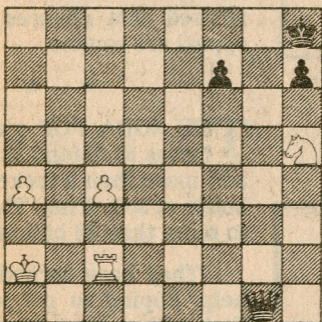


# Chess

By George Koltanowski

STUDY



White to play and win.

1.R-K2,Q-N1; 2.N-B6 wins.

4.6.79

## LONE PINE HIGHLIGHTS By U.S. Master John Peters

Lone Pine is famous for Mt. Whitney and chess, not necessarily in that order. Each spring, players from all over the world are drawn to its unparalleled test of chess ingenuity. Even getting to Lone Pine can bring out their creative brilliance. Most of them simply hop aboard the chartered bus from Los Angeles, but some can't resist the chance for an innovation. Last year, Brazilian Herman Van Riemsdyk paid \$200 for a taxi ride from Los Angeles. This year, he chartered a private plane!

When 73 high-rated players converge on this quiet town of 1800 people, everybody catches chess fever. On every street, famous players talk excitedly in foreign languages. The only respite from chess is when the players try to hustle each other at backgammon.

Naturally, Soviet defector Victor Korchnoi was the center of attention. The world's second-best player ("behind Fischer," he jokes) did not look well and played below his usual high standard. That didn't keep the crowds from his table. Away from the board, he regaled the younger players with stories of his recent match with Karpov and of his boycott by the Soviet Union. He said that he wasn't allowed to play in the big tournaments in Bugojno and Montreal because the Soviets threatened to withdraw their players in protest. Unfortunately, the World Chess Federation has taken no action on this serious matter. Former Czech dissident GM Ludek Pachman, once the target of a Soviet boycott himself, has volunteered to be Korchnoi's political second in his battle with his former country (continued tomorrow).