

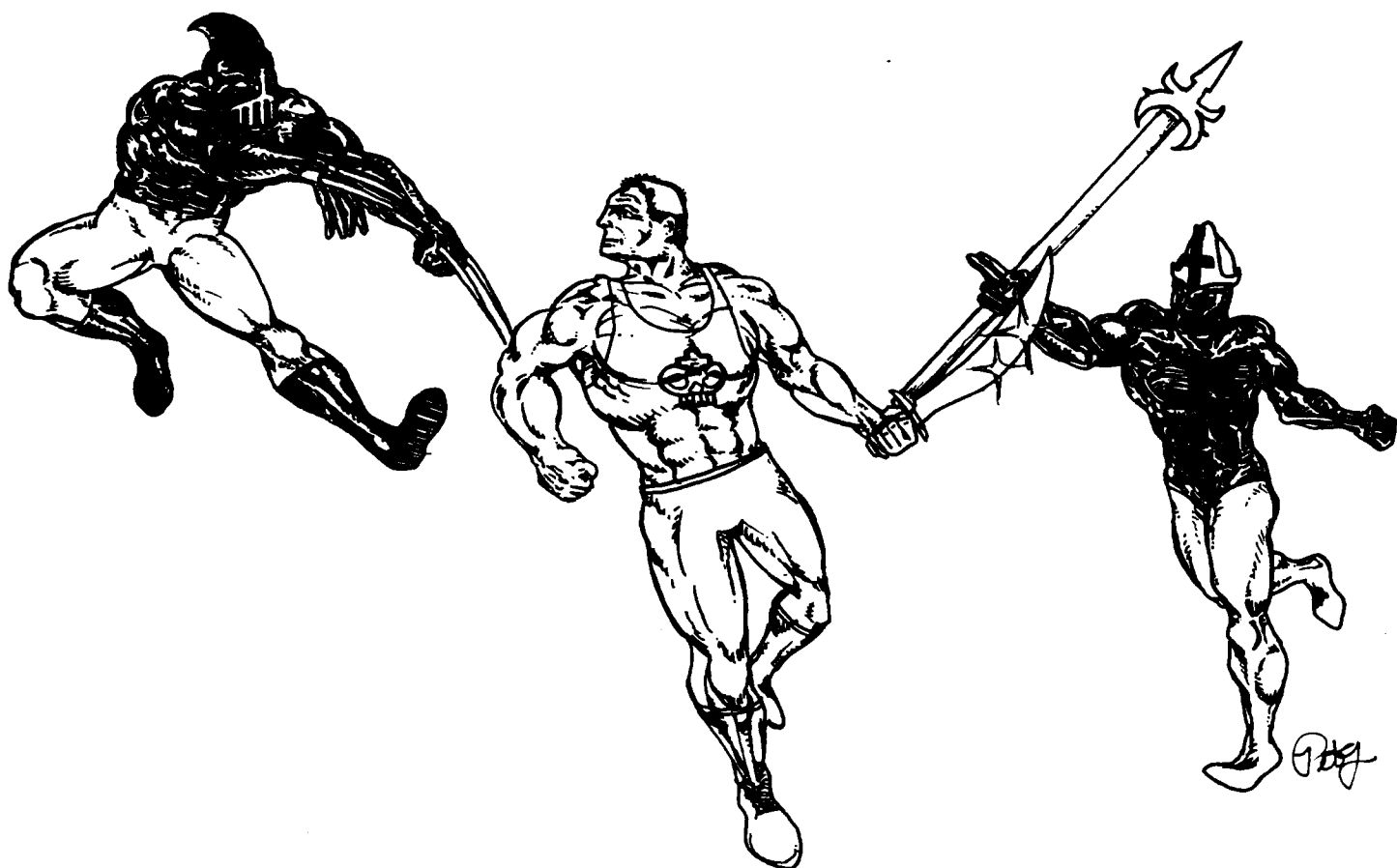
California Chess Journal

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SUMMER CHESS: The Heat is On!



IN THIS ISSUE: Record-setting Palo Alto & Berkeley Quads; annotations by SM Greg Kotlyar, SM Victor Baja, and more!

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Massachusetts Chess Association Vice-President Steve Frymer, with whom we exchange our *CCJs* for their *Chess Horizons*, offers the following regarding last issue's editorial "Question Authority"...

Dear Peter,

Here's the latest issue of *Chess Horizons*. I'll extend you another year. Your publication is excellent. You can be proud of it.

Enjoyed your response on the draw offer etiquette (April-May, p. 2). My policy as a player was "I'll see your move!" However, if I suspected the T.D.'s lack of knowledge I'd seek him out and/or call him over so that he would know the situation first hand.

Of course the offer should stand. An unsporting player could otherwise offer "null and void" draws as a psychological ploy. Another response to that not-quite-correct draw offer would be to not respond at all. After a few minutes the player offering a draw would find himself in an awkward position! (Another reason to have the T.D. present for the histrionics!)

Your response was thoroughly professional.

Best, Steve Frymer

I have an announcement to make to all *CCJ* readers and Northern California chess players. By the time you're reading this, I will have already left the sunny, laid-back west coast to do a six month internship with IBM in Washington, D.C. Your new Editor-in-Chief will be current Managing Editor, Carolyn Withgitt.

Like the previous letter said, the *CCJ* is an excellent publication, winning numerous awards and honorable mentions from the Chess Journalists of America, including most recently, "Best Analysis." During my two

and a half years of being Editor-in-Chief, the *CCJ* has grown from a pocket-sized twenty pages to its current full-size, twenty-eight page layout. Carolyn has been with me every step of the way, and has been a major factor in bringing about these improvements. I am very proud of the *CCJ*. But we should all be proud of it.

What I mean by "we" is all of you who support the *CCJ*, from subscribers to writers to the editorial staff. It's the team effort that makes this journal flourish. I am sure you will agree that a good mix of strong, titled contributors and local masters/experts plus comprehensive tournament reporting, are proper ingredients for our state magazine. So, actually, the *CCJ* won't skip a beat when I'm gone. I have left it in capable hands, the same helping hands which have always brought you this quality publication.

So now I am handing down this "baby" at least temporarily, to pursue my professional career. I am sure that Carolyn, Alan, and others are more than ready for the job and the added responsibilities. But along with these responsibilities come challenges, and I am confident that the enthusiasm and vision your new Editor-in-Chief can more than meet these challenges. I expect to come back to California and see even a better *CCJ*—count on it.

As for my tournament directing, I'm afraid I won't be able to see any of you until the U.S. Class September in San Francisco. The U.C. Berkeley Class Struggle, monthly Quads, and Wednesday night meetings will still be held as always. For all my chess (non-*CCJ*) duties, I leave them with my new apartment-mate and trusted co-organizer/TD, Don Shennum. So there will be no new numbers to call regarding UCB tournaments, just ask for Don.

Finally, I will of course still help with the *CCJ* as much as I can from afar. But I

Contents

Volume 5, Number 3

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Quads in Berkeley?	3
More Quads in Palo Alto by NM Richard Koepcke	4
Berkeley Chess Club Qualifier Lowell March Open by Alan Tse	7
Unsolved Mysteries by SM Victor Baja	7
Endings!?	8
Innovative Openings by Ganesan	9
"Maybe" Isn't a Rule by Randy Mont-Reynaud	12
How Kasparov Beats Karpov by SM Greg Kotlyar	13
A Not So Secret Weapon Anymore by NM Jim Eade	14
3½ Weeks by Ganesan	17
Nor Cal Splinters	26
Burlingame Bids Farewell	26
Book Reviews by NM Tom Dorsch	27
Club Directory	27
Tournament Calendar	back

will sincerely miss the N. Ca. Chess scene for the next six months. You may have noticed that the return address for issue has changed to **CalChess**, marking it as the new legal publisher. This fulfills a promise made nearly five months ago by **CalChess** President Tom Dorsch, whose sparkle and salesmanship have resuscitated our state organization much to the benefit of all players.

So with these dedicated volunteers and others, I relinquish my chess duties for the next six months (but you can hardly call it a vacation!). Adios Amigos! -PCY

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Quads in Berkeley!?

Last year, the Bay Area chess scene suffered a disappointing setback as Dr. Pascal Baudry, organizer of the successful Walnut Creek Quads, lost his venue at the Contra Costa Jewish Community Center. Perhaps the longest running series of monthly quads in recent Northern California history, Baudry's quads were convenient, well attended, and always had plenty of competition for all levels, including scholastic players. Many tournament regulars were left with less local chess to choose from and schedule around their otherwise non-chess lives. But alas, such was the misfortune and uncertainty of organized chess. As NM Jim Eade would say, "All good things must come to an end." Or must it?

Just when Dr. Baudry was about to give up hope of obtaining a new site for his popular monthly quads, a deal was struck in that epicenter of coffeehouse chess to revise the quads in Berkeley. The announcement was made at this year's People's Tournament that the Walnut Creek Quads would once again continue to be held, this time at a new site: U.C. Berkeley. Although the University of California is hardly an unfamiliar location to most players, it has not had a regular monthly event to satisfy local chess appetites in between its large annual Swisses. Berkeley organizers Don Shennum and Peter Yu feel that the new site will be more central to the chess playing public, and have added new attractions such as convenient WBCA-rated blitz quads following each tournament for those who just can't get enough chess in one day.

Despite the fact that the first tournament was not planned early enough to make it into *Chess Life's* TLA, there was still a strong turnout for the comeback event. Forty-two eager players showed up April 20th to initiate this reestablished event. Directed by the undermanned staff of Peter Yu (because Pascal was in France and Don had to write a paper), the results of the ten-section tournament are as follows:

Section I saw NM Peter Yu (2246) take clear first by beating second-place finisher NM Paul Gallegos (2294) in their crucial 2nd round encounter to finish 2.5-.5. Section II reached a peaceful conclusion as Nell Regan (2058) and Wayne Brown (2052) split the all-Expert section with 2.5-.5 apiece.

In Section III, a perfect 3-0 score was recorded by John Simpson (2036), whose closest competitor was Alexander Keyes (1968) at two points. Section IV ended in a tie between the two highest-rated players in this all "A" quad, as Annette Caruso (1880) and Gilbert Chambers (1857) each scored 2-1. Gilbert beat Annette in their individual matchup but had already dropped a point in the previous round.

Young Brian Jew (1655) upset his higher-rated opponents to take clear first in Section V with 2.5-.5 points. He proved that neither ratings nor age could intimidate a serious, albeit youthful, chess player. Meanwhile Erasmo Vazquez (1598) also pulled off a couple of upsets himself to finish on top of Section VI with 2.5 points.

Section VII was a draw between Steven Gaffagan (1467) and Von Motschenbacher (1417), each scoring 2.5-.5. Section VIII was a six-person section offering first and second place prizes instead of just the first prize for a normal quad. Unrated Marlo Samatra swept the field of beginners with an untouchable 3-0, while Jeff Ely (1383) and Ruperto Labaria (Unr.) tied for second through third, each with a score of 2-1.

The last two sections were scholastic quads open to age 13 and under. Quad I saw a tie between the two highest-rated youths, Adrian Keatinge-Clay (1775) and Dimitry Karshedt (1503), who seem to have learned the technique of a "grandmaster draw" at relatively tender ages. Both players finished with 2.5-.5 ahead of their competitors, the next closest being rated 400 points lower. Quad II set a new precedent, as 5 year-old Marijo Mont-Reynaud (Unr.) overwhelmed the older boys by winning her quad with a perfect 3-0.

Overall, the tournament went smoothly and received a better turnout than expected. Sponsored by ASUC SUPERB in conjunction with Dr. Pascal Baudry, this **CalChess** event will continue on Saturdays, once every month. The next Berkeley Quads will be on June 29th.

White: NM Paul Gallegos (2294)

Black: NM Peter Yu (2246)

Berkeley 1991

King's Indian Kramer System [E70]

[Annotations by NM Peter Yu]

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nge2

GM Raymond Keene recommends this lesser-analyzed system as a good way of handling the King's Indian. White plans to place his Knight on g3 to support a Kingside attack with either h4-h5 or f4-f5 depending on how Black counters in the center.

5...0-0

The current feeling is that castling here is premature. Unlike most variations where castling is almost reflexive for Black, in the Kramer system it is White who intends to attack on the Kingside. Thus it may be safer to postpone castling and play the more flexible 5...c6, after which Szabo-Lambert, Krems 1967 continued 6. Ng3 a6! 7. a4?! (7. Be2 b5! =) a5 8. Be2, and now 8...e5! is suggested by IM Andrew Martin as equalizing for Black. Martin-Gallagher, Jersey 1985 continued 8...e5! 9. d5 0-0 10. h4?! Na6 11. h5 Nc5, intending Qb6 =+.

6. Ng3 e5 7. d5 a5

The main line is 7...c6, after which Szabo-Yanovsky, Winnipeg 1967, saw 8. Be2 cxd5 9. cxd5 Nbd7, and now GM Raymond Keene suggests 10. h4! h5 11. Bg5 as good for White.

8. Be2 Na6 9. h4!

White begins his systematic attack and forces Black to weaken his Kingside. Worse is 9. Bg5 h6.

9...h5 10. Bg5 Qe8

Now we begin to see the point behind 7...a5 and 8...Na6. Black wants to be able to unpin his Knight without having to worry about Nb5 by White. In fact, this defensive unpinning was forced since White was threatening to win with 11. Bxh5! gxh5 12. Nxb5 followed by 13. Qf3 winning back the piece with a few pawns to boot.

11. Qd2 Nh7

White intensifies the pressure causing Black to fear the sac 12. Bxf6 Bxf6 13. Bxh5!? gxh5 14. Nxb5, although after 14...Bh8! White's attack is unclear.

12. Bh6

Amazingly, ECO stops here and labels the position as +- , citing
(continued on p. 24)

More Quads in Palo Alto

annotations by NM Richard Koepcke

Following up on their record-setting February Quads, the Palo Alto Chess Club held their second Palo Alto Quad on May 12th. Attracting 47 players, this eleven-section event was efficiently directed by noted chess author Bill Wall. Unfortunately for the Bay Area chess scene, this may be the last event which Wall directs in Northern California, since he has been reassigned out of state by the military. Chess players active on the peninsula will definitely miss his tournaments, especially the Palo Alto Chess Club members. The winners of this quad are listed below, along with a couple of games from the top quads.

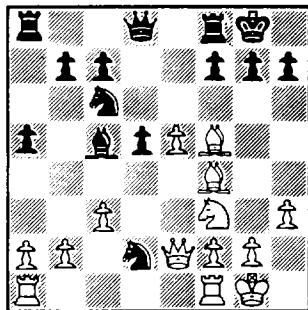
Quad I: NM Richard Koepcke (2272) 2.5-.5; II: John Simpson (2036) 3-0; III: Jeffrey Merrick (1936) 2-1; IV: Peter McKone (1803) 2.5-.5; V: Nick Gallinato (1679) 3-0; VI: Manuel Mangrobang (1595) 2.5-.5; VII: Michael Marziale (1512) 3-0; VIII: Rupertk Labaria (1484) 3-0; IX: Brad Mason (1273) 3-0; X: Eric Wainright (1193) 3-0; and XI: Willy Pan (Unr.) 4-0. The bottom section was run as a seven-player Swiss in four rounds.

White: Mark Gagnon (2089)
Black: John Simpson (2036)
Philidor's Defense [C41]

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Bd3 e5 4. c3 d5 5. dxe5 Nxe4 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. h3?

Spending a tempo to stop a Bishop pin in an open position is usually not a good idea. White will have better chances for retaining the initiative with either 7. 0-0 or Qe2.

7...Bc5 8. 0-0 a5? 9. Bf4 0-0 10. Qe2 Bf5 11. Nbd2 Nxd2 12. Bxf5!?



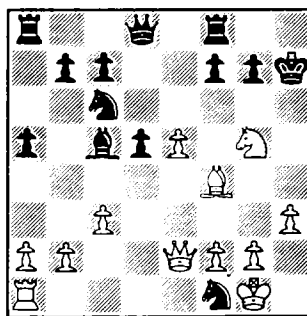
White sees an opportunity for the clas-
National Master Richard Koepcke is a member of the Palo Alto and Burlingame Chess Clubs. He plays regularly in local tournaments.

sic Bishop sacrifice 13. Bxh7+ Kxh7 14. Ng5+ Kg8?? 15. Qh5 winning, so he offers an exchange thinking (incorrectly) that Black can not take it.

12...Nxf1 13. Bxh7+?

13. Ng5! offers better winning chances, though after 13...g6 14. Nxf7 Kxh7 15. Qh5+ Kg8 16. Bxg6 fxe6 17. Qxg6+ Kh8, White has nothing better than to force a draw by perpetual check.

13...Kxh7 14. Ng5+



14...Qxg5! 15. Bxg5 Ng3 16. Qg4 Ne4 17. Bf6

White has given up too much material for the Queen. Since he's lost anyway, he attempts to muddy the waters with another sacrifice. Black can except this sacrifice as well, but he would have to play several accurate defensive moves to do so. For example, 17...gxf6 18. Qh5+ Kg6 (18...Kg8 19. exf6 +-) 19. Qg4+ Ng5 and White's attack will soon run out of steam.

17...Bxf2+

With the idea of keeping the Queen off h4.

18. Kf1 g6 19. Re1?

The final mistake—a better try is 19. Rd1, though Black can diffuse the attack without much difficulty. For example, if 19...Be3, 20. Qh4+ Bh6 21. Rxd5 Nxf6 22. Qxf6 Bg7 23. Qh4+ Kg8 which would be followed by Rad8.

19...Bxe1 20. Kxe1 Nxf6 21. exf6 Rae8+ 22. Kd1 Re4 23. Qd7 Re6 24. Qxc7 Rxf6 25. b4 axb4 26. cxb4 Ra8 27. Qxb7 Rxa2 28. Ke1 d4 29. b5 Nb4 30. Qxf7+ Rxf7 0-1

White: NM Richard Koepcke (2272)
Black: NM Tom Dorsch (2242)
Benoni Defense [A77]

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 0-0 5. Nf3 c5 6. d5 a6?! 7. a4 e6

From move six to ten, Tom tries an ex-

periment in which he forgoes d6 in order to provoke e5 by White. I should have accepted the positional gambit, as in each case White gets in advantage, though after move six the e-pawn would have to be sacrificed. For example, 8. e5 Ng4 9. Bf4 exd5 10. cxd5 Re8 11. Be2 Nxe5 12. Nxe5 Bxe5 13. Bxe5 Rxe5 14. d6! intending f4-f5, and Black will have a hard time simultaneously untangling his Queenside and fending off White's Kingside attack.

8. Be2 exd5 9. cxd5 Re8 10. Nd2 d6 11. 0-0 Nbd7

Now we are in the main line of the Benoni. Not a very pleasant thought as I normally play a different variation against it.

12. Ra3 Qc7 13. Qc2 g5?

A typical Benoni idea, securing e5 for the Knight. Usually Black has his Knight on e5 and his Queen on d8 to support his Kingside where he tries this. More in keeping with the position is 13...Rb8.

