

TEXAS KNIGHTS

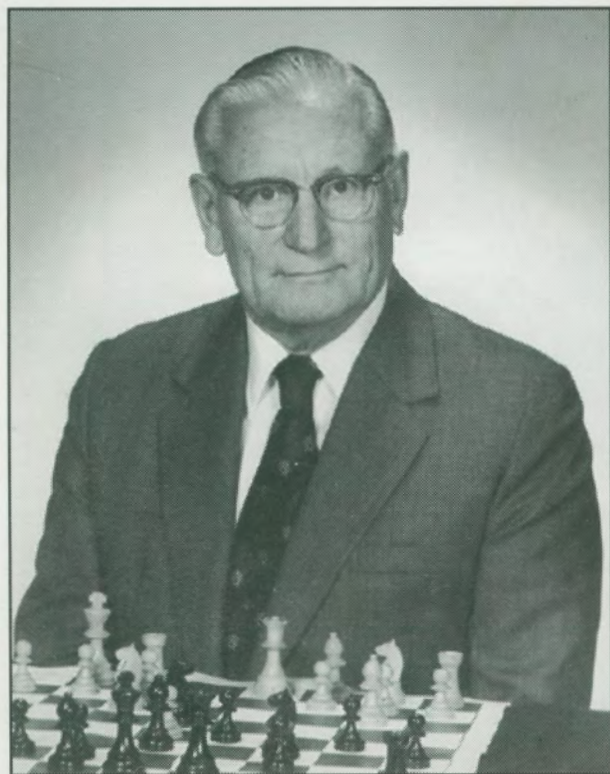
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A farewell to

J.C. Thompson

1910-1999

Founder of the
Texas Chess Association

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GM Wojtkiewicz wins Ken Smith Memorial

by NM Selby Anderson

The largest prize fund in a Texas tournament since the Pinfork series three years ago attracted two GM's (Wojtkiewicz and Blatny) and a GM-elect (Ziatdinov) to Dallas, giving state champion IM Rade Milovanovic some strong competition. The turnout of 188 players was far short of the 260 required for the full \$18,000 prize fund, and the 3/4 guaranteed amount was paid out.

Top-seeded GM Aleksander Wojtkiewicz of Poland won clear first with 4.5 out of 5 to take home \$1,500. He did not have a cakewalk, however. The field of players in the optional two-day schedule was so small that Wojtkiewicz had to play third-ranked Ziatdinov in Round 2, escaping with a draw after mistakes on both sides. In Round 4 he faced Milovanovic, who pressed a brilliant attack beginning with 16.Nd5! – but later missed the winning move. In the last round against Nouredine Ziane, Wojtkiewicz won a grinding 83-mover where it is doubtful that his extra pawn was enough to win against best defense.

The fifth round pairings in the Open section were delayed when Wojtkiewicz called the TD's attention to a glitch in the computer pairings and the top boards were re-paired by hand. As chief TD George John noted, it was a situation SwissSys is known for handling poorly. I recall a similar situation in the 1990 Southwest Open where the two top scorers had already played, and the SwissSys pairings had to be overridden.

Personally I had no problem with the new pairings, because instead of facing Ziatdinov I was paired with San Antonio rival James Rohrbaugh. We were tied for the lead in U2400 along with Ziane and Morshedi, but they had their hands full with GM opponents. Ziane had an uphill fight with Wojtkiewicz, and Morshedi's brief initiative against Blatny proved illusory. Once it

was clear that my opening had achieved nothing against Rohrbaugh, I returned his draw offer and was happy to divide the spoils.

Ali Morshedi (2156) had a great creative experience, even if it was all for rating points (-44) and glory. The Texas high school co-champion took down David John and Mikhail Langer and lost to the two GM's, for a performance rating of 2472.

Many experts preferred the experience of playing up in the Open – indeed, almost as many as there were in the U2200 section. For Marvin Huckaby, it meant having mate in two on the board against Milovanovic in the first round. He didn't find it but – what a story!

Luis Salinas and Brad Bradford organized the Dallas Chess Club event, held Aug. 6-8 at the Doubletree.

Prize Winners

OPEN: 1st: Alex Wojtkiewicz, 4.5. 2nd: Rashid Ziatdinov, 4. 3rd-4th: Pavel Blatny, Rade Milovanovic, 3.5.
1st-2nd U2400: Selby Anderson, James Rohrbaugh, 3.5.
U2200: 1st-2nd: Mark Kile, David Phillips, 4. 3rd-4th: Ron Deike, Shawn Noland, 3.5.
U2000: 1st: Jason Howell, 4.5. 2nd-4th: Andres Suarez, Joe Drake, Jonathan Walsh, 4.
U1800: 1st-3rd: Matthew Bradford, Patrick Ramsey, Anthony Pugiese, 4. 4th: Scott Griggs, Daniel Salazar, Hugh Strain, 3.5.
U1600: 1st: Ajay Bangale, 4.5. 2nd-4th: Robert Kaminsky, Duane Solley, Salvador Luna, William Aramil, 4.
U1400: 1st: Neil David, 4.5. 2nd-3rd: David Zachary, Jason Starnes, 4. 4th: Paul Geyer, Bryan Pernes, 3.5.
U1200: 1st-2nd: Teofilo Hernandez, Blake McGuire, 4.5. 3rd: Frank Lawrence, 4. 4th: Wolff Morrow, Alex Chua, Paul Weatherall, Viet Tran, Swaminathan Sundarasan, Tommy Wormick, Daryl Williams, 3.5.

Round 1

Sicilian B22

Pavel Blatny 2598

Richard Weaver 2200

Ken Smith Memorial (1)

1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5
 Qxd5 5.d4 Bg4 6.Be3 Bxf3 7.gxf3
 e6 8.dxc5 Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 a5 10.
 Bb5 Nf6 11.Nd2 Nd7 12.Ne4 Rc8
 13.Ke2 f5 14.Nd6+ Bxd6 15.cxd6

Kf7 16.f4 Nf6 17.Rhd1 Rhd8 18.
 Bb6 Rd7 19.c4 Ra8 20.Rd3 h6 21.
 h4 Ne4 22.Rad1 e5 23.fxe5 f4 24.
 Kf3 Nxe5+ 25.Kxe4 Nxd3 26.
 Rxd3 Re8+ 1-0

Sicilian B47

Rashid Ziatdinov 2541

Michael Simpson 2026

Ken Smith Memorial (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
 Nc6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 Qc7 7.0-0 b5

8.Nxc6 dxc6 9.a4 Bb7 10.f4 Nf6
 11.e5 Rd8 12.Qe1 Nd5 13.Nxd5
 Rxd5 14.c4 Rd7 15.axb5 axb5 16.
 cxb5 cxb5 17.Be3 Bc6 18.Qc3 1-0

Sicilian B33

Marvin Huckaby 2102

Rade Milovanovic 2427

Ken Smith Memorial (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.
 Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Qb6 6.Be3!?
 Qxb2 (6...Ng4!?) = 7.Ndb5 Qb4



Dallas organizer Brad Bradford congratulates GM Wojtkiewicz

Nunn's Chess Openings stops here with the evaluation of =+.

8.Bd2

8.Bd3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qd8 -/+ Dobias-Petrik, Bratislava 1994.

Now roughly equal is 8...Nxe4 9.Nc7+ Kd8 10.Nxa8 Nxc3 11.Qf3 Qe4+ 12.Qxe4 Nxe4 13.Bd3.

8...Rb8 9.e5

White could force a draw with 9.a3! Qa5 10.Nd5 Qa4 11.Ndc3, etc.

9...Ne4 10.e6 fxe6 11.Rb1 Nxc3 12.Nc7+?! Kd8 13.Nxe6+ dxe6 14.Bxc3+ Qd6 15.Qh5 Bd7 16.Rd1 Qa3 17.Qf3 Ke8 18.Bc4 Qc5 19. Bb3 Qf5 20.Qe3 h5 21.h4 e5 22.0-0 Rh6 23.f4 Be6?

23...e4 -+ is to be preferred.

24.fxe5 Qg4 25.Qf2 Rh8??

Black had to return the piece with 25...Qf5, getting a slightly worse position.



26.Bd5?? Bxd5 27.Rxd5 Qe6 28. Rd3 Rd8 29.Rf3 Kd7 30.Qe2 Kc8 31.a4 g6 32.a5 a6 33.Rb1 Bg7 34. Qe4 Rhf8 35.Rg3 Rf5 36.Qe3 Bxe5 37.Qb6 Rd1+ 38.Rxd1 Bxg3 0-1 26.Qf7+! was the forced mate.

Queen's Indian E13

David John 2275

John Hendrick 2049

Ken Smith Memorial (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Bg5 Bb7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 0-0 8.Bd3 d6 9.0-0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Nbd7 11.e4 g5?

Black has a reasonably solid game after 11...e5.



12.Nxg5 hxg5 13.Bxg5 e5 14.f4 Qe8 15.fxe5 Nxe4 16.Qg4 f5 17. Rxf5 Rxf5 18.Qxf5 1-0

Round 2

Notes by IM Rashid Ziatdinov

Catalan E06

Aleksander Wojtkiewicz 2681

Rashid Ziatdinov 2541

Ken Smith Memorial (2)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.Qc2 c6 7.0-0 b6 8. Rd1 Nbd7 9.Nc3 Ba6

Actually this line has great statistics for Black, and it is strange that it is not popular yet.

10.b3

10.Ne5 is one of the dangerous moves, and Black has to be prepared: 10...Nxe5 11.dxe5 Nd7 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.e4 d4 14.Rxd4 Qc7.

10...b5

I did not find this move in the books or database. 10...Rc8 had been played.

11.c5? b4 12.Na4 Bb5

The idea is to make the c-pawn weaker.

13.Nb2 Ne4 14.Nd3 Nc3 15.Re1 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 e5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Bxc5 19.a3 Qb6 20.e3 bxa3 21.Bxa3 Bxa3 22.Rxa3 Nb5 23.Ra4 Rae8 24.Re1

24. f4 looks ugly after 24...f6.

24...Rxe5 25.Qc2??

A very bad move. 25.Ra6 could give some compensation. Now Black has very good winning chances.

25...d4!!

If a 2700 GM misses this move it has to be unexpected and strong.

26.Ra6 Qb8 27.exd4 Nxd4 28.Qb2

Here Wojtkiewicz started to ask for a draw, but this is not even an option.

28...c5 29.Rxa7 Qb4

Why not just take pawn?

30.h4 Re2

Take, take the pawn!!!

31.Qa3 Qd2??

Just primitive and bad. Now it's

a draw.

32.Ra8 Re1+ 33.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 34. Kh2 Ne6 35.Rxf8+ Kxf8 36.Qa8+ Ke7 37.Qb7+ Kf6 38.Qf3+ Ke7 Draw

QGD Slav D13

Jason Doss 2297
Pavel Blatny 2598

Ken Smith Memorial (2)

1.d4 c5 2.c3 cxd4 3.cxd4 d5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bf4 Ne4 7.Qb3 Nxc3 8.bxc3 a6 9.e3 Na5 10.Qc2 Bd7 11.Ne5 Rc8 12.Bd3 g6 13.h4 Nc6 14.Nxc6 Rxc6 15.h5 Qa5



16.hxg6 fxg6 17.Be5 Rg8 18.Rxh7 Rxc3 19.Qd2 e6 20.Kf1 Ba3 21. Rb1 Rf8 22.Bxg6+ Kd8 23.Rxd7+ Kxd7 24.Rxb7+ Kd8 25.Rb8+ Ke7 26.Rb7+ Kd8 27.Rb8+ Draw

Nimzo-Indian E42

Rade Milovanovic 2427
Selby Anderson 2249

Ken Smith Memorial (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Nge2 cxd4 6.exd4 0-0 7.a3 Be7 8.Nf4

This is less ambitious than 8.d5, but it has the advantage of lurking in footnotes for those who only skim the main lines!

8...d5 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Ncxd5 exd5 11.Bd3 Nc6 12.0-0 Bf6

The other approach is 12...Bg5, e.g. 13.Re1 Qd6 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.

