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# New Zealand Chess

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Vol 33 Number 5

October 2006



**Hilton Bennett in Palau**

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#### STOP PRESS

##### Congress Entries to Date

##### Championship:

Anthony Ker. 2361  
Puchen Wang. 2296  
Tim Reilly. 2273 FIDE  
Bob Smith. 2276  
Graeme Spain. 2230  
Mike Steadman. 2209  
Peter Stuart. 2056  
Chris Burns. 2023

##### Major Open:

Helen Milligan. 2037 FIDE  
Nathan Goodhue. 1980  
Gino Thornton. 1978  
Bill Forster. 1924  
Stan Yee. 1893  
Fuatai Fuatai. 1891  
Neil Gunn. 1888  
Sean Watharow. 1784  
William Lynn. 1782  
Gordon Hoskyn. 1677  
John Pakenham. 1664  
Justin Davis. 1647  
Viv Smith. 1642  
Michael Wu. 1626  
Tony Booth. 1598  
David Bell. 1573  
Bruce Kay. 1544  
Bob Mitchell. 1542  
Mathew King. 1519  
John Wilson. 1490  
Edith Otene. 1476  
Stewart Holiday. 1470  
Brian Whitaker. 1412  
Helen Courtney. 1408  
Ken Reed. 1349  
Oscar Lynn. 1083  
Barry Smith. w/r

**Front Cover:** Hilton receiving the winners  
trophy from the Philippines ambassador to  
Palau.

## New Zealand Chess

Volume 33 Number 5

October 2006

#### CONTENTS

4. **1<sup>st</sup> Palau International Chess Tournament**  
*Hilton Bennett is victorious in the first International Chess Championship held in the Pacific paradise of the Palau Islands. Paul Spiller reports.*
8. **New Zealand Junior Championship 2006**  
*FM Bob Smith reports a good turnout for this tournament held in July. Sixty six players took part with Gino Thornton as the top seed and eventual winner..*
17. **North shore Open**  
*A report by NM Peter Stuart on this event where Leonard McLaren went on to a convincing victory.*
22. **New Zealand News**  
*We farewell chess stalwart Allan Smith plus Grand Prix standings as at the end of October are listed.*
23. **Correspondence Chess**  
*Gordon Hoskyn profiles Wanganui chess enthusiast Bernard Nicholson and provides an overview of an interesting and varied life both at and away from the chessboard. Also Trophy Tourneys progress and some games by Brett Sinclair, held over from the last issue, complete the column.*
26. **World News**  
*John McDonald backgrounds the World Championship Unification match between Topalov and Kramnik. In addition the Essent, NH chess tournaments and Junior World Championships are covered.*

**Next Issue:** Ratings for Period 2 and part one of Vivian Smith's self-portrait plus games.

### 114th NZ Chess Congress

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Palau International Chess Tournament

by Paul Spiller

### Palau, Micronesia.

After competing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> IGB Dato Tan Malaysian Chess Championship, kiwi players Hilton Bennett and Paul Spiller travelled on to compete in the first ever International Chess Championship to be held in the Palau Islands (August 31–September 4, 2006). For those not familiar with the location of Palau (or Belau as it is known locally) it is approximately 1200 km east of the Philippines and about two and a half hours flying time from Manila. There are only a few possible routes to get to Palau,

either flying via Manila (with a day stopover) as we did or via Guam out of Darwin. There is also an alternative route via Taiwan as well.

Palau, as we soon discovered, is a beautiful archipelago of Islands surrounded by amazing coral atolls and beautiful water that defy description.

Internationally ranked as one of the top diving locations in the world, not only for its abundance of tropical fish, sea creatures and brightly coloured corals, but also because of the large numbers of sunken World War Two wrecks that beckon beneath the surface. Although Hilton and myself were not divers, we did take the opportunity to do a half day boat trip to explore this paradise and managed to do some swimming and snorkelling and catch a glimpse of the natural beauty.

The tournament was originally the idea of Oceania Zone President IA Gary Bekker in conjunction with local Palau chess player Roberto Hernandez. With Gary's enthusiasm to involve more of the Oceania Zone's coun-

tries, successful tournaments have now been held in Papua New Guinea, Fiji and most recently Palau. The aim of these tournaments is to give opportunities for the local players to gain FIDE ratings and to give some impetus to the development of chess in these countries and to encourage them to take a more active role in Oceania chess. This has certainly been achieved with Fiji now about to host its second Oceania Zone Championships in May 2007 after hosting the 2002 Zonal event and an International Championship in 2003. It also

looks likely that the tournament in Palau will become an annual event with the pledged support of the Philippines ambassador at the closing ceremony. The kiwi duo finally arrived in Palau on August 30, the day before the tournament was scheduled to start. The initial venue was the newest and most luxurious hotel, the

Palau Royal Resort, situated on Malakal Island approximately 4 km from the centre of Koror. The Hotel has been built next to a lagoon with all the trappings of a 5 star resort including swimming pools, Dive Shop, Poolside Bar, private beach and separate Spa complex, complete with Balinese masseuses. I mentioned that this was the initial venue because a quite bizarre event took place during our stay, which meant that the tournament venue had to be shifted back to the centre of town and to a different Hotel, namely the Palasia. We were advised after the second day of play, that an important summit, namely the 1<sup>st</sup> Taiwan Pacific Allies Summit was to take place at PRR



The players and arbiter are shown at the opening of the tournament at the Palau Royal Resort.

(Palau Royal Resort) and that most of the Hotel facilities would be at the disposal of the Taiwanese President and his entourage and members of the delegations of the other 6 nations involved. In fact, the Hotel became an amazing hub of activity, buzzing with media including at least 5 or 6 film crews, newspaper reporters (we met the Reuters correspondent based in Taiwan) police (including 2 police launch patrols) security guards and various delegates and hangers on. We later learnt that the Taiwanese alone had chartered two passenger jets to fly in their personnel! Anyway, all of this provided an interesting diversion to the happenings surrounding the tournament, which was in itself quite extraordinary.

The tournament finally became a reality after several months of uncertainty and was played as a 10 player round robin event using the standard FIDE time control of 90 minutes plus 30 seconds added per move. To make up the field myself and Hilton were invited from New Zealand along with Filipino Marlon Bernadino who at FIDE 2170 was the top seed. Marlon is a well known personality in Manila and runs his own slot on the local radio. In fact, Gary Bekker managed to fit in a live radio interview on his way across to Palau and meet up with some of the top Filipino GM's including Eugenio Torre, Asia's first Grandmaster. Marlon also carried out the now somewhat infamous Bobby Fischer interviews in Manila a few years ago, and gave us an interesting insight into the former world champion's personality. International Arbiter and Oceania Chess President, Gary Bekker (Australia) made up the fourth FIDE rated player necessary for the event to be FIDE rated. The local players were a mixture of Filipino and Palau nationals and included Roberto Hernandez, Manuel Menandro, Manny Nedic, Gene Pastrana, Cyril Montel and Jose Omega. The locals certainly made the overseas players feel very welcome and were most hospitable. On several occasions the players ended up at Gene Pastrana's shop in central Koror after the round to share a meal of fresh fish and rice. Gene's shop is also the venue for the chess club where chess is played in an outdoor setting

under an awning at the shop front!

On to the chess! With many of the local players having full time jobs, rounds had to be squeezed in to any available time slots, so some games were played quite late at night. Gary even managed to squeeze in 3 games during one day which was probably not the best for his chess.

The first 4 rounds were played at the PRR over the 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> of September. Gary Bekker set the early pace after a first round draw with Marlon followed by three wins on the trot against Menandro, Pastrana and Nedic. He was followed closely by Hilton, I and Marlon with 2 wins, 2 draws each. Hilton conceded draws to myself and Gene Pastrana; Marlon to Manuel Menandro and myself to Cyril Montel who played the unorthodox reply 1...Nh6 to my 1 f4 Bird's Opening. A recommendation by GM Mark Paragua according to Marlon! Hilton had also come close to losing against Manuel Menandro early on but Manuel couldn't find the correct continuation in time trouble and overstepped. Hilton's Budapest was getting a good workout and he won nicely against Manny Nedic in Round 3:

**M.Nedic - H.Bennett**

*Round 3*

*Budapest Defence*

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e5 3 dxe5 Ng4 4 Nf3 Bc5  
5 e3 Nc6 6 a3 a5 7 Nc3 0-0 8 Be2 Re8  
9 Ne4 Bf8 10 0-0 Ngxe5 11 Ng3 Nxf3+  
12 Bxf3 Ne5 13 Be2 Ra6 14 Bd2 d5 15  
cxd5 Rg6 16 Bh5 Bg4 17 Bxg4 Nxf4 18  
h3 Nf6 19 Qa4 Qxd5 20 Rad1 b6 21 Bc3  
Qe6 22 Bxf6 Rxf6 23 Rd4 Qc8 24 Rg4  
Rd8 25 Qc4 Rg6 26 Rxxg6 hxxg6 27 Ne4  
Qd7 28 Ng5 Bd6 29 Qh4 Be5 30 b3 Bf6  
31 Qf4 Qe7 32 Ne4 Be5 33 Qg5 Qxg5 34  
Nxxg5 Rd3 35 a4 f6 36 Nf3 Bb2 37 Rb1  
Rxb3 38 Nd4 Rb4 39 Nc2 Bc3 40 Nxb4  
axb4 41 Kf1 e5 42 Ke2 c4 43 Rf1 Kf7  
44 Kd1 Ke6 45 Kc2 Kd5 46 f3 f5 47  
Rd1+ Kc6 48 Rd8 Kc7 49 Re8 Bf6 50  
e4 b3+ 51 Kb1 c3 52 exf5 c2+ 53 Kc1  
Bg5+ 0-1

My first round game against Jose Omega:

**P.Spiller - J.Omega**

*Round 1*

*Bird's Opening*

1 f4 c5 2 b3 d6 3 Bb2 Nf6 4 Nf3 e6 5 e3  
a6 6 a4 Nbd7 7 Be2 Be7 8 0-0 b6 9 Na3  
Bb7 10 Qe1 Qe7 11 Qg3 g6 12 Qh3 h6 13  
Ng5 Rf8 14 Qxh6 0-0-0 15 Qh3 Qb8 16  
Bf3 Nd5 17 Nc4 Bxg5 18 fxg5 Qc7 19 Qg3  
e5 20 Bg4 Kb8 21 Bxd7 Qxd7 22 Nxd6!  
Ka7 23 Nxb7 Kxb7 24 Bxe5 Rde8 25 a5  
Re6 26 axb6 Rxb6 27 Qf3 Ka7 28 Ra5  
Re6 29 Rfa1 Nc7 30 Rxc5 Rc8 31 Bxc7  
Rxc7 32 Rxc7+ Qxc7 33 c4 Re5 34 Qf6  
Re6 35 Qd4+ Kb7 36 b4 Rd6 37 Qe4+  
Ka7 38 b5 Qd7 39 Rxa6+ Rxa6 40 bxa6  
Kxa6 41 Qd5 Qxd5 42 cxd5 Kb6 43 Kf2  
Kc5 44 e4 1-0

As previously outlined, the tournament now had to shift venues to the more centrally located Palasia Hotel. The Hotel Manager provided us with the exclusive use of Ming's Restaurant for the remainder of the event. One slight glitch during the next few evening rounds was the loss of power at around 6pm every night when everything was plunged into darkness until the Hotel generators kicked in. Palau had recently suffered major power failure during a tropical storm which resulted in loss of one of its main generators. This affected the local EFTPOS capabilities, ATM machines and banks and no doubt adversely affected the local economy. Round 5 saw the important Spiller – Bekker clash. Gary played a slight inaccuracy on move 15 which allowed me to generate some kingside attacking chances:

**P.Spiller - G.Bekker**

*Round 5*

*Bird's Opening*

1 f4 d5 2 b3 Nf6 3 e3 g6 4 Bb2 Bg7 5 Nf3  
0-0 6 Be2 c5 7 0-0 Nc6 8 Ne5 Qc7 9 Bf3  
e6 10 Nxc6 Qxc6 11 d3 Rd8 12 Nd2 b5 13  
a4 a6 14 Qe1 (Threatens Qh4 winning a  
piece) Bb7 15 Qh4 Nh5? (better would have  
been Ne8) 16 Be5! (This forces the f file open  
because of the threat of Bxh5 & Qxh5 winning  
a pawn) Bxe5 17 fxe5 Ng7 18 Qf4 (threatens

19 axb5 axb5 20 Rxa8 Bxa8 21 Bxd5! Fol-  
lowed by Qxf7+ winning) Qe8 19 g4 Qe7 20  
h4 Qxh4 21 Kg2 Ne8 22 Rh1 Qe7 23  
Rxb7 Kxb7 24 Rh1+ Kg8 25 Qh6 1-0

Hilton joined me on 4/5 by defeating Jose Omega while Marlon took an early draw with Gene Pastrana to be half a point further back with Gary on 3.5

Round 6 saw the longest game of the tournament unfold between Hilton and Roberto Hernandez. After an early win of material, Hilton looked to be in control but his opponent generated some surprising counter chances. The game saw me sawed and looked to be heading for a draw which Hilton offered. Roberto however thought he had better but blundered badly and lost. Marlon Bernadino also won well in a tactical encounter with Cyrill Montel

**M.Bernadino - C.Montel**

*Round 6*

*Reti Opening*

1 Nf3 c6 2 g3 d5 3 Bg2 Bg4 4 0-0 Nf6 5  
c4 Nbd7 6 b3 g6 7 Bb2 Bg7 8 d3 0-0 9  
Nbd2 Rc8 10 h3 Be6 11 Nd4 Ne8 12 Nxe6  
fxe6 13 d4 e5 14 cxd5 exd4 15 Nf3 c5 16  
Ng5 Nc7 17 Ne6 Nxe6 18 dxe6 Nf6 19  
Bxb7 Rb8 20 Bg2 Rb6 21 Rc1 Qd6 22  
Qc2 Rc8 23 Rfd1 Rbb8 24 Qc4 Rb4 25  
Qxb4 cxb4 26 Rxc8+ Bf8 27 Rxd4 Qxe6  
28 Rdd8 Kg7 29 e3! Qa6 30 Rxf8 Qxa2 31  
Bxf6+ exf6 32 Bd5 Qb1+ 33 Kg2 Qd3 34  
Rcd8 a5 35 Rf7+ Kh6 36 Rdd7 1-0

I drew on the Black side of a Sicilian dragon against Manuel Menandro, who was emerging as the strongest of the local players. The critical round 7 and 8 encounters saw Hilton defeat Gary and draw with Marlon, Marlon defeat Manny Nedic while I had draws with Gene Pastrana and Manny Nedic. I also played my Round 9 game against Marlon earlier which was also drawn quickly. This left Hilton with his Round 9 game to play against Cyril Montel with Marlon and myself already having completed all our games and the scores standing at Hilton 6.5/8 (game in hand), Marlon 6.5/9 and

Paul 6/9.

Hilton secured the title of Palau Open Chess Champion when Cyril accepted his draw offer in the final round.

In conclusion, Hilton thoroughly deserved his win which was achieved by a display of tenaciousness when under pressure and hard work in preparation for his opponents. His results here and in Malaysia should see a significant increase in his FIDE rating.

The final scores:

Hilton Bennett(NZ)	7.0/9
Marlon Bernadino (PHI)	6.5/9
Paul Spiller (NZ)	6.0/9
Manuel Menandro (PAL)	4.5/9
Gary Bekker (AUS)	4.5/9
Gene Pastrana (PAL)	3.5/9
Cyril Montel (PAL)	3.5/9
Jose Omega (PAL)	3.5/9
Manny Nedic (PAL)	3.0/9
Roberto Hernandez (PAL)	3.0/9

The official prize giving was held in the Palasia Hotel with the Philippine's ambassador to Palau, Mr Ramoncito Marino, presenting the

prizes to the players. Manuel Menandro won the prize for the best result by a local player. Hilton, as winner, was presented with a magnificent carved wooden "story board" fish engraved with a scene depicting conservation of the Ocean and environment.

The final outcome of the tournament was very positive for all the local players who will all gain Fide ratings in the 1700 – 1900 range. Mr Marino also pledged his support for the tournament in future years which may become known as the Ambassador's Cup.

In conclusion, expressions of thanks are due to Gary for his financial support of this event and his continuing support of the development of chess in Oceania and also to the local players and arbiters for their hospitality and President Sno Temaungil who ensured the smooth running of the event.

I can thoroughly recommend a trip to Palau if the event is held in 2007 for those who have an adventurous spirit and want to experience something different!

## Bay of Plenty 25 + 5 Rapid

17<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Mt Maunganui

Contact: Caleb Wright - first25plus5@hotmail.com

### Books for Sale

I have written 2 chess books which are available for purchasing. They are published by Waikato Times Printers with ISBN numbers and thus suitable for Libraries.

The first book is Chess Knowledge Handbook 1 and it is aimed at improving your game. To date I have sold over 100 copies. Covers The ideal centre, Short game lessons, Middle game combinations, King and Pawn endings, Walk the diagonal, Maintain the opposition, Anastasias mate, Corridor mate, Grecos Mate, Variation of Grecos Mate, Bodens Mate, Pillsbury mate, Smothered mate. Contents are 24 pages plus 4 page cover. Ideal for junior players to expand on their knowledge: Price \$5.00

The second book is Chess Badge Knowledge Levels 1, 2 and 3: Price \$5.00  
A book which covers the syllabus for the Chess Badges promoted by the NZ Chess Federation; I felt there was a need for an instruction booklet. Level 1: 6 pages, Level 2: 7 pages, Level 3: 11 pages. For bulk buys I can give a discount.

Contact: William Lynn - welynn@xtra.co.nz

## New Zealand Junior Championship 2006

by FM Bob Smith

With the surge in junior chess over recent years, encouraged by some hard work by NZCF Council and chess-loving organisers around the country, Waitemata Chess Club was hopeful of a good turnout for the NZ Junior Championships in July.

The club had obtained generous sponsorship from some very appropriate supporters, Quality Student Diaries and Eduvac, publishers of a schools newspaper.

This made possible minimum prize-funds of \$1850 for the Championship and \$1450 for the NZ Junior Rapid that followed – making both Class One events in the NZ Chess Federation Grand Prix.

In the event, 66 players entered the Championship at Green Bay High School in West Auckland – a most satisfying response.

Most of the country's top juniors were there – with the notable exception of Olympiad representative, Puchen Wang.

