

# TEXAS KNIGHTS

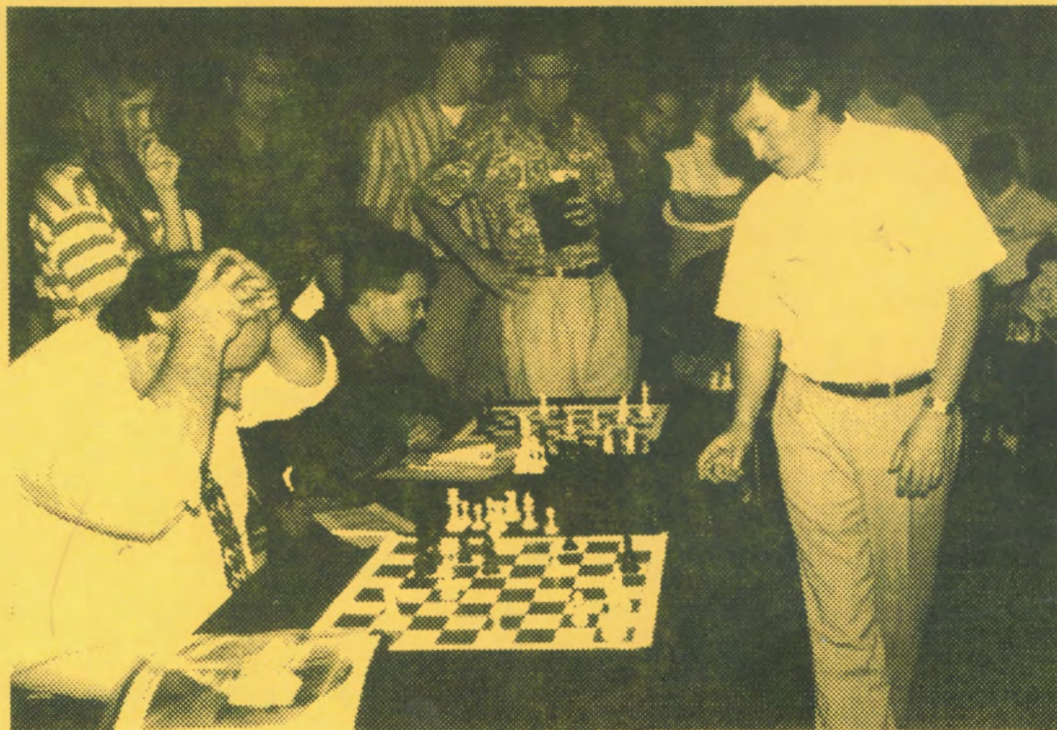
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Cover photo: Richard Strauss

# A Champion and a Gentleman

by Richard Strauss

On June 29, a Saturday afternoon with blue skies overhead and the Texas sun baking the Austin city streets at 100°, FIDE world champion Anatoly Karpov gave Texas chess players an interview session and simultaneous exhibition which few in attendance will ever forget. Many of Texas' "big guns" were there, including Karpov second GM Ron Henley [from Houston, now a New York stock trader - Ed.] and masters Joe Bradford, Doug Root, Selby Anderson, Jim Gallagher and Mark Dejmek. The site of the event was The Terrace, formerly the Austin Opera House. The dimly lit and musty old hall lends itself to shadows, there lurking the ghosts of legendary musicians of days gone by. The presence of Anatoly Karpov will only add to the lore which surrounds the site.

Karpov was relaxed, friendly and humorous as he spoke for an hour and fifteen minutes about his life, chess, Russia and perhaps most importantly his duties as president-elect of the Moscow/Arbat Lions Club. The proceeds for this benefit were all donated to the Lions Club. The Lions' motto is "We serve." They are basically a humanitarian, philanthropic organization.

Before the simul, boards were auctioned off to the highest bidder, with state champion Joe Bradford as the auctioneer. One board had been filled at the original asking price of \$1,000, donated by Gunn Motors of San Antonio for eleven-year-old Aaron Golden. Ten boards were sold to adults for \$125-\$400, and eleven boards were set aside for junior players at \$25 minimum bids.

The field included several masters and experts, as well as players of almost every level. Karpov finished the match +21, -0, =2. The first draw went to 15-year-old Grant Sitta of San Marcos, the Texas middle school champion and winner of first under-1600 in the National High School Championships this year. The other draw went to the last person still playing after two hours, NM Jim Gallagher of San Antonio. When asked why Karpov offered him a draw in a superior position, Gallagher responded: "Because he's got a lot of class!" I resigned my game on move 31 after Karpov queened a pawn in a game that I will never forget.

Karpov impressed everyone with his personable character, humor and charm. One local expert, Mike Moore, said: "He seems more like Joe "B" player than world champion." Karpov's charitable contribution to the Lions Club is to be commended. It has been rumored that this could become an annual event, and I'm sure that the Texas chess community would be thrilled to see this happen. If Karpov does return next year, don't

miss it, as it will be one of the most exciting and memorable chess events one will ever attend.

What follows is from Karpov's question and answer session.

*Mr. Karpov, could you give us a brief history of your career, and what titles you possess?*

I started to play chess at home. My father taught me when I was four and a half years old. My first tournament I played at seven. It was a tournament for category. At that time in Russia we had five categories. I started to play at adults' club. Immediately I got third category . . . At nine years old I got first category and was champion of my city. I was born in Latos, a city of about 200,000 inhabitants and 2,000 kilometers from Moscow. At 15 I win title of national master, and at 17 I became European junior champion. At 18 I got title of international master and I became world junior champion, and then in 1970 at Caracas at age 19 I got grandmaster title. And then in 1975 at age 23 years I became world champion. And then you probably know.

*What is your feeling on Swiss tournaments compared to the round robin events played in Europe?*

They are convenient for sure, but if you only play in Swiss tournaments, you cannot become world champion, this is quite clear. I have already had this experience when I was a junior in Russian military. We had Swiss tournaments. . . . With Swiss system you have special way to play. You have to play very risky. You have to play for win every game, Black or White, it doesn't matter. . . . But you can make serious tournaments, you compete for the world title, you have to play serious chess and not have too much risk. You must risk to get [chances], but not like Swiss tournaments. The Swiss system is more suitable for organizers, because the more players you can invite then especially the system you use in the United States with entrance fee, so you cannot make round robin tournament.

*Could you tell us a little about your visit to Austin and your charitable work back in Russia?*

A few years ago we joined with the Lions Club and so we have now in Moscow 23 Lions Clubs. From the first of July I am elected to be president of one of the first Lions clubs in Moscow and Russia, and we have very good relations with your Lions Club here in Austin. So this is our mutual club. Someone discovered the possibility to come here, and this is connected with the competition. Participation of our organization in connection with tennis, unfortunately I have no time to visit, but our organization will go there in July. And so

we had the possibility to organize this charity simul. So the idea was to make this money, two parts, one for charity in Russia, our Lions Club, and another for charity in United States. But I would like to propose one idea for American club. We shall have at the end of this year, or next year, we will have chess schools. So they ask me to become head of the chess school. And we shall have two groups, one for Spanish players and another international. So probably we could put part of this amount from the simul to support talented chess players from Texas. So I call for the support of companies because we cannot supply the whole thing; at first it is very hard. Maybe companies will support this idea.

*What is to come in the international arena, especially at the top where you sit?*

So we have positive and negative moments, like everywhere. So positive moments that we have contact now between two systems and probably we will have more tournaments. But negative is that we divided or split with Kasparov. But all the others, they participate in both. But now we've got real possibilities. So there are some ideas to organize match with myself and Kasparov. And especially after Linares tournament. Before they had some doubts that I'm among the best. But after Linares tournament, have to organize something. But it's not so easy. Especially you don't have system now. When you are part of the system then it is quite easy because you have all the regulations, sit back and there is nothing to discuss but the time and country. But now, even the play of this match we must discuss from the beginning. How many games, what is prize fund. Even time limit, 2 1/2 hours for 40 moves or two hours for 40 moves or whatever. So it is not easy. But I believe that it all has some solutions. And of course you cannot compare PCA and FIDE. I am not defending FIDE because I think Campomanes made many mistakes four last years. Of course he made some positive movements. But last years he made many mistakes, so he will not run and we shall have younger president. Now we have three candidates. But you can't compare PCA and FIDE because PCA never had an idea to organize competitions for juniors,

for adults, for ladies, only top players, only ten to fifteen top grandmasters.

*I have read that you have felt that in a championship match that ends in a tie, one should have another match with the same person. Do you still feel that way now that you are champion again?*

I think that it's more fair. Because former time world champion was a little bit idolized, you had less tournaments and so he had some advantage. And because candidate had to pass through system of competitions and so he had chance to meet the best players he was well-trained. But now we have many competitions. So this advantage disappeared for world champion. So world champion gains lots of advantages, he can wait, he can observe. The candidate, he approaches the match with the world champion almost tentative, I mean in the openings. So it's more fair to change the system.

Patrick C. Long



***“It's very difficult to maintain this interest to play. And this is the most important thing – not even age or physical condition, this is even more important.”***

*lain. I was just wondering if you had any thoughts on how this role reversal came about.*

Thanks to Kasparov mostly [laughter].

*How good is the possibility of having a match between you and Kasparov within the next two years? We don't want to wait until you're fifty years old!*

Well, that depends. There is some discussions now, but not a concrete proposal.

*I have two short questions: What do you think of removing Kasparov's name from the FIDE rating list, and two, how did you get such a great result in Linares, and what are your thoughts on that tournament?*

First, about Kasparov and Short: I think that this was big damage that was done by officials in FIDE, because FIDE can exist only from these percentages that it gets from the world championship match. The membership fee is very low, and then they can't organize all the competitions – junior competitions, ladies' competitions. The only [indispensable] competition is the world championship match, and so FIDE made a lot,

for, to find sponsors, to find places. And then in the last moment . . . Kasparov and Short says okay, good-bye, we want to have our own format and so we don't play under the international federation. So of course, this is freedom, but ten times Kasparov and Short played in union competitions, and they were unionists, and . . . this is not fair to future generations. The advantage of this case is not to be in this system, we want to create our own. I think this is not fair. Any organization, like in tennis or in football, they must protect themselves. But what to do. I proposed a long time ago another idea, and then FIDE would not need to exclude Kasparov indefinitely. I proposed another idea just to protect competition system and federation interests. When we had disputes with Korchnoi in '78 and '81, I proposed to freeze half of the prize of the world champion in a special account which he will have exit or entrance only after he starts to play another match. So it means we played lots of matches, Kasparov in 1990, you remember, in New York and Lyon, France; and Kasparov got prize of two million dollars. So that time, I think according to my idea, he should immediately get one million, and one million should be frozen. And then if he makes a decision like they made with Short, okay, one million is guaranteed for another match, and this is guaranteed for federation. I think we shall have this system. I proposed it twice, it wasn't supported, but now this is time.

And about Linares, it was one of the greatest victories I had in my life. Even [though] I won . . . 128 international competitions. This is absolute record, and the second place now in chess history, Alekine, another great champion. Now, he won 76 international competitions, so [I'm] way ahead.

*Did you have any particular hero or person that you study under growing up? When you were quite young, did you study any particular chess player?*

My first book I have studied was book of best games of Capablanca. And so this was nice to me for chess, at least in our country, because it was time when Tal was . . . storming the world title, and he was winning one competition after another, and when I was nine years old Tal became world champion. He beat Botvinnik that time. But then he lost rematch in '61. And it was time of big enthusiasm in chess world and in Russia, and so I was growing [up at] that time.

*You once said in the 70's that you found the Caro-Kann depressing because of its passivity, but since 1987 you have used it with great effect against the world's best. What altered your opinion of the opening?*

I did a lot of contribution to theory of the Caro-Kann, and actually today you will have opportunity to buy my book about Caro-Kann [laughter]. And this is

part of our power of donation to the charity program. And plus, I just found that in Caro-Kann you can have very interesting lines, not passive, active lines. It sounds strange, but I won so many games now with Caro-Kann, so I can prove this is not passive opening.

*Do you think computers will ruin chess, as some people are saying?*

Of course computers affect chess life, and we try to avoid adjournments now. Certain types of positions now you can already count or calculate till the end, and there is no sense to have adjournments. That's why we try to continue the game or to play as long as possible. So this is one part of computers existing. And another: Computers give a lot of interesting information for serious endings. So now we know, for instance, . . . if I remember well, in '67 it was lock match between Moscow and Leningrad teams. They played so many quick games or matches, 40 games with one day between another. And so the score was 39 1/2 to 39 1/2. Last game they couldn't finish, the team of Moscow should go out from Leningrad for a Monday, and it was adjourned position, queen and b-pawn against queen. So Leningrad has queen and b-pawn, and Moscow has queen. And it was the decision of arbiters, draw, and then drawing the match. And then Leningrad was very much disappointed because they believed they should win the match. And so it was end of matches, but now we know with computers that this was win for Leningrad.

*What do you think of the Soviet chess system?*

We had no chess as an obligatory discipline in school. In several schools, in some cities like Moscow, St. Petersburg . . . Riga, Tallinn . . . Tblisi and Yerevan, Kiev and Lvov. But as a courtesy discipline we had it . . . In many countries we now have new ways of thinking or new ways of educational system, and for instance in Sweden now, they made reform of educational system, and they included chess as a subject in schools. And so it will start this August the first time. I was interviewed just recently in Spain. They discuss in *Glor* [?] that chess should be obligatory discipline in Spanish schools because they got good results with their experiment. And so I know that in the United States also in several parts you had chess in the schools, like in New York, which was implemented before our match for the world title in 1990. And so this is another positive thing. So now we have problems in Russia, because with the collapse of Soviet Union the educational system collapsed as well, and so it is very difficult to organize chess life now in our country, but we tried with our federation to maintain the best things that we had seen in the past.

*I still don't think I understand it. What are your actual intentions regarding Kasparov? Are you saying*

that you will not play him because there is a rift between FIDE and PCA, and you don't want to deal it again? Or if the opportunity came to play him again would you actually do so?

No, I said there are some ideas and even some discussions about a match between the two best players. But it's just not easy. . . . It's clear that this is the most interesting event in chess world for so many years. So if we have proposal, and I think Kasparov also considers the possibility to play.

*You would have no problems playing him?*

No.

*The Houston Chronicle recently ran an article about a possible Karpov-Fischer match. Any comments?*

I think they took information from telegraph agencies, I don't remember which one, because there is company from Greece, which wants to organize a match of Team Beograd. And so they invited Fischer to play for one of these teams and me to play for another, because they have two games in this match. So I got this invitation. Fischer got this invitation I believe, and then time will show if we play two games or not.

*I think you should play with Fischer now, otherwise he will be too old. We have been waiting 20 years. And if you don't play with Kasparov soon you will be too old!*

You know that Fischer played match with Spassky twenty years after they played in Reykjavik. So next year we have opportunity to play match twenty years after the match we didn't play.

