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New Year Open winner Eric Dimazana

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Corrections last issue: (1) SACC web site is www.connecti.com/~txchess/; (2) see "Crosstables", p. 27.

Cover photo: Greg Wren

Test Your Tactics!

Solutions: p. 27



1. White to move

Gordon-DeMott, New Year Open Rd. 5



2. White to move

Dimazana-Anderson, NYO Rd. 5



3. White to move

Rohrbaugh-Hendrick, NYO Rd. 4



4. White to move

Fulton-Rohrbaugh, NYO Rd. 3



5. White to move

Suarez-Grubbs, Klein Scholastic



6. Black to move

Fioramonti-Vogt, Switzerland 1993



7. White to move

Shirov-Kasparov, Linares 1997



8. White to move

Anand-Dreev, Linares 1997



9. Black to move

Ivanchuk-Judit Polgar, Linares 1997

Texas juniors win at first U.S. Junior Congress West

The first U.S. Junior Chess Congress West, held January 18-19 in Oklahoma City, brought in 179 players from as far as California and Nebraska. The Lone Star state was well represented, and Texas youth brought back the lion's share of trophies. Out of seven age group sections, five were won by Texas players. Four of the first place team trophies went to Texas schools.

Texas High School Champion Steven Grubbs of Garland won the 18 and Under section with 5-0. Just behind him with 3.5 was Andy Zamora of Brownsville. Berkner High School of Richardson (north of Dallas) led by Sachin Babu (3) easily won the team competition.

In 16 and Under, Joseph Knapp of Omaha, NB won with 5-0, ahead of Dennis Munguia (4) of Northside High School in Fort Worth (2nd individual and team trophies).

Matt Bradford of Addison won the 14 and Under section with 6.5/7. He and teammate Jonathan Walsh (4.5) won top team honors for St. Mark's School ahead of three full-sized teams (three players in this event). The 30 players in this section were so eager to play chess that they unanimously petitioned the TD to add an additional two rounds of play, making a total of seven!

John Sneed of Fort Worth won the 12 and Under section with 6.5/7, a point ahead of the field. (With a 1716 rating, he is nationally ranked #27 in age 11-12.) The winning team was Washington Jackson Elementary of Wichita Falls, led by Patrick Lim (5.5, =2nd).

Theunis Jansen Van Rensburg of Irving won the 10 and Under section with 7-0. In the team competition, Fort Worth schools placed second and third: Ridglea Hills (led by Javier Cal, 5) and W.J. Turner (Julian Rios, 4).

Ridglea Hills teams placed first in the two youngest age groups. Its star player in 8/under, Mitchell Jennings, placed second with 5/7.

In 6 and Under, Erick Cordova of Fort Worth's W.J. Turner Elementary won the top individual trophy with 8/10. The six players in this section played a double round robin at a faster time control.

Luis Salinas was the chief TD. Assisting him were Jim Berry, Dennis Anderson, Bill Johnson, Brad Bradford, Wilford Biggs and Manuel Espino. The event was co-sponsored by USCF, local organizer Fred Roper, and the Oklahoma Junior Chess Association.



37...e5 38.Kf2 d4 39.exd4 exd4 40.Ke2 dxc3 41.Kd3 Ra4 42.Re1 Rd8+ 43.Ke3 Rd2 44.Re2 Rd6 45.Kf3 Rda6 46.Re8+ Kh7 47.Ree2 Kg6 48.g3 f6 49.g4 f5 (Better is 49...h5 - SG.) 50.gxf5+ Kxf5 51.Rxc3 Rxa2 52.Rc5+ Kf6 53.Rc6+ Rxc6 54.Rxa2 a6 55.Ra5 Ke6 56.Ke4 Kd6 57.Kd4 Kc7 58.Kd5 Rf6 59.Ra1 a5 60.Rb1 g5 61.Ke5 Rf3 62.h4 gxh4 63.Rh1 h3 64.Ke4 Rb3 65.Kd4 a4 66.Kc4 Rg3 67.Kc5 a3 68.Rh2 Kd7 69.Kd5 h5 70.Ra2 h4 71.Rh2 Ke7 72.Ke5 Kf7 73.Kf4 Kf6 74.Ra2 Ke6 75.Ke4 Rg4+ 76.Kf3 Ra4 (76... Rg2! - SG) 77.Kf2 Kd5 78.Kg1 Kc4 79.Kh1 Kb3 80.Rh2 a2 81.Rxh3+ Kc2 82.Rh2+ Kd3 (82...Kd1) 83.Rh3+ Kd2 84.Rh2+ Ke3 85.Rh3+ Kf2 86.Rh2+ Kg3 87.Rg2+ Kf4 88.Rf2+ Kg5 89.Rg2+ Kh5 90.Rg1 a1(Q) 0-1

Sicilian B44

Andy Zamora 1834

Steven Grubbs 2051

Jr. Congress West (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 c5 3.Nf3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Be2?!

Normally the Nxc6 line is one of White's most solid options, but this bishop belongs at d3.

6...Nf6 7.Bf3?

Now the f1-a6 diagonal gets hijacked. Equal is 7.Nd2 d5.

7...Ba6! 8.Nc3 Bb4 9.Bd2 Qb6 10.Ne2

Another try is 10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 Bxc3 12.Bxc3 Nxe4 13.Bxg7! Kxg7 14.Bxa6, hoping for 14...Qxa6? 15.Qg4+ =; but 14...Nf6! picks up the b-pawn anyway.

10...Bxd2+ 11.Qxd2 Qxb2 12.0-0 0-0 13.Rfe1 Qe5 14.Nf4 Qg5 (Δ 15...e5) 15.e5 Nd5 16.Bxd5 cxd5 17.Qd4 Rfc8 18.Nh3 Qf5 19.Qa4 Rc6 20.Rac1 h6 21.Qa3 Rac8 22.c3 Qd3 23.Nf4 Qc4 24.Ne2 Qc5 25.Qb2 Rb6 26.Qd2 Bxe2 27.Qxe2 Rcb8 28.Rc2 Rc6 29.Rec1 Qa5 30.h3 Rbc8 31.Qe3 Qa3 32.Qd3 Rc4 33.Kf1 d6 34.exd6 Qxd6 35.Kg1 Qe5 36.Qe3 Qxe3 37.fxe3

Giucco Piano C50

Sachin Babu 1243

Steven Grubbs 2051

Jr. Congress West (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Nc3 d6 5.0-0 Bg4 6.Be2 Be7 7.d3 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Nd4 9.Bg5 c6 10.Bg4 Nxe4 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Qxe4 0-0 13.Ne2? (13.Qd1) Qe6! 14.Qxe6?? (14.Qh5 Qg6 (14...g6? 15.Nxd4 =) 15.Ng3 Qxe4 16.Nxe4 Nxc2 -/+) Nxe2+ 15.Kh1 fxe6 16.f3 Rf6 17.Rf2 Nd4 and ... 0-1

Klein Winter Scholastics

On February 1st, the Klein High School Chess Club with organizer Jim Liptrap held their annual Klein Winter Scholastics. This year there were 280 students, almost equaling last year's record of 302. However, this year there was an adult section (Klein Winter Open) which drew an additional 20 players. It was nice to see the participation of an adult section as this allowed some of the parents to play as well as letting other adult players see what is going on in scholastic chess.

There were enough third graders this year that they were able to have their own section. If the high school sections here are any indication of the rest of Texas, the underclassmen will be winning for a few more years, making all of our high school teams nothing but stronger.

Steven Grubbs came down from Dallas, fresh from a victory at the Junior Congress West. In round 2 he drew second-ranked David John in a game that was debated on the Internet Chess Club for at least an hour. In the fourth round, after David easily beat Andrés Suarez, and Steven with nearly equal ease defeated Glenn Boudreaux, Andrés won against Steven – quite a feat for a seventh grader against the defending state high school champion.

David finished by drawing Glen Boudreaux (third-ranked at 1687) to win on tiebreaks over Justin Shih (1414), an early Grubbs victim who defeated fellow Class C players.

Tied for 3rd-5th were Steven Grubbs, Andrés Suarez and Glen Boudreaux.

Forrest Marler directed with lots of help from with Jim Liptrap, George John, Steve Hobart, and Bill Jones.

– Forrest Marler, George John

Klein First Prize/=1st Winners Open (adult): Pantellis Dadidakis, Jorge Best, 3.5/5. **Championship:** David John, Justin Shih, 3/4. **High School A:** Ben Lehrer, 4/4. **High School B:** Ricardo Steele, 5/5. **High School C:** Richard Steele, 5/5. **High School team:** Bellaire. **Middle School B:** Jonathan Fong, 4.5. **Middle School C:** Kim Le, 5/5. **Middle School D:** Matthew Willis, 5/5. **Middle School team:** Lanier. **Elementary A:** Boran Butorovic, 5/5. **Elem. B:** Christopher Zu, 6/6. **Third Grade:** Chao Chen, 5.5/6. **Primary K-2:** Cameron Fulkerstone, 5/6. **Elem. team:** Krahn.

Notes by David John

Sicilian Cheliabinsk B32

Steven Grubbs 2030

David John 1910

Klein Winter 1997 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5

It took me a couple of minutes to play this move. I believe the last time I played this defense in a major tournament was against John Hendrick in the Texas Team Championship 1996, with little success. I had learned some theory before trying my luck again.

5. Nb5

I had prepared for either this move or the interesting Nf3!? in home analysis.

5...d6 6.N1c3 a6 7.Na3 b5 8. Nd5 Be6

More popular are ...Nge7 and IM Silman's recommendation ...Be7.

9.c4 b4 10.Nc2

10.Qa4!? leads to complications, as I learned in analysis with John Hendrick and an FM on the Internet Chess Club: 10.Qa4 Bd7 11.Nb5 axb5 12.Qxa8 Qxa8 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Nxa8 Nd4! Then if 15.Bd3, bxc4 gives Black some play for the exchange and a small initiative; and if

15.Kd1, Bc6! keeps Black in the game, winning the e pawn.

The text is fairly solid, and the resulting pawn structure is usually favorable to White.

10...a5 11.b3?!

This move seemed weakening, but I couldn't find a refutation. I assumed simply developing would be best.

11...Be7 12.Be2! Nf6?! 13. Nxf6+! Bxf6 14.Bg4

At this point I wasn't too comfortable. White will exchange his theoretically "bad" bishop and maintain control over the d5 square.

14...0-0 15.0-0

15.Bxe6? fxe6 gives Black more comfort.

15...Qd7 16.h3!? Be7?!

Best is probably 16...Bd8! and the problem bishop will be more logically placed.

17.Ne3!

Accurate play is necessary here as the f7-f5 break must be achieved for Black.

17...Nd4 18.Nd5

This shows why 16...Be7?! is not good.

18...Bd8 19.f4?



I am skeptical that this move is good, as White will be hit with a counterattack here. A simple plan of attacking the d pawn is better.

(Continued on page 20)

UTD chess team making its move among other powerhouse quads

by Jayne Noble
Staff Writer of the Dallas Morning News

There are no football scholarships at the University of Texas at Dallas. You can, however, get cash for castling and remuneration for rooks.

Chess is king here.

The Richardson university may not have a football team, but it's one of only four colleges in the country that actively recruits and offers scholarships to great chess players.

"Who wouldn't want to be associated with a school where intellectual pursuits are important?" said senior Noureddine Ziane, 21, the six man chess team's lead player and a scholarship recipient.

"We are really working hard on making a great team and I'm very glad about that," said Mr. Ziane, a computer science major.

On Friday the team heads to Baltimore for the Pan American games - the Super Bowl of chess tournaments - to compete with other powerhouses from around the Americas.

Tim Redman, a professor of literary studies and the team's supervisor, said he has a five-year plan to make his team the best in the country.

"This is all in keeping with what we're trying to do here at UTD, in keeping with our mission to recruit the best and the brightest," said Dr. Redman, who as a graduate student in the 1970's was a member of the formidable University of Chicago chess team.

The university gave out four chess scholarships this year. Two include full tuition, room and board, and a \$1,500 stipend per semester. Two include full tuition and some housing expenses.

Dennis Kratz, dean of undergraduate studies, said he was thrilled when Dr. Redman approached him a few years ago about developing a chess team.

"I thought scholarships would be a great way to recruit first-rate students," said Dr. Kratz, who will accompany the team to Baltimore. "One of the things I enjoy about chess players is that they tend to think strategically about everything, and Redman is always thinking two moves ahead."

People familiar with UTD are not surprised that chess is a popular sport. After all, this is a school where entering freshmen have the highest Scholastic

Achievement Test averages in any school in the UT system and the academic College Bowl team is the only team that's ranked.

Other schools that offer chess scholarships are the University of Maryland Baltimore County; The Borough of Manhattan Community College; and Shimer College in Waukegan, Ill.

Chess players say they're proud to be part of a school that is actively honing its geeky image.

"If UTD has a reputation as a nerd school, the reputation is well-founded," said art junior Marvin Huckaby, 21, the chess team's No. 2 player and a scholarship recipient. "It says people are serious and they're more intellectual than sports- or party-oriented."

The chess team, whose members are all part of the university's larger chess club, say good play requires physical stamina as well as mental agility. At the Pan American playoffs, for instance, games can last up to six hours and winning is everything.

"You have to predict all of the possible combinations of moves your opponent can make and, if you can control everything, anticipate 10 moves ahead," said Roman Shevchuk, 23, a doctoral student in applied mathematics and an alternate player on the Pan American team.

Members of the Pan American team are all master or expert players, Dr. Redman said, which means they are better than most serious players in the country.

Team members play each other for practice, including five-minute games known as "blitz chess." Most players also own software that allows them to play with their computers.

There are no women on the chess team this year, which is something the university would like to remedy, Dr. Kratz said.

"We've got a recruiting list and women are on it," said Dr. Kratz. "Chess is an analytic and assertive sport, and women were probably suppressed from playing it for a long time. But that's stopped now."

"And we should always remember that the king is the most vulnerable piece on the board and the queen the most popular."

The team finished ninth in a strong field in Baltimore, losing in the last round to the University of Toronto 'A' team. The other loss was to the University of Maryland Baltimore County team which took the tournament. We finished with 3.5 points.

- Tim Redman

LETTERS

Rook sac stumps Spassky

A few issues ago [TK Sept.-Oct. 1996, p. 33] you printed a game I lost where my opponent made a brilliant rook sacrifice that led to a forced mate. I remember the game and remember losing but had forgot the sac. Funny how the mind works. Something to be learned here.

In November I was in Canada with a strong Canadian master and Boris Spassky. I showed the position to them and said Black to move and force mate. They didn't get it. After a few wrong tries I had to show them the move. From that I deduce it was a very brilliant move.

Enclosed is a check for \$100, a token of support for *Texas Knights* and the editor.

Bill Church
Scottsdale, AZ

J.P. Hytlin was tickled to hear that his conception had stumped a former world champion!

Silence is wooden

Speaking of even more awkward editorial silence, in Palatnik-Schwartzman (TK 1-2/97, p. 8) am I just a dumb expert or is Black handily drawing this game (after 61.Nd7) with 61...Kc3? For example, 62.Kxa2 Kc4 63.Ka3 Kd5 64.Ka4 b6, and White cannot make progress, or 62.Nc5 Kd4 is easy enough to find. Is that why you had a diagram of the position after move 60? I guess the point was that Schwartzman missed (after 63.Nxe6) 63...b3 lost to 64.Nd4+?

Your faithful ex-president,
Michael Simpson
Austin

I'm just a dumb editor! It looks like Gabe made a sudden death error.

Resign with conviction

I was surprised to read that NM John Patty had confirmed your hunch that he resigned without having any conviction that he was in fact losing. I am well aware of the sinking feeling which comes from blundering away a winning position in an important game, however I do not feel that this justifies throwing the game. While I do not think competitive games should ever be thrown, it should be noted that the result of this game affected the distribution of prizes in the event and so there was a particular responsibility to finish the game in an honest manner.

For the record I should state that I am one of the people who would have got a few more dollars if the game had ended in a draw, but I am not annoyed about that and hope that this letter does not appear to be any kind of personal gripe.

What I am really concerned about is that a player resigned an important game without any conviction that it was lost, freely admitted this, and this is reported as if it were normal and acceptable. I would like John Patty and anyone else not clear on this issue to know that this is not acceptable to at least some of your fellow competitors. My apologies to John if I have misunderstood the course of events, but in any event I did not want to let your report pass without comment.

Eugene Curtin
San Marcos

Disgust can color one's judgment (or shut it down) when the game turns sour. I do not condone throwing games, and did not mean to convey that this was consciously done or that it is okay to do so. I doubt that Patty had any strong convictions about the position, but a general sense of defeat and angst.

