

# T E R R A C H E S

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## KIM COLLINGS NEW STATE CHAMPION

No bolt of lightning this time; our man from Huntington Beach has tried, and tried again, and finally made it. Perseverance. And of course improved play.

Kim won four, drew one, and lost one game in the State Finals held at the San Fernando Valley Chess Club last weekend. His loss was against runnerup Jim TARJAN; his draw v. Ross STOUTENBOROUGH. Among his victims was last year's Champion Dennis FRITZINGER; Julius LOFTSSON, Craig BARNES and Alex SUHOBECE. Our new champion played aggressive chess, sacrificing pieces to sustain an attack, displaying an exciting style of chess. Congratulations, Kim!

As usual, the full complement of qualifiers did not participate in the Finals. HENIN and WEINBERGER from the south, KAPLAN and GREY from the north withdrew, leaving seven finalists to battle it out. Actually, no one knew about the latter two not playing until round 1 of the Finals were about to start - we got word then about KAPLAN withdrawing (due to sickness), but not a word from GREY which caused some problems in the schedule. We believe this kind of thing should be considered "quitting" just as much as a player who leaves a Swiss without notifying the T.D. True, in a round robin there are no pairing difficulties - but knowing the exact number of players who will or won't play can determine a revised schedule, shorter usually, to the advantage of the participants. For instance, we were able to eliminate the Sunday afternoon round of the schedule, thereby allowing the northerners to get home in good time instead of midnight Sunday. But GREY had to be figured in, and two schedules were made up to the dismay of the administration.

With KAPLAN, word was given only on the night of play, delaying things while the schedule was reconsidered. Since he had not played



in the preliminaries, starting three weeks before the finals, why couldn't word be sent to the League rightaway? We believe in future any qualifier who does not acknowledge playing within a week of the final qualification date should be replaced by the next-in-line qualifier. This also carries an inherent problem: the finalists may not be the most representative of the state's top talent. However, seven players out of 11 qualifiers is discouraging; and it's the same story year after year. Increasing the prize fund (\$750 this year) apparently did not help in this regard. Maybe the CSCF should discuss the whole question and come up with some improved ideas - like changing the date of the finals "away from the holidays", as one of this year's players suggests.

Apart from the above customary problem, this year's event was smooth and enjoyable, held at the new League headquarters at the San Fernando Valley Chess Club. There were quite a few spectators, and press coverage. We had a chance to interview some of the players, starting with our new champion, Kim COLLINGS, who received an honorary clubmembership from the club.

Q: "You finally made it. How do you feel?"

A: "Great. Can't tell you how much - after the last two disastrous years. It's a great improvement, for sure!"

Q: "You played energetic chess. Were you satisfied with your games?"

A: "Yes, I felt that I played nice chess. Of course in the analysis all kinds of things may come to light - but I played confidently over the board. Even against TARJAN, my only loss, I felt that the sacrifice was sound - three united passed pawns for the piece looked pretty strong. I thought it should win - but TARJAN played very nicely and his Q-Q7 won by force."

Q: "Any comments about the Championship in general?"

A: "There ought to be some method of keeping the players in - maybe putting up a forfeit fee, \$15-20 or so, after initial acceptance. Of course if there's a truly serious reason for not playing, like medical or smething, the forfeit money would be returned - but otherwise no. A round robin with seven players is very poor indeed. I will say this though: it was nicely organized, and well-run. Playing the preliminary rounds at one's convenience is great - especially when you have to travel quite a distance like I had to."

Q: "What are your next chessical plans?"

A: "I plan to play in the Western at the International Hotel - it's a nice place. And the prizes are good, aren't they? Also, I hope to play at Lone Pine."

Thanks, Kim, and once again, congratulations.

NEXT: DENNIS FRITZINGER

Q: "Well, I'm sure you tried to retain your title, but it wasn't in the stars."

A: "Right - it sure could have been better. Several games could have been different - but I haven't had a chance to analyze at least three important games, so I can't really say."



