Australian Chess Championships

xstrata

Brisbane 2006

Australian Junior Chess Championships

Bulletin No. 3
Saturday 31 December

Day 3: Beautiful clear blue skies greeted us this morning—great to enjoy from the comfort of an air-conditioned hotel room, but a bit hot for going anywhere outside.

The Xstrata Australian Championships

Following on from his draw with the top seed **GM Lubomir Ftacnik** yesterday, **IM David Smerdon** had a fine win against **GM Roland Schmaltz** in round three of the championship event. Reigning champion **IM Gary Lane**, who defeated **GM Ian Rogers** in the last Australian Championships, this time held Australia's number one player to a draw in their top board clash. **IM Stephen Solomon** was perhaps a little lucky to hold **GM Darryl Johansen** to a draw in their encounter. **WIM Laura Moylan** had another fine win, this time against **Jonathan Humphrey**, and **Moulthun Ly** continued his excellent start with a win against **Aaron Guthrie**. **Arianne Caoili** slumped to her second straight defeat, this time at the hands of **Malcolm Pyke**, and **Greg Canfell** got off the mark against **Raymond Song**.

The major event is being very hotly contested. **Kevin Sheldrick** defeated **Krstic Slobodan**, **Ilia Zvedeniouk** defeated **Richard Lilly** and **Neil Wright** defeated **Tony Davis** to be the only three players on maximum points. Upset wins were scored by **Louay Al Zaher** over **Damian Norris**, **David Behne-Smith** over **Boris Lukursky** and **Nathanael Beilenberg** over **Jason Tang**.

Australian Juniors

In the open under 18 tournament, **Moulthun Ly** continued on his merry way with another relatively quick win, this time against **Jesse Jager**. **Vincent Suttor**, **Junta Ikeda**, **Gareth Oliver**, **James Cronan** and **Michael Morris** are the other players on maximum points. Upset results included **Sam Grigg's** draw with **Angela Song**, **Michael Gearing's** draw with **Ronald Yu**, **Derek Yu's** draw with **Reubban Muthusamy**, **Fedja Zulfic's** draw with **Dusan Stojic**, **Bob Liang's** win over **Thomas Donaldson**, **Will Waters'** draw with **David Webster**, **Jayden Fisher's** draw with **Daniel Anderson**, **Michael Darcy's** draw with **Steven Cooke, Nathanael Bielenberg's** draw with **Jason Cohn**, **Caleb Eriksson's** win over **Blair Slack-Smith** and **Allen Setiabudi's** win over **Nicholas Ng.**

In the girls under 18 event, **Alex Jule** was perhaps a little fortunate to gain a draw with **Miona Ikeda** on top board, whilst **Jessica Kinder** defeated **Susan Sheng** and **Sally Yu** defeated **Deborah Ng**. **Molly McGarity** and **Tamzin Oliver** fought out a very long draw.

In the open under 12 competition, **Yuan Yu** defeated **Liam McGarity** in their top board clash, whilst **Kelvin Finke**, **Edison Tsui** and **Kevin Zhu** also moved on to the maximum score. **Oscar Wang** achieved a big draw with **Cedric Antolis**, who is rated 600 points higher.

Emma Guo was held to a surprise draw by **Karen Khoo** of the ACT in the girls under 12 competition, whilst **Charmian Zhang** was the only player to move on to maximum points with a win against **Katrina Knapp**.

Miscellany

Watch out for the fireworks on the river at 9 pm and midnight tonight—good viewing can be had at the top end of George Street. Also there will be 4 bands playing in the Town Hall Square and a large crowd is expected. Go and have some fun!

Complaints? Well as far as we can see the noise factor seems to be the main problem. People gather around the water bubbler (players and spectators) just outside the playing room door and hold animated conversations—fine for them, but this is proving to be a distraction for those at the boards.

Other dramas? Apart from an unfortunate nosebleed that disrupted a game and a pair of glasses that fell apart during a game, there seem to be relatively few. Now I've said it, the flood gates will open—sorry!

Don't forget to enter the **Rapid** by tomorrow if you want to avoid a first round bye or even a late fee. See the rules in the entry form.

Problem Corner

Solution to Problem 2
Try the following moves:

1.Ne2 (2.Nf4+. Ke4 3.Rxf6#)
1 . . . Ke4 2.Rc5+. Kd3 3.Nf4
Nd5 3.Qxd5
Bc5 2.Rb6+. Kc4 3.Ne5
Bd6 2.Rc7+. Ke6 3.Nd4

Arthur Willmott's Problem No. 3
Mate in 4

Hot competition

So all the competitions continue with the sorting out process, and it is impossible at this stage to start picking probable winners. The positive news is that there is intense competition at the top of every event, and the standard is as high as it has ever been.

