

California Chess Journal

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David Pruess Top Californian at U.S. Junior and Firecracker Open



100th Anniversary
of Capablanca-
Corzo Match,
Sequoia
Championship,
Weibel Scholastics,
more





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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 Macintosh, 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. Submission deadline for November/December issue is October 1.

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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 \$2,000 shortfall to the CalChess budget — its primary expense is production and mailing of the *California Chess Journal*, which has 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 worthwhile activity in Northern California are encouraged to participate. Please send contributions to CalChess, 126 Fifteenth Ave., San Mateo CA 94402.

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Wang Prepares for U.S. Junior by Winning Sequoia Championship

3rd Sequoia Yacht Club Chess Championship July 14-15, 2001

Open

1	Philip Wang	3.5
2-3	Ryan Porter Michael Aigner	3
1 U2100	Neil Regan	3
2	Mike Maloney	2.5

Reserve

1	Akash Deb	3.5
2-4	Drake Wang Mike Fitzgerald Curtis Munson	3

1-4 U1700	Cal Magaaoay	2.5
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Daichi Siegrist
Nicolas Yap
Ricky Yu

Booster

1	John Chan	3.5
2-5	Durai Chinnaia Edward Chien Corey Chang Richard Van Gaasback	3

In the wake of the ill-fated Firecracker Open, where just 40 players showed for a tournament with \$100+ entry fees (see page 6), the Bay Area chess community showed its preference for lower-profile events when 60 (with a maximum of 70) participants entered the Third Sequoia Yacht Club Chess Championship held July 14-15 in Redwood City. Tom Reale directed.

Three members of the Stanford University chess team — FIDE masters Philip Wang and Ryan Porter and national master Michael Aigner — took the top prizes at the Sequoia tournament, Wang beat Porter in round three and gave up a last-round draw to Agnis Kaugars on the way to a 3½-½ score and first prize. Porter and Aigner both finished at 3-1.

Akash Deb won the reserve section by defeating fellow junior star Drake Wang in their last-round battle.

Wang used this tournament to warm up for the U.S. Junior Championship held July 24-29 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Reno native started with 2½ of three, but then dropped three straight before finishing sixth. New Yorker Hikaru Nakamaru scored 7½-1½ to win the event, followed by Northern Californian David Pruess at 6½.

White: Philip Wang (2348)

Black: Mike Arné (2215)

Leningrad Dutch

Notes by FM Philip Wang

Ever since I became a full-time student at Stanford in 1999, my opportunities to play chess have dwindled. However, quite fortunately — and unexpectedly — I was invited to play in the 2001 U.S. Junior Championship. Desperate to regain some form, I participated in the Sequoia Chess Championship, and in the end, I was fortunate enough to win the event ahead of six masters. Here is my favorite game of the event, a pretty win over the venerable Mike Arné, from round two.

1. d4 f5

This move took me by surprise! Mike is not known as a Dutch player, and after the game he informed me he has adopted it only quite recently. Even though this opening is in my repertoire from the black side, I sank into a 15-minute think. It is very annoying to face your favorite opening from the opposite side of the board!

2. g3 Nf6 3. Bg2 g6 4. Nh3!?

This is what I came up with! The Karsbad Variation is a great weapon against the Dutch. Not only does it contain some poison, but it has the theoretical stamp of approval, as well.

4...d6 5. Nc3

A sharper move, compared to the standard 5. c4 Nc6 6. d5 Ne5!, where the c-pawn is a weakness. The idea behind 5. Nc3 is to engage the center with pieces as quickly as possible — my other knight will head to f4 next move.

5...c6 6. Nf4 e5?!

Probably a mistake. This position has only occurred once

Chess Journalists Honorably Mention California Chess Journal

The *California Chess Journal* received an honorable mention in the category of Best State Chess Magazine in the annual Chess Journalists of America awards competition. The CJA announced the winners at its meeting held August 9 at the U.S. Open in Framingham, Mass.

Chess Horizons is a repeat winner of the best state magazine award. The Massachusetts state magazine has a circulation of more than 1,000, and a budget that enables it to pay its contributors. "I knew we'd be going up against *Chess Horizons*, but I didn't want to enter the Under 1000 Circulation division — we shouldn't even be eligible for that category," said *California Chess Journal* editor Frisco Del Rosario.

Del Rosario is in his first year as *CCJ* editor, after replacing Allan Fifield in January. He resumed producing the *CCJ* on a bimonthly schedule after years of quarterly publication.

Deb, Chan Sail Away with Sequoia Booster and Reserve Prizes

before in Aleksandrov-Sofieva, St. Petersburg 1994, where Black continued 6...Bg7 7. e4 0-0 8. 0-0, but White maintained his usual edge after 8...e5 9. de5 de5 10. Qd8 Re8 11. Nd3!

7. de5

The following series of exchanges is more or less forced for both sides.

7...de5 8. Qd8 Kd8 9. Nd3 Bd6?!

Amazingly, this natural move comes close to losing! Better would have been 9...e4 10. Bg5 Be7 11. Ne5 Ke8 12. 0-0-0, and Black is still kicking. However, I don't see a defense to f3 and Rhe1, opening the center, and making life very miserable for Black's king. Perhaps Black just has a bad game, no matter what he does, as a result of 6...e5?!

10. e4 Be6?

The "losing move." You don't believe me? Just wait and see! Seriously, it is a tribute to the quality of this game that such an innocent-looking move can end Black's chances. Better would have been 10...Nbd7 leading to a passive but tenable game.

11. Bg5 Nbd7 12. f4!

Striking while the iron is hot, and increasing the pressure in the center. Since the black knight on d7 is overloaded, the threat is just to capture on e5, winning material.

Neither pawn capture is possible for Black — on 12...ef4, 13. e5! wins a piece, while on 12...fe4, 13. Ne5 snares a pawn. Interestingly enough, if we just stop for a moment and look at the position, we notice that the pawn structure is almost identical! The only difference is the activity of pieces, and as we will see, that's all that matters!

12...Rf8

Forced. The only way Black can avoid losing material is to defend f6 twice. Now if White captures with 13. Bf6, Black just responds 13...Rf6, and e5 is still adequately defended. Notice that Black's last two moves are interchangeable — he could have played 11...Rf8 and then 12...Nbd7. It doesn't matter, since this position is forced after Black's 10...Be6?

13. 0-0-0

I've always loved "castling with tempo," tucking the king

safely on c1 and also bringing my rook to the d-file. Now Ne5 is a big threat, and e1 is open for the other rook.

13...Kc7

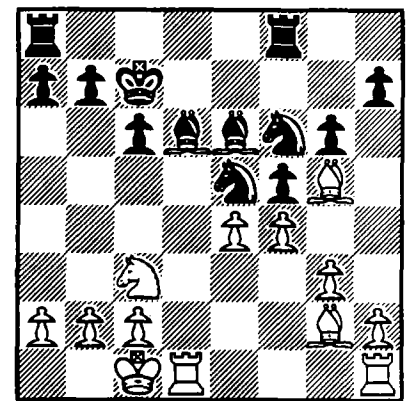
Again forced. 13...Ke7 can be powerfully met by 14. Rhe1!. The black king will not survive long when the center is opened up by some pawn exchanges.

14. Ne5!

14. Ne5! is the start of a combination whose only purpose is to lure the king to the middle of the board, where it will be executed.

14...Ne5

On 14...Be5 15. fe5 Ne5 16. Bf4, the stallion is lost, because 16...Nfg4 (16...Nfd7 17. Rd7! +-) is met by 17. h3.



15. Rd6!!

Starting the king on its death march. Material consideration ceases to be important—there is no going back now!

15...Kd6

Forced, as Black had two pieces hanging.

16. fe5 Ke5

Retreating would lose the knight, and thus the game. A rook cannot successfully fight two minor pieces in the middlegame!

On the Cover

David Pruess, 19, was the leading California player at the U.S. Junior Championship held at the end of July in Tulsa, Okla., and at the Firecracker Open in San Francisco. Pruess finished second at the U.S. Junior Championship behind 13-year-old Hikaru Nakamura of New York. Photographer Elliott Winslow captured Pruess at the Firecracker Open, where he trailed only GM Wojtkiewicz on the wallchart. At the Mechanics' Institute FIDE Rating Tournament, Pruess was second to Carl Haessler.

A more specific headline for the cover might have been "David Pruess Second at U.S. Junior, FIDE Rating Tournament, and Firecracker Open," but it's too early in Pruess's career for a nickname like "David the Second" to follow him around like "Richard the Fifth" tailed grandmaster Teichmann. After his successful summer, Pruess will return to UC Berkeley, where he plays, well, second board for the Golden Bears chess team.

17. Bf4 Kd4 18. Bd6!

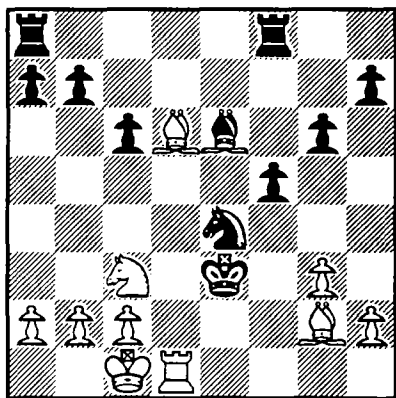
Trapping the king in the center. Not a tough move to calculate over the board, because one's intuition suggests a mate somewhere after Bd6! The simple threat is 19. Rd1, then either 19...Ke3 20. Bc5 mate or 20...Kc4 Bf1 mate.

18...Ne4!

The best defense. Other tries fail spectacularly: 18...Kc4 19. Rd1! and 20. Bf1 mate is unstoppable; 18...c5 19. Rd1 Kc4 20. a3! with 21. Bf1 mate next; 18...b6 19. Rd1 Ke3 20. Rd2! and White mates a dozen ways.

19. Rd1 Ke3

What does White have now? It looks like the attack has fizzled, and the king is laughing in the face of his enemies! The key defender is the majestic knight on e4, which controls eight central attacking squares. How can White stop the king from running away to f2?

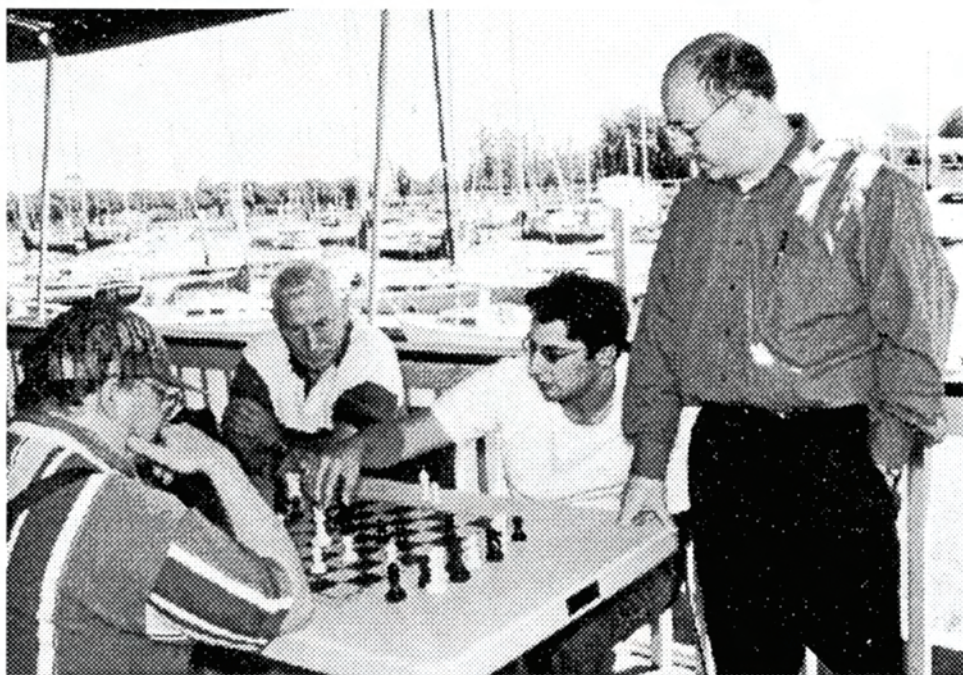


20. Rd2!!

The most beautiful move I've made in a long, long time! Mate will be delivered next move, regardless of Black's response. A most picturesque position, like something by Sam Loyd.

20...Nd2

The key to 20. Rd2!! is that the d1-square is vacated for the knight, and if Black covers c5, the bishop wreaks havoc in the other direction. For instance, 20...b6 21. Bf4 mate. 20...Nd6 and 20...g5



Boats rest on the Redwood City harbor behind this post-mortem between Walter Wood (left) and Anthony Rozenvasser. Mike Splane is standing. Photo by Kevin Batangan

both prevent bishop checks, but 21. Nd1 mate, and the knight saves the day!

21. Bc5 mate

My opponent was particularly graceful in defeat, remarking that the mating combination was "pretty cool."

White: Carolyn Withgitt (1804)
Black: Akash Deb (1899)
Center Counter Defense

1. e4 d5 2. ed5 Nf6 3. Nf3 c6 4. dc6 Nxc6 5. Bb5 Bg4 6. h3 Bh5 7. Nc3 e6 8. g4 Bg6 9. Ne5 Qc7 10. Ng6 hg6 11. d3 a6 12. Bc6 Qc6 13. Rh2 Bd6 14. f4 g5 15. Ne2 Qf3 16. Rf2 Qh3 17. fg5 Ng4 18. Rf1 Nh2 19. Rf2 Nf3 20. Rf3 Qf3 21. Resigns

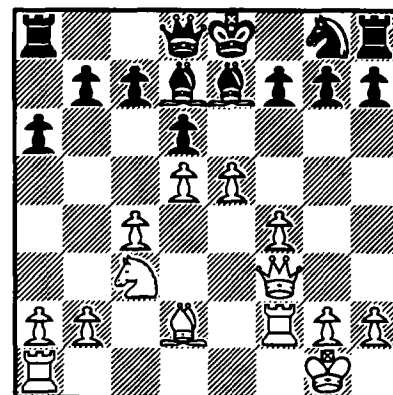
White: Ryan Porter (2262)
Black: Richard Koepcke (2292)
Advance French

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. f3 e6 4. Be3 Qb6 5. Nd2 Qb2 6. Bd3 Nf6 7. Ne2 Qb6 8. O-O c5 9. c3 cd4 10. cd4 Nc6 11. e5 Ng8 12. f4 Nge7 13. g4 g6 14. Ng3 Bd7 15. Rb1 Qc7 16. Qb3 Na5 17. Qb2 h5 18. h3 hg4 19. hg4 Nec6 20. a3

Be7 21. Kg2 O-O-O 22. Rfc1 Kb8 23. Nf3 Ka8 24. Bd2 Bc8 25. Ba5 Qa5 26. Rc6 Resigns

White: Corey Chang (1090)
Black: Stephen Wilson (1150)
Bird's Opening

1. f4 d6 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. e3 Bg4 4. d4 e5 5. Bc4 Qe7 6. O-O e4 7. Bb5 ef3 8. Rf2 Bd7 9. Qf3 a6 10. Bc6 Bc6 11. d5 Bd7 12. c4 Nf6 13. Nc3 Qd8 14. e4 Be7 15. e5 Ng8 16. Bd2



16...f6 17. e6 Bc8 18. f5 Rb8 19. Qh5 g6 20. fg6 Kf8 21. g7 Resigns

Wojtkiewicz Wins San Francisco Firecracker Open

"Have a Good Knight" Firecracker Open June 29-July 1, 2001 Open

1	Alek Wojtkiewicz	4	\$500
2-3	David Pruess	3.5	\$287
	Ryan Porter		\$287
4	Michael Aigner	3	\$275
5	Guillermo Rey		\$200
7	Jonathan Shockley	2.5	\$275
8-12	Jerry Weikel	2	\$56
	Mark Brown		\$56
	Juan Luaces		\$56
	Chris Mavraedis		\$56

Reserve

1	Mike Maloney	4	\$275
2-4	Joselito Igarra	3.5	\$175
	Jeff Andersen		\$175
	Ramesh Mantri		\$175
5-6	Randy Feliciano	3	\$119
	Brian McCandless		\$119

Booster

1	Walter Churchill	5	\$225
2-3	Alan Howe	3.5	\$125
	Lauren Goodkind		\$200
4-8	Bleys Rose	2.5	\$21
	Bryan Bilby		\$21
	Richard Lee		\$21
	Boris Seibert		\$75
	Chris Cortese		\$75

Firecracker Action #1 June 30, 2001

1-4	Rudy Hernandez	3	\$50
	Keith Vickers		\$50
	Joshua Standig		\$63
	Frisco Del Rosario		\$63

Firecracker Action #2 July 1, 2001

1	Bill Kelleher	4	\$75
2	Mike Arné	2.5	\$25

Grandmaster Alek Wojtkiewicz won the "Have a Good Knight" Firecracker Open held June 29-July 1 in San Francisco with a 4-1 score, ahead of the other five masters in the 14-player Open Section: senior master David Pruess and FIDE master Ryan Porter at 3½, international master

Guillermo Rey and national master Michael Aigner at 3, and IM Walter Shipman at 2½.

