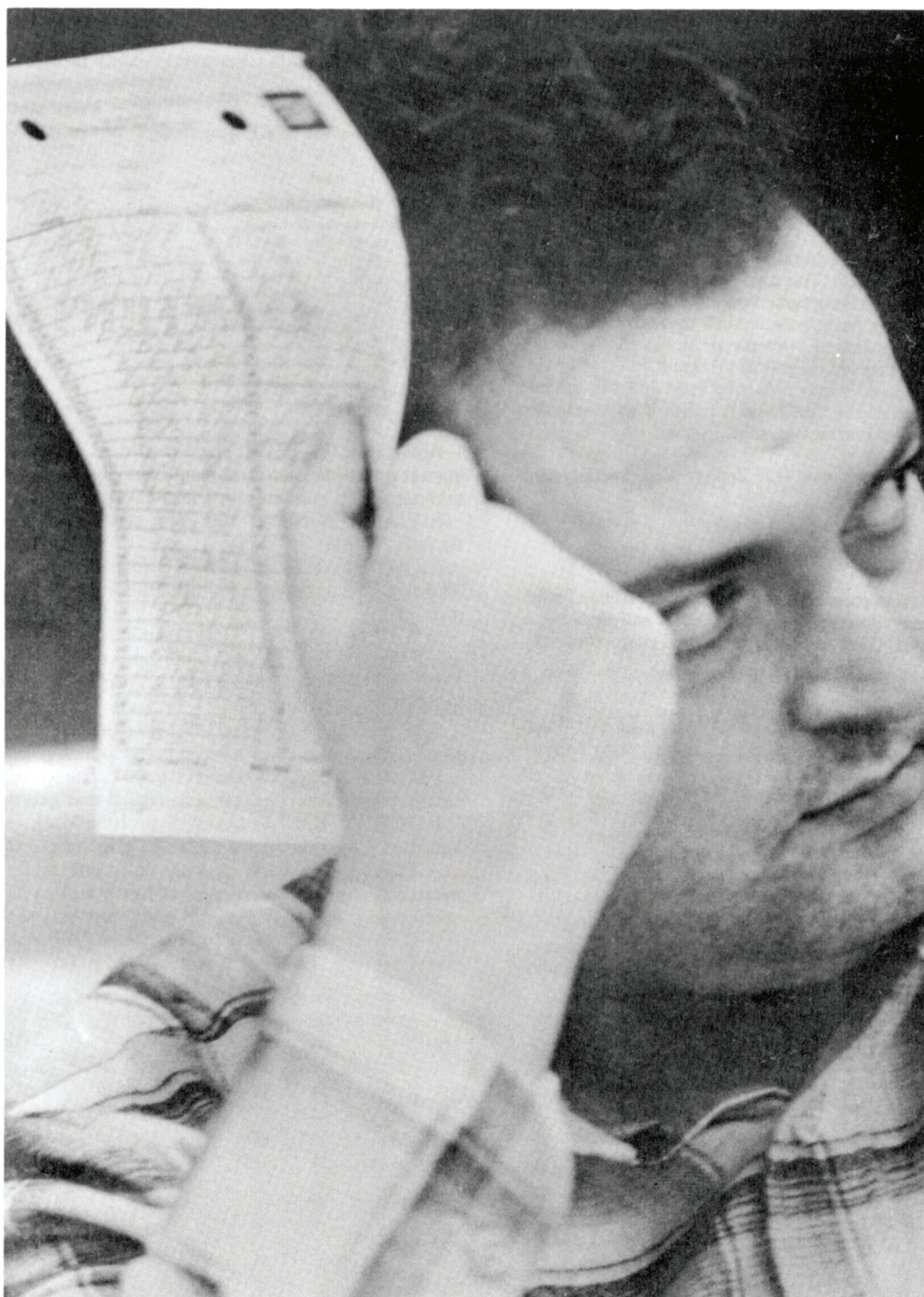


# CHESS VOICE

Vol. 5 No. 5

February-March 1983

Price \$1.50



# CHESS VOICE

4125 Zephyr Way  
Sacramento, Ca 95821

Telephone:  
(916) 484-6354

Chess Voice is published six times a year by the Northern California Chess Association. Single copies are available at \$1.50 an issue from the editor.

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of bylined contributors or of the editor. They do not represent the official views of the Northern California Chess Association unless specifically identified as such.

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## COVER

Peter Biyiasas displayed skill and determination while winning the Northern California Championship for 1983. His 6-1 score simply brushed aside a field of talented California masters. The clenched fist and tightened chin seem to declare to all in sight, "And I got the scoresheets to prove it."



# CalChess

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
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Tournaments Chairman:	Andy Lazarus

CalChess is the USCF state chapter for Northern California.

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**BIYIASIS WINS** p. 100: The story and games from the big Biyiasis Bagby.

**EIGHT YEARS OF THE BAGEY** p. 102: Mike Goodall breaks it all down into numbers and hopes the Bagby never has to find a bottom line.

**WHA'CHA OUGHTA DO IS** p. 104: Robert Gordon tells us all about all those great ways to play chess which everyone talks about but on one does. This is a player's article. The tournament directors have all heard it before.

**ASK THE PATZERS** p. 106: Old man patzer never quits and even gives advance notice of an innovative opening book.

**PEOPLE'S TOURNAMENT** p. 107: The sound of music in a successful tournament presented in results and games.

**INTERNATIONAL GAMES** p. 108: Mark Buckley brings the light touch to some recent games of esthetic and theoretical interest.

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**WILHELM STEINITZ** p. 112: Steinitz rolled a lot of history into one short man. Some of it is presented here.

# CalChess Circuit Standings

The February People's Tournament was the only addition to the circuit standings, but it provided the occasion for many more people to earn CalChess Merit Points.

By the time the next issue rolls around, however, the Davis Open, the LERA Class, and the San Francisco Class Championships will have provided plenty more opportunities to bag a few points for yourself.

So far the most participants have come from the ranks of the B players, 104 in all. There were 83 A players and 75 Experts in the tallies, while 73 C's, 43 D's, 14 E's and 23 Unrateds have been fed into the computer matrix.

In the expert division Doug Sailer is sailing away with the prize with a full tournament and more lead over his nearest competitor. The A's are very tight with only 4 points separating the leaders. Arturs Elevans has a secure lead in the B's, but the other prizes are in hot contention. Competition among the C's is even hotter with less than 4 points separating the top three. David Davis has a good lead among D's, but he looks about to vault into the C's, where he would take the lead. After that it's another dog-fight. Increased competition among the E's is gratifying. Gar Comins has already doubled his winning tally of last year, but he has some tough opposition. Note that Andy Arvai, is in fifth place after only one tournament, and he has only a 944 rating. He has a lot of room to bag the E prize while sequestering plenty of extra rating points in the process.

You can all get in the swing. Forget your rating; that is a reflection of your forgotten past. The CalChess Circuit measures only what you do this year. Believe in yourself. Come out and share some good moments with fellow chess players. You've got to give yourself a chance sometime.

## CURRENT LEADERS

Expert	Rating	Expert	Rating
** C **			
Doug Sailer	241.8	Nick Casares, Jr.	67.2
Tom Raffill	186	Eric Finkelstein	65.6
James Waide	164.3	Clifton Williamson	62.4
Alan Yaffe	151.2	Bradley Coon	59.8
Zoran Lazetich	148.8	Karl Forsberg	52.8
**A**		**D**	
Steven Hanamura	114	David Alan Davis	69.6
James Gibbs	112.5	Richard L. O'Brien	49
William Rodgers	110	Douglas S. Young	42.9
David Barton	102.3	Oscar A. Guerrero	39
Steven Matthews	89	Mark Trombley	39
**B**		**E**	
Arturs Elevans	132.8	Gar Comins	26.4
John Hampton	110	David J. Lawson	24.2
Will Delaney	96	Tjoe Liek Go	22
Paul Friedrich	94	Karl Remick	19.8
Ken Halligan	86	Andy Arvai	17.6
Hans Poschmann	86	Clifton Page	17.6
Unrated			
Daniel Liparini	34.1		
Sonny Gaoy	24.2		
Gil Gamez	19.8		
Ian Ramsay	19.8		
Kurt Haworth	17.6		

## Next CalChess Tournaments

- April 9-10 San Francisco Class Championships, San Francisco
- May 28-30 LERA Memorial Day, Sunnyvale
- June 11-12 Berkeley Class Struggle, Berkeley
- July 2-4 Golden Bear Open, Berkeley (\$5 off to CalChess Patrons)
- July 16-17 Sacramento Cheap Open, Sacramento
- July 30-31 CalChess Team Championship (tentative)

See tournament Calendar and/or flyers as the appropriate ones occur for details.

# Letters

Thanks for sending me "Chess Voice." You always do a fine job. I wish Southern California could do as well.

Once again I will have to miss the CalChess Masters Open. I've cut way down on my tournament schedule, mostly because of my 1 1/2 year old son. Perhaps I'll be able to make the next one. . .

**Jack Peters**  
Los Angeles, CA

Look forward to receiving my next issue (CV). Realize publishing must be quite a burden unless you get a lot of cooperation. When Chess Voice comes it is excellent, worth waiting for. Keep up the good work.

**Jackson E. Morrison**  
Eureka, CA

You got me "hooked" on "Chess Voice," again, so please send me another "fix" — or a fresh year's supply.

Enclosed is my \$25 for a patron membership. Yes, I have gotten a lot of enjoyment from the game, so let's help spread it around!

**Doug Beede**  
San Pablo, CA

## Ask the Patzers

by I.M.A. Mucker

International D Player

During a recent game I spent a lot of time calculating a rook sacrifice which forced a pawn promotion, but my queen was still on the board. My opponent adamantly refused to let me use an upside down rook as a second queen. Desperate and somewhat short of time, I noticed that queens were off at the next board and snatched one of the appropriate color to use in my promotion. On the next move these players agreed to draw and, while putting his set away, one of the players reached over and snatched my second queen off the board, bagged it and walked out of the room.

I could not very well play on a rook down so I quested the room for an extra queen. As my hand encircled the queen of a player apparently deep in thought he looked over from his position, saw the situation and landed a left hook on my nose. We got into a fight and, while the tournament director was separating us, my flag fell.

I protested the time forfeit but to no avail. My opponent archly declared that Kotov says in **Train Like a Grandmaster** you should only fight when your opponent is on the move.

I think there is something unfair about the whole situation. What do you think?

Q.Q., ME

*It is not unfair to be penalized for lack of foresight, an important chess quality. You have probably seen the masters lurking in corners scanning their magnetic vest pocket sets. Had you such a set, you could have reached in your pocket, extracted the appropriate queen from the set and plunked it on the board. The rules are silent on what size a second queen has to be. — IM*

Recently I was paired with a beautiful girl. Her flowing blonde hair and the azure sparkle of her eyes while she watched me ponder my move were very distracting, and I lost quickly. I congratulated her on her fine play and asked her for a date. She said no, she didn't think I was good enough for her. Isn't that impolite?

L.O., VA

*Are you sure you're a chess player?*

*The suave player beats her brains out and then suggests that if she buys him dinner, he'll tell her about some of the lesser known intricacies of the Evans Gambit. — IM*

Why didn't Nimzovich ever become world champion? I have read **My System** thoroughly, and I think his ideas were great.

M.I., ND

*You understand Nimzovich! I still have not figured out why Fred Reinfeld failed to be U.S. Champion. — IM*

# Biyasas Wins Northern California Championship

by K. Michael Goodall

The eighth annual Charles Bagby Memorial Masters Invitational, also known as the Northern California State Championship, was the strongest ever by rating with a 2436 average for the players. This topped last year's 2432 rating. Our state championship is again the strongest state championship in American history. A grandmaster played this year for the first time, and he won easily.

Former Canadian Champion Peter Biyasas reaffirmed the significance of the grandmaster title by rolling the field game after game. In the one game he lost he walked into a prepared variation which second place finisher, IM Vince McCambridge spent 10 hours booking up. As a computer programmer for IBM, Biyasas no longer has the time to be constantly studying and preparing while McCambridge, a recent U.C. Berkeley graduate in business, is now a full time professional chess player. McCambridge more than made up for last year's disappointment by going undefeated and scoring 5-2, a point behind the winner's 6-1. Distant third with an even score was Craig Mar, a modest but extremely strong senior master who apologized for taking "chicken draws" in better positions. Mar, a student in San Jose, is commonly underestimated, but his performance here should cause most of his detractors to get a second opinion.

The rest of the field were all disappointed with their minus scores. Everyone but Alan Pollard had enjoyed plus scores in some previous Bagby's. Pollard has proven himself their equal in other tournaments. He tied with last year's co-champion, Jeremy Silman, who was the highest rated player in the tournament. They had to limp home with 3-4's. Dennis Fritzing, Richard Lobo, and Charles Powell mustered only 2½-4½. These results were not up to their potential, but in a tournament as strong as the Bagby it is impossible for more than a few to come up to potential.

The players vied with each other over the last three weekends of January at the Mechanics' Institute Club in San Francisco. It was sponsored by the Institute and CalChess. First prize garnered \$500, second \$300 and there were point prizes of \$50 per full point and \$25 per half point. The entry fee was \$25, but the pain of paying it was easier because you could simply subtract it from the remuneration at the end of the tournament.

I organized and directed the tournament with the invaluable assistance of Max Wilkerson, the chess club director for the Mechanics' Institute. It was appreciably quieter this year than last — in part because of Wilkerson's efforts and in part because the 49ers did not win the Super Bowl.

## CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

(notes by R.E. Fauber)

McCambridge scored in the first round on sharp tactics in the center.

**Old Indian Defense; V. McCambridge—D. Fritzing: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 Nf3, d6; 3 e4, Nbd7; 4 Nc3, e5; 5 Bg5, h6; 6 Bh4, c6; 7 e3, Be7; 8 Be2, 0-0; 9 0-0, Re8; 10 Qc2, a6; 11 Rad1, Qc7; 12 b4.**

Black has come out of the opening with less space. White can meet 12 ... b5 with 13 c5 and 12 ... d5; 13 de, Ne5; 14 Bg3 ultimately gaining a pawn.

**12 ... Bf8; 13 a3, e4?!; 14 Nd2, d5; 15 Qb3, Qd6.**

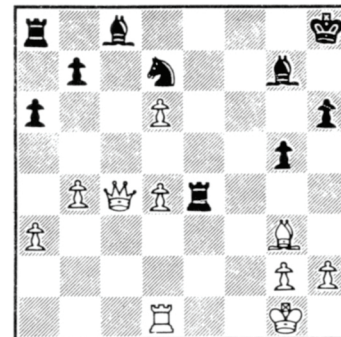
Black's change in the color of the pawn chain has forced him passively to hold it while White's siege of the chain activates his forces.

**16 f3, ef; 17 Rf3, Qe6; 18 cd, cd; 19 e4, g5.**

Certainly not 19 ... de; 20 bc4, Qe7; 21 Nde4, g5; 22 Nf6; Nf6; 23 Re1.

**20 ed, Qe7; 21 Bg3, Bg7; 22 d6, Qf8; 23 Nde4, Ne4; 24 Rf7; Qf7; 25 Bc4, Qc4; 26 Qc4, Kh8; 27 Ne4, Re4.**

Black is materially ahead but must play without his queen-side. White now proceeds to attack against the king.



**28 Qf7!, Bd4; 29 Rd4, Rd4; 30 Qg6, Rd1; 31 Kf2, Rd2; 32 Ke3, Rb2.**

The rook has no safe home; his pawns are dropping, and his other pieces seem to be glued to the board.

cont. on p. 101



Peter Biyasas



Craig Mar



Vince Cambridge

**Bagby cont.**

33 Qh6, Kg8; 34 Qg5, Kf7; 35 Qe7, Kg8; 36 Qe6, Kf8; 37 Bf4, Kg7; 38 Be5, Ne5; 39 Qe5 1-0.

Fritzinger bounced back in the next round in a game of thrust and parry with Powell. Powell sacrificed a piece three times (he got it back twice), and the ensuing ending was replete with instructive technical points.

