Chess



World blitz left out in the cold

I enjoyed playing, albeit not

very successfully, in the Scottish Blitz championships sponsored by Walkers Shortbread, expertly arranged by youthful

organiser Jonathan Edwards, who attracted 100 players to the event. Arkady Naiditsch was the deserved overall winner but Ketevan Arakhamia-Grant was the star of the show

Here is some action from the World Blitz championship where in contrast only 60 participants made the trip to Siberia.

defeating your columnist

two rounds.

and the Champion in the last



A. Moiseenko FIDE World Blitz 2013

Khantv-Mansivsk White's attack is arriving

first so he takes direct action. b5-b4 21.Rf1-f6 22.Ne5xa6 b4xc3+

23.b2xc3 A natural recapture in a blitz game, but 23.Kd2-e3 was best. The king is very secure here 23...f7xg6 24.Rf6xg6+ Kg8-f7 25.Qe2-h5.

23... e4-e3+ After 23...f7xg6 24.Rf6xg6+ Ka8-f7 25.Qe2-h5 e4-

e3+ 26.Kd2xe3 Qe7-a3

Black has created some counterplay and his king is making a run for safety. 24.0e2xe3 f7xa6

25.Rf6xa6+ Ka8-f7 26.Ra6-f6+

The most clinical finish was 26.Ra6-h6 Rf8-h8 27.a5-

a6+. 26... Kf7-a7 The retreat 26...Kf7-g8 was

a better try, but 27.Rg1-f1 and 27.Rf6-g6+ Kg8-f7 28.Rg6-h6 both win.

27.0e3-e5 Qe7-a3 28.Rf6-h6+ Ka7-f7 29.0e5xe6+ 1-0



FIDE World Blitz 2013 Khanty-Mansiysk

15.Rf1-e1 Ne4-a3 Taking advantage of the unpleasant pins. Bh5xf3 16.Qe2-d3

17.a2xf3 Re8xe3 18.f2xe3 18.Re1xe3 Qd8-q5 also looks dangerous. 0d8-h4

19.Qd3-c2 was the best defence. 19...

19.Ka1-h2

After 19...Nc6-e5

can't counter all the threats. 20.f3-f4 Na3-e4 21.Re1-a1 Ne4-f2 22.Qd3-f5

20.Qd3xd5 Na3-f5. White

Bb6-c7

Kg8xg7

22.Qd3-f1 gave more hope. Now Vallejo wins White's queen. 22... Nc6-e7 23.Qf5-d7 Ra8-d8

24.Rg1xg7+

25.Rd1-a1+ Ka7-h8 0-1

In another blitz event to decide the drawing of lots

Russian Champion won this nice game



S. Mamedvarov Tal Memorial Blitz Moscow

11.Bd5xf7+ Ke8xf7 12.f4xe5

c6-c5 White's enterprising sacrifice nets two pawns as well as exposing Black's king as 12...Bg7xe5 13.b2-b4 regains the piece.

Na5-c6 13.Ng1-f3 14.0-0 Kf7-e8 15.Bc1-q5 15.Ne2-f4 Na8-e7 16.Nf3q5 was also tempting. Qd8-c7

16.Ne2-f4

17.Nf4-d5 Qc7-d6 18.b2-b4 Bc8-e6 It wasn't easy to choose between this and 18...c5xb4 19 Nf3xd4 19.b4xc5 Qd6xc5 20.Ba5-f4 20.Ra 1-b1 inviting another

Nc6xe5

hetter 20... Be6xd5 This fatally opens lines in the centre. The surprising 20...Rh8-h5 was good. Ne5xf3+ 21.e4xd5

piece to the party was

22.Qd1xf3 Na8-f6 Or 22...Ng8-e7 23.d5-d6. 23.Ra1-e1+ Ke8-d7 23...Ke8-f7 24.Bf4-e5 is decisive.

24.d5-d6 Qc5-d5 Not 24...Ra8-e8 25.Qf3xb7+, but the rest is straightforward. 25.Re1-e7+ Kd7-c6

26.Re7-c7+

27.Rc7xa7 Qd5xf3 28.Rf1xf3 Rh8-e8 29.d6-d7 Re8-e1+ Re1-c1

Kc6-b6

30.Kg1-f2 31.Bf4xc1 for the Tal Memorial, the 1-0