

# California Chess Journal

Volume 15, Number 1

January/February 2001

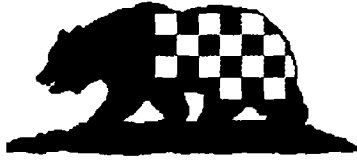
\$4.50

## Ewelina Krubnik Shines at CalChess Scholastic Quads



Also: LERA Thanksgiving Championship  
Mechanics Institute Capps Memorial  
Burlingame CC Goodwin Open

# California Chess Journal



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The California Chess Journal gladly accepts submissions pertaining to chess, especially chess in Northern California. Articles should be submitted in electronic form, preferably in text format. Digital photographs are preferred also. We work on a Macintosh, but articles and photographs created in lesser operating environments will be accepted at 126 Fifteenth Ave., San Mateo CA 94402-2414, or cattedkin@best.com. All submissions subject to editing, but we follow the unwritten rule of chess journalism that editors shouldn't mess with technical annotations by stronger players.

The deadline for submissions for the March/April issue is February 7. We're not kidding.

### Advertising Rates

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Back cover	\$125	Half Page	\$50
Two pages	\$125	Quarter Page	\$25
Full page	\$75		

# Table of Contents

<b>CalChess Scholastic Quads</b>	
New site draws 190 kids to November event .....	3
<b>Krubnik Annotates</b>	
Ewelina Krubnik discusses two wins from the quads .....	3
<b>LERA Thanksgiving Championship</b>	
Tom Dorsch pockets first place money, annotates his best game .....	6
<b>A Knightmarish Endgame</b>	
Curt Munson's bad LERA dream .....	6
<b>Burlingame Chess Club Championship</b>	
Rudy Hernandez wins 12th Goodwin Open .....	8
<b>Carroll Capps Memorial</b>	
Ryan Porter tops 11 other masters, analyzes one of his games .....	14
<b>State Scholastic Championship</b>	
1000 screaming kids, 500 tired adults — just like Great America! .....	15
<b>Problem Solving and Chess</b>	
An advertiser pulled out. No problem .....	15
<b>Livermore Chess Championship</b>	
Riley Hughes reports, plus 10 games .....	18
<b>UPSCL Tripleheader of Championships</b>	
Tournament chess in less time than it takes to read this line .....	20
<b>Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #6</b>	
John McCumiskey reports .....	22
<b>Sacramento vs. Burlingame Team Match</b>	
Suburb sneaks past capital city, Richard Koepcke annotates .....	23
<b>Playing the Pawn Game</b>	
The easiest endings to win are pure pawn endings .....	26
<b>Places to Play</b>	
Club listings .....	31
<b>Tournament Calendar</b>	
More excuses to avoid housework .....	32

## Editor's Space

Round of applause for Allan Fifield, who produced this magazine long after it was fun for him to do so. Allan is one of the best people in Northern California chess with whom to work — he'll be leading the staff of tournament directors at the CalChess State Scholastic Championship again this year. New organizers, new sections, new trophies, same incredible experience. Be there March 3 and 4.

Allan and I agree that it'll be easier for an editor in the Bay Area to gather chess news. We both come from a publishing background — Allan makes high school yearbooks, and I'm a newspaperman; I guess the difference there is that high school yearbooks like little pictures, and newspapers like big ones. Allan is interested in national chess politics, and I'm not.

I'm working for you — this is your magazine. Tell me what you want or don't want — if there aren't enough human interest stories or opening theoreticals, write some. Send money. Extending your CalChess membership is a no lose, everyone wins deal — you get the California Chess Journal (back to six times a year!) and discounted entry fees to participating chess tournaments; the membership pays for itself!

The first thing they tell you in journalism school is "be objective, report only the facts — if you want to express an opinion do it on the op-ed page." Let's see, so I thanked the previous editor, made the pledge drive pitch, so the rest of this space is mine to talk about what



# CalChess Scholastic Quads Attract 167 and 190 Players to New Site

By Dr. Alan Kirshner

I would like to start with a special thank you to Allan Fifield, recently retired editor of the *California Chess Journal*. Allan dedicated numerous issues to scholastic chess and never published an issue without some scholastic coverage.

I must admit that at times he could have checked his spelling a bit more carefully — one cover had Weibel spelled “Wieble,” and last winter’s cover (with my son’s photograph for winning the high school division at the state scholastic championship) spelled his name “Michah” instead of “Micah.” From my — Alan’s — perspective, his parents misspelled his name as “Allan,” so I can forgive the errors.

Allan wanted to retire a year ago from the trying and time-consuming task of editing and producing the magazine, but the CalChess board could find no masochistic volunteer to replace him. Finally, a few months ago, Frisco Del Rosario stepped forward and Allan jumped at the chance to relax with his myriad of other interests. Frisco, I know, will provide as much coverage to scholastic chess. He tutors young players and always volunteers as a director at my tournaments.

The December 9 Weibel Scholastic Chess Quads will continue its tradition of attracting about 200 players. A minimum of one out of four players will take home a trophy, and in a few cases four out of four will win. However, in one quad at San Leandro on November 19, the players agreed before they began playing to split the games at 1½ each so they could all obtain trophies. One

young man 'fessed up and his coach wanted him to return the trophy. Agreeing to draws before a tournament or before a game violates all chess rules, and regulations and, I might add, is quite unethical. After checking the quad, I learned that two of the other players were from my team. I need not tell you how much time I spent at our next team meeting explaining to those two and all members of the team that this had better never occur again.

Draws are fine. However, chess is played for fun, skill, creativity, critical thinking and the thrill of competition—not for trophies or rating points, which are just a minor reward for the player’s accomplishment. I need to underline this last comment for a few parents—especially those who bought trophies for their children at the Chess Education Association Nationals last spring. And to the parents who come up

Continued on Page 4

## Two Annotated Games from the Scholastic Quads

**On the cover:** Ewelina Krubnik, 11, won or tied for first place in the top sections of the CalChess Scholastic Quads held in October and November. Ewelina is the 13th-highest-rated girl in the country under the age of 13, according to the December 2000 USCF rating supplement. She and her younger sister Emilia study with international master John Donaldson.

White: Wesley Chen (1477)  
Black: Ewelina Krubnik (1269)  
Danish Gambit  
Notes by Team Krubnik

**1.e4 e5 2.d4 ed4 3.c3 dc3 4.Bc4 cb2 5.Bb2 Bb4**

Returning some material with 5...d5 6.Bd5 Bb4 7.Nc3 Bc3 8.Bc3 Nf6 is considered to be a good answer to the Danish Gambit.

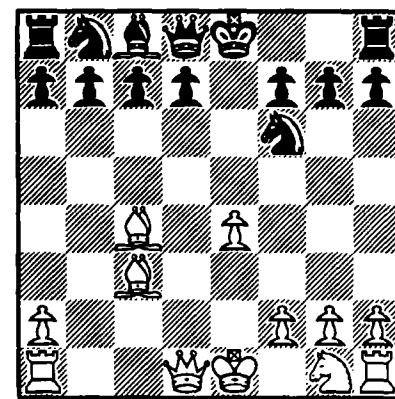
**6.Nc3**

6.Nd2!? is worthy of attention.

**6...Bc3**

Better is 6...d5 7.Bd5 Bc3 8.Bc3 Nf6, transposing into the line given above.

**7.Bc3 Nf6**



**8.Nf3?**

8.e5 Qe7 9.Qe2 Ng8 10.Nf3 was an interesting alternative. Black’s development is bad, but she has two pawns for her troubles. Chances would be approximately equal after 8.e5.

Continued on Page 25

# Kids Take Trophies and Ethics Lessons Home from Scholastic Quads

Continued from Page 3

to me and ask to buy one of my trophies to help inspire their child. Ugh. Bribes work, I have no doubt, but how about a hug or a nice chess book or CD-ROM, or some chess lessons to improve the young player's skills. I know that these will be more rewarding, helpful, and healthy for the fledgling chessplayer—besides, they do not collect as much dust.

Time for a short report on the two CalChess Scholastic Quads held at the Marina Community Center in San Leandro on October 22 and November 19. The October Quads drew 167 players and that number jumped to 190 in November.

Parents and other adults like the site, and the recreation center people are kind enough to turn the whole building into skittles areas (places to go over the games or play for fun) after their other Sunday events are over. I will note that one reason the San Leandro tournaments have been more reasonably priced than most others is that the Recreation Department has provided the site for free. The only cost is for the trophies, equipment, and the tournament directors and helpers.

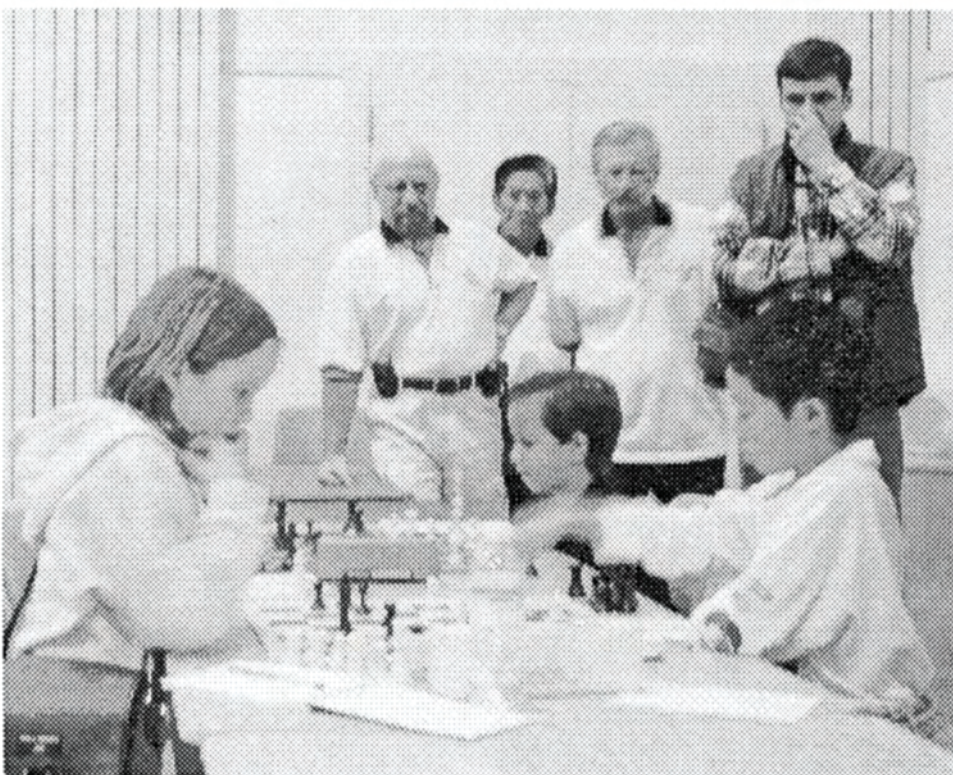
The San Leandro Recreation Department has offered the Marina Community Center to me

as a gratuity for my volunteering to run the Alameda County High School and Junior High School Championships at that site on February 25. So, if you attend an Alameda County middle school, junior high school, or high school, mark your calendar. You may play as an individual or as part of a junior varsity or varsity team. The cost remains \$2, and the recreation department supplies free snacks. Can you beat that deal? Another reason most parents love the site is because it is convenient. The Marina CC is about halfway between the two largest chess programs in the Bay Area, the Berkeley Chess School in the East Bay and the Success Chess School in the South Bay.

While I would love to write about each quad played at the two tournaments, I know it would take up too much space and time. Therefore, I am only going to list the trophy winners because they definitely deserve their names in print and my kudos:

## October 22

- Quad #1: Ewelina Krubnik (1269)
- Quad #2: Igor Garbouz (1264), Jamie Brett (1193), Nicolas Yap (1186)
- Quad #3: Erin Harrington (1139) Aaron Wilkowski (1179)
- Quad #4: Edward Chien (1133)
- Quad #5: Darwin Fu (1062), Jeffrey Shih (1061), Shaun Tse (1017)
- Quad #6: Tyler Wilken (980)
- Quad #7: Cassandra Lawson (952)
- Quad #8: Robert Connick (942), Roger Tjhia (933)
- Quad #9: Anyon Harrington (917)
- Quad #10: William Connick (906)
- Quad #11: Rahul Subramanian (912), Carrie Ho (905), David Chock (899)
- Quad #12: Alvin Cheng (860), Tatsuro Yamamura (842)
- Quad #13: Brian Lau (821), Jason Chang (797)
- Quad #14: Lucien Kahn (777)
- Quad #15: Jamie Grossman (751), Hansen Tsai (786), Kevin Liu (777)



Ewelina Krubnik (left, playing Black) and Timothy Ma faced off in the last round of the November CalChess Scholastic Quad. Igor Garbouz played White on board two. The adults are (left to right) directors Dr. Alan Kirshner, Dr. Michael Salaysay, Henry Vinerts, and Ewelina's father Mariusz.

Photograph by Shorman

Continued on Page 24



# JESSIE JEANS OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT

(2 tournaments!)

TD Jerome (Jerry) Weikel

## MAIN TOURNAMENT — JANUARY 12–14

\$4,000 Prize Fund! (b/80 players) - (if 100 players = \$5,000!!)

Jan.12th-14th, 2001 • Santa Rosa,CA

5 Round Swiss in 3 Sections • USCF-rated, Time Controls 40/100 (20/40) (30/30)

### PRIZE FUND

Open Section: 1st \$500, \$300, \$200; (U2200) \$350, \$200, \$100

Reserve Section: 1st \$300, \$200, \$100, \$100, \$80; (U1800) \$280, \$150, \$80

Booster Section: 1st \$250, \$150, \$100, \$100, \$80; (U1400) \$200, \$100, \$80

**ENTRY FEE:** Open Section (2000-above) = \$80\*

Reserve Section (1600-1999) = \$79\*

Booster Section (Under 1600) = \$78\*

\*\$10 more at site. (enter early and save!)

Discount \$5 for CalChess members (must present card at site)

**REGISTRATION:** 5-7:30 p.m. Jan.12th at site (also 10-11 a.m. Jan. 13). Must be a USCF member — bring USCF card. Memberships available at site. Adults = \$40, Senior (65+) = \$30, Youth (under 20) = \$20, Scholastic (under15) \$13

**ROUND TIMES:** Fri (Jan 12th) - Round 1 - 7:30 PM

Sat (Jan 13th) - Round 2 - 11 AM, Rd.3 - 6PM

Sun (Jan 14th) - Round 4 - 9 AM, Rd.5 - 2PM

## TOURNAMENT #2 — JANUARY 15

Monday (Jan 15th) - Action (Game/50 minutes) Tournament - 4 round Swiss \$30 entry fee.

(Prize Fund = 65% of all entry money paid back to all classes of players that are represented proportionally)

**Registration:** (Mon) 9-10AM, Rd.1-10AM, Rd.2-12PM, Rd.3-3PM, Rd.4-5PM

**LOCATION:** JESSIE JEANS COFFEE SHOP

1426 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa, Ca 95401, (707) 526-0929

**DIRECTIONS TO SITE:** (Santa Rosa is approx. 60 miles north of San Francisco)

**Traveling north on Hwy 101** take College Exit, turn right, then turn left on Mendocino Ave. Go thru Pacific St. intersection and it is on the right side of block next to Burger King. Park in rear.

**Traveling south on Hwy 101** take Steel Lane Exit, turn left. Next take a right onto Mendocino Ave. Jessie Jeans is located next to Burger King.

A great place to stay is at Los Robles Lodge (4-star hotel/motel !!), 1985 Cleveland Ave., Santa Rosa, Ca,95401. 1-800-255-6330. Special Chess rates!! 2 nights = \$72!!! ask for Cheryl & mention the Chess Tournament.

Make checks payable and mail (by Jan 7th) to: Jerome Weikel, 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523. (775) 747-1405. Checks not received by Fri (Jan 12th) will require cash payment at site plus late fee.

Sets will be provided. Bring clocks.

# Dorsch Wins Championship Section of LERA Thanksgiving Tournament

## Championship Section

1 Tom Dorsch	\$350
2 David Blohm	\$200
3-5 Robert Sferra	\$41.67
3-5 Paul Gallegos	\$41.67
3-5 Keith Vickers	\$41.67
1 U2200 Eleuterio Alsasua	\$250
2 U2200 Agnis Kaugars	\$150
3-5 U2200 M. Aigner	\$33.34
3-5 U2200 John Barnard	\$33.34
3-5 U2200 Matthew Ho	\$33.34

## Reserve (1600-1999) Section

1 Clifford Estrada	\$225
2-3 Bharini Bhamidipati	\$125
2-3 Adam Lischinsky	\$125
1-2 U1800 Teri Lagier	\$162.50
1-2 U1800 Yefim Bukh	\$162.50

3-5 U1800 Akash Deb	\$25
3-5 U1800 Drake Wang	\$25
3-5 U1800 Lev Pisarsky	\$25

## Booster (Under 1600) Section

1-3 Wesley Chen	\$100
1-3 J.L. deJong	\$100
1-3 Jeremy Fremlin	\$100
1 U1400 Ricky Yu	\$100
2-3 U1400 Michael O'Brien	\$25
2-3 U1400 Mark Gould	\$25

By Riley Hughes

Ninety-three players participated in the LERA Thanksgiving Chess Championship held Nov. 25 and 26 in Sunnyvale, and the full prize fund of \$2500 was awarded even though that figure was based on 100 entries.

