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CUP★CHRONICLE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2018 | ISSUE 9

ROUND 9 RESULTS

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



WESLEY SO VS FABIANO CARUANA, ROUND 9; WITH LEVON ARONIAN IN THE FOREGROUND // PHOTO BY AUSTIN FULLER

ROUND 8 RESULTS

♔ GM W. So	1/2
♚ GM F. Caruana	1/2
♔ GM M. Carlsen	1
♚ GM H. Nakamura	0
♔ GM L. Aronian	1
♚ GM A. Grischuk	0
♔ GM V. Anand	1/2
♚ GM S. Mamedyarov	1/2
♔ GM S. Karjakin	1/2
♚ GM M. Vachier-Lagrave	1/2

CURRENT STANDINGS

1. GM M. Carlsen	5 1/2
2. GM F. Caruana	5 1/2
3. GM L. Aronian	5 1/2
4. GM S. Mamedyarov	5
5. GM A. Grischuk	4 1/2
6. GM M. Vachier-Lagrave	4 1/2
7. GM V. Anand	4 1/2
8. GM W. So	4
9. GM H. Nakamura	3
10. GM S. Karjakin	3

The tradition of no repeat winners in the Sinquefield Cup ended in the most unexpected fashion. At the end of the day, there were three winners! Fabiano Caruana, Magnus Carlsen and Levon Aronian tied for first place, while Caruana also tied for fourth place in the Grand Chess Tour standings with Wesley So. According to the rules, one of the players would have to be eliminated by a drawing of lots in a three-way tie, meaning that Caruana could potentially play two tiebreaks: One for the Sinquefield Cup and another for the Grand Chess Tour. The three players decided that they would rather share the title than have one of the players eliminated from participating in playoffs due to random chance. Hikaru Nakamura, Levon Aronian, and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave qualified for the Grand Chess Tour Finals, while Fabiano Caruana and Wesley So will battle it out tomorrow for their ticket to the finale in London.



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WESLEY SO - FABIANO CARUANA

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN, ANALYSIS BY GM CRISTIAN CHIRILA



SO VS CARUANA // LENNART OOTES

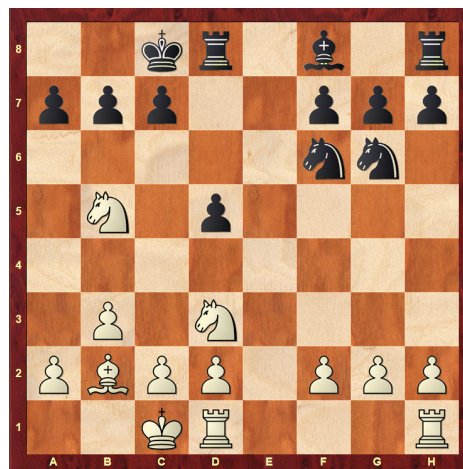
Caruana once again chose the Petroff Defense, which keeps serving him quite well. His countryman made the strange decision of not playing a more aggressive system, and odd choice considering he needed to win to secure his spot in the Grand Chess Tour finals. Caruana had no trouble drawing the game and thus securing at least a tie for first place.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nd3 [The first surprise. So decides to go for a fairly equal line of the Petroff, without much of a prospect for an advantage.]

4...Nxe4 5.Qe2 Qe7 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.b3 Nc6 [7...c6 8.Qxe7+ Bxe7 9.Ba3 0-0 10.0-0-0 Rd8 1/2-1/2 (10) Dvalishvili,P (2399)-Ulko,J (2476) Moscow 2011]

8.Bb2 Bf5 9.Nf4 0-0-0 [It's important that Black goes for the long castle, which allows him to have everything under control on the queenside. 9...Qxe2+?! 10.Bxe2 Nd4 (10...Be7 11.Ncd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 0-0 13.Nxc7?) 11.0-0-0 Bxc2 12.Rde1 0-0-0 13.Bc4?]

