

CHESS VOICE

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1983 U.S. OPEN



THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN

CHESS VOICE



CalChess

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
CHESS ASSOCIATION

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COVER

The greatest show on earth? The only game in town? It depends on whether you were in the playing hall at 7:30 p.m. or 2:30 a.m. The Huntington-Sheraton's Dallas grass will revive, but Pasadena will always remember the 1983 U.S. Open; it was a killer. Photo by Lillian O'Brien.

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CalChess is the USCF State Chapter for Northern California

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CalChess Circuit Standings

The CalChess Circuit has wound up for the 1982-83 season. The next issue will carry the details of the awards ceremony, but here is a list of the top players in each section:

<u>MASTERS:</u>	
Jeremy Silman	520.8
James MacFarland	427.8
Peter Biyiasis	421.6
David Levin	365.8
Keith Vickers	344.1
<u>EXPERTS:</u>	
Robert Sferra	365.8
Zoran Lazetich	275.9
Tom Raffill	263.5
Mingson Chen	242.1
Dalton Peterson	226.5
<u>CLASS A:</u>	
Alan Glasscoe	250.0
Steven Hanamura	234.0
David Davis	230.1
Hans Poschmann	228.0
Steven Matthews	214.0
<u>CLASS B:</u>	
Arturs Ejevans	276.5
John Hampton	250.0
Nick Casares	199.2
Ken Halligan	194.0
Will Delaney	176.0
<u>CLASS C:</u>	
Robert Solovay	107.2
Mark Trombley	104.2
Ake Gullmes	93.6
Oscar Guerrero	87.1
Douglas Young	84.3
<u>CLASS D:</u>	
Ian Ramsay	79.1
H. G. Thomas	56.5
Raymond Orwig	41.6
Richard Newey	31.2
Greg Wills	31.2
<u>CLASS E:</u>	
Gar Comins	55.0
David Lawson	33.0
Karl Remick	24.2
Charles Bradshaw	17.6
Clifton King	17.6

The first tournament of the 1983-84 circuit is the Oktoberfest Open in Sacramento, October 1-2; followed by the "How to spend your Reagan Tax Cut" in Berkeley, October 22-23, and the LERA Thanksgiving Class in Sunnyvale, November 25-27.

LETTERS

IMPORTANT CORRECTIONS

The erstwhile editor is very embarrassed to announce that the erstwhile typesetter made an astonishing blunder in the June-July **Chess Voice**. She placed a correction in the "McCambridge Annotates" game on top of a perfectly correct line, thereby making both Strauss-McCambridge (page 6) and Gabdramanov-Kasparov (page 7) quite unplayable.

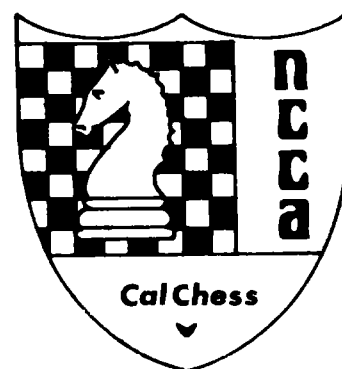
After 15. Qf3 and the note which follows (Page 6, left column), the game continues 15... Ndf8; 16. Rce1, Nh4. In the Gabdramanov-Kasparov game (Page 7, left column), the missing moves are 15. b4, Rh8; 16. c5, Nf8; 17. Qb3, Rh5; 18. Rg1, Nh7; 19. Nf4!?, ef.

This should make both games playable, and we are sorry that you had to wait two months to play them, but we have fired our typesetter.

R.E. Fauber
Sacramento, California

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The 1983 U.S. Open

The Greatest Show on Earth

By R.E. Fauber

"It was the best of tournaments; it was the worst of tournaments," Charles Dickens, a disgruntled unrated, grumbled.

If you believe big numbers mean big success, the 841 entrants who paid to play make this a whopping, record breaking U.S. Open--fully 63 entrants above the previous pace-setter, Chicago, 1973. Then there are those who think a U.S. Open should be strong--as it is not when held in mid-America. This Open sported a mere nine grandmasters (counting Dimitri Gurevich, who must wait for October to get his official title) and 14 International Masters. Some 16 players had ratings of 2500 or more. There were 32 over 2400, 102 over 2200 and better than 266 rated Expert or above. The break point for the first round was 1866. A majority of players were 1800 and above. You could lose one round and still play up the next, the competition was so fierce. It seems safe to say that this was the strongest U.S. Open ever--both at the top and in the middle.

Success, however, also breeds failure. There is nothing like being at the very top of your game to depress you. You can't go any farther. Something like this happened at the Huntington-Sheraton in Pasadena. There were too many players. For World Open players from New York a few days of madness may seem safer than Central Park, but for two weeks having the mad, the thoughtless, and the simply disoriented players bumping into each other in the corridors and on the grounds of the sprawling hotel created a scene which the National Safety Council would deplore. For my next tournament I want to select a based-on prize tournament which guarantees prizes only if the tournament is under 300.



A dramatic testament to the power of chess players thundering feet was the close clipped Dallas grass which decorated the courtyard between the three main rooms and the book sales concessions. Gardeners and homeowners all believe that Dallas grass is immortal. The chess players killed it. Brown patches began to appear across the grass and in selected areas the first week. When the rains came the second week, there were mud patches where players liked to congregate for a talk between moves. The Huntington-Sheraton's Dallas grass will revive, but it will always remember the 1983 U.S. Open; it was a killer.

There was also the age-old conundrum of the irresistible force meeting the immovable object. Players moving away from their game, either for a breath of air or to catch the action on the top boards, move dreamily in slow motion. Part of them is still focused on e1. Those coming away from air, kibitzing, or light conversation move rapidly because their clocks may be running. They certainly are. The result is repeated collisions in doorways. These also happened in the courtyard, but there was a little room to dodge there. My fondest memory of the Pasadena Open was opening the door to the Wentworth Room, where the main action was unfolding, to get back to my position, where there was no action at all. A brawny dude had a full head of steam and took the open door as an invitation to plow ahead. Close on his heels were four whippet-like chess players equally anxious to be admitted to the inner sanctum of grandmaster chess at this tournament. My position at the board was not so good that I felt like standing aside, so I used my high school football training and smashed brawny up against the door first with elbow and then shoulder. Those following his lead so ardently piled up on his back like a freight train in derailment. (I saved the position after that.)

Players consumed water in such quantities that the coolers in the four rooms where the tournament took place could not cool it fast enough. They exhausted the hotel's supply of plastic cups, and the final rounds saw people drinking from cone-shaped paper cups. Then they even ran out of those.

The tournament directors--Ben Nethercot, chief assisted by Art Drucker, Phil Chase, Andy Lazarus, Ira Lee Riddle, and Mike Falkenstein--labored manfully to solve the myriad problems posed by the mass of bodies and the inexperience of the hotel staff in coping with chess players.

Winners There Were

The strength of the tourney was such that competition had heated up for all 23 titled players by round four. One interesting sidelight is that an IM and a GM each took half-point byes in the first round. Both Nick deFirmian and Larry Christiansen needed a rest after concluding their labors in the U.S. Championship which ended on July 31. DeFirmian said he needed that extra day's peace and beside, "What difference does it make?" Christiansen said he was not about to interrupt his vacation in Yosemite for chess. He displayed an even more confident attitude. "I'll beat them anyway," he said after round two.

After round seven it looked as though Christiansen would have a lot of beating to do. He had already yielded another draw and showed a point deficit to all-conquering Fedorowicz, who in the seventh downed GM Seirawan. Meantime, Korchnoi had drawn with fellow ex-countryman Igor Ivanov to stay half a point off the pace.

Round eight tightened the race as the players went into the far turn. Ivanov dumped Fedorowicz, who retaliated by dumping his groupie girl friend. This left Igor and Viktor half a point ahead of the pack at 7½. By round 10, thundering down the home stretch, the pack began to fade under the heat of competition. DeFirmian experienced a rocky spell and even lost to a lower rated. Christiansen continued to eat up ground and shared the lead with Korchnoi at 9. Half a point behind them were Canadian Champion Ivanov, former U.S. Open Champion Fedorowicz, and David Sprenkle. Sprenkle! Yes, the Illinois master had climbed out of the ruck and was in a position to claw his way to the top, but the competition was too hot, and he was scorched for two losses in the closing rounds.

Both Christiansen and Korchnoi faced formidable opposition. Larry had white against Viktor the Terrible in Round 11. He went for the win without a twinge of fear, but they drew a lengthy game. Fedorowicz and Ivanov also drew to leave the standings knotted as Seirawan, Gurevich, Gutman, Benjamin, Bisguier, and a sprinting Jay Whitehead all won to pull within a half point.

Christiansen faced Benjamin while Korchnoi had to meet his protege, Seirawan. Playing Black, Christiansen fearlessly thrust his men into the fray and succeeded in doubling R and Q on the KR file against the New Yorker's helpless K. Seirawan as Black played a strange opening--even by his standards. It featured . . .Bg4 before pressuring the d4 pawn with N or P. Korchnoi rolled him up without much ado.

Meantime Gurevich was crushing his foe, and Whitehead notched his second win in a row to finish at 10 for the honor of the Bay Area. Others emerged from the pack to fill up the remaining prize slots at 9½.

U.S. Open Winners

1 - 2	Larry Christiansen	10 ½
1 - 2	Viktor Korchnoi	10 ½
3 - 4	Dimitri Gurevich	10
3 - 4	Jay Whitehead	10
5 - 13	Khosrov Choobak	9 ½
5 - 13	Nick deFirmian	9 ½
5 - 13	John Fedorowicz	9 ½
5 - 13	Lev Gutman	9 ½
5 - 13	Vincent McCambridge	9 ½
5 - 13	Eugene Meyer	9 ½
5 - 13	John Meyer	9 ½
5 - 13	David Strauss	9 ½
5 - 13	Perry Youngworth	9 ½

Competitive Quirks

The saga of David Strauss deserves telling. Having suffered two consecutive losses before the break for the USCF Delegates' meeting, he withdrew on Friday night. By Saturday his sporting instincts had begun to reassert themselves, and he resumed play on Sunday. He posted four consecutive wins, drew in the 11th, and won in the 12th to finish in the prize list. So the USCF meetings do serve a useful purpose; they give the players time to reflect.

Another sensation was Belle, the computer daughter of Ma Bell of AT&T fame. Belle blasted weaker players off the Board and went 4½-3½ against master competition. Her 8½ score would have tied her for top Expert, but she plays for the cybernetics, not the points.

A little noticed sensation was D player Yaroslav Dasek, who considerably boosted his 1300+ rating by scoring 7-5.

GAMES TIME

In keeping with our Dickensian theme we first present A Tale of Two Rubinsteins. IM Tim Taylor decided to install the Four Knights Game in his opening repertoire and was promptly awarded a win in the first round. Come Round three, he got to trot it out again:

Four Knights; T. Taylor--R. Ketcham: 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bb5 Nd4 5. Ba4 Bc5 6. Ne5 Qe7.

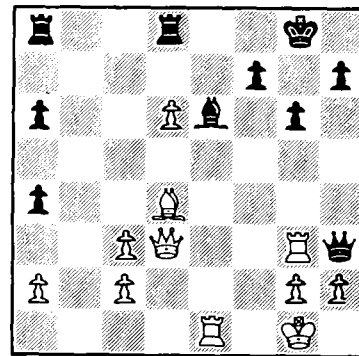
This had already occurred before in Round one, but it takes the fun out of Black's position.

7. Nd3 Ne4 8. 0-0 Nc3 9. dc Ne6 10. Nc5 Qc5 11. Bd3 Qf5 12. Qd3.

Black will stand worse after the Q trade, because his development will cost him time to unsnarl. White also has two B's.

12. . . .Qg4 13. f4 0-0 14. Rf3 d6 15. Re1 a6 16. b4 c5.

On 16. . . .b5 17. Rg3 Qh5 18. Rh3 Qg6 19. f5. 17. f5 b5 18. fe Be6 19. Rg3 Qh4 20. bc ba 21. Bd4 g6 22. cd Rfd8.