Top seed was Gino Thornton, who was rated more than 200 points ahead of second seed Andy Chen.

### Round One

With such a good turnout and a wide variation in playing strengths, round one generally proved to be a warm-up for the top players – with not a single upset.

Not that there weren't some nervous moments. To name a couple, Judy Gao lost a piece early on, but fortunately Sumant Seshasayee returned the favour by blundering soon after. Tom Sellars was even more fortunate to beat Harry Ruan from a whole rook down.

### Round Two

Gao took on Thornton's French Defence head on, but an out of play queen, unco-ordinated pieces and weak squares soon caused her big problems.

Natasha Fairley lost a pawn but managed to swap to an inferior endgame, where she simply outplayed Dean Zhao – with a little help. Michael Zhang played the later stages of his win over Daniel Shen well – but might like to re-

think his opening. Cecily Liu was holding Jason Wu until blundering a pawn in the ending.

Among those on two wins were Thornton, Andy Chen, Zhang, Jason, Michael and Shirley Wu, Eachen Chen, Natasha Fairley and Sue Maroroa.

### Round Three

Top seed Thornton was lucky to escape with a draw, after losing an exchange and a pawn to Eachen Chen. Chen only needed to calm down and consolidate, but instead blundered back an exchange and later the extra pawn.

Sue Maroroa recovered from a dubious opening against Andy Chen, her active pieces proving to be more than enough compensation for a mere pawn.

Fairley got a difficult position with black against Jason Wu, but eventually managed to reach a drawn ending – only to lose with a pointless check. Zhang - Shirley Wu was an all-daggers drawn Sicilian. White played the opening a little passively and was virtually forced to sacrifice later. The resulting position looked a little hairy, but black's counter-attack was irresistible. Tom Sellars came badly unstuck against Mario Krstev, losing in just 19 moves with white. Devon Smith kept up with the leaders with an upset win over Andrew Maroroa, perhaps confusing his opponent with his off-beat opening.

Leaders after 3 rounds: Jason Wu, Sue Maroroa, Bobby Cheng, Michael Wu, Mario Krstev, Shirley Wu, Devon Smith 3, Gino Thornton, Eachen Chen 2.5.

### Round Four

On top board Bobby Cheng and Jason Wu fought to a standstill, a draw being a fair result of an interesting game.

Eachen Chen allowed Sue Maroroa to build up the sort of aggressive, tactical position she likes, and then followed up with a faulty tactic herself.

On board two Shirley Wu almost consolidated after Michael Wu's pawn sacrifices opened up

her king, but never quite solved her problems. In the unaccustomed realms of board four, Thornton pinned his hopes for a comeback on his beloved French Defence, and gained an early psychological victory when Andy Chen played the insipid exchange. A nice tactic by the top seed forced a pleasant endgame, in which Gino's knight ran rings around Andy's bishop and shattered pawns.

The upset of the round was on board 3, where Devon Smith beat Mario Krstev with black in just 25 moves. On board 7 Natasha Fairley could only draw with the promising Harry Ruan.

Leaders: Sue Maroroa, Michael Wu, Devon Smith 4, Thornton, Jason Wu, Cheng 3.5

### Round Five

On top board Maroroa proved too good for Devon Smith, who played an opening he didn't know very well, lost a pawn and had little chance in the endgame.

On board two the battle of the Wus (Jason and Michael) began with a sharp debate on opening theory and soon turned tactical. Jason handled the complications better.

On board 3 Thornton chose a slow build-up with white against Bobby Cheng and the latter eventually blundered a pawn. Thereafter Cheng's resistance was minimal. Zhang had climbed back to board 4, but played passively against Judy Gao's Scandinavian Defence to reach an inferior ending. A massive oversight ended the game prematurely. Harry Ruan again caused problems for one of the favourites. Eachen Chen would have been relieved to hold the draw in the end, after a game in which Harry had most of the fun.

Leaders: Maroroa 5, Thornton, Jason Wu 4.5, Michael Wu, Krstev, Cecily Liu, Haowen Zeng, Filip Petreski, Devon Smith 4.

### Round Six

On top board Sue Maroroa's lack of book knowledge was quickly exposed. Against Jason Wu she was busted out of the opening and was given no chance to recover.

Thornton had moved up to board two – and was now taking no prisoners. With white Krstev put up stern resistance, but the top seed was inexo-

orable, playing aggressively and calculating well.

On board 3 Michael Wu attacked early at the cost of his pawn structure. The endgame clearly favoured Filip Petreski, who strangely agreed a draw, an exchange for a passed pawn up.

Haowen Zeng and Judy Gao played out a long and careful draw on board four, while on board six Natasha Fairley paid the price for playing passively with white against Bobby Cheng. Devon Smith bounced back on board 5 with an emphatic win over Cecily Liu.

The fastest game was on board 9, where Eachen Chen had the rare chance to play Le-gall's Mate against Uzair Dollie.

Leaders: Thornton, Jason Wu 5.5, Maroroa, Devon Smith 5, Cheng, Zeng, Michael Wu, Petreski 4.5.

### Round Seven

The battle for the Championship on board one took many twists and turns. Thornton was out-booked in the opening, with Fritz giving Jason Wu close to a three pawn advantage in the early middlegame. Soon after Wu overlooked a tactic, allowing Thornton to bail out to an inferior rook endgame. Wu could have virtually forced a draw, but opted to try to win. Wu still could have drawn as late as move 47, but went passive with his rook instead and the top seed wrapped up the crucial point at move 64.

On second board Sue Maroroa's game against Michael Wu reached the sort of position Sue loves: material down but with the attack. In the last throes Wu was a whole rook up but unable to stave off checkmate. This win lifted Maroroa to clear 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.

On board 3 the pressure got to Devon Smith, who fell for Bobby Cheng's one-move cheapo in a fairly equal position.

In other crucial games Judy Gao and Andy Chen played it safe with a draw after 32 moves, Eachen Chen won comfortably against Sharon Wu after the latter blundered an exchange, Mario Krstev paid the price of poor development against Daniel Shen, and Filip Petreski's weak d-pawn proved more significant than his fleeting tactical chances against Haowen Zeng.

NZ Junior Championship 2006

NZ Chess

	Name	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Tot	Cback
1	Thornton, Gino	1978	35:W	7:W	6:D	14:W	4:W	18:W	3:W	6.5	24
2	Maroroa, Sue	1560	41:W	38:W	14:W	6:W	8:W	3:L	12:W	6	22
3	Wu, Jason	1675	29:W	20:W	16:W	4:D	12:W	2:W	1:L	5.5	24.5
4	Cheng, Bobby	1605	49:W	31:W	15:W	3:D	1:L	16:W	8:W	5.5	23
5	Zeng, Haowen	1407	47:W	32:W	12:L	31:W	22:W	7:D	15:W	5.5	20
6	Chen, Eachen	1584	54:W	17:W	1:D	2:L	21:D	26:W	23:W	5	22.5
7	Gao, Judy	1327	42:W	1:L	33:W	36:W	13:W	5:D	14:D	5	21.5
8	Smith, Devon	1394	58:W	27:W	30:W	18:W	2:L	20:W	4:L	5	21
9	Wu, Shirley	1539	48:W	25:W	13:W	12:L	20:L	22:W	24:W	5	20.5
10	Sellars, Tom	1402	21:W	19:W	18:L	38:D	30:W	13:D	20:W	5	19.5
11	Shen, Daniel	1251	52:W	13:L	51:W	22:L	38:W	27:W	18:W	5	17.5
12	Wu, Michael	1626	43:W	28:W	5:W	9:W	3:L	15:D	2:L	4.5	24.5
13	Zhang, Michael	1713	50:W	11:W	9:L	28:W	7:L	10:D	19:W	4.5	23
14	Chen, Andy	1773	40:W	23:W	2:L	1:L	54:W	25:W	7:D	4.5	22
15	Petreski, Filip	1387	64:W	53:W	4:L	25:W	19:W	12:D	5:L	4.5	21.5
16	Fairley, Natasha	1525	34:W	36:W	3:L	21:D	33:W	4:L	31:W	4.5	20
17	Ruan, Jack	1164	57:W	6:L	50:D	30:L	39:W	35:W	32:W	4.5	16
18	Krstev, Mario	1609	51:W	24:W	10:W	8:L	23:W	1:L	11:L	4	23
19	Chen, Benny	1001	26:W	10:L	55:W	24:W	15:L	21:W	13:L	4	21
20	Liu, Cecily	1213	62:W	3:L	54:W	34:W	9:W	8:L	10:L	4	20.5
21	Ruan, Harry	1099	10:L	42:W	47:W	16:D	6:D	19:L	40:W	4	19.5
22	Zhang, Harrison	1037	39:L	29:W	58:W	11:W	5:L	9:L	46:W	4	19.5
23	Wu, Sharon	1280	63:W	14:L	27:W	32:W	18:L	36:W	6:L	4	19.5
24	Alipiev, Atanas	1226	37:W	18:L	35:W	19:L	41:W	40:W	9:L	4	18
25	Zhang, Leon	1082	46:W	9:L	41:W	15:L	45:W	14:L	43:W	4	18
26	Dollie, Uzair	1060	19:L	39:W	34:L	58:W	29:W	6:L	45:W	4	17.5
27	Li, Xiang Wei	943	59:W	8:L	23:L	42:W	55:W	11:L	39:W	4	17
28	Guo, Charlie	1109	56:W	12:L	48:W	13:L	40:L	42:W	34:W	4	17
29	Liu, Bill	380	3:L	22:L	44:W	51:W	26:L	55:W	38:W	4	16.5
30	Maroroa, Andrew	1395	45:W	33:D	8:L	17:W	10:L	32:L	44:W	3.5	19.5
31	Chen, Alan	1096	55:W	4:L	53:W	5:L	35:D	33:W	16:L	3.5	19.5
32	Tsoi, Nicole	1019	66:W	5:L	39:W	23:L	34:D	30:W	17:L	3.5	18.5
33	Meng, Jia Jia	1011	60:W	30:D	7:L	37:W	16:L	31:L	52:W	3.5	17.5

10

NZ Chess

34	Liu, Brian	649	16:L	66:W	26:W	20:L	32:D	54:W	28:L	3.5	17.5
35	Chen, Wan-Xin	934	1:L	52:W	24:L	62:W	31:D	17:L	50:W	3.5	17
36	Zhao, Dean	1041	65:W	16:L	56:W	7:L	57:W	23:L	37:D	3.5	16
37	Huang, Alex	340	24:L	40:D	49:W	33:L	50:D	41:W	36:D	3.5	15.5
38	Han, Yichen	1061	44:W	2:L	45:W	10:D	11:L	43:D	29:L	3	20
39	Li, Andrew	270	22:W	26:L	32:L	47:W	17:L	48:W	27:L	3	18.5
40	Li, Jiapeng	920	14:L	37:D	43:D	50:W	28:W	24:L	21:L	3	18.5
41	Yang, Mona	665	2:L	44:W	25:L	56:W	24:L	37:L	62:W	3	16.5
42	Seshasayee, Sumant	370	7:L	21:L	65:W	27:L	61:W	28:L	54:W	3	16
43	Guo, Nelson	860	12:L	56:L	40:D	59:W	51:W	38:D	25:L	3	14
44	Wu, Kunbo	285	38:L	41:L	29:L	60:W	53:W	58:W	30:L	3	14
45	Chen, Catherin	404	30:L	63:W	38:L	61:W	25:L	57:W	26:L	3	14
46	Peart, David	290	25:L	54:L	59:L	66:+	47:W	49:W	22:L	3	13.5
47	Dong, Peter	647	5:L	60:W	21:L	39:L	46:L	63:W	57:W	3	13
48	Chen, Thomas	660	9:L	65:W	28:L	57:L	56:W	39:L	59:W	3	12.5
49	Fan, Kevin	766	4:L	55:L	37:L	65:+	62:W	46:L	58:W	3	12
50	Wang, Weber	890	13:L	62:W	17:D	40:L	37:D	52:D	35:L	2.5	17
51	Lin, Howard	776	18:L	57:W	11:L	29:L	43:L	56:W	53:D	2.5	15.5
52	Wong, Shing	350	11:L	35:L	60:W	54:L	59:W	50:D	33:L	2.5	13
53	Sun, Li Cheng	594	61:W	15:L	31:L	55:L	44:L	60:W	51:D	2.5	12.5
54	Yang, Edison	695	6:L	46:W	20:L	52:W	14:L	34:L	42:L	2	17.5
55	Shen, Davy	295	31:L	49:W	19:L	53:W	27:L	29:L	60:L	2	16.5
56	Tao, Grace	310	28:L	43:W	36:L	41:L	48:L	51:L	0:W	2	16
57	Wood, Reuben	320	17:L	51:L	66:W	48:W	36:L	45:L	47:L	2	15
58	Zou, Carolyn Lin	397	8:L	59:W	22:L	26:L	63:W	44:L	49:L	2	15
59	McAllister, Samuel	210	27:L	58:L	46:W	43:L	52:L	0:W	48:L	2	14.5
60	Smith, Elias	250	33:L	47:L	52:L	44:L	:W	53:L	55:W	2	14.5
61	Dong, Olivia	200	53:L	64:L	0:W	45:L	42:L	62:L	63:W	2	14
62	Peart, William	330	20:L	50:L	63:W	35:L	49:L	61:W	41:L	2	13
63	Ma, Victor	220	23:L	45:L	62:L	0:W	58:L	47:L	61:L	1	13.5
64	Jones, Simon	390	15:L	61:W						1	6
65	Lu, Han	275	36:L	48:L	42:L	49:-				0	6
66	Low, Gabriel	260	32:L	34:L	57:L	46:-				0	6

11

**Titles**

NZ Junior Champion – Gino Thornton  
 NZ School Pupils' Champion – Sue Maroroa  
 NZ Schoolgirls' Champion – Sue Maroroa  
 NZ Under 16 Champion – Sue Maroroa  
 NZ Under 16 Girls' Champion – Sue Maroroa  
 NZ Under 14 Champion – Jason Wu  
 NZ Under 12 Champion – Judy Gao and Daniel Shen  
 NZ Under 12 Girls' Champion – Judy Gao  
 NZ Under 10 Champion – Bobby Cheng  
 NZ Under 10 Girls' Champion – Nicole Tsoi  
 NZ Under 8 Champion – Harry Ruan, Harrison Zhang, Xiang Wei Li

*Note: No titles awarded in age categories with fewer than 3 players.*

**Selected Games****Zhao,D – Fairley,N**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bxd2+ 8.Nbxd2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Qb3 Nce7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rfe1 c6 13.Ne4 h6 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Nd5 16.Re5 Nb6 17.Bd3 Be6 18.Rxe6 fxe6 19.Qxe6+ Rf7 20.Ne5 Qf6 21.Qxf7+ Qxf7 22.Nxf7 Kxf7 23.Rb1 Rd8 24.Be2 Rd7 25.f4 Kf6 26.g4 Nd5 27.g5+ hxg5 28.fyg5+ Kxg5 29.Rc1 Re7 30.Kf2 Nf4 31.Bf1 Re6 32.c4 Rh6 33.Kg3 Rd6 34.Rd1 Ne6 35.Rb1 b6 36.c5 bxc5 37.dxc5 Nxc5 38.Kf3 Kf6 39.Rb8 a5 40.Rb6 Ke5 41.Ke3 Rg6 42.Be2 Kd6 43.Bf3 Kc7 44.Rb2 Rd6 45.Rd2 Rxd2 46.Kxd2 Kb6 47.Kc3 Ne6 48.Kc4 g5 49.a4 Nf4 50.Bg4 Ng2 51.Be2 Ne3+ 52.Kd4 Nd5 53.Bf3 Nc7 54.Bg4 Na6 55.Ke5 Kc5 56.Kf5 Kb4 57.Bd1 Ne5 58.Kxg5 Nxa4 59.Bxa4 Kxa4 60.h4 c5 61.h5 c4 62.h6 c3 63.h7 c2 64.h8Q c1Q+ 65.Kf5 Qc2+ 66.Kf4 Qc4+ 67.Ke3 Kb3 68.Qb8+ Qb4 69.Qg8+ Ka3 70.Qh8 Qb3+ 71.Ke4 a4 72.Qa1+ Qa2 73.Qc3+ Qb3 74.Qa1+ Kb4 75.Qe1+ Kb5 76.Kf5 Qd5+ 77.Kg6 Qc6+ 78.Kf5 Qc5+ 79.Kg6 a3 80.Qe2+ Kb4 81.Qa2 Qc6+ 82.Kf5 Qf3+ 83.Kg6 Qb3 84.Qd2+ Qc3 85.Qd6+ Kb3 86.Qd1+ Qc2+ 87.Qxc2+ Kxc2 0-1

**Gao,J – Thornton,G**

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Bd3 c4 8.Bf1 Nc6 9.f4 Nge7 10.Qg4 Nf5 11.Nf3 Bd7 12.Nh4 Qa5 13.Bd2 Ne3 14.Qxg7 0-0-0 15.Ra2 Nxf1 16.Rxf1 Rdf8 17.g3 Kb8 18.Ke2 Nxd4+ 19.cxd4 c3 20.Rb1 Bb5+ 21.Kd1 cxd2 22.Rb4 Ka8 23.Kxd2 Bc4 24.Rab2 Ba6 25.a4 Qc7 26.c3 Rc8 27.Rc2 h5 28.Nf3 Bf1 29.Ne1 h4 30.Rb3 Rcg8 31.Qf6 hxg3 32.hxg3 Qe4 33.Rb1 Rh2+ 34.Kc1 Rxc2+ 35.Nxc2 Qxc3 36.Qxf7 Rb8 37.Rb2 Bh3 38.Qg7 Bf5 39.g4 Bxc2 40.Rxc2 Qa1+ 41.Kd2 Qxd4+ 42.Ke1 Qe3+ 43.Kd1 Qxf4 44.g5 Qxa4 45.g6 Rc8 0-1