If you were in the Championship section, you had a great chance to take home a paycheck — 16 masters and experts entered, and 10 of them won money! National master Tom Dorsch won the Championship section outright with 3½ of 4, earning \$350 for his efforts.

The most interesting non-chess event was a mad scramble for tables before the tournament. Mysteriously, half the tables that are usually stored at LERA were missing! Thanks to my friend Doug Shaker for loaning me his van, thus saving the day (I have a two-seater car whose trunk holds one electric guitar, one amp, a chess set, and not much else) as we were able to get 10 tables from a local "we rent anything for money" store.

After paying extra for the tables, and awarding the entire prize fund, I lost \$34, but had a great time! The players were just sensationally nice and appreciative for the work that goes into holding these tournaments, and that really makes it worthwhile. My thanks to all for attending.

We are planning to hold the next LERA tournament in April. Mike Goodall and I are directing the Berkeley People's Tournament in February, and we hope to see you there.

White: Paul Gallegos (2200)  
Black: Tom Dorsch (2227)  
Sicilian Wing Gambit  
Notes by NM Tom Dorsch

**1. e4 c5 2. b4**

The venerable Wing Gambit, a relic from the romantic style of the 19th Century that retains some bite, but not much popularity. If things go according to plan, White will essentially be playing a

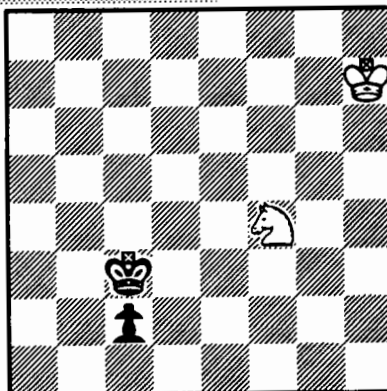
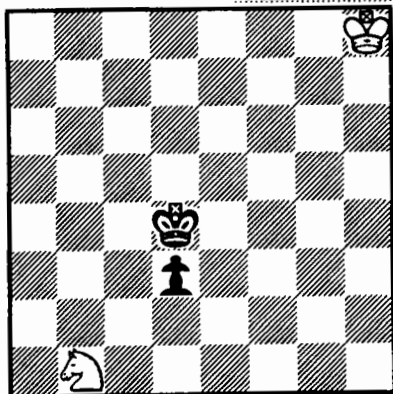
## A Knightmarish Endgame from LERA

By Curtis Munson and Frisco Del Rosario

The crux of many knight endgames is whether the knight can stop a passed pawn. Against enemy king and a non-rook pawn, the knight only needs to occupy any square in the pawn's path:

**1. Nd2 Ke3 2. Nb3 Ke4 3. Kg7 Kd5 4. Kf6 Kc4 5. Nd2 Kc3 6. Nf3 and so forth.**

If a square in the pawn's path cannot be occupied, the knight will draw if the pawn can be forked:



Continued on Page 14



Benko Gambit with move in hand, except that he will have the attacking pawn wedge d4-e5 instead of the defensive wedge d6-c5. Under those circumstances, Black should not have a safe place on the board for his king.

The flip side is that Black retains an extra pawn and a majority on the queenside that should give him a winning endgame, if he can survive White's middlegame pressure.

**2...cb4 3. a3 d5**

This was considered Black's best equalizing strategy for a century or more. The concept is that if Black can free his "bad bishop" on c8, he has no trouble equalizing while retaining his pawn plus. Of course, like many concepts, there is many a slip between cup and lip.

**4. e5**

This is a more modern strategy than 4.ed, aiming for the "attacking wedge" described in the first note.

**4...Nc6 5. d4 Qa5!**

This queen move disrupts White's intended developmental scheme, forcing him to put pieces, at least temporarily, on awkward squares, and delaying any White initiative.

**6. Bd2**

White does not want to play 6.Bb2—he wants his bishop on either the a3-f8 or c1-h6 diagonals—but it is the best move.

**6...Bf5 7. Nf3 e6 8. Be2 Bg4**

Black moves to make the exchanges that will reduce White's attacking chances and hasten transition to an ending, in accordance with the general rule that "when ahead in pieces, trade pawns; when ahead in pawns, trade pieces."

There is also a general rule that bishops are better than knights, but that is modified by the exception that knights can be better than bishops in positions with closed pawn formations



Tom Dorsch, USCF life master, and the reigning Nebraska state chess champion.

Photograph by Shorman

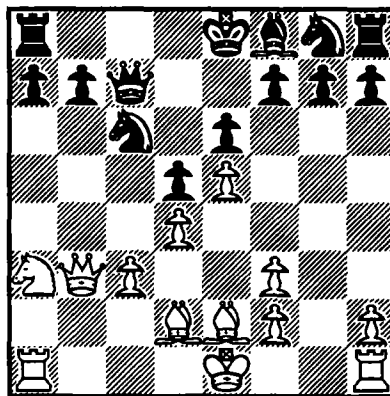
where the knights can establish outposts in or near the center. The exception applies here.

However, Black's best move was 8...Qa4!

**9. c3 Bf3 10. gf3?**

After the game, Paul said he should have played 10.Bf3, and I agree with him. The severe weakening of his kingside made the organization of counterplay difficult.

**10...ba3 11. Qb3 Qc7 12. Na3**



**12...Ba3!**

Remember, here knights are better than bishops. The exchange allows Black to catch up to

White in development and move into the middlegame with a safe position and an extra pawn.

As the book says, "now there are only technical difficulties." Black simply has to convert his material advantage in the endgame—a process that requires 50 more moves.

**13. Ra3 Nge7 14. 0-0 0-0 15. Rfa1 b6**

Black is now ready to redeploy his knights to control the key square c4, always important in this French-type pawn formation. White begins to rearrange his forces to account for this possibility.

**16. Qd1 Na5 17. R3a2 f6! 18. f4 Nc4 19. Bc1 Rf7 20. Qf1 a5 21. Bg4?! f5**

This allows Black to lock up the kingside at the gain of a tempo, and frees his forces to concentrate on the queenside, which is really what he wants to do anyway.

**22. Be2 Nc8 23. Bc4 Qc4 24. Qc4 dc4**

I felt that all of the trades hastened transposition to the

Continued on Page 13

# Hernandez Has a Good Win in the 12th Burlingame CC Goodwin Open

1st Place	Rudy Hernandez	6
2nd Place	Ed Bogas	5.5
1 Expert	Frisco Del Rosario	5
1-3 A	Jacob Gurwitz	5
	Osmundo Reyes	
	Carolyn Withgitt	
1-3 B	Nick Tripolski	3.5
	Alex Setzepfandt	
	Bob Cromwell	
1 C	Frantisek Uhrin	3.5
	Eron Sudhausen	
	Charles Clark	
1 D	Comet	3.5
2 D	Nicolas Yap	3
1 E	Lauren Goodkind	3
2 E	Gilbert Yap	2

## U1200 Section

1-2	Brendan Lillis	6
	Dan Burdick	

## By Frisco Del Rosario

National master Rudy Hernandez won the 12th Goodwin Open — the 2000 Burlingame Chess Club Championship — held Oct. 12–Nov. 30 with a 6-1 score. Hernandez earned \$200 in prize money. Expert Ed Bogas finished second at 5½-1½. Scott Wilson directed 74 players in two sections.

The Burlingame club, second oldest to the Mechanics Institute in Northern California, named its championship tournament the Goodwin Open in 1988 to honor the late Wilfred Goodwin, who served on the club's board of directors for 30 years.

Akash Deb won an award for playing the best game of the event with Goodwin's favorite Orangutan Opening.

White: Jacob Gurwitz (1985)  
Black: Charles Clark (1600)  
Blackmar-Diemer Gambit

## 1. d4 Nf6 2. f3

When Black plays 1...Nf6, 2. f3 is a better try than 2. Nc3 for reaching the Blackmar-Diemer

Gambit, because 2. Nc3 could lead to 2...d5 3. e4 Ne4, where the exchange of knights reduces White's play.

## 2...d5

Otherwise White plays 3. e4 for free.

## 3. e4 de4 4. Nc3 Bf5

The Vienna Defense looks like a natural way for Black to play, but Black's queen bishop is an immediate target. White can play as in the game, or try the chaotic 5. g4 Bg6 6. g5. Black's best course is to accept the gambit with 4...ef3.

## 5. fe4 Ne4 6. Qf3 Nc3

White's recapture will bolster his center pawn, which for now is unprotected. More usual, therefore, is 6...Nd6 7. Bf4 (threatening 8. Bd6 and 9. Qf5) and 7...Qc8 to guard the b-pawn.

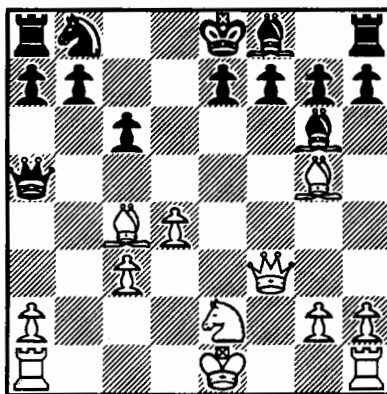
## 7. bc3 Bc2

7...Qc8 is indicated here, too. The bishop will have to rush back to g6 with a further loss of time.

## 8. Bg5

Going to the heart of the matter is 8. Qb7 Nd7 9. Bb5 Rc8 10. Nf3 Bf5 (11. Ne5 was menaced) 11. 0-0, when Black is three moves away from castling and is faced immediately with a discovered attack by the white rook.

## 8...c6 9. Bc4 Bg6 10. Ne2 Qa5



## 11. Qe3

White probably pondered 11. 0-0 Qg5 12. Bf7 Kd8 (12...Bf7 hastens the white knight's entry: 13. Qf7 Kd7 14. Nf4 ) 13. Be6 (otherwise Black would probably play 13...e6 to free his king bishop) 13...Nd7 14. Rae1 Nf6, and Black's exposed king and horrible development give White fair compensation for the sacrificed piece.

## 11...Nd7 12. 0-0 Nb6

Black cannot easily develop his kingside. For instance, he could lose right away on 12...e6 13. Be6 fe6 14. Qe6. 12...Nf6 13. Bf6 gf6 14. Rf6 0-0-0 seems to make the best of it for Black, but White has a readymade attack along the b-file, and Black's kingside difficulties are still evident after 15. Qh3 e6 (better 15...Kb8) 16. Be6 fe6 17. Rg6.

## 13. Bf7 Bf7 14. Rf7

Chess is more fun when one plays in this fashion.

## 14...Nd5

If 14...Kf7, then White wins splendidly by 15. Rf1 Ke8 16. Rf8! Kf8 17. Qe7 Kg8 18. Qe6 Kf8 19. Be7 Ke8 20. Bf6 Kf8 21. Qe7 Kg8 22. Qg7 mate.

## 15. Qe6 Nf6

Not 15...Nc7, for 16. Re7 leads to mate.

## 16. Bf6 gf6 17. Rf6 Qd5 18. Qe3 0-0-0 19. Nf4 Qg5

Black's king is deserted, but White wins neatly on 19...Qd7 20. Rf7 Rg8 21. Ne6 Re8 22. Raf1 Qd5 23. Qh3.

## 20. Qe6 Kb8 21. Rf5 Qh6

21...Qg7 saves the rook on h8, but White is in command after 22. Re1. One pretty finish is 22...Rd6 23. Qd6 ed6 24. Re8 Kc7



25. Ne6 Kd7 26. Ng7 Bg7 27. Rh8 Bh8 28. Rf8, and so forth.

**22. Qe5 Kc8**

Or 22...Ka8 23. Qh8 +-.

**23. Ne6 Resigns**

White: Osmundo Reyes (1800)  
Black: David Barker (1850)  
Bird's Opening

**1. f4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 0-0 5. 0-0 d6 6. c4 c6 7. Nc3 Qc7 8. Kh1 a5 9. d3 Na6**

On the way to c5, after which it's difficult for White to boot the knight with b4 (because of ...a5) and ungainly to chase it by d4 because of the hole created on e4. It is probably sounder, though, to play 9...Nbd7, which also prepares ...Nc5, while bolstering ...e5 and reserving the option of heading to the kingside.

**10. h3 Nh5 11. Kh2**

The first indication that the players are aware of each other.

**11...e5 12. e3**

Hans Kmoch called this pawn formation — c4, d3, e3, f4 — the "quart grip." The wing pawns control two center squares and the center pawns also control two center squares. If one of the wing pawns is exchanged, there is a pawn ready to replace it.

**12...ef4**

Hard to see why Black gave up his presence in the center. Instead, he should fight for the center and continue his development by ...f5 and ...Nc5, and then if White plays d4, the knight can jump into e4.

**13. gf4**

There are a few reasons White might've chosen to capture away

from the center rather than toward it. For one, 13. ef4 keeps the pawn cover in front of his king, and takes the backward pawn off the open file. It also increases the bishop's mobility.

This interrupts for the moment any plans White had for, say, Ng5 and Bf3, but Black's knights, which lack focus, are further stymied.

**17. Qf2 Nf8 18. e4**

White has judged at this point that Black will find it more difficult to hit the center — ...f5 is no longer possible, for starters, and the d7-knight has been removed.

**18...Bg7 19. e5**

It seems natural for White to finish his development with 19. Be3 (if 19...Ne6, 20. Nh4 puts f5 strongly in the picture) and 20. Rae1, and then begin rolling.

**19...Ne6 20. Qh4 Bh6 21. f5**

This is a nerve-wracking position — is either player really certain that Black's threats to the f-pawn have caused White to lose his grip on the center, or has White just been persuaded to sacrifice a pawn or two before breaking into the black king position.

**21...Nef4**

**22. Ne4**

A handsome centralizing, threatening move behind that pawn front.

**22...de5 23. de5**

However, having two center pawns gives White two different ways of going forward in the middle.

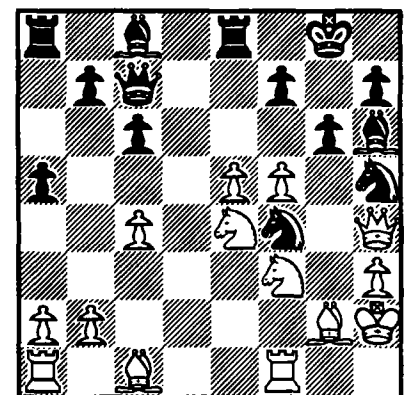
**13...Nc5 14. d4**

Black's abandonment of the center at move 12 really shows now.

**14...Nd7 15. Qe1**

15. e4 creates one of those huge centers that looks great but is really rather fragile — Black could chip away from the sides with ...c5 and ...f5.

**15...Re8 16. Qh4 Bf6**



Continued on Page 10

# Burlingame CC Championship Selected Games

Continued from Page 9

## 23...Ng2

What a life that knight has had: b8-a6-c5-d7-f8-e6-f4xg2.

## 24. Nf6

After the queen sacrifice 24. Qh5, Black's threat of discovered check after 24...gh5 25. Bh6 Re5 should be enough for him to hold on. Much less aggressive is 24. Kg2, which could find Black's hypermodern play paying off with a few pawns and a lead in development to boot: 24...Bc1 (because Black will probably win a pawn or two, and wants to trade, while moving the bishop saves it from hanging) 25. Rac1 Bf5 26. Nf6 Nf6 27. ef6, and Black might avert a disaster on the black squares with aggressive play: 27...Re2 28. Rf2 (28. Kh1 Be4 or 28. Kg1 and White can't play Qh6 hastily else ...Qg3) Rf2 29. Kf2 Qb6 30. Kg2 Qb2, watching over f6.

## 24...Nf6 25. Qh6 Re5

With White's Ng5 looming, Black feels compelled to give up rook for knight and two pawns in order to preserve his knight on f6.

## 26. Ne5 Qe5 27. Kg2 Bf5

Black should feel great about the turn of events — he has a lead in development and a safer king. Black's king shelter might have huge holes — while White has the right-colored bishop and Black does not — but at least he has a king shelter.

## 28. Qf4

Suddenly White wants to trade queens, considering his drafty king and the black queen's pressure on b2, making it hard for White to develop.

## 28...Qe6

Coordinating against h3, but the endgame after 28...Re8 29. Qe5 Re5 looks good for Black in the short term, because he has a threat to invade with ...Re2, while

the bishop's pressure on h3 keeps the white king tied down.

