Australian Chess Championships

xstrata

Brisbane 2006

Australian Junior Chess Championships

Bulletin No. 7
Thursday 5 January

Day 8: Looks like being a drizzly, slightly cooler day—so enjoy it!

Australian Juniors

Angela Song came very, very close to defeating **Moulthun Ly** on top board after creating two connected passed pawns in a rook and minor piece endgame. No girl has ever won the Australian Junior title, and Angela is right up there with a chance. **Vincent Suttor** and **Jesse Jager** have also moved to just half a point behind Moulthun.

Players with upset results in round 7 included **David Webster**, **Daniel Anderson**, **Matthew Beltrami**, **Jason Cohn, Leoma Lee**, **Daniel Posner**, **Sebastian Jule**, **Michael D'Arcy**, **Nicholas Ng**, **James Griggs** and **Allen Setiabudi**.

In the girls under 18 event, **Alex Jule**, **Jessica Kinder** and **Sally Yu** won on the three top boards, to move to 6, 5.5 and 5 respectively.

Kelvin Finke defeated **Kevin Zhu** in the under 12 top board clash, and now leads by half a point from **Yi Yuan** and **Liam McGarity**. Round 7 upset results in this competition included **Liam McGarity**, **Etienne Masle-Farquhar**, **Yijun Zhang**, **Oliver Pope**, **Brandon Leggett**, **Joshua Bishop** and **Joshua Radford**.

Emma Guo and **Charmian Zhang** continue to slug it out in the girls under 12s. **Emma Guo** has a half point advantage, and this could easily prove decisive.

Lightning

You can enter this between 12 and 1pm tomorrow (Friday) but don't delay any longer because after that, you can expect a late fee and a first round bye.

Disco for kids

Make sure you're ready for the action after the presentations on Monday 9 January. Bizarre dress will definitely be acceptable!

The Xstrata Australian Championships

GM Ian Rogers defeated **GM Murray Chandler** for the first time in his long career, after many previous efforts, to move to the lead after 7 rounds of the championship event. He is joined by **IM David Smerdon**, who took his game against **IM Gary Lane** out of 'book' very early on, with the result that only 7 moves had been made after 100 minutes of play. He went on to record yet another very fine victory.

The big news is that Smerdon now needs just one point in his next two games to record his first GM norm, which would be the first GM norm recorded in Australia for over a decade. **George Xie**, who has already recorded three IM norms, drew with **GM Roland Schmaltz**, and is aiming to boost his FIDE rating to 2400+ to enable him to obtain his IM title.

The two young guns, **Moulthun Ly** and **Raymond Song** both recorded good wins.

In the Major, **Kevin Sheldrick** won again and opened up a one point lead. Upset results were recorded by **Michael Cashman**, **Rukman Vijayakumar**, **Barry Cox**, **David Behne-Smith**, **Shannon Oliver**, **Brayden Soo**, **Howard Chuang**, **Roland Brockman** and **Jason Tang**.

In the Minor, after four rounds, **Mark Craven** is the outright leader on 4. During the day, upset results were recorded by **Craig Stewart**, **Peter Booy**, **Jeff Nutt**, **Nick Kospartov**, **Mary Wilkie**, **Peter Bender**, **Nathan Davidson**, **Brandon Low** and **Jim Rogers**.

Pub Trivia night

Sharpen your brains and your pencils ready for the challenge tomorrow night at 7 for 7.30 pm (finishing by about 9.30 pm) in the **Analysis Room**.

Don't expect chess questions—subjects will be wide-ranging and test your knowledge. Teams of up to 10 will be in contention, so gather your wits, your friends and relatives and pay $20 per person to the organizer **Ian Murray** in the Tournament Office today (Thursday). This price will include drinks and plenty of fun prizes.

Polo shirts

We have a **special deal for clubs** wanting to bulk-buy shirts. Only the one size is included in this deal—small adult, which would fit most kids under 10s and 12s. We have limited numbers of other sizes, so these are not included in the deal.

The bulk price will be **5 for $90** or **10 for $150**.

ACF National Conference

This will be held in the boardroom on Level 4 on **Friday 6 January at 10 am**.

