

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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\$ 2

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May-June 1997



Steven Grubbs

Texas Scholastic 773 players!

High School co-champions

Steven Grubbs

Glen Boudreaux

David John

Middle School champion

John Sneed

Elementary co-champions

Boran Butorovic

T.C. Jansen Van Rensburg

Primary champion

Kevin Lane

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Corrections last issue: (1) "Texas Juniors win at first US Junior Congress West" (page 4) lists Texas 2nd place winners 18/under, 16/under, 12/under and 8/under, but omits 2nd place 14/under: **Chris Oakman** of Spring. (2) "Klein Winter Scholastics" (page 5): High School B was won by **Kevin Gaudette** with 5/5, and Middle School A was won by **Trong Nguyen** with 4/4. (Courtesy of Jim Liptrap.)

Test Your Tactics!

Positions from recent events. Solutions: p. 32



1. White to move

Boudreaux-Hendrick, Texas HS 1997



2. White to move

Grubbs-Rios, Texas HS 1997



3. Black to move

Kreiman-Benjamin, NY Open 1997



4. Black to move

R. Simpson-Fishbein, NY Open 1997



5. Black to move

Zlotnikov-Shabalov, NY Open 1997



6. White to move

Anand-Shirov, Dos Hermanas 1997



7. Black to move

Illescas-Short, Dos Hermanas 1997



8. Black to move

Illescas-Polgar, Dos Hermanas 1997



9. White to move

Gulko-M. Morris, NY Open 1997

1997 Texas Scholastic Championship

Another year, another record. Believe it or not, this year's turnout of 773 players at the Scholastic in Dallas fell slightly below expectations! To the credit of the Dallas Chess Club organizers led by Luis Salinas, the excellent playing site at the Harvey Hotel-Addison had ample space for at least 1,000 kids. Chief tournament director Gary Gaiffe headed up a very professional staff, with sectional directors Brad Bradford, Forrest Marler, Durrell Jones and Al Woolum. The linchpin of any tournament this size is the computer department, and here George John, Brenda Hardesty and Luis Salinas kept the operation humming along smoothly.

The side events were thoughtfully scheduled, with record participation in the bughouse and blitz events (see box reports next page.) Senior Master Doug McClintock gave a 25-board simul, losing one game (to Sandeep Shah of Lee High School in Dallas).

At the TCA business meeting, several amendments to the Bylaws were passed. Regional scholastics became official TCA events, with the same divisions by grade as the state tournament. The Primary sections were expanded to include grade 3, as in national events. See page 13 for a complete report of the meeting.

Special thanks are due the volunteers who worked as floor TD's and recorded game results, including Susan Breeding and others representing Shepard Elementary, as well as members of the Dallas Chess Club.

The High School division promised to be an interesting contest. Last year's co-champions Steven Grubbs and John Hendrick were back, now sporting 2000+ ratings. There was third who was arguably an expert except for late rating reports: David John, who dominated last year's Middle School championship and the Under 2000 section of the Southwest Open. But he was tripped up early when he drew Aaron May (1198) in round 2. John Hendrick lost his shot at a repeat title in round 6, when his kingside got torched by a scrappy tactician from Houston, Glen Boudreaux (1696).

Going into the seventh and final round, only Grubbs and Boudreaux had perfect scores. When they clashed on top board, Boudreaux went into the ending a clear pawn ahead, and seemed sure of his technique. But after rooks came off he made a lapse in the most elementary strategy of king and pawn endings - he didn't use his king to lead the fighting. Grubbs seized the moment, and quickly restored the balance to hold a draw.

On board two, David John defeated Hendrick to join Grubbs and Boudreaux in a three-way tie for first with 6.5 points out of 7. Grubbs again won top billing on

tiebreaks; he returns to the Denker Tournament of High School Champions to be held in Orlando this August.

Houston's Bellaire High School, led by freshman star David John, won the team competition by a two point margin. Other top scorers were Daniel Robbins (5.5), Frank Hsieh (5.5), Mark Li (5) and Philippe de Rouffignac (5), who also won a trophy for the biggest upset. In addition, Bellaire produced the winning team in the bughouse tournament (Patrick Bloom and Ted Seilheimer, "Rage Against the Fianchetto") and a blitz co-champion (David John).

High School

(185 players, 7 rounds. TD: Brad Bradford)

1	Steven Grubbs	6.5	Garland Christian	Garland
2	Glen Boudreaux	6.5	MacArthur	Houston
3	David C. John	6.5	Bellaire	Houston
4	Steve Hoberman	6.0	LBJ Science Acad.	Austin
5	Andy Zamora	6.0	Hanna	Brownsville
6	Enrique Rios	6.0	Churchill	San Antonio
7	Zack Rodriguez	6.0	LBJ Science Acad.	Austin

Tied for 8th-13th with 5.5 points (in tiebreak order): Jonathan Cearley, Daniel Robbins, Sandeep Shah, Frank Hsieh, Clemente Rendon and Chris Lin.



Bellaire High School team:
Frank Hsieh, David John, Daniel Robbins and Mark Li

High School Teams

1	Bellaire	Houston	22.5/28
2	LBJ Science	Austin	20.5
3	MacArthur	Houston	20.0
4	Hanna	Brownsville	19.5
5	Peace Academy	Fort Worth	19.5
6	Northside	Fort Worth	19.5

On Friday night Al Sprague and James Kerr directed what must be the largest bughouse tourney ever held in Texas – 120 players, or 60 teams! Best team names (my call): Tickleme Elmo Fat Burners, Brain Donors and The Rage of Thelepuran (!)

BUGHOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

1st	Rage Against the Fianchetto <i>Patrick Bloom and Ted Seilheimer</i>	6.0 pts.
2nd-3rd	The Bulls <i>Andy Zamora and Dennis Munguia</i>	5.5
	Twisted Bishops <i>John and Michael Sneed</i>	
4th-6th	Live by Sac, Die By Sac <i>Glen Boudreaux and Sammer Khalile</i>	5.0
	B.M.A. <i>George Radar and Abraham Khalil</i>	
	Trophy Kings <i>Jason Kindred and Ajay Bangale</i>	

Al Sprague and Joseph Ackers directed a field of 43 players at the blitz tournament Saturday night. The format was five round Swiss, two games per round.

BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP

1st-2nd: Steven Grubbs, David John, 8.5. 1st U1700: Justin Shih, 8. 2nd-3rd U1700: Dennis Munguia, Salvador Luna, 7. 1st-2nd U1400: Enrique Rios, Courtney Barnes, 7. 3rd-4th U1400: Chris Lin, Kelvin Shih, 6.5. 1st-2nd U1200: Gregory Vera, David Gude, 5. 3rd-5th U1200: Conner Fullerson, Chris Hobart, Eddie Leza, 4.5. 1st U900: Steven Stanton, 5.5. 2nd-4th U900: Nick Schonefeld, Cynthia Velez, Feloy Ayala, 5.

In the Middle School division, Matt Bradford (1717) of Dallas was knocked off first board by Andrés Suárez (1520), but a strong finish put him in a tie for second. The final round saw second-ranked John Sneed (1714) of Fort Worth in a must-win situation as he trailed Justin Shih (1557) of Houston by half a point. Despite the loss of a piece in the opening, Sneed fought back convincingly and prevailed in the endgame. (See page 7 for games.) On the next board, Osvaldo Ramirez (1352) of Dallas had a crack at equal first, but he was held to a draw by Jason Kindred (1577) of Arlington.

Lanier Middle School repeated as team champion, with five players scoring 6 out of 8! The Houston powerhouse was led by Courtney Barnes, Matthew Scheer, James Li, John T. Cook and Matthew Willis.

Middle School

(268 players, 8 rounds. TD: Forrest Marler)

1	John Sneed	7.5	Peace Academy	Fort Worth
2	Justin Shih	7.0	Space Center	Houston
3	Jonathan Walsh	7.0	St. Mark's	Dallas
4	Osvaldo Ramirez	7.0	Spence	Dallas
5	Matthew Bradford	7.0	St. Mark's	Dallas
6	Leica Tilton	7.0	Alamo Day Sch.	San Antonio

Tied for 7th-11th with 6.5 points: Tyler Herschap, Jason Kindred, Richard Lopez, Joseph Molina, Victor Flores. **Upset trophy:** Alex Martinez.



Lanier team: Matt Willis, John Cook, Andrew Fisher, James Li, Matthew Scheer; (back) Courtney Barnes

Middle School Team

1	Lanier	Houston	24.0/32
2	Peace Academy	Fort Worth	23.0
3	Sharpstown	Houston	22.5
4	Central	Brownsville	22.0
5	Oliveira	Brownsville	22.0
6	Space Center	Houston	22.0
7	Hartman	Houston	22.0

In the Elementary division, top-rated Boran Butorovic of Houston (1294) had the only perfect score going into the last round, but he had to settle for first on tiebreaks when Theunis Jansen Van Rensburg (1245) of Irving won their top board encounter. (See next page.)

Russell Elementary of Brownsville won its fifth straight team title, with top scorers Jorge Cano (7.5), Alfred Molina (7), Vicente Maldonado (7) and Cameron Cohorst (6.5). Club founder José J. Guajardo, Sr. led a coaches' workshop to share the ideas that have worked so well at his school. One of the most important factors in a club's success, he said, was to meet at least once every school day. He also recommended Bill Wall's collections of miniature games for teaching the openings. See page 12 for Guajardo's article on the problem of differing school policies regarding excused absences for chess competitions.



Russell team: Jorge Cano, Alfred Molina, Vicente Maldonado, Camoron Cohorst. with coach Guajardo

Elementary

(273 players, 9 rounds. TD: Durrell Jones)

1 Boran Butorovic	8.0	Sutton	Houston
2 Jansen Van Rensburg	8.0	Valley Ranch	Irving
3 Ian Stephens	7.5	W-J Math-Sci	Wichita Falls
4 Javier Cal	7.5	Ridglea Hills	Fort Worth
5 David Breeding	7.5	Shepherd	Plano
6 Chris Hobart	7.5	Krahn	Houston
7 Jorge Cano	7.5	Russell	Brownsville

Tied for 8th-18th with 7.0: Vicente Flores, Alfred Molina, Ignacio Flores, Patrick Lim, Jeff McDowell, Matthew Koller, Bobby Tobar, Alejandro Porras, Vincente Maldonado, Randy Rendon, Antonio Espino.
Upset trophy: Cameron Spencer.

Elementary Team

1 Russell	Brownsville	28.0/36
2 Ridglea Hills	Fort Worth	27.0
3 Krahn	Houston	25.5
4 Shepherd	Plano	25.0
5 Roosevelt	El Paso	25.0
6 Washington-Jackson	Wichita Falls	25.0

Primary

(64 players, 6 rounds. TD: Al Woolum)

1 Kevin S. Lane	5.5	Schanen Estates	Corpus Christi
2 Ken. Chambers	5.0	Virgie Lu	Houston
3 Johnny Fox	5.0	Village School	Houston
4 Ryan Dixon	5.0	Ridglea Hills	Fort Worth
5 P. Montemayor	5.0	Notre Dame	Wichita Falls
6 Eric Chiang	5.0	Ridglea Hills	Fort Worth
7 Benj. Jaiyen	5.0	Village School	Houston

Upset trophy: Noah Driggers

Primary Team

1 Ridglea Hills	Fort Worth	18.0/24
2 Virgie Lu	Houston	17.0
3 Russell	Brownsville	16.0

Note: Next year's Primary event will include grade 3.



Primary winner Kevin Lane

Giuoco Piano C50

T.C. Jansen Van Rensburg 1245
Boran Butorovic 1294

Tx. Elementary 1997 (9)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.
0-0 Nf6 5.Nc3 0-0 6.d3 d6 7.Be3
Sharper is 7.Bg5! intending Nd5.
7...Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 9.Na4 Bd4 10.
c3 Bxe3 11.fxe3 a6 12.Bd5 Nxd5
13. exd5 Ne7 14.c4

From a quiet opening (that's what its name means!) a dynamically unbalanced position has been reached. I prefer Black slightly because he has no doubled pawns.

14...Nf5

This puts the knight on an exposed square, and he will have to retreat. Better is 14...f5 increasing

control of the center, or 14... b5(!)
15.Nc3 bxc4 16.dxc4 f5, and Black can follow up with ...Qb8-b6.

15.Qd2

15.Qe1! controls both e3 and g3. The text gives the knight an opportunity for to jump in: 15...Ng3! 16. Rf2 e4! 17.Nd4 Qg5, and ...Rae8 will put pressure on the pawn at e3.

15...Ne7 16.Nc3 Rb8 17. d4 f6
18.a4 Qd7 19.Qd3 Bg6 20.e4 c6
21.dxc6 Nxc6

Not 21...bxc6? 22.dxe5 fxe5 23. Nxe5! ±. But even better than the text move is 21...Qxc6! 22.d5 Qc5+ 23.Kh1 Rbc8 24.b3 f5 =+.

22.d5 Ne7 23.b4 Rfc8 24.Rfe1

Better is 24.Kh1! After the text Black could win a pawn with 24... Qc7! 25.Nd2 Qb6+ 26.Kh1 Qxb4,



Boran Butorovic

and his queen escapes unharmed.

24...f5 25.Nh4 fxe4 26.Nxe4 Qe6 27.Qe3 Nf5?

Black collapses unexpectedly in a fair position. Also bad is 27...Rxc4? 28.Nxd6, but Black has good alternatives: 27...Qd7 or 27...Bxe4.

28.Nxf5 Bxf5 29.Nxd6 Qe7?

29...Qd7 is forced, but the loss of a pawn and the exchange is demoralizing enough. The rest is a blowout.

30.Nxf5 Qxb4 31.Qxe5 Qf8 32.Rf1 Re8 33.Nh6+ gxh6 34.Rxf8+ Rxf8 35.Rf1 Rfe8 36.Qf6 Rf8 37.Qxh6 Rxf1+ 38.Kxf1 Rf8+ 39.Kg1 Rc8 40.Qe6+ 1-0



Theunis Jansen Van Rensburg

The top-ranked middle school player took a tumble round 5, but finished strongly. On the other hand, the winner of this upset seemed jinxed by his success, scoring only 0.5 in the last three rounds. A seventh grader at Strack Intermediate in Spring (near Houston), Andrés has graciously shared his game commentary with the readers.

Notes by Andrés Suárez

English Opening A10

Andrés Suárez 1520

Matthew Bradford 1717

Tx. Middle Sschool 1997 (5)

1.c4 d5?

This doesn't gain control of the center; it loses a tempo by having to move the queen twice after the pawn exchange when I attack with the knight.

2.cxd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.g3 [or 4.d4] Nf6 5.Bg2 c6 6.Nf3

I don't like this. The right way is e3 and then the knight goes to e2. [More aggressive is 6.d4 followed by e4 and Nge2, answering 6...Bg4 with 7.f3.]

6...Bf5 7.d3 e6 8.Bf4 Nbd7 9.0-0 Be7 10.d4 0-0 11.Nh4 Bg6 12.Nxg6 fxg6[??]

If I had to pin down a losing move, this would be it. After 12...hxg6 White would have the bishop pair and pawn control of the center – but it would take a lot of technique to turn that into a point.

13.Qb3!

This wins me a pawn, either at b7 or e6 – he cannot defend both.

13...Nd5 14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.Qxb7 Nf6 16.Rac1 Nh5 17.Be5 Bf6 18.Bh3

Winning a second pawn. [Now if 18...Re8 19.Rc6!, etc. The third pawn (d5) cannot be far behind.]

18...Qe8 19.Qc6 Qd8 20.Bxe6+ Kh8 21.Qxd5

I want to trade queens now that I have a material advantage.

21...Qb6 22.Qb3 Qa6 23.Bc4 Qa5 24.Bxf6

Forced because of the position of the Black queen. This is good for me because I continue to be up in material. [Even if 24.Bd6 is playable, why complicate matters?]

24...Nxf6 25.Qb5 Qd8 26.Qc5 Ng4 27.Qd5 Qf6



28.Qe6!

This is even better than 28.e3!? Nxf2 29.Qg2! Qe7 30.Rxf2 Qxe3 31.Rcf1, which allows some token counterplay.

28...Qxd4 29.e3!

The point, winning a piece.

29...Nxe3 30.Qxe3 Qxb2 31.Qe2 Qb6 32.Rb1 Qd8 33.Qd3 Qe8 34.Rb5 Qc8 35.Qb3 h6 36.Bd3 Rb8 37.Qc4 Rxb5 38.Qxc8 Rxc8 39.Bxb5

He has two seconds on the clock and is a piece down. 1-0

Two Knights Defense C55

Justin Shih 1557

John Sneed 1714

Tx. Middle Sschool 1997 (8)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 Nxe4!?

A rare alternative to 4...exd4.

5.dxe5 Bc5?!

This gives up a piece for doubtful compensation. The book line is 5...Nc5 6.0-0 Be7 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Nd5 Ne6 9.Be3 += Sokolsky-Navrotsky, USSR 1944.