## 29. Kh2 Nh5

It's easy to recommend 29...Re8.

## 30. Qd4 Bh3

Again ...Re8.

## 31. Rf3 Qd7 32. Qc3 Bf5 33. Bh6 f6 34. Re1

And White wins the race to full development at move 34. With a rook against a knight on the edge, the piece pressure advantage has swung to White.

## 34...Re8 35. Rfe3 Re3 36. Re3 b6

Black is concerned for the a5-pawn because White's queen could capture it and then infiltrate on the back rank. 36...Qd8 guards the a-pawn and also the f-pawn, therefore releasing the knight to come back to the game through g7 and e6.

## 37. c5 b5 38. Qb3 Kh8

28...Qf7 allows mate in one by 39. Re8.

## 39. Qd1

Very good, threatening 40. Qd7 Bd7 41. Re7.

## 39...Qc7 40. Kg1

White could encroach further by 40. Qd6 followed by Re7.

## 40...Ng7 41. Qd4 Kg8

If Black played 41...Nh5, White would probably find 42. Qd6 through inertia.

## 42. Qf6 Qd7 43. Qd6 Qd6 44. cd6 Bc8 45. Bg7 Kg7 46. d7 Bd7 47. Re7 Kf6 48. Rd7 h5 49. Rd6 Kf5 50. Rc6 Resigns

White: Zachary Karnazes (1700)  
Black: Nick Tripolski (1600)  
Albin Countergambit

## 1. d4 d5 2. c4 e5

Highly recommended.

## 3. de5 d4 4. a3

Development by 4. Nf3 Nc6 5. g3 puts more pressure on Black. For instance, if Black goes directly to regain the gambit pawn by 5...Bg4 6. Bg2 Bf3 7. Bf3 Ne5, the b7-pawn hangs.

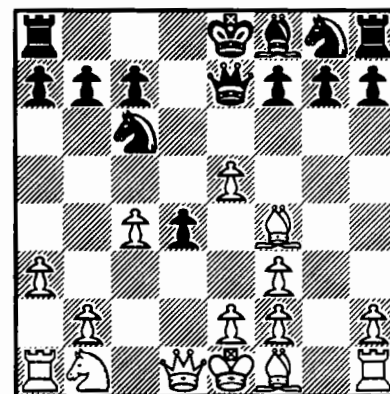
## 4...Nc6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Bf4

6. Nbd2 preserves White's pawn structure and develops the short-range piece before the long. Then 6...Qe7 7. g3 Ne5 threatens mate on the move.

## 6...Bf3

It's hard to choose a recapture here. 7. ef3 leaves Black with a passed pawn (move 7 is not too soon to make endgame considerations) and 7. gf3 makes an uncertain life for the white king.

## 7. gf3 Qe7



Now it's easier to see why White played a3 — Black would've rather developed his bishop with a check then played his queen to e7. 7...Qe7 looks to 8...Ne5 and 9...Nf3 mate, and these things really happen.

## 8. Bh3

With White's positional minuses in mind, it could make sense to make it as hard as possible for Black to regain the pawn by 8. Qa4. Then Black can circle around with 8...g6 (8...0-0-0 is natural but Black has to watch his a-pawn; some would just gambit a



pawn by 8...f6) 9. Nd2 (9. Bg3 Bg7 10. f4 f6 is a good sacrifice) Bg7 10. 0-0-0 Be5 11. Be5 Qe5 12. Nb3 0-0-0 with a fair game.

### 8...Qh4

Black complicates, possibly because he doesn't like the looks of 8...Ne5 9. 0-0 (9. Qd4 loses the queen to 9...Nf3), where White has a threat and a lead in development.

### 9. Bg4 g6 10. Qd2

Trying to trap the queen with 11. Bg5.

### 10...Bh6

Black isn't really going to win a piece with 11...Bf4 12. Qf4 h5 due to 13. Bd7.

### 11. b4

White should castle here and let Black sweat over his development. 11. 0-0 and Black can't move his king knight without dropping his bishop while 11...Bf4 12. Qf4 puts 13. Bd7 in the air. 11. 0-0 Ne5 could win spectacularly: 12. Bh6 (better 12. Qd4) Nh6 13. Qd4 Nhg4 14. fg4 Ng4 15. Qh8 Ke7.

### 11...Rd8 12. Bh6

Again 13. 0-0 puts the development ball back in Black's court.

### 12...Nh6 13. Qf4 Ng4 14. fg4 Qe7

Black's opening pawn sacrifice is more than fully justified by 14...0-0 with 15...f5 to follow.

### 15. Nd2 Qe5 16. Qe5 Ne5

Black has emerged with some pluses. He has a lead in development, the only presence in the center, and a threat to take on g4.

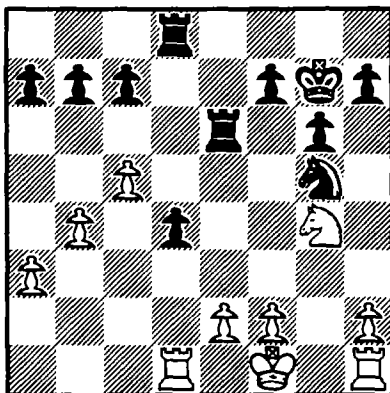
### 17. g5

The pawn is all alone out there, and 17. Rg1 better contributes to White's development. Then 17...0-0 and 18...Rfe8 finds Black much better coordinated.

### 17...0-0 18. Rd1 Rfe8 19. Ne4 Kg7 20. Nf6

White was obviously counting on 17. g5 to lead to this position, but two pawns are hanging.

### 20...Re6 21. c5 Nf3 22. Kf1 Ng5 23. Ng4



### 23...Ree8

Relieves the pin on the d-pawn, so the white knight can't run to e3. Usually, Black considers the Albin Countergambit a success if his d4-pawn cramps White for a little while. In this game, the pawn hinders White's movement into the endgame.

### 24. h4 Ne4 25. h5 f5 26. h6 Kf7 27. Nh2 Ng5

Very good, containing the white knight. If 28. Nf3, 28...Nf3 29. ef3 gives Black a strong passer.

### 28. Rg1 Kf6 29. Rg3 Re4 30. Rgd3 Rh4 31. Kg2 Re8

If it worked, Black would much rather play 31...Rh6 32. Rd4 Rd4 33. Rd4 Rh2 34. Kh2 Nf3.

### 32. Rd4 Rd4 33. Rd4 Re2 34. Rd7 Re7 35. Re7

For what it's worth, this is White's best shot, drawing the black king away from the h-pawn. All the other moves run into ...Nf7, and White will be two pawns down for nothing.

### 35...Ke7 36. f4 Nf7 37. Nf3 Nh6 38. Ng5 Nf7

Black's knight will corner White's knight again.

### 39. Nh7 Nd8 40. Kf3

The only move to give the knight life is 40. Ng5, but Black is winning after 40...Ne6 41. Nh3 Kf6.

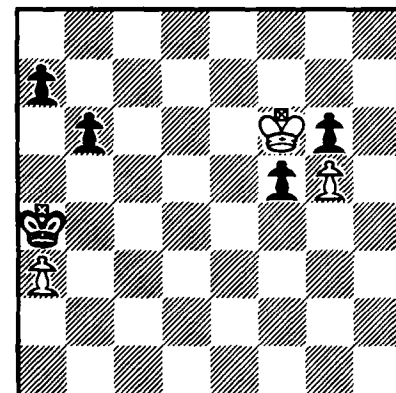
### 40...Ne6 41. Ke3 b6

An unnecessary delay. Black gets back in time to prevent anything bad from happening on the queenside after 41...Kf7 42. b5 Kg7 43. Ng5 Ng5 44. fg5 Kf7 45. a4 Ke6 46. Kd4 f4 47. Ke4 f3 48. Kf3 Kd5.

### 42. cb6 cb6 43. Ng5 Ng5 44. fg5 Ke6 45. Kd4 Kd6

45...f4 46. Ke4 f3 47. Kf3 Kf5 is direct play.

### 46. b5 Ke6 47. Ke3 Kd5 48. Kf4 Kc5 49. Ke5 Kb5 50. Kf6 Ka4



Black wins even without the queenside pawns: 50...f4 51. Kg6 f3 52. Kh7 f2 53. g6 f1(Q) 54. g7 Qf7 55. Kh8 Qh5 56. Kg8 Kc6 57. Kf8 Qf5 58. Ke7 Qg6 59. Kf8 Qf6 60. Kg8 Kd6 61. Kh7 Qf7 62. Kh8 Qh5 63. Kg8 Ke6 64. Kf8 (64. a4 Kf6 65. a5 Qf7 66. Kh8 Qg7 mate) Qf7 mate.

### 51. Kg6 f4 52. Kh7 f3 53. g6 f2 54. g7 f1(Q) 55. g8(Q) Qh1 56. Kg7 Qg1 57. Kf7 Qg8 58. Kg8 Ka3 and Black won.

White: Osmundo Reyes (1800)  
Black: Hank Cox (1600)  
Queen's Gambit Declined

### 1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. Bg5 d5 4. e3

White might play 4. Nbd2 here, which aims to play 5. e4 in one step. Then after 5...Be7, White would play c4 (maybe after e3).

Continued on Page 12

# Burlingame CC Championship Selected Games

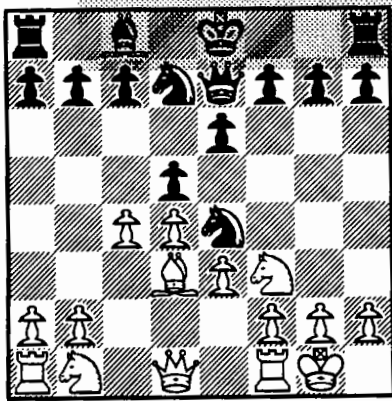
Continued from Page 11

Bd3, 0-0), and if Black captured with ...dc4, White would recapture with the knight in order to better control e5.

**4...Be7 5. Bd3**

If White is going to play c4, he should either do it now so ...dc4 Bc4 doesn't lose a move, or after he plays Nbd2.

**5...Ne4 6. Be7 Qe7 7. 0-0 Nd7 8. c4**



**8...Nef6**

Black can transpose to Marshall-Capablanca, fifth match game, 1909, by 8...0-0 9. Nc3 Nc3 10. bc3 c5 11. Qc2 h6 12. Rfe1 dc4 13. Bc4 b6 14. Qe4 Rb8 15. Bd3 Nf6 16. Qf4 Bb7 17. e4 Rfd8 18. Rad1 Rbc8 19. Re3 cd4 20. cd4 Rc3 21. Bb1 g5 22. Ng5 Re3 23. Qe3 Ng4 24. Qg3 Qg5 25. h4 Qg7 26. Qc7 Rd4 27. Qb8 Kh7 28. e5 Be4 29. Rd4 Bb1 30. Qa7 Ne5 31. Rf4 Be4 32. g3 Nf3 33. Kg2 f5 34. Qb6 Nh4 35. Kh2 Nf3 36. Rf3 Bf3 37. Qe6 Be4 38. f3 Bd3 39. Qd5 Qb2 40. Kg1 Bb1 ("The ending is worth studying."—Capablanca) 41. a4 Qa1 42. Qb7 Kg6 43. Qb6 Kh5 44. Kh2 Ba2 45. Qb5 Kg6 46. a5 Qd4 47. Qc6 Qf6 48. Qe8 Qf7 49. Qa4 Qe6 50. a6 Qe2 51. Kh3 Bd5 52. a7 Bf3 53. Resigns

**9. Nc3 dc4 10. Bc4 0-0 11. Qe2 b6 12. e4**

White can afford to take his time here with Ra1 and Rfd1.

**12...Bb7 13. e5**

This is just hasty. Now the d4-pawn is a weakness rather than a strength. White is putting all his eggs in the kingside basket.

**13...Nd5 14. Rfe1 Nc3**

Enabling White to repair his only positional flaw, the backward pawn on d4. 14...c5 will make room for Black's rooks and start to undermine White's center.

**15. bc3 c5**

The difference is that White supports the d4-pawn with another pawn.

**16. Rad1**

Maybe White ought not rush to put his rook on a closed file. His coming knight maneuver is just as reasonable now, and the c-file will be better for a rook.

**16...cd4 17. cd4 Rfd8 18. Nd2 Nf8 19. Nf1**

This is puzzling — e4 seems to be a perfect place for a knight.

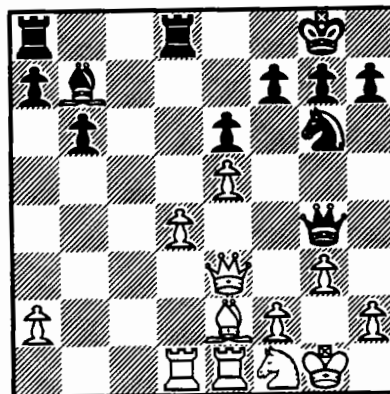
**19...Ng6 20. g3**

It is unnecessarily risky to weaken the king position, especially while the black bishop cuts right into the king field and the black queen is still on the board. 20. Qg4 is a bit more sensible.

**20...Qg5**

With the idea of ...Nf4-h3 mate. Surely 20...Rac8 plus ...Qc7 and ...Qc6 crossed Black's mind.

**21. Qe3 Qg4 22. Be2**



**22...Qe4**

On 22...Qh3 23. Bf3, Black might be tempted to play 23...Rd5, because 23...Bf3 24. Qf3 Nh4 25. Qe4 falls short. After 22...Qe4, who's going to trade queens? Black would rather not swap because the white king is exposed and it's easier to attack with a queen. On the other hand, White will also be reluctant to trade because his d4-pawn becomes more vulnerable with each simplification of the position. White's king is a greater consideration than the d-pawn, so White should swap.

**23. f3 Qd5 24. Rd2 Rac8**

Black is near an almost ideal piece configuration for a position like this, if the queen can nudge back to c7 and the knight hops to d5. On White's side, he wants to put the rooks on open files, the bishop on d3, and — most important — the knight on e4. Tal used to aim for this pawn structure by 1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 Bf5 4. c4, then one knight would go to c3 and the other to e2 and g3, then both to e4.

**25. Qa3 Ne5**

No one but Black knows what he was thinking here, but these kinds of mistakes happen. Black could try 25...Qc6 to make room for the knight on d5 and to double heavy pieces on the c-file, then if 26. Qa7, 26...Ra8 traps the queen.

**26. de5 Qd2 27. Nd2 Rd2 28. Qa7**

White can force the trade of a piece by 28. Ba6, then if 28...Rcc2, White can escape the perpetual check by 29. Rc1 — to trade another rook — Rg2 30. Kf1 Rcf2 31. Ke1, and the bishop covers e2.

**28...Bd5 29. a4 g6 30. Qb6 Rcc2 31. Qd8 Kg7 32. Qf6 Kg8 33. Rb1**

Very good, ensuring a trade of rooks.



**33...Rb2 34. Rb2 Rb2 35. Kf1 Rb1 36. Kf2 Rb2 37. Ke3 Rb3 38. Kf4 h6**

Suddenly Black realizes that he has chased the white king toward h6, where it helps check-mate.

**39. g4**

The straightest path to victory is 39. a5 — passed pawns must be pushed — and then if Black starts checking again, the king takes the other black diagonal into the game: 39...Rb4 40. Ke3 Rb3 41. Kd4.

**39...Rb4 40. Kg3 Ra4 41. Bd3 Ra3 42. Bg6**

Well calculated. Pure pawn endings are the simplest to win.

**42...Rf3 43. Qf3 Bf3 44. Bf7 Kf7 45. Kf3 Kg6 46. Kf4 Kg7 47. h4 Kg6 48. h5**

Capablanca, the greatest endgame player in history, taught us to advance the unopposed pawn first (in this position, White

is fortunate that his e5-pawn prevents the Black king from stepping to f6 to contest control of g5). 48. g5 hg5 49. hg5 Kg7 50. Kg3 — taking the opposition isn't even necessary: 50. Kg4 Kg6 51. Kh4 Kg7 52. Kh5 Kh7 53. g6 Kg7 54. Kg5 wins also — 50...Kg6 51. Kg4 Kg7 52. Kh5 Kh7 53. g6 Kg7 54. Kg5, and so on.

**48...Kf7 49. Ke4**

It's more efficient to push the pawn majority by 49. g5 hg5 50. Kg5 Kg7 51. h6 Kh7 52. Kf6.

**49...Ke7 50. Kd4 Resigns**

A likely finish is Kf7 51. Kc5 Ke7 52. Kc6 Kf8 53. Kd7 Kf7 54. Kd6.

White: Matt Wohl (400)

Black: Grigoriy Trofimov (700)  
Nimzovich Defense

**1. d4 Nc6 2. c3**

2. e4 controls the center and helps White get his pieces out.