**Center Counter Game: D. Fritzinger—C. Powell: 1 e4, d5; 2 ed, Qd5; 3 Nc3, Qa5; 4 d4, Nf6; 5 Nf3, Bg4; 6 Be2, Nc6; 7 h3, Bh5; 8 Bd2, 0-0-0.**

It would appear that 8 ..., Bf3; 9 Bf3, Nd4; 10 Bb7, Rb8; 11 Ne2 (11 Nd5, Qc5 tilts toward Black). All the same, I think 8 g4 was the more precise way to play this variation.

9 g4, Bg6; 10 Nb5, Qb6; 11 c4!?

The peanut gallery breaks out in cheers. You don't have to be rated 2400 to see that 12 c5 threatens to bag the biddy.

11 ..., Nd4; 12 Nfd4, e5.

The variation 12 ..., a6; 13 c5!, Qc5; 14 Rc1, Qd5; 15 Bf3, Be4; 16 Nc7 must have occurred to both parties at this moment. It takes on a more elegant form in the game.

13 Nb3, Ne4; 14 0-0, Nd2; 15 Nd2, Bb4; 16 c5!

And not 16 Nc3, Bc3; 17 bc, Qb2 while now 16 ..., Qc5; 17 Rc1, Qb6; 18 Nc4, Qb5!; 19 Nd6, Rd6; 20 Bb5, Rd1 and with pawns for the exchange and two bishops Black must stand well. Powell wants more and gets less.

16 ..., Qa5; 17 a3, Bd2.

Alas, 17 ..., Rd2; 18 ab, Qb4; 19 Ra7, Rd1; 20 Rd1, and how do you stop mate?

18 b4, Bb4; 19 ab, Rd1; 20 Ra5, Rf1; 21 Kf1, a6; 22 c6, bc; 23 Nc3, f6; 24 Ra6, Kd7; 25 Na4, Rb8; 26 Nc5, Kd6; 27 Ra4, Kd5; 28 Ke1, f5; 29 Kd2, fg; 30 hg, Rf8; 31 Ke3, Rf4; 32 f3, h5; 33 gh, Bh5; 34 Ra5, Kd6; 35 Nd3, Rf5; 36 Ne5, Re5; 37 Re5, Ke5; 38 f4, Kd5; 39 Bh5, Kc4; 40 Bf3, Kb4; 41 Bc6, Kc5; 42 Be4, Kd5; 43 Kd4, Ke6; 44 Kc5, Kf6; 45 f5!

Now White has guaranteed his last pawn cannot be exchanged, while Black cannot protect his QBP against king and bishop. White won in 57.

The second round also saw a typical Biyiasas win. He plays Capablanca chess in which his middle game advantage can only be exploited by patient end game operations.

**Ruy Lopez; C. Mar—P. Biyiasas: 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bb5, a6; 4 Ba4, d6; 5 0-0, Bd7; 6 d4, Nf6; 7 c4, ed.**

A typical Duras formation has resulted where Black gets counterplay on the dark squares.

8 Nd4, b5; 9 Nc6, Bc6; 10 cb, ab; 11 Bc2, Be7; 12 Nc3, 0-0; 13 Qd3?!

Black has broken the Duras bind quickly and now stands better in the center and on the queen-side. He has pressure on the light squares and control on the dark. White should have seized this opportunity to neutralize some of the pressure from the better-developed Black forces. Black actually has a space advantage in this position. Advisable was 13 Nd5, which may also prepare opportunities on the QB file.

13 ..., g6; 14 Bh6, Re8; 15 Qd4, Nh5; 16 Nd5, Bd5; 17 Qd5.

One gets the impression White seriously thought he was mounting an attack, but Biyiasas always is kind to his king — not too crowded but some company in case of emergencies. Now he really starts to take charge of the good central squares.

17 ..., c6; 18 Qd2, Bf6; 19 a4, Bb2; 20 Rab1, Qf6; 21 ab, cb; 22 Bb3, Be5.

What a sneaky blue bunny. He invites 23 f4, Bd4; 24 Kh1, Qh4; 25 Qd4?, Ng3, 26 Kg1, Ne2.

23 g3, Ra3; 24 Bg5, Qf3, 25 Bd1, Qe4; 26 Bh5, gh; 27 Rb5, Rf3; 28 Qd5, Qf5; 29 Bh4, Rc8; 30 Rb3, Rb3; 31 Qb3, Rc3; 32 Qb8, Kg7; 33 Be7, Rc8; 34 Qb4, Qe6; 35 Bh4, Re4; 36 Qd2, Qg6.

Black keeps relentlessly threatening to simplify into an ending where his QP is boss. For example, 37 f4, Bd4; 38 Kh1, Qe4.

37 Qg5, f6; 38 Qg6, hg; 39 f4, Bd4; 40 Kg2, Rc2; 41 Kh3, Be3; 42 Rd1, Rd2; 43 Re1, Rd3; 44 Kg2, g5; 45 fg, fg; 46 Re3 and 0-1 in 51.

Silman notches a point with one of his anti-Benoni specialties.

**Benoni: J. Silman—D. Fritzinger: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, c5; 3 d5, e6; 4**

**Nc3, ed; 5 cd, d6; 6 Nf3, g6; 7 Bf4.**

If Black wanted to challenge this bishop, now was the time to do it.

7 ..., a6; 8 e4, Nh5; 9 Bg5, f6; 10 Be3, b5; 11 Nd2, Ng7; 12 Bd3, Be7; 13 0-0, 0-0; 14 f4.

Black's demonstration with his queen-side pawn majority begins to appear as a waste of time. He might have been better served by 10 ..., Bg7 followed quickly by ..., f5. Fritzinger is a genius at handling passive positions, but this passive is a big burden.

14 ..., Nd7; 15 f5, Ne5; 16 Bc2, g5.

In a moment of heresy let me suggest 16 ..., gf; 17 ef, Bb7 intending ..., Qe8—f7 with pressure on the QP.

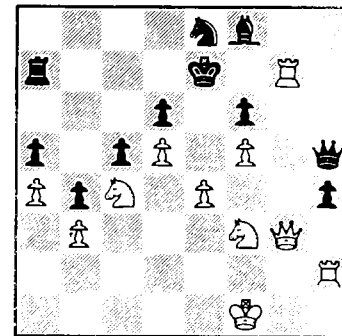
17 a4, b4; 18 Na2, a5; 19 b3, Ba6; 20 Re1, h5; 21 Nf3, Ng4?!

This looks like a situation where 21 ..., e4 with the firm intention of exchanging against all White's knights might draw. Black has a lot of holes which horses may hound.

22 Bd3, Ne3; 23 Re3, Bd3; 24 Qd3.

All Black's remaining minor pieces are passive, and White's knights are preparing to do Jose Greco all over the holes in Black's position.

24 ..., Re8; 25 Nd2, Bf8; 26 Nc4, Qc7 (... , h4!); 27 Rf1, Qf7; 28 Nc1, h4; 29 Ne2, Ra7; 30 g3, hg; 31 Rg3, Qh5; 32 h3, Kh8; 33 Rg4, Rd8; 34 Rf2, Ne8; 35 Rh2, Rdd7; 36 Qg3, Rg7; 37 Kf1, Kg8; 38 Ng1, Kf7; 39 Nf3, Ke7; 40 h4, gh; 41 Rg7!



41 ..., Bg7; 42 Rh4, Qf7; 43 Rh7, Qg8; 44 Qh2, Kd7; 45 Ne1, Qf8; 46 Nd3, Qe7; 47 Nc5 1-0.

Black is hopelessly squagglled since 47 ..., dc; 48 Nb6, Kd8; 49 Qb8. Here is the McCambridge prepared variation, which occurred in round four.

The only man to get to Biyiasas was McCambridge with his prepared line. The action seems to be starting on the king-side but McCambridge deftly shifts to queen-side threats.

**King's Indian Defense: V. McCambridge—P. Biyiasas: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, g6; 3 Nc3, Bg7; 4 e4, d6; 5 f3, 0-0; 6 Bg5.**

White announces the prepared line. McCambridge is not saying what he planned after 6 ..., c5; 7 dc, Qa5 — possibly 8 Bf6, Bf6; 9 cd, Rd8, but Black gets a lot of development for his pawn. This is not to the Biyiasas taste, however. It is always possible to sacrifice pawns in the safety of your study, but Biyiasas became a grandmaster by holding onto them.

6 ..., Nbd7; 7 Qd2, e5; 8 d5, h6; 9 Be3, Nh7; 10 0-0-0, h5; 11 g4, h4; 12 Nh3, f6; 13 Kb1, Rf7; 14 Rg1, g5; 15 Nf2, Nhf8; 16 Nd3, Ng6; 17 Nb5, a6!

Black has been so busy stabilizing the king-side that he has had no time to tend to his queen-side development. He cannot afford the ugly c7 hole created by 17 ..., b6; 18 Nb4 since Bb7; 19 Nc6; Bc6; 20 dc, and there are many lovely variations, some too long to believe unless played.

18 Qa5, b6; 19 Qa3, Bf8; 20 Nc3, Nc5; 21 Nb4, Bd7; 22 Nc2, Be7; 23 Bf2, Rf8; 24 Ne3, Re8; 25 b4, Nb7; 26 Qb3, a5; 27 a3, ab; 28 ab, Bf8; 29 Nf5, Ra7; 30 Kb2, Qa8; 31 Be2, Nf4; 32 Ra1.

So opening the QR file did no good either. White still has to break through.

32 ..., Ba4; 33 Ra4, Ra4; 34 Na4, Ne2; 35 Ra1, Qc8; 36 Be3, Nd8; 37 Nc3, Nc3.

Black's last active minor piece has been exchanged — White's goal all along — now White can attack in form.

cont. on p. 106

# Eight Years of the Bagby:

## A Survey

compiled by Michael Goodall

Since it became the Northern California Championship in 1976 a total of eight Bagby Memorials have been contested. The cross tables are given below.

1976	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 Roy Ervin	-	1	1	1	1	1	½	1	6½
2 Nick Maffeo	0	-	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
3 Peter Cleghorn	0	1	-	0	1	0	1	1	4
4 Robert Newbold	0	0	1	-	½	1	1	0	3½
5 C. Bill Jones	0	0	0	½	-	½	1	1	3
6 Craig Barnes	0	0	1	0	½	-	½	½	2½
7 L. Hughes	½	0	0	0	0	½	-	1	
8 T. Kurosaki	0	0	0	1	0	½	0	-	1½

1977	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 Robert Newbold	-	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	5
2 George Kane	½	-	½	1	1	0	1	½	4½
3 John Watson	½	½	-	1	0	0	1	1	4
4 C. Bill Jones	0	0	0	-	1	1	1	1	4
5 Peter Cleghorn	½	0	1	0	-	½	½	1	3½
6 Zaki Harari	0	1	1	0	½	-	0	½	3
7 Jeremy Silman	½	0	0	0	½	1	-	1	3
8 Nick Maffeo	0	½	0	0	0	½	0	-	1

1978	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 Jay Whitehead	-	1	1	0	1	½	1	1	5½
2 Paul Whitehead	0	-	½	1	1	1	1	1	5½
3 Nick deFirmian	0	½	-	1	1	½	½	1	4½
4 Edward Kennedy	1	0	0	-	½	1	0	1	3½
5 Peter Cleghorn	0	0	0	½	-	1	1	½	3
6 Paul Cornelius	½	0	½	0	0	-	1	½	2½
7 Zaki Harari	0	0	½	1	0	0	-	1	2½
8 Harry Radke	0	0	0	0	½	½	0	-	1

1979	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 Jay Whitehead	-	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
2 Craig Barnes	1	-	0	½	0	1	1	½	4
3 D. Fritzing	0	1	-	1	0	½	1	½	4
4 George Kane	0	½	0	-	1	1	1	½	4
5 Richard Lobo	0	1	1	0	-	0	0	1	3
6 David Blohm	0	0	½	0	1	-	0	1	2½
7 Harry Radke	0	0	0	0	1	1	-	½	2½
8 Rajan Ayyar	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	-	2

1980	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 Jay Whitehead	-	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	5
2 Richard Lobo	0	-	½	1	1	0	1	1	4½
3 George Kane	1	½	-	0	½	1	0	1	4
4 Zaki Harari	0	0	1	-	½	1	1	½	4
5 D. Fritzing	0	0	½	½	-	1	1	0	3
6 Paul Cornelius	0	1	0	0	0	-	1	1	3
7 M. Sullivan	1	0	1	0	0	0	-	1	3
8 Craig Mar	0	0	0	½	1	0	0	-	1½

1981	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 John Grefe	-	1	½	½	1	1	½	½	5
2 Nick deFirmian	0	-	1	1	1	1	0		4
3 D. Fritzing	½	1	0	0	0	1	1		3½
4 V. McCambridge	½	0	1	-	0	½	½	1	3½
5 Jon Frankle	0	0	1	1	-	½	0	½	3
6 George Kane	0	0	1	½	½	-	1	0	3
7 Charles Powell	½	0	0	½	1	0	-	1	3
8 Jeremy Silman	½	1	0	0	½	1	0	-	3

1982	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 John Grefe	-	0	½	1	1	1	1	1 5½
2 Charles Powell	1	-	0	1	1	½	1	1 5½
3 Jeremy Silman	½	1	-	½	1	½	1	1 5½
4 Paul Whitehead	0	0	½	-	1	1	1	1 4½
5 V. McCambridge	0	0	0	0	-	1	½	1 2½
6 Richard Lobo	0	½	½	0	0	-	1	0 2
7 Jon Frankle	0	0	0	0	½	0	-	1 1½
8 George Kane	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	- 1

1983	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 Peter Biyiasas	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1 6
2 V. McCambridge	1	-	½	½	½	1	½	1 5
3 Craig Mar	0	½	½	½	½	1	1	0 3½
4 Alan Pollard	0	½	½	-	1	0	½	½ 3
5 Jeremy Silman	0	½	½	0	-	1	½	½ 3
6 D. Fritzing	0	0	0	1	0	-	½	1 2½
7 Richard Lobo	0	½	0	½	½	½	-	½ 2½
8 Charles Powell	0	0	1	½	½	0	½	- 2½

From these tables it is easy to see that Jay Whitehead is the winningest northern Californian. He has won three titles, and these are the only three times he has played. The only other multiple winner has been John Grefe with titles in 1981 and 1982.

A total of 30 players have competed in the Bagby over the past eight years. Their cumulative results are given in the table below.

Of the 30 who have participated in the Bagby eight have completed three or more times. Most frequently seen was George Kane in five appearances. It has been the only chess he has played over the past four or five years. Dennis Fritzing and Jeremy Silman have also been stalwarts with four appearances each.

Among those with three or more appearances Jay Whitehead owns the best average, a sizzling 5.5 on the chess Richter Scale. Only two

others who have competed this frequently have plus scores on average. Vince McCambridge and Charles Powell's performances average out to 3.6 apiece. The Bagby is a tough and testing tournament.

Jeremy Silman posts a 3.4 average while Kane weighs in at 3.3. Fritzing has a 3.25, Zaki Harari a 3.17, and Richard Lobo a 3 average.

Over three or more outings these are quite respectable scores against only the best players each year. Naturally, if you are not doing consistently well, you do not get invited very often.

CalChess has both a Northern California Championship and a biennial Masters open. Both tournaments strive to treat masters like real masters. We have a lot of them in Northern California, and is to their credit that they act like real masters when they come to play.

