

California Chess Journal

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Special Games Issue



Photo by Allan Fifield

Vinay Bhat at the US Masters in Honolulu

Featuring Annotations
by

GM Walter Browne

IM John Grefe

FM Vinay Bhat

The Rest of Us

and

Photos from Paradise

California Chess Journal



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THE EDITOR'S REPORT

Games! Welcome to our special 'Games Issue'! Human interest stories are nice but chess is ultimately about playing THE GAME that we all love. We are proud to span the generations of CalChess with veteran GM Walter Browne annotating three of his current efforts while our most recent FM (and our cover picture this month) Vinay Bhat has also submitted four games. Please enjoy this feast of games from legendary masters to happy beginners.

Our lead article by Lanette Chan-Gordon is an interview with three of our most popular young masters: Vinay Bhat, Jordy Mont-Reynaud, and Jennie Frenklakh. One of the pleasures of being involved in Northern California chess has been watching these three youngsters grow from tiny mop-heads barely able to see the board when seated on five copies of MCO into two young gentlemen and a charming young lady.

The CalChess Board of Directors meet at the end of October to address the financial health of our organization. It's been quite a number of years since a dues increase and although inflation has been low recently the price of everything does creep up year by year. While our current bank balance is reasonably healthy, we have been running a small but increasing deficit for several years. To keep the quality of our magazine high and to maintain the financial resources necessary to organize our various CalChess championships, it is necessary to raise our dues. Accordingly on January 1st, our base adult membership will increase from \$12 to \$15. The good news is you have three months to beat the dues increase by renewing now at our current rates. Three years for \$32 is a particularly great deal. The board feels that we have acted responsibly by approving a modest dues increase in advance of a crisis that would loom several years down the road and we hope that you agree.

Doug Shaker has joined the board of CalChess and he has assumed the duties of membership secretary. Subscription requests and changes of address should be directed to: Doug Shaker, 2030 Mills Avenue, Menlo Park CA 94025. Submissions to the California Chess Journal should continue to come to me at: California Chess Journal, PO Box 27, Visalia CA 93279-0027 Northern California is a big state and the only way I can report on chess in your area is with your help. The deadline for submissions for the next issue of CCJ is December 15th.

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Three Young Chess Masters Offer Insights Into the Game

By
Lanette C. Chan-Gordon

Three of America's best young chess masters faced 80 student challengers in a simultaneous exhibition held during the 1998 annual Berkeley Chess School Summer Camp. Vinay Bhat, Jordy Mont-Reynard and Jennie Frenklakh teamed up for the first time in this special event.

Vinay, 13, a high school freshman, was winner of the 23rd Annual State Scholastic Championships in Santa Clara this past March. He has won six national chess titles and at the age of 12, placed 3rd in the World Youth Chess Championships in Spain.

Jordy, 15, a junior in high school, was the silver medalist at the World Youth Chess Championships in 1993 and was the only player to defeat gold medalist Etienne Bacrot of France.

Both Vinay and Jordy have been the youngest U.S. player ever to attain the chess title of Master in their time.

Jennie, 18, is attending Boston University and is one of the top ranking female players in the U.S. under the age of 20. She has been a 6 time U.S. representative at the World Youth and Junior Chess Championships. Jenny is a co-designer of Chess Dominion, an interactive web site created to inspire kids around

the world to learn to play chess.

Prior to their simultaneous exhibition, a member of The Berkeley Chess School (BCS) staff interviewed the three young masters to determine how it is that



Vinay Bhat

won. It was like, WOW, what a great game. So then I eventually just went to tournaments and picked it up like that.

Jennie: I was 4 when I learned and my dad taught me also. I was born in Belarus when it was a former Russian republic and chess was much more popular there in the schools and everybody played. It's not unusual there like it is here.

Vinay: I learned around 6 from my mom. At first I started losing but then she would purposely make mistakes. That way I'd win and feel good about myself so that's how I got interested. Then I went to tournaments. That's how I started.

BCS: How did you become so good at chess? You are three outstanding young masters. What did you do?

Jordy: I don't know. I used to play a lot. Every single weekend we'd go to tournaments - some kind of thing around the Bay Area and there were always scholastics. I just played all the time. So, I don't know, just keep playing. At the beginning I just played a lot.

Jennie: When I started out playing, we had a city team and we'd compete against other cities and I was on my dad's team. I never actually played individual tournaments that much because in Russia it was mostly team competition. And then I came to America and I guess somewhere in between there I skipped a year and then I got back into it when I came here. Not very many girls played here so I started



Jennie Frenklakh

they became so good and how chess has affected their lives.

BCS: The three of you must know each other well by now. You see each other in a lot of tournaments. I'm curious how you got started in chess. What made you interested and how old were you when it all began?

Jordy: I was 5-1/2 and my dad taught me. We played games and whenever I got a losing position he'd turn the board around so I always



Jordy Mont-Reynard

being invited to world championships and I thought, WOW, this is neat. I've been going abroad every year since I was 12 and I just play a lot. I never really had a coach. I practiced by playing.

Vinay: I played a lot of teams. I studied a little bit. When I started getting better then I started going to tournaments.

BCS: At what point did you start getting serious about improving your game, when you really sat down and started studying books and have a coach? Did that come much later?

Jordy: No, there wasn't a single point when I said, okay I'm going to devote my time to this. It kind of went on. I played a few tournaments and then I did well in them and then I played a few more and then I played a lot more. I don't think there was really a point. I just kept going with that.

Jennie: It's not actually like, now I'm going to study this book, and I'm going to get it. It's more the attitude you have about it. If you say, okay I'm going to be better, then you go out and you try your hardest no matter if you have the re-

sources or not. I don't know when I actually made the jump or if there was ever a jump. It just was gradual I guess.

Vinay: I studied throughout, not very much but throughout so that there was a gradual change until I made master. That was the biggest change.

BCS: How did it feel when you became a master. It must have been very thrilling for you.

Jordy: I've forgotten.

Jennie: Actually, it took me so long and once I made it I dropped back again. But just knowing you've

VINAY BHAT

A Remarkable Year

by
Tom Dorsch

Vinay Bhat of San Jose, who is just entering high school this fall, has had a remarkable year on the chessboard and has already racked up an impressive series of accomplishments.

Vinay started the year right by tying for first place at the prestigious People's Tournament in Berkeley, one of the area's oldest and strongest open events on President's Day weekend. The next month he won the state scholastic championship, taking the title as of Northern California Junior Champion from a field that included all of this state's best juniors. His victory qualified him to represent Northern California in the Denker Tournament of High School Champions in Hawaii, where he played against the best players from every state in the country. Again, he distinguished himself by finishing second in a very strong event. He scored another impressive result when he tied for first at the 32nd Annual LERA (Sunnyvale) Class Championships, a tournament that always attracts a strong field of masters.

Vinay alternates his wins at the strongest local tournaments with impressive results in national and international competition, and this

year has been a particularly good one for him. At the US Cadet Championship, he tied for first and defeated the co-winner in their individual game. The Cadet brings together the highest-rated juniors in the country based on their age groups.

At the 1998 Pan-American Youth Chess Championships in Brazil, a FIDE (International Chess Federation) event, Vinay won a gold medal for the best result in the age-14 group, and was awarded the title of FIDE Master. Vinay's "golden" performance contributed to the best result an American team has had in international competition in decades.

Vinay's powerful performances in tournament play are all the more remarkable because he comes from San Jose, California. Although it is the largest city in Northern California, it does not even have a chess club, and there is almost no tournament activity where he lives. The nearest active clubs are in Campbell and Burlingame.

The lack of a strong chess base means a lack of trainers and coaches. Since the "Russian invasion" of the Eighties, it has been taken for granted that good results depend on good coaching, and

most of the best young stars, like Irina Krush or Stuart Rachels, have been well-coached.

The strongest support for Vinay is his dedicated family. Older brother Harish, a former Santa Clara County High School Champion, is now at Harvard pursuing career goals. His mother Vijaya and his father Subru never waiver in their support, tirelessly investing in his success when funding falls short and ferrying Vinay to and from tournaments all over the Bay Area and throughout Europe and South America. Maintaining an active chess career is very expensive, even without regular coaching, and without the dedication of his family it would not have been possible for Vinay to achieve such great success.

But as long as Vinay is active, he will contribute beautiful games and exciting competition to Northern California's chess community. He is already one of the best local players, and he is still improving. With his talent, there are no barriers to achievement at the highest levels—unless he is seduced away by the higher standard of living provided by other professions.

been there. If you want to really maintain at a high level you have to really devote time to it. I wish I had more time to devote to chess but I don't know. Some people think education is more important. (Laughter)

BCS: What suggestions can you make to other kids? There are about 80 kids here today who you are going to be playing in a simul. What suggestions can you make to them about what they can do to improve their game?

Jordy: I say just play a lot, go to every tournament you can and don't get too stressed out about how you are doing in each individual game because it's an experience and eventually you will start picking up new patterns. I don't think they should be studying hours per hours. They should just go out and have fun and play. If they get serious about it then they can study.

BCS: Are you talking about both scholastic and adult tournaments?

Jordy: I think it would be good to have experience against adults because when I was playing I played scholastic and adult tournaments. I think it is helpful.

Jennie: I think the most important thing is not to get discouraged ever, because losing is such a huge part of the game. You're going to lose a lot. I've just been talking to a couple of the girls and they're saying they are the only ones in their class. The boys tell them they're pretty good for a girl, and all that stuff, which I have heard many times. Just show them what you can do and play your best and don't worry about the results.

Vinay: You can't give up early, otherwise if you give up because you lost or you did badly, you are not going to follow through. Just play for fun early on and you can get serious later.

BCS: How do you handle winning and losing? They are so much a part of this game and it is always difficult to lose. But it is sometimes difficult to win too, because then you may have expectations of yourself.

Jordy: Chess is really a strange game, because if you win a game you are floating on the clouds, so nothing could make you sad. But if you

lose a game your whole world has just blown up. People will say, I know how you're feeling and you say, no you don't. There is nothing in the world that could make you happy. The feelings thankfully go away after awhile so if you lose a really important match one day and you're kicking yourself, the next day you can almost laugh at it. That's how it is for me, otherwise I would quit chess.

Jennie: The good thing about this game is you always have another chance. If you lose you know you have so many more tournaments. You don't have to retire when you're 20. You can play forever. One game, one match, even if it is important, you know you are going to make it there again and have other chances, especially in these world tournaments. You go one year and expect to do really well and then you get second instead of first. It's all part of the game.

Vinay: I think losing is sometimes hard, especially an important game, but the world's not over if you've lost one game. You get a second chance.

BCS: How do you prepare yourselves mentally for a big tournament? Do you do anything special or do you just approach the tournament as a new challenge?

Vinay: I don't do much for mental preparation. I just take it one game at a time.

Jennie: Usually I don't have anything planned ever, chesswise. When I have a tournament Saturday I decide Friday night if I am going because I don't know how much homework I'm going to have that weekend and I don't know what other plans I have. If I know there is a big tournament in a few weeks, I'll ask, Dad am I going? He will say, well, I don't know. Are you going? And I say, well, Dad, you're supposed to get me the ticket and all that stuff. Usually the first round is the most stressful for me. And once you get into the habit and you know what time to get up and you know everyone in the tournament then it goes okay. But the first round, especially if I'm playing a really tough player, is the most difficult.

BCS: Is that true for the rest of

you, that the first round is the most difficult or is it the last round?

Jennie: Oh yeah. If you're playing on Board 1 the last round is all or nothing.

Jordy: The first round is important because it sets the tone for the whole tournament. If you lose the first round then sometimes it's like, why am I here. I'm going to play some really low player and have to work my way up again at some point. If you win the first round then you're getting started.

BCS: How do you think chess has benefited you?

Jordy: It's given me lots of muscles. (Laughter)

Jennie: I've met a lot of people. All my friends, except for school friends, are chess players. I am used to going to so many tournaments and I meet so many friends even in other countries. I write to them sometimes and we keep in touch. And also I get to see places.

Jordy: It gives you a nice perspective on the whole world and I'm not just confined to Palo Alto or Mountain View or whatever.

Jennie: And into other cultures too. You can have your opponents not knowing English or Russian or any other language and you are communicating by playing and different signs you can do. Mostly travel and friends and just the game itself is fun. I ask myself a lot, why do I play this game. It's just because every game is different and you always have to come up with new ideas.

Jordy: It makes you meet new challenges and there is a whole educational part of it. I'm sure it's helped in school with math, all these things relate.

Vinay: It's helped in school, but I also like the traveling and having fun is a big part of it.

BCS: How many tournaments do you travel to outside of this area?

Jennie: This year I haven't been playing much. Three or four years ago was my busy period. I played the nationals this year for the first time because it was my last chance when I was in Los Angeles. I usually go to one tournament abroad a year but I don't know if that is still going to be going on. I'm going to

college first of all and there are other people who are exceeding my rating. But it's been a great experience playing chess and going everywhere so I encourage everyone to play.

BCS: What are your goals?

Jordy: I don't know. I don't think I want to be a professional chess player devoting my entire life to it. Even though chess is a big world, it's not that big. There are only so many parts of the game. It's great to have as a side hobby and if you're really good at it you can always go back to tournaments on weekends.

Jennie: I don't see the day when I completely stop playing. Even if I take a break for a couple of years I still will be looking forward to getting back. Now I have college. Who knows if I go to medical school or whatever. People tell me that when I go to college I won't have any time to play but I'll try to make some time. Just keep on playing. I don't really have a goal in the chess world, being a grandmaster, that would be

great but it takes a lot of everything.

Vinay: I don't have any goals.

BCS: I thought I read that you wanted to be world champion. Is that still true?

Vinay: A little bit, but that's far away.

BCS: What qualities do each of you think you have that enabled you to become chess masters at such an early age? Because obviously a lot of kids do play and they play a lot and they don't become masters?

Jordy: My perspective on things. I lose and I can laugh at it. I think that is really important in chess. These youngsters have to learn that losing is just part of the game, it's not the end of the game.

Jennie: You say that today. (Laughter)

BCS: Do you look upon your losses as an opportunity to learn?

Jordy: Some of the time. Some losses you just say I don't want to learn from, that I just want to forget it. Yeah, definitely.

Jennie: Also, patience is a big

thing. Just sitting at the board seven hours. You don't notice it that much when you're playing but sometimes every move you walk around. So patience and getting over the bad times and looking ahead.

Vinay: I play chess at high levels. You've got to have a strong mind. You've got to be able to sit there and concentrate and you can't be discouraged by one loss.

Jennie: Sportsmanship is a big thing. I might have a forced mate in two and the person will sit there and wait for the time to run out just to tell everyone that they lasted an hour. It's so frustrating because they're wasting their own time and my time.

BCS: Do you have any other advice that you'd like to give to kids regarding chess?

Jordy: Play chess.

Jennie: Teach your friends.

BCS: It was a pleasure talking with you. Thank you.

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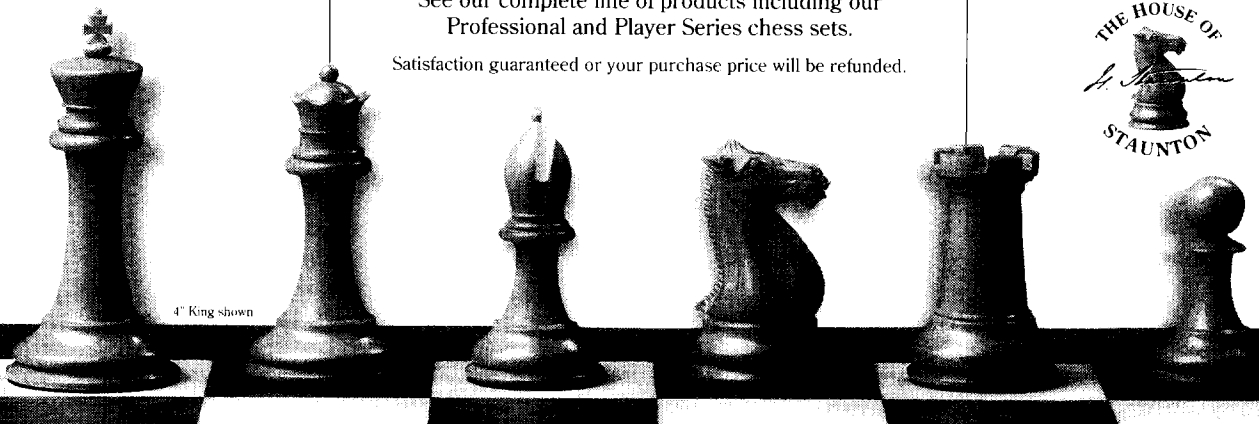
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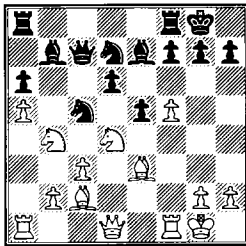
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A FEAST OF GAMES

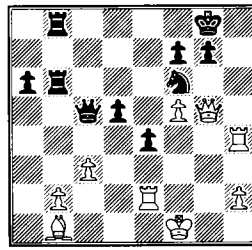
Three Games Annotated by GM Walter Browne

Mezentzev, I - Browne, W
[B87] Lera Swiss
August 17, 1997

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 b5 8.O-O Be7 9.a4 b4 10.Na2 O-O 11.Nxb4 Qb6! (Considered dubious by ECO. The fact is many of their assessments are dubious!) 12.c3 Nxe4 (...a5!? however why create a hole on b5 while driving the knight from a poor location?) 13.a5 Qc7 14.Be3?! (14.Re1=) Nc5 15.Bc2 Bb7 16.f4 (16.Qh5 g6 17.Qh6 Nbd7 and black is solid partly due to the b4 knight !) Nbd7 17.f5?! e5



