

# SACRAMENTO CHESS NEWS

Volume II, Issue 5

5425 8th Ave., Sacramento 17

May 25, 1951

Now that our tournament is over, and warm weather has arrived, our Club attendance is dropping off a bit. Wonder what happened to Jim Marianos, he hasn't been around for weeks. Also miss Doc Yuke, Steve Spaulding, Earl Waters, Sprague, just to mention a few. The next club meeting night is on May 30, Memorial Day. If you have rested up sufficiently by evening, how about dropping down to the Club and renewing your old friendships? Chapman, Carey, Young, Cartier and Trousdale haven't been seen lately either.

A group of Sacramento players journeyed to San Francisco to play in the East Bay vs. San Francisco match last Saturday. A report on this is in here, by Austin.

The North-South match is the next chessic event on our horizon. We Northerners have an extra win over the South for permanent possession of a perpetual trophy. We only need to win this year, and it is ours. Here's hoping. Players from here are Meyer, Austin, Stagg, Czapski, Kozen, and Gee who plan on attending this year. A report in full will be in our next News, by Austin.

We are happy to report to our readers that a new chess-paper is being published now in San Francisco. It's going to be a big boost to SF chess, we are sure. The official name is "The California Chess Reporter", @ 15¢ per copy or \$1.00 per year. It is published by the Northern California Chess Association (of which the Sacto Club is a minority member) and is edited by Dr. H. J. Ralston, 184 Edgewood Ave., San Francisco 17. Our Sacramento representative for the paper is Neil Austin. Now for gosh sakes let's all get a dollar sent in pronto and help this paper along. I have a copy before me of the June issue, which was put out in one day - no less. It is chock-full of interesting news, and has the game scores of the first 12 games in the Botvinnik-Bronstein world championship match (which ended in a draw, if you haven't hear, and Botvinnik retains his title). We made the point to the Editor that it is our firm believe that most readers will want to see San Francisco game scores - we get the national ones in every other magazine. We follow that policy in our own paper - perhaps lots of games are plain lousy, or filled with mistakes, but at least they are ours and that is the purpose of our publication. I don't know where you can get a better value in chess for two dollars: \$1 for the Sacramento Chess News, and \$1 for the California Chess Reporter. Lets all support it!!

We are happy to report a \$5 subscription-contribution from the Fresno Chess Club. Thanks, Fresno. We are advised from them that their annual chess tournament is finished, with Dr. Herbert Kallman the winner. Second place is a three-way tie with Leo Legler, Dr. C. W. Bird and Maurice Worden (Worden was once a member of the Sacto Club, and is a fine player). The tournament was conducted on a regular round robin basis. Fresno further advises "The news certainly is more pertinent to us than that of any other chess publication. Keep up the good work!" We will!

## THE CHESS DIAGRAM

by Flynn

Solution to #19 (in last issue) is, of course, 5. N-B6ch, and the Black Queen goes off the board, no matter what.

Since nobody seems to want to take over this department, perhaps it is just as well to drop it, at least for a while. My original idea was that we should have one chess position to solve in each issue--just to keep us on our toes for combinational possibilities. Of course, we get much the same thing by playing over the games we publish. I thought I'd handle "The Chess Diagram" for a year and by that time someone else would get interested--but it didn't work out that way. Perhaps we can revive the feature later--I'm still convinced it was a good idea, but then, I've been wrong before.

San Francisco vs. East Bay  
by Neil Austin

Mechanics Institute was the scene of a 31 board match between the San Francisco and East Bay teams on Saturday night, May 19. Even with the assistance of several Central California players, East Bay was unable to stall the S. F. Power, and succumbed  $19\frac{1}{2} - 11\frac{1}{2}$ .

Central California supplied 14 boards, of which 5 were from Sacramento. Sacramento was able to score but  $1\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{2}$ , Ralph Stagg and J. B. Gee scoring our only points. The Central California aggregation scored 6 - 8. Praiseworthy showings were made by Bill Adams of San Jose with a fine win at 3rd board, and by J. B. Gee, who drew with the ever dangerous A. B. Stamer at 7th board.

