

# California Chess Journal

Volume 13 Number 1

Winter 1999

\$4.50

## Special Tournaments Issue

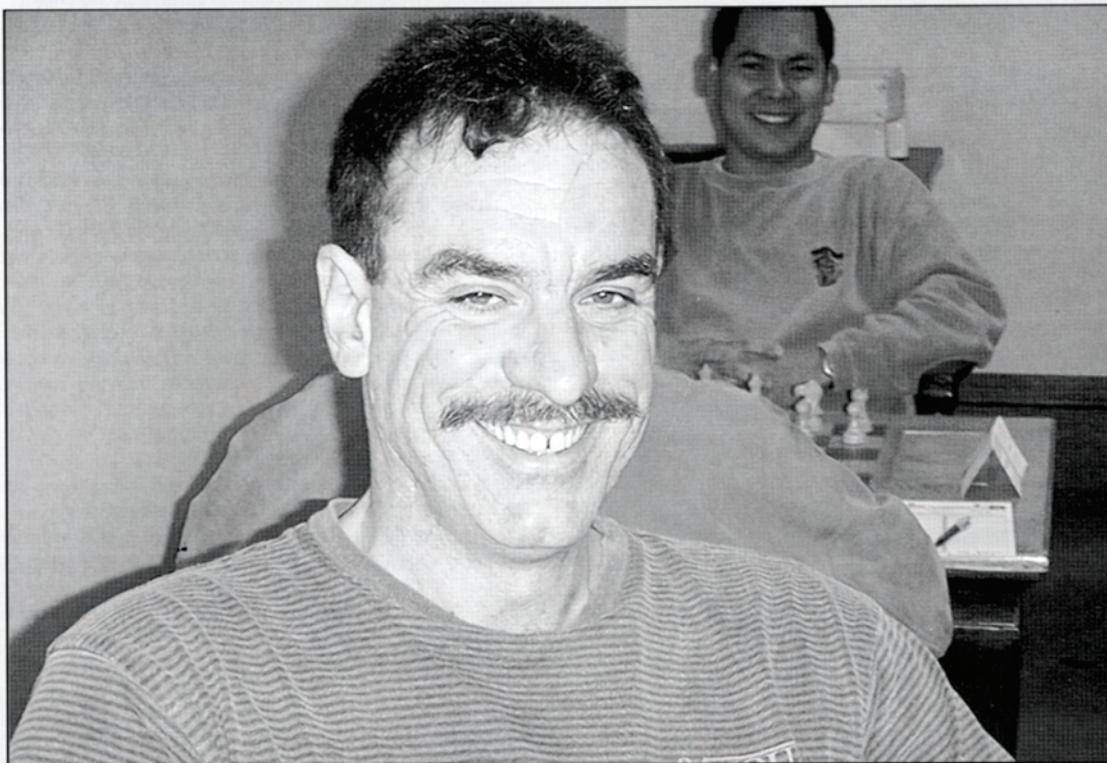
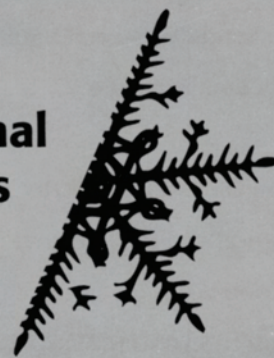


Photo by Eric Schiller

**State Champion IM Guillermo Rey at the Wilkerson**



**Tournament Reports  
on  
Max Wilkerson International  
LERA Thanksgiving Class  
Berkeley Class Struggle  
Western States Open  
and**



**The Return of Readers Showcase!**

# California Chess Journal



Editor: Allan Fifield  
Assistant Editor: Darren Russell  
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### Contributors to this Issue:

|              |                  |               |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| James Bauman | Jim Hurt         | Gabe Sanchez  |
| Steve Cohen  | Alan M. Kirshner | Eric Schiller |
| Mike Goodall | Richard Koepcke  | Jerry Weikel  |
| Bill Herman  | Duncan Oxley     | Bonnie Yost   |

The *California Chess Journal* is the official publication of CalChess, the Northern California Chess Association. Membership dues are \$12 per year, \$22 for two years, and \$32 for three years. Non-residents may subscribe to the journal for the same rates, but are granted non-voting membership status. Subscription requests and related correspondence should be sent to: CalChess, 2030 Mills Avenue, Menlo Park CA 94025. Phone is: 650-854-9793

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## THE EDITOR'S REPORT

During the annual Chess Journalists of America meeting at the US Open in Hawaii, our magazine won several awards! Among the honors garnered by the California Chess Journal were: Best Analysis (Endings) for Eric Schiller's piece 'How to Avoid Slot Machines and Gaming Tables'; Best Editorial for Hal Terrie's article on 'How OMOV Lost' and an Honorable Mention for Best Cover of the 'Queen of The Tournament of Queens' featuring Alan Kirshner's photo of Jocelyn Lee and M.L. Rantala's design.

Our neighbor, Nevada, certainly is a land of contrasts. In the northern half of the state, Jerry Weikel has built a nationwide reputation for his excellent tournaments in the Reno area. Now Jerry (and his partner The Sands Regency Hotel Casino) are gearing up for the 1999 100th US Open. With an unconditionally guaranteed prize fund of \$63,300 plus all the legendary Weikel extras, this will be a most memorable event. Northern California players should check out our back cover and start making their plans to be in Reno this August 10th-19th.

The situation in South Nevada (primarily Las Vegas) has deteriorated to the point where editorial comment is necessary. Credible allegations of rating manipulations of scholastic players by south Nevada organizers are most disturbing. Everyone loses when a child with a vastly inflated rating goes to an invitational event and thereby deprives another child who had worked hard of a chance to play. All too often the under-prepared recipient of an inflated rating is ruthlessly crushed in international tournament play and withdraws from chess. It's time to consider Sunil Weeramantry's proposal that a qualifying event be held before US representatives are sent abroad to scholastic chess events. At a minimum, scholastic players should be required to confirm their ratings by competing in events outside of their home base before USCF subsidizes international travel and experience.

On an even more disturbing note, south Nevada organizers are advertising a competing "US Summer Open" in the Laughlin area for the exact same dates as the real US Open in Reno. Frankly this event promises to be a disaster in every respect. To give an example, the tournament flyer advertises a \$21,000 prize fund but the organizers have sent out a bizarre press release discussing the murder or suicide of the local chess club owner who had guaranteed \$15,000 of the \$21,000 prize fund. Is the money still pledged and will it be paid to the handful of players who actually show up? In my own mind, I doubt that this shabby event will even be held but its collapse will tarnish the reputation of chess in the Las Vegas area.

Please continue to send your submissions for the C CJ to: California Chess Journal, PO Box 27, Visalia CA 93279-0027. The deadline for submissions for the next issue of C CJ is April 20th.

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# 16th ANNUAL SANDS REGENCY WESTERN STATES OPEN

by  
Jerry Weikel

433 players converged on Reno (future site of the upcoming 100th US Open on Aug. 10th -19th, 1999!) to vie for the Western States Open's largest ever prize fund of \$42,084!! This tournament marked the third year in a row the Western States prize fund has increased! GM Alexander Goldin (winner of the New York Open) won his first 5 games and coasted to the championship all alone! A key game for Alex was in round 4 with the Black pieces against GM Walter Browne. Walter seemed to have the edge for most of the game but it got turned around towards the end. Alex proved to be a very "tough cookie" to beat! Another key game was GM Dmitry Gurevich vs Slava Mikhailuk in round 5 with Dmitry pressing too hard for the win and losing. GM Goldin's domination of the Open Section was demonstrated by his scoring 4.5 out of 5 against the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th place finishers! Well done, Alex!

The festivities began on Wednesday night with GM Edmar Mednis and IM John Donaldson each playing a 6-board clock simul (40/2, Game/1 Hr.). What a great way to "tune-up" for the main tournament by playing a serious game against a titled player followed by his analysis of your game! All this for only \$40! A win or draw nets a Western States T-shirt (\$20 value!) which was won by Michael Van Remoortere (Gilroy CA) with a win against GM Mednis and by Robert Woodworth (Omaha NE) with a draw against IM Donaldson. Good going guys! If you can get to Reno a couple of days early this is a great opportunity for serious players to improve their game! Also on Wednesday evening a Quick Tourney was held which was won by Reno's George Fischer (1856)

On Thursday the side events continued with the analysis of the previous evening's clock simul by GM

Mednis and IM Donaldson. This was followed by the popular free lecture by "Hall of Fame" inductee GM Larry Evans at which I counted over 100 spectators!. The side events continued in the evening with a 21-board simul given "such the gentleman" GM Ludomir Kavalek who conceded only one draw to Milo Nelson (Davis Ca). The WBCA Blitz tournament was won by GM Walter Browne (Section 1) while Karen Birkedahl (1299 rating! — what's this? A sandbagger in Blitz!) won section 2.

Hang on, we're almost finished with the side events! Saturday brought GM Larry Evans' Game/Position Analysis Clinic which is my personal favorite. This is a chance for an amateur to ask questions "one-on-one" with a GM! The final side event was an action tourney held on Sunday which was won by Alex De Asis(2184). (One unfortunate note: The October TLA listed the incorrect date for the Quick Tourney as being held on Monday! One player drove all the way from San Jose to play. I would very much like to find out his name to try to make amends. If anyone knows this person please have him contact me!). We usually have one more side event (believe or not!) but because we had a clear winner in the Open Section (GM Goldin), we didn't need the usual Game/15 play-off on Sunday for the Trophy which has always been extremely entertaining for the normally large gallery of usually over 100!

Congratulations to all the class champions: - Expert Agnis Kaugars \$1,514; "A" Preston Polasek \$1,363; "B" Lawrence Martinez \$1,211!; "C" Vincent Bazemore \$1,060; "D" Kofi Odell Tatum \$908; and "E" Vue Yang \$379. (Oh, one more note in the E section, next year I'll have to keep an eye on a potential sandbagger that has a rating of 855 and who scored 3 1/2 points and \$25 (tie for

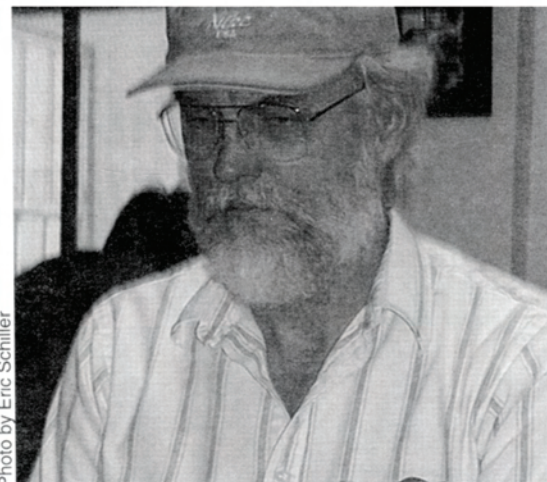


Photo by Eric Schiller

**Expert Agnis Kaugars enjoyed a \$1500 pay check by winning his section.**

15th place) — my daughter Kim Weikel!! Nice going Kim!). On a sad note in the "B" section, Reno's Tim Coffey's car broke down on the way to the 6th round. Tim ran all the way, arrived at the tournament hall exhausted, but, alas, had already time forfeited by 10 minutes on board 1. The Top Senior was David Gurevich (Scottsdale AZ) and the top Unrateds were Chris Long (Reno NV) and Dan Cerda (Carson City NV). The Club Championship was won by The Mechanics Institute (San Francisco) \$757; 2nd-Seattle \$379; 3rd-Sacramento \$227; 4th-Reno \$151.

My wife Fran and I would like to once again give a capital Thank You to our absolutely wonderful staff of: Victor Flashman (Council Bluff, Iowa); Peter Yu (Sherman Oaks, CA); Alan Kantor (New Windsor, NY); Mike Nagaran (San Diego, CA); David Sheryka (Reno) and my daughters Dana and Kim. Also a "Thank You goes out to the always superb National Chess and Games Book/Equipment Concessions. As usual, it's the staff efforts that largely go unnoticed that makes this tournament what it is now (we think) one of the best in the country! Oh yes, and (as Columbo would say!) one more thing! Barbara Woodward and her Sand's Regency Staff — Well, what can we say about them we haven't already during these past 9 years?— They are simply the Greatest! And thanks to all of you players that take the time to

*Continued on page 30*

# 16th ANNUAL SANDS REGENCY WESTERN STATES OPEN

## Results

**Chris Pascal's  
second place  
tie in 'C' class  
was good for a  
\$681 payday.**



Photo by Allan Fifield

| Class   | Player   | Total      | Prize           |
|---------|--|------------|-----------------|
| OPEN    | GM ALEXANDER GOLDIN 2719 Moskow, NY  | 5.5        | \$3,000         |
|         | SLAVA MIKHAILUK 2451 Bothell, WA   | 5          | \$2,000         |
|         | GM SERGEY KUDRIN 2613 Stamford, MA   | 4.5        | \$942           |
|         | GM WALTER BROWNE 2600 Berkeley, CA   | 4.5        | \$942           |
|         | GM LUBOMIR KAVALEK 2555 Reston, VA   | 4.5        | \$942           |
|         | OMAR CARTAGENA 2500 San Francisco, CA<br>GUILLERMO REY 2411 S. San Francisco, CA | 4.5<br>4.5 | \$942<br>\$942  |
| EXPERT  | AGNIS KAUGARS 2116 Alameda, CA   | 5          | \$1,514         |
|         | JAMES MC CORMICK 2186 Seattle, WA  | 4.5        | \$643           |
|         | LARRY SNYDER 2106 Berkeley, CA   | 4.5        | \$643           |
|         | DAVID RUPEL 2090 Olympia, WA   | 4.5        | \$643           |
|         | GERRY NEUFAHRT 2075 Harrison Hot, CN   | 4.5        | \$643           |
| A       | PRESTON POLASEK 1990 Medford, OR   | 5.5        | \$1,363         |
|         | MARK MCCUE 1837 San Antonio, TX  | 5          | \$757           |
|         | DAN WERMERS 1989 Reno, NV  | 4.5        | \$302           |
|         | ED COHEN 1988 Encino, CA   | 4.5        | \$302           |
|         | AULAVANCE TILLMAN 1975 L.A., CA  | 4.5        | \$302           |
|         | JOE DRAKE 1956 Irving, TX  | 4.5        | \$302           |
|         | PETER CONNOR 1900 Wilmette, IL   | 4.5        | \$302           |
|         | DAVID GUREVICH 1866 Scottsdale, AZ   | 4.5        | \$302           |
| B       | LAWRENCE MARTINEZ 1778 Sacramento, CA  | 6          | \$1,211         |
|         | KEVIN STORMS 1799 Turlock, CA  | 5          | \$681           |
|         | JOEY GARCIA 1631 Walnut Creek, CA  | 5          | \$681           |
| C       | VINCENT BAZEMORE 1565 Provo, UT  | 5.5        | \$1,060         |
|         | CHRISTOPHER PASCAL 1577 Fresno, CA   | 5          | \$681           |
|         | MICHAEL PEARSON 1281 San Mateo, CA   | 5          | \$681           |
| D       | KOFI ODELL TATUM 1399 Oakland, CA  | 5.5        | \$908           |
|         | STEPHEN HOUSE 1371 Grass Valley, CA  | 5          | \$681           |
|         | DANIEL SCHWARZ 1335 Sacramento, CA   | 5          | \$681           |
|         | DAN CERDA Carson City, CA  | 5          | \$681           |
| E       | VUE YANG 922 CA  | 5.5        | \$379           |
|         | ORIN HARRIS 1097 Santa Rosa, CA  | 5          | \$303           |
|         | CHRIS LONG Reno, NV  | 5          | \$303           |
| SENIOR  | DAVID GUREVICH Scottsdale, AZ  | 4.5        | \$379           |
| UNRATED | CHRIS LONG Reno, NV  | 5          | USCF Membership |
|         | DAN CERDA Carson City, NV  | 5          | USCF Membership |





# Golden Bear Class Struggle

by  
Richard Koepcke

**Tournament director Mike Goodall helped revive the Class Struggle in Berkeley.**

Photo by Eric Schiller.

