must purchase an annual membership. To encourage individuals to become members, first time CFC members will be given a 40% fee reduction for their first year. “

Commentary: We must support our organization by membership and annual membership fee, if we want it to exist. CFC must have sustainable revenue. Community input has asked for numbers of special case exemptions/partial exemptions for annual memberships. We wanted to make clear that tournament memberships must go, but this issue can be fine-tuned at the time of implementation if special cases seem warranted. Organizers have told us that the annual CFC membership is a hindrance to getting first time tournament players to sign up for tournaments, so our 40% reduction for first-time CFC'ers attempts to ameliorate this difficulty.

Motion # 4 – Moved – Michael **Barron**; Seconded – Mark **Dutton**: Item 4 set out below is acceptable.

“ 4. **Chess Canada**: CFC will terminate the magazine contract with TKS immediately (with the May 2008 issue being the last issue of the magazine). “

Commentary: A 1000 annual adult member small non-profit organization cannot afford a members' magazine like CFC has been producing (see losses over last three years), nor an online version. But this motion does not exclude the possibility of CFC starting an e-mail bulletin to keep in regular contact with the membership (we simply didn't want to add it into the platform at this time). Such e-bulletins can be cheaply produced, and with CFC maintaining a good “ Canadian News “ website, content for the e-bulletin should be relatively easy to

deal with.

Motion # 5 – Moved – Michael **Barron**; Seconded – Gary **Gladstone**: Item 5 set out below is acceptable.

“ 5. **Retail Business**: Sell off the inventory of the retail business; it will be closed entirely. An alternative but small source of revenue could be established through a commission arrangement with other retailers, such as CMA or Amazon.

Commentary: Given today’s competition, and the resources required to carry on an efficient retail operation, we feel CFC should get out of the business. We can use the ED hours to promote chess, including growing membership. But we are amenable to some type of commission arrangement with someone like CMA or Amazon.

Motion # 6 – Moved – Michael **Barron**; Seconded – Barry **Thorvardson**: Item 6 set out below is acceptable.

“ 6. **CFC Condominium Office**: The current CFC office would be placed for sale. The office would then be run out of either a small rental space or a home office. “

Commentary: Without the retail operation, the building is not needed, and it has significant costs to carry it and maintain it. The money invested can generate income for CFC. And if the ED operates out of a home office, no office rental either would be required.

Motion # 7 – Moved – Michael **Barron**; Seconded – Nava **Starr**: Item 7 set out below is acceptable.

“ 7. **CFC Staffing**: In light of the reduced business activities of the CFC office (no retail sales and no print magazine), the Executive Committee would undertake a review of the Executive Director and Assistant positions and would recommend appropriate staffing changes if required. This could be from going to part-time, up to complete eliminating of the paid staff, and performing all CFC activities by volunteers. “

Commentary. This item is necessary because we must live within our financial means in future. If, which we don't expect, after restructuring, there is still a deficit, then we wanted to be able to downsize staff to bring us on budget. If however, after restructuring, we have a surplus even with existing staff expenses, which we do expect, then the Executive would be free to determine whether to cut staff, or eliminate staff, to generate more of a surplus, or whether to keep staff hours in order to carry out new tasks with the freed up hours due to restructuring.

On Thursday, June 28, the gang of 7 asked the CFC President, Hal Bond, to use his authority as President to direct an **immediate e-mail discussion/vote BEFORE the AGM**, to be held in Montreal in late July. This would have the effect of making the outgoing governors views known and available to themselves for the outgoing governors AGM , and for the new incoming governors AGM. This might have allowed some immediate decisions to then be made (these motions were only “ straw vote “ motions, and therefore not binding in themselves).

Unfortunately, Hal replied that same day that he was **unwilling** to take the individual and personal responsibility for calling for this vote. So the “ gang of 7 “ then, on that Thursday, asked that he **let the full Executive decide** whether to call an early vote. He **never replied** to the 7 governors on that point. (I wrote to him also making the same request on the Thursday, and he **didn't reply** to me either). No vote of the Executive was asked for or taken to our knowledge.