18.Ne2 (18.f6?! Nxf6! 19.Nf5 Nce4! with advantage to black) Nf6 19.Ng3 d5 (The white attack has fizzled as I expand in the center with superior options.) 20.Nh5 Ncd7! (Nxf5? 21.Qxh5 f6 22.Rf3) 21.Nxf6+ Nxf6 22.Nd3 Bd6 23.Bb6 Qe7 24.Ra4 Bc6 (...Rac8 25.Rh4 Rc4!? 26.Rh3 Rg4 27.Nf2 Bc5, but 28.Bxc5 Qxc5 29.b4! Qa7 30.Kh1 Rf4 (...Rg5 is better.) 31.Nd3 Rxf1+ 32.Qxf1 Re8 33.Nc5 and white is much better off than in the game.) 25.Rh4 Bb5! 26.Re1 Bxd3! 27.Bxd3 (It's seemed I've wasted time, yet I've slowed the attack and the resulting endings all favor black. For example: 27.Qxd3 Bc5+ 28.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 29.Qe3 Qxa5 30.Qxe5?? Rfe8 - +) Bc5+ 28.Kf1 (28.Kh1 Ne4+) e4 29.Bb1 Bxb6 30.axb6 Qc5 31.g4 h6 32.Qd2 (I thought it was a wrap, but I still have to be careful to secure the win.) Rab8 33.g5 hxg5 34.Qxg5 Rxb6 35.Re2 Rfb8

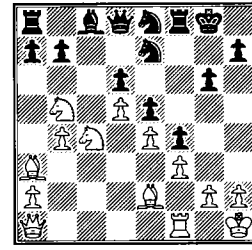


(An intriguing alternative Qc4! 36.Ke1 Qxe2+ ! 37.Kxe2 Rxb2+ 38.Ke3 Rxb1 must be winning and white's army is overextended whereas black is perfectly compact. The weak c-pawn and poorly placed white king make the victory a certainty yet with 29 minutes left in a sudden death time control I wanted something easier.) 36.Qg2 (36.Rg2 Kf8 37.Qxg7+ Ke7 38.Rh6? Rg8+) 36...a5 37.Ba2! Qd6! 38.Ke1 Qe5 39.Qh3 Kf8 40.Rh8+ Ke7 (The king is quite safe now and it's counterpart will start to feel the breeze!) 41.Rxb8 Rxb8 42.Qc3 Kf8 43.Qc5+ Kg8 (The safest spot after exchanging one pair of rooks.) 44.Qxa5 Qxf5 45.Qc7?! Ra8+ 46.b4 e3! 47.b5 Qe4! 0-1

Browne ,W - Maloney,M
Fresno Open
Round 3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 e5 7.O-O Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4 Nd7 (...Nh5 10.Re1 Nf4 11.Bf1 a5 12.bxa5 Rxa5 is more popular.) 10.Ba3 f5 11.c5 Nf6 (...fxe4?! 12.Ng5! Nf6 13.Bc4 and white has the option of taking back on e4 later or hopping into e6!) 12.Nd2 Bh6!? (...dxc5? 13.bxc5 fxe4 14.d6 Nf5 15.Ndxe4 Nd4 16.Bc4+ is superior for white.) 13.f3 Be3+ 14.Kh1 f4 15.Nc4 Bd4 16.cxd6 (The alternative 16.Rc1 Nh5 17.Qe1 Nf5!! 18.exf5 Ng3+! 19.hxg3 Qg5 20.Rf2 Qh6+ 21.Kg1 fxf3 and I would have lost a miniature!) 16...cxd6 (...Bxc3 17.dxe7 Qxe7 18.b5 Bb4 19.d6! Bxd6 20.Nxd6 with advantage to white) 17.Nb5! (17.Qd2 Nh5 18.Rac1 and...Nf5 (or possibly...Rf5!?) 19.exf5 Rxf5 20.Ne4 Ng3+ 21.Nxg3 fxf3 looked deadly. With

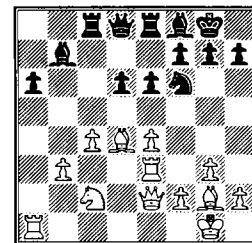
this exchange sac my king breathes a sigh of relief!) 17...Bxa1 18.Qxa1 Ne8



(Still, I'm a full exchange down.) 19.Nbxd6!! (An offer that cannot be refused!) Nxd6 20.Qxe5 Nf7 (...Nxc4 (...Ne8 21.b5 Rf7 22.d6 and white is better) 21.Bxc4 Rf7 22.Bb2 with a white plus) 21.Qc3 Nf5 (Black must give a piece back, but I've still got my dark bishop which ensures other booty.) 22.exf5 gxf5 23.Bb2 Qg5 24.Rg1! (No rest for black as the g-line is pried open.) Rd8 25.g3 Kf8 26.gxf4 Qh6 (...Qxf4 27.Qg7+ Ke7 28.Bf6+ and white is better) 27.b5! Rxd5 28.Ba3+ Ke8 29.Qb4 Qe6 (There was no defense.) 30.Qf8+ Kd7 31.Rg7 1-0

Browne ,W - Koepcke,R
Lera Sunnyvale Class Champ
Round 4 - August 16, 1997

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Nbd2 c5 6.Bg2 Bb7 7.e4 cxd4 8.O-O d6 9.Nxd4 Nbd7 (...Qd7 10.Re1 Nc6 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.b3?! Be7 13.Bb2 =) 10.Re1 Qc7 11.a4! Be7 12.a5 a6 (...O-O? 13.a6 and white is better) 13.axb6 Qxb6 14.N2b3 Rc8 15.Na5 Ba8 16.b3! (White is slightly better.) O-O 17.Bb2 Rfe8 (17...Ne8 18.Qd2 Bf6) 18.Re3! (It was difficult to find the right plan. When I saw the text it all clicked.) Nc5 19.Qe2 Bf8 20.Nc2 Nb7 21.Bd4 Qd8 22.Nxb7 Bxb7



23.e5! Bxg2 (...dxe5 24.Bxe5 Bxg2 25.Kxg2 and white is a little

better.) 24.exf6 Bb7 25.fxg7 Bxg7 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.Rd1! (Eyeing the d-pawn, but more importantly Rd4-g4 or h4 with a strong attack.) d5 28.cxd5 Bxd5 (...exd5? 29.Nd4 is a positional nightmare for black!) 29.Nb4 a5 30.Nxd5 exd5 31.Qg4+ Kf8 32.Rxe8+ Qxe8 33.Qf5 Rd8 (For better or hearse ...Qe6 (...Kg8 34.Qg5+ Kf8 35.Rxd5 with advantage to white.) 34.Qxh7 Ke7 although white should win.) 34.Qf6! 1-0 (...Qd7 35.Re1 Kg8 36.Re5 h6 37.Qh6)

Four Games Annotated by FM Vinay Bhat

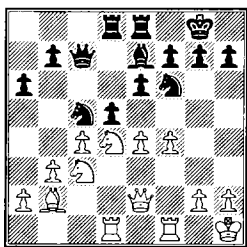
Bhat,V (2255)

Liascovich,L [B52]

Pan American Youth
Championships

Round 2, November 5, 1998

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ I scored two and a half points out of three from this variation. 3...Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Nxd7 [4...Qxd7 This is slightly more popular.] 5.0-0 Ngf6 6.Qe2 e6 7.b3 Be7 [7...g6 I faced this in a later round. 8.c3 (8.Bb2!? Bg7 9.c4 0-0 10.d4 cxd4 11.Bxd4? Bhat-Ariel Pan-Am Championships 1998) 8...Bg7 9.d4] 8.Bb2 0-0 9.c4 Qc7?! The queen is vulnerable here and it doesn't do anything. [9...Qb6 Exerting pressure on the d4-square.] 10.d4 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nc5 12.Nc3 Rad8 13.Rad1 Rfe8 14.Kh1 a6 15.f4 White is developing undisturbed so Black tries to initiate some play in the center. White's plan is to try for either an eventual e5 or f5, breaking open the kingside. 15...d5? Loses material.



[15...Bf8!? Black doesn't have many other useful moves. 16.Qf3 ...d5 is stopped and Black has no other

breaks. White just needs to redeploy his pieces to prepare for an attack on the kingside.] 16.exd5 exd5 17.Nxd5?! Not the most accurate move, as now Black's bishop gains the f6-square. [17.cxd5 This is better than what I played. Black is further cramped by the knight on f6, so his bishop must go to d6 or f8. 17...Bf8 (17...Nxd5? 18.Nxd5 Rxd5 Transposing into the game.) 18.Qf3 White is a clear pawn up.] 17...Nxd5 18.cxd5 Rxd5? Black should have just given up the pawn. [Better is 18...Bf6 19.Qf3 (19.Qc2 Rxd5 20.Nb5?? Rxd1 Black will win a piece after 21.Rxd1 axb5) 19...Qd7= The d-pawn can't be guarded because of the pin along the h8-a1 diagonal.] 19.Nb5 axb5 20.Rxd5 Ra8 21.Rfd1 Bf8 [21...Rxa2?? 22.Rd8+! (22.b4 would also win, but 22.Rd8+! is more forcing.)] 22.Be5 Qa5 23.Qc2? [23.Bxg7! Bxg7 24.Rxc5 White has broken up Black's kingside and gained a pawn in the process.] 23...Na6 [23...Qxa2? 24.Rxc5 Bxc5 25.Qxc5 Qxb3 26.Rc1 White is completely winning.] 24.Rd7 Nc5 25.R7d5 White isn't making any process. [25.Rc7? f6 This equalizes material as the bishop can't move due to the state of the c7-rook.] 25...Na6 26.Qc4 Forcing a won ending. 26...bxc4 27.Rxa5 f6 28.Ba1 The other retreats aren't as good. [28.Bd4 Rd8 The pin is very annoying.: 28.Bc3 The bishop is in the way of the c-file here. 28...Rc8; 28.Bb2!? The best alternative. 28...Rc8 Reaching a position similar to the game continuation.(28...Bb4? 29.Rad5+- Black can't prevent an exchange of rooks.)] 28...Rc8 29.bxc4 Rxc4 30.Bd4 Nb4 31.Ra4 Threatening a3, pinning and winning the knight on b4. 31...Rc2 32.a3 Nc6 [32...Ra2? 33.Rxb4 Bxb4 34.axb4 White is a clear piece up.] 33.Bg1 Rc3 34.Ra8 Rc4 [34...Rxa3? runs into 35.Rxf8+ Kxf8 36.Bc5+ Picking up a rook.] 35.Rc8 Na5 36.Rdd8 Rxc8 37.Rxc8 Kf7 38.Bc5 Bxc5 39.Rxc5 b6 40.Rc7+ Black resigned as he is an exchange down, and his knight has no future. This game was played in the second round. I went on to tie for first and win the gold medal on tiebreaks with

a score of 6.5 out of 8. I won 5 games and drew three. 1-0

Watson,J (2365)

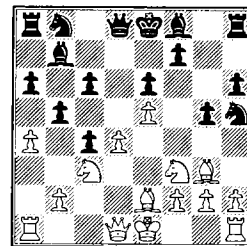
Bhat,V (2235)

[D43]

U.S. Masters

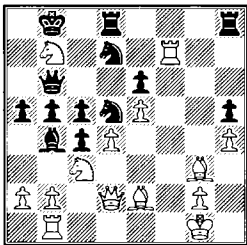
Round 6, July 26, 1998

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 dxc4 7.e4 g5 8.Bg3 b5 9.Be2 Bb7 The wrong move order which allows White to get a good position. [9...Bb4 Black should force White to guard the e-pawn before developing his queenside. 10.0-0 (10.Qc2?! g4 11.Nd2 Qxd4 Black is now up two pawns. 12.Rd1 Qb6 White has some compensation.) 10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nxe4 12.Ne5 Nd7 13.Bh5 0-0!? 14.Nxf7 Rxf7 15.Bxf7+ Kxf7 16.Qc2 The position is unclear.] 10.e5! Nd5 I had no intention of repeating the line that Anand played against Kramnik. [10...Nh5? 11.a4! a6



12.Nxg5! Nxg3 13.Nxf7 Kxf7 14.fxg3 Kg8 15.0-0 White later achieved a won position, but failed to convert. Kramnik-Anand Beograd 1997.] 11.h4 g4 12.Nd2 h5 [12...Nxc3 13.bxc3 c5 14.Qb1! This saves White. White threatens the b-pawn as well Nxc4 or Bxc4 taking advantage of the unprotected bishop.(14.0-0 cxd4 15.cxd4 Qxd4 16.Bxg4 Bb4+- White's knight surprisingly has no way to escape, as moving to f3 loses the g4-bishop and moving to b1 loses the a1-rook.: 14.Bxg4 cxd4 15.cxd4 Qxd4 16.0-0 Bb4+- As in the above variation.)] 13.Nde4 Threatening Nxd5 and Nf6+. 13...Nd7 14.0-0 Qb6 [14...Qa5 Probably better than the continuation I chose. Black prepares to develop his bishop to b4 as in the game, but he need not waste time with a5 now.] 15.Rb1 Bb4 White

was threatening to play b3. [15...0-0-0? 16.Ng5 The f-pawn is doomed.] **16.Qd2 a5** To guard the bishop. [16...0-0-0? 17.Nxd5 cxd5 (17...Bxd2? 18.Nxb6+ Nxb6 19.Nxd2+-) 18.Qxb4 dxe4 19.b3 With a powerful attack to follow. Black's pawn shelter is going to be smashed, and so his king will be in trouble.] **17.f3!?** Opening up the kingside. [17.Qg5!/? An interesting alternative which tries to prevent Black from castling as long as possible. 17...Qxd4 18.Rfd1 Qb6 19.Qg7 Rf8 20.Qh7 0-0-0 21.Qxh5 White will win the g-pawn. 21...Kb8! Getting out of any checks on d6. 22.Qxg4 (22.Bxg4!/? 22...Rg8 23.Qf3 c5.) **17...gxf3 18.Rxf3 0-0-0** Black is going to lose the backward f-pawn, so I thought that my best chance was to bring all my pieces into play. **19.Rxf7 c5!** Black must try for counterplay or else White will get a powerful bind on Black's position. [19...Kb8? This is too slow. Black wants to play c5 without having to worry about Nd6+. 20.a3! Nxc3 21.bxc3 Bxa3 22.Bxc4± Now it will be very difficult to open the a8-h1 diagonal, as the b-file is open.] **20.Nd6+ Kb8 21.dxc5?!** I thought that this gave Black too much play. Black saves his bishop pair and they point menacingly at White's king. [21.Nxb7! This is the best move.

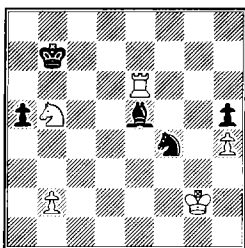


A) 21...cxd4 **A1)** 22.Nxd5 exd5 **A1a)** 23.e6+? Kxb7 24.Qf4 Qxe6 25.Qc7+ Ka8 At the moment White's f7-rook and e2-bishop are attacked and there is no clear way for White to defend. 26.Rf2 d3 27.Bf3 Rc8 Chasing the queen away. (27...Bc5? 28.Qxa5+ Kb7 29.Qxb5+ Ka8 30.Kh1! Bxf2?? 31.Bxd5+-) 28.Qf4 Rhf8 29.Qg5 Bc5 Black is already up two pawns and since he is going to get the rook, Black should be winning.: **A1b)** 23.Qf4? Kxb7

(23...Qxb7? 24.e6+ Winning a piece.) 24.Bf3 (24.e6? Transposing into line A1a.) 24...Qc6 25.e6? (25.a3 Bc5 White's attack has run out of steam. 26.e6 Qxe6 27.Qc7+ Ka6-+) 25...Qxe6 26.Qc7+ (26.a3! Bc5 27.Qc7+ Ka6 28.Re1) **A1b1)** 26...Ka8 **A1b11)** 27.Re1? Bxe1 28.Re7? Bxg3 (28...Qxe7?? 29.Bxd5#) 29.Rxe6 Bxc7-+; **A1b12)** 27.Re7!! 27...Bxe7 (27...Qxe7 28.Bxd5#) 28.Re1 Qxe1+ 29.Bxe1 Nf6 30.Qxe7 Rhe8 31.Qxf6 Rxe1+ 32.Kh2 Ree8 33.Qa6+ Kb8 34.Qxb5+-; **A1b2)** 26...Ka6µ The only move.: **A1c)** 23.Qg5! 23...Kxb7 24.Bf3 **A1c1)** 24...Qc6? 25.e6 Qxe6 (25...Rhg8 26.Bxd5 Rxc6 27.Bxc6+ Kxc6 28.hxg5+-) 26.Bxd5+-; **A1c2)** 24...Rhg8 Probably the best. 25.Bxd5+ Ka6 26.Qf4 Rg4 27.Qf3 (27.Qf2? Nxe5 28.Bxe5 Rxd5 29.Rf6 Bd6-+) 27...d3+ 28.Kh1 (28.Bf2? Bc5-+) 28...d2 29.e6! Nc5 **A1c21)** 30.Bc7? Rxh4+ 31.Kg1 Qa7! 32.Bxd8 Nd7+! 33.Kf1 (33.Qf2 Bc5) 33...Rh1+ 34.Ke2 Re1+ 35.Rxe1 dxe1Q#; **A1c22)** 30.Bb7+ 30...Ka7 31.Bc8+-; **A2)** 22.Bf2! 22...Qxb7 (22...dxc3?? 23.Bxb6 cxd2 24.Nxd8+-) 23.Bxd4 Nxc3 24.bxc3 Qe4÷ Black's King is wide open, but it seems hard for White to make good use of it. Ne5 is coming up when Bf3 is stopped.; **B)** 21...Kxb7!/? I didn't like this during the game because the d7-knight is pinned and after 22.Bf2 the queen is under pressure from the bishop. 22...cxd4 23.Bxd4 Bc5 The position is quite complex. 24.Bxc5 (24.Rd1!/? Kb8 Threatening Nxe5.) 24...Qxc5+ 25.Kh1 Rhf8 Trying to break the pin along the seventh rank. (25...Kb8 26.Nxd5 Qxd5 27.Qxa5 Qxe5 28.Bf3+-) 26.Rg7!/? (26.Rxf8 Rxf8 I think that Black is fine here as the e-pawn is hard to defend. 27.Ne4 Qb6 28.Nd6+ Kb8÷) 26...Kb8? 27.Nxd5 (27.Ne4 Qb6÷) 27...Qxd5 28.Qxd5 exd5 29.e6 Followed by e7, winning a rook.; **C)** 21...Qxb7 22.Bf2 (22.dxc5 Bxc5+-) 22...cxd4 (22...Rdf8 23.Rxf8+ Rxf8 24.Bxh5 cxd4 25.Bxd4 Rf4 Threatening both Rxd4 and Bc5 as well as Rxh4. 26.Bf2 Nxe5 27.Bg3 Bc5+ 28.Kh1 Be3 29.Qe1 Nd3 30.Bxf4+ N5xf4 31.Bf3 Qb6 Black has some compensation, but I don't think it is enough.) 23.Bxd4 **C1)** 23...Nxc3?!

