# California Chess Journal 530 530 530 530 530

**★**THE ONLY SOURCE OF CURRENT AND COMPLETE INFORMATION ON NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHESS★



Jordy Mont-Reynaud, 10, becomes the youngest USCFrated master in U.S. history, breaking Fischer's record

LERA Thanksgiving **Tournament** 

> San Francisco Bay Open

U.S. Game-in-15 Championship

CalChess Winterfest

**LERA Spring Swiss** 

annotations by GM Walter Browne, FM Craig Mar and much more ...

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Volume 8, Number 2
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#### **EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

We're entering a very busy season of chess in Northern California. If you want to watch strong masters make beautiful moves, try to get to the Dunfey Hotel in San Mateo before the end of April to catch the Region XI International Tournament in the Atlanta room. If you want to experience the ambience of the largest chess tournament ever held in the United States, visit the San Jose Civic Auditorium May 6-8early projections are that the 1994 National Elementary Championship will attract over 1500 participants. Big money players will travel to the National Open In Vegas on April 30: Players who prefer high-quality local tournaments will stay home and enjoy the Livermore Open April 30-May 1 at Dania Hall in Livermore.

A new San Francisco tournament debuts May 14, the S. F. Sectionals. The Fresno Club is continuing their highly-successful San Joaquin Valley Championship on May 21-22, at St. Agnes Hospital in Fresno, expecting another record entry this year. Then LERA for Memorial Day, and in June the second Davis Summer Sectionals, and the Stamer, leading up to the Sacramento Open on July 2-4, at the Red Lion in Sacramento.

Down the road some new things are on the calendar. Mike Goodall

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#### CalChess

P. O. Box 3294 Hayward, CA 94544 is holding Northern California's first theme opening tournament, a King's Gambit tournament, at the Mechanics' Institute in August.

Personal notes: Long-time Northern California top master Erik Osbun has earned the title of International Master of Correspondence Chess. John Blackstone is back in Northern California and looking for a game! And he is even bringing C. Bill Jones out of retirement, and Art Wang came back to score two points in the North/ South match. Former Aslan Junior Champ IM Ricardo de Guzrnan is here on a six-month visa. Canadian IM Tom O'Donnell is back, at least temporarily. Jordy and Alan Stein better watch out, there are some new pawnslingers in town!

This April/May issue marks the second of this volume, skipping March, so bear with our overworked staff as we take a much-needed breather for personal reasons. We may only issue five magazines this calendar year, but every member will be extended for two months, so that everyone will get at least six issues of the magazine and fourteen month of discounts at CalChess tournaments and members-only discounts at Games of Berkeley on books and equipment. Next issue: full coverage of the great Northern victory in the North/South match, the People's tournament, the National Elementary, the Norcals, the Region XI Women's Championship and much more... -CMW

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# 1994 CalChess WINTERFEST by SM Thomas Wolski, NM Alan Stein, and NM Gene Levin

CalChess` 1994 Winterfest, held at the Quality Villa Hotel in San Mateo on Martin Luther King weekend, January 15-17, brought 173 of Northern California's best competitors together for three-and-a-half full days of chess action.

When the smoke cleared in the main tournament, there was a three-way tie for first among Masters **Thomas Wolski**, the reigning Southern California Invitational Champion, now a student at UC Santa Cruz, **Renard Anderson** of Aptos, and **Alan Stein** of Los Altos, all with 4.5 points.

They were pursued by SM Burt Izu-mikawa, NM Vitaly Kanzaveli, and Mike E. Janniro, with 4.

The Expert prize was won in grand style by Hayward Champion **Rahim Gran**, with 5, besting the hard-charging trio of **Enoch J. Cruz**, **Mark Gagnon**, and **Jordy Mont-Reynaud**.

Brian Jew took top honors in the "A" Section, raising his rating on the USCF computer to 2066. His four wins and two draws put him half-a-point ahead of Vergel Dalusung, Michael Don Jones, and Jim Uren.

The top prize in the "B" section was split three ways among Virak Lun, Walter Lesquillier, and Jamie L. Perkins, all with 4.5 points. The crowded field with 4 points included Greg Hamer, Jonathan Baker, Hans Poschmann, Francisco Carrillo, Edward B. Cortez, and Joseph Ferrante.

Christopher Fillius roared through the "C" Section, scoring 5.5 points, a full point ahead of Francisco Cayetano, James J. Butler, Stephen Croft, and Ed Auerbach, all with 4.5 points.

Top "D/E" went to **Branden Robinson**, a future star whose progress will be deferred until he finishes a stint in the U.S. Air Force. Second was **Julio Lima**, with 5, third-fifth were **Berry L. Manis, Martin Cortinas**, and **Michael Sherrard**, all with 4.5.

The All-Master Blitz tournament on Friday night was won by **Ron Cusi** and **Richard Lobo**, with 10.5 out of 14.

Mike Splane's "Beat the Master" simultaneous exhibition was won by Mike the Master with 23.5 points out of 24. Only **John Meadows** succeeded in avoiding defeat at the hands of Splane. A considerable feat!

The tournament was directed by Carolyn Withgitt, Julie Regan, and Tom Dorsch, with the assistance of John Johnson.

White:SM Thomas Wolski (2400) Black: FM Viktor Pupols (2336) French Defense (C05)

Annotated by SM Thomas Woiski

# 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. c3 Nc6 7. Ndf3 Qb6 8. h4 Be7 9. a3 a5 10. h5 f5?!

It is hard for Black to generate counterplay without ... fó. I expected 10... hó 11. Ne2.

#### 11. Ne2 cd4 12. cd4 Qd8 13. Nc3 Nb6 14. Bd3

This was a good time to play 14. b3! a4 15. b4, when only one black knight can reach an active post.

#### 14...Bd7 15. Kf2

In retrospect, I wish I would have played 15. Ke2, but it was nearly impossible to know where the king would be safer.

#### 15...0-0

Black cannot yet play 15...a4? since 16. Bc2 wins a pawn.

#### 16. Qg1!?

The idea of attacking on the kingside is correct, but I probably should have slowed Black's queenside expansion with 16. b3 Rc8 17. Nb5 (or 17. Bd2 a4? 18. Na4) a4 18. b4 Qe8 19. Qe2 Nc4? 20. Bc4 dc4 21. Nc3 and d5 will soon give White an edge. On the other hand, 16. Be3?! a4 17. Bc2 Na5 18. Na4? Nac4 19. Nb6 Nb2! 20. Qe2 Qb6 21. Rhb1 Ra3 22. Ra3 Ba3 23. Bc1 Bb5 24. Qe1 Qc6 wins for Black.

#### 16...a4 17. g4 Na5 18. gf5 ef5 19. Qa2

The exchange of the g-pawn for the e-pawn has three advantages for White: a) White has a strong protected passed pawn on e5, b) the half-open g-file gives White a road to Black's king, and c) Black's isolated d5-pawn now needs support by pieces.

#### 19...Nb3

Another—maybe better—continuation for Black is 19...Rc8 20. Be3 Nac4 21. Rag1 Rf7 22. Bc1 Na3 23. Rh3, with some pressure for the pawn, but Black seems to hold after 23... Nac4 24. Rg3 Qf8 25. Ng5 Bg5 26. Rg5 Be6. In any case, Black's straightforward plan on the queenside has given him sufficient counterplay.

20. Rb1 Rc8 21. Be3 Rf7

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Black sidesteps 21...Ba3? 22. Rhg1 Qe7 23. Ng5 Bb4 24. Nd5 Nd5 25. Qd5 Kh8 26. Bc4, with a strong attack for White.

#### 22. Rbg1 h6l

Bl;ack prevents Ng5, even though the text move weakens g6.

#### 23. Rh31

The only move to improve White's position.

#### 23...Rc6!

After 23...Ba3 24. Rg3 Bf8 (Qe7? 25. e6! Be6 26. Ne5 wins for White) 25. Rg6 Rc6 26. Rc6 bc6 27. Qg6 and 28.Qh6, White keeps attacking.

#### 24. Rg3 Bf8 25. Rg6 Qc81?

Black has defended well and now threatens to get into White's position by means of an exchange sac on c3.

#### 26. e6!

Approaching the time control at move 30, I decided to play active.

#### 26...Re6

Not 26...Be6 27. Ne5

#### 27. Ne5

My first intention had been 27. Bf5?, which loses to Re3. Also 27. Re6 Be6 28. Ne5 Rf6 promises White little.

#### 27...Re5

Rfe7 28. Nd5 is horrible for Black.

#### 28, fe5?

I should have tried 28. de5 d4 29. Rb6 de3 30. Ke1 Ba3 31. Qb7, with a White advantage.

#### 28...f4!

By now I wished my king was on e2.

#### 29. Rb6 fe3 30. Ke3 Bf5

After the game Pupols suggested 30...Nd4!? as an improvement which was hard to risk in time trouble. Now 31. Rh6 Nf5 32. Bf5 Bc5 33. Kd2 is unclear, but 31...Bf5 looks better to me. White should play 31. Qg6! Bf5 32. Bf5 Nf5 33. Kd2 Bc5? 34. e6; or if 31...Nf5, then after 32. Kd2, White has enough resources due to the threat e6.

#### 31. Qd5 Bd3 32. Kd3 Qf5 33. Ne41?

I did not want to enter any unclear position like 33. Qe4 Qh3, when Black's part is much easier to play.

# 33...Qf3 34. Kc2 Qe2 35. Kb1 Qe4 36. Qe4 Nd2 37. Kc2 Ne4 38. Kd3

I evaluated this ending as won due tot he strong connected passers and the more active White pieces. White does not bother to take the irrelevant h-pawn with 38. Rh6? Rd7 39. Kd3 Nf2 40. Ke3 (better is 40. Ke2! Nh3 41. Rg4 Rd4, which may eventually win for White) 40...Nd1!

#### 38...Ng5 39. Rc1! Nh3 40. Rc8 Nf4 41. Kc4

To avoid knight checks.

#### 41...Nh5 42. e6 Re7

Or 42...Rf1! 43. Kb5 Re1 44. d5 Nf6, and if 45. Rd6 Nd5 46. Rd5 Re6 47. Rf5 Rf6 48. Rf6 gf6, and White can easily stop the split passers. Black can improve with 45...Re5 46. Kc4 Nd5 47. Rd5 Re6 48. Rf5 Rc6, and therefore White should play 45. Rd8, and if 45...Re5, then 46. Rb7 Rd5 47. Rd5 Nd5 48. Kc4 Ne7 49. b3 ab3 50. Rb3, with a decisive White advantage.

#### 43, d5 Nf4?

After 43...Nf6!, White's task is much more difficult, since 44. d6? Re6 45. d7 Re4! 46. Kd3 Nd7 clearly favors Black. But after 44. Rb8 g5 45. R6b7 Rb7 46. Rb7 h5 47. Rf7 Ne8 48. Kd4, White is for choice.

#### 44. dól Reó 45. d7 Re4 46. Kc3 Re3

Or 46...Nd5 47. Kd3 Nb6 48. Rf8 Kf8 49. d8(Q) Re8 50. Qb6 is an easy win for White.

47. Kc2 Rd3 48. d8(Q) Rd8 49. Rd8 h5 50. Rb7 h4 51. Rb4 g5 52. Rd4 Ne6

Or 52...h3 53. Rf4 gf4 54. Rd2, winning.

53. Rd2 Kf7 54. b4 Kg6 55. Ra6 Kf5 56. Ra8 Bg7 57. b5 Nd4 58. Rd4 Bd4 59. Kd3, and White won the sudden-death time trouble. 1-0

White: Alan Stein Black: Vitaly Kanzaveli Alekhine's Defense (B05)

Annotated by Alan Stein

#### 1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. d4 d6 4. Nf3 Bg4 5. Be2 c6

BCO 2 now gives three moves: 6.0-0, 6.c4, and 6.Ng5, its main line.

