

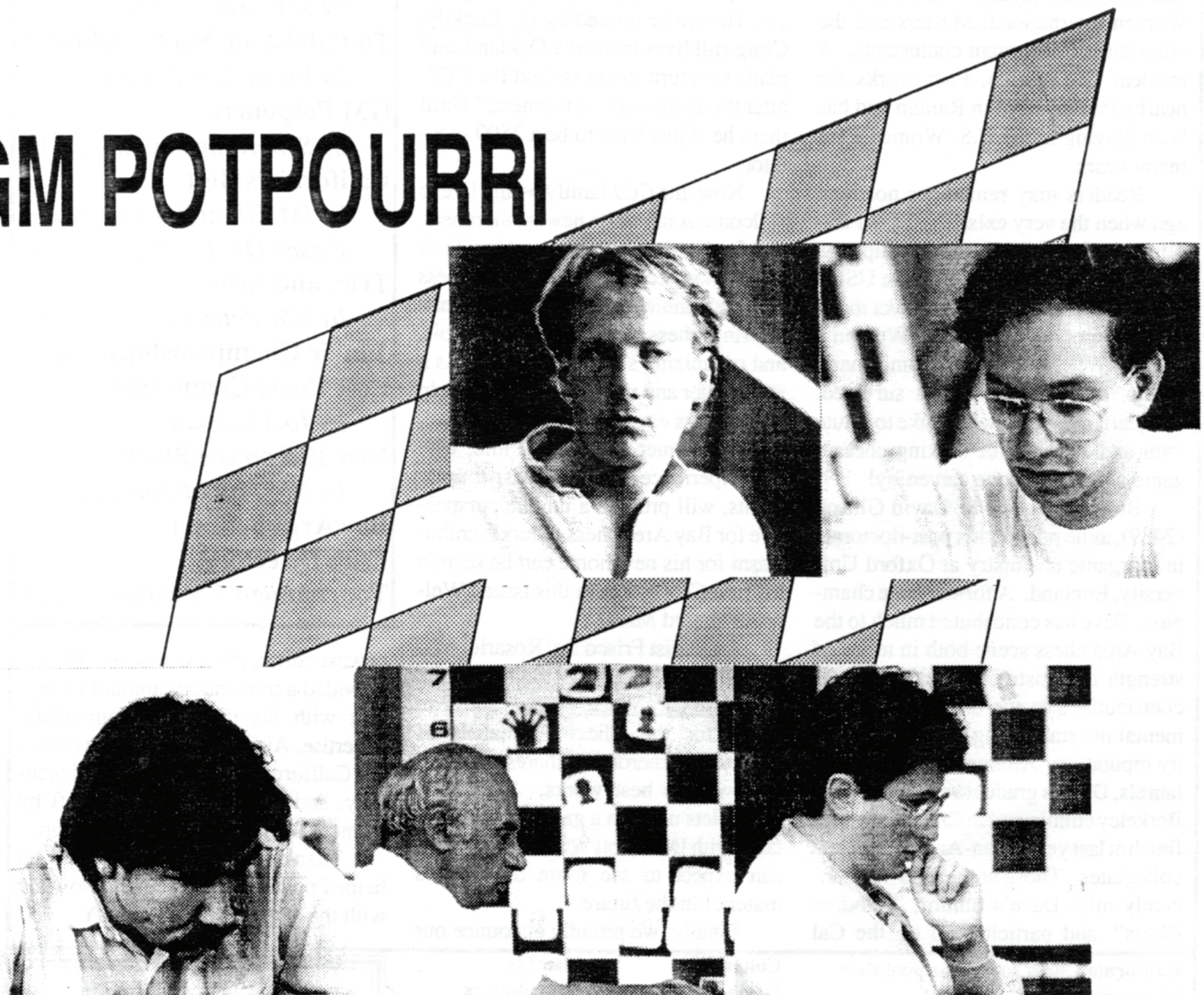
California Chess Journal

Vol. 4, No. 5

October/November 1990

\$2.50

GM POTPOURRI



**ALSO IN THIS ISSUE: IM Elliott
Winslow annotates and SM Greg
Kotlyar writes on Petrosian**

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

First, a note about some local players, brought to you by your favorite local chess mag.

Congratulations to Pamela Ruggiero (2133) for finishing third at this year's U.S. Women's Championship, held August 19th to 28th in South Carolina. With five points out of nine, untitled Ruggiero placed higher than five Women International Masters and the other three Californian contestants. A resident of Danville, Pam works for nearby Pac Bell in San Ramon and has been playing in the U.S. Women's for many years.

Readers may remember not long ago when the very existence of our traditional Women's Championship was being threatened by a regressive USCF (see Feb./Mar. *CCJ*). But thanks to the hard efforts of defending Women's Champ WIM Alexey Root and many others, the tournament has survived. The staff of the *CCJ* would like to salute Pam and Alexey, for making chess a game which everyone can enjoy!

Best wishes to FM David Glueck (2439), as he pursues his post-doctorate in inorganic chemistry at Oxford University, England. A former state champion, Dave has contributed much to the Bay Area chess scene both in terms of strength and instruction. His regular contributions to the *CCJ* were instrumental in establishing its current quality reputation. Among his many chess laurels, Dave's graduate studies at U.C. Berkeley culminated in Cal's first-place finish at last year's Pan-American Intercollegiate. Those at the *CCJ* will sincerely miss Dave's humor, "Random Chess", and participation on the Cal

Chess Team, and we eagerly await his return to the U.S. (maybe as an IM!?)

Good luck to FM Craig Mar (2544), who has just started Law School this Fall. Craig's demanding new academic schedule will unfortunately force him to take a break from the *CCJ*. Not only was Craig an excellent columnist, but he inspired many young Bay Area players. He will be missed by all. Luckily, Craig still lives in nearby Oakland, and plans to return to chess (and the *CCJ*) after this temporary "retirement." Until then, he'll just have to be a 2500 spectator.

Now, the *CCJ* family would like to welcome some of its newest members. Cal freshman and A-player Alan Tse's whose many contributions to local chess include running Lowell tournaments, tutoring chess at elementary schools, and organizing scholastic teams. As a staff writer and reporter, Alan will help cover chess events in the Bay Area.

Newcomer NM Mark Pinto, who has experience in East Coast tournaments, will provide a unique perspective for Bay Area chess. Mark's enthusiasm for his new home can be seen in his first *CCJ* article in this issue. Welcome aboard Mark!

Journalist Frisco Del Rosario, who writes a weekly chess column for the Redwood City Weekly News, and is an editor for the Chess Journalists of America, generously shares with us some of his best works. This issue Frisco lets us in on a game he co-annotated with IM Elliott Winslow. Readers can expect to see more of Frisco's material in the future.

Finally, we proudly announce our

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newest editor, Alan Glasscoe. He has provided a tremendous amount of support with his invaluable journalistic expertise. Alan's involvement in Northern California Chess borders on legendary, and he now fills a void left by former Assistant Editor Joel Salzman.

Thanks, Alan, and everybody who helped put the *CCJ* together! Now, on with the show... PCY

California Chess Journal is published bi-monthly.

Advertising 1/4 page \$15
(camera ready) 1/2 page \$25
Full page \$50

Full flyer insertions also available.

Subscriptions \$12/year, \$22/two yrs.

Send all advertisements and subscriptions to (make check payable to CCJ)

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Three Split at Kiwanis Open

Every once in a while the Bay Area sees a new weekend Swiss which promises to increase local chess activity. With traditional tournaments at LERA and Berkeley going as strong as ever, it seems that chess players really want to play. On September 23rd and 24th, Mountain View obliged 92 eager, tournament-happy players by hosting the first annual Kiwanis Open.

This "rookie" tournament attracted some of the "heavy hitters", such as GM Nick deFirmian (2638), IM David Strauss (2505), and Senior Masters Vladimir Strugatsky (2538), Burt Izumikawa (2439), and Greg Kotlyar (2422). The two sections, Open and Reserve, guaranteed a prize fund over \$1,850.00, which was sponsored by the Mountain View Kiwanis Club.

First round action was intense, as there were many upsets in the Open section. Cal student Don Shennum (1947) downed eleventh-seed NM Isaak Margulis (2268), while Gilbert Chambers (1818) beat Paul Liebhaber (2088), and our very own Carolyn Withgitt (1816) defeated Pam Ruggiero (2079). In addition, unrated Vitaly Kanzaveli from the Soviet Union vanquished Richard Finacom (2051), and Mark Drury (1936) was able to take a half-point from NM Mark Pinto (2231).

The biggest second-round news was the elimination of IM Strauss, who withdrew after losing to Leon Monderer (2152). Strauss, a professor at U.C. Riverside, was in town on a business trip. Alan Bishop (2052) also caused waves as he upset NM Filipp Frenkel (2285) of Monterey. On the second day, the masters returned to business as usual. There were very few upsets among the leading top players, which resulted in three perfect scores. Winning all of their four games, deFirmian, Strugatsky, and FM Renard Anderson (2385) each split the first-through-third-place money. Meanwhile, only one player could come up with an untouched 4-0 score in the Reserve section. Emmanuel Perez (1521) upset his way through strong B-players in order to capture first Reserve prize. A complete list of winners follows this article.

Tournament Director Peter Yu was very happy to have organized this first tournament for the Kiwanis, a non-profit club which is heavily involved in community charity and scholarships. Realizing that new tournaments often lose money due to chess players' reluctance to patronize unestablished tournaments, everyone was glad to see that enough participants showed up for the tournament to break even. This was important, as the Kiwanis now plan to sponsor another tournament in the South Bay next year and hope to continue on a regular basis to the benefit of all local chess players.

OPEN:			
1st/3rd	GM Nick deFirmian	(2638)	4-0
	SM Vladimir Strugatsky	(2538)	
	FM Renard Anderson	(2385)	
U2200			
1st/4th	David Barnett	(2198)	3-1
	Kash Patel	(2171)	
	Leon Monderer	(2152)	
	Vincent Stevens	(2036)	
U2000			
1st	Ludwig Arndt	(1877)	2.5-1.5
2nd/8th	Sinan Kaptanoglu	(1978)	2-2
	Frank Feng	(1975)	
	Kris Judkins	(1950)	
	Gary Smith	(1936)	
	Sam Brauer	(1927)	
	Virgilio Fuentes	(1914)	
	Sam Atabaki	(1828)	
RESERVED:			
1st	Emmanuel Perez	(1521)	4-0
2nd	Michael Heggarty	(1677)	3.5-.5
3rd	Bruno Bier	(1701)	3-1
U1600			
1st	Joe Ferrante	(1554)	3.5-.5
2nd	Rooshin Dalal	(1502)	3-1
U1400			
1st	Manuel Mangrobang	(1357)	3-1
2nd/3rd	Pat Howlett	(1289)	2.5-.5
	Brad Mason	(1138)	
Unrated			
1st/2nd	Carlos Galinato		2-2
	Victor Hernandez		2-2

White: GM Nick deFirmian
Black: NM Burt Izumikawa
Sicilian, Lasker/Pelikan [B33]
 [annotations by NM Tom Dorsch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6
 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5

In Russia they call this the Chelyabinsk variation, after the region where Sveshnikov, Timoschenko, and other Russian masters fashioned the variation into a potent weapon. It is considered one of the positionally sharpest lines of the Sicilian, less tactical than the Najdorf, Dragon, or Scheven-
 continued on p. 25

deFirmian Wins LERA

The 25th Annual LERA Sunnyvale Class Championships were held the weekend of August 18th and 19th. 189 players competed in six sections. The winners are listed in the table below.

A highlight of this popular tournament, under the able direction of Ted Yudacufski and former Washington state chess champion Jim Hurt, is a "brilliancy" competition with cash prizes. Games submitted by the players are judged and winners selected by local docent Richard Shorman.

White: GM Nick deFirmian (2638)

Black: NM Peter Yu (2285)

French Defense [C11]

[annotations by Peter Yu]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4

Other less popular tries are:

a) 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 f5 8.Nf3 Rb8?! (b5) 9.Ng5 Qe7 10.h4 h5 11.a4 b6 +/=/- Formanek-Yu, Reno 1988 (Better is 6... Qa5 7.f4 b5 8.dc5 b4! 9.a3 Bc5 10.cb4 Bb4+ = as in Kristiansen-Chernin, Copenhagen 1984)

b) 5.Nf3 c5 6.dc5 Nc6 7.Bf4 Bc5 8.Bd3 f6 9.ef6 Qf6 (9... Nf6 10.0-0-0 11.Ne5 Bd7 =) 10.Bg3 0-0 11.0-0 Nd4 = Rogers-Drasko, Tallinn 1985.

5... c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cd4

Also playable were:

a) 7... a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dc5 Nc5 (9... Qa5 10.Bd3 b4 11.Ne2 Bc5 12.0-0 +=) 10.Bd3 (10.Qf2 Ne4 is unclear) Bb7 11.Qf2 Nd3+ 12.cd3 += Gheorghiu-Belkadi, Skopje Ol 1972.

b) 7... Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cd4 10.b4 Nb4 (not 10... Qc7 11.Nd4 Nd4 12.Bd4 Nb8 13.a3 +-) 11.cb4 Bb4+ 12.Bd2 Bd2+ 13.Nd2 += Chandler-M. Gurevich, Leningrad 1987.

8.Nd4 Bc5

Weak is 8... Nd4 9.Bd4 Nb8 10.Bd3 Nc6 11.Bf2 Be7 12.Qh5 +- as in Nunn-Sutton, England 1984, or 11... Qa5 12.0-0 Bc5 13.Nb5 +- R. Anderson-Yu, Palo Alto 1989.

9.Qd2 Nd4 10.Bd4 a6

Deviating from the main line, which continues 10... Bd4 11.Qd4 Qb6 and now either 12.Nb5 or 12.Qb6 Nb6 13.Nb5 gives White a slight edge due to a better endgame. Black's consolation is the increased drawing chances in the simplified position. However, I had no intention of letting deFirmian exercise his grandmasterly endgame technique in such long, subtle positions.

11.0-0-0 b5 12.h4 Qa5

12... Qc7 possibly was better, not blocking the a-pawn's path.

13.Kb1 Bd4 14.Qd4 b4

This move order was a good way to keep White's Knight out of d4 for a while.

15.Ne2 Nc5 16.h5 Bd7 17.h6!?

Pushing White's h-pawn is deFirmian's innovative way to beat this solid variation in the French. After the game he told me he beat Short in a similar position and that Black should stop h6 by playing ... h6 first. I thought Black's position would be more defensible on the kingside because of its locked nature. I was right, but sometimes even if everything is defended it still isn't good enough. The alternative, with pawns on h6-g7-f7-e6, also provide good defense on the kingside. In hindsight, Black should have prevented his dark-square weaknesses by playing ... h6 when he had the chance.

17... g6 18.g4 Rc8

It was still not too late to play 18... Rb8 with the more orthodox idea of 19... Qc7, 20... a5, and 21... Ba6 etc. But the text also builds up pressure against White's King.

19.Qe3 Ne4 20.Nd4 Qb6 21.Rh3

Practically forced as the intended 21... Nc3+ now fails to 22.bc3 bc3+ 23.Nb3 Qb4 24.Qd4! stopping mate and Black is a piece down.

21... a5 22.Bd3

The critical position: Black's 22... Nc3+ sac doesn't seem to work after continued on p. 21

OPEN

1st: GM Nick deFirmian (2634)

2nd-8th: Vladimir Strugatsky (2538)
FM Renard Anderson (2385)
Thomas Dorsch (2285)
Filipp Frenkel (2285)
Julia Tverskaya (2269)
Isaak Margulis (2268)
John Bidwell (2249)

EXPERT

1st: Robert Kichinski (2186)
2nd: Jesse Jestadt (2119)
3rd-8th: Kash Patel (2171)
Leon Monderer (2152)
Tony Ladd (2132)
Roberto Ricca (2117)
Richard Finacom (2051)
Vitaly Kanzaveli (UNR)

'A'

1st: Kris Judkins (1950)
2nd-4th: Ivan Roa (1998)
Kevin Ziegler (1936)
Willard Beeskow (1836)

'B'

1st-2nd: Walter Lesquillier (1715)
Rex DeAsis (1593)
3rd-8th: A.E. Rackett (1797)
Gary Sauer (1733)
Richard McCullough (1703)
Justin Howell (1671)
Jason Lee (1637)
Steve Ramsey (1522)

'C'

1st: Philip K. Weingart (1452)
2nd: Dana W. Albrecht (1595)
3rd-6th: Rooshin Dalal (1502)
Don Nelson (1438)
Craig S. Smith (1402)
Christopher Pontod (1340)

'D-E-UNR'

1st-3rd: Patrick Howlet (1289)
Walter Kuchle (UNR)
Vladimir Petoukhov (UNR)

Youth is Served at Lowell

Scholastic chess is alive and well in the Bay Area. At the recent Lowell Open XII, youngsters were among the winners in all three sections. In Section B, thirteen year old Peter Lee (1930) tied for first with veteran weekend warrior Virgilio Fuentes (1914), each scoring 2 1/2 out of 3. In Section C, eleven-year old Brian Jew (1569) claimed a share of the top prize along with Steve Ho (1576) and Joseph Kim (1376).

