

California Chess Journal

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Winter Chess Festival Issue!

Equal First at LERA



Photo by Elizabeth Karnazes

Craig Mar

**31st LERA Thanksgiving
Linklater International
MLK Season Opener
Mechanics Masters
Bobby Fischer
25th Peoples
and
A Feast of Games!**

California Chess Journal



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THE EDITOR'S REPORT

Welcome to our special Winter Chess Festival issue featuring a fine report on the Martin Luther King Day season opener by Cal Chess President Richard Koepeke. We are also pleased to highlight the best in local chess from Berkeley to Sunnyvale to Sacramento to Fresno. On this month's cover we find Craig Mar who has been on a roll from second place at the Labor Day State Championship, to second place at the Mechanics Master, to an equal first in the November LERA. Craig is the chess trenches every weekend and is a major figure on the Cal Chess scene.

As part of our continuing series on *The Crisis In The USCF*, Riley Hughes has contributed as excellent interview with Cal Chess co-founders Tom Dorsch and Carolyn Withgitt. The USCF seems to have turned the corner and to be on a stable financial course. This is largely due to an efforts of two men — USCF Treasurer Tom Dorsch and new USCF Executive Director Mike Cavallo. In *The Threatening Letter to Bobby Fischer*, Sam Sloan slams the US State Department hard for its arbitrary assault on Bobby Fischer's right to travel and to make a living. Although Sam overstates his case a bit, your editor is in general agreement that Fischer was treated unfairly.

Our next issue will be a special games issue and will feature games annotated by super GM's Vishy Anand, Boris Gelfand, and Walter Browne. The deadline for submissions for the next issue of CCJ is June 1st. As you may have noticed I've made a number of changes in the format of the CCJ and I would love to hear from you with your comments and suggestions. Please keep those cards and letters coming!

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1998 WINTER CHESS FESTIVAL

by Richard Koepcke

After a one year hiatus, the annual Martin Luther King day tournament returned to the Bay Area on January 10-12. In the past, the event has drawn no better than 150 to 170 participants. So when we were looking for a site, the 5000 square feet at the Union City Radisson looked sufficient for the tournament. This year the tournament drew 240 participants which is more players than any tournament in the Bay Area has pulled in the last few years. This was quite a surprise considering that a lot of people do not get the MLK holiday off. On the second day we had to share the site with an art event (strictly the factory generated kind of paintings) which led to a lack of extra tables and space. With help from the hotel staff, we barely scrounged up the necessary tables and chairs. And had ten more entrants showed up, I'm not sure where we would have put them (though my co-organizer assured me that somehow we'd find a way to juggle the boards). Fortunately, we managed to squeeze everyone in with the facilities that were at hand.

The tournament itself was ably directed by Carolyn Withgitt, David Gross with some help from the author. The event came off fairly smoothly without any major incidents. Several participants couldn't make it back from the north bay due to whether conditions on Sunday. Little did we all realize that this was the first of many such storms. But aside from fighting mother nature on the highways, most of the participants enjoyed the tournament.

This year the Master section

produced a three way tie for first place between IM Igor Ivanov, Omar Cartagena and Victor Pupols with each scoring 4 ½ points. This may not look like a great result for Ivanov and Cartagena, but the truth is each had to play stronger than normal competition for a weekend Swiss. That is because almost all the 2400+ types showed up for the 2-Day schedule and the result was a tournament that could rival the Linkletter for the first three rounds. IM Ivanov's first round opponent



Bughouse is always popular with the younger set between rounds

was Robert Navarro (2414) and we weren't using accelerated pairings. Vinay Bhat, Paul Gallegos and Walter Shipman each scored 4 points to round out the prize winners by tying for the top Under 2400 prize.

The expert section paralleled the Master in producing a three way tie for first at 4 ½.. Robert Kichinski, Larry Synder, and Edward Muginsheyn were the winners of

this section. The 'A' section produced a more normal Swiss result with Michael Da Cruz and Osumundo Reyes winning the section with 5 ½.

Multi-way ties for first were the standard for this tournament and the 'B' section followed suite with Edward Lewis, Jesus Cendejas and Mohammed Shekib sharing the top spot with 5 points each. The only section to produce a clear winner was the 'C' section as David Brineger took first place with a perfect score of 6. Brad Wilburn finished in clear second with 5. Third place was divided evenly between five players: Latrael Eagles, David Dunez, Patrick Macaraeg, Eric Tolentino and Juan Cendejas at 4 ½.

With 78 entries, the D/E/Unrated section had by far the most players though most of the participants in this section were scholastic players who get a deep discount on the entry fee. Ron Lindberg, and Sergey Frenklakh shared first with 5 ½ points. Third produced a multi-way tie between Tang Nuygen, Monty Peckham and Dave Brown with each scoring 5 points. Also scoring 5 point was Kah Loong Chue for the top Unrated prize. Second place Unrated went to Tony Chan with 3 ½. points.

There were a couple of Blitz tournaments held during the main tournament. Friday's blitz tournament was a five round double Swiss and was won by Alan Stein. On Saturday, Arthur Ibragimov and Kristan Lawson shared first in a single round seven game Swiss. We changed to this format for the second day as there was more players and less time to execute the event. And now for some of the games. ♣

SWORD PLAY AT THE SEASON OPENER

by
Richard Koepcke

This season opener MLK tournament (Jan 10-12 in Union City) featured a number of sharp but marginal openings. Here is an example from the tournament.

David Preuss [2176]
IM Walter Shipman [2346]
Kings Gambit - C36
Round 1

1. e4 e5 2. f4 ef 3. Nf3 g5
4. d4 ?!

The more common 4th moves for white are, 4 h4 and 4 Bc4. In response to the latter, black often accepts the chance to play the famous Muzio Gambit [4 ... g4 5 d4 gf 6 Qxf3]. At best, white has a draw in that line, and in the case of the text, he may have even less when faced with accurate play by black.

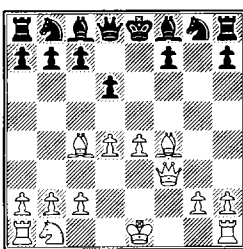
4 ... g4 5. Bxf4 gf 6. Qxf3

In comparison to the Muzio, black has time here to try to develop his queen side. The book move is 6 ... d5, blocking the a2 - g8 diagonal. The move that Shipman plays also frees the queen bishop, but also allows black to move the queen without a further loss of material.

6 ... d6 !?

As far as I know, this has not been tried before.

7. Bc4?



The margin between success and failure in this opening is very small. The text is an error because it allows white to gain time by counter attacking in the center. 7 Nc3 offers white a better chance of maintaining the initiative. A possible continuation is 7 ... c6 [Qf6 8 Rd1 transposes] 8. Bc4 Qf6 9. Rd1

followed by 0-0.

7 ... Qf6 8. e5

Unfortunately white can't castle because of 8 ... Qxd4+ 9. Kh1 Qxc4. So he must hasten to dislodge the queen before he can complete his development.

8 ... de 9. ed Qf5

10. 0-0 Nc6

11. Nc3 Be6 12. Bd3 Bc5+

13. Kh1 Qg4

White doesn't have enough compensation for the piece. He continues on for a few more moves hoping for a blunder by black.

14. Qe4 0-0-0 15. Qe1 Bb4

16. h3 Qg7 17. Qe2 Bxc3

Removing a potential attacker from the board before it can get to e4. Equally good was 17 ... Nge7 since 18. Ne4 Nd5 19. Bg5 Be7 is not terribly dangerous. After the text black does not have to fear the open file since it takes too long for white to redirect his pieces there.

18. bc Nge7 19. Rab1 Nd5 20.

Rxb7 (?)

This combination does not work but the position is lost anyway so he might as well mix it up a little.

20 ... Kxb7 21. Ba6+ Kb8

22. Qb5+ Nb6 23. Qxc6 Bd5

24 Resigns.

Not all of these sharp gambits failed to achieve their end. Here is an example from the 'A' section that worked out for the attacker.

Neil Regan [1990]
Steven Krasnov [1898]
Scandinavian Defense - B01
Round 6

1. e4 d5 2. ed Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5
4. b4 ?!

No doubt, one of Neil's at the board inspirations. Objectively, the time white gets kicking the queen around can't be worth the material investment.



Serious faces as the 4th round begins.

4 ... Qxb4 5. Nf3 Nf6 6. Rb1 Qd6

Black has surprising difficulty developing his queen side after 6 ... Qa5 7 Rb5 Qa6 8 d4 since 8 ... c6 9 Re5 b5 10 d5 doesn't look to good for him.

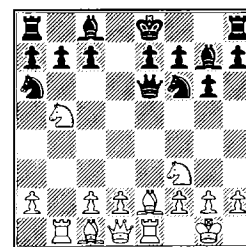
7. Nb5 Qe6+?

I don't see whites compensation after 7 ... Qd8. The text only helps white develop the rest of his forces.

8. Be2 Na6 9. 0-0 g6

10. Re1 Bg7?

Relatively best is 10...c6 11 Nc3 Qd6 though white has some compensation in this line after 12 Bc4.



11. Nxc7+!

A nice example of a diagonal clearing sacrifice.

11 ... Nxc7 12. Bb5+ Nxb5

13. Rxe6 Bxe6 14. Rxb5

The smoke has cleared leaving white with a decisive material advantage. The rest is just for practice.

14 ... b6 15. Ba3 Bxa2 16. Qa1

Be6 17. Ng5 Bd7 18. Re5 0-0

19. Qe1 Ng4 20. Rxe7 Rfe8 21.

Nf3 Bf6 22. Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.

Qd1 Bb5 24. h3 Be2

25. Qe1 Bb5 26. Qb1 Resigns

Here is one of the better games from one of the eventual co-winners of the expert section.

Steve Gaffagan [2063]

Robert Kichinski [2137]

Ruy Lopez, Schliemann - C63

Round 4

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 f5

Kichinski has been playing this for years, so it probably wasn't a surprise to Gaffagan. The problem is who has time to learn two sets of openings, just in case your opponent might play something your not completely familiar with. Gaffagan's solution is to by-pass all of the theory by playing something that is supposed to be innocuous.

4. Bxc6 dc 5. d3 ?!

On the other hand, this just nets white a bad game. 5. Nc3 has gotten some attention lately. Other tries are Qe2 and 0-0.

5 ... fe 6. de Qxd1+ 7. Kxd1 Bg4

Black has the bishop pair plus the initiative. White cannot readily attack the slight weakness at e5, and he will have trouble completing his development. These factors lead me to believe that black is slightly better.

8. Ke2 Bd6 9. Nbd2 Nf6

10. Re1 0-0 11. Kf1 Nh5

While the knight will look impressive on f4, the subsequent maneuver, Rf6, Raf8 followed by Nfg2 takes too long to organize. Black might make better progress by trying to interfere with whites natural plan of development b3 followed by Bb2. Hence 11 ... a5 followed by a4 is an interesting possibility.

12. a3

White can't proceed with 12. b3 because of the strong rejoinder 12 ... Bb4! However, kicking the offending bishop with h3 followed by b3 is definitely an alternative worth considering.

12 ... Nf4 13. b3 Rae8 14. Bb2

Re6 15. Ng1

White's plan is to play Nc4 without allowing Bxf3. A well motivated idea, but the downside of this is it frees the enemy queen rook from having to defend e5. He would have been better off playing a waiting move like Kg1 (15 ... Nh3+ 16. Kf1 doesn't change anything).

15 ... Rg6 16. Nc4 Be6 17. Ne3 Rgf6 18. f3 g5 19. g4?

19. h3 h5 20. Rad1 g4 21. hg hg 22. Rd2 provides a sterner defense.

19 ... h5?

Surprisingly, 19 ... Rh6 just wins a pawn.

20. h3 hg 21. hg Rh6 22. b4

This looks bad, but it is hard to find a move that doesn't lose outright. White doesn't have time for 22 Ng2 on the account of Bxg4. 22 .Ne2 Rh1+ 23. Kf2 Rh2+ 24. Kf1 Kg7 is also pretty ugly.

22 ... Rh2 23. Rad1 Nh3!

Building moves like 23 ... Kg7 give white time to organize a defense (24. Bc3, 25. Rd2). The text wins material by force.

24. Re2

Not 24. Nxb3 Rxf3+ winning more than a pawn.

24 ... Rh1 25. Kg2 Rxf3+

26. Rxf3 Nxf3 27. Rf2

Taking the knight immediately permits the maneuver Rxf3 followed by Rf4. The text hopes for 27 ... Nxf3 28. Rxf3 Rxf3 29. Kxf3 where white can try to exploit black's relatively bad bishop at d6.

27 ... c5 28. Kxf3

28. c3 cd 29. cd c5 doesn't change the basic situation.

28 ... cb 29. ab Bxb4 30. Kg2

There is no time for 30. Bxe5 because black has Bc5 31 Re2 Rxf3 winning the knight.

30 ... Bc5 31. Re2 Bd4

32. Ba3?

32. Bxd4 cd 33. Nf5 c5 34. f4 offered the last chance for counter play. It will soon become evident that white could not afford to leave blacks bishop on d4.

32 ... Rf7 33. Kg3 b5 34. Nf5 Bxf5 35. gf a5

With the bishop to support it, this pawns advance cannot be stopped.

36. Kg4 b4 37. Bc1 a4 38. Bg5

a3 39. f6 a2 40. Rg2 a1=Q

41. Kf5 Qh1 42. Resigns

Going into the 6th round, Victor Pupols and Walter Shipman shared first with 4 points. Their opponents, Vinay Bhat and Omar Cartagena, had to find a way to win with black. There are several approaches that might work. One try is to play an extremely sharp defense to hope to

lose the opposition in the ensuing complications. An alternative approach is to play a quite maneuvering game, and hope the opponent



Photo By Allan Fifield

Sam Petty with his favorite magazine.

cracks under the pressure. The problem with the first track is that there is often a forced draw available to white if he is aware of it. In the Pupols - Bhat game, Vinay opted for the Petroff defense. But instead of playing sharply for a win, white opted for 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nxe5 d6 4. Nf3 Nxe4 5. Qe2 where black had little real chance to drum up complications. The game quickly ended in a draw (by way, its not easy for black to get a draw in this line, as Keith Mehl's article in the previous issue of the CCJ shows). Cartagena also tried to play sharply and again his opponent forced simplifications. But, not all simplifying lines are good for a draw, as the following game shows.

IM Walter Shipman [2346]

SM Omar Cartagena [2516]

Winawar Gambit - D10

Round 6

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 e5

It used to be that everyone played 3. Nf3 to avoid this gambit, but ever since Kasparov - Nikolic Manila 1992, this gambit has looked rather dubious.

4. cd

4. de is generally considered the only way to get an advantage against Winawar gambit. However, whites position in the tournament does not require that he go all out for a win. **4 ... cd 5. e4 de 6. Bb5+ Bd7 7. de Bb4 8. Bxd7+?**

White loses an important tempo with this exchange as 8. Bd2 e3! 9. Bxd7+ Nxd7 10. Bxe3 Nxe5 11. Qa4+ Qd7 12. Qxd7+ Nxd7 is known to be dead equal.

8 ... Nxd7 9. Qa4 Qa5 10. Qxa5 Bxa5 11. Bd2 Nxe5 12. Nxe4

Bxd2+

12 ... Nd3+ doesn't help blacks cause. The text is better because it allows black to complete his development first.

13. Kxd2 0-0-0+ 14. Kc2 Ne7 15. Ne2

Black has a half tempo lead in development. How he uses this advantage to seize and hold the initiative is instructive.

15 ... f5 16. Nc5 b6 17. Nb3 N7c6 18. a3 Ng4 19. Raf1 Rhe8 20. Nc3 g6 21. h3 Nge5 22. Rd1

It appears as though white has solved his problems. However, the pure knight ending is also dangerous because black enjoys a space advantage and more active pieces.

22 ... Nc4 23. Rxd8+ Rxd8 24. Rd1

White is better off keeping a pair of rooks on the board. After 24. Re1 Nc6-e5 25. Re2 it is hard to see how black makes significant progress.

24 ... Rxd1 25. Nxd1 Kd7 26. Kc3 Nd6 27. f3?

Now the g2 pawn will become a critical weakness. 27. Nd2 is a more effective way of keeping the opposing knight off of e4.

27 ... f4! 28. Nd4 Nxd4 29. Kxd4 Ke6 30. Nf2 h6 31. Ng4!?