	<u>San Francisco</u>		<u>East Bay</u>	
1. Bagby	$\frac{1}{2}$		Falconer	$\frac{1}{2}$
2. Fink	1		McClain	0
3. Konkel	0		Adams (SJ)	1
4. Pafnutieff	1		Ledgerwood	0
5. Pruner	1		Trenbarth	0
6. Ralston	$\frac{1}{2}$		Eudey	$\frac{1}{2}$
7. Stamer, A. B.	$\frac{1}{2}$		Gee (Sac)	$\frac{1}{2}$
8. Gross	1		Czapski (Sac)	0
9. Schmitt	1		Hultgren	0
10. Radaiken	0		Sedlack	1
11. Popoff	1		Hendricks	0
12. Byron	1		Bean	0
13. Svalberg	1		Meyer (Sac)	0
14. Willson	1		Kalnins (SJ)	0
15. Leeds	0		Ruys	1
16. Loewy	1		Austin (sac)	0
17. Federoff	0		Freeman	1
18. Currie	1		Cuneo	0
19. Palmin	$\frac{1}{2}$		Kirby (SJ)	$\frac{1}{2}$
20. Maxwell	1		Crofut (SJ)	0
21. Rosebaum	1		Davis (Mod)	0
22. Edelstein	0		Malig (SJ)	1
23. Linklater	1		Mattingly (Stk)	0
24. Arvidson	1		Fredgren	0
25. Russ	1		Polhammer	0
26. Tomakoff	0		Wood (SJ)	1
27. Schaller	$\frac{1}{2}$		Hoffer	$\frac{1}{2}$
28. Sloan	1		King, A.	0
29. King, H.	0		Olvera (Pitts)	1
30. Bergtraum	0		Stagg (Sac)	1
31. Ehrlich	0		Wohn	1
	$19\frac{1}{2}$			$11\frac{1}{2}$

From the above match: Gee vs Stamer: 1 P-K4 P-K4 2. N-KB3 N-QB3 3. B-B4 B-B4  
4. P-QN4 BxP 5. P-B3 B-Q3 6. P-Q4 N-B3 7. QN-Q2 O-O 8. O-O P-KR3 9. B-N2 R-K  
10. R-K N-KR2 11. B-Q5 P-QN4 12. Pxp B-B4 13. N-N3 Q-K2 14. N/N3-Q4 B-N2 15. Nxp?  
QR-B 16. N/5-Q4 Nxp! 17. NxN QxN 18. BxB R-N 19. P-KB4 Q-K2 20. Q-N3 B-N3  
21. B-R3 Q-Q 22. P-K5 RxB 23. Q-Q5 R-N 24. K-R P-B3 25. Q-B3 BxN 26. PxB Q-R4  
27. B-Q6 R-N7 28. R-K2 R-N4 Draw.

Note to San Jose - we'd like a copy of Adams' game score in above match to publish. How about sending it to us, along with scores of games in your current championship? And any other reader is welcome to send in game scores - and also urged to do so.

## COMMENTS

by Flynn

Congratulations to Ralph "Sharp-Eye" Stagg on winning the Lightning Tourney. With the 8 entrants involved, it was no mean accomplishment. But the next week, down at the Saddle Rock Restaurant Ralph was in even better form, with his stirring rendition of "The Union Forever, ta, da, da, ta, da.....So we'll rally 'round the flag, boys...ta, da, da, ta, da." Yours truly and J. B. Gee helped him out to the best of our ability and the whole thing made a lot of noise if not entirely musical. What with our chess games and our singing, we put a little Forty-Niner life in that end of the town.

Sam Johnson has some good ideas on running tourneys in classes--so a fellow will get to play opponents of approximately his own strength. I think he has written it up and possibly Editor Gee will have it in this issue. Neil Austin also thinks we'll have to do something like that in our next City Championship--if only to protect the Northern California ratings of our top men.