24.bxc3 Qe4? 25.Rd1! Ba3 (25...Nxe5? 26.Bxe5+ Qxe5 27.Qxd8+ Rxd8 28.Rxd8#) 26.Bf3 Qg6 27.Ba7+ Kxa7 28.Rxd7+ Rxd7 29.Qxd7+ Kb8 30.Qb7#; **C2)** 23...Rhg8 24.Bf3 Black's pieces are uncoordinated and it will take a while before Black can regroup. 24...Qc7 25.a3 Bxc3 26.bxc3±] **21...Bxc5+ 22.Kh2 Bc6** Protecting the b-pawn and preserving the bishop pair. **23.Nce4 Be3 24.Qe1 Bd4 25.a4 Rhg8** Both of us were in time pressure here. I had ideas of sacrificing on g3 to get rid of a powerful bishop and to get the e5-pawn, when Black has a dangerous attack. [25...Bxe5? **A)** 26.Rxd7? Bxg3+ 27.Qxg3 Bxd7 (27...Rxd7? 28.Nf7+-) 28.Nf7+ Ka7 29.Nxh8 Rxh8 30.axb5÷; **B)** 26.axb5 26...Bxb5 27.Nxb5 Qxb5 28.Rxd7 Rxd7 29.Bxe5+ White will be up two pieces after he takes on h8.: 25...Nxe5? 26.axb5 Now Black can't play 26...Bxb5 due to (26...Ba8 27.Nxc4 Qxb5 28.Nxe5 White is up a piece and will get more after Black moves his queen away.) 27.Rb7+ winning the queen.] **26.axb5 Bxb5 27.Nxb5 Qxb5 28.Nd6 Qc6 29.Rxd7?!** The exchange sacrifice is not necessary. [29.Bxc4? Rxc3! 30.Qxg3? Otherwise White is down a piece. 30...Bxe5 Pinning and winning the queen.; '29.Nxc4 Now the e-pawn is guarded. White is now threatening the a-pawn. 29...Ne3 Threatening both Nxc4 as well as Qxg2#. 30.Nxe3 **A)** 30...Rxc3 31.Kxg3 (31.Qxg3?? Bxe5) 31...Rg8+ 32.Kh2 (32.Kf2?? Qxg2#) 32...Nxe5; **B)** 30...Bxe3 With the idea that if 31.Qxa5? (Better is 31.Bf3 when White is much better.) 31...Rxc3! 32.Kxg3 Rg8+ 33.Kh3 Qxg2#] **29...Rxd7 30.Bxc4 Rdg7 31.Bb5 Qb6 32.Rc1 Rxc3 33.Qxc3 Rxc3 34.Rc8+ Ka7 35.Bc6** Threatening mate. **35...Qxc6!/?** I decided not to worry about the mate threat on a8. [35...Qxb2 Also wins. 36.Ra8+ Kb6 37.Nc4+ Kxc6 38.Nxb2 Rg4-+] **36.Rxc6 Bxe5 37.Nb5+ Kb7 38.Rxc6 Rxc2+** Both of us were in severe time pressure and I wasn't looking for more than one win. [38...Re3+ Also winning. 39.Kg1 Bh2+-+ Picking up the stray rook.] **39.Kxc2 Nf4+** This is when the Tournament Director called White's

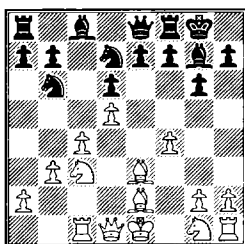
flag. I wasn't sure what was going on so I kept on playing.



[39...Nf4+ 40.Kf3 Nxe6 41.Ke4 This was when we stopped play, but it was shown by the TD that White had not completed 40 moves before his flag fell. Black is clearly winning. After 41...Bxb2, he is a piece and a pawn up. After this game, I had 3.5 out of 6. I won the next game and needed to beat IM Anthony Saidy in the eighth round to near qualification for an IM norm. However, I lost and then the last round I lost as well so I ended up with a mediocre score of 4.5 out of 9.] **0-1**

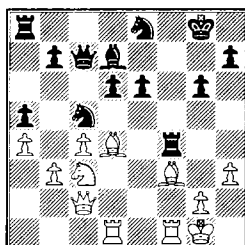
Bhat, V (2255)
Siegel, N (2240)
[B03] U.S. Cadet
Round 6, July 11, 1998

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.exd6 cxd6 [5...exd6!? This offers Black more chances.] **6.Nc3 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Rc1 0-0 9.b3** To guard the c-pawn. **9...Nc6** [9...e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.c5 N6d7 (12...Nd5? 13.Rd1 Be6 14.Bc4 White will win material.) 13.Bc4 Nc6 14.Nf3² Threatening Ng5.] **10.d5 Ne5 11.Be2 Qe8?! Black** wants to play ...e6. [11...e6 12.f4 Ned7 13.dxe6 Qe7! 14.Nb5 (14.exd7 Qxe3 Threatening Bc3+.) 14...Qxe6 15.Bd4 Qe4 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Qd4+ Qxd4 18.Nxd4² Mitkov-Baburin 1996 Olympiad] **12.f4 Ned7**



13.Nb5! Forcing Black's queen back

to d8. **13...Qd8 14.Nf3 Nf6 15.0-0 a6 16.Nc3 Nbd7 17.Nd4 Nc5 18.Bf3** Guarding against an invasion on d4. **18...Qa5 19.h3** I wanted to free up my queen and not have to worry about ...Ng4, snaring one of the bishops. **19...Bd7** Threatening ...b5 **20.a4** Black is very cramped. He has been deprived of both e6 and e5, breaks which Black tries for in this system. **20...Ne8 21.Qc2 Qb6** [21...Bxd4? 22.Bxd4 Bf5 23.Ne4²] **22.Nce2 e5** Black finally opens up. Otherwise White would play Rb1, preparing a5 and b4 with a clear advantage. **23.dxe6 fxe6 24.Rb1 Qc7** [24...Nf6? 25.a5! Qc7 (Of course not 25...Qxa5 which walks into the pawn fork 26.b4) 26.b4 Na4± Black's knight is misplaced and his central pawns are weak.] **25.Nc3 a5** Black must weaken his position further as b4, winning the knight, was threatened. **26.Rbd1** Threatening to anchor a knight in the newly created weakness at b5. **26...Bxd4 27.Bxd4 Rxf4?** Overlooking a nice combination.

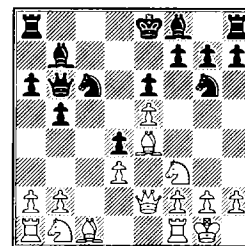


28.Nd5! exd5 29.Bxd5+ Be6 30.Rxf4 Bxd5 31.cxd5 Ng7 32.Bxc5 dxc5 33.d6 Qc6 34.Qc4+ Kh8 35.d7 Ne6 [35...Rd8 36.Rf8+! Rxf8 37.d8Q Rxd8 38.Rxd8+ Ne8 39.Qf7+- White's threat of mate by Rxe8 will force Black to give up his queen.] **36.d8Q+** Black resigns. This game won the second best game prize. I went on to tie for first with Dmitry Schneider with 5 out of 7. I won 3 and drew 4. [36.d8Q+ Rxd8 (36...Nxd8 37.Rf8+ Kg7 38.Rfxd8 wins.) 37.Rxd8+ Nxd8 38.Rf8+ Kg7 39.Rxd8 wins] **1-0**

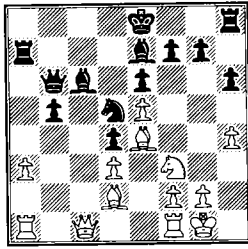
Bhat, V (2235)
Martinez, M (2270)
[B30] Denker Tournament
Round 5, August 7, 1998

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6

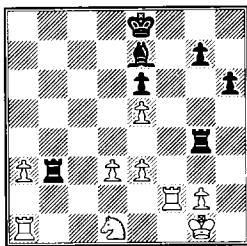
4.0-0 Nge7 5.c3 a6 6.Ba4 b5 7.Bc2 d5 8.e5 d4 9.Be4 Bb7 10.Qc2 Ng6 The knight doesn't belong here. [10...Nd5!? 11.cxd4 Nxd4?! 12.Nxd4 cxd4 13.d3² Bhat-Mainka NY Open 1998] **11.cxd4 cxd4 12.d3 Qb6!?** Black should develop his kingside before trying to support his d-pawn.



[12...Be7!? 13.Nbd2 Qb6 14.Nb3 Rd8² White has good play against the d-pawn and it is hard for Black to castle. 15.Bd2 0-0? 16.h4 Now the Black knight is in trouble. 16...Nxb4? 17.Nxb4 Bxb4 18.Qh5+] **13.h4 h6 14.Nbd2** [14.Bxg6?! fxg6 Even though Black has weaknesses, he does gain things from the trade. He now has undisputable control of the a8-h1 diagonal, an open f-file and the two bishops.] **14...Nf4** Otherwise Black will have to waste time to bring his knight back. [14...Bc5? 15.Nb3 Now the bishop is attacked.: 14...Be7? 15.h5 Nf8 16.Nb3±] **15.Qd1** [15.Qe1? Nb4! Black is threatening the d-pawn as well as Nc2, winning a rook.] **15...Rd8 16.Nb3 Nd5 17.Bd2 Be7 18.Qc1 Ba8** [18...0-0? Walking into an attack. 19.Bxh6! gxh6 20.Qxh6 f5 21.Qxe6+ Kh8 22.Bxd5+- White's has three extra pawns on top of a very strong attack. The immediate threat is Qh6#.] **19.a3 a5 20.Qe1 a4 21.Na5** Black's knight is guarding his d-pawn so if White can get rid of it, his d-pawn will likely fall later.. **21...Nb8** [21...Nxa5? 22.Bxa5; 21...0-0? 22.Nxc6 Qxc6 (22...Bxc6 23.Ba5) 23.Nxd4; 21...Rd7!? Black's best alternative. 22.b3!?! (22.Nxc6?! Bxc6=) 22...axb3 23.Nxb3 Black is a tempo up on the game continuation.] **22.b3 axb3 23.Nxb3 Nc6 24.Na5 Rd7** [24...Nb8 25.a4!? (25.Nb3=)] **25.Nxc6 Bxc6 26.Qc1** I wanted to try and take advantage of my lead in development. **26...Ra7?** Gives up a pawn for no reason.



[26...Bb7!? 27.Qb2 Bc5 28.Rfc1 0-0? 29.Ba5!±] **27.Nxd4 Kd7!** Black decides not to castle as it would waste more time. Now White's a-pawn will come under fire and his extra d-pawn is not of much use. **28.Nb3** [28.Nxc6 Qxc6 29.Qxc6+ Kxc6 This ending can't be lost for Black as the a-pawn is seriously weak. 30.Rfc1+ Kd7 31.Rcb1 Rb8!? 32.Rb3 Ra4©] **28...Ra4** [28...Rha8! My opponent seemed to have given up for no reason here and started playing quickly. This move seems natural as the a-pawn is now lost. 29.Bxd5 Bxd5 30.Be3 Qb7 31.Bxa7 Rxa7 32.Nc5+ Bxc5 33.Qxc5 Bxg2 Black has good compensation. Now the White king's position is weak due to the open a8-h1 diagonal. 34.Qd4+!? Ke8 35.Rfc1 Ra4! 36.Qd6 Bh1.] **29.Be3 Nxe3 30.Bxc6+ Qxc6 31.Qxc6+ Kxc6 32.fxe3 Rf8 33.Nd4+ Kd7?** I don't understand this move. [33...Kb6 It seems better to save the b-pawn. 34.Rfb1!? Ra5 White's doubled e-pawns, knight for bishop, and the weak a-pawn all give Black enough compensation to hold a draw despite the fact that he is down a pawn.] **34.Nxb5 Rb8** [34...Bxh4!?] **35.Nc3 Rxh4 36.Rxf7 Rg4** Threatening Rb2. **37.Nd1 Ke8 38.Rf2 Rb3?** Now Black's g4-rook is stuck on the kingside.



[38...Ra4 Black should get his rook out of the kingside before White locks it in with d4. 39.Rb2!? Rba8 Black has some compensation.]

39.d4 Bxa3 40.Rfa2 Be7 41.Rb2 Now Black must trade rooks and due to his badly placed rook, weak e-pawn and White's extra pawn, he is lost. **41...Rxb2** [41...Rd3?? 42.Nf2+!] **42.Nxb2 Rh4 43.Nc4 Rh5 44.Ra8+ Kf7 45.Ra7** [Not 45.Nd6+ Bxd6 46.exd6 Rd5 47.Ra7+ Kf6 48.d7 g5 Now White will lost his d-pawn to an eventual Ke7 when material would be even.(48...Ke7? 49.d8Q+ Kxd8 50.Rxg7+)] **45...Kf8 46.e4 Rh4 47.Ra8+ Kf7 48.Nd6+ Kg6** [48...Bxd6 49.exd6 Rxe4 50.d7 Rxd4 51.d8Q+!] **49.Re8 Bg5 50.Rxe6+ Kh7 51.g3** Black resigns. This was played in the last round and this propelled me into a tie for second place with Harutyun Akopyan. Since the first place winner, Florin Felecan, had graduated from high school, Harutyun and I received scholarships to the University of Texas at Dallas.[51.g3 Rg4 (51...Rh5 52.Kg2+-) 52.Kg2 h5 (52...Be3?? 53.Kf3) 53.Kf3+] **1-0**

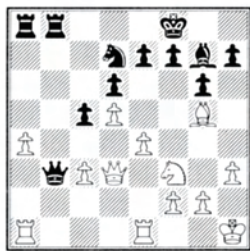
One Game Annotated by IM John Grefe

FM Craig Mar
Paul Gallegos
CalChess Season Opener
January 18, 1998
Benko Gambit

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 This is the Benko Gambit, where black gives up a pawn not for a lead in development or central control, but for long-term pressure against white's queenside. The open a- and b- files and the long diagonal are crucial to his strategy. **4.cxb5** White has a number of ways to decline the gambit here and on the next few moves, but accepting the pawn has always been far more popular. As the saying goes, "The best way to refute a gambit is to accept it." **4...a6 5.e3** When this move first became an attraction some years back, white scored very well with it. Nowadays it has been defanged and is not played much, at least by grandmasters. The main idea is to keep the pawn while shutting down black's queenside chances by maintaining aman at b5. **5...g6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.bxa6**

This is not in the spirit of the line beginning with 5.e3. Instead 8.a4 0-0 9.Ra3 (or 9.e4) is the main line. White will try to find as many as possible useful moves before bringing out his king's bishop, so that he can save a tempo if he has to recapture on b5. The text makes black's life easy, but chances remain about equal. **8...0-0 9.e4 Nbd7 10.h3 Qb6 10...Qa5 11.Bd2 Bxa6 (11...Qb4 12.Qc2, etc.) 12.Bxa6 Qxa6 13.Qe2 Rfb8 14.Qxa6** (not 14.b3 Rxb3) Rxa6 15.Rb1 c4 with good play for the pawn was another plausible line. **11.Be2 Bxa6 12.0-0 Rfb8** Black has achieved a thematic Benko Gambit setup, with his major pieces and king's bishop all bearing down on white's queenside (an option would have been to deploy the queen at a5). The rest of the game is a good example of how black can eventually cash in on his extremely active pieces even though white's position is solid. Mar drifts from move to move without a plan, while Gallegos steadily increases the pressure. **13.Re1 Ne8** Unleashing the fire-breathing monster at g7, while heading for b5. **14.Bxa6 Rxa6 15.Qe2** Better was 15.Re2, with the idea of gaining active counterplay in the plausible line 15... Nc7 16.Bf4 Nb5 17.Nxb5 Qxb5 18.e5! dxe5 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.Bxe5 Bxe5 21.Rxe5 Qxb2 22.Rxe7 Rxa2?! (22...c4 23.d6 is sharp and unclear) 23.Rxa2 Qxa2 24.Qf3. **15...Nc7 16.Kh1?! Nb5!** An unusual feature of this gambit is that black need not fear the endgame-even without queens his pressure often continues unabated. **17.Qd3** Taking on b5 was better. **17...Raa8** 17...Nd4! would have given black a clear plus, though even after the text move white has a hard life. **18.Bg5** White's best chance is to stir up trouble. **18...Kf8** 18...Nxc3!? 19.bxc3 Qb2 was also possible, and maybe stronger. **19.a4** White loses patience. With 19.Bd2 he's still fighting, whereas the text just creates more weaknesses. **19...Nxc3?!** This looks tempting, but 19...Nd4! was better, e.g., 20.Nxd4 (20.Rab1 c4! 21.Qxc4 declining the pawn is not much better Nxf3 22.gxf3 Qxf2, with a strong initiative for black) 20...cxd4 21.Nb5 Nc5 22.Qc4 Nxa4!,

etc.. 20.bxc3 Qb3



It looks like black will regain his pawn while keeping a grip on the position, but he has overlooked a spectacular hidden saving clause for his opponent. **21.Rac1?** White can hardly be blamed for not finding the line 21.Rec1! Rxa4 (21...h6 22.Nd2! Qb2 23.Rab1 Qa3 24.Ra1 equal) 22.Nd2 Qb2 (forced) 23.Rab1 Qa3 24.Rxb8+ Nxb8 25.Qb5!! Qxc1+ (on 25...Ra8 white has 26.Qb7 or 26.Nc4) 26.Kh2 Be5+ (26...f6 27.Qxb8+! Kf7 28.Qc8 fxc5 29.Qe6+ leads to perpetual check, and is black's safest.) 27.f4! (27.g3? Kg7! (and not 27...f6? 28.Bh6+ +-)) 28.Qxa4 h6 29.Be3 Bxc3 is good for black). After 27. f4! the position remains tricky. White threatens mate beginning with 28.Bh6!, and black must tread carefully 27...Kg7 is probably best. If 27...f6 28.Qxb8+ Kg7? 29.Bh6+! Kxh6 30.Qf8+ Kh5 31.g4+ Kh4 32.Nf3 or 32 Qh6 mate, shows how precarious the black king's situation is. After the move in the game black relentlessly infiltrates the white position. **21...Qxa4 22.Bf4 Rb2 23.Nd2 Qa2 24.Qe3 Ne5 25.Bxe5 Bxe5 26.Re2 Kg8 27.f4 Bg7 28.Qd3 Bh6 29.Rf1 Rc2 30.Rff2 Ra3 31.Nc4 Rxe2 32.Rxe2 Qa1+ 33.Kh2 Bxf4+ 34.g3 Rxc3 0-1**

To The Editor,
I just received the summer issue of California Chess Journal and the special kids issue is great! Someone at our local club commented that "chess is dead" and I thought he's just not looking at what's happening with scholastic members.
Barbara A. McCaleb
Editor: Blush . . .

