

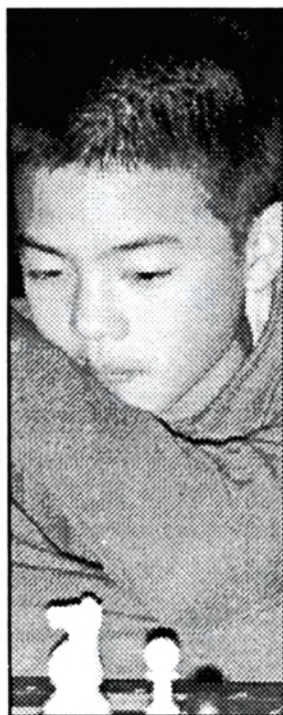
California Chess Journal

Volume 15, Number 3

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Bhat, Chen, Setzepfandt, Zierk Surpass 1,275 at CalChess State Scholastics



Grandmaster Simuls by Wolff and Ashley

Heading for the Hills to the Ohlone Sectional

Interview with Women's Champ Baginskaite

Parents, Kids Team Up at UPSCL Tournament

California Chess Journal



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The *California Chess Journal* gladly accepts submissions pertaining to chess, especially chess in Northern California. Articles should be submitted in electronic form, preferably in text format. Digital photographs are preferred also. We work on a Power Macintosh 9500 using ChessWriter 5.3 and Adobe PageMaker 6.5, but articles and photographs created in lesser operating environments will be accepted at 126 Fifteenth Ave., San Mateo CA 94402-2414, or cattekin@best.com. All submissions subject to editing, but we follow the unwritten rule of chess journalism that editors shouldn't mess with technical annotations by stronger players.

The deadline for submissions for the July/August issue is July 1. Seriously.

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Table of Contents

2001 CalChess State Scholastic Championship	
1,275 players ask how many wins they need for a trophy	3
Ohlone College Sectional	
Perez and Blohm notch last-round wins for top two prizes	8
Jessie Jean's Open and Action Tournaments	
A tradition is brewing in sleepy Santa Rosa	12
Patrick Wolff Simultaneous Exhibition and Lecture	
Two-time U.S. champion visits Burlingame	16
Burlingame Chess Club McIlrath Memorial	
It's Aigner over Koepcke, Hernandez, Dorsch, others	17
Berkeley People's Chess Tournament	
For the 28th year in a row, someone didn't know about the drums	18
UPSCL Parent/Child Team Tournament	
Team Gazit wins again, but Laszlo and Judit Polgar want in next year	22
UPSCL Peninsula Scholastic Championship	
Suburban tournament survives competition from big city chess events	23
Annual Weibel vs. Berkeley Scholastic Match	
Kirshner's kids weather the Shaughnessy squad's rally	24
The Unknown Petroff Countergambit	
Trappy 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Ne5 Nc6!?	25
Interview: Camilla Baginskaite	
U.S. women's co-champion talks and annotates	29
Maurice Ashley at Oakland Chess Fest	
New York grandmaster takes Windsor kids to the zoo	34
Places to Play	
Club listings	35
Editorial	
One thing at a time	35
Tournament Calendar	
Another month of lost weekends, just for you	36

CalChess Patron Program

Recent financial problems at the USCF have impacted a variety of programs, including those which formerly provided some funding to state organizations. Traditionally, the USCF returned \$1 of each adult membership and 50 cents of each youth membership to the state organization under its State Affiliate Support Program, but SASP was eliminated last year.

This resulted in a shortfall to the CalChess budget of nearly \$2000, and impacts our entire budget. The primary expense is the cost of producing and mailing the *California Chess Journal*, which has recently been expanded from four to six issues per year.

Members of CalChess or interested parties who wish to support the quality and growth of chess as a worthwhile activity in Northern California are encouraged to participate. Please send your contributions to CalChess, 126 Fifteenth Ave., San Mateo, CA 94402.

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Bhat, Chen, Setzepfandt, and Zierk Win CalChess Scholastic Championships



The best-attended chess tournament in Northern California history, the 2001 CalChess State Scholastic Championships, drew 1,275 players to the Santa Clara Convention Center March 3 and 4.

International master Vinay Bhat, whose 2477 rating was 862 points higher than the average rating of his six opponents, scored 6-0 to win the K-12 Open division, and the right to represent Northern California in the Denker Tournament of High School Champions to be held at this year's U.S. Open in Framingham, Mass. This will be

Bhat's second try at the Denker — as a freshman two years ago, he and Florida's Marcel Martinez finished 3-4 behind Andrei Zaremba and Vermont's Steven Winer — and he'll probably get a third shot if he wants it. Bhat, number 35 overall in the nation, is still just a junior at San Jose's Lynbrook High School. (Last year, Bhat skipped the CalChess scholastic championships to work on making his IM norms, enabling Micah Fisher-Kirshner to win in a storybook upset.)

Elliot Temple, the only expert in the field of 105, beat each of his opponents but Bhat for 5-1 and his second place trophy. Samuel Kwok, rated 1365, also

scored 5-1 to finish third, and achieved a performance rating of 1902 (IM Bhat's performance rating for the event was 2015).

Wesley Chen was a surprise winner in the K-8 Open section, taking advantage of top-seeded Matthew Ho's loss to Alexander Tseung (1172), and racing off to a 6-0 score. Chen upset second-ranked Michael Pearson in the fifth round and beat Michael O'Brien in the last round to earn the title of state champion. Pearson, O'Brien, Ho, and third seed Darren Kong finished 2nd-5th with scores of 5-1.

The top seed in the K-6 Open division, Alexander Setzepfandt

Bhat's Stonewall is Tough to Break at High School State Championship

gave up only a draw to third-ranked Daniel Schwarz on his way to a 5½-½ score. Schwarz joined Daichi Siegrist, Sam Galler, Nicolas Yap, #2 seed Drake Wang, and Tyler Wilken at 5-1 in 2nd-7th places.

Steven Zierk made it three out of four for the top seeds, making a 5-0 score to win the K-3 Open Division, but needed help from the tiebreakers — Ankita Roy and unrated Anthony Ferrer also won all five of their games, and placed 2nd and 3rd on tiebreaks.

Riley Hughes and Doug Shaker organized the event, but have announced that they will not host the 2002 engagement. National tournament director Allen Fifield led the staff of tournament directors.

White: Elliot Temple (2006)
Black: Vinay Bhat (2477)
Stonewall Dutch
Notes by IM Vinay S. Bhat

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. cd5 ed5 4. Nc3 c6 5. e3?! Bd6 6. Bd3 f5!?

Mixing things up a little bit. Now Black has a very good version of the Stonewall Defense — his light-squared bishop has an extra square on e6, there is no central pressure following White's exchange on d5, and White's c1-bishop is entombed.

7. Nge2 Nh6!?

The idea was the allow the b8-knight to get to e4 via d7 and f6, while having the f-pawn guarded. 7...Nf6 was also possible.

8. Rb1

If 8. 0-0, 8...Bh2 (the simple 8...0-0!? is probably correct) seems interesting, but after 9. Kh2 Qh4 10. Kg1 Ng4 11. Re1 Qf2 12. Kh1, Black's best is a draw.

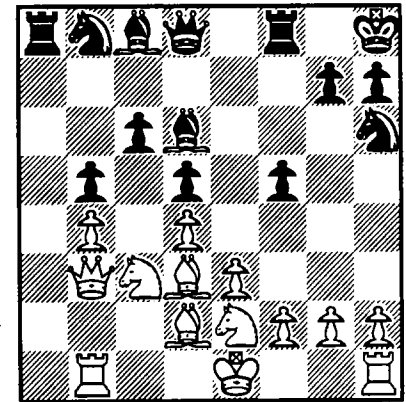
8...a5 9. a3 0-0 10. b4 ab4 11. ab4 b5!

Fixing the weak b4-pawn, while Black has control of the a4-, c4-, and e4-squares, as well as control of the only open file.

12. Qb3 Kh8

White's idea can be seen after 12...Nd7? 13. Nd5 cd5 14. Qd5, when the a8-rook will fall.

13. Bd2

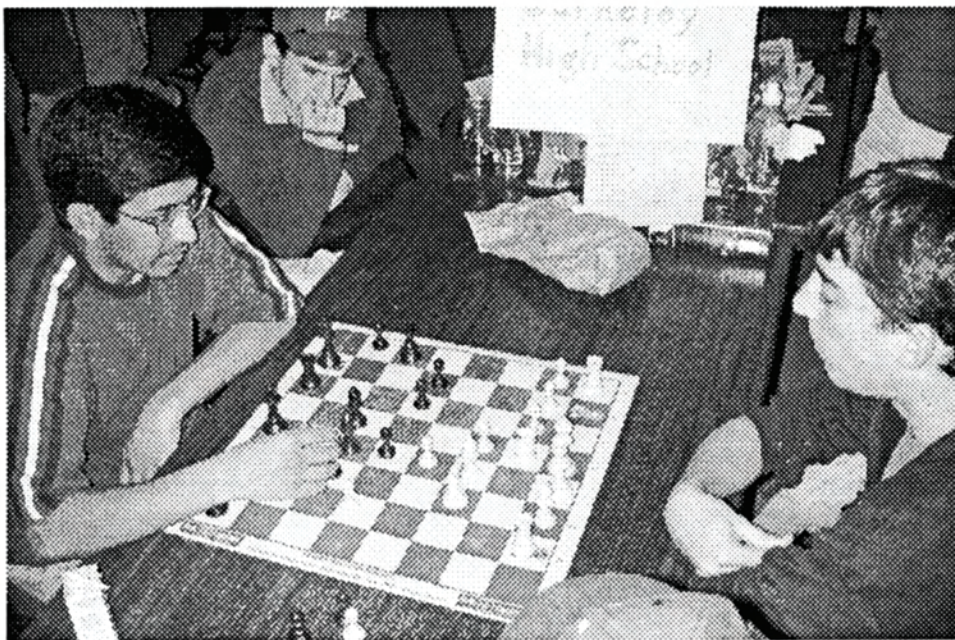


13...Be6?!

After this, White gains a few tempi by attacking the exposed bishop, thereby opening up the c-file and causing Black some discomfort. Better is 13...Nd7!, because Black should try to get his knight to b6 as soon as possible. Then White will not be able to make threats against the backward c6-pawn, so Black will have no trouble securing good squares for his pieces: 14. Nb5 cb5 15. Qd5 Ra6 16. Bb5 Rb6.

14. Nf4 Bg8

On 14...Bf4?! 15. ef4, Black is left with domination of the light



International master Vinay Bhat, on the black side of the Stonewall, and Elliot Temple drew a crowd during their post-mortem. Even though the pair finished first and second in the individual competition, Bhat's Lynbrook High School and Temple's Berkeley Chess School only managed a tie for fourth in the team standings behind the first-place Success Chess School, Mechanics' Institute in second, and Bellarmine Prep.

Photo by Shorman

squares, but his e6-bishop will be forever out of the game.

15. Nce2 Nd7 16. Qc3

16. Qc2! would have been better, keeping an eye on the f5-pawn as well.

16...Qc7 17. Rc1 Rfc8 18. O-O Ra4!

18...g5 wins a pawn after 19. Nh3 Bh2 20. Kh1 but Black's g-pawn, f-pawn, and Bh2 are all precariously placed. For example, after 20...g4 21. Nhf4 Bf4 22. Nf4 White is doing fine despite the fact he is down a pawn. After Black guards against the threat of Bb5, White can play g3, Kg2, and Rh1 and then Black's exposed kingside will come under attack.

19. Qc2 g6 20. Nc3 Ra6

If 20...Rb4?, then 21. Ncd5.

21. Ra1 Qb7!

Now Black's queen gets off c7 (where threats of Nb5 could have been annoying) and manages to retain control of the a-file.

22. Ra6 Qa6 23. Qb2 Ra8 24. Rb1 Qa3 25. Nfe2 Ng4 26. g3 Ngf6 27. Nc1

27. f3! was the only move, keeping Black out of e4. Now White must hope that Black can't improve his position any more, although ideas of swinging the Nf6 over to a6 via e8 and c7 to attack the b-pawn are possible.

27...Ne4 28. Be1

Now 28. f3 is too late, for after 28...Nd2 29. Qd2 Bb4 Black is just up a pawn.

28...Nb6 29. Kg2 Be6 30. h4 Kg8 31. N3a2 Nc4 32. Qa3 Ra3 33. Rb3 Ra7 34. Nc3 h6 35. Ne4?

Black's idea of opening the h-file for mating threats is hard to meet, but the move played loses immediately.

35...de4 36. Bc4 Bc4 37. Rb1 Kf7 38. Bc3 Bd5

Not allowing White to open the long diagonal by the pawn sacrifice d5.

39. Kh3

From this point, I am not completely sure of the moves as we were running short of time.

39...Ra3 40. Be1 g5!

Opening a second front for the attack.

41. hg5 hg5 42. Kg2 Ke6 43. Bd2 Bc4 44. Be1 Ra7 45. Bc3 Kd5 46. Be1 f4 47. Nb3 Rh7 48. Na5 f3 49. Kg1 Bf1! 50. Resigns

The threat of ...Bg2 and ...Rh1 mate can only be prevented by 50. Kf1, when 50...Rh1 is still check-mate.

White: Steven Zierk (1144)

Black: Yuki Siegrist (773)

Petroff Defense

Notes by Steven Zierk and IM Jon Frankle

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Ne5 Bc5

A gambit of sorts — for 3...Nc6, see page 25. The main line of the Petroff Defense is 3...d6 4. Nf3 Ne4 5. d4 d5, and so on.

4. d4 d6 5. Nf3

Possible is 5. Nf7 Kf7 6. dc5 Re8 7. Nc3.

5...Bb6 6. Bd3 O-O 7. O-O Nc6 8. d5

8. c3 is better, preserving the pawn center, and keeping Black's bishop under wraps.

8...Nd4 9. Nd4

9. Ne1?!, trying to win the knight on d4 by preparing c3, would backfire. For example, 9...Bg4! 10. Qd2 (10. f3 Nf3) Re8 11. c3 Ne4 12. Be4 Ne2 13. Kh1 Re4 14. f3? Qh4! wins.

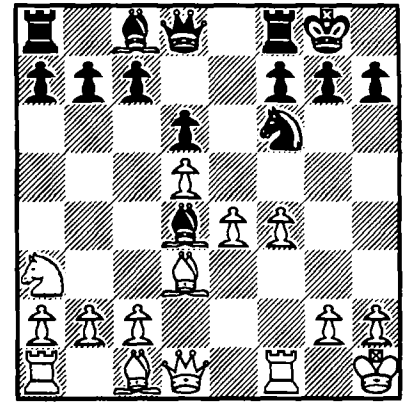
9...Bd4 10. Na3 Be5

10. Be2 Bb6 11. Nc3 is better for White.

11. f4

This weakens White's kingside with loss of tempo. 11. c3 first is better.

11...Bd4 12. Kh1



12...Ng4 13. Qe2

This was a mistake; necessary was 13. Qe1, guarding h4. After 13. Qe2, Black could have won the exchange with 13...Nh2 14. Rg1 (14. Kh2 Qh4 mate!) Ng4 15. g3 Nf2 16. Kh2 Bg4 17. Qd2 Nd3 18. Qd3 Bg1 19. Kg1. Another possibility is 13...Nh2 14. Qe1 Nf1, etc.

13...Qh4 14. g3 Qh3

White started to think about trapping Black's queen now. Maybe better for Black is 14...Qe7.

15. Nb5 Bb6 16. a4 a5

16...a6 looks better. 16...f5 would work well if the f5- and e4-pawns are exchanged, since if the Bd3 gets dislodged, Black will have ...Nh2, when White's queen is overworked. But 17. e5! is fine for White: for instance, 17...de5 18. fe5 Re8 19. Bf4.

On the Cover

Our state scholastic champions — left to right, international master Vinay Bhat, Wesley Chen, Alexander Setzepfandt, Steven Zierk — each hold a place on the USCF's Top 50 lists for their age groups.

Bhat, 16, is no. 1 in the country among 15- and 16-year-olds. He is also 35th overall.

Chen, 12, is no. 40 in the 11/12 age bracket, Setzepfandt, 11, is no. 13. Zierk, 7, is ranked 20th among children under 8.

Cover and page 3 photos by Shorman.