Over the past 20 plus years, there has been a tradition of tournaments run by the UC Berkeley Student organization (SUPERB). When Don Shennum decided to return to his home state of Nebraska, there were no chess playing students to which to pass the torch. Hence the Class Struggle, normally held in June, was canceled. CalChess decided to take an active role in one tournament in order to try to keep the tradition going. Before he left, Don put us in contact with Jimmy Tsai who is the student who has chief responsibility for organizing SUPERB events. With Jimmy's help, the Pauli Ballroom was set aside in October with the idea of rebuilding the chess side of student organization around the tournament. We eventually hired Mike Goodall to run the event with assistance from the author of this article. On the student side, Quincy Yang was hired to help out with the organization for this and future tournaments. Mike did his usual high quality job in running the event and SUPERB did an excellent job of supplying support for the tournament. The tournament was a four round Swiss. This same team will be doing the 26th annual People's tournament except that Alan Glasscoe will be assisting instead of yours truly. It is my hope that this group will be able to run many successful tournaments together in the future.

The tournament drew 110 players of which 10 are UC Berkeley students. Of particular note is that a B-Player, Elliot Temple, actually won the 'A' Section. A full list of prize winners are given here.

|          |                   |  |     |
|----------|-------------------|--|-----|
| Master   |                   |  |     |
| 1rst     | Craig Mar         |  | 3.5 |
| 2nd      | Omar Cartagena    |  | 3.0 |
| 3-5      | Walter Shipman    |  | 2.5 |
|          | Vinay Bhat        |  | 2.5 |
|          | Eric Shiller      |  | 2.5 |
| Expert   |                   |  |     |
| 1rst     | Fredrick Kleist   |  | 3.5 |
| 2nd-3rd  | Jose Sanz         |  | 3.0 |
|          | Martin Marshall   |  | 3.0 |
| A        |                   |  |     |
| 1rst     | Elliot Temple     |  | 3.5 |
| 2nd-3rd  | Walter Wood       |  | 3.0 |
|          | Jose Zulueta      |  | 3.0 |
| B        |                   |  |     |
| 1rst     | Maximo Fajardo    |  | 4.0 |
| 2nd      | Joseph Ruggiero   |  | 3.5 |
| 3-5      | Edward Lewis      |  | 3.0 |
|          | Michael Haun      |  | 3.0 |
|          | Mansur Saca       |  | 3.0 |
| C        |                   |  |     |
| 1rst-2nd | Eric De La Iglesi |  | 3.5 |
|          | Martha Lopez      |  | 3.5 |
| 3rd-4th  | Kenneth Duffy     |  | 3.0 |
|          | Samuel Pence      |  | 3.0 |
| D/E      |                   |  |     |
| 1rst     | Monty Peckham     |  | 3.5 |
| 2nd-4th  | Kofi Tatum        |  | 3.0 |
|          | Kris MacLennan    |  | 3.0 |
|          | Alex Setzepfandt  |  | 3.0 |
| 1rst Unr | Stefan Nobbenhuis |  | 3.5 |
| 2nd Unr  | Artem Fomin       |  | 2.0 |

There is a temptation to ignore really old games when studying an opening. After all, period games are hardly the critical lines of today. However, one does so at ones own peril. Witness the following game as an example.



Photo by Allan Fifield.

**Craig Mar gave up one draw on his way to first place in the Masters section**

**Craig Mar [2455]  
Emmanuel Perez [2388]  
Semi-Tarrasch - D41**

**1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 d5 3 c4 e6 4 Nc3 c5 5 cd Nxd5 6 e4 Nxc3 7 bc Qa5 ?**

The theoretical move here is 7... cd followed by 8... Bb4+. The queen sally doesn't make a good impression since black will soon be forced to either spend a tempo to get it out of the way, or accept a transposition to a line that is known to be really good for white.

**8 Bd2 cd 9 cd Bb4**

The shortcomings of blacks setup was brilliantly demonstrated by Rubinstein-Schlechter, San Sebastian 1912. That game continued 10 Rb1! Bxd2+ [ not 10 .. Nc6? 11 Rxb4! Nxb4 12 Qb1 Qxa2 13 Qxa2 Nxa2 14 Bc4 winning the knight ] 11 Qxd2 Qxd2+ 12 Kxd2 0-0 13 Bb5 a6 14 Bd3 Rd8 15 Rhc1 b5 16 Rc7 with an enormous advantage in space and development. Not being familiar with this game, Craig followed up with a second best move.

**10 a3 Bxd2+ 11 Qxd2 Qxd2+?**

Perez probably underestimated how bad the ensuing ending really is. Otherwise he would surely have opted for 11 .. Nc6 instead. Possible lines are 12 Qxa5 Nxa5 13 Bb5+ Bd7 14 Rb1 Ke7, or 13 Rc1 Bd7 14 Bd3 Ke7 neither of which leaves white much to play for. The critical line is 12 d5! Qxd2+ 13 Kxd2 Na5 14 Rb1 Ke7 where black can probably survive.

**12 Kxd2 Ke7 13 Rc1 Nd7**

The move 13... Rd8 14 Rc7+ transposes back to the game. Black would really like to play 13 .. Nc6. Unfortunately this would be bad in view of 14 Bb5 Bd7 15 d5! Nd8 16 Bxd7+ Kxd7 17 Ne5+ where blacks remaining pieces remain in the box for a very long time.

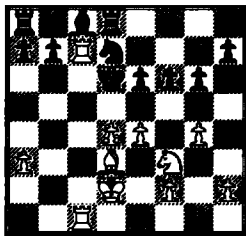
**14 Bd3 Rd8 15 Rc7 f6**

Necessary to keep the opposing knight out of e5.

**16 g4!**

White recognizes that making further progress on the queenside will be difficult. Therefore he prepares to open up a second front on the kingside where black currently has no defenders. If black does nothing, white will continue with g4-g5, Rg1 and fg with a decisive attack.

**16... Kd6 17 Rhc1 g6**



This creates a fatal weakness in blacks pawn structure. Still it is hard to find a constructive move that doesn't lose material.

**18 g5 f5 19 e5+ Ke7 20 d5! 1-0**

There is no defense to the dual threats of 21 de and Nd4.

Whereas the last game involved a really old line of the QGD, the next game displays a variation that has come to light in the present decade. The game involves two of Northern California's up and coming young players.



Photo by Eric Schiller.

**David Pruess is always tough.**

**David Pruess [2219]**

**Andy Lee [2150]**

**French Defense - C18**

**1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 bc Ne7 7 h4**

Whites idea is to grab space on the kingside before committing his pieces. Given the chance he will continue with h5-h6 winning all of the dark squares. The plan is essentially a positional one, since white usually follows up with Nf3 and Bd2, rather than an all out kingside attack via Qg4, Rh3-g3. Of course, all of this costs time and black can exploit this to reach a balanced position.

**7 ... Qc7**

The main alternative is Qa5.

**8 h5 cd!?**

Black is probably better off keeping the tension in the center a little longer (8 .. h6).

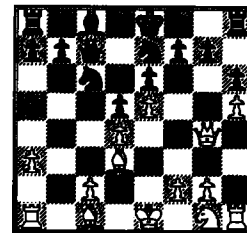
**9 cd h6 10 Bd3 !?**

Now that black no longer has c4 as an option, the bishop looks a little more secure here than normal. My preference is for 10 Nf3 delaying decisions on where to put the king bishop until after black has chosen from 10 .. b6, Bd7 or Nbc6.

**10 ... Nbc6**

White gets far too much of an initiative out of 10 ... Qc3+? 11 Bd2 Qxd4 12 Nf3 Qa4 13 Qb1. However, is worth considering, since white doesn't have a good alternatives to the quieter lines that arise from 11 Nf3, or 11 a4 Nbc6 12 Nf3. After the text, 11 c3 followed by 12 Qg4 is possible. Instead, white mistakenly tries for an immediate knockout blow.

**11 Qg4?**



**11...Nxe5! 12 de Qc3+**

Even better, though a little hard to handle in practical play is 12 .. Qxe5+ 12 Ne2 Qxa1 14 c3 0-0 15 0-0. White's attack looks more menacing than it really is. For example, 15 .. e5 16 Qg3 e4 17 Bxh6? Qxf1+ 18 Kxf1 Nf5 followed by exd3 is curtains for white.

**13 Kd1 Qxa1 14 Qxg7 Rg8 15 Qxh6 Qxe5 16 Nf3 Qc3**

If black tries to trade queens with 16... Qg7?? he loses after 17 Qxg7 Rxg7 18 h6 Rg8 19 h7 Rh8 20 Bh6.

**17 Rh4 Rxg2**

On the other hand, this looks too materialistic. 17 ... Bd7 preparing 0-0-0 to get out of Dodge looks to be a better alternative.

**18 Qe3 Bd7 19 h6 d4?**

This aggressive move actually hurts blacks cause because it cuts the queen off from defense of the kingside. Consolidating moves such as 19 .. Nc6 and 20 .. Qf6 would have more likely kept white's initiative in check.

**20 Qe2 0-0-0 21 Qf1 Ba4 22 Ne1**

Not, 22 Qxg2 Qxd3+ 23 Ke1 Qxc2 when white has no good defense to Qd1 mate.

**22 .. Rgg8 23 h7 Rh8 24 Bg5 Qa1+ 25 Ke2**

Since white no-longer controls the a1-h8 diagonal, he will have a difficult time controlling the h-pawn. Since 25 .. Rde8 26 Bf6 nets an exchange, black decides to give it up directly.

Qc5 offered the best chance for an eventual escape. The text hopes for 27... Rxh7?? 28 Nf4+.

**28 Qg5+ 1-0**

In a short tournament of four rounds or less, it is quite possible for a weaker player to win a section. Such was the case in the 'A' section when Elliot Temple rated 1786 was able to claim clear first when his



fourth round opponent Jose Zulueta (1919) over pressed in a drawn ending. Along the way, Temple defeated opponents rated 1792 and 1620 after drawing with a strong 'A' player in the first round. Like the 49ers against Green Bay, he got some help from the opposition along the way, as the following game demonstrates.

**Elliot Temple [1786]  
Jay Blodgett [1771]  
Queen Pawn - D02**

**1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bf4 Bf5 4 c4 e6 5 Qb3 Qc8 6 Nc3 c6 7 Rc1 dc 8 Qxc4 Be7 9 Nb5?!**

White embarks on a forcing sequence to win the two bishops, but falls dangerously behind in development in the process. Simple development via h3, e3, Be2 and 0-0 offered better chances.

**9 ... 0-0 10 Nd6**

Black has easy equality after 10 Nc7? Nd5 11 Nxd5 ed.

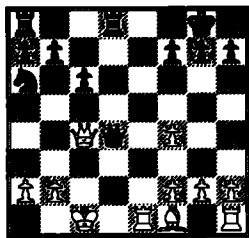
**10 .. Qd7 11 Nxf5 ef 12 e3 Nd5 13 Bg3 Bb4+ 14 Nd2 f4!**

An excellent tactic that forces open the center while white's king is still there.

**15 Bxf4 Bxd2+ 16 Kxd2 Nxf4 17 ef Rd8 18 Re1 Na6 19 Kc1**

Now black can achieve an advantage via the maneuver Nc7-e6. Instead he impatiently grabs a pawn.

**19 .. Qxd4??**



**20 Re8+ 1-0**

I would like to conclude this report with a sharp, though one sided affair, from the expert section.



Martha Lopez tied for first in the C section.

**Gabe Kahane [2142]  
Robert Whitaker [2000]  
Sicilian Dragon - B76**

**1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cd 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 Be3 Bg7 7 f3 0-0 8 Qd2 Nc6 9 0-0-0 Nxd4 10 Bxd4 Be6 11 Kb1 a6**

The pawn expansion on the queenside is a little too slow. The main line starts with 11 .. Qc7, but not 11 .. Qa5 when whites retort 12 Nd5 will soon cost black a center pawn.

**12 g4**

The direct 12 h4 is quite strong. The text is directed potential h5 defenses by black, but also costs an important tempo.

**12 .. Rc8 13 h4 h5?!**

This creates weaknesses without really slowing down whites attack. Black is better off continuing his queenside counter attack via b5 planning b4, a5, a4 and so forth. Problem is, white's attack is still going to break through first in the end.

**14 Nd5 Bxd5 15 ed hg**

Opening lines in front of a king under fire is not usually a recommended strategy. Unfortunately, constructive alternatives are hard to find. For example, white is definitely making progress after 15 .. Qc7 16 g5 Nd7 17 Bxg7 Kxg7 18 f4.

**16 fg Nxg4?**

In tennis this would be called an unforced error. Black definitely needs to find ways of getting his heavy pieces into the fight on the kingside. Maybe 16 .. Nd7!? with the idea, 17 Bxg7? Kxg7 18 h5 Rh8 is worth a look.

**17 Bh3 f5 18 Bxg4 fg 19 Bxg7 Kxg7 20 h5**

Blacks kingside has been cracked open like an egg. There is no longer a defense.

**20 .. Rf6**

21 .. Rh8 runs into 22 Qg5 Rh6 23 Bd3 e5 24 Qxg4 g5 25 Rdf1 with unstoppable threats on the g and f files.

**21 hg Rxc6 22 Qd4+ e5 23 de+ Qf6 24 Qxd6 Rc6 25 Qd7+ Kg8 26 Qe8+ 1-0**

It is striking how fast black's game collapsed when he failed to generate enough threats to keep white occupied.



To The Editor,

I just received the new issue just in time to see that I had sent my renewal to the wrong place, as you now have a new secretary. I have printed some application forms from the website and will recruit some more members for you. I can't believe how many people I know that are not members!!!

I was very happy to see the game Browne-Maloney, as Mr. Maloney is a good friend. This game was also in Inside Chess earlier in the year but with no annotations.

Thank you for your time,  
Duncan Oxley

*Editor: Many thanks for your recruitment efforts and just a friendly reminder to everyone that membership renewals should now go to:*

CalChess  
2030 Mills Avenue  
Menlo Park CA 94025



# Apeldoorn

By  
Alan M. Kirshner

Now doesn't this title attract attention? Personally, I think the word looks great and I would love to know how you say it in Dutch. So far, I have only seen the word in print along with the word schaken. Well, schaken I learned is Dutch for chess and Apeldoorn is a city somewhere in the Netherlands—a 1200-year-old city of about 150,000 people. A city of museums, theatres, lots of cafes, a cultural center, a former palace, plenty of parks and gardens with plenty of rides for children, a laser game arena, a massive sports stadium and the only monkey park in the world where twenty kinds of apes live free in the woods. But, best of all they have a public school chess program that produces some of the best young chess players on the continent.

How do I know all this? In early summer I received an e-mail from Hans Poschmann, one of the chess instructors at Weibel Elementary School in Fremont, California. The e-mail contained a request posted on a chess newsgroup from a Ruud Meuleman looking for an Elementary School in the United States with young chess players willing to compete in e-mail chess with his students at the Princess Margriet School in Holland.

As the director of the Weibel chess program, I thought that having a few of our better players compete in e-mail chess would be a great learning experience. Besides, I knew that the correspondence the young players would carry on would

be a great educational experience. What I never imagined was how excited I would get about learning about the educational system, both chess and academic, in the Neth-

teaching chess. On Tuesday, we have a chess club, where children play for fun. The club constitutes the largest number of players, 82. On Friday, those individuals who want to enter competition meet as a team after school. Of these 48 players, three are in kindergarten. The Weibel Chess Team has produced state championship teams in various divisions every year since 1990. Last year, of the four possible team titles at the K-6 level, Weibel won three. We also sent a team of fourth graders to Southern



**Princess Margriet  
School team**

erlands.

Weibel Elementary School is a kindergarten through sixth grade public school. We have 840 students with 130 of them participating in our chess program. We presently have five different instructors

California to compete in the California Grade Level Championships, where we walked away with a fourth State title for 1998.

The Princess Margriet School has also won numerous chess team titles. The Netherlands has a school



league competition established. They compete at the city and then the state and if they win there, the teams and individuals are selected to compete at the national level. Thousands of young people start out at the school city chess competitions. I have seen photographs of packed scholastic tournaments that reminded me of our Nationals.

After communicating with Ruud via e-mail to Holland, we selected a group of 12 players and tried to match them by age and gender. I must admit that I was amazed that the Princess Margriet School had as many girls as we did. Weibel has always prided itself on the large number of girls who play chess. Generally, about one third of our group is female. I learned from my communications with Ruud Meuleman that they have very successful girls' program in the Netherlands. I look forward to picking his brain for any suggestions on how to maintain the interest of the girls in chess, as they become young women in High School. Our players range in age from 8 to 11. Weibel's are distributed between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, while those from Apeldoorn attend the 4<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> level of their rank system. Their 1<sup>st</sup> level is equivalent to our kindergarten.

