

Published by the Precita Valley Chess Club
Representing the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League

Vol. 3, No. 3 March 1958 - 534 Precita Avenue, San Francisco 10, California San Francisco Bay Area Chess League

M. I. KNIGHTS LEADING A DIVISION - PRECITA VALLEY TAKES LEAD IN B DIVISION

The Mechanics' Institute Knights are leading the A Division of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League by a half game over the Colden Gate Chess Club after wins over Castle 4-3, February 15, and over the University of California 7-0, March 1. Golden Gate allowed the Knights to take the half game lead when the M. I. Bishops drew them in a surprising match $3\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$, February 15. The surprise games of this drawn match were wins by Dave Nieder and Richard Plock over Gil Ramirez and Walter Pafnutieff. Golden Gate, however, gave indications they are not out of the race by coming back with a smashing 6-1 victory over Castle March 1, after Castle had played a close one with the Knights. In the meantime, Oakland got tired of being



PRECITA VALLEY CHESS CIUB CELEBRATES 2ND ANNIVERSARY THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH

The Precita Valley Chess Club is having an open house celebration of its 2nd anniversary on Thursday, March 13. The club first opened its doors on Thursday, March 15, 1956. CHESS HERAID also has a birthday on this date, appearing as a weekly on the opening night of the club. Cake and coffee will be the extent of the celebration, and, perhaps, there will be some reminiscing of the past events. Though the club is in the middle of a Swiss System Open Tournament, it is expected that little serious chess will be played on this night, though some skittles will be taking place.

Everyone is invited to this little party, including the wives and girl friends of the chess players. As a matter of fact, the Precita Valley Chess Club always welcomes visitors on any of its Thursday meeting nights.

on the bottom of the standings, coming back to tie California $3\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$ and then edging the M. I. Bishops $3\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$ to jump into third place.

In a close B Division race, in which no team does what it's supposed to do. Precita Valley has taken a half game lead over Medhanics' Institute B with wins over Alameda 42-22, February 22, and Mech. Inst. B/1 52-12, March 8. Mech. Inst. B kept right on Precita Valley's heels by smashing the undefeated Mission team 6-1, February 22, and knocking over Golden Gate 5-2. Mission lost their lead after a draw with Golden Gate 3-3, February 20, the loss to Mech. Inst. B, and dropping another to Alameda 5-2, March 8, to fall into third place. Golden Gate has been the biggest disappointment in this division. but, though they are in last place, they are only 22 games out. Forfeits have been their downfall so if their team comes out in full force -- , watch out! Mission has been the biggest surpise of the division, giving the top teams a bad time to keep the race close.

All teams must face each other again so anything can happen yet. Interest is high, especially in the B Division.

The standings and box scores of results for both divisions are on pages 4 and 5.

Staff Reporter......Lowell Tullis
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Secretary: Ivan Vegvary, 643 Greenwich,
Sam Francisco, Calif. GA 1-3597
Treasurer: John Ramirez, 328 Mt. Vermon
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Team Captains:

- (1) Dave Gibson, 2042 Hyde St., San Francisco, Calif. PR 5-1153
- (2) Lowell Tullis, 59 Stoneybrook St., San Francisco, Calif. JU 7-2245

PROBLEM CORNER Solution to Problem No. 10:

The intended solution was 1. Q-Rich, N-Q8; 2. Q-Rich, K-N8; 3. Q-Rich, KxQ; stalemate; or 1. Q-Rich, Q-Q8; 2. QxQch, NxQ stalemate. However, another Black Pawn should have been shown on KN5.

Problem No. 11 by E. C. Jonas

BIACK (6)

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R B

White to move end win.
Solution next month.
Send problems to the editor:

San Francisco 10, Calif.
Phone: MI 8-5759

WHITE (5)

Brief History of Precita Valley

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1956, a room consisting of a fireplace, a reading table, a small library, and even a ping-pong table was suddenly converted to a chess clubroom by six worshippers of Caissa.

These six woodpushers and plasticpushers

drew names from a small container to form a club ladder and the drawing went like this: (1) Noel Renaud, (2) Ivan Vegvary, (3) Paul Bogosian, (4) John Ramirez, (5) Bob Blakemore, and (6) Jim Reynolds. This ladder has grown to 35 names now, though only some 19 are of

the active-type member.