Bxg5 Qd7 = (NCO).

13.Be3 g6 14.Bc2 Ne7?!

ECO gives 14...b6 =. I still had hopes of getting in ...Bf5.

15.Qf3 Bg7 16.Rfe1 Qd6 17.Rad1 Rd8 18.g4!

Taking away the f5 square; Black is feeling the pinch.

18...b6 19.Bb3 Ba6 20.Bd2!

With the point 20...Bxd4 21.Bb4 Bc5 22.Nxd5, winning material.

20...Nc6 21.Bxd5 Nxd4 22.Qe4 Rac8 23.Bc3



Black is in desperate shape.

23...g5 24.Bxd4(?) ±

24.Bxf7+ Kxf7 25.Rxd4! yields a mating attack, e.g. 25...Bxd4 26. Qh7+ Kf8 27.Bxd4 +- or 25...Qxf4 26.Qe6+ Kf8 27.Qe7+ +-.

The text leads to a winning endgame which Milo converts easily.

24...Qxf4 25.Qxf4 gxf4 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.Re7 Bc4 28.Rxf7+ Kg6 29.Rf5 Bxd5 30.R added 5 31. Rxd5 f3 32.h3 Rc2 33.b4 Rc3 34.a4 Rc4 35.Rb5 Rc2 36.a5 bxa5 37. Rxa5 Rb2 38.Rxa7 Rxb4 39.Kh2 h5 40.Kg3 hxg4 41.hxg4 Rb3 42. Ra6+ 1-0

KI Attack A08

Mikhail Langer 2308
James Rohrbach 2205

Ken Smith Memorial (2)

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 Nc6 5.g3 Bd6 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 Qc7 9.Qe2 f6 10.Nf1?!

This knight often tours via e3 or h2 when White has a pawn wedge on e5. Here the move is pointless, and White is better served by 10.c3 followed by a3 and b4.

10...d4 11.N3d2 e5 12.Nc4 Be6 13.Nxd6 Qxd6 14.f4 b5 15.f5 Bf7 16.g4 c4 17.g5 Kh8 18.Ng3 Rac8 19.Nh5 cxd3 20.Qg4 Bxh5 21. Qxh5 fxg5 22.cxd3 Nb4 23.Rd1 Nc2 24.Rb1 Ne3 25.Re1 Rc2 26. Bxe3 dxe3 27.Qxg5 e2 28.Qe3 Nc6 29.Rxe2 Rxe2 30.Qxe2 Nd4 31. Qg4



Of course Black is hugely compensated for the lost pawn.

31...Qh6 32.Kh1 Rc8 33.h4 Qe3 34.Kh2 Rc2 35.Rf1 Ne2 36.f6 gxf6 37.Rxf6 Qg1+ 38.Kh3 Nf4+ 39. Rxf4 exf4 0-1 (time)

Sicilian B21

Ali Morshedi 2156
David John 2275

Ken Smith Memorial (2)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 d3

There was a prize being offered for the best Smith-Morra Gambit game. John declines to be brilliancy fodder.

4.Bxd3 Nc6 5.c4 g6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7. Nge2 Nf6 8.h3 d6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Rb1 Bd7 11.Be3 Ne5 12.f4 Nxd3 13. Qxd3 Bc6 14.b4 b6 15.Nd4 Bb7 16.e5 dxe5 17.fxe5 Nd7

Also possible is 17...Ne8 18.e6 f5 19.c5 Rc8.

18.e6 Ne5 19.exf7+ Rxf7



20.Rxf7!? Nxf7

I wonder what Morshedi had planned after 20...Nxd3 21.Rxg7+ Kh8!, when Black seems better.

21.Qd2 Ne5 22.Qe2 Qc8 23.c5 bxc5 24.bxc5 Qxc5 25.Rxb7 Qxc3 26.Rxe7 Nc4??

Black is equal after 26...Bf6.

27.Qf3! Qxe3+

Or 27...Rf8 28.Rxg7+ Kxg7 29. Ne6+ and 30.Qxf8 mate.

28.Rxe3 Bxd4 29.Qxa8+ Kg7 30. Qe4 1-0

Round 3

QGD D36

James Rohrbaugh 2205
Rade Milovanovich 2427

Ken Smith Memorial (3)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.e3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Qc2 c6 9.Nf3 Re8 10.0-0 g6 11.Rae1 Ne4 12.Bf4 Ndf6 13.h3 Be6 14.Ne5 Rc8 15.f3 Nxc3 16. bxc3 Nh5 17.g4 Ng7 18.Be2 Bd6 19.Kg2? (19.Nd3) c5 20.Qb2 f6 21. Nd3 c4 22.Nc1 Bxf4 23.exf4 Qc7 24.Bd1 Bf7 25.Ba4 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 a6 27.Qd2 b5 28.Bc2 Re8 29. Rxe8+ Bxe8 30.Ne2 Bd7 31.Bb1 a5 32.Qe3 Qd6 33.Kf2 b4 34.Qd2 Ne6 35.Ke3 Nc7 36.Bc2 Nb5 37. Bd1 bxc3 38.Nxc3 Qa3 39.Ba4 0-1

Reti Opening A04
Aleksander Wojtkiewicz 2681
Ali Morshedi 2156

Ken Smith Memorial (3)

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.d4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Nge7 5.0-0 Nf5 6.c3 Be7 7.Nbd2 h5 8.e4 dxe4 9.Nxe4 b6 10.Qa4 Qd7 11.Nh4! Nxh4 12.Nf6+ Bxf6 13.Bxc6 Nf3+ 14.Kh1 Kd8 15. Bxd7 Bxd7 16.Qd1 Bc6 17.d5 Bb5 18.Qxf3 Bxf1 19.Bg5 Bc4 20. Bxf6+ gxf6 21.Qxf6+ Kd7 22. Qxf7+ Kc8 23.Qxe6+ Kb8 24.Qc6 Ba6 25.Re1 1-0

Sicilian Defense B30

Rashid Ziatdinov 2541
Jason Doss 2297

Ken Smith Memorial (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Na5
A Doss specialty.
4.0-0 a6 5.Be2 e6 6.b3 Qc7 7.Bb2 d6 8. d4 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nf6 10.Nd2 Be7 11.c4 0-0 12.Rc1 b6 13.b4 Nc6?

This is refuted tactically, but if Black has to play 13...Nb7 something has gone wrong already.



14.Nxc6 Qxc6 15.e5! dxe5 16.Bf3 e4 17.Bxf6 exf3 18.Bxe7 fxe2 19. Re1 Re8 20.Bg5 Bb7 21.Ne4 h6 22.Qh5 hxg5 23.Nxg5 Qc7 24. Qh7+ Kf8 25.Qh8+ Ke7 26.Qxg7 Kd8 27.c5 Qd7 28.c6 Bxc6 29. Red1 1-0

English Opening A49
Pavel Blatny 2598
Federico Garcia 2272
Ken Smith Memorial (3)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.b3 g6 3.Bb2 Bg7 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.d4 c5 7.0-0 cxd4 8. Nxd4 Qc7 9.c4 a6 10.Nc3 Nc6 11. e4 Bd7 12.Nc2 Rab8 13.Ne3 e6 14.Qd2 b5 15.Rfd1 Ne8 16.c5 b4 17.cxd6 Qa5 18.Ne2 e5 19.Nd5 Nxd6 20.Ne3 Rfd8 21.Qxd6 Be8



22.Qd5 Rxd5 23.exd5 Nd8 24.Nc4 Qb5 25.Rd2 f6 26.Rad1 Bf7 27.f4 e4 28.Bxe4 Nb7 29.Kg2 Re8 30. Bf3 Rd8 31.Nd4 Qe8 32.Nc6 Rd7 33.Nb6 Rd6 34.Re2 Qf8 35.Bd4 f5 36.Be5 1-0

Sicilian B52

David John 2275
John C. Fernandez 1948

Ken Smith Memorial (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4. Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.0-0 Nc6 6.Re1 Nf6 7.c3 g6 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 Bg7 10. Nc3 0-0 11.d5 Ne5 12.Nxe5 dxe5 13.Qb3 Ne8 14.a4 Nd6 15.a5 Rfc8 16.Ra4 Rc7 17.Be3 f5 18.f4 exf4 19.Bxf4 Bxc3 20.bxc3 fxe4 21. Raxe4 Qf5 22.Bxd6 exd6 23.c4 Rf8 24.h3 Rcf7 25.Kh2 Qf2 26.Qb4 Rf3 27.Qxd6 R8f4 28.Rxf4?? (28. Re8+ Kg7 29.Qd7+ Rf7 30. Qg4 ±) 28...Qg3+ 29.Kh1 Qxe1+ 30.Kh2 Qg3+ 31.Kh1 Rxf4 0-1

Round 4

Sicilian Najdorf B81

Rade Milovanovic 2427

Aleksander Wojtkiewicz 2681

Ken Smith Memorial (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3

The Weaver Adams line is rarely played. Milovanovic comments: "I played 6.h3 after I saw that move in the famous game Fischer-Najdorf in Fischer's *My Sixty Memorable Games*. I wrote an article in one Yugoslav chess magazine about that variation and I have never lost with it."

Another way to prepare g2-g4 is 6.Rg1!?

6...e6 7.g4 h6 8.Bg2 g5 9.Be3 Bd7 10.Qe2 Nc6 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.f4 Nd7 13.0-0 Qa5 14.Kb1 gxf4 15. Bxf4 Ne5 16.Nd5!

Rade's trainer, GM Dragoljub Velimirovic, showed him this motif 26 years ago.



Now 16...0-0? loses to 17.Bd2 Qb5 (17...Qc5 18.Bb4) 18.c4! Nxc4 19.Qxc4 Qxc4 20.Nb6+.

However, 16...Bg7 looks good, e.g. 17.Ne3 Qc5 or 17.b4 Qa3! with a strong attack for the Exchange.

16...exd5 17.Bxe5 Bb5

The only move.

18.Qf2 dxe5 19.Qf6 Rg8 20.Qxe5+ Be7 21.exd5 Kf8 22.d6 Bd8 23. Bd5

23.Bxb7 restores material equality but gives Black an easy defense of f7 after 23...Ra7.

23...Bc6 24.b3 Bxd5 25.Rxd5 Qb6 26.Rf1 Rg7 27.Qh5 Qe3



28.Re5!

A finesse – the immediate 28. Rdf5 allows the defense 28... Qe6.

28...Qd2 29.Ref5 f6 30.d7?

30.Re5! (again!) is a winner, as Milovanovic pointed out:

(a) 30...Kg8 31.Re8+ Kh7 32. Qf5+ Rg6 33.h4 +-; (b) 30...Rf7 31. g5 Bb6 32.Qxh6+ Kg8 33.Qg6+ Rg7 34.Re8+ Rxe8 35.Qxe8+ Kh7 36. gxf6 Rg2 37.Qe4+ and 38.f7 +-.

30...Qd7 31.g5?

31.Qxh6 = (Milovanovic).

31...hxg5 32.Qh8+ Kf7 33.Qh5+ Kg8 34.h4 Qf7 35.Qe2 g4 36.h5 Be7 37.h6 Rg6 38.h7+ 0-1

Notes by IM Rashid Ziatdinov

Caro-Kann B12

Rashid Ziatdinov 2541

Pavel Blatny 2598

Ken Smith Memorial (4)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 c6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nbd2 Bg7 5.Bd3 dxe4 6.Nxe4 Bg4

Some players take the pawn on d4, but it is without any point and strange that Pavel spent 20 minutes to check it. [6...Bxd4 7.Nxd4 Qxd4 8.Bd2 ∞= Savon.]

7.c3 Qc7 8.h3 Bf5 9.0-0 Bxe4 10. Bxe4 Nf6 11.Bd3 Nbd7 12.Re1 e6

Seventy-eight years ago Capablanca said he was very shy of opinion of master [?] to get this kind of pawn structure.

13.Bg5 0-0 14.Qd2

I think this is primitive; 14.Qe2 was better.