We have exchanged photographs via e-mail attachments of the individual players and the teams. I have even had an opportunity to view pictures of the teachers at Princess Margriet School. Ruud is an insurance representative who volunteers his time at the Apeldoorn school. He has three daughters in the school. I am a professor at Ohlone College who volunteered my time when my two youngest boys were at Weibel. My own boys are long gone from Weibel, but the program continues and grows every year. I could not leave the excellent blue ribbon school, the great children and the extremely helpful parents, teachers and administrators.

Both Ruud and myself have cre-

## **W e i b e l School Team**

**Front:**

**Alex, Sharon,  
Eric, Andrew,  
Jessica, Grace**

**Back:**

**Christina, Tim,  
Vic, Justin,  
Christine,  
Saurabh**



ated colorful boards where the young players post their moves each week. The pictures of the players from both schools are next to their colors. Each student plays one game with white and one with black. The Weibel instructors have avoided, as best as possible, looking at the games. We will not help the students except to provide them with opening book resources and the knowledge of how to follow the trees.

Ruud's players provide him with their moves and their notes to the Weibel students. He sends them once a week—at least most of the time. All but one of our players has their own e-mail address, so they send out their own moves each week—at least most of the time. The one student who lacks his own e-mail comes to my house on Sunday's to get his moves to Apeldoorn. The Princess Margriet School Chess Team meets on Monday afternoons.

Like any correspondence chess, the games progress slowly. Perhaps

not quite as slow as portrayed in the song, "Chess-By-Mail," on the Deeper Blues album. (If you have not yet heard this 1998 CD by "King Bishop and the Squares," I recommend you search it out at 1-800-539-3277). I do not think our players will leave the games in their wills for their grandchildren. Although they may be continuing them by the time they graduate from High School.

Meanwhile, the children of Apeldoorn and the children of Fremont are learning a little about chess, a few words in another language and a lot about another culture. As for yours truly, I would love someday to visit Apeldoorn, see a city the size of Fremont that has a cultural center that is more than a Cinema 8, with parks galore rather than one Central Park, and a massive sport's stadium that is more than a school football field. But, most of all, I want to see a national scholastic schaken program and hear the name Apeldoorn pronounced.

## **Read All About It**

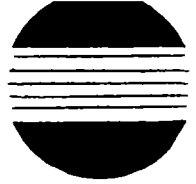
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# THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL 1999 LERA PENINSULA CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS



**DATE** Saturday and Sunday, April 10th & 11th

**PLACE** The new LERA Auditorium B163, corner of "J" Street and 1st Ave. From Sunnyvale, go down Mathilda Ave. to Java St. (old Auditorium B160) turn left on 3rd Ave. and proceed down 3rd Ave. until you get to "J" St. Turn right on "J" St. and proceed to 1st Ave. Building B163 is on the far right corner of "J" St. and 1st Ave.

**DIRECTOR** Jim Hurt, assisted by Ted Yudacufski (National Tournament Director) of Monterey.

**TYPE** Four round Swiss with eight separate divisions, each division with its own prizes. In pairing an odd numbered group, we promote a high player from the next highest group to yield an even number in the odd numbered group.

**PRIZES**

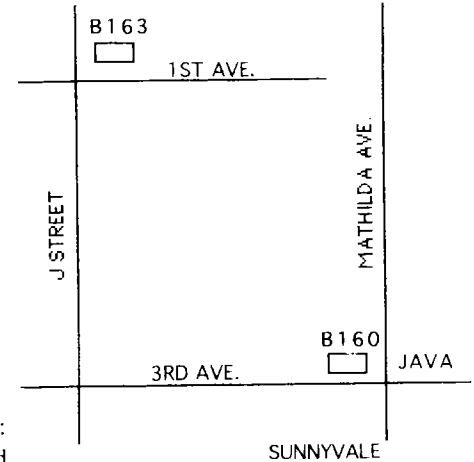
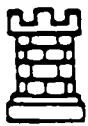
| Division:     | Open  | Expert | A     | B     | C     | D     | E     | F     | Unrated |
|---------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| First Prize:  | \$500 | \$400  | \$350 | \$300 | \$200 | \$100 | \$100 | \$100 | \$100   |
| Second Prize: | \$300 | \$240  | \$210 | \$180 | \$120 |       |       |       |         |
| Third Prize:  | \$200 | \$160  | \$140 | \$120 | \$ 80 |       |       |       |         |



The prize fund is based on 160 paid entries. If the paid entries exceed 160 players, then the prize fund will be increased and if the paid entries are less than 160 the prize fund will be decreased. A player can play up only one class; exception: an unrated player can play up only into the Open division. A total of eight brilliancy prizes may be awarded, one for each division. Junior prizes may be awarded

**SCHEDULE**

| ITEM         | STARTING TIME         | TIME CONTROL            |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Registration | 8 to 9:30 am Saturday | 30 moves in 90 minutes, |
| Round One    | 10:30 am Saturday     | 30 moves in 60 minutes, |
| Round Two    | 4:00 pm Saturday      | 10 moves in 10 minutes  |
| Round Three  | 9:30 am Sunday        | thereafter              |
| Round Four   | 3:00 pm Sunday        |                         |



**ENTRY FEES** Mail: The entry fee for the Open or Expert division is \$40, for the A or B division is \$35, and for the C, D, E or Unrated division is \$30, if mailed by April 5th. If paid Saturday morning, all entry fees will be \$5 more. The entry fee for K through 6th Graders who have ratings below 1100 points is \$15, and they may play in a separate division.



**CONDITIONS** In order to start the first round on time, we are incorporating a new policy: You must be at the registration desk prior to 9:30 am in order to be paired in the first round. If you arrive after 9:30 am, you will either get a 1/2 point bye, or be paired against another late entry. 1/2 Point Bys are available. All players must be USCF members or become members at the tournament. CCA ratings may be used at the discretion of the tournament director. For more information, call Jim Hurt (970) 285-7041 or after March 6th call Ken Stone (408) 629-5530.



**SNACK BAR** Food and refreshments available at the LERA snack bar.

**NEXT EVENT** The next LERA chess tournament will be held Memorial Day weekend, 1999

4/99

## ENTRY FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ USCF Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Date of the last tournament you played in: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Age: \_\_\_\_\_

USCF Identity Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ USCF dues: \$35.00 - adult , \$15 - under 20

Entry Fee\*: The Open or Expert division is \$40.00, the A or B division is \$35.00, and the C, D, E, or Unrated Division is \$30.00 (Circle your division).  
\*If mailed by April 5th, otherwise entry fees are \$5 more. Make check payable to LERA Chess Club.

Mail to: Jim Hurt, LERA Chess Club, P.O. Box 60451, Sunnyvale, CA 94088 Amount of check \_\_\_\_\_





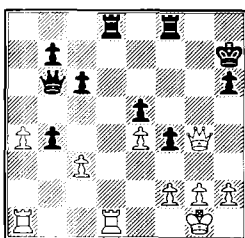
Photo by Allan Fifield

Chris Black likes his position.

# Brilliancy Prize Games from the 1998 LERA Thanksgiving Class

Poehlmann,R (2324)  
Snyder,L (2106)  
[A48] Round 2  
Open/Expert

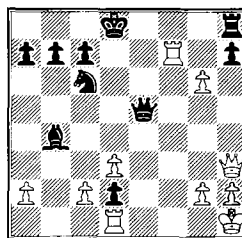
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c3 Bg7  
4.Bf4 0-0 5.Nbd2 d6 6.e4 Nbd7  
7.Bc4 Nh5 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Qe8  
10.0-0 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5  
dxe5 13.Qb3 Nf4 14.Rfd1 c6  
15.a4 g5 16.Bg3 Qe7 17.Nf1 Be6  
18.Ne3 Rad8 19.Bxe6 fxe6 20.Nf5  
Qf6 21.Bxf4 gxf4 22.Nxg7 Qxg7  
23.Qxe6+ Kh7 24.Qh3 Qc7 25.Qf3  
Qb6 26.b4 a5 27.Qg4 axb4



28.Rd7+ Rxd7 29.Qxd7+ Kg6  
30.Rd1 Qc5 31.Rd6+ 1-0

McKone,P (1813)  
Wood,W (1905)  
[C40] Round 1  
Class A

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Nc3 fxe4  
4.Nxe5 Nf6 5.Bc4 d5 6.Nxd5 Nxd5  
7.Qh5+ g6 8.Nxg6 Nf6 9.Qe5+ Be7  
10.Nxh8 Nc6 11.Qg3 Qd4 12.d3  
Bb4+ 13.Bd2 Qxb2 14.Rd1 Bg4  
15.f3 e3 16.0-0 exd2 17.Bf7+ Kd7  
18.fxg4 Rxh8 19.g5 Qd4+ 20.Kh1  
Nd5 21.Qh3+ Kd8 22.Bxd5 Qxd5  
23.g6 Qe5 24.Rf7



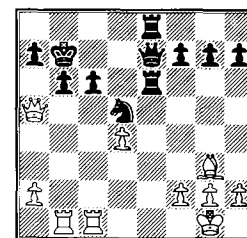
24...Qe1+ 25.Rf1 Re8 26.Qf3  
hxg6 27.h3 Bd6 28.Qf6+ Kc8  
29.Qf7 Qe5 30.g3 Rh8 31.Rxd2  
Rxh3+ 32.Kg1 Rxg3+ 33.Kf2 Qe3#  
0-1

McCalley,R (1930)  
Krasnov,S (1871)  
[E41] Round 2  
Class A

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4  
4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nge2 b6 7.0-0  
Bb7 8.Nb5 d6 9.a3 a6 10.axb4  
axb5 11.Rxa8 Qxa8 12.d5 exd5  
13.cxd5 Nxb4 14.Bxb5+ Kf8  
15.Nc3 Nbx5 16.e4 Nxc3  
17.Qxd6+ Kg8 18.bxc3 Nxe4  
19.Qxb6 Nxc3 20.Re1 Ne4 21.f3  
h5 22.fxe4 Bxe4 23.Qxc5 h4  
24.Qe5 f5 25.Bb2 Qf8 26.Bc4+  
Kh7 27.Rxe4 fxe4 28.Qh5# 1-0

Cisneros,A (1737)  
Black,C (1902)  
[C21] Round 2  
Class A

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 d5  
4.exd5 Qxd5 5.cxd4 Nc6 6.Nf3  
Bg4 7.Be2 0-0-0 8.Nc3 Bb4 9.Be3  
Bxf3 10.Bxf3 Qc4 11.Bxc6 Bxc3+  
12.bxc3 Qxc3+ 13.Bd2 Qxc6 14.0-0  
Nf6 15.Be3 Nd5 16.Rc1 Qd7  
17.Qb3 Rhe8 18.Rb1 c6 19.Rfc1  
Re6 20.Qa3 b6 21.Bg5 Rde8  
22.Bh4 Kb7 23.Bg3 Qe7 24.Qa5



24...Nb4!! 25.Qe5 Rxe5  
26.dxe5 c5 27.a3 Nc6 28.Rd1 Nd4  
29.a4 Kc6 30.Rbc1 Ne2+ 0-1

Foster,U (1687)  
Standen,J (1600)  
[B17] Round 2  
Class B

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4  
4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Ng3 e6  
7.c3 Bd6 8.Bd3 0-0 9.Qc2 Re8  
10.0-0 Qc7 11.Be3 b6 12.Rae1  
Bb7 13.Ng5 h6 14.Bh7+ Kf8  
15.Nxf7 Kxf7 16.Bg6+ Kg8  
17.Bxe8 Rxe8 18.f4 c5 19.dxc5  
Nxc5 20.Bd4 Bxf4 21.Bxf6 Bxg3  
22.hxg3 Qxg3 23.Be5 Qg5 24.Bf4  
Qg4 25.Be5 Nd3 26.Re3 Nc5  
27.Rg3 1-0

Coen,C (1669)  
Cardoza,R (1763)  
[E14] Round 2  
Class B)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.e3 e6 4.Nf3  
b6 5.Bd3 Bb7 6.Nc3 d6 7.0-0 g6  
8.Re1 Bg7 9.Rb1 0-0 10.a3 a5  
11.b4 axb4 12.axb4 Qc7 13.e4  
cxd4 14.Nb5 Qe7 15.Nbx4 Nc6  
16.Be3 Rfc8 17.Nxc6 Bxc6  
18.Bxb6 Qb7 19.Bd4 Nxe4 20.b5  
Bxd4 21.Nxd4 Nc3 22.bxc6 Qe7  
23.Rb7 Qf6 24.Qf3 Qxf3 25.gxf3  
e5 26.Nb5 Na4 27.Be4 Nc5 28.Bd5  
Rf8 29.Ra7 1-0

# The 32nd Annual 1998 LERA Thanksgiving Class Championships

November 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> 1998

120 players

Directors: Jim Hurt & Ted Yudacufski

Computer Program: "PairingPro" by Robert Massey

| Class                    | Place           |   |       |           |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|-------|-----------|
| OPEN                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> | OMAR CARTAGENA 2500 San Francisco, Ca.    | \$375 | 3.5 - 0.5 |
|                          | 2 - 4           | MLADEN VUCIC 2449 Fremont, Ca             | \$125 | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 2 - 4           | RONALD CUSI 2403 South San Francisco, Ca. | \$125 | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 2 - 4           | KENAN ZILDZIC 2305 Carmichael, Ca.        | \$125 | 3.0 - 1.0 |
| EXPERT                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> | ANTHONY ROZENVASSER 2150 Cupertino, Ca.   | \$310 | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | AGNIS KAUGARS 2116 Alameda, Ca.           | \$180 | 2.5 - 1.5 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | DANA MACKENZIE 2175 Santa Cruz, Ca.       | \$30  | 2.0 - 2.0 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | JOSE SANZ 2122 San Francisco, Ca.         | \$30  | 2.0 - 2.0 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | MARK BROWN 2068 Oakland, Ca.              | \$30  | 2.0 - 2.0 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | RICHARD NEWWEY 1809 Walnut Creek, Ca.     | \$30  | 2.0 - 2.0 |
| A                        | 1 - 2           | VICTOR BATANGAN 1921 Milpitas, Ca.        | \$213 | 3.5 - 0.5 |
|                          | 1 - 2           | MIKE MALONEY 1900 Salinas, Ca.            | \$213 | 3.5 - 0.5 |
|                          | 3 - 4           | LLOYD STEPHENSON 1851 San Francisco, Ca.  | \$40  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 3 - 4           | ERIC FINGAL 1823 Santa Cruz, Ca.          | \$40  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
| B                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> | RALPH PALMERI 1756 Nevada City, Ca.       | \$225 | 4.0 - 0.0 |
|                          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | CALIXTO MAGAOAY 1687 Vallejo, Ca.         | \$135 | 3.5 - 0.5 |
|                          | 3 - 4           | RUDY CARDOZA 1763 San Francisco, Ca.      | \$45  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 3 - 4           | MADIMO FAJARDO 1750 Vallejo, Ca.          | \$45  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
| C                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> | ILAN BENJAMIN 1550 Santa Cruz, Ca.        | \$150 | 4.0 - 0.0 |
|                          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | WILLIAM SCOTT 1357 Cupertino, Ca.         | \$90  | 3.5 - 0.5 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | CARL ODEGAARD 1496 San Jose, Ca.          | \$15  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | SAMUEL PENCE 1465 Oakland, Ca.            | \$15  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | LAURENCE KUEFFER 1435 Belmont, Ca.        | \$15  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 3 - 6           | JOCELYN LEE 1357 Fremont, Ca.             | \$15  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
| D                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> | JENNIFER FRITZ 1365 Santa Clara, Ca.      | \$75  | 3.5 - 0.5 |
| E                        | 1 - 2           | DAVID BEROSH 1145 Santa Rosa, Ca.         | \$38  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 1 - 2           | DRAKE WANG 1032 San Francisco, Ca.        | \$38  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
| F                        | 1 - 2           | BEN MLYNASH 991 Mountain View, Ca.        | \$38  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
|                          | 1 - 2           | LUIS LOPEZ 867 Modesto, Ca.               | \$38  | 3.0 - 1.0 |
| UNR                      | 1 - 2           | JOSE CHAU-LEE San Jose, Ca.               | \$38  | 3.5 - 0.5 |
|                          | 1 - 2           | S. DURAIRAJ Mountain View, Ca.            | \$38  | 3.5 - 0.5 |
| BRILLIANCY GAME WINNERS: |                 |   |       |           |
| OPEN/EXPERT              |                 |   |       |           |
|                          |                 | Roger Pohlmann, 2324, Richmond,           | \$25  |           |
|                          |                 | A Walter Wood, 1905, Berkeley,            | \$25  |           |
|                          |                 | B Ursula Foster, 1687, Modesto,           | \$25  |           |



# Region XI Women's Championship

by  
Richard Koepcke

For the past decade, the Northern and Southern California Chess organizations have worked to promote women's chess by holding an annual championship for Region XI (California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii). Every other year each organization takes its turn running and funding the tournament. In 1997 we failed to provide a venue for the tournament, so when our turn came up this year, CalChess was determined to run the event. Fortunately, Doug Shaker graciously agreed to let us use the site for the Sojourner Truth Chess Tournament for Girls as a site for this year's Region XI championship. CalChess provided a modest prize

fund of \$500 and one of our board members Hans Poschmann agreed to direct the tournament. Unfortunately this year's tournament drew only five players (a typical field is closer to 20). Perhaps the relative closeness to New Year's day was the reason for the low turnout. Hopefully the first tournament of the next millennium will draw a larger turnout.