**Shen,D – Zhang,M**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 a6 4.a4 e6 5.Nc3 d6 6.d4 Nf6?! 7.dxc5 dxc5 8.Qxd8+ Nxd8 9.Be3 [ 9.e5±] 9...Nc6 10.0-0 Be7 11.Nd2 0-0 12.Nb3 b6 13.Rfd1 Bb7 14.f3 Rfd8 15.Ne2 Ne5 16.Nd2 Rxd2 17.Bxd2 Nxc4 18.b3 Nxd2 19.Rxd2 Kf8 20.Ng3 Ke8 21.Kf2 Rc8 22.Rad1 c4 23.Kf1 a5 24.Kg1 Ba6 25.bxc4 Bb4 26.c3 Bxc3 27.Rc2 Bb4 28.Rdc1 Nd7 29.f4 Nc5 30.Ra2 Nd3 31.Rd1 Be5+ 32.Kf1 Bxc4 33.Rad2 Nb2+ 34.Ne2 Nxd1 35.Rxd1 Rd8 36.Rxd8+ Kxd8 37.Ke1 Bxe2 38.Kxe2 Kc7 39.Kd3 Kc6 0-1

**Chen,E – Ruanq,J**

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 e6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Be7 8.h3 0-0 9.Be3 b6 10.Qc2 h6 11.Rd1 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Qg5 14.Be3 Qe5 15.Nd2 Bb7 16.Nf3 Qc7 17.Nd4 Rfd8 18.Bf3 Bxf3 19.Nxf3 Bc5 20.Bd4 Bxd4 21.Nxd4 Rd5 22.Rd2 Rad8 23.Rad1 e5 24.Nb5 Rxd2 25.Rxd2 Rxd2 26.Qxd2 Qb7 27.Qd8+ Kh7 28.Qd3+ e4 29.Qd8 Kg6 30.Qd4 a6 31.Nd6 Qc6 32.f3 exf3 33.Qd3+ Kg5 34.Qf5+ Kh4 35.Qf4+ Kh5 36.g4+ 1-0

**Wu,J – Fairley,N**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 d5 7.Bb5 Ne4 8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Nxd2 10.Nbxd2 Bg4 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Qa4 Bxd2+ 13.Nxd2 Bd7 14.Qc2 0-0 15.0-0 Qg5

16.f4 Qf5 17.Qxf5 Bxf5 18.Rac1 Rfb8 Kd6 36.Rbd2 d4+ 37.cxd4 cxd4+ 38.Rxd4+ 19.Nb3 Bd3 20.Rf2 Bb5 21.Na5 Rb6 22.Rfc2 Ke7 39.Nb7 Rc3+ 40.Kf2 Rc2+ 41.R4d2 g6 h6 23.Nxc6 Be4?! [ 23...Bxc6 24.Rxc6 Rxb2 25.Rxc7 Rd2 would have made it harder for

white.] 24.b3 Rxc6 25.bxc4 dxc4 26.Rxc4 Rxc4 27.Rxc4 Rc8? Better 27...Rd8 28.d5 Kf8 29.Kf2 Ke8 30.Ra4 Ra8 31.Ke3 a6 32.Rb4 Kd7 33.Kd4 a5 34.Rb5 g6 35.Kc5 h5 36.d6 cxd6+ 37.exd6 Rc8+ 38.Kd5 Rc2 39.Rxa5 Rxc2 40.Ra7+ Ke8 41.Kc6 Rc2+ 42.Kb6 Rb2+ 43.Kc7 Rc2+ 44.Kb8 Rb2+?? [44...Rc6=] 45.Kc8 Rd2 46.d7+ 1-0

**Zhang,M – Wu,S**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Bd3 Be7 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Bc4 Nc5 10.Qe1 Qc7 11.Bb3 b5 12.f3 Bb7 13.Kh1 0-0 14.a3 h6 15.Bh4 Rfe8 16.Ba2 Rad8 17.Qg3 g5 18.b4 Ncd7 19.Nce2 Nh5 20.Qh3 gxh4 21.Nxc6 fxe6 22.Qxe6+ Kg7 23.Qf7+ Kh8 24.Qxh5 Bg5 25.f4 Nf6 26.Qf3 Bxe4 27.Qh3 Bb7 28.fyg5 Rxe2 29.Rg1 Ne4 30.Raf1 Nf2+ 31.Rxf2 Rxf2 32.Qxh4 Bxg2+ 0-1

**Thornton,G – Chen,E**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bf4 b6 5.e3 Bb7 6.Nc3 Bd6 7.Ne5 0-0 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Bd3 Nxf4 10.exf4 Qh4 11.Qd2 f6 12.g3 Qh3 13.Bf1 Qh6 14.Ng4 Qg6 15.f3 Bxf3 16.Nf2 Bxh1 17.Nxh1 Nd7 18.0-0-0 e5 19.Bd3 Qf7? [19...Qh6-+] 20.Be4 Qe8 21.dxe5 draw offered. 21...fxe5 22.Qd5+ Kh8 23.Qxa8 Qxa8 24.Bxa8 Rxa8 25.fxe5 Nxe5 26.Nb5 Nf7 27.Kb1 h6 28.Nxc7 Bxc7 29.Rd7 Be5 [29...Bxg3?] 30.Rxf7 Kg8 31.Rf2 Bd4 32.Rd2 Bg1 33.Rg2 ½-½

**Maroroa,S – Chen,A**

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Bc4 Nc6 4.f4 Nge7 5.Nf3 d5 6.Bb3 c4 7.Ba4 d4 8.Ne2 d3 9.Ng3 Bd7 10.b3 Nb4 11.Bxd7+ Qxd7 12.Ne5 dxc2 13.Qf3 Nd3+ 14.Nxd3 Qxd3 15.bxc4 Qxc4 16.Qc3 Qxc3 17.dxc3 Rd8 18.Bd2 Ng6 19.Rc1 Nh4 20.Rxc2 Nxg2+ 21.Kf2 Nh4 22.Be3 b6 23.a4 Rc8 24.a5 Be5 25.Bxc5 bxc5?! 26.Rb1 Kd7 27.Rcb2 Kc6 28.Nf1 Ng6 29.Ke3 Ne7 30.Nd2 Rc7 31.Nc4 f6 32.a6 Rbc8 33.Rd1 Nd5+ 34.exd5+ exd5 35.Na5+ 42.Re1+ Kf8 43.Ree2 R2c4 1-0

**Sellars,T – Krstev,M**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 d5 3.c3 Bf5 4.Bf4 e6 5.Nbd2 Be7 6.e3 0-0 7.h3 c5 8.Nh4 Be4 9.f3 Nh5 10.fxe4 Bxh4+ 11.Ke2 Nxf4+ 12.exf4 cxd4 13.cxd4 Nc6 14.Ke3 Qb6 15.Nb3 dxe4 16.Qd2 e5 17.Rd1 Rad8 18.Qc3 exd4+ 19.Nxd4 Bf6 0-1

**Smith,D – Maroroa,A**

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2 dxe4 5.Nge2 f5 6.a3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 Nf6 8.Nf4 Nc6 9.Bc4 Qd6 10.Qd2 Nd5 11.Bxd5 exd5 12.0-0 0-0 13.f3 Be6 14.fxe4 fxe4 15.Qc3 Rae8 16.b4 a6 17.Bd2 Qd7 18.c3 Ne7 19.Qg3 Nf5 20.Qg5 h6 21.Qh5 Bf7 22.Qe4 e3 23.Be1 Be6 24.Qh5 Qf7 25.Ng6 Be8 26.g4 e2 27.Rf2 Ne3 28.Nxf8 Qxh5 29.gxh5 Ng4 30.Rg2 Rxf8 31.Rxe2 Nf6 32.Bg3 Ne4 33.Rae1 c6 34.Re3 Bg4 35.Bh4 Bxh5 36.Rf1 Rc8 37.Be1 g5 38.Kg2 h5 39.Rf5 Bg4 40.Re5 Kf7 41.h4 gxh4 42.Bxh4 Rc7 43.Re1 draw offered 43...Nxc3 44.Re7+ Rxe7 45.Rxe7+ Kg6 46.Rc7 Kh5 47.Bf6 Nb1 48.Rxc6 Nxa3 49.Bg7 Be2 50.Rxh6+ Kg5 51.Rxa6 Ne4 52.Re6 Bd3 53.Re8 Kf5 54.Kf2 Nd6 55.Re5+ Kg6 56.Rxd5 Ne4+ 57.Ke3 Bc4 58.Rd7 Ng3 59.Be5 Nf5+ 60.Ke4 Kg5 61.Rd8 Nh4 62.Rf8 Ng6 63.Rf5+ Kh6 64.Bf4+ Kg7 65.Be5+ Kh6 66.d5 Bxd5+ 67.Kxd5 Ne7+ 68.Ke4 Nxf5 69.Kxf5 Kh7 70.Ke4 1-0

**Cheng,B – Wu,J**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Nc3 e6 7.Qb3 Qc7 8.Bd2 Nc6 9.Re1 a6 10.Be2 Bd6 11.h3 0-0 12.Nh4 Bg6 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.0-0 Qe7 15.Bd3 Rac8 16.Ne2 g5 17.g3 g6 18.Kg2 Kg7 19.f3 Rh8 20.Rh1 Rh7 21.Rh2 Rch8 22.Rch1 Nh5 23.Be1 f5 24.e4 dxe4 25.fxe4 e5 26.dxe5 Nxe5 27.exf5 Nxd3 28.Qxd3 gxf5 29.Bc3+ Be5 30.Nd4 Bxd4 31.Bxd4+ Nf6 32.Qxf5 Qe2+ 33.Qf2 Qe4+ 34.Kg1 Rf8 35.Qd2 Qb1+ 36.Kf2 Qf5+ 37.Kg2 Kg8 38.Rc1 Ne4 39.Qe3 Rh7 40.Re1 Nd6 41.Qb3 Kh7 42.Kg1 Nb5 43.Rf2 Nxd4 44.Rxf5 Nxb3 45.Rxf7+ Rxf7

46.axb3 Rf3 47.Re7+ Kg6 48.Rxb7 Rxb3+  
49.Kh2 Rd3 50.Rb6+ Kh5 51.Rxa6 Rxb3  
52.Ra3 Rxb2+ 53.Kg3 ½-½

Chen,E – Maroroa,S

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.b4  
Bb6 6.d3 d6 7.h3 h6 8.a4 a5 9.b5 Ne7 10.0-0  
0-0 11.Nbd2 Ng6 12.d4 Nf4 13.Re1 N6h5  
14.Nf1 [ 14.Bf1] 14...Qf6 15.Kh2 g5 16.Ng3  
Ng7 17.Be3 h5 18.Rh1?! [18.dxe5 dxe5  
19.Bxb6 cxb6 20.Ng1=] 18...g4 19.Ne1 gxh3  
20.Bxf4 Qxf4 21.Nd3 Qg5 22.gxh3 Kh8  
23.Qf3 exd4 24.Rag1 Qh6 25.Nf4 dxc3  
26.Ng6+? Qxg6 27.Nf5 Qf6 28.Rxg7 Bxf5  
29.Rhg1 Qe5+ 30.R1g3 Bg6 0-1

Wu,Shirley – Wu,M

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qc7  
5.Nc3 e6 6.Be3 a6 7.f4 Bb4 8.Qd2 Nf6 9.Bd3  
Ng4 10.Nde2 0-0 11.0-0 d5 12.h3 Nxe3  
13.Qxe3 d4 14.Nxd4 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Qa5  
16.Bc4 Qa3+ 17.Kd2 Na5 18.Qd3 Qd6  
19.Rdf1 e5 20.fxe5 Qh6+ 21.Ke2 Nxe4  
22.Qxc4 Bd7 23.Qb3 Qh5+ 24.g4 Qxe5  
25.Qxb7 Bb5+ 26.Nxb5 axb5 27.Rxf7 Rfb8  
28.Re7 Qxc3 29.Qd5+ Kh8 30.Qb3 Qc5  
31.Rd7 Ra3 32.Rhd1 Rf8 33.Rf1 Rxb3  
34.Rxf8+ Qxf8 35.axb3 h6 and black won 0-1

Chen,A – Thornton,G

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Be7 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3  
Nf6 6.Ng3 0-0 7.0-0 Be6 8.c3 Nbd7 9.h3 h6  
10.Re1 c5 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bc2 Qc7 13.Nb3  
Nce4 14.Nbd4 Bc5 15.Be3 Rfe8 16.Nxe6  
Rxe6 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Qd4 Qb5 19.Bb3 Qe8  
20.Qa4 Nd2! 21.Qxe8+ Raxe8 22.Rxe6  
Nxf3+ 23.gxf3 Rxe6 [ 23...fxc6] 24.Kf1 Kf8  
25.Re1 [ 25.Rd1] 25...Ke7 26.Re3 Kd6  
27.Ke2 Nh5 28.Rxe6+?! fxe6+ 29.Ke3 g5  
30.c4 Ke5 31.cxd5 exd5 32.Ba4 d4+ 33.Kd2  
Nf4 34.Bd7 Nd5 35.Bc8 b6 36.a3 Ne7 37.Bb7  
Ng6 38.Bc6 Kf4 39.Bb7 Ne5 40.h3 h5 41.Ke2  
h4 42.a4 d3+ 43.Kd2 Nxf3+ 44.Kxd3 g4  
45.Bxf3 0-1

Krstev,M – Smith,D

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6  
Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.g3 d6 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.e4 Bxf1

10.Kxf1 Nbd7 11.Kg2 0-0 12.Bg5 Qb6  
13.Qd2 Rfb8 14.Rhb1 Qb4 15.a3 Qb3  
16.Bh6 Bh8 17.Qg5 Nb6 18.Nd2 Qc2 19.h4  
Nbd7 20.Ra2 Ne5 21.h5 Rb7 22.hxg6 fxg6  
23.Qf4 Nd3 24.Qh4 Bg7 25.Nf3?? Qxf2+ 0-1

Fairley,N – Ruan,H

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 e6 5.Be3  
Nc6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Be2 cxd4 8.cxd4 Bg7 9.Nc3  
Qd8 10.0-0 Nge7 11.Qd2 0-0 12.Rad1 Nf5  
13.Ne4 b6 14.Bc4 Bb7 15.d5 Nce7 16.Nc3  
exd5 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Bxd5 Bxd5 19.Qxd5  
Qxd5 20.Rxd5 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Bxb2 22.Rd7  
Rfd8 23.Rb7 [ 23.Rfd1] 23...Rdb8 24.Rd7  
Rd8 25.Rb7 Rdb8 26.Rd7 Rd8 27.Rb7 Rdb8  
½-½

Ruan,H – Chen,E

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Be7 4.Ng3 Nf6 5.e5  
Nfd7 6.c3 e5 7.Nb3 Nc6 8.Be2 a5 9.a4 cxd4  
10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Qb6 12.0-0 Bxd2  
13.Nfxd2 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Qxd4 15.Qc2 Qxe5  
16.Nf3 Qf6 17.Rac1 0-0 18.Bd3 h6 19.Rfe1  
Qe7 20.Nd4 Nf6 21.Qd2 b6 22.Nf5 Qb4  
23.Nxh6+ Kh8 24.Qg5 Qd4 25.Re3 Nh7  
26.Nxf7+ Rxf7 27.Qg6 Ng5 28.Qxg5 Bb7  
29.Qg6 Kg8 30.Qxe6 Qxb2 31.Rf1 Qf6  
32.Qh3 Qh6 33.Qg3 Raf8 34.h3 Kh8 35.Re5  
Rf6 36.Qg4 Bc8 37.Qg3 Bb7 38.Qg4 Bc8  
39.Qg3 Bb7 ½-½

Maroroa,S – Smith,D

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.d4 c6 4.c3 Nf6 5.h3  
Bf5 6.Be3 e6 7.Nd2 Qa5 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.Ng3  
h6 10.Be2 Be7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Qd8 13.Nc4  
Ne4 14.Bd3 Ndf6 15.Qc2 Qd5 16.Ne3 Qd8  
17.Nxf5 exf5 18.Be5 Re8 19.Nd2 Nxd2  
20.Qxd2 Qd7 21.Qf4 Nd5 22.Qxf5 Qxf5  
23.Bxf5 Bf6 24.Bg3 Nb6 25.Kf1 g6 26.Bc2  
Nd5 27.Rxe8+ Rxe8 28.Re1 Kf8 29.Bd6+  
Be7 30.Bh2 Bf6 31.Bb3 Nb6 32.Bd6+ Be7  
33.Bf4 g5 34.Bc1 Bf6 35.f4 Bd8 36.Re5 Rxe5  
37.fxe5 f6 38.exf6 Bxf6 39.Kf2 Ke7 40.Kf3  
Bg7 41.Kg4 Kf6 42.h4 gxh4 43.Kxh4 a5  
44.a4 Bf8 45.Kh5 Bg7 46.g4 Nd7 47.Bxh6  
Bxh6 48.Kxh6 Nf8 49.g5+ Kf5 50.Bf7 Ke4  
51.Kg7 Nd7 52.Be6 1-0

Wu,M – Wu,J

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8  
9.Qf3 a6 10.Qa3 Be7 11.Bd2 0-0 12.Ba5 b6  
13.Bb4 Bb7 14.Bxd6 Bxd6 15.Nxd6 Bxd5  
16.0-0-0 Qg5+ 17.Kb1 Be6 18.h4 Qf4 19.Bd3  
Nd7 20.Be4 Rad8 21.f3 Nc5 22.g3 Qxg3  
23.Qe3 f5 24.Bc6 e4 25.Rhg1 Rxd6 26.Rxd6  
Qxd6 27.Qg5 Qe5 28.fxe4 Qf6 29.Qxf6 Rxf6  
30.e5 Rf8 31.b4 Nd7 32.Rd1 Nxe5 33.Re1  
Nxe6 34.Rxe6 f4 35.Kc1 f3 36.Re1 f2 37.Rf1  
Nxb4 38.a3 Nd5 39.Kd2 Nf6 0-1

Thornton,G – Cheng,B

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Nc3 0-0  
6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.0-0 h6 9.Bh4 b6  
10.Rc1 Bb7 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Bb1 Re8 13.Re1  
c5 14.Bg3 Rc8 15.Nb5 a6 16.Nd6 Bxd6  
17.Bxd6 Ne4 18.Bf4 Ndf6 19.Ne5 c4 20.f3  
Nd6 21.Bg3 Re6 22.Bh4 Qe8 23.Qc2 g6? [ 23...Kf8]  
24.Bxf6 Rxf6 25.Ng4 Re6 26.Nxh6+ Kg7 27.Ng4 Nf5  
28.Qf2 f6 29.Qd2 Ne7 30.e4 Ng8 31.e5 f5 32.Nf2  
Rc7 33.Nh3 b5 34.Qg5 Rf7 35.Nf4 Rb6 36.e6 Qe7  
37.Qxg6+ 1-0

