

Chess Barbs

by Jude Acers (US senior master)

GREFE WINS U.C. CHESS COMPETITION

Berkeley chess master John Grefe earned a shut-out 4-0 victory at the West Coast Open, held in the U.C. Student Union Building, Nov. 18-'19. Nearly 200 players competed for more than \$1000 in prizes.

Overall Winners

1st, John Grefe, Berkeley, 4-0, \$200; 2nd, Borel Menas, Daly City, and Dennis Fritzinger, Berkeley, 3 1/2-1/2, \$100 each.

Class "A"

1st, Jon Sjogren, Berkeley, Frank Flynn, Portola Valley, and Peter Klimek, Berkeley, 3-1, \$50 each.

Class "B"

1st, David Lewis, Berkeley, 4-0, \$100; 2nd, George Harris, Berkeley, Raymond Segal, Berkeley (\$18 each), Mingson Chen, Oakland, and Henk Dewilde, Berkeley (\$6 each), 3 1/2-1/2.

Class "C"

1st, Peter Schwartz, Berkeley, 4-0, \$50; 2nd, Uri Barevan, San Francisco, Kip Brockman, San Leandro, Robert Clipson, Oakland, Charles Ensey, Oakland, Juergen Kaspruk, Piedmont (\$18 each), and Thomas Choporis, San Carlos (\$8), 3 1/2-1/2.

Class "D/E"

1st, Romeo Samo, San Francisco, John Martin, Modesto (\$41

each), and Robert Joslin, Redwood City (\$16), 4-0.

Best Game Prizes

M/E, Rex Wilcox, San Francisco, \$10; A, Gene Lee, Mt. View, \$10; B, Donald Stone, Moraga, \$10; C, Martin Marshall, Berkeley, \$10; D/E, Robert Oliver, Berkeley, \$10.

White: Rex Wilcox. Black: Jon Sjogren. West Coast Open, Berkeley, Nov. 18, 1972. Best Game Prize. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 g6 5 Nc3 Bg7 6 Be3 Nf6 7 Bc4 Qa5 8 0-0 0-0 9 Nb3 Qc7 10 f4 d6 11 Be2 Bd7 12 g4 Rfd8 13 g5 Ne8 14 Nd5 Qb8 15 f5 Bb2 16 Rb1 Be5 17 Nd4 Nd4 18 Bd4 e6 19 fg hg 20 Bh5ll Bd4ch 21 Qd4 ed 22 Rf7l Kf7 23 Qh8ll de 24 Bg6chl Ke6 25 Qh3ch Kd5 26 Bf7ch Ke5 27 Qg3ch Kd4 28 Rb4ch Black resigns.

QUESTIONS YOU ASK JUDEACERS

Q. Jude, I deeply regret your attacks on Ed Edmondson, U.S. Chess Federation Executive Director. Young masters like you will

become grandmasters no matter what eventually. Besides, Edmondson seems honest, conscientious and personable to me. Cool it, please, Jude.

A. Edmondson is the made who made Fischer's world title match possible. He is quite honest and saved the U.S. Chess Federation from financial and organizational collapse in the early sixties. When I visited the U.S. Federation in Newburgh, New York, in September, 1972, Mr. Edmondson was very courteous and spoke at length about many aspects of U.S. chess with me. However, I have the impression that Mr. Edmondson does not realize that I know absolutely everything that the U.S. Chess Federation has failed to do in prisons, elementary schools, hospitals and media to promote chess and the welfare of professional players. I now have a choice to work quietly as Martin Morrison has elected to do, hoping for reform, or trying to publicize a nightmare. We are not talking about

peanuts but several million dollars in revenue that the U.S. Chess Federation will have in coming decades. It is not going to help anyone.

Let me give you an example of the enormous problem that is caused entirely by Col. Edmondson's absolute dictatorship of chess bureaucracy in the U.S.:

(1) You don't play in an international tournament unless Edmondson makes you an offer you cannot refuse. Edmondson gets all tournament invitations (World Chess Federation rules) for the U.S. and decides who fills them. This is horrible, because Edmondson does not want Craig Barnes, Roy Ervin, Dennis Fritzinger, Dennis Waterman, Gil Ramirez, William Bills, Kim Commons, James Tarjan, Robert Burger and many other players from the western United States to play in any qualifying tournament. He can always find excuses. All I can tell you is that I am a professional chess master and I am certainly more qualified to judge who is

able to perform at international master events than Mr. Edmondson. That he gets to decide is ridiculous, unfair and bad news at sundown!

