

Precita Valley

CHESS HERALD

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Agency of the COMMUNITY CHEST

A MONTHLY CHESS NEWS BULLETIN

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Representing the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League.

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U. S. Junior Championship

BOBBY FISCHER WINS AS EXPECTED -- GIL RAMIREZ HOLDS ON FOR 2ND

San Francisco, July 14. As expected, Bobby Fischer of Brooklyn, N. Y. won the U. S. Junior Championship for the 2nd year in a row with a total of $8\frac{1}{2}$ out of a possible 9, drawing only with Gilbert Ramirez of San Francisco. Gil Ramirez, considered at the start as Bobby's most serious threat, held on to take 2nd place honors with a score of $7\frac{1}{2}$. He almost faltered in a game with R. Clark of Long Beach, Calif. Clark had a nice attack going against Ramirez, but being over anxious, overlooked a mate in two moves set up by Gil. Stephen Sholomonson of Los Angeles was 3rd with $6\frac{1}{2}$, and Ronald Thacker of Richmond, Calif. 4th with 6.

Precita Valley sponsored two hopeful locals in the persons of Leighton Allen and Ivan Vegvary--; both ended up with even scores of $4\frac{1}{2}$. By S.B. points in the Swiss System, they finished 19th and 23rd respectively out of the 33 participants. Young Fred Wreden was also in the tourney but this reporter wasn't around to get his final score and placement. Fred does most of his chess playing at Mechanics' Institute. However, we do know Fred did score a win over Ivan Vegvary, so he must have ended up with a fair score. See BACL ROVING REPORTER, page 6, for more comments about this tournament.

Candidates' Tourneys

"A" DIVISION IN 3-WAY TIE -- JACK CRAIG LEADS "C&B" DIVISION

Precita Valley's Candidates' Tourneys seem to be creeping along at a slow pace with the "A" Division being all tied up between Leighton Allen, Dave Gibson, and Jim Reynolds. The nemesis of the players so far has been the refusal of draws. When Reynolds offered Gibson a draw, the latter refused and then "goofed" shortly after to lose the game. A similar incident took place when Allen offered Reynolds a draw. So, the three contestants are all tied up with one win apiece and still have each other to face in a second round.

Jack Craig leads the "C&B" Division with a perfect score of 3-0. This is quite remarkable since Jack is usually inactive most of the Fall, Winter, and Spring, his college studies keeping him from the old Royal Game. In second place is Paul Bogosian with 2-1, though he leads the "C" players in this division.

The "A" Division was narrowed down when A. R. Castellanos drew out because he felt that he could not attend the club often enough to make all the rounds. The "C" "C&B" Division may be narrowed down to 7 participants, though Rex Hiatt and George Natali hope to come back in time and get in their rounds. George has been ill, while Rex is having baby sitting problems, his wife becoming a night worker at the present time.

The "C&B" Division is scheduled to end on August 22, 1957 while the "A" Division will finish on September 5, 1957. After this the winners will take on the co-champs, James Cook and Noel Renaud, in 4-round matches. The winners of the 4-rd matches will play in a 6-round match for the club championship.

Vol. 2

CHESS HERALD
July 1957

No. 7

U. S. "OPEN" CHAMPIONSHIP AT CLEVELAND

Editor.....Jim Reynolds
Games Editor.....Noel Renaud
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C. D. 's VIEWS

THIS IS THE LAZY SEASON....., which means your C.D. is no different from others. Being also editor for the time being, at any rate, I wish to apologize to the readers if CHESS HERALD does not seem to be up to par during these Summer months.

It seems there is not much activity chesswise around town during these two months and yet so much is going on. Or, at least the U. S. "Open" takes place from August 5th to the 17th (but back in Cleveland); the U. S. Junior has taken place this month in San Francisco (but it is for JUNIORS who are on vacation from their school studies); and we have the Valley of the Moon Chess Festival at Sonoma this month (but this is taken as just a good day for a picnic and playing chess at the same time-- win or lose).

