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CalChess

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Letters to the Editor

Letters may be edited to conserve space and avoid repetition. Correspondence with the editor is assumed to be available for publication unless stated otherwise.

COMPUTER CONFLICT

Ed. note: This is an excerpt from a letter criticizing the USCF's ban on the use of computers in correspondence chess.

... The use of computers in the past has not been too disturbing an issue for the USCF postal chess department, because few postalites had access to the really good ones, such as Chess 4.9 or Belle or Chaos. And the several microcomputers or microprocessors around were not really strong enough to matter much. With the advent of soft ware like the SARGON 2.5 module and excellent microprocessors like the Crafitz Modular Game System, the situation has changed drastically! At its Level 4, Sargon 2.5 is good enough to beat Class C players in OTB play. Who knows what it can do at its highest level? An improved module, Sargon 3.5 is scheduled to be put on the market in late 1980. And Sargon 4.5 is already in the design stage. These two improved modules are expected to play at low Class A and high Class A level respectively. ... What is important, what is vital, is that the USCF postal chess department recognize that at some time, probably in the not so distant future, postalites will have access to very powerful microprocessors and programs. Furthermore, they will be able to use these in their tournament play unbeknownst to the "authorities that be." How do you police the actions of several thousand postalites?

Those who obey the rules will lose. The prize money will go to those who have access to the most powerful computers. Exhortation will be unavailing. So will any effective means of monitoring the situation.

In view of these circumstances, I suggest that the USCF postal chess department either abrogate that part of Postal Chess Rule One which requires adherence to Article 19.1 (a) or do away with the awarding of all prizes. That is, if you want the tournaments to remain as fair as possible.

My wish is that you allow postalites to use whatever aids they have at hand, from computers and microprocessors to books and advice from friends. Eventually things will sort themselves out. Those using powerful aids will increase their rating until they reach the limit of the aids themselves. At that high rating they (or their microprocessors) will play against others of similarly exalted ratings. If these players wish to pit microprocessor against microprocessor, let them be free to do so! After all it is they who pay the entry fees. The USCF doesn't lose! After all postal chess is meant to be fun. If some people enjoy playing "via computer," why not let them have their fun? Those humans who do have great ability in postal chess may find themselves playing against computers, but I don't believe they will complain; it is the game that counts, is it not? Those of lower ability and ratings will probably continue to play against human beings rather than computers, because players using computers will naturally want to use the computer's highest level, thus winning their games and causing their ratings to rise. Thus, everything will sort itself out.

— Gordon F. Ross

WHERE'S MY MAGAZINE?

I've got a problem and I'm getting pretty upset about it. I'm hoping that this letter will bring about a quick response, or my next letter will be to the Better Business Bureau!!

... I haven't heard "anything" about the Chess Voice magazine due me or the gift subscription I sent for in December for a friend. The last issue of Chess Voice I got was the June-Sept. 79 issue. My subscription doesn't expire till 4/80. ... I am still waiting for my issues!!

You have a great magazine; but when I haven't heard from you for over six months and have had to write 3 times I think it's a bit unreasonable. . .

Denis M. Wajckus
Fresno

This letter is typical of a huge stack of letters wanting to know where their magazine is. It is a tribute to John Larkins editorship that each one of them indicates that Chess Voice is very important to the subscriber. We hope readers will continue to feel that way as we gradually bring the publication back onto a regular schedule.

Typesetting allows us to bring you 25-30% more in news and articles than before, so we are gradually making amends for the unfortunate but unavoidable hiatus in publication.

We ask the readers' patience a few months more. Our panic to publish has created a situation where our administrative records are not as tidy as they might be. — Ed.

PRAISE FOR PALO ALTO

I enjoyed your article on Jose and Pedro Marcal, and it is a fitting tribute to them and the many hours of study they have devoted to chess. However, there are two points I would like to comment on.

Firstly they live in Palo Alto, roughly 35 miles from the city mentioned in the article. Perhaps this demonstrates once again the power of the written word, being able to move houses further apart than earthquakes can.

Secondly is your implication that Palo Alto is less isolated than Hayward, at least in terms of chess. There are many people other than myself who have worked to promote chess in this area over the last half dozen years and I would like to commend several who have made extensive contributions. Blazo Sredanovic, C. Bill Jones and George Kane have each taught numerous students. Two Recreation Department activity co-ordinators, James Masik until his retirement and Roy Louie since then, have been helpful and enthusiastic supporters of chess. In mentioning these five for their exceptional contributions I don't mean to slight in any way the dozens of others who are working toward the same goal.

Bryce Perry
Palo Alto

"WEST COAST CHAUVINSIM"

You have done it again. This time it is West Coast chauvinism that appears in your magazine, particularly in the article "San Francisco Teen-Age Brothers Act."

Yes, Joel Benjamin and Michael Wilder do "have talent" (Michael has just become an International Master and Joel's USCF rating has soared beyond 2500). But that by no means exhausts the list of talented New York area Juniors. Jon Litvinchuk, off the record breaking performance noted in **Chess Life**, is the new leader of the Under 16 list. How many Bay Area youngsters make master before their 13th birthday? Maxim Dlugy is probably a master too. In addition he is an extraordinarily good speed chess player. Stan Rozenfeld, Howard Daniels, and Andrew Lerner are other young players whose steady improvement I have watched.

Though Howard comes from Philadelphia, many of his rating points have been won in New York area tournaments.

Young John Jarecki may eventually top all of them. Not only is his rating extraordinary for one so young, but his games show an impressive maturity.

Despite my "protest," I enjoyed reading **Chess Voice** very much and look forward to receiving future issues.

Alan Benjamin
New York

CalChess: The Most Frequently Asked Questions

by Fred Muollo, CalChess Chairman

What exactly is "CalChess"?

"CalChess" is the catchy, corporate-style name of the Northern California Chess Association – the state chapter of the US Chess Federation for Northern California.

CalChess is an association of players, clubs, directors, organizers, and journalists whose purpose is the promotion of chess in Northern California.

Why is California split into North and South by the USCF?

For two reasons: the size of the state, and the large chess-playing population. One state chapter alone simply could not handle it.

Where are the USCF boundaries between North and South?

The USCF draws the line by zip codes, for their own convenience. Look at a map of California. Draw an imaginary line from San Luis Obispo, to just north of Bakersfield, to just south of South Lake Tahoe, and you will have a rough idea of the boundary.

Who runs CalChess?

The Board of Directors. The Board members are elected annually by the general membership at the annual meeting. The Board meets once a month, on average, to discuss agenda items and to keep the organization running. CalChess members are invited, and encouraged, to attend Board meetings.

Who are the Board members?

By name, Fred Muollo, Bryce Perry, Richard Fauber, Mike Goodall, Frank Hamaker, Hans Poschmann, Alan Benson, Ramona Sue Wilson, Frank Thornally and John Marks are the Board members by virtue of their offices.

The immediate Past Chairman of CalChess, Peter Prochaska, is now the Assistant Director of the US Chess Federation in New Windsor, New York, and has resigned his place on the CalChess Board.

Who do I contact if I have a question about CalChess?

Any Board member will be able to answer most of your questions, or put you in contact with someone who can. When in doubt, contact the Chairman.

How many members are there in CalChess?

Membership varies throughout the year from a high of about 800 to a low of about 650. At the present time membership is at about 750.

Is CalChess a non-profit organization?

Yes.

How much money does CalChess take in?

About \$4500 a year, on average.

What happens to my six dollars?

As soon as a regular (\$6) membership is received, it is split into two funds: \$4 goes into the *Chess Voice* magazine fund, and \$2 goes into the General Fund.

What does CalChess do with their money?

The bulk of the CalChess membership income is earmarked for *Chess Voice*, along the lines of the \$4/\$2 split. The remaining monies in the General Fund are spent on chess programs and organizational costs.

What are the organizational costs?

Office supplies, correspondence and postage, printing costs, USCF affiliation fees, as well as computer costs and computer time.

Why is CalChess computerized?

The membership became too large to handle manually, and this problem came to a crisis in mid-1979 when the Treasurer and Membership Secretary of CalChess, Bryce Perry, also took on the job of running the Paul Masson tournament. Processing of memberships lagged, sometimes months behind. By a combined effort of all the board members the backlog was cleared, and the solution to the problem was found in computerization.

CalChess memberships are now promptly processed by Stanford University's computers on a CalChess-written program.

Why has Chess Voice been off schedule, or non-existent?

In another organizational crisis, the long-time editor of *Chess Voice*, John Larkins, abruptly resigned early in 1980. The board was fortunate to find a replacement in Richard Fauber, an experienced and excellent chess journalist and magazine editor. *Chess Voice* is now back on schedule.

If your CalChess membership covers the period from October '79 to February '80, it has been extended by the computer for another two months so you will receive your due issues of the magazine.

What else does CalChess do besides publish Chess Voice?

CalChess sponsors or co-sponsors chess events and programs for masters, tournament players, club players, scholastic players, and also directs publicity toward the non-chess-playing public.

What does CalChess do for masters?

CalChess co-sponsors three annual programs for masters. It contributes funds to the National Telephone Chess League champion **Berkeley Riots** team. It organizes and partially funds the State Championship (Bagby Memorial), which is held at the beginning of each year at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club in San Francisco. And it organizes the prestigious CalChess Masters' Open which serves as a showcase for the best regional chess talents.

Chess Voice offers serious players an opportunity to publish their analysis for public scrutiny and discussion.

What does CalChess do for tournament players?

CalChess co-sponsors the annual CalChess Class Championships at Berkeley, as well as the CalChess Open. CalChess serves as the USCF regional clearinghouse, keeping tournament conflicts to a minimum and thereby provides more opportunities to play. CalChess also monitors the performance of individual organizers and censures misconduct for players' protection.

Chess Voice regularly publishes the best games of class players, gives tournament results in all classes, and keeps a comprehensive and up-to-date calendar of area tournaments.

What does CalChess do for club players?

CalChess organizes and directs two annual club tournaments – the CalChess Team Championships, and the CalChess Tournament of Club Champions (combined this year). It supports and organizes matches between clubs, assists new clubs in their formation and orientation to the chess scene, and publicizes club meetings in the "Places to Play" column in *Chess Voice*.

What does CalChess do for scholastic chess?

It sponsors the annual CalChess Scholastic Championship at Lockheed in Sunnyvale, assists school districts in planning local competitions, offers instruction by strong players, and even funds travel for outstanding regional juniors to national competitions.

How does CalChess reach the non-chess-playing public?

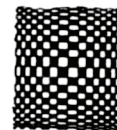
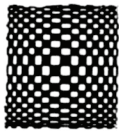
CalChess has attracted publicity in all the media – newspapers, magazines, radio and television through media liaisons and press releases. It also sponsors the CalChess Master Tour through which the general public is exposed to no-cost simultaneous exhibitions by regional masters. CalChess has also given its services as a specialty consultant to game stores, libraries, recreational centers, computer firms, and advertising agencies.

Does CalChess pay any salaries?

The Editor of *Chess Voice* and all other officers are unpaid, volunteer workers.

What are the future goals of CalChess?

First of all, to keep the organization running, which is quite a job in itself. It appears that CalChess is now in a stable position after a series of crises. In the future, we will be attempting to secure IRS educational tax status, to hold FIDE rated tournaments in the area, and to attract major tournaments like the US Open to the area. We want to promote chess in Northern California.