14...c5 15.Ne5 Rad8 16.Qe3 cxd4 17.cxd4 Qd6

A very strong move.

18.Nc4

I could not allow him to put the knight on d5.

18...Qd5 19.Rad1 Nb8

Black is pushing too hard.

20.Ne5 Rc8 21.b3 Qa5 22.Nc4 Qc7 23.Bf4 Qd8 24.Be5 Nc6 25.Be4 Nd5 26.Qf3 Qd7 27.Bxd5 exd5 28. Bxg7 Kxg7 29.Ne5 Qd6 30.Nxc6 Rxc6 31.Re5 Rd8 32.Rde1 Rc7 33. h4 Qf6??

Black is in terrible time trouble, but it is no excuse to allow h4-h5.

34.Qg3 Rcd7 35.h5 a5 36.Qe3 h6 37.hxg6 Qxg6 38.Qh3 Kh7 39.R1e3 b6 40.Rg3 Qf6 41.Qh5

For his last five moves Blatny used all his hour, but could not find "black cat in black room, especially when there is no cat in the room."

41...Rc7 42.Rf5 Qe7 43.Qg4 Qf8 44.Rf6 Re7 45.Qf5+ Kh8 46.Rgg6 fxg6 47.Rxf8+ Kg7 48.Qf6+ 1-0

French Exchange C01

John C. Fernandez 1948

Selby Anderson 2249

Ken Smith Memorial (4)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.d4 Be7 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Nge2

A slip in move order with cedes the bishop pair. Better is 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nge2 Be6 = Ashley-Granda Zuniga, New York Open 1997.

7...Nb4 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 c6 10.Bf4 Nxd3 11.Qxd3 dxc4 12.Qxc4 Be6 13.Qd3 Qa5 14.a3 Qf5 15.Qxf5 Bxf5 16.Rad1 Rfd8 17.Ng3 Be6 18.Nge4 Bb3 19.Rd2 b6

In practice it is not so easy for Black to show an advantage.

20.Bg5 Nxe4 21.Nxe4 f6 22.Be3
Kf7 23. Rc1 Rac8 24.f3 h6 25.g4
Bf8 26.h4 g6 27.Ng3 Re8 28.Kf2
Bd5 29.f4 Rc7 30.h5 gxh5 31.Nxh5
Rce7 32.Re1 Re6 33.f5 Re4 34.Nf4
Bd6 35.Nxd5 cxd5 36.Kf3 Rg8 37.
Rg1? (37.Rg2 =) 37...h5 38.g5 fxg5
39.Bxg5



39...Rg4! 0-1
40.Rxg4 hxg4+ 41.Kxg4 Be7 42.
Rc2 Bxg5! 43.Rc7+ Kf6 44.Rc6+
Ke7 45.Rc7+ Kd6 45.Kf3 (46.Rxa7
Be3+) 45...Bf6 46.Ke3 Rg4 +.

French Tarrasch C05

Mikhail Langer 2308
Ali Morshedi 2156

Ken Smith Memorial (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5
Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2
Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0
Bd6 11.dxc5 Qxc5 12.Ned4 Nxd4
13.cxd4 Qb6 14.Qe2 Bd7 15.Bg5



15...0-0-0!

When was the last time you saw
Black do *that* in this variation?

16.Ne5 Be8 17.Ng4 Bh5 18.Bxf6
gxf6 19.Qxe6+ Kb8 20.Qf5 Bg6 21.
Qf3 h5 22.Ne5 fxe5 23.Bxg6 e4 24.
Qc3 Rdf8 25.Qh3 Rf6 26.Bxh5
Qxd4 27.g4 Rf3 28.Qh4 Qe5 29.
Kh1 Be7 30.g5 Rf4 31.Qh3 Qxg5
32.Qg3 Rxh5 0-1

Round 5

QGD D11

Aleksander Wojtkiewicz 2681
Noureddine Ziane 2352

Ken Smith Memorial (5)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.d4 d5 4.Qc2
g6 5.Bf4 dxc4 6.Qxc4 Bg7 7.e3 0-0
8.Be2 Nbd7 9.Nc3 Nb6 10.Qb3
Be6 11.Qc2 Nbd5 12.Be5 Nxc3
13.bxc3 c5 14.0-0 cxd4 15.cxd4
Qa5 16.e4 Rfc8 17.Qb1 b6 18.d5
Bd7 19.Qb2 Bh6 20.Bd3 Nh5 21.
Rfe1 Bg4 22.Nd4 Qd2 23.Qxd2
Bxd2 24.Nc6 Kf8 25.h3 Bd7 26.
Red1 Bxc6 27.Rxd2 Bb7 28.a4 f6
29.Bd4 Nf4 30.Bf1 Rc7 31.Be3 g5
32.a5 bxa5 33.Rxa5 Bc8 34.h4 h6
35.Rd1 Kf7 36.Rda1 Kg6 37.g3
Nh5 38.hxg5 hxg5 39.Bxa7 Bg4 40.
Bg2 Rb7 41.Be3 Rxa5 42.Rxa5
Rc7 43.Bc5 Ng7 44.f3 Bc8 45.Bf1
Kf7 46.Kf2 Rb7 47.Bc4 Bd7 48.
Ke3 Ne8 49.Kd4 Nd6 50.Bd3
Nb5+ 51.Ke3 Nd6 52.Ra3 Rc7 53.
Ra5 Rb7 54.f4 gxf4+ 55.gxf4 Rb3
56.Bxd6 exd6 57.Ra7 Ke8



58.Kd4 Rb4+ 59.Kc3 Rb8 60.Be2
Kd8 61.Ra1 Ke7 62.Rh1 Rf8 63.
Kd4 Rf7 64.Rh8 Rg7 65.Ke3 Rg3+
66.Kf2 Rg7 67.Ra8 Rg6 68.Ra7
Kd8 69.Ra6 Ke7 70.Ra7 Kd8 71.
Bh5 Rg7 72.Bf3 Re7 73. Ra8+ Kc7
74.Rf8 f5 75.exf5 Re8 76.Rxe8
Bxe8 77.f6 Bf7 78.Ke3 Kd8
79.Kd4 Ke8 80.Bg4 Bg6 81.Be6
Bh5 82.f5 Kf8 83.Kc4 1-0

Notes by IM Rashid Ziatdinov

QGD D60

Rade Milovanovic 2427
Rashid Ziatdinov 2541

Ken Smith Memorial (5)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.Bg5
Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.Bd3
dxc4 8.Bxc4 a6 9.a4 c5 10.0-0 Nb6
11.Bd3 cxd4 12.exd4 Bd7 13.Qe2
Bc6 14.Ne5 Rc8 15.Rfd1 Nbd5 16.
Nxc6 Rxc6 17.Qf3 Rb6 18.Rab1
Rb4

This reminded me of my game
with Cartagena [*Koltanowski Inter-
national*] which was published in
Chess Life (May 1999, p. 39).

19.Be3 Qb6 20.Qe2

It is nice to push your oppo-
nent's army back

20...Bd6 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Qc2 g6
23.b3 Qd8

Now it is time to come back.

24.g3 Rb6 25.Bc4 Be7 26.Bd2 Rd6
27.Qe4 Bf6 28.Rbc1 Re8

Just to show White how strong
Black's position is.

29.h4 Qd7 30.Be2 Bg7 31.Bf3 b5
32.axb5 Qxb5 33.Rb1 Qb6 34.Be1
Nc7 35.h5 Bxd4 36.Rbc1 e5 37.
hxg6 hxg6 38.Kg2 Ne6 Nd5

And Black is winning. [*White's
bishop pair makes this easier said
than done.*]

39.Rc6 Rxc6 40.Qxc6 Rb8 41.
Qxb6 Rxb6 42.b4 Kf8 43.Rc1 Ke7
44.Rc8 Kd6 45.Bd2 Kd7 46.Ra8
Rd6 47.Bh6 f5 48.Bd1 Kc7 49.Bb3
Bc3 50.Bc4 Kb7 51.Re8 Nc7 52.
Re7 Kc6 53.Bf7 Nd5 54.Be8+ Kb6
55.Rg7 Bxb4 56.Rxg6 a5 57.

Rxd6+ Bxd6 58.Bd7 f4 59.gxf4
exf4 60.Kf3 Kc5 61.Bg7 Nb6 62.
Be8 a4 63.Bxa4 Nxa4 64.Bh6
Draw

QGD Tarasch D30

Selby Anderson 2249
James Rohrbaugh 2205

Ken Smith Memorial (5)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.cxd5
exd5 5.g3 Nc6 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.0-0
Be7 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.a3 a6 10.b4
Ba7 11.Bb2 0-0 12.Nbd2 Re8 13.
Nb3 Bg4 14.e3

14.Rc1 Qe7 15.e3 is my game
with Rohrbaugh from the Spring
Open (TK May-June, p. 15).
14...h6 15.Qd3 Bxf3!

In our earlier game he turned
down an opportunity for this man-
euver, and I was able to continue
Nbd4 and b4-b5 with a nice edge.
16.Bxf3 Ne5 17.Bxe5 Rxe5 18.
Rfd1 Qe7

He offered a draw, and after one
more move I was convinced and re-
turned the favor.
19.Nd4 Ne4 20.Rac1 Draw

Caro-Kann B15

Ali Morshedi 2156
Pavel Blatny 2598

Ken Smith Memorial (5)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 c6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Be3
Bg7 5.Qd2 e6 6.Bd3 a5 7.Nge2 b6
8.h4 h5 9.f3 Ba6 10.Nf4 Bxd3 11.
cxd3 Ne7 12.Rc1 e5 13.Nfe2 c5



14.Nb5 exd4 15.Bxd4 cxd4 16.
Nc7+ Kf8 17.Qf4



Morshedi's initiative had a few
of us fooled for a while . . .
17...Kg8 18.Nxa8 Nbc6 19.Qc7
Qxa8 20.exd5 Nb4

. . . but Blatny swatted it back
effortlessly. The reaction is swift
and extreme.
21.Qxe7 Nxd3+ 22.Kd2 Nxc1 23.
Rxc1 Qxd5 24.b3 Bh6+ 25.f4 d3
26.Nc3 Bxf4+ 27.Kd1 Qxg2 28.
Qd8+ Kh7 29.Qxd3 Rd8! 0-1

There would follow 30.Qxd8
Qf1+ 31.Kc2 Qxc1+ 32.Kd3 Qd2+
and 33...Qxd8.

Modern Benoni A67

Andres Suarez 1865
Eric Wiggins 1934

Ken Smith Memorial (5)

1.d4 c5 2.d5 e6 3.c4 exd5 4.cxd5
d6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.
Bb5+ Nfd7 9.Nf3

Usually White plays to keep the
bishop pair with 9.a4 or 9.Bd3.
9...0-0 10.0-0 a6 11.Bxd7 Nxd7 12.
a4 b6

Similar ideas to the game con-
tinuation are seen in 12...Rb8 13.
Qd3 Re8 14.Re1 b5 15.axb5 axb5
16.Nxb5 Qb6 ∞/= Pfeiffer-Marti-
nez, Nuremburg 1959.
13.Re1 Rb8 14.Qd3 Qc7 15.Qc4
Re8 16.Rb1 b5 17.axb5 axb5 18.
Nxb5 Qb6 19.Na3 Ba6 20.Qc2 Qb3
21.Re3 Qxc2 22.Nxc2 Nf6 23.Nd2

Nh5 24.g3 f5 25.Ra3 Bc8 26.Nc4
Rxe4 27.Nxd6 Re2



28.Re3 Ba6 29.Rxe2 Bxe2 30.Ne3
Bd4 31.Kf2 Bd3 32.Ra1 Nf6 33.
Ra3 c4 34.Ke1 Bc5 35.Nexc4
Bb4+ 36.Rc3 Nxd5 37.Kd2 Bf1
38.Kc2 Nxc3 39.bxc3 Bc5 40.Ba3
Bg1 41.Nd2 Bg2 42.N6c4 Bxh2
43.Ne3 Bc6 44.Nef1 Bg1 45.c4
Bd4 46.Bd6 Re8 47.Kd3 Rd8 48.
Kxd4 Rxd6+ 49.Kc5 Re6 50.Nb3
Bg2 51.Nfd2 Re3 52.Kb6 Rxg3 53.
c5 Rc3 54.Na5 h5 55.c6



55...h4 56.c7

Or 56.N(either)c4 Black plays
56...Bxc6.
56...h3??