Correction to a correction

I was looking at Gelfand-Kramnik on page 24 of the Jan.-Feb. TK issue, and I thought it looked familiar. Turned out I was right. The game appeared in *Chess Life*, Jan. 1997, p. 37, and it turns out Lyman's analysis wasn't incorrect – the diagram was! The rook on b6 in the TK diagram (and I assume in Lyman's column) was actually on b3 after 19...Rab8 20.Qa5 Rb3 21.Ka2 Rfb8. So the a2-g8 diagonal was of course closed, so no mate on a2.

I have to admit I'm glad of the diagram error. It showed me that I'm finally recalling positions I've seen well enough to learn from them – something quite gratifying to a newbie.

Larry Tipperreiter
Georgetown

I should have guessed it – Lyman's notation transposed files on Black's 20th (...Rb6 instead of ...Rb3). To be fair, Lyman did not diagram the position or he surely would have caught the error.

Texans on Internet Club

I think it would be a good idea to include an article about Texans and online chess in a future issue of *Texas Knights*! I would be interested in knowing how many Texans play online and what their handles are. Perhaps ICC would give you that info? Probably the best known Texan online is ChessDoc, a.k.a. Miles Ardaman, M.D. of Houston. I am called generalc, a.k.a. Carl Waldby. I am sending a game, in which I played a solid defense as black.

Carl Waldby
Sweeny

ICC doesn't give the names behind the handles because of privacy concerns. I can tell you one that's no secret – BigJoe (Bradford).



Dr. Callo and chess in Peru

I just came back from my vacation trip to Peru where some people named a chess club after me; maybe because through the years I helped some Peruvian chess players to come here and participate in tournaments, etc. I am originally from Cusco where this club is. I brought with me all I could – chess sets, clocks and magazines including *Texas Knights*. This nine year old girl is under-12 champion of Peru.

Dr. Guillermo Callo
Midland



Paola Ascue with Dr. Callo

Pirc Defense B07

Paola Ascue (age 9)

Tina Bambaren (age 12)

Peru under-12 Ch.

1.e4 d6 2.Bc4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4. Nc3 Nf6 5.0-0 0-0 6.h3 e5 7.d3 c5 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Qe7 10.Nd5 Qd8 11.a3 Be6 12.Re1 Bxd5 13.Bxd5 Nc6 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qd2 Qd7 16. Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Qxh6 Bg7 18.Qd2 Rab8 19.b3 d5 20.exd5 Qxd5 21.

Rab1 e4 22.Rxe4 Rfe8 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.Re1 Be5 25.Nxe5 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Qxe5 27.Qa5 Qa1+ 28. Kh2 Qb2 29.Qxc5 a5 30.a4 1-0

Two from Torey

1. Bobby blunder?

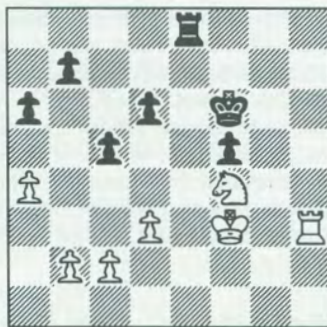
Unless a famous typo exists that I do not know about, Fischer missed what a patzer saw! After 1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d6 3.d4 Nd7 4.Nf3 e5 5.Bc4 Be7 6.dxe5 Nxe5 7.Nxe5 dxe5 8.Qh5 g6 9.Qxe5 Nf6 10.Bg5 Bd7, Fischer played 11.0-0 and ended up with two pieces for a rook against Julius Goldsmith in the 1957 Log Cabin Independent Open.

Why not simply 11.Bxf6! winning a full piece?? I checked two game score sources and it all checks out – Bobby blundered.

Sometimes you just don't expect a windfall.

2. Missed zugzwang?

Torey Neuzil - Raymond Doo
ACE Open 1997 (Reserve)



White to move

The game had been a comedy of errors by both sides. White to play chose 38.Rh6+!, and Black replied with the horrible 38...Ke5?? Now White fumbled with 39.Rg6? b5 40.a5 c4?? 41.d4+? letting Black escape immediate danger and then I

messed up so bad as to permit a draw with a piece up for a pawn!

But why not 39.Ke3!! and now Black is in a pretty *zugzwang*. He cannot move his king, and a rook move allows Re6 mate or (if ...Re7) the knight fork Nb6+. Also White menaces c3 and d4 mate, so Black must play 39...d5. After 40.d3! d4+ 41.cxd4+ cxd4+ 42.Kf3! it is *zugzwang*! Black has only pawn moves which he must soon exhaust, and will then be forced to play Re7 and allow Ng6+.

To add insult to injury, after the actual game continuation with 39.Rg6? b5 40.a5 c4?? 41.d4+?, I missed the simple 41.Ke3! and now mate is forced!

Oh, the pain of patzerhood! This game was a chess nightmare!!!

Torey Neuzil
Austin

Your zugzwang after 42.Kf3 is actually a squeeze according to Robert Brieger (see page 21), as White has waiting moves such as Rb6.

Delete that “??” move

For the record, Tony Lee’s 16th move against me in the ACE Invitational [TK Jan.-Feb. 1997, page 21] was ...Qe2, not ...Be2.

Alan Laverty
Austin

That would have spared Sarkisian's Fritz 4 some “excitement”.

USCF board backs OMOV

The USCF Policy Board endorsed “one member one vote” for approval at the Delegates’ Meeting this August in Orlando. The motion was sponsored by Bill Goichberg, Rachel Lieberman and Don Schultz, and passed unanimously in a teleconference held Feb. 2. They also passed a motion implementing mail ballot elections, for referral to the “Blue Ribbon Committee” on governance that gave its report last August.

A.C.E. Open Club Championship

by NM Drew Sarkisian

The 1997 A.C.E. Open Club Championship was held Jan. 17-19 at the Austin Bridge Studio. The event was well attended, with 24 players competing in the Open section and 30 players in the Reserve (U2000).

The first round was played Friday night, with another "first" round on Saturday morning; the playing field was merged during round two Saturday afternoon. This format allows for players to re-enter the tournament for a \$10 fee; if they lose or draw their first round Friday night, they can try again for a better score Saturday morning. Only two players used the re-entry option.

Open Section

We were delighted to play host to four Houston players who made the trip out Friday night to participate. Clarence Yeung (2203), Larry Moss (2200), Robert Chalker (2020) and Steve Young (1904) said that the five round format of the tournament enticed them to play. Hopefully, we can gather up an intrepid band of Austin players to play in some local Houston events and return the favor.

Top-ranked Drew Sarkisian (2236) drew with Chalker in the first round in a topsy-turvy affair where both sides missed winning continuations. Moss was also held to a draw by Danny Hardesty (1804), while Louis Horner (1620) defeated Kelley Clover (1900). In the second round, Richard Ketcham (2234) drew with David Phillips (2033), while Michael Kendrick (1640) upset Rosendo Leal (1950) and Steve Hoberman (1555) won against Steve Young after Young pressed too hard in a drawn endgame. Round three saw Mack Novosad (2210) draw Joe Binder (2073) and Moss draw with Sarkisian, while Mikhail Langer (2192) defeated Yeung to take the sole lead with three points.

The critical fourth round produced some interesting firefights. The top board struggle between Langer and Novosad (2.5 points) seemed to be going Novosad's way. However, after the smoke cleared Langer was a clear pawn up in a rook and pawn ending. Langer then inexplicably blundered and fell into a lost king and pawn ending. Ketcham managed to defeat Binder after a long tense struggle, while Yeung held off John Durston's (1846) vicious attack long enough for time trouble to finish John off. The upsets continued with Kendrick drawing Chalker and Hendrick drawing Moss.

The final round saw Novosad and Ketcham agree to a very quick draw to reach four points and a guaranteed

tie for first place. This created quite a bit of tension on the next two boards, since the winner of Yeung-Sarkisian as well as Langer (playing Moss) could tie with a win. Yeung blundered a piece against Sarkisian in an interesting position, while the Moss-Langer struggle ended in a draw (both players had less than 5 minutes to make 9 moves and reach the time control). Novosad and Sarkisian share the title of A.C.E. 1997 Champion. (Ketcham was not a member of the A.C.E. Chess Club at the time of the tournament).

Reserve Section

The Reserve section was a curious affair. Despite the rating cutoff was for players under 2000, only two "A" players competed in this section; the rest of them could be found in the Open section. This made for an excellent opportunity for Zack Coombes (1904) and Fernando Ramirez (1813), if one only considered ratings. This would have been a mistake, however, since the lower-rated players fought hard for first place!

Coombes started off with a draw against David Campbell (1222), while Ramirez absorbed his only loss of the event against Torey Neuzil (1586) in the second round. After three rounds, David Walls (1697) led the event with the only perfect score.

Round four saw Aaron Fox (1705) and Walls split the point. Coombes moved into a tie for first by defeating Daryl Ashley (1688), while Neuzil found himself still a half point out of first after drawing a winning game against Raymond Doo (1634).

The final round saw Coombes and Walls draw and finish tied for first with 4 points. Ramirez joined the winners circle by defeating Doo, while Tom Brown (1701) beat Matthew Burns (1257) to join the logjam. Finally, Neuzil defeated Fox in a tough struggle to finish up with 4 points.

Many thanks to Gary Gaiffe and Brenda Hardesty for directing the event.

1997 ACE Open prize winners

OPEN: 1st-3rd: Drew Sarkisian, Richard Ketcham, Mack Novosad, 4.0. **Expert:** Mikhail Langer, David Phillips, 3.5. **U2000:** Steve Young, John Hendrick, John Durston, 3.

RESERVE: 1st-2nd+B: Zachariah Coombes, Fernando Ramirez, Tom Brown, David Walls, 4. **Class C:** Torey Neuzil, 4. **U1400:** Leigh Emrich, James Fleener, Matthew Burns, Doug Hardesty, 3. **1st Unrated:** Gerald Lewis, 3.5. **2nd Unrated:** Gene Deal, Arthur Leal III, Robert Musto, Robert Nickel, Sergio Tristan, 2.

Reti Opening A14

Joe Binder 2070

Bennett Sandlin 1605

ACE Open 1997 (1)

1.Nf3 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 c6 5.b3 Be7 6.Bb2 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.d3 Qc7 9.Nbd2 h6 10.Rc1 Rd8?!

This rook usually ends up on the e-file. Ulf Andersson used to employ a similar idea in some lines of the Queens' Gambit Declined, but most of us mere mortals don't play chess as well as Ulf Andersson!

11.Rc2 Rb8?

11...c5 12.cxd5 exd5 13.b4 b6 gives White an edge, but still is better than the text.

12.Qa1 Ra8 13.e4! dxe4 14.dxe4 Qb8 15.e5 Nh7 16.Ne4 Ndf8 17.Rd1 Rxd1+ 18.Qxd1 b6 19.c5 b5

Positional capitulation. 19...Nd7 had to be tried.

20.b4

20.Nd4 picks off a pawn immediately: 20...Bb7 21.Nd6 Bxd6 22.cxd6 and the c-pawn drops.

20...a5 21.a3 axb4 22.axb4 Ra4 23.Bc3 Ra8 24.h4 Bb7 25.Rd2 Ba6? 26.Nd6 Bxd6 27.exd6 Qd8? (27...Bb7) 28.Ne5 Bb7 29.Nxc6 Bxc6 30.Bxc6 Ra3 31.Rc2 Nf6 32.Bxf6 Qxf6 33.d7 Nxd7 34.Bxd7 Ra1 35.Rc1 Ra2 36.Qe1 1-0

Sicilian Alapin B22

Richard Ketcham 2230

Robert Leal 1950

ACE Open 1997 (1)

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 d5 5.exd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.Nc3 Qd8 8.d5 Nb8 9.Bf4

Seidel-Mueller, Hofheim 1995 continued 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bc4 g6 11.Qb3 Qb6?! 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.Be3 b5 14.Bxb5 Bxb5 15.Nxb5 Na6 16.Bd4 Bg7 17.d6! and White emerged with a healthy extra pawn.

9...a6 10.Qa4+ Bd7 11.Qd4 g6 12.Bc4 Bg7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Rfe1 Bf5 15.Qc5 b5 16.Bb3 Nbd7 17.Qxe7 Qxe7 18.Rxe7 Nc5 19.Bd6 Nxb3 20.axb3 Rfd8 21.Bc7 Rd7?

Missing 21...Rxd5! 22.Ne5 which may be level [or better for Black: 22...Rd2 23.Rxf7 (23.Nxf7 Bf8 -+) Ng4! 24.Re7 Bf6 -+.] The d-pawn, combined with the extended Black Queenside, prove lethal.

22.d6 Bf8 23.Rxd7 Bxd7 24.Ne5 Re8 25.Nxd7 Nxd7 26.Kf1 Ra8 27.Nxb5 Bg7 28.Nc3 Bd4 29.b4 Nb6 30.b5 axb5?? 31.Rxa8+ 1-0

QGD Exchange D36

Clarence Yeung 2200

John Durston 1845

ACE Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.Qc2 g6



In many lines of the Queen's Gambit Declined, Black ends up executing a convoluted manoeuvre to develop his QB on the b1-h7 diagonal; this plan includes playing ...g6 at some point to support the ...Bf5. This rare variation Durston chose attempts to save time and get in ...Bf5 before White plays Bd3.

7.Nxd5

Yeung found this move over the board. It's the sharpest attempt at an outright refutation of Black's opening idea. Other possibilities:

a) 7.Bxf6 Qxf6 8.Nxd5 Qxd4 9.Nc7+? Kd8 and the threat of ...Bb4+ wins for Black;

b) 7.e4 dxe4 8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Qxe4+ Be7 10.Bc4 0-0 11.Nf3 Bf5 12.Qe3 Nd7 with no problems for Black;

c) 7.e3 Bf5 and now:

c1) 8.Bd3 Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Be7 is level.

c2) 8.Qb3 b6 9.f3 Be7 10.g4 Be6 11.Bh6 Bf8 12.Bxf8 Kxf8 13.Nge2 Qd6 14.Nf4 looked promising for White in Altermann-Parker, London Lloyds Bank, 1994.

7...Qxd5 8.Bxf6 Bb4+ 9.Kd1 0-0 10.e4 Qd6

10...Re8 was tried in Vladimirov-Diaz, Capablanca Memorial 1996: 11.Bd3 Bf5 12.f3 Nd7 13.Ne2 with an unclear position.

11.Be5 Qd8 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Nf3 Nd7 14.Bf4 Nb6 15.h3 a5



16.Ke2

Attempting to blow Black off the board with 16.d5 is premature: 16.d5? cxd5 17.Bc7 Qd7 18.Ne5 Qe7 19.Bxb6 dxe4 20.Bxe4 Qd6+ regaining the material with an excellent initiative.

16...Re8 17.Kf1 a4 18.Be3 Rf8 19.Ke2 Re8 20.Rhd1 Nc8 21.Ng5 Ra5?! (21...Qd6) 22.Nxe6 Rxe6 23.Bc4 Re8 24.Bxf7+ Kxf7 25.Qc4+ Kg7 26.Qxb4 Rb5

26...Rxe4 27.Qxb7+ Ne7 28.Rd7 Rb5 makes it a bit more messy for

White.

27.Qc3 Rxe4

27...Qa5 was the last chance to put up any fight. The d-pawn decides matters now.

28.d5+ Qf6 29.Qxf6+ Kxf6 30. d6 Rxb2+ 31.Kf3 Nxd6 32.Rxd6+ Ke5 33.Rd7 Rc4 34.Bd4+ Ke6 35. Bxb2 Kxd7 36.Ke3 b5 37.Rd1+ Ke6 38.Rc1 Rb4 39.Rxc6+ Kd5 40.Rc2 Re4+ 41.Kf3 Re6 42.Ba3 Rb6 43.Rc5+ Kd4 44.Bb4 Kd3 45. Kg3 Ke4 46.a3 Rb7 47.Rc8 Kd3 48.f4 Ke4 49.Re8+ Kf5 1-0

Queen's Indian A47

Robert Chalker 2020

Drew Sarkisian 2235

ACE Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Nbd2 d6 6.h3 Be7 7.Bd3 Nd5 8.Bh2 c5 9.c3 Nd7 10.0-0 cxd4 11.exd4 0-0 12.Re1 N7f6 13. a4 g6 14.Ne4 Nh5 15.Qd2 Kg7 16. Re2 Nc7 17.a5 Qd7 18.axb6

18.a6 Bc6 19.Rae1 may be a better try.

