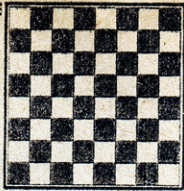


chess

by richard shorman



A favorite contention of mine is that chess talent blossoms independently of practical playing strength. Sometimes the two go together, but more often one lags perceptively behind the other, catching up only occasionally when ideal conditions prevail.

Thus, a successful tournament chessplayer who achieves a high official rating may display less creativity over the board than an objectively weaker player who lacks technique but bristles with fresh ideas.

Observe in the game below that Black's opportunity for launching a mating attack against the enemy King occurs right on the heels of his own inadvertent positional misjudgment (7...Q-N3).

White: Grant Metcalf. Black: Harry Radke.

Lockheed Open, Class C.

Sunnyvale, Oct. 1, 1967.

Queen's Pawn Opening.

1 P-Q4	N-KB3	10 NxB	N-Q5
2 N-KB3	P-K3	11 Q-Q3 (f)	NxPch (g)
3 B-N5	B-K2	12 K-K2 (h)	QxPch
4 QN-Q2	P-B4	13 K-Q1	N/5-K6ch
5 P-K4 (a)	PxP	14 QxN (i)	NxQch
6 NxP	N-B3	15 K-B1	Q-K8ch
7 N/4-B3 (b)	Q-N3 (c)	16 K-N2	QxNch
8 P-QN3 (d)	N-KN5 (e)	17 K-R3	N-B7ch
9 Q-K2	BxB	18 K-R4 (j)	Q-N5mate

(a) Premature. He can play 5 PxP and if 5...BxP follow up with 6 N-K4 B-K2*7 BxN, wrecking Black's castling chances. Also sufficient is simply 5 P-B3.

(b) This unmitigated retreat must have been the inducement for Black's hyperactive reply.

(c) Whether calculated risk or positional blunder, the tone is outright aggression.

(d) Two meek moves in a row and the sparks start to fly. White can stop Black in his tracks with 8 N-B4! Q-B2 9 BxN, and Black must disrupt his Pawn formation or forfeit castling after 9...BxB 10 N-Q6ch.

(e) The first in a series of forcing moves that seals White's doom.

(f) Material losses are unavoidable, but stiffer resistance is possible after 11 QxN NxPch 12 K-Q1 NxR.

(g) A brilliant stroke. Now White gets checkmated.

(h) If 12 QxN, then 12...QxPch 13 K-Q1 N-K6ch turns the trick.

(i) His majesty cannot run away: 14 K-B1 Q-K8ch 15 K-N2 QxR mate.

(j) If White still needs convincing after 18 K-N2, then 18...NxR! should do it.

* 6...NxN 7 BxQ BxPmate!

Rapid Transit Tournament

The Hayward Chess Club, 2058 D St., will conduct its second rapid transit tournament Monday, Oct. 30, at 8 p.m. Monthly winner receives a certificate. Player with most certificates at end of year wins a trophy and title of club rapid transit champion. Entry fee is only 35c a tournament.