- Q: "What do you think of the present setup of the Championship?"
- A: "I think future qualifiers should have a month or two advance notice before the finals. That way there'd be no hassle. This time we had only two weeks to play the preliminaries and prepare."
- Q: "Do you think playing the finals late in January would be better?"
- A: "Oh, yes - February even better. January is bad because of spring vacation, and after the holidays. In any case, it should be held about two months after qualification."
- Q: "Good point. We'll take that up. Otherwise, any comments about the tournament?"
- A: "I really enjoyed it down here. Up north, it's terrible."
- Q: "What do you think of the Calpoint system?"
- A: "Haven't thought much about it - it's too new for us. Seems much more advantageous than the old system."

Thanks, Dennis. Will see you at the International.

MONTEREY'S OWN ALEX SUHOBECK

- Q: "This is your first state championship, isn't it?"
- A: "Yes - and I'm quite satisfied with my performance. After all, the others are all young - juniors or close to it. Considering that I'm 52, my result is excellent."
- Q: "You only lost two games - I'd say that's good."
- A: "Yes - those two games were not good - I played badly. I don't mind losing if I play well - but there I know I played badly. And in the others, I may have had more in a couple of them."
- Q: "Any comments on the tournament?"
- A: "Yes. It should be switched to some other time - not around holiday time. That's why you get some players withdrawing. And this self-arrangement in the preliminaries - that shouldn't be. I had problems in making it. And for instance for my game against BARNES, there was no one there - no official at all. Supposing something happened? We could have had a dispute or something - then what? It's not good."
- Q: "Enjoy the finals though?"
- A: "Very much. No complaints in L.A. In fact I'll be back for that International - the Western Open in February. You'll be directing again?"
- A: "Yes - codirecting with GOICBERG."
- A: "Fine. Well, I have a long journey."

Thanks, Alex - good luck in all your future endeavors.

RIISING STAR CRAIG BARNES

- Q: "What do you think of the Championship?"
- A: "Fine - very enjoyable. Glad I could play in it. A pity about the withdrawals, though - gives one less chance to make up lost ground."



- Q: "How would you rate your play in the event?"  
 A: "I did as expected. Should have been better, but I don't say it could have been better."  
 Q: "Any highlights?"  
 A: "Well, of course the LOFTSSON game. I think I played a really nice game against him."  
 Q: "How did you qualify into the Championship?"  
 A: "Through the CCCA - Calpoint, I guess. That's new up there."  
 Q: "Well, you've made a good start. Hope you'll keep it up."  
 A: "I hope so. The experience was great for me. I really enjoyed it."

Thanks, Craig. Hope indeed you'll be in there next year.

CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - 1971

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
1. COMMONS	K.	X	0	1	1	½	1	1	4½
2. FARJAN	J.	1	X	½	0	1	1	½	4
3. FRITZINGER	D.	0	½	X	½	½	1	1	3½
4. LOFTSSON	J.	0	1	½	X	½	½	0	2½
5. STOUTENBERG	R.	½	0	½	½	X	½	½	2½
6. BARNES	C.	0	0	0	1	½	X	½	2
7. SUHOBECK	A.	0	½	0	½	½	½	X	2

A SAMPLE OF THE NEW CHAMPION

White: Kim COMMONS

Black: Dennis FRITZINGER

(Annotated by J. GREFF, with a couple of remarks by your editor)