With the Masters at Lone Pine

by R. E. Fauber

“They came from all over” would be a fitting motto for the Louis Statham Masters Plus tournament held annually in Lone Pine, California. It was not just the players, who congregated from 10 different countries this year, but also the spectators, who came hundreds of miles just to witness the drama of the competition.

In the skittles room could be found such name players as David Strauss, John Donaldson, and Richard Lobo. It was not safe to sit down to a friendly five minute game without being in jeopardy of a thrashing from a well-known master. They only came to watch. Strauss’ 2400 rating was not enough to compete, but his love of chess was enough to bring him 230 miles north from Los Angeles to view the concluding rounds, in which he used to take part in years gone by.

This year’s tournament had the highest average rating ever — 2458 — for the 43 player field. The list included winners from previous years such as Florin Gheorghiu, Yuri Balashov, Bent Larsen, Svetozar Gligoric, Vladimir Liberzon, Oscar Panno, Walter Browne, and Arthur Bisguier.

The big money went to none of them. Instead Roman Dzhindzhikhashvili of Israel, a migrant from the Soviet Union, gained the palm with a 7-2 score. His triumph earned him \$15,000 but also resulted in total exhaustion. Awakened by fellow emigre Anatoly Lein, when he overslept the awards banquet, Dzhindzhi responded, “No, no, I don’t want no prize.” He did show up to take his check, smiling but clearly tired.

Dzhindzhikhashvili earned his GM title after departing the Soviet Union in 1976 and was also clear winner at Hastings, 1977-78. His wife and three children currently reside in Israel, but he has been based out of the United States for several months. Rumors have it that he is considering — but has not yet decided — to settle on American soil. A Soviet Georgian, he spent some time as a boxer before getting to the more draining combat of being a grandmaster.

Dzhindzhikhashvili is very friendly and unpretentious. He seems relaxed during his games, but he has a nervous penchant for one cigarette after another. During the decisive last round game he consumed 26 cigarettes during the time it took him to make 45 moves. That is an official count from the ash tray by his side. For spectators who wanted to congratulate him, he had a warm smile, a willingness to talk, and he never blew smoke in their faces.

Topping It Off With Second

Scoring an upset against resurgent Efim Geller, a perennial tower of Soviet chess, Tony Miles took clear second with 6½-2½. Both Miles and Dzhindzhikashvili became involved in what kibitzers call “the Swiss gambit.” In their first two rounds they both lost and drew a game. After that they swept through their competition, including the toughies at the end. Of this Miles said, “I only had to play one good game, and I rose to the occasion.” That was his money round game against Geller.

Miles is unique among British grandmasters because he has never written an openings book. Asked why, he replied, “I win a few tournaments. I don’t need the money that badly.”

He does, however, badly need to feel funny. At the awards banquet he was the only one of the tournament winners to prepare

remarks. He even pulled the old gag of saying, “I can only speak from notes” and then unrolled a long sheet of toilet paper. His brief remaining remarks were about why he had not won the tournament.

After he won his final game to claim the \$10,000 second prize he analyzed with the famous Geller and kept interjecting skis, the garbled kind. “Is winski. . . Aw come onski. . . This is kaputsky.” This is how to analyze with someone who has won more tournaments than one has years? Since Geller knows some English, enough to know that this is not how the language is formed, the whole episode was strikingly insulting to a major grandmaster.

Miles is funny but graceless.

They Also Serve

Geller, Bent Larsen of Denmark, Lev Alburt of the USA, Yuri Balashov of the USSR, and Florin Gheorghiu of Rumania all gained \$3940 by taking six points against the field. That is not a bad pay day either.

John Fedorowicz of New York, Eugene Ermenkov of Bulgaria, Jack Peters of Los Angeles, Oscar Panno of Argentina, and Svetozar Gligoric of Yugoslavia all won \$520 for their 5½ performances. For the grandmaster, who had to fight hard for that extra half point in the final round, it was a matter of pride. For men of the caliber of Peters, it was a matter of earning what is a grandmaster guarantee against loss in the tournament — \$500. Peters is very popular among American chess players because he has the ability to speak all their languages, from fan to ambitious master. He looks so happy just doing what he is doing that you have to respect his ability to do it so well.

I’m Normal; You’re Normal

The Statham tournament is an important arena for young American players seeking recognition and international norms. Grandmasters Larry Christiansen and Yasser Seirawan first proved themselves against quality international competition at Lone Pine.

This year the morning star on the horizon was Michael Wilder of New Jersey. Although the 17 year-old Wilder lost to Jay Whitehead of San Francisco, he also played eight grandmasters and scored 5-3 against them. This gave him an international master norm and title.

His IM union card secured, Wilder is not sure if he will become a chess pro. “It will depend on how my game develops,” he said. Wilder will graduate high school this year and intends to take a year off to “study.” This is an important aspect of chess development but one which comes late for the better players.



Michael Wilder

Lone Pine Cont.

Wilder has never had a teacher but has simply played in the strongest tournaments available in the New York metropolitan area. This has endowed his play with a practical simplicity, which he combines with a puckish sophistication of character. During the analysis after his draw with Oscar Panno, Wilder plied the grandmaster with all sorts of questions. He explained to Panno, "I really want to learn about this game." That is the directness of simplicity.

His sophistication is more in what he does not say than what he does. There was a silent laughter in the deadpan way he summed up his Lone Pine performance for the press: "I was sort of lucky." He has the confidence of a New Yorker but good manners. And he can insult you with his politeness, which is a sign of good breeding.

Ron Henley of Texas and Doug Root of Diamond Bar, California also earned IM norms.

For Jay Whitehead Lone Pine is always a tumultuous time of highs and lows. This year was no exception. In affairs of the heart it was a nadir. In all-night backgammon it was one high too many. Nonetheless, at the end of round four Whitehead found himself a co-leader with 3½ points. Dizzy with success, he plummeted into the middle of the tournament with three straight losses. Then he reversed form and drew with Peter Biyiasas. This left him in a position where he only needed a draw in the last round to earn an IM norm.

He approached Nick deFirmian to suggest a quick draw before the final game. Aware that deFirmian had nothing in particular to gain by winning against him, Whitehead couched his offer with a pleading urgency which offended deFirmian. The result was a trial by combat in which God would determine whether Whitehead was right in wanting an easy draw or deFirmian in standing on principle.

Sicilian Defense (E51a. B23)

J. Whitehead — N. deFirmian: 1 e4, c5; 2 Nf3, d6; 3 Nc3, a6; 4 g3, Nc6; 5 Bg2, g6; 6 0-0, Bg7; 7 d3, e5; 8 Nd5!, Nge7.

This general layout favors Black against White's formation, but it was prudent to play first 8. . . , h6. The double exchange of pieces helps White.

9 Bg5, h6?!, 10 Bf6, 0-0; 11 Ne7, Ne7; 12 Bg7, Kg7; 13 c3, Nc6; 14 Nd2, Qe7; 15 f4, f6.

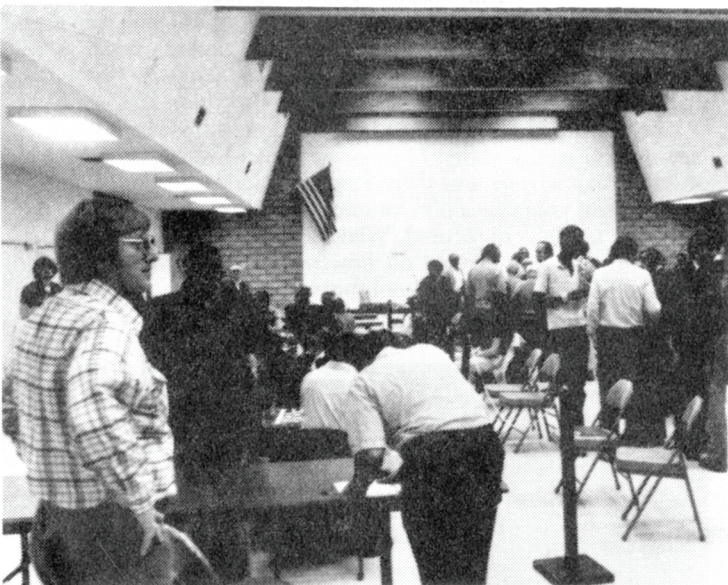
Instead of giving a draw, Black is now fighting to get one. The move 16 f5 would be a chicken bone in Black's throat if he could not close things by. . . , g5.

16 Nc4, Be6; 17 Ne3, Bg8; 18 h4, ef; 19 gf, Kh8; 20 h5, Bh7; 21 hg, Bg6; 22 Qg4, Qg7; 23 Rf3, f5; 24 Qh4, fe; 25 de, Be4.

Clearly God favors giving draws to colleagues in games which mean nothing to you. Black is blue.

26 Rg3, Qh7; 27 Be4, Qe4; 28 Qh6, Qh7; 29 Qh7, Kh7; 30 Kg2, Rf6; 31 Nf5, 1-0.

Game and first IM norm to Mr. Whitehead.



Spectators gather for last round

Notes and Quotes

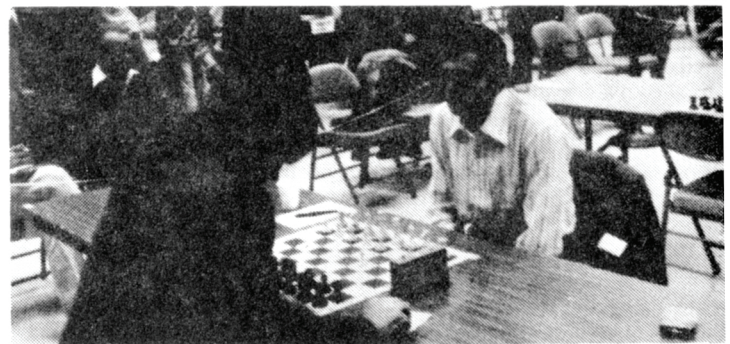
After round six Sammy Reshevsky became ill and had to be rushed to a hospital. His EKG did not make the doctors very happy, but they gave him some medication and released him. When the tournament directors phoned him the next day to see if he was going to play he cheerfully replied, "Sure, I'm no quitter." His sickness hardly affected his play, as he blew deFirmian off the board.

Lone Pine draws many spectators, but they all want to watch the same tense game at once. When such a contest ends, the room seems to tilt as they all shift to the next game of interest.

The man-watchers at the tournament thought deFirmian was the highest quality centerfold material but rated Svetozar Gligoric high for his suave demeanor.

What advantage do grandmasters have over the rest of us players? Some overheard comments may shed some light. Anatoly Lein declared to another player, "I don't know any theory." Analyzing his game with Peter, Bent Larsen reached a very complex situation and asserted, "I don't understand this kind of position. I never have." Larsen won anyway.

Here are the two games which decided first and second.



Dzhindzhikhashvili vs. Albur

English Opening (R26a, A18)

L. Albur — R. Dzhindzhikhashvili: 1 c4, Nf6; 2 Nc3, e6; 3 e4 d5; Bc6, Bc6; 16 Qb3, Rfe8; 17 Re3, Rad8; 18 Rd4, h6; 19 h3, b6; 20 Qd1 10 dc, Bd7; 11 Bg5, Be7; 12 Be7, Qe7; 13 Rfel, Qe6; 14 Rad1, a6; 15 Bc6, Bc6; 16 Qb3, Rfe8; 17 e3, Rad8; 18 Rd4, h6; 19 h3, b6; 20 Qd1, Bb7; 21 Nh4, f6; 22 Rg4, g5; 23 ef, Qf6; 24 Re8, Re8; 25 Nf3, Re4; 26 Re4, de; 27 Nd4, Kf7; 28 Qh5, Kf8; 29 Qg4, Ke7; 30 Qe2, c5; 31 Nc2, Qe6; 32 Ne3?!, Qa2; 33 Nf5, Kd7; 34 Nh6, Qd5; 35 Ng4, Kc7.