The most amazing performance of the tournament was turned in by fifteen-year old Michael Rozler (2053), who upset his way to a first-place tie in the top section along with NM Victor Baja (2383) and NM Isaak Margulis (2240). Each went undefeated with 2 1/2 out of 3. Michael, the next-to-last seed, defeated fourth-seed Paul Gallegos (2188) in the first round and then toppled second-seed NM Peter Thiel (2340) in the second round. Michael finished his impressive performance with a final round draw against strong local master Victor Baja (2383). Michael's performance rating for the tournament was an astonishing 2570! Not bad for a fifteen-year old!

The tournament was once again ably directed by Peter Dahl and assisted by Alan Tse. Donuts and refreshments were provided free of charge, a rare occurrence at today's chess tournaments. The next Lowell Open is scheduled for October 27th.

The following games were played by this area's brightest young rising stars. In the first game young Michael Rozler shows Stanford University's first board, NM Peter Thiel, that not all sacrifices are good sacrifices.

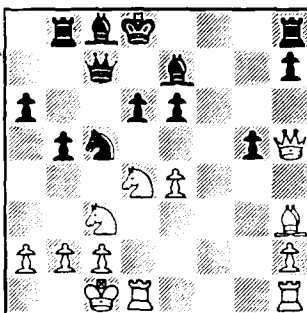
White: NM Peter Thiel (2340)
Black: Michael Rozler (2053)
Najdorf Variation [B99]
 (annotated by M. Rozler)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6

5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 Nc5?

10... b5 is common.
11.Rg1?
 White should have exploited Black's error. 11.e5! is the right move. If 11... de5 White continues 12.fe5Nd5 (12... Qe5?? 13.Bf4! +-; 12... Nfd7 13.Be7+-) 13.Be7 Ne7 (13... Nc3 14.Bd6 Na2+ 15.Kb1 Qa5 16.Bc5 Qc5 17.Ka2+-) 14.Ndb5!! ab5 15.Nb5 Qb6 16.Nd6+- +- . The other variations lead to a slower but simpler death for Black.
11... Rb8?

11... b5 would prevent 12.e5!
12.Bf6?
 Once again 12.e5! wins.
12... gf6 13.f5 b5 14.fe6 fe6
 Black's move looks bad, but he has to hold the d5 square.
15.g5! fg5 16.Qh5+ Kd8 17.Bh3



Very interesting, but not too good for White is 17.e5?!? d5 18.Ne6+?! Be6 19.Nd5 Bd5 20.Rd5+Kc8 21.Bh3+Kb7 22.Qf3 Ka7 23.b4!?! Nb7 24.Rd7 Qe5 25.Bg2 Qa1+ 26.Kd2 Bb4+ 27.Ke2 (27.c3 Qc3+ 28.Qc3 Bc3+ and Black is up two pawns) 27... Rhe8+ 28.Kf2 Bc5+ 23.Kg3 Qe5+ 30.Kh3 Qe6+- +- .
17... b4 18.Nce2

18.Nd5 ed5 19.ed5 Bh3 20.Nc6+ Kc8 is bad for White.
18... Bd7 19.e5 d5
 Not 19... de5?? 20.Ne6+- +- .
20.Ne6+?!

It doesn't look too good for White but if he waits for a better moment to

attack, Black's King escapes and Black has the advantage.

21... Ne6 21.Rd5 Rc8 22.Rd7+
 22.Nd4 looks nice but 22... Nf4! wins for Black. 22.Queen anywhere Nd5; 22.Rd7+ Qd7 23.Bd7 Nh5 +- .
22... Kd7
 Not 22... Qd7?? 23.Rd1 +- .
23.Rd1+ Kc6 24.Be6 Rcd8 25.Nd4+ Kb6
 The King is safe, at least for now.
26.Qe2 Bc5 27.Qc4?
 Qe4 is much better.
27... Qe5 28.c3
 The only move.
28... Rd6?

28... Rhe8 wins immediately: 29.Bh3 Qe3+; 29.Bg4 Qf4+; 29.Bf7 Rc8! +- .
29.Bg8 Bd4 30.cd4 Qb5 31.Qf7 Qe2
 31... Rg6 doesn't work because of 33.Bh7.
32.d5 Qe3+?

Now 32... Rg6 33.Bh7 Rc8+ works.
33.Kb1 Qe4+ 34.Ka1 Qf4 35.Qe8 Rg6 36.Qd8+ Qc7 37.Qc7+ Kc7 38.Be6 Rd8 39.Rc1+ Kb7 40.Kb1 Rd6 41.Rc4 a5 42.Kc2 Kb6 43.Kb3 Kb5 44.a4+ Kb6 45.Re4 Rf6 46.Kc4? Rf2
 It's all over now.
47.b3 Rh2 48.Kd4 Rh4 49.Ke5 Re4+ 50.Kd6 Rd4 51.Ke5 Kc5 0-1

White: Louis Lou (1689)
Black: Peter Lee (1930)
Grünfeld Defense [D85]
 (annotated by P. Lee)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cd5 Nd5 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.e4 Nc3 7.bc3 0-0 8.Bc4 c5 9.Be3 Qa5 10.Rc1
 Better was 10.Qd2.

10... cd4 11.Nd4 Rd8 12.0-0 e6
 Indirectly preventing White from playing 13.Qf2 with any effect, but developing the queenside was more important.
13.Qb3 a6?

continued on p. 16

INNOVATIVE OPENINGS

THE CHAMP DOES NOT KID AROUND

Karpov-Kasparov is in the air. We are indeed fortunate to witness so many duels between two of the strongest players the game has ever known. Karpov, although still a consummate strategist and a very hard man to beat, does show signs of his age, being more prone to time-trouble errors nowadays. The champ, however, is playing better than ever before and is clearly the favorite. To show that he is still human, we shall be looking at one of his occasional lapses.

The real hero of our feature game is neither Kasparov nor Karpov, but Boris Gulko. After four encounters, Gulko has an unbelievable record of three wins and a draw against the World Champion. No other grandmaster even comes close to having such a one-sided score. Interestingly, Gulko's victories have come about from sharp openings where Kasparov had to sacrifice material for the initiative. In each case, Gulko's defensive technique prevailed.

White: GM Boris Gulko
Black: GM Garry Kasparov
Linares 1990
King's Indian Defense [E88]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7

The King's Indian Defense, an opening that owes its vitality to intensive analysis by generations of Russians. The complex positions that result are ideal when playing for a win as Black. However, in almost every variation, White's advantage in space can become overwhelming upon the slightest misstep by Black. For this reason, there is a general feeling that the King's Indian is not a totally sound opening at the top levels. Fischer, for instance, never played it in his matches against Spassky or Petrosian despite his love for the KID. Petrosian even once said that he would give up chess if he stopped

winning against the King's Indian as White.

Kasparov and Karpov have very different views regarding the King's Indian. The opening is an old favorite of Kasparov, and has recently returned to being his mainstay against 1.d4. At Linares, for example, Kasparov had the creditable score of two wins, two draws and one loss with the KID. Karpov, on the other hand, is probably the only great Soviet player who has never practiced the KID, preferring to play against it as White. This augurs well for a stimulating battle on KID territory in the coming match. For what it's worth, I predict that Kasparov will also try the Nimzoindian/Queen's Indian Defenses and abandon the Grünfeld. As White, he will open 1.e4 more often than he has in past matches and is likely to face the Caro-Kann and Ruy Lopez from Karpov.

4.e4 d6 5.f3

The Sämisch variation, a solid yet aggressive continuation that was popular with World Champions Botvinnik, Petrosian and Spassky. Although Karpov has played it in the past, he is more likely to essay the Classical variation with Nf3 and Be2 these days.

5... 0-0

Whole books have been devoted to subvariations of the Sämisch. In this article, we shall look at three relatively unexplored systems, all of which involve sacrificial attempts by Black to unbalance the struggle. When playing through these games, pay most attention to the middlegame, which is where battles are really won. Ignore the partial games mentioned in the notes—they are there to help only if you are really interested in the opening system and not meant to be memorized.

6.Be3

Players seeking variety should look at 6.Bg5.

6... c6

Supplementary Game 1 covers the

interesting pawn sacrifice 6... c5, which gives Black plenty of piece play even after the exchange of Queens. Boris Gelfand has been particularly successful with this variation.

Supplementary Game 2 deals with one of the most unusual materially-unbalanced positions of opening theory. The ingenious idea of sacrificing the Queen for two minor pieces was first tried by David Bronstein against Spassky and remains playable, as seen in Supplementary Game 2.

7.Bd3 e5 8.d5 b5!?

First seen in Spassky-Timman, Amsterdam 1973, this idea was revived by Kasparov against Timman himself in Amsterdam fifteen years later.

9.cb5

The principled way to seek a refutation. In Spassky-Timman, after 9.Nge2 bc4 (9... b4!?) 10.Bc4 c5 11.0-0 Nfd7 12.Bd3 Nb6 13.a3 c4 (also 13... a5) 14. Bc2, Timman suggests 14... Na6 15.Nb5 Bb7 16.Nec3 Qb8 17.a4 Nb4.

9... cd5 10.ed5 e4

Also possible is 10... Bb7 11.Nge2 Nbd7 12.Bc2 (Timman suggests 12.Bc4 Nb6 13.Bb3) 12... a6 13.ba6 Ra6 14.b4 Nb6 15.Bb3 e4 with complications, Timman-Quinteros, Bled-Portoroz 1979.

11.Ne4

11.fe4 Ng4 gives Black active play, after 12.Qd2 f5 13.Nf3 Ne3 14.Qe3 f4, for instance. Two alternatives from Timman are 11.Be2 and 11.Be4.

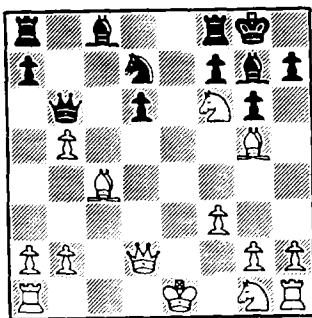
11... Nd5 12.Bg5 Qb6

In his annotations to Timman-Kasparov, Amsterdam 1988, Timman considers this weaker than the game continuation 12... Qa5+ (given ! by Timman) 13.Qd2 Qd2+ 14.Bd2 Bb2 15.Rb1 (in the later game Razuvaev-Lautier, Paris 1989, the stronger 15.Rd1 led to White's advantage) 15... Bg7 16.Ne2 Nd7 17.Nd6 Nc5 and Timman went on to lose. This game is typical of a Timman-Kasparov encounter in the

by Ganesan

Sämisch. Timman starts out well but then underestimates Black's dynamic counterplay.

13.Qd2 Nd7 14.Bc4 N5f6 15.Nf6



15... Bf6?

A remarkable move from the world's only 2800 player, and the sort of overoptimism Karpov must hope for in New York. On general principles, the gambiteer should not be volunteering piece exchanges, especially as this one removes Black's King Bishop, a piece that is central to King's Indian formations. The only redeeming feature of the text is to try and create some play on the dark squares, but this never gets anywhere against Gulko's accurate defense. Soon after the game, Kasparov himself endorsed 15... Nf6, backing it up with the following flashy variations: 16.Ne2 (16.Be3 Re8 17.Kf2 Re3 18.Qe3 Ng4+ 19.fg4 Bd4) 16... Re8 17.Bh4 d5 18.Bd3 (18.Bf2 Qe6 19.Bd3 Ne4) 18... Bb7 19.Bf2 d4 intending ... Nd5-e3 with an unclear position. 16.Bf6 Nf6 17.Ne2 Re8 18.0-0

Gulko considers this the only move, but it is adequate.

18... d5 19.Bd3

Here 19.Bb3 is probably stronger; for example 19... Qb5 20.Nc3 or 19... Re2 20.Qe2 Bf5 21.Rd2 Rc8+ 22.Bc2 d4 23.g4.

19... a6 20.ba6

20.Kb1 ab5 21.Bc2 would be a simpler way of maintaining the advantage.

20... d4 21.Kb1 Re3?

Instead 21... Ba6 22.Ba6 Ra6 gives some counterplay.

22.Bc4 Ba6 23.Ba6 Ra6 24.Nd4 Re8

24... Rea3 25.Nc2 Ra2 26.Qd8+ Qd8 27.Rd8+ Kg7 28.Na3 is winning. 25.Ne2 Rb8 26.Nc3 Qb4 27.Rhe1 Rd6 28.Qc2 Rdb6 29.Re2 Qf4 30.h3 Rc6

The last chance was 30... Rb2+ 31.Qb2 Rb2 32.Rb2 Qf5+ followed by 33... Nd7.

31.Qd2 Qf5+ 32.Ka1 Rb7 33.Qh6 Rc8

34.Red2 Qa5 35.Qe3 Kg7 36.g4 Re8

37.Qd4 Rd7 38.Qf2 Rc7 39.Rd3 Ra8

40.Qd2 h6 41.Rd6 Rc4 42.Rd4 Rac8

43.Kb1 Qe5 44.f4 Qe6 45.Qe2 Rd4 46

Rd4 Qb6 47.Qd2 Qe6 48.Qd3 Qc6

49.a3 Qg2 50.Rd6 Rb8 51.Qe2 Qh1+

52.Ka2 Re8 53.Qd3 Re1 54.Qd4 1—0

As Black made at least two mistakes, I am sure we have not seen the last of this variation.