Now, before Black's pieces achieve a modicum of coherence, White starts the demolition derby.

23. Re6! fe 24. Rg6!

Such generosity can only lead to mate as after 24. . . .hg 25. Qg6 Kf8 26. Bg7.

24. . . .Kf7 25. Rg7 Ke8 26. Re7 1 - 0



The Greatest Show on Earth

That was a nice way to cash in on an opening inaccuracy. In Round 10 Andrew Beaver, a humble 2006 player, was slated to be the next victim, but a funny thing happened on the way to the slaughter:

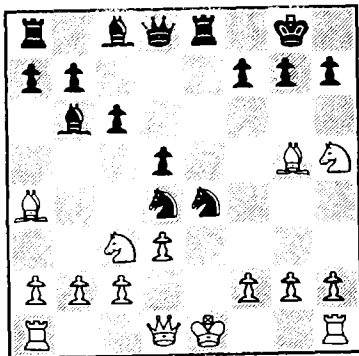
Four Knights; T. Taylor--A. Beaver: 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 Nc6 4. Bb5 Nd4 5. Ba4 Bc5 6. Ne5 0-0!

Had Beaver been following the Tim Taylor saga in the U.S. Open Bulletins? (Which were very attractively produced by a team headed by Jim Marfia of Michigan) He could have had a chance to prepare in the book room, if he was very skilled at pairings.

7. Nd3 Bb6 8. Nf4 Re8 9. d3 c6 10. Nh5 d5.

On the 8th move Taylor opted for the most unclear lines instead of 8. e5. Here he neglects the joy of castling in a bid to overwhelm Black. True, 11. Nf6 Qf6 12. 0-0 Qh4 is not palatable, but the game continuation is worse.

11. Bg5? Ne4.



One line runs 12. Bd8 Nc3 13. Kf1 Nd1 14. Bb6 (or 14. Bh4 Nb2 15. Bb3 a5) ab 15. Bb3 Nb3 16. cb Nb2 and Black escapes with an extra piece.

12. de Qg5 13. Ng3 de 14. 0-0 e3 15. fe Re3 16. Nce4 Ne2 17. Kh1 Ng3 18. Ng3 Rg3 19. Bb3 Be6 20. Be6 fe 21. Qd7 Qg6 22. Qb7 Rd8 23. Rad1 Rd1 24. Rd1 Qe8 25. Rd7 Rg6 26. Qc6 Rf6 27. g4 Qf8 28. Rd3 Rf1 29. Kg2 Rg1 30. Kh3 Qf1 31. Kh4 Qf6 32. g5 Qg5 0-1

Is that any way to treat an IM? Well, both of my fans would be disappointed if I did not observe here, "Leave it to Beaver." Mr. Beaver took a piece of top Expert at 8½, which should put him comfortably among the ranks of the 2100's.

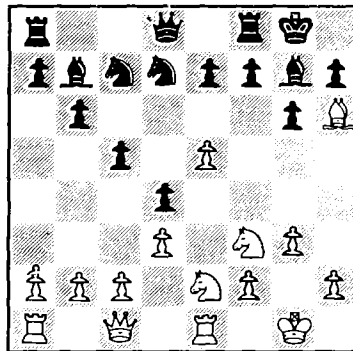
Another giant-killer was San Jose master Gabriel Sanchez. True, GM's Andy Soltis and Sammy Reshevsky held him to draws, but then Peter Biyiasas' number came up.

A. N. Opening: P. Biyiasas--G. Sanchez: 1. Nf3 Nf6 2. g3 b6 3. Bg2 Bb7 4. d3 g6 5. 0-0 Bg7 6. e4 0-0 7. Nc3 c5 8. Bd2 d5.

It is well-known that Biyiasas is better prepared in the opening as Black, and this game shows his philosophy that just about anything will do as White. Still, this game continuation falls a bit below metaphysics.

9. e5 Ne8 10. Re1 Nc7 11. Ne2 d4 12. Qc1 Nd7 13. Bh6.

White will now pay the penalty for allowing Black to open his QB's diagonal. 11. d4 appears to be a must.



13. . . .Bf3!

Black shoots a hole in White's light squares. Catastrophe ensues after 14. Bf3 Ne5 15. Ba8 Qa8--although 15. Bg2 is better than what follows.

14. Bg7 Bg2 15. Bf8 Bb7 16. Bh6 Ne5 17. Kf1 Qd5 18. Ng1 Qg2 19. Ke2 Nf3.

This game has become a sewing lesson in which White is all stitched up. The continuation to disaster is 20. Nf3 Bf3 21. Kd2 Qf2.

20. Qf4 Nce6 21. Qg4 Nh2 22. Gh4 Bf3 23. Nf3 Qf3 24. Kd2 Qf2 25. Kd1 Ge1 26. Ke1 Nf3 27. Kf2 Nh4 28. gh f6 29. Re1 Kf7 30. Re5 fe 0-1.

There's no fooling that Sanchez.

Before turning to some of the games between the higher rateds it is time for an important announcement. Chess Voice is now able to pay all its contributors. CV is able to pay in games. Printing this not disgraceful game is my payment.

King's Indian; R. Fauber--C. vanBuskirk: 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 g6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. e4 d6 6. Be2 0-0 7. Nf3 e5.

Most people recommend 8. Bg5 here.

8. 0-0 Ne8?! 9. a3 Qe7?!

This move yields a useful tempo, and on move 8. . . .Nh5, which aims to weaken f3 was preferable. Black also omits a later . . .a6, which appears to weaken b6 but is more important to keep White's N out of b5. These omissions give White a comfortable game, and he sets his chess vehicle on cruise.

10. b4 b6 11. Nd2 f5 12. f3 Bh6 13. Nb3 Bc1 14. Qc1 f4 15. Qd2 g5 16. bc bc 17. Rfb1 Kh8 18. Ra2 Nf6 19. Rab2 Na6

White's Q-side advantage is now clear, and Black's K-side attack is basically Platonic--an ideal type without ideal pieces.

20. Na5 g4 21. Nc6 Qg7 22. Nb5 gf 23. Bf3 Bg4?

Black could still frustrate Q-side penetration by 23. ...Ne8. This weakening of the b7 square proves fatal.

24. Qe2 Bf3 25. Qf3 Ne8 26. Nba7

The idea here is 26. ...Ra7 27. Na7 Qa7 28. Rb7 Qa8 29. Rd7 Qc8 30. Qg4. If 29. ...Nf6 30. Rd6 looks potent.

26. ...Rf7 27. Nb5 Rd7 28. Nc3 Nf6 29. Rb6 Nc7 30. Rb8 Rb8 31. Rb8 Nce8 32. Nb5 Rb7 33. Ra8 Qd7 34. a4 Kg7 35. a5 Nc7 36. Rd8 1-0.

Ivanov employed sharper means against John Meyer.

King's Indian Defense; I. Ivanov--J. Meyers: 1.d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. c4 Bg7 4. g3 0-0 5. Bg2 d6 6. 0-0 Nc6 7. Nc3 e5 8. d5 Ne7 9. c5!

An oldie but a goodie. The point is 9. ...dc 10. Ne5 Nfd5 11. Nd5 Be5 12. Bg5 f6 13. Nf6.

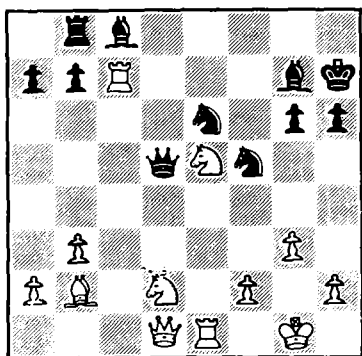
9. ...Ne8 10. cd Nd6 11 e4 h6 12. Nd2 f5 13. b3 fe?!

White has acted to inhibit ...c6, but this is no better. The indicated plan was a K-side attack by 13. ...f4.

14. Nce4 Nef5 15. Ba3 Rf7 16. Rcl Kh7 17. Re1 Nb5.

Black's plan to anchor a N on d4 is clear, but, as they say in the Bronx, so what? White has a fine development and growing pressure on e5.

18. Bb2 Nbd4 19. Nc5 Rb8 20. Nd3 Rd7 21. Ne5 Rd5 22. Bd5 Qd5 23. Rc7 Ne6.



Black has little to show for his efforts, but he hopes for 24. Rf7 Ng5. White notices a cute mate threat and a discovered check.

24. Rg7 Neg7 25. Ne4 1-0

On 25. ...Qe6 26. Qd8 nails down the coffin.

Northern Californians got in their innings. Here John Watson rebuffs a contender.

Call me Modern Defense; W. Shipman--J. Watson: 1.d4 Nf6 2. g3 g6 3. Bg2 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nc3 0-0 6. Nge2 Nbd7 7. 0-0 e5 8. h3 Re8 9. Be3 a6.

In this kind of opening, the mistake usually comes two moves before you noticed it. A direct 10. f4 seems more in order here.

10. a4?! ed 11. Bd4 Rb8 12. Ba7 Ra8 13. Bd4 Rb8 14. f4 c5 15. Bf2 b5 16. ab ab 17. Qd6 b4 18. Na4 Ne4 19. Qd3 Nf2 20. Rf2 Qa5 21. Bc6 Qc7 22. Qf3 Re6 23. Bd5 Rd6 24. Kh2 Nf6 25. c4 bc 26. Nec3 Nd5 27. Nd5 Qd7 28. Rd1 Bd4 29. Rd4 cd 30. Nc5 Qh3 31. Kgl Rd5! 32. Qd5 Qg3 33. Qg2 Qe3 34. Qe4? Qcl 0-1

On his way up from perdition to the prize list, Vince McCambridge found himself in a situation where it was either sacrifice or be squashed.

Caro-Kann Defense; J. Hamblin--V. McCambridge: 1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. ed cd 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Nf3 e5 7. Bd3 Be7 8. c5 b6 9. b4 0-0.

White might now play to maintain his space edge by 10. Rb1, but he gets ambitious and makes Vince turn Vicious.

10. Qa4 Bd7 11 b5 Nd4!?

The intention appears to be 12. Nd4 Bc5 13. Be3 Qc7 with two P's and initiative for a piece. White makes it more interesting--for Black.

12. Qd4 bc 13. Qe5 d4 14. Ne4 Bb5 15. Bb5 Qa5 16. Bd2 Qb5 17. Nd4.

White gets clever when he might have been better served by 17. h4 and Rh3. White seems to hope for 17. ...Qb2 18. Bc3.

17. ...Qb7 18. Nc5 Qg2 19. Ke2 Ng4 20. Qc7 Qf2 21. Kd3 Rfd8 22. Bc3 Bc5 23. Qc5 Rac8 0-1.

At press time neither Chess Voice nor Players Chess News had received the bulletins for rounds 11 and 12 of the U.S. Open. Larry Christiansen kindly provided a score for his 12th round victory over Joel Benjamin along with some running commentary by telephone. We will indicate them "C" to preserve his innocence from some of our own observations. Unfortunately, Korchnoi-Seirawan could not be dredged up.

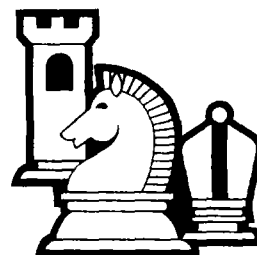
Queen's Indian Declined; J. Benjamin--L. Christiansen: 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5.

Grandmaster jockeying is taking place. Christiansen is steering for a variation well-known to West Coast players because of McCambridge-Hort and Strauss-McCambridge (Chess Voice, June-July, 1983, p. 6, corrections in letter "Errata", this issue, p. 31) and Christiansen-Csom; Lucerne, 1982. Christiansen is also an adept at Queen's Indian formations, but appears to favor the White side these days.

4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bg5 0-0 6. e3 Nbd7 7. Rcl a6 8. c5 c6 9. Bd3 b6 10. cb c5 11. 0-0 Bb7 12. Qe2 Re8 13. Rfd1?!

