

California Chess Journal

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Vladimir Strugatsky, co-winner of LERA Thanksgiving

**Also In This Issue: FM Craig Mar on the Nimzo-Indian
NM Tom Dorsch reports on Reno Open**

THE NEW CCJ: BIGGER AND MORE RELIABLE

Welcome readers, old and new alike, to the new CCJ. We've gone bi-monthly now, following in the footsteps of many great "state" chess magazines such as **Chess Horizons** (Mass.) and **Rank and File** (So. Cal). This means that every issue is now bigger (at least twenty-eight pages) and more timely. With this more relaxed schedule, you won't have to worry about any more late issues. We've deliberately skipped Oct./Nov. in order to better accommodate the bi-monthly switch. The next issue should come out around early February. As usual, each issue will be loaded with coverage of local and national events, with numerous games, and of course quality annotations and instruction by our master staff. The subscription price is still the

same: \$10/yr(six issues) and \$19/2yrs(12 issues). Some subscribers may have noticed their expiration dates are missing from their labels. We apologize for the inconvenience, but our records accidentally left us along with our former managing editor. Fortunately, he will return them to us before the next issue. In any case, you should count how many issues you have left, instead of going by the expiration month, because of our bi-monthly conversion.

The final item is that we have a new managing editor: Carolyn Withgitt. Carolyn plays in Bay Area tournaments regularly and is an A-player. She is the Operations Manager of a computer software company, and adds a lot of expertise to our magazine.

Let us hear from you.

--Peter.

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those of the staff or the University of California.

LERA Thanksgiving Class Championship

A two-way tie occurred at this Turkey-day tournament, Nov. 24-26, between NM Vladimir Strugatsky (2545) and NM John Bidwell (2265) each with 5-1 in the Open section. Although his 2545 rating is still provisional, after a stunning debut performance at the FIDE Action tournament back in September, Strugatsky consistently wins tournaments in his new hometown, San Francisco. Unfortunately, due to the lack of strong tournaments in the area, he will have to wait until the NCCA Masters' Open in March before earning any titles. The other winner at this perennial event, was the ever friendly John Bidwell of Santa Cruz. Bidwell is a veteran of the Bay Area chess scene, and can have really good results if he is in form (such as equal second behind deFirmian at this year's People's). Both received \$260 apiece for their efforts. Third through fourth place was shared by NMs Charles Powell (2319) of San Francisco and Mike Arne (2252) of Palo Alto, each for 4.5-1.5 and \$70. The rest of the winners are as follows: **Expert** 1st: Tom Nelson (2164) of Marina got 5-1 and \$260; 2nd: Daniel Switkes (2187) of La Fayette got 4.5-1.5 and \$160; 3rd/7th: Daniel Burkhard (2138) of Santa Cruz, On Lie (2095) of San Jose, Joe

Urquhart (2079) of S.F., Ben Gross (2080) of S.F., and Eric Rosenberg (2114) of S.F., each scoring 4-2 for \$20. **▲** 1st: Rick Kiger (1897) of Livermore at 5-1 for \$230; 2nd/3rd: Louise W. Fredericia (1917) of San Jose and Warly Guinto (1817) of So. S.F. each at 4.5-1.5 for \$115. **■** 1st: Steven Esh (1750) of Santa Cruz with 5.5-.5 for \$200; 2nd: Arthur Cohen (1715) at 5-1 for \$120; 3rd: UCB Professor Robert Solovay (1686) of Oakland at 4.5-1.5 for \$80. **C/D-Unr** 1st/2nd: Leonard Trotter (1534) of El Cerrito and Kevan Morris (1516) each with 5-1 and \$80. **Top Unrateds:** Fred Rich of San Jose and Tosh Kameda of Mountain View each earned 4-2 and \$50. Brilliancy prizes were awarded in each section, and the winning games are presented following this article.

This year's turnout was 116 players, directed by the usual LERA T.D.s Jim Hurt and Ted Yudacufski.

White: NM Richard Keopcke (2301)

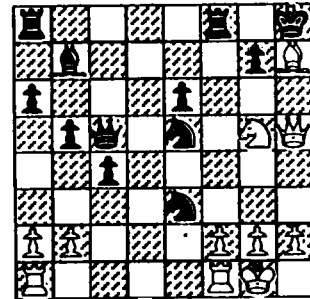
Black: NM Vladimir Strugatsky (2545)

Slav Defence [D48]

Brilliancy-Open section

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c6 4. e3 Nf6 5. Nf3 Nbd7 6. Bd3 dc 7. Bc4 b5 8. Bd3 a6 9. e4 c5 10. d5 c4 11. de fe 12. Bc2 Qc7 13. 0-0 Bc5 14. e5 Ng4 15. Ne4

0-0 16. Nfg5 Nde5 17. Nc5 Qc5 18. Bh7+ Kh8 19. Qe2 Bb7 20. Be3 Ne3 21. Qh5



Bf3 22. Qh4 Ng2 23. Qh3 Bg4

24. Qg2 Nf3+ 25. Resigns 0-1

White: Tom Nelson (2164)

Black: Arcangelo Castaldo (2067)

Nimzo-Indian [E24]

Brilliancy-Expert section

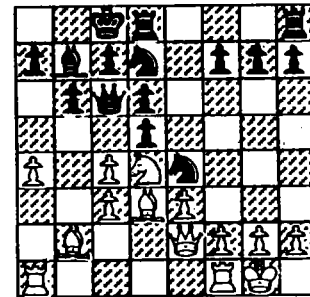
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4

4. a3 Bc3 5. bc d6 6. Nf3 Qd7

7. e3 b6 8. Bd3 Qc6 9. 0-0 Bb7

10. Qe2 Ne4 11. Bb2 Nd7

12. a4 0-0-0 13. d5 ed 14. Nd4



Qc5 15. Ba3 Nc3 16. Qc2 Qa5

17. Nb3 Qa4 18. Bb2 Na2

19. Ra2 Qa2 20. Ra1 Qa1

continued on p.4

**LERA
THANKSGIVING**
continued from p.3

21. Ba1 Ne5 22. cd Bd5 23. Ba6
Kd7 24. e4 Ba8 25. f4 Ng6
26. Bg7 Rhg8 27. Bh6 Rde8
28. Bb5 c6 29. Bc4 d5 30. ed cd
31. Bb5 Kd6 32. Be8 Re8
33. Nd4 a6 34. Nf5 Kd7 35. Qa4
b5 36. Qa6 Bc6 37. Qa7 Kd8
38. Bg5 Ne7 39. Be7 Resigns
1-0

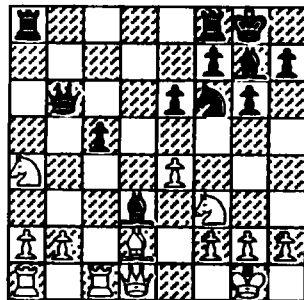
White: Frank Romeo (1969)

Black: Kevan Gross (1749)

Benoni Counter Gambit [A57]

Brilliance-A section

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 b5 4. cb
a6 5. Nc3 Bb7 6. e4 Qa5 7. Bd2
ab 8. Nb5 Qb6 9. Nc3 g6
10. Nf3 Bg7 11. Bd3 0-0 12. 0-0
e6 13. de de 14. Oe2 Nc6 15.
Rf1 Nb4 16. Bb1 Ba6 17. Qd1
Nd3 18. Bd3 Bd3 19. Na4



Ra4 20. Qa4 Ne4 21. Bc3 Bc3

22. bc Qb2 23. Qd1 Qf2 24.

Kh1 Qe3 25. Qe1 Nf2 26. Kg1
Nh3

27. Kh1 Be2 28. Qe2 Qe2

29. Re1 Nf2 30. Kg1 Qb2

31. c4 Nd3 32. Rf1 Nf4 33. Nh4

g5 34. g3 Nh3 35. Resigns 0-1

White: Steven Stroud (1635)

Black: Joseph Salazar (1651)

Irregular Opening [A46]

Brilliance-B section

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d6 3. b3 e5

4. de Ne4 5. ed Bd6 6. Bb2 Nf2

7. Qd4 Nh1 8. Qg7 Rf8 9. Qh7

Ng3 10. Bg7 Bf5 11. Oh6 Rg8

12. Bf6 Qd7 13. Qe3 Ne4

14. Ng5 Bc5 15. Resigns 0-1

White: Fred Rich (1283)

Black: Ed Fernandez (Unr.)

Ruy Lopez [C89]

Brilliance-C/D/Unr section

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6

4. Ba4 Nf6 5. 0-0 Be7 6. Re1

0-0 7. c3 b5 8. Bb3 d5 9. d4 ed

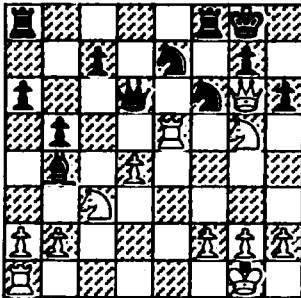
10. ed Nd5 11. cd Be6 12. Nc3

Bb4 13. Bg5 Qd6 14. Bc2 Nce7

15. Ne5 f6 16. Oh5 Bf5 17. Bf5

Nf5 18. Nf3 fg 19. Ng5 h6

20. Re5 Nf6 21. Qg6 Ne7



22. Re7 Qe7 23. Nd5 Qe8 24.

Nf6 Rf6 25. Oh7 Kf8 6. Oh8

Ke7 27. Qg7 Kd8 28. Of6 Kd7

29. Oh6 Bd2 30. Oh7 Kc6

31. Ne4 Bf4 32. g3 Bd6 33. Re1

Kb6 34. Nd6 cd 35. Qc7mate.

0-1

Here are some more games:

White: Andy McManus (2158)

Black: On Lie (2095)

Alekhine's Four Pawns [B03]

1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. d4 d6

4. c4 Nb6 5. f4 de 6. fe Bf5

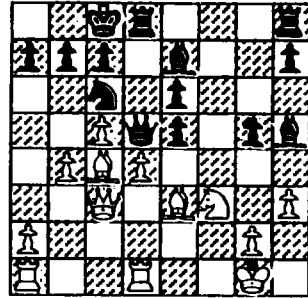
7. Nc3 Nc6 8. be3 e6 9. Nf3

Qd7 10. Be2 0-0-0 11. 0-0 Bg4

12. c5 Nd5 13. Nxd5 Qxd5

14. Qc1 f6 15. h3 Bh5 16. Rd1

Be7 17. Qc3 g5 18. b4 fe19. Bc4



Qe4 20. Bxe6+ Kb8 21. d5 Bxf3

22. gf Qxf3 23. Rd2 Nxb4

24. d6 g4 25. Bxg4 Qe4 26. de

Rde8 27. Rad1 Nc6 28. Bg5 h5

29. Bf3 Qg6 30. h4 e4 31. Qxh8

Rxh8 32. Rd8+ Resigns 1-0

White: Daniel Switkes (2187)

Black: Andy McManus (2158)

French Advanced [C02]

1. d4 e6 2. e4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3

Nc6 5. Nf3 Qb6 6. a3 a5?!