On this same date two years ago a little two-page pamphlet was scattered about the room. At the top of the first sheet were the words, "CHESS HERAID","A Weekly Chess News Bulletin". This periodical has become "A Monthly Chess News Bulletin" in the form you see it today after it appeared as a small weekly for 22 consecutive weeks.

Since that day two years ago, the PRECITA VALLEY CHESS CIUB has come to its own. It has had teams in two entirely different leagues, -- The San Francisco Bay Area Chess League, and the El Camino Real Chess League, winning a team championship in the latter in 1956. Since January, 1957, the club has been strictly associated with the S. F. Bay Area League with two teams in the "B" division, Precita Valley and Mission. Amazingly enough, this club has held numerous events over a two year period; there has been no less than four tourneys a year with trophies and good prizes at stake. Of course, the Round Robin Championship Tourney is the main event of the year, though a Candidates' Tourney followed by a Championship Match was tried in 1957. Each year there is also an "Open" Swiss System Championship Tourney and an Elimination Tourney. This is all topped off by a Speed Tourney on the club's annual

(continued on page 9)

BACL ROVING REPORTER

(Club directors or readers who may have an item of interest for this column please write to the editor, Jim Reynolds, 117 Brewster St., San Francisco 10, or contact him by phone, MI 8-5759 -- guest writers are welcome.)

ONLY ONE MAN SHOWED UP for the University of California team in their scheduled match with the Mechanics' Institute Knights March 1. Seeing the situation, and knowing the members of his team preferred to play in the CENC Open Tournament taking place at the YMCA in Oakland that night, this one man offered to play the Knights simultaneously. The Knights refused---, wonder what they were afraid of? This fellow found himself playing board 3 and losing to Charles Bagby. Why not board ?? Oh, I see, Kurt Bendit was waiting there! Then again, I wonder how Bill Rebold would have done in this team match simultaneous exhibition--, surely, the score could not be worse than it actually turned out!

What happened to Lowell Tullis? He is still a staff writer for CHESS HERALD. He preferred to originate a column of his own and to fill it each issue with any kind of nonsense he happens to dream up. He didn't feel that this column was his own, though he still contributes items towards it. We would like a suitable name for his column and would appreciate suggestions from you readers. You will find his new column on page 8, but this edition's heading of it was dubbed in by the editor and is not considered a permanent name for it.

COFFEE & COOKIES is a unique feature at the Golden Gate Chess Club, now located at the Broadmoor Hotel on the corner of Sutter and Gough Streets. You will notice a little jar on a counter in the rear of the clubroom with genuine U.S. coin in it. You feed 15¢ in this little jar and you can have all the coffee and cookies you desire for the evening. The Golden Gate Chess Club has not lost its old touch---, there is still a bar nearby if you don't like coffee and cookies or your chess game, or did you ever hear of the "Cuben Room"?

NOTES FROM MECHANICS' INSTITUTE. The clubroom's old lights were replaced with modern fluorescent lighting and it is quite an improvement ---, no more sneaky moves in the dark corners! Oh yeah, and no more excuses like, "I couldn't see"! Mechanics' Institute just had an election for their Board of Trustees in which the seven incumbents were re-elected by a large margin. It was considered a crisis for this old organization if the incumbents failed to make it. But, then, I am beginning to wonder ---, what's wrong with a little new blood? Even I voted for all the incumbents, but after reflecting on it, I wondered why. Could it be that I was influenced by the old guard? Afterall, there was Ludwig Rosenstein, a good man for chess promotion and activity, and I feel sure Mechanics' Institute would not collapse with the likes of Mr. Rosenstein. Hey, how about a 15th member for the Board?? Mechanics' Institute, along with Arthur Stamer, deserves a word of thanks and another salute in helping the BACL mad schedule. Twice now they have been struck with three team matches on the seme night. Somehow these matches were played as scheduled and with as little confusion as possible --, and the blackboard, though crowded with names, was always printed neatly so everybody could see what was going on. And, fellows, let's be a little considerate. Look at the clock before you leave and if it shows 11 p.m. or later, use that beautiful spiral stairway. A little exercise can't hurt a chess player after he has been sitting down all night. You may even avoid getting a cramp in your leg while sleeping!