Zhang,M – Gao,J

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 Nf6  
5.Nf3 c6 6.Be2 Bg4 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 e6 9.0-0  
Bd6 10.Ne4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 0-0 12.Bd3 Nd7  
13.c3 Nf6 14.Bd2 Rad8 15.Qf3 h6 16.Rfe1  
Qh5 17.g4 Qd5 18.Qe3 c5 19.Be4 Nxe4  
20.Qxe4 Qxe4 21.Rxe4 cxd4 22.Rxd4 Bc5  
23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Bf4 Rd3 25.Bg3?? Rxb3+  
0-1

Krstev,M – Thornton,G

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.e3 g6 4.c4 c6 5.Nc3 Bg7  
6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 a6 8.a3 dxc4 9.Bxc4 b5  
10.Ba2 Bb7 11.b4 Nbd7 12.Re1 Qc7 13.Bb2  
e5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Qxe5 16.Na4 Qg5  
17.Nc5 Be8 18.Qf3 Bg4 19.Qxc6 Rae8  
20.Qb7 Rb8 21.f4 Qxc5 22.Qxb8 Qc2 23.Qe5  
22.Nc3 g5 23.Rc1 c6 24.Ne4+ Kc7 25.Ng3  
Qc3 27.Qd1 Qxe3+ 28.Kh1 Qxf4 29.Qd7 Nf6  
30.Qc6 Ng4 31.g3 Nf2+ 32.Kg2 Qd2 33.Qd5  
[ 33.Qc1] 33...Nd3+ 34.Kh3 Qe2 35.Qc6  
Nf2+ 36.Kg2 Ng4+ 37.Kh3 Qxh2+ 38.Kxg4  
Qh5+ 39.Kf4 Qf5+ 40.Ke3 Qe5+ 41.Kd3

Rd8+ 42.Kc2 Qe2+ 43.Kb1 Rd1+ 44.Qc1  
Qd3+ 45.Kb2 Qd4+ 46.Qc3 Qxc3+ 47.Kxc3  
Rxa1 48.Kb2 Rxa2+ 49.Kxa2 Kg7 50.a4 Kf6  
51.Kb3 Ke5 52.axb5 axb5 53.Kc3 Ke4 0-1

Petreski,F – Wu,M

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qc7  
5.Nc3 e6 6.Be3 a6 7.a3 Nf6 8.Be2 Be7 9.0-0  
0-0 10.f4 d5 11.e5 Nd7 12.Bg4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4  
f5 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Bf3 draw offered 15...Qxf4  
16.Bxd5 Qh4 17.Bf2 Qh6 18.Bf3 e5 19.Qe2  
Bd6 20.Ne4 Nxe4 21.Bxe4 Rf4 22.Bd5+ Be6  
23.Bxe6+ Qxe6 24.Be3 Re4 25.Qd3 Rh4  
26.Rad1 Rd8 27.Qd5 Qxd5 28.Rxd5 Rc4  
29.Rfd1 Rc6 30.c4 Kf7 31.c5 Bxc5 32.Rxd8  
Bxe3+ 33.Kh1 Kg6 34.R8d6+ Rxd6  
35.Rxd6+ Kf5 36.g3 b6 37.b3 [ 37.Kg2±]  
37...Bc5 ½-½

Smith,D – Liu,C

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Bd3  
Na6 6.a3 c5 7.d5 0-0 8.Nf3 Ne8 9.Be3 Bg4  
10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Qa5 12.0-0 Bxc3 13.bxc3  
Qxc3 14.f5 Nf6 15.Bh6 Rfe8 16.fxg6 hxg6  
17.g4 Qe5 18.g5 Kh7 19.Rab1 Rab8 20.Rf2  
c4 21.Bxc4 Qxe4 22.Qxe4 Nxe4 23.Rxf7+  
Kg8 24.Rb1f1 Ng3 25.Rg7+ Kh8 26.Rff7 Nf5  
27.Rh7+ Kg8 28.Bd3 Nc5 29.Bxf5 gxf5  
30.Rfg7+ Kf8 31.Rh8# 1-0

Chen,E – Dollie,U

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4 Bg4 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.h3  
Bh5? 6.Nxe5! Bxd1 [ 6...Nxe5 7.Qxh5 Nxc4  
8.Qb5+ ] 7.Bxf7+ Ke7 8.Nd5# 1-0

Wu,J – Maroroa,S

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4  
exd4 6.e5 Ng4 7.Bxf7+ Kxf7 8.Ng5+ Ke8  
9.Qxg4 Nxe5 10.Qg3 d6 11.0-0 Bf5 12.Re1 h6  
13.Nf3 Qe7 14.Bd2 Rf8 15.cxd4 Nxf3+  
16.gxf3 Be6 17.dxc5 Rf5 18.Qg6+ Kd7  
19.Qxf5 Bxf5 20.Rxe7+ Kxe7 21.cxd6+ Kxd6  
22.Nc3 g5 23.Rc1 c6 24.Ne4+ Kc7 25.Ng3  
Be6 26.f4 Rg8 27.a3 b6 28.fxg5 hxg5 29.Re1  
Bh3 30.f3 a5 31.Ne4 g4 32.f4 Rd8 33.Bc3  
Rd3 34.f5 Rf3 35.f6 Kd8 36.Ng5 Rf5 37.f7  
Kd7 38.Bg7 1-0



## Zeng,H – Gao,J

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Nf3 Nf6  
5.h3 Bf5 6.Bc4 h6 7.0-0 e6 8.d3 Bd6 9.Nd4  
Qe5 10.Nf3 Qa5 11.Bd2 c6 12.Qe2 Qc7  
13.Nd4 0-0 14.Nxf5 exf5 15.Qf3 Qc8 16.Rfe1  
Kh7 17.Re2 g6 18.Rae1 Nbd7 19.d4 Kg7  
20.d5 c5 21.Nb5 Bb8 22.Qe3 Ng8 23.a4 a6  
24.Na3 Be5 25.b4 b6 26.b5 a5 27.Ba2 Qc7  
28.c4 Bd4 29.Bc3 Bxc3 30.Qxc3+ Kh7  
31.Bb1 Ndf6 32.Bc2 Qd7 33.Nb1 Rae8  
34.Nd2 Rxe2 35.Rxe2 Re8 36.Rxe8 Qxe8  
37.Nf3 Qe7 38.Ne5 Ne8 39.Qe3 Nd6 40.Bd3  
Nf6 41.Nc6 Qd7 42.f3 Nfe8 43.Qe7 Qxe7  
44.Nxe7 Kg7 45.Nc6 Nf6 46.Kf2 Ng8 47.Ke3  
Kf6 48.g4 fxg4 49.fxg4 Ne7 50.h4 Ng8 51.Kf4  
g5+ 52.hxg5+ hxg5+ 53.Ke3 Ne7 54.Be2  
Nec8 55.Kd3 Ne7 56.Bf3 Ng6 57.Kc3 Ne5  
58.Be2 Ng6 ½-½

## Fairley,N – Cheng,B

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.d3 Nc6 4.Bg5 e6 5.Nf3 Be7  
6.Nbd2 d5 7.g3 h6 8.exd5 exd5 9.Bxf6 Bxf6  
10.Qe2+ Qe7 11.Qxe7+ Kxe7 12.0-0-0 Bf5  
13.Nb3 Kd6 14.d4 e4 15.Nbd2 Rhe8 16.b3 b5  
17.h4 b4 18.Kb2 bxc3+ 19.Kxc3 cxb3  
20.Nxb3 Rac8 21.Kb2 Nb4 22.Rd2 Be4  
23.Be2 Re7 24.Rc1 Rec7 25.Rxc7 Rxc7  
26.Ne1 Nc6 27.Bd3? [ 27.f3 Bf5 28.Ng2]  
27...Nxd4 28.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 29.Kb1 Bxd3+  
30.Nxd3 f5 31.Nf4 Rc4 32.h5 a5 33.a3 Kc6  
34.Ka2 a4 35.Kb1 Bc5 36.Rxd5 Rxf4  
37.Rxc5+ Kxc5 38.gxf4 Kd4 39.Kc2 Ke4  
40.Kc3 Kxf4 41.Kb4 Kf3 42.Kxa4 Kxf2  
43.Kb4 f4 44.a4 f3 45.a5 Kg3 46.a6 f2 47.a7  
f1Q 48.a8Q Qf3 49.Qa1 Qe4+ 50.Kb3 Qd5+  
51.Kc2 Qe4+ 52.Kd2 Qd5+ 53.Kc2 Qg2+  
54.Kd3 Kh4 55.Qd1 Qd5+ 56.Ke2 Qxh5+ 0-1

## Thornton,G – Wu,J

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 d4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Nbd2  
Bg4 6.g3 Bb4 7.Bg2 Nge7 8.a3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3  
Bxd2+ 10.Bxd2 Nxe5 11.Bxb7 Rb8 12.Bg2  
Rxb2 13.Bb4 d3 14.0-0 dxe2 15.Qa4+ Qd7  
16.Qxd7+ Kxd7 17.Rfc1 Nd3 18.Bh3+ f5  
19.Rab1 Rxb1 20.Rxb1 g6 21.Bc3 Re8 22.g4  
f4 23.g5+ Kd6 24.Bg4 Nc6 25.Bxe2 Rxe2  
26.Rd1 Nce5 27.Bxe5+ Kxe5 28.Rxd3 Ke4  
29.Rd7 Kf3 30.Rd3+ Kg4 31.Kg2 Kxg5

32.Kf3 Rc2 33.Rd5+ Kf6 34.Rc5 Rc3+  
35.Kxf4 Rxa3 36.Rxc7 h6 37.Rc6+ Kf7 38.f3  
a5 39.Rc7+ Kf6 40.Rc6+ Kf7 41.h4 Rc3  
42.Rc7+ Kf6 43.Rc6+ Kf7 44.Ke4 a4 45.f4  
Rh3 46.Ke5 Rxh4 [ 46...Re3+] 47.Rc7+ Kf8  
48.Ra7 Rg4?! [ 48...g5 49.fxg5 Rxc4 50.gxh6  
Kg8=] 49.Rxa4 h5 50.c5 Ke7 51.Ra7+ Kd8  
52.Rh7 Rg2 53.Kd6 Rd2+ 54.Kc6 Rd4  
55.Rg7 Rxf4 56.Rxg6 Rf7 [ 56...h4 57.Rh6  
Rd4=] 57.Rh6 Rf5 58.Kd6 Ke8 59.c6 Rf2  
60.Rh8+ Kf7 61.Rxh5 Ke8 62.Re5+ Kf8  
63.c7 Rc2 64.Rc5 Rd2+ 65.Kc6 1-0

## Cheng,B – Smith,D

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Nc3  
b6 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bxe7 Nxe7 8.e3 0-0  
9.Bd3 h6 10.Rc1 Nd7 11.0-0 c5 12.Qe2  
Bb7 13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.Bb1 Nc6 15.Rfd1  
Qe7 16.Ne4 Ba6 17.Qc2 Nb4?? [17...Rfd8]  
18.Nf6+ 1-0

## Maroroa,S – Wu,M

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 e6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.d3  
d5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 a6 9.Qe1 b5  
10.a4 b4 11.Nd1 a5 12.c3 bxc3 13.bxc3  
Ba6 14.e5 Nd7 15.Bc2 d4 16.c4 Nb4  
17.Bb1 Bb7 18.Nf2 Nb6 19.Ne4 Qd7  
20.Nfg5 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Bxg5 22.fxg5 Nxa4  
23.Rf3 Nc3 24.Qh4 Ne2+ 25.Kh1 Nxc1  
26.Rh3 Rfb8 27.Qxh7+ Kf8 28.Qh8+ Ke7  
29.Qxg7 Rf8 30.Rf3 Qe8 31.Bc2 Nxc2  
32.Rxc1 Ne3 33.h4 Nf5 34.Qf6+ Kd7  
35.Rxf5 exf5 36.Qd6+ Kc8 37.Qxc5+ Kd8  
38.Qb6+ Kc8 39.Rb1 Rh8 40.Qc5+ Kd8  
41.Rb7 Rxh4+ 42.Kg1 Qe6 43.Qf8+ 1-0

## Gao,J – Chen,A

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 g6 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.Nf3 d5  
5.e3 Bg7 6.g3 Bf5 7.Bg2 Be4 8.Nbd2 f5  
9.0-0 Nd7 10.c3 c6 11.Re1 0-0 12.h3 Qc7  
13.Rc1 Nf6 14.Nb3 Rfe8 15.Nc5 Bxf3  
16.Qxf3 Ne4 17.Nb3 a5 18.Qe2 a4 19.Nd2  
Qb6 20.Nb1 Bf8 21.Rc2 Bd6 22.Qf3 Ra5  
23.Nd2 Qc7 24.Nf1 a3 25.b3 Raa8 26.Re1  
Ng5 27.Qd1 Qd7 28.Kh2 h5 29.h4 Ne4  
30.Bh3 Qd8 31.Kg1 Qf6 32.Qf3 Rac8 ½-½

(Continued on page 30)

## North Shore Open

by NM Peter Stuart

The 33rd edition of the North Shore Open was held over the weekend of 7/8 October with a rather disappointing total entry of just under 70, compared with a round 100 last year, despite an increased prize fund of \$2,400. No doubt having the Auckland club running four or five tournaments over the two weekends immediately preceding the North Shore event had a serious impact.

The main event was somewhat lacking in "stars" but attracted more than the usual number of "would be" or "will be" stars. IM Paul Garbett was a clear favourite with Leonard McLaren the only rival rating-wise. But these situations can be dangerous for favourites as, when a rival gets away, there might be nobody to bring him back!

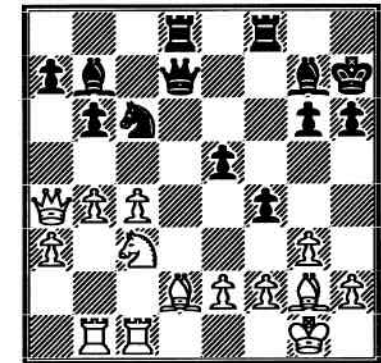
And so it proved as Paul lost to McLaren in the Saturday night round and Leonard went on to score 4½ points and a convincing victory. Garbett started off with two quick wins; they totalled just 30 moves and were probably not the ideal lead-in to the crunch games. In that third round encounter he fought determinedly for the initiative all the way but Leonard kept him at arms length until Paul's tactical oversight allowed a neat combination. The game was not, by any means, over but the clear change in fortunes meant it was McLaren playing for the win from that point.

## Paul Garbett – Leonard McLaren

English Opening [A37]

1.c4 c5 2.g3 Qc6 3.Qg2 g6 4.Qc3 Qg7 5.Qf3  
d6 6.0-0 e5 7.Qe1 Qe6 8.d3 Qge7 9.Bb1 0-0  
10.Qc2 d5 11.cxd5 Qxd5 12.Qe4 b6 13.Qg5  
Qc8 14.Qe3 Qxe3 15.Qxe3 Qb7 16.Qa4 Qc7  
17.Qh4 h6 18.Qe4 f5 19.Qc3 Qd8 20.Qa4  
Qd7 21.Qfc1 Qad8 22.a3 Qh7 23.b4 f4  
24.Qd2 c4 25.dxc4? [25.b5 Qa5 26.Qe4 Qxe4  
27.Qxe4 Qb3 28.Qxb3!]? (White may be able  
to get away with 28.Qd1 too, but the text  
looks safer – and White should have been  
looking for safety at this point in the game)  
28...cxb3 29.Qxb3 and White has enough

compensation for the pawn]



25...f3! [Cunning! Black couldn't win a piece with 25...Qxd2 because his knight was also en pris; not any more!] 26.Qxf3 Qxf3 27.exf3 Qxd2 28.Qe4 Qe2 29.Qe1 [29.Qg2 Qd3+] 29...Qxf3 30.Qe3 Qf5 31.f3 Qd4 32.Qf1 Qf8 33.Qd1 Qh5 34.Qg2 g5 35.h3 Qg6 36.Qd3 Qh8 37.c5 bxc5 38.Qxc5 Qxd3 39.Qxd3 Qd5 40.Qf2 h5 41.g4 h4 42.Qe3 Qh7 43.Qd7 Qe8 44.Qd2 e4 45.Qf2 [45.Qc5 would've made Black sweat a bit more] 45...Qc6 46.fxe4? [46.Qc5] 46...Qxd7 47.e5 Qxe5 48.Qxd4 Qxe3 49.Qxd7 Qxa3 50.Qb7 Qg6 51.Qg2 Qg3+ 52.Qf1 Qd4 53.Qd7 Qb6 54.Qd6+ Qf7 55.Qd5 Qf6 0-1.

McLaren pretty much wrapped things up in round 4 when he won his fourth game, against Paul Godfrey, with more tactical alertness:

## Paul Godfrey – Leonard McLaren

Sicilian [B85]

1.e4 c5 2.Qf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6  
5.Qc3 e6 6.Qe3 a6 7.Qe2 Qe7 8.a4 Qc6 9.0-0  
0-0 10.f4 Qc7 11.Qh1 Qb8 12.Qa3 Qa5  
13.Qe2 Qd7 14.Qae1 Qc4 15.Qc1 b5 16.axb5  
axb5 17.e5 b4! [This move involves an ex-  
change sacrifice which White should perhaps  
have declined.] 18.exf6 [18.Qd1!? and White  
is at least not worse.] 18...Qxf6 19.Qcb5

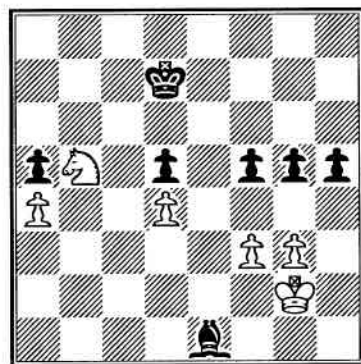
5xb5 20.2xb5 2xb5 21.2e4 2a3 22.2d3 2xd3 23.cxd3 2c2 24.2d1 b3 [Black has ample compensation for the exchange – the white pieces are all passive and likely to remain so.] 25.2e4 d5 26.2f3 2a8 27.f5 2d4 28.2h3 exf5 29.2f4 2d7 30.2a1 2c8 31.2e3 g6 32.2a6 2e6 33.g4 f4 34.g5 2xg5 35.2xf4 2xf4 36.2xf4 2xf4 37.2e3 d4 38.2f3 2c1+ 0-1.