Name	1976	1077	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
1 Rajan Ayyar				2				
2 Craig Barnes	2½		4					
3 Peter Biyiasas								6
4 David Blohm			3	2½				
5 Peter Cleghorn	4	3½			3			
6 Paul Cornelius			2½					
7 Nick deFirmian			4½			4		
8 Roy Ervin	6½							
9 Jon Frankle						3	1½	
10 Dennis Fritzing				4	3	3½		2½
11 John Grefe						5	5½	
12 Larry Hughes	2							
13 Zaki Harari		3	2½		4			
14 C. Bill Jones	3	4						
15 George Kane		4½	4	4	3	1		
16 Edward Kennedy			3½					
17 Takashi Kurosaki	1½							
18 Richard Lobo				3	4½		2	2½
19 Nick Maffeo	5	1						
20 Craig Mar					1½			3
21 Vince McCambridge						3½	2½	5
22 Robert Newbold	3½	5						
23 Alan Pollard								3
24 Charles Powell						3	5½	2½
25 Harry Radke			1	2½				
26 Jeremy Silman		3				3	5½	3
27 Martin Sullivan					2			
28 John Watson		4						
29 Jay Whitehead			5½	6	5			
30 Paul Whitehead			5¼				4½	

## “WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . .”

by Robert Gordon

One thing directors do at tournaments is talk to players. Players need to know the time control. Players need to know where the restrooms are. Players need to know where the nearest place to get some food can be found. Players need to know when the next round is scheduled. Players even need to know the rules (yes, Virginia, there are tournament players who do not know all the rules). But, mostly, players want to talk. Players want to talk about their games — in progress, or at the last tournament. Or players want to talk about their last tournament. Or players want to talk about a tournament six years ago in which they had good results. Or players want to talk about a tournament two years ago that had a funny incident. Or players want to talk about a four month old tournament in which they had good results. So, directors spend a great deal of time at their tournaments talking to players.

Well, really, what directors do at tournaments is listen to players.

Directors listen to games (not knowing, most of the time, why the combination was so brilliant, since they have not seen the game). Directors listen to incidents at tournaments (not knowing, most of the time, why it was so important, since they were not present). Directors listen to results (not knowing, most of the time, why it was so amazing that X took the “A” prize over Y, since they saw neither the games nor the pairings). And, as the tournament progresses, the Director listens to the inevitable:

“WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . .”, followed by a suggestion for running a better tournament. That is, a better tournament in the mind of the speaker.

At a class tournament, the director hears:

“WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . .”, run an open tournament.

At a single section tournament, the director hears:

“WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . .”, split the tournament into sections.

At an open tournament, the director hears:

“WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . .”, run a class tournament.

No matter what tournament is being held, “WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS” hold a different tournament. In Northern California, a player can get the type of tournament he or she desires. The Bay Area directors run, mostly, class tournaments; the central valley directors run, mostly, opens. Club tournaments are quads, or teams, or ladders, or small swiss tournaments, or matches. Why does a player come to a tournament, knowing what the format and form of the tournament will be, and then want a different tournament? I truly don’t know. If you do know, drop me a line, either through **Chess Voice** or at my address listed at the end of the magazine under Organizers.

Basically, what I am asking is: What is the problem? Is the tournament a poor one? Is the player’s idea a better one? I’ve suggested to the players who have come to me with these ideas that maybe their idea for a tournament is better than mine, and what they need to do is put on a tournament using their idea for a better tournament that “would really work.” I’ve offered to help them organize the event.

When I’ve suggested that, the problem that I’ve encountered is that the player with the “better idea” suddenly has to check to see if his clock was running, or get something to eat, or analyze a game. If the player’s idea is so good for a tournament, why won’t the player put it on? I’ll be glad to offer all my help and all of the experience I can. (I’m even willing to put other organizers on the line: contact Dick Rowe in Chico, Mike Goodall in Berkeley, Jim Hunt at LERA, Francisco Sierra in San Jose, Andy Lazarus at SUPERB, or Art Marthinsen in Marin. Each of us can find you a site and a date — give us six months advance notice to set the location — and we will help you put on your tournament.)

“WHA’CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . .” get the wall charts posted earlier.

I don’t know about other directors, but I’d like to see the wall charts posted earlier, too. I do admit that I have some problem

cont. on p. 105

## CHESS GOES TO WAR



*“We’re tired of playing by the book!”*



**Gordon cont.**

writing when I'm talking. I know, most of you who have been to my tournaments know that I **do** like to talk (you have tolerated my players' meetings). But it is hard for me to write when I'm telling players the time control (it is posted directly behind me), explaining the clock and the scoresheet (ok for new players, but you five year veterans — really), directing to the restroom, giving out pens, etc. It does slow me down. Maybe you players with the "better idea" have a suggestion?

Making wall charts for 75 players only takes me about two hours. Maybe I'm fussy. If the wall charts are right, they can be used for rating reports and therefore the report will be quicker and more accurate. So, I tend to check the information closely. (For a long time I thought I was just slow filling them in. Then, I had a chance to have someone else sit the Director's table while I went into another room. That time it took me well under an hour. What happened? Could it be that the "helpful" players were not that "helpful?" I can not believe that any player would get in the director's way. You don't believe that either, do you?)

"WHA'CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . ." get more help.

Now there is an idea that I can relate to. Every director can use more help. At my last tournament, I had three people lined up to help. Registration began at 9:00, so I was there ready to start at 8:30. By 9:00 I had the tables set up, the coffee going, signs were posted, and the registration was set. I do admit that there was chaos at the registration table during post-registration — too many late registrants arrived for the tournament at 11:00, the tables were not numbered, and I had forgotten to bring the scoresheets. So at 10:25 I had to take a quick run back to my house to get them. However, my help, all players in the tournament and preregistered, arrived at 10:30 ready to give their all. Their commitment to making a tournament happen needs to be recognized and given the commendation it deserves.

What happened? I'm not sure, but I think that the "help" didn't realize what goes into making a tournament a success.

A tournament is not a **success** because of the "great" games that are played. I've seen brilliant, publishable, games in my least successful tournaments, and I've had a succession of "dumb" wins in my most successful tournaments. A "great" game can happen in a coffee house. In my mind "great" games are the experience of the player. Personally, one of my "great" games has so many holes in it that on objective analysis it has the appearance of a wedge of swiss cheese. But for me, it is "great" because it changed **my** perception of the game and helped me move to the next level. To me, that is the definition of a "great" game — it changes the perception of the game of chess, for an individual, or for the chess community — no matter how intrinsically "perfect" it may be.

A successful tournament is another entity.

A successful tournament lets the "losers" go away almost as satisfied as the winners (do any of us "lose" at a "successful" tournament?). The games have their own reward. What is left, after the self-flagellation of the lost game, or the self-reward of the won game, but the "tone" of the tournament. Were the decisions fair and consistent? Were the pairings logical? Did the rounds start reasonably close to the announced times? (I plead absolute guilt on the point of not starting on time because I detest adjourned games as a director.)

Why do players bitch about tournaments that do not come up to their expectations?



Could it be because players don't realize the directors/organizer's attitude about the tournament? There is nothing more discouraging to a director than to plan for months for a tournament, and then have the tournament fail.

Players have learned what to expect at the regular tournaments.

They know, approximately, what will happen at Mike Goodall's, Jim Hunt's, Dick Rowe's, mine, or Francisco Sierra's tournaments. Each of us directors/organizers have found what works in our area with the players that come. We've each held tournaments that have not worked. None of us likes to hold a "loser." Therefore, we all try to hold successful tournaments. That is, tournaments that the players have come to expect when they attend "our" tournaments.

As an example, my experience has been that "opens" work in Sacramento. Class tournaments are losers. The best advertised tournament for Sacramento, *Chess Life* (two issues), *Chess Voice*, and mailings of flyers, drew 24 players. That was a class tournament. Open tournaments with minimal advertising, *Chess Life* (one issue), have drawn 75 to 90.

Why?

I wish I knew.

I'm also sure that Mike Goodall would like to know why the last *Golden Gate Open*, with all of its advertising, was not a successful tournament. I feel it was successful for the players, but he took, proportionally, the same "bath" that the Sacramento Chess Club took on its last class tournament. He is as disinclined to try another *Golden Gate Open* as I am to try a class tournament. Neither of us feel that it is fair to the players to attend a tournament publicizing 12 to 25 players a section, and then have 28 to 50 players total.

I wish I knew the answer to running the "perfect" tournament. The tournament that would satisfy everyone's desire. I do know this — if **you** think that a class tournament will work in Sacramento

"WHA'CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . ."

come here and run one. I can get the site (be sure to give me eight months prior warning so I can nail down the site).

If you think more help is needed at tournaments:

"WHA'CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . ."

organize some. The people that are doing it now will give you the help you need to get started and be glad for your efforts.

If you think your club needs a ladder:

"WHA'CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . ."

put it together yourself. I have one of the best structures that I've seen (thanks to Mike Goodall). Drop me a line (stamped envelopes are appreciated) and I'll pass it along.

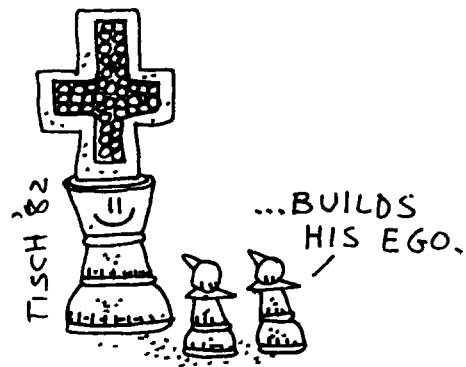
If you think that entries should be lower, and prize funds higher:

"WHA'CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . ."

show us how to do it.

In all, if **you** have ideas for better tournaments, better clubs, better chess for yourself and all the rest of us

"WHA'CHA OUGHT TA DO IS. . ."  
**DO IT\_\_**



## Bagby cont.

**38 Kc3, Nf7; 39 Ra7; Nh6; 40 Nh6, Bh6; 41 Qa4, Qb8.**

There was nothing to do against the threat of 42 Qc6.

**42 Rc7; Qc7; 43 Qe8, Bf8; 44 Kb3, Qa7; 45 Qa4, Ob7; 46 h5 1-0**

For a decade now Dennis Fritzingler has been known as one of the most imaginative players in the Bay Area. If his games too often set problems too difficult for himself in this tournament, the problems he set for opponents led to entertaining wins on his part as here:

**English Opening: A. Pollard—D. Fritzingler: 1 c4, e5; 2 Nc3, d6; 3 g3, g6; 4 Bg2, Bg7; 5 e3, h5; 6 h4, Nh6; 7 Nge2, 0-0; 8 d3.**

This seems like the time to advance in the center with 8 d4 while postponing castling until Black has committed himself to a plan of development. With this formation it is certain that White should not hasten to castle.

**8 ...., c6; 9 0-0, g5; 10 hg, Qg5; 11 e4, Qg6; 12 Qd2, f6; 13 d4, Kh8; 14 Qd3, Rg8; 15 f4.**

This cannot be the right decision. White's preponderance in the center leads to no targets. On second glance, however, it may already be too late. Possibly best is to take the pressure off the light squares by 15 Bh6, Bh6; 16 f3 and, circumstances permitting, 17 Rf2—Kf1. Black has neglected his development, strong-pointed his center at e5 and now aims at the vital squares.

**15 ...., Ng4; 16 f5, Qh7; 17 Bf3, Bf8; 18 Kg2, ed; 19 Qd4, Nd7; 20 Rh1, Nde5; 21 Nf4, Nf3.**

White certainly would have fared better by 20 Nf4 to provide the KB a retreat space.

**22 Kf3, Ne5; 23 Kf2, Rg5; 24 Ng6.**

Well, White certainly seems to have been playing better than the annotator.

**24 ...., Rg6; 25 fg, Qg6; 26 Bf4, Bg4.**

A situation to evaluate. White is not losing, but he has to play chicken with 27 Be5. Instead he temporizes and overlooks a shot.

**27 b3?, d5!; 28 Be3.**

He is no better off with 28 Be5, fe; 29 Qe5, Bg7 or 28 ed, Bc5; 29 Qc5, Nd3.

**28 ...., Bc5; 29 Qd2, Nf3; 30 Qc2, d4; 31 Bd4, Nd4; 32 Qb2, Ne2; 33 Kg2, Nc3; 34 Qc3, Qe3; 35 Kh2, Qe2 1-0 and mate.**

The next game was the best of the tournament — from the 5th round. Powell shows uncharacteristic strategic uncertainty in the opening. Then he launches out with counterplay. Against a lesser player it might have prevailed, but McCambridge shows iron nerves and plays simultaneous attack and defense to reach a winning ending — which still needs the utmost care.

**Bird's Opening: C. Powell—V. McCambridge: 1 f4, d5; 2 Nf3, Nf6; 3 g3, Bf5; 4 Bg2, e6; 5 0-0, Nbd7; 6 b3, Bc5; 7 e3, h5; 8 Nc3, Bg4; 9 h3, Bf3; 10 Qf3.**

White's lay-out does not make a very pleasing impression, but it

would seem that 10 Bf3 intending — at appropriate moments — d3—Qe2—Kh2—e4 was more thematic.

As he plays, White never gets any influence over any color White squares until Black is all mobilized and ready to shoot.

**10 ...., c6; 11 Ne2?!, Qe7; 12 a4, 0-0-0; 13 d4, Bd6; 14 c4, Ne4; 15 c5, Bc7; 16 h4.**

An unfortunate interlude but necessary to prevent 16 ...., g5!

**16 ...., Ba5!; 17 Rd1, Ndf6; 18 Bh3, Ng4; 19 Bg4?!, hg; 20 Qg4, f5; 21 Qf3, Rh6; 22 Ba3, Rg6; 23 Kf1, Rh8; 24 Ra2, Rg4; 25 b4, Bd8; 26 b5, Qe8.**

Black's past 10 moves have been instructive demonstration of how timing a maneuver insures the harmony and cooperation of the pieces. White's queen is a Phyllis Schafly figure, tied to the king's house.

**27 Bc, Qc6; 28 Bb4, Qa6!; 29 Be1, Rh6; 30 Rb1, Qc4; 31 Rab2, Rhg6.**

A delicious point of this position is that White's forward rook always has to stay defensive. For example 32 Rb7, Rg3; 33 Qh1, Rg1; 34 Qg1, Rg1; 35 Kg1, Qe2.

**32 Kg2, Bh4; 33 Rb7, Bg3; 34 Rb8, Kd7; 35 c6, Kc6!; 36 Rc8, Kd7; 37 Rc4, Be1; 38 Qg4, Rg4; 39 Kf1, dc; 40 Ke1, Kc6.**

Black played through all those complications, which might discourage a lesser player, to get an extra pawn. Even evaluating that is no picnic against a player of Powell's caliber.

**41 Rb4, Rh4; 42 Kd1, Rh1; 43 Kc2, Rh2; 44 Kd1, Nf2; 45 Kd2, Ng4!**

White may take a pawn or two but the threat of ...., Kd5—c4—f3 is decisive. Not material but superior mobility takes the decision.

**46 Rc4, Kd5; 47 Rc1, Ke4; 48 Rg1, a6; 49 Rg3, a5; 40 Rg1, Ne3; 51 Rg7, Nd5; 52 Ke1, Kd3; 53 Rg3, Ne3; 54 Nc1, Kd4; 55 Nb3, Ke4; 56 Nd2, Rd2 0-1.**

Black plays a system revived last decade by Smyslov. White seems taken by surprise.

**Ruy Lopez: A. Pollard—P. Biyiasas: 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bb5, g6; d d4?!, ed; 5 Nd4, Bg7; 6 Be3, Nf6; 7 Nc3, 0-0; 8 Nc6, bc; 9 Be2, Re8; 10 Bf3, Ba6.**

Only 10 moves and White is already struggling to defend his tenuous space advantage. Too much too soon.

**11 Qd2, Qb8; 12 0-0-0, Re4!; 13 Be4, Ne4; 14 Qe1, Nc3; 15 bc, Qf8!**

White's king has no escape since 16 Kd2, Qd6. Biyiasas loves these quickies because they prove that if you stick your head in his mouth, he's the lion who can bite it off. He also is no fonder of adjournments than you or I.