C. G. "Tiny" Howell, a fellow railroader of mine, has come down to the club. "Tiny" has played chess for years, but never in any organization. After he gets used to different styles of play, he is going to be a difficult man to handle in a chess game. "Tiny" would like to get a set of rules of the game. In his travels, he has found different "house" rules here and there, and he'd like to get it straight once and for all. Doesn't the U. S. Chess Federation publish a "Rules of Chess"?

I have been meeting Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gray over at the Cinema Club recently. We forget all about the moving pictures and talk chess. Mrs. Gray is also a chess player, and Gene is of course one of our best members--drives clear over from Woodland to play.

Did any of you hear about the fisticuffs between Reshevsky and Najdorf in Europe several months ago? Despite his diminutive size and glasses, Reshevsky is supposed to have been the victor. Maybe Sammy is in the wrong business. With Botvinnik in there, he can't seem to win the chess championship. Now if he were to go into the prizefight game, all he'd have to conquer in the lightweight class would be Ike Williams. On second thought, Sammy, you'd better stick to chess. As Austin told me one time when I was talking about playing basketball, "George, you haven't got the physique for it."

The Fresno Club is backing up our magazine strongly. By the way, I owe Fresno a little apology for tacking the name "Mudhens" on them, after the terrific shellacking they gave us this year. You see, I lived in Fresno for years and used to hunt mudhens West of town. Those mudhens were plenty tough and hard to hit, which is exactly what the Fresno chessplayers seemed like to me. But we'll think of a better name next time.

Some of you members who haven't been getting down to meetings don't know what you're missing. Things are just starting to get lively at the club, and at the Travellers Hotel afterwards. Already, we've had two events (Intra-club Match & Lightning Tourney) since the City Championship ended. And R. E. Russell plans more to come.

Ken Chambers, who wrote the article on the Santa Barbara Open Championship, under-rates himself. I was the one who was lucky to draw with him in the 1950 North-South Match. Ken has already beaten me one correspondence game, by means of a nice opening combination. And he has me on the hip in a second one. Well, I don't feel too bad. Ken started at Board 4 or 5 for Palo Alto this year, and eventually worked up to playing Board 1. We won a couple of match games sitting in that lonely position--on Board 1, you just haven't got anybody ahead of you. And you run into the best the other team has got. Ken's annotations are very witty--they remind me of Santasiere in the "American Chess Bulletin." I hope we hear more from him in future issues.

## TOURNAMENTS

### Director R. E. Russell

The Speed Championship Tourney was run off May 9, eight players contesting. The winner turned up in person of Ralph Stagg, a mild surprise, though Ralph is well known to be a prime advocate of sharp offensive tactics. Much credit is due since the field was a strong one. An oddity turned up in the fact of Major E. Czapski (co-starting favorite with J. B. Gee) defeating the top five to finish but drawing (wrong Bishop and RP down) number seven and losing to number eight. This points up the fact of sharper contention than the scores may indicate.

The tourney ran off quite smoothly, Russell being ably assisted by E. Horton, and we plan to hold more of this kind in the future. The complete result follows:

1. R. Stagg	W8	W5	L2	W4	W6	W7	W3	6	-	1
2. E. Czapski	W3	D7	W1	W6	W5	W4	L8	5½	-	1½
3. J. B. Gee	L2	W4	W8	W5	W7	W6	L1	5	-	2
4. S. G. Johnson	W6	L3	W7	L1	W8	L2	W5	4	-	3
5. N. T. Austin	W7	L1	W6	L3	L2	W8	L4	3	-	4
6. R. McDonald	L4	W8	L5	L2	L1	L3	W7	2	-	5
7. J. Hardy	L5	D2	L4	W8	L3	L1	L6	1½	-	5½
8. N. Talcott	L1	L6	L3	L7	L4	L5	W2	1	-	6

In an intra-club match held May 2, the "Knights" gave the "Bishops" a thin evening. Led by J. B. Gee, the Knights racked up 4½ points at the six boards, in following fashion: Gee spreadeagled S. G. Johnson in a short, sharp massacre; Major E. Czapski proved a N sacrifice quite sound against R. E. Russell; N. Talcott succumbed to N. T. Austin (the lone bright spot) J. Hardy beat Gray; newcomer Spitak drew vs. R. McDonald and S. S. Kozen prevailed over J. Hastings. Sides were chosen by lot, perhaps not the surest way of securing even matches but the games were well contested and, most important, enjoyed by all. Other matches of this kind will be held periodically. Too, Team Captain Neil Austin stands ready to arrange Challenge Ladder matches.