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	10. O-O	Q-N-Q2	19. BxN	QxB	28. RxB	FxR
2. N-KB3	P-KN3	11. Q-B2	Q-B2	20. RXP	P-KR3(c)	29. QXP+	K-B2
3. P-B4	B-N2	12. R-Q1	RR-N1	21. NxBP	KxN	30. R-QB1	QxNP
4. P-KN3	O-O	13. B-Q2	N-N3	22. P-K5	BxF(d)	31. R-B7+	K-N1
5. B-N2	P-B4	14. B-K1	Q-N2	23. R-Q7+	K-B3	32. R-B8+	K-R2
6. P-Q5	P-QN4(a)	15. R-N1	KNXP(b)	24. Q-Q1	B-Q6(e)	33. Q-Q7+	Q-N2
7. FxP	P-QR3	16. NxN	NxN	25. QxB	R-R6	34. QxQ+	KxQ
8. FxP	F-Q3	17. N-N5	P-K3	26. Q-K2	Q-N4(f)	35. RxB	RxRP
9. N-B3	BxP	18. P-K4	N-N5	27. Q-Q1	B-Q5(g)	36. B-R3	Res.

- a. This is the Benko-Volga Gambit. Black sacrifices a pawn for play on open lines.  
 b. (Seems like walking into the lion's den along a long vulnerable diagonal. White wastes no time in starting an attack. - Ed.)  
 c. This provokes a brilliant and daring sacrifice which exposes the Black king to grave dangers. Safer was 20...R-R2; for example, 21.R-B6, B-N4 22.RxBP, RxRP 23 R-B7, B-k1 etc.  
 d. If 22....R-R2, 23.RxKP!! wins for White.  
 e. Black plays an inspired defense! (Q-B3+ was threatened - Ed.)



- f. Better chances were offered by 26....BxNF; for example, 27.R-Q2, RxBP; 28.R-K1, R-N3; 29.R-Q7, R-R6 with an unclear situation. (Well now. That's one example - however, with 27.B-Q5!! instead of R-Q2, White ices the game; as QxP+ followed by P-B4+ is threatened. If then A. 27....PxB, 28.Q-K7+, K-B4, 29.RxP+, K-N5; 30.Q-K2+, K-R6 (or ....R-B6, 31.P-R3+); 31.R-R5+, PxB; 32.QxP+. If B. ....27....P-K4; 28.R-B7+, K-N4; 29.P-R4+. If C. 27....R-N3; 28.B-N3 (threat, Q-B3+), RxB; 29.PxR, QxP; 30.R-Q2. If D. 27....R-K1; 28.B-N3 or RxB. After 28.RxB, PxB 29.QxR, QxR fails on account of Q-R8+. If E. 27....P-B5, 28.QxP+, K-N4; 29.P-B4+. If F. 27....Q-K3, 28.Q-K4. Ed.)
- e. Loses at once.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR VALLEY Well, not really upcoming - but a week old. 8-rd Swiss started last Thursday - trophies - EF \$2. Open. We feel you might still get in, make up a game, if you contact S. OLIVA or Wally THOMSON rightaway. Sorry we couldn't get this in in time - the holidays and all that.....

SIMI VALLEY The 1972 SIMI VALLEY OPEN, the first real big one for this club. Starts January 14, Friday for six consecutive Fridays. EF \$12; jun u 20, \$9.

\$300 minimum PRIZE FUND!

First - \$100; second, \$60; A, B, C, u/r \$35 each. Trophies. Directed by Stan RING and Don SILLIES; 527-2893, 522-0874. Enter at site by 7.30 pm. Bring sets and clocks.

site: Larwin Community Center, Sycamore Drive, SIMI.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY The SUN VALLEY OPEN - Fri Jan 21-23.

Six-rd Swiss. Rd 1 Fri 8pm. EF \$8; \$6 before the 21st. At 10919 Saticoy st, Sun Valley. Further info, 765-0782. Prizes depend on entries. USCF-rated.

Also, on February 12-13, the SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AMATEUR, for U 1800. No details at this time.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL WESTERN OPEN, Feb 4-6. Continental Chess Assn. event, Wm. GOICHBURG and your editor directing. See all details in Chess Life. Top tourney, top money. Cannot miss. A CALPOINT TOURNAMENT.

DOWNEY The DOWNEY OPEN - Feb. 26-27. At Downey - no other details.