18...axb6 19.Rxa8 Bxa8 20.g4

Impatient. The a8-h1 diagonal is nothing to give up easily. The steady 20.Qe1 looks better.

20...Nf6

Better is 20...f5! 21.Neg5 fxe4 22.hxg4 Nf6 with advantage to Black.

21.Nfg5 Nfe8 22.f4??

Oops. 22.Bf4 looks more logical. This gives Black a winning shot.

22...f5?

... which he misses! Simply 22... h6! 23.Nf3 f5 wins a piece.

23.gxf5 exf5 24.Ng3?

Better is 24.Nf2, as we're about to see.

24...Nf6?

Clueless. 24...Bxg5 25.fxe4 f4 26.Ne4 Qxh3 gives Black a winning game. But guess what?

25.c4?

Robert's in no better form than I am! Here he misses the shot 25.

Bxf5! Qd8 (not 25...gxf5 26.Rxe7+ Qxe7 27.Nxf5+ forking the royal family) 26.Ne6+ Nxe6 27.Bxe6 and life is getting real tough for Black

25...Re8 26.d5 Bf8 27.Qe1 Rxe2 28.Qxe2 b5 29.b3 bxc4 30. bxc4 h6 31.Nf3 Na6 32.Kg2 Kf7 33.Nd4 Nc7 34.Bg1 Bg7 35.Nf3 Bb7 36.Nh4 Qe8 37.Qb2 Qa8 38. Bd4 Nfe8 39.Bxf5 gxf5 40.Ngxf5 Bf8 41.Qe2 Bxd5+

41...Nf6 is probably okay too, but I was tired of this game.

42.cxd5 Qxd5+ 43.Qf3

And so was my opponent. So...

43...Nf6 44.Qxd5+ Draw

Sicilian Alapin B22

Larry Moss 2200

Danny Hardesty 1815

ACE Open 1997 (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 e6 4.d4 d5 5.exd5 Qxd5 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Be3 cxd4 9.cxd4 0-0 10.Nc3 Qd8 11.Qb3 b6 12.Ne5 Bb7 13.a4 Nc6 14.Rfd1 Na5 15.Qa2 Nd5 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Nc4 Rc8 Draw

QP Opening D04

Michael Kendrick 1640

David Phillips 2030

ACE Open 1997 (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nbd2 d5 4.e3 Bg7 5.Bd3 0-0 6.0-0 Nbd7 7.b3

7.c3 is to be recommended at this point. Loosening up the a1-g8 diagonal favors Black.

7...e5! 8.Nxe5 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Ng4 10.Ba3?!

10.Nf3 appears better, since the bishop is precariously posted and only forces the Black rook to a better square. 10...Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.Rb1.

10...Re8 11.Nf3 Nxe5 12.Nd4 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 Bd7 14.Rac1 Rc8 15.Rfd1

Missing Black's followup. 15. b4 is a bizarre-looking move, but it may hold up Black on the queenside

for a little while. As played, Black wins material.

15...c5 16.Ne2 Qa5 17.b4

Or 17.Qxd5 Bf5 winning.

17...cxb4 18.Qxd5 Qxd5 19. Rxd5 Be6 20.Rd3 bxa3 21.Nd4 Bf5

21...Bxa2 may be better. 22.Rxa3 Bxd4 23.Rxa2 Rxe3 24.fxe3 Bxe3+ 25.Kf1 Bxc1 26.Rxa7 b5.

22.Nxf5 gxf5 23.c3 Red8 24.Rcd1 Rxd3 25.Rxd3 Rxc3 0-1

Queen's Gambit D20

David Phillips 2030

Richard Ketcham 2230

ACE Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 Nf6 4.Nc3 e5 5.Nf3 exd4 6.Qxd4 Qxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Ndb5 Na6 9.Bf4 c6 10.Nd6+ Bxd6 11.Bxd6 b5 12.e5 Nd5 13.a4 Nab4 14.Kd2 Nxc3 15. bxc3 Nd5 16.Be2 Be6 17.axb5 cxb5 18.Rhb1 Bd7 19.Bf3 Bc6 20. Bxd5 Bxd5 21.Rxb5 Bxg2 22.Rc5 f6 23.Rg1 fxe5 24.Rxg2 Rd8 25. Rxe5+ Kf7 26.Rd5 Ke6 27.Rd4 Rxd6 28.Rxg7 Rhd8 29.Rxa7 Rxd4+ 30.cxd4 Rxd4+ 31.Kc3 Rh4 32.Rc7 Kd5 33.Rd7+ Kc6 34. Rf7 Kd5 35.Rd7+ Ke5 36.Rc7 h5 37.Rc5+ Ke6 38.f4 Rxb2 39.Rg5 h4 40.Kxc4 h3 41.Rh5 Rh1 42.Kc3 Kf6 43.f5 Ke5 44.Kb2 Kf4 45.f6 Kg4 46.Rh7 Rf1 47.f7 Rf2+ 48.Kb3 Kg3 49.Rg7+ Kh2 50.Rh7 Kg2 51.Rg7+ Kh1 52.Rh7 h2 53.Kc3 Kg1 54.Rg7+ Kf1 55.Rh7 Draw

KI Attack A04

Larry Moss 2200

Drew Sarkisian 2235

ACE Open 1997 (3)

1.e4 c6 2.d3 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 d6 5.Bg2 e5 6.0-0 Nh6 7.c3 f6 8.d4 0-0 9.Na3 Nf7 10.Be3 Qe7 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Qc2 b6 13.Rfe1 Be6 14. Bf1 b5 15.Nb1

At this point, Larry had only eight minutes left to reach move 30. I had an hour.

15...Nd7 16.Nbd2 Rfd8 17.a4 a6 18.b4! Bf8

18...Bh6 makes more sense. Engineering the ...f5 break is more logical too. I was trying to keep the game as "complicated" as possible to try to push Larry over the edge on the clock. Bad move . . . he played the position very well, even given his time trouble!

19.Nb3 Nd6 20.Nfd2 Qf7 21. Na5 Rdc8 22.Ndb3



22...bxa4?

I thought I could try to get cute overworking the White queen with ideas of ...Nxe4 followed by taking twice on b3. This way, I'd gain a tempo on the Ra4, right? Wrong! Giving up my good bishop for a paltry pawn loses: 23.Rxa4 Nxe4? 24. Qxe4 Bxb3 25.Nxb3 Qxb3 26.Bc4+, winning Black's queen.

This line doesn't work with the Black pawn on b5 in any case: 22... Nxe4 23.Qxe4 Bxb3 24.Nxb3 Qxb3 25. axb5 cxb5 26.Bxb5 f5 27.Qg2 Qe6 and White looks better.

23.Rxa4 Nc4 24.Nxc4 Bxc4 25.Bxc4

Larry had one minute, 40 seconds left!

25...Qxc4 26.Na5 Qf7 27.c4 c5 28.b5 Nb6 29.Ra2 Rc7 30.Rc1 axb5 31.cxb5 Rca7 32.Rca1 Nd7 33.Ra4 Nb6 34.R4a2 Nd7 35.Ra4
Draw

Vienna Game C29

Michael Simpson 2140

Don LaFlore 1550

ACE Open 1997 (3)

It seems that Simpson manages to totally crush somebody with his beloved Vienna Game at least once a year. I'm not talking about merely winning, as you're about to see . . .

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 exf4?

Black can hardly hope to recover from this hideous error. 3...d5 is the only move.

4.e5 Qe7 5.Qe2 Ng8 6.Nf3 g5

Yowch! A death wish. It doesn't take long . . .

7.Nd5 Qd8? [Better is 7...Qc5] 8.Nf6+ Ke7 9.d4 Bh6 10.h4 Kf8 11.hxg5 Bg7 12. Bxf4 d6 13.exd6 Bxf6 14.dxc7 Qe7 15.cxb8Q Rxb8 16.Qxe7+ 1-0

Sicilian Closed B25

Richard Ketcham 2230

Joe Binder 2070

ACE Open 1997 (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nge2 Nf6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.d3 d6 8.f4 Rb8 9.h3 e6 10.g4 Nd7 11. f5 Nde5 12.Ng3 Qh4 13.Nce2 Nd4 14.Nxd4 cxd4 15.Qe1 Nc6 16.Bf4 Be5 17.Bxe5 dxe5 18.Rf3 Bd7 19. Qd2 f6 20.Raf1 Rbc8 21.Kh2 Qg5 22.Qxg5 fvg5 23.fvg6 hxg6 24. Rxf8+ Rxf8 25.Rxf8+ Kxf8 26.a3 Nb8 27.Bf3 Ba4 28.Bd1 Na6 29. Nf1 Kf7 30.Nd2 Kf6 31.Nf3 Nc5 32.b3 Bb5 33.h4 gxh4 34.g5+ Kg7 35.Nxe5 Nd7 36.Nxd7 Bxd7 37.e5 Bc6 38.Kh3 b6 39.Kxh4 Kf7 40. Kg4 Bd5 41.Kf4 Ke7 42.Bf3 Kf7 43.Be4 b5 44.b4 a6 45.Kg4 Bxe4 46.dxe4 Ke7 47.Kf3 Kd7 48.Ke2 Kc6 49.Kd3 Kb6 50.Kxd4 Kc6 51. c4 Kb6 52.Kc3 a5 53.cxb5 Kxb5 54.bxa5 Kxa5 55.Kc4 1-0

Novosad-Ketcham: 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3, draw. [See Official Rules of Chess, 4th Edition, page 32, 14B6 - Ed.]

Nimzo-Indian E43

Clarence Yeung 2200

Drew Sarkisian 2235

ACE Open 1997 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Bd3 Bb7 6.f3 c5 7.Nge2 cxd4 8.exd4 d5 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 Be7

A "normal" opening position. Very strange for me to be playing one!

11.Re1 Nc6 12.a3 Rc8 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Bxe7 Nxe7 15.Qd2 Ng6 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Nc3 Bb7 18.Be4 Qd7 19.Rad1 Rfd8 20.Qg5 h6 21.Qg4 Ne7 22.Bb1 Nd5!

At this point, I was very pleased with my game. I thought I had decent piece activity, and real chances to pressure the White pawn on d4. White is virtually forced to exchange Knights, since 23.Ne2 loses to 23...Ne3, and 23.Rc1 loses a pawn to 23...Nf6. But instead, Clarence played . . .

23.Ne4?? f5 24.Qg6 fxe4 25. fxe4 Ne7 26.Qg4 Nc6 27.e5

Nothing helps: 27.d5 exd5 28. Qxd7 Rxd7 29.exd5 Rcd8 30.Bf5 Rd6 31.Rd3 Nb8 32.Be6+ Kh8 leaves Black a piece ahead.

27...Ne7 28.Ba2 Bd5 0-1

Sicilian B50

Larry Moss 2200

Mikhail Langer 2190

ACE Open 1997 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.h3 Nc6 5.Bd3 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.Bc2 Bd7 8.a4 c4 9.Na3 Na5 10.d3 cxd3 11.Qxd3 0-0 12.Bg5 a6 13. Rfd1 Qc7 14.b4 Nc6 15.Bb3 Rac8 16.Rac1 Ne8 17.Nd4 Nf6 18.Be3 Kh8 19.Kh1 Nh5 20.Qd2 Nf6 21.Qd3

At this point, both sides had less than four minutes to make the time control. So . . .
Draw

RESERVE GAMES

Diemar Gambit D00

Gerald Lewis (unr.)
Raymond Doo 1630

ACE Open 1997 (2)

1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.e4 Nxe4
4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.f3 exf3 6.Nxf3 Bg4
7.h3 Bh5 8.Bc4 e6 9.c3 Nd7 10.
Bf4 Bd6 11.Bxd6 cxd6 12.0-0 0-0
13.Qd3 Bg6 14.Qe3 Qb6 15.Ng5
d5 16.Bd3 Nf6 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.
Qf4 Nh5 19.Qh4 f6 20.Nf3 e5 21.
Rf2 Nf4 22.g4 g5 23.Qg3 e4 24.
Ne1 Ng6 25.Ng2 Rae8 26.h4 gxh4
27.Nxh4 Nxh4 28.Qxh4 Kf7 29.g5
Rh8 30.Qg4 Qe6 31.Qf4 Qh3 32.
Rh2 Qxh2+ 33.Qxh2 Rxh2 34.Kxh2
f5 35.Kg3 Rh8 36.Rf1 Ke6 37.Rf2
Rh5 38.Kf4 Rh4+ 39.Kg3 Rg4+
40.Kh3 Rxc5 41.Rf4 g6 42.Kh4
Rh5+ 43.Kg3 g5 44.Rf1 Rh4 45.c4
f4+ 46.Kg2 dxc4 47.d5+ Kxd5 48.
Rd1+ Ke5 49.Rd7 Rg4+ 50.Kf1
Rg3 51.Re7+ Kd4 52.Rd7+ Ke3
53.Rg7 g4 54.Rxb7 f3 55.Rxa7 Rg2
56.Ra3+ Kd2 57.b4 e3 58.Rxe3
Kxe3 59.b5 Rb2 0-1

Notes by Torey Neuzil

Caro-Kann B14

Fred Ramirez 1813
Torey Neuzil 1586

ACE Open 1997 (2)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.
c4!?

The Panov-Botvinnik attack. This leads to sharp play requiring precision from both sides. White has a choice of plans: (1) Pressure against d5/b7 with Nc3, Qb3 and (indirectly if Black plays Nf6) Bg5. (2) Kingside assault using the e5 outpost square as an aid (i.e., Ne5). (3) Utilize the queenside majority with an early c5 to cramp Black and obtain an eventual passer.

4...Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nf3 Be7
7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 b6

The start of a plan to exchange light-square bishops, easing Black's defensive task on the kingside.

After 8...dxc4(!) 9.Bxc4 . . .

(a) 9...a6 10.Qe2 b5 11.Bd3 Bb7
12.Rd1 Nd5 (Simagin-Petrosian,
USSR 1951) 13.Qe4 +=.

(b) 9...Nc6 10.a3 a6 11.Re1 b5
12.Ba2 Bb7 13.Bg5 b4 14.Na4 bxa3
15.bxa3 Bxa3 16.d5! ∞= Boudy-
Szilagy, Varna 1979.

9.Re1

9.cxd5 stops Black's strategy and keeps White's kingside chances alive: 9...Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Qe2. [Both 11.Qc2 and 11.Re1 look stronger. ECO [D41] doesn't even give 10...Qxd5 - only 10...exd5 11.Ne5 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6, and now both 13.Qa4 and 13.Qe2 are "±".] 9...Ba6 10.cxd5[?]

Better is 10.b3. The exchange of light-squared bishops is a positional coup for Black.

10...Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Nxd5
12.Qe4!

A critical moment. White pins the Nd5 to the rook and threatens to win a piece with the crude 13.Nxd5 Qxd5 14.Qxd5 exd5 15.Rxe7. But the point is that in so doing he gains time to set up simplifying exchanges on d5 which will equalize the pawn structure.

12...Nc6

Not 12...Nxc3?? 13.Qxa8 or even 12...Nc7? 13.d5! [13...Nba6! =].

13.Bd2

White should play 13.Nxd5! forcing an equal ending.

13...Rc8! [?]

13...Ncb4! (Δ Nf6, Nbd5) stops White from equalizing the pawn structure with 14.Nxd5. He misses his last chance for this idea:

14.Rac1? Nf6! 15.Qe3 Nd5?

15...Nb4! and Black achieves a blockade of d5 with Nbd5.

16.Nxd5

Better is 16.Qe4, offering a draw by repetition. [16...Nf6 17.Qe3 Nb4 keeps the game alive.]

16...Qxd5 17.Qe4?

Giving Black superior endgame chances. Better is 17.a3.

17...Qxe4! 18.Rxe4 Rfd8?

18...Nb4! secures d5.

19.Bc3?

19.a3! stops ...Nb4.

19...Nb4! 20.a4?

Not 20.a3? Na2 21.Rc2 Nxc3 and Black wins the a3 pawn. The text makes a bad situation worse by weakening b4 and exposing a pawn.

After the correct 20.Ra1 Nd5 21.Bd2 (21.Rc1? Bb4 22.Bd2 Bxd2 23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.Nxd2 Rc2 wins a pawn) Rc2 22.Rb1 or 22.b3 and White is in bad shape but at least he is still alive. [Alive in a boa's grip: 22.Rb1 Bb4! 23.Bxb4 Nxb4 24.a3 Nd3 -+; 22.b3 Bb4 23.Bxb4 Nxb4 24.a3 Nd3 25.Rf1 Rb2 26.b4 Ra2 27.Re3 Nf4! 28.Rd1 Nd5 29.Red3 Rc8 Δ ...Rcc2 -+.] In this line not 22.Bc1? Rdc8 23.Re1 Nb4 and Black menaces both ...Nxa2 and ...Nd3.