I'm not making excuses nor am I mocking the mentioned events, but it seems nobody has that extra "umph" during the midsummer months of July and August. The Fall season starts all the action again, beginning with the California State "Open" over the Labor Day weekend. This will probably be in Fresno since that is the only city to bid for the event so far. Anyhow, bear with me for these two months!

AS EVERYONE PROBABLY knows, the U. S. "Open" Championship Tourney will be held at Cleveland, Ohio this year from August 5th to 17th. It is quite a distance to travel for just a chess tournament. Nevertheless, from this area it appears Henry Gross, Guthrie McClain, and Spencer Van Gelder are definitely going to take part. Your editor is also contemplating the trip, but whether I make it or not will depend on a few factors. I would very much like to go, not only because I have been elected as one of the USCF directors and would like to help out the California cause at the USCF business meetings there, but because I could make so many people happy when I'm announced as their opponent! Or, at least, I would be one point they would be sure of at any rate.

I know of a couple of others who would also like to go, but expect to make it only by a "car pool". The trip is quite expensive but I guess if three or four fellows could chip in on car expenses, it could be done. As for myself, I do not mind such a deal, providing, of course, that at least two men can drive. Out of the fellows I know that are interested in this method I am the only one that can drive. If there is someone else who would like this method of travel, please let me know--; that is, someone else capable of driving. Aside from this idea, I plan to make the trip by bus. Like I said, there are factors involved--; just to name two of them--, if I can make it financially and providing my bosses grant me a leave of absence.

Anyhow, those who do get to Cleveland, Ohio, by one method or another, I hope to see you there.Editor
x-x

ABOUT OUR FEATURES

Regular features usually seen in the pages of CHESS HERALD may be absent during the months of July and August and CHESS HERALD may look smaller to you. However, this is only during the summer; regular features missing will again be resumed in the September issue.

CANDIDATES' TOURNEYS

"C&B" Division Standings

Player	W	L	D	Score
Jack Craig (B).....	3	0	0	3 - 0
Paul Bogosian (C).....	2	1	0	2 - 1
Lowell Tullis (C).....	2	2	0	2 - 2
Bob Blakemore (B).....	1	1	0	1 - 1
Ivan Vegvary (B).....	1	2	0	1 - 2
Julio Ercolini (C).....	0	1	0	0 - 1
Ronald Meyers (C).....	0	2	0	0 - 2
Rex Hiatt (C).....	0	0	0	0 - 0
George Natali (C).....	0	0	0	0 - 0

"A" Division Standings

Player	W	L	D	Score
Leighton Allen.....	1	1	0	1 - 1
Dave Gibson.....	1	1	0	1 - 1
Jim Reynolds.....	1	1	0	1 - 1

Club Ladder Standings & Ratings - P. V.

The following standings and ratings include games played up to July 11, 1957.

Rung	Player	Class	Rating
1	Leighton Allen.....	A	1706
2	Noel Renaud.....	A	1766
3	James Cook.....	A	1588
4	A. R. Castellanos.....	B	1487
5	Bob Blakemore.....	B	1294
6	Dave Gibson.....	A	1674
7	John Ramirez.....	B	1249
8	Jim Reynolds.....	A	1601
9	Lowell Tullis.....	B	1050
10	Ivan Vegvary.....	B	1321
11	Paul Bogosian.....	B	1182
12	Julio Ercolini.....	C	991
13	Carl Barton.....	B	1234
14	Don Hufnagel.....	B	1160
15	Rex Hiatt.....	C	850
16	George Natali.....	C	850
17	Jack Craig.....	B	1230
18	Ronald Meyers.....	C	848
19	Richard Moreno.....	C	959
20	Ed Russell.....	B	1235
21	Steve Cabito.....	C	902
22	Henry Brauns.....	C	946
23	Douglas Jerdet.....	C	745
24	R. P. Kovach.....	A	1500
25	Eugene Nakamura.....	C	913
26	Walter Lewis.....	C	907

2000 & above - Expert; 1500-1999 - A;
1000-1499 - B; Below 1000 - C.