John Sneed

6.Qd5! Bxf2+ 7.Ke2 0-0 8.Qxe4 Bb6

Winning the piece was easy; now comes the hard part – consolidating the advantage. White can run into trouble with his exposed king, e.g. 9.Bd3 f5! 10.exf6?? Re8 →. Also unsatisfactory is 9.Ng5 g6 10.Qh4 h5, and the e5 pawn is weak.

A good approach is 9.Rd1 Re8 10.Bg5 Ne7 11.Nc3 Δ Nd5, or 9...d6 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.Bd3 f5 12.exf6 +.

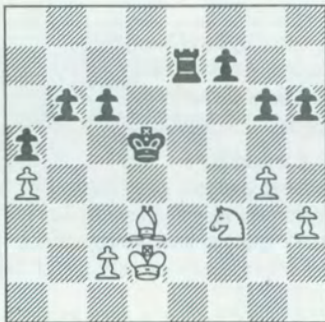
9.Be3 Bxe3 10.Qxe3 d6 11.Re1 Bg4 12.Kf1 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Nxe5 14.Qb3?

This tosses away what advantage White had left. He is still better after 14.Qe4 Nxc4 15.Qxc4 Qf6+ 16.Kg1 Qxb2 17.Nd2 ±.

14...Qh4 15.Rxe5 Qf4+ 16.Kg1 Qxe5 17.Qc3 Qc5+ 18.Kh1 Rae8 19.Nd2 Re3 20.Bd3 Qxc3 21.bxc3

Material is now balanced, with an edge to Black based on structure.

21...Rfe8 22.Rf1 Re1 23.Kg1 Rxf1+ 24.Kxf1 g6 25.Kf2 Kg7 26.Nf3 Kf6 27.g4 h6 28.c4 Kg7 29.Kg3 c6 30.Kf2 a6 31.a4 Re7 32.Kg3 Kf8 33.Kf2 Ke8 34.h3 Kd7 35.Nd2 Kc7 36.Nb3 b6 37.Nd2 a5 38.Nb3 Kd7 39.Nd2 Ke6 40.Nf3 d5 41.Ke3 Kd6+ 42.Kd2 Kc5 43.cxd5 Kxd5



44.Ng1?

The wrong plan, which ties the knight down to a passive post. Instead White should shut out the enemy king with 44.c3, also creating a prop for the knight: 44...Kc5 45.Nd4 Rb7 46.Be4 Rc7 47.Kc2 b5 48.Kb3, with roughly equal chances.

44.Kc5 45.Ne2 Kb4 46.Nc3 Rd7!

The squeeze is on! White must part with the a-pawn.

47.Nb1 Kxa4 48.c4 Kb3 49.h4 a4 50.h5 a3 51.Nc3 gxf5 52.gxf5 Rd8 53.c5 bxc5 54.Nxa2 Kxa2 55.Kc2 Rxd3 56.Kxd3 Kb3 57.Ke4 a2 58.Ke5 a1(Q)+ 59.Kd6 Qf6+ 60.Kxc5 Kc3 and ... 0-1

A curious footnote to the Middle School section is that a team of two won a team trophy! Leica and Pierce Tilton of Alamo Day School (homeschoolers) in San Antonio had a combined score of 12.5 points, which made the cut by placing 20th.

HIGH SCHOOL GAMES

Sicilian Dragon B78

Sandeep Shah 1465

Brian Foo 1116

Tx. High School 1997 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Re8 9.0-0-0 Nc6 10. Bc4 Ne5 11.Bb3 Bd7 12.g4 h5 13.gxf5 Nxf5 14.Bh6 Bh8 15.Rhg1 Rc8



16.Qg5! Bf6

16...Nf6 17.f4 Neg4 18.Qxg6+ mating; or 16...Bg7! 17.Bxg7 Nxf7 18.f4 Nc4 19.f5! e5 20.Ndb5 ±/+.

17.Qxh5 Qa5 18.Rxg6+ Nxg6 19.Qxa5 e5 20.Nf5 a6 21.Rxd6 Bd8 22.Rxg6+ Kh8 23.Bg7+ Kh7 24.Rh6+ 1-0

That afternoon Sandeep's teacher Igor Shtern showed him a trap in the Dragon. In the evening simul, McClintock walked right into it, losing in ten moves! Sandeep asked me not to publish the game score.

Scotch Gambit C44

Steven Grubbs 2021

Enrique Rios 1364

Tx. High School 1997 (4)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.c3 dxc3 6.Bxf7+!?

6.Nxc3 d6 7.Bg5 Nge7 8.Nd5 f6 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nxf6+ Kf8 11.Qc1! with comp for the piece – Keres.

6...Kxf7 7.Qd5+ Ke8

7...Kf8 8.Qxc5+ Qe7 9.Qxc3 [9. Qxe7+ ≠] Qxe4+ 10.Be3 d5 ∞ ECO.
8.Qxc5 cxb2 9.Bxb2 d6 10. Qh5+ Kf8 11.Ng5 Nh6



12.0-0!?

On 12.f4 Bg4 13.Qh4, the rejoinder 13...Nb4! (Δ Nc2/d3) would be an unpleasant surprise.

White could force a draw with 12.Qf3+ Kg8 (12...Nf5? 13.Nh3 +-) 13.Qb3+ Kf8 14.Qf3+ =.

12...Ne5 13.Bxe5 dxe5 14.Qf3+ Ke8 (14...Qf6!?) 15.Qh5+ Kf8 16. Qf3+ Ke8 17.Qg3 Qf6 18.Nf3 Nf7 19.Nc3 c6 20.Rab1 Rb8 21.Nd2 Be6 22.Qe3 b6 23.f4 exf4 24.Rxf4 Qe7 25.Qg3 Ne5 26.Rf2 Nd7 27.e5 Nc5 28.Nde4 Nb7 29.Nd6+ Kd7 30.Rd1 Kc7 31.Nce4



Black has defended very well to get this far!

31...Bd5?

The plausible 31...Rhf8? is met by 32.Qa3! with threats of Nb5+! and Qxa7. Best is 31...Rbf8! to answer 32.Qa3 with ...Kb8. Less clear is 31...Rbf8 32.Ng5 Bd5 33.Ndf7!, but White seems to hold an edge.

32.Rxd5!

Simpler than 32.Qa3 Qh4 (32... Qxe5 33.Rf5!) 33.Qxa7.

32...cxd5 33.Rf7 Qxf7 34.Nxf7 dxe4 35.e6+?!

35.Nxh8! +-. However, White's lapse does not affect the outcome.

35...Kc6 36.Nxh8 Rxb8 37. Qxg7 Rd8 38.Qxh7 Rd1+ 39.Kf2 e3+ 40.Ke2 Rd2+ 41.Kxe3 Rd8 42.g4 a5 43.Qe7 Rd6 44.Kf3 Nc5 45.Qe8+ Kd5 46.e7 Ne4 47.Qa8+ Rc6 48.e8(Q) 1-0

Trompovsky A45

Glen Boudreaux 1696

John Hendrick 2002

Tx. High School 1997 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 d5 4.f3 Nd6 5.Nc3

White often plays the modest but solid setup with Nd2 and c3.

5...c6

5...Nf5 6.Qd2 Nc6 7.0-0-0 e6 8. e4 dxe4 9.d5 e3 10.Qe1 exd5 11. Nxd5 Bd6 12.Bxd6 cxd6 13.g4 Nfe7 14.Qe3 0-0 ∞ R. Huerta-Garcia Gonzalez, Havana 1985.

6.e4 e6 7.Qe2!?

7.Nh3 Nd7 8.Nf2 f5?! 9.Qe2 favored White in Hort-Fleischman, Bern 1993; or 7.Bd3 b5 8.Bd6 Bd6 9.e5 Be7 10.f4 a6 11.Nce2 c5 12.c3 with play for both sides in Heindandes-Aronson, Moscow Olympiad 1994.

7...Nc4 8.exd5

If 8. 0-0-0, ...Qb6! is strong.

8...Nxb2!

Not falling for the trap 8... cxd5? 9.Nxd5! ±.

9.Bc1

9.Rb1 Qa5 10.Bd2 Bb4! 11.Nd1 Bxd2+ -/+.



Glen Boudreaux

9...Na4! 10.Nxa4 Qa5+ 11.c3 Qxa4 12.dxe6

12.dxc6 Nxc6 13.Qb5 Qxb5 14. Bxb5 Bd7 15.Ne2 Na5! =+.

12...Bxe6 13.Nh3

13. f4! Be7 14. Nf3.

13...Qa5 14.Bd2 Bd6 15.Ng5 0-0 16.Nxe6 Re8 17.Qd3 Rxe6+ 18.Be2 Qh5! 19.f4 Na6 20.Be3



20...Qa5?

Black will pay for putting his queen out of play. Better is 20... Qh4+ 21.g3 Qh3 22.Bf1 Qh5, and White has a long way to go before he is out of the woods:

(a) 23.Kf2? Rae8 24.Bd2 (24.Re1 Bxf4!! -+) c5 25.Re1 (25.d5? c4! 26.Qxc4 Bc5+ 27.Kg2 Re2+! -+) Rxe1 26.Bxe1 Qd5 27.Bg2 Qxa2+ -/+;

(b) 23.Bf1! Qh6 (23...Qh3 =) 24.Kf2 Rae8 25.Bd2 (25.Re1 Nc5!!) c5 with plenty of rope for White to hang himself: 26.f5? Bxg3+! (26...Qf6? 27.Bg5) 27.Kxg3 Re3+ 28.Bxe3 Rxe3+ 29.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 30.Kg2 Qd2+ 31.Kg1 Qxc3 -/+.

21.0-0 Rae8 22.Rf3 Bxf4 23.Bxf4 Rxe2 24.Be5!



White seizes the opportunity to divide Black's forces.

24...Qb5!

The exchange sac 24...R2xe5 25.dxe5 Qxe5 does not quite equalize.

If 24...Rxa2? 25.Raf1! and ...

(a) 25...f6 26.Rh3 g6 (26...h6 27.Rxh6! Re6 28.Qh7+ Kf8 29.Rxf6+! forcing mate) 27.Rxf6 Ra1+ 28.Kf2 Qa2+ 29.Kg3 and Black has no good defense against 30.Rxg6+, e.g. 29...Re6 30.Qf3 +, or 29...Re7 30.Rxg6+ Kf8 31.Qf5+ Qf7 32.Rf6 +.

(b) 25...Rf8 26.Bd6! Qg5 27.Rg3 Rd2 (27...Qd2 28.Rg7+! Kg7 29.Qg3+ ++) 28.Qb1 Qb5 29.Bxf8 Qxb1 30.Rxb1 Kf8 31.Rxb7 +.

25.Qf5 f6 26.Rb1 Qd5??

Black cannot afford to let a second rook join the attack. Necessary is 26...Rb2, when play takes a forcing character: 27.Rxb2 Qxb2 28.Qd7 Rf8 29.Qe6+ Kh8 30.Qe7 Qc1+

31.Rf1 Qe3+ 32.Kh1 Kg8 (32...Rg8 33.Bxf6!) 33.Qxb7! Qe2 (not 33...fxe5?? 34.Qb3+!) 34.Kg1 Qe3+ =.

27.Rxb7 R8xe5

Or 27...fxe5 28.Rxg7+ Kxg7 29.Qxf6+ Kg8 30.Rg3 mate.

28.Rxg7+!

1-0

28...Kxg7 29.Qxf6+ Kg8 30.Qf8 mate.

Pirc Defense B08

Steven Grubbs 2021

Glen Boudreaux 1996

Tx. High School 1997 (7)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bg5 0-0 6.Qd2 c6 7.Bh6 b5 8.Bxg7 Kxg7 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.Ne2 a6 11.Ng3 c5 12.c3

White's play has been simple and strong, keeping an edge while taking no chances.

12...Bb7 13.0-0 e5



14.Rfd1?!

A classic case of "wrong rook", as e4 will need more protection; therefore 14.Rad1 is indicated, with Rf1 to follow as needed.

An intriguing alternative is 14.Qg5 (Δ Nf5+) Qc7 15.Nh4, intending 16.f4 with attacking chances; but 15...Rae8 16.Rae1 Kh8 seems to keep the equilibrium.

14...exd4 15.cxd4 Re8 16.Qg5?

This involves a pawn sacrifice that was probably not intended. Better is 16.Re1, admitting the earlier mistake.

16...Bxe4 17.Bxe4 Nxe4 18.Nxe4 Rxe4 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Qd5 Re7 21.Ng5

White has a little pull for the pawn, but it is not enough. After 21.Re1 Ra7 22.Rxe7 Qxe7 23.Re1 Qf8, Black also holds it together.

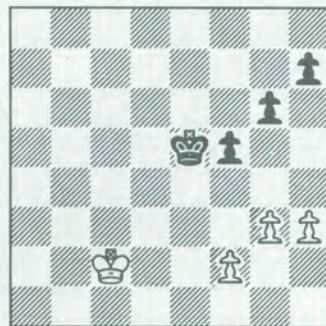
21...Qe8 22.h3 Re5?

This allows White to regain the pawn with 23.Qxf7+! Better is 22...h6 23.Nf3 c4 followed by ...Nf6.

23.Qxd7? Rxg5 24.Qxe8 Rxe8 25.Kf1 Rge5 26.Rd2 Re4 27.g3 R8e7 28.Rc1 c4 29.Ra1 f5 30.Rd6 Re2 31.a4 Rxb2 32.Rxa6 bxa4 33.R6xa4 Rc7 34.Rc1 c3 35.Rd4 c2

35...Kf6! increases Black's advantage without letting White's king approach the pawn.

36.Ke2 Rb1 37.Kd2 Rxc1 38.Kxc1 Kf6 39.Rd2 Ke5 40.Rxc2 Rxc2 41.Kxc2



41...f4??

This lapse cost Boudreaux a trip to Disney World. I exaggerate but slightly – the Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions is in Orlando this year. (He is still next in line if Grubbs gets sick.)

Black wins easily with 41...Ke4 42.Kd1 Kf3 43.Ke1 Kg2 44.h4 Kf3! 45.Kf1 h5 46.Kg1 f4 -+, or 45...f4 46.gxf4 h5! -+; but not 46...Kxf4?? 47.h5! g5 (47...gxh4 =) 48.h6 Kf5 49.Kg2 Kg6 50.Kg3 Kxh6 51.f4 =.

42.Kd3 g5 43.g4 h6 44.f3 Kd5

Draw



David John

King's Indian E70

John Hendrick 2002

David John 1910

Tx. High School 1997 (7)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.
Nge2 Nc6 5.d4 Bg7 6.Bg5

Another approach is 6.d5 Ne5 7.
Nd4, which White plays later in the
game. After the text Black should
throw in 6...h6! while he can, answer-
ing 7.Be3 with 7...Ng4.

6...0-0(?) 7. Qd2 a6 8.d5 Ne5 9.
Nd4 c5 10.Nc2

Better than 10.dxc6 Nxc6 with a
good Sicilian for Black. The knight
at e5 will get swatted back.

10...Rb8 11.a4 Qa5 12.Be2 Re8
13.0-0 e6? 14.f4 Ned7



Black has played reasonable
looking moves, yet here White can
strike a decisive blow with 15.e5!
dxe5 16.fxe5 Nh5 (16...Nxe5 17.
Bxf6) 17.g4 +-, trapping the knight.

15.Bf3? exd5 16.cxd5 c4

The game has taken on the char-
acter of a Modern Benoni where
Black has all his trumps – pressure
on the e4 pawn and a mobile queen-
side majority. The coming exchange
of queens does not help White.

17.Qe2 Qc5+ 18.Qe3 b5 19.
axb5 axb5 20.Qxc5 Nxc5 21.e5!?

The quiet 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Nb4
Bd4+ 23.Kh1 Bxc3 24.bxc3 Nxe4
25.Bxe4 Rxe4 26.Nc6 Rb7 27.Ra8
Re8 28.Na7 Bd7 is no help either.

21...dxe5 22.fxe5 Nfd7 23.e6
fxe6 24.dxe6 Nxe6 25.Bd5 b4
26.Na4 Ne5 27.Nc5 Kh8

27...Nf7? 28.Bf4 Nxf4 (28...Be5?
29.Bxe5 Nxe5 30.Nd4 +-) 29.Rxf4
Bf5 30.Ra7! Rf8 31.Ne6 c3 32.bxc3
b3 33.Na3 ±.

28.Bxe6 Bxe6 29.Ra7

29.Na6 Rbc8 30.Naxb4 Nd3 -/+.

29...Bf5 30.Nd4 Bd3 31.Bf6
Bxf6 32.Rxf6 Rf8 33.Rxf8+ Rxf8
34.Nxd3 Nxd3 35.Re7 Nxb2
36.Ne6 Ra8 37.Ng5 Nd3 38.h4 b3
39.Nxh7 b2 40.Nf6 b1(Q)+ 0-1

**Regional Champions
1996-97 school year**

Individual winners are listed for
each section (in tiebreak order if
applicable), then winning teams.