The first of a number of second-rate moves. Christiansen suggests 13. Bb1 so as to meet ...c4 with an immediate b3 (at least I think that's the idea behind his move order. At this point Csom played 13. ...cd at Lucerne and perhaps knowledge of that game lulled Benjamin into a false sense of security, but he might have asked why Christiansen wanted to play against himself. Grandmaster chess is trickier than nuclear politics, but at least it is less lethal (don't tell the loser that).

Continued...



CalChess Board Meeting

October 15, 1983

2:00 p.m.

Student Union

U.C. Campus, Berkeley

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Minutes of the Meeting of
July 30, 1983
Current Financial Report

Goodall
R.T. Gordon

REPORTS:

Circuit windup
All others deferred

Poschmann

ACTION ITEMS:

1983 - 1984 Budget
Selection of NorthCal Voting Members for 1984

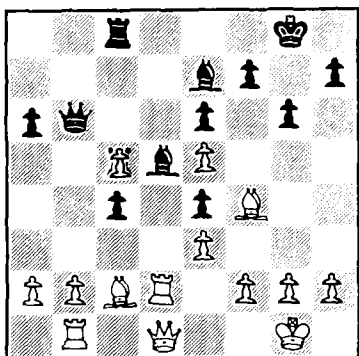
R.T. Gordon

ADJOURNMENT

Post Meeting:

Informal discussion of U.S. Open, etc.
Approximate meeting length -- 3 1/2 hours.

13. ...c4! 14. Bb1 Qb6 15. Qc2?! ("C": Bf6!?) g6
16. Rd2 Rac8 17. Bf4 Ne4 18. Ne4 de 19. Ne5 Ne5 20. de
Bd5 21. Qd1 Rc5 22. Bc2 Rec8 23. Rb1.



Black is already winning. He has the two bishops and White does not. When White has a look at this position he says, "I have the two whats?!" ("C": the crush is 23. ...Ra5).

23. ...Rb5?! 24. b3! c3 25. Rd4 a5.

Clearly Black is winning on the Queenside with impending stuff such as ...Ba3--b2 impending. White has to try to tickle the Black king's ribs but comes up with short ribs instead. Black's forward KP dances on air because of the tactical shots available as in 26. Be4? Be4 27. Re4 c2. Similar themes will recur on succeeding moves.

26. Qg4 Qc6 27. h4 Rb4 28. h5 Rd4 29. ed a4 30. hg?! hg 31. Kh2?

"C": Wrong, wrong, wrong on both previous moves White fares better with 30. ba Qc4 31. Qd1 with counter-play. Now Black takes over activity on the kingside.

31. ...ab 32. ab Kg7! "C" 33. Bg5 Rh8 34. Kg1 Qc7.

Another interesting situation where the KP dances in safety because 35. Be7 Qe7 36. Be4 Rh4. and 35 Bf6 only allows Black to open attacking lines.

35. Ra1 Qd8.

"C": Now it was compulsory to play 36. Be7 Qe7 37. Re1 but Black remains on top.

36. Be3?? Rh4 37. Qe2 Qh8 0-1

It's a flashdance where Black can really get it on for the White king.

HELP WANTED

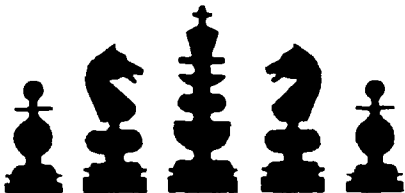
The elves of 23rd Street (sorry, Fauber) have committed themselves to produce three issues of Chess Voice. While CalChess hasn't yet reached the level of some other state associations (one has gone through seven editors in two years, another has its editor as an elected office with people actually competing for the position), we would be delighted to talk with anyone interested in taking charge of one of the best (if not the best) chess magazines in the country. We warn you, it's (sorry, B.T.) hard work, low pay, but the conditions are up to you. You'll also inherit the CalChess light table and typewriter (and the "Chess Goes to War" picture file).

If you don't want the whole magazine, we can still use volunteers to write, proofread, and do layout, artwork photography, headlines (yes, we do it all ourselves) and (groan) mailing.

Please contact the editor at (916) 443-7387 days 444-3039 after 6:00.

MORE HELP

CalChess has had a computerized membership list virtually since its birth. The Board has decided to put the membership services up for bid to the members, both to stay within budget (about \$400 per year for about 1,000 names) and to keep it in the family. If you would like to bid, please attend the October 15 meeting or contact the editor.



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CalChess

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
CHESS ASSOCIATION

CALCHESS BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

July 30, 1983; Mechanic's Institute Chess Club
 Attending: Gar Comins, Mike Goodall, Bob Gordon,
 Ramona Gordon, Andy Lazarus, Art Marthinsen, Bryce
 Perry, Francisco Sierra

2:47 p.m. Call to Order by Chairman Art Marthinsen

--Minutes of previous meeting approved.

--Treasurer's Report by Bob Gordon:

June 30, 1982: Carryover approximately \$200.00

June 30, 1983: Carryover approximately \$900.00

Report accepted unanimously

--Chess Voice Report by Richard Fauber:

Read by all present; Report accepted unanimously

--Circuit Report by Hans Poschmann:

Scanned by all present; Bob Gordon noted that Circuit is working well.

(Hans was busy directing the CalChess Team Championship this weekend)

--Scholastic Report:

Deferred because chairmen were not present.

Bryce Perry stated he would resume running the Scholastic Tournament in the spring if Jim Hurt helps.

--Chairman's Report by outgoing Chairman R.W. Gordon:

Letter from Lewis re: Monterey InterCollegiate read by all present.

Letter from Boyd re: proposed tournament in Rhonert Park read by all present.

MOTION: That Art Marthinsen explore proposal.

Approved.

--Chairman's Report (continued):

Noted that Dave Humpal had lost his T.D. Certification.

Noted that Phil Degen was under investigation.

ACTION ITEMS:

Chess Voice discussion:

Ramona and Bob Gordon offered to produce the next 3 issues. This offer will buy time (6 months) in which to find a new editor.

All present urged to provide material; 2 tournament reports pledged by Goodall, 1 article pledged by Sierra, 1 article pledged by Lazarus.

MOTION: That CalChess declines to accept Richard Fauber's resignation as editor.

Passed unanimously.

MOTION: That CalChess accept the Gordons' offer pending finding a more permanent editor.

Passed unanimously.

Delegates Motions for the U.S. Open Business meeting--discussion:

Revenue Sharing: like idea with serious reservations.

Kaisha Chess Clock: support restrictions.

Computers in tournaments.

Arranging TLS's by region.

Continue membership drive: opposed.

Clearinghouse to "approve" tournaments for TLA ads: like idea with serious reservations.

Sudden Death Rules: opposed to all such rules.

MOTION: R. Gordon, second by B. Gordon: That Minutes and Agenda for CalChess Meetings be published in the magazine rather than mailed.

Passed: 6 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention.

Bob Gordon suggested we change membership services from Applied Analysis to something else for the October-November issue of Chess Voice. We could either put it up for bidding, or use the Gordon's equipment.

MOTION: That CalChess fund the Monterey Intercollegiate for \$150.00.

Passed unanimously.

MOTION: That current bills be paid pending adoption of new budget.

Passed unanimously.

Adjourned: 4:50 p.m.

...Put on a Club Tournament

by Robert T. Gordon

Easy Directions

In the last Tournament Director's Notebook (Page 11), I said that I would give you easy directions for running a Club Tournament. Just what do you need? Not much. The club will provide the players. You provide the supplies.

Envelopes for sealed moves (someone in your club will be a postal player and have a rubber stamp of a chess board that you can use to stamp the position on the envelope, you just write the rest). Binder paper for score sheets and pairing sheets, and wall charts. That's it!

Sure isn't hard to get a tournament organized, is it?

Well, there are a couple of things you should be aware of before you get started. It's good to publicize the event, decide on entry fees and prizes. Knowing when the rounds are to start is not a bad idea. Deciding what kind of tournament is also not bad--will it be a quad, a swiss or a round-robin? Time controls, how to handle adjourned games, and unplayed games, when is registration, and will the tournament be restricted in any way, and. . .

Hmmm. I think that maybe I'd better go into a little more detail. It is easy.

The biggest problem I have found as a tournament director is that you must deal with chess players. Now, don't get me wrong. Chess players are among the most pleasant, friendly, and decent groups with whom I have had contact. However, they are chess players. They will put up with poor lighting, noise, bad tables, high entry fees and low prizes, the next player's "aroma" after a full day of play, and poor food. However, they are not sure they can put up with the director, any director. The best that the director can do to overcome this attitude is to be organized.

Let's take your first club tournament:

DO NOT attempt to put together a tournament the night that it is to start. Otherwise, the second week fourteen players who were watching the playoffs on T.V. (there always seems to be some kind of playoff on T.V.) on the night you started will climb all over you because they "didn't know". Post notices two weeks ahead of time.

DO NOT attempt to run a round-robin with six or eight players. An eight player RR takes seven weeks (that's almost two months) not counting adjournments or makeup games for the players who "just can't make it" one night. Some players will become bored. Some will have other commitments, or will forget, you name it. A large RR just drags on . . . and on . . . and on.

DO NOT attempt to run a swiss. You don't need to contend with pairing problems when you're just starting.

What's left for your first tournament is a nice, simple, quiet quad. The games will last three weeks, you have one week for make-ups and adjournments, and the whole thing is over in a month. With a week off, another quad can be started on either the fifth or sixth week, and suddenly the club is having the rated games the players are always clamouring for.

Okay. You've decided on a quad. Get some kind of notice out two weeks ahead of the first round. You'll have to make some decisions before you put up the notices: what about entry fees and prizes? It will cost \$1.50 to rate each section. If you charge \$3.00 a player, give back \$9.00 to first, and pay the rating fee, you'll have enough left over for a beer after each evening. For a director, that ain't bad wages.

Other decisions: When is registration, and when does it close?

DO NOT allow anyone to register after the time you've decided to close registration. You can always take the late arrivals and make them into a new section, but the people that arrived on time must be given the courtesy of starting on time.

DO NOT fail to have a definite starting time for your rounds, and a definite adjournment time for the rounds. Set these things in advance.

THAT'S IT!

That is all there is to running a club tournament. Club quads almost run themselves if you close registration on time, have set times to start and end the rounds, and you have a Rule Book (it is a good idea if you read the thing ahead of time). If you did the things that I suggested in the last article, your first directing job was easy. The club tournament will be virtually the same. Right?

* * * * *

WRONG!

Once you move to the other side of the Director's table, the first thing that you will discover is that your friendly chessplaying associates at the club will decide, en masse, one or both of two things. First, you are an SOB because you won't do it their way, or, second, you have an IQ rating of dull normal because you won't do it their way. However, do not have the fear that they will be talking about you behind your back, or off in a corner, or out in the hall, or at the local deli. They will be telling you straight to your face. Often. With variations. With pleasure; nay, with delight.

Some things you will discover:

You will be told of rules you never even knew existed. Of course, no one has heard of the rules being quoted except the player explaining them to you. They don't exist.

If you are foolish enough to try a swiss, you will be told of pairing rules you never knew existed. Of course, no one has heard of the rules being quoted except the player explaining them to you. They don't exist.

You will discover that polite, mild mannered Bill Johnson constantly complains to the director about Art Twillby's habit of cracking his knuckles. Scott and Tim, who always stop for a couple of quick, amiable games with the two retired gentlemen by the door, now want the two retired gentlemen by the door ejected from the tournament because one smokes a cigar and the other mutters when he is on the move. Doug, who is always the last to leave the club, now wants to adjourn half way to first time control, and Thad who is never at the club after 8:30 protests adjourning prior to the end of the third time control.

About halfway through the first round you will become convinced that the entire club has been out in the hallway smoking those funny cigarettes. What happened?

Not much.

It's called a tournament.

