

Precita Valley  
COMMUNITY CENTER

Agency of the COMMUNITY CHEST

# CHESS HERALD

A MONTHLY CHESS NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the Precita Valley Chess Club

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## FALL-WINTER SEASON GETS UNDERWAY TEAMS VIE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

The Fall-Winter season of CMC's El Camino Real Chess League is under way and from reports of team captains James Cook (SHOWALTER) and Julio Ercolini (KERES), Precita Valley is ready.

The Showalter team will be out to defend its championship which it obtained during the Summer season. The winner of this schedule gets to play the winner of the Peninsula League for a shot at the Northern California chess team championship now held by the Evans team of San Bruno.

As far as this reporter knows the tentative team line-ups are as follows: SHOWALTER: James Cook, captain; Noel Renaud, Jim Reynolds, R. P. Kovach, Ed Russell, Denny Ryan, Carl Barton, Allen Leighton. KERES: Julio Ercolini, captain; A. R. Castellanos, John Ramirez, Ivan Vegvary, Jack Craig, Paul Bogosian, Bob Blakemore, and Walt Lewis.

See page 2 for schedules.

## SPAGHETTI FEED ENJOYED AT P. V. !!

Those who attended and ate as much as their stomachs would allow had an enjoyable meal and evening at the Precita Valley Community Center on "Spaghetti Feed" night, October 23rd. Those who attended also where entertained by other talents than chess by Noel Renaud (piano), Don Hufnagel (accordion), Ivan Vegvary (piano), and Mr. & Mrs. A. R. Castellanos (guitar and singing).

All in all the evening of the spaghetti feed with Julio Ercolini as chef was a success. Thanks are due to Miss McDonald and the chess players' wives who contributed their efforts to the event.

## SWISS SYSTEM TOURNEY SCHEDULED WINNER TO BE "OPEN" CHAMPION

Beginning on November 22, 1956, the Precita Valley Chess Club will hold its first annual Swiss System open tourney. The winner of this tournament will be declared the "open" champion of the club-- this has nothing to do with the regular championship now held by Noel Renaud and James Cook.

The highest scoring "B" player will be the "open B" champion, and the highest scoring "C" player will be the "open C" champion. Your rating in the tournament will be that rating you hold at the start of the tourney-- that is, your CIUB rating at the time. There will be a couple of exceptions with a couple of the "B" rated players in the club since we do not have too many "A" players. The exceptions will be named at the start of the tourney.

You will know your opponent the week before in each Swiss System tourney round and if your opponent fails to show up by 8 p.m. he will forfeit his game which is similar to the present "Pot Luck" tourney except there is no elimination and more is at stake.

Unless otherwise notified, your club director will take it for granted that all club members wish to participate in this Swiss System tournament. As in our past tourneys, FIDE laws of chess will prevail as stated in our club charter, Article V. The Swiss System Tourney is expected to conclude in January. It will be a 6-round tourney, ties broken by S.B. points. Games will not be adjudicated unless absolutely necessary. Unfinished games will be completed on ensuing weeks.

Prizes for this tourney will be announced at a later date, but we have hopes for trophies for the winners.



Vol. 1

CHESS HERALD  
November 1956

No. 24

Editor.....Jim Reynolds  
 Games Editor.....Noel Renaud  
 Guest Annotator.....R. P. Kovach  
 Published monthly by the Precita Valley  
 Chess Club, 534 Precita Avenue, San  
 Francisco 10, Calif. Phone VA 4-0552  
 Teams: SHOWALTER and KERES, entered in  
 El Camino Real League, CFNC.

C. D.'s VIEWS

YOUR C.D. (AS WELL AS YOUR EDITOR) is behind schedule. He merely asks for your forgiveness. It seems I must make a living and it is the means by which I make same that is throwing me off that schedule. If somebody can find a way that I can make it just through chess playing and promotion then I will gladly listen and get this periodical out on time each month (some joke!).

