

# Wilshire Chess Society Newsletter



## OFFICERS

President & Editor-Michael Jeffreys  
(310) 473-6291

MJeffrey@ix.netcom.com

Club Secretary-Lisa Edmondson (310) 836-5949

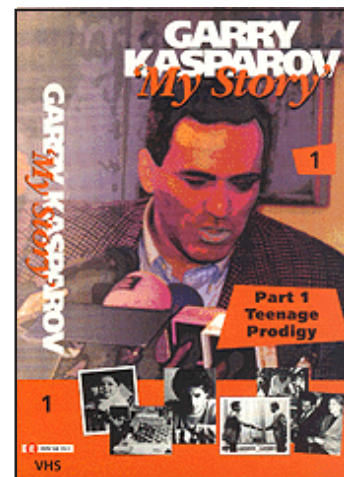
Assistant T.D.- Elliot Landaw (310) 552-4538

Vol. 8-3: March 2002

## Garry Kasparov: My Story (Video Review)

While there seems to be no shortage of books on World Champions such as Fischer, Tal, Botvinnik, Capablanca and Alekhine, for some reason there has never been an extensive book on the 13th man to hold this title, Garry Kasparov. This seems strange to me as many, including myself, consider him the greatest chess player of all time. And while the definitive book about Kasparov has yet to be written, the 5 video tape set put out by Grandmaster Video at the end of 2000 is by far the most extensive coverage of the amazing child prodigy from Baku ever produced.

And while the 5 tapes (Part 1: *Teenage Prodigy*; Part 2: *Joining the Elite*; Part 3: *Rebels and Renegades*; Part 4: *Hitting the Wall*; Part 5: *Rite of Passage*) are not cheap, (I paid \$149.00 plus shipping from *The Chess Cafe*, but you can also find them at [www.smartchess.com](http://www.smartchess.com)), they are quite good. What makes them so good is that Kasparov himself is featured talking about and going over the most important games in his luminous career. Each segment begins with GM Jim Plaskett doing an intro about that period in Kasparov's life. Then the tape cuts to a studio where he and Garry sit at a large desk in a somewhat darkened room. Here Garry uses a computer mouse to click through his games. (This brings up my only criticism regarding the technical aspect of the tapes: on my tv the board, which appears in the upper right of the screen, was a tad dark and I had to turn the brightness control all the way up to clearly see all the White pieces. However, other than this, the tapes look great.) I should mention that Kasparov moves through the openings of most of his games very rapidly and doesn't really start discussing moves until he's well into the middle game. While beginners might find this annoying, most chess players will be able to follow the moves, and if not, well, it's video and you can always rewind the tape! In his review of the tapes on TWIC, IM John Watson mentioned that Plaskett looks stiff when sitting with Kasparov and occasionally interrupts him just when Garry is making some good points. After having watched the tapes, I must concur with Watson. Plaskett does fine on the intros, but looks nervous when sitting next to Kasparov (one way this comes out is that he rarely looks directly at Garry when speaking, but sort of stares straight ahead at the camera). Since I am a big fan of GM Daniel King, I wish they would have gotten him to host these videos instead. The good news is quite often the camera pulls in tight to Kasparov's face, cutting Plaskett out of the picture entirely. When this happens you can really feel the champs enthusiasm for the game--he clearly loves chess! Besides talking about people who have influenced him like Botvinnik, Spassky and Petrosian, Garry also makes some great points about the game that I have never heard before. For example, when counting attacking units around the enemy king, you should also count the pawns, as well as the pieces. He explains that the pawns take squares away from the king and thus are definitely part of the attack. Plaskett commented that most books don't teach this, and in fact it was the first time he had ever heard this idea expressed. It's great points like these that make the tapes not just entertaining, but instructive as well. Because they are loaded with so much material, I look forward to watching them again and again, and know I will learn something each time. From 1- 10, I give *Garry Kasparov "My Story"* a 9.



- 
- Congrats to the winners of our February 24
- Tourn.: Quad 1: **Vanessa West**; Quad 2:
- **Julian & Max Landaw** (tie); Quad 3: **David**
- **Nufer**; Quad 4: **Eugene Ivanov**
- 

See you March 24! -Michael Jeffreys

**Next W.C.S. G/45 Tournament**  
**March 24, 2002 - Sunday**  
Westside Pavilion, Community Room "C"  
10850 W. Pico Blvd., West Los Angeles  
(3rd Flr., West of Barnes & Noble, next to  
the SPCA pet adoption center)  
Registration 10:30 am  
Games from 11:00 - 4:30pm (approximately)  
3-rounds, round robin quads by rating  
Time control: G/45 mins. Entry fee: \$15.00  
Prizes: \$35.00 per quad (25.00 1st, 10.00 2nd)  
(WCS Membership required, \$12.00/year as  
well as U.S.C.F. Membership  
(Avail. at site for \$40.00 per year).

