

# **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 # 12 – February 15, 2002**

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

#### **GTA Juniors : Part of Canada's Present & Future ( Part 4 )** **“ Spotlight “ on Shiyam Thavandiran!**

##### **Introduction**

This is the fourth article in the series highlighting GTA Juniors. Today we review the chess career of Shiyam Thavandiran, now 9 years old, and 4 of his games.

##### **Shiyam's Progress and Successes**

Shiyam first started to play chess in Feb. 2000, when 7 years old. He was enrolled in the Toronto Chess 'N Math program with his brother, Nimal ( also an active GTA junior ). He played his first CFC Youth tournament in April 2000, and obtained a rating of 1014. Just after his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, he joined Scarborough CC, and played in his first club tournament. He then played only CFC Youth and CMA tournaments for the next year. By April 2001, a year later, his rating had climbed substantially to 1521 ( middle of the C Class ).

He then returned to SCC club tournament play in April 2001, in the SCC Spring ( Thurs. ) Swiss '01. He was very successful, defeating some strong SCC members, and scoring 4.5 / 7 pts. As a result, his rating took an unheard of jump of 216 points, from the one tournament !! He entered the middle of the B Class with a rating of 1724. In Oct. 2001, at 9 years old, he pushed his rating into the A Class, at 1810. His result in the SCC Fall ( Tues. ) Swiss '01, also in Oct., gave him his peak rating of 1829. Currently, he is near the top of the B Class, at 1776, after only 2 years of chess !

Shiyam also already has some international experience under his belt. In 2001, he, along with David Hier, represented Canada as one of the Under 10 team members who

---

e – mail : [scarboro@idirect.ca](mailto:scarboro@idirect.ca)

Website : <http://webhome.idirect.com/~blamb/>

Wexford Seniors' Apartments (Comm. Ctre. ), 1860 Lawrence Ave E. ( just east of Pharmacy Ave. )  
( easy access – Victoria Park Stn./Pharmacy Bus; Lawrence E. Stn./Lawrence W. Bus )

went to Oropesa, Spain, to play in the FIDE World Youth Chess Festival championships ( He was the youngest member of the team ). He finished 61<sup>st</sup>-68th in his group of 87 players.

Shiyam is # 2 on the list of top Can. juniors under 10 ( # 1 is Alina Sviridovitch ).

Congratulations Shiyam, and we look forward to seeing you progress back up into the A class in the near future !

### **On With the Games !**

[ Note : SCTCN&V has introduced an innovation into our junior game coverage, with this issue. For your convenience, and to make it even easier to play over these junior games, we are now attaching these annotated games in “ .pgn ” format, to the cover e-mail accompanying this newsletter ! You need only open the attachment, and spend a few minutes clicking through these interesting junior games ! Enjoy.

P.S. Added Bonus ! - We are also attaching a second SCTCN&V#9-11 .pgn database, containing the annotated games of Alina Sviridovitch ( + an unpublished game against Steve Laughlin ), Hazel Smith and David Hier, which appeared in our previous three Issues !! ]

#### **Rick Garel - Shiyam Thavandiran**

Toronto Thanksgiving Open '01 (5), 09.10.2001

[Notes by Bob Armstrong]

*Here, Shiyam just misses a win against an active mid-A Class player.*

C19 : French

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Nbc6 8.Bd2 c4 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Qa5 11.Nh4 Bd7 12.f4 12...f6 13.Bf3 fxe5 14.fxe5 Nf5 15.Nxf5 Rxf5 16.Bg4?**  
{ the first inaccuracy; 16.Rf2= }

**16...Rxf1+ 17.Qxf1?**

{ loses a P to a tactical shot; correct is 17.Kxf1 Rf8+ 18.Kg1 b5? }

**17...Nxd4 18.Qd1??+**

{ it is interesting that Fritz 6 sees this as winning for W, despite Rick being only down a P; better for W to proceed on with the minor piece exchange 18.cxd4 Qxd2 19.Qf2 Qxf2+ 20.Kxf2 Rf8+ 21.Ke3 b5? }

**18...Nc6 19.Qe2 Rf8 20.h4 Qb6+ 21.Kh2 Qc7**

{ more aggressive for Shiyam is 21...Qb2 22.Qe1 Nxe5 23.Qxe5 Qxa1 24.Bxe6+ Bxe6 25.Qxe6+ Kh8 26.Qe7 Qf1 27.Qxb7 Qf6 28.Be1 Qe6 29.Bg3 a6-+ }

