

Richard Shorman

Chess

U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP IN PROGRESS

Five international grandmasters head the list of 14 entrants vying for honors in the 1974 U. S. Championship and a share of the \$8,500 prize fund. The round-robin event, which began July 13 and extends through August 2, is being held in Chicago under the auspices of the United States Chess Federation and the American Chess Foundation.

With nine rounds complete, **Walter Browne** (2554) of Berkeley has victory in sight at 7½-1½, well ahead of past champion **Larry Evans** (2513) of Reno, Nevada at 6-3.

There follow **Pal Benko** (2515) and **Anthony Saidy** (2430), 5½-3½; **Arthur Bisguier** (2464) and **John Grefe** (2506), 5-4; **Kenneth Rogoff** (2490), 4½-4½; **Andrew Karklins** (2424) and **Samuel Reshevsky** (2542), 4-5; **Kim Commons** (2430), **Andrew Soltis** (2443) and **Norman Weinstein** (2471), 3½-5½; **Bernard Zuckerman** (2427), 3-6; and **Larry Gilden** (2409), 2½-6½.

One of the outstanding games of the tournament was played in round four, when Bisguier consummated a wild struggle against Karklins with a winning queen sacrifice. The game is recorded here in USCF sanctioned 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) with notes based on analysis by IGM Robert Byrne ("New York Times", July 23, 1974).

White: Arthur Bisguier. Black: Andrew Karklins. U.S. Championship, Chicago, 1974. Nimzo-Indian Defense 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Nf3 d6 5 e3 Nc6 6 Bd2 Qe7 (Overlooking White's powerful finesse on the next move. Better would have been an immediate 6...Bc3 7 Bc3 Ne4.) **7 d5! Bc3 8 Bc3 Nd8** (The difference: White has more space in the center, the bishop pair and attacking chances.) **9 Bd3 e5 10 Qc2 0-0** (And not 10...e4? due to 11 Bf6.) **11 0-0 g6** (Intending to regain some territory by forming a pawn front with ...f5.) **12 Nd2 Nh5 13 f4! f5 14 fe de 15 e4!?** (Typically aggressive, even though 15 b4 held out the prospect of smooth expansion on the queen side while holding back the enemy pawns on the king side.) **f4** (Now Black's counterplay assumes menacing proportions, as the pawn storm approaches.) **16 b4 Nf7 17 c5 g5 18 Nc4 g4 19 Rad1 g3 20 h3 Bh3!** (Certainly the best practical chance.) **21 gh Ng5 22 Ne5 f3 23 Nf3** (Forced, in view of Black's threat of 23...Nh3 24 Kh1 g2.) **Rf3** (Comes within a hairbreadth of winning. In retrospect, perhaps 23...Nf3 24 Rf3 Rf3 is better, even after 25 Bc4. White must not play 24 Kh1? in this line, on account of 24...Qh4 25 Qg2 Nf4!) **24 Qg2 Raf8 25 d6!** (Dramatically releasing the awesome power of his combined bishops, just as Black's counteroffensive seems unbeatable.) **Qe6 26 dc Nh3** (Meets with a brilliant refutation, but 26...Nf4 27 Rf3! Nf3 28 Qf3 Nh3 29 Kg2 Rf3 30 Bc4! If 27...Ng2, instead of 27...Nf3, then 28 Rf8 Kf8 29 Rf1 wins, e.g., 29...Ke8 30 Bb5 Ke7 31 Bf6.) **27 Qh3!! Qh3 28 Bc4! Resigns** (White mates first!).

TAL FACES YOUNG TALENT

In a special exhibition tournament designed to bring out young talent, former world champion Mikhail Tal encountered uncommonly stiff resistance from a 14-year-old Kiev schoolboy.

White: Mikhail Tal.

Black: Leonid Zaid.

Moscow, 1973.