2001 CalChess State Scholastic Chess Championships

March 3-4, 2001

K-12 Open		10 Anthony Hsiao	3 Success Chess School	16 Nick Druzhinin	5 16 Andrew Yeh
1 Vinay Bhat	6	11 Jamie Brett	K-6 Under 850	4 Teddy Stenmark	17 Vivek Choksi
2 Elliot Temple	5	12 Jaime Lai	1 Aaron Garg	6 Marcus Griffiths	18 Vivian Fan
3 Samuel Kwok		13 Stephan Goupille	2 Edward Wu	6 Vincent Banh	19 Shilpa Sharma
4 Benjamin Haun		14 Owen Lin	3 Sean Hauffer	7 Alan Trinh	20 Connor Carrejo
5 Lev Pisarsky		15 Saurabh Sanghvi	4 Tommy Liu	8 Kevin Shen	21 Lawrence Lam
6 David Petty		16 Jacob Green	5 Jonathan Jew	9 Hughes Chiang	22 Anthony Burke
7 Keith Yost	4.5	17 Christopher Wihledal	6 Allen Tu	10 Cameron Khanzadian	23 Margot Boorman
8 Jesse Cohen		18 Eugene Vityugov	7 Kelley Jhong	11 Alan Thep	24 Marie Navea-Huff
9 Jeremy Fremlin		19 Neil Chao	8 Sam Birer	12 Christian Weeber	25 Kyle Feng
10 Stephen Ho		Teams	9 Ankur Agrawal	13 Menso deJong	Teams
11 Monty Peckham		1 Mechanics' Institute	10 Arnav Shah	14 Ray Pineda	1 St. Mark's
12 Kris MacLennan		2 Hopkins Junior High	11 Keith Moffat	15 Kevin Markle	2 Berkeley Chess School
13 Akash Deb		3 Berkeley Chess School	12 Kyle Hui	16 Thomas Smith	3 Weibel Elementary
14 Matthew Truong		K-8 Under 850	13 Trevor Carothers	17 Adrian Sanborn	K-3 Unrated
15 Benjamin Kavanaugh		1 Andrew Yun	14 Drew Lawson	18 A.J. Luft	1 Christopher Missirlian
16 Robert Chan	4	2 Nicholas Tapia	15 Michael Liu	19 Brian Zhou	2 Ranjeetha Bharath
17 Simion Kreimer		3 Alok Pandey	16 Michael Bird	20 Aaron Fong	3 Jim Su
18 Scott Tarkul		4 Rebecca Wang	17 Davis Kingsley	21 Timmy Weeber	4 Bryan Tsang
19 Christopher Pascal		5 Keith Hunter	18 Anna Hauswirth	22 Eric Yuan	5 Jonathan Hollenbeck
20 Edward Perepelitsky		6 Jessica Lee	19 Jake Magner	23 Ashwin Aravind	6 Larry Zhong
21 Benjamin Tejes		7 Richard Mehlinger	20 Boris Burkov	24 Peter Luong	7 Brad Windsor
22 Gary Huang		8 Keith Schwarz	21 Sean Chou	25 Dennis McElhaney	8 Allan Hetke
23 Vy Phan		9 Elisha Garg	22 Tony Diepenbrock	Teams	9 Alan Wang
24 Sergey Frenklakh		10 Stephen Tsay	23 Brian Tsai	1 Cherrywood	10 Eli Morris
25 Tinh Tran		11 Emmanuel Garcia	24 Anuja Oza	2 Manchester GATE	11 Christopher Lo
26 Alexander Kwan		12 Rundill Thao	25 Iris Kokish	3 Biggs	12 Edwin Wang
27 Prashant Periwat		13 Connor Rath	26 Jules Kleinbrodt	K-3 Open	13 Alexander Chiou
28 Phillip Keith		14 Colin Ralls	27 Jason Chang	1 Steven Zierk	14 Jay Chen
Teams		15 Matthew Boisdore	28 Evan Israel	2 Ankita Roy	15 Ryan Jennings
1 Success Chess School	17.5	16 Samantha Steadman	29 Eric Soderstrom	3 Anthony Ferrer	16 Abraham Jurado
2 Mechanics' Institute	17.5	17 Landon Hill	30 Naseem Raad	4 Tatsuro Yamamura	17 Anthony Kang
3 Bellarmine	16.5	18 Kavitha Ratnam	31 Ara Baghdassarian	5 Emilia Krubnik	18 Aries Lu
4 Berkeley Chess School	16	19 Ching-Lin Ni	32 Nathan Wang	6 Jacob Hall	19 Kevin Macario
5 Lynbrook High	16	20 Ellie Lee	33 Brandon Zeman	7 Robert Hsu	20 Samir Datta
K-12 Under 1000		21 Philipp Semenenko	34 Nick Thao	8 Dustin Rudiger	21 Roland Wu
1 Nicholas Ranish	6	22 Joanna Kwong	Teams	9 Alan Hwang	22 Steven Chang
2 Ashneel Lal	5	23 Andrew Gutierrez	1 Mission San Jose	10 Yuki Siegrist	23 Kevin So
3 Ahmad Moghadam		24 Anthony Ramirez	2 Weibel Elementary	11 Graham McDaniel	24 Eric Uyemura
4 Jovi Gacusan		Teams	3 Argonaut School	12 Peter Wu	25 Kevin Tai
5 Dan Nguyen		1 Hopkins Junior High	K-6 Under 650	13 Tau Jeng	Teams
6 Frank Lin		2 Biggs	1 Devina Brown	14 Kevork Karakouzian	1 Weibel Elementary
7 Nikhil Chand		3 Berkeley Chess School	2 Julia Herron	15 Joshua Chiou	2 Games Elementary
8 Vincent Ng		K-6 Open	3 Anuj Verma	16 Davis Xu	3 Berkeley Chess School
9 Brian Dole	4.5	1 Alex Setzpfandt	4 Mark Kokish	17 Edgar Grigoryan	Kindergarten
10 Gary Tao		2 Daniel Schwarz	5 Derek Hsu	18 Dylan Porter	1 Boris Kitapszyan
11 Ryan Dooley		3 Daichi Siegrist	6 Shawn Conte	19 Jeffrey Li	2 Christopher Wu
12 Brian Aller		4 Sam Galler	7 Trevor Showalter	20 Allen Chang	3 William Jou
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15 Lauren Goodkind		7 Tyler Wilken	10 Stephen Wang	23 Cory McDowell	6 Mark Gofman
16 Brian Lau		8 Rahul Subramaniam	11 Tomas Fuentes-Afflick	24 Nathaniel Ho	7 Jeremy Chow
17 Scott Donato		9 Kevin Walters	12 Sonia Gutierrez	25 Lawrence Van Hook	8 Liz Oliphant
18 Michael Fischer		10 Michael Cambareri	13 Quinn Gibson	Teams	9 Patrick Dibble
19 Jason Sackstorff		11 Sharon Tseung	14 Allen Yen	1 Mechanics' Institute	10 Kara Zeman
20 Brenda Saetum		12 Anand Kesavaraju	15 Chris Bannister	2 Weibel Elementary	11 Griffin Sloves
21 Joey Hazani		13 Kimberly Anonuevo	16 Twisha Buch	3 Berkeley Chess School	12 Christopher Streibing
22 Priyank Sheth		14 Andres Fuentes-Afflick	17 Rudy Sather	K-3 Under 600	13 Joshua Tien
23 Steven Galbraith		15 Edward Chien	18 Christian Kang	1 Ryan Lee	14 Tristan Sather
Teams		16 David Chock	19 Anthony Oshiro	2 Titus Van Hook	15 Nicholas Bird
1 Berkeley Chess School	18	17 Ryan Ko	20 Craig Jeong	3 Matthias Wilken	16 Thomas Strand
2 Modesto High School	16	18 Christopher Kohlhepp	21 Kelvin Tse	4 Caitlin Miller	17 Christopher Gardias
3 Balboa High School	16	19 Tyrone Plata	22 Vincent Bonilla	5 Connor Van Gessel	18 Sid Akkiraju
K-8 Open		20 Gabriel Gordon	23 S. Cunningham-Bryant	6 Steven Rosten	19 Benjamin Viera
1 Wesley Chen	6	21 Shaun Tse	24 Mishu Sharma	7 Alexander Lee	20 Sina Vameghi
2 Michael Pearson	5	22 Igor Garbouz	25 Reuben Ulanimo	8 Kartik Chillakanti	21 Kali Navea-Huff
3 Michael O'Brien		23 Ramon Qui	Teams	9 James Burdick	22 Hannah Rubin
4 Matthew Ho		24 Karl He	1 Sheehy	10 Ian Newcomb	23 Mason Viera
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8 Timothy Ma		1 Mechanics' Institute	1 Greg Bodwin	14 Vicky Hwang	1 Success Chess School
9 Oren Gazit	4	2 Berkeley Chess School	2 Jason Song	15 William Wang	2 Nixon Elementary

17. f5 Ne5

Better is 17...Bd7. Black's Ng4 is currently better than White's Bd3, and after Rf4, the knight can be supported with ...h5.

18. Rf4 Nd3 19. Qd3 Qh5

Black's queen is trapped. Black had to play ...g5 on move 18 or 19.

20. Rh4 Qh4 21. gh4 Re8 22. Be3

A mistake by White, as ...Bf5 is now possible.

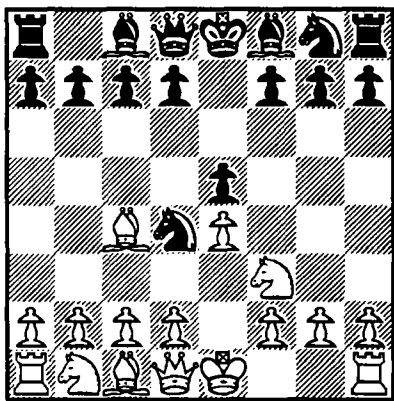
22...Re7 23. Bb6 cb6 24. Nd6 Rd7 25. Qb5

Indirectly protecting the knight (25...Rd6 26. Qe8 mate!) and threatening Nc8 followed by Qd7. Black should play ...Rd8 or ...Re7 to avoid the loss of a piece.

25...h6 26. Nc8 Rc8 27. Qd7 Rc2 28. e5 Rc4 29. e6 fe6 30. fe6 Rg4 31. e7 Rg1 32. Rg1 Kh7 33. e8 (Q) b5 34. Qg7 mate

White: Brian Chao (864)
Black: Gabriel Gordon (1070)
Hungarian Defense
Notes by Brian Chao

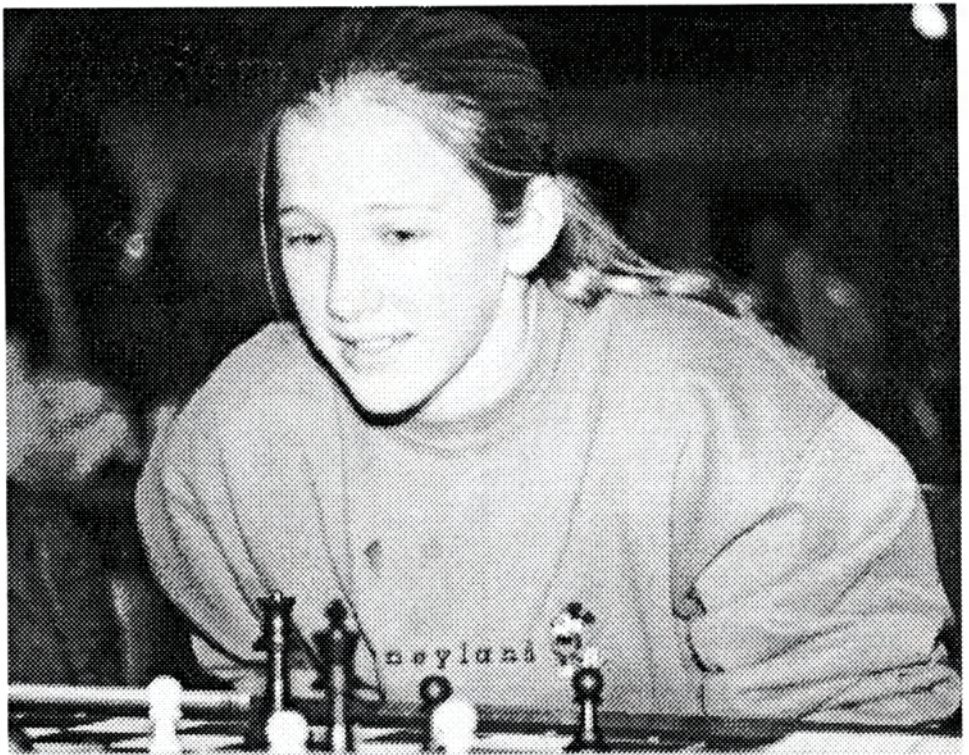
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nd4



Perhaps hoping for the greedy 4. Ne5 Qg5 5. Nf7 Qg2 6. Rf1 Qe4 7. Be2 Nf3 mate.

4. Nc3 d6 5. h3 Nf6 6. 0-0 Be7 7. d3 0-0 8. Be3 c5 9. a3 a5

Creating a hole on b5 that White uses immediately.



Katherine Soult, representing the Britton Middle School of Morgan Hill, made an even score in the K-8 Under 850 division. She wrote, "Chess is a great way to get to know people, since you already know you have something in common with them. A piece of everyone's personality shines through their play, so you can easily become familiar with them. For example, a person who thinks everything through carefully must be a patient person, and a person who ignores surprise attacks or something must be absentminded."

Photo by Kevin Batangan

10. Nb5

Preparing to evict the black knight with c3. The like-minded 10. Ne2 is bad because of 10...Nf3 and 11...Bh3. Perhaps the centralizing 10. Nd5 and 11. c3 is best of all.

10...Qb6 11. a4 Bd7 12. c3

With a surprise in store.

12...Nb5 13. ab5 Bb5 14. Qb3

Winning a piece.

14...Ne8 15. Qb5 Qb5

Trading queens while behind in material hurts Black's chances for counterplay.

16. Bb5 Nc7 17. Ba4

17. Bc4 places the bishop on a more central diagonal and points at a small target on f7 and a big one at g8. Then 17...b5 18. Ba2 is not dangerous for White because he has as many pieces on the queen's wing as Black.

17...b5 18. Bc2 Rfe8 19. d4

Opening the game for superior force.

19...cd4 20. cd4 ed4 21. Nd4 Bf6 22. Rfb1

22. Rfc1 affords the rook much greater scope on the open file, with a discovered attack on the c7-knight to come.

22...d5 23. f3 b4 24. Nc6 Ra6 25. Ba4 Rc8 26. e5 Bh4 27. Rc1 Kh8 28. Bc5

More aggressive is 28. Rc5, hitting the a5-pawn and preparing to double.

28...Ne6 29. Bd6 h6 30. Ne7 Rc1 31. Rc1 f6

32. Ng6 wins another piece, but White has bigger designs.

32. Rc8 Kh7 33. Bb5

One move faster is 33. Bc2.

33...Ra7 34. Bd3 g6 35. Bg6 Kg7 36. Rg8 mate

Perez is King of the Hill at Ohlone College Tournament

Ohlone Spring Sectional March 24-25, 2001 Open Section

1	Emmanuel Perez	4	\$290
2	David Blohm	3½	\$165
3-5	Tom Dorsch	3	\$30

Richard Koepcke
Alexander Kretchetov

1-2 u2100	Alan Bishop	3	\$120
	Chris Mavraedis		

Reserve Section

1-3	Stefan Blunar	3½	\$140
	Maximo Fajardo		

Andrew Milburn

4-10	W. Craig Andries	3	\$25
	Chris Black		

Anand Kesavaraju

Teri Lagier

Nelson Marcello Sowell

Alex Wu

Nicolas Yap

Booster Section

1	Allen Tu	4	\$95
2	Benjamin Vilar	3½	\$60

3-5	Igor Garbouz	3	\$15
	Anthony Hsiao		
	John Steele		

College Prize

Robert Chan, Ohlone College Trophy

National masters Emmanuel Perez and David Blohm finished first and second at the Ohlone College Sectional held March 24 and 25 in Fremont. Perez made a perfect 4-0 mark, while Blohm recovered from a first-round draw against 1903-rated Stuart Wittenstein to finish at 3½-½.

Maximo Fajardo, Andrew Milburn, and Stefan Blunar each scored 3½-½ to share the top prize in the 1500-1900 Reserve Section. Allen Tu, rated 836, garnered four wins to win the Under 1500 Booster Section.

Hans Poschmann directed 92 players in three sections, assisted by Ohlone College chess club president Robert Carpenter. The club meets on campus Fridays from 12 noon-2 p.m. CalChess

scholastic director Dr. Alan Kirshner, who teaches American government at the college, serves as the group's faculty advisor. The club numbers about 10, led by 1728-rated Robert Chan, who achieved a performance rating of 2275 at the Ohlone Sectional, besting expert Matthew Ho and master Michael Aigner — Chan's chess teacher — and drawing master Jerry Walls.

White: Emmanuel Perez (2359)

Black: Richard Koepcke (2292)

Grunfeld Defense

Notes by NM Richard Koepcke

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 c5 3. Nf3 d5 4. cd5 Nd5 5.d4

Black has two main alternatives here, 5...Nc3 and 5...cd4. The latter leads to a symmetrical pawn structure in which Black has an uphill fight to equality. The knight capture produces more dynamic play, but has the downside of allowing a transposition to either the Grunfeld or the Semi-Tarrasch depending on Black's 6th move. The dynamic choice might not have been wise for this final-round game, considering that it has been more than 20 years since I last played the Grunfeld in a serious game. I was betting that Perez, who regularly plays 1. c4 as White, would be even less familiar with such positions than I.

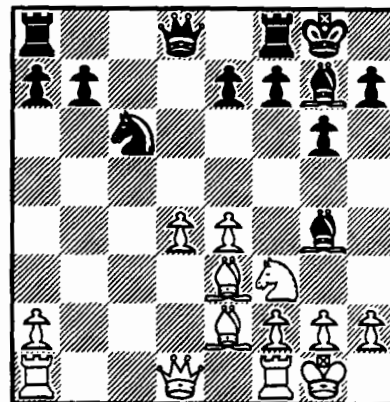
5...Nc3 6. bc3 g6 7. e4 Bg7 8. Be2

8. Rb1 is considered to be the more critical test of Black's setup. The text is an older variation that is not supposed to net White much hope for an advantage. Unfortunately, I could not recall the correct equalizing sequence for Black.

8...0-0

This natural-looking reply is not the best way to confront White's setup. 8...Nc6 is almost universally recognized as Black's best response, then one possible continuation is 9. Be3 Bg4 10. d5 Bc3 11. Bd2 Ba1 12. Qa1 Nd4! with good chances for equality.

9. 0-0 cd4 10. cd4 Nc6 11. Be3 Bg4



12.d5

Now 12...Ba1 13. Qa1 Na5 14. Bh6 leads to an ugly position for Black. Relatively best is 12...Ne5 13. Ne5 Be2 14. Qe2 Be5 15. Rb1 Qd7 16 Qb5! when Black has an inferior but playable game. Not willing to admit that the opening has not turned out well for me, I commit the sin of trying to get too much out of the position.

12...Bf3?

The main idea behind this exchange is to gain time for maneuver ...Ne5-c4-d6 followed by ...e5 and ...f5. All of this ignores the fact that I cannot actually get the knight to c4 without help from White.

13. Bf3 Ne5 14. Be2 Rc8 15. Qa4

Grabbing the a pawn by 15. Ba7 b6 is asking for trouble, but

now White really is threatening the pawn. He also has ideas of grabbing space in the center by f4 and e5.

15...a6?

15...Ra8 is practically the only move.

16. Rab1 f5

Since the b-pawn cannot be defended, I decided to try to mix the position up a little. From a purely analytical point of view, this counter is a mistake.

17. f4 b5 18. Qa6 Nc4 19. Bc4 bc4

I entered this line hoping that the newly-passed c-pawn would provide enough counterplay to hold the position.

20. Qe6 Kh8 21. e5 Qa5 22. Rb7 Qa3

22...Qa2 23. Qe7 is pretty much a hopeless cause.

23. Bc1 Qc5 24. Kh1 Rfe8 25. Qf7!

There is no defense to the advance of the d-pawn.

25...c3 26. d6 Qc4 27. Qc4 Rc4 28. Re7 Rd8 29. d7 Resigns

White: Tom Dorsch (2239)
Black: David Blohm (2231)
Sicilian Accelerated Dragon
Notes by NM Richard Koepcke

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 g6 5. Be3 Bg7 6. Nc3 Nf6 7. Be2

White almost always plays 7. Bc4 in order to prevent Black's programmed counterpunch ...d5. The text is a sideline that hopes to transpose back into a Classical Dragon type of position. At the moment, 7...d5 would be a mistake, owing to 8. Bb5, so Black gets the king out of the way first.

7...0-0 8. Nb3 b6!?

8...a5 is Black's most active continuation. The text, though playable, strikes me as a bit slow.

9. g4?!

A novelty.



The Ohlone Sectional was played in the Ohlone College cafeteria – bughouse was played on the patio outside – and its great view of the outlying hills. I used to run through those hills at 5 a.m. – the cafeteria cashier and I would run in the morning, then stretch on the cafeteria floor. Between moves, I'd walk around the cafeteria, then look at the grimy floor and think about what an idiot I was when I was young. I never ran to the top of the hill overlooking the parking lot, though – that was for the basketball team. The 1982-83 Ohlone College Renegades finished last in the Coast Conference with a record of 10-21, in spite of my best efforts as student manager. In fits of disgust, Coach Skip Mohatt (Coach never played the game – a brilliant basketball mind in a body disabled by polio) used to yell, "Frisco! Tell those dummies to run to the acorn tree on top of that hill, and watch them with the binoculars. If one of them stops running, they all run again!" I loved the time I spent at Ohlone College, but I don't think I ever actually finished a class there. Kids, stay in school, else you wind up as a chess journalist.

Photo by John Tu, caption by Frisco Del Rosario

9...d6

9 ... d5! is the right way to counter white's wing attack. A possible continuation is 10. ed5 Nb4 11. Bf3 Bb7, when Black regains his pawn with a good game.

10. h4 Bb7 11. f3 Rc8 12. Qd2 Ne5 13. h5 Rc3?!

Black engages in the standard Dragon exchange sacrifice, but without the usual queenside pressure, it looks doubtful.

14. bc3

One possible try for a refutation is 14. Qc3!? Ne4 15. fe4 Nf3 16. Bf3 Bc3 17. bc3 with an enormous amount of material for the queen, but White's position is a

little loose. The text seems like a prudent choice.

14...Nc4 15. hg6 hg6 16. Bd4

The greedy 16. fg4 is strongly met by 16...Ne4 17. Qc1 Qc8! when, despite his extra rook, White is in a lot of trouble.

