A NEW CHESS MAGAZINE

“The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposing ideas in mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function.”

(F. Scott Fitzgerald)

Most chess players and administrators in this country are of first rate intelligence; yet we appear to struggle with the opposing ideas of tradition and progress. Today we must adapt and change at an increasingly rapid pace in order to keep up with the world around us; yet work even harder to maintain a community and connection with the past.

Welcome to the re-launch of On The Move. Many club players will have fond memories of a Victorian Chess Association newsletter of the same name from the ‘80s and ‘90s and we’re thrilled to have a past editor, IM Robert Jamieson, on board as editor in its new incarnation. On The Move will be available free of charge to all clubs in Australia in both hard-copy printed form and also by email or download; providing news, tips and articles of interest to club players (1200-1600 rating). We invite submissions from anyone who wishes to contribute.

OTM is published by ChessClub.com.au (website owned by Chess World), a modern site sharing club news and promoting chess clubs to potential members and the general public. For $100 per year ChessClub.com.au designs and hosts websites (including calendar and email support) for clubs who don’t have the resources to create their own. We also provide strategic, tactical and practical assistance to chess clubs who are just starting out or hoping to grow. Clubs who subscribe to the ChessClub.com.au service also have access to wholesale pricing (around 35% less than retail) on all chess equipment.

Hopefully we’ll be able to find the right mix of the philosophies of tradition and progress as we help to redesign the future of chess in Australia.

David Cordover
Chess Guru

Covering Chess in Victoria, Australia and the World
Edited by IM Robert Jamieson

The World Chess Champion Vishy Anand defended his title after defeated Veselin Topalov 6.5 - 5.5 in Sofia, Bulgaria in a hard-fought match.

(See report in this issue)

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By IM Robert Jamieson

Chess has never been a great spectator sport. We can all appreciate it when Roger Federer hits a winner on the tennis court, but to appreciate a good move on the chess board you probably have to be a good player yourself. This however should not discourage you from following top International chess on the internet, and it doesn’t get any bigger than the World Chess Championship played in Bulgaria between Anand and his challenger Topalov.

The games were broadcast live (at 10.00pm Eastern Standard Time) and I certainly stayed up late to watch. What you do is try to guess each player’s move before he makes it. When he makes a different move you then try to understand why. This is a great learning tool and afterwards you can always watch the videos of the game being analysed so as to learn even more.

Here is the exciting first game of the match

World Championship 2010 - Game 1
GM V.Topalov 2805
GM V.Anand 2787
Grunfeld Defence


Anand seeks to set up a blockade on the dark squares. Topalov must act quickly before Black can complete his development.

19.Nf4 g5 20.Nh5+ Kg8?
20...Kh8 to allow ...Rg8 was better.

21.h4 h6 22.hxg5 hxg5 23.Rf3 Kf7?
Better was 23...Bb7 or Bd7

24.Nxf6?!
A daring sacrifice to get at Black’s K.

24...Kxf6 25.Rh3 Rg8
If 25...Qf4 26.e5+! is winning.


30.Rxc8+! 1-0
If 30...Rx8 31.Qc1+ Nc6 32.Bxc6 Qe3+ 33.Qxe3 dxe3 34.Bxa8 wins easily or
30...Rxc8 31.Rd7+ Ke8 32.Rxd4+ wins the Q.

The match was very close and it all came down the the last (12th) game with the challenger having the advantage of the white pieces.

World Championship 2010 - Game 12
GM V.Topalov 2805
GM V.Anand 2787
D56 - Queen's Gambit/Lasker Variation

A great game to finish and the match which will go down in history as one of the better world championship matches. At last the chess world seems to have returned to normality. We know who the undisputed world champion is, he defends his title at regular intervals and the matches are for a set “best of 12 games” rather than dragging on forever until someone wins six games. It’s just like being back in the 1960’s!