An appeal to the Cakland, California, and Alameda Clubs: --we reporters are sorry to say that we don't get over your way often these days. Such being the case we would like to hear from you. CHESS HERALD and the BACL ROVING REPORTER is open to news from all clubs.

See you next month, and in the meantime, don't take any "coppermade" chess pieces!

JOIN THE CHESS BEVIEW Club Plan - BE KNOWN !!!

EARN PROFIT AND GET FUBLICITY FOR YOUR CIUB AT THE SAME TIME!! GAIN NEW MEMBERS!!!
WRITE FOR DETAILS TO JIM REYNOLDS, 117 BREWSTER ST., SAN FRANCISCO 10, CALIFORNIA
OR WRITE DIRECT TO CHESS REVIEW, 250 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, NEW YORK.

Vol. 3, No. 3 MARCH	CH	ESS HERALD	1958	Page 5
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ULTIMATE GOAL TO DOUBLE MEDBERSHIP FAR OFF PACE

At the USCF meetings last August in Cleveland, Ohio, President Jerry Spann came up with the slogan, "Every member get a new member", with the idea to double the membership of this important national chess organization. CHESS LIFE has released the following figures: Membership as of June 30, 1957-2072: as of Dec. 31, 1957-2340. The gain is 268 members, far off the ultimate goal with only six months to go. BOOST AMERICAN CHESS!! It's only \$5.00 to join and it's always a good move!! Mail check to USCF Business Mgr., Kenneth Harkness, 80 East 11th St., New York 3, N.Y.

Page 6	MARCH	CHESS HERALI	1958	Vol. 3, No. 3
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with the immediate 14. B-K2.

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14. . . .

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sees Man, Kanneth Harimess, 80 East 11th St., New York 5,8.K.

Onto, Freeldent Jerry

Came played in a team match between Golden Gate and Mission, February 20th. Geme No. 40

This game presents an interesting 15. B-K2 R-Ql theoretical angle. In the Milner-Barry 16. P-KN4 K-N1 variation Black plays 4..., N-QB3 with 17. P-KR4 Q-K1 the intention of forcing P-K4 at an op-18. N-B5 B-B1 portune moment. In this game Black 19. P-R5 . P-R3 . (continued on page 7)

701. 3, No. 3	MARCH	CHESS HERALD	1958	Page 7
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Lowell Tullis.

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The first piece of equipment you need is a board. This is a relatively simple problem to solve. Most game sets are equipped with a checker board. Also, you will occasionally discover one hiding behind a Chinese Checker or Backgammon board.

Now that you have found a board to play on, put all those other games back---, now! Keep peace in the family as long as possible. But first, may I ask you--, do you play checkers? I see you didn't put them away. This is your last chance to retain a semblance of sanity--, stick to checkers!! But if you are bored, frustrated and unhappy, here is your golden opportunity..., to intensify those feelings.

Go to a toy store, at this point, and invest in your recreation education, personal well-being, family peace and harmony; buy a chess set. A dollar should get you started. Did you notice while you were there---, hey, come back here---, that the game you purchased was one of the cheapest in the store.

Look in the box and find the large piece with a lot of bumps on the top. This is called the queen (there are censors you know). This is the most powerful weapon in your arsenal, so remember to treat her with respect and keep her in reserve until you get desperate. Her move, contrary to what you may expect, is always in a straight line, one or more squares at a time. Of course, being the only female in your army, she has the privilege of moving in any direction she pleases. She is like the sputnik, you only get one at the start of the game. I'll tell you later how you may obtain more women for your harem (if you are so reckless). She, like the rest of your warriors, captures the enemy men by crawling into their fox hole and kicking out the former occupant.

Now dig out that middle sized piece with a pointed head and a viscious saber wound in it. This piece (Bishop) reminds one of medieval times when you had white knights and that evil black knight, for you have a white bishop and a black one. But there is no chance of the black Bishop ever redeeming himself, or of the white Bishop going astray for they must always move diagonally as a sailboat sailing against the wind.