White gives up the g-pawn in order to drum up counter play on the queen side. Passive defense with 31. Nd3 Nf5+ 32. Ke4 g5 33. Ne1 feels like it should ultimately lose. However that is not the case here because the white king cannot be finessed off of the 4th rank.

31 ... Nf5+ 32. Ke4 g5 33. Ne5 Nh4 34. Nc6 a5 35. a4 Nxg2 36. Nd4+?

This turns out to be the decisive mistake. White can still hold the balance with 36. Ne5 Kd6 37. Kd4 Nh4 38. Nc4+ and now neither Kc6 [Ke6 39. Ke4 =] 39. Ne5+ nor Kc7 39. Ne5 Nf5+ 40. Kd5 is winning for black.

36 ... Kf6 37. Nf5 h5 38. b3 Ne3!

Walter probably missed this when considering his 36th move. The pawn ending that arises from 39. Nxe3 fe 40. Kxe3 Ke5 is lost, so white has to move the knight away from the king side.

39. Nd6 Ke6 40. Nc8

Another lost pawn ending develops from 40. Nc4? Nxc4 41. bc Kf6 and now neither 42. Kd4 g4 43. fg fg 44. hg Kg5 or 42. h4 gh 43 Kxf4 h3 saves white.

40 ... Nd5 41. Kd4 g4! 42. fg hg 43. hg f3

The point. white has to retreat so black can gobble up the g-pawn and still keep his own passed pawn.

44. Kd3 Ke5 45. g5 Kf5 46. Nd6+ Kxg5 47. Kd4 Kf4 48. Ne4 Nc7

With the idea of maneuvering the Knight to c5 via either e6 or a6. Once it gets there, white will not be able to find a satisfactory method for stopping the f-pawn.

49. Nf2 Kg3 50. Ne4+ Kg2 51. Ke5 Na6 52. Kd5 Nc5 53. Nd2 f2 54. Nc4 Kf3

Of course not 54 ... f1=Q 55. Ne3+ though black is still winning after the Queen comes off the board. **55. Kd4 Ke2 56. Ne3 Nxb3+ 57. Ke4 Nc5+ 58. Kd4 Nxb5** and black eventually won.

It cannot be said that this was a great tournament for IM Igor Ivanov though he managed to scramble into a tie for first with the following game.

IM Igor Ivanov [2587]

SM Alan Stein [2426]

English Opening - A26

Round 6

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 Nc6!? 3. Nc3

On 3 d4 black has either e5 4 de Ng4 with a transposition to the Budapest defense, or d5 which is the Chigorin Defense. There is a fair amount of theory to both lines, which is why Ivanov probably by-passed them. Stein does not play either opening, but Ivanov didn't know that.

3 ... e5 4. e3 d6

This line has a bad reputation. The more main line approaches are 4 ... Bb4 or d5. Both lead to sharp uncompromising chess.

5. d4 g6

As far as I know, this is a new move here. The pawn structure resembles the Kings-Indian which is an opening that Stein has a lot of experience playing from the black side.

6. b3 Bg7 7. de Ng4?

7 ... de 8. Qxd8+ Nxd8 is close to equal. The text results in a position that resembles a Budapest pawn structure but with the king bishop on a less favorable square.

8. Bb2 Ngxe5 9. Nxe5 Bxe5 10. g3 h5!?

An attempt to mix it up a little. This idea always suggests itself when the opposition doesn't have a knight on f3. But, in this situation, white's control of a fluid center makes it unlikely that this foray is going to amount to much more than a voluntary weakening of blacks king side.

11. Qd2 0-0 12. Bg2 a5 13. 0-0 h4 14. f4

Otherwise 14 ... h3 might be trouble. Now f3 is available for the bishop in response to this move.

14 ... Bg7 15. Nd5 hg 16. hg Be6 17. Kf2

Intending the slow but effective Rh1-h2 followed by Rah1 and Rh8+. **17 ... Bxd5?**

This stops white's idea but costs a pawn. The ugly looking 17 ... f6 would have put up more resistance.

18. Bxd5 Nb4 19. Bxg7

Black was threatening 19 ... Bxb2 20. Qxb2 Nd3+

19 ... Kxg7 20. Bxb7 Rb8

21. Bf3 Qf6 22. Rh1 Rfe8

23. Rad1 Re6 24. g4 Kg8

24 ... g5!? is worth considering.

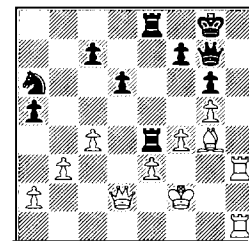
25. g5 Qg7 26. Rh3 Rbe8

27. Bg4 Re4

Covering the d4 square. Otherwise the maneuver Rdh1, followed by Qd4 will be fatal to black.

28. Rdh1 Na6

Hoping to redirect the knight to f5 or e4 where it can help defend the king. There is a tactical flaw that Ivanov immediately exploits.



29. Bd7! Re7 30. Bc6 R4e6

31. Bd5 Resigns ♔

25TH PEOPLES CHESS TOURNAMENT

by
Don Shennun

With 170 entries in Open, X.A.B. and Reserve, the 25th Peoples was organized and directed by Don and Laura Shennun. An additional 112(!) entries played in the one day Young People's Scholastics on Saturday. Berkeley mayor Shirley Dean showed up and started the event by reading the city Proclamation proclaiming it People's Chess Weekend in Berkeley. The Oakland Tribune did two writeups on the event (one before and one after).

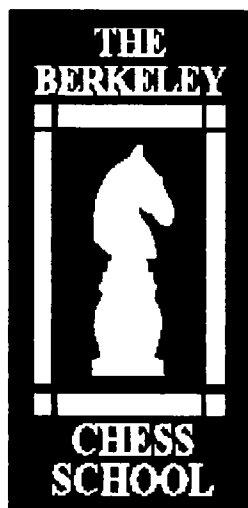
Pre-tournament favorite Omar Cartagena had an interesting situation in round 5 versus Jennie Frenklakh. Jennie playing white scrambles to just makes her fortieth move with her flag barely hanging. It's Omar's move now, as black. He's got about 4-5 minutes. He starts thinking. Jennie gets up to stretch her legs and then comes back. Omar's still thinking, and is down to about 1 minute now. Suddenly his flag falls as he completes his move. Jennie calls 'Flag!', but by the time she reaches over to stop the clocks her flag also falls. This is



The always smiling Vinay Bhat tied for first at the 25th Peoples.

your basic TD 'nightmare'. After much discussion with both players, the tournament director ruled a time forfeit by Omar. By the way, he had a crushing position against Jennie, and she said she was on the verge of resigning.

OPEN		
1st-2nd	Tigran Ishkhanov	5-1
	Vinay Bhat	5-1
3rd-4th	Rich Kelson	4.5-1.5
	Donny Ariel	4.5-1.5
Under 2300	Jennie Frenklakh	4-2
	Jim Burden	4-2
	Tom Stevens	4.2
Expert	Bela Evans	4.5-1.5
	Jimmy Plumb	4.5-1.5
Best 'A'	Ian Zimmerman	5-1
	William Whitney	5-1
Best 'B'	Francisco Zulueta	5.5-0.5
RESERVE		
1st	Liam MacDermed	5-0
2nd-3rd	Bruce Allen	4.5-0.5
	Kah Loong Chile	4.5-0.5.5
Under 1400	Sam Jones	4-1
	Patrick Webb	4-1
Top Female	Martha Lopez	3-2
(Prize donated by Don Leiberman)		



CHESS INSTRUCTORS WANTED FOR SEPTEMBER

For elementary school children in the East Bay Area. Must be good with kids, which especially includes being able to keep order in a classroom of up to 20 kids. Should have a USCF rating and be willing to teach from the lesson plans provided by the Berkeley Chess School.

Job is part time, minimum one hour per week, 2:00 pm or later, \$20.00 per hour lesson.

Own transportation is essential

Contact Elizabeth Shaughnessy

"The Berkeley Chess School"

510-843-0150

"Gens Una Sumus"

"We Are One"

Photos By Allan Fifield

Right: Bill Tate



Below: Maroth De Marothy



Below: Cal Magaoay



Carrie Ho



Right:
John Chung



Left:
Willie
Campers

31st LERA Thanksgiving Class Tournament

November 28-29-30, 1997

Place	Name	Score	Prize	Place	Name	Score	Prize
1st-2nd	Craig Mar	4.5	\$400	Best 'C'	Bernard Gulen	5.5	\$200
	Ronald Cusi	4.5	\$400	Best 'D'	Bill Dixon	4.5	\$100
Best Expert	Igor Traub	5.0	\$400	Best 'E'	Ilya Perepelitsky	4.5	\$100
Best 'A'	Walter Wood	5.0	\$233	Best 'F'	Han Zhang	4.0	\$33
	Michael Dacruz	5.0	\$233		Alexander Setzepfandt	4.0	\$33
	Osmundo Reyes	5.0	\$233		Marijo Mont-Reynaud	4.0	\$33
Best 'B'	Calixto Magaoay	4.5	\$300	1st Unrated	Derek Lau	5.5	\$100

147 players directed by Jim Hurt and Ted Yudacufski

The Best Games of 31st LERA Thanksgiving Class Championships

Annotated by Richard Koepcke

This game contains two sacrifices, both of which are sound. Yet it is not a brilliancy. The reason being practically all of it is book. In fact the first deviation is on move 24. Black resigned one move later.

Peter Thiel [2277]

Emmanuel Perez [2412]

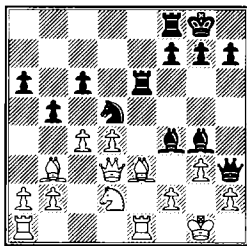
Ruy Lopez - Marshall Gambit
C89

Open Section Brilliancy Prize

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6
4. 0-0 Be7 5. 0-0 Be7 6. Re1 b5
7. Bb3 0-0 8. c3 d5 9. ed Nxd5
10. Nxe5 Nxe5 11. Rxe5 c6
12. d4 Bd6 13. Re1 Qh4 14. g3
Qh3 15. Be3 Bg4 16. Qd3 Rae8
17. Nd2 Re6 18. c4 ?!

More common is 18 a4. The text does not have a good reputation because of the following piece sac.

18 ... Bf4



With the pawn on c3, this combination would be refuted by 19 Bxd5. Now black has time for the maneuver Rh6, Qxh2 because white has to take time out to defend h1.

19. cd Rh6 20. Qe4 Qxh2+ 21. Kf1 Bxe3 22. Rxe3 Rf6! 23. Nf3?

According to John Nunn, white might survive by giving back the piece with 23. f3. The text just loses to the following combination.

23 ... Rxf3 24. Rxf3? [Qxf3 is a little better] Qh1+ 25. Ke2 Bxf3+ Resigns.

The Expert section winner is one of the more interesting games of the tournament. In the opening, white grabbed a pawn that all the books say is poisoned. Black does indeed win material a few moves later. How-

ever it turns out that white has a fair amount of compensation for his material. After a few causal moves by black, a very strong kingside attack appears out of nowhere. The result is a quick knockout, and a nice demonstration of how long range pieces can control other sectors of the board from afar.

Chris Black [1926]

Lazar Shnaiderman [2022]

English Opening - A29

Expert Brilliancy Prize

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e5 3. g3 d5
4. cd Nxd5 5. Bg2 Nb6 6. Nf3
Nc6 7. d3 Be7 8. 0-0 0-0 9. a3

The main line, though not the only try for an advantage. Recently a lot of attention has centered around 9 Rb1. Other moves are Bd2 and Be3. What follows now is a reversed classical Sicilian Dragon. The question is, does the extra tempo mean anything.

9 ... Be6 10. b4 a5 11. b5 Nd4 12. Nxe5!?

White is not supposed to be able to take this pawn.

12 ... Bf6 13. f4 Bxe5?

This exchange only helps white. Better is the more direct 13 ... Nb3 14. Bb2 [white doesn't have enough compensation after 14. Be3 Nxa1 15. Qxa1 Nd5 16. Bc5 Be7 17. Ne4 f6 =+] Nxa1 15. Qxa1. The ECO monograph on A29 claims a big edge for black. However this judgment looks a little over optimistic. White has control of the center plus a pawn for his exchange. A possible continuation is 15 ... Nd5 16. Nxd5 Bxd5 17. e4 Be6 17 d4 with some play. Still the line is probably only good for a draw. More than enough reason for white to pick a different 12th move.

14. fe Nb3 15. Be3 Nxa1 16. Qxa1 Nd5 17. Bc5 Re8 18. Ne4

Now white definitely has compensation for the exchange. His control of the central dark squares makes it very hard for black to find good squares for his pieces. Black

should probably reclaim the a3-f8 diagonal with 18 ... b6. Instead he doubles his pieces on the d-file.

18 ... Qd7 19. a4

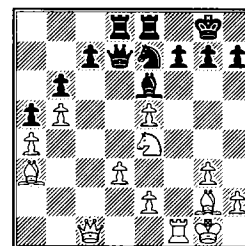
Much stronger is 19. Qc1! Black cannot afford to grab the b-pawn since 19 ... Qxb5 20. Nf6+ gf 21. ef Kh8 22. a4 Qxa4 23. Be4 is decisive. For example 23 ... Qb5 24. Qh6 Qxc5+ 25. Kh1 Nxf6 26. Rxf6 Black doesn't have a good defense to the dual threat 27. Qxh7+ and Bxh7.

19 ... b6 20. Ba3? Rad8?

Black is just winning after 20 ... Ne3! Now white can correct his previous oversight.

21. Qc1! Ne7?

Missing the threat, Bf5 keeps the balance.



22. Nf6+ gf 23. ef Ng6 24. Qh6

Black has to give up the Queen to prevent mate. The rest is just for practice.

24 ... Qd4+ 25. Kh1 Qxf6 26. Rxf6 Bb3 27. Bb2 Re2 28. Rg6 Resigns.

The remaining brilliancy games are really candidates for the best game award. However the judge should not be blamed for not picking true brilliancies, since there were most likely none to be found.

Hans Poschmann [1789]

Duane Anderson [1683]

Sokolsky Opening

A-B Section Brilliancy Prize

1. b4

For as long as I've known Hans he has been playing this opening. It has the virtue of avoiding a lot of theory. Unfortunately there are not many problems for black to solve either.

1... e5 2. Bb2 d6 3. e3 Nf6
4. Nf3 Bg4

An alternative setup would be 4 ... g6 5. d4 Nbd7 6. c4 Bg7, followed by 0-0 and Re8. The bishop move isn't bad, but it does commit black to eventually exchanging it. In these Kings-Indian like positions, the queen bishop is often an important piece in blacks kingside counterplay.

5. Be2 Nbd7 6. c4 c6 7. a4

This pawn sally does not have much point with the d-pawn still on its original square. White is more likely to get an advantage from 7. d4.

7 ... Bxf3!? 8. Bxf3 e4 9. Be2 g6 10. 0-0

If white wants to randomize the position, 10. g4 would do the trick, however this creates all kinds of holes around whites kingside.

10 ... Bg7 11. f3 0-0 12. fe Nxe4 13. Bxg7 Kxg7

Black has emerged from the opening with a compact position and a development edge. White is going to have some trouble completing his development.

14. d3

Now the e-pawn becomes a target.

14 ... Nef6 15. Qd2 Qe7 16. Nc3 Rfe8 17. e4 d5!

Very good! Whites pieces are temporarily loose in the center, so black rushes to crack open the position before white has time to consolidate with Rae1 and Bf3.

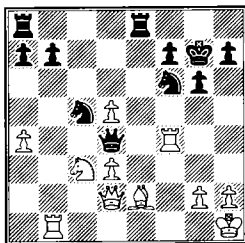
18. ed cd 19. cd

White doesn't have any compensation for the pawn after 19. Rfe1 cd 20. cd Qxb4 21. Rab1 Qc5+.

19 ... Qxb4 20. Rab1 Qd4+

21. Kh1 Nc5 22. Rf4

Hans misses a tactic. Mixing it up with 22. Nb5 Qe5 23. d4 offered reasonable chances for a draw.



22 ... Nfe4! 23. Nxe4 Rxe4
24. Rf3

White will almost certainly lose the ending that results from 24. Rxe4 Nxe4 25. Qb2 | otherwise 25... Nf2+ is mate in four | Qxb2 26. Rxb2 Nd6.

24 ... Rae8 25. Re1?

A catastrophic mistake in a lost position. 25. Bf1 is the only move.