Anand by all accounts is a very nice guy who beat the odds by defending his title in his opponent’s home country. Not since 1892 has a defending World Champion lost the first game of their match and hung on to the title. Topalov’s given name “Veselin” means “happy” in Bulgarian. He may not have won the title but I think he can be happy with his play and for being part of a wonderful event.

Ian Rogers Comments....
“Anand will keep the world title until London 2012 when it is quite likely he will be forced to defend the crown against a player half his age — Norway’s Magnus Carlsen, already the youngest world number one in history. Anand and Carlsen have previously worked together but now master and student may become mortal enemies.”

For more details of the match (including the behind the scenes gossip) check out Ian’s articles at:

The Sydney Open was held just after the Doeberl Cup, from April 6 to 11, and so several participants travelled from the Australian capital to Sydney to try their luck again at the 64 squares. A total of 128 players entered (77 in the Open group, 51 in the Challengers). The average rating of the Open field was 2131, including 10 GMs, 8 IMs, 3 FMs, 3 WIMs and 1 WFM.

Venue was the Parramatta Town Hall in Sydney. The prize fund totalled A$14,000 (€9,636 or US $13,073). Principal sponsor was GM Murray Chandler. Just like the Doeberl Cup, the Sydney Open was a 9-round Swiss. Australian champion GM Zhao Zong-Yuan and GM Gawain Jones from England drew quickly in the last round to secure a tied first place. Doeberl Cup winner GM Li Chao from China lost to GM Vladimir Malaniuk, and so only GM Dejan Bojkov from Bulgaria could theoretically join Zhao and Jones. He did so, by beating GM Barua with Black, and eventually was declared winner on Buchholz.

This event was a great opportunity for some of Australia’s better juniors to play against International titled players. Here is how Sydney junior Max Illingworth knocked off grandmaster Darryl Johansen and a very tactical encounter.

Sydney International Open
Max Illingworth 2289
GM Darryl Johansen 2457
B80 - Sicilian/Scheveningen Variation

GM Dejan Bojkov (Bulgaria) wins the Sydney International Open 2010
Kf7 31.Nxe7 Kxe7 32.Qxg7+! Rxe7 33.Rxg7+ Kd8 34.Bxf6+ Kc8 35.Bh3+ Kb8 36.Be5+-] 29... Nh5 30.f5 Bxf5 31.Ng5+ Bxg5 32.Qd5+ 1-0

All the games are at: http://www.smartdolphins.net/live/dgt_chesstheatre.htm

Final LEADING SCORES:

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Joseph Henry Blackburne

“The Blackburne tour

22 December 1884 - May 1885

by Tony Wright

“Joseph Henry Blackburne (December 10, 1841 – September 1, 1924), nicknamed “The Black Death”, dominated British Chess during the latter part of the 19th century. He learned the game at the relatively late age of 18 but quickly became a strong player and went on to develop a professional chess career that spanned over 50 years. At one point he was the world’s second most successful player, with a string of tournament victories behind him, but he really enjoyed popularising chess by giving simultaneous and blindfold displays around the country. Blackburne also published a collection of his own games, and was a chess correspondent for a leading journal until his death.

He was also noted for heavy drinking of Scotch Whiskey, especially during exhibition games, and this became the subject of many anecdotes. However he occasionally became violent when drunk, and his victims included other chess players.” (Wiki.)

Blackburne was heeding medical advice of a prolonged stay in a warm climate when he left a cold (9° - 12°) and cloudy London on 22 October on the SS Kildare. Surviving gales, high seas, fog and snow he reached Melbourne (15°) on 22 December and visited the Melbourne Chess Club that evening. The three major clubs rallied to provide the best opposition for one of his famous blind-fold simul while he played casual games against the top players. Victoria was the champion of the interstate telegraphic matches and Andrew Burns (1831 - 1901) was its acknowledged best player.

A Burns - J Blackburne


Charles Fisher (1845-90) had defeated Sydney’s best players before he returned to Victoria in 1875. He then defeated the current best Victorian, Louis Goldsmith, +5-4=3 and was proclaimed the first Australian champion.

