

Precita Valley CHESS HERALD

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Representing the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League

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JAMES SCHMITT WINS CALIFORNIA "OPEN" STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!!!

Larry Evans Comes In 2nd -- Record Turnout

Monterey, Calif., September 2. James Schmitt of San Francisco won the California State "Open" Championship, bettering international grandmaster, Larry Evans of New York (?), in the tie breaking points. Both had 6-1 scores (each having two draws). Also with 6-1 but ending up in 3rd place was Saul Yarmak of Los Angeles. 4th, 5th, 6th were Leslie Simon, Irving Rivise, and Dr. Peter Iapiken, each with 5½-1½. 7th and 8th were William Addison and Sidney Weinbaum. A record turnout of 109 showed up for the tournament.

The last round was somewhat long and drawn out, but very much, too, on the dramatic side. Leslie Simon of L.A. was leading with 5½, while there were five topnotchers with 5 points each. These were Larry Evans and Jim Schmitt among others so the tournament director had a tough decision to make. Who should Leslie Simon play? Guthrie McClain, the T.D., decided he should play the best of those with 5 points. Though Jim Schmitt led those others in Solkoff points, he and Leslie Simon had already played to a draw earlier. His only decision the, was to match Larry Evans with Leslie Simon. Though the latter probably could not agree, it was a correct move by the T.D. Well, Mr. Simon lost and so it looked like grandmaster Evans WAS IN after a great comeback--; the other final rounds between those on top looked pretty much drawn, including Mr. Schmitt's game. However, Jim worked hard and managed to win a pawn and eventually his final round to really deserve the honor bestowed upon him. Thus ended one of the biggest, greatest, and most breathtaking California State "Open" Championship tournaments of them all!!

LEIGHTON ALLEN AND PAUL BOGOSIAN ARE CHALLENGERS TO CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP!!

Lowell Tullis Wins "C" Championship!

Leighton Allen won the "A" division and Paul Bogosian won the "B" division of Precita Valley's Candidates' Tourney to become challengers for the club championship. The two challengers will take on Noel Renaud and James Cook, co-champs, in 4-round matches to see who will meet in the 6-round club championship match.

Lowell Tullis won the "C" championship of the club in a playoff win over Ronald Meyers.

All divisions were forced into playoffs as the unexpected happened. Leighton Allen won in a playoff over Dave Gibson after dumping Jim Reynolds. Jack Craig unexpectedly lost to Ronald Meyers to throw the "B" division into a three-way tie, but Bob Blakemore forfeited to Paul Bogosian, who, in turn, won a playoff with Jack Craig, which caused a tie for the "C" championship as mentioned above. Thus ended Precita Valley's experimental Candidates' Tourney.

SEE "BACL ROVING REPORTER" PAGE 7 FOR MORE COMMENTS ON THE CAL STATE "OPEN" --xx--
P.V. MEMBERS: MORE ON CANDIDATES' TOURNEY PAGE 8 - LEIGHTON ALLEN NEW C.D. - PAGE 2

Vol. 2 CHESS HERALD No. 9
September 1957

P.V. Election Results
DAVE GIBSON IS NEW TEAM CAPTAIN!!

Editor.....Jim Reynolds
Games Editor.....Noel Renaud
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Affiliated with the SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHESS LEAGUE.

Precita Valley's annual election in September found Dave Gibson getting the nod as the new team captain for the 1st team (which plays in the "B" division of the BACL), in the only contested office. The other, unopposed candidates for offices, were all given "courtesy" votes (or a vote of confidence) from the members of the club.

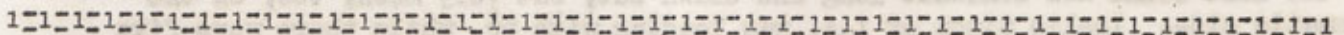
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So we have Leighton Allen as the new club director, Paul Bogosian staying on as the ass't club director, Ivan Vegvary staying as secretary, John Ramirez as the new treasurer, and Lowell Tullis as the new captain of the club's 2nd team which will probably play in a newly organized "C" division of BACL.