56...Rxc7 -. I smell sudden
death (time control, that is).
57.Ndc4 h2 58.c8(Q)+ Kg7 59.
Qd7+ Kg8 60.Qe8+ Kg7 61.Qe5+
1-0

JOHN CHARLES THOMPSON (1910-1999)

by Selby Anderson

It is with sadness that we report Texas has lost another of its chess giants, just five months after the passing of Ken Smith.

John Charles "J.C." Thompson, founder of the Texas Chess Association and a USCF Master Emeritus, died at 8 p.m. July 5 in Billings, Montana. He was 88, and had been in declining health since a stroke in 1996. Along with George Koltanowski he was responsible for successfully introducing the Swiss system at events he organized, starting with the Southwest Open in 1942 and most notably the U.S. Open in 1947.

Thompson was born on July 20, 1910 near Whitney in Hill County, Texas. He took up chess at the Dallas YMCA in the 1920's, and won his first Dallas championship in 1930. Two years later the first Southwest Open was held in Dallas, and he finished in second place. In 1935 he founded the Texas Chess Association and won the second Southwest Open, which became an annual event from that time forward. He established himself as the dominant player in Texas through the end of the 1940's.

In 1939 he started a chess column in *The Dallas Times-Herald*, combining stories of local and regional interest with national and international news. A key feature was the involvement of readers through a problem solving ladder. In that year he reportedly gave a blindfold simul against fourteen opponents, with the result +10, -1, =3. Reportedly he worked his way up to 23 opponents.

Thompson won the Southwest Open seven times, and placed second in that event five times. When the Texas State Championship was introduced after World War II he won the first four titles in succession. Perhaps his greatest victory was at the 1949 Southwest Open in Tulsa, where he defeated pre-tournament favorite Robert Steinmeyer of St. Louis, and held off a challenge from his star pupil Ken Smith. He won six straight games, losing in the final round to Lee Magee of Nebraska, but he came out first in tiebreaks.

Thompson's greatest contribution to the game was the introduction of the Swiss system to American tournaments. The Swiss had been tried in Europe as early as 1895, but it did not take root and thrive until Thompson took the advice of George Koltanowski and used it in the 1942 Southwest Open.

In Thompson's words:

George Koltanowski came to Dallas in the early forties to give a simultaneous. I was president of the

Texas Chess Association and told George about our troubles in managing the Southwest Open. In those days we used the so-called Holland system, in which we divided the entrants into groups and a round-robin was played in each group, the winners graduating to the championship flight, second players to Class A, and so on. It meant playing about fifteen games in three days.

So, George explained the Swiss system and we used in the 1942 Southwest Open, played in Corpus Christi, making TCA the first organization to do so. [Later Thompson commented, "Seven games in three days! It was like heaven."] TCA has used it in every tournament since.

The big break came in 1947 when the USCF Open was brought to Corpus Christi. I was a USCF vice-president at the time and George was the tournament director. We had 87 players, the largest tournament up to that time. I was in charge of the tournament and told George we were going to use the Swiss. He readily agreed.

Isaac Kashdan won first place and received \$1,000 as first prize which had been donated by a local oil man, lots of money for a chess tournament in those days.

Several months later I read a comment by the Australian master, C.J.S. Purdy: "When I read that they had played a tournament in Texas with 87 players in 14 days, I wondered if it was a misprint or if the Texans were supermen after all."

Thompson had a rich family and professional life, and was active in the Episcopal church for over 50 years. After graduating from high school he took a job as office boy with Magnolia Petroleum Company, eventually working his way to the accounting department. In 1932 he married Frances Van Slyke of Dallas, and they had six sons. He earned his CPA accreditation through night school study and moved up the ranks of his company, which after a merger became Mobil Oil. In 1952 he was transferred to Calgary in Canada, and the following year he became controller for Mobil Producing Company in Billings, Montana. In 1957 he was again transferred abroad, becoming controller and vice-president for finance at various regional and international branches of Mobil (Caracas, Istanbul and Singapore) before retiring in 1971. In 1962 while in Venezuela he met his second wife, Spanish-born Carmen Lopez, and in 1970 they married. In 1971 he retired from Mobil, and worked for Occidental Petroleum in Tripoli, Libya.

In 1973 Thompson moved back to Dallas, where he won a city championship and resumed playing in the Southwest Open. (He scored 4.5 out of 7, and had a provisional rating of 1950 in the crosstable. He had evidently not played in a USCF tournament since the rating system was established.) Not content to retire in his sixties, he returned to work in Venezuela as a director for International Executive Service Corps, and was later a consultant for a Venezuelan oil company. He then worked in Dallas for Bishop International, and practiced public accounting.

He was over 70 when he retired from professional life in 1982 and settled in Billings, Montana. There he was active as a chess teacher in the YMCA and various elementary schools. Always active in the Episcopal church, he chaired the fundraising campaign to establish St. Stephen's and became one of its first members.

In the course of his career he became fluent in Spanish, Portuguese and French, and could "get along in" Italian, German and Turkish. He also studied Russian and Japanese.

In a 1994 interview Thompson said: "I consider adoption of the Swiss and the Elo rating system to be the most important developments for the good of chess in the twentieth century." It is fitting that two of the giants who figured in these developments played in the first U.S. Open held after the founding of the U.S. Chess Federation.

Ruy Lopez Worrall C77

**J.C. Thompson
Arpad Elo**

U.S. Open, Dallas 1940

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Qe2 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d6 9.h3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Rd1 Nc6

George Koltanowski suggested 12...cxd4 13.cxd4 Nc6 14.d5 (14.Nbd2!) 14...Nb4 15.Bb3 (15.Nc3? Nxc2 16.Qxc2 b4) 15...a5 16.a3 (16.Qxb5 Ba6 17.Qa4 Nxe4) 16...Na6 17.Nc3 b4 18.axb4 Nxb4, when Black has active pieces and can follow with ...Ba6.

13.Nbd2 Bd7 14.d5 Nd8 15.Nf1 Ne8 16.g4 f6 17.Ng3 g6 18.Bh6

Ng7 19.Kh2 Nf7 20.Qe3 Nxb6

Koltanowski thought 20...g5 21.Bxg7 Kxg7 22.Nf5+ Bxf5 23.gxf5 h6 24.Rg1 Nh8 25.h4 Kf7 gave Black better chances than the text.

21.Qxb6 Rf7 22.Rg1 Rxf8

22...g5! puts White's queen in danger of being trapped.

23.Rg2 Qc8 24.Rag1 Re8 25.Nh4 Bf8 26.Qe3 Qd8 27.Ngf5!

This is a standard sacrifice in the classical Spanish attack.

27...gxf5 28.gxf5 Ree7 29.Qh6 Bc8 30.Rg4 Ra7 31.Ng6 Rfb7?

As Elo pointed out, 31...Rfd7! protects Black's queen and prevents the combination that follows.



In 1984 he was given the title of Master Emeritus, which USCF uses to honor the achievement of masters who made their mark before the ratings system was established. He returned to Texas each Labor Day weekend to compete in the Southwest Open, usually with respectable results. In 1994 he finished 3-3 in a strong Open section, with wins over experts Binder and Kappeler. In 1995, at age 85, he played in his last Southwest Open and scored plus one, 3.5-2.5. It was 60 years since he had won the first of the annual series.

In 1997 Thompson was honored with a Meritorious Service award for his role in introducing the Swiss system to wide use, and for founding one of the major state organizations that preceded the formation of the U.S. Chess Federation.

Thompson died in his sleep, while in the loving care of his wife and the Big Sky Hospice staff. His final request was that his ashes be returned to Texas.

He is survived by his wife Carmen and his sons Charles, James, John, Robert, Richard and Allen.

(Allen Thompson contributed to this article.)

32.Rh4! hxc6 33.fxc6 Nh5 34.Qxb5 Bg7 35.Qh7+ Kf8 36.Qh8+! Bxh8 37.Rxb8+ Ke7 38.g7 1-0

QGD Tarrasch D40

**Robert H. Steinmeyer
J.C. Thompson**

Southwest Open 1949

1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.b3 b6 4.Bb2 Bb7 5.e3 c5 6.Be2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 d5 9.dxc5 bxc5

Koltanowski observed: "Personally, I would have leaned towards 9...Bxc5, with 10...dxc4 in mind after 10.Nc3. That would have brought the game back to the "follow the leader" style, equalizing the position."

10.Nc3 Nc6 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Rc1 Rc8 13.Na4 Ne4 14.Nd2 Nxd2 15.Qxd2 Nb4 16.a3 Na6 17.Bf3 Qd6 18.Rfd1 Rfd8 19.Qa5 Qe6 20.h3 Rd7 21.Qb5 f5!?

Kolty called this move "enticing" but not best. The problem is that White wins a pawn with 22.Qxb7! Rxb7 23.Bxd5 Qxd5 24.Rxd5 Rxb3 25.Rxf5 ±. 22.Nc3 Rb8 23.Ne2



23...d4!!

The start of a combination that trades queens and wins a pawn.

24.Nf4 Bxf3 25.Qxb8+ Nxb8 26. Nxe6 Bxd1 27.Rxd1 Kf7! 28.Nf4 dxe3 29.Rxd7 exf2+ 30.Kxf2 Nxd7 31.Nd5 Nf6 32.Nc7 Bd8 33. Nb5 Ne4+ 34.Ke3 a6 35.Na7 g6 36.Nc6 Bc7 37.Ne5+ Bxe5! 38. Bxe5 Ke6 39.Bg7 g5 40.Kd3 Kd5 41.Bf8 h5 42.Ke3 f4+ 43.Kd3 Ke5 44.Kc4 Kf5 45.Kd3 g4 46.hxg4+ hxg4 47.Ke2 Ng3+ 48.Kd3 Ne4 49.Ke2 Ke5 50.Bg7+ Nf6 51.Kd3 Kf5 52.Bf8 Nd7 53.Bd6 Ne5+ 54. Ke2 c4! 55.bxc4 Nxc4 56.Bf8 Ke4 57.Be7 g3! 58.Kf1 f3 59.gxf3+ Kxf3 60.a4 Nb2 61.a5 Nc4 62.Bb4 g2+ 63.Kg1 Kg3 64.Bc3

More challenging is 64.Be1+ Kh3 65.Bc3, with the diagrammed position except that it is Black's move.

64...Kh3



If it were Black's move he would still win with Nd6-e4, when White cannot prevent knight entry at e2 or f3 in two more moves.

65.Bd4 Nxa5 66.Kf2 Kh2 67.Ke2 g1(Q) 68.Bxg1+ Kxg1 69.Kd3 Nb7 0-1

QGD Slav D17

J.C. Thompson
Leon Poliakov

Southwest Open 1949

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.f3 Bb4 8.Bg5 Qa5 9.Bd2 Qd8 10.Bg5 Qa5 11.Rc1 Nd5? (11...Nbd7) 12.Nxc4 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Bxc3+ 14.Kf2 Qb4 15.e4 Bg6 16.Rb1 Qf8 17.Rxb7 f6 18.Bf4 e5 19.dxe5 fxe5 20.Nd6+ Kd8 21.Bg5+ 1-0

Gruenfeld Defense D86

J.C. Thompson 2100
Lee Williams 2000

Southwest Open 1995

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Ba3!? Nd7?! 9.Nf3 c5 10.0-0 b6 11.Qe2 Bb7 12. Rad1 Qc7 13.e5 e6 14.Rfe1 Rfd8 15.Rc1 Rac8 16. Ng5!

The knight development at f3 pays dividends. The threat of Bxe6 forces another weakening move; in turn, Black must then cede the bishop pair to avoid Ne4-d6.

