CHESS

Canadian champion on endurance run

By Kevin Burnett Special to The Register

International Master Igor Ivanov, the current Canadian champion, is fast becoming a regular "snowbird." He's been popping down to Southern California from his frigid Canadian home all winter long. First there was his visit to play in the American Open over Thanksgiving. Then he came down for the Jay Chemical Christmas tournament. His most recent visit began two weeks ago and includes a grueling schedule of four chess events in just three weeks.

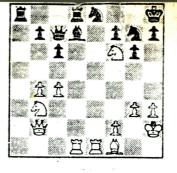
The main reason for the trip is the ongoing International Master tournament at the Herman Steiner Chess Club in West Hollywood. As the two-week-long competition neared the halfway point Monday, Ivanov stood in a tie for third place, at 3-2, with Master Ivars Dahlberg of Los Angeles. Ahead of them were Southland regulars IM Kamran Shirazi, at 5-1, and Victor Frias (now living in New York,) at 3½-½. Master Elliott Winslow of San Francisco possessed the only other plus score — 2-1 with two adjourned games (expected to result in one win and one loss.)

Then came Master Larry Remlinger at 1-1 (two adjournments,) IM David Strauss at 0-1 (two adjournments,) Senior Master Michael Brooks of Missouri at 2-3 (one adjournment,) and U.S. Women's Champion Diane Savereide at 1-2 (one adjournment.) IM Camille Coudari of Canada had a 1-3 score (two adjournments.) Also at minus-two were Master Doug McClintock of Santa Monica at 1½-3½ and this writer, who managed to beat Shirazi, but nobody else, and stood at 1-3.

This sort of heavy-duty competition comprises only the weekday portion of Ivanov's schedule. For weekend diversion he has a couple of five-round open tournaments on his calendar. Last weekend it was Labate's Chess Centre No. 6 in Downey. Ivanov was the highest-rated of the 85 players on hand and breezed to a 5-0 triumph, worth \$250. Ironically, the largest contribution to Ivanov's easy victory was made by the Steiner International that brought him here in the first place. The top local masters felt, unlike Ivanov, that a weekender would be too much of an extra burden and stayed away.

Tied for a distant second (3½-1½) and splitting \$300 were Master Jerry Hanken and Experts Zoltan Bartok and Nasser Abbasi. Donald Holy was the Ivanov of the Reserve section, finishing with a perfect 5-0 score to win \$150.

Ivanov continues his march toward total exhaustion with this weekend's President's Cup open tournament at Disneyland and caps it off with a simultaneous exhibition against all comers next Sunday at Labate's Chess Centre, 10222 Lakewood Blvd. in Downey. Ivanov will also give a lecture on chess in the Soviet Union and the recent Karpov-Korchnoi World Championship match. The lecture begins at noon and costs \$3 per person. The simul starts at 1 p.m. and is \$10 per board. Call 213-861-3371 for details.



Daroczy-Dozha (1956) White to play and win (solution below)