16...Ne5 17. Be5?

Black does not have full compensation for the exchange after 17. 0-0-0.

17...de5 18. Qd8 Rd8

Black has two bishops and total control over the dark squares in exchange for his slight material deficit. The position is roughly equal.

19. a4 Rc8 20. Kd2 Nh5

Blohm's Dragon Breathes Fire at Ohlone Sectional

To be considered is 20 ... a5!?, preventing further simplification, and killing the opposing knight in the process.

21. a5 Bh6 22. Kd1 Be3 23. ab6 Bb6 24. Na5 Ng3

Solving his immediate problems by tactical means. On 24...Ba8, White responds with 25 Nc4, eliminating Black's key bishop.

25. Rh2 Ne2 26. Re2 Ba6 27. c4 Bc4 28. Nc4 Rc4 29. Kd2 Bd4 30. Rh1?!

30. Ra3 holds the balance. White needs to keep his f-pawn on the board if he is going to withstand Black's coming pawn storm.

30...Kg7 31. Reh2 a5 32. Rh8 a4 33. R1h7 Kf6 34. Ra8 Rc3 35. Ra6 e6 36. Ra4 Rf3 37. Rc4 Kg5 38. c3 Rf2 39. Ke1?

Probably the losing move. After 39. Kd3, Black might not have anything better than to repeat the position with 39...Rf3.

39...Be3 40. Rc6 Kg4

The pawn mass can no longer be stopped. If White does nothing — say, Ra6 — then Black will follow with 41...g5, 42...f5, and 43...Kf4.

41. Rc7 f5 42. Rc6 Kf3 43. Rh3 Ke4 44. Rc4 Kd3 45. Rc5 Rg2 46. Re3

White gets two pawns for the exchange, but the resulting rook ending is lost.

46...Ke3 47. Re5 Kd3 48. Kf1 Rg4 49. Re6 Kc3 50. Ke2 Kd4 51. Kf3 Kd5 52. Re8 Rg1 53. Kf4 Rg4 54. Kf3 g5 55. Re7 Ra4 56. Re8 Ra3 57. Kf2 g4 58. Kg2 f4 59. Rg8 Ra2 and Black won a few moves later.

White: Richard Koepcke (2292)
Black: Steven Gaffagan (2007)
King's Indian Defense
Notes by NM Richard Koepcke

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f4



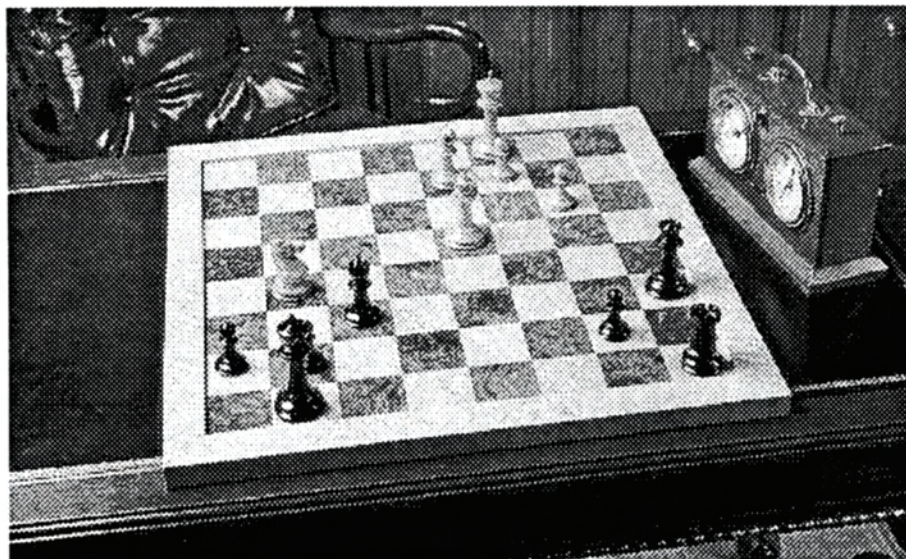
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I had earlier decided to try for a slow, non-forcing game where Gaffagan's tendency to get into time pressure would work against him — some sort of fianchetto line where the king pawn remains on e2 for a while would have been in order, but I was not interested in playing one of the standard King's Indian positions where White tries to make progress on the queenside while Black plays for mate on the kingside. At the spur of the moment, I decided that if anyone was going to play for mate early on, it would be White.

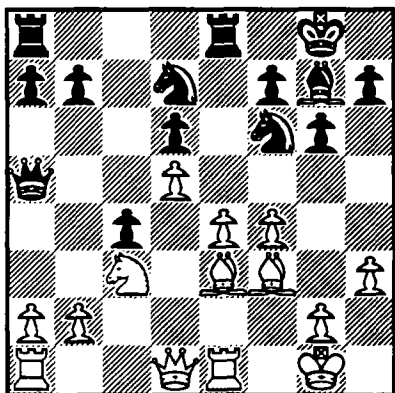
5...0-0 6. Nf3 c5 7. d5 e6 8. Be2 ed5 9. cd5 Bg4

The safest of Black's main choices in this position. The idea is to restrain the white e-pawn as long as possible by threatening to exchange the knight at an appropriate moment. The other two alternatives, 9...Re8 and 9...b5, lead to much sharper positions.

10. 0-0 Nbd7 11. Re1 Re8 12. h3 Bf3 13. Bf3 c4!?

Planning ...Nc5-d3. Conventional theory states that this is premature, preferring 13...Qa5 instead, but it is not clear to me that this verdict is entirely correct. More to the point, the precise book recommendation was not familiar to me during the game.

14. Be3 Qa5



15. Bd4

A possible alternative is 15 Kh1, not allowing Black a chance to recapture with check after 15...Nc5 16. Bc5 Qc5. Then the typical followup 17. e5 de5 18. fe5 Nd7 19. Ne4 results in a sharp but balanced position.

15...Nc5 16. e5?

The pawn push is definitely premature. The books claim an advantage for White with 16. b4! Qb4 17. Rb1 Qa5 18. Rb5 Qa6 19. Bc5, as in Komarov-Strowski, Belfort Open 1992. At the board I could not decide on the correct evaluation after 18...Qa3 instead of ...Qa6, but without regard to my trepidation, White must be better off here than with the potential game position.

16...Nfd7 17. e6 Nf6?

This definitely lets me off the hook. The critical continuation is 17...Nd3 18. Bg7 Kg7 19. Re2 fe6 20. de6 N7c5 with a big advantage for Black.

18. Be2!

Suddenly, the c-pawn can no longer be adequately defended. Relatively best from Black's perspective is 18...fe6 19. Bc4 (19. de6?! d5 is unclear) Kh8 with a slight advantage for White.

18...b5 19. b4 cb3 20. ab3

The immediate capture of the b5 pawn is a trickier alternative to the text. However, 20. Bb5 Re7 (20...b2? 21. ef7 Kf7 22. Be8 Re8 23. Rb1+/-) 21. ab3 Qb4 ultimately transposes into the game continuation.

20...Qb4 21. Bb5 Rec8?

21...Re7 is only way to prevent further loss of material.

22. Bc6 Rab8

Better than 22...Nb3? 23. Ra4! which is immediately decisive.

23. ef7 Kf8

23...Kf7 24. Ra7 Kg8 25. Ree7 is even worse for Black.

24. Ra7 Qb3 25. Bc5 dc5 26. Qe2 Resigns

White: Frisco Del Rosario (2000)
Black: Gary Huang (1882)
Sicilian Wing Gambit
Notes by Frisco Del Rosario

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. b4 cb4 4. d4 d5 5. e5

This variation of the Wing Gambit gives White lots of space to attack on the kingside while Black does not have the usual pressure against d4 because his c-pawn has been deflected. It is also reached by the French move order 1. e4 e6 2. Nf3 d5 3. e5 c5 4. b4 cb4 5. d4.

5...Ne7 6. a3 Ng6

The knight is better placed on f5, closer to the center, and where it is less easily dislodged. If White tries g4, ...Nh4 is the good answer.

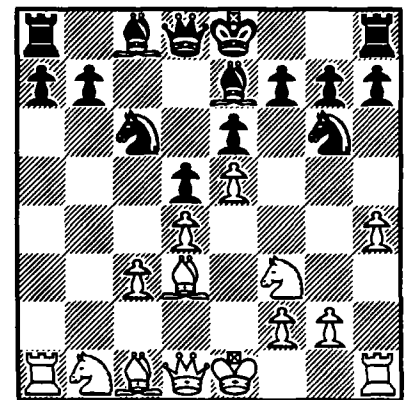
7. Bd3 Be7

Wastes a move, and interferes with the knight's mobility.

8. ab4 Bb4 9. c3 Be7 10. h4

Makes an outpost on g5 for a minor piece, while the threat of h5 prevents Black from castling. 10...Nh4 11. Nh4 Bh4 12. Qg4 is good for White.

10...Nc6



11. Kf1

11. Ng5 followed by 12. Qf3 or 12. Qh5 (11...Nh4 12. Qg4 is also possible) is more aggressive, though it smacks of a premature attack. 11. Kf1 gives Black another chance to err by 11...Nh4, and it is

Continued on Page 34

Givens Supplies the Beans and Weikel the Green at Jessie Jean's

Jessie Jean's Open Tournament March 16-18, 2001			
Open Section			
1	Tom Dorsch	4	\$250
2-3	Jerry Weikel	3	\$146
	Peter Stubbs		
4	Chris Mavraedis	2.5	\$90
5-6	Alex Setzepfandt	2	\$68
	Barry Nelson		
Reserve Section			
1	Ben Haun	4	\$140
2-4	Teri Lagier	3.5	\$95
	Curtis Munson		
	Michael Marque		
5	John Jaffray	3	\$45
6	Matt Sankovich	2.5	\$45
7	Mike Cardillo	2	\$36
8	Conrad Cota	1.5	\$36
Booster Section			
1	Michael Shaw	4.5	\$125
2	Michael Gosk	4	\$90
3	Willie Campers		\$68
4	Joe Anderson	3.5	Trophy
5	Jamie Brett	3	\$45
6	Michael Fischer		
8-11	Tom Allen	2.5	\$29
	John Wyatt		
	Nicolas Yap		
	Peter Brett		
Jessie Jean's Action Tournament			
Open Section			
1-2	Bill Davis		
	Mariusz Krubnik		
Reserve Section			
1	Narayan DeVera		

By Bleys W. Rose

If the tournaments at Jessie Jean's Coffee Beans in Santa Rosa turn out to reverse the decline in over-the-board chess in Northern California, it'll be because cafe owner Keith Givens stepped out from behind the counter and won his first game in five attempts at rated play.

And it'll be because chess mom Catherine Gosk was so desperate for a decent place for her 10-year-old son Michael to

play a tournament that she strong-armed Givens into giving his entire space over to weekend events. And it'll be because veteran Reno organizer Jerry Weikel kept betting that players would pay big money to aim for big city prizes.

For the second time this year, the trio combined to cobble together a five-round tournament in Santa Rosa that doled out \$2,000 in prize money. Sonoma County has not seen a real tournament since the late 1980s when Walter Randle was running them out of a Rohnert Park community center (anybody remember the Koltanowski room?).

A mid-January event at Jessie Jeans attracted 45 players to an open and on March 16-18, 40 players turned up from as far away as Sacramento and Ventura. While the January tournament's action event drew 30 players, about 25 battled in March's action showdown.

The fact that the action tournament was simultaneous with the last rounds of the open failed to deter multitaskers like Alan Howe of San Jose and Naryan DeVera of Occidental, who played musical chairs by playing in both events.

"What's the problem?" DeVera asked. "I told all my opponents I would be bouncing out of my seat and nobody seemed to mind because they figured I would be so distracted." DeVera lost both his Sunday games in the main tourna-

ment, but he won the booster section in the action event and probably improved upon his 1136 rating.

Although he had hoped for an 80-player field Weikel said he was heartened by the turnout since the ever popular National Open in somewhat nearby Las Vegas had ended only four days before the Santa Rosa event.

"Many players stopped by to observe but informed me they

were too chessed out to play another tournament," Weikel said. "We knew this when we scheduled this event but it was either hold the tournament on this weekend or not at all."

Givens seemed more pleased with his first tournament win then with his captive customers who had to take fewer than a dozen steps to get to food and drink service during their games. The fact that Givens' business partner Sue Watts could provide tableside delivery was an advantage because preoccupied players often forgot they had ordered

anything at all.

The spacious cafe has an 188-person capacity and offers a decent atmosphere if players are willing to adjust to the occasional sound of beans rocketing through the grinder or the whoosh of the cappuccino machine. With piles of dog-eared magazines, huge ocean-scene murals on the walls and well-worn furniture, the place resembles a student lounge. Which, actually, it pretty much is during the week because it is located across the street from

"With
enough
coffee, you
can do
anything" —
screenwriter
Robert
McKee

Santa Rosa Junior College and Santa Rosa High School.

Givens said students hang out there and he encourages games between customers even though they may not be of tournament caliber. He's even applied for a USCF club affiliate membership.

"It attracts attention and it keeps them out of trouble," Givens said.

White: Chris Mavraedis (1990)

Black: Tom Dorsch (2235)

Leningrad Dutch

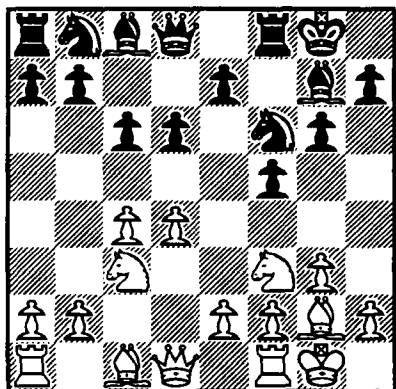
Notes by NM Tom Dorsch

1. Nf3 f5 2. g3 g6 3. Bg2 Bg7 4. d3

Just judging from my most recent over-the-board experience, this move has surpassed 4. d4 in popularity as a response to the Dutch. The lines with 4. d4 aim to establish a solid spatial superiority that will enable White to exploit the weaknesses in Black's position, notably his weakened king position and some awkward piece placement on the queenside. The lines with 4. d3 aim to open the position by forcing e2-e4. The first approach is more positional, the second more tactical, but both plans should work well if properly implemented.

4...Nf6 5. O-O O-O 6. c4 c6 7. Nc3 d6 8. d4?

Oops. This basically returns White to the regular 4. d4 lines with loss of a tempo, but it is not the easiest thing for Black to exploit effectively, because his posture is basically defensive.



Tom Dorsch, playing black, and Chris Mavraedis met on board one in the last round of the Jessie Jean's Open in March. Dorsch won the game and first place, and it was rumored that he collected his prize in large mochas with double espresso shots.

Photo by Bud Setzepfandt

8...Kh8

Almost always a useful move in this line. For one thing, it enables the Bc8 to go to e6 and have a retreat square in case of Ng5. For another thing, lines with Qb3 can require the king to vacate the a2-g8 diagonal. Worth considering was the active plan of 8...Nh5, followed by ...f4 and ...Bg4, opening the f-file and applying pressure to f3.

9. Qc2

More common plans for White include 9. d5 and 9. b3. 9. d5 aims to prevent the common Dutch posting of a knight on e4 followed by ...d5 to establish a strong point in the center. 9. b3 enables White to either exploit the weakness of the a3-f8 diagonal or oppose the black bishop on g7.

9...Na6

Black's knight usually travels the long route ...Nb8-a6-c7 to control the key squares e6 and d5. The ...Nb8-d7-f6 route only makes sense if Black is attempting to establish a strong point at e4.

White's next move is standard prophylaxis to a Black attempt to establish a strong point on d5 by 10...d5 11. cd5 Nb4 and ...Nbd5.

10. a3 Qe8

From e8, the black queen avoids blocking c7 for the knight, supports ...e5, and prepares for the eventual transfer to its best square—h5—after ...h6 and ...g5.

11. Rd1 Be6 12. b3

White has just made two moves in a row that are defensive in nature, and it is clear that he is uncertain about how to proceed. In that situation, Black should probably have adopted a more active plan such as advancing the kingside pawns (...h6, ...g5, ...Qh5, etc.). The attack resembles a King's Indian where Black has already managed to play ...f5, and represents the most active option. Otherwise, Black has to play the defensive strategy of setting up a strong point in the center with an eventual ...d5. Last and probably least is to play for ...e5, which is

Dorsch Wins Jessie Jean's Open

met by **de5 de5** and **...e4**. The move played is aimless, but this kind of thing is not atypical in last-round games on board one, where both players are determined to minimize risk and as a result become overly cautious.

12...Rc8? 13. Ng5 Bg8 14. e4

If White can get in **e2-e4** before Black has prepared a response, it almost always leads to a big advantage.

14...h6 15. Nh3 fe4 16. Ne4 g5 17. f4!

White is now in the best position to open the game, and the Black king is in danger of becoming overly exposed.

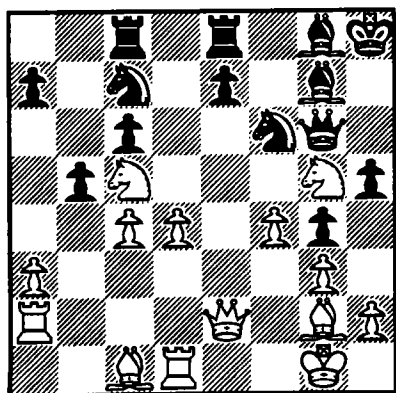
17...g4 18. Nhf2 Qg6 19. Qe2 h5

What a shame to allow a knight back to the key **g5** square, but there is no other way to secure **g4** than to play **...h5**.

20. Ng5! Nc7 21. Ra2? Rfe8? 22. Nfe4

White has everything to gain from opening things up. He controls more space, and the black king is protected only by pieces. However, this opening up of the game creates a very complex situation, in which both players struggle, with mixed success, to find the best moves in a maze of tactics.

22...d5 23. Nc5 dc4 24. bc4 b5



25. cb5

White also has the interesting option **25. Qf2!**, threatening to harass the black queen with **26. f5**, at the same time controlling the important **e6**-square. **25. Bc6 Bc4** leads to exchanges but no gain of material. **25. Nce6** leads to the exchange of White's powerful knights and leads to an endgame where Black's chances are close enough. If Black now takes the exchange with **25...Ba2**, then after **26. Qa2 Nb5 27. Nf7**, Black can force a draw. This outcome was not the best for Black, because the board two game could have resulted in a clear win for Weikel if Dorsch drew on board one. The only way to guarantee first place in the event was to plow on and try to win. As it turned out, Weikel drew on board two against the solid endgame play of Alexander Setzepfandt.

25...Nb5 26. Rc2 Nd5 27. Bb2 Ne3 28. Be4 Nf5

White is still better, but Black is activating his pieces at last, and that is a great comfort. Black's minors have in the past few moves assumed dynamic positions from which they finally control some valuable squares.

29. Bd3?

The crucial moment. This sacrifice of the **d**-pawn is not quite sound, and the initiative shifts to Black. It was necessary for White to trade on **f5**.

29...Nbd4 30. Bd4 Bd4 31. Kf1 e5

Now White's king is the one that is exposed.

32. Bf5 Qf5 33. Nge4 Bd5

Things have gotten rather messy, time has gotten rather short, and it is not at all clear which line to choose. Objectively, **33...Rcd8** was probably best,

followed by **34. Rcd2**, when the consequences of **34...ef4 35.Rd4 Rd4 36.fg3 Kg2 37.Qc5** were difficult to calculate. It seems that the centralization of the bishops and the elimination of one of the knights gives Black plenty of tactical compensation and a strong attack.