**2...e5 3. Be3**

Now the e-pawn is blocked along with White's kingside pieces. Another miniature arises after 3. de5 Ne5 4. Nd2 Qe7 5. Ngf3 Nd3 mate.

**3...g6**

The bishop already has a road into the game. Black should play ...d5, ...Nf6, ...Bd6, ...0-0, and so forth.

**4. g4**

It's interesting how miniatures are built from offbeat but somewhat reasonable moves. White played 4. g4 because his king bishop has to develop somehow, and maybe that pawn will go to g5 to hit those weak dark squares.

**4...Bh6 5. Nd2**

The queen knight has to play, and its natural place on c3 is occupied.

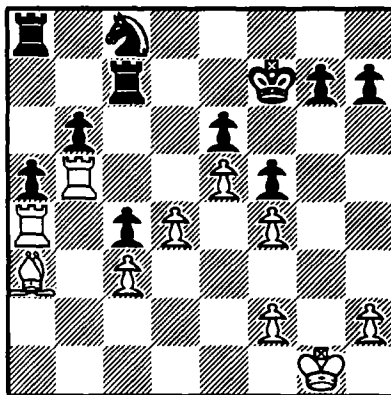
**5...Be3 6. fe3 Qh4 mate**

## Wing Gambit Suffers Crash Landing

Continued from Page 7

endgame, where Black's extra pawn would become powerful.

**25. Rb1 Rb7 26. Ra4 Rc7 27. Ba3 Kf7 28. Rb5**



**28...Ra6!**

Finally, Black has his pieces rearranged to make it possible to drive back the White blockers and

start advancing the pawns. At the same time, the path is now cleared to bring the knight to its ideal square, d5, from which it can exercise a dominant role.

**29. Rb1 Na7 30. Bd6 Rc6 31. Ra2 Ke8 32. Ba3 Kd7 33. Kf1 Rc8 34. Ke2 Kc6 35. h4 Nb5 36. Bb2 Nc7 37. Rg1 g6 38. h5**

Because of the weakness of White's kingside pawns, this demonstration really threatens nothing significant. Even if White were to win both of the black pawns on the g- and h-files, it would not affect the outcome, which will be decided on the queenside.

**38...Nd5 39. Kf3 gh5 40. Rg7 Rc7 41. Rg5 b5 42. Rh5 Kb6 43. Rh6 Re7 44. Ra1 b4 45. Rg1 Kb5 46. Rhh1 a4 47. cb4 a3 48. Ba1 a2 49. Ke2 Kb4 50. Kd2 Ra3 51.**

**Kc2 Rb3 52. Rg8 Rb7 53. Ra8 Ra3 54. Re8 Nf4 55. Rh7**

This is a nice shot, typical of Paul's sharp style. I'll admit I didn't consider it. But the action is on the queenside, and winning the h-pawn can't change things.

Later, David Blohm pointed out that Black could probably still accept the sacrifice and win: for example, 55. Rh7 Rh7 56. Rb8 Ka4 57. Ra8 Kb5 58. Ra3 Rh2. But I was focused on a consistent plan of pushing through on the queenside.

**55...Rb6 56. Rh2 c3 57. Rc8 Nd5 58. Rh7 Raa6 59. Rd7 Rc6 60. Rb8 Kc4 61. Rdb7 Kd4 62. f4 Ne3 63. Kc1 Kd3 64. Rd8 Nd5 65. Rb3 Rab6 66. Rb8 Rb8 67. Rb8 Rb6 68. Resigns**

According to Fritz, the final position is mate in 12!

# Porter Tops Capps Memorial Field

National masters Ryan Porter and Kenneth Hillis each scored  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  to share first place in the Mechanics Institute Carroll Capps Memorial held Nov. 11-12 in San Francisco. Porter finished ahead on tiebreaks. The field of 67 included 12 masters. Anthony Corrales directed the event.

Porter will play second board for the Stanford University team in the Pan-Am Intercollegiate Championship in Milwaukee at the end of December.

White: Keith Vickers (2204)

Black: Ryan Porter (2248)

Bird's Opening

Notes by NM Ryan Porter

**1.f4 g6 2. Nf3 Bg7 3. e3 d6 4. Be2 e5 5. fe5 de5 6.e4**

White had to prevent Black from playing e4, but 6. Nc3 was more flexible, as it allows the possibility of d4 in the near future. White chose a rather passive opening setup, and Black has already equalized.

**6...Nf6**

This is not where Black wants the knight because the f6 square is weak, but it is important to put immediate pressure on e4 so that white cannot build a center with c3 and d4.

**7. Nc3 0-0 8.0-0**

8. Ne5? Ne4 9. Nxf7 Qh4 10. g3 Nxf3+.

**8...Nc6**

9. d3!? White locks in his light-squared bishop. 9. Bc4 was better, but Black then has 9...Na5, when 10. Ne5? is met by 10...Qd4.

**9...Ne8**

To prevent a pin after 10. Bg5.

**10.Bg5?! f6**

Black wanted to play this move anyway so that ...Be6 cannot be met by Ng5.

**11.Be3 Nd4!**

This move cramps White's pieces by preventing d4, which would have followed the natural 11...Be6. The importance of d4 is seen in the next six moves that White's spends extracting the black knight. In the meantime, Black continues his development.

**12.Qd2 Be6 13.Rae1 Qd7?!**

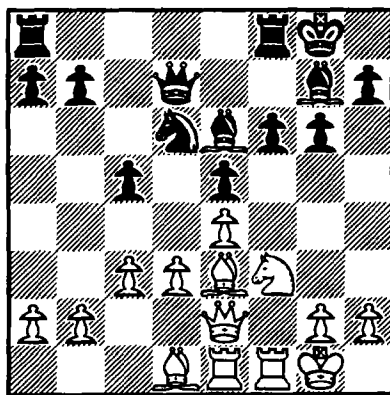
It's not clear that d7 is the place for the queen. Black should instead begin his queenside expansion immediately with 13...c5.

**14.Bd1 c5 15.Ne2 Nd6**

This move has the disadvantage that it blocks the d-file for Black's pieces. However, it is better than ...Nc7 because it supports a c4 advance and attacks the e4 square that becomes weak afterwards.

**16.c3 Ne2 17.Qe2**

White has finally staked a claim to d4, but he is still left with an inferior light-squared bishop, and his pieces are slightly misplaced. We have reached a critical point in the game. If Black does play actively, white will play d4 and gain the initiative.



**17...b6?**

Black hesitates for fear of the following unclear line: 17...c4 18. d4 (18. Bc2?! cd3 19. Bd3 Qc6 gives Black an advantage because

of the weak e4-pawn and queenside pressure.) 18...Ne4 19.de5 fe5 where a possible continuation is: 20. Ba7 Ra7 21. Qe4 Ra2 22. Ne5 Rf1 23. Rf1. However, 17...b6? allows White to play 17. Bc2, after which 17...c4 18. d4 gives White an advantage.

**18. a3? c4 19. Bc2?**

The light squares on the queenside are now very weak and easily accessible to black's pieces. White's pieces are much better setup for a battle in the center than for the ensuing queenside battle. Thus, White had to try 19. d4 Ne4 20. de5 fe5 followed by either Bc1 or Bb6.

**19...cd3 20. Bd3 Qc6 21. Bc1 Rac8?!**

An inaccuracy. Black should first play a5-a4 to secure b3 and c4 for his pieces.

**22. Qc2 Rfd8 23. Rd1 a5 24. Rfe1?!**

Because Black delayed a5, White can now resist with 24. a4, after which trying to win a pawn is risky for Black: 24...Bd7!? 25. Qb3 Kh8 26. Bc2 Ne4 27. Be4 Qe4 28. Qb6 Qa4 29.Rd5.

**24...a4 25. Qe2 Bb3 26. Bc2 Bc4 27. Bd3 Bb3 28. Bc2 Bc4**

Repeating moves to save time on the clock.

**29. Bd3 b5 30. Bc4 Nc4**

30...Qxc4?! 31. Rd5! and all of a sudden Black has to worry about b5 and a potential pin along the d-file.

**31. Rd8 Rd8 32. Rd1 Rd6**

32...Rd1 33. Qd1 Qe4 is tempting because of lines like 34. Qd8? Bf8 35. Qf6 Qb1 36. Qe6 Kg7 37. Qd7 Kh8 38. Qd1 Nb2 However, instead of 34. Qd8, White plays 34. Qd7! and obtains good counterplay because of the threats of Qe6 or Qb5. Black dominates

Continued on Page 25

# State Scholastics Expected to Draw 1,000

More than 1,000 students are expected to play in the 2001 CalChess State Scholastic Championships to be held March 3 and 4, 2001, at the Santa Clara Convention Center.

To accommodate this increase, organizers Riley Hughes and Doug Shaker have added three sections to make 12. The sections are now: Kindergarten, K-3 Unrated, K-3 Under 600, K-3 Open, K-6 Unrated, K-6 Under 650, K-6 Under 850, K-6 Open, K-8 Under 850, K-8 Open, K-12 Under 1000, K-12 Open.

The Kindergarten and K-3 sections will play a five-round Swiss with a game-in-30 time control — all games will be played on March 3. The sections K-6, K-8, and K-12 sections will play a six-round Swiss at a game-in-60 time control, with three games on Saturday and three on Sunday. Trophies will be given to top 20 players in each section.

There will also be trophies for the best in each specific grade (after top 20) for each section.

The winner of the K-12 Open section will be named the Northern California representative to the Denker Tournament of State High School Champions to be held in conjunction with the U.S. Open in Framingham, Mass., in August.

Advance entry is strongly encouraged. Detailed information on the tournament can be found at <http://www.theshakers.org/CalChess2000.html>. Contact information for Hughes and Shaker is on the back cover.

## Solving Problems at and Away from the Board

By Ed Hirsch

You can consider a game of chess as a continuous problem to solve.

Here are some approaches to problem solving that can help you in chess and in turn, that you can transfer from chess to life situations.

**1. Let the problem challenge you,** evoke a sense of curiosity, and bring into play your inventiveness, resourcefulness, and creativity. Allow the experience of the tension, as the gap between the question and the answer, the puzzle and its solution.

**2. What's the actual problem?** Get clear on this by stating it in your own words (to yourself). What is the actual situation on the board? What is really given, and what are you assuming? Everything is out there on the chessboard and nothing is hidden, but it is up to you to see and understand.

**3. Ask questions.** Instead of just staring at the board and hoping for a burst of inspiration, or spacing out or going brain dead, worrying or getting panicked, indulging in negative self-talk (such as, "I'm no good at this," "I'm a loser," etc.), simply taking blind action, and so on, ask questions. Size up the situation.

Check the basics: King safety, possible checks and captures, material imbalance, pawn structure, mobility. How do these aspects in your position compare to the same in your opponent's position? What are you going to do about it?

**4. Look for a pattern.** Have you seen something like this before? Does this remind you of any similar problems or situations? Then determine if the same or similar solution applies to this particular situation. Tactics, some say, is mostly a matter of pattern recognition.

**5. Downsize.** Consider a simpler problem or situation that might help you gain insight into this problem (for example, consider a scaled-down version with fewer pieces on the board).

**6. Work backward.** This is especially obvious in "Removing the Guard" situations: you know what you want to accomplish, and then the problem and question focuses on how to remove the piece preventing it. More generally, checkmate is your goal, and you work backward from that. What steps do you need to take to make that possible?

**7. Go back to basics.** Consider basic rules, moves, principles. Don't follow them blindly or slavishly, but consider how well they apply in this case.

**8. Process of elimination.** For example, in considering checkmate, eliminate those chess units that cannot deliver. Then focus on those that can. Or, focusing on the enemy king, eliminate the squares he can't move to, and consider how to eliminate the squares he can move to. Again, consider all your options, and eliminate all but one.

**9. Manipulations.** Of course, a 3-D chessboard comes with the manipulations to use, but in a real game, you can't afford to move the pieces around while you're planning your next move. So you have to do it mentally. However, just having the pieces out there on the board can help you do this.

**10. Check your own state.** Take a quick psychological inventory, clearing your mind, coming back to center. Refresh yourself by getting out of the self-images and relational games that entangle you, and return to the pure challenge of the puzzle at hand. Make sure you are in an optimal state for solving the problem.



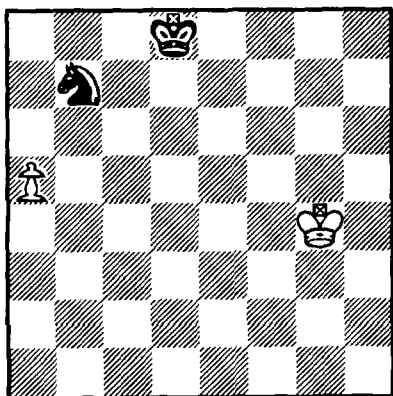
# LERA

## Knightmare

Continued from Page 6

1. Ne2 Kd2 2. Nd4 c1(Q) 3. Nb3

Rook pawns present the greatest difficulty for enemy knights because the horse has room to roam on just one side of the pawn:



1. a6

The knight can't maneuver to a square in the pawn's way, so Black moves his king instead.

1...Kc7

Hoping for 2. ab7 Kb7.

2. a7 and White wins

In the third round of the LERA Thanksgiving Chess Championship, reserve section players Curtis Munson and Eric Fingal created a knight endgame where fundamental endgame principles like "the king must be active in the ending" and "passed pawns must be pushed" proved most useful. With time pressure coming on, Munson sacrificed his knight hoping to make a favorable rook-pawn-against-knight finale, but found that he had miscalculated.

White: Curtis Munson (1786)

Black: Eric Fingal (1815)

French Defense

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 c5 4.

Continued on Page 27

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# USCF Newcomer Bakhandi Wins Livermore Chess Championship

By Riley Hughes

**T**he Livermore Chess Championship, held November 4 and 5 at the Dania Hall in downtown Livermore, was attended by 53 players and paid a prize fund of \$1060.

First place was won outright by USCF newcomer Kaushik Bakhandi, who took home \$175 for a score of 3½ out of 4. As a tournament director, it is always tough knowing where to place unrated foreign players, but Kaushik justified my decision to place him in the Open by winning first place. Thanks, Kaushik!

Tied for 2nd-3rd were Robert Sferra and Agnis Kaugars, who scored 3-1 and earned \$85 each. Frisco Del Rosario also achieved 3 points, and won the more lucrative U2100 prize of \$110. Rounding out the Championship section were Dale Hammer and Dante Argishti, who split the 2nd U2100 prize.

The Reserve section (U1900) saw a three-way tie for 1st at 3½ points between Adam Lischinsky, Flynn Penoyer, and young Lev Pisarsky. They each earned \$85. Flynn was just ecstatic! He said it been so long since he won a tournament he couldn't remember. He was just glowing with joy!

Splitting 1st-2nd U1700 for \$77.50 each were Cal Magaoay and Brian McCandless.

Winning the Booster section with 3½ points was Samuel Pence, who drew one game with William Lewis. William joined Anand Kesavaraju and Yuki Siegrist in a three-way tie for 2nd with 3 points.

Thanks to assistant directors Charles Pigg and Dan Wolitzer, and first-time tournament players Michael and Ramona Morales and

Josh Bowman, who were of great assistance with setup, registration, and putting away all the chairs and tables. Thanks to Agnis Kaugars also. He and a few other tournament players always pitch in with cleanup, and after two very long days for this director, this is greatly appreciated!

The next Livermore tournament is scheduled for May 5 and 6, 2001. First round is at 10 a.m. See you there!