Yes, I was a little disappointed in the outcome of the "spaghetti feed" -- no fault of the chef or the idea behind it. It was our first experience in such an occasion and being same I think we did okay. At least we didn't loose any monies. We gained, but very short of our expectations. Let's not get downhearted; we can still find a way to get a good running fund to operate the club! Any more ideas? Let's hear them!

A note of encouragement is due our present team captains. Jim Cook, especially, has a big job ahead of him. Members used to my strategy and line-ups must forget the past and throw all support to Jim. He needs your help. Jim wishes to run a team just as good as yours truly did. He cannot do same if he has no cooperation. Yours truly was lucky! Let's make it lucky for Jim Cook and SHOWALTER! -- which means good luck for the Precita Valley Chess Club!! This goes for KERES and Julio Ereclini also!

Jim Reynolds  
 117 Brewster Street  
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CFNC NOTES

Here is how the schedule looks for the SHOWALTER and KERES teams for the Fall-Winter Schedule:

SHOWALTER:

Nov. 8 - Botvinnik at the Carroll  
 Ogden Chess Club  
 Nov. 29 - Colie, home  
 Dec. 13 - Evans at San Bruno  
 Jan. 10 '57 - Keres, home  
 Jan. 31 - Nimzovich at San Bruno  
 Feb. 28 - Reti, home  
 Mar. '57 - San Quentin, appointment  
 at San Quentin  
 Apr. 11 - Bye  
 Apr. 25 - Alekhine at Carroll  
 Ogden Chess Club

KERES:

Nov. 8 - Nimzovich, home  
 Nov. 29 - Reti at Carroll Ogden  
 Chess Club  
 Dec. '56 - San Quentin, appt. at  
 San Quentin  
 Jan. 10 '57 - Showalter  
 Jan. 31 - Alekhine at Carroll  
 Ogden Chess Club  
 Feb. 28 - Botvinnik at Carroll  
 Ogden Chess Club  
 Mar. 21 - Colie, home  
 Apr. 11 - Evans at San Bruno  
 Apr. 25 - Bye

CFNC RATINGS OF PRECITA VALLEY MEMBERS:

EXPERTS - None

A PLAYERS: James Cook - 1826

Noel Renaud - 1948

Jim Reynolds - 1816

B PLAYERS: Leighton Allen - 1726

Bob Blakemore - 1620

Paul Bogosian - 1568

A. R. Castellanos - 1776

Jack Craig - 1704

R. P. Kovach - 1718

Denny Ryan - 1704

Dr. E. Weyer - 1600

C PLAYERS: Carl Barton - 1510

John Ramirez - 1544

Ed Russell - 1546

Lowell Tullis - 1486

Those not listed not rated by CFNC  
 officially.



ED RUSSELL WINS POT LUCK!

The P.V. Pot Luck Tourney which only lasted a few weeks was won by Ed Russell. The distinguished fact of the small tourney is the fact Ed Russell toppled over one of the club's co-champions, Noel Renaud, to win the Pot Luck Tourney. The prize is undetermined at the moment, Ed Russell having in his chess library about every book ever published on chess.

It might interest members that Ed is a real old hand at chess. In his younger years Ed has played a few of our present day masters. Ed may have been a master himself except through some fluke incident he developed a bad eye. He was treated by many doctors to correct an eyesight which saw images (including the chessboard) in oblong shapes. After years passed a miracle operation corrected this fault though Ed sometimes has recurrences. Chat with him-- he has an interesting past-- especially about a time he asked a famous actress to dance.

Ladder Standings & Ratings of Club

Rung	Player	Rating
1	Noel Renaud.....	A 1911
2	James Cook.....	A 1658
3	Bob Blakemore.....	B 1220
4	A. R. Castellanos.....	B 1483
5	Leighton Allen.....	B 1187
6	Jim Reynolds.....	B 1498
7	Ivan Vegvary.....	B 1195
8	Ed Russell.....	B 1371
9	Carl Barton.....	B 1018
10	Jack Craig.....	B 1191
11	Paul Bogosian.....	B 1070
12	John Ramirez.....	B 1115
13	Richard Moreno.....	C 954
14	Don Hufnagel.....	C 955
15	Julio Ercolini.....	C 994
16	Henry Brauns.....	C 947
17	Eugene Nakamura.....	C 915
18	Walt Lewis.....	C 906
19	R. P. Kovach.....	A 1500
20	Douglas Jerdet.....	C 747
21	E. E. Batchelder.....	C 900
22	John Silver.....	C 744
23	Dr. Earl Weyer.....	C 750

The above standings are up to and including November 1, 1956.