There is another piece about this same size that appears to have already lost its head. Perhaps that is why he has never clarified whether he prefers to be called a Rook or a Castle. As might be expected of someone in his condition, he blunders along like a ten-ton truck--, straight ahead or straight sideways. You will notice, by close comparison, that the queen's moves are a combination of the moves of the Bishop and the Rook. In an attempt to compensate for the weakness of the latter two pieces you are entitled to two of each.

Find the other large piece, the one with a cross on top. This is the King, the man that must be protected at all cost. To make his life more precarious, he can move but one square at a time. Whoops, there is an exception. Anytime before he or his Rook have moved, there are no pieces between them, and neither the King or any of the squares the King moves on or across are under attack by the enemy, you may move the King two squares toward the Rook and move the Rook on the square the King passed by. This is known as castling. Later on you may look at a game that has been written down. The notation for this move is 0-0 or 0-0-0. These symbols do not imply "bad" and "worse". This is something you should do early in the game. Any move that leaves your King subject to capture is illegal, and if all possible moves are illegal, set up the pieces in their original position for your King has been imprisoned or checkmated. Even Robin Hood can't save him. You have lost---, better luck next time.

Left in your box are eight small pieces. This is your infantry. To glorify them (continued on page 9)

KIBITZING AROUND (continued from page 8)

they are called Pawns--, not prawns, those are things to eat. These infantrymen, like professional foot-soldiers everywhere, are eager to get into the thick of things. The first time they move they may boldly move two squares, or act timidly by moving but one square. Thereafter they must plod through the carnage of battle one square at a time, and always straight ahead. Retreat is not a legal command to these brave fellows. If an enemy gets directly in front of them, they are powerless against them, for our soldiers can capture only on the diagonal. As his reward for bearing the brunt of the attack he is promoted, if he survives to reach the other side of the board. He can even turn female and become a queen.

I haven't forgotten those two horses, who, for some unknown reason, are called Knights! They are like a combat patrol--, sneaky fellows that can crawl through a hole that doesn't exist. Let's see, how do they move? Is it two squares across any line and one to the right or left--, or is it one square across a line and two squares at right angles--, or is it one square across a line and one square across a corner in the same general direction, or is it?

Hey, I've only got eleven checkers: Are you sure you didn't get one of them in that d--- chess set before you took it back??

CHATS AND NOTES FROM THE EDITOR (continued from page 2)

"Presentation Night". As you can see, the members can keep themselves busy with all the activities offered by the club. Of course, entries are all voluntary, and there is usually a small charge to the members--, like 50¢ or 25¢.

The club also is governed by a charter approved by ten charter members, or those becoming members before June 1956. The charter is flexible and can be amended by the majority of the members in an election held every September. The officers of the club are also elected at this same time each year. The charter has been amended three times since its adoption.

All in all, the PRECITA VALLEY CHESS CIUB has made its contribution to the local chess scene. It has held an exhibition by international master Al Horowitz in February 1957, and co-sponsored a repeat exhibition held at Mechanics' this year. It has renewed some interest in the San Francisco Bay Area League with its two teams. Mainly, the doors of the club are open every Thursday night to chess players all over the city, but especially to those in the Mission District, whether the players are experts or downright beginners. —Long live Precita Valley!!! Some Changes Made

Lowell Tullis has a new column, a column that may cover most any phase of the Royal Game. So, the BACL ROVING REFORTER will revert to a gathering of reports received from around the league, and in some cases, even elsewhere. Items for the BACL ROVING REPORTER should be sent to me. And remember, we invite guest writers. This goes for any subject dealing with chess, including the GAMES SECTION which is edited by Noel Renaud. Noel doesn't mind at all if someone wishes to spell him for an issue or so.

A Team Match That Took Two Weeks To Play

John Ishkan of Fairfield, Connecticut, writes me of this unusual incident: "Our Bridgeport Club just figured in one of the most ridiculous situations of all time. The criginal match between our "B" team and New Haven was postponed and rescheduled for Jan. 16th. Another fellow and I went up there to find that the other two players had not shown up. So we had to forfeit two games and as I lost that gave New Haven the match 3-1. The following week the other players, who had not been told that the match was already played, went to New Haven. The New Haven team refused to accept the forfeited games and insisted on playing. We won one and drew one to change the score to 2½-1½ in favor of Bridgeport. Inckily, both teams are out of the running or there would be complications". --Is he kidding? --Editor...

