Richard Shorman

Chess

"CHERRY TREE" TOURNAMENT RESULTS

A record 114 players converged on the Monterey Chess Center for the sixth annual "Cherry Tree Open", Feb. 23-24. Directors for the USCF rated event, **Ted** and **Ruby Yudacufski**, distributed $1,000 in cash prizes to the winners in three divisions. Complete results:

Open Division

1st, Eleuterio Alsasua, San Jose, 4½-½, $150 plus live cherry tree; **2nd,** Mike Ewell, San Jose, 4-1, $70.

1st-3rd A, Daniel Switkes, Berkeley, Van Vandivier, Salinas, and Mark Gazse, Los Gatos, 3-2, $28.35 each.

B-C Division

1st B, Vadim Tarasov, Pacific Grove, 4½-½, $125 plus cherry pie; **2nd B,** Roger Gribble, San Francisco, 4-1, $75.

1st-2nd C, Michael Mills, San Diego, and Hans Mager, San Luis Obispo, 4-1, $90 each.

D-E-Unrated Division

1st, James Delaney, Shell Beach, 4½-½, $100 plus cherry pie; **2nd-3rd,** Dina Gratz, Monterey, and Steffan Johnson, San Luis Obispo, 4-1, $40 each.

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Second prize ($70) was riding on the outcome of this lively battle in the Open Division, played in the last round between USCF experts Mike Ewell of San Jose and Phil Smith of Fresno.

The game is given in USCF approved coordinate chees 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: Mike Ewell (2026). Black: Phil Smith (2197). Monterey, Feb. 24, 1974. Grunfeld Defense 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Bg5 Ne4 5 cd Ng5 6 h4 Ne4 7 Ne4 Qd5 8 Nc3 Qa5 9 Qa4 Qa4 10 Na4 Bg7 11 e3 0-0 12 h5 e5 13 hg hg 14 de Be5 15 Nf3 Bf6 16 Rc1 Bd7 17 Nc3 Bc6 18 Bc4 Nd7 19 b4 Ne5 20 Ne5 Be5 21 b5 Bg2 22 Rg1 Bf3 23 Rg6 Kh7 24 Rg5 f6 25 Bd3 Kh8 26 Rg6 Rg8 27 Rh6 Kg7 28 Rh3 Bg4 29 Rh7 Kf8 30 Bc4 Be6 31 Be6 Rg1 32 Kd2 Rd8 33 Nd5 Rc1 34 Kc1 Rd6 35 Rf7 Ke8 36 Nc7 Kd8 37 Kc2 Rb6 38 Rd7 Kc8 39 Re7 Kd8 40 Nd5 Rb5 41 Rg7 Resigns

JOINT BRILLIANCY PRIZE GAME

Twice British champion **Harry Golombek** wrestled mightily with Soviet star **Efim Geller** (who had to win this game to win the tournament) at Budapest, 1952. Their very strenuous efforts ended with Geller resigned to second place and Golombek the proud possessor of a half share in the first brilliancy prize.

White: Efim Geller.   **Black: Harry Golombek.**
Budapest, 1952.
Nimzo-Indian Defense

1 P-Q4	N-KB3	13 BxP	NxNP
2 P-QB4	P-K3	14 Q-N1(d)	R-KN1
3 N-QB3	B-N5	15 P-B6	NxP
4 P-K3	P-B4	16 QxRP	N-B3!!(e)
5 P-QR3	PxP	17 BxN	QxB
6 PxB	PxN(a)	18 QxRch(f)	K-Q2(g)
7 N-B3	PxP	19 N-K5ch(h)	NxN
8 BxP	P-Q4(b)	20 QxR	N-B6ch!
9 P-B5	P-QN3	21 PxN(i)	QxRch
10 B-N5ch	B-Q2	22 K-K2	Q-N7ch
11 BxBch	KNxB(c)	23 Drawn	
12 Q-B2	QN-B3!		

