

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 # 8 – December 15, 2005

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to All !

2005 FIDE World Cup

This knockout tournament is being held in the city of Khanty-Mansiysk in Russia. It runs from Nov. 27 – Dec. 17. 128 players qualified for it in regional zonal, and continental tournaments, throughout the world, or by special inclusion. It is the first phase of the 2005-2007 World Championship Cycle. The top 10 finishers qualify to go into the second phase of the cycle, the Candidates Matches. The rounds are 2-game knockout matches. Tie-break is a 2-game rapid match, and then, if necessary, a 2-game blitz match, and then if necessary, a sudden death game (White gets 6 min., and Black gets 5 minutes, but wins if there is a draw).

As we reported last Issue, the Canadian champion, Pascal Charbonneau was eliminated in the first round by Alexey Dreev (Russia).

In the second round, the biggest upset was Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine), losing to Ivan Cheparinov (Bulgaria).

Then in Rd. 3, Cheparinov was upset by the 15 year old Norwegian sensation, Magnus Carlsen. Here is game 1 of their match, where Magnus is losing, but he hangs on and Cheparinov plays inaccurately, and lets Magnus back into the game (Notes are by the Editor, using Fritz) :

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(1) Cheparinov,I (2618) – Carlsen,M (2570)

WCC 2005 0:03.47-0:02.44 (31), 03.12.2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 b5?± [5...d5=] 6.Nbd2?= [6.cxb5 Bxb5 7.Bg2 Bb4+ 8.Bd2 Be7±] 6...Bb4 7.Bg2 bxc4 8.bxc4 Bxc4 9.Rb1 Nc6 10.Rxb4 Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Nxb4 12.Nc4 0-0 13.0-0 Rb8 14.Nfe5 d6 15.Nc6 Nxc6 16.Bxc6 Qc8 17.a4 Nd5 18.Ne3?± [18.Re1=; 18.Bxd5? exd5 19.Ne3 c6 20.Qf3 Qe6 21.Qf4 Rfd8±] 18...Nb4 19.Bg2 Qa6 20.Qd1 Qd3 21.Bf3 d5 22.Ng4 Qxd1 23.Rxd1 Nc6 24.Ba3 Rfc8?= [24...Rfd8±] 25.Be2 Rb3 26.Bc5 a5 27.Bb5 Nb4 28.Bd7 Rd8 [28...Rb8=] 29.Ne5 Nd3 30.Rxd3 Rxd3 31.Nxd3 Rxd7 32.Kf1 Rd8 33.Ke2 f6 34.Kd2 Kf7 35.Kc2 h5 36.Ba3 h4 37.g4 h3?± [37...g5=] 38.Bb2 Ke7 39.Nc5 Ra8 40.Bc3 Kd6 [40...g5? 41.Kd3 f5 42.f3 f4 43.Nb3 Kd6 44.Bxa5+-] 41.Bxa5 e5 42.Bb4 exd4 43.Kd3 Kc6 44.Kxd4 Re8 45.Kd3 g6 46.Nb3 Re4 47.Nd4+ Kb6 48.f3 Re8 49.Nb3?= [49.a5±] 49...Ra8 50.Nc5 Kc6 51.Kd4?± [51.f4=] 51...Re8 52.Kd3 d4?± [52...Ra8 53.f4 Re8 54.Kd2 d4 55.Nd3 Kd5 56.g5 fxg5 57.fxg5 Re4 58.Kd1 Rg4 59.Nf2 Rxe5 60.Nxh3 Rf5 61.Bd2 Rf6 62.a5 c5 63.Nf4+ Ke4 64.h4 c4 65.Ne2 c3 66.Nxc3+ dxc3 67.Bxc3 Rf4 68.Kc2 Rxh4±] 53.Nb3 [53.Kxd4?? Re2 54.g5 fxg5 55.Ne4 Rxh2 56.Be1 Ra2 57.Bg3 Rxa4+ 58.Ke3 Ra3+ 59.Kf2 Ra2+ 60.Kg1 Rg2+ 61.Kh1 Kb6+] 53...Kd5 54.Nxd4 c5 55.Nb5 Kc6 56.Bd2 Ra8?± [56...Rd8±] 57.Nc3 Rd8+ 58.Kc2 c4 [58...Ra8±] 59.Ne2 Rd3 60.Bc3?± [60.Bb4±] 60...Kb7 [60...Kb6?±] 61.Nd4?± [61.Ng1±] 61...Ka6 62.a5 f5 63.g5 f4 64.Kb2 [64.Ba1 Kxa5 65.Bb2 Kb4 66.Nc6+ Kc5 67.Ne5 Re3 68.Kd2 Kd5 69.Nxg6 Rxf3 70.Ke2 Ke4 71.Bc1 Rc3 72.Bxf4 Ra3±] 64...Rd1 65.Ka3?± [65.Ne6? Rh1 66.Nc7+ Kb7 67.Bc5 Rxh2+ 68.Kc3 Rf2 69.a6+ Kb6 70.a7 Rxf3+ 71.Kxc4 Kxa7 72.Bd4+ Kb7 73.Bg1 Rf1 74.Bh2 Kxc7±] 65...Rh1 66.Bd2 Rxh2 67.Bxf4 Rd2 68.Nc6 Rd3+ 69.Ka4?± [69.Kb4±] 69...Rxf3 70.Nb4+ Ka7 71.Be5 Rf5 72.Bd6 Rxe5 73.Nc6+ Kb7 74.Nd8+ Ka6 75.Ne6 Rxa5+ 76.Kb4 Ra2 77.Kxc4 h2 78.Bxh2 Rxh2 79.Kd5 Rf2 80.Ke5 Rf1 81.Nf4 g5 82.Nh5 g4 83.Ke4 Kb5 84.Ng3 Rf2 85.Nh1 Rf3 0-1