J Blackburne - C Fisher


Frederick Esling (1860-1955) had returned from Germany (1875-9) with a Civil Engineering degree and a (casual) victory over former World Champion Adolf Anderssen.

J Blackburne - F Esling

38.Rfxe4 Rxc6 39.c4 Rc5 40.Kd3 f5 41.Rxe5 Rxe5 42.Rf2 h5 43.Rf4 Kg6 44.g4 Kg5 45.Rxh5+ Rxh5 46.gxh5 Kxh5 47.Kd4 Ke6 48.b4 b6 49.h4 Ke7 50.Kd5 Ke7 51.a4 Ke7 52.Kd4 b5 53.cxb5 axb5 54.a5 Kc6 55.Ke4 Kb7 56.Kf5 Kc7 57.Kg5 d5 58.Kxh5 1-0

On Jan 8, he won his blindfold simul +9-0=3. On 20/1-2/2, he toured Warnambool +7-0=3, Hamilton +5-0=1 and Portland +6-0=1. Back in Melbourne, 7/2, he won +18-0=0 at the Victoria Club and left for Sydney on 15/2. Again he assessed his opposition before more blind simuls at Sydney =2-3=3 on 25/2, Petersham +6-0=0 on 11/3, Newcastle +6-0=2 on 18/3 and +15-1=0 normal simul back in Sydney on 21/3. After a fortnight’s rest at Warnambool (4-18 April) and two simuls +7-0=0(blind) on 22/4 and +9-0=0 on 23/4 at Castlemaine he returned to defeat Melbourne University +20-2=0 on 4/5.

J Blackburrne - Whistler
Blindfold Simul Newcastle 18 March 1885
17. ... Rf7 18.Rxe6 d5 19.Qg5+ Kh8 20.Re7 Qg8 21.Qg7+ 1-0

Adelaide was his final stop-over with a +4-0=4 on l3/5 and +23-1=1 on l5/5. The best opponent was Henry Charlick (1845 - 1916) who had honed his skills by correspondence chess.

J Blackburne - H Charlick
Adelaide Simul 15th May 1885

15...Ng3+ 16.Kg1 f2+ 17.Kxf2 Nxf1+ 18.Kg1 Re1+ 19.Bxe1 Qxe1#

Blackburne left Australia on 18/5 with simul scores of +48-3=17 (blind) and +85-4=2. The SS John Elder returned him to London on 4 July fit and healthy. Hamburg 1885 began on 13 July.
Back in the 1970’s Max Fuller was one of Australia’s leading players. There were few International Tournaments in Australia in those days so Fuller often went to England for 6 months to play chess.

He played in several British Championship with reasonable results but in 1977 was no match for 12 year-old chess prodigy Nigel Short.

Brighton 1977

N.Short
M.Fuller

Sicilian Defence
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Qb6
Bringing the Q out too early. I prefer 3...d6
4.Bxc6 Qxc6 5.O-O g6
Black could take the “e” pawn but after 5...Qxe4 6.Nc3 Qc6 7.d4 White has a big lead in development.

9.Qd3 Nf6 10.Ne5 was the alternative.
9...Bxc3 10.bxc3 Qxe4
Too greedy. 10...Bg4 was better.

A SHORT STORY

11.Qc1 Bf5
Better was 11...Nf6
12.Re1 Qa4 Bh6
12.Re1 Qa4
If 12...Qxc2 13.Qa3 b6 14.Rad1 threatening Rd2.
13.Qe3
Now White has threats like 13.Bd6 and 13...Be5 f6
14.Bxf6
12...Qc6 14.Ne5
Qc8 15.Nc4! Be6
If 15...Qe6 16.Nd6+!
16.Qe5 Nf6
17.Nd6+ exd6 18.Qxf6 Rg8
Not 18...Kd7 19.Rad1 d5 20.Rxd5!
19.Bxd6 Qd7 20.Rad1 1-0
After 20...b6 21.Bxc5 bxc5 22.Rxd7 Kxd7
23.Rd1+ Ke8 White is winning comfortably.