16...h6 17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.Qxe4 Qc6 19.d5 exd5 20.Bxd5 Qc7 21.f4

21.Qxg6?! Nxe5 22.Qe4 Kh8 would afford Black's pieces some freedom. And 21.e6?? Nf6 would be a grievous mistake.

However, 21.Bxf7+ Kxf7 22. e6+ Kg8 23.exd7 Qxd7 24.Qxg6 ± is a strong alternative.

21...Nf8 22.Rcd1 Rd7 23.Bc1 Rcd8 24.c4 Ne6

At last Black's knight is ready to play an active role, but it is too little too late.

25.Rd3

More energetic is 25.f5! gxf5 26.Qxf5: (a) 26...Nd4? 27.Qh5 Kh7 28.Be4+ and Bxh6 +-; (b) 26...b5! 27.Rd3 bxc4 28.Bxc4 Rxd3 29. Bxd3 Nf8 30.Bf4 +=. 25...Nd4 26.g4 Re7 27.Bb2 Ne6?

White's advantage evaporates after 27...g5! 28.Bxd4 cxd4 29.Qxd4 Rde8!

28.h4 Rde8 29.Rg3 Kh7

Black could still make a bid for victory with 28...g5, but it is not nearly as effective as before. There might follow 29...g5 29.hxg5 hxg5 30.Bxe6 Rxd3 31.Qxd3! (31. Bxf7+? Rxf7 32.Qxd3 Rxf4 ∞) fxe6 (31...Rxe6 32.f5 Re8 33.Qd2!) 32.f5! exf5 33.Qd5+ and gxf5 with a crushing pawn duo.

30.h5 Nf8 31.hxg6+ fxg6 32. Rh3 Kh8 33.Qh1 Kh7



34.Rxh6+!?

More accurate is 34.g5! forcing 34...Re6 (34...h5?? 35.Rxh5+!; for 34...Ne6 35.Rxh6+! see the game) 35.Bxe6 Rxe6 (35...Ne6 36.Rxh6!) 36.gxh6 Bh8 37.Qe4 and White has an overwhelming superiority.

34...Bxh6 35.g5 Ne6?

Forced is 35...Re6 36.Qxh6+ Kg8 and White has a long way to go to prove that he is winning.

36.Qxh6+ Kg8 37.Qxg6+ Kf8 38. Qh6+ Kg8 1-0 (time)

39.f5 will leave White a piece ahead. "We should all play chess like this at age 85!" - Williams. ♠

Information for new coaches

by Forrest Marler

Seeing that a new school year is upon us, I would like to restate an article I wrote a couple of years ago. Since there are many new coaches involved in Texas chess, once again I would like to take some time to discuss some of the ways that coaches and parents can help tournaments run more smoothly.

Register early! Many tournaments, due to the number of players, are restricting late entries. Some may not allow late entries, most charge extra, many will give zero point byes for the first and/or second rounds. This is so that the tournament can run on schedule. It is not fair nor reasonable to ask 300 kids to wait for round one to start because 50 more need to register late at the door.

When you register, please send in the following information to the tournament organizer:

- Player's name and address
- Date of birth
- USCF ID# (if available along with the expiration date)
- USCF rating (if available)
- Section to play in
- School and grade
- Coach's name, address and phone number (also e-mail)
- Will the player be arriving late or leaving early?

Most organizers would like to see more coaches become at least Club Level Tournament Directors (TD). This is not so we can force you to man the floors, rather so you can run your own smaller "in-school" tournaments. In that way, you and especially your students can learn more about what to expect at a tournament and the rules that are to be used there. Much of the delay at tournaments is due to inexperienced players (and coaches and parents) wandering around looking for the pairings, filling in the results sheets incorrectly, sitting down at the wrong board, playing the wrong opponent, the list goes on and on.

Scholastic chess is growing by leaps and bounds, and having 300 or more players in a one-day tournament is fairly common now. At times there may be as many as 100 players in these events that have never played before. Coaches need to prepare their students in advance. This makes for a smoother running tournament for everyone.

Another area that experienced coaches can help out is to answer questions from new coaches/parents. While most TD's don't have a problem answering ques-

tions, at times the deluge of questions can interfere with a TD's primary duty of monitoring the tournament. Most of these questions can be answered by experienced coaches and parents. This frees up the TD's to answer the more serious questions involving the pairings, a conflict in a game, or better yet, to be on the floor to prevent the conflict from arising in the first place.

Another important point, and I cannot emphasize this point too much, is to let the organizer know if you have late registered players, no-shows, or if a player is running late before the start of the tournament. Very often we can replace a no-show with a late registrant. Many times however, organizers/TD's are not told until the second round is about ready to start that a player is a no-show and not just running late or vice-versa. This helps everybody out, from the number of games they play, the byes given, tiebreaks, and it lessens the general confusion.

Also, please volunteer to help out. This might include helping to register players, manning the computers, or walking the floors as a TD. But more likely this will mean monitoring your students AND other players. Many players are dropped off by a parent and picked up at the end of the day. Other coaches may be severely outnumbered by their own players. This is certainly not your fault, but every extra bit of control helps a tournament run like clockwork.

Make sure your students are familiar with chess clocks. Most players will have used clocks but some clubs may not have many (or any). Even though they may not get to use a clock much at your club, they need to know they will probably have to use one at a tournament.

Teach them chess notation and expect them to keep it at all times. Algebraic is easiest for most players to learn. Photocopy some scoresheets and pass them around at your club or use notebook paper. Just get them to be comfortable writing down their moves.

Make sure that before they agree to a checkmate, they should double-check the position first. If they agree it is a mate and post the result, the result stands. If they later discover it was not mate, the result still stands as posted. As I said, they need to double-check the position before agreeing. This problem has been one of the most common observed at tournaments. Also as TD's, when we are asked if a position is checkmate, we ask "What do you think?" not "Yes" or "No". If they agree that it is a checkmate, the game is over. If they discover it is not, the game continues.

(Continued on page 32)

What's the deal with the Blackmar- Diemer Gambit?

by Macon Shibut



HERE IS SOMETHING WEIRD about the notorious Blackmar-Diemer Gambit (1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3). No, not about the gambit itself, but the notoriety. I began exploring this opening only fairly recently, after Tom Purser, editor of a magazine called *Blackmar-Diemer World*, contacted me offering to swap issues of his magazine for *Virginia Chess*. I quickly got a sense of something odd about the way mainstream “theory” dismisses this gambit, not by analysis so much as by scorn and neglect.

My point is not that this gambit is actually any *good*. Just for argument's sake, let's stipulate that the Blackmar-Diemer is nothing more than a dopey squandering of White's first-move initiative. Even so, I can name plenty of other openings that don't rise even to that level, yet enjoy greater . . . well, maybe not esteem, but greater recognition at least. Books that still reserve a column for good old Diamano's Defense (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f6), which I've never known anyone to actually play, are apt to ignore the Blackmar-Diemer. Unnatural and eccentric openings like the Grob, or even the Englund Gambit (1.d4 e5?) – which has *got to be* worse than the BDG if you think about it – routinely get more attention.

Nunn's Chess Openings, the latest single-volume “chessplayer's Bible,” is all too typical: 544 pages, Lord knows how many columns, and not a single one of them is devoted to the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. There is, however, coverage of 1.d4 d5 2.Bg5!? And under that column you will find a solitary footnote that mentions, among others, 2 e4 and cites (recommends?) the defense 2...dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 e6 – concluding, incidentally, with an evaluation of =/∞.

In spite of its disrepute – or maybe because of it – a legion of rabid patrons essay their beloved “BDG” at every opportunity. Even when the chance does not present itself, these true believers are apt to wage some dubious pseudo-Blackmar-Diemer. But playing the opening in normal tournaments is just the beginning; they also organize Blackmar-Diemer thematic tournaments, build Blackmar-Diemer web sites, fill the pages

of the aforementioned *Blackmar-Diemer World*. They're like sci-fi fans who inhabit a parallel chess universe, where hot developments don't occur in the Sicilian or King's Indian, but rather in the Gunderam Defense or the Lemberger Counter Gambit.

For all that, it remains true that even back during a more gambit-friendly era, swashbucklers from Anderssen to Spielman hitched their wagons to the Evans, the Scotch, the King's Gambit . . . but rarely the BDG. In this respect the BDG resembles the Smith-Morra Gambit (1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3), another line that's popular at club level but scorned by pros even though there's no consensus on the best way to answer it. (Annotating a game by the late Ken Smith in the San Antonio 1972 tournament book, Bent Larsen attached a question mark to Mario Campos-Lopez's 1...e6 and quipped that against Smith, who missed no opportunity to essay his gambit, “1...c5 would have won a pawn.”) However, it cannot be said that the Smith-Morra gets short shrift in mainstream chess literature. Which brings me back to the mystery of The Establishment's contemptuously dismissive attitude towards the Blackmar-Diemer.

I suspect part of the explanation is simple elitism. Many of those who comprise the Blackmar-Diemer *Gemeinde* (1) are frankly weak players, whose silly and exaggerated claims on the BDG's behalf invite ridicule. The alternative literature coming out of Planet Diemer is filled with horrible little games like Berthelsen-Gassauer, correspondence 1968 (1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 g6 6.Bc4 c6 7.0-0

Nbd7 8.Qe1 h6 9.Ne4 Nb6 10.Nxf6 mate) whose only redeeming feature, it would seem, is that White wins. Objectivity is not the *Gemeinde's* strong suit.

But neither can I see the objectivity in simply discounting the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit without bothering to fill anyone in on the refutation. "On the chessboard lies and hypocrisy do not survive long," [Lasker] but perhaps there are other factors in play here, factors quite apart from the chessboard per se. These would pertain to the life and career of Emil Josef Diemer (1908-1990), High Priest of the *Gemeinde*. Diemer was just a minor master, but he pioneered a simple move order refinement to a fringe opening. (2)

Dutch columnist Hans Ree relates how, "*Diemer wrote in countless little magazines and papers, sold chess books, gave simulms, but often he was hungry. He was simply not strong enough to be a chess professional. . . . Success he had not, but there were disciples who wrote passionate polemics about the merits of the Blackmar-Diemer gambit, 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3. For one year, from 1955 till 1956, Diemer published his own magazine, Blackmar-Gemeinde (Blackmar-Community), that he had to close down when his creditors became too impatient. Everyone of importance in the chess world was bombarded by Diemer with letters that contained endless analyses of his gambit.*"

Alas, Diemer's fanaticism was not limited to opening analysis. Among other disagreeable things, he was an ardent Nazi, "a relentless agitator for the party in the years that the Nazis romantically called the *Kampfzeit*, the years of struggle before they took power," according to Ree. In time Diemer became "the 'chess reporter of the Great German Reich,' [who] was present at all important international chess events and sang the praise of *Kampfschach*, chess as a struggle, in the Nazi newspapers and magazines."

Here's a theory to ponder: might Diemer's Nazism have somehow landed his opening on a kind of unwritten blacklist, a taboo that persists at some level even to this day? In the former Soviet Union – power center of world chess throughout the last half of the century – one's taste in art, music, or literature could be a life and death matter, especially during Stalin's day. Certainly chess was not exempt from the Bolsheviks' determined politicization of all life. If it was dangerous to admit a taste for "decadent," or "counterrevolutionary" art, perhaps it was also not such a good idea to champion the brainchild of The Chess Reporter of the Great German Reich. And not only in the USSR could such associations lead to trouble. Composer Richard Wagner died in 1883; he never heard of Adolph Hitler.

However, his German nationalist themes made Wagner a favorite in the Third Reich, and even today there are people who cannot bear listening to his music on account of this connection.