ACTION AROUND THE CLUB

A. R. "Cas" Castellanos finally got to make a speech on behalf of the club or something or the other! This was at the club's "spaghetti feed" and it seems "Cas" WOWED them!! His wife did okay too!

Election Results

Not trying to outdo the national election but P.V.C.C. had one also, but in September, with the following results:

Club Director: Jim Reynolds

Ass't. C.D.: Paul Bogosian

Treasurer: Noel Renaud

Secretary: Ivan Vegvary

Team Captain (SHOWALTER): James Cook  
Too late for election, but appointed team captain by acclaim: (KERES) Julio Ercolini.

Also approved was an amendment to the charter so that both team captains are to be elected in the future or any team captain, according to how many teams we may happen to enter into any league competition.

Rapid Transit Results

On presentation of trophies and other prizes awarded at PVCC's "Presentation Night" a rapid transit (speed) tourney took place. The winners were: Section 1: Bill Stevens (who donated his winnings back to the club); Sect. 2: Noel Renaud; Sect. 3: Richard Moreno; Sect. 4: Ed Russell. Jim Reynolds directed.

A startling surprise on this night besides the unexpected 2nd championship trophy was extra prizes awarded winners of the championship tourney by Mrs. Bob Blakemore-- very nice-- in place of a gift for Bob ("B" champ) was a gift for the club director, Jim Reynolds.

R. P. Kovach's appearance on this night was indeed appreciated and brought back many old memories. A game he wrote up for the old "THURSDAY KNIGHTS" appears in this edition. It was never used so is a first publication, "THURS. KNIGHTS" being discontinued before the matter was ever printed.



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SECTION Edited By  
NOEL RENAUD

Guest Annotator: R. P. KOVACH

Game played in a team match on November 27, 1955. Notes by Noel Renaud

Game No. 13

White: Nancy McLeod

Black: A. R. Castellanos

FRENCH DEFENSE

- 1. P-K4 P-K3
- 2. P-Q4 P-Q4
- 3. PXP X X .

The exchange variation generally indicates that White is playing for a draw. Actually Black has as many opportunities for complications as in other variations of the French.

- 3. . . . PXP
- 4. B-Q3 N-KB3

The usual move here is 4. . . ., N-QB3.

- 5. N-K2 B-K2
- 6. B-KB4 QN-Q2

This Knight is on the way to KN3---, rather a slow process.

- 7. N-Q2 N-B1
- 8. R-QB1 . . .

Since this move commits White to castle Kingside why not do so now? Also to be considered was 8. P-KR3.

- 8. . . . N-N3
- 9. B-KN5 O-O
- 10. P-QB4 . . .

A premature thrust. Castling is long overdue.

- 10. . . . P-KR3
- 11. BxN BxB
- 12. PXP . . .

Vigorous play but not too sound.

- 12. . . . QxP
- 13. O-O R-K1

This Pawn sacrifice is questionable. A few safety measures for both sides would be in order.

- 14. RXP B-N5
- 15. P-B3? . . .

White misses 15. B-B4 with complications all in White's favor.

- 15. . . . BxPch
- 16. NxB . . .

This loses. Instead 16. K-R1 leaves both Bishops en prise and the threat 17. B-B4 remains.

- 16. . . . QxN ch
- 17. R-B2? . . .

White is demoralized. From here on Black's play is flawless.

- 17. . . . QxB
- 18. PxB Q-Q5!
- 19. Q-N3 . . .

Too late now to take advantage of Black's weakness at his King Bishop 2.

- 19. . . . K-R1!
- 20. QxBP . . .

The game is lost anyway but this gives a pretty mate in 3.