Fierce Fighting In Fresno San Joaquin Championship May 16-17

Selected and Lightly Annotated
by Allan Fifiel

Karr,Bill (1913)
Gay,David (1665)
[B01] Open
Round 1

After grabbing a few pawns early on, Bill never seems to be able to return the loot so he can castle. A nice rook sacrifice by David on move 19 keeps Bill's king in the middle. **1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Bg4 4.f3 Bf5 5.c4 e6 6.dxe6 Bb4+ 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Be3 Bxe6 9.Bd3 Re8 10.Qd2 Nc6 11.Nge2 Qe7 12.Bg5 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Bxc4+ 14.Kf2 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 Qc5 16.Be3 Rad8 17.Nce2 Nd5 18.Bd2 Bxd2 19.Qxd2 Rxe2+ !** Sacs a rook to keep the white king stranded in the center. **20.Kxe2 Nf4+ 21.Qxf4 Rxd4 22.Qc1 Rc4 23.Rd1 Rc2+ 24.Qxc2 Qxc2+ 25.Rd2 Qc4+ 26.Kf2 Qc5+ 27.Ke2 Qc4+ 1/2-1/2**

Overton,Owen (1953)
Browne,Walter (2616)
[A30] Open
Round 2

Fresno regular Owen Overton puts up a fierce fight against GM Browne. **1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 b6 3.Bg2 Bb7 4.0-0 Nf6 5.c4 e6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.e3 0-0 8.d4 d5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.b3 Na6 11.Bb2 Re8 12.Rc1 Ne4 13.Nd2 Bf6 14.Ndxe4 dxe4 15.Ne2 Nb4 16.a3 Nd3 17.Rb1 Nxb2 18.Rxb2 Qd6 19.a4 Rac8 20.Rd2 c4 21.bxc4 Rxc4 22.Ra2 Bd5 23.Ra1 Bg5 24.Qb1 Rb4 25.Qc2 Bc4 26.Rfc1 Bd3 27.Qd2 a5 28.Rc3 h5 29.Qd1 g6 30.Nc1 Rc4 31.Rxc4 Bxc4 32.Qc2 Bd5 33.Na2 Qa3 34.Nc1 Qxa1 0-1**

Thomas,Bill (1427)
Lopez,Martha (1096)
[B50] Reserve
Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4 e6 4.0-0 Nf6 5.d3 Nc6 6.a3 g6 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bh6?! A type of move



Chris Pascal ready for battle

often played by beginners in these types of positions with a view to launching a kingside attack. However white has lost tempo with two moves of the queen bishop and the black king is quite safe on g7 when white exchanges off his black squared bishop. **9...d5 10.exd5 exd5 11.Ba2 Re8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Nc3 Ne5 14.Nxe5 Rxe5 15.Rfe1 Rxe1+?!** Bad replacement as the black rook disappears forever from e5 while the white rook is reborn on e1. **16.Rxe1 Be6 17.Ne2 Qc7 18.Nf4 Re8 19.Nxe6+ Rxe6 20.Rxe6?** White should avoid exchanges with his silly looking bishop on a2 **20...fxe6 21.Qe3 Qd6 22.g3 b6 23.f4 a5 24.h3 Kf7 25.Qe5??** White should try to keep queens on the board as the black knight is clearly superior to the sad bishop on a2. **25...Qxe5 26.fxe5 Nd7 27.Kf2 Nxe5 28.Ke3 Kf6 29.c3 h6 30.d4 cxd4+ 31.cxd4 Nc6 32.Bb3 b5 33.Bc2 Ne7 34.g4 e5 35.h4 e4 36.Bd1 h5 37.Be2 hxg4 38.Bxg4 Nf5+ 39.Bxf5 Kxf5 40.b4 a4 41.Kf2 Kg4 0-1**

Grover,Tim (1100)
Wolf,Alan (1432)
[B10] Reserve
Round 3

A nice clean win by Tim and a 332

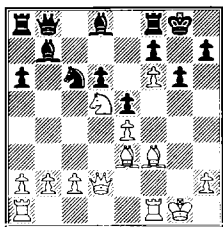
Editor's Choice

by
Allan Fifield

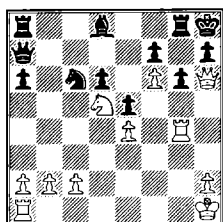
As a Senior Tournament Director, I see a lot of chess games in a typical year. Most games I can't remember ten seconds after the scoresheets are signed. But every once in a while a TD will observe a truly memorable game. The following contest fascinated me as it was played in San Luis Obispo and it continues to fascinate me to this day. Black makes some second rate moves, White goes nuts chucking a whole piece with check (for Black) for faster access to certain squares, and suddenly it's mate everywhere. See for yourself . . .

Vandenouden, R (1520)
Nunez, T (1737)
[B85] San Luis Obispo
August 98, Round 5

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 e6 7.Be2
Be7 8.Bf3 0-0 9.0-0 Qc7 10.f5 e5
11.Nde2 Nc6 12.Be3 b5 13.g4 b4
14.g5 bxc3 15.gxf6 Bxf6 16.Nxc3
Qb8 17.Nd5 Bd8 18.Qd2 Bb7 19.f6
g6



20.Ba7 Qxa7+ White chucks a whole piece to get access by his queen to h6 one move quicker and to force the black queen one more farther away from the kingside at a7 and white gives up a check in the process. After a few moves black is shocked to discover that . . . 21.Kh1 Kh8 22.Qh6 Rg8 23.Rg1 Bc8 24.Rg3 Be6 25.Bg4 Bxg4 26.Rxg4



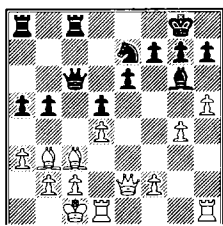
. . . that White has mate everywhere with perhaps the most fun being 26...Bxf6 27.Nxf6 Rg7 28.Rh4 Rag8 29.Qxh7+ Rxh7 30.Rxh7#. 26...g5 27.Rxg5 Rxg5 28.Qxg5 Bxf6 29.Qxf6+ Kg8 30.Rg1+ Qxg1+ 31.Kxg1 Nd4 32.Ne7+ 1-0

33rd Sunnyvale Class Championships

Aug 16-17, 1997
Brilliancy Prize Games

Romulo Fuentes (2232)
Emmanuel Perez (2375)
Round 1[B11]

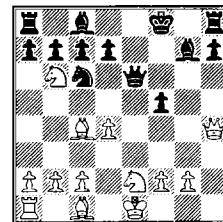
1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 Bg4
4.h3 Bh5 5.exd5 cxd5 6.g4 Bg6
7.Bb5+ Nc6 8.Ne5 Qd6 9.d4 a6
10.Ba4 b5 11.Nxc6 Qxc6 12.Bb3
e6 13.Qe2 Bb4 14.Bd2 Ne7 15.0-0
0-0 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 a5 17.a3 0-0
18.h4 Rfc8 19.h5



19...Bxc2 20.Qxc2 Qb6 21.h6 g6
22.Kb1 b4 23.Rh3 bxc3 24.Rxc3
Rxc3 25.Qxc3 Rc8 26.Qf3 f5
27.gxf5 Nxf5 28.Bc2 Rxc2
29.Kxc2 Nxd4+ 30.Rxd4 Qxd4
31.b3 Qc5+ 32.Kb2 Qf8 33.Qe3
Qf6+ 34.Kc2 d4 35.Qd2 Qf5+
36.Kd1 Qb1+ 37.Ke2 Qe4+ 38.Kd1
Qd5 39.b4 axb4 40.axb4 e5
41.Qg5 Kf7 42.Qg4 Qb3+ 43.Ke2
Qxb4 44.Qd7+ Qe7 45.Qd5+ Kf6
46.Qg8 g5 0-1

Tim Kokesh (2074)
Steve Robinson (1843)
Round 2[A80]

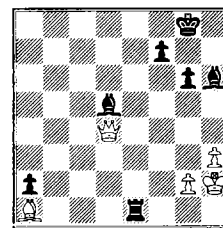
1.d4 f5 2.Nc3 g6 3.h4 Nf6 4.h5
Nxb5 5.Rxb5 gxh5 6.e4 Bg7 7.Bc4
e6 8.Qxh5+ Kf8 9.exf5 Qe8
10.Qh4 exf5+ 11.Nge2 Nc6 12.Nd5
Qe6 13.Nb6



13... Qd6 14.Qh5 Nd8 15.Qxf5+
Ke8 16.Qh5+ Kf8 17.Qf3+ Ke8
18.Nxa8 b5 19.Bb3 Bb7 20.Qh5+
Ke7 21.Bf4 Qg6 22.Qc5+ d6
23.Qxc7+ Ke8 24.Bxd6 Bf6 25.0-0
0-0 Bxa8 26.Re1 Qe4 27.Kd2 Be7
28.Bxe7 1-0

Christine Jensen (1916)
Frank Feng (1984)
Round 2[A57]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5
4.cxb5 a6 5.b6 Qxb6 6.Nc3 d6 7.e4
Nbd7 8.Nf3 g6 9.Be2 Bg7 10.0-0
0-0 11.Nd2 Ne5 12.Kh1 c4
13.Nxc4 Nxc4 14.Bxc4 Ng4
15.Qe2 Bd4 16.Nd1 Qc5 17.Bd2
Ne5 18.Bb3 a5 19.Rc1 Qb6 20.Ne3
a4 21.Bc4 Bxb2 22.Rc2 a3 23.f4
Nxc4 24.Nxc4 Qb5 25.Qf3 Ba6
26.Re1 Qxc4 27.Rxc4 Bxc4 28.e5
Bxa2 29.exd6 exd6 30.Bb4 Bc4
31.Qf2 Bxd5 32.Bxd6 Rfc8 33.f5
Rc1 34.Rxc1 Bxc1 35.Be5 a2
36.Ba1 Re8 37.h3 Bh6 38.fxg6
hxg6 39.Qd4 Re1+ 40.Kh2



40...Rxa1 41.Qxd5 Rh1+ 42.Kxh1
a1Q+ 43.Kh2 Bf4+ 44.g3 Qb2+
45.Qg2 Qxg2+ 46.Kxg2 Bd6 47.h4
Kg7 0-1

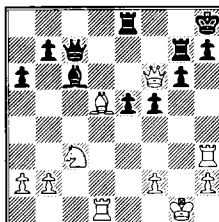
Todd McFarren (1735)
Ursula Foster (1690)
Round 1[C17]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.e5 c5 5.f4 Ne7 6.Nf3 Nbc6 7.Be3
Nf5 8.Bf2 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4
10.Bxd4 Qh4+ 11.g3 Nxg3 12.Bf2
Qxf4 13.Bxg3 Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 Qe3+
15.Be2 Qxc3+ 16.Kf2 Bd7 17.Rb1

Bc6 18.Bd3 h5 19.Rb3 Qc5+
 20.Ke2 d4 21.Rf1 h4 22.Bf4 g5
 23.Qd2 Rg8 24.Rg1 0-0-0 25.Bxg5
 Qxe5+ 26.Kf1 f6 27.Bxh4 Rxg1+
 28.Kxg1 Qd5 29.Qe2 Qh1+ 30.Kf2
 Qxh2+ 31.Kf1 Qxh4 32.Qxe6+ Bd7
 33.Qc4+ Kb8 34.Be2 Bh3+ 35.Kg1
 Qg5+ 36.Kf2 Qg2+ 37.Ke1 Re8
 38.Kd1 Rxe2 39.Rxb7+ Kxb7
 40.Qb5+ Kc7 41.Qc4+ Kd6
 42.Qxd4+ Qd5 43.Qxd5+ Kxd5
 44.Kxe2 f5 45.Ke3 Kc4 46.Kd2 a5
 47.a3 a4 48.c3 Kb3 49.Kd3 Kxa3
 50.Kc2 f4 51.c4 f3 0-1

Eric Huang (1213)
 Shane Atwell (1422)
 Round 2 [B22]

cxd4 5.cxd4 Nxd5 6.Nf3 e6 7.Bd3
 Be7 8.0-0 Nd7 9.Nc3 N7f6 10.Re1
 0-0 11.Bg5 a6 12.Ne5 Nd7
 13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Re3 Qc7 15.Qg4
 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Nf5 17.Qe4 Bd7
 18.Rh3 Bc6 19.Qf4 g6 20.g4 f6
 21.gxf5 fxe5 22.Qg5 exf5 23.Bc4+
 Kh8 24.Bd5 Rae8 25.Rd1 Rd8
 26.Qh6 Rfe8 27.Qh4 Rd7 28.Qf6+
 Rg7



1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Nf6 4.d4 29.Rxh7+ Kxh7 30.Qh4 mate

Cristina Marcias (946)
 Michael Lane (1270)
 Round 1 [C40]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5
 d5 5.Be2 Nf6 6.Ng4 Bc5 7.0-0 0-0
 8.c3 Nxc4 9.Bxc4 Rxf2 10.Rxf2
 Bxf2+ 11.Kxf2 Qh4+ 12.Kg1 Qxc4
 13.Qf1 Qf5 14.Qe2 Nc6 15.Na3
 Ne5 16.Nc2 Nd3 17.Ne3 Qg5 18.b4
 c6 19.Rb1 Nf4 20.Qf2 Nh3+
 21.Kf1 Nxf2 22.Kxf2 Bf5 23.Kg1
 h5 24.Ba3 h4 25.Rf1 Rf8 26.Rf2
 b5 27.Bb2 h3 28.Bc1 g6 29.Bb2
 Qh4 30.a3 hxg2 31.Nxc2 Qg4
 32.Bc1 Kg7 33.Bb2 Qd1+ 34.Rf1
 Qe2 35.Ba1 Bh3 36.c4+ d4
 37.Rxf8 Qxc2 mate

VISALIA FALL PICNIC

October 3, 1998
 Blaine Park, Visalia



The happy prize winners in the Beginner Section. Undeafated first place Zachary Lee of Hanford is in the back row on the extreme left. Second place Matt Greener of Strathmore is second from right in the back row.

Class	Place	Name	Score
Quad #1	1st-2nd	Maric Milenko	2.0 - 1.0
	1st-2nd	Alex Thompson	2.0 - 1.0
Quad #2	1st-2nd	Keith Yost	2.0 - 1.0
	1st-2nd	Chris Pascal	2.0 - 1.0
Quad #3	1st	Chris Kaeff	3.0 - 0.0
Beginners	1st	Zachary Lee	5.0 - 0.0
	2nd-3rd	Matt Greener	4.0 - 1.0
	2nd-3rd	Chris Alfred	4.0 - 1.0

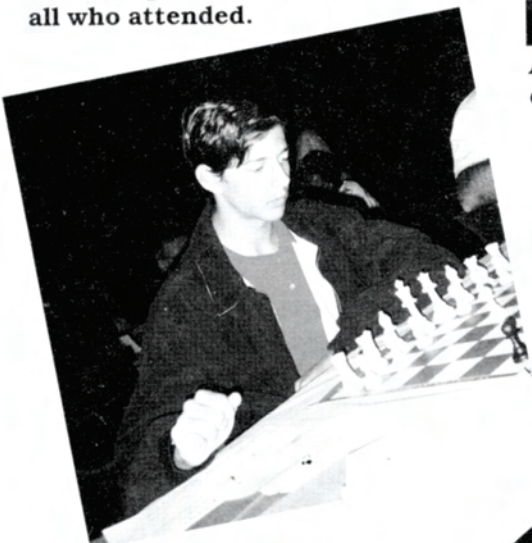
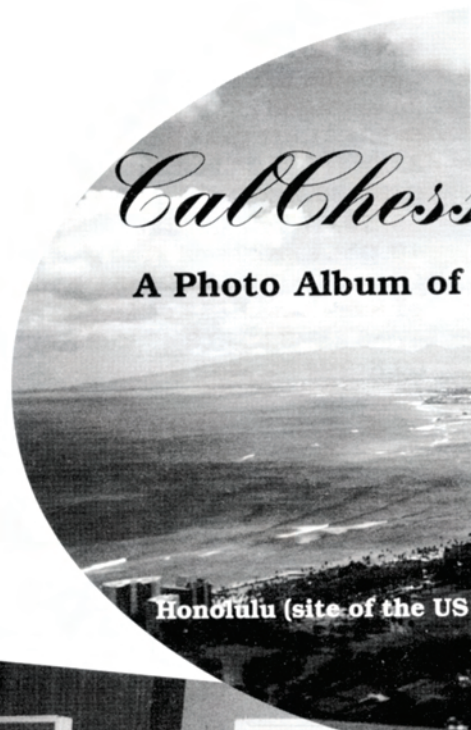
A most beautiful day in Blaine Park was enjoyed by 41 players and their families. Directed by Allan Fifield and Darren Russell.



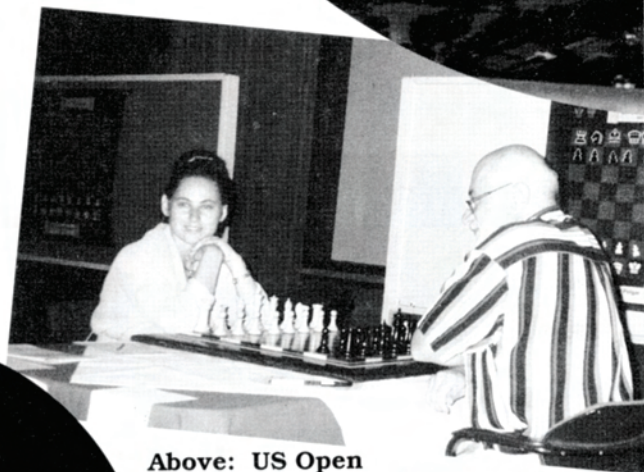
Above: The hard work of US Open organizer Eric Schiller created special memories for all who attended.