The winner of the tournament was the lone participant from Southern California, Colette McGruder. Ursula Foster took second place honors. The final results are given here.



Photo by Allan Fifield.

**In second place, Ursula Foster had the best result of any Northern California player at the Region XI Women's Championship.**

| Name             | Rating | Score |
|------------------|--------|-------|
| Colette McGruder | 1890   | 3.5   |
| Ursula Foster    | 1681   | 3.0   |
| Juia Kozhukh     | 1411   | 2.5   |
| Carolyn Withgitt | 1883   | 1.5   |
| Bonnie Yost      | 1016   | 1.0   |

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4" King shown

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# Stanford Sectionals

by  
Richard Koepcke

For the third consecutive year, the Cardinal Chess Club hosted a tournament open to the general public. The site, Tresidder Student Union, is one of the more pleasant locations for a chess tournament. There is enough space to spread the players out so that they are not sitting shoulder to shoulder during the games. Food is easily obtained between rounds. The organizers even provide free donuts and coffee for the players. The event is a three round Swiss played on a single day. Two day events are not possible since Tresidder is not available on Sundays. The tournament was organized and directed by Adrian Keatinge-Clay and Michael Aigner with an assist from the author.

This years tournament drew 52 players. Slightly less than last year, but a decent turnout given the events proximity to the November LERA tournament that was played one week earlier. The format of the tournament is a little different from other Bay Area events. At the start of the tournament, players are sorted by rating and grouped into 10 player sections with the top 10 players in the first section and so on. For the first time, all of the sections produced a clear winner. This years winners are as follows.

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Section 1x            |     |
| Robert Sferra         | 3.0 |
| Chris von Krogh       | 2.0 |
| Anthony Rozenvasser   | 2.0 |
| Micah Fisher-Kirshner | 2.0 |
| Section 2x            |     |
| Alberto Cisneros      | 2.5 |
| Bruce Matzner         | 2.0 |
| John Acken            | 2.0 |
| James Zamboukos       | 2.0 |
| Nenad Trifunovic      | 2.0 |

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Section 3x     |     |
| Charles Coen   | 2.5 |
| Miquel Ribas   | 2.0 |
| Roy Jackson    | 2.0 |
| Duane Anderson | 2.0 |

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Section 4x         |     |
| Erik De la Iglesia | 3.0 |
| Chris Waroff       | 2.5 |

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Section 5x            |     |
| Timothy Wa            | 3.0 |
| Alexander Setzepfandt | 2.0 |
| Matthew Huang         | 2.0 |
| Derek Hwang           | 2.0 |

Here are a couple of games from the event. The first game has a small story behind it. The leader of Section 2 had to withdraw due to a prior endangerment. That allowed the player in third Alerto Cisneros to jump from half a point back to clear first with the following win.

**Alberto Cisneros [1737]**  
**James Zamboukos [1882]**  
**Sicilian, Wing Gambit - B20**

**1 e4 c5 2 b4 d5 !?**

This is not in the books, but looks playable.

**3 ed**

Probably the best try at exploiting blacks idea. The alternatives, 3 bc ed 4 f3 e5 and 3 e5 cb 4 d4 Bf5 do not offer much chance for an advantage.

**3 ... Qxd5 4 Nf3 cb 5 d4 b5?!**

This stops c4, but weakens the queenside unnecessarily. Normal developing moves such as 5 ... Bg4 or e6 are better choices.

**6 Be3 Nf6 7 Ne5 e6 8 c4?**

Challenging black to prove that his 5<sup>th</sup> move wasn't a simple mistake. As we shall see, this bold shot

does not work. White should have continued developing without trying to land a roundhouse punch. 8 Be2 Qb7 9 0-0 offered some compensation for the pawn.

**8 ... bxc3 e.p.**

Capturing with the other pawn would have been the superior choice. There was nothing to fear from 8 ... bxc4 9 Bxc4 Qxg2 10 Bb5+ Bd7 11 Nxd7 Nbx7 12 Rf1 Qb7 Qa4 13 Rd8. Black escapes with his extra material.

**9 Nxc3 Bb4 10 Rc1 0-0 11 Be2 Qxa2?!**

This also wins but is difficult to execute in a practical game. 11 ... Ne4! is the right way to refute White's idea. Black is simply two pawns up after the forcing line, 12 Bf3 Nxc3 13 Rxc3 Bxc3+ 14 Kf1 Qxa2 15 Bxa8 Nbd7.

**12 0-0 Bxc3 13 Rxc3 Nd5?**

Black should keep d5 available for the queen. 13 ... Bb7 is better since 14 Bxb5?? loses a piece to Qd5.

**14 Rb3**

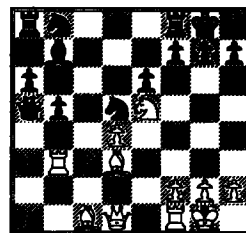
Starting on a plan to trap the queen.

**14 ... a6 15 Bd3 Bb7 16 Bc1!**

It is not often one gets to threaten to trap the opposing queen on one side of board and threaten mate on the other. Black defends against the former.

**16 ... Qa5?**

The fatal mistake. Black can still keep some of his material advantage with 16 ... Nf6 17 Ba3 Bd5 18 Rc3 b4! 19 Bxb4 Qb2. White cannot coordinate is his pieces fast enough to trap the errant queen.



**17 Bxh7+ Kxh7**

17 ... Kh8 only prolongs the inevitable as 18 Rh3 Nf6 19 Be4+ is decisive.

**18 Qh5+ Kg8 19 Rh3 Resigns**



**Robert Sferra [2200]**  
**Anthony Rozenzasser [2150]**  
**Larsen's Opening - A01**

**1 b3**

Sferra always plays Larsen's Opening with white so its appearance should not have surprised black. There are two reasons one might consider playing this occasionally. The theory has not changed since the mid 70s so a lot of opening study is not required; and it is very likely the opposition will be playing in unfamiliar territory. The downside is that black can pretty much obtain equality by playing natural moves.

**1 ... e5 2 Bb2 Nc6 3 e3 d5**

The sharpest way to handle the opening. The other common tries are 3 ... d6 and 3 ... Nf6.

**4 Bb5 Bd6 5 Nf3**

A lot of games in the early 1970s showed that 5 f4 Qh4+ 6 g3 Qe7 is inferior to the text.

**5 ... Qe7 6 c4 a6!**

An improvement on Zwaig - Poulsson Sandefjord 1975, which continued 6 ... Nf6? 7 c5 Bxc5 8 Nxe5 0-0 9 Nxc6 bc 10 Be2 Bd6 where Keene claims a big advantage for white after 11 d4.

**7 cd ab 8 dc bc**

Black's greater control of space in the center and potential activity down the a-file compensates for his shattered queenside pawns. Chances are equal although black will have to achieve something in the middle game. In the long run, white will have the better winning chances in almost any ending.

**9 Qc2 Bd7 10 d3**

Worth considering is 10 Nc3 with followed by Ne2 and d4.

**10 ... f5 !?**

A natural move to play in Sicilian like structures, but not necessarily best. Nf6 followed by 0-0 and c5 is a good alternative.

**11 Nbd2 Nf6 12 0-0 0-0 13 e4!**

Sooner or later white will have to play this to prevent black from playing e4 himself. If black gets this move in without losing the e-pawn, he will suddenly have five pieces engaged in a direct attack against the white king verses one defender, the king himself. White would not

survive such an onslaught.

**13 ... f4?**

A premature pawn push. The f4 square might be an important outpost for a Knight or a Rook. 13 ... c5 answering the immediate threat of 14 ef is a stronger response.

**14 d4**

The classical response to a wing attack is a counter attack in the center.

**14 ... ed 15 Bxd4 Ng4 16 Rfe1**

White is trying to keep his initiative going in the center. 16 e5 cannot be played immediately owing to 16 ... Nxe5 17 Rfe1 Nxf3+. My preference is for 16 a4 activating the outside passed pawn.

**16 ... Bb4 17 Re2 Rad8 18 Bc3**

Objectively there is no need to rush to exchange Bishops. 18 a4 is still a good option.

**18 ... Bc5?**

Threatening 19 ... Bxf2+ 20 Rxf2 Qc5. Unfortunately, white can sidestep this combination, and obtain the advantage along the way.

**19 b4! Bb6**

Bxb4 loses a piece to Qb3+

**20 Nb3 c5 21 bc Bxc5 22 Nxc5 Qxc5 23 Bd4 Qxc2 24 Rxc2 c6**

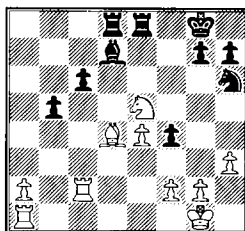
White has achieved his favorable ending. His pawn majority is more dangerous than black's since the latter is firmly blockaded.

**25 h3 Nh6?**

Perhaps planning Nf7-d6-c4 but there is a tactical flaw with the concept. Nf6 is the only way to avoid losing material.

**26 Ne5 Rfe8**

26 ... Be8 loses the exchange to 27 Bc5 Rf6 28 Be7. The text at least will allow black to pick up a pawn in the exchange. The only other alternative would have been to give up the c-pawn (Bc8) in the hopes that opposite colored bishops might yet save the day.



**27 Bb6 Rxe5 28 Bxd8 Rxe4 29 Rd1 Be8 30 Kf1 Nf7 31 Bc7 Ne5 32 Bxe5 Rxe5 33 Re2**

After the exchange of Rooks, Blacks f-pawn will effectually fall. Meanwhile the queenside majority is still stymied.

**33 ... Rxe2 34 Kxe2 c5 35 Re8 Kf7 36 Rc8 c4 37 a3 g5?**

There is no need to give up the h-pawn, h6 would have been preferable.

**38 Rc7+ Kf6 39 Rxh7 Bf7 40 Kd2 Bd5 41 f3!?**

White could chose to create a passed pawn via 41 g3 and h4 instead. However the reduced material may make winning difficult, so he decides to close the kingside temporarily hoping to eventually win the f-pawn by bringing his King to e4 followed by h4.

**41 ... Bf7 42 Kc3 Ke6 43 Rh6+ Ke5 44 Rb6 Be8 45 Rb8 Bc6 46 Rg8 Kf5 47 Kd4 Kf6 48 Rc8 Bd7 49 Rc7 Ke6 50 Rc5 Kf6 51 Re5**

While observing the game, I thought White had missed an opportunity to put an end to the game with 51 h4 gh 52 Ke4. However White has found another winning plan based on Zugzwang.

**51 ... Bc6 52 Re1 Bd7 53 Kc5**

The point! Black will soon have to shed the b-pawn because he must give ground somewhere.

**53 ... Kg6 54 Re7 Bf5**

54 ... c3 55 Re1 | not 55 Rxd7?? c2 | c2 56 Rc1 Bf5 57 Kxb5 doesn't change the result.

**55 Kxb5 c3 56 Rc7 c2 57 a4** and white won a few moves later.

**FRESNO FALL QUAD**

*by*  
**Bonnie Yost**

The Fresno Fall Quad went well as it was the first "quad" event I have ever directed and I was happy to get 16 players. Milenko Maric of Bakersfield went 3 of 3 and defeated Dr. Bakhoun of Visalia in the last round to take first. We had 6 scholastic players but only 3 from the Fresno Club attended.



**Omar  
Cartagena**



**Berislav  
Santic, Bosina**



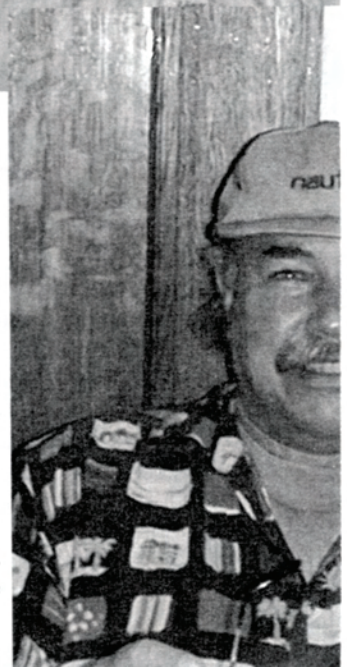
**Max Wilkerson  
himself!**



**Ronald Cusi,  
Philippines**



**IM John  
Grefe**





David Blohm

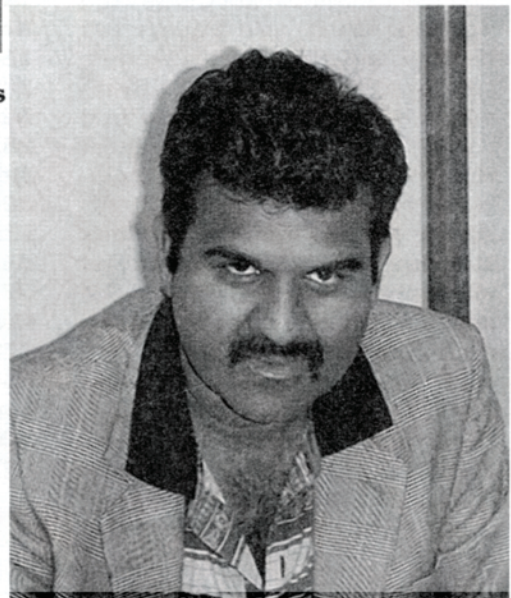
IM Mladen  
Vucic



Mark Pinto



Vinay Bhat made his  
first IM norm at the  
Wilkerson!



Richard  
Lobo, En-  
gland

## Max Wilkerson International

*Mechancis Institute, San Francisco*

November 18-30, 1998

Category II (Average rating of 2290) with an IM norm of 8.0 points

|    |                   |     |      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Score |
|----|-------------------|-----|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-------|
| 1  | Bhat, Vinay S     | USA | 2235 | * | = | = | = | 1 | = | 1 | = | 1 | =  | 1  | 1  | 8.0   |
| 2  | Rey, Guillermo IM | USA | 2370 | = | * | = | = | 1 | = | 1 | = | 1 | 1  | 0  | =  | 7.0   |
| 3  | Grefe, John IM    | USA | 2405 | = | = | * | = | = | 1 | = | = | = | 1  | 1  | =  | 7.0   |
| 4  | Vucic, Mladen IM  | USA | 2385 | = | = | = | * | = | = | = | 1 | = | 1  | 1  | =  | 7.0   |
| 5  | Cartagena, Omar   | USA | 2435 | 0 | 0 | = | = | * | = | = | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | 7.0   |
| 6  | Lobo, Richard     | USA | 2285 | = | = | 0 | = | = | * | = | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0  | 1  | 5.5   |
| 7  | Cusi, Ronald      | PHI | 2355 | 0 | 0 | = | = | = | = | * | = | = | 1  | =  | 1  | 5.5   |
| 8  | Baker, Jonathan   | USA | 2135 | = | = | = | 0 | 0 | 0 | = | * | = | 1  | 0  | 1  | 4.5   |
| 9  | Blohm, David      | USA | 2205 | 0 | 0 | = | = | 0 | 0 | = | = | * | 0  | 1  | 1  | 4.0   |
| 10 | Pinto, Mark       | USA | 2165 | = | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | *  | 1  | =  | 4.0   |
| 11 | Schiller, Eric    | USA | 2190 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | = | 1 | 0 | 0  | *  | 0  | 3.5   |
| 12 | Santic, Berislav  | BOS | 2315 | 0 | = | = | = | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | =  | 1  | *  | 3.0   |

All photos by Eric Schiller

# News from THE Far North

Report by James Bauman and Bill Herman

Bob Snyder won his 3rd straight Swiss tournament by again going undefeated in the 5 round Sept/Oct Open. James Bauman took 2nd place suffering his only defeat at the hands of Bob. Michael Taylor was 3rd, Perry Phillips 4th and Fred Hope 5th. A total of ten players participated.

