



TOURNAMENT TIME

SEPTEMBER 1961

SO. CALIF. CHAMPIONSHIP
 Sept. 10, 17, 24.
 Oct. 1, 8, 15, 29
 Nov. 5.
 7-round Swiss, at the Herman
 Steiner Chess Club.
 Tournament director-G. Barrett.
 Top four players will qualify
 for the California State Cham-
 pionship to be played at the
 club over the Thanksgiving
 holidays.

Five cash prizes.

**SO. CALIF. AMATEUR CHESS
 CHAMPIONSHIP**
 (see announcement on page 2
 for further details)

**STEINER CLUB JUNIOR
 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP**
 Nov. 4, 11, 18.
 Open to juniors 19 or under.
 Entry Fee: \$2.00
 Rounds: 6-round Swiss
 Merchandise prizes.
 Tournament Director-H.T. Abel
 Ex. 9-1324

30-30 TOURNEY
 Dec. 9, 10.
 Open to players with ratings
 not over 1850.
 Entry Fee: \$5.00
 Rounds: 6-round Swiss
 Cash Prizes.

STEINER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

Qualifying - Dec. 15, 22, 29
 (Swiss) Jan. 5, 12, 19

Finals - Jan. 25, 28, Feb. 1, 4, 8
 (Round Robin) Feb. 11, 15, 18, 22, 25
 Mar. 1.

The top six scorers in the qualifying tournament and six highest-ranking members in the club (seeded) will comprise the championship section in the finals. The remaining players will be divided into two separate sections, Section II and Section III.

Entry fee and prizes for all three sections to be announced.

Southern California Amateur Chess Championship

1st Prize \$300.00 and Trophy

2nd Prize \$150.00

3rd Prize \$75.00

Money split on ties 8-round Swiss

Open to all players rated USCF up to 1999. Unrated players will be admitted by registration committee. - Entry \$10.00.

Registration - Sat. Oct. 14, 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.
Joslyn Hall, Santa Monica

1st Round - Oct. 14 - 12:30 P.M. 3rd Round - Oct. 15 - 8:30 A.M.
2nd Round - Oct. 14 - 6:00 P.M. 4th Round - Oct. 15 - 1:00 P.M.
at Joslyn Hall

5th Round - Oct. 21 - 12:30 P.M. 7th Round - Oct. 22 - 12:30 P.M.
6th Round - Oct. 21 - 6:00 P.M. 8th Round - Oct. 22 - 6:00 P.M.
at Herman Steiner Chess Club

H.T. Abel - Tournament Director - Ex.9-1324

U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

...August 14-27

by Isaac Kashdan
International Grandmaster

Pal Benko of New York, winning his last three games to compile a score of 11-1, proved a convincing victor in the United States Open Chess Championship Tournament at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco.

Benko, a former Hungarian champion who defected to the West several years ago, won the first cash prize of \$1,000. and the cup emblematic of the title which was awarded to him at a dinner at the Sheraton-Palace.

The winning total was one of the highest ever achieved in a major American tournament.

California chess champion Zoltan Kovacs of Los Angeles upheld the honor of the state, by taking second prize ahead of a challenging group of easterners. He scored 10-2, winning nine games, drawing two and losing to Benko in a long, hard-fought endgame.

Third and fourth prizes were shared by Bisquier and defending champion, Robert Byrne of Indianapolis, who tied with tallies of 9½-2½

William Addison of San Francisco and Joseph G. Sullivan of Oak Ridge, Tenn., tied for fifth at 9-3. Sullivan won a special trophy as the highest ranking player with an expert's rating.

Rivise, a former California champion was tied at 8½-3½ by Martin Harrow, Charles Henin, James Schmitt, Rex Wilcox and Jack Witeczek.

Walter Cunningham of Arcadia won a trophy as leading junior player.

##

THE MASTERS PLAY

Tibor Weinberger

An important last-round game of the recently concluded 1961 California Open Championship at Fresno.

Philidor Defense-Reverse

T. Weinberger R. Jacobs

White Black

1. P-K4 P-K4

2. N-KB3 N-QB3

3. B-K2 N-B3

3...P-B4 is another more aggressive variation here.

4. P-Q3 P-Q4

5. QN-Q2 B-QB4

6. P-B3 PXP

7. PXP P-QR4

8. P-KR3 P-R3

With his last move Black launches a clever plan to seize the initiative. White is unsuspecting.

9. Q-B2 Q-K2

10. O-O P-KN4!

Excellent. White has to play very carefully to survive.