**22.Re1 h6 23.Bh3 Ne7 24.Qh5 Nf5 25.Qg6 Qd8 26.g3**

{ better is 26.Bxf5 Rxf5 (26...exf5?? 27.Qg3 Qb6 28.e6 Bxe6 29.Bxh6?) 27.Kh3 h5-+ }

**26...Qe8?#**

{ Shiyam's idea of exchanging Q's here is a wrong plan; correct is 26...Ne7 27.Bxe6+ Kh8 28.Qg4 Rf2+ 29.Kh3 Bxe6 30.Qxe6 Rxd2-+ }

**27.Qg4?+**

{ fortunately for Shiyam, Rick refuses to exchange ! Best is 27.Qxe8 Rxe8 28.h5 Rf8# }

**27...Kh8 28.Rb1 b6 29.Qe2 Qg6 30.Bxf5 Qxf5 31.Bf4 Kg8 32.Rf1 g5**

{ Shiyam wants to attack, not win an ending a P up ! But it is not that simple ! Best is 32...Be8 33.g4 Qf7 34.g5 hxg5 35.hxg5 Qe7-+ }

**33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Kg2 gxf4??=**

{ a " poisoned " B ! Continuing to win is 34...d4 35.Bc1 Bc6+ 36.Kg1 Bf3-+ }

**35.Rxf4 Qxf4**

{ no better for Bl. is 35...Qh7 36.Rh4 Qg6 37.Rg4 Be8 38.Kh3 Kg7 39.Rxg6+ Bxg6 40.Kh4 Rh8+ 41.Kg5 Rh5+ 42.Kg4 Rf5= }

**36.gxf4 Rxf4 37.Kg3??= [37.Qh5=] 37...Rf7 38.Kg4 Be8 39.Kg5??=**

{ the W K has an inflated sense of his own attacking power; it gives Bl. the opportunity to rearrange his forces; better is 39.Qh2 Rh7 40.Qf4 Rg7+ 41.Kh4 Bg6??= }

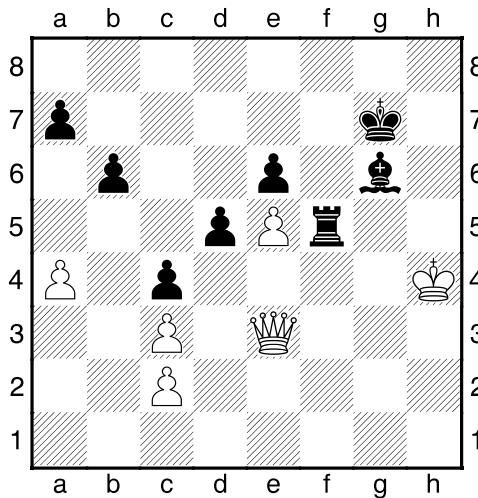
**39...Rf5+ 40.Kh4 Bg6**

{ alternatively, the B can be more aggressively positioned, and at the same time, drive the W K back : 40...Bh5 41.Qe3 Bf3 42.a4 Rh5+ 43.Kg3 Be4??= }

**41.Qe3 Kg7**

{ 41...Rh5+? 42.Kg4 Kf7 43.a4 Rh1 (43...Rh2 44.a5 Bf5+ 45.Kg5 Rh3 46.Qf2 Rxc3 47.axb6 axb6 48.Qxb6 Rg3+=) 44.a5 Bf5+ 45.Kg5 Rb1 46.axb6 axb6 47.Qf2 Ke7 48.Qg2 Ra1 49.Qf2 Ra6 50.Qg1 Kd7= }

**42.a4**



**Position after 42.a4**

**42...Rf1??=**

{ this error secures W the draw; keeping a clear advantage is 42...Be8 ( 42...Bf7 -/+ ) 43.a5 bxa5 44.Qxa7+ Bf7 45.Qg1+ Kh7 46.Qa7 Rh5+ 47.Kg3 Kg6 48.Qxa5 Rxe5 49.Qd8 Rg5+?? when Bl. has a R, B and a passed P vs Q }

**43.a5 bxa5 [43...Rh1+=] 44.Qxa7+ Rf7 45.Qb6 Bf5 46.Qxa5 Bxc2 47.Qb6 Bf5 48.Qd8 Bg6 49.Qd6**

**½-½**

## **Shiyam Thavandiran ( 1747 ) – Jaime Solis ( 1974 )**

[ Notes by Bob Armstrong ]

This game is from the Toronto Christmas Open '01, in Dec. last year. In it, Shiyam goes down material. But he is a fighter, and hangs on - his dangerous aP and bP run down the sidelines, threatening to Q, and eventually win the day !