White: Agnis Kaugars (2115)  
Black: Dale Hammer (2025)  
Sicilian Grand Prix

**1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 e6 6.Bc6 dc6 7.e5 Nh6 8.Ne4 Qd5 9.Nd6 Ke7 10.Qe2 b5 11.b3 c4 12.bc4 bc4 13.Qc4 Nf5 14.Ba3 Nd6 15.Bd6 Kd7 16.Qa4 a5 17.0-0 Ba6 18.d3 Bf8 19.c4 Qd3 20.Rfd1 Qe3 21.Kh1 Bd6 22.Rd6 Ke7 23.Qc6 Rhc8 24.Qd7 Kf8 25.Ra6 Rab8 26.Qd2 Qe4 27.Rc1 Rb1 28.c5 Qb4 29.Rb1 Qb1 30.Ng1 Ke8 31.Qa5 Qc1 32.Ra8 Resigns**

White: David Herscovici (2125)  
Black: Chris Mavraedis (1950)  
Sicilian Sveshnikov

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qd8 11.Qf3 Nd5 12.ed5 Ne7 13.c4 bc4 14.Nc4 Bb7 15.Ba5 Bd5 16.Bd8 Bf3 17.Be7 Be7 18.gf3 0-0 19.0-0-0 Rfd8 20.Ne3 Bh4 21.Nf5 Bg5 22.Kb1 g6 23.Rg1 Bf4 24.Bc4 Kf8 25.Nd6 f5 26.Nb7 Rdc8 27.Na5 Ra7 28.h4 Rac7 29.Be6 Rb8 30.h5 Rb5 31.Nb3 Ke7 32.Bf5 Kf6 33.Bd3 Resigns**

White: Gary Tom  
Black: Flynn Penoyer (1800)  
Latvian Gambit

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Ne5 Qf6 4.d4 d6 5.Nf3 fe4 6.Qe2 Bf5 7.Nfd2 d5 8.Nb3 c6 9.Be3 Bd6 10.N1d2 a5 11.a4 Na6 12.c3 Nc7 13.f3 ef3 14.Nf3 Ne6 15.Bg5 Qg6 16.Qe3 Nf6 17.Nh4 Qg5 18.Nf5 Qf5 19.Bd3 Ne4 20.Rf1 Qg5 21.Qe2 Nf4 22 Resigns**

White: Mike Jones  
Black: Wesley Chen (1477)  
Queen Pawn Countergambit

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d5 3.ed5 Bd6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bc4 0-0 6.0-0 e4 7.Nd4 Bh2 8.Kh2 Ng4 9.Kg1 Qh4 10.f3 Qh2 mate**

White: Wesley Chen (1477)  
Black: Anand Kesavaraju  
Sicilian Wing Gambit

**1.e4 c5 2.b4 d6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Nc6 5.d3 Qb6 6.Bc6 Qc6 7.0-0 g6 8.Bb2 Bg7 9.Qc1 0-0 10.Nbd2 cb4 11.Re1 e5 12.d4 ed4 13.Nd4 Qc7 14.N2b3 a6 15.Qd2 Qb6 16.Rab1 Bd7 17.Kh1 Rfe8 18.f3 Kh8 19.Ba1 a5 20.Nc1 Qc7 21.Nce2 b5 22.Red1 Red8 23.Qg5 Qc5 24.Nf5 gf5 25.Bf6 Rg8 26.Rbc1 Be6 27.Ng3 fe4 28.Ne4 Qg5 29.Bg5 h6 30.Bf4 Ba2 31.Rd6 Rgd8 32.Bh6 Rd6 33.Bg7 Kg7 34.Nd6 Rb8 35.Ra1 Rd8 36.Ra2 Rd6 37.Kg1 a4 38.Kf2 Kf6 39.Ke3 Ke5 40.Rb2 a3 41.f4 Ke6 42.Ra2 Kd5 43.Kd2 Kc4 44.Kc1 Rc6 45.h4 Rg6 46.Kd1 Rg2 47.Kc1 Rh2 and Black won on move 50**



White: Robert Sferra (2230)  
Black: Kaushik Bakhandi (UNR)  
Larsen's Opening

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5  
4.Bb5 Bd6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nf3 Qe7  
7.c5 Bc5 8.Ne5 Bd7 9.Nd7 Nd7  
10.Qg4 0-0-0 11.Bc6 bc6  
12.Nc3 h5 13.Qe2 Kb7 14.Na4  
Bb6 15.0-0 Rh6 16.Nb6 cb6  
17.a4 h4 18.f4 h3 19.Rf3 hg2  
20.Rg3 f6 21.Ba3 Qf7 22.Rc1  
Rdh8 23.Rg2 Rh3 24.Rf1 f5  
25.Bb2 Nf6 26.Bf6 Qf6 27.Rf3  
g6 28.Rh3 Rh3 29.Rg5 d4  
30.Rg3 Drawn

White: Kaushik Bakhandi (UNR)  
Black: Kenneth Hills (2210)  
French Defense

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5  
Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 a6 7.a4 Nc6  
8.Be3 Qb6 9.Qd2 cd4 10.Bd4  
Nd4 11.Nd4 Bc5 12.a5 Qa7  
13.Nce2 Nb8 14.b4 Be7 15.c3  
Bd7 16.g3 Nc6 17.Nc6 bc6  
18.Bg2 0-0 19.Nd4 c5 20.bc5  
Qc5 21.0-0 Rab8 22.Kh1 Rb7  
23.Rfe1 Rfb8 24.c4 Rb4 25.Ne6  
fe6 26.cd5 Qa7 27.d6 Bd8 28.f5  
Rb2 29.Qc3 ef5 30.Qc4 Kh8  
31.e6 Qf2 32.Rg1 Rc8 33.e7 Be7  
34.Qc8 Bc8 35.de7 Re2 36.Rad1  
g6 37.Rd8 Kg7 38.e8Q Re8  
39.Re8 f4 40.Rc8 f3 41.Bh3 Qd2  
42.Rf1 Qa5 43.Rf3 Qd5 44.Rcf8  
a5 45.Bg2 Qd2 46.h4 a4  
47.R3f7 Kh6 48.Rh8 Resigns

White: Robert Sferra (2230)  
Black: Walter Wood (2030)  
Larsen's Opening

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 d6 3.e3 Nf6 4.c4  
g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.d4 ed4 7.Nd4 0-  
0 8.Be2 Re8 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Nc3  
Nc5 11.Qc2 c6 12.Rad1 Qc7  
13.b4 Nce4 14.Ne4 Ne4 15.f3  
Ng5 16.e4 Ne6 17.Ne6 Be6  
18.Bg7 Kg7 19.Qc3 f6 20.Rd2  
Red8 21.Rfd1 Rd7 22.f4 Rad8  
23.g3 d5 24.cd5 Qb6 25.Qd4  
Qd4 26.Rd4 cd5 27.Bb5 Rd6  
28.a3 Kf7 29.Kf2 Ke7 30.e5 Rb6



LERA and Livermore tournament director Riley Hughes' next job is the CalChess State Scholastic Chess Championship in Santa Clara March 3 and 4.

Photograph by Shorman

31.ef6 Kf6 32.Bf1 Rc8 33.Bg2  
Ra6 34.Bd5 Bd5 35.Rd5 Rc2  
36.R1d2 Rd2 37.Rd2 Ra3  
38.Rd7 Ra2 39.Kf3 Rb2 40.Rb7  
a5 41.Rb6 Kg7 42.ba5 Rh2  
43.Rb7 Kh6 44.a6 Ra2 45.a7  
Ra3 46.Ke4 Ra4 47.Kd5 Kh5  
48.Rh7 Kg4 49.Rg7 Ra6 50.Rg6  
Resigns

White: Walter Wood (2030)  
Black: John Simpson (2000)  
Petroff Defense

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Ne5 d6  
4.Nf3 Ne4 5.Nc3 Nc3 6.br3 Be7  
7.d4 Nd7 8.Bd3 Nf6 9.0-0 Bg4  
10.h3 Bh5 11.Rb1 Rb8 12.Re1  
0-0 13.c4 b6 14.Bg5 Re8 15.c3  
h6 16.Bf6 Bf6 17.Be4 c5 18.Qd3  
Qc7 19.Rbd1 cd4 20.cd4 Rbc8  
21.Bf5 Re1 22.Re1 Bf3 23.Bc8  
Bc6 24.Bf5 g6 25.Be4 Bd7  
26.Bd5 Kg7 27.Qe4 b5 28.cb5  
Bb5 29.Rb1 Qa5 30.Bb3 Bd7  
31.Rc1 Qb6 32.Rd1 a5 33.Bd5  
h5 34.Qf3 Be8 35.Re1 Bd7  
36.Rd1 Be8 37.Bb3 Bc6 38.Qe3  
Qb7 39.Qg3 Qb4 40.Qd3 Qb7  
41.Qg3 Qb4 42.Qf4 Bd7 43.Qd2

Qb6 44.Qc3 Qa7 45.Rd3 Bf5  
46.Rd2 Bd7 47.Bd5 Qb6 48.Qc4  
Be8 49.a4 Resigns

White: David Herscovici (2125)  
Black: Robert Sferra (2230)  
Nimozvich Defense

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6  
4.Nc3 Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.h3 Bh5  
7.Be3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.d5 ed5  
10.ed5 Bf3 11.Bf3 Ne5 12.Bd4  
Nfd7 13.Re1 c5 14.dc6 bc6  
15.Be2 Qc7 16.Ne4 d5 17.Ng3  
Ng6 18.Nh5 f6 19.c4 c5 20.Be3  
d4 21.Bc1 Bd6 22.Bg4 Rae8  
23.Be6 Kh8 24.Bd2 Nde5  
25.Bd5 Nd3 26.Re8 Re8 27.Qc2  
Ndf4 28.Nf4 Bf4 29.Be4 Bd2  
30.Bg6 hg6 31.Qd2 Qe5 32.Qd3  
f5 33.a3 a5 34.Rd1 a4 35.Qc2  
Ra8 36.b4 ab3 37.Qb3 Kh7  
38.a4 Rb8 39.Qd3 Rb4 40.Ra1  
Qe4 41.Qe4 fe4 42.a5 Rc4  
43.a6 d3 44.a7 d2 45.a8Q Rc1  
46.Kh2 dTQ 47.Rc1 Qc1 48.Qe4  
Qg5 49.f4 Qf6 50.Qc4 Qd6  
51.Kg1 Qd2 52.Qc5 Qf4 53.Qf2  
g5 Drawn



# Browne Scores a Hat Trick at UPSCL Tripleheader

By Steve Cohen

Grandmaster Walter Browne achieved two ties for first place and won one outright in a sweep of the Unofficial Peninsula Scholastic Chess League Tripleheader of Championships held Nov. 4 at the Park School in San Mateo.

Browne and international master John Donaldson shared first place in the Peninsula Game in 15 Championship with 5-1 scores, and earned \$287.50 each. Browne and IM-elect Ron Cusi shared first place in the California Blitz Championship, and each took home \$112.50. In the first U.S. Game in 1 Championship, Browne scored 1½-3½ to take clear first and a \$250 prize. More than \$2,500 in cash and trophies was awarded to the prizewinners.

In the Open Section of the game-in-15-minutes event, which was USCF-rated and awarded Grand Prix points, a second round draw between Donaldson and

Browne foreshadowed their tie for first-place — each finished with 5-1. Rather than shootout for the title, Browne chose to save his energy, and offered Donaldson the first place trophy. A half-point back at 4½-1½, international master Mladen Vucic earned the 3rd place trophy and a check for \$100. Steve Cohen earned the U2300 1st prize of \$150, and Michael Aigner won the 2nd U2300 prize of \$75.

In the Senior Amateur Section, 9-year-old Alexander Setzepandt of Oakland finished with an undefeated 4½-½ score to take the first place trophy and a check for \$175 — not bad for 2½ hours of playing chess! Only a half-point back, Hillel Gazit earned the 2nd-place trophy on tiebreaks, but split 2nd-3rd place money with Drake Wang — each won \$100. Don Cusi and Ewelina Krubnik scored 3½-1½ to share fourth

place and garner \$50 each. Finishing in a four-way tie for the U1600 prize were Oren Gazit, Shaun Tse, Tony Niblock, and Nicolas Yap, each of whom took home \$43 (\$6 more than the announced prize).

The Junior Amateur Division is a good training ground for stars of the future (new Senior Amateur Champion Setzepandt worked his way through this group a couple of years ago). This year, Emilia Krubnik of Alameda made a perfect score to win the 1st-place trophy and title of Junior Amateur Champion. A full point-and-a-half back, Geo Saba came in 2nd. Troy Spielberg won the 3rd-place trophy on tiebreaks, and Douglas Bell placed 4th. Christina Hsu took home the 5th-place trophy on tiebreaks over Anders Rasmussen in his tournament debut. Michael Asuncion won the final trophy for finishing 7th.

However, the day's excitement was only just beginning, for next on the slate of events was the first-ever California Blitz Championships. While I wish we had more substantial prizes to offer to the 20 players who came to fight for the title of state blitz champion, I am pleased that the competition was top notch!

With only five rounds to fight, every game was important (considering the group included a GM, an IM, and an IM-elect). In the end, a third-round draw between Browne and R. Cusi foreshadowed an eventual tie for first between the two, for which they earned \$112.50 each.

Pierre Vachon and Vucic split 3rd place and the U2100 prize (each taking \$47.50). D. Cusi won \$35 for top U1800, and



Six-time U.S. champion Walter Browne and newcomer Mallanna Kavyashree in their round 2 match during the UPSCL California Blitz Championship.

Photograph by Steve Cohen

Setzefandt earned \$35 for the top U1600 finish.

The day was not over just yet, for the time had come for the 2nd Annual World Organization of Lightning Chess United States Game in One Minute OTB Championships! Ten brave souls took the challenge to be the new U.S. game/1 min. champion (reigning champion Vladimir Mezentsev did not participate). The event was a strong one, in which the players' average rating was 2166 — certainly every game of every round (at three games per round) would prove crucial!

Perhaps the event's defining moment came early in a Round 2 encounter between top-seeded Browne and Vucic. Sadly, Vucic had to learn a few lightning chess OTB rules the hard way, for in their first game, Vucic hit the clock after knocking down a unit, which created an illegal position. Browne made a claim, which a review of the videotape (WOLC OTB matches are videotaped for this purpose, and compilation of gamescores) upheld. In their second game — just as Browne's flag fell — Vucic made an illegal move. Browne called the illegal move, but Vucic claimed a time forfeit. However, rather than press their claims, the players agreed to a draw for that game (so I will remain silent on the ruling).

In their first two games, Vucic built time advantages against Browne, but failed to convert them into wins. Vucic had one last chance:

White: Walter Browne (2600)  
Black: Mladen Vucic (2500)  
Caro-Kann Defense

**1. e4 c6 2. d3 d6 3. f4 e5 4. Nf3 ef4**

An offbeat King's Gambit has been reached by transposition.

**5. Bf4 Nf6 6. Nc3 Be7 7. Qd2 0-0 8. 0-0-0 Bg4**

Setting up a pin which is promptly broken.

**9. Be2 Nbd7 10. h3**

Putting the question to the bishop.

**10...Bf3 11. gf3**

Rather than the more natural 11. Bf3, White seeks to improve his attacking chances by opening up the g-file, heading towards Black's castled monarch.

**11...Ne5**

The sharp 11...d5 would have livened up the central situation.

**12. Rhg1**

White promptly occupies the newly half-opened file, which Black blocks.

**12...Ng6 13. Be3 d5**

With an immediate threat of 13...d4, forking White's Nc3 and Be3.

**14. d4!**

The best way to keep Black's pawn from playing there next turn.

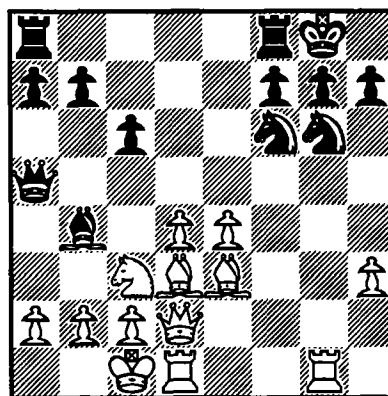
**14...de4 15. fe4 Bb4**

Seeking chances with a pin on the other knight.

**16. Bd3**

The e4-pawn was en prise following the ...Bb4 pin.

**16...Qa5**



White dominates in the center, but Black's king looks well guarded, and Black has taken action on the queenside, where White has the fewest defenders.

**17.Rg5?**

White slips in the face of the growing queenside pressure, in particular against the c3-knight and the a2-pawn which the knight defends. White's best chance was 17. Bg5, and there could follow 17...Bc3 (better is 17...Rad8, though White is still better after 18. e5) 18. Qc3 Qa2 19. Bf6 gf6, and Black's king stands worse.

**17...Bc3?!**

One mistake often begets another. Black overlooked 18. Ra5 Bd2 19. Bd2 Rfd8 20. e5 and White still has a nice pull.

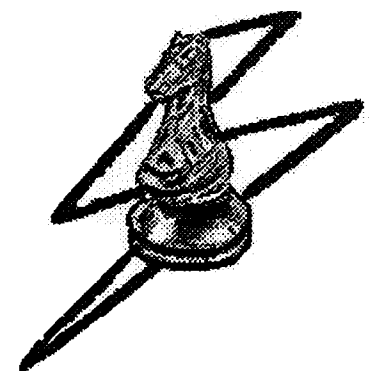
**18. Qc3?!**

Continued on Page 29

## Journalists Guild Names Lightning Bulletin Best New Magazine

The *Lightning Bulletin*, the publication of the World Organization of Lightning Chess, won the Chess Journalists of America's award for Best New Magazine at the journalists' meeting held in St. Paul in August. The *Lightning Bulletin* is produced by Steve Cohen, a San Mateo-based chess teacher and organizer.

The publication is the only one of its kind, covering chess tournaments and activity where the time control is game in one minute. The WOLC's web address is <http://lightningchess.webjump.com>.