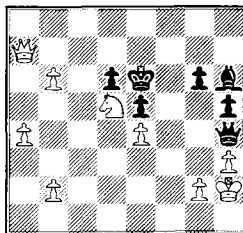
Going into the last round, four players had an opportunity to win first place in the Arcata Chess Club Nov/Dec Open. Co-leaders Bill Herman and James Williams were both upset by Telos Deosil a freshman at Arcata High School and Perry Phillips a graduate student at Humboldt State University. This allowed Emilio Periz, a foreign exchange student from France who's attending Arcata High, to take first place honors with a score of 3.5 points. Emilio entered in the 3rd round and had 3 victories a 1/2 point bye and no defeats. This was his first USCF chess tournament. Herman, Williams and Fred Hope, a student at Bloomfield Elementary, all tied for second place with 3 points each. Phillips and Deosil tied for 5th.

In the yearly Club Championship, conducted concurrently with the Nov/Dec Open, James Bauman went undefeated in a double-round robin and won first place. Bob Clayton took 2nd with 3 points. Bob Snyder, from Eureka, took 3rd and Michael Taylor, the defending champion from Eureka, took 4th.

On Dec 6th a five round junior tournament was held to determine the clubs junior champion. Telos Deosil defeated Fred Hope in the key 4th round to go undefeated with 5 points and win the championship. Fred was 2nd with 4 points. Terry Wolf and Alex Hockenson, of Arcata High, came in 3rd and 4th respectively. Joe Serverdia, from Jacoby Creek Jr. High took 5th place.

**Bob Clayton (1656)**  
**Michael Taylor (1585)**  
**Round 1**  
**Arcata 1998**  
**Club Championship**  
**Kings Indian Defense**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 g6  
 4.e4 Nbd7 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Be2 0-0  
 7.0-0 Re8 8.Re1 b6 9.Bf1 Bb7  
 10.h3 e5 11.d5 a5 12.Be3 Qe7  
 13.Qc2 c6 14.dxc6 Bxc6 15.Rad1  
 Nc5 16.Nd2 Rac8 17.f3 Qb7  
 18.Ndb1 Red8 19.Na3 Ne6  
 20.Nab5 Ne8 21.Qf2 Rb8 22.Rd2  
 N8c7 23.Na4 Bxb5 24.cxb5 Na8  
 25.Red1 Bf8 26.Bc4 Nec7 27.Nc3  
 Qc8 28.Nd5 Qb7 29.Nc3 Qc8  
 30.Bd5 Nxd5 31.Nxd5 Qc4 32.Nc3  
 Rb7 33.a4 Rdb8 34.Rc2 Rc8  
 35.Rdc1 Qe6 36.Nd5 Rxc2  
 37.Rxc2 f5 38.Bxb6 Nxb6 39.Nxb6  
 fxe4 40.fxe4 Rf7 41.Qe3 Qa2  
 42.Qc3 Qb1+ 43.Kh2 Qf1 44.Qd2  
 h5 45.Rc1 Qf6 46.Nd5 Qd8 47.b6  
 Qh4 48.Qe1 Qd8 49.Rc7 Bh6  
 50.Rxf7 Kxf7 51.Qxa5 Qh4  
 52.Qa7+ Ke6

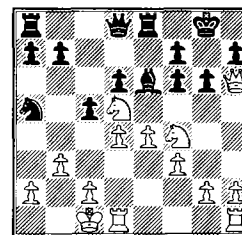


53.Qe7+ Qxe7 54.Nxe7 Be3  
 55.Nd5 Bd4 56.b4 Kd7 57.b5 Kc8  
 58.a5 Kb8 59.Kg3 g5 60.Kf3 Kb7  
 61.Ke2 Bc5 62.Kd3 Bg1 63.Kc4  
 Bf2 64.a6+ Ka8 65.Nc7+ 0-1

**James Bauman (1848)**  
**Stephen Lynn Jenkins (2015)**  
**Round 3**  
**Sept/Oct Open**  
**Trompovsky Attack**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 g6 4.f3

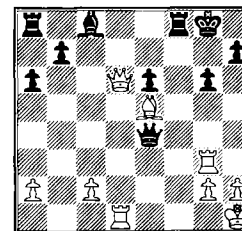
Nf6 5.e4 Bg7 6.Nc3 d6 7.Bc4 0-0  
 8.Nge2 Nbd7 9.Qd2 c5 10.Bh6  
 Nb6 11.Bg7 Nc4 12.Qh6 Re8  
 13.Bf6 ef 14.0-0-0 Qb6 15.b3 Na5  
 16.Nd5 Qd8 17.Nef4 Be6



18.Nh5! 0-1

**Bob Snyder (1768)**  
**James Bauman (1848)**  
**Round 4,**  
**Sept/Oct Open**  
**Poisoned Pawn Variation**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd  
 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4  
 Qb6 8.Qd2 Qb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.Be2  
 Nbd7 11.0-0 Qc5 12.Kh1 Be7  
 13.f5 Ne5? 14.fe fe 15.Be3 Qc7  
 16.Nf3 Nc4 17.Bc4 Qc4 18.e5 de  
 19.Ne5 Qh4 20.Bg5 Qh5 21.Rf3  
 0-0 22.Rh3 Qe8 23.Qd3 Qd8  
 24.Qg3 Bd6 25.Rd1 Qc7 26.Bf4  
 Be5 27.Be5 Qf7 28.Qd3 Qg6  
 29.Qd6 Ne4 30.Ne4 Qe4 31.Rg3  
 g6



32.Qc7 Bd7 33.Qd7 Rf7 34.Qe6  
 Qe2 35.Rgd3 Raf8 36.Rd8 0-1



# Readers Showcase



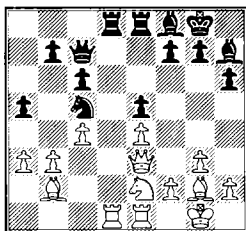
**After returning from Hawaii, NM Eric Schiller ambushed state champion IM Guillermo Rey at the Max Wilkerson International**

This column is for our readers to share their best games with their peers. Players of all strengths are encouraged to submit their best games. Please provide as much detail as possible about the tournament, your opponent and yourself. A picture of yourself is not mandatory but would be appreciated. Please send all contributions to: California Chess Journal, PO Box 27, Visalia CA 93279-0027.

**Rey,G (2370)**  
**Schiller,E (2190)**  
**[A12]**

**Wilkerson International**  
**San Francisco (10), 1998**  
**Annotated by NM Eric Schiller**

1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.b3 Nf6  
 4.Bb2 Bf5 5.g3 h6 6.Bg2 e6 7.0-0  
 Nbd7 8.d3 Be7 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.a3  
 a5 11.Qc2 Re8 12.Rfe1 Bf8 13.e4  
 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.dxe4 Bh7  
 16.Rad1 Qc7 17.Nd4 Rad8 18.Qc3  
 Nc5 19.Qe3 e5! 20.Ne2? White  
 underestimated the power of the  
 sacrifice of the e-pawn. [20.Nf5 was  
 necessary, though Black would be  
 happy with the position after  
 20...Qb6 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Bxe5  
 Qxb3 23.Qxb3 Nxb3 .; 20.Nc2 b5  
 gives Black the initiative.]



20...Rxd1! 21.Rxd1 Rd8  
 22.Rxd8 Qxd8 23.Bxe5 Qd1+  
 24.Bf1 Nxb3 Black has recovered  
 the pawn, and the remaining  
 queenside pawns are weak. It took  
 a while, but Black eventually won.  
 25.Nc3 Qd2 26.a4 Qxe3 27.fxe3  
 Nd2 28.Kf2 f6 29.Bc7 Bb4 30.Na2  
 Nxe4+ 31.Ke2 Nc5 32.Nc1 Nxa4  
 33.Bh3 Nc5 34.Bd6 Bg6 35.Na2  
 Nd3 36.Be6+ Kh7 37.Nxb4 axb4  
 38.c5 Be4 39.Kd2 Kg6 40.Bc4  
 Ne5 41.Be2 Kf5 42.Bf8 Nd7  
 43.g4+ Kg6 44.Bd6 Ne5 45.h3 Bg2  
 46.h4 Bd5 47.Bc7 Nd7 48.Bd6 Kf7  
 49.Kd3 b3 50.Kc3 b6 51.cxb6  
 Nxb6 52.Bd3 0-1

**David Murray (1542)**  
**Zachary Karnazes (1341)**  
**Burlingame Chess Club**  
**10/29/98**

**Annotated by NM Gabe Sanchez**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5  
 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0  
 0-0 8.Re1?

Too passive here. Normal idea  
 is Qe2 and Rd1

8...a6 9.a3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 b5

Black gains space and time. His  
 Queens Bishop gets to a nice diagonal.

11.Bd3 Bb7 12.Bc2 Qc7  
 13.dxc5?

This exchange helps Black. Now

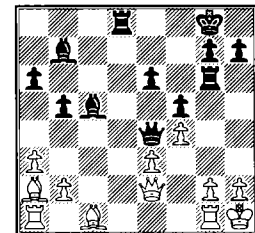
his Kings Bishop view is improved.  
 13...Bxc5 14.Ne4 Nxe4  
 15.Bxe4 f5!

A nice, aggressive move gaining  
 space and menacing White's  
 Kingside.

16.Bd3 Ne5 17.Nxe5 Qxe5  
 18.f4 Qd5 19.Qe2 Rad8

Black is beautiful here. Central-  
 ized Queen, active Rooks, and  
 sharpshooter Bishops.

20.Bb1 Rf6! 21.Ba2 Qe4  
 22.Kh1 Rg6 23.Rg1



23...Rxc2! 24.Qxc2 Qxc2+ 0-1

Now 25.Rxc2 Rd1 MATE. A cute  
 and well deserved finish! Very direct  
 and energetic chess by Zachary  
 Karnazes, age 11.

**Next Submission  
 Deadline is  
 April 20th**



# Central Coast Chess News from Monterey

By Duncan Oxley

Two tournaments were held at the Monterey Chess Center recently. The first, on September 20, had a good turnout of 18 players including a master and three experts. Here are the results and three games:

## Monterey Open 9/20/98

### Open

|     |                |        |
|-----|----------------|--------|
| 1-3 | Robert Sferra  | 2.5-.5 |
|     | Dana Mackenzie | 2.5-.5 |
|     | Abe Mina       | 2.5-.5 |

### Reserve

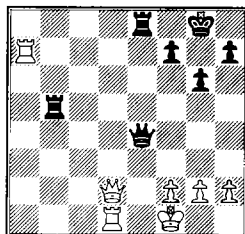
|     |              |     |
|-----|--------------|-----|
| 1   | Duncan Oxley | 3-0 |
| 2-3 | Peter Klien  | 2-1 |
|     | Vue Yang     | 2-1 |

### C. Cohen (1780) Scott Christanson (2030) Round 1

1.Nf3 c5 2.e3 Nf6 3.d4 cd 4.ed d5 5.Be2 Bf5 6.c4 Nc6 7.0-0 e6 8.a3 dc 9.Nc3 Bd6 10.Bc4 0-0 11.Bg5 Be7 12.Qd2 Rc8 13.Ba2 Bg4 14.d5 Bf3 15.gf Nd5 16.Be7 Nde7 17.Qg5 Nf5 18.f4 Ncd4 19.f3 Qb6 20.Kh1 Qb2 21.Ne4 Rc2 22.Qh5 Nh6 (22...Nf3 wins. If 23.Rf3 Qa1. If 23.Qf3 Rh2 24.Kg1 Nh4 and the hit on the Queen and the g2 square spells D-O-O-M. Tom Thrush) 23.Rg1 Nf3 24.Rg7 Qg7 0-1

### R. Sferra (2200) A. Mina (2020) Round 2

1.b3 b6 2.Bb2 Bb7 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.Be2 c5 7.0-0 0-0 8.d3 Nc6 9.Nc3 d5 10.cd Nd5 11.Qd2 e5 12.Rfd1 Nc3 13.Bc3 Qe7 14.Qb2 Ba6 15.a3 Rfe8 16.Bf1 Rad8 17.b4 cb 18.ab Bb5 19.d4 Bf1 20.Kf1 ed 21.ed Qe4 22.b5 Na5 23.Ba5 ba 24.Ra5 Bd4 25.Nd4 Rd4 26.Raa1 Rb4 27.Qd2 Rb5 28.Ra7 Rb1?



(28...Rd5! would wins outright! Queen is hit and can't safely move to protect both e2 and d1. A classic case of the "overloaded" or "over-worked" piece. Thrush) 29.Ra1 1/2-1/2 A narrow escape for Sferra!

### R. Sferra(2200) S.Christensen(2030) Round 3

1.b3 Nf6 2.Bb2 e6 3.Nf3 g6 4.e4 Bg7 5.e5 Nd5 6.c4 Ne7 7.d4 d6 8.ed cd 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Nbc6 11.Nc3 d5 12.c5 b6 13.Na4 Bd7 14.a3 Nf5 15.g4 Nh6 16.h3 Ne7 17.b4 Qe8 18.Nc3 f5 19.g5 Nf7 20.Qd2 Rd8 21.Rfe1 bc 22.bc e5?? 23.de Be5 24.Ne5 Ne5 25.Nd5 Bc6 26.Ne7+ Qe7 27.Qe3 Rfe8 28.Be5 1-0

On November 29, another tournament was held in Ted Yudacufski's usual 2 section, 3 round Swiss format (30 in 60 followed by game in 30). 24 players showed up including a master and 5 experts. This tournament was not quite as tranquil and generated a lot of controversy. Notable was a first round C-player, who after being upset by a 1100, came downstairs and threw a tantrum before withdrawing. Also, a mystery girl from Big Sur showed up claiming a 2100 rating but after getting mated by a 1500 with two queens in the second round decided to follow suit with a withdrawal. Mina got paired

with Sferra in the third round and decided to exact his revenge for his lost ½ point! (see game above). Lev Frenklakh brought Jennie's little brother, Sergey, over to get in some practice, and a pretty second round game with a bishop sac to make a queen was marred by an overlooked knight fork. Ouch!

Here are the results and some games:

## Monterey Open 11/29/98

### Open

|     |                    |     |
|-----|--------------------|-----|
| 1   | Gaudencio Delacruz | 3-0 |
| 2-3 | Robert Sferra      | 2-1 |
|     | Dana Mackenzie     | 2-1 |
|     | Mark Marron        | 2-1 |
|     | Abe Mina           | 2-1 |
|     | Todd McFarren      | 2-1 |

### Reserve

|     |                  |     |
|-----|------------------|-----|
| 1   | Duncan Oxley     | 3-0 |
| 2-3 | David Soto       | 2-1 |
|     | Sergey Frenklakh | 2-1 |
|     | Henry Fanoe      | 2-1 |
|     | Bill Smith       | 2-1 |
|     | Wane Chin        | 2-1 |

### R.Sferra(2200) A.Mina(1990) Round 2

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 c5 3.e3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.h3 Bf5 6.Bb5 e6 7.Bc6+ bc 8.0-0 Nf6 9.d3 Be7 10.Nbd7 0-0 11.Ne5 Qc7 12.f4 h6 13.g4 Bh7 14.Qe2 Nd7 15.Nd7 Qd7 16.e4 Rad8 17.Nf3 f5 18.gf de 19.de Kh8 20.Rad1 Qc8 21.Rd8 Bd8 22.Qg2 Bf6 23.e5 Be7 24.Qg3 Bf5 25.Rf2 Rd8 26.Rg2 Rg8 27.Nh4 Bh4 28.Qh4 Qd7 29.Kh2 Qd1 30.Qf2 Be4 31.Qe2 Qe2 32.Re2 Bf5 33.Ba3 Rd8 34.Bc5 Rd5 35.b4 a6 36.a4 Kg8 37.c3 Rd3 38.Re3 Rd2+ 39.Kg3 Ra2 40.a5 Rd2 41.Re1 Kf7 42.h4 Kg6 43.Bd4 Kh5 44.Bc5 Rd3+ 45.Re3 Rd1 46.Be7 Rd2 47.Bc5 Bd3 48.Bf8 g6 49.Rf3 Be3 50.Re3 Bd5 51.Be7 Rg2+ 52.Kh3 Rg4 53.Bf6 Rf5 54.Rg3 g5 55.Re3 Rh4+ 56.Kg3 Rg4+ 57.Kh3 Rg2 0-1

Here Ismael Diaz shows all us C-players how to beat a master, until he loses the thread around move 29.