Club Directory

Director: Leighton Allen, 1758 - 15th St. San Francisco 3, Calif. UN 1-3435
Ass't Director: Paul Bogosian, 3973-A - 25th St., San Francisco 14 VA 4-7106
Secretary: Ivan Vegvary, 643 Greenwich San Francisco, Calif. GA 1-3597
Treasurer: John Ramirez, 328 Mt. Vernon Ave., San Francisco 12 JU 7-6424

CONGRATULATIONS!! GOOD LUCK!!



C. D. 's V I E W S

The Old And The New

IT IS TIME THAT I MOVE ASIDE and give over the reigns of the Precita Valley Chess Club to our new C.D., the young Mr. Leighton Allen. In my sort of farewell chat at the club recently I'm sure you members know how I feel about the club and the new officers as well as knowing of my thankfulness for those who served us in the past. There is no need to repeat all of that here (besides, the paper isn't big enough!). As you know, I am not saying "goodbye", nor is Noel Renaud. As you can see, I am still serving as editor of your club paper, and Noel Renaud will still be serving as games editor as well as chess instructor at the club. I would like to urge you youngsters (and even some of you oldsters, including me) to attend his classes. I do not believe in an official office such as advisor, but both Noel and myself will act as same in an unofficial capacity. Remember me only as the organizer and starter of our little chess club (which I hope will be big someday); and remember Noel Renaud as the fellow who kept me going and made my venture a successful one! I feel confident Leighton Allen will build it and will make the club even more interesting in events than was so in the past. And now, I wish to officially turn over this column to your new club director. You may read further views of mine under a column headed "CHATS & NOTES FROM THE ED" on page 3. Enough from the old--, let's ring in the new!!!

WELL, HERE I AM, YOUR NEW C.D. I'd like to thank everybody and I am looking forward to this great season. Besides having the annual "open" and the Candidates' Tourney we are going to have a handicap tourney, a rapid transit tourney, a rapid transit team tourney, and possibly a tourney in which everybody uses the same opening--, and the winner can write an analysis on the opening which will appear in the CHESS HERALD. I am very new at this sort of thing and I would be very thankful for any suggestions. Please feel free to call or talk to me at anytime. If anyone has a new idea or ideas, please let me know. -- Leighton Allen

(His address appears under Club Directory this page -- editor)

C H A T S and N O T E S
from the E d i t o r

XX
 YOU JUST CAN'T GET RID OF ME!! No longer do I turn over a column to a new man than do I start another. My view here, however, will mostly concern CHESS HERALD and not so much the club itself.

May I start, then, by apologizing. For one thing, this issue is late, due mainly to irregular working hours yours truly had to contend with for awhile, but also due to much activity your editor could not possibly get to. As editor I try to get the scoop from all chess circles but I am sorry to say I could not get around to all of the recent activities. I tried my best to contact folks I knew would have their eyes open and thus give me a few details here and there. However, if you find this issue has not covered your favorite event it is only because I was not able to be there myself. I do have a couple of reporters, but since I can't afford to pay them, they do not always turn in their best efforts! I'm really lucky they tell me anything at all!!

This column will also be used as a double purpose. The "chat" part will be that aimless sort of prattle that comes from yours truly, whereas the "notes" part, I hope, will come from readers or worthwhile "rubbish" that may fall upon the editor's desk. Don't be bashful as I'm the type that always likes to hear things, whether good or bad about CHESS HERALD. And, while I'm at it, may I extend an invitation to anyone to write for CHESS HERALD (free!) no matter what the item may be.

In the past I have received material from some of you but you have not seen it in print. Most of these items have been problems which I am sorry to say I found "cooks" in, and goodness knows I've had my troubles with the PROBLEM CORNER. Those of you I have turned down, however, please do not get disheartened. Keep trying--, they can't all be bad!

"Games Section" is monopolized by my own games this issue--, no fault of Noel Renaud. Nobody seems to turn in games so I came to the rescue!! See what I mean--, send them in, men!!!

Club Ladder Standings & Ratings - P.V.

The following standings and ratings include games played up to Sept. 19th.