Problem Corner

Solution to Problem 6

1.Ne6.Nc7	2.Bd1+.Kh6
3.Ng8+.Kg6	4.Bh5+.Kxh5
5.Nf4+.Kg5	6.Kg3. ~
7.h4#	

Arthur Willmott's Problem No. 7

White to play and mate in 7

Tournament Contacts

Organising Committee

Graeme Gardiner
[0438 305797]
Ian Murray [0412 717053]
John Humphrey
Lionel Smerdon

Arbiters

Gary Bekker
Roland Eime
Jason Lyons
Charles Zworestine

Media Liaison

Cathy Rogers

Bulletins

Wendy Gardiner

Alex Davidovic's annotated games from round 6

Junta Ikeda – Moulthun Ly

Moulthun Ly is in a small group of players participating both in the **Championship** and the **Junior Open** – chess completely fills his days and by now probably his dreams too. He leads the Junior Open Championship convincingly and has so far only allowed one draw.

1. e4 e6 2. b3 *(Probably intimidated by this opponent's knowledge on openings, Ikeda ventures into the unknown. The problem is that 2.b3 places little pressure on black's position and does not hold much hope of obtaining an opening advantage.)* **2...d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Bb2 Nf6 5. Nf3 c5 6. Bb5+ Nc6 7. Qe2+ Be7 8. Bxf6 gxf6** *(White managed to weaken black's pawn structure, but at the cost of parting with his strong Bb2. Black's control over the centre, well-coordinated pieces and the bishop pair more than compensate for the doubled pawns.)* **9. O-O O-O 10. Nc3 Bg4 11. h3?** *(This move puts black firmly in the driving seat. 11. Bc6 is better.)* **11...Nd4 12. Qe3 Bxf3 13. gxf3 Kh8! 14. Bd3 Rg8+ 15. Kh2 Qd6+ 16. f4 Bf8 17. Kh1 Bh6 18. Rae1 Qd7** *(18...Ne6!?)* **19. Rg1 Nf5? 20. Qe2?** *(Black misses the opportunity: the bold 20.Qc5! gets him back into the game and if 20...Ng3 21.Kh2)* **20...Nh4 21. Rg4 Rae8 22. Rxh4?** *(This move seals white's fate. 22.Qe8 presents a better defence: 22...Re8 23. Re8 Qe8 24. Rh4. An alternative is 22.Reg1!? d4 23. Ne4)* **22...Rxe2 23. Rxe2 c4 24. bxc4 dxc4 25. Bxc4 Bxf4 26. Bd3 h6 27. Ne4 f5 28. Ng3 Qc6+ 29. Be4 Qb5 30. Rxf4 Rxg3 31. Re1 Rxh3+ 32. Kg2 Rh5 33. Bf3 Rg5+ 34. Kh3 Qc5 35. d4 Qxc2 36. Re2 Qc1 37. Rh4 f4 38. Bg2 Qc3+ 39. f3**

0-1

Zong-Yuan Zhao – James Obst

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 O-O 8.Be3 c5 9.Ne2 Nc6 *(This is one of the main lines of the Gruenfeld Defence, contested in countless games. Black provokes white into building a powerful centre, then uses Bg7, Nc6 and Pc5 to undermine it.)* **10.O-O cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.f3 Na5 13.Bd3 Be6 14.d5 Bxa1 15.Qxa1 f6 16.Bh6 Re8 17.Nd4 Bd7 18.e5** *(Zhao sacrifices the exchange to eliminate the main defender of the black king. It is easy to make a mistake in this double-edged position and playing it requires the up-to-date knowledge of theoretical developments.)* **18...Rc8 19.Rb1 Qc7 20.e6 Ba4 21.Rb4 Qc3 22.Qxc3 Rxc3 23.Be2 Ra3** *(diagram)*

24.d6! *(James succeeded in keeping the exchange and reaching the endgame. For the moment black's Na5, Ba4 and Ra3 are away from the centre and the kingside, which Zhao exploits to the maximum effect.)* **24...exd6 25.Rxa4 Rxa4 26.Bb5 Rxe6 27.Bxa4 Re1+ 28.Kf2 Ra1 29.Bd7 Rxa2+ 30.Kg3 Rb2?** *(Tired after the prolonged struggle in this fascinating game, black errs, allowing white to finish the game in style. 30.Kh8! was necessary so that black can respond to 30...Be6 with 31. Ra4!)* **31.Be6+ Kh8 32.Bf7!** *(Suddenly there is no defence against Ne6 and Bg7.)* **32...Re2 33.Nxe2 Nc6 34.Bd5**

1-0