Region I (Panhandle)

No regional tournament was held
this year. No teams from Amarillo
or Lubbock went to State.

Region II (North Central)

HS Leah Driggers
Team Peace Academy
MS John Sneed*
Salvador Luna*
Team J.P. Elder
ES Adam Driggers

Team W.J. Turner
PS Phillip Sneed
Team W.J. Turner

Region III (Northeast)

HS Steven Grubbs
Team L.V. Berkner
MS Matthew Bradford
Team St. Mark's
ES T.C. Jansen Van Rensburg
Aaron Weinburg
Kevin Betz
Team Valley Ranch
PS Alex Marches
Team HEAD (homeschoolers)

Region IV (West)

The event was held in Merkel, with
ten (10) players and no teams.
HS Scott Dodd
MS Laura Owens
ES Royce Owens III

Region V (Southeast)

HS Suzanne Rivoire
David John
Team Bellaire
MS Justin Shih
Andrés Suárez
Team Lanier
ES Matthew Koller
Team Brookwood

Region VI (South Central)

HS Ryan Park
Team LBJ
MS Tyler Herschap
Team St. Gerard
ES Michael Ritter
Team Austin Area Homeschoolers

Region VII (Gulf/Valley)

HS Andy Zamora
Team Edinburg
MS Joseph Molina
Team Oliveira
ES Jorge Cano
Team Russell
PS Kevin Lane
Team Russell

* Tiebreaks didn't apply due to pair-
ing error – Al Woolum, TD.

Chess Tournaments and School Attendance

by J.J. Guajardo

Early this March it appeared that some Brownsville chess teams might not be competing at the Texas Scholastic Championship. The issue in question: the district's policy regarding absences for students attending chess tournaments. While most of the state would be enjoying spring break, it was clear that the Brownsville teams would have to travel back on Monday (a regular school day) because of how far the tournament was.

The school district was questioning the attendance policy, and whether to give students excused absences, unexcused absences or whether to count them at all. The issue came up for several reasons. To begin with, the question of UIL came up again, and since chess is not a UIL activity some administrators wanted to be clear on the issue of attendance. *[The University Interscholastic League, or UIL, regulates scholastic competitions in the state of Texas.]*

While this may seem like a trivial matter to many, the consequences for the students were very important. If a student's absence is counted as unexcused, that student gets a zero for the all work missed that day, and is not allowed to make up the work. Many of our students are on the honor roll, are in the top five or ten percent, or are in the Junior National Honor Society. Hence, the issue of an unexcused absence for them becomes a very important matter with consequences that affect them directly in a negative way. Another reason why this issue probably came up was because of the number of scholastic players in Brownsville, and because this issue affected so many different schools.

In Dallas I held conversations with many other coaches, sponsors and parents, and I found out some very interesting information regarding this topic. Some of the school districts *do not* grant excused absences to their students for attending chess tournaments, and some of the teams would be traveling back to their home towns right after the awards ceremony. Some of the sponsors told me they would be arriving around two or three in the morning. They felt frustrated about their school districts not bending on the issue of attendance and unexcused absences. In essence, they were putting their students in a dangerous situation by having to drive back to their home towns in the dead of night (and a foggy night at that.) Other school districts

were in the exact opposite position. One district in particular did not even count their students absent, and their sponsor told me that their administration viewed this tournament as a field trip. Not only were they supported by their district with the attendance policy, but their school district even chartered a bus for them and paid for it.

Where does this leave us? Well, for one it tells us that scholastic chess is literally in the hands of sponsors who are either lucky enough to be working for enlightened administrations, or unlucky enough to be working for, shall we say, "enlightenly challenged" administrations.

My conversations with these coaches brought up more questions than they answered. The old question about UIL, for one, is a topic which was discussed passionately among coaches and sponsors. It is the opinion of many that until chess becomes a UIL event we will continue to struggle with pockets in Texas where chess is prevalent and others where there is no chess at all. Also, with chess in UIL there would be no luck of the draw as to the administration you work for in your school district, as every district would be compelled to include chess as part of their UIL teams. The feeling is that UIL recognition and financing could spark growth in chess as never seen before.

Another school of thought tells us that UIL involvement would only complicate matters for scholastic chess in Texas. Many fear that UIL will come in and take over completely, and many wonder if this truly is a good thing. Another question concerning UIL involvement brings the issue of where that would leave TCA and USCF as far as scholastic chess is concerned. Who would have control of the Texas Scholastic? Would there be two championships? Etc., etc., etc. These are but a few of the issues concerning UIL. As I said, it's a can of worms that at the moment is half open and half closed. *(Continued next page.)*

Welcome to the newest section of Texas Knights. In "Coaches' Corner" we will be discussing issues of interest to all players, not just coaches and organizers. There will be articles dealing with various USCF rules, hints and tips for organizers/coaches, as well as questions and anecdotes from new and old coaches. If you have an idea that you would like to write an article on, then by all means please submit it to me. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about practically any topic dealing with chess and/or tournaments, write, call, or e-mail me at 2109 Ave. T, Huntsville, TX 77340-4930; (409) 291-7625; fmarler@swweb.net

— Forrest Marler

TCA Business Meeting

As for me, I like it the way it is right now. Chess is a TEA (Texas Education Agency) approved extracurricular activity, and in my opinion TCA has done a fine job in helping scholastic chess. The number of participants over the last three years at the Texas Scholastic is proof of the tremendous growth that we have seen, and I foresee continued growth with this tournament eventually reaching over one thousand participants.

How can we avoid the pitfalls concerning attendance policies and the question of whether chess is a viable extracurricular activity? Let propose a challenge to all of the scholastic chess programs in Texas.

Since the almighty TAAS test is the sole measure of anything concerning the schools in Texas, I would like to issue a challenge all the scholastic programs, from kindergarten to high school.

In 1996 at Russell Elementary, every student in the chess team that took the TAAS test passed all portions of the test. That's 100%!

I hereby challenge every program to challenge their students to pass all portions of the TAAS [Texas Assessment of Academic Skills] test. In this way, no school district can ever question the significance of chess to our students, our schools and our communities.

What finally happened in Brownsville? In the end, our school district did eventually grant all of the students permission to attend the tournament, granted all of the students excused absences, and even went so far as awarding professional leave for those coaches and sponsors who would be traveling with the students. The day was saved and the rest, as they say, is history.



J.J. Guajardo, Sr. is coach of the Russell Elementary chess team, who this March won their fifth straight title as Texas elementary team champions. He can be reached at e-mail at Jaguardo@aol.com

The Texas Chess Association held its fourth annual spring business meeting on March 16 at the Harvey Hotel in Addison, site of the Texas Scholastic Chess Championship. The meeting began at 8:40 a.m. with the following officers attending: Selby Anderson, president; Larry Young, vice-president; and Forrest Marler, secretary. Anderson made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous TCA meeting, and to accept them as published in *Texas Knights*. The motion was accepted by acclamation.

Anderson then read a TCA financial statement as prepared by TCA treasurer Greg Wren, who was unable to attend the meeting. Anderson made a motion to accept the statement, which was seconded by Brenda Hardesty. The motion was accepted by acclamation.

Anderson announced that bids for TCA Major Events (Southwest Open, State Championship and State Scholastic) in the year 2000 were due by May 1.

Under new business, Anderson proposed an amendment to Article IX, Section 1.E (Texas Scholastic Championship), to add the following: **Only Texas residents or students enrolled in secondary or primary schools (including home schools) in Texas may play in this event.** Larry Young seconded the amendment. It PASSED by acclamation.

Anderson then read an amendment by Luis Salinas, also affecting the Texas Scholastic, which would **change the Primary section from K-2 to K-3.** He noted that this was the grade assignment used at national tournaments. Gary Gaiffe asked if this would allow pre-kindergarten children to play in the Primary Section. Salinas said that it was generally understood that "pre-K" players would not be denied entry into the Primary or Elementary Sections. The amendment was called to a vote by Larry Young as there was no one arguing against the amendment. Anderson seconded this and the motion PASSED by acclamation.

Anderson then read a motion by Manuel Espino, that **regionals should follow the "state guidelines"** as regards assigning grades to sections. On a point of order he declared this moot since the regional scholastics were not in the Bylaws. Anderson then proposed an amendment to Article IX, Section 1 (Regular TCA Tournaments), to add the following: **M. Regional Scholastic Championships. These shall be held in each of the Regions of the Association, and shall precede the Texas Scholastic Championship within the school year. These shall be organized according to the same guidelines as the Texas Scholastic.**

(Continued on page 31)

Texas Rapid

Gallagher, Gelman tie

The Texas Rapid Championship this year boasted a Texas state champion (Austin's Omer Haldun Unalmis), two former Texas champions (Jim Gallagher and Selby Anderson) and the current San Antonio champion (Eric Dimazana). There were two more strong Austin players (Mack Novosad and Mikhail Langer) and an unknown quantity from Houston, Mike Gelman. Almost a third of the field were rated over 2000.

"Action" chess lived up to its name with the usual thrills and spills. Langer was walking all over eighth grader Richard Lopez (1297) when he allowed a mate in one. Gallagher allowed a simple knight fork winning the exchange for me, but he pulled off a swindle later when I got into time pressure.

Haldun was knocked off top board by the newcomer Gelman in round four. A furious battle for first took place in the final round between Gelman and Gallagher, during which both overlooked a mate in one during the final moves, and perpetual check decided the outcome (see game below.)

Gelman, who goes by Michael on the USCF list (Mikhail on his Texas driver's license) is a native of Moscow who has lived in this country six months. Reportedly he has not lost a single rated game since moving to Houston!

Kenneth Artz of Dallas finished with a score of 1.5 out of 5 - not exactly par for a Class A, but being the only one in his class, he won \$90! The same sort of thing happened in Class D in the Fiesta Open. We plan to address this by replacing class prizes at local tournaments with U2000, U1800, etc.

Greg Wren directed 33 players.



Jim Gallagher and Michael Gelman

PRIZE WINNERS

Ist + Expert: Jim Gallagher, Michael Gelman, 4.5. *Class A:* Kenneth Artz, 1.5. *Class B:* Aaron Golden, Anthony Schleizer, 3. *Class C:* John Hendrick, 4. *D/E/Unr.:* Richard Lopez, Trong Nguyen, 3.

French Advance C02

O. Haldun Unalmis 2378Q

Michael Gelman 2097Q

Texas Rapid 1997 (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.a3 c4 7.Qc2 Bd7 8.Be3 Nge7 9.Nbd2 Na5 10.g3 Nf5 11.Bh3 Nxe3 12.fxe3 Be7 13.0-0 f5 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.e4 0-0-0 16.Kh1 Kb8 17.Rae1 Be8 18.Rf2 Bg6 19.Qc1 e5 20.exd5 exd4 21.Re6 Qc5 22.Rxf6 dxc3 and ... 0-1

QGD Tarrasch D34

Michael Gelman 2097Q

Jim Gallagher 2205Q

Texas Rapid 1997 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bg4 11.h3 Bh5 12.Bb2 Re8 13.Nf5 Bf8 14.g4 Bg6 15.Ng3 d4 16.Nb5 d3 17.e3 Ne4 18.Nxe4 Bxe4 19.Nd4 Qd5 20.Bxe4 Qxe4 21.Nxc6

bxc6 22.Rc1 e5 23.Rc4 Qg6 24.Qf3 Rad8 25.Rd1 Bd6 26.Kg2 Bb8 27.e4 d2 28.Qe2 Qg5 29.Bc3 Qf4 30.e5 Rd4 31.Bxd4 cxd4 32.Qxd2 Qxe5 33.f4 Qe4+ 34.Kg1 Bxf4 35.Qg2 Be3+ 36.Kh1 Qg6 37.Rf1 h5 38.Rc6 Qg5 39.gxh5 Qxh5 40.Rd6 g5 41.Rd7 a5 42.Rdxf7 Qxf7 43.Rxf7 Kxf7 44.Qb7+ Kf6 45.Kg2 Re5 46.Kf3 Kf5?? (46...Ke6) 47.Qc8+?? (47.Qf7 mate) Kf6 48.Qf8+ Kg6 49.Qg8+ Kf6 50.a3 Bf4 51.b4? (51.Qd8+ ±) axb4 52.axb4 Re3+ 53.Kg4 Rg3+ 54.Kh5 Rxb3+ 55.Kg4 Rg3+ 56.Kh5 Rh3+ Draw

King's Indian E79

Selby Anderson 2334Q

Eric Dimazana 2159Q

Texas Rapid 1997 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.Be2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nc6 9.Be3 Ng4 10.Bxg4 Bxg4? 11.Nxc6 Qd7 12.Nxe7+ Kh8 13.Nxg6+ fxg6 14.Qd3 Rac8 15.0-0 Qc6 16.Bd4 Qxc4 17.Bxg7+ Kxg7 18.Qxd6 Rcd8 19.Qe7+ Kg8 20.h3 Be2 21.Nxe2 Qxe2 22.Qe6+ Rf7 23.Rac1 Rd2 24.Rc8+ Kg7 25.Qe5+ Kh6 26.Qg5+ Kg7 27.f5 Rf6 28.e5 Qxf1+ 29.Kxf1 Rxf5+ 30.Qxf5 gxf5 31.Rc7+ Kg6 32.Rxb7 and ... 1-0

Fiesta Open

Anderson, Dimazana tie

A relatively small but strong field of 31 players competed at the Fiesta Open, held March 8-9 at the Grange Hall in Leon Valley. Eric Dimazana and I tied for first in the Open with 3.5 each. In the Reserve, Daniel Salazar from Dallas tied with Diego Gamboa for first.

Lower rated players stayed away in droves; the fact that the Texas Scholastic was just a week away only partly explains this. There was a total of two players in Class C, one in D (Fleener netted \$12.50 over the entry fee just for showing up), and three in E/Unr.

PRIZE WINNERS

OPEN: 1st-2nd: Selby Anderson, Eric Dimazana, 3.5. *Expert:* Mich Vergara, 3. *Class A:* Ray Smith, 2.5. **RESERVE:** 1st-2nd: Daniel Salazar, Diego Gamboa, 3.5. *Class C:* Michael LaBelle, 3. *Class D:* James Fleener, 1. *D/Unr.:* Robert Liva, 2.

Greg Wren directed for the San Antonio Chess Club. A total of \$600 was paid out in prizes, or 80% of the advertised total.

QGD Semi-Slav D45

Mitch Vergara 2134
Raymond Smith 1805

Fiesta Open (1)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4. d4 c6 5.e3 Bb4 6.Qb3 Bxc3+?! 7. bxc3 0-0 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.Ba3 Re8 10.Bd6?!

White should clear lines for his bishops with 10.cxd5 exd5 11.c4.

10...dxc4 11.Qxc4? Nb6 12. Qc5 Na4 13.Qe5 Nxc3 14.0-0 Nce4 15.Bxe4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 Qxd6

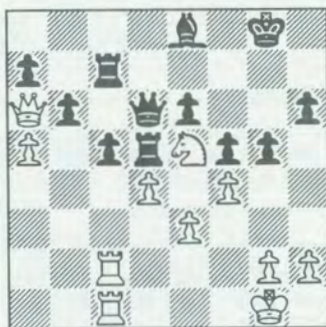
White has some comp for the pawn in his good knight vs. bad

bishop.

17.Ng5 f5 18.Qh4 h6 19.Qh5 Qe7 20.Nf3 Qf7 21.Qh3 Rd8 22. Ne5 Qf6 23.f4 Bd7 24.Rf3 Be8 25. Rc1 b6 26.Rf2

The c-pawn is taboo. I might have tried 26.g4!? for intimidation, but Black holds his own with 26... fxc4 27.Nxc4 Qf5 28.Rg3 Kh7 -/+, or 28. Nxc6+!?! gxc6 29. Qxc6 Bg6 30.Rg3 Kf7 31.Rxc6 Rac8 +.

26...Rac8 27.Rfc2 c5 28.Qf3 Rd5 29.Qe2 Qe7 30.Qa6 Rc7 31.a4 Qd6 32.a5 g5!



Black has seized the initiative. The knight at e5 is no longer such a rock of strength.

33.axb6 Qxb6 34.Qf1 Kg7 35.g4 Bg6 36.fxc5 hxc5 37.Rb1 Qd6 38. Nxc6

The bishop was getting too strong, and the knight's support too weak.

38...Kxc6 39.Rb8 cxd4 40.Rf2 dxe3 41.gxf5+ exf5 42.Re2 Rd2 43.Rg8+ Rg7 44.Rxc7+ Kxc7 45. Qa1+ Qd4 46.Qxd4+ Rxd4 47. Rxe3 Kf6 48.Ra3 Rd7 49.Ra5 g4 50.Kg2 Kg5 51.Kg3 Rd3+!?