Wojtkiewicz earned \$500 for his effort, but since the Firecracker Open was not a USCF Grand Prix event, the leader in the 2001 race lost a few points in the Grand Prix standings to the World Open prizewinners. Aigner, the lowest-rated among the masters, made draws against Wojtkiewicz, Rey, and Pruess — the top three seeds — and won \$275 for the Under 2300 prize.

Jonathan Shockley, a Class B player, outscored six experts and A players to win the Under 2200 prize and \$275.

Mike Maloney, who recently returned to the Bay Area from Southern California, won the top Reserve Section prize with a 4-1 score. The only perfect score in the tournament was achieved by Walter Churchill in the Booster Section — his 5-0 tally was good for \$225. Lauren Goodkind, rated 1117, made a performance rating of 1648 while scoring 3½-1½ to win the E prize and \$200.

Jerry Weikel directed 40 players in the three-section tournament, far short of the 150 needed to award his advertised prize fund (see sidebar next page). Weikel figured that the World Open might have drawn 10 or so Bay Area players out of town for a big-money event, and besides those travelers, "Bay Area players just don't want a major tournament," he said. "I see why [World Open organizer Bill] Goichberg gave up on the Bay Area. He's the most successful tournament organizer working, and he doesn't have a tournament there."

Weikel's next event will be the Reno/Western States Open in Reno in October, which has tradi-

tionally been one of the most-enjoyed and best-attended tournaments in the western region.

"[Northern California players] have supported the Reno Open for 10 years! I thought I had a lock [with the Firecracker Open] because these same San Francisco guys wouldn't have to drive 250 miles, and could spend the night in their own beds," Weikel said.

White: Walter Shipman (2301)

Black: David Pruess (2375)

Semi-Slav Defense

Notes by SM David Pruess

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 c6 4. Qc2 Nd7

Played to avoid the lines that follow 4...Nf6 5. Bg5.

5. g3 Ngf6 6. Bg2 Bd6 7. 0-0 0-0 8. Nbd2 Re8 9. b3 e5

White has a small advantage after 9...b6 10. cd5 cd5 11. Qc6 Qc7 12. Qc7 Bc7 13. Ba3.

10. cd5 cd5 11. de5 Ne5 12. Bb2 Nc6

The side with the isolated pawn avoids piece trades, and the discovered attack along the e-file induces e3, weakening the white squares.

13. e3

13. Rfe1 Bg4 does not look like an improvement.

13...Bg4 14. Rac1 Nb4

Perhaps not so good objectively, but Black applies pressure to White's clock.

15. Qb1 Bh5 16. Qa1! Nd3!

A very difficult decision. Black's activity will compensate for his weakened pawn structure.

17. Bf6 gf6 18. Rc3

Or 18. Rcd1 Rc8, which is unclear.

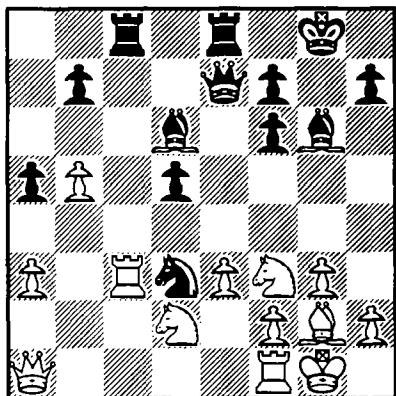
18...Bg6 19. a3

The only move. Black threatened 19...Bb4, and then 20. Rc2 makes the rook a target for a discovered attack.

19...Qe7 20. b4

The alternative is 20. Nb1 to limit the weakness of the queenside pawns.

20...a5 21. b5 Rac8



22. Rc8?

Here White needed to play 22. Nb1 to fight for the c-file, after which Black intended 22...Rc4 before doubling rooks. Then if White traded rooks on c4, Black's passed c-pawn would be fairly strong and White's pieces still lack activity, but if White didn't swap, the rook invades; for example, 22. Nb1 Rc4 23. Rd1 Rec8! 24. Rdd3 Bd3 25. Rd3 Rc1 26. Bf1 Qe4, winning.

22...Rc8 23. a4 Rc2

With clear advantages in space and mobility.

24. Nb3 Ba3!

Avoiding 24...Rf2 25. Rf2 Qe3 26. Qd4+-, and 24...Nf2 25. Nbd4! Qe3 (but 25...Ng4 26. Nc2 Bc2 27. Qd4 is not clear) 26. Nc2 Bc2 27. Qe1+-.

25. Nbd4?!

The alternatives are also unappealing:

25. Qd4 Bb2 26. Qd5 Rf2 27. Rf2 Qe3+-;

25. Qd1 Nf2 26. Rf2 Qe3 27. Qd4 Qb3+-;

Continued on Page 8



Bryan Bilby (left) and Bley Rose both won prizes in the Booster Section at the Firecracker Open in San Francisco. Photo by Elliott Winslow

Attendance at Firecracker Open a Dud: What Happened?

By Frisco Del Rosario

The "Have a Good Knight" Firecracker Open held June 29–July 1 in San Francisco advertised an \$8,000 prize fund at a four-star hotel in a glamorous neighborhood, but fizzled into the kind of tournament dud that left both organizer and players scratching their heads.

Forty players showed up for the five-round Swiss System at the Fisherman's Wharf Holiday Inn, while the prize fund was based on 150 paid entries. After paying out half the advertised prize fund plus a \$3,000 site fee, organizer Jerry Weikel lost more than \$4,000 on this event.

"If you'd have told me in April that I was only going to get 40 people to turn out for this tournament," said Weikel, "I would've bet you 1,000 to one that you were wrong." Weikel, whose Reno/Western States Open draws great support from Northern California, believed that Bay Area chessplayers would be eager for a high-profile event in their own backyard. "I was trying to develop

another Reno Open here," Weikel said.

For two weeks following the Firecracker Open, subscribers to the CalChess e-mail list — calchess-members@yahoo-groups.com — debated the event's failure. Chessplayers were described as a "fickle, hard-to-please bunch," whose reasons for not attending the Firecracker included:

- High entry fee — The advance registration fee was \$105, and late entrants paid \$120. Jeff Andersen, who has organized chess tournaments in St. Helena, wrote, "How do players expect the organizer to rent a site, offer a decent prize fund, pay the required promotional expenses, pay the required post-tourney rating fees to the USCF, and make even a small profit?," while Weikel reiterated that he was aiming for a big ticket event: "You can't have an \$8,000 tournament without \$100 entry fees," he said.

- Inconvenient transportation and schedule — Fisherman's

Continued on Page 28

Aigner Wins Firecracker Open U2300

Continued from Page 7

25. Ne1 Rb2!, and White should sacrifice the exchange, perhaps by 26. Nd3 Bd3 27. Na5 Bf1 28. Bf1, and there are some chances to draw.

25...Rf2 26. Rf2 Qe3 27. Qd3

Black is winning after 27. Qa2 Bb2 or 27. Qf1 Bc5.

27...Qf2 28. Kh1 Ne1 29. Bh3

29. Nh4 enables Black to wholly simplify: 29...Ng2 30. Qf3 Qd4 31. Ng6 hg6 32. Kg2 Qe4+.

29...Be4 30. Qc1 Nf3 31. Qc8 Kg7 32. Ne6 fe6 33. Qc7 Kg6 34. Resigns

White: Michael Aigner (2191)
Black: Alex Wojtkiewicz (2692)
Closed Sicilian
Notes by NM Michael Aigner

1. e4

One of my goals for this tournament was to see how I matched up versus a strong opponent, but I didn't anticipate playing the fourth-highest-rated player in the country.



Keith Vickers, playing Black, tied for first place in the first of two action tournaments conducted in conjunction with the Firecracker Open. Dave Stambuch focuses on the white side.

Photo by Elliott Winslow

1...c5 2. Nc3 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 Nc6 5. d3 d6 6. Be3

The game begins along the main line of the closed Sicilian. Although most common at this point is 6...e6, I have encountered 6...Rb8, 6...e5, and the text in previous games.

6...Nf6 7. h3 e5

By playing his pawn to e5 instead of e6, Black controls the light squares on the kingside for future attacking chances. Such a choice signals the obvious: rated 500 points higher than his opponent, Black is playing to win. A less aggressive alternative is simply castling.

8. Nge2 Be6!

This seemingly logical move is almost a theoretical novelty, as I found merely one game in ChessBase with this position. If my opponent sought to confuse me by leaving book, he certainly succeeded.

9. O-O

The main alternative here is 9. f4 with the thematic idea of

destroying Black's kingside with 10. f5. However, Black hasn't castled yet, so I chose a less committal alternative.

9...Qd7 10. Kh2 h5 11. Qd2?!

This thematic move runs straight into the main point of Black's tactics: the weakness of the light squares on the kingside. More precise would have been 11. Nd5 O-O-O 12. c3, after which White controls the center.

11... Nd4

One key concept in the closed Sicilian is the posting of a knight on d5 (for White) or d4 (for Black). The weakness of the f3-square presents another reason for White to be unhappy with his opening play. Fortunately, ...Bh3 is not a real threat yet: 12. Nd5 Bh3? 13. Bh3 Nf3 14. Kg2 Nd2 15. Bd7 Kd7 16. Nf6 Bf6 17. Bd2 and White's up a piece.

12. Bg5

With Black threatening ...Ng4 to open up the h-file in some variations, this move anticipates trading off minor pieces.

12...Ng4!

And Black declines the trade! The piece is immune, because after 13. hg4 hg4 14. Kg1 Nf3 15. Bf3 gf3, White must return the piece to avoid worse, thereby leaving his kingside shattered.

13. Kg1 f6! 14. Nd4?

White should have tried 14. hg4 hg4 15. Nd4 cd4 16. Nd5 fg5 and although the open f- and h-files look mighty promising, Black has no immediate breakthrough.

14...cd4 15. Nd5 fg5 16. hg4 Bd5 17. ed5 Qg4

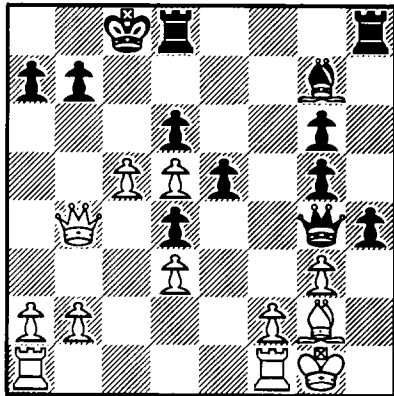
Instead, a series of trades leaves Black up a pawn with a promising kingside attack. Although Fritz suggests the computer defense 18. Rae1 h4 19. Re4 Qh5 20. g4 Qh7, this leaves White with too many holes for Black to

probe. Remembering that bishops of opposite color favor the attacker, I decided to burn all my bridges. Objectively, this plan nearly loses by force, but only if my opponent is prepared to find the precise move order!

18. Qb4!? O-O-O 19. c4

White's plan is to pry open both the c-file and the long diagonal in order to destroy the safety of Black's king.

19... h4 20. c5



20...dc5!?

Black seems to win with 20...hg3, but looks can be deceiving. 21. c6 b6 22. f3 Qh5 23. Rfd1 Qh2 24. Kf1 g4 25. Qb5 Rdf8 26. Qa6 Kd8 27. c7 Ke7 and White quickly runs out of ways to delay checkmate. But 22. Qc4! Rh1 23. Bh1 gf2 24. Kf2 Rf8 25. Ke1 Qg3 26. Kd2 Qh2 27. Ke1 Rf1 28. Kf1 Qh1 29. Kf2 is spectacular yet drawn. It is understandable that Black wanted to avoid any possibly drawish continuations.

21. Qc5 Kb8 22. Rac1 Qd7

For the first time in the game, I felt like I wasn't going to perish in a miniature. It must be a good sign when a grandmaster believes your attack and retreats to defend against it! Even after 22...hg3 23. Qc7 Ka8 24. d6 e4 25. d7 (25. Qg7 Qh4 26. Rfd1 Qh2 27. Kf1 gf2 and Black wins) a6 26. Qg3, White has weathered the storm and has good chances to hold the bishops of opposite color endgame.

23. d6

This sacrifice to open up the long diagonal is the only logical move. If Black has time to play ...Qd6 to blockade the pawn, then White's attack is doomed.

23...Qd6 24. Qb5 Qb6?!

Black forces a queen trade by indirectly attacking b2. This ends White's initiative and forces an endgame up two pawns, but with bishops of opposite color. Perhaps 24...Qd7, preserving the pawn structure, was more precise.

25. Qb6 ab6 26. Be4 Rd6

Here I assessed the position as giving White very real drawing chances because of his much superior bishop and more active rooks. If a white rook ever penetrates to the seventh rank, then b7 is indefensible, but Black's still up two pawns.

27. Kg2 Bf8

The bishop is heading to d6 to guard the c7 penetration square.

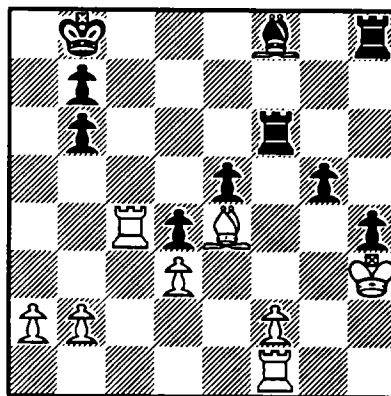
28. Rc4?!

Better was 28...Rc2, defending the kingside while preparing to double on the c-file.

28...Rf6 29. gh4!

After 29. Rfc1 h3, White's king has no choice but to sit passively on h2 in front of the black passed pawn. This violates the rule of activating all your pieces in an endgame. After the text, Black's kingside pawns are far weaker and the half-open g-file provides attacking opportunities.

