

OCEANIA ZONAL CHESS, 2009

Bulletin Round 9

26 June 2009

Australians Smerdon and Caoili qualify for World Cup places

24-year-old Australian **Grandmaster David Smerdon** and 22-year-old **Women's International Master Arianne Caoili** have qualified as Oceania's representatives for the 2009/10 World Cup tournaments.

Smerdon defeated **Tomek Rej** thanks to some impressive opening preparation in the last round to finish with an impressive 7.5/9, a point clear of the strongest field yet to contest an Oceania Zonal Championship.



Smerdon was born in Brisbane and attended Anglican Church Grammar School. He completed an economics degree at Melbourne and Amsterdam Universities and now works for Treasury in Canberra. Smerdon is Australia's 4th and newest Grandmaster having fulfilled the final GM title requirement only two weeks ago.



All Smerdon's possible pursuers failed to win their final round games. **Igor Bjelobrk**, needing a win to secure his International Master title, pressed hard against **Zhao Zong Yuan** but the GM defended well and a draw was a fair result. On board three, **Stephen Solomon** was totally

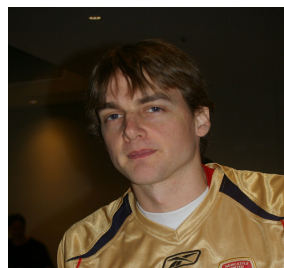


dominating against **James Morris** but unnecessarily gave away the exchange and later botched other winning tries to enable the Melbourne 15-year-old to gazump Bjelobrk and gain the IM title and a tie for second place.



12-year-old **Bobby Cheng** went close to victory against an over-pressing fourth seed **George Xie** but eventually a draw resulted, leaving Cheng with a FIDE Master title.

One other player managed to get into the tie for second – New Zealand's **Michael**



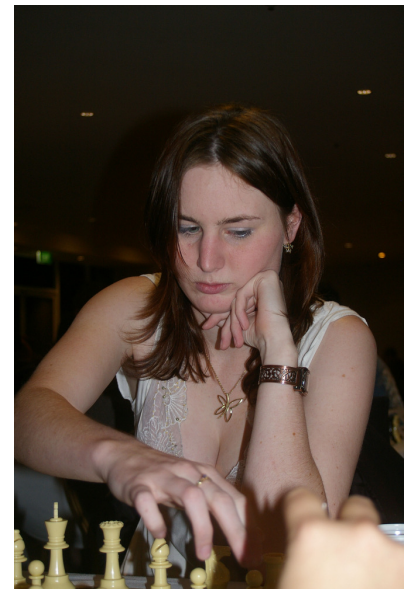
Steadman who defeated **Ronald Scott** in a topsy-turvy game and thereby gained a FIDE Master title. Steadman was a piece up for much of the game but, as in round 8, Scott defended grittily and should have been winning when he allowed a nasty check and then a mate in one.

In the last round of the Women's Zonal **Arianne Caoili** took a short draw against **Sarah Anton** to guarantee her progression to the Women's World Cup.

ANU student Caoili, 22, has already represented Australia at three Chess Olympiads and before that had represented her native Philippines at two Olympiads.

Irina Berezina was assured of second place after **Sue Maroroa** fell quickly to **Vaness Reid** but could only draw with late entrant **Jessica Kinder**. In another up-and-down game, Berezina finally spoiled a winning rook endgame and was forced to concede a draw, leaving her a point behind Caoili.

As well as Maroroa's WIM title, Reid and **Emma Guo** secured Women's FIDE master titles.