Supplementary Game 1

Dlugy-Gelfand, Palma de Majorca 1989

6... c5 7.dc5 (Playable is 7.d5 e6 8.Qd2 ed5 9.cd5 a6 10.a4 Re8 with a sharp Benoni-like position—see Timman-Speelman, 3rd match game 1989, for a recent example. After 7.Nge2 Nc6 8.Qd2 b6 [or 8... a6 9.0-0-0!? Qa5 10.Kb1 e6 = Gheorghiu-Piket, Lugano 1989] 9.Rd1 e6 10.g3 Ba6 11.b3 Re8 12.Kf2?! d5! Black was better, Gheorghiu-Shirov, Moscow 1989) 7... dc5 8.Bc5 (Presumably a prepared variation by Dlugy. More popular is 8.Qd8 [At Linares 1990, Portisch-Gelfand went 8.e5!? Nfd7 9.f4 f6 10.ef6 ef6 11.Be2 Nc6 12. Nf3 Re8 13.Bf2 Nb6 14.Qd8 Nd8 15.Bc5 Nc4 16.0-0-0 Be6 =] 8... Rd8 9.Bc5, but Gelfand had defeated Gheorghiu in an earlier round after 9... Nc6 10.Nd5 Nd7 [10... Rd7!?; 10... Nd5 11.cd5 Bb2 12.Rb1 Bc3+ 13.Kf2 b6 14.Ba3 led to a rapid White win, Karpov-Barle, Portoroz/Ljubljana 1975] 11.Be7 [11.Ba3; 11.Ne7+ Ne7 12.Be7 Bb2 13.Rb1 Bc3+ 14.Kf2 Bd4+

15.Kg3 Re8 16.Bg5 Nf6 17.Nh3 Nh5+—Timman-Sax, Zagreb 1985, was drawn at this point—18.Kh4 Kg7! 19.g4 h6 20.Bh6+ Kh6 21.g5 f5 and White's King is too exposed, Gil-Howell, Gausdal 1986] 11... Ne7 12.Ne7+ Kf8 13.Nd5 Bb2 14.Rb1 Bg7 15.Ne2 Nc5 16.Nc1 Be6 17.Nd3 Rac8! 18.Be2 Na4! 19.N3f4 g5! 20.Nh5 Bc3+ 21.Kf1? Bd4! 22.h4 Bd5 23.ed5 Nc3 24.Rb7 Rb8 25.Rb3 Na2 26.Rd3 Rb1+ 27.Bd1 Bb6 28.Nf6 Nb4 29.Ke2 Nd3 30.Kd3 a5 31.hg5 a4 32.Ne4 a3 33.Nc3 Ra1 [33... Ba5] 34.Kc2 Bd4 35.Nb5 a2 36.Kb3 Ra8 White resigns) 8... Nc6 9.Be3 (Against van der Wiel at Wijk aan Zee 1990, Dlugy preferred 9.Qd8 Rd8 10.Rd1 Rd1+ 11.Kd1 Nd7 12.Ba3 Bc3 13.bc3 Nde5 14.Ne2 Nc4 15.Bc1 e5, later drawn) 9... Nd7 10.Rc1 Qa5 (Sharper than 10... Nde5 11.Qb3 Nd3+ 12.Bd3 Qd3 13.Kf2 Be6 =) 11.Nh3 Rd8 12.Nf2?? (12.Nf4 Nc5 13.Bd2 Bc3 14.bc3 Qa2 15.Nd5 is unclear) 12... Nc5 13.Bd2 Bc3! 14.bc3 Be6 (better 14... Qa2 intending 15.Ra1 Qd2!) 15.Qc2 Ne5 16.Bf4 Nc4 17.Be2 g5!? (17... Na4! 18.Nd3 Na3 19.Qd2 Rac8) 18.Bg5 Nd3+ 19.Bd3 Qg5 20.f4 Qf4 21.0-0 Ne3 22.Qe2 Nf1 23.Rf1 Qe5 24.Bc4 Bc4 25.Qc4 Rac8 26.Qb3 Rc3 27.Qb7 Qc5 28.e5 Rc1 29.g3 Rd2 30.Qa8+ Kg7 31.Qf3 Rf1 32.Kf1+ Ra2 33.Nd3 Ra1+ 34.Kg2 Qg1+ 0—1 (notes based on Gelfand's)

Supplementary Game 2

Kasparov-Seirawan, Barcelona 1989 6... e5 7.d5 Nh5 8.Qd2 (If White wishes, he can avoid this line by 8.Nge2) 8... Qh4+ 9.Bf2 (9.Kd1!?) 9... Qf4 (9... Qe7 turned out well after 10.Bd3 [10.0-0 f5 11.Kb1 Nd7 12.ef5 gf5 13.Nh3 e4!?, Miles-van der Wiel, Wijk aan Zee 1987] 10... Nf4 11.Be3 Nd3 12.Qd3 f5 13.0-0-0 Nd7 14.Nge2 a6 15.Kb1 Nf6 16.Bc1?! b5!, van Dijk-Piket, Rotterdam 1985/86) 10.Be3 Qh4+ 11.g3 Ng3 12.Qf2 Nf1 13.Qh4 continued on p.17

Petrosian's School

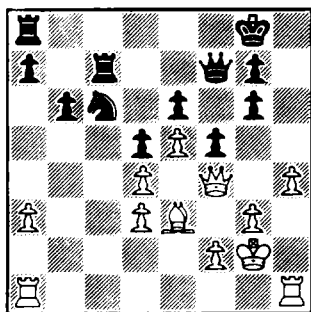
by SM Greg Kotlyar

Some Insights into the Techniques of the Chess Genius

In 1982 I was incredibly fortunate to meet with the Ninth World Champion, Tigran Petrosian. He lived across the street. Knowing him very closely both as a soft, caring person and as a notorious chess workman was a very precious gift. In other words, it definitely played a major role in both my chess and general education. I would like to share, as far as it could be possible, this unique experience with the readers of *California Chess Journal*.

It is a well-known fact that all top masters work out some of their favorite chess "tricks" (or elements of their techniques) and try to develop them up to the level of absolute perfection. From this point of view, Petrosian, in my opinion, was the perfect example of man working his own unique ways toward the development of the art of chess. For example, one of his favorite "tricks" (can't think of a better word) was a sudden transfer of his king to the opposite side of the board right in the middle of a chess struggle. It turned out to be a very powerful tool in his defending repertoire. Here are some of many examples on this theme, some of them supplied by NM E. Schechtman.

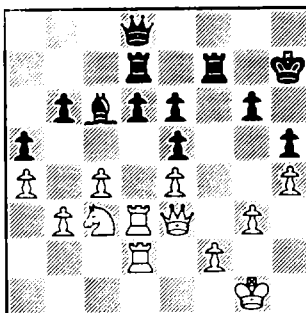
White: GM Diez Del Corral
Black: GM Tigran Petrosian
Palma de Majorca, 1969



Black clouds are about to gather around the Black King, and Petrosian immediately starts evacuating him to the opposite side:

22... Kf8!! 23.Qg5 Ke8 24.Rac1 Kd7 25.h5 gh5 26.Rh5 Rg8 27.Rh7 Kc8 28.Qh4 Qg6 29.Rh8 Rh8 30.Qh8+ Kb7 31.Qf8 Rc8 32.Qd6 Qe8 33.a4 Rd8 34.Qa3 Qe7 35.Qc3 Rc8 36.Bd2 g5 37.Qc2 f4! 38.gf4 gf4 39.Bf4 Rg8+ 40.Bg3 Nd4 41.Qc3 Ne2 42.Qc6+ Kb8 42.Re1 Nf4+ 44.Kf1 Nd3 45.Rb1 Qf7! 46.Qd6+ Kb7 47.Ke2 Rc8 48.a5 Rc2+ 49.Kf1 Nf2 50.Rb6+ ab6 51.Qb6+ Kc8 52.Qa6+ Kb8 53.Qb6+ Qb7 54.Qd6+ Qc7 0—1

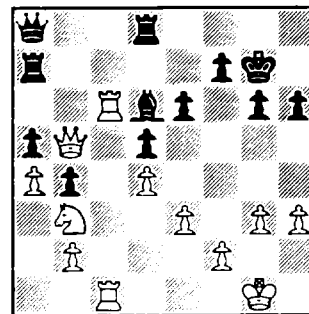
White: GM Tigran Petrosian
Black: GM Ljubojevic
Manila, 1974



Black has to defend many weaknesses, and because of this his King might not be properly protected. However, before launching an attack, Petrosian sends his father (I mean King, of course) right to the opposite side, just in case...

50.Kf1! Rf8 51.Ke1! Qc7 52.Kd1! Rf6 53.Kc2 Qd8 54.f3 Rff7 55.Qg1 Qc7 56.Kb2 Rd8 57.Qd1 Rfd7 58.g4! Kh8 59.Qg1 Rg7 60.Qe3 Kh7 61.Qg5 Be8 62.Qf6 Re7 63.gh5 gh5 64.Rg2 Rdd7 65.Nb5 Qc5 66.Rd6! Qe3 67.Na3 Qf4 68.Qf4 ef4 69.Rd7 Bd7 70.c5 bc5 71.Nc4 Bc8 72.Rg5 Kh6 73.Rc5 and White won in 100 moves. 1—0

White: GM Tigran Petrosian
Black: Unzicker
Hamburg, 1960



Having seen previous examples it is not too difficult to foresee Petrosian's plan.

29.Kf1! Kg8 30.h4 h5 31.R1c2 Kh7 32.Ke1 Kg8 33.Kd1 Kh7 34.Kc1 Kg8 35.Kb1 Kh7 36.Qe2 Qb7 37.Rc1 Kg7 38.Qb5 Qa8 39.f4 Kh7 40.Qe2 Qb7 41.g4! hg4 42.Qg4 Qe7 42.h5 Qf6 44.Ka2 Kg7 45.hg6 Qg6 46.Qh4 Be7 47.Qf2 Kf8 48.Nd2 Rb7 49.Nb3 Ra7 50.Qh2 Bf6 51.Rc8 Rad7 52.Nc5 b3+ 53.Kb3 Rd6 54.f5 Rb6+ 55.Ka2 1—0

Subscribers may want to refer to FM Craig Mar's article "The King Takes a Walk," *CCJ* February/March 1990 issue, for more games with this similar "trick".

In addition to these examples, Petrosian has other well-known King-walk masterpieces. The 1976 Biel Interzonal saw Tigran qualify in the next-to-final round as his King deftly outdistanced GM Robert Hubner's desperate checks. A more local example can be found during Lone Pine 1976, when Berkeley IM John Peters watched helplessly as Petrosian's King strolled to the other side of the board in order to clear the path for a decisive attack. Again, both of these games can be found in the February/March 1990 *CCJ*. Happy studying!

To Publish or Not to Publish?

by Frisco Del Rosario

One important decision a chess journalist must make is whether or not to use his own games. New York Times chess columnist Robert Byrne, who was the U.S. Champion in 1972, has used only one of his games in eighteen years—he won a game over English International Master Mark Hebden with a theoretical novelty in the Marshall Attack of The Ruy Lopez and published it, saying later that it would have been “completely wrong to keep (the novelty) hidden.” However, said Byrne, one is “always open to criticism for self-aggrandizement and it is best to avoid publishing one’s own games.”

I’m with Byrne on this one. I believe you look like a jerk if you publish one of your own games whether you win or lose. If you lost, you’re a jerk for not looking closely enough at the games of others. If you won, you’re a self-serving jerk. I thought I had an excuse to use one of my games.

Occasionally an attractive line of play will not see daylight because the defender slips too soon. The winner chalks up his point, but with a little feeling of unfulfilled artistry.

In ex-World Champion Mikhail Tal’s writings, he reveals brilliant variations that didn’t surface at the board because his opponent erred at the board before they could happen.

It occurs at the club level too. Tom Eichler was crafting a fine game on board three, during the Burlingame Chess Club Summer Tournament, but it ended not with a bang.

White: Tom Eichler (1978)

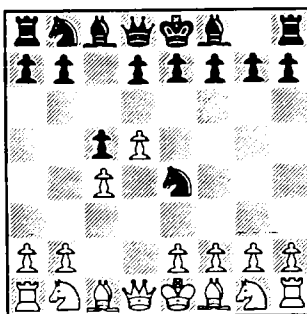
Black: Frisco Del Rosario (1972)

Geier Defense [A56]

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 Ne4

In the Geier (German for vulture) Defense, Black flies in the face of opening dogma by moving the same piece twice in the opening. Black hopes for Benoni-type counterplay (queenside

expansion plus pressure on the a1-h8 diagonal) without adopting a weak pawn structure as in the Modern Benoni. (3...e6 4. Nc3 ed5 5.cd5 d6) or sacrificing the Benko Gambit pawn (3... b5!?). Black also hopes to interfere with White’s normal development.



4.f3

An obvious reaction, but White’s King Knight is deprived of its best square.

4... Qa5+ 5.Nd2

The Queen Knight also settles on the second-best square. Later, Black’s attack against the center with ... e6 may be more effective because White’s Knight isn’t on c3, where it supports d5.

5... Nd6 6. e4 g6 7. Bd3

In Radnoti-Buecker (Budapest 1984), White rushed the queenside with 7.a3 Bg7 8.Rb1 0-0 9.b4 Qc7 10.Bb2 Bb2 11.Rb2 cb4 12.ab4, but was shown to be overextended by 12... a5 13.b5 Nf5 14.Rb3 (14.ef5 Qe5) Nd4 15.Ra3 Qc5 16.Ra4 e6 17.Nb3 Nb3 18.Qb3 d6 19.Ra2 Nd7 and Black is better.

7... a6?

A sluggish move. Black must actively try to exploit the position of White’s Bishop by 7... b5. After 8.cb5 a6 9.ba6 Ba6 10.Qc2 Bg7 11.f4 (Ne2? c4) Bd3 12.Qd3 Na6, Black has a fine Benko Gambit of sorts.

8. e5 Nf5 9. Bf5 gf5 10. Ne2 Bg7 11. f4 b5?

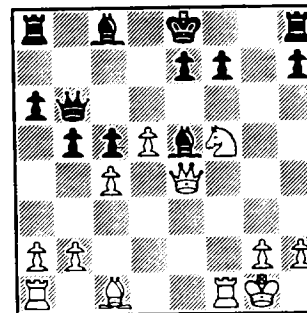
Black cannot hope for counterplay while he is undeveloped and he cannot

develop his Bishop to b7 anyway since it must mind the weak pawn on f5. 11... Qb6 12.0-0 d6 13.Nf3 Nd7 is a great improvement for Black.

12.0-0 Qb6 13. Qc2 d6 14. Nf3 Nd7 15. Ng3

Now the tempo wasted on 11... b5? is obvious.

15... de5 16. Nf5 Bf6 17. fe5 Ne5 18. Ne5 Be5 19. Qe4!



19... Bf5?

White’s attack has come on very swiftly and Black blunders at the first sign of trouble.

After 19... Bf6 20.Ne7 Be7, White recovers his piece but little else on 21.d6 Ra7. Similarly, 21.Bg5 Ra7 22.Rf6 (d6 is no longer possible) Qd8 23.Raf1 Rh6f5 24. 0-0 and Black holds. The timing of White’s d6 is critical. For instance, 21.Bg5 Ra7 22.Rae1 gets 22... Qd6, but 22.d6 Qd6 23.Rae1 instead meets 23... Be6. A better 20th move must be found for White: 19... Bf6 20.Bf4, intending to play d6 more advantageously, leads to 20... Bf5 21.Qf5 Bd4+ 22.Kh1 Qg6 and White is stalled. Also, 19... Bf6 20.Bh6 keeping Black’s King trapped in the center, fails to 20... Bf5 21.Qf5 Bd4+ 22.Kh1 Qh6 23.Qf7+ Kd8. Maybe the right continuation for White is the quiet move 20.Bd2 preparing to double heavy pieces and to deflect Black’s Bishop from f6. For instance, 19... Bf6 20.Bd2 Bf5 21.Rf5 Rd8 22.Raf1 Rd6 23.Bc3 and White has continued on p. 16

GM POTPOURRI

The following games were played at this year's New York Open. Games were selected and annotated by Seth Rothman.

White: GM Larry Christiansen
Black: GM Maxim Dlugy
New York Open-Round 8
Richter-Rauzer [B66]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6
 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 a6 8.0-0-0
 h6

Dlugy's favorite defense.

9.Be3 Nd4 10.Qd4 Qc7 11.f4 b5 12.Be2
 Interesting is 12.a4!? ba4 13.Qa4+
 Bd7 14.Bb5! see Romero-Holmes—
 Ruban, Palma de Majorca (GMA), 1989,
 48/282.

12... Bb7 13.Bf3 Rc8!

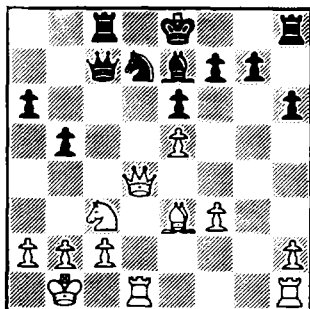
Dlugy's move, first played against
 Sergey Kudrin in the 1989 U.S. Cham-
 pionship.

14.Kb1

14.Rhe1 Be7 15.a3 0-0 16.Qb6 was
 agreed drawn in Benjamin-
 Dzindzichashvili at the 1989 U.S. Cham-
 pionship. Black can try for more with
 16... Qb6 17.Bb6 Rc3.

14... Be7 15.e5 Bf3 16.gf3 de5 17.fe5
 Nd7

Dlugy's improvement over 17...
 Rd8?! 18.Qf4 Rd1+ 19.Rd1 Nd7 20.Qg3
 Qe5 21.f4 Qb8 22.Qg7 which led to a
 loss against Kudrin in the 1989 U.S.
 Championship.



18.Qg4!

A theoretical novelty.
 Christiansen's improvement over
 18.Rhe1 b4 19.Ne4 0-0! When Black
 has the advantage. This was tested in
 Short-Dlugy Wijk aan Zee 1990. (In-
 side Chess March 5, 1990.)

18... g6 19.Qg2 b4!

Take notes, Sicilian fans—queen-
 side counterplay is essential. Dlugy
 says White is OK after 19... Ne5 20.Bf4
 b4 21.Nd5!