6. 0-0 Bf3 7. Bf3 de5 8. de5 e6 9. c4 Ne7 10. Qe2 Qc7 11. b3?

The correct move is 11. Bd2.

#### 11...Nd7 12. Re1 Ng6 13. Bh5!

Making the best of a bad situation. 13. Bb2 Bb4 is unacceptable, as Black wins a pawn with no difficulties. The text move causes great complications should Black decide on immediate action. Black can avoid complications by 13...0-0-0, 13...Be7, or 13...Bc5.

#### 13...Bb4 14. Bd2 Bd2 15. Nd2 Nde5 16. f4

White must play for complications. Now, on 16...Nd7 17.f5 Nf4 White has: a) 18.Qf3? 0-0! and Black keeps the advantage. b) 18. Bf7! Kf7 19. fe6 Kg8 20. Qf2 Nf6 21. Ne4 Ne4 22. Re4, with the edge; for example, 22...Ng6 23. Rd1 Qe7 24. Rd7 Rf8 25. Re7 Rf2 26. Rb7 Rf8 27. Ra7 or 27. Rd4!?, with the better game.

#### 16... N/4I 17. Qe5 Qe5 18. Re5 0-0-0I

I hadn't realized this would attack my knight. After some thought, I decided that I had to enter further complexities. On 17...0-0-

#### California Chess Journal • April/May 1994 22...e5

0, White would win with 18.Nf3 f6 (18...Qe5 19. Ne5 Nh5 20. Nf7+) 19. Qc7 Kc7 20. Bf7 e5 21. g3. 19. Nf1

19. Ne4!? f6 (19...f5 20. Ng5 +-) works against 20. Re6? Ne6! (20...Nh5 21. Nd6!? Kb8 22. Nf7 Rde8 23. Rae1 Re6 24. Re6 Rf8 25. Re7 =) 21. Bg4 Kc7! (21...Kb8 22. Be6 Rhe8 23. Bf5 g6? 24. Nf6 gf5 25. Ne8 + =; 23...Rd4 = +) 22. Be6 Rhe8?! 23. Nc5 (23. Bf5? g6) b6 24. Bf7! bc5 25. Be8 =. Even better for Black is 22...Rde8! 23. Nc5 b6 24. Bf7 Re7 25. Ne6 Kb8 - +. The correct line for White is 20. Ra5! (20. Rc5? Kc7) b6 21. g3!, and White has a clear advantage. This indicates that I should have played the more active and tactically sound 19. Ne4!

#### 19...f6 20. Rc5

20. Re4 Nh5 21. g4 is refuted by 21...f5 22. Ra5 b6 21. g3. The important theme of returning the exchange to play with two pieces versus a rook is insufficient here after 21...ba5 22. gf4 Rd4; 21. Ra7 would be the only move, with a close game, though it looks like Black is equal or slightly better.

#### 20...Kc7?!

Black's disadvantage is of course his material deficit. His advantage is the superior placement and activity of his pieces. Black should use his advantage forcefully. White's rook will cause White plenty of problems without being pursued directly. One possibility here is 20...g5, with the idea of a pawn assault, beginning on the kingside.

I think the best move is 20...e5! 21. Bf3, and now Black has a difficult choice. One idea is to play for the knight maneuver Ne6-d4. This cannot be played immediately because of Bg4, so it could be prepared by the dualpurpose move 21...Kb8, also guarding the a7pawn and square, (which is reasonably important here, since Black may want to play ...b6 at some point). 21...g6 does not immediately prepare ... Ne6 (i.e., 22. g3 Ne6?! 23. Bg4 f5?? 24. Re5 Nd4 25. Bd1 + -), but it dies assist the f-pawn's advance and keeps White's rook from f5 and h5 after ... e4 if it is on a5 or c5.

A third possibility is 21...Rhe8, bringing this rook into the game and supporting the epawn's advance. Here's a typical line: 20...e5! 21. Bf3 Kb8!? 22. g3?! (22. Bc6? Rc8) Ne6 23. Ra5 Nd4 24. Bg2 (Kg2!?) b6 25. Ra4 and now after 25...f5 Black has a noticeable advantage. Improvements for White can be found, for example, 22. Ra5! Rhe8 23. Re1 Nd3 24. Rb1 b6 25. Ra4! (25. Ra3 Nb4!) e4 26. Be2 Nc5 27. Ra3 f5 28. b4 Nd7 29. c5 +-. I think that with correct play, White can withstand Black's initiative and come out ahead.

#### 21. Bf3 Kb6? 22. b4 Nd3?

#### 23. Rh5 e5 24. c5 Kb5

Black brings his king into dangerous territory. Even though I was short of time, I had no difficulty making the 30th move—time control—with a winning position, since Black's king is not going anywhere.

25. Rh4 Ka4 26. Rc4 Kb5 27. Ne3 Nf4 28. a4 Ka6 29. g3 Rd3 30. b5 Ka5 31. Re4 Nh3 32. Kg2 cb5

32...Ng5 33. Nc4 Kb4 34. Ne5 Ne4 35. Nd3 33. ab5 1-0

White: Gene Levin (2232) Black: Vladimir Andreev (2131) King's Indian Reversed (A08)

Annotated by NM Gene Levin How often in a six-round Swiss do you get TWO golden opportunities for sound queen sacs? Like two hole-in-ones in a single

did happen at the CalChess 1994 Winterfest, I blew it and missed one of them. 1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 c5 3. Bg2 Nc6 4. 0-0 e5 5. d3 Nf6 6.

round of golf, it never happens! But when it

A classical King's Indian structure, but with colors reversed.

7. c4 d4 8. Ne1 Qc7 9. Ne4 Ne4 10. Be4 Bh3 11. Ng2 0-0 12. f4 Bd6?

Now Black is in trouble. His pieces are cramped on the queenside, and his kingside has no defenders. Much better was 12...ef4, or even 12...f5.

#### 13. f5 f6 14. e3 de3?

Nbd2 Be7

This only helps to complete White's development.

#### 15. Be3 Rfd8 16. Bd5 Kh8 17. Nh41 g5

If 17...Bf1 18. Ng6 hg6 19. Qf1, and there is no defense to the mate on the h-file. A better try is 17...Ne7, but 18. Be6 still leaves White with a raging attack.

#### 18. fq6 Bf1 19. Qf1 f5 20. Qf5| Rf8 21. Bh6!!

Black will lose a piece if he captures the queen, e.g. 21...Rf5 22. g7 Qg7 23. Bg7 Kg7 24. Nf5 Kf8 25. Nd6. Instead of taking the gueen, the actual game continuation was...

21.ha

... which leads to mate in 4.

1-0

White: Gene Levin (2232) Black: Julia Tverskaya (2310) King's Indian Reversed (A08)

Annotated by NM Gene Levin

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. g3 d5 3. Bg2 c5 4. 0-0 Nc6 5. d3 g6 6. Nbd2 Bg7 7. e4 0-0 8. ed5 Nd5 9. Nc4 b5 10. Ne3 Bb7 11. a4 a6 12. Re1 e6 continued on page 6

The dark squares in Black's kingside position are vulnerable.

13. Ng4 b4 14. Bg5 Qd6 15. Rb1 h5 16. Ne3 Nb6 17. g4l hg4 18. Ng4 Na4 19. Nh6 Kh7 20. Re4l Nb2

Now the White queen is unimportant and 21.Rh4!! wins nicely. If 21...Nd1 22. Ng4 results in mate in 4. Other variations for Black at move 21 lose at least a piece. Unfortunately, I was hypnotized by 22.Nf5, trying to win the black queen, instead of 22.Ng4, and, since my own queen was under attack, the game continued...

#### 21. Qc1 Nd4

I have a second chance! 22.Rh4!! again wins since the capture of the white queen by 22.Ne2 is meaningless. I still didn't see the mating net and eventually lost the game. Woe is me!

#### Volunteers Needed for 1994 National Elementary Chess Championship

This is THE LARGEST Tournament in the U.S. and it will be in San Jose, CA May 6-8, 1994.

If you're past sixth grade you can't play anyways, so why not come and be part of the tournament?! We need volunteers for all sorts of duties. If you can work one hour, four hours, a day, the whole weekend, anytime you can give, WE NEED YOU! Get a chance to be behind the scenes and a part of chess history. We want to make this a positive chess experience that each young player will cherish for the rest of his life.



Call Peter Yu (408) 738-4916 by May 3, 1994 so that assignments can be coordinated

#### **READERS' GAMES**

White: Eric Baudry Black: Raphael Yelluas Silicon Valley CH, 7/18/93 Queen's Gambit (D50)

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nt6 4. Bg5 Nbd7 5. Nt3 c5 6. e3 Be7 7. Rc1 0-0 8. Bd3 Qb6 9. b3 cd4 10. ed4 e5! 11. de5 Ng4 12. Qc2 Bg5 13. Bh7 Kh8 14. Ng5 Nde5 15. Nd5 Qh6 16. 14 Re8 17. Kd2 Be6 18. h3 Nt6 19. Nt6 gt6 20. h4 Ng4 21. Qc3 Qg7 22. Ne6 Re6 23. Bt5 Rd8 24. Kc2 Ne3 25. Kb2 Nt5 26. Rc2 Ne3 27. Rcc1 Qg2 28. Kb1 Rd2 29. Rhg1 Qt2 30. Rce1 q6 31. b4 Re2 32. q4 Nd5 0-1

White: Wilson
Black: Alan Stein
London 1993
King's Indian Defense

King's Indian Defense (E99)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 0-0 6. Be2 e5 7. 0-0 Nc6 8. d5 Ne7 9. Ne1 Nd7 10. Be3 f5 11. f3 f4 12. Bf2 g5 13. c4 h5 14. c5 a6 15. Nd3 Nf6 16. c5 g4 17. cd6 cd6 18. Nc4 g3 19. Be1 Nfd5 20. ed5 Nf5 21. Nb6 Qh4 22. hg3 fg3 23. Bg3 Ng3 24. Nc8 e4 (threatening 25...Bd4) 25. Rc4 Bh6 26. f4 e3 27. Nf2 ef2 28. Kf2 Ne2 0-1

White: Dr. Donald Lieberman Black: James Stewart N. Calif State CH, September 1993 Scandinavian Defense (801)

1. e4 d5 2. ed5 Nf6 3. Bb5 Bd7 4. Bc4 b5 5. Bb3 a5 6. c3 a4 7. Bc2 Nd5 8. Nf3 Bg4 9. d4 e6 10. h3 Bh5 11. Be4 Be7 12. 0-0 c6 13. a3 0-0 14. Qc2 Nf6 15. Ne5 Ne4 16. Qe4 Qd5 17. Nd2 Qe4 18. Ne4 f6 19. Nf3 Nd7 20. g4 Bg6 21. Ng3 Bd6 22. Nh4 Bd3 23. Rd1 Bc4 24. Ne4 Bc7 25. Be3 f5 26. gf5 ef5 27. Nc5 Nc5 28. dc5 f4 29. Bd4 g5 30. Ng2 h5 31. Re1 Rae8 32. Re8 Re8 33. f3 Kf7 34. Re1 Re1 35. Ne1 Kg6 36. Ng2 Kf5 37. Bg7 Bd8 38. Bf8 Ke6 39. h4 Kf5 40. Bd6 Bd5 41. Kf2 gh4 42. Nf4 Bf7 43. Nh3 Bf6 44. Ke3 Bc4 45. Kf2 Be5 46. Be7 Bg3 47. Kg2 Be1 48. Nf2 Kf4 0-1

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# 1993 SAN FRANCISCO BAY OPEN by Don Shennum

The Concord Hilton is the site for the 1995 U.S. Open, and **Bill Goichberg's Continental Chess Association** has been sponsoring a tournament at the Hilton about every six months to attract players to Concord and familiarize them with the Hilton's comfortable, spacious playing areas. The latest was the **1993 San Francisco Bay Open**, held December 10-12, 1993. Over 160 chessplayers attended, all with ideas of pocketing extra Christmas money.