C77 : Ruy Lopez

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Qe2 d6 6.h3 Bd7 7.c3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Bc2**

**g6 ? +/–**

{ the first inaccuracy, giving Shiyam a “ slight “ advantage. Equalizing is 9...Re8 = }

**10.d4 Nh5 11.Rd1 Bf6 12.d5 Na7 13.a4 Be7 14.c4 Ng7 15.Nc3 f5 16.b4**

{ Shiyam continues with his Q-side expansion }

**16....f4 ? +/– { 16....Bf6 +/– }** **17.Ba3 Nc8 18.c5 g5 19.Nh2 h5**

{ despite the fierce appearance of the Bl. P-storm, Shiyam has a “ clear “ advantage based on his Q-side expansion }

**20.f3 ? +/–**

{ but Shiyam succumbs to the pressure to defend ! He should just continue on the Q-side; Bl.’s attack stalls, as he is forced to go to the Q-side to defend against W’s initiative there – 20.a5 Na7 21.Bd3 Qe8 22.c6 bxc6 23.Bxa6 Nb5 24.Bxb5 cxb5 25.Rdc1 Ra6 +/– ; or 20.c6 bxc6 21.dxc6 Be6 +/– ( 21....Bxc6 ?? 22.Qc4+ +– ) }

**20....Be8 ? +/–**

{ Bl. needs to restrict W’s Q-side initiative – 20....a5 21.c6 bxc6 22.dxc6 Be6 23.b5 Nb6 +/– }

**21.Bb3 Bf7 22.Bc4 Qe8 23.Rdb1**

{ it is likely better for W to advance his bP immediately, rather than preparing for it – 23.b5 axb5 24.Bxb5 A) 24....Qd8 25.c6 b6 +/–; B) 24....c6 ? 25.dxc6 bxc6 26.cxd6 Nxd6 ( 26....cxb5 ? 27.dxe7 Nxe7 28.Qxb5 Qxb5 29.Nxb5 +– ) 27.Bxd6 Bxd6 28.Rxd6 cxb5 29.Nxb5 +– }

**23....Bd8 24.Rd1 Qd7 25.Rd2 Ne8 26.Rc2 Nf6 27.c6 ?? =/+**

{ bad push ! Shiyam has now lost his former “ clear “ advantage, and will now lose a P; best is 27.Rb1 +/– ( 27.Rcc1 ? Be7 28.a5 c6 29.Kh1 Na7 +/– ) }

**27....bxc6 28.Bxa6 cxd5 29.Bb7 ? -/+**

{ 29.exd5 Nxd5 30.Bb7 Nxc3 31.Rxc3 Ra7 =/+ }

**29....Rb8 30.Bxd5 Nxd5 31.exd5 Nb6 32.a5 Nxd5 33.Nxd5 Bxd5 34.Qd3 Qf7 35.b5**

{ if Shiyam is to survive, it has to be with the 2 outside connected P’s. Shiyam gamely hangs in there, and is rewarded }

**35....Be6 36.Rcc1 Bf6 37.Rab1 Ra8 ?? +**

{ Bl. seems to have been rudderless the last few moves. Now Jaime blunders badly. Best is 37....Bg7 38.Rb4 ( 38.Qe2 -/+ ) 38.... Ra8 39.a6 Bf5 40.Qd2 Rfb8 -/+ }

**38.a6 ?? -/+**

{ Shiyam gives it back to Bl.. He chooses the wrong P to push ?! Correct is 38.b6 Be7 39.Rxc7 ( weaker is 39.b7 ? Rab8 40.a6! Bf5 41.Qd2 Bxb1 42.Rxb1 c6 43.a7 d5 44.axb8=Q Rxb8 +/– when W has N vs 2P’s. and W has a P on the 7<sup>th</sup>; a losing alternative is 39.bxc7 ?? Bf5 40.Qd2 Bxb1 41.Rxb1 Rfc8 -/+ ) 39....Bf5 40.Qb5 Bxb1 41.b7 Rab8 42.Qxb1 e4 43.a6 +– }