**16 Rd7, Bc8; 17 Rd3, Bf5; 18 Kd2, Bd3; 19 cd, Qa3; 20 Qb1, Qc3; 21 Ke2, Qa5; 22 Rc1, Qd5; 23 Kf1, a5; 24 h3, Bf8; 25 Kg1, Re8; 26 Qb7, Re6; 27 Qc7, Bd6; 28 Qc8, Kg7; 29 Rc4, Qd3 0-1.**

## ASK THE PATZERS

by I.M.A. Mucker

International D Player

I am a swinging bachelor who wears Gucci shoes, designer jeans, drives a Maserati for every day use but prefers a Stutz Bearcat for weekending. I am only 25 but have a nice job as a junior partner in a Wall Street financial house. Sometimes I go to "54," but usually that is a no action place so I prefer to take my chick on my private jet to Tahiti, Hong Kong, or Cannes (but only in the off-season).

When I go to tournaments and play the Caro-Kann, all the other players laugh at me and call me stodgy. What's wrong with my image?

**M.O., NY**

*You have to stop driving that ancient Stutz to tournaments. — IM*

I manage a few mutual funds, own paper mills in Canada, and have extensive oil holdings in Mexico. Recently I have been trying to promote a \$1,000,000 grandmaster tournament in the United States. Everybody tells me they're interested, but nothing happens. What's the matter. Don't they want big-time chess in America?

**T.A., SC**

*They must be frightened by the weakness of the Mexican peso. — IM*

For the past nine years I have been working on an important opening book which I call *The Complete Response to 1 e4: Damiano's Defense*. I have been to numerous libraries and have amassed every game in this line played during the last century. Of course the book shows you how you can transpose into Damiano's from the Vienna Game. Another subtle line carefully examined by outside experts, who provide their private analysis for the first time in this book (and they come from places like Alberta, Guam and Surinam), is 1 e4, e5; 2 Bc4?!, Ne7!?!; 3 d4, f6 — the Damiano Deferred. Naturally we have to consider the anti-Damiano: 1 e4, e5; 2 f4!?! But readers would have to buy the book to see the subtle attacking lines in the Delayed Damiano Gambit. At any rate, 2 f4 may be the only way for White to hold against the solid Damiano — by complicating.

*I need a publisher for this sure to be best-seller. Know anybody? P.A. IN*

*My column appears in many of the leading publications here and abroad. If they like me, (and I have your volume to hand) they would certainly like you. — IM*

# Tenth Annual People's Chess Tournament

by Andy Lazarus

When Mike Goodall ran Berkeley's Labor Day Tournament (rechristened the Golden Bear Open), he increased the prize fund by \$900. When Andy Lazarus brought chess back to the Berkeley Student Union with January's Piece of the Action, he increased the prize fund by \$1100. So simple arithmetic suggests that when Goodall and Lazarus combined forces for the People's Chess Tournament, held on Presidents' Day weekend, they would increase the prize fund by \$2000, and that's exactly what they did.

The turnout of 209 was the largest in eight years, but a few short of the record. (Wait till next year!)

Senior Master Jeremy Silman took the largest share of the increased prize fund, coming in clear first over 70 other players in the Master/Expert section. Silman defeated GM Peter Biyiasas and played a quick draw with Richard Lobo in the last round to cinch first.

The results of the lowest section were also remarkable: all four prize winners were unrated.

The next open Swiss in the Student Union will be the Berkeley Class Struggle, 11-12 June 1983. Lazarus will be chief tournament director.

And now for the People's choice — the prize winners:

**Master/Expert:** Jeremy Silman 5½-½; Nick Defirmian, Peter Biyiasas, John Watson, Richard Lobo, Aaron Stearns 5.

**Expert Prize:** James Waide, Zoran Lazetich, Randy Schain, Ronald Basich, Greg Pinelli 4.

**"A":** James Gibbs 5; David Bennett, Jan Olsson 4½; Alan Carlson, Mike Fitzgerald, Steven Matthews, Stuart Thorsby, Tony Ladd 4.

**"B":** Antonio Delacruz 5½; Michael Jackson, Steven Fox 5; William Horton, Hans Poschmann, Norman Johnson 4½.

**"C":** Steve Cady, Curtis Yettick 5½; Brent Youlden, William Stancavage 4½.

**D/E/Unrated:** Sonny Gao-Ay 5½; Sergio Bluer 5; Gil Gamez, Daniel Liparini 4½.

## PEOPLE'S GAMES

Winner Silman sinks Sailer in semi-transposition.

**Queen's Indian Defense: D. Sailer—J. Silman:** 1 d4, Nf6; 2 Nf3, e6; 3 c4, b6; 4 a3, c5; 5 d5, Ba6; 6 Qc2, ed; 7 cd, g6; 8 Nc3, Bg7; 9 g3.

Now 9 Bg5 or even 9 e4 look most aggressive, but most of us have the habit of opening things up at only the worst times when facing guys with big, heavy ratings. Even worse is White's 11th, which permits Black to proceed with play while 11 a4 would have required Black to reorganize before advancing.

9 ... 0-0; 10 Bg2, d6; 11 0-0?!; b5; 12 Re1, Nbd7; 13 Bf4, Qb6.

If you must play circumspectly, 14 h3 guards tender points.

14 e4, Ng4; 15 Rad1, Nge5; 16 Ne5, Ne5; 17 h3, Rfe8; 18 Kh2?!, b4; 19 Be5, Be5; 20 Ne2, ba; 21 ba, Qa5; 22 f4, Bg7; 23 e5, Rab8; 24 Nc3, de; 25 d6, ef; 26 Re8, Re8; 27 Nd5, fg; 28 Kg3, Re2; 29 Ne7, Kf8; 30 Qb3, Be5; 31 Kf3, Rb2 0-1.

DeFirmian obtains a soulful pawn out of the opening, and on it forms the basis of attack.

**Ruy Lopez; N. DeFirmian—D. Barton:** 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bb5, a6; 4 Ba4, Nf6; 5 0-0, Be7; 6 Re1, b5; 7 Bb3, 0-0; 8 c3, d5; 9 ed, e4?!; 10 dc, ef; 11 d4.

The pawn is not so important as speedy development in this open position. On 11 ..., Bd6 White should fall into the cheapo by 12 Bg5, Bh2; 13 Kh2, Ng4; 14 Kgl, Qg5; 15 Qf3. The big advantage is White's advanced queenside majority.

11 ..., Re8; 12 Bf4, Bd6; 13 Re8; Qe8; 14 Bd6, cd; 15 Nd2, fg.

Poor Black: after 15 ..., Qc6, 16 Qf3 White is fully developed and has this groovy (or is it groady now?) extra pawn. Anyway Black is already fit to be gagged with a spoon, and Nick has the silverware ready in his pocket.

16 Qf3, Bg4; 17 Qg2, Qe7; 18 f3, Bf5; 19 Ne4, Ne4!; 20 Re1, Qh4.

Has someone blundered? Naw, as Larry Christiansen likes to say, it's just the standard compensation for the exchange. Look at that QBP. How'd you like that swing on your back-porch.

21 Re4, Be4; 22 fe, Qe1; 23 Qf1, Qf1; 24 Kf1, g6.

Really! 24 ..., Kf8 and ..., f6. We hold e5 to be self-evident.

25 a4, Kg7; 26 c4, bc; 27 Bc4, a5; 28 e5!, de; 29 d5, Kf8; 30 d6, Ke8; 31 Bd5, Ra7; 32 Ke2, Kd8; 33 Kd3, f5; 34 Be6, f4; 35 Ke4, g5; 36 Ke5, h5; 37 Kf5, f3, 38 Kg5 1-0.

A little light lesson in how likable lines lead to catastrophic consequences. All the time you have to be careful.

**English Opening: S. Scott—G. Pinelli:** 1 c4, e5; 2 Nc3, f5; 3 e3, Nf6; 4 Nge2, d6; 5 g3, Be7; 6 Bg2, 0-0; 7 0-0, c6; 8 d4, Qe8; 9 b4, Nbd7;

Black would have been better positioned after a plan like 8 ..., a5—Na6 with ..., Nc7 as part of his plan to change the color of the pawn chain.

10 b5, e4; 11 f3, d5; 12 Qb3, Nb6; 13 cd, cd; 14 fe, fe.

Now White should have paused to ponder the consequences and played 15 Nf4 so as to carry the blue ribbon by main force. Instead he got cute.

15 Ne4?, Ne4; 16 Be4, Rf1; 17 Kf1, Qf7 0-1.

The problem with a restricted opening repertoire is that everyone knows you play it, and they are ready to meet it. You have to be ready for everything, and your opponent has to hone up only one line. Robert Sferra has been paying a rating point penalty for his predilection for 1 b3. Folks just find a solid line, and surprise value — the opening's only substitute for initiative — is out the window.

**Owen's Defense; T. Raffill—R. Sferra:** 1 e4, b6 (surprised?); 2 d4, Bb7; 3 Bd3, e6; 4 Nf3, d6.

Is there no good word to be said for 4 ..., c5?

5 Nc3, Nf6; 6 Qe2, Be7; 7 Bf4, 0-0; 8 h4, g6; 9 0-0-0, Qc8; 10 e5, de; 11 de, Nd5; 12 Nd5, Bd5; 13 h5, c5.

More and more it begins to look like a game from Greco's manuscripts. There is no truth to the rumor that he changed his name to Giacchino Latvian toward the end of his life any more than there is that the Russians refer to Benko as Pal Volga.

14 c4, Bf3; 15 Qf3, Nc6; 16 hg, fg.

"OK, Martha, let's stuff this quail."

17 Rh7, Ne5; 18 Rh8!, Kh8; 19 Be5, Kg8; 20 Qg4, Rf5.

All roads lead to doom.

21 Qg6, Kf8; 22 Bg7 1-0.

White makes out all right in a line which is not supposed to yield much. As a result we get a Bobby Squisher game.

**Sicilian Defense; K. Binkley—K. Lewis:** 1 e4, c5; 2 Nf3, d6; 3 d4, cd; 4 Nd4, Nf6; 5 Nc3, a6; 6 Bc4, e6; 7 Bb3, Be7.

Back before I decided to play chess instead of Sicilian I used to get a bang out of 7 ..., b5. Sometimes my estimable opponents got banged. It was a big game of chicken. Possibly 8 a4 obliterates.

8 0-0, 0-0; 9 f4, Nbd7; 10 Bc3, Nc5.

Surely 20 ..., Qc7 with a weather eye on e5 was a better choice.

11 e5, de; 12 fe, Nfd7; 13 Bf4, Qe7; 14 Qh5, Nb3; 15 ab, Qc5. 16 Rad1, f6; 17 Na4, Qa7; 18 Be3, Ne5.

And ..., f6 has thoroughly ruined an already tottering position.

19 Nf5, b6; 20 Bb6, Qb7; 21 Ne7, Qe7; 22 Bc5, Qf7; 23 Qf7, Kf7; 24 Bf8 1-0.

A quick break-up in the center ends rather too abruptly for the man with the uncomfortable center.

**Sicilian Defense: A. Stearns—W. Regensberg:** 1 e4, c5; 2 Nf3, d6; d4, cd; 4 Qd4, Nc6; 5 Bb5, Bd7; 6 Bc6, bc?

This is a purely awful conception. The QB has found a place in nowhere city while the QBP stands around blocking play on the QB file.

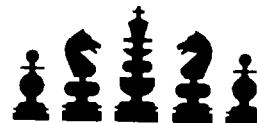
7 c4, e5; 8 Qd3, Be7; 9 0-0, Nf6; 10 Nc3, 0-0; 11 Bg5, Be6; 12 Rfd1, Ne8.

Not the way to make a lasting impression on your opponent, but Qc7; 13 Bf6, gf; 14 Nh4 also fails to impress.

13 Be7, Qe7; 14 c5, Bg4; 15 cd, Qf6; 16 d7, Nc7; 17 Qd6, Qd6?

Black could continue to fight after 17 ..., Nb5; 18 Nb5, Bf3.

18 Rd6, Bf3; 19 gf, Rfd8; 20 Rad1, Ne6; 21 Rc6, Nd4; 22 Rc7, Nf3; 23 Kg2, Nd4; 24 Nd5, Ne6; 25 Rc8, f6; 26 Rdc1 1-0.



# International Games

by Mark Buckley

## LUCERNE OLYMPIAD

A sacrifice leads to endgame pressure.

**Slav Defense; L. Ftacnik—J. Speelman: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, c6; 3 Nc3, d5; 4 Nf3, dc; 5 a4, Na6; 6 Ne5, Ng4.**

*An interesting cavalcade.*

**7 Nc4, e5; 8 Ne5, Ne5; 9 de, Qd1; 10 Nd1, Be6; 11 e4?!, Bb4; 12 Bd2, 0-0-0; 13 Bb4, Nb4; 14 Ne3, Rd4.**

With fine development and sound pawns Black dictates events. Clearly e2-e4 was too loosening.

**15 f3, Rhd8; 16 Kf2.**

On 16 Be2, Nd3.

**16 ... , Rd2; 17 Kg3, R8d4.**

Which prevents f4 and controls c4.

**18 Rc1, Rb2; 19 Bc4, Nd3; 20 Rhd1, Nc1; 21 Rd4, Kc7; 22 Rd1?.**

Rather than the fruitless 22 Be6, Ne2.

**22 ... , Ne2; 23 Kh4, Nc3; 24 Re1, Na4; 25 f4 (Kg3), Bc4, 26 Nc4, Rg2; 27 Kh3, Rc2, 28 Nd6, Nb2; 29 Kg3.**

On 29 Nf7, Nd3.

**29 ... , Nd3; 30 Rb1, b5; 31 Ra1, Kb6; 32 Kf3.**

An admission of defeat as 32 Nc8, Kb7; 33 Na7, b4 or 32 Nf7, Nf4.

**32 ... , Rh2; 33 Nf7, Nf4; 34 Ng5, Ng6; 35 e6, a5; 36 Nf7, a4; 37 Nd6, Rh3; 38 Kf2, Rd3; 39 Nf5, Rd8; 40 Ke3, Re8; 41 Ng7, Re7 0-1.**

White's KB enters the game late but effectively.

**Caro-Kann Defense: L. Ljubojevic—R. Hubner: 1 e4, c6; 2 d3, d5; 3 Nd2, g6; 4 Ngf3, Bg7; 5 Be2.**

Ljubojevic plays to win — albeit cautiously.

**5 ... , e5; 6 0-0, Ne7; 7 b4.**

Starting to pressure the rather passive Black queen-side.

**7 ... , 0-0; 8 Bb2, Qc7; 9 Re1, a5; 10 a3, Na6; 11 h3, Be6; 12 Bf1, ab; 13 ed.**

Not 13 ab, d4; 14 c3, c5.

**13 ... , Nd5.**

No easier for Black is 13 ... , ba; 14 Ra3.

**14 ab, Nab4; 15 c3, Na6; 16 c4, Ne7; 17 Be5, Be5; 18 Re5, c5.**

Simpler is ... , Nf5 and Rd8.

**19 Qb3, Nc6; 20 Ree1, Rad8; 21 Ne4, f5?.**

Too weakening. He should cover d4 by ... , Nd4.

**22 Nc3, Rfe8; 23 Nd5, Qg7 (Bd5!); 24 Qb6, Bd5; 25 cd, Nd4; 26 Nd4, ed; 27 d6, Qd7; 28 g3.**

At last!

**28 ... , Nb8; 29 Bg2, Nc6; 30 Bd5, Kf8; 31 Re8, Re8; 32 Bc6, Qc6; 33 Qd4.**

White now skillfully coordinates his heavy pieces.