In the Open Section, there was a fourway tie for first between IM Anthony Saidy (2476), Vitaly Kanzaveli (2379), Peter Yu (2335), and FM Renard Anderson (2333), all with 4-1 scores. Each of these players earned \$400.00 for their efforts. Going into the last round, Yu and Saidy led the field by half a point, and their relatively peaceful draw allowed the other two co-winners to catch them with last round victories. Renard beat Artak Akopian (2306), and Vitaly beat IM John Donaldson (2512), in a five-hour struggle that saw Donaldson overlook a simple combination with less than ten minutes left in sudden-death. It was a frustrating weekend all around for top-ranked Donaldson. After losing Friday night to Joe **Friedman (2218)**, John reentered the two-day section Saturday morning, but never really appeared to be in top form.

The true story of the Open Section, however, was the play of **Kristan Lawson** (2126). Kristan finished a half-point behind the co-champs, at 3.5-1.5, and had a 2487 performance rating. In addition to beating **FM Richard Kelson** (2328), Kristan played three of the four co-champs, beating Kanzaveli, drawing Renard Anderson, and losing to Yu. Kristan pocketed \$200.00 for his fine performance.

Rounding out the prize winners in the Open section were Donaldson, Mike Anderson (2109), and Mark Gagnon (2106), who tied for fourth overall with 3-2 scores and took home \$33.33 each.

History might have been made in the Under 2200 section. Philip Cobert (2135), Rahim Gran (2053), and Jordy Mont-Reynaud (2061) tied for first with 4-1 scores, each earning \$300.00. Jordy's performance might have pushed his rating over the 2200 mark, and if that is the case, he will be the youngest player in history to earn his Master title. Jordy played

strongly all weekend, taking a half-point bye in the first round and winning all of his games except for one draw against top-ranked **Enoch Cruz (2174).** Gran is known as a highly tactical player who draws very few games, and his win over **Carmelito Mejia** (annotated at the end of the article) is a dazzler.

**Enoch Cruz** and **Matthew Robertson** (2119) tied for 4th place with 3.5-1.5 scores, and each took home \$50.00. This tournament broke a string for Enoch. It was the first time in over six months that he has not at least tied for first in an Expert section.

In the Under-2000 section, **Brian Jew** (1925) won clear first with a 4.5-.5 score. He took home \$500.00, which tied him for the most any one person won all weekend (see the Under 1800 section for the other \$500.00 winner). Brian drew his first game with **Gilbert Chambers** (1818), then won the rest of his games in a convincing manner. Close behind Brian were **Sean Dailey** (1962), **Duane Catania** (1900), and **Danilo Patricio** (1883), all with 4-1 scores, good enough for \$166.67. Patricio's only loss was to Dailey, whose only loss was to Catania. Catania stayed on top board most of the tournament, but drew both of his Sunday games, enabling Brian to slip past.

In the Under 1800 section, Roberto Calonia (1700) earned \$500.00 for his 4.5-.5 score. Roberto's draw was to Greg Hamer (1728), who tied for 2nd at 4-1 with Raphael Yelluas (1781), each earning \$200.00. Walter Catibog (1795), Richard Newey (1741), Jonathan Baker (1685), Ken White (1663), and Micah Fisher-Kirshner (1605) tied for fourth overall, and each pocketed an extra \$20.00.

In the **Under 1600** Section, top-ranked **Christopher Fillius (1527)** and **David Lischinsky (1457)** tied for first place with 4-1 scores. Christopher employed the "Swiss gambit," losing his first-round game to **David Hauri (1470)**, then winning the rest, including a last-round win over Lischinsky. The co-winners took home \$375.00 each. Right behind the co-winners at 3.5-1.5 were **Jeff Hodge (1509)**, **Frank Delpino (1500)**, **James Butler (1488)**, and **Andy Milburn (1464)**, who took home \$62.50 each.

In the **Under 1400** section, top-rated **Nicholas Ayala (1392)** won clear first place with a 4.5-.5 score, good enough for \$300.00. Nicholas cruised through the section and never appeared to be off form. His draw **continued on page 9** 

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came in the last round to Hank Cox (1264), who tied for second at 4-1 with Mike Marque (1311), Carl Odegaard (1399), and Arlene Motschenbacher (1165), each earning \$87.50 for their play.

In the Unrated section, **Efren Penano**, who had requested a last-round bye before the start of the tournament, took clear first and \$150.00 with a 4.5-.5 score. **Stephen Sullivan** and **Po Pynny** tied for second place with 4-1 scores, earning \$50.00 each.

In the Sunday-only elementary school section, Julie Vizcaino (1128) and Lorenzo Beltran (1049) went undefeated though the four-round tournament and earned three-year extensions on their USCF memberships. What made the feat even more impressive was the fact that they were both simultaneously playing in the main tournament's Under 1400 section, running back and forth between games.\*

Overall, the tournament provided a worthy preview of the upcoming 1995 U.S. Open's attractive playing site and conditions. The tournament was ably directed by Carolyn Withgitt and Don Shennum. Jay Blem's National Chess and Games provided the book concession.

\*Nothing tops the performance of Paul Waldowski, a Nebraska Expert who in the early '80s won the state eight-player closed championship while simultaneously winning the state amateur championship (there were only four masters in Nebraska at the time).

Fans of the Colle should love this one. It's the first time that I've seen Carmelito outplayed tactically!

White: Rahim Gran (2053) Black: Carmelito Mejia (2135) December 11, 1993 Colle Attack Annotated by Don Shennum

# 1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. e3 Bg7 4. Bd3 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6. Nbd2 Nbd7 7. e4 e5

This is all standard stuff. One Colle axiom goes that if White is allowed to play e4 without being contested, he usually gets a strong attack based on central control and active development. Another Colle axiom goes that if Black gets in ... e5 freely, he's achieved equality. So, who's right here? Here, I'd say White has a small advantage based

on his pressure on e5, which ties the black pieces down.

#### 8. de de 9. Nc4 Re8 10. Bg5 h6 11. Bh4 g5?

A serious error on Black's part. It does nothing but weaken his kingside in addition to White's Bishop to g3, the square it wants to be on anyway.

#### 12. Bg3 Nh7?I

Needing to protect the e5-pawn, but I don't think this is the best way to play it. Black probably doesn't like 12. ... Nh5 because the pawn still drops after 13. Bxe5 Nxe5 14. Nfxe5 Bxe5 15. Qxh5. I prefer the plan 12. ... Nh5!? 13. Bxe5 Nxe5 14. Nfxe5 Nf4! The Knight grabs a good post, The king's bishop grabs a good diagonal, and White's pieces get a little tied down. One sample line goes 14. ... Nf4 15. Nf3 g4 16. Ne1 (16. Nd2 Nxd3) Qh4, and Black's plan of Be5 looks pretty strong.

#### 13. Qe2 Nhf8?

What's the point, Ng6-f4? Well, this takes three tempi, and isn't a pawn worth three tempi?

#### 14.Ne3 Nc5 15.Rd1 c6 16.Bc4 Qb6?

Sure this looks fine, but in hindsight (always 20/20), 16. ...Qc7 was necessary, if only to prevent the following debacle. Sit back and enjoy, cause here is where the fun begins.

#### 17. Bxf7! Kxf7

What else?

#### 18. Nc4l Qa6

18. ...Qc7 doesn't work either. After 18. ...Qc7 19. Nd6+ Ke7 20. Nxe5, and there are three possibilities, all bad.

a) 20. Nxe5 Bxe5 21. Bxe5 and the discovered attack on the queen leads to material gain.

b) 20. Nxe5 Rd8 21. Qh5! Be6 22. Nf5+ Kf6 (Bxf5 23. Qf7 mate) 23. Ng4 mate.

c) 20. Nxe5 Qxd6 21. Rxd6 Kxd6 22. Nc4+ Ke7 23. Bd6+, and the c5-knight falls.

c1) 22.Nc4+ Ke6 23. Qg4+ Kf7 24.

Qh5 + Ke7 25. Bd6 + winning the knight.

c2) 22. Nc4+ Kd7 23. Rd1+ transposes to the other lines, only with the rook now developed.

#### 19. Nd6+ Ke7 20. Qe3! Ncd7 21.Nxg5!

Anything to get the queen to f7. If Black doesn't take, then simply 22. Qf3.

# 21...hxg5 22.Qxg5+ Bf6 23.Qh5 Kd8 24.Nxe8 Ke7 25.Nd6 Kd8 26. Qf7!

A strong move which ties down all of Black's pieces. The simple, unstoppable threat is 27. Ne8 and the knight or bishop will fall. **26...Kc7 27. Ne8+ 1-0** 

#### SHORT TOURNAMENT REPORTS

#### **MODESTO CLUB**

John Charles Barnard (2120) of Sonora was the January "Thursday Knight Fights" Grand Champion with a perfect score of "FOUR-OH"!! Robert Sprague (1473) of Escalon won the first place trophy in Division II on tie-breaks!!

KnightLife Chess Tournaments presented "Chess Bowl 1994", the "Super Bowl" of chess tournaments for the Modesto Metropolitan Area!!! The USCF nationally-rated event attracted thirty entries. The tournament was refereed by **Joseph C. de Leon** with **Leon Aldrich** assisting. The four-round open contest was held from 1/6/94 through 1/27/94.

The second place Open prize was won by Robert Raingruber (2058) with 3.5-1.5 and Lorenzo Beltran (1034) won the "MVP" Best Game award. Below is his third round victory over Corbett Carroll, and other important games from the tournament.

White: Lorenzo Beltran (1034) Black: Corbett Carroll (1532) Sicilian Defense (A04)

1. e4 c5 2. d3 Nc6 3. Nf3 g6 4. g3 Bg7 5. Bg2 d6 6. Nbd2 e6 7. Nc4 b5 8. Ne3 Rb8 9. 0-0 Bb7 10. a3 Ne5 11. Ne5 Be5 12. f4 Bg7 13. c4 a6 14. Qe2 Ne7 15. f5 ef5 16. ef5 Bd4 17. Bb7 Rb7 18. Qf3 Qc7 19. f6 Nf5 20. Qe4 Be5 21. Nf5 gf5 22. Rf5 Qc8 23. Bf4 Ra7 24. Be5 de5 25. Qe5 Qe6 26. Qb8 Kd7 27. Qa7 Kd8 28. Rd5 Kc8 29. Qa8 Kc7 30. Qh8 Qe3 31. Kg2 Qe2 32. Kh3 Qe6 33. Kh4 Kc6 34. Qa8 Kb6 35. Qd8 Kc6 1-0

White: Robert Sprague (1473) Black: Diane Barnard (1874) Caro -Kann Defense (B19)