11. N-R2 R-KN1

12. N-N4 NxN

Black's first mistake in the forceful attack. 12...P-R4 was more promising. eg:

13. NxN, QxN 14. BxP, P-N5!

13. PxN R-R

14. N-B4 P-R4

15. PXP P-N5

16. P-KN3 RxP

17. B-K3 B-K3

18. BxB QxB

19. N-K3 O-O-O

20. K-N2 P-B4

The only way to avoid material loss and to keep the attack alive. Of course 21. PXP is bad here because the combined threats of B-Q5+ and N-Q5, or 21. NxBP, RxN would finish White.

21. R-R QR-R?

The position is so delicately balanced that a mistake on either side would prove disastrous. Black's last

move loses outright, though not simply.

21...R-N5 was the correct move. Threat: 22...P-B5, winning a piece. White's only reply here 22. PXP. But this seems to be adequate in all variations.

1) 22...N-Q5, 23. PxN B-Q4+

24. P-B3, PXP+

25. BxB, BxB+

26. KxB, QxQP

27. P-KN4! and White

wins ... or

2) 22... B-Q4+

23. NxN, QxN+

24. K-N1, Q-Q7

25. QxQ, RxQ

26. RxQ! and White wins.

22. RxR

RxR

23. PXP

N-N5

24. Q-K4!

B-Q5

25. NxN

NxN

Of course 25...R-R7+ does not lead to perpetual check.

26. QxKP

The simplest. There is no longer any defense.

26. -

Q-B3

27. Q-K6+

QxQ

28. PxQ

R-N5

29. R-R

K-Q

30. R-R7

N-B3

31. R-B7

R-N3

32. B-Q3

R-R3

33. B-B5

Black resigned.



The following two interesting games were played in the first round of the Southern California Championship Tournament.

S.Yarmak		D.Marón					
White		Black					
1.P-K4	P-K3	29.R-R	R-R4	57.R-QN2	Q-Q2		
2.P-Q4	P-Q4	30.Q-N4	Q-Q2	58.Q-B5	Q-B		
3.N-QB3	B-N5	31.Q-B5	K-B2	59.R-R3	QxQ		
4.P-K5	N-K2	32.K-B2	Q-B	60.PxQ	QR-R3		
5.P-QR3	BxN+	33.Q-R3	Q-Q2	61.R-N4	K-K		
6.PxB	P-B4	34.Q-N2	Q-B3	62.R-N	K-Q2		
7.P-QR4	QN-B3	35.B-R3	Q-Q2	63.R-KR	K-B3		
8.B-QN5	B-Q2	36.Q-N4	Q-B2	64.B-B8	R-KR2		
9.Q-N4	0-0	37.QR-K	QR-Q	Draw			
10.BxN	BxB	38.R-K3	Q-R2				
11.B-R3	BxP	39.R3-KR3	Q-B2	I.Rivise	C.Rasis		
12.BxP	BxP	40.R-QN	Q-R2	White	Black		
13.Q-N5	R-K	41.Q-N2	Q-Q2	1.P-K4	P-K4	16.P-QN3	N-R6
14.N-K2	N-B3	42.Q-B	R-QR	2.N-KB3	N-QB3	17.B-Q3	Q-R4
15.Q-B	B-Q6	43.R-QN2	QR-R	3.B-N5	P-QR3	18.B-Q2	P-N5
16.N-B4	B-B5	44.K-N3	Q-B3	4.B-R4	P-Q3	19.N-QR4	N-N4
17.P-KR4	P-QR4	45.B-B5	Q-R3	5.P-B3	N-B3	20.B-K3	B-KB
18.Q-Q	P-B4	46.R-Q2	R-R	6.0-0	B-K2	21.P-K5	PxP
19.P-N4	Q-B2	47.Q-R3	Q-N2	7.P-Q4	PxP	22.PxP	N-Q4
20.B-Q6	Q-B2	48.R-QN2	Q-Q2	8.PxP	0-0	23.BxP+	K-R
21.P-N5	N-K2	49.R-N4	Q-N2	9.N-B3	B-N5	24.B-B2	Q-B2
22.R-KN	N-N3	50.R-R	Q-N2	10.B-K3	P-QN4	25.Q-B4	Q-Q2
23.NxN	PxN	51.R1-QN	Q-Q2	11.B-B2	N-QR4	26.P-K6	QxP
24.P-B4	K-R2	52.R4-N2	Q-N2	12.Q-K2	P-B3	27.B-B	Q-Q2
25.R-R3	P-N4	53.B-Q6	Q-Q2	13.QR-Q	Q-B2	28.N-K5	N-R6
26.Q-R	P-R5	54.R-QR	R1-KR	14.B-N5	KR-K	29.BxN	Resigned
27.Q-N2	R-R	55.R-KR2	R-R	15.KR-K	N-B5		
28.QR-R	K-N	56.Q-N4	Q-N2				

THE FISCHER-RESHEVSKY AFFAIR

by Don Maron

I'm sure everyone reading these pages is familiar enough with the details of the Fischer-Reshevsky match, so there's no point in re-hashing what is now no longer news. What is, or should be, important to every member of our club is the knowledge that the Herman Steiner Chess Club--carrying on the traditions of it's founder--sponsored what was to have been one of the most significant chess matches in American history. The center of chess gravity is moving westward!