25 ... Rxe2 26. Rxe2 Qa1+

27. Resigns

Alberto Cisneros [1103]

Daniel Randall [1264]

Wing Gambit Sicilian - B20

C-D Section Brillancy Prize

1. e4 c5 2. b4 cb 3. d4 Nf6 4. e5 Nd5 5. Bd3 Nc6 6. Nf3 d6 7. 0-0 de [7 ... Bg4 =+] 8. de Bg4 9. Bc4 Nb6 10. Bxf7 Kxf7 11. Ng5 Ke8 12. Qxg4 Nxe5 13. Qxb4 g6 14. Qb5 Ned7 15. Bb2 Rg8 16. Re1 Qc8 17. Nc3 Bg7 18. Nce4 Kf8 19. Nxb7+ Kf7 20. Neg5+ Ke8 21. Bxg7 Rxg7 22. Nf6+ Kf8 23. Ne6+ Kf7 24. Nxd7 Nxd7 25. Nxb7 Nf8 26. Qb2 Qc7 27. Re3 Rc8 28. Rae1 Rd8 29. Ne6 Nxe6 30. Rxe6 Qd7 31. Rxe7+ Qxe7 32. Rxe7+ Kxe7 33. Qxb7+ Kf8 34. Qb4+ Ke8 35. h3 Resigns

Kenneth Wu [1082]

Mani Subramaniam [Unr]

QGD - Ragozin Var D38

E-F-Unr Brillancy Prize

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 Bb4 5. Qb3 c5 6. a3 Qa5 7. Bg5 Ne4 8. Bd2 Bc3 9. Bc3 Nc3 10. bc cd 11. Nd4 Nc6 12. e3 Nd4 13. ed 0-0 14. Be2 Bd7 15. 0-0 Bc6 16. Qb4 Qc7 17. Bf3 a5 18. Qb3 dc 19. Qc4 Rfc8 20. Be2 Bd5 21. Qd3 Qc3 22. Rac1 Qc1 23. Rc1 Rc1 24. Bd1 Rac8 25. h3 R8c3 26. Qd2 Bb3 27. Kh2 Bd1 28. Qg5 Rc8 29. Qa5 Bb3 30. Qb4 Bd5 31. h4 h5 32. Qd2 Ra1 33. Qg5 g6 34. g4 Rh1 35. Kg3 Rg1 36. Kh3 Rg4 37. Qf6 Rc3 38. f3 Rf3 39. Qf3 Bf3 40. a4 Rd4 41. Kg3 Bg4 42. a5 Ra4 43. a6 ba 44. Kf2 Re6 45. Kf1 a5 46. Kg2 a4 47. Kf2 a3 48. Kg2 a2 49. Kg3 a1=Q 50. Kf2 Qc3 51. Kf1 Re2 52. Resigns

Napa Valley Quads

by Jeff Anderson

Held on February 21st in St. Helena, this event paid out \$157 to tournament co-winners Rodrigo Silveira and Jeff Anderson. Both players finished the main event with 2.5 points and then drew with each other in the tie-breaker. Everyone liked the three round G/45 format (with G/25 playoffs if necessary). We started at 10:15 am and were done by 4:30 p.m.!

Baburin vs Berkeley

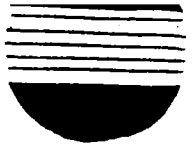


30 students from the Berkeley Chess School fought hard against GM Alexander Baburin at a simultaneous exhibition on November 7, 1997 at the Berkeley City Club. Six students managed to get a draw against GM Baburin. They were Aaron Fung, Simion Kreimer, Kris MacLennan, Cameron Huey, and Wesley Chen.

The next deadline for
California Chess Journal
submission is
June 1st



1998 LERA MEMORIAL DAY CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS



DATE Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 23, 24 & 25th

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 Six 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

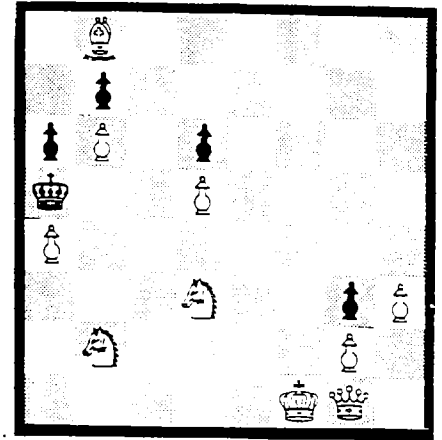
Division:	<u>Open</u>	<u>Expert</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>Unrated</u>
First Prize:	\$500	\$400	\$350	\$300	\$200	\$100	\$100	\$100
Second Prize:	\$300	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$120			
Third Prize:	\$200	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$ 80			



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.

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	
Round Five	9:30 am Monday	
Round Six	3:00 pm Monday	



CAN WHITE MATE IN TWO MOVES

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 May 17th. If paid Friday 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: 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. 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 Ken Stone (408) 629-5530. 1/2 point byes are available.



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

NEXT EVENT The next LERA chess tournament will be held in August 1998

5-98

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 18

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 May 17, otherwise entry fees are \$5 more. Make check payable to LERA Chess Club. Parking is free.

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

Mechanics' Linklater International

by
Jim Eade

The Mechanics' Linklater International, named after a long time member, and frequenter of the Institute's chess room, took place from February 3rd through the 11th. The International was organized so that a score of six points (out of a possible nine) would generate an International Master norm.

The tournament offered \$2,000 in prize money and \$2,000 in point money.

Interestingly enough, there was a three way tie for first, at six points apiece, among Ron Cusi, Omar Cartagena and IM Guillermo Rey. Guillermo didn't need the norm, since he'd already earned the title, but Omar and Ron, were pretty pleased. This is the second time both Omar and Ron have earned IM norms at the Mechanics. The third time will be charmed.

Although the Mechanics' Institute has been sponsor and host to a fairly long series of Internationals, this was the first time that the Linklater qualified as one. The Mechanics' rather ambitious plan is to hold two Internationals every year, and upgrading the Linklater was a key factor in achieving that objective. The early returns suggest that we are almost certain to begin generating new titled players, which the Bay Area has failed to produce since the mid-1980's.

The tournament offered \$2,000 in prize money and \$2,000 in point money (each win counting towards

the pool). Cusi and Rey each earned \$1000 while Cartagena took home \$917. This system tends to reward the ambitious player, and it keeps the players interested in playing fighting chess, even when they are out of the running for one of the top spots. In order to get the IM title, you ought to be able to beat IMs, and that is exactly what Cusi and Cartagena were able to do in the following games. Cusi's win was especially dramatic, since he needed to win his last round game in order to get his norm.

**Cusi, R (2420)
Grefe, J (2375) [A65]
Mechanics' Linklater
International (9)
November 2, 1998**

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.f3 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Qd2 exd5 9.cxd5 a6 10.a4 Qa5 11.Ra3 Nbd7 12.Nge2 Re8 13.Nc1 h5 14.Be2 Nh7 15.Bh6 Bh8 16.0-0 Qd8 17.N1a2 Qf6 18.Be3 Qe7 19.Bf2 Ne5 20.b4 cxb4 21.Nxb4 f5 22.Nc2 Bf6 23.Nd4 f4 24.a5 Bh4 25.Na4 Bxf2+ 26.Rxf2 Qf6 27.Nb6 Rb8 28.Rc3 Ng5 29.Rc7 h4 30.Qc1

Bh3 31.Nb3 Re8 32.gxh3 Nxh3+ 33.Kf1 Nxf2 34.Kxf2 h3 35.Qf1 Qh4+ 36.Kg1 Rf8 37.Qf2 Qd8 38.Rc1 Rf7 39.Qf1 g5 40.Nd4 Rh7 41.Rc3 g4 42.fxg4 Qh4 43.Nf5 Qg5 44.Qc1 Rf8 45.Kh1 Kh8 46.Rc8 Rhf7 47.Nxd6 Rf6 48.Rxf8+ Rxf8 49.Nf5 Kg8 50.d6 Kh7 51.Nd5 Nxd6 52.Qc7+ Kg8 53.Bxg4 1-0

**Cartagena, O (2430) - Shipman, W (2350) [C60]
Mechanics' Linklater
International (3)
May 2, 1998**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nge7 4.0-0 Ng6 5.d4 exd4 6.Nxd4 Bc5 7.Nf5 0-0 8.Nc3 Re8 9.Qh5 d6 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2 Be6 12.Rad1 Bf7 13.Qg4 Nce5 14.Qg3 c6 15.Be2 Be6 16.Na4 Qc7 17.Nxc5 dxc5 18.Ne3 Nf8 19.Bc3 Kh8 20.f4 Ned7 21.Bh5 Re7 22.e5 fxe5 23.Qg5 Qd8 24.f5 Bg8 25.Rd6 Re8 26.f6 g6 27.Qh6 Re7 28.Bxe5 Rf7 29.Qg7+ 1-0



Photo by Allan Fifield

Omar Cartagena earned an IM norm at the Linklater.

Read All About It

Visit our site on the World Wide Web at its new address:

<http://www.hooked.net/~hegemon/norcal.html>

Sacramento Chess Championship

by John McCumiskey

OPEN SECTION			
1st Place	James MacFarland	4.5	\$375
2nd-3rd	Arthur Braden	4.0	\$213
	Kenan Zildzie	4.0	\$213
Under 2100	Clarence Lehman	3.5	\$275
RESERVE SECTION			
1st	Cesar Cuellar	5.0	\$375
2nd-3rd	Dean Domach	4.5	\$213
	Michael Schick	4.5	\$213
1200-1499	Cameron Ayers	4.0	\$175
Under 1200	Alberto Cisneros	4.0	\$125
Unrated	Bruce Allen	3.0	\$113
	Michael Shaw	3.0	\$113
1st Junior	Stuart Ward	4.0	\$50

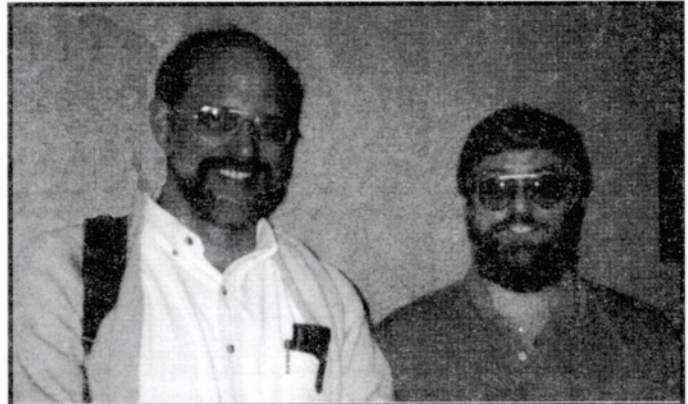


Photo by Allan Fifield

Chuck Coleman (l) and John McCumiskey (TD) plan the retrun of serious chess to Sacramento.

Sponsored by the Sacramento Chess Club and directed by John McCumiskey, the first major capital city event in several years attracted 120 players and paid out \$3225. A special thanks go to Ms. Felicia Bessent, Principal, Samuel Jackman Middle School, Mr. Ricardo Salazar, Samuel Jackman Middle School Chess Advisor, and Ron Richard, Samuel Jackman Middle School Campus Security, for their part in the event.

And now for two of the best games from this event . . .

**James MacFarland -
Zoran Lazetich
Open Section**

Round 5

1. d4 g6 2. Nf3 Bg7 3. Nc3 c5 4. d5 d6 5. e4 Nf6 6. Be2 O-O 7. O-O Bg4 8. Nd2 Bxe2 9. Qxe2 Na6 10. Nc4 Nc7 11. a4 Nd7 12. Bf4

a6 13. a5 Rb8 14. Na4 Nb5 15. c3 Qc7 16. Rfe1 f6 17. Rad1 Na7 18. Qg4 Nc8 19. h4 b5 20. axb6 Ndx6 21. Naxb6 Nxb6 22. Nxb6 Rxb6 23. Qe6+ Kh8 24. Bc1 Qc8 25. Qxc8 Rxc8 26. f4 a5 27. f5 Kg8 28. Rd3 Kf7 29. g4 gxf5 30. gxf5 Rg8 31. Rg3 a4 32. Kf2 Bf8 33. Rxc8 Kxc8 34. h5 Rb3 35. Re3 Kf7 36. Rg3 c4 37. Ke2 a3 38. bxa3 Rb1 39. Rg1 Bh6 40. Be3 Rb2+ 41. Kf3 Bxe3 42. Kxe3 Ra2 43. h6 Rxa3 44. Kd4 Ra2 45. Rg7+ Ke8 46. Rxh7 Rh2 47. Rh8+ Kd7 48. Kxc4 Rh4 49. Kd3 Rh3+ 50. Kd4 Rh1 51. h7 Rd1+ 52. Kc4 Rh1 53. e5!! Rh4+ 54. Kb3 1-0

**Kevin Schambers -
Ceasar Cuellar
Reserve Section**

Round 5

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 d6 3. f4 Nc6 4.

Nf3 Nf6 5. Bb5 a6 6. Bxc6+ bxc6 7. O-O g6 8. d3 Bg7 9. Qe1 Bg4 10. Nd2 O-O 11. h3 Bc8 12. Nf3 Rb8 13. Qh4 d5 14. e5 Ne8 15. g4 f5 16. exf6 Bxf6 17. Ng5 Bd4+ 18. Kg2 Nf6 19. Nf3 h5 20. g5 Ne8 21. Nxd4 cxd4 22. Ne2 c5 23. Ng1 c4 24. Nf3 Qb6 25. Ne5 Bf5 26. Qf2 cxd3 27. cxd3 Nd6 28. b3 Nb5 29. Bb2 Nc3 30. Rfc1 Rfc8 31. Rc2 Rc7 32. Rac1 Rbc8 33. Bxc3 Qe6 34. Qxd4 Bxh3+ 35. Kf2 a5 36. Nc6 Kf7 37. Ne5+ Kg8 38. Re1 Qf5 39. Qxd5+ e6 40. Qd4 a4 41. bxa4 h4 42. a5 Rxc3 43. Rxc3 Rxc3 44. Qxc3 Qxf4+ 45. Nf3 Bg4 46. d4 Qg3+ 47. Ke2 Qg2+ 48. Kd1 Bxf3+ 49. Kc1 Qxg5+ 50. Kb2 Qg2+ 51. Ka3 Bd5 52. Qc8+ Kg7 53. Qc3 Kh6 54. Qe3+ g5 55. Rg1 Qf3 56. Re1 h3 57. Re2 Qxe3+ 58. Rxe3 g4 59. Re5 h2 0-1 ♔



Even bughouse teams can do the pre-game "Good luck" handshake! Marcus Tong & Alex Wu (l) join Daniel Barclay & Ted Enns in a unique moment. Looking amused (next to Wu) is Michael Pollock as his opponent Jake Wachtel looks a little more serious. Photo by Steve Cohen.

Mechanics' Masters

by
Joan Arbil

Photo by Steve Cohen



"Schiller the Killer" on the prowl.

On December 5th the Mechanics' Institute was proud to present a new addition to its family of important chess events. The Mechanics Masters Tournament promises to be an annual event that gives strong players an opportunity to test their chess skills among equals. Even more important, this strong tournament opens the door to the highest scoring contestants to the possibility of being seeded into the Linklater Qualifier which takes place January 20th.

The main event, the Linklater, which takes place February 3rd to the 11th, was in the past an eight player closed event which served as the Northern California championship. Under the innovation of James Eade and the current and past Cal Chess presidents the Linklater has now become a FIDE event which gives opportunities to players to play for titles and norms.

The masters event was a hard fought battle whose final outcome was only determined at the end of the last round when Craig Mar managed to topple tournament leader Eric Schiller. Eric's conquest of G.M. Dmitry Gurevich in the second round earned him the title of "Schiller the Killer". Dmitry, in spite of his upset by Schiller, claimed sole first place with 4 out of a possible 5 points. Sharing 2nd place with Schiller were, with 3.5 points were Craig Mar and Ron Cusi. And now for the best games of the first Mechanics Masters as selected by Jim Eade.