14. Nc4 h6 15. f4 Rb8 16. fxe5 hxe5 17. Ne3

Grabbing the pawn with 17. Bxg5 leads to an unclear position. Frankly, I never considered the idea, because Ne3-f5 leads to a clear edge without complications.

17...Ne5 18. Nf5 Bxf5 19. Rxf5 g4 20. a5! c4? 21. Be3 Qd7

Under certain circumstances Black is threatening Nxe4, though not immediately. I decided to sidestep the threat anyway in order to clear f5 for the other Knight.

22. Rf1 Rbc8? 23. Na4 Qe7 24. Nb6 Rc7 25. Bg5 Ned7

I thought during the game that I had prevented this. It's hard to suggest something better.

26. Nxd7 Rxd7 27. Bxg4 Rc7 28. Bf5 Qe5 29. Rg3 Kf8 30. Bf4 Qd4+

30...Qe7 offers better chances for survival.

31. Kh1 Rd8 32. Be3 Qe5 33. Bb6 Ne8 34. Be6

The Rook isn't going anywhere. Now after 34...Qxb2? 35. Qxb2 Bxb2 36. Bxc7 Nxc7 37. Rxf7+ Black can resign.

34...Rdd7 35. Bxc7 Rxc7 36. Rgf3 Bf6 37. Qf2! Ke7 38. Qb6 Qxb2

38...fxe6 39. Rxf6 Qxf6 40. Rxf6 Kxf6 41. h4 is equally hopeless as the Rook and Knight are no match for the Queen and pawn.

39. Rxf6 Qxf6 40. Rxf6 Kxf6 41. Qf2+ Ke5 42. Bg4 1-0

Watson Wins Berkeley Qualifier

Every year the Berkeley Chess Club holds a Qualifying Open tournament to determine who will play in the prestigious Closed Club Championship. This year the BCC has decided to hold two such qualifying tournaments, thus expanding the number of qualifiers for the championship round-robin from five to eight. Past winners of this strong tournament have included NMs Steve Cross, Roger Poehlmann, Peter Yu, and Rich Kelson. Partly due to the fact that Club Champions get to enjoy a year's worth of free play, and partly because the Qualifier offers money prizes in an all-play-all format, the BCC Open continues to be the most successful event for the club. This Spring version was no exception, as 78 players participated in the weekly eight-round Swiss which took place from March 5th to May 3rd.

First place went to **Farid Watson** (2062), who finished 6.5-1.5 in a tremendous comeback effort. Underdog Watson recovered from an early upset against Henry Mar (1617), and then surprised the field with a three-game winning streak in the final rounds. Tied for second through fourth place with 6 points each were past qualifier **Ganesan** (2085) who led the tournament for most of the second half, fellow U.C. Berkeley graduate student **NM David Moulton** (2204), who started out with 4-0, and top-ranked **NM Rich Kelson** (2366), who had a sub-par performance. Alone in fifth place was **Dean Howard** (2077) with 5.5 points. Howard may qualify for the Club Championship since Ganesan is planning to pursue a post-doctorate at Harvard University this Winter.

The crucial final round saw no compromises as Watson, who needed a win to take first, exploited Ganesan's passive play. Ganesan would have clinched clear first with either a draw or win, but his "draw odds" mentality only got him into trouble and his loss was probably psychological in part. The other contenders, all at 5-2, were paired against each other as Kelson beat Greg Odle in a lop sided match, and Moulton bested Alan Kobernat in a wild struggle. Peter Yu, who also had 5-2, would have been paired against Odle, but had to withdraw due to a previous engagement in Las Vegas. Finally, Howard beat fellow Expert Wayne Brown to become the alternate qualifier.

Class prizes went to **Allen Estes** (1916)

and **Greg Odle** (1893), both scoring 5 points to tie for Best Under 2000. Underrated **Nelson Sowell** (1653) also finished 5-3 to take Best Under 1800 honors, while **Bruce Bell** (1597) broke even with 4-4 to win Best Under 1600. Best Under 1400 went to **Morris Kleinschmidt** (1226) with 2.5 points, and upstart **Brian Newman** (997) won the Best Under 1200/Unrated prize with a shocking 4.5-3.5 score. The next BCC Qualifying Open will be in October. This one was ably directed by Ganesan and Alan Glasscoe with the assistance of Bret Rohmer. Below are games from the tournament, annotated by various masters and experts. You can find more crucial games from this tournament in David Moulton's "The Endings!?" column on page 8, and Ganesan's "3¹/₂ Weeks" on pages 17-20.

White: NM David Moulton (2204)

Black: NM Peter Yu (2214)

BCC Qualifying Rd. 4

French Tarrasch [C07]

[Annotated by NM David Moulton and NM Peter Yu]

After playing in four Berkeley Chess Club Qualifying Opens, I have finally qualified for the closed championship. This is the first of my two key victories, which were two of my most interesting games of the tournament. For two others, see my game against Greg Odle and my loss to Ganesan elsewhere in this issue.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 c5 4. Ngf3 cxd4 5. exd5 Qxd5 6. Bc4 Qd6 7. 0-0 Nf6 8. Nb3 Nc6 9. Nbx4 Nxd4 10. Nxd4 a6 11. a4 Qc7 12. b3 Bb6

ECO assesses this position as unclear. 13. h3 0-0 14. Bb2

If 14. Ba3? then Rd8 (or 14...Bxa3 15. Rxa3 Rd8 forcing 16. Qa1) when 15. Bb2 is necessary losing a tempo, (15. Bxd6 Rxd6 16. f4 Qc5 17. c3 Ne4 18. Rc1 Nxc3 19. Rxc3 Qxd4+).

14...b6 15. Qe2 Bb7 16. Rad1 Rfe8 17. Ba1!?

It is hard for White to find another useful move. If 17. Nf3 then 17...Qc6 ties the Knight down, while moving his Rooks exposes them to Black's Bishops. Maybe White should just allow 17. Rfe1 Bb4 18. c3 blocking his Bishop. [Black must have equalized if White has nothing better than the text.—Yu]

17...Qc5 18. Rfe1 Bc7 19. Bb2 Qg5 20. Nf3

Qf4 21. Qe3 Nh5 22. Rd7 Bxf3?

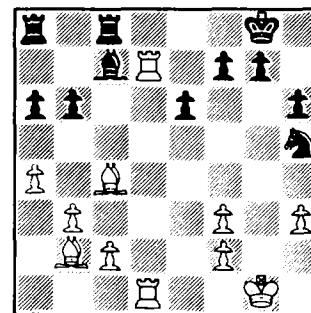
Underestimating White's chances in the coming ending (based on control of the d-file), but 22...Bc6! would have posed White some problems; e.g. 23. Rd2? Bxf3 24. gxf3 Qh2+ 25. Kf1 Bf4 or 23. Rd3? b5 or 23. Rd4? Qxe3 24. fxe3 (24. Rxe3 b5 and ...Bb6) Bxf3 25. gxf3 Be5 26. Rh4 Bg3. [Dave has shown better judgment than me in evaluating the critical position. Although the simple 22...Bc6 would have been great for Black, I was too positionally greedy to pass up a chance to double White's f-pawns.—Yu]

23. Qxf3 Qxf3

23...Qh2+ 24. Kf1 Nf4 (24...Nf6 25. Bxf6 gxf6 26. Qxf6) 25. g3 Qxh3+ 26. Kg1 Rac8 27. Bxa6 or 26...Rec8 27. Rxc7.

24. gxf3 Rec8

Maybe 24...Bf4 is better to save an important tempo, but White still gets good play on the d-file—b6 might become a target. [Still unaware of my own weaknesses and thinking that Black had an advantage based on White's shattered Kingside pawns, I rejected 24...Bf4 and 24...Bd8-f6.—Yu] 25. Red1 h6



26. Re7! Bf4

[If 26...Bd8 then 27. Re8+ Kh7 28. Bd3+ g6 29. Rh8 mates nicely. I missed this when I allowed White's Rook to remain on the seventh after move 22; Black is lost.—Yu] 27. Rdd7 Rf8 28. Rxf7! Rxf7 29. Bxe6 Rf8 30. Ba3

The point! Now Black will have to give back a whole Rook and be at least two pawns down.

30...Nf6 31. Rb7 Kh7 32. Bxf7 Rc8 33. Bc4 Rc6 34. Bxa6 Kg6

Black is going to make one last try—to see whether White will helpmate himself! But Black will instead!

35. Bd3+ Kh5 36. Rxc7 Kh4 37. Be7! Kxh3 38. Bf5+ Kh4 39. Rg4+ 1-0

39...Kh3 40. Rxf4+ Ng4 41. Bxg4#

(continued on p. 21)

28th ARTHUR B. STAMER MEMORIAL CHESS TOURNAMENT

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64 Turn Out for Lowell

by Alan Tse

A record setting sixty-four chess players turned out for the latest Lowell Open held on March 23. Play was divided into five sections which provided for fierce competition within each evenly-matched group.

Finishing ahead of the pack in the top section was eighteen year-old NM Sergey Iskotsz (2299) with a perfect 3-0. Taking clear second with 2.5-.5 was strong local expert Matvey Temkin (2192). Tied for third through seventh were NM Charles Powell. Experts Russell Wong, Art Marthinsen and Timothy Randall each with 2-1.

Emmanuel Perez followed up his triumph in the Expert section of the February People's Tournament with a clear first place in the second section with three points. Runner-ups were Vergel Dalvsung, Bruno Bler and Christoph Ronecker each with a score of 2-0.

The third section was won by fourteen year-old Brian Jew with a flawless 3-0 score. Finishing a half point behind Brian were Race Jones and Manuel Mangro-bang.

Taking top honors in section D with a 3-0 score was Ken White. He was followed by Abner Manalang, Danny Chol, and Chuck Hughes; all with two points.

The winners in the bottom section were youngsters Michael Leung and Raymond Lim each with perfect 3-0 scores. Sharing the directing chores were Alan Tse and Peter Dahl.

Fresh from his fine performance (5.5-.5) as second board for Carnegie Mellon University in the U. S. Amateur Team -East, Sergey continued his superior play with this win over Timothy Randall.

White: NM Sergey Iskotsz (2299)

Black: T. S. Randell (2054)

King's Indian Attack [A04]

[Annotations by NM Sergey Iskotsz]

1. Nf3 f5 2. d3

I've only recently switched to 1.Nf3 and this was my first encounter with 1...f5. 2.d3 is certainly not a book move, but I didn't want to play theoretical lines which, I am sure, my opponent knew better.

2... d6 3. g3 Nf6 4. Bg2 e5 5. c4 Be7 6. Nc3 0-0 7. Bg5 Nc6 8. Qd2 Be6

The opening is over. Black is better developed, has more space and a fairly clear plan—Kingside attack. White's plan is not

so clear. In one of my previous games in a similar position I castled Queenside and started play on the Kingside by moving the h-pawn. In this game I decided to try another idea—to exchange 3 light pieces and get a Bishop on g2 against a Knight on c6. 9. Bxf6 Bxf6 10. Nd5 e4

After this move White is able to implement his idea exactly as described above. Better was 10...h6 taking away g5 from White's Knight and keeping a better position.

11. Nxf6 Qxf6 12. Ng5

Now Black has to either lose the e4 pawn, or let White exchange a Knight for a Bishop.

12...Rae8 13. Nxe6 Rxe6 14. 0-0 Kh8 15. Rad1 Qg6

Black's last chance was 15... exd3. After 16. Qxd3 (This is better than 16. exd3 since in this case Black will seize the open e-file and might get the d4 square for his pieces.) 16...Qb2 17. Rb1 Qe2 18. Qxe2 Rxe2 19. Rb7 Na5 the position is approximately equal.

16. dxe4 fxe4 17. Qe3

Now Black must worry about protecting the e4 pawn and a possible advance on the Queenside via a2-a3 and b2-b4-b5. Black's Knight cannot go to e5 because the e4 pawn will be lost.

17... Rfe8 18. a3

Preparing b4 and taking the b4 square away from Black's Knight.

18... Qh6

Black should have kept the Queens on the board since he has more space and it is easier to defend the e4 pawn.

19. Qxh6 Rxh6 20. Rd5 Rhe6 21. Rc1 b6 22. b4 e3?

During the last several moves White was improving the position of his pieces and preparing c5. Black's last move was a mistake.

23. f4

White's Bishop now has an open diagonal and the e5 square is controlled by White.

23... Ne7 24. Rd3 Ng8

This move allows White to win a pawn. 25. Bd5 R6e7 26. Bc6 Rd8 27. R1c3 Nf6 28. Re3 Rf7 29. Bf3 d5

A time pressure mistake, but White is winning anyway.

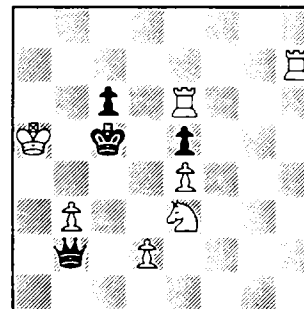
30. cxd5 Rfd7 31. Red3 1-0

Black resigns, since capturing on d5 leads to a Rook ending in which White is 3 pawns up.

Unsolved Mysteries

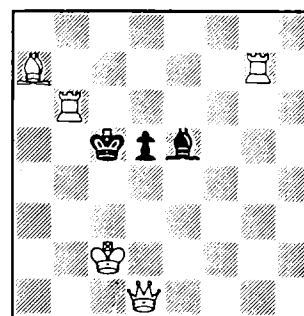
by SM Victor Baja

Problem #1



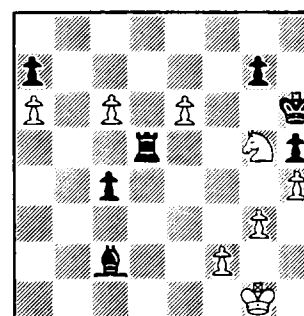
White to play and win.

Problem #2



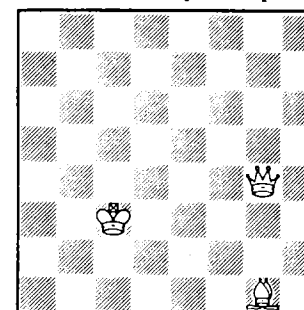
White to play and mate in two moves.

Problem #3 by A. A. Troitski, "Bohemia," 1908.



White to play and win.

Problem #4 by Sam Loyd, Le Sphinx 1866.



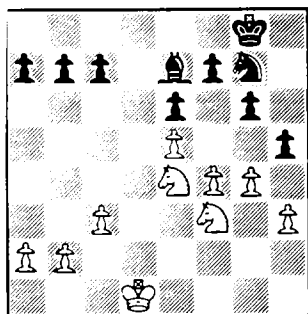
Place the Black King where he would be: a) stalemated, b) checkmated, c) mated in one. SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 25.

Endings!?

by NM David Moulton

This month, our ending will involve not only Knights, but also Bishops! It is from the second round of the Berkeley Chess Club Qualifying Open, which was just completed as this issue goes to press.

White: NM David Moulton (2204)
Black: Greg Odle (1893)
BCC Qualifying Open, Rd. 2



White was gaining space on the Kingside by advancing his pawns. When he saw that there wouldn't be much of a direct assault on the enemy monarch, however, he decided to trade Rooks on the d-file and take advantage of his space advantage in the ending. Notice that his King and pieces are placed more actively than Black's and that his pawns cramp the Black pieces. Also, Black's Kingside pawns are more vulnerable than White's, since they are more easily attacked. This means that his King may have to stay back and guard them, rather than centralizing itself. On the other hand, Black does have a good Bishop, which is on the same color as several of White's pawns. All in all, White should have a slight edge. At this point, both players should strive to centralize their Kings and perhaps place their pieces more actively.

26...hxg4

Black trades pawns in order to move his Knight without letting his h-pawn become a target. He also makes g4 slightly more vulnerable, so he may be able to attack it later. In addition, he follows the general rule that the inferior side of an ending should trade pawns and try to keep the pawns compact (this move, for instance, makes the pawns extend only to the g-file instead of the h-file), which lessens the possibility for White to get a passer, especially an outside passer.

27. hxg4 Ne8 28. Ke2 f6?

An unfortunate move. Black tries to reduce the number of pawns on the board, but also spreads them out, so after the exchange each side will have two isolated pawns on the Kingside. Since Black's will be more vulnerable than White's, the exchange just hurts Black.

29. Kd3

White brings his King closer to the center, but he also could have traded pawns on f6 to force the Black weakness described in the last note. Let's see what happens if he does. After 29. exf6 Nxf6, Black is threatening the Knight and the pawn, so 30. Nxf6 or 30. Nf2 is forced. After 30. Nxf6 Bxf6, Black has traded off a pair of pieces, which lessens White's chances to attack Black's pawns. In addition, Black is left with a good Bishop v. Knight and his position is less cramped, so things have improved for him. After 30. Nf2 Bd6 31. Ne5 (31. g5? or 31. Ke3? Nd5(+) g5! undermines the Knight. Then Black is okay after 32. fxg5 Bxe5 33. gxf6 Bxf6, and after 32. Kf3 Nd5 33. Nfd3 gxf4 34. c4 things are unclear. But even if Black didn't have this tactical sortie, it is clear that his pieces have more room and that he gets more play. Anyway, during the constraints of an over-the-board time limit, I didn't have a chance to look at all this during the game. I did see, however, that after the pawn exchange Black's pieces become less cramped, since the e5 pawn disappears, and that he has chances for simplifying exchanges. This was enough for me to refrain from capturing, once I realized that I wasn't afraid of 29...f5 30. gxf5, when 30...exf5 gives White a protected passer, and 30...gxf5 gives him a nice target at e6. If White ignores Black's move, Black doesn't really gain anything, and White can continue with his King centralization.

29...c6 30. a4

Prevents the 30...b5 proposed by Black's last and begins to probe the Queenside pawns. 30...a6 now or later might create a hole at b6, but perhaps it should be considered anyway to keep out the King.

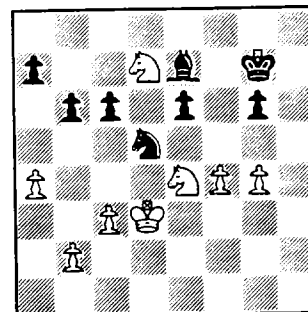
30...fxe5 31. Nxe5

Black eventually had to do something about his f-pawn in order to free his pieces from its defense, but now his g-pawn is a problem. White also could have taken with the f-pawn to continue to hold d6 and f6 to cramp Black. But this way, the Knight is centralized, blockades e6 very well, and still exerts a restraining influence on Black's po-

sition. Notice that we transpose into a position similar to that after 29. exf6, but where White's patience has gained him two tempi! 31...Kg7 32. Nd7

Now that White has centralized all his pieces, it is time to provoke some weaknesses on the Queenside, since an immediate King penetration will not accomplish very much with the pawns in their tight defensive formation. So he plans 33. Nc5 to try to induce the Queenside pawns to advance and become more vulnerable. Then he will try to combine threats on both wings of the board to win material or force a passed pawn.