Continued on page 30

# STAMER MEMORIAL: A HISTORY

by  
**Mike Goodall**

The Stamer Memorial has always been an old-fashioned chess tournament: a one-section open Swiss with grandmasters and beginners competing together for prizes. Most tournament players don't like this format since it produces extreme mismatches. Those players who enjoy taking on all comers with the risk or opportunity of an upset are the ones who play in the Stamer. The Mechanics' Chess Club can comfortably hold about 80 players and it would be swamped if many more entered (such as the 119 players Director Roy Hoppe had to deal with in 1973).

The Stamer was held on the July 4 holiday weekend from 1964 to 1975, after which it was moved back to a weekend in June to make way for a larger Golden Gate Open in San Fran-

cisco. Later when the annual Gay Freedom Day parade chose a route passing 50 feet from the chess room, the noise was responsible for the tournament moving to an earlier weekend in June.

The list of Stamer winners reflects the best local players over the years. Nearly all of the winners called Northern California home for at least awhile. Four of the winners were or became International Grandmasters, and eleven were or became International Masters. About the only top local player missing from the roster is Jay Whitehead. The list provokes the repeated inquiry: "Where are they now?" As far as I know, all the winners are still alive, including Roy Ervin for whom a memorial tournament was held several years ago. Some of them

are still playing, but some have committed the gravest sin of all: dropping out of chess to lead more normal lives.

The tournament honors Arthur B. Stamer, the first chess room director at the Mechanics' Institute in San Francisco. A brief memorial to Stamer may be found on page 13 in the September 1966 Chess Life. Stamer himself was strong enough to win a tournament of this strength. There were no Swisses in his day — George Koltanowski didn't introduce them to America until the forties. Arthur Stamer was the first of many fine gentlemen to hold the position of Chess room director at the Mechanics' Institute. One of the responsibilities of the director is to ensure that the Stamer Memorial is held every year. I have had the pleasure of directing more than 25 of the 35 Stamer tournaments. I hope to see many of you at the next Stamer June 11-13 at the Mechanics Institute.

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# Fresno County Championship

*Upsets Abound In Fresno*  
Nov. 21-22, 1998

*Selections, Annotations and  
Photos by Allan Fifield*

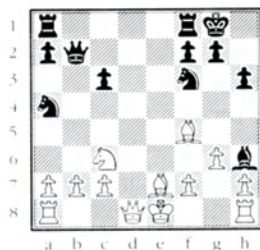


**Rashid  
Ziatdinov  
came all the  
way from  
Arizona.**

**Russell,D (1881)  
Ziatdinov,R (2589)  
[C59] Open Round 1**

The difference between the working professional and the talented amateur: Darren Russell thought they were playing a competitive game with chances for both sides while as Rashid Ziatdinov explained after the game "the whole line was known to be bad for White."

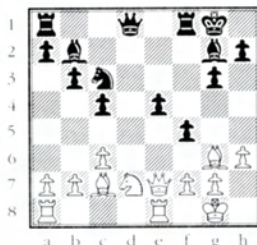
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5!?! Why not? 4...d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Be2 h6 9.Nf3 e4 10.Ne5 Bd6 11.d4 exd3 12.Nxd3 Qc7 13.Nc3 0-0 14.g3 Bh3 15.Nf4 Bxf4 16.Bxf4 Qb7



17.Qd4? c5! 18.Qxc5 Qxh1+ 19.Kd2 Qxa1 20.Qxa5 Rad8+ 21.Bd3 Rfe8 22.Be5 Ng4 23.Bc7 Qe1# 0-1

**Vue,V (922)  
George,D (1474)  
[A48] Reserve Round 1**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 d6 5.e4 0-0 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.0-0 c5 8.c3 b6 9.Re1 Bb7 10.e5 dxe5 11.dxe5 Ng4 12.Bf4 Ngxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Bc2 Nc6 15.Qe2 e5 16.Bg3 f5 17.h3 f4



Black's pawn avalanche will soon collapse. 18.Bh2 Ne7 19.Rad1 Nf5 20.Be4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Nh4 22.Nf3 Nxf3+ 23.Qxf3 Qg5 24.Rd5 Qf5 25.c4 Qc2 26.Qe2 Qxe2 27.Rxe2 Rae8 28.Re4 Rc8 29.g3 g5 30.g4 a6 31.Rd6 Rf6 32.Rd5 Rfc6 33.b3 b5 34.f3 bxc4 35.Rxc4 Bf8 36.Rxe5 Rd8 37.Rxg5+ Kh8 38.Bxf4 Rd1+ 39.Kg2 h6 40.Rf5 Bg7 41.Rxc5 Re6 42.Be5 Rd2+ 43.Kg3 Rxa2 44.Rf7 Rg6 45.Bxg7+ Rxg7

**Jeffery Merrick of  
Mountain View  
played well in  
Fresno**

46.Rxg7 Kxg7 and white went on to win for a 553 point upset. 1-0

**Kellogg,P (1153)  
Yost,K (802)  
[C20] Reserve Round 1**

A 351 point upset in the second round of the reserve

1.e4 e5 2.Qh5 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Qd1 Bc5 5.Nf3 d6 6.d4 exd4 7.Nxd4 Bxd4 8.Qxd4 Nxd4 9.Be3 Nxc2+ 10.Kd1 Nxa1 11.Kc1 Nb3+ 12.axb3 Be6 13.Kc2 Qf6 14.Bb5+ Bd7 15.Be2 0-0-0 16.Bxa7 Nh6 17.Be3 Ng4 18.f3 Nxe3+ 19.Kd3 Nxe2 20.Ra1 Kb8 21.Nd5 Nf4+ 22.Ke3 Nxd5+ 23.exd5 Qxb2 24.Rd1 Qxb3+ 25.Kf2 Rhe8 26.Kg2 Rxe2+ 27.Kg3 Qxd1 0-1

**Holloway,A (1265)  
Wexler,H (1522)  
[C69] Reserve Round 2**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6

The Exchange Variation a la Fischer!

4...dxc6

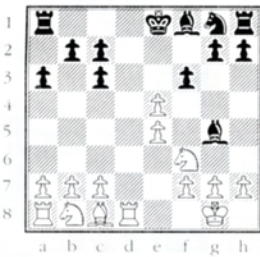
At the master level, white has given up the two bishops for a superior pawn formation. Below master, it's a lottery.

5.0-0 f6? 6.d4?!

Tempting is 6.Nxe5! fxe5 7.Qh5+ and to avoid dropping the rook after 7...g6 (or Ke7) 8.Qxe5+ black must play 7...Kd7 with misery to follow.

6...Bg4 7.dxe5 Qxd1 8.Rxd1





8...fxe5?

8...Bxf3 first followed by 9. gxf3 fxe5 gets black back in the game.

9.Rd3 Bd6 10.Bg5 Nf6 11.Nbd2 0-0 12.Re1 b5 13.Nb3 Nh5 14.Ree3 Rf7 15.h3 Be6 16.Rc3 Bd7 17.Nc5 b4 18.Rc4 Be6?

18...a4 defending the b pawn might offer some practical chances of trapping the rook at c4.

19.Nxe6 Nf4 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.Re1 Re7 22.e5 Rxe6 23.exd6 Rxe1+ 24.Nxe1 cxd6 25.Rxb4 Re8 26.Kf1 1-0

Blacks resignation seems a little early against a 1200 player but nevertheless a nicely played 285 point upset of which young Adam Holloway can be very proud.

**Vogland,J (1569)**

**Alpers,M (754)**

**[B29] Reserve Round 2**

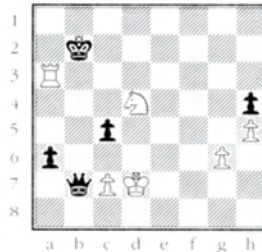
As the saying goes "Nobody ever won by resigning" and youngster Mike Alpers hangs on grimly through many a dead lost position to finally notch an 815 point upset.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e5 Ng4 4.d4 b6 5.d5 d6 6.Bb5+ Nd7 7.e6 fxe6 8.dxe6 Ngf6 9.exd7+ Bxd7 10.Bxd7+ Qxd7 11.Bg5 Ne4 12.Qd5 Nxe5 13.Qxa8+ Kf7 14.Nxe5+ Kf6 15.Ne4+ Kg6 16.Qd5 e5 17.Nbc3



**Kurt Jacobs is a welcomed visitor to Fresno.**

Qg4 18.0-0 h6 19.Nxd6 Kh7 20.g3 Qg6 21.f4 Bxd6 22.Qxd6 Qxd6 23.Rad1 Qe6 24.f5 Qf6 25.Ne4 Qf7 26.f6 Rf8 27.fxg7 Qxg7 28.Rxf8 Qxf8 29.Rf1 Qd8 30.Nf6+ Kg6 31.Kg2 h5 32.Rf2 Kg5 33.Ne4+ Kg6 34.Nc3 Qa8+ 35.Kg1 Kg5 36.Re2 Kg4 37.Re4+ Kf5 38.Kf2 b5 39.Re1 b4 40.Ne4 Kg4 41.Re2 a5 42.Ke1 a4 43.Nf2+ Kf3 44.Nd3 Qa6 45.Rf2+ Kg4 46.Nxe5+ Kg5 47.Nd3 Qe6+ 48.Re2 Qxa2 49.Re5+ Kg4 50.Re4+ Kf5 51.Rf4+ Kg5 52.h4+ Kh6 53.Kd2 a3 54.bxa3 bxa3 55.Ra4 c4 56.Ra6+ Kg7 57.Ra7+ Kf6 58.Ra6+ Ke7 59.Ra7+ Kd6 60.Ra6+ Kc7 61.Nb4 Qb2 62.Nd5+ Kb7



63.Rb6+ Apparently winning the queen but . . .

63...Qxb6 64.Nxb6 a2! ...while the rook is gone forever, the queen will be reborn so 0-1

**Foster,U (1687)**

**Viscaino,J (1831)**

**[E20] Open Round 2**

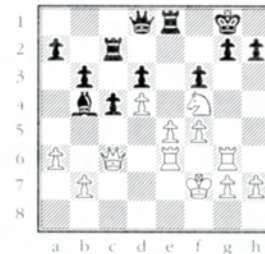
The story of the tournament so far is Ursula Foster who started the tournament ranked 23rd out of the 26 players in the Open section. In her first round, Ursula's master-ranked opponent apparently time forfeited. In a nice display of sportmanship, Ursula graciously offered her opponent a draw when a controversy arose as to whether the clock had possibly malfunctioned. In the second round, Ursula uncorked this nice win against one of Northern California's more promising young players. Ursula finished the second round with 1 1/2 points and is now number seven in the standings.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.e3 0-0 6.Bd2 d6 7.Nge2 Nc6

**Father Mike Haun and son Ben Haun scored well in Fresno.**



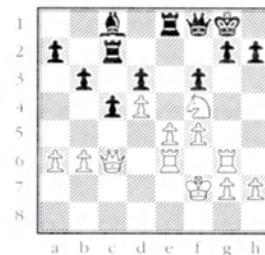
8.a3 Ba5 9.Qc2 Bb6 10.d5 exd5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.cxd5 Ne5 13.Ng3 Re8 14.Be2 Ng6 15.e4 Ba5 16.Bxa5 Qxa5+ 17.Kf2 Nf4 18.Rhe1 Nxe2 19.Rxe2 Bd7 20.Rae1 Bb5 21.Re3 f6 22.Nf5 Qd8 23.f4 Rc8 24.Rg3 Rc7 25.Ree3 b6 26.Qc3



A Nice Looking Third Rank!

26...Ba6 27.b3 Bc8 28.Nh4 Qe7 29.Nf5 Qf8?

White's knight is too powerful and black must take her chances with 29...Bxf5



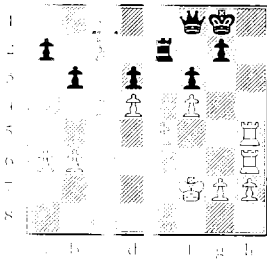
30.Nh6+! Ouch! 30...Kh8 31.Ng4 h5?

Here black needs to bleed the knight off with 31...Bxg4. White's attack will be powerful but there just might be a defense.

32.f5!! hxg4 33.Rxg4 Ree7 34.Rh4+ 34...Kg8 35.Reh3



**Joseph De Bor** tough on board four in the last round.



Bomber took Rain Death from The Sky!

Rxe4 36. Rh8+ Kf7 37. Rxf8+ Kxf8 38. Rh8+ Kf7 39. Qf3 Re5 40. Qh5+ g6 Resignation would not be premature. 41. Qxg6+ Ke7 42. Qe8# 1-0

**Vang, V (992)**  
**Grant, R (1213)**  
**[A46] Reserve Round 3**

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c6 3. Bg5 h6?!  
The "Who knows" opening.  
4. Bh4 g5 5. Bg3 Ne4 6. Nbd2 Nxc3?

Black has burned five moves to get rid of an average bishop. Any reasonable developing moves would have been better.

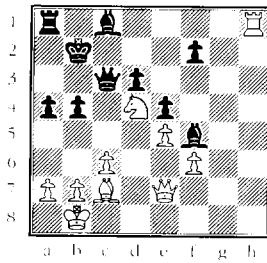
7. hxg3 Bg7 8. e4 g4 9. Nh2?!  
Nh4 or Ne5 seems better than hiding the knight in the corner.  
9...h5 10. e3 Qc7 11. Bd3 d6 12. Qc2?!  
Qe2 keeps the queen with influence on both sides of the board.

12...e5 13. d5 h4  
Banzai Chess!

14. gxh4 Bxh4 15. 0-0-0 Na6 16. Nb3 Qb6 17. Qe2 Nc5 18. Bc2 a5 19. Nxc5 Qxc5 20. f3 Bh6+ 21. Kb1 gxf3 22. gxf3 Bf4 23. Ng4 Rxh1 24. Rxh1

I like White! Black's lost tempos have left him undeveloped and exposed.

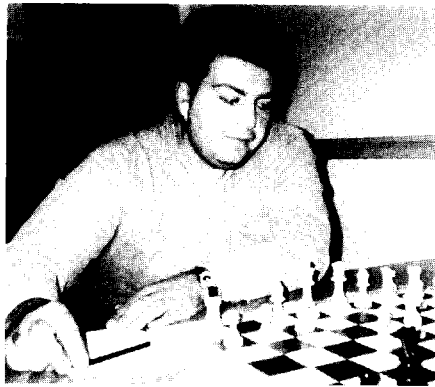
24...b5 25. dxc6 Qxc6 26. Nf6+ Kd8 27. Rh8+ Kc7 28. Nd5+ Kb7



29. Nxf4?! This is too good a knight to give up for a mere bishop and doubled pawns. White should play for mate. Whites advantage starts to peter out into an even endgame

29...exf4 30. e5 d5 31. Rf8 Be6 32. Rxa8 Kxa8 33. Qd2 Qc5 34. Qd4 Qxd4 35. cxd4 Kb7 36. Kc1 Kc7 37. Kd2 Kd7 38. a3 Ke7 39. Bd3 Bd7 40. Kc3 f6 41. exf6+ Kxf6 42. Kd2 Kg5 43. Ke2 Kh4 44. Kf2 b4 45. axb4 axb4 46. Bc2 Kg5 47. Kg2 Bf5 48. Bb3! Be6 49. Bc2 Kh4 50. Kf2 Kh3 51. Bd3 Kh2 52. Be2 Bd7 53. b3 Bh3 54. Bd3 1-0

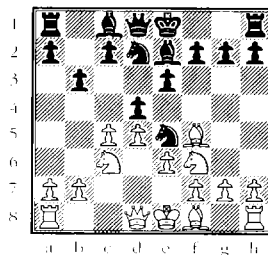
And here both scoresheets disappear in a time scramble. Eventually white won although objectively black should be able to hold this ending but still a nice 221 point upset for Ms. Vang.



**Artak Akopian and . . .**

**Black, C (1902)**  
**Pascal, C (1577)**  
**[D53] Open Round 4**

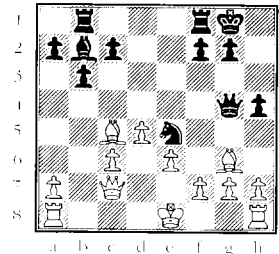
1. d4 e6 2. c4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bg5 Be7 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Nf3 Ne4 7. Bf4 b6?!



8. cxd5

In QGD type positions, b6 for black is often refuted by cxd5 with advantage for white.

8...Nxc3 9. bxc3 exd5 10. Bb5 0-0 11. Bc6 Rb8 12. Bxd5 Nf6 13. Bc4 Ne4 14. Qb3 Bd6 15. Ne5 Bxe5 16. Bxe5 Qg5 17. Bg3 Bb7 18. Qc2 h5?