<u>Rung</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Rating</u>
1	A. R. Castellanos.....	A	1588
2	John Ramirez.....	B	1279
3	James Cook.....	A	1590
4	Leighton Allen.....	A	1658
5	Ivan Vegvary.....	B	1372
6	Dave Gibson.....	A	1682
7	Noel Renaud.....	A	1724
8	Jim Reynolds.....	A	1557
9	Lowell Tullis.....	B	1251
10	Bob Blakemore.....	B	1298
11	Julio Ercolini.....	C	991
12	Ronald Meyers.....	B	1091
13	Carl Barton.....	B	1234
14	Don Hufnagel.....	B	1135
15	Rex Hiatt.....	C	850
16	George Natali.....	C	850
17	Jack Craig.....	B	1216
18	Paul Bogosian.....	B	1202
19	Richard Moreno.....	C	959
20	Ed Russell.....	B	1235
21	Steve Cabito.....	C	902
22	Henry Brauns.....	C	946
23	Douglas Jerdet.....	C	745
24	R. P. Kovach.....	A	1500
25	Eugene Nakamura.....	C	913
26	Walter Lewis.....	C	907

2000 & above - Expert; 1500-1999 - A;
 1000-1499 - B; Below 1000 - C.

CASTELLANOS TOPPLES ALLEN!!!

A. R. "Cas" Castellanos toppled Leighton Allen from the top rung of Precita Valley's "puzzling" ladder on Thursday, September 12th to be the 4th member of the club to ever get there. The others have been Noel Renaud, Dave Gibson, and of course, Allen. A. R. Castellanos ended Allen's reign of the top rung after he held it for 21 weeks. Noel Renaud holds the longevity record, holding it 55 weeks playing the BLACK PIECES!

John "Upset" Ramirez knocked Noel Renaud off of rung 2 Sept. 5th, then disappeared quickly that night from the clubroom to at least hold his glory for awhile!

So everybody is upsetting everybody just to make the ratings and standings look crazier "n" crazier. Anything to confuse the rating statistician!

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GAMES SECTION

Edited By

Noel

Renaud

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

THE FOLLOWING TWO GAMES were played in the U.S. "Open" Championship at Cleveland, Ohio, August 5 to 27, 1957.

Game No. 29

Round 8 - August 12, 1957

White: Jerry Spann

Black: Jim Reynolds

COLLE SYSTEM

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|----------|-------|
| 1. P-Q4 | N-KB3 |
| 2. N-KB3 | P-K3 |
| 3. P-K3 | P-KN3 |

Colle's System procured its originator a long series of brilliant victories. Its object value, however, was put in question by a variation introduced by Alekhine at San Remo (1930) and adopted since by many chess masters: 1. P-Q4, P-Q4; 2. N-KB3, N-KB3; 3. P-K3, B-B4; 4. B-Q3, P-K3! Another effective way of removing the sting out of the Colle is a Queenside fianchetto: 1. P-Q4, N-KB3; 2. N-KB3, P-K3; 3. P-K3, P-B4; 4. B-Q3, P-QN3; 5. QN-Q2, N-B3 and 6. O-O, B-N2.

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| 4. B-Q3 | B-N2 |
| 5. O-O | O-O |
| 6. QN-Q2 | P-Q3 |

Not a bad defense since Black cannot prevent White's P-K4.

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| 7. P-K4 | QN-Q2 |
| 8. P-B4 | P-K4 |

Transposing into a King's Indian.

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| 9. P-Q5 | ... |
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Or 9. PxB, N/2xP; 10. NxB, PxB; 11. N-B3. If 9...., PxB; 10. P-QN4, N-B4; 11. B-B2.

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| 9. | N-B4 |
| 10. B-B2 | P-QR4 |
| 11. P-QR4 | R-K1 |

The Rook is not well posted on K1. Instead 11. N-K1 followed by 12...., P-B4 yields Black's pieces greater mobility.

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| 12. R-K1 | P-KR3 |
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This weakening of Kingside Pawns does not meet with our approval unless Black intends to follow with K-R2 and R-KN1.

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| 13. N-N3 | ... |
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White should waste no time in bringing all available pieces for an onslaught on the Black King. 13. N-B1 is much better.

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| 13. | KN-Q2 |
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| 14. B-Q2 | P-QN3 |
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This move wastes time. With 14...., NxB; 15. BxB, N-B1 it is White who will lose a tempo while Black develops his own Kingside attack.