Or 51...Rf7 and Black's king can come around to support the a-pawn, by retreating to g8 and crossing to b6. If White captures the f5 pawn, he stops the a-pawn but loses on the kingside.

52.Kg2 Kf4!? (52...Rd7) 53. Rxa7 Rd2+ 54.Kg1 Ke3



55.Ra3+ Rd3 56.Ra2?!

A sterner test of Black's technique is 56.Ra1 f4 57.Re1+ Kf3 58. Rf1+ Ke4 59.Re1+ Re3 60.Ra1 Re2! 61.Ra4+ Kf3 62.Ra3+ Re3 63.Ra1 g3! 64.Rf1+ Kg4 65.hxc3 Kxc3! (reaching position 304a in *Basic Chess Endings*) 66.Ra1 f3 67. Kf1 Rb3 68.Rc1 Rb2 69.Ra1 Rh2 +.

56...Kf3?!

56...f4 is more incisive: 57.Ra1 Ke2, etc. - but White allows a transposition.

57.Ra1?!

Again, rook checks are the key to making the win difficult: 57.Rf2+ Ke4 58.Re2+ Re3 59.Ra2 f4 60. Ra4+ Kf3 61. Ra1 g3! - see note to White's 56th.

57...f4 58.Rb1 Ke2 59.Rb2+ Rd2 60.Rb4 Rd1+ 61.Kg2 f3+ 62. Kg3 Rg1+ 63. Kh4 f2 0-1

Sicilian Dragon B79

Jesse Vasquez 1748
Juan Carrizales 1516

Fiesta Open (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Bc4 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Be3 Bd7 9.Qd2 Nc6 10.0-0 Ne5 11.Bb3 Qa5 12.Kb1 Rfc8 13. h4 Nc4 14.Bxc4 Rxc4 15.Nb3 Qc7 16.Nd5?

Up to this point both players have been playing by the book. Better here is 16.Bd4 (16.h5!? Rxc3! ∞/=) Be6 17.h5! a5 18.hxc6 hxc6 19.a4 with a slight edge for White.

16...Nxd5 17.exd5 Bf5

Here is the problem with 16.Nd5: the c2 pawn falls by force.

**18.Rc1 Rc8 19.Nd4 Bd7?**

The bugaboo of opposite color bishops (or endgame phobia?) scares many players from converting their positional advantage. Hey, there are rooks on the board! Correct is 19...Bxd4 20.Bxd4 Rxc2 21.Rxc2 Qxc2+ 22.Qxc2 Rc2 23.Bxa7 (23.g4?? Rh2+) Rxc2+ 24.Kal Rd2 +.

20.h5 b5 21.hxg6 fxg6 22.g4 b4 23.Nb3 a5 24.Bd4! Rxd4

Already a defensive sacrifice – Black is squirming after 24...e5 25.dxe6 Bxe6 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.Nd4.

25.Nxd4 Qc4 26.Ne6?

After 26.Ne2 I don't see what Black has accomplished.

26...Bxe6 27.dxe6 Qxe6 28.Rce1 Qf6 29.Qd5+ Kh8?

29...Kf8 30.c3 bxc3 and lights out.

**30.Rxh7+!**

A thematic sac in the Dragon, even if (as in this case) it is forced just to keep White in the game a while longer.

30...Kxh7 31.Rh1+ Bh6 32.g5 Qf4 33.Rxh6+ Kg7 34.Rh1 Rc5 35.Qe6 Qxg5 36.f4 Qf6 37.Qd7 Rf5 38.a3 bxa3 39.bxa3 Rxf4 40.Qh3

Black's technical task won't be easy with all the queen checks.

40...Rf5 41.Qh8+ Kf7 42.Rh7+ Ke6 43.Qc8+ Ke5 44.Qc3+ Ke6 45.Qc8+ Kd5 46.Qb7+ Kc4 47.Qe4+ Qd4 48.Qe2+ Kc3??

Walking into a forced mate. Black is winning with 48...Kc5 49.Rxe7 Re5! -/+.

49.Rh3+**1-0***Sicilian Rauzer B63***Selby Anderson 2300****Thomas Patton 2166***Fiesta Open (2)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Nxd4

It is customary to delay this exchange until after castling. I try to take advantage of Black's move order.

8.Qxd4 Be7 9.Bb5+!? Bd7 10.Bxd7+

Or 11.0-0!? a6.

10...Qxd7 11.0-0 b5?

Better is 11...Qc6 or 11...a6.

12.e5 dxe5 13.Qxe5 Qc6 14.Qxb5 Rc8 15.Bxf6! gxf6

Forced, since 15...Bxf6 16.Rd6 Qxb5 17.Nxb5 loses the a-pawn. The point of the exchange at f6 is not to double pawns (a negligible factor) but to gain rook access to the seventh rank.

16.Rd3 f5 17.Rhd1 a6 18.Qxc6+ Rxc6 19.Rd7 h5 20.Ra7 Bf6 21.Ne2 h4 22.Rdd7 0-0 23.c3 Be5 24.Nd4 Rb6 25.Nf3 Bf6 26.Rab7 Rc6 27.Nd4 Rcc8 28.Kc2?!

A little inaccuracy before time control (28.Ra7 Ra8 29.Rxf7!).

28...Be5 29.g3 Bf6 30.Ra7 Ra8**31.Rxf7!****1-0**

31...Bxd4 32.cxd4 Rxa7 33.Rxa7 Rc8+ 34.Kd3 hxg3 35.hxg3 Rc6 36.b4 and the 2:1 majority decides.

*Sicilian Paulsen B49***Stephen Cheyney 2121****Eric Dimazana 2248***Fiesta Open (2)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.f4 a6 7.Be3 b5

Other good moves are 7...Bb4, 7...d6 and 7...Na5.

8.Be2

8.Nxc6 Qxc6 9.Be2 Ba3! is a line that got thoroughly discussed in the 1960s.

8...Bb7 9.Bf3

9.a3 Nxd4 (9...Rc8; 9...Nf6) 10.Qxd4 Ne7 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Qd2 Be7 13.Rad1 d6 14.f5 Ne5 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.Kh1 Rf8 17.Bd4 Bf6 = Reisse-Maulovic 1963.

9.Nxc6?! Bxc6 10.Bf3 b4 11.Ne2 Nf6 12.Ng3 d5 =+ Robatsch-Janosevic, Maribor 1967.

9...Rc8

9...Na5 10.0-0 Nc4 11.Bc1 Bc5 = Littlewood-Penrose, England 1962.

10.e5?!

The idea must be to play Ne4 later, but it is not practicable. The position is equal after 10.a3 Na5 11.0-0 Nc4 as in Klavin-Koblenc,

USSR 1963 (by transposition from 9.a3 Rc8 10.Bf3.)

10...Nh6 11.Nce2?!

A futile attempt to keep control over f5. But on 11.0-0 Nxd4 12. Bxd4 (12.Bxb7 Nxc2! -/+) Nf5 14. Bf2 b4 15. Ne2 Bc5! (Δ ...Nh4 -+) White is in trouble also. Or 11.Ne4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Qxc2 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Bxb7 Bb4+.

11...Nb4 12.c3 Bxf3 13.Nxf3 Nd5 14.Bd2 Nf5 15.Ned4 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 d6 17.Qe2 Qc4 18.Qg4 g6 19.Kf2

Cheyney had started to castle, but Dimazana pointed out that Black controlled f1, and invoked touch move. In any event White's game is unpleasant.

19...h5 20.Qf3 dxe5 21.fxe5 Bg7 22.Rhe1 b4 23.Rac1 bxc3 24. bxc3 Qxa2 25.Rc2 Qc4 26.Qe4 0-0 27.Kg1 Rfd8 28.Rf1 Rd7 29.Ra1 Ne7 30.Qe3??

After this White could resign.

30...Rxd4 31.cxd4 Qxc2 32.h3 Nf5 33.Qe1 Qd3 34.Kh1 Qxd4 35. Ra5 Ng3+ 36.Qg3 Qxd2 37.Rxa6 h4 38.Qg4 Rc1+ 39.Kh2 Be5+ 40. Qg3 hxg3 mate 0-1

Nimzo-Indian E40

John Patty 2200

John Hendrick 2002

Fiesta Open (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 Bxc3+

Rare but not unheard of: Black sacs a tempo for a Saemisch (4.a3) position.

5.bxc3 b6 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.e4 d6 8.Ne2 Na5 9.Ng3 Ba6 10.0-0 h5?

Better is 10...Qd7 11.Bg5 (11.e5? dxe5 12.dxe5 0-0-0! -/+) Ng8! (11... Bxc4 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Nh5) 12.Qe2 Qa4 13.Nh5 Kf8 ∞ .

11.Bg5! Qd7 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13. Nxb5 Rh6 14.Qf3 0-0-0 15.Nxf6 Qe7 16.e5 Bb7 17.Be4 dxe5 18. dxe5 Qc5+ 19.Bxb7+ Nxb7 20.

Rad1 Qxe5 21.Rxd8+ Kxd8 (21... Nxd8 22.Qa8 mate) 22.Ng4 1-0

QGD Slav D15

Mark McCue 1911

Domingo Gonzalez 1696

Fiesta Open (2)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c6 3.d4 d5 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.e4 b5 6.a4?! (6.e5; 6.Qe2) b4 7.Na2 Nxe4 8.Bxc4 (8.Nxb4 c5!) e6 9.0-0 Ba6?? (9...a5; 9...Nd6) 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qe2 b3 12.Qxe4 1-0

Sicilian Scheveningen B80

Juan Carrizales 1516

Diego Gamboa 1633

Fiesta Open (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e6 7. Be3 Qc7 8.Qd2 Bd7 9.0-0-0 Nc6 10.Be2

More to the point is 10.g4.

10...Be7 11.g4 h6 12.h4 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 b5 14.g5 Nh5 15.f4 e5!



16.fxe5?

16.Nd5! exd4 17.Nxc7+ Kd8 18. Nxa8 dxc3 19.Nb6 Nxf4! ∞ (but not 19...Ng3 20.Rhe1 Nxe2+ 21. Rxe2 Bg4 22.Re3 Bd1 23.Kd1 hxg5 24.hxg5 \pm).

16...Ng3! 17.exd6 Qxc3! -+

A pleasing fork trick decides matters by winning a piece.

18.Qxc3 Nxe2+ 19.Kb1 Nxc3+ 20.bxc3 Bd8 21.e5 hxg5 22.hxg5

Rxb1 23.Rxb1 Be6 24.Rh8 Kd7 25. g6 Rc8 26.Bd4 Ba5 27.Rh7 Rg8 28.gxf7 Bxf7 29.Rh1 Kc6 30.Re1 Be6 31.Kb2 Bb6 32.a3 g5 33.Rd1 Bxd4 34.Rxd4 g4 35.c4 g3 36.Rd1 g2 37.Rg1 bxc4 38.c3 Rg5 39.Kc2 Bd5 0-1

English Opening A34

Jim Rohrbaugh 2170

Selby Anderson 2300

Fiesta Open (3)

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4

A sharp, difficult line. I defended 5.d4 cxd4 6.Qxd4 Nxc3 7.Qxc3 twice at Pinfork #4 in Dallas.

5...Nb4 6.Bb5+ N8c6 7.d4 cxd4 8.a3 dxc3 9.axb4?

A touch-move error. We both had studied 9.Qxd8+ Kxd8 10.axb4 cxb2 11.Bxb2 with debatable comp for the pawn. A computer defeated a GM after 11...Bd7 12.0-0 Ke8 13. Rfd1 f6 14.Ba4 e5 15.b5 Nd8 16. Rac1 Ne6 -/+ (Rohde-WChess, Harvard Cup Challenge 1994.)

What is surprising is that even with the loss of tempi from the text, White has a lot of pressure.

9...Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 cxb2 11. Bxb2 Bd7 12.Ke2! e6

Any pawn grab runs the risk of activating White's pieces, e.g., 12... Nxb4 13.Bxd7+ Kxd7 14.Rhb1! ...

(a) 14...a5 15.Bc3 e6 16.Ne5+ Kc7 17.Rc1! Kb6 18.Nd7+ Kb5 19. Bxg7! \pm ;

(b) 14...Nc6 15.Ne5+ Nxe5 16. Bxe5 b6 17.Rxb6 axb6 18.Rxa8 +=.

13.Rhd1 f6 14.Bd4 Bxb4

Possibly safer is 15...a6 15.Bc5 Bxc5 16.bxc5 0-0-0. I believed that White couldn't snatch the a-pawn.

15.Bxa7! Ke7

15...Rxa7?! 16.Bxc6 Rxa1 17. Bxd7+ (17.Rxa1 Bxc6 18.Ra8+ Kd7 19.Rxb8 Bxe4 =+) Ke7 18.Rxa1 Kxd7 19.Rb1 =.

16.Be3 Rbc8 17.Rab1 Bd6 18. Rb2

With the transparent threat of Rbd2.

18...Be8 19.Nd2 Be5 20.Rbb1 Na5! 21.Bxe8 Kxe8 22.Rdc1 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Kd7 24.f4 Bc7 25.Kd3 Nc6 26.Nc4?!

Time pressure affects White's final moves. Better was 26.Rb1.

26...b5 27.Nd2 Ra3+ 28.Rc3?? Nb4+ (29.Kd4 Bb6+, etc.) 0-1

Dutch Defense A80

Eric Dimazana 2248

John Patty 2200

Fiesta Open (3)

1.Nf3 e6 2.d4 f5 3.g3 b6

3...b5!? 4.a4 b4 5.c4 Nf6 6.Bg2 Bb7 7.0-0 Be7 8.b3 0-0 9.Bb2 Qe8 10. Nbd2 d6 = Jazbek-Petkovsek, Slovakia 1993. Usual is 3...d5.

4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.c4 Be7 7.d5!

Sharper than 7.b3 0-0 8.Bb2, as played by Sarkisian at the Southwest Open. The text suggests that 3...b6 may be a lemon.

7...0-0 8.Nc3 exd5 9.Nd4 Ne4 10.Nxd5 Bxd5

An unpleasant choice, but White was threatening Nxf5.

11.cxd5 Nd6 12.Bf4 Na6 13. Rc1 Rc8 14.Qc2 g6 15.a3 Nc5 16. b4 Ncb7 17.h4

Normal moves ensure an edge to White, but a real shot is 17.Nc6! dxc6 18.dxc6 Na5 19.bxa5 ±.

17...Bf6 18.Rfd1 Qe7 19.Bf3 Rfe8 20.Qd3 Qg7 21.Rc2 h6



22.Nb5 g5

Black is bound to lose a pawn sometime, so he seeks opposite color bishops. (22...Nxb5 23.Qxb5 Nd6 24.Qa6 Be5 25. Bxe5 Qxe5 26. Rdc1 f4 27.g4 ±.)

23.hxg5 hxg5 24.Bxd6 Nxd6 25.Nxd6 cxd6 26.Qxf5 Rxc2 27. Qxc2 g4 28.Be4 Bd4 29.Kg2 Qe5

According to Dimazana, Patty had been blitzing out moves to make time control, and had just six seconds left for his 30th. Eric took his time, and calmly pushed a pawn. Then John started to think . . .

30.f3

1-0 (time)

English Opening A34

Thomas Patton 2166

John Hendrick 2002

Fiesta Open (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4

This way of fighting the Sicilian takes it into English territory.

3...Nc6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Be2 d5 6. exd5 exd5 7.d4 cxd4

ECO gives 7...Be7 8.Be3 cxd4 9. Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 dxc4 11. Qxd8+ Bxd8 12.Bc4 0-0 13.0-0 a6 (13...Bd7 14.Rfd1 Bc6 15.Nb5 Bb6 16.Bxb6 axb6 17.f3 += Ivanchuk-Anand, Manila 1992) 14.Rfd1 (14. a4 Bd7 =) b5 15.Be2 Bb7 ∞ Anand.

8.Nxd4 Bb4!?

8...dxc4 9.Nxc6 Qxd1+ 10.Nxd1 bxc6 11.Bxc4 Bb4+ 12.Bd2 Bxd2+ 13.Kxd2 += Gavrikov-Sveshnikov, Yerevan 1982;

8...Bc5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bg5 Be6 13.Bf3 Rb8 14.b3 d4 15.Na4 Bd6 16.Qd3 += Cvetkovic-Gligoric, Yugoslavia 1991.

9.Nxc6

The less committal 9.0-0, keeping the brakes on the d5 pawn, is simpler.

9...bxc6 10.0-0 d4! 11.Na4

11.Qa4!? Qb6 12.Bf3 (12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.cxd5 Bd7) Bd7 13.Re1+

Be7 (13...Kf8 14.a3) 14.Nd1 Rc8 15.Bg5 c5 =.

11...Bf5 12.Bg5 Be7 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Bd3

Desirable was 14.Nc5 first: 14... Qb6 (14...0-0 15.Bd3) 15.Nd3 0-0 16.b3 (16. c5!?) c5 17.Bg4 Bg6 18.Bh5 =.