# Sulskis Takes Sacramento Swiss #6

## Master-Expert Overall

1st: Giedrius Sulskis 3½ \$125 + T  
 2nd: Zoran Jovanovic 3 \$105

## Master-Expert U2200

1st/2nd: Riley Hughes 2 \$42.50  
 1st/2nd: Lawrence Martinez 2 \$42.50

## Reserve U2000

1st: Rene Plata 4 \$100 + T

## Reserve U1800

1st: Teodora Polares 2½ \$80  
 2nd: Brian McCandless, Roy McCollaugh,  
 Michael Smith, and Euphorion Webb 2 \$15

## Amateur U1600

1st: Ruturaj Pathak 3½ \$100 + T  
 2nd: Bob Baker 3 \$75

## Amateur U1400

1st: Stephen McKee 3 \$75  
**1st Junior:** Erin Harrington, Tyrone  
 Plata, and Ricky Yu 2.5 \$11.67

The Sacramento Chess Club Weekend Swiss #6 was held at The Learning Exchange in Sacramento

on December 16 and 17. John McCumiskey directed 37 players, and awarded \$840 in prizes.

The Master-Expert section was won by Giedrius Sulskis of Woodland with a score of 3½-½. Unrated Zoran Jovanovic placed second with a score of 3-1 and likely establishing a rating of over 2400 in the process.

White: Lawrence Martinez (2158)  
 Black: Giedrius Sulskis (1800)  
 Two Knights Defense

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. Ng5 d5 5. ed5 Na5 6. Bb5 c6 7. dc6 bc6 8. Be2 h6 9. Nf3 e4 10. Ne5 Bd6 11. f4 Qb6 12. d4 ed3 13. Qd3 Bc5 14. Nc3 0-0 15. Ne4 Ne4 16. Qe4 Re8 17. c3 Bf2 18. Kf1 Bh4 19. g3 Bh3 20. Ke1 Bf6 21. b4 Qc7 22. ba5 Be5 23. fe5

Re5 24. Qf4 Rae8 25. Kd1 g5 26. Qc4 Qd7 27. Ke1 Bg4 28. Ba3 Re2 29. Qe2 Resigns

White: Adam Greenspan (1916)  
 Black: Jose Birt Brendan (1820)  
 Center Counter Defense

1. e4 d5 2. ed5 Nf6 3. d4 Nd5 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Bf5 6. Nf3 e6 7. Qb3 b6 8. Bg5 Be7 9. Be2 0-0 10. Rd1 Nbd7 11. Nh4 Ne4 12. Be7 Qe7 13. Nf5 ef5 14. Nd5 Qd6 15. 0-0 Rfe8 16. Qf3 c6 17. Ne3 f4 18. Nf5 Qf6 19. Qg4 g6 20. Nh6 Kg7 21. Qd7 Kh6 22. Bf3 Ng5 23. Qc6 Qe7 24. Qa8 Ra8 25. Ba8 Qe2 26. d5 f3 27. Rfe1 Qc4 28. Kh1 fg2 29. Kg2 Qg4 30. Kf1 Nf3 31. Re7 Nh2 32. Resigns

White: Mark Altchek (1204)  
 Black: Ruturaj Pathak (1465)  
 London System

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bf4 d5 3. Nf3 Bg4 4. h3 Bh5 5. e3 e6 6. c4 Bb4 7. Nbd2 0-0 8. c5 Ne4 9. g4 Bg6 10. a3 Bd2 11. Nd2 Nd7 12. h4 h6 13. Nf3 h5 14. g5 f6 15. gf6 Qf6 16. Ng5 c6 17. Ne4 Be4 18. Rh2 g6 19. Bd3 Bf5 20. Bf5 Qf5 21. b4 e5 22. Bg5 Nf6 23. Bf6 Rf6 24. de5 Qe5 25. Rg2 Qc3 26. Kf1 Qe3 27. Qh5 Rf2 28. Resigns

## Berkeley Chess Club Relocates

The Berkeley Chess Club, the longest-established chess club in the East Bay, has changed its meeting place to the Epworth United Methodist Church at 1953 Hopkins in Berkeley. The club runs USCF-rated Swisses on an informal basis (play as many rounds as you want to) on Friday nights at 7:15 p.m. National master Rob Kichinski is the club champion.



Members of the Sacramento Chess Club who squared off in a match against a team from the Burlingame Chess Club on August 28 in Fairfield.

Photograph by Carolyn Withgitt



# Burlingame Holds Off Sacramento Rally to Win Team Match

By Richard Koepcke

Thirty members of the Burlingame and Sacramento chess clubs met halfway in Fairfield on August 26 for a team match which Burlingame won 16½-13½. Burlingame outrated Sacramento by 150-300 points on boards 3 through 10, led by five points at halftime and held off the Sacramento rally.

National masters Peter Thiel and Michael Aigner met on board 2, and supplied one of the sharpest struggles of the match. In their first game, Aigner put aside his usual Bird's Opening in favor of a mainline approach. Thiel has spent years defending various Sicilians, but that wouldn't be obvious looking at this game — Black chose an unusual setup for his pieces (perhaps he wanted to catch his opponent in unfamiliar territory). Both sides went kinghunting, and left their kings to fend for themselves, a brave thing to do at a fast time control — a highly entertaining game!

White: Michael Aigner (2180)  
Black: Peter Thiel (2260)  
Closed Sicilian

**1. e4**

Aigner won two Burlingame club tournaments during the summer, but opted to play for the Sacramento team.

**1...c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. d3 d6 6. Be3**

The main alternative to 6. f4. White plans to finish his development before engaging in operations in the center and kingside.

**6...Nf6 7. h3 e5?**

With the knight already committed to f6, this pawn push looks suspect. Normally Black plays ...e5 in conjunction with ...Nge7 and



The Burlingame Chess Club team.

Photograph by Carolyn Withgitt

...0-0, giving him the option of meeting White's f4 with either ...ef4 or ...f5 directly.

**8. Nge2 h5**

This preemptive strike on the kingside does not feel right. White often castles queenside in these lines with an early Be3, and as will be seen, castling short would have been OK anyway. Black will play ...Rb8 followed by ...b5-b4 regardless of how White develops, so he should continue in that fashion before deciding on any kingside action.

**9. Qd2 Be6 10. Bg5**

White decides that he wants the bishop outside the pawn chain before playing f4. The bishop move also ends any plans Black had to play ...h4. White could have considered castling into it: 10. 0-0 h4 11. f4 hg3 12. f5 followed by Ng3 looks playable.

**10...Qd7 11. 0-0-0 b5 12. Nd5**

12. Nb5? only helps Black drum up counterplay.

**12...Ng8 13. Kb1**

An unnecessary prophylactic move.

**13...Rb8 14. Rdf1 a5 15. f4 b4 16. f5 gf5 17. ef5 Bd5 18. Bd5 f6**

Otherwise White will play f6 himself.

**19. Be3 Nge7 20. Be6 Qa7**

Both sides have made progress in their respective flank attacks, but White's attack should break through first because he can get all of his pieces involved whereas Black will have to make do with queen, rook, plus knight. Also, Black cannot force lines open without a piece sacrifice.

**21. g4 Nd8 22. g5 Ne6 23. fe6?**

Enables Black to close lines.

Continued on Page 30

# CalChess Scholastic Quads Winners

Continued from Page 4

Quad #16: Elisha Garg (751)  
 Quad #17: Stephen Lee (814)  
 Quad #18: Kimberley Anonuevo (715)  
 Quad #19: Kyle Hui (707)  
 Quad #20: Aaron Garg (699)  
 Quad #21: Ara Baghdassarian (691), Eugene Tseng (681), Katherine Wu (653 p)  
 Quad #22: Ahir Bala (618 p)  
 Quad #23: Davina Brown (561), Steven McLellan (611 p), Geoffrey Chen (634)  
 Quad #24: Joey Hazani (613 p)  
 Quad #25: Teddy Hanson (600)  
 Quad #26: Adedayo Abioye (554)  
 Quad #27: Mukund Chillakanti (594)  
 Quad #28: Ning Jeng (543), Omar Harry (522)  
 Quad #29: Julia Herron (516 p)  
 Quad #30: Thomas Tran (473), Kenta Naoi (448), Kevin Lee (432 p)  
 Quad #31: Eugene Shenker (unr)  
 Quad #32: Michael Galindo (unr)  
 Quad #33: Christian Weeber (unr)  
 Quad #34: Desmond Chee (unr)  
 Quad #35: Alexander Lun (unr)  
 Quad #36: Kevin Zhang (unr)  
 Quad #37: Alice Cheng (unr), Emily Chen (unr)  
 Quad #38: Ruby Chen (unr)  
 Quad #39: Jonathan Wong (unr), Vivian Lo (unr), Brandon Chen (unr)  
 Quad #40: Benjamin Tien (unr)  
 Quad #41: William Hsia (unr)  
 Quad #42: Joshua Tien (unr)

## November 19

Quad #1: Ewelina Krubnik (1269), Igor Garbouz (1264)  
 Quad #2: Edward Chien (1154), Tyrone Plata (1137)  
 Quad #3: Andrey Sovgir (1155 p), Joseph Averbukh (1110), Sharon Tseung (1093)  
 Quad #4: Phil Jouriles (1103), Darwin Fu (1062), Jeffrey Shih (1062 p)  
 Quad #5: Daniel Tien (1032), Noah Zachary (996)  
 Quad #6: Nazeer Moghadam (1014)  
 Quad #7: Steven Zierk (984)  
 Quad #8: Roger Tjhia (933)  
 Quad #9: Rahul Subramanian (912)  
 Quad #10: Ryan Ko (973), David Chock (899)  
 Quad #11: Tau Jeng (851)  
 Quad #12: Bennett Blazer (865), Alvin Cheng (840)  
 Quad #13: Jennifer Fiore (829), Ravi Verma (824)  
 Quad #14: Brian Lin (818)  
 Quad #15: Stephen Lee (814), Vicente Andrade (762)  
 Quad #16: Kevin Hwa (814), Ryan McGee (724 p)  
 Quad #17: Ayush Kumar (724), Ara Baghdassarian (691)  
 Quad #18: Emilia Krubnik (630)  
 Quad #19: Mahnoosh Moghadam (690),

Alexander Lee (682)  
 Quad #20: Kyle Hui (707), Javohn Gibson (681)  
 Quad #21: Geoffrey Chen (634)  
 Quad #22: Justin Iso (660), Brendan Neal (610), Mark Kokish (606)  
 Quad #23: Iris Kokish (590)  
 Quad #24: Stephen Liu (645), Anuj Verma (625), Steven McLellan (611 p), Avon Manning (558)  
 Quad #25: Joey Hazani (613 p)  
 Quad #26: Teddy Hanson (600)  
 Quad #27: Tejas Mulye (491)  
 Quad #28: Spencer Yee (624 p)  
 Quad #29: Ning Jeng (543)  
 Quad #30: Dylan Snaveley (536)  
 Quad #31: Kartik Chillakanti (496)  
 Quad #32: Thomas Tran (473), Kevin Lee (432 p), Dustin Chen (unr)  
 Quad #33: Eugene Shenker (unr)  
 Quad #34: Ramon Que (unr)  
 Quad #35: Alison Wu (unr)  
 Quad #36: Brian Fan (unr)  
 Quad #37: Bradley DeBatista (unr)  
 Quad #38: Kevin Zhang (unr)  
 Quad #39: Alice Cheng (unr)  
 Quad #40: Kevin Gan (unr)  
 Quad #41: Vivian Lo (unr)  
 Quad #42: Amy Wann (unr)  
 Quad #43: Benjamin Tien (unr)  
 Quad #44: Brandon L. Chen (unr)  
 Quad #45: Jojay Huyn (unr), Zachary Swinford (unr)  
 Quad #46: Jonathan Ting (660)  
 Quad #47: Joshua Tien (unr), Griffin Sloves (unr)

At this last quad, an often-photographed young female chess player again attracted the cameras. Sharon Tseung of Weibel Chess has probably had her photograph in more newspapers or magazines than any other young chess player in the Bay Area, if not California. KGO-TV even did a piece about her two years ago.

This time she received a front page spread in the *Fremont Bulletin*, a free newspaper delivered to all the homes in this area. Rising star Griffin Sloves also appeared in three pictures with the inside story. Griffin is a 4-year-old preschooler from Wisdom Chess. I must admit I was shocked to see the photo essay because I have often contacted the media for coverage and they never show.

However, Kevin Batangan took the photographs and delivered them directly to the press.

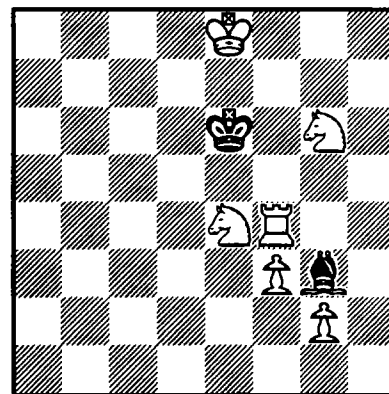
While I knew Kevin was a great chess instructor — for he works with Success Chess — and a swim coach at Milpitas High School, I had no idea he was a talented photographer and PR person. He is a protégé of Richard Shorman, the best-known chess instructor in the Bay Area and the official photographer for the CalChess State Scholastics. I will keep Kevin around, I hope.

If you failed to get a flyer for the 2001 CalChess State Scholastics, to be held March 3 and 4 in Santa Clara, in the mail, you can go to our tournament site from <http://KidChess.go.cc> or <http://CalChess.webjump.com/scholastics.html>.

I have decided to hold a kindergarten through third grade chess tournament at Weibel on April 7. This will be a grade level tournament and children will only compete against people in their own grade. The entry form will be available at other tournaments and is also located at <http://www.kirshnerisms.com/WeibelPrimary/WeibelGrade.html>.

## Problem

by Kevin Begley



White to play and mate in three.  
 Solution on Page 31.



# Two Games from Ewelina

Continued from Page 3

The text looks good, but Black is soon able to force the queens off the board and realize her extra material.

**8...Ne4 9. Bf7 Kf7 10. Qd5 Kf8 11. Qe4 Qe8!**

This move practically ensures an ending two pawns up.

**12. Ne5**

Objectively speaking, White had to trade queens.

**12...d6 13. Qf4**

13. Qf3 Kg8 14. Qd5 Qe6 15. Qe6 Be6 16. Nf3 was the only way to stave off losing a piece, though an ending two pawns down is hardly pleasant.

**13...Kg8 14. 0-0 de5 15.Be5 Qf7 16.Qd4 h6**

16...Nc6 was more exact, but Black's method of realizing her material advantage is also good.

**17. Qd8 Kh7 18. Qh4 Rf8 19. f4 Nc6 20. Bb2 Qe7 21. Qg3 Bf5 22. Rae1 Qf7 23. Re3 Rae8 24. Rb3 b6 25. Rb5 Qd7 26. Rc1 Nd4 27. Bd4 Qd4 28. Kh1 Qd7 29. Rb3 Kg8 30. Rbc3 c5 31. Qh4 Qe7 32. Qg3 Qf7 33. Qf2 Be6 34. a3 Qf4 35. Qg1 Qf2 36. Qd1 Rd8 37. Resigns**

White: Timothy Ma (1250)

Black: Ewelina Krubnik (1269)  
Hungarian Defense

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 d6?!**

Black should play 4...exd4 .

**5.Nc3**

5. Ng5 leads to a Two Knights' Defense position (3. Bc4 Nf6 4. Ng5) with the very useful extra move d4 for White.

**5...Be7**

Now we are in a standard position from the Hungarian

Defense. Black is solid, but slightly passive as the dark-squared bishop is blocked in.

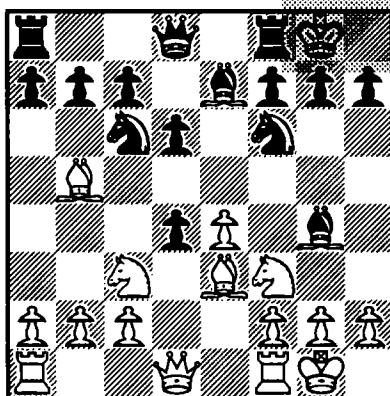
**6. Be3 Bg4 7. Bb5**

7. d5 Nb8 gives White an advantage in space.

**7...0-0 8. 0-0?!**

White needed to play 8. Bc6 or 8. d5. Now the pressure on d4 is felt.

**8...ed4**



**9. Bc6?**

9. Bd4 Bf3 10. gf3 Nd4 11. Qd4 c6 gives Black a small advantage.

**9...de3 10. Ba4 ef2**

Black wins a pawn with the better position.

**11. Rf2 c6 12. Qe2 Re8 13. Rd1 Qb6 14. Nd5?**

White mistakenly offers the trade of two pieces for a rook.

**14...Nd5**

There was nothing wrong with 14...cd5, but the text is even more efficient. Black utilizes the exposed position of the white queen and the pin on the rook on f2 to mop up quickly.