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| 15. Q-B1 | ... |
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As a direct result of Black's tactics this causes further weakening of his King position.

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| 15. | NxB |
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| 16. BxB | N-B4 |
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A splendid post for the Knight. Nevertheless, as the sequel shows, it is stranded here. 16...., K-R2 followed by R-KN1 and N-B1 still offers best chances.

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| 17. B-B2 | P-KN4 |
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| 18. P-KR3 | Q-B3 |
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Threatening BxRP.

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| 19. R-R3 | Q-N3 |
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| 20. N-R2 | B-R3 |
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More lost time. Black hopes for 21. P-QN3 preventing White's Rook from crossing to the Kingside. However, the immediate 20...., P-B4 is better.

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| 21. R-QB3 | B-QB1 |
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| 22. R-KN3 | Q-R2 |
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22...., Q-R4 is no better.

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| 23. P-R4 | P-B4 |
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Playable is 23...., PxB as neither 24. RxBch nor BxB is good.

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| 24. KPxB | BxB |
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| 25. BxB | ... |
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To maintain the pressure 25. PxB was needed. Then if 25...., BxB; 26. PxB, B-N3; 27. PxB. Of course, if 25...., P-R4; 26. P-N6 and White wins.

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| 25. | QxB |
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| 26. R-KB3 | ... |
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White fears N-Q6 but 26. PxB, N-Q6; 27. RxB, QxR; 28. PxB, B moves; 29. R-K3 and White still has a strong attack.

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| 26. | Q-N3 |
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| 27. PxB | PxB |
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| 28. Q-N1 | P-K5 |
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| 29. P-QN3 | N-Q6 |
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| 30. R-N3 | ... |
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DRAWN

(continued on next page)

GAMES SECTION (continued)

Game No. 30

Round 4 - August 8, 1957

White: Edmund Nash

Black: Jim Reynolds

FRENCH DEFENSE

Black plays a discredited variation of the French Defense and almost makes it look good. A little more thought on Black's 20th move and the game was won.

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| 1. P-K4 | P-K3 |
| 2. P-Q4 | P-Q4 |
| 3. N-QB3 | PxP |

Although Rubinstein won many fine games with this move some fifty years ago, the general verdict is that it gives White too many attacking chances.

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| 4. NxP | N-KB3 |
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More usual is 4....., N-Q2 and 5....., N-KB3.

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| 5. B-N5 | |
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Better is 5. NxNch as 5....., QxN brings the Queen out too soon; 5....., PxN weakens Black's Pawn position.

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| 5. | B-K2 |
| 6. BxN | BxB |
| 7. KN-B3 | O-O |
| 8. P-B3 | N-B3 |

Here 8....., N-Q2 seems preferable as Black's Knight will be more useful on the Kingside.

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| 9. B-N5 | B-K2 |
| 10. Q-Q2 | P-KR3 |

As White hasn't yet castled, 10....., Q-Q4 looks good. Of course, if 11. B-Q3, P-QN4. If 11. Q-K2, P-KB4.

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| 11. B-R4 | P-R3 |
| 12. B-B2 | P-K4 |

White is massing for a Kingside attack and Black offers a Pawn hoping for counterplay or at least to exchange Queens.

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| 13. P-Q5 | |
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It is safe to play 13. NxP.

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| 13. | N-R4 |
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| 14. Q-Q3 | |
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Threatening 15. N-B6ch etc. White has built too great hopes on this unsound combination. 14. NxP is better.

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| 14. | P-KB4 |
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Very timely. Suddenly White is in difficulties and must lose material.

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| 15. P-KN4 | |
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An artificial looking move: however, it prevents 16....., B-KB4.

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| 15. | PxN |
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| 16. QxP | RxN! |
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Well played. The attacking forces have been considerably reduced.

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| 17. QxR | Q-Q3 |
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| 18. Q-K4 | |
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Again threatening to win the Knight.

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| 18. | P-QN4 |
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| 19. P-KR4 | B-N2 |
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| 20. O-O-O | Q-KB3 |
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The losing move. The Queen was well placed on Q3. The threat to exchange Queens is too obvious and White gains tempi. Black's best chance is 20....., R-KB1. Now if 21. Q-R7ch, K-B2 and 22. P-N5 is not dangerous.