20...Na2 21.Rc2 Nb4 22.Rc1
Na2 23.Rc2 Nb4??

I was trying to gain moves for time control, as I was in time pressure to reach move 30. White may already be able to claim the draw [Yup!] and after 24.Rc1 if I play 24... Na2 he can certainly do so!

24.Rc1[??]

Correct is to write this move down on the scoresheet, stop the clock and claim a draw! - Ed.

24...Nd5 25.Kf1(??)

In the light of what happens this seems to be the losing move, but the two "saving" tries also may fail:

a) 25.Bd2 Rxc1+ 26.Bxc1 Rc8 27.Re1 Rc4 28.b3 Rc3 winning a pawn (29.Nd2 Bg5, etc.);

b) 25.Ree1 Rc4 26.a5 Nxc3...

b1) 27.bxc3? Rdc8! (27...bxa5 28.Ne5!) 28.axb6 axb6 29.Re3 Bb4! or 29.d5!? Bb4! 30.dxe6 fxe6 31.Rxe6 Rxc3 winning the c-pawn;

b2) 27.Rxc3 Rxc3 28.bxc3 and now 28...bxa5 is the only way to win a pawn – if 29...Rc8 29.axb6 axb6 30.Re3. [28...bxa5 29.Ra1 Rc8 30.Rxa5 Rxc3 31.Kf1 Rc7 -/+.]

25...Bb4! 26.Bd2

The only try still does not save a pawn, as Black shows.

26...Bxd2! 27.Rxc8 Rxc8 28.Nxd2 Rc2! 29.Nf3 Rxb2 30.Re2??

A time pressure blunder, making Black's task easier – but with Nc3 and Ra2 on tap the a-pawn is in trouble. After the correct 30.Re1, Nc3! Δ Rb1 forces simplification. But with the apparently weaker 30...Ra2? White may draw: 31.Rc1 f6 32.Rc4... [I cut off the analysis because Black has an inexorable plan: Kf7-e7-d7, a7-a5, Nb4 and Rxa4 – no worry, no hurry.]

30...Rxe2! 31.Kxe2 Nc3+! 32.Kd3 Nxa4

It now seems to be a simple win with technique, but White can attack Black's queenside passers and knight with his better placed king and force Black to play very precisely.

33.Kc4!

Menacing Kb5-a6.

33...a6

Keeping the king out, but maybe Black does not need to: 33...Nb2+! 34.Kb5 Nd3 35.Ka6 Nxf2 36.Kxa7 b5! leads to wins as in the game.

34.Kb3!

Forcing Black to advance the pawn to save the knight, thereby weakening both passers.

34...b5 35.Kb4!

And now a6 falls.

35...Nb2 36.Ka5 Nd3 37.Ka6 b4!

A critical move. Black keeps the b-pawn just long enough to keep White occupied until he can devise a series of devastating knight attacks on the kingside pawns which spell the end for the first player. Not 37...Nxf2? 38.Kxb5 and White has a better chance to swindle a draw.

38.Nd2

Heading off the passer. 38.Kb5! is better. [But no matter: 38...b3 39.Kc4 b2 40.Nd2 Nxf2 41.Kb3 (41.Kc3?? Ne4+!) Ng4 42.h3 Ne3 43.g4 (43.g3 Nf5) Nd1 44.h4 Ne3 45.g5 Nf5 -. It's like shoeing chickens around until you catch one.]

38...Nxf2 39.Kb5 Ng4!!

The real point of Black's play: No matter what White does, he loses because he must focus on picking up the b-pawn at the expense of his other pawns. By a series of forcing moves, Black will protect the b-pawn long enough to get his king into play and to win on the kingside. The magic square d5 so important throughout the game shines once again as an unassailable point for the Black knight – if the horse were to cover b4 from d3 then White would have Kc4! in response.

40.Kb4

Not the best, but 40.h3 Ne3! 41.g4 Nd5! wins in due course.

40...Nxb2

The rest is simple and needs little comment, but White played on as both sides were in sudden death and I was in time pressure to complete all the moves including mate!

41.Kc4 Ng4 42.Kd3 Nf6 43.Ke3 Kf8 44.Nf3 Nd5+ 45.Ke4 f6 46.g3 Kf7 47.g4 Kg6 48.Kd3 h5 49.Nh2 hgx4 50.Ngx4 Kg5 51.Nh2 Kf4 52.Nf1 g5 53.Nd2 g4 54.Ke2 f5 55.Kf2 Nc3 56.Nf1 Ke4 57.d5 exd5 58.Ng3+ Kf4 59.Nh5+ Kg5 60.Ng7 d4 61.Ne6+ Kh4 62.Nxd4

f4 63.Kg2 Ne4 64.Nf5+ Kg5 65.Nd4 Kf6 66.Nc2 Ke5 67.Ne1 Kd4 68.Nc2+ Kd3 69.Ne1+ Ke2 70.Nc2 f3+ 71.Kh2 g3+ 72.Kh1 f2 73.Nd4+ Kd3 74.Kg2 Kxd4 75.Kf1 Ke3 76.Kg2 Ke2 77.Kh3 f1(Q)+ 78.Kg4 g2 79.Kh5 g1(Q) 80.Kh6 Qh3 mate (I had seconds left!) 0-1

French Tarrasch C07

David Walls 1695

Zack Coombes 1900

ACE Open 1997 (5)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Bd6 9.Qe2 Ne7 10.0-0 0-0?! (10...Ng6) 11.e5 Bc5 12.Nf3 Ng6



13.Bg5?!

David said he missed a probable win against Zack. He must have meant 13.Ng5! Qb6 [13...Be7! 14.Qh5 Bxg5 +=; 14.h4!?!] 14.Qh5 h6 15.Nxf7 Bxf2+ 16.Kh1 Ne7 17.Nxh6+ gxh6 18.Qxh6! Rf7 [18...Nf5 19.Qg6+ Kh8 20.Bg5] 19.Rxf2 Rxf2 (not 19...Qxf2 20.Be3 Nf5 21.Qg6+ Rg7 22.Qxg7+ Nxg7 23.Bxf2 winning) 20.Qh7+ Kf8 21.Bh6+ Ke8 22.Qh8+ Kf7 23.Qxa8.

13...Be7 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Qe3 f5 16.exf6 gxf6 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Nh4 Qh7 19.Nf3 e5 20.Qc5 Be8 21.Rad1 Rb8 22.Qa3 Rb6 23.Ne1 Qb7 24.b3 Ra6 25.Qb2 Qb6 26.Rd3 Qa5 27.a4 Qb6 28.Qc1 Qc7 29.Rh3 Bd7

Draw

New Year Open

Eric Dimazana won the San Antonio New Year Open with a 5-0 score, defeating Silva and Anderson in the final rounds. It was his third San Antonio tournament victory of 1996, the other two being the Fiesta Open and the San Antonio City Championship (also won with perfect scores).

There were so many high-profile bloopers from some of the "better" players, you might have thought we had been playing on New Year's Day. The gallery of goofs includes the end of my games with Andy Smith (we both ignored a loose knight) and Dimazana (I set up a mate combo for him), a mate in one that Al Fulton passed up against Rohrbaugh (although he did find a mate against Cheyney), and another simple mate that John Ade allowed just as he was steamrolling Silva.

Several young players had good experiences in this event: John Hendrick defeated B.L. Patteson in fine

style, and John DeMott turned around a bad position to win a rook from Duane Solley. Adam Alonzo, playing in his first tournament, won the junior trophy on tiebreaks over Martha Ade.

Greg Wren directed the event, held December 28-29 at the Comfort Inn-Airport. Layne Hendrick assisted.

PRIZEWINNERS

1st: Eric Dimazana, 5. *2nd + Expert:* Jim Gallagher, José Silva, Larry Moss, Thomas Patton, B.L. Patteson, Jim Rohrbaugh, 4. *Class A:* David John, Martin Gordon, John Hendrick, Chuck Barbour, Chris Shomonta, 3.5. *1st Class B:* Al Fulton, 3.5. *2nd Class B:* Edwardo Zapata, Diego Gamboa, 3. *Class C:* Stillman Anderson, Wallace Short, Michael LaBelle, 2.5. *Class D/E/Unrated:* Daneil Robbins, John DeMott, James Fleener, Larry Tipperreiter, 2.5. *Junior trophy:* Adam Alonzo, 2.

QGD Semi-Slav D44

José Silva 2230

David Peters 1915

New Year Open (2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.a4 Bb4 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bxc4 Qa5 9.0-0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Ne4 11.Bf4 0-0 12.Rc1 b6 13.Bd3 Nxc3 14.Qc2 Nd5 15.Bd6 Nb4 16.Bxh7+ Kh8 17.Qb1 Ba6 18.Bxb4 1-0

Notes by Al Fulton

Diemer Gambit D00

Al Fulton 1708

Stephen Cheyney 2119

New Year Open (2)

1.d4 d5 2.e4

All right - I know this is not an opening approved by masters, but the fact of the matter is that I will never beat Experts and above playing "straight-up" chess. What can be provided by the BDG is a series of opportunities for Black to make sensible-looking, but ultimately dangerous decisions. As it turns out, this is what happens here.

2...dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 Bf5

This defense was first suggested by Tartakower, and was debated at length in a series of games between Diemer and Gunderam.

6.Ne5 e6 7.g4 Bg6 8.Bg2

The main line is now 8.Qf3. However, I have not particularly studied the lines of the Tartakower-Gunderam defense since it is the most rarely played defense to the Blackmar-Diemer gambit. 8.Bg2 does seem to have some logic on its side, but perhaps some of the Black options missed in this game are the reasons it isn't the main line.

8...c6 9.h4 Bb4



This position was reached in Diemer-Gunderam 1969. For what it's worth, both Korchnoi and Saemisch believed this to be favorable for White.

10.0-0

After 10...Bxc2 11.Qd2 (not 11.Qxc2? Qxd4+ and Qxe5) 0-0 13.Rf4, Black must choose a retreat for the Bc2, and neither choice is particularly attractive. The Diemer-Gunderam game cited above proceeded: 10...Bxc2 11.Qd2 0-0 12.Rf4 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Ba4 14.Ba3 Re8 15.g5 Nd5 16.Bxd5 with imminent unpleasantness on the f-file.

Two lines for consideration are:

(a) 12...Bg6 13.h5 Bxh5 14.gxh5 Nhx5 15.Rg4 Nd7 16.Qe2 Ndf6 17.Bg5 h6 18.Bxf6 Nxf6 19.Rf4 Nd7 20.Raf1, and although Black has four pawns for a bishop, White can apply real pressure along the f- and g-files.

(b) 12...Ba4 13.Qf2 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Qe7 (else Ba3) 15.Nc4 c5 16.Ba3 Na6 17.Re1 Bc6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Ne5 Qc7 21.Rf1, and again trouble may be coming.

10...Nbd7

Black could try 10...Bxc2 hoping for 11.Qxc2? Qxd4+ and Qxe5, but 11.Qd2! 0-0 12.Rf4! Bxc3 13.bxc3 Ba4 14.Ba3 Re8 15.g5 is strong.

11.Nxg6

Selby offered 11.Qe2! Qb6 12.Nxd7 Kxd7 13.h5 Qxd4+ 14.Be3 Qxg4 15.hxg6 Bxc3 16.Qd3+±.

Another line of interest is 11...Nxe5 12.dxe5 Qxd4+ 13.Kh1 Nd7 14.h5 Qxe5 15.Re1 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Qxc3 17.Rb1 Bxc2 18.Rxb7 Bd3 19.Qf2 Qc4 20.Bf4 g5 21.Be5 Nxe5 22.Qf6+.

11...hxg6 12.g5 Nd5 13.Qf3 Qe7 14.Ne4 Rxb4!

14...f5 15.gxf6 N5xf6 16.Bg5 0-0 17.c3 Δ b4-b5.

15.c4?

This is too ambitious, and should have been the losing move. I had visions of 15...Nc7 16.a3 etc. trapping the bishop on b6, and overlooked how strong 15...f5 16.cxd5 Rxe4 was. Better would be 15. c3 f5 16.gxf6 N7xf6 17.Bg5 Rxe4 18. Qxe4 Nxe4 19.Bxe7 Bxe7 20.Bxe4 and White appears better for the endgame.

15...f5



16.cxd5?!

This is bad because of 16...Rxe4!. However, 16.Nf2 N5b6 17.c5 Nd5 18.Qb3 0-0-0 19.Rd1 Rdh8 20.Rb1 Kb8 21.a3 Ba5 22.Qc2 Be7 also leaves White in trouble.

Best is 16.gxf6 N5xf6 17.Bg5 and now Black should give up the exchange with 17...Rxe4 18.Qxe4 Nxe4 19.Bxe7 Kxe7 20.Bxe4 g5 with an unclear/equal endgame. If 17...Rh7 the aggressive-looking continuation 18.c5 0-0-0 19.Nd6+ Kb8 20.Qb3 a5 21.a3 Nxc5! 22.Qc4 Nb3 23.Nxb7 Qxb7 24.axb4 Nxa1 ultimately fails, but 18.a3 Bd6 19. Nxd6+ Qxd6 20.Qf4 e5 21.dxe5 Qc5+ 22.Rf2 Qxe5 23.Qxe5+ Nxe5 24.Re1 comes out in White's favor.

16...fxe4?

16...Rxe4! 17.Qb3 Rg4! 18.dxe6 Nf8 and Black is better.

The text allows the Black rook to be chased from the scene. Instead 16...Rxe4 is an almost certain winner, either by capturing the d-pawn, or via an attack on the g- and h-files. For example: 17.dxc6 bxc6 18.Qb3 Rxd4 19.Be3 Rg4; or 18.Be3 Rd8 19.a3 Bd6 20.b4 e5 21.Qh3 Rg4 22. Rae1 e4 23.Re2 Nf8 24.Bc1 Ne6 and White will be three pawns down for nothing.

17.Qg3 Rh8 18.dxc6 bxc6 19. Bxe4 0-0-0?

A vain attempt to get away from the action. Better for Black would be 19...Bd6 20.Bxg6+ Kd8 21.Bf4 Bxf4 22.Rxf4 Qd6 23.Bf7 Rb8 24.b3 Rb4 25.Rd1 c5 26.Rg4 Qxg3+ 27.Rxg3 Rxd4, with much better prospects than the text.

20.Bxc6 Rh5

This is too ambitious. However, 20...Nb6 21.Be3 Bd6 22.Bf4 Bc5 23. dxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Qe3 Qxc6 25.Rfc1 Nc4 26.Rxc4 Rh1+ 27.Kf2 Qxc4 28.Rxh1 loses a piece.

21.Bf4 Rdh8

The problem is that the bishop on c6 will never permit access to h1 for the doubled rooks.

22.Rac1

And now the open c-file and the bishop pair are quickly fatal.

Kd8 23.Bb7 Nb6 24.Rc7 Qe8 25.Rfc1 Qb5 26.Rxg7 Nd5??

This allows immediate mate, but anything else is only a temporary stopgap. For example: (a) 26... Rh3 27.Bc7+ Ke8 28.Qf4 Qf5 29. Bxb6 Kf8 (the queen is immune because of back rank mate) 30.Rd7; (b) 26...Bd6 27.Bxd6 Rxc5 28.Be7+; (c) 26...Bd6 27.Bxd6 Ke8 28.Bc6+ and Black will lose much stuff.

27.Rc8 mate

A far from perfect game on both sides, but perhaps interesting in that it does illustrate that offering the opportunity to go wrong can occasionally succeed against a much stronger opponent. 1-0

Nimzovich Defense B00

John Hendrick 1887

B.L. Patteson 2158

New Year Open (2)

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.e5 Na5 5.c3 b6 6.b4 Nc6 7.Bd3 a5 8. b5 Nce7 9.0-0 Bb7 10.Ng5 Qd7 11. Nxb7 0-0-0 12.Ng5 Nh6 13.Qe2 Kb8 14.f4 Bc8 15. Na3 f6 16.Nf3 Nef5 17.Nc2 Qf7 18. Ne3 Nxe3 19. Bxe3 Be7 20.Rac1 Bb7 21.h3 Rde8 22.Qe1 Bd8 23.Qg3 f5 24.c4 dxc4 25.Bxc4 Ng8 26.d5 exd5 27. Bb3 Qd7 28.Nd4 Ne7 29.Rfd1 c5 30.bxc6 Nxc6 31.Bxd5 Nxd4 32. Rxd4 Bxd5 33.Rcd1 Bh4 34.Qg6 Qc6



35.Qxf5 Bxg2 36.Rd6 Rd8 37. Rxc6 Rxd1+ 38.Kxg2 1-0

Sicilian Paulsen B44

Andy Smith 2143
Selby Anderson 2286

New Year Open (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nc6 5.Be2 Nf6 6.Bf3 Qc7 7. 0-0 a6 8. Be3 Ne5 9.c3 b6 10.Nd2 Bb7 11.Re1 Bd6 12.h3 0-0 13.Qc2 Rac8 14.Rad1 Be7 15.Kh1 Ng6 16.Nf1 Nh4 17.Ng3 d5 18.exd5 Nxf3 19.Nxf3 Bxd5 20.Bd4? (20. Ng5 Qb7 21.f3 b5 =+) Bxf3 21.gxf3 Qc6 22.Ne4 Nh5! 23.Rg1 f5 24. Nd2 Bf6 25.Bxf6 Rxf6 26.Qd3 Rh6 27.Qd4 Qc7 28.Qh4 Kh8 29.Qc4 Nf4 30.Rg3 Qd8??