*What about chess as a way to improve international relations?*

This is very complicated question. It's not easy answer. But there is a very special atmosphere among chess players and chess competitions. It's also thanks to the length of professional life. In other sports you have short life, in chess you have long life. And then you know so many people, so many people know you. So this is special . . . society, international society, without frontiers. Even with different languages, but with one language of chess. And so this is absolutely special; and of course, I remember even difficult times, but so we still could maintain our good relations, our friendship in chess world. So I could say for instance in my life when we had these unfortunate events in Czechoslovakia [when the Soviet army crushed the "Prague spring" uprising of 1968 - Ed.]. And so I knew Lubosh Kavalek, who lives now in Russian town. [Sure enough, he's been off the USCF list for years - Ed.] I knew him from '66 when he immigrated to the United States. And for several years Russian authorities didn't allow chess

players to meet him. You know that politics was involved in chess, unfortunately also. But in 1970 I played tournament in Caracas, and they couldn't stop me because I said, "Okay, this is a political thing you made in Czechoslovakia. But Kavalek is out of politics, he is my close friend since many years, and so I don't see the reason why I should avoid to participate in the same competition." And so I played and nothing happened in 1970. I became grandmaster, Lubosh Kavalek won the tournament in Caracas, the same tournament I became grandmaster. And so chess could make special circumstance for relations between countries.

*How did you choose Ron Henley, who of course is a favorite son of Texas, to be your second in the world championship match four years ago?*

You know, just not chess, you have to consider many things. Chess level, of course. But even more important is personal contacts, characters. So I was friends with Ron in 1990. So this is very important. I had some stronger players on my team who betrayed me. So it was not a personal relation; I just invited them and then they betrayed me. And with Ron I am absolutely sure we are friends and he will never betray me, I will never betray him. This is very important thing when you make preparation when you play the match. Especially when you play difficult match, complicated match, hard match, then you need to have close friends who will be with you in very difficult moment of the match.

*In going over your games with Kasparov, the game of yours that I admire the most, I guess, is the fourth game of the second match, the one where you took a small advantage and ground it down into a full point. Is there any particular game out of all your games with Kasparov that stands out in your mind as your favorite victory or your best game?*

Very difficult question. I have to recall immediately 135 games that I played with Kasparov! I don't remember the number . . . I think it was game 27 from the first match. This was very nice game in endings. I had small advantage but then I won the game. . . .

*Could you please tell me some of the projects the Lions Club is undertaking in Russia?*

So we are working like Lions movement, so we try to create some funds to make charity. It's not easy in our country because of economical situation. So I think when Russia will become a real member of international society with a stabilized situation and a good economy, it will be much easier. But we try to help handicapped people and special children. We are working mostly with children now, just to help them. So this is personal commitment for handicapped children. Then help for potential children for operations. And

you know we have problems with Chernobyl. And so a lot of population and a lot of territory affected by Chernobyl. So this is a huge problem. Of course, we can make only very little part of this, but we try to do it.

*Who do you see as being the youngest chess players on the scene that will challenge yourself or Kasparov for the world championship? I know you mentioned previously Anand and perhaps Gata Kamsky .*

Yes, I just repeat the same names, like Anand, Kamsky. Then I would add Kramnik and maybe Ivanchuk. But if you talk about talents, I would say it's very difficult to compare talents, of course. But I would say that the most bright talent I could admit with Kramnik, Anand and Ivanchuk. Kamsky is very hard worker. He is very strong player . . . and he played brilliantly this match against Kramnik. But I think Kramnik underestimated Kamsky. He didn't make good preparation and so he was trapped in opening twice. And then Kamsky made it very good show in this match.

*What is the difference between world class players and the players at the very top – from the 2650-up players to the 27- and just above? What's the difference? Is it the preparation, is it that much talent . . . ?*

Preparation is important, but more or less you have the same level now. Of course it could happen like in last games between Kamsky and Kramnik, for instance, where preparation was more important than the other things. But in general . . . very top player will never have very bad results. Maybe once in life. But if you have a player who is brilliant, who can win one tournament but then he can get to the last place in another, then this already 2650 [laughter].

*How many more years of top chess do you feel you have?*

I don't know! This is very personal case, and individual. Because, for instance, Lasker played successfully; at 65 years he won tournament, one of the greatest tournaments he won. And Smyslov played at 63, he was between three best players in the world when he lost final candidates match to Kasparov in '83. But of course I think fifty years, then you can feel already that you need additional effort. It's very difficult in chess to keep ambitions. Because for me this is very important point and very difficult point. I was world champion for eleven years. I had all the titles possible in chess . . . I won so many tournaments, it's very difficult to maintain this interest to play. And this is the most important thing. Not even age or physical condition, this is even more important.

*You were recently asked about your chess style, and you said, "I have no style." But most people I think would disagree. What did you mean by that?*

No, you see this was statement because it is very strange what journalists are writing about me and about my chess. So they were writing mostly that I have very dry style, very positional, and so it's not interesting to look [at] my games. And then I was fighting always and I was saying the journalists are very lazy. They don't even want to look at chess books. Because if they would look [in] Informants, no, not even my best collection, just Informants for the last 22 years we have the prize for the best game. That means 44 Informants. And we have international commission of grandmasters. And from 44 I've got, I think, 17 best prizes. Nobody had it. And I don't remember how many games were in the best ten, but I got 17 best prizes in Informants. Nobody's close. And then if you can just

prove this, then you would say, okay, something's wrong what we are writing.

*Do you have any young students in Russia, and what do you do to promote chess among young people*

*in Russia?*

We have of course young players, less than before. For many years I was president of chess club for juniors. . . . It was system of competitions. We called it "White Rook". The last time we had this competition was in 1985. Through Soviet Union this was team competition between schools. And we had 400,000 pupils who were participating. But then the finances became weak, and so we could not maintain this system. But we tried to keep certain competition like what I was mentioning, junior championship of Russia, just inviting all the best players. We tried to support chess schools; we have three chess schools in Russia, headed by grandmasters. . . . We try to support them also. It's not easy. And so I am traveling in Russia. . . .

*What is your opinion of the Fischer clock, and do you feel it could ever become the standard clock in international play?*

I think that this is interesting idea. I tried this already several times, to play rapid chess tournament in Monte Carlo with Fischer clock and also blindfold chess. Actually I like it for rapid chess. I don't know how you can use it for serious chess, these world championship matches. Of course I know how they use it with Spassky. But for rapid chess this is clear improvement, and I would support it.

*[Just before Karpov departed following the simul, Strauss got in one last question:]*

*How do you feel you would have matched up twenty years ago against Fischer, and how would you match up today?*

In 1975 I think my chances were not as good. Less than fifty percent. But by 1977 my chances were improving. I was impressed with Fischer's play in second match with Spassky. Especially the first game. He is still very strong.

*Editor's note: In a phone conversation the next day I asked Ron Henley how he met Karpov.*

**Henley:** In '88 in Mazatlan they had the World Active Blitz Championships. . . . I was there with Mike Valvo, an International Master that I did a lot of work with at times, and I was discussing that I would like to work with one of the stronger players in the world, and Timman was the most logical choice (I had met Timman before); but Karpov was there at the Mazatlan tournament, so I told Mike, why don't I don't I talk to Karpov about working with him, and he went, "Nah, nah, it's a thousand to one that he'd let you work with him." So I got him to autograph a book, and I knew he had a match coming up with Hjartarson in Seattle two months later. And so I suggested, how would he like the idea of an American second. And he said, well, come talk to me after the tournament. So I went and met him after the closing ceremonies . . . and we went up to his hotel room . . . We discussed it, and he gave me a few as-

signments, things to look at in preparation for the match in Seattle. And then I went up to Seattle, not knowing quite what to expect. But I must say that of the three players that one could have worked with – Karpov, Kasparov or Fischer – Karpov was certainly the best choice. He's the most pleasant to deal with. And I've always found him to be very correct on the board.



**Henley analyses Grant Sitta's game with Karpov**

Ron Henley and Doug Root provided valuable commentary on this game shortly after it was played.

*French Defense Steinitz C11*  
**GM Anatoly Karpov**  
**Grant Sitta 1484**

*Austin simul 1994*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2

This older Steinitz treatment is less familiar to the average player than 5.f4.

5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 cd4

Henley and Root considered this a slight inaccuracy because it opens c3 to the knight, easing the development of White's KB. ECO gives 8...f6 9.a3 Be7 10.b4 cd4 11.cd4 0-0 12.Qd3 a6 13.Be3 Qd8 14.g3 Nb6 = Enevoldsen-Koch, Helsinki 1952.

9.cd4 f6 10.a3 a5

A strong and natural move to hinder queenside expansion; the b5 weakness is not a serious problem. Also playable is 10...Be7 11.b4 0-0, which transposes to the above book line.

11.Nc3 Be7 12.Na4

This move was criticized by Henley and Root, but how else is White to develop? He can't simply play 12.Be2 0-0 13.0-0? because of 13...fe5 14.fe5 Nde5 +/- . Totally un-Karpovian is 12.f5?! fe5 13.fe6 Nf6, and if 14.de5 Ng4!

12...Qa7 13.Bb5 Nb6

Black goes straight into a Lenin-grad-type setup. It would have been interesting to see how Karpov would have handled 13...0-0! (or 13...fe5 first), because White is having major problems just getting de-

veloped. An exchange sac at f3 is one of the annoyances he faces. Maybe 14.Rf1!?, but it's not an easy move to make.

14.0-0

14.Nc3 prevents the simplifying ...Na4, which Black could now play.

14...Bd7!? 15.Nc3 0-0 16.Be3 Qb8

Sitta intends ...Na7 to exchange off his bad bishop. Root suggested 16...a4 to work the light squares with...Na5-b3/c4, but that may get tricky because of the loose a-pawn.

Note that 16...Nc4?! lets White open up the game advantageously with 17.Bc4 dc4 18.Qe2 Qa6 19.d5.

However, 16...f5 is a good safety measure.

17.Rc1 Na7

On the preparatory 17...f5 White has the paradoxical 18.Na4! Na4



(18...Na7? 19.Nb6 Bb5 20.Rf2 ±) 19.Qa4 with a nagging cramp.

**18.Bd7**

Normally White would play 18.Bd3, when ...f5 locks up the position; but Karpov has a follow-up.

**18...Nd7 19.f5! Nc6!**

Excellent defensive play by Sitta: with the center opening up, he wastes no time in recentralizing his knight. A mistake is 19...ef5?, when 20.Nd5 wins material by force, e.g., 20...Qd8 21.Qb3 Kh8 22.e6 +-. Not much better is 19...fe5 20.fe6 Nb6 21.Ne5 ±.

**20.fe6 Nb6 21.Qb3**

The spectators were curious about 21.ef6!?, which leads to interesting complications: 21...Rf6 22.Ng5 Rh6 23.Bf4 Bd6 24.Bd6 (24.Qg4! Nd4 25.Rad1! ±) Qd6 25.h3 Qg3! 26.Qf3! Qf3, and Root was satisfied that Black regains his pawn. True enough, but the rook ending after 27.Rf3 Nd4 28.Rd3! Ne6 29.Ne6 Re6 30.Nd5 is clearly in White's favor.

**21...Qd8 22.Bf4 a4**

Black shakes loose some of the pressure from the queen.

**23.Qb5 Ra5 24.Qe2 Qc8**



**25.ef6?**

This returns the pawn without a fight, but no improvement came out of the post-mortem.

The shot everybody missed was 25.Nb5!, the point being that after

25...Qe6 26.Bd2! Black must part with the exchange (26...Ra8 or 26...Ra6 27.Nc7). No less dire is 25...fe5 26.Ne5 Qe6 27.Nc7 Qf6 (or 27...Nd4 28.Qd2) 28.Bd2.

**25...Rf6 26.Bg5 Re6 27.Qf2 Bg5 28.Ng5 Rf6**

Here Karpov offered a draw, which Sitta accepted. White could fish awhile with 29.Qc2, hoping for 29...Rf1 30.Rf1 g6 31.Qf2 ±, but after 29...Rg6! 30.Nf3 Qg4 31.h3 Qf4 (31...Qh3?? 32.Qg6) 32.Rce1 Ra8 the game is fairly level.

**DRAW**

It was a proud moment for Grant's trainers, Doug and Alexey Root and David Naiser.

*KID Saemisch E85*

**GM Anatoly Karpov  
John Hendrick 1522**

*Austin simul 1994*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nbd7 7.Qd2 e5 8.Nge2 Re8?! 9.d5 Nf8 10.0-0 Bd7 11.Kb1 a6 12.Nc1 Rb8 13.c5 dc5 14.Bc5 c6 15.dc6 Bc6 16.Qf2 Qc8 17.Bd6 Ra8 18.Nd3 N6d7 19.Nb4 Ne6 20.Rc1 Bh6 21.Rd1 a5 22.Nbd5 Bf8 23.Bf8 Nef8 24.h4 Qd8 25.h5 g5 26.h6 Ng6 27.Bb5 Ne7 28.Nf6 Nf6 29.Rd8 Rad8 30.Qg3 Ng6 31.Qg5 Re6 32.Bc6 bc6 33.Rc1 Rd4 34.g3 Kf8 35.a3 Rd3 36.f4 ef4 37.gf4 Ne4 38.Ne4 Re4 39.f5 Ne5 40.Qg7 Ke7 41.Qh7 Re2 42.f6 Kd6 43.Rc2 Re1 44.Ka2 a4



**45.Qd3 Nd3 46.Rd2 Re3?**

Hendrick sent this analysis from his Fritz2 computer, showing equality for Black with possible winning chances: 46...Rh1 47.Rd3 Ke5 (47...Kc7? 48.Re3 Rh6 49.Re7 Kd6 50.Rf7 Ke6 51.Ra7 Rf6 52.Ra4 ±) 48.Rc3 Kf6!? 49.Rc6 Ke5 50.Ra6 f5 51.Ra5 Ke4 52.Ra4 Ke3 53.Ra6 f4 54.Kb3 f3 55.Re6 Kd3 56.Rf6 Ke2 57.h7 f2 58.Re6 Kf3 59.h8(Q) Rh8 60.Rf6 Ke2 61.Re6 Kf3 =.

**47.h7 Rh3 48.Rd3 1:0**

Notes by NM Jim Gallagher

*Sicilian Dragon B79*

**GM Anatoly Karpov  
Jim Gallagher 2284**

*Austin simul 1994*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Bc4 Nc6 8.f3 0-0

8...Qb6 9.Nf5 (9.Ncb5 a6 10.Nf5 Qa5 11.Bd2 gf5 12.Ba5 ab5 13.Bb5 Ra5 => according to Geller in 1984, but honestly, I smell a rat. Wasn't Yefim once Anatoly's second?) Qb2 10.Ng7 Kf8 11.Nd5 Nd5 12.Bd5 Kg7 13.0-0 (13.Bc6 Qc3 14.Bd2 Qc6) Qc3 14.Re1 f6 15.Rb1 Qa5 16.f4 Qc7 17.f5 Bd7 18.Rb3 Rac8 19.Qg4 b6 20.Rc3 Qd8 ∞ Tal-Saemisch, USSR 1967. But again, something smells foul. Maybe someone will have the aplomb to try this ancient theory against Karpov, but I'll stick to something with which I am more familiar.