**33 ... , Kf7; 34 Rb1!, b5.**

Or 34 ... , Qf3; 35 Qc4 puts Black away.

**35 Ra1, Rd8; 36 Qh4, Rd6; 37 Qh7, Kf6; 38 Qh8, Ke6; 39 Re1, Kd7; 40 Qe8, Kc7; 41 Re7, Kb6; 42 Qb8, Ka5 (Kc5; 43 Rc7); 43 Re1, Qc3; 44 Rb1, Rb6; 45 Qa8, Ra6; 46 Qd5 (and Rb6; 47 Qa2) 1-0.**

The world's number two player displays energetic precision.

**Benoni; G. Kasparov—J. Nunn: 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, e6; 3 Nc3, c5; 4 d5, ed; 5 cd, d6; 6 e4, g6; 7 f4.**

The sharp line is again in vogue.

**7 ... , Bg7; 8 Bb5, Nfd7; 9 a4, Na6; 10 Nf3, Nb4; 11 0-0, a6.**

Wasting time. Better is 0-0.

**12 Bd7, Bd7; 13 f5!, 0-0; 14 Bg5, f6.**

If ... , Bf6; 15 Bf6, Qf6; 16 g4 with g5 or e5 on tap.

**15 Bf4, gf.**

But 15 ... , Qe7; 16 g4 is rather better.

**16 Bd6, Ba4; 17 Ra4, Qd6; 18 Nh4!**

Invading Black's ruined kingside.

**18 ... , fe; 19 Nf5, Qd7; 20 Ne4, Kh8.**

Avoiding 20 ... , Qd5; 21 Ne7 and 20 ... , Rae8; 21 Qg4.

**21 Ne5 1-0.**

In view of 21 ... , Qd5; 22 Qd5, Nd5; 23 Ne6.

Enroute to equal first place the West German outplays the favorite.

**Modern Benoni; L. Polugaevsky—E. Lobron (Marlboro Classic; Manila, 1982): 1 d4, Nf6; 2 c4, e6; 3 Nf3, c5; 4 d5, ed; 5 cd, d6; 6 Nc3, g6; 7 Nd2, Nbd7; 8 e4, Bg7; 9 Be2, 0-0; 10 0-0, Re8; 11 Qc2, Ne5; 12 b3.**

Avoiding 12 f4, Ng4 in order to reduce Black's play.

**12 ... , a6; 13 Bb2!?, b5; 14 a4, b4; 15 Nd1, g5.**

Necessary since he cannot allow 16 f4 when c4 is so weak.

**16 Ne3, Ra7 17 Rae1, Rae7; 18 f3, Nh5.**

This pressure on f4 is first to defend but later to attack.

**19 Ndc4, Ng6; 20 Bg7, Ng7.**

Now a mistake is 21 Nf5 while on 21 g3, g4.

**21 Bd3, f6; 22 a5?! , Nf4; 23 Qd2, f5; 24 Bb1, fe; 25 Be4, h5.**

The attack builds under cover of the knight.

**26 Nb6, Bd7; 27 Nec4.**

It is better to temporize with Kh1!?

**27 ... , Bf5; 28 g3 (Qc2!?), Nh3; 29 Kg2, g4.**

In *Player's Chess News* Christiansen points out that 29 ... , Re4!; 30 fe, Be4; 31 Re4, Re4; 32 Kh3, Qe7 wins.

**30 Bf5, Nf5; 31 fg, hg.**

White could now muddy the waters by 32 Re6.

**32 Qd1, Re1; 33 Re1, Re1; 34 Qe1, Qf6; 35 Nd7?, Nh4 0-1.**

Here the winner shows the gifts of imagination and persistence.

**English Opening; R. Vaganian—D. Gurevich (Hastings 1982-83): 1 Nf3, Nf6; 2 c4, e5; 3 Nc3, e6; 4 g3, b6; 5 Bg2, Bb7; 6 0-0, Be7; 7 Re1, d6; 8 e4, a6.**

The hedgehog curls up.

**9 d4, ed; 10 Nd4, Qc7; 11 Be3, 0-0; 12 g4, Qc4.**

This line opening exposes the under-belly at b6 and c6.

**13 Rc1, Qc8; 14 Nd5, Qd8; 15 g5, Ne8; 16 Ne7, Qe7; 17 a4, g6?!**

Bracing for an eventual e5, Black must defend: 17 ... , Nd7 and 18 b4, a5 or 18 f4 a5 to secure c5 for the QN.

**18 Qb3, e5; 19 Qb6!, ed; 20 Bd4, a5.**

He might have essayed 20 ... , Nc6!?

**21 Re3, Ra6; 22 Qb5, Nc6; 23 Bf6, Nf6; 24 gf, Qf6; 25 Qb7, Nb4; 26 Rc7, Qd4; 27 Bf1, Raa8.**

Could try 27 ... , Rb6.

**28 Rf7, Rf7; 29 Qa8, Kg7; 30 Qa5, d5; 31 Qb5.**

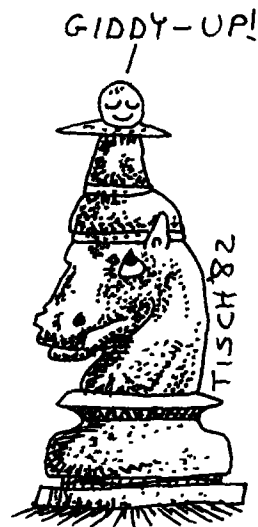
On 31 ed, Nd5 is strong while now 31 ... , de; 32 Qe2-consolidates.

**31 ... , Qf6; 32 Qe2, Nc6; 33 Bg2, Nd4; 34 Qd2, de; 35 Re4, Rd7; 36 Qc3, h5; 37 a5, Kh7.**

Black cannot add to his pressure.

**38 h3, h4; 39 Kh1, Qf2; 40 Qe1, Qe1; 41 Re1, Nb3; 42 a6, Ra7; 43 Re3, Nc5; 44 b4, Na6; 45 Ra3 1-0.**

cont. on 109



## Buckley cont.

Now witness a fluid trading of advantages.

**Torre Attack; R. Vaganian—J.Plaskett (Hastings, 82-83): 1 d4, e6; 2 Nf3, Nf6; 3 Bg5, h6; 4 Bf6, Qf6.**

This sets the stage for a battle of space against two bishops.

**5 Nbd2, d6; 6 c3, Nd7; 7 a4.**

White discourages ..., b6, and now Black might be more secure by 7 ..., g6.

**7 ..., g5; 8 g3, Bg7; 9 Bg2, 0-0; 10 a5.**

White improves his position without further commitment.

**10 ..., Rb8; 11 0-0, e5.**

This looks premature. Better may be Re8—Nf8—Bd7 while keeping the pawns back.

**12 e3, Qe7; 13 e4.**

Not a loss of tempo since it covers f5.

**13 ..., ed; 14 Nd4, Ne5; 15 Re1, Re8?!**

Better either ..., Bd7 or ..., g4.

**16 Nf1, Nc6; 17 Nc2.**

White does not want a pawn on d4.

**17 ..., Qe5?!**; 18 Nfe3, Qc5; 19 Nd5, Ne7; 20 b4, Qc6; 21 Nd4, Qd7.

*Mission accomplished?*

**22 Qd2, Nd5; 23 ed, Re1; 24 Re1, Qd8; 25 a6, Bd4.**

If 25 ..., Bd7; 26 ab, Rb7; 27 Nc6, Bc6 (Qf6; 28 Re7); 28 dc is strong according to Ron Henley and next move 26 ..., ba is bitter but better according to Anatoly Lein.

**26 Qd4, b6?; 27 h4!**

Larsen would like this game.

**27 ..., Bd7; 28 Bf3, gh.**

After ..., Qf8—g7 White's rook invades.

**29 gh, Qf8; 30 Kh2, Re8; 31 Rg1, Kh7; 32 Qf6, Re5; 33 Bd1!, Bf5; 34 Bh5, Bd3; 35 Bf7; Re8; 36 Rg3, Bb1; 37 Rf3, Rd8; 38 Bg6, Bg6; 39 Qf8, Rf8; 40 Rf8 1-0.**

The notes are based in part on those of Henley in *Player's Chess News*.

A king hunt is prepared on the opposite flank.

**English Opening; Y. Seirawan—A. Kuligowski (Wijk-aan-Zee, 1983): 1 c4, c5; 2 Nf3, Nf6; 3 Nc3, d5; 4 cd, Nd5; 5 e4.**

A still popular idea of Nimzovich.

**5 ..., Nb4; 6 Bc4, Nd3; 7 Ke2, Nf4; 8 Kf1, Ne6.**

You can also try 8 ..., Be6.

**9 b4, cb; 10 Nd5; g6; 11 Bb2, Bg7; 12 Bg7, Ng7; 13 Nb4.**

White's active pieces and good center outweigh the silent KR.

**13 ..., Nd7? (0-0); 14 d4, Nb6; 15 Bb3, a5; 16 Nd3, a4; 17 Bc2.**

It was better to chop wood by ..., Bg4.

**18 h3, Qc7; 19 Rcl, Bd7; 20 g3, Nc4; 21 Kg2, Bb5.**

Time to get out of the storm by ..., Qa5.

**22 Nc5, Qb8; 23 Rb1!**

Luring Black into a cul de sac.

**23 ..., Na3; 24 Rb2, b6; 25 Na4, Rc8; 26 Bb3, Qa7; 27 Qd2.**

With threats of either 28 Qh6 or Nc3.

**27 ..., Ba4; 28 Qh6, Bb3; 29 Ng5.**

This is powerful because of the clumsy N on g7.

**30 ..., f6; 30 Qh7, Kf8; 31 Rb3, fg; 32 d5, Nc4; 33 Qh8, Kf7; 34 Rf3, Nf5; 35 Qh7, Kf6; 36 ef, Ne5; 37 Re1, g4; 38 hg, Qd7; 39 g5 1-0.**

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# CalChess

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
CHESS ASSOCIATION

# A Player's View: San Jose State University Fall '82

by Aaron Stearns

I walk into the registration area. Craig Mar is around. Jeremy Silman and Charles Powell are also playing. Peter Biyiasas arrives and tells Francisco Sierra, "I want to play in the open section." Nick deFirmian shows up. This will not be an easy tournament.

When the first round ends, there are already some upsets. Both Mar and Eugene Lubarsky lose. I, myself, am only a bit miffed as an expert draws me. Francisco comforts me with the information that my opponent has surprised a few people before. Oh well, tomorrow . . .

I arrive for round two and find that Gabriel Sanchez is also playing. He took a half point bye for last night. Why didn't I do that and save myself some rating points?

Sanchez is beaten by James Wahl — my first-round opponent! Powell loses to Charles Bidwell. Doug Sailer draws deFirmian, while redoubtable Ray Schutt has to settle for a half point against Dave Weldon. All the upsetters are experts! What a tournament!

In round three things finally settle into a fairly normal course. Still, Mar is upset again.

My traveling partner, Dave Weldon, and I head for dinner. We end up at Chuck E. Cheese's Pizza Time Theatre. We expect something like Round Table. Boy, are we shocked! The dining room has several automated puppets lined up along the far wall. They occasionally come to life to give a bit of a show that may excite the one-year-olds but no one else. While our pizza is cooking, we watch and play a few of the over 100 coin-op games. I have to admit my tensions are relaxed. I am no longer thinking about the tournament, but how can I get out of here without being seen?

The morning of the fourth round promises some excitement with the heavy weight battle being Biyiasas (3)—Silman (3). Other top struggles are Bidwell (3)—Schutt (2½), deFirmian (2½)—Urquhart (2½) and my game Stearns (2½)—Powell (2)

The round starts on time, but Silman, who is commuting from San Francisco, is not yet here. Time passes. Biyiasas leaves the board.

Silman arrives and turns the board and clock around.

Biyiasas returns. "What are you doing?"

"I want the outside chair." Silman answers.

Biyiasas retorts, "No, I want the outside chair. I was the first player here so I make the choice. That is your penalty for being late."

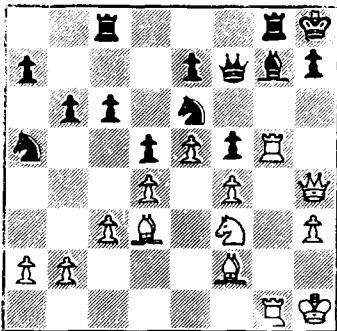
"I get the choice since I am playing Black." Silman points to the clock. "There's my penalty for being late."

"I was nice; I started it five minutes late."

"I should lick your boots!" They quiet down. Biyiasas takes the outside chair. As Biyiasas makes the first move, he says, "You have more winning chances now. I was going to offer a draw."

Powell plays as though he's tired. I beat him quickly. Both deFirmian and Schutt win. The Biyiasas—Silman game is drawn.

While waiting between rounds, I step into the skittles room. Urquhart is showing someone the way he lost to deFirmian. The position looks something like this:



Nick had just played Rg5. Urquhart cannot see why 1 ... Ng5; 2 Ng5, Qg6 doesn't work, so he plays it. Nick responds 3 Qh7!, Qh7; 4 Nf7 mate. Nice.

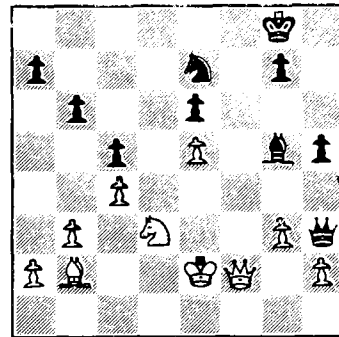
First place will be decided in the games Schutt (3½)—deFirmian (3½), Kenny Fong (3)—Biyiasas (3½), and my game Silman (3½)—Stearns (3½).

I obtain an early advantage. Silman offers a draw. I accept — quickly.

I scan the top boards. DeFirmian is worse. Fong—Biyiasas is drawish.

Time passes, slowly.

Finally, some action. A crowd is gathering around the Schutt deFirmian game. Nick has meticulously worked out of his worse position, and he now has the initiative. But he is pressed against the clock.



1 ... h4; 2 gh, Bh4; 3 Nf4, Qg4; 4 Qf3, Qg1.

DeFirmian looks confident. Schutt looks shaky.

5 Ne6, Qe1; 6 Kd3, Qb1; 7 Ke3, Qb2??; 8 Qf8, Kh7.

Schutt hesitates.

9 Qg7 mate.

DeFirmian recoils backward. Stunned.

Biyiasas outplays Fong and ties for first place with Schutt at 4½. Silman, Bidwell, Kevin Binkley, and Stearns tie for third through seventh at 4.

Another Swiss, like other Swisses. Like the others it developed a flavor of its own from the interactions of the players.

## Chico Open

The 8th Chico Open, directed by Richard Rowe, attracted 53 players from all over the state to Chico the weekend of January 22-23. They came from Reno in the east, Redding in the north, Point Arena in the west, and Fresno and San Jose in the south. It was a true potpurri of northern California players.

In the Open section Richard Dost (Chico) scored 5-0 to edge James MacFarland (Sacramento), who scored 4½. Dan Fukuma (Cupertino) and Kevin Lewis (San Rafael) rounded out the Open prize winners with 4.

"A": Karl Simon (Chico) and Roy Gobets (Chico) 4-1.

"B": Bob Riner (Paradise) 3½. William Courant (Dublin), Loren Storrs (Chico), and Matt Sankovich (Ukiah) 3.

"C": Barton Bolmen (Chico), John Orr (Chico), Bob Clements (Concord) 2½

"D": Grover Powell (Chico) 2½. Paul Jolly (Anderson) and Burton Fisher (Anderson) 2.

"E" and Unrated: David Webster (Redding) 3½. Robert Stein (Anderson) 2½.

Rowe also forwarded some interesting sidelights. Webster's score means he will be initially rated at 1716. MacFarland has played 20 games in four Chico Opens without defeat. His cumulative score — 18½-½.