Above: TD Carolyn Withgitt on duty on the tournament floor.



Above: Young NorCal master David Pruess of Berkeley had a great time

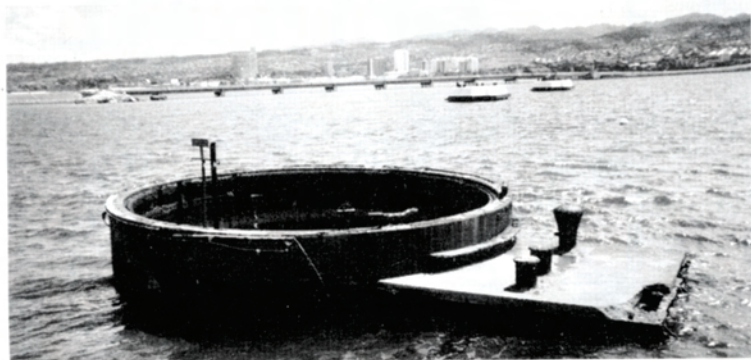


Above: US Open co-winners Judith Polgar and Boris Gulko face off late in the tournament.

Right: A big Hawaiian smile from young Marie Mont-Reynard

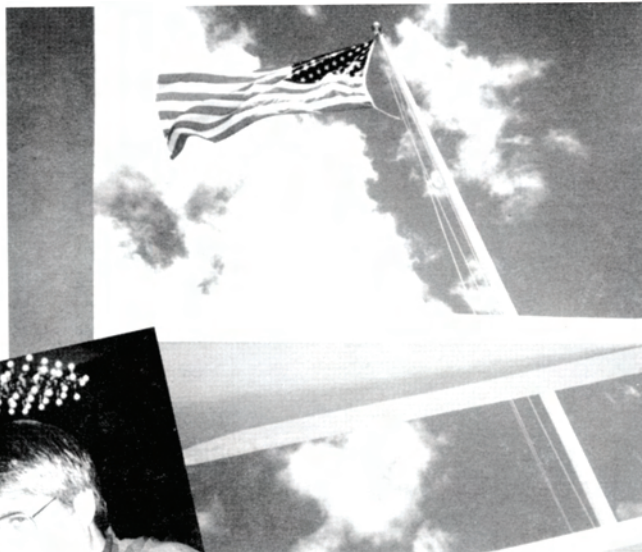


Below: The shattered remains of the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor



CalChess master Bill Orton hangs tough under any conditions

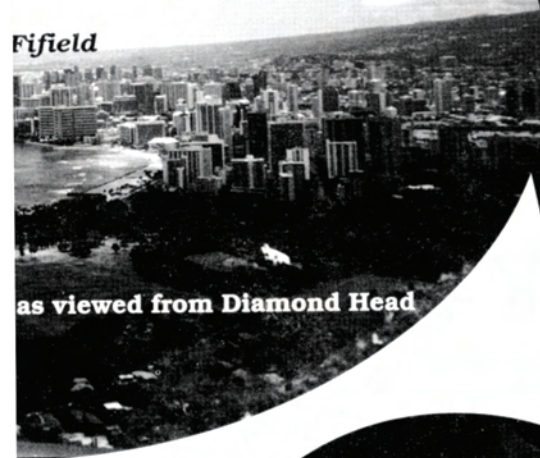
Our flag flies over the
USS Arizona Memorial



In Paradise

1998 US Open in Hawaii

Honolulu



as viewed from Diamond Head



Left: Mike Cavallo,
Executive Director of
the USCF



Left: CalChess
Vice President
Hans Pochsmann
considers defect-
ing to Hawaii



Right: 1999 US Open organizer
Jerry Weikel of Reno came to
observe and play



Mike Goodall is relaxed after another
day in Paradise

A magical beach near Kona



THE 32nd ANNUAL 1998 SUNNYVALE CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

August 15-16, 1998

166 players

Directors: Jim Hurt and Ted Yudacufski
Computer Programmer: "PairingPro" by Robert Massey

Class	Place	Player	Prize	Score
OPEN	1 - 2	Dimitry Ziberstein 2394 Fremont, CA	\$400	3.5 - 1.5
	1 - 2	Vinay Bhat 2329 San Jose, CA	\$400	3.5 - 1.5
	3 - 4	Guillermo, Rey 2443 San Francisco, CA	\$100	3.0 - 1.0
	3 - 4	Emmanuel Perez 2387 Concord, CA	\$100	3.0 - 1.0
EXPERT	1st	Bela Evans 2198 San Francisco, CA	\$400	3.5 - 0.5
	2 - 4	Rico Salimbagat 2181 San Pablo, CA	\$133	3.0 - 1.0
	2 - 4	Agnis Kaugars 2091 Alameda, CA	\$133	3.0 - 1.0
	2 - 4	Eugene Lubarsky 2000 San Jose, CA	\$133	3.0 - 1.0
A	1st	Richard Roubal 1932 San Jose, CA	\$350	4.0 - 0.0
	2 - 3	Rod McCalley 18925 Palo Alto, CA	\$175	3.5 - 0.5
	2 - 3	Ludwig Arndt 1840 San Jose, CA	\$175	3.5 - 0.5
B	1 - 3	Latrael Eagles 1795 Oakland, CA	\$200	3.5 - 0.5
	1 - 3	Maximo Fajarado 1688 Vallejo, CA	\$200	3.5 - 0.5
	1 - 3	Ali Shahidehfar 1542 San Jose, CA	\$200	3.5 - 0.5
C	1st	Erik De La Iglesia 1261 Mountain View, CA	\$200	4.0 - 0.0
	2nd	Kofi Tatum 1378 Oakland, CA	\$120	3.5 - 0.5
D	1 - 2	Andrew Iannacone 1397 San Jose, CA	\$50	3.5 - 0.5
	1 - 2	Jonas Mutuc 1277 San Jose, CA	\$50	3.5 - 0.5
E	1 - 5	Len Kozhukh 1176 Palo Alto, CA	\$20	3.0 - 1.0
	1 - 5	Wolfgang Behm 1168 Santa Clara, CA	\$20	3.0 - 1.0
	1 - 5	Alex Labeire 1159 La Honda, CA	\$20	3.0 - 1.0
	1 - 5	Franklin Kaplan 1079 Lakespur, CA	\$20	3.0 - 1.0
	1 - 5	Lorraine Abramson 1073 San Jose, CA	\$20	3.0 - 1.0
F	1 - 3	Ben Mlynash 991 Mountain View, CA	\$33	2.0 - 2.0
	1 - 3	Diana Dubel 902 San Jose, CA	\$33	2.0 - 2.0
	1 - 3	Raymond Canivel 747 San Jose, CA	\$33	2.0 - 2.0
UNR	1st	Joey Garcia Walnut Creek, CA	\$100	4.0 - 0.0



THE THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL 1998 LERA THANKSGIVING CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS



DATE Saturday and Sunday, November 14th & 15th

PLACE LERA Auditorium B/160, corner of Mathilda Ave. & Java St., Sunnyvale (take Bayshore Freeway to the North Mathilda offramp; then go seven blocks north on Mathilda to Java St; B/160 is on the far left corner; 408/747-9167)

DIRECTOR Jim Hurt, assisted by Ted Yudacufski (National Tournament Director) of Monterey.

TYPE Four round Swiss with eight separate divisions, each division with its own prizes. In pairing an odd numbered group, we promote a high player from the next highest group to yield an even number in the odd numbered group.

PRIZES

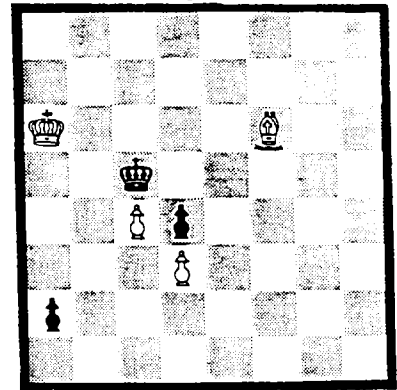
Division:	Open	Expert	A	B	C	D	E	F	Unrated
First Prize:	\$500	\$400	\$350	\$300	\$200	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Second Prize:	\$300	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$120				
Third Prize:	\$200	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$ 80				



The prize fund is based on 160 paid entries. If the paid entries exceed 160 players, then the prize fund will be increased and if the paid entries are less than 160 the prize fund will be decreased. A player can play up only one class; exception: an unrated player can play up only into the Open division. A total of eight brilliancy prizes may be awarded, one for each division. Junior prizes may be awarded.

SCHEDULE

ITEM	STARTING TIME	TIME CONTROL
Registration	8 to 9:30 am Saturday	30 moves in 90 minutes,
Round One	10:30 am Saturday	30 moves in 60 minutes,
Round Two	4:00 pm Saturday	10 moves in 10 minutes
Round Three	9:30 am Sunday	thereafter
Round Four	3:00 pm Sunday	



EITHER TO PLAY FIRST AND WIN

ENTRY FEES Mail: The entry fee for the Open or Expert division is \$40, for the A or B division is \$35, and for the C, D, E or Unrated division is \$30, if mailed by November 10th. If paid Saturday morning, all entry fees will be \$5 more. The entry fee for K through 6th Graders who have ratings below 1100 points is \$15, and they may play in a separate division.



CONDITIONS In order to start the first round on time, we are incorporating a new policy: **EITHER TO PLAY FIRST AND WIN**
You must be at the registration desk prior to 9:30 am in order to be paired in the first round. If you arrive after 9:30 am, you will either get a 1/2 point bye, or be paired against another late entry. 1/2 Point Byes are available. All players must be USCF members or become members at the tournament. CCA ratings may be used at the discretion of the tournament director.
For more information, call Jim Hurt (970) 285-7041 or after November 6th call Ken Stone (408) 629-5530.



SNACK BAR Food and refreshments available at the LERA snack bar.

11/98

ENTRY FORM

Name _____ Phone _____ USCF Rating _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Name & Date of the last tournament you played in: _____ Your Age: _____

USCF Identity Number _____ Exp. Date _____ USCF dues: \$35.00 - adult , \$15 - under 20

Entry Fee*: The Open or Expert division is \$40.00, the A or B division is \$35.00, and the C, D, E, or Unrated Division is \$30.00 (Circle your division).
*If mailed by November 10th, otherwise entry fees are \$5 more. Make check payable to LERA Chess Club.

Mail to: Jim Hurt, LERA Chess Club, P.O. Box 60451, Sunnyvale, CA 94088 Amount of check _____

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE TO NOVEMBER 14th & 15th

Brilliancy Prize Games from 32nd LERA Sunnyvale Class

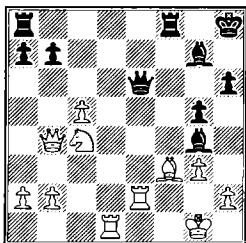
August 15th-16th, 1998

Grijalva,R (1515)
Rey,G (2443)
Round 2

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qc7
7.Qg4 f5 8.Qg3 cxd4 9.cxd4 Ne7
10.c3 0-0 11.h4 b6 12.h5 Ba6
13.Ne2 Bxe2 14.Bxe2 Nbc6 15.h6
g6 16.Bg5 Rac8 17.Ba6 Rb8
18.Be2 Rf7 19.0-0 Na5 20.Bf6 Nc4
21.Qg5 Rbf8 22.Bxc4 dxc4
23.Bxe7 Rxe7 24.Rad1 Rd7
25.Rfe1 Rd5 26.Kf1 Qd7 27.Rb1
Qd8 28.Qxd8 Rfxd8 29.Rb4 Rc8
30.Ra4 a5 31.Rb1 Rc6 32.f4 Kf7
33.Kf2 Ke7 34.Kg3 Kd7 35.Kh4
Kc7 36.Kg5 Kb7 37.Kf6 Ka6
38.Rxc4 Rxc4 39.Kxe6 Rd8 40.d5
Kb7 41.d6 Kc6 42.Ke7 Rd7+ 1/2-1/2
Note: The prize for this game (928
point rating difference!) was
awarded to Mr. Grijalva.

Whitaker,R (2000)
Evans,B (2198)
Round 1

1.c4 f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 e5 4.Bg2
g6 5.d3 Bg7 6.Nf3 d6 7.Qb3 c6
8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Bg5 h6 10.Be3 g5
11.Rad1 0-0 12.c5+ d5 13.d4 f4
14.dxe5 fxe3 15.exf6 exf2+
16.Rxf2 Nxf6 17.e4 Kh8 18.exd5
cxd5 19.Ne5 Qe8 20.Re2 Ne4
21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Nc4 Qc6 23.Qb4
Bg4 24.Bxe4 Qe6 25.Bf3

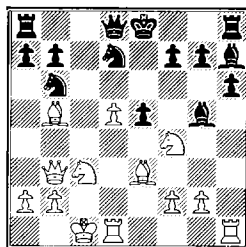


25. Qxe2 26.Bxe2 Bxe2 27.Rd7

Rf1+ 28.Kg2 Raf8 29.Nd2 R8f2+
30.Kh3 g4+ 31.Qxg4 Bxg4+
32.Kxg4 Rd1 33.Rxb7 Rdx2
34.b4 Rxa2 35.b5 Rfc2 36.c6 Kh7
37.h4 Ra4+ 38.Kf5 a6 39.bxa6
Rxa6 40.c7 Rc5+ 0-1

Krasnov,S (1912)
Bauer,T (1813)
Round 1

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 d5 3.cxd5 Nxd5
4.Nc3 Bf5 5.Qb3 Nb6 6.d4 c6
7.Ng5 e6 8.e4 Bg6 9.Be3 Be7
10.h4 h6 11.Nh3 Bxh4 12.Nf4 Bh7
13.0-0-0 Bg5 14.d5 cxd5 15.exd5
e5 16.Bb5+ N8d7



17.Ne6 Bxe3+ 18.fxe3 fxe6
19.dxe6 Qg5 20.Bxd7+ Nxd7
21.exd7+ Ke7 22.Nd5+ Kxd7
23.Qxb7+ Ke6 24.Nc7+ Kf6
25.Qc6+ 1-0

Shahidehfar,A (1542)
Sanchez-Chopitea,L (1765)
Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 g6 5.Bc4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6
7.Nc3 0-0 8.f3 a6 9.Qd2 Re8 10.0-0
0-0 Ne5 11.Bb3 b5 12.Bh6 Bh8
13.g4 Nc4 14.Qg5 d6 15.h4 Qb6
16.h5 Nxh5 17.gxh5 Bxd4
18.hxg6 Be3+ 19.Qxe3 Nxe3
20.gxf7+ 1-0

Huang,E (1200)
Ayala,N (1510)
Round 2

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Bc4
cxb2 5.Bxb2 d5 6.Bxd5 Bb4+
7.Nc3 Bxc3+ 8.Bxc3 Nf6 9.Nf3 0-0
10.0-0 Nxd5 11.exd5 Nd7
12.Re1 Nf6 13.Qd4 Qxd5 14.Qh4
Ne8 15.Rad1 Qc6 16.Bb4 Nd6
17.Re5 Qc2 18.Rde1 Be6 19.Rh5
Rfc8 20.Bd2 Bxa2 21.Bh6 Nf5
22.Qg4 Nxh6 23.Rxh6 Qc4 24.Qg5
Qd5 25.Re5 Qd8 26.Qg3 f6 27.Re1
c5 28.Rh5 b5 29.Nh4 Qd2 30.f3
Re8 31.Rf1 Qd4+ 32.Kh1 Qc4
33.Kg1 Rad8 34.Nf5 Rd7 35.Qh3
Rd2 36.Rxh7 Qxf1+ 37.Kxf1 Bc4+
38.Kg1 Re1# 0-1

Read All About It

Visit our sites on the World Wide Web
at their new addresses:

<http://calchess.webjump.com>

<http://calchess.webjump.com/scholastics.html>

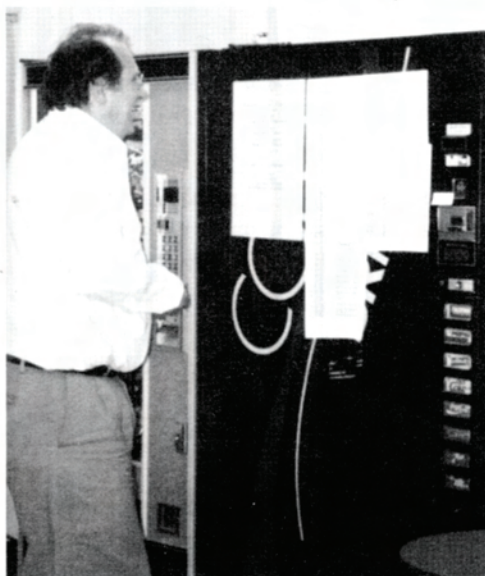
Weekend Warriors in Sacramento

Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #1

Report and Photos by John McCumiskey

PRIZE WINNERS

		Score	Prize
1st Place	Adrian Keatinge-Clay	5-0	\$225
2nd Place	Kenan Zildzic	4.5-0.5	\$150
3rd Place	Michael Aigner, James MacFarland, & Robert Sferra	4-1	\$33 ea
1600-2000	1st Place: David Steel	4-1	\$90
	2nd Place: Duane Catania & Mike Schick	3.5-1.5	\$28 ea
1300-1599	1st Place: Steve Bickford & Dietmar Mayer	3-2	\$73 ea
U1300 & Unrated	1st Place: Jeremy Tempkin	2.5-2.5	\$90
	2nd Place: Chuck Coleman, Michael Fischer & Daniel Schwarz	2-3	\$18 ea
Juniors	1st Place Ricky Grijalva	2.5-2.5	\$35



A tournament always need two things: A place to post pairings and wall charts and vending machines. Zoran Lazetich reviews the wall chart while contemplating his choice of soft drink.

The Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #1 on August 28-29 was contested at the facilities of The Learning Exchange. Of the 43 players in this five round open swiss, seven were masters (!!) making the largest showing of any class of players in the event!! When the smoke cleared, Adrian Keatinge-Clay of Stanford emerged with the only perfect score of 5-0. Congratulations, Adrian!