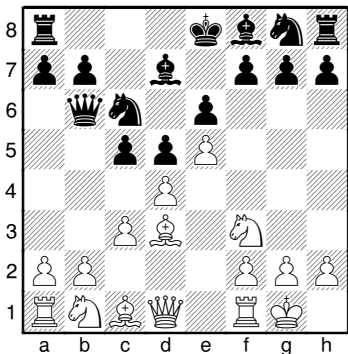
4

Landaw, Julian 1842  
Yee, Karl 2353  
2002 U.S. Amateur Team West

C02: French: Advance Variation

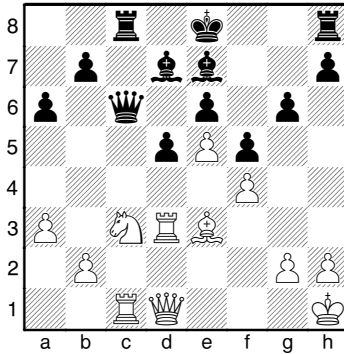
This month we present an amazing 500+ point upset by our own Julian Landaw. Although only 12 years old, he is already one of the strongest players in the country for his age. Playing board two for his team, BEHIND ENEMY PAWNS (along with his older brother Max, who played board one), Julian played his favorite Milner-Barry Gambit against strong Master Karl Yee, who was representing ENRON SHREDDERS AND THE LORD. I have no idea what Yee's team name means, but it looks like it was "little Landaw" who did all the shredding! (All annotations are by Fritz 6)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5  
4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.Bd3  
Qb6 7.0-0 Diagram

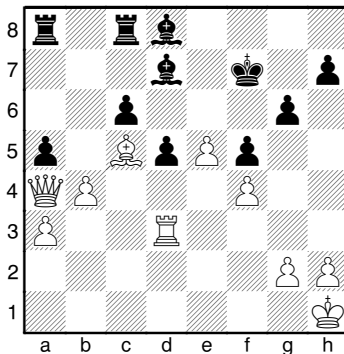


8.cxd4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4  
Qxd4 10.Nc3 a6 11.Qe2  
Ne7 12.Kh1 Nc6 13.f4 Nb4  
14.Rd1 Nxd3 15.Rxd3 Qc4  
16.Be3 last book move g6  
[ 16...Bb5 17.Nxb5 Qxb5  
18.Rc1= 17.Rc1= Rc8

18.Qd2 [ 18.Qd1 Qb4= ]  
18...Be7 19.a3 Consolidates  
b4 f5 [ 19...Bb5  
and Black can hope to survive  
20.Na2 Clearance to allow  
c1-c8 Qxd3 21.Rxc8+ Bd8  
22.Qxd3 Bxd3= ] 20.Qd1+-  
Qc6 Diagram [ 20...Rd8  
21.b3 Qc8 22.Nxd5± ]

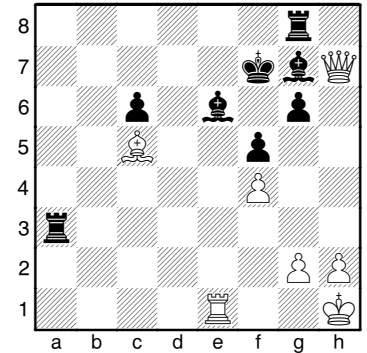


21.Nxd5 exd5 22.Rxc6  
bxc6 [ 22...Bxc6 23.b4+- ]  
23.b4 Kf7 24.Qa4 Ra8  
25.Qa5 Rhc8 26.Bc5  
[ 26.Kg1 Be6+- ] 26...Bd8  
27.Qa4 [ 27.Bb6 Bxb6  
28.Qxb6 a5+- ] 27...a5  
Diagram [ 27...Be6+- ]



28.Rxd5! final destruction.  
The mate threat is Rxd7 Be6  
[ 28...cxd5 A pinning theme  
29.Qxd7+ ] 29.Rd1 axb4  
30.Qxb4 Rcb8 31.Qd4 Bd5  
32.e6+ Bxe6 33.Qh8  
Threatening mate: Qf8 Bf6  
34.Qxh7+ Bg7 White now  
must not overlook the idea  
Rh8 35.Bd4 Rg8 If Black  
now would get Rad8 in, he

might survive 36.Rb1 Bc8  
37.Re1 [ 37.h4 might be  
the shorter path Ra4 38.Be5  
Rxf4 39.Bxf4+- ] 37...Rxa3  
[ 37...Ra4 there is nothing  
better in the position 38.Bxg7  
Rxf7+- ] 38.Bc5 [ 38.h4 Be6  
39.Rxe6 Kxe6 40.Qxg8+  
Kd6 41.Qd8+ Ke6 42.Bxg7  
Ra4+- ] 38...Be6 Diagram



39.Rxe6! a beautiful, forced  
end to the game [ 39.Rxe6  
Ra1+ 40.Bg1 Kxe6  
41.Qxg8+ Kf6 42.h3+- ]  
1-0