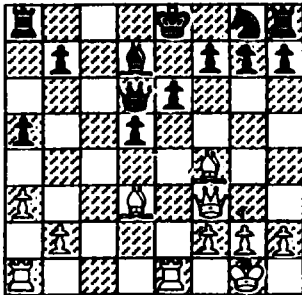
7. Bd3 Bd7 8. 0-0 cd 9. cd Nxd4

10. Nxd4 Qxd4 11. Nc3 Qxe5

12. Re1 Qd6 13. Nb5 Qb8

14. Of3 Bd6 15. Nxd6+ Qxd6

16. Bf4



Qe7 17. Qg3 Nf6

18. Bd6 Qd8 19. Qxg7 Rg8

20. Oh6 Ne4 21. Bxe4 de

22. Re3 Qb6 23. Qxh7 0-0-0

24. Re1+ Bc6 25. Qxf7 Resigns

1989 RENO OPEN

by NM Tom Dorsch

One of the nicest tournaments on the Northern California schedule each year isn't even in California, it's in Reno, Nevada. Situated nearly a mile high on the eastern foothills of the Sierra Nevadas, a scenic four-hour drive from the Bay Area, Reno boasts an abundance of first-rate convention facilities, and the entire economy is based on providing an enthusiastic welcome for California visitors. If you're a non-gambler, you can revel in such amenities as clean air, three-star buffet dining for less than \$10, and nightly shows by top entertainers. If you enjoy an occasional wager, you get more options—and much better odds—than on the California lottery.

Another nice thing about Reno is that it has had, for many years, a very active and, given the size of the city, strong chess club. Currently directed by the indefatigable Jerry Weikel, the Reno club boasts several strong experts and masters. In addition to their full slate of local activities, which run the gamut from providing technical assistance for exhibitions by grandmaster computer Deep Thought, to intercity matches with Salt Lake City, they annually stage the Reno Open. *Tom is a U.C. Berkeley Alumnus and a familiar face at Bay Area tournaments.*

This year's Reno Open VII was a six-round event held October 5-7 that drew 112 players, led by IGM Nick deFirmian and Grand Prix champion IM Igor Ivanov. The evening before the tournament, there was a free lecture by local resident IGM Larry Evans, who shared anecdotes about the perennially fascinating Bobby Fischer, and brought everyone up to date on the latest UFOs (unconfirmed Fischer observations—in Mexico, the Philippines, San Francisco) and whether there will be a Second Coming (in Evans' opinion, no). The lecture was followed by a speed tournament, won by master Tom Wolski. There was even action chess on Sunday, for those who could only play one day, won by Ron Gentil.

The key match-up in the Open was the money game between the two top seeds. Semi-accelerated pairings brought them together Saturday night, and everyone knew that the name of the winner of this game would be on the first-prize check for \$1000.

White: IM Igor Ivanov
(2634)

Black: GM Nick deFirmian
(2668)

Queen's Gambit Tarrasch (by transposition) [D42; B14]

1. Nf3 e5 2. c4 Nc6 3. e3 e6 4. Nc3 Nf6 5. d4 d5.

By transposition, the

players have arrived at what Tarrasch described as the main position in his defense to the Queen's Gambit. Never regarded as the best answer to the Queen's Gambit, the Tarrasch retains adherents, and in the century since its introduction has been in the repertoire of every world champion, even Fischer. It appeals to those who want to fight for an initiative as Black, and who are willing to accept the associated risks.

During the "hypermodern" period, it was fashionable for White to play systems with g3—championed by Schlechter and Rubinstein—instead of e3, but the continuation in the text is again fashionable. As always, what is fashionable is largely defined by the tastes of the current world champion.

6. cd ed.

The more common alternative is 6...Nxd5. I.Ivanov—M.Dlugy, National Open 1989, continued 7.Bd3 cd 8.ed Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.a3 Bf6 11.Be4 Qd6 12.Qd3 h6 13.Re1 Rd8 14.Bd5 ed 15.Nb5 Qd7 16.Bf4 Qg4 17.Qe3 Bf5 18.h3 Qg6 19.Ne5 Be5 20.de d4 21.Qg3 Qg3 22.fg Bc2 23.e6 fe 24.Nc7 e5 25.Na8 ef 26.Nc7 d3 27.Ne6 Rd6 28.Nc5 d2 29.Red1 b6 0—1

7. Bb5.

More common is 7. Be2 or 7. Bd3. Also playable is Botvinnik's plan of 7. a3, with the continued on p. 6

continued from p. 5
positional threat 8. dc, 9. b4, 10. Bb2. The text transposes into a popular Nimzo-Indian position with colors reversed (1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 0-0 5. Nf3 d5 6. Bd3 c5 7. 0-0 cd 8. ed dc 9. Bc4 Nc6).

7...cd1?

Larsen's idea. The alternative is 7...Bd6 8. dc B:c5 9. 0-0 0-0 10. b3 Bg4 11. Bb2 Rac8 12. Rac1 Bd6 13. Bb2 Bb8! Sunnie—Kasparov, Graz 1981, or 10...Be6 11. Bb2 Qe7 12. Ne2 Rac8 13. a3 (13. Ned4!? Ba3 14. Qe2) 13...Rfd8 14. Ned4 14. Bg4 = Petrosian—Botvinnik, 11th match game, Moscow 1963.

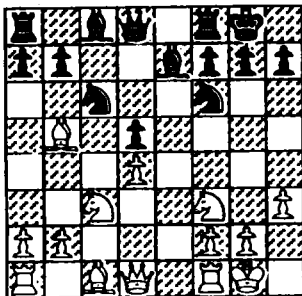
8. ed.

Speelman—Larsen (Hastings 1987-8) continued 8. Nxd4 Bd7 9. Nf3 Be6 10. Qa4 Qb6 11. 0-0 Be7 12. e4 de4 13. Be3 Qc7 14. Ne4 0-0 15. Rac1 Bd5! = (Larsen). The text transposes to a common position from the Caro-Kann (1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. ed cd 4. c4 e6 5. Nc3 Nf6 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. cd ed 8. Bb5), or "B14" in Informantspeak.

8...Be7.

8...Bd6, protecting the vital square e5, is more natural.

9. 0-0?! 0-0 10. h3?



White has missed the point of the 7. Bb5 line, which is to fight for control of the square e5. The ultimate validity of the 7. Bb5 cd line hinges on the evaluation of positions reached after 10. Ne5 Bd7 (or, even more accurate, 9. Ne5 Bd7 before castling).

ECO, in a chapter written by Botvinnik, gives: 11. Re1 Rc8 12. Bg5 Be6 (12...a6!?—Pachman) 13. Bxc6 bc 14. Na4 h6 (14...c5 15. dc Bxc5 16. Nc5 Rc5 17. Qd4 with advantage to White in Pachman-Szabo, Leipzig 1960) 15. Bxf6 Bxf6 16. Nc5 with advantage to White (Velimirovich-Benko, Vrnjacka Banja 1973); or simply 12. Bf4 with advantage to White.

Tal—Meduna, Lvov 1981, continued 11. Re1 Bb4!? 12. Bc6 (12. Bg5 Nxe5 13. de Bc3 14. bc Bb5 15. ef Re8! =) 12...Bc6 13. Bg5 h6 (13...Qd6!?) 14. Bh4 Qd6 15. Qb3 Ba5 16. Re3!? Bxc3 17. bc Ne4 18. Rae1 Qc7, and White preserves a slight edge after 19. Qc2 [analysis by Tal, who gives an "!" to White's seventh move].

If 10. Ne5 Qb6, then 11. Bg5 Nd8! 12. Qd3 (12. a4 Qd6 13. Bf4 Ne6 14. Bg3 Qb4 is unclear) 12...Ne6 13. Be3! (13. Bf6 Bf6 14. Nd5 Qd4 15. Bf6 gf 16. Nf3 Qd3 17. Bd3 with an edge) 13...Rd8 14. f4 Nc7 15. Ba4 Qb2 (15...Qa6 16. Qxa6 Nxa6 17. f5 Kf8 18. Bb3 Nc7 19. g4! and White is better. Adams-B. Larsen, Carnes 1989 [analysis by Adams].

10... Be6 11. Bf4?!

The bishop is passively placed here. Better 11. Bg5 or 11.

Re1.

11...Qb6 12. Bxc6 Oxc6! 13. Qb3 Bd6! 14. Be5 Nd7 15. Rfe1 Nxe5 16. Nxe5 Qa6! 17. Re3.

17. Nd5?? Qa5.

17... Rfd8 18. Rae1 Rac8 19. Ne2 Bf8 20. a3.

20. Nf4 Bf5 (threatening ...Bc2) 21. R3e2 (21. Ned3 Qc4; 21. Nfd3 f6 22. Nf3 Rc7) f6 is good for Black.

20...f6! 21. Nd3 Bf7.

Now that White's knights have been driven from the center, Black's two bishops in an open game give him a big advantage.

22. Ng3 Qc4! 23. Qd1.

White must either accept an inferior ending or sacrifice material. Faced with joyless alternatives, Ivanov elects to sacrifice two pawns for a speculative attack. 23. Qxb7 Rc7 24. b3 Rxb7 25. bc dc 26. Nc5 Rc7 is good for Black.

23...Oxd4 24. Nf5 Qb6 25. Nf4 Qxb2!

The correct decision. White's attack is not as ferocious as it appears, but everything must be calculated with great precision.

26. Rg3 g6 27. Oh5 Rc1 28. Nxe6.

White must go for broke; there is no longer any hope of salvation in the endgame.

28...Rxe1+ 29. Kh2 Bxe6 30. Rxe6 Kh8 31. Rg4 Qe5+ 32. f4 Qe8 33. Oh4 Re6 34. Rg3 O7 0—1

Cal-Berkeley Fall Series

by NM Peter Yu

From September through November, 31 players participated in over three tournaments held by the U.C. Berkeley Campus Chess Club. While the Blitz tournament is reported elsewhere, a brief synopsis of the monthly "Wednesday Nights" tournaments is provided here.

Cal-Berkeley September A last round draw between the tournament leaders Junior Seggev Weiss (2103) and Graduate Student Zoran Kurtovic (2066) allowed Freshman Don Shennum (1870) and Stanford Grad David Epstein (1840) to catch up at 3-1. A half point out of the four-way tie were NM Roger Poehlmann (2270), who had drawn Weiss and then withdrew, and newcomer Arlindo Oliveria (2147 provisional). Oliveria obtained a noteworthy 2147 rating based on two games including a lucky draw with Kurtovic. Many other new members joined including Francis Yu who received his first rating at 1808 based on four.

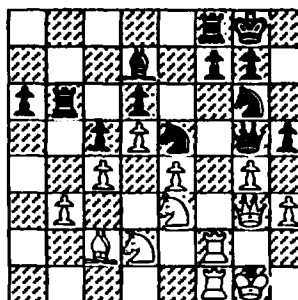
Cal-Berkeley October "Mr. October" Ganesan (2112) had secured at least an equal 1st going into the final round after stopping upstart Arlindo Oliveira. Surprisingly, the last round saw David Epstein upset

Berkeley Grad Ganesan, allowing a three-way tie after Junior transfer Eric Hicks (1829) denied Alex Rapoport (1911). While Oliveira was successful in continuing his climb with early round wins over an expert and A-player, he suffered his second loss to NM Peter Yu (2235). Peter (no relation to Francis) finally played a game to warm up for the upcoming Intercollegiates.

Cal-Berkeley November Rebounding from a disappointing performance last month, Junior Alex Rapoport swept sole first after beating experts Michael Walder (2173) and Zoran Kurtovic. A half-point behind was Canadian Stefan Bilaniuk (1867) 2.5-.5. Proceeds from these club tournaments helped send UC Berkeley to the Pacific Coast Intercollegiates. Special thanks goes to Local TD Don Shennum, who helped Peter Yu direct. Here are some games from the events.