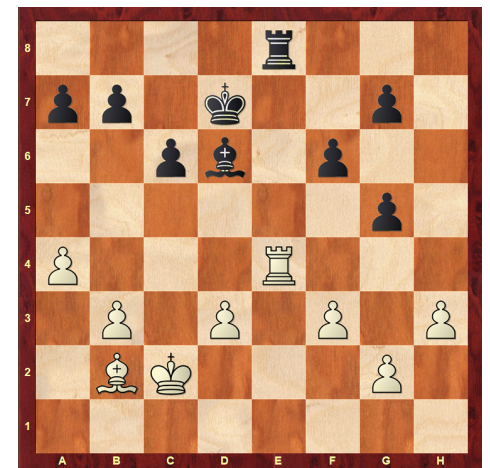
10.Qxe7 Nxe7 11.0-0-0 Ng6 [The precise way of untangling the remaining pieces.]



12.Bd3 Bd7 [12...Bxd3?! 13.Nxd3 d5 14.Nb5 a6 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Nd4÷ White maintains a slight edge due to Black's broken structure.]

13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 g5 [Now all the pieces will be chopped off the board, and the game will peter out into an uneventful draw.]

16.h3 c6 17.c4 Be6 18.Bf3 d5 19.d3 f6 20.Rhe1 Bf7 21.cxd5 Bxd5 22.Bxd5 Rxd5 23.Re8+ Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Re1 Bc5 26.f3 Re8 27.Re4 Kd7 28.Kc2 Bd6 29.a4 [The fortress is complete.]



29...a6 30.Bc3 b5 31.Bb2 Re6 32.Bc3 Re8 33.Bb2 Re6 34.Bc3 Re8 35.Bb2 Re6

1/2-1/2

LEVON ARONIAN - ALEXANDER GRISCHUK

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN, ANALYSIS BY GM VARUZHAN AKOBIAN

Coming into the round, both players were half a point behind the leader. Levon Aronian thought his opponent was in a more vulnerable situation, because he needed a win to qualify to the finals, while Aronian only needed a draw. The psychological warfare played a significant role, as Aronian decided to play a risky sacrifice in order to take advantage of his opponent's looming time trouble. After Grischuk moved, Aronian instantly sacrificed a rook, surprising the fans and commentators alike. Then he simply took a confident stroll away from the board. Grischuk was clearly caught off guard and was not able to play with precision while low on time. Aronian won the game in fantastic style, thus securing a tie with Caruana. [Even though the players had an equal number of points going into this round, Grischuk needed a win in this game to qualify for the GCT Finals in London.]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.g3 Nbd7 4.Bg2 e5 5.c4 c6 6.Nc3 e4 7.Nh4 d5 8.0-0 Bb4 [This position has only played 7 times previously.]

9.cxd5 [Aronian spent more than 30 minutes to make this seemingly simple capture. He was considering his following plan. 9.f3 exf3 10.Bxf3 Qa5 11.e4 Bxc3 12.exd5 Bb4 13.Qe2+ Kd8 14.c5 Re8 15.Qg2 cxd5 16.a3 Be1 17.Bf4 1/2-1/2 (41) Jussupow,A (2575)-Vaganian,R (2565) Moscow (Russia) 1981]

9...cxd5 10.f3!?N [Played instantly by Aronian, which also happens to be the first new move of the game.]

10...Bxc3 [Incredibly, Grischuk spent 43 minutes before capturing the knight. This turned out to be costly later on in the game, where he needed more time to sort through the complexities. 10...0-0 11.fxe4 Bxc3 12.e5 Bb4 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Nf5?]

11.bxc3 0-0 12.Ba3 Re8 13.Nf5 Nb6 14.Nd6 Nc4!? [Interesting, logical play by Grischuk as the knight is well placed on c4. He is happy to sacrifice the exchange for strong positional compensation.]

15.Nxc4 [15.Nxe8 Qxe8 16.Bc1 e3 17.Rb1 b6 18.Qd3 Bd7 Despite being down a full exchange, black has very strong compensation due to the very powerful and untouchable knight on c4 and a strong pawn on e3.]

15...dxc4 16.fxe4 Nxe4 17.Qc2 Qd5 18.Rxf7? [Played instantly by Aronian. Objectively, a bad decision by Aronian, but a calculated risk since Grischuk had about 9 minutes left for the next 22 moves!]

18...Kxf7 19.Rf1 + Bf5! 20.g4 g6 [It's very important to keep the knight secure on e4. Black would be happy to get a pawn on f5 to support it.]

21.Qc1 Kg7? [First mistake by Grischuk which was the result of time trouble. 21...Re6! A very strong missed opportunity 22.Qh6 Kg8 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.Qh5 Rf6 25.Bc1 Raf8-+ Completely winning position for black as he has extra material and an attack. This could have allowed Grischuk to tie for first in the tournament and possibly qualify for the GCT Finals in London.]