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| 21. K-N1 | R-Q1 |
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| 22. P-N5 | Q-Q3 |
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| 23. R-R3 | K-B1 |
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| 24. Q-R7 | QxBP |
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There are no good moves left.

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| 25. R-B3ch | BxR |
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Black, overlooking the Queen check, thinks he will gain three pieces for his Queen. But 25....., K-K1 was no better, 26. B-N6ch, K-Q2; 27. RxB, QxR; 28. R-Q3 and White wins.

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| 26. RxQ | RxR |
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| 27. Q-B5ch | K-K1 |
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| 28. QxB | PxP |
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| 29. PxP | N-B5 |
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| 30. Q-R5ch | K-Q2 |
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| 31. Q-B7 | R-Q7 |
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| 32. B-B5ch | K-B3 |
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Of course 32....., K-Q3 does not save the Bishop and 32....., K-Q1 allows mate in 2,

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| 33. QxB | RxPch |
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| 34. K-B1 | RxBP |
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| 35. B-Q3 | RxP |
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| 36. BxN | PxB |
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| 37. QxKP | P-R4 |
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| 38. K-N1 | R-R6 |
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| 39. QxNP | P-R5 |
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| 40. Q-B6ch | K-N2 |
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| 41. Q-Q4 | R-N6ch |
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| 42. K-R2 | R-N4 |
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| 43. P-N6 | R-KN4 |
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| 44. P-N7 | P-B4 |
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| 45. Q-Q7ch | K-R3 |
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| 46. Q-B8ch | Resigns |
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SEND GAMES TO NOEL RENAUD, 125 BRIMPTON AVE., SAN FRANCISCO 12, CALIF.

HANS BERLINER WINS "CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS" TOURNEY

Yankton, S.D., September 2. Champion of the District of Columbia, Hans Berliner, won the "Champion of Champions" Tourney with a score of 5½-1½, drawing three of his games, but losing none. Curt Brasket, Minnesota, who drew with Berliner, also scored 5½-1½, but came in 2nd, losing out on the tie-breaking points. 3rd and 4th with 4½-2½ were A. E. Santasiere, New York, and Lee McGee, Nebraska. Our champion from California, Gil Ramirez, finished in the 5th to 10th bracket with a 4-3 score.

ROBERT BRIEGER WINS AUTUMN "OPEN" BLUMBERG AND TURNER ALSO WINNERS

Robert Brieger of San Diego was the winner of the "Open" Autumn Festival held at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel over Saturday and Sunday (Sept. 22 & 23). Henk Mondria of Oakland was 2nd, tied with Brieger with 4½ points.

The B division of this tourney was won by Kurt Blumberg of San Francisco with 5 points, and R. H. Turner of Berkeley won the C division with 4½. Lowell Tullis, 2nd team captain of the Precita Valley Chess Club, tied for 10th place in the C division with 3.

X-X
B A C L ROV I N G R E P O R T E R
XX

GUTHRIE MC CLAIN DID A SPLENDID PIECE OF WORK as tournament director of the greatest of all California State "Open" Chess Championship Tourneys! To prove this, those players involved in the tournament gave "Mac" a standing ovation when things were pretty much over and he was introduced by CSCF President George Goehler! This is something that very seldom happens (or maybe never has happened) at a tournament. Usually the losers, and there are usually plenty of them, blame their misfortune on the T.D. It was a nice gesture of the players and spectators to show "Mac" their appreciation of his efforts. I'm sure "Mac" felt honored, and deservedly so.

Deserving an honor also was Jim Schmitt-- that as the California State "Open" Chess Champion. Some of the games were played at a pretty fast pace, and though the better players seem to win such games, the games have a few flaws. However, Mr. Schmitt played some mighty fine chess despite the fast tempo in the early rounds. Jim has knocked at the door so many times so it was good to see it opened for him this time. Regardless of what anyone thinks, Jim Schmitt deserved to win the tourney--, one could see from his games that he worked hard for it. CONGRATULATIONS JIM SCHMITT!! And, good luck in the upcoming State Finals!

