

Richard Shorman

Chess

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Elwin Meyers, assisted by Ed Delgado, directed the CCCA's Championship of Central California at the University of California Student Union Bldg. in Berkeley, June 16-17. The four-round Swiss system event attracted some 160 players competing for \$1,250 in prizes.

Sharing top honors after drawing with each other in the final game were USCF experts Ed Kennedy (2163) of Pleasant Hill and Steve Cross (2055) of Berkeley, whose 3½-½ score earned them \$150 apiece.

Borel Menas (2110) of Daly City and Martin Sullivan (2139) of Hayward tallied 3-1 to split \$50.

Harry Radke (1962) of San Jose took the Class A prize of \$150 with 3½-½, defeating USCF master Dennis Fritzing (2314) in a 53-move marathon struggle in the last round.

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U.C. Davis student Tom Dorsch (1990) contributed one of the brightest games of the tournament, when his opponent allowed his queen to be chased around long enough for a central breakthrough to occur.

The moves are recorded in USCF approved 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).

White: Dorsch. Black: Pigulski. Berkeley, June 16, 1973. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 d4 cd 3 c3 d5 4 ed Qd5 5 cd Nc6 6 Nf3 e6 7 Be2 Nf6 8 Nc3 Bb4 9 0-0 Bc3 10 bc 0-0 11 c4 Qa5 12 Bb2 Rd8 13 Qc1 Qf5 14 Rd1 b6 15 Bd3 Qa5 16 d5! ed 17 Bf6 gf 18 Qh6 Resigns.

CALIFORNIA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Takashi Kurosaki, 19, of San Francisco won the Junior Championship of California, played at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club in San Francisco, June 15-17. Kurosaki (2136) scored 5½ out of 6 points.

Four players tied for second place with 5-1: Craig Barnes (2279), Berkeley, 18, Jeremy Silman (2086), Chula Vista, 18, Charles Maddigan (2082), Oakland, 20, and Rick Flacco (2029), La Verne, 18.

Alan Benson, Berkeley, directed the 61 player event.

INTERZONAL UPDATE

Incredibly, U.S. champion Robert Byrne still holds down one of the top spots with Korchnoi, Karpov and Larsen as the Leningrad Interzonal draws to a close.

Mikhail Tal, whom so many chess enthusiasts had felt would dominate the contest, has lost all hope of attaining a qualifying berth to the world championship candidates' matches. That he poses a continual danger to the leaders, exerting indirect influence on who will take his place, cannot be denied, however. Tal's lone victory was logged in round 13 (!) against front-runner Bent Larsen.

The Danish grandmaster's flair for imaginative hyper-modern chess found vivid expression in an uncommonly beautiful game against Yugoslav ace, Josip Rukavina.

White: Josip Rukavina
Leningrad, 1973.

Black: Bent Larsen

Dutch Defense

1 P-QB4	P-KN3	16PxP(h)	RxRch
2 P-Q4	B-N2	17 KxR	P-K3!(i)
3 P-KN3	P-QB4	18 B-N2	PxP
4 P-Q5	P-Q3	19 PxP	Q-N4
5 B-N2	N-QR3(a)	20 R-Q1	B-K4!(j)
6 N-KB3	P-B4(b)	21 P-K4(k)	Q-N5
7 0-0	N-B3	22 K-N1	R-KB1
8 N-B3	0-0	23 N-K3	Q-N4
9 N-K1(c)	R-N1	24 N-N2	Q-R4
10 Q-Q3	B-Q2	25 R-K1	BxN
11 P-N3(d)	N-K5!	26 KxB	R-B7ch!(l)
12 BxN(e)	PxB	27 KxR	QxRPch
13 Q-B2	B-R6	28 K-B1	Q-R6ch
14 N-N2	N-N5	29 Resigns	
15 Q-Q2(f)	P-K6!(g)		

(Notes adapted and translated from "64", No. 23, June 8-14, 1973, pg. 6, and "Sovetsky sport", June 5, 1973).

(a) Curiously, the knight is well posted here.

(b) Smoothly guiding the game into a favorable line of the Dutch Defense known as the Leningrad variation.

(c) Not particularly attractive, but already Black has succeeded in establishing control of the center, due mainly to his perfectly situated bishop pawns.

(d) While White's last move was merely suspect, this one, based on the false premise that Black cannot spring his next shot, must be considered an error. Retribution is swift and sure.

(e) Forced, as 12 B-N2 N-QN5 13 Q-K3 B-Q5 14 Q-B3 N-Q7 simply loses the exchange without any compensation.

(f) On 15 Q-N2 Black continues powerfully with 15...P-QN4!

(g) A splendid pawn sacrifice that erects a barrier wall between White's king and the rest of his army.

(h) Naturally not 16 QxP because of 16...N-B7.

(i) White must now guard against 18...Q-B3ch. Larsen has skillfully merged the strategic and tactical features of the struggle, giving his opponent no time to re-group his forces.

(j) Many spectators present wondered why Larsen did not play 20...N-B7 here after thinking over his move for 15 minutes. True, 20...N-B7 21 K-N1 (White gets mated soon after 21 QxN QxKP.) BxN 22 QxN B-R6 looks good. But White can improve with 21 K-B2! BxN 22 QxN B-R6 23 Q-K4 R-B1ch 24 K-K1, evacuating his king out of the danger zone.

(k) The only chance to prolong the game. White falls under a mating attack after 21 K-N1 BxP!

(l) A sledge-hammer blow that crushes all resistance.