Tournament Contacts

Organising Committee

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John Humphrey
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Arbiters

Gary Bekker
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Bulletins

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Alex Davidovic's annotated games from round 2

Arianne Caoili – James Obst

After holding **Johansen** to a draw in round 1, **Arianne** encountered **James Obst** in deadly form. . .

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 c5 5.dxc5!? *(5.d5 would have transposed into Ben-Oni after 5...ed5 6.cd5 g6.)* **5...Qa5 6.Bd3 Qxc5 7.Be3 Qc7 8.Qd2 a6 9.Nge2 Be7 10.f3 Nbd7 11.Rc1 b6 12.b3 Bb7 13.Nd4 O-O** *(Via the original move order, the game has transposed into the familiar waters of the Sicilian defence. White commands more space, but black's hedgehog setup is very resilient. In the moves that follow, both sides are probing for weaknesses.)* **14.O-O Rac8 15.Rfd1 Qb8 16.Bf1 Rfe8 17.Nc2 Bd8 18.Kh1 Bc7 19.Bf4 Ne5 20.Bxe5** *(After this move it is hard for white to count on any advantage. Although doubled, pawns e6 and e5 control the centre well. To keep the opponent's pair of bishops tame, white needs to keep the position closed and keep an eye on the weak d4 square at all times.)* **20...dxe5 21.b4 Red8 22.Qe3 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Rd8 24.Rb1 Rd7 25.c5 Qd8** *(Arianne advances in a bid to exploit her extra pawn on the queenside. James' active play on the 'd' file keep the chances balanced.)* **26.Na1 Nh5 27.b5 axb5 28.Bxb5 Rd4 29.c6** *(Deeply committing move. Can white keep the bishop locked on a8 or not? Safer alternatives were 29.Nb3 or 29.Bf1 Bc5 30.cb6 Bb6 31.Nc2, with equal chances, but Arianne is hoping for more.)* **29...Ba8 30.Nc2 Rd2 31.Nb4 Rd6 32.Qc1?!** *(In combination with the white's next move, this is the beginning of a wrong plan: white's centrally positioned queen strays away from the action, allowing black to seize the initiative. Better alternative was 32.Ba4, clearing b5 for the knight and maintaining pressure.)* **32...h6 33.Qa3 Rd2 34.Qa7 Bd6 35.Qa4?** *(This retreat is just the chance James was fighting for. 35.g3 or 35.Qd7 are better moves.)* **35...Bxb4 36.Qxb4 Bxc6! 37.Bf1 Qd4 38.Qb3 Nf4 39.Rc1 Qf2 40.Qc4 Nh3!**

0-1

Murray Chandler – Jonathan Humphrey

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Ne4?! *(Black selects the line that has been less analysed than the mainstream 4...Nfd7, and with a good reason: after the exchange of the knights, black needs lots of ingenuity to keep the Pe4 alive.)* 5**. Nxe4 dxe4 6. Bc4 a6 7. a4 b6 8. Nh3 Bb7 9. Nf4 Nc6 10. c3 Ne7 11. O-O c5** *(Black decides to remain active at all times. Calmer options like 11...Qd7 followed by 12...Ng6 give white a small but durable advantage.)* **12. Be3 cxd4 13. cxd4 Nf5 14. d5! exd5 15. Nxd5 Nxe3?** *(Opening the 'f' file for white seems dangerous. Consenting to some weakening of the pawn structure with 15...Bc5 is healthier for the black king.)* **16. fxe3 Bc5 17. e6! O-O** *(17...fe6 18.Qh5 is equally unpalatable for black.)* **18. exf7+ Kh8 19. Qh5** *(White has a huge advantage, and although the game goes for twenty more moves the final result is never in question.)* **19...b5 20. Ba2 Rb8 21. Kh1 Bxd5 22. Bxd5 Bxe3 23. Bxe4 Bh6 24. a5 Qd4 25. Qe2 g6 26. Rad1 Qb4 27. Rd3 Qe7 28. Qf3 Rbd8 29. Rxd8 Qxd8 30. Qf6+ Qxf6 31. Rxf6 Kg7 32. Rxa6 Rxf7 33. g3 Be3 34. Bd3 b4 35. Re6 Bd4 36. b3 Ra7 37. a6 Rf7 38. Bc4 Bc3 39. Rd6 Re7 40. Kg2 Be5 41. Rb6 Bc3 42. Kf3 Kf8 43. Bd5 Kg7**

1-0