"Now Dzhin is better." Vitaly Zaltsman told me. Albur has clearly been striving to win. He was very nervous. Dzhindzi took 1:14 to make his first moves to Albur's 10 minutes. While Dzhindzi sat and smoked, Albur could not stand to be at the board but could not stand to be too far away either and so sat in a corner nearby waiting for sign of movement. By move 13 the time signatures were Albur :45 and Dzhindzi 1:52. At move 35 time consumption was about even, as Dzhindzi had found out what he wanted to know and Albur searched for things which were not there.

36 Qe3, Kb8; 37 Nf6, Qf5; 38 Qg3, Ka7; 39 Ne8, e3!; 40 Qe3, Qb1; 41 Kh2, Qb2; 42 Nd6, Qb3; 43 Qg5, Qe6.

Here 44 Nb7 and an RP race seems to be the prudent course and next move Kgl is more solid.

44 Qd8, Qe5; 45 g3, Qe2; 46 Qf8, Bf3!; 47 Qf7, Kb8; 48 Qg8, Kc7; 49 Ne8, Kc6; 50 Qg6, Kb5; 51 Qb1, Ka4; 52 Kg1.

The problem is that continued checks lead to 52 Qal, Kb3; 53 Qb1, Kc3; 54 Qc1, Kd3; 55 Qb1, Kd2, 56 Qb2, Ke1 when Black wins the resulting minor piece ending.

52 ... , Qe8; 53 Qa2, Kb5; 54 c4, Kc6; 55 Qa4, b5; 56 Qa6, Kc7; 57 Qa5, Kb7; 58 cb, Qg6!

Many GMs still thought this crown, but Black has opassed BP, and that is all he needs.

59 Kh2, c4; 60 Qa3, Bd5; 61 h4, Qf6; 62 f4, c3; 63 Qc5, Qe6; 64 f5, Qe2; 65 Kh3, Bg2; 66 Kh2, Bf3 0-1.

A fluke of the Swiss System put Geller, as the higher rated player, in the position of getting his "due" color, Black, against Miles. Paired against Larsen two rounds earlier, he had to take a second Black in a row because Larson, higher-rated, was "due" white.

"Mr. Kashdan is very nice. He always gives me Black," Geller remarked to a tournament official.

English Opening (R38a, A13)

A. Miles – E. Geller: 1 c4, e6; 2 g3, d5; 3 Bg2, Nf6; 4 Nf3, Be7; 5 b3, 0-0; 6 Bb2, c5; 7 0-0, Nc6; 8 e3, d4; 9 ed, cd; 10 Re1, Re8; 11 a3, a5; 12 d3, Bc5; 13 Nbd2, e5; 14 Ng5, Bg4.

Worth considering was 14 ... Bf5. The trade of light-squared bishops gives White's pieces a number of useful squares, while Black's pawns occlude counterbalancing dark square occupation.

15 Bf3, Bf3; 16 Qf3, h6; 17 Nge4, Ne4; 18 Ne4, Bf8; 19 Bc1, Re6; 20 h4, Be7; 21 h5, Qf8; 22 Qf5, Rb8; 23 g4, b5; 24 Kh2, bc; 25 bc, Rb3; 26 Rg1, Ba3.

The alternative was 26 ... Rd3 when 27 g5, hg; 28 Bg5! continues the attack. From his mute post mortem, Geller still believed in his position at this point. It is clear that he will have the better ending, but he never reaches an ending.

27 Ra3, Ra3; 28 Ba3, Qa3; 29 g5, Qf8; 30 Nf6, gf; 31 gh, Kh8; 32 Rg7, Qg7; 33 hg, Kg7; 34 Qg4, Kh7; 35 h6! Kh6; 36 Qg8, Re7; 37 Qc8, Re6; 38 Qh8, 1-0.

Northern Californians contributed exciting brilliance to the tournament in round eight.

Gruenfeld Defense (D66a, D90)

J. Kaplan – V. Liberzon: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, g6; 3 Nc3, d5; 4 Nf3, Bg7; 5 cd, Nd5; 6 e4, Nc3; 7 bc, c5; 8 Be3, 0-0; 9 Rc1, cd; 10 cd, e6.

Perhaps the old ways are best. White's Nf3 is the way it was played against Gruenfeld in the inaugural games of 1922. "It's a game" was Kaplan's remark to the suggestion of 10 ... Bg4; 11 Be2.

11 Bc4, Nc6; 12 0-0, Na5; 13 Bd3, b6; 14 h4!

All the old texts are quite explicit that White had better get an attack going in the middle game or face an unfavorable ending. If 14

..., b5; 15 e5 – Ng5 starts threats against the dark squares.

14 ... Bb7; 15 h5, gh; 16 d5!, ed; 17 e5, d4; 18 Bh7, Kh7

This is a lackeyed sacrifice, but Kaplan gives it a newness, the way he does to so many other chess ideas. It is not immediately decisive and so requires oodles of judgment as well as calculation.

19 Qd3, Kg8; 20 Ng5, f5?

Kaplan would have looked more profound after the better 20 ... Re8; 21 Bd2 to be followed by f4 - f5 - f6. That would be a real Julio attack, patiently marching forward, ka-PLAN, ka-PLAN, ka-PLAN.

21 ef, Rf6; 22 Qh7, Kf8; 23 Bd2, Rd6.

Obviously no better is 23 ... Nc6; 24 Rc6, Bc6; 25 Bb4, Rd6; 26 Ne6.

24 Qf5, Kg8; 25 Qf7, Kh8; 26 Rc7, Qf6; 27 Qh5, Kg8; 28 Qh7, Kf8; 29 Bb4, Rad8; 30 Ne6, 1-0

Sicilian Defense (E99b, B99)

N. de Firmian – P Youngworth: 1 e4, c5; 2 Nf3, d6; 3 d4, cd; 4 Nd4, Nf6; 5 Nc3, a6; 6 Bg5, e6; 7 f4, Be7; 8 Qf3, Qc7; 9 0-0-0, Nbd7; 10 g4, b5; 11 Bf6, Nf6; 12 g5, Nd7; 13 f5, Nc5; 14 f6, gf; 15 gf, Bf8; 16 Qh5, Bd7; 17 a3, Rb8?

The saying is true about the Sicilian, "one slip and you're in your underwear." Here every grandmaster and his uncle came to the analysis and played 17 ... Rg8 after which Black is better. Perennial Argentine champion Miguel Quinteros remarked after 18 Qh7, Rg6; "If I have to make a norm, I play here (... Rh6) ... but I don't think so." The point is that White has nothing unless he can occupy the KN file with a rook.

18 Rg1, b4; 19 ab, Rb4; 20 Rg7, Be8, 21 Nf5, d5.

An offer which must be refused: 21 ... ef; 22 Nd5.

22 e5, Qe5; 23 Qf7; Kd8; 24 Rh7, Qf4; 25 Kb1, Rb2; 26 Ka1!, Rb7; 27 Ne7!, Qc7; 28 Bb5!, Rb5; 29 Nb5, Qa5; 30 Kb1, Qb5; 31 Kc1, Bh6; 32 Rh6, Rh6; 33 Qf8, Kd7; 34 Qc8, Kd6; 35 Qd8, Ke5; 36 Qc7, Ke4; 37 Re1, Kd4; 38 Qf4, Ne4; 39 Qh6, Qa4; 40 Re4, de; 41 Qd2, Ke5; 42 Qc3, Kf4; 43 Qg3, 1-0.

When you stand around for hours watching chess like this, it makes you want to play, if only to lose to such brilliance.



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by R. E. Fauber

Peter Biyiasas: Bay Area Bluebomber

Peter Biyiasas has been a welcome fixture at California tournaments for many years now. As a player he has been known for a rough and ready style which relies for its effect on patience and an ability to squeeze the tiniest advantage out of endings. He once remarked, "I play the openings like an A player, but after that I am a grandmaster."

His preference in the early moves is to steer into positions where a feel for the position is more important in selecting a move than the calculation of variations. He would sooner die than play a Najdorf Sicilian, and he prefers simplifying lines against gambit play. Once an opponent played an Open Defense to his Ruy Lopez and Biyiasas informed him after the game that, had he known, he would have played the Exchange Variation to avoid all the lengthy book.

After the opening, though, Biyiasas becomes very much a calculator. He seems to understand that, once the position has a definite structure, only very specific move sequences will allow him to realize his assets and minimize his opponent's opportunities.

Having had the worst of so many openings in his career, he is also a great defender.

Of Greek heritage, Biyiasas was born November 19, 1950. He grew up in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He did not take to chess until he was 15, but this did not prevent him from making rapid progress. In 1972, seven years later, he won the Canadian championship and Zonal tourney, which earned him the International Master title. He repeated as champion in 1975.

Biyiasas really began to round into form at the Haifa Olympiad in 1976, where he scored his first GM norm. He was subsequently awarded the grandmaster title in October, 1977. In 1978 he tied for first in the World Open and then came second a half point behind Gheorghiu in the New York International a few weeks later.

There is often a gruffness to Biyiasas' social side. I well remember losing a game to him five years ago. As we walked down the lengthy corridor to the skittles room, he berated me. "You were playing like a genius, and then you messed it up. I don't understand. . . ." For a full city block I had to listen to my vanquisher tell me how inexcusable it was to play as stupidly as I had.

What hurt most was that Biyiasas was absolutely right. It is his nature to speak the truth bluntly about most matters without any thought about the nuances of social diplomacy.

This gives him a special charm that goes with a person who has no pretensions. He tells audiences at his simultaneous displays, "I am not one of the world's strongest grandmasters and never expect to win the world championship. I just try to play the best chess I can. . . . What I like about chess is that it is a very creative profession. . . . I always hope to create even better games in the future."

That is very blunt and very honest and, for a grandmaster, unspeakably modest.

Fourth and Ten

Peter Biyiasas' adolescent crisis hinged around chess. It was his aptitude for chess which thrust him into the world of cold reality, where you have to work and calculate for even the most modest successes. Biyiasas' fate reminds me of an article some years ago on the world's great failures. Moshe Dayan admitted to failure because he had wanted to be a good farmer and became a general instead. Biyiasas wanted to be a quarterback and ended up a grandmaster.

Football, not chess, is Biyiasas' fatal passion. Growing up in Winnipeg, he watched Bud Grant turn the Bluebombers into champions. They won the Grey Cup the same year Biyiasas learned chess.

"I would have been a quarterback in the NFL, but I took up chess at 15 and ate the wrong foods," Biyiasas declares. He had a good arm for his age and a better feel for what the defense was trying to do, he claims.

When Grant, his hero, moved south in 1966 to pilot the Minnesota Vikings, Biyiasas moved his loyalties south with him. He has a superstition that when both he and the Vikings play on the same day he will lose if they win. His wife, IWM Ruth Haring, says, "That's because, if they're winning, Peter is more interested in watching their game than his."

Biyiasas is excited that the U.S. Women's championship will be held in Minnesota this year. He will accompany his wife and use the opportunity to apply for a job plotting strategy for the Vikes.