20.Ne4 Ne5 21.h4

21.Bf4 g5! 22.Bg3 f5! favors Black.

21... Nc4 22.Bc1 h5

Putting an end to White's kingside
 demonstration.

23.Rd4

If 23.Ng5 Qc6! stops 24.Ne6;
 23.Bg5 Qe5.

23... e5

Not 23... 0-0? 24.Bg5!

24.Rd5 0-0 25.f4 ef4 26.Rh5 Rfd8!

26... Ne3 27.Be3 fe3 28.Rd5 with
 the threat of h5.

27.Rh6

The rook has no other place—e.g.,
 27.Rg5 Qc6! favors Black. Not 27...
 Bg5? 28.hg5 when White has Nf6 and
 an open h-file to work with.

27... Nd2+!!

Wonderful! Cutting off the White
 Queen.

28.Bd2

28.Nd2 Qc2+ 29.Ka1 Qc1+ 30.Rc1
 Rc1+ 31.Nb1 Rdd1 32.Rg6+ Kh7
 33.Rg7+ Kh6 +.

28... Qc2+ 29.Ka1 Rd2! 30.Nd2

30.Qd2 Qe4.

30... Rd8 31.Rb1 Rd2 32.Qa8+ Rd8

33.Qa6 Rd1 34.Rg6+

Desperation.

34... fg6 35.Qe6+ Kf8 36.Qc8+ Qc8
 0-1

White: GM Maxim Dlugy
Black: GM Lev Alburt
New York Open-Round 4
Benko Gambit [A57]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cb5 a6 5.f3!?
 g6 6.e4 Bg7!?

Saner is 6...d6 7.Na3 Bg7 8.Ne2
 ab5 9.Nb5 0-0 10.Nec3 Na6 =. Alburt
 goes for more.

7.Na3

Interesting is 7.e5 Ng8 8.f4
 (8.Bf4!?) d6 9.Nf3 Nh6 10.Nc3 0-0. I
 would prefer to have White's position.
 7... e6!? 8.d6!?

Taking up the challenge. Prefer-
 able would be to keep the Knight on b8
 by 8.Bc4.

8... 0-0 9.Qc2 Qb6 10.Be3 ab5 11.Nb5

11.Bc5 Qa5 +=+. 11.Bb5? Ra3 +.

11... Na6 12.Kf2?!

After 12.a4 Black has enough
 compensation. Now he gains the ad-
 vantage.

12... Bb7 13.a4 Rfc8 14.Ne2?

Better was 14.Bc4 Nb4 15.Qd2 Be4
 16.Qb4 cb4 17.Bb6 Rc4 18.fe4 Ne4+
 and 19... Bb2 leaves Black with an
 edge.

14... Be4!! 15.fe4 Nb4 16.Qb1

16.Qc4 fails to 16... Ng4+ 17.Kf3
 Ne5+ +.

16... Ng4+ 17.Kf3 Ne3 18.Ke3 c4+

19.Kf3 Bh6 20.Ra3?

Ineffective.

20... c3 21.Nf4

The only move.

21... Bf4+ 22.Kf4 Qf2+ 23.Kg4 h5+
 24.Kh3

24.Kg5 Kg7 followed by Qf6 mate.
 24... g5 25.g3 g4+ 26.Kh4 Qf6+ 0-1

White: GM Efim Geller

Black: GM Alexey Dreev

New York Open-Round 4

French Tarrasch [C08] (Brilliancy
 Prize)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 a6

This move prevents Bb5+ as in the
 line 3... c5 4.ed5 ed5 5.Bb5+ Bd7
 6.Qe2+ Qe7 when White gets good play
 against the isolani.

4.Ngf3 c5 5.ed5 ed5

5... Qd5 does not work due to

by Seth Rothman

6.Bc4 or 6.dc5 Bc5 7.Bd3 Nf6 8.0-0 Nc6 9.a3 0-0 10.b4+-.

6.Be2 c4

Avoiding the isolani. 6... cd4 7.0-0! Bd6 8.Nb3 Ne7 9.Nbd4 0-0 10.Bg5 Qc7 11.Bh4 Ng6 12.Bg3 Nf4 13.Bd3 is Beliavsky-Vaganian 1975, 20/228. Vaganian assesses the position as slightly better for White.

7.0-0 Bd6 8.b3 b5?!

Theory favors 8... cb3 9.ab3 Ne7 10.Re1 Nbc6 11.Nf1 0-0 +=. See the games Geller-Skalkotas 1980, 30/216 and Geller-Korchnoi 1975, 20/229. 8... b5?! has a bad reputation because of another Geller game which continued 9.a4 c3 10.ab5! cd2 11.Bd2 Ne7 12.c4 +-.

Geller-Sherieshevsky 1980. **9.a4 Bb7!? 10.bc4 bc4 11.Bc4!!**

Undeterred, Geller still sacs a piece. White hopes to justify the sac because of the exposed position of the Black King. 11.Bc4 clears the e-file.

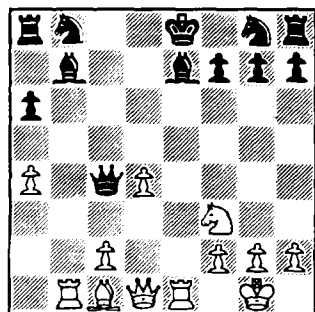
11... dc4 12.Nc4 Be7

Not 12... Ne7? 13.Nd6+ Qd6 14.Ba3 Qd7 15.Re1 Nbc6 16.d5 +-.

13.Re1 Qc7?!
The King is still stuck. If 13... Nf6 14.Ba3. 13... Bd5! may be an improvement allowing Black to defend by Nc6 or Ra7.

14.Rb1! Qc4

Now 14... Bd5 15.Nb6 +-.



15.Rb7! Nc6 16.Nd2! Qd4

Why not? There's no real choice since 16... Qd5 17.c4 Qd8 18.d5 is simply crushing.

17.Bb2 Qa4?!

I don't like burying the Queen, but

it is difficult to suggest an alternative. **18.Re4 Qa2 19.Bg7 0-0-0 20.Rb3 Bf6 21.Qg4+**

The direct approach!

21... Kc7 22.Qf4+ Kc8 23.Bf6 Nf6 24.Qf6 Qc2 25.Qf5+ 1-0

The upcoming Rook check wins the Queen.

White: GM Ferdinand Hellers

Black: IM Alexander Khalifman
New York Open-Round 9
Caro-Kann [B18]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 de4 4.Ne4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bd3 10.Qd3 e6

10... Qc7 is more precise.

11.Bf4 Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Qc7

Back to the main line.

13.0-0-0 0-0-0 14.Qe2 Ngf6 15.Ne5 Nb6

A safer alternative is 15... Ne5 16.de5 Nd7 17.f4 Be7 18.Ne4 Nc5 19.Nc3 f6 20.ef6 Bf6 21.Qc4 Qb6 as in Spassky-Petrosian from the 1966 match. ECO gives the position after 22.b4 Na6 as slightly better for White, but Black can probably hold the ending after 22.b4 Qa6 23.Qa6 Na6 24.Ne4. Of course not 23.Qc5? Qa3+ Kb1 Rd2! 25.Rd2 Bc3 -+.

16.c4!?

Alternatives are 16.Rh4, c3 or Ba5. Hellers will probably be credited for 16.c4 as a TN in the Informant, but IM Kamran Shirazi has been playing this gambit for seventeen years. In fact, Hellers later admitted he saw the game Shirazi-Bauer, World Open 1989 published in the Jan-Feb 1990 issue of *Chess Horizons*.

16... Rd4

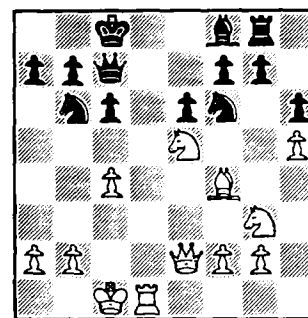
You cannot refute a gambit by declining it!

17.Be3 Rd1+ 18.Rd1 Rg8!

The refutation!? Hellers thought so after the game. 18... Qe5?! 19.Rd8+ Kd8 20.Bb6+ ab6 21.Qe5 favors White even though material is even. Bauer

played the inferior 18... Bb4?! 19.Bf4 Rd8 20.Rd8+ Kd8 (20... Qd8? 21.Nf7 +-) 21.Nd3 (!-Bauer) Qe7 22.Qe5 +-. Khalifman's move prevents a subsequent Ng6 by White and doesn't make the Bishop a target.

19.Bf4



19... Nbd7!

Beautiful. The loose Bishop on f4 is more of a hinderance than a help.

20.Qd2 Bb4!

Forcing liquidation.

21.Qb4

21.Qe3 can be met by 21... Bc5 offering a draw or 21... Ne5 22.Be5 Ng4! 23.Bc7 Ne3 24.fe3 Kc7 -+.

21... Ne5 22.Ne2

The only move. 22.Qd2? Nd3+! 23.Qd3 Qf4+ 24.Qd2 (24.Kb1 Qf2) Qd2 -+.

22... Nh5

White's worst nightmare—his far advanced h-pawn is proven to be a weakness. Now Black threatens to remove the dangerous Bishop since Bh2 can be met by 23... Nd3+ and 24... Qh2.

23.Be3 Rd8

Threatening 24... Nd3+.

24.Rd8+ Qd8 25.Qc3

Defusing Nd3+ which loses a piece to Kc2.

25... Qd6 26.Ba7 c5

"You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave."—Don Henley.

continued on p. 19

California's Best

by Frisco Del Rosario & IM Elliott Winslow

This year's Northern California Championship did not see 1989 Nor-Cal Champ IM Elliott Winslow defending his title, as he was living in New York at the time. However, since Winslow's recent leave from U.S.C.F., he has been able to co-annotate with Frisco Del Rosario one of his local wins. This game was played shortly before Winslow moved from the Bay Area to the East Coast, where he is currently covering the World Championship Match.

White: NM Daniel Switkes

Black: IM Elliott Winslow

24th LERA Class Championships
1989

King's Indian Defense [E77]

[Annotations by Frisco Del Rosario and IM Elliott Winslow]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.f4

The King's Indian Defense has long stood as the worthiest of the hypermodern defenses in which White is permitted to build a huge pawn center and Black hopes to attack it. The Four Pawns Attack is the best try philosophically, but from a practical standpoint, White should develop with 5.Nf3. If White feels he must move his f-pawn, he should play f3, bolstering the center, keeping enemies away from g4 and not obstructing the c1-h6 diagonal towards Black's King.

5... 0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Bd3 ed5
9.cd5 b5 10.0-0

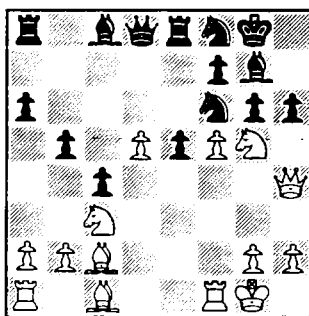
Black had sufficient pressure for the pawn after 10.Bb5 Ne4 11.Ne4 Qa5+ 12.Kf2 Qb5 13.Nd6 Qb6 14.Nc4 Qa6 15.Qe2 Bd7 16.Be3 Bb5 17.Rhc1 Re8 in Zaitsev-Bogdanovic, Sochi 1967. 10... a6 11.Qe1 Re8 12.Qh4 c4 13.Bc2 Nbd7 14.e5

Black has organized enough pressure against the e-pawn to provoke this sacrifice. The threat isn't real yet (for now 14... b4 and 14... Ne4 lose a piece), but it will be a threat after 14... Bb7 or 14... Qc7.

14... de5 15.f5

There is nothing for White in 15.fe5 Ne5 16.Ne5 Re5 17.Bg5 Qb6.

15... Nf8 16.Ng5 h6



White is planning to eliminate defenders of h7 with Nce4 followed by fg6 and an eventual rook sacrifice on f8. Black distracts him from that plan by goading him into another sacrifice—this one extremely promising. 16...Ra7, intending to support f7, invites 17.Be3 followed by Bc5 and Bf8. Winslow offers 16... gf5 17.Bf5 Bf5 18.Rf5 Ng6 19.Qh3 (threatening 20.Rf6) h6 20.Nf3 as another poor alternative.

17.Nf7 Kf7 18.fg6+ Ng6

Winslow suggests instead 18... Kg8 19.Bh6 Bh6 20.Qh6 Ra7.

19.Qh5 e4

Forced.

20.Ne4?

Winslow considered 20.Be4 Re4 21.Ne4 (threatening to win the house with 22.Bh6) 21... Qe7, gaining a tempo, unclear, but 22.Nf6 Bf6 23.Bg5! hg5 24.Qh7+ wins for White.

20... Re5 21.Nd6+ Qd6 22.Qg6+ Kg8

23.Bh6 Ra7

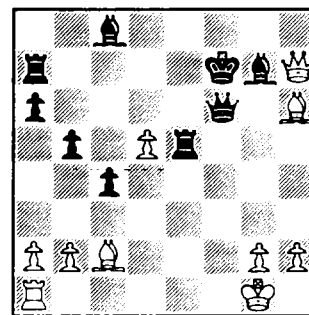
The only move.

24.Rf6

24.Bg7 Rg7 25.Qf6 (25.Rf6? Qc5+)

25... Rg2+! 26.Kg2 Re2+ 27.Rf2 Qf6 28.Re2 and Winslow gives 28... Qg5+ 29.Kf2 as unclear, but Black can again improve with 28... Bh3+!

24... Qf6 25.Qh7+ Kf7



25... Kf8 looks stronger, staying out of the pin on the rank and also guarding the Bishop with the Rook on a7. Then White's obvious 26.Rf1 loses neatly to 26... Qf1+! 27.Kf1 Rf7+, but 26.Qh8+ leads to an ending where White has three passed pawns for the exchange—26... Kf7 27.Bg7 Qg7 28.Rf1+ Bf5 29.Rf5+ Rf5 30.Qg7+ Kg7 31.Bf5 etc.

26.Rf1

Now 26.Bg7 doesn't work because Black's King hasn't been cut off from the back rank—26... Qg7 27.Rf1+ Ke8. 26... Bf5! 27.Bf5 Qh6 28.Be6+

28.Bg6+ Ke7 29.Rf7+ Kd6 and if 30.Ra7 Qe3+, or 30.Qh6 Bh6 31.Ra7 Be3+. (Winslow)

28... Ke7 29.Qg8 Re6 30.de6 Bd4+ 31.Kh1 Qe6 32.Qg5+ Ke8 33.Qh5+ Rf7 34.h3 Bb2? 35.Rf7 Qf7 36.Qe2+ Qe7 37.Qb2 Qe1+ 38.Kh2 c3 39.Qc2 Qd2 40.Qe4+ Kd7 41.Qb7+ Ke6 42.Qa6+? Qd6+ 0—1

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TRIAL & ERROR

Contrary to many chess players' beliefs, masters often don't know what they're doing. The few games where both masters know exactly what they're doing can end in quick, unoriginal draws. More common are games in which one master knows what he's doing while the other one has little or no idea, thus he must rely solely on talent and/or luck. But the most entertaining games occur when both masters don't know what the book or theory moves are, and have to play completely on instinct. Ironically, these games can sometimes dictate new theory, and are almost always instructive.

This is hardly a model for the typical player, or soon-to-be master. But the point to such a trial-and-error approach is that you learn something from each loss, draw, or win, which should improve your play next time. At the very least, you should make sure that your moves, move order, and ideas are consistent with the authorities (i.e., a book, local master, or even your opponent). With enough tournament play, post-mortem analysis, and a fair amount of reading, players will soon find themselves fairly knowledgeable in their opening variations. Of course, there will always be that one line which nobody ever plays, that is, until you lose to it. But hey, if we knew everything, what fun would be left in chess?

This column will demonstrate the trial-and-error approach by showcasing pairs of games played between masters. Usually, the first game will show a botched opening or idea, while the second game redeems the player once he has learned from his previous mishap. Incidentally, the results tend to be better the second time around.