32...Nc7 33. Ndc5 b6 34. Nd7 Nd5



I hadn't seen this when I played 33. Ndc5 (two moves before the time control), and now I realized I was losing my f-pawn. But the interesting thing is that after White's last several moves, his pieces are so well placed and Black's pawns are so vulnerable, that even though Black is winning a pawn, he is strategically lost! White will soon be able to win a pawn back on the Queenside and get a passer. His more active pieces will then simultaneously hold back Black's passed pawn and support his own.

35. Ne5 Nxf4+ 36. Kc4

I was a little wary of this move at first, but the King is needed on the Queenside, and the Knights can adequately hold the fort on the other side.

36...b5+

After 36...c5 37. Nc6 will win a pawn anyway, and then the b-pawn will also fall. 37. axb5 cxb5+ 38. Kxb5 Bd8 39. Nc6

An immediate 39. c4 is better, since it keeps the Bishop off the g1-a7 diagonal, but Black is lost anyway.

39...Bb6 40. c4

White can win the a-pawn right away with 40. Ka6, but this seemed slow, allowing Black counterplay, and unnecessary,

(continued on p. 10)

Innovative Openings

by Postal Master Ganesan

FIVE MINUTE THEORY

When one grandmaster defeats another in about twenty moves, something innovative in the opening is likely. This is the case in our feature game, which does suffer from one drawback- it was played in less time than it takes to read this article. Nevertheless, you will probably agree that a blitz encounter between two of the world's leading practitioners of this art form is worth playing over.

This game was played in the last round of the WBCA event that followed the Pan-Pacific GM tournament held in San Francisco in March, sponsored by the Mechanics Institute. Browne, trailing Tal by half a point, needed a win for clear first. To his credit, Tal did not avoid a sharp struggle, but found himself on the receiving end of a crushing attack.

White: Walter Browne (2694 WBCA)

Black: Mikhail Tal (2667 WBCA)

**Pan-Pacific WBCA Finals, S. F. 1991
Slav Defense [D10]**

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6

A move mentioned as early as 1590 by the Sicilian Polerio. The basic idea is the same as in the Caro-Kann: Black defends d5 while keeping the c8-h3 diagonal open for his Queen Bishop, often deploying it to f5 or g4. In his 1930 book *P-Q4!*, Bogolyubov calls it the "Russian Defense" as Chigorin, Alekhine, Rubinstein, and himself were all instrumental in its development. Tartakower was probably the first to give the opening its modern name, alluding to the Slavic background of these grandmasters.

3. Nc3

Many players prefer to play 3. Nf3 first, as it cuts down on a couple of options—like Black's next move, for instance. The symmetrical Exchange Variation 3. cxd5 cxd5 is also playable, and not without danger for Black.

3...e5!?

The Winawer Counter Gambit, named after the Nineteenth Century Pole Simon Winawer (1838-1920) who first played it against Marshall at Monte Carlo 1901. In their entertaining book *Unorthodox Openings*, which is divided into the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, Joel Benjamin and Eric Schiller classify this under the Ugly section. This means that the opening is considered playable, but entails a certain degree of risk

for Black. In search of forgotten ideas, several players have taken up the Counter Gambit's cause recently—notably the Swedish duo of IM Jonny Hector and FM Thomas Engqvist.

Another attempt at exploiting White's move order is 3...dxc4 (Supplementary Game 1). 3...e6 allows the wild Marshall Gambit 4. e4 dxe4 5. Nxe4 Bb4+ 6. Bd2 Qxd4 7. Bxb4 Qxe4+ 8. Be2, which deserves a whole article to itself. Finally, Black can play 3...Nf6 transposing to well-known lines after 4. Nc3 dxc4, but White can also play 4. e3. Then, Black's most respectable options are 4...e6 and 4...g6, according to Glenn Flear's *The Slav for the Tournament Player*. In either case, play is quite different from the dxc4 lines.

4. cxd5

4. e3 is not as tame as it seems and was Speelman's choice against Salov at Linares 1991. After 4...exd4 5. exd4 Nf6 (Supplementary Game 2), we arrive at a position more commonly reached by the French Defense move order 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 c6.

Another interesting try is 4. dxe5 d4 5. Ne4 Qa5+ 6. Nd2, when Engqvist gives 6...Nh6!? without any further analysis.

4...cxd5 5. e4!?

Opinions vary on this move. Back in the sixties, in his monumental but now dated *Chess Openings: Theory and Practice*, the late Israel Horowitz felt it deserved serious consideration. More recently, Flear's book and an article by John Donaldson in *Inside Chess* (October 1, 1990, p.14) say it fails to give White any advantage. In his own *Blitz Chess*, (annotations from which I will be quoting liberally), Browne gives the text an exclamation mark, saying "If only because the game gets so sharp."

It is generally believed that 5. Nf3 (Supplementary Game 3) is White's best try for an edge. For example, 5. Nf3 (5. dxe5?! d4 6. Ne4 Qa5+ 7. Nd2 Nc6 8. Nf3 Bg4 9. g3 Bxf3 exf3 Qxe5 = Suetin) 5...e4 6. Ne5 Nc6 7. Qa4 Bd7 8. Nxd7 Qxd7 9. Bf4.

5...dxe4

This looks more natural than 5...exd4 6. Nxd5 Nc6 7. Bb5 Bc5 8. Nf3.

6. Bb5+ Bd7

6...Nd7 allows 7. dxe5 with threats of e6.

7. dxe5

Browne also suggests 7. Qb3!? with the idea 7...exd4 8. Bc4.

7...Nc6?!

This seems to allow White too much leeway. Browne was more worried about his winning chances in the endgame after 7...Bxb5 8. Qxd8+ Kxd8 9. Nb5 Bb4+ (or 9...Nc6 10. Bg5+ f6 11. 0-0-0+ Kc8 12. exf6 Nxf6) 10. Bd2 Bxd2+ 11. Kxd2 Nc6 12. f4 exf3 13. Nxf3 Ke7.

Browne does not mention the theoretical recommendation 7...Bb4, based on 8. Bd2 e3! 9. Bxd7+ Nxd7 10. Bxe3 Nxe5 11. Qa4+ Qd7 Draw, Shishkin-Nei, USSR 1959. Interestingly, Tal is either unaware of this, or unwilling to enter this line.

8. Qd5!

Better than 8. Bf4 Bb4. White's pieces are significantly more active and the tactics from now on are logically in his favor.

8...Qe7?!

During the game, Browne thought 8...Nb4 was better and had planned 9. Qxe4 Bxb5 10. Nxb5 with the idea 10...Rc8?? 11. Nd6+ winning. Later in his sleep, he says he found 8...Nb4 9. e6!?. A sample line goes 9...Nxd5 10. Bxd7+ Ke7 11. Nxd5+ Kd6 12. Bf4+ Kc5 (or 12...Kxd5 13. 0-0-0+ Kc5 14. Be3+ Kb4 15. Rd4+ Ka5 16. Ra4#) 13. b4+ Kxd5 14. 0-0-0+ Kc4 15. Ne2 Kxb4 16. Rd4+ Ka5 17. Ra4+ Kb6 18. Be3+ Kc7 19. Rc4+ "with a promising attack."

8...Bb4 9. Ne2 a6 10. Bc4 Qe7 11. Bf4 as in Müller-Hess, corr. 1922, also looks better for White but is probably preferable to the text.

9. Bf4 g5?

Black is not well placed for such thrusts and should settle for 9...f5 10. 0-0-0 0-0-0. Tal then points out the cheapo 11. Nge2?? Be6 and suggests 11. Bc4 instead, with some advantage to White.

10. Bg3 Bg7 11. Qxe4 Nxe5

Leads to trouble, but 11...0-0-0 12. Rc1! f5 13. exf6 is also unpleasant.

12. Nd5 f5

Browne gives 12...Qd6 13. Nf3 Bxb5 14. Nxe5 0-0-0 15. Rc1+ Kb8 16. Nd7+—crunch!.

13. Qe2

Simpler than 13. Nxe7 fxe4 14. Nf5 Bf6.

13...Qd6

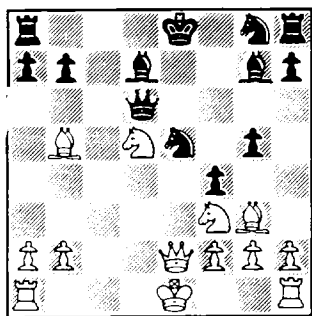
Or 13...Bxb5 14. Qxb5+ Qd7 15. Nc7+.

14. Nf3 f4

14...Qxd5 15. Bxd7+ Qxd7 16. Nxe5 Qe7 17. 0-0-0 leaves White with too strong an attack.

(continued on p. 10)

(from p. 9)



15. Nxf4! gxf4 16. Bxd7+!

Browne also analyzes 16. Bxf4 out to a win, but the text is easier to calculate. Remember, this is a blitz game!

16...Kxd7 17. Rd1 Nxf3+ 18. Qxf3 Re8+

19. Kf1 Bd4 20. Bxf4 Qa6+

Or 20...Qb6 21. Qd5+.

21. Kg1 Ne7 22. Rxd4+ 1-0

Black lost on time here, but his position is quite hopeless anyway.

Supplementary Games:

White: GM I. Farago

Black: Z. Ljubisavljevic

Aosta 1989

Slav Defense [D10]

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 dxc4 4. e4 b5

4...e5 5. Nf3 exd4 6. Qxd4 Qxd4 7. Nxd4 Nf6 8. f3 leaves White with the better endgame.

5. a4 e5

5...b4 6. Na2 with an edge.

6. Nf3! b4

6...exd4 7. Qxd4! Qxd4 8. Nxd4 b4 9. Nd1!

7. Nb1 exd4 8. Bxc4! Ba6

8...c5 9. Bd5; 8...Bc5 9. Ne5.

9. Qd3! Bxc4 10. Qxc4 Nf6 11. Bg5 Be7

11...c5 12. e5 h6 13. exf6 hxg5 14. Qe2+.

12. Bxf6 Bxf6 13. e5 Be7 14. Nxd4 0-0?!

14...Qd5.

15. 0-0?!

15. Nd2! c5 16. Nf5 Nc6 17. Qg4

15...c5 16. Nf3 Nc6 17. Qe4 Qc8 18. Nbd2 Qe6 19. Nc4 Nd4 20. Rac1 Rad8 21. Nxd4 Rxd4 22. Qe2 Bg5 23. Rc2 Rfd8 24. b3 Qd5 25. g3 Rd3 26. Rb2 Qf3?!

26...Bd2!?

27. Qxf3 Rxf3 28. Kg2 Rc3

28...Rdd3 29. h4! Be7 30. Nd2!

29. f4 Be7 30. Rf3 Rdd3 31. Rxd3 Rxd3 32.

Kf2 h5 33. Ne3! f6?!

33...c4!?

34. Ke2 Rd8 35. exf6 Bxf6 36. Rd2 Re8 37. Kd3 h4 38. Ng4 Rd8+ 39. Kc2 Bd4 40. Ne5 hxg3 41. hxg3 Re8 42. Nc6 Bc3 43. Rd8

Rxd8 44. Nxd8 Be1 45. g4 1-0

45...Bg3 46. f5 Bc7 (or 46...g6 47. fxg6 Kg7 48. Ne6+ Kxg6 49. Nxc5 Kg5 50. Ne4+ Kxg4 51. Nxg3 Kxg3 52. Kd3) 47. Ne6 Bd6 48. Ng5 Be7 49. Ne4; notes based on Farago's.

White: M. Ulibin

Black: GM J. Lautier

Sochi 1989

Slav Defense [D10]

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Nf3

4. c4 c6 5. Nc3 Nf6 6. cxd5 Nxd5 7. Bd3 Be7 8. Nf3 Bg4 9. 0-0-0 = Speelman-Salov, Linares 1991.

4...Bd6 5. c4 dxc4

5...Qe7+ 6. Be2 Bb4+ 7. Nc3 Nf6 8. 0-0 dxc4 9. Bxc4 0-0 10. Re1 Qd6 = Illescas Cordoba-Yusupov, Barcelona 1989.

6. Bxc4 Nf6 7. 0-0 0-0 8. Nc3 Bg4?!

8...h6.

9. h3 Bh5 10. g4 Bg6 11. Ne5 c5 12. Nxc6

hxg6 13. dxc5 Bxc5 14. Bxf7+! Kxf7 15.

Qb3+ Ke8 16. Re1+ Be7 17. Qxb7 Nbd7

18. g5 Rb8

18...Ng8 19. Nb5 Qb8 20. Nc7+ Kd8

21. Ne6+ Ke8 22. Qe4 Rf7 23. Bf4! Rxf4 24.

Qxg6+ Rf7 25. Nxc7+ Kf8 26. Ne6+ Ke8

27. Qxg8+ Nf8 28. Ng7+ Rxc7 29. Qxg7

Qd6 30. Rad1 Qc5 31. Re5 1-0, Ulibin-

Erikalov, USSR 1986.

19. Qc6 Rc8

19...Rb6 20. Qc4 Ng8 21. Nd5 Rf7 22.

b3 Kf8 23. Nxe7 Nxe7 24. Ba3.

20. Qd6! Ng8

20...Nc5 21. Qxd8+ Rxd8 22. gxf6

gxf6 23. Be3 Kf7 24. Rad1.

21. Nd5 Rf7

21...Nb6 22. Qxg6+ Rf7 23. Nf4 Qd4

24. Be3 Qxb2 25. Qe6.

22. Bf4! Nb6

22...Kf8 23. Nxe7 Nxe7 24. Rad1 Rxf4

25. Qxf4+ Nf5 26. Re6 Kf7 27. Red6 Rc7

28. R6d5 intending Qxc7.

23. Nc7+ Rxc7 24. Qxc7 Qxc7 25. Bxc7

Kd7?

25...Rf5 26. h4 Kd7 27. Bb8.

26. Bb8! Bc5 27. Rad1+ Kc6 28. Rc1! Kb5

29. Re5 Nd7 30. Rxc5+! Nxc5 31. b4

Kxb4 32. Bd6 Ka3 33. Bxc5+ Kxa2 34.

Re8 Rc7 35. Bb4 a5

35...Rb7 36. Rxc8 Rxb4 37. Rxc7 a5

38. Rxc7 a4 39. Ra6.

36. Bxa5 Ra7 37. Bd8 1-0

Notes based on Ulibin's.

White: M. Wiedenkiller

Black: T. Engqvist

Swedish Ch. 1990

Slav Defense [D10]

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 e5 4. cxd5 cxd5 5. Nf3

As mentioned earlier, 5. dxe5?! d4 6. Ne4 Qa5+ 7. Nd2 Nc6 8. Nf3 Bg4 9. g3 Bxf3 10. exf3 Qxe5+ equalizes according to GM Suetin.

5...e4 6. Ne5 f6

6...Be7 7. Qa4+ Kf8 8. h3! f6 9. Ng4 Nc6 10. Bf4 Be6 11. Ne3 a6 12. g4!, Uhlmann-Hector, Debrecen 1989; 6...Nc6 7. Qa4 (7. Qb3!—Uhlmann) 7...Bd7 8. Nxd7 Qxd7 9. Bf4; 6...Qa5 7. e3 Bb4 8. Bd2 Ne7 9. a3 Bxc3 10. Bxc3 Qb6 11. Bb4 a5 12. Qa4+ Nec6 13. Be2 Petursson-Ivanovic, Reykjavik 1982.

7. Qa4+ Nd7

7...Ke7 8. Qb5! fxe5 9. Bg5+ Nf6 10. dxe5.

8. Ng4 Kf7!

A big improvement on 8...Ne7 9. Ne3.

9. Ne3

9. Nxd5 Nb6! 10. Nxb6 Qxb6 11. Ne3

Bb4+ 12. Bd2 Bxd2+ 13. Kxd2 Qxb2+ 14.

Nc2 Be6—Engqvist.

9...Nb6 10. Qb3 Be6 11. a4

11. f3 f5 12. fxe4 fxe4 13. g3 Nf6 14.

Ng2 Nh5 15. a4 Qd7 16. Nf4 Nxf4 17. Bxf4

Nc4, S. Carlsson-Engqvist, Sweden 1988.

11...a5 12. g3 Ne7 13. h4 Nc6 14. Nc2 Nb4

15. Bh3? Bxh3 16. Rxh3 Qc8 17. Rh1

Nxc2+ 18. Qxc2 Bb4 19. Qb3 Qc4 20.

Qxc4 Nxc4 21. Kd1 Bxc3 22. bxc3 b5! 23.

Rb1

23. axb5 Rbh8 24. Rb1 a4 25. Bf4 Rb7.

23...bxa4 24. Rb7+ Ke6 25. Bf4 Rhd8 26.

Kc2

26. Rxc7 Rab8 27. Bxb8 Rxb8 -+.

26...Rd7 27. Rxd7 Kxd7 28. Ra1 Ra7 29.

Rxa4 Rb7 30. Be1 h5 31. f3 exf3 32. exf3

Kc6 33. Kd3 Re7 34. Rxc4+ dxc4+ 35.

Kxc4 Re1 36. d5+ Kd7 37. Ba3 Re3 38. Bf8

g5 0-1

Notes based on Donaldson's.

Moulton

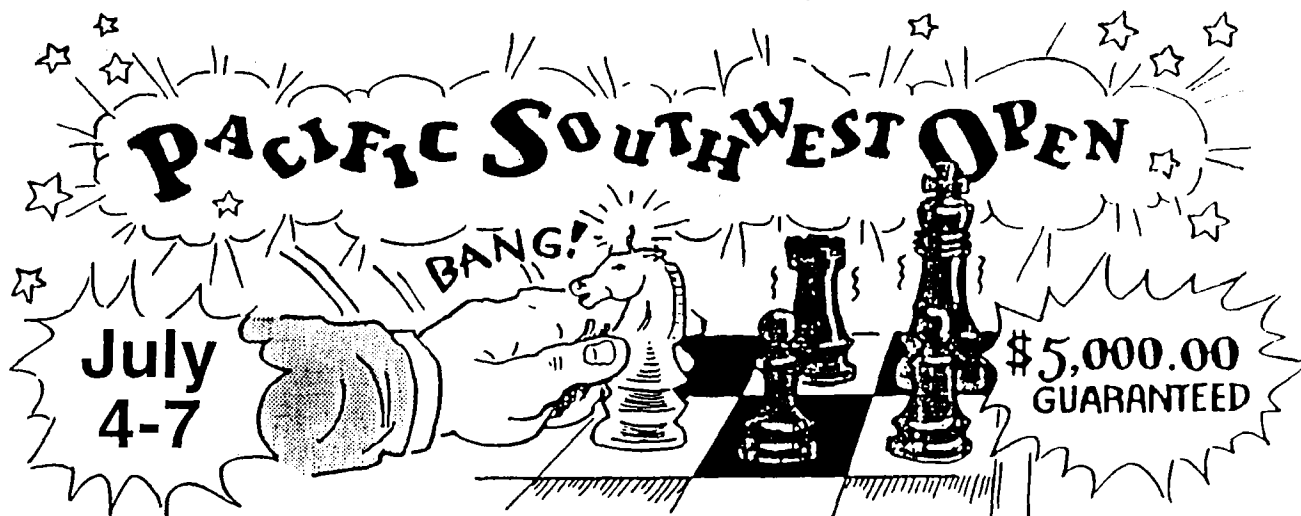
(from p. 8)

since it just produces a passed b-pawn when the c-pawn is good enough. It also decentralizes the King, which won't support the c-pawn anymore. Besides, White is threatening to cut off the Bishop and the pawn isn't going anywhere.