PROBLEM CORNER

This feature will be resumed in the September edition.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S PROBLEM NO. 5:

1. N-Q5, R-K1; 2. N-B4 ch and mate next move, or 1...., RxB; 2. R-K7 ch and mate next move, or 1...., K-B4; 2. P-K4 ch and mate next move. These are the main lines. All questions regarding this problem will be gladly answered by the editor.

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VALLEY OF THE MOON CHESS FESTIVAL AT SONOMA, SUNDAY, JULY 21ST

The annual Valley of the Moon Chess Festival will take place at Sonoma, Calif. on Sunday, July 21st. The entry fee is \$1.50 to be sent to Lois McVeigh, secty, Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce in Sonoma. By the time you get this it will probably be too late, so if you wait to go up this Sunday to enter the fee will be \$2.50. The starting time is around 10 a.m. with three rounds to be played by each player in their respective divisions, "A", "B", "C", Juniors, or Women's.

The idea here is to get out in the open air along with the family and picnic while playing chess. The divisions are divided into 4-player sections. Section winners usually receive book prizes. Division winners, usually determined from the various scores of the section winners, usually receive trophies. There are also other prizes, such as a trophy for the player coming from the farthest point, etc. Also there are club prizes. The club with members there scoring the most number of points gets to hold the General Dean Trophy, and there are trophies for the club with the most members up there, etc.

Those from Precita Valley intending to participate in this one-day tourney, we hope you have stated your club affiliation though we probably haven't got a chance.

Those in need of transportation please phone Jim Reynolds, MI 8-5759, and he'll see what he can do for you.

The day of festivities are usually over from 5 to 7 p.m.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 GAMES SECTION
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Edited by Noel Renaud

GAME PLAYED IN NORTH-SOUTH match at
 Fresno, Calif., June 2nd. Board 58.

White: Leo Fielding (S)

Black: Jim Reynolds (N)

RETI OPENING

1. N-KB3 N-KB3

2. P-KN3 P-Q4

Transposing into a King's Indian in
 reverse.

3. B-N2 P-K3

This could well be delayed in favor of
 3...., B-B4.

4. O-O B-K2

Black's system of development is cautious
 indeed. There is much to say for 4....,
 B-Q3.

5. P-Q3 QN-Q2

6. QN-Q2 O-O

7. P-K4 P-K4

If 7...., P-B3; 8. P-K5, N-K1 and Black's
 position is somewhat congested. He can
 secure equality more readily with 7....,
 PxP; 8. NxP, NxN; 9. PxN, P-K4.

8. R-K1 P-Q5

An unfortunate concession but other moves
 are not attractive as White threatened
 to win a Pawn.

9. N-B4 R-K1

10. P-QR4 . . .

To prevent the embarrassing 10...., P-N4.
 If 10. N/4xP, NxN; 11. NxN, B-N5 wins the
 exchange.

10. . . . B-B1

This is not urgent. Black could take
 time for 10...., P-KR3.

11. N-R4 N-N3

12. P-N3 NxN

13. NPxN P-B4

We now view a conclave of frustrated
 Bishops-- under house arrest as it were.
 It seems some sort of operation on the
 weakened Queenside would be in order.

At any rate some plan should be formul-
 ated to take advantage of White's many
 weaknesses-- , isolated Pawn, backward
 Pawn, doubled Pawns, Bishop and Knight
 temporarily out of action--; the text
 makes such action more difficult.

14. P-B4 B-N5

Not best as it helps White regroup.
 Could try 14...., Pxp; 15. Bxp, N-N5
 threatening to win a piece. Then if 16.
 N-B3, P-B3.

15. N-B3 N-Q2

16. P-KR3 BxN

17. QxB B-Q3

18. P-B5 P-KR3

19. B-Q2 B-B2

20. P-R5 P-R3

21. KR-N1 . . .

This demonstration wastes time. Better
 continue the attack against the King.