Making time control with less than a minute left, I slammed my queen down and said, "That's thirty." Correct is 30...Nxb3 -.

31.Qd4??

Andy, thinking he had not made time control, played in haste and missed 31.Qxf4.

31...Qxd4 0-1

32.cxd4 Nxb3 33.Kg2 Nf4+ 34.Kf1 Rh1+ 35.Rg1 Rxb1+ 36.Kg1 Rc2+.

Dutch Leningrad A87

Eric Dimazana 2248
Robert Chalker 2020

New Year Open (3)

1.c4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.d4 0-0 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 Qe8 8.d5 Na6 9.Be3 Bd7 10.Rc1 c5 11. dxc6 bxc6 12.c5 Ng4



13.cxd6 Nxe3 14.fxe3 exd6 15. Qxd6 Qxe3+ 16.Kh1 Rad8 17. Rcd1 Nc5 18.Nd4 Ne4 19.Nxe4 fxe4 20.Rxf8+ Bxf8 21.Qc7 Qg5 (22.Nxc6 +-)

French Defense C01

Al Fulton 1708
Jim Rohrbaugh 2155

New Year Open (3)

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Be3!?

This is traced to Semyon Alapin (1856-1923). His 2.c3 against the Sicilian is popular at the highest levels, but the text (like most Alapin lines!) is not.

3...dxe4 4.Nd2 Nf6 5.f3 Nd5! 6.Qe2 Nxe3 7.Qxe3 exf3 8.Ngxf3 Be7 9.Bd3 Nd7 10.0-0 Nf6

10...c5 11.d5!? exd5 12.Rae1 ∞.

11.Ne5 0-0 12.c3 Bd7 13.Ndf3 Be8 14.Ng5 g6?

14...h6 15.Ne4 (15.Qh3 c5! - not 15...hxg5? 16.Rxf6!) Nd5 16.Qg3 f5 +/-.

15.Qh3 Nh5



16.Nxe6! (16.Nxb7!?) fxe6 17. Qxe6+ Kg7 18.Rxf8 Bxf8 19.Bc4 Nf6 20.Rf1 h5?

20...Be7 21.Rxf6! Bxf6 22.Qg8+ Kh6 23.Qf8+ Kg5 (23...Bg7? 24. Ng4+ Kg5 25.Qf3 +-) 24.h4+ Kf5 25.Bd3+ =.

21.g4! Qe7 22.Rxf6! Qxf6 23. Qg8+ Kh6 24.h4 g5 25.hxg5+ Qxg5



26.Qxf8+?? (26.Qh8 mate) Qg7 27.Qf4+??

27.g5+ Kh7 28.Bd3+ Bg6 29. Bxg6+ Qxg6 30.Nxg6 Rxf8 31. Nxf8+ wins.

Draw!?

27...Kh7 28.Qe4+ and 29.Qxb7 ±.

English Opening A30

Jesse Buentello 1972
José Silva 2230

New Year Open (3)

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4. g3 f5!? 5.Bg2 Nf6 6.0-0 0-0 7.b3 d5?! 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Bb2 Nc6 10. Rc1 e5?



11.Nxd5 Qxd5 12.Nxe5 Qe6 13.Rxc5 Bxe5 14.Bxc6

14.Bd5? Bxb2 15.Bxe6+ Bxe6 gives Black three minors for queen.

14...bxc6 15.Rxe5 Qf7 16.Qc2 f4 17.Qxc6 Bh3 18.Rc1 fxb3 19.f3

Rac8 20.Qd5 Rxc1+ 21.Bxc1 g2
22.Bb2 Qxd5 23.Rxd5 Re8 24.e3
h6 25.Rc5 Rf8 26.f4 Rd8 27.Bd4
Rd6 28.Rc1 a6 29.Kf2 g5 30.fgx5
hxg5 31.Kg3 Rc6 32.Bc3 g4



33.b4?

It took a lot of help for Silva to win this game. Simplest is 33.Rg1 followed by Rxf2, and White comes out three pawns up for the exchange.

33...Rc7 34.e4 Kf7 35.Rb1 Kg6
36. Bd4 Rc4 37.Be3 Rxe4 38.a4
Re7 39.b5 axb5 40.axb5 Rf7 41.
b6?? (41.Rg1 Kh5 42.Bf4 Rb7 -/+)
Rf1 42.Rb3 Rf3+ 43.Kh4 Rxe3 44.
Rb1 Rb3 45.Rd1 Rxb6 0-1

Notes by B.L. Patteson

Sicilian B50

B.L. Patteson 2158
Gerald Castleberry 1600

New Year Open (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.b4

Inspired by the famous game Keres-Eliskases (Semmering 1937), I have been waiting to play this gambit for some time. I believe one should play this gambit every so often just to keep the blood thin and the juices flowing!

3...cxb4 4.d4 g6 5.Bc4 e6?!

This move is unnecessary. Black should just continue with 5...Bg7.

6.c3 bxc3 7.Nxc3

White probably already has full comp for the pawn.

7...Nd7?!

This misplaces the QN on a poor square.

8.Qb3 Nb6 9.Be2 Bg7 10.a4
Ne7 11.a5 Nd7 12.Nb5 Nf6 13.e5
dxe5 14.dxe5 Nfd5 15.Nd6+ Kf8
16.Nxc8?!

Instead of taking off an undeveloped bishop, I should take off a developed one with 16.Ng5! Bxe5 17.Ngxf7 Qc7 18.Nxe5 and White stands better.

16...Qxc8?!

Watching over the b-pawn was not worth making this unnatural recapture. Best was 16...Rc8.

17.Bb2 Kg8

On 17...Nf4 I intended just 18. Bf1 - only a temporary problem.

18.0-0 h6 19.Rfc1 Nc6 20.a6
bxa6?

20...Rb8 was the only try. Now I win material.

21.Nd4 Nde7?

Better was 21...Qb8 22.Rxc6 Bxe5.

22.Nxc6 Nxc6 23.Qa4

Much better than 23.Bf3, which could be answered with 23...Qb8.

23...Kh7 24.Qxc6 Qxc6 25.
Rxc6 Rab8 26.Bd4?!

26.Bc3 going to a shielded square was better.

26...Rhd8 27.Bxa7 Rb2 28.
Bxa6 Bxe5 29.g3?

The best move was 29.Re1 and Black has no tricks.

29...Rxf2 30.Re1

Perhaps 30.Kf2 was simpler.

30...Rf5

On 30...Rb2 31.Re2 White also stays on top.

31.g4 Rg5 32.h3 Bd4+ 33.Bxd4
Rxd4 34.Rc7 Rf4?

After 34...Kg8, White would still have some technical problems.

35.Rxe6 Ra5 36.Bd3 Ra2
37.Rxg6 Rf3 38.Ra6+

and Black soon gave up. 1-0

Sicilian Hedgehog B41

Selby Anderson 2286
Mitch Vergara 2153

New Year Open (4)

1.Nf3 d6 2.c4 c5 3.d4 cxd4 4.
Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.e4 e6 7.
Nc2 Be7 8. Be2 Qc7 9.f4 0-0 10.0-0
a6 11.b3 Rd8 12.Ne3 b6 13.Kh1
Bb7 14.Bb2 Rac8 15.Qe1 Bf8 16.
Qg3 Ne7



17.Ng4?! (17.Rad1 ±) Nxc4 18.
Bxc4 f5! = 19.exf5 exf5 20.Bf3 d5
21.cxd5 Nxd5 22.Nxd5 Bxd5 23.
Rac1 Qb7 24.Bf6 Rxc1 25.Rxc1
Rd7 26.Be5 Bxf3 27.Qxf3 Qxf3 28.
gxf3 Be5 29.Rc2 Kf7 30.Kg2 Rd1
31.Bc3 Rg1+ 32.Kh3 Be3 33.Be5
Rc1 34.Rxc1 Bxc1 35.Kg2 g6 36.
Kf2 Ke6 37.Bc7 b5 38.Ke2 Ba3
39.Kd3 Kd5 40.Bb8 Be5 41.h3 Bf2
42.Bc7 Bg3 43.Bb8 g5 44.Bc7 h6
45.Bb8 Bh2 46.Bc7 h5 47.Ke3
Bg1+ 48.Kd3 g4 49.fgx4 fgx4 50.
hxg4 hxg4 51.f5 Bd4 52.a4 bxa4
53.bxa4 Be5 54.Bd8 Bf4 55.f6 Ke6
56.Ke4 Bd6 57.a5 Kd7 58.Bb6
Ke6 59. Bd8 Kd7 Draw

Sicilian Grand Prix B22

José Silva 2230
Eric Dimazana 2248

New Year Open (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6
4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bc4 e6 6.d3 Nge7 7.0-0
0-0 8.f5



8...d5 9.fxc6??! dxc4 10.gxh7+ Kh8 11.Ng5 f6 12.Nh3 cxd3 13. Rf3 dxc2 14.Qe1 Nd4 15.Rg3 e5 16.Rxg7 Kxg7 17.Qh4 Kh8 18.Bh6 Bxh3 19.Bxf8 Qxf8 0-1

English Opening A29

Jim Rohrbaugh 2155
John Hendrick 1887

New Year Open (4)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.g3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Bg2 Nb6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Rb1 f6 (0-0; f5; g5!?) 9.d4! ed4 10.Nb5 Bf5 (10...0-0 11. Nfxd4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 += Khalifman) 11.Bf4! Nd5 (11...Rc8 12.Rc1 d3 13.exd3! Nd5 14. Nfxd4 ± Khalifman-Tiviakov, Linares 1995)



12.Nfxd4 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 a6? (13...Bxb1 14.Bxd5 c5 15.Qa4 ±; 13...c6 14.Bxd5 cxb5 15.Rbc1 ±) 14.Qxd5 Qxd5 15.Nxc7+ 1-0

English Opening A30

John DeMott 1298
Duane Solley 1722

New Year Open (4)

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4. e3 g6 5.Ne2 Bg7 6.d4 cxd4 7.exd4 d5 8.Qb3 dxc4 9.Qxc4 0-0 10.0-0 Be6 11.Qa4 Bd5 12.Nbc3 Bxg2 13. Kxg2 a6 14.Be3 b5 15.Qb3 Na5 16. Qb4 Nd5 17.Nxd5 Qxd5+ 18.f3 Nc6 19.Qc3 Rac8 20.Rac1 e5 21. Qc5 Qxa2 22.d5 Qxb2 23.Rc2 Nd4



24.Qxf8+ Rxf8 25.Rxb2 Rd8 26. Rc1 Nf5 27.Bd2 e4 28.Ra2 e3 29. Bb4 Nd6 30.Rxa6 Nc4 31.d6 Bf8 32.Rd1 Ne5 33.Bc3 Nc4 34.d7 Nd2 35.Ra7 Nc4 (36.Bf6 +-) 1-0

English Opening A36

Eric Dimazana 2248
Selby Anderson 2286

New Year Open (5)

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.e4 Nc6 4. g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.Nge2 0-0 7.0-0 d6 8.d3 a6 9.a4 Bg4!?

Not a bad line, but I should stick with what I know - Ne8-c7-e6 and Bd7.

10.f3 Be6 11.Be3 Ne8 12.Rb1 Rb8 13.f4 f5?! (13...Bg4) 14.Nd5 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.e5!

This is often decisive in such positions - see Ardaman-Chow, Pinfork #4 (Jan.-Feb. TK, p. 9).

16...bxc4 17.dxc4 Nb4

Or 17...dxe5 18.fxe5 Nxe5 19. Bxc5, and neither 19...Nd6 nor 19...Nc6 stops White from playing 20.Nxc7+!

18.Nec3 Nc7



19.Nxe7+! Qxe7 20.exd6 Qd7 21.dxc7 Qxc7 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23. Bxd5+ Kh8 24.b3 Rfd8 25.Qd2 Rb6 26.Rfd1 Ra6 27.Qf2 Ra2 28. Rd2 Rxd2 29.Qxd2 Qe7 30.Bf2 Qd6 31.Rd1 Nc6 32.Qe3 Bd4??

White wins material less drastically on 32...Nd4 33.b4! (but less clear is 33.Rxd4!? cxd4 34.Qd4 h6).

33.Rxd4! 1-0
32...Nxd4 34.Qxd4+!

Ruy Lopez Exchange C68

Mitch Vergara 2153
Jim Gallagher 2291

New Year Open (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4. Bxc6 dxc6 5.0-0 Bg4 6.h3 h5 7.d3 Bd6!?

7...Qf6 is usually recommended. After 7...Bd6 White should play 8.hxg4 hxg4 9.Ng5 Qd7 10.d4 exd4 11.e5 (11.f4 Bc5! 12.Qd3 f6 =) Bxe5 12.Rf1 f6 13.Bf4 ±.

8.Be3 Qf6 9.Nbd2 Ne7 10.c3 Qg6 11.Kh1 0-0-0 12.d4 f6 13.Qc2? Nd5 14.Rac1?

This drops a pawn. Correct is 14. dxe5, with a slight edge to Black after 14...Bxf3 15.Nxf3 Nxe3 16.fxe3 fxe5 Δ ...Qh6, ...g5-g4.



14...exd4 15.cxd4 Bxf3 16. Nxf3 Nxe3 17.fxe3 Rhe8 18.Nd2 Qg3 19.e5 fxe5 20.Qf5+ Kb8 21. Rf3 Qh4 22.dxe5 Rxe5 23.Qf4 Qxf4 24.exf4 Re2 25.Nc4 Rf8 26.Rc1 b5 27.Nxd6 cxd6

The rook and pawn ending is a cakewalk for Jim.

28.R1f2 Rxf2 29.Rxf2 Kc7 30. g3 d5 31.b4 Kd6 32.Kg2 a5 33.a3 axb4 34.axb4 Re8 35.Kf3 Re4 36. Rb2 Rc4 37. Rb3 c5 38.bxc5+ Kxc5 39.f5 b4 40.Rb1 d4 41.Ra1 b3 42.Ke4 b2 43.Rb1 Rc2 44.g4 hxg4 45.hxg4 Kc4 46.g5 Kc3 47.g6 Rf2 48.Ke5 Kc2 49.Rg1 b1(Q) 0-1

Pirc Defense B08

John Ade 1933
José Silva 2230

New Year Open (5)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4. Nc3 Bg4 5.Be2 Nf6

ECO gives 5...Nc6 6.d5 Bxf3 7. gxf3 Ne5 8.f4 Nd7 9.h4 c6 10.Be3 cxd5 ∞.

6.h3 Bxf3 7.Bxf3 Nbd7

7...Nc6 is thematic, putting pressure on d4 now that the Nf3 is gone.

8.Bg5 c6 9.Qd2 e5 10.0-0-0 exd4 11.Qxd4 h6 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13. Qxd6 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Qg5+ 15.Rd2 0-0-0

Silva has been playing for this position since move ten, but he misjudged it.

16.Bg4! f5 17.exf5 Nf6 18.f4! Qh4 19.fxg6+ Nxg4 20. Qe6+ Kc7 21.Qxg4 Qf6 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23. g7??

Ade had used only half an hour up to this point, and it would have been a good time to slow down. 23.Rd1 or 23.Kb2 is winning easily.

23...Qc3 24.g8(Q)??

Forced is 24.Kb1, and Black must take a perp with 24...Qb4+ =.