Intra-club match, Johnson vs Gee: 1. P-Q4 P-K4? 2. PxP N-QB3 3. P-KB4 B-B4 4. N-KB3 P-B3 5. PxP NxP 6. P-K3 O-O 7. B-B4ch P-Q4 8. B-N5 R-K 9. BxN PxB 10. N-K5 B-R3 11. K-B2 N-K5ch 12. K-B3 RxN 13. PXR Q-Bch 14. K-N4 B-Bch 15. K-R4 B-K2ch 16. K-R5 P-N3 mate!

### SAN JOSE NEWS

The membership of the San Jose "Y" Chess club has started their annual club tournament with three sections. The winner of the A section will be the club champion. In the A section, Bill Adams is in his usual form with five straight wins. George Kirby is in second place with a score of 4 to 1. Bert Mueller, who was a sure bet to place either first or second is off to a bad start with four losses and one win. The score to date follows: Adams 5-0, Kirby 4-1, Kalnins 3½-2½, McCarty 2-1, Mueller 1-4, Malig 1-0, Crofut ½-4½, Gazse 0-3, Daugherty 0-2.

In Class B, five very evenly matched players may wind up in any position. Innocenti and Pphlhammer are leading with two wins each and no losses. Wood 2-1, Miller 1-2, and VanHooser 0-2 will still be in the fight at the finish as the games have barely started.

The Class C players have played more games than the others and it looks as if Earnest Rideout is away with first prize with his six wins. Lee Cox is in a safe second place with 4½-1½, then follow Lima 3-1, James 3-3, Mercer 1½-2½, Lundberg 0-4, and this season's team captain Burbidge also with a zer score 0-2.

Each section is a double round robin. The games are not scheduled so that each player has not played the same number of games except at the end of the tournament which will be at the end of June.

Word has been received from Dr. Ralston that the new ratings of the Northern Calif. players will include promotions for at least three San Jose players. Muebler into Expert Class, Daugherty into Class A, and VanHooser into Class A, as a result of their scores in the team matches. These three had no losses in six matches.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHESS RATINGS  
as of May 1, 1951

Following is presented the second revised version of Northern California Chess Ratings, as of May 1, 1951.

A number of important tournaments have been held since the ratings of Dec. 1, 1950 were published. The data used in compiling the present list include:

Central California Chess League matches.  
S. F. Bay Area Chess League matches, A and B divisions.  
Pacific Invitational Tournament.  
San Francisco Open tournament.  
Sacramento City Championship tournament.  
San Jose Chess Club Expert Class, Class A, Class, Class C tournaments.  
Records sent by individual players.  
Recommendations made by club officials.

A number of names have been dropped from the list, because of inactivity during the past year. Such names have been placed on the inactive list.

Many new names have been added.

Mr. Neil Austin of Sacramento and Mr. Francis Crofut of San Jose deserve special mention for the carefully prepared records which they have sent to the rating committee. Such records are indispensable for preparation of an adequate rating list.

All communications concerning ratings should be sent to H. J. Ralston, 184 Edgewood Ave., San Francisco 17.

International Master  
George Koltanowski

National Master  
A. J. Fink

Master

Charles Bagby  
Leslie Boyette  
Carroll Capps  
Neil Falconer

J. B. Gee  
Henry Gross  
Wade Hendricks  
W. G. McClain

Walter Pafnutieff  
Earl Pruner  
H. J. Ralston

Expert

W. T. Adams  
Francis Crofut  
M. C. Jackson  
K. Lanckin  
M. E. Mattingly  
James Myers  
Peter Prokoodin  
Frank Ruys  
Chester Stamer  
L. Woolfe

N. T. Austin  
Russell Freeman  
Robert Konkell  
A. Loera  
M. O. Meyer  
Fred Pelouze  
V. Radaikin  
Charles Sedlack  
A. J. Stobbe