34. Nd6 Qg6 35. Ne8 Re8 36. Qd3 Qf7 37. f5 h4 38. Ke1

As risky as it looks, **38. gh4** was the best defense.

38...Bf3 39. Rb1 Qd5

This was the move before time control. Probably **39...Rd8** was best, and **39...Qh5** deserves consideration.

40. Qc4 h3

The idea of this move is to use the two bishops to win the pawn on **h2**, via **Bd4-g1xh2** (perhaps with an intervening **Bf3-g2**), then push the passer. Black does not fear the exchange of queens, because the two bishops are strong in the ending.

41. Qd5 cd5 42. Rb7

This move fails for tactical reasons. What was a better way to proceed? Probably the immediate **42. f6** offered the best chances.

42...Rc8 43. f6?

This natural-looking move is not sound. White has found a way to force a queen, but he leaves behind a mating net. Necessary at this point was **43.Rb5** to save the piece.

43...Rc5 44. Rb8

White can't stop to trade rooks, because allowing the black bishop to come to **c5** protects the queening square. The only way for White to push through his pawn is to sacrifice both the knight and the rook.

44...Kh7 45. f7 Rc2 46. f8(Q)

White now has his hard-sought queen, but Black has a mate. Both

players were braintead by the point, or Black would have found the shortest mate, 46...Bf2 47.Kf1 Bg2 mate.

46...Bc3 47. Kf1 Bg2 48. Kg1 Bd4 49. Resigns

White: Ben Gross (1900)
Black: Ben Haun (1794)
Queen's Indian Defense
Notes by Ben Haun

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3 b6

Chessmaster 8000 says this isn't a book move, but I like it.

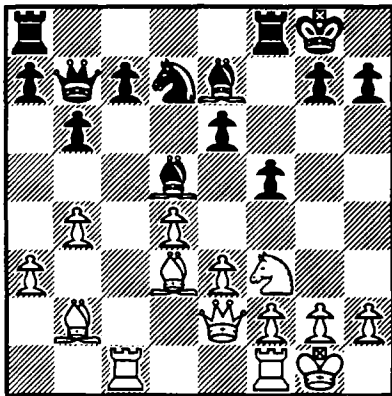
4. c4 Bb7 5. a3

A little odd. The natural move here is 5. Bd3. (Rebel Tiger's opening book offers 4. Bd3 Bb7 5. Nbd2 c5 as the better line for White, with 6. c3 or 6. 0-0 to follow.

5...Be7 6. Nc3 O-O 7. Bd3 d5 8. O-O Nbd7 9. b4 dc4 10. Bc4 Ne4 11. Ne4 Be4 12. Bb2 Bd5 13. Bd3 f5 14. Rc1

Black would like to play ...c5 sometime soon, but the pressure on the h1-a8 diagonal is also important.

14...Qc8 15. Qe2 Qb7



16.Rfe1

Interesting is 16. Ba6, and then 16...Bf3 Bb7 17. Be2 18. Ba8 Ra8 (18...Bf1 is crushed by 19. Bc6 Bg2 20. Bd7 Bd5 21. Rc7) 19. Rc7 Bb5 20. Rfc1 Bd6 21. Rc8.

16...Nf6 17. Bc4 Bd6 18. Bd5 ed5



Jessie Jean's Coffee Beans proprietor Keith Givens won his first USCF-rated game at the Jessie Jean's Open in March. On the other side of the table are Peter Brett (concentrating) and Nicolas Yap (looking away).

Photo by Bud Setzepfandt

White gave up his good bishop for Black's active bishop. Maybe it would have been better for White to hold the tension.

19. Ne5 Rae8 20. Qc2 g5!?

White's bishop is out of play at the moment, and Black's pieces are focused towards the kingside. This is an interesting way to break things open.

21. f4

A nice move for white, strengthening the knight, though Black gets a strategic knight outpost.

21...Ne4 22. Red1 c5 23. bc5 bc5 24. Rb1 c4 25. Bc3 Qg7 26. Bb4 Bb4 27. Rb4 Rb8 28. Rdb1 Rb4 29. Rb4 Qc7 30. Rb5 Qd6 31. Rb7

Better is 31. Qb2, but then Black has interesting ideas like 31...c3 32. Qb3 c2.

31...Qa3 32. Nc4 dc4 33. Qc4 Kh8 34. Rb3

White has chances after 34. h3 Qe3 35. Kh2 Qg3 36. Kg1 Qe1

37. Kh2 Nd6 38. Qc5 Qe6, which leads to a game that Black should probably win, but it is difficult.

34...Qa1 35. Resigns

White: James Francis Howell (1650)
Black: Ben Haun (1794)

Colle System

Notes by James Francis Howell

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3

This move is fashionable these days, but 3. c4 is stronger, and even 3. Bf4 is objectively superior.

3...b6

This is a logical way to meet the Colle System. Black is not going to let White play e3-e4.

4. c4

With 4. Bd3 White could have preserved more options, such as c2-c3 or b2-b3.

4...Bb7 5. Nc3 Bb4 6. Bd3

Correct is 6. a3, putting the question to the bishop at once.

6...O-O 7. O-O d5 8. cd5 Bc3

Continued on Page 32

Two-Time U.S. Champ Wolff Scores 41-1-3 in Burlingame Club Simul

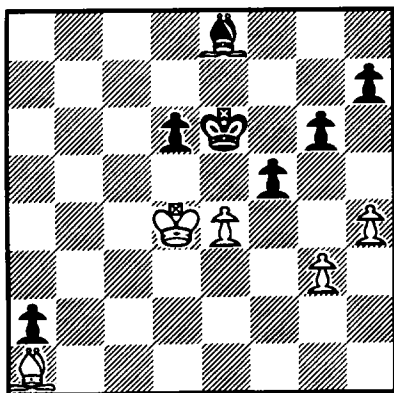
In his first simultaneous exhibition since retiring from active play in three years ago, grandmaster Patrick Wolff worked his way through a crowded house at the Burlingame Chess Club March 29, scoring 41 wins against one loss and three draws.

Young Scott Donato, rated 941, earned the only victory against the two-time U.S. champion. "It was a cute trap," said Wolff. "I won his queen, but completely forgot about the checkmate on the bank rank."

Experts Jason Childress, Alexander Setzepfandt, and Frisco Del Rosario achieved draws. Wolff said the best-played game of the evening was by Setzepfandt, the state's reigning 6th-grade champion. Childress ventured the Morra Gambit — "I used to play [the Morra Gambit]. I found it loses a pawn," said the exhibitor, who later said that he could not neutralize the white pressure. Wolff gave 45 opponents their choice of color — only Del Rosario scored with the black pieces ("a good, solid draw," said Wolff).

The author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Chess* and second to grandmaster Anand during the 1995 world championship match, Wolff said he does not see himself returning to professional chess soon. He cited an interview with grandmaster Ken Rogoff 20 years ago in which Rogoff, who had also withdrawn from top-level play, said that it pained him to not play to top form. Wolff said Rogoff's statement did not make much sense to him at the age of 12, but it does now, following his recent stint as a product manager for an Internet startup and his possible entrance into business school.

Wolff began the evening with a lecture about opposite-colored bishop endings, based on his composition which legendary chess trainer Mark Dvoretsky discusses in detail at <http://www.chesscafe.com/dvoretsky/dvoretsky.htm>:



By beginning so many games with slightly less than equality, grandmaster Patrick Wolff's simultaneous exhibition at the Burlingame Chess Club went on for 5½ hours.

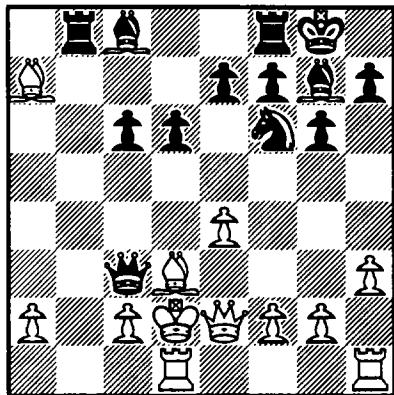
Photo by Scott Wilson

It is Black to play and win in 38 moves from the diagram. Wolff based this study on a game he analyzed with other masters during a tournament in Norway 15 years ago. Wolff recommended to the crowd that they search chess literature for positions that require careful study, saying that the time he invested in analyzing the game and creating his composition helped him become perhaps the most knowledgeable player in the country at endings with opposite-colored bishops.

White: Kaan Akin (821)
Black: Patrick Wolff (2640)
Sicilian Defense

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Nc6 bc6 7. Bd3 g6 8. Be3 Bg7 9. Qe2 0-0

10. O-O Qa5 11. h3 Rb8 12. Bd4 Qb4 13. Ba7 Qb2 14. Kd2 Qc3



15. Ke3 Ra8 16. Bd4 Ng4 17. hg4 Qd4 18. Kf3 Ra3 19. g5 f5

20. Rh4 fe4 21. Kg3 Be5 22. f4 ef3 23. Resigns

White: Scott Donato (941)
Black: Patrick Wolff (2640)
Sicilian Defense

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bb5 Bd7 4. Bd7 Nd7 5. O-O Ngf6 6. d3 e6 7. h3 Be7 8. c4 O-O 9. Bd2 a6 10. Re1 b5 11. b4 bc4 12. dc4 cb4 13. Bb4 Qb6 14. Qd2 Rfe8 15. e5 de5 16. Be7 Re7 17. Ne5 Ne5 18. Re5 Rd7 19. Qe2 Qd4 20. Qf3 Rb8 21. Qc3 Rb1 22. Rb1 Qc3 23. Rb8 Resigns

White: Alexander Setzepfandt (1854)

Black: Patrick Wolff (2640)
Pirc Defense

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. f4 Bg7 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Bd3 Nc6 7. O-O e5 8. d5 Nb4 9. fe5 de5 10. Be2 Ne8 11. a3 Na6 12. Ba6 ba6 13. Qe2 Nd6 14. Bg5 f6 15. Bh4 Qe8 16. Rae1 Kh8 17. Bg3 a5 18. Nd2 a4 19. Qe3 Ba6 20. Rf2 Qd7 21. Qc5 Rfb8 22. Qa5 Bb5 23. Nb5 Qb5 24. Qc7 Rd8 25. b3 Rac8 26. Qa7 Rc2 27. ba4 Qe8 28. Qb6 Rd2 29. Rd2 Nc4 30. Qb4 Nd2 31. Qd2 Qa4 32. Qb4 Qa8 33. Qc3 Rc8 34. Qf3 Qa6 35. Rd1 Rd8 36. Bh4 Kg8 37. Qd3 Qd6 38. Rc1 Ra8 39. Rc3 Draw

Aigner Wins Burlingame McIlrath Memorial

National master Michael Aigner won the Burlingame Chess Club Jim McIlrath Memorial held Jan. 18-Feb. 22 with a 5-1 score. Aigner's only loss was to NM Richard Koepcke, who scored 3½ points from only four games.

Eron Sudhausen swept the Under 1600 section with a 6-0 score, and defeated the players who finished 2nd-6th below him on the wallchart.

White: Michael Aigner (2247)
Black: Rodolfo Hernandez (2235)
Pirc Defense

Notes by NM Michael Aigner

This game was the round 3 encounter between the leaders in the McIlrath Memorial. Rudy Hernandez is the reigning Burlingame club champion, and I viewed him as a very formidable opponent. Our only previous encounter, with colors reversed, ended in a draw.

Since this tournament is played under a game-a-week format, opening preparation is an essential component to success, much more so than in a normal weekend Swiss where pairings are posted a few minutes before the

round starts. Having observed many of his games over the weeks, I had already made a mental note that Hernandez prefers to play the Pirc/Modern Defense as Black against 1. e4. A simple search of the Mechanics' Institute and Burlingame Chess Club websites turned up several games featuring a variation that I intended to play. The outcome of this game underscores the importance of specific opening preparation in tournaments of this type.

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. f4

Despite the less common move order, there was never a doubt in my mind that we would reach this Austrian Attack.

4...Nf6 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Bd3 Na6!?

From my research, I had anticipated this slightly unusual move. It is hardly unsound, as several strong grandmasters (including Ruslan Ponomarev and Boris Gulko) play it. White can't afford to trade his strong bishop for this knight because Black gets counterplay both on the queenside and in the center.

7. O-O c5 8. d5 Nc7

Luther-Gulko (Wijk aan Zee 2001) went 8...Bg4 9. a3 Nc7 10. Qe1 Bf3 11. Rf3 e6 12. de6 Ne6 13. f5 Nd4 14. Rh3 c4 15. Bc4 Nc2 16. Qh4 Na1 17. Nd5 Nh5 18. Bg5 Qa5 19. fg6 Qc5 20. Be3 Qc4 21. Ne7 Kh8 22. Qh5 Qf1 23. Kf1 fg6 24. Qf3 Rf3 25. gf3 Bb2 26. Ng6 Kg7 27. Ne7 and White eventually won the endgame. Another alternative is 8...Rb8.

9. Qe1

In the Mechanics' Tuesday Night Marathon, Peter Grey had played 9. Qe2 against Hernandez. The text is an improvement which gives White significant chances for an opening advantage. Instead of unnecessarily overprotecting the b5 square, White's queen intends to participate in a kingside assault.

9...Rb8 10. a4

Black seeks to gain queenside space, and White denies him.

10...e6?!

This further weakens Black's kingside pawns, allowing White's subsequent attack to reach its objective. Instead, Black should play 10...b6, intending 11. f5 Nd7,

Continued on Page 28

Fortune Favors Casadei at the 28th Berkeley Peoples' Tournament

By Jason Childress

The 28th annual Peoples' Chess Tournament attracted 131 players to the UC Berkeley student union building February 17-19, including two international masters and 11 national masters. NM Mauro Casadei, a Berkeley graduate student in seismology, won the \$500 first prize with an undefeated 5-1 score. Tying for second at 4½, were IM Guillermo Rey, FM Ryan Porter, and NMs Chethan Narayan and Michael Aigner. Each took home \$175.

Casadei exploded out of the starting gate and never looked back, racking up four wins over an expert and three masters before conceding draws to Porter and Rey. Rey, the pre-tournament favorite, was a little slower to start — dropping half a point in round one to expert Dan Chinn — and despite winning his next three games, could not quite close the gap between himself and the blazing Casadei. Casadei and Rey drew their last-round encounter.

Wesley Chen, the state's 8th-grade champion, vanquished two experts at the Peoples' Tournament, players rated 500 points higher than himself. He said his secret was tactics. "I knew the only way to beat them was by playing tactically, not positionally as I usually do."—another confirmation of the late chess teacher Vladimir Pafnutieff's maxim that the best chance for weaker players to beat stronger players is by tactical play.

International Arbiter Mike Goodall has directed the event for more than 20 years. Goodall said he takes pride in the fact that for a quarter of a century, the entry fee into the People's Tournament has remained the same. However, in spite of its long standing on the

Northern California chess calendar and its player-friendly entry fees, the Peoples' Tournament has experienced a decline in attendance. In the '70s, the tournament regularly attracted around 200 participants. Last year the number was 170, and this year's 131 continues that downward trend.

International master Walter Shipman played just a half-schedule at the People's Tournament as a warmup for the National Open in March, where he scored an undefeated four of six. Watch for an interview with this renowned chess veteran in a future issue of the *California Chess Journal*.

White: Ryan Porter (2248)
Black: Mauro Casadei (2181)
Bird's Opening
Notes by NM Mauro Casadei

1. b3

Tartakover said, "the player that plays the best chess in a tournament never wins it. He ends second after the luckiest player." For me, winning the Berkeley Peoples' Tournament was due to a series of lucky strikes, such as my opponents losing half-points in byes on the wallchart, and myself recovering from critical opening positions at the board. I guess this makes up for all the times I have been unlucky!

This was the most critical game, played in round five, when

my opponent was behind me by half a point. Porter is a good player and recently obtained the FIDE Master title — his style is solid but by no means does he refuse to fight a tough game. In order to be equally tough I was listening throughout the whole game to the soundtrack of Clint Eastwood's spaghetti western "A Fistful of Dollars."

1...d5 2. Bb2 Bg4

A solid choice against the Bird: the Tal variation!

3. f4 e6 4. Nf3 Bf3 5. ef3

White plays for f4-f5 undoubling the pawns and maintaining the bishop pair.

5...Nd7 6. Qe2 Ne7 7. g3 h5

Threatens to open the h-file so that the Bh3 won't be able to recapture on f5. However, White will exploit very cleverly the associated loosening of the kingside.

8. Bh3 h4 9. Nc3

I was worried by 9. f5?! hg3 10. fe6 (10. hg3 Nf5 and Black has the edge) Rh3 11. ed7 Qd7, but Black holds well.

9...c6 10. 0-0-0 Qc7 11. Rde1?

The start of the above-mentioned plan which is logical but maybe slow.

11...0-0-0 12. Nd1

Only now did I realized White's deep plan.

12...Rh7 13. Ne3 g6 14. Ng4

Finally the knight has landed on the dark squares but in the meantime Black has resolved the tension.

"The player that plays the best chess in a tournament never wins it. He ends second after the luckiest player." -GM Tartakover

14...Bg7 15. Bg7 Rg7 16. Ne5 hg3

I made this move reluctantly since now Black will find it hard to play an undefended rook to h7 or h8 because of tactics like Nd7 followed by Be6 (or Be6 and if ...Rh1, then Bd7 and Rh1). However, other moves allow g4, when both my Ne7 and Rg7 look rather silly, and White will put pressure on e6

17. hg3 Nf5 18. Qf2 Qb6

Here I had to offer the exchange of queens in order to avoid losing an important tempo against the a7-pawn. However, this equalizes and in fact I offered a draw, which my opponent immediately refused. I learned later that Porter took a bye in the last round and needed absolutely a win.

19. Qb6?! ab6

Without the queens on the board, White suffers now for the weak pawns on the kingside.

20. g4 Nh4!

By blocking the h-file, Black no longer has to worry about the above tactics and can start putting pressure on the f-pawn. The knight is by no means offside, and Black has a slight advantage.

21. Nd7 Kd7 22. Re3 Rh8 23. Bf1 f6 24. Rh3 g5

24...c5!? deserves attention.

25. fg5 fg5 26. d4 Rf7

26...Ng6 27. Rh8 Nh8 28. Bd3 Ke7 29. Re1 is equal.

27. Kd2

27. a4 here or as one of the next moves is probably better.

27...Rh8 28. Be2 c5 29. c3 Kd6?!

29...Ke7 is worth considering, for perhaps the king will be useful to defend the g5-pawn. If 29...Ng2?, White has the initiative after 30. Re5 Nf4 31. Bb5.

30. Re5 Rg8 31. Rg3 cd4 32. cd4 b5!?

A risky move.

33. Kc3?

White has an attack after 33. a3 b6 34. Rh3 b4 35. ab4 Ra8 36. Rg5 (also 36. Rg3 Ra2 37. Ke3 Rc7).

33...Rf4 34. Kd3 b4

Black's advantage has increased a bit.

35. Ke3 Rff8

The right plan is 35...Rf7! 36. Bd3 Ra8 37. Rg5 Ra2 38. Be2 Rc7!. Black needs both rooks on the queenside and to transfer them along the seventh and eighth ranks

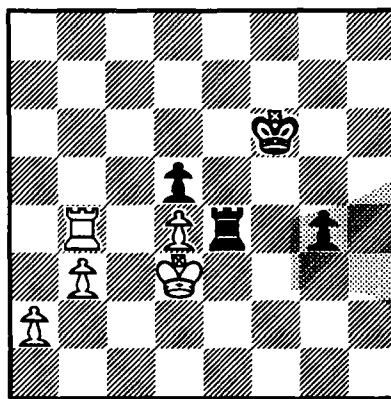
36. Bd3 Rc8??