Battle royal

White-Keres. . . Black-Richter. . . Munich 1942. . . English Opening. . .1 P-QB4 P-K4 2 N-QB3 N-KB3 3 N-B3 N-B3 4 P-Q4 PxP (In the English Four Knights variation, 4 P-Q4 is White's oldest try. More popular now are 4 P-KN3 and 4 P-K3. The simplest way to equality for Black is 4. . . P-K5 5 N-Q2 NxP! 6 KNXP NXN.) 5 NXP B-N5 6 B-N5 P-KR3 7 B-R4 P-KN4?! 8 B-N3 P-Q3 9 R-B1 (Surprised by Black's aggressive play, White misses a chance to gain a lasting advantage with 9 NxN PxN 10 Q-R4! BxN+ 11 PxB B-Q2 12 P-B5! P-Q4 13 P-KR4! and if now 13. . . N-R4, then 14 B-K5. After the text move Black can prevent this and activate his pieces.) 9...NxN 10 QxN B-KB4 11 P-KR4 K-Q2! (An amazing stroke! Black takes care of all his defensive problems on the K-side - the pin on the N and the threat of 12 PxP. And his K is quite safe in the center.) 12 R-Q1 N-K5 13 Q-K5 BxN+ 14 PxB NxB 15 PxN (Now White is plagued by two sets of doubled pawns and lagging K-side development.) 15. . . B-N3 16 PxP QxP 17 Q-B4 QR-K1 18 R-Q5 QxQ 19 PxQ P-N3 (A subtle move that freezes both of White's BPs. If 20 P-KB5, then 20. . . P-QB3 and the KBP falls.) 20 K-B2 P-KR4 21 P-K3 P-R5 22 R-KN5 (The B still can't be developed. If 22 B-Q3, then 22...P-QB3 23 R-Q4 P-QB4! 24 R-Q5 BxB 25 RxB R-K5 26 KR-Q1 R-R3 and wins the QBP.) 22. . .B-K5 23 B-K2 QR-KN1! 24 B-N4+ K-B3 25 RxR RxR 26 RxP K-B4 (Black has improved his K-position at the temporary cost of a pawn. Now to untangle his pieces on the K-side, White must trade Bs and drift further into an unfavorable end-game.) 27 B-B3 BxB 28 KxB KxP 29 R-R7 R-KB1 30 P-N4 KxP 31 K-K4 P-QB4 32 K-Q5 P-B5 (The race is on - Black's Q-side pawns versus White's K-side soldiers.) 33 P-K4 K-N5 34 P-N5 P-B6 35 R-R2 R-QB1 36 R-QB2 P-N4 37 P-B5 P-R4 38 KxP (White can't make any more progress with his K-side pawns aione: 38 P-N6 PxP 39 PxP R-KN1. So the K moves forward to help, but as a result Black's K can get out of the way to let his own pawns advance.) 38...K-B5 39 P-K5 P-N5 40 K-Q7 R-QR1 41 P-K6 PxP 42 P-B6 (If 42 PxP, then 42. . . P-R5 43 P-K7 P-N6 44 PxP+ PxP 45 RxP+ KxR 46 P-K8=Q RxQ 47 KxR P-N7 48 P-N6 P-N8 = Q and wins with 49 P-N7 Q-N3 + 50 K-B8 Q-B3+ 51 K-N8 K-Q4 etc. By repeatedly forcing White's K under the pawn, Black's K gradually advances to win it. So White keeps his pawns together, hoping to get a Q without the assistance of his K.) 42...P-R5 43 P-B7 P-N6 44 PxP+ PxP 45 RxP+ (The R will have to die for a pawn anyway. Might as well not waste any time doing it.) 45. . . KxR 46 P-N6 P-N7 47 P-N7 P-N8 = Q 48 P-B8 = Q (If 48 P-N8 = Q, then 48. . . Q-N2+ 49 K-Q6 Q-N5+ 50 K-K5 Q-Q5+ 51 KxP RxQ! 52 PxR=Q Q-B5+ and 53. . .QxQ. If here 50 K-Q7, then 50. . .R-R2+ 51 KxP Q-K2+ 52 K-B5 QxP+ wins.) 48. . .Q-N2+ 49 KxP R-R3+ 50 K-B5 Q-Q2+ 51 K-B4 R-R5+ 52 K-N3 Q-Q6+ (Now 52...Q-N5+ 53 K-B2 R-R7+ would mate quickly.) 53 Q-B3 R-R1 (Asking for trouble, Just 53...QxQ+ 54 KxQ R-R1 and 55. . .R-KN1 wins easily.) 54 P-N8 = Q RxQ+?! (Still simple is 54. . .QxQ+ 55 K-R2! Q-R4+! Apparently Richter doesn't see the stalemate possibilities until it's almost too late.) 55 K-R2! R-R1+ (If 55...QxQ??, then stalemate!) 56 K-N1 R-N1+ 57 K-R2 K-B7 58 Q-B2+ K-Q8 59 Q-B3+ (Try it one more time.) 59. . . Q-K7+ and White resigns. The Q will now be taken with

Solution: 1 RxB! (White sacks the exchange in order to divert the R from the back rank where it protects the N on K1 which protects the N on N2 which is where White wants to effect a mate. Get it?) 1...RxR 2 RxN RxR 3 NxR Black resigns. The Q is attacked and mate is threatened and Black is unable to move the former to prevent the latter.