(Modified notes from "Chess", vol. 17, no. 201, June, 1952, pg. 185)

(a) The maneuver initiated by Black's fifth move is usually considered inadvisable, the normal answer to White's 5 P-QR3 being 5...BxNch. After the natural continuation now, 7 PxP, White has not only secured bishop for knight but also (in contrast to the positions arising from the simpler 5...BxNch 6 PxB) has been presented with an open file for his QR and is left with two pawns advanced to his fourth rank, whereas Black has none. Undoubtedly Golombek had had a good look at the position in advance and convinced himself that there exist resources for Black insufficiently appreciated hitherto. Geller postpones our initiation into these resources by rejecting the natural positional move altogether, and, sacrificing a pawn for development, makes the game a really wild one.

(b) When behind in development, as Golombek is here (Only one of his pieces is effectively placed, while only one of White's is not!), it is elementary strategy not to open up the game. Thus, 8...P-Q4 represents a very bold decision, based, no doubt, on the positional consideration that if not moved at once the QP may be held back forever and on the combinative calculation that after 9 BxN QxB 10 PxP Black can make himself a nuisance by checking at his QB6.

(c) Fatal would be 11...QxB? 12 PxP, and Black cannot recapture. After 11...QNxB, on the other hand, 12 P-B6 would be most uncomfortable.

(d) To answer ...R-KN1, eventually, by QxRP. The worst move would be 14 Q-N3, allowing 14...NxP! (15 QxN N-Q6ch). If 14 Q-B3, then simply 14...R-KN1.

(e) The move which saves the game. Once again, White's unprotected QR is the key to the combination. The only possible alternative, 16...RxB, would have involved Black in a back-to-the-wall endgame with a knight and a pawn for a rook, undoubtedly inadequate, for White's KRP can advance as menacingly as Black's QRP.

(f) White cannot turn back, as 18 R-QB1 RxP would leave him unable to check, besides being threatened with 19...QxN.

(g) Note that 18...K-K2 here would lose: White saves his attacked queen and rook by 19 Q-N5.

(h) If 19 QxR QxRch 20 K-K2, then Black has the choice between trying for a win by 20...QxR and forcing a draw by 20...Q-R3ch. The textmove is a desperate attempt to avoid the now inevitable perpetual check.

(i) On 21 K-K2 Q-N7ch 22 KxN Q-B3ch 23 K-K2 Q-N7ch perpetual check is inescapable.

MONTHLY USCF TOURNEYS IN SAN LEANDRO

On the first Monday of each month (holidays excluded) the San Leandro Chess Club, 205 Dutton Ave., will begin a four-round, USCF-rated Swiss system tournament open to the public. Entry fee is $1 for San Leandro Chess Club members and $3 for others, with money prizes returned (less expenses) in the amount of 50 per cent to the overall winner, 30 per cent to the second-place finisher and 20 per cent to the player coming in third. All current USCF tournament rules will be in effect, especially the $5 fine assessed against anyone who drops out without prior notification. Time control is 40 moves in 90 minutes. Round one of this month's competition starts at 7:05 p.m., Monday, Mar. 3. For more information, phone **Robert Manners**, USCF Tournament Director, at **483-6088** or **569-4089**.

U.S. CHAMPION JOHN GREFE IN SAN FRANCISCO
FOR LECTURE AND SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION

U.S. Champion **John Grefe** will deliver a lecture on his prize winning game versus international grandmaster Walter Browne and take on all comers in simultaneous exhibition at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club, 57 Post St., in San Francisco, Saturday, Mar. 9, at 7 p.m. Board fee for the exhibition is $4; spectators will be charged $1.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CHESS DONNYBROOK

"Teddy O'Yudaçufski" will direct a one-day, three-round, USCF-rated sectional (Round Robin) tournament at the Monterey Chess Center, 430 Alvarado St., Sunday, Mar. 10, starting at 10 a.m. Entry fee is $5, with cash prizes and awards to winners.