**Burt Izumikawa -
Oleg Shakhnazarov
[C89]**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6
3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Be7
7.Re1 0-0 8.c3 d5
9.exd5 Nxd5
10.Nxe5 Nxe5
11.Rxe5 Nf6 12.Re1 Bd6 13.h3
Ng4 14.Qf3 Qh4 15.d4 h5 16.Be3
Nh2 17.Qxa8 Bxh3 18.Qd5 Qg4
19.Nd2 Qg6 20.Qg5 1-0

**Dmitry Gurevich -
David Blohm
[D94]**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e3
g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Be2 dxc4 7.Bxc4
0-0 8.0-0 Bg4 9.h3 Bxf3
10.Qxf3 Nbd7 11.Rd1 b5 12.Bf1
b4 13.Na4 c5 14.Nxc5 Nxc5
15.dxc5 Qa5 16.c6 Rac8 17.a3 b3
18.Bd2 Qa4 19.Rac1 Ne4 20.Rc4
Nxd2 21.Rxd2 Qa5 22.Rd5 Qb6
23.a4 Bxb2 24.Rb5 Qd8 25.Rxb3
Qd2 26.Qe4 Bf6 27.c7 a5 28.Rb1
Qd6 29.Rc6 1-0

**Dmitry Gurevich -
Bill Orton
[A43]**

1.d4 c5 2.d5 f5 3.c4 Nf6 4.Nc3 g6
5.f3 Bg7 6.e4 d6 7.exf5 Bxf5
8.Bd3 e5 9.Nge2 0-0 10.Ng3 Ne8
11.h4 h6 12.Qc2 Qf6 13.Nce4 Qf7
14.h5 Bxe4 15.hxg6 Qxg6
16.Nxe4 Rf7 17.Ng5 e4 18.Bxe4
Re7 19.Ne6 Qg3+ 20.Qf2 Qe5
21.Bxh6 Qxb2 22.Bxg7 Qxf2+
23.Kxf2 Nxc7 24.Ng5 Nd7 25.Rh6
Ne5 26.Rah1 Ne8 27.Rh8+ Kg7
28.R1h7+ Kf6 29.Rf8+ 1-0

**Richard Koepcke -
Dmitry Gurevich
[E32]**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2
0-0 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 b5 7.cxb5
c6 8.bxc6 Nxc6 9.e3 Qb6 10.Bd3

Ba6 11.Ne2 Rfc8 12.Qd2 Na5
13.Bxa6 Qxa6 14.Qd1 Qb7 15.0-0
Nb3 16.Rb1 Qe4 17.Bd2 Qxb1
18.Qxb1 Nxd2 19.Qd3 Nxf1
20.Kxf1 Rab8 21.b4 Nd5 22.f3 Nb6
23.Nc3 h6 24.Kf2 Nc4 25.Ne4 a5
26.Nc5 axb4 27.axb4 d5 28.Qc3
Ra8 29.e4 Ra3 30.Qc1 Rb8
31.exd5 exd5 32.Qb1 Rba8 33.Qf5
Ra2+ 34.Kg3 Rxc7+ 35.Kh3 Rg5
36.Qd7 Nd2 37.b5 Nxf3 38.b6 Ra3
0-1

**Walter Shipman -
Burt Izumikawa
[A80]**

1.d4 f5 2.Bg5 Nf6 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3
d5 5.Bd3 Be6 6.Qf3 Qd7 7.Ne2
Nc6 8.c3 Bd6 9.Nf4 Ne7 10.h4 0-0
0-0 11.Nd2 Bf7 12.Ne2 g6 13.0-0
0-0 Qa4 14.Kb1 Nc6 15.Bc2 Qb5
16.Nc1 Na5 17.Qe2 Nc4 18.Nxc4
dxc4 19.Ka1 Rhe8 20.h5 Bf8
21.hxg6 hxg6 22.Qd2 Re6 23.Ne2
Rb6 24.Bb1 Re8 25.Nf4 Bd6
26.Rh6 Bxf4 27.exf4 Rbe6 28.Qc2
Re2 29.Rd2 Re1 30.Rd1 b6
31.Rh1 R1e2 32.Rd2 R2e4 33.g3
Bd5 34.Qd1 R4e7 35.Rg1 Qc6
36.Bc2 Bf3 37.Qf1 Re2 38.Rxe2
Rxe2 39.Kb1 Kb7 40.Kc1 Qb5
41.Rh1 a5 42.a4 Rxc2+ 43.Kxc2
Be4+ 44.Kc1 Qxa4 45.Qd1 Qa1+
0-1

**Viktors Pupols -
Ron Cusi
[A36]**

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2
Bg7 5.d3 e5 6.e4 d6 7.Nge2 h5
8.h4 Bg4 9.f3 Be6 10.Bg5 f6
11.Be3 Bh6 12.Qd2 Nd4 13.Bxh6
Nxb6 14.Nxd4 cxd4 15.Ne2 Qd7
16.Ng1 b5 17.b3 bxc4 18.bxc4
Rb8 19.Bh3 f5 20.Rh2 fxe4
21.Qg5 Qf7 22.fxe4 Bxh3 23.Nxb3
Ng4 24.Rd2 0-0 25.0-0-0 Kg7
26.Rb2 Ne3 27.Rb3 Rxb3 28.axb3
Nxd1 0-1

Richard Koepcke -
Doug Saylor
[D07]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.Nc3 Bxf3 5.gxf3 e6 6.e3 Bb4 7.Bd2 Nge7 8.Qc2 0—0 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Bd3 Qh4 11.0—0—0 Rfd8 12.Nxd5 exd5 13.Kb1 Bxd2 14.Qxd2 a5 15.a3 Ne7 16.Qc2 c6 17.Rdg1 g6 18.Rg4 Qf6 19.f4 Kh8 20.h4 h5 21.Rg5 Rg8 22.Rhg1 Rg7 23.f5 Rag8 24.Qe2 Rh7 25.fxg6 fxg6 26.f4 Rgg7 27.Qg2 Kg8 28.Bxg6 Nxg6 29.Rxg6 Qf5+ 30.Kc1 Qf7 31.Rxg7+ 1—0

Peter Stevens -
Eric Schiller
[D32]

1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.d4 Nf6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.Be2 Bd6 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.a3 a5 10.0—0 0—0 11.b3 d4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.exd4 Qxd4 14.Bb2 Qh4 15.Bf3 Bg4 16.Na4 Rad8 17.Qe2 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Ng4 19.Qg3 Qxg3 20.hxg3 Bxf2+ 21.Rxf2 Nxf2 22.Kxf2 b5 23.Bc3 bxa4 24.Bxa5 Rd5 25.Bb4 Rf5+ 26.Kg1 Ra8 27.bxa4 Rxa4 28.Rd1 h6 29.Rd4 Ra6 30.g4 Rg5 31.Bd2 Rb5 32.a4 Rb1+ 33.Kf2 Rf6+ 34.Ke2 Rg1 35.a5 Rxg2+ 36.Kd3 Rc6 37.Be3 Rg3 38.Kd2 Re6 39.Rd8+ Kh7 40.Bb6 Rxg4 41.a6 Rxb6 42.a7 Ra4 43.a8Q Rxa8 44.Rxa8 Re6 0—1

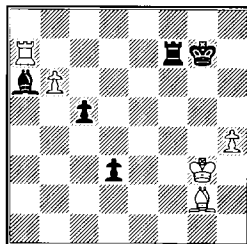
Ed Wilson -
Burt Izumikawa
[A07]

1.g3 d5 2.Bg2 Nf6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.0—0 Nbd7 5.d3 e5 6.Nbd2 Bc5 7.e4 dxe4 8.dxe4 h6 9.Qe1 c6 10.Nc4 Qc7 11.Ne3 Be6 12.Nd2 0—0 13.Qe2 Rfe8 14.Nb3 Bf8 15.Nf5 a5 16.Be3 a4 17.Nd2 Bc5 18.Rfd1 Rad8 19.Nf1 Bxe3 20.N5xe3 Nc5 21.f3 Rxd1 22.Qxd1 Rd8 23.Qe2 Qa5 24.Kf2 Rd4 25.Qe1 Qd8 26.b3 g5 27.Qc3 Qb6 28.h3 Rxe4 29.Nd2 Nd5 30.Ndc4 Rxc4 31.bxc4 Nxc3 0-1

Eric Schiller -
Dmitry Gurevich
[A09]

(Annotations by Schiller)
1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 d4 3.b4 g6 4.Bb2 Bg7 5.g3 a5 6.a3 e5 7.d3 Ne7 8.Bg2 c5 9.Qb3 axb4 10.axb4 Rxa1 11.Bxa1 Nbc6 12.b5 Qa5+

13.Nfd2 Nb4 14.Bb2 0—0 15.0—0 b6 16.Na3 Qa7 17.Ra1 Qb8 18.Nc2 Nxc2 19.Qxc2 Bg4 20.Nf1 h5 21.h3 Be6 22.Qa4 Qd6 23.Bc1 h4 24.Qa7 f5 25.Bg5 Nc8 26.Qb7 hxg3 27.Nxg3 e4 28.Ra8 Be5 29.Bh6 Rf7 30.Rxc8+ Kh7 31.Bf8 Rxb7 32.Bxd6 Bxg3 33.Rc6 Bxd6 34.Rxd6 Bf7 35.Kh2 Rb8 36.Rd7 Kg8 37.h4 Ra8 38.Rb7 Ra2 39.dxe4 Rxe2 40.exf5 Rxf2 41.Rxb6 Bxc4 42.Rxg6+ Kf7 43.b6 Ba6 44.Kg3 Rxf5 45.Rc6 Kg7 46.Rc7+ Rf7 47.Ra7 d3



48.Rxa6

I took the simple road. But there was another, better win. [48.Bd5 Rxa7 49.bxa7 d2 50.a8Q d1Q 51.Qg8+ Kh6 52.Qf8+ Kg6 53.Be4+ Kh5 54.Qh8# would have been more efficient.]

48....d2 49.Ra1 c4 50.Be4 c3 51.Bc2 Rf6 52.Rb1 Rf8 53.b7 Rb8 54.Kf4 1—0

Dmitry Gurevich -
Burt Izumikawa
[E05]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Be7 4.g3 Nf6 5.Bg2 0—0 6.0—0 dxc4 7.Ne5 Nc6 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.Nxc6 Qd6 10.Qa4 Bb7 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7 12.Qxc4 e5 13.Nc3 exd4 14.Qxd4 Qe6 15.f3 Rfd8 16.Qe3 Qh3 17.Qf2 Nd5 18.Ne4 Nb4 19.Nc5 Bc6 20.Bf4 Bb5 21.a3 Nd5 22.Bg5 Re8 23.Rfe1 Qh5 24.Bd2 Nb6 25.Rac1 Nc4 26.Bf4 Ne5 27.a4 Bc6 28.Na6 1—0

Burt Izumikawa -
Eric Schiller
[D32]

(Annotations by Schiller)
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 cxd4 5.Qa4+ Bd7 6.Qxd4 exd5 7.Qxd5 Nc6 8.Qd1 Nf6 9.e3 Bc5 10.Nf3 Qe7 11.Bb5 0-0 12.0-0 Rfd8 Better 12...Rad8.

I realized later that rooks belong at e8 and d8. Typical wrong rook

move!

13.Qe2 Bg4 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.b3 Nd7 16.h3 Bh5 17.Bb2 Bd6 18.Nb1 Intending Nd2. Probably 18.Rfd1 was better. 18...Be5 19.g4 Bg6 20.Nc3 h5 21.Rfd1 hxg4

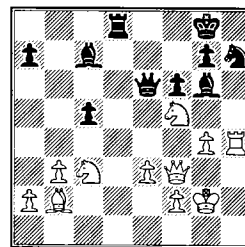
Opening the h-file is very double-edged!

22.hxg4 Bc7 23.Kg2! Nf6 24.Nd4 Re8!

To discourage any advance of the f-pawn. This is why the rook should have been at e8 all along. 25.Rh1 Qd7 26.Rh4 c5 27.Rah1 Nh7

The defensive plan is ...f6, ...Ng5 and the initiative comes back to me. 28.Nf5 Rad8 29.Qf3 f6 30.Rd1

Last move of time control (30/90), with 17 seconds left. Izumakawa has been in deep time pressure for the last 7 moves. 30...Qe6 31.Rxd8 Rxd8



32.Ne4?

[32.Qb7! and the position is still a mess.] 32...Rd5! A dangerous square for the rook, with lots of tricks involving Ne7 to calculate.

33.Nc3?! [33.Ba3 Bxf5 34.gxf5 Rxf5 35.Nxc5 Rg5+ 36.Kf1 was correct.] 33...Bxf5 34.gxf5 Rxf5 35.Qa8+ Nf8

The computer may prefer White, but I was very happy to reach this position as Black! 36.Ne4 Qa6!

This covers all key squares, not only eliminating threats from the enemy queen, but also threatening a deadly infiltration at e2. 37.a4 Qe2 38.Ba3 Qf3+ 39.Kf1 Qxe3!

The endgame has been calculated.

40.Qd5+ Rxd5 41.fxe3 Ne6 42.Ke2 Ba5! 43.Nxc5?

A quick death, but the alternative was prolonged suffering. And Izumakawa had almost exhausted his remaining hour. 43...Nxc5 44.Bxc5 Rxc5 45.b4 g5! 46.Rd4

Continued on page 30

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed the summer issue, and especially appreciated the fact that you chose to print the piece by Hal Terrie on how OMOV died. Hal did a superb job recounting the events of the Orlando delegates meeting. The companion piece by Eric Schiller was also articulate, but it was an Op Ed piece, while Terrie's was good old fashioned journalism.

The primary argument against OMOV raised by Mr. Schiller is that rich people will buy elections. I consider that a fear fantasy which is not grounded in reality. Other organizations use OMOV and there is little evidence in support of his conjectures.

In my opinion, the Blue Ribbon Committee's proposals represent electoral reform. Under the old system, it was possible for a state association officer to deny voting privileges to his or her enemies. Under the proposed new system, anyone can get a say simply by appealing directly to the state's USCF voters.

However, there is a very real danger that people will not be motivated enough to run. If that turns out to be the case, then we will see the same old faces all over again, and the voting reforms will be prove illusory. If, however, people are motivated, they can go to clubs, and tournaments and campaign to be their state representative. They can hold debates, write to their state magazine and use 1001 different techniques to garner attention and votes. If that is the case, then real reform could correctly be claimed to have occurred.

Which will it be? How do I know? I will say this: any system we employ, will only be as good as the people who choose to get involved in it.

Jim Eade

To The Editor

I noticed that Walter Shipman played in this weekend's Labor Day CalChess tournament. I think it would be great if you could get him to contribute an annotated game or two from a recent tournament. Mr Shipman moved to the Bay Area from somewhere back East, perhaps about a year ago? It would be interesting to get his comments regarding his impressions on the level of play in Northern California. And contrasting it with his view of how it was where he came from.

I think it was 2 or 3 years ago that CCJ published an interview with a Russian emigre. He said that overall the players in our area were good, etc., but were more timid than the players back in Russia, who thrived on maniacal double-edged play. Getting Mr Shipman's comments would be stimulating to many of us, I'm sure!

Thanks for all your hard work on CCJ. I know it is not easy and it is appreciated!

Jim Uren

Editor: Thanks for your kind words and an excellent suggestion.

Dear Sir,

The Chess Association of Malawi is an organisation which is vested with the duty of promoting chess in the country. Malawi is a country in the Southern Africa with an estimated population of 10 million. Currently the Association can only boast of two chess clocks, five tournament size chess sets and two "Chess for children" books.

Before affiliating to the world chess governing body {FIDE}, we felt that there was, and still is, need to concentrate on the development of the game internally. But without the necessary resources our hope of ever becoming a FIDE member may just as well fade away without being brought into effect.

The Association is therefore appealing to individuals and organisations for donations of new or second hand Chess clocks, Chess sets (even those with some pieces missing) and Chess books (even those with missing pages).

The Postal Address of the Association is:
The Chess Association of Malawi,
P.O Box 5848,
Limbe,
Malawi, Africa.
Attn.: Z.C Mkandawire (Vice Chairman CHAM)

Editor: Seems like a good cause. Any contributions out there...

Dear Mr. Fifield,

January 16, 1998

I was hoping I might have your assistance concerning two matters. My name is John Hilbert, and I write chess biographies and books on tournaments.

I am finishing up a volume on New York 1940, the first USCF-run chess championship. I suspect it will be published this year, as a revised draft is already in the hands of my publisher. While I have been able to find detailed information concerning 15 of the 17 participants at that event, two have escaped me. The one I thought someone in your area might know about is Philip Woliston.

My records indicate Mr. Woliston was probably the youngest competitor at New York 1940, and so he may still be alive. I have reached the three remaining participants known to be alive: Arnold Denker, George Shainswit, and Matthew Green—all have contributed to my book. All I really know about Mr. Woliston is that he had won the 1940 California championship, and that his doing so was the basis of his being seeded into the finals at NY 1940. Also, I learned he lost a match to Steiner 5-2 between winning the state title, I suspect around January or February 1940, and playing at NY 1940 in April and May.

