

Richard Shorman

Chess

WALTER BROWNE NEW U.S. CHAMPION

Outscoring his nearest rivals by one and a half points, Berkeley's international grandmaster **Walter Browne** won undisputed possession of the 1974 United States Chess Championship in Chicago, July 13-Aug. 2.

The single round-robin competition among 14 of the highest rated players in the country (5 grandmasters, 3 international masters) was endowed with an \$8,500 prize fund by the U. S. Chess Federation and the American Chess Foundation. Complete results:

1st, **Walter Browne** (2554), Berkeley, 9¹/₂-3¹/₂, \$2,250; 2nd-3rd, **Pal Benko** (2515), Jersey City, NJ, and **Larry Evans** (2513), Reno, NV, 8-5, \$1,425 each; 4th, **Anthony Saidy** (2430), Santa Monica, 7¹/₂-5¹/₂, \$800; 5th-8th, **Arthur Bisguier** (2464), Rock Hill, NY, **John Grefe** (2506), Berkeley, **Samuel Reshevsky** (2542), Spring Valley, NY, and **Ken Rogoff** (2490), 7-6, \$422.50 each; 9th, **Norman Weinstein** (2471), Allston, MA, 6-7, \$200; 10th-11th, **Andrew Soltis** (2443), New York, NY, and **Bernard Zuckerman** (2427), New York, NY, 5¹/₂-7¹/₂, \$167.50 each; 12th, **Kim Commons** (2430), Los Angeles, 5-8, \$150; 13th, **Andrew Karklins** (2424), Chicago, IL, 4¹/₂-8¹/₂, \$125; 14th, **Larry Gilden** (2409), Takoma Park, MD, 3¹/₂-9¹/₂, \$100.

By far the most important contribution to opening theory and undoubtedly the most brilliant game of the tournament was 25-year-old Browne's ninth round victory over past U. S. champion Bisguier.

White: Walter Browne.

Black: Arthur Bisguier.

U.S. Championship, Chicago, 1974.

Petroff's Defense

1 P-K4	P-K4	21 P x Q	P x B
2 N-KB3	N-KB3	22 R-N1!(h)	R-N4!
3 N x P	P-Q3	23 P-KR4!(i)	R-N4
4 N-KB3	N x P	24 R x R	P x R
5 P-Q4	P-Q4	25 R x RP	R-Q8ch
6 B-Q3	B-K2	26 K-R2	R-Q7
7 0-0	N-QB3	27 R x RP	R x RP
8 P-B4	N-N5	28 P-R5!(j)	R x P
9 P x P	N x B	29 R-R8ch	K-B2
10 Q x N	Q x P	30 P-R6	K-N3(k)
11 R-K1	B-KB4	31 K-R3	P-R4
12 N-B3(a)	N x N	32 P-N4	P-N5
13 Q x N	P-QB3(b)	33 P x P	P x P
14 B-R6!!(c)	R-KN1!(d)	34 R-K8!(l)	R-B8
15 R-K5	Q-Q2	35 K-N2	R-B2
16 QR-K1	B-K3	36 P-N5	R-B4
17 N-N5!(e)	0-0-0!(f)	37 P-R7	R x Pch
18 N x BP!(g)	B x N	38 K-B3	R-KR4
19 R x B	Q x P	39 P-R8(Q)	R x Q
20 R x B	Q x Q	40 R x R	Resigns(m)

(Notes supplied by Gambit Game Store manager and postal chess master **Alan Benson** of Berkeley)

(a) According to Keres, White stands a bit better with 12 N-K5 P-KB3 13 Q-KB3.

(b) Take a good look at this position and see if you can find what Browne discovered over the board that escaped the notice of the entire chess world for more than four decades. At Hastings, 1931-32 the game Yates—Kashdan continued 14 B-Q2 P-KR3 (Fine gives 14...B-K3 15 R-K5 Q-B5 16 Q-K3 Q-B7! as equal.) 15 R-K5 Q-Q2 16 QR-K1 B-K3, and now 17 P-Q5 PxP 18 RxB PxR 19 QxP is supposed to win for White (Sharp), but after 19...0-0-0 the situation remains unclear. Fine also cites 14 R-K5 Q-Q2 15 P-Q5 0-0 (Another uncertain line runs 15...PxP 16 RxBch QxR 17 QxP.) 16 PxP PxP, with equality.