This is a blunder. Black wins easily targeting the a-pawn: 36...Ra8 37. Bb1 Rgc8 -+.

37. f4 gf4 38. Kf4 Rcf8 39. Ke3 Nf5 40. Bf5 ef5 41. Rf3?

I was expecting 41. Rh3! fg4 42. Rh6 Kc7 43. Re7 Kc8 44. Rhh7, but in the post-mortem we found that Black can try 44...Rf3 45. Ke2 Rc3, and then 46. Rb7 g3 47. Ra7 is even.

41...fg4 42. Rf8 Rf8 43. Rg5 Re8 44. Kd3 Re4 45. Rg6 Kc7 46. Rg7 Kc6 47. Rg6 Kd7 48. Rg7 Ke6 49. Rb7 Kf6 50. Rb4



50...g3

This is silly. During the game I saw the following variation: 50...Re8 51. Rb6 Kg5 52. Rb7 g3 53. Rg7 Kf4 54. Rf7 Kg4 55. a4 g2 but the rook vs. a/b-pawns ending was unclear to me. The post-



NM Mauro Casadei insulated himself from the drums of Berkeley by wearing a portable stereo during his games. He was later seen spending his prize money at record stores on Telegraph Avenue.

Photo by Shorman

mortem analysis goes: 56. Rg7 (56. a5 Rg8+) Kf3 57. Rf7 (otherwise ...Rf3 cuts off the white king and wins easily) Kg3 58. Rg7 Kf2 59. Rf7 Kg1 60. Rg7 (60. a5 Rg8+) Rh8 61. a5 Rh3!, and Black wins, managing anyway to give this fundamental check that cuts off the king.

51. Rb8 Kf7?!

51...Kg5 52. Rg8 Kf4 and so on was still possible, although the black rook is much better placed on the eighth rank. Now Black has to fight a pawn down. Fortunately, all rook endgames are drawn.

52. Rc8 g2 53. Rc1 Rg4 54. Rg1 Ke6 55. Ke3 Kd6 56. Kf3 Rd4 57. Rg2 Re4 58. Re2 Rh4 59. Rc2 Re4 60. Rd2

60. a3! perhaps would have been tougher. In such endgames, pawns should stay if possible on

Kelson Crushes the Center Counter

the same rank guarded by the rook or king. The white rook seems better placed on the side. Then 60...Rh4 61. Rg2 Kc5, and Black will try to force one pawn move by bringing his rook to a1 and occupying the holes with his king.

60...Kc5 61. a3 Rh4 62. Rd3 Rh3 63. Ke2 Rh2 64. Ke3 d4

Now it's a dead draw.

65. Kf3 Ra2 66. a4 Rb2 67. Ke4 Re2 68. Kf3 Rb2

Having managed — not without the help of my opponent — to force a4, the rest is very easy.

69. Ke4 Re2 70. Kf3 Rb2 71. a5 Ra2 72. Ke4 Re2 73. Kf4 Ra2 74. Ke5 Re2 75. Kf4 Ra2 Draw

A game full of mistakes but nonetheless exciting and worth a look.

White: Richard Kelson (2315)
Black: Chethan Narayan (2219)
Center Counter Defense
Notes by FM Richard Kelson

1. e4 d5 2. ed5 Qd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. h3 Bh5 7. g4 Bg6 8. Ne5 Ne4? 9. Qf3 Nd6

Passive but forced in view of White's threats of Bc4 and Qb7. If 9...Nc3, then 10. Qb7, and none of the discovered checks amount to much, so 10...Qd5 11. Qc8 Qd8 12. Qd8 Kd8 13. Ng6 hg6 14. bc3, and White is winning.

10. Bd2 c6 11. h4 Qb6

Not 11...Bc2, for 12. Rc1 and the bishop will be trapped. But now if 12. h5, Black can play 12...Bc2 and then ...Qb2.

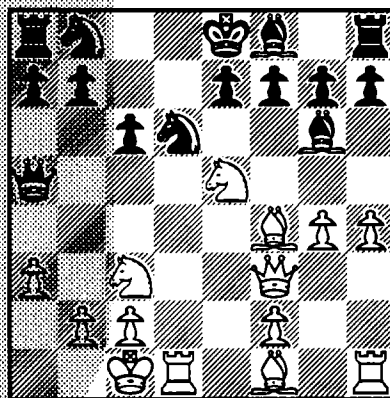
12. 0-0-0 Qd4?

Black had to make a square for his bishop.

13. Bf4 Qb4

13...Be4 14. Rd4 Bf3 just loses a piece.

14. a3 Qa5



15. h5

Also possible is 15. Rd6 ed6 16. Nc4 Qd8 17. h5 d5 18. hg6 dc4 19. gf7 Kd7 20. g5 (threatening 21. Bh3!) Bd6 21. Bd6 Kd6 22. Qf4.

15...f6 16. hg6 fe5 17. Rh7 Rg8 18. Bg5

Threatening 19. Rd6! ed6 20. Qf7 mate, and if 18...e4, then 19. Ne4!.

18...Qc7 19. Bc4 e6 20. Be6 Be7 21. Qf7 Resigns

Kosteniuk 8½–Sebag 3½ in Cannes Rapid Match

International master Alexandra Kosteniuk, 16, of Moscow defeated French women's champion Marie Sebag, 15, 8½–3½ in a rapid match held March 23–26 in Cannes, France.

Sebag, playing in her home country, won the first two games at game-in-50, but Kosteniuk won 3½ of the next four, and won the blitz portion 5–1.

Kosteniuk celebrated her 17th birthday on April 23 while playing in the European Championship in Warsaw, Poland.

Corrections

The March/April issue of the *California Chess Journal* contained errors, for which we are sorry.

Page 2. The table of contents should refer to the Elizabeth Shaughnessy article on page 15.

Page 3. The colors are reversed in the game Kraai–Shulman. Kraai played white, and Shulman black.

Page 27. The big grey page number slipped to the front of the page layout and obscured the text. From the top of the column, it should read:

41...Rf1 42. Kg3 f4 43. Kh2 N7f5 44. Qg6

Forced. If 44. g6, Black has 44...Rh1.

44...Nh4 45. Qe6 Kh8 46. Re3 fe3 47. Qe7 Rf2 48. Kg1 Nf3 49. Resigns

Pruess–Luaces

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. f4 a6

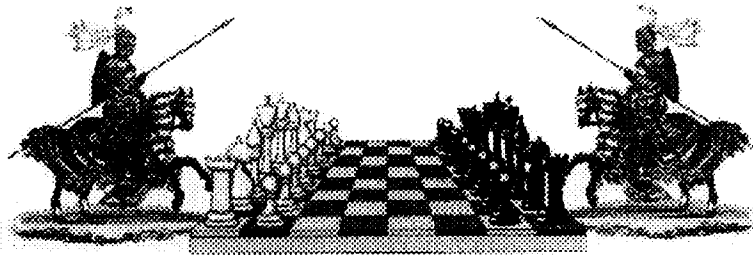
Black could transpose into familiar lines of the Austrian Attack with 4...Nf6, but prefers to keep things murky and untheoretical.

Page 28. In the Cal–Stanford match at the Pan-Am Intercollegiate, Gelman and Steel won for Cal, and Wang and Mont-Reynaud for Stanford.

Page 32. Black in the game Daud–Setzepfandt was son Alexander, not father Alvin.

Pages 16, 18, and 34. The pictures from the Sojourner Truth Chess Tournament for Girls were taken by Kevin Batangan.

Charlotte Wood Chess Club



Scholastic Quads Tournament

Saturday, May 26th, 2001

WHERE: CHARLOTTE WOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL, MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM, 600 El Capitan Dr., Danville, CA 94526

DIRECTIONS: From Oakland/Alameda: Take CA-24 East towards Walnut Creek then I-680 South. Take the Sycamore Valley Rd. (East) exit, turn right on Greenbrook Dr., and then right on El Capitan Dr.

From Fremont/San Jose: Take I-680 North. Take the Sycamore Valley Rd. exit, turn right at the light and go east, turn right on Greenbrook Dr., and then right on El Capitan Dr.

Late Registration and Check-In: 11:30am - 12:30pm = \$17

REGISTRATION: ALL PLAYERS MUST ARRIVE BY 12:30 PM FOR CHECK IN! IF THEY ARE NOT THERE BY 12:45 THEY PROBABLY WILL NOT BE PAIRED.

ROUNDS: Game #1 will start at 1:00 PM, Game #2 at 2:15 PM, Game #3 at 3:30 PM.

TIME CONTROL: GAME IN 30 MINUTES. Each player gets 30 minutes. The latest the last game should be done is 4:30 PM.

AWARDS: Minimum of one trophy in each quad—four players arranged by ratings; if unrated, then by grade. Trophies & Medals will be awarded after each quad finishes.

INFORMATION: Dennis K. Alfaro, M.D., Chess Club Director. Home: (925) 736-2154 or E-Mail: DKAlfaro@aol.com

MUST BE A CURRENT U.S.C.F. MEMBER & IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 12th GRADE
PLEASE BRING CHESS CLOCK IF YOU HAVE ONE

Charlotte Wood Chess Club, Scholastic Quads Tournament

NAME: _____ PHONE: (_____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

SCHOOL/CLUB: _____ GRADE: _____

E-MAIL: _____ USCF #: _____ USCF RATING: _____

Entry Fee = \$12 (after May 21 \$17), Member of Charlotte Wood Chess Club= less \$2, ask about discount for CalChess members

Join USCF, New Membership Scholastic, if under 15 = \$13 Youth, if 15 to 19 = \$20 Total: \$ _____

Checks made out to "CHARLOTTE WOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL, CHESS CLUB" and send to:

Dennis K. Alfaro, M.D., 244 Viewpoint Dr., Danville, CA 94506

Team Gazit Tops the UPSCL Parent/Child Team Tournament

UPSCL Parent/Child Team Tournament March 24, 2001

1	Oren Gazit Hillel Gazit	9
2	James Burdick Dan Burdick	5
3	Stacey Balter Val Balter	4.5
4	Eli Baldwin Jim Baldwin	4
5	Saya Wallace John Wallace	4
6	Tara Mehta Sunil Mehta	4
7	Michael Konkol Bill Konkol	3.5
8	Stephan Goupille Edmund Teyrovsky	3
9	Douglas Bell Susan Bell	2
10	Richelle Chen Ryan Chen	2

By Steve Cohen

Oren and Hillel Gazit won the Unofficial Peninsula Scholastic Chess League's Child/Parent Team Tournament March 24 at Park School in San Mateo. Ten teams competed in two divisions, pre-K-2nd grade and 3rd-8th grade.

The event is in its fourth year, and began with the idea to get children and parents to spend more time practicing chess. Although the "parent" may be any adult, the children are all in pre-K-8th grade, and all compete for individual and team prizes.

In the team competition, Team Gazit repeated as upper-division champion (they outrated the next team by nearly 500 points). The surprise of the day was Team Burdick, a lower-division team with the 2nd-best team total.

In the individual parent-division competition, Sunil Mehta tied with Hillel Gazit, each with a perfect score; however, Gazit had

a tiebreak score one point ahead of Mehta, leaving the 2nd-place trophy for Mehta. They are considered co-champions! John Wallace finished 3rd on tiebreaks over Dan Burdick, who won the 1st-place Junior-Division award. Jim Baldwin finished 4th, Val Balter came in 5th, and Richelle Chen's older brother Ryan earned the 2nd-place Junior Division prize.

Some newcomers and some top stars participated among the youngsters. In the end, Michael Konkol took top honors with the only undefeated score among children! A last-round victory by Oren Gazit over Stephan Goupille allowed Gazit to finish 3rd on tiebreaks over Goupille. A final-round draw between Stacey Balter and Eli Baldwin kept Balter in 4th, leaving 5th-place for Baldwin. Tiebreaks did not matter between James Burdick and Douglas Bell, as Burdick opted for the 1st-place junior-division award, Bell took home the 6th-place Senior Division prize. Richelle Chen won the 2nd-place Junior Division individual award.

White: James Burdick (659)

Black: Douglas Bell (945)

Pirc Defense

Notes by Steve Cohen and Frisco Del Rosario

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. Nf3 Bg7 5. Bc4 0-0 6. 0-0 c6

Threatening to win a pawn by 7...b5 and 8...b4. (FDR)

7. Bf4 Qc7 8. Qd2 Bg4 9. Qe3 Bf3

Fighting for control of e5. (SC)

10. Qf3 Nbd7 11. Rad1 Rae8 12. Rfe1 e5 13. de5 de5

More comfortable than 13...Ne5 14. Qe2 Nc4 15. Qc4 Re6 16. Nb5. (FDR)

14. Be3 Qa5 15. Rd2 Rd8? (SC)

Self-pinning is rarely a good idea in chess, and there was no need for this move as the knight is adequately defended, and can always move. (SC)

16. Red1 Qb4 17. b3? (SC)

For the sake of a pawn, White offers for free the Nc3, but White can still get Black's Nd7 after 18. Qh3. (SC)

Better is 17. Bb3, which cannot be well met by 17...Qc3. (FDR)

17...Qa3? 18. Qh3 Qb2 19. Rd7 Nd7 20. Rd7 Rd7 21. Qd7 Qc3 22. Qb7 Qc2 23. Qa7 Qd1

Others might play 23...Qe4 and figure out how to free the rook from defending the f7-pawn later. If it weren't for White's pressure on f7, Black should play 23...Rd8, threatening 24...Qc4. (FDR)

24. Bf1 Qd8

24...Rd8 was developing. White might just answer 25. Bc4 to press again on f7, and he should not be unhappy to repeat the position. (FDR)

24...Qc2 was most aggressive. (SC)

25. Bc5 Re8 26. Qb7 Bh6? (SC)

26...Qc8 must be played, but White's queenside pawns might not be stopped. (SC)

27. Qc6 Qb8 28. g3

Ensuring there will be no back rank mates and placing the pawns on the color of Black's bishop. (SC)

28... Bc1 29. a4 Bb2 30. a5 Qc8 31. Qc8 Rc8 32. b4 Rd8 33. b5 f5 34. ef5 gf5 35. Ba7 e4 36. a6 Bd4 37. Bd4 Rd4 38. b6

Two connected passed pawns on the sixth rank beat a rook, even without a bishop. (FDR)

38...Rd8 39. a7 Ra8 40. b7 Ra7 41. b8(Q) Kg7 42. Qa7 and White won.

UPSCL Peninsula Scholastic Championship Weathers a Most Busy Day

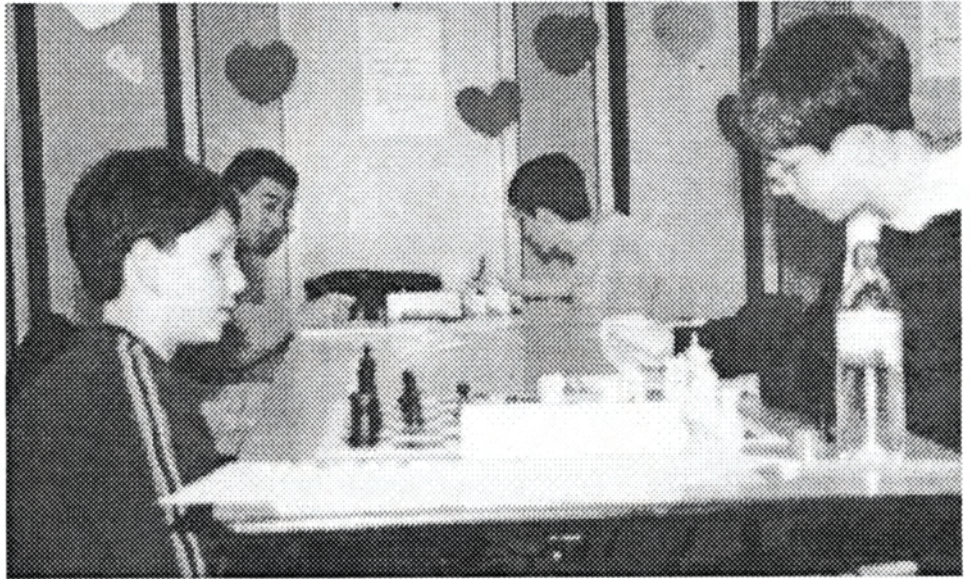
By Steve Cohen

Chessplaying children in the Bay Area had a smorgasbord of chess activity from which to choose February 24. Mechanics' Institute conducted a game-in-45 event, grandmaster Maurice Ashley flew in for the day to give a special presentation and simultaneous exhibition in Oakland, and the Unofficial Peninsula Scholastic Chess League held its 6th annual Peninsula Scholastic Championships at the Nesbit School in Belmont.

The four-round, game-in-45 event drew its smallest participation since perhaps its first year, meaning that several sections would be combined for competition purposes only (for prizes, children still competed for their grade's section's prizes, though lower-grade children could opt for higher-grade prizes if deserved).

In the combined youngest sections, the K-1 and 2nd-grade group, 2nd-grader Tomás Fuentes-Afflick earned the tournament's only perfect score to take the top prize, a half-point ahead of newcomer Gabriel Ewing, who had the best tiebreaks among a four-way tie for 2nd-5th with Michael Asuncion (K), Jeremy Laufer (2nd grade), and Greg Davis (1st grade), respectively.

In the 3rd-grade division, William Wang of Weibel went undefeated for first place, a half-point ahead of Elias Baldwin of Concord, who lost only to Emilia Krubnik (Emilia might not have fared so well this Saturday, but certainly applied the practice to her 5th-place finish at the state championship the following weekend). Peninsula 3rd-grade powerhouse Robert Hsu suffered a loss to Wang and draw to Krubnik to finish in 3rd. Steven Roston finishing 4th this day, on



In second round action at the UPSCL Peninsula Scholastic Championship, Ben Laufer played black against Brad Satterwhite. In the background are Philip Chui and Stephan Goupille (white pieces).

Photo by Steve Cohen

tiebreaks over Anders Rasmussen and Corey Plante. (Steven went on to tie for 3rd in the K-3 U600 group at state.)

In the 4th-grade section, Shaun Tse of San Francisco repeated a first-place victory (a "threepeat" next year will earn for him a free entry fee into the following year's event), finishing a half-point ahead of Andrés Fuentes-Afflick (also of SF), and a full point ahead of Devin Abbott of Walnut Creek, who drew Tse in the final round to finish alone in 3rd.

Perhaps the toughest section was the combined 5th-6th and 7th-8th grade sections. Despite the tough competition, last year's 7/8 champ, Stephan Goupille, repeated top honors by going 3.5/4. The draw came in the 3rd round against Ben Laufer, a 5th-grader who chose the top 6th-grade prize (for his 2nd-best score). The groups' 3rd-best score was earned by Philip Chui, who

took 2nd-place for 7th/8th, a half-point against the top 6th-grade score, Brad Satterwhite who was left with 2nd-place (since Laufer had chosen 1st). Laufer's choice thus allowed the 2nd-highest 5th-grader, Diane Wang, to take the top 5th-grade prize.

All 1st-place awards were accompanied by \$10 credit to offset the entry fee for the following week's state Championships!