Any information concerning Philip Woliston I can find would be greatly appreciated. Perhaps one of your readers knows someone who knew Mr. Woliston.

2. In addition to the above, I am now working on a

biography, this one with Dale Brandreth, about Norman Tweed Whitaker (1890-1975). Whitaker, of course, had a very colorful life, both at the board and away from it. For instance, I know he was convicted in a California federal district court of interstate car theft under the Dyer Act, and that he did time starting in 1925 in a federal prison. He was apparently good friends with Stasch Mlotkowski (The spelling is uncertain), with whom he played both in Philadelphia and in California. Mlotkowski even testified at his 1924 trial. (I have the transcript.) In any event, what I was hoping was that you might be willing to run a brief "Request for Information" about Whitaker (and for that matter, Mr. Woliston, should you be so inclined) in the California Chess Journal seeking game scores, anecdotes, or personal stories concerning Whitaker. Whitaker remained

active in chess until around 1974, so there may well be a few of your readers who actually remember meeting him or playing against him. Our desire is to present as full and as balanced an account of Whitaker as we can, including the good and the bad.

I can be contacted at:
 John S. Hilbert
 140 Parkhurst Blvd
 Kenmore, NY 14223
 e-mail: jshchess@aol.com

Thanks again for your help in this matter.

Sincerely yours, John S. Hilbert

Results 28th Annual Santa Clara County High School Chess Championships

February 7- 8, 1998

Lynbrook High School, San Jose, California

Team Winners

1st Place

Bellarmine College Preparatory

Winner of "John Marks Perpetual Trophy"

Patrick Macaraeg
 Dave Brown
 Alex Chavez
 Ben Kavanaugh
 Robin Lindsay

2nd Place

Cupertino High School

Yosen Lin
 Anthony Rosenvasser
 Dawnis Chow
 Phillip Snowberger
 Robert Young

3rd Place Los Altos High School

Alexander Lam
 Edward Yu
 Vitaly Vatkovskiy
 Ben Hsieh
 Ben Mlynash



The Championship Bellarmine College Prep team.

Plaque Winners

	Kasparov (1st)	Fischer (2nd)	Waitzkin (3rd)
Senior	Gary Torgersen Gunderson	James Cadatal Independence	Ricardo Mendoza Gunderson
Junior	Justin Powell Monta Vista	David Kieu Leigh	David Lau Westmont
Sophomore	Vadim Perelman Monta Vista	Ernest Huang Lynbrook	Eric England Lynbrook
Freshmen	Radesh Thangellapalli Monta Vista	Waylen Fong Archbishop Mitty	Robert Hennessy Bellarmine

Individual Champion

Alexander Lam Los Altos High School

4.5 points



Individual champion

Alexander Lam with Los Altos
 chess advisor Doug Bailey

The Crisis in the USCF

An Interview with Tom and Carolyn

by Riley Hughes

I caught up with Carolyn Withgitt and Tom Dorsch at the 1998 CalChess Winter Chess Festival to find out just what is involved in organizing and running a chess tournament. Carolyn was this event's Chief TD with her husband Tom helping as co-director. Tom is also the USCF Treasurer, and he provides some interesting behind the scenes insights to the tournament bidding process at the National level.

Riley: Okay, I want to get a little background on you guys first. So where are you guys from?

Carolyn: I'm from the bay area, I was born and raised on the peninsula. I grew up in Menlo Park.

Tom: She's a west bay girl, I'm an east bay boy. I was born in Oakland and I grew up in Hayward.

Riley: So you guys are married, right?

Tom: Right.

Carolyn: To each other. (Laughter)

Riley: How did you meet? Was chess involved?

Carolyn: Absolutely! We met at the Paul Masson chess tournament, which was held in Saratoga. A mutual friend of ours introduced us, and the rest is history!

Riley: Could you give a brief synopsis of 'What is CalChess'?

Tom: CalChess is the official USCF affiliate state organization for northern California. In the USCF system, California is two separate states. And CalChess covers the northern California area. It is an organization of about 600 players who pay dues, get a magazine, and participate in local chess activity.

Riley: How did you both get involved with CalChess? Haven't you both held offices in the past?

Tom: Yes, actually I founded CalChess in 1990. I became the president of what was at that time the Northern California Chess Association. It had no magazine, no members, no activity. We were fiftieth on the USCF most active list of states. In other words nothing was going on, so I thought if we have to revive things, we have to revive it. So I started a magazine, I started signing up members, started organizing tournaments, and gradually built it up to over 800 members. In 1990 we were the last state on the most active list but by 1991 we were



Cal Chess co-founder Carolyn Withgitt and current Cal Chess President Richard Koepcke at the MLK TD table.

number one!

Riley: (To Carolyn) So how did you get involved?

Carolyn: Well, we got involved simultaneously. What really happened is that we wanted to play chess on the Labor Day weekend, and there was no chess tournament in northern California. There was no state championship in 1989 or 1990. We ended up driving all the way to Commerce, California, in southern California, and we're playing chess at some hotel alongside Highway 5. You know, it was a very long trip driving and a long trip

back, and along the way back we are saying 'What are we doing, why are we driving all the way to southern California to play chess? Why isn't there chess



Cal Chess co-founder and USCF Treasurer Tom Dorsch

in northern California?' and that's when we decided to make it happen. If they don't have it, we'll make it happen, so we started organizing chess tournaments and building the state organization.

Riley: Well this tournament is an official CalChess tournament.

Tom: When I was President of CalChess, all the tournaments were CalChess tournaments. When I left the presidency, I ran CalChess tournaments as a separate organization. But there is such a close connection, we give the huge discount for CalChess membership and we sign them up for the USCF, that it might as well be an affiliate tournament. Actually this one we are partners with Richard Koepke, and he is Cal Chess President, so it is an

official CalChess tournament.

Riley: Now you left CalChess and went on to the National level. Tell me about that, what office do you hold and how did you get into that?

Tom: You know, the things that motivate you politically are usually the negative things?

Riley: Right.

Tom: As Carolyn pointed out, we had to drive to southern California to play on Labor Day in 1990 and that made us mad so we organized northern California events. Then in 1994 there was a National Elementary held in San Jose, and the accounting was so sloppy in that, that

I wound up investigating some of the finances and got involved in the issues. I became a critic there and wound up running for Treasurer of the USCF in 1996.

Riley: And won?

Tom: Yes, and won.

Riley: And so that is the office you hold today?

Tom: Yes.

Carolyn: He ran as the reform candidate to sort of clean up the organization and to shed light on the things going on. A lot of people supported him for that.

Riley: So then the delegates vote for you, is that how it works?

Tom: Yes, the voting members they call it.

Riley: Now I want to find out what it takes to run a tournament like this. So first of all, let's get some background on this tournament now that it's over. How many players signed up?

Carolyn: I think we had over 200 entries, about 235.

Riley: What were you expecting? (Note: Richard Koepcke walks up.)

Tom: Richard told us that if we had more than 180 we were going to have to play in the parking lot, so that was kind of what we were aiming for.

Richard: Yes that's right, we set up the room on the expectation that 150 to 180 would show up.

Riley: So you got a fabulous turnout?

All: Yes.

Carolyn: Exceeded our expectations. (Note: Carolyn is called away at this point to award the last trophy, and Richard accompanies her).

Riley: How did you choose the date?

Tom: Well the best dates are three day weekends. When we originally started there were some correlation between the cost of our playing space, and the amount of room nights that we can get. And if you have a three day tournament you get more room nights and that lowers the cost. So we tried to aim for a three day weekend. Unfortunately there aren't that many great three day weekends and the two best ones, Memorial Day and Thanksgiv-

ing, are already preempted by Jim Hurt. (Note: Jim Hurt organizes the LERA tournaments held at Lockheed Martin in Sunnyvale). And then we had Labor Day is our traditional State Championship weekend. That's the first one we took. President's weekend is already taken by the People's Tournament in Berkeley, so we had to invent a new three day weekend. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, which is this weekend, it has never been used before in northern California. Never existed before as a holiday until about a decade ago, and it's still not in a lot of union contracts, so it's not one of the big three day weekends, but it's worked okay for us.

Riley: I have heard of a tournament clearinghouse. Is that is what's used to find out if there are other tournaments being run?

Tom: USCF establishes a tournament clearinghouse system to avoid conflicts. I can register with the clearinghouse, and then if anybody else calls up and says 'I'm going to hold a tournament in January' they say 'No, no, Dorsch already has that weekend in Union City'.

Riley: How did you choose this site, the Ramada?

Tom: We went to all the hotels and looked for cheap rates, and this was the best deal we could get. We used to hold it in San Mateo at Quality Villa, but they announced they were going to close their hotel and turn it in to a retirement community, so we had to look for an alternative site and we found this one.

Riley: How do you estimate entries?

Tom: It's strictly guess work. You can use past history as a precedent, but for a lot of these tournaments that haven't been run for too many years, you are really guessing. And that makes it very difficult, you know, because you have got to calculate your prize fund. In this case it's \$8,000 guaranteed.

Riley: So all the prizes were guaranteed that were published in Chess Life?

Tom: That's right. If we don't get enough players, we are out \$8,000 plus our hotel costs of a couple of thousand dollars. So then you fig-

ure \$8,000 for the prize fund, a couple thousand for the hotel, another \$1,000 for publicity, mailings, flyers, tournament life announcements, rating fees. So we are looking at an expense budget of about eleven or twelve thousand. Then we have to sit down and figure out how many entries at what entry fee is going to generate enough income to cover our expenses.

Riley: I noticed you were using computers for pairings. How do you set this up? Do you get some software?

Tom: Somebody named Thad Suits wrote a software program called Swis Sys, and it does the pairings automatically. Believe me we will never go back to manual pairings. It's a funny psychological thing. You and I can write pairings perfect. Somebody will go look at them and they'll complain to us, you know, three blacks (three times with the black pieces). Somehow or the other if you put up machine printed pairings that were made by a machine they never question it. It's the authority of that silicon chip.

Riley: This is a large tournament, and you even had reentries for \$50, and the software is able to handle the reentries and not rematch people?

Tom: No problem, we just put them back in. They have a feature called the team feature that you can use to prevent people from playing other people. If you get two members of the same family for in the same class, you can make them members of the same team and the machine will automatically avoid pairing them. Of course in the last round you can't do anything about it. If the reentry has five and the guy he already played before has five, it is a forced pairing and they got to play in the last round. But in the earlier rounds if we can avoid pairing them we do.

Riley: There are quite a few assistants that are needed. How many assistants do you have? Who were they?

Tom: Well we have me, but I was gone Saturday and Sunday. Carolyn is the key person, Richard

Koepcke is a key person, and David Gross does a super job on the pairings and the work with the computer. And we have a lot of help, part time help here, Don Shennum gave us some help, some of the others, Elizabeth Karnezes has helped in some ways, Joan Arbil, she was a director.

Riley: How do you find out how many are needed?

Tom: Experience. Just based on experience. We usually try to have at least one director for every 60 people.

Riley: Are they paid?

Tom: Yes. We can't pay them what they are worth, but we pay them what we can afford. You got to give them something.

Riley: The prize fund distribution, how do you figure out the percentage of the prize fund that gets distributed, especially in this case where you have extra entries?

Tom: In a guaranteed prize fund situation, you give a 100 percent. Always. If it's a based on, what they call a based on prize fund, which is the kind that's common in places like LERA. Jim Hurt uses the based on, he bases on 160. If he gets 180, then he increases. If he gets 140, then he decreases.

Riley: So then you guys incur all the risk of not enough entries, and then you get the goodness of extra entries.

Tom: Right. If we make a few bucks, it compensates for a loss later on.

Riley: Now you guys are official tournament directors. Is there some sort of certification needed?

Tom: USCF has a certification procedure. We take tests at various levels, and you get various levels of certification. Mostly in northern California, we just base it on experience because the most experienced directors in the country are from northern California. The ones who setup the whole certification process, like George Koltanowski, who has directed more national events than anybody else, he's trained me and he's trained Carolyn, we've all worked with him and for him. And Martin Morrison is an institution, who wrote the original test for tour-

nament director certification in northern California. We've all worked with him.

Riley: You've mentioned some of the costs. There is USCF. What are kind of costs do they...

Tom: We have to pay to have games rated. We have to pay for the ads in Chess Life, in the magazine. And we have to buy some supplies, we need score sheets, pairing sheets, things like that.

Riley: How about other expenses, like insurance, do you have to carry some sort of insurance?

Tom: No, we don't have to pay insurance. The hotels usually have their own insurance, that's included in hotel costs.

Riley: Sometimes in tournaments there is suspected, or complaints of sandbagging. How do you deal with that? I notice that in the tournament announcement you say something about tournament discretion, CCA ratings?

Tom: Well, Bill Goichberg maintains that because he runs the tournaments with the largest class prizes that sandbagging is more of an immediate concern for him than for any other organizer. So he maintains a separate list of players who have performed far above their published ratings, and establishes a CCA minimum. That's his organization, the Continental Chess Association, and publishes a list three times a year in Chess Life, of people who have CCA minimums. We use those lists in our discretion where they're appropriate. If a player comes in with a low USCF rating but he has a CCA minimum that is much higher, we use the CCA minimum. Under a new USCF rule, anybody who wins a \$1,000 in a class automatically advances to the minimum rating of the next class. Some foreign players that are sometimes very, very strong, very, very experienced players, but they have no USCF rating. In fairness to them and in fairness to the other players we have to try to place them in a place where they are competitive and accurately rated, not highly underrated. That is where the director's discretion comes in. We try the best we can to identify those

people and give them a fair rating based on their ability, not on their published rating.

Riley: Is there any politics involved in putting on a chess tournament?

Tom: No, I don't think so. Not in northern California, because we have a good cooperative atmosphere in northern California. The bidding process for national tournaments can become highly politicized. Because some of the tournaments are very lucrative, for example the National Elementary, where you get 1500 kids and you don't give out any cash prizes. That can be a very profitable type of event, and they're very popular and much sought after. And the politics involved in having several different people simultaneously bidding for the same tournament. Sometimes the objective criteria are very close, and it comes down to politics, who gets awarded the bid.


Riley: Is that politics on the regional level or the national level, for those tournaments?

Tom: National. At the regional level, it's not a political decision. We only have a few large weekends, and we split them up, based mostly on history and tradition. And those weekends are pretty sacrosanct. Any other weekends, you know, there's enough of them that have no tournaments that there really is no problem finding two day weekends. Like I say, the only one's in short supply are the three day weekends.

Riley: Do you have a good story about this tournament that you can think of?

Tom: Carolyn, I bet, does. Where'd she go? She told me one. Oh, you know what, there is one good story. The guy who was winning the expert section, and was paired on board one, didn't show up last night. We called him, you know, 'Why didn't you come?' He says 'It was raining so hard that I tried to drive through Berkeley, and the rain was so steep that I came back'. So he forfeited on board one, he was a sure thing to win the expert section, but he didn't want to drive in the rain!

Riley: Well, thank you very much Tom.

Tom: It was a pleasure Riley. 

\$3,000+ Prize fund & "30" Grand Prix points !!!

Sections: "OPEN" (to all) & RESERVE (under 1600) Sections

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Our BIGGEST PRIZE Fund Ever

WHEN: SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 16 & 17, 1998

WHERE: ST. AGNES MEDICAL CENTER, WEST WING, EDUCATION ROOMS:
A&B. 1303 E. HERNDON AVE. FRESNO, CA 93720
(Near Herndon & Millbrook)

TYPE: 5 ROUND SWISS Sections: OPEN (open to all)
RESERVE (restricted to under 1600)

ROUNDS: SATURDAY (5/16); #1= 9:45am, #2= 2:00pm, #3= 6:00pm
SUNDAY (5/17); #4= 9:00am, #5= 2:00pm.

TIME CONTROL: ROUNDS 1-3 (Saturday) Game/90 minutes
ROUNDS 4 & 5 (Sunday) Game/2 hours

PRIZE MONEY IN TOP SECTIONS GUARANTEED. CLASS PRIZES BASED ON MINIMUM OF "7" ENTRIES PER SECTION.