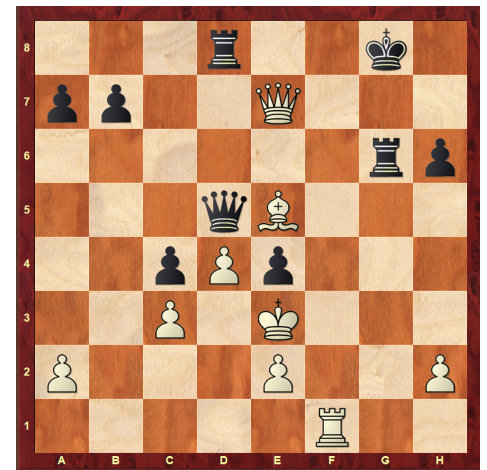
22.gxf5 gxf5 23.Bxe4 fxe4 [23...Rxe4 Leads to a draw 24.Qg5+ Kh8 25.Qf6+ Kg8 26.Rxf5 Rg4+ 27.Kf2 Qe4 28.Qf7+ Kh8 29.Qf6+ Kg8=]

24.Qf4 h6! [With the idea of Qg5 and also creating an empty square on h7 for the king]

25.Qc7+ Kh8? [Grischuk's second mistake throws away his advantage. By common principle, black shouldn't put his king on the same color as white's bishop! 25...Kg6! This move gives black a significant advantage. 26.Kf2 Rac8 27.Qg3+ Kh7 28.Ke3 Rc6 29.Bb4 Rg8μ]

26.Bd6! [Finally, the bishop enters the game and will land on the very powerful e5 square]

26...Rg8+ 27.Kf2 Rg6 28.Be5+ Kg8 29.Ke3 Rd8?? [With Grischuk having less than a minute on the clock, this was the last major blunder costing him the game. 29...Re8! Keeps black alive 30.a4 Qe6 31.Kd2 Qe7 32.Qxc4+ Qe6 33.Qxc6+ Rxe6=]



30.Qe7! [Winning move which Aronian easily found. Black's pieces are now paralyzed.]

30...b5 [30...Qd7 31.Rf8+! Grischuk possibly overlooked this idea when he played 29...Rd8 31...Rxf8 32.Qxd7+~]

31.h4! [The straw that breaks the camel's back]

31...a5 32.h5 Rg5 33.Rf6 Rxe5 34.Rg6+ [An incredible turn of events! Aronian was rewarded for his ambitious and sacrificial play. Grischuk clearly mishandled his time management and was not able to navigate the chaos in such time pressure. A big congratulations to Levon Aronian for a fantastic result and qualifying for the GCT Finals! 34.Rg6+ Kh8 35.Qg7#]

1-0

MAGNUS CARLSEN - HIKARU NAKAMURA

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



CARLSEN VS NAKAMURA // LENNART OOTES

There were no fireworks in this game, but it was a trademark Carlsen win. Historically, the World Champion has been a difficult opponent for Nakamura; their lifetime score is 12-1 in favor of Carlsen, not counting draws. The game was quite balanced throughout until the American made the dubious decision of giving up a pawn in the endgame. Perhaps he thought that he had a fortress, but Carlsen has famously declared that he doesn't believe in fortresses. The 97 move struggle ended in Carlsen's favor, propelling Magnus into a tie for first, while coincidentally helping So tie for fourth place with Caruana in the GCT standings.

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.c4 d5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 [Nakamura chose the same line during last year's Sinquefeld Cup]

6...b6 [6...c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.a3 Nc6 was the line they played]

7.Bd3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Ba6 9.Qe2 Bxc4 10.Qxc4 c5 11.dxc5 bxc5 [11...Bxc5 the alternative pawn capture has been tried successfully by Leinier Dominguez]

12.0-0 Nc6 13.Rac1 Rc8 14.Ne5 Qb6 15.Nxc6 Rxc6 [White has no structural weaknesses whereas Black has the isolated a7 and c5 pawns.]