24...Qa1 mate 0-1

Center Counter B01

B.L. Patteson 2158
Robert Chalker 2020

New Year Open (5)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Bb5+ Nbd7 4.c4 a6 5.Ba4 b5 6.cxb5 Nc5? (6...Nxd5) 7.bxa6+ Nxa4 8. Qxa4 Nd7 9.a7 Bb7 10.Nc3 Qc8 11.d3 c6 12.Be3 cxd5 13.Nf3 Bc6 14.Qa5 e6 15.Nb5 Bxb5 16.Qxb5 Bd6 17.Rc1 Qd8 18.0-0 0-0 19.Rc6 Nf6 20.Qa6 Ne8 21.Rfc1 Qe7 22. Qb6 Qd7 23.Qa6 Qe7 24.Rc8 Nc7 25.Rxf8+ Qxf8 26.Qb7 d4 27.Bxd4 Nd5 28.a3 Nf4 29.Kf1 f6 30.Rc6 Be7 31.Rb6 e5 32.Qxa8 1-0

The Denton Chess Club meets Saturdays 3:30-6:30 p.m. at Denia Recreation Center, 1001 Parvin, Denton. Dues: \$5/six mo. Contact Michael Korrie (817) 484-0513, or Bill Trowbridge (817) 566-7093.

Klein (continued from page 5)

[19.Be3 f5 (19...Bxg4?! 20.hxg4!) 20.Bxf5 Bxf5 21.exf5 Nxf5 22.Qd3 with a positional plus to White.]

19...f5!

Of course White cannot be allowed to play f4-f5 with attack.

20.exf5 Bxd5!

20...Bxf5 is less accurate as White will be able to maintain the initiative.

21.cxd5 (21. f6?? Qa7 -) Nxf5



22.fxe5?!

This also seems to help Black.

22...Bb6+!

When the "Sveshnikov" bishop winds up here something must be wrong.

23.Kh2

Practically forced.

23...dxe5 24.Qd3 g6

Black encourages 25.Bxf5 gxf5.

25.Bb2 Rae8

Black has just enough time to defend this.

26. Rae1 e4! 27.Bxf5

27. Rxe4 Qd6+! 28.g3 (28.Ref4? Be3 -) Nxg3! with a strong attack [29.Rxf8+ Rxf8 30.Qxg3 Rf2+ -.]

27...Qd6+! 28.Qg3 Qxg3+ 29. Kxg3 gxf5

Draw

This endgame needs some analyzing, but I wasn't sure if the advanced pawns were strengths or weaknesses.

Reti Opening A11

Andrés Suarez 1520

Steven Grubbs 2030

Klein Winter 1997 (2)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c6!

A good response by Black that diminishes the range of the fianchettoed bishop at g2. [? - Ed.]

3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.b3

Preparing to fianchetto both bishops.

5...e6?

A bad move, blocking Black's light-square bishop.

6.Bb2 0-0 7.Nf3 d5 8.d3 Nbd7 9.0-0 Re8 10.Re1 Qc7 11.e4!



A forceful move that gains control of the center.

11...dxe4 12.dxe4

Now the control of the center is assured, by pushing c5 and/or e5 and the d6 square becomes a good square for my knight by Ne4 and Nd6.

12...Rd8 13.Qc2

To prevent the discovered attack on the queen. Control of this d-file can be recovered by Rd1 at any time.

13...Rb8

Trying for b5-b4. White's next move b3-b4 eliminates all that. [14. Rac1? is answered with 14...Bh6!]

14.b4 a5

Now 14...b5 15.c5 only puts Black in a cramp.

15.a3 Ra8 16.Red1 axb4 17. axb4 Rxa1 18.Bxa1

These exchanges make the game very drawish. This is good for the lower rated player (me).

18...Nb6

I prefer 18...e5 intending ...Nf8, ...Bg4 and ...Ne6. If White pins with 19.Qd2 then ...Bf8-e7 is adequate.



19.Nd2

Black's last move invites c4-c5, which is not good at this time because Black's knight goes to a good post at c4.

[On 19.c5 Nc4 20.Na4 Black squeaks by with 20...b5 21.cxb6 Nxb6 22.Be5 Rxd1+ 23.Qxd1 Qd7!]

19...Bd7 20.c5

Now c5 works - the only square left for that knight is back to c8.

20...Nc8 21.Nc4 Be8 22.Rxd8 Qxd8 23.Qd1

Now White wants to trade queens, attack the knight at f6 and then play e5 looking for a draw.

23...Qe7

Or 23...Qxd1+ 24.Nxd1 Nd7? 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.e5! and White dominates. Better is 24...g5 with a difficult position.

24.Nd6 Nxd6 25.cxd6 Qd8 26.e5 [26.Na4!?] Nd5

The best response possible, but it reinforces the idea of a draw after the exchange of knights. [26...Nd7! 27.f4 Qb6+ 28.Kh1 Qxb4 =+.]

27.Nxd5 cxd5



28.Qc2!!

This in my opinion is the move that won the game, because trading queens at c7 is now a big possibility.

28...Bc6?? 29.Bf1! Qc8[?]

29...Qb6 30.b5! Bd7 (30...Bxb5 31.Qb1) 31.Qc7 and White has a big endgame advantage, but not a crush as in the game.

30.b5

A queen exchange is now unavoidable, and White has an almost-passed pawn.

30...Bd7 31.Qxc8+ Bxc8 32.b6 Bd7??

Otherwise White plays 32.Bb5 and 33.d7 +-, so it doesn't matter.

33.Ba6

Here almost anything works. If 33...bxa6 34.b7 and the pawn queens. The same goes for 33...Bc6 34.Bxb7 Bxb7 35.d7.

33...Kf8 34.Bxb7 Ke8??

Incredible! Black may get mated by White's two bishops alone if Black continues this way.

35.Ba6 Bc6 36.b7 Bxb7

Forced, still this is a won game for White.

37.Bxb7 Kd7 38.Ba6 Bh6

Too late. This bishop never played in this game.

39.Bb5+ Kd8 40.Bd4

Looking to advance the d6 pawn or mate with the two bishops.

40...Bg5 41.f4 Be7 42.Bb6+ 1-0

A mature strategical performance for any thirteen year old!

Linares 1997

Gary Kasparov won the super-GM tournament held February 4-16 in Linares, Spain. He finished a point ahead of the field, just as he had done last December at Las Palmas, an unheard-of Category 21 (2757!) event. The PCA world champion is sending a clear message to his rivals that he is back in top form.

Notably absent was the FIDE champion Anatoly Karpov, who was in Tula running for parliamentary office. (He placed third).

Also absent was Vassily Ivanchuk's fighting form - in the first four rounds he scored half a point. After losing to Judit Polgar in 19 moves with the white pieces, he declared in an interview that he will give up chess for at least a year. Later he dealt Kasparov his only loss, but the champion's gambit play with Black smacked of overconfidence.

Judit Polgar led alone after five rounds, but before she had played the highest rated players. Certainly her +1 result confirms her place in the top tier of the world's talent.

For Topalov, +1.5 seemed par for his current megastar status; for

Mickey Adams the the same score is likely a personal best.

Going into the last round, Kasparov and Kramnik were tied for the lead with 7.5 points, a point and a half ahead of the pack led by Adams and Topalov. Kasparov won in a technical *tour de force*, playing Karpov-like (!) control chess that denied all counterplay.

Nimzo-Indian E59

Gary Kasparov 2795

Vladimir Kramnik 2740

Linares 1997 (11)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 0-0 5.Bd3 c5 6.Nf3 d5 7.0-0 Nc6 8. a3 Bxc3 9.bxc3 dxc4 10. Bxc4 Qc7 11.Ba2 b6 12.Re1 e5 13. e4 Bg4 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.h3 Rad8 16.Qe2 Bxf3 17. Qxf3 Rd6 18.Bg5 h6 19.Bh4 Rfd8 20.Rab1 Ne7 21. Bc4 Nc8?!

21...Ng6 22.Bg3 Rb6 (Seirawan) is preferable. Kramnik's knight is headed for b6, where it briefly disrupts White's designs on the b-file.

22.Bg3 Nb6 23.Bb5 Re6 24.a4 c4 25.Qe2 Rd3 26.a5 Nc8 27.Rb4 Rxc3 28.Rxc4 Rxc4 (28...Qxa5 29.

Qd2!) 29.Qxc4 Qb8 30.Qc5 Nd6 31.Bd3 Nd7 32.Qa3 Nf8 33.Rb1 Qc7 34.Rc1 Qd8 35.a6 Ng6 36.Qc5 Re7 37. f3 Ne8 38.Bf1 Rc7 39.Qe3 Rd7 40.Kh2 Re7



41.Rc6 Kh7 42.Qc1 Nc7 43. Qc3 Qd7 44.Rc5 Qd6 45.Bf2 Ne6 46.Rd5 Qb8 47.Rb5 Qd6 48.Rb7 Nd4 49.Qb4 Qf6 50.Qc5 Nc6 51. Be3 Re6 52.Bc4 Re7 53.Bd5 Nd4 54.Rxa7 Rxa7

55...Nxf3+ 56.gxf3 Qxf3 57. Qxf7! Nf4 58.Qf5+ Kh8 59.Qf8+ Kh7 60.Bg8+ mating - Seirawan.

55.Qxa7 Ne7 56.c4 h5 57.Qc5

1-0

Linares ESP (ESP), II 1997

cat. XIX (2701)

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2		
1	Kasparov, Gary	g RUS 2795	*	1	1	1	1	1	=	0	1	=	1	=	8.5	2903
2	Kramnik, Vladimir	g RUS 2740	0	*	=	1	1	=	=	1	=	1	=	1	7.5	2830
3	Adams, Michael	g ENG 2665	0	=	*	=	=	=	1	=	=	1	1	=	6.5	2769
4	Topalov, Veselin	g BUL 2725	0	0	=	*	=	=	1	1	1	1	0	1	6.5	2763
5	Polgar, Judit	g HUN 2645	0	0	=	=	*	0	=	1	1	1	=	1	6.0	2741
6	Anand, Viswanathan	g IND 2765	0	=	=	1	*	=	=	0	1	=	=	=	5.5	2695
7	Gelfand, Boris	g BLR 2700	=	=	0	0	=	=	*	=	1	=	=	=	5.0	2664
8	Ivanchuk, Vassily	g UKR 2740	1	0	=	0	0	=	=	*	=	0	1	1	5.0	2661
9	Nikolic, Predrag	g BIH 2655	0	=	=	0	0	1	0	=	*	=	1	=	4.5	2640
10	Dreev, Alexey	g RUS 2650	=	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	1	=	*	=	4.0	2603
11	Shirov, Alexei	g ESP 2690	0	=	0	1	=	=	=	0	0	=	*	0	3.5	2568
12	Piket, Jeroen	g NED 2640	=	0	=	0	0	=	=	0	=	0	1	*	3.5	2573

Ardaman annotates

Dutch Defense A81

Miles Ardaman 2460

David Sprenkle 2306

Asheville 1997 (5)

1.g3 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.b3
Bg7 5.Bb2 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.d4

This formula works well against Dutch and KID formations. It was a favorite of the late Boris Kogan, who continues to inspire me with his deep strategic understanding. [*Gulko has played this too.*]

7...Qe8 8.Nbd2

The c4 square is reserved for a knight gallop perchance.

8...c6 9.e3 Na6 10.Qe2 h6 11.e4

Otherwise Black might manage ...g5 and ...f4 with a wedge.

11...fxe4 12.Nxe4 Qf7

12...Nxe4 13.Qxe4 Bf5 14.Qe2 Nb4 15.Ne1± followed by eviction of the invader.

13.Nxf6+ Bxf6 14.Qd2!

An important defensive and offensive move: freeing the knight of potential pins, covering b4 and d4 against incursions or attacks, and finally attacking h6. (14.Nd2 c5 =.)

14...Qg7

The move I had anticipated, which now lets me continue very actively. Perhaps better is 14...Bg7.

15.Rae1 Bf5 16.h3

White is not merely lying in wait...

16...g5 17.g4 Bg6 18.Ne5!



GM Alexander Ivanov and FM Emory Tate tied for first at Land of the Sky X (Asheville, NC, Jan. 31-Feb. 2). Ardaman finished in a tie for 3rd-8th with GM's Serper, Kaidanov, Palatnik and three others.

The prepared ploy. An annoying knight is advanced, but also heralding the herd behind it.

18...Bh7?

Forced is 18...Be8, but 19.Kh1 prepares a possible Nd3-f4, or 19...Rd8 20.Qa5! e6 21.Nxc6 +-; 18...dxe5 19.dxe5 Rad8 20.Qc3 ±.

19.Nd7

My opponent graciously admitted he'd not seen this hop with the knight.

19...Rf7 20.c4

Bringing up the rears.

19...Nc7 21.Nxf6+

Without this bishop, Black will be without a future.

21...exf6 22.d5 c5

22...cxd5 23.cxd5 would not alter the course.

23.f4

Now the other flank.

23...Re8 24.f5!

Shutting d... Black's kingside group.

24...Rfe7

Slightly better was 24...Rxe1 25.Rxe1 Re7 to dispose of a set of rooks, but it would allow White the same line of play.

25.Re6!!



25...Nxe6

Forced. 25...Rxe6 26.dxe6 Qe7 27.Bxb7 Nxe6 28.Bd5 +-.
26.dxe6 ±

Here bishops are stronger than rooks. Moreover, Black plays essentially minus his bishop, and soon, his d-pawn.

26...Rd8 27.Qc3 Rf8 28.Rd1 Rc7 29.Rxd6 Qe7 30.Qd3

Now one can see why exchanging a set of rooks would have eased the defense some; Black has no use for his "five-pointers".

30...Kg7 31.Be4

Beginning the semifinal phase of piece placement improvement.

31...Bg8 32.Bc3 Re8 33.Ba5! b6 34.Bc3 Rec8 35.Kg2 Bh7 36.a4 Bg8 37.Bc6!

Made possible by ...b6.

37...Kf8

Or 37...Rxc6?! 38.Rd7 R6c7 39.Bxf6+!! Kxf6 40.Qc3 mate.

38.Bb5

This post offers the most prospects – further limiting Black's movements, e.g. ...Kf8-e8 and ...Rd8.

38...Rb8 39.Qd2

Entering the final phase.

39...a5

White has disguised slightly his real intent. Not to play on the queenside, but...

40.Kf3 Bh7 41.h4

... rather on the kingside.

41...Bg8

41...h5 42.hxg5 hxg4+ 43.Kxg4 Bxf5+ 44.Kxf5 Qh7+ 45.Kg4 Qe4+ 46.Kg3, with a crushing attack to follow.

42.hxg5 hxg5 43.Qh2

The reason for 39.Qd2 and 40.Kf3: White maintains control over the h2-b8 diagonal while menacing down the h-file.

43...Kg7 44.Rd5 Rd8?

But 44...Bh7 45.Bxf6+! Kxf6 (45...Qxf6 46.Qxc7+) 46.Qb2 mate or 44...Rf8 45.Qh5 Δ Qxg5+ is hopeless.

45.Qd2

1-0

Shuffle Chess – good or bad?

by B.L. Patteson

First, a major disclaimer on my part. I like this chess game variant, but not for the reasons that have been put forward by Bobby Fischer. He is afraid that someone might win a game from him with better opening preparation. The nerve of the guy! In his prime, that was one of his major weapons.

It is true today that the actual one-on-one game starts after a few theoretical moves. But so what? You can look in any *Informant* and find plenty of games by the world's best players where they have lost positions in under 30 moves. Opening preparation can prepare non-losing positions just as well as it can prepare traps and winning positions.

I don't care who you are – eventually you are going to have to make some moves on your own. Fischer wants to start on move one, but I don't see that this is really necessary. As long as your opponent doesn't have an earpiece tied to a computer somewhere, eventually he will be on his own. And if he beats you with better opening preparation, then maybe you need to work on your openings a little more.

But shuffle chess is fun and it is a great training tool. Here are some of the points in its favor:

1) Fischer's reasons – one on one from the very first move.

2) It builds a completely objective attitude when it comes to finding the best move in a position. You won't have any bias toward a move because you know that it is usually done in this type of opening.

3) The early moves of a game are a great exercise in improving the position of poorly placed pieces. The Russians used to say if you can't find a plan in a position, improve the position of your most

poorly placed piece. Boy, you will get plenty of practice doing this!

Some other observations:

1) "Normal" positions are usually reached in 10-15 moves depending on what you have to start with and how good a player you are.

2) It is difficult to recall games you have played in the past. When you look at old scores, they will not make any sense to you.

3) You will make a lot of errors in scorekeeping – h-file or a-file, etc. Of course, English Descriptive is not the way to keep score. Only algebraic will retain your sanity!