- OPEN SECTION -	<u>FIRST PLACE</u>	<u>SECOND PLACE</u>	<u>THIRD PLACE</u>
MASTER (OVERALL CHAMPION)	\$600 & PLAQUE	\$400	\$200
EXPERT (2000-2199)	\$150 & PLAQUE	\$75	
A CLASS (1800-1999)	\$150 & PLAQUE	\$75	
<u>UNDER 1800 RATING:</u>	\$150 & PLAQUE	\$75	
UNRATED(NO PUBLISHED RATING)	\$100 & PLAQUE	\$50	

- RESERVE SECTION - (< 1600)	<u>FIRST PLACE</u>	<u>SECOND PLACE</u>
RESERVE CHAMPION	\$200 & PLAQUE	\$100
C CLASS (1400-1599)	\$130 & PLAQUE	\$60
D CLASS (1200-1399)	\$130 & PLAQUE	\$60
E CLASS (1000-1199)	\$120 & PLAQUE	\$50
<u>UNDER 1000 RATING:(F-J CLASS)</u>	\$120 & PLAQUE	\$50
UNRATED(NO PUBLISHED RATING)	PLAQUE & BOOK (CHESS BOOK PRIZES)	

NO SMOKING OR ALCOHOL, NO COMPUTERS -- WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS PROVIDED.

In the case of a tie, prize money will be split evenly. Plaque would be awarded to the person with the "highest average" rating of opponent. Special \$25 cash prize awarded to the person with the highest point difference upset win in both OPEN & RESERVE sections. All players 16 years and under who complete all rounds without winning a money prize will receive a special chess book prize. This USCF rated tournament is sponsored by the "FRESNO CHESS CLUB". **NOTE: ENTRIES NOT POSTMARKED BY TUESDAY 12 MAY 1998 WILL BE SUBJECT TO A \$5 LATE FEE.**

ENTRY INFO: At site registration is from 8:15am - 9:15am, 5-16-98. Make checks payable to: "Fresno Chess Club" and mail to: Fresno Chess Club c/o Dennis M. Wajckus, 5924 E. Illinois Ave., Fresno, CA 93727-3566. \$3 off entry fee to all CalChess members!! OPEN: \$43, Women and Juniors \$33. RESERVE:(< 1600) \$33, Women & Juniors \$23. Late and at site entry fee add \$5. All players must be current members of the United States Chess Federation (USCF). Chief Tournament Director: Allan H. Fifield of Visalia, CA. For additional information call: (209) 252-4484.

(S E E O T H E R S I D E ! ! !)

18th Annual San Joaquin Championship (May 16 & 17) **Clip & return!!**
 Name: _____ Regular _____ Woman _____ Junior _____
 Address: _____ Zip: _____
 CalChess:? _____ USCF ID# _____ Exp date: _____ Phone # () _____
 Rating: _____ I request $\frac{1}{2}$ point bye in round number _____
 Entry fee:\$ _____ USCF dues:\$ _____ *Friday Browne Simul: \$ _____

*Grandmaster Walter S. Browne will be giving a simultaneous exhibition on Friday evening May 15. A 1/2 hour lecture will take place prior to the simul. Cost \$24, (\$22 Women, Junior). Space is limited to 30 boards max. We suggest you reserve your board early. The Lecture & exhibition (located in Rooms "C & D" near the tourney site) begin approx 7:20pm, 5/15/98. The Lecture is free to those with board reservations, others \$1 each. Enter on reverse reservation form. Please bring your chess set (& clock) to the exhibition and tournament.

Discounted chess equipment will be on sale at the tourney site !!!

The USCF Tournament Directors in this tournament try very hard to maintain ideal OTB (over the board) playing conditions in the large tournament room. "YOU" can help by remembering that any analysis, casual chess, blitz chess, etc. is not allowed in the tournament area while any rated game is still in progress. There is plenty of room for skittles and analysis on outdoor tables or in the cafeteria. We very much appreciate your cooperation. THANK YOU !!

++++
Motel Info: (there are many other Motels and Inns in the Fresno area!)
TRAVELER'S INN: phone (209) 431-3557; 6730 N. Blackstone Ave in Fresno.
1 person \$42.93, 2 people \$50.84, 3 people \$55.36 and 4 people \$59.88.

DAYS INN: phone (209) 222-5641; 4061 N. Blackstone (near Ashland) in Fresno. 2 people \$52.00.

CHATEAU INN: phone (209) 456-1418; 5113 E. McKinley Ave. Fresno (near the airport). Weekend rate is \$68.93 (1 King or 2 double beds).

++++

Directions to playing site:

From the North: From Hwy 99 take the Herndon Avenue exit (it will cross back over the freeway, run parallel briefly); then turn left/East at the signal light; you will travel East on Herndon for several miles. After you cross Blackstone Avenue the next light will be Fresno Street. The next light is First Street, make a right hand turn on First Street and turn left at the first light you come to (Warner Ave.) follow this about 3 tenths of a mile directly to the parking lot of the West wing of the hospital.

From the South: Take Hwy 99 North until you approach the Fresno city limits and have just passed the Jensen turn off; stay to the right and take the Freeway 41 (Yosemite National Park) exit. Continue traveling North for approx 7 miles. You will pass Ashland, Shaw and Bullard exits before coming to the Herndon exit. Take the Herndon exit and turn right (East). Follow the directions above (from the North) after crossing Blackstone Avenue to the playing site.



5th Annual Fresno County Championship

by
Dennis Wajckus

64 players took part in this year's Fifth Annual Fresno County Championship played November 22 & 23, 1997. This was the first time that we tried a split format with an Open and a Reserve section. The result of this experiment appeared to be a complete success.

The winners in the Open section were Artak Akopian and GM Walter Browne tied for 1st with 4 1/2 points each. Artak won the Championship plaque on tie breaks. Artak has won this event 4 out of the 5 times it has been held!! 1st Expert was Ven Makiling with a score of 3 1/2 and 1st A was Christ Black with 4 pts. Taking 1st in the under 1800 section was Fresno Chess Club President Andy Swanson with 3 pts. Some of you may not know that Andy is the expert wood worker who makes the beautiful custom made plaques "at cost" the Fresno tournaments! Taking 1st in the Unrated section for the Open section was Scott Arndt. With 2 1/2 pts. Mike Honchell won the upset prize in the Open section.

In the Reserve (under 1600) section David George took first place and Reserve Champion plaque on tie breaks with 4 pts. 1st "C" was Oscar Cabantac with 4 pts and Terry Butler was also 1st in the "D" section with 4 pts. Other winners with 4 pts were David McDaniel and Don Forgie. Robert Wyatt took 1st in the "E" section with 3 1/2 pts and 1st Unrated (in the Reserve) went to Jack Samarjian with 3 1/2 pts. Patrick Wilburn, who won a knight & pawns versus bishop & pawns endgame battle with Dennis Wajckus (Fresno Chess Club treasurer) took the upset prize in the Reserve section.

Speaking of "Treasurer", we were most pleased that USCF Treasurer Tom Dorsch played in our event. Tom was recognized for his fine job as USCF treasurer by Senior Director Allan Fifield. As expected, Allan did a great job directing this event. Allan was given fine



In Fresno, Bonnie Yost plays, directs, coaches and bakes cookies.

support by assistant TD's Bonnie Yost and Marian L. Wajckus. The Yost family also made significant contributions to our "goodie table" for which we were all most grateful. We also wish to again thank St. Agnes Medical Center for the use of their fine facility during our chess events!!

On Friday night (11/21) GM Walter Browne thrilled 23 of us (and others who came and watched) in a Simultaneous Exhibition. Walter ended up giving up only two draws to Chris Pascal and Dino Bonaldi, and won against the other 21 players. All who played were given a WBCA magazine and tournament bulletin by Walter. Those that got a draw received additional tourney bulletins from GM Walter Browne. We hope that Walter will return for another exhibition so more of our local players will get an opportunity to play some one of his chess stature.

The Fresno Chess Club invites all of you to make plans to play in our next major rated event which promises to be bigger than ever. The 18th annual "San Joaquin Championship" to be held May 16 & 17, 1998 with similar format to this event but with "30" Grand Prix points and more prize money than ever before!! Watch for flyers and the ad in the TLA section of Chess Life.

The one day Fresno Spring Quad will be held on April 18, 1998, and is a great "tune up" for our two day event. Questions? Call (209) 252-4484. Dennis M. Wajckus, Fresno Club Treasurer

Games of the 5th Fresno County Championship

Selected by Allan Fifield

Devin Jardenil (1722)

Tom Dorsch (2200)

Round 1

Kings Indian

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 O-O 5.g3 c5 6.d5 a6 7.a4 d6 8.Bg2 e6 9.O-O exd5 10.Nxd5 Nxd5 11.cxd5 Bg4 12.h3 Bf5 13.Nd2 b6 14.e4 Bc8 15.Rb1 b5 16.b4? (Allows a mighty passed pawn) c4 17.Nf3 Nd7 18.Be3 Re8 19.Nd4 Qc7 20.axb5 Bxd4 21.Bxd4 axb5 22.Qc2 Ne5 23.Bxe5 Rxe5 (Replacement!) 24.f4 Re7 25.g4 Ra3 26.Rf3 Qa7+ 27.Kh2 Ra2 28.Rb2 Ra1 29.Rb1 Rxb1 30.Qxb1 Qd4 31.Ra3

Guess Black's next move! Hint: Where rooks belong...

31... Rc7 32.Qc2 c3 (Exhibiting a Lust to Expand) 33.Rb3 f5 34.gxf5 gxf5 35.Rb1 Qe3 36.Rf1 Rc4 37.Rf3 Qd2 38.Rf2 Qd4 39.exf5 Rxb4 40. Qe2 Kf8

The king is a great warrior in his own defense.

41. Bh1 Rb2 0-1

Tim Grover (1092)

Brad Wilburn (1528)

Round 1

Giuoco Piano

Tim hits some heavy blows in the middle game but let's his win slip away with shakey endgame play. Good endgame technique is needed for a knock-out punch.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 d6?!

A little too quiet; 5.Nf6 offers more excitement.

5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb6 7.O-O Bg4 8.d5?

White blocks his own bishop on c4 with his own d pawn while the formerly bad black bishop on b6 glances with hunger at f2. 8.Be3 supporting the d pawn might be the ticket.

Ne5! 9.Nbd2 Bxf3

Bad replacement: Black effectively trades his powerful bishop on g4 for the poor white knight on d2.

10.Nxf3 Nxc4?!

Another questionable trade of a great knight for a bad bishop

11.Qa4+ Qd7 12.Qxc4 f6 13.Nd4

O-O-O?

Right into it!

14.Be3 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 b6
16.Rac1?!

Wrong rook: Rfc1 leaves the other rook able to support the a pawn

Ne7 17.a4 a5 18.Qxb6!

Pow! Bam! Whomp! Pow-Pow!
Black is seeing stars and his knees are wobbly.

c5 19.Qxa5 Qb7 20.b4 Kd7
21.bxc5 Ke8 22.Qb5+?!

22.c6! with a protected passed pawn on the sixth with lots of heavy artillery floating around the enemy king has just gotta be a quick win. It's still won after 25.Qb5+ but Tim will toss away numerous winning chances in the remaining moves.

22...Qxb5 23.axb5 dxc5 24.Bxc5
Rd7 25.d6 Nc8 26.Ra1 Kf7 27.Ra8
Rhd8 28.Rd1 Ke6 29.b6 Rb7
30.g3 Kd7 31.Kg2 Nxb6 32.Rxd8+
Kxd8 33.Bxb6+ Rxb6 34.f4 Kd7
35.Kh3?

35.Kf3! keeps the black rook away from the e file.

35...Rb236.e5 fxe5 37.fxe5 Re2
38.Rf1 Rxe5 39.Rf7+ Kxd6
40.Rxg7 Rh5+ 41.Kg2 Ke6 42.g4
Kf6 43.Ra7 Rg5 44.Kg3 h5 45.h3
hxg4 46.hxg4 Re5 47.Ra3 Kg5
48.Rf3 Rd5 49.Rf4 Rd3+ 50.Rf3
Rd5 1/2-1/2

Tim Roth (2203)

Alfred Abraham (1752)

Round 1

Larsen-Roth Opening

1.b3 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Bb2

Unfashionable but Dr. Roth's favorite.

3... hBf5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.d3 c6 6.h3

Fred Reinfeld rattles, groans and moans from his grave.

6... Qc7 7.Nh4 Bg6 8.Nd2 e5 9.g3
Bh5 10.g4 Bg6 11.Bg2 Be7 12.Qe2
Ng8 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.c4 dxc4
15.dxc4 Bf6 16.O-O-O O-O-O
17.Kb1 Nc5 18.b4 Nd3 19.Bc3 Bh4
20.Ne4 f5 21.Rxd3 Rxd3 22.Qxd3
fxe4 23.Bxe4 Bxf2 24.Rf1 Bh4
25.Rf8+ Bd8 26.Bxg6 1-0

Dennis Wajckus (1528)

Patrick Wilburn (1067)

Round 1

Grobs Folly

A 453 point upset in the first round of the reserve!

1 g4?! e5 2.Bg2 Bc5 3.h3 d5 4.d3
Be6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bg5 f6 7.Bh4

Nge7 8.Nc3 Ng6 9.Bg3 Qd7 10.e3
O-O

By making almost any reasonable set of developing moves black has a fine game against the Grob's.

11.a3 Qd6 12.Qd2 Rab8 13.b4 Bb6
14.Na4 d4 15.Nxb6 dxe3 16.fxe3
cxb6 17.O-O Rbc8 18.Rac1 Rfd8
19.Rfd1 Qd7

Black calls the tune and White dances.

20.Qf2 f5 21.gxf5 Bxf5 22.Kh2
Rf8 23.e4 Be6 24.Qe3 Nf4 25.Bxf4
Rxf4 26.Ng5 Nd4 27.Nxe6 Qxe6
28.c4

28.c3 to evict the d4 knight seems better.

Qe8 29.Rf1 Rxf1 30.Rxf1 Qa4
31.Qf2 Qe8 32.b5

White's position is improving but the black d4 knight retains the advantage over whites bad bishop in any reasonable endgame.

32... Qe7 33.a4 a6 34.Kg1 Rf8
35.Qxf8+ Qxf8 36.Rxf8+ Kxf8
37.Kf2 Ke7 38.h4 Kd7 39.Bh3+
Kc7 40.Bg4 g6 41.Bd1 Kd6
42.Ke3 h5 43.Kf2 Kc5 44.Ke3 Kb4
45.Kd2 Ne6 46.Ke3 Kc3 47.Be2
Nc5 48.bxa6 bxa6 49.Bf1 Nxa4
50.Be2 b5 51.cxb5 axb5 52.Kf2 b4
53.Bd1 b3 54.d4 Kxd4??!

Apparently missing the instant win of 53...b2 but both players were in a desperate time scramble (and the scoresheets are a little doubtful around here)

55.Bxb3 Nc5 56.Bd5 Nxe4+
57.Bxe4 Kxe4 58.Ke2 Kf4 0-1

Keith Yost (1622)

Edison May (1867)

Round 1

Ruy Lopez

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4!
A change as Keith normally plays the exchange variation!
4... Nf6 5.O-O b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.c3
d6 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6

I like white!

10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.e5
dxe5 13.dxe5 Qe7 14.Nc3 Be6
15.Bd5 O-O-O 16.Bxe6+ Qxe6
17.Qe2 Rhe8 18.a4! Nxe5?

18...b4 to try to keep the 'a' file closed seems to be required

19.axb5 Nxf3+ 20.Qxf3 axb5
21.Ra8+

Bomber rooks rain death from the sky.

21...Kd7 22.Rxd8+ Rxd8

23.Nxb5 Ke8 24.Qc3 c6 25.Re1
Rd1 26.Qxc6+!

Very pretty as two white pieces (the queen and the rook) float in the air en prise but uncapturable!

26...Kf8 27.Qxe6 fxe6 28.Rxd1
and white won in 57 moves.

Tom Dorsch (2200)

Keith Yost (1622)

Round 2

Caro-Kann Panov Attack

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4
e6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Bg5 O-O
8.Be2 Nbd7 9.O-O b6 10.Ne5
Bb7 11.Bf3 Rb8? 12.Bf4 Rc8?

I'm not sure which rook move is wrong at move 11 and 12 but they both can't be right. Tom's play is powerful from this point on.

13.Re1 Ba8 14.Qa4 dxc4 15.Bxa8
Rxa8 16.Nc6 Qe8 17.d5!

A master class move as black's pieces are thrown into confusion due to lost tempo on moves 11 and 12.

17...Nc5 18.Qxc4 Kh8 19.Nxe7
Qxe7 20.b4 Nb7

This knight has been driven back almost by force to a square from which it will be lost.