29... gh4 30. Kh3 g5



31. Rg1!

Forced! After 31. f3 g4 32. Kg4 h3 33. Kg3 Rg8 34. Kh2 Bh6 (34...Rg2 35. Kh1 Rb2 also wins) 35. Rg1 Bf4 36. Kh1 Rg1 37. Kg1 h2 38. Kh1 Rf7 and White has no choice but to play 39. Rc2 Rg7 40. Rh2 Bh2 41. Kh2. Up an exchange, Black should have no difficulties converting the endgame.

31...Rg8 32. f3 Be7 33. Rgc1

Now I was confident that I had a draw, and wanted to see if my opponent would overextend in an attempt to win.

33...Bd6 34. a4

Instead of creating weaknesses by pushing pawns, White should have maintained the status quo with a move like 34. Rg1 or 34. Bd5.

34...Rgf8 35. Kg2 Rf4

Black has no other way to make progress other than by opening up the kingside with ...g4 and hoping that White blunders. White now must look out for exchange sacrifices where Black eliminates White's powerful bishop and advances his own passed pawn(s).

36. R4c2 g4 37. fg4 Rg4 38. Kh3 Rg3 39. Kh2

39. Kh4?? Rg7 would have been tragic.

39...Ka7 40. Rg2 Rg2 41. Kg2

By trading one set of rooks, White's king is no longer in imminent danger of checkmate.

41...Ka6 42. b3 Bc5 43. Kh3 Rf4 44. Bd5

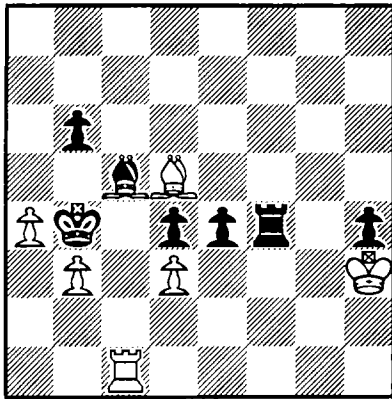
White avoids any tricks whereby Black sacrifices the exchange in an attempt to promote the d-pawn.

44...Ka5 45. Bb7 Kb4 46. Bd5 e4!?

Next Submission Deadline

October 1 is the deadline for submissions to the November/December issue of the *California Chess Journal*.

Setzefandt Makes First Draw with IM



47. Be4 Kb3

After the game, Wojtkiewicz told me that he played 46...e4 with the intent of following up with 47...Re4 48. de4 d3. All variations win for Black except for one, which wins for White!

A) 49. Kh4? d2 50. Rd1 Kc3 51. e5 Kc2 0-1

B) 49. Kg2? d2 50. Rd1 Kc3 51. Kf3 Kd3 52. e5 h3 53. e6 h2 54. Ra1 Kc2

55. Ke2 Bg1 56. e7 h1Q 57. e8Q Qg2 mate 0-1

C) 49. a5!! and now:

C1) 49...Ka5 50. Rd1 1-0

C2) 49...ba5 50. Rc4 Kb3 51. Rc5 a4 52. e5 a3 53. Rb5 Kc2 54. e6 d2 55. e7 d1Q 56. e8Q Qf3 57. Kh4 and eventually White blocks check with his rook and queen to win the endgame 1-0

C3) 49...d2 50. Rd1 Kc3 51. a6 b5 52. e5 Kc2 53. Rd2 Kd2 54. e6 and the bishop can't stop both passed pawns 1-0

48. a5!

Now the game is a dead draw. This my first half-point scored against a grandmaster in a slow tournament game.

48...Kb4 49. ab6 Bb6 50. Rc6

How not to write about chess

"Given a combination of Geometric Symbols Positive which is coincident with the Objective Plane; then if the Prime Tactical Factor can be posted at the Point of Command, the adverse king may be checkmated."—Franklin K. Young

Bc5 51. Rc7 Bb6 52. Rc6 Drawn

White: Alex Setzefandt (1925)

Black: Walter Shipman (2301)

Ruy Lopez

Notes by Alex Setzefandt and Frisco Del Rosario

1. e4

The first move of a six-hour game that started at 6 p.m.

1...e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Nge7 4. 0-0 Ng6

Black can also make room for his king bishop by 4...g6 5. c3 Bg7 6. d4 ed4 7. cd4 d5 8. ed5 Nd5, and White has a small edge.

5. d4 ed4 6. Nd4 Bc5 7. Nc6?!

7. Be3 might be better.

7...bc6

7...dc6?! doesn't give Black as much. There could follow 8. Qd8 Kd8 9. Bc4 Ke7 10. Nc3 Rd8, where White's pawn majority is healthier than Black's.

8. Be2 Qh4!

This move might look odd, but it is quite powerful.

9. Nd2 d6 10. Bd3 Bg4 11. Nf3 Qh5 12. Be2 Ne5

12...Nh4 isn't as good because of 13. Nd4 Be2 14. Ne2 with an equal game.

13. Bf4!?

White can't avoid the doubled pawns so he might as well just make the torture end quick.

13...Nf3 14. Bf3 Bf3 15. Qf3 Qf3 16. gf3 0-0 17. Be3 Be3 18. fe3 f5!

I underestimated the weakness of the "hanging pawns."

19. ef5 Rf5 20. Rae1 Raf8 21. Kg2 R8f6 22. Rd1 Rg6 23. Kf2

23. Kh1 doesn't lose a pawn.

23...Rh6!

Black's greater mobility affords him a slight advantage.

Unfortunately, my king is in a prison cell.

24. Rh1

Cornering the rook. Perhaps 24. Kg1 is better.

24...Rh3 25. f4 Rfh5 26. Ke2 Rh2 27. Rh2 Rh2 28. Kd3 Kf7 29. Kc3 c5 30. e4 Ke6 31. Rg1 g6 32. f5 Kf6

White would have some play after 32...gf5 33. Rg7.

33. fg6 hg6 34. Rf1 Kg7 35. Rf4 c6 36. e5!!

I really like this move. White's rook is freed along the fourth rank, and Black's pawns will be further weakened.

36...de5 37. Ra4 g5 38. Ra7 Kf6 39. a4 g4 40. a5 g3 41. Ra8

Rooks belong behind passed pawns, so this rook heads for g8.

41...Rh7

My opponent spent about an hour on this move! Black can't do anything about annoying checks if he uses his king to keep the white rook at bay: 41...Kf7?! 42. Ra7 Kf8 43. Ra8 Kg7 44. Ra7 Kh6 45. Ra8, and so on.

42. Rg8 Ra7

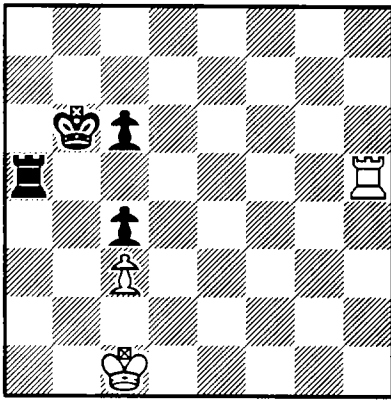
The game could end in a perpetual check after 42...Rg7 43. Rg7 Kg7 44. a6 g2 45. a7 g1(Q) 46. a8(Q) Qd4 47. Kb3 Qb4 48. Ka2 Qc4 49. Kb1 Qf1.

43. Rg3 Ra5 44. Kc4 e4 45. Rg8 Ke5 46. Rc8 Kd6 47. c3 Ra2 48. Re8 Rb2 49. Re4

The game is probably a dead draw, but it took two more hours to prove it!

49...Ra2 50. Kd3 Kd5 51. Rh4 c4 52. Ke3 Rg2 53. Rh5 Kd6 54. Kd4 Rg4 55. Ke3 Kc7 56. Kd2 Kb6 57. Rf5 Rg2 58. Kc1 Ra2

...Ra2-a5 is the only maneuver to scare the white rook on the fifth rank, enabling the black king to come forward.



60. Rh8

60. Ra5 would be a losing mistake, for after 60...Ka5, Black's extra pawn affords him the tempo needed to occupy e3, one of the c3-pawn's "critical squares": 61. Kc2 Kb5 62. Kb2 Kc5 63. Kc2 Kd5 64. Kd1 Ke4 65. Ke2 c5! 66. Kd2 Kf3 67. Kc2 Ke2 68. Kc1 Kd3 69. Kb2 Kd2.

60...Rg5 61. Ra8 Rg1 62. Kd2

Now it was getting late, and TD Jerry Weikel and bookseller Jay Blem dropped to the floor for naps. By 11 p.m., one could hear "I hope that kid knows the 50-move rule" in the hallway.

62...Rg2 63. Kc1 c5 64. Rh8 Kc6 65. Rc8 Kb5 66. Ra8 Rg6 67. Kc2 Ra6 68. Rb8 Ka4 69. Rb1 Rh6 70. Ra1 Kb5 71. Ra8 Rd6 72. Rg8 Kc6 73. Rg7 Re6 74. Rg2 Kb5 75. Rg8 Re2 76. Kd1 Ra2 77. Rb8 Ka4

The game was later drawn.

White: Bryan Bilby (1455)
Black: Barbara Goodkind (1121)
Dutch Defense
Notes by Frisco Del Rosario

1. d4 f5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. e3 e6 4. c4 Be7 5. Bd3 O-O 6. O-O c5

Inconsistent with Black's plan of controlling the white squares. Considering that she play s...d5 next, the c-pawn should help form a "wall of stone" on c6.

7. b3 d5 8. Bb2 Nc6 9. dc5



International master Walter Shipman has been one of America's leading players for more than 50 years. Alexander Setzepandt has been Northern California's 6th-grade champion for not quite that long.
Photo by Elliott Winslow

The a1-h8 diagonal will stay open for his bishop as long as White remembers to make any recaptures on d4 with a piece, so there is no reason to make this capture away from the center.

9...Bc5 10. cd5

White often avoids this exchange since ...ed5 fixes Black's backward pawn, opens the e-file for Black's heavy pieces, and gives some scope to the queen bishop.

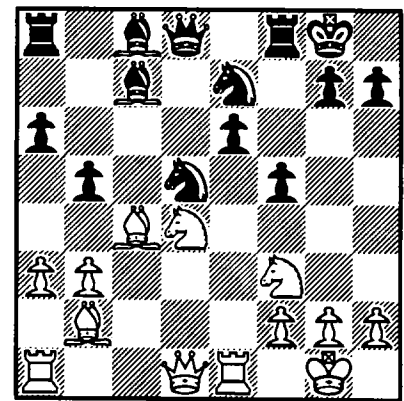
10...Nd5 11. a3 Be3

Risky, since Black's best minor pieces will be traded for an inactive rook after 12. fe3 Ne3 13. Qe2 Nf1 14. Qf1, and White's queen bishop is especially pleased.

12. Nc3 Bf4 13. Re1 a6

The move Black would like to play is ...e5, to control the center and to aid the queen bishop's development, but 13...e5 loses at least a piece to 14. Nd5, while 13...Qe7 loses to the same. 13...b6 looks to improve the bishop by ...Bb7, especially important in view of White's coming threats against d5 (but e6 will figure to be Black's problem then).

14. Bc4 Nce7 15. Ne2 Bc7 16. Ned4 b5



17. Ng5 Qd6

Black is OK after 17...bc4 18. Nde6 Be6 19. Qh5 h6, but not 19...Nf6 because of 20. Bf6.

18. Qh5 h6

Since the b2-bishop cannot take on f6, 18...Nf6 more solid.

19. Nge6 Be6

Especially since the a2-g8 diagonal has opened, 19...bc4 is well reasoned.

20. Re6 Qf4 21. Re7 Bd6 22. Bd5 Kh7 23. Rg7 Kh8

23...Kg7 24. Nf5 Kh7 25. Bg8 Rg8 26. Qf7 Rg7 27. Qg7 mate is another possible finish.

24. Nf3 Qf3 25. Rg8 Kh7 26. Qg6 mate

Summer Temperatures and Scholastic Chess Attendance Rise Together

By Dr. Alan Kirshner

We often hear how scholastic chess is booming while adult chess is dooming, and that seems to be truth here in Northern California. The numbers at adult competitions are disappointing, but the size of our scholastic events continue to shock even the organizers.

One adult tournament organizer attributed part of the success of the scholastics to the cheap babysitting parents get by leaving their children with us for a good part of the day. I really got a belly laugh from that one. I expect that correspondent didn't see or forgot the scene in "Searching for Bobby Fischer" where the director is forced to lock the parents in a cage. We seem to have at least two relatives for every child playing in our kinder-

garten through third grade sections. The number of relatives attending does reduce proportionally as the grade level increases, and no, we haven't locked any of them in a school locker room yet.

On June 23, just a few days after the end of school, the first of the three Weibel Scholastic Summer Quads took place, drawing 202 players. I provided a new, distinctive glass-like figurine on the trophies, and every quad winner received one of these 12-inch sculptures. While we did not have any four-way ties this time, I did have to provide two or three trophies in many of the quads.

This summer, each player who did not win a trophy in a quad received a medal, and the players who attended all three competitions but did not win a first place

in their quads will receive a trophy that says, "I Survived the Weibel Summer 2001 Chess Quads."

On July 6, a free non-USCF scholastic drew 80 players to the Hayward Main Library. The amazing thing was that the competition was on a Friday. For 16 years, this tournament was held on a Saturday. Former CalChess scholastic chair Ray Orwig ran it for most of those years, but since I could not fit in with the library's schedule this year, I suggested that we conduct the tournament on a Friday.

Obviously, the tournament didn't lose any luster — we did fill the room to capacity. Even though the tournament is not rated and medals are given instead of trophies, most of the players were U.S. Chess Federation members.

The library provided enough medals for everyone tied at a specific place to receive a medal. They did not establish a tiebreaking procedure for gold, silver, and bronze in case of a three-way tie for first, so all three got gold and then the next group of players got silver, and so on. Each participant received a certificate. Yes, chess is for fun, but kids, and I think adults alike, do appreciate getting something for their efforts.

On July 14, the Berkeley Chess School held its summer quads. They had one of their largest showings ever with 76 players. I understand that a large number signed up late. In Swiss System events, the director can give a bye to late entrants, or get them in the computer for the pairings, but this does not work with quads. In a quadrangular, we need to group by ratings, and avoid pairing



The top group at the June 23 Weibel Scholastic Quads: (clockwise from left) Michael O'Brien, who won the quad with a 2-1 score, Ewelina Krubnik, Anthony Hsiao, and Timothy Ma.

Photo by John Tu

children from the same schools and clubs.

If a large number registers late, a quadrangular will start late. The only saving grace is that most children play fast and by the third game we seem to catch up to the schedule. I would like to beg people to get their entries in on time.

The second of the Weibel Scholastic Chess Quads drew 264 players, who played at time controls according to their ratings. Those rated under 1000 used game-in-30-minute time controls and those over 1000 had 45 minutes to complete their games.

Eighteen quads of players over 1000 filled two separate rooms, and another nine quads — with players rated over 900 — in still another room elected to play at the longer time control.

The other 39 groups played in the multi-purpose room, and with such a large group of competitors, I had to ask all parents to leave the multi-purpose room. I know the parents would love to watch their children's games, but when the crowds are so large, the parent noise is difficult to control.

At this tournament we had a small chess bazaar. Jay Blem of National Chess and Games came up from Southern California to sell his wares, and Kathy MacLennan had her Proud Chess Mom and Proud Chess Dad mugs. Success Chess School sold a specially-priced chess totebag with heavy pieces and a clock at its table. As always, we had more than enough food for the hungry players (the directors, however, might still have room for sandwiches—Editor.).