* * * * *

It's not hard to survive this transformation within the club. There is one simple rule that a director needs: if you are going to be a success as a director you have to be an SOB.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S SOB GUIDELINES

RULE ONE:

Decide, in advance, how you are going to run the tournament. When is registration. What is the time control. When do rounds start. When do rounds adjourn. What kind of tournament will it be. Who will be admitted, and who will not be admitted (especially important in club and team championships). When adjourned games will be played. When makeup games will be played. If appropriate, what tie-break system will be used. DO NOT deviate from these guidelines. You may be convinced by a player that there is a better way of doing it, and you may decide that is the way to do it.

DO IT NEXT TOURNAMENT.

Don't change the ground rules in mid-tournament. If you do, every player who wants it done his way (usually

meaning an advantage for him) will harrass you at every tournament to make a change. (Several years ago, a director in Sacramento was convinced by a player in a weekend tournament that there was a better way to do the pairings in the last round. This was after the pairings were posted. The director changed them. For the next four years, that player, and several others, spent the first fifteen minutes of the last round arguing with whomever was directing in an attempt to change the pairings, no matter which director or what pairing.) Set your rules and stick to them.

RULE TWO:

Refer to Rule One.

RULE THREE:

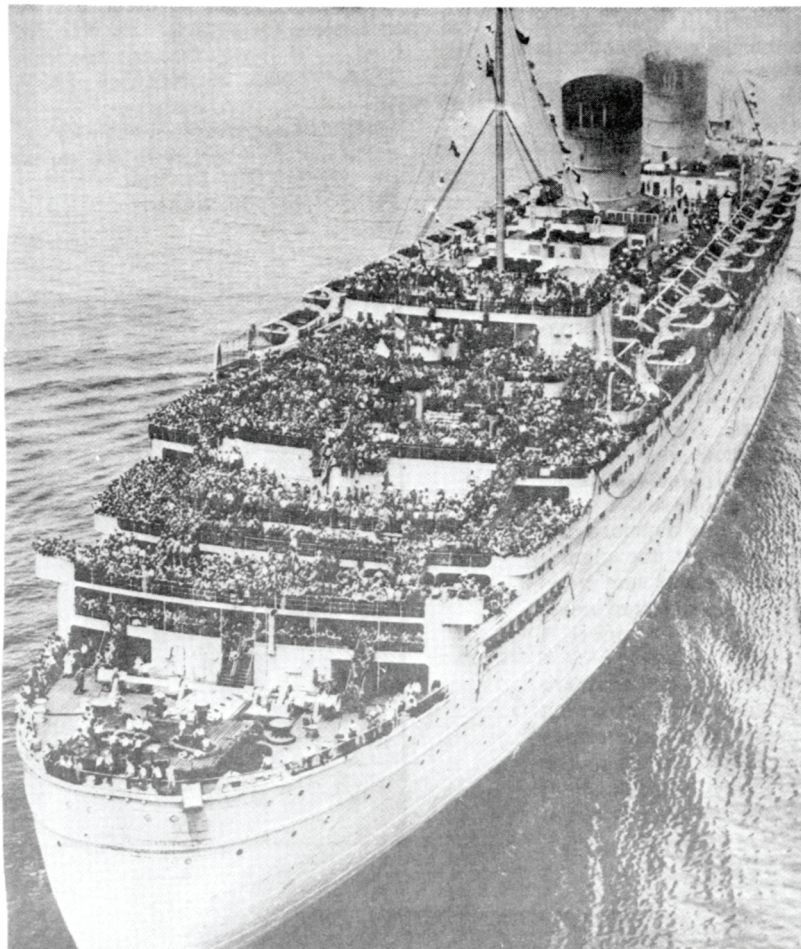
When in doubt about Rule Two, refer to Rule One.

* * * * *

Club Tournaments are usually quite a breeze, if you keep them simple. Adjourned games are most often played off at someone's home between rounds. The players are relaxed and friendly. Disputes are rare.

Most of the players really are your friends. You will be on the "wrong" side of the Director's table, until you convince them that you are running the tournament. If you stick to the the guidelines in the last article and the ideas in this article, directing is a lot more fun than trying to save a lost position.

Chess Goes to War



1983

U.S.

OPEN

Our Chess Heritage

Americanism in Chess Pillsbury

copyright R.E. Fauber

As the blood-red sun of the 20th century began to peep its harsh rays above the horizon, the United States of America was making itself felt as a power around the world politically, economically, and culturally. Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed the Spanish-American conflict "a bully war." It was a shame Rossini was not around to write an opera about it. Recent research in the Spanish archives indicates that the Spanish may deliberately have provoked the fight over Cuba because they knew the army would lose. Had the government yielded to diplomatic pressure and liberated Cuba, the army would have felt its honor betrayed and ousted the government instead of fighting Americans. As it was, the Spanish armed forces were whipped all over the world and honor was served.

In London Henry James' novels were finding an audience. The puckishly atonal Charles Ives was producing musical compositions while building a fortune in the insurance business. John Phillip Sousa's rousing marches set feet in motion around the globe.

With broad shouldered ebullience and boundless confidence the United States proclaimed itself the new kid on the block and the big one too. America even made its might felt in international chess circles.

Harry Nelson Pillsbury was the first American since Morphy to make himself an international force. Born in Somerville, Massachusetts, on December 5, 1872, Pillsbury did not learn the moves until he was 16. Still, he made rapid progress in the Boston chess circles where Charles Burille and John Brury were forces. In 1893 he conducted the chess automaton "Ajeeb". In 1894 he won the New York tournament, and this gained him the backing to send him to England for the great Hasting tournament in 1895.

Hastings gathered the greats as few other tournaments have. Lasker was there to show the world that his winning the world championship was no fluke. Steinitz was there to demonstrate he was still a force. There were world championship claimants Chigorin, Gunsberg, and Tarrasch. And there were rising stars whose names would glimmer over the next two decades: David Janowski, Carl Schlechter, Richard Teichmann, and Jacques Mieses.

In this galaxy of greatness it was easy to overlook the dapperly dressed American with the penchant for cigars. One of the organizers did notice that Pillsbury had been installed in one of the not best hotels and suggested more lively lodgings. Pillsbury declined, "I want to be quiet. I intend to win this tournament."

In the first round, Chigorin seemed to demonstrate that Pillsbury was only blowing smoke rings by dispatching him in a trappy King's Gambit Declined. Although he also lost to Schlechter and Lasker, Pillsbury began rolling in the middle stages with nine straight victories. In the final round he played a superb ending against Gunsberg to notch first at 16½ ahead of Chigorin's 16.

Queen's Gambit Declined; H. Pillsbury--S. Tarrasch:
1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. Nf3 Nbd7 6. Rcl 0-0 7. e3 b6 8. cd ed 9. Bd3 Bb7 10. 0-0 c5 11. Re1?

This is really not to the point, and 11. Ne5 directly deserved preference. Pillsbury was one of the leaders in transforming the Queen's Gambit into an attacking opening for White by producing a Stonewall formation where White's QB is already outside the pawn wall.

11. ...c4 12. Bbl a6 13. Ne5 b5 14. f4 Re8 15. Qf3 Nf8 16. Ne2 Ne4 17. Be7 Re7 18. Be4 de 19. Qg3 f6 20. Ng4 Kh8 21. f5 Qd7 22. Rf1 Rd8.

Black has sought safety in exchanges while White has spent two attacking tempi with his KR. Black ought to prepare for the general Q-side advance by 23. ...Rc8. Instead he returns the compliment by wasting a few tempi himself. This is not flawless chess but a real struggle in which the beauty will only gradually emerge from a smudged canvas.

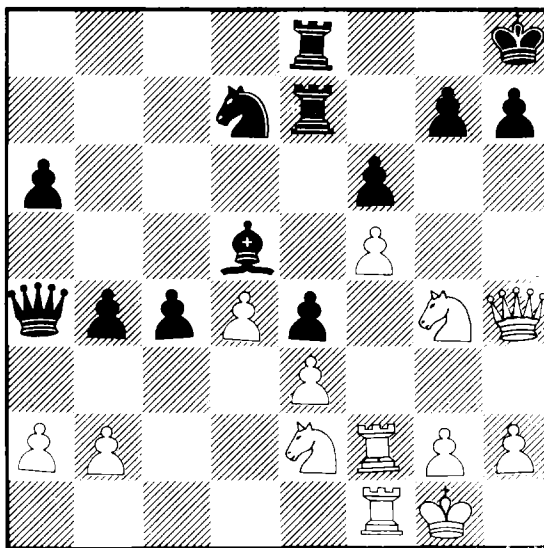
23. Rf4 Qd6 24. Qh4 Rde8.

Now White ought to clear the way for a pawn storm to open targets for attack. 25. Nf2 Bd5 26. g4 h6 27. Qg3 h4 28. h4 is the most efficient continuation.

25. Nc3? Bd5 26. Nf2 Qc6 27. Rf1 b4 28. Ne2 Qa4 29 Ng4!

Matters have gotten a little more exciting than White wants. He has to interpolate the threat of 30. Nf6 gf 31. Qf6 Rg7 32. Rg4 Qd7 33. Nf4.

29. ...Nd7 30. R4f2!



Another hair-breadth resource to avert 30. ...Qa2 31. Nf4 Bf7 32. Ng6 Bg6 33. fg h6 34. Nh6 gh 35. Qh6 Kg8 36. Rf5. A side-branch is 33. ...Nf8 34. Nf6 gf 35. Rf6 Kg8 36. Rf7. Threats are flying all over the board.

30. ...Kg8 31. Nc1 c3.

Danger creeps in on little pawn's feet. Black is getting a big edge on the Q-side, and this situation has aptly been compared to a Western movie thriller in which help arrives just in the nick of time.

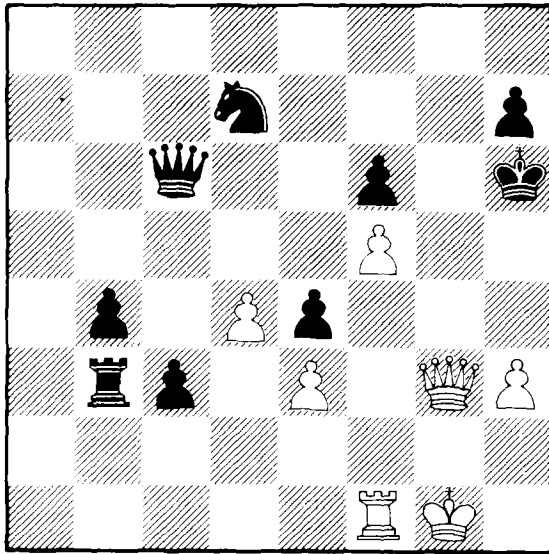
32. b3 Qc6 33. h3 a5 34. Nh2 a4 35. g4 ab 36. ab Ra8?!

Most commentators prefer the prophylactic 36. ...h6--Nf8--h7 to preserve a Black advantage. Now the guys in the white hats win.

37. g5 Ra3 38. Ng4 Bb3.

A thrilling possibility is 38. ...Rb3 39. Nb3 Bb3 40. Rg2 Kh8 41. gf gf 42. Ne5! Ne5 43. de c2 44. e6.

39. Rg2! Kh8 40. gf gf 41. Nb3 Rb3 42. Nh6 Rg7 43. Rg7 Kg7 44. Qg3! Kh6.



Since 44. ...Kf8 45. Qg8 Ke7 46. Qb3 is unhealthy. Now White springs a glorious quiet move. While Black's pieces were rustling pawns over in the gulch, White got set to mate back at the ranch.

45. Kh1! Qd5 46. Rg1 Qf5 47. Qh4 Qh5 48. Qf4 Qg5 49. Rg5 fg 50. Qd6 Kh5 51. Qd7 c2 52. Qh7 mate.

The final round saw Pillsbury in first by only half a point at 15½. Chigorin followed at 15 and Lasker had 14½. A win by any of them might garner at least a piece of first. In the event all three won--Lasker quickly, Chigorin slowly, and Pillsbury beautifully.

Queen's Gambit Declined; H. Pillsbury--I. Gunsberg: 1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. e3 g6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. Nf3 Nf6 6. Bd3 0-0 7. Ne5 dc 8. Bc4 Nd5 9. f4 Be6 10. Qb3 b5 11. Bd5 Bd5 12. Nd5 Qd5 13. Qd5 cd 14. Nd3.