- 20. . . . R-K8 ch
- 21. N-B1 Rxx ch
- 22. KxR Q-Q8 mate

It is instructive to note how ineffective the Knights were in this game.

The following old game is with notes by guest annotator, R. P. Kovach.

Doubled Pawns and All That-- I have heard Nimzovich's "My System" called an accumulation of true insights and idiosyncratic preferences artfully worked up to look like an all-embracing system. Well--, I suppose that's pretty much true but a bit too strongly stated. Be that as it may, Master Nimzovich himself was a very systematic man.

When he wanted to test some notions on blockading pawns with pieces he developed a new line in the Hanham Defense in Philidor's Defense and played it again and again. When he wanted to learn about pawn chains he insistently played the French-- incidentally developing a number of new lines there also. When he wanted to study central double pawns his situation was somewhat more difficult: there simply were no openings where they came up often enough to get repeated observations. So--, he made one up; we call it, in a manner redolent of Pentagonesse, the Nimzo-Indian Defense. It is rather ironic that the way the

(continued on page 5)



GAMES SECTION (cont'd from page 4)

game is usually played today the doubled pawns rarely appear and even if they do, they can't be handled as Nimzovich says they must because Black has usually played an early P-Q4.

In a nutshell his play against doubled pawns goes like this: forcing, by any means, the pawns to advance from their initial positions, QP, QB3 and Q4 to QB3, QB4, and Q5 whereupon the "elbow", P-QB4, becomes subject to attack by N-QR4 and B-QR3 and almost impossible to defend. The means available are: "putting the question" to the P-Q4 with P-QB4 and even, if necessary, P-K4, although it is preferable to have this square available for pieces; various tactical threats to isolate the doubled pawns (Pawns QB3 & QB4) or to leave White with a weak isolated QP (careful! they're not always weak) or hanging pawns (on Q4 & QB4) or occasionally with a backward QBP; and of course any other threats, tactical or strategic, that you can scrape up on the way. White, if he knows what it's all about, resists every inch of the way and Black must be both cautious and patient.

With this in mind let's look at a team match game played at San Bruno on Feb. 2, 1956.

## Game No. 14

White: Avery MacNeill

Black: Jim Reynolds

NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. P-Q4  | N-KB3 |
| 2. P-QB4 | P-K3  |
| 3. N-QB3 | B-N5  |
| 4. P-K3  | ...   |

There are four standard moves for White here: the one played, attributed to Rubinstein, and lately the most popular; Q-B2, designed to delay Black's next move and formerly most common; N-B3 which usually transposes into the first; P-QR3, the Samisch line, rarely seen because it is a double waste of time-- there is no need to provoke the Bishop to capture when he likely will (or will be obliged to) do so anyway, and the Pawn sits on what frequently proves to be the best square for the QB.

4. . . . N-K5

Jim evidently thinks this move is something of a novelty-- it isn't, Nimzovich played it right from the start-- and tells me the Russians are investigating it, which is very interesting news to me since I could never figure out why it fell from favor.

5. Q-B2 P-Q4

Here Nimzovich would have played P-KB4 and never P-Q4 which allows the dissolution of doubled pawns the move after they are created.

6. N-B3 . . .

Note that P-KB3 is not possible here because of Q-R5ch and if 7. P-KN3, NxP; 8. Q-B2, N-B4 and White is lost.

6. . . . P-QB4

7. B-Q3 N-QB3

Loses a Pawn. P-KB4 is not only necessary, it is also very strong since it prevents the removal of NK5 e.g. 8. N-Q2, Q-B3 or 8. BxN, QPxB.

8. BxN PxB

9. QxP Pxp

10. Pxp BxN ch

11. PxB . . .

So the doubled Pawns make their appearance anyway! But there are some differences. First, there is one fewer pawn than usual to confront the White phalanx which makes for extreme technical difficulty and second, White is magnificently developed and centralized while every remaining Black piece but one is on its original square. An unenviable position.