Did you notice how many times Black moved his Q? 7 times in 19 moves. No wonder he never found time to castle and connect his rooks.

Nigel Short of course went on to become one of the world’s top players and even challenged Kasparov in a World Championship Match.

In researching this article on the internet I stumbled across a fascinating article in 2001 in which Short claims he played fifty 3 minute chess games on the ICC (Internet Chess Club) against the genius chess recluse Bobby Fischer.

Short’s opponent played silly moves at the start of the game (to give his opponent a chance?) and then went on to trounce his opponent. Was it a fraudster with a computer or was it really Fischer? Do a search on the internet and make up your own mind. Bobby Fischer passed away in 2008 and is regarded as perhaps the strongest chess player ever.
I’m sure that we have all played against opponents who have tried to sacrifice material for quick development. To take or not to take? That is the question.

The basic rule is that an extra pawn is worth 3 developing moves. In the diagram below White is 4 moves ahead in development for a pawn ..., so you can guess what happened. Let’s have a look. (Both Tartakover and Mieses are strong grandmasters from the early part of the 20th century).

S. Tartakover
J. Mieses
Dutch Defence
1. d4 f5
This is the Dutch Defence which has the disadvantage of opening up the Black King fairly early in the game. I once played it against a strong GM who said afterwards “After this move (1...f5) Black is lost!”

2. e4
A bold attempt to open up the game at the cost of a pawn.

2...fxe4 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. g4 d5
4...h6 may have been a better alternative even though it weakens the Kside.

5. g5
Gaining White both time and space.

5...Ng8 6. f3
This is where Black should be bold and counter-attack with 6...e5 7. fxe Bb4 with complications probably favouring Black. Instead Black is greedy and just tries to hang on to his extra pawn.

6...exf3 7. Qxf3 e6 8. Bd3 g6?

Black probably wanted to stop 9. g6 but he could have done it with a developing move in 8...Ne7. Now the R on h8 is exposed and the f6 square is weakened.

9. Nge2
Would you rather be a pawn ahead with no pieces developed and a lousy position or a pawn down with 4 pieces developed and more space?

9...Qe7?
Black should try to block the position with 9...Ne7 10. Rf1 Nf5

10. Bf4 c6
Another weakening, non-developing move. 10...Bg7 was better.

11. Be5 Bg7 12. Qg3 Na6 13. O-O
Back’s position is full of weaknesses and his pieces are either undeveloped or poorly placed. White is threatening Bd6.

13...Bd7 14. Bd6 Qd8 15. Qf4 1-0

A triumph for development over greed!
LOCAL NEWS with Carl Gorka

Anzac Day Weekender

The MCC has run a tournament over the public holiday weekend celebrating ANZAC Day. The event attracted a field of 45 players (a big increase on last year’s tournament) including 1 Grandmaster and 1 International Master.

The fight for the top places was tough, but with 1 round to go, the current World under 12 champion, FM Bobby Cheng was leading the field by a whole point. He had to face GM David Smerdon in the final round, and the GM needed to win to catch the schoolboy. It would have been a fairy tale for Bobby to win the tournament outright clinching things with a draw or even a win against a Grandmaster, but this was not to happen and David won the game. But this still left Bobby Cheng as joint first with David Smerdon. Equal third place was shared by FM Eric Teichman and IM James Morris. Both players said that they weren’t at their best this weekend but still they were good enough for the podium.

Leading Scores:
6 SMERDON David (GM)
6 CHENG Bobby (FM)
5.5 MORRIS James (IM)
5.5 TEICHMANN Erik (FM)
5 WALLIS Chris
5 DOWLING John
5 DRAGICEVIC Domagoj
5 TAN Justin
4.5 SIMUTANYI Kozo
4.5 URBAN Sylvester
4.5 VOON Richard

MCC Club Championship 2010
Congratulations to Mirko Rujevic on winning his second Club Championship with an unbeaten 7.5/9; second was Dusan Stojic, and equal third were Domagoj Dragicevic and Jesse Jager.
Full scores at: http://www.melbournechessclub.org

MCC Building Fund Raffle
I’m pleased to announce that the MCC building fund raffle was drawn a few weeks ago and we have a winner who is looking forward to an hours coaching from some of Australia’s top coaches! The winner is Darren Seiler, a young man with a slight intellectual disability. Last year’s winner was Isaac Zhao.