The knight must save itself, for the blocked position bodes ill for the bishops. Pillsbury's mode of establishing the middle game leaves little chance of loss and the possibility of using c5 as an advanced outpost.

14. ...Nd7 15. Bd2 Rfc8 16. Ke2 e6.

Black has a problem in that 16. ...Rc2 17. Rfc1 Rac8 18. Rc2 Rc2 19. Nc5 seems to cost the exchange.

17. Rhc1 Bf8 18. Rc8 Rc8 19. Rcl Rcl 20. Bcl Bd6 21. Bd2 Kf8 22. Bb4 Ke7 23. Bc5 a6?

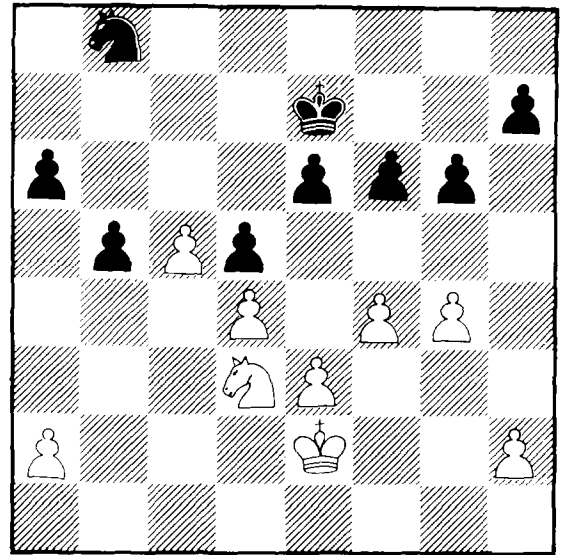
Here Lasker insists that 23. ...a5 "would have reduced White's chance to win to zero."

24. b4 f6 25. g4 Bc5?

Again Lasker fumes (with his cigars, what else?) that 25. ...Nc5 26. bc Bc7 is level.

26. bc Nb8.

Lasker is chewing on his cigar: "What's wrong with 26. ...a5, Schmuck?"



27. f5! g5 28. Nb4 a5 29. c6 Kd6 30. fe Nc6 31. Nc6 Kc6 32. e4!

Ginsberg must have missed this little fillip. The united passed pawns paralyze Black's king and transform his pawns into a form of buffet lunch: 32. ...Kd6 33. ed Ke7 34. Ke3 Kd6 35. Ke4 Ke7 36. Kf5 b4 37. d6 wins.

32. ...de 33. d5 Kd6 34. Ke3 b4 35. Ke4 a4 36. Kd4.

One tempo tells the tale again.

36. ...h5 37. gh a3 38. Kc4 f5 30. h6 f4 40. h7 1 - 0

Pillsbury remained among the strongest in a five year period when Lasker was determined to prove that he was the strongest of the strong. He only came third at St. Petersburg 1895-1896 (a tournament where three out of the four combatants resided in the United States), but he beat Lasker in their individual games by 3½-2½. Steinitz, his long time idol, squashed him 4-1 to provide Lasker the tournament victory. In the summer of 1896, he came third behind Lasker and Geza Maroczy with 12-6 at Nureinberg. Again he dealt Lasker a fierce blow in their individual

French Defense; H. Pillsbury--E. Lasker: 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. dc Nc6 7. a3 Nc5.

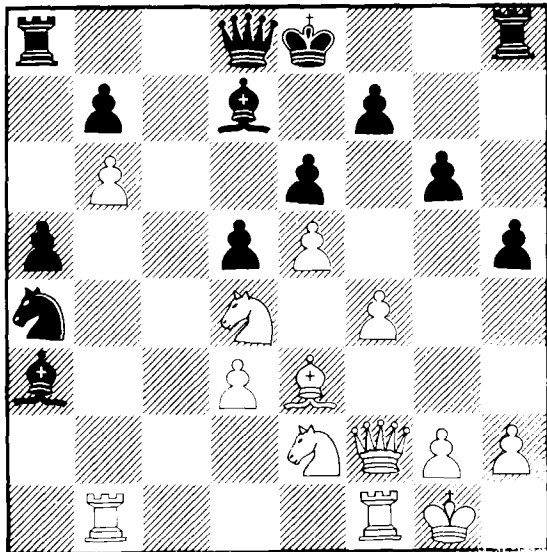
Opening theorists now support 7. ...Bc5 and (I) 8. b4 Bd7 or (II) 8. Qg4 g6 9. Nf3 a5 or (III) 8. Qg4 0-0 9. Nf3 Nd4 10 Bd3 f5 when Black has time to build an initiative on the queenside while White's kingside play is slow to develop.

8. b4 Nd7 9. Bd3 a5 10. b5 Ncb8 11. Nf3 Nc5 12. Be3 Nbd7 13. 0-0 g6 14. Ne2 Be7 15. Qel Nb6 16. Nfd4 Bd7 17. Qf2 Nba4 18. Rbl h5.

Blacks position is miserably cramped, but its total destruction requires a high flight of creative imagination.

19. b6! Nd3 20. cd Ba3?

It is very hard to think of anything constructive for Black here since 20. ...Nb6 leaves White the happy choice between the prosaic 21. Ne6 and 21. f5.



21. f5! gf 22. Nf4 h4

There is very little help available for Black's king. If
22. ...Kf8 23. Nd5 ed 24. Nf5 Bf5 25. Qf5 Qe7 26. Bg5.

23. Ra1 Be7 24. Ra4 Ba4 25. Nfe6 fe 26. Ne6 Bd7.

The pretty win is 26. ...Qc8 26. Qf5 Qc6 28. Bg5
Qb6 29. d4! Qb4 30. Qf7 Kd7 31. Be7 Qe7 32. Nc5 Kd8
33. Nb7 Kd7 34. Nc5 Kd8 35. Qd5 Kc7 36. Qb7.

26. ...Bd7 27. Nd8 Rd8 28. Bc5 Rc8 29. Be7 Ke7
30. Qe3 Rc6 31. Qg5 Kf8 32. Rcl Rcl 33. Qcl and 1 - 0 in
50.

Pillsbury elicited the grudging admiration of the Czech, Richard Reti, who did not admire what he perceived to be Pillsbury's underlying philosophy and that of "Americanism"---the consuming desire to conquer by confidence in raw power. In 1922 Reti looked back on Pillsbury and contrasted him with the "typical" European grandmaster: "... such is the strength and weakness of the European thinker and plodder, that he always strives after the impossible. An American is steady and turns what is possible to account. . . . To the European mind has undoubtedly belonged the past; possibly the Americans belong to the present and the future."

"Pillsbury in his play was a true American. His games free from all plodding depth of thought and simple in their scheme, show astonishingly big line in their undertakings and have a refreshing effect upon the onlooker through the energy in their execution."

Was there really an American style in chess? Did we really spring from New World soil broad-shouldered and full of indomitable confidence? A quarter century later Reuben Fine would play like Pillsbury--big games with sharp variations, but Reti did not understand the individuality, the cultural plurality of Americans. Isaac Kashdan played his own game as did Arthur Bisguier, Larry Evans, and Robert Byrne. The latter three lacked the talent to make an indelible imprint on chess, while Robert J. Fischer was content with setting difficult problems for his opponent. There is too much size and diversity to the United States and Canada to allow for an "American" style. We span a continent which has offered us room for individuality. Yet in politics and economics we still yearn for the big, clean lines which Pillsbury showed us.

Pillsbury's career kept him in the spotlight until 1900. Walter Shipman, the New York attorney and IM, did extensive research to indicate that Pillsbury contracted syphilis at St. Petersburg 1895-1896, and this began to sap his strength after 1900--ultimately causing his death in 1906.

At Vienna, 1898, he was still able to stay with the best, playing 40 games and ending tied with Tarrasch at the top. The organizers decreed a play-off match, which Pillsbury lost, but he still had this crusher in him.

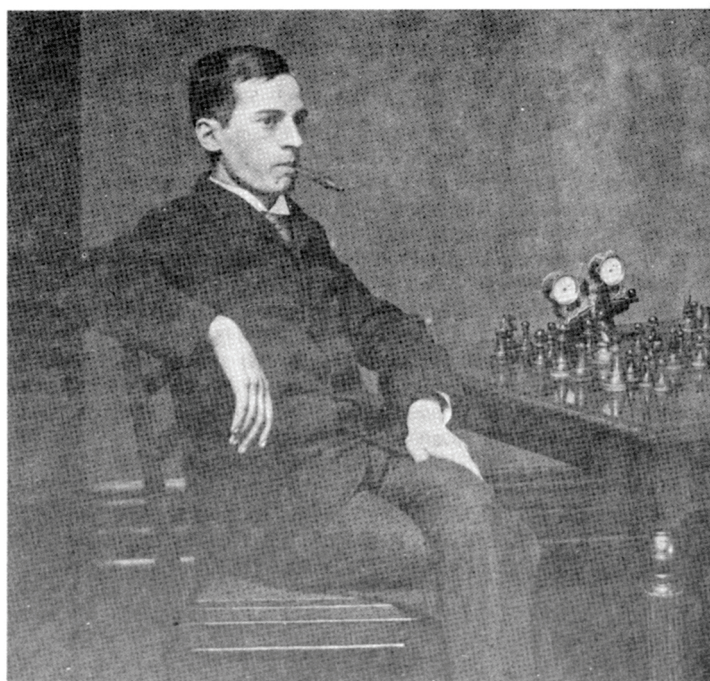
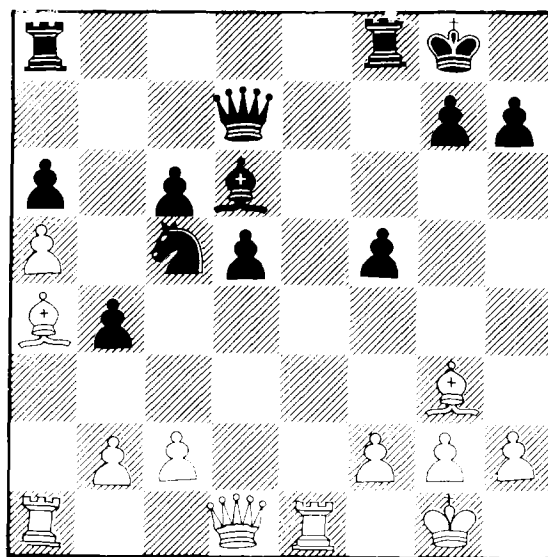
Ruy Lopez; H. Pillsbury--S. Tarrasch: 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. 0-0 Ne4 6. d4 b5 7. Bb3 d5 8. a4 b4.

Schlechter had already shown that 8. . . .Nd4 was the way to travel.

9. a5 Nd4 10. Nd4 ed 11. Qd4 c6 12. Nd2 Ng5 13. Ba4 Bd7 14. Re1 Ne6 15. Nf3 Be7 16. Qg4 0-0 17. Ne5 Qc7 18. Bf4.

Here ECO (Vol. C, 1982, p. 378 n. 38) gives a charming Korchnoi note which says "18. Nf4#?" Well, if you can't figure it out, Vik, we should not presume. I like White. No question marks.

18. . . .Bd6 19. Bg3 f5 20. Qd1! Nc5 21. Nd7 Qd7.



22. Qd5 cd 23. Bd7 Bg3 24. Bc6 Bd6 25. Bd5 Kh8
 26. Ba8 Ra8 27. Rad1 Bf8 28. Rd4 g6 29. Red1 Nb7 30.
 Rd7 Rb8 31. Rld5

Had Black taken by 30. . . .Na5, 31. Rc7 would have stranded the little beggar. Life is not a Bolshoi Ballet for the owner of the minor pieces.

31. . . .Kg8 32. Kf1 Nc5 33. Ra7 Rc8 34. g3 Bg7 35.
 b3 Bf8 36. h4 Rc6 37. Rd8 Rf6 38. Rb8 f4 39. Rb6 Rf5
 40. g4 Rd5.