No doubt at least 99.9% of the *Gemeinde* don't know or care about such things. Their interest is chess. They play and write and analyze for the joy in it, and they revere the BDG for its aggressive tactical spirit. But one can understand how, in the eyes of some, their zeal takes on a more unsettling connotation when they naively rally behind Diemer's proclamation that "the Blackmar gambit changes the whole man!" It may be indeed troubling, considering Diemer's associations, for writers in *Blackmar Diemer World* to hail this second-rate master as "our leader," "the great man," and similar tributes. That magazine, well produced and rich in stimulating analysis, has also published adoring reminiscences of personal encounters with "the old master." One disciple was not so lucky, his pilgrimage came too late. The resulting article, titled "A Dream Come True," reported its author's "dream of visiting the area where Diemer lived and played and was laid to rest . . .":

"The evening we arrived, my friend and I first checked with the restaurant manager at the Gasthaus Rebstock (where Diemer played) . . . The next morning, my friend and I visited the cemetery. It is located in back of the town in a beautiful forest. It was small but nicely maintained. I searched for the grave and found it. It was hard to believe – I was so many miles away from home and standing next to E.J. Diemer's grave! . . . I only wish that I had the opportunity to visit Herr Diemer before he passed away. That would have been quite an experience."

(1) From the official Blackmar Diemer web pages: "On November 25, 1955 E.J. Diemer published the first issue of a small chess paper which he called the *Blackmar Gemeinde*. . . . In English, *Gemeinde* equates to parish or community, and through his *Blackmar Gemeinde* Diemer sought to expand the community of believers in the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. His paper, which was not financially sustainable, lasted little more than a year, but the *Gemeinde* continued in a small group of players dedicated to playing, analyzing, and popularizing the BDG." See <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/4902/Gemeinde/communty.html>

(2) Blackmar's original 19th century gambit was 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.f3, but 3...e5 proved a troublesome rejoinder. Diemer proposed 3.Nc3, and only after 3...Nf6 4.f3, when 4...e5?! is not as good because 5 dxe5 hits Black's knight.

Indeed, an experience. But do Lasker or Steinitz inspire such devotion?

I made it my goal to chart the middle ground between the *Gemeinde's* fatuous enthusiasm for their gambit and the mainstream's scoffing dismissal of it. I read a few articles and started test-driving the BDG in speed chess. On maybe the very first night out, I got to try the beast against four-time state champion Geoff McKenna. "Not easy to defend . . .," he remarked as he took White's pawn and survived a typical kamikaze onslaught to win what would wind up a clear majority that evening. Still, I was sufficiently reassured about

White's prospects to continue looking at the gambit and eventually to play it from time to time in tournaments.

My overall assessment is that the Blackmar-Diemer is a useful situational weapon – perhaps too speculative as the centerpiece of one's repertoire, but White does get an active, attacking game and definite practical compensation. And an unprepared Black may easily get fried. My observation of the *Gemeinde's* general level notwithstanding, there are some wonderful players who specialize in this gambit and they've produced some truly remarkable games and analyses.

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Blackmar-Diemer D00

Charles Diebert

John Burke

USA 1987

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 dxe4 4.f3
exf3 5.Nxf3 e6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Bd3
Nbd7

7...0-0 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Qe1 Nd5 10.
Bxh7+ Kxh7 11.Qh4+ Kg6 (or 11...
Kg8 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Ng5 Nf6 14.
Rxf6) 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Qg4+ Kh6
14.Qh3+ Kg6 15.Nh4+ 1-0 Purser-
Casteel, correspondence 1982, was
another typical BDG denouement.
8.0-0 h6!? 9.Bf4 c6 10.Kh1 0-0 11.
Qd2 Re8

such sacrifices are routine. White's immediate threats don't amount to much, but his initiative proves to have surprising endurance.

12...gxh6 13.Qxh6 Bf8 14.Qh4 Bg7
15.Ne5

Calmly wheeling pieces into assault position. Yes, this is the BDG way: first sacrifice, then prepare the attack. At any rate, White didn't have to fear defense by exchange here: if 15...Nxe5 16.dxe5 Nd7 the end would have been 17. Qh7+ Kf8 18.Rxf7+ Kxf7 19.Bg6+ Kf8 20.Rf1+.

15...Qe7 16.Rf3 Nf8 17.Rh3

Menacing for sure, but note: for the present at least, there is no threat.

17...c5 18.Rf1 cxd4 19.Rff3!

White's exaggerated nonchalance is delightful. Material be damned, he's got a plan and he's sticking to it. The fact that Black ultimately fails to stem the attack despite his two extra pieces and a half dozen moves to brace himself creates the impression that the whole thing may well have been sound!

19...dxc3 20.Rfg3

At last a threat! – 21.Qh8 mate. And it draws blood.

20...Ng6 21.Bxg6 Qd6 22.Bd3 Kf8
23.Qg5



Now if 23...cxb2 24.Qxg7+ Ke7
25.Qxf7+ Kd8 26.Qxf6+ Kc7 27.
Rh7+ Kb8 (or 27...Bd7 28.Rxd7+
Qxd7 29.Nxd7 b1(Q)+ 30.Bf1
Kxd7 and 31.Qd4+! mates in two.)
28.Nc6+! bxc6 (28...Qxc6 29.
Qe5+) 29.Qxb2+ (Diebert). Great
stuff!

23...Ng4 24.Ng6+! fxxg6 25.Rf3+
Bf6 26.Rxf6+ Ke7 27.Rh7+ Kd8
28.Rf8+ 1-0

Who wouldn't want to play
such a masterpiece?

Virginia Chess columnist Anders
Tejler ("The Gambiteer") has pub-
lished more than one book on the
Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. His lat-
est (with Tom Purser) is *Blackmar,
Diemer & Gedult* (Blackmar Press,
1998). Its core content is a couple



12.Bxh6

This may look premature to the
uninitiated, but on Planet Diemer

Blackmar, Diemer and Gedult:
David Gedult Plays the
Blackmar-Diemer Gambit
 by Tom Purser and Anders Tejler
 1998, Blackmar Press
 Softcover, 88 pps, \$11.95 list

hundred annotated games by French Foreign Legionnaire and amateur chess player David Gedult. Nearly all the games in this book are BDGs, although there are a few other oddities, eg 1 f3?!, which, according to the authors, “most BDG partisans know as Gedult’s Opening.” Chapters are organized according to Blackmar-Diemer sub-variant. The core annotations are by Gedult himself. The contributions of Purser and Tejler seem to have been organizing the material; translating a considerable portion of it from German; and writing the Introduction and Epilogue, plus brief introductions to each chapter. The production quality is quite good, with an stylish cover and a sturdy binding.

If you’ve never heard of Gedult you aren’t alone, merely outside the *Gemeinde*. Among true believers he’s absolutely in the pantheon, just a rung or two below “The Old Master” himself; maybe not a Capablanca, but perhaps a Tartakower, if you will. The commercial database “Ultimate Game Collection” contains 269 Gedult games, wherein he amasses a record even Kasparov would die for: 266 wins, one draw, two losses. Of course, here again we see the effects of tastes and editorial selection. Who do you suppose assembled these games and entered them into a computer in the first place? (Gedult plays White in over 200 of the games, the great majority of them Blackmar-Diemers.) Offhand I don’t recognize any of Gedult’s opponents in *Blackmar, Diemer and Gedult*, and it’s not clear from the

biographical material whether he ever entered an actual tournament, or merely played skittles games in clubs and cafes.

Blackmar-Diemer D00

David Gedult
Pobelle

Maison des Eches, Paris 1971

1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Nf3 Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.g4 Bg6 8.Bg2 c6 9.h4 Bb4 10.Bg5! Qd6

Monsieur Pobelle had seen a game I had played a day earlier, and also knew what a wretched game Black had got here after 10...h6. So he chose to play something else. Now, is 10...Qd6 better than 10...h6? I believe that after 10 Bg5 it would be difficult to find a really good move for Black. (The exclamation point after White’s 10th move come *[sic]* from Gunderam – and he must know! He was also the one who recommended the variation for Black.)

11.Bxf6

I also wanted to introduce “something new” here.

11...gxf6 12.h5 fxe5

To each his piece ...

13.hxg6 exd4

With the mere difference that Black, it appears, wins a piece.

14.Rxh7 Rxh7

Naturally!

15.gxh7 Qe5+ 16.Qe2 Qg7 17.Qe4 Ba5

Forced! (If Black really wants to win a piece.)

18.0-0-0 dxc3

Now Black has actually won the piece! Well, how can I now play to extract some “compensation” for that lost piece? ...

19.Rh1

It is clear! This h-pawn remains my only hope!

19...Qh8 20.g5! Bd8

A remarkable “development” of the Black pieces!

21.g6

Always this “Diemer-pawn.” Also, very energetically played – how does it go?: “Hammer the iron as long as it’s warm ...?”

21...Bf6

This or what else? (It’s clear the g-pawn may not be captured.)

22.Bh3 e5



on the commander of *les noirs*:
 1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 c5 4.Bf4
 cxd4 5.Nb5 d3 6.Nc7+ Kd7
 7.cxd3 Nc6 8.dxe4+ 1-0.

For sure, though, we can see that Gedult had a good eye for combination. Indeed, many of the games in Blackmar, Diemer and Gedult feature nice sacrificial finishes. (See Gedult-Halevy, below.)

Alas, we also note a tendency to overlook or ignore inconvenient details. Let's return to the position after 17.Qe4:



Black is menacing White's knight, but the h7 pawn may prove to be worth more than a piece. Gedult's notes draw the reader's attention to the knight's peril and do everything possible to keep it there. He highlights Black's priority of winning the knight in three successive notes (moves 13, 17 and 18). He even uses the word "forced" in discussing Black's 17...Ba5 (so as to take the knight without White replying Qxb4), albeit with the parenthetical qualifier, "if Black really wants to win a piece."

That's a big "if"! In fact Black has several preferable plans. He is already a pawn up and the main thing should be to prevent the position from getting out of hand, what with the h-pawn and his own undeveloped queenside. So, for example, Black could play 17...Be7 with the

idea that after, eg, 18 Ne2 Bh4+ White will have to move his king. At d1 the king will keep White's rook out of play, but d2 would be even worse, exposed to another bishop check whereupon Kd3 is out of the question. Meanwhile Black's bishop has gotten around to the correct side of the board, where it can help cover h8 if necessary, and Black can set about rounding up the pawn: Nd7, 0-0-0, Rh8, Nf8 etc.

What can White do about this? Granted, things are not so clear if White tries 18.Nb5! (maybe just "1") instead of Ne2. Without at all conceding this variation, we'll just move on as Black has other possibilities back at the diagram.

Another simple move that makes a lot more sense than Pobelle's 17...Ba5 is 17...Nd7. Presumably White gets out of the pin and mobilizes his rook, 18 0-0-0, but then 18...Bxc3 (maybe Black could do without this exchange) 19.bxc3. Now it's true 19...Nf6 would not be good because of the pin after 20. Qxd4 and if 20...Qg5+ 21.Kb2 Nxh7 22.Qd7+ Δ Qxb7; nor would 19... Nf8 20.Rh1 Ng6 work out as Black hoped after 21.Qxg6! But again, simple chess, 18...0-0-0 with the same plan – Rh8, Nf8 etc. – will leave the burden of proof on White, who can win back the pawn on d4 but will probably lose it again on h7.

Finally, if Black is bound and determined to threaten White's knight, why not do it with a developing move: 17...Na6. He does not win the piece this way since White has the typical device for slipping out of the pin, 18.a3, but then 18...Bxc3+ 19.bxc3 0-0-0 and again White's position does not seem so appetizing. If 20.Rb1 Black has 20...Nc5.

With a little effort, one can find similar omissions throughout *Blackmar, Diemer and Gedult*. An-

other example comes in the game Gedult-Halevy, Trouville 1968 (page 84), which began 1.f3 c6 2.e4 d5 3.d4 dxe4 4.Nc3 exf3 5.Qxf3 Qxd4 6.Be3 Qf6 7.Qg3 Nd7 8.Nf3 e5 9.0-0-0 h6 10.Bc4 g5 11.Nxg5 hxg5 12.Bxg5



There followed 12...Qg6 13. Rxd7 Kxd7 14.Rd1+ Bd6 15.Qxe5 Kc7 16.Rxd6 Qxd6 17.Nb5+ cxb5 18.Bd8+ Kd7 19.Bxb5+ 1-0.