For special prizes, the Fuentes-Afflick brothers earned the "Top Siblings" trophies, Michael Asuncion repeated as the tournament's "Youngest Participant" trophy-winner, and Mechanics' Institute won the "Top School/Club" Award. The UPSCL would like to thank assistant tournament directors Michael Aigner and Alan Benson for enabling a smooth-running event, and providing bye-round and lunchtime competition for the children.

Continued on Page 28

Weibel Knights Take a 4-3 Lead in Series with Berkeley Bishops

By Dr. Alan Kirshner

The Weibel Elementary Knights defeated the Berkeley Chess School Bishops 26-24 in their seventh annual match held February 4 at the Hillside School in Berkeley. The Weibel team, led by Dr. Alan Kirshner, leads the series 4-3. Elizabeth Shaughnessy directs the Berkeley Chess School.

For the first five years of this match, the teams selected their 30-odd best players and each played an opponent as white and black at game-in-45 time controls. The first two matches went to Weibel, and then Berkeley won three. Since the Berkeley Bishops draw from more than 90 elementary schools, I decided last year to add a few players from my Wisdom Chess Club, also in Fremont. That 34-board match at Weibel resulted in a runaway win for the Knights. This year, the number of boards was limited to 25.

Elizabeth and I both conduct a tournament among our students to select the teams and to deter-

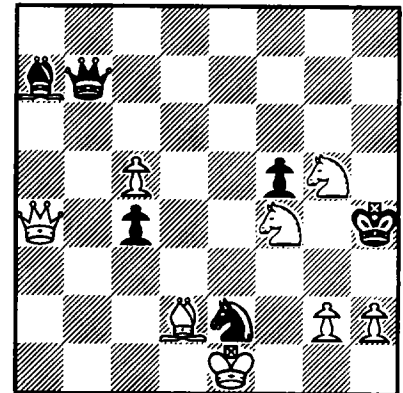
mine their board positions. I am constantly amazed at the placement of my players determined by the invitational tournament. The Knights have had low rated (some 500 points lower) players at the top boards for the last two years, but they have shown themselves quite well. I know that if our players would attend adult tournaments — as a number of the Bishops do — they would achieve corresponding ratings.

The Knights entered the first round with their usual exuberance, and we pulled four points ahead. At halftime, I tried to keep their spirits up, but I ran out of words and jokes in five minutes. Elizabeth has a wonderful way of motivating her players — a few years ago, she threatened to leave her players in Fremont, which spurred her team on to a win. This year, the famous Irish (Elizabeth is a native of Ireland and former Irish women's chess champion) gift of gab must have arisen

during the 30 minutes she spent with her players, for the Bishops rallied to win the second half by two, though it was not enough to keep the Knights from scratching out a two-point victory.

Problem

By Kevin Begley



White to play and mate in seven. Solution on Page 36.



Weibel Chess/Success Chess Summer Scholastic Quads

June 23, July 21, August 11, 2001 (Saturdays)

Location: Weibel Elementary School Multi-purpose Room
45135 South Grimmer Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539

Time: 9 AM

Cost: \$15 by Wednesday before each Quad
\$36 for all three by June 20

Info: Alan M. Kirshner, Ph.D., (510) 657-1586
or Info@SuccessChess.org

Application: <http://www.kirshnerisms.com/SummerQuads01.html>



The Unknown Petroff Countergambit

By Michelle Evans and Frisco Del Rosario

We should always try to make a threat that is bigger than or equal to our opponent's threat. After 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3, Black can make an equal threat with 2...d5, the Queen Pawn Countergambit, which is better than its reputation, or 2...Nf6, Petroff's Defense. At the top levels, the Petroff's symmetry makes for a solid defense. Among average players, the Petroff may be used as a counterattacking weapon that gives Black three reasonable ways to sacrifice material and try for the initiative in the opening.

White: David Sumerville (2140)
Black: Michelle Evans
Petroff Defense
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Ne5

3. d4 is an unfashionable move, neither better nor worse than 3. Ne5.

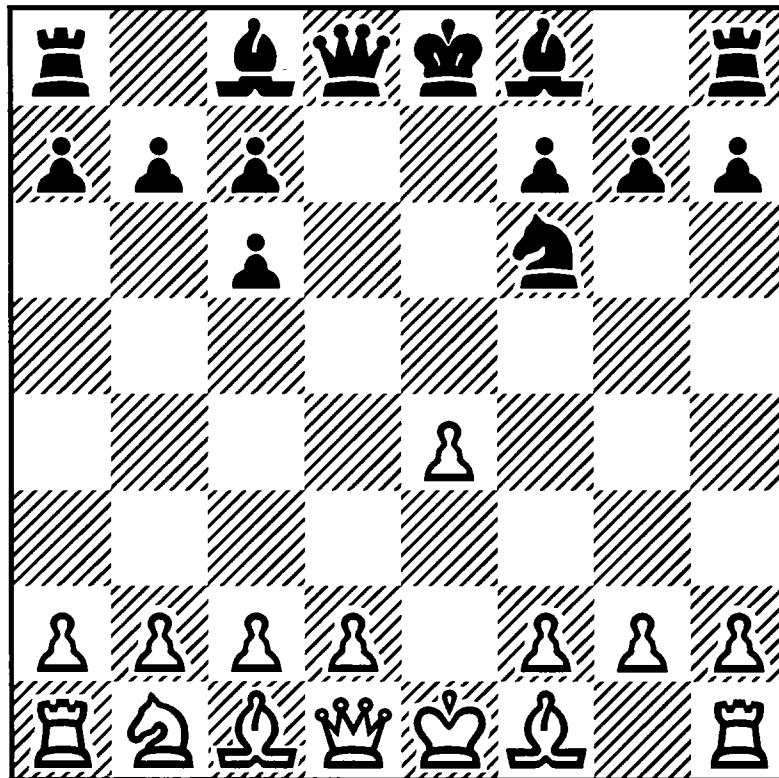
3...Nc6

3...Nc6 is the least well-known of the Petroff countergambits, and is attributed to no one in particular. Calabrese's 3...Ne4 4. Qe2 Qe7 (4...Nf6 5. Nc6 is the trap we teach in classrooms when children complain about other kids copying their moves) 5. Qe4 d6 6. d4 was the subject of a *Chess Life* article by FM Herten years ago. Frank Marshall's 3...d6 4. Nf3 Ne4 5. d4 d5 6. Bd3 Bd6 7. 0-0 Bg4 8. c4 0-0!? often requires a sacrifice of two pawns but Black's practical chances are great. It must be noted that 3...Nc6 defuses the Cochrane Gambit (3...d6 4. Nf7), for the tempo Black saves in

achieving ...d5 makes all the difference in the world.

4. Nc6 dc6

Black captures away from the center in order to unlock the queen bishop and to free the queen on the d-file. 2...Nf6 made an equal threat, 3...Nc6 made the biggest threat, and 4...dc6 renews the threat to e4.



5. d3

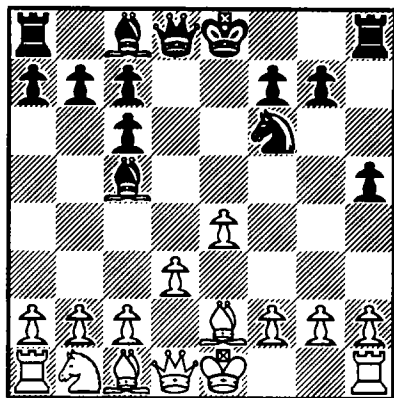
The natural 5. Nc3 is not as promising because White's central advantage should be furthered by c3 and d4 at some point. There is great danger if White voluntarily weakens the kingside. For example, 5. Nc3 Bc5 6. h3 (6. Bc4? Bf2 7. Kf2 Qd4 is another common tactic) Be6 7. Be2 Qd4 8. 0-0 Ne4 9. Ne4 Qe4 10. Re1 Qh4 11. g3 Qg3 12. Kh1 Qh3 13. Kg1 0-0-0, and Black won in a few more moves in SeanReed-CherrylandCafe, ICC 2001. For 5. e5 Ne4!, see Blackwood-Evans following.

5...Bc5 6. Be2

The most solid way for White to play (White should not lazily duplicate his efforts by 6. d3, because 6...Ng4 is in the offing: 7. Be3 Ne3 8. fe3 Be3 9. Qf3 Qg5 10. Be2 Bd2 11. Kf2 0-0 12. Rhf1 Qc5 13. d4 Qd4 14. Kg3, and Black won soon in Vitaly-PianoGirl, ICC 2001). One might say that Black's entire opening relies on a variation of Legal's Mate: 6. Bg5? Ne4 7. Bd8 Bf2 8. Ke2 Bg4 mate, which happened most recently on the world stage in Vanderhallen-Skoldjan, European Under 10 Championship, 1998. After 6. Be2, Black's game is not so easy — White's position is sturdy (he has the only center pawns) and he is about to castle. To justify a pawn sacrifice in the opening, one must gain three extra moves in development (Black has just one), deflect the enemy queen (no), prevent the enemy from castling (no again), or build a strong attack. Black's hopes rest in the last.

6...h5

Mostly Black has played 6...Be6 here, with a view to castling on the queenside. We have experimented recently with this kingside spike, which readies ...Ng4 and increased pressure on f2. The move isn't new — Howard Staunton played it in an exhibition game in 1857: 7. h3 Qd4 (a common idea — White's queen bishop is tied to the defense of b2 so cannot rush to e3) 8. Rf1 Be6, and Black is pushed back by 9. c3 Qd7 10. e5 Nd5 11. d4 Bb6, but after 12. Bh5 0-0-0, Black is completely developed while White is four moves away from castling.



White has tried several different moves here. In Sousa-PianoGirl, ICC 2001, White played 7. h4, which might be misguided, because it weakens g3 (Black can look ahead to tactics based on ...Qd6-g3 if White castles) and doesn't prevent ...Ng4. Play continued 7... Ng4 8. Bg4, and if 8...hg4 9. g3, Black might try to separate the h-pawn from its defender by 9...g5 10. h5 (10. Bg5 Qg5!) Be6 with ...Qf6 and ...0-0-0 to follow.

7. 0-0 forces White to weather the storm, and 7...Ng4 8. h3 makes matters worse: 8...Qd6 9. Bg4 hg4 10. e5 Qg6 11. Be3 gh3 12. Qf3, then Black can reach a won endgame by 12...Qg2 13. Qg2 hg2 14. Kg2 Be3 15. fe3 Bh3—Pinhead-PianoGirl, ICC 2001.

7. Bg5 is reasonable. Two examples: 7...Qd4 led to Greco's classic checkmating pattern in Murdock-PianoGirl, ICC 2001: 8. Bh4 Qb2 9. Nd2 Qd4 10. 0-0 Be6 11. Nb3 Bb3 12. ab3 0-0-0 13. Ra4 Qe5 14. Kh1 Kb8 15. f4 Qe6 16. e5 Ng4 17. Bg4 hg4 18. Bd8 Qh6 (18...Rh2 is most thematic but not correct: 19. Kh2 Qh6 20. Kg3) 19. h4 Qh4! 20. Resigns; 7...Qd6 8. Qd2 Ng4 9. Bg4 hg4 10. Bf4 Qf6 11. Bc7? Qb2 12. Qc3 Bb4 0-1, Zeynel-CherrylandCafe, ICC 2001.

7. Nd2 looks awkward, but is well thought, intending to transfer the knight to f3, and leaving c3 open for the pawn. In AlkeleleMomba-CherrylandCafe, White was OK after 7...Ng4 8. Bg4 hg4 9. f4!? g3 10. h3 Bf2 11. Kf2,

though Black looked uninspired with 11...Qe7 and 12...Be6.

7. c3 is the strongest test of 7...h5, we think, and in our only example — Roething-Guckemus, Sylvan 1940 — Black covered immediately: 7...Bg4 8. Bg5 Be7, and White won in 56 moves.

7. Nc3

As ever, an unfamiliar gambit sometimes results in odd tactical slips by the opponents. The unfortunate 7. b3 led to a brief win for Black after 7...Qd4 8. c3 Qf2 9. Kd2 Bg4 in Rocketin7th-CherrylandCafe, ICC 2001.

7...Ng4 8. Bg4

Black has a good initiative after 8. 0-0 Qd6 9. g3 Qf6 10. Bf4 (Black is also fine after 10. Bf3 Nf2 11. Rf2 Bg4 12. Kg2 Bf2 13. Kf2 h4) g5 11. Be3 Ne3 12. fe3 Be3 13. Kh1 Qh6 — the position is equal, but Black has better practical chances — 14. Bf3 Bh3 15. Bg2 h4 16. Bh3 — the bishop sacrifice must be accepted (and returned immediately, however!), otherwise Black can just play ...hg3 with a winning attack — 16...hg3 17. Bd7 Kd7 18. Qg4 Ke7 19. Qg3 Bf4 +- 20. Rf4 gf4 21. Qf2 Rag8 22. Rg1 Rg1 23. Qg1 f3 24. Nd1 Qh4 25. Nf2 Rh5, and with no defense to ...Rg5-g2, White resigned in Fong-Evans, Melbourne 2000.

8...Bg4

For 8...hg4, opening the h-file, see Milk-Man-CherrylandCafe, following.

9. f3

The position is not as easy for White as it looks. For example, 9. Ne2 Qh4 10. 0-0 0-0-0 holds decent prospects, and Black should be happy with 9. Qd2 Qd4 10. 0-0 0-0-0. There could follow 11. b3 Qe5 12. Bb2 Bd4 13. Rab1 h4 14. h3 Bh3! 15. gh3 Qg3 and mate in eight—Another-Evans, ICC 2001.

9...Bh3! 10. Qd2

It is drawn by perpetual after 10. gh3 Qh4 11. Kd2 Qg5.

10...Qh4 11. g3 Qf6 12. f4 0-0-0

13. e5 Rhe8

Fully mobile, Black has a lot of chances against white's uncastled king.

14. Ne4 Re5!

Black should have a lot of faith in this position, and be inspired to look at various sacrifices and forcing plays. This one looked very good — if 15. fe5, then 15...Qf3 16. Nf2 (16. Nc5 Qh1) Bf2 wins for Black.

15. Qe2 Bb4 16. c3 Bc3!

The deficiencies in White's positions are showing up.

17. Kf2

Or 17. bc3 Re4 18. Be3 Re3 19. Qe3 Qc3 with sufficient pressure.

17...Bd4 18. Ke1 Bc3 19. Kf2 Bd4

Unfortunately, with three pieces *en prise*, Black could not find the winning 19...Re4! 20. de4 Qd4 21. Qe3 Bb2 22. Rb1 Bc1 23. Qd4 Rd4 24. Rhc1, when it certainly looks as if the queenside pawns will win for Black without too much drama.

Drawn

White: Blackwood (1928)
Black: Michelle Evans
Petroff Defense

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Ne5 Nc6 4. Nc6 dc6 5. e5

A direct challenge to Black's play.

5...Ne4!

There is some similarity between this position and the position after 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e5 3. de5 Ne4, the Fajarowicz Variation of the Budapest Defense.

6. d4

An important tactical trick in Black's bag is 6. d3? Bc5!, and in view of 7. de4 Bf2, White resigned in Lowens-Stafford, correspondence 1950.

6...c5

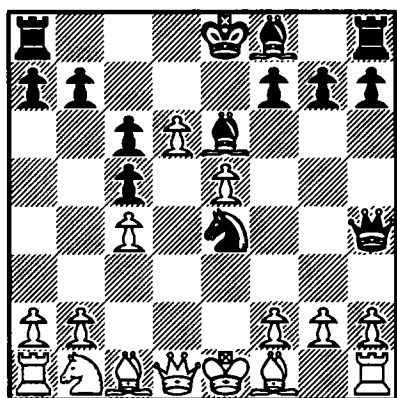
The only move to give White problems. The pawn cannot be

captured: 7. dc5 Qd1 8. Kd1 Nf2, and Black recovers the pawn with good play on 7. c3 cd4 8. cd4 (8. Qd4 is probably better) Bb4.

7. d5 Be6

Forcing play by Black! White is a pawn up, but his center is overextended, and he is not yet developed. The d-pawn is still pinned indirectly because of the knight fork on f2, so Black is able to develop with a threat, and compel White to extend his center even further. If 8. Bc4, then 8...c6 or 8...Nf2! 9. Kf2 Qh4.

8. c4 c6 9. d6 Qh4



10. Be3

White meets the threat and gets some development going, but with three pieces out plus the move, Black has equalized.

10...f6 11. b4!?

White aims to maintain the pawn on d6. If 11. g3, it seems that White has embarrassed the queen (11...Qg4 12. f3), but Black has 11...Ng3! 12. fg3 Qe4, winning.

11...cb4 12. Qd4 fe5 13. Qe5 Kd7 14. c5 Re8 15. Qd4 Qf6 16. Qf6 Nf6 17. a3

Still playing to bolster the pawn chain, but White's problem has been that he is underdeveloped, not to mention that the proud d6-pawn is well blockaded.

17...b3 18. Nc3 b6 19. Na4 Nd5!

Black blocks the d-file before gathering the pawns.

20. 0-0-0 bc5 21. Nc5 Kd6 22. Nb3

White has managed to balance the material, but Black takes a passed pawn and better development into the ending.

22...Kc7 23. Bc5

Black menaced the a-pawn, but White should prefer the developing 23. Kb2, and then if 23...Ne3 24. fe3 Bb3 25. Kb3 Re3, Black cannot be too pleased about the opposite-colored bishops.

23...Nf4 24. Bf8 Rhf8

White's kingside is still sleeping, and Black went on to win in 12 more moves.

White: Milk-Man (2151)
Black: CherrylandCafe (2180)
Petroff Defense

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Ne5 Nc6 4. Nc6 dc6 5. d3 Bc5 6. Be2 h5 7. Nc3 Ng4 8. Bg4 hg4

After the h-file opens, Black must be alert for tactics arising from ...Qd6, which could threaten, for instance, ...g3 fg3 Rh2!.

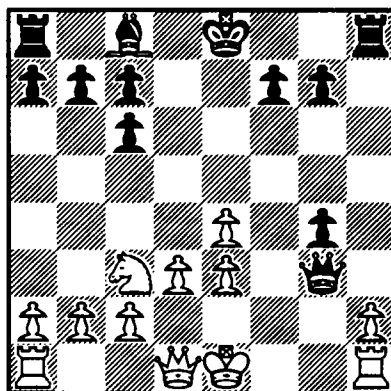
9. Be3

It is more difficult for Black to develop counterplay after 9. Bf4 Qf6 10. Bg3.

9...Be3 10. fe3 Qd6 11. g3

Results in an endgame which could be considered important in terms of this gambit's "theory":

11...Qg3



12. hg3 Rh1 13. Ke2

The ending was equal in guest20-CherrylandCafe, ICC 2001: 13. Kf2 Rd1 14. Rd1 Be6 15. Rh1 Ke7 16. b3 Rd8 17. d4 Kf6 18. Rh5 Kg6 19. Rh4 b6 20. Ne2 Bc8 21. Nf4 Kf6 22. Rh5 c5 23. Ne2 cd4.

13...Rd1 14. Nd1

An interesting idea. White feels that his knight is inhibited by the c6-pawn, and that it might be well placed on f2 to hit the g4-pawn. 14. Rd1 Be6 15. Rh1 Ke7 is about the same, where White can improve his knight by e5 and Ne4, on the way to c5 (preferred) or g5 or f2.

14...Be6 15. Nf2 Ke7 16. Rh1 Kf6 17. Rh4 Kg5 18. e5

White could try to push Black off the board by b3, c4, d4, d5, and so on. For instance, 18. b3 Rd8 19. c4 c5 20. Kd2 b6 21. Kc3 c6 22. d4 looks good for White, but Black could hold the balance by earlier seeking active counterplay with 18. b3 a5 19. c4 a4.