White: FM Ben Finegold (2490)
Black: NM Peter Yu (2270)
**1989 U.S. Junior Invitational
 King's Indian Exchange [E92]**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4

In our only previous encounter, Finegold played 4.Nf3 and allowed a transposition into the Grünfeld. That game continued 4...d5 5.Bg5 Ne4 6.cd5 Nc3 7.bc3 Qd5 8.e3 Bg4 9.Qa4+ Nc6 10.Bc4 Qa5 11.Qa5 Na5 12.Be2 h6 13.Bh4 Rc8 14.0-0 e5! equalizing, 1986 U.S. Open. This time Finegold needed more than a draw as he was in the race for first with only three rounds left including this one. However, since I just drew against top seeds Ilya Gurevich and Stuart Rachels back to back, Finegold made sure to prepare carefully against my King's Indian.

4... d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5

Another alternative is 6... Nbd7, but the Queen's Knight not only blocks the Bishop, it is more passive on d7 than the intended 7... Nc6 8.d5 Ne7, which prepares a kingside attack. Besides, this move order is more accurate even if Black intends to play ... Nbd7.

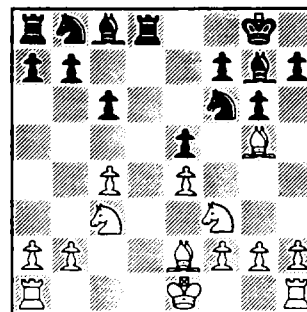
7.de5!?

So this is what Finegold had up his sleeve. One of the advantages of playing in Round Robins is that one can prepare one's opening specifically against the next opponent. But certainly there are better ways for White to try for an advantage. Apparently, Finegold gambled on my inexperience with the Exchange Variation, and he guessed right! Although Black plays most of the correct moves, I was caught off-guard by this unpopular, seemingly harmless line.

7... de5 8.Qd8 Rd8 9.Bg5

Amazingly, White gets a decent amount of pressure from this drawish line. The threat is 10.Bf6 Bf6 11.Nd5. Other moves are bad for White, such as 9.Ne5?! Ne4! or 9.Nd5 Rd7 10.Nf6+ (10.Ne5 Nd5 11.Nd7 Nb4! =+) Bf6 11.c5 Nc6 12. Bb5 Rd8 13.Bc6 bc6 14.0-0 Bg4 15. Be3 Rab8 += Ivkov-Tal, Bled 1961.

9... c6!?



Black's other choices are:

a) 9... Re8 10. Nd5 Nd5 11.cd5 c6 12.Bc4 cd5 13. Bd5 Nd7 14.Nd2 Nc5 (worse is the older 14... Nb6) 15.0-0-0 Ne6 16.Be3 Nf4 =, Andersson-Zhu, Polgar, Bilbao 1987.

b) 9... Nbd7 10.0-0-0 Rf8 11.Ne1 (11.Nd2!?) Nc5 (ECO gives 11... c6 12.Nc2 Nc5 13.f3 +=) 12.f3 c6 13.Nc2 a5 14.Be3 Nfd7 15.b3 Re8 16.Rd2 Bf8 17.Rhd1 f6 18.Kb2 Nb6 19.Bf1 += H. Olafsson-Kristiansen, Denmark 1985.
 c) 9... Na6 10.Nd5 (10.0-0 Re8 11.Rad1 h6 12.Bc1 c6 =, Pilarte-A. Rodriguez, Havana 1983) 10... Rd6 11.Bf6 Bf6 12.Nf6 Rf6 13.Ne5 Re6 14.f4 Re8 15.0-0 += D. Gurevich-Murei, Brighton 1982.

The text is more interesting because White has many chances to err in this fairly new gambit line. IM Andrew Martin recommends this fashionable variation in his new book Winning with the King's Indian.

10.Ne5

The only way to play for an advantage, as both 10.Rd1 Rd1+ 11.Kd1 and 10.0-0 Re8 11.Rd1 Nbd7 12.h3 Nf8 easily equalize for Black.

10... Re8 11.0-0-0

Indirectly protecting the Knight since 11... Re5?! 12.Rd8+ Re8 13.Bf6 Rd8 14.Bd8 favors White. In addition, White's King gets to vacate the sensitive e-file and finish development at the same time. After 11.Bf4 Black can get

by NM Peter Yu

an advantage by developing quickly instead of regaining the pawn. For example, 11... Na6 (not 11... Ne4?! 12.Ne4 Be5 13.Nd6! Bd6 14.Bd6 +=) 12.0-0-0 (12.f3 Nh5! 13.Nd3 f5) Nc5 13.f3 Nh5 14. Be3 Ne4! 15.Ne4 (15.fe4 Be5 16.Bh5 gh5 17.h3 Be6 =+ Nunn) Be5 16. Bd4 Bf5 17.Be5 Re5 18.Nc3 Nf4 19.Bf1 Rae8 + Bouaziz-Nunn, Szirak 1987.

11... Na6! 12.f4!?

The main alternative is 12.Nf3 after which 12... Bg4 (threatening ... Ne4) 13.Bd3 Nc5 14.Rhe1 Nfd7! 15.Bf4 Nb6 16.Kc2 Bf3! 17.gf3 Nd3 18.Rd3 Nc4 and Black has a better ending, Barlov-W. Watson, Bor 1986. 12... Nc5?!

Up to this point, Black had been correctly following Keilhack-Kupreichik, West Berlin 1987, which continued 12... h6 13.Bh4 g5 14.fg5 hg5 15.Bg3 Nc5 16.Rhe1 Be6! Unfortunately Black's inaccurate move order will prevent him from regaining his pawn. Finegold, having out-prepared his opponent, gladly capitalizes on the opening error.

13.Bf3 h6 14.Bf6 Bf6 15.Nd3! Bc3 16.Nc5!

Fully securing White's pawn advantage.

16... Ba5 17.g3 Rb8 18.e5 Bb6 19.Ne4 Be3+ 20.Kc2 Bf5 21.Rd3 Be4 22.Be4 Bb6 23.Rhd1 Rbd8

Hoping to enter an opposite-colored Bishops ending. In the previous round, I had drawn Rachels a pawn down in a Rook and opposite-colored Bishop ending.

24.Rd7! Rd7 25.Rd7 Rb8

White allows only one pair of Rook exchanges as this doesn't decrease his winning chances.

26.g4?! Bg1?

Too eager to win, White blunders first and severely weakens his fourth rank. Unfortunately, Black overlooks the counter 26... Rd8! which draws because of 27.Rb7 Rd4! 28. Bd3 Rf4

etc. Black's actual move just barely fails to draw against White's fast central pawns.

27.f5! Bh2 28.e6 fe6 29.fe6 h5 30.Bg6 hg4 31.e7 g3 32.Rd8+ Kg7 33.Be4 1-0

Black's last hope is snuffed. After this game Finegold went on to win the tournament along with co-champ IM Alex Sherzer.

Okay, so after this disappointing loss, Ben showed me that I was supposed to play 12... h6 before I put my Queen's Knight on c5, where it might be vulnerable to Bh4-f2, etc. Great, I sure wish he'd told me during our game. But I guess I have the consolation that I learned something from this loss. Now I just had to wait before I could use this knowledge...

White: FM Cyrus Lakdawala (2511)
Black: Yu
1990 Lina Grumette Memorial King's Indian Exchange [E92]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4

Not allowing a transposition into a Grünfeld.

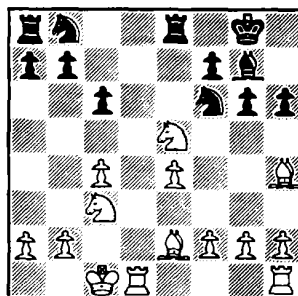
4... d6 5.d4 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.de5 de5 8.Qd8 Rd8 9.Bg5 c6 10.Ne5 Re8 11.0-0

Look familiar?

11... h6

Finally, a chance to prove that I can learn from my mistakes. The move order 11... Na6 12.f4 h6 is also fine.

12.Bh4



White can play for a draw by repetition after 12.Bf4 Na6 13.Nf3 Ne4 14.Ne4 Re4 15.Rd8+ Kh7 16.Be3 Bf6 17.Rd6 Be6 18.Nd2 Re5 19.Nf3 Re4 20.Nd2 Re5 21.Nf3 Ra5!? 22.a3 Ra4 23.Nd2 Be5 24.Re6 fe6 25.Bd1 Ra5 26.Nb3 Ra4 27.Nd2 Ra5 1/2-1/2, Vickers-Yu, San Francisco 1989.

12... Na6 13.f4 g5 14.Bg3 Nc5

This is about how far "book" goes in this line. From now on it's all unexplored territory.

15.Rhe1!?

Lakdawala's innovation which he used to beat IM Doug Root a while back.

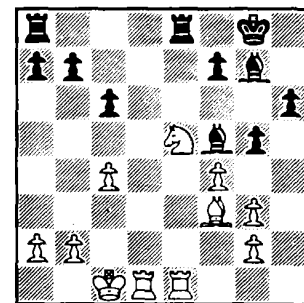
15... Nce4

Safer than 15... Nfe4 because of 16.Nf7 Kf7? 17.Bh5+!

16.Ne4 Ne4

Gaining back the gambit pawn. In the last game Black wasn't able to do this because of an opening error, but this time I did my homework.

17.Bf3 Ng3 18.hg3 Bf5!?



After 18... Be6 I didn't like the looks of 19.Nc6! bc6 20.Bc6 Rad8 21.Be8 Re8 22.f5 Bd7 23.Re8+ Be8 24.Rd8 Kf8. White's queenside pawns pose too much of a threat, and Black's two Bishops are currently well below their potential. Lakdawala felt this position was unclear as White must proceed with extreme caution.

19.g4 gf4!? 20.Nc6! Re1! 21.Re1 Be6

Shutting off the open e-file after removing White's Rook from the d-file.

from p. 15

22.Na5 Rb8 23.Nb7

The other way to take leaves Black with two choices:

a) 23.Bb7 Bg4 24.a3 (b3? Bc3 +-) Bd4!, and if 25.Nc6 Bb2+! (not... Be3+ 26.Re3! fe3 27.Nb8 e2 28.Kd2 +-). Better was 25.b4 Be3+ 26.Kc2 Bf5+ 27.Kc3 (Kb3? Bb6! +-) Rd8 and Black has White on the run.

b) 23.Bb7 Bc4?! 24.Nc4 Rb7 25.Re4! Rc7 26.Rf4 Bf6 27.Kd1! and White stands better with his queenside pawns.

23... Bc4 24.b3 Be6

At this point, I offered a draw but Lakdawala had to win in order to keep his money chances alive. Black has clearly equalized and is now threatening ... Bg4.

25.Nd6 Rb4 26.Kc2 a5?!

A risky idea, making it easier for White to gain an outside passer, but Black still hopes to attack on the queenside.

27.Re4

Offering to exchange to end Black's queenside pressure, at the cost of further simplification.

27... Re4 28.Ne4 Kf8

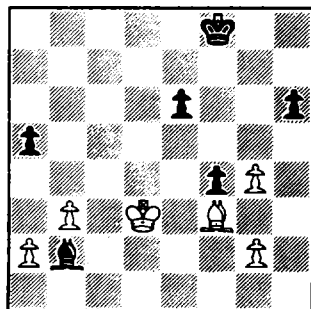
If Black tries to draw with a Bishop-of-opposite-colors endgame too soon, he will lose at least one more pawn after 28... Bd5 29.Kd3! Be5 30.g5!? Be4+ (hg5=) 31.Ke4 Bc7 32.gh6 Kh7 33.Kf5 Kh6 34.Kf6. In addition, White's potential outside passer gives him a slight advantage in the position. Drawing immediately was 28... f5!

29.Nc5

Otherwise ... f5 or ... Bd5 draws. 29... Bd4

29... Bc8 30.Nd3 f5! was also playable.

30.Ne6 fe6 31.Kd3 Bb2



Now Black should draw this opposite-colored Bishops ending, although White still has "outside" chances.

32.Kc4 Ba3 33.Kb5 Bb4 34.a3 Ba3 35.Ka5 Ke7

Black finally wakes up since he should have moved his King out sooner to defend against White's dangerous b-pawn.

36.Kb5 Kf6

Black chooses to indirectly defend against White's pawn-pushing by making some threats of his own.

37.b4 Kg5 38.Kc4 e5 39.b5 e4! 40.Bd1!

Best, as 40.Be4 Kg4 and Black can now afford to sac his Bishop for White's b-pawn and then force a draw on the kingside.

40... f3!

Black really wants to draw, as he not only gains rating points, but also a share of the U2400 prize.

41.gf3 ef3 42.Bf3 Kf4 43.Bd1 Ke5?!

The wrong plan! More direct was ... h5 here or the previous move. Black can force a "wrong Rook-pawn" and Bishop ending for White and then sac for the b-pawn. However, Black mistakenly opts to blockade White's b-pawn on the dark squares.

44.b6 Kd6 45.Bf3 Kd7 46.Bb7 Bd6 47.Kb5 Bf4 48.Ka6 Bb8?!

Black begins to panic as he realizes his blockading plan cannot work. The simple 48... h5! would have ended all speculation.

49.Be4 Bf4

Finally seeing the light at the tunnel's end.

50.Kb7 h5!

White could have tried 50. Bg6 but Black can now blockade 50... Kc8 51.Ka7 Be3 =.

51.gh5 Ke7 52.Kc8 Kf8 53.b7 Kg7 1/2-1/2

A well-earned draw, considering the trial and error I had to go through to learn this line.

Lowell

from p. 5

Still not developing the queenside!

14.f4?

Much better was 14.Ne6! Rd7 15.Bb6 Qh5 16.Ng7 Kg7 +-.

14... b5 15.Be2 Qc7 16.Bf3 e5

To prevent 17.e5 which activates White's Bishops.

17.fe5 Be5 18.h4 Nd7

Finally developing the queenside!

19.h5 Nc5 20.Qc2 Be6 21.Rf2

With the idea of 22.g4 and 23.Rg2 but 21.g4 first is much better. Also, 21.Ne6 should have been considered.

21... Bg3 22.Re2

Maybe 22.Rd2 because now Black puts his Bishop on c4 with gain of tempo.

22... Bc4 23.Rd2 Qe7 24.Ne2

If 24.Nc6 Qh4 and a quick mate.

24... Be5 25.hg6 fg6 26.Rcd1 Rd2 27.Rd2

If 27.Qd2 Nd3 and 28... Rd8.

27... Qh4 28.Bc5?!

28.g3 Bg3 29.Bc5 Qh2+ 30.Kf1 Rf8. Or 28.Rd1 Qh2+ 29.Kf1 Qh1+ 30.Bg1 Bh2 31.Ke1 Bg1 32.Kd2 Qh6+ +-.

28... Qe1 mate. 0-1

This was a seesaw battle from beginning to end.

Del Rosario

from p. 9

a big edge.

20. Qe5 0-0-0 21. Rf5 e6 22. Rf7 ed5 23. Bf4 Rde8 24. Rc7+ Kd8 25. Qg5+ 1-0

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Ilya Gurevich: World Junior Champion

Eighteen year-old Ilya Gurevich (2570) of Worcester, Massachusetts, made the most of his summer vacation. Ilya celebrated his High School graduation by winning his first U.S. Junior Championship, and then he finished off his memorable summer by capturing the 1990 World Junior Championship. Ilya's win in the U.S. Junior was no simple feat as this year's lineup featured a strong field of young masters in addition to himself:

FM Vivek Rao (2536), a studious competitor and theory king from Monroeville, Pennsylvania, is now in his third year at Harvard University majoring in Physics;

IM Alex Sherzer (2548), last year's co-champ from Fallston, Maryland, is well known in Siamese Chess circles and specializes in crushing the Sicilian;

NM Maxim Berlyant (2318), playing for his first time in this tournament, recently immigrated from the Soviet Union where he used to take chess lessons;

NM James Schuyler (2371), a sophomore participant at the U.S. Junior and also M.I.T., is originally from New York where he played many games under the name of James Levine;

NM Jesse Kraai (2340), the current U.S. High School Blitz Champion from New Mexico, can sometimes be seen playing in Bay Area tournaments when-

ever he visits his grandparents in Los Gatos;

NM Andy Serotta (2368), a senior at Harvard majoring in Math and Economics, Andy "Three-time" Serotta is best known for his triple consecutive titles in the U.S. Junior Open, which automatically qualified him for the Junior Closed each year;

NM Yury Zaderman (2371), also in his first Junior, moved from the Soviet Union to New York where he has gained many rating points from playing in the strong Manhattan Chess Club action chess tournaments.