Some of his conceptions seem more ripe for gambling Jack Patera of the Seattle Seahawks (Patera learned the trade under Grant), but Biyiasas insists that their apparently risky nature is justified by statistics. He champions what can only be called exciting percentage football.

One idea is to have all 11 men rush the punter because the Viking kick receivers fumble so many punts away to the opposition. This may give a punter 10-15 yards extra on three out of four kicks but ends in a blocked punt the fourth time — with devastating results. Neither is there a chance of a fumble.

On third and long he also advocates throwing a deep interception. Send someone on a post pattern and heave the ball 60 yards down the field. Some excitable cornerback is apt to intercept and be downed by an alert receiver, who follows the defenseman all the way. That is better than a punt.

Peter Biyiasas is quite a unique grandmaster. He can turn a chess journal into a football magazine. And, like Grant's Bluebombers and Vikings, he can grind you down on the field of play as well.



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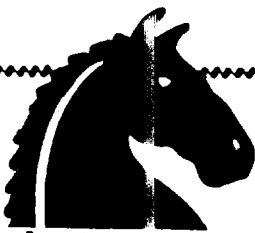
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**Read Carefully

Mirassou-LeBaron Chess Classic

by R. E. Fauber

"The first round will begin on time," LeBaron Chess Classic organizer John Sumares announced to thunderous applause. It did, and this proved a harbinger of one of the most flawlessly run tournaments in living memory, held March 5-9 at the LeBaron Hotel in San Jose. Tournament director Ted Yudacufski, assisted by Mike Goodall and Francisco and Amada Sierra posted pairings well in advance of rounds.

The contestants were quiet, for chess players, in the tournament hall. The skittles room resounded to the punch-punch-punch of convivial five minute games and hummed with the somber whispers which are characteristic of post mortems between mutually respectful opponents.

Florin Gheorghiu breezed into San Jose from Rumania, ready to collect the big pay check he always gets for playing in an American tournament. His chief competition appeared to be Miguel Quinteros, frequently champion of Argentina, and GM Dusan Rajkovic, the vanguard of the platoon of Yugoslavs which that country sent to Lone Pine.

In addition to the three GMs, the 205 player field drew eight players rated over 2400 and 19 masters in all. The combatants came from eight states and four foreign countries.

After five rounds Gheorghiu had a half point lead over his rivals, and he had downed Perry Youngworth of Los Angeles and Quinteros in games that were complex, titanic battles. These efforts seem to have drained him. He could only draw in the sixth round, and Jay Whitehead defended actively in the final round to reach a rook and three pawns versus rook and four pawn ending which could be drawn.

Meantime IM Vitaly Zaltsman of New York was grinding out wins which gave him clear first and \$1,000 for his 6-1 score. Gheorghiu tied for second with Quinteros, Rajkovic, Whitehead, Nick deFirmian of Berkeley, John Grefe of Oregon, and Charles Powell of San Francisco — each receiving \$228.

The expert trophy and \$225 went to San Francisco's Guillermo Rey, who had a 5-2 score and a very tough roster of opponents to contend with. Tied with Rey at 5-2 was Leonardo Moguel of San Mateo.

First category honors were tied between Tim Stevens of Mountain View and Gerard Van Deene of Oregon, both banking \$225 and Stevens earning the trophy on tie breaks for 4½-2½ tallies.

Oregon's Dave Ross was king of the hill in the reserve section, echoing his feat at the People's Tournament two weeks before. His 6½-½ score was good for \$500. In second and third slots were John Paul Romo of Livermore and Stuart G. Saroff of Fremont, who won \$287 each for 6-1 results.



High hat and high hopes

Third category was the province of Ralph Leftwich of Fremont and Raymond Liberatore of Palo Alto, who notched 5-2 and \$230 apiece. At the head of the fourth category pack were Darvis McCoy, Santa Clara; Joseph Purvis, San Jose; and Martin Weiss, San Jose. Each received \$186 for their 4-3 efforts.

The tournament was devoid of seamy incidents. We did overhear one piece of good advice offered by a player to a comrade: "Watch out for weirdos, women and cripples. They can sneak up on you."

Although not a participant, Quinteros' lovely and cordial wife is always a center of attention at any tournament she attends. It was her habit to take a seat in front of the demonstration board and read while her husband battled it out behind the ropes. We thought she was improving her mind until some additional snooping disclosed that the weighty tome was **The Raging Heart**. She explained that chess tournaments are tense even for her as a spectator. She employs light reading to help relax.

Benjie was also the reason Quinteros decided to play at the LeBaron. For years Miguel has promised Benjie to take her to Las Vegas after Lone Pine. Always some other commitment has sent them winging to other parts of the globe immediately after the Statham Masters' ends. This year they used the week between the LeBaron and Lone Pine to risk Quinteros' winnings at the green felt tables.



Benjie Quinteros

The LeBaron Hotel was an outstanding site. The playing hall was big with generally adequate light. Management set up a concession stand to vend coffee, tea, cookies, sandwiches and beer in the foyer. The coffee shop stayed open late enough for players to grab a bite after rounds, and it had a sufficiently varied menu to provide for the needs both of those who like large meals and those who dote upon healthy salads. Rooms were large and had tables to set up chess boards for a heavy bout of between round analysis. Competing at the LeBaron made us think that chess had finally become a respectable sport.

Mirassou Vineyards earned the gratitude of the entire chess community by guaranteeing the prize fund. Since 1966, when they began to market the wines they made under their own label, they have been recognized as one of an elite few wineries who bring out the very best in California wine. They gave a touch of class to the LeBaron Classic by offering a wine tasting.

Mirassou earned appreciation for their ever popular Monterey Riesling and uncorked a classic in the mouth-filling White Burgundy, 1978, a beautifully balanced and elegant wine. For those of us who love Chardonnay but hate its high prices, this is a fine substitute which does not require the wine lover to sacrifice quality to achieve economy.

In **Informant** language the LeBaron Hotel and Mirassou Vineyards are !?! — deserving of attention and excellent.

LeBaron cont.

Perhaps the reason there were so few incidents at the tournament was that the players used all their energy creating fiery games. Gheorghiu and Quinteros produced a thumping battle with blows given and taken all over the board.

Benoni Defense (R78a)

F. Gheorghiu – M Quinteros: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, c5; 3 d5, e6; 4 Nc3, ed; 5 cd, d6; 6 e4, g6; 7 Bd3, Bg7; 8 Nge2, 0-0, 9 0-0, Re8; 10 Ng3, a6; 11 a4, Qc7; 12 h3, c4; 13 Bc2, Nbd7; 14 f4, Rb8; 15 Be3, Nc5.

In Averkin-Fedorov; USSR, 1977 Black played 15 ..., b5 and got a bad game after 16 ab, ab; 17 Ra7, Qd8 when Qf3 was appropriate. Timman-Ljubojevic; Amsterdam, 1975 took the violent course 15 ..., Nc5; 16 Bd4?!, b5; 17 ab, ab; 18 e5, de; 19 fe, Re5 when 20 Be5, Qe5; 21 Qf3, b4 would have given compensation for the exchange.

16 Qf3, Nfd7; 17 Qf2, b5; 18 ab, ab; 19 e5, b4; 20 Nce4, Ne4; 21 Ne4, de; 22 f5, Nf8.

One valuable point to be learned from GM games is the wonderful harmony of pieces they achieve. With but a half tempo leeway Gheorghiu opened the e4 square before his QN could be chased by Black's QNP. Here Black cannot play 22 ..., b3; 23 fg so White is still able to keep his rooks in communication.

23 f6, Bh8; 24 Rad1, Bf5; 25 g4, b3; 26 Bbl, Be4; 27 Be4, c3; 28 d6, Qc8; 29 bc, Qc3; 30 Qd2, Qc4.

Black, playing virtually a piece down could not trade queens because 30 ..., Qd2; 31 Bd2!, b2; 32 Ba5.

31 Bd5, Qb5; 32 g5, Qd7; 33 Kh2, b2; 34 Rbl, h6.

The scoresheets of the players are an interesting sidelight. Gheorghiu writes a very small and precise hand normally. Quinteros begins his game writing the full algebraic move – d7, d5 – in a bold, symmetrical hand. Once the battle is fully joined all this neatness goes by the board. Both scoresheets become a mass of trembling squiggles like a seismograph of the earthquakes under Mt. St. Helens. And perhaps that is what the scoresheets are, a seismographic record of the rippling earthquakes of grandmaster analysis which cannot be heard above the ticking of the clock but which rock the player's body and soul repeatedly.

35 gh, Ne6; 36 Be4, Red8.

Perhaps here Black, short of time, could have done better by 36 ..., Nf4; 37 Bf4, ef; 38 Qf4, Re6.

37 Qg2, Kh7; 38 h4, Rb4; 39 h5, Nf8; 40 Rgl, Re4; 41 Qe4, Qd6; 42 Rb2, Qd3; 43 Qd3, Rd3; 44 Rb7, Re3; 45 Rf7, Kg8; 46 hg, Rf3; 47 Rf8, 1-0.

On the 46th if 46 ..., Ng6; 47 Ra7 while here the last pawn does it: 47 ..., Kf8; 48 g7, Kg8; 49 h7, Kh7; 50 g8/q.



*Vitaly Zaltsman and John Sumares
(photo by shorman)*

What do Spassky, Ivkov, Andersson, Romanishin, Tarjan, Quinteros and the winning Hungarian team at the '78 Olympiad in Buenos Aires have in common? They all buy:

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Quinteros used an opening innovation to mount a brisk attack against formidable Leonid Stolyarov.

(Notes by Quinteros)

English Opening (R26b)

M. Quinteros – L. Stolyarov: 1 c4, Nf6; 2 Nc3, e6; 3 e4, c5, e5, Ng8; 5 d4, cd; 6 Qd4, Nc6; 7 Qe4, d6; 8 Nf3, de; 9 Ne5, Nf6; 10 Nc6, Qb6; 11 Qc2!

This is a new move. In the Karpov-Korchnoi match the challenger played 11 Qf3. While I analyzed the game I stumbled into an interesting idea, to develop immediately the queen's flank to begin a direct attack. I think that with this move White has better chances to maintain the initiative.

11 ..., Qc6; 12 Bg5, Be7; 13 0-0-0, Bd7; 14 Kbl.

White prevents Black from castling on the queen-side. If 14 ..., 0-0-0; 15 Nb5, Bc5; 16 Bf6, gf; 17 Rd6 and Black's queen is captured.

14 ..., 0-0; 15 Bd3, h6; 16 h4!

White continues with his plan and takes advantage that Black cannot capture the bishop. The pin will give a positional advantage for White.

16 ..., Rfd8; 17 Ne4.

After this move the positional struggle is decided. Black reacts tactically.

17 ..., hg; 18 h g, Ne4; 19 Be4, Qc7; 20 Bb7!

This is the final blow.

20 ..., g6; 21 Ba8, Ra8; 22 Qe4!, Bc6

If 22 ..., Rd8; Qh4. White has to be careful because 23 Qh4, Qe5.

23 Qd4!

And Black resigns because the queen cannot participate in the defense.

Ross Reserve Exceptional

In the wine trade "reserve" on a label means something special and that was what Dave Ross tried to produce in all his Reserve Section games. He liked this violet one.

King's Indian Defense (D75c)

D. Ross – D. Lynn

1 c4, c5; 2 Nc3, Nc6; 3 g3, g6; 4 Bg2, Bg7; 5 Nf3, Nf6; 6 0-0, 0-0; 7 d4, d6; 8 d5, Na5; Nd2, e5; 10 a3, b6; 11 b4, Nb7; 12 Bb2, a6.