Garbett suffered further indignity when held to a draw in the fourth round by Neil Gunn who sacrificed a pawn for no apparent reason and later reached a pawn-down ending with two knights against the bishop pair, unfortunately for Paul, the prelates couldn't find the win, though they carried on trying until almost move 90.

**Neil Gunn – Paul Garbett**  
English Opening [A15]

1.2f3 2f6 2.c4 d6 3.2c3 c6 4.d4 2bd7 5.2f4 2h5 6.e3 2xf4 7.exf4 g6 8.g3 2g7 9.2g2 0-0 10.0-0 e6 11.2e1 a6 12.2d2 2f6 13.2ad1 b6 14.b4 2b7 15.c5 2c7 16.2a4 2d5 17.2g5 dxc5 18.2xd5 cxd5 19.bxc5 b5 20.2b6 2a8 21.2d3 2c6 22.2f3 f6 23.f5 exf5 24.2h4 2h6 25.f3 2e6 26.2xe6 2xe6 27.2g2 2e8 28.2e1 2c6 29.2f2 2xe1 30.2xe1 f4 31.2c2 fxg3+ 32.hxg3 2e6 33.2e2 2xe2+ 34.2xe2 a5 35.2d7 2f7 36.2b8 2e8 37.2a3 2d8 [37...b4 38.2b5 2d8 39.2d6 2c7 40.2xb7 2xb7 41.2d7 a4 42.2d3 b3 43.axb3 a3 44.2c2 2e3 45.b4 2xd4 46.2b3 h5 47.2b6 2c6 and, unbelievably, White still seems to be alive and kicking.] 38.c6 2c8 39.2xb5 2xb8 40.cxb7 2xb7 41.a4 [White now has one side of the board sealed off; can he keep the black king out of the kingside as well?] 41...2f8 42.2c3 2c6 43.2d3 2d6 44.2e2 2d7 45.2e3 2e6 46.2f2 h5 47.2c3 g5 48.2g2 f5 [48...2f5 49.2xd5 2e6 50.2c3 2b4 51.2e4 2e7 52.2c3 and ... blocked again] 49.2b5 2b8 50.2h3 2f7 51.2c3 2e6 52.2b5 2d6 53.2c3 2b4 54.2b5 2d7 [54...g4+ 55.fxg4 hxg4+ 56.2g2 2d6 57.2c3 f4 58.gxf4 2xf4 59.2b5! 2d2 60.2c7+ 2f5 61.2xd5 2e4 62.2e7 2xd4 63.2g3=] 55.2g2 [55.g4!? fxg4+ 56.fxg4 h4 and White

has a fortress; this idea was not playable as long as the bishop was on the h2–b8 diagonal.] 55...2e1



56.2a3 [56.g4 is probably not working since the bishop also controls g3 from the e1 square.] 56...g4 57.2b5 [57.f4!? h4 58.gxh4 2hx4 59.2b5 and it looks like another lock-out.] 57...2b4 58.2a7 [58.f4! – last chance] 58...2d2 59.2f2 [59.f4 no longer works: 59...2e3 60.2b5 h4 61.gxh4 2xf4+] 59...f4! 60.gxf4 2xf4 61.fxg4 hxg4 62.2b5 2e6 63.2c3 2d2 64.2b5 2f5 65.2e2 2b4 [65...g3!? 66.2f3 g2 67.2xg2 2e4 68.2f1 2d3! (68...2e3? 69.2e2 2xd4 70.2d6+ 2e5 71.2b5 2b2 72.2d3 and I still don't see a win) 69.2a7 2xd4 70.2e2 2b4 71.2c6+ 2c3+] 66.2f2 2f4 67.2c7 2e4 68.2b5 2d3 69.2g3 2c3 70.2xg4 2xd4 71.2f5 2b2 72.2e6 d4 73.2d5 2e3? [73...2c3 74.2d6 2c2 75.2f5 d3 and the win is clear.] 74.2d6 2d3 75.2c4! [Not 75.2b5? giving White another chance to play the winning 75...2c3] 75...2c3 76.2e5+ 2c2 77.2c4= 2d2 78.2d3 2e3 79.2c5 2b4 80.2d3 2f8 81.2e5 2g7 82.2d3 2d2 83.2c5 2c2 84.2d3 2f6 85.2c5 2b2 86.2e6 2a3 87.2xd4 2xa4 88.2b3 1/2-1/2. A fascinating and, for the black side, exasperating endgame! Garbett was joined in second place on 3 1/2 points by Paul Godfrey, Nathan Goodhue and Jeffrey McCrone while Neil Gunn and Helmut Marko shared the under-1900 prizes with their 3 points. Final scores: (Continued overleaf)

Player	Club	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	Pts	TB
1 McLaren L.J.	NS	2187	W12	W16	W4	W2	D3	4½	
2 Godfrey P.	WT	1949	W7	W15	D3	L1	W6	3½	15½
3 Goodhue N.	AC	1980	HPB	W10	D2	W7	D1	3½	13½
4 Garbett P.A.	NS	2340	W18	W17	L1	D6	W11	3½	12
5 McCrone J.	NS	2028	W14	L6	hpb	W17	W9	3½	9
6 Gunn N.J.	NS	1888	W11	W5	hpb	D4	L2	3	12½
7 Marko H.P.	MM	1747	L2	W12	W15	L3	W14	3	12½
8 Krstev A.	NS	2008	L16	D9	W18	D14	W15	3	8½
9 Browne J.A.		1917	hpb	D8	W10	D11	L5	2½	11
10 Wu M.	AC	1626	W13	L3	L9	D16	W19	2½	11
11 Cheng B.	AC	1605	L6	bye	W16	D9	L4	2½	10½
12 Hair P.I.	NS	1818	L1	L7	hpb	bye	W17	2½	9
13 Fuatai F.	NS	1891	L10	L14	D19	W18	W16	2½	8
14 Wells C.A.	NS	1799	L5	W13	hpb	D8	L7	2	12
15 Chen E.	AC	1584	bye	L2	L7	W19	L8	2	10½
16 Evans D.J.	NS	1792	W8	L1	L11	D10	L13	1½	14½
17 Smith D.J.	HP	1925	W19	L4	hpb	L5	L12	1½	10
18 Wright C.	MM	1863	L4	D19	L8	L13	bye	1½	10
19 Zhang M.C.	AC	1713	L17	D18	D13	L15	L10	1	

**David Evans – Antonio Krstev**  
Pirc [B07]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 2f6 3.2c3 g6 4.2g5 2g7 5.2d2 0-0 6.2h6 c6 7.2xg7 2xg7 8.2d3 b5 9.f4 2b6 10.2f3 2g4 11.2e2 c5 12.c3 2bd7 13.e5 2d5 14.2e4 e6 15.h3 2xf3 16.2xf3 2ad8 17.g4 cxd4 18.2xd5 dxc3 19.2xc3 exd5 20.2xd5 2b7 21.0-0 dxe5 22.2g2 exf4 23.2xf4 2c5 24.2d1 2e6 25.2ff1 2d6 26.b3 2fd8 27.2b2+ 2h6 28.2d2+ 2g5 29.h4 2xd5 30.hxg5+ 2xg5? [30...2g7 31.2c3+ 2g8+] 31.2h2+ 2g7 32.2b2+ f6?? [32...2h6 33.2h2+ forces a draw by repetition] 33.2xf6+ 2h6 34.2f4? [After 34.2xd8! poor Black doesn't even have a perpetual check, e.g. 34... 34...2xg4+ 35.2f2 2e4 (or 35...2g2+ 36.2e1 2e4+ 37.2d1) 36.2f8+ 2g5 37.2c5+ 2h6 38.2c1+ 2g7 39.2d7+ and Black can resign. After the text, however, Black again has the draw in hand ...] 34...2b6+? [Oh no! Black again goes for a phantom mate. Instead 34...2e8 seems to be good for half a point, e.g. 35.2d2 2e7 and suddenly White has to look out as he runs out of checks.] 35.2g2 2c6+ 36.2g3 2c3+ 37.2f3 2c5 38.2h1+ 2g7 39.2f7+ 1-0.

**Eachen Chen – Paul Godfrey**  
Sicilian [B22]

1.e4 c5 2.c3 e6 3.d4 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.2f3 2c6 6.2e3 cxd4 7.2xd4 2f6 8.2b5 2c7 9.h3 2d6 10.0-0 0-0 11.2d3 2e7 12.2d2 2e5 13.2c2 2g6 14.2e1 2e4 15.2d2f3 2d7 16.2f5? 2xf5 17.2xd5 2e6 18.2xe6 fxe6 19.g4 [So ... White gets her piece back, huh?] 19...2d2! [Well, actually, no she doesn't. There is a lesson here. At the end of White's combination Black has the opportunity, indeed necessity, for a desperado move – indeed, he has TWO pieces available for this task – and these moves are notoriously hard to predict.] 20.2xd2 2xc2+ 21.2d4 2d3 22.2xe6 2e5 23.2g2 2f6 24.2d4 2c4 25.2g5 2d5+ 26.2f1 2f7 27.b3 2d3 28.2e2 h6 29.2e3 2e4 30.2g1 2e5 31.2b2 2f3+ 32.2xf3 2xf3 33.2d2 2xh3 0-1.

**Jeremy Browne – Jeffrey McCrone**  
Pirc [B07]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 2f6 3.2c3 c6 4.2g5 g6 5.2d3 2g7 6.2ge2 2bd7 7.0-0 2a5 8.2d2 h6 9.2h4 e5 10.2h1 g5 11.2g3 2h5 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.f3 2c5 14.2c4 2e6 15.2xe6 2xe6 16.2e3 0-0 17.h4 2d4 18.2ac1 2f6 19.2h2

♔h7 20.g4 ♖f4 21.hxg5 hxg5 22.♙xf4 gx f4 23.♗f2 ♗e6 24.♙g2 ♙g7 25.♗h1 ♗h8 26.♗xh8 ♗xh8 27.♗h1 ♗d8 28.♗xa7 ♗xh1 29.♙xh1 ♗d2 30.♗g1 ♖d4 31.♖xd4 [31.g5 ♗xe2 32.♗xe2 ♗xe2 33.gxf6+ ♙xf6 34.♗g2 ♗xg2+ 35.♙xg2 ♙g5] and the potential outside passed pawn avails White nothing: 36.♙f2 (36.a4 f5 37.exf5 ♙xf5 38.b4 e4 39.fxe4+ ♙xe4 40.a5 ♖d4 41.♙f3 ♙c3 42.♙xf4 ♙xc2+) 36...f5 37.exf5 ♙xf5 38.♙e2 e4 39.fxe4+ ♙xe4 40.♙f2 c5 41.♙e2 f3+ 42.♙f2 ♙f4 and Black seems to be winning, e.g. 43.a3 ♙e4 44.b3 b6! (44...♖d4? 45.♙xf3 ♙c3 46.♙e4 ♙xc2 47.♙d5=) 45.b4 (45.c4 ♙d4) 45...cxb4 46.axb4 b5 and the best White can do is 47.c4 bxc4 48.b5 c3 49.b6 c2 50.b7 c1 ♗ 51.b8 ♗ ♗d2+ with an easy win for Black; 31.♗f1 ♗xc2 32.b3 b5 and White's position falls apart] 31...exd4 32.e5 dxc3? [32...♙xe5 33.♗e4 ♗xc2 is just winning - Black has an extra pawn and it's a whopper] 33.exf6+ ♙xf6 34.bxc3 ♗xc3 [better was 34...♗xc2 35.♗d4+ ♙g5 and White has to worry about mating threats too] 35.♗d1 ♙g5 36.♙g2 f6 37.♗d3?? [And just when White has the draw in hand, he blunders - it's always difficult to adjust one's thinking when circumstances have just changed so much, like here where White was really struggling to find drawing chances and then suddenly could've been thinking about writing the "1/2-1/2" on the scoresheet!] 37...♗xd3 38.cxd3 f5 39.gxf5 ♙xf5 40.♙f2 [40.d4 ♙e6 41.♙h3 (41.♙f2 ♙d5+) 41...♙d5 42.♙g4 ♙xd4 43.♙xf4 c5+] 40...♙e5 41.♙e2 b5 42.♙d1 ♙d4 43.♙e2 [43.♙d2 b4+] 43...♙c3 44.a3 c5 0-1.

**Clinton Wells – Fuatai Fuatai**  
Queen's Gambit [D32]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♖c3 c5 4.cxd5 cxd4 5.♗xd4 ♖c6 6.♗d1 exd5 7.e4 d4 8.♗d5 ♖f6 9.♙g5 ♙e7 10.♗xe7 ♗xe7 11.♙d3 0-0 12.♗e2 ♖b4 13.f3 ♗d6 14.0-0 a5 15.a3 ♖c6 16.♗c1 a4 17.♙f4 ♗e7 18.♙b5 ♗d8 19.♙xc6 bxc6 20.♖xd4 ♗a7 21.♙e3 c5 22.♖c6 ♗xd1 23.♗fxd1 ♗c7 24.♗d8+ [The sting in the tail - White emerges with an extra pawn.] 24...♗xd8 25.♖xd8 h6 26.♗xc5 ♙d7 27.♖c6 ♙e6 28.♗a5

♗xa5 29.♖xa5 ♖d7 30.♙d4 ♖f8 31.♙f2 ♖g6 32.g3 f5 33.♖b7 fxe4 34.♖c5 ♙d5 35.♗xe4 ♖e7 36.♙e3 ♙c4 37.♖d6 ♙d5 38.f4 g6 39.♙d3 ♖f5 40.♖c8 g5 41.fxg5 hxg5 42.g4 ♖xd4 43.♖e7+ ♙f7 44.♖xd5 ♖f3 45.♙e4 ♖d2+ 46.♙f5 ♖c4 47.♙xg5 ♖xb2 48.♖b6 ♙g7 49.h4 ♖d1 50.♖xa4 ♖e3 51.♖b6 1-0.

**Helmut Marko – Philip Hair**  
Two Knights [C55]

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 ♖c6 3.d4 exd4 4.♙c4 ♙c5 5.0-0 ♖f6 6.e5 d5 7.exf6 dxc4 8.♗e1+ ♙e6 9.♖g5 ♗xf6 10.♗xe6 fxe6 11.♗h5+ g6 12.♗xc5 ♗f8 13.f3 e5 14.♖d2 0-0-0 15.♗e4 ♗f5 16.b4 a6 17.a4 ♗f7 18.♙g5 ♗d5 19.♗xc4 a5 20.bxa5 ♖xa5 21.♗d3 ♗e6 22.♙d2 ♖c6 23.a5 ♖b8 24.♗eb1 ♖a6 25.♗b3 ♗f7 26.♗ab1 ♖c5 27.♖xc5 ♗xc5 28.♗xb7 ♗c6 29.♗b5 e4 30.♙g5 ♗c4 31.♗c5 ♗e6 32.♗h8+ ♙d7 33.♗d8+ ♙c6 34.♗xc7+ ♗xc7 35.♗b6+ 1-0.

In the B-grade, Mario Krstev reached 3½ points with one round to play and agreed a quick draw in the final round against Johan Vosloo. This allowed a winner in the Natasha Fairley v Bob Mitchell encounter to share the first prize and, in one of the last games to finish, Natasha secured the full point.

B-grade scores: 1-2 N.Fairley & M.Krstev 4; 3-5 R.J.,Dare, R.Taylor & J.Vosloo 3½; 6-8 R.S.Mitchell, R.Seabrook & T.E.Tanoi 3; 9-11 J.Gao, F.Petreski & D.Shen 2½; 12-17 A.I.A. Alipiev, D.P.Johns, M.Nathan, G.W.Pocock, M.Van Dyk & Shirley Wu 2; 18 N.Tsoi 1½; 19 C.Guo 1.

**Mario Krstev – Richard Dare**  
Queen's Pawn [D02]

1.d4 d5 2.♖f3 ♖f6 3.♙f4 ♙f5 4.e3 ♖bd7 5.♙e2 e6 6.0-0 ♙e7 7.c4 c6 8.♖c3 a6 9.♗c1 ♗c8 10.a3 ♖e4 11.♖xe4 ♙xe4 12.♖d2 ♙g6 13.f3 f5 14.♙d3 ♙g5 15.♙xg5 ♗xg5 16.f4 ♗d8 17.b4 ♖b6 18.♗e1 0-0 19.g4 ♗f6 20.g5 ♗e7 21.♖f3 ♙e8 22.♗f2 g6 23.h4 ♙f7 24.c5 ♖a8 25.♖e5 ♙e8 26.♗h2 ♙g7 27.♙e2 ♖c7 28.h5 ♙f7 29.♙g2 ♗h8 30.♗g3 ♗cg8 31.♗ch1 ♗e8 32.♗h4 ♙f8 33.hxg6 ♙xg6 34.♗h6+ ♙e7 35.♙h5 ♙xh5 36.♗f6# 1-0

**Natasha Fairley – Robert Mitchell**  
Pirc Defence [B08]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♖f6 3.♖c3 g6 4.♖f3 ♙g7 5.♙e3 b6 6.♙b5+ ♙d7 7.♙xd7+ ♖bxd7 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 c5 10.d5 ♖e8 11.♗d2 e5 12.♙h6 f5 13.♙g5 ♗c8 14.exf5 ♗xf5 15.♖e4 ♖df6 16.♖g3 ♗xf3 17.gxf3 ♗xh3 18.c4 e4 19.♗f4 exf3 20.♗xf3 ♖g4 21.♗g2 ♗xg2+ 22.♙xg2 ♙xb2 23.♗ab1 ♙d4 24.♖e4 ♖e5 25.♗bc1 ♖f7 26.♙e3 ♙g7 27.♙h1 a6 28.a4 ♖c7 29.♙f4 ♖e8 [♙29...♗d8] 30.♗b1 ♗b8 31.a5! b5 32.♖xc5 [32.cxb5 axb5 33.♖xc5 ♙c3 34.a6 b4 35.♖e4 was also good] 32...♗a8 [32...♗c8 33.♖xa6 bxc4 34.♗fc1 ♗a8 35.♗xc4 ♗xa6 36.♗c8+] 33.♖e4 bxc4 34.♗b6 ♙d4 35.♗c6 c3 36.♖xc3 ♖e5 37.♙xe5 ♙xe5 38.♖e4 ♗a7 39.♗fc1 ♙f7 40.f3 h6 41.♗b1 ♙e7 42.♗bb6 ♖f6 43.♖xd6 ♖xd5 44.♖c8+ ♙d7 45.♖xa7 ♖xb6 46.♗xb6 ♙d4 47.♗xa6 ♙c5 48.♖b5 ♙b4 49.♗xg6 ♙xa5 50.♗xh6 1-0.