**15. ed5 Bg5 16. Qd3 Be3 17. dc6 Bf2 18. Kf1 bc6 19. Bb3 d5 20. c4 dc4 21. Bc4 Rad8 22. Bf7 Kf7 23. Ng5 Kf8 24. Nh7 Kg8 25. Nf6 Kf7 26. Qc4 Be6 27. Qe4 Rd1 28. Ke2 Re1 29. Kf3 Re4 30. a4 Qe3 mate**

## Capps Winner Porter Annotates

Continued from Page 14

the position, so he should limit any such chances.

**33. Rd6 Nd6 34. Nd2 Bh6 35. Qd3 Bd2 36. Bd2 Ne4 37. Qd8 Kf7**

It looks like Black has allowed some counterplay, but his mate threats limit these possibilities.

**38. Be3**

38.Qh8?? Qc5 39. Kh1 Nf2 40. Kg1 Nh3 +-; 38.Qd3 is a better try, but Black still has 38...Nc5 39. Qe2 (39. Qd8 Qd7 40. Qh8 Qd2 and the black king quickly gets away, after which Qe1 mate is threatened.) 39...Qd7 and Black has a winning position.

**38...Qd6 39. Qd6 Nd6 40. Kf2 Ke6 41. Ke2 Nc4 42. Bc1 Kd5 43. Resigns**

The win is easy for Black, because White has no hope of using his queenside majority, and Black can create two connected passed pawns.

## Shulman Wins Kolty Memorial

Grandmaster Yuri Shulman of Belarus won the Koltanowski Memorial held Dec. 14-22 in San Francisco with a 7-2 score. Estonian GM Jaan Ehlevest, IM Mladen Vucic, and senior master Jesse Kraai shared 2nd-4th with 6 1/2. Kraai made his final IM norm.

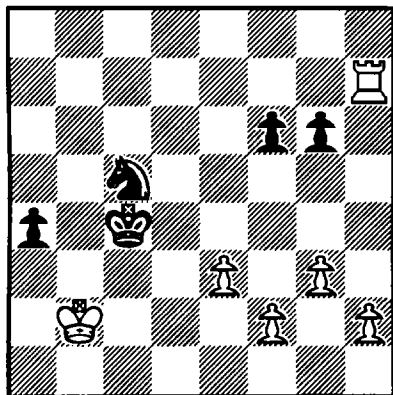
## Playing the Pawn Game

# Simplify to Reach a Won Pawn Ending

By Steve Cohen

I encourage students (especially beginning students) to practice the "pawn game" (eight pawns against eight pawns — without kings — and the first player to reach the eighth rank or take away all of his opponent's choices wins) whenever there is a spare few minutes. After all, a pawn endgame in chess is merely the "pawn game" plus kings, and when a well-practiced "pawn game" player recognizes a winning pawn position, then the material value of the pieces becomes irrelevant — no sacrifice is silly if it eliminates enemy counterplay. Without additional defensive resources, the slow-moving King might be unable to reach a part of the board in time to stop your pawn from promotion!

Black has just played ...Kc4 in this game from the Internet Chess Club:



Without the Rook and Knight, White has a won "pawn game" position, even though Black has the only passed pawn. However, White can create a passed h-Pawn (h4 — the unopposed pawn should go first — g4, h5, and so on), so Black's king will be forced to go to the kingside (abandoning the a-pawn), and the game will

result in a well-known K+2P v. K+P situation.

Play continued:

**1. Rc7**

Pinning the knight, and preparing to sacrifice the exchange to reach a winning pawn endgame.

**1...Kd5 2. Rc5 Kc5 3. f3!**

In order to keep Black's king from invading at e4, and to keep Black's g-pawn from safely reaching g4, where one pawn would hold three!

**3...g5 4. Ka3**

Or 4. h4 immediately, but 4. Ka3 takes care of Black's a-pawn and leaves White with fewer worries.

**4...Kc4 5. h4!**

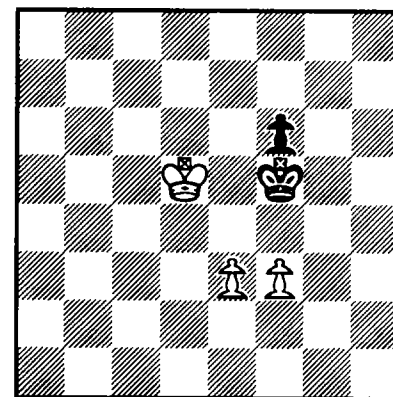
Passed pawns and potential passed pawns must be pushed.

**5...gh4 6. gh4 Kd5 7. h5 Ke6 8. h6**

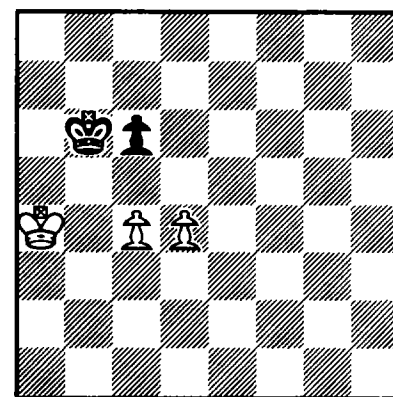
Turns out to waste a move. A passed pawn should not be pushed as far forward as possible, only as forward as necessary. If White instead played 44. Ka4, when the position is reached with kings at d5 and g5, it would be White to move — that is, 8. Ka4 Kf5 9. Kb5 Kg5 10. Kc5 Kh5 11. Kd5 Kg5 12. Ke6 Kg6 13. f4 Kg7 14. f5. White has a win in either case, but in different circumstances, this inaccuracy might be enough to turn a win into a draw, or a draw into a loss!

**8...Kf7 9. Ka4 Kg6 10. Kb4 Kh6 11. Kc4 Kg5 12. Kd5 Kf5**

Black takes the horizontal opposition.



The current position is a "book win." The critical issue in these bishop-pawn plus center-pawn vs. bishop-pawn positions is for the strong side to fix the bishop-pawns at the right time. After the pawns are blocked, if the side with the extra pawn can get his king abreast of the backward pawn and in vertical direct opposition to the enemy king, the win is forced. In this 1950 study by Chéron, White plays precisely:



**1. Kb3**

White can go wrong instantly by 1. Kb4 c5 2. dc5 Kc6 3. Kb3 Kc5, and Black draws.

**1...Kc7 2. Kc3 Kd6 3. Kd3 Kd7 4. Ke4 Ke6 5. c5**

Fixing the bishop pawns while holding the direct opposition.

## 5...Kf6

Black loses his pawn after 5...Kf7 6. Kf5 Ke7 7. Ke5 Kd7 8. Kf6 Kd8 9. Ke6 Kc7 10. Ke7 Kc8 11. Kd6 Kb7 12. Kd7.

## 6. d5 Ke7

White wins after 6...cd5 7. Kd5 Ke7 8. Kc6 Kd8 9. Kb7.

## 7. d6

Careful! 7. dc6 Kd8 8. Ke5 Kc7 9. Kd5 Kc8 10. Kd6 Kd8 11. c7 Kc8 is a draw.

## 7...Kd7 8. Ke5 Kd8 9. d7

Sacrificing the extra pawn to reach a known K+P vs. K win.

## 9...Kd7

Or 9...Ke7 10. d8(Q) Kd8 11. Kd6.

**10. Kf6 Kc7 11. Ke7 Kc8 12. Kd6 Kb7 13. Kd7 Kb8 14. Kc6 Kc8 15. Kd6 Kd8 16. c6 Kc8 17. c7 Kb7 18. Kd7 and White wins.**

In the game position, though, the maneuvering in Chéron's study is unnecessary. One of the rules in the "pawn game" entitles the player to win if he takes away the enemy's choices, and that's the easiest win here, too.

## 13. f4!

Forcing Black's demise because his king will no longer be able to prevent White's encroachment toward f6.

## 13...Kg6

No better is 13...Kg4 14. Ke6 f5 15. Ke5, with a easy win.

## 14. Ke6 Kg7 15. f5

Black must abandon his last pawn, and with king plus two pawns against king, White's win will not take long to achieve.

Whether by study or experience from playing pawn games, the student will be better able to recognize favorable endgames, and move a middlegame toward them or avoid heading into an unfavorable one.

# Knightmare Ending

Continued from Page 16

## ed5 ed5 5. Ngf3 Nc6 6. c3

6. Bb5, which indirectly guards the d-pawn, is the only move considered by theory.

## 6...Nf6 7. Be2

7. Bd3 or 7. Bb5 is more active but White worried about 7...Qe7, possibly simplifying more than he would have liked.

## 7...Be7 8. dc5 Bc5 9. Nb3 Be7

The side with the isolated queen pawn usually aims for a kingside attack as compensation. ...Bd6 plus an eventual ...Bc7 and ...Qd6 is typical.

## 10. 0-0 0-0 11. Bg5 Ne4 12. Be7

Exchanges help the player whose pieces come out as a result of the exchange, but in this case neither side improves his game because no new pieces came out — Black would rather recapture with 12...Qe7 but that leaves his d-pawn hanging. Black's position is somewhat lessened because he trades good bishop for bad, and

because the weakness of his isolated pawn looms larger as pieces are taken from the board.

## 12...Ne7 13. Qc2

A bit premature. White is certain that he wants his queen knight on d4, and a rook (probably the king rook) on e1. Both of those developing moves should be made before White decides on a queen placement. It is also seen later that the preventive move h3 would be a good one.

## 13...Be6 14. Rd1 Qc7 15. Bd3 Nf6 16. Nbd4 Bg4

Since White's c-pawn and f3-knight are both pinned, Black can follow with an annoying ...Nc6, threatening just to capture on d4. White pursues a good kingside initiative by 17. h3 Bh5 18. g4 Bg6 19. Nf5, where the kingside weaknesses are not easily exploited, considering White's advantages in development and space.

## 17. Rd2

Continued on Page 28



Clifford Estrada won the Reserve Section of the LERA Thanksgiving Chess Championship with a 4-0 score.

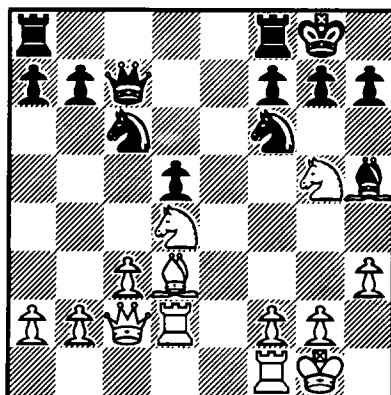
Photograph by Kevin Batagnan

# Endgame Lessons Learned at LERA

Continued from Page 27

An awkward move. The disconnection of White's rooks will show.

**17...Nc6 18. h3 Bh5 19. Ng5**



**19...Bg6**

On 19...Nd4, White planned the rook lift 20. Bh7 Kh8 21. Rd4 g6 22. Rh4, though 22. g4 might be better and simpler.

**20. Bg6 hg6 21. Re1**

The knight fork 21. Nde6 is not good: 21...fe6 22. Ne6 Qf7 23. Nf8 Rf8, and after ...Ne4, Black has great pressure on the f-line.

**21...Rfe8**

Black wins control of the e-file because his rooks work together.

**22. Re8 Re8 23. Ndf3 Ne5**

Enables White to contest the e-file, and brings about two more exchanges which move the game closer to Black's disadvantageous endgame. 23...Qe7 is about equal.

**24. Re2 Nf3 25. Nf3 Re2 26. Qe2 Ne4**

The game is still roughly even, in spite of Black's inferior pawn structure — Black's knight has a good outpost, and his queen is also well placed. Perhaps she will move to f4 and c1.

**27. Qb5**

White makes the biggest threat he can, to capture on d5 or maybe

check on e8 and follow with Ne5. After this queen trade, however, Black's weak pawn shifts from d5 to a7, where it is less assailable. Also, Black gains a potential passed pawn.

**27...Qc6 28. Qc6 bc6 29. Ne5 c5 30. f3**

This should precede 31. Kf2.

**30...Nf6 31. Nc6 a6 32. a4 Kf8 33. Nb8**

33. a5 is a strong alternative that freezes the target on a6, holds the black king on the back rank for another turn, and advances the pawn that will be passed.

**33...Ke7 34. Na6 Kd6 35. b4**

Purdy used to that passed pawns must be pushed, but only after the pieces are placed as well as they can be. Black's king is making inroads while White's sits behind. 35. Kf2 is good.

**35...cb4 36. cb4**

Pawns are strongest when they are united and abreast of each other, but 36. Nb4 comes into consideration because it doesn't let Black have a passed pawn. One possibility after that is 36. Nb4 Kc5 37. Kf2 Kc4 (better is 37...d4) 38. a5 Kc3 39. a6 Nd7 40. a7 Nb6 41. Nd5 and White wins.

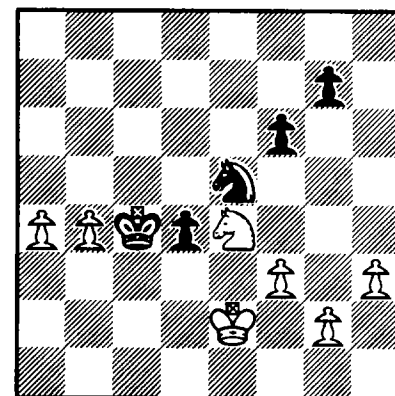
**36...Nd7 37. Kf2 d4 38. Ke2 Ne5 39. Nc5 g5**

Designed to restrain the white f-pawn, thus securing the knight on e5. White sees this as bait, and neglects to push his a-pawn.

**40. Ne4**

40. a5 is straightforward: 40...Kc6 41. Nb3 d3 42. Kd2 Kb5 43. Nd4 Kb4 44. a6 Nd7 45. a7 Nb6, and now White can shift his attention to the kingside.

**40...Kd5 41. Ng5 f6 42. Ne4 Kc4**



**43. f4**

Passed pawns must be pushed: 43. b5 d3 44. Kd2 Kb4 45. b6 Nc4 46. Kd3 Nb6 and White goes to the kingside again.

**43...Nd3 44. Nd6 Kc3 45. b5 Nf4 46. Kd1 Nd5 47. a5**

White can try sacrificing his b-pawn to sneak the a-pawn through: 47. b6 Nb6 48. a5 Nd5 49. a6 Nb6 50. Nb5 Kd3 51. Nc7 Ke3 52. a7 Kf2, but Black's king will take all of White's kingside pawns.

**47...d3**

Black's d-pawn is further advanced than the white queenside pawns, and Black now has a threat to queen by 48...Ne3 and 49...d2.

**48. Ne4 Kd4 49. Kd2**

Passed pawns must be pushed! 49. b6 Ke4 50. b7 Ke3 51. b8(Q) Nc3 52. Kc1 (Careful! 52. Ke1 loses to 52...d2 53. Kf1 d1(R) mate) d2 53. Kb2 d1(Q) 54. Qg3 and White should win the queen ending.

**49...Ke4 50. b6 Nb4**

White's sacrificial try falls just short because the black knight can cover squares in both white pawns' paths.

**51. b7 Na6 58. Resigns**



# Browne Survives Time Trouble 20 Times, Sweeps UPSCL Tripleheader

Continued from Page 21

White has no compensation for the lost pawn, so gets back to his kingside attack.

## 19. Rg1

It may have been more prudent to first nullify Black's pressure with 19.Qa5.

## 19...Rfe8 20. e5?

White's should continue the attack with 20. h4, threatening to pry the knight off of g6 with a later h5. The text move helps Black to get more units over to the queenside.

## 20...Nd5 21. Qe1

Forced, to save the queen, protect the bishop on e3, and provide a flight square for the king at d2.

## 21...Qa1 22. Kd2 Qb2

Black's two-pawn lead and pressure on the queenside and in the center pressure give him a clear advantage.

## 23. Bf2!

Before this move, Browne had about a three-second lead on the clock, but he used seven seconds to find this move in the face of a deteriorating position.

## 23...c5?

With weaknesses all over, Black might have reinforced with 23...Ndf4. Pushing his passed pawn by 23...a5 is a good alternative.

## 24. Qe4

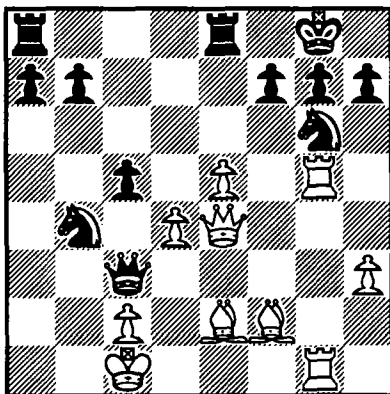
White keeps his attack alive at all costs, but his king might have been safer after 24. Bg6 hg6 25. R5g3.

## 24...Qc3 25. Kc1 Nb4

25...Rad8, bringing Black's last piece into the game, was a stronger move. Black's :33-:24 lead on the clock is significant.