That the match turned out to be such an inconclusive, frustrating affair, sharpening rather than resolving the question as to which player could beat the other in a formal match, was certainly no fault of organization, either in New York or Los Angeles. Without taking sides in an issue in which we are a party, it's only fair to say that a clause existed in the players' contract providing for the arbitration of any dispute that might arise during the course of play. Unfortunately, Fischer chose to ignore this clause. So interest in the outcome of the match has shifted to an interest in a legal Alice-in-Wonderlandish bone of contention. The issue might well seem frivolous if it were not for the fact that the generous sponsors have needlessly lost money. Also, chess aficionados have lost their match.



Shown above on Opening Night at the Beverly Hilton are: Seated, Samuel Reshevsky (left) and U.S. Chess Champion Bobby Fischer. Standing (from left) Mrs. Gregor Piatigorsky, Jack Kimberling, (Pres. Jr. Chamber of Commerce) Jose Ferrer, Mrs. Murray Grumette.

Another, perhaps more interesting, question is the psychological one concerning the relationship between logic and judgment in chess and logic and judgment in the affairs of everyday life. One might think the two would go hand-in-hand, and the prestige that the game of chess holds in the popular mind seems to bear out this thought; but chess history tends to indicate otherwise. For every Lasker and Euwe and Botvinnik, there is a Janowsky and Rubenstein and Fischer. To the man in the street, the spectacle of a grandmaster needlessly forfeiting an important match game would seem folly in the extreme. And when the forfeiture of the game is followed by an equally needless forfeiture of the entire match--a match the grandmaster had a good chance of winning, along with a substantial prize--the man in the street is left baffled by the apparent lack of judgment and good sense. Is the grandmaster trying to checkmate his well defended opponent with a measly pawn? So it would seem. An impulsive and ill-judged attack that any "potzer" could repel.

Quite aside from considerations of sportsmanship, Fischer's behavior appears to be contrary to his own interest. One cannot help but wonder, along with the man in the street, whether such poor judgment as he has shown in trying to solve a trivial human problem, does not, indeed, reflect itself in his own chess play. Might he not be a more promising possible contender for the world chess crown if he learned to conduct his own affairs with what we think of as objective chess judgment? Certainly he would be a happier member of the chess fraternity.

##

"The 1961 California Open"

by Stephen Sholomson

The popular California Open, a seven round Swiss event, was held in Fresno for the third straight time. As usual in this tournament, there was a strong contingent of Masters and Experts (Rivise, Weinberger, H. Gross, Jacobs, Cunningham, Barlai, Hanken, Weinbaum, Barry, and Sholomson) who assembled in the Californian Hotel, to vie for the coveted title of State Open Champion.

After five rounds of play, Tibor Weinberger, the 1959 "Open Champion", led the field of 100 contestants with 5-0, followed by Sholomson with $4\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$. The two leaders met in the sixth round, and engaged in a difficult seesaw battle. However, in the complicated endgame that ensued, Weinberger faltered and was forced to resign a few moves later.

The critical last round pairings were: Cunningham (5) vs. Sholomson ($5\frac{1}{2}$), and Weinberger (5) vs. Jacobs (5). In the Cunningham-Sholomson game, the latter got into early difficulties, but defended accurately and soon earned the important point necessary to win the tournament. Meanwhile, Weinberger had defeated Jacobs, thus, taking over undisputed second place.

The contest as a whole was most enjoyable, and many interesting, as well as exciting games, were played by the participants. Mr. Guthrie McClain should be commended for skillfully directing the event.

"CALIFORNIA OPEN" Fresno 1961

Sicilian Defense

S. Sholomson White	C. Haley Black		
1. P-K4	P-QB4	13. Q-B3	P-KR4
2. N-KB3	P-Q3	14. P-KR3	O-O-O?
3. P-Q4	PxP	15. BxBP	K-N1
4. NxP	N-KB3	16. B-K6	Q-B2
5. N-QB3	P-K3	17. KR-Q1	QR-KB1
6. B-QB4	P-QR3	18. N-R4	N-Q1
7. P-QR3	B-K2	19. B-N3	Q-B1
8. B-R2	B-Q2	20. N-N6	Q-B3
9. O-O	N-QB3	21. Q-K2	Q-K5
10. B-K3	P-K4	22. N-Q7+	NxN
11. N-B5	BxN	23. B-R7+	KxB
12. PxB	Q-Q2	24. QxQ	and Black soon resigned



Members are invited to submit their best games against a master, for analysis and publication in the bulletin.