16.b3 h6 17.Rfd1 Qb7 18.h3 Rfc8 19.Na4 Nd7 20.Rd2 [White is slowly starting to build his advantage]

20...Nb6 21.Nxb6 Rxb6 22.Rcd1 [White takes control of the d file]

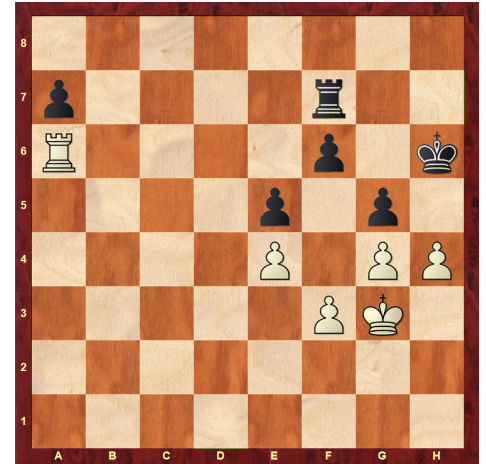
22...Bf6 23.Rd7 Qa6 24.Qe4 e5 25.Bxh6 [the bishop is untouchable]

25...Re8 [25...gxh6 26.Rxf7 Kxf7 27.Qh7+ Bg7 (27...Ke6 28.Qd7#; 27...Kf8 28.Rd7+-) 28.Rd7+ Ke6 29.Qxg7 with unstoppable mate]

26.Qg4 Qxa2 27.e4 [with the idea of Rd3-g3]

27...Qxb3 28.Be3 Rb7 29.R7d6 Be7 30.R6d5 Bf8 31.Bxc5 Bxc5 32.Rxc5 [Black has defended really well and the position looks equal now]

32...Qe6 33.Qe2 Rd7 34.Rxd7 Qxd7 35.Rd5 Qc7 36.Qd2 Ra8 37.Rd7 Qc4 38.f3 Qc5+ 39.Kh2 Qc6 40.Rd6 Qc5 41.Ra6 Qe7 42.Qe3 Kh7 43.Kg3 Qb7 44.Qa3 f6 45.Kh2 Qc7 46.Qa1 Qb7 47.Qa5 Qd7 48.Qa2 Qe7 49.Qf2 Qb7 50.Qa2 Qe7 51.Qd5 Rb8 52.Qa5 Rb7 53.Qe1 Qd7 54.Qh4+ Kg8 55.Qf2 Qf7 56.Qa2 Qxa2 57.Rxa2 Kh7 58.Ra6 Kg6 59.h4 Kh5 60.Kh3 Rf7 61.g4+ Kh6



62.Kg3 g5? [The beginning of Black's troubles. This move allows White to have a passed pawn. Had Black the pawn on g7, he would have had an easier time defending the 4 vs 3 endgame]

63.h5 Kg7 64.Kf2 Rb7 65.Ra3 Kh6 66.Ke3 a5? [mysterious move. There is no reason for Black to give up the pawn for no reason. Nakamura probably thought he has a fortress but a similar endgame has occurred several times before, where White managed to win the the extra pawn]

67.Rxa5 Rb3+ 68.Kf2 Rb2+ 69.Kg3 Kg7 70.Ra7+ Kg8 71.Ra1 Kg7 72.Rf1 Ra2 73.Rf2 Ra3 74.Rd2 Ra7 75.Kf2 [White's idea is to eventually run the king to e7 with his rook's assistance]

75...Kf7 76.Ke2 Rb7 77.Rd3 Ra7 78.Kd2 Ke6 79.Kc3 Ke7 80.Kc4 Rc7+ 81.Kb5 Rc1 82.Rb3 Kf7 83.Kb6 Rc2 84.Kb7 Rc1 85.Kb8 Kg8 86.Rb6 Kg7 87.Rb7+ Kg8 88.Rc7 Rb1+ 89.Kc8 Rb3 90.Kd7 Rxf3 [the pawn is irrelevant. The Black king is inactive and the kingside pawns will fall]

91.Ke6 Rf4 92.h6 Kh8 93.Rb7 Kg8 94.Rg7+ Kh8 95.Kf7 Rxe4 96.Kg6 Ra4 97.Rh7+

1-0

VISWANATHAN ANAND - SHAKHRIYAR MAMEDYAROV

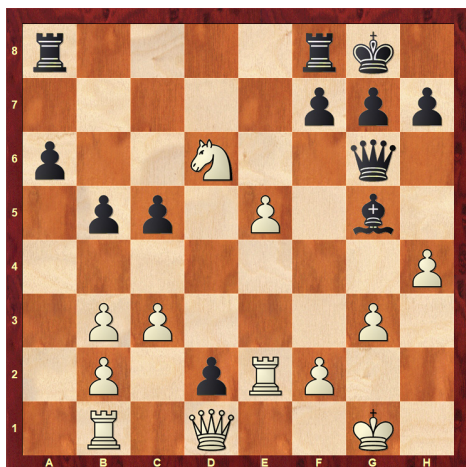
BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN, ANALYSIS BY GM ALEJANDRO RAMIREZ