**38....Bg7 39.Qc3 Rfc8 40.Bb2 Rab8 41.Qa5 Bf5 42.a7 Ra8 43.Ra1 Qd7 ?? =**  
{ Jaime blunders a second time, putting Shiyam back in the game; best is 43....Qb3 44.Qa2 Qxa2 45.Rxa2 Bd7 -/+ or 43....Qd5 to the same effect }

**44.Rc6 Be6 ?? +**  
{ this third blunder by Bl. is a losing one, and Shiyam does not let Bl. escape; best is 44....Bg6 45.Rac1 Be8=; also losing are A) 44....e4 ?? 45.Bxg7 Qxg7 46.Ra4 Qe5 47.Rxc7 Rxc7 48.Qxc7 e3 49.Qb8 +- ; B) 44...Qe8 ?? 45.Rac1 Bd7 46.Rxc7 Rxc7 47.Rxc7 Bxb5 48.Qa2+ Kh8 49.Qd5 Qd8 50.Qf7 Qg8 51.Qxh5+ Qh7 52.Qxg5 Be8 +- ; Bl. has many different possibilities between now and the finale, but all lose }

**45.Rac1 Bd5 46.Rxc7 Rxc7 47.Rxc7 Qe6 48.b6 Bf8 49.b7 Bxb7 50.Rxb7 Qc4 51.Rb8 Qc6 52.Qd8**  
{ why try to = Q ? K-hunting is much superior ! }

**52....Rxa7 53.Qxf8+ Kh7 54.Qh8+ Kg6 55.Rf8**  
{ 55.Rg8+ Kf5 56.Rf8+ Ke6 57.Qg8+ Kd7 58.Qf7 # }

**55....Rh7 56.Qf6 #**

**1-0**

### **Steve Laughlin (2086) - Shiyam Thavandiran (1747)**

Toronto Christmas Open '01 ( 3 ) DCC, Toronto, 28.12.2001  
[Notes by Steve Laughlin [SL] and Bob Armstrong [BA]]

In this game, Shiyam goes head to head with one of Toronto's active experts, and shows his tactical attacking ability.

C18: French

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7?±**  
{ BA : the move to maintain equality in the event W goes into the Qg4 line is 6...Ne7 7.Qg4 0-0= }

**7.Bd2?!=**

{ SL : the main line for W to play is 7.Qg4 f5 (a mistake is 7...cxd4?? 8.Qxg7 Qxc3+ 9.Kd1 Qxa1 10.Qxh8 Kf8+-); BA : the continuation is 8.Qg3 (8.exf6? Nxf6 9.Qf4 Qa5=) 8...Nc6 9.Nf3 h6 10.Bb5 g5 11.0-0 g4±; But I had decided to try something different. In retrospect, however, the B may have been better placed on b2 : 7.Bb2?! Nc6 8.Nf3 Nge7 9.Be2 c4=; BA : another common, but slightly inferior, line is 7.h4 Ne7 8.Nf3 b6 9.h5 h6=; SL : another simple playable line ( BA : but slightly inferior ) is 7.Nf3; BA : the continuation is 7...Ne7 8.Rb1 0-0 9.Bd3 h6 10.0-0 Nbc6= }

**7...Ne7 8.Nf3 c4 9.Be2 Nbc6 10.0-0 Bd7 11.Re1 h6 12.h3 0-0-0 13.Nh2 Rdf8 14.a4 Qa5**  
{ SL : ties down W's Q, because if it leaves the B on d2, Bl. has Nxd4! }

**15.Ra2**

{ SL : this is to allow the Q to go to a1, in the event the Bl. N on c6 moves, uncovering the B attack on the aP }

**15...Kb8 16.Nf1 f5?± [16...f6=] 17.exf6?=**

{ SL : Despite Bl.'s coming attack, W needs to open the game up to get play; in fact, the attack is stronger if W fails to do this; BA : despite Steve's note, best appears to be 17.Qa1 Kc8± (17..b6±) }

**17...gxf6 18.Bg4 f5 19.Bh5 f4 20.Qc1 Qc7 21.a5?±**

{ BA : maintaining equality is 21.Nh2 Rhg8 22.Kh1 e5 23.dxe5 Rg5= (23...Nxe5? 24.Bxf4 N7c6 25.Nf3 Rxf4 26.Qxf4 Nxf3 27.Qxf3+-) }