In a tough game in Round 4, tournament winner Adrian Keatinge-Clay sacrifices a pawn to Sacramento favorite James MacFarland to mobilize his forces on the queenside.



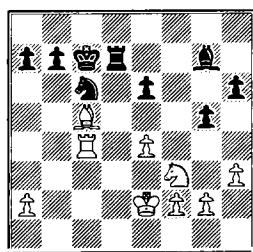
Cain Garret in a contemplative state.



Adrian Keatinge-Clay awaits his opponent prior to the 5th Round

James MacFarland (2232)
Adrian Keatinge-Clay (2236)
Grunfeld Defense D85

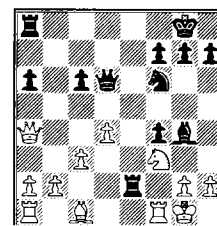
1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. c4 Bg7 4. Nc3 d5 5. cxd5 Nxd5 6. e4 Nxc3 7. bxc3 0-0 8. Be3 c5 9. Qd2 Qa5 10. Rc1 Bg4 11. Ng5 cxd4 12. cxd4 Qxd2+ 13. Kxd2 Nc6 14. h3 Bc8 15. d5 Rd8 16. Bc4 h6 17. Nf3 e6 18. Ke2 exd5 19. Bxd5 Be6 20. Bxe6 fxe6 21. Rc4 Rd7 22. Rd1 Rad8 23. Rxd7 Rxd7 24. Nh4 g5 25. Nf3 Kf7 26. Bd2 Ke7 27. Be3 Kd6 28. Bc5+ Kc7



29. Bxa7 b6 30. Bb8+ Kb7 31. Bg3 b5 32. Rc1 Kb6 33. Rd1 Ra7 34. Rd2 e5 35. Rb2 Ra5 36. Nd2 Nb4 37. a3 Nc6 38. f3 Bf8 39. Bf2+ Ka6 40. Nb3 Rxa3 41. Be3 b4 42. Kd2 Kb5 43. Kc2 Na5 44. Nxa5 Rxe3 45. Nb3 Rc3+ 46. Kb1 Bd6 47. Nd2 Bc5 48. Rc2 Re3 49. Ka2 Re2 50. Kb3 Rxc2 51. Nf1 Rg1 52. Nh2 Rg3 53. h4 gxh4 0-1
 1300-1599 Section co-winner

Dietmar Mayer grows a couple of rooks on the seventh rank in this round 5 game.

Euphorien Webb (1624)
Dietmar Mayer (1405)
Kings' Gambit C36



1. e4 e5 2. f4 d5 3. exd5 exf4 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bb5+ c6 6. dxc6 Nxc6 7. d4 Bd6 8. 0-0 0-0 9. Nbd2 Bg4 10. Nc4 a6 11. Nxd6 Qxd6 12. Bxc6 bxc6 13. c3 Rfe8 14. Qa4 Re2

15. Ne5 Qd5 16. Qxc6 Rxc2+ 17. Kh1 Qxc6 18. Nxc6 f3 19. Ne5 Re8 20. Bg5 Ne4 21. Nxc4 Nxc5 22. Ne5 f6 23. Nxf3 Ree2 24. Rae1 Rxb2 25. h4 Nxf3 26. Rxf3 Rh2+ 27. Kg1 Rbg2+ 28. Kf1 Rxa2 29. Rd3 Rh1# 0-1

Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #2 December 19 & 20, 1998

Site: The Learning Exchange, 650 Howe Avenue, Suite 600. From US Highway 50, go northbound on Howe Avenue. After crossing Fair Oaks, look for Sierra (2nd signal) and turn right. The business complex is on the right with The Learning Exchange in the second row of buildings.

Event & Schedule: 4 round swiss limited to 80 entries, in 3 sections (separate events) Open, 1600-2000, Under 1600. Registration: 12/19, 8:30-9:30 am. Saturday: Round 1, 10:00 am; Round 2, 3:30 pm; Sunday: Round 3, 10:00 am; Round 4, 3:30 pm, time controls, 30/90, G/1. 12/98 rating supplement will be used.

Entry Fees & Prizes: Entry Fees: \$45 (postmarked by 12/12), \$50 on-site; Under age 19, \$20. Prizes based on 50 adult and 10 Junior paid entries.

Open*: 1st - 250 & Trophy, 2nd - \$175, U2200: 1st - \$125, 2nd - \$100.
1600-2000*: 1st - \$190 & Trophy, 2nd - \$140, U1800, 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$75.
U1600*: 1st - \$190 & Trophy, 2nd - \$140; U1400, 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$75; Jr*, 1st - \$50

Unrated players may only win asterisked (*) prizes. Prize fund and/or number of prizes in any section subject to change based on the total number of entries in each section. So you can have Christmas shopping money, prize checks will be paid out upon completion of the last game of the tournament.

Other: BRING SETS & CLOCKS!!! One ½ point bye per player is available. Late entries (if space is available) will be given a ½ point bye or paired against another late entry at the TD's discretion. All byes must be requested prior to the completion of play on 12/19. Byes requested for round 4 must be requested prior to round 1 and may not be changed. No smoking on site; no computer entries accepted; wheelchair access.

MORE INFO: John M^cCumiskey: phone: (916) 557-7053 (days), (916) 428-5532 (eves and weekends); e-mail: jmc-lmc@pacbell.net

Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #2 Entry Form

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____
 Address: _____
 City & State: _____ Zip: _____
 USCF ID: _____ Expiration Date: _____
 Date of Birth: (for Junior entries and USCF memberships): _____
 Entry Fee (circle one): \$45 (postmarked by 12/12) \$50 (after 12/12) \$20 (Under 19)
 Bye Requested: 1 2 3 4 USCF Rating: _____
 USCF Dues: \$40, Adult \$30, Senior
 \$17, Youth (under 19) \$12, Scholastic (under 14)
 Mail to: Sacramento Chess Club, c/o 6700 50th Street, Sacramento, CA 95823
 Amount of Check: \$ _____

MONTEREY NOTES

Recent Events from the Coast by Duncan Oxley

On May 30 a three round two section Swiss was held with an excellent turnout of 29 entries. The premier section had 13 players including a Senior Master, three masters and three experts. Top rated SM Mladen Vucic (2451) of Fremont easily won this event with a 3-0 score. Joe Kruml (2099) of Seaside nabbed second place with 2.5-.5 (a draw offer in the second round by a Master with a better position made this possible!) Third place was split between Romulo Fuentes (2229) of South S.F., Paul Cripe (2217) of Modesto, Jim Hurt (1900) of San Jose (yes, THE Jim Hurt!) and Eric Stiger (1896) also from San Jose.

The reserve section had 16 players consisting mostly of youngsters eager to spill some of our blood. (I want to thank Kevin Cripe as he does a wonderful job with these kids!) David McDaniel (1503) of Modesto and Anthony Fitzgerald (1404) of Seaside split first and second with perfect scores. A six way tie made the third place prize couch change. It was split by John Meadows (1596) of Petaluma, Alexander Tseung (989) of Fremont, Diana Dubel (980) of San Jose, Anders Cibrian (877) of Modesto, Luis Lopez (800) and yours truly.

A very nice example of good sportsmanship occurred after the second round. Chris Black, after finding out that his opponent did not hear his draw offer insisted that the game be reported as a draw instead of a win for him. Bravo Chris!

* * *

On July 29 a game-a-week tournament concluded. Gustavo Martins (2074) of Monterey won this event outright with a perfect 4-0 score.

* * *

On September 30 another two section three round Swiss was held. A large contingent of the Santa Cruz players showed up, and it felt like there was some kind of Monterey/Santa Cruz rivalry going on!

In the top section there were 14 players including 2 masters and 4 experts. Richard Koepcke (2312) came down from Mountain View and with his third round defeat of Paul Cripe secured sole first place with a 3-0 score. Mr. Koepcke showed himself to be not only a good player but a good sport as well when his 2nd round opponent demanded they play downstairs in the relative chaos (blitz, darts etc...) of the main floor because he was "allergic" to florescent lighting! Dana Mackenzie (2175) of Santa Cruz took second with 2-.5. Third Place was split between Paul Cripe, Alfred Abraham (1852) of Capitola and Betty Curry (1428) of Monterey (all with 2-1). Ms. Curry was playing up and was the lowest rated player in this group, so her result was excellent. In the 8 player reserve section, Ilan Bengerman (unr.?!) of Santa Cruz was first with a perfect 3-0. Second and third was split between Christian Janoff (1500) of Santa Cruz, Chris Waroff (1230) and Wolfgang Behm (1168) (both from Santa Clara).

Please note the criteria for the selection of the following games was mainly my ability to decipher the score-sheets.

Richard Koepcke (2312) Todd McFarren (1735) Monterey August 30, 1998 Round 1

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+
4.Bd2 Bd2+ 5.Qd2 d5 6.Nc3 0-0
7.e3 b6 8.Rc1 Bb7 9.cd Nd5
10.Nd5 Bd5 11.Qc2 Qd6 12.a3
Rc8 13.Bd3 h6 14.b4 a5 15.e4 Bb7
16.Qb3 ab 17.ab Nc6 18.0-0 Qb4
19.Qd1 Nd4 20.Ne5 Qd6 21.Qh5
Rf8 22.Ng4 c5 23.Rfe1 Qf4 24.Ne5
Ra2 25.f3 Ne2+

(25...Be4 might be better, but black is still winning or at least drawing) 26.Be2 Re2 27.Re2 Qc1+ 28.Kf2 Ba6 29.Ra2 Qf1+ 30. Kg3 Qe1+ 31.Kh3 Bb5 32.Ra7 Be8

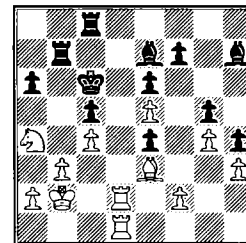
33.Re7 f6 34.Re8 fe 35.Re6 Qd2
36.Rb6 Qd7+ 37.Kg3 Qe7 38.Rc6
Rf6 39.Rc8+ Rf8 40.Qg4 Rc8
41.Qc8+ Kf7 42.h4 g5? 43.h5 Qd6
44.Qb7+ Qe7?? 45.Qd5+ Kf6
46.Qc6+ Kf7 47. Qg6+ Kf8
48.Qh6+ Kg8 49.Qg6+ Qg7 50.Qg7
Kg7 51. Kf2 1-0

Richard Flacco (2133) Richard Koepcke (2312) Round 2

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.cd
Nd5 5.Bg2 Nc7 6.f4 Nc6 7.Nf3 g6
8.0-0 Bg7 9.d3 0-0 10.Bd2 Rb8
11.a3 Be6 12.Ng5 Bd7 13.Rb1 a5
14.Kh1 b5 15.b3 b4 16.ab cb
17.Na4 Nb5 18.Rc1 Ncd4 19.e3
Ne6 20.Ne4 Na3 21.Nec5 Nc5
22.Nc5 Bb2 23.Nd7 Qd7 24.Rc5
Qd3 25.Rd5 Qa6 26.f5 Rbd8
27.Bc1 Rd5 28.Qd5 Bf6 29.e4 Qb5
30.Rd1 Qd5 31.Rd5 Rc8 32.Bh6
a4 33.ba b3 34.e5 b2 35.Be4 Bg7
36.Bg5 gf 37.Bf5 e6 0-1

Paul Cripe (2228) Joe Kruml (2120) Round 2

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.d4 d5
4.e5 Ne4 5.Ne4 de 6.Be3 h5 7.Qd2
Bf5 8.Ne2 e6 9.c3 Qd7 10.Nf4 a6
11.Be2 h4 12.0-0-0 0-0-0 13.g4
Bh7 14.h3 Qe8 15.Qc2 Be7
16.Qa4 Nb8 17.Qe8 Rhe8 18.Bc4
c6 19.Bb3 g5 20.Ne2 Nd7 21.c4
c5 22.Ba4 b6 23.dc bc 24.Nc3 Rg8
25.Bd7 Rd7 26.Na4 Rc7 27.Rd2
Kb7 28.Rhd1 Kc6 29.b3 Rgc8
30.Kb2 Rb7



31.Rd6+ Bd6 32.Rd6+ Kc7 33.Nc5
1-0

Continued on page 30

News from **THE FAR NORTH**

Report and photos by James Bauman

Humboldt July-August Open

Bob Snyder, a professor at Humboldt State, defeated local expert Tommy Groombridge in the last round to win first place with a perfect 6-0. Bob Clayton of Arcata tied for second place with a last round victory over 17 year old Arlen Vanek of Trinidad who won the under 1400 prize on tiebreaks. Fred Hope (our ten year old elementary champion) scored a very respectable 3 points.

Humboldt Coast Junior Championship

17 year old Arlen Vanek of Trinidad, CA showed why he is the highest rated junior in the county. Playing in his last junior tournament, Arlen easily swept past his opponents to claim the 1998 Humboldt Coast Junior Championship trophy. Joseph Seagraves of Eureka took home the second place prize by winning the playoff over Evan Markegood of Fortuna. Joseph lost his first round game to second seeded Terry Wolf of McKinleyville and then proceeded to win his last three to force a playoff for second place. Evan took the opposite approach by winning his first 3 games to only lose to Arlen in the last round. Alex Hockenson had to forfeit his last round game with Joseph due to a thumb injury (due to pool and not chess!) which dropped him into a five tie for fourth place.

Humboldt County Championship

A low turnout did not stop three of the county's top players from battling it out for the championship trophy. James Bauman of Arcata took home top honors by winning his last round game over Sylver Good. Sylver Good, also from Arcata, finished in second place a half point ahead of top rated expert Tommy Groombridge who came in third. Both tournaments were directed by James Bauman with assistance from Jerry Jackson. The tournaments were held at the Eureka Teen Center on Saturday September 12th. Here's the championship last round game:

Bauman,J (1820)

Good,S (1730)

**[A45] Humboldt Championship
Round 4**

Bf8 39.Ra1 Bxb4 40.Rd1 b5

41.Qb1 Bd6 42.Qf5 a4 43.Rc1 a3

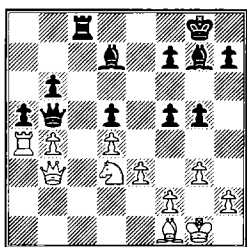
44.Rxc4 bxc4 45.Qxd5 a2

46.Qa8+ Kg7 47.Qxa2 c3 48.Qc4

h4 49.gxh4 Rxh4 50.Qxc3 f6

51.Qc6 Be7 52.d5 1-0

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 g6 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3
Bg7 5.c4 d6 6.Nc3 0-0 7.g3 c6
8.Bg2 Re8 9.Nge2 Nd7 10.0-0 f5
11.Rb1 Nf6 12.b4 Bd7 13.Qc2 Rc8
14.Rfd1 d5 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Qb3
Be6 17.Nf4 g5 18.Nd3 b6 19.Rbc1
Ne4 20.Nb5 Qd7 21.a4 a6 22.Nc3
Nxc3 23.Rxc3 Rxc3 24.Qxc3 Qxa4
25.Ra1 Qb5 26.Bf1 Rc8 27.Qb3 a5
28.Ra4 Bd7**



**29.Nc5 Rxc5 30.Bxb5 Rc1+
31.Kg2 Bxb5 32.Ra3 Bf1+ 33.Kf3
g4+ 34.Kf4 Bc4 35.Qb2 Rh1
36.Kxf5 Rxh2 37.Kxg4 h5+ 38.Kf3**



Bob Snyder was undefeated in the Humboldt July-August Open.

A QUICK CHALLENGE

Report and photo by Steve Cohen

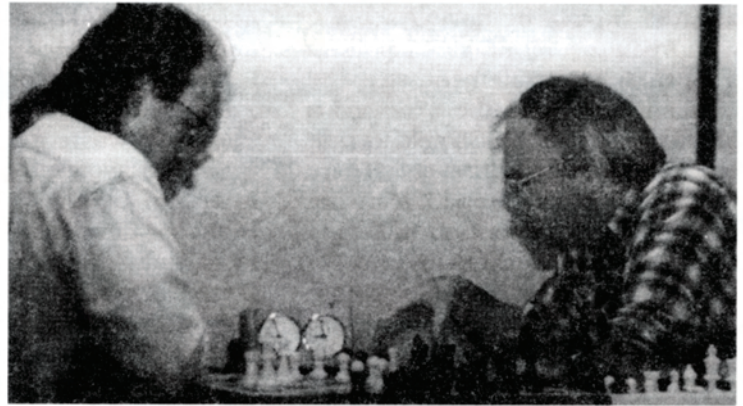
Just over a year-and-a-half old, the Peninsula G/15 Challenge series is quickly becoming quite a premier opportunity for good chess practice at all levels. The idea of the event (5 rounds at G/15) is to allow for a full tournament experience in only half-a-day's time (as opposed to the commitment to a full weekend's worth at the traditional time controls). While it started as an event to help raise money for the Unofficial Peninsula Scholastic Chess League, a California non-profit corporation serving as a chess league for children throughout the San Mateo County Peninsula community, the challenging competition in each section has attracted a number of local "well-knowns" at each Challenge.

On Sunday, September 28, the last Challenge of the series before the Challenge Championships (to be held on Saturday, December 19) took place at Foster City's beautiful Crowne Plaza Hotel's Alexandria Ballroom. The 8-player open section was headed by California's highest-rated player and 6-time U.S. Champion, GM Walter Browne. Among others trying to keep Browne from repeating as champ (he won the last Challenge event) were IM Mladen Vucic and South Bay Master Kari Heinola. However, with a perfect score of 5-0, Browne did repeat to earn the 1st place trophy and a check for \$130. IM Vucic and Heinola split the combined 2nd-3rd place prizes (\$72.50 each) due to a 4th-round draw between the two with each scoring 3.5. All in all, not a bad take from 2 hours of chess, eh? Incidentally, I earned the U2100 prize with a score of 3-2.