21. . . . R-R2

22. R-N3 P-QN3

23. Pxp Bxp

24. R/3-R3 P-QR4

25. P-N4 N-N1

26. Q-N3 P-B3

27. P-R4 N-B3

28. P-N5 RpxP

29. Pxp K-B2

30. Pxp Pxp

31. Q-N6 ch K-K2

32. K-B2 R-N1

33. Q-R6 R-KR1

34. Q-N6 Q-KN1

35. QxQ RxB

36. R-KR1 K-Q3

37. R-R6 B-Q1

38. B-KB3 R-QN2

39. R-N3 N-N5

40. BxN RpxB

41. R-N1 R-QR2

42. R-N2 R-R6

If 42...., R-R8; 43. R-R1.

43. R-R1 B-K2

44. R-R6 R/1-QR1

45. R-R1 R-R7

46. RxB . . .

This seems best though it loses a Pawn.
 If White tries to save the Pawn with 46.
 R/1-QN1 then RxB; 47. RxB, R-R8 and
 Black's Bishop then comes around through
 B1, R3, B8 bottling up the White Rook.
 The Black King would then take the Grand
 Tour and should be able to force a
 decision.

FIELDING-REYNOLDS (cont'd)

46. . . . RxB

47. R-QN1 . . .

Neither B-Q1 nor R-QB1 is playable.

47. . . . RXP ch

48. K-K1 R-B6

It is better to keep control of the seventh rank until the Bishop can be brought into action.

49. K-Q2 K-B3

These King moves lose precious time.

With 49...., B-B1 Black need not fear

50. R-QR1.

50. B-Q1 K-N3

51. B-N3 B-B1

52. K-K2 B-R3

53. R-N2 B-B8

If there is still a chance to win, it would be with 53...., R-B8.

54. R-N1 B-R6

This square should now be reserved for the Rook.

55. K-Q2 K-B3

56. B-R4 ch K-N3

57. B-B2

DRAWN

The logical conclusion to a hard-fought game. Note how much stronger Black's position would be if Rook and Bishop could exchange squares.

G
E of YESTERYEAR
M
S by Jim Reynolds

THIS ONE TAKES PLACE not really too long ago, the year being 1932.

White: Noel Renaud

Black: Oscar Ostrum

QUEEN PAWN OPENING

1. N-KB3 P-Q4

2. P-Q4 N-KB3

3. B-B4 . . .

This variation is rarely seen today.

3. . . . P-K3

4. P-B4 . . .

More usual is 4. P-K3 even then.

4. . . . P-B3

5. N-B3 PxP

White has three pieces developed to Black's one, so he wastes time with the text move. 5...., B-Q3 seems to be his

RENAUD-OSTRUM (cont'd)

best procedure to develop and possibly free himself from a cramped position.

6. P-K4 B-N5

Of course, B-Q3 is not good now.

7. BxP NxP

The score is 4 to 2 in development in favor of White--, yet it is difficult to refute Black's last. The only other consideration apparently was to castle despite the threat of P-K5.

8. Q-B2 N-B3

9. O-O O-O

10. N-K2 QN-Q2

11. N-N5 P-KR3

Looks natural enough, but is the start of his troubles. Some hope in 11...., R-K1, though Black is so badly cramped for space that it is beyond "kibitzing" possible good continuations for him.

12. N-R3 P-KN4

Inviting more trouble--; Black cannot afford an open King position with his pieces so far away from a rescue operation.

13. NxP! . . .

White can well afford this piece for two Pawns, since his other pieces are so well posted and poised for attack.

13. . . . PxN

14. BxNP K-N2

15. N-B4 B-K2

15...., R-K1 was still Black's only hope.

16. BxP! N-R2

Of course, if 16...., PxB; 17. NxP ch and Black's Queen is lost.

17. BxP! QN-B3

The combination is unbeatable. If 17...., NxB; 18. Q-N6 ch, K-R1; 19. Q-R6 ch and mate next move. Other moves by Black loses his Queen, i.e. 17...., BxB; 18. N-K6 ch, or 17...., RxB; 18. N-K6 ch; and of course, 17...., KxB?; 18. Q-N6 mate. White has other good variations also for 17...., BxB and other moves, but they are too numerous to mention here.