Victorian Team Championship
This new event has one round a month from May through to November and I am involved with numerous teams. I am the general manager of the Melbourne Chess Club which has entered 5 teams into the event, 2 in the first division and 3 in the second division. I am also team manager of the first division team MCC 2 that I am playing for, and I am team manager for the Chess Kids team in Division 2.

Teams in Division One are:
1. City of Yarra
2. Melbourne CC 1
3. Box Hill CC
4. Noble Park CC
5. Elwood CC
6. Canterbury Junior CC
7. Melbourne CC 2

Teams in Division Two are:
1. Hobsons Bay & Yarraville CC
2. City of Yarra CC 2
3. Melbourne CC 3
4. Chess Kids
5. Melbourne CC 5
6. Melbourne CC 4
7. Noble Park CC 2
8. Dandenong CC
9. Ballarat CC
10. Box Hill CC 2
11. Geelong CC
12. Ranges CC
13. Canterbury Junior CC 2
14. Croydon CC

Here are a couple of games from the Vic.Teams Championship. In the first game IM James

www.chessclub.com.au
Morris misses a tactic which nets his opponent the exchange.

Vic. Teams 2010

Carl Gorka 2083

IM James Morris 2213

Kings Indian Attack


In the second game (from Division 2) Anthony Hain is a little too greedy in the opening and allows his opponent a strong attack, but just when victory is in sight Black makes a horrible blunder.

Vic. Teams 2010

Anthony Hain

Zoron

French Defence


Notes by Robert Jamieson

City of Melbourne Open 2010

This event is in progress at the moment with 33 players competing.

Leading Scores (after 5 rounds):
5 M.Rujevic
4 I.Sutton, B.Fitzpatrick, M.Pyke
3.5 D.Dragicevic, D.Stojic, J.Tan
3 S.Low, P.Skiotis, V.Kildisas, M.Addamo.
R.Beattie, F.Lekkas, F.Wyss.
Jammo’s Chess Puzzle

Cecil Purdy’s advice to young players who wanted to improve their chess was to study master games.

The method he used was to get an annotated game and cover the moves with a piece of paper then try to guess the player’s next move. Having decided upon a move he would move the paper down to reveal the player’s move and compare it with his own. In this way he could (in effect) have a grandmaster sitting beside him giving him a free coaching lesson (“No Cecil, I wouldn’t go there, I’d play this move!”)

These days it is even easier! You log onto the live games section of any international tournament, pick a game you like and try to guess each player’s move before it appears on the screen.

I did this the other day whilst having a look at the Sydney International Chess Tournament which was held in April immediately after the Doeberl Cup. The game I chose was between grandmaster Abhijit Kunte rated 2528 from India and Junta Ikeda, a 19 year-old player from Canberra rated 2302.

I was barracking for Junta of course, and he had sacrificed a piece for what looked like a promising attack which led to the diagrammed position. Like Cecil Purdy, I said “what would I play as Black?”

After a few minutes Junta played 1...Qc5+ 2.Ke2 Qb5+ 3.Ke3 and they agreed on a draw. I was very disappointed as I thought that I had found a win for Black. It’s pretty hard, but the puzzle this week is to decide whether or not you would take the draw (as Junta did) or can you find a win!

Can Black (to play) find a win?

\[
\text{ANSWER: 1...d4+ 2.Kxd4 Rf2!! Now if 3.Qxc3 Rf3#} \\
\text{The win is too big for Kunte to resist.} \\
\text{So it looks like Junta missed his chance to advancing his king and kingside pawns.}
\]

"Jammo’s Chess Puzzles” appear weekly at www.chesskids.com.au