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 de4 4. Ne4 Bf5 5. Ng3 Bg6 6. h4 h6 7. Nf3 Nd7 8. Bc4 e6 9. 0-0 Ngf6 10. Re1 Be7 11. Qe2 Nd5 12. h5 Bh7 13. Bb3 Qc7 14. c4 Nf4 15. Bf4 Qf4 16. d5 cd5 17. cd5 e5 18. Ne5 Ne5 19. Qe5 Qe5 20. Re5 Kd8 21. Ne4 f6 22. Re6 Bf5 23. d6 Be6 24. Be6 Bf8 25. Rc1 g6 26. hg6 h5 27. d7 Ke7 28. Rc8 Bg7 29. Nc5 b6 30. Nb7 Rb8 31. d8(Q) Rd8 32. Rc7 Ke6 33. Nd8 Rd8 34. Rg7 a6 35. Rb7 b5 36. Rb6 Kf5 37. g7 Kg6 38. Rb7 Rg8 39. Kf1 Rg7 40. Rg7 Kg7 41. Ke2 Kf7 42. Kd3 Ke6 43. Kd4 Kd6 44. b4 h4 45. f3 f5 46. f4 Ke6 47. Kc5 Kf6 48. Kb6 Ke6 49. Ka6 Kd5 50. Kb5 Ke4 51. a4 Kf4 52. a5 Kg3 53. a6 f4 54. a7 Kg2 55. a8(Q) f3 56. Qg8 Kf2 57. Qg5 Ke2 58. Qh4 1-0

White: Robert Sprague (1473) Black: Frank Fusco (1197) Ruy Lopez (C65)

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Nf6 4. 0-0 g6 5. d4 Nd4 6. Nd4 ed4 7. Qd4 Bg7 8. e5 c6 9. ef6 Bf6 10. Qe4 Qe7 11. Qe7 Be7 12. Bd3 d5 13. Re1 h5 14. Bg5 f6 1-0

White: Nelson Wiggins (1790) Black: John Charles Barnard (2120)

English Opening (E12)

1. c4 Nf6 2. d4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. a3 Bb7 5. Nc3 d6 6. Bg5 Be7 7. e3 0-0 8. Be2 Ne4 9. Be7 Qe7 10. Qc2 f5 11. 0-0 Nd7 12. Rad1 Kh8 13. d5 Nc3 14. Qc3 e5 15. Rfe1 Rf6 16. Bf1 Rh6 17. g3 Rf8 18. Bg2 g5 19. b4 Bc8 20. Nd2 f4 21. ef4 gf4 22. Ne4 Qf7 23. gf4 Qf4 24. Qg3 Rg6 25. Qf4 ef4 26. Kh1 Ne5 27. c5 Rfg8 28. cd6 Rg2 29. Ng3 Rf2 30. Re5 fg3 31. dc7 Rh2 32. Kg1 Rh3 33. Rd2 Bb7 34. Re6 Rh5 35. Rd6 g2 36. Rg2 Rg2 37. Kg2 Rd5 38. c8(Q)?? Bc8 39. Rc6 Bb7 0-1

White: Nelson Wiggins (1790) Black: Robert Sprague (1473) King's Indian Defense (E74)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Be2 0-0 6. Bg5 c5 7. d5 h6 8. Bh4 Qa5 9. Qc2 Nbd7 10. Nf3 Re8 11. 0-0 Nh7 12. Bg3 Nhf8 13. Bf4 g5 14. Be3 Ne5 15. Ne5 Be5 16. f4 gf4 17. Bf4 Bf4 18. Rf4 e5 19. Rf6 Ng6 20. g3 Kg7 21. Raf1 Nf4 22. Rd6 Qc7 23. Nb5 Nh3 24. Kg2 Qe7 25. Rdf6 Nf4 26. R6f4 ef4 27. Qc3 Qe5 28. Nc7 Qc3 29. Ne8 Kg6 30. bc3 f3 31. Rf3 Bg4 32. Rf6 Kg5 33. h4 1-0

#### VISALIA CLUB

First-place honors in the "Get Well Phil/OMOV" chess tournament were shared by **Allan Fifield** and **Branden Robinson**, each with three wins. This will be Branden's last tournament for a while; he has joined the Air Force. The tournament was held in honor of **Phil Smith** of Fresno, who recently died after a period of declining health. A total of eighteen players participated. The tournament was directed by Allan Fifield at Wednesday meetings from 1/12-2/2.

The OMOV Quickie attracted twelve players on March 2 for three double quads. Winners were as follows:

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Top Section: **Lewis Martinez** (1731) with

4.5 out of 6.

Middle Section: **David Gay** (1374) with a perfect 6-0.

Beginners' Section: **Michael Garrett** (new) with 5.5 points.

David Gay's perfect score should be noted by potential opponents, because David's game has been quietly improving. This Game/15 tournament was directed by **Karl Bohlmann**.

# LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL SECTIONALS SAN FRANCISCO

The Lowell Sectionals held January 22, 1994, were won by **Emmanuel Perez** with a perfect 3/3, ahead of **Dmitry Zilberstein** and **Mark Gagnon** with 2. Section B was won by **Dmitry Karshtedt** with 3/3, ahead of **Nelson Sowell**, **Von Motschenbacher**, **Jonathan Baker**, and **Ken White** with 2. Section C was won by **Vic Juada**, 3, ahead of **Brandon Fine**, **Peter Grossinger**, and **Lazar Shnaiderman** with 2.

Section A of the February 26 event was won by **Romulo Fuentes** with a perfect score (3/3). Tied for second were **Peter Lee**, **James Jones**, and **Sergey Kirshner**, with 2/3.

Section B was won by Lazar Shnaiderman, also with a perfect 3/3. There was a tie for second between Francisco Carrillo and Joe Fitzpatrick with 2/3. The tournament was directed by Peter Dahl.

Here is an entertaining game from Section B, submitted by Peter Dahl:

White: R. Macabeo Black: W. Lesquillier French Defense (C02)

Annotated by Peter Dahl

# 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Qb6 6. Bd3 cd4 7. cd4 Bb4

Of course not 7...Nd4?? 8. Nd4 Qd4 9. Bb5, winning the queen. An interesting "book" line is 7...Bd7 8.0-0 Nd4 9.Nd4 Qd4 10.Nc3 Qe5!? 11. Re1 Qb8 12.Nd5 Bd6 13.Qg4 Kf8 unclear.

#### 8. Nc3 Nge7 9. 0-0 Bc3 10. bc3 0-0 11. Bh7l Kh8

If 11...Kh7 12. Ng5 a) 12...Kg8 13. Qh5 Rd8 14. Qh7 Kf8 15. Qh8 Ng8 16. Nh7 Ke7 17. Qg7 wins; or b) 12...Kg6 13. h4 wins, e.g. 13...Rh8 14. Qg4 f5 15. Qg3 Bd7 (f4 16. Qg4) 16. Ne6 Kf7 17. Qg7 Ke6 18. Qf6 mates.

12. Bc2 Ng8 13. Ng5 Nce7 14. Qh5 Nh6 15. Nf7! Rf7 16. Bh6 Kg8 17. Bg5 Kf8 18. Qh8 1-0.

After 18...Ng8 19. Bh7, White wins more material.

#### SAINT MARK'S QUADS SAN RAFAEL

A total of 53 young chess players turned out for the Saint Mark's Quads on February 6, 1994. This is the final Saint Mark's Quads before the NorCal Scholastic Championships on March 26-27.

The winners were:

Quad #1 — **Anton Parker** (1412) 3-0

Quad #2 — **Bryan Cua Yu** (1189) 2.5-.5

Quad #3 — Adam Banakus (1074) 3-0

Quad #4 — Chris Montes (1054) 3-0

Quad #5 — Andy Banakus (1014), Andrew

Chang (992) and Ashley Zulueta (957) 2-0

Quad #6 -- **Daniel Kilduff** (888) 2.5-.5

Quad #7 — **Andrew Clark** (843) and Eva Ortiz (868) 2.5-.5

Quad #8 — Jesse Pedersen (833) 2.5-.5

Quad #9 — Lizzy Eisenberg (696) and Danny

Kasman (689) 2-1

Quad #10 — John Mayberry (665) and Steven

Wilburn (636) 2-1

Quad #11 — **Ben Schrier** (533) 2.5-.5

Quad #12 — **Adam Bredt** (441) 3-0

Quad #13 — Benedict Blando (Unr) 3-0

The Saint Mark's Quads are directed by **Ray Orwig**.

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# MASTER VS. AMATEUR by FM Craig Mar

It is often a pleasure and amusement of mine to forego the weekend Swiss and play in the local chess club. What primarily distinguishes the Master from the club player is the amateur's lack of consistency and failure to be able to organize strategic moves and planning. Blunders usually decide the amateur's games, and few non-Masters play a strong endgame. An old saw says, "Give a Master a pawn ahead in a rook ending and the Master will win it. Give an amateur a pawn ahead in a rook ending and the Master will draw it."

Amateurs sometimes think that buying an opening book with a set of trick openings is necessary to become a stronger player. Chess strength, however, is not about memorizing a trick opening, it mainly stems from the ability to understand unique positions. In short, it is about being able to think for yourself.

Being a "B" player for two years, I remember the utter confusion I experienced in middlegames in the absence of a direct threat. My main aim was to win quickly by winning material. I didn't care about the position on the board, but the material count. How wrong! At some point, I learned to disdain material and build the position.

White: Craig Mar (2450)
Black: Mingson Chen (2050)
San Francisco, 1986
Queen's Gambit Declined (D58)
Annotated by FM Craig Mar

#### 1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6

The Queen's Gambit Declined, a solid defense that is not without counterplay.

# 3. Nc3 Be7 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bg5 h6 6. Bh4 0-0 7. e3 b6 8. Bf6!

Most books frown on giving up a bishop for a knight without getting anything concrete in return, but after watching titled players and Karpov play this, I adopted it myself. The reason behind this is strategical, Black's pieces will step on each other's toes. The black knight would like to get to f6, but is blocked by the bishop, creating an awkward development.

8...Bf6 9, cd5 ed5 10, Bd3 Re8 11, 0-0 Bb7 12, Qb3

White wants to force Black to play ...c6, when e4! will be very strong.

#### 12...c6

This is the very move White had hoped for. But 12...c5?! 13. dc5 d4 14. Nd4 Bd4 15. ed4 Qd4 also is bad. Black must defend carefully.

#### 13. Rad1

Planning e4.

#### 13...Nd7 14. e4l

Timing is everything. Note how unprepared Black is for this advance. White is saddled with an isolated pawn, but it cannot be attacked.

#### 14...de4 15. Ne4

A tough choice. Also good is 15. Be4. Sometimes, as here, one must rely on intuition. 15...Qc7 16. Rfe1

When no immediate tactical shot exists, it is best to wait and build the position.

#### 16...Rad8

16...c5 here is a good alternative, then 17. d5 a6 18. a4, and White still has a minimal pull.

#### 17. Bc4

White continues his powerful buildup. A better try might be 17. Bb1, followed by Qc2, with the idea of preventing ... c5.

#### 17...Re7 18. Re3

Preparing to double rooks.

#### 18...g6?

This is a decisive error in an inferior position. Necessary is 18...Rde8 19. Rde1 Kf8, or 18...b5 19. Bf1, with only a slight pull for White. 19. Rde1 Rde8

This is the move I was hoping for, but Black's position was lost anyway.

#### 20. Bf7! Rf7 21. Nf6 Nf6 22. Re8 Ne8 23. Re8 Kh7?

Makes it easy. 23...Kg7 24. Ne5 Rf8 25. Rf8 Kf8 26. Qe6, and White mops up the kingside pawns.

#### 24. Ng5l 1-0

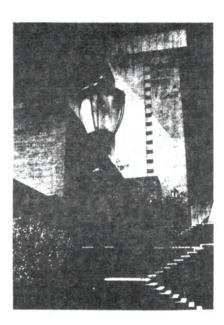
If 24...hg5, then 25. Qh3 Kg7 26. Qh8 mate.





# 22nd annual World Open

# Independence Day weekend, 1994- Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia \$160,000 IN PRIZES UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED!



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Schedules: 7-day: Tue through Sat 8 pm; Sun 11 am & 6 pm; Mon 10 am & 5 pm. 5-day: Thu 8 pm; Fri & Sat 1 pm & 8 pm; Sun 11 am & 6 pm; Mon 10 am & 5 pm. 3-day: Sat 10 am, 1 pm, 3 pm, 5:15 pm, 8 pm; Sun 11 am & 6 pm; Mon 10 am & 5 pm.