## FRESNO FEBRUARY QUADS

The Fresno Chess Club ran quads at their new location, the Straw Hat Pizza Parlor (Blackstone and Weldon Avenues). Chief director was Rod Bobo with the assistance of Dave Quarve.

Topping the premier section was Tom Ashley, Fresno with 3-0. In the second section Guy Darr, Charles Guest, and Anthony Maniscalco all tied for first with the scores of 2-1. In the third section Tim Antonetti swept to victory with a 3-0.

## SECOND CHICO JUNIOR OPEN

The second Chico Junior Open held March 12th and directed by Dick Rowe with the assistance of John Orr, drew from as far away as Santa Rosa.

Winning at the end were Tim Taylor, Santa Rosa and Burton Fisher, Anderson with 3½-½ scores. In a three way tie for 3rd were Richard Meamber, Sacramento; Larry Cavalli, Chico, and Curtis Simon, Chico with 2-2 scores.

## CHESS GOES TO WAR



*"I loaned her my Informants."*



*"I thought this was a no-smoking tournament."*

# Our Chess Heritage

## Wilhelm Steinitz and the Modern School

by R. E. Fauber

Combine pride, stubbornness, determination, and the love of a good fight and you get the greatest theoretician in chess history, Wilhelm Steinitz. Years later Emanuel Lasker said of him, "He was a thinker worthy of a seat in the halls of a University." But had he been a faculty member, the department meetings would have become brawls.

When he tried to be nice, Steinitz could write endearments such as, "We shall not argue with pseudo critics, who endeavor to obtain a cheap popularity by sacrificing the living to the dead. . . ." Shortly after he immigrated to the United States Steinitz found himself the butt of the jibes of various journalists. Not to mind, Steinitz encompassed them all in a pilgrimage of diatribes from New York to New Orleans. There was a "pettifogging, journalistic Yahoo," a "miserable literary parade dog" who was also a "malicious cad" and down where there was darkness on the delta dwelt a "shyster" journalist on whom he entered "on the somewhat unpleasant process of pulling about his shystering nose and then to rub into it some of his own filth, which he tried to throw at me, and which I shall have to pick up with a dirty glove at a distance."

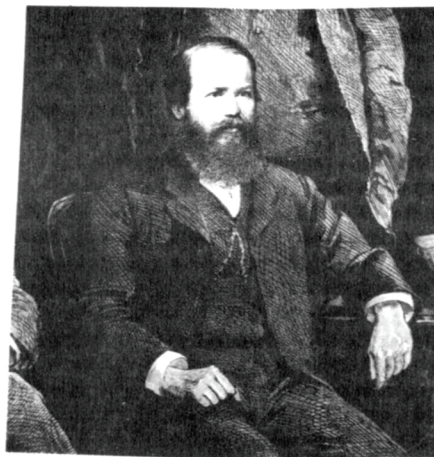
We must remember that Steinitz had no exposure to English until he was 25. His prose shows an admirable ability to absorb some of the subtler colloquial niceties of the language along with an appreciation of Jonathan Swift — which, however, did not extend to Swift's mastery of indirection as a mode of insult. We should also remember that Steinitz did not make a lot of friends during his life.

One man he detested was the puckish problemist Sam Loyd. Loyd always liked to compare Steinitz's play unfavorably with that of Morphy. When he was in a good mood, Steinitz liked to make jokes. One of his favorite was to show Loyd a Morphy game. Loyd would denounce both players as "third rate" — whereafter Steinitz would reveal that Loyd's idol Morphy was one of them. Loyd was an ingenious problemist but an internationally acknowledged *patz* at play.



*Steinitz about 1866*

Steinitz had a hard life and could never understand those mediating personalities, such as his admirer William Underwood Potter. In reference to Potter's attempt to achieve a reconciliation



*Steinitz about 1876*

between Steinitz and his many London enemies, Steinitz expressed amazement at "a man who bows around a circle and cannot understand why he is always being kicked in the rear."

Steinitz was a fighter; he had to be. He spent his childhood and youth in poverty. After introduced to chess at age 12 he had to make a set and board out of wood scraps and a calico table cloth. By dint of great effort and an indomitable fighting spirit he managed to fight his way to the top rung of the chess ladder — and a life of poverty.

He was born May 14, 1836 of poor Jewish parents in Prague. Steinitz's father urged him toward the relatively secure life of a Talmudic scholar. Steinitz, however, showed great mathematical ability and eventually migrated to Vienna to enter its Polytechnic Institute. He pursued his studies with only summer clothing for wear all year round. To supplement his income — indeed to keep himself in food and lodging — he began to play chess for stakes at various coffee houses. The opportunity came quite by accident when the shabbily dressed Steinitz was kibitzing a game at the Cafe Romer in 1858.

One of the players looked up and said, "Do you play chess too?"

Steinitz replied with youthful eagerness, "Oh yes, and I can also play blindfold."

The amused habitués matched him up with the strongest player available, and contempt turned into admiration as he dispatched the fellow with a scintillating attack. Someone introduced him to the halls of the Vienna Chess Club, where he was quickly recognized as an up-and-comer. From 1856-61 he moved up from third place to first in the club championship and was sent to the London, 1862 tournament as "Austria's Champion."

Although he did not fare well, in the London tournament, finishing 6th and winning a whole 5 pounds in prize money, he attracted a lot of attention because of his dashing attack play. Later he described his style at the time: "I did not play with the object to win directly, but to sacrifice a piece."

Knowing nothing of the language, Steinitz still liked the chess atmosphere of London and made it his home for the next 20 years. He eeked out an existence by playing for stakes, and many were eager to sit across from him at the board. Even losses were enjoyable when playing Mr. Steinitz because they were so brilliant. Here is a good example from 1864.

**Giuoco Piano; Amateur—W. Steinitz: 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bc4, Bc5; 4 c3, Nf6; 5 d4, ed; 6 e5, d5; 7 Bb5, Ne4; 8 Nd4, 0-0.**

They dubbed him the Austrian Morphy because Steinitz always developed quickly and lusted after the enemy king. White should have tried 8 cd but still stands inferior because his imposing pawn



## Steinitz cont.

center is fixed. Here 9 Nc6, Bf2 is obvious poison, as any paying customer can see.

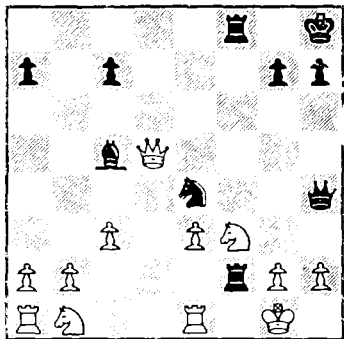
**9 Bc6, bc; 10 0-0, Ba6; 11 Re1, f6; 12 e6.**

White resists opening lines and certainly resists 12 Nc6, Bf2; 13 Kh1, Be1 when Black has it all.

**12 ... Qd6; 13 Be3, f5; 14 Qa4, f4!; 15 e7, Qe7; 16 Qa6, fe; 17 fe, Rf2!**

Carrying many threats such as 18 ... Raf8 and 19 ... Rg2.

**18 Qc6, Raf8; 19 Qd5, Kh8; 20 Nf3, Qh4!**



A scarcely refusible offer, although 21 Qc4 might allow White to develop his queen-side. On 21 Qc5, Rg2 and even 22 Kh1, Rh2.

**21 Nh4, Be3!**

The main line is 22 h3, Rf1, 23 Kh2, Bg1; 24 Kh1, Ng3 mate.

**22 Ng6, hg; 23 g3, Re2; 24 Kh1, Re1; 25 Kg2, Rg1; 26 Kh3, Nf2; 27 Kh4, Rf4!; 28 gf, Rg4 0-1.**

### Winning a Name

From 1862-65 Steinitz also won some matches from relatively weak players and then came clear first at Dublin, 1865. This set the stage for a match with Adolf Anderssen in which the backers of the respective players put up 100 pounds a side, the winner eventually pocketed 50.

Howard Staunton, stung that so many had surpassed his prominence in the preceding 20 years, urged in the *Illustrated London News* that Steinitz should back out of such a joke of a mismatch. Steinitz was not impressed — besides he needed the money win or lose. The result, to almost everyone's surprise, was a Steinitz victory by 8-6. Later Steinitz wrote in his *International Chess Magazine* (1888), "... I have frequently expressed my doubts whether I was really stronger than Anderssen. . . when I defeated him. . . And I have often thought and still think that probably the German professor, who stood no chance against Morphy, could at the time have beaten me in a longer match."

Such remarks — and there are other similar ones — raise the question of what year Steinitz thought he merited the title of World Champion. In 1887, writing of attacks upon him by chess editors who were glad to puff anyone as his superior at the slightest excuse he said, "... I have been used to it for 20 years that according to the constructions in certain journalistic quarters everyone in turn was the champion during that period excepting myself. . . I naturally have to attach some greater value to the champion title, which I feel sure I have fairly and honorably earned, and which I am still ready to defend on fair and honorable terms."

Whenever Steinitz first discovered himself worthy of the champion's title, it certainly could have been no later than 1873. By that time most other chess enthusiasts had, however grudgingly, to acknowledge his supremacy. He beat H.E Bird in 1866, then he bested Joseph Blackburne in a quicky match in 1870. Johannes Zukertort came to London in 1872, and the anti-Steinitz forces promptly matched them only to see Zukertort fall by 7-1. He won London, 1872 ahead of Blackburne and Zukertort. Then he went to the Vienna, 1873 tournament.

Anderssen was there as was Louis Paulsen. Steinitz tied for first with Blackburne and won the playoff match. This and the other crushing successes gained him the post as chess columnist for *The*

*Field* "The Country Gentleman's Newspaper." It was quite a tony boost and enabled Steinitz to enjoy a decade of relative financial security.

His column became the model for thoroughness in analysis and depth in positional insight. From 1873 to 1882 Steinitz not only synthesized the received principles of his predecessors and extrapolated still more principles from the practice of Anderssen, Paulsen, and Morphy but also expounded them to a doubting public, which preferred his variations to his insights.

Steinitz did not invent very much new. He took great pride in describing a "hole" in the position — a term he introduced in 1886 to define a square which can be occupied by enemy pieces because of weaknesses in the pawn structure.

For the most part he borrowed concepts from others. From Paulsen he discovered the value of two bishops. From Morphy, whose play inspired him to go all out for chess, he took the value of superior development and domination of the center. He acknowledged the contribution of Simon Winawer in the exploitation of doubled pawn complexes. Over the next 20 years his teachings firmly established "the modern school." By 1893 all the rising stars, who supplanted most of his rivals at the head of tournament results, embraced his principles in one way or another.

What Steinitz did that was so revolutionary was that he took the various theses and anti-theses of the game and made them into a synthesis.

The theory of Steinitz attempted to transform chess from an art into a science. In his time there were a myriad of masters who knew the accepted maxims: develop quickly, control the center, don't weaken your king-side pawns etcetera. They were regarded, however, like a school of artists — all of whom knew the rules of perspective and how to make sepia on their paint palettes. Still, a few were markedly better than others at producing beautiful art works. This was because of artistic genius.

The chess public adored sacrifices and combinations. The few great players were chess geniuses who produced combinations from the extra fertility of their imaginations. Either you had the gift or you did not.

To Steinitz this was abhorrent on two grounds. His background of poverty reminded him how hard he had to work to get anywhere. His mathematical and engineering background told him that anyone with the proper training could solve an equation or build a bridge. He believed that chess, too, must have a set of laws, an inner logic which, once understood, would lead the player to select the right move. He set out not to discard the wisdom of the past but to make it a cohesive entity.

### The Theory of Steinitz

To create a code of laws required a firm beginning. Like Rene Descartes, Steinitz resolved to begin at the beginning. Descartes:

decided to doubt everything. After that it became clear to him that the act of doubt involved the process of thought. That he was thinking testified to the fact that he was alive ("I think, therefore, I am"). From there he found insights in "the clear light of reason." After that he really got rolling and reconstructed the whole universe in winter camp during a military campaign in Belgium. Steinitz began the same way. The given was the initial position. You had but to look at the board to see it was there. Furthermore, the forces were balanced. Once White moved the equilibrium was disturbed. Black's countermove might either restore the equilibrium or unbalance things further.

Each move strengthened a force's influence on some sector of the board while weakening it somewhere else. One side might gain advantages on one side of the board while the opponent was gaining advantages on the other. It was still an equilibrium.

Remember also that Steinitz had begun his career as an attacking player. Despite his attempt to thrust attack into the background it still obsessed him. This was highly fortuitous for his theory. No one can ever win a chess game without first attacking. The essence of chess is the generation of threats. Now Steinitz asked himself, "What justifies an attack?"

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## Steinitz cont.

Steinitz gave particularly close examination to the incandescent creations of Morphy and to his own swashbuckling efforts in his endeavor to answer that question. The answer was that you can only attack if you have first gained some advantage. In successful attacks the defender had always first disrupted the balance of position in a way unfavorable to him. Attack stems from advantage, even if only on a local sector of the board. Rigorously Steinitz argues that when you have an advantage, you must attack to exploit it. Failure to attack spells the dissipation of the advantage. Put another way, there is no advantage unless it is exploited. The whole purpose of advantages is to use them in facilitating the inevitable attack. As a more homely illustration, suppose you have a great open file and two active knights on the king-side, and you decide to play around with your queen-side pawns. You are employing a lot of power uselessly on one side of the board while losing time and probably making weaknesses on another side of the board where your opponent has more force.

### Who's Ahead?

So what are all these advantages of which Steinitz was always speaking? These had basically been laid out by his forbears. Repeatedly in his book, *Modern Chess Instructor*, Steinitz approvingly cites Howard Staunton (who did not like Steinitz and repeatedly said so in print). Philidor, LaBourdonnais, Morphy, Anderssen, and Paulsen all get their due.

There is no single place you can go to get a coherent theory of Steinitz. His *Modern Chess Instructor* is mostly given over to heavy analysis of openings. His annotations over almost 20 years in the columns of *The Field* and *The International Chess Magazine* are the principal sources. The masters who succeeded him in the chess limelight had to study Steinitz for years, just as Steinitz spent years formulating his theory of the game. Other than a massacre of Blackburne in 1876, Steinitz abstained from competitive chess from Vienna, 1873 until Vienna 1882 and then for another three years until his match with Zukertort. The interim he filled with studying, thinking, and writing.

The result has been that other masters have presented a more concise and coherent presentation of Steinitz than he — or at least they thought they did. Siegbert Tarrasch taught a “Reader’s Digest” version of Steinitz’s theories in his voluminous writings. Lasker presented a philosophical Steinitz in his *Manual of Chess*. Max Euwe in *The Development of Chess Style* broke out some of the key factors of Steinitz’s theory so that it seemed Steinitz was just carrying along like his theoretical forbears.

Basically, the Steinitz teachings recognize a number of advantages and urge that you accumulate an advantage here and another there until you have formed the positional basis for attack.

The foremost advantage was material. In theory Steinitz believed all opening gambits to be unsound. “The only way to refute a gambit is to accept it,” he wrote. He eagerly pounced on every gambit pawn which came his way. (In fact, he could have taken a number of lessons from Larry Evans on how to take pawn sacrifices. Despite his famed defensive technique, Steinitz scored worst when offered a gambit. In his career he won 29 such games while losing 25 with 15 draws.) He wrote, “It . . . follows that theoretically as well as practically among first-class masters of equal strength, not a single Pawn can be given up by either party at any stage of the game without at least greatly endangering the result, unless it can be soon recovered.”

Steinitz also placed value on the advantage of space, although his stubborn defensive proclivities, which involved frequent trips to the back rank for all the pieces forced him not to emphasize it. Most important was space in the center, and here Steinitz contributed to defensive technique by innovations in holding the “strong-point center.” After 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bb5, d6 Black wants to maintain a pawn on e5 to restrict White’s central influence. Sometimes he played . . ., Bd7—Nge7—g6—Bg7 just to hang onto the pawn blocking White’s attack.