This is all very impressive on the surface, the finish almost Morphyesque. Gedult's annotations are basically inconsequential, no analysis to speak of, mainly just toting up White's considerable material sacrifices. One could hardly criticize what he said. However, what he failed to say permits a wrong impression of the game, since for instance in the diagram position Black might have defused most danger and come out a piece to the good after the elementary 12...Qxg5+ 13.Qxg5 Bh6 – a variation that I doubt escaped notice by a player capable of producing the game overall.

In short, if the value of annotations is only connected with how they clarify the struggle and highlight salient issues, then these notes don't measure up. In fairness, however, Purser and Tejler acknowledge plainly: "We made the decision early on in producing

this collection not to introduce our own analysis or corrections of Gedult's notes. To do so, we believe, would distract from the spirit and enjoyment of Gedult's commentaries. The reader should take these games as examples of the tactical possibilities that can develop in the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit, but not necessarily as gospel in the theory of the opening." So then, if your goal is to glean something of the personality of a player unknown to most of the chess world, or to entertain yourself with some light tactical fireworks, or – for those already among the faithful – simply to drink again from the well of the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit, then this is a book that will satisfy. Whether that should be enough is a question worth contemplating by those who worship at Diemer's shrine and dream of its acceptance in the mainstream.

Here is a nice miniature by South Texas' leading BDG maven.

Notes by Gary Zintgraff

Blackmar-Diemer D00

Gary Zintgraff 1839

Al Fulton 1784

SACS June Swiss 1999 (4)

1.d4 d5 2.e4 c6 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.f3 exf3 6.Nxf3 Bf5 7.0-0 e6 8.Ne5 Bxc2

8...Bg6! 9.g4! Nbd7 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.g5 Nb6 12.Bb3 Nfd5 13.Qf3 Qc7 14.Rf2 Bd6 15.Ne4 Bxh2+ 16.Kg2 Rf8 17.c4 Ne7 18.Qh3 0-0-0 19.Qxh2 Qxh2+ 20.Kxh2 Rxd4 21.Nd6+ Rxd6 22.c5 Rdd8 23.cxb6 axb6[?] (23...Kb8 =) 24.Rxf7! +- Pachman. [16...Rf8? is a horribly passive move. Black stands better after 16...Rh4! Δ ...Nf4+ (Fritz5).] 9.Nxf7! Kxf7

On 9...Bxd1? 10.Nxd8 Kxd8 11.Rxd1 White has a superior endgame due to his development – Lane.



10.Bxe6+!?

10.Qg4?! Qd6! 11.Qe2 Nbd7! 12.Kh1 Nb6! with a big plus for Black – Purser.

10...Kxe6 11.Qxc2 Be7

11...Kd7 12.Bg5 Be7 13.d5 cxd5 14.Nxd5 Nxd5 15.Rad1 Qb6+ 16.Kh1 Qc6 17.Qf5+ Kc7 18.Rxd5 Bxg5 19.Qxg5 McGrew-MoonShot ICC 1998;

11...Qd6 (Fulton) 12.Qb3+! Nd5 13.Bf4 Qd7 14.Nxd5 Qxd5 15.Rae1+ Kf7 16.Bd6+! Kg6 17.Re6+ Qxe6 18.Qxe6+ with mate to follow;

11...Qxd4+ 12.Kh1 Qg4? 13.Qb3+! Nd5 14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.Qxb7 Bd6 16.Qf7+ Ke5 17.Bf4+ 1-0 Hardy-Keeling, England 1997. [12...Qb6! 13.Qf5+ Kf7 14.Ne4 (14.Bg5 Qc5!) 14...Be7 15.Qh5+ Ke6 (15...g6 17.Qh3!) 16.Qh3+ Kf7 17.Bg5! Δ Rae1 ∞=.]

12.Qb3+! Nd5 13.Nxd5 Qxd5

13...cxd5 14.Qh3+! Kd6 15.Bf4+ Kc6 16.Rfc1+ Kb5 17.Qd3+ Ka4 18.Qb3+ Ka5 19.Bc7+ etc. [19.Bd2+! Ka6 20.Qa4+ Kb6 21.Qa5 mate].

14.Qh3+ (14...Kd6 15.Bf4+) 1-0

The BDG Mega-CD by Rev. Tim Sawyer, with over 12,000 games, is available for \$17.50 (+ \$1.50 S&H) from Pickard & Son, 972-429-9052.

Bill Wall (who now lives in Florida) has added a page of **Blackmar-Diemer links** to his website: www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Lab/7378/bdglinks.htm

Here is a gambit with a much shorter pedigree. The Icelandic Gambit did not find wide acceptance until the 1980's, and my earliest reference on a database is from 1970.

Icelandic Gambit B01

John Sneed 1908

Enrique Rios 1809

Tx. Jr. Invitational 1999 (3)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.c4 e6!? 4.dxe6 Bxe6 5.d4

This perfectly natural move is what the Black side roots for. The more challenging try is 5.Nf3 (or 5.Be2, which can transpose).

5...Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Bxd2+ 7. Qxd2 Qe7 8.Qe3 Nc6 9.h3?!

Emms gives 9.Nf3 0-0-0 10.Be2 Rhe8 11.d5 Nb4 12.0-0! (12.Nd4 c5! 13.dxc6 Rxd4 -+) 12...Bxd5 13.cxd5 Qxe3 14.fxex3 Nc2 15.Nc3 Nxa1 16. Rxa1 Nxd5 17.Nxd5 Rxd5 =.

9...0-0-0 10.Nf3 Rhe8 11.Nc3 Qb4 12.0-0-0 Bxc4 13.Qf4? Nd5 14.Qd2 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Qa3+ 16.Kb1 Na5 17.Bxc4 Nxc4 18.Qc2 Re6! 19.Nd2 Rb6+ 20.Nb3 a5 21.Qe2



21...Rxb3+!

Also good is 21...a4 22.Qxc4 axb3 23.Rd2 bxa2+ 24.Ka1 Rc6 25.Qa2 Qxc3+ 26.Kb1 Ra6 +. 22.axb3 Qxb3+ 23.Kc1 Qxc3+ 24.Qc2 Qa3+ 25.Kb1 Rd6! 26.Qf5+ Kb8 27.Kc2 Qb2+ 28.Kd3 Qb3+ 29.Ke4 Re6+ 0-1

San Antonio City Championship

Rohrbaugh repeats, Noland ties

Fifty players competed in this year's San Antonio City Championship, held July 24-25 at the TNI building in the Southwest Texas Medical Center. Like the New Year Open, this event had a bumper crop of upsets.

In Round 1, defending co-champion Doug Huddleston (2099) lost with the White pieces to Vicente Flores (1196). Then in Round 2 top-ranked Selby Anderson (2269) lost to Juan Carrizales (1522), and Martin Gordon (1871) lost to James Fleener (1409) who made a fantastic long-term rook sacrifice. In Round 3 another master bit the dust when Don Sutherland (2234) lost to newcomer Chris Pitts (1815). In Round 4 Mark McCue (1847) lost to Victor Flores (1433) in a two rook vs. queen ending when his rooks tripped over each other trying to stop a passed pawn.

Shawn Noland (2115) of Arlington wound up the first four rounds with the only perfect score after he defeated Gary Zintgraff (1839). Just as Bill Reuter had done at the Texas Open last fall, Shawn had taken a last round bye – as it turned out, locking up a share of first.

The only players who could catch Noland by winning their last games were last year's co-champion James Rohrbaugh and George Elgin, a Class A player from Kentucky. Having drawn each other in Round 3, they were paired with Andy Smith and Don Sutherland respectively. Smith played a bold, non-theoretical treatment for White against Rohrbaugh's Winawer French, and landed a blow with a sound piece sac to expose an uncastled king. Rohrbaugh made a few accurate defensive moves to keep the position unclear, and offered a draw. While contemplating the offer, Smith's time ran out and he forfeited.

Sutherland played a smooth-as-silk technical game, achieving a superior game on the dark squares and coasting into a won ending against Elgin. His effort was all for glory, as 4-1 was only good for a U2200 prize.

A final upset occurred in Round 5 when Texas elementary co-champion Brad Sawyer (1563) from Spring outplayed Gary Zintgraff (1839) in the endgame.

John Ade directed. The playing site at Texas Neuroscience Institute is even better than the one at the Methodist Hospital, and we hope to return in March.

PRIZE WINNERS

1st-2nd: James Rohrbaugh, Shawn Noland, 4.5. *U2200*: Doug Huddleston, 4. *U2000*: Martin Gordon, Chris Pitts, 4. *U1800*: Bruce Lewkowski, 4. *U1600*: Brad Sawyer, 4. *U1400*: Joseph Molina, Wallace Short, Vicente Flores, Michael Haskins, Cullen Hesbrook, 3.



James Rohrbaugh

Italian Game C50

Doug Huddleston 2099

Vicente Flores 1196

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (1)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nd4?!

I encountered this line in one of my first tournament games. I had a difficult time after 4.Nxe5? Qg5.

Best is 4.Nxd4! exd4 5.c3 dxc3 6.Nxc3 – like Bird's Defense to the Ruy Lopez except Black doesn't have the tempo moves ...c6 and ...d5.
4.0-0!? Bd6

This put Doug off his guard. Probably best is 4...Nxf3+ 5.Qxf3 Qf6 (5...Nf6 6.d4!), but I wouldn't say it's good.

5.c3 Nc6 6.d4 Nf6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Qe7 9.Nbd2 b6 10.b4?

White wins a piece with 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Bg3 and 13. e5 +-; or 11...Bxe5 12.f4 Bd6 13.e5 Bc5+ 14.Kh1 +-.

10...exd4 11.cxd4 g5 12.e5 gxh4 13.exd6 Qxd6 14.Re1+ Kf8 15. Ne5 Qxd4 16.Qf3 Kg7 17.Nxf7 Rf8

18.Rad1 d5



A turning point – Black reveals that he knows how to fight. A wild ride follows, but the expert's wiles do not faze the youth.

19.Ne4 dxe4!

On 19...Bg4, 20.Qf4! is hard to meet as 20...Bxd1? gets mated in two.

20.Qb3 Rxf7 21.Bxf7

White has trapped the queen, but he can't afford to cash in: 21.Rxd4 Nxd4 22.Qb2 Rd7 and Black is ahead!

21...Qxb4 22.Qc2 Ne5 23.Bb3 Nd3?!

23...c5 is also good, but less exciting.

24.Qxc7+ Bd7 25.Be6 Qd4! 26. Bxd7 Qxf2+ 27.Kh1 Nxe1 28. Be6+ Kh8 29.Rd8+ Rxd8 30. Qxd8+ Kg7 31.Qe7+ Kg6 32.Qf7+ Kg5 33.Qg7+ Kf4 34.Qxf6+ Ke3 35.Qc3+ Nd3 36.Qa1 Qe1+ 37. Qxe1+ Nxe1 38.Kg1 Ke2 39.Bc4+ Nd3 40.Bd5 e3 0-1

Sicilian Paulsen B47

Juan Carrizales 1522

Selby Anderson 2269

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7. 0-0 Nf6 8. Kh1 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 Bc5 10.Qd3 b5 11. f4 b4?

Better is 11...Bb7 or 11...h5.

12.e5! bxc3 13.exf6 cxb2?

I couldn't get excited about 13... gxf6 14.Qxc3 Ke7 15.f5, but it is better than what I played.

14.Bxb2 g6 15.Rab1 Bb7



16.Ba3 Ra7 17.Bf3 d5 18.Qc3 Bd6

19.Qxc7 Bxc7 20.Bc5 1-0

I was reminded of the time Dan Quayle reportedly mangled the slogan "A mind is a terrible thing to waste," with the memorable misquote "What a waste it is to lose one's mind."