P.V. Club Iadd	ler Standi	ngs & Ratings
The following	standings	and ratings
include games	played up	to March 8.

THOT	nge Rames braken ab	oo March	0.
Rung	Player	Class	Rating
1	Leighton Allen	A	1654
2	James Cook	A	1716
3	John Ramirez	B	1380
4	Ted Gee		1160
5	Mike Kramer		1235
6	Jim Reynolds		1520
7	Dave Gibson		1617
8	Noel Renaud	A	1649
9	Bob Blakemore		1416
10	Ivan Vegvary	B	1462
11	Ronald Meyers	. B	1353
12	Lowell Tullis	B	1430
13	A. R. Castellanos	A	1501
14	Paul Bogosian	B	1406
15	Don Lundmark	C.	887
16	Erwin Poka	B	1150
17	Dave Fromer	A STATE OF THE STA	850
18	Don Hufnagel		1135
19	Don O'Classen	C	948
Coal	Aborra 2000 - Toma	-t. 1500	7000 -

Scale: Above 2000 - Expert; 1500-1999 - A; 1000-1499 - B; Below 1000 - C.

NEW POLICY: Because the Precita Valley membership list keeps growing, only those members playing a game within three months of the standings will be listed. We now only show this listing every three months.

Golden Gate Club Championship ADDISON LEADS AFTER EIGHT ROUNDS

After eight rounds of play in the Golden Gate Chess Club Swiss System "Open" Championship, William Addison leads the large field with a 7-1 score, having draws with Charles Bagby and Henry Gross. Trying to keep pace in the 2nd place spot are Henry Gross and Eugene Krestini with 6-2 records. In the 3rd spot is Charles Bagby, $5\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$, followed by Russell Freeman 5-3. Not far behind are W. Beach, C. Capps, and J. Kalisch, all with $4\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$, and then comes R. Barringer, E. Edelstein, and E. Yaggie, all with 4-4. The tourney is scheduled for 12 rounds.

CFNC Open

HANK HONDRIA TAKES A DIVISION JAMES COOK WINS B, JOHN B. SMITH C

Oakland, Calif., March 2. In a fiveround Swiss System "Open" Tournament
held by CFNC Saturday and Sunday, a
Hollander named Hank Mondria took the
A Division laurels, 4½-½, drawing only
with Edwin Simanis of Oakland in the
first round. Behind him were Robert
Dickinson, Roger Smook, Edwin Simanis,
and Dan McLeod, all with 4-1.

James Cook won the B Division with also a 42-2 score, followed by Bruce Foreman, Leon Schure, Robert Turner and Lloyd Gowen, all with 4-1.

The C Division was won by John B. Smith of Richmond, also with $4\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$, besting Phillip Fong of Oskland on S.B. points. Finishing with 4-1 scores were William Joplin, Arden B. Hill and C. W. Hathway.

FIFTEEN ENTRIES IN PRECITA VALLEY OPEN

With fifteen expectants, the first round of the Precita Valley Swiss System "Open" Championship was completed with only one mild upset as Don Lundmark drew with Ivan Vegvary. At stake are two very nice trophies, donated by Club Director Leighton Allen, for the "A" and "B" winners, and a cup, donated by Lowell Tullis, for the player given credit for playing the best game of the tourney. Pairings for Round 2 are as follows:

White Black James Cook Lowell Tullis Dave Gibson Jim Reynolds Ivan Vegvary Leighton Allen Erwin Poka Noel Renaud Mike Kramer Don Lundmark Don O'Classen Paul Bogosian Ted Gee Bob Blakemore Dave Fromer Bye

Games of Round 2 must be played on or before Thursday, March 20, and not to commence later than 8:30 p.m. 6 rounds will be played in the tournament.

Subscription to CHESS HERAID is \$1.00 per year. You may mail subscriptions to Mr. John A. Remirez, 328 Mt. Vernon Ave., San Francisco 12, California.