It appears that Black has a nice little blockade going, but Pillsbury stops it.

41. Kg2 Rd4.

No better is 41. . . .Rd2 42. Rb8 Rc2 43. Ra8.

42. Rb8 Rd7 43. Rd7 Nd7 44. Rb7 Nc5 45. Rb4 Bd6
 46. Rb6 Be7 47. b4 Na4 48. Ra6 Bb4 49. Ra8 Kf7 50. a6 1
 - 0

Pillsbury was foremost a player. He garnished, perhaps surpassed his tournament winnings, by giving blindfold exhibitions. In some he would play blindfold against all comers while contesting a hand of whist simultaneously. His best results came at 16 boards, but he climbed to 22 games in Moscow in 1902. Neither did Pillsbury stint to be the raconteur. George Koltanowski may well envy the ease with which he entertained his audience between moves. Later, when Alexander Alekhine worked the world blindfold simultaneous to a record 32 at Pasadena, the old-timers said that Pillsbury was a more impressive performer at 16. He recited word lists backwards and forwards and would repeat them the next day. He was a phenomenon as much as he was a chess artist. Players on both sides of the Atlantic admired his demonstrations and loved his games.

Pillsbury's blindfold magic shines in this encounter with a talented but not quite first class player.

Allgaier Gambit; H. Pillsbury--C.S. Howell (1900): 1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 ef?! 4. Nf3 g5 5. h4 g4 6. Ng5 h6 7. Nf7 Kf7 8. d4 d5 9. Bf4 Bg7.

An inaccuracy since the king wants that square. Better is . . .Nf6 followed by Kg7 Be7.

10. Be3 Bf6 11. g3 de.

Now he feels safe, but soon he'll feel sorry for opening a good diagonal for the White KB.

12. Bc4 Kg7 13. 0-0 Bd4.

Greed kills. 13. . . .Nge7 to support the maneuver . . .Bf5--Qd7 seems the most stubborn. On 13. . . .Nd4 14. Rf6 Nf3 15. Rf3 Qd1 16. Rd1 ef 17. Bd4 wraps things up.

14. Rf7 Kg6 15. h5! Kh5 16. Rg7!

The king is in the bag as 16. . . .Be3 17. Kg2 Qd1 18. Bf7 mates.

16. . . .Ne5 17. Bd4 Ng6 18. Kg2 Rh7 19. Qh1 Nh4 20. Qh4 Qh4 21. Bf7 1 - 0

Bridesmaid Revisited

Pillsbury continued to score well but never quite achieved the clear top rung. It is a great loss in the history of chess that he never contested a championship match with Lasker. Whenever they met, they played uncompromising chess. In tournaments, however, Lasker remained supreme. Pillsbury had to settle for a tie 2nd-4th at London, 1899 and a 2nd at Paris, 1900--each time behind Lasker. He did tie for first with Schlechter at Munich, 1900. Hanover, 1902, found him 2nd again, and Lasker was not his excuse.

He married a very respectable young lady in 1901 and tried to surround her in circumstances of ease, which led to a more furious blindfold schedule. His disease, however, began acting up again. At Cambridge Springs, 1904, he plummeted to eighth place. By 1906 he was in a sanitarium where he attempted suicide on a pair of occasions and died in June. The sunny personality, the vigorous chess were cloaked in death too soon.

Pillsbury had one last triumph. At Cambridge Springs he avenged his brilliant loss to Lasker at St. Petersburg 1895-6. For eight years he had been using W.E. Napier to test his improvement in play. Finally he got his chance to face Lasker again in that previously ill-fated variation.

Queen's Gambit Declined; H. Pillsbury--E. Lasker: 1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Nf3 c5 5. Bg5 cd 6. Qd4 Nc6.

Here the books consider 6. . . .Be7 simpler, but Black may still get equality.

7. Bf6! gf

This was Pillsbury's improvement. If 7. . . .Nd4 8. Bd8 Nc2 9. Kd2 and White has all the fun.

8. Qh4 dc 9. Rd1 Bd7 10. e3 Ne5?

As the game progressed, Pillsbury enjoyed an occasional chuckle with his confrere Napier. After 9. . . .Bd7 he confided, "He's found something you never played against me." On the 10th Euwe considered that 10. . . .Be7 gave equality because the two bishops compensated for the raddled pawn structure. The bishops may have the future, but I would still prefer White's play against the pawns.

11. Ne5 fe 12. Qc4 Qb6 13. Be2 Qb2.

Responding to news of Pillsbury's death in 1906 Lasker described him as "lovable". Maybe Lasker played this move to show how much he loved him. Certainly 13. . . .Bc6 and a following . . .Qb4 tempt an ending in which the bishops get their future.

14. 0-0 Rc8 15. Qd3 Rc7 16. Ne4 Be7 17. Nd6 Kf8.

The cute point was 17. . . .Bd6 18. Qd6 Qc3 19. Bb5!

18. Nc4 Qb5 19. f4 ef?

What has happened to Lasker's defensive technique? 19. . . .e4 was propitiatory but necessary. Thing now get nasty since 20. Qd4 Rg8 21. Qf4.

20. Qd4 f6 21. Qf4 Qc5 22. Ne5 Be8 23. Ng4 f5 24. Qh6 Kf7 25. Bc4!

Involving a small cheapo 25. . . .Qc4 26. Ne5.

25. . . .Rc6 26. Rf5 Qf5 27. Rf1 Qf1 28. Kf1 Bd7 29. Qh5 Kg8 30. Ne5 1 - 0.

Before bidding farewell to Pillsbury, let us take one more look at how he could transform sunny combination into clean win.

Queen's Gambit; H. Pillsbury--I. Gunsberg (Monte Carlo, 1902): 1. d4 d5 2. c4 dc 3. Nf3 c5 4. e3 cd 5. Bc4 e6 6. ed Nf6 7. 0-0 Be7 8. Qe2 Nbd7 9. Nc3 Nb6 10. Bb3 Nbd5 11. Bg5 0-0 12. Ne5 Nc3 13. bc Nd5 14. Bd2.

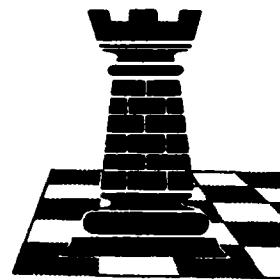
Black has presented White with a dominating center, and his QB needs air.

14. . . .Bf6 15. f4 g6 16. Rf3 Bg7 17. Raf1 f6.

This is not a happy continuation but consider 17. . . .b6 18. f5.

18. Nd3 b6 19. f5 gf 20. Rh3 Rf7 21. Qh5 Bf8.

Continued on p. 50



Tournament Results

GOLDEN BEAR OPEN

Berkeley, July 2-4, 1983

OPEN: 1st/2d: Victor Baja, Alan Pollard; 3d/5th: David Levin, Jeremy Silman, David Strauss.

EXPERT: 1st/2d: Robert Ash, Alan Kobernat, Sean Ramsey.

A's: 1st/2d: Solbans Gao-ay, Mark Watson; 3d: Karen Street.

B's: 1st: Wade Oldson; 2d: Arturs Elevans; 3d: Ken Halligan.

C's: 1st: Greg Wills; 2d: George Schumer; 3d: Nick Casares.

D/e/Ur: 1st: Victor Venus; 2d/3d: Steve Gaon, Mark Shephenson.



18TH ANNUAL SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPEN

San Jose, July 2-4, 1983

MASTERS: 1st/2d: Peter Biyiasas, Elliot Winslow; 3d/4th: Nick DeFirmian, Harry Radke; 5th: Craig Madsen; 6th/9th: Gabriel Sanchez, Rickard Koepecke, Thomas Dorsch, Renard Anderson.

EXPERTS: 1st: Ruth Haring; 2d/6th: Alan Wada, Steven Jacobi, Albert Chao, Kevin Binkley, David Levy.

A's: 1st/2d: Mike Janniro, James Jorasch; 3d/4th: Charles Wolff, Michael Elliot; 5th/9th: Neil Regan, David Landers, Michael Pace, Daniel Brown, Gary Driscoll.

B's: 1st: John Dimick; 2d/4th: Ivan Nikolic, Kevin McLeod, Ken Seehof; 5th/7th: Curtis Yettick, Teri Lagier, Jeff Mallett.

C's: 1st/3d: Terry McKiernan, Todd Rawlings, Brian Kiehm; 4th/6th: Michael Vasquez, Joseph Purvis, Leland Chilton.

D's: 1st: Alex Vancura; 2d/3d: Ziv Yotam, Michael Feierberg; 4th: Andrew George.

UNRATED: 1st: Roman Dizon; 2d: Ralph Padilla; 3d Olaf Vancura; 4th/5th: Mark Ruolo, John Lam.



CALCHESS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunnyvale, July 30-31, 1983.

PREMIER DIVISION:

TEAM PRIZES: LERA CC, 4 match points, 14 game points; HAYWARD CC, 3 match points, 10.5 game points; BERKELEY CC, 2 match points, 7 game points.

BOARD PRIZES: Best Board 1: David Levin, LERA; Board 2: Gabriel Sanchez, LERA; Board 3, Kenny Fong; Board 4, David Abramson.

RESERVE DIVISION:

TEAM PRIZES: BULLETIN CC, 2 match points, 7.5 game points; FREMONT CC, 1 match point, 6 game points; RAMBLING ROGUES, 0 match point, 3 game points.

BOARD PRIZES: Best Board 1: Stuart Thorsby, Fremont CC; Board 2: Alan Kobernat, Bulletin CC; Board 3: David Davis, Rambling Rogues; Board 4: Tom Patrias, Bulletin CC and Nick Casares, Rambling Rogues.

1983 LERA LABOR DAY CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunnyvale, September 3-5, 1983

OPEN: 1st/3d: Richard Lobo, Jeremy Silman, James MacFarland.

EXPERT: 1st: Kenny Fong; 2d/5th: Robert Sferra, Steve Levine, William Briggs, Michael Ogush.

A's: 1st: Mike Janniro; 2d Carlos Benitez; 3d/5th: Dave Cater, Paul Liebhaber, Raymond Kratochvil.

B's: 1st: Colin Hurt; 2d Rodolfo Yambao; 3d/5th: Manolito Datuin, Stewart Spada, Craig Flores.

C's: 1st: Thomas Cornelius; 2d/5th: Antone Estaban, Leonard Mitchell, Mark Trobmsley, Kenneth Yao.

D-UNRATED: 1st: Perry Bautista; 2d/4th: Pedro N. Viray, Danilo S. Patricio, Andrew D. George.

BRILLIANCY PRIZES:

MASTER: Jeremy Silman; EXPERT: Kenny Fong; A: Dan McDaniel; B: Daniel Brown; C: Tom Cornelius; D/Ur: Roy Gray.



SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY ANNUAL

San Jose, September 3-5, 1983

MASTERS: 1st/2d: Alan Pollard, Craig Mar; 3d/4th: David Blohm, Loal Davis; 5th: Elliot Winslow; 6th/8th: Renard Anderson, Jose Escoto, John Bidwell.

EXPERT: Eleuterio Alsasua, Mike Splane, Gjon Feinstein; 4th: Fredric Dutter; 5th/6th: Donald Urquhart, Jerry Walls.

A's: 1st/3d: Thomas Stevens, Gary Eubanks, Michael Pace; 4th: Paul Metz; 5th: Daniel Finucane; 6th/7th: Rick Shepard, Peter Swinarski.

B's: 1st/3d: Curtis Yettick, Gregory Armstrong, Walter Lesquillier; 4th/6th: James O'Gallagher, Steve Cady, Kevin McLeod.

C's: Roy Amir; 2d/7th: Ting Want, Terry McKiernan, Peter Rondiak, Eric Dick, Joseph Purvis, Brian Kiehm.

DUNRATED: 1st: John Lam; 2d Gary Tom; 3d/5th: Theodore Lam, Todd Morimoto, Olaf Vancura; 6th/8th: Alex Vancura, David Shieh, Jay Richwood; 9th/11th: Mark Roulo, Morris Kleinschmidt, Robert Huguenor.