All: Entries and re-entries close 1½ hours before your first game. Hotel rates: \$69-69-69-69 at Adam's Mark, 215-581-5000, & Holiday Inn next door, 215-477-0200. Free parking. Special airfares: US Air offers 5% off lowest applicable published fares. Call 800-334-8644, refer to Gold File number 36530231.

Ratings: For foreign players, 50 pts added to CFC (no pts added to CFC Masters), 100 to FIDE or FQE, 200/more to most other foreign. June USCF list used.

Entries: Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. You may request "lowest possible section" if June rating unknown. Optional entry form faces CHESS LIFE inside back cover. Do not expect reply to entry unless you enclose self-addressed postcard.

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Open prizes: \$12000-6000-3000-1500-800-600-500-500-400-400-400-400, 2300-2449/unr 4000-2000-1000, U2300 (no unr) 4000-2000-1000. 300 GPP, IM norms possible. If tie for 1st, quick playoff for 1% of \$\$ & title.

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700-600-500-400-300-300-300-300, U1900 \$2000-1000-500.
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700-600-500-400-300-300-300-300, U1700 \$2000-1000-500.
Under 1600 (no unr): \$10000-5000-2500-1200-700-600-500-400-300-300-300-300, U1500 \$2000-1000-500.

Under 1400 (no unr): \$6000-3000-2000-1000-600-500-400-300-200-200-200, U1250 \$1000-500

Unrated: \$400-200-100-80-70-60-50-40. USCF-rated section; entrants receive ratings.

Note- prizes for 2300-2449/Unr, U2300, U2100, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1250 are class prizes, not sections! Players play for both these & place prizes, receive larger if winning both.

Prize limits: Maximum prize \$300 if category more than 200 points below USCF Life title. Non-US citizens must have established rating (20 or more games) on 2/94 or prior USCF list or acceptable adjusted foreign rating to win over \$1500 in U2200, \$1000 in U2000, \$700 in U1800, \$500 in U1600, \$300 in U1400.

Entry fee, if mailed or phoned with Visa/Mastercard by 4/15: 7-day \$217, 5-day \$215, 3-day \$213. By 5/15: 7-day \$227, 5-day \$225, 3-day \$223. By 6/15: 7-day \$237, 5-day \$235, 3-day \$233. At site: All \$260 (maximum check, \$100). Foreign FIDE-rated in Open, \$200 at site (no advance notice necessary). IGMs free; \$200 deducted from any prize.

Unrated Section entry fee: 7-day \$47, 5-day \$45, 3-day \$43 by 6/15; all \$60 at site.

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#### **Letters to Editor**

Dear Editor:

## Subject: Are computers spoiling the fun of chess?

The long weekend and the rains contributed to a little experience that may make a story worth sharing. It has to do with a tough little four-move checkmate problem that made quite a challenge to me some forty years ago.

Apparently, it stymied quite a number of players of the day. I believe that it was Sports Illustrated in the mid-\50s that published the story how this little gem had found its way into the chess clubs of New York City and, having been too much for the local masters, was presented to Sammy Reshevsky, to see what he could do with it. I would like to ask for help in retrieving the story; it was interesting. I think that there had been some betting on Reshevsky's performance, and that he surprised the onlookers by sitting down and solving the problem in something less than fifteen minutes, without moving any pieces. One would only see the veins in Sammy's head pulsate, it was reported.

I carried the diagram on the back of my ECON 1A notes for a week or two until the solution finally became clear. Yesterday the old piece of paper showed up when I was looking for something else, and the time was there to see what the computers could do with it.

In his book "Computers—The Machines We Think With," D. S. Halacy, Jr., quotes Thoreau: "Men have become the tools of their tools." For the most of what I see, that is exactly my opinion, except where the tools have stood the test of time. But that is another story. The point is that

my computer tools are still pretty simple—I resisted moving from Chessmaster 2000 on my monochrome XT clone to <u>Chessmaster</u> 3000 on a 12 MHz AT for a long time, mainly because the instructions to CM3000 left a lot to be desired. The tool had become too complex. So I let CM3000 have it! Took me a while to figure out how to load the problem, but finally the challenge was on. We went out to lunch when the report that some 600,000 variations had already been analyzed indicated that there was some serious work in progress.

Aha, upon return my faith in the supremacy of the human over the machine received another booster. The AT's screen had darkened and the chessboard was replaced by the following message:

"Critical Error:

Last Loaded Resource = 58
ENGINE FATAL 2250 —
piebar" (?except "piebar" is
ASCII 203?)

(Software Toolworks just dropped their rating below 2250)

Now, the simpler tool still deserved to be tested. The old CM2000 on the XT accepted the problem without too much miscommunication, and, lo and behold, it came up with the answer in thirty minutes. Still not as good as the great Reshevsky, but—I have to admit—much better than yours truly.

So the question is, if I had had such tools back in my college days, would they have spoiled my fun of puzzle-solving, or would they have helped me get a better grade in Economics, and, as a result, would I have become independently wealthy and had more time today to pursue more puzzles?

Incidentally, the problem is: White—Kb8, Rc2, Bg3, Bg4, Na5;

Black—Kd5, e5. In the Forsythe notation: 1/K6/8/8/N2kp36B1/6B1/2R5/8. White has 5 and Black 2 pieces. White mates in 4.

Sincerely,

V. Henry Vinerts Newark, CA

Dear Editor:

I just sent the following letter to US Chess Trust, along with a \$200 check.

To: US Chess Trust

I've enclosed a contribution to US Chess Trust that I would like earmarked toward Jordy Mont-Reynaud's upcoming trip to Budapest to represent the US in the World 12-and-under Championship. Just to be clear about this, I would like this contribution to be in addition to the money I understand USCF is already contributing.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Jordy at the Western Class Championship in California (and losing a few blitz games to him!). I was very impressed with him both as a person and a chessplayer. I think he represents the best chance since Bobby Fischer of having an American World Champion, with all the good effects that would have on chess in the US. At the same time, I understand the sacrifices involved in Jordy 's ascent to master and beyond. Particularly as Jordy moves up through master class, it will become increasingly expensive for his family to afford the top-flight coaching and travel to top tournaments that will be necessary to build a world champion. I hope USCF and the US chess community will continue to help

# 1993 U.S. GAME-IN-FIFTEEN CHAMPIONSHIP by GM Walter Browne and NM Tom Dorsch

The 1993 U.S. Game/15 Championship gave Northern California players their first opportunity to experience the Game/15 format in a weekend tournament, and the participants pronounced the new time control a resounding success. Some seventy-five intrepid experimentalists trekked to the Red Lion Hotel in Sacramento on the day after Christmas to enjoy the hospitality of the Sacramento Chess Club and to test their skill, buoyed by the awareness that only "quick" ratings, not "real" ratings, were on the line. Thanks to computer pairings and the skillful organization of Club President Stewart Katz, the seven-round Swiss-system event ran as smooth as silk. With a mere fifteen-minute break between most rounds, it was still possible to start all rounds on time and finish right on schedule.

The field was led by #1-seed six-time U.S. Champion Walter Browne, who did not disappoint as he cruised through the field of two international masters, two senior masters, and a dozen lesser maestros with a perfect 7-0, defeating IMs John Donaldson and Guillermo Rey on the way. No sooner had Browne dispatched SM Ronald Cusi in the crucial last-round game, than he leapt into Hans Poschmann's chariot for the ninety-mile ride to Oakland Airport to catch a 7 p.m. "redeye" to Vegas, to finish in a three-way tie for first in Bill Goichberg's North American Open. Maybe the man has lost a step or two in the past twenty years, but he remains the consummate competitor.

Clear second place went to NM Alan Stein, the 1991 Denker champ, who is now ascending the heights of adult chess. Stein scored 6 out of 7, losing only to Browne. Just back from a six-month stint as a bond trader in England, Stein is poised to resume his role as California's most promising junior since Jay Whitehead and until Jordy Mont-Reynaud.

Expert money went to **Rob Kichinski**, a Master on the big rating list, and **Adrian Keatinge-Clay**, another teenager with a bright future in chess. **Todd Rumph** captured the "A" prize, returning to chess after a long absence for academic reasons. Judging by his play here, the layoff has not hurt a bit. "B" honors went to **Cain Garrett, Jr.**, the "C" prize was taken by **Chris Larson**, and the winners of

the "D/E" section were **Chuck Coleman**, **Mark Patrick**, and **Jeffrey Stroh**.

The success of this event prompted cries for more of the same, and I can foresee a time when G/15 is a very popular format in the USCF's most populous state. The brevity of the rounds affords TDs great possibilities for variety in format and scheduling. And the G/15 format is seen by many as more comfortable than the usual five-minute speed game. One player described G/15 as "elevating mental agility over physical agility." Another called G/15 "a five-minute game with time for two-three deep calculations."

The tournament was directed by Carolyn Withgitt, assisted by Stewart Katz

Here is the crucial last-round match-up between the tournament leaders.

White: SM Ronald Cusi (2470) Black: GM Walter Browne (2652)

1. c4 c5 2. g3 g6 3. Bg2 Bg7 4. Nc3 Nc6 5. e3 e6 6. Nge2 Nge7 7. 0-0 0-0 8. Nf4 Rb8 9. Rb1 b6 10. c4 c6 11. b3 Bb7 12. h4 h5 13. Bb2 Nb4 14. Bb7 Rb7 15. Qf3 d5 16. Nce2 e5 17. Nd5 Ned5 18. cd5 Qd5 19. Qd5 Nd5 20. d4 ed4 21. ed4 Re8 22. Rfe1 Rbe7 23. Kf1 Nb4 24. Nf4 Re1 25. Re1 Re1 26. Ke1 Nc2 27. Kd2 Nd4 28. Bd4 Bd4 29. f3 Bf2 30. Ne2 Kf8 31. Kd3 Ke7 32. Ke4 Ke6 33. f4 f5 34. Kd3 Kd5 35. Nc3 Kc6 36. Ne2 b5 37. cd5 cd5 38. Kd2 Kd5 39. Kc2 Be1 40. Kd3 b4 41. Ke3 c4 42. bc4 Kc4 43. Nd4 Bf2 0-1

White: IM John Donaldson
Black: GM Walter Browne
Nimzo-Indian Defense (E42)
Annotated by GM Walter Browne

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 c5 5. Nge2 cd4 6. ed4 d5 7. a3 Be7 8. c5 0-0 9. b4 b6 10. Bf4 bc5 11. dc5 Nc6 12. Nd4 Nd4 13. Qd4 Ng4 14. Bd2!?

14. Be2 e5!! 15. Qd5 ef4 16. Qa8 Bf6 17. Rc1 Bc3 18. Rc3 Qd4 19. Rf3 Ba6 20. Qf8 Kf8 21. Ba6 Qa1 wins.

14...f5l

Most players would have been content with 14...Bf6 15. Qd3 Ne5 16. Qg3 d4;Bf6 15. Qd3 Ne5 16. Qg3 Bb7.

#### 15. Be2 Bf6 0-1

White resigned!!?? 15...Bf6 16. Qd3 Ne5 17. Qg3 d4 18. Nb5 d3 19. Bd1 Nc4 20. Rc1 was too unpleasant for John's taste; or 17. Qh3 d4 18. Nb5 d3 19. Bd1 Nc4 20. Rc1 Nd2 21. Kd2 Bg5 crushes.