By the end of round 3, the only player from the Americas moving to round 4 was Gata Kamsky (USA) who defeated Ilia Smirin (Israel). Lazaro Bruzon of Cuba was defeated by Evgeny Bareev (Russia). Yuri Shulman (USA) was defeated by Alexander Grischuk (Russia). The 2 major upsets of round 3 were the defeat of Teimur Radjabov (Azerbaijan) by Loek Van Wely (Netherlands), and the defeat of Alexei Shirov (Spain) by Mikhail Gurevich (Turkey) [In game 2, Shirov blundered the exchange on move 37, though at that point he was down a pawn and in a losing game].

Round 4 saw 6 Russian players among the final 16 players. Though impressive, this is not the stranglehold on chess that the Russian/Soviet dynasty held years ago. Round 4 also saw Carlsen finally eliminated by Bareev, in the rapid tie-break match, 1.5-.5. Kamsky was defeated by Grischuk. Here is the first game of their match (notes by Editor, using Fritz):

Grischuk,A (2720) – Kamsky,G (2690)

WCC 2005 0:02.06-0:00.11 (41), 06.12.2005

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.h3 Bb7 9.d3 d6 10.a3 h6 11.Nc3 Re8 12.Nd5 Nxd5?± [12...a5=] 13.Bxd5 Qc8 14.c3 Nd8 15.d4 Bf6 16.Nh2?= [16.Bxb7 Nxb7±] 16...exd4 17.Ng4 Bg5?± [17...Bh4=] 18.cxd4?= [18.Bxg5 hxg5 19.Qxd4 Ne6 20.Qd3 Nf4 21.Qf3 Bxd5 22.exd5 Qf5 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8±] 18...Bxd5 19.exd5 Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 Kf8?± [20...Qf5 21.Bxg5 Qxg5=] 21.Bxg5 hxg5 22.Qe3 f6 23.Re1 Qd7 24.h4?= [24.Qd3±] 24...Nf7?± [24...gxh4=] 25.Qe6 Rd8?± [25...Qe8 26.h5 f5 27.Nh2 f4±] 26.h5 f5 27.Nf6! [27.Nh2?±] 27...gxf6 28.Qxf6 Re8 29.Re6 Qd8 30.Qxf5 g4 31.Rf6 Re7 32.h6 Qd7 33.Qg6 1-0

Round 5 (final 8 players) started the holding of losers of round 4 matches, as well as winners matches, so that the final order of the top 16 players can be determined.

At the start of round 5. 5 of the 8 players were over 2700. The final surviving 8 players, and their pairings were :

Ponomariov, Ruslan (Ukraine – 2704) vs Bareev, Evgeny (Russia – 2675)
Grischuk, Alexander (Russia – 2720) vs Gelfand, Boris (Israel – 2717)
Aronian, Levon (Armenia – 2724) vs Gurevich, Mikhail (Turkey – 2652)
Bacrot, Etienne (France – 2725) vs Rublevsky, Sergei (Russia – 2652)

Each of these 8 players now qualify to enter the next phase of the World Championship, the Candidates matches.

Playing off for the places 9-16 (the consolation pool) are the eight losers from round 4. Their pairings were :

Carlsen, Magnus (Norway - 2570) vs Lautier, Joel (France - 2679)
Kamsky, Gata (USA – 2690) vs Sakaev, Konstantin (Russia - 2668)
Malakhov, Vladimir (Russia – 2670) vs Dreev, Alexey (Russia - 2694)
Vallejo Pons, Francisco (Spain - 2674) vs Van Wely, Loek (Netherlands - 2648)

This losers playdown is significant, not only in terms of more prize money the higher they finish, but players # 9 & # 10 also get to enter the next phase of the championship, along with players # 1 - # 8 (and finishers # 11 & # 12 are reserve candidates, depending on who the Candidates' matches invitees are by rating – where one of the # 1 - # 10 are invitees by rating, then the next reserve player gets into the Candidates Matches).