11. . . . P-KR3

12. O-O . . .

Either Q-N4 or B-R3 (better yet both: 12. Q-N4, Q-B3; 13. B-R3) to forestall castling is better. When your opponent is behind in development do all you can to prevent him from catching up-- he will usually have to pay a ransom for his freedom.

12. . . . O-O

13. Q-N4 P-B4

This move should not even have been considered for it creates a weak backward Pawn and irreparably damages every Black square on the Kingside.

14. Q-B4 . . .

(continued on page 6)



GAMES SECTION (cont'd from page 5)

Q-N3 followed by B-B4 was better but he was probably afraid of P-KN4 which looks dangerous but isn't; 14. Q-N3, P-KN4; 15. NXP, PxN; 16. BxP, Q-Q2; 17. B-R6ch, K-R1; 18. BxR wins.

- 14. . . . R-B3
- 15. N-K5 NxN
- 16. PxN . . .

Doubly wrong. He covers up Black's weakness and emphasizes his own by isolating the doubled pawns.

- 16. . . . R-N3
- 17. Q-Q4 Q-B2
- 18. B-R3 Q-B3
- 19. P-B3 P-N3
- 20. P-R4 . . .

An extremely clever artifice which virtually wins the exchange without any captures.

- 20. . . . P-KR4
- 21. B-B1 B-R3
- 22. B-N5 R-QB1
- 23. KR-K1 BxP

So the Doubled Pawn goes according to the usual pattern even in this unusual position!

- 24. R-K3 B-Q4
- 25. P-R4 Q-N2
- 26. P-R5 Q-R3

There's more jockeying goin on here than at Santa Anita.

- 27. Q-QN4 R-B5
- 28. Q-R3 P-N4
- 29. Q-Q6 R-QB3

Q-B1 looks somewhat better.

- 30. Q-N4 Q-B1
- 31. QxP RxP
- 32. RxR QxR

33. R-QB1 which looks very strong oddly only creates risks for White and does not add a single chance to win, i. e.

33. R-QB1, Q-Q5ch; 34. K-R1 (not K-R2, RxR followed by Q-B5ch) RxB; 35. PxR, QxR5ch; 36. K-N1, Q-Q5ch; and now if White "tries anything" (avoiding perpetual check) he gets nothing; 37. K-B1, K-R2 (to prevent White from getting time-free moves); 38. R-B8 (if Q-K3, B-B5ch forces a draw), Q-K6; 39. Q-K8, B-B5ch followed by Q-Q6ch and draws. If White plays K-B1 right away, on his 34th move, Black simply plays K-B2 and the same general lines come up again.

33. Q-N8 ch . . . .

An exorbitant waste of time.

33. . . . K-R2

34. Q-N1 QxKP

35. Q-K1 Q-N7

36. R-QB1 . . . .

A good deal of looking has convinced me that if either player becomes too enterprising he will receive the usual rewards of one who commits hybris and goes against fate.

36. . . . Q-R7

37. R-Q1 Q-N7

38. R-Q2 Q-N5

39. R-K2 Q-N4

40. R-K5 Q-N7

41. R-K2 Q-N4

42. R-K5 P-R3

43. R-K3 Q-B4

44. K-R1 Q-Q3

45. R-K5

DRAWN

A vary wise decision. An exeellent game. Both MacNeill and Reynolds have every right to be proud of their evening's endeavor. This game was played on the last board of the match by "C" players. Watch out you "A's" and "B's"! Look to your letters!

LAST MINUTE NEWS

The Botvinnik team of the Carroll Ogden C.C. downed the Showalter team of Precita Valley C.C. Score is so far 4-1 with a game between Don Taggart and Jim Reynolds in for adjudication, most opinions being this game may turn out to be a draw.

The Nimzovich team of San Bruno overwhelmed the Keres team at Precita Valley 5 1/2-1/2.

So it looks like Precita Valley's teams got off to a bad start. Please do not get discouraged--, a bad start usually means a good finish!

It is again urged that all members give their cooperation to the team captains and put out their best efforts. And remember you cannot play on any of the two teams unless you are a member of Chess Friends of Northern California which only costs \$2.00 per year. See your club director for details!