Bulletin Editor - Lina Grumette
Games Editor - Tibor Weinberger

Club News

The problem of clock versus gong for rapid transit was solved one Tuesday night, in a novel manner. Both were used. Players who preferred clocks brought their own. However, any player who objected to playing with the clock had the prerogative of playing his game with the ten-second gong, the club's official rapid transit time-piece.

The Rogosin father-son team are an effective combine. If one Rogosin loses a rapids game to an opponent, the other pitches right in and wins it back, upholding the family honor. In short, you can't win from two Rogosins.

By popular request classes in chess will be resumed and scheduled for Wednesday night from 7:30 to 10 P.M. The starting date will be announced shortly.

For several weeks a chess session has been in progress Monday nights, for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons. Among this group are players of various strengths, expert, class A, class B and beginners. The club's facilities, as well as the chess instruction, are offered these players as a public service.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For Wednesday Night Classes - Masters or Experts, to take one class every six weeks.

For Monday Night Sessions - Expert, A and B players, to practise with the deaf and hard-of-hearing group. By appointment only.

Please phone Lina Grumette, Ol.6-3670.

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PAL BENKO EXHIBITION

U.S. Open Chess Champion and International Grandmaster gave a simultaneous exhibition at the Herman Steiner Chess Club, Wed. Aug. 30. He faced 29 opponents, losing one game to junior champion Walter Cunningham, and drawing with Herbert Goldhamer, Frank Hufnagel and one other (modest) player who vanished before being identified. Here is Walter's game with the champion.

P. Benko	W. Cunningham
White	Black
1. P-Q4	N-KB3
2. P-QB4	P-K3
3. N-QB3	P-B4
4. P-Q5	PxP
5. PxP	P-KN3
6. P-K4	P-Q3
7. B-KB4	B-N2?(1)
8. B-N5+	KN-Q2(2)
9. BxP	BxN+
10. PxB	Q-N3
11. BxN+	NxB
12. P-K5	P-B3

Notes

- (1) Better is 7...P-QR3
- (2) Safer is 8...B-Q2, holding the QP: 9. BxP, BxB 10. NxB (10. BxN, RxB leads to the same thing) 10...Q-R4+ 11. N-B3, NxKP 12. Q-K2, BxN+ etc. However, after 9. B-Q3, Black's Q-side development is extremely awkward.
- (3) The only way to continue rapid development.
- (4) 14. P-K6+, K-N2 15. PxN, BxP and Black wins the B.
- (5) To prevent 0-0. If 14. P-K6+, K-N2

over

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 13.P-B4 | K-B2(3) | 15.PxB, BxP | 16.B-N4, KR-K1+ |
| 14.N-B3(4) | P-B5(5) | (A) 17.K-Q2, Q-K6+ | 18.K-B2, B-R5+ |
| 15.Q-K2 | R-K1 | or(B) 17.K-B1, B-B4 | (Threat:B-Q6+ |
| 16.0-0-0?(6) | QxB | 18.N-K1 | (18.P-N3, B-R6 mate) |
| 17.Q-KB2 | Q-R6+ | 18...RxN+ | etc. |
| 18.K-N1 | N-B4(7) | (6) Better is 16.N-Q4. | If 16.QxP, QxB. |
| 19.P-K6+ | BxP! | (7) Threat: ...B-B4+ | |
| 20.PxB+ | RxP(8) | (8) Threat: ...R-N3+ | |
| 21.R-Q2 | R-N3+ | (9) White must lose Q for R, | but as a |
| 22.R-N2 | N-Q6 | joke (I suppose), Benko gave a rook | away also, before resigning. |
| Black wins (9) | | | |

Game played at Steiner Chess Club in a simultaneous exhibition February 8, 1958 between Pal Benko, Hungarian Champion and James B. Hunt.

P. Benko-White	J. Hunt-Black	
1.P-Q4	P-Q4	17.QPxP
2.P-QB4	P-K3	18.NxP
3.N-QB3	N-KB3	19.NxN
4.B-N5	B-K2	20.N-N6
5.P-K3	QN-Q2	21.NxR
6.PxP	PxP	22.P-B4
7.B-Q3	P-B3	23.N-B7
8.Q-B2	0-0	24.B-KB1
9.N-KB3	Q-B2	25.K-R
10.0-0	R-K1	26.R-N4
11.KR-B1	P-QF3	27.RxB
12.P-KR3	P-KN3	28.K-N
13.R-QN1	B-B	29.KR-Q2
14.P-QN4	B-N2	30.P-B6
15.P-QR4	Q-N1	31.P-N6
16.P-N5	P-B4	32.P-N7
		33.Resigns

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