Once a year, Bill Bynum, a teacher and chess coach from the Biggs school district up near Chico, organizes parents who bring a number of players to at least one of the summer quads. He told me how impressed he was with the growth of the tournament over the years. Obviously, a

Weibel Summer Scholastic Quads #1

June 23, 2001

Quad 1: Michael O'Brien (1487)	2	Quad 26: Devina Brown(866), Amir Hashemian(855)	2
Quad 2: Aaron Wilkowski (1290)	3	Quad 27: Anthony Kang (864 after 9)	3
Quad 3: Kevin Shen (1191)	3	Quad 28: Quinn Gibson (842)	3
Quad 4: Kyle Hui (1109)	2	Quad 29: Adedayo Abioye (831), Daniel Wong (818), Craig Wilmer (815)	2
Quad 5: Andres Fuentes-Afflick (1202), Eric Tsai (1064), Ahmad Moghadam (1108)	2	Quad 30: Ali Hashemian (796), Eugene Tseng (779)	2
Quad 6: Jonathan Hollenbeck (1043)	3	Quad 31: Michael Ho (796), Kartik Chillakanti (746)	2
Quad 7: Shaun Tse (1103)	2.5	Quad 32: Ryan McGee (771), Rohan Sathe (743)	2.5
Quad 8: Charles Fang (1086), David Chock (1071)	2	Quad 33: Jonathan Hsia (795)	3
Swiss 9: Alvin Cheng (1070), Benjamin Tien (1026)	2.5	Quad 34: Adam Hock (765), Nathan Wang (718)	2.5
Quad 10: Corey Chang (1090), Ryan Ko (1085)	2.5	Quad 35: Aaron Li (761)	2.5
Quad 11: Phil Jouriles (1087), Saurabh Sanghvi (1069)	2	Quad 36: Brandon Wong (749)	3
Quad 12: Robert Connick (1044), Dustin Rudiger (1033)	2	Quad 37: Krishnan Venkata (722), Rahul Bhatia (704)	2
Quad 13: Jason Lee (1007)	3	Quad 38: Kenny Oser (574)	3
Quad 14: Alexander Chiou (1034)	3	Quad 39: Isabel Tseng (746)	3
Quad 15: Brian Lau (1003)	3	Quad 40: Martin Wilson (537)	3
Quad 16: Brian Chung(1007)	3	Quad 41: Dhananjay Vasa (533)	3
Quad 17: Roger Tjhia (970)	2.5	Quad 42: Lawrence Washington (439)	3
Quad 18: Brian Lin (956)	3	Quad 43: Marcie Jhong (425)	3
Quad 19: Arnav Shah (935), Marvin Shu (917), Mahnoosh Moghadam (915)	2	Quad 44: Rachel Connick (231)	3
Quad 20: Joojay Huyn (974)	2.5	Quad 45: David Fong (U), Maximilian Maraoquin (U)	2
Quad 21: Landon Hill (895)	3	Quad 46: Thomas Lee (U)	3
Quad 22: Gary Hsieh (910), Joey Hazani (905), Colin Koutney (892)	2	Quad 47: Luiz Uribe (U)	2.5
Quad 23: Mark Kokish (895)	3	Quad 48: Chukwuemeka Uzoma	3
Quad 24: Trevor Showalter (886)	3	Quad 49: Adrian Lai	3
Quad 25: Michael Dittmer (873), David Smith (867)	2	Swiss 50: Kevin Chan	4

large reason for the growth is due to the dedication of the Weibel parent volunteers, the school principal and custodian, and the tournament directors — let me express my gratitude and thanks.

White: Timothy Ma (1354)
Black: Anthony Hsiao (1477)
Sicilian Wing Gambit
Notes by Frisco Del Rosario

1. e4 c5 2. b4

Fighting for the center by diverting the c-pawn from its control of d4.

2...cb4 3. d4

Also playable is 3. a3, to further deflect the black pawn and enable White to support his center

with c3 or develop the queen knight most naturally. 3. c4 readies to take a huge center grab with 4. d4, and goads Black into furthering White's development by 3...bc3 4. Nc3. 3. Nf3 does not address the center as directly as a pawn move, and while 3. Bb2 seems to follow 2. b4, the bishop cannot know its best square this early.

3...d6

The other benefit to 2. b4 is that many Sicilianers are instantly dumped from their book knowledge. 3...d5 puts a pawn in the center and also makes a threat.

4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bd3 Bg4 6. Be3

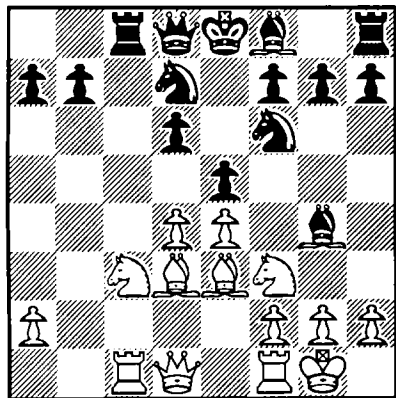
This Issue's Obligatory Wing Gambit

Anticipating ...Nc6, but considering Black's bishop placement, 7. Nbd2 makes sense for relieving the pin, and then meeting 6...Nc6 with 7. Bb2.

6...Nbd7 7. 0-0 e5 8. c3 bc3 9. Nc3 Rc8

This can wait for Black to play ...Be7 and ...0-0.

10. Rc1



10...ed4

Perhaps Black is complicating the position in a panic over the thought of losing his a-pawn after 10...Be7 11. de5 de5 12. Ba7 0-0, but material, development, and pawn structure will be equal. It is a mistake to open the game while trailing in development, especially while uncastled.

11. Bd4 Ne5

This was another chance to play ..Be7 and castle.

12. Bb5 Nfd7

White recovers his pawn and maintains his advantages in time and space after 12...Bd7 13. Ne5 de5 14. Be5, or 12...Ned7 13. Ba7, but he could continue — needlessly — in gambit style by 13. Bf6 Qf6 14. Nd5 Qd8 15. Qd4.

13. Bd7 Nd7

Quite neglectful of his development. Black isn't much worse after 13...Qd7 14. Be5 de5 15.

Qd7 Bd7 16. Ne5 or 13...Qd7 14. Ba7 Bf3 15. gf3 Be7.

14. Re1

Now White's pressure against g7 makes it impossible for Black to castle safely, while White's advance to e5 is on the horizon.

14...Bf3

Another loss of time, bringing White's queen into the game. White's center control and better development prove a sacrificial try like 14...Be7 15. Bg7 Rg8 16. Bd4 Bh3 17. g3 insufficient. 14...f6 and 15...Be7 is ugly, but might result in Black getting his king out of the center.

15. Qf3

16. e5 has matured as a threat, and now Black has to post a stop sign by 15...f6 or 15...Ne5. The knight move risks opening the game fully for White's pieces.

15...Ne5 16. Be5 de5 17. Red1 Qg5

17...Bd6 comes under heavy pressure on the d-file after 18. Qd3. 17...Qc7 directly pins the knight on c3, while ...Qg5 does so sneakily.

18. Qd3 Rd8

18...Qg4, which also connects to the rook on c8, is the safest way to handle the threat of 19. Qd7 mate.

19. Qb5 Ke7 20. Nd5 Ke6 21. Qb7

More aggressive is 21. f4 Qh4 (Black loses a rook after 21...ef4 22. Nf4 Kf6 23. Qg5 Kg5 24. Rd8) 22. f5 Kd6 23. Qb4 Kd7 24. Nf6 mate!

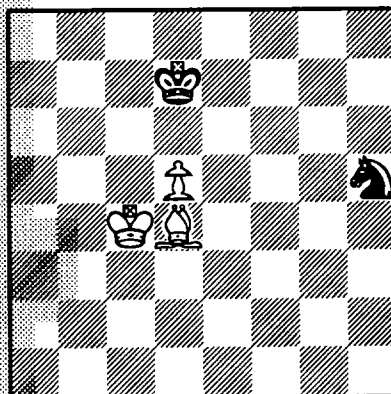
21...Rd7

The last mistake. Even at this stage, 21...Bd6 is worth trying.

22. Nf4 Qf4 23. Qd7 Kf6 24. Rc3 Kg6 25. Rg3 Kh6 26. Qh3 Qh4 27. Qh4 mate

Making the Best of the Corraled Knight vs. Bishop Endgame

The most lopsided example to illustrate the endgame principle that bishops are better than knights is when the bishop "corrales" the knight, rendering it immobile. Averbakh gives this position in his classic *Chess Endings: Essential Knowledge*:



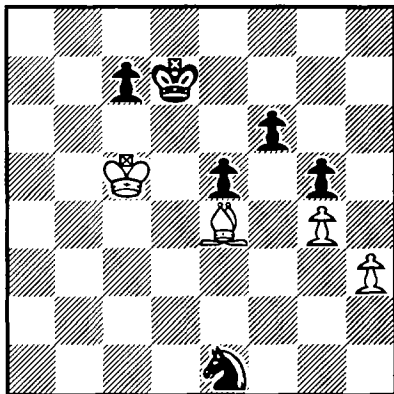
1. Be5! Ke7 2. Kc5 Kd7 3. d6 Ke6 4. Kc6 Ke5 5. d7 and wins.

However, Averbakh mentions, White must be careful not to allow Black to sacrifice his knight for the purpose of a strong king play:

1. Be5 Ke7 2. Kc5 Kd7 3. Kb6?? Nf6! 4. Bf6 Kd6 and draws

Biggs High School senior William Terry and Berkeley Chess School student Kevin Walters reached a similar endgame in their third-round game at the Weibel Scholastic Quads July 21.

White: William Terry (1154)
Black: Kevin Walters (1193)
Notes by Robert Chan, Kris MacLellan, and Frisco Del Rosario



Both players had 2-0 scores, and Terry, playing White, could not invade with his king on e6 after

38. Kd5 Ke7

and neither could he persuade Black to separate from his c-pawn by

39. Kc6 Kd8 40. Kd5 Ke7 41. Kc5 Kd7

so they called it a draw and each fellow took home a trophy. White did not play to capture the corralled knight by

42. Kc4 Kd6 43. Kc3 Kc5

If 44. Kd2, 44...Kd4 drives the bishop away from e4 and lifts the restraints on the knight (for instance, 45. Bh1 Nd3). White should play instead

44. Bh1

Now the knight is dead, but Black has two extra pawns and a much more active king. Also, White's pawns are poorly placed (Black's g-pawn holds two white pawns) and bishop is less mobile while on the same color squares as his pawns. Further, White's rook pawn queens on a black square — If Black is able to trade the white g-pawn, White ought not win with light-squared bishop and h-pawn alone.

Now Black perhaps wishes for a waiting move, so he could pass, then follow 45. Kd2 with 45...Kd4 46. Ke1 Ke3 with strong king penetration, but without a suitable waiting move available, Black makes a decoy of his knight now.

44...Nc2 45. Kc2 Kd4

Threatening ...Ke3-f2-g3.

46. Kd2

46. Bc6 Ke3 — Black's king is so well placed that White hasn't an active move — 47. Kd1 Kf4 48. Bd7 (else 48...f5) c5, and Black ought to have enough counterplay to draw by winning the h3-pawn and pushing the e- and c-pawns.

46...c5

Black will also keep in store the idea of ...e4, ...Ke5 and ...f5 to trade White's g-pawn.



William Terry plays on the offensive line for the Biggs High School football team. He shared first prize in Quad #5 at the second of three Weibel summer scholastic quads.

Photo by Dr. Alan Kirshner

Weibel Summer Scholastic Quads #2 July 21, 2001

Q 1: Aaron Wilkowski, Timothy Ma	2.5	Q 35: Nathan Wang 9th grade	3
Q 2: Aviv Adler, Charles Fang	2.5	Q 36: Shawn Conte, Sonia Gutierrez, Teddy Hanson	2
Q 3: Eric Tsai	2.5	Q 37: Nicholas Goddard, Samuel Shih	2.5
Q 4: Edward Chien	2	Q 38: Tyler Riggs	3
Q 5: Kevin Walters, William Terry	2.5	Q 39: Ayush Kumar, Ahir Bala	2.5
Q 6: Phil Jouriles	3	Q 40: Stephan Carlisle, Kevin Mu	2
Q 7: Owen Lin	3	Q 41: Tyler Fair	3
Q 8: Aaron Garg	3	Q 42: Stephen Lee	3
Q 9: David Chock	3	Q 43: Dylan Mc Carty, Paul Chen	2
Q 10: Tau Jeng	2.5	Q 44: Sylvia Gutierrez	3
Q 11: Ben Sklaroff	3	Q 45: Saveen Sahn	3
Q 12: Daniel Tien, Nicholas Burke	2.5	Q 46: Annarose Lindberg, Vincent Sheu, Jason Ni	2
Q 13: David Rivera	3	Q 47: Chris Mendieta	2.5
Q 14: Davis Xu, Mark Kokish	2	Q 48: Tejas Mulye	3
Q 15: Mahnoosh Moghadam	2.5	Q 49: Vivek Choksi	3
Q 16: Elisha Garg	3	Q 50: Yash Verma	2.5
Q 17: Craig Wilmer	3	Q 51: Arthur Lindberg	2
Q 18: Ryan Tu, Langston Hill, Diane Wang	2	Q 52: Aditya Aiyer	2.5
Q 19: Brian Tsui, Yuki Siegrist	2.5	Q 53: Aaditya Sekar, Paul Carlisle	2.5
Q 20: Adedayo Abioye	3	Q 54: D.J. Cerf	3
Q 21: Daniel Wong, Govind Ramnarayan, Arnav Shah	2	Q 55: Brandon Chen	3
Q 22: Kevin Hwa, Fredy Ferrer	2.5	Q 56: Oscar Deng	2
Q 23: Miles Mabray	3	Q 57: Venkat Munukutla	3
Q 24: Jeffrey Li, Geoffrey Chen, Kevin Tai	2	Q 58: Zack Hsi	3
Q 25: Louis De Pello, Rohan Sathe	2	Q 59: Dalton Critchfield	3
Q 26: Emmanuel Garcia	3	Q 60: Dominic Garcia	3
Q 27: Elliot Sanborn	3	Q 61: Rohan Chakicherla, Andres Chapital	2
Q 28: Anuj Verma	2.5	Q 62: Noel Gomez	3
Q 29: Brandon Wong, Alison Wu	2	Q 63: Adam Alemayehu	3
Q 30: Jonathan Hsia, Emily Chen	2.5	Q 64: Thomas Lee	3
Q 31: Alexander Lee	3	Q 65: Amir Hashemian, David Chen, Tony Chan	2
Q 32: Alexander Lun, Lauren Williams, Stephanie Cheung	2	Q 66: Maraoquin Maximilian	3
Q 33: Isabel Tseng, Eugene Tseng	2.5		
Q 34: Nathan Wang 5th grade	3		

Hayward Library in Its Fourth Decade of Hosting Scholastic Chess

Hayward Public Library Tournament July 6, 2001

8th/9th Grade			2-4	Sterling Deng	3
1	Timothy Ma	4		Vincent Banh	
2-4	Owen Lin	3		Peter Ma	
	Darwin Fu		5-8	Kevin Feng	2.5
	Aaron Wilkowski			Kevin So	
5-7	Victoria Jang	2		Jade Maghoney	
	Ching-Lin Ni			Ronangel Rojas	
	John Larsen		2nd/3rd Grade		
6th/7th Grade			1	Kevin Liu	4
1	Ryan Ko	4	2-4	Adam Alemayehn	3
2-5	Edward Chien	3		Donald Livingston	
	Kimberly Anonuevo			Kyle Feng	
	Igor Garbouz		5-6	Conner Carrejo	2.5
	Jonathan Hsu			Indy Nelson	
6-11	Joseph Wong	2	7-9	Richard Livingston	2
	Patricia Jang			Tyler Hamilton	
	Jennifer Wu			Nicole Carrejo	
	Nicholas Kole		Kindergarten/1st Grade		
	Kevin Chou		1-2	Griffin Sloves	3
	Torab Arya			Satchel Genobaga	
4th/5th Grade			3-4	Jason Liu	2
1	David Wu	4		Robby Gordan	

White: Kimberly Anonuevo (1110)
Black: Edward Chien (1206)
Queen Pawn Countergambit
Notes by Kimberly Anonuevo,
Edward Chien, and Frisco Del
Rosario

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d5

The fashionable name for this opening is Elephant Gambit — apparently for no better reason than that name makes it easier to put catchy pictures on the covers of opening books — but its original name is more descriptive.