ANAND // LENNART OOTES

The former World Champion ended the tournament with nine draws. Mamedyarov was another player who was chasing the leader by half a point, but never had a chance to play for a win with the black pieces. At the end of their long, theoretical battle, Anand had a slight edge with the white pieces but was not able to create real winning chances.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.Nbd2 Nc5 10.c3 Be7 11.Bc2 d4 12.Nb3 d3 13.Bb1 Nxb3 14.axb3 Bf5 15.Re1 0-0 16.Be3 Qd5 17.Bd4 d2 18.Re2 Bxb1 19.Rxb1 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Bg5 21.g3 c5 22.Nf5 Qd3 23.Nd6 Qg6 24.h4 Bh6?! [probably not the best novelty.]



[24...Bxb4 25.Rxd2 was, for example, Caruana-L'Ami 25...Be7 26.Rd5 f6 27.e6 f5 28.Qd3 Qxe6 29.Nxf5 Rad8 30.Qe3 Qxe3 31.Nxe3 Rxd5 32.Nxd5 Bd8 33.f4 Kf7 34.Kg2 Re8 35.Kf3 Re6 36.g4 Rd6 37.Rd1 h6 38.f5 g6 39.fxg6+ Kg7 40.Ke4 Bg5 41.Ke5 Rc6 42.Rf1 Rxc6 43.Nc7 Be7 44.Ne6+ Kg8 45.Rf4 h5 46.gxh5 Rg2 47.h6 Rxb2 48.Rg4+ Kh8 49.Nf4 Kh7 50.Rg7+ Kxh6 51.Rxe7 Rxb3 52.Nd5 Rb1 53.Kd6 c4 54.Ra7 Ra1 55.Kc5 Kg5 56.Kb6 Rd1 57.Nb4 Rc1 58.Na2 1-0 (58) Caruana,F (2767)-L'Ami,E (2611) Reykjavik 2012]

25.h5! [25.Ra1!?] **25...Qxh5 26.Rxd2 Qxe5 27.Rd5 Qf6** [White lost a pawn with this petit combination, but he can always get it back with Rxc5. The point is more to keep pressure on the position, using the fact that the bishop on h6 is quite weak.]

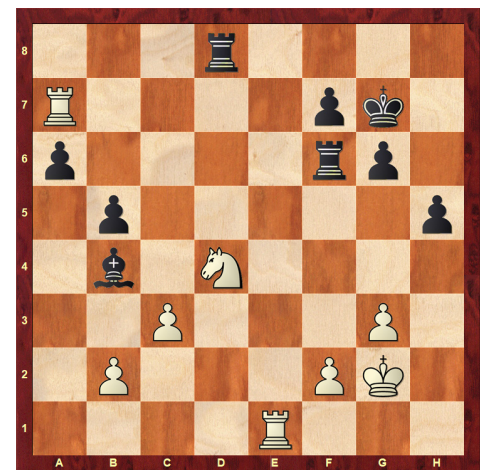
28.Ra1 g6! 29.Ne4 Qc6 30.Nxc5 Rfe8 31.b4 [Black is in na awkward position due to his weak bishop and weak a6 pawn. He still has resources, as it is not possible to make immediate threats.]

31...Bf8 32.Nd7 Re6 [32...Re4!?] **33.Ne5 Qe8 34.Nd7 h5 35.Qf3 Qe7 36.Nc5** [The strong knight gives White the edge.]

36...Rf6 37.Qe4 Qxe4 38.Nxe4 Rc6 39.Nd2 Re8 40.Kf1 Rf6 41.Nb3 Re4 42.Rd8 Kg7 43.Ra8 Ree6 [43...Bxb4 was Mamedyarov's original intention 44.Nd2!± (44.cxb4 Rxb4 45.Ra3 h4± though Mamedyarov thought this would be close to a draw.)]