White: Ganesan (2112)
Black: David Epstein (1867)
Czech Benoni [A56]
Cal-Berkeley October
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 e5
4. Nc3 d6 5. e4 Bc7 6. Nf3 0-0
7. Bd3 Ne8 8. Qe2 Nd7 9. h3
Nc7 10. Be3 g6 11. g4 Rb8
12. a4 Re8 13. 0-0 Nf8 14. Nh2
Bg5 15. f4 exf4 16. Bxf4 Bxf4

17. Rxf4 Ng6 18. Rf2 Qh4
19. Qf1 Ne5 20. Be2 Qe7
21. Nf3 Ng6 22. Nd2 Bd7 23. a5
b5 24. axb6 Rxb6 25. b3 Rf8
26. Rcl Qe5 27. Qg2 Ne8
28. Nf3 Qe7 29. Bd1 Nf6 30.
Nd2 Be8 31. Qg3 Nd7 32. bc2
Nde5 33. Nd1 Qg5 34. Ne3 Bd7
35. Rcf1 h5



36. Bd1 h4 37. Qg2 Qxe3
38. Kh2 a5 39. Nf3 Nf4 40. Qg1
Nxf3+ 41. Rxf3 Qxg1+
42. Kxg1 g5 43. Resigns 0-1

White: NM Peter Yu (2235)
Black: Arlindo Oliveira (2147)
King's Indian Defense [E91]
Cal-Berkeley October
1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 g6 3. e4 d6
4. d4 Bg7 5. Be2 0-0 6. Nf3 c5
7. 0-0 Qc7?!
 A Theoretical Novelty! Black could have entered the familiar lines of the Maroczy Bind with 7...cd. Now the onus is on White to refute this seemingly useless move.
8. Nd5!?

This move allows White to play
 continued p. 8

continued from p. 7

Be3 without the bothersome ...Ng4, after an exchange of Knights. The resulting double d-pawns are not weak due to the constant threat of dxc5 and an eventual Rc1.

8....Nxd5 9. cd Nd7 10. Be3 b6
Better was 10....Nf6 11. dc dc
12. e5! Ng4 13. d6 which
should break up White's central
advantage.

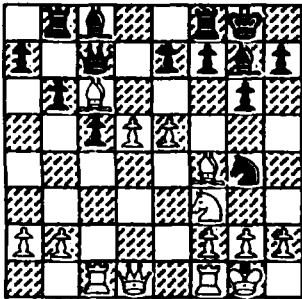
11. Rc1 Qd8

Not allowing 12. b4! intending
Qc2 and takes on c5.

12. Bb5! Nf6

Not allowing White to exchange
his bad Bishop for Black's good
Knight, but now White gets to
penetrate.

13. Bc6 Rb8 14. e5! de 15. de
Ng4 16. Bf4 Qc7



This move looks odd because of
the pinning nature of the h2-b8
diagonal, but is practically
forced.

17. Qe2 Bh6!

White was threatening to win a
pawn after 18. h3 Nh6 19. Qd2
Nf5 20. g4 Nd4 21. Nd4 cd 22.
Qd4, but Black finds the correct
defence.

18. Bh6 Nh6 19. h3 e6 20. Ng5
Nf5 21. Qe4 ed 22. Bd5 Bb7

Berkeley Blitz!

by NM Peter Yu

Being the hometown to the
World Blitz Chess Association,
speed chess is very much alive
in Berkeley. Aside from the
usual 5-minute crowd which
hangs out every afternoon in
Cafe Milano (Bancroft, across
from Sproul), the campus Cal-
Berkeley Chess Club runs
regular Blitz Tourneys for
students and non-students.
Although past tournaments have
drawn the likes of GM Walter
Browne, IM Elliott Winslow
and IM Greg Hjorth, the only
master who competed on the
night of November 1st was Gary
Pickler of Berkeley. The
smaller than usual ten player
field paid a low entry fee of
only \$1 (\$5 non-WBCA
members), due to the lack of
interest at the originally
advertised (higher) entry fees.
In very convincing fashion, NM
Pickler(2207) obtained a
crushing 17-1 first-place result,
suffering his only loss to Peter
Yu, who holds a 2121 Blitz
rating inspite of his 2242 USCF
rating. Thanks to the enthusi-
asm of Alan Benson and friend,
we were able to publish the

Black is on the verge of
equalizing, so White must open
up a new front.

23. e6! Bd5 34. Qd5 fe 35.

Qe6+

The superficial Nxe6 fails to
...Qf7.

gamescore which follows this
article. The final
standings(shown with WBCA
ratings) were: 1st: NM Gary
Pickler 17-1, 2nd: Peter Yu
13.5-4.5, Best U2000: Alan
Kobernat (1999) 12-6, 4th:
Seggev Weiss (2018) 11.5-6.5,
5th: Goldstein (1925) 11-7, 6th:
Don Shennum (1846) 7-11, 7th:
Eric Hicks (1829) 6.5-11.5, 8th:
Stefan Bilaniuk (1830) 5.5-12.5,
9th: James Ashcraft (1884) 5-
13, 10th: Paul Tanaka (Unr) 1-
17.

White: Peter Yu

Black: NM Gary Pickler

Berkeley Blitz #1

Irregular Opening (B10)

1. c4 c6 2. e4 e6 3. d4 d5 4. e5

dc 5. Bxc4 Nd7 6. Nf3 Nb6

7. Bd3 e5 8. 0-0 cxd4 9. Nxd4

Not 9....Qxd4?? 10. Bb5+, and
White wins the Queen.

a6 10. Be3 Nd5 11. Bd2 Nc7

12. Bc3 Bc5 13. Qg4

White is playing like he's in the
advanced variation of the
French, but the position is more
open. Since White usually plays
on tactics in the advaced French,
continued on p. 26

35....Kh8

Bad was 35....Kg7? 36. Qxf5!

Rxf5 37. Ne6+, Black now has
chances for survival.

26. Rfd1 Nd4? 27. Rd4 Resigns

Black blunders a piece in time
pressure, but his position was
worse anyways. (Yu)

Winning with the Nimzo-Indian

by FM Craig Mar

The Nimzo is positional and solid, but active enough to be a weapon of Fischer's. A little more tactical than the Queen's Gambit but more positional than the Benoni, it is rich in creative possibilities. The first time you try it may feel funny, your Knight is hopelessly pinned if White plays Bg5 and you will have to give up your Bishop for a Knight. Didn't the books warn you not to do that? But no! I adopted the Nimzo for the first time as I crossed 2000. One learns that blocked positions can favor Knights. Obstructions muffle Bishops. The most obvious try after 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 is 4. a3 winning the two Bishops. But after 4....Bxc3+ 5. bc c5 Black has fixed a target on c4 and can set his pawns up with b6-d6 and e5 creating a "wall."

White can avoid the Nimzo with 3. Nf3 but 3....b6 the Queen's Indian, has demonstrated its viability. The Benoni 3....c5 is still playable. Black can feint a Nimzo with 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 3. Nf3 d5 to reach a Queen's Gambit without 4. Bg5, as Fischer used to do.

During the heyday of Fine, Reshevsky, and Capablanca, 4. Qc2 was a popular method of meeting the Nimzo, but as good defences were discovered, 4. Qc2 lost its bite and hence its

popularity. Several years ago Seirawan revived the forgotten lines and surprised many Nimzo specialists, but would capture the attention of Karpov who was well prepared when they met.

White: GM Yasser Seirawan (2585)

Black: GM Anatoly Karpov (2750)

Nimzo-Indian Defence

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 0-0!

Other interesting tries are 4....c5, 4....d5 and 4....Nc6. In Los Angeles '84 I tried 4....c5 6. dc Na6?! against Seirawan but after 6. a3! Bxc3 7. Qxc3 Nxc5 8. b4 N5e4 9. Qd4 White had a clear advantage.

5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. Qxc3 b6

At first glance Black seems to have no compensation at all for his loss of the Bishop.

7. Bg5

Also good is 7. Nf3 Bb7 8. b4 followed by 9. Bb2 which leads to a standard Nimzo-Bogo setup.

7....Bb7 8. f3 h6 9. Bh4 d5!

This is the improvement Karpov has kept to himself. 9....c5?! had previously been tried with poor results.

10. cd ed 11. e3 Re8 12. Bf2 c5!

Black is already better as the game opens up. If now 13. dc d4! 14. Qd2 bc with initiative. Seirawan defends well under Black's prolonged pressure.

13. Bb5 cxd4 14. Qxd4 Bc6 15. Bd3 Nbd7 16. Ne2 Nc5!

White is still unable to catch his breath.

17. Bc2

Seirawan avoids 17. Rb1 Ne6

18. Qc3 d4! 19. Qxc6 de! and it doesn't look good.

17....Bb5 18. Qd2 Rc8

Seirawan still can't castle due to 19. 0-0? d4!

19. Nd4 Bc4 20. Bg3

The idea is Kf2-Rhe1 and Kg1 castling by hand.

20....Nh5 21. Kf2 Qf6 22. Rac1

Ne4! 23. Bxe4 dxe4 24. Rc3

exf3 25. gxf3 Bd5 26. Rxc8

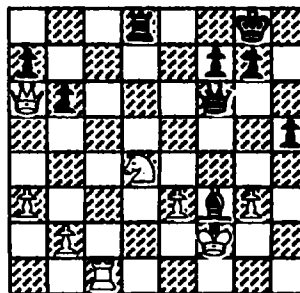
Rxc8 27. Rc1 Rd8!

Black keeps more initiative with mating material on the board.

28. Qe2 Nxe3 29. hg h5

White has survived the initial attack, and with an unassailable knight on d4 should be able to hang on with 30. Kg1 and Qf2. But...

30. Qa6? Bxf3!



continued on p. 22

CHESS HISTORY: Fischer Meets Leonid Stein

The career of the Soviet chess champion, Leonid Stein, was like a meteor into the chess world. In the mid-sixties he won the Soviet Championship three times, and by the late sixties there was talk of Stein becoming a challenger for the world title. Stein's chess career, however, was short lived and tragic; he died from a heart attack in 1973 at less than 40 years of age.

The reason for Stein's obscurity nowadays is that his career antedates the Fischer generation of chess players. Stein, however, does not deserve obscurity; his games are gems of tactical wizardry, much in the style of Tal. There is not much literature on Stein in English. Raymond Keene did put out a book on Stein a decade or so ago, but it's long out of print. For those who can read Russian, a good book on Stein came out in 1980, authored by Gufeld and Lazarev.

Stein and Fischer were both participants at the interzonal tournament in Stockholm 1962. Stein had earned his ticket to Stockholm by placing 3rd-4th in the 1961 Soviet championship. Stein was then a newcomer to international chess, almost unknown outside

Ron is a welcome addition to our CCJ staff. As an U.C. Extensions student, Ron plays regularly and holds a 2192 rating.

Soviet chess circles. The following story of Fischer's first encounter with Stein is translated from Gufeld's book.

"I'LL GIVE ODDS"

That evening after the [first] round, Stein went to visit Geller. Fischer also dropped by. In broken Russian Fischer spoke to Geller. Fischer had learned Russian from his mother, who had come to Moscow before the war in order to receive her higher education. She completed the secondary medical institute.

"Let's play a match of speed games!", says Fischer.

Geller on that evening was obviously not in high spirits [he had lost in the first round], but having heard the offer could not hold back a sly smile and motioned toward Stein who had been modestly sitting in the corner:

"Better to play with him!"

Since Fischer had not been at the opening ceremony, and since Stein had a bye in the first round, the American did not know who Stein was. They now made acquaintance. Hearing of Stein for the first time and taking him for a novice, Fischer presumed Stein was not a worthy opponent for 'blüz' chess. At first Bobby declined to play, but then said:

"Agreed, I will play with Mister Stein. But I do not play for nothing. When you play me there

have to be stakes. I suggest ten crowns a game. But to make it a more equal contest Mister Stein, I will grant you an advantage: If you win two points out of five games, then you win the entire match."