18...Rd8 19. d4 b6

To prevent Nc5 after ...Ne4.

20. b3 c5 21. Kd3 cd4 22. ed4 c5

This gives White a passed pawn, but Black is trying to open the game for his long-range pieces.

23. Ne4 Kg6 24. c3 cd4 25. cd4 Kf5 26. Nd6 Kg6 27. Ke4

Apparently White has made inroads, threatening 28. d5, but is disrupted by Black's continual search for active counterplay.

27...f5

Just as it starts getting interesting — Black will play ...Kg6 and ...f5 next — Black overstepped the time limit. The endgame after 11...Qg3 might arise commonly from this gambit.

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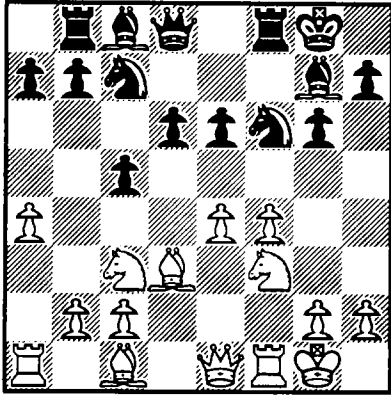
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Best of the BurlinGames

Continued from Page 17

though White still has the preferable position.

11. de6 fe6



12. f5! gf5

Alternatively, 12...ef5 13. ef5 Bf5 14. Bf5 gf5 15. Nh4 Ne4 16. Nf5 Nc3 17. bc3 looks rather unhealthy for the black king.

13. ef5 e5

A move which I had not anticipated in my preparation! As the game turns out, I have only to find one difficult move over the board.

14. Qh4!

The text serves two purposes: to support the pawn push g4-g5 and to double attack the h7-square (along with the x-ray of the bishop on d3). The f6-knight can't move: 14...Nd7 15. Bc4 Kh8 16. Ng5 Nf6 17. Nce4 (or simply 17. Nf7) is unpleasant. Black's best try is 14...Qe8 15. g4 e4 16. Bc4 d5 17. Bf4 dc4 18. Bc7 Ra8 19. Ne5 Qe7 20. Nb5 and all three of White's minor pieces are swarming on the black half of the board.

14...e4?

With his position close to collapse already, Black blunders a critical pawn.

15. Ne4 Ne4 16. Qd8 Rd8 17. Be4 Bd7

Probably Hernandez had intended 17...d5 18. Bd3 c4 19.

Be2 Bf5, retaking the pawn with interest. However, White has the crushing *zwischenzug* 18. Bf4!. White now only has to take care to limit Black's counterplay.

18. c3 Re8 19. Bc2 Bc6 20. Bf4 Rbd8 21. Rad1 Bf3 22. Rf3 Be5

Black had the choice between surrendering a second pawn or simplifying into a lost endgame.

23. Be5 de5 24. Rfd3

White maintains control of the open file.

24...Rd3 25. Rd3 Kf7 26. g4! Kf6 27. h4 Resigns

Facing the threat of 28. g5 and White's rook infiltrating on either d6 or d7, Black resigned. Of course, the f5-pawn is taboo due to the discovered check

White: David Pecora (2064)

Black: Richard Koepcke (2292)

Exchange French

Notes by NM Richard Koepcke

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. ed5 ed5 4.

Bd3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. 0-0 Nd4?

Black can possibly hold the sacrificed pawn after 6...Bf3 7. Qf3 Nd4 8. Qe3 Ne6 9. Bf5.

7. Qe1 Ne6 8. Ne5 Bh5 9. Bb5 Ke7

In his calculations before 6...Nd4, Black overlooked that 9...c6 would be met here by 10. Nc6 with a decisive edge.

10. f4 f5 11. g4 Bg4 12. Ng4 fg4 13. f5 Qd6 14. fe6?

A blunder. If White retreats the bishop, Black will net three pawns for his piece, but the weaknesses in Black's position should give White a winning advantage.

14...Qb6 15. Kh1 Qb5 16. Rf7 Ke8 17. Rc7 Qb6 18. Bf4 Be7 19. Nc3 Nf6 20. Rd1 Rd8 21. a4 a6 22. Bg3 h5 23. Qe2

Threatening 24. Qg6 and 25. Qf7 mate.

23...h4 24. Qd3 Qe6 25. Re1 Ne4 26. Ne4 de4 27. Qe4 Qe4 28. Re4 hg3 29. Ree7 Kf8 30. Rf7 Kg8 31. Rg7 Kf8 Draw

UPSCL Peninsula Scholastic

Continued from Page 23

White: Ben Laufer (1147)

Black: Stephan Goupille (1176)

Colle System

Notes by Steve Cohen

1. Nf3 c6 2. e3 d5 3. d4 Bg4 4. Nbd2 e6

"Closing the door" after getting the Bc8 into the game.

5. Bd3 Bd6 6. b3 Nd7 7. 0-0 e5

Threatening a pawn fork.

8. de5 Ne5 9. Bb2 f6

Supporting e5, and providing a later avenue of escape for the Bg4 should it be attacked.

10. h3 Nd3 11. cd3 Bh5 12. Qc2 Ne7 13. Nd4 Qd7 14. e4 0-0 15. N4f3 Ng6 16. Rfe1

White doesn't bite by 16. g4 Bg4 17. hg4 Qg4, after which the white king looks very unhappy.

16...f5 17. e5 Bc7 18. e6 Qe7 19. a4 Nf4 20. Ba3 Bd6 21. Bd6 Qd6 22. e7 Rfe8 23. Nd4 Re7

There seems to be no reason why 23...g6 can't be played first.

24. Nf5 Re1 25. Re1 Nh3?

Black has an idea to double attack White's knight, forgetting it can save itself in answer to the double attack.

26. gh3 Qg6 27. Ng3 Qg5 28. Kh1 Bf7 29. Nf3 Qf6 30. Kg2 d4 31. Qd1 Bd5

White can continue with 32. Ne4 and a material plus, but the players agreed to split the point.

Draw

We Talk with the U.S. Women's Co-Champion:

Camilla Baginskaite

By Jason Childress

International master Camilla Baginskaite is the reigning women's chess champion of the United States. At the time of this interview she was rated 2381 and had just finished playing in the Seattle Chess Foundation's U.S.-China Summit match in March, where she scored two out of three points against

much higher-rated opposition. She lives in El Cerrito, Calif., with her husband, grandmaster Alex Yermolinsky, and their young son Edward.

CCJ: When and where were you born?

Baginskaite: I was born in 1967 in Vilnius, Lithuania, in the former USSR.

CCJ: When did you start playing chess?

Baginskaite: I don't remember exactly, somewhere around 7 or 8.

CCJ: Did you have any favorite players growing up?

Baginskaite: I don't remember having any chess heroes. My favorite player changes depending on whose games I studied in a certain time. I think the idea of chess heroes is more common in the U.S. than it was in Lithuania. In the USSR, the goal was more to improve one's chess than worship players. More of a down-to-earth attitude.

CCJ: You recently won the United States Women's Championship. How did that feel?

Baginskaite: First of all, I want to make it clear that I am a co-champion; Elina Groberman and I tied for first place, and then played a playoff for the championship ring. I won the playoff, but I felt uneasy about it, because it was blitz. I think it would have been better if the playoff games had been longer.

"[Young players should] set high goals. A lot of kids say 'I beat a 2000' or 'I drew him'; they're too fixated on the immediate thing. Make it a goal to play in the World Youth Championship."



USCF Photo

It feels strange. Many strong players didn't play because they couldn't meet the activity requirements. The highest rated female in U.S., Irina Krush, had other plans. So I'm the champion, but arguably not the strongest player. On the other hand, I was a clear pre-tournament favorite, but my form proved to be pretty bad, so I'm glad I was able to win in spite of this. I felt after the tournament I can still improve my chess significantly if I can make more time to work on it. And, of course,

no matter what are your prior logistics, it still feels special to win the U.S. Championship. I'm happy!

CCJ: What are some other memorable results in your tournament career?

Baginskaite: Well, my most 'spectacular' result was winning the World Girls Under-20 Championship in 1987 (Vilnius, Lithuania). But that was not my strongest opposition.

I remember two other results that were really good: one was the USSR Women's Championship in 1985. I scored 6th or 7th, but the opposition was quite strong. The other one is more impressive: I

tied for 4th best individual result on the 1st board in the 1992 Women's Olympiad, which was held in Manila, Philippines.

That was the period when I played my best chess, between 1987 and 1992.

CCJ: What interesting anecdotes or stories can you share with the readers of

California Chess Journal about the career of a WIM?

Baginskaite: Well, if it's going to be read by children... (laughs)

At one point I was trying very hard to get the GM title. I had achieved two norms, but then I got stuck and couldn't make the third. And my chess started to get worse because of that. And kids these days pay a lot of attention to ratings and to categories, but dwelling on such things can actually hurt your chess.

CCJ: So you never regained your form after that?

Baginskaite Talks About Education, Killer Instinct, and Modern Romance

Baginskaite: No, I don't think I ever really did.

CCJ: You're married to former U.S. champion Alex Yermolinsky—how did you two meet?

Baginskaite: At a chess tournament, of course. (laughs) I first met him briefly in Groningen in 1993, and then again later at the 1996 Chess Olympiad in Erevan, Armenia.

CCJ: This was when you were still living in Lithuania?

Baginskaite: Yes. It was quite modern, actually—we communicated entirely by e-mail. (laughs) And eventually I thought, I'll come to the U.S. and we'll see what happens. We got married in September of 1997.

CCJ: What's it like to be married to a grandmaster?

Baginskaite: It's different, because he has to travel a lot. I mean, it's nice to have chess in common as an interest, but chess is quite tense. I would say that emotionally, it's not something you can take lightly. It's challenging to come to terms with that and try to control your emotions.

CCJ: Do you feel that men are inherently stronger than women at chess?

Baginskaite: Personally, I think it's quite possible that even with the best preparation, there would still be a gap between men's and women's playing strengths. I'm not one who thinks men and women are the same.

I think there are a number of reasons for this. Women are often prevented from being able to work so hard at the game. Many women still think family is the most important thing, and I think they are more likely to question if their profession or interests are practical or useful to the society. And the 'killer instinct' is more common in men than it is in women.

A lot of girls I knew in school wanted to do everything. They got good grades, they did this, they did that, but they could never focus on just one or two subjects that really interested them. They got stuck doing all the things they needed to do, and never really did anything that interested them. The boys, on the other hand, would let some things go and concentrate on something that really interested them.

It's also necessary to get quality training, or else be able to work by yourself. This is less common for girls than for boys. There are psychological reasons; many girls have problems with self-training. I think it comes directly from the abovementioned "obedience" at school and at home. With the right coaching, the girls could close the gap.

But I don't necessarily think it's bad or degrading that women are not as strong as men at chess. I mean, is it really degrading not to have the 'killer instinct?' I don't think so. Women have other features; they are better than men in other areas.

CCJ: Do you study chess much these days?

Baginskaite: No, unfortunately I don't have much time for it. I have a 2-year-old son, and I've been taking classes at Berkeley full-time since February. I don't really work seriously on chess these days, I'm just not a professional anymore.

Chess is very time-consuming. It's one of the most time-consuming sports I know. And while other sports are mainly physical, chess involves your head; so if you play chess seriously, it's not easy to do other intellectual stuff as well.

A lot of professional chessplayers become computer

programmers. Chess narrows your choice of profession. Many immigrants from the USSR became computer programmers, for instance. Part of the reason for this is that it's difficult for immigrants to learn English when they're already full-grown, so they work with computers. But I also think sometimes two things combine well, like chess and computer programming.

Chess really absorbs your attention. It's difficult to play chess and do other things as well. When chessplayers go to a tournament, they don't try to see the sights in the area; they concentrate on chess.

CCJ: Right, or in the words of *One Night In Bangkok*: "One town looks very like another when you're head's down over your pieces, brother."

Baginskaite: And how many chessplayers do you know that are artists? I can't remember any chessplayer I've known who had a career in design or architecture.

CCJ: Well, Marcel Duchamp was an artist and chess fanatic; but perhaps he's the exception that proves your rule.

Baginskaite: I'm a bit of an exception; I'm studying landscape architecture, which is somewhere between design and architecture. But my mother was an artist and my father was a designer.

CCJ: Have you had any other education besides the Berkeley classes?

Baginskaite: I studied art history, theory, and criticism for five years in the USSR. It would be the equivalent of something between a B.A. degree and an M.A.

CCJ: What are your plans for the future?

Baginskaite: Maybe only to play in the major tournaments, like the U.S. Championship, the

Olympiad, the Women's World Championship if I qualify for it. Big tournaments only, not a lot of chess competitions. I'd like to pursue architecture if it really takes off.

CCJ: What advice do you have for young players, and in particular young female players?

Baginskaite: Set high goals. A lot of kids say "I beat a 2000" or "I drew him"; they're too fixated on the immediate thing. Maybe make it a goal to play in the World Girls' Championship. And don't be afraid of high-rated players; a rating is just numbers. You can pay attention to it, but not too much.

USA-China Summit Match
White: Camilla Baginskaite (USA)
Black: Qin Kanying (China)
Exchange Grunfeld
Notes by WIM Camilla Baginskaite

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. cd5 Nd5 5. e4 Nc3 6. bc3 Bg7 7. Be3 c5 8. Qd2 Qa5 9. Nf3 Nc6

Black could avoid the following complicated line after 9...0-0, which happened in round 3 in the same event. After 10. Rb1, Black has 10...b6, so White returned to the good old 10. Rc1. I think this line is less risky for Black—White seldom gets a substantial advantage here. Of course, 9...Bg4 10. Rb1 a6 11. Rb7 is Kramnik-Kasparov from their recent match.

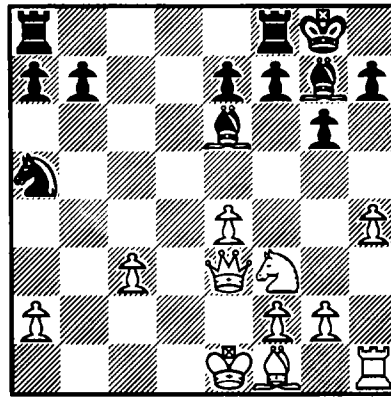
10. Rb1 0-0 11. Rb5 cd4 12. Ra5 de3 13. Qe3

Of course, not 13. fe3, like in my game against Jennifer Shahade from the 2000 U.S. Championship.

13...Na5 14. h4

I believe the kingside assault is the only way to put Black's queen sacrifice to the test. 14. Nd4 has also been played, usually with a peaceful result.

14...Be6



15. Ng5

15. h5 Rfc8 16. e5 Nc4 17. bc4 Rc4 18. hg6 hg6 19. Ng5 Rac8 20. Ne6 Rc3 21. Qg5 Rc1 22. Kd2 Rh1 23. Ng7 Rd8 24. Ke2 Kg7 25. Qe7 Rdd1 was drawish in Dautov-Svidler, Istanbul Olympiad 2000.

15...Ba2

Qin played 15...Rfc8 here in a recent game against Kachiani-Gersinska in New Delhi FIDE World Championship, and Black was OK after 16. e5 Nc4 17. Bc4 Bc4 18. h5 h6 19. Nf3 g5 20. Nd2 Ba2, but there were stronger continuations for White.

16. h5 Rfc8 17. e5 h6 18. Ne4 g5

18...Nc4? 19. Bc4 Bc4 20. hg6 fg6 21. Rh6!

19. Ng5! Nc4

19...hg6 20. h6 gives White a dangerous attack.

20. Bc4 Bc4 21. Ne4

I believe this was one of the critical moments. The position is so complicated that even after extensive analysis it's difficult to know for sure, but I think stronger was 21. Nf3 with the idea 22. Nd4 e6 23. Rh4, and White should be better.

21...a5 22. f4

More interesting was 22. g4 with the idea g5 - that would have been a real mess.

22...a4 23. f5

White's position looks real shaky after this. The whole idea doesn't create real threats on the

kingside—it's just too slow. Surprisingly, in spite of this, it seems enough for a draw.

23...a3 24. Kf2 a2 25. f6 ef6 26. Nf6 Kh8 27. Ra1 Ra5 28. g4 Rb5 29. Qe4 Bf6 30. ef6 Be6 31. Qe3?

Time trouble! After this White is close to losing. 31. Qe2 Rb6 32. Qd2 or 31...Rg5 32. Ra2 would have been drawish.

31...Rg5 32. Qd2 Ra8

Now White is tied up and doesn't have much play. But Black still has to find a way to break through while avoiding various tactical tricks.

33. Kf1? Bd5?

33...Bg4 is an easy win, since White cannot take on a2 in view of ...Bh3. Black was starting to get low on time, too.

34. Kf2 Ra4?! 35. c4!

Looks like a desperation sac, but I wasn't able to find a win for Black after this! 35...Bc4 36. Qd8 Kh7 37. Qd4 disrupts Black's piece coordination, for example, 37...b5 38. Qe4 Kh8 39. Qe8 Rg8 40. Qe3. Fresh ideas, anybody?

35...Rc4 36. Ra2 Rcg4 37. Ra8 Kh7 38. Qd3 Be4 39. Qd6?!

My last mistake in this game; of course, both 39. Qd7 and 39. Qd8 Rg8 40. Qd7 were stronger, but with a few seconds left, I started seeing some mirage variations against them.

39...Rg2 40. Ke3 Bc6??

Qin Kanying is actually a very stable player, but for every rule there are exceptions. I'm not sure, though, if Black can avoid the perpetual after 40...Bd5 41. Qd8 Rh5 42. Qh8 Kg6 43. Rg8 Kf5 44. Rg2 Bg2 45. Qc8 Kf6 46. Qc3.

41. Qd3 Resigns

Sure, there were many mistakes, but the position was really complicated - and, of course, more interesting than many "cleaner" games!

Ben Haun Wins Reserve Section at Jessie Jean's Open in March

Continued from Page 15

Not as good for Black as the simple 8...ed5 9. Bd2 Re8 10. a3 Be7 11. Ne5 Nbd7 12. Bb5 Bd6 13. f4 a6 14. Bd3 c5 15. Qe2 c4 16. Bf5 Qc7 and Black has close to an equal game.

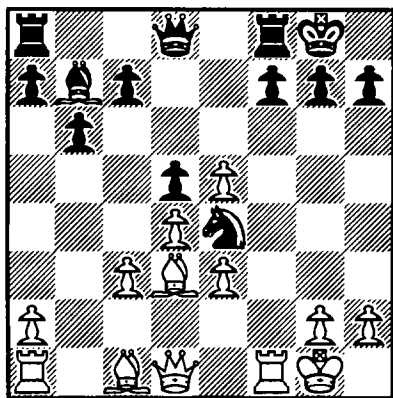
9. bc3 ed5 10. Ne5

Perhaps better for White is 10. Ba3 Re8 11. c4.

10...Nbd7 11. f4

Again, 11. Ba3 may be better.

11...Ne5 12. fe5 Ne4



13. Qf3

This move is not as strong as it looks! Simply 13. Be4 de4 14. Ba3 Re8 (or 14...c5 15. Qb3 Qc7 16. Rad1 Rad8 17. Rf4 Rfe8 18. Bb2 with a tiny advantage for White) 15. Qb3 Qd7 16. Rf4 a5 17. Raf1 Bd5 18. c4 a4 19. Qc3 with advantage to White.