14...Bxd3 15.Qxd3 0-0 16.Rfe1 Qa5 17.b3 Rfe8 18.Kf1 Rad8 19. Rad1 Qc7 20.g3 h5 21.h4 Qd7 22. Qf3 Qh3+ 23. Kgl d3!

Taking advantage of the knight's absence from the center.



24.Nc5

White's queen cannot leave guard duty over the passed d-pawn: 24.Qxc6 Rxe1+ 25.Rxe1 Qg4! 26. Re8+ Rxe8 27. Qxe8+ Kh7 28.Qe1 Qe2 +, or 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Qxc6 Re2 26.Qg2 Qf5 27.Qa8+ Kh7 28. Qxa7 d2 +.

24...Rxe1+ 25.Rxe1 d2 26.Rd1 Be7?

26...Bxh4! 27.Qxh5 Rd4! 28.Qf3 Bg5 29.Ne4 (29.Qxc6?? Qg4 +) Bh6 30.Qe2 Qe6 and the d2 pawn continues to be a thorn in White's side.

27.Ne4 Bb4 28.a3 Bxa3?

28...Be7 29.Rxd2 Rxd2 30.Nxd2 Bxa3 31.Qxc6 ±.

29.Rxd2?

Winning is 29.Ng5! Qg4 30. Qxf7+ Kh8 31.Rxd2! Rf8 (32... Rxd2 32.Qe8+) 32.Qxa7 Bb4 33. Rd7 +.

29...Rxd2 30.Nxd2 Qd7 31.
Ne4 Qg4 32.Qxg4 hxg4 33.Kf1 f5
34.Nd2 Bc1 35.Ke2 Kf7 36.Kd3
Bxd2 37. Kxd2 Ke6 38.Kd3 Draw

Two Knights Defense C55

Samuel Irby 1846
Stephen Cheyney 2121

Fiesta Open (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.
Bc4 Nf6 5.Ng5

I haven't seen this, but it is every
bit as theoretical as 5.e5 and 5.0-0.

5...d5!?

5...Ne5 6.Qxd4 Nxc4 7.Qc4 d5 =.
6.exd5 Qe7+ 7.Kf1

7.Qe2 Nb4 8.Qxe7+ Bxe7 9.d6
Nxc2+ 10.Kd2 Bf5 11.dxe7 Nxa1
12. Na3 Bg6 13.b3 h6 14.Nf3 Ne4+
∞ Poletaev-Rozinov, corr. 1955.

7...Ne5 8.Qxd4 Nxc4 9.Qxc4
Qc5 10.Qe2+ Be7 11.c4 Nxd5 12.
Ne4

12.Na3 Nb4 13.Be3 Qf5 -/+
Vaskan-Gipslis, USSR 1966 (!)

12...Qc6 13.Nbc3 Nxc3 14.
Nxc3 Be6 15.b3 0-0-0 16.Be3 a6
17.f3 Bf6 18.Rc1 Rhe8 19.Kf2 Bf5
20.Rhd1 Bd4 21.Nd5



It looks like Black should have
a crush, but Irby plays well to hold.

21...Bc5 22.b4 Bxe3+ 23.Nxe3
Rxd1 24.Qxd1 Qb6 25.Qb3 Qh6 26.
Rd1 Bg6 27.Qc3 Qxh2 28.Qd4 Qe5
29.Qa7 c6 30.b5 axb5 31.cxb5
Draw

Sicilian Hedgehog B44

Selby Anderson 2300
Eric Dimazana 2228

Fiesta Open (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nb5 d6 6.c4

I put in half an hour at Taco
Cabana preparing for this game, and
after looking at half a dozen ways
of fighting the King's Indian I
settled on the relatively solid (and
to me, familiar) line in the game.

6...Nf6 7.N1c3 a6 8.Na3 b6
9.Be2 Bb7 10.Be3

If White wants to play the line
with f2-f4, he should do it now.

10...Nb8 11.f3 Nbd7 12.0-0 Be7
13. Qe1 0-0 14.Qf2 Rb8

Otherwise White could go after
the b6 pawn with Na4. Curiously,
in the ECO line Black permits this,
giving up a pawn to achieve his ...d6-
d5 counterplay.

15.Rfd1 Re8 16.Rac1 Qc7 17.
Kh1 Bf8



Eric offered a draw. Accepting
meant \$150 equal first. Winning
meant an extra \$50, but losing
could mean one third of \$160.

I looked at 18.g4 g6 19.g5 Nh5
20.f4 Nc5! when the position is
heating up fast. A better try for
White is 20.b4 f5 (not 20...d5
21.cxd5 Bxb4 22.dxe6!) 21.gxf6
Nhxf6 ∞.

Draw

QGD Tarrasch D32

John Patty 2200
Jim Rohrbaugh 2170

Fiesta Open (4)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.
cxd5 exd5 5.dxc5!? d4 6.Na4 b5
7.cxb6 axb6 8.b3 b5(?)

This merely sends the knight
where he wants to go.

9.Nb2 Nc6 10.Nd3 Nf6 11.g3
Bf5 12.Bg2 Bb4+ 13.Bd2 Bxd2+
14.Qxd2 Be4 15.Nf3 0-0 16.0-0
Qb6 17.Rfc1 Ra3 18.Nc5 Rfa8
19.Nxd4 (19.Qb2!? Δ Na4) Bxg2
20.Kxg2 Nxd4 21.Qxd4 Rxa2 22.
Rxa2 Rxa2



23.Ne4 Qe6 24.Nxf6+ gxf6 25.
e3 Qf5 26.Qf4!?

26.e4! Qe6 27.Rc5 Re2 28.Kf3 or
27...Qe8 28.Qd3 wins the b-pawn.

26...Qxf4 27.gxf4 Rb2 28.Rc3 f5
29.h4 Kg7 30.Rc5 Rxb3 31.Rxf5 b4
32.Rb5 Rb1 33.e4 b3 34.Rb6 b2 35.
e5 f5 36.exf6+ Kf7 37.h5 h6 38.
Kh2 Kf8 39.Rb7 Kg8 40.Kg3 Kf8
41.Kf3 Kg8 42.Kg2 Kf8 43.f5 Kg8
44.f7+ Kg7 45.f6+ Kf8 46.Kh2 Ra1
47.Rxb2 Ra5 Draw

There is a fascinating coda to this
game. Two days later, Rohr-
baugh knew he play Patty again in
the last round of the San Antonio
Chess Studio Tuesday Night Swiss.
So he had a week to prepare with his
roommate and fellow Tarrasch en-
thusiast Jim Gallagher!

They discussed this line in dollar blitz games, and Gallagher was winning with both sides – until he found a novelty at move fourteen: 8...Nf6 9.e3 Bd7 10.Qxd4 Qc6 11.Qb2 Ne4 12.a3 b5 13.Bd3 Nc5+ (13...f5 is the book recommendation) 14.Ke2 f5!? Then the games went in Black's favor.



Best play appears to be 15.Bxe4 fxe4 16.Nc3 b4 17.Nxe4 Qb5+ 18.Ke1 Ne5 19.a4 Nd3+ 20.Kd2 Nxb2 21.axb5 Rxa1 22.Bxb2 =.

Patty, who is a reliable "system" player, followed theory right into this position. After a long think he played 15.f3?!, and after 15...bxa4 16.fxe4 Ne5! 17.b4 Nxd3 18.bxa5 Nxb2 19.Bb2 fxe4 it seemed likely that he would get mated in the center. 20.Nh3 Rxa5 21. Nf4 Rb5 22.Bd4 Bd6 23.Bxg7 Rg8 24. Bd4 Bxf4 25.exf4 Rxc2+ 26.Ke3 Rb3+? (26...Bf5 27.Rac1 Rb3+ 28.Rc3 Rbb2 29.Bf6 Rbd2 30.Re1 Rxh2 -/+) 27.Kxe4 Bc6+ 28.Kf5 Rh3 29.Rhe1 Kf7 30.Bf6?? (30.Ke5 ±) Bd7+ 31.Ke5 Rh5+ 32.Kd6 Rd2+ 33.Kc7 Rc5+ 34.Kb6 Rc6+ 35.Kb7 Kxf6 36.Rab1 Re6 37.Re1 Ree2 38. Rb6+ Ke7 39.Rg1 Rb2 40.Rg7+ Kd8 41. Rxh7 Rxb6+ 42.Kxb6 Rb2+ 43.Kc5 Rb5+ 44.Kd6 Rb6+ 45.Ke5 Re6+ 46.Kd5 Re3 47.h4 Rxa3 48.h5 Rh3 49.h6 a3 50.Rh8+ Be8 51.Rh7 a2 52.Ra7 Rxh6 53. Kd4 Bf7 54.Kc3 Rh1 0-1.

Nice technique by Rohrbaugh at the end. This game was a real feast for the spectators!

King's Indian E91

Diego Gamba 1633
Daniel Salazar 1696

Fiesta Open (4)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.d4 d6 5.e4 Nbd7 6.h3 0-0 7.Be2 c6 8.Be3 a6 9.a4 Rb8?! (9...a5 Δ ...e5) 10.0-0 Qc7 11.a5 c5 12.d5 Re8 13.Bf4!

Black is in a bad Benoni setup, where he is deprived of normal counterplay based on ...e6.

13...b6 14.Bh2 bxa5 15.Ra2 Nh5 16.Nd2 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nb6 18. Bxh5 gxh5 19.Qxh5 e6 20.f4 Kh8 21.f5?!

This pawn wedge *almost* tips the scales on the kingside, but the bishop gets left out of the action. Therefore 21.e5! suggests itself: 21...exd5 22.exd6 Qd7 23.f5! Nxc4 24.Nxc4 dxc4 25.Qg5! threatening Be5 or Qf6+.

21...e5 22.Nf3 Rg8 23.f6 Rg6 24.Ng5

24.Nxe5 dxe5 25.Bxe5 Qa7 26. Bxb8 Qxb8 looks good numerically, but Black's pieces are too strong.

24...h6



25.Qxg6 fxc6 26.f7 Nd7 27. Ne6 Qb6 28.f8(Q)+ Nxf8 29.Rxf8+ Kh7 30.Rf7+ Draw

Texas A&M Spring Open

by Forrest Marler

The 1997 Texas A&M Spring Open was held in the Memorial Student Center on Sunday, April 6 at Texas A&M University, and was directed by Forrest Marler. Once again the turnout was small but strong. Over half the players were Class A, experts or masters.

The first round set the tone for the day. The top-rated player Steve Harrington lost on time to Bob McGregor, the 1995 Texas Senior Champion. This was not a complete surprise, as Bob has beaten his share of masters over the years. Ten year-old Chris Hobart played a very solid game against Larry Young. While the game was even well into the endgame, Larry showed why experience counts. Bradley Sawyer, the tournament's other ten year-old, put a major scare into Expert Ralph Gholmieh. Ralph stumbled into a book trap that could have led to the loss of his queen, at the very least.. Bradley however did not see the knight "sacrifice" needed to win the queen. By this time, Ralph was paying much closer attention to every move, and eventually he claimed the win.

Round Two had Chris Hobart winning against Charles Bell. Charles had lost round one to Steve Hobart, Chris' father, and by this time Charles was probably glad to see that Aaron Hobart wasn't playing. Bradley Sawyer ended up playing Steve Harrington. In all, it was a very tough day for this 1055 player. Bradley may have lost to Steve, but to his credit he did play very well.

Round Three had Steve Harrington once again getting into time trouble against Larry Young. This

round however, Steve was able to make all of his moves with seconds to spare. He then showed all present that you can never count a master out of a game. Steve Hobart and Ralph Gholmieh played an interesting game. Ralph, by making one of the prettiest moves made in a long while, won the game, the tournament, and the \$100 first prize. Check out the game score below and see why even Steve smiled when he saw the move. The next Texas A&M tournament will be in October. Hope you're there.

Sicilian Sveshnikov B33

Robert McGregor 1870
Steve Harrington 2231

A&M Spring Open (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nb3 Bb4 7. Bd3 d5 8.0-0!?

8...exd5 9.Bd2 Nxc3 10. bxc3 Bd6 =+ Schlechter-Lasker, Berlin match 1910.

8...Bg4!?

8...Bxc3 9.exd5! Nxd5 10.bxc3 Nxc3 11.Qe1 Nd5 12.Ba3 Qc7 ∞/=, 9.f3 Bxc3 10.bxc3?

10.f3g4! dxe4 11.bxc3 is the right move order.

10...dxe4?

Black was getting into time trouble, eight minutes to make 20 moves. [10...Bh5! =+]

11.fxg4 exd3 12.cxd3 Nd5 13. Qf3 0-0 14.Ba3 Qb6+??

14...Nde7 15.Rab1 ±.

15.Bc5 Qb5?? 16.c4 e4 17.cxb5 exf3 18.bxc6 f3g2 19.Kxg2 bxc6 1-0 (time)

English Opening A22

Charles Bell 1700
Christopher Hobart 1018

A&M Spring Open (2)

1. c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bc5 7.e3 0-0 8.Ne2 Qe7 9.d4 exd4 10.exd4!? Bd6 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Re1

(12.Nf4!?) Bg4 13.Be3 Rad8 14. Qb3 Na5 15.Qb5 b6 16.Nf4 c6 17. Qa6 Rfe8 18. Bd2 Qd7 19.c4?



19...Bxf4 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21. Bxa5 Qxd4 22.Rb1 bxa5 23.gxf4 Qxf4 24.Qxc6 Rd8 25.Bd5 Qg5 26. Kh1 Qf5 27.Rb2 h6 28.Qc7 Re8 29. Rb8 Rxb8 30.Qxb8+ Kh7 31.Qxa7



White's passed c-pawn gives a false sense of security, which is about to be shattered.

31...Bf3+!

Forcing White's reply, on pain of mate in one. Not 31...Bh3 32.f3! Qb1+ 33.Qg1 Qxa2 34.Bxf7.

32.Bxf3 Qxf3+ 33.Kg1 Qd1+ 34.Kg2 Qg4+ 35.Kf1

No better is 35.Kh1, since the reply 35...Qxc4 threatens mate at f1 as well as the a2 pawn.

35...Qxc4+ 36.Kg2 Qxa2 37. Qd4 a4 38. Qe4+ g6 39.h4 a3 40.h5 Qe6 41. hxg6+ Qxg6+ 0-1

Two Knights C55

Ralph Gholmieh 2168
Robert McGregor 1870

A&M Spring Open (2)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4. Bc4 Nf6 5.0-0 d5?! 6.exd5 Nxd5 7. Nxd4 Bc5?

7...Be7 8.Re1 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 ±.

8.Re1+ Be6 9.Nxe6 Bxf2+ 10. Kxf2 Qh4+ 1-0

11.Kg1 Qxc4 12.Qxd5!, etc.

Torre Attack A40

Steve Hobart 2198
Ralph Gholmieh 2168

A&M Spring Open (3)

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5 d5 4. e3 Be7 5.Nbd2 h6 6.Bf4 0-0 7.Bd3 b6 8.Qe2 c5 9.c3 a5 10.Bxb8?!

Trading a developed piece for an undeveloped one is almost always a mistake, since it loses two tempi. Better is 10.Ne5.

10...Rxb8 11.Ne5 Bb7 12.0-0 c4 13.Be2 b5 14.f4 b4 15.Rf3?!

A "wild goose chase." Better is 15.e4, so that White can challenge the b-file. If Black opens the center, his c4 pawn becomes weak.

15...bxc3 16.bxc3 Ba8 17.Nf1 Ba3 18.Rb1 Qe7 19.Ng3 Rxb1+ 20.Bxb1 Rb8 21.Rf1 Rb2 22.Qd1 Qe8 23.Rf2 Rxf2 24.Kxf2 Qb5 25.Ke1 Bb2 26.Kd2 a4 27.f5 a3 28.fxe6



28...Bxc3+! 29.Ke2 fxe6 30. Kf3 Bc6 31.Qc2 Ba5 32.Ng4 Ne4 33.Nxe4 dxe4+ 34.Ke2 c3+ 35. Ke1



35...Qxb1! 0-1

Forrest wrote the following for "Coaches' Corner," but since J.J. came through with his article I put this with the other A&M games. Also, if you read carefully you'll find that it's strangely topical!

Looking For Opportunities

One of the things that all players succumb to is "rating fear." By this I mean that lower rated players often initiate the process of a self-fulfilling prophecy by saying, "I can't beat player X because he's rated so much higher than I am. I don't have a chance. I'm gonna get killed." While this thought has occurred to all of us at one time or another, it seems to be especially prevalent among scholastic players. Of course, there is a reasonable rationale for this fear. A higher rated player doesn't often obtain that rating by rolling over and playing dead when the going gets tough, especially against lower rated players. But higher rated players aren't infallible, and occasionally they win games they shouldn't simply because of a reputation or "rating fear."