9.Qd2 Bd7 10.Bb3 Qa5 11.h4 Rfc8 12.0-0-0 Ne5 13.Kb1 Nc4 14.Bc4 Rc4 15.Nb3 Qc7

15...Qd8 16.Bh6 Qf8 17.Bg7 Qg7 18.g4 ± Karpov-Whitely, Bath 1973. 15...Qa6 has fallen into disrepute.

**16.h5**

16.Bd4 Be6 17.h5 a5 18.hg6 hg6 19.a4 Rb4 20.Rh4 b5 21.Nb5 Qc4 22.Nc3 Rab8 23.Rd1 Qc8 24.g4 Bb3 25.cb3 e5 26.Be3 Rb3 27.Nb5 Qc4 28.Bh6 Ne4! 29.fe4 Qa4 30.Bg7

Qe4 31.Qc2 Qc2 32.Kc2 R8b5 33.Bf6 Rb2 = is the very last note on the very last page of the very last tome published that exhaustively analyses this line. Now the truth emerges: Karpov has been seeking a sub-variant all along.

**16...Rc8**

Considering what happens next, the alternative must be recommended! 16...Rc3 17.Qc3! Qc3 18.bc3 Nh5 19.Bd4 Be6∞ Ostijic-Bonfi, Monte Carlo 1968.

**17.hg6 fg6 18.e5!**

Black is already on the critical list.

**18...de5**

18...Rc3?! 19.Qc3! (19.ef6 Re3 20.fg7 Re5 = Ciocaltea-Gufeld, Kislovodsk 1968) Qc3 20.bc3 de5 21.Ba7 ± Estrin;

18...Ne8 19.Nd5 Qd8 20.Bg5 Rc2 21.Ne7 Qe7 22.Be7 Rd2 23.Rd2 Bf5 24.Ka1 Be5 ∞ Ivanovic.

**19.Nd5**



**19...Rc2 20.Nc7!?**

20.Nf6 ef6 21.Qd7 (21.Qd5 Kf8 22.Qd7 h5 23.Qc7 R8c7 24.Rc1 ±) Qd7! (21...Rg2? 22.Qe6 Kh8 23.Na1! +-) 22.Rd7 Re2! (22...Rg2 23.Nc5)

(a) 23.Rc1 Rc1 24.Bc1 Rg2 25.Rb7 h5 26.Ra7 h4 27.Rd7 h3 28.Rd1 h2 29.Be3 Bh6 30.Bb6 Bf4! Δ ...e4, ...Bf5 =/∞;

(b) 23.Ba7! Rcc2 24.Rd8 Kf7 (24...Bf8 25.Nc1! Rb2 26.Ka1 Red2 27.Rb8 ±) 25.Rh7 Rb2 26.Kc1 Ra2

27.Rd7 Ke6 28.Rhg7 Re1 29.Rd1 Rd1 30.Kd1 Ra7 31.Rb7! ±.

**20...Rd2 21.Rd2 Rc7 22.Rc1**

Tolya played this move so quickly that I felt we were still in his "book". The other possibility is that he is automatic when it comes to simplifying into a won ending. [So what's wrong with 22.Ba7?]

**22...Bf5**

22...Bc6? 23.Na5 ±.

**23.Ka1 Rc1 24.Nc1**



**24...e4!**

Whew! Finally a chance to make a good move. The queenside pawns are history because there is no way to defend against the infiltration of White's rook. (a) 24...b6 25.Rd8 Kf7 26.Ra8; (b) 24...a6 25.Rd8 Kf7 26.Rb8 b5 27.Ra8 Nd5 28.Bd2 Nc7 29.Ra7; (c) 24...Bd7 25.Ba7 Bc6 26.Nb3 e4 27.Na5 ef3 28.Nc6 bc6 29.gf3 Nd5 30.a4.

**25.Ba7 ef3 26.gf3 h5**

This point behind 24...e4!

**27.Rd8 Kf7 28.Rb8 Nd5 29.Rb7 h4 30.Bg1!/?**

*Karpov is famous for using his first rank; but considering that Black could now reply with 30...Be5! (31.Rb5 Ke6), it seems preferable to play 30.Bb8. White's next underscores this note.*

**30...h3 31.Bh2 Ne3**

Δ ...Nc2, ...Na3 =.

**32.a4 Nf1 33.Bd6**



**33...Ke6?**

33...h2! 34.Bh2 Nh2 35.f4 (35.a5? Nf3 36.a6 Be4 37.Rb8 Bd4 38.Nb3 Bf2 -/+ ) Nf3 36.a5 Be4 37.a6 (37.Rb4!?) Bd4 38.Nb3 Be3 looks like it might be tenable, but Karpov was circling the room like a ceiling fan at this stage. Feeling the pressure, after I moved I swatted at a non-existent clock. It was good for a chuckle from both of us.

**34.Re7 Kd6 35.Rg7 Ng3 36.Rh7 Nh5 37.Ne2 h2 38.Ng3 Ng3**

38...Bh3 39.Nh1 Bg2 40.Nf2 Bf3 41.Rh6 and White remains on top.

**39.Rh2 Kc5 40.Ka2 Nh5?!**

40...Nf1!? 41.Rh4 Nd2 42.b4 Kd5 seems to contain a bit more hope than the game continuation.

**41.Rh4! Nf6 42.b4 Kc6 43.Rc4 Kd6 44.Ka3 Be6 45.Rc1!**

Vintage Karpov; Black's queenside hopes are now a pipe dream.

**45...Bd5 46.b5 Ke5**

46...Bf3 47.Rf1; 46...g5 47.Rg1.

**47.a5 Bf3 48.Rf1 Kf4 49.a6 Nd5 50.a7 Nb6 51.Kb4 g5 52.Kc5 Na4 53.Kd4 Nb6 54.Kc5 Na4 55.Kb4 Nb6 56.Kc5**

56.Ka5 Na8 57.b6 wins easily, so why did Tolya play 56.Kc5? There can be only one explanation: He's got a lot of class!! I accepted the champion's gift with a gracious "Thank you, you're very kind!" An unforgettable experience, this game was.

**56...Na4**

**DRAW**

# Texas Class Championship

One of the world's top 70 players, Smbat Lputian, won the top section of this year's Texas Class Championship. He scored four points in the four-round event, defeating Joe Bradford in the last round.

The Armenian grandmaster has been in Houston this summer visiting his wife, who plans to practice law in the United States. Their preferred city: Houston!

Ninety-seven players in six sections competed for an increased prize fund of \$1,800, which was \$750 over the advertised amount. William Tompkins and Gary Gaiffe directed for the A.C.E. Chess Club of Austin.



## PRIZE WINNERS

**OPEN:** 1st: Smbat Lputian, 4; 2nd-4th: Joe Bradford, Mike Calogridis, Haldun Unalmis, 3.

**EXPERT:** 1st-3rd: Billy Patteson, Don Marcott, John Bell, 3.

**CLASS A:** 1st-3rd: Steve Young, Rolando David, David Peters, 3.

**CLASS B:** 1st: Duane Solley, 3.5; 2nd-3rd: Allan Johnson, Jorge Best, 3.

**CLASS C:** 1st: Quang Le, 4; 2nd-4th: Ade Kujimiyo, Torey Nuzeil, Charles Berkman, 3.

**CLASS D & BELOW:** 1st: Matthew Bradford, 4; 2nd-5th: Joe Helton, David Barret, Kelley Rivoire, James Ciulik, 3. **Unrated:** 1st: Stephen Eubanks, 1.5.

### Trompovsky Attack A45

Smbat Lputian 2610  
Richard Ketcham 2206

*Texas Class (1)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Bf6 ef6  
4.e3 Bd6 5.c4 dc4 6.Bc4 0-0 7.Nc3  
c5 8.dc5 Bc5



9.Bf7 Kf7 10.Qh5 Kg8 11.Qc5  
Be6 12.Nge2 Na6 13.Qb5 Rc8  
14.0-0 Qe7 15.Rfd1 Rc5 16.Qd3

Bc4 17.Qd7 Qd7 18.Rd7 Be2  
19.Ne2 Rc2 20.Nd4 Rb2 21.Ne6  
Rc8 22.h4 Nc5 23.Rg7 Kh8 24.Re7  
Ne6 25.Re6 Rcc2 26.Rf6 Kg7  
27.Rf5 Ra2 28.Ra2 Ra2 29.Rd5  
Rb2 30.g4 a6 31.Kg2 b5 32.Rd7  
Kg8 33.Ra7 Ra2 34.Rb7 Ra4  
35.Kg3 b4 36.h5 a5 37.h6 Ra3



38.Rg7 Kh8 39.Ra7 Kg8 40.Kf4  
Ra2 41.f3 b3 42.Kf5 1:0

### Notes by B.L. Patteson

Live by the sword, die by the sword. I have always been a free spirit in my approach to the chess openings. I have never been able to marry one for life! In this game I use a throw-away, once-in-the-tournament defense, and due to a general lack of knowledge about its finer points, I damn near lose the game. I can't help it. Playing the Caro-Kann every time you face 12.e4 for twenty years is like kissing your sister. I need variety!

### Center Counter B01

Brian Richardson 2169  
Billy Patteson 2184

*Texas Class (1)*

1.e4 d5 2.ed5 Qd5 3.Nc3 Qa5  
4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4

I think 5...Bf5 is a far more subtle move here. Most White players know the theoretical continuation

against ...Bg4, but the other move leaves them more on their own.

**6.h3 Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 c6 9.Bf4**

I believe 9.Bg2 is standard here. [Lasker's analysis goes 9.h4 Nbd7 10.Nc4 Qc7 11.h5 Be4 12.Ne4 Ne4 13.Qf3 ΔBf4 ±.]

**9...e6 10.Nc4 Qd8 11.a3?! [11.Bg2] Nd5!?**

Both players make a non-developing move; but I believe his is weaker than mine. On 12.Nd5 I was considering the interesting move 12...Qd5.

**12.Bg3 Nc3 13.bc3 b5?**

A terrible move. For some reason I only considered his going back with 14.Ne3 here. [13...Qd5! =+.]

**14.Ne5 Bd6**

And here the move 14...Be4 was worth a try.

**15.Bg2 Qc7 16.0-0 0-0 17.h4**

Here he comes. I consider Black's position now to be irretrievably lost. Of course, at our level that doesn't mean that I will actually lose the game. You always have to factor in the sleaze constant!

**17...f6 18.Ng6 hg6 19.Qd3 Bg3 20.fg3 f5 21.h5 [21.Rae1!] gh5 22.gf5 ef5 23.Rf5 Rf5 24.Qf5 Nd7**



I had long since resigned myself to losing a pawn just to get my pieces out. White can now help himself to either the h-pawn or the

c-pawn. I think he makes the *third* best choice. How so, you ask? Because neither of these moves is probably the best. There is a tactic here. See it? He has available the move 25.Bd5!, which wins the exchange. On the tail end I will get in ...Qg3, but White can eventually shield his king and win, I believe. [Right you are: 25. Bd5! cd5 26. Qd5 Kh7 27. Qh5 Kg8 28. Qd5 Kh7 29. Qh1! Kg6 30. Qa8 Qg3 31. Qg2 +- Ed.] Instead, his move opens up counterplay against his weak pawns (of which there are many!) and now Black may not even be lost.

**25.Qe6?! Kh8 26.Qc6 Rc8 27.Qb5 Nf6**

But not 27...Qc3?? allowing mate in three!

**28.Qd3 Qc3 29.Rd1**

On 29.Qc3 Rc3 30.Rc1 Rg3 he gets connected passers while I have rook, knight and rook pawn approaching his king. Unclear!

**29...Qc2**

Now the worst is over. If nothing else, I can now capture all of the pawns (giving up the knight for the central passer, if necessary) and draw easily.

**30.d5 Qc5 31.Qd4 Qa3 32.Qf4**

After a long think, during which he was adjusting his attitude toward just drawing the game rather than winning, he made this move confidently. His body language told me that he was satisfied that he had worked out a repetition of moves to save the game. Either I repeat, or he pushes the d-pawn. But the Grumpy Old Man now can use this attitude to set a very sneaky trap. Never underestimate a GOM! [For a case in point, see my round three game with Fred Payne - Ed.]

**32...Qc5 33.Qd4 Qd6 34.Qf4 Qb6**

"Things that are different are not the same" - Lewis McClary.

**35.Qd4??**

The only move was 35.Qf2, when I could repeat positions or even play for a win since I am a pawn ahead. My next move stunned him considerably! [If 35.Qf2 Qb3! with a strong initiative. Somewhat better is 35.Kh1 =+.]



**35...Rc1!!**

And wins.

**36.Kh2 Rd1 37.Qd1 Ng4 0 : 1**

*Grünfeld Defense D91*  
**Mike Calogridis 2299**  
**Smbat Lputian 2610**  
*Texas Class (2)*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bg5 Ne4 5.Bh4 Nc3 6.bc3 dc4 7.e3 Be6 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.Rb1 Nd7!**

Hot new theory? Fischer played 9...b6 against Mecking in Buenos Aires 1970; and Savon, Gutman and Korchnoi have played it since then.

**10.Rb7 Nb6 11.Bg3 c5**



12.Bh4 Bd7 13.Bg3 0-0 14.Be2  
Bc6 15.Rc7 Qe8 16.Ne5 Be5  
17.Be5 cd4 18.ed4 Nd5 19.Rc6  
Qc6 20.Qd2 f6 21.Bg3 Qe6 22.0-0  
Nc3 23.Bf3 Ne4 24.Qe3 f5 25.Be5  
Rac8 26.Qh6 Rf7 27.h4 c3 28.h5 c2  
29.hg6 Qg6 30.Qe3 Rc3 0:1

Notes by NM Omer Unalmis

*French Defense C00*

Omer Unalmis 2331

Joe Bradford 2525

*Texas Class (3)*

1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.g3

With this move both players are on their own, without the benefit of opening theory.

3...de4 4.Ne4 Bd7!

A logical decision, taking advantage of the weakness in the a8-h1 diagonal.

5.d3 Bc6 6.f3

The text is a very solid move, an invitation to a strategic game. Another continuation is 6.Nf3 Be4 7.de4 Qd1 8.Kd1 Bc5 9.Ke2 Nf6 10.Nd2 Ng4 11.Nb3 Bb6 12.c4! Nf2 13.c5 Nh1 14.cb6 ab6 15.Bg2 Ng3 16.hg3 and a very difficult position is reached, but Black is probably better.

6...e5

Preparing 7...f5.

7.Bh3!

Develops a piece to an effective square, prevents ...f5.

7...g6

This move is necessary if Black does not want a strong White knight on e4.

8.Be3 Bg7 9.Qd2 f5 10. Nc3 Nf6 11.Bg2

Having completed its mission on the c8-h3 diagonal, this bishop comes back to protect f3, to have some control over e4, and to allow the knight at g1 to develop.