Of course the attacking value of an advantage in mobility could not be denied, but Steinitz looked upon this as a fleeting value. The opponent could always bring out more force or exchange the advancing forces of his antagonist. Still, Morphy had shown dramatically how an advantage in development and a few sharply opened lines

could quickly lead to decisive attack, and Steinitz had never doubted it. He only doubted the technique of Morphy’s opponents on those occasions.

Finally, there was the matter of pawn structure. Steinitz never fully elaborated on all the ramifications of what is good pawn structure and what is bad. He identified the weakness of the isolated pawn as stemming from the weakness of the square in front of it, and he demonstrated how to play against such a weakness in his match against Zukertort in 1886.

His most important concept in evaluating pawn structure was the idea of the hole.” “The later term which is now generally accepted as a technical definition, was first used by the author in *The International Chess Magazine* of November 1886 where the disadvantage which it is intended to describe was first pointed out, and it is most important for the learner fully to appreciate that disadvantage. The ‘hole’ means a square on the third or fourth row in front of a Pawn after the two adjoining Pawns have been moved or captured. . . A hole or a weak square are still more troublesome when the opponent is enabled to open the file on which they are situated for his Queens and Rooks. In the opening or middle part a hole or weak square are most dangerous in the centre or on the King’s side before Queens are exchanged, but in the ending such weak points are generally more troublesome on the Queen’s side.”

### Square Control

This points to an aspect of the theory of Steinitz which neither he nor his followers fully developed. There are pieces and pawns, and there are squares. The purpose of the pieces is to control squares, and once you control the right squares you can deliver mate. Steinitz, following Staunton, called attention to the strength of two pawns abreast rather than ranked diagonally (e.g. d4 and e5). They formed a barrier. Steinitz going a step beyond even noted how the control of a weak square on the queen-side could profoundly affect events on the king-side. Most of the time we focus our attention on squares which have pieces on them. Steinitz was beginning to focus on the influence over a long range of simply controlling some vital square. “Once you have a knight securely lodged on K6 you can go to sleep. Your game plays itself,” he wrote.

The theory of Steinitz was a magnificent and secure edifice. From its base Tarrasch made an adaptation. It became the fulcrum around which Lasker developed his theory of chess as a fight. Lasker was the first to call attention to the fundamental importance of Steinitz’s stress on equilibrium.

In a sensational article in the January, 1885 issue of *The International Chess Magazine* Steinitz wrote an astoundingly controversial piece, “Paul Morphy and the Play of His Time.” Steinitz appalled the chess world, particularly the American chess world, by claiming that Morphy did not play brilliant chess. He played positional chess.



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## Steinitz cont.

At one point he wrote, "It would be misleading if we were to represent Morphy's play as a model for our time, when, as a matter of fact, the game has made progress since his period in all directions, and on the other hand we believe his reputation will shine in a more lasting light if we call attention to his feel for the balance of position, which requires an almost instinctive judgment in its application, and which has been cultivated and trained to a much higher degree since the Morphy period."

The balance of position. While his contemporaries were trying to pile up some small advantages so as to win, Lasker developed his own acute sense of balance of position. He often disturbed to his own disadvantage with the aim of getting a win out of what might have been a routine draw. But he never overthrew the equilibrium consciously to the extent that he was playing into a loss — as by a foolhardy attack.

### The Steinitz Paradox

If you compare the theory of Steinitz, as culled from his voluminous notes, with the play of Steinitz the competitor, you get the impression that many times, particularly in the opening, Steinitz did not play by Steinitz's theory at all. Sometimes he played by his theory — solid openings, thematic middle games when he was in the mood, or he had to because he was way down in the tournament table or the match score. But, when things were just coasting along, he accepted gambits and he also played them.

Stubborn and prideful, he was also an independent thinker, and most of his opening play derived from his independent analysis. In 1891, when he was about to bring out the second volume of the *Modern Chess Instructor*, he wrote that producing the book was the first time he had ever studied the openings systematically.

Commenting about a victory that marked Tarrasch as a rising grandmaster at Manchester, 1890, Isidor Gunsberg wrote, "In the success of Dr. Tarrasch, Steinitz's method of play has achieved its greatest triumph. . . . But the scholar is acting more faithfully on the precepts of the teacher than the master himself, who will often forget his own teachings and adhere to crotchety lines of play in the openings, a thing which Tarrasch never does."

Steinitz liked a chess challenge; they were far more pleasant than the challenges to his livelihood and integrity in real life. He also liked to challenge his rivals by playing weird lines. Somehow it is hard to believe that a world champion could keep the opening 1 e4, e5; 2 f4, ef; 3 d4 in his repertoire for at least 20 years. It may be playable, but a champion has an obligation to his public.

### Stormy Career

In 1873 life looked secure for Steinitz. He had a steady job; he was generally recognized as the world's best player. He had turned back the challenges of his two chief rivals, Zukertort and Blackburne. No other chess player has ever had the luxury of becoming the best and then having the time to devote to formulating a comprehensive theory of the game.

Still, Steinitz had his enemies. He always had enemies. And his enemies kept hoping they could find someone who could dethrone the curmudgeonly champion. Blackburne tried again in 1876 and lost seven straight. "Mr. Steinitz" was still the boss lion of the chess pride.

In 1879 Leopold Hoffer and Zukertort founded the *Chess Monthly*. In its pages criticism of Mr. Steinitz became so regular it should have been christened a regular department — like the games section. If they were not hooting at Steinitz's claims to being the leader of the "modern" school of chess, they were nattering at his manners. Steinitz was not a champion to be suffered gladly. There was some evidence to suggest that Hoffer managed to alienate the publisher of *The Field* from Steinitz. At any rate Steinitz had a quarrel and was dismissed as columnist in 1882. Hoffer took the column over and continued it until 1912.

After years of inactivity Steinitz had been hounded from the British Chess scene and had to reenter competitive chess from economic necessity. He chose the Vienna tournament of 1882, one of the strongest in many a year. Winawer, Zukertort, Blackburne, Paulsen, and the rapidly rising Mikhail Chigorin were all there. For-

tunately for Steinitz it was a long tournament, which enabled him to shake the rust and cobwebs from his competitive form. At the end of 34 rounds he managed 24 points, enough to tie Winawer for first. The management insisted on a two game play-off to determine first prize.

In the first game Steinitz achieved a tremendous advantage by sacrificing two rooks and a mess of pawns for a piece. Then he blundered and Winawer won. The situation looked dismal, particularly since Winawer came out of the opening in the second game looking better in a game he need but draw. This brought out the fighter in Steinitz. Although it is hardly one of Steinitz's best creations, the game very aptly illustrates his famous tenacity and ability to maneuver until his opponent cracked.

**Three Knights Game; S. Winawer—W. Steinitz (Vienna, 1882): 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6, 3 Nc3, g6.**

At this time the Four Knights game was not only recognized as solid but also feared. Steinitz tries something weird to stir up winning chances.

**4 d4, ed; 5 Nd4, Bg7; 6 Nc6, bc; 7 Bd3, Ne7; 8 0-0, d6; 9 Qe1, 0-0; 10 f3, h6; 11 Be3, Kh7; 12 Qd2, f5; 13 Rae1, fe; 14 fe, Rf1; 15 Rf1.**

White has not been showing any signs of ambition. For example, 11 Qh4 was more energetic. White should attack or his advantage will fade. That was the moral obligation of Steinitz's laws, but White is less interested in laws and morals than prize money — keep solid, draw the guy, and take the top ransom without taking chances. Not as easy against Steinitz.

**15 ... , Be6; 16 Ne2, c5; 17 Nf4, Bg8; 18 b3, Qd7; 19 Rf3, Rf8; 20 Rh3, Bf7.**

One of those Steinitz defensive moves which makes the least concession to the adversary. White threatened 21 Ng6, Ng6; 22 Bh6.

**21 Nd5, h5; 22 Ne7.**

Rather a premature simplification when White must carry the burden of advantage. Now Black has open lines for both bishops. Instead 22 c4 solidifies his centralized knight and 22 Bg5 was another thought which was not wholly out of line.

**22 ... , Qe7; 23 Rf3, Kg8; 24 Bg5, Qe5; 25 Bh6, Re8; 26 Bg7, Kg7.**

White gradually goes downhill since 27 Qa5, Qd4 and e4. White's KP is eminently attackable while Black's QRP is a very remote target.

**27 Qf4?!, Qf4; 28 Rf4, c4!; 29 bc, Re5; 30 Rf1, Rc5; 31 Kf2, Bc4; 32 Ke3, Be6; 33 Rb1, Kf6; 34 a3, Ra5; 35 Ra1, Ke5.**

This is so reminiscent of those Swiss System tournaments where the weekend player gets paired with the top master in the last round. The rabbit will be tickled to death with just a draw but finds himself better out of the opening and offered attacking opportunities. The top master, his attention alerted, begins to play better and better. The initiative fades; the attack fades. Soon the weekend rabbit finds himself in a passive position. Then, he cracks. It is very hard to believe that White could not still have drawn simply by 36 h4 followed by g3 if 36 ... , Ra4; 37 c3, Bc4; 38 Bc2.

**36 h3?!, Ra4; 37 c3, Bc4, Bc2; 38 Ra6; 39 g4?**

This gives the game away. Surely 39 h4 must be still the best chance. Black has the aggressive rook, but it is not really that aggressive because it cannot readily shift attacking fields. Now White's pawns become fixed on the color of the enemy bishop.

**39 ... , h4, 40 a4, Rb6; 41 Rb1, Rb1; 42 Bb1, Bf1; 43 Kf3, g5; 44 Ba2, c6; 45 Bf7, Bd3.**

Obviously 46 Bg6, a5, and both the QRP and KP can be simultaneously subjected to attack.

**46 Kf2, Kf4; 47 a5, Be4; 48 Bc4, d5; 49 Ba6, c5; 50 Bc8, c4; 51 a6, Ke5; 52 Bd7, d4; 53 cd, Kd4; 54 Ke2, Bd3 and 0-1 in 66.**

Following this tournament Steinitz toured the United States and met friendly and enthusiastic receptions wherever he went. Resolving to settle in America, Steinitz still returned to London for the great 1883 Congress. Zukertort was blazing and won by three points over Steinitz. It was not a bad showing in an event which included Winawer, Chigorin, and Blackburne to finish second by 2½ points, but Zukertort took the occasion to trumpet his claims to international supremacy. He styled himself variously champion of the world and "tournament champion of the world." Steinitz retreated to his haven in the New World still shaking his trans-atlantic fist in anger and rejection.

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## Steinitz cont.

The two were bent on a collision course. They both lusted to meet each other head-on. First they had a round in the journals. Part of the reason Steinitz founded *The International Chess Magazine* in 1885 must have been to be better able to take Mr. Zukertort to task in a column he labeled "Personal and General." It was personal and seldom general. Steinitz did not like Zukertort as a person.

Through the intercession of seconds they came to terms — time limit of 15 moves an hour and a stake of \$2,000. The match was to begin in New York on January 11, 1886.

The American public was titilated, and the press went wild. There had been Morphy, the all-conquering hero, but his matches took place in Europe. Now the United States had the honor of being host to the first "official" world championship match. There were always numbers of journalists at each of the three match sites — New York, St. Louis, and New Orleans.

Like the general press today, the reporters of that time knew next to nothing about chess, and, just as TV cameras today like to focus on crowd reaction and cheerleaders at football games, the press in 1886 concentrated their journalistic skills on the spectators and the hangers-on. A few valuable scenes emerged from this melange.\*

One vignette underscores the straitened living standards of professional chess players of the time. During the New York phase Steinitz's daughter, who could not afford a winter coat, stood shivering in the vestibule in January weather hawking programs and photographs to spectators in order to earn a few extra dollars for the family.

A St. Louis scene has Steinitz and Zukertort dining with each other. The reporter describes, "Zukertort, attending the wing of a duck, asked: Steinitz what would you have done if I had played RX-BP? PXR, replied Steinitz, digging out a *bonne bouche* from the duck's breast. Q-N6 check, said Zukertort, reaching for a glass of beer. K-B1. What is in that dish of mashed potatoes? QXP at R6 check. No thanks, no sugar. K-B2, please pass the bread. And so it went on."

These two eminent paladins were enemies at daggers drawn. They had attacked and insulted each other for more than a decade, yet they were dining and analyzing. World chess would surely be the better today if Karpov and Korchnoi had occasionally shared a duck together after a hard game.

During the New York phase Steinitz took the first game in good style. Then Zukertort rammed three consecutive victories down Steinitz's throat. The match moved to St. Louis, and Steinitz mustered all his resources for combat. Relentlessly Steinitz evened the score: two wins, a draw, then a win in the 9th game which involved a myriad of positional themes on Steinitz's part coupled with some helpful Zukertort inaccuracies. Zukertort knew positional chess too, and he knew that with the isolated pawn or pawn couple he had to generate attack. Steinitz, however, showed nice timing, blunted the threats and protected the vital targets. One may explain Zukertort's inaccuracies more readily by frustration than by lack of positional understanding. To go for a thematic attack and, in mid-course, suddenly to switch to playing for a draw is a difficult transition for anyone.

On to New Orleans and Zukertort's fate. He had been in frail health since London, 1883 and had been self-dosing himself with drugs (he was a physician). Still, despite the rigors of travel, he had a 16 day intermission between the St. Louis and New Orleans phase. Zukertort drew the 10th game in short order, but in the 11th game he built an active position and proceeded to fiery attack.

**Four Knights Game: J. Zukertort—W. Steinitz** (New Orleans, 1886): 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Nc3, Nf6; 4 Bb5, Bb4; 5 0-0, 0-0; 6 Nd5, Nd5; 7 ed, e4; 8 dc, ef; 9 Qf3, dc; 10 Bd3, Bd6; 11 b3.

Steinitz held the view that 11 c4-Bc2-d4 was the correct plan. This is curious in view of the fact that 11 c4 voluntarily creates a "hole." Black can make the QP push difficult and probably sterile. Zukertort's maneuver is by analogy with the Ruy Lopez. Important differences here are that White never gets a healthy attack against a crippled

\*Chess journalists today might profit by paying a little less attention to TN's and "circulate" more so as to pick up the color and atmosphere revolving around a tournament.

majority. White could just play directly for a draw here or even directly offer one, but Zukertort is White. He does not see how he can lose, so why not play on a while?

**11 ... , Qg5!; 12 Bb2, Qd2; 13 Bc1, Qa5; 14 Bf4, Be6; 15 Rae1, Rfe8; 16 Re3, Bd5.**

You don't need a telegrapher to tell you that Zukertort wants to attack. He is banking on the superior lateral mobility of two heavy pieces to send it home. Steinitz later preferred to treat the attack with even more contempt by 16 ... , Qa2 and gives 17 Bd6, cd; 18 Qe4, g6; 19 Qd4, Qa3; 20 b4, a5. Lasker suggests here simply 17 Qh3, g6; 18 Re8, Re8; 19 Bd6, cd; 20 Qd7.

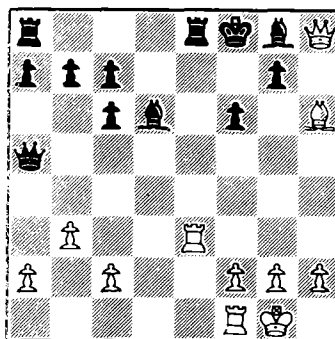
**17 Bh7, Kh7; 18 Qh5, Kg8; 19 Rh3, f6!**

Black prevents mate and has the resource 20 Bd6, cd; 21 c4, Qd2.