The three top prizes in the C-grade were all unshared, an uncommon occurrence in the realm of Swiss tournaments. About two thirds of the players were under the age of 14 so it was perhaps fitting that one of them cleaned up - ten-year old Jack Ruan took the \$200 first prize with a picket fence after defeating his younger brother in the last round. But just to show that experience still means something, veteran Dave Taylor finished second with 4½ points, having conceded a draw in the Saturday night round to the third place-getter, Sharon Wu, who scored 4 points.

Next were Neville Hutton, Harry Ruan and Denis Setka on 3½ while the group on 3 points comprised A.Chen, R.Collingwood, Y.Han, A.Huang, J.Li, X.Li and J.H.McRae. There were a couple of nice games here:

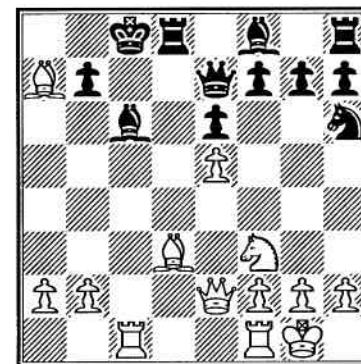
**Jack Ruan – John McRae**  
Sicilian [B56]

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♖xd4 ♖f6 5.♖c3 e5 6.♖f3 ♙e7 7.♙c4 0-0 8.0-0 ♖c6 9.♗e1 ♙g4 10.h3 ♙h5 11.♙e3 a6 12.a4 ♗c8 13.♙g5 ♖d4 14.♙e2 ♖xe2+ 15.♗xe2 ♗d7 16.♙xf6 ♙xf6 17.♖d5 ♙d8 18.♗a3 ♗e6 19.♗d3 ♗c6 20.♗d2 h6 21.♗b4 b6 22.c4 ♙g6 23.b3 f5 24.exf5 ♙xf5 25.♗de3 ♗g6 26.♙h2

♗f7 27.♗d2 ♗c5 28.♗d1 b5 29.axb5 axb5 30.cxb5 ♗c2 31.♗e2 ♗a7 32.♖d4 ♗xe2 33.♖xe2 ♗a2 34.♗e1 ♙a5 35.b4 ♙d8 36.♖ec3 ♗c2 37.♗e2 ♗g5 38.♗xc2 ♙xc2 39.b6 e4 40.b7 ♗e5+ 41.♙h1 ♙h7 42.b8 ♗ ♙h4 43.♗f8 1-0.

**David Taylor – Alex Huang**  
French Defence [C02]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 ♗b6 5.♖f3 ♖c6 6.♙d3 ♖h6 7.0-0 ♙d7 8.♖bd2 cxd4 9.cxd4 ♖xd4 10.♖xd4 ♗xd4 11.♖f3 ♗b6 12.♗e2 0-0-0 13.♙e3 d4? 14.♙xd4 ♗b4 15.♙xa7 ♗e7 16.♗ac1+ ♙c6



17.♗xc6+!? bxc6 18.♙a6+ ♙c7 19.♗c1 ♗d7 20.♗xc6+! [Two rooks sacrificed on the same square!] 20...♙xc6 21.♗b5+ ♙c7 22.♗b7+ [or 22.♗b6#] 1-0.

**MIT Open**  
December 3  
Auckland  
Organised by Papatoetoe Chess Club.  
Minimum prize-fund \$1200.  
Contact John McRae:  
brabham@xtra.co.nz  
or  
(09) 2784520

## New Zealand News

Allan Dick Smith  
RIP

Wanganui chess has lost a stalwart of yesterday with the passing of Allan Dick Smith in the Wanganui Hospital on 13th October, 2006 at the age of 82. Allan has been checkmated for the final time and now joins chess contemporaries of the 1950's, Norm Cromarty, Bruce Marsick, Howard Whitlock, Len Kiley and Archie Ives around the great chessboard in the sky. Allan was Wanganui champion at a time when the club was particularly strong. He competed at NZ Championships and played up the order in inter-club events. He served as club-captain and greatly supported and encouraged other players.

In a brief comeback in the 1980's, he took part in a Murray Chandler simul.

When the time came to give up chess in order to spend more time with his family, he willingly did so even though he greatly loved his chess. At Allan's funeral service the club was represented by Gordon Hoskyn, Bernard Nicholson and Hugh Jones.

Allan is survived by wife of 55 years, Joy, and daughters Karen and Sonya and families.

As a family man, gentleman, businessman and chessman, they didn't come any better than Allan Dick Smith.

## Grand Prix Standings

As at October 30, 2006

There have been big changes in several divisions, in the wake of the Merv Morrison Memorial and All Canterbury Championships (both Class 1).

Mike Steadman and Bob Smith's shared first in the Merv Morrison (with Roger Perry) has lifted them to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Open Division. A good result in the B section of the same event has seen Daniel Shen take the lead in the U1400 and U14 & U1400 division. Mario Krstev has closed the gap substantially on Junior leader Gino Thornton, and also heads the U1700 division.

And now that the senior and junior details are through from the South Island Champs, Bruce

Gloistein has made a big move in the Senior division – although Neil Cruden still has a comfortable margin. Good news for those who took part in the South Island Champs – they have been upgraded to Class 1.

Detailed GP results:

## Merv Morrison Memorial (Class 1)

A Grade – R. Smith, M. Steadman, R. Perry (4.5/6) 1-3, L. McLaren, B. Cheng (4) 4-5, H. Bennett, P. Godfrey (3.5) 6-7 ... 17 players  
B Grade – R. Taylor (5.5) 1, A. Annhauser, M. Krstev (5) 2-3, Jason Wu, D. Shen (4.5) 4-5, F. Petreski, Shirley Wu, P. Mukkattu, V. Jefferson (4) 6-9 ... 42 players

## All Canterbury Championships (Class 1) –

B. Martin (6/6) 1, N. Croad (5) 2, A. Machdoem, R. Hothersall, C. Benson, A. Nijman, S. Ward (3.5) 3-7 ... 16 players.

Howick Pakuranga Rapid (Class 3) – L. McLaren (6.5/7) 1, S. Yee (5.5) 2, P. Spiller (4.5) 3, C. Blaxall, B. Dowdeswell, Dave Smith, C. Wilson, Alan Chen (4) 4-8 ... 21 players

## Updated Grand Prix Leaders:

The full list can be found at  
<http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~kulashko/Chess/grandprix.htm>

a site kindly maintained by Alexei Kulashko.

Open – M. Steadman 66.66, R. Smith 58.16, R. Dive 57.5, N. Croad 51, L. McLaren 35.9, S. Wastney 35.86, S. Lukey 30, P. Garbett 29.4, A. Ker 24, M. Van der Hoom 21, P. Wang 20, R. Perry 15.66, N. Goodhue, P. Godfrey 15.5, D. Baidar 14.86, G. Thornton 13.5, M. Sims, J. McDonald 12, J. McCrone 10.5.

Under 2000 – P. Godfrey 61, D. Baidar 46.73, H. Marko 46.45, M. Sims 45, A. Macdoem 37.4, P. Spiller 37, Caleb Wright 33, N. Goodhue 32.5, B. Nijman 31.23, R. Perry 31.2, R. McKerras 28, J. Davis 27, D. Xu 26.2, A. Nijman 25.9, B. Cheng 25.8, W. Forster 23.63, M. King 20, H. Bennett, S. Yee 18, C. Benson 17.9, H. Gold 17.5, A. Aldridge 13.63, R. Gibbons 13.2, R. Hothersall 12.4, S. Ward 12.4.

## Correspondence Chess

by Gordon Hoskyn

## Player Profile: Bernard R. Nicholson

By Gordon Hoskyn

Bernard Rostron Nicholson was born at Wellington, New Zealand in 1923. Today he lives in retirement in Wanganui with his wife of 60 years, Betty.

He firstly schooled at Orangimea Primary School, 29K up the Waitotara Valley and 64K north of Wanganui. Attended Wellington College from 1936-37. At this time New Zealand and the World was in the grip of the 1930's Great Depression, and he had to leave college at the age of 14 to work on his parents Waitotara Valley farm.

In 1942 in the midst of World War 2, Bernard was called up to active service by the NZ Army. After nine months he applied to, and was accepted by the Royal New Zealand Air Force on October 31st, 1942.

This was shortly after the Battle of the Coral Sea won by the United States Navy thereby saving NZ from invasion by the Japanese.

After six months training in Northland he then went to the Initial Training Wing based at Rotorua starting out as a pilot then re-mustered as a bomb aimer.

Bernard left NZ in October 1943 to train in Canada at the Bombing and Gunnery School at Paulsen, located 320K north of Winnipeg, and saw snow for the first time.

Then he went on to No.5 Air Observer School, Winnipeg for a short course in navigation. So he learned three jobs; as bomb-aimer who took over if needed as front turret gunner and also assisted the navigator by map reading and by operating the H25 set. Then sent to England for bomb aiming and map reading courses. Aircraft he flew on included Tiger Moths, Ansons, Wellingtons, Lancasters and Lincolns. On V.E.Day (May 8th, 1945) he was posted to No.75 NZ Squadron as part of Tiger Force destined for Okinawa to attack the Japanese mainland. He was on final leave when the atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, effectively ending the war.

On Bernard's return to NZ after being de-

mobbed he was successful in a ballot drawing a rehab farm at Hunterville. He toiled away on difficult terrain for seven years until a bad back forced him to re-locate to Wanganui. He spent 11 years working for the Government Valuation Department and 13 years as a wool clerk servicing the rural Wanganui farmland district. He retired in 1983 at the age of 60.

## Chess

Although Bernard was taught to play chess at college, he did not again play until he joined the Wanganui Chess Club in 1979. This came about as the result of a suggestion by a work colleague who had a son, WAR (Rodney) Brown in the local club. Bernard has been a club member on and off since retiring from active play at the club for the final time in 2005.

He is club's most prolific winner of the B grade with five titles racking up wins in 1989; jointly with Chas Ward in 1990; jointly with Chris Burns in 1991 and solo in 2004 and 2005.

A cameo performance in inter-club play has seen him record seven wins, one draw and one loss from nine games at 78.6 percent.

He competed in one North Island and one Congress, both in Wanganui. In the latter held 1986-87, he caused the upset in the first round beating Jonathan Chandler who was rated 400 plus points higher.

Also has a fond memory of taking part in a 51 board simul in Wanganui against GM Eduard Gufeld.

Asked to name his strongest opponents locally, he comes up with Prince Vetharianiam, the late Howard Whitlock and Andrew Sangster. On the world stage he has great respect for the top players of recent years.

Current regular opponents in friendly games are Trevor Chant and Prince Vetharianiam. Prior to this he regularly played Chas Ward and Bob Greenwood both now deceased. Also had a two years stint in Correspondence Chess from 1975-76, recalling opponents such as Wayne Guptill and Owen Thompson.

On the health front Bernard has been a chronic insomniac for 50 years. Getting by on only three hours sleep at night has played havoc with his chess career. This is the major reason that he never made the club's A grade section. He is busy with chess virtually every day. When not playing socially, he spends his time copying out by hand hundreds of chess games from books and magazines into larger print with diagrams stamped in red and black for ease of reference. As a genuine chess enthusiast they don't come any more dedicated than Wanganui's Bernard R. Nicholson.

**2006-2007 NZCCA Trophy Tournaments progress**  
(as at 03.11.2006)

73rd Championship: William Lynn leads, with just two uncompleted games. To date he has 7 wins and 3 draws. Back in the pack and also unbeaten are Bob Gibbons +3, =3; Hilton Bennett +3, =2; and Peter Goffin 1/1.

Points to date: K.W. Lynn 8.5/10, M.F. Noble 7/9, M.L. Dunwoody 5.5/9; M. Wigbout 5/8; R.E Gibbons 4.5/6, H.P. Bennett 4/5, G.A. Hoskyn 3.5/10, R.J. Weston 2.5/7, P.B. Goffin 1/1, P.J. Voss 1/6, E.G.A. Frost 1/7, D.R. Whitlock .5/5, P.A.R. Vetharianiam 0/5.

Latest results: LYNN beat Whitlock. Drew Noble. NOBLE beat Whitlock. Drew Bennett. DUNWOODY beat Voss, Vetharianiam. WIGBOUT beat Weston. Drew Bennett. GIBBONS beat Voss, Frost. BENNETT beat Weston, Whitlock.

Reserve Championship: With frontrunner Justin Davis having been mated by Ken Reed, Gerald Shields now looms as the major contender with +4, =2.

Points to date: J.M. Davis 8.5/10, G. Shields 5/6, M. King 3/4, G.D. Putt 2/4, B.M. Williams 1.5/2, K.G. Reed 1/1, S.A. Holdaway 1/3, B.J. Edwards 1/4, D.I. Bell 1/5, D.E. Dolejs 0/1, G.H. Mills 0/3, W. Anderson 0/5.

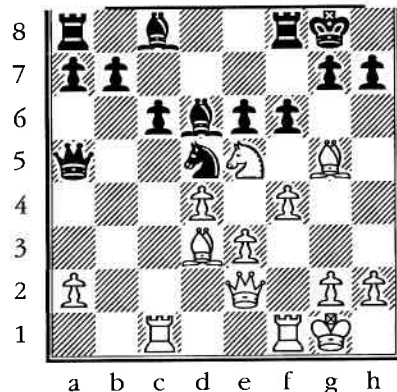
Latest results: DAVIS beat Putt, Holdaway, Bell, Dolejs, Anderson. Drew Shields. SHIELDS beat Holdaway, Bell, Mills, Anderson. Drew Edwards. KING beat Bell. PUTT beat Bell, Anderson. WILLIAMS beat Anderson. Drew Edwards. Reed beat Davis. HOLD-

AWAY beat Putt. BELL beat Mills. TT2: Late entry Mark McCreath has begun well with two quick wins. Points to date: M. McCreath 2/2, A.W. Hendry 1/1, L.I. Purvis 0/1, S.R. Chowdhury 0/2. Latest results: MCCREATH beat Purvis, Chowdhury.

**Brett Sinclair**

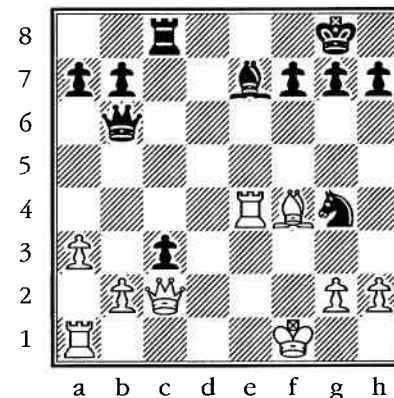
Here are some games held over from NZ Chess August.

**Sinclair,B - Hoskyn,G**  
NZCCA Handicap Tourney, 1973



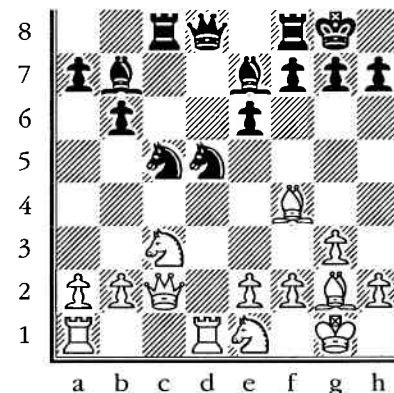
This position arises from a Queens Gambit Declined, Cambridge Springs opening. Black has obtained a pawn advantage albeit at the expense of a misplaced queen. Black has just played f6 in response to growing threats against the black king side. 1.♖h5 g6 [ Not 1...fxe5?? 2.♗xh7+ ♖h8 3.♗g6+ ♖g8 4.♖h7#; And of course also inferior is 1...fxg5?? 2.♖xh7#] 2.♗xg6 ♖f7 [ 2...hxg6?? 3.♖xg6+ ♖h8 4.♖h7#] 3.♗e5! ♗xe5 [ 3...fxe5? 4.fxe5 leaves white with an overwhelming king side attack.] 4.♗xh7+!! the memorable move. 4...♖xh7 5.♖g6+ ♖g7 6.♖e8+ ♖h7 7.fxe5 ♖xg5 8.♖f7+ ♖h8 [ 8...♖g7 9.♖h5+ ♖g8 10.♖e8+ ♖h7 11.♖f3+-] 9.♖f3 ♖xg2+ 10.♗xg2 ♖d2+ 11.♗h3 ♖d3 [ 11...♖xc1 12.♖g3 and white wins] 12.♖e8+ 1-0

**Lambin,A - Sinclair,B**  
NZCCA versus Postal Chess Sports International, 1984



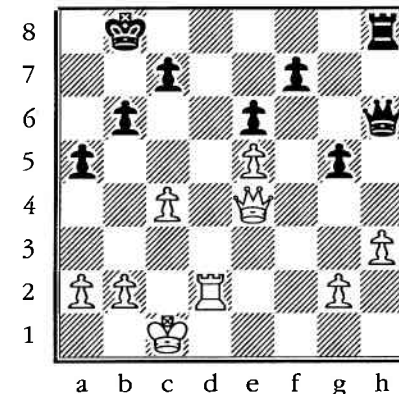
Black clearly enjoys a spacial advantage whilst white has some awkwardly placed pieces. But it's not easy to see how black should exploit his edge, particularly with the pin on his c pawn. 1...cxb2!! ( ... the memorable move). Have you taken leave of your senses ! The black ♖ on c8 is en-prise ! Not only this, but white captures the black ♖ with check and then picks up the free ♗ on g4! 2.♖xc8+ ♗f8 3.♖xg4 bxa1♖+ 4.♖e1 ♖g1+!! Did you miss that ? You must have blinked ! Now, of course, 5. ♗xg1 ♖xel is mate. So ... 0-1

**Mitchell,R - Sinclair,B**  
51st NZCCA Championship, 1984



It's not at all clear how black should proceed from this position. White is about to launch an attack in the centre from a very sound spring-board. His immediate threat is 2 ... e4, exploiting the d-file pin on Black's knight. I had analysed all variations for black that lead to nothing better than positional minuses. So, the only way out appeared to be a king side strike out ... 1...g5 2.♗e5 f5! The memorable move. Suddenly black is menacing. 3.♗xd5 exd5 4.♗d3 ♗e4 5.♖b3 ♖d7 6.♖ac1 ♗a6 7.♗xe4 fxe4 8.♖xc8 ♖xc8 9.♗e1 ♗c4 10.♖e3 ♖f5 11.♗d4 ♖c6 12.b3 ♗a6 13.♖d2 The white position looks to be in tatters. Nonetheless, a way ahead for black is not immediately obvious. With some accurate play subsequently by white and a few dubious moves by black, the final result was ... ½-½

**Sinclair,B - Millar,B**  
NZCCA Reserve Championship, 1983



Black has just played ♖c8-b8 to guard against the threat on a8. But how is white to capitalise on black's badly placed queen and rook ? Just watch ! 1.c5! ... the memorable move. 1...♖c8 [ 1...bxc5? leads to similar continuations, equally bad for black.] 2.♖e3 ♖g7 3.♗d7 ♖g8 4.♖d3 ♖f8 5.♖d4 bxc5 [ 5...♖xc5+ 6.♖xc5 bxc5 7.♖xf7 with a won end game for white.] 6.♖a4! ♗d8 7.♖b5+ ... and white mates in no more than 4 moves. 1-0

## World News

by John McDonald

## The World Championship Match

## Topalov-Kramnik

The World Championship Reunification Match, between FIDE world champion Veselin Topalov of Bulgaria and classical chess world champion Vladimir Kramnik from Russia, was held in Elista, Kalmykia from September 21<sup>st</sup>. This was a very significant match as it brought together the two chess world titles.