40...Bg1 41. c5 Nd3 42. b4 Kh6 43. Nxa7 Bxc5

A final swindle attempt. If 44. Nxc5? Nxb4! 45. Kxb4 Kg5 46. Nxe6+ Kxg4, when even an extension to the fifty move rule won't help White win, since Black's pawn is too far advanced!

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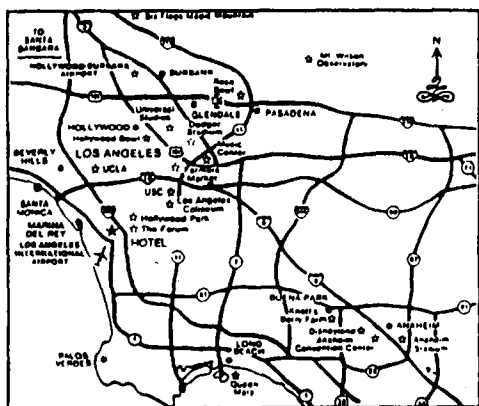
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Conditions: SCCF Membership Required: \$8, Junior \$4. No Smoking. Wheelchair Accessible.

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“Maybe Isn’t a Rule”

by Randy Mont-Reynaud

“Mommy! Jordy took my pawn in the endgame! He’s supposed to keep doing checks, isn’t he?”

Heads turned around in the aisle seats adjacent to 5-year old Marijo and 7-year old Jordy. Breaking up the tedium of air travel was some routine sibling rivalry—except these siblings were rivaling each other over a chess board. We were on our way to the National Elementary Chess Championships, a mere 5 hours by jet away in Rye, New York.

I looked at Jordy who shrugged and smirked—as if he didn’t know! Jordy’s been the main source of chess knowledge for Marijo, for, as he so wisely intones, to learn chess you have to lose a lot, so it’s always a good idea to play with the strongest opponent who’ll give you a game...

“Mom, what do you expect me to do, it’s a free pawn!” Jordy’s indignant outrage was clear. We’d both been teaching Marijo to quit grabbing material needlessly when she had a mate in one on the board. And now here we were, literally, back to square 1—or was it e8?

“You’re not supposed to do that—Mommy said!”

“Actually,” I struggled to put it some way that a five-year old might understand. “It all depends.”

She’s quiet—now this is unusual!

So Jordy puts in patiently, “Marijo, ‘depends’ means like ‘maybe’.”

Now Marijo’s retort says it all, “‘Maybe’? ‘Maybe’ is not a rule!”

Indeed, “maybe” is not a rule. Knowing when to take, what to take, what to take with—this is hard enough for adults to learn. How to get these principles across to a kindergartner?

The answer, as Jordy and the rest of our family have been finding out, is that you can’t. *Play*, not principles, communicates to a five-year old. Only after countless experiences of winning and losing pieces and games is a five-year-old child’s acquisition of principles and abstract concepts obvious in further play... Maybe that’s not so very different from us adults, after all!

The next day we arrived at the tournament site, the Rye Hilton, a Hilton like any other Hilton, except... On this morning, over one thousands kids, most with at least one bedraggled parent or two—some with grandparents, aunts and cousins in tow—ran, jumped, pushed, and shoved their way

through the oddly regal-carpeted foyers of the posh hotel. The hallways and lobbies were a kaleidoscope of colored t-shirts and baseball caps, red-faced parents and coaches shepherding their players hopefully in the right direction. Dads and TD’s barking instructions... and a few kids daring to change their minds!—So, this was what “healthy” competition was all about?

Could someone please find Jason’s clock? Andrew’s pencil broke and Andrew’s mother was pawing helplessly through her purse for a sharpener, muttering that she brought a dozen of them, she swears she did. Everyone struggled for smiles and the prize—parental detachment, nonchalance. This is just a game. This was supposed to be *fun*.

“What board am I at? Am I White this time?” No use telling the kids to just look at the chart—too many people, mostly Dads, crowded around there, and lots of these kids could barely read anyway. Even many parents, (yes, even Dads!) had also not been able to break the code of wall charts and board assignments... “What do these ratings numbers mean?” “How come the new players have to start out playing all those guys on top?” “I mean, it doesn’t seem fair!”

Yup.

Chessplayers all, mostly boys, but a couple of little girls stood out here and there, resolutely brandishing chess kits with “Tiffany” or “Megan” in Day-Glo tones. The hotel staff, looking a little bewildered in their livery and bow ties, receded towards the woodwork, trying to maintain an air of decorum. Weddings and Bar Mitzvahs, yes, these they understand, but a thousand kids playing chess all weekend?

Parents, coaches, and other fans bustled their charges into the large banquet hall. Like the rest, I was taking no chances. This kid of mine may know his way around those sixty-four squares, but *I* was going to make sure he found his way to Board 513!

“Remember,” the woman next to us was instructing her daughter, “You *are* allowed to go to her bathroom! Just stop your clock and raise your hand.” I looked hard at Jordy with a similar thought.

He reads my mind, “I already went, Mom!” At this moment, I am really glad he’s a boy.

Now, speak of the devil. Marijo had scampered along into the hall while I got Jordy settled. The pandemonium would be

a good experience for her, I supposed, so she’ll know what to expect at her kindergarten tournament tomorrow. For the moment, however, I was preoccupied with getting Jordy to the right board, with two pencils, an extra eraser, and his new Quartz clock (yes, it had his name on it, top and bottom... would it make it through seven rounds and back to Palo Alto in one piece?). Now, where was Marijo?

“There she is, Mom,” Jordy pointed to the top Board 1, on the opposite row of tables. Marijo had seated herself in front of some boy in a baseball cap who stared fearfully at her and seemed to want to be somewhere else.

“Will all parents and coaches please leave the hall? Anybody still in here after I count to ten, their kid will forfeit the game.” Parents began, in earnest this time, to push towards the exits. With a wave to Jordy, I grabbed Marijo and made it to the foyer. Whew! Now what? How long would it take?

I kept telling myself I *knew* he’d do fine—didn’t I? From my study of the list of participants, their ratings, and the frenzy around me, I expected Jordy to be able to go several rounds, at least, before facing the real competition.

Yes, I read Fred Waitzikin’s book, *Searching for Bobby Fischer*, where he chronicles his son Josh’s early exploits at chess tournaments at the same age as Jordy. I believe every word of this book. I am living it, breathing it now.

I walked in circles through throngs of other pacing parents, pretending to be unrelated to anybody *in there*. I’m here on vacation—right? My circles began to get smaller. Would this never end? I collided with a man who seemed in even more desperate need of distraction.

“California? I knew it!” he bellowed. “No wonder you’re so laid back!” I look over my shoulder, right, left—nope, nobody there. He actually means *me*! I whispered hi, how are you? (Better to keep my mouth shut and my accent contained or I’d be giving it all away: Brooklyn, land of my father’s pride, sturdy Russian stock, vintage ’48.) I suppose in this environment I was laid back—relatively speaking. I basked momentarily in this unlikely compliment.

Not too long afterwards—but long enough!—Jordy emerged. “I won!” he said,

(continued next page)

How Kasparov Beats Karpov

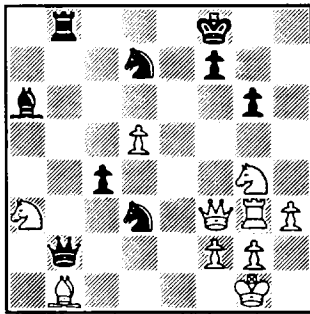
by SM Greg Kotlyar

Do you want to know how Kasparov beats Karpov?

The answer could be as simple as just one move by the King. Specifically, I am talking about Kasparov's main part of his attacking repertoire in the Ruy Lopez as White: 31. Kh2!!

Exactly by this seemingly quiet little royal step on move 31, Kasparov won two decisive games: Game 16 in the London-Leningrad (1986) match and Game 20 of their most recent match. Hard to believe?? Then let us take a look at these games...

Kasparov-Karpov Leningrad, 1986



White to move

This position occurred in Game 16 of K-K 1986 match. The position looks very promising for Black (Karpov). Indeed, the Knight on a3 is trapped, the c4-pawn is a future Queen, the monster on d3 kills the Bishop on b1. In addition, Black's Rook is ready for the killing penetration, (Rb3 is in the air as well). And what about White (Kasparov)?? He can't even put his Knight on h6 since Qc1+ grabs it. Yes, this would be good if not for the next Kasparov move: 31. Kh2!!

It continues to amaze me how dynamic chess is. Just one sly move by the King in the middlegame turns the tables around!! The idea of this move is as simple as it looks. White just wants to save one tempo for the

(from p. 12)

with a little half smile.

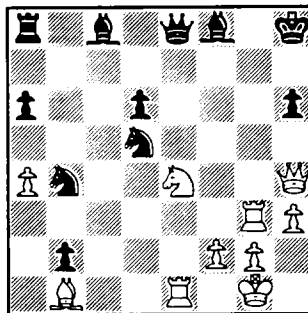
I tried to convince myself that I really wasn't surprised.

The next morning about a half hour before the next round, we walked past the pool. "There's a whole pool full of losers!," Jordy said, echoing what we both felt. Swimming in a pool full of chlorine was not something a serious seven-year-old chess player was going to do these three days. You

attack by not allowing Black any checks on the first rank. After this move, all Black's threats disappear (the Knight on a3 can't be taken since Nh6 with ideas of Qf7 mate and Rxb6 wins the game). White's threats of Nxc4 and Nh6 are hard to defend. The game ended very fast:

31...Rb3 32. Bxd3 cxd3 33. Qf4! Qxa3 34. Nh6 Qe7 35. Rxb6 Qe5 36. Rg8+ Ke7 37. d6+!! Ke6 38. Re8+ Kd5 39. Rxe5+ Nxe5 40. d7 Rb8 41. Nxf7 1-0

Kasparov-Karpov, Lyon 1990



White to move

This is the position from the last K-K match, game 20. Again, the wild Ruy Lopez battle has brought the players to a very dynamic position where Black seemingly holds all trumps: he has two pieces for the Rook, plus a pawn on b2 and his Knight on e4 under the pin. And again, all this would be right if not for the same Kasparov move: 31. Kh2!!

Once more, a little royal gesture on move 31! Again, after this move Black should resign. And again, the idea is as simple as it looks: just saving a little extra tempo for the attack. Kasparov's move is unbelievable!! The game soon concluded: 31...Qe5 32. Ng5!

Threatening Nf7 mate.

32...Qf6 33. Re8 Bf5 34. Qxh6+! Qxh6 35. Nf7+ Kh7 36. Bf5+ Qg6 37. Bxg6+ Kg7 38.

didn't see any of the top players tiring themselves out in the pool—ever.

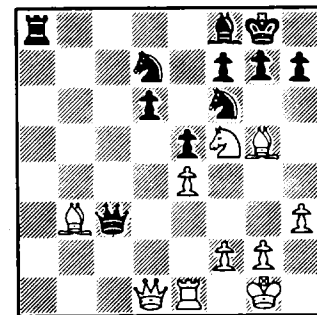
We swam a bit the first day, before many people had arrived and before Jordy had any games, but now there were so many kids the hotel staff had to rotate kids in and out at fifteen-minute intervals!

My job was to try and find quiet, restful activities for Jordy and Marijo in between rounds, get them outside for some fresh air or napping if possible. Not too much TV.

Rxa8 Be7 39. Rb8 a5 40. Be4+ Kxf7 41. Bxd5+ 1-0

In order not to give a deceptive impression that it was just a coincidence, let me show one more example of another Ruy Lopez encounter from the recent K-K match. This will prove to you that Kh2 (maybe not on move 31) is a standard Kasparov attacking trick in his Ruy Lopez.

Kasparov-Karpov, New York 1990



White to move

This position is from Game 6 of the most current K-K series. White sacrificed a pawn a few moves ago to put pressure on the light squares. However, in order to create anything more substantial than just pressure, he needs to add his Rook to the battle. But Re3 now fails to Qa1, exchanging the Queens. Thus...

29. Kh2!

Saving a tempo for the attack. The game continued:

29...h6 30. Bxf6 Nxf6 31. Re3! Qc7 32. Rf3 Kh7 33. Ne3 Qe7 34. Nd5 Nxd5 35. Bxd5 Ra7 36. Qb3 f6 37. Qb8 g6 38. Rc3?

A mistake, because 38. g4! would probably win the game.

38...h5! 39. g4

Already a bit late.

39...Kh6! 40. gxh5 Kxh5 41. Rc8 Bg7 42. Re8 1/2-1/2

That's a surprisingly easy task in this family, because we don't have a TV at home. The television is such a rarity for us, when we travel I have no difficulty monitoring its usage—the kids are quite grateful for the half hour of its nonsense between games.

At the Hilton, however, we had a problem: the set was so slick and sophisticated, I couldn't find the "on" button! In desperation, we called the hotel engineer—the (continued on p. 25)

A Not So Secret Weapon Any More

by NM Jim Eade

I have been playing the MacCutcheon French for nearly 20 years in comfortable obscurity, but alas, all good things must come to an end. After many smug years of opening up the latest Informant, checking for any C12 games and smiling a chessplayer's smile when none were to be found, the trend ceased with Informant 48. Worse yet, Informants 49 and 50 contained brand new MacCutcheons.

I was relieved when Watson didn't discuss the MacCutcheon in his book, but then Minev, Suetin, and Short all did! The final straw was when I logged on to the USA TODAY LINC and found an article on the MacCutcheon by Alex Dunne. There was simply no escaping the painful conclusion that the lid was off what had been my most cherished, and my most secret, secret weapon. (Incidentally, Dunne claims that the correct spelling is McCutcheon, not MacCutcheon, but old habits die hard.)

Perhaps I should explain why these recent developments upset me so. One could argue that the activity and attention that the MacCutcheon has just earned should vindicate my long held belief in it as a viable opening system. One could also add that I now have the benefit of all this SM, IM, and GM analysis to assist me in adopting the very best setups. However, I was very happy playing MY moves. What's more, I didn't use the MacCutcheon to get winning positions out of the opening (usually), I used it to get COMPLICATED positions with chances for BOTH sides. This opening and this strategy has led to the best fighting chess of my career, and I could see that all going up in a cloud of what's-the-best-move smoke. I'd much rather play chews than remember moves! After all, if you love theory, there is always the Winawer.

Yet, it was inevitable. As Minev so aptly states in his book on the French, it is truly in its golden age. Watson paved the way by proving the viability of many variations that had been assumed to be better for White. More and more players are abandoning the heavily analyzed Ruys and Sicilians and "crossing over" to the relatively unexplored fighting French. It was only a matter of time before the MacCutcheon too was placed under the microscope. Besides,

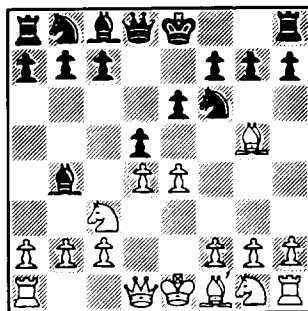
chessplayers aren't dumb, as Dunne points out in his article the recent published results in the MacCutcheon have been -2, =2, +6 in favor of Black! It was only a matter of time.

Permit me some regret though, because I played the French in the days when it wasn't popular, and I sort of liked it that way. People used to tell me I got cramped positions and a bad Bishop to boot. They called it "ugly" chess. I was once chided about taking two hours to get in a freeing move that other openings take for granted. However, when I say "Fighting French," I mean it. After all, 1.e4 occupies one center square and stakes a claim to another. If you really want to send a message to your opponent as early as possible, dispute the claim with 1...e6 and let him or her know that 2...d5 is coming! None of this you can have d5 if I can have d4 stuff for the French player! Fight back!

As you can probably tell, I'm pretty biased in favor of the MacCutcheon, and in order to lend at least the appearance of objectivity to this article, I'm going to present a series of games and let you be the judge. I wouldn't call them brilliancies, and they obviously aren't perfect, but I honestly believe that they are complicated, hard fought, and very often original. I'll settle for that!

The opening moves of the MacCutcheon are as follows:

1.e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4



Although White has alternatives on the fifth turn, 5. e5 is almost invariably played.

5. e5 h6

There are now numerous options for White, but in practice only 6. Bd2 and 6. Be3 are legitimate attempts to play for the

win. The following games will feature one or the other and are taken from my many encounters OTB, in domestic and international correspondence tournaments, and finally from my most recent addiction, chess over the LINC.

The following game was played in an ICCF masters section, and White follows the only line in ECO that ends with a plus for White. I should write a thank-you note to ECO, because not only is the evaluation incorrect, but correspondence players routinely play into it!

White: Marconi

Black: Eade

ICCF Masters 1990

French MacCutcheon [C12]

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3

7. Bxc3 is sometimes played, but is only equal with best play by White, and contains some drops of poison for the first player. For example: 7...Ne4 8. Bb4 (8. Ba5 was played in Fischer-Petrosian, Curacao 1962, and was better for Black) 8...c5 9. dxc5? Nxf2!, a shot that I've been able to play a couple of times OTB.

7...Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. Bd3

Here there are many alternatives for White, but 9. Bd3 is best according to theory and most prevalent according to practice.

9...Nxd2 10. Kxd2 c5 11. Nf3 Nc6

A typical MacCutcheon position. White has inflicted a gaping wound into the Black King's flank, and Black undertakes operations to exploit the White King's position. A superficial analysis would indicate that White's chances must be better, but in fact the true state of affairs is not so clear. What is clear is that both sides are King hunting!

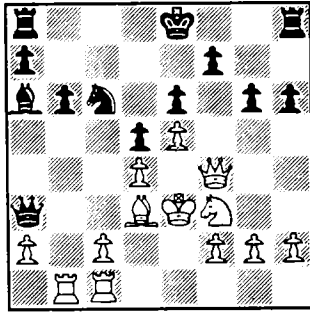
12. Rab1

Given as best by most references.

12...cxd4 13. cxd4 Qa5+ 14. Ke3?!

Only Suetin gives the best move here, which is 14. Ke2! Even so, his comment is: "A lively game is in the offing, in which Black has good prospects to gain counterplay." Note that 14. c3 is ruled out in this variation since the pawn on a2 would fall with check.