**20 Qh7, Kf7; (a long series of repetitions — you had to repeat six times in this match to claim a draw) 31 Qh5, Ke7.**

Black's queen does heavy duty at a distance: 32 Re3, Kf8; 33 Qh8, Bg8; 34 Rfe1??, Qe1. Nor is 32 Bd6, Kd6; 35 c4, Rh8 much good. **32 Re3, Kf8; 33 Qh8, Bg8; 34 Bh6.**

Zukertort has not been willing to settle for a draw, but now Steinitz shows defense at its finest, a quiet defensive move which breaks the bonds White has held on the position.



**34 ... , Re7!; 35 Re7, Ke7.**

After 36 Qg7, Bf7 there are no reasonable checks, and Black can consolidate his gains.

**36 Bg7, Qf5; 37 Re1, Kf7; 38 Bh6, Qh7; 39 Qh7, Bh7; 40 c4, a5; 41 Be3, c5; 42 Rd1, a4 0-1.**

Zukertort managed some more draws, but could never dent the grim Steinitz for a point. He lost 10-5 with 5 draws. It shattered him. In his final victory Steinitz even played his very own gambit, although he had been careful only to play solid openings before that. By that time Zukertort may have been talking to himself. Nothing he did went right.

He had done one thing. He had created an "official" world championship. Both had agreed before the match that this was a world championship match, not just a match. No other player cared to dispute this disposition. The world championship title became a question of who could beat the champ and would he even let them play against him. In Steinitz's time this never became a problem. He was ready to meet anyone — he needed the prize money for his family. And Steinitz liked to play the best, although the rest of the chess world, less acute, had not yet recognized their quality.

When some eager Cuban magnates proposed a world championship match in Havana with Steinitz to pick his opponent, he was glad to comply. The man must be Mikhail Ivanovich Chigorin, the star of the north. Chigorin, whose love of chess was such as to cause him to labor at the thankless editorial and organizational tasks which make chess flourish, did not emerge as a first class player until his magazine, *Chess Bulletin*, had gone bankrupt. He placed highly consistently in tournaments but never gained the palm. Critics hooted the choice, but history amply proved Steinitz's good judgment.

## Meeting the Challenge

In 1889, when they met in Havana, Chigorin had a thorough appreciation of Steinitz's weaknesses. One of them was his theory and the other was his application of his theory in home analysis of

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cont. on p. 117

## Steinitz cont.

the openings. Much of Chigorin's reputation as a gambit player derives from his consistent adoption of the Evans Gambit against the formidable Steinitz.

No, no. Chigorin knew that Steinitz did not defend well against the Evans Gambit. The journalists had him as the chivalric knight of the combinational school. Steinitz, by contrast, played dry positional chess. Of whatever chess school, Steinitz was a journalist too and wrote that it was an encounter of a "young master of the old school and an old master of the young school."

Steinitz won the match by 10-6. There was only one draw, they went at each other so hard. Steinitz lost the majority of Black's but had a crushing edge as White because Chigorin was experimenting with an idea which later became Chigorin's Defense. Steinitz would begin

with 1 Nf3 come d5, 2: d4, Bg4. These two played for more than money at stake. They were trying to use their best antagonist to develop ideas. At the time of the match Steinitz was just doing research for

the *Modern Chess Instructor* and just finding out in any systematic way what others thought about openings. He had his own opinions and played them fearlessly. Chigorin wanted new paths to new ideas and was just feeling his way toward them.

On principle they did not differ so much, but on its application they were both going in different directions.

After Steinitz published his *Modern Chess Instructor* Chigorin took exception to two of his lines, one in the Evans and the other in the Two Knights Defense. Steinitz put up \$750 of his own money to try theoretical conclusions in these two lines, and Chigorin handily won both of them.

In 1891 Steinitz won another world championship match from Isidor Gunsberg. Again the choice was despised, but the 6-4 result amply justified Gunsberg's place in history as one of the greatest players of his age. Gunsberg also drew Chigorin in match play. He was a good player and understood a great deal about Steinitz's "theories" than he ever cared to let on.

It was time for a rematch with Chigorin, in Havana in 1892. Steinitz at 57 was hardly a young puppy, but he enjoyed playing in foreign cities where he had not yet made any enemies. Chigorin enjoyed playing — anywhere. The match took a bizarre but predictable course. Steinitz started out looking for vengeance for his defeat, or rather the defeat of his theoretical innovations in his cable match with Chigorin. In the Evans Gambit he was smothered 4-1 and on the White side of the Two Knights Defense his 9 Nh3 sunk by 3-1.

What saved him was that, in his darkest hours, he reached into himself for sounder openings, more like his principles and less like his private analysis. He had to resort to such desperation tactics as early as the fourth game. Steinitz, the founder of the "modern" school, felt constrained at last to play a sound opening! The result was one of his most beautiful games.

**Ruy Lopez; W. Steinitz—M. Chigorin (Match, 1892); 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bb5, Nf6; 4 d3, d6; 5 c3, g6; 6 Nbd2, Bg7; 7 Nf1, 0-0; 8 Ba4, Nd7; 9 Ne3, Nc5; 10 Bc2, Ne6; 11 h4, Ne7; 12 h5, d5.**

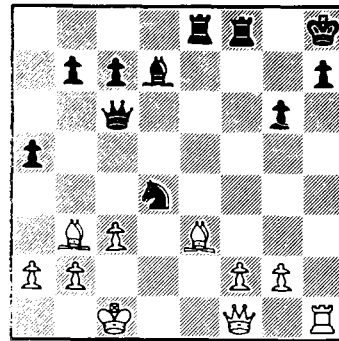
Isn't that a Steinitz principle of modern chess to meet a wing attack by counterplay in the center? Steinitz will soon cede space by giving up his pawn anchor in the center. This is what we mean by saying that, even in his solid opening ventures, Steinitz did not play according to the tenets of the "modern school," which he announced. He did play very modern chess, and constantly enlisted his imagination to give life to his sense of position.

**13 hg, fg; 14 ed, Nd5; 15 Nd5, Qd5; 16 Bb3, Qc6; 17 Qe2, Bd7; 18 Be3, Kh8; 19 0-0-0, Rae8; 20 Qf1!, a5.**

Like an afterthought since moving the QR to the center, but this game is for enjoyment and not analysis. Chigorin would not have it any other way—now that it's getting very late, but don't things seem very stable in the center?

**21 d4, ed; 22 Nd4, Bd4; 23 Rd4!, Nd4.**

"Well, they didn't call me the Austrian Morphy for nothing. I have a moral obligation to attack, and I can do it," Steinitz may have thought. "Besides, according to my theories I'm busted otherwise."



**24 Rh7, Kh7; 25 Qh1, Kg7; 26 Bh6, Kg6; 27 Qh4, Ke5; 28 Qd4 1-0.**  
Delicious.

Stooped, arthritic, overweight — Steinitz would be sooner damned than let this Chigorin, who challenged his opening analysis, get away with beating him in a match. By the 12th round Steinitz had spotted Chigorin 14 years and two games. They fought flat-footed and up close. No draws except by necessity. Steinitz closed by the 20th game. It was even, but the games had taken their toll on the younger man. In the last three games he seemed more interested in getting the match over than in winning the match by any exertion necessary. After the 22nd game Steinitz stood ahead by 9-8, but any Chigorin win would cause a drawn match, if he could do it before Steinitz achieved 10 wins. So in the 23rd game Chigorin played the King's Gambit — the Steinitz Gambit of the King's Gambit! On the 32nd move he blundered into an elementary mate in two. Steinitz was king still.

Between the two there always existed a feeling of brotherhood. Steinitz never had a harsh word for Chigorin, nor Chigorin for Steinitz. They understood and respected each other as the deepest thinkers of their age. Emanuel Lasker, who took his title away in 1894, said that Steinitz was a thinker more than a player. This is a strange verdict to render a man who had won 13 consecutive matches and only lost for the first time at the age of 58. It is a strange thing to say about someone who consistently violated his own theories and won anyway.

## The End Comes

By 1894 Steinitz's health was not good and his finances worse. He was a lonely old man. When Emanuel Lasker arranged financial backing for a match to be played in New York, Philadelphia, and Montreal, Steinitz was happy to accept. The European press was amused at the news; Lasker had an excellent record in poor events. Tarrasch urged that his joke of a match not be played; Steinitz would win in a walk. Lasker, however, was deadly and won comfortably by 10-5 with 4 draws. Steinitz rose painfully from the board after the decisive game and lifted his cane to lead the onlookers in three cheers for the new champion. Then he hobbled to the next room to play some hands of whist. The Steinitz era was over.

He still had some good results and played some splendid games. He came second in St. Petersburg, 1896-7 and fourth at the marathon Vienna, 1898 tournament. Meantime he had disastrously lost a return match with Lasker in 1897 and came to the Vienna tournament almost directly from a mental institution, where he was recovering from a nervous breakdown in the wake of the second Lasker match.

After the London, 1899 tourney, in which he finished out of the money for the first time in his career, he returned to the United States, but his health broke again. He entered a charity hospital on Ward's Island and died there in 1900.

Although Steinitz has passed on, his games and his codification of theory remains a living legacy to all chess players. Let us conclude with two from his later career, the first another example of dogged defense and the second his most luminous brilliancy.

**King's Gambit; D. Janowski—W. Steinitz (Cologne, 1898): 1 e4, e5; 2 f4, ef; 3 Bc4, Ne7; 4 Qh5, Ng6; 5 Nc3, Qe7; 6 d4, Nc6; 7 Nf3, Qb4; 8 Qd5, Nd8; 9 a3, Qe7.**

cont. on p. 118

**Steinitz cont.**

This is Steinitz at his knottiest. How is he ever going to get any pieces out? The answer is that he has misplaced his pieces in such a way that they will emerge well-placed when White, on the attack, opens lines.

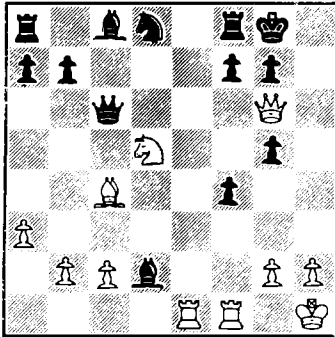
**10 0-0, d6; 11 Qh5, c6; 12 Bd2, Ne6; 13 Rael.**

The immediate 13 d5, Nc5; 14 Rael, Nd7 gives Black the e5 square.

**13 ... Qc7; 14 d5, Nd8; 15 e5, de; 16 Ne5; Be5; 17 Kh1, 0-0; 18 dc, Be3!**

White opens lines: Black closes them since 18 ... bc; 19 Ng6, hg; 20 Qc5. White should now switch to an ending with 19 Be3, Qe5; 20 Qe5, Ne5; 21 cb, Bb7; 22 Rf4, Nc4; 23 Rc4. White then has definite winning chances, but he came to attack and attack he will.

**19 Nf3?!, Bd2; 20 Ng5, h6; 21 Qg6, hg; 22 Nd5, Qc6.**



It was also possible to play 22 ... fg, 23 Nc7, Kh7 and A) 24 Na8, Be1 or B) 24 Rd1, Ba5; 25 Rd8!, Rd8; 26 Na8, Bf5; 27 b4, Ra8; 28 ba. This would seem the preferable course since White can still hold the draw in the game continuation.

**23 Ne7, Kh8; 24 Qg5?**

He misses the opportunity in 24 Bf7, Nf7; 25 Nc6, Be1; 26 Ne7, Bd2; 27 Qh5, Nh6; 28 Ng6, Kg8; 29 Nf8, Kf8; 30 h4 with unbalanced equality.

**24 ... Qh6; 25 Qc5, Ne6; 26 Be6, Be6; 27 Re5, Be3; 28 Qb5, g6; 29 Qb7, Kg7; 30 Qf3, Rad8; 31 h3, Qh4; 32 Nc6, Bg4; 33 Qg4, Qg4; 34 hg, Rh8; 35 Rh5, gh 0-1.**

**Giuoco Piano; W. Steinitz—K. von Bardeleben (Hastings, 1895): 1 e4, e5; 2 Nf3, Nc6; 3 Bc4, Bc5; 4 c3, Nf6; 5 d4, ed; 6 cd, Bb4; 7 Nc3, d5.**

Risky but apparently playable.

**8 ed, Nd5; 9 0-0, Be6; 10 Bg5, Be7; 11 Bd5, Bd5; 12 Nd5, Qd5; 13 Be7, Ne7.**

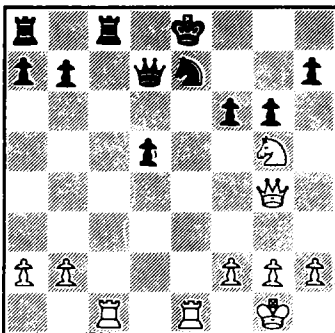
He would be happier after 13 ... Ke7.

**14 Re1, f6; 15 Qe2, Qd7; 16 Rael, c6?**

Natural but not so good as 16 ... Kf7; 17 Qe7, Qe7; 18 Re7, Ke7; 19 Rc7 when White starts eating pawns.

**17 d5?, cd; 18 Nd4, Kf7; 19 Ne6, Rhc8; 20 Qg4, g6; 21 Ng5, Ke8.**

With two pieces hanging White begins a glorious combination of 15 moves by hanging a third.



**22 Re7, Kf8.**

Everything is in the air! On 22 ... Ke7; 23 Re1, Kd6; 24 Qb4, Kc7; 25 Ne6, Kb8; 26 Qf4 wins.

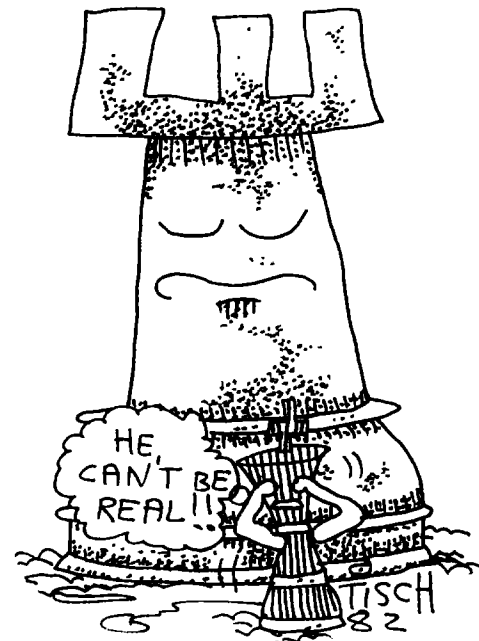
**23 Rf7, Kg8; 24 Rg7, Kh8; 25 Rh7 1-0.**

Von Bardeleben simply left the tournament hall and never returned so that officially he lost on time. He could not bear to stay while Steinitz demonstrated a 10 move mate: 25 ... Kg8; 26 Rg7, Kh8; 27 Qh4, Kg7; 28 Qh7, Kf8; 29 Qh8, Ke7; 30 Qg7, Ke8; 31 Qg8, Ke7; 32 Qf7, Kd8; 33 Qf8, Qe8; 34 Nf7, Kd7; 35 Qd6.

The game provides a beautiful nimbus for this chess immortal.



*This memorial stone marks the grave of Wilhelm Steinitz in Brooklyn's Evergreen cemetery.*



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16-17 Alameda: 2nd Spring Open (G'Acha)  
23-24 San Jose: San Jose State U. Spring (Sierra)  
29-1 San Jose: National High School Team Championships (Goichberg)

### MAY

7-8 Burlingame: 3rd Annual Amateur Chpshp (Rosenbaum)  
14-15 Sacramento: Sacramento Championship (Open) (Gordon)  
14-15 San Jose: 1st Bellarmine Open (Henry)  
28-30 Sunnyvale: LERA Memorial Day Class (Hurt)

### JUNE

4-5 Fresno: San Joaquin Championship (Quarve)  
11-12 Berkeley: Class Struggle (Lazarus)  
17-19 San Francisco: Stamer Memorial (Goodall)  
25-26 Monterey: Monterey Open (Tentative) (Yudacufski)

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16-17 Sacramento: Sacramento Cheap Open (Gordon)  
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