Sam Bean  
Ralph Hultgren  
S. S. Kozen  
Paul Lynch  
E. H. Mueller  
Boris Popoff  
R. E. Russell  
Jerry Slavich  
H. Strob

Class A

H. P. Betker  
C. Bird  
Alan Bourke  
A. R. Chapman  
K. M. Colby  
R. Cuneo  
Robert Currie

George Flynn  
R. Goudswaard  
M. Hailpern  
N. Henwood  
A. Johnson  
H. Kellman  
J. Kalnins

Herbert Rosenbaum  
Thomas Sloap  
C. J. Smith  
Ralph Stagg  
J. Torczyner  
Paul Traum  
Robert Trenberth

E. Czapski  
E. T. Dana  
L. H. Daugherty  
L. E. Davis  
J. Dienstag  
Fred Dong  
Harold Edelstein

W. H. Allen  
R. Baker  
I. Beck  
Stanley Behrends  
E. Bergstraun  
James Berry  
A. Castellanos  
R. W. Brown  
K. Chambers  
S. Cheslavsky  
Foster Clark  
C. J. Cook  
Peter Dahl  
Herbert Dasteel Sr.  
M. Davenport  
J. M. David-Malig  
V. Digant  
C. Erickson  
T. Fries  
Mrs. J. B. Ford  
K. Forrest  
G. Garcia  
Mark Gazse  
O. Goldsmith  
David Hardy  
J. H. Hastings  
W. Hazz  
C. Heynen

S. Acquaviva  
L. Bennett  
A. Buerer  
Arthur Burbidge  
Lee Cox  
Mrs. J. M. David-Malig  
F. Drew  
S. Escobar  
J. Glover  
Mrs. F. Gorgi  
G. Gray  
J. Hallett  
R. Hanley

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Class A con[d]

Henry King  
H. S. King  
P. Lang  
G. Lutz  
George Oakes  
F. Olvera  
N. Renaud

Class B

Luc Huang  
P. T. Hubbard  
Neil Hultgren  
Carl Huneke  
W. J. Jarvis  
E. Jeffers  
L. H. Kerfoot  
R. Kingery  
G. A. Kirby  
L. Kiroff  
O. J. Kline  
M. Kerchet  
L. Krogness  
Ed. Labrie  
R. Lansing  
W. Ledoux  
L. Legler  
Wm. Loney  
B. Louie  
Stanley MacCarty  
E. E. Madden  
H. S. Menger  
J. T. Marianos  
W. H. Maxey  
R. McDonald  
J. L. Miller  
Howard O'Shaughnessy  
A. Palmin

Class C

J. Hardy  
K. Hubbard  
Glen Hultgren  
Elmo Innocenti  
C. A. Iverson  
Harry James  
Eric Kastel  
R. Klug  
Mrs. I. Lewis  
Richard Lundberg  
F. Mahalek  
E. Majors  
Alex Mercer

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S. A. Van Gelder  
George Van Hooser  
F. Weinberg  
C. R. Wilson  
G. Wong  
E. H. Yaggie

R. H. Parkhurst  
H. E. Paul  
T. Prentice  
Ralph Rickard  
M. Radaikin  
Victor Ricketts  
M. A. Sanders  
Lloyd Saxton  
Soren Stlosed  
S. E. Spaulding  
Les Talcott  
N. E. Talcott  
Mrs. E. Thompson  
A. Tokmakoff  
A. Trippell  
J. Vaughn  
O. Vercerek  
Primo Villarruz  
V. Vishnevsky  
S. Wakefield  
E. Weed  
R. Wente  
P. H. Wildhofer  
Howard Wood  
Phillips Wyman  
D. J. Yuke

H. Mortenson  
T. Mortenson  
G. Oliver  
A. Pilhiard  
Larry Riehle  
Scott Sampson  
Mrs. Isabel Saxton  
Betty Smith  
Mrs. C. J. Smith  
W. Smith  
Mrs. L. Smyers  
R. Tuson  
E. Waters

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