As coaches, we stress the idea of development in the opening. But perhaps we don't stress the idea of taking advantage of early opportunities enough. The following game is an example of why this idea needs to be discussed with your team. While there is much to look at in this or any other game, we will look at just this missed opportunity.

Sicilian Dragon B71

Bradley Sawyer 1055

Ralph Gholmieh 2168

A&M Spring Open (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.f4 Bg7 7.e5 dxe5 8.fxe5 Ng4 9.Bb5+ Kf8??

[9...Bd7?? 10.Qxg4 +-; 9...Nc6 10. Nxc6 Qxd1+ (a) 11.Nxd1 a6 12. Ba4 Bd7 13.h3 Nh6 14.Nxe7! Bxa4 15.Nd5 Rd8 16.c4 ± Pilnik-Kashdan, NY 1949; (b) 11.Kxd1!? Nf2+ 12.Ke1 Nxf1 13.Nd4+ Bd7 14. Bxd7+ Kxd7 15.Nf3 h5 16.Bf4 ±.]



A bad mistake for Black, as now White should play 10.Ne6+ [as in a recent simul game in Dallas, where Black - the master! - resigned.] If Black responds with 10...Kg8 then 11.Qxd8+ Bf8 12.Qxf8 mate. Or if 10...Bxe6 then 11.Qxd8 mate. So Black must play 10...fxe6 with 11.Qxd8+ Kf7 12.0-0+ Nf6 and Black is really hurting.

Now nobody really expects an expert to have a queen trapped by a Class E player by move eleven, but as we see here, it can happen. Unfortunately, we show the flip side to this and here is White's "mistake".

10.0-0

White continues to develop and tries to get his king castled and safe behind his pawns. He's doing exactly what we as coaches try to get students to do. White is trying to play a solid game BUT he is not looking for the opportunities out there, simply because he is not really expecting any. By now, White has gotten Black's attention and experience takes over with the expected final result.

10...Qb6 11.Na4 Qc7 12.Qf3 Nxe5 13.Qd5 Qd6 14.Qxd6 exd6 15.Bf4 a6 16.Nb6 axb5 17.Nxa8 Bd7 18.Nb6 Bc6 19.Bxe5 Bxe5 20. Ne6+ Ke7 21.Ng5 f6 22.Nf3 Bxf3 23.Rxf3 Bd4+ 24.Kf1 Bxb6 25. Re1+ Kf7 26.Rd1 Bc5 27.a3 Nc6 28.b4 Bd4 29.Rf4 Be5 30.Rh4 Kg7 31.Rd5 Na7 32.a4 Rc8 33.axb5 Rxc2 34.b6 Nc8 35.Ra5 Nxb6 36. Ra7 Rc7 37.Ra3 g5 38.Rh5 Nd5 39.Rhh3 Kf8, White resigns 0-1

We tell our students not to make too many moves with the same pieces early in the game, lest they fall behind in development. "Bring out your bishops, get your knights out, castle early," we cry. But we must remember that these rules are general rules, and general rules have exceptions.

Yogi Berra once said, "It's not over 'til it's over." Students need to realize the truth in this statement and avoid the "rating fear". If students start the game with the attitude that they will not win, then Yogi was wrong. It's over before it even began. They need to learn that occasionally they can turn the hunter into the hunted.

Texan Two Tromp

by GM Ron Henley

We are pleased to publish an exclusive article by the only Texas-born grandmaster. Ron was "just another" Houston club player in the early 1970s. That didn't last long!

The U.S. Amateur Team East was my first tournament since I played in Europe last summer. I was representing our World Wide Web Chess Superstore team on Board 1. NM David Koval (our Assistant Editor) was playing on Board 2, my CEO and trainer CorrM Paul Hodges was on Board 3 while Board 4 was manned by our Shipping Manager Mike Whittles.

Recently we received (in the Foxy Video series from England), some excellent videos on the Trompowsky Attack by Julian Hodgson and James Plaskett. Julian's style is very engaging, and his games and results with the "Tromp" are very impressive. In our offices I have played many blitz training games with the two masters on my team, over the past six or seven months. I recollect with fond memories having played the Trompowsky in my youth, once even winning a game in the Texas Championship! My second, CorrM Paul Hodges has been pushing me to take up the Tromp seriously for quite a while. Nonetheless, my first game with White was an Albin Counter Gambit which ended in a draw after some adventures. Finally in the evening round of the second day I decided to try and "stomp with the Tromp"!

Trompowsky A45

Ron Henley 2529

Daniel Partley 2005

US Amateur Team East (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.h4

Pioneered and molded into a dangerous weapon by "Jules". Incidentally I may mention that Julian is a good friend of mine, and in the summer of 1981 on the way to a tournament in Manchester, his family was quite hospitable and I was his house guest.

3...d5 4.Nd2 Nxd2 5.Qxd2

A seemingly obvious recapture, but during the further course of the game I became rather unhappy about the placement of my queen and my bishop on g5. Even the pawn on h4 was not making me happy as I could now kind of kiss off castling short in many variations.

5...Bf5 6.e3 Nd7 7.Nf3

7.Be2!? h6 8.Bf4 Nf6 9.f3 e6 10.Nh3 Bd6; 7.f3!?

7...h6 8.Bf4 c6 9.Bd3

Analyzing 9.c4 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Nb6 11.Bb3 Nd5, when because of the threat of e7-e5, followed by Bf8-b4, I felt unhappy about the placement of my queen on d2.

9...Bxd3 10.Qxd3

The alternative 10.cxd3 is rather frigid, but the pawn would cover the c4 and e4 light squares.

10...e6 11.e4 dxe4 12.Qxe4 Nf6 13.Qe2 Be7

We now reached a position akin to the 4...Bf5 Classical Caro-Kann. Having exchanged two sets of minor pieces, I felt Black was certainly okay, but at least I there was now some strategical imbalance. In addition, thanks to my work in the Karpov-Kamsky match, I felt familiar with the ensuing middle-game ideas.

14.0-0-0 Qa5 15.Kb1 Rd8?!

This seems a bit inaccurate. Better is 15...Qf5!? when White may continue with 16.Bc1. If 15...0-0-0, then 16.Ne5 exposes the

weakness at f7, for example: 16...Rh8 17.Nxf7 Rxf7 18.Qxe6+ Rd7 19.Qxf7 Bd6 20. Bd2! and White is winning.

16.Ne5 0-0 17.g4

I was determined at this point to do my best Kamsky imitation!

17...Nd7

17...Nd5 18.Bd2 Qb6 19.c4! Ba3? 20.Ba5?! (20.Nd3! Ne7 21.Bc3±) 20...Qxa5 21.cxd5 Bd6 22.dxe6 fxe6 (22...Bxe5 23.e7) 23.Ng6 Rf6 with counterplay.

18.g5

At last the move 3.h4 turns out to be useful!

18...Nxe5 19.Bxe5 f6



White would have many powerful attacking continuations after 19...hxg5 20.hxg5 Bxg5, for example: 21.Qh5, 21.Rdg1, 21.f4, and 21.Qg4. The following are a few sample continuations:

A) 21.Qh5 f6! (21...Bh6 22.Qxh6 gxh6 23.Rdg1+ Kh7 24. Rg7+ winning) 22.f4 Bh6 23.Qg6 fxe5 24. Rxf6;

B) 21.Rdg1 f6 22.f4 fxe5 23. Rxf6 Rxf4 24.Qh2! winning.

Also good for White is 19...Bd6 20.Bxd6 Rxd6 21.gxh6.

20.Bxf6!

This unexpected capture allows me to break into the Black camp.

20...Bxf6

Forced. White wins after 20... gxf6 21.Qxe6+ Rf7 22.g6.

21.Qxe6+ Kh8 22.gxf6 Rxf6 23. Qe7 Qd5 24.Qxb7 Rf7 25.Qa6 Rxf6 26.Qxa7 Qc4

I have managed to win a few pawns, but as always they get counterplay! The Black major pieces are active, and my pawns on h4, d4, and c2 are all vulnerable. To compound matters I now only had five minutes to reach move 50!

27.Qc5!?

This leads by a forced sequence to a favorable rook ending. The alternative was to keep the major pieces on and try to maintain a pawn surplus with 27.Rc1 Rxd4 28.Rhg1 Rf7 29.Qb8+ Kh7 30.Qg3 Rxh4 31. Qg6+ Kg8 32.Rce1 Qd4 33.Re8+ Rf8 34.Rge1 Qd7 35.a3 Rhf4 36. R1e7 (36.R8e7 Qd4 37.Qxc6 is also good for White) 36...Rf1+ 37.Ka2 Qd5+ 38.b3 R1f7 39.Rxf8+ Kxf8 40.Rxf7+ Qxf7 41.Qxc6, with advantage – my later analysis with Fritz 4.

27...Rxc2 28.b3!? Qxc5 29.dxc5 Rxd1+ 30.Rxd1 Rxc5 31.Rc1!

Our board two, NM Dave Koval was watching in amazement, as I was blitzing off these moves. Afterwards Dave said he was wondering if I really had this all worked out. Then he decided maybe I did! The point is that trading rooks leads to a losing king and pawn ending where I am in the square of the black h-pawn, but my a-pawn is unstopable.

31...Rh5

Forced. If 31...Rxc1+ 32.Kxc1 g5 (32...Kg8 33.h5! wins) 33.hxg5 h5 34.Kd2 h4 35.Ke3 h3 36.Kf3 winning.

32.Rc4 Kg8

If 32...c5 then 33.a4.

33.a4 Kf7 34.Rxc6 Rxh4 35.a5

This was the rook ending I had envisioned when choosing between 27.Qc5 and 27.Rc1. I felt this ending was clearly advantageous as my pawns are further advanced and he has problems advancing his g-pawn without losing the fella on h6.

35...Rb4



36.Kc2?

My original intention was 36. Rb6!, but I became convinced that having my rook in front of my pawns was the “ugly method” for advancing them and that it must be necessary to use my king. In addition I felt it could not hurt to have my king off the back rank so that Black would not queen with check. All wonderful logic; however, certain chess positions do lend themselves to finite analysis. After 36. Rb6! Re4 37.a6 Re8 38.a7 Ra8 39. Rb7+ Kf6 40.b4 h5 41.b5 h4 42.b6 h3 43.Rxg7! This beautiful tempo-gaining tactic was discovered by NM Koval when we were analyzing the game afterward. After 43... Kxg7 (43...h2 44.Rh7) 44.b7, White wins.

36...h5! 37.a6 Rb8 38.a7 Ra8

Dubious is 38...Rh8?! and now:

A) 39.Ra6 Ra8 40.b4 Ke7! (if 40...h4 41.b5 h3 42.b6 h2 43.Ra1) 41.b5 Kd7 42.Rg6 Kc7 43.b6+ Kb7 44.Kb3 Rg8 45.Kb4 h4 46.Kb5 h3 47.Re6 h2 48.Re7+ Ka8 49.Re1 Kb7, with a draw;

B) 39.b4! h4 40.Rc3 g5 (40...Ra8 41.Rc7+ Kf6 42.b5 h3 43.b6 h2 44.Rc6+! winning) 41.b5 g4 42.b6 h3 43.b7 h2 44.b8(Q) h1(Q) 45. Qf4+, and White wins.

39.Rc7+ Kf6??

It was only in the quiet of our hotel room post game analysis that Koval and I realized this natural placement of the king is the losing move! After 39...Kg6! (who would imagine that placing the king in front of one of your passed pawns would be the only way to save the game? The point, as we shall see in the game continuation, is that the Black king needs a safe haven on h7!) 40.b4?! (White must accept equality after 40.Kd3!) 40...h4 41.b5 h3, and Black is doing fine, for example: 42.b6? h2 43.Rc6+ Kh7 44.b7 Rxa7 45.b8(Q) h1(Q), and Black is better!

40.b4 h4 41.b5 h3 42.b6 h2 43. Rc6+!

Played with only two minutes left on my clock, this in-between check came as an unpleasant surprise to my opponent.

43...Kg5 44. b7 Rh8

After 44...h1(Q) 45.bxa8(Q), Black could try to perpetual, but the White king would head upfield towards c7, and the exposed nature of the Black king on g5 would certainly invite a crosscheck along the way. If 44...Rxa7 45.b8(Q) h1(Q) 46.Rc5+! winning – again, an in-between rook check which saves my rook with tempo, while allowing me to capture the prize on a7 next move!

45.b8(Q) h1(Q) 46.Qg3+

Even better is 46.Qe5+ with a forced mate in eight! i.e., 46...Kh4 47.Qf4+ Kh5 48.Rc5+ Kg6 49.Rg5+ Kh7 50.Qf5+ Kg8 51.Qe6+ Kh7 52. Qg6+ Kg8 53.Qxg7 mate – Fritz 4.
46...Kf5 47.Qg6+ Ke5 48.Rc5+ Kd4 49.Qd6+ Ke4 50.Qd5+ Ke3 51.Qxh1 1-0



Rosa de las Nieves

Our World Wide Web Chess Superstore Team was playing on board 6 in the last round with a match score of 4 wins and 1 loss. Our opponents had 3 wins, 2 draws. Our team knew we needed a victory to place in the top ten out of 244 teams! My NM opponent is a manager at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Trompowsky A45

Ron Henley 2529

Nathan Resika 2250

US Amateur Team East (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5

Nathan used a considerable amount of time in the opening. Later he related to me he had several bad experiences from this position, and had still not decided what to do with Black.

2...e6

Considered to be Black's most solid response.

3.Nf3

Here I elect for the more solid Torre attack, as opposed to the pure Tromp interpretation of 3.e4 h6 4. Bxf6 Qxf6.

3...h6 4.Bh4 c5 5.e3 Nc6 6.c3

6.Nbd2 is possibly more precise.

6...cxd4 7.exd4 Be7 8.Nbd2 d5 9.Bd3 0-0 10.Qe2

At this point I felt my opening

was a complete success. My opponent had already used 30 minutes, and faces a positional problem concerning the lack of prospects for his bishop on c8. In addition, I threaten to play 0-0-0, Ne5, f4, and g4 and g5, with an automatic kingside attack. I have a very favorable version of the exchange variation of the Caro-Kann.

10...a6

Now if I play 11.0-0-0, Black hopes for counterplay with 11...b5.

11.0-0 b5

Black pursues the planned minority attack against my queenside. Note that attempting to exchange my Bh4 with 11...Nh5 (11...Nd7 12. Bg3!?) 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.g3! would still not solve Black's problems.



12.b4!

This powerful positional move came as an unpleasant surprise to my opponent. At first glance you wouldn't think to create a backward pawn on c3 with the c-file open.

Some observations:

1) A weakness is only a weakness if it can be attacked or exploited by the opponent.

2) 12.b4 stops the intended Black minority attack cold in its tracks.

3) My move freezes the a6 and b5 pawns on the color of the B at c8.

4) I create the possibility of Nd2-b3-c5, when Bxc5 can be met

favorably by either dxc5 (queen-side majority), or bxc5 (idea: Ne5 and kingside attack).

5) I now have the lever a2-a4 to open up the queenside and work on the a6-pawn.

12...Bb7 13.Nb3 Ra7

Here Nathan felt he needed to protect his bishop on b7, and he wanted to meet 14.a4 with 14...bxa4 15.Rxa4 Ne4! to obtain counterplay. If 13...Ne4 14.Bxe7 Nxe7 15. Bxe4 dxe4 16.Nfd2 Qd5 17.Nc5 f5 18.f3 exf3 19.Nxf3 is better for White.

14.Nfd2!

Played in the best spirit of Karpov and Petrosian. First you neutralize your opponent's ambitions, and then when you move forward, the punch is even more effective. At this point I looked over the other games to see how we were doing. On board two, Koval was on the wrong end of a positional disaster from an English Opening. Our board four was a 400 point underdog, and his doubled f-pawns and exposed king were proving it. Meanwhile right before my eyes on board three, my trainer CorM Paul Hodges played an absolute sparkler of a move against Timothy Hanke after 16 moves:



Question: What did Paul play in this position? For the answer, see the end of the article. Paul's final

score of 5.5-0.5 netted him some serious rating points, and it meant our hotel room #537 scored 10 wins and 2 draws for the weekend!

14...Ba8 15.a4

This pawn lever now opens up the combined forces of my queen and bishop e2-a6 battery, plus my rooks on the a-file, against the exposed Black pawn on a6.

15...bxa4 16.Rxa4 a5

Unable to sufficiently defend the a6 point, Black hurtles his a-pawn forward to its doom.

17.Rfa1

This superior mobility forces the clear win of the pawn.

17...axb4

Under pressure, Black decides his best practical chance is to confuse the issue by sacrificing a piece.

18.Rxa7 Nxa7 19.Rxa7 bxc3 20.Nb1 Bd6

Or 20...Qb6 21.Rxe7 Qxb3 22.Bxf6.

21.Qa2 Qc8 22.Bg3 Bb4 23.Rc7 Qd8 24.Qa4

It is now clear that Black will have only one pawn for the piece, and under normal circumstances resignation would be forthcoming. However, for the psychological support of his team he was forced to find moves and play on. In a team tournament it can be devastating to see your board one cave in.