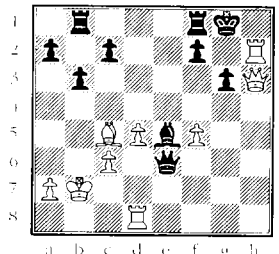


Banzai Chess!

19. 0-0-0!

Nobody's home on the kingside.

19...Nxc3 20. hxg3 Bxg2 21. f4! Qxg3 22. Rxh5 Qxe3+ 23. Kb2 Be4 24. Qh2 g6 25. Rh8+ Kg7 26. Rh7+ Kg8 27. Qh6



And the usual sad end to a Banzai charge

27...Qf2+ 28. Ka1 1-0

**Akopian, A (2327)**  
**Fuentes, R (2201)**  
**[B92] Open Round 4**



**Romulo Fuentes face off in the fourth round.**

Game Continued on page 30

# Beginner's Corner

by  
Steve Cohen

In the following game, played between two students (White is 8 and Black is 7 years old), we see some good planning and several "beginner's mistakes". But, most instructively, the first player wards off a mating threat which his opponent does not see being set-up against him! Thus, beware what ideas you show your opponent: for if you can't carry them out, you may have helped your opponent to discover a way to do you in (especially if you aren't being as careful!)

**1.e4 c6** (the Caro-Kann defense), **2.Nc3 e6?!** (it is not recommended that a player permanently weaken a square so early in a game as Black has done here to d6. In fairness to Black, at least he has a plan for why he is doing what he is doing as the following play will show. Black hopes to gain superior control over d5 and to prepare a later advance of the d-pawn to that square.) , **3.Bc4** (a fight seems to be brewing over d5) **3...Bc5**, **4.Nf3 Ne7** (Black continues development, prepares to castle his King and further supports the advance of the d-pawn to d5), **5.d4! Bb6**, **6.O-O d5?!** (while this is what Black has been seeking all along, it is always risky for the second player to make a move which allows White to open up the center. This is especially true when the first player has castled and the second player has not), **7.ed cd**

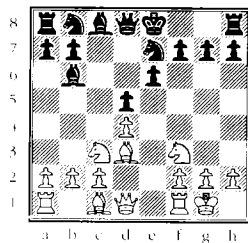


Diagram 1

(The position that has developed

looks like a French Defense where somehow Black has managed to trade his c-pawn for White's e-pawn. This is a good deal for the second player, positionally speaking. After continuing with moves like ...Ng6 and ...Nd7, ...O-O, and ...Nf6, Black should be fine), **8.Bb5+?** (a waste of a tempo) **8...Bd7!** (Black offers to trade away his 'bad' bishop for White's 'good' bishop), **9.Bd3!** (White correctly avoids the exchange and returns his bishop to its powerful post. In fairness to White, although he has wasted tempi, he has managed to force Black to block the way for the Nb8 to reach f6 via d7), **9...Nc6** (bringing a second attacker against the d4 pawn and developing another piece), **10.Be3** (White develops his queen's bishop rather passively to e3. Perhaps a more aggressive continuation for White would be 10.Ne2 followed by c3 and Ng3 waiting to determine the best diagonal on for his queen's bishop), **10...O-O?**

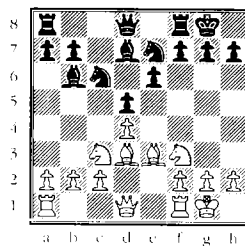


Diagram 2

(If you have been following this column since its beginning, you would see that Black has just castled into the well known Bxh7+ sacrifice. White should now continue 11.Bxh7+. If 11...Kxh7 is Black's response to avoid losing a free pawn, White continues with 12.Ng5+. Now if 12...Kg8 (not 12...Kh8, 13.Qh5+ and 14.Qh7 mate), 13.Qh5, Black must play 13...Re8 (to avoid 14.Qh7 mate) after which the game ends as

follows: 14.Qh7+ Kf8, 15.Qh8+ Ng8, 16.Nh7+ Ke7, 17.Bg5+ Nf6 (this move keeps it going longest as 17...Kd6 is met with 18.Nb5 mate while 17...f6 is met with 18.Qxg7+ Kd6, 19.Nb5 mate). White now finishes with 18.Bxf6+! gf, 19.Qxf6 Kd6, 20.Nb5 mate) **11.Qd2** (Perhaps White rejected playing the Bxf7 sacrifice (if he was aware of it) because after 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7, 12.Ng5+ Black may find a way to draw after 12...Kg6!. This is the only way to save his majesty as 12...Kh6 allows 13.Nxf7 discovered check (from the Be3) and 14.Nxd8. After 12...Kg6! there may follow 13.Qg4 f5, 14.Qg3 f4, 15.Bxf4 Nf5, 16.Qg4 Nh6, 17.Qg3 Nf5, leading to draw by repetition in a rare instance where the King is actually safer in front of his defenders) **11...Nb4!** (Black seeks to eliminate White's light-squared Bishop so that sacrifices against h7 will be threatened no more), **12.a3 Nxd3**, **13.Qxd Qc7**, **14.Ng5** (White makes obvious his intentions to mate with 15.Qxh7. This is something I expect Black will notice as he remains the only Kindergartner to ever capture 1st place in a UPSCL 'Level II' class) **14...g6**, **15.Rad1 Qd6**, **16.Nb5?** (allowing Black to relieve himself of his 'bad Bishop') **16...Bxb5**, **17.Qxb: Bc7** (and now it's Black's turn to take his aim for a Qxh2 mate), **18.Rd3??** (...which the first player does overlooks and, so...) **18...Qxh2 mate.**

Thus, Black took advantage of using a mating theme which his opponent was kind enough to remind him about during the game. White, however, was not equally up to the challenge of preventing the same mate from being carried out. Be aware... watch what your opponent is doing... because, you never know that sometimes, your opponent may be your greatest teacher!



# Peninsula Challenge

by  
Steve Cohen

It's hard to believe that what once was an event which attracted only 2 participants (the first Challenge event in March, 1996) saw more than 30, including a 6-time U.S. Champion, come to compete for more than \$800 in cash and awards. UPSCL's 2nd Annual Peninsula G/15 Challenge Championships was held Saturday, December 19, 1998, at Go-Getters Pizza in Foster City. Go-Getters Pizza also partly co-sponsored the hosting of the championships. The event was sponsored by the UPSCL, a California non-profit scholastic chess league serving San Mateo County.

In the Open section, 6-time U.S. Champion Walter Browne came to do what Jordy Mont-Reynaud failed to accomplish at last year's championships: a 3-peat. Despite tough competition from IM Mladen Vucic, past Challenge winner Arthur Ibragimov, past former-runner-up

With 3/5, Rozenvasser took the top U2200 prize (worth \$75), a point ahead of IM Vucic, who took home the 3rd-place Open prize. Rudyak earned the 2nd place, U2200 prize.

In the 18-player Senior amateur section there were 2 sets of fathers and daughters, and at least 2 sets of siblings. Of course there would have to be some time when family would be matched against family. In the first round, 4th-grader Ewelina Krubnik was paired against her father, who was the 2nd-highest-rated player in the section. To

the Bay. Setzepfandt took this opportunity to get revenge on his older name-sake. Indeed, only a final-round loss (to the Senior Krubnik) kept Setzepfandt from having a perfect score. In fact, the final-round victory by Mariusz Krubnik allowed the man from the East Bay to win the title of 98 Peninsula Senior Amateur G/15 Champ and the check for \$100. Just a 1/2-point back, Setzepfandt tied with Tony Cole, to split the 2nd-3rd combined for \$42.50 each. The third Alex of the section, Alex Veksler (yes, Elaine's father), with a score of 3.0 took home the final check and trophy for 4th. On tie-breaks, Michael Pearson earned the trophy for 5th; Alex Wu, 6th; Yevgeniy Labunskiy, 7th; Sean Blume, the final trophy for 8th; and, Daichi Siegrist, a gold medal of participation for 9th. Silver medalists included Nazee Maghadam and Elaine Veksler. The remaining players earned bronze participation medals for surviving this event.



**Ewelina Krubnik (l.) and her father (r.) battled it out in Round 1 of the G/15 Challenge in the Senior amateur Division. Next to her, Elaine Veksler battles Michael Pearson; and, in back Alex Wu is matched against Stephan Goupille.**

the amusement of the TDs, young Ewelina actually had a winning position against her father before conceding him a draw.

While the section is the 'Senior' amateur, it's been a place for some of the area's top scholastic players to get good, quick competition. In fact, notwithstanding the 3 adults in the section, after round 3, the only two perfect scores were Peninsula star 4th-grader Alex Wu, and East Bay star 3rd-grader, Alexander Setzepfandt. Quite a chess-rivalry has developed between the top scholastic 'Alexes' on each side of



**Future chess queens (Mahnoosh Maghadam on the left and Emilia Krubnik on the right) get good practice and experience in the Junior Amateur division!**

In the Junior Amateur section, Ahmad Maghadam went 5-0 (the only perfect score of the tournament!!!) to take the top trophy and title of 98 Peninsula G/15 Junior Amateur Champion! A final-round match-up by UPSCL Sunday-class rivals, John Coyne and Michael



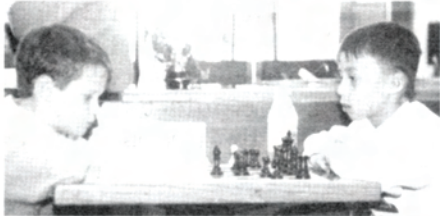
**Alan Plutzik (l.) and "Mr. 6-Time" GM Walter Browne (r.) face off in Round 2 action.**

Alan Plutzik, new-comer Felix Rudyak, and a 1st-round draw by Challenge new-comer Anthony Rozenvasser, Browne became the first person to 3-peat at a UPSCL event (and earn a \$50 bonus for the feat, on top of the \$200 first prize!) Browne also officially claims the title of 1998 Peninsula G/15 Champion! One-time Challenge winner Arthur Ibragimov had to settle for second place and \$100 while scoring 4/5.



# Championships

Konkol, ended with a victory for



**John Coyne (l.) tries to defeat class rival Michael Konkol (r.) in the final round to earn 2nd place.**

Konkol. This enabled young Michael to win the 2nd-place trophy, on tie-breaks over Coyne, who came in 3rd, each with a score of 3.0. Also with a score of 3.0, Corey Chang took home the trophy for 4th. A point back, Mahnoosh Maghadam finished in fifth on tie-breaks over Yuki Siegrist, who took home the trophy for 6th, and Emilia Krubnik, who won the trophy for 7th.

I'd especially like to thank some wonderful assistants for their tremendous help: UPSCL Secretary, James Millet, and Budd Setzepfandt. Thanks to them the tournament ran very smoothly and was enjoyed by all participants. The UPSCL appreciates the help and support of Go Getters Pizza of Foster City, in partially sponsoring the site for this event. After the awards, all stayed to enjoy some delicious free pizza provided by the UPSCL to celebrate the championships! But, all was not done for the day. With titles, trophies and more money at stake, 12 participants competed in the 1998 Peninsula G/5 Championships.

As concerns 1st through 3rd place, pre-tournament ratings were a good predictor of outcome. With a perfect score of 11-0, top-seeded IGM Walter Browne earned another title and a check for \$100. IM Mladen Vucicame in 2nd (worth \$50) with a 10-1 score. Two pointsback was area master Alan

Stein, who finished in 3rd to collect \$25. The Top U2100 title, trophy and check was won by Alan Plutzik, who generously donated his winnings back to the UPSCL. With 4-



**Alan Stein (l.) and Walter Browne (r.) blitz it!**

7, Felix Rudyak took home the top U1800 trophy and a check for \$25. An upset by Daichi Siegrist over his chess club-rival, Alexander Setzepfandt, paved the way for the need of a blitz shoot-out to decide the title- and trophy-winner in the U1600 category. (The cash prize would be split, equally, regardless

of the outcome). Seeking revenge the earlier loss, however, Setzepfandt won the shoot-out match, earning the title and trophy for 98 Peninsula U1600 G/5 Champion!

It seemed as if all had a very enjoyable time at the events. Sadly, however, because participation was less than expected, it seems as if the Challenge series in 99 will be limited to 3 events. However, I hope to have more and bigger prizes at each event. The next one will likely be scheduled for some time

around the second Saturday in April (I need to confirm space and no local conflicts). So, I hope to see you all there. After all, in the words of Mr. 'Six-Time' Walter Browne, "These are a lot of fun. I can't understand why more people don't take advantage of the opportunity." For information about any UPSCL tournaments or classes, call (650) 349-7746 or visit our website at <http://www.jps.net/upsclchess>.



**Alexander Setzepfandt (l.) presses the clock after making move against Daichi Siegrist (r.) in the shoot-out for the G/5 U1600 title. Watching on (after a long day of chess) is Daichi's younger brother, Yuki.**



# CalChess State Scholastics Update

by  
Alan Kirshner

Entries to the California Chess State Scholastic Championships (March 27-28) will be posted weekly at <http://calchess.webjump.com/Registration.html> Names will appear in alphabetical order. I will include the section and rating of each player. Ratings will only reflect those placed on the entry

form. I will update all ratings before the tournament from the February Rating List.

You can also reach the registration list from the CalChess Scholastic site: <http://www.hooked.net/~hegemon/CALCHESS.html> or <http://calchess.webjump.com/scholastics.html>

Tournament applications have been mailed to all registered scholastic players in Northern California as well as all coaches and schools. If you did not receive applications or would like to be mailed more applications, please contact me at [hegemon@hooked.net](mailto:hegemon@hooked.net).

## ♠ RECOMMENDED BEGINNERS CHESS BOOKS ♠

by  
Allan Fifiel

### Getting Started

101 Questions on How To Play Chess by Wilson

Logical Chess, Move By Move by Irving Chernev

How To Think Ahead In Chess by I.A. Horowitz and Fred Reinfeld

How **Not** To Play Chess by Eugene Znosko-Borovsky

### The Opening

Ideas Behind The Chess Openings by Reuben Fine

How To Play The Opening In Chess by David Levy & Raymond Keene

Batsford Chess Openings (2nd ed. ) by Kasparov & Keene

### The Ending

Practical Chess Endings by Paul Keres

Essential Chess Endings Explained Move By Move by Jeremy Silman

### Putting It All Together

The Most Instructive Games Of Chess Ever Played by I. Chernev

Chess For Match Players by William Winter

Pawn Structure Chess by Andrew Soltis

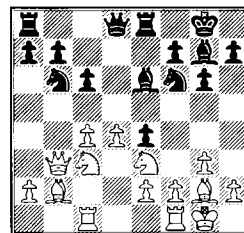
### Tournament Play

Reassess Your Chess by Jeremy Sillman

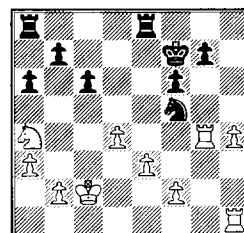
Chess For Tigers by Simon Webb

Official Rules of Chess by the U.S. Chess Federation

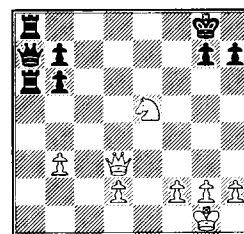
## Test Your Tactics!