Stein was doubtful; it was uncomfortable to play for money. But he wanted to teach the heady American a small lesson.

"Agreed," replied Stein.

Ten minutes had not yet passed, when Fischer lost the first game. Still more quickly did he lose the second game.

Geller laughed so hard that he cried.

"So that's how it is!," cried Fischer. "I suggest then that we play without odds!"

Having learned to respect the abilities of this stranger, Fischer already was playing more seriously, but he could not get the upper hand. In the following evenings he repeatedly invited Stein to play speed chess matches. The results were not onesided; both players had their fair share of wins and loses.

Two of Stein's games are given below; the first is his loss to Fischer in the Sousse interzonal tournament of 1967, and the second is Stein's win over Botvinnik from a competition in Moscow 1965.

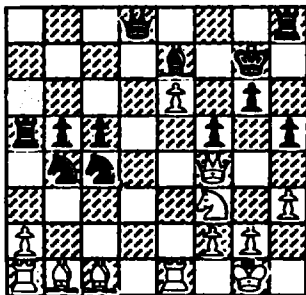
by Ron Basich

White: Fischer

Black: Stein

Ruy Lopez

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6
4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Be7 6. Re1 b5
7. Bb3 d6 8. c3 O-O 9. h3 Bb7
10. d4 Na5 11. Bc2 Nc4 12. b3
Nb6 13. Nbd2 Nbd7 14. b4! e5
15. cd a5 16. ba c5 17. e5 de
18. de Nd5 19. Ne4 Nb4!
20. Bb1 Rxa5 21. Qe2 Nb6?
 21. . . Re8 followed by Nf8 is
 better.
22. Nfg5 Bxe4 23. Qxe4 g6
24. Qh4 h5 25. Qg3 Nc4
26. Nf3?! 26. Nxf7 or 26. e6 are more ag-
gressive.
26. . . Kg7 27. Of4 Rh8 28. e6!
f5



29. Bxf5! Qf8 30. Be4?

30. Nh4!

Qxf4 31. Bxf4 Re8

31. . . Rxa2 was better.

32. Rad1 Ra6 33. Rd7 Rxe6

34. Ng5 Rf6 35. Bf3! Rxf4

36. Ne6+ Kf6 37. Nxf4 Ne5

38. Rb7 Bd6 39. Kf1 Nc2 40.

Re4 Nd4 41. Rb6 Rd8 42. Nd5+

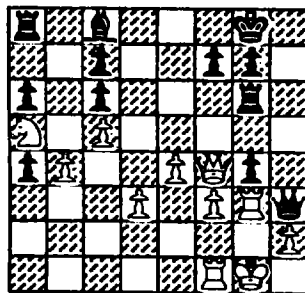
Kf5 43. Ne3+ Ke6 44. Be2 Kd7
45. Bxb5+ Nxb5 46. Rxb5 Kc6
47. a4 Bc7 48. Ke2 g5 49. g3 Ra8
50. Rb2 Rf8 51. f4 gf 52. gf Nf7
53. Re6+ Nd6 54. f5 Ra8 55. Rd2
Rxa4 56. f6 and Black resigned.
 1-0

White: Botvinnik

Black: Stein

Ruy Lopez

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6
4. Ba4 Nf6 5. Bxc6 dc 6. d3 Nd7
7. Nbd2 Be7 8. Nc4 Bf6 9. O-O
O-O 10. b4 Qe7 11. a4 Re8
12. Ba3 b5?
 12. . . . Qe6 was better.
13. Na5 Qd6 14. c4! Nf8 15. c5
Qe6 16. Rfe1 Rd8 17. Qc2 Ng6
18. Bc1 Nh4 19. Nxf4 Bxf4 20.
Bb2 Re8 21. Re2 Qg6 22. f3 Re6
23. Bc3 Qh5 24. Qb2 Bg5!
25. Rf1 Bf4 26. g4 Qh3 27. Bd2
Rg6 28. Bxf4 ef 29. Rg2 h5!
30. Qe5 hg 31. Qxf4 ba! 32. Rg3?



32. . . . gfl

Trading down into an ending;
 Black's passed 'a' pawn clinches
 the win. 33. Rxg6 fg 34. Rxf3
Qg4+ 35. Qxg4 Bxg4 36. Rg3

continued on p. 22

LATE KNIGHT WITH DAVID LETTERMAN by NM Peter Yu

For those of you who missed it, World Champion Gary Kasparov was a guest of the David Letterman show back in October. Gary was invited on during his trip to New York this fall, and he even played an exhibition game with Letterman which was broadcasted on T.V. Actually, the whole game spanned over a number of shows, and for those of you who have bedtimes earlier than 11:30pm this was truly unfair. Luckily, no major upsets occurred. In fact, this may be the only Kasparov game you won't see in Informant. But never fear, CCI has it here:

White: GM Gary Kasparov
 (2795 FIDE)

Black: David Letterman (4
 Neilson Rating)

Center Counter [B01]

NBC TV 1989

1. e4 d5 2. ed Qxd5 3. Nc3

Qe6+?! 4. Be2 Nc6 5. d4 Qg6

6. Nf3 Qxg2 7. Rg1 Qh3 8. d5

Na5 9. Nb5 Qd7 10. Bf4 Nf6

11. Nc7+ Kd8 12. Ne5 Qxc7

13. Nxf7+ Ke8 14. Bxc7 Kxf7

15. Bxa5 Bf5 16. Qd4 Bxc2

17. Rc1 Be4 18. Rc7 Rd8 19. d6

b6 20. Bc3 Bd5 21. Qe5 Be6 22.

Of6+ gf 23. Bh5mate 1-0

If this had been a rated game, David may now have a provisional rating of 2395 based on 1—now that *would* be a joke!

INNOVATIVE OPENINGS

WRECKING THE BENKO GAMBIT

This month, two unusual games featured in *New in Chess Yearbook #12*. These games almost appear composed.

Twice, the same player sacrifices his Queen against the Benko Gambit, ultimately delivering pure mates!

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5

Other White 3rd moves avoid the Benoni and Benko but represent a partial admission of defeat.

3. ... b5

Heralding the Benko Gambit, the soundest positional gambit in tournament practice today. Ray Keene says in "An Opening Repertoire for White": "The standard procedure to adopt when material ahead is to simplify towards the endgame ... In the Benko, this procedure is not foolproof, for exchanges often intensify Black's pressure against White's a- and b- pawns, in the line of fire of a Black Rook operating from b8 and the Bishop from g7. In addition, accepting the gambit encourages Black to play a whole stream of very natural moves ... in a tournament with chess clocks, it is helpful to be able to play so Ganesan is a noted openings authority, and likes to experiment over the board as well as in his chemistry laboratory.

many Black moves without thinking and know that you are proceeding actively and correctly."

Such an assessment has actually been reached only after extensive practical tests.

Consider the opening of Taimanov-Bronstein, Zurich 1953, an important game for the history of the Benko: 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 g6 4. Nc3 d6 5. e4

b5. At the time, the comments in "Chess" were: "To describe this sacrifice as highly speculative is to be more than kind. Black gets mighty little for the pawn." In the tournament book, Bronstein himself is quite modest about the correctness of his idea.

4. cxb5

There are a variety of methods for declining the gambit, but stalwart Benko Gambiteers have demonstrated satisfactory counterplay in all cases.

4. ... a6 5. bxa6 Bxa6 6. Nc3 d6 7. Nf3 g6 8. g3 Bg7

So far, these moves have been made many times. White's next move, however, appears to be an innovation.

9. h4!

Malinin's idea, with the hope of battering open the h-file. Similar strategies are well precedented, in the Sicilian Dragon and the King's Indian Saemisch, for example.

9. ... 0-0

Both Malinin's opponents chose this reply, probably disbelieving that the attack could be sound.

9. ... h5 looks most sensible, when Malinin suggests 10. Bh3, perhaps trying for an eventual g4.

10. h5

Now the two games diverged:

A) 10. ... Nbd7

B) 10. ... Nxb5

A) 10. ... Nbd7

White: Malinin

Black: Savinov

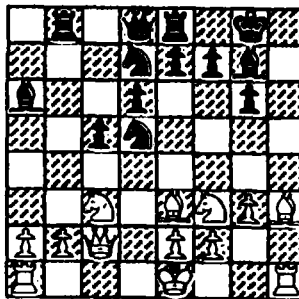
Leningrad 1988

10. ... Nbd7 11. hxg6 hxg6

12. Bh3 Re8 13. Qc2 Rb8 14.

Be3?! Nxd5

Black must have been happy now, as 15. Nxd5 Rxb2 is good for him



15. Qxg6!? fxg6

The sacrifice was hard to resist, but Malinin points out the cooler defence 15. ... Nf8.

16. Be6+ Kf8 17. Nxd5 Rxb2

Malinin's mainline after 17. ...

by Ganesan

Nf6 runs 18. Nf4 Bh8 19. Nxc6+ Kg7 20. Nge5! Ne4 21. Ng4 Rb2 22. Bh6+ Kg6 23. Nh4+ Kh7 24. Bd2! Rxd2 25. Nf5+ Kg6 26. Rh6+ Kg5 27. f4+ Kxg4 28. Rh4#.
18. Ng5 Nf6

Malinin claims attacking compensation after 18. ... Qa5+ 19. Kf1 Be2+ 20. Kg2 Reb8 21. Bd7.
19. Nf4 Qa5+ 20. Kf1 Bxe2+ 21. Kg1 Reb8 22. Bf7! Rb1+ 23. Kh2 Ng4+ 24. Kh3 Rxb1+ 25. Rxb1 Nxf2+! 26. Bxf2?

Malinin gives 26. Kg2! Qa8+ (26. ... Bf3+ 27. Kxf2 Rb2+ 28. Kxf3 Qa8+ 29. Bd5 Qa3 30. Nxc6+ Ke8 31. Bc6+ Kd8 32. Ne6+ Kc8 33. Nxe7+ Kb8 34. Ng7 +-) 27. Kxf2 Qf3+ 28. Nxf3 Bxf3 29. Kxf3 Kxf7 with a big edge.
26. ... Bg4+ 27. Kxc4 Rb4 28. Kf3 Qa3+ 29. Be3? Qa8+?

In mutual time pressure, both sides overlook the shot 29. ... Rxf4+!. White should have played 29. Kg2.
30. Bd5? Qa5?
 30. ... Rxf4+ was again possible.
31. Nfe6+ Kg8 32. Nc7+ e6 33. Bxe6+ Kf8 34. Nh7+ Ke7 35. Bg5+ Bf6 36. Bxf6#.

B) 10. ... Nxc5

White: Malinin

Black: Andreev

Leningrad 1989

10. ... Nxc5 11. Rxc5!

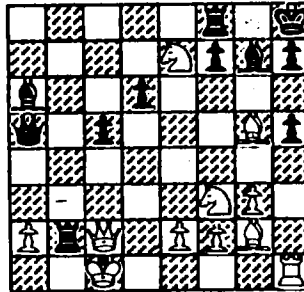
After the previous game, anything else would be a letdown.

11. ... gxc5 12. Qc2 Nd7 13. Bg5

Malinin considers 13. Ng5 Nf6 14. Nce4 Nxd5 15. Nxc5 Nf6 16. Nce4 Re8 inadequate. Instead, he just continues to develop naturally.