ECO recommends getting full pawn action on the king-side by 12 ..., Ng4; 13 h3, Nh6; 14 e3, Bd7; 15 Qc2, f5; 16 f4, Nf7.

13 Qc2, Bd7; 14 Rael, b5; 15 Kh1, Qc8?!

Both 15 ..., Rc8 and 15 ..., Ng4 seem more thematic.

16 f4!?, cb; 17 ab, bc; 18 Nde4, Bb5; 19 Nf6, Bf6; 20 Ne4, Bg7; 21 fe, Be5?; 22 Nd6!

Some more; it diverts the KB from the long diagonal.

22 ..., Bd6; 23 Qc3, f6; 24 Rf6, Qc7?

This turns it into a rout. It was more pretty after 24 ..., Qd7; 25 Bb3!, Qh3; 26 Rf5!!

25 Rd6!, Nd6; Qh8, Kf7; 27 Qh7, Ke8; 28 Qc7, Rd8; 29 Qg7, 1-0.

It was a beautiful tournament which produced beautiful games.

CHAMPION CHAMPIONSHIP

by Mike Goodall, Tournament Director

The 1980 Northern California Championship or Bagby Memorial was the strongest round robin ever held in northern California, and the roster of contenders gave it a cosmopolitan flavor.

Heading the list was native San Franciscan Jay Whitehead, the defending champion. Next highest rated was Dennis Fritzinger from Berkeley, a former Paul Masson champion and captain of the winning Berkeley Riots telephone chess team. Third rated was Paul Cornelius, who hails from the midwest. Cornelius, currently a U. of California graduate student, consistently performs at the 2350 level.

Former U.S. Championship contender George Francis Kane spent some years as a chess professional in New York before returning to California. He plays in this tournament each year because it is about the only one around that offers strong competition at one round a day.

Next ranked was Richard Lobo, a very tall Indian who was raised in England. Lobo was anxious to atone for his relatively poor result in the 1979 championship.

Craig Mar is a young oriental wizard whose rating has been soaring. Seventh rated was the Israeli genius, Zaki Harari, who was reared in South America. Lowest rated was Martin Sullivan, who battled for the honor of the "over the hills" masters from Hayward and environs.

Thus the field brought together the experience of several continents and California "micro-climates."

Picking the Pack

It is no simple task to extend invitations for a limited entry event. Every year in November I make up a list according to rating of all the masters known to be living in northern California, active or not. As of last October's rating list there were 32 of them (I, unfortunately, missed Vincent McCambridge, a southern Californian who, unbeknownst to me, has enrolled at U.C. Berkeley.) I then search out all their phone numbers and start calling them from the top of the list. Some are hard to reach, some want a few days to think about it and others base their acceptance on whether one or more other masters of a given strength play. It takes about six weeks to secure the eight strongest available players for the tournament.

Other Voices, Same room

The tournament was held at the Mechanics Institute Chess Room, a zoo consisting of very loud baboons and parrots, whose incessant chatter during the course of the games was the tournament's main drawback. There were several blunders in the games that could have been attributed to sporadic shrieks and yells. But for the most part the players managed, due to their experience in Swiss Systems.

Whitehead emerged as champion again with a 5-2 score, despite a rocky start when he lost two of his first three games. Lobo finished a strong second with 4½-2½, thus avenging his score last year. He must still have been disappointed because he blew a clearly drawn ending in the last round to Cornelius, which would have left him tied for first.

Cont. on p. 16



Richard Lobo



Zaki Harari

A PIECE OF THE BAGBY

by Jay E. Whitehead

Ed. note: Although most of us treat our losses with an offhanded loathing, the great Jose Capablanca claimed he learned more from one of his losses than dozens of his wins. Whitehead follows in the Capablanca tradition.

I consider the following my most interesting game of the tournament.

Owen's Defense (R80a, B00)

M. Sullivan — J. Whitehead: 1 e4, b6?!

A first for me in tournaments.

2 d4, Bb7; 3 Nd2, e6; 4 Ngf3, c5; 5 c3, Nf6; 6 Bd3, Nc6; 7 0-0?! better is 7 a3 to prevent the following combination.

7 ... , cd.

Instead of 7 ... , Be7?; 8 e5, Nd5; 9 c4, Nc7 (... , Ndb4; 10 Be4, cd; 11 a3, Na6; 12 b4, Nc7; 13 Nb3 with a bind.); 10 dc, bc; 11 Ne4, 0-0; 12 Be3 with White more active.

8 cd?!

Interesting play can develop after 8 Nd4!, Ne5! (8 ... , Be7; 9 f4, d6; 10 Bb5, Rc8; 11 e5, Nd5 — judging from this line of analysis, objectively best may be 11 ... , de; 12 fe, Nd7—; 12 Ne4, 0-0 [... , de; 13 fe, 0-0; 14 Bc6, Bc6; 15 Qg4, Kh8; 16 Bg5 with pressure] 13 cd, Bd6; 14 e4, Nd4; 15 Qd4, Bc5; 16 Nc5, Rc5; 17 b3, Nf6; 18 Qd8, Rd8; 19 Ba3, Rce8; 20 Rad1, Ne4; 21 Be7, Rd1; 22 Rd1, Nc3; 23 Rd7, Nb5; 24 Rb7 winning); 9 Bc2, Ba6; 10 f4, Nd3; 11 Qe2, Nb4; 12 c4, Nc2 (... , Bc5; 13 N2b3); 13 Nc2, d5!; 14 ed Qd5; 15 cd, Be2; 16 Re1, Bc5; 17 Kh1, Bd3 and Black must be better, although I see nothing clear after 18 Ne3.

8 ... , Nb4; 9 Bb1, Ba6; 10 Re1, Nd3; 11 Re3!?

Not much better was 11 Bd3, Bd3; 12 Qb3, Ba6; 13 d5, Be7; 14 de, fe; 15 e5, Nd5; 16 Ne4, 0-0 with better chances since 17 Bg5? fails to ... , Rf3. Also 17 Qa4, Bb7; 18 Bg5 is unappetizing due to 18 ... , Bg5; 19 Neg5, Nf4! threatening ... , Ng2. Now White is OK — except that ...

11 ... , Nf2

Wins a pawn. White will have some compensation, but it should be simply a matter of consolidating. Of course if 12 Kf2, Ng4.

12 Qa4, N2g4; 13 Rc3.

On 13 Qa6, Nc3; 14 h3, Rc8.

13 ... , Bb7; 14 h3, Nh6; 15 a3?! , a6; 16 b4, Rc8.

I didn't like 16 ... , b5 because White can later open lines favorably with a4.

17 Bb2, Rc3, 18 Bc3, Qc8; 19 Bb2, Bc6; 20 Qc2, D5!

Thematic and necessary, as White threatened d5 himself. This move also gains the square f5 for Black's estranged knight, which I think you'll agree must be pretty exhausted by now and in need of a resting spot.

21 ed

White must try to open lines, but now my other knight embarks on an unforgettable journey. . .

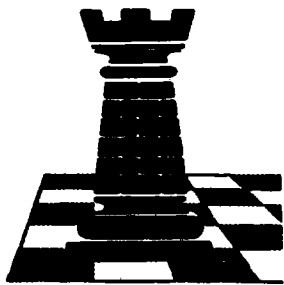
21 ... , Nd5

. . . such a knight, such a square!

Cont. on p. 15

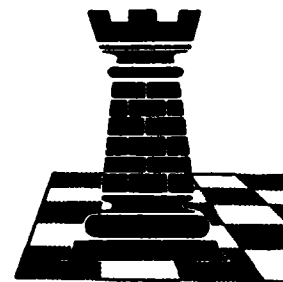


Jay Whitehead



OPEN FILE

When to Castle

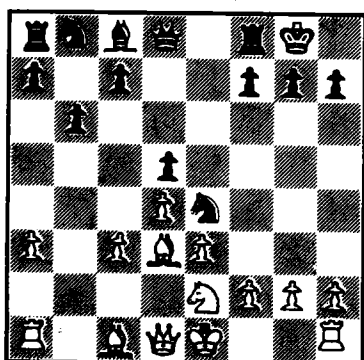


Early in the careers of most players they get the advice "castle quickly, preferably on the king-side, that way your king will be safe . . ." The result is that most players scarcely give a second thought to castling. When it can be done, it must be a good move, they reason.

Nothing can be farther from the truth. Castling is a great art. Sometimes failure to castle in time can be very dangerous, but even worse is to castle prematurely or on the wrong side of the board. Such maneuvers can transform an advantage into equality or tilt an equal position in favor of the opponent.

The basic thing to remember is that castling is not usually an aggressive move. Castling at the wrong time often forfeits the initiative and allows the opponent to achieve important positional goals. Two sample continuations from this next position may illustrate the difference between routine castling and well-timed castling:

R. Fauber — E. Simanis



The principle to consider here is "never undertake major operations in the center before castling." That is a fine and, almost always, valid principle. Action in the center tends to open things up and expose your king to blows. This can easily cost you the initiative, when it does not get you mated outright. This position, however, is one of those rare exceptions. **It is bad to move on principle when the principle is not backed by concrete analysis of the specific position.**

The game continued. . .

1 0-0!, Ba6?!

It was better to play an immediate 1 . . ., f5 so that White does not get a mobile two pawn center.

2 Ba6, Na6; 3 f3, Nd6; 4 Ng3?

White repeats his sin of not advancing aggressively in the center while the opportunity offers. 4 Qd3 and 5 e4 still give an advantage. It is not even clear that the knight wants to be on g3 since it may be useful supporting the QP.

4 . . ., f5 and White futzed around without achieving e4 until Black was able to mount a mating attack.

Returning to the diagram, it was much better to play 1 f3, Nd6; 2 e4! Instead of castling, White seizes the first opportunity of achieving his strategic goal — to obtain a big pawn center. This is more purposeful than castling. It is also tactically sound. For example:

2 . . ., de; 3 fe, Ne4?; 4 Be4, Qh4; 5 Ng3, Re8; Qf3!; Bb7; 7 0-0!

Now that is timely castling. The move breaks a pin, threatens a piece and also 8 Qf7 with subsequent mate. Another variation from the diagram is. . .

1 f3, Nd6; 2 e4, de; 3 fe, Qh4; 4 Ng3, f5; 5 0-0!

Now if 5 . . ., fe; 6 Rf8, Kf8; 7 Ne4, Ne4; 8 Qf3 with regain of piece and crushing threats against Black's rook on a8 and exposed king. Again an example of purposeful castling.

Ask the Reason Why?

The maxim worthy of earnest attention is "castle if you must or if you will but not because you can." When you "will" to castle, there has to be a reason, a purpose. It may be that you have nothing better to do, but that is still a reason that is often the feature of the position which tells you that the time is ripe for pusillanimously tucking your king away.

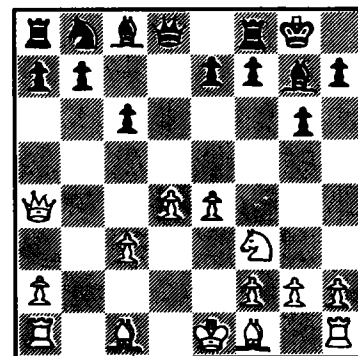
Consider the Ruy Lopez. After 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bb5, a6; 4 Ba4, Nf6. Castling is right because it fits into your strategic objectives. You want to have pressure on the KP, to play a quick d4 so as to open the K-file, and you want to be able quickly to put a rook on that file once it is completely opened. You cannot do that without first castling.