In 1993 World Champion Garry Kasparov and challenger Nigel Short announced that they would play their title match outside the jurisdiction of FIDE, preferring the match in London, not Manchester. Kasparov's dispute started in 1985 after the first title match between himself and then World Champion Anatoly Karpov. Just when Kasparov had succeeded in winning two straight games after a long string of draws, the then-FIDE president Campomanes called the match off.

The 12 game match proved very dramatic both on and off the board. Kramnik won a good tussle in game one, choosing the quiet, yet effective, Catalan Opening. In game two, the start of many Slav and Semi-Slav defences, Topalov missed a simple forced win. This allowed Kramnik to convert and lead 2-0. After games three and four were drawn the Topalov team accused Kramnik of using a computer in the bathroom after frequent visits. This led to Kramnik's protest and not showing for game five, which he then forfeited. Weapons of Mass Destruction were not found in the bathroom, however the invasive accusation had its desired effect, and the score was now 3-2 to Kramnik after game five. Two more draws in games six and seven and then Topalov ties the match 4-4 in game eight, with a tense mid-game struggle and a nice endgame with 2 knights + rook vs 2 rooks and extra pawn. For the first time Topalov took the lead by winning game nine yet Kramnik pulled the match back by winning the tenth. There followed two draws in the remaining two games, to tie the match, forcing the four game rapid

playoffs.

These playoff games were of good quality. The time limit was 25 minutes + 10 sec increment each. Kramnik won the second game and Topalov won the third. Up until the last moves of the final playoff game the match had been very even. However in the fourth and final playoff game, Topalov blundered near the end to give the cool Vladimir Kramnik the world crown. Hail, a new king is born!

Game 1

## Kramnik - Topalov [E04]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 a5 7.Qc2 Bxd2+ 8.Qxd2!? Although it is not recommended to move the queen so much in the opening, it is typical in the this opening. Kramnik plans a series of queen manoeuvres that win back the pawn as well as developing his pieces with coordination. 8...c6 9.a4 b5 10.axb5 cxb5 11.Qg5 0-0 12.Qxb5 Ba6 13.Qa4 Qb6 14.0-0 Qxb2 15.Nbd2 Bb5 16.Nxc4 Bxa4 17.Nxb2 Bb5 18.Ne5 Ra7 White has proved again the strength of the Catalan bishop and has a solid pawn formation. However, he must keep a close eye on the a-pawn 19.Bf3 Nbd7 20.Nec4 Rb8 21.Rfb1 g5 22.e3 g4 23.Bd1 Bc6 24.Rc1 Be4 25.Na4 Rb4 26.Nd6 Bf3!? Topalov plays boldly, allowing an isolated pawn on f3. It's unclear whether it will be an asset or a vulnerable weakness. 27.Bxf3 gxf3 28.Nc8 Ra8 29.Ne7+ Kg7 30.Nc6 Rb3 31.Nc5 Rb5 32.h3 Nxc5 33.Rxc5 Rb2 On 33ΔRxc5 34.dxc5 White can play Ne5-xf3 and safely round up the a-pawn 34.Rg5+ Kh6 35.Rgxa5 Rxa5 36.Nxa5 Ne4 37.Rf1 Nd2 38.Rc1 Ne4 39.Rf1 f6 40.Nc6 Nd2 41.Rd1 Ne4 42.Rf1 Kg6. Black's pieces work well together and incredibly, he plays on a pawn down, assessing he should not lose. 43.Nd8 Rb6 44.Rc1 h5 45.Ra1 h4 46.gxb4 Kh5 47.Ra2 Kxh4 48.Kh2 Kh5 49.Rc2 Kh6 50.Ra2 Kg6 51.Rc2 Kf5 52.Ra2 Rb5 53.Nc6 Rb7 54.Ra5+ Kg6 55.Ra2 Kh5. Black now threatens Rg7 and Rg2+. But White's next move changes the course of the game. 56.d5!

e5. If 56...exd5 then 57.Nd4, but 56...Rg7 looks like Black's only hope i.e. 57.dxe6 Rg2+ 58.Kh1 Nxf2+ 59.Rxf2 Rxf2 60.e7 Rf1+ 61.Kh2 Rf2+ 62.Kg3 Rg2+ 63.Kxf3 Rg8. 57.Ra4 f5? With a turn in events Topalov misses his chance to draw 57ΔNxf2! 58.Kg3 e4. Now if 59.Kxf2 then ΔRb2+ with perpetual. 58.Nxe5 Rb2 59.Nd3 Rb7 60.Rd4 Rb6 61.d6 Nxd6 62.Kg3 Ne4+ 63.Kxf3 Kg5 64.h4+ Kf6 65.Rd5 Nc3 66.Rd8 Rb1 67.Rf8+ Ke6 68.Nf4+ Ke5 69.Re8+ Kf6 70.Nh5+ Kg6 71.Ng3 Rb2 72.h5+ Kf7 73.Re5 Nd1 74.Ne2 Kf6 75.Rd5 1-0.

Game 2

## Topalov - Kramnik [D19]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e7 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 Bg6 10.e4 0-0 10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nxe4 12.Ba3 leaves the Black king vulnerable. 11.Bd3 Bh5 12.e5 Nd5 13.Nxd5 cxd5 14.Qe3 Bg6 15.Ng5 Re8 16.f4 Bxd3 apparently a new move. 16...Rc8 17.g4! f6 18.Bxg6 (18.f5!?) 18...hxg6 19.Nf3+/- Pelletier-Deviatkin Moscow 2003. 17.Qxd3 f5 18.Be3 18.g4! h6! 19.Nxe6 Rxe6 20.gxf5 Re7 is unclear 18...Nf8 Kramnik plans to defend his kingside and play down the c-file. 19.Kh1 Rc8 20.g4! Qd7 20...h6 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.gxf5 Rec6 23.Rg1 Kh8 24.Rg2 Nh7 25.Rag1 Bf8 26.Rg6 with threats like f5-f6; Also possible is 20...fxg4 21.f5! Be7 22.Nxe6 (22.f6 gxf6 23.exf6 Bxf6 24.Nf7!? If 24ΔKxf7 then 25.Bg5 Nd7 26.Qxh7+ Kf8 27.Bh6#) 22...Nxe6 23.fxe6] 21.Rg1 Be7 22.Nf3 Rc4 23.Rg2! Instead of the cautious 23.b3 first Topalov speeds his rooks to the kingside leaving his a-pawn to its fate. 23...fxg4 24.Rxg4 Rxa4 25.Rag1 g6 25ΔNg6 is met by 26.h4 Bf8 27.Ng5 h6 28.h5! 26.h4 Rb4 26...Bd8 27.h5 Re7 28.Nh4 Rg7 looks like a good defence but then comes 29.f5! Bxh4 30.f6 wins 27.h5 Qb5 28.Qc2! Rxb2 29.hxg6!! h5 29...Rxc2 30.gxh7+ Kxh7 31.Rg7+ Kh6 32.f5+ Kh5 33.R7g3! Ng6 34.Rxg6 Rh8 35.f6! mates 30.g7! hxg4 30...Nh7 31.Qg6 hxg4 32.Qxe6+ Kxg7 33.Qxg4+ wins 31.gxf8Q+ Bxf8?? The defensive line which wasn't easy to see was 31...Kxf8 32.Qh7 Qe2 33.Qh8+ Kf7 34.Qh5+ Kf8 35.Qxg4 Bg5! 36.Re1! (36.fxg5? Qxe3)

36...Qc2 37.fxg5 (37.Qxg5 Re7) 37...Ke7! heading for cover and threatening Rh8 looks very unclear 32.Qg6?? Amazingly, Topalov misses the win 32.Rxg4+ Bg7 (32...Kf7 33.Qh7+; 32...Kh8 33.Rh4+ Kg8 34.Qh7#) 33.Qc7 Qf1+ 34.Ng1!+- 32...Bg7 33.f5! Re7 34.f6 Qe2 35.Qxg4 Rf7 35...Qxe3 36.fxe7 Qh6+ 37.Nh4 Kf7 38.Qxg7+ wins 36.Rc1? 36.Qh5! with Bh6 or Rg3 and fxg7 36...Qxe3 (36...Rb3 37.Rxg7+ Rxg7 38.fxg7 Rb1+ 39.Bg1) 37.Ng5 Rc7 38.Qh7+ Kf8 39.Nxe6+ Kf7 40.Qxg7+ Kxe6 41.Qg4+ Kf7 42.Qg8# 36...Rc2! 37.Rxc2 Qd1+ 38.Kg2 Qxc2+ 39.Kg3 Qe4 40.Bf4?! 40.Qxe4! dxe4 41.Ng5 would lead to an unusual endgame tussle. 40...Qf5 41.Qxf5 exf5 42.Bg5 42.fxg7 Rxg7+ 43.Kf2 a5 is better for Black. 42...a5 43.Kf4 a4 44.Kxf5 a3 45.Be1 Bf8 45...a2 46.Bb2 Rc7 47.e6 Bf8 48.Ng5! Rc2? 49.e7 46.e6 Rc7 47.Bxa3! but it seems Black is still better Bxa3 48.Ke5 Rc1 49.Ng5 Rf1 e7 Re1+ 51.Kxd5 Bxe7 52.fxe7 Rxe7 53.Kd6 Re1 54.d5 Kf8 55.Ne6+ 55.Kd7 keeps the Black king away and draws according to the computer 55...b5 56.Ne6+ Kf7 57.Nd8+ Kf6 58.Nc6 Rb1 59.Kd6! b4 60.Kc5 b3 61.Kc4 b2 62.Kc3 55...Ke8 56.Nc7+ Kd8 57.Ne6+ Ke8 58.Ke7 Rh1 59.Ng5 b5 60.d6 Rd1 61.Ne6 b4 62.Nc5 Re1+ 63.Kf6 Re3 0-1

Game 3

## Kramnik - Topalov

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.Qa4 Bd7 7.Qxc4 Na5 8.Qd3 c5 9.0-0 Bc6 10.Nc3 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Bc5 12.Rd1 Bxg2 13.Qb5+ Nd7 14.Kxg2 a6 15.Qd3 Rc8 16.Bg5 Be7 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Rac1 Ne4 19.Na4 b5 20.b3 0-0 21.bxc4 bxa4 22.Nc6 Rxc6 23.Qxd7 Qc5 24.Rc3 g6 25.Rb1 h5 26.Rb7 e5 27.e4 Rf6 28.Rc2 Qa3 29.Qd1 Rd6 30.Rd2 Rfd8 31.Rd5 Rxd5.32.cxd5 Qxa2 33.Qf3 Rf8 34.Qd3 a3 35.Rb3 f5 36.Qxa6 Qxb3 37.Qxg6+ Kh8 38.Qh6+ Kg8 1/2-1/2.

Game 4

## Topalov - Kramnik

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e3 e6 5. Nf3 Nbd7 6. Bd3 dxc4 7. Bxc4 b5 8. Bd3 Bb7 9. a3 b4 10. Ne4 Nxe4 11. Bxe4 bxa3 12. O-O Bd6 13. b3 Nf6 14. Nd2 Qc7 15. Bf3 Bxh2+

16. Kh1 Bd6 17. Nc4 Be7 18. Bxa3 O-O 19. Bxe7 Qxe7 20. Ra5 Rfd8 21. Kg1 c5 22. Rxc5 Ne4 23. Bxe4 Bxe4 24. Qg4 Bd3 25. Ra1 Rac8 26. Raa5 Rb8 27. Qd1 Be4 28. Qa1 Rb7 29. Nd2 Bg6 30. Qc3 h6. Ra6 Kh7 32. Nc4 Be4 33. f3 Bd5 34. Nd2 Rdb8 35. Qd3+ f5 36. Rc3 Qh4 37. Ra1 Qg3 38. Qc2 Rf7 39. Rf1 Qg6 40. Qd3 Qg3 41. Rfc1 42. Qc2 Qg5 43. Ra1 Qf6 44. Qd3 Rd7 45. Ra4 Rbd8 46. Rc5 Kg8 47. Nc4 Bxc4 48. Raxc4 f4 49. Rc6 fxe3 50. Qxe3 Rxd4 51. Rxe6 Qh4 52. Rxd4 Qxd4 53. Re8+ Kh7 54. Qxd4 1/2-1/2

Game 5

#### Kramnik - Topalov

Kramnik forfeits 0-1

Game 6

#### Topalov - Kramnik

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.f3 c5 8.e4 Bg6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Qxd4 Qxd4 11.Bxd4 Nfd7 12.Nxd7 Nxd7 13.Bxc4 a6 14.Ke2 Rg8 15.Rhd1 Rc8 16.b3 Be5 17.a5 Ke7 18.Na4 Bb4 Nxb6 20.Bxb6 f6 21.Rd3 Rc6 22.h4 Rgc8 23.g4 Be5 24.Rad1 Bxb6 25.Rd7+ Kf8 26.axb6 Rxb6 27.R1d6 Rxd6 28.Rxd6 Rc6 29.Rxc6 bxc6 30.b4 e5 31.Bxa6 1/2-1/2

Game 7

#### Kramnik - Topalov

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 e6 5. Bd3 dxc4 6. Bxc4 c5 7. O-O a6 8. Bb3 cxd4 9. exd4 Nc6 10. Nc3 Be7 11. Re1 O-O 12. a4 Bd7 13. Ne5 Be8 14. Be3 Rc8 15. Rcl Nb4 16. Qf3 Bc6 17. Qh3 Bd5 18. Nxd5 Nbx5 19. Red1 Rc7 20. Bg5 Qc8 21. Qf3 Rd8 22. h4 h6 23. Be1 Bb4 24. Rfl Bd6 25. g3 b6 26. Qe2 Ne7 27. Rfel Bxe5 28. dxe5 Rxd1 29. Qxd1 Nfd5 30. Bd2 Rc5 31. Qg4 Nf5 32. Qe4 b5 33. h5 bxa4 34. Qxa4 Rb5 35. Rcl Qb7 36. Be2 Nb6 37. Qg4 Rxb2 38. Be4 Qd7 39. Be1 Nd5 40. Bd3 Nb4 41. Bfl Nd3 42. Qd1 Nxe5 43. Qxd7 Nxd7 44. Rc8+ Kh7 45. Rc7 Rb1 46. Rxd7 Rxe1 47. Rxf7 a5 48. Kg2 Kg8 49. Ra7 Re5 50. g4 Nd6 51. Bd3 Kf8 52. Bg6 Rd5 53. f3 e5 54. Kf2 Rd2+ 55. Ke1 Rd5 56. Ke2 Rb5 57. Rd7 Rd5 58. Ra7 Rb5 59. Bd3 Rd5 60. Bg6 1/2-1/2

Game 8

#### Kramnik) - Topalov [D47]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Be2 Bb7 9.0-0 b4. Black usually plays 9Δa6 or 9ΔBe7 here but Topalov obviously wants to steer Kramnik out of theory 10.Na4 c5 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bb5+ Ncd7 13.Ne5 Qc7 14.Qd4 Rd8 15.Bd2 Qa5 16.Bc6 Be7 17.Rfc1 Bxc6 18.Nxc6 Qxa4 19.Nxd8 Bxd8 20.Qxb4 Qxb4 21.Bxb4 Nd5 22.Bd6 White's middlegame tension has dissipated but it still looks a little awkward for Black. If he can defend his a-pawn his centralized king is favorable since the queens have been swapped off. 22Δf5 to stop e4 and give the king some space 23.Rc8 N5b6 24.Rc6 Be7 25.Rd1 Kf7 26.Rc7 Ra8 27.Rb7 Ke8 28.Bxe7 Kxe7 29.Rc1 a5 30.Rc6 Nd5. The White rooks look menacing but actually find it hard to penetrate so Black has little to fear. Bringing the White king over to win the a-pawn would be to dangerous with knight fork possibilities. 31.h4?! This is dubious as it creates a slight weakness. 31...h6 32.a4 g5 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Kfl g4 Now White must be careful of the rook entering the h-file. 35.Ke2 N5f6 36.b3 Ne8! 37.f3 g3! 38.Rc1 Nef6. Now that White has weakened his king side, the knight changes course. 39.f4?! Hoping to win the g-pawn yet weakening his structure even more. 39...Kd6 40.Kf3 Nd5 41.Kxg3? The mistake is because he allows Black to penetrate down the g-file with dire consequences. 41...Nc5 42.Rg7 Rb8 43.Ra7 Rg8+ 44.Kf3 Ne4 45.Ra6+ Ke7 46.Rxa5 Rg3+ 47.Ke2 Rxe3+ 48.Kfl Rxb3 49.Ra7+ Kf6 50.Ra8 Nxf4 51.Ra1 Rb2 52.a5. Allowing mate in 5. If 52.Rg8 then Kf7. 52...Rf2+ 0-1.