Round 9—Open

Bo.	No.		Name	Pts.	Result	Pts.		Name	No.
1	2	IM	Smerdon David	6½	1 - 0	6	FM	Rej Tomek	12
2	9	FM	Bjelobrk Igor	6	½ - ½	6	GM	Zhao Zong-Yuan	1
3	25	FM	Morris James	6	½ - ½	6	IM	Solomon Stephen J	3
4	4	IM	Xie George Wendi	5½	½ - ½	6		Cheng Bobby	26
5	8		Ly Moulthun	5½	½ - ½	5½	IM	West Guy	7
6	17		Scott Ronald	5½	0 - 1	5½		Steadman Michael	16
7	13	IM	Feldman Vladimir	5	0 - 1	5	IM	Lane Gary W	6
8	27		Stead Kerry	5	½ - ½	5	FM	Canfell Gregory	10
9	11	IM	Garbett Paul Anthony	5	½ - ½	5	FM	Smith Robert W	15
10	21		Oliver Gareth	5	1 - 0	5	IM	Rujevic Mirko	14
11	19	FM	Levi Eddy	4½	1 - 0	5		Brown Andrew	29
12	22		Schon Eugene	4½	1 - 0	4½		Liu Yi	47
13	30	FM	Nakauchi Gene	4½	1 - 0	4½	WIM	Jule Alexandra	49
14	51		Selnes Hamish	4½	½ - ½	4½	CM	Kumar Manoj	38
15	55		Jule Sebastian	4½	0 - 1	4½		Yuan Yi	39
16	44		Muller Jonas	4½	1 - 0	4½		Goundar Sanmogam	54
17	5	FM	Ambrus Endre	4	1 - 0	4		Searle Zachary	63
18	40		Stevens Tristan	4	0 - 1	4	CM	Illingworth Max	18
19	33		Krstev Antonio	4	½ - ½	4		Juszczynski Mathew	52
20	50		Grigg Sam	4	½ - ½	4		Fitzpatrick Andrew	37
21	20		Marcos Joselito	3½	0 - 1	4	CM	Prasad Calvin	53
22	28		Krstev Mario	3½	1 - 0	3½		Stahnke Alexander	60
23	31		Vlietstra Marc	3½	1 - 0	3½		Aguilar Fernando	73
24	59		Lester George E	3½	0 - 1	3½	FM	Jones Brian	32
25	42		Weller Tony	3½	0 - 1	3½		Chan Jason	34
26	68		Karibasic Amir	3½	0 - 1	3½		Kempen Leon	35
27	36		Bennett Hilton	3½	½ - ½	3½		Spiller Paul	41
28	43	WFM	Milligan Helen	3	1 - 0	3		Meydan Arie	67
29	45	FM	Jones Rupert	3	½ - ½	3		De Vere Cameron	69
30	46		Tan Kevin	3	1 - 0	3		Ford Daniel	62
31	57		Encel Benjamin	3	½ - ½	3		Sannidhanam Anurag	64
32	24		Norris Damian C	2½	0 - 1	2½		Lapitan Daniel	70
33	61		Egan Bill	2	+ - -	2½		Rachmadi Herman	56
34	72		Cigelj David	2	0 - 1	2		Hernandez Roberto	58
35	71		Eriksson Caleb	2	½ - ½	1½		Raicar Gaurav	65
36	66		Hughes Harry	1	0 - 1	2		Canfell Mike J	48
37	23		Pyke Malcolm	2	0			not paired	

Round 9—Women

Bo.	No.		Name	Pts.	Result	Pts.		Name	No.
1	11		Anton Sarah	4½	½ - ½	7½	WIM	Caoili Arianne	2
2	12		Kinder Jessica	4½	½ - ½	6½	IM	Berezina Irina	1
3	6		Reid Vaness	4½	1 - 0	6	WFM	Maroroa Sue	4
4	5		Guo Emma	4	1 - 0	4		Russell Luthien	10
5	15		Oliver Tamzin L	4	½ - ½	4		Yu Sally	7
6	17		Byrne Alannah S	3½	0 - 1	4	WCM	Gao Judy	3
7	8	WFM	Smith Vivian J	3½	1 - 0	3½		Tsoi Nicole	13
8	16		Simmonds Leteisha	3	1 - 0	2		Vukikomoala Hilda	18
9	14		Sukhu Gloria	1	0 - 1	3	WFM	Fairley Natasha	9