11...0-0 12.Nge2 Re8

This move is difficult to understand, since White does not threaten

d4. Black needs to develop his pieces; 12...Nbd7 is better.

13.0-0

The right choice for a sharp game.



13...Nd5?!

Black was probably hoping for 14.Nd5 Qd5 15.Nc3 Qa5, in which case Black's pieces will have better positions than their counterparts, and Black will certainly come quickly on the queenside before White gets a chance on the kingside. The text move has several weaknesses, namely:

1. A fundamental mistake: Black has a knight sitting on b8, yet he moves a piece already developed;

2. White's dark square bishop will have a more aggressive post on g5 with tempo;

3. Black is moving a knight which is vital for his safety. With this knight at f6, it is difficult for White to play h4-h5 immediately.

At this point Black should have preferred 13...b5! aiming for an immediate queenside attack, or ...Nbd7-b6 if he prefers piece play in the center. (0:27-0:33)

14.Bg5 Qd6 15.h4! f4?

Black wants to open a diagonal for his g7 bishop at the expense of a pawn and a very strong knight on e4. (0:36-0:52) [Better is 15...Nd7.]

16.gf4 ef4 17.Ne4 Qf8 (1:02)  
18.Nf4 (1:00) Nd7

Having realized that he is waging a losing battle on the kingside, Black wants to develop his pieces as soon as possible.

19.h5 Ne5 20.hg6 hg6 21.Nd5 Bd5 22.f4 (1:05) Nd7 (1:13) 23.Nc3!

A move which defends and attacks at the same time.

23...Bf7 24.Be4!

Preparing for 25.Qh2. There is no need to create a chance for Black: 24.Bb7? Qb4! 25.Ba8 Ra8 [25...Rb8! +=] 26.Qh2 Rb8 [but 26.a3! +-].



24...Qb4

A necessary move. The Black queen needs to move out of the square f8 for the knight.

25.Qh2 Nf8

[25...Bc3 26.Qh7 Kf8 27.bc3 Qc3 28.Bh6 Ke7 29.Bd5 Kd6 30. Bg7 (30.Qf7? Re2) Qb4 31.Be5 ±.]

26.f5!

The final blow to open the lines. The immediate threat is f6.

26...Bc3 27.bc3 Qc3 28.f6!

With this move theoretically the game is over.

28...Qa3 29.Kd2 Qa5

In the post-mortem Bradford said he should have played 29...Qb4 30.Ke3 Qc5 31.Kf3 Bd5. But 32.Qh8 Kf7 33.Qg7 Ke6 34.Rde1! (this last move was proposed by GM Lputian, who was also interested in the analysis) and now Black is hopeless. The immediate threat is 35.c4.

**30.Ke2 Re4 31.de4 Bc4 32.Kf3**

Now White threatens mate in three: 33.Qh8 Kf7 34.Qg7 Ke6 (or ...Ke8) 35.Qe7 mate. To be honest, here I expected Bradford to resign. 32...Qa3!



In my analysis I thought 32...Qc3 33.Rd3! and because of the above mate Black may safely resign. The move 32...Qa3 did not seem to differ too much (not having realized that it protects the square e7), and without giving a second thought I immediately played:

**33.Rd3?**

Immediately after playing this I realized that there is no mate at all! Although the text move also wins by force, there is no need for this move here. Better is 33.Kg2 and Black should resign, since there is no defense against 34.Qh8 Kf7 35.Rh7 Ke6 (35...Nh7 36.Qh7 Ke6 37.Qg6! +-) 36.Re7 +-.

**33...Bd3 34.cd3??**

This move is probably the worst blunder in my chess career. I was in such a shock that I could not find the right variation over the board. About a week later I was discussing the position with my former chess student and high school friend Tansel Turgut, who is now doing his internal medicine residency in Buffalo, New York. Later he called me and showed me the winning

variation, which is quite simple: 34.Qh8 Kf7 35.Qg7 and now:

(a) 35...Ke6 36.Qg8 Kd7 (36...Kd6 37.Qd5 mate) 37.Qf7 (This "in-between" check is the move I was unable to see during the game. Instead I saw 37.Qd5 when Black could play ...Qd6, and therefore I rejected the variation!) Kc6 (37...Kd8 38.Rd1 Nd7 39.Qg8 Qf8 40.f7 Kc8 41.f7 +-) 38.Qd5 Kb6 39.Rb1 Bb5 40.Be3 c5 41.Rb3 +-;

(b) 35...Ke8 36.f7 Kd7 37.Rd1 Kc6 38.Rd3 Ne6 +-.

**34...Qd3 35.Be3 Re8! 36.Qh8?**

Better is 36.Qf4 Kf7 (36...Qd7?? 37.f7 Qf7 38.Rh8 Kg7 39.Bd4 and White wins) 37.Qc7 Kf6 and the position is not clear.

36...Kf7 37.Qg7 Ke6 38.Qc7 Nd7 39.Rg1 Ne5 40.Kf4? [40.Kf2 Qe4 -/+] g5 41.Rg5 Qf1 0:1

A dramatic end for White. This game reminds me of a chess epilogue: *Never miss a check; it might be mate!*

**Nimzo-Indian E24**

Fred Payne 2052

Selby Anderson 2313

**Texas Class (3)**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bc3 5.bc3 Ne4 6.e3 f5 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Ne2 b6 9.0-0 Bb7 10.f3 Nf6 11.Ra2 c5 12.Rd2 Qc7 13.Qe1 Nc6 14.Qh4 Ne7 15.Nf4 e5 16.Nd5 Ned5 17.cd5 Nd5 18.e4 Ne3 19.Re1 cd4? 20.cd4 f4 21.de5 Qe5 22.Bb2 Qc5 23.Kh1 Rac8 24.g3 Rc6 25.gf4 Qa5 26.Qf2 Nc4 27.Bc4 Rc4 28.Rd7 Rf7 29.Rd8 Rf8 30.Red1 Rc7 31.Qd4 Qc5 32.Rf8 Qf8 33.f5 Bc6 34.Rg1 Rd7 35.Qc4 1:0

**Schmid Benoni A43**

Bill Stouffer 2140

Jose Silva 2078

**Texas Class (3)**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.Bg5 d6

7.Be2 b5 8.Bf6 Bf6 9.Bb5 Qa5 10.Qd3 Na6 11.Bc4 Rb8 12.Bb3 Nb4 13.Qd1 Ba6 14.Nd2



14...c4! 15.Nc4

Or 15.Bc4 Nc2! 16.Qb2 Rb2! etc.

15...Bc4 16.Bc4 Nc2! 17.Qc2 Rb2! 18.Qd3 Bc3 19.Kf1 Rd2 20.Qb1 Qc5 21.Be2 Qd4 0:1

**Owens' Defense B00**

John Bell 2121

Nathan Cypert 2115

**Texas Class (3)**

1.Nf3 b6 2.e4 Bb7 3.Nc3 e6 4.d4 Bb4 5.Bd3 d5 6.ed5 Qd5 7.0-0 Bc3 8.bc3 Ba6 9.Bf4 Bc4 10.Bc7 Nc6 11.Re1 Rc8 12.Bg3 Na5 13.Re5 Qd7 14.Ra5!! Bd3 15.Ne5 Qb7 16.cd3 ba5 17.Rb1 Qd5 18.Qa4 Kf8 19.Rb5 Qd8 20.Ra5 f6 21.Qb4 Ne7 (21...Qe7 22.Ng6! Δ Bd6) 22.Ra7 fe5 23.Be5 Kf7



24.d5 ed5 25.Qf4 Ke6 26.Bg7 Rf8 27.Qe5 Kf7 28.Bf8 Qf8 29.Qd5 Kf6 30.Qd6 Kf7 31.c4 Rb8 32.g3 Rb1 33.Kg2 Re1 34.c5 Kg8 35.Rb7 Re2 36.Rb8 Rf2 37.Kh3 Nc8 38.Qe6 Kg7 39.Rc8 Rh2 40.Kh2 Qf2 41.Kh3 Qf1 42.Kh4 Qh1 43.Qh3 1:0

Notes by B.L. Patteson

*QGD D06*

Don Marcott 2184  
Billy Patteson 2169

*Texas Class (3)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Bf5 3.Qb3 Nc6?

Oops! Playing the ...Bf5 defense without any recent preparation, I forgot about the line 4.cd5 Nd4? 5.Qa4 which wins a piece [or 4...Na5 5.Qb5 c6 6.dc6 +/-]. If you play the early bishop move, you need to be familiar here with the gambit 3...e5, which offers Black interesting play.

4.Nf3?

Completing the double blunder:  
4...e6 5.cd5 ed5 6.Bd2

Botvinnik-Keres, Moscow 1948 Candidates Tournament, continued 6.Bg5. Keres was eventually outplayed and lost.

6...Rb8 7.Nc3 Nf6

Gligoric thinks this should be answered by 8.Bg5, and suggests instead 7...Be6 with equality.

8.e3 a6?!

Weakening and a waste of time to 'boot. Black should just develop here with ...Be7/...0-0 and not worry about any Bb5 move in the future.

9.Be2 Be7 10.Rc1 0-0 11.0-0 Na5

I wanted to slow down Na4-c5.

12.Qa4 Nc6 13.Ne5 Ne5 14.de5 Ne4 15.Ne4 Be4 16.f3 Bf5 17.Rfd1 c6

I could smell trouble and offered a draw here.

18.Ba5

Apparently picking up the same odor!

18...Qd7

I wonder if Qc8!? 19.Rd5 cd5!? is playable?

19.e4 Be6 20.f4 b5

In the long term, 20...f5 looked hopeless. My idea was to use the move ...Qa7 at some point.

21.Qd4

Also playable was 21.Qc2 Qa7 22.Kh1 de4, since White can immediately regain his pawn. But Marcott's move is much more interesting.

21...c5 22.Qd2 d4 23.f5

If instead 23.b3, I have ...Bg4.

23...Ba2 24.f6 gf6



25.ef6?!

After the game Don told me he missed a win here by 25.Qh6. [25...fe5 26.Rd3 Kh8 27.Rh3 Qh3 28.Qh3 Be6 29.Qh5 +/-] Indeed, there appears to be no adequate defense to the threat of a rook lift and mate shortly. Time was too short from the moment I offered a draw for Don to do much exact calculation here. But the availability of the move 25.Qh6 here says that his chess intuition was right on target!

25...Bf6 26.Rc5 Qa7 27.b4 d3

It is pretty obvious that White is going to lose the exchange, but to win it Black will have to give up dark square protection around his

king. The position is literally boiling at this point!

28.Qd3

A possible draw here is 28.Bd3 Bd4 29.Kh1 Bc5 30.Qg5 with perpetual check.

28...Be7 29.Qd4

Another drawing idea with a similar theme is 29.Qa3! Bc5 30.bc5 Be6 (30...Bc4 31.Bc4 with comp) 31.Qg3 Kh8 32.Qe5, and since...f6 is not available - a draw.

29...Bc5 30.bc5 Rbc8 31.Bb6 Qe7 32.Rd3

On 32.Ra1 I have ...Qe6, so he throws in the threat of Rg3+ as preparation for his next move.

32...Rc6 33.Ra3?

But this move is the losing blunder. Instead, 33.Bd8! [!/?] is a terrific move here. First, there is the trap 33...Qc5?? 34.Rg3 winning Black's queen. Black's best move probably is 33...Qa7, when White could try either 34.Ra3 or 34.Bf6 and the pot continues to boil! [33...Rd8! =+.]

33...Rb6! 34.Ra2 Rc6 35.Rc2 Rfc8 36.e5 Rc5 37.Qg4 Kf8 38.Rd2

At this juncture, winning the two rooks for the queen would also be hopeless.

38...Rc1 39.Bd1

... and Black's flag fell. 0:1

*French Defense C11*

Ronnie Rubit 1808  
Zach Coombes 1930

*Texas Class (3)*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.ed5 Nd5(?) 5.Nf3 Nc3

Nimzovich-Alapin, Riga 1913, continued 5...c5 6.Nd5 Qd5 7.Be3 cd4 8.Nd4 a6 9.Be2! Qg2 10.Bf3 Qg6 11.Qd2 e5 12.0-0-0! ed4 13.Bd4 Nc6 14.Bf6!! Qf6 15.Rhe1 Be7 16.Bc6 Kf8 17.Qd8 Bd8 18.Re8 mate!

6.bc3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 Nd7 9.Rb1

Nimzovich played 9.Qe2 against Alapin in Petersburg 1911, one idea being 9...b6?? 10.Qe4 +.

Now Black should play 9...b6.  
 9...Rb8 10.Qe2 Nf6 11.Ne5 Nd5 12.Bd2 Bd7 13.c4 Nf6 14.Bc3 c5 15.f4 cd4 16.Bd4 b6 17.Rbd1 Qc7 18.c3 Rbd8 19.g4! Bc6 20.g5 Nd7 21.Qh5 g6



22.Ng6! Bc5  
 22...fg6 23.Bg6 Nf6 24.Bh7! +.  
 23.Ne7 1:0

*Reti Opening A09*

Joe Bradford 2525  
 Smbat Lputian 2610

*Texas Class (4)*

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 dc4 3.Na3 a6 4.g3?! N

White doesn't get much for his pawn. Illescas-Oll, Biel Interzonal 1993, went 4.Nc4 b5 5.Ne3 Bb7 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Nbd7 (7...e6 8.0-0 Be7 9.d3 0-0 10.a4 c5 11. Qb3 += Kostic-Przepjorka, Meran 1926) 8.0-0 e6 9.b3 Be7 10.Bb2 0-0 11.Nd4 Bg2 12.Ng2 Nb8 13.Nf3 c5 14.d4 Nbd7 15.Nf4 Rc8 16.cd5, Draw.

4...b5 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 e6 7.b3 cb3 8.Qb3 Nd7 9.Rd1 Ngf6 10.d3 Be7 11.Bd2 0-0 12.Ba5 Qb8

12...Nb6!? 13.Nc2 Bd5 - Lputian.  
 13.Nc2 c5

Lputian suggested 13...Nc5!  
 14.Qb4 (14.Qb1 Na4!) Nd5 15.Qg4 Bf6 with active play, e.g., 16.d4 Na4 17.e4 Ndc3 18.e5 Be7 19.Re1 c5.

14.a4 Ne5

14...Bd5! 15.Qb1 Qb7 16.e4 Bc6 17.Ne3 Rab8 18.ab5 ab5 -/+ - Lputian. The text leads to great complications.

15.Ne5 Bg2 16.Qb2! Qb7! 17.e4 Bh3 18.Ne3

Bradford said he "chickened out" of the sharp 18.Bc3 b4 19.Ne3, because of 19...Ne4! 20.de4 Qe4 21.Bd2 Bf6 22.f4 g5.



