

Dec 9, 1992

‘If I didn’t have chess, I’d probably be reading books eight hours a day.’

Young Peninsula chess star making all the right moves

BY KEN HEIMAN
Special to the Mercury News

While most kids Jordy Mont-Reynaud's age are deciding what video game to play on their home entertainment systems, Jordy is carefully considering whether he should take his opponent's bishop with his rook or sacrifice his knight to better position himself for the next move.

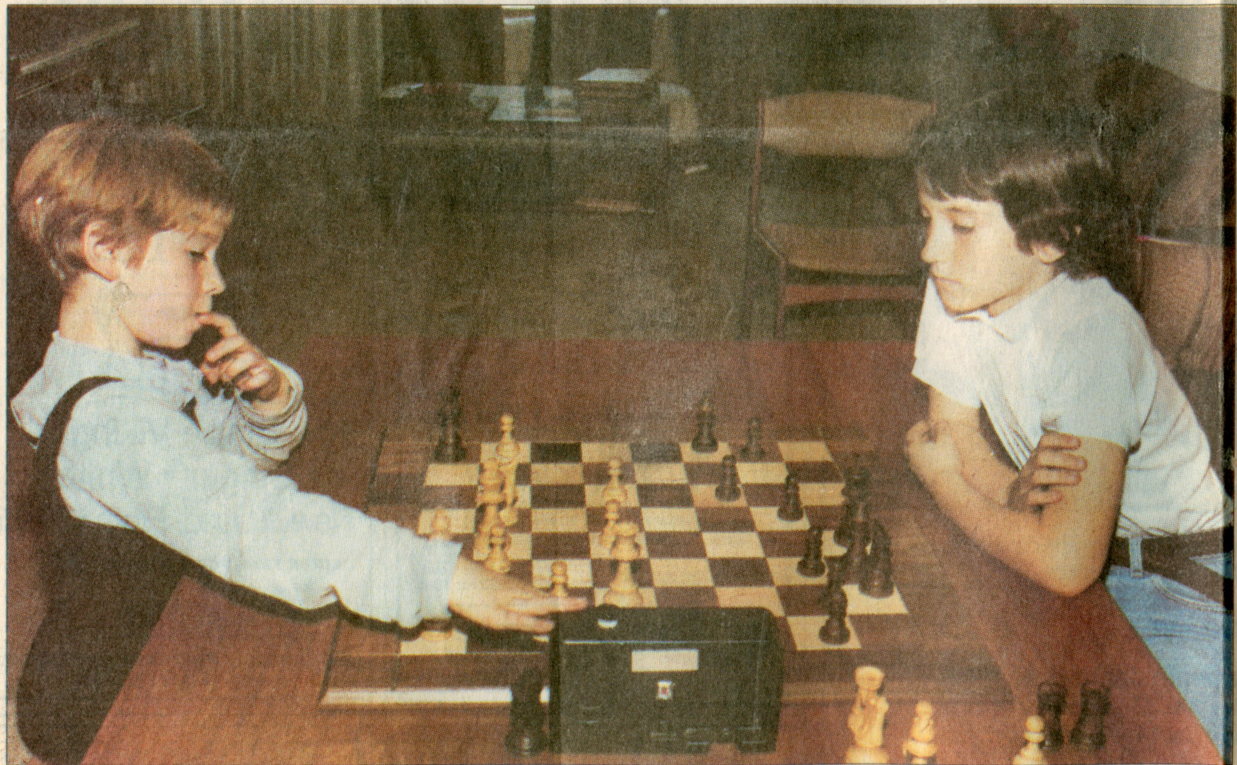
Then again, it would be rather difficult for Jordy to play a video game: There is no television in the Mont-Reynaud household.

Indeed, it would be hard to find a place to put a television in Jordy's Stanford home since much of the bookshelf space is occupied by more than two dozen chess tournament trophies the prodigious 9-year-old has won over the

past two years.

“Actually, I think I learn more when I lose a chess match,” Jordy said, showing a wisdom beyond his years. “I learn about the mistakes I made and what my opponent did to take advantage of me. If you win all the time, you don't learn as much because you say to yourself, ‘Everything's OK,’ and

See **CHESS**, Page 2



PHOTOS BY THU LY — MERCURY NEWS

Jordy Mont-Reynaud ponders a move, above, and plays a five-minute chess game with his sister, Mari Jo, 7, at left. When Jordy was 5, his

father taught him how to play because he wanted a chess partner. By the time Jordy was 7½, he could beat his father at the game.