13. ... Nf6 14. Bg2 Rb8 15. 0-0-0 Qa5 16. Rh1 Nxd5 17. Nxd5 Rxb2?

After 17. ... Bxb2+ 18. Qxb2 Rxb2 19. Nxe7+ Kg7 20. Nf5+ Kg6 21. Ne7+ White would only have a perpetual- Malinin.
18. Nxe7+ Kh8



19. Qxc7+! Kxc7 20. Rxc5+ Bh6 21. Rxc6+ Kg7 22. Nf5+ Kg8 23. Bf6 Rc2+ 24. Kxc2 Qxa2+ Or 24. ... Qa4+ 25. Kd2 Qxa2+ 26. Ke3 Re8+ 27. Kf4 Qc4+ 28. Kg5. 25. Bb2 Qc4+ 26. Bc3 f6 26. ... Qa2+ 27. Kc1 27. Ng5! Re8

White threatened 28. Ne7+ Kg7

29. Rh7#. 27. ... fxc5 28. Bd5+ Qxd5 29. Ne7+ Kf7 30. Nxd5 is winning.

28. Bd5+! Qxd5 29. Rh8+ Kxc8 30. Bxf6+ Kg8 31. Nh6+ Kf8 32. Nh7#.

In conclusion, if you like caveman chess, Malinin's line is definitely worth studying!

SANTA CLARA OCTOBER TOURNAMENT

Tournament Director Francisco Sierra submits the following report:

Master 1st: Vladimir Strugatsky (2230) of San Francisco; 2nd: FM Renard Anderson (2364) of Aptos. **Expert** 1st: Mark Gagnon (2075) of Hayward; 2nd: Allen Becker (2161) of San Jose. **▲** Hossein Ameri (1810) of San Jose; 2nd/3rd: Lou Lucia (1974) and Emmanuel Bolongaita (1962) both from San Jose. **B** 1st: Christopher Ferris (1643) of Morgan Hill, 2nd Francisco Sierra (1726) of Santa Clara. **C/D** 1st: Rooshin Dalal (1307) of Milpitas, 2nd: Amanda Sierra (1529) of Santa Clara. **E/Unr.** 1st: Wolfgang Pieb (Unr.) of Santa Clara and 2nd: Brad Mason (1122) of Sunnyvale.

Northern California Chess Association

Dear Chessplayer:

If you are not a subscriber, the reason you received this magazine is because you are a USCF member, with a USCF address in Northern California (the mailing list used is a couple of months old, so you could be a recently-expired USCF member). The USCF is a federation of state affiliates, and California is considered two states, represented by two affiliates. The Northern California Chess Association (NCCA) is the affiliate representing Northern California, which includes most of the state geographically. Every USCF member living in Northern California is automatically a member of the NCCA, which has no dues of its own. The budget for the NCCA comes from the USCF State Affiliate Support Program (SASP), and the amount is determined by the number of USCF members with USCF addresses in the zip codes determined to be part of Northern California. We receive the fourth largest allocation annually in the SASP, yet it is costing us most of a year's allocation just to notify you that you are a member of the NCCA. A subscription to this magazine is \$10/year (6 bi-monthly issues), and the SASP money could hardly even begin to cover it. SASP money is offsetting the cost of sending this issue to non-subscribers.

The mission of the NCCA is to spend the SASP money wisely on chess projects in Northern California, and to select delegates and voting members for the USCF political structure. The USCF is governed by a policy board of seven or eight members, and every year at least one seat is up for election. out of about 360 votes nationwide, twenty-two come from Northern California. The votes (traditionally) have been given to those people that have contributed their time, energy, and/or money to making chess happen in Northern California. These include chess organizers, tournament directors, patrons, columnists, club presidents, magazine editors,

and club directors. Also, representatives of special interest groups in the chess community have been given a vote, such as female chess players and professional chess players. Most of the players in Northern California and most of the chess are in the San Francisco Bay Area, so it is natural for most of the votes to go to Bay Area people. However, geographical considerations have resulted in votes going to people in both Marysville and Monterey. In all, there must be at least seventy-five people with a claim to a vote in Northern California. Out of this group, only eighteen will get a vote each year. (We also have two Regional Vice Presidents, each of whom gets a vote, and two life voting members in Northern California: George Koltanowski and Frank Elley.) Usually a small group of Bay Area chess people gets together in October of each year and makes a selection of who is to get a vote in the following year. The names appear in the April issue of *ChessLife*. The campaign by mail and phone calls for the USCF policy board seat usually spans May and June, and then the mail ballot arrives in early July. Chess politics is sometimes entertaining and sometimes nauseating, but it seems to be necessary. It is fortunate that a small number of chess people have an interest, since most chessplayers are mainly interested in playing chess.

The USCF membership in Northern California is around two thousand, and the SASP funding comes from one dollar out of the USCF membership dues of each adult member per year. Most of these players are not interested in the NCCA, and the NCCA can do little for most players for only a dollar each. However, the consensus feels that we should offer everyone of our two thousand members the opportunity to get involved and help determine how that small fraction of their USCF membership dues is spent. It would be nice if every USCF member in Northern California also subscribed to this magazine. We will use it as a forum for NCCA informa-

Announcement

tion. However, presently the subscribers constitute only a fraction of NCCA membership. Many state affiliates put out a magazine as their principal product, and pay for it by requiring state affiliate dues from the participants in tournaments. "CalChess," as the state affiliate used to be called, used to do the same thing with a magazine called Chess Voice. However, the idea of requiring an additional membership to play in tournaments fell into some disfavor several years ago in Northern California.

The NCCA holds an open membership meeting at least once a year. This year it was held at the Labor Day Tournament in Campbell. Very few NCCA members knew about it, so those that did attend agreed that everyone should be notified that they are members in the NCCA, and that everyone's interest in the NCCA should be solicited. In addition, the NCCA membership voted to fund another state championship, and mail at least a selection of master games from this event to everyone in the state next year. That way, for their \$1, every NCCA—USCF member in Northern California will get some games of local champions to play through.

If you want to get involved, come to meetings and participate. Please do not hesitate to contact me as soon as possible. General apathy and limited resources make it difficult to be as democratic as we would like. However, I am sure we can accommodate everyone who writes for information and really wants to be part of the organizational structure and its processes. If you do not hear from the NCCA for a while, you can figure that it was decided by the small group that chose to get involved that the money it costs to notify you would be better spent on some chess project.

Hear from you soon,

Mike Goodall,
NCCA Secretary
2420 Atherton Street, #6
Berkeley, CA 94704

Northern California Chess League

Who can field a team?

Clubs, Schools (no entry fee), Businesses.

All Northern California Teams can enter if they affiliate with NCCA (temporarily \$5.00 donation per club).

The entry fee will be \$ 10.00 paid to NCCA.

Who can play in which division?

The League will be divided into divisions (Premier, I, II, etc.).

There will be 4 to 6 teams per division depending on number of teams entered.

The average rating of a team will decide in which division it plays during the first year. Thereafter the team placing last will go down one division and the division winner will go up.

The four highest rated players on a team, alternates included, will count in computation of the average rating.

The winner of the Premier division will be crowned League Champion and each team member will receive a trophy.

Where are the matches held?

The matches will be held at the home-teams venue or as arranged by the home team near its home location or as agreed to by both teams.

Special rule: (This rule is necessary to draw teams from less populated areas of Northern California and to make the League more representative of the whole area. It is not very likely that this will occur very often and the total success is worth a small inconvenience.)

If a team from the Bay Area Counties meets a team from outside the Bay Area Counties, and the travel distance is more than 50 miles, the team designated as the home-team has to find a site that

continued on p. 16

TEAM LEAGUE

continued from p. 15.

is approximately half way between the two teams home venues or as agreed to by both teams.

Format:

Four players per team plus two alternates named in advance.

Changes have to be approved by the League Director and can only be granted in extreme cases. No changes will be allowed after the pen ultimate round.

USCF membership required (rated event)

Time control: 40/2, 25/1, game 30

Scoring: 1. Match score, 2. Total points scored, 3. Tie break

Procedures:

The team has to list all players in advance by rating order using the last published rating. Provisionally rated players or unrated players can be listed at any spot. This order cannot be altered during the duration of the league even in case of rating changes. The alternate players can be used on any board. If both alternates are used they have to play in the order listed.

A team captain has to be designated.

The home-team has White on board one.

The winning team and in case of a tie the home team has to report the results to the League Director.

If there are two teams from the same club in one division, pairings will be revised so that those teams play in the first round.

Rules about forfeiture:

Any team forfeiting on more than one board without informing the opposing team will be penalized with one half of a match point (not game point).

Any team forfeiting a whole match (no show) or

withdrawing from the League without sufficient excuse will have to play down one division the next time a team is entered.

Schedule:

Starting the second week in February 1990 matches are held every two weeks, preferably on weekends (not interfering with regular club activities). Arrangements have to be made by the Team Captains and should be initiated by the captain of the home team.

How to enter:

Send entries to the League Director by January 31, 1990.

League Director: Hans Poschmann
4621 Seneca Park Ave.
Fremont, CA 94538
Telephone: (415) 656-8505

LIVERMORE OPEN

(Oct.28-29)

Fifty-six players competed for \$1,000 in prizes under the able tournament direction of Keith Mehl. Open 1st/9th: Loal Davis (2368), FM Renard Anderson (2364), Cliff Hart (2321), Mikel Petersen (2227), Philip Cobert (2226), Tom Dorsch (2192), Rick Kiger (1929), John Simpson (1928) and 14 yr-old Alan Stein (1761) all tied at 3-1 earning \$61.11 each. Reserve 1st/2nd: Richard McCullough (1726) and Carolyn Withgitt (1808) each with 3.5-.5 and \$95; 3rd: Joe Kuchta (1761) at 3-1 and \$40. 1st U1600: Bruce Bell (1570) at 3-1 earning \$80; 2nd U1500: Justin Howell (1532) with 2.5-1.5 and \$40. Best U1400/Unr: Randall Albanese (1382) and Wolfgang Pieb (Unr.) each earned 2-2 and \$50.

PAWNS OF CHESS: A Study in the Chess Player's Personality Traits and Motivation by Peter Yu

The passion for playing chess is one of the most unaccountable in the world. It slaps the theory of natural selection in the face. It is the most absorbing of occupations, the least satisfying of desires, an aimless excrecence upon life. It annihilates a man. You have, let us say, a promising politician, a rising artist, that you wish to destroy. Dagger or bomb are archaic, clumsy and unreliable—but teach him, inoculate him with chess. 1

-H.G. Wells.

Chess — “the king of games and the game of kings”— is an intellectual sport which demands psychological attention because of the innocent appeal it has to many and the monotheistic grip it has on some. The majority of regular tournament chess players fall somewhere in between chess in moderation and chess addiction, although most lie dangerously close to the latter. In order to better understand why ordinary, sensible human beings can become so involved with this board game, one must study the chess player himself. Chess players share certain personality characteristics, and some traits determine their style of play. There are also many interesting theories, accepted and not accepted, on the intrinsic factors in chess which motivate chess players. The allure of chess is a two-fold enigma, based on the chess player's own personality traits, and the motivation he has for playing chess.

In 1982, a pair of psychologists, Ralph J. Olmo and George L. Stevens, began a study on chess players using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator questionnaire. The M.B.T.I. is defined as *A psychological inventory that tests for four pairs of contrasting preferences said to be found in varying degrees in all people: Extroversion (E) - Introversion (I), Sensing (S) - Intuition (N),*

Thinking (T) - Feeling (F), Judging (J) - Perceptive (P). 2 They administered the trait questionnaire to 140 active United States Chess Federation players at numerous tournament sites and of various strength, with an emphasis on stronger players. Their results were then compared to see how chess players differ from each other and the general population. It is important to keep in mind that these characteristics are relative rather than absolute. This means that an extrovert has both extroverted and introverted tendencies, but his behavior is dominated by the extroverted side.