In shuffle chess, the pawns are arranged as in regular chess, but the pieces are randomly placed on the back rank using vertical symmetry (i.e., if a White queen goes on a1, then the Black queen must sit on a8, etc.) The two bishops of a player must be of different color as in regular chess. Finally, the king must be placed somewhere between the two rooks. Meeting these limitations, there are 960 starting positions. Goodbye opening theory!

A type of castling is allowed if the regular chess provisions obtain – king not in check, neither piece has moved, king will not move through a controlled square, and all squares between are empty. When castling with the left rook (Black's right), the king moves to c1 for White (c8 for Black) and the rook moves to d1 (d8 for Black). Similarly with the right rook (Black's left), the king ends up on g1(8) and the rook on f1(8), as in kingside castling.

I thought I would tease my Mephisto/Montreaux by making it play a game against itself using Shuffle chess. Guess what? Black won! Here is the game, with the Montreaux on its highest level, but playing at 30 seconds a move.

Mephisto - Mephisto

Back ranks from a to h (chosen by pure chance) are:

♙ ♘ ♖ ♗ ♕ ♔ ♚ ♛
1.f3 f6 2.e4 d5 3.c3 dxe4 4.fxe4 b6 5.Bc2

Since this bishop already has a diagonal, this seems a wasted move.

5...c5 6.d4 Bc4+ 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 Ned6 9.d5 e6 10.b3 Bxe2+ 11.Kxe2 exd5 12.Rxd5

White has played the opening very poorly. The king is stranded in the middle of the board, and the e4 pawn is weak.

13...Kf7

Even better was 12...0-0, but my computer is unaware of the shuffle chess rule so it castles by hand.

13.Rd4

More waste of time. White is playing terribly.

13...Nb5 14.Rxd8 Rxd8 15.Nf3 Qc6 16.Bd3 Nc3+ 17.Kd2 Nxe4+ 18.Ke2 Nc3+ 19.Kd2 Bf4+ 20.Kc2 Nd5+

Of course White's position is hopeless, but I allowed the game to continue a few more moves.

21.Bc4 Nd6 22.Nd4 Qc8 23.Kd3 Nxc4 24.bxc4 Nb4+ 25.Kc3 Nc6 26.Nc6 Qxc6 27.Qf1 Qa4! 28.Qxf4. . . and after taking this bishop White resigned. Black could quickly round up White's queen with something like 28...Qa3+ 29.Kc2 Qxa2+ 30.Kc3 Qa3+ 31.Kc2 Qd3+ 32.Kb2 Qe2+ 33.Kb1 Rd1+, etc.

I have a hunch that if you play some practice games against your computer using shuffle chess, you will develop an attitude of just trying to improve the positions of your pieces and maintain some sort of harmony in your position. And isn't this exactly what we should be doing in our regular games of chess?

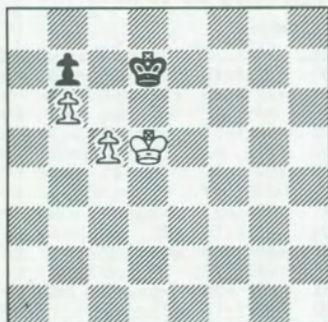
Have fun.

Squeeze or Zugzwang?

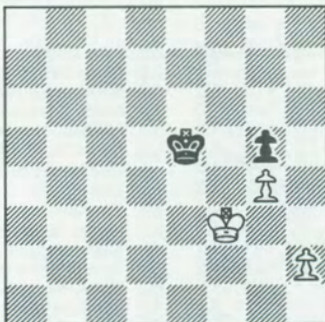
by Robert Brieger

Squeeze: One side wins regardless of who moves. *Zugzwang*: Outcome depends on who moves. **Answers**: page 27.

#1



#2



#3



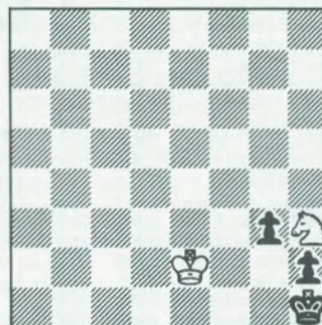
#4



#5



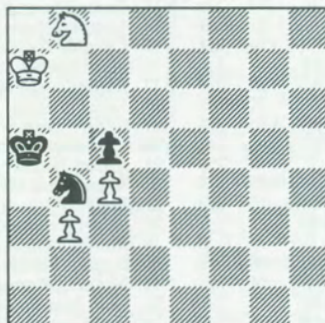
#6



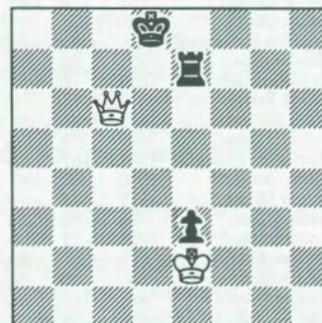
#7



#8



#9



Crosstables

60 James Nielsen	1111	-18	-26	-55	-53	+63	1.0
61 Barbara Ade	917	-50	-30	-57	-49	B	1.0
62 Chris Barbour	916	-27	-41	-43	B	-49	1.0
63 Lauren Oppenheim	unr.	-31	-42	H	-37	-60	0.5

New Year Open San Antonio, December 28-29

Open

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Eric Dimazana	2248	+21	+54	+17	+2	+8	5.0
2 José Luis Silva	2230	+36	+40	+19	-1	+18	4.0
3 Larry Moss	2200	+41	+27	=9	+14	=4	4.0
4 James Rohrbaugh	2155	+59	+32	=11	+9	=3	4.0
5 James J. Gallagher	2291	+26	=18	=50	+11	+10	4.0
6 Thomas Patton	2166	+30	=50	+25	=18	+19	4.0
7 B.L. Pateson	2158	+35	=9	+41	+40	+17	4.0
8 Selby Anderson	2286	+46	+15	+12	=10	-1	3.5
9 John Hendrick	1887	+58	+7	=3	-4	+26	3.5
10 Mitch Vergara	2153	+39	+13	+31	=8	-5	3.5
11 Albert Fulton	1708	+57	+20	=4	-5	+32	3.5
12 Andrew I. Smith	2143	+29	+16	=8	+27	=13	3.5
13 Chris Shomonta	1823	+49	-10	+29	+20	=12	3.5
14 David C. John	1940	+37	=25	+34	-3	+33	3.5
15 Martin Gordon	1938	+52	=8	+35	=26	+28	3.5
16 Charles Barbour	1829	+47	-12	=51	+30	+24	3.5
17 Robert Chalker	2020	+28	+22	-1	+23	-7	3.0
18 John W. Ade	1933	+60	=5	+24	=6	-2	3.0
19 Jesse Buentello	1972	+42	+23	-2	+31	-6	3.0
20 Stephen Cheyney	2119	+51	-11	+36	-13	+41	3.0
21 Diego Gamboa	1633	-1	+53	-23	+52	+43	3.0
22 Edwardo Zapata	1719	+43	-17	+42	-32	+39	3.0
23 Joe Gilbert	1880	+33	-19	+21	-17	=35	2.5
24 Larry Tipperreiter	unr.	=34	+38	-18	+25	-16	2.5
25 Brian Oakley	1655	+44	=14	=6	-24	+51	2.5
26 Freddy Jones	1643	-5	+60	+47	=15	=9	2.5
27 William P. Gibson	1900	+62	-3	+59	-12	=38	2.5
28 John DeMott	1298	-17	=44	+48	+34	-15	2.5
29 Daniel Robbins	1323	-12	+43	-13	+55	=31	2.5
30 Stillman Anderson	1506	-6	+61	=54	-16	+52	2.5
31 Blair Burleson	1649	+63	+48	-10	-19	=29	2.5
32 George Kvakovskuy	1900	+55	-4	H	+22	-11	2.5
33 Tancredo Pastores	1740	-23	=37	+44	+51	-14	2.5
34 Duane Solley	1722	=24	+56	-14	-28	+42	2.5
35 Michael LaBelle	1458	-7	+58	-15	+57	=23	2.5
36 Jason Kindred	1605	-2	+45	-20	+56	H	2.5
37 James Fleener	1266	-14	=33	-46	+63	+53	2.5
38 Wallace Short	1460	H	-24	=56	+45	=27	2.5
39 Richard C. Lopez	1370	-10	+49	-40	+47	-22	2.0
40 David Peters	1915	+45	-2	+39	-7	U	2.0
41 Gerald Castleberry	1600	-3	+62	-7	+58	-20	2.0
42 David Huebel	1291	-19	+63	-22	+46	-34	2.0
43 Adam Alonzo	unr.	-22	-29	+62	X	-21	2.0
44 Brandon Loudermilk	unr.	-25	=28	-33	=48	+56	2.0
45 Martha Ade	1031	-40	-36	+49	-38	+57	2.0
46 Raymond Doo	1634	-8	-52	+37	-42	+58	2.0
47 David Parr	875	-16	B	-26	-39	X	2.0
48 Mark McCue	1917	H	-31	-28	=44	+55	2.0
49 Arthur Hanna	unr.	-13	-39	-45	+61	+62	2.0
50 Steven D. Young	1904	+61	=6	=5	U	U	2.0
51 Leigh Emrich	1300	-20	+57	=16	-33	-25	1.5
52 Alfred Miller	1215	-15	+46	H	-21	-30	1.5
53 Jaime Calica	998	-54	-21	H	+60	-37	1.5
54 Andrew Thall	1905	+53	-1	=30	U	U	1.5
55 Andres Alanis	899	-32	-59	+60	-29	-48	1.0
56 John Asbell	900	H	-34	=38	-36	-44	1.0
57 Michael Coyle	unr.	-11	-51	+61	-35	-45	1.0
58 John M. Ade	880	-9	-35	B	-41	-46	1.0
59 Dennis C. Moore	1399	-4	+55	-27	F	F	1.0

ACE Open Club Championship Austin, January 17-19

Open

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Drew Sarkisian	2236	=15	+19	=7	+16	+6	4.0
2 Richard Ketcham	2234	+13	=5	+12	+8	=3	4.0
3 Mack Novosad	2210	+9	+11	=8	+4	=2	4.0
4 Mikhail Langer	2192	+22	+17	+6	-3	=7	3.5
5 David W. Phillips	2033	+14	=2	-16	+19	+12	3.5
6 Clarence Yeung	2203	+24	+10	-4	+11	-1	3.0
7 Larry Moss	2200	=20	+15	=1	=10	=4	3.0
8 Joe Binder	2073	+23	+21	=3	-2	=10	3.0
9 Steven D. Young	1904	-3	-18	+25	X	+17	3.0
10 John Hendrick	1887	+18	-6	+14	=7	=8	3.0
11 John Durston r/e	1846	+25	-3	X	-6	+18	3.0
12 Mitch Vergara	2153	H	+20	-2	+18	-5	2.5
13 Rosendo Leal	1950	-2	-14	+23	=17	+21	2.5
14 Michael Kendrick	1640	-5	+13	-10	=15	+23	2.5
15 Robert Chalker	2020	=1	-7	-20	+14	+25	2.0
16 Kelly Clover	1900	-17	+23	+5	-1	U	2.0
17 Louis Horner	1620	+16	-4	=11	=13	-9	2.0
18 Steve Hoberman	1555	-10	+9	+22	-12	-11	2.0
19 Michael Simpson	2143	H	=1	+21	-5	U	1.5
20 Danny Hardesty	1804	=7	-12	+15	U	U	1.5
21 Don LeFlore	1550	+26	-8	-19	H	-13	1.5
22 Allen Eckert	1829	-4	+25	-18	F	U	1.0
23 Bennett Sandlin	1467	-8	-16	-13	+25	-14	1.0
24 John Durston	1846	-6	U	U	U	U	0.0
25 Wallace Short	1460	-11	-22	-9	-23	-15	0.0
26 Wallace Short	1460	-21	U	U	U	U	0.0

Reserve

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Zachariah Coombes	1904	=17	+15	+24	+6	=4	4.0
2 Fernando Ramirez	1813	+27	-5	+16	+10	+9	4.0
3 Thomas E. Brown	1701	+19	F	+27	+12	+14	4.0
4 David Walls	1697	+21	+11	+10	=8	=1	4.0
5 Torey Neuzil	1586	+28	+2	=6	=9	+8	4.0
6 Daryl Ashley	1688	+30	+18	=5	-1	+11	3.5
7 Gerald S. Lewis	unr.	+13	=9	+26	H	+16	3.5
8 Aaron Fox	1705	+26	+12	=9	=4	-5	3.0
9 Raymond Doo	1634	+14	+7	=8	=5	-2	3.0
10 Darryl Tietjen	1595	+25	X	-4	-2	+19	3.0
11 Glyn Ridge	1548	+23	-4	+18	+13	-6	3.0
12 Leigh Emrich	1300	+29	=8	+19	-3	+20	3.0
13 James Fleener	1266	-7	+28	+15	-11	+23	3.0
14 Matthew Burns	1257	-9	B	+20	+17	-3	3.0
15 Douglas Hardesty	1109	B	-1	-13	+28	+24	3.0
16 Paul Blanton	1254	H	+17	-2	+24	-7	2.5
17 David Campbell	1222	=1	-16	+23	-14	+25	2.5
18 James Nielsen	1111	+20	-6	-11	-23	+30	2.0
19 Robert Musto	unr.	-3	+22	-12	+29	-10	2.0
20 Gene Deal	unr.	-18	+29	-14	X	-12	2.0
21 Robert Nickel	unr.	-4	-29	=25	=22	+29	2.0
22 Arthur Leal III	unr.	-24	-19	H	=21	+28	2.0
23 Sergio Tristan	unr.	-11	+30	-17	+18	-13	2.0
24 Kevin Leverenz	1511	+22	H	-1	-16	-15	1.5
25 Mark Rodriguez	unr.	-10	-26	=21	+30	-17	1.5
26 Stephen Foster	1290	-8	+25	-7	F	U	1.0
27 Michael Martinez	1111	-2	+21	-3	U	U	1.0
28 Luke Rodriguez	unr.	-5	-13	+30	-15	-22	1.0
29 Joel Czyzak	unr.	-12	-20	B	-19	-21	1.0
30 Zack Rodriguez	unr.	-6	-23	-28	-25	-18	0.0

Klein Winter Scholastic

Klein, February 1, 1997

Open (adult)

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 Pantelis Dadidakis	1579	+4	=3	+6	+9	3.5
2 Jorge Best	1621	+19	+9	+5	=3	3.5
3 Carl Waldby	1680	+98	=1	+13	=2	3.0
4 William T. Jones	2001	-1	+14	+7	8	3.0
5 Charles DuMond	1235	+18	+15	-2	+10	3.0
6 James Trask	1673	=14	+17	-1	+13	2.5
7 Tommy Bernard	1215	+16	=13	-4	+14	2.5
8 Adin Umana	1562	-3	+12	+11	-4	2.0
9 Alex Lane	1763	+10	-2	+17	-1	2.0
10 David Engwer	1564	-9	+19	+15	-5	2.0
11 Brett Bothwell	956	-13	+16	-8	+17	2.0
12 Matthew Haws	1650	-17	-8	+19	+18	2.0
13 Mike Hughes	1261	+11	=7	-3	-6	1.5
14 Eric Walters	1484	=6	-4	+18	-7	1.5
15 David Josh	1015	+20	-5	-10	=16	1.5
16 Richard Hamilton	860	-7	-11	B	=15	1.5
17 Gary R. Joe	1446	+12	-6	-9	-11	1.0
18 Rich Lancaster	917	-5	+20	-14	-12	1.0
19 David Hillery	1358	-2	-10	-12	B	1.0
20 Miguel Suarez	1332	-15	-18	U	U	0.0

Championship

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 David C. John	1910	+8	=3	+4	=5	3.0
2 Justin Shih	1414	-3	+9	+8	+7	3.0
3 Steven Grubbs	2021	+2	=1	+5	-4	2.5
4 Andrés Suarez	1520	=10	+6	-1	+3	2.5
5 Glen Boudreaux	1687	+9	+7	-3	=1	2.5
6 Tim Justus	1088	=7	-4	=10	+8	2.0
7 Patrick Bloom	1531	=6	-5	+9	-2	1.5
8 Michael Ramer	1404	-1	+10	-2	-6	1.0
9 Christopher Oakman	1368	-5	-2	-7	+10	1.0
10 Daniel Robbins	1323	=4	-8	=6	-9	1.0

CORRECTION

In the crosstable for Pinfork #4, the results for Alleza Manawa in the Unrated section (*TK* Jan-Feb, p. 32), are incorrect. Her line should read as follows:

7 Alleza Manawa unr. -6 B -2 +5 =4 -1 -3 2.5

B=bye H=1/2 pt. bye U=unplayed X=forfeit win F=forfeit loss
r/e = re-entered Players in each point group are listed by tiebreaks.