44.Nd4 Rd6 45.Kg2 Be7 46.Re1 [46.f4 kept the tension, but Black now has h4 in every position.]

46...Rd8! [Excellent play. Black is willing to part some material to force an equal endgame. 46...Bd8 47.Re8 Bb6 48.Rh8 gets Black mated because the rook on f6 is mated.; 46...Rd7 47.Nb3?]]



47.Ra7 Bxb4! 48.Ne6+ Rxe6 49.Rxe6 Bc5 50.Rc7 [50.Rb7 Rd2 51.b4 Bxf2 is probably equal after 52.Kf3 Bg1 and all three results are possible.]

50...Rd2 51.Rxc6+ [a safe approach]

51...Kxg6 52.Rxc5 Rxb2 53.Rc6+ f6 [the game is now dead drawn.]

54.Rxa6 Rc2 55.Rb6 Rc1 56.Rb7 Rc2 57.Rb6 Rc1 58.Rb7 Rc2 59.Rb6

1/2-1/2

SERGEY KARJAKIN - MAXIME VACHIER-LAGRAVE

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



KARJAKIN // AUSTIN FULLER

The Russian Grandmaster's nightmare tournament finally came to an end when he managed to eke out a draw in a torturous endgame. First he was down one pawn in a rook and bishop ending, and finally was down two in a rook endgame. Nevertheless, the minister of defense held on to the bitter end, forcing the Frenchman to surrender a half point after a long struggle. While Maxime might have been disappointed to not win this one, qualifying for the final in London will certainly ease his woes. As for Karjakin, the draw ensured that he was not alone in the cellar, as it was just enough to catch Hikaru on three points.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 [The Grunfeld is one of the main lines against 1.d4 and a favorite of Peter Svidler]

7.Bc4 c5 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.Be3 0-0 10.0-0 Bg4 11.f3 Bd7 12.Rb1 Qc7 13.h4 [an unusual novelty by Karjakin, considering that his king is castled on the kingside]

13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxf7+ Rxf7 16.Nxd4 Rd8 17.Qb3 Qg3 [MVL decides to simply go after the pawn]

18.Ne2 Qxh4 19.Bf2 Qf6 20.Rfd1 [20.Qxb7 Be6 21.Qxa7 Rd2 22.Qe3 Rxa2]

20...b6 21.Qa3 e6 [now Black is up a pawn and it remains to be seen where White's compensation is]

22.Rd2 [22.Qxa7?? Bb5 23.Qxb6 Rxd1+ 24.Rxd1 Bxe2-+]

22...Be8?! [22...Bh6 with the idea Qe7 and then moving the d7 bishop]

23.e5 [perhaps Black didn't notice this move]

23...Qf5 [23...Qg5 24.Be3 Qh4 25.Bf2 Qg5=]

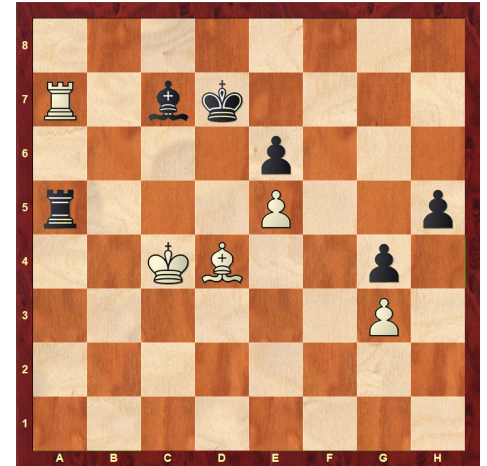
24.Rxd8 Qxb1+ 25.Kh2 Rf8 26.Ng3 Bxe5 27.Qxa7 [27.Qe7 Qb5 28.Be3 would have given Black more problems as his pieces are now tangled 28...Bf6 29.Qxe6+ Kg7 30.Ra8]

27...Qb4 28.Kg1 Qb1+ 29.Kh2 Qb4 30.Kg1 Bf6 31.Rd1 Ba4 32.Rf1 Bc6 33.Qxb6 Qxb6 34.Bxb6 Ra8 35.Rf2 Bd5 36.Ne4 Be5 37.Re2 Bxa2 38.Ng5 Bd6 39.Kf2 [39.Nxe6?? Bc4 40.Re4 Ra1+ 41.Kf2 Rf1+ 42.Ke3 Re1+ 43.Kd4 Rxe4+ 44.Kxe4 Bxe6-+]