If you learned to play, as I did, from the rules sheet that comes with a \$2 plastic chess set, you may already have discovered that in the Giuoco Piano after 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bc4, Bc5; 4 d3, d6; 5 0-0 is not very good. Apparently there is nothing doing, so why not castle?

The reason is that the best positions for the QB's cannot be determined until the opponent telegraphs where his king intends to take up lodgings. Before castling either player can meet a QB on KN5 by advancing both the KRP and KNP without fear of weakening the position.

One famous trap is 5 . . ., Nf6; 6 Bg5?, h6; 7 Bh4?, g5; 8 Bg3 h5; 9 Ng5, h4; 10 Nf7, hg (all because the KR is still on its own file); 11 Nd8, Bg4; 12 Qd2, Nd4; 13 Nc3, Nf3; 14 gf, Bf3; 15 hg, Rh1 mate.

Still disadvantageous is 6 Nc3, Bg4; 7 Be3, Nd4; 8 Bd4, Bd4; 9 h3, Bh5; 10 g4?! Bc3; 11 bc, Ng4; 12 hg, Bg4 with a nice attack.



V. Hort — W Szmít

This position seems calm enough and was so considered for years until Hort showed the way in this game. Since White's center seems safe, why not prepare castling by 1 Be2 so as to be able to undertake operations in the center after 2 0-0?

The reasons are two-fold. First, Black is going to counterattack beginning with 1 . . ., c5, and may develop considerable pressure quicker than is immediately apparent. Second, Black has an undeveloped Q-side, so restraining the emergence of these pieces is more productive than just preparing to castle, when everyone develops. Hort's way of playing castling is always available but only availed of when it is needed. There are more important things to do in this position.

1 Be3!, c5; 2 Rc1, cd; 3 cd, e6.

The alternative 3 . . ., Nc6; 4 d5, Qa5; 5 Qa5, Na5 leads to trouble after 6 Bd2.

4 Bb5, b6; 5 Bg5 f6; 6 Be3, Bb7; 7 d5!

CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS

By R. F. Fawcett

Members of the USCF take a passionate interest in their ratings and their rating system. So the names of the classes into which players ratings divide is also of passionate interest. For years influential people have been dissatisfied with the practice of designating all classes below Expert by letters (A, B, C, etc.) at 200 point intervals.

Last spring the USCF tried a new set of descriptive titles intended to reflect the superiority of any rated tournament player over the vast majority of chess-playing Americans. The titles, particularly the infelicitous "Candidate Master" and "Candidate Expert," convulsed the chess community in laughter. The best joke making the rounds of tournaments involved playing badly enough to earn a "Candidate Novice" rating.

The USCF business meeting reacted to this droll derision by repealing the descriptive titles last August. Instead of descriptive titles they replaced all the letters with Roman numerals from I-VI. This reform has been far from universally embraced. Chess players still speak of themselves as D players, A players, or unrecognized geniuses — the way they always did.

An appropriate system of descriptive titles, however, would have many advantages. Everybody would surely welcome a system of class titles which would tell them where they stood in relation to other players in images rather than numbers. A workable nomenclature has to make sense to the community of active players and to mirror how we normally speak of one another. It should reflect real chess values rather than Madison Avenue hyperbole.

The essence of chess is its intrinsic harmony with nature. Chess is a jungle in which each feeds on the other's rating points. We are animals. So class titles ought to mirror our true nature by tracing our chess progress up from the bottom of the food chain.

The bottom players become "fish," already a common chess term. No one would squawk to rise above 1200 rating points and become a "turkey."

"Rabbits" are not ferocious beasts, but they can easily nibble up any unguarded lettuce and carrots. That fairly describes those who play above the 1400 level.

The next class of player loves to munch on lower-rated players but is the butt of jokes on the part of those with higher ratings and inflated egos. There is a homey majesty about the "goat."

After you get more than 1800 rating points you are really tough, a "bull." Anybody who lets attention tag against you is apt to get gored. You invest a lot of time in study and are bullish about your chances of advancing to the next class, the little "foxes."

The only time a fox goes into the ground is to burrow into the **Encyclopedia of the Chess Openings** to scan its footnotes for errors. Though one lay a trap a move, the fox evades all snares.

Master hardly described the cat-like creatures who stalk the top prizes at Swiss System tournaments. They are "tigers" because they are real maneaters.

But the tiger's technique is not so fine, his killer instinct not so tuned as the Senior Master's. He is the "shark," a perfect eating machine who rips the feeble pretensions of us lesser mortals to shreds in the twinkling of an eye.

Grandmasters have that little bit extra of ferocity and strength. Playing one of them is like being swallowed alive by "JAWS!" Of course not one of them has ever grossed \$150 million at the box office, but no analogy is perfect.

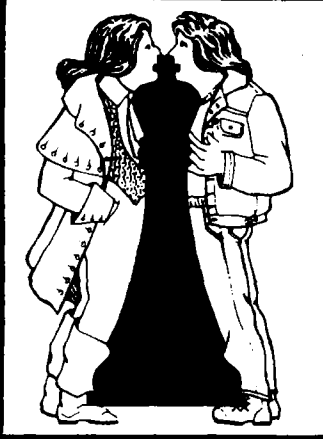
This descriptive class system will pep up chess journalism too. Editors will gratefully write banner headlines like "TURKEY GOBBLES UP THANKSGIVING CLASS TOURNAMENT."

They will write dramatic leads like, "It was a head-on collision of goat and bull in the deciding game for the club championship as Harvey Wallbanger faced C. D. Bounce. After Wallbanger dropped a pawn he was quickly put out to pasture. Several rabbits were also in the running. . ."

Meantime, the class nomenclature will make the way players habitually talk more clear. When we say "I really got a fish last round," or remark casually, "I'm not worried about my next opponent; he's just a rabbit," everyone will know exactly what we mean.

Even for the fish there is some consolation. This rating system also has a category for the non-chess player, "house-flies" — of no use to anyone.

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! ? BLOWING IT ! ?

by The Editors

When we took over our editorial posts on February 19, the most important matter at hand was to demonstrate that we could actually deliver copy to a printer and magazines to the post office. **Chess Voice** had not been published since August, 1979, and the letter file was jammed with plaintive inquiries of "where's my magazine?" They came from as far away as Oman.

What we did publish was lacking in many respects. We are particularly sorry that Art Marthinsen did not get credit for writing his comprehensive report, "The Russian Gambit." We hope that our more perceptive readers concluded that his picture appeared on the same page because it was his handiwork. We are equally sorry that we were unable to give attribution to Stella Monday for her fine photograph of styles in chess headgear, which so immensely improved the "Hats on to Chess" page. We believe that Richard Shorman contributed the chess on the picnic tables photograph which enlivened the tournament reports, for which his journalistic work is indispensable.

Publishing a magazine such as this is a cooperative venture which has to reach out through the whole chess community if it is to succeed. We deeply regret that the fine volunteer cooperation which made the last magazine attractive did not receive the credit it deserved. Apologies also to **Chess 'n Stuff** from which we reprinted the jolly green giant cartoon on page 70. Raymond Alexis' magazine is a veritable mine of good cartooning, as subsequent reproductions will demonstrate.

The size and positioning of headlines needs improvement, and proper alignment of columns could be improved too. Kindergarten was our worst grade in school.

While the last issue lacked games and analysis, this one may be tilted a bit too much in favor of games. That is because we have a lot of important ones available.

We are interested in attracting copy in the areas of competition, master and amateur games with succinct, instructive notes, humor, human interest about chess tournaments and chess players, philosophical articles, and instruction for the improving player. We would absolutely love to generate our own cartoons instead of borrowing from others. Art work and photos of players merit equal gratitude with the foregoing categories. It is, however, important to identify photographer and those photographed.

We can paste and snip and mail magazines, but if **Chess Voice** is faithfully to mirror the kaleidoscope of chess activity, it needs the support of its readers to generate a variety of copy. With our readers' help we can keep this magazine lively and instructive and a little different from other chess publications. That was the tradition which our predecessor, John Larkins, established and in which we want to continue.

Grandmaster

JAMES TARJAN

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With respect to Larkins and his immense talents we feel that we are in the position which confronted Thomas Jefferson when he became American Minister to France after the popular and astute Benjamin Franklin. The king asked him, "So, you are to replace Dr. Franklin?" "No sire," Jefferson replied. "No one can replace him. I am only his successor."

For those interested in trivia, **Chess Voice** now circulates in 38 states and six foreign countries. The USSR consulate in San Francisco reads us. Our total mailing last issue was about 900 copies.

We are confident we can improve and reach even a larger readership. Your criticisms and contributions will help us greatly.

Whitehead Cont.

22 Ba2, Bb7

Forced, since he threatened 23 Rc1. Now the ending after 23 Qc8, Bc8; 24 Bd5, ed; 25 Rc1, Kd8; 26 Rc6, b5 favors Black.

23 Qb3, Be7; 24 Rc1, Qb8; 25 Ne5!

An interesting second pawn sacrifice based on a slight lead in development. Necessary really, since I was threatening simply ..., 0-0 and Rc8 consolidating fully.

25 ..., Nf4.

Here we go "a hippety-hopping." Not 25 ..., 0-0; 26 Nd7 nor 25 ..., f5, 26 Nc6. Should White respond to the text 26 Qc4, I can interpolate 26 ..., b5 favorably since 27 Qc7, Qc7; 28 Rc7, Bg2; 29 Nc6, Bc6; 30 Rc6, Kd7; 31 Ra6, Rc8; 32 Bb3, Nd3 etc.

26 Qf1, Ng2

"A hippety-hopping we go, we go. . ."

27 Nc6

"Get zat bishop!"

27 ..., Bc6; 28 Rc6, Ne3; 29 Qf3, Nhf5?!

I should have given back a pawn with 29 ..., Nd5; 30 Bd5, ed; 31 Qd5, 0-0 subduing White's counterplay by exchanging one bishop and frustrating the d5 break intended to uncover the other. The text is simply too ambitious, but, luckily, I'm still winning.

30 d5!, 0-0!

On 30 ..., ed; 31 Bb1, Qb7; 32 Rc3, Bg5; 33 Bf5, Nf5; 34 Qf5, Bd2, Rc8.

31 de, f6; 32 Bb1, Rd8!; 33 Bc3, g6.

A funny and truly deceptive situation. Although it may seem that my opponent has adequate (or nearly adequate) compensation for the captured soldier, judging from the powerful looking trenches he's maneuvered his legions into, he is really quite lost! His pieces can't move! They're stuck to the squares!! Try moving one and you'll see!!!

34 Bf5

What else? I used crazy glue on the rest!

34 ..., Nf5; 35 Ne4, Nh4??

Going astray - 35 ..., Nd4 wins quickly after 36 Nf6 (36 Bd4, Rd4; 37 Nf6, Bf6; 38 Qf6, Qg3), Bf6; 37 Qf6, Rf8!; 38 Qd4 (Bd4, Rf6; 39 Bf6, Qg3; 40 Qf3 etc.) Qg3; 39 Kh1, Rf1 mates.

36 Qg3!

Now he wants to trade. His move was a big psychological blow for me.

36 ..., Qg3; 37 Ng3.

Now White is a bit better, but I could still probably have held with 37 ..., Rd6!; 38 Rd6, Bd6; 39 Ne4, Be5; 40 Nf6, Bf6; 41 Bf6, Nf5; 42 Kf2, Ng7; 43 e7, Ne8; 44 Bg5, Kf7; 45 Ke3, Ke6!; 46 Kd4, Nd6; 47 Bf4, Ne8.