**21...Rhg8 22.Kh1 Rg5 23.Bg4 Qd6 24.Nh2 Rg7 25.a6 b6 26.Rb2 Ka8 27.Bf3 Bc8?=**

{ BA : Shiyam goes for the aP; but he really should just continue his attack : 27...Ng6 28.Ng4± }

**28.Ng4?± [28.Bg4=] 28...Bxa6?=**

{ SL : this is a somewhat courageous ( BA : and inferior ) move; many would hesitate to open lines for W against the Bl. K; BA : best is 28...Ng6!± }

**29.Qa1**

{ BA : not 29.Nxh6?? e5 30.Ng4 e4± (30...exd4 is clearly inferior 31.Qa1 Bc8 32.Nh2=) }

**29...Na5 30.Ne5**

{ BA : 30.Nxh6? is inferior since it leads to 30...e5 31.Rxe5 Qxh6-+ }

**30...Ng6 31.Nxg6 Rxg6 32.Re5?± [32.Ra2=] 32...Rg5 33.Re2**

{ SL : perhaps better was 33.Rxg5 hxg5± }

**33...Bb7 34.Rb1 Rg6**

{ SL : the threat of W was g3, if Bl. made an inferior move, winning the fP; but this answers that threat, as does 34...e5± }

**35.Rbe1 Nc6 36.Qc1 [36.Bc1 Rff6±] 36...a5 37.Qb2 Ka7 38.Rb1 Qc7 39.Rbe1 Rff6 40.Bh5 Rg5**

{ SL : forced }

**41.Bf3 Bc8 42.Qc1 Bd7 43.Rf1**

{ SL : threatens g3 }

**43...Rg8 44.Qb2 Ne7 45.Qc1?±**

{ SL : I wanted to prevent 45....Nf5; BA : 45.Re5 also prevents 45....Nf5 }

**45...Ng6 46.Bh5 Be8 47.f3 Ne7 48.Bxe8 Rxe8 49.Rfe1 Ng6 50.Qb2 Qd6 51.Qb5 Re7 52.Rb1**

{ BA : 52.Re5 Qd7± (52...Ref7±; 52...Nxe5?? 53.dxe5 Qd7 54.Qxd7+ Rxd7 55.exf6+–) ; SL : I think it may have been better to play 52.Ra1± }

**52...e5 53.Ree1?–+**

{ BA : maintaining the status quo is 53.dxe5 Rxe5 (53...Nxe5?! 54.Be1=) 54.Rxe5 Nxe5± (≤54...Qxe5 55.Be1±) }

**53...Rfe6?±**

{ BA : Black prepares the advance e4 , but should play it right away : 53...e4 54.Kh2–+ }

**54.Bc1?–+**

{ BA : best is 54.dxe5!? Rxe5 55.Rxe5 Rxe5 (55...Nxe5?! 56.Bxf4 Qc6 57.Qxc6 Nxc6 58.Bxh6±) 56.Be1± }

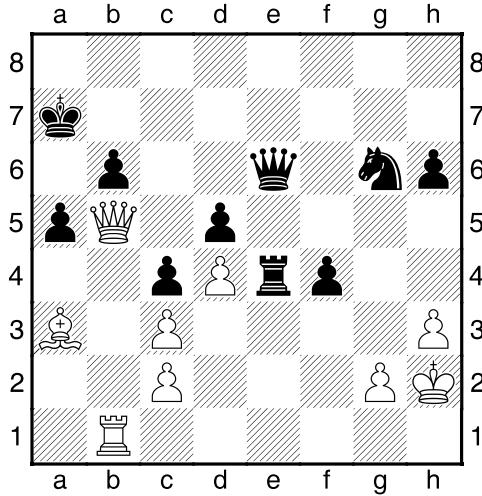
**54...e4?± [54...exd4–+] 55.fxe4 Rxe4 56.Rxe4 Rxe4 57.Ba3!**

{ SL : this is W's best try }

**57...Qe6 { BA : 57...Qxa3?? 58.Qxb6++– Demolishes the pawn shield }**

**58.Kh2?–+**

{ SL : Necessary is 58.Bc5 Re1+ 59.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 60.Kh2 Qe6±; BA : the continuation is 61.Qxa5+ Kb7 62.Bxb6 Qxb6 63.Qxd5+ Qc6± }



Position after 58.Kh2 ??