In the 12-player Senior Amateur section, which saw a mixture of some of the Bay Area's top scholastic players and a strong crop of experienced adults, the competition to

win one of the 1st-5th place trophies (only the top 2 of which were accompanied by money prizes) was fierce. Challenge newcomer and top-seeded John Brand started off strong in defeating some of the top scholastic players, including a 2nd-round victory over last year's 2nd-grade champion of California Alexander Setzepfandt. But a 3rd-round run-in with South Bay's Tae Lee put a halt to Brand's cruise. However, a 4th-round draw between Lee and John Meadows and a victory by Brand over Meadows in the final round set up a re-match for a blitz shoot-out play-off for 1st place between Brand (the top senior) and Setzepfandt (the top junior). Winning the coin toss, Setzepfandt chose White; but, Brand didn't take long to force a perpetual check against his younger opponent [remember, in a blitz shoot-out, a draw is considered as a victory by Black!] to earn a check for \$55 and the top trophy. Setzepfandt took second place and earned a check for \$10. Tae Lee finished in 3rd place on tie-breaks over John Meadows. Arnaldo Delucca took home the 5th-place trophy.

The Junior Amateur section, unfortunately, was the smallest it's ever been (a casualty of soccer season and a Sunday tournament date. Fortunately, there were 5 competitors in the group so a round robin pairing would allow each to play all of the others and each would get a full-point bye round to rest. In a battle between 2 young girls against 3 young boys, newcomer Elaine Veksler went undefeated to earn the top trophy. Yuki Siegrist has been getting good practice by playing in



GM Walter Browne (right) in his element (G/5) against Kari Heinola

many tournaments, as demonstrated by his 2nd-place finish! John Coyne also improved over his last Challenge performance, allowing him to take home the 3rd-place trophy. Challenge first-timer Emilia Krubnik finished in 4th, a point ahead of Kyle Jensen, who earned the trophy for 5th.

The next 1998 Peninsula G/15 Challenge Championships will be held on Saturday, December 19, 1998, at Go-Getter's Pizza in Foster City. As it will be for the Championships, the prizes will be bigger than ever with more than \$700 in cash and awards! Guaranteed prizes in the Open section are \$200 for 1st (with a \$50 3-peating bonus), \$100 for 2nd, \$60 for 3rd and U2200 prizes of \$75 and \$50. In the Senior Amateur section, the prizes of \$90, \$60, and \$35 (including trophies for 1st-8th) are nice earnings for less than 4 hours of chess. For more information or a flier with entry form call the UPSCL at (650) 349-7746.

The Challenge Championships should prove to be full of lots of chess excitement, as GM Walter Browne says that he's looking forward to competing and being the first person to 3-peat as a G/15 Challenge 1st-place victor. As you'll recall, at last-year's G/15 Challenge Championships, Jordy Mont-Reynaud's 3-peate hopes were crushed by Senior Master Craig Mar. Also, some of the area's top scholastic players have already indicated that they will be there! Perhaps it's just for all of the chess excitement. Or, perhaps it's because, after the

awards, we will be having a party with free pizza for all participants!!

Speaking of excitement, after the Challenge event on the 27th and a lunch break, the UPSCL held its first ever WBCA-rated Blitz event. There were 11 players competing in the round-robin competition (allowing some scholastic players an unprecedented chance to compete against a 6-time U.S. Champion!!!), which for some might have been seen as a nice forum for revenge from the G/15 matches. After some pretty tough matches, Walter Browne came through with a perfect score to earn another check for the day this time, the guaranteed 1st-place prize of \$100! In order of pairing number, IM Mladen Vucic earned the \$50 2nd-place prize; Kari Heinola won the 3rd-place check for \$25; and yours truly earned the U2100 prize. Michael Pearson took home the top U1800 check for \$25. Alexander Setzepfandt won the top U1600 check for \$25 and also earned a special prize generously donated by Walter Browne to the highest-scoring under 16-year-old WBCA-member competing in the event (one of Browne's new, excellent instructional chess videos!)

After the pizza party on 12/19th, we will host another WBCA-rated Blitz event with the same guaranteed cash prizes and a trophy for the 1st-place winner as the 1998 Peninsula G/5 Challenge Champion. Hopefully you will be a part of the excitement. But, don't wait too long to sign up because space is limited. To encourage your attendance and to share some of the excitement you may have missed on September 27th (and won't want to miss on December 19th), here is the match for 1st place in the first Peninsula G/5 Challenge:

Browne (2626)

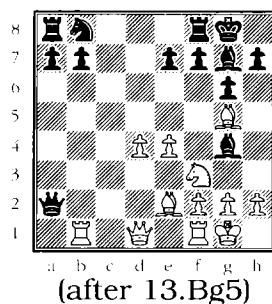
Vucic (2405)

**98 Peninsula G/5 Challenge
with annotations**

by Fritz5 and S. Cohen

1.d4 Nf6, 2.c4 g6, 3.Nc3 d5 (a.k.a. the Grunfeld Defense), **4.cxd Nxd5, 5.e4 Nxc3, 6.bxc Bg7, 7.Nf3** (a sharp alternative is 7.Bc4 followed by 8.Ne2, and with the Knight

at e2 instead of f3 Black will be less likely to play ...Bg4, since in this alternative White could respond to ...Bg4 with f2-f3, forcing Black's Bishop to waste a tempo) **7...O-O, 8.Be2** (to avoid any problems of a later pin by Bc8-g4 but White's Bishop is developed more passively at e2 than c4) **8...c5** (the classical Grunfeld attack against White's center), **9.Rb1** (White offers a pawn in return for attacking chances) **9...cxd, 10.cxd Qa5+, 11.Bd2 Qxa2, 12.O-O Bg4, 13.Bg5**



13...a5 A better alternative for Black, perhaps, is 13...h6, as after 14.Bxe7 (14.Bh4 Qe6, 15.h3 Bxf3, 16.Bxf3 Qd7, 17.d5 led to a draw in Komljenovic v. Sanchez Almeyra (San Sebastian Open, 1993,) 14...Re8, 15.Rxb7 Nd7 (15...Nc6, 16.Bc5 Re4:, 17.Bd3 Ree8, 18.Bb5 Rec8, 19.Qd3 Be6, 20.Re1 Bd5, 21.Rd7 Rd8, 22.Bxc6 Bxc6, 23.Rc7 Bd5, 24.h3 Rab8, 25.Ne5 Qa5, 26.Nxg6 Qxe1+ led to a win for Black in Manso v. Sanchez Almeyra (San Sebastian Op, 93), 16.Bb4 Rxe4, 17.Re1 Bxf3, 18.Bxf3 Rxd4, Black scored the point in Hultin v. Ernst (TM Ö91); also, after 13...Qe6, 14.d5 Qe4:, 15.Rxb7 Be6, 16.Rb5 Bf5, 17.Re1 a5, 18.Bf1 Qc2, 19.Qxc2 Bxc2, 20.Bxe7 Rc8, 21.Rc1 a4, 22.Rc5 Rxc5, 23.Bxc5 Bf5, 24.Ba3 Nd7, 25.Bb5 Nb6, 26.d6 Rc8, 27.Rd1 Rc3, 28.Bb2 Rf3:, Black won in Garcia Ilundain v. Azmaiparashvili (Pamplona 96) **14.Rxb:** (Fritz prefers 14.Bxe7, first) **a4** (Fritz believes 14...e5!/? may have given Black better chances), **15.d5** (gaining space; however, Fritz gave White quite an advantage after 15.Bxe7 when if 15...Re8, 16.Bb5 looks nice for White) **15...e6** (removing the target and thus seemingly

saving the pawn), **16.Be7 Rc8, 17.d6!** (now White has a passed pawn who poses some problems for Black, as it is only 2 squares away from promotion) **17...e5** (to gain better control over d7, given White's d-pawn's threat to advance to that square), **18.h3** (Fritz believes that 18.Bb5!? Qb2, 19.Qd5 would have been more forceful) **18...Be6** (Fritz prefers the blockading 18...Bd7!/?), **19.Ng5** (again, Fritz believes 19.Bb5 leads to stronger pressure for White, by adding to White's control over d7, whereas the text move allows Black to move the Be6 to that square) **19...a3?** (yes, the pawn looks strong; but, Fritz believes Black still has chances after 19...Bb3, 20.Qd3 h6), **20.Nxe6 Qxe6** (not 20...fxe, allowing 21.d7), **21.d7** (the pawn advance forces the win of material for White) **21...Nxd7** (not 21...Qxe7, when the Queen is lost after 22.dxc/Q+ and 23.Rxe7), **22.Qxd7** (not 22.Rxd7 a2, 23.Bg4 f5, 24.exf gxf, 25.Bxf5 Qxf5:, 26.Qd5+ Kh8, when Black has the lead (Fritz)) **22...Qxd7, 23.Rxd7 a2, 24.Ra1 Rc2** (Black can't afford the sham sacrifice of 24...Rc1+, 25.Rxc1 a1/Q, 26.Rxa1 Rxa1+, 27.Kh2, as Black finds himself behind by a whole piece), **25.Bd3 Rd2** (or 25.Rb2, 26.g3 (Fritz)), **26.Bg5 Rb2, 27.Bc1** (White continues to harass Black's Rook) **27...Rb4??** (Black's situation is growing steadily worse, but 27...Rbb8 may have provided Black with more fighting chances, as at least Black protects his back-rank against the threatened sacrifice), **28.Kf1** (28.Rxa2! and Black can resign after losing his last hope in the passed a-pawn as 28...Rc8 is strongly met by 29.Be3 (of course, not 28...Rxa2, 29.Rd8+ Bf8, 30.Bh6, to be followed as soon as playable by the unpreventable Rxf8mate. However, it is understandable that this combination was over-looked due to the ever-shrinking time remaining in this a G/5 match!) **28...Bf8, 29.Rc7 Rd4, 30.Bc2 Rb4, 31.Ke2 Bd6, 32.Rc6 Be7, 33.Rc3 Rb5** (if 33...Rd4, 34.Rb3, followed by 35.Rb2, and 35.Bb3, and Black's a-pawn falls), **34.Bb3 Rba5, 35.Rc2 Rb8, 36.Rcxa2!** and having won the pawn, White went on to win. ♣

Beginner's Corner

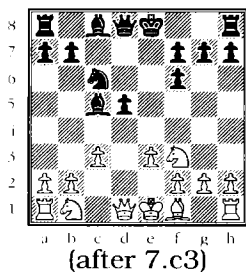
The Lonely Life of the Isolani

by
Steve Cohen

Many beginners fail to consider how a given move in the opening may affect the battle in the middle-game and thus affect the course of the entire game. Often, without realizing it, a player sows the seeds of their own defeat as in the following example played against a student.

Teacher v. Student (09/13/1998)

1.d4 Nf6, 2.Bg5 (a.k.a. the Trompowsky opening) 2...d5, 3.Bxf6 (White gives Black the bishop pair in exchange for a permanent advantage in that Black will now have messed-up king-side pawns 3...ef, 4.e3 (opening a way for the Bf1 to develop as well as locking closed Black's half-open e-file) 4...c5? (Weak because this allows White to play dxc in the future leaving Black with a weak isolated d-pawn) , 5.Nf3 (developing a piece who is ready to recapture at d4 and relieving the Queen of that chore; White does not fear 5...c4, as not only does that help to close the position which will make it difficult for Black to assert the advantage of the bishop pair, but it brings a target closer to White (making it easier to attack)) 5...Nc6, 6.dxc Bxc5, 7.c3!



Now that Black has the **isolani** (a common name for an isolated d-

pawn), the strategy of both sides is clear: each needs to try and control the square in front of the pawn. White wants first to control the square in front of the pawn so that it has no mobility (i.e., it can't move on penalty of forfeiture - it would be lost for "free"). White then wants to attack the pawn with superior forces so that it will fall.

Black desires to control the square of the isolani so that it will retain its mobility. Also, as the owner of the isolani Black would do well to look for ways to attack (e.g., making use of the c4 and e4 outposts for his pieces, and the open c- and e-files for his Rooks). Further, Black has the bishop pair and the side with the bishop pair should be looking for ways to attack.

Thus, the text move keeps the isolani stuck on d5 since now moving to d4 would lead to its certain loss for free. Next, we could expect to see White's other pieces seek to gain further control over d4 (a.k.a. the "blockade square") before White directs his focus directly against the d5 square. In addition to helping with control over d4, the text move has an added benefit in helping to control b4, eliminating some hostile choices for Black's dark-squared Bishop and Nc6! Black must get his pieces quickly active or the fight for the **isolani** will decide the game.

The game continued: 7...O-O, 8.Nbd2 (I wanted to play this move last turn; but, if I had done so, Black would then be able to play 7...d4, liquidating the isolani since the Nd2 blocks White's Queen's control over d4 and black would control the square 3 to 2) 8...Be6 (as Black's light-squared Bishop can't help to control d4, but White's

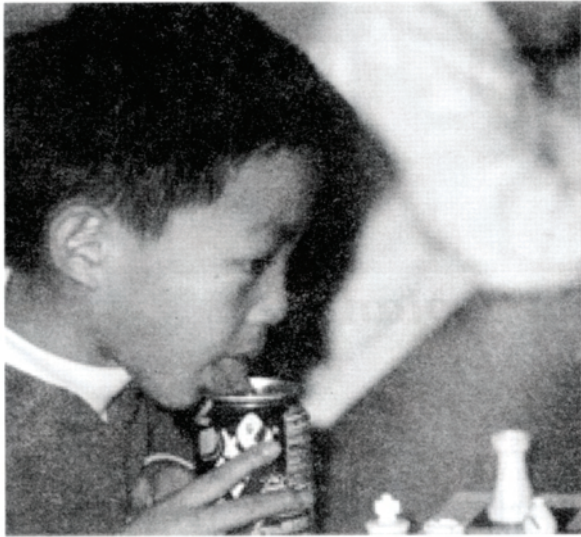
Nf3 can, perhaps it would be stronger for Black to have played 8...Bg4, threatening to exchange away the bishop pair to eliminate one of White's helpers for the control of d4. This is one of the reasons why the other white Knight is heading to b3 in case the knight at f3 doesn't survive), 9.Nb3 Bb6 (preserving the bishop pair; also, the side with the **isolani** generally desires to avoid exchanges of pieces, since the **isolani** usually is a weakness in the end-game when all of its benefits have disappeared) , 10.Nbd4 (in the words of Nimzowitsch, "Blockade!") 10...Re8, 11.Bb5 Nxd4



A nice try at tactics, but White does not swallow the bait. Black hopes that White will be greedy and play 12.Bex8 when the in-between move 12...Nf3+ (before 13...Qxe8), nets Black two pieces for the Rook. However, since White doesn't bite all that has happened is that Black has effected an exchange of pieces and remember that the side with the **isolani** generally desires to avoid exchanges.

From here, the game continued: 12.Nxd4 Re7 (the attack by the Bb5 was still there), 13.O-O a6, 14.Ba4 (When White's Bishop developed at b5 it was not to exchange for the Nc6 (which would have allowed Black to recapture with bxc,

Continued on page 30



George of the Chessboard.

WEIBEL KNIGHTS VS. BERKELEY BISHOPS

By Alan M. Kirshner

their previous matches stood at 2-2. Weibel had won the first two years and Berkeley the last two years. Richard Shorman, who instructs students on both teams, feels that this competition has

ops never showed. Two Weibel Knights, scheduled for the higher boards, caught the flu so I feverishly made last minute substitutes.

After the first round, the Charging Knights led 15 to 14. During half-time the Weibel and Berkeley parents served snacks. The coaches inspired their players with bribes and threats. I told mine if they won they would get an ice-cream social. I heard from a parent that they told the Bishops that if they lost they would have to walk back to Berkeley.

The round started with an immediate agreed to draw on Board 25. The results, posted on a large whiteboard, kept changing—Weibel, Berkeley, Weibel, Berkeley, Weibel. Finally, with the last three games Berkeley pulled ahead to win the tournament 30.5 to 27.5. The Bishops' all-stars had stopped the Charging Knights of Weibel for a third straight year. Next year we will meet in Berkeley. I decided that instead of offering my players an ice-cream social to inspire a win, I would threaten them with leaving them in Berkeley.

Here's one of the better games between two second grader's:

**Sharon Tseung (Weibel - 644)
Daichi Siegrist (Berkeley - 731)**

1.e4 e5 2.d4 ed 3.c3 dc 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bb4 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 Nc6 8.a3 Bc3 9.bc Re8 10. Re1 d6 11.e5 de 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.Bf6 gf 14.Nh4 Qd8 15.h3 Kh8 16.Qf3 Rg8 17.Rad1 Qe7 18.Qh5 Rg7 19.Nf5 Bf5 20.Bf5 Qa3 21.Re3 Na5 22.Rg3 Rag8 23.Rg7 Rg7 24.Rd8+ Rg8 25.Qh7mate

In his ten endgame rules, Reuben Fine wrote that bishops are better than knights in all but blocked pawn positions. When the pawns (the lower board players) were done with their games the Berkeley Bishops Chess Team pulled out wins in the last two games in their January 24, 1998 match against the Weibel Elementary School Chess Team. The Bishops had checkmated Weibel.

For the last five years Weibel's Charging Knights and the Berkeley Chess School's Bishops have met across the chess board. Since the Weibel School goes to sixth grade, the Berkeley Bishops only use their elementary school age players. This year Elizabeth Shaughnessy, director of the Berkeley Chess School and former Woman's National Chess Champion of Ireland, and Alan Kirshner, coach of the Weibel Elementary School Team, agreed to contest 29 boards. Each of the competitors played a game as white and a game as black with a 45 minute time control.

Elizabeth Shaughnessy's Berkeley Chess School has introduced chess classes with experienced players and teachers in many East Bay Schools. The Bishops are the elite of this group. This year's Berkeley Bishop Team of 29 derived from 22 different schools. The players on the Weibel Chess Team all attend one elementary school in Fremont.

At the outset of the match, held at Weibel this year, the record of

forced both groups to look for ways to improve their programs. I do not know about Elizabeth, but in my case Richard's insight is correct. This year I decided to stop going it alone. I hired four other teachers—Richard Shorman, Hans Poschmann, Rob Nicholson and Micah Fisher-Kirshner—and divided the class of 45 into smaller groups. I know that no other scholastic program in Northern California would have forced me to this action. Elizabeth Shaughnessy's group is the only scholastic team challenge the Knights have faced in recent years. Weibel, while having great depth, lacks the strongest individual players in Northern California. This has caused the Weibel team some losses at the CalChess State Scholastic Championships. At that meet only the four top finishers from a school have their points counted. Yet, we have won a team championship in the CalChess State Scholastic or the California Grade Level every year since 1990. Elizabeth's program allows us to test our depth against the best competition and helps prepare us for these two state championships.