18...Nd7 19.Nd7 Qd7 20.Bc3 f6 21.f4

Lputian suggested 21.Qe2! as a more accurate continuation, but Black was better after 21...b4 22. Bb2 Qe8 (22...e5!? 23.g4 h5) 23.g4 Qg6 24.Qf3 Qh6 25.Qg3 Rad8 26. Nc4 f5 27.gf5 ef5 28.Kh1 Bg4 29.f3 Bh4 30.Qg2 Bh5 31.Rg1 g6 -/+.

21...b4 22.Be1 Qd4 23.Qe2 f5!

Not 23...Bg4?? 24.Qg4 Qe3 25.Bf2 and Black's queen is trapped.

24.Bf2 Qf6 25.e5 Qh6 26.d4 g5 27.Qf3 gf4 28.gf4 Kh8 29.d5 Bg4 30.Ng4 fg4 31.Qe2 ed5 32.Rd5 Qe6 33.Qc4

Not 33.Qe4? Rf4! Now 33...Rf4? is answered with 34.Rd8+.

33...Rac8 34.Rad1 a5 35.Bg3 Kg7 36.f5 Rf5

White can junk it up a little after 36...Qf5 37.e6 Qf3! (37...Qe6?? 38.Rg5 Kf7 39.Rf5 Bf6 40.Rd7 +) 38.Rd7 Re8, but apparently it's nothing serious.

37.Qg4 Kh8 38.Qc4 Rg8 39.

Kh1 Rh5 (39...Qc6!?) 40.Qe2 Rh3!

Bradford hoped for 40...Qh3? 41.e6! Rd5 42.Be5! forcing a perpetual. Black can avoid this with 41...Rf5!, but after 42.Be5 Bf6 43.Rc5 his edge is minimal.

41.Bf4 Rh4 42.Be3



42...Rd4! 43.Qf3 0:1

Joe resigned because Black can trade queens and race his pawns, although it's not quite that simple: 43...Qd5 44.Qd5 Rd5 45.Rd5 b3 46.Rd7 Rb8 47.Bc1 c4! 48.Rc7 Bd8 49.Rc4 b2 50.Bb2 Rb2 +.

Another win is 43...Rd1 44.Rd1 (44.Qd1? Qf5! -+) Qe5 45.Bf4 Qe6 46.Bc7 c4 47.Ba5 c3 +.

After a dubious opening, Calogridis works some jujitsu on Readey:

*QGD Semi-Slav D46*

John Readey 2385  
 Mike Calogridis 2299

*Texas Class (4)*

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4. Nc3 e6 5.d4 Be7

Bogolyubov's treatment of the Semi-Slav is something of a theoretical backwater.

6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e4 de4 9.Ne4 Ne4 10.Be4 Nf6 11.Bc2 c5 12.Qd3 cd4 13.Nd4

Fancy interpolations don't seem to accomplish much here, e.g., 13.Bg5 g6 14.Rfe1!? Qb6!



13...e5 14.Nf5 Bf5 15.Qf5 Rc8  
16.b3 g6 17.Qe5 Bd6 18.Qe2 Re8  
19.Qf3 Be5 20.Rb1 Rc6 21.g3 Qd7  
22.Rd1 Qh3 23.Qg2 Qh5 24.h3 Qe2  
25.Rd2 Qe1 26.Qf1 Bg3!? 27.fg3  
Qg3 28.Rg2 Qc7 29.Bb2 Nh5  
30.Qf3 Nf4 31.Rf2 g5 32.Qc3?

This is a waste of time on the board, but given the clock situation Readey needed moves just to fill his scoresheet. Better is 32.Bf5! ±, preventing Black from doubling rooks on the e-file.

32...f6 33.Qf3 Rce6 34.Bc1 Re1  
35.Rf1 Qc5 36.Kh1



36...R8e3?!

36...Qc6! 37.Qc6 Rf1 38.Kh2 bc6  
+.

37.Be3 Re3 38.Qf2?!

38.Bh7!! Kf8! (38...Kh7 39.Qb7  
Kg6 40.Rf3) 39.Be4 +=.

38...Qc6 39.Kg1 Nh3 40.Kh2  
Nf2 41.Rf2 Qd6 42.Kg1 Qg3  
43.Rg2 Re1 44.Re1 Qe1 45.Kh2 h5  
0 : 1

Notes by NM Omer Unalmis

*King's Indian E81*

Jose Silva 2078

Omer Unalmis 2331

*Texas Class (4)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7  
4.e4 d6 5.Bg5 0-0 6.f3 c6 7.Qd2 a6  
8.h4!? Qc7 9.Nge2 b5 10.Ng3 e6  
11.h5 Re8 12.Qf4 Nbd7 13.c5 e5  
14.de5 de5 15.Qh4 Re6 16.hg6 fg6

17.Rd1 Nc5 18.b4 Ncd7 19.Nf5?  
gf5 20.ef5 Rd6 21.Ne4 Rd1 22.  
Kd1 Qd8! 23.Kc2 Qe7 24.Bd3 a5!  
25.g4 ab4 26.Bf6 Nf6 27.g5 Ne4  
28.Qh7 Kf8 29.Be4



At this point Black has a simple win: 29...Ra2 30.Kb1 (forced) Qf7! and there is no defense to mate, as 31.Bc2 is met by 31...Rc2 32.Kc2 Bf5 winning the queen. The fancy sacrifice 31.Qg7?! does not work after 31...Kg7! 32.Rh7! Kh7 33.g6 Kg7 34.f6! Kf8! and Black comes out a rook ahead. Instead of this clear win line I made an inaccurate move, probably because of the psychological effect of my game with Bradford that morning.

29...Qc5? 30.Kb1 b3 31.f6?

31.ab3? Qc3 and there is not defense to 32...Ra1 mate. But White should have played 31.a4! (which I saw only after I played 30...b3) and now if 31...Ra4? 32.f6! and Black is one tempo behind. Therefore after 31.a4! Black has to make a defensive move, and only with 31...Ra7! Black is still winning.

31...ba2 32.Kb2 Qf2 (1:44-1:28)  
White resigns 0 : 1

In view of 33. Kc3 (33.Kb3 Be6  
34.Kc3 Ra3 35. Kb4 Rb3 36.Ka5 Qa7  
mate) Ra3 34.Kb4 Ra4 35.Kc3 Qd4  
36.Kc2 Rc4 37.Kb3 Qc3 38.Ka2 Ra4  
39.Kb1 Ra1 mate.

## CORRECTIONS

In "Scholastic Chess/Can we cut through UIL gridlock?" (*TK* July-Aug. 1994, p. 17), we reported that UIL Academic Director Pat Wisdom as saying "funding would *not* be a problem". That should read: "funding would be a problem."

Alert readers pointed out a major error in the analysis to a game from the Texas Armed Forces Championship which was used for the back cover problem:

Ward - Pointer



After 22.Rf7!! Kf7 23.Rh7, of course 23...Qg7 does not get mated by 24.Qf3? Kg8. Better is 24.Qh6 Rg8, but what now? The key move is 25.Ng3! ...

(a) 25...Kf8 26.Rg7 Rg7 27.Bg6 and 28.Nh5 +-;

(b) 25...Ne5 26.Qf4 Bf6 27.Ne4!! Δ ...Qh7 28.Qf6 Ke8 29.Nd6 mate!;

(c) 25...Bf8 26.Bg6 Ke7 27.Nh5 Ne5 32.Qe7 +-;

(d) 25...Bf6 26.Bg6 Kf8 (26...Ke7 27.Nh5 +-) 27.Rg7 Bg7 28.Qf4 Ke7 29.Qf7 Kd6 30.Ne4 Kc7 31.Nc5 +-;

(e) 25...Qh7 26.Qh7 Kf8 27.Bg6 Bc5 28.Kh1 Be8 29.Qh6 Ke7 30.Be8 Rae8 (30...Rge8 31.Qg5; 30...Ke8 31.Qh5) 31.Ne4 b6 (31...Bb6 32.Qh7 Kd8 33.Qb7 +-) 32.Qh7 Kd8 33.Nf6 Ne7 34.Qd3 Kc7 35.Qd7 +-.

(continued on page 28)

# Lputian wins Houston Absolute Championship

**G**M Smbat Lputian of Armenia defeated Lee Gaskill, Clarence Yeung and Larry Moss, and then gave a *real* grandmaster draw to Mansour Bighamian to win the Houston Absolute Championship with 3.5-5. Tied for second at 3-1 were Bighamian, Larry Englebretson, Yeung, Billy Patteson (who won the second place trophy on tiebreaks) and Gaskill (expert trophy). The group at 2.5 included NM's Moss and Dejmek, Class A winner Larry White, and unrated David Spuler, whose only loss was to Bighamian. Doug Larsen (1st B) and Jeff Hubert (1st C) both scored 2-2. There were 28 players.

Notes by B. L. Patteson

*French Defense C11*  
**Larry Englebretson 2235**  
**Billy Patteson 2169**

*Houston Chp. (2)*

1.Nc3

This position appears in 50% of Larry's games, and I doubt if there is another master in the country who knows the transpositions here better than he does.

1...e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e4 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Ne2 c5 6.c3 b6 7.d4 Ba6 8.g3 Nc6 9.Bh3 Be2 10.Qe2 Be7 11.0-0-0 12.Rd1 c4 13.b3

After the game we both thought that he should get on with preparations for f2-f4-f5 instead of this queenside action.

13...b5 14.a4 a6 15.Ba3 Nb6 16.a5 Ba3 17.Ra3 Nd7 18.b4

So the game will now be decided based on what happens after f2-f4.

18...Re8 19.Re1 Nf8 20.Nh4 f5 21.e6 Qf6?!

Black should go for counterplay with 21...gf6 intending ...e6-e5. After my move, it will be total defense or die. Probably total defense and die!

22.f4 g6 23.Nf3 h6 24.Ra2 Ra7  
 25.Qe3 Rae7 26.Rf2 Nd8 27.Ne5



28...Nd7? 28.Nf3?

GM Lputian pointed out 28.Nd7 Rd7 29.f5, winning.

28...Rf7 29.Ref1 Qg7 30.Ne5 Ne5 31.fe5 Rf2 32.Rf2 Rf8 33.Rf6 Rf6 34.ef6 Qf6 35.Qh6 Nf7 36.Qe3 Nd8 37.Bg4 Kf7 38.h4 Kg7 39.Kg2 Kf7 40.Qh6 Ke7 41.Qe3 Nf7 42.Qf3 Qf3 43.Bf3

Forced. [43.Kf3 Nh6! (43...e5? 44.Bc8 +-) 44.Bh3 (44.Kf4? Ng4 45.Kg4 e5 -+) Nf5 =.]

43...Kd6 44.Kf2 Ke7

I back off on ...e5 since it will open a route to my light square pawns for his hungry bishop. Besides, with knight versus bishop, blockade offers the best hope.

45.Ke3 Kf6 46.Kf4 Kg7 47.g4



47...Kf6?

The only hope for a blockade is to play 47...g5. If that fails, I am lost. [It looks good to me: 48.hg5 Kg6 49.Bd1 Ng5 50.Ke5 Kf7 51.Bc2 (51.Kd6 Ne4) Ke7 =.]

48.g5

This should have won easily.

48...Kg7 49.Bg4 Nd6 50.Be6 Ne4 51.Bd5 Nc3 52.Be4 Na2 53.d5 Nb4 54.d6 c3 55.d7 c2

A better try was 55...Nc6, but even then the White king slides over to watch the b/c duo and Black loses.

56.Bc2 Nc6 57.Be4 Nd8 58.Ke5 Kf7 59.Kd6 b4 60.Bd5 Kf8 61.Be6 Kg7 62.Ke7 Nc6 63.Ke8 Kh7 64.d8(Q) [64.Bd5!] Nd8

So how come I don't resign? Well, Larry is in his usual time trouble situation now. Sudden death time trouble, no less.

Frequently he works miracles under these conditions. In the very next round I saw him give a 60-to-1 odds (thirty minutes vs. thirty seconds) to a tough expert in a rook and pawn ending. Larry held the draw. A miracle is going to happen, but it will be my miracle, not his!

65.Kd8 Kg7 66.Ke7 Kh7 67.Kf6 Kh8 68.Kg6 b3



69.Kf7

Well, this one he sees. But

simpler was 69.Bf5, resigns.

69...b2

Now he still has about half a minute and can win with 70.g6 b1(Q) 71.g7 Kh7 72.g8(Q) Kh6 73.Qg5 Kh7 74.Qg7 (or Qh5) mate.

70.Ba2?? b1(Q) 71.Bb1 DRAW

Well, it's mate all right – but of the subspecies *stale*, not check!

### Class A player draws GM!

Notes by Chuck Minskey

At the Houston Chess Club (June 11) I played the following game. As is often the case on Saturday, my wife or I bring our two children to the club for their chess lessons. Usually on a Saturday there is a tournament taking place in conjunction with the kids chess classes. I decided against playing due to a cold I was fighting, but after seeing a visiting grandmaster in the lineup, who could resist? Not a great game, mind you; nevertheless, it did make me feel a little better. GM Lputian was a gentleman. Unfortunately his English was poor and there wasn't much of a post-mortem.

The time control was 30/90 followed by sudden death/30.

#### *Grünfeld Exchange D85*

GM Smbat Lputian

Chuck Minskey 1916

#### *HCC Weekend Open*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4

A look at a few Informants showed my opponent opening with 1.d4 and 2.c4 on a regular basis.

2...g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cd5 Nd5 5.e4 Nc3 6.bc3 Bg7 7.Bb5

Against this move Black should secure excellent prospects.

7...c6 8.Ba4

Also commonly played is 8.Bc4.

8...0-0

After the game Lputian suggested 8...b5 as an improvement, with ...b4 to follow.

9.Be3 c5 10.Ne2 Qa5

This is playable, but now I might prefer ...a5 [sic] or ...cd4.

11.0-0 b5 12.Bb3 c4?

Because of this White's center greatly improves, and the bishop is forced to a nice square at c2.

13.Bc2 Nc6 14.d5 Rd8 15.Qb1 Ne5 16.a4 Bd7 17.ab5 Qb5 18.Qa2[?!]

*Simple and strong is 18.Ba7 Nd3 19.Nd4 Qb1 20.Rfb1 ±.*

18...a5 19.Rfb1 Qa6



20.Rb6[?]

20.Bb6 would also have been strong. [White would win the pawn but with his pieces not as well placed as in the line given above.]

20...Qc8 21.Ba4

21.h3? would yield to the bishop sac at h3 [e.g., 21...Bh3! 22.gh3 Qh3 23.Nd4 Ng4 24.Bd1 (24.Re1 Bh6!; 24.Bf4 Qc3) Ne3 -+; 21.Qa3!?

21...Ng4!

21...Ba4 22.Qa4 Qg4 23.Qc2 Nf3 24.Kh1 Nh4 25.Ng3 +=.

22.Bd7

If 22.Bd4? Bd4 23.Nd4 then 23...Qc7 24.h3 Qb6, winning the exchange. Or 22.Bf4? Qc5 -+.