21.dxe6 fxe6 22.Rxe6 Qf7 23.Qe2
Rfe8 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Qd2 Qc4
26.a3 Rd8 27.Qc1 Rd3 28.Ne2
Qxc1+ 29.Rxc1 h6 30.g3 Nd5 31.Be5
Rxa3 32.Rc8+ Kh7 33.Rb8 Nc5

33...Na5 is marginally better but just a different way to lose.

34.bxc5 bxc5 35.Rb7 Kg6 36.Nf4+
Nxf4 37.Bxf4 c4 38.Rc7 Ra4
39.Be5 a5 40.g4 Kg5 41.Rxg7+
Kh4 42.Kg2 1-0 (It's mate next move)

Ursula Foster (1636)

Edison May (1867)

Round 2

Colle System

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 g6 4.Bd3
Bg7 5.c3 O-O 6.Nbd2 Nbd7 7.e4!?

This thematic break is stronger if preceded by O-O

7...dxe4 8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Bxe4 Nf6
10.Bd3 Bg4 11.h3 Be6 12.Qc2
Bd5 13. Be3 Bxf3 14.gxf3 a5
15.h4 Re8 16.O-O-O Qd5 17.b3
Qd6 18.Rdg1 Red8 19.h5 c5
20.hxg6 cxd4 21.gxf7+ Kxf7
22.Bc4+ Kf8 23.Bxd4 Qf4+
24.Be3 Qxf3 25.Rxh7 Nxh7
26.Qxh7 Qf6???

In his misery, black decides (unintentionally) to end it all.

27. **Qg8+ mate**
Chris Pascal (1228)
Terry Butler (1391)
Round 3

Philidor Defense

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6
 Back in style
3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bd7 5. Nc3 Nc6
6. Be3 Nf6 7. Bd3
 Bc4 aiming at f7 seems to be more in the spirit of things.
7....Be7 8. O-O Ng4 9.Nxc6 Nxe3
10.Qf3 Bxc6 11.Qxe3 Bf6 12.Qd2
O-O 13.Rfe1 Bd4 14.Rab1 Qf6
15.Nd1 Rfe8 16.c3 Bb6 17.b4?
 Weakens the c3 pawn and...
17... a6 18.Kh1?
 ...then throws away a tempo to bury his own king
...Re7 19.Ne3 Bxe3 20.Qxe3 Qxc3
21.e5 Qxe5 22.Qd2 Qf6 23.a3
Rae8 24 Kg1
 Honey, I'm home!
24....Re5 25.f4 Rxe1+ 26.Rxe1
Rxe1+ 27.Qxe1 Qxf4 28.b5 Qd4+
29.Kh1 axb5 30.Bc2 g6 31.h3 Qe5
32.Qb1 Qe2 0-1

David Chung (unr)

Tim Grover (1092)

Round 4

Center Game

David Chung is a young elementary player from the city of Tulare. David has had no formal chess instruction but he is a gifted natural player with a 'clean' style.

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Qxd4 Nc6
4.Qe3!?

Blocks the queen bishop; White has the first move so this may be playable. Qd1 is a safe but dull alternative

4...Nf6 5.Be2 Be7 6.c4 O-O 7.e5?!

A little risky with his king not castled.

Bb4+ 8.Bd2 Bxd2+ 9.Nxd2 Ne8
10.Ngf3 d6 11.O-O!

In the nick of time!

11... dxe5 12.Ne4 Bg4 13.Rad1
Nd4 14.Nxd4 Bxe2 15.Nxe2
Nf6???

Tim drops his queen! But the rest of the game is interesting for how powerfully David converts his material advantage into mate.

16.Rxd8 Raxd8 17.Nxf6+ gxf6
18.Qg3+ Kh8 19.f4 Rg8 20.Qh4
Rd2 21.Qxf6+ Rg7 22.Qxe5 c6
23.Rf3 Rd8 24.Rg3 Rdg8 25 Nd4
f6 26.Qxf6 c5 27.Nf5 a5 28.Rxg7
Rxg7 29.Qxg7++ 1-0 ♚

3rd Annual UPSCL Scholastic Championships

by Steve Cohen

The rain may have been pouring outside, but that didn't bother the nearly 70 K-8th graders (including one 4-year-old pre-schooler) from competing in the UPSCL's 3rd Annual Peninsula Scholastic Chess Championships. This event was held February 7 at Foster City's Holiday Inn Select. Not only is this tournament the only grade-level championships (i.e., where children are matched only against others from their own grade) for the peninsula, it is also the only Bay Area grade-level event so it attracts players from beyond the peninsula. This year's event saw some travel from as far away as Alameda, Berkeley, Clovis, Fremont, Richmond, Portola Valley, San Francisco and peninsula communities in between. Then again, I'm sure that the 1st through 10th place trophies in each division were at least a little incentive to take the opportunity of participating in the experience.

Furthermore, a "486" (superior to the Commodore 64 from previous years) and a new pairings program I developed helped ensure that the rounds would start as scheduled. This year nobody kicked out the power cord so everything did run smoothly. Of course, the biggest reason that this tournament ran on schedule and without problem was due to the great assistance of some wonderful TDAs: James and Carolyn Millet, Gordon Rios, Shashank Dave, and Aaron Pollock. League president, Steve Cohen, served as Chief TD.

In addition to the size and quantity of awards, another new aspect of this year's Championships was the inclusion of a 7th & 8th grade combined section — celebrating the UPSCL's incursion into the Middle Schools this season. The numbers in the new group may have been the smallest but the competition was fierce as they were battling for the tallest trophies. Anuraag Agrawal (1002), a 7th grader from Fremont, put his last 2 years of experience in these championships to work for him as he earned a perfect score and the top trophy. Ted Enns (1148), a 7th-grader at Hillview of Menlo Park, secured 2nd place with 3.0 points. With chagrin, an erroneous reading of tie-break results led to an errone-

ous handing out of the 3rd & 4th place trophies. With 2.0 points each, the official final results, on tie-breaks, award Danny Colligan (1005), also a 7th-grader at Hillview, 3rd place; and, Sharron Deora (754) of Fremont in 4th. I offer my sincerest regrets to the players for this error. Mike Ettel (941), a 7th-grader at St. Matthew's Catholic School finished in 5th.

In the K-1st section, first-grader Thomas Chew (1111) of Burlingame returned from a piano recital to go undefeated to take top honors. On tie-breaks with 3.0 points each, Claire Greene (1003) came in 2nd while Isaac Shaker (915) took 3rd. By using the UPSCL formulae tie-breaker method to resolve a 4-way tie for 4th-7th place, Sammy Roberts (911) earned 4th while 4-year-old pre-schooler, Richard Livingston (886) won 5th; Sarang Dave (886) 6th; and Corey Chang (918) 7th. A point back, Evan Boucher (1031), took home 8th place on tie-breaks over Kyle Prosen (847).

The boys from Berkeley dominated the 2nd-grade division as Alexander Setzepfandt (1195) went undefeated for 1st while team-mate Daichi Siegrist (962) finished a point back alone in 2nd. Ryland Young (976), who attends school in Foster City, came in on top of a 4-way tie for 3rd-6th with 2.0 points. Phillip Tang (976) ended up in 4th; Michael Konkol (938), 5th; and, John Coyne (992), 6th. Ryland's school-mate, Michael Da Costa (887), came in sole 7th with 1.5.

In one of the toughest sections (due to the previous tournament experience among the top-rated players of this section), Alex Wu (1499) of Burlingame remained undefeated to repeat as champion for his grade. If Alex 3-peats next year, he will win (in addition to the top prize) a free entry fee to the following year's event! On tie-breaks, although they never met at this event, Kevin Greene (1126) avenged his last-round 'G/15 Challenge-I' loss to Ewelina Krubnik (1182) by taking 2nd ahead of the 3rd-grade queen of Alameda. Three players finished a point back with 2.0; on tie-breaks, Elliot Star (1170) finished in 4th, Charles Fang (876) finished 5th, and Marcus Tong (1085)

took home the 6th-place trophy. With a score of 1.5, Robert Yuan (799) finished alone in 7th. On tie-breaks, Shail Patel (1037) won 8th; Victor Labrouse (877) earned 9th. Finally, Anuj Verma (702) took home the 10th-place trophy.

Berkeley took another division when Wesley Chen (1369), who outrated his nearest competitor by more than 200 points(!), went undefeated for first-place honors in the 4th-grade division. Timothy Ma (1132) of Weibel took 2nd on tie-breaks over team-mate Jaime Lai (952). Also from Weibel, Christopher Tu (852) finished a half-a-point behind in 4th. Despite his last round loss to Chen, Conlan Rios (1069) from S.F. with 2.0 emerged on top of a 4-way tie for 5th-8th place. Aniv Nayar (982), also from Berkeley, won 6th; Matthias Fore (972) from Atherton 7th; and Cameron Taylor (910) of Daly City, 8th. Eric Wen (912) of Weibel stood alone in 9th with 1.5. Cameron Tacklind (937), of the International School of the Peninsula took home the 10th-place trophy, leaving 11th-place medals for Bobby Volovets (985) of Audubon School (Foster City), and Jonathan Fleury (866) of Ormondale (Portola Valley).

The 5th grade section has traditionally has been for Elementary-grades Champion for the Peninsula (since it is the highest grade-level at the public elementary schools) and was this year's largest section. Park School's Michael Pearson (1787) went undefeated (including scoring the only victory for Black for his section in the final round) to earn the 27"-tall 1st-place trophy. To be sure, Pearson out-ranked his nearest competitor by more than 500 points but still a look at all of his games would reveal at least one game where his opponent could have scored the victory (if only the opponent would have carefully considered all of his choices). Which goes to prove that it doesn't so much matter how much your opponent is rated, but how well you focus on your task at hand each turn! A 3-way tie for 2nd-4th, with 3.0, was broken with Lev Pisarsky (964) in 2nd, Stephan Goupille (1082) in 3rd, and Stephen Tu (942) in 4th. Tie-breakers were also used to decide a 4-way tie for 5th-9th: Justin Chen (991) took 5th and 2nd-seeded Allen Amusin (1174), 6th. Another erroneous reading of tie-breaker scores led to mis-handing-out of 7th

& 8th places. The official final results are that Grant Watters (1155) earned 7th and Payman Hifai (824) earned 8th. Again, I offer my sincerest regrets to the affected players for this error. Kush Patel (830) ended up in 9th. Garrett Greene (1048) won the last trophy for the section, leaving 11th-place medals for Jambu Palaniappan (866), Sean Mofidi (1004), and Kavitha Ratman (879).

Finally, in the 6th-grade section, Judy Kuo (1189) of Weibel also repeated as division champion by going undefeated among some pretty tough competition. Of course, as with Wu, if Kuo 3-peats next year, she will win a free entry-fee to the following year's event. With 3.0, Steve Yuan (987), also of Weibel, came in 2nd on tie-breaks ahead of Michael Belyaev (1330) who attends Bowditch Middle School in Foster City. Ricky Fong (1071), also of Bowditch, emerged on top of a 6-way tie(!) for 4th-9th place, ahead of Michael Pollock (1405), Summit Roy (1091), Macky Jeremias (1281), Harsh Patel (914) and Jeffrey Cheng (783). Umang Dave (974) took home the 10th-place trophy on tie-breaks over Andrew Fleury (1313) who went home with an 11th-place medal.

Though the main focus of this event is on individual achievement, as a special treat two "Top School/Club of the Peninsula" awards are presented based on points given for a 1st-6th place finish in the K-6th grade divisions. [If the Top School/Club is not geographically from the peninsula, then the 2nd place trophy is presented to the top organization geographically located on the peninsula.] For the last two years, Weibel of Fremont has won the top trophy in this category. This year the 18 Weibel players earned 45 points for their team which was 10 points ahead of the 4-players from Berkeley who earned 35 for their team. But the biggest surprise was the 74-point finish by A Chess Club of San Mateo County (led by Michael Pearson, Alex Wu, Kevin and Claire Greene). As we sit on the eve of a new millenium, San Mateo County chess-players have spoken loudly as to their abilities in this sport. Most of the members of the team have been involved in organized chess for less than two years; yet, their spectacular results speak for themselves!

To be completely fair and honest, I've heard someone say that I tried to

"pull a fast one" in allowing a group of children from different classes 1 teach to form a club for this tournament. My specific reasons were two-fold. First, there is no individual UPSCL class/program from which there would be numbers of children participating in the PSC which came anywhere near the 18-member team from Fremont (which number was about the same as that fielded during the previous 2 years). Therefore I allowed children who had predominantly learned how to play chess through the method taught by the UPSCL to form their own "club". Thus, as with a child from the Berkeley program or Fremont program or Marin program, all would have in common the learning/practicing of a particular system of chess technique. Secondly, I thought that allowing the children from the peninsula this opportunity would allow for numeric equality among the teams and thus make the competition for the "Top School/Club" prize more and not less fair. After all, it's not as if these were players who were brought together from foreign groups having nothing to do with each other in an attempt to win a prize unfairly. Merely, it had been clearly demonstrated that there was a similar, but larger-numbered group who were fortunate to be able to meet at the same place and time; and children who otherwise enjoy similar chess learning should not for this difference be denied a competitive chance.

Apart from that, the only common problem of this event, fairly voiced, was that playing conditions could have been more spacious. I agree and I was quite upset when I visited the tournament room the evening before to find the room set up with six tables were missing. As there were no other rooms available, I was forced to make do as best as possible. Fortunately it was not that bad; but I will make sure that next year's playing conditions will be superior! Irregardless, the players near-unanimously expressed they had a very enjoyable experience. Hopefully you'll be get a chance to be a part of it all next year!

Of course, no tournament report is complete without at least a sample of the day's battles. This short first-round victory by Michael Pearson over Justin Chen, Weibel's highest-rated entry of this section, demon-

Continued on page 30

1998 Hot Summer Days Chess, June 19, 20, and 21, 1998

- SITE:** Howard Johnson Hotel, 3343 Bradshaw Road (US 50 at the Bradshaw exit), Sacramento, CA.
- EVENTS:** **6/19: Hot Summer Days G/10:** 5 round swiss.
6/20 & 6/21: Hot Summer Days Swiss, four round swiss in three sections: Open (open to all players), 1600-1999, and Under 1600. Ratings for all events will be based on the most current USCF Supplement available to the tournament director (should be the 6/98 supplement).
- SCHEDULES:** **Hot Summer Days G/10 Registration:** 6/19, 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Rounds start at 8:45.
Hot Summer Days Swiss Registration: 6/19, during G/10 tournament & 6/20, 8:00 am - 9:00 am. Registration will close at 9:00 am to allow Round 1 to start on time. 6/20: Round 1 @ 9:30 am; Round 2 @ 4:00 pm. 6/21: Round 3 @ 9:00 am; Round 4 @ 3:30 pm. Time controls: 40/2, G/1.
- ENTRY FEES:** **Hot Summer Days G/10:** Early Registration & On-site, \$20; under age 19, \$10. **Hot Summer Days Swiss:** Early Registration (mailed by 6/13/98): \$60 each, \$65 after 6/13/98. Under age 19, \$30 (early registration and on-site). USCF membership required and available on-site (also see entry form).
- PRIZES:** **Hot Summer Days G/10** prizes to be determined based on total number of entries. Overall and class prizes are anticipated. **Hot Summer Days Swiss** prizes based on 75 paid adult entries.
- | | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| Open: | 1 st - \$350 & trophy, 2 nd - \$250; | *Under 2200: 1 st - \$225, 2 nd - \$175 |
| 1600-1999: | 1 st - \$300 & trophy, 2 nd - \$225; | *Under 1800: 1 st - \$200, 2 nd - \$160 |
| Under 1600: | 1 st - \$260 & trophy, 2 nd - \$210 | *Under 1400: 1 st - \$190, 2 nd - \$150 |
- PRIZE NOTES:** Prize fund and/or number of prizes will be increased or decreased based on paid entries. Unrated players ineligible for asterisked class prizes in each section. **Hot Summer Days G/10** prizes paid during the Hot Summer Days Swiss. **Hot Summer Days Swiss** prize checks will be mailed out to winners by June 25, 1998. Trophy tie-break information on-site.
- OTHER:** One ½ point bye per player is available. Late entries 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 6/20. Byes requested for round 4 may not be changed. No smoking on site; no computer entries accepted; wheelchair access to site. **BRING SETS AND CLOCKS!!!**
- LODGING:** Howard Johnson, (916) 366-1266. Mention Hot Summer Days Chess for special room rates.
- MORE INFO:** Contact organizer and TD John M^cCumiskey, e-mail: jmc-lmc@pacbell.net; phone: (916) 557-7053 (weekdays), (916) 428-5532 (evenings and weekends).