39...Bc4 40.Rd2 Be7 41.Be3 Bd5 [Black is still up a pawn but the conversion isn't easy]

42.Rc2 h6 43.Ne4 Bxe4 44.fxe4 h5 45.Rc7 Bf6 46.Rc6 Ra2+ 47.Kf3 Ra3 48.Ke2 Kf7 49.Rc7+ Ke8 50.Rh7 Rb3 51.Ra7 Rb2+ 52.Kf3 g5 53.e5 g4+ 54.Ke4 Rb4+ 55.Kd3 Bd8 [55...Bxe5 56.Ra5 Bf6 57.Rxh5 exchanging pawns helps white]

56.Ra8 Kd7 57.g3 Bc7 58.Bd4 Kc6 59.Bc3 Rb8 60.Ra6+ Rb6 61.Ra8 Rb5 62.Ke4 Rb3 63.Bd4 Bb8 64.Ra6+ Kd7 65.Ra8 Rb1 66.Bf2 Rb4+ 67.Bd4 Bc7 68.Kd3 Rb8 69.Ra7?! [Black finds a nice trick! 69.Ra3 was better]



69...Rb5 70.Kc4 Ra5! 71.Rb7 [71.Rxa5 Bxa5 this endgame is hopeless 72.Be3 Bc7 73.Bd4 Kc6 74.Bc3 h4 75.gxh4 g3 76.Bd4 g2 77.h5 Bb6]

71...Kc6 72.Rb3 Bxe5 73.Rb6+ Kd7 74.Bxe5 Rxe5 75.Kd4 Ra5 76.Ke4 Ke7 77.Rb8 Ra3 78.Rh8 Rxg3 79.Rxh5 [Karjakin defends this position masterfully]

79...Ra3 80.Kf4 Ra4+ 81.Kg3 Kd6 82.Rh8 Kd5 83.Rd8+ Ke5 84.Rb8 Rd4 85.Ra8 Re4 86.Ra5+ Kf6 87.Ra8 e5 88.Rf8+ Ke6 89.Re8+ Kd5 90.Rd8+ Kc4 91.Ra8 Kd5 92.Rd8+ Kc5 93.Rc8+ Kd4 94.Ra8 Rf4 95.Re8 Ke4 96.Rg8 Rf3+ 97.Kxg4 Rf1 98.Kh3 Ke3 99.Kg2 Ra1 100.Rg3+ Ke2 101.Rg4 Ke3 102.Rg3+ Kd2 103.Rg4 Re1 104.Ra4 e4 105.Ra2+ Ke3 106.Ra3+ Kf4 107.Kf2 Rb1 108.Ke2 Rb2+ 109.Ke1 Ke5 110.Ra4 Kf5 111.Ra8 Kf4 112.Ra3 Rh2 113.Kf1 Rd2 114.Ke1 Rd3 115.Rxd3 exd3 116.Kd2 Ke4 117.Kd1 Ke3 118.Ke1 d2+ 119.Kd1 Kd3

1/2-1/2



SINQUEFIELD CUP

FINAL STANDINGS

#GrandChessTour

AFTER ROUND 9



POS.	PLAYER	ROUND 9 RESULT	SCORE
T-1	GM FABIANO CARUANA	.5	5.5 PTS
T-1	GM LEVON ARONIAN	1	5.5 PTS
T-1	GM MAGNUS CARLSEN	1	5.5 PTS
4	GM S. MAMEDYAROV	.5	5 PTS
T-5	GM ALEX GRISCHUK	0	4.5 PTS
T-5	GM VISWANATHAN ANAND	.5	4.5 PTS
T-5	GM M. VACHIER-LAGRAVE	.5	4.5 PTS
7	GM WESLEY SO	.5	4 PTS
9	GM HIKARU NAKAMURA	0	3 PTS
10	GM SERGEY KARJAKIN	.5	3 PTS



SINQUEFIELD CUP

GRAND CHESS TOUR 2018

Final Standings After YNM GCT, Paris GCT, STL Rapid & Blitz, & Sinquefield Cup



	PLAYER	GCT POINTS	PRIZE MONEY
1	GM HIKARU NAKAMURA	34.5	\$105,000
2	GM LEVON ARONIAN	34.0	\$95,000
3	GM M. VACHIER-LAGRAVE	31.0	\$80,000
T-4	GM FABIANO CARUANA	26.0	\$85,000
T-4	GM WESLEY SO	26.0	\$80,000
6	GM SERGEY KARJAKIN	25.5	\$72,500
7	GM S. MAMEDYAROV	25.0	\$75,000
8	GM ALEX GRISCHUK	18.0	\$45,000
9	GM VISHY ANAND	15.0	\$45,000



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DAILY CHESS PUZZLE

BY DANNY MACHUCA

Submit your solution to our front desk staff for a chance to win a gift card to the store at the Saint Louis Chess Club!