Ilya, the top seed, was undefeated and scored six points out of seven to finish a half-point ahead of veteran Junior participant Rao. Ilya clinched his victory by defeating number two Rao in their key matchup. Rao bounced back from this loss to finish in clear second with five-and-a-half points, while defending co-champ IM Alex Sherzer came in a disappointing third with four points. Fellow New Yorkers Schuyler and Berlyant tied for fourth with an even score, followed by Kraai (3-4), Serotta (2-5) and Zaderman (.5-6.5). This year's tournament invited only eight juniors, down two from previous years when funding was more abundant. Special thanks goes to Tournament Director Walter Brown, and Illinois Wesleyan University for sponsor-

ing this event.

For winning the U.S. Junior, Gurevich was invited to the 1990 World Junior Championships held in Santiago, Chile. And, as mentioned earlier, Ilya (2410 FIDE) took full advantage of this opportunity by going undefeated with 10.5 points out of 13 to win the World Junior title on tie-breaks over Soviet GM Aleksci Shirov (2580). The eleventh-seeded Gurevich paced his impressive performance by downing the strong four-man Soviet contingent 3.5-.5, including a key seventh-round victory over GM Shirov. Ilya's tremendous performance automatically earned him the prestigious IM title, which tops off a truly triumphant summer for one of American's brightest young stars.

Coming in third was Soviet IM Vladimir Akopian (2535) 9.5-3.5 followed by a huge tie for fourth through seventh between Soviet IM Mikhail Ulybin (2460), French IM Christopher Lutz (2445), Israeli FM Yona Kosashvili (2455), and unrated Peruvian Carlo-magno Oblitas, each at 8.5-4.5.

American IM Alex Sherzer (2440 FIDE), who was not able to participate in last year's World Junior for safety reasons, placed fifteenth with a plus record of 7.5-5.5. Saitek Industries proudly sponsored the American representatives to this year's World Junior Chess Championships, held August 16th-31st.

Ganesan

from p. 7

Ne3 14.Ke2 Nc4 15.Rc1 Na6 16.Nd1 Nb6 17.Ne3 Bd7 18.Nh3 f6 19.Nf2! (19.Rhg1 Rad8? 20.b3 c6 21.dc6 bc6 [21... Bc6] 22.Nf5! gf5 23.Rg7+! Kg7 24.Rg1+ Kf7 25.Qh5+ Ke6 26.Qf5+ Kf7 27.Qh5+ Ke6 28.Qf5+ Kf7 29.Ng5+ Ke8 30.Ne6! led to a well-known White win in Karpov-Velimirovic, Skopje 1976. 19... Rae8

is an obvious improvement, and Black was better after 20.Rg2 Re7 21.Kf1?! [21.Rcg1] 21... Nc5 22.Rd2 h5 23.b4 Na6 24.a3 Kh7 25.Rg2 Bh6, Spycher-Piket, Groningen 1986/87) 19... Nc8 20.Rc3 Ne7? (Seirawan prefers 20... c5 [intending ... Nc7,b5] 21.dc6 bc6 22.Rd1 Nc7 23.Rcd3 Nb5 24.a4 Nd4+ 25.Rd4 ed4 26.Rd4 c5 with advantage

to Black) 21.Rhc1 Rac8 (21... c5) 22.Rb3 Rb8 23.Nd3 Rf7? (23... c5) 24.Qe1! Nc8 25.Qa5 Nb6 26.Rc7 f5 27.Rc2? (27.Rb7 Rb7 28.Qa6 Rc7 29.Rb6 ab6 30.Qb6 would be winning.) 27... fe4 28.fe4 Rbf8 29.Rb6 1/2-1/2 (29... ab6 30.Qb6 Nc5 31.Nc5 dc5 32.Kd1 Bh6 intending ... Rf3-h3; notes based on Seirawan's.)

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from p. 11

27.Qa5 Nd3+!

Superior to 27... Nc4 28.Qc5+ Qc5 29.Bc5 when White can try for a passed a-pawn.

28.Kb1 Qa6 29.Qc3

29.Qa6 ba6 leaves the Bishop trapped or drops the f-pawn.

29... Nb2 30.Qb2

30.Bc5 Na4.

30... Qa7 31.Qe5 Qb6+ 32.Kc2 Nf6

33.Nc3 Qc7 34.Qe3 Ng4 35.Qe2 Ne5

36.Nb5 Nc6

Nice. Khalifman finds a tactic to get the Queens off the board.

37.Nc7

At least this way Hellers gets a pawn back.

37... Nd4+ 38.Kd2 Ne2 39.Ne8 Nf4

40.g3 Nh3 41.Ke3 Kd7

41... g5 is counterproductive. 42.Nd6+ Kc7 42.Nf7 leaves only a weak extra e-pawn.

42.Ng7

Well, Black's up a pawn-is it a win? Hellers evidently believed he could hold the game because at this point he sent Joel Benjamin out to get coffee and a sandwich for him. He also began to use a lot of time for each move. Khalifman on the other hand stalked the tournament hall, only returning to the stage to quickly move. Perhaps he was trying to calm himself?

42... Ng5 43.Nh5 f5 44.Nf4 Kd6 45.Nd3 e5 46.f3?

A move motivated by sound strategy—trade pawns when losing an ending! However, ...

46... Nf3 0-1

Hellers had barely finished eating. After 47.Kf3 e4+ the K and P ending is a winner for Black. As Joel Benjamin remarked, "Khalifman just paid his rent for the rest of his life!"

White: GM Helgi Olafsson

Black: IM Gata Kamsky

Round 9

Semi-Slav [D45]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Be2 Bd6

With 6... dc4 7.Bc4 Black could transpose to the Meran Variation.

7.0-0 0-0 8.b3 a6 9.Bb2 b5 10.Qc2

Rb8!?

Kamsky announces his intention to play on the queenside. In this line Black usually plays instead for ... e5.

11.e4 de4 12.Ne4 Ne4 13.Qe4 bc4

Better than 13... Nf6 14.Qc2 bc4 15.bc4.

14.Bc4 Nf6 15.Qe2

The c-pawn is poison—15.Qc6 Bb7! 16.Qa4 Bf3 17.gf3 Nh5 and White cannot meet Qh4.

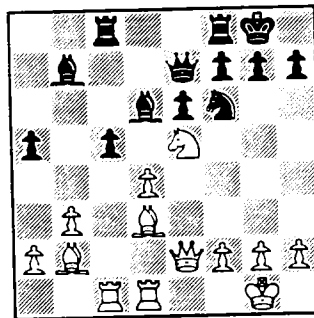
15... a5 16.Ne5 +-.

Black's c-pawn is weaker than White's d-pawn.

16... Bb7 17.Rac1 Rc8 18.Rfd1 Qe7

19.Bd3 c5!?

This has simply got to be played—win, lose or draw.



20.dc5?

20.Nc4 followed by 21.Nd6 Qd6 22.dc5 Rc5 23.Bh7+ +-; 21.Na5; 20... Bb8 21.dc5 (21.Na5? Qc7! -+) Rc5 22.Ba3 Qc7 23.g3 Qc6 24.f3 Rg5 (24... Rh5 +-) 25.Bf8 +-; 20... Bf4 21.Rc2 (21.dc5 Bc1 22.Rc1) Rfd8 22.Na5 Bh2+!? 23.Kh1 (23.Kh2? Qc7+) Bd5! but 22.Ba3! Qc7 23.g3 Qc6 24.f3 +-.

20... Rc5?

20... Bc5 +=.

21.Rc5?

Acquiescing to the draw. 21.Nc4! transposes to the note to move twenty. 21... Bc5 22.Nc4 Ra8 1/2-1/2

23.Bf6 gf6 (23... Qf6? 24.Bh7!+ Kh7 25.Qh5+ Kg8 26.Qc5) 24.Qg4+ Kh8 25.Qh4 (25.Bh7 f5! 26.Qh5 Kg7) f5 26.Qe7 Be7 27.Ne5 =; 24.Be4 Be4 25.Qe4 Rd8 26.Rd3 f5 27.Qe2 Rd3 =.

White: GM Rafael Vaganian

Black: IM Patrick Wolff

Round 7

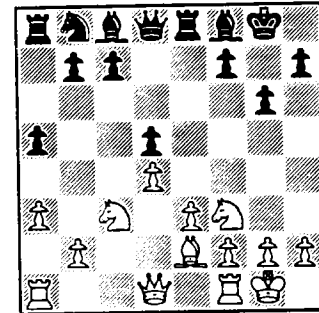
Grünfeld [D91]

1.Nf3 g6 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5

5.Bg5 Ne4 6.cd5 Ng5 7.Ng5 e6 8.Nf3 ed5 9.e3 a5

Preventing 10.b4.

10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 Re8 12.a3 Bf8



The position resembles a Queen's Gambit Declined Exchange. Wolff's move hinders b4 and prepares the transfer to d6. On g7 the Bishop does little against White's solid setup.

13.Ne5 c6 14.Bg4?

14.Nd3 followed by b4 looks better. Vaganian instead offers his "good" Bishop.

14... Bd6 15.Bc8

He was already committed to this exchange, but what's the point?

15... Qc8 16.Nd3 Nd7 17.Qf3 Qd8 18.b4 Nb6 19.Nc5 Qc7 20.h3 Nc4

White is beginning to miss that Bishop.

21.Rfd1 Qe7 22.Ra2 b6 23.Nd3 ab4 24.ab4 Ra2 25.Na2 b5 += 26.Nc5 Ra8

27.Nc1 Bc5 28.dc5 Ra3 29.Qg4 Qf6 30.Ne2 Ra2 31.Nf4 h5 32.Qc8+

32.Nh5? Qf2

32... Kg7 33.Qc7 h4 34.Nd3 Nb2 +- 35.Nb2 Rb2 36.f3 Qg5 37.Qh2 Qe3+

38.Kh1 Rb4

Vaganian could now resign with clear conscience.

39.Qd6 Qe2 40.Rg1 Qe6 41.Ra1 Ra4 42.Rc1 Ra2 43.Qf4 Qf6 44.Qh2 Re2 45.f4? Rf2 0—1

A rather listless performance by Vaganian.

White: IM Patrick Wolff

Black: GM Joel Benjamin

Nimzovich Defense [B00]

Round 9

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Bg4 5.d5 Nb8 6.Be2 g6 7.0-0 Bg7

from p. 19

The position resembles a Pirc, where White has played an early d5. In the Pirc this is not White's best plan, but here Wolff has gained two tempi: Nb8-c6-b8. With his next two moves he cashes in his tempi to clamp down on Black's potential queenside counterplay. The alternative plan of active control play by 8.h3 Bf3 9.Bf3 0-0 10.Bf4 or 8.Nd2 Be2 9.Qe2 followed by f4 and e5 as in comparable Benoni-type positions can be met by 1... cb in each case since here the c-pawn is not yet on c5.

8.a4 0-0 9.a5 c6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.h3 Bf3 12.Bf3 Rc8 13.Be2 Qd8

Preparing a thematic exchange sac on c3.

14.f4 cd5 1/2-1/2

Here Benjamin offered a draw, which Wolff accepted to clinch a GM norm. However, circumstances notwithstanding, White stands better. After 16.ed5 he can gun for Black's King with Bd3, f5, Qd2 etc. Black's e-pawn is weak and the f7 square is very sensitive given the absence of the King's Rook and white-squared Bishop. Therefore, Benjamin had planned the defensive exchange sac-15.ed5 Rc3! 16.bc3 Ne4 17.Qd3 Nc3 18.Ra3 Qc7 19.Bg4!? f5 (forced; if 19... Nbd7 20.Rc3! +-) 20.Bf3 Nbd7 and the outcome is unclear. White's white-squared Bishop has no scope and 21.Bd2 Qc5+ 21.Bd4 Bd4+ 22.Qd4 Nb5 favor Black. Perhaps White can improve with 19.Qc4! (19.Bd4?? Bd4+ 20.Qd4 Ne2+ +-; 19.Bd2? Ne2+ 20.Qe2 Qc5+ 21.Re3 Bd4 +-).

White: GM G. Zaitshik

Black: FM Danny Edelman

Round 6

King's Indian [E92]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.Be3

The Gligoric system.

7... h6!?

Edelman adopts John Nunn's remedy. Other Black choices include 7... ed4 and 7... Ng4 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bh4 g5 10.Bg3. 7... h6 prepares Ng4 when g5 is covered.

8.0-0

The latest word, this move was

introduced by Kasparov in his game against Nunn at Reykjavik 1988. Previously, the main line ran 8.h3 ed4 9.Nd4 Re8 10.Qc2 Qe7 11.Bf3 (11.Bd3!?) c5 and here White had tried both 12.Nb3 and 12.Nde2 but neither proved satisfactory.

8... Ng4 9.Bc1 Nc6 10.d5 Ne7 11.Nd2

Kasparov's move in the Reykjavik game. However, a year later against Nunn at Skelleftea the world champion adopted 11.Ne1 f5 12.Bg4 fg4 13.Nc2, the new move superceding the older 13.Nd3. The game continued 13... g5 14.Ne3 Rf4!? 15.Bd2 Bd7 10.b4 Qf8?! and White gained the advantage although Nunn was able to hold the draw. A few rounds later Portisch tried the Ne1-c2-e3 idea, but Nunn improved with 16... Ng6! and outfought Portisch to notch the win.

11... f5 12.Bg4 fg4 13.b4 b6 14.c5

At Reykjavik Kasparov played the preparatory 14.Nb3 g5 15.a4 Ng6 16.a5 Bd7 17.c5. In his notes to the game in Informant 46 Nunn believed 14.c5 is answered strongly by c6!

14... bc5

14... c6!? 15.cd6 (15.dc6 Nc6 16.b5 Nd4 16.c6 a6 is better for Black) Qd6 16.b5! I believe favors White. E. g., 16... c5 17.Nc4 Qd8 18.d6 wins material—and 17... Qf6 18.d6 Rd8 19.de7! also wins material. If 16... cd5 17.ed5 Bf5 (17... Nd5 18.Ne4 +-) 18.a4 followed by Ba3, Nc4-e3 and Rac1 +=.

15.bc5 g5 16.a4

Why not 16.Ba3 immediately, threatening Nc4 and cd6?

16... Ng6 17.Ba3 Rf6

A strong, thematic defensive/defensive move.

18.Rc1 Bf8 19.Nb5?

This looks strong, but doesn't actually threaten anything.

19... a6 20.Nc3

Not 20.cd6 ab5 or 20.Nc7 Qc7 21.cd6 Qd8. It is hard to understand why an experienced GM did not calculate 19.Nb5 a6 accurately, or at all. Rather than laziness this failure is probably attributable to overconfidence. Now Black gains an important tempo.

20... Nh4 21.Ne2 Rb8 22.Ng3 Qe8 23.c6

White is forced to close the queenside or risk losing the a4 pawn. It was

probably better to keep the Q-side fluid and toss the pawn for activity. Black's Bishop on f8 is not hemmed in, since the c1-h6 diagonal will open as the pawns advance. Perhaps 23.cd6 Bd6 24.Bd6 cd6 25.Rc7 followed by Qc2 and Rfc1 was necessary.

23... a5

Nice, fixing the target and preparing Ba6.

24.Rb1 Rb1 25.Nb1

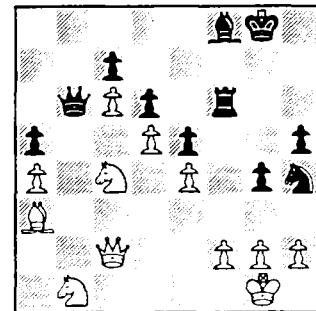
25.Qb1? Ba6 26.Re1/Rc1 Qf7 27.Nh1 Ng6 =+, followed by Nf4-e2, h5-h4 and g3.

25... Ba6 26.Qg4?

26.Re1 Qf7 27.Qd2, the difference between 25.Nb1 and 25.Qb1. Edelman thinks White is slightly better. After 27... Ng6 followed by Nf4, h5-h4 I think Black is fine. 27... Rf3 is a move of "sound and fury"—signifying nothing, because of 28.Re3 followed by Qe1 and Nd2.

26... Bf1 27.Nf1 Qb8 28.Qd1 Qb6 29.Ne3 h5 30.Qc2 g4 -- 31.Nc4?

Overlooking Black's reply. Better was 31.Nd2 Bh6 32.Ndc4 Qa7.