37 ..., Rd1?!; 38 Kf2, Rc1?!

Blindness! I was moving quickly, worried about the clock, though I think I had several minutes left. No good is 38 ..., Bd8; 39 Ne4, Kg7; 40 Nf6, Bf6; 41 Rc7 winning. The best chance is still 38 ..., Rd6.

39 Rc8, Kg7; 40 Bf6.

Whoops!! He reaches the time control and wins easily.

40 ..., Bf6; 41 Rc1, Bd4; 42 Ke2, Kf6; 43 Rc4, Be5.

Better was 43 Resigns.

44 Nf5, gh; 45 Rh4, h6; 46 Rc4, a5; 47 b5, Bd6.

I must love chess to play on here.

48 Rc6, Bc5; Rc5, bc; 50 b6, 1-0.

Well, I thought it was interesting!

Goodall cont.

Also disappointed was Kane, who tied with Harari for third and fourth with 4-3. George used to be a Senior Master and is disturbed by his tendency over the past few years to make relatively simple blunders. If he played more, he would overcome this. Zaki was the only player in the tournament who was pleased by his result.

Fritzinger and Cornelius, scoring 3-4, performed below their extremely respectable ratings. Sullivan's 3-4 score was a good showing, considering that he had no time to prepare and was the lowest rated. Mar bombed out with 1½ point, perhaps because he hasn't yet convinced himself that he is as good as the rest of them.

The prizes were the same as last year. \$100 first, \$50 second and \$30 per point for everyone. The tournament was cosponsored by CalChess, the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club, and Richard Fauber. In addition there was an anonymous donation of \$40 to first place, so Jay took home \$290. He also had his name engraved once again on the Bagby Memorial plaque that hangs in the Mechanics Institute Chess Room.

The titled players around here, who decline to play every year, pooh-pooh the prizes, but I think they're pretty good. I haven't researched it, but I believe this is the strongest state championship in the country and has the largest prize fund. The chess community owes the sponsoring organizations and individuals its gratitude and appreciation for this tournament. Bulletins of the tournament are available from California Chess Bulletins; 1009 MacArthur Blvd; Oakland, CA 94610 for 75 cents.

CHESS GOES TO WAR



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SWINGS OF THE CHESS PENDULUM

Until the advent of Jim Tarjan, Larry Christiansen, and Yasser Seirawan in the last decade, the only way to become a strong player in America was to live in New York. Since 1970, though, very respectable chess centers have grown up around San Francisco Bay, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Boston and Seattle.

The old attraction of New York, however, is beginning to exert itself once more. Anatoly Lein says he may move back there from Cleveland because there are few competitive opportunities on the shores of Lake Erie, and he cannot promote himself well enough to secure a living as teacher and exhibitor.

Jay Whitehead, fired by his norm at Lone Pine, is contemplating a move to the Big Apple so as to get better opportunities to earn his IM title.

Bill Goichberg would attribute the revived magnetism of New York to the international tournaments his Continental Chess Association has been holding in the area since 1976. In fact, he does.

Goichberg says, "Of all existing American GM and IM norms, fully two-thirds (18 of 27) came in CCA tournaments." Calling attention to recent productivity, Goichberg notes that all six 1979 IM title winners had at least one CCA norm. These included Californians Nick deFirmian and Jack Peters. Andy Soltis has now qualified for a GM title on CCA norms only as did Larry Kaufman qualify for an IM title. Michael Wilder won his IM title in Lone Pine but earned previous norms at CCA tournaments.

Goichberg, who wants to attract better money to the New York events, suggests that other areas could inaugurate futurity and international programs of their own. Donners may funnel their money through the American Chess Foundation to provide prize funds and may even receive a donation from the ACF's regular revenue.

"Even if you can't raise much money, the availability of a good free site may be enough for CCA to hold a FIDE-rated tournament or assist you in holding one." Goichberg declares.

It is particularly grieving to lose a player of the caliber of Whitehead to the blandishments of Gotham. It is also ironic that titled players from California could participate on the Asian GM Circuit being bankrolled by Cutty Sark. Indonesia and the Philippines are closer to us than Warsaw, Novi Sad, Bled and Portoroz.

Can you chess devotees offer any help?

REGIONAL GAMES

**White: Jay Whitehead (2441). Black: Eleuterio Alasua (2055).
LeBaron Open, San Jose, March 6, 1980.**

Sicilian Defense

1 e4	c5	12 eb	Ne5
2 Nf3	d6	13 Qd4!	Nc6(c)
3 d4	cd	14 Qf2(d)	Ne5?(e)
4 Nd4	Nf6	15 Be5	de
5 Nc3	ae	16 Qg3	Qc7(f)
6 Be2	e5	17 Qg7	0-0-0(g)
7 Nb3	Be7	18 Rf6	Bf6(h)
8 0-0	Be6	19 Qf6	h5
9 f4	ef	20 Nb5(i)	Qb8(j)
10 Bf4	Nbd7(a)	21 Rb6!	Rd8(k)
11 Kh1	Bb3?(b)	22 Na7	Resigns(l)

(Notes by USCF senior master Jay Whitehead)

- (a) Better is 10 ... Nc6.
- (b) Irreparably weakens the light squares. O.K. is 11 ... Ne5 12 Nd4 Ng6.
- (c) On 13 ... Qc7 follows 14 Bb5!, but 13 ... Qb8 looks reasonable.
- (d) If 14 Qe3, then White may have problems in case a black rook later occupies the square e8.
- (e) Loses a pawn, but White was planning 15 Rad1 and 16 Qg3, with a bind on Black's position.
- (f) The last chance was 16 ... 0-0 17 Qe5 Bd6 18 Qf5 Qc7, although White still stands distinctly better.
- (g) Not 17 ... Rg8, due to 18 Nd5, winning.
- (h) And here, 18 ... Rhg8 loses to 19 Qf7 Rdf8 20 Qe6.
- (i) Quickest.
- (j) If 20 ... ab, then 21 Ra8 Kd7 22 Bb5. On 20 ... Qc2 (20 ... Qc5 21 b4!) White has 21 Qe5 (threatening 22 Na7 and 23 Rd1) Rhe8 22 Nd6 Rd6 23 Qe8 Rd8 24 Qe5, etc.
- (k) Avoiding 21 ... bc?? 22 Qc6mate!
- (l) If 22 ... Kc7, then 23 Qd6mate, whereas 22 ... Kd7 runs into 23 Bb5 Kc7 24 Qb6mate.

★ ★ ★

White: Peter Klimok (2038). Black: Perry Youngworth (2417). LeBaron Open, San Jose, March 6, 1980.

Sicilian Defense

1 e4	c5	13 Rae1	h4
2 Nc3	Nc6	14 Nf4	hg
3 g3	g6	15 hg	Qd7
4 Bg2	Bg7	16 Qd2(b)	0-0-0(c)
5 dc	d6	17 Kf2	g5
6 f4	e5	18 Nfd5	Rh2
7 Nh3	Nge7	19 Rh1	Rg2
8 0-0	h5!	20 Kg2	Bf3
9 Be3(a)	Bg4	21 Kg1(d)	Nd5
10 Qd2	Nd4	22 ed(e)	Bh1
11 fe	Be5	23 Bd4	cd
12 Qf2	f6	24 Resigns	

(Notes by USCF senior master Perry Youngworth)

- (a) If 9 f5, then 9 ... gf 10 Bg5 f6 11 Bh4 Nd4, with the better game for Black.
- (b) Or 16 Nb1 g5 17 c3 gf 18 gf Bh3! 19 fe Bg2 20 Qg2 Rg8, and Black is winning (Peters — Youngworth, U.S. Open, 1978).
- (c) Unclear is 16 ... g5? 17 Ncd5!
- (d) If 21 Kf2, then 21 ... Bg3 22 Kg3 Qg4 23 Kf2 (or 23 Kh2 Rh8mate) Qg2mate.
- (e) On 22 Nd5 follows 22 ... Bh1 23 Bd4 Bd4 24 Kh1 Rh8 25 Kg2 Qb3 26 Kf3 Qh5 27 g4 (27 Kg2 Qb2) Qh3 28 Ke2 Qg4 29 Kf1 Rh1mate.

White: Nancy Crawford (1523). Black: Eugene Lien (1745). People's Tmt., U.C. Berkeley, Feb. 18, 1980. Danish Gambit. 1 e4 e5 2 d4 ed 3 c3 dc 4 Bc4 cb 5 Bd2 Bd4 6 Nc3 Qe7 7 Qf3 Nf6 8 0-0-0 Ba3 9 Nh3 0-0 10 Nd5 Bd2 11 Kb2 Qe5 12 Kd3 Nd5 13 Rd5 Qe7 14 Ng5 c6 15 Re5 Qf6 16 Rf5 Qg6 17 Rf6 Rf7 18 Bf7 Qf7 19 Gf7 Resigns.

No time for castling. Hort is busy as a bee taking pieces in the center. If 7 ... ed; 8 ed, Bd5; 9 Rd1 wins.

7 ... a6; 8 Bc6, b5; 9 Qb3, Nc6; 10 dc, Bc8; 11 0-0!

The perfect time to castle. White has achieved important advantages: neither Black's QR or QB can move. White has an important passed P on c6, and he can now productively use the KR on the Q-file. So castling has purpose now, whereas before it would just allow Black to untangle itself.

11 ... Qc7; 12 Rfd1, Re8; 13 Rd2, Rb8; 14 Qd1!, e5; 15 Rd7, Qa5; 16 c7, Rb7; 17 Qd5, Kh8; 18 Rd8, Resigns.

A pretty conclusion to a game where the correct timing of castling was crucial to victory.

From Specific to General

There are some general rules which may help you to decide how and when it is important to castle or **not** to castle.

1. When the center files are coming open quickly, it is usually very constructive to castle quickly.
2. Before you get into involved attacks and counterattacks in the center it is **almost** always advisable to castle first and start operations second.

The exceptions occur when your analysis shows you grasping the initiative by postponing castling **and** then still being able to castle either with threat or providing a timely defense.

3. When the center is closed, speed in castling is secondary to achieving goals in broader plans and to seizing the initiative. Often when players are attacking on opposite wings with the center closed, it is a positive advantage to postpone castling altogether and so blunt the force of the opponent's attack. Other times, however, particularly when there is still some tension in the center, castling provides the king as a needed and strong defender of the threatened sector.

The main thing is **not** to castle on general principles. General principles only suggest candidate moves; they do not determine what is best in the position. Castling is a move like any other move. Like a queen sacrifice, it is based on specific analysis of specific positions. The main thing in the opening is not to bring pieces off of the back rank but to inaugurate a plan by which pieces find usefulness. Castling is another way to make pieces useful. It should fit into your plan and not interrupt it. Strategic goals and seeking the initiative are more important aspects of any well-conceived scheme of development.



"Should I castle now?"

Tournaments

LERA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Jim Hurt directed the 15th annual LERA Peninsula Class Chess Tournament at the Lockheed facility in Sunnyvale, Mar. 22-23. The four-round, USCF-rated Swiss system event attracted 140 players competing for \$2,645 in prizes.

Complete results:

Open Division

1st-4th, Renard Anderson (2113), Sunnyvale, John Donaldson (2423), Bothell, Washington, Mike McCusker (1933), Los Gatos, and Gabriel Sanchez (2192), Santa Clara, 3½-½, \$220 each.