**58...Nh4!**

{ SL : an amazing move; I had missed it totally }

**59.Rf1??**

{ BA : 59.Qxb6+ a last effort to resist the inevitable 59...Qxb6 60.Bc5 Qxc5 61.dxc5-+; SL : if 59.Bc5 then 59...Nf3+ 60.gxf3 Re2+ 61.Kh1 Qxh3+ 62.Kg1 Qg2# }

**59...Re2**

{ BA : and mate cannot be avoided : 59...Re2 60.Qxd5 ( SL : if 60.Rg1 then 60...Nf3+ 61.Kh1 Qxh3+ 62.gxh3 Rh2#) 60...Qxd5 61.Rg1 Rxe2+ 62.Kh1 Rxe2+ 63.Kg1 Qg2# }

0-1

**Jim Paterson (1964) – Shiyam Thavandiran (1776)**

[ Notes by Bob Armstrong]

This game was just recently played on Jan. 10, in the Scarborough CC Club Championship '01/2 . Shiyam is facing a long-time member and strong A-player ( who coincidentally, was also playing at the same time in the 2002 Toronto Closed - Reserves ). Shiyam shows he understands the word \* sac \* !

D01:Veresov Opening

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bg5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Bxd3 7.Qxd3 N 7...Bd6 8.e4 dxe4 9.Nxe4 0-0 10.0-0-0 a5?±**

{ Shiyam goes for the slightly inferior " attacking move "; best is 10...Be7 11.Nxf6+ Nxf6= }

**11.h4**

{Jim has his own attacking ideas – this will prove very interesting }

**11...a4 12.h5?=**

{ centralizing the N is better ( Jim is reluctant to do this time and again )-12.Ne5 Be7 (12...Nxe5 13.dxe5 Bxe5 14.Qb5 Bd6 15.Nxf6+ gxf6 16.Bh6 Re8±) 13.Nxd7 Nxd7± }

**12...Ra5??±**

{ better to continue with the plan of tying W's Q-side down : 12...h6 13.Bh4 a3 (13...Be7=) 14.b3 Be7= }

**13.h6 g6 14.Rh3??=**

{ Jim should simplify : 14.Ne5 Be7 15.Nxd7 Nxd7 16.Bxe7 Qxe7± }

**14...Re8 15.Nfd2 Rxg5?±**

{ Shiyam shows his willingness to be creative and take risks, though this exchange sacrifice is in fact unsound; best is : 5...Be7 16.Nc4 (16.f4=) 16...Rxg5 17.Nxg5 Nd5 18.Ne4 Nf4 19.Qf3 Nxh3 20.gxh3= }

**16.Nxg5 Nd5 17.Nxh7?=**

{ Jim decides to join in on the risk-taking, though also unsound; best is : 17.Qb5 Qxg5 18.Qxd7 Ra8± }

**17...Kxh7**

{ also interesting and playable is 17...Nf4 18.Qb5 Nxh3 19.Qxd7 Be7= }

**18.Qf3 Rf8 19.Rdh1?±**

{ 19.c4 Nf4 20.Rhh1 e5 21.Ne4 Ne6= }

**19...c5 20.c4??-+**

{ 20.dxc5 Nxc5 (20...Bf4 21.Rd1 Nxc5±) 21.Nc4 Bf4+ 22.Kb1 Qf6± }

**20...N5f6?±**

{ Shiyam misses the complicated, and winning 20...Nf4 21.Rh4 g5 22.R4h2 cxd4 23.g3 Ne5 24.Qxb7 Nfd3+ 25.Kb1 Qb8-+ (25...Qa5-+) }

**21.Qxb7?-+**

{ not the time to grab a P : though somewhat better, sacking the Q is admittedly not appealing : 21.dxc5 Nxc5 (21...Bxc5 22.Qxb7 Qe7±) 22.Rd1 Be5 23.Ne4 Ncxe4 24.Rxd8 Rxd8± }

**21...cxd4 22.Ne4 Nc5?±**

{ better to deflect the W Q from the a-file : 22...Nxe4 23.Qxe4 Qb6 24.Rd1-+ }

**23.Ng5+ Kg8 24.Qf3**

{ another very interesting, though losing, line is 24.h7+? Nxh7 25.Nxe6 Nxe6 (25...Bf4+ 26.Kb1 Nxb7 27.Nxd8 Rxd8 28.Rxh7 Be5±) 26.Rxh7 Qg5+ 27.Kb1 Qf5+ 28.Ka1 Be5-+ (28...Qxf2? 29.Qd5 a3 30.bxa3-+) }

