

**Richard Shorman****Chess****COMMONS WINS WEST COAST QUALIFIER**

California State Champion Kim Commons earned a spot in the USCF International Tournament this June by outpointing seven picked opponents at a special qualifying tourney in Los Angeles, April 29-May 5.

Commons was the only player able to avert loss of a game, scoring 5½-1½ to edge out James Tarjan, 5-2, and Raymond Weinstein, 4½-2½.

John Grefe of Berkeley, who shared 4th and 5th place with Ross Stoutenborough at 3-4, was knocked out of contention by John Jacobs of Dallas, who finished in a tie for last with Walter Cunningham at 2½-4½.

An east coast master qualification competition, won by Craig Chellstrop of Illinois, was held concurrently in New York.

**White: John Grefe (2394). Black: John Jacobs (2387). Los Angeles, 1973. Sicilian Defense** 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 de cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Bg5 e6 7 f4 Nbd7 8 Qf3 Qc7 9 0-0-0 b5 10 e5 Bb7 11 Qh3 de 12 Ne6 fe Qe6 Be7 14 Bb5 ab 15 Nb5 Qc6 16 Nd6 Kd8 17 fe Kc7 18 Qe7 Nd5 19 Rd5 Qd5 20 Rd1 Qe5 21 Nb7 Qe7 22 Be7 Ra2 23 Kb1 Rha8 24 Ba3 R2a3 25 ba Rb8 26 Rd4 Rb7 27 Ka2 Kc6 2B Resigns.

**MINOR CHAMPIONS MAJOR CLASH**

The victor in this unusually sharp struggle went on to achieve international master status and won the Swiss chess championship four times from 1958 to 1963.

The vanquished held an international grandmaster postal chess title, was an over-the-board international master and had already been champion of Norway five times.

**White: Olaf Barda (Norway).**

**Black: Dieter Keller (Switzerland).**

**XII Chess Olympics, Moscow, 1956.**

**Nimzo-Indian Defense**

1 P-Q4	N-KB3	P-B5!(c)	29 Resigns
2 P-QB4	P-K3	16 BxP	N-N5!(d)
4 P-K3	B-N5	17 P-N3	Q-KR4
5 B-Q3	P-B4	18 P-KR4(e)	N-K4(f)
6 N-B3	P-Q4	19 B-K2	N-B6ch(g)
7 0-0	0-0	20 K-N2(h)	B-N5
8 P-QR3	N-B3	21 R-R1	P-B4
9 PxB	BxN	22 B-KB4(i)	PxP
10 BxBP	PxBP	23 QxP	QR-K1
11 B-Q3	Q-B2	24 B-B4ch(j)	K-R1
12 Q-B2	P-K4	25 QxNP(k)	RxB!(l)
13 PxKP	Q-K2(a)	26 PxR	B-B4!
14 NxN	NxP	27 Q-Q5(m)	Q-N5ch
15 P-K4(b)	QxN	28 K-B1	Q-R6ch!!

(Notes by Dr. Keller, translated from "Shakhmaty v SSSR", No. 11, 1956, pg. 327, and Arpad Foldeak, adapted from "Chess Olympiads", Budapest, 1965, pg. 258)

(a) Black avoided 12...R-K1 13 P-K4 KPxP 14 PxpP B-N5 15 QxP NxKP 16 BxN RxB 17 N-N5, because he feared a prepared variation by his opponent. The textmove threatens P-K5, thus forcing White to liquidate center pawns (Keller).

(b) Practical experience in this variation now recommends a more careful and deliberate approach with 15 P-B3 or 15 R-K1 (Foldeak). White's weak KP causes trouble after 15 R-K1 R-K1 16 P-KB4 Q-K2, e.g., 17 P-K4 P-B5! Correct is 15 P-B3 (K).

(c) Sacrificing a pawn to loosen White's king side.

(d) Much better than regaining the pawn. Now 17 P-B4 fails against 17...Q-B4ch (F).

(e) Black also retains the upper hand after 18 P-B3 Q-B4ch 19 K-N2 QxB 20 PxN Bxp, since he cannot be prevented from opening the long white diagonal (K).

(f) White's king position presents a ready target (F).

(g) On 19...B-N5 20 BxB QxB 21 K-N2 N-B6 22 Q-Q1 NxPch 23 K-R2 White successfully defends himself (K).

(h) The alternative was 20 BxN QxB 21 K-R2 P-B4 22 PxpP B-Q2 23 Q-Q1 QxP(4), etc. (F). Relatively best is 20 BxN QxB 21 K-R2 (K).

(i) White obtains no relief from 22 B-K3 QR-K1 (K).

(j) Or 24 Q-B4ch K-R1 25 R-QR2 N-K4 26 BxB QxB, and the black queen penetrates to White's KB3, i.e., 27 Q-Q5? RxB (K).

(k) Allows a spectacular finish. White escapes immediate disaster with 25 Q-Q5 R-B4 26 Q-Q6 (F).

(l) An obvious and crushing sacrifice of the exchange that ends the game in short order (K).

(m) White covers the threat of 27...Q-N5ch and 28...N-Q7mate, but permits an even neater possibility. The only way to prolong the struggle is to give up the queen by 27 QxN B-K5 28 B-K2 Q-N5ch, which does not alter the ultimate outcome, however (F). If 27 QxN, then 27...B-K5 wins. White's last move defends against one mate but leaves another path to victory wide open (K).

### WHERE TO PLAY CHESS

The Hayward Chess Club Palma Ceia Park (corner of Miami Ave. and Decatur Way). Monday and Friday, 8-12 p.m.

Cherryland Cafe, 22472 Meekland Ave. (corner of A St. and Meekland Ave.), Hayward. Evenings, 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.

The San Leandro Chess Club, 205 Dulton Ave. (Washington School cafeteria, between East 14th St. and Bancroft Ave.). Monday, 7-11 p.m.

The Newark Chess Club, 35501 Cedar Blvd. (in the Newark Community Center). Tuesday, 7-10 p.m.

The Fremont Chess Club, 40204 Paseo Padre Parkway (near City Hall at Lake Elizabeth). Thursday, 7-11 p.m.

The Livermore Chess Club, Fourth and J Streets. Friday, 8-12 p.m.