3. ed5 Bd6

3...e4 4. Qe2 gives Black the problem of maintaining the e4-pawn. 3...Bd6 protects the e5-pawn with a view toward the Greco sacrifice on h2. For instance, 4. Bc4 Nf6 5. 0-0 e4 6. Nd4 Bh2.

4. Nc3

Prevents Black from pushing his pawn to e4. (KA)

4...Nf6 5. Be2

If the bishop develops to b5, Black might gain a tempo by attacking the bishop, and if the bishop goes to c4, it is blocked by the d5-pawn. 5. Be2 prevents Black from bringing a minor piece to g4 after, for instance, 5. Bc4 0-0 6. 0-0 e4 7. Nd4 Bg4 or 7...Bh2 8. Kh2 Ng4. (KA)

5...0-0 6. d3 h6

Passive, but prevents a pin against the knight on f6. (EC)

7. 0-0 c6

Better than 7...Nh7, when the plan is to play ...f5 with more pressure against e4. (KA)

I didn't want to try a kingside attack with ...Nh7 and ...f5 be-

cause my light squares were weak enough already. (EC)

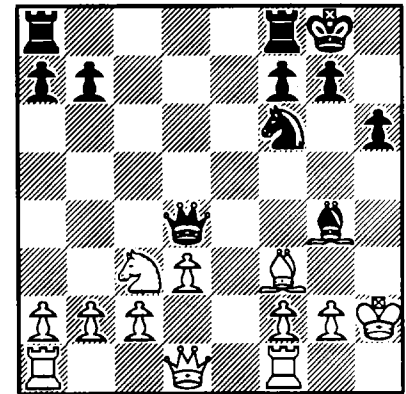
8. dc6 Nc6 9. Be3

Not yet 9. d4, when 9...ed4 10. Nd4 Nd4 11. Qd4 Bh2 wins the queen, so Black occupies d4 first. (KA)

9...Nd4

To clear the defenders away from White's king. The knight is very powerful on d4, so White is compelled to exchange it. (EC)

10. Bd4 ed4 11. Nd4 Bh2 12. Kh2 Qd4 13. Bf3 Bg4



14. Ne4

Now 14...Qb2 would lose a piece to 15. Nf6 Qf6 16. Bg4. (KA)

14...Qe5

With the idea that 15. g3 Qh5 16. Kg1 Bf3 is winning, but Black's invasion on the white squares by 16. Kg2 Qh3 17. Kg1 is not immediately decisive, because White first threatens 18. Nf6 and 19. Bg4. (EC)

15. Kg1 Ne4 16. de4

White can try to keep the better minor piece by 16. Bg4, which leaves Black with a menaced knight on e4, and if Black pursues his kingside attacking plan by 16...f5, White can head

into a far better rook endgame by 17. de4 fg4 18. Qd5 Qd5 19. ed5.

16...Rad8

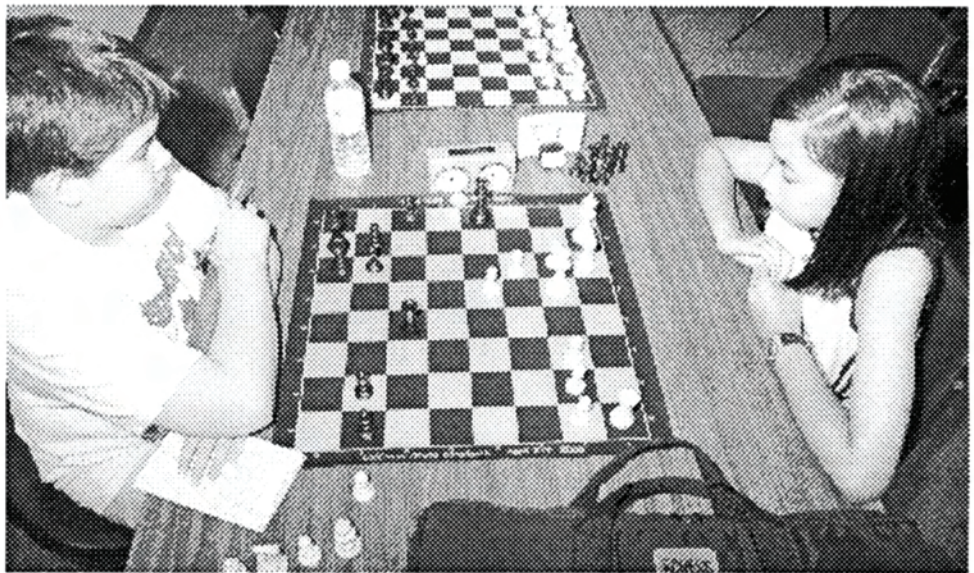
The other drawback to 16. de4 is that Black wins this tempo immediately.

17. Qe2 Bf3 18. gf3

White didn't want to give Black the seventh rank by 18. Qf3 Rd2, but instead the rook can attack the white king. (KA)

A bad mistake. Not only has White ruined her king's shelter, the pawns form a wall that prevent the white pieces from coming to the aid of their king. (EC)

18...Qg5 19. Kh2 Qh4 20. Kg1 Rd6 21. Rfd1 Rg6 22. Kf1 Qh1 mate



Edward Chien, playing Black, and Kimberly Anonuevo shared second place among 6th- and 7th-graders in the July 6 tournament at the Hayward Public Library.

Photo by Richard Shorman

On the 100th Anniversary of the Capablanca–Corzo Match

By Frisco Del Rosario

The Hayward public library was the site of my first scholastic event, back in 1972. That was before parents were barred from the playing area, so when I lost my last-round game against fellow Hayward kid Kenny Fong, I threw pieces not at him but at his mother, who hovered over his shoulder from move one. Mrs. Fong was the *original* Bay Area chess mom, pushing Kenny toward a USCF master's rating at 12 — he was the first Northern Californian (preceding Vinay Bhat and Jordan Mont-Reynaud) to hold the “youngest master” record.

After collecting my white third place ribbon, Richard Shorman, who taught Kenny and me, presented me with a copy of Capablanca's *My Chess Career*, and said that the benefactor thought my third place result was a good one, and that he wanted me to have the book.

Mark Shelton's name was inscribed on the inside front

cover. For a long time, I did not mention the gift in Shelton's presence — remembering myself as terribly lazy, I probably resented the book because it meant work, and I probably saw it more as a reminder of a really crappy day in my childhood than as a bit of encouragement.

After years of psychotherapy and some actual growing up, along with acceptance of self and acceptance of the notion that I play chess more like Capablanca than Tal or Bronstein (players I *wanted* to be, you see), I finally read *My Chess Career* on the way to writing my own book about the third world champion. Part of that growing up also meant thanking Shelton for his gift in 1972.

“Mark,” I said, “first I want to apologize for never thanking you for the book you gave me when I was 9, and then, thank you, because the book has meant a lot to me.”

“Huh?” said the chessdryad.com webmaster.

“*My Chess Career*? You gave it

to me after a kids' tournament in 1972.”

“Oh, did you get it? I just gave my books to Shorman to give to Kenny Fong.”

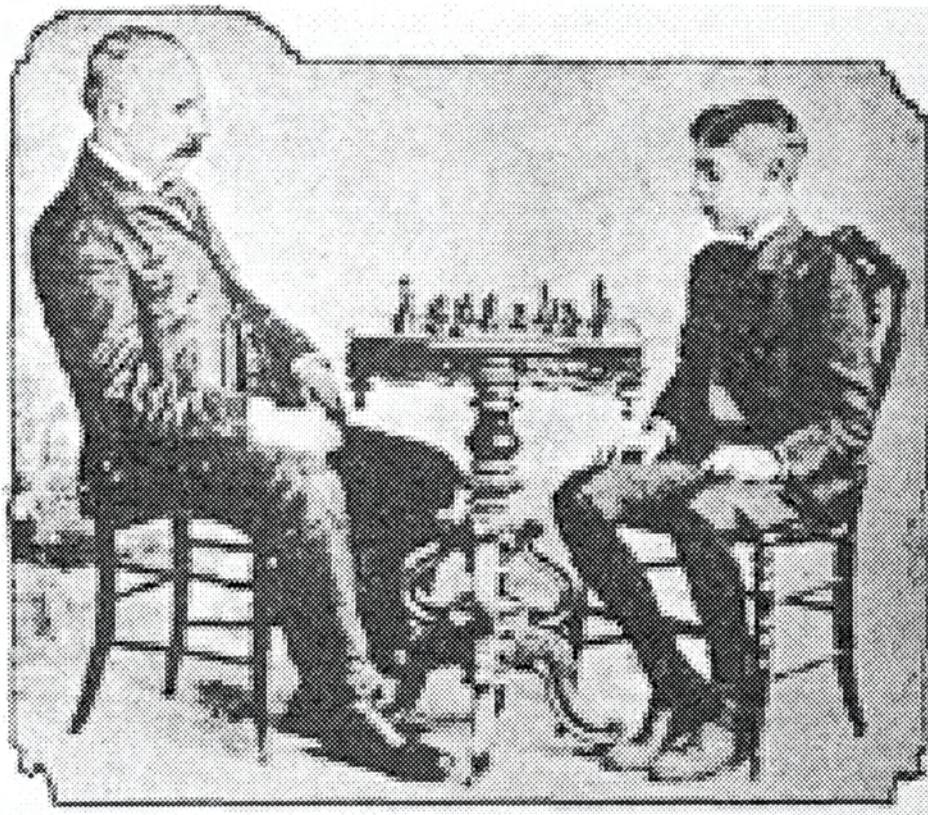
I turned to look at Shorman, who told Shelton, “I'm glad you said that, because I never would have said anything,” and then to me, “That book was meant to be in *your* hands, not Kenny's. He had his own work to do.”

The first game in *My Chess Career* is Capablanca's extraordinary win in his eighth match game against Havana Chess Club champion Juan Corzo.

After his 8th birthday in 1896, Jose Raul Capablanca began to attend the chess club in his Cuban hometown. By the time he was 13, Capablanca had established himself as one of the top players in the club, and a match was arranged between the boy and Corzo, the club's top player. November 2001 marks the 100th anniversary of that match.

Corzo won the first two games of the match, but the third game

The Greatest Game Ever Played by a Child Chess Prodigy



Capablanca, at right, around the turn of the 19th century.

Photographs courtesy the Edward Winter Collection

was drawn, and as Capablanca wrote in *My Chess Career*, “[that] showed me that he had his weaknesses and gave me the necessary courage and confidence. From there on he did not win a game....” Capablanca went on to win the match 4-3, with six draws.

The eighth match game is the second game of chess I ever memorized, after Morphy’s Paris opera house game. After many years of knowing the moves, I would like to share what I have learned about them.

White: Juan Corzo
Black: J.R. Capablanca
Hampe-Allgaier Gambit

1. e4 e5

More than any other first move, advancing the king pawn

two squares helps to control the center and develop the pieces.

2. Nc3

White would like to place both pawns in center, but while the continuation 2. d4 ed4 would gain space in the center for White, it would simplify the position. 2. f4 tries to deflect — or perhaps remove — Black’s e-pawn before advancing d4, but then Black would have the excellent counter 2...d5. Accordingly, 2. Nc3 develops a piece, controls the center (inhibiting ...d5 by Black), and leaves the f-pawn free to move.

2...Nc6

The only drawback to 2. Nc3 is that, unlike 2. Nf3, it does not make a threat. The other side of the coin is that 2. Nf3 allows Black to make an equal counterthreat by

2...Nf6 or 2...d5, whereas 2. Nc3 leaves nothing unguarded. 2...Nc6 is a sensible developing move that coordinates with the e5-pawn. 2...Nf6 hastens kingside castling but presents a target for White’s kingside initiative after 3. f4 d5 4. fe5 Ne4, and then White can attack the knight with d4, and Bd3 or perhaps Qf3.

3. f4

White threatens 4. fe5 Ne5 5. d4 with a commanding center. The solid 2. Nc3 shows its value again in comparison to the King’s Gambit move order 1.e4 e5 2. f4 Nc6, when 3. fe5 is a bad mistake due to 3...Qh4 4. g3 (or 4. Ke2) Qe4.

3...ef4

Both sides have made some sort of concession. White has sacrificed a pawn, a material concession. Black has given up his control of the center, a positional concession. White plans to play d4 and Bf4, after which his material loss is recovered, and his positional gains are clear — along with the center pawns, White can also attack along the open f-file.

However, White has made some positional concessions, too. He weakened his king’s position with 3. f4, especially the black squares — e3 and g3, which were once controlled by two white pawns, are now contested by a black pawn, and the weakness of g3 introduces ...Qh4 as a dangerous threat; for example, 4. d4 Qh4 5. g3 fg3 6. Nf3 g2 +-.

4. Nf3

A developing move that prevents ...Qh4, but the knight becomes a target of attack. A different type of game arises from 4. Bc4 Qh4 5. Kf1, when White has lost his castling privilege — but more agreeably than 4. d4 Qh4 5.

Ke2 or Kd2, which hinders his pieces — and White will soon harass the black queen by Nf3.

4...g5

An important move. Black has done nothing to further his development — the king bishop already had a diagonal open — but Black must maintain his pawn on f4 in order to contain White's development.

Should White castle, a rook on f1 is limited by the pawn on f4, and after White plays d4, the bishop on c1 and the rook on a1 in turn! are also kept under wraps. Later in the game, the f4-pawn might be used to lead a black attack on the kingside since it is the furthest-advanced unit on the board. Only ...g5 effectively supports f4 — ...Bd6 (which blocks the queenside) and ...Qf6 will be driven aside by e5 or Nd5.

5. h4

It is vital for White to undermine Black's support of the f4-pawn, and immediately. If White makes a natural developing move like 5. Bc4, then 5...Bg7 6. h4 h6 7. hg5 hg5, and Black's rook is protected. 5. h4 has further weakened the black squares around White's king, however.

5...g4

The only good move to answer White's threat of 6. hg5. Black cannot support the g-pawn: 5...f6 6. Ng5 fg5 7. Qh5 sends the black king on a death march, and 5...h6 6. hg5 shows the h-pawn to be pinned. 5...gh4 makes a capture but opens the road for the white king rook while giving White the time to go about his business by 6. d4. 5...g4 attacks a minor piece, making a threat big enough to keep White distracted from his plan.