14...b6 15. Qf4 Ba6 16. Rhc1 Qa3



A move that I play instead of the book's 16...Rc8. It has the advantage of freezing the b-Rook to the back rank as well as pinning the White Bishop, and it also sets up a timely Qe7 in some variations.

17. Qf6 Rg8 18. h4?

White has no time for such luxuries.

18... Nb4

Set up by Black's 16th since 19. Rxb4 would now fail to Qxc1+.

19. Ne1

Such moves don't get the job done in a MacCutcheon, but White is already lost!

19...Rc8 20. Kd2 Nxa2 21. Bxa6 Qxa6 22. Ra1 Qc4 23. Rcb1 Nc3

Meeting 24. Rxa7 with 24...Ne4+.

24. Kc1 Qxd4

Threatening 25...Ne2 mate.

25. Nd3 Ne4 26. Qf3 Rxc2+ 0-1

White resigns since 27. Kxc2 Qc3+ 28. Kd1 Qd2 is mate. An example of the classic MacCutcheon theme: White concentrates on busting up the Black Kingside pawns, while Black comes crashing through on the Queenside. It is the White King that is the more insecure!

White: Klomparens

Black: Eade

1976 Golden Knights

French MacCutcheon [C12]

Klomparens was already a correspondence master and I was to earn that title after this result.

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e6 3. Bg5 d5 4. e4 Bb4

Reaching the MacCutcheon by transposition.

5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3 Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. Bd3 Nxd2 10. Kxd2 c5 11. Nf3 Nc6 12. Qf4

A normal move, but White will just as often play either Rook to b1.

12...Qa5

12...Qc7 was played in Fischer-Rosolimo, U.S. Champ. 1966, and ended up in a wild, unclear tactical melee that found its way into Fischer's 60 Memorable Games.

13. dxc5 Qxc5 14. Nd4 Nxd4

Black is virtually forced to repair White's pawn structure, but still retains good play on the c-file.

15. cxd4 Qa5+ 16. c3

16. Ke3 was tried in deFirmian-Eade, San Jose 1981, and Black was better but drawn in 77.

16...b6 17. Qf6 Rg8 18. a4 Kf8!

Not 18...Ba6 19. Bxg6!

19. Rhb1 Ba6 20. Bb5 Rc8 21. Qf3

At last White makes a defensive move!

21...Rc7

Threatening to reorganize with Bc8, a6, and Bd7, the Rook also protects f7, allowing Kg7 to free the g-Rook.

22. Bxa6 Qxa6

Despite the absence of minor pieces the game is still tense.

23. a5 b5 24. Qd3 Rc4

Settling in on the ideal outpost.

25. f4 Kg7!

Into the teeth of the coming pawn storm!

26. g4 Rgc8 27. Rb3 Qc6

With the threat of b4 in the air.

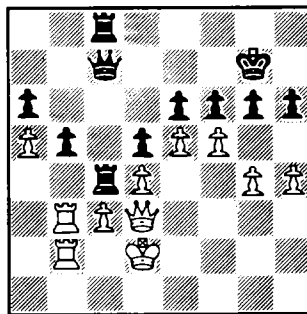
28. Ra2 a6

Shoring up the Queenside bind.

29. h4 Qb7

Intending b4.

30. Rab2 Qc7 31. f5! f6!



One of the most pleasing and frightening moves of my career.

32. exf6+ Kxf6 33. Qe3 exf5 34. gxf5 Kxf5

The King march in the face of White's major pieces is certainly remarkable! Its soundness is based on the possibility of 35...Qf4, with a winning endgame, and is made, possible by the earlier Queenside probings done to place the White Rooks in passive defensive positions.

35. Kd1?

Natural, but Ke1 was better as will

become clear.

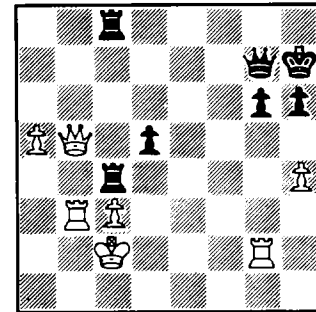
35...Kf6 36. Rf2+ Kg7 37. Qe6 Rxd4+ 38. Kc2

White cannot accept the sacrifice since the ending is lost after 38. cxd4 Qc1+ 39. Ke2 Rc2+ 40. Kf3 Qh1+ 41. Ke3 Qe1+ 42. Kd3 Qxe6 43. Kxc2 Qe4+, when the h-pawn falls as well.

38...Re4?!

Simpler is Rc4 and now Black maintains the win by a single finesse.

39. Qf6+ Kh7 40. Rg2 Qg7 41. Qxa6 Rec4 42. Qxb5



42...R8c5!

The finesse! The point will become clear in a few moves.

43. Qb6 Rxc3+ 44. Rxc3 Qxc3+ 45. Kb1 Qc1+ 46. Ka2 Qc4+

This check is only possible after the White Queen has been forced from b5.

47. Ka3

To avoid Qa4+ and Rb5+.

47...Qc3+ 48. Ka4

Else Rxa5+ and Ra1 mate.

48...Rc4+ 49. Kb5 Rb4+ 50. Ka6 Rxb6+ 51. axb6 d4

Meeting b7 with Qc6+ and Qxg2, since Black can always force the Queen exchange after white Queens.

52. Rf2 d3

Exploiting the same trick after Qc6+ and Qc5+.

53. Rf7+ Kg8 0-1

White's 53rd doesn't change matters. One of my most treasured games.

White: Saints (2114)

Black: Eade (2296)

1986 National Open

French MacCutcheon [C12]

This game features a direct try for a refutation by White. The speed of the Black counterattack, coming from seemingly (continued on p. 16)

(from p. 15)

nowhere, again illustrates the subtle, almost hidden power of the MacCutcheon.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3 Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. h4

Certainly this move is suggested by the g6 weakness. It also has the additional benefit of allowing a Rh3-f3 Rook lift.

- 9...Nxd2 10. Kxd2 c5

As always, Black must sprike back at the White King as quickly as possible.

11. h5

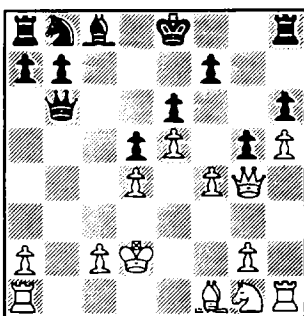
Most direct.

- 11...g5 12. f4

Nothing if not consistent!

- 12...cxd4 13. cxd4 Qb6!

Superior to Qa5+, because White cannot now protect his d-pawn with c3 since Qb2+ picks up the Rook.



14. fxe5?

Oblivious to the danger, which admittedly is once again well disguised. 14. Nf3 is better.

- 14...Qb4+ 15. Kd1 Nc6 16. Nf3 Qb2 17. Rc1 Nb4

As is so often the case, the Queen and Knight are a powerful combination.

18. Bb5+ Bd7 19. Bxd7+ Kxd7 20. Kd2 Rac8

The Black Rook joins the attack and seals White's fate.

21. Ne1

Once again, defensive moves such as 21. Ne1 are insufficient. In order to succeed, White must match threat with threat! 21...Nxa2 22. Nd3 Qc3+ 23. Ke2 Nxc1+ 24. Rxc1 hxg5

Ten moves after it was first possible! Black had better things to do!

25. Nc5+ Rxc5 26. dxc5 Qxe5+ 27. Kd1 QE4 0-1

Now, a couple of games from the electronic arena:

White: Gaillard

Black: Eade

LINC 2/91

French MacCutcheon [C12]

Time Controls: 10 moves in 30 days.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3 Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. Bd3 Nxd2 10. Kxd2 c5 11. Nf3 Nc6 12. dxc5

A reasonable alternative to 12. Qf4, 12. Rab1, and 12. Rhb1.

- 12...Qa5 13. Qf4 Qxc5 14. Nd4 Nxd4 15. cxd4 Qa5+

Transposing.

16. Ke3

Now 16. c3 would be more consistent, but the text is playable.

- 16...b6 17. Qf6 Rg8 18. h4 Ba6 19. h5

Another direct try for a refutation! White simply goes after the Black Kingside and underestimates Black's counter-attacking chances.

- 19...gxh5

Suddenly, the open g-file is a factor.

20. Qxh6 Rc8

As usual, the Rook move contains a powerful threat. In this case, Rxc2 is hard to ignore.

21. Rac1 Qa3

A typical maneuver, preventing the h-Rook lift, pinning the Bishop, and preparing a possible Qe7 or Qf8 if needed. It also contains the simple threat of 22...Bxd3.

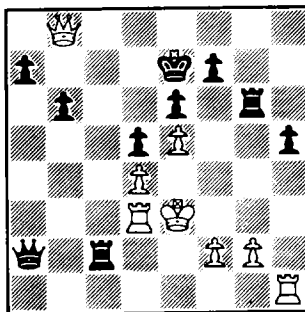
22. Qh7 Rg6

Again threatening Bxd3.

23. Rcd1 Rxc2

Black is in, but my resourceful opponent puts up stiff resistance.

24. Qh8+ Ke7 25. Qb8 Bxd3 26. Rxd3 Qxa2



27. Qd6+ Ke8 28. Qb8+ Kd7 29. Qd6+ Kc8

Escaping to the Queenside. The

Black King walks a fine line between safety and a perpetual check!

30. Qf8+ Kb7 31. Qxf7+ Ka6 32. Rf1

Of course, the Rook on g6 is immune to capture, because of the threat of Re2+, Rxf2+, and Rxg2+.

- 32...Rxxg2

Threatening Re2+ and Rxf2+ again.

33. Qf3 Rg4

With Re4+ as a not so subtle threat.

34. Qf8

Hoping to get in 35. Ra3+.

- 34...Re4+ 35. Kf3 Qa5

36. Ra3 is answered by 36...Rc3+.

36. Kg2 Rc3 37. Rdd1 Rg4+ 38. Kh2 Qa3

Forcing the Queens off the board and leaving White with a hopelessly lost endgame.

39. Qxa3+ Rxa3 0-1

White: Fowler

Black: Eade

8/90 LINC Ladder

French MacCutcheon [C12]

This was a speed game. One advantage of blitz chess over the LINC is that the moves get recorded!

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3 Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. Bd3 Nxd2 10. Kxd2 c5 11. Nf3 Nc6 12. Rab1 cxd4 13. cxd4 Qa5+ 14. Ke3 b6 15. Qf4 Ba6 16. Rhc1 Rc8 17. Qf6 Rg8 18. h4 Qa3 19. Kf4? Nb8 20. Bxa6 Qxa6 21. c3 Nd7 0-1

White: Sibbett

Black: Eade

ICCF 9th U.S.

French MacCutcheon [C12]

This game was played in the first round of the 9th U.S. Correspondence Championships.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. bxc3 Ne4 8. Qg4 g6 9. Bd3 Nxd2 10. Kxd2 c5 11. Nf3 Nc6 12. Rhb1

Now we see yet another 12th move for White. In this variation the Queen is not as well posted on a5. On c7 it guards against 13. Qf4, since then 13...E5 would be possible.

- 12...Qc7 13. dxc5?! Nxe5 14. Nxe5 Qxe5 15. Qa4+ Bd7 16. Bb5

The point of White's willingness to (continued on p. 22)

3 1/2 Weeks

by Postal Master Ganesan

I hardly ever play in "real" chess tournaments. These things consume one's weekend, and I can think of better ways of doing that than spending hours facing sweaty, ill-mannered opponents trying to crush my ego. Luckily for me, Berkeley's two chess clubs meet for rated games during weekday nights. This April, with my rating below my original USCF rating, I played six games in these clubs and was lucky enough to win every one.

The Wednesday games were played in Peter Yu's monthly 30/30, 30/SD tournaments on campus. These events typically attract less than 10 players. The fast time control makes play very scrappy, but is convenient for the busy student. I have lost undeservedly more than once under these conditions but keep coming back for more. The Friday games were played as part of the Berkeley Chess Club's Qualifying Open, which averaged more than 40 players each round. The time control here of 35/90, 15/40 makes better play possible—in theory at least. I was the TD for the tournament, which was a distraction at times.

I am presenting the games in chronological order, because that's the way they were played. Also, there was a synergistic effect—how I played on Wednesday affected how I played on Friday, and vice versa. I leave it to the reader to decide if the games actually got better over the month. Here then are the games from the best three weeks I ever had.

White: Ganesan (2092)

Black: Bruce Bell (1545)

Queen's Gambit Declined [D36]

Wednesday, April 3rd. Round 1 of the UCB CC tournament.

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. cxd5

A good choice at this rate of play, for White's strategy becomes well defined. I was able to bash out my first ten moves in a minute.

3...exd5 4. Nc3 c6 5. Qc2 Nf6 6. Bg5 Be7 7. e3 h6 8. Bh4 Bg4?!

A poor square for this Bishop.

9. Bd3 Qd6?

And now, a poor square for the Queen.

10. h3 Be6 11. Nf3

I was debating whether to play Nge2 and 0-0-0, but figured Black would also castle long in that case.

11...Nbd7 12. Bg3?

I saw the cheapo 12. a3 0-0?? 13. Bg3, but decided it was too optimistic. Actually, 12. a3 would also fit in with White's Queen-side expansion. In playing the text, I overlooked Black's 13th move.

12...Qb4 13. Bc7 Bd8

I had only expected 13...Nb6 14. a3 Qa5 15. 0-0 (not 15. a3? Bxb4) winning. Such optimism is typical at this speed, when there isn't enough time to analyze deeply.

14. a3 Qe7 15. Bf4 Rc8

Now, we see that White's maneuver hasn't accomplished anything. The Black Queen stands better on e7 than it did on d6, and Black will play Bd8-c7, exchanging Bishops soon.

16. Qa4? a6

Sufficient, but after I made my move, I noticed Black could simply play 16...Nb6, for if 17. Qxa7 Ra8. Not the first or last time I would make similar errors in this game.

17. b4 Bc7 18. Bxc7 Rxc7 19. 0-0 0-0 20. Rfc1 Nb6!

Now, Black will be able to play Nc4 and b5, when White's dreams of a minority attack will vanish.

21. Qb3 Nc4 22. Na4

Or 22. a4 b5. White doesn't have any real advantage now.

22...Nd7 23. Nc5 Nd6 24. a4 Bf5 25. Qc2?

Better is 25. Be2. I still had 7 minutes left to make time control, while Bruce only had 2. Trying to come up with something, I managed to worsen my position.

25...Qf6 26. Nd2 Re8 27. Ndb3 Bxd3 28. Qxd3 Qf5 29. Qe2? Nf6 30. Nd3 Nfe4

We both made the time control with less than a minute to spare. Black has a fine position—he can start playing on the Kingside, while White's minority attack hasn't advanced at all.

31. Ne5 f6 32. Nd3 Ng5 33. Rab1 Rce7 34. Nbc5 Nde4 35. Nf4??

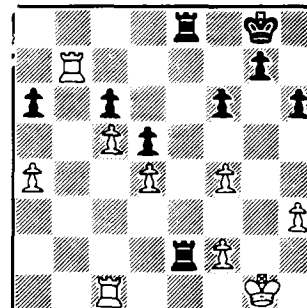
I was getting tired of looking for possible Black sacrificial attacks with every move, and decided to defend h3. I should probably try 35. Qg4.

35...Nxc5?

My immediate reaction was that I was losing a piece. Then, I calmed down and saw I would get into a drawish Rook ending and felt Black would do better to maintain the tension. Surprisingly, neither of us noticed 35...Nc3 winning the exchange, which Bruce found later at home.

36. bxc5 Qxf4 37. exf4 Nxf3+ 38. gxh3

Rxe2 39. Rxb7



39...R8e4

Black has many ways to draw, but he was trying to win. Perhaps 39...Rc8.

40. Rb6 Rxd4 41. Rxc6

Now, White has his own passed pawn with a Rook supporting it. This should generate enough counterplay to draw.

41...Rxa4 42. Rd6 Rxf4 43. c6 Rc4??

What can I say? More than once, I have seen Bruce make the most frightful moves in winning or equal positions. Here, after 44...Rxf2 44. c7 Rg2+ Black has a perpetual. Bruce saw this but was still under the illusion that he was winning.

44. Rxc4 dxc4 45. c7 Re8 46. Rd8 1-0

There must be easier ways to earn one rating point! Bruce is definitely stronger than his rating would indicate.

White: Craig Andries (1819)

Black: Ganesan (2085)

Queen's Gambit Declined [D30]

Friday, April 5th. Round 4 of the Qualifying Open of the Berkeley Chess Club. Going into this round, I had 2 1/2 points, like Craig. He had previously beaten Expert Paul Liebhaber and drawn Master John Bidwell, but I still played carelessly.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. a3!?

A strange move that really only works against players who have a compulsion for the Nimzoindian.

3...c5

Inviting a Benoni where a3 is a waste of time, but White continues to play quietly.

4. e3 d5 5. Nf3 cxd4?!

If I had thought about this position, I would have realized that 5...Nc6 transposes to a safe variation of the Semi-Tarrasch.

6. exd4 b6? 7. cxd5! Nxd5 8. Ne5! Bd6

By now I knew I was in trouble and spent a considerable amount of time on this

(continued on p. 18)

(from p. 17)

move. The damage had already been done, though.

9. Bb5+ Nd7

I also looked at 9...Bd7 but decided my best chance was to keep things complicated. 10. Qg4!?

During the game, I was more concerned with 10.Qa4 or 10.Bc6.

10...Qc7

The best try.

11. Bxd7+?

Naturally, 11. Qxg7 Qxc1+ 12. Ke2 Nf4+ is too ugly, but White had better in 11.Nc4, which Black might meet with 11...Kf8!?. 11.0-0, retaining his Bishops, was also a better way of sacrificing a pawn than the text. Larsen used to say that when your opponent messes up a better position, you should start playing for a win yourself due to his psychological disorientation. This game is an example, as Craig now makes several second-rate moves.

11...Bxd7 12. 0-0 Bxe5 13. dxe5 Qxe5 14. Nd2

Probably the best follow-up but notice that White's lead in development has evaporated, and he can no longer claim an advantage.

14...h5!? 15. Qh3?

I thought 15. Nc4 was best, with a difficult ending to win after 15...hxg4 16. Nxe5 f5, but Black may try 15...Qf6 instead. 15...Nf4!

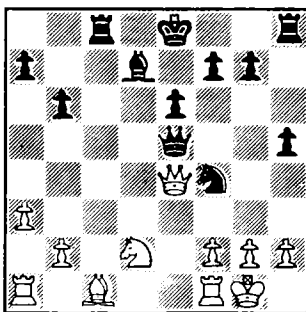
Now it's White who gets oicked around. The specter of time trouble was also looming—we each had 27 minutes for our next 20 moves.

16. Qf3 Rc8

Suddenly, Black is threatening Bc6 with vicious threats along the long diagonal.

17. Qe4?

Missing 17. Ne4, his last chance to defend.



17...Qg5!