Stamer Memorial

by K. Michael Goodall

A star-studded field once again graced the annual Arthur B. Stamer Memorial Chess Tournament at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club June 17-19, 1983. International Master Nick deFirmian and FIDE Master Jeremy Silman shared first place honors with 4½ points each. They finished ahead of International Grandmaster Peter Biyiasis, the CalChess State Champion, FIDE Master Elliott Winslow and six other masters and experts who posted 4-1 scores. A total of 71 players participated in this old fashioned "open" where everyone plays in one section.

The tournament honors Arthur Stamer, the beloved chess room director at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club from the late 40's till his death in the early 60's. Arthur was one of the strongest players in San Francisco from the turn of the century until well into the 30's. He won the Championship of the Mechanic's Institute in 1905 (the 1905 equivalent of the "Bagby") and continued to represent the West's only big city chess club for many years. He made a career at the San Francisco Post Office, and by the time he retired he had risen to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Mails. His good sense and good humor made the MICC a pleasant place to play chess in the 50's, when the club was still the center of Northern California chess. At that time the USCF had about 3,000 members and weekend Swisses were rare. Suits and ties were still *de rigueur* at the club, and such giants as Bill Addison, Charles Bagby, Carroll Capps, Henry Gross and Guthrie McClain held sway. Arthur died with a solid gold reputation of a friendly though tough competitor and perfect gentleman. No one better personified the dignity and strength of Northern California chess since St. Amant arrived with the Gold Rush.

There are several pictures of Stamer on the walls of the club, along with those of other chess greats. The club is part of the Mechanics' Institute Library, a private membership library which occupies the second and third floors of the building. Anyone is welcome to visit the club once or twice, though membership is required for continued use. Of the 6,000 or so library members, about 300 use the club, which is open every day. Those planning to visit the club should do so in the early afternoon, since a guard prevents non-members from entering after business hours. Potential members should call the club director, Max Wilkerson (415-421-2258), who will be happy to provide details on a return call.

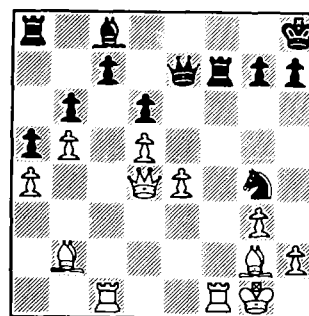
STAMER MEMORIAL PRIZEWINNERS

Nick deFirmian	Oakland	4½	1 - 2	\$350.00
Jeremy Silman	San Francisco	4½	1 - 2	350.00
Victor Baja	San Francisco	4	3 - 6	58.33
Peter Biyiasas	Morgan Hill	4	3 - 6	58.33
Aaron Sterns	El Cerrito	4	3 - 6	58.33
Elliott Winslow	Oakland	4	3 - 6	58.33
Anthony Higuera	San Francisco	4	Expert	58.33
Scott Laird	San Rafael	4	Expert	58.33
Dan Van Riper	San Francisco	4	Expert	58.33
Jerry Walls	Berkeley	4	Expert	58.33
Mark Paetz	Berkeley	3½	Best A	125.00
Will Delany	Richmond	3	Best B	100.00
John Brand	San Rafael	3	Best C	37.50
Rudolph Pahl	San Francisco	3	Best C	37.50

Combinations Made and Missed

By Val Zemitis

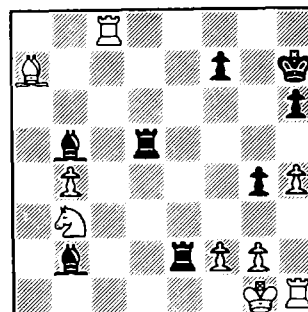
J. Hampton



T. Ashley

Black's last move was 26. ... Ng4. Ashley now executes a neat winning combination: 27. Rf7: Qf7: 28. Rf1 Qe7 29 Qg7:+! with mate to follow.

J. Manning



M. Buckley

Position after 36. ab4.

In the heat of the battle J. Manning overlooks mate in three!

36. ... Rd1+ 37. Kh2 Be5+ 38. g3 Rf2: mate. In the game Black played 36. ... Re1+ and eventually lost.

The Other Side of the U.S. Open

Meetings, etc.

by HAROLD J. WINSTON
Policy Board Member-
at-Large, Illinois

ELECTIONS: Policy Board: Jerry Hankin, So. CA, 159, Ramona Gordon, No. CA 95, Denis Berry, NJ, 82. New Region XI RVP is Ben Nethercot, So. CA.

TOURNAMENT LIFE: The membership meeting voted 19-3 and the Delegates voted overwhelmingly to return to the traditional TLA policy: events may receive 2 full announcements (instead of one full and one abbreviated) and will be listed starting with the 15th of the month the magazine is received (implementation will take a few months).

TOURNAMENT FEES PAYMENT: All fees, rating fees and Tournament Life fees, will be paid at the same time when the rating report is submitted, to make it easier for both organizers and the office.

CHESS LIFE GUIDELINES: The Delegates recommended more games, analysis, and coverage of American tournaments and less fiction, artwork, and photos.

LISTS: The Delegates voted 23-21 to restore the annual rating list to the January issue of Chess Life. Top 50 lists will appear in each rating supplement and 3 times per year in Chess Life.

BUDGET & US CHAMPIONSHIP: A balanced budget was adopted based on recommendations of Treasurer Lieberman and the Finance Workshop. The Delegates committed \$25,000 to be budgeted each year for an annual U.S. Championship. An attempt to eliminate most seeding into the Championship failed.

FIDE: The Delegates thanked FIDE President Campomanes for his efforts to hold the Korchnoi-Kasparov match. The Policy Board named Don Schultz as our new FIDE Delegate and nominated Arnold Denker as our new Zonal President. The Policy Board also voted to send President Tim Redman to the FIDE Congress at Manila.

US OPEN: The 1984 US Open will be held in Fort Worth, TX August 4-12 in a 9 day format. The 1985 US Open will be in Florida, either at Jacksonville or Hollywood; the Policy Board will decide at its autumn meeting.

SCHOLASTIC CHESS: A Sudden Death first time control of at least 30 minutes per player may now be used in scholastic events limited to 12th grade students and under. A motion for cash prizes at the National Scholastic championships was defeated. A special Chess Life subscription rate will be available for school libraries at \$10 per year.

CLASSES vs. CATEGORIES: Delegates reinstated Class A to E and Expert as official USCF titles. Organizers may still use either classes or categories in Tournament Life. If feasible the letter designation for peak rating on USCF labels will be changed to 2 digits, e.g. 21 for a peak rating in 2100's.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT: A draft booklet to aid club organizers was circulated by the Club Development Committee. USCF hopes to have such a booklet regularly available by January.

AWARDS: USCF Distinguished Service Awards were given to Arnold Denker, FL, Bill Goichberg, NY, and Van Vandenburg, MI. Isaac Kashdan was named Honorary Chairman of the 1983 US Open. John Rykowski received the Koltanowski Silver Medal. Eric Schiller and Hal Bogner received Special Service Awards. Edgar McCormick got the top US Open participation award for playing in 31 US Opens! The Most Active Committee Award was shared by Scholastic Chess and Club Development.



by JEROME HANKEN
Policy Board Member-
at-Large, Southern
California

Some of you might have noticed that the office has been referring to USCF as "U.S. CHESS". This evoked the not inconsiderable wrath of super-delegate Bob Erkes from Maryland. Bob tramped to the microphone with a motion to return to the traditional "USCF" (*We are officially the United States of America Chess Federation.--ed.*). Unfortunately for Bob, lining up behind him to speak at the microphone were 280 lb. Jerry Hanken, 370 lb. Woody Harris, and 330 lb. Ira Lee Riddle. Bob himself weighs in at about 350 these days, and while he was sincerely arguing his case, the delegates began to titter. In fact, when Ira came to the back of the line to form what I later referred to as "The Dance of the Hippos", raucous laughter broke out throughout the hall. Poor Bob thought they were laughing at his rather serious arguments and left the mike in disgust. The delegates voted overwhelmingly to allow the office to use the promotional name "U.S. CHESS" so people outside of the USCF would know just who we are. Actually, that was about the best moment in the whole delegates' meeting.

The first Policy Board meeting in Pasadena, which occurred on August 10, 1983, prior to the Delegates' Meetings devoted a good deal of time to discussion of election procedures and specifically to an attempt to find a formula for dealing with the fact that someone must know the identity of non-voting Life Voting Members because of the Erkes motion that they be dropped from the rolls if they don't vote for three years. (Motion 247 which says "the Secretary will make an appropriate notification as to who did not vote. The Secretary will so notify the voters of precedures at the time that the ballots are sent out.") It's not very clear to me and probably not to the rest of the Board. This will require future discussion. The next hour

and a half was taken up by a discussion of the can of worms opened by the first nine-round U.S. Open in history, which will take place in Fort Worth next year. The Board had in a past year rather petulantly told Harold Winston that if he could figure out a way to make a schedule for this format to do so. Harold tried but it was remarkable that almost no one could agree on the format. Finally the Board decided that the Delegates Meetings would be over the last weekend, because otherwise the workshops which prepare motions for the delegates' meeting would make little or no sense.

Ted Bullockus then gave a pitch for support of the Blind Olympiad which was put off until the next Policy Board meeting.

My first meeting as a member of the Policy Board came on August 15, 1983. There was a very definite sense of "deja vu" as I sat down next to Bob Karch and Myron Lieberman. The only unfamiliar face, and of course it was a very familiar unfamiliar face, was that of the serious Harold Winston opposite me at the table. The delegates had gotten through their agenda with time to spare. I was hopeful that the Policy Board would do the same; in the end they did so, partly due to well-prepared and intelligent scholastic motions by Chairman Harry Sabine and USCF Director Al Lawrence. The Federation authorized a \$10 Chess Life subscription rate to school libraries, and a correction of the options procedure for national tournaments, which particularly applied to scholastic tournaments, which passed. A motion to reserve the concept of regional scholastic tournaments was approved by the Board. The USCF will now mail out a biannual scholastic news letter to school coaches and to sponsors known to be interested in scholastic championships. Two volumes of "Pawn and Queen and In Between", that fine little booklet invented by Executive Director Dullea will be ready for experimental use in selected schools this fall. The scholastic committee will be working on guidelines to prepare for scholastic tournaments. Another new innovation is that there will be separate sections for the primary championship in the national elementary school championship with a separate title awarded for both team and individual results.

After completion of the scholastic motions, the Board acted on a report from Don Schultz, the present member of the FIDE Executive Board. The Board appointed Don Schultz to the post of FIDE Delegate for the Manila meeting which will take place in October. With the understanding that Kolty intends to resign as FIDE Zonal Vice-President, the Policy Board supported the candidacy of Arnold Denker as the new Zonal President. Also the Board recommended the selection of Eric Schiller and George "Bill" Church as counselors to the FIDE delegation in Manila. President Redman was named to the FIDE delegation for Manila and to the FIDE Rules Commission. It is clear that the Board intends for his expenses to be paid. This was the only FIDE motion that did not pass unanimously, as of course Redman abstained. Harold Winston also abstained. I probably should have. The next day we dealt with promotional memberships which were continued, we awarded the National Elementary to Syracuse, the National Junior High to Southern Arizona, and the National High School Individual to Mr. Tierney. The Scholastic Committee recommended that no team awards be given of any kind at this event.

The Board then took up the question of the commitment made by the Western Chess Group for the match which did not take place. The Board decided to honor its full commitment of \$7,500 and one-quarter of the profits of the U.S. Open to this group, toward the considerable expenses incurred with the match not taking place (estimates were between \$35,000 and \$45,000). The Board also very generously agreed to allow the expenses which were guaranteed by the Western Chess Group for Grandmaster Korchnoi playing in the U.S. Open, up to \$1,500, to be paid out of the U.S. Open budget. It seems to me that the logic of this was quite sound. Many people came to Pasadena to play the U.S. Open and also to see a match between two great players. Inducing Korchnoi to play in the U.S. Open allowed them to see at least one of these great players in action. As most of you know, he didn't disappoint anyone, playing brilliantly and tying for first with Christiansen. (He would have won on tie-break were it not for the present system of co-champions when there are two tied.)