Game 9

#### Topalov - Kramnik

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 Bf5 5. Nc3 e6 6. Nh4 Bg6 7. Nxc6 hxg6 8. a3 Nbd7 9. g3 Be7 10. f4 dxc4 11. Bxc4 O-O 12. e4 b5 13. Be2 b4 14. axb4 Bxb4 15. Bf3 Qb6 16. O-O e5 17. Be3 Rad8 18. Na4 Qb8 19. Qc2 exf4 20. Bxf4 Qb7 21. Rad1 Rfe8 22. Bg5 Be7 23. Kh1 Nh7 24. Be3 Bg5 25. Bg1 Nhf8 26. h4 Be7 27. e5 Nb8 28. Nc3 Bb4 29.

Qg2 Qc8 30. Rcl Bxc3 31. bxc3 Ne6 32. Bg4 Qc7 33. Rcd1 Nd7 34. Qa2 Nb6 35. Rf3 Nf8 36. Rdf1 Re7 37. Be3 Nh7 38. Rxf7 Nd5 39. R7f3 1-0

Game 10

#### Kramnik - Topalov

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. g3 Bb4+ 5. Bd2 Be7 6. Bg2 O-O 7. O-O c6 8. Bf4 Nbd7 9. Qc2 a5 10. Rd1 Nh5 11. Be1 b5 12. cxd5 cxd5 13. e4 dxe4 14. Qxe4 Rb8 15. Qe2 Nhf6 16. Bf4 Rb6 17. Ne5 Nd5 18. Bxd5 exd5 19. Nc3 Nf6 20. Nxb5 Ba6 21. a4 Ne4 22. Rdc1 Qe8 23. Rc7 Bd8 24. Ra7 f6 25. Nd7 Rf7 26. Nxb6 Rxa7 27. Nxd5 Rd7 28. Ndc3 Rxd4 29. Re1 f5 30. Qc2 Rb4 31. Nd5 Rxb5 32. axb5 Qxb5 33. Nc7 Qc4 34. Qd1 Bxc7 35. Qd7 h6 36. Qxc7 Qb4 37. Qb8+ Qxb8 38. Bxb8 Nd2 39. Ra1 g5 40. f4 Nb3 41. Ra3 Bc4 42. Bc7 g4 43. Bxa5 1-0

Game 11

#### Topalov - Kramnik

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 Bf5 5. Nc3 e6 6. Nh4 Bg6 7. Nxc6 hxg6 8. Rb1 Nbd7 9. c5 a5 10. a3 e5 11. b4 axb4 12. axb4 Qc7 13. f4 exf4 14. exf4 Bf7 15. Be2 Nf8 16. O-O Ne6 17. g3 Qd7 18. Qd3 Ne4 19. Nxe4 dxe4 20. Qxe4 Qxd4+ 21. Qxd4 Nxd4 22. Bc4 O-O 23. Kg2 Ra4 24. Rd1 Rd8 25. Be3 Bf6 26. g4 Kf8 27. Bf2 Ne6 28. Rxd8+ Bxd8 29. f5 gxf5 30. gxf5 Nf4+ 31. Kf3 Nh5 32. Rb3 Be7 33. h4 Nf6 34. Bd3 Nd7 35. Be4 Ne5+ 36. Kg2 Ra2 37. Bb1 Rd2 38. Kfl Ng4 39. Bg1 Bh2 40. Ke1 Rd5 41. Bf2 Ke7 42. h5 Nxf2 43. Kxf2 Kf6 44. Kf3 Rd4 45. b5 Rc4 46. bxc6 bxc6 47. Rb6 Rxc5 48. Be4 Kg5 49. Rxc6 Ra5 50. Rb6 Ra3+ 51. Kg2 Be7 52. Rb7 Rc3 53. Kf2 Kxh5 54. Bd5 f6 55. Ke2 Kg4 56. Be4 Kf4 57. Bd3 Rc5 58. Rb4+ Kg3 59. Rc4 Re5+ 60. Re4 Ra5 61. Rc3+ Kg2 62. Be4+ Kh2 63. Rb3 Ra2+ 64. Kd3 Bf4 65. Kc4 Re2 66. Kd5 1/2-1/2

Game 12

#### Kramnik - Topalov

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 Bf5 5. Nc3 e6 6. Nh4 Bg6 7. Nxc6 hxg6 8. g3 Nbd7 9. Bd2 Bb4 10. Qb3 Bxc3 11. Bxc3 Ne4 12. Bg2 Nxc3 13. Qxc3 f5 14. O-O Qe7 15. cxd5 exd5 16. b4 Nf6 17. Rfc1 Ne4 18. Qb2 O-O 19. b5

Rac8 20. bxc6 bxc6 21. Qe2 g5 22. Rab1 Qd7 23. Rc2 Rf6 24. Rbel g4 25. Rb2 Rh6 26. Qa6 Rc7 27. Rb8+ Kh7 28. Qa3 Rb7 29. Qf8 Rxb8 30. Qxb8 Qf7 31. Qc8 Qh5 32. Kfl Nd2+ 33. Ke1 Nc4 34. Bfl Rf6 35. Bxc4 dxc4 36. Rxc4 Qxh2 37. Ke2 Qh1 38. Rc5 Qb1 39. Qa6 Qb2+ 40. Kfl Qb1+ 41. Ke2 Qb2+ 42. Kfl Rh6 43. Qd3 g6 44. Qb3 Rh1+ 45. Kg2 Rh2+ 46. Kxh2 Qxf2+ 47. Kh1 Qf1+ 1/2-1/2

Playoffs

Game 1

#### Topalov - Kramnik

d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 dxc4 5. a4 Bf5 6. e3 e6 7. Bxc4 Bb4 8. O-O Nbd7 9. Qe2 O-O 10. e4 Bg6 11. Bd3 Bh5 12. e5 Nd5 13. Nxd5 cxd5 14. Qe3 Re8 15. Ne1 Rc8 16. f4 Bxe1 17. Rxe1 Bg6 18. Bfl Rc2 19. b3 Qa5 20. Bb5 Rd8 21. Re2 Rcc8 22. Bd2 Qb6 23. Rf2 a6 24. Bfl Rc6 25. b4 Rc2 26. b5 a5 27. Bc3 Rxf2 28. Qxf2 Qa7 29. Qd2 Ra8 30. Rcl Nb6 31. Bb2 Nxa4 32. Ba3 h6 33. h3 Be4 34. Kh2 Nb6 35. Be5 a4 36. Ra1 Nc4 37. Bxc4 b6 38. Qe3 Rc8 39. Bfl bxc5 40. dxc5 Qxc5 41. Qxc5 Rxc5 42. b6 Rc6 43. b7 Rb6 44. Ba6 d4 45. Rxa4 Bxb7 46. Bxb7 Rxb7 47. Rxd4 1/2-1/2

Game 2

#### Kramnik - Topalov

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 e6 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Qc2 Bd6 7. b3 O-O 8. Be2 b6 9. O-O Bb7 10. Bb2 Re8 11. Rad1 Qe7 12. Rfel Rac8 13. Bd3 e5 14. e4 dxc4 15. Bxc4 b5 16. Bfl g6 17. Qd2 Rcd8 18. Qg5 a6 19. h3 exd4 20. Nxd4 Qe5 21. Qxe5 Nxe5 22. Ne2 g5 23. Be1 h6 24. Be3 c5 25. f3 Bf8 26. Bf2 Bc8 27. Ne3 Be6 28. Ned5 Bxd5 29. exd5 Ned7 30. Rxe8 Rxe8 31. a4 b4 32. Ne4 Nxe4 33. fxe4 Nf6 34. d6 Nxe4 35. d7 Rd8 36. Bxa6 f5 37. a5 Bg7 38. Bc4+ Kf8 39. a6 Nxf2 40. Kxf2 Bd4+ 41. Rxd4 cxd4 42. a7 Ke7 43. Bd5 Kxd7 44. a8=Q Rxa8 45. Bxa8 1-0

Game 3

#### Topalov - Kramnik

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 Bf5 5. Nc3 e6 6. Nh4 Bg6 7. Be2 Nbd7 8. O-O Bd6 9. g3 dxc4 10. Bxc4 Nb6 11. Be2 O-O 12. Nxc6 hxg6 13. e4 e5 14. f4 exd4 15. Qxd4 Qe7 16. Kg2 Be5 17. Qd3 Rad8 18. Qc2 Bd4 19. e5

Nfd5 20. Rf3 Nxc3 21. bxc3 Bc5 22. Bd2 Rd7 23. Re1 Rfd8 24. Bd3 Qe6 25. Bc1 f5 26. Qe2 Kf8 27. Rd1 Qe7 28. h4 Rd5 29. Qc2 Nc4 30. Rh1 Na3 31. Qe2 Qd7 32. Rd1 b5 33. g4 fxg4 34. Rg3 Ke7 35. f5 gxf5 36. Bg5+ Ke8 37. e6 Qd6 38. Bxf5 Rxd1 39. Bg6+ Kf8 40. e7+ Qxe7 41. Bxe7+ Bxe7 42. Bd3 Ra1 43. Qb2 Rd1 44. Qe2 Ra1 45. Qxg4 Rxa2+ 46. Kh3 Bf6 47. Qe6 Rd2 48. Bg6 R2d7 49. Rf3 b4 50. h5 1-0

#### Game 4

#### Kramnik – Topalov

1. d4 d5 2. e4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 e6 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Bd3 dxc4 7. Bxc4 b5 8. Be2 Bb7 9. O-O Be7 10. e4 b4 11. e5 bxc3 12. exf6 Bxf6 13. bxc3 c5 14. dxc5 Nxc5 15. Bb5+ Kf8 16. Qxd8+ Rxd8 17. Ba3 Rc8 18. Nd4 Be7 19. Rfd1 a6 20. Bf1 Na4 21. Rab1 Be4 22. Rb3 Bxa3 23. Rxa3 Nc5 24. Nb3 Ke7 25. Rd4 Bg6 26. c4 Rc6 27. Nxc5 Rxc5 28. Rxa6 Rb8 29. d1 Rb2 30. Ra7+ Kf6 31. Ra1 Rf5 32. f3 Re5 33. Ra3 Rc2 34. Rb3 Ra5 35. a4 Ke7 36. Rb5 Ra7 37. a5 Kd6 38. a6 Kc7 39. c5 Rc3 40. Raa5 Rc1 41. Rb3 Kc6 42. Rb6+ Kc7 43. Kf2 Rc2+ 44. Ke3 Rxc5 45. Rb7+ 1-0

#### Essent

Judit Polgar and Shakhryar Mamedyarov were joint winners in the Crown Group of the Essent Chess Tournament in Hoogeveen, Holland. Judit, who has only recently given birth to her second child, had a stellar performance with two wins against Veselin Topalov and two against Ivan Sokolov. She also had a draw and loss against Mamedyarov – a 2927 performance! Young Shak has had a steady but sure rise to the top of world rankings. His latest achievement included a win and loss to Topalov and two wins vs Sokolov – a 2921 performance! Both finished on 4.5/6. Topalov, the ex-world champion, ‘fresh’ from Elista, took another knock 2.5/6, and Sokolov only managed half a point. Other competitions in Hoogeveen included: a strong Essent Open, an Amateur Tournament, an event for youth, and curiously enough a pub tournament!

#### NH Chess Tournament

It seems the diversity and scope of international chess tournaments are endless. The hotel chain NH and Association Max Euwe held an event in Amsterdam where a very experienced older generation played a team of youth, aptly named Experience versus Rising Stars. The average ages were 51.8 and 17.6, average ratings 2590 and 2614 respectively. After a good start in the early rounds the Experience team were wrestled back by the Rising Stars who won 28 – 22. Magnus Carlsen mounted the highest individual score which gains him a place in next year’s Amber tournament in Monaco.

#### Junior World Championships

Shen Yang, 17 years young of China, won the girls’ Under-20 World Championship held in Yerevan, Armenia. Shen just edged out her compatriot Hou Yifan, 12 (!), with a higher tiebreak to score 9/13. Hou is predicted to soon become the youngest GM, a record held by Karjikan at 12 years 7 months. Also on 9 points were: Melia, Salome of GEO and Mongontuul, Bathuyag MGL.

25<sup>th</sup> seed Zaven Andriassian of Armenia, also 17, took out the boys’ Under-20 Championship with 9.5/13, generally beating most rated below him and drawing with those above. On 9 points were: Vitiugov, Nikita RUS; Kryvoruchko, Yuriy UKR; Pantsulaia, Levan GEO; On 8.5 were: Frolyanov, Dmitry RUS; Wang, Yue CHN; Stellwagen, Daniel NED; Wen, Yang CHN; Wang, Hao CHN; Khairullin, Ildar RUS; Meier, Georg GER; Rodshtein, Maxim ISR.

(Continued from page 16)

#### Wu,S – Chen,E

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.e4 c6 5.Nc3 Be6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Bb5+ Nc6 8.Be3 Bd6 9.Nf3 Nge7 10.0-0 h6 11.Re1 0-0 12.h3 Re8 13.Rc1 Nf5 14.Ne2 Nxe3 15.fxe3 Ne7 16.Rxc8 Qxc8 17.Qd2 Ng6 18.Re1 Qd8 19.Nc3 Qf6 20.e4 Bf4 21.Qc2 Bxc1 22.Qxc1 dxe4 23.Nxe4 Qe7 24.Bd3 Re8 25.Qd2 Bf5 26.Qe3 Kh8 27.a3 Re8 28.Nfd2 Qc7 29.Qf3 Bxe4 30.Nxe4 Qc1+ 31.Kh2 Qc7+ 32.Kg1 Nf4 33.Bf1 Ne6 34.Qe3 Qxc3 35.bxc3 Re7 36.Bd3 Kg8 37.Kf2 Kf8 38.h4 Re7 39.g4 g6 40.Ke3 Ke7 41.e4 Rc8 42.a4 b6 43.d5 Nc5 44.Nc3 a6 45.Be2 Kd6 46.Kd4 Nb3+ 47.Ke4 Re8+ 48.Kd3 Nc1+ 49.Kd2 Nxe2 50.Nxe2 Kc5 51.Kd3 f5 52.gxf5 gxf5 53.Nf4 Re4 54.Ng2 Rxe4 1-0

#### Affiliated clubs

Clubs are requested to advise NZ Chess of any changes in details given below.

**Ashburton** PO Box 204, Ashburton. Meets Monday 7.15pm (Feb-Oct), Admin Building, Ashburton Hospital, Elizabeth St. Contact, Ken Pow (03) 308-3655.

**Auckland Chess Centre** Meets Monday 7.30 & Thursday (Social) 7.30pm, 17 Cromwell St, Mt Eden, Auckland 1003. (09) 630-2042 Clubroom. Contact, Bruce Wheeler (09) 623-0109.

**Canterbury**, PO Box 19-997, Christchurch. Meets Wednesday, 7.30pm., 227 Bealey Avenue; Tel (03) 366-3935 Clubroom.

Pres, Chris Benson Ph (0274) 318-951

Sec, Craig Hall (021) 128-9543

**Gambit** Sec, Ted Frost, 103 Koromiko Rd, Gonville, Wanganui. (06) 348-4266

**Hamilton** Thur, 7.00pm, St Pauls Collegiate School. Inquiries Gary Judkins (07) 855-5392. Judkins4@actrix.co.nz

**Hastings-Havelock North**, P.O. Box 184,

Hastings, Wed, 7.30 pm, Library, Havelock N High School, Te Mata Rd. Sec, Chris Smith (06) 877-4583.

**Howick-Pakuranga** Tuesday 7.45pm (Juniors 6.30-7.30), Haseler Hall, underneath All Saints Church, Selwyn Road, Howick. Sec, Kees van den Bosch (09) 577-5285, 021 2627079

**Invercargill** Wednesday, 8pm, staff room, South School, Ness St.

Contact, Garry Putt (03) 216-7368.

**Kapiti** Wednesday, 7.30pm, Salvation Army Hall, Bluegum Road, Paraparaumu Beach.

c/- 51 Ames Street, Paekakariki

Contact, Rosemary Kingston (04) 292-8157  
**Mount Maunganui RSA**, 10 Maranui St, Mt Maunganui, Contact Vaughan Collingwood (07) 570-3121, vaughan.lisa@xtra.co.nz

**New Plymouth** 11 Gilbert St, New Plymouth. Tuesdays, 7.30pm. Pres C Bell.

Contact B Bowler, (06) 753-6282.

**North Shore** P.O. Box 33-587, Takapuna, Auckland 9. Wednesday 7.30pm, Northcote Community Centre, College Rd/Ernie Mays St. Club Captain, Peter Stuart (09) 449-1812

**Otago** 7 Maitland St, Dunedin.

Wednesday 7.30pm. (03) 477-6919

Tony Dowden (President) (03) 4730524, Duncan Watts (Secretary) (03) 477-5226.

**Papatoetoe** Wednesday 7.30pm Papatoetoe RSA Bowling Club, Cambridge Tce, Papatoetoe. Contacts: John McRae (09) 278-4520, Manhal Yaikoob (09) 277-9605

**Upper Hutt** Monday 7.30pm, Hapai Club, 879 Fergusson Drive. Sec Gerard Denton (04) 5289297 influence@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain Roger Smith (04) 971-6528

**Waitemata** Thursday 7.45pm, Kelston Comm Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston; jun 6.15-7.15, Mondays, schooldays. Postal address: PO Box 21478, Henderson, Auckland 1008. Contact Bob or Viv Smith (09) 817-2664; bobviv@actrix.gen.nz

**Wanganui** Mondays 7pm, 1st floor, Commercial Club, 42 St Hill St. Pres, Gordon Hoskyn, 7 Pehi St (06) 343-6101; Sec Kevin Yorston, 5 Mitchell St (06) 343-7166.

**Wellington** Tuesday 7.30pm, Turnbull House, Bowen Street, Wellington 1. Pres Ross Jackson, 86B The Esplanade, Raumati South, (04) 902-1707, rosslin@paradise.net.nz. Sec Alan Aldridge, (04) 971-4874, alan\_aldrige@paradise.net.nz

#### Associate members

**Gisborne**, 4/26 Harris St, Gisborne. M.P. Grieve (06) 863-0101.

**NZ Correspondence Chess Assn**, P.O. Box 3278, Wellington. Sec, J W (Sandy) Maxwell, (04) 237-4753.

**North Harbour Junior** Thursday 6pm-7.30pm Northcote Community Centre, College Rd/Ernie Mays St, c/- Felicity Timings, 13 Macky Ave Devonport, (09) 4453729 ftimings@clear.net.nz

#### District Associations

**Auckland Chess Assn**, Sec, Kees van den Bosch, 37 Centre Court, Pakuranga, Manukau City, (09) 577-5285, 021 2627079.