(c) Browne related over the phone from Chicago that Reshevsky's eyes almost popped out of his head when he saw this move made. Accepting the piece, 14...PxP, loses to 15 R-K5 Q-Q2 16 QR-K1 B-K3 17 P-Q5! PxP 18 RxB! PxR 19 QxRch B-B1 20 Q-B6, while declining by 14...B-K5 fails against 15 BxP R-KN1 16 RxB! QxR 17 R-K1 Q-N3 (If 17...QxRch, then 18 QxQ RxB 19 Q-K5 and 20 Q-B7.) 18 Q-N4! 0-0-0 19 RxB Q-N8ch 20 N-K1 R-Q2 21 RxR KxR 22 QxPch.

(d) Having spent 45 minutes calculating the above variations, Bisguier plays the only move.

(e) More shock treatment!

(f) Best again, considering the fatal alternatives of 17...PxP 18 NxB PxN 19 RxP R-N2 20 P-Q5 K-B1 21 QxRch! or 17...BxN 18 BxB P-KR3 19 B-R4 P-KN4 20 B-N3 0-0-0 21 P-Q5! BxP 22 R-K7 Q-N5 23 Q-K5.

(g) Much better than 18 NxB PxN 19 RxP B-B3, with pressure against White's QP.

(h) The combination over, Browne proceeds to win with fine endgame technique.

(i) Precision play! Black would retain undeserved counter-chances after 23 R(7)xNP R-N4! 24 R(7)xR PxR.

(j) Closing to within three squares of queening the RP is well worth giving up the KBP.

(k) Avoiding the future possibility of R-QB8ch KxR and P-R8(Q)ch.

(l) Timely defense, ready to answer 34...P-N6 with 35 R-K3 P-N7 36 R-N3ch, followed by advancing the king-side pawns.

(m) Safely past time control, White wins in a walk.

★ ★ ★

White: John Grefe. Black: Walter Browne. U.S. Championship, Chicago, 1974. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Bg5 e6 7 f4 Be7 8 Qf3 Qc7 9 0-0-0 Nbd7 10 Bd3 h6 11 Qh3 Nb6 12 f5 e5 13 Nf3 Bd7 14 Bf6 Bf6 15 g4 0-0-0 16 Qg3 Bg5 17 Ng5 hg 18 h4 gh 19 Rh4 Rh4 20 Qh4 Bc6 21 Qh7 f6 22 g5 d5 23 gf gf 24 Qc7 Kc7 25 Rh1 d4 26 Ne2 Nd7 27 Rh6 Rg8 28 Rg6 Rh8 29 b4 Rh4 30 Ng3 b5 31 a4 ba 32 Ba6 Be4 33 Ne4 Re4 34 Bb5 a3 35 Kb1 d3 36 Bd3 Rb4 37 Ka2 Kc6 38 Ka3 Rf4 39 Rg8 e4 40 Rc8 Kd6 41 Resigns.

• • •

White: Walter Browne. Black: Larry Evans. U.S. Championship, Chicago, 1974. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 Nc3 a6 4 d4 cd 5 Nd4 d6 6 g3 b5 7 Bg2 Bb7 8 0-0 Nf6 9 Re1 Qc7 10 Nd5 ed 11 ed Kd8 12 Bg5 Nd7 14 a4 h6 15 Bf6 Nf6 15 ab ab 16 Ra8 Ba8 17 Qa1 Bb7 18 Nc6 Bc6 19 dc d5 20 Qa8 Qc8 21 Qa5 Qc7 22 Qa8 Draw.

SAN LEANDRO CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The San Leandro Championship to determine the 1974 club champion and the CCCA "knock-out" representative for 1975 will be held in the Washington Elementary School cafeteria, 250 Dutton Ave., San Leandro, beginning Monday, Aug. 5, at 7 p.m. A trophy plus half the entry fees will be awarded to the winner. Second place earns 30 per cent of the entry fees, while 20 per cent will reward the third highest scorer. The USCF-rated Swiss system open event will be played at the rate of one game each week for eight weeks, with a time control of 40 moves in 1½ hours. USCF membership required: be prepared to show your card or join upon registration. Entry fee is \$2 for San Leandro club members and \$6 for others. For further information, please telephone USCF Tournament Director Robert Manners at 483-6088.

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

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

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

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