The winners for the spots # 1 – # 8 were Ponomariov, Grischuk (won the 2 Blitz tie-break games), Aronian and Bacrot, as expected. Here is an interesting game from this round 5 - Game 2 of Bacrot vs Rublevsky :

(2) Bacrot,E (2725) – Rublevsky,S (2652)

WCC 2005 0:56.50-0:02.48 (52), 10.12.2005

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1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Bd3 d5 8.0-0 Nf6 9.Re1 Be7
10.e5 Nd7 11.Qg4 g6 12.Na4 Qa5 13.Bh6 Qb4 14.Qxb4 Bxb4 15.c3 Ba5 16.b4 Bc7 17.f4 a5
18.b5 Nb6 19.Nxb6 Bxb6+ 20.Kf1 cxb5 21.Bxb5+ Bd7 22.Rab1 Rb8 23.c4 Ba7 24.Ba6 Bc6
25.cxd5 exd5 26.f5 Rxb1 27.Rxb1 Kd7 28.Rc1 gxf5 29.Bd3 Re8 30.Bf4 Bd4 31.Bxf5+ Kc7 32.e6+
Kb6 33.Rb1+ Kc5 34.exf7 Rf8 35.Rc1+ Kb6 36.Be6 Bc5 37.Bh6 Bb5+ 38.Ke1 Bb4+ 39.Kf2 Rd8
40.Rc8 1-0
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In round 5 of the consolation pool, Kamsky and Carlsen kept their championship hopes alive by winning their matches, along with Malakhov and Vallejo Pons.

The semi-final pairings for round 6 were : Grischuk vs Ponomariov; Bacrot vs Aronian. Fortunately, Kamsky and Carlsen could both make the Candidates Matches directly if each won in the sixth round (consolation pool), since they did not have to play each other- Carlsen vs Malakhov; Kamsky vs Vallejo Pons. The losers now continued to play off to determine the finishers from # 1 – # 16. The semi-final winners were Ponomariov and Aronian. Here is Game 2 of Aronian vs Bacrot :

(2) Aronian,L (2724) – Bacrot,E (2725)

WCC 2005 1:08.33-0:08.53 (62), 13.12.2005

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1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.a4 e6 6.g3 dxc4 7.Bg2 c5 8.dxc5 Qxd1+ 9.Nxd1 Nc6
10.Be3 Nd5 11.0-0 Nxe3 12.Nxe3 Bxc5 13.Nxc4 Ke7 14.Rac1 Bd7 15.Nfe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bd6
17.Nxd7 Kxd7 18.Bxb7 Ra7 19.Bc6+ Ke7 20.b3 Rb8 21.Rb1 f5 22.e3 Rc7 23.Bf3 Rc3 24.Be2
Rxb3 25.Rxb3 Rxb3 26.Bxa6 Ra3 27.Bb5 Be5 28.Kg2 Ra1 29.Rxa1 Bxa1 30.a5 Be5 31.a6 Bb8
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32.h4 Ba7 33.Kf3 Kf6 34.g4 h6 35.h5 g5 36.hxg6 Kxg6 37.gxf5+ exf5 38.Bf1 Kg5 39.Kg3 Kf6 40.Bg2 Bb6 41.Kh4 Kg6 42.Bc6 Bd8+ 43.Kg3 Bb6 44.e4 Kf6 45.f4 fxe4 46.Bxe4 Ke6 47.Kg4 Kf6 48.Bg2 Ba7 49.Bh3 Bc5 50.f5 Ba7 1-0

In the consolation pool, Kamsky and Carlsen won their matches and will now qualify for the Candidates Matches, being # 9 & # 10 (ranking depending on who wins in their final round 7 of the consolation pool). The losers, Malakhov and Vallejo Pons, will play off in Round 7 of the consolation pool. The winner still has a chance to make the Candidates Matches, since the #11 finisher is the reserve candidate, where one of the top 10 qualify by rating, and thus allow the reserve candidate into the Candidates Matches (this is a real possibility, since it is anticipated that 2 of the rating invitees, Kasparov and Kramnik, will refuse to play. This would allow, Bacrot, one of the top 10, to instead qualify by rating).

The round 7 final pairing is therefore Ponomariov (2002 FIDE World Champion) vs Aronian, which will be played today and Dec. 16, with tie-break if needed on Dec. 17.

SCC Club Championship

This tournament will start on Thursday, January 5, 2006. The Championship Section will be a 10 player round robin (highest rated players registering). The Reserve Section will be a one section swiss for all other members. To play in the championship section, a player must have at least a 6 month SCC membership. A \$ 30 tournament membership is available for those wanting to play in the Reserves Section. Registration will start at 7:00 pm, with the tournament starting at 7:30 pm.

The current 8 round swiss tournament will end on Thursday, December 22.

The Holidays Open – Upcoming Tournament

This 6 round, one section swiss will be held at the Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Ave. (south of Eglinton Ave. E.), Suite 202, from Dec. 26 to 30. There will be 2 games on Monday, Dec. 26 (11 :00 am & 5:30 pm), and one game per day thereafter (6:30 pm). Entry fee is \$ 55 (by Dec. 24), and \$ 25 extra for non-BGC members (there is a \$ 10 late fee on the day of the tournament). It is CFC rated. Maximum 60 players. For more info, contact Vlad Dobrich : 416-722-9709.

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

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