6. Ng5

Going forward, and White will play 7. Bc4 next with an attack against the black king unless Black makes another equal or bigger threat. After the dull 6. Ng1, Black might compensate for

his tender kingside structure with active piece play: 6...Bb4 7. d4 Nf6 8. Bd3 d5, and the threat to the e-pawn gives Black an additional way to bolster f4 by 9. e5 Nh5. Black can also try the obstructive 6...f3 7. gf3 Be7, when the f-file is blocked by a white pawn, which is much harder for White to get rid of.

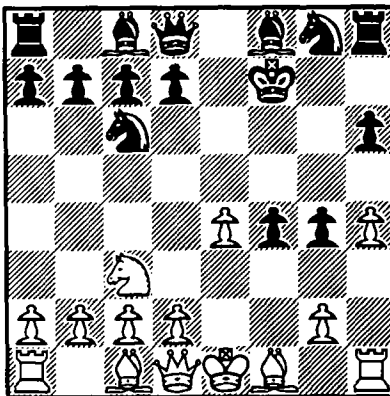
6...h6

The only threat that Black can make, which coincides with the knight having no way out. Again 6...f6 loosens Black's position too much, and 7. Qg4 fg5 8. Qh5 will be the answer.

7. Nf7

The trapped knight makes its most aggressive exit, but it is more of a planned event than a blaze of glory.

7...Kf7



It's worth a pawn in the opening to prevent the enemy from castling, but an entire piece? It is also worth a pawn to build up a strong attack, and White is counting heavily on charging through the overextended and fragile black kingside pawns, after which the black king will be most insecure. Even then, however, White's game plan is very speculative.

8. d4

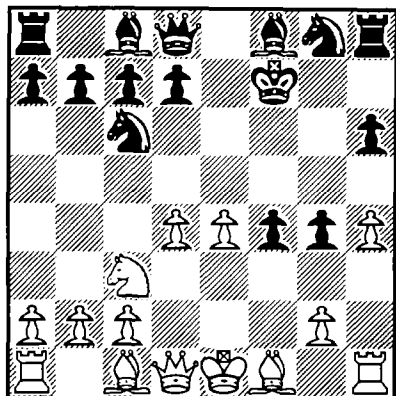
White gets around to advancing his five-move-old plan of capturing the center and removing the pawn on f4. Black develops quickly after the materially-

minded 8. Qg4 d6 9. Qf4 Qf6, but 8. Bc4 d5 9. Bd5 Kg7 10. d4 is double-edged, where Black has four reasonable moves: 10...Nf6 (most natural and threatens to trade), 10...Qf6 (supports f4 and menaces d4), 10...f3 (to confuse White's kingside), and 10...Bb4 (pinning). After 8. d4, White's game will grow ferociously if he can continue with Bf4, Bc4, 0-0, while Qg4 is in the air as well. Black's options for mobilizing his pieces are far fewer, given White's control of the center, but he must fight back!



Juan Corzo was the champion of the Havana Chess Club when it was one of the strongest and most active chess clubs in the world, but he is best remembered for losing three of Capablanca's most brilliant games — the eighth and 11th match games in 1901 when Capablanca was a young boy, and the brilliancy prize winner at the Havana International in 1913, two years after Capablanca had made his smashing international debut at San Sebastian.

Corzo-Capablanca, Eighth Match Game, 1901



8...d5

Black has one trump in this position: he is a piece ahead in material, and White will therefore avoid exchanges. White should not play the natural 9. Nd5, for Black will reply 9...Nf6, developing with a threats to capture on d5 and e4. Neither will White pursue his idea of 9. Bf4, because 9...de4 discovers an attack on the d4-pawn, and when White recaptures by Ne4, then ...Nf6 again develops with a threat to trade. 8...d5 also defends the g4-pawn by unmasking the queen bishop.

9. ed5

The most aggressive answer to Black's threat of ...de4, but now Black can attack along the e-file.

9...Qe7

The most hostile move in turn. Interpositions against the check favor Black: 10. Qe2 permits an exchange of queens, and 10. Be2 self-pins the bishop. The sixth game of the match saw 10. Be2 f3 11. gf3 gf3 12. 0-0, and the f3-pawn is pinned, but after 12...Qh4, neither king is safe, and the game was drawn in a few moves.

10. Kf2

Corzo mentioned this as an improvement after game six, and it does appear that Black is in trouble. His knight is under attack, and White has his eye again on Bf4, Bc4 (which would threaten a discovered check), followed by attacking black royals on the e- and f-files.

10...g3

Making the most menacing use of the square White conceded with his third and fifth moves.

11. Kg1

White's king seems to be tucked safely into a triangle of white pieces while the black king is faced with the usual dangers after White opens the f-file beginning with Bf4. Black's next move, though, shows that the security of White's king is just an illusion, by continuing the thematic attack on the black squares.

11...Nd4

A successful attack on the enemy king requires three things: Greater king safety, greater control of the center, and greater development. 11...Nd4! turns the game around in all three respects. White's king is suddenly in more danger than Black's, given its lesser mobility and Black's chances for checkmate along the g1-a7 diagonal. Black has as many units in the center as White, and even has more pieces developed. He would like to continue with 12...Qc5, threatening two checkmates: 13...Nf3 and 13...Ne2.

12. Qd4

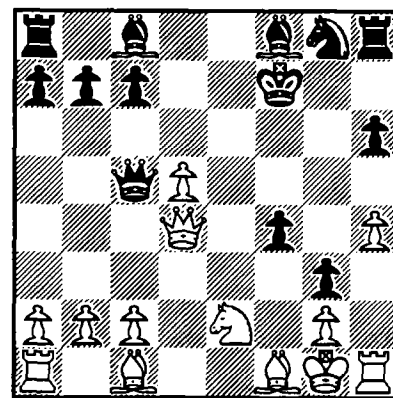
White has seen his positional gains evaporate, and is probably right to restore some material balance. If White continued along his intended path by 12. Bf4, Black could play either 12...Nc2 —

threatening 13...Qc5 and 13...Qa1 — or 12...Qf6, attacking the bishop and preparing 13...Bc5. 12...Qc5 would not be a good answer to 12. Bf4, because 13. Be3 effectively blocks the g1-a7 diagonal.

12...Qc5

The most logical and aggressive continuation, threatening mate in two, and making room for the bishop to develop.

13. Ne2



13...Qb6

An exchange of pieces helps the side whose pieces improve as a result of the trade. The trade 13...Qd4 14. Nd4 Bc5 15. c3 betters the black bishop and the white knight, but after 13...Qb6!, Black's threat of 14...Bc5 forces White to trade, opening a line for the betterment of Black's queen rook.

14. Qb6

The only other possibility is 14. Be3, which loses to a series of powerful moves: 14...fe3 15. Qh8 Bg7 16. Qh7 Qf6 17. Ng3 Qf2 18. Kh2 Nf6 19. Qd3 Ng4 20. Kh3 Ne5.

14...ab6

The menace along the g1-a5 diagonal is renewed — Black's

next two moves both threaten checkmate — but White cannot make breathing space for his king because his bishop and rook lack mobility.

15. Nd4

It makes no difference whether White plays 15. Nd4 or 15. c3 in anticipation of ...Bc5, but he prefers the move that enables the king bishop to develop.

15...Bc5 16. c3 Ra4

Threatening 17...Rd4 18. cd4 Bd4 mate.

17. Be2

Making a flight square for the king, and so limiting the loss on d4 to one pawn. If 17. b4, then 17...Rb4 shows that the c3-pawn is overworked.

17...Bd4 18. cd4 Rd4

Not only has Black won a pawn, he has defended the f4-pawn again, so White's queenside pieces remain confined.

19. b3

A last-ditch effort to take the f4-pawn headfirst with 19. h5 is too slow — 19...Nf6 20. Rh4 Nd5 attacks and defends — so White has to rely on an alternate development for his queen bishop. He probably even felt a bit fortunate to threaten a skewer by Bb2.

19...Nf6

Black's checkmating possibilities along the g1-a7 diagonal are gone, but a back rank opportunity exists now. However, Black's only move to attack the bishop on e2 — 19...Bg4 — would not deflect it from the defense of d1.

20. Bb2 Rd2

If 20...Rd5, then 21. Bc4, pinning. If Black were to make a passive play with his rook on move 20, White would continue 21. Rc1, or 21. Rf1, to make threats.

21. Bh5

The most aggressive move, hoping for Black to protect his knight by the self-pin 21...Kg7

(21...Ke7 is even worse, inviting 22. Re1). Instead, Black's sacrifice of rook for bishop enables the knight to join the decisive attack.

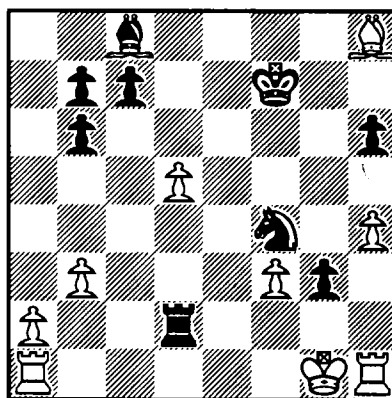
21...Nh5 22. Bh8

White has gained a bit of material, but no mobility at all. Superceding those two positional considerations are king safety and enemy threats — Black's attack on the white king is nearly home.

22...f3

Threatening to bring the last piece into the game with the strongest effect by 23...f2 24. Kf1 Bf5 and ...Bd3 mate.

23. gf3 Nf4



Black threatens mate in two by 24...Rf2 and 25...Ne2, and if White anticipates that by 24. Re1, Black proceeds with Rg2 25. Kf1



Capablanca in 1895, 6 or 7 years old.

Bh3 (with a view to 26. Bd4 Rf2 27. Kg1 Rf1 28. Rf1 Ne2 mate!) 26. Rh3 Rf2 27. Kg1 Nh3 mate. Alternatively, 24. Bc3 hits the black rook and leaves another square for the white king to run — there follows 24...Rf2 25. Re1 Bh3! (threatening 26...Rf1 27. Rf1 Ne2 mate!) 26. Rh3 Nh3 27. Kh1 Rh2 mate.

24. Be5 Rg2 25. Kf1 Rf2 26. Ke1 Nd3 27. Resigns

White didn't wait for 27. Kd1 Ne5 28. Rg1 g2, when the g-pawn will cost White a rook.

Corrections

The July/August issue contains some errors, for which we are sorry. The picture of Michael Pearson on page 5 was taken by Kevin Batangan, not Richard Shorman. The pictures from the Sacramento scholastic event on page 24 were by Michael Aigner, not John McCumiskey.

Neil Brennen's name was misspelled in the staff box.

Frisco Del Rosario, not Riley Hughes, wrote the note on page 22 suggesting that senior master Akopian's 7th move was "reflexive, but not the sturdiest." In case senior master Akopian wishes to smash someone at the chessboard for that note, it should be the editor.

We did not neglect to include the answer to the Spassky-Larsen combination problem on page 27, we just wanted you to solve it.

On page 15 of the May/June issue, we misspelled contributor James Francis Holwell's name.

Three FIDE Futurities at Mechanics'

Mechanics' Institute FIDE Rating Tournaments

June 2001

Group A

1	Carl Haessler	4-2
2-3	Ryan Porter	3.5-2.5
	David Pruess	
4	Bela Evans	1-5

Group B

1	Adrian Keatinge-Clay	7-3
2-3	Andy Lee	6.5-3.5
	Matthew Ho	
4-5	Russell Wong	6-4
	Shivkumar Shivaji	

Group C

1	Michael Aigner	8-1
2	Vivek Nambiar	6-3
3-5	Gary Huang	4.5-4.5
	Felix Rudyak	
	Anthony Rozenvasser	

During the month of June, the Mechanics' Institute Chess Room in San Francisco conducted three tournaments for the purposes of establishing FIDE ratings for young players in the Bay Area.

The A group was run as a double round robin among masters Bela Evans, David Pruess, Ryan Porter, and Carl Haessler. Haessler won with a 4-2 score.

FIDE master Adrian Keatinge-Clay headed the B group at 7-3, and NM Michael Aigner ran away with the C group by scoring 8-1.

White: Carl Haessler (2215)

Black: Ryan Porter (2260)

Notes by FM Ryan Porter

1.Nc3!

This was a crucial game in the tournament. Going into the game, I had 3.5/4 and Haessler had 3/5. Since I also lost my last round game, this win by Haessler allowed him to win the tournament.

1...g6!

Objectively, 1...d5 is a better move, when after 2.d4 or 2.e4 d4, Black has probably already equalized.

2.e4 d6 3.f4 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bg7
5.Bc4 Ne4?!

This is risky. Safer is 5...0-0.

6.Ne4!?

A more testing line is 6. Bf7 Kf7 7.Ne4 Rf8 8.d4, where Black's bishop pair is more than offset by White's central grip and ready-made kingside attack.

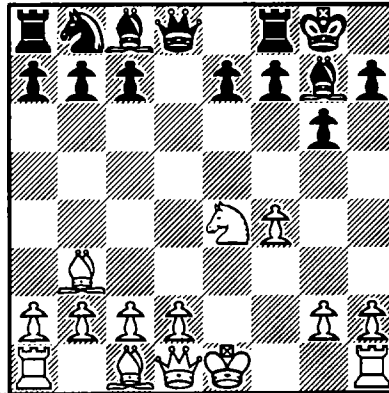
6...d5 7.Bb3

This is better than 7. Bd3 de4 8.Be4 because after the text, the pressure along the a2-g8 diagonal will be troublesome for Black.

7...de4 8.Ng5 0-0

Perhaps 8...e6 should be played to neutralize the pressure from Bb3. Then Black could possibly castle queenside.

9.Ne4



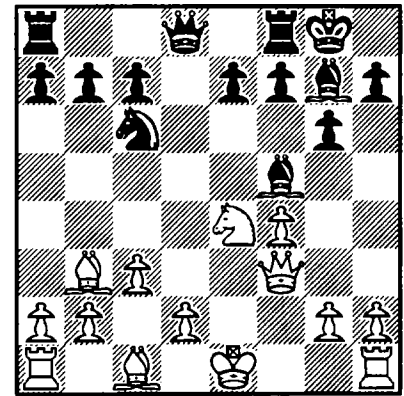
9...Nc6?

Played after spending a lot of time trying to make lines with 9...e5 work. I thought that Black should be able to open up the center to his advantage, but I decided that in lines like 10.Qf3 (10. 0-0! Qd4 11.Nf2) 10...Qh4 11.g3, Black will face problems on f6 and f7. So, I played 9...Nc6, assuming that after the natural 10. c3 I would have a better version of these lines. 9...Nd7 is also a better choice, and then 10.d4 (10.0-0 Nc5!=) 10...Nf6, and Black has a solid position, with ...e6 and ...Bd7-c6 to follow.

10.c3

Now I realized that 10...e5 wasn't as good as thought because after 11.0-0 Black no longer has 11...Qd4 to pick up the f-pawn. If Black can't immediately tear down White's center, the knight will be misplaced, because it cannot challenge White's strong knight and it blocks c5. This brings up an important point about calculation: If you're putting pieces on good squares, then a calculation error isn't so likely to hurt you, but if you want to play a positionally awkward move, you need to double-check that your analysis is correct. My failure to do this got me into a bad position and cost me time on the clock as I tried to recover.