## 26. Be2

Browne spent another seven seconds on this turn, falling behind :17-:33!



Vucic spent six seconds on his next move, but was unable to find 26...Na2 27. Kb1 Qb3 28.cb3 Nc3 and 29...Ne4. Instead, he developed his last piece.

## 26...Rac8 27. d5

Obviously, Browne prefers to keep the c-file closed to Black's newly-developed Rook.

## 27...Qa3

Clocks read :15-:24.

## 28. Kd2 Nd5

Another free pawn for Black, as White may not recapture with 29. Qd5, because the queen would be pinned.

## 29. h4 Qc3 30. Kc1 Rc6?!

The right continuation is 30...Qa1 31. Kd2 Qa5 32. Kc1 Nc3+, whereas 30...Rc6 leaves the knight on d5 undefended. Also, Black's time advantage has been cut in half; the clock reads :11.2-:12.4.

## 31. h5?

First 31. Qd5.

## 31...Rb6?

Again, 31...Qa1.

## 32. Qd5

Clock times are down to :08.6-:10.5.

## 32...Qb2

32...Rb2 was the only way to preserve any advantage.

## 33. Kd2 Qb4

The position is now equal, and so are the clocks at :07.1-:07.3.

## 34. c3

34. Kd1, offering a perpetual check, was safest for White.

## 34...Qb2 35. Kd3??

35. Ke1 was the only move.

## 35...Rbe6??

The third time Black overlooked a good opportunity to play ...Nf4 in this game.

## 36. hg6 hg6 37. Bg4 R6e7 38. Bh4 Qb5 39. c4 Qb3 40. Ke4 Qb6 41. Ke3 Rd8 42. Qe4 Qb3 Time forfeit 0-1

The splitting of the Browne-Vucic match gave undefeated Pierre Vachon the tournament lead going into round three. Vachon then won two out of the three games against Browne, and one of three against Vucic in round four, and clung to a half-point lead going into the final round.

However, Vachon now ran into California G/1 min. champion Ron Cusi, who, along with Browne, was a half-point behind. Browne swept Arthur Ibragimov, while Cusi won his match with Vachon 2-1, so Browne narrowly earned the U.S. Game in One Minute Champion title with another trophy and \$250. Vucic finished second and earned \$125, while Cusi came in third for \$75, and Vachon was fourth and took home \$25.

# Burlingame Defeats Sacramento

Continued from Page 23

Much better is 23. gf6 Bf6 (23...Nd4 24. fg7 Rg8 25. f6 is terrible for Black) 24. fe6 Bh4 25. Bg5 and Black is hard-pressed to survive.

**23...f5 24. Ng3! Rf8**

Going after the piece looks more dangerous than it is. One possibility is 24...f4 25. Ne4 fe3 26. Nd6 Kd8 27. Qe3 Nd5 28. Qf3 Nf4 and White has nothing better than 29. Nf7 Ke7 30. Nh8 Rh8 with an unclear position. The text move appears to be the safer course but is in fact harder to manage.

**25. Nh5 Nd5**

25...Bh8 offers a better chance of fending off White's attack.

**26. Bg1! a4 27. Qg2 e4**

27...Qb7 28. Ng7 is out, and so is 27...Nb6 28. Qc6 Kd8 29. Qd6 Kc8 30. e7+.

**28. de4 Nc3 29. Kc1**

An odd instance in which the king should run toward the enemy: 29. Ka1 Na2 (29...a3 30. bc3 bc3 31. Ng7 Ke7 32. Be3 Rb2 33. ef5 Qb8 34. f6 Kd8 35. Qd5 Rc2 36. Qb3+) 30. Ng7 Qg7 31. ef5 a3 32. Qc6 Kd8 33. Qd7 leads to a winning ending for White.

**29...Na2 30. Kd1 a3 31. ef5 ab2 32. Ng7?**

During the post-mortem, the players worked out an elaborate win for White: 32. Qc6 Ke7 33. Bc5 b1(Q) 34. Kd2 Bc3 (34...Qc2 35. Kc2 Qc5 36. Qc5 dc5 37. Ng7 b3 38. Kb1 doesn't change the outcome) 35. Kd3 Qf1 36. Rf1 dc5 37. f6 Bf6 38. gf6 Rf6 39. Nf6+.

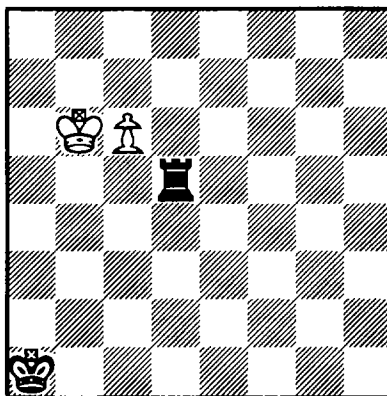
**32...Kd8 33. Kd2 Qg7 34. e7**

White was probably relying on 34. f6, which fails to 34... Rf6 35. Rf6 b1(Q).

**34...Qe7 35. Qd5 Nc3 36. Qf3 Rf5 37. Resigns**

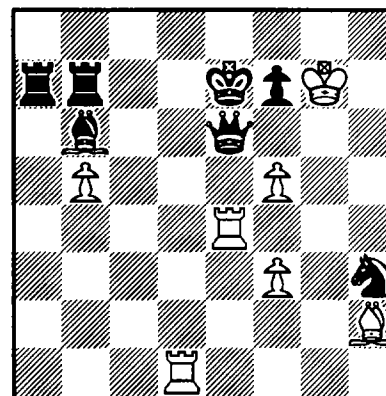
# Problems

Saavedra, 1895



White to play and win. Solution on Page 31.

by Kevin Begley



White to play and win. Solution on Page 31.

## Sacramento High School Championship and December Elementary Scholastic

Ninety-five students participated in the Sacramento High School Championship and December Elementary Scholastic Tournament held December 2 at the Ethel McLeod Hart Senior Center in Sacramento. John McCumiskey directed the five-round Swiss.

### PRIZE WINNERS

1. Grades 9-12 (Trophies, players listed in tiebreak order):

1	William Terry	5
2	Jose L Rivera	4
3	Brannan Ramirez	4
4	Brenda Saeturn	4
5	Kao L Saeturn	3
6	Jub Villalpando	3
7	Manica Ceballos	3
8	Nikhil Chand	2.5
9	Vanessa Gonzalez	2.5
10	Sunish Aggarwal	2.5

1st Place Team: Biggs High School, 17

2nd Place Team: Luther Burbank, 10

3rd Place Team: Florin High School, 2.5

2. Grades 7-8 (Trophies, players listed in tiebreak order)

1	Christopher Wihledal	4.5
2	David Rivera	4
3	Miles Mabray	4
4	Emmanuel Garcia	4
5	Davan Benson	4
6	Chris Saeturn	3.5
7	Cameron Knipe	3.5
8	Jacob Green	3.5
9	Keith Schwarz	3
10	Andrew Gutierrez	3

1st Place Team: Biggs Middle School, 16

2nd Place Team: Commodore Stockton, 10.5

3rd Place Team: Arden Middle School, 9.5

3. Grades 4-6 (Trophies, players listed in tiebreak order)

1	Daniel Schwarz	4.5
(Won a playoff for first place)		
2	Tyler K Woodruff	4.5
3	Tyler K Wilken	4
4	Anyon Harrington	4
5	Jeremy Tempkin	4
6	Kevin Mani	4
7	Pamela Saeturn	3.5
8	Dylan J Schaefer	3
9	Armando Chaparro	3
10	Tyler Riggs	3

1st Place Team: Biggs Elementary, 12.5

2nd Place Team: Cowan Fundamental School, 11.5

3rd Place Team: North Davis Elementary, 7.5

4. Grades K-3 (Trophies, players listed in tiebreak order)

1	Graham Mc Daniel	5
2	Brandon Brown	4
3	Jacob Hall	4
4	Colin Mc Daniel	3
5	Louis De Pello	3
6	Anna De Pello	3
7	Katy Schaefer	3
8	Chinmai Raman	2
9	Ricky Bunch	2
10	Riley Brian	2

1st Place Team: North Davis Elementary, 12

2nd Place Team: Sacramento Christian Academy, 6

3rd Place Team: Alta-Dutch Flat School, 4

# Places to Play

Some listings were removed because their information was no longer valid. Send changes and new information to [californiachessjournal@cattekin.vip.best.com](mailto:californiachessjournal@cattekin.vip.best.com).

## Arcata — New hours

Tuesdays 6:30-11 p.m.  
Arcata Community Center  
321 Community Park Way  
James Bauman  
(707) 822-7619

## Berkeley — New location

Fridays 7 p.m.  
Epworth United Methodist Church  
1953 Hopkins  
Alan Glasscoe  
(510) 652-5324

## Burlingame

Thursdays 7 p.m.  
Burlingame Lions Club  
990 Burlingame Ave.  
Scott Wilson  
(650) 355-9402  
[www.burlingamechessclub.com](http://www.burlingamechessclub.com)

## Campbell

Thursdays 7-11:30 p.m.  
Campbell Community Center  
Fred Leffingwell  
[leffing@cis.com](mailto:leffing@cis.com)  
(408) 732-5188, (408) 526-7090 work

## Carmichael

Mondays 6-10 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Center  
4701 Gibbons

## El Dorado Hills

Sundays 5-8 p.m.  
Oak Ridge Library  
1120 Harvard Way  
Troy Pendergraft  
(916) 941-1625

## Fremont

Fridays 7:30-11 p.m.  
Borders Books and Music  
Hans Poschmann  
[hspwood2@home.net](mailto:hspwood2@home.net)  
(510) 656-8505

## Hayward

Mondays 9 p.m.  
Lyon's Restaurant  
25550 Hesperian Blvd.

## Humboldt County

Bob Phillips  
(707) 839-4674

## Livermore

Fridays 7 p.m.-midnight  
Lawrence Livermore Lab South Cafeteria  
Charles Pigg  
(510) 447-5067

## Merced

Fridays 6:30 p.m.  
Merced Mall Food Court

## Modesto

Tuesdays 7 p.m.  
Doctors' Hospital Cafeteria  
1441 Florida Ave.  
John Barnard  
(209) 785-7895

## Monterey

Daily except Mondays  
430 Alvarado St.  
Ted Yudacufski  
(408) 646-8730

## Mount Shasta

Wednesdays 7 p.m.  
George Washington Manor  
Dick Bolling  
(530) 926-3608

## Oakhurst

Saturdays 4 p.m.  
Cafe Baja  
40029 Highway 41  
(559) 642-6333

## Paradise

Tuesdays 7-10 p.m.  
Paradise Senior Center  
Barry Nelson  
(916) 873-3107

## Porterville

Wednesdays 7 p.m.  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Henderson at Indiana  
Hans Borm  
(559) 784-3820

## Reno, Nevada

Sundays and Thursdays 6:30 p.m.  
2850 Wrondele Way, Suite D  
(775) 827-3867  
Jerry Weikel  
(775) 747-1405

## Richmond

Fridays 6 p.m.  
Richmond Library  
26th at MacDonald

## Ross Valley

POB 69  
Ross CA 94957

## Sacramento

Wednesdays 6-10 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Center  
915 27th St.  
Stewart Katz  
(916) 444-3133

## Salinas

Weekend afternoons  
Carl's Jr.  
1061 N. Davis Rd.  
Abe Mina  
(831) 758-4429

## San Anselmo

Tuesdays 7 p.m.  
Round Table Pizza  
Red Hill Shopping Center  
Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
Jim Mickle  
(415) 457-2719

## San Francisco

Daily  
Mechanics Institute  
57 Post St., Fourth Floor  
John Donaldson  
(415) 421-2258

## San Jose

Tuesdays and Fridays, 12 noon-4 p.m.  
Willows Senior Center  
2175 Lincoln Ave.  
Jerry Marshall  
(408) 267-1574

## San Leandro

Saturdays 12 noon  
Everybody's Bagel Shop  
1099 MacArthur Blvd.  
(510) 430-8700

## Santa Clara

Second Saturdays 2:15-6:15 p.m.  
Mary Gomez Park  
Francisco Sierra  
(408) 241-1447

## Santa Rosa

Tuesdays 6-10:45 p.m.  
Sonoma Coffee Company  
521 Fourth St.  
Keith Halonen  
(707) 578-6125

## Santa Rosa

First and last Saturdays  
Rincon Valley Library  
6959 Montecito Blvd.

## Mike Haun

(707) 537-0162

## Stanford

Mondays 7:30-10:30 p.m.  
Student Union Rm. 550-550d  
Adrian Keatinge-Clay  
(415) 497-0598

## Stockton

Fridays 7-11 p.m.  
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church  
4910 Claremont Ave.

## Sunnyvale

Tuesdays 8 p.m.  
LERA Bldg. 160  
Ken Stone  
(408) 629-5530

## Vallejo

Thursdays 6:15-9:45 p.m.  
Millennium Sports Club  
1214 Lincoln Rd.  
Duane Catania  
(707) 745-8900

## Visalia

Tuesdays 7 p.m.  
Borders Books and Music  
Mooney at Caldwell  
Allan Fifield  
(559) 734-2784

## Woodland

Sundays 3:30-9 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Center  
630 Lincoln Ave.  
Don Copeland  
(530) 666-0868

## Yuba City

Mondays and Wednesdays 7-11 p.m.  
Carl's Jr.  
Bridge St. and Highway 99  
Tom Giertych  
(916) 671-1715

## Solutions

**Page 24 (Begley)** 1. Rf5! Bh2 (1...Kf5 2. Kf7 any 3. g4 mate) 2. g4 (threatening Nf8 mate, Nf4 mate, and Re5 mate) 2...Bd6 (the only move to prevent all three threats, but taking away a flight square) 3. Ng5 mate

**Page 30 (Saavedra)** 1. c7 Rd6 2. Kb5 (If 2. Kc5, Black skewers the new queen by 2...Rd1 3. c8(Q) Rc1.) Rd5 3. Kb4 Rd4 4. Kb3 Rd3 5. Kc2 Rd4 6. c8(R)! (If 6. c8(Q), Black is stalemated by 6...Rc4 7. Qc4.) Ra4 7. Kb3 and White wins.

**Page 30 (Begley)** 1. f6 Ke8 2. Bc7! (2. Rh4? Qf6 3. Kxf6 Bd8, etc.) 2...Rc7 (2...Bc7? 3. Re6 fe6 4. f7 Ke7 5. f8(Q)) 3. Rh4 Qf6 4. Kf6 Rc6 (4...Bc5 5. Rh8 Bf8 6. Rf8 Kf8 7. Rd8 mate) 5. bc6 Bd8 7. Rd8 Kd8 8. Rh2 with a won ending.

# Tournament Calendar

Events marked with an asterisk offer discounted entry fees for CalChess members

Date	Event	Location	Discount
January 12-14	<b>Jessie Jeans Chess Tournament</b>	Santa Rosa	*
Jerome Weikel, 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 (775) 747-1405 wackyykl@aol.com			
January 13-14	<b>Sojourner Truth Chess Tournament for Girls</b>	Palo Alto	*
Doug Shaker, 2030 Mills Avenue, Menlo Park 94025 (650) 854-2545, doug@theshakers.org			
January 13-14	<b>Region XI Women's Open</b>	Palo Alto	*
Doug Shaker, 2030 Mills Avenue, Menlo Park 94025 (650) 854-2545, doug@theshakers.org			
January 15	<b>Jessie Jeans Game-in-50 Tournament</b>	Santa Rosa	*
Jerome Weikel, 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 (775) 747-1405 wackyykl@aol.com			
February 17-19	<b>People's Chess Tournament</b>	Berkeley	
Mike Goodall, 461 Peachstone Terrace, San Rafael 94903 (415) 491-1269 mike.goodall@worldnet.att.net Alan Glasscoe (510) 652-5324			
February 24	<b>Henry Gross Memorial Game-in-45</b>	San Francisco	
Joan Arbil, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258			
March 3-4	<b>CalChess State Scholastic Championships</b>	Santa Clara	*
Riley Hughes, 4019 Rector Common, Fremont 94538 (510) 623-1889 knowchess@aol.com Doug Shaker, 2030 Mills Avenue, Menlo Park 94025 (650) 854-9793, doug@theshakers.org			
March 24-25	<b>Ohlone Spring Sectional</b>	Fremont	*
Hans Poschmann, 4621 Seneca Park Avenue, Fremont 94538 (510) 656-8505 hspwood2@home.net			
March 24	<b>Central California Adult/Scholastic Amateur</b>	Turlock	
John Barnard, 3505 Spangler Lane #103, Copperopolis (209) 736-1223			
March 30-April 1	<b>A.J. Fink Memorial Amateur</b>	San Francisco	
Joan Arbil, 57 Post St., Mechanics Institute Room 408, San Francisco 94101 (415) 421-2258			

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