CHESS HOUSE 402 E. Las Tunas Dr, San Gabriel. 285-4415. Ronald PEASE's new club, with fantastic plans. For the first time ever in the southland, a tournament is scheduled EVERY WEEKEND!

- Jan 15-16 Chestnut Open - 5 rds - \$100 first guar. EF \$12.50, Jr \$9. \$1 less advance entries. 45/2. Other cash prizes. Trophies.
- Jan 22-23 Fireside Open - 5 rds - \$200 first guar. EF \$16, 12.50.
- Jan 29-30 u.A. County Amateur - u 2000 \$100 first guar. EF \$12.50, \$9.
- Feb 5-6 San Gabriel 49er - 12rds - not rated 49/49. \$100 guar. \$12.50.
- Feb 12-13 Lincoln Think-in - 5rd - \$100 first guar - \$12.50, \$9.

Also, weekly tourneys practically every day. Among them the San Gabriel Leap Year open, Jan 11-Feb 29, and the winter rating, Jan 13-Feb 17. Best thing is to call the club for their schedule.



GUESS WHO'S COMING TO THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP?

Robert Fischer, USA, will play a match with the present Champion, Boris Spassky, Russia - sometime in Spring of 1972. What's the best way to follow this historic event? Subscribe to the following:

- 64 - WEEKLY Russian chess newspaper. Quickest source of the match games. \$4 per year - air mail from Moscow. Edited by Petrosian.

CHESS EXPRESS Fastest growing magazine in the world. \$7 regular mail, \$10 air mail. From Switzerland. Algebraic. 20 issues per year. More than 1000 games. Complete coverage of Master Chess. Send 50¢ for sample copy.

CHESS \$7.50 per year - Air mail from England. Monthly. 70¢ for sample copy.

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Thanks! James Schroeder.

(Paid ad)

LEAGUE MEETING

IMPORTANT!

The next meeting of the Southern California Chess League will be held at the San Fernando Valley Chess Club, 10919 Saticoy, Sun Valley, on January 25, Tuesday, 8 p.m.

This is the most important meeting of the year - the Pre-Team Match meeting. Mustn't miss it!

There have been all kinds of ideas about a revamping of the matches - some want to cancel them, some play them on one weekend, and of course some keep to the old club-to-club idea. Be sure to send your club representative with YOUR CLUB's idea. Be prepared to tell us how many teams you will enter.

Also on the agenda: elections, Hall of Fame discussion, distribution of Calendar.

Whatever form the Team Matches will take, come and vote and make this year's a BIG one!

That's January 25, Tuesday, 8 pm, SACL Headquarters at San Fernando Valley Chess Club.



MORE CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

White: C. BARNES

Black: E. FEITZINGER

1. P-E4	P-K4	9. R-E1	F-K3	17. F-Q4	F-QB3	25. RxB	BxR
2. F-KB3	K-QB3	10. F-B4	F-Q6+	18. E-B3	O-O	26. P-K3	QxQNP
3. B-B4	K-B3	11. K-R2	Q-R5	19. F-Q5	FxP	27. R-N1	QxRP
4. F-Q4	FxP	12. FxN	QxB	20. KxP	Q-Q1	28. RxB	B-Q4
5. O-O	B-B4	13. BxP	Q-R5	21. N-B4	B-B2	29. Resigns.	
6. F-K5	N-KF5	14. R-K4	Q-K2	22. R-Q4	Q-B3		
7. F-R3	F5xEP	15. FxF	BxP+	23. E-R5	Q-B7		
8. KxN	NxN	16. K-R1	B-K3	24. B-B4	QR-Q1		

White: D. FRITZINGER

Black: A. SUHOBECK

1. F-KN3	P-KN3	7. F-Q3	KN-K2	13. FxP	P-QR4	19. Q-K4	Rf-B1
2. B-N2	B-K2	8. B-Q2	O-O	14. PxP	PxP	20. K-N6	KxN
3. E-QB3	P-QB4	9. R-N1	B-Q2	15. N-B5	K-Q4	21. RxB	P-R5
4. E-B3	N-QB3	10. F-K4	FxP	16. Q-K1	Q-K2	22. R-B6	Q-N2
5. O-O	F-Q4	11. KxP	F-N3	17. P-Q4	NxP	23. RxB+	QxR
6. P-QR3	P-K3	12. F-QN4	FxP	18. BxB	KxRP	24. N-K5	BxN
						25. QxB	Res.