22...Rd7 23.Rc6 Rc7 24.Rc7

24.Qc4 was possible, with a passed c-pawn which may not be winning due to the exchange 24...Ne3, doubling White's e-pawn. [Black gets the c6 pawn after 25.fe3 Rc6 26.dc6 Ra6!, or 26.Qc6 Qc6 27.dc6 Rc8 28.Rb1 Bh6, etc.]

24...Qc7 25.Bf4 Qc5

My position is now sufficiently active.

26.Bg3 a4

Or 26...Nf6 27.Qc2 Nh5 =.

27.Qa3 Qa3 28.Ra3 Nf6

Also possible is 28...Ne5. If 19...Be5 then the bishop becomes dangerous. [Sharp and thematic is 28...f5!, which undermines White's center: 29.f3 Nf6 30.d6 fe4 31.de7 Kf7 =+ or 29.ef5 gf5 30.Bh4 Ra5 31.h3 Nf6 32.Bf6 Bf6 =+.]

29.f3 Nd7 30.Nd4 Bh6! 31.Ra2 Bc1

The threat is ...a3 and ...Bb2.

32.Ne2 Be3 33.Kf1 Nc5 34.Bf2 Bf2 35.Kf2 a3 36.Ke3?

Much better was 36.Ke1, and the king moves along the first rank.

36...Nb3 37.f4 Kf8 38.e5 Ke8 39.Nd4 Nc1 40.Ra1 Nb3 41.Ra2 DRAW!

### — More on Lputian —

Lputian gave a simul July 9 at the Houston Chess Club, winning all thirteen games. His latest FIDE rating is in the 2600's, and in the SKA Biel Interzonal last year he finished 13th out of 73 players, most of them GM's.

In the 1983 World Youth Team Championship in Chicago, Lputian was on the winning Soviet team. Their final score was 34-10, five points ahead of second place Iceland and West Germany. Lputian scored 6.5-.5 to win the board five prize.

In the 1990 New York Open Lputian finished in a tie for 6th-8th with Benjamin and Wolff. This was in the first section, in which grandmasters down to 26th place shared prize money.

He is now visiting his family in Houston, where his wife has been studying English to practice law in the U.S. We hope he decides to stay so the Houston Chess Club can have a resident grandmaster.

— Perry Collins

# San Antonio City Championship

Out of fifty-six players competing in the San Antonio City Championship, three finished in a tie for first place with 4.5-.5 scores. Two locals added their names to the Pete Prattes memorial trophy: Selby Anderson and Bill Underwood. Sharing top prize money was Jose Silva, an expert from Fort Hood.

Fifteenth-ranked Underwood (1822) got his first city title with a win over Eric Dimazana (2161) in the last round. Eric, who has been in a slump lately, started the tournament with a loss to Jim Barbe (1552). Jim Gallagher ended his three-year winning streak in this event with a loss to Andy Smith in round three. Andy had a miraculous comeback in his fourth round game with Randall Schwarz to emerge as the only player with a perfect score. His luck almost continued into his last round game with Anderson, but he lost his way in an exciting finish.

The event was held July 16-17 at the Leon Valley Grange Hall. Jim Gallagher, Sr. directed.

## PRIZE WINNERS

1st-3rd	Selby Anderson	4.5 pts.	\$ 96.66 + T
(Expert)	Jose Silva	4.5	96.66
(Class A)	Bill Underwood	4.5	96.66
Expert	David Leinbach	4	18.75
	Andy Smith	4	18.75
Class A	John Ade	3.5	12.50
	Robert Bradley	3.5	12.50
	Ray Smith	3.5	12.50
Class B	Mark Levin	3	15.00
	James Regan	3	15.00
	Duane Solley	3	15.00
	Greg Newman	3	15.00
	Bruce Eberhard	3	15.00
Class C	Diego Gamboa	3.5	75.00
D/E/Unr.	Michael LaBelle	2.5	25.00
	Thomas Katsampes	2.5	25.00
	Rodr. De Los Reyes	2.5	25.00

### Sicilian Najdorf B98

Selby Anderson 2313

Diego Gamboa 1591

S.A. City Chp. 1994 (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4  
4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4  
Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 b5?!  
(9...Nbd7) 10.Bf6 Bf6? (10...gf6)  
11.Bb5 Nd7

(a) 11...ab5 12.Ndb5 Qc6 13.Nd6  
Kf8 14.Nc8 Qc8 15.e5 +-;

(b) 11...Ke7 12.e5 de5 13.Nf5  
Kf8 14.Qa8 ef5 15.Nd5 1:0 Anderson-  
Kislingbury, Texas Open 1993.

12.e5 Bb7 13.Qg4



13...de5

If 13...h5 14.Ne6! (anyway!)

14.Ne6 fe6 15.Qe6 Kf8 16.Rd7  
Qd7 17. Qd7 Bg2 18.Bc4 Be7  
19.Qe6 1:0

Andy Smith reaped a windfall in round three when Gallagher walked into a midgame trap which cost a pawn and the exchange. Later I got the better of Leinbach in a level ending, and won the king and pawn phase by a single tempo.

Anderson (2313)-Leinbach (2023)



25...Nb7 26.Kc1 Rd6 27.Ng2

Rhd8 28.Ne3 Kf6?

Little move, big mistake. 28...Nc5! actually gives Black winning chances based on ...Nd7-e5-d3 if White pushes his queenside.

29.b4! Rd2 30.Rd2 Rd2 31.Kd2 Nd6

Or 31...Ke5 32.c4 bc4 33.Kc3!

32.c4 bc4 33.a4 e5 34.Kc3 f4 35.gf4

I considered carefully whether or not to trade pawns, and chose the "can't lose" option. I saw that after 35.Nc4 Nc4 36.Kc4 e3 37.fe3 f3 38.Kd3 e4, Black will win if he can straddle the two outside candidates. In fact, White wins handily: 39.Kd2 Ke5 40.g4 Kd5 41.h4 Kc4 42.g5 +-. But when you give your opponent a protected passer in a K+P ending, you'd better be extremely sure of what you're doing!!

35...ef4 36.Nc4 Nc4 37.Kc4 Ke5 38.b5 ab5 39.ab5 e3 40.fe3 fe3 41.Kd3 e2

This exchange of tempi just adds a move to the game. 41...Kd5 42.Ke3

Kc5 43.Kf4 Kb5 44.Kg5 Kc5 45.Kh6  
Kd6 46.Kh7 Ke6 47.Kg6 transposes.  
42.Ke2 Kd6 43.Kf3 Kc5 44.Kg4  
Kb5 45.Kh5 Kc5 46.Kh6 Kd5  
47.Kh7 Ke6 48.Kg6 Ke7 49.Kg7  
Ke6 50.h4 Kf5 51.h5 1:0

*Sicilian Closed B24*

Andy Smith 2000  
Jim Gallagher 2262

*S.A. City Chp. 1994 (3)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6  
4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bc4 e6 6.e5 (6.f5!) d5  
7.ed6 Qd6 (7...Nf6!?) 8.Ne4 Qe7  
9.c3 Nf6 10.Qe2 0-0 11.Nf6 Qf6  
12.d3 b6  
12...Na5!? 13.Bb5 a6 ∞.  
13.0-0 Bb7 14.Bd2 Rae8  
15.Rae1 e5? 16.fe5 Ne5 17.Ne5



17...Qe5?

Less drastic is 17...Re5 18.Rf6  
Re2 19.Re2 Bf6 20.Bh6 Rd8  
(20...Bg7 21.Bg7 Kg7 22.Re7 ±)  
21.g4! Bc6 (21...g5 22.h4 gh4 23.g5  
Bg7 24.Re7 Ba8 25.Rf7 +-) 22.g5  
Bg7 23.Re7 Rf8 24.Ra7 ±.

With the text move Jim offered  
a draw. Andy said, "I'd like to play  
on a while." After seeing White's  
reply Jim said, "I can see why!"

18.Qf2! Qb8 19.Bf7 Kh8 20.Re8  
Re8 21.Be8 Qe8 22.Qf7 Qc6  
23.Rf2 h5 24.Bf4 Qd5 25.Qg6 Qc6  
26.Qh5 Kg8 27.Re2 c4 28.d4 b5  
29.Qg5 Qf6 30.Re7 1:0

A bizarre accident occurred when  
Tim Beszczynski (1965)  
declined a draw offer from Robert  
Bradley (1812), who responded by  
delivering mate! Bradley writes:

"This comic tragedy began as my  
time became precariously low (I  
had only ten minutes left on move  
33), and I was forced to resort to a  
mindless king shuffle until my  
time control was reached. Sadly, my  
position had deteriorated to the  
point that it appeared I would be  
resigning soon.

"Fortunately for me, I have  
learned that a significant percentage  
of chess players often make their  
worst moves after they have ob-  
tained a substantial advantage on  
the board. The diagram shows one  
such situation.

"As the game continued, it was  
obvious to me that my rook could  
perpetually check his king on the c-  
and d-files; therefore, when I ar-  
rived at the desired position on the  
57th move, I promptly offered a  
draw to Mr. Beszczynski. He de-  
clined. Subsequent to my forced re-  
examination of the position, I re-  
membered that pawns could also  
deliver checkmate, so I played c4++.

"This humorous incident has  
reinforced my belief in waiting pa-  
tiently for opportunities when one  
is losing. Now I just have to learn  
when to offer a draw."

**Bradley - Beszczynski**



51...Rh7?

51...f4! +; 51...d4 52.Kd2 f4! +.

52.Bg1 Re4

52...Re1 53.R2g6 Kd7 54.Rb6 ∞.

53.R2g6 Bf6

53...Kd7?! 54.Rb6 Re8 +=.

54.Bc5 d4 55.Re7 Kd5 56.Rf6  
Kc5??

56...Rh2 57.Kb3 dc3 58.bc3 Re1  
(58...Kc5?? 59.Rb7) 59.Bb6 Rb1 =.

57.Rc7

Here Bradley offered a draw.

57...Kd5??

Correct is: "Yes!!!"

58.c4 mate

1:0

Silva gave me a scare with a king-  
side piece sac, and I was happy to  
accept a draw. In hindsight I am not  
so sure I was correct! Andy looked  
like a goner with Randall Schwarz  
skillfully parlaying an extra pawn;  
but was bailed out when Randall in  
time pressure played a bad piece sac  
followed by a helpmate. James  
Regan (1774) accepted an unsound  
piece sac by John Berba (1979), dug  
in and won in forty moves.

*Schmid Benoni A43*

Selby Anderson 2313

Jose Silva 2097

*S.A. City Chp. 1994 (4)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 g6  
4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.a4  
0-0 8.h3 Na6 9.0-0 Nb4 10.Re1  
Bb5 11.Nb5 Qd7 12.c3 Na6  
13.Na3 Nc7 14.Nc4 b6 15.Bf4  
Rae8 16.Bh2 Bh6 17.g4



17...Ng4! 18.hg4 Qg4 19.Kh1 f5  
20.Nfd2 Qh3 21.Qf3 Qf3 22.Nf3  
fe4 **DRAW!?**

Play might continue 23.Nfd2  
Nd5 24.Ne4 Nf4 25.Rad1! +=.

Schwarz (2053) - A. Smith (2000)



White wins easily with 33.c4!  
dc4 34.b5 Rc7 35.Kc4 Δ Rd6-a6, and  
Black cannot hold his a-pawn.

33.b5 Rc7 34.Rb2?!

34.c4 Rd7 35.Kc3 should still  
win.

34...Rb7 35.Ba7??

35.c4 dc4 36.Kc4 a6! +=.

35...Ra7 36.b6 Ra4 37.Kc5?

I give only one "?" because  
White's game now gets put out of  
its misery.

37...Rc4 mate 0 : 1

*Catalan Opening E06*

John Ade 1909

Robert Bradley 1812

*S.A. City Chp. 1994 (4)*

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2  
Be7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.cd5?! ed5 7.0-0 c6  
8.Nbd2 h6 9.Ne5 Bf5 10.Ndf3  
Nbd7 11.Be3 Ne4 12.Nd3 Re8  
13.b4 Nd6 14.Nfe5 Bd3 15.Nd3  
Nf5 (15...b5!? Δ ...Nc4)) 16.b5 Ne3  
17.fe3 Bg5 18.bc6 Be3 19.Kh1 bc6  
20.Qa4 Nb6 21.Qc6 Rc8 22.Qb7  
Bd4?? (22...Re7 23.Qa6 Bd4 -/+)  
23.Qf7 Kh8 24.Nf4 Qd6 25.Rad1  
Be3 26.Ng6 Kh7



27.Bh3! Rcd8 28.Bf5 d4  
29.Ne5 Kh8 30.Qe8! 1 : 0

In the last round, Silva quickly  
dispatched back-door contender  
John Ade, who recently moved here  
from Fort Worth. Dimazana was  
unrecognizable against Underwood,  
who to be sure deserves credit for  
gritty technique.

I faced a must-win situation  
with Andy, who alone had a perfect  
score. I won two pawns, but his en-  
terprising, timely play and my poor  
technique in time pressure almost  
let him escape with a draw. It took  
a flashy exchange sacrifice plus a  
little cooperation from Andy to  
score the point.

*Sicilian Closed B24*

Andy Smith 2000

Selby Anderson 2313

*S.A. City Chp. 1994 (5)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 e6  
4.Nf3 a6

Kasparov played 4...Nge7 against  
Anand at the Intel Grand Prix,  
with equality after 5.g3 d5 6.d3 g6  
7.Bg2 Bg7 8.0-0 b6 9.e5 h5 10.Ne2  
Nf5 =.

5.a4 d5 6.e5 Nh6 7.Ne2 Nf5  
8.Ng3 Nh4 9.c3 Bd7 10.d3 Nf3  
11.Qf3 g6 12.Be2 f5 13.Be3 d4  
14.Bf2 Na5 (Δ 15...Bc6) 15.Nh5!

I smiled at the diagonal mate  
Andy had set up if I took his knight.

However, Black can force a simpli-  
fication with good prospects to  
win a pawn.

15...Bc6 16.Nf6 Qf6 17.ef6 Bf3  
18.Bf3 0-0-0 19.0-0-0

This came as a pleasant surprise,  
but certainly 19.cd4 Nb3! and ...Nd4  
suits Black's purposes.

19...Bh6 20.b4 Bf4 21.Kc2 cb4  
22.cb4

I was more concerned about  
22.Bd4 Nc6 (22...e5? 23.Bb6;  
22...Rd4!? 23.cd4 Kd7) 23.Bc6.

22...Nc6 23.Kb3 Rhf8 24.Rhf1  
Ne5 25.Be2 Be3 26.Bg3 Rd5

26...Nd7??? 27.Rc1 Bc1 28.Rc1  
Nc5 29.Rc5 Kd7 30.Rc7 Ke8 31.Re7  
mate!

27.Bf4 Bf4 28.Rf4 Rf6

Two pawns up – now I just need  
to make time control without fumb-  
bling away too much . . .

29.Rc1 Kd7 30.h4 h6 31.g3 Rf8



32.g4 g5?