The first pair is Carl Jung's extrovert-introvert pair. Among the general population, extroverts, people who turn outward to the world for stimulation, outnumber introverts, those who turn to an inner world for pleasure, about 3 to 2. However, introversion is the most common personality trait found among strong chess players and outnumber extroversion 3 to 1 among all tournament players. Seventeen of the nineteen masters tested were introverts and the stronger of the two extroverts ranked only ninth. Based on these results and other examples of extroverted masters, the researchers concluded their findings on the extrovert-introvert category.

Introverts have greater powers of concentration than do extroverts, and thus are likely to be more consistent and less apt to make silly oversight blunders... However, other than the superior consistency and concentration of the introvert, we found no real distinction in playing style between introverts and extroverts. 3

Dr. Kurt Alfred Adler, son of the late Alfred Adler and exponent of his school of individual psychology, offers an explanation why so many introverts are attracted to chess. He says that chess is a form of social intercourse in which

continued on p. 18

continued from p. 17
 individuals may learn to overcome their own
 introversion. *To me, chess is a game of training in
 orientation for problem solving not only in the
 strategy and tactics and plane geometry, but in
 learning to use the pieces as a cooperative team.
 I would put little emphasis on the elements of
 hostility and aggression, and dismiss completely
 the sexual symbolism. The players are trying to
 overcome difficulties, and while they are also
 trying to attain mastery, the game is a form of
 social intercourse.*

The next pair is the sensing-intuition character-
 istic. This scale determines whether we perceive
 the world with our bodily senses or by what we
 infer from our observation. Among chess players,
 intuitives outnumber sensors two to one, while
 sensors abound in the general population—three
 to one over intuitives. Nevertheless, sixteen of the
 nineteen masters tested were intuitives and forty-
 eight percent of all chess players tested were both
 intuitive and introverted. This is markedly
 different from the four percent of the general
 population who exhibit this same combination.

Olmo and Stevens noted that intuitives play more
 creatively than sensors and are more likely to
 conceive of brilliant combinations. Sensors, on
 the other hand, seem more practical and matter-of-
 fact. They tend to have a clear, conservative
 method of play. Perhaps both kinds of players can
 play a good game, but it seems that the best chess
 players are always intuitives.

The third category is the thinking-feeling scale.
 Jung believed that the way a person makes
 decisions is either by considering only the objec-
 tive facts pertinent to the problem (thinking), or
 by considering only the feelings, attitudes and
 values of themselves and others (feeling). Yet
 considered as relative traits, thinkers and feelers
 are split evenly among the general population, but
 thinkers outnumber feelers three to one among
 chess players. The psychologists found no major

distinctions in playing style between thinkers and
 feelers except that thinkers may have an easier
 time with tactical analysis. Also, no correlation
 between strength and the thinking or feeling char-
 acteristics were discovered.

The final pair, judging-perception, deals with how
 people organize their view of the outer world.
 Basically, judges like to make decisions and plan
 ahead. Although this habit can have many
 advantages, Jung warns that judges may
 sometimes overdo it by being inflexible and rigid.
 Perceivers dislike planning very far ahead and try
 to keep all options open. They tend to look for the
 latest developments and often put off decisions in
 order to maintain flexibility. This spontaneity can
 have its good effects, or may just be unhealthy
 procrastination. Judges and perceivers are
 roughly equal among both chess players and the
 general public. But the two contrasting traits
 show strikingly marked differences in their
 subjects' playing styles.

*Judges study harder before games, plan more
 thoroughly during games and tend to take less
 risks. Perceivers, on the other hand, are risk-
 takers. They are more comfortable in compli-
 cated, unclear position. Perceivers are more
 flexible than judges and are less apt to stick with
 unsound ideas for too long. The primary
 weakness of perceivers is that they are not as
 likely as judges to be hardworking and rely
 primarily on natural talent and experience.*³

To sum up the results of Olmo and Steven's study,
 chess players were found to have certain charac-
 teristics that only a minority of the general
 population exhibited. Chess players were most
 likely introverts than extroverts (3:1), thinkers
 than feelers (3:1). They were also more intuitive
 than sensing (2:1), while equal, but having
 contrasting styles, in the judging-perceiving
 category. From this, it can be said that chess
 players rely on intuition and logical analysis. But
 they are not any more systematic or methodical

than the general population. They can be just as spontaneous as non-chess players. Finally, the traits of introversion and thinking are most prevalent among chess players but do not significantly affect their play. The author's own M.B.T.I. in 1984 was I-N-F-J, although this may have changed since he last took the questionnaire. His own observation of chess players generally agrees with the results of this study.

There are many theories on why people play chess. Non-chess players always wonder why players undergo the time-consuming torture of creating and solving apparently useless chess problems. The most simple one is that they enjoy it. Just as athletes thrive on physical exercise, chess players seek the intellectual stimulation of chess. The late Dr. Siegbert Tarrasch, a great chess player and originator of the Tarrasch Defense, continues: *Chess is a form of intellectual productiveness, therein lies its peculiar charm. Intellectual productiveness is one of the greatest joys—if not the greatest one—of human existence. It is not everyone who can write a play, or build a bridge, or even make a good joke. But in chess everyone can, everyone must, be intellectually productive and so can share in this select delight.*⁶ Included in this cerebral motive are the desire to excel, the thrill of an unremitting intellectual struggle, the allure of self-improvement (which for most has no ceiling), the absorption in a task which precludes the worries of daily life, and the attraction of generating a pattern which is often beautiful and always novel in some way.

Benjamin Franklin felt that not only did chess promote good intellectual stimulation, but that it could be useful in real life too. Attacking the criticism that chess is a useless waste of time, Franklin argues: *...chess promoted the prudential, utilitarian virtues. Several very valuable qualities of mind, useful in the course of human life, are to be acquired and strengthened by chess, including foresight, circumspection, and caution.*⁷

Another important idea behind why chess is such an appealing activity is that it promises a fair world. Interantional Master and philosopher George Botterill explains: *One of the things that appeals to me about competitive chess is that it is, as games go, very fair. There is quite a lot of luck in chess over the short term. But on the whole it tends to cancel out. In comparison with the crazy unpredictability and uncontrollability of most human existence, playing chess is a paradise of rationality.*⁸ But aside from these explanations, there are other, less accepted, beliefs on why people play chess.

The first psychoanalytic theory about chess was developed by Ernest Jones, author of the definitive biography of Sigmund Freud. Jones connected Freud's theories with the behavior of the nineteenth-century chess champion Paul Morphy. In 1858, a twenty-year-old Paul Morphy of Louisiana toured France and England defeating every known giant of the day with the exception of Howard Staunton. He then oddly returned home to live the rest of his life in seclusion and pathology. Jones took this case and wrote a paper entitled "The Problem of Paul Morphy", in which he offers interesting, and bizarre, (psycho-) analysis about chess and its devotees.

Quite obviously chess is a play substitute for the art of war. The unconscious motive actuating the players is not mere love of pugnacity characteristic of all competitive games, but the grimmer one of father murder. The mathematical quality of the game gives chess a peculiar anal-sadistic quality.

*The sense of overwhelming mastery on the one side matches that of inescapable helplessness on the other. It is well adapted to gratify at the same time both the homosexual and the antagonistic aspects of the father-son contest.*⁹ Jones felt that most men played chess as a means of carrying out their homosexual and patricidal fantasies.

Grandmaster and psychoanalyst Reuben Fine, author of *Psychology of the Chess Player*, also added some of his Freudian insights. Fine was particularly interested in the symbolism of the chess pieces. He proposed that the King, which is all-important and weak, represented a) the boy's penis in the phallic stage, b) the self-image of the man, and c) the father cut down to the boy's size. Also, the Rook, Bishop, Knight, and Pawns may sometimes be phallic images too. The Bishop, if name taken literally, can represent the superego figure, while the Knight is sometimes called a horse—a phallic animal which can also suggest bestiality. Fine concluded that since chess players play with their "pieces" and often have to abide by rules limiting them from touching their own or their opponents' pieces, unless intending to move, that they were repressed homosexuals. Although Freudian psychology was very popular during the fifties, today the common feeling among chess players is that these symbolisms are utter rubbish.

However, there is something which may be learned from all the psychoanalytic hypothesizing. Fine's extensive research into the past World Champions has revealed two groups of chess personalities: the heroes and the non-heroes. Grandmaster Fine, a person who contended for World Champion himself, explains: *The heroes use chess to satisfy the fantasies of omnipotence, and show a greater or lesser degree of regression in the course of time. However, an examination of actual psychoses revealed that the regression is never extreme. The non-hero group takes to chess as one of many intellectual endeavors. Chess players are drawn mainly from the intellectual fields, though they may come from any background. On the whole, chess masters in the non-hero group show the capacity to accomplish much in other areas as well. These men are psychologically quite healthy, and do not manifest the disturbances of the hero group.*¹⁰ Thus there is actually some danger that chess might lead to psychosis for the best players. The most recent example here is past World Champion and

renowned recluse Bobby Fischer, who, after winning the title, disappeared to live a life of paranoid delusions. Of course Fischer and Morphy are not the rule, but only the rarest of exceptions.

In conclusion, chess is a game which captivates its players because of their personalities and the allure that chess has. People who participate in chess seem to share certain character traits which may show up in their playing style. The motivational factors which lead them to play are primarily for mental stimulation. The strong appeal chess has for some have led Freudians to over-theorize on chess players. However, the accepted reasons for chess indulgence are still those of intellectual outlet, fairness and even utilitarian virtues. With such qualities as these it is understandable why so many people play chess, and why some players are addicted to the game. Perhaps H.G. Wells was wrong by harshly stating that chess can only destroy a man. He was not an expert player. How should he know? Maybe chess does no less but help men realize and demonstrate their full potential. A master's opinion is strongly needed here, and that of Dr. Tarrasch's is plain and final. "Chess, like love, like music, has the power to make men happy."

1 Dr. Crypton (pseudonym), "The Royal Game," *Science Digest*, Sept. 1983, p.96.

2 Ralph Olmo and George Stevens, "Chess Champs: Introverts at Play," *Psychology Today*, Aug. 1984 p.72.

3 "Chess Champs: Introverts at Play," p.72.

4 Gilbert Cant, "Why They Play: The Psychology of Chess," *Time*, 4 Sept. 1972, p. 45.

5 "Chess Champs: Introverts at Play," p.73.

6 W.R. Hartson and P.C. Wason, (New York: Facts on File, 1983), p.8.

7 Charles Krauthammer, "The Romance of Chess," *The New Republic*, 18-25 July 1983, p.28.

8 W.R. Hartson and P.C. Wason, p.12.

9 Reuben Fine, (New York: Dover, 1956), p.1.

10 Reuben Fine, p.69.

17TH ANNUAL PEOPLE'S CHESS TOURNAMENT

**FEBRUARY 17-18-19,
1990**

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**ALL ENTRY FEES \$5 MORE AFTER 2/13; \$10 MORE
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**Registration: Sat, February 17, 9:00-
10:00 a.m.**

Advance entries to:

UCB Campus CC
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UC Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720

Make checks payable to "ASUC SUPERB"

**Rounds: Open 11-5, 11-5, 10-4:30; Reserve
11-3-7, 11-4**

3-WAY TIE AT THE 1989

U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP

At the recent U.S. Championship and Zonal Tournament held in Long Beach between Nov. 9th and Dec. 3rd, 1988 U.S. Junior Champion, FM Stuart Rachels tied with GM's Yasser Seirwan and Roman Dzindzichashvili to win the event with a score of 9.5-5.5.