**24...Nh7 25.Ne4 Be7 26.Rg3 Qc7 27.Nxc5 Qxc5 28.Qd3 Bf6 29.Kb1? -+**

{ also bad is 29.Kd1 Rb8 30.Qe2 d3 31.Rxd3 Bxb2-+; 29.f4 Rb8± (29...Qb4±) }

**29...Rb8 30.Re1 Rb4??±**

{ Shiyam doesn't see the sac on b2 ( the first time ! ) : 30...Rxb2+ 31.Kxb2 Qb4+ 32.Kc2 Qxe1 33.Rf3 e5-+ }

**31.Rxe6!±**

{ this time Jim's sac is sound ; not 31.Rxg6+ ?? fxg6 32.Qxg6+ Kh8 33.Qe8+ Nf8 34.Qf7 Qf5+ 35.Ka1 Rb8 36.h7 Nxh7 37.Rh1 Be5 38.Qxf5 exf5-+ }

**31...fxe6?=**

{ it's a mistake to accept the sac; best is 31...Kf8 32.Re2 Rxc4 33.Rc2 Rxc2 34.Qxc2 Qb5± }

**32.Qxg6+ Kf8 33.Qg8+??†**

{ Jim gives the game back to Shiyam; best is : 33.Qxh7 Qf5+ (33...Rxb2+ 34.Ka1 Rxa2+ 35.Kxa2 Qxc4+ 36.Ka3 Qc1+ 37.Kxa4 Qc4+ 38.Ka3 Qc5+ 39.Ka2 Qa5+ 40.Ra3 Qd2+ 41.Kb3 Qc3+ 42.Ka2 Qd2+ drawn) 34.Qxf5 exf5 35.b3= }

**33...Ke7 34.Qxh7+ Kd6 35.Rg7?-+**

{ a desperate move to try to get his hP to home base ! But better is 35.b3 Qxc4 36.Qd3 axb3 37.axb3 Qc7† }

**35...Rxb2+!**

{ this time, Shiyam sees the b2 sac ! It is only slightly tarnished by the fact that more efficient was the pedestrian 35...Rxc4!! 36.Rd7+ Ke5 and W can't stop the c1 # }

**36.Kxb2 d3+ 37.Resigns**

{ the continuation could be 37.Kc1 Qxc4+ 38.Kd2 Qc2+ 39.Ke3 Qe2+ 40.Kf4 Qxf2+ 41.Ke4 Qe2+ 42.Kf4 Be5+ 43.Kg5 Qxg2+ 44.Kh5 Qh3+ 45.Kg5 Bxg7 46.Qxg7 Qf5+ 47.Kh4 Qf4+ 48.Kh5 d2 49.Qg1 Qf3+ 50.Kg6 d1Q 51.Qb6+ Ke7 52.Qc5+ Qd6 53.Qxd6+ Kxd6 54.h7 Qg4+ 55.Kh6 Qh4+ 56.Kg6 Ke5 57.Kg7 Qf6+ 58.Kg8 Qg6+ 59.Kf8 Qxh7 60.Ke8 Qg7 61.a3 Kd6 62.Kd8 Qd7# 0-1 }

### **Backgrounder**

This is an SCTCN&V series on the top GTA juniors, such as Shiyam ( We have previously featured Alina Sviridovitch, Hazel Smith and David Hier ). Unfortunately, we can only “ spotlight ” so many juniors in our series – some other deserving ones may not be reached. But we hope the highlighting of our GTA junior talent will encourage all juniors in the GTA to love the game, and continue to improve. We hope they all, and our adult readers, enjoy the series.

We are giving only a very short personal resume of the junior’s accomplishments. We prefer to let their games speak for them ! We’ve tried to choose an interesting collection of 4 games, that show their style, positional ability, tactical ability, etc..

We have tried to limit the annotations, because of the nature of the newsletter, not too successfully, to about 15 key points in the game. We make no pretense to GM analysis. Yours truly, and some volunteer annotators (computer-enhanced ), are merely annotating to make the games a bit more interesting reading; it is more to highlight something about the junior’s style, rather than to be the last word on theoretical analysis of the position ( though the annotations are of good quality ). Sometimes the junior him/herself has done some analysis as well. This further brings out their current approach to the game.

We hope you are enjoying our line-up of junior games. We hope our series contributes to GTA juniors’ enjoyment of chess, and provides some encouragement for them to continue to improve their chess.

