

## Richard Shorman

# Chess

### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The Oakland Chess Club's seventh annual CFNC summer tournament was held at the CACA Oakland Lodge, Aug. 15-16. Raymond Ng directed the five-round Swiss system event.

#### Expert "A" Division

1-2 (tie), Craig Barnes (Berkeley) and Henry Davis, 4-1, trophies; 3, Kevin Burnett, 4-1, book prize; 4, John Weisickle (Santa Clara), 3-2, \$3.

#### Class "B"

1, Richard Gordon (San Jose), 4½-½, trophy; 2, Charles Maddigan (Oakland), 4½-½, trophy; 3, Frank Flynn, 4-1, \$5; Raymond Wheeler (Sparks, Nevada), 3-2, \$3.

#### Class "C"

1, Robert Engstrom (Redwood City), 4½-½, trophy; 2, Alan Bodine (Berkeley), 4-1, trophy; 3, Chris Black (Sunnyvale), 4-1, \$5; 4, William Pouchak (Richmond), 3-2, \$3.

★ ★ ★

The ideas behind irregular openings are largely psychological. An unsuspecting opponent may overact to the surprise and attempt too much too soon or inadvertently play into bad lines. If it is a tournament game, he may consume excessive time on his clock trying to avoid the pitfalls and searching for a refutation over the board. In addition, his advance openings preparations presumably will have been nullified, while the perpetrator of rare moves will have had ample opportunity to think through the intricacies of his peculiar variation.

Fortunately for all concerned, applying the same sound chess principles that equalize with best play often leads to a positive advantage against eccentric formations.

White: John Bulash

Black: Kevin Burnett

Oakland, August 16, 1970.

#### Irregular Opening

|            |          |            |        |
|------------|----------|------------|--------|
| 1 P-QR3(a) | P-Q4(b)  | 12 NxN     | Q-K2   |
| 2 P-KB4(c) | N-KB3    | 13 P-K4(h) | PxP    |
| 3 N-KB3    | P-KN3    | 14 R-K1    | PxN!   |
| 4 P-KN3    | B-N2     | 15 RxQ     | P-B7ch |
| 5 B-N2     | 0-0      | 16 K-B1(i) | RxR    |
| 6 0-0      | N-B3(d)  | 17 B-Q2    | NxPch  |
| 7 P-Q3(e)  | R-K1     | 18 KxP     | B-Q5ch |
| 8 QN-Q2(f) | P-K4     | 19 B-K3(j) | BxBch  |
| 9 PxP      | N-KN5(g) | 20 K-K2    | B-N5ch |
| 10 N-N3    | QNxP     | 21 Resigns |        |
| 11 QN-Q4   | NxNch    |            |        |

(a) Adolf Anderssen, one of the strongest and most brilliant masters of his day, actually beat the great Paul Morphy with this opening move (Paris, 1858, 10th match game.) Even Steinits once used 1 P-QR3, in a decisive game against Blackburne to win first prize in Vienna, 1873. It is almost never seen in serious competition because Black equalizes fast by selecting defenses that transform White's first move into a waste of time.

(b) Also good is 1 . . . N-KB3. Morphy allowed Anderssen to reach a favorable line of the English Opening after 1 . . . P-K4 2 P-QB4 N-KB3 3 N-QB3 P-Q4 4 PxP NxP 5 P-K3 B-K3 6 N-B3 B-Q3 7 B-K2 0-0 8 0-0. The Steinitz — Blackburne game continued 1 . . . P-KN3 2 P-Q4 B-N2 3 P-K4 P-QB4 4 PxP Q-B2 5 B-Q3 QxBP 6 N-K2 N-QB3 7 B-K3 Q-R4ch 8 QN-B3 P-Q3 9 0-0 B-Q2 10 P-QN4 Q-Q1 11 R-N1, with clear advantage to White.

(c) No novelty here either, as a glance at Anderssen — Mackenzie, Paris, 1878, reveals: 2 P-K3 P-QB4 3 B-N5ch B-Q2 4 BxBch NxB 5 P-KB4 P-K3 6 N-KB3 B-Q3 7 0-0 KN-B3.

(d) Having achieved a free and easy development in which White's first move counts for naught, Black now sets about disputing control of his K4.

(e) Rejecting 7 P-Q4 because it would leave a gaping hole at K4, White plays for P-K4 instead.

(f) Best is 8 N-K5 to cross Black's obvious plans for P-K4, e.g., 8 . . . N-KN5 9 NxKN! BxN 10 N-B3 Q-Q2! 11 BxP (11 NxP P-K4!) BxN 12 BxN QxB 13 PxP QxP 14 R-N1 P-K4! Or 9 NxQN PxN 10 P-Q4 (but not 10 P-R3? B-Q5ch 11 K-R1 N-B7ch, winning the exchange) N-B3, with positional exploitation of White's K4 to follow.

(g) Incidentally threatening 11 . . . N-K6.

(h) Black so dominates the situation that White permits himself the liberty of playing for a dubious finesse.

(i) And here 16 K-R1 RxG 17 B-Q2 B-Q5 qualifies as the lesser of two evils.

(j) White can only await the execution.

★ ★ ★

#### 1970 CHABOT OPEN

Mike Goodall will direct a five-round Swiss system tourney at Chabot Jr. College in Hayward, Aug. 29-30. Nearly \$200 in prize money will be awarded in the USCF open division, with cash plus trophies for the first three places in the CFNC "B" and "C" classes. Entry fees are \$10 plus USCF and CFNC memberships in the USCF open section and \$5 plus CFNC membership for class "B" or "C". Round one begins at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, August 29. Please bring sets and clocks.