At first, I wanted to play the safe 17...Ne2+ 18. Kh1 Qxe4 19. Nxe4 Rxc1 20. Raxc1 Nxc1 21. Rxc1 Ke7 with a won ending (if 22. Rc7 Rc8), which was all the more appealing in view of the time situation.

Then I was lured by the text and couldn't help calculating the variations, at the expense of spending more time. One line I looked at is the game continuation. Another is 18. Nb1 Nh3+ 19. Kh1 Nxf2+.

18. Nb3 Nh3+! 19. Kh1 Qb5

This double attack, and Black's next move, are the point, but they really had to be seen when playing 17...Qg5.

20. Nd2 Qxf1+ 21. Nxf1 Nxf2+ 22. Kg1 Nxe4 23. Ne3 0-0 0-1

After counting the pieces, Craig realized he was a whole Rook down.

White: David Goldfarb (1807)

Black: Ganesan (2092)

St. George Defense [B00]

Wednesday, April 10th. Round 2 on campus and I was playing David Goldfarb, who had beaten me in our only previous encounter at this time control.

1. e4 a6

I had restrained myself from playing this for the last couple of months, and was suffering withdrawal symptoms. Besides, David is quite booked up in conventional openings.

2. d4 b5 3. a4 Bb7 4. f3

4. axb5 Bxe4 5. bxa6 Bb7 doesn't give White anything.

4...b4

Also possible is the gambit 4...e6.

5. Bd2?!

A tame location for this Bishop.

5...e6 6. Bd3 Nf6 7. e5?

Inconsistent with his earlier play, and also overlooking a tactical shot. To be honest, I must confess I hadn't seen it myself yet.

7...Nd5 8. c4? Qh4+

Winning material.

9. g3 Qxd4 10. Be4 Qxb2?!

I only looked at this and 10...Qxe5, but best is Goldfarb's suggestion of 10...Qxc4. The text wins the exchange but cedes the initiative—always a dangerous thing to do with fast time controls.

11. cxd5 Qxa1 12. dxe6 Bxe4 13. exf7+ Kxf7 14. Qb3+ Ke8 15. fxe4 Qxe5 16. Nf3 Qe6

16...Qxe4+ 17. Kd1 would be too greedy.

17. Qc2 Nc6 18. 0-0 Be7 19. Ng5 Bxg5 20. Bxg5 Rf8 21. Rd1 h6 22. Bf4 Kd8 23. Nd2 g5 24. Be3 Ne5

I thought I was doing a reasonable job of consolidation, but my Queen Rook is still out of action. Also, the play had taken its toll on the clock.

25. Nb3 Qh3?

Launching a risky counterattack when

I should stick to defense.

26. Bc5 Rf3 27. Nd4

The old David would have automatically played 27. Bxb4, falling into 27...Rxc3+ 28. hxg3 Nf3+ 29. Kf2 Qxh2+. That he didn't take the pawn is a sure sign that he is getting stronger.

With my flag on the tilt, I now sensed I was losing control of the position. Things get a lot worse before they get better!

27...Rc3 28. Qf2!

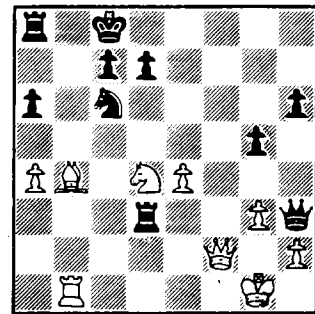
I had overlooked this move. Black is now completely on the defensive. If only I had a little more time to calculate.

28...Kc8 29. Bxb4 Rd3?

Black should interpolate 29...Ng4.

30. Rb1 Nc6?

Horrible, but at least I made the time control. Black had the shot 30...Rxd4.



31. Qf8+

Obvious, but 31. Be7 is actually stronger.

31...Nd8 32. Be7 Rxc3+

This computer-like move is Black's last resource, but it's not as desperate as it looks.

33. Kh1??

A tragedy even worse than what befell Bell the previous week. I was so surprised by this move that for a minute I couldn't understand why I had not considered it and thought White was winning!. Of course, White has to take the Rook and probably agree to a perpetual after 33. hxg3 Qxg3+ 34. Kh1 Qh3+. Instead, if 34. Kf1 Qd3+ followed by Qxb1 looks too dangerous for White.

33...Qg2#

White: Ganesan (2085)

Black: NM David Moulton (2204)

Modern Benoni [A61]

Friday, April 12th. Round 5 of the BCC Qualifier. Despite the disparity in ratings and the fact that David had won his first four rounds, this game was probably psychologically decided before the first move, for I have a huge plus score against him. My task was made easier by having

White—David bases his Black repertoire on the risky Sicilian Pelikan and the Modern Benoni. This victory made me the tournament leader by half a point.

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 c5 4. d5 exd5 5. cxd5 d6 6. Nc3 g6 7. Bf4

I had beaten David with this less than a year ago and was curious to see his improvement.

7...a6

The earlier game had gone 7...Bg7 8. Qa4+ Bd7 9. Qb3 Qc7 10. e4 0-0 11. Be2 Nh5 12. Bg5!? (12. Be3) 12...h6 13. Be3 Bg4 14. h3 Bxf3 15. Bxf3 Nf6?! 16. e5! with advantage to White.

8. e4 Bg4?!

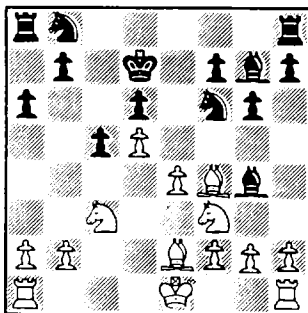
8...b5 and 8...Bg7 have better reputations.

9. Be2 Bg7?

And this is a downright mistake. In his survey on this line in NIC Yearbook 17, Albert Kapengut dismisses the text with "9...Bg7? 10. Qa4+ is weak." He goes on to quote two games where 9...Bxf3 and 9...Nbd7 didn't fare too well either. During the game, I thought Black should play 9...Qe7 or 9...b5. 10. Qa4+ Qd7 11. Qxd7+!

This is so good that I scarcely considered 11.Bb5 axb5 12.Qxa8 0-0 or 11. Bxd6 Qxa4 12. Nxa4 Nxe4.

11...Kxd7



Black has a Queenside pawn majority and even a centralized King. Nevertheless, his position is already objectively lost. There are still too many pieces on the board, and Black's are passive and uncoordinated. Meanwhile, White has only to prepare the pawn break e5. With his next move, White also gains the Bishop pair.

12. h3! Bxf3 13. Bxf3 b5

Risky, as it later exposes his King to danger.

14. 0-0 Re8 15. Rfe1 Ra7

Awkward, but he wants to get off the long diagonal in view of the threat of e5 followed by d6.

16. Rac1 Ng8

A clever try, hoping to trade pieces by Bh6. Still, moving one's pieces backward can't be good, even if you are a master.

17. g4!

Now 17...Bh6 would be met by 18. g5 with an unbearable cramp.

17...Kc7

Both the c and d-pawns are now pinned. It's hard to suggest constructive improvements for Black, though.

18. a4!?

I also considered moving my Bishops off the f-file and preparing e5, a plan Black is powerless to prevent in his disorganized state. The text is sharper—I was trying to take advantage of David's coming time pressure.

18...b4 19. Na2

With the double threat of 21. Nxb4 and 21. Rxc5+.

19...Nd7 20. Nxb4 Bxb2

David now had 24 minutes left for his next 15 moves.

21. Rc2 Be5 22. Nc6!

My guess is David had overlooked this intermediate move, which lodges the Knight on a very strong outpost.

22...Rb7 23. Bd2!

Played according to the principle that one should not exchange pieces when the opponent's pieces are passive.

23...Nb8?

Prosaically losing a pawn, but his position was difficult and he was running out of time. Notice the pretty picture both Black Knights now make.

24. Nxe5 Rxe5 25. Bf4 Re8 26. Rxc5+

I also thought about 26. e5!?, but felt taking the pawn would be more disconcerting psychologically.

26...Kd7 27. Rc4 f5 28. e5 dxe5 29. Rxe5

Aiming to exchange Black's only active piece.

29...Rxe5 30. Bxe5 Ne7 31. d6?

David was down to 5 moves in 5 minutes and I started hallucinating in his time pressure, thinking Black's reply was impossible for some reason. The calm 31. Kg2 would keep the pressure.

31...Nec6 32. Bg3?

32. Bh2 would be better.

32...Rb4! 33. Rc5? Rxa4?

As usual, once I made my move, I saw Black had 33...f4. Short of time, David misses his first and last chance.

34. gxf5 gxf5 35. Rxf5 Nd8 36. Bg4!

White could also play 36. Rh5, but the text is much simpler. White breaks the blockade of his passed pawn, which will soon cost Black a piece. David could have resigned here, but perhaps he was collecting material for his endgame column. In case that is so, I give the rest without any comments.

36...Ke8 37. Re5+ Kf8 38. d7 Nbc6 39.

Re8+ Kf7 40. Bc7 Nb7 41. Bh5+ Kf6 42. Bf3 Rc4 43. Bxc6 Rxc6 44. d8Q+ Nxd8 45. Bxd8+ Kf5 46. Kg2 Kg6 47. Kg3 Rc8 48. f3 a5 49. Rh8 a4 50. Bf6 Rc4 51. Be5 Kf5 52. f4 Rb4 53. Rxh7 a3 54. Ra7 Rb3+ 55. Kh4 Rd3 56. Rf7+ Ke4 57. Kg4 Rd2 58. Ra7 Rg2+ 59. Kh5 a2 60. h4 Kf5 61. Kh6 Rg6+ 62. Kh7 Rg4 63. h5 Rg2 64. h6 Ke4 65. Kh8 Kf5 66. h7 Ke4 67. Rg7 Rc2 68. Kg8 Rc8+ 69. Kf7 Kf5 70. Rg5+ 1-0

White: Ganesan (2092)

Black: Paul Liebhaber (2084)

Queen's Gambit [D08]

Wednesday, April 17th. Round 3 on campus was against Paul Liebhaber, the only other perfect scorer. Playing Paul is always a memorable experience, but I was happy to be White—in our seven previous encounters, Black had never won.

1. d4 d5

I saw Paul reach out for his d-pawn and wrote 1...d6 on my scoresheet, thinking he was heading for his favorite Modern. I couldn't believe my eyes when I looked up and saw the pawn on d5. Surely he was not going to play a tame Queen's Gambit?

2. c4 e5

Here's the answer! The Albin Counter-Gambit, which I didn't know very much about. I decided to lead the game away from the "best" continuations.

3. dxe5 d4 4. e4!? f6!?

Apparently book, but 4...Nc6 first may be more precise.

5. exf6 Nxf6 6. Bd3 Bd6?!

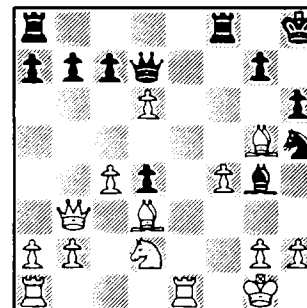
Paul had yet to use a minute on the clock. After the game we thought 6...Bb4+ was better.

7. Nf3 Nc6 8. 0-0 0-0 9. Bg5 Bg4 10. Nbd2 Qd7?

Black had 10...Ne5, which White should probably not have allowed.

11. Qb3 Kh8 12. Rfe1 Ne5??

This is an oversight that loses a piece. 13. Nxe5 Bxe5 14. f4 Bd6 15. e5 Nh5 16. exd6 h6



Other tries were also inadequate. After (continued on p. 24)

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BCC Qualifier

(from p. 5)

White: Ganesan (2085)
Black: Farid Watson (2100)

BCC Qualifier Rd. 8
Queen's Indian Defense [E15]

[Annotated by Farid Watson]

I was fortunate enough to win the recent Berkeley Chess Club Spring Qualifier (for the upcoming yearly clqb championship.) Peter Yu asked me to annotate my decisive final round win, which follows. My thanks to Ganesan and others who contributed many ideas in the post-mortem.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. g3 Ba6

The Queen's Indian. Black plays on the White diagonal f1-a6 soon to be vacated by the White Bishop, but must be mindful of the Queen Rook on White's long diagonal. Black attacks c4, and White has various responses (Qc2, Nbd2, Qa4, b3). In some lines, Black can play c6 and d5 and complete development. Generally, Black will get in d5 and c5. White may eventually play e4 where, after the exchanges, Black can often play Bb7 with a tempo and reach quasi-equality.

5. b3 Bb4+ 6. Bd2 Bxd2+

Time: I've used ten minutes to Ganesan's three.

7. Qxd2

Black prefers to exchange the dark-squared Bishops. A note in *BCO* gives Qxd2 an "!!."

7...Ne4

A thematic move with tempo.

8. Qc2 f5 9. Bg2 Nc6

A decision—Black tries to develop with active piece play (e.g., Ba6) and is taking considerable time in the opening. Time: Ganesan, six minutes; me, thirty minutes.

10. a3

Too passive, perhaps playing solidly to take advantage of the huge time difference. Maybe castling is better; or 10. Nc3 Nxc3 11. Qxc3 Qf6 12. b4.

10...Qf6 11. e3 0-0

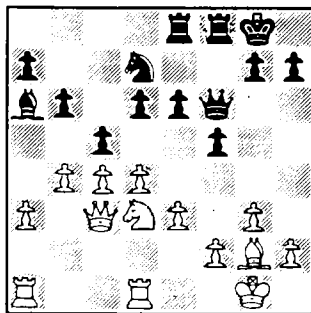
I'm feeling better about Black's position. Pawn to b4 is still a threat to embarrass Black's Queenside development. But...

12. Nc3 Nxc3 13. Qxc3 Rae8

Now the Queenside can regroup without blocking the Queen Rook.

14. Ne5 Nb8 15. 0-0 d6 16. Nd3 Nd7 17. Rfd1

17. Bc6 Re7 is interesting for Black. 18...c5 18. b4?



At last, but it now loses a pawn. Time: Ganesan, thirty-five minutes; me, fifty minutes.

18...cxd4 19. exd4 Rc8

A long think for White, after which our time is equal at fifty-five minutes each.

20. b5 Bxb5 21. Qb4 Bxc4 22. Qxd6 Bxd3 23. Qxd7

If 23. Rxd3, Rfd8 is strong.

23...Rfd8 24. Qxa7 Qd4 25. Qe7

Black was threatening Rd7.

25...e5 26. Qe6+ Kh8 27. Bf1??

Unfortunate, a grave oversight over a gravesite. Black takes the second, White takes the f-pawn, Black takes the Queen and White resigns. If instead, 27. Rac1 Rxc1 28. Rxc1 e4 and disarmament is still to be negotiated. If 29. Qxf5 e3! Readers' suggestions are welcome:

Farid Watson, P.O. Box 7103
Berkeley, CA 94707.

27...Rc2! 28. Qxf5 Bxf5 0-1

White: NM David Moulton (2204)

Black: Alan Kobernat (2170)

BCC Qualifier Rd. 8

Ruy Lopez [C64]

[Annotated by NM David Moulton]

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Bc5 4. c3 f5

The week before, I had seen Alan beat NM John Bidwell with this line after 5. 0-0. Since I knew I had a good chance of playing Alan with White, I had studied this line from *ECO* the night before. Unfortunately, as he pointed out after the game, "*ECO* is about as good on this line as *MCO* 4."

5. d4 fxe4 6. Bxc6 dxc6 7. Nfd2 Qg5!?

Needless to say, I was quite surprised by this piece sac. *ECO* only gave this as a footnote (its main line is 7...Bd6 8. dxe5 e3 9. fxe3 Bc5 etc. with a slight edge for White), and since I had been in a hurry, I hadn't looked at it and didn't even notice the move. I spent about 40 minutes on my next move (with a 35/90 time control) before deciding that I couldn't really afford not to take the piece and could afford to take it. And I didn't expect his next move either (I thought he would go for 8...Qxg2 9. Qh5+), so I spent another five minutes on my ninth.

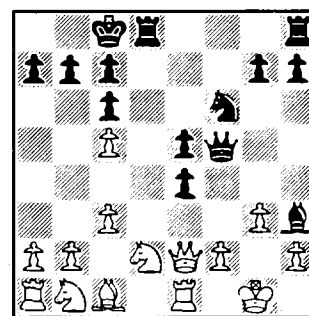
8. dxc5 Nf6 9. 0-0 Bh3 10. g3

Well, even if I had looked at the note, this is the position we would have gotten (but with an extra 45 minutes on my clock!), since this is what *ECO* gives. It gives my ninth an exclamation and says White is better. But Alan says White is busted on the Kingside. (I wasn't completely convinced in the post-mortem, but Black does have a dangerous attack.) He says White should play 9. Qe2 Qxg2 10. Qf1 as in a recent deFirmian-Rogers game.

10...0-0-0 11. Re1 Qf5(?)

This just loses a tempo. Black should play 11...h5 right away.

12. Qe2 Bg4 13. Qf1 Bh3 14. Qe2



14...h5

A crucial point. Black has a draw with 14...Bg4 (15. Qc4? or 15. Qe3?? loses to Rd3), but Alan needed a win to qualify for the closed championship, while I only needed a draw (better tiebreaks). This is a case of where I ended up winning because I only needed a draw! Now there is a race to see whether White can untangle his pieces before he gets mated. White can't take on e4 because of the weakness of his back rank. 15. Nc4 h4 16. Ne3 Qg6 17. Nd2 hxg3 18. fxc3 Nh5

Threatening 19...Nf4, which is strong after White's planned 19. Nf1.

19. Ng2 e3 20. Nf1

I had foreseen Black's last and had decided this would be safest. (Remember, I was in time trouble.) But maybe White can take immediately with the Queen.

20...Nf4? 21. gxf4 exf4 22. Bxe3! fxe3 23. Nxe3

The last several moves have allowed White to simplify, and now Black's attack starts to evaporate.

23...Rh5 24. Nf1 Re5 25. Qf2 Rxc5 26. Rad1 Rh8 27. Ng3 Ra5 28. Nf4

This finishes Black's attack, and now White even gets a little attacking in himself before forcing more trades.

28...Qg4 29. Nxh3 Qxh3 30. a3 g6 31. Rd4 b6 32. Rde4 Kb7 33. Re6 g5 34. Qg2 Qxg2+ 35. Kxg2 Rd8 36. R6e5! Rd2+ 37.

(continued on p. 22)

(from p. 21)

R5e2?

I had wanted to interpose with the other Rook and force a trade, but now I saw that it loses the b-pawn.

37...Rd7?

He should play 37...Rdd5 to stop White's next move. Now I saw that it didn't matter if I lose my b-pawn, since I trade both pairs of Rooks. So I analyzed the ending out fifteen (!) moves to an inescapable win.

38. Re5! Rd2+ 39. R1e2 Rxb2 40. Rxa5 Rxe2+ 41. Nxe2 bxa5 42. Kf3

As Alan pointed out later, 42. Nc1-d3-b2 is faster, but I had already worked out the win and didn't want to bother with anything else.