Category I (Class A)

1st-2nd, Juan Fong (1973), Los Angeles, and Pedro Marcal (1912), Palo Alto, 3½-½, \$180 each; **3rd-6th**, Nick Hill (1796), Concord, Craig Jones (1962), Irvine, James Langemak (1802), Cupertino, and Steve Levine (1868), Santa Clara, 3-1, \$30 each.

Category II (Class B)

1st-2nd, George Nichols (1787), Oakland, and Neil Regan (1790), Fremont, 3½-½, \$170 each; **3rd-5th**, David Burgess (1648), Santa Clara, Jim David (1680), San Luis Obispo, and Alejandro Duval (1650), San Jose, 3-1, \$40 each.

Category III (Class C)

1st, Blake Fuessenich (1530), Monterey, 4-0, \$160; **2nd-3rd**, Robert Barker (1523), Santa Clara, and Daniel Miller (1592), San Jose, 3½-½, \$65 each; **4th-6th**, Herman Barchett (1436), Orland, Kevin Brinkley (1468), Cupertino, and Roderick McCalley (1581), Palo Alto, 3-1, \$10 each.

Category IV (Class D)

1st-2nd, John Bidwell (1336), Ben Lomond, and Michael Brent (1399), Stockton, 3½-½, \$105 each; **3rd-4th**, Fred Bowen (1301), Cupertino, and Ralph Leseberg (1181), Los Molinos, 3-1, \$25 each.

Category V (Class E)

1st, Douglas Robbins (1118), Carmichael, 3½-½, \$45; **2nd**, Jimmy Woo (1142), San Francisco, 3-1, \$25.

Category VI (Unrated Section)

1st, Romulo Fuentes, South San Francisco, 4-0, \$70; **2nd-5th**, Dante Banez, Stockton, Roy Jackson, Mt. View, Kathy Faulkner, Los Molinos, and James Wu, San Mateo, 3-1, \$20 each.

CALCHESS SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

VARSIITY RATED (23 players, 9 schools)

Team: (maximum score is 24 points)

1 Palo Alto High (Palo Alto) 18 pts., trophy and money; Jose Marcal 6, Chris Hull 5, Mark Shulman 4, Charles Rand 3.

2 Homestead High (Cupertino) 15pts., trophy; Charles Garner 5, Scott E. Taylor 3½, Ricky Bleszyski 3½, Duane S. Boning 3.

3 Hillsdale High (San Mateo) 13 pts., trophy; James T. Y. Wu 4, Dan Coleman 3½, Dean Mau 3, Mike Leong 2½.

4 Gunn High (Palo Alto) 8½ pts., trophy; James Jorasch 3, Dave Gampell 3, Lucy Collier 2½, (no 4th bd.).

5 John Woolman School (Nevada City) 7 pts., trophy; James W. Lee 2, Derek Houle 2, David Heizer 2, Scott Clark 1.

JUNIOR RATED (10 players, 7 schools)

Team: (maximum score is 24 points)

1 Stuart Hall (San Francisco) 7 points, trophy and money Matthew Ng 3, William Tseng 2, Lincoln Mitchell 1, Peter Lowry 1

The following schools received trophies for their one-player team.

2= Jordan Middle (Palo Alto), 5½, Pedro Marcal, Jr.

2= Kennedy Jr. H. (Cupertino), 5½, Kevin Binkley

4= Davidson Middle (San Rafael), 3½, Edward T. Jones, Jr.

4= J. George Middle (San Jose), 3½, Eric Burr

VARSIITY NON-RATED SECTION (75 players, 19 schools)

Team: (maximum score is 16 points)

1 Milpitas High (Milpitas), 12½, trophy; Emil Lowder 4, Steve Brobst 3½, Michael Lane 3, Todd Walker 2

1= Homestead High, (Cupertino) 12, trophy; Athar Siddigee 3½, Ri-Pen Chou 3, Sherwin Cheng 3, Michael Doering 2½

2= Overfelt High (San Jose), 12, trophy; Gustavo Alfaro 4, Abel Pantoja 3, David Cribbs 3, David Ortiz 2

4 Redwood High (Larkspur), 10, trophy; Scott Greenbert 3, Reza Bazargani 3, Cam Baker 3

5 Menlo School (Menlo Park), 9½, trophy; Bernardo Issel 3, Jim Dahlgren 2½, Alan Berezin 2, Hatf Moghimi 2

JUNIOR NON-RATED SECTION (78 players, 20 schools)

Team: (maximum score is 16 points)

1 Jordan Middle, (Palo Alto), 14, trophy; David Van Stone 4, Doug Hamilton 4, David Huddleston 3, Jas Singh 3 (others with 3 pts: Tim Burnett, Stephen Mason)

2 Horner Junior High (Fremont) 11, trophy Reed Kimbro 3, Jamie Smith 3, Brian Rogers 3, Stephen Dahlin 2

3 Sanborn Elementary (Salinas) 10½, trophy; Hugo Rodriguez 3, Joel Alvear 3, Manuel Echon 2½, Andre Lucero 2

4 Portola Junior High (El Cerrito) 10, trophy; Jeffrey Hsu 3, Jeff Adachi 3, Scott Hannon 2, Marc Villa 2 (also at 2: Mike Allen)

5 Wells Intermediate (Dublin), 9½, trophy; Shane Poulsen 3, Tom Dobbins 2½, Steve Tibbets 2, Dewaine Jackson 2 (also at 2: Gordon Lang, Jeff Hammond)

SACRAMENTO CHESS CLUB OPEN

The Sacramento Chess Club had one of their largest draws of the year as they attracted 89 players from all over the state to comprise one of the largest area tournaments of the decade.

Securely in first place were Sacramento's James MacFarland and Jay Whitehead of San Francisco. In third to fifth places were Mark Buckley, Arthur White, and Romulo Fuentes with 3½-½ scores.

First and second category prizes also went to people who scored 3½: Zoran Lazetich and Doug Anderson tied in first category and Dave Ross of Oregon was clear second category winner.

Tops in third category was William Samuels, while Benjamin Miramontes of Modesto garnered best fourth category honors by posting a 3-1 score.

In fifth and sixth category Dante Banez and Jimmy Wu shared honors with 3-1.



"The Rookery" by Elaine Kohnwell

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CALENDAR

Keys to Symbols

- (27) - Dates in parentheses are tentative.
(X) - The column of capital letters at the right refers to the list of tournament organizers. (These are mail-addresses, not tournament sites.)
/p9/ - See advertisement on the indicated page.
/Fly/ - See flyer inserted in the centerfold of this issue.
CAPS - Tournament title in capital letters indicates that CalChess membership is required.

MAY

- 17-18 UC Berkeley - MAYDAY TOURNAMENT (B)
17-18 Burlingame - 1st Annual Burlingame CC Ama.Tour. (V)
24-26 Sunnyvale - LERA MEMORIAL DAY TOURNEY (H)
30-1 Sacramento - Sacramento Championship (T)

JUNE

- 14-15 UC Berkeley - JUNE AMATEUR TOURNAMENT (B)
21-22 San Francisco - Stamer Memorial (M)

JULY

- 3-6 San Francisco - GOLDEN GATE OPEN (G)
19-20 Saratoga - Paul Masson Amer. Class Champ. (N)
(26-27) Sacramento - Patzers' Paradise (C/Below) (W)
26-27 Santa Clara - 15th Annual Santa Clara Open (S)

AUGUST

- 3-15 Atlanta - U.S. Open & USCF Meetings
16-17 San Anselmo-Marin County Open (O)
(23-24) San Jose - 12 San Jose CC Open (S)
30-1 UC Berkeley - LABOR DAY CHAMP (B)

SEPTEMBER

- 20-21 Sunnyvale - LERA SUNNYVALE CLASS CHAMP (H)

OCTOBER

- 4 National Chess Day

NOVEMBER

- San Francisco - Capps Memorial (M)
28-30 Sunnyvale - LERA THANKSGIVING TOUR. (H)
UC Berkeley - FALL QUARTER SWISS (B)

TOURNAMENT ORGANIZERS

- A. Tom Boyd, 3900 Harrison Av., Oakland, CA 94511. (415) 653-2551
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Places to Play in Northern California

Note: Places to play in the East Bay, North Bay, North Coast, and South Coast are listed in February, June and October. Places to play in the West Bay, South Bay, and Central Valley are listed in April, August and December. Contact the editor to keep these listings up to date.

West Bay

Daly City CC — Tuesdays, 145 Westlake Drive. Carl Barton TD, (415) 731-9171.

Mechanics Institute CC — Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m.-11 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to midnight; Sundays, noon to 10 p.m. 57 Post St. (4th floor). Max Wilkerson.

San Francisco City College CC — Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m., Student Union, City College of San Francisco. Ulf Wostner, faculty advisor, (415) 239-3518 (days).

Burlingame-San Mateo CC — Thursdays, 7 p.m. Burlingame Recreation Center. Will Godwin TD, 413 Cornish Way, Belmont, CA 94002.

Palo Alto CC — Mondays, 7 p.m., Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Rd; Thursdays, 7 p.m., Mitchell Park Clubhouse, 3800 Middlefield Rd. Bryce Perry TD, (415) 493-3833.

Sunnyvale: LERA CC — Thursdays, 7 p.m. Lockheed Employees Recreation Association Auditorium, Java and Mathilda Sts., Jim Hurt TD, P. O. Box 60451, Sunnyvale, CA 94088.

South Bay

San Jose CC — Fridays, 6 p.m. to midnight, Condie College (Rm.109), 4340 Stevens Creek Road. Fred Muollo TD, (408) 226-2097.

San Jose City College CC — For information contact Francisco Sierra TD, (408) 241-1447.

San Jose State University CC — Fridays, 4-6:30 p.m., Games Area, Student Union, 9th St. and San Fernando Avenue. Francisco Sierra TD, (408) 241-1447.

Santa Clara CC — Wednesdays, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m., Buchser HS Library, 3000 Benton Street. John Sumares TD, (408) 296-5392.

Santa Clara County CC — 2nd Saturdays 6:30 p.m., Allstate Savings, 2500 Pruneridge Avenue, Santa Clara. Francisco Sierra TD, (408) 241-1447.

Sacramento Valley

Chico CC — Thursdays, 7 to 11 p.m., Room A-208, Chico Sr. HS, 901 Esplanade. Dick Rowe TD, (916) 343-2696.

Sacramento CC — Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Clunie Clubhouse, Alhambra and F Streets. Ramona Sue Wilson TD, (916) 922-8278.

Woodland CC — Fridays (except 2nd Friday) 7 to 11 p.m. Heart Federal Savings Community Cottage, 130 Court Street. E. G. Northam or John Alexanders TDs, (916) 662-6930 or 662-6865.

Modesto CC — Tuesdays, 7-11 p.m., Modesto Community Service Center, 808 East Morris Avenue. Robert Raingruber TD, (209) 527-0657.

U.C. CAMPUS CHESS CLUB

Meets Thursday evening (7-10 p.m.)
Student Union, 4th Floor, U. C. Berkeley Campus.

The SUPERB/University of California, Berkeley Campus Chess Club will host the May Day tournament May 17-18 on the 4th floor of the Student Union. Entry fee is \$20 for the public and \$18 for students and faculty.

On June 14-15 the club will sponsor the June Amateur in six sections from Category I to VI. Entry fee is \$25 for the public and \$23 for students and faculty.

For further information write or call:

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