(2) Arpad Elo, inventor of the world-wide rating system, has complained repeatedly that his instructions to the U.S. Chess Federation regarding rating calculation have been violated or rigged, gentlemen, rigged. Edmondson has allowed these unscientific, arbitrary uses of the rating system.

(3) Edmondson has been caught red-handed freezing players' ratings before they could climb to the world team level or force invitation to the u.s. rosenwald tournament for the New York City championship! It is not a question of Mr. Edmondson having his finger in every pie, as Tarjan stated. It is a case of Mr. Edmondson being absolutely the only man in the kitchen, period. All others in America wait in the dining room for the precious

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crumbs he throws them. I for one have no intention of kneeling before the thrown of the Royal Chef. I prefer steak or at least cake.

My tremendous schedule of prison, school, club exhibitions in the past ten years has shown that losing thousands of dollars on freebees is necessary if the U.S. Chess Federation will not begin to find ways to promote organizers and players throughout the nation. Only my brilliant, determined and occasionally ruthless manager Russell W. Miller of Yakima, Wash-

ington makes freebee bookings possible, when the U.S. Chess Federation shows that it will do nothing. Grefe and Tarjan may perish tomorrow for all the USCF does to help them. And nothing will change for many years unless our piercing eyes deny nothing. U.S. master Dennis Fritzingler wants a complete inventory of USCF books to the last drop of blood!

Last month I was amazed to be told by Edmondson that housing in my 200-city tour might be arranged by USCF letters to key hotels, notably thirty days in Miami. He promised to write these

letters, saving me one thousand dollars in expenses or more on my tour. He did not write these letters, period. How can less fortunate, less colorful touring masters that follow me depend on Mr. Edmondson's uncaring attitude? That Miller's professional approach to booking me worldwide has saved me from starvation or being a chess bum is totally beside the point. Playtime and free rides for chess federations and clubs simply must be brought to an end, and I most certainly will deal deft blows for the cause.

Edmondson also mentioned that international U.S.—Canadian tournaments "in the works" that would qualify an American for international listing. Nothing really has

been done, despite the fact that nothing is even faintly as important as professionally guaranteeing our young masters that they will have a tree to climb once they are ready for the jungle! (The pressure is on now. It's going to be difficult for everyone.)

Q. Kenneth R. Smith told me in Dallas that he considered "Grefe one of the very best players in the entire country." Who in the world is Grefe?

A. You're thinking of John Grefe (pronounced "grief") of Berkeley. He's probably already grandmaster strength, but will need to warm up with several international tournaments before receiving the title. Unfortunately, the U.S. Chess Federation, i.e., Sir Ed Ed Edmond-

son, will not secure Grefe any international tournament invitations. Sometimes I honestly believe that both John Grefe and James Tarjan made a mistake in being born. These top U.S. masters have the talent and drive to go everywhere but have nowhere to go, because there is no racetrack provided. USCF, we love you anyway...

Grefe and Tarjan know better than to try touring the entire nation without real promotion and a guarantee that it would work. But maybe, somehow, they can make a living, despite USCF. Edmondson believes the possibilities are limitless.

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LERA 1972 CHAMPIONSHIP
Ted Yudacufski of Monterey will

direct the LERA San Jose Open Chess Championships, Nov. 24-26, at the LERA Main Auditorium, corner of Mathilda Ave. and Java St., seven blocks north of the Bayshore freeway, opposite Sunnyvale (take the North Mathilda offramp). The 6-round, Swiss system event will have three separate playing divisions, each with its own prizes in cash and trophies. Entry fee for USCF Open is \$15, for USCF Booster \$10 and for CFNC "C" \$7, plus membership in the appropriate organization (USCF, \$8 or \$4 for jrs.; CFNC, \$3 or \$2 for jrs.). Round one starts at 10 a.m. for the USCF divisions and at 11 a.m. for the CFNC "C" division, Friday, Nov. 24. Please bring sets and clocks.