

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

The Palo Alto chess team preserved its perfect record last Saturday evening by walloping Mechanics' Institute 5-2 in the fifth round of the Class B division of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League.

The Whiz Kids trounced Oakland 6-1, which put them in third place in the team tournament.

The Whiz Kids are boys ranging in age from 14 to 16 years who make up the Kings Chess Team. Last Saturday evening the team consisted of Dave Peizer, Gilbert Ramirez, Ted Eisenstadt, P. Chang, H. Holden, B. Zeiler and A. Chris.

Golden Gate Wins

Golden Gate defeated the Russians 5½-1½, and maintained their runner-up spot in the team tournament. The crucial match is April 3, when Golden Gate faces Palo Alto.

The standings: Palo Alto 5-0, Golden Gate 3½-½, Kings 2-2, Mechanics' Institute 2½-2½, Russians and Oakland 1-3, Alameda 0-4.

The 30-30 tournament at Mechanics' Institute ended in a tie for first place between William Addison and Robert Currie, both of whom scored 5-3.

In this tournament, players had to make 30 moves each 30 minutes, the result being games of very short duration.

The consensus of players seemed to be that the playing rate was too fast for really good chess.

Russian Team

It begins to look like the Russians really intend to send a team to New York to play against the United States, but we are still holding our breath!

The State Department has relaxed all (or nearly all) restrictions against the Soviet team, and it appears that the match may be played in June.

We note the following interesting item in the current issue of the "British Chess Magazine":

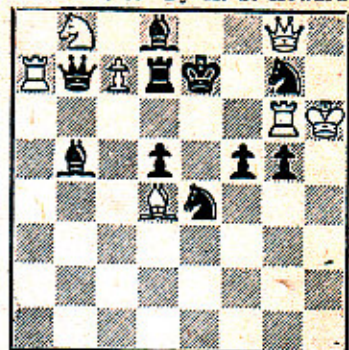
"From America comes the report that the Swedish-American motorliner Kungsholm, which stages a winter cruise around South America, has employed a full-time chess and bridge director and taken charters for chess and bridge clubs with the United States Chess Federation and the American Bridge Association, to become the first floating chess and bridge club. The chess tournaments will be rated by the USCF and master-point bridge tournaments will be held for the bridge players."

World Championship

The same magazine also contains the following note on the coming world championship match between Mikhail Botvinnik and Vassily Smyslov:

"The World Championship match between Botvinnik and Smyslov will have its opening ceremony at Moscow on March 14, and the actual play commences on March 16. Twenty-four games will be played, the rate of progression being one playing day for a game, followed by a day for adjourned game or games. There will be one free

TASK No. 36—By K. S. Howard



White Mates in Two Moves
(Value 5 points)

Answer to Task No. 35: B-Kt4

day a week, and May 1, 2, 3 will also be free. The match is due to end on May 12. If it should be a draw, then Botvinnik retains his title.

"The International Chess Federation has appointed the following officials to conduct and control the match. Opocensky, of Czechoslovakia, will be the chief arbiter and Dr. Asztalos, the president of the Hungarian Chess Federation, will act as his deputy. Golombek (Games and Overseas News Editor of the British Chess Magazine) is to be judge of the competition, his deputy being Ilmakunnas, the president of the Finnish Chess Federation."

Three-Mover

The main line in the three-mover by G. N. Cheney, published in this column two weeks ago is: 1. R-KR8, BxR; 2. R-Kt7, BxR; 3. B-K3 mate.

Fifteen solvers sent in solutions, of which eleven were correct.

The following were the successful solvers:

John Beck, Paul Bercovici, Henry Gross, Perry Levin, Mission High School Chess Club, Dr. Horace C. Pitkin, all of San Francisco; A. K. Bell, Palo Alto; B. D. Box, San Anselmo; Harry Hokensen, Santa Rosa; R. H. Rogers, Redwood City; C. A. Van Patten, San Carlos.

Reported solving-times ranged from 3 minutes to 6½ hours!

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