NOTICE: The Texas Scholastic Championship (High School only) will offer an optional **three-day schedule** to leave Saturday morning open for SAT tests. The optional first round time is Friday evening, 7:45. Schedules merge at Rd. 2.

March 31: Texas A&M Spring Open. 3-SS, 30/60, SD/30. 110 Koldus Bldg. (across from Rudder Tower), Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX. \$\$ b/entries. EF: \$20, TCA memb. required. Reg. 10-10:30 a.m., Rds. 10:30-1:30-4:30. Ent: Dr. Dusan Djuric, 1018 Holt St., College Station, TX 77840; (409) 696-5504 (h), 845-5522 (w); e-mail: djuric@ariel.tamu.edu. NS. NC. W.

Test Your Tactics! (p. 3)

- 1.Qxa8 1-0 (1...Qxa8 2.Nc7+).
- 1.Rxd4! 1-0 (1...Nxd4 2.Qxd4+! mates.)
- 1.Qxd5 Qxd5 (1...Bxb1 2.Nxc7+ Kf8 3.Ne6+ and 4. Nxd8) 2.Nxc7+ and Black resigned because he comes out a piece down after 2...Kd7 3.Nxd5 Bxb1 4.Nb6+, or 2...Kf8(d8) 3.Bxd5 Bxb1 4.Nxa8.
- 1.h4 g5 (1...Qxh4 2.Qxf8+ Kg5 3.Nf3+; 2...Kh7 3. Bg8+ Kh8 4.Bf7+) 2.hxg5+ Qxg5 and White missed 3.Qh8 mate! The game continued 3.Qxf8+? Qg7 4.Qf4+? (4.g5+ Kh7 5.Bd3+ still wins) and a draw was agreed!
- White has a winning breakthrough with 1.Ba6! e.g. 1...bxa6 2.b7 and 3.b8(Q), or 1...Bc6 2.Bxb7! Bxb7 3.d7, also queening. The game continued 1...Kf8 2.Bxb7 Ke8 3. Ba6 and Black had to give up a bishop to stop the pawn.
- 1...f6+! 0-1 (2.exf6 Qc5+ 3.Kh4 g5+ 4.Qxg5 Qf2+ 5.Kh5 Bf7+ +-).
- 1...Rxe3 0-1 (2.Rxe3 Rxe3 3.Kxe3 Bg5+ 4.Ke2 Bxd2 5.Kxd2 f4! and Black queens a pawn.)
- The game ended 1.Ndx5! Bxb5 (perhaps best is 1...a3+ 2.Nxa3 and Black is two pawns down) 2.Nxb5 axb3 (2... Qxb5 3.Qxd6 and Rxf8 mate) 3.Nxd6+ Kd7 4.Nf5+ and Black resigned. Now 4...Ke8? 5.Ng7+ Ke7 6.Bc5 is mate, and after 4...Kc6 5.Qc3+ White's queen will enter deep with a series of checks leading to Qb7+.
- After 1...Ndf4+ "Chucky" resigned. Give yourself credit if you saw half of the following: (a) 2.gxf4 Qg4+ 3.Kh1 Rh8 forcing mate; (b) 2.Kh2 Rh8! 3.gxf4 Qg4! is the same thing; (c) 2.Kg1 Qg4! is unanswerable: 3.Nf3 Nxc3!, or 3.Qd4+ f6, etc.; (d) 2.Kf3 f6! 3.gxf4 (or 3.Nh7 Kxh7 4.gxf4 Qh3+ 5.Ke2 Qg4+ +-) fxc5 4.f5 Rxf5+ 5.Kg2 Rf4 6.Rfd1 Qg4+ 7.Kf1 Ng3+ +-.

Squeeze or Zugzwang? (p. 25)

- This is a squeeze. If it is Black's move he loses in fewer moves. [White to move gains the opposition with 1.Ke5 Kc6 2.Kd4 Kd7 3.Kd5.]
- This is a squeeze, since the turn to move is not decisive. After 1...Kd5 2.Kg3 Ke5 3.h4 Kf6 4.h5, Black loses. [This is from a composition by Kling, and it appears in *Fine's Basic Chess Endings*, #35. White to move gains the distant opposition: 1.Kg3 Kf6 (else 2.h4 wins) 2.Kg2! Kf7 (2...Ke5 3.Kf3 - see above) 3.Kf2 Kf6 4.Kg3! Kg6 (forced) 5.Kf3 Kf6 6.Ke4 Ke6 7.h3 +-.]
- Neither squeeze nor zugzwang. Black to play draws with 1...Nh6.
- Neither squeeze nor zugzwang. Black draws (do you see how?)
- Black is in zugzwang. White has no waiting moves.
- White is in a squeeze, and loses regardless of who moves first. If Black moves, he wins with 1...Kg2 2. Nf4+ Kg1 3.Nh3+ Kh1, etc.

#7. Black is in a squeeze. No zugzwang, since White has waiting moves.

#8. Black in a squeeze is mated. No zugzwang, since White has a waiting move (1.Kb7). Conclusion of a first prize winning study by Brieger.

#9. Zugzwang. Black loses because it is his move. (1... Re8 2.Qd6+ Kc8 3.Kf1 e2+ 4.Ke1 zugzwang.) From a study by Kling and Horwitz.

Back cover solution

1.Qa1! and 1...Bg8 2.Kxg6#, 1...Kg8 2.Qa8# or 1...Nc7 2.Kf7#. From *The Puzzle King* (Pickard and Son, 1996).

Notice of Proposed Bylaws Amendment

by Selby Anderson: Article IX, Section 1.E (Texas Scholastic Championship). Add the following:

Only Texas residents or students enrolled in secondary or primary schools (including home schools) in Texas may play in this event.

WGM Maria Ivanka of Hungary defeated all twenty of her opponents in a charity simul held Feb. 23 at St. Theresa's church in Austin. The event raised \$200 for the church choir's European pilgrimage. Also attending were FM Andras Budinszky and FM Joe Bradford, reuniting a famous Austin power trio of the eighties.

Scholastic Chess Trek I

On February 8, 165 students gathered at Burnet Middle School in Austin for five rounds of play in Scholastic Chess Trek I. Fifty-eight individual, team, and grade trophies were awarded. Zack Rodriguez (4-1) of LBJ High School won the High School section. Tyler Herschap (5-0) of Kealing Junior High took first place in the Middle School division. Doug Hardesty (5-0) of Austin Area Homeschoolers won the Elementary section, while Neil Baron (5-0) of Casis Elementary took first place in the Primary division.

Top team trophies went to Elgin High School (High School section), Austin Area Homeschoolers (Middle School section), Austin Area Homeschoolers (Elementary section), and Casis Elementary (Primary section).

The tournament was sponsored by the Austin Area Homeschoolers Kids' Chess Club. Brenda Hardesty and Gary Gaiffe directed, with assistance from Danny Hardesty, Mack Novosad, Heather Flewelling, Mark Muecke, and Mel Meeks. Helping to organize the event were Pam Binder, Karen Colbert, Tara Persad, and a host of parent volunteers. Austin chess organizers are planning several more Scholastic Chess Trek tournaments during the coming year.

—Brenda Hardesty

Class B players!

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Patsy Cheyney, 533 W. Grammercy #1, San Antonio, TX 78212

Class C players: Corrigenda is now available for *A Short Course for Class C Players*. Anyone with a copy obtained during 1996 should send to the address above for a free list of corrections. Revised copies of *A Short Course for Class C Players* are available at \$19.95 + \$3.00 postage.

Texas Top 99

Ratings current as of February 1997 USCF rating list.

1: 2577 Root, Douglas D.	34: 2238 Quintanar, Sam S.	67: 2170 Rohrbaugh, James V.
2: 2530 Bradford, Joseph Mark	35: 2235 Rugel, Gregory Y.	68: 2170 Stouffer, William E.
3: 2503 Duque, Raymond D.	36: 2234 Ketcham, Richard A.	69: 2169 Michell, Arthur D.
4: 2502 Miguel, Fernando	37: 2231 Harrington, Steve	70: 2168 Gholmieh, Ralph Akram
5: 2465 Diesen, Mark C.	38: 2230 Reeve, Mark D.	71: 2166 Paton, Thomas A.
6: 2429 Ardaman, Miles F.	39: 2230 Silva, José Luis	72: 2163 Kislingbury, Mark
7: 2411 Shtern, Igor	40: 2226 Reyes, Ivan L.	73: 2163 Rohland, Michael K.
8: 2408 Dunning, John A.	41: 2220 Garey, Arthur L.	74: 2161 White, Mitchell R.
9: 2405 McClintock, Doug R.	42: 2219 Sarkisian, Drew J.	75: 2160 Scott, William M.
10: 2399 Jacobs, John N.	43: 2212 Gottesman, Jerome	76: 2158 Sprague, Al L.
11: 2378 Unalmis, Omer Haldun	44: 2210 Pickard, Sid B.	77: 2157 Samuelson, Bruce
12: 2370 Readey, John L.	45: 2210 Santillan, Carlos H.	78: 2152 Naiser, David
13: 2368 Curtin, Eugene	46: 2204 Hobart, Steve	79: 2152 Young, Vincent R.
14: 2363 De La Garza, Arturo	47: 2203 Novosad, Mack Wynn	80: 2150 Weinberg, Robert P.
15: 2361 Rios, Adrian	48: 2202 Dejmek, Mark W.	81: 2146 Arizpe, Ger. de la Garza
16: 2336 Ziane, Nouredine	49: 2202 Hazlewood, Mark R.	82: 2146 Lee, Anthony T.
17: 2309 Peterson, Eric T.	50: 2202 King, David G.	83: 2143 Simpson, Michael
18: 2309 Pina, Antonio	51: 2200 Cree, C.H. Graeme	84: 2143 Smith, Andrew I.
19: 2300 Anderson, Selby K.	52: 2200 Moore, Bobby G.	85: 2142 Ferrar, John
20: 2295 Hayward, Keith R.	53: 2200 Moss, Larry L.	86: 2138 Cook, Thomas G.
21: 2291 Bighamian, Mansour	54: 2200 Patty, John	87: 2138 Ozyilmaz, Arif
22: 2291 Gallagher, James Joseph	55: 2200 Wendling, Kenneth E.	88: 2137 Parreiras-Horta, Cesar
23: 2291 Reuter, William C.	56: 2200 Yeung, Clarence C.	89: 2136 Laverty, Alan T.
24: 2269 Weinberg, Alexander	57: 2197 Bell, John G.	90: 2136 Zurita, Carlos
25: 2267 Szmetan, Ricardo	58: 2192 Weaver, Richard	91: 2134 Vergara, Mitchell S.
26: 2264 Englebretson, Larry	59: 2191 Langer, Mikhail	92: 2132 Jacob, José V.
27: 2261 Calogridis, Michael S.	60: 2189 Land, Chris	93: 2131 Ball, Glenn E.
28: 2260 Simms, Gary	61: 2188 Forman, Robin	94: 2131 Huckaby, Marvin Ray
29: 2259 Miller, Todd	62: 2185 Erlebacher, Alan J.	95: 2128 Chavez, Francisco
30: 2258 Sutherland, Donald C.	63: 2179 Campbell, Matthew C.	96: 2128 Thomas, Todd S.
31: 2248 Dimazana, Eric B.	64: 2179 Gonzales, Richard E.	97: 2126 Rector, George
32: 2240 Gomez, Victor O.	65: 2174 Bar-Jona, Andrew J.	98: 2126 Rodriguez, Jaime
33: 2240 Machius, Mischa C.	66: 2174 Marcott, Don	99: 2125 Root, Alexey W.

Two stories from Linares

We have IM Dmitrije Bjelica to thank for the following stories, which appeared on the chess.net web site at <http://www.chess.net/linares.html>.

On the first day of the event Kasparov arrived for breakfast at the hotel restaurant. His young waitress asked him "Name and room number, please?"

After a long pause, Kasparov replied: "I am the World Champion."

"Oh, I am so sorry, Mr. Karpov - I didn't recognize you!"

Two prizes were on display: a Suzuki car for the winner, valued at \$35,000, and a gold watch for the most beautiful game. Judit Polgar told her mother:

"I like this car very much, but I don't think I will get a chance to drive it - the tournament is just too strong. Probably Kasparov will take it home."

Clara replied, "Well, you can still get that beautiful watch!"

Judit smiled and nodded. "Yes, I will try for it today against Ivanchuk." (She won in 19 moves.)

Texas Rapid Championship

San Antonio, April 12

5 Round Swiss • Time control: Game/29 USCF Quick-rated

Hampton Inn Fiesta Park, 11010 IH-10 West (Huebner exit)

Hotel rates: \$62 for 1 to 4/room. Free continental breakfast. Phone (210) 561-9058

\$600 in prizes (based on 35 players)

1st:	\$200	Class B:	\$80
Expert:	\$100	Class C:	\$70
Class A:	\$90	D/E/Unrated:	\$60

Entry fees: \$25 if rec'd by 4/10, \$30 at site. Checks payable to "SACC".

TCA membership required: adult \$10. Other state memberships OK.

Registration: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Rd. 1 at noon. Others ASAP with 10 min. breaks.

Entries: San Antonio Chess Club, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, Texas 78023

Information: <http://www.connecti.com/~txchess/> **Phone:** (210) 695-2324

e-mail: txchess@connecti.com *No smoking, no computers. Wheelchair access.*

Texas Senior Open (open to age 50+)

Huntsville, April 19-20

4 Round Swiss • Time control 40/2, 20/1

Sam Houston Inn, I-45S (Exit #114), Huntsville, TX 77340.

Hotel Rates: \$48 for 1-2/room. Phone: (409) 295-9151, (800) 395-9151 mention chess.

\$310 in prizes (based on 25 players)

1st:	\$100	<u>U1700</u>	
2nd:	\$75	1st:	\$60
3rd:	\$50	2nd:	\$25

Special Side Event

The Sam Houston Folklife Festival will be held Apr. 18-20 at Houston's home, The Steamboat House.

Entry fees: \$25 if rec'd by 4/9, **\$30** at site. **TCA** (\$10) required (o.s.a.)

Registration: 8-9:45 a.m., Rds. 10-4, 9-3 **Info:** fmarler@swweb.net

Entries: Forrest Marler, 2109 Ave. T, Huntsville, TX 77340 Phone: (409) 291-7625

Texas State Championship

May 24-26

6 Round Swiss: 40/2, 20/1, SD/30

At the historic

Menger Hotel
204 Alamo Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Next door to the Alamo. Special room rates: \$79 single/double.

Reservations: 1-800-345-9285 or (210) 223-4361. Must mention chess tournament, reserve by April 23.

\$4,000 b/150 entries • 2/3 of all prizes guaranteed

Championship (2000+)

Amateur (U2000)

	<u>Expert</u>		<u>B C D/under</u>			
First:	\$750	\$400	\$600	\$300	\$300	\$250
Second:	\$400	\$200	\$300	\$100	\$100	\$100
Third:	\$200					

Unrated limit \$100 in Amateur

Entry Fees: \$40 if postmarked by May 17, \$55 later.

Scholastic entry: \$10 in advance, \$15 at site. Must be 18 or under and play in Reserve section for trophy prize only. Four scholastic entries count as one toward "based on".

USCF & TCA membership required, other states accepted. Checks payable to "SACC".

Registration: 8:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 24

Half point bye available any one round with notice before Round 1.

Rounds: Sat. 11:30 - 6, Sun. 10 - 6, Mon. 9 - 3:30

Send entries to:

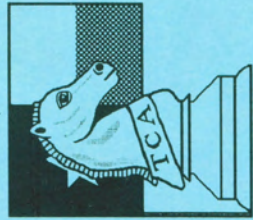
San Antonio Chess Club
P.O. Box 501
Helotes, TX 78023

Info: (210) 695-2324

<http://www.connecti.com/~txchess/>

txchess@connecti.com

No computers. No smoking. Wheelchair access.



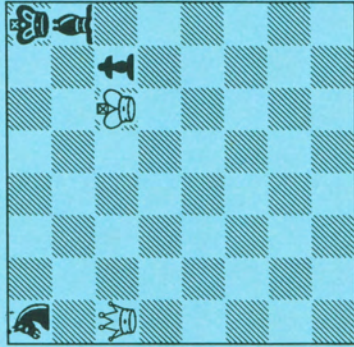
Texas Chess Association
P.O. Box 501
Helotes, TX 78023-0501

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See inside front cover for
TCA membership information.

Bids deadline for TCA Major Events in 2000: May 1

Sam Loyd, 1877



Mate in two
Solution: page 28

MS