# 1993 LERA THANKSGIVING TOURNAMENT by NM Richard Koepcke and NM Mike Splane

The LERA Thanksgiving tournament drew 120 players to Sunnyvale for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday chess at the traditional rec center site on the grounds of the large Lockheed plant on Mathilda Avenue. Winners of the event were Burt Izumikawa of San Carlos and Artak Akopian of Fresno, both with 5/6. They were closely followed by Renard Anderson of Aptos, with 4.5/6, who lost to Akopian and drew with Izumikawa. Following with 4 points were the Expert winners, Mark Gagnon of Mt. View and Jordy Mont-Reynaud of Palo Alto.

The top "A" prize was divided between Vergel Dalusung and Rodrigo A. Dioso, both with 5 out of 6. Third place went to Virgilio Fuentes.

"B" honors were garnered by Jay W. Richwood, with 5 points, followed by David Lankford with 4.5, then Telman Akopian, Greg Hamer, and Kenneth J. White, with 4.

The only perfect score of the event went to Richard Ligda in the "C" section, 6-0. He was pursued by Anthony Rosenvasser and David Lischinsky, with 4.5.

Winner of the "D"-"E"-UNR Section was Jim Stapleton with 5.5. His chief rivals were Edward Muginshteyn and Adam Lischinsky, both with 4.5.

The tournament was ably directed by Jim Hurt and Ted Yudacufski. The next LERA tournament is May 28-30, 1994.

White: Artak Akopian (2329) Black: Burt Izumikawa (2375) Sicilian Defense (B33)

Annotated by NM Richard Koepcke

## 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd4 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e5 6. Ndb5 d6 7. Nd5

This is one of the main alternatives to 7. Bg5. White forces an immediate exchange of knights in order to obtain a queenside majority.

#### 7...Nd5 8. ed5 Nb8

Some prefer to play 8...Ne7, planning the maneuver ...Ne7-f5-d4. The text is more consistent with the pawn structure, as Black can now bring the knight to ...c5, ...e5, or ...f6, depending on the needs of the position.

#### 9. c4 a6 10. Nc3 Be7 11. Bd3!?

White sometimes plays this hoping to restrain the maneuver ...f5, ...e4. The

downside is that the bishop gets in the way of White's planned queenside expansion b4, c5, because the d-pawn is then exposed. I would prefer 11.Be2, not to impede the advance.

#### 11...0-0 12.0-0 f5 13.f3 Nd7

Black should probably take this opportunity to exchange dark-square bishops (13...Bg5). In King's Indian-like pawn structures, both sides strive to remove the opposing queenside bish ap, so as to cut down the opponent's change changes.

#### 14. Be3

By transposition, the game Lein-Bilek, Date 1976. Bilek tried, one move Loo late, to emove White's queenside bishop (14...Bg5 5.Bf2), and was unable to obtain enough counterplay to balance White's growing initiative. Izumikawa tries to improve on Black's play by initiating a direct kingside attack.

#### 13...Qe8!? 15, b4 Qh5 16, f4?

This tosses away the initiative. White has excellent winning chances after 16. c5! Kh8 (not 16...dc5? 17. d6) 17. Na4 Nf6 18. Nb6 Rb8 19. Rc1, and White's attack is well ahead of Black's.

#### 16...Qh6

Black stays in the middlegame, where he has better winning chances. Exchanges to the endgame—16...Qd1? 17. Rfd1 e4 18.Be2—would leave White fully in control because his mobile pawns ar more dangerous than Black's fixed e-pawn.

#### 17. Qd2 ef4

To make progress, Black needs outposts for his minor pieces, so he correctly accepts the static weakness at d6 for active piece play.

## 18. Bf4 g5 19. Be3 f4 20. Bd4 Bf6 21. Bf6 Nf6 22. Rae1

The rook turns out to be misplaced here; in retrospect, 22.c5 would have been better.

#### 22...Nq4 23. h3 Ne5

Another possibility is 23...Ne3, though the logical follow-up is a speculative piece sac (24. Rf2 Bh3). The text allows Black to keep the initiative without having to indulge in fantasy variations.

#### 24. c5 Bd7 25. Be2?

The immediate 25. Ne4 loses the g to exchange to 25...Nd3 26. Qd3 Bb5, though it's The not a bad price to pay to remove Black's

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powerful knight. White gets a dangerous passed pawn, to boot. If exchange sacs don't appeal, then either 25. Rf2 or 25. Be4 should have been played.

#### 25...Bh3l 26. Ne4

Taking the bishop would be very dangerous. For example, 26. gh3 f3 27. Bd1 Qh3 28. Qh2 Qh2 29. Kh2 g4, gives Black three connected passed pawns plus the initiative for his piece.

#### 26...Bd7

The text looks natural, but 26...Bg4 is more accurate. With the h-pawn removed, the bishop no longer has an active role to play, whereas his counterpart is an important defensive piece.

#### 27. Rf2 Qh4? 28. a3l Qh6

After 29...fg3 29. Qg5 Qg5 30. Rf8 Rf8 31. Na5, Black's dreams of conquest are over. The text keeps the game in flux.

#### 29. Rh2 Qg6 30. Bh5 Qg7 31. gf4 Rf4 32. Rg2 Bg4

This results in a long, forcing variation to a drawn ending. The alternative, 32...h6 33. Qf4 gf4 34. Rg7 Kg7 35. Nd6, would have been. The maneuver Bc1-a3 looks more effective. worse.

#### 33. Bg4 Rg4 34. Rg4 Nf3 35. Kg2 Nd2 36. Rg5 Ne4

Better than 37...Qg5 37. Ng5 dc5 38. bc5 Rc8 39. Rc1, when White's passed pawn is more dangerous than Black's.

#### 37. Rg7 Kg7 38. Re4 dc5 39. bc5 Rc8 40. Re7

Black's king is a tempo closer to the center, so 41. Rc4 is only equal.

40...Kf6 41. Rb7 Rc5 42. Rb6 Ke5 1/2.

White: Renard Anderson (2375) Black: Artak Akopian (2329)

French Defense (C18)

Annotated by NM Richard Koepcke

#### 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bc3 6. bc3 Ne7 7, a4 Qa5 8, Bd2 c4?!

Akopian revives an old plan from the '40s. Black's plan is to win the a-pawn, then trust that he has enough defensive resources to hold the kingside. After a number of colorless losses, French players abandoned this line in favor of keeping the center in flux with 8...Nbc6 and 9...Bd7.

#### 9. h4!?

This advance has been tried (without 8...c4), with mixed results, at the international level. Now that Black is restricted to a passive holding pattern on the kingside, the idea h4h5-h6 may be more effective. The book method for meeting an early ... c4 by Black is to develop the bishop to h3, followed by the advance f2-f4-f5.

#### 9...Bd7 10. h5 h6

It is usually too dangerous to allow 11.h6.

#### 11. Qa4

The queen seems to get in the way here. White should keep his queen back and advance his kingside pawns instead.

#### 11...Nf5 12. Qf4 Nc6

The a-pawn isn't going anywhere, so Black completes his development before going after the pawn.

#### 13. g4 Nfe7 14. Bh3 Rg8

The point is to castle without allowing Q:f7.

#### 15. Nf3 0-0-0 16. g5

Of course not 16.Qf7 Rdf8. On the other hand, there is no need for White to rush this advance, either. Building moves such as Ke2 and Rg1 would be more effective.

#### 16...hg5 17. Ng5 Kb8 18. Qh4

The pawn is still poisoned. After 18. Nf7 Rdf8 19. Ke2 Nd8, Black wins.

#### 18...Rdf8 19. Rg1 Rh8 20. Rg3 Qd8 21. Bg4

This move doesn't accomplish much.

#### 21...Qe8

Believe it or not, Black is better. He can go after the a-pawn (...Qd8), or break through in the center (...f6), whereas White's forces are scattered and not active.

#### 22. Qh3 Nf5

Black probably played this believing that White had 22...f6 23. Be6. On closer inspection, Black is winning after 23...Rh5 24. Bd7 Rh3 25. Be8 Rh1 26. Ke2 Ra1. So White would have to settle for 23. Nf3 fe5 24. Ne5 Ne5 25. de5 Nf5, with a big advantage for Black.

#### 23. Bf5 ef5 24. Bf4 Ka8

Avoiding the cheapo (25.e6) and preparing to smash White's center (25...f6).

#### 25. Nf3 g6 26. h6?

His only chance to draw is to jettison the h-pawn, and thereby remove his queen and king from danger. Either 26. Qg2 or 26. Kd1 would have been better.

#### 26...f6 27. Kd2

There is no longer a defense to the multiple threats involving ... a5.

#### 27...g5 28. Ng5 fg5 29. Rg5 Nd8

There is no compensation for the piece. White gamely plays on, hoping for a miracle. In a practical sense, he should have resigned to save energy for his next round.

30. Rg3 Ne6 31. Ke3 Rh7 32. Rag1 Ba4 33. Rg6 a6 34. Qg2 Bc6 35. Kf3 Ka7 36. Qh3 Qe7 37. Bg5 Ng5 38. R1g5 Qa3 39. Kg2 Rfh8 40. Rf5 Bd7 41. e6 Be8 42. Rg7 Rh6 43. Qg3 Qc1 44. Qc7 Qh1 45. Kg3 Qh4 0-1.

46. Kg2 Qh3 47. Kg1 Qh1 is mate.

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continued from page 17

White: Mike Splane (2267)
Black: Agnis Kaugars (2170)
Alekhine's Defence (B03)

Annotated by Mike Splane

# 1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. d4 d6 4. c4 Nb6 5. f4 de5 6. fe5 Nc6 7. Be3 Bf5 8. Nc3 e6 9. Nf3 Be7 10. Be2 0-0 11. 0-0 f6 12. ef6 Bf6 13. Qd2 Qe8 14. c5

14. Bg5, trading White's bad bishop for Black's aggressive one, is the book line.

#### 14...Nd5 15. Nd5 ed5 16. Rae1?

16. Bf2 was best, avoiding cheapos on e3. White's plan is to play b2-b4-b5, driving the knight away from its attacking post. White should keep this rook on the queenside.

#### 16...Qg6 17. b4 Rae8

17...a6?!

#### 18. b5? Nb4!

Puts immediate pressure on White; this is much stronger than retreating to d8.

#### 19. Rd1

I want to trap the knight, not trade a bishop for it. This prevents 19...Nd3.

#### 19...Bc2

Not 19...Na2? 20. Ra1 Nb4 21. Ra7, forcing Black on the defensive.

#### 20. Rc1 Bd3?

Black is better after 20...Qe4 21. Bf4 Qe2 22. Qb4 due to his two bishops.

#### 21. Rc3

If 21. Bd3 Qd3 22. Qb4 Re3. Black doubles rooks on the e-file and is better. My rook is well-placed, guarding the third rank.

#### 21...Be2 22. Qe2 c6

Black can't play 22...Qe4 23. Qd2 Nc2 24. Bf2, when the knight is trapped; or 22...Nc2 23. Rc2 Re3 24. Qe3 Qc2, since 25. Qe6 Kh8 26. Qd5 wins a pawn. Although ...c6 opens lines for White's rooks, it is necessary to give the knight an escape square. By guarding the d5-pawn, he threatens 23...Nc2, which I prevent.

#### 23. Rfc1 cb5 24. Rb3

If 24. Qb5? Na2

#### 24...Nc6 25. Qb5

25. Rb5? Nd4 26. Nd4 Bd4 wins.

#### 25...Rf7

Exchange sacs to win the d-pawn don't work. Black starts making waiting moves to try to reach the time control on move thirty.

#### 26. Bf2 Ref8 27. Qe2 Re7 28. Qb2?

Allows Black to get his knight to c4. White wants the setup Rb5-Qb3-Rb1, putting intense pressure on the b7-pawn. The right move order is 28. Qd2, then Rcb1, Rb5, Qb2.