The rest of the results were as follows:

4th: GM Boris Gulko 9.0-6.0

5-7th: GM Nick deFirmian 8.5-6.5
GM Anthony Miles
GM Joel Benjamin

8-9th: GM Maxim Dlugy 8.0-7.0
GM John Fedorowicz

10th: GM Michael Rohde 7.5-7.5

11th: GM Sergey Kudrin 7.0-8.0

12th: IM Alexander Ivanov 6.5-8.5

13th: GM Walter Browne 6.0-9.0

14th: IM Igor Ivanov 5.0-10.0

15-16th: GM D. Gurevich 4.5-10.5
GM Lev Alvirt

Although Stuart is presently only a FM with one IM norm, he will automatically become an IM as soon as he plays in the interzonals. Look for exclusive articles and analyses from this Championship in the next issue of the Journal.

More U.S. Junior by NM Peter Yu

Last issue, we reported on the U.S. Junior Closed, with most of the game scores and an article on the invitations process. What we inadvertently left out were the results and a synopsis of the attendees. Since our philosophy here is "better late than never," I have included the rest of the report in this issue.—editor.

Well, what can I say except that I was out-leagued? Although a perfect score was avoided, and I did manage to draw the two highest rated participants FM Stuart Rachels (2510) and FM Ilya Gurevich (2545), my first and last Junior Championship is filled with bitter-sweet memories.

Except for a couple of us, this year's U.S. Junior was an all too familiar routine for veteran junior stars such as defending champion Rachels (philosophy student at Emory U. originally from Birmingham, Alabama), Gurevich (from Worcester, Massachusetts who hopes to attend nearby Yale, and the youngest invitee), FM Ben Finegold (a 2490 Ohioan currently living in Brussels, Belgium as a married "pro"), FM Danny Edelman (a junior at Harvard and multi-faceted chess organizer, journalist and player rated at 2475), FM Vivek Rao (also at 2475 and going to

Harvard, Vivek is both a studious competitor and Physics student), FM Adam Lief (the highest junior of the West at 2455, Adam is now a senior at Stanford studying computer science) and IM Alex Sherzer (from Fallston, Maryland, this 2455 sicillian-killer had the home-court advantage). Playing in his second Junior Closed was NM Andy Serotta (from Landsdale, Pennsylvania, Andy is a mathematician/economist at Harvard), again qualifying by winning the previous Junior Open. New-comers James Schuyler (a 2320 from New York who is currently a freshman at M.I.T., James still has quite a few Juniors left) and Peter Yu (who qualified at 2270, and pretends to major in Business at U.C. Berkeley as he spends most of his time publishing the California Chess Journal) added new flavor to the prestigious annual event. Interestingly, this year will be the last for five of the juniors, leaving next year's spaces open for some lesser-known talents. The final results were as follows:
1st/2nd: Sherzer, Finegold at 6-3, 3rd/4th: Rao, Gurevich at 5.5-3.5, 5th: Rachels at 5-4, 6th/7th: Edelman, Serotta at 4.5-4.5, 8th: Schuyler at 4-5, 9th: Leif at 3-6, 10th: Yu at 1-8.

Mar

from p. 9

Now if 31. Nxf3 Qxb2+ picks the Rook up.

31. Qxa7

Seirawan uncharacteristically goes pawn grabbing while Karpov looks for mate or win of the Rook.

31....Bg4+ 32. Ke1 Rxd4!!

The routine 32....Re8 looks strong but instead Karpov calculates out a ten move combination which snags the Rook.

33. exd4 Qe6+ 34. Kd2

Or 34. Kf2 Qe2+ 35. Kg1 Bf3 is crushing.

34....Qe2+ 35. Kc3 Qe3+

36. Kc2 Bf5+ 37. Kd1 Qd4+

38. Ke1 Qe3+ 39. Kd1 Qd3+

40. Ke1 Qg3+

Now all King moves lose, if 41. Kf1 Bd3 mate, or 41. Ke2 Qg2+ still snags the Rook, figure out how.

41. Kd1 Qg1+ 42. Kd2 Qf2+

White resigns, as 43. Kc3 Qe3+ picks up the Rook.

Basich

from p. 11

Bd7 37. Rg2 Rf8 38. Nc4 Bh3

39. Rf2 Rd8 40. Rf3 Be6 41. Na3

Bb3 42. Kf2 Rb8 43. Rg3 Bf7!

44. Ke3

If 44. Nc2 then 44...a5!

44...Rxb4 45. Rg1 Rb2 46.

Rb1 Ra2 47. Rb8+ Kh7 48. Nc4

Bxc4 49. dc a3 and White resigned.

On the Trail of Capablanca

by Edward Winter

In the course of preparing a book on Capablanca*, I came across a large number of his games hidden away in forgotten sources. There follows a small selection. Except for the first, they all come from simultaneous exhibitions.

An example of Capablanca's play at the age of thirteen which I discovered during a research visit to Havana:

White: J. R. Capablanca

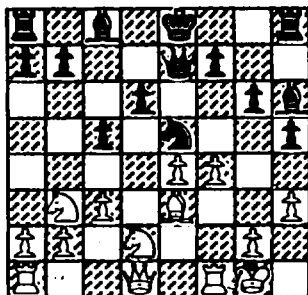
Black: Enrique Corzo

Cuban Championship

Havana, Mar. 1902

Ruy Lopez [C60]

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5
Nge7 4. 0-0 g6 5. Bxc6 Nxc6
6. d4 exd4 7. Nxd4 Bg7 8. c3 d6
9. Be3 Qe7 10. Nd2 Ne5 11. h3
h5 12. f4 c5 13. N4b3 Bh6



14. Bxc5 dxc5 15. fxex5 Be3+
16. Kh1 Oxe5 17. Nc4 Qg5
18. Qf3 Be6 19. Qxe3 Qe7
20. Na3 b6 21. Rad1 a5 22. e5
a4 23. Nd2 Bxa2 24. c4 f5

25. Ra1 Bb3 26. Nxb3 axb3
27. Qxb3 Qe6 28. Nb5 Rxa1
29. Nc7+ Kf7 30. Nxe6 Rxf1+
31. Kh2 Kxe6 32. Oxb6+ Kxe5
33. Qxc5+ Resigns 1-0 **TIME:**
White-37 minutes, Black-60
minutes. (Source: *El Figaro*, 30
March 1902.)

The next game comes from *The Newcastle Weekly Chronicle* of 27 September 1919:

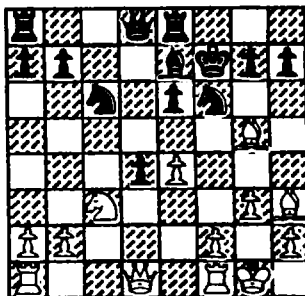
White: Capablanca

Black: W.F. Graham

Newcastle, 22 Sept. 1919

Queen's Gambit Decl. [D34f]

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 c5
4. cxd5 exd5 5. g3 Nf6 6. Bg2
Nc6 7. 0-0 cxd4 8. Nxd4 Be7
9. Nc3 Be6 10. Nxe6 fxe6
11. Bh3 Kf7 12. Bg5 Re8 13. e4
d4



14. Bxe6+ Kxe6 15. Ob3+ Kd7
16. e5 Kc8 17. exf6 gxf6
18. Bf4 Bd6 19. Bxd6 Qxd6
20. Nd5 b6 21. a4 Na5 22. Qf3
Nc6 23. a5 bxa5 24. Rfe1 Re6
25. Rxc6+ Resigns 1-0

A couple of weeks later, the Cuban had a curious skirmish, full of tactical snares:

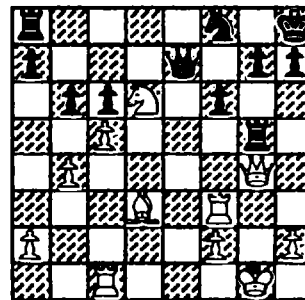
White: Capablanca

Black: H.L. Brooke

Bradford, 7 Oct. 1919

QGD [D66]

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 Nf6
4. Bg5 Be7 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Nbd2
0-0 7. Re1 c6 8. Bd3 Qa5 9. 0-0
Qc7 10. Qe2 Re8 11. e4 dxe4
12. Nxe4 Nxe4 13. Qxe4 Nf8
14. Bf4 Bd6 15. Ne5 Qe7 16. c5
Bc7 17. Rfe1 f6 18. Nc4 Bxf4
19. Qxf4 b6 20. Nd6 Qc7
21. Re3 Re7 22. Rg3 Kh8 23. b4
e5 24. dxe5 Rxe5 25. Rf3 Qe7
26. Qh4 Be6 27. g4 Bxg4
28. Qxg4 Rg5



29. Nf7+ Resigns (Source: *The Yorkshire Observer Budget*, 18 Oct. 1919)

There were sometimes famous names among his simultaneous opponents. William Albert Fairhurst was eleven times

continued on p. 24

Capablanca

continued from p. 23

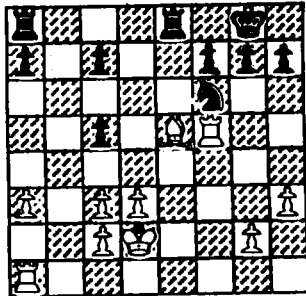
Scottish champion, though he was only nineteen at the time of the following game, which is taken from the Manchester Evening News of 28. Oct. 1922:

White: Capablanca

Black: W.A. Fairhurst
Castleton, 2 Oct. 1922.

King's Gambit Decl. [C30]

1. e4 e5 2. Be4 Nc6 3. d3 Nf6
4. f4 Bc5 5. Nc3 d6 6. Nf3 Bg4
7. Bb5 Nd7 8. Bxc6 bxc6 9. h3
Bxf3 10. Qxf3 exf4 11. Bxf4
Qh4+ 12. Bg3 Qf6 13. Qxf6
Nxf6 14. Rf1 0-0 15. Kd2 Rfe8
16. Rf5 Bb4 17. a3 Bxc3+
18. bxc3 c5 19. e5 dxe5
20. Bxe5



20....Ne4+ 21. dxe4 g6 22. Rf6
Rxe5 23. Raf1 Rxe4
24. Rxf7 Rd8+ 25. Kc1 Re1+
26. Rxe1 Kxf7 27. Re5 c6
28. Rxc5 Rc8 29. Kd2 Ke6 30.
Kd3 Kd6 31. Ra5 Rc7 32. Kc4
Rf7 33. Ra6 h6 34. Kd4 Rf2 35.
g4 Rh2 36. c4 Rxh3 37. c5+
Kc7 38. Rxa7+ Kb8 39. Rg7
Rh4 40. Rxe6 h5 41. Rxc6
Rxe4+ 42. Kd5 Ra4 43. Rh6
Rxa3 44. Kd6 Rg3 45. Rh8+
Kb7 46. c6+ Kb6 47. Rb8+

Resigns 1-0

The Mexican newspaper Excelsior of 24. April 1933 was the source of the next battle:

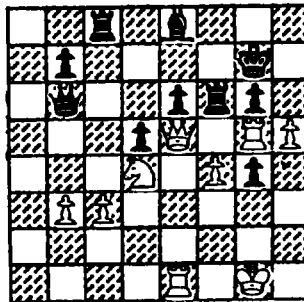
White: Capablanca

Black: J. Friedmann

Mexico City, 21 April 1933

French Defense [C05]