## **2002 Linares, Spain, Super-Tournament & Ruslan Ponomariov**



18 year old Ruslan Ponomariov ( Ukraine ) became FIDE's 16<sup>th</sup> World Champion last month. Previously, Ponomariov was # 7 on the FIDE Rating List ( 2727 ).

Ponomariov is a very solid player, with nerves of steel. And he is still improving. In 1995, he won the WYCF Under 12, and in 1997, the WYCF Under 18. He became a GM only in 1998, at 14 years old ( he at that time became the youngest GM in the world ). He just missed out, to our Canadian GM Kevin Spraggett, on the silver medal for 2<sup>nd</sup> board at the 2000 Chess Olympiad. His victory over Vassily Ivanchuk will move him up closer to the top of the next FIDE rating list.

The question is : What is all this worth – in terms of \$\$\$\$ ??

The Linares tournament is the second major tournament of the year, and traditionally one of the strongest ( Astana, Kazakstan in May will be stronger ). This double round-robin will be held Feb. 22 – March 10. 6 of the 7 players confirmed a while ago, and the line-up is awesome : Garry Kasparov ( Russia ), 13<sup>th</sup> FIDE World Champion, and # 1 rated player; Viswanathan Anand ( India ), 2000 FIDE World Champion, ranked # 3, and the top player in the 2700's; Michael Adams ( England ), ranked #4; Vassily Ivanchuk ( Ukraine ), 2001/2 FIDE WCC Runner up, and #8 ranked; Alexei Shirov ( Spain ), 2000 FIDE WCC Runner-up ( # 9 ); 19 year old Francisco Vallejo Pons, a new Spanish star, ranked # 60. But who was the mysterious 7<sup>th</sup> player ??

Now it seems that in Dec., before Ponomariov knew he would be playing in the WCC final, and winning the crown, he agreed to play at Linares, and accepted certain terms, including a \$\$ figure. And immediately after winning the Championship, in a press conference he said that the Champion should be an active player, and he would be. Then he indicated he did not think he'd be playing, because he would be busy opening a chess school in his hometown in the Ukraine ?? And in Jan. he faxed the Linares organizers confirming his declining of their invitation.

This did not sit well – the organizers claimed a contract, and gave Ruslan a few days to reconsider and accept ( or else a one million \$ law suit ! ). Next came negotiations, where it appears Ruslan wanted to be paid more than what Kasparov and Anand were getting. They obviously didn't go well, and Ruslan held a press conference saying he'd play if the organizers treated him with the respect a World Champion should receive !

However, shortly thereafter an agreement was reached. Ponomariov would be invited to both the 2002 Linares tournament, and , as well, the 2003 Linares tournament. Obviously, the \$\$ question was solved, though we have no information on whether the Linares organizing committee stuck to its contractual terms. In any event, Ponomariov is now in as the 7<sup>th</sup> player, and the tournament will definitely be one to watch.

### **2002 CMA Montreal Futurity ( FIDE Category 3 – Av. Rtg. : 2312 )**

This 10 player round robin was played Jan. 23 – Feb. 1. It was won by IM Jean Hebert of Montreal, with 7/9 pts.. Second was GM Vladimir Lazarev ( Russia ), with 6.5 pts.. Third was Toronto junior, and recent IM, Mark Bluvshtein, with 5.5 pts..

### **2002 Toronto Closed Championship**

Congratulations to Isai Berengolts, who topped a strong field of 12 over the last 2 months, to win the 2002 Toronto Closed Championship, with an amazing 9.5 / 11 pts. The “Reserves” section was won by SCC member, Andrew Picana, with 9/11 pts., and this qualifies him to play in the top section in the 2003 tournament.

### **SCC Winter ( Thurs. ) Swiss '02**

Feb. 7 saw registration for Round 1 of this first of the new year tournament. While SCC is out of the Wexford Seniors Centre during their renovations, SCC has adopted the new FIDE time control for Thurs. tournaments : Game / 90 minutes ( though we have no move increment, since we do not have digital clocks ). This reduces the time length for our permit during our temporary relocation to the Wexford Collegiate Institute cafeteria, to 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. If you've missed the first 2 rounds, but would like to play, contact Bryan ( 416-391- 4777 or [blamb@idirect.com](mailto:blamb@idirect.com) ) and he'll give you “byes”. [ the Sunday club meeting day is still cancelled while we are out of the Seniors' Centre ].

A – Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed. , directly, or through SCC e-mail, to :

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

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.