18. B-R6 ch! K-R1

19. N-N6 mate.

The taking of either Bishop also would end in a mate on the 19th move.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND IN YOUR GEM OF YESTERYEAR TO THE EDITOR. FOR THAT MATTER ANY ITEM OF INTEREST WILL ALWAYS GLADLY BE CONSIDERED.

B A C L R O V I N G R E P O R T E R
XX

RUNNING OUT OF PLACES TO ROVE AT THIS TIME of the year, I decided to peek in on the U.S. Junior Championship Tourney going on at the auditorium down at the Spreckels-Russell Dairy Co. It was a very quiet place. One did not dare drop a pin, much less a watch, for fear of someone calling a forfeit. Bobby Fischer, of course, was the featured player so he and his opponent (Stephen Sholomson of L.A. at the time) were roped off, literally speaking. It was about the only way you could tell where Bobby Fischer was playing. Since Bobby has so suddenly become such a spotlight in the world of chess one is inclined to look for someone unusual. There is nothing unusual about Bobby. He looks like any other kid his age. He even appears to be a little nervous playing a chess game, biting his fingernails continuously. The only difference between him and others his age is that he plays exceptionally good chess. We hope that he will continue to do so even though there is not much in the way of monies to attract any kid to the game today. Nevertheless, if the U.S.A. is again to gain some extinction among other nations in the old Royal Game, then we need more Bobby Fischers (and Gil Ramirez, Fred Wredens, Ivan Vegvays, et al).

There were quite a few local lads I was familiar with. Naturally, I was interested in how they were doing. To find that Gil Ramirez got a draw with Bobby Fischer pleased me. But then the talk was that he should have won the game. My answer to this is, then why didn't he??!! The final result is always so telling no matter who was supposed to do what. Dave Nieder often remarks, "Chess is an illegal game--: the guy who loses always should have won or at least draw, and the guy who draws always should have won, but the guy who wins or draws never should have!" Tell me--, what do we keep score for??!!

George Koltanowski was directing the tournament ably enough, but I didn't like to see a couple of my friends bearing down on each other across the 64 squares. But there it was, i.e., a game going on between Ivan Vegvary and Fred Wreden. At first I hoped it was a "skittles" game, but alas, the faces were serious, the issue at hand, critical! It was a pretty even game, too, until Ivan "goofed" and gave away a Knight.

During the final round and last day, the Spreckels-Russell Dairy Co. auditorium became a little crowded. Everybody wanted to be in on the final results. First prize, of course, went to Bobby Fischer. He got a typewriter--, and, he doesn't know how to type. Maybe he can trade it in for a "Kingboard"! Guthrie McClain, editor of THE CALIFORNIA CHESS REPORTER, deserves a word of praise for his up-to-the-minute bulletins during the tourney, which appeared at the auditorium where the tourney was taking place and at a few chess clubs.

Your reporter stepped into 57 Post Street, Mechanics' Institute, long enough to find out that William Addison won the M.I. Invitational Tourney, losing only one game, to Charles Bagby, who came in second. Now my memory is a little hazy but I believe Gil Ramirez and Jim Schmitt tied for 3rd and 4th, with Henry Gross taking 5th. Now I could be wrong, it may have been Gross 3rd, and a tie for 4th & 5th, or it may have been--, well shucks, it's stale news by now anyhow.

In a local TV column there was mention of a best scene being left out on a play about Ben Franklin. It seems Ben, at the age of 70, fell for a certain Mme. Brillon. Mme. Brillon was crazy about taking baths while Ben Franklin was crazy about chess. Ben Franklin wrote in his memoirs how he and Mme. Brillon used to play chess while she took a bath. In a TV story about this part of Franklin's life, the bath-chess scene was left out. Reason, according to Zsa Zsa Gabor (playing the part of Mme. Brillon), was because "Chess is not so popular these days". Guess Miss Gabor hasn't been around much these days, there is a chess scene in the picture, "The Green Man" (now playing at the Parkin), that has people of all sorts rolling in the aisles with laughter. The left out TV scene probably would be much more interesting, especially with Zsa Zsa taking a bath....., while playing chess!