Black to Move  
Sacrifice to set up a Pin!  
Look for **Impossible Moves**!  
(E. Perez - W. Browne 1996)



Black to Move  
Find The Fork(s)!  
Look for **Impossible Moves**!  
(From a study by Frank Berry - 1996)



White to Move  
Double Check and Discovered  
Check  
Look for **Impossible Moves**!  
(Morphy's Legacy)



# Club Directory

Places to play chess in Northern California and Northern Nevada

## **Arcata**

Monday, 6-10 pm  
Arcata Chess Club  
Conference Room, Arcata  
Library  
James Bauman 707-822-7619

## **Berkeley**

Friday, 7:15 p.m.  
Berkeley City Club  
2315 Durant  
A. Glasscoe 510-652-5324

## **Burlingame**

Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Burlingame Lions Hall  
990 Burlingame Ave  
Scott Wilson 650-355-9402

## **Campbell**

Kolty Chess Club  
Thursdays 7-11:30 p.m.  
Campbell Comm Ctr  
Winchester/W.Campbell  
F. Leffingwell 408-732-5188

## **Carmel**

Call for current information  
Randall Swanson  
408-626-6113

## **Carmichael**

Monday 6-10 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Ctr.  
4701 Gibbons

## **Chico**

Thursday 7-11 p.m.  
Mtn Mike's Pizza  
1722 Mangrove Ave  
Barry Nelson 916-873-3107

## **Davis**

Thursday 7 p.m.  
Hunt Hall UCD, Room 241  
Dave Johnson 916-756-2752

## **Fremont**

Fridays 7:00-on  
Sugu's Coffee  
3602 Thornton Ave, Fremont  
Hans Poschmann  
510-656-8505

## **Fresno**

Mondays 6-11 p.m.  
Carls Jr.  
3820 N. Cedar Ave.  
D. Wajckus 559-252-4484

## **Hayward**

Monday 7-9 p.m.  
Hayward Library  
Mission at C St  
Kerry Lawless 510-785-9352

## **Livermore**

Fridays 7-12 p.m.  
South Cafeteria  
Lawrence Livermore Lab  
Charles Pigg 510-447-5067

## **Merced**

Merced Chess Club  
Friday 6:30 p.m.  
Merced Mall Food Court  
Dave Humpal 209-722-0764

## **Madera**

Thursdays 7:00 p.m.  
Carls Jr.  
Madera Ave. & Hwy 99  
Bill Hicks 559-675-3094

## **Modesto Chess Club**

Tuesday 6-10:30 p.m.  
Shakeys Pizza  
McHenery Avenue  
John Barnard 209-785-7895

## **Monterey**

Open daily except Mon.  
430 Alvarado St.  
Yudacufski 408-646-8730

## **Mt Shasta**

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.  
George Washington Manor  
Mt. Shasta  
Dick Bolling 503-926-3608

## **Paradise**

Tuesday 7-10 p.m.  
Paradise Senior Center  
Barry Nelson 916-873-3107

## **Porterville**

Wednesday 7 p.m.  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Corner of Henderson  
& Indiana  
Hans Borm 559-784-3820

## **Reno, NV**

Sun-Thurs 6:30 p.m.  
2850 Wrondel Way, Suite D  
Club: 702-827-3867  
Jerry Weikel 702-747-1405

## **Richmond**

Fridays 6 p.m.  
Richmond Library  
26th & MacDonald

## **Ross Valley (Marin County)**

For current info, write:  
P.O. Box 69  
Ross CA 94957

## **Sacramento**

Wednesday 6-10 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Ctr  
915-27th St.  
Stewart Katz 916-444-3133  
CSU Sacramento  
Student Union Bldg.

## **San Anselmo**

Tuesday 7 p.m.  
Round Table Pizza,  
Red Hill Shpping Ctr  
Sir Francis Drake Blvd  
Jim Mickle 415-457-2719

## **San Francisco**

Mechancis' Institute  
Open daily  
57 Post St. 4th Floor  
Jim Eade 650-328-9785

## **San Jose**

Tue & Fri, Noon-4 p.m.  
Willows Senior Center  
2175 Lincoln Avenue  
Jerry Marshall 408-267-1574

## **Santa Clara**

2d Sat. Each month  
2:15-6:15 p.m.  
Mary Gomez Park  
F. Sierra 408-241-1447

## **Santa Rosa**

Tuesdays 6-10:45 p.m.  
Sonoma Coffe Company  
521 4th Street  
Keith Halonen 707-578-6125

## **Santa Rosa**

1st & Last Saturdays of month  
Adult & Youth Chess Club  
of Sonoma County  
Rincon Valley Library  
Conference Room  
6959 Montecito Blvd,  
Santa Rosa  
Mike Haun 707-537-0162

## **Stanford**

Monday 7:30-10:30 p.m.  
Student Union, Rm 550-550d  
Andrian Keatinge-Clay  
415-497-0598

## **Sunnyvale**

LERA  
Tuesday, 8 p.m.  
Lockheed Rec Ctr, Bldg #160  
Ken Stone 408-629-5530

## **Tulare**

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.  
A&W Root Beer  
133 North 'J' Street  
Ward Forman 209-688-6386

## **Vallejo**

Fridays 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Ctr  
333 Amador St  
Frank Harris 707-644-3004

## **Visalia**

Wednesday 7 p.m.  
Carl's Jr-Von's Ctr  
Hwy 198 & Chinowth  
Allan Fifield 559-734-2784

## **Woodland Chess Group**

Sundays, 3:30-9:00 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Center  
630 Lincoln Avenue  
Don Copeland 530-666-0868

## **Yuba-Sutter**

Mon & Wed 7-11 p.m.  
Carls Jr  
Bridge St & Hwy 99, Yuba City  
Tom Giertych 916-671-1715



  
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 For Additional Information Call 650-854-9793 

**C.C.J. Submission Policy**

Our CCJ copy submission policy remains 'author friendly'. While our preference is for electronic submission, typewritten or neat handwritten copy is acceptable. Electronic submission allows you to include game scores, chess diagrams, and digitized photos. In general, tournaments submitted in an electronic format will be allotted more space. Our preference is for Microsoft Word files with diagrams created using the Linares font. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on how to submit material to *California Chess Journal*.

The next deadline for C.C.J. submissions is April 20th.  
 Allan Fifiel, PO Box 27  
 Visalia, CA 93279-0027

Days: (559)-651-3300 #371 \* Nights:  
 (559)-734-2784 \* FAX: (559)-651-0739

CompuServe: 102033,3421  
 AOL: jostensvis  
 Internet: fifiela@jostens.com

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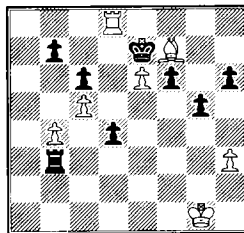
"pat-us-on-the-back" as you're leaving for home! It really helps!

The next Western States Open will be held on October 29-31, 1999. Thank you for your continued support! And oh, one more thing (Columbo again!). We've "thrown together" one small "extra" chess tournament to be held before the next Western States and that's the August 10-19, 1999 100th US Open Chess Championship with a \$63,300 prize fund! Most of you have seen many Weikel tournaments and we've received many compliments on our tournaments but I give you my personal pledge that you haven't seen nothing yet! We have many extra special surprises waiting for you at this one! This will be the best Weikel tournament of them all by a landslide! We hope you can make this historic event!

*Continued from page 20*

**I.Diaz(1536)  
 R.Sferra(2200)  
 Round 2**

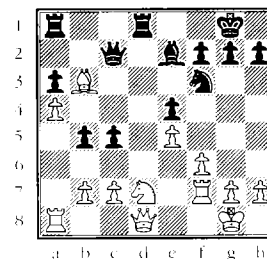
1.c4 d6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 e5 4.Nc3 c6 5.d3 Be7 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Rb1 a5 9.a3 Re8 10.Nd2 Nf8 11.b4 ab 12.ab d5 13.c5 Be6 14.f4 ef 15.Rf4 Ng6 16.Rf1 Ng4 17.Nf3 d4 18.Ne4 h6 19.h3 N4e5 20.Ne5 Ne5 21.Bf4 f6 22.g4 Rf8 23.Ng3 Ng6 24.Qc1 Nf4 25.Qf4 Qd7 26.Nf5 Bf5 27.gf Ra2 28.Bf3 Rfa8 29.Bg4 (A better try here might be to reposition the king and work the g-file) Bd8 30.Qe4 Bc7 31.Qe6+ Qe6 32.fe Kf8 33.Bh5 Ke7 34.Bf7?? (Arrghh!!) Re2 35.Ra1 Raa2 36.Ra2 Ra2 37.Rf2 Ra3 38.Rd2 g5 39.Rb2 Rd3 40.Ra2 Rb3 41.Ra8 (Never give up!) Bd8 42.Rd8



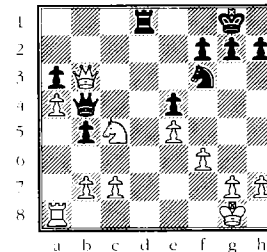
(Hoping for 42...Kxd8 43.e7+ Kxe7 44.Bxb3) Rb1+ (No thanks!) 0-1

*Continued from page 24*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a4 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be2 Nbd7 9.0-0 Be7 10.Be3 0-0 11.f3 Qc7 12.a5 Bc4 13.Bd3 b5 14.Rf2 b4 15.Na4 d5 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Nd2 Rfd8 18.Nb6 Nxb6 19.Bxb6



19...Qd7 20.Bxd8 Rxd8 21.Qe2 Bc5 22.Nxc4 Bxf2+ 23.Qxf2 Qb5 24.Qb6



24....Rb8 25.Qxb5 Rxb5 26.Rd1 h5 27.b3 Rc5 28.Rd6 1-0



# The CalChess Calendar of Events

(\* = CalChess discount) last update 1-22-99

## 1999

|                  |                 |   |       |
|------------------|-----------------|---|-------|
| Mar. 5-7 .....   | (Fri-Sun) ..... | Mechanics Amateur (San Francisco) .....       | (JA2) |
| Mar. 13 .....    | (Sat) .....     | Reedley Chess for Kids .....                  | (AF)  |
| Mar. 27-28 ..... | (Sat-Sun) ..... | NorCal State Scholastic .....                 | (AK)  |
| Apr. 10-11 ..... | (Sat-Sun) ..... | LERA Class (Sunnyvale) .....                  | (JH)  |
| Apr. 16-18 ..... | (Fri-Sun) ..... | Mechanics Senior (San Fran.) .....            | (JA2) |
| Apr. 17 .....    | (Sat) .....     | Fresno Spring Quad .....                      | (DW)  |
| Apr. 17 .....    | (Sat) .....     | Visalia Chess for Kids .....                  | (AF)  |
| May 1-2 .....    | (Sat-Sun) ..... | Livermore Open .....                          | (CP)  |
| May 2 .....      | (Sun) .....     | Visalia Spring Picnic .....                   | (AF)  |
| May 22-23 .....  | (Sat-Sun) ..... | San Joaquin Open .....                        | (DW)  |
| May 29-31 .....  | (Sat-Mon) ..... | LERA Memorial Day .....                       | (JH)  |
| June 11-13 ..... | (Fri-Sun) ..... | Stamer (Mech) .....                           | (MG)  |
| Aug 10-19 .....  | (?) .....       | U.S. Open, 9 rounds, Sands Hotel (Reno) ..... | (JW)  |

## Annual Events

|   |   |
|---|---|
| MLK weekend (mid Jan.) (RK)                       | 2nd weekend June (Fri-Sun): Stamer (JA2)              |
| Presidents' Day Weekend: People's (Berkeley) (DS) | Labor Day weekend (1st weekend Sept.) (TD)            |
| 1st weekend March (Fri-Sun): SF Amateur (JA2)     | Last weekend Oct. (Fri-Sun): Western Open (Reno) (JW) |
| State School Championship (last weekend March)    | 2nd weekend Nov. (Fri-Sun): Capps (JA2)               |
| LERA Memorial Day (JH)                            | LERA Thanksgiving (JH)                                |

## Tournament Organizers

JA = Jeff Andersen,  
P.O. Box 10845,  
Napa 94581  
(707) 251-8175

JA2= Joan Arbil,  
57 Post St.,  
Mechanics Rm408  
94101  
(415) 421-2258  
Chessroom@aol.com

TD = Tom Dorsch,  
P.O. Box 7453,  
Menlo Park 94026  
(415)322-0955.

JE = James Eade,  
521 Fanita Way,  
Menlo Park 94025  
(415)328-9785

AF = Allan Fifield,  
PO Box 27,  
Visalia 93279  
(559) 734-2784

MG = Mike Goodall,  
461 Peachstone Terr.,  
San Rafael 94903  
(415) 491-1269

MG2 = Michael Ghormley,  
5120 Alcott Dr.,  
Sacramento 95820  
(916) 388-1601  
mjg99@yahoo.com

DH = Dan Holbrook,  
1220 Elliott #42,  
Paradise 95969  
(916) 877-3911

JH = Jim Hurt,  
P.O. Box 461,  
Tahoma 96142  
(916) 525-7912  
(970) 285-7041(CO)

AK = Alan Kirshner,  
66 Indian Hill Plaza,  
Fremont 94539  
(510) 657-1586  
hegemon@hooked.net

AK2= Adrian Keatinge-Clay,  
P.O. Box 10649  
Stanford University  
94309  
(415)497-0589  
adriankc@leland.  
stanford.edu

RK = Richard Koepcke,  
2047 Montecito Ave.#30,  
Mountain View 94043  
(650)964-2640  
richard.koepcke@  
ebay.Sun.COM

JM = John McCumiskey,  
6700 50th St.,  
Sacramento 95823-1306  
(916)428-5532  
jmc-lmc@pacbell.net

CP = Charles Pigg,  
429 Vista Ct., Livermore  
94550  
(925)4475067

HP = Hans Poschmann,  
4621 Seneca Park Ave.,  
Fremont 94538  
(510) 656-8505  
hspwood2@home.net

JP = Jimmy Plumb,  
1878 W. 11 St. #144,  
Tracy 95376  
(209)823-0511,  
hereshope9@nreach.com

DS = Doug Shaker,  
2030 Mills Ave.,  
Menlo Park 94025  
(415)854-2545  
doug@theshakers.org

SS = Steve Smallwood,

1028 Cassia Way,  
Sunnyvale 94086  
(408) 247-8510  
stephen677@aol.com

DW = Dennis Wajckus,  
5924 E. Illinois Ave.,  
Fresno 93727-3566  
(559) 252-4484

JW = Jerome Weikel,  
6578 Valley Wood Dr.,  
Reno NV 89523  
(702) 747-1405

*Tournament Clearinghouse*  
Don Wolitzer  
2130 Mercury Rd.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
(925) 455-4119  
dwolitzer@aol.com

*Send tournament reports  
and annotated games to CCJ:*  
Allan Fifield  
PO Box 27  
Visalia 93279-0027  
(559) 734-2784  
102033.3421@compuserve.com  
jostensvis@aol.com





The Sands Regency is pleased to announce a history making event...

**THE 100TH U.S. OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT**

Reno, Nevada

9 Round Swiss

August 10-19, 1999

**\$63,300.00 Prize Fund - UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED!**

(Largest U.S. Open Prize Fund Ever!!!)

200 Grand Prix Points (15 Places!) 1st - \$10,000 - 5,000 - 2,500 - 2,000 - 1,500 - 1,400 - 1,300 - 1,200 - 1,100 - 1,000 - 900 - 800 - 700 - 600 - 500 (2300-2399) 1st - \$2,000 - 1,000 (2,200 - 2,299) 1st - \$2,000 - 1,000

| 7 Places Paid in Each Class! |       |       |       |       |       |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Expert                       | "A"   | "B"   | "C"   | "D"   | "E"   |
| 2,000                        | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,500 | 1,000 |
| 1,000                        | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 500   |
| 700                          | 700   | 700   | 700   | 700   | 400   |
| 500                          | 500   | 500   | 500   | 500   | 300   |
| 300                          | 300   | 300   | 300   | 300   | 200   |
| 200                          | 200   | 200   | 200   | 200   | 200   |
| 200                          | 200   | 200   | 200   | 200   | 200   |

Entry Fee: \$140 Hotel Rates: \$59, \$89 Friday-Saturday (10 day stay averages just \$65/day!)

**BUT WAIT! THE LARGE PRIZE FUND IS ONLY PART OF THE STORY!**

- Rings plus trophies awarded to all champions - commemorative pins to all players
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- Players registration book - signatures of all players to be sent to the USCF archives to represent this historic event!
- GM & IM Workshops, Clinics, Lectures and Simuls - Plenty of side chess tourneys
- Plus a few extra (secret!) special surprises!!

**SO PLAN YOUR TRIP FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY NOW - PLENTY TO DO IN THE BEAUTIFUL RENO/LAKE TAHOE AREA!**

Beautiful Lake Tahoe - M.S. Dixie Paddlewheeler Cruise - Ponderosa Ranch (TV's Bonanza) - Squaw Valley Tram - Virginia City (Go Back 140 Years in Time to an Authentic Silver Mining Town) - Pan for Real Gold - Ride a Steam Engine Train - Carson City Railroad Museum - Donner Party Museum - Wild Island (Water Park and More) - Fleishmann Planetarium - Pioneer Theater - Reno Style Entertainment - Casino Gaming - Shows - Gaming Tournaments - Plus MUCH MORE

On behalf of my wife, Fran and my family, the entire TD staff and the Sands Regency Hotel Casino, we would like to extend to all of you a personal invitation to this historic 100th U.S. Open in Reno, Nevada, the 1993 USCF Chess City of the Year. Along with the USCF we will do our best to bring you a most memorable event!! Jerry Weikel, Chief TD