1998 HOT SUMMER DAYS CHESS ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Phone (for organizer use only): (_____) _____

Address _____ City & State _____ Zip _____

USCF ID # _____ Expiration Date _____ Date of Birth (Jr & New USCF) _____

Hot Summer Days G/10 Entry Fee (circle one): \$25 \$15 (Under 19) USCF Quick Rating: _____

Hot Summer Days Swiss Entry Fee (circle one): \$60 (by 6/13/98); \$65 (after 6/13/98); \$30 (Under 19)

Circle the Hot Summer Days Swiss section being entered: OPEN 1999-1600 Under 1600

Bye Requested in Round (circle one): 1 2 3 4 USCF Regular Rating: _____

USCF Dues: \$40, Adult; \$30, Senior; \$15, Youth (receives *Chess Life*); \$10, Scholastic (receives *School Mates*)

Mail to: Sacramento Chess Club, c/o 6700 50th Street, Sacramento, CA 95823 Amount of Check \$ _____

Beginner's Corner

by
Steve Cohen

Recently, we have been looking at mate at h2 (or h7) by combinational means. This possibility, which arises in a number of games, even occurred in one 5th-grade match at this year's Peninsula Scholastic Championships (S. Goupille v. G. Greene, Rd. 2) against someone who did know about this weapon. Still, sometimes a teacher's desire to teach the "tricks" makes the sage forget that fundamentals should always be taught first. After all, before learning to fly an airplane, you have to learn how to move and stop yourself.

So in this pause for a beginner's refresher, let's look at one of these simple mates which, hereafter, you should never let happen to you (but which you can always be on guard for springing against an opponent). The following game comes from the 4th grade section at this year's PSC:

C. Rios (1065) v. E. Wen (900)
(3d Ann. P.S.C., 4th grade, Rd.1)

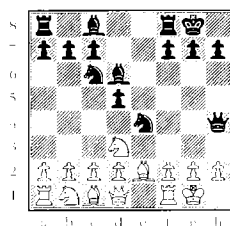
1.e4 (to grab some central control over d5 and give choices to queen and king's bishop) **1...e5** (similar idea, though not generally recommendable as often this type of defense leads Black into a cramped position), **2.Nf3 Nf6** (known as the Petroff's Defense: Black reacts to the attack against his king-pawn by counter-attacking White's pawn), **3.Nxe5 Nxe4?!** (first 3... d6 is appropriate; now, Black could get into BIG trouble), **4.Qe2 d5?** (4...Qe7 is more usual, though White would already be winning. However, as played, White may now continue with 5.d3 winning some material, since if the knight moves away, say 5...Nf/d6, there follows 6.Nc6 dis.+, winning Black's queen whether or not she moves to block the check. If Black instead follows the plan of

meeting attacks with counter-attacks and plays 5... Qd6/e7, then after 6.dxe Qxe5, 7.exd, Black's queen is pinned and therefore Black is unable to regain the lost pawn), **5.Nd3?** (Not only should a piece generally not move more than once in the opening unless absolutely necessary, here the stronger continuation given above shows that White was not carefully considering each and every choice (i.e., possible next move). Yet White certainly had enough time to look around and to see d3 as the logical follow-up to his previous move. This is why it's so important to make the most of your time when you have enough time to do so. By making yourself as fully informed as you can, you will not miss the opportunity to gain a significant advantage when it presents itself, as it may not be there for long!) **5... Bd6?** (the Ne4 is pinned against the king and the knight can be attacked by a pawn: so this move can't be best) **6.Qd1?** (now White is wasting time in order to castle over to where Black is already aiming to attack; instead, 6.f3 wins the pinned knight) **6... O-O, 7.Be2 Nc6, 8. O-O?** (considering the number of attackers that are aiming at or can soon be brought to aim their attack against White's king-side, it does not here appear that it is safe for White to castle here. However the way White has been playing, it would take some time to castle queenside) **8... Qh4.**

(after 8...Qh4)

It's always important, after your opponent makes their move, to at the very least to ask yourself why that move which was just played. In other words, "Is that unit now attacking, or working together with (another unit to attack something, or did it move out of blocking the way of some other unit who wants to attack something. Or is it just getting in place for later?" If, at the least, you always ask these simple questions, you should never again need to say to yourself, "Whoops, I should have seen that.!" Here, Black is making an obvious threat of checkmate by playing Qxh2# next turn. Though it would compromise White's king safety, 9.g3 would put an immediate end to the mating threat by blocking the diagonal being used by the bishop (d6-h2). Especially when you have enough time on your clock (i.e., when you have more than 5 minutes remaining) you should look at all of the choices for each side before moving — to do otherwise is like driving down the freeway with your eyes closed. Of course driving with your eyes closed against someone who is looking at all of the choices, mean you are going to...CRASH!

In the present game, White played **9.Nc3??** which, having nothing to do with the most dangerous threat against him, is going to lead White to crash hard! Not surprisingly, Black played **9... Qh2 mate**, and enjoyed a long rest before the next round.



The next deadline for
California Chess Journal
submission is
June 1st

The Threatening Letter to Bobby Fischer

by
Sam Sloan

I am deeply thankful to M. David Maloney for providing a copy of the 1992 letter from the US Treasury Department which, in effect, made Bobby Fischer an international fugitive from justice. My initial reaction is that this letter constitutes an unconstitutional bill of attainder and, as such, constitutes a violation of Article 1, Section 9, Paragraph 3 of the Constitution of the United States. A Bill of Attainder is defined in the law as: "A law or legal device which outlaws people, suspends their civil rights, confiscates their property, or punishes without a trial."

Generally, any act of a legislative body which targets a particular person constitutes an unconstitutional bill of attainder. This is why the United States Congress in proposing and drafting laws always tries to be careful to write laws which apply generally to all and do not single out any individual or group. The "Windfall Profits Tax" was found by the courts to be an unconstitutional bill of attainder because it exempted from the law the North Slope of Alaska.

In this case, we do not even have a law but rather have an arrogant declaration by an agency bureaucrat directed to the punishment of one person: Bobby Fischer. Bobby Fischer is ordered not to play chess with Boris Spassky. The Treasury official who wrote the letter to Fischer, R. Richard Newcomb, threatened Fischer with ten years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. This order came from the authority of the President of the United States.

However, the United States of America is supposedly not a dictatorship. President Bush had no legal right to order Fischer not to play chess. Bush's "Executive Order" to the extent that it applied to Fischer was plainly illegal. Therefore, sending this letter to Fischer was a crime.

Perhaps even more importantly, there was no way that the Executive Order of President Bush could be interpreted as prohibiting Fischer from playing a game of chess. The Executive Order "prohibits U.S. persons from performing any contract in sup-

port of a commercial project in Yugoslavia, as well as from exporting services to Yugoslavia." Fischer did not engage in any commercial activity in Yugoslavia. Fischer did not export any services to Yugoslavia. Playing a game of chess is clearly not "exporting a service."

The United States Supreme Court long ago ruled that Americans have the constitutional right to travel. I suppose that if a person travels to Yugoslavia and orders a meal in a restaurant, he could be said to be engaging in a "commercial activity". However, if that is the definition, then this makes the constitutional right to travel a nullity.

Somebody said, "Fischer is not that important. He is not entitled to special treatment." However, that is precisely the problem here. A great multitude of American citizens traveled to Yugoslavia during the war. Not one of them has ever been prosecuted for violating Bush's "executive order." Our own United States Chess Federation continued to buy chess books from Yugoslavia throughout the war. Yet, not one official of the United States Chess Federation is in jail for this.

The tragedy is that this 1992 letter made Bobby Fischer an international fugitive from justice. Fischer has not returned to America because of these threats. For those who missed it, here again is the full text of the letter to Fischer:

Department of the Treasury
Washington
Aug 21, 1992
Order to Provide Information and
Cease and Desist Activities
FAC No. 129405

Dear Mr. Fischer:

It has come to our attention that you are planning to play a chess match for a cash prize in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (hereinafter "Yugoslavia") against Boris Spassky on or about September 1, 1992. As a U.S. citizen, you are subject to the prohibitions under Executive Order 12810, dated June 5, 1992, impos-

ing sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro. The United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control ("FAC"), is charged with enforcement of the Executive Order.

The Executive Order prohibits U.S. persons from performing any contract in support of a commercial project in Yugoslavia, as well as from exporting services to Yugoslavia. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the performance of your agreement with a corporate sponsor in Yugoslavia to play chess is deemed to be in support of that sponsor's commercial activity. Any transactions engaged in for this purpose are outside the scope of General License No. 6, which authorizes only transactions to travel, not to business or commercial activities. In addition, we consider your presence in Yugoslavia for this purpose to be an exportation of services to Yugoslavia in the sense that the Yugoslav sponsor is benefiting from the use of your name and reputation.

Violations of the Executive Order are punishable by civil penalties not to exceed \$10,000 per violation, and by criminal penalties not to exceed \$250,000 per individual, 10 years in prison, or both. You are hereby directed to refrain from engaging in any of the activities described above. You are further requested to file a report with this office with 10 business days of your receipt of this letter, outlining the facts and circumstances surrounding any and all transactions relating to your scheduled chess match in Yugoslavia against Boris Spassky. The report should be addressed to: The U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Enforcement Division, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Annex - 2nd floor, Washington D.C. 20220. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Merete M. Evans at (202) 622-2430.

Sincerely, (signed)
R. Richard Newcomb
Director
Office of Foreign Assets Control



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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 June 1st.
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

Mechanics' Masters

Continued from page 15

**Re5 47.bxa5 Rxa5 48.Kd3 Kf7
49.Kc3 Ke6 50.Kb4 Re5 51.e4
g4 52.Kb3 g3 53.Rd3 g2 0-1**

Eric Schiller -
Craig Mar [A48]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7
4.Nbd2 c5 5.c3 Qb6 6.Qb3 d5
7.e3 0-0 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.0-0 c4
10.Qxb6 axb6 11.Bc2 Bf5
12.Bxf5 gxf5 13.Ne5 Rfd8
14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Bxf6 Bxf6
16.f4 e6 17.Nf3 Ra5 18.Rf2 Kf8
19.h3 h5 20.Ne5 Bxe5 21.fxe5
Ke7 22.a3 Rg8 23.Kh2 Rg5
24.Rf3 Rb5 25.Rf2 Ra5 26.Rf3
Rb5 27.Rf2 f6 28.exf6+ Kxf6
29.Raf1 Ke7 30.Re2 Ra5
31.Rf3 Ra8 32.Rg3 Rag8
33.Rxg5 Rxg5 34.Rf2 Kf6
35.Rf3 Rg8 36.Rg3 Ra8 37.Rf3
c5 38.Rf2 Rg8 39.Rf3 e5
40.dxc5 bxc5 41.Rf2 d4
42.cxd4 cxd4 43.Rc2 d3
44.Rd2 e4 45.Kg1 Rg3 46.a4
Ke6 47.a5 Kd6 48.a6 Kc7
49.Rf2 Rxe3 50.Kf1 h4 51.a7
Kb7 52.Rxf5 d2 53.Rf7+ Ka8
54.Rd7 Re1+ 0-1

3rd Annual UPSCL

Continued from page 26

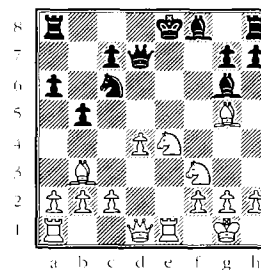
strates what the fifth graders were up against on board one of their section:

M. Pearson (1775) -
J. Chen (960)
98 Penin. School

Championships, Round. 1)

1.e4 e5, 2.Nf3 Nc6, 3.Bb5 a6, 4.Ba4 b5 (a.k.a., The Bayonet Attack of the Spanish Opening), 5.Bb3 Nf6?! (more common is 5... Na5; after 5... Bb7, 6.d4 or 5...Bc5, 6.a4! Black's defense will get difficult), 6.O-O (as I am someone who started out playing the Italian, I can't help but thinking that White would have a stronger line in a 2 Knights defense-type of continuation with 6.Ng5 d5, 7.ed Nd5:, 8.Nf7:!, Kf7:, 9.Qf3+ Ke6, 10.Nc3 Nb4, 11. a3, when the better placement of White's king-bishop puts him extra tempi ahead of the 2 Knights line) 6... Ne4:, 7.d4 (the game has now transposed into the main line of the Open Variation) 7... d5, 8.de d4? (but here Black errs with this most unnecessary pawn move; now White will expand and exploit his lead in development. The main-line continuation is 8...Be6.). 9.Re1 Bf5, 10.Bf4 f6?!? (another unnecessary pawn move which only

weakens Black's king-side which is presently the only safe place left to 'hide' his king. Further, a player generally does not want to open up the file heading toward his king if the player has not yet castled — especially if there is already an enemy rook bearing down on that file, as well!), 11.ef Qf6:, 12.bNd2 Bg6? (perhaps hoping for 13.Ne4: Qf4:), 13.Bg5! Qd6, 14.Ne4: Qd7?? (14... Be4: is a must here. Though, to be sure, a player generally doesn't want to trade just before going behind in material)



(after 14...Qd7)

(White to move and mate in one)

15. Nd6 mate is a nice, problem-like finish!

Note: All ratings are post-tournament UPSCL ratings without account taken for bonus points based on final-place standings. Generally a USCF-equivalent rating is approximately 200 points less than the UPSCL rating.

The CalChess Calendar of Events

(* = CalChess discount) last update 2-20-98

1998

Mar. 27	(Fri)	Cal State School Blitz (Santa Clara)	(TD)
Mar. 28-29	(Sat-Sun)	Cal State School Championship (Santa Clara)	(AK)
Apr. 4	(Sat)	Dinuba Chess for Lids	(AF)
Apr. 17-19	(Fri-Sun)	Mechanics Senior	(JA2)
Apr. 18	(Sat)	Fresno Spring Quad	(DW)
May 2-3	(Sat-Sun)	Livermore Open	(CP) *
May 3	(Sun)	Visalia Spring Quad	(AF)
May 16-17	(Sat-Sun)	San Joaquin Championship (Fresno)	(DW)*
May 23-25	(Sat-Mon)	LERA Memorial Day (Sunnyvale)	(JH)
June 12-14	(Fri-Sun)	Stamer (San Francisco)	(JA2)
June 19-21	(Fri-Sun)	Sacramento "Hot Summer Days"	(JM)
July 4-6	(Sat-Mon)	Universe Open (San Francisco)	(TD) *
Aug 1-9	(Sat-Sun)	US Open (Kona Hawaii)	(ES)
Sep. 5-7	(Sat-Mon)	Calchess Labor Day	(RK) *
Sep. 19	(Sat)	Mech. G/45 (San Francisco)	(JA2)
Nov. 21-22	(Sat-Sun)	Fresno County Championship	(DW) *
Nov. 27-29	(Fri-Sun)	LERA Thanksgiving (Sunnyvale)	(JH)
Dec. 5-6	(Sat-Sun)	Livermore Open	(CP) *

1999

Aug ?	(?)	U.S. Open, 9 rounds, Sands Hotel (Reno)	(JW)
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Annual Events

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

Tournament Organizers

JA = Jeff Andersen, P.O. Box 10845, Napa 94581 (707) 251-8175 troon@aol.com
 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 tomdorsch@aol.com
 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 mikeg@blacksand.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 (Colorado)
 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 adriankc@leland.stanford.edu
 RK = Richard Koepcke, 2047 Montecito Ave. #30, Mountain View

94043 (650) 964-2640 koepcke@sabretooth-23.Eng.Sun.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
 JP = Jimmy Plumb, 1878 W. 11 St. #144, Tracy 95376 (209) 823-0511 hereshope9@nreach.com
 DS = Don Shennum, 14 Whitmore Place, Apt. 8, Oakland 94611 (510) 428-0327 NECADon@aol.com
 SS = Steve Smallwood, 1028 Cassia Way, Sunnyvale 94086 (408) 247-8510

stephen677@aol.com
 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

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
C. Coleman 707-678-9792

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
Alan Kirshner 510-6571586

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
McHenery Avenue
John Barnard 209-785-7895

Monterey

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

Palo Alto

Terman Community Center
660 Arastradero #33
Tom Dorsch 650-322-0955

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 (Martin 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

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

Walnut Creek

Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.
Civic Park /Broadway at Civic
C. Lehman 510-946-1545

Yuba-Sutter

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