Sicilian Defense

1 P-K4	P-QB4	19 BxPch!	KxB
2 N-KB3	P-Q3	20 Q-Q5ch	K-N3(i)
3 P-Q4	PxP	21 QxNch	K-B2
4 NxP	N-KB3	22 R-B1ch	B-B3
5 N-QB3	P-QR3	23 N-B5(j)	R-K1!!(k)
6 B-KN5	P-K3	24 Q-Q5ch	K-B1
7 P-B4	Q-N3	25 Q-Q6ch	K-B2
8 Q-Q2	QxP	26 NxNP?!(l)	Q-R5
9 N-N3	Q-R6	27 Q-Q5ch	K-B1(m)
10 B-Q3(a)	B-K2	28 N-Q6	B-K3
11 0-0	P-R3	29 R(5)xB	RxR
12 BxN(b)	BxB	30 QxKR	Q-Q5ch
13 P-K5	PxP	31 K-R1	Q-R2
14 N-K4(c)	N-Q2(d)	32 N-B5	Q-KB2
15 P-B5(e)	PxP	33 Q-Q6ch	B-K2
16 RxP	B-K2(f)	34 Q-QB6	R-Q1
17 B-B4(g)	N-B3	35 QxQRP(n)	Resigns
18 RxP	NxN(h)		

(Notes based on analysis by Mikhail Tal in "Turnir shakhmatnykh nadezhd" by Viktor Khenkin, Moscow, 1973, pp. 31-33)

(a) Varying from the 11th Spassky—Fischer match game, which continued 10 BxN PxN 11 B-K2.

(b) Tal's improvement on 12 B-R4 NxP! 13 NxN BxB (7th match game).

(c) For the price of a second pawn White presses his knight into the attack and temporarily prevents Black from castling.

(d) Too dangerous for Black is 14...PxP 15 NxBch PxN 16 QxP, but 14...Q-K2 15 NxBch QxN 16 PxP QxP 17 QR-K1 may not be so bad after 17...Q-B2 (not, however, 17...Q-Q3? 18 B-N5ch K-K2 19 RxPch, winning the queen).

(e) Black's forward KP interferes with his development, whereas an open KB file will only add fuel to White's attack.

(f) On 16...0-0? White breaks through to the enemy king with 17 NxBch NxN 18 RxN! PxR 19 QxP.

(g) Probably stronger is 17 QR-KB1, in order to answer 17...0-0 with 18 B-B4, although he has a better defense in 17...P-B3. The textmove sets a trap, and Black falls in.

(h) Black obviously counted on a routine 19 RxN, but 18...0-0! compels White to settle for 19 R-KB1 and hope that his active pieces compensate for the lost material, since queen hunting with 19 R-QR5 fails against 19...NxN!

(i) If 20...K-B1, then 21 RxN, which makes 21...Q-Q3 unplayable due to 22 R-B1ch.

(j) Looks like a good move, but Black finds a clever way to prove otherwise. White has to play 23 Q-Q5ch K-N3 first (23...K-B1 24 Q-Q8ch).

(k) Following this brilliant rejoinder White's mating attack has been repelled: I. 24 RxBch KxR! (or 24...PxR? 25 Q-R7ch and mate in three); II. 24 Q-Q5ch K-B1 25 RxRch KxR 26 Q-N8ch K-K2 27 R-K1ch K-Q3 28 R-Q1ch K-B2!; III. 24 RxR QxNch 25 K-R1 R-R2! (freeing the QB).

(l) In the thick of battle both sides missed 26...BxN! 27 QxQ RxR 28 Q-N3ch B-Q4, after which White would have to worry about how to salvage a half point.

(m) Or 27...K-N3 28 Q-Q3ch K-B2 29 N-Q6ch, winning instantly.

(n) Not only picking off another pawn but also covering the rook so that the knight can move.

CHESS CLASS OFFERED AT CHABOT COLLEGE

Persons wishing to improve their chess skills may enroll in a course of "advanced chess instruction", offered for the Autumn Quarter, 1974 at Chabot College, 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 94545.

Any student who is a high school graduate or is over 18 is eligible to attend. Qualified local residents pay no tuition charges.

New and returning students who were not registered during Spring Quarter, 1974 and who will be taking only evening or Saturday classes may obtain Registration-by-Mail materials by applying to Admissions and Records Office (address above).

Title of the course is Recreation 98.3-71, to be taught Wednesdays, 7-10 p.m., from Sept. 18 to Dec. 11 in Room 317. Two units of college credit will be awarded to those successfully completing the course ("credit-no-credit" or letter grade).

For more information, please phone 782-3000, ext. 352 (Admissions Bldg.) or ext. 295 (Office of Instruction).