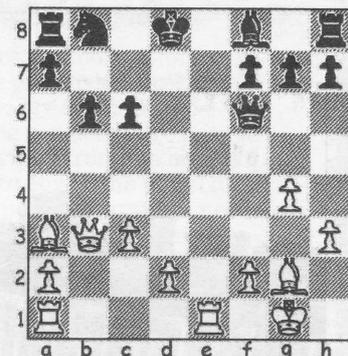
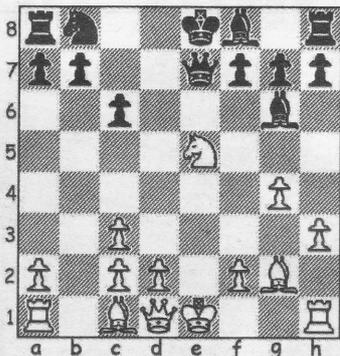


CHESS

by Alan Dommert

DIAGRAM 1 21 AUG 2010 DIAGRAM 2



THE field for the 2nd London Classic has been strengthened again this year with the addition of Viswanathan Anand, who will become the first reigning world chess champion to play in a major tournament in the capital since Anatoly Karpov 26 years ago.

He will join an eight-player group that includes the World No.1 Magnus Carlsen, former World Champion Vladimir Kramnik, and USA No.1 Hikaru Nakamura.

The rest of the field is made up of the top English players Michael Adams, Nigel Short, Luke McShane and David Howell.

There will also be many other events taking place alongside this major tournament which runs from December 8 to 15 at the Olympia Conference Centre.

The following game, taken from the Open competition played during the first week of the British Championships, is an entertaining miniature featuring Southbourne's Martin Simons, who came away with a share of first place in the event.

Simons, M – Waters, A
British Chmp Open, 2010
Vienna Game (C26)

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.g3 With this move and his previous one White has steered the opening away from the potentially sharp Alekhine's Defence and into a quiet variation of the Vienna. **3...d5 4.exd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 c6** Restricting the scope of White's bishop on the long diagonal, but at the same time removing the best developing square

for the queen's knight. **7.Nf3 Bg4 8.h3 Bh5?** Black loses his way, in all probability believing the e-pawn to be poisoned and ideal bait. In Kindermann-Tolnai (Budapest, 1988) Black took the knight and a safe option whereupon, after **8...Bxf3 Bd6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Rb1 Qc7**, a draw was soon agreed. **9.g4 Bg6 10.Nxe5 Qe7 (Diag 1) 11.0-0! Bxc2** Designed to regain the pawn (**11...Qxe5?? 12.Re1** is an accident waiting to happen), but missing... **12.Qxc2 Qxe5 13.Ba3!** ... a fine dual-purpose move that combines the threat to win the queen, referred to in the earlier note, with the equally annoying prevention of castling rights! **13...Qf6 14.Qb3 b6 15.Rfe1+ Kd8 (Diag 2) 16.Re3!** Another multi-purpose move that provides White with an enviable choice between **17.Rd3+**, **17.Rf3** or a doubling of rooks, dependent upon his opponent's reply.

In effect, eager to carry out exchanges to relieve the pressure, Black blunders into further trouble instead. **16...Bxa3 17.Qxa3 Re8?** Offering one exchange too many in circumstances where Black's lack of queenside development is sure to take its toll. **18.Rxe8+ Kxe8 19.Re1+ Kd7 20.Qf8!** White's far more active pieces control the board and soon secure a winning material advantage. **20...Kc7 21.Re7+ Nd7 22.Rxd7+** and Black, about to lose a piece, resigned.

● Any enquiries regarding the Chess column should be addressed to Alan Dommert by emailing a.j.dommett@btinternet.com