31... Rf2!! 32.Qf2

32.Nb6 Rc2 33.Na8 Rg2+ --.

32... Qb1+ 33.Qf1 Qe4 34.Na5 Bh6

Not 34... Qd5? 35.Qc4.

35.Bd6! Ng2!

Touché. After 35... cd6 36.c7 Qc2 37.Nc6 the pawn queens.

36.Bc5

36.Qg2? Be3+ 37.Kf1 (37.Kh1 Qb1+ --) Qb1+ 38.Ke2 Qc2+ 39.Kf1 Qd1 mate. If 36.Bc7?? Be3+ 37.Kh1 Nh4+ 38.Qg2 Qg2 mate.

36... Nf4 37.Kf2 Nh3+ 38.Kg3 Bf4+ 39.Kh4 Qg6 40.Be7 Ng5 0-1

EAST COAST CONNECTION

by Joel Salman

White: Rene Ray (2150)
Black: Joel Salman (2125)
17th Nassau Futurity 5/3/90
Sicilian Defense [B21]

1.e4 c5 2.f4 Nf6 3.e5!? Nd5 4.d4 cd4 5.Qd4

The Queen will be exposed here.

5... e6 6.c4 Nc6

Natural, obvious, and played after nearly fifty minutes of thought! I spent quite a bit of time enjoying the calculations of an eventual ... Nb4, as well as examining what turned out to be the game continuation. Though I understood the coming positions, 6... Nc6 should really be played almost without thought. Even at a 45/2 time control, time pressure now developed.

7.Qe4 f5! 8.ef6 Nf6 9.Qc2

Black is much better due to his lead in development and the White pawns on c4 and f4 hemming in White's Bishops.

9... Bc5 10.Nh3

If 10.Nf3 Ng4.

10... 0-0 11.Nc3 d5!

Two words to think of when you have a lead in development—OPEN LINES!

12.Bd2 Nb4

The first of several inaccuracies, but the position is so good for Black that I won anyway. Better was 12... Nd4 13.Qd3. White Queen to the first rank prevents 0-0-0, and Black should just roll. 13... dc4! and now if 14.Qc4 Nc2. 13.Qb3 Nc6!

Admitting that the Knight is misplaced, and of course hoping for 14.Qc2 repeating the position! Ha ha, but seriously, White threatens Na4, easing the pressure. But the position is so good there is even time for a retreat...

14.Na4 Nd4 15.Qd3 dc4 16.Qc4 Be7

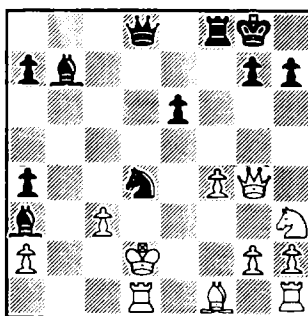
17.0-0-0

Completely insane, but great fun for the spectators as my flag was rapidly rising.

17... b5 18.Qc3 Bb7!

Intending 19... Rc8 and avoiding 18... ba4 19.Be3

19.Qe3 Ng4 20.Qg3 ba4 21.Qg4 Rc8+ 22.Bc3 Rc3+ 23.bc3 Ba3+ 24.Kd2



24... Nf5+

Over Chinese food at the World Open, Master Nicola Paglietti of Italy pointed out that 24... Nf3+! 25.Kc2 Qd1+!!! 26.Kd1 Rd8+ mates. For instance 27.Kc2 Rd2+ 28.Kb1 Be4+ 29.Bd3 Bd3+ 30.Ka1 Bb2 mate. Fantastic! This was overlooked previously by everybody. With a minute on my clock I am supposed to find a Queen sac!?

25.Bd3?! Qb6 26.Rb1? Qe3+ 27.Kc2 Nd4+! 28.cd4

28.Kd1 Qd3+ 29.Ke1 Nc2+ 30.Kf2 Bc5 mate.

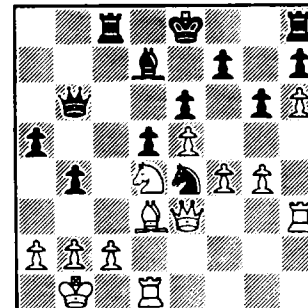
28... Rc8+ 29.Kd1 Qd3+ 30.Ke1 Qb1+ 31.Kf2 Qb2+ 32.Kg3 Qg2+ 33.Kh4 Be7+ 34.Ng5 Bg5+ 35.fg5 Qg4+ 36.Kg4 Bh1 0—1

And Black made the time control at move 45.

LERA

from p. 4

23.bc3 bc3+ 24.Nb5! (not 24.Nb3? Qb4 and Black gets his piece back with interest, e.g., 25.Ka1 a4 26.Rb1 ab3 27.Rb3 Qa5 28.f5 Ra8 29.a3 Ba4 30.Rb4 Qb4!!, or 25.Qd4? Qa3, etc. Noteworthy is 25.a3!? Qa3 26.Qc1 Qb4 27.Ka2 a4 28.Nd4! [not 28.Na1 Rb8 -+] Qd4 29.Ba6 and White retains the exchange advantage. But, if Black declines the pawn with 25... Qb7 26.Ka2 a4, the position becomes highly unclear) Rc5! 25.a4! Bb5 26.ab5! (not 26.Bb5+ because of ...Rb5+ 26.Ka1 d4! and Black wins) Rb5+ 27.Ka1 d4 28.Qd4!! Rb1+ 29.Rb1 Qd4 30.Bb5+! Ke7 31.Rd3 Qc5 32.Rd7+ Kf8 33.Ka2 and it's just a matter of time before White sets up an unstoppable mate. Another try for Black could have been 31... Qa7 32.Rd7+ Qd7 33.Bd7 Kd7 34.Rb7+ and "White should win this ending" (+=/+).



22... Nc5

Unable to sac, Black admits "strategic defeat" by retreating and preparing to defend tenaciously. DeFirmian has succeeded in defending against Black's queenside threats, and now the initiative is about to change hands. Intuitively, Black's queenside attack shouldn't lead to mate if White plays accurately. The key word here is accurately, as imprecision could easily lead to a quick crush. DeFirmian feels that White's greater piece mobility and intact queenside pawns keep the advantage with precise play. "As long as White doesn't get scared," deFirmian said, "he shouldn't get checkmated."

23.f5 Nd3

continued on p. 23

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from p. 21

Exchanging off one of White's kingside attackers.

24.Qd3 0-0

Not as suicidal as it looks when you consider the plight of Black's f-file. Black should be losing, but there are no mate threats which can't be defended.

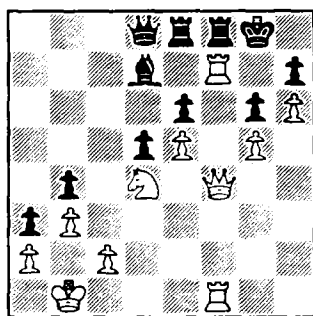
25.Rf3 Qc7 26.Qe3 a4 27.Rdf1 Qb8

Defending against the Qg5-f6-g7 mate while also remaining hopeful about the Queenside. White, poised for attack, prepares to shut Black's operation down for good. From now on all of Black's moves are forced.

28.fg6 fg6 29.Qg5 Rce8 30.Rf6 Kh8 31.Qf4 Kg8 32.Rf7 Qd8 33.g5!

Sealing Black's fate, literally. It's true that Black has held his position and White's mating threats are all stopped, but deFirmian foresaw a middlegame zugswang that transcends mere threaten-and-defend maneuvers. Well, I guess that's what makes him a GM and me a mere master. Now we need just one more move to complete the masterpiece.

33... a3 34.b3 1—0



And there you have it, a beautiful and rare example of a middlegame zugswang. If I told you that I resigned in an even position where my opponent wasn't threatening anything, you'd probably think I was crazy. But after seeing this position, you'd understand why White won a brilliancy prize for such a well-played game.

White: John C. Barnard (2100)

Black: Alan Bishop (2052)

LERA, 1990

King's Indian [E67]

[annotations by NM Tom Dorsch]

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6

5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 e5 7.d4 Nbd7

The game has transposed from an English into a variation of the KID that was popular in the fifties and sixties, when it was called the "main line" because it was the choice of the world champion. Tastes have changed, and the line is no longer the main one.

8.Bg5

For many years, Botvinnik's preference for 8.e4 has been considered the best move here. The text gives Black the two bishops, which should give him easy equality.

8... h6 9.de5 de5 10.Bf6 Bf6 11.Qd2 Bg7 Black can play 11... Nc5, because 12.Qh6 is met by 12... e4 and 13... Bg5.

12.Rfd1 f5?

12... c6 was necessary, but Black's sense of danger fails him.

13. Ne5!!

A very interesting positional piece sacrifice.

13... Be5

12... c6 was still the best move.

14. Qh6 Qf6 15.Bd5+ Rf7 16.e4 Nf8 17.Bf7+ Qf7 18.Rd8 Bf6 19.Rad1!

The best way to maintain the momentum.

Bd8 20.Rd8 Qe7?

Black really has an aversion to the move ...c6.

21.Qg6+ Qg7 22.Qh5 Qf6 23.Re8 fe4 24.Nd5

With the introduction of his last piece, White finally achieves his goal, decisive material superiority at the battle front. Black perishes with superior forces untouched.

24... Qf7 25.Qg5+ Qg7 26.Nf6+ Kf7 27.Re7+ Ke7 28.Qg7+ 1—0

White: Eric Rosenberg (2085)

Black: Vera Frenkel (2044)

LERA, 1990

Caro-Kann [B10]

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Qf3 d4 4.Bc4 dc3

As the sequel shows, this flame is too hot to play with. Books recommend 4...Nf6 5.e5 dc3, and Black's game is playable.

5.Qf7+ Kd7 6.dc3 b5.

It's not easy to recommend improvements for Black, especially since at best they prolong the agony and spoil

an elegant miniature for Bill Wall's next book.

7.Bf4 bc4 8.0-0-0# 1—0.

Mate in eight via triple bagel!

White: Stan Orlovski (1595)

Black: Craig Smith (1402)

Albin Counter Gambit [D08]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5

The Albin Counter Gambit gives Black a durable initiative and some impressive cheapo potential for a pawn. Cheapo potential may be Confederate money against masters, but it is 24K gold in the C section, where not everyone subscribes to—and reads—Inside Chess.

3.de5 d4 4.a3

Since so many of Black's most elegant cheapos involve ...Bb4, pinning the Knight, White elects to immediately exclude that possibility, and at the same time threaten expansion by b2-b4.

4...a5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bg5?!

Not 6.e3? because of 6...Bg4, but White should consider 6.g3 or 6.Bf4. The plan of Bc1-g5-f4 is harmless, at best, if Black needs to put his Bishop on ...c5, and must return the tempo by playing Bf8-e7-c5. At worst, Black's Bishop can be useful on ...e7, resulting in the gain of an important tempo to start an initiative on the kingside.

6...Be7 7.Bf4 Be6 8.Nbd2 g5!

Black has to keep hammering away, before White finds time to consolidate and keep his pawn.

9.Bg3 g4 10.Ng1 h5 11.h3

Not 11.h4? Nh6, threatening ...Nf5.

11...h4 12.Bf4

12.hg!? Bg4 13.Ngf3.

12...Bg5 13.Bg5 Qg5 14.hg4 Ne5

15.Ndf3 Qf4 16.Nh3 Nf3 17.ef3 Qd6

18.Bd3 Ne7 19.0-0 0-0-0

White has come out of the opening with his extra pawn, but Black has two solid positional assets—pressure against White's King and a passed pawn.

20.Qc2 Rdg8 21.c5 Qd7 22.b4 a4 23.Bc4 Bg4!!

Using his cleric as a can opener, Black blasts through to the King. There's no stopping him now.

24.fg4 Qg4 25.f3 Qh3 26.Rae1 Qg3! 27.Re7 h3 28.Re2 hg2 29.Rg2 Qh2+ 0—1

New Kid on the Block

by NM Mark Pinto

Originally from New Jersey, I have recently moved to the Bay Area. After playing in a few local events, I have discovered that not only is the Northern California climate fabulous, but so is the chess climate. There are many strong and talented players here! It has been a rather rough initiation for me, but fun none the less.

One interesting observation for a player moving to a new area is that there seems to be a certain colloquialism in the treatment of openings. I guess that every area has its own "theoretical discussions." It can be somewhat disconcerting when faced with new opening repertoires. In one of my first games in California, I found myself in totally unfamiliar territory against a strong master as early as move three!

White: NM Mark Pinto (2200)

Black: NM Tom Dorsch (2271)

**Northern California Masters Open
f4 Sicilian [B23]**

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4

I have started playing this recently to sidestep some of the super-sharp variations of the Sicilian, which can be potentially traumatic for an unbooked player like myself. The game will supposedly take on a more positional flavor, but is not without venom.

3... a6

Typically, Black plays either 3... g6 or ... d6, intending to control the dark squares. Still, Black must be careful (see Pinto-Lahoz). The text, strangely enough, may be Black's best move as it takes away the all-important b5 square. White proceeds to botch the opening and get an inferior game.

4.Nf3 b5 5.d3

Mark recently moved to Woodside, CA and has been a frequent player in Bay Area tournaments ever since. Sporting a FIDE rating of 2210, he plans to contribute regularly to the CCJ. Welcome aboard, Mark!

5.g3 was better.

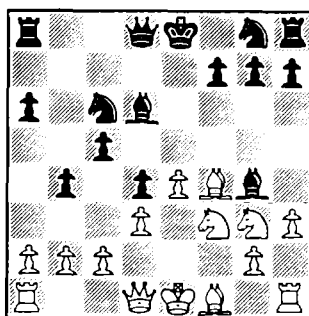
5... b4 6.Ne2 d5 7.Be3 d4 8.Bd2 Bg4

Black has equalized. If it looks like White doesn't know what the heck he's doing, it's because he doesn't. But it gets worse...

9.Ng3 e5 10.h3? e4

Black is clearly better.

11.Bf4 Bd6



I like Black's aggressive handling of the opening. White's only chance is to mix it up.

12.e5 Be5 13.Be5 Bf3 14.Qf3 Ne5 15.Qe4 Qb8 16.Nh5

An unusual-looking move. White must prevent 16... Nf6 with an easy game for Black.

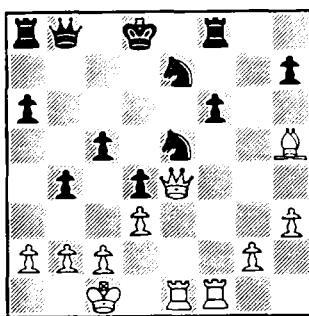
16... g6 17.0-0-0 gh5 18.Re1 f6 19.Be2 Ne7 20.Bh5+ Kd8

20... Ng6 was worth consideration.

21.Rhf1

Does White have enough? I would like to ask the readers for their opinion.

21... Rf8?



22.Qe5! fe5 23.Rf8+ Kd7 24.Rb8 Rb8

25.Re5 1-0

And White won in 62 moves.