24...Bd6 25.Bxd6 Qxd6 26.Rxc3 Ne4 27.Rc1 f5 28.N1d2 Qf4 29.Nf3 Kh7 30.Rf1!



Since Black is heavily obligated to attack me, I was determined to defend against all cheapos (f2, back rank), and then continue to exploit the positional deficiencies (Ba8, weakness on e5), the same as if I were not a piece ahead. Many players often have the mistaken notion that once they win material they must win the game immediately. Simply continue to play strong moves, and the result will take care of itself soon enough!

30...Rc8

Hoping for some "action" with 31...Rc3.

31.Qa1!

Now 31...Rc3 runs into 32.Nc5!

31...Bc6 32.Nc5!

Hitting the weakness at e6.

32...Nxc5 33.dxc5 Be8 34.Qd4! Qc7

If 34...Qxd4 35.Nxd4 Bd7 (35...Rxc5 36.Nxe6) 36.Rc1 etc.

35.Rc1 Bh5 36.Ne5 Qa5 37.g4! 1-0

With all my pieces ideally placed, I finally lash out and assume the initiative. Unable to any longer find a cheapo (37...Qd2 38.Bxf5+ etc.), Black decided to avoid any further embarrassment and leave the fate of the match in the hands of his teammates. With Paul's victory on board three and Koval escaping into a drawn rook ending on board two we, secured victory in the match. Our final overall team match score of 5-1, secured us equal third. Unfortunately the tiebreaks did not work in our favor and we didn't make a place prize. We should have taken the "Best Company Team" prize with ease, but this year, for the first time, it was necessary for all of the members of a team to be deemed full-time employees of a company, and Dave did not meet this criterion at the time of the tournament.

Answer to puzzle: Paul played the devastating shot 17.Bb5!

Gurevich wins Edmondson Cup

GM Dmitry Gurevich of Chicago won the 1997 National Open on tiebreak over GM's Julian Hodgson of England, Ilya Smirin of Israel, and Alexander Baburin of Ireland. Each scored 5.5 in the 6-round event, held April 11-13 in Las Vegas, and took home \$2,937.50.

This was the both the largest and the strongest National Open ever, with 930 players including 31 GM's and four WGM's. Just look at who finished out of the money with 5-1: GM's Granda, Epishin, Ehlvest, Kudrin, Morovic, Kharlov and Browne. The 4.5 group included Yermolinsky, Kaidanov, A. Ivanov, Hjartarson, Schwartzman, Psakhis, Miles, Serper and Henley.

Joe Bradford did not play this year. I saw one Texan in the Open crosstable - David Naiser (3.5). TD Bill Snead forwarded this game:

Benko Gambit A57

Suat Atalik 2598

Julio Granda Zuniga 2670

National Open 1997 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.d5 b5 4.c4 Bb7 5.a4 bxc4 6.Nc3 e6 7.e4 exd5 8.e5?!

Too ambitious for White's level of development. He has a space advantage after 8.exd5 d6 9.Bxc4 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Re1 Re8 12.Bf4 Nbd7 13.a5 a6 14.h3 Bf8 15.Rxe8 Nxe8 16.Qd2 h6 17.g4 ± (Spraggett-Qi, Taxco Interzonal 1985).

8...Ne4 9.Nxd5? Qa5+ 10.Ke2 c3 11.Ke3 c2 12.Qd3 c4 13.Qxe4 Bxd5 14.Qxc2 Nc6 15.Bd2 Qc5+ 16.Kf4 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Qxe5+ 18.Kg4 Nd4 0-1

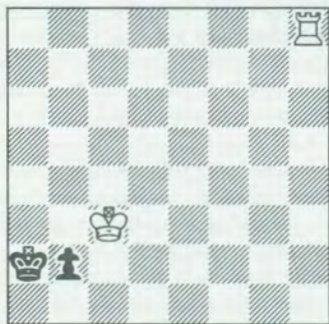
19.Qc3 Qe6+ 20.Kg3 Nf5+ 21.Kg2 Qg6+ 22.Kh3 Qh5+ 23.Kg2 Nh4+ 24.Kg3 Bd6+ +.

Also see www.64.com/natlopen/

LETTERS

Something missing here

Apparently the diagram gremlins have gotten loose again.



In endgame #4 [TK Mar.-Apr., p. 25] White wins by 1.Ra8+ Kb1 2. Rb8 Ka1 3.Kc2.

Alan Laverty
Austin

Believe it or not, both diagram and solution ("Neither squeeze nor zugzwang. Black draws.") were quoted correctly. However, I left off the caption ("Black to move") that Brieger had under each diagram, because true zugzwang describes a position regardless of who moves. Even without a caption, the first part of the solution is right; I just needed to change the second part.

In the position above, the turn to move does affect the outcome. But it is **not** zugzwang, because having the move is actually desirable! This is the precise opposite of zugzwang, and was once dubbed "zugfreude" (the joy of moving) by Brieger.

So my definition of zugzwang at the top of the quiz was incomplete: having the turn to move must not only be decisive, but undesirable.

Brieger has written a new book, *In Search of Zugzwang*, currently in search of a publisher.

Chess sets appreciated

Our ten chess sets arrived Monday of this week and we are like a chess heaven on earth here at our school. Not only are we using the wonderful chess sets for our regular chess classes, but the kids want to play before school for an hour and also after lunch (which I think some of them are swallowing whole). And they are asking if they can buy chess sets for themselves for \$8.00 or if the \$8.00 price per set is only for schools. It's okay if it's only for schools. One of our parishioners has offered to help us buy some more sets for the school. Looking forward to hearing from you (again). Please thank the unnamed benefactors on our behalf.

Susan Earls
John XXIII Regional School
Dallas

Much as I would like to say yes, for TCA to offer chess sets at cost to any individual who wants them would turn into such a make-work project that we would have time for nothing else.

I suggest that your students purchase from USCF . . . [By the way, USCF is the "unnamed benefactor" in our chess set program.]

Your school is welcome to put in an order for additional sets at \$8.00. Right now we are stocked out until our USCF grant comes in (sometime in June), but we will keep any orders on file.

Torey! Torey! Torey!

(1) Say it isn't so Bobby! I picked up my copy of *A Legend on the Road* by IM Donaldson (Fischer's 1964 simul tour) and read the following letter to GM Larry Evans dated 9-15-1963, this portion made me almost faint: "I am mainly occupying my time studying old opening books and believe it or not I am learning a lot! They don't

waste time on the Catalan, Reti, King's Indian reversed and other rotten openings." Well, excuse me! I thought Bobby played the KIA over much of his early days and even said "this used to be my favorite" referring to the King's Indian Reversed. He even played it as late as 1970! What gives? When he wrote to Evans, he was a certified KIA drug addict.

(2) **The origin of the openings – who knows!** Every time I pick up an opening book and/or read about some variation that is supposedly named after someone (or someplace) I have learned to be skeptical. Example One: "Colle's System" attributed to the Belgian master of the same name who played it was played at least once apparently before his time by Hungarian whiz Rudolf Charousek (as White) vs. Süchting at Berlin 9-21-1897! That game went 1.d4 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Nf3 c5 4.c3 e6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Nbd2 e5 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.e4, etc.! Example Two: 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Bxf6 Bxf6 6.e5 Be7 7.Qg4 0-0, etc. Called "Anderssen's Attack" by I.A. Horowitz in his big, outdated *Chess Openings* book, and used by Kurt Richter (Richter's Attack?) this variation of the French Defense originates from who knows where – some call it Showalter's Attack since it was played by him against Judd & vs. Lasker in their 1893 match. But it also occurred in a game Wemmers-Flechsig [sic] published in the *Duetsche* [sic] *Schachzeitung* in 1877. Confused yet? I thought so, and I trust I've made my point! I could go on ad infinitum, but rather than do so I suggest chess players need to apply for patents from here on out to guard their namesakes! At least that way we can settle disputes about the correct names for various opening systems!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! [. . .]

(3) The fine art of annotating?
 In commenting on the game Capablanca (White) vs. Colle, Hastings Christmas Tourney, 1930-1931, the annotator fell asleep at the wheel. After the moves 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.cxd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Bd2 Bxc3 8.bxc3 Nbd7 9.e3 c5 10.c4 Qd6 11.Rd1 b6 12.Bc3 h6(!) Fred Reinfeld writes in his book *The Immortal Games of Capablanca*: "12...Bb7 at once was in order. It is not clear what Black had in mind in playing the text."



Position after 12.Bc3

Supposedly a strong master, Fred inexplicably misses the point of 12...h6!, which is to keep the White knight from g5 which sets up . . . the tactical chance of mating threats on h7 by removing various Black defenders. Black has to play this now, move 13 being too late: 12...Bb7? 13.Ng5! h6?? 14.dxc5! Qxc5 15.Rxd7!! made possible in part by Black's 12...Bb7? which is undefended! Now 15...hxg5 (or 15...Qxg5) 16.Rxb7 wins a piece and of course 15...Nxd7 16.Qh7 mates. Even if Black does not fall for 13...h6?? after Reinfeld's 12...Bb7? 13.Ng5! is still very strong since White instantly menaces essentially the same variations as in the above lines! My admittedly patzertainted conclusions: It was impera-

tive even if weakening to stop 13.Ng5! – Colle being a keen tactical player saw this as I did, and unpardonable that Reinfeld could not see why and note it! Even the masters, it seems, have their off days . . .

Torey Neuzil
 Austin

Perhaps the Immortal Fred was thinking of 12...Bb7 13.Ng5 h6! 14.dxc5 Qe7!, when 15.h4? doesn't work (15...hxg5 16.hxg5 Ne4) and 15.Nf3 Nxc5 gives Black a comfortable game. Still, he might have mentioned it for the benefit of inquisitive readers. Did Colle overlook the zwischenzug 14...Qe7?

Here's a game Torey sent from a simul held Feb. 23 at St. Theresa's church in Austin. Joe Bradford and Andras Budinszky had a lot of input in the post-mortem analysis, hence in Neuzil's ultra-copious notes.

Notes by Torey Neuzil

Modern Defense B06
WGM Maria Ivanka
Torey Neuzil 1604
Austin simul 2/23/97

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 g6

A waiting move which intends to answer 3.d4 with a novel opening system.

3.d4 Na6!?

And here it is! This is NOT a line of the "Caro-Kan"!

Called the DeBruycker Defense by GM Joel Benjamin in his book *Unorthodox Openings*, I learned the line from NM Drew Sarkisian who has played it seriously with Black. A game Chalker-Sarkisian (Texas Open 1996) went 1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Nc3 Nc7 5.Be2 Bg7 6.Bg5 f6 7.Be3 Nh6 8.Qd2 Nf7 9.Nh4 d5 10.exd5 cxd5 11.f4 e5 12.fxe5 fxe5 13.Nf3 e4 14.Ng5 0-0 15.0-0 Bf5 16.g4 Be6 17.Bf4 Nng5 18.Bxg5 Bxd4+ 19.Kh1 Bf6 20.Rxf6 Rxf6 21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Qxd8+ Rxd8 23.

Bxf6 Rd2 24.Re1 Rxc2 25.Bd1 Rc1 26.Bg5 Rb1 27.Bf6 Bxg4?? 28.Bb3+ 1-0. Despite the eleventh hour blunder by Drew, I was impressed by the possibilities – the knight makes a trip to d4 in some lines and Black's position, although often somewhat cramped, is very solid. I should point out that Sarkisian won with this defense in the ACE Invitational against Tony Lee (2150), who lost a pawn down B vs. N ending partly made possible by 3.Bxa6.

4.Be2

Better than 4.Bxa6 Qa5+! and Black recovers the piece without compromising his queenside pawns.

4...Bg7 5.0-0 Nc7 6.Be3

If 6.Bg5, then Black carries out the Sarkisian plan with f6, Nh6-f7.

6...d6 7.Qd2 Nf6

7...e5!? restores the central balance, but White has the better endgame after 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Qxd8+.

8.Bd3!

Moving a piece twice in the opening instead of the natural 8.Nc3 so the c4 push is kept in reserve. While this plan results in a bad KB, it's in fact a true GM level conception – White intends to increase her central space and strangle Black slowly with an encirclement strategy. The goal is to take all of Black's moves away from him and maintain tension in the center (thus inviting Black to surrender his own foothold) as long as possible.

8...0-0

8...Ng4! 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 e5 =

9.Bh6(?)

I consider this move illogical: since Black is clearly aiming for e5, his KB will become a bad piece. When playing against cramped positions, the side with more space seeks to avoid exchanges – especially bad pieces for good ones! Now White will be left with a liability in her KB while Black gets rid of his. The idea would be fine if White had castled long and could follow

up with h4-5, etc., but here there are few real mating attack chances. I suggest 9.h3! (taking Black's moves away!) followed by c4 and Nc3, when White has a great position and a huge space edge.

9...Ng4?

While this forces White to decide at one the fate of the QB, it's a bad move since it leads to White getting in the construction strategy move h3 with tempo. Better is 9...Nd7! intending e5 with a cramped but possibly playable game.

10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.h3! Nf6

I considered 11...Nh6 and f5, but rejected it as too weakening now that Black's KB has been exchanged.

12.c4 Nd7 13.Nc3 e5 14.Bc2!

White intends to exploit the undeveloped state of Black's queenside and broken communication of my rooks to play the simple Rad1 and thereby provoke Black into surrender of the center with exd4, when White is vastly superior.

14...Qe7

Black has an interesting alternative to the text: 14...c5!? forcing White's hand in the center. After 15.dxc5 dxc5 16.Nd5 Ne6! and a subsequent ...Nd4, Black seems equal since both sides have a "hole". Pushing with 15.d5 gets space but Black eventually enforces a break with ...b5 or ...f5. The testing line is 15.dxc5 dxc5 16.Qd6! Ne8 17.Qd2 Nc7 18.Rad1 f6 [What about 18...Qe7?]. 19.Ba4! Rf7 20.Qd6! b6 21.Bc6 or 21.Nd5 and something has to give in view of Black's light square weaknesses.

15.Rad1 Nf6 16.Rfe1

Later Bradford and I looked at 16.c5!?, dxc5 (16...exd4? 17.cxd6! Qxd6 18.e5! +-) 17.dxe5 Nfe8 and now "both sides stand worse" with dual doubled pawns and unclear play. An alternative was 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Qd6 Qxd6 18.Rxd6 Nfe8 19.Rd2 (19.Rd8 Ne6 20.Rd2 f6) f6.

16...Ng8 17.dxe5 dxe5 18.Qd6 f6 19.Qxe7+ Nxe7 20.Rd6 Be6 21.Red1! Kf7

Beginning a long-winded maneuver to challenge the rooks along the d-file and force them off the board. Of course not 21...Bxc4?? 22.Rd7.



22.b3(?)

Granted, ...Bxc4 is now a real threat, but his is not the most testing line: it makes White's Bc2 even "badder" and fails to get more space for the first player.

Why not 22.c5!?, answering 22...Na6 with 23.Rxe6! Kxe6 24.Bb3+ and wins (found by Danny Hardesty at the ACE club.) So it seems Black can't carry out the plan of opposing rooks along the d-file very easily as he does in the actual game, since the Nc7 is tied down due to the above tactical finesse!

22...Rfc8

Preparing ...Ne8 expelling the intruder while leaving rooks connected. A more active alternative is 22...b5!? (GaiFFE) and now 23.cxb5 Nxb5 24.Nxb5 (24.R6d3 Na3!) cxb5 = gives Black good play on the c-file. Compare with Reshevsky-Fischer, Piatagorsky Cup 1966, which ended in a draw.

23.Na4 Ne8 24.R6d2 b6 25.c5 b5 26.Nb2 Ng8 27.Kh2 Ke7 28.Ne1 Rd8 29.Rxd8 Rxd8 30.Rxd8 Kxd8

We are now in a minor piece ending which favors White.

31.Ned3! Ne7

Since it is clear that White intends f4 to compel ...exf4, perhaps I should have tried 31...g5!? A possible line is 32.g3 Ne7 33.f4 gxf4 34.gxf4 exf4 35.Nxf4 Bf7, intending Ng6-e5. Or 31...Nh6 32.f4 Nf7, intending ...exf4 and ...Ne5. The key is to get good central squares for Black's knights, like e5 or d4.

I was so concerned about weak pawns (f7, h7) being exploited that I forgot you can also lose by passivity, strangleholds and zugzwang!

32.f4 exf4 33.Nxf4 Bf7

Keeping a check on the advance of White's queenside pawns, better than 32...Bd7 as White would love to place her pawns on dark squares.

34.Nbd3 Nc7 35.g4(?)

This habit of putting so many pawns on light squares given White's bishop color has got to be suspect, but it does grab still more space, and permits king centralization.

35...Ne6 36.Nxe6+ Bxe6 37.Kg3 Ke8 38.Nf4 Kf7 39.a3! (?)