White: J. LOFTSSON

Black: C. BARNES

1. N-KB3	F-QN3	9. NxB	PxN	17. N-K4	B-Q5	25. Q-K1	P-K6
2. F-B4	B-N2	10. N-B3	O-O	18. P-K3	P-Q4	26. K-N2	Q-Q4
3. F-KN3	B-N2	11. O-O	Q-Q2	19. PxP	PxP	27. K-R2	F-K7
4. F-Q4	P-B4	12. B-N5	R-B2	20. PxB	PxN	28. R-KN1	R-Q6
5. P-Q5	P-Q3	13. R-B1	QR-KB1	21. PxP	Q-K4	29. Q-N4	K-B6+
6. B-N2	P-K3	14. F-KR3	F-QR3	22. Q-K2?	N-E5	30. K-N2	FxR+
7. PxP	BxP	15. F-N3	Q-B2	23. Q-K3	R-B6	31. KxN	R-Q8+
8. N-N5	N-B3	16. BxN	BxB	24. BxR	RxB	32. Resigns.	

White: R. STOUTENBOROUGH

Black: J. LOFTSSON

1. P-Q4	N-B3	5. FxP	P-Q3	9. O-O	QN-Q2	13. N-B4	B-QR3
2. P-QB4	P-B4	6. P-KN3	F-KN3	10. N-Q2	N-K1	14. N-N5	N-K4
3. P-Q5	P-K3	7. B-N2	B-N2	11. P-QR4	P-B4	15. N4-R3	Q-K2
4. N-QB3	FxP	8. N-KB3	O-O	12. P-K3	P-N3		Draw.

White: K. COMMONS

Black: A. SUHOBECK

1. P-Q4	F-Q4	6. B-N5!	B-K3	11. NxB	B-N2?	16. P-B4	N-N5
2. N-KB3	F-K3	7. P-K4	FxP	12. N-Q6+	K-B1	17. Q-Q5	Q-Q2
3. P-B4	N-KB3	8. B-N5+	B-Q2	13. O-O	PxP	18. QR-K1	N-R3
4. N-B3	P-QB4	9. BxN	PxB	14. NxB	E-K4	19. R-E7	QxR
5. FxP	FxP?	10. BxB+	NxB	15. N4-B5	P-KR4	20. NxB	KxN
						21. QxRP+	Res.

White: D. FRITZINGER

Black: J. TARJAN

1. P-KN3	P-QB4	8. P-Q3	N-B3	15. N-K1	B-N5	22. B-Q5	B-K3	29. Q-B6	N-K3
2. B-N2	N-QB3	9. P-QR4	FxRP3	16. Q-Q1	B-KB	23. N-N3	N-N5	30. N-N3	R-K5
3. P-N3	P-Q4	10. P-QR3	P-N6	17. BxB	KxB	24. BxB	KxB	31. Q-R8+	K-K2
4. N-KB3	F-K4	11. QxP	O-O	18. F-KR3	B-B4	25. Q-B3	R-Q2	32. QxR	RxN
5. O-O	P-KN3	12. QN-Q2	Q-B2	19. R-N1	N-Q2	26. N-Q2	N-B4	33. KRxB	QxP+
6. B-N2	B-N2	13. P-QR4	P-QR4	20. P-K4	FxPep	27. P-Q4	FxP	34. Draw.	
7. P-B4	P-Q5	14. B-QR3	R-Q1	21. PxP	N-B4	28. PxB	RxB		