

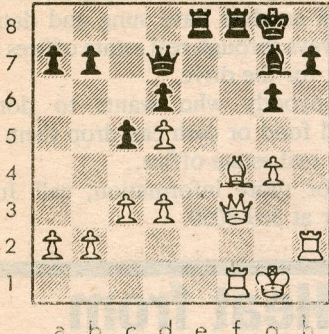
# Chess



By Frisco Del Rosario

## KETCHAM-RACHELS

Black to play and win.



### TWENTY-YEAR-OLD WINS SHARE OF U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP

Grandmasters Roman Dzindzichashvili and Yasser Seirawan and 20-year-old FIDE master Stuart Rachels each scored 9½ points in a 16-man round robin to share first place in the 1989 U.S. championship held Nov. 9-Dec. 3 in Long Beach, Calif.

Rachels is the youngest player to win part of the title since Bobby Fischer won seven U.S. championships from 1958-1966 between the ages of 14 and 22. Rachels is the first to win the event after being seeded last.

#### Long Beach 1989

White: Sergey Kudrin

Black: Stuart Rachels

Sicilian Defense

- |     |                                 |     |                      |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| 1.  | e4 c5                           | 16. | Kh1 <sup>8</sup> Bf6 |
| 2.  | Nf3 Nc6                         | 17. | b3 Qf5 <sup>9</sup>  |
| 3.  | d4 cd                           | 18. | Nd4 Qg6              |
| 4.  | Nd4 Nf6                         | 19. | c4 g4                |
| 5.  | Nc3 d6                          | 20. | Rg2 <sup>10</sup> h4 |
| 6.  | g3 <sup>1</sup> g6              | 21. | gh Rh4               |
| 7.  | Nde2 <sup>2</sup> Bd7           | 22. | f4 <sup>11</sup> Nd7 |
| 8.  | Bg2 Qc8                         | 23. | Nb5 O-O-O            |
| 9.  | Nd5 <sup>3</sup> Bg7            | 24. | Na7 Kb8              |
| 10. | O-O Nd5                         | 25. | Be3 Rdh8             |
| 11. | ed Ne5                          | 26. | Qe1 g3 <sup>12</sup> |
| 12. | a4 Bh3                          | 27. | Qa5 Rh2              |
| 13. | Ra2 <sup>4</sup> h5             | 28. | Rh2 Qe4              |
| 14. | Bh3? <sup>5</sup> Qh3           | 29. | Kg1 Qe3              |
| 15. | f3 <sup>6</sup> g5 <sup>7</sup> | 30. | Resigns              |

#### NOTES:

1. Not as active as 6. Bc4 or 6. Bg5, but the bishop does on fine job on g2 inhibiting the ...d5 advance Black hopes to play. 6. g3 also nullifies most of Black's opening preparation.

2. The knight is placed flexibly on e2 and the queen now adds to the pressure on d5. White was also worried about losing a tempo after 7...Nd4 8. Qd4 Bg7 and the queen will have to move again.

3. Preventing ...Bh3 temporarily because of Bh3 and Nc7.

4. Primarily to remove the rook from the dangerous a1-h8 diagonal, but reminiscent of I. Ivanov-Kudrin (1989 U.S. Open), in which Kudrin defended his king by clearing the second rank and moving his rook up and over.

5. This speeds Black's queen to the attack. Black now threatens ...Nf3 or ...Ng4 and ...Qh2#.

6. Guards g4, and f3 is now guarded by the rook, but the rook would be better placed on a file without white pawns. Also, the a7-g1 diagonal is weakened. However, 15. f3 may be part of Kudrin's weird rook lift defensive plan.

7. It isn't clear what Black intends if White takes the pawn. 16. Bg5 Nf3 17. Rf3 Qg4 is possible, then White must be careful of tricks like 18. Qf1 Qg5 19. Rf7? Qd5.

8. He doesn't get another chance at the g-pawn.

9. Black cannot yet play ...g4 because of Ng1 trapping the queen.

10. White hopes this maneuver was completed in time.

11. Chases the knight away, but Black has successfully broken through.

12. The pawn can't be touched — 27. Rg3 Rh2 28. Kg1 Rh1 29. Kg2 (29. Kf2 Bh4) Qe4 and White's three legal moves are met by 30...R8h2 winning. 27. Qg3 runs into 27...Qg3 28. Rg3 Rh2 29. Kg1 Rh1 30. Kf2 (30. Kg2 R8h2) R8h2! (30...Bh4? 31. Rh1 Bg3 32. Kg2!) and after 31. Rg2 or Ke1, 31...Bh4.

**SOLUTION:** 1...Be5 2. Qg3 (2. Qe3 Bf4) Rf4! 3. Rf4 g5 wins.

#### PLACES TO PLAY

**Redwood City Chess Club:** Meets Mondays, First Baptist Church, James and Hudson. Informal games. John Vitlacil 367-9368.

**Burlingame CC:** Meets Thursdays, Lions Club, 990 Burlingame Ave. USCF tnmts, informal play. Wilfred Goodwin, 593-0054.

**Palo Alto CC:** Tuesday eves, days Sat. & Sun. 3800 Middlefield. USCF & blitz tnmts, informal play. Steve Farmer, 329-2487.

We welcome your games, positions and comments.