The Precita Valley Chess Club got a new look all around! Not only did their recent September election bring on a new staff to run the club, but the club quarters were brightened up with fresh new colors in the way of a nice paint job. Gone are the drabby-looking walls and dull framework. No wonder there have been so many upsets there lately, for the new paint seems to make the lights even show better and these guys who have been taking advantage over opponents with weaker eyesight suddenly cannot do it anymore!

Going along with the Giants and Dodgers in the westward movement is Larry Evans, international grandmaster of New York (?). It looks like Larry will take up residence in Los Angeles or that vicinity. This means the South will gain another top strong board in the annual North-South match. It looks like we San Franciscans will have to go to work and perhaps entice Arthur Bisguier, also international grandmaster, to take residence in our town. Go to work Mayor Christopher!

X-X
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HIGHLIGHTS OF PRECITA VALLEY'S CANDIDATES' TOURNEY

IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED BY THE OLD MEMBERS around the Precita Valley Chess Club that last year the Championship Tourney ended in a tie between Noel Renaud and James Cook, merely because the T.D. Had overlooked such a possibility and made no ruling to govern such a situation. This year he did just the opposite and it's a good thing, too, since every division ended in a tie! It happened like this... It looked like Dave Gibson was in as the "A" division winner. Leighton Allen was under pressure and had won by a swindle over Jim Reynolds in the first round. He was a full point behind. However, he decidedly defeated Reynolds in the second round to tie Gibson. Gibson was rested and thus figured to win the playoff. At the outset of the playoff game he seemed to have the superior position when something went wrong. Even then it looked like a drawn game and Dave would get the white pieces the next round. Allen knew this and dug in and somehow won the game. We're not taking anything away from Leighton Allen. He won the tournament and he did it the hard way! He may have been lucky, but then aren't all good chess players lucky??!! Somehow, they seem to make their luck!

Anyhow, Leighton Allen becomes one of the challengers for the club championship, and his opponent in the semi-finals is co-champ Noel Renaud!

Jack Craig really had the "B" division all sewed up, but funny things will happen. He needed only to beat Ronald Meyers who hadn't even won a game. Jack had won all of his. Well, a good night for Meyers and a bad one for Craig seems to be the only explanation. With Meyers upsetting Craig this made it a three-way tie for the "B" division, with Craig, Paul Bogosian and Bob Blakemore all standing at the top. BUT, on the same night Bogosian and Blakemore were already supposed to be playing. Bob Blakemore didn't show up, so that made it a playoff between Craig and Bogosian. It still looked like Craig as he seemed to have it over Bogosian. Paul Bogosian was not to be denied, however, even if Jack Craig had beaten him before, so he bested Jack in the playoff to become the other challenger for the club championship and will tackle co-champ Jim Cook in the semi-final rounds.

Since Paul Bogosian was rated "C" at the start of the tourney he had already won this division, but the rules read that should a "C" player win the "B" division, he instead becomes the "B" champ, and the next highest scoring "C" player would be the "C" champion of the club. You guessed it---, another tie! This time it was the suddenly rising Ronald Meyers (coming up with 2 points) to tie it with Lowell Tullis (who must have been praying for Paul to beat Jack). So....., (it's getting boring)..., another playoff....., and this one was won by Lowell Tullis. The "C" champion of the club, however, does not get to challenge for the club championship by the rules but he is the club's regular "C" champion and does get a trophy.

We do not wish to speculate here for we do not wish to jinx the players involved, but if these funny things keep happening (and they can happen no place except at Precita Valley), we might have a very surprising result in the Championship Matches!

MAX PAVEY PASSES AWAY

Max Pavey, U.S. Senior Master and Chairman of the USCF International Affairs Committee, passed on into eternity on September 4, 1957. Only 39 years of age, and long confined in the Mt. Sinai Hospital, he was a victim of leukemia and coronary complications. Mr. Pavey hailed from Scotland where he first gained prominence in chess by winning the championship of Scotland at Edinburgh in 1939. He won the New York State Championship in 1949, and finished second to Donald Byrne in the 1953 U.S. "Open". He was also on the U.S. Team that travelled to Russia in 1955. Max Pavey has been a tremendous help to American chess in promoting international events for this country. However, many of his dreams were met with frustration and disappointment. Let's hope that someday many of his dreams will come true as he guides us from above with his spirit.