She thought for a while here, and I'm not sure she was right in declining: 39.Nxe6 Kxe6 (1) 40.b4 g5! 41.Bb3+ Ke5 intending ...Kd4 and ...Ng6-e5. But White has better. (2) 40.h4 g5! h5! encircles the horse. [You stop too soon with this variation: 41...Ke5 42.Kf3 (42.b4? h6! Δ ...Kd4) b4 (42...Kd4 43.e5!) 43.Ke3 Ng8 44.Bd1 Nh6 45.Be2 a5 =.]

39...a5

White's 39.a3 intends b4, Ne2-d4 and Bb3, forcing bishops off or bringing the cleric in via e6. I planned to answer 40.b4 with ...a4 to hinder this plan, but it proves too loosening for Black if the pawn is forced to remain on a5

I suggest 39...g5 40.Ne2 Ng6! intending ...Ne5 or 40.Nxe6 Kxe6 and ...Ng6 [or 41.e5 h6 =].

About this time Ivanka was on me every few seconds as nearly all the others playing had resigned! Soon the game degenerates into a case of blitz patzer vs. blitz GM!

40.h4 h6?

Black misses 40...g5! Δ ...Ng6. [But he is given more chances...]

41.Kf3?

The blunders continue! 41.Nc2! answers 41...g5 with 42.h5 removing Black's only counterplay.

41...Bd7? (41...g5!) 42.Ne2!!

Apparently reclaiming the win, as 42...g5 now loses to 43.h5!

42...Be6!

Rectifies the last error. On 42...f5 43.gxf5 gxf5 44.h5! White menaces Nd4 and Kf4 with advantage.

43.Nd4! Bd7

Black hardly has any moves left! There is no reason to fear 44.Nxe6? as White needs her knight to win the a5 pawn, but the only other tries are (1) 43...g5? 44.h5! (2) 43...b4? 44.a4! (3) 43...h5!? 44.g5! ... (3a) 44...f5? exf5 Bxf5 46.Bxf5 gxf5 47.Kf4!; (3b) 44...fxg5 45. hxg5 and Black cannot cash in his passed pawn, his knight is still cornered and White still has the winning plan of a4 and Bb3, trading bishops and snagging the a-pawn after a timely Nc4 or Nb3.

44.a4 b4??

This lemon causes *two* Black pawns to fall since my knight cannot guard either a5 or b4. Better is 44...bxa4 and only the a-pawn drops.

45.Bd3! Be6! 46.Ba6

Missing an immediate win: 46. Bc4!! Bxc4 47.bxc4 Δ Nb3!, etc.

46...Bd7 47. Bc4+ Ke8 48.Nc2 Kf8 49.Kf4??

Indicated is 49.Nd4! Δ Be6.

49...g5+!!

Since this is a check, White can't play h5 keeping the knight trapped.

50.hxg5 hxg5+ 51.Kg3 Be8?

Overlooking the simple salvation in 51...Ng6! intending Ne5/f4. I think Budinszky is right that Black

perhaps draws with this move! Although Bradford may argue that White wins anyhow, I'm not sure zugzwang can be forced any longer. White's winning try is to play Nd4, trade bishops with Be6 and follow with Nf5-d7-d8-b7-a5. Black plays Ng6-e5 and either tries to prevent White from getting to a square (b7/c4) which wins the a-pawn, or attacks White's weak pawns at c5 and b3. After 51...Ng6 52.Nd4 53. Be6 Bxe6! 54.Nxe6+ Kxe7! 55.Nd4 Kd7 56.Nf5 Nd3 Black wins the c-pawn and wins! So if White can force a win in the Be6 line as Bradford says, I do not see it! It seems White's best after 51...Ng6! is to defend her weak pawns with 52. Ne1! Ne5 53.Be2 Be6 54.Bd1 and Black cannot make progress.

52.Ne3! Bg6? (52...Ng6) 53. Kf3! Ke8?? (53...Be8) 54.Be6 Bf7?? 55.Bxf7+! Kxf7 56.Nc4! Nc8? 57.Nxa5 Na7 58.Ke3! Ke6 59.Nc4! Nc8 60.Nb2! Na7 61. Nd3! Nc8 62.Nxb4 1-0

Texas Senior

John Patty has been doing hard time in tournaments lately, but a trip to Huntsville turned that around. The San Antonio master scored 4-0 in scenic Prison City to win the Texas senior title. Forrest Marler directed the 19-player event, held Apr. 19-20 at the Sam Houston Inn.

PRIZE WINNERS

1st: John Patty, 4. 2nd: William T. Jones, Robert McGregor, Robert G. Wright, 3. U1700: William Stewart, Carl McClure, 2.5.

King's Indian Smyslov E70

John Patty 2201

Robert Wright 1778

Texas Senior 1997 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 e5 7.d5 a6

8.Be2 Qe8 9.h4 Bd7 10.a4 c6 11. h5 c5 12.Bg5 Qc8 13.Qd2 Bg4 14. f3 Bd7 15.Bh6 Be8



16.Nf5! Bxb6

16...gxf5 17.Qg5 Nxf5 18.Rxf5 and 19.Qxg7 mate; 16...Bh8 17.Bxf8 Kxf8 18.Qh6+ Kg8 19.Ne7 mate.

17.Qxh6 gxf5 18.Qg5+ Kh8 19. Qxf6+ (19...Kg8 20.h6) 1-0

Bill Jones - Dwight Skinner



34.e6 Qg7 35.Be5!! Rc1+ 36. Kh2 Qxe5+ 37. f4 Qg7?

37...Qc7? 38.e7 Kf7 39.Qxh7+ Bg7 40.Qg8+! Kxg8 41.e8(Q)+ Bf8 42.Qxg6+ Qg7 43.Qe6+ Qf7 44. Rh8+ +;

37...Qf6! 38.Qxh7+ Kf8 39.e7+ Ke8 40.Qg8+ Kxe7 41.Rh7+ Kd6 42.Qb8+ Kc5 (42...Ke6?? 43.Qb6+!) 43.Qc8+ Kb6 44.Qxc1 \pm .

38.Qd8+ Qf8 39.e7 1-0

— More next issue —

still have to run a Primary section? Anderson proposed a friendly amendment to Young's change to make the Primary sections optional at the regionals. Young refused the addition. On the vote, Young's amendment FAILED, 11-5.

Anderson's original amendment PASSED, 12-2.

The meeting was adjourned temporarily at 9:20 so that the mornings rounds could be started. The meeting reconvened at 10:07.

Young introduced an amendment by Pam Hobart to Article IX, Section 1.E (Texas Scholastic Championship): **Students not assigned a grade in school will be assigned a grade at the tournament based on their age as of September 1 of that school year as follows: six years old is assigned first grade, seven years old is assigned second grade, and so on through grade twelve.** Young seconded the amendment, which PASSED by acclamation.

Danny Hardesty proposed an amendment that home-schooled sixth graders have the option of playing in either the Middle School or Elementary Sections. Pam Hobart seconded the amendment. It FAILED, 7-3.

Anderson called on José J. Guajardo to share his experience with school administrators in Brownsville for the benefit of other coaches. Anderson announced a new feature in *Texas Knights*, a coaches' page to be edited by Forrest Marler. The meeting adjourned at 10:42.

TCA Financial Statement

for the period beginning 9/1/96 and ending 3/12/97
by TCA treasurer Greg Wren

REVENUES

Memberships	\$ 2,410.00
Funds recovered from lost deposit*	677.50
Donations	400.00
Interest (estimated)	90.00
Miscellaneous	<u>42.00</u>
Total revenues	\$ 3,619.50

EXPENSES

<i>Texas Knights</i> (4 issues)	\$ 4,433.14
Excess expenditures on SASP	105.31
USCF affiliation fee	40.00
Stamps	<u>32.00</u>
Total expenses	\$ 4,610.45
NET LOSS	\$ 990.95

* Lost Aug. 26, 1996. Total unrecovered: \$20.

Note: A more accurate assessment would deduct the extra issue of *Texas Knights* (\$1,022.20) and also reduce revenues by the recovered lost deposit from August (\$677.50), for an adjusted loss of **\$646.25**.

TCA Nominations and Tournament Bids

Candidates for TCA office must have nominations in writing, received by June 15, 1997 at the *Texas Knights* address, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023. Both nominator and nominee must be TCA members. Each candidate gets a free 100 word statement in the magazine. Candidates may pool their allotments.

Bids are sought for the 1998 Texas Senior, Armed Forces, Open and Rapid championships. Include name of sponsor, proposed date, number of rounds, time controls, site (city), prize fund (with amounts guaranteed or based on "x" players) and entry fees. Using the format of *Chess Life* TLA's is helpful.

Solutions

- 1.Rxg7+ and Black resigned because of forced mate: 1...Kxg7 2.Qxf6+ Kg8 3.Qf8 mate.
2. 1.Rxd5 cxd5 2.Rf7 wins the queen for small change: 2...Qxf7 3.Nxf7 dxe4 (3...Rhf8 4.Ned6 +- or 4.e6+! Kc6 5.Ne5+ leading to mate) and now 4.e6+ won, but simpler would have been 4.Nxh8 Rxh8 5.Qxg7+ and Qxh8.
3. 1...e3 threatens both Qxc2 and Rxf2+!, e.g. 2.Rce2 Rxf2+ 3.Rxf2 Qxg3+ 4.Kh1 Qxf2 5.Rg1 Ng3+ 6.Rxg3 Qxg3 -+ (still covering mate at g7!) The game ended 2.Ree2 Rxf2+ and White resigned, since 3.Rxf2 Qxg3+ 4.Kh1 exf2 4.Qxf2 Re1+ wins his queen.
4. 1...Qxf3+ 2.Qxf3 Be4 and White resigned since 3.Qxe4 Nf2+ and 4...Nxe4 completes the win of a piece.
5. 1...Be1 2.Bxd4 (2.Qxe1 Ndx3+; 2.Qxd4 Bxf2+ 3.Kxf2 Qg2+ 4.Ke1 Nxf3+ and Nxd4) Bxf2+ 3.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 4.Ke3 Qxg3 -+. Black has won the exchange and a pwn with a continuing attack on the exposed king.
6. 1.Rb8 Rxb8 2.Rxb8 Qd7 3.Qg2 and Black resigned, since 3...Bg7 4.Be5 Bxe5 5.Qg8+ forces mate.
7. 1...Nxe4 2.fxe4 Rg1+ (or 2...Rxh2+) and White resigned because of forced mate after 3.Rxg1 Qxe4+. A more stubborn defense was 2.Ng3, but 2...Rxg3! 3.hxg3 Nxg3+ crashes through: 4.Kg2 (4.Kh2 Nf1+ or 4.Kg1 Ne2+) Nf5+ 5.Qg4 Ne3+ 6.Rxe3 Qxb1 -+.
8. 1...Nxe5 2.Rxe5 Qa7+ forces a decisive self-pin: 3.R5e3 Rf3 4.Qh4 h6 and White resigned. On 3.Qe3 Black mates with 3...Rxe5! 4.Qxa7 Rxe1+, etc.
9. 1.c5 bxc5 2.dxc5 Qd5 (2...Nxc5 3.Bh7+) 3.Qxb4 and White resigned. The final point is 3...Nxe5 4.Be4 +-.

Back cover solution: 1.Qf7+!! Kxf7 2.gxh8(N)+ Ke8 3.Ng7+ Kd8 4.Nf7+ Kc7 5.Ne8+ Kc6 6.Ne5+ Kb5 7.Nc7+ Kxa5 8.Nc4 mate. Courtesy of Robert Brierger.

The new address of the **DFW Mid-Cities Chess Club** is Redeeming Love Church, 805 Secretary, Arlington, TX. Same day and time. (Dave Johnson, dajartlx@aol.com)

DRIVE-IN BOOK REVIEW

by NM Jim "Bob" Gallagher

Alekhine's Block

by Correspondence IM Victor Charusin
Pickard and Son, \$11.95

When *TK* editor and TCA president (is that legal?) NM Selby Anderson asked me to review this book for our favorite state rag, he probably expected another glowing endorsement for Texas' newest chess book publishers. After all, he is well aware of my affinity for Pickard & Son (& Wife). Indeed, my review for Sid's *ECO Busted!* (Hays Publishing) was absolutely saturated with superlatives. That is because *ECO Busted!* was a great book! Ah, well, things change.

I have never been a fan of the Bill Wall style "look at what my computer can do" database generated chess book. (I might as well pan everybody else while I'm at it!) What you usually get is every game published anywhere for any reason including unedited trash where some neophyte drops two pieces for no discernible reason in the first eleven moves entitled "Miniatures in the Therkatz-Herzog Variation of the Italian Game". P.S. Yes, yes I know this variation takes fourteen moves to develop! I'm trying to define ludacrism here.

Unfortunately, Alekhine's Block – which may be in Mr. Roger's neighborhood, the book doesn't say . . . [*I thought it was a mental condition – Ed.*] – is exactly a database on paper sandwiched between a whopping five pages of printed words – including the foreword, introduction and back cover! You will not be distracted by an encyclopedic description of this somewhat remote tactical motif in this tome. You will receive, however, one unbelievably pretentious chapter heading called "Alekhine's Block in Opening Theory" which includes six games all beginning with the same first nine moves of the Tarrasch French.

The title itself is a bit of a stretch. While Alekhine is represented by 27 games, 13 of these are against simul fodder, one is a blitz game, another a consultation game; and although the names of Rubinstein, Tartakover, Tarrasch and Euwe can be found among the remaining twelve games, so can the names of giants such as Sterk, Apsheeneek and Brinkmann. No other master appears more than thrice – Fischer: 2, Karpov: 3, Kasparov: 2, and Misha, my beloved Tal: not at all!

And the games. Despite every single key move being graced with a double exclaim or a # sign while few other moves receive any comment, most of the games are pretty darn good! I am not just saying so in hopes of still being welcome as a dinner guest at the Pickard

household either! Included are the famous classics like Lewitsky-Marshall, Breslau 1911, Reti-Alekhine, Baden-Baden 1925, and Fischer-Benko, USA (ch) 1963, as well as some astounding modern examples such as Razuvaev-Tiviakov, Roston-on-Don 1993 – where the justifying continuation is longer than the author's master title. Too bad they are not annotated.

168 games, 95 pages, complete player and opening indices, massive gratuitous violence, reasonable price. 2 1/2 pawns. Jim "Bob" says check it out.

A Short Course for Class B Players

by Stephen Cheyney

Spiral bound, 203 pages, Stephen Cheyney, 1996. \$24.00
533 W. Grammercy, San Antonio, TX 78212

Reviewed by NM Selby Anderson

Cheyney's sequel to his course for Class C players builds on the strengths of the first volume: tactical exercises and helpful hints skillfully tailored to the level and needs of his audience. He has had feelers out for a long time regarding the types of errors and gaps in knowledge that are typical of lower class players.

However, Cheyney's writing suffers from a pedantic style that will probably lose many readers' interest even as he makes good points. Readers of his Class C book may note that three of the essays in this sequel (The Opening, Strategy and Tactics) are virtual word-for-word reprints from the first volume. Sometimes there is misinformation. The hanging pawns are defined as an unsupported c-d pawn duo (what, not e-f?) In the Two Knights variation of the Caro-Kann (1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3), the move 3...dxe4 is given a "?!" although 3.Nxe4 Nf6 4.Nxf6+ gxf6 is considered equal by ECO.

And then there's the price – about twice what you'd expect for a spiral-bound work. The use of typewriter-style Courier font adds to an amateurish appearance. (Cheyney says Courier was the only type where ellipsis ["..."] in Times font) would show up.)

But if you are already paying for lessons at \$25 an hour, you will get many times that value from this book – provided you do the work. Cheyney laudably fills a void in the literature for mid-level instruction. For a preview, check out The Short Course Page on the Web at www.rdtech.com/jphyltin/cheyney.htm/.

Also received: *Leningrad Dutch: Strategy and Tactics* by SM John Hall and Jan R. Cartier. Soft cover, 148 pages. Hays Publishing, Dallas, 1997. \$16.95.

Texas Postal Championship: Send \$10 entry to Steve Lynn, 3503 Aspen Leaf, Round Rock, TX 78681



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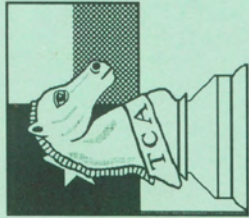
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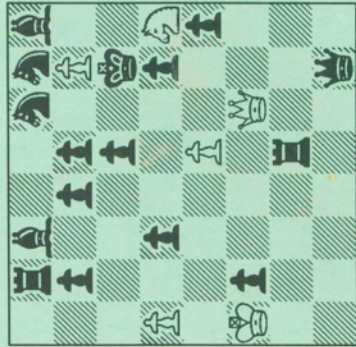


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See inside front cover for
TCA membership information.

Paul Morphy (year -?)



Mate in eight
Solution: page 32