Elizabeth and I see this year as a building year for our teams as we had mostly lower school grade level players. Yet, they all performed beautifully. Both teams confronted the difficulty of fielding a large number of young chess players. Elizabeth had to replace a player at the last moment and one of the Bish-



CalChess Board Minutes

by Doug Shaker
CalChess Secretary

The CalChess board convened at 3:20pm on Sunday, October 18th, 1998 at Cafe La Dolce Vita in Palo Alto, California. Attending were Richard Koepcke, Tom Dorsch, Allan Fifield, Alan Kirshner, Hans Poschmann, Doug Shaker and Mike Splane. Eric Schiller, Carolyn Withgitt, and John McCumiskey were absent.

Richard Koepcke announced that the position of Secretary on the CalChess board was vacant. Doug Shaker, the current Membership Secretary, inquired as to just how much work was involved in being the Secretary. After being assured that it was just taking notes and writing up minutes, Mr. Shaker was persuaded to volunteer for the office. Mr. Shaker was unanimously elected.

Richard Koepcke explained that the current USCF method of governance awards voting memberships to the state affiliate organizations to allocate as they see fit. CalChess has the right to 19 voting members in addition to the voting memberships that are allocated to USCF Policy Board members. These voting memberships are usually given by the CalChess board to USCF members who are active in Northern California chess activities and who are likely to vote in the USCF elections. The following CalChess members are USCF voting members by virtue of their membership on the USCF policy board: Tom Dorsch and James Eade. Richard

Koepcke is a voting member as Region XI Vice-President.

After some discussion, the following voting members were agreed upon unanimously: Joan Arbil, Mike Arne, Allan Fifield, Alfred Hansen, Alan Kirshner, Fred Leffingwell, John McCumiskey, Tom Maser, Keith Mehl, Ray Orwig, Mark Pinto, Hans Poschmann, Doug Shaker, Eric Schiller, Mike Splane, Dennis Wajckus, Arthur Wang, Carolyn Withgitt, Donald Wolitzer, Elizabeth Karnazes and Mike Goodall were also approved unanimously as alternates.

Doug Shaker, the Membership Secretary, then outlined his plans for a membership drive. However, he cautioned that CalChess memberships appear to be selling for a loss as the cost of producing and mailing one copy of the California Chess Journal is currently about \$4.50 per issue. If membership does not increase, CalChess is selling a \$18 product for \$12. Mr. Shaker also noted that bringing the membership up to 700 members would lower the cost of producing and mailing the magazine to about \$3 per issue, with a per-year magazine cost of about \$12 per member. However, Mr. Shaker also noted that the cost of finding and recruiting a new CalChess member seems to be about \$4. Mr. Shaker suggested raising the membership dues to deal with this problem. Other possibilities were also explored, including reducing the size or fre-

quency of California Chess Journal publication. However, the size and/or frequency would have to be more than halved for this alternative to succeed. The following membership fee structure was approved, unanimously, effective January 1, 1999:

One year, regular membership \$15
Two years, regular membership \$28
Three years, regular membership \$41
One year, scholastic membership \$13
One year, family membership \$17

Richard Koepcke mentioned that it was CalChess's turn to host the Region XI Women's Championship. He asked Doug Shaker to consider hosting that tournament at the same time as the Sojourner Truth Chess Tournament for Girls. This is a tournament being run by Mr Shaker on January 9th and 10th. Mr. Shaker agreed to try to find a way to add in the women's championship.

There was also some discussion of ways to host a Northern California Junior Championship, i.e. a championship of players under 20 years of age. One possible solution was to make it a invitational tournament held at the Mechanics Institute. There was no resolution of this topic.

The next scheduled meeting of the CalChess board will be at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 31st, 1999 at the Ohlone College cafeteria, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont, California. This coincides with the Bay Area Ohlone Tourney and Collegiate Championship.


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C.C.J. Submission Policy

Our CCJ copy submission policy remains 'author friendly'. While our preference is for electronic submission, typewritten or neat handwritten copy is acceptable. Electronic submission allows you to include game scores, chess diagrams, and digitized photos. In general, tournaments submitted in an electronic format will be allotted more space. Our preference is for Microsoft Word files with diagrams created using the Linares font. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on how to submit material to *California Chess Journal*.

The next deadline for C.C.J. submissions is December 15th.
 Allan Fifield, PO Box 27
 Visalia, CA 93279-0027

Days: (209)-651-3300 #371 * Nights:
 (209)-734-2784 * FAX: (209)-651-0739

CompuServe: 102033.3421
 AOL: jostensvis
 Internet: fifiela@jostens.com

Continued from page 23

**David Maradei (1723)
 Paul Cripe (2228)
 Round 1**

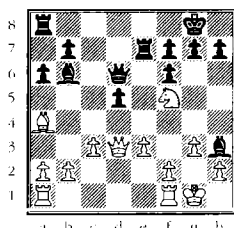
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Bc4 Nc6
 4.h3 g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Ng5 Ne5
 7.Bb5+ Bd7 8.f4 Bb5 9.fe Ba6
 10.e6 Nh6 11.ef+ Kd7 12.d3 e6
 13.0-0 Qe7 14.Ne2 Rf8 15.c3 Nf7
 16.Nf3 g5 17.Nh2 h5 18.c4 g4
 19.Nf4 Bd4+ 20.Kh1 Rg8 21.Qe1
 Ne5 22.h4 g3 23.Be3 Be3 24.Qe3
 gh 25.Rf2 Ng4 0-1

**Charles Cohen (1707)
 Harold Parker (1655)
 Round 2**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 d5 3.c4 e6
 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Nbd7
 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 dc 9.Bc4 Nd5
 10.Be7 Qe7 11.e4 Nc3 12.bc e5
 13.Re1 Kh8 14.Bd3 f6 15.Qe2 ed
 16.cd Nb6 17.h3 Be6 18.Rad1
 Rad8 19.Bb1 Rfe8 20.Qc2 Bg8
 21.e5 fe 22.Re5 Qf6 23.Rde1 Re5
 24.de Qe7 25.Qf5 Rf8 26.Qg5 Qg5
 27.Ng5 h6 28.e6 Re8 29.Nf7+ Bf7
 30.ef Re8+31.Kh2 Nd7 32.Bf5 Nf8
 33.Kg3 g6 34.Bc2 Kg7 0-1

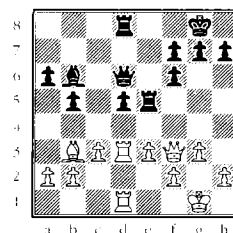
Continued from page 27

turning the isolated pawn into hanging pawns, a more manageable mess), but a way to reach the square b3 from where that Bishop can aim at the isolani, directly. White already controls the square in front of the isolani, so now is the time to attack the pawn, itself! Thus, Black's move of a6, in fact, helps White to achieve his plan) 14...Qd6, 15.Qd3 (both players seek to weaken the opposing king-side pawns...) 15...Bc7 (threatening 16...Qh2:#), 16.g3 Bh3?!, 17.Nf5! (by forking Black's Queen and Re7, White forces Black to bring back the light-squared Bishop to capture the Knight who is no longer needed for blockading duty. This will also lead to White removing his Queen from the d-file to prepare for the doubling of Rooks on the d-file to attack the **isolani** directly)



(after 17.Nf5 Note, the pieces are leaving, but the **isolani** is going nowhere!) 17...Bxf5, 18.Qxf5 Re5, 19.Qf3 b5, 20.Bb3! (as planned) Rae8? (perhaps a better chance would lie in 20...b4,

hitting at c3 as a way to weaken White's control over d4), 21.Rfd1 Rd8, 22.Rd3 Bb6, 23.Rad1



(after 23.Rad1)

All of White's pieces are aiming at the **isolani** and I don't think it likes all the attention. The **isolani** must fall! Note also that all of White's attacking pieces are on light-colored squares so that Black's dark-squared Bishop won't be able to interfere with their attack 23...d4 (so Black just jettisons the pawn, which doesn't help), 24.exd (keeping Black's Bishop shut out) 24...Ree8, 25.Re3! (White wants exchanges) Rf8, 26.Rde1 Bc7, 27.Re7! (invasion of the 7th rank), and White went on to win.

In that game, Black took on an **isolani** in the opening, did not attend to its needs, and after a difficult middle-game, Black never had hope. Planning for how a current move will affect you in the future will have a dramatic effect on your game! After all, in chess, every move counts!

The CalChess Calendar of Events

(* = CalChess discount) last update 9-25-98

1998

Nov.	6-8	.....	(Fri-Sun)	.....	Capps (San Fran.)	.....	(JA2)*
Nov.	14	.....	(Sat)	.....	Chess for Kids (Fresno)	.....	(AF)
Nov.	14-15	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	LERA (Sunnyvale)	.....	(JH)
Nov.	21	.....	(Sat)	.....	Stanford Sect.	.....	(AK2)
Nov.	21-22	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	Fresno Championship (Fresno)	.....	(DW)*
Dec.	5	.....	(Sat)	.....	Chess for Kids (Exeter)	.....	(AF)
Dec.	11-13	.....	(Fri-Sat)	.....	Mechanics Masters	.....	(JA2)
Dec	19-20	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	Sac. CC Weekend	.....	(JM)*

1999

Jan.	9-10	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	Sojourner Truth for Girls	.....	(DS)
Jan.	9-10	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	Region XI Womens Open	.....	(DS)
Jan.	16-18	.....	(Sat-Mon)	.....	MLK (Sacramento)	.....	(JM)*
Jan.	30	.....	(Sat)	.....	Chess for Kids (Hanford)	.....	(AF)
Jan.	30-31	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	Bay Area Ohlone	.....	(HP)*
Mar.	5-7	.....	(Fri-Sun)	.....	Mechanics Amateur (San Francisco)	.....	(JA2)
Mar.	20-21	.....	(Sat-Sun)	.....	Brainstorm	.....	(BW)
Apr.	16-18	.....	(Fri-Sun)	.....	Mechanics Senior (San Fran.)	.....	(JA2)
Aug	10-19	.....	(?)	.....	U.S. Open, 9 rounds, Sands Hotel (Reno)	.....	(JW)

Annual Events

MLK weekend (mid Jan.) (RK)	2nd weekend June (Fri-Sun): Stamer (JA2)
Presidents' Day Weekend: People's (Berkeley) (DS)	Labor Day weekend (1st weekend Sept.) (TD)
1st weekend March (Fri-Sun): SF Amateur (JA2)	Last weekend Oct. (Fri-Sun): Western Open (Reno) (JW)
State Schol. Champ. (last weekend March)	2nd weekend Nov. (Fri-Sun): Capps (JA2)
LERA Memorial Day (JH)	LERA Thanksgiving (JH)

Tournament Organizers

JA = Jeff Andersen,
P.O. Box 10845,
Napa 94581
(707) 251-8175

JA2= Joan Arbil,
57 Post St.,
Mechanics Rm408
94101
(415) 421-2258
Chessroom@aol.com

TD = Tom Dorsch,
P.O. Box 7453,
Menlo Park 94026
(415)322-0955.

JE = James Eade,
521 Fanita Way,
Menlo Park 94025
(415)328-9785

AF = Allan Fifield,
PO Box 27,
Visalia 93279
(209) 734-2784

MG = Mike Goodall,
461 Peachstone Terr.,
San Rafael 94903
(415) 491-1269

MG2 = Michael Ghormley,
5120 Alcott Dr.,
Sacramento 95820
(916) 388-1601
mjg99@yahoo.com

DH = Dan Holbrook,
1220 Elliott #42,
Paradise 95969
(916) 877-3911

JH = Jim Hurt,
P.O. Box 461,
Tahoma 96142
(916) 525-7912
(970) 285-7041(CO)

AK = Alan Kirshner,
66 Indian Hill Plaza,
Fremont 94539
(510) 657-1586
hegemon@hooked.net

AK2= Adrian Keatinge-Clay,
P.O. Box 10649
Stanford University
94309
(415)497-0589
adriank@leland.
stanford.edu

RK = Richard Koepecke,
2047 Montecito Ave.#30,
Mountain View 94043
(650)964-2640
richardkoepecke@daySun.COM

JM = John McCumiskey,
6700 50th St.,
Sacramento 95823-1306
(916)428-5532
jmc-lmc@pacbell.net

CP = Charles Pigg,
429 Vista Ct., Livermore
94550
(510) 447-5067

HP = Hans Poschmann,
4621 Sneeca Park Ave.,
Fremont 94538
(510) 656-8505
hspwood2@home.net

JP = Jimmy Plumb,
1878 W. 11 St. #144,
Tracy 95376
(209)823-0511,
hereshope9@nreach.com

DS = Doug Shaker,
2030 Mills Ave.,
Menlo Park 94025
(415)854-2545
doug@theshakers.org

SS = Steve Smallwood,
1028 Cassia Way,

Sunnyvale 94086
(408) 247-8510
stephen677@aol.com

BW = Brad West,
204 Four Lakes Dr.,
Blanchard, OK 73010
(405) 485-3477

DW = Dennis Wajckus,
5924 E. Illinois Ave.,
Fresno 93727-3566
(209) 252-4484

JW = Jerome Weikel,
6578 Valley Wood Dr.,
Reno NV 89523
(702) 747-1405

Tournament Clearinghouse
Don Wolitzer
2130 Mercury Rd.
Livermore, CA 94550
(510) 455-4119
dwolitzer@aol.com

*Send tournament reports
and annotated games to CCJ:*
Allan Fifield
PO Box 27
Visalia 93279-0027
(209) 734-2784
102033.3421@compuserve.com
jostensvis@aol.com

Club Directory

Places to play chess in Northern California and Northern Nevada

Arcata

Monday, 6-10 pm
Arcata Chess Club
Conference Room, Arcata
Library
James Bauman 707-822-7619

Berkeley

Friday, 7:15 p.m.
Berkeley City Club
2315 Durant
A. Glasscoe 510-652-5324

Burlingame

Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Burlingame Lions Hall
990 Burlingame Ave
Scott Wilson 650-355-9402

Campbell

Kolty Chess Club
Thursdays 7-11:30 p.m.
Campbell Comm Ctr
Winchester/W.Campbell
F. Leffingwell 408-224-0743

Carmel

Call for current information
Randall Swanson
408-626-6113

Carmichael

Monday 6-10 p.m.
Senior Citizens Ctr.
4701 Gibbons

Chico

Thursday 7-11 p.m.
Mtn Mike's Pizza
1722 Mangrove Ave
Barry Nelson 916-873-3107

Davis

Thursday 7 p.m.
Hunt Hall UCD, Room 241
Dave Johnson 916-756-2752

Fremont

Fridays 7:00-on
Sugu's Coffee
3602 Thornton Ave, Fremont
Hans Poschmann
510-656-8505

Fresno

Mondays 6-11 p.m.
Carls Jr.
3820 N. Cedar Ave.
D. Wajckus 209-252-4484

Hayward

Monday 7-9 p.m.
Hayward Library
Mission at C St
Kerry Lawless 510-785-9352

Humboldt County

Call for current information
Bob Phillips 707-839-4674

Livermore

Fridays 7-12 p.m.
South Cafeteria
Lawrence Livermore Lab
Charles Pigg 510-447-5067

Merced

Merced Chess Club
Friday 6:30 p.m.
Merced Mall Food Court
Dave Humpal 209-722-0764

Madera

Thursdays 7:00 p.m.
Carls Jr.
Madera Ave. & Hwy 99
Bill Hicks 209-675-3094

Modesto Chess Club

Tuesday 6-10:30 p.m.
Shakeys Pizza
McHenry Avenue
John Barnard 209-785-7895

Monterey

Open daily except Mon.
430 Alvarado St.
Yudacufski 408-646-8730

Paradise

Tuesday 7-10 p.m.
Paradise Senior Center
Barry Nelson 916-873-3107

Porterville

Wednesday 7 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
Corner of Henderson &
Indiana
Hans Borm 209-784-3820

Reno, NV

Sun-Thurs 6:30 p.m.
2850 Wrondel Way, Suite D
Club: 702-827-3867
Jerry Weikel 702-747-1405

Richmond

Fridays 6 p.m.
Richmond Library
26th & MacDonald

Ross Valley (Marin County)

For current info, write:
P.O. Box 69
Ross CA 94957

Sacramento

Wednesday 6-10 p.m.
Senior Citizens Ctr
915-27th St.
Stewart Katz 916-444-3133
CSU Sacramento
Student Union Bldg.

San Anselmo

Tuesday 7 p.m.
Round Table Pizza,
Red Hill Shpping Ctr
Sir Francis Drake Blvd
Jim Mickle 415-457-2719

San Francisco

Mechancis' Institute
Open daily
57 Post St, 4th Floor
Jim Eade 650-328-9785

San Jose

Tue & Fri, Noon-4 p.m.
Willows Senior Center
2175 Lincoln Avenue
Jerry Marshall 408-267-1574

Santa Clara

2d Sat. Each month
2:15-6:15 p.m.
Mary Gomez Park
F. Sierra 408-241-1447

Santa Rosa

Tuesdays 6-10:45 p.m.
Sonoma Coffe Company
521 4th Street
Keith Halonen 707-578-6125

Santa Rosa

1st & Last Saturdays of
month
Adult & Youth Chess Club
of Sonoma County
Rincon Valley Library
Conference Room
6959 Montecito Blvd,
Santa Rosa
Mike Haun 707-537-0162

Stanford

Monday 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Student Union, Rm 550-550d
Andrian Keatinge-Clay
415-497-0598

Sunnyvale

LERA
Tuesday, 8 p.m.
Lockheed Rec Ctr, Bldg #160
Ken Stone 408-629-5530

Tulare

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
A&W Root Beer
133 North 'J' Street
Ward Forman 209-688-6386

Vallejo

Fridays 7:00 p.m.
Senior Citizens Ctr
333 Amador St
Frank Harris 707-644-3004

Visalia

Wednesday 7 p.m.
Carl's Jr-Von's Ctr
Hwy 198 & Chinowth
Allan Fifield 209-734-2784

Yuba-Sutter

Mon & Wed 7-11 p.m.
Carls Jr
Bridge St & Hwy 99, Yuba
City
Tom Giertych 916-671-1715