Black's hurry to establish a pro-  
tected passer leads to a passive po-  
sition. Better is 32...Rc8 33.Rc8 Kc8  
34.gf5 gf5 (34...ef5? h5) 35.Rf2 Rd7  
36. Rg2 Kc7 37.Rg8 Rf7 38.Rh8  
Rf6 +=.

33.hg5 hg5 34.Rf2 f4 35.Bf1  
Rd6 36.Re1 Ng6 37.Bg2 b6 38.Be4  
Nh4

A horrible move to play, but I  
was ready to do anything to plug  
the h-file.

39.b5 a5 40.Rc2 Rc8 41.Rc6 Rdc6 42.bc6 Kd6 43.Kc4 e5 44.Kb5 Kc7 45.Kc4 Kd6 46.Kb5 Kc7 47.Kc4 Rd8 48.Kb5

48.Rf1 f3 49.Bf3? Rf8 50.Be2 Rf1 51.Bf1 Kc6 -/+; 49.Rf2 =.

48...f3 49.Rf1 Rf8 50.Kc4 Rf4 51.Kd5 Rg4 52.Ke5 Rf4 53.Kd4 g4 54.Ke3

Black's last chance to win is a "hail Mary" sacrifice.



54...Re4!? 55.de4 g3 56.Rc1 56.Rf3? Nf3 57.Kf3 Kc6 (57...b5? 58.ab5 a4 59.e5 a3 60.e6 Kd6 61.b6 =) 58.Kg3 b5 59.ab5 Kb5 60.Kf3 a4 61.Ke3 a3 62.Kd3 a2 +.

56...f2 57.Ke2

57.e5 Ng2 58.Kf3 (58.Ke2 Nf4 and 59...g2!) Ne1 59.Ke2 Nd3! +.

57...Ng2 58.Rc3??

(a) 58.Rd1!? (Weinberg) Kc6 59.e5 b5 (or 59...Kc5 60.Kf3 Ne1 61.Ke2 Ng2 =) 60.ab5 Kb5 61.e6 Nf4 62.Kf3 Ne6 63.Kg3 =;

(b) 58.Rh1! (Ferrill) Kc6! 59.Kf3 Ne1 60.Kg3 Nd3 61.Kf3 Kd6 62.Ke2 Nc5 63.Rh6 Ke5 64.Kf2 Ne4 65.Ke3 Nc5 66.Rb6 Na4 67.Rb5 Kd6 68.Ra5 Nc5 and Black draws with N vs. R.

58...Nf4 59.Kf1 g2! 0:1

Underwood won Dimazana's queen and pawn for rook and minor piece, and played energetically to gain the point.

*English Opening A29*

Eric Dimazana 2161

Bill Underwood 1822

*S.A. City Chp. 1994 (5)*

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.g3 d5 4.cd5 Nd5 5.Bg2 Nb6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 Bc5!?

This is an unusual placement when there is a knight on b6, but it is not easy to refute.

8.a3 a5 9.d3 0-0 10.Bd2 f6 11.Rc1 Be6 12.Nb5 Nd7 13.b4 ab4 14.ab4 Bb6 15.Bc3 Qe7 16.Nd2 Qf7 17.Ne4? (17.Ra1) Bb3 18.Qd2 Ra2 19.Bb2



19...Nb4! 20.Qb4 Ba5! 21.Qa3 Ra3 22.Ba3 Ra8 23.Bb2 f5 24.Nc5 Nc5 25.Rc5 c6 26.Nd6 Qd7 27.Nc4 Bc4 28.Rc4 Bc7 29.Rc5 Ra2 30.Rc2 Bd6 31.Rfc1 Qe6 32.Ba1 Rc2 33.Rc2 Qb3 34.Rc1 Qa2 35.Bf3 Ba3 36.Rd1 Bb2 37.Bb2 Qb2 38.g4 g6 39.Kf1 Kf7 40.e3 Ke6 41.Ke1 Qb4 42.Ke2 Qb2 43.Rd2 Qb4 44.h3 e4 45.de4 fe4 46.Bg2 Qc4 47.Ke1 c5 48.f3 Qc1 49.Ke2 Qg1 0:1

*Sicilian Closed B25*

John Ade 1909

Jose Silva 2097

*S.A. City Chp. 1994 (5)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 Nf6

This move takes a certain amount of courage, taunting the kingside pawns as it were ("Come on, come on...").

6.f4 d6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 Bg4!?

This surrenders either the bishop pair or a useful tempo to White. ECO gives 8...Rb8 9.h3 b5 10.a3 a5 11.Be3 b4 12.ab4 ab4 13.Ne2, and neither 13...c4, 13...Ne8 nor 13...Bb7 has proved sufficient for full equality.

9.h3 Bd7 10.g4!?

Playable, but Be3 cries out to be played at some point hereabouts.

10...Rb8 11.Ne2 c4 12.Ng3!?

This is too decentralizing.

12...cd3 13.cd3 Rc8 14.g5 Ne8 15.f5



The storm looks impressive, but

15...d5! 16.Nh2

Or 16.Qe2 Nb4! Δ ...Bb5, ...Rc2.

16...Be5 17.Bf4 Qb6 18.Kh1 Bf4 19.Rf4 Qe3

Hello! This is a textbook case of what happens when you neglect a volatile center to press a flank attack.

20.Qg4 Ne5 21.Qh4 Nd3 22.fg6 hg6 23.Raf1 Rc2 24.Ng4 Bg4 25.Rg4 Nf2 26.Kh2 Ng4 27.Qg4 Qd2 28.Rg1 Ng7 29.ed5 Qd5 30.Kh1 Qe6 31.Qa4 Rfc8 32.Bb7 Qh3 mate 0:1

# David Thomas, Al Sprague repeat as bughouse champs

by Michael Simpson

Eleven teams again competed in the second annual Texas Bughouse Championship, held May 30 during the Texas State Championship in Austin. To no one's great surprise, David Thomas and Al Sprague defended their crown successfully. Apparently deciding that their previous team name of "Amateurs" was no longer appropriate because of the professional status from last year, the two woodswappers renamed themselves The Chumps this year. Once again, they finished with a perfect 10-0 score and a \$50 first prize. Second prize and \$25 went to Death to the Infidels (Robert Dodd and Tom Ruppert), whose only loss was to The Chumps. Like the Chumps, Death to the Infidels traveled to Austin specifically for the bughouse tournament. The

\$25 Under 4000 prize went to This Old Bughouse (Gary Gaiffe, Senior TD, and Josh Newsham, Texas Junior Champion), who also won the best team name prize, a warm handshake from tournament director Michael Simpson. Other highlights of this year's event included Protograndmasters' upset loss to Bad Asses (sorry, no score sheet available), and a rare bughouse draw (both flags falling simultaneously) between the Callous Cowboys and the Escapees. If they had not drawn, one team almost certainly would have won.

Here is a complete crosstable and list of participants. Unlike last year when two teams had no name, this year each team came up with a name, partly attributable to the \$3,000 entry fee for teams without a name.

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
1. The Chumps	x	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
2. Death to Infidels	0	x	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
3. Protograndmasters	0	0	x	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7
4. We Are Kasparov!	0	0	0	x	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
5. This Old Bughouse	0	0	0	0	x	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
6. Callous Cowboys	0	0	0	0	1	x	.5	1	1	0	1	4.5
7. Escapees	0	0	0	0	0	.5	x	1	1	1	1	4.5
8. Bad Asses	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	x	0	1	1	3
9. Joint Tortfeasors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	x	0	1	2
10. We Are Dumb, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	x	0	2
11. Royal Guard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	x	1

## Team Members

The Chumps: David Thomas, Al Sprague • Death to the Infidels: Tom Ruppert, Robert Dodd • Protograndmasters: Miles "I've got an inish!" Ardaman, John Readey • We Are Kasparov!: Drew Sarkisian, Michael Simpson • The Beatles: John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Ringo Starr • This Old Bughouse: Gary Gaiffe, Josh Newsham • Callous Cowboys: Jim "Move! Move! Move! Move! MOVE!" Gallagher, Richard Ketcham • Escapees: Mark Muecke, Larry Young • The Seven Dwarfs: Sleepy, Grumpy, Happy, Sneezy, Dopey, Doc, Bashful • Bad Asses: Mark Dejmek, Chad Bruns • Joint Tortfeasors: Lance Umbarger, Bill Underwood • We Are Dumb Enough to Pay \$10: Jimmy Flaherty, Vincent Dimayuga • Royal Guard: Michael Poston, Sam Un.



Simpson shows that the hand is faster than the shutter.



# LETTERS

## The UIL Academic Director responds

Dear Mr. Binder:

Thank you for presenting proposals to the June 16 Academic Standing Committee for consideration by the UIL Legislative Council. . . . You are invited to attend the October 17 full Legislative Council session at which time action recommended by the committee will be either modified or adopted. You will be receiving further information on that meeting in late September.

On a personal note, the merits of chess are certainly evident, but the time spent on presenting the issue became laborious to council members and worked to the detriment of its passing. What the council wanted to hear (briefly) was how this program could work into a conflict pattern for UIL academic events, how qualified educators on each individual campus could coordinate the effort within the realm of local school board rules, UIL rules, and State Board of Education rules, without violating your rule book. A correlation of these guidelines is necessary for serious consideration of the event.

Too much emphasis was placed on the program being an at-risk program. Council members became unnecessarily concerned about violations of the no pass / no play rule because UIL academics customarily focuses on the academically gifted. But, we know that some of our most gifted students are in danger of dropping out of school because of boredom.

I hope my interpretations of the committee's reactions have been helpful. I trust you will work toward having representatives present your program to individual school districts across the state. It is the schools who make the decisions for the League, and we know that chess is a worthy program to be considered in the schools. Have a good summer.

Pat Wisdom  
Director, UIL Academics

## How to promote chess – and how not to

I am a high school chess "coach" and scholastic chess enthusiast who has run into some of the same people and problems as Joe Binder, whose wonderful letter was printed in the July-August edition of this magazine. I have also spoken to Pat Wisdom about chess, although in a different forum. She is, perhaps, more filled with the sparkle of human curiosity than many of her co-workers at the UIL . . . but I hope not. I think UIL is looking for anything to make it look good, and I think chess is *perfect*.

We stand poised on the brink, so to speak. As the quixotic public school debate flashes, it should not be hard to see that chess is an outstanding combination of problem solving incentives and . . . well, you know. But here's what we encounter in the public schools:

1. Games are bad because they lead to fights or gambling or some horrible outcome, especially with the reading, writing and 'rithmetic fans;
2. Lots of white boys play chess;
3. If it costs more than \$50 and it isn't football, then somebody has made a mistake;
4. They want to play in world history and computer math if you encourage them;
5. It's elitist;
6. It's just that much more stuff people can steal;
7. They'll want to get driven around to tournaments and clubs, and their parents will hate us for encouraging this;
8. Exactly how is this better than craps, dominoes, and Dungeons and Dragons?

Joe Binder and New Jersey and all of your basic instincts are exactly right. Chess should be a UIL event. Our champions should compete nationally. All the levels of chess enthusiasm should merge – somehow – but here's the reality:

Karpov came to Austin and the promoter, a Lions Club guy with no chess organizational experience, called me on the Friday before the proposed Saturday Simultaneous. He was strangely ignorant of Karpov's status in the chess world and Austin's status in the Texas chess scene. I mean, after all, Bradford and Ivanka and the Roots and lots of really special people live here, so you'd think *the day before Karpov is to give a simul it would be well in hand somehow*. The newspaper called me. I'm a B player! The *Austin American Statesman* was having a hard time dealing with the phone calls complaining about their labeling Karpov as "World Champion".

Karpov was supposed to play for \$1,000 a board. Somebody told the Lions Club guy Karpov was worth \$1,000 a board. I hope that person wasn't a chess player. Only one person paid \$1,000 to play Karpov. This was a resourceful kid from San Antonio whose dad "allowed" his wife and kid to seek a sponsor – and I applauded them – but as of noon on Friday, the day before the event, only one lonesome kid had signed up. Now, for some reason or another, the promoters decided to make the event "Karpov vs. local youth". This was printed in the newspaper article the morning of the event, hours before Karpov was supposed to appear, when there was one board bought and paid for.

I spent the night of Friday and the day of Saturday lining up talented high school opponents for Karpov. I also suggested local club members to call for suggestions. In this fashion Zach Coombes was located and contributed the name of the UT club president. People were at work to save an event that could have been a laughing stock: Karpov plays the kid from San Antonio!

And what happened Saturday? I had my students there, including the perfect SAT score kid who was going to be a newspaper story all by himself. The Lions Club guy called me "a savior", and my students and their parents waited for the simul. Members of the UT club were available, too. Still, only the kid from San Antonio had a penny. The few newspaper folks there asked me who the local chess big shots were, and I told them.

Then my students and I got screwed, plain and simple. Local chess big shots buttonholed the promoter while Karpov was telling the crowd how wonderful he was, and suddenly Joe Bradford was going to "auction off" the "unpaid-for" spots, of course leaving ten spots for "the students". Suddenly all the locals who had wanted a shot at Karpov but had balked at the price had their hands up and fifteen spots were sold. I must admit that the Russian or Russians who will benefit from this financial change in the tide were within fifteen minutes at least \$3,000 better off [In fairness, proceeds were split between Austin and Moscow Lions Clubs - Ed.], but many of the people in the crowd were confused. What had happened? Students, dumb unknowns, had been steamrolled and disappointed by unimpressive and selfish-looking men that I know are better than they appeared on that day.

After the games began and I and the parents of the students I had encouraged to come began to figure out just what had happened to us, the promoter asked if there was anything he could do to make it up to us. I suggested a private simul be set up (now or later) with Joe Bradford. He is a master, after all. Other things happened. Boards were set up and Karpov was called upon to play a few more boards than he planned. The UT club president and a few others were wedged in without ceremony, even though Karpov almost refused to acknowledge or play them.

None of these were my disappointed students.

So scholastic chess should be pushed and pushed. And Pat Wisdom is just the woman to help us. We could expect far less than a young and intelligent UIL advocate on our side. But we have to stop acting like creeps. I would say the average convict spends more time doing public service than the average chess master. We need to

cajole out betters into representing their art better to the uninitiated.

Allan Johnson  
Austin

P.S. - As long as Karpov is allowed to go around calling himself world champion, we are going to seem more akin to boxing than a legitimate sport.

*First, let me put in a word for Karpov. Nowhere in his interview session did he refer to himself as "world champion" in the present tense. He had plenty to say against FIDE's management of recent events, and I don't think he regards the title of "FIDE World Champion" in the current context more seriously than the average chess fan. Whatever taint attaches to that title is not Karpov's doing but primarily Campomanes'.*

*Regarding the organizing of the simul, here is a statement by TCA President Michael Simpson:*

I want to address several points in Allan Johnson's recent letter about scholastic chess in Texas; specifically the comments about the simultaneous exhibition given by Anatoly Karpov in Austin.