This means that the motions must now go the slow, ponderous Governors' Letter route, which will take months, and it will have to be dealt with by the incoming new governors. They will delay decisions, needing to get up to speed on all the issues. And there will be a new Executive who will want to review everything.

In the meantime, the CFC will have to borrow thousands of dollars again from the Chess Foundation to stay afloat until the new governors make the restructuring decisions. This may be fatal for the CFC. The 7 governors request was reasonable and should have been acceded to by Hal. Now there will be nothing for the AGM. “

But late on July 3, the GL # 9 came out, and it contained the 7 restructuring motions. So the following was then posted on July 4 on ChessTalk:

" Gang of 7 " SuccessfulAGM Will Decide !! (Grassroots Campaign)

Posted by **Bob Armstrong**  on July 4, 2008, 8:10:39
Toronto ON Scarborough CC

Great News for the CFC !

On June 24, the " gang of 7 " governors (Michael **Barron**, Barry **Thorvardson**, Chris **Mallon**, Gary **Gladstone**, Mark **Dutton**, Cesary **Posylek** and Nava **Starr**) submitted the following 7 CFC restructuring motions to the CFC Executive, on behalf of the grassroots campaign :

Motion # 1 – Moved – Barry Thorvardson; Seconded – Cesary Posylek: Item 1 set out below is acceptable.

“ 1. **Core Roles**: CFC will continue its role re FIDE, international and national events, a national rating system, and a website with membership info, ratings, membership sales, tournament announcements, chess club lists, and news submitted by members (highlights of recent tournament, etc.). Maintenance of these functions will be the responsibility of the Executive Director.”

Motion # 2 – Moved – Michael Barron; Seconded – Barry Thorvardson: Item 2 set out below is acceptable.

“ 2. **CFC Revenue**: CFC revenues to come from memberships, rating fees, investments and donations. With the reduced scope of operation, costs for the organization should be less, and it may be possible to reduce annual membership fees and/or rating fees. “

Motion # 3 – Moved – Barry Thorvardson; Seconded – Chris Mallon: Item 3 set out below is acceptable.

“ 3. **CFC Membership**: CFC to eliminate tournament memberships – if you want to play in a CFC tournament, you must purchase an annual membership. To encourage individuals to become members, first time CFC members will be

given a 40% fee reduction for their first year. “

Motion # 4 – Moved – Michael Barron; Seconded – Mark Dutton: Item 4 set out below is acceptable.

“ 4. **Chess Canada:** CFC will terminate the magazine contract with TKS immediately (with the May 2008 issue being the last issue of the magazine). “

Motion # 5 – Moved – Michael Barron; Seconded – Gary Gladstone: Item 5 set out below is acceptable.

“ 5. **Retail Business:** Sell off the inventory of the retail business; it will be closed entirely. An alternative but small source of revenue could be established through a commission arrangement with other retailers, such as CMA or Amazon. “

Motion # 6 – Moved – Michael Barron; Seconded – Barry Thorvardson: Item 6 set out below is acceptable.

“ 6. **CFC Condominium Office:** The current CFC office would be placed for sale. The office would then be run out of either a small rental space or a home office. “

Motion # 7 – Moved – Michael Barron; Seconded – Nava Starr: Item 7 set out below is acceptable.

“ 7. **CFC Staffing:** In light of the reduced business activities of the CFC office (no retail sales and no print magazine), the Executive Committee would undertake a review of the Executive Director and Assistant positions and would recommend appropriate staffing changes if required. This could be from going to part-time, up to complete eliminating of the paid staff, and performing all CFC activities by volunteers. “

To the credit of the CFC Executive, they have now, as they should have, included the 7 motions for " straw vote " in Governors' Letter # 9, which has just been sent to the Governors. AND they have put the 7 motions **on the CFC July AGM agenda** for the outgoing governors !!