10...Bf5 11.Qf3



11...e5

Still needed in order to prevent d4, but Black has no active plan. Here White should play 12. Bc2 to secure the knight. Instead, we see a series of mistakes in which both sides miss a way for Black to get a better position.

12.0-0? Qd7?

Black gains the advantage from 12...ef4 13.Nc5 (Weaker are 13.Qf4? Be5 14.Qe3 where Black's edge increases after 14...Bh2 15.Kh2 Qh4, and 13.d4? Bd4) 13...Nd4.

13.h3?

After 13.Nc5 Qe7 14.Nb7 e4 15.Qe3, White's misplaced knight is insufficient compensation for Black's pawn minus.

13...h5?

The game is at least equal following 13...ef4 14.Nc5 (14.Qf4 Nd4=+) 14...Qc8 15.Qf4 (15.Bd5 Nd4 16.cd4 c6=+).

14.Ng3!?

14.Nc5 is still good here. I had anticipated when 14. Bc2, when I was prepared to bail out with 14...Be4 15.Be4 f5 16.Bc6 Qc6 17.Qc6 bc6, which I thought I could hold because White does not have a easy way to attack the doubled c-pawns.

14...ef4

On 14...Bd3, Black can survive the attack after 15.f5 (15.Rf2?! ef4=+):

A) 15...h4? 16.fg6 hg3?? (16...Bg6±) 17.gf7 Kh7 (17...Kh8 18.Qh5 Bh7 19.Bc2+-) 18.Qh5 Bh6 19.Rf6+-;

B) 15...Bf1 16.fg6 Bd3 17.gf7 (17.Qh5?! Bg6 18.Qg6 Ne7=+) 17...Kh8 (17...Kh7 18.Ne4! Kg6 unclear) 18.Qh5 Bh7 19.Bc2 Bh6 20.Qh6 Rf7 is not clear, but I didn't see any of this. Because the text gives Black a fine game—and to make up some time on the clock—I cut off the variation after 14...Bd3 15. f5 as too dangerous.

15.Nf5 Qf5 16.d4 Bh6 17.g4!?

Perhaps White should keep the h-pawns on to help his winning chances in the coming endgame.

17...hg4 18.hg4 Qf6 19.Bf4 Bf4 20.Qf4 Qf4 21.Rf4 Rae8 22.Raf1 Nd8

A key decision. 22...Re7 was the alternative, but if one of Black's two pieces has to be tied down to f7 while the other can be active, I would rather be able to infiltrate with the rook.

23.d5!

If White is not aggressive, Black will equalize easily starting with ...Re2.

23...Kg7?!

23...b6 would have been safer because it secures b7 for my knight. From that square, the knight controls the key squares d6 and c5. I was worried about tactics based on the potential pin of the f-pawn by the bishop, but they do not work: 24.Rf6 (24.d6? cd6 25.Rf6 Ne6 26.Rd1 Kg7 and Black has the advantage) 24...Nb7 25.d6 Nd6 26.Rg6 Kh7 is equal.

24.c4 Re2

24...b6?! 25.c5+/-.

25.c5!?

White takes a risk since Black is in time trouble. Otherwise, Black holds easily. For instance, 25.R1f2 Rf2 26.Kf2 f5=.

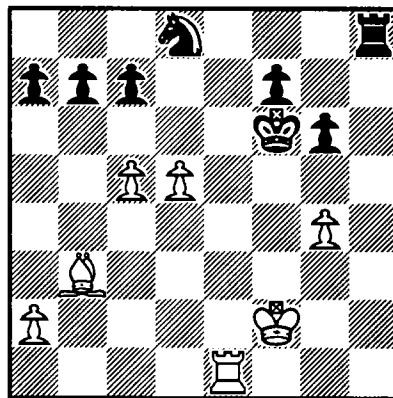
25...Rb2 26.Re1

26.Rd1 is a mistake: 26...Rh8 27.d6 cd6 28.Rd6 (28.cd6 Rhh2 29.Bd5 Rhd2-/+) 28...Re8 29.Rd7 Kh6 with a small edge to Black.

26...Rh8 27.Rf2

The game is even after 27.Re7 Rhh2 28.Rc7 Rbg2 29.Kf1 Rd2 30.Kg1.

27...Rf2 28.Kf2 Kf6



29.Kg3 b6??

Absolutely horrible. Black had covered d8 —White's potential queening square—with an immovable object, but now when White creates a passed c-pawn with d6, he will be able to advance it to the seventh rank with an attack. How did such a mistake happen? It can partly be attributed to poor time management, but some of the blame must be placed on my

failure to play ... b6 before White got c4 in. While 23...b6 was not strictly necessary, having no squares for one of your pieces is definitely a "risk factor" that can easily lead to mistakes. This seems obvious now, but during the game all I saw a very solid knight that was preventing a quick march of the d-pawn. I didn't even think about it as a potential weakness.

30.c6 g5?!

Gives White the f5-square for his bishop, but White could have forced this move anyway by Kf4.

31.Bc4 a5 32.Bd3 Rf8 33.a4 Rh8 34.Bf5 Rf8 35.Bd7 Rh8 36.d6 Nc6 37.Bc6 cd6

Black has no source of counterplay, so the rest is easy.

38.Rb1 Rb8 39.Rb5 Kg6 40.Be4 Kh6 41.Bc6 Kg6 42.Kf3 Rh8 43.Be4 Kf6 44.Rf5 Ke7 45.Rg5 Rh3 46.Kf4 Rc3 47.Bd5 Rc5 48.Ke4 b5 49.Rg7 Kf6 50.Rf7 Kg6 51.Rf5 Kg7 52.ab5 Rb5 53.Bc4 Rb4 54.Kd4 a4 55.Rb5 Rb5 56.Bb5

Black played on too long before resigning.

RS
By Kevin Begley

a) Helpmate in 3.
b) Both rooks swap positions with the knights, then helpmate in 3.
In a helpmate, Black moves first and by making only legal moves, conspires to get his own king mated. In these problems, White will checkmate with his 3rd move.

Summer Family Fun an Additional Draw at Sacramento Championship

Sacramento Chess Championship July 7-8, 2001 Championship

1	Ricardo deGuzman	4.5	\$350
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1	Sanjai Gupta	5	\$350
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1-2 B	William Bynum David Johnson	4	\$125
3-7 B	Cuzear Ford Alan Howe Anthony Hsiao Michael O'Brien Rutraj Pathak	3.5	\$30
1-2 C	Stephen McKee Tyler Wilken	3.5	\$125
1-2 Unr	Vincent Rubianes Shahram Safirian	3	\$40

The Sacramento Chess Championship held July 7-8 was the strongest and best-attended two-day Sacramento event in several years, according to tournament director John McCumiskey. Ninety-two players — including international masters Ricardo deGuzman and defending champion Walter Shipman — participated in the five-round Swiss System event, conducted in two sections. The 38-player Championship section was headed by 11 masters.

Not only did the players come, but they brought their families with them. While the players pondered mysterious rook moves and doubled plus isolated pawns, their families explored Sacramento's Sutter's Fort, visited Waterworld USA at Cal Expo, or

undertook numerous other activities in the greater Sacramento area.

White: Monty Peckham (1854)
Black: Mike Fitzgerald (1831)
Closed Sicilian
Notes by Mike Fitzgerald

1. e4

In the last-round game for the first prize in Class A at the Sacramento Chess Championship, White succumbs to Naked King Syndrome.

1...c5 2. Nc3 e6 3. g3 d5 4. ed5 ed5 5. d4!?

Opening up the Closed Sicilian. It's a free country. MCO gives 5. Bg2 Nf6 6. Nge2 d4 and Black has it easy. White's idea is pressure against Black's d-pawn.

5...c4

Ducking the natural 5...cd4 6. Qd4 Be6 7. Bg2 Nc6 8. Qd1 Nf6 9. Bg5 Be7, fearing such hairy lines as 10. Bf6 Bf6 11. Nd5 Bb2 12. Rb1 Bd5 13. Qd5 Bc3, although this line looks OK for Black. Instead we go into positions where Black's d-pawn is always a move or two from victimhood.

6. Bg2 Bb4 7. Bd2

Wasting time. 7. Ne2 immediately is better.

7...Nf6 8. h3 0-0 9. Nge2 Nc6 10. 0-0 Be6 11. Bg5

Now White threatens 12. Bf6, winning a pawn, or wrecking Black's kingside.

11...Be7 12. Nf4 Qd7

Pointing out that White's d-pawn's is also vulnerable: if now 13. Bf6 Bf6 14. Ncd5, then 14... Bd4 with equal play.

13. Re1 Rae8 14. Ne6 fe6 15. Ne2

Trying to switch the pressure to e6 with c3, Nf4, Re2, and so on, but this momentary regrouping gives Black a chance to seize the initiative. 15. f4 was thematic.

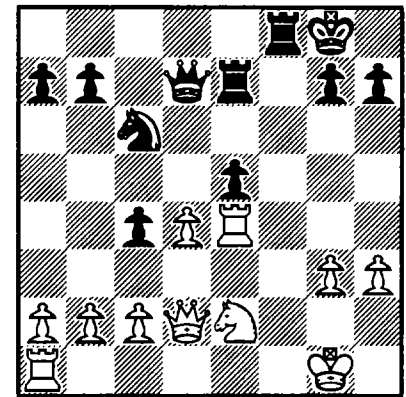
15...Ne4 16. Be7!?

A complicated idea, temporarily sacrificing a pawn to shatter Black's center. Simpler was 16. Be4 Bg5 17. Bg2.

16...Nf2 17. Qd2 Re7 18. Nf4 Ne4 19. Be4 de4 20. Re4?

20. Rad1 was necessary. Now the "weak" pawn leads the counterattack.

20...e5! 21. Ne2



21...Qh3!

A dynamic move, allowing White to have a strong passed d-pawn in exchange for attacking chances against the king. The prosaic 21...ed4 wins a pawn but leads to a grim battle after 22. Re7 Qe7 23. Nd4 Qd6 24. c3 Qg3 25. Qg2 Qe3 26. Kh1 Nd4 27. cd4 Qd4 28. Qb7.

22. de5 Ref7

Threatening mate on f1. White has no time to push the e-pawn, and is hard-pressed to stop the black rooks.

23. Qd5 Kh8 24. Rf4 Rf4 25. gf4 Qe3!

Continued on Page 28

"Reminds me of a European Chess Festival", IM John Donaldson

~A Weikel Tournament~

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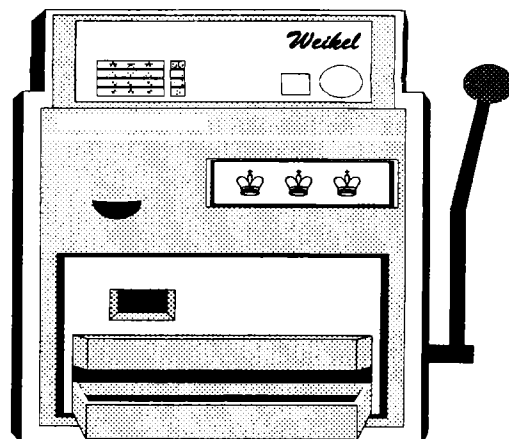
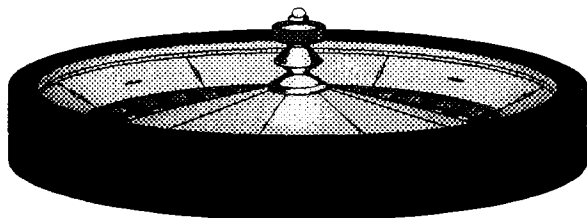
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Cultural Exchange Brings Irish Kids to Visit Berkeley Chess School Bishops

By Lanette C. Chan

Many people view chess as just a game, while others think of it as a great battle of minds in a world of 64 squares, but how many recognize its value in bringing people of differing backgrounds and cultures together through the common interest?

During the latter part of June and early July, nine children and five adults from Straffan, Ireland, traveled to the Bay Area to visit friends they had made the year before, when a group of 11 American children and four adults visited Ireland in a chess and cultural exchange program that positively changed their lives as well as the lives of their Irish counterparts.

Elizabeth Shaughnessy, founder and president of the Berkeley Chess School and former Irish women's chess champion, had thought of conducting such an exchange for many years. In August 2000, the top players from the Berkeley Chess School Bishops

got on a plane bound for Ireland, not knowing what to expect or whom they would meet. They only knew that they would be staying with the families of children who comprised the national championship school team from Straffan, a small village in County Kildare, near Dublin.

Although chess was the link that brought these children together, the American and Irish children shared much more. They came to understand that even though they spoke differently because of their accents, lived more than 5,000 miles from each other and had differences in what they ate and how they lived, they became friends.

This year these same children and their families hosted their Irish friends. The Bishops team

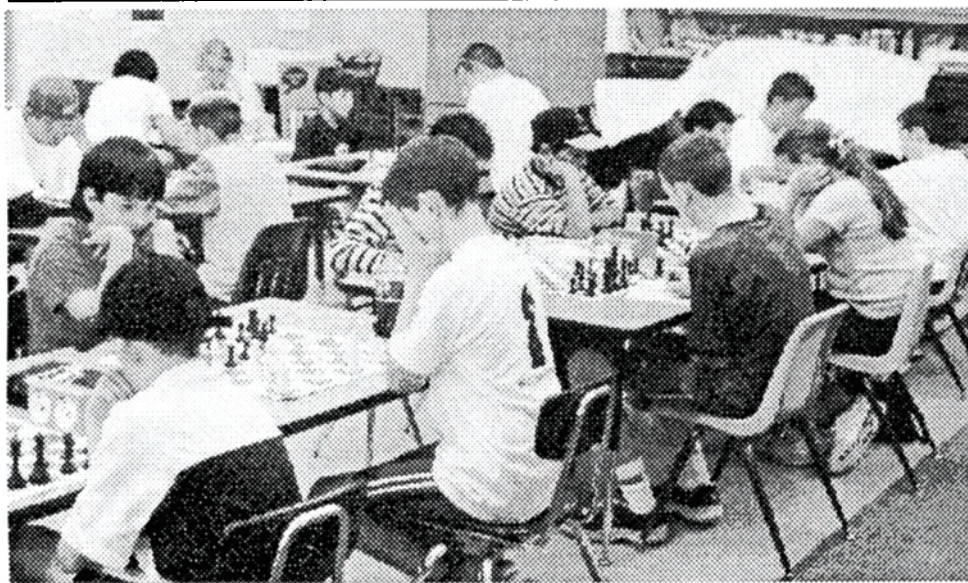
was comprised of: Corey Chang from Redwood City, Gabe Gordon from Corte Madera, Nazee, Ahmad and Mahnoosh Moghadam from El Cerrito, Sam Petty from Kensington, Daichi and Yuki Siegrist from Orinda, Charlie Sprague from Orinda, Ravi Verma from Emeryville, and Aaron Wilkowski from Oakland.

The Irish visitors were: Peter and Sean Coleman, Michael Devlin, Lesley Fennelly, Robert Kelly, Niall Kiernan, Robbie Lunn, Stephen McDonald and Donal Spring. They were accompanied by parents Marian Coleman, Sally and Sean Devlin, Eilish Fennelly and Carmel Kiernan.

"These children were given a unique opportunity, something they will remember for the rest of their lives," said Shaughnessy. "These young children were able to travel with their friends, stay with different host families but also see each other everyday. They had the assurance of being with their friends and adults they already knew while reestablishing the friendships they made a year ago."