#### 28...Na5 29. Rb5 Nc4 30. Qb3 a6?

Time pressure. 30...b6 is good defense, or he can counterattack with 30...Bg5.

#### 31. Rb7 Re2?I

His intended 31...Na5 fails to 32. Qd5. Since passive defense is hopeless, he gambles that I'll miss 32.Rc4. I traded rooks without thinking, since the endgame is an easy win for me.

#### 32. Rb8? Rb2 33. Rf8 Kf8 34. Qa4

Not 34. Qd1?? Ne3 35.Nh4. If 35...Rh4 36.Qf3 seems OK for White. 35...Qg5 may be a problem (intending 36.Qe1 Rf2 or 36.Qf3 Ng2), although the white c-pawn is still a threat.

#### 34...Ne3l 35. g3

If 35. Bg3 Rg2 36. Kh1 Rg3 37. hg3 Qg3 and Black wins, but 35. Ne1 may be playable, e.g. 35.Ne1 Bh4 36 Be3 Be1 or 36. g3 Ng4 is pretty complicated too.

#### 35...Qe4

Another interesting try is 35.Qd3, keeping the white queen off a3, but 36.Re1 seem to put an end to things.

#### 36. c6!

Now the queen can get back to the defense after checking on a3.

#### 36...Rf2

If 36...Qf3 37. Qa3 Kf7 38. Qe3, Black has no attack and the c-pawn will queen.

#### 37. c7l

37. Kf2?? Ng4 38. Kg2 Qe2 39. Kh3 Qf3 40. Rc2 Qf1 41. Kg4 h5 mates. I thought at first that he had a perpetual check after 37.c7, so I spent a long time looking at 37.Qa3. If 37. Qa3 Be7? 38. c7 Rf3 39. c8(Q) Kf7 40. Qe7 Ke7 41. Qb7 Kf6 42. Rc6 Kg5 43. Qg7 Kh5 44. Rh6 mate, but 37. Qa3 Kf7! draws after 38. Kf2 Ng4, with a perpetual check after 39. Kg2 Ne3 or 39. Kf1 Ne3 or 39. Kg1 Bd4 40. Nd4 Qd4 41.Kh1 Qe4.

#### 37...Rg2 38. Kh1 Rc2

Now there is no perpetual after 38...Rh2? 39. Kh2 Ng4 40. Kh3!, since the c-pawn queens with check.

#### 39. c8(Q)

If 39. Qc2? Qf3 40. Kg1 Nc2 41. c8(Q) Kf7 42. Qc2 Bd4 wins for Black.

#### 39...Rc8 40. Rc8 Kf7 41. Qd7 Kg6

If 41...Be7? 42. Qe8 Kf6 43. Rc6 Kf5 44. Qh5 g5 45. Qh3 (any) 46. Qh7 mate.

#### 42. Qe8 Qe8 43. Re8 Nc2 44. Rc8

Black's only hope for counterplay is his d-pawn. This move gains access to c5 or d8 for the rook to attack and win it. The knight trade helps White, since the R v. B ending is an easy win.

44...Nd4 45. Nd4 Bd4 46. Rd8 Bc3 47. Rd5 a5 48. Kg2 Kf6 49. Kf3 Ke6 50. Ke4 Be1 51. Rb5 Bb4 52. Rb6 Kf7 53. Kf5 g6 54. Ke5 Bc3 55. Kd5 Be1 56. Rb7 1-0

There is no defense to White's plan of Ra7, a4, Kc4, Kb5, Ra5, so Black resigns.

# 14th ANNUAL SAN JOAQUIN CHAMPIONSHIP Chess Tournament

# \$1,225 PRIZE FUND !! # 15 GRAND PRIX POINTS

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		System (Rounds 1 & 2 acc th class prizes.	celerated)
		,2 & 3 (Saturday 5/21) = & 5 (Sunday) 5/22) =	
	ROUND TIMES: Saturday	5/21 Rd.1= 9:30am, Rd.2=	= 2pm & Rd.3= 6:00pm
	•	5/22 Rd.4= 9am & Rd.5= 2	•
	NO SMOKING - No Compu	ters - Wheelchair Access	5
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#### THE IDEAL COMBINATION OF PIECES

#### by FM Michael Arné

ikhail Tal once wrote that queen and knight are the ideal combination of pieces, especially for attacking the king. I recently encountered an ending study by Kubbel, which so impressed me with the power of this duo that I was motivated to find more examples. I present three composed problems and one game fragment for CCJ's readers to solve. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

#### A note about endgame studies

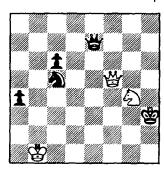
When I was a "C" player, I was put off by problems and studies, because they were too hard for me to solve. But as I became stronger tactically, I came to enjoy them both for their artistic merit and because the tactics work (as opposed to my own games, where my brilliant tactical ideas always seem to have a hole in them).

With our "C" players in mind, I have attempted to make the problems more accessible by providing diagrams showing intermediate positions, and hints about how to proceed. I recommend that you cover up the solution with a piece of paper, then set up the diagram on your chessboard, close the magazine, and try to find the answer.

Experts and Masters should be able to get these within about fifteen minutes each. For everybody else, you should try to spend at least five to ten minutes attempting to solve the problem. Then, if you get stuck, refer back to the article and lower the paper to reveal one or more hints. If you still can't solve the problem with the hints, I give the first few moves and present a diagram, showing a key posi-

tion part-way to the solution. That way you still have a chance to solve the last part (usually the best part) of the problem.

The following famous study illustrates the power of queen and knight on the open board. An asterisk, \*, will indicate where the hints end and a portion of the solution follows. Don't peek!



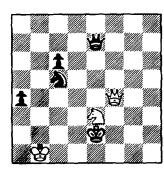
K.A.L. Kubbel, 1925 White to play and win

HINT: Queen plus knight plus queen is a draw. That means that you will need to win the black queen or mate. The first step is to drive the black king to the e-file.

#### 1. Ne3! Kg3

If 1...Kh2, then 2.Qf2 Kh3 3.Qg2 Kh4 4. Qg4 mate.

#### 2. Qg4 Kf2 3. Qf4 Ke2



нит: You will need to force the

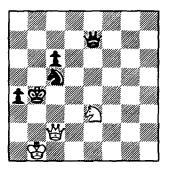
black king into the vicinity of the white king in order to win.

#### 4. Qf1 Kd2

Not 4...Ke3 because of 5. Qe1 winning the queen.

#### 5. Qd1 Kc3 Qc2 Kb4

On 6...Kd4 7. Nf5 forks the king and queen.

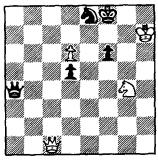


HINT: After the obvious try 7. Qb2, if the king moves to a5 there is a mate in two. But what if Black interposes with the knight?

#### 7. Qb2 Nb3

If 7...Ka5 8. Nc4 Ka6 9. Qb6 mate.

#### 8. Qa3!! Ka3 9. Nc2 mate



D.F. Petroff, 1935 White to play and win

HINT: The critical continuation involves the sacrifice of the knight on the second move.

## The Ideal Combination of Pieces

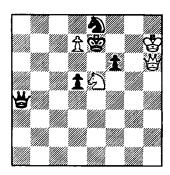
#### continued from page 20

#### 1. Qhó Kg7 2. Ne5i Keó

If 2...fe5 Qg6 Kf8 4. Qg8 mate.

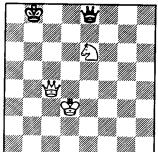
#### 3. e7 Ke7

On 3...Qa7, 4. Kg8 unpins the pawn which cannot be stopped from queening.



HINT: Don't spend a lot of time looking at 4. Qg6 (which also wins). There is a quick and deadly combination.

# 4. Qf8!! Kf8 5. Ng6 Kf7 6. d8=N



H. Rinck, 1917 White to play and win

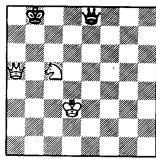
HINT: Look for a knight check on the third move.

#### 1. Qc7 Ka8 2. Qa5 Kb7

On 2...Kb8, 3. Qb6 leads to mate or a knight fork.

#### 3. Nc5! Kb8

Both 2...Kc6 and 2...Kc8 lose the queen to a skewer.

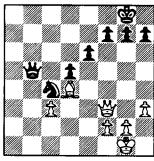


HINT: The key to winning is to force Black into zugzwang.

# 4. Qb6 Kc8 5. Qb7 Kd8 6. Kd21 zugswang!

Black has no checks and the only move that protects against the mate on d7 is 6...Qe7 which allows 7. Qb8 mate. It is surprising how often in a queen ending that the King is able to avoid checks by moving to a square of the opposite color of the queen.

If you were thinking that these positions arise only from composed problems, here's a position from the recent Reno tournament. Black should be able to win the ending in the long run (in fact, he drew it). But there is a much quicker win.



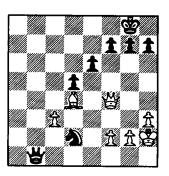
Jordy Mont-Reynaud-Mark Gagnon Black to play and win

HINT: Don't forget, Black has to watch out for mate threats both on g7 and the back rank.

HINT: If 1...Nd2, 2. Qd1 and you will have to win a long ending. To win quickly and painlessly try for a position where the white queen can be won.

#### 1...Qb1! 2. Kh2 Nd2 3. Qf4

Put up the most resistance.



#### 3...Nf1 4. Kg1 Ng3 5. Kh2 Ne2

Wins by attacking the queen and threatens mate on g1.

It's remarkable how the white queen is dominated by the knight and its discovered checks.

# Letters to Editor continued from page 14

out. This donation is my own small attempt to help out as well. Thank you,

> Richard Title New Hampshire

For readers interested in supporting Northern California's most promising junior chessplayers tax-deductible donations can be sent on behalf of the recipient to the non-profit organization Kolty Chess for Youth Foundation. The Foundation will forward the donation to your designated recipient(s), and the donor will receive an acknowledgement and receipt for tax records. The address is P. O. Box 2096, Burlingame, CA 94010. Checks should be made payable to Kolty Chess for Youth Foundation.

Gifts may also be generally designated for scholastic chess and the trustees of the foundation will use their best judgment to dispense the funds to promote the advancement of junior players. -CMW

#### THE PHYSICS OF CHESS

#### by R. E. Fauber

his is not an essay about how blitz players tend to stay in motion until halted by a falling flag. Nor is it concerned with the universal attraction of the Sicilian Defense. Rather it is about the physical skills that chess players should develop to play a complete game. Your body moves must be as good as your board moves.

One of the most useful techniques a rising young player can use until that first rating appears is two-handed castling. It is a rare 1900 player who does not succumb to a sense of preening superiority at the spectacle of his opponent using both hands to transfer the king and rook.

Castling must be done precisely. Firmly grasp rook with right hand (as White) and the king with the left. Lift them straight up, like rockets leaving the pad at Canaveral, then cross the two hands to bring them firmly down on g1 and f1. The whole time you must stare intently at the two pieces. If you can cross your eyes at the proper moment, so much the better. for queenside castling a further fillip is to hover the pieces over b1 and c1 while poking the tongue out the side of your mouth in uncertainty. Only after suspense has built do you show yourself for the experienced player you are by planting them correctly on c1 and d1. Awestruck spectators have been heard to mutter "Bravo" upon the successful completion of this maneuver.

A variation for rated players is to grab the rook first and move it to its destined square, only then shifting the king to his seat of government. Sharpie opponents will set up the cry that you wrongly touched the rook first and cannot castle. Heed them not. Let them bring the tournament director. The rules state that you should touch the king first. If you touch the rook first, the tournament director must warn you not to do it again. Well, how many times do you intend to castle in a game anyway?