42...Kb6 43. Kg4 Kb5 44. Kxg5 Ka4 45. h4 Kxa3 46. h5 a4 47. h6 Kb2 48. h7 a3 49. h8Q a2 50. c4+ Kb1 51. Nc3+

Finally deviating from my plan of 51. Qh1+ Kb2 52. Qc1+ made 13 moves ago, since I saw that this was faster.

51...Kb2 52. Nxa2 1-0

Secret

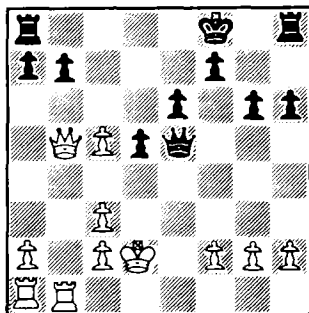
(from p. 16)

play 13. dxc5. He hopes to make his weak c-pawn strong.

13...Bxb5

One must always be willing to castle "by hand" in the MacCutcheon.

17. Qxb5+ Kf8



18. Qd7?

This is simply a mistake. 18. Qxb7 must be tried, however risky it is.

18...b6! 19. cxb6 axb6 20. g3?!

Obviously to guard against Qxh2, but 20. Rxb6 is more logical.

20...Kg7 21. Qb5?!

Avoiding Rhd8 and d4!, but still Rxb6 might be better.

21...Rhc8 22. Rb3 Rc5

Renewing 23...d4 as a threat.

23. Qd3 Rac8 24. f4 Qf6 25. Rab1 Rc4

Supporting d4.

26. Ra3 d4 27. Rxb6

Finally, almost reluctantly, White takes the b6 pawn.

27...dxc3+ 28. Kc1 Rd4 29. Qf3 g5 30. Rb7 gxf4 31. Raa7 Rf8 32. Rc7 Qg5 33. g4 e5 34. h3 e4 35. Qxc3 f3+ 36. Kb2 Qf6 37. g5 Rb4+ 0-1

White: Engl

Black: Eade

ICCF Masters 1990

French MacCutcheon [C12]

This last game features the main alternative to 6. Bd2, which is 6. Be3. More and more players are adopting this because it is less heavily analyzed, and because 6. Bd2 is simply not producing adequate results. My opponent in this game is a master from Germany.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Bb4 5. e5 h6 6. Be3 Ne4 7. Qg4 g6 8. a3 Bxc3+ 9. bxc3 Nxc3

I've had better results with this immediate capture than with 9...c5.

10. Bd3 Nc6

Black must now scurry to develop his Queenside pieces.

11. h4 Qe7 12. h5 g5 13. Nh3 Bd7 10. f4 gxf4 15. Bf2

To prevent 15...0-0-0.

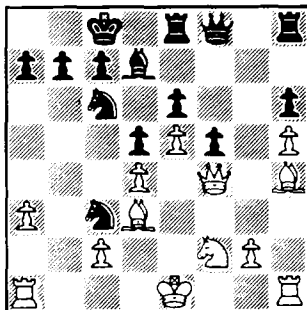
15...Qf8

Supporting Rg8, if the White Queen remains on the g-file.

16. Qxf4 0-0-0 17. Bh4

Displacing the Black Rook, or playing into Black's hands?

17...Re8 18. Nf2 f5?!



Cuypers-Ree, Netherlands Champ. 1983, continued with 18...Rg8, 19...Ne7-f5, and was eventually drawn. Instead, 18...f5 launches the type of attack that the MacCutcheon player loves—win, lose, or draw! 19. exf6 e5 20. dxe5 Rxe5+

Nxe5 is also possible, but I wanted the Knight to support d4.

21. Kf1 d4

Paving the way for Nd5-e3+.

22. Ng4 Nd5 23. Qf3

Queen sacs come up short.

23...Bg4 24. Qxg4+ Kb8 25. Qf3 Rg8

Provoking White's next, but then again White may have wanted to play it anyway! The various factors in this position, with the Knights waging war against the Bishops, the White Queen and King only a square away from suffocation, and the advanced White f-pawn were all combining to make a clear-cut analysis virtually impossible for me!

26. Bg6 Ne3+ 27. Kg1 d3

Paving the way for the other Knight!

28. cxd3 Nd4 29. Qf2 Qc5

Now, what's happening?!?!

30. f7 Rf8 31. Rh3 Ng4 32. Qb2 a5!

The discovered checks don't mean anything, e.g. 33...Nc2+ 34. d4 Nxd4 35. Qb4!. 32...a5 takes the b4 square away from the Queen. As is so often the case, a quiet move in the midst of a furious battle turns the tide.

33. Be4?

Perhaps upset by black's 32nd, White finally cracks. 33. Rf1 was a better try.

33...Rxe4! 34. dxe4 Nc2+ 35. Kh1 Nxa1 36. Qxa1 Rxf7

At last the dangerous pawn falls and the smoke begins to clear. Black still has a dangerous attack as well as the superior pawn structure.

37. Qd1 Qxh5 38. Qd8+ Ka7 39. Qd4+ b6 40. Kg1 Qb5

Renewing the threat on f1.

41. Rd3 Ne5 42. Rd1 Rd7 43. Qa1 Qc5+ 0-1

White resigns since the a-pawn must also fall.

Hopefully, the above games have given you a sense of what the MacCutcheon is capable of. You may not get a winning position out of the opening, but you're bound to find yourself in a tough fight. If you don't like openings that end with infinity signs or with comments such as "with chances for both sides," you'd better not try it! Don't take my word for it—Fischer's opinion is recorded in his *È*. He says the MacCutcheon gives rise to immediate complications. It's my opinion that if Fischer thought it was complicated, anyone I play will think so too.

U.S. CLASS IN SAN FRANCISCO

September 27-29 or 28-29 GPP: 60 California
14th Annual United States Class Championships.

(Note Open Section changes)

First time ever on the west coast- in beautiful downtown San Francisco! See Golden Gate Bridge, cable cars, Chinatown, Fisherman's Wharf, Telegraph Hill, many world famous museums, and numerous other attractions. Special chess rate (very low for this area) \$78 for 1, 2, or 3 in room (2 beds). Heated outdoor rooftop pool with city view; September is the warmest month of the year in San Francisco!

5-SS, Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 94109. **\$14,000 guaranteed prizes.** 7 sections: **Master** open to current and former Masters; **Expert** open to 2000-2199, **Class A** to 1800-1999, **Class B** to 1600-1799, **Class C** to 1400-1599, **Class D/E** to under 1400 (no unr), **Unrated** to unr. **October rating supplement & CCA ratings used.**

TOP 6 SECTIONS: 40/2, SD/1. Optional 2-day schedule with first 2 games G/90, then merges with 3-day schedule. EF: \$67 postmarked by 8/15, \$77 by 9/19, \$90 at tmt. IGM EF \$50; minimum prize \$100 to IGMs over 2500 completing tmt. \$\$G: **Master** 1500-700-400-250-150, U2400 500-300-200. **Expert, A, B, C** each \$1000-500-250-150-100. **D/E** \$700-300-200-120-80. Late reg. (if not mailed) 2-6 pm Fri or 8-9 am Sat; 3-day rds. Fri. 7, Sat. 11 & 6, Sun. 9 & 4; 2-day rds. Sat. 10, 2 & 6, Sun. 9 & 4.

UNRATED SECTION: Sept. 28-29 only, G/90. A USCF-rated section; entrants will obtain ratings. EF: \$37 postmarked by 8/15, \$47 by 9/19, \$60 at tmt. \$\$G: 300-150-90-60. Late reg. 8-9 am Sat; rds. Sat. 10, 2 & 6, Sun. 9 & 1.

ALL: ½-pt byes OK all rounds; must commit before tmt. for rd. 4 or 5 bye. Re-entries \$40. HR: 78-78-78-93, 415-441-4000, reserve by 9/5, ask for chess rate. Parking \$6/day guests, \$8/day others. Special airfares: Gramercy Travel System Inc, Continental Chess Desk, 800-537-3881, in NY 914-967-5505.

ENT: Continental Chess, 450 Prospect Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10553. 914-668-6025 for questions or room sharing; **no credit card entries.** USCF membership required. No smoking. No computers. FIDE rated.

3 1/2 Weeks

(from p. 19)

the text I could have kept my piece, but I was attracted to a tactical solution.

17. Bxh6! gxh6 18. Re7 Qxd6

Or 18...Qc8 19. Rh7+ Kg8 20. Rxc7.

19. Rh7+ Kg8 20. c5+ Qe6

Or 20...Be6 21. cxd6 Bxb3 22. axb3 Nxf4 23. Be4.

21. Bc4 Qxc4 22. Nxc4! Kxh7 23. Ne5 Rxf4 24. Qxb7 Rxf8 25. Qxc7+ Ng7

Although I was in my usual time pressure for Wednesday games (6 minutes for 5 moves), my position was quite easy to play. White consolidates and marches his c-pawn to victory.

26. Re1 Be2 27. g3 Rf2 28. Qd6 d3 29. Nxd3 R8f6 30. Qd4 Bxd3 31. Qxd3+ Kh8 32. c6 R2f3 33. Qd8+ Rf8 34. c7 Ne6 35. Rxe6 1-0

White: NM John Bidwell (2287)

Black: Ganesan (2085)

Caro-Kann Advance [B12]

Friday, April 19th. Round 6 at the BCC.

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5

Already throwing me off, for I had expected 3. Nc3.

3...Bf5 4. Nd2

John had seen this strange idea of Nd2 followed by Ne2 in a game in *Inside Chess*, which White had won. I was unaware of this, which was probably just as well.

4...e6 5. Ne2 c5

I don't know how the *Inside Chess* game went, but John must not be following up properly, for I easily equalize.

6. Ng3 Bg6 7. c3 Nc6 8. Nf3 Qb6

The position resembles the French Advance, with the White Knights not very actively placed.

9. Be2 cxd4 10. cxd4 Bb4+ 11. Kf1?

11. Bd2 was certainly better, as 11...Nxd4?? would be met by 12. Nxd4 Qxd4 13. Qa4+. 11...h5!

Threatening h4 and also preparing Nf6, when Black's pieces will be well developed.

12. h4 Nh6 13. a3

Perhaps 13. Bxh6.

13...Be7 14. b4 Nf5 15. Nxf5 Bxf5 16. b5?

Based on a faulty calculation and the White King will later feel very unsafe with 16.Be3 or 16. g3 intending Kg2.

16...Na5 17. Qa4?

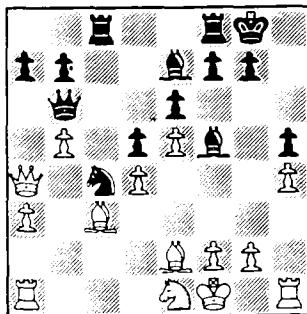
John still thought that the passive 17...Bd8 was necessary.

17...Rc8! 1c. Bd2 Nc4 19. Bc3 0-0!

John was worried about 19...Nxe5, but I thought this was messy after 20.Ba5 Bc2 21.Rc1!. The text completes Black's development and really threatens 20...Nxe5 now.

Just like in my game with Moulton, another master is in a poorly developed state. The moral for us lesser mortals: masters are still human.

20. Ne1



20...f6!!

My favorite move of the game. After some thought, I realized that the Queenside pressure was insufficient—for example 20...Ne3+21. fxex3 Rxc3 is unclear. The text opens up a second front, with nasty threats against the ancient weakness on f2.

21. exf6 Rxf6!

I calculated both 21...Bxf6 and 21...Rxf6 and actually decided on the former. Somehow, I grabbed my Rook instead!. As things turn out, this is probably the better recapture.

22. Qb3?

In serious time pressure John protects the loose Bishop, but this was his last chance to put up a defense, perhaps with 22. Kg1.

22...e5!

Black blasts the position open. Combinative themes are now in the air.

23. Nf3 exd4! 24. Bxd4

Or 24.Nxd4 Qxd4.

24...Nd2+!

White's position is crumbling and he only has a few minutes left for ten moves.

25. Nxd2 Qxd4 26. Qd1 Bc5 27. Qe1 Bd3!

28. Nf3 Bxe2+ 0-1

29. Qxe2 Qxa1+ or 29. Kxe2 Re8+ are gruesome.

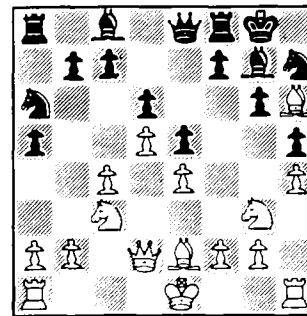
And there you have my three dream weeks. I was unable to play in either club in the last week of April. My 3 points was good enough for clear first in the UCB tournament. At the BCC, I found a way to lose the last round and had to settle for second place.

Finally, I would like to thank IM Marc Leski for his inspiring Chess Workshops. The mistakes I made are my own fault, of course, but if I played any good chess at all, he is responsible.

Quads

(from p. 3)

Ader-Jac. Bolbochan, Mar del Plata 1952. But players should never blindly trust these opening evaluations without looking over the actual positions first.



12...f5!

An excellent defensive move, as Black expands on the Kingside to counter White's attack. Although it looks like he is further weakening his King's protection, Black is actually following that old tenet of chess: the best way to bust an attack is to go for the center.

13. Bxg7 Kxg7 14. exf5 Bxf5 15. Nxf5 gxf5

Black doesn't mind giving up his Bishops in order to control the center with his f and e-pawns. White cannot infiltrate on g5 or h6 right now.

16. Rh3 Nf6!

The only way to defend the open g-file. Black allows White's Queen a check on g5, but continues his plan of defending by expansion.

17. Qg5+ Qg6 18. Rg3 Ng4 19. Qxg6+ Kxg6 20. f3 f4

Black's last few moves were all forced. White sees that his attack has yielded nothing against correct defense, and now makes a bad decision.

21. Rxg4+?!

This unnecessary sac loses. More level would have been 21. Rh3 Ne3 22. Bd3+ Kh6 23. Kf2 Nc5 24. Be2 Rg8 25. g3, and the position is about even.

21...hxg4 22. fxg4 Nc5 23. Ne4!?

Anything else would have allowed the crushing e4. For example, 23. Bf3 e4! followed by Rae8 which wins the pinned piece.

23. Nxe4 24. Bd3 Rh8

White must now lose a pawn.

25. Bxe4+ Kf6 26. h5 Kg5 27. Bf5 Rxh5

Entering a won Rook and pawn ending. 28. gxh5 Kxf5 29. Kf2 Rh8 30. Rc1 b6 31. Rc3 Rxh5 32. b4 axb4 33. Rb3 Ke4 34. Rxb4 Kd4 35. g4 fxg3+ 36. Kxg3 Rf5 37. Ra4 Rf7 0-1

White: NM Peter Yu (2246)

Black: Tom Stevens (2141)

Berkeley 1991

Irregular Opening [B00]

[Annotations by NM Peter Yu]

1. e4

One of the rare occasions when I open with something other than 1. c4. However, against Tom one can almost always expect his patent first move. Even Tom admits that his opening has lost its shock value.

1...Nh6 2. d4 g6 3. Be3

Yu-Stevens, Walnut Creek 1990, saw instead 3. c4 Bg7 4. Be3 d6 5. Nc3 0-0 6. f3 f5 7. Qd2 Nf7 8. 0-0-0 a6 9. h4 c5 10. Nge2 b5 which lead to an exciting battle that White eventually won. This time, White chooses to omit c4 and develop quicker.

3...Bg7 4. f3 f6 5. Qd2 Nf7 6. Bc4 b6 7. Ne2

At this point 7. Bxf7+ doesn't really hurt Black's game, so White continues to develop.

7...Nc6 8. Nbc3 Nd6!

Taking away White's exchange option with tempo. In retrospect, maybe White should have played 8. Bxf7+ earlier. Now Black should aim for Na5-c4.

9. Bd3 0-0 10. 0-0-0

White's intentions are now clear, but Na5-c4 still seems good for Black.

10...e5 11. Nb5!

Having safely finished development, White prevents Black from trying Na5-c4. Better for Black would have been 10...Na5 or a6, but now Black is faced with having his center pawns doubled.

11...exd4 12. Nxd4 Nxd4 13. Nxd6! cxd6

White has secured a positional advantage which will soon yield him a pawn. Black could not have thwarted White's plan by trying 13...Nxf3?! because of 14. Bc4+ Kh8 15. Qd5! (15. Nf7+? Rxf7 16. Qd5 Ne5 =+) Ne5 (forced, other wise 16. Qg8+ Rxf8 17. Nf7 smother mates) 16. Qxa8 +.

14. Bxd4 Qc7 15. Qb4

White cannot be prevented from unblocking the d-file and winning the d6 pawn. 15...Bb7 16. Qc4+ Qxc4 17. Bxc4+ Kh8 18. Be3 Rac8 19. Bb3 f5

Black tries to mix it up since he will lose a pawn.

20. exf5 Rxf5 21. Rxd6 Bc6 22. Rhd1 Re8 23. Bd4 Re2 24. Bxg7+ Kxg7 25. R6d2 Rxd2

Black was not able to stay on White's second rank. Even after 25...Rfe5, 26. Bc4 forces eviction.

26. Kxd2 h5 27. Re1 Kf6 28. Re8 Rg5

Black puts the pressure on White's Kingside pawns, but White sees that he can defend long distance.

29. Rf8+ Ke7 30. Rf7+ Ke8 31. g3 Bd5!?

A nice try, but White doesn't have to oblige with 32. Bxd5?? Rxd5+.

32. Rg7!

This move is the best way to hold on to the pawn advantage. Now White does not mind doubled pawns after 32...Bxb3 axb3 because Black would almost be in zugzwang. 32...Bxf3 33. Bf7+ Kf8

33...Ke7? loses the Bishop after 34. Bd5+ Kf8 35. Rg8+ Ke7 36. Bxf3 or 34...Kf6 35. Rf7+ Ke5 36. Bxf3.

34. Rxxg6 Rf5 35. Bc4 d5 36. Bd3 Be4 37. Bxe4 dxe4 38. Ke3 Rf3+ 39. Ke2

Although White has provoked Black forward, he must not err with the greedy 39. Kxe4? because 39...Rf2 ensures at least a draw.

39...h4 40. Rg4!

Intending Rf4, Black cannot escape the exchange of Rooks.

40...hxg3 41. hxg3 1-0

“Maybe”

(from p. 13)

switches were cleverly concealed. But a half hour later, we were on the phone again—we couldn't figure out how to turn it off! Something to do with the remote control this time, which Marijo had been playing with and now couldn't be found...

