

Chess

CHESS HONORS FOR BRIGHT KIDS

Fremont's top junior talent assembled at American High School, March 12, to receive public recognition for their successful participation in the city's special program for mentally gifted minors (MGM). Highlighting the day's activities at the 1977 MGM Faire was a four-round Swiss system chess tourney directed by Hans Poschmann of the Fremont Chess Club. An engraved plaque was awarded to the winner of each grade level on stage in a formal presentation ceremony. Complete results:

Overall Winner, Douglas Provencio, 12 (6th grade, Azevada), 4-0 (playoff winner); Jim Chen, 14 (8th grade, Centerville), 4-0; Paul Evans, 13 (7th grade, Hopkins), 3-1; Howard Scholz, 9 (4th grade, Oliviera), 2½-1½ (play-off winner); Damon McKinnon, 10 (5th grade, Chadbourne), 2½-1½.

CURIOSITIES IN SIMULTANEOUS PLAY

By Dr. A.A. Alekhine

(In its first year of publication, the British magazine "Chess" became world famous through a number of brilliant original articles by then world chess champion Alexander Alekhine. One such article was written by him following his loss of the title, while he was negotiating the conditions for his subsequent resounding victory in a return match.)

One hardly expects games that are works of art in a simultaneous exhibition with thirty-five or forty opponents. On the other hand, the games sometimes possess a piquant attraction, and students might learn a lot from examination of the sort of mistakes that are committed against me.

White: A Alekhine. Black: K. Poindie.

Simultaneous Exhibition, Vienna, 1935.

Ruy Lopez

1 P-K4	P-K4	16 B-N5	P-KR3
2 N-KB3	N-QB3	17 Q-B4ch	K-B1(j)
3 B-N5	N-B3	18 RxNI(k)	QxR
4 0-0	NxP	19 N-R7ch	RxN
5 P-Q4	N-Q3	20 BxQch	KxB
6 PxP(a)	NxB	21 QxP(1)	BxP
7 P-QR4(b)	N-Q3(c)	22 R-R2	B-B3
8 PxN	BxP	23 P-QB4	K-B2
9 N-N5(d)	B-K2	24 R-K2	R-R1
10 Q-R5	P-KN3(e)	25 Q-Q6(m)	P-QR4
11 Q-R6(f)	B-B1	26 N-B3l(n)	R-R3
12 R-K1ch	N-K2	27 Q-Q5ch	K-N2
13 N-K4(g)	P-KB4(h)	28 N-N5	R-K3
14 N-B6ch	K-B2	29 N-Q6l	R-Q1(o)
15 Q-R4	B-N2(i)	30 K-B1l(p)	Resigns

(Notes by Alexander Alekhine, adapted from "Chess," Dec. 1970, pp. 112-13)

(a) L'Hermet's attack, made famous by the game Halprin versus Pillsbury, Munich, 1909. It necessitates an exact knowledge of the tactical possibilities of the position.

(b) Obviously, White cannot be prevented from regaining his sacrificed piece, and he maintains a strong initiative at the cost of a pawn.

(c) A mistake already. The correct move is 7 . . . P-Q3, White playing 8 P-K6 (1'Hermet's own idea). Black can also try 7 . . . N-Q5. The next move is bad because it moves again a piece already moved and blocks Black's queen pawn.

(d) Much stronger than 9 R-K1ch. The idea is to provoke, in case of 9 . . . 0-0, a weakening of Black's king's position by 10 Q-Q3! (Always try to keep the three pawns in front of your castled king on their original squares as long as possible, other things being equal. If you move any one of them, the position becomes easier to attack.)

- (e) Obviously forced. If 10 ... BxN, then 11 BxB N-K2 12 R-K1, etc.
- (f) To hinder Black's castling.
- (g) A typical combination: the queen cannot be captured because of 14 N-B6ch, followed by 15 BxBmate. But the real point of the combination comes five moves later.
- (h) The only move.
- (i) The white knight is now in danger and its salvation requires some calculation.
- (j) If 17 ... P-Q4, then 18 NxP QxN?? 19 RxNch, winning the queen.
- (k) This was the whole point of the 13th move. White wins at least the queen for a rook and bishop. The ending is not less instructive.
- (l) Preventing activity on the queen's side. If 21 Q-N8 K-B3 22 QxR, then 22... K-B2 puts the queen to sleep.
- (m) Preventing the reply 25...R-K1.
- (n) The knight cannot be captured because of 27 R-K7ch, followed by mate in a few moves.
- (o) If 29...RxR, then 30 Q-B7mate.
- (p) After this move, Black has no defense against 31 NxB, followed by 32 QxQPch, etc.

MEMORABLE EXHIBITION GAME

In one of his most memorable exploits, expert Ronald Thacker once tangled with U.S. Champion Robert Fischer in an exhibition game and won a fiercely contested struggle that could easily find a place in history's anthology of brilliant upsets.

Thacker's superb performance, missing from all the books chronicling Fischer's conquest of the world championship, is recorded here in USCF mandated coordinate chess notation (files lettered "a" to "h," ranks numbered "1" to "8", always counting from White's lower left corner regardless of whose turn to move; pawn captures designated by file letters only). Exclamation marks have been supplied by the winner.

White: Robert Fischer. Black: Ronald Thacker. Simultaneous Exhibition, San Francisco, Apr. 13, 1964. Two Knights' Defense 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 Bc5 5 Bf7 Ke7 6 Bd5 Rf8 7 0-0 h6 8 Nf3 d6 9 Bc6 bc 10 d4 ed 11 Nd4 Kf7 1/2 12 Nc3 Kg8! 13 Nc6 Qe8 14 Nd5 Nd5 15 ed BA6 16 c4 Bc4 17 Bh6 Bf1 18 Qg4 Bf2 19 Kh1 Bg2 20 Qg2 Qf7 21 Rf1 Rae8 22 h3 Bg3! 23 Rf7 Re1 24 Qg1 Rg1 25 Kg1 Rf7 26 Be3 a6 27 Kg2 Be1 28 b4 Kh7! 29 a3 Rf5 30 Nb8 a5 31 ba Ba5 32 Resigns.

FREE CHESS LECTURES

USCF master Ed Kennedy will conduct a series of free chess lectures on the opening, middlegame and ending, Mar. 23, Mar. 30 and Apr. 6, at the Orinda Public Library, 2 Erwin Way, beginning at 7 p.m. The lessons will finish off with a free simultaneous exhibition by the instructor, open to all challengers, on Apr. 13. Please phone 254-2184 for full particulars.

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS

The Hayward Chess Club, Palma Ceia Park (corner of Miami Ave. and Decatur Way; phone, 783-9904). Monday and Friday, 8-12 p.m.

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

The San Leandro Chess Club, 205 Dutton Ave. (Washington School cafeteria). Monday, 7-11 p.m.