#### The Refinement Cometh

You cannot continue doing these things as your rating nears 2400. Yet as you increase your ability to read simultaneous ECO columns and recall all the exceptions to the fifty move draw rule, you can refine your body moves to do things ordinary players would never conceive.

Few could duplicate the legendary feats of GM Walter Browne in time pressure, but on a lesser level they may still be emulated successfully. One must try to make the clock placement convention work for you. Black is supposed to get the clock at his right. This is another edge to White. In time pressure it is advantageous to move with one hand and punch the clock with the other. Righties want the clock to their left and southpaws the reverse.

When you have Black, get to the board early and place the clock to your left. Most White players will not object. Once I made two time controls in under a minute by hammering out, respectively, 13 and 17 moves right-handed while pounding the clock with the fist sinister. Habitual misuse of time builds quick reflexes.

Eventually improving players introduce their own theoretical novelties, imparting new twists to old dodges.

Today's sophisticated players no longer fall for the old "My God, I touched the wrong piece" trap. This once was part of the Budapest after 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e5 3. de5 Ng4 4. Bf4 Bb4 5. Nd2 Nc6 6. Nf3 Qe7 7. a3. Black did not so much play this variation as choreograph it. It was a dance step and made more effective by a corps de ballet of friends. Black abruptly left the board to con the other games after his sixth move. He returned and glanced at the board without siting, then he gaily lifted the knight on g4. In mid-motion horror creased his face. Appalled to notice the pawn on a3, he returned the knight to g4. The opponent called out "touch move!" (Even opponents who know the trap will do this. Chess players like to be bossy even when it entails forcing someone to make good moves.) In a well set trap friends drifted over and the trapper held the Knight sheepishly, saying, "I touched it." "Haw haw," his friends chortled.

With great reluctance and a degree of fatigue after this Tony-winning performance the player sighed and took **7...Nge5**. Triumphantly (the script says), White captured 8. ab4 to be dismayed by **8...Nd3** mate.

I have seen this worked successfully, but only many years ago. Yet, playing badly in my most recent tournament, I still wanted to win a game. As Black I entered this line:

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bg5 h6 5. Bh4

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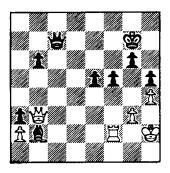
#### LITTLE LESSONS

#### by Dean Howard

his article is designed to illustrate some general principles. It comes from an old game of epic length, with an appropriately tragic ending. As I write this, my rating is 2145, a "good" rating, but far below some who appear in these pages. I'll leave the search for greater truth to the titled players, and try to teach some little lessons that may prove useful in some of your own games.

Berkeley CC Championship Qualifying Open

11/15, 11/22 and 12/1/91 White: Dean Howard (2121) Black: Agnis Kaugars (2169)



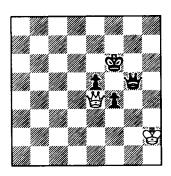
In this position both players have plans. Black plans to use the weakness of the a-pawn to force White to exchange queens or give up material. White can't stop this, so he plans to give back the exchange for a pawn and hope somehow to survive the gueen ending. Both plans are basically sound. Let's see how they work in practice. 48...Qf7 49. Qb6 Qa2 50. Qb7 Qf7 51. Rb2 ab2 52. Qb2 Qf6 53. Qb7 Kh6

Hey, wait a minute! Let's punctuate that line correctly. 49. Qb6?? Qa2?? 50. Qb7?? Qf7 etc. During adjournment Kaugars noticed that 49. Qb6 allows ...Bd4, picking up a rook and immediate resignation. What is worse, 49...Qa2 not only fails to take advantage of White's blunder, but allows 50. Rc2! and suddenly Black has to worry about losing—though he may escape the complications with a draw after 50...Kh6 51. Qf6 e4 52. Qf8 Kh7 53. Qe7 Kh6.

<u>Little Lesson Number 1:</u> It's important to have a plan, but don't follow it so blindly that you overlook simple tactics.

Back to the game. Black should win of course 67...Qh5 68. Kg1 Qd1 69. Kf2 Qd2 70. Kf1 Qd3 with two extra pawns, but with queens on the

board still it's not always that simple: 54. Qb8 f4 55. Qb4 g5 56. hg5 Kg5 57. Qd2 h4 58. gh4 Kh4 59. Qf2 Kh5 60. Qf3 Kh6 61. Qh3 Kg6 62. Qg2 Qg5 63. Qe4 Kf6 64. Qc6 Kf7



Black stumbles, but White misses his chance. After 65. Qc8! it's a draw. For example, 65...Kg6 66. Qg8 Kh5 67. Qh8 Kg6 (not 67...Kg4??? 68. Qh3 mate!).

The game was adjourned after Black's next move, and the search for a in began. BCE and other sources say Q+2P vs. Q is always a win, but Black's road to victory, if there is one, passes through a minefield of perpetuals and stalemates. Neither Kaugars nor I could find a convincing line for Black. Even if we missed something simple, it's still true that two Experts with a week to analyze couldn't find a supposedly easy win.

<u>Little Lesson Number 2:</u> Beware of "theoretical wins" and "theoretical draws". What is easy for a Grandmaster may be very difficult for lesser mortals.

This principle is also true in the opening. People win games every day with what theory calls "unsound" gambits.

(I'd be interested if anyone can show me a clear win, or proof of a draw. One word of warning: this is probably not a job for your home computer. Two PC- or Mac-based chess programs analyzed for several hours and allowed perpetual check with Black's first move.)

#### 65...Kg6 66. Qe8 Kg7 67. Qc8

Trying for an immediate perpetual only chases Black's king to a better position, so White defends passively, inhibiting pawn advances with the threat of Q-forks. One amusing way for Black to go wrong is 67...Qg3 68. Kh1 f3? 71. Qg8!

#### Little Lessons -

#### Continued from page 24

#### 71. Kf2 Qe3 72. Kf1 Qf3 73. Kg1

It's still not time to advance. For example, 73...e4? 74. Qd7 Kg6 75. Qd6 Kg5 76. Qg8 Kh4 77. Qh7 Kg3 78. Qh3!. The game was adjourned again after White's next move. In the interim we both went through Games of Berkeley's collection of chess books in an unsuccessful search for more information. I showed the position to one Master who immediately recognized the complexity and backed away like Dracula when confronted by a cross.

# 73...Qe2 74. Qe6 Qe1 75. Kg2 Qe4 76. Kf2 Qe3 77. Kg2? f3 78. Kg3

I may have actually spent too much time analyzing the adjourned position. Even though I saw no sure way for Black to win if I stayed back, I also looked at lines where my King advances—but not deeply enough. I saw that 78...e4 allowed a perpetual after 79. Qe7 Kh6 80. Qe6 Kh5 81. Qe8, but overlooked the simple alternative.

<u>Little Lesson Number 3:</u> Don't over-complicate your thinking. If a simple strategy looks effective, don't reject it for something complex and unclear.

#### 78...Qf4 79. Kf2 e4 0-1

Black's pawns have advanced a rank, but it's still not clear how to make further progress, so why "0-1"? The answer is that I was distracted by thinking about my previous mistake, and forgot to make the last move of the fourth (!) time control.

Little Lesson Number 4: Don't panic! If you know you've made a mistake, try to forget it, and play your best for the rest of the game. Your opponent may do something even worse.

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#### The Physics of Chesscontinued from page 22

c5 6. d5 d6 7. e3 b5 8. de6 Be6 9. cb5. The sharp move here is 9...Nbd7 when only greedos take the pawn. I very much wanted my opponent to take the pawn. Could I work the touched piece agony routine? Nah. He was no dummy. If anything, histrionics would only alert him to danaer.

Over the board I concocted a subtle TN. Quietly, slyly my hand reached out and fingers barely closed on the QN. As quietly, the hand drew back to rest by the scoresheet. I said nothing. My opponent was silent too—perhaps waiting for me to attempt a rule infraction. I looked about me, then furtively at him, and then slid the hand back and placed the offending piece on d7, its only safe square

This may have been too subtle by half. He may not even have seen me touch the knight. The drama starts with touching the piece, then pretending I hadn't, then deciding that I'd be called on it and so moving quickly 9...Nbd7, pretending that was a good move. I wanted him to think I was bluffing a bad move as a good one.

To feign nervousness I rose from the board after recording the move and walked far far away. When I returned in two minutes time, he had played 10. Qd6 and after 10...g5 11. Bg3 Ne4, he discovered the error of his ways.

I don't suppose that Vasily Smyslov was talking about these stratagems when he urged older players to play with their fingers instead of their heads, but maybe Olivia Newton-John's exhortation "Let's Get Physical" was her way of saying that two-handed castling turned her on.

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#### **UNDER PROMOTIONS**

by FM Jim Eade

If you blinked, you may have missed it. While politicos debate the nature of the information superhighway, chess has roared into its fastest lane. Technological innovations are tumbling one over another at dizzyingly short intervals. We are approaching, as Mel Brook's character, "Dark Helmet," might say, "Judicrous speed."

All of this has left the chess consumers gasping for their collective breath. Which is why we've started this column. Struggling with a decision on whether to purchase a new chess data base? Wondering which of those chessplaying programs are really the best? Perhaps you would like to know whether an old-fashioned book is worth its hyperinflated purchase price? Ask Under Promotions.

On these pages the great issues of our day will be debated. No punches will be pulled and none will be ducked. If you think we're wrong, write back. We'll publish all contrary opinions. You won't get equal time, but you will get on the air.

Before we plunge directly into the deep waters of our current product reviews, it behooves us to state our product endorsement policy. The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author, unless otherwise noted, and are not necessarily those of the California Chess Journal, CalChess, or any other organization or body. The products reviewed on these pages may have been obtained without cost for review purposes, but any product, book or service retained for use by the author will be paid for in full by the author. If the author has any financial stake in the product under review, or its competitors, it will be so stated.

We aren't starting this column to line our shelves with goodies. We're doing it to try to make sense out of what is out there already, and what might be coming down the pike. If this is going to work. What new purchase has given you the most satisfaction or disappointed you the most, and why? Write in and tell us why.

Under promoted this issue:

The chess book, "Impact of Genius: 500 Years of Grandmaster Chess," by Richard Fauber. Granted the book is actually printed on actual paper, but we review it anyway. In fact, it is an excellent book and really should be read in the old-fashioned way. It will be

taken off of my shelf for rereads years after my floppy disks of games have been reformatted.

"Impact of Genius" retails for \$19.95 in PB and \$29.95 in HB. You may order it from Games of Berkeley (1-800-GAMERS-1), from Inside Chess (1-800-26-CHESS), or request an autographed copy directly from the author (R. H. Fauber, 4125 Zephyr Way, Sacramento, CA 95821 (include \$3 postage).

The book runs 389 pages and comes with both player and opening indices. The book would need to fun 3,890 pages to truly cover its ambitious aims, which are, first, to tell the human story of the greatest players in the 500 years of the modern games of chess. Second, to chronicle the developments of the game's leading ideas, their genesis from practical play and their incorporation into the body of received chess knowledge. Third, to attempt to relate the development of chess culture to the evolution of human culture in Europe and America,.

Fauber, a historian by profession, very nearly delivers on all counts. Some will quibble with a selection here and a conclusion there, but by and large "Impact of Genius" accomplishes what it set out to do. If that sounds like faint praise, think about it as though we had said something like, "Fauber examines all of the works of William Shakespeare and renders a coherent, systematic explanation of their meaning and historical context." This is a truly monumental work.

If you, like me, learned about chess history in fits and starts, with a little bit here and a little more there, I can wholeheartedly recommend this book to you. If you already know all there is to know about chess history, you can buy it and sneer at its superficiality. In either case, you should buy it.

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6-year-old Adam Lischinsky giving a simul for the chess class at Nueva Day School in Hillsborough (and he won every game!)

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