During Round Four, I was ashamed to find myself lurking outside the ballroom doors with dozens of other irritable parents. A half hour or so after the round started, something sounding remarkably like a fire alarm went off! It was the fire alarm! Several doors swung open and a microphone somewhere intoned, “All players are to stop their clocks and leave the room immediately by the nearest exits.” I hurried to make my way against the traffic into the room and find Jordy. I grabbed him by the hand, but before rushing to the exit, I glanced at his board. Priorities, after all! It was clearly a fine endgame for him—he was up a pawn at least from what I could tell, and his position seemed fine. He held onto my hand and chattered happily, “I'm ahead! I'm going to win! I know what I'm going to do next, I'm going to—.” I cut him off saying, “You're not supposed to talk about your game.” To myself I thought: “He's sounding a little too cocky, but maybe he's right—his position

looked fine.” What did I know?

The fire turned out to be a false alarm and the kids made their way back to their games. After another eternity, Jordy and his opponent emerged. Amazingly, I heard his opponent saying to his Dad, “I really got lucky! He had a won game but, he moved his pawn an' he should've pushed his King up first.”

Jordy, Marijo, and I groped back to our room. Jordy plopped onto the bed. “It's okay, Jordy,” says Marijo, all womanly sympathy, “You learn more when you lose.”

As for Marijo—Sunil Weermantry, director of the Kindergarten section, emerged from the tournament hall ecstatic over her level of play. “Incredible, she was crushing him,” he said, but then it was a draw. “A very rare stalemate,” Sunil said glowingly, in terms too technical for me to appreciate. The only game she lost was to a six-year-old boy with a—can you believe it?—1700 rating!

And how did she play? “She was very composed during her games,” he said. “Composed?” Nobody ever talked about my daughter that way!

Two nights later, Marijo would walk off a stage in front of a thousand plus chess-players, their parents and coaches, clutching the third place Kindergarten trophy—and a stuffed animal. Jordy, with one loss and six wins, took 14th in K-3. Mom gets the mileage-plus award for schlepping, happily ever after.

Solutions

(problems on p. 7)

Problem #1

1. Rxe5+!! Qxe5 (or 1...Kd4 2. Rd7+ Kxe5 3. Nc4+ wins) 2. Rh5! Qxh5 3. Nf5 Qh8 4. d4+ Qxd4 5. Nxd4 Kxd4 6. Kb6 Kxe4 7. Kxc6 Kd4 8. b4 and wins.

Problem #2

Key move: 1. Qd4+

Problem #3

1. Nf7+) Kg6(1...Kh7 2. e7 Rd1+ 3. Kh2! Re1 4. Ng5+ Kg6! 5. c7 Bf5 6. Ne6! Rxe6 7. c8(Q) Rxe7 8. Qxc4 wins 2. c7 Rc5 (2...Rd1+ 3. Kh2 Be4 4. f3 wins) 3. Ne5+ Kf5 4. e7 Ba4 5. Nc6! wins.

Problem #4

Place the King: a) on h1, b) on e3, c) on a8.

Nor Cal Splinters

MODESTO—MARCH 19 -April 16, 1991

MODESTO SPRING OPEN

John Barnard directed the Modesto Club's spring tournament. He sent in the following list of winners: Donald Tiffin (1902), 4-1; Ursula Foster (1750), 4-1; Alan M. Bishop (2103), 3-2; Eric L. Stuart (1343), 3-2; Nelson Wiggling (Unr.), 3-2.

SAN FRANCISCO—March 23, 1991

LOWELL MARCH OPEN-See page 7.

VISALIA—April 6, 1991

TWENTY-THIRD VISALIA OPEN

One of Northern California's oldies had a fine turnout of over forty players to lock horns in four sections. Indra Lahiri (2136), Bakersfield, took honors in Section I, reprising his victory six years ago in the same event. Section II fell to Lincoln Robinson, Section III was captured by D. Parreira, and Section IV went to S. Bolling. The tournament was organized and directed by Mr. and Mrs. Allan Fifield of Visalia. Thanks to Dave Quarve for the tournament report.

BERKELEY—April 20, 1991

BERKELEY QUADS-See page 3.

FRESNO—April 20, 1991

CSUF SPRING OPEN

Dave Quarve reports that top-rated John C. Barnard (2130), Sonora, captured the CSUF champion title, and first prize of \$100, with 4.5 points, giving up his only draw to his wife, Diane M. Barnard (1745), Sonora, in round 3. Diane finished in a three-way tie for second-fourth with Robert Raingruber (2104), Modesto and Karl E. Bohlman (1641), Visalia. Twenty-three players participated, including CSUF Club President Jeff Vogland (1686), Fresno. Dave was assisted by George Paxton, Fresno.

RYE BROOK, NEW YORK—April 26-28, 1991
1991 NATIONAL ELEMENTARY CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bill Wall forwards the following report:

Nearly 1100 players competed in this national tournament, including several from Northern California. 31 competed in the kindergarten section. Five-year-old Marijo Mont-Reynaud of Palo Alto captured 3rd place and won a trophy almost as big as she is. In the Primary Division (grades 1-3) William Surlow (1486) of Southern California and Michael Shulman (1548) of New York tied for first with a perfect 7-0 score. 7-year-old Jordy Mont-Reynaud (1145) of Palo Alto scored six out of seven to tie for 5-15th place. His performance rating was over 1600. Other Northern California participants included Joseph Lonsdale (1301) of Fremont 20th place; Kevin Simlar (1415), Fremont, 37th place; Vinay Bhat (UNR), Cupertino, 76th place and a trophy winner for the UNR prize; and Jeffrey Lonsdale (1104), Fremont, 90th place and trophy winner for 1st grader. There were 384 players in the Primary section.

The Elementary section (4th through 6th grade) was won by Rigel Cappallo (1793) of Massachusetts and Nawrose Nur (1858) of New York.

RICHMOND—April 28, 1991

RICHMOND LIBRARY QUADS

John Easterling organized and directed these regularly scheduled monthly quads. In Section I, NM Peter Yu (2246) and NM Ahmed Koopal (2204) tied with 2-1 apiece. Art Marthinsen (2052) won clear first in Section II with 3-0. In Section III Randy Walther (1904) led his group with 2.5-.5. Section IV was won by Nelson Sowell (1653) scoring 3-1. Section V's young winner was Stephen Shore (1425), 2.5-.5. John Rogers (1322) won Section VI, and among the Unrated players, Rodolfo Zapata won Section VII with 3-1.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA—May 3-5, 1991

1991 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Bill Wall forwards the following report:

The tournament was won by NM Joshua Waitzkin (2301). Peter Lee (1959) of San Francisco took 25th place. Alan Stein of Los Altos was unable to play in all the rounds but tied for 2nd-3rd in the High School Blitz Championship.

PALO ALTO—May 12 1991

PALO ALTO QUADS-See page 4.

BERKELEY—May 18 1991

BERKELEY QUADS

Fifty-two players came out to compete at the second Berkeley monthly quads organized under the new triumvirate of Baudry-Shennum-Yu. Several new faces were there, including two more sections of juniors. Pascal Baudry sent in

the following list of winners: Section I: NM Paul Gallegos (2242) 3-0; Section II: Tie between Pascal Baudry (2136) and Clarence Lehman (2080) 2-1 each; Section III: Tie between Gary R. Smith (1936) and Allen Estes (1856) 2-1 each; Section IV: Three-way tie between David Goldfarb (1807), Adrian Keatinge-Clay (1775) and Ralf Wuehler (1774), 2-1 each; Section V: Robert Howland (1677) 2.5-.5; Section VI: Brian Jew (1620) 2.5-.5; Section VII: Bruce Bell (1545) 3-0; Section VIII: Ruperto Labaria (1484) 3-0; Section IX: Mario Sanatra (1400) 3-0; Section X: Jordy Mont-Reynaud (1145); Section XI: Jonah Blivowsky (829) 3-0; Section XII: Klen Lam (665) 3-0; and Section XIII David Taylor (Unr.) 3-0.

After the regular event there was a WBCA (Blitz) tournament. NM Peter Yu (2246) won the first section with a perfect 3-0 score, just nudging out fourteen-year old Adrian Keatinge-Clay, who had garnered a stalemate from veteran five-minute player and Expert, Tom Stevens. In the second quad, Peter's student, Brian Jew (1620), also won with a perfect score, 3-0, not losing one game all day!

WBCA tournaments will be held in the future after all Berkeley Quads. For those looking for more chess after an afternoon of USCF-rated quads, a separate five-minute tourney will start after each Berkeley Quads at the same location. For those who just can't get out of bed on time for the early quads, (registration ends at 10:50 am, games begin at 11:00 am), they too can hone their chess skills at the later Blitz tournament as well. Registration for the Blitz tournament ends at 4:45 pm, with the games starting promptly at 5:00 pm. Depending on the number and strength of the players, a single or double round robin not lasting more than one hour will be scheduled.

Burlingame Bids Farewell

Burlingame Chess Club has announced a new upcoming tournament named after one of their club members who is soon moving back with his wife, to his native state of Ohio. Kimball Howes, a former all-state football player in high school and college, has had a chess career spanning over thirty-five years, going back to when he was the editor for the Ohio Chess Bulletin in the late 1950's. As a former college professor, education journalist, and later secondary school administrator, he has used his skills to promote chess in the schools. He is also donating much of his excellent chess book collection to the Burlingame Chess Club. They will set up a check-out system for their members at the beginning of each tourna-

ment, with the books due back on the night of the last round. (How many other libraries allow you to keep a book for 5 or 6 weeks??)

Mr. Howes reminisces about his favorite chess experiences, including the time he played Samuel Reshevsky at a simultaneous exhibition and lasted for fifty-six moves before being defeated by the Grandmaster. Afterwards he went out to dinner with Mr. Reshevsky (at 1:00 am) and remembers what a wonderful person he was.

What Kim Howes enjoys most about the Burlingame Club is "the wonderful spirit of camaraderie. The players are friendly. (I) cannot imagine a life without chess, without music, without books. Chess is like music, like love."

Book Reviews

by NM Tom Dorsch

A WINDOW ON THE WORLD OF CHESS LITERATURE

Book collectors, magazine collectors, chess researchers, analysts and theoreticians should take note of a unique resource in Northern California, the research lists compiled by Val Zemitis of Davis, California. Mr. Zemitis has meticulously combed the world literature of chess publishing to compile the names and addresses of everyone who is currently publishing chess-related material. Want to know how to get the latest Soviet theoretical materials? Every publication from the USSR is identified in these lists. Need something in Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, or Swedish? If it's in print, it's here. There is also a complete list of publishing houses, chess book stores, and purveyors of other materials related to chess. And the list includes domestic publications as well.

The newly-revised 1991 complete list of chess sources is available from Mr. Zemitis for \$10. It's worth the price just to explore

the immense range of chess resources available world-wide.

Order from Amber Press, 436 Citadel Drive, Davis CA 95616

THE MIND GAME WITHIN THE MIND GAME

Winning With Chess Psychology, by GM Pal Benko and Burt Hochberg. AN, 264 pages, \$13.00.

Benko and Hochberg make the point that the best move, important as it is, is not the ultimate weapon in chess. Even better than the best move is the move that is most unpleasant for your opponent. Because in the end, the object of the game is to win, not make strong moves.

The authors take the historical approach, showing how World Champions from Lasker on maximized results by studying not only opponents' moves, but their minds, exploiting personality traits as systematically as they would exploit a positional weakness.

The book is not long on analysis or insights, but is a brave attempt by chessplayers to venture beyond their special knowledge of the sixty-four squares into a more difficult, less understood, but absolutely

essential dimension of success in chess or any other competitive endeavor. Expect solid practical advice, written from a player's perspective, minus the morbid and unpersuasive psychoanalytical digressions that have marred other books on chess psychology.

BRINGING UP BABY

Chess for Juniors, by Robert M. Snyder. AN, paper, 238 pages, \$13.00.

National Master Snyder puts his twenty years of experience teaching chess to children into this concise volume of graduated lessons, taking chess from initial introduction to the study of classic principles of the game. It's a "Complete Chess Course" for the 90s, written in a simplified style that would make it accessible to children as young as seven or eight who have never played before. Snyder's techniques of gradually exposing new concepts is tailored to a child's comprehension and attention span, based on the thousands of hours of instruction he has done with youngsters. This book will be a valuable tool for scholastic organizers who are developing their own approach to teaching chess, or a great first book for a child who knows little or nothing about the game.

CLUB DIRECTORY

Places to play chess in Northern California

BERKELEY

Fridays, 7:30 pm
YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Ave.
Alan Glasco (415) 852-5324

BURLINGAME

Thursdays, 7:30 pm
Burlingame Lion's Club
990 Burlingame Ave
Scott Wilson (415) 355-9402

CAMPBELL

KOLTY CC
Thursdays 7-11:30 pm
Campbell Comm Ctr
Winchester & W. Campbell
J. Regan (415) 862-1004

CARMICHAEL

Senior Citizen Ctr/Comm Ctr
4701 Gibbons
John Howard (916) 972-8213

CERES

Thursdays, 7:00 pm
Carl's Jr., Whitmore & Mitchell
Robert Raingruber (209) 527-4425

CHICO

Fridays 7-11 pm
Rec. Room, 1901 Dayton Rd.
P. Chamousis (916) 872-3158

FAIRFIELD/SUISUN

2nd Saturday each month
2683 Laurel Drive
E. Deneau (707) 428-5460

FREMONT

Wednesdays, 7:00-10:00
Los Cerritos Community Center
3377 Alder Avenue
Hans Poschman (415) 656-8505

HAYWARD

Mondays 7-9 pm
Hayward Library
Mission at 'C' St
Kerry Lawless (415) 785-9352

LIVERMORE

Fridays 7-12 pm
LLL-Almond School
End of Almond Avenue
Charles Figg (415) 447-5067

MARYSVILLE

Yuba-Sutter CC
Butte Christian Manor, 223 F St.
Tom Giertych (916) 671-1715

MODESTO

Tuesdays 7:00 pm
Carl's Jr., McHenry St.
John Barnard (209) 533-8222

MONTEREY

Chess Ctr-daily except Mon.
430 Alvarado St
Yudacufaki (408) 372-9790

NAPA VALLEY

Thursday 3:30 pm
Vets Home, Lee Lounge
Yountville

B. Bailey (707) 253-0648

NOVATO

Tuesdays 7:00 pm
Pleasant Valley Elem School
Art Marthinsen (415) 456-1540

OROVILLE

YMCA Chess Club
Bill Boyet (916) 533-8432

PALO ALTO

Tuesdays 6:30 pm

Mitchell Park Comm Ctr
3800 Middlefield Rd
Bill Wall (415) 964-3667

RENO NV

Mon/Thurs 7 pm
Oldtown Mall Comm Ctr
4001 S. Virginia
J. Weikel (702) 320-0711

RICHMOND

Fridays 6 pm
Richmond Library
27th & MacDonald
John Easterling (415) 529-0910

SACRAMENTO

Wednesdays 7-11 pm
Senior Citizens Ctr
915-27th St.

Sonny Wake (916) 443-8475

SAN ANSELMO

Tuesdays 7:00 pm
Round Table Pizza
Red Hill Shop Ctr.

Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

Bill Hard (415) 457-0211

SAN FRANCISCO

MECHANICS INSTITUTE

Open daily 10am-9pm

57 Post St, 4th Floor
Max Wilkerson (415) 421-2258

SANTA CLARA

2nd Sat. each month
2:15-6:15 pm
Machado Park Bldg

3360 Cabrillo Avenue

F. Sierra (408) 241-1447

SANTA CRUZ

Thursdays 6:30 pm
Citicorp Savings
Ocean & Water

K. Norris (408) 426-8289

SANTA ROSA

Fridays 7-12 pm
Santa Rosa College
1279 Barnett Hall
Peter Proehl (707) 539-6466

STOCKTON

Friday 7-10 pm
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
4910 Claremont

Saturday 2-6 pm

Blackwater Café

912 N. Yosemite

Ron Houssays (209) 339-8641

SUNNYVALE

LERA CC

Tuesdays, 8 pm

Lockheed Rec Center

Sunnyvale

Ken Stone (408) 742-3126

VALLEJO

Fridays 7:30 pm

Senior Citizens Ctr.

333 Amador St

C. Rasmussen (707) 642-7270

WALNUT CREEK

Tuesdays 7:30 pm

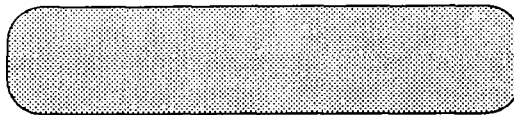
Civic Center Park

Broadway at Civic

C. Lehman (415) 946-1545

California Chess Journal
CalChess
 P. O. Box 3294
 Hayward, CA 94544

FIRST CLASS MAIL



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHESS CALENDAR

CalChess meeting: Sunday June 23rd,
 3:30pm at UC Berkeley Student Union, 4th floor.

★Discount entry for all **CalChess** members

JUNE 1991

8-9	SaSu	★HFTS Sectionals	PH
8-9	SaSu	San Jose (Scholastic)	FS
13	Th	WRC Quads-Burlingame CC	SW
16	Su	Richmond Quads	JE
18	Tu	Blitz Tourney-Palo Alto CC	BW
20-8/1	Th	Burlingame Chess Club Summer Round Robin (7 wks)	SW SW
22-23	SaSu	★UC Berkeley Class	PY
25	Tu	Blitz Tourney-Walnut Creek CC	CL
28-30	FSaSu	★SF/Mechanics:Stamer	MW
29	Sa	★UC Berkeley Quads	DS

JULY 1991

4-7	ThFSaSu	★Sacramento Open	AW
12	F	Blitz Tourney-SF/Mechanics	MW
13-14	SaSu	★HFTS Sectionals	PH
16	Tu	Blitz Tourney-Palo Alto CC	BW
20	Sa	★Palo Alto Quads	BW
21	Su	Richmond Quads	JE
27	Sa	★UC Berkeley Quads	DS
28-8/9		Los Angeles: US Open	
30	Tu	Blitz Tourney-Walnut Creek CC	CL

AUGUST 1991

9	F	Blitz Tourney-SF/Mechanics	MW
11	Su	★Stanford Quads	BW
17-18	SaSu	★Sunnyvale LERA Class	JH
18	Su	Richmond Quads	JE
20	Tu	Blitz Tourney-Palo Alto CC	BW
24	Sa	★UC Berkeley Quads	DS
26	Tu	Blitz Tourney-Walnut Creek CC	CL
31-9/2	SaSuM	★SF Airport-North Calif Championship & Open	CL JB

ORGANIZER LIST

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Pat Howlett 408-988-5008	Scott Wilson 415-355-9402
Jim Hurt 916-525-7912	Ted Yudacufski 408-372-9790
Clarence Lehman 415-946-1545	Tournament Clearinghouse
Raymond Orwig 415-237-7956	Alan Glasscoe Box 11613 Oakland, CA 94611 415-652-5324
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Dave Quarve 209-225-8022	CalChess Tom Dorsch, President Box 3294 Hayward, CA 94544 415-481-8580
Don Shennum 415-843-1632	

NEXT ISSUE

Highlights from LERA Memorial Day,
 HFTS Sectionals, Sacramento Open,
 Stamer Open, Berkeley Class Struggle,
 and Region XI Women's Championship.