The group spent several days at the summer chess camp offered by the Berkeley Chess School. In the chess match between the Bishops and the Straffan kids, the home team won $13\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$. A bughouse tournament was conducted in which the American and Irish players who stayed together were paired together as a team—Gabe Gordon and Donal Spring won in the top category.

The Irish contingent had a wonderful time in the San Francisco Bay Area. They were met by



The Berkeley Chess School Bishops were welcoming hosts to the visiting Irish children, showing them the sights of the San Francisco Bay Area, but when the clocks started, the Bishops were all business, winning the match $13\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Photos courtesy the Gordon Family

a limousine and driven to a welcoming reception overlooking the San Francisco Bay at H's Lordships. They toured the UC Berkeley campus and walked down Telegraph Avenue where they haggled with the street vendors, visited Alcatraz and Chinatown, rode the world-famous San Francisco cable cars, and were awed by California's redwood trees at Muir Woods.

They got a true taste of Americana on the Fourth of July weekend, attending a barbecue and an Oakland A's baseball game that was followed by a spectacular fireworks display. During the baseball game, they were surprised to see the A's scoreboard flashing a welcome to the Irish chess team. To top it off, they visited Marine World, the favorite spot of most of the American and Irish children.

The day of departure was a sad affair. Most of the children had tears in their eyes. "Will you be returning to Ireland next



In northern California, treehugging is a viable occupation, so these Berkeley Chess School students are in vocational training.

summer?" was the query heard from many of the Irish. Many of the American children were heard to say that they preferred going to Ireland to visit their friends rather than anywhere else. Shaughnessy

said she is considering a visit to Mexico for the Bishops, or perhaps Holland. Wherever the group goes, it will surely be another wonderful and exciting adventure for the children.



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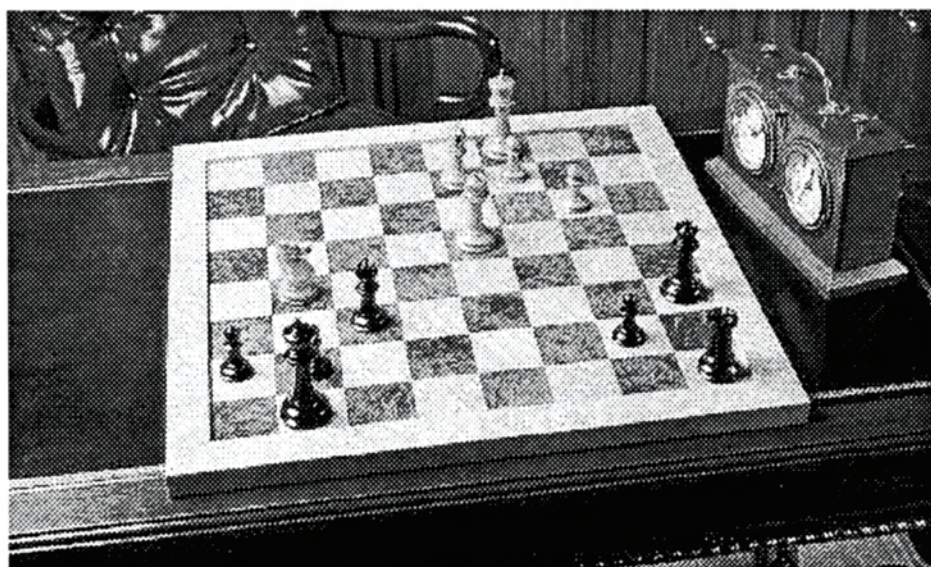
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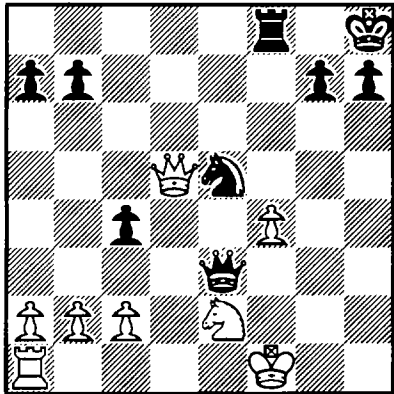
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Fitzgerald Shares U2000 Prize at Sacramento Championship

Continued from Page 24

Forcing the king to the hot seat on f1. Black will then strive to crack White's defenses while White's rook is still out of the game.

26. Kf1 Ne5!



27. Qb7?

There are worse things than being a pawn down—perhaps White expects 27...Ng4 28.Qg2—but after the stronger 27. Qd6 Ng6 28. Rd1 Re8 29. Rd2 Qf3 30. Ke1 Nh4!, the threat of 32...Ng2 and mate next looks irresistible.

27...Nd3!

Surprise! 28...Qf2 mate is threatened, and White can't reply 28. Qg2 because the f-pawn goes. Therefore he must take. 27...Nf3!, menacing ...Re8, was also winning.

28. cd3 cd3

The unlucky knight can't move or the black rook crashes through at f4 and mates in a few moves.

29. Qg2 de2 30. Qe2 Qf4 31. Kg1

Not 31. Ke1, since 31...Qg3 32. Kd1 (32. Kd2 Rf2+) Qg1 wins queen for rook. Black still has to be careful, because his back rank is weak.

31...Qg3 32. Qg2 Qe3 33. Kh1 Rf3

Sharply threatening ...Rh3 while blocking Qa8.

34. Qg4!

Very sneaky! If now 34...Rh3 35. Kg2, and White wins!

34...Rf8 35. Rg1 Qh6 36. Kg2 Qd2 37. Resigns

After 37. Kh1, 37...Qb2 defends against the mate and wins a second pawn.

Firecracker: Where Was Everybody?

Continued from Page 7

Wharf is one of San Francisco's most famous tourist traps, where it costs \$15-30 to park one's car for the day, and BART stations are out of reach. Further, the three-day schedule meant that commuters had to deal with traffic and parking problems three times.

Weikel recalled his days as an active player in the Pacific Northwest, when he could only find an occasional tournament in Portland, 120 miles away — "These players (who passed on the Firecracker Open) are looking for excuses," said Weikel, "whether it's entry fees, parking prices, driving distance, or early round times (the 9 a.m. start on Sunday morning was cited as a bugaboo for some)... deep down at heart, are they really chessplayers?"

Weikel conceded that today's tournament player comes from a

different world than the Pacific Northwest of yore, where they can find chess activity without leaving their homes. "The Internet has drawn away a large mass of people," he said.

* Insufficient notice — Weikel didn't confirm his deal with the Holiday Inn until May, leaving him less than two months to promote his event. He placed a display advertisement in the July issue of *Chess Life*, but without a corresponding entry in the Tournament Life announcements, the quarter-page display was surely overlooked. Weikel also bought the back cover of the July issue of the *California Chess Journal*, which hurried to press two weeks before its scheduled date — even so, many CalChess members did not see the magazine until the tournament was just days away. Michael Aigner wrote on the mailing list, "Many people had already made

plans [for the holiday weekend] and simply didn't want to change them for a chess tournament." Aigner noted that players "plan for his Western States/Reno Open tournament month(s) in advance!"

Weikel believed that the publicity he received through the efforts of the *California Chess Journal*, Burlingame Chess Club president Tom Dorsch, and Mechanics Institute Chess Room director John Donaldson was sufficient. "It wasn't the organization of the tournament [at fault for the poor turnout], and it wasn't the advertising," said Weikel. "If [the Bay Area] had players that wanted a quality, major tournament, it was there."

CalChess E-Mail List
E-mail calchess-members-
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State Scholastic Championship to be Held in Monterey

The CalChess board of directors voted unanimously to accept scholastic organizer Richard Peterson's proposal to conduct the 2002 CalChess State Scholastic Championships in Monterey on April 6 and 7.

Peterson wrote that his goal for the 2002 tournament was to follow tradition, such as the souvenir scorebooks for each player, plus commemorative T-shirts, boards, and sets. He said that a scholastic organizer with whom he worked in Arizona "was run out of there on a rail for not following tradition — this tournament is going to be led by the scholastic committee here."

Peterson is the president of the Chess Education Association, but he will conduct the CalChess scholastics under U.S. Chess Federation auspices, he said. "It will be USCF rated. It is not a CEA tournament." Peterson plans for \$3 from each entry fee to go directly to CalChess.

CalChess president Richard Koepcke said he is revising the organization's bylaws to recognize changes in job titles and duties.

The board scheduled a general membership meeting — open to everyone interested in the advancement of chess in Northern California — for October 7 in Sunnyvale.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I would have appreciated it if giving permission to publish my loss with my notes, that you'd have been sure to spell my name correctly. Who is "James Howell"?

Other than that, I appreciate your tremendous service to the chess community.

James F. Holwell

Thank you again for your notes, and I am sorry for my mistake.—Ed.

Dear Editor:

Congratulations on the honorable mention in the Chess Journalists of America awards, although personally I feel any publication with a Brennen article in it deserves first place.

Incidentally, I may be the next editor of *The Pennswoodpusher*. Perhaps if I work really hard, I might come close to *California Chess Journal* in quality. I'm too square to come close to it in style.

Neil R. Brennen

Shhhh—we could put a different cover on the same magazine, and send it to subscribers in both states.—Ed.

Dear Editor:

I know you're probably not fully pleased with getting "only" first honorable mention, but congratulations anyways on exactly that. Good job! I'm already looking forward to the next issue.

Michael Aigner

As usual, I plan for you to write about half of it.—Ed.

Dear Editor:

I'd like to see some of the competition in the chess magazine awards. *CCJ* seems to me a clear first place, no tiebreaks, without even looking.

Bud Setzepfandt

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Tom Dorsch
(650) 322-0955
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25550 Hesperian Blvd.

Humboldt County

Bob Phillips
(707) 839-4674

Livermore

Fridays 8 p.m.-midnight
Lawrence Livermore Lab
Building 415, Yellowstone Room
103
Charles Pigg
(510) 447-5067

Merced

Fridays 6:30 p.m.
Merced Mall Food Court

Modesto

Tuesdays 7 p.m.
Doctors' Hospital Cafeteria
1441 Florida Ave.
John Barnard
(209) 785-7895

Monterey

Daily except Mondays
430 Alvarado St.
Ted Yudacufski
(408) 646-8730

Mount Shasta

Wednesdays 7 p.m.
George Washington Manor
Dick Bolling
(530) 926-3608

Oakhurst

Saturdays 4 p.m.
Cafe Baja
40029 Highway 41
(559) 642-6333

Palo Alto

Thursdays 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Avenidas Senior Center
450 Bryant St.
(650) 327-2811

Palo Alto

Cafe La Dolce Vita
299 California Ave.
(650) 323-0478

Paradise

Tuesdays 7-10 p.m.
Paradise Senior Center
Barry Nelson
(916) 873-3107

Porterville

Wednesdays 7 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
Henderson at Indiana
Hans Borm
(559) 784-3820

Reno, Nevada

Sundays and Thursdays 6:30 p.m.
2850 Wrondel Way, Suite D
(775) 827-3867
Jerry Weikel
(775) 747-1405

Richmond

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

Ross Valley

POB 69
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
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

Tournament Calendar

Events marked with an star ☆ offer discounted entry fees for CalChess members, and/or the organizers are making a contribution to CalChess from the entry fees. The *California Chess Journal* encourages participation in those events.

Date	Event	Location	CalChess
September 1-2	Sonoma County Open	Santa Rosa	☆
Mike Goodall, 461 Peachstone Terrace, San Rafael 94903 (415) 491-1269 mike.goodall@worldnet.att.net Andy Milburn (707) 538-4806			
September 1-3	Southern California Open	San Diego	
Alina Markowski, 850 Del Mar Downs Rd. #241, Solana Beach 92075 (858) 792-2016 amarkowski44@aol.com			
September 15-16	Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #7	Sacramento	☆
John McCumiskey, 6700 50th St., Sacramento 95823-1306 (916) 428-5532, jmclmc@lanset.com			
September 22	Howard Donnelly Memorial G/45	San Francisco	
John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 imwjd@aol.com			
October 6	Enjoy Chess in Blaine Park	Visalia	☆
Allan Fifield, P.O. Box 27, Visalia 93279 (559) 734-2784, fifiela@aol.com			
October 6-7	LERA	Sunnyvale	☆
Rod McCalley			
October 14	California Scholastic Quad #1	San Leandro	☆
Dr. Alan Kirshner, (510) 657-1586, info@successchess.org			
October 19-21	19th Sands Regency Western States Open	Reno	☆
Jerome Weikel, 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 (775) 747-1405 wackykl@aol.com			
October 20	J.J. Dolan Memorial G/45	San Francisco	
John Donaldson, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258 imwjd@aol.com			

Book Review

The Immortal Game

By Frisco Del Rosario

I read a good book lately.

The Immortal Game by local writer Mark Coggins is a detective novel in the style of Dashiell Hammett, where the smartaleck investigator keeps wry and cool in the face of all kinds of danger. In the case of *Immortal's* August Riordan, though, I always pictured him in black-and-white, while the rest of Coggins's Bay Area was described in color and texture (Riordan is often sinking into something—like plush carpet or a hot tub or sleep—and Coggins wants the reader to be there). Maybe Coggins intends that as a running joke, when Riordan

comes across as a 1940s detective in a thoroughly modern San Francisco with its fetishist sex clubs and drag performers who have day jobs at tech firms.

In spite of its title, there is very little chess-related in *The Immortal Game*. Coggins uses the Anderssen chestnut as a device to show that a computer chess product plays with a more human quality because it finds one of Anderssen's deeply-intuitive moves in a position from the game. The software developer hires our hero to track down an ex-employee whom he accuses of stealing the source code, and Riordan finds the San Francisco

underground to be closely linked to high-flying Silicon Valley boardrooms.

Riordan doesn't visit the Mechanics' Institute chess room, and when he is at the corner of Market and Powell, he doesn't spot any five-minute professionals. However, *The Immortal Game* does what you'd want a good mystery to do—it binds you to the investigator as he encounters likely and unlikely suspects and allies, finding red herrings and real clues along the way.

I read *The Immortal Game* in one sitting, because every time I thought I might put it down, something interesting and pertinent to the case happened.

Jessie Jean's Sonoma County Open Chess Tournament



**Sept 1-2, Sat-Sun, Labor Day Weekend
\$40 entry fee, \$1000 guaranteed prizes**

Jessie Jean's Coffeehouse and Deli, 1426 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa

4-SS, G/2 Hrs (time delay preferred)

Registration: 8-8:45 am Saturday

Rounds: 9-2, 9-2 Sat & Sun

Entry Fee: \$40 in advance, \$45 late registration after 8/29 or at site

Discounts: -\$3 CalChess Members, -\$2 Seniors (62+) and Juniors (18-)

Two Sections: Open, U1600 (3rd section may be added, no change to prizes)

Prizes: Open \$250-175, Best U2000 \$200-125, U1600 \$150-100

TD: Mike Goodall (415-491-1269)

Make checks payable to Mike Goodall

461 Peachstone Terrace

San Rafael, CA 94903

Bring equipment, none provided

USCF membership required

Sandwiches and coffee/espresso sold at site

Directions: Take 101 to Santa Rosa and get off at the College Ave exit. Go east on College about one-half mile to Mendocino Ave. Turn left on Mendocino and go north about 1 mile to Pacific Ave. Jessie Jeans is on Mendocino just north of Pacific Ave next to Burger King. Parking on the far south side of the Burger King lot.

Mail in info:

Name _____ USCF ID _____ Rating _____ Section _____