Continued on p. 50



Jerry Hanken

with wife

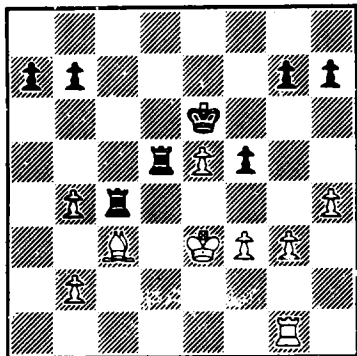
Christine (l.) and

Lina Grumette

LIQUIDATION FASCINATION

by Michael Fitzgerald

Sometimes total liquidation is the quickest way to win; sometimes it's the only way to win. The following position is Lombardy-Fischer USA Championship 1960-1961;



Fischer, in his annotations, admits that Black's winning chances from the diagrammed position are *problematic*. *Problematic* is how chessplayers describe winning chances in positions they can't win from. Lombardy, however makes things less *problematic*:

30. Re1? Rc3+!

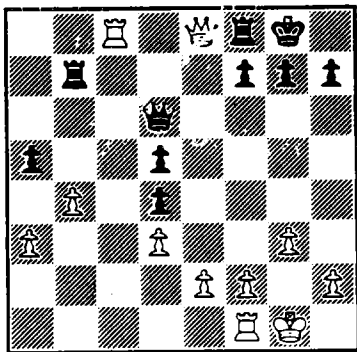
"Swapping everything lead to a won king and pawn ending."

31. bc Re5+ 32. Kd2 Re1 33. Ke1 Kd5

The ending is won because Fischer can generate an outside passed a-pawn.

34. Kd2 Kc4 35. h5 b6 36. Kc2 g5 37. h6 f4 38. g4 a5 39. ba ba 40. Kb2 a4 41. Ka3 Kc3 42. Ka4 Kd4 42. Kb4 Ke3 0 - 1

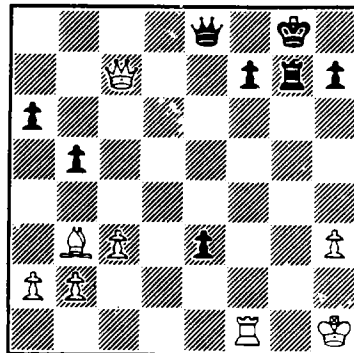
The strategy of the minority attack is to create a backward or isolated pawn and attack it. Below, in Sofrevski-Ajanski, Plovdiv 1973, Black is attacking White's queen's side with 27. . . .a7-a5.



This example is made humorous by the conditions under which Black is carrying out his attack, namely the rather unusual amount of stress on the back rank. In truth, Sofrevski is in control. He is just waiting for his opponent to achieve his strategic objective since Black's strategic objective wins for White--after total liquidation.

28. Rb1 ab 29. Rb4! Rb4 30. Qf8+! Qf8 31. Rf8+ Kf8 32. ab Ke7 33. Kg2 Kd6 34. Kf3 f6 35. e4 Ke5 36 ed5 Kd5 37. Kf4 g6 38. g4 h6 39. h4 Kc6 40. Ke4 Kb5 41. Kd4 Kb4 42. h5 g5 43. Ke4 1 - 0

If the previous example illustrated how total liquidation can transform a middle game weakness into an endgame strength then the next example shows how it can transform a middlegame strength into an endgame weakness. The game is Thomas-Spielmann, Carlsbad 1923.



Spielmann has just played 37. . . .e3. Of course he is a piece down for this pawn. But the White king is exposed; not a peachy state for your king to be in against Spielmann. The key is the Black e-pawn. Supported by the heavy pieces it's a nettlesome adventurer. But Thomas sees that in a king and pawn endgame it's an overextended weakness.

38. Bf7+! Rf7 39. Qf7 Qf7 40. Rf7 Kf7 41. Kg2 Kf6 42. Kf3 Kg5 43. b3 Kf5 44. Ke3 Ke5 45. c4 bc 46. bc a5 47. a4 h6 48. h4 h5 49. Kd3 Kd6 50. Kd4 Kc6 51. c5 1 - 0.

But on rare occasions total liquidation is used to generate counterplay. This occurs when a defender perceives that his chances in the king and pawn ending are better than his chances in the middlegame. Again, this is rare. But it happens.

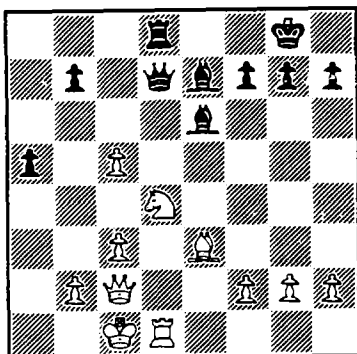
Continued...



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Kadar-Imecs, Hungary 1973; not an easy game for Imecs. In fact, he stands as well now as he ever did. But this is still slightly inferior. Capturing White's c5 pawn looks iffy because after exchanges the Black queen's side pawns will be easy prey to the White king.

But Imecs has seen that he will have adequate counterplay against White's weaknesses after:

29. . . .Bc5! 30. Ne6 Be3+ 31. fe Qd1+ 32. Qd1 Rd1+ 33 Kd1 fe 34. Kc2 Kf7! 35 Kb3 Kf6 36. Ka4 Ke5 37. Ka5 Ke4 38. Kb6 Ke3 39. Kb7 Kd3 40. Kc6 e5 41. b4 e4 42. b5 e3 43. b6 e2 44. b7 e1=Q 45. b8=Q Qc3+ 46. Kd7 Qd4+ 47. Qd6 Qd6+ 48. Kd6 Ke3 49. Ke6 Kf2 50. h4 Kg2 51. h5 ½ - ½



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Sidewinder Chesss

by David Spero

Elliot Winslow - David Spero, CalChess Masters Open, 1983. Birmingham Defense: 1. e4 a6 2. d4 b5 3. Nf3 e6 4. a4 Bb7 5. Nbd2 b4 6. Bd3 Nf6 7. 0-0 c5 8. dxc5. (White reveals his strategy--a quick slaughter and retire to the skittles room to study the King's Indian.) 8. . . .bxc5 9. e5 Nd5 10. Ne4 Be7 11. N3 g5? (Too sharp! 11. Bg5 is stronger--the sharpest would be . . .f6 12. f6 gf6 13. Nb4 0-0.) 11. . . . Nc6! 12. Qh5?! (12. f4 must be sounder.) 12. . . .Ne5 13. Nh7 g6! 14. Qh6. (14. Qe5 Rh7 15. Nd6 Bd6 16. Qd6 Qc7 leaves Black a little better.) 14. . . .Rg8 15. Bg5 d6 16. Qh4? (Why does he call off the attack? Still, Black is better anyway. I might add that having one of your worst games published is kind of annoying; as I discovered when A. Sterns wrote up the joke I lost to him in this tournament. So I apologize to Senior Master Winslow. Still, the game has points of interest.) 16. . . .Bg5 17. Qg5 Qg5 18. N7g5 Ke7 19. f4 Nd3 20. cd3 Rgd8! (White threatened 21. Nf7!) 21. Rac1 f6 22. Nh3 Rac8 23. g3 Rc1 24. Rc1 Rc8 25. Rc8 Bc8 26. Nf2 Bd7! 27. b3. (Now c3 is open to my Knight 2nd King, and b3 is a target for the Bishop. The win is trickier after 27. a5.) 27. . . .f5 28. Nd2e5. (The knights are the peace marchers and the Black pawns the Riot Squad.) 29. fe5 de5 30. Nc4 Ke6 31. Kf1 Nc3! (The Knight bids a fond farewell to its ancestral home.) 32. Ke1 Bc6 33. Nd1 Nd1 34. Kd1 f4! 35. Ke2 Bd5 36. Nd2 Kf5 37. Kf2 g5 38. Nc4 Bc6 39. Nd6+ Ke6 40. Nc4 Kd5 41. Ke2. (The sealed move. The last few moves were influenced by time pressure, especially White's.) 41. . . .Kd4 42. Kd2 Bd5. (Black's ideal position. 42. h4 would not have helped. Now Black threatens 43. . . .e4! 44. d3 Bc4 and wins.) 43. gf4 ef4 44. a5 g4 45. Ke2 Kc3 46. Resigns. I'm rather proud of the technique I showed in this game.

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CALENDAR

OCTOBER

1-2 Sacramento: Oktoberfest Open (Gordon)
8-9 Oakland:3rd Oakland Championship (Mustafa)
15-16 Monterey: Bumbler Bee + Open Section (Yudacufski)
15 Berkeley: Non-rated Beginners (Lazarus)
15 Berkeley: CalChess Board Meeting
22-23 Berkeley: How to spend your Reagan Tax Cut (Lazarus)
29 Fresno: Fresno Fall Quad (Quarve)

NOVEMBER

11-13 Monterey: Pacific Intercollegiate (Yudacufski)
25-27 Sunnyvale: 17th Annual LERA Thanksgiving Class (Hurt)

DECEMBER

10-11 San Rafael: 4th Annual Xmas Tournament (Marthinsen)

Free but not Easy

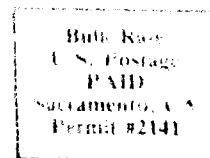
A number of organizers waive entry fees for women. That does not necessarily mean that they'll be easy opponents. Here's a nice example from the Sacramento Championship, May 14, 1983.

Arturs Elevans (1740) - Christine Mitchell (1324): 1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. Nf3 c5 6. e3 Nc6 7. d4xc5 Bxc5 8. c4xd5 c6xd5 9. Bxf6 Qxf6 10. Qxd5 Bd4 11. Rcl 0-0 12. Be2 Be6 13. Qb5 Ra8-b8 14. 0-0 Bxc3 15. Rxc3 Bxa3 16. Rd1 a6 17. Qb6 Be6 18. Nd4 Ne7 19. Nxe6 de6 20. Bc4 Qxf2+ 21. Kh1 Nc6 22. Bxe6+ Kh8 23. Rcl Ne5 24. Rg1 Nd3 25. Rc7 Qf6 26. Rc4 Nf2++

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- SUPERB U.C. BERKELEY CAMPUS CHESS CLUB, Wednesday (School days only), 7:00 p.m. to 10:00, Student Union, Bancroft at Telegraph, Berkeley. Contact: Andy Lazarus, (415) 642-7511
- BULLETIN CHESS CLUB, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., 5901 Broadway, #21, Oakland. Contact: Max Burkett, (415) 658-9826
- FREMONT CHESS CLUB, Friday, 7:00 p.m., Fremont Community Church and Christian School (side entrance left), 39700 Mission Blvd.(near Stevenson Blvd.), Fremont. Contact: Hans Poschmann.
- HAYWARD CHESS CLUB, Monday, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. Contact: Mike Sweeney, (415) 357-8503.

North Bay

- ROHNERT PARK CHESS CLUB, Monday, 7:00 p.m., Lady Bug Park, Liman Way, Rohnert Park. Contact: Walter W. Randle, (415) 795-2220
- SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY CHESS CLUB, Thursday, 7:00 p.m. to 9:30, Student Union, North Meeting Room, Rohnert Park. Contact: Clement E. Falbo, (707) 584-8324

West Bay

- MECHANICS INSTITUTE CHESS CLUB, Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. -Midnight; Sundays, noon to 10:00 p.m. 57 Post Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco. Contact: Max Wilkerson.

Sacramento Valley

- SACRAMENTO CHESS CLUB, Wednesday, 7:00 - 11:00 p.m., Clunie Club-house, Alhambra and F Streets, Sacramento. Contact: Doug Young, (916) 361-7092

Nevada

- CARSON CITY CHESS CLUB, Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Fritsch School, 504 Bath Street, Carson City, Nevada. Contact: Dick Stevens, (702) 883-6597

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