I was originally contacted in February by Bob Barstow of the Lake Travis Lions Club regarding the possibility of a Karpov visit to Austin. At that time Karpov was projected to arrive in July. I immediately asked William Tompkins to call an emergency meeting of the ACE Board of Directors, and contacted Selby Anderson to tell him of the possibility of a visit. The ACE Board discussed lots of ideas but agreed that it needed more concrete details about Karpov's visit before it could proceed.

I attempted to contact the Lake Travis Lions Club several times in the following weeks. I began to believe, plausibly, that Karpov had decided he did not want to play chess on his visit or was not able to come at all, and that accounted for my not hearing from Lake Travis. The next time I heard from them was in the middle of May, when Bob told me that Karpov was coming, in June, not July. Karpov wanted to play a 20 board simul for \$1,000 a board. Mr. Johnson says someone told the "Lions Club guy" that Karpov was worth \$1,000 and he hoped it wasn't a chess player. The \$1,000 figure came from Karpov. I told Bob that it would be difficult if not impossible to come up with twenty chess players willing to put up \$1,000 to play Karpov in five weeks, but we were reluctant to tell one of the strongest players of all time that his asking price was too high. Nonetheless, we were unable to locate any \$1,000 sponsors on such short notice despite contacting businesses in Austin, San Antonio, Dallas, Houston and

numerous smaller cities in Texas, and having an electronic ad run on Compuserve.

I am sorry about students who were told they would be playing Karpov and were then disappointed. This resulted from a difference of opinion between TCA and Lake Travis Lions Club regarding what to do with the unsold boards – allow them to be used free by schoolchildren, or TCA's idea of auctioning off the boards to adult chess players. The decision to go with the auction was made by Karpov and Ron Henley, and was consistent with the simul's original intent of benefiting a young Russian girl in need of surgery. The people participating in the auction were from all over the state – Dallas, Houston and San Antonio were all represented; thus, the participants in the simul were not a bunch of "locals". As for looking unimpressive and selfish, I'm not sure who Mr. Johnson is referring to; certainly not Joe Bradford, who had looked forward to playing Karpov for four months but decided not to participate in the simul so the children could. Not Danny Schenkel, a 19 year old, who spent the entire day shuttling tables from the Austin chess club to the Terrace without even an *expectation* of participating.

Of course, mistakes were made in the organization of the simul. I'm sure a lot of people wonder whether things would have been smoother if we had more time to plan. Well, great news: Karpov has already agreed to come back. What we all had assumed was a once in a lifetime opportunity will be twice in a lifetime. Instead of five weeks to plan the return, we've got ten months. Stay tuned for Karpov II!

Michael Simpson  
President, TCA

## Déja Vu

by NM Robert Harrington

It is always fun to get a new chess book. When *Informant 59* arrived at my house I was eager to check it out. While browsing through the book I noticed all the normal stuff: grandmaster games, FIDE ratings, crosstables, endings, combinations, and my game in print.

Huh?

Well, it was not my game, but all the moves [counting a footnote] were identical to one I played in the 1987 Software Toolworks American Open in Los Angeles. I went down in flames in that game to a brilliant attack. The player with the black pieces in the *Informant* is even credited with a TN! I wish he had called me first, as I would have told him 16...Nf5! was an improvement!

### Center Counter B01

Rich Kelson 2385  
Robert Harrington 2139

*American Open 1987 (2)*

1.e4 d5 2.ed5 Nf6 3.d4 Nd5  
4.c4 Nb6 5.Nf3 g6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.h3  
Nc6 8.Be3 0-0 9.Qd2 e5 10.d5 Ne7  
11.g4 f5 12.0-0-0 fg4 13.Ng5 g3  
14.fg3 Rf1 15.Rhf1 Nc4 16.Qf2  
Ne3 17.Qf7 Kh8 18.d6 Ng8  
19.Nce4 Nh6 20.dc7 1:0

### Center Counter B01

Afek 2430  
M. Shrentzel 2300

*Tel-Aviv 1993*

1.e4 d5 2.ed5 Nf6 3.d4 Nd5  
4.c4 Nb6 5.Nf3 g6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.h3  
0-0 8.Be3 Nc6 9.Qd2 e5 10.d5 Ne7  
11.g4 f5?! (RR 11...e4 12.Ng5 f5  
13.0-0-0 h6 14.Ne6 Be6 15.de6 Qd2  
16.Rd2 Rfd8 17.Rd8 Rd8 18.c5  
Nbd5 19.Nd5 Nd5 20.Bc4 Kf8  
21.Rd1 c6 22.gf5 gf5 23.Rg1 Bf6  
24.Bh6 Ke7 25.Rg6 Rh8 26.Bg7 Bg7  
27.Rg7 Ke6 28.Rb7 Rh3 29.Rc7 Ke5

30.Rc6 Rh1 31.Kd2 e3 = Kulis  
2225-Sivoho 2340, St. Petersburg  
1993) 12.0-0-0 fg4 13.Ng5 g3!? N  
(13...Nf5 - 45/(121)) 14.fg3?! (14.  
Be2!? gf2 15.c5; 14.c5!? g2 15.Bg2  
Nc4 16.Qe2 Ne3 17.fe3 ±) Rf1! 15.  
Rhf1 Nc4 16.Qf2 Ne3? (16...Nf5!  
17.Bd2 (17.Ne6 Be6 18.de6 Qe8=)  
Nd2 18.Qd2 Nd4 ∞) 17.Qf7! Kh8  
18.d6!! Ng8! (18...cd6 19.Rd6 +-;  
Nc6 19.dc7 +-) 19.Qf4? (19.Nce4!!  
Nf1 (19...Nh6 20.dc7 [1:0 Kelson-  
Harrington, *American Open 1987*]  
Qd1 21.Rd1 Nf7 22.Rd8! +-) 20.  
dc7! Qd1 (Qf8 21.Rd8!) 21.Kd1 Ne3  
22.Ke2 Nf5 23.Qf5! +-)



19...Qg5!! 20. Qg5 Nf1! (Δ 21...  
Bh6, 21...Bf6!) 21.Rf1! (21. Kb1?!  
Bf5 22.Ka1 Bh6 23.Qh4 Ne3 24.Rd2  
cd6 -/+; 21.Kc2?! Bf5 (Bf6 22.Qc1)  
22.Kb3 Bh6 23.Qh4 Ne3 ∞) Bh6  
(21...Bh3!? 22.Kd1!! Bf1 23.dc7 Bh3  
(23...Bf6 24.Qg4 Ne7 25.Qe6 +-)  
24.Nd5! (24.Qd8? Rc8 25.Nd5 Bf8!  
∞) Rc8 (24...Be6 25.Qd8 Rc8 26.Ne7  
+-) 25.g4! Δ 26.Qh4 Bg2 27.Qd8 +-)  
22.Qh6 Nh6 23.Rf8 Kg7 24.d7 Bd7  
25.Ra8 Bh3 26.Ra7 Bg2 = 27.a4  
(27.Kd2!?) Nf5 28.Ne2 h5 29.Kd2  
g5 30.Ra5 Kf6 31.Rc5 c6 32.Ke1  
h4 33.Kf2 Bd5 34.g4 h4 35.Nc3  
Bh1 36. Rc4 h3 37.Kg1 Bg2 38.  
Rb4 c5? (38...Nd6 =) 39.Rb5 ±  
Nd4 40.Rc5 Bc6 41.Kh2 Bd7 42.  
b4 Nf3 43.Kh1 Nd2 44.b5 Bg4 45.  
Nd5 Kg5 46. Ne3 Bf3 47.Kh2 Kf4  
48.Nc4! Nf1 49.Kh3 e4 50.Nd6!

Bg4 (50...e3?? 51.Rf5#) 51.Kg2 Nd2! 52.Nb7! e3 53.Nd6 Bf3 54. Kg1 Bd1! 55.b6 Nf3 56.Kg2 e2 57. Rc4 Ke5 58.b7 (58.Re4?? Kd6 59. b7 Kc7 =) e1(Q) 59.Re4 Qe4 60. Ne4 Nh4 61.Kf2 1 : 0 (Afek)

### Corrections (cont'd from p. 17)

Another correction, from the 1994 Texas State Championship, was pointed out by Joe Bradford.

#### Bradford - Ardaman



Ardaman played 31...Nge4? and quickly lost. I discussed an improvement for Black, 31...Ngh5 with the continuation 32.d6 Be6 33.Rb7 Nd7 34.Bd5 Qh4, but here instead of 35.Kf1? Qh1! = Bradford suggested 35.Ke2! Then if 35...Bd5? 36.Nd5! with a mating net, e.g., 36...Re8 37.Ne7 Kf6 38.Bd4 mate, or 37...Kf8 38.Qg8 mate. Black has only a couple of spite checks: 36...Qh2 37.Nf2 Ng3 38.Kd3 +.

The critical line is 35...Qh2 36.Ke1 Kf8 (36...Qg3? 37.Bf2 +-) 37.Rd7 Bd7 38.Ba8 Nf4, when 39.Qa6? allows 39...Bc3 40.Nc3 Qc2 41.Qc8 Bc8 42.d7 Kg7 43.cd8(Q) Qc3 with a perp; but White has 39.Bc6! Ng2 40.Bg2 Qg2 41.Qa6 ±.

TCA is offering free chess sets to schools; volunteer teachers only.  
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Austin, TX 78716

### Settling an Old Score

Omer Haldun Unalmis exhumed a game I published two years ago, in which he had White against Jim Gallagher in the last round of the 1992 Texas Class Championship:

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd4 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Bc4 0-0 8.f3 Nc6 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.h4 Rfc8 12.Bb3 Ne5 13.h5 Nh5 14.Bh6 Nd3 15.Qd3 Bh6 16.Kb1 Qe5 17.g4 Nf4 18.Qd2 Bg7 19.Nce2 Ne2 20.Qe2 a5 21.Bd5 . . .

#### Unalmis - Gallagher



In *TK* Sept.-Oct. 1992 I wrote: "Chess Machine found the unlikely (and strong!) 21...Ba4! (Δ ...Bc2), provoking the weakening move 22.b3." Unalmis counters:

"This more (21...Ba4) does not deserve to be called a 'strong move'. During the course of the game I was thinking of the following variation (and that is why I spent too much time for which I had to pay later):

"21...Ba4 22.f4! Qf4 (22...Bc2? 23.Qc2 and White wins [Keep going! For 23...Qd4 -/+ see below]; 22...Rc2? 23.Qe3! trapping Black's queen) 23.Rdf1! Qe5 24.Bf7 Kh8 25.c3! and it is White who dominates the board. For example: 25...Be8 26.Bd5! (Δ Nf3, Rh1, g5)."

Nice try, but 21...Ba4 22.f4 Bc2! 23.Qc2 Qd4 24.Qh3 (worse is

24.Bb7 Rc2 25.Rd4 Rf2!) Qb4 25.a3 Qb6 26.Qh7 Kf8 27.Qh2 e6 leaves Black a healthy pawn up. Indeed, after 28.Ba2 Rc3! his attacking chances at least equal White's.

Unalmis also comments on my note to 54...Kf7?? ("Tossing away a will deserved win, which Jim later pointed out . . ."):

"1. It is true that Black did not play bad in this game, but a 'well-deserved win' does not reflect the truth. White, in a quite unfamiliar opening system for him, did play creatively and only to lose his advantage in time trouble.

"2. The variation 'which Jim later pointed out' belongs to me and was shown to Mr. Gallagher immediately after the game."

### Gibson at the Texas Amateur

Three-time U.S. Blind Champion Pete Gibson writes of his performance in the Texas Amateur: "I did not cash or place in this tournament, but I scored 4.5 out of 6, my best score ever in my section of a major state tournament. This first game was satisfying because I managed to win an endgame of equal material with rook and bishops of opposite color. It had a common theme of many of my games. I sacked (lost?) a pawn or two in the middlegame, but my pieces became very active and I regained the material with a fun position.

#### Sicilian B21

W. Pete Gibson 1943

John McBeth 1716

#### Texas Amateur 1994 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cd4 3.c3 d6 4.cd4 e6 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Bd3 Nc6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Ng4 10.Bd2 f5 11.ef5 ef5 12.Bc4 Kh8 13.Re1 Bd7 14.h3 Nh6 15.Nd5 Bf6 16.Bh6 gh6 17.Nf4 Qb6 18.Ne6 Be6 19.Re6 Nd4 20.Nd4 Bd4 21.Qe2 Qb2 22.Qb2 Bb2 23.Rb1 Be5 24.Rb7



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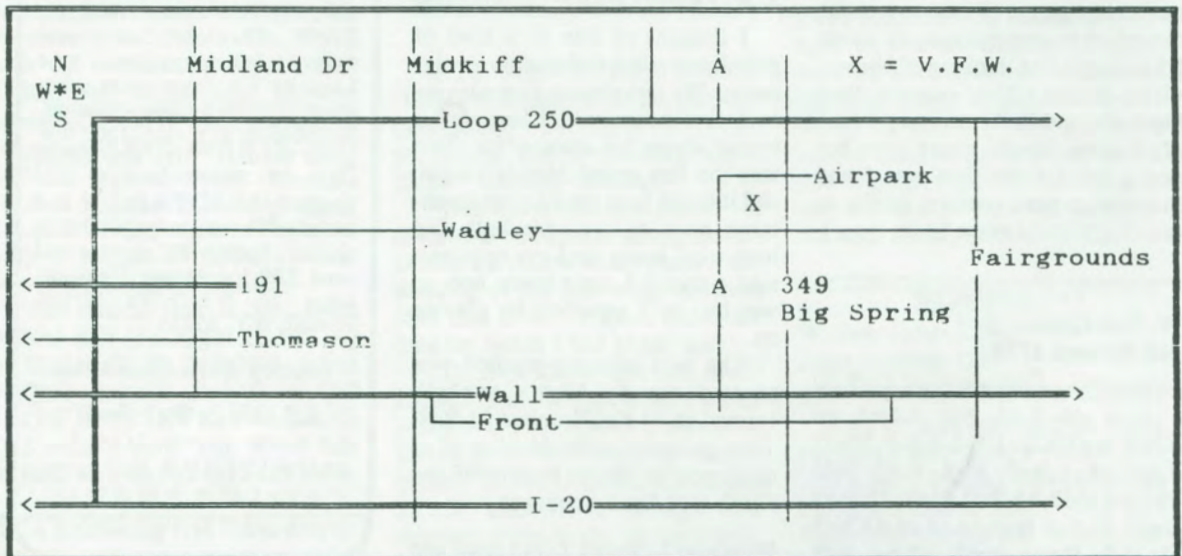
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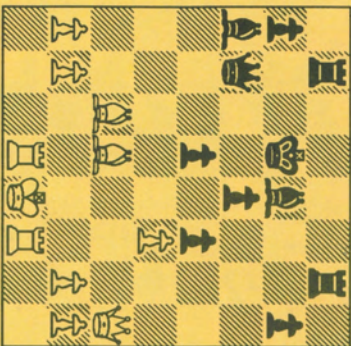


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TCA membership information.

**Reggio - Mieses**  
Monte Carlo, 1903



**Black to move**  
Solution: page 29