Supplemental Games:

White: NM Mark Pinto (2250)

Black: NM Jose Lahoz (2238)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 Nd4 6.Bd3!? e6? 7.Nd4 cd4 8.Nb5 d6 9.c3 dc3 10.dc3 Ne7? (a6? 11.Qa4 +— Pinto-Rose) 11.Nd6!+— +— Kf8 12.e5 Qb6 13.Qa4 Nc6 14.Qa3 Kg8 15.Qb3 Qc7 16.Ne4 Bd7 17.Be3 b6 18.0-0-0 h6 19.g4 g5 20.Bb5 a6 21.Be2 gf4 22.Bb6 Qe5 23.Bf3! Be8 24.Nd6 Bd7 25.Nf7 Kf7 26.Rd7+ Ne7 27.Bd4 Qg5 28.h4 Qg6 29.Be5 Rfe8 30.Re1 1-0

White: NM Mark Pinto

Black: Muir (2290 FIDE)

1990 New York Open

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 Nd4 6.Bd3 d6 7.Nd4 Bd4 8.Ne2 Bg7 9.c3 Nf6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Ng3 Rb8 12.a4 Bd7 13.Qe2 Bc6 = 14.Bc2 b5 15.ab5 Bb5 16.d3 Qd7 17.h3 Rb7? 18.e5! Ne8 19.Ne4+- Rc7 20.Ng5 Qc8 21.Bd2 Rb7 22.c4 Bd7 23.Bc3 Nc7 24.Ba4 Ne6 25.Bd7 Qd7 26.Ne6 Qe6 27.Qe4 Rfb8 28.Rf2 f6 29.Ra6 fe5 30.Re2 Rd7 31.Qc6 Rf8 32.Be5 Rdd8 33.Re4 Be5 34.Re5 Qf6 35.Qd5+ Kh8 36.Re4 Qb2 37.Ra7 Rde8 38.Qg5 Rf7 39.Kh2 Qd2 40.Qg3 Ref8 41.Ree7?! = (41.f5! +-) Re7 42.Re7 Qf4 43.Rd7 Qg3+ 44.Kg3 Rf6 1/2-1/2

White: NM Mark Pinto

Black: NM John Barnard (2200)

Northern California Masters Open

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bb5 e6 6.Bc6!? bc6 7.0-0 d5 8.e5 Ne7 9.b3 Ba6 10.d3 Nf5 11.Na4 h5?! 12.c4! +— 0-0 13.Kh1 Qe7 14.Qe1 Rfc8 15.Ba3 Bh6 16.Bc5 Qd8 17.g3 Qc7 18.h3 h4 19.Nh4 Nh4 20.g4 Kh7 21.Bd6 Qb7 22.Nc5 +— Qb6 23.a4 1-0

This was a more positional example.

Kiwanis

from p. 3

ingen, but ultimately just as dangerous.
9.Nd5

The other main line is 9.Bf6. The interesting game Geller-Fedorowicz, New York Open 1990, continued 9...gf6 10.Nd5 Bg7 11.c3 f5 12.ef5 Bf5 13.Nc2 Be6 14.Nce3 Ne7 15.g3! Nd5 16.Nd5 0-0 17.Bg2 a5 18.0-0 Rb8 19.Qh5! and White is doing well. 9...Be7 10.Bf6 Bf6 11.c3 0-0 12.Nc2 Bg5 13.a4 ba4 14.Ra4 a5 15.Bc4 Be6?!

The Bishop soon has to redeploy, wasting a crucial tempo. A. Kuzmin-Peshina, Blagoveschensk 1988, continued 15...Rb8 16.b3 Kh8 17.0-0 f5 18.ef5 Bf5 19.Nce3 Be6 20.Qd3 Bf7, with chances for both sides.

White has the simple plan of doubling on the a-file, winning a pawn, then pushing his passer, and Black seems unable to muster adequate defense or counterplay. That's the trouble with playing grandmasters, they always seem to have the right plan, and it makes everything else look easy.

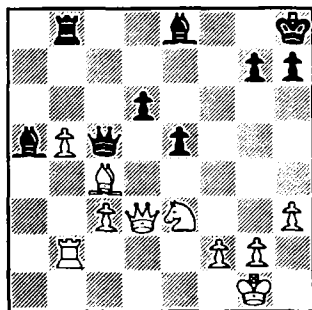
Reminds me of a story about two wags who were watching the great pool player, Willie Mosconi, run the table. Finally, one turned to the other and said, "Isn't he great?"

"What's so great about that?" replied his buddy, "Every shot is straight in."

16.0-0 Ne7 17.Qd3 Kh8 18.Rfa1 Bd7 19.R4a2 f5 20.Ne7 Qe7

Dumping a pawn, but 20...Be7 would only delay that eventuality, at the cost of placing valuable pieces on inferior squares.

21.Ra5 Ra5 22.Ra5 fe4 23.Qe4 Bf5 24.Qe2 Qc7 25.Ra4! Qc5 26.Ne3 Bd7 27.b4 Qc8 28.b5 Qc5 29.Rb4 Bd8 30.Rb2 Ba5 31.Qd3 Rb8 32.h3 Be8



The advantage of space is that, when Black has shifted all of his forces to the queenside to blockade the passed pawn, White can more rapidly shift his forces back to the kingside, achieving his result with a decisive attack against the King.

33.Ra2! Bc7 34.Qd5! Bb5 35.Bb5 Qb5 36.Qf7 Rg8 37.Ra7 Bb8 38.Re7

Cutting off the main road of retreat for the Queen. Black has to bring her back the long way.

38... Qb1+ 39.Kh2 Qg6 40.Qd5 Rf8 41.Rb7 h6 42.Kg1 Qe8 43.g4 Rg8 44.Nf5 Kh7 45.Ne7 Rf8 46.Qe4+ 1-0

Black loses too much material after 46...Kh8 47.Ng6+ Kg8 48.Qd5+ Kh7 49.Nf8+ Qf8 50.Qe4+ Kh8 51.Qb4.

White: Gregory Kotlyar
Black: Vladimir Strugatsky
Kiwanis Open, September 1990
Queen's Gambit [D35]

This is a matchup that many of us have been looking forward to. There have been many emigrants from the Soviet Union in recent years, and almost all of them seem to be good chessplayers, but these two gentlemen are the cream of the crop—in fact, the decision each issue about who goes on the cover of this magazine always seems to include Strugatsky and Kotlyar. This is the first time they have played each other.

1.c4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.cd5 ed5 4.Nc3 c6 5.Qc2 g6

Both players approach the opening eccentrically. Neither is as booked as senior masters in this country. But Strugatsky has a good plan. He is aiming for a type of Stonewall formation without a bad Bishop.

6.e3 Bf5 7.Bd3 Bd3 8.Qd3 Nf6 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.0-0 0-0 11.a3 a5

It is important to delay White's minority attack on the queenside until Black has time to organize his kingside play.
12.b3?

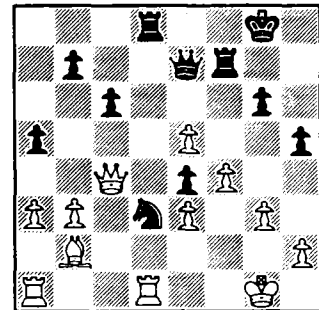
White only creates weaknesses on his queenside with this move. Bet-

ter is 12.Rb1 or 12.e4!?. The Bishop has limited prospects on b2, but now is needed to defend the a-pawn.

12...Qe7 13.Bb2 Nbd7 14.Rfc1 Ne4 15.Qe2 f5

Black now has a nearly ideal Stonewall formation, while White has made little progress in organizing his queenside play.

16.g3 Ndf6 17.Nd1 Rf7 18.Ne5 Be5 19.de5 Nd7 20.f4 Ndc5 21.Qc2 Ne6 22.Nf2 h5 23.Qe2 Rd8 24.Rd1 N6c5 25.Ne4 de4 26.Qc4 Nd3



In an earlier exclusive article for the *CCJ* (August 1990) Strugatsky wrote that "d4 is the eternal dream of Black Knights." In this game, d3 seems even closer to heaven. Having achieved an abstract advantage, how does Black convert it to a point? Technique, nothing but technique.

27.Qc3 Qe6! 28.Qa5 Rd5! 29.Qc3 Rc5 30.Qd2 Qb3 31.Rac1 Rc1 32.Bc1 Rd7 33.e6 Qe6 34.Qc3 Nf4! 35.gf4 Rd1+ 36.Kg2 Rd3 37.Qb4 Qa2 38.Kg3 0-1

38...Rd1 threatens unavoidable mate. A nice final-round win for the state champion.

White: Vera Frenkel
Black: Elena Tverskaya
Kiwanis Open, September 1990
King's Gambit [C30]

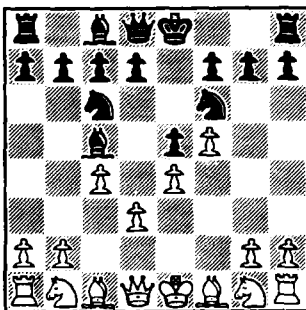
The last game showed the area's two best male Russians in action. Here is the final-round matchup between the two best female Russians in the area. Elena Tverskaya is a very fine player, continued on p. 26

CAPABLANCA IN SAN JOSE
CHESS IN ACTION (Game/1 Hour)
Sunday, November 18, 1990

- SITE:** San Jose State University
 9th Street between San Carlos And San Fernando
 (From 280 Freeway, in San Jose take 11th St. exit).
- TYPE:** 4-Round Swiss in 8 Sections-Minimum Guarantee
 \$250 to top Section.
- PRIZES:** All entry fees will be divided as follows:
- | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---------|-----|---|--------|
| 4% | - | Unrated | 12% | - | 'B' |
| 6% | - | 'E' | 14% | - | 'A' |
| 8% | - | 'D' | 16% | - | Expert |
| 10% | - | 'C' | 20% | - | Open |
- The remaining 10% will be distributed to the largest sections.
- EF:** Open \$20, Expert \$18, 'A' \$16, 'B' \$14, 'C' \$12, 'D' \$10, 'E' \$8, 'UNR' \$6. USCF Membership \$35. On-site Entry \$5 more.
- REG:** Advance Registration: Nov. 15 postmark deadline.
 Late Reg (at site) from 8 am to 9 am.
- ROUNDS:** 10 am, 12:30 pm, 3:30 pm, and 6 pm.
- ENTRY:** Francisco Sierra
 663 Bucher Avenue
 Santa Clara, CA 95051
 (408) 241-1447
- NOTES:**
1. One 1/2 pt bye available, only with mail entry.
 2. Wheelchair access.
 3. No smoking inside.
 4. G/1: One hour per player per game.

from p. 25
 probably the strongest woman in California now. Her rating is going to be over 2300 when her latest results are calculated. Vera Frenkel is the wife of Philipp Frenkel, and has played in the US Women's Championship. This game refutes the proposition that women players display less fight than men.
 1.e4 e5 2.d3 Nc6 3.f4

A specialty of the Frenkel's, this innocent opening can lead to mind-boggling positions.
 3... Nf6 4.e4 Bc5 5.f5



5...Ne4!

White's pawn advances aimed to lock up control over most of the board. Black plays for a lead in piece development, targeted on the weaknesses created behind the advanced pawns, which should create the basis for a positional piece sacrifice.
 6.de4 Qh4+ 7.Kd2 Qe4 8.Qf3 Qd4+ 9.Ke1?

White would be better off by defending with developing moves, like 9.Bd3. It's the only chance to survive the onslaught.
 9...e4 10.Qg3 Nb4 11.Na3 d6 12.Be2 0-0 13.Bd2

White is obviously strapped for moves, but should try 13.Nb5 Nc2+ 14.Kf1 Qf6 15.Rb1 Qf5+ 16.Qf4.
 13... Qb2 14.Bc3 Nd3+! 15.Qd3

Otherwise Black just starts picking fruit.

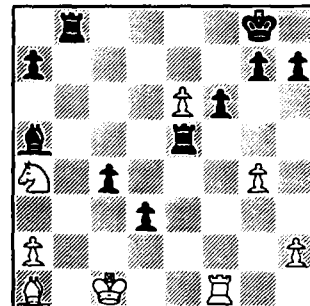
15... Qa1+ 16.Ba1 ed3 17.Nb5 de2

18.Nc7 Rb8

With the dust settled, Black has the exchange and pawns to the good. Even with an easily won game, Tverskaya continues to play very forcefully and precisely.

19.Nd5 f6 20.Ne2 Re8 21.Rf1 b5 22.Nc7 bc4! 23.Kd2 Bb4+ 24.Nc3 Re5 25.g4 Ba5 26.Ne6 Be6 27.fe6 d5 28.Kc2 d4 29.Na4 d3+ 30.Kc1 d2 0-1

31. ... Re1 is "do svidaniya."



BAY AREA SPLINTERS

WALNUT CREEK

8/12/90

WALNUT CREEK QUADS

38 players competed in this event. Dr. Pascal Baudry sent the following report:

Section I: **James MacFarland** (2325) 3-0

Section II: **Mike Splane** (2276) 3-0

Section III: **Neil Regan** (2107) 3-0

Section IV: **Clarence Lehman** (2027) & **Erwin Hamm** (2012) 2-1

Section V: **Prasad Paranjpe** (1912) 2 1/2-1/2

Section VI: **Albert Rich** (1876) 3-0

Section VII: **John Easterling** (1642) 3-0

Section VIII:(10 player swiss)

1st: **Daniel Sprengel** (1416) 3-0

2nd-3rd:**Michael Marziale** (1496)

& **Scottie Lipa** (1054) 2 1/2-1/2

SUNNYVALE

8/18/90 - 8/19/90

LERA

See page 4 for full tournament report.

WALNUT CREEK

8/28/90

WALNUT CREEK BLITZ

16 players tested their quick reflexes at W.C. Chess Club's monthly Blitz tourna-

ment. **Tom Stevens** (2131) upset the field with a 14-1 score, finishing ahead of two 2300 players. **Tom Dorsch** (2309) was second with 13-2. The top under-2000 winner was **Gregory Odle**, with **Dave Wait** in second. **Clarence Lehman** directed.

SAN FRANCISCO

9/15/90

LOWELL SECTIONALS

See page 5 for full tournament report.

RICHMOND

9/16/90

RICHMOND QUADS

John Easterling directed four quads of players at the Richmond Library. In the top quad, **NM Mike Splane** (2276) won handily with 3 points out of 3, defeating **NM James MacFarland**, **NM Peter Thiel** and **Nick Dumyk**. **Clarence Lehman** and **Erwin Hamm**, with the same rating of 2012 tied in the second quad, each scoring 2-1. The third quad also had a first-place tie, between **Gary Smith** (1936) and **John Easterling** (1642). They each won two games. **Garland Comins** (1523) won clear first with 2 1/2-1/2 in the fourth quad.

MT VIEW

9/22/90 -9/23/90

KIWANIS OPEN

See page 3 for full tournament report.

WALNUT CREEK

9/25/90

WALNUT CREEK QUADS

NM Paul Gallegos (2215) led the top section with a perfect score of 3-0. In Section II **Thomas Stevens** (2147) also swept with 3-0. **Mike Stansbury** (1926) drove down from Pacific Grove to win the third section with 2 1/2-1/2. Finally, **Pat Jackson** (1722) won the fourth section, also undefeated with 3-0. **Dr. Pascal Baudry** directed. Next month begins a new format with over 50% returned in prizes and a new time control of 40/40, 20/SD.

WALNUT CREEK

9/25/90

WALNUT CREEK BLITZ

Walnut Creek's popular monthly five minute tournament, held the last Tuesday of every month, was won by **NM Tom Dorsch** (2309). **Clarence Lehman** (2012) had to defeat top-ranked **Dorsch** in the last round to clinch second over fast-closing **Jeff Serandos**.

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VALLEJO

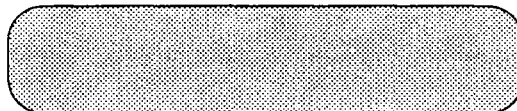
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FIRST CLASS MAIL



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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHESS CALENDAR

NCCA meeting: Sunday October 21st,
 3:30 pm at UC Berkeley Class Tournament

OCTOBER 1990

13	Sa	San Rafael (Schol Quads)	RO
14	Su	Richmond (Quads)	JE
20-21	SaSu	UC Berkeley (Class)	PY
25	Th	Reno (WBCA Blitz)	JW
26-28	FSaSu	Reno (Class)	JW
27	Sa	SF/Lowell HS (Sectional)	PD
28	Su	Reno (Rapid Swiss)	JW
28	Su	Walnut Creek (Quads)	PB
30	Tu	Walnut Creek CC (Blitz)	CL

NOVEMBER 1990

1	Th	Burlingame CC (WRC Rapid)	SW
3-4	SaSu	Livermore (2 sections)	CP
3-4	SaSu	Palo Alto (Open)	BW
9-11	FSaSu	SF/Mechanics: Capps (Open)	MG
10-11	SaSu	Monterey/Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Team Champ	TY
11	Su	Walnut Creek (Quads)	PB
18	Su	Richmond (Quads)	JE
18	Su	Capablanca (Action Swiss)	FS
23-25	FSaSu	Sunnyvale/LERA (Class)	JH
27	Tu	Walnut Creek CC (Blitz)	CL

DECEMBER 1990

1	Sa	San Rafael (Schol Quads)	RO
8	Sa	Novato (Quads)	AM
16	Su	Richmond (Quads)	JE
22	Sa	SF/Lowell HS (Sectional)	PD
23	Su	Walnut Creek (Quads)	PB

ORGANIZERS LIST

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