This means that for the **first time** in the mandate of the current governors, they will get a chance to express their opinions on restructuring issues one at a time, where they can accept some and reject others, if they see fit (though we hope all 7 get passed !).

This vote will only be a " **straw vote** ", which means the decisions are not binding on the CFC. Some feel that this falls short of what is required - immediate binding restructuring decisions. But we felt that this late in their mandate, it would be sufficient if the outgoing governors merely expressed their **OPINION** on restructuring. And we felt that with the very short time frame available to the grassroots campaign, this voting option gave the greatest chance of success in getting the motions to a vote before the current governors left

office. As well, there will be a new Executive, and new governors, elected at the AGM, and it was felt that they should have a free hand to decide where to take the CFC on restructuring, and not be bound by the outgoing governors decisions.

But this does not mean the decisions made at this AGM can be ignored. They may not be binding, but they will be greatly **influential**. The governors have wrestled with restructuring for the last 6 months, are experienced, and their opinion is to be highly respected by the new CFC team. A strong passing of the 7 motions could only be ignored by the new governors/executive at their peril.

If, as we expect, all 7 motions are strongly passed, we urge the incoming governors to then **move these same motions as binding ones**, and to vote on them as soon as possible. Restructuring implementation must occur right from the beginning of their mandate for 2008-9. The CFC is in a perilous financial state, and it must be brought out of the red ASAP.

Congratulations to all the **20 grassroots campaign endorsers** who believed in the restructuring platform as a whole right at the very start - you have succeeded in your impossible dream - a vote on the platform ! And thanks to all who have been supportive of the campaign, in full or in part. Special thanks are due to the " gang of 7 " , without whom this vote would never have come about.

It's now all up to the Governors at the AGM – we'll let you know what happens !

Hart House Canada Day Open – Report

(Posted on ChessTalk on July 3 by Tournament Organizer, Alex Ferreira [SCC Member])

I'd just like to share some impressions about the tournament that took place this past weekend at University of Toronto.

We started talking about the idea in mid-February and immediately had our first participant, Rob Roller, willing to play even before any of the organizational details had been addressed.

Being our first time organizing something this big at Hart House (since 1999 Pan-Ams), we were only able to get through all the technicalities by sometime in May, having only about 5 weeks to publicly advertise the event.

We were concerned we might only get 50-60 players, but were keen on getting 80. We originally booked room for 100, and got some **115!!**

Such a terrific turn-out prompted us to create a U1500 section, with the possibility to play up always available. We found ourselves forced to make our skittles room into an additional playing hall, and setting up a new skittles room on a different wing of the building.

The tournament was not without its challenges, and at Hart House, being an old building, we did not have air conditioning, so the heat was felt on the weekend. We started Round 1 about half hour late, as we had about 20 last-minute entries.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Hart House staff, for helping providing all the rooms, one of them at the last minute, help with tables setup, along with a few additional couches for the weekend at the top of the stairs, a chosen spot by chess parents to socialize from Friday night. I also want to thank past and present Hart House Chess Club members: Walter Chan, Stuart Brammall, Travis Li, Alex Safir, Bill Kim, Rob Roller, Kit Ng and our program coordinator Jenifer Newcombe, for all their assistance at the site this weekend or with preparations before the actual event.

And of course, Bryan Lamb [SCC President]. Without Bryan this event would simply not have been possible. Bryan made sure everything ran as smoothly as possible, and I can only apologize to him for not always being able to keep up at times. An event with Bryan is a guaranteed success.

Now for the information everybody is looking for, the results!

Congratulations to International Master **Artiom Samsonkin** for winning the event with a commanding **4.5/5!**

Prize winners

Open

1st: Artiom Samsonkin

2-4: David Peng, Victor Plotkin & Michael Dougherty

U2200

1st: Arthur Calugar

2nd: Avinaash Sundar

3-8: Yevgeni Nahutin, Roman Sapozhnikov, Haonan Zhou *, Kit Ng, Karl Sellars * & Jesse Wang

U2000

1-2: Liza Orlova & Matthew Lai

3-5: Harris Kaufman **, Daniel Abrahams, Konstantin Semianuk

U1700

1st: Ferdinand Supsup

2-3: Joe Bellomo & Jim Roe

U1500:

1st: Bill Kim

2-3: Travis Li & Juliaan Posaratnanathan

Unrated:

1-3: Roman Rodriguez, Luz Adriana Monsalve & Jason Nguyen *

* Prize not claimed

** Prize partially not claimed

Please contact Bryan - bryan.lamb@rogers.com - for your prize.