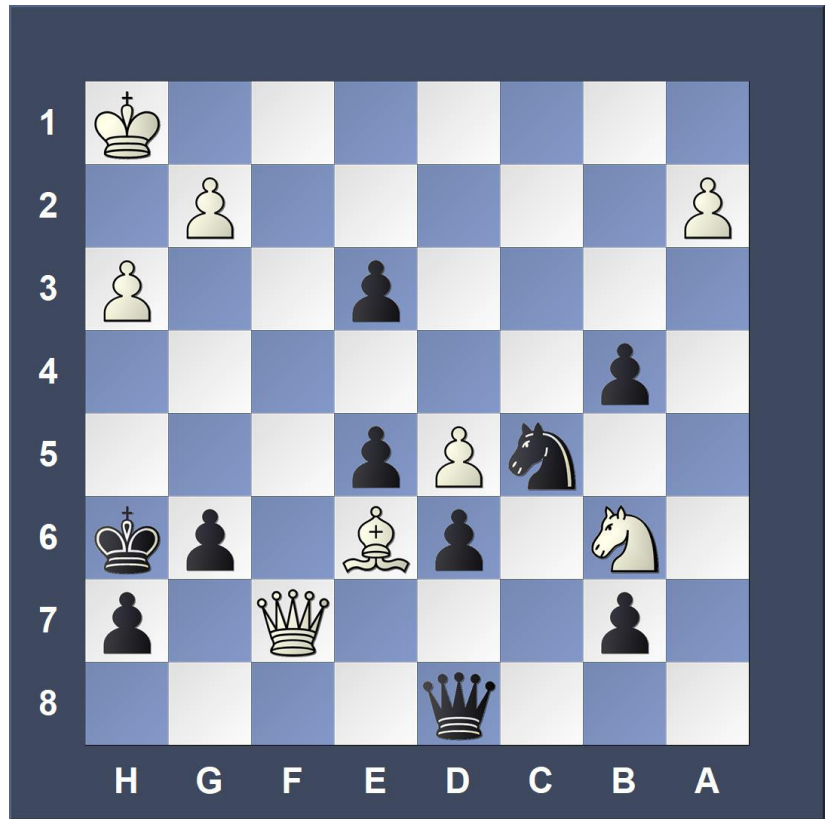
Each day, two \$25 gift cards will be drawn among those who submit a correct solution.

Objective: Black to move

White: Eric Hansen

Black: Magnus Carlsen

Pro Chess League Rapid 2018



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

4-5:30 PM Autograph Session, Kingside Diner

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

6 PM Opening Ceremony, World Chess Hall of Fame*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

1 PM Round 1

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

1 PM Round 2

MONDAY, AUGUST 20

1 PM Round 3

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

1 PM Round 4

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

1 PM Round 5

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

Rest Day

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24

1 PM Round 6

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

1 PM Round 7

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

1 PM Round 8

MONDAY, AUGUST 27

1 PM Round 9

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

1 PM Playoff (If Necessary)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

5:30 PM Closing Ceremony, World Chess Hall of Fame*

6:30 PM Chess Club 10 Year Documentary Premiere, Chase Park Plaza

*Private Event

SIDE EVENT HIGHLIGHT

Chess Club 10 Year Documentary Premiere

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

6:30 PM Cocktails | 7:00 PM Premiere

Join us as we celebrate our 10 year anniversary with a special documentary produced by Spectrum Studios. The film will look at the last 10 years of chess here in Saint Louis and how it has helped spark the resurgence of American chess.

Admission

\$10; includes a seat and choice of 2 drinks or 1 drink and 1 small popcorn

Location

Chase Park Plaza, Theater 3

Seating is limited, so reserve your spot today!