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6
4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. Ngf3 Nc6
7. c3 a5 8. Bd3 Qb6 9. dxc5
Bxc5 10. Qe2 Qc7 11. Nb3 a4
12. Nxc5 Nxc5 13. Be3 Nxd3+
14. Qd3 Na5 15. 0-0 Nc4 16. b3
Nxe3 17. Qxe3 g6 18. Nd4 Bd7
19. Qh3 0-0 20. Rae1 axb3
21. axb3 Kg7 22. Qg3 f5
23. exf6+ Rxf6 24. Re5 Raf8
25. Qe3 Qd6 26. g3 Qa6
27. Re1 Re8 28. h4 h5 29. Rg5
Rc8 30. Qe5 Qb6 31. g4 hxg4
32. h5 Be8



33. Re3 Rc7 34. Nxe6+ Qxe6
35. Qxc7+ Resigns 1-0

Finally, a vigorously played King's Indian Defense from a ten-board exhibition with clocks, found in Els Escacs a Catalunya of March 1936:

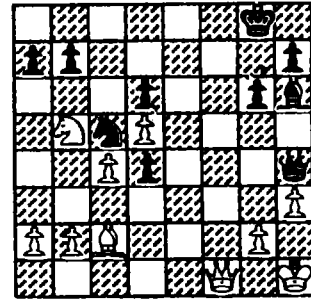
White: Llado

Black: Capablanca

Barcelona, 14 December 1935

KID [E91]

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7
4. e4 0-0 5. Nf3 c5 6. Be2 d6
7. 0-0 Bg4 8. Be3 Nc6 9. h3
Bxf3 10. Bxf3 Nd7 11. d5 Nd4
12. Be2 e5 13. Bd3 f5 14. f4
fxe4 15. Bxe4 Bh6 16. Bxd4
cxd4 17. Nb5 Nc5 18. Bc2 exf4
19. Kh1 f3 20. Rxf3 Rxf3 21.
Qxf3 Qh4 22. Rf1 Rf8 23.
Qe2 Rxf1+ 24. Qxf1



24....d3 25. Bxd3 Bf4
26. Resigns 0-1

*Capablanca: A Compendium of Games, Notes, Articles, Correspondence, Illustrations and Other Rare Archival Materials on the Cuban Chess Genius Jose Capablanca, 1888-1942 by Edward Winter, published in December 1989 by McFarland & Company, Inc., Box 611, Jefferson NC 28640 at \$47 including postage.

GrandMaster Potpourri: Selected Games and Annotations

White: GM Boris Gulko
Black: GM Tony Miles
Old Indian Defense [A41]

1. d4 d6 2. Nf3 Bg4

A system popularized by Miles.
3. c4 Nd7

Z. Polgar-Torre in the same round, went 3. g3 Bxf3 4. ef e6 5. f4 c6 6. Bd3 g6 7. 0-0 Bg7. Miles has also played 3.

...Bxf3!? The text leads to an Old Indian like set-up, except Black hasn't played ...Nf6. Miles uses this difference to exchange off his "bad" Bishop by ...Be7-g5.

4. e4 e5 5. Be2 Be7 6. Nc3 Bxf3 7. Bxf3 Bg5 8. Bxg5 Qxg5 9. 0-0 Qd8 10. Bg4 Ngf6 11. f4

Black's slow manoeuvres have cost time and White gains space.

11....0-0 12. Bxd7 Nxd7 13.

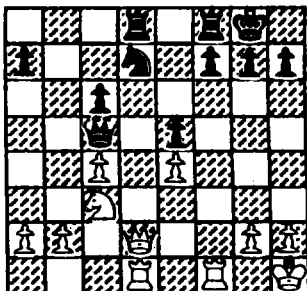
Qd2 c6 14. Kh1 Qe7 15. Rad1

White stands significantly better, controlling the d-file and enjoying more space.

15....Rad8 16. fe de 17. d5!

Qc5 [17. ...Nb6 18. d6] 18. dc bc

18. ...Qxc6 cedes control of d5.



19. Rf3!

Suddenly it's clear that Miles' Knight is uncomfortably pinned and there's nothing to prevent Rd3.

19....f6 20. Rd3 Rf7 21. b3 Qa5 22. Na4 Qxd2 23. R3xd2 g6

23. Kf8 24. Nc5 Nxc5 25. Rxd8 is check, so Miles decides to move his King off the back rank.

24. Kg1

Gulko simply marches his King over to protect e4 before playing Nc5. Black is helpless.

24....Kg7 25. Kf2 Kh6 26. Ke3 Kg5 27. Nc5 Nxc5 28. Rxd8 Rb7 29. R1d6 Rb6 30. Rc8 1-0 (Ganesan)

White: GM Mikhail Gurevich

Black: GM John Fedorowicz (2505)

English Opening [A29]

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e5 3. Nf3 Nc6

4. g3 Bb4 5. Bg2 0-0 6. 0-0 Re8

7. Ne1 Bf8 8. d3 d6 9. Nc2

Nd4!? 10. b4

Nxd4 gives Black strong central pawns and the e-file after 10. ...ed 11. Nb5 c5 12. b4 a6 13. Na3 Qe7! (not 13.... cb 14. Nc2).

10....c6 11. b5 Be6 12. bc bc

13. Bg5 Be7 14. e3 Bg4 15. f3

Nxc2 16. Qxc2

16. fg!? leads to a very interesting tactical struggle which seems to favor White.

16....Be6 17. f4 Ng4 18. Bxe7

Rxe7 19. Rae1 ef 20. gf Bd7 21.

Nd1 Ob6 22. d4 Rae8 23. Qd3

Qa5 24. e4 f6 25. h3 Nh6 26.

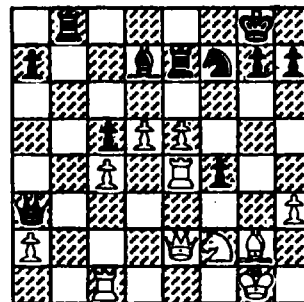
Nf2 Nf7 27. Re3 Rb8

27. ... Qxa2 is most sensible, but Fedorowicz is known to play "caveman chess" and get away with it.

28. Qe2 c5 29. d5 Qa6 30. Rc1

f5 31. e5 de 32. fe f4 33. Re4

Qa3



34. Qe1?

Better was 34. Re1! and if 34. ...Bf5?! 35. e6 wins for White. But 34. ...Rb2 is promising for Black.

34....Rxe5 35. Rc3 Rxe4 36.

Nxe4 Qxa2 37. Nxc5 Rb1 38.

Rc1 f3 39. Bf1?

39. Bxf3 holds for White as the following endgame is probably drawn.

39....f2+ 40. Qxf2 Qxf2+ 41.

Kxf2 Rxc1 42. Nxd7 Nd6 0-1

(Yu, Weiss)

continued on p. 26

GM Potpourri

continued from p. 25

White: Murey

Black: A. Ivanov

English Opening [A20]

1. c4 e5 2. Nf3 e4 3. Nd4 Nc6 4. Nxc6 dxc6 5. Nc3 Nf6

This is considered equal. White is really playing the Nimzovich variation of the Sicilian with colors reversed (1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. e5 Nd5 4. Nc3 Nxc3 5. dxc3 Nc6), but that opening doesn't have a great reputation.

6. h3

6 g3 Bc5 7. Bg2? Qd4 wins a pawn. 6. d3!?

6... Bb4 7. Qc2 Qd4 8. e3 Qe5

9. d4 [9. Be2] 9... exd3 10.

Bxd3 Bxc3+ 11. bxc3 Be6 12.

O-O O-O-O

with a nice, active position and attacking chances

13. Ba3 Rd7

planning ... Rhd8

14. Rfb1

14. Rfd1, but the more the pieces come off, the starker White's doubled pawns stand out.

14... Qa5 15. Bb4 Qg5!

Now White is in trouble; e.g., 16. Kf1 Rhd8 17. Rd1 Rxd3 18. Rxd3 Bxc4 or 16. Kh1 (or 16. Kh2) Qh4 with threats of

... Rhd8, ... Ng4 among others.

16. Bf1 Bxb3 17. Qa4 a6 18.

Rb2 Ne4 19. Ba3 Nd2! 20. c5

White is helpless, e.g., 20. Qd1 Nxc4

20... Nf3+ 0-1

It's mate after 21. Kh1 Bxg2+

22. Bxg2 Qh5+. (Ganesan)

Blitz

from p. 8

the openness of the center increases his advantage.

13... g6 14. Nd2 h5 15. Qe4

Nd5 16. N2b3 Nxc3 17. bxc3

Ba7 18. Bxa6!

White gets to snatch a pawn due to his better development.

18... Bxd4 19. Bb5+ Bd7

20. Nxd4 Rb8 21. Rad1! Bxb5

22. Nxb5 Qg5

The wrong flank to escape to, now the Queen becomes claustrophobic because of the next move.

23. f4! Qf5?? 24. Nd6+ Kf8

25. Nxf5 gxf5

Black has lost his Queen, but anything can still happen in Blitz!

26. Qb4+ Kg7 27. Rf3 h4

28. Rd7 Rh7 29. Rxb7 Rd8

30. Rb8 Rd1+ 31. Rf1 Rd2

White tries to finish quickly by pushing his passed pawns, but Black's threats on the second rank, coupled with White's rising flag begin to spell danger.

32. a4 Rh6 33. c4 Re2 34. Re1

Ra2 35. Qb3 Rd2 36. Qc3 Ra2

37. Rb2 Rxa4

White realized the seriousness of ... Rg6 and tried anything to get the Rook off the second rank. Better than giving back a pawn was 37. a5 Rg6 38. Rb2, but time begins to take its toll. 38. h3 Rg6 39. Rf1 Ne7 40. c5 Nd5 41. Qd2 Re4 42. Rb3 Kh6 43. c6 Rg8 44. Re1 Rxf4?

Black slips in time pressure.

45. Rf1 Re4 46. "Qxh6" 1-0

and not a minute too soon, as White was shorter on time!

NCCA SCHOLARSHIP

The officers of the Northern California Chess Association would like to announce the 1990 NCCA Chess Scholarship. Available to junior chess players (under 21) who have demonstrated talent and dedication to the game. This \$200 grant will be awarded to the one junior player in N. Ca, whom the NCCA feels most deserving of financial support for his or her chess development based on his past accomplishments. Eligibility is limited only to N. Ca residents who are under the age of 21 as of January 1, 1990. Nominations by chess coaches, parents and/or friends will be accepted only until the deadline: February 15, 1990. The winner will be honored at the 1990 Masters Open on March 30-April 1, and should be available to accept the award. This grant will only be used for chess purposes such as tournament entry fees, memberships, subscriptions, books, equipment and travel expenses, etc. and will be given on a reimbursement status through an officer of the NCCA.

Please submit typed copies(2) of nominations to NCCA secretary Mike Goodall, whose address is listed on page 15 of this issue. Entries must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 1990 to be considered. Among those judging will be NCCA President Hans Poschmann, Vice-Pres. Andy McManus, Secretary Mike Goodall, Treasurer Peter Yu, and RVP Alan Glasscoe.

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10 Sa San Rafael (Schol. Quads)
17-19 SaSuM Berkeley/UCB: People's
25 Su Walnut Creek (Quads)

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17-18 SaSu Sunnyvale/LERA
30-Apr1 FSaSu UC Berkeley: NCCA Master's
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