13...c5

13...f6!? 14. Ba3 c5 15. Be4 de4 16. Qg3 Rc8 17. Rad1 is comfortable for White.

14. c4

Not as good as 14. Qh3! Bc8 15. Qh5 Be6 16. Bb2 Rc8 17. c4 cd4 18. ed4 f5 19. ef6 gf6 20. Be4 de4 21. d5 and White is better.

14...Ba6!

This is a very fine move, demonstrating a deep grasp of the position.

15. a4

This is best for White; it is a case of whoever takes first loses!

15...Ng5

The move 15...f6 is again worthy of consideration, and then 16. ef6 Rf6 17. Qe2 Rf1 18. Qf1 cd4 19. cd5 Bd3 20. Qd3 Qd5 21. Qd4 Qb7 22. Ba3 Re8 is roughly equal.

16. Qe2 cd4

Better for Black was 16...Rc8 17. cd5 Bd3 18. Qd3 Qd5 19. Bb2 c4 20. Qf5 h6 21. Rad1 Qe4 and Black has equalized.

17. cd5

White now has a clear advantage, but manages to squander it.

17...Bd3 18. Qd3 Qd5 19. ed4 Ne6 20. Bb2

20. Be3 was just as good.

20...Rad8

Better is 20...Rac8 21. Qf3 Qf3 22. Rf3 Rfd8 23. Raf1 Rc7 24. Rd1 Rc5 25. Rdf1 Rc2 26. Bc3 h5 and Black enjoys an edge.

21. Kh1?

I thought this move was great because it puts the king out of checking distance of a black knight, but it actually is the beginning of the end for White. Simple and correct is 21.Rad1 Nc5 — I had feared this move, which is why I did not play 21.Rad1 — 22. Qb5! Ne4 23. Rf4 f5 24. Qd5 Rd5 25. g4 Ng5 26. Kg2 fg4 27. Rg4 Ne6 28. Rc1, and White has nothing to fear.

21...Qe5 22. Qh7

The only way to avoid losing a pawn.

22...Kh7 23. de5 Rd2

Black should consider 23...Nc5 24. Ba3 Kg8 25. Rac1 Rd5, and Black is better after 26. Bc5 bc5 27. Rb1 Re5 28. Rb7 a5.

24. Ba3 Rc8?

This should lose for Black! The move 24...Rfd8 leads to a draw.

25. Rf7 Rcc2 26. Rg1 Ng5 27. Rff1??

This hasty retreat cost White the game! 27. Rf4 is correct, and then 27...Nh3 is not playable because of 28. Rh4, so 27...Re2 28. Bd6 — what a difference with a white rook at f4 instead of at f1! — 28...Re4 29. Re4 Ne4 30. Ra1 Nd6 31. ed6 Rd2 32. Kg1 Rd6 33. Kf2 Kg6 with a likely draw.

27...Nh3

Now Black is winning.

28. e6

A desperate move.

28...Ng1 29. Rg1

Also inadequate is 29. e7 Rg2 30. Rf8 Rge2 31. e8 (Q) Re8 32. Re8 Nf3 33. Bd6 Rc4, and Black wins.

29...Ra2 30. e7 Re2 31. Bd6 Rad2

With 31...Ra4 the end comes a bit sooner.

32. Bf4 Rd4 33. Bg5 Ra4 34. h4 Rae4 35. Rf1

If 35. Kh2, then 35...Re1 anyway.

35...Re1 36. Kg1 Rf1 37. Kf1 Kg6 38. Kf2 Kf7 39. Kf3 Re7 40. Be7 Ke7 41. Ke4 a5 42. Kd5 a4 43. Kc4 b5 44. Kb4 Kf6 45. g4 Ke5 46. h5 Kf4 47. Resigns

Michael Shaw of Nevada City took the booster section's D prize and Michael Gosk of Santa Rosa won the E prize.

This was only the fifth tournament for 10-year-old Michael, and

he is tagged by local chess players as a kid to watch. He won the unrated prize in Weikel's Western States Open last year, only the second tournament he had ever played.

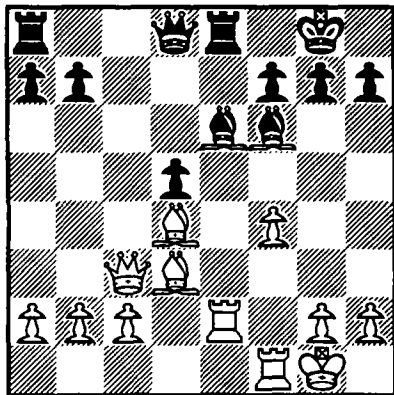
He has a pretty interesting story about having gotten interested in chess last summer upon discovering a set discarded in a dumpster. Here is Michael's best game against a higher rated player:

White: Nicolas Yap (1253)
 Black: Michael Gosk (823)
 Scheveningen Sicilian
 Notes by Michael Gosk and Bleys Rose

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd4
 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 d6 6. Be2 e6
 7. 0-0 Be7 8. Be3 0-0 9. f4 d5**

Seeking an unbalanced position, Black deviates from book lines which include 9...Qc7, 9...e5 and 9...Bd7.

10. ed5 Nd5 11. Nd5 ed5 12. Qd2 Nd4 13. Bd4 Re8 14. Rae1 Bf5 15. Bd3 Be6 16. Re2 Bf6 17. Qc3



17...Rc8?

Until now, the game has been equal. Black should have played 17...Qb6 18. Bh7 Kh8 19. Bb6 Bc3 20. bc3 Kh7, when both sides have weak pawns and bad bishops which are opposite-colored, probably leading to a draw.

18. Bf6 Qf6 19. Qf6 gf6 20. Rfe1 Red8 21. Kf2 Rc7 22. b3



Michael Gosk won the first prize among Class E players at the Jessie Jean's Open in March.

Photo by Bud Setzepfandt

h5 23. f5 Bd7 24. Re3 Kh7 25. Rh3 Kh6 26. Re7 Rf8 27. Bb5?

The momentum switches after this misstep by White, which begets another.

27...Rc2 28. Re2? Bf5 29. Rc2 Bc2 30. Be2 Bg6 31. Bh5 Rd8 32. Bg6 Kg6 33. Rd3?

Kings belong in front of passed pawns, while rooks belong behind them. Better is 33. Re3, threatening 34. Re7, and if Black moves too hastily by 34...d4 34. Re7 d3 35. Ke1 d2 36. Kd1, the winning chances swing back to White after he removes the d-pawn.

33...Kf5 34. Kf3 Ke5 35. a3

White's best plan is to make counterplay with his own passed pawn and relieve his rook of the blockading task. 35. h4, 36. Ke2, and perhaps 37. Rh3 are sensible moves.

35...Rc8 36. Ke2 f5 37. Kd2 Ke4 38. Re3 Kd4 39. Rd3 Ke4 40. Rc3??

White slips up, exchanging rooks in a position in which Black has a better placed king, despite White's ability to run the h-pawn down the track. The easiest endings to win are pure pawn endings.

40...Rc3 41. Kc3 d4

Black finds the right plan: Allow his forward pawn to fall, have his king to chase down black's h-pawn and return in time to march his f-pawn to the queening square.

42. Kd2 f4 43. h4 Kf5 44. h5 Kg5 45. h6 Kh6 46. Kd3 Kg5 47. Kd4 Kg4 48. Kc5 Kg3 49. Kd6 Kg2 50. Kc7 f3 51. Kb7 f2 52. Ka7 f1(Q) 53. a4 Qb1 54. a5 Qb3 55. a6 Qa3 56. Kb7 Qa6 57. Resigns

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Grandmaster Ashley Stars at Oakland Knowland Zoo Chess Fest

By Henry Vinerts

Grandmaster Maurice Ashley and Region XI women's champion Colette McGruder visited chess teacher Chuck Windsor's kids on Feb. 24 for the Chess Fest 2001 at the Knowland Park Zoo in Oakland.

Ashley played a blindfold game against the Windsor students, who were allowed to play in consultation. A deal was struck that if the exhibitor did not win in 35 moves, the kids could claim a draw, or else they would need to go only 10 more moves within which Ashley had to checkmate or resign.

White: Team Windsor
Black: Maurice Ashley
London System

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. Nc3 Bf5 4. Bf4 e6 5. e3 Bb4 6. Qd2 Ne4 7. Qd1 Nc3 8. Qd2 Na2 9. c3 Nc3 10. bc3 Bd6 11. Be2 0-0 12. Bd3 Bd3 13. Qd3 Bf4 14. ef4 Nd7 15. 0-0 c6 16. Ng5 Nf6 17. f5 ef5 18. Qf5 Re8 19. Rfe1 Qa5 20. Re8 Re8 21. Rf1 Qc3 22. h3 a5 23. Rb1 b5 24. Kh2 a4 25. Qf4 h6 26. Nf3 a3 27. Rc1 Qb2 28. Rc6 a2 29. Rf6

After a long think.

29...gf6 30. Qg3 Kh8 31. Nh4

Qc1 32. Qg4 a1(Q) 33. Nf5 Rg8 34. Kg3 Rg4 35. hg4

The yell "Draw!" was heard by all, but a grandmaster also knows how to entice the opponent into false hopes of winning. After a bit of discussion and voting, the Windsor kids decided to forgo the draw and gamble on hanging on for 10 more moves.

35...Qac3 36. f3 Q3e1 37. Kh3 Qf4 38. Ng3 Qeg3 mate

Ashley also swept a 26-board simultaneous exhibition. He will return again next year, and it is a blessing to kids and adults alike to be able to observe and to be inspired by masters in any constructive endeavor.

This Issue's Obligatory Wing Gambit

Continued from Page 11

as close as White will get to castling, since the decision to move the rook to h3 has already been made. Also, the development of White's queenside is not yet determined — the knight might want to develop on a3 or d2, the bishop on a3 or g5, the queen waits for the king knight to get out of her way.

11...a6

If Black achieves ...Bd7-b5, pinning White's good bishop, 11. Kf1 will look silly.

12. h5

Pursuing the plan of Rh3-g3, White first moves the h-pawn to safety and uncovers the target on g7. To continue the joke by 12. Kg1 and then Rh3-g3 would save no time over 0-0, Re1-e3-g3.

12...Nf8 13. Rh3 Bd7 14. Rg3 Rg8

Self-pinning, so better would be 14...g6.

15. Bh6 g6 16. Ng5

Threatening to shred the kingside by 17. Nh7. For example, 16...Rc8 17. Nh7 Nh7 18. hg6 fg6 19. Rg6 Rh8 20. Rg8 Rg8 21. Qh5.

16...Bg5

Another hard blow to the white squares is 16...gh5 17. Nf7 Kf7 18. Qf3, but now the black squares are severely weakened, and the king is trapped on e8.

17. Bg5 Ne7

Another self-pin, but this seems to be part of a plan to castle by ...Bc6, ...Qc7, and ...0-0-0. After 17...Ne7, Black may not play ...gh5 later because of Be7, discovering an attack on the rook.

18. Qb3

The white queen wants to land on e7, either by Qf3-f6-e7, or Qb3-b4-e7. She chooses the path that makes a threat on b7.

18...Bc6 19. Nd2

Very rarely should a knight be developed so late, but it is finally obvious that it wants to go to c5.

19...b5

19...Qc7 seems a little more useful.

20. Qb4

On 20. Qa3, 20...a5 threatens to free some black queenside pieces by 21...b4. Now if 20...a5, White intended 21. Qc5, menacing 22. Be7.

20...Qd7

Again, 21...Qc7 takes some sting out of Nc5.

21. Nb3 Nf5 22. Bf5 gf5

22...ef5 saves the g8-rook from a discovered attack and even gives the knight a place on e6.

23. Nc5 Qc8

Enables a picturesque finish, but 23...Qc7 24. Bd8 is probably enough for White to win.

24. Ne4 Resigns

Places to Play

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Epworth United Methodist Church
1953 Hopkins
Alan Glasscoe
(510) 652-5324

Burlingame
Thursdays 7 p.m.
Burlingame Lions Club
990 Burlingame Ave.
Scott Wilson
(650) 355-9402
www.burlingamechessclub.com

Campbell
Thursdays 7-11:30 p.m.
Campbell Community Center
Fred Leffingwell fleffing@cisco.com
(408) 732-5188, (408) 526-7090
work

Carmichael
Mondays 6-10 p.m.
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4701 Gibbons

El Dorado Hills
Sundays 5-8 p.m.
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Troy Pendergraft
(916) 941-1625

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hspwood2@home.net
(510) 656-8505

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Fresno
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Merced Mall Food Court

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Barry Nelson
(916) 873-3107

Porterville
Wednesdays 7 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
Henderson at Indiana
Hans Borm
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Reno, Nevada
Sundays and Thursdays 6:30 p.m.
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(775) 827-3867
Jerry Weikel
(775) 747-1405

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

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Ross CA 94957

Sacramento
Wednesdays 6-10 p.m.
Senior Citizens Center
915 27th St.
Stewart Katz
(916) 444-3133

Salinas
Weekend afternoons
Carl's Jr.
1061 N. Davis Rd.
Abe Mina
(831) 758-4429

San Anselmo
Tuesdays 7 p.m.
Round Table Pizza
Red Hill Shopping Center
Sir Francis Drake Blvd.
Jim Mickle
(415) 457-2719

San Francisco
Daily
Mechanics Institute
57 Post St., Fourth Floor
John Donaldson
(415) 421-2258

San Jose
Tuesdays and Fridays, 12 noon-4 p.m.
Willows Senior Center
2175 Lincoln Ave.
Jerry Marshall
(408) 267-1574

San Leandro
Saturdays 12 noon
Everybody's Bagel Shop

1099 MacArthur Blvd.
(510) 430-8700

Santa Clara
Second Saturdays 2:15-6:15 p.m.
Mary Gomez Park
Francisco Sierra
(408) 241-1447

Santa Rosa
Tuesdays 6-10:45 p.m.
Sonoma Coffee Company
521 Fourth St.
Keith Halonen
(707) 578-6125

Santa Rosa
First and last Saturdays
Rincon Valley Library
6959 Montecito Blvd.
Mike Haun
(707) 537-0162

Stanford
Meets weekly during school year
Michael Aigner
maigner@stanford.edu

Stockton
Fridays 7-11 p.m.
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
4910 Claremont Ave.

Sunnyvale
Tuesdays 8 p.m.
LERA Bldg. 160
Ken Stone
(408) 629-5530

Visalia
Tuesdays 7 p.m.
Borders Books and Music
Mooney at Caldwell
Allan Fifield
(559) 734-2784
<http://hometown.aol.com/visaliachess/myhomepage/profile.html>

Woodland
Sundays 3-9:30 p.m.
Senior Citizens Center
630 Lincoln Ave.
Milo Nelson
(530) 792-1064
www.geocities.com/MJG99/CHESS/WCG/

Yuba City
Mondays and Wednesdays 7-11 p.m.
Carl's Jr.
Bridge St. and Highway 99
Tom Giertych
(916) 671-1715

Editorial — One Thing at a Time

Thank you, thank you, CalChess patrons, for sending us money so that we can continue to bring you Northern California chess news six times per year. I am sorry I have no shiny paper for you yet — I am still learning how to save money on this job before I can start spending more of it. The first task has been to get a bulk rate mailing permit for the *California Chess Journal*, but my dealings with the postal service folks have been circular at best.

I sense that these poor, beleaguered civil servants lose their souls over time, having to deal with rushed, rude, unhappy customers all day, and maybe have no sympathy left for people who just want to save a few cents on their mailings. My parents both worked for the postal service. My mom, who had too much feeling, didn't last long. My dad, who had little to begin with, probably pissed off one too many bureaucrats.

If or when I get that permit, I then have to learn how to use an image editor, because I have learned that printers want each image file sized correctly as their own separate file. So, one thing at a time.

Thanks to our advertisers. Buy a chess set from the House of Staunton! I have a red and white Players Set from the House of Staunton, and it is the most beautiful thing in my room — when I see it, it inspires me to write about chess. Tournament organizers, follow the lead of the Success Chess School — if you promise to contribute 50 cents from each entry fee to CalChess, we will give you one page of advertising for that event.

Thank you for reading!

Tournament Calendar

Events marked with a star offer discounted entry fees for CalChess members. Some are making an additional contribution to CalChess from the entry fees. The *California Chess Journal* encourages participation in those events.

Date	Event	Location	CalChess
May 6	Visalia Spring Picnic Allen Fifield, POB 27, Visalia 93279 (559) 734-2784 fifield@aol.com	Visalia	★
May 13	Charles Powell Memorial G/60 John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258	San Francisco	
May 19-20	San Joaquin Championship Dennis Wajckus, 5924 East Illinois Avenue, Fresno 93727-3566, (559) 252-4484	Fresno	
May 19-20	CEA National Scholastic Championship Richard Peterson, Chess Education Association, c/o Sheraton Brookhollow, 3000 North Loop West, Houston, TX 77092, (888) 331-4442 ascachess@aol.com	Houston, TX	
May 26	Charlotte Wood Scholastic Quads Dr. Dennis Alfaro, 244 Viewpoint Dr., Danville 94506 (925) 736-2154 dkalfaro@aol.com	Danville	★
June 2	UPSCL Open Steve Cohen, POB 8024, Foster City 94404 (650) 349-7746	San Mateo	
June 2	William Addison Memorial John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258	San Francisco	
June 8-10	Stamer Memorial John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258	San Francisco	
June 23-24	2nd Arcata Open Jim Bauman, POB 904, Arcata 95518-0904 (707) 822-7619 alula@pacbell.net	Arcata	★
June 23	Weibel/Success Summer Scholastic Quads Dr. Alan Kirshner, (510) 657-1586 info@successchess.org http://www.kirshnerisms.com/SummerQuads01.html	Fremont	★
July 7-8	Sacramento Chess Championship John McCumiskey, 6700 50th Street, Sacramento 95823-1306 (916) 428-5532 jmcumc@lanet.com	Sacramento	★
July 21	Weibel/Success Summer Scholastic Quads Dr. Alan Kirshner, (510) 657-1586 info@successchess.org http://www.kirshnerisms.com/SummerQuads01.html	Fremont	★
August 11	Weibel/Success Summer Scholastic Quads Dr. Alan Kirshner, (510) 657-1586 info@successchess.org	Fremont	★
August 24-25	San Joaquin County Championship Barbara McCaleb, 234 Via La Paz, San Luis Obispo 93401 (805) 544-0717 bmccaleb@calpoly.edu	San Joaquin	★

Letters

Dear Editor:

I just received the latest issue of the *California Chess Journal*, and I think the publication is excellent. It does not need any slick cover. Just keep including the local tournament news, the interesting games, and keep printing it in large type.

I am very impressed with the work that Tom Dorsch and Carolyn Withgitt are doing, along

with the other directors of CalChess.

Tony Newhall

Dear Editor:

Is this the same Frisco Del Rosario, my old friend, whom I once swindled by putting an extra queen on the board when you weren't looking?

The *California Chess Journal* is an outstanding production. I really like the magazine layout, and especially the coverage of scholastic chess since I am work-

ing with Elizabeth Shaughnessy on expanding chess in the schools. I am very excited about the proliferation of chess in the schools all over the country, and the tremendously good effect it can have in the lives of students.

Michael A. Padovani

Solution

Mate in seven by Begley (page 24)

7. Bf2 mate
5. Be1 mate) 5. Nd5 Qe3 6. Be1 Qf2
Kf1 Qe8 (4...Qd2 5. Nh5 mate; 4...Nf4
1. Qd7 Qd7 2. Nf3 Kg4 3. h3 Kg3 4.