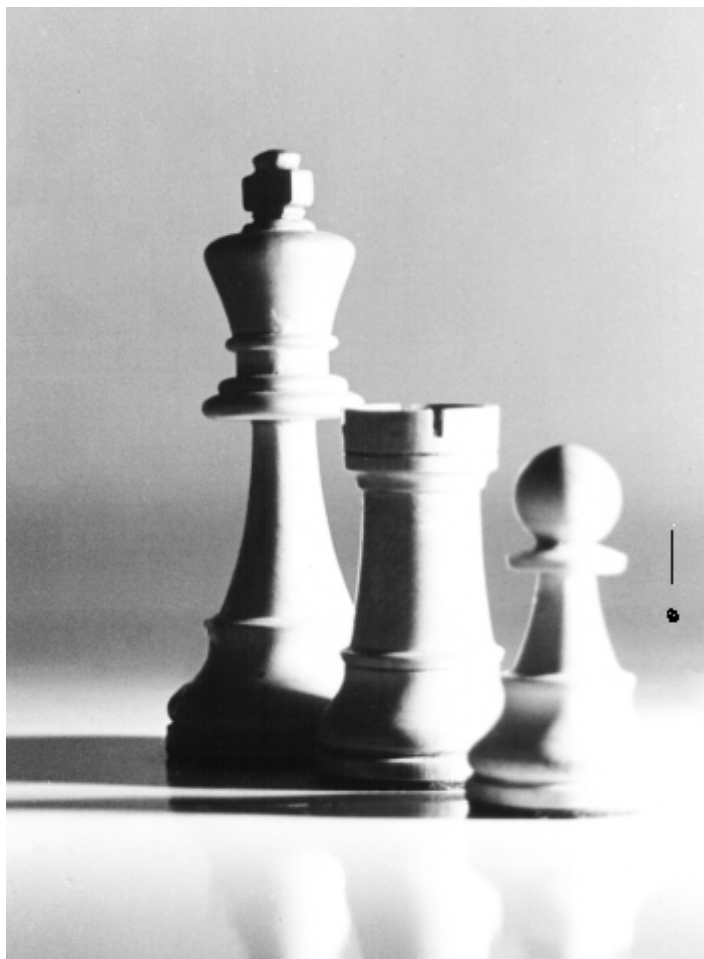
Congratulations to all the winners!

Thank you all for coming, and hope you enjoyed it as much as possible,

2008 Canadian Open – Montreal – July 19 – 27

- Bourse garantie en totalité: 25 000\$
 - Dates : 19 au 27 juillet 2008.
 - Endroit : Cégep du Vieux-Montréal, 255 Ontario est, Montréal
 - 5 sections : Open, - 2400, -2000, - 1700, -1400 et sc.
 - Tournoi Coté FQE et FCE. Membership requis : FQE pour les Québécois, CFC pour les autres. La FQE prend en charge les frais de membership tournoi FCE pour les Québécois lorsque requis.
 - Information : 514-252-3034
- *Absolutely Guaranteed prizes : 25 000\$*
 - *Dates : July 19-27, 2008*
 - *Place : Cégep du Vieux-Montréal, 255 Ontario st. east, Montreal*
 - *5 sections : Open, U2400, U2000, U1700, U1400 +UR*
 - *Rated CFC and FQE. Membership required : CFC and FQE (Quebec only).*
 - *Information : 514-252-3034*
 - *email : info@fqechecs.qc.ca*

An Impressive Trio !



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

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