Torre Attack A48

James Fleener 1409

Martin Gordon 1871

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 h6 5.Bxf6 Bxf6 6.Ne4 Bg7 7.e3 b6 8. Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 Nc6 10. c3 e6 11.Rc1 f5 12.Ned2 g5 13.e4 g4 14.Ne1 0-0 15.exf5 exf5 16. Bc4+ d5 17.Bb3 Ne7 18.f3 h5 19. Rf2 c5 20.Nf1 Qd7 21.Ng3 h4 22. Nh5 Bh6 23.Nd3 Be3

So the A player snags an exchange, and the rest is business, right? But the airiness of Black's kingside complicates the process.

24.Ne5 Bxf2+ 25.Kxf2 Qe8 26.Nf4 c4 27.Bc2 Rf6 28.Qd2 Rd8 29.Re1 Bc8 30.Ba4!! g3+

On 30...Qxa4 31.Nh5! Δ Qg5+, Black has no simple answer. Possible is 30... Qf8 to observe the mate

square g7, but 31.Nh5 is still strong.

31.hxg3 hxg3+ 32.Kxg3?

32.Kg1! keeps Black in the hot seat; now he can obstruct the queen entry.

32...Qxa4 33.Nh5 f4+ 34.Nxf4 Nf5+ 35.Kf2 Ng7 36.g4



White is a rook down, but his kingside pressure is persistent. Maybe the best solution for Black is to return material for initiative: 36...Rdf8 37. Nxd5 Rxf3+ 38.Nxf3 Bxg4 39.Ne7+ Kh7, and he has a fortunate h-file block (40.Rh1+ Nh5).

36...Qe8 37.Neg6 Qc6??

Marty said he spent ten minutes on this move. He was probably looking at 37...Qf7 38.Re7! Rxf4? 39.Rxf7 Rxf7 40.Qh6! Rfd7 41. Qh8+ Kf7 42.Ne5+ Ke6 43.Qh6+ Ke7 44.Qxg7+ +-. However, unclear is 38...Qxg6! 39.Nxg6 Rxg6, with rook and two minors versus queen and two pawns.

38.Ne7+ Kf7 39.Nxc6 Rxc6 40. Qc2 Rh8 41.Qa4 Rc7 42.Nxd5 Rb7 43.Qc6 Re8 44.Rxe8 Nxe8 45. Qxc8 Nd6 46. Qh8 Ne8 47.g5 Ng7 48.Qh7 Ke6 49.Qe4+ Kf7 50.g6+ Kf8 51.Qf4+ Ke8 52.Qe5+ Kf8 53. f4 b5 54.f5 a5 55.f6 Ne8 56.g7+ Kf7 57.Qh5+ Ke6 58.Qxe8+ Kd6 59.g8(Q) Re7 60. Qxe7+ Kc6 61. Qge6 mate 1-0

French Defense C15

Gary Zintgraff 1839
Victor Flores 1433

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (2)

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3
Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 dxe4 6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3
exf3 8. Nxf3 Nc6 9.Bd3 h6 10.0-0
0-0 11.Ne5 Ne7 12.Rxf6 gxf6 13.
Qg4+ Kh8 14.Qh5 Ng8 15.Bxh6
1-0

King's Indian Attack A04

Chris Pitts 1815
Don Sutherland 2234

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (3)

1.Nf3 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 e5 4.d3
d5 5. Nbd2 Ne7 6.e4 d4 7.a4 a5 8.
0-0 0-0 9.Qe2 c5 10.Nc4 Nbc6 11.
Bg5 h6 12. Bd2 Be6 13.Na3 Ra6
14.Nb5 Nb4 15. Qd1 Qd7 16.Re1
Rc8 17.b3 Nbc6 18.Qe2 Rf8 19.
Rab1 Bg4 20.Qf1 f5 21.h3 fxe4 22.
hxg4 exf3 23.Bh3 g5 24.Re4 Nd5
25.Kh2 Nf6 26.Ree1 e4 27.dxe4
Ne5 28.Kg1 h5 29.Bxg5 hxg4 30.
Bf4 Nh5 31.Bxe5 gxh3 32.Qc4+
Kh8 33. Bxg7+ Nxg7 34.Qxc5 h2+
35.Kh1 Rff6 36.Qc4 Rac6 37.Qf1
Rc2 38.Rbd1 Nh5 39.Nxd4



39...Nxg3+ 40.fxg3 Rg2 41.Qb5
Rg1+ 42.Rxg1 hxg1(Q)+ 43. Kxg1
Qh3 44.Qe8+ Kh7 45.Qe7+ Kg6
46.Qe8+ Kh7 47.Kf2 Qh2+ 48.Ke3
f2 49.Nf5! Rxf5 50.Rd7+ Kh6
(Now 51. Rd6+ mates.) 1-0 (time)

English Opening A18

James Rohrbraugh 2200
Chris Pitts 1815

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (4)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 d4
5.exf6 dxc3 6.bxc3 Qxf6 7.d4
Qd8?!

Too slow. Current theory gives
7...e5 8.Nf3 exd4 9.Bg5 Qe6+ 10.
Be2, and now 10...f6 or 10...Be7.
8.Nf3 Be7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 Nd7
11.Re1 Nf6

Black never finds an opportune
time for ...b6: not here, because of
12.Be4; and not after White's next,
because of Nc6.

12.Ne5 Re8 13.Qf3 Rf8 14.Qh3 g6
15.Bh6 Re8 16.Re3 Bf8 17.Bg5
Be7 18.Bxf6 Bxf6



19.Nxf7! e5

A crush is 19...Kxf7 20.Qxh7+
Kf8 (20... Bg7 21.Rf3+) 21.Rf3 Qe7
22.Qxg6+.
20.Nxd8 Bxh3 21.Nxb7 Bd7
22.Nc5 Bf5 23.Bxf5 gxf5 24.Nd7

The rest is good technique.

24...Kf7 25.Nxf6 Kxf6 26.Rae1 e4
27.f3 Reb8 28.fxe4 fxe4 29.Rxe4
Rb2 30.R1e2 Rab8 31.Kf2 Rxe2+
32.Rxe2 Rb1 33.Ke3 Rd1 34.Rd2
Re1+ 35.Kd3 a5 36.c5 c6 37.c4
Rc1 38.Rc2 Rd1+ 39.Kc3 Ke6 40.
Rd2 Rc1+ 41.Kb3 Rb1+ 42.Kc2
Rb4 43.d5+ Kd7 44.Kc3 Rb1 45.
d6 a4 46.Rb2 Rc1+ 47.Kb4 a3 48.
Re2 h5 49.h4 Rb1+ 50.Kxa3 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E44

J. P. Hylltin 1960
George Elgin 1800

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (4)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3
b6 5. Nge2 Bb7 6.a3 Be7 7.d5 0-0
8.Ng3 d6 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.0-0 Re8
11.b3

11.e4 a6 12.Be3 Rc8 13.Rc1 c6
14. dxc6 Rxc6 15.b4 Qa8 ∞ ECO.
11...Bf8 12.dxe6 fxe6

A tough call – maybe 12...Rxe6
is better. One thing Black can count
on: he will have an uphill struggle
against White's space advantage.

13.Bf3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 g6 15.Bb2
Bg7 16.e4 Nc5 17.b4 Nb3 18.Rad1
a5 19.Na4!

This appears to trap a knight.

19...Qd7 20.Qxb3 axb4 21.Nxb6

The desperado snags a pawn.

21...cxb6 22.axb4 Qc6 23.e5 dxe5
24.Bxe5 Rac8 25.Rd4 Kf7 26.Rfd1
Re7 27.h4 h6 28.Rf4!

Black can't allow Ne4, so ...

28...g5 29.hxg5 hxg5 30.Rfd4 Nh5
31.Bxg7 Nxg7 32.Ne4 Kg6 33.Qe3
Nf5 34.Qxg5+ Kf7 35.Qf6+

Also quite good is 35.Nd6+
Nxd6 36.Rxd6 followed by Rd4-
f4.

35...Ke8 36.Qg6+

36.Qh8+? Kf7 37.Ng5+ Kg6 +.

36...Kf8 37.Nf6 Rg7



38.Rd8+

Or 38.Nh7+ Rxh7 39. Qf6+! +.

38...Rxd8 39.Rxd8+??

Winning is 39.Nh7+! Rxh7 (39... Ke7 40.Qf6+) 40.Qf6+! followed by 41.Rxd8+, etc.

39...Ke7 40.Re8+ Kd6 41.Rxe6 0-1

Catalan Opening E01

Mark McCue 1847

Victor Flores 1433

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (4)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 c5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4

White gains nothing from this push but a target for Black. Better is 6.Bg2 Nc6 7.0-0 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Be7 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.Nd2 ±.

6...Nf6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Nc3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Qa5 11.Nf3 Qxc3+ 12.Bd2 Qc7 13.Rc1 Nc6 14.Bg2 Bd7 15.0-0 Be7 16.Nd4 Rc8 17.Nxc6 Bxc6 18.Bxc6+ bxc6 19.Qa4 0-0 20.Rfe1 Bd8 21.Qg4 Kh8 22.h4 Qd7 23.Red1 Qe7 24.Bb4 c5 25.Qc4 Bb6 26.a4 h6?

26...Qb7! keeps Black on top. 27.a5 cxb4 28. Qxc8 Rxc8 29. Rxc8+ Kh7 30.axb6 axb6



31.Rd6?!

"Active" deployment proves too optimistic. Simpler is 31.Rb1 Qd7 32.Rc4 Qd5 33.Rcb4 Qxe5 34. Rxb6 ±/=.

31...Qa7 32.Rcc6?? (32.Rc1 b3 33. Rd2 =) 32...Qa1+ 33.Kg2 b3 34. Rxb6 b2 35.Rd7 b1(Q) 36.Rxb1 Qxb1 37.Rxf7 Qe4+ 38.Kf1 Qxe5

39.Rf3 Qa1+ 40.Ke2 e5 41.Re3 g5 42.hxg5 hxg5 43.Kf3 Kg6 44.Kg2 g4 45.Re2 Kf5 46.Re3 e4 47.Re2 Qd1 48.Re3 Qd2 49.Kf1 Ke5 50. Kg2 Kd4 51.Ra3



In many of these endings the inferior side is able to *fortress*, using a pawn to anchor his rook – provided that if Black sacs his queen the K+P ending is still drawn. If you remove the pawns from e4 and g3, you have the dawn ending from Shivaji-D. John, Southwest Open 1998. No such luck for White here. 51...Qc1!

Actually, the K+P ending after 51...e3 52.Rxe3 Qxe3 53.fxe3+ Kxe3 is also winning for Black.

52.Rb3 Kc4 53.Re3

Or 53.Rb8 Kd3 54.Re8 (to stop ...Ke2) 54...Qc6 +.

53...Qxe3 54.fxe3 Kxd3 55.Kf2 Kd2 56.Kf1 Kxe3 0-1

French Winawer C19

Andrew I. Smith 2132

James Rohrbough 2200

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (5)

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.a4 Nbc6 8.Ne2!?

Posting a knight to the strong f4 square, but it involves a pawn sac.

8...Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.Nf4 Qc7 11. Bd3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nxd4 13.0-0 h5

13...Qxe5! 14.Re1 Qc7 15.Qg4 0-0 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Qxd4, and

White is a pawn down but has the bishop pair in an open position.

14.Re1 g6 15.Bb4! Nef5 16.c3 Nc6 17.Bxf5 gxf5 18.Bd6 Qd8 19.Nxh5 Qh4 20.Nf6+ Kd8 21.h3 Na5 22. Nxd5! exd5 23.Qxd5 Nc6 24.Qxf7 Qh7 25.Qf6+ Kc8 26.e6 Be8



27.Rad1 b6 28.Be5

More accurate is 28.Rd5! to distract Black's bishop: 28...Bg6 29. Be5! Nxe5 30.Qxe5 Be8 (what else?) 31.Red1 Bxa4 32.Rd7 ±.

28...Rg8 29.e7 Qxe7 0-1 (time)

Rohrbough had just offered a draw, and Smith flagged while considering the offer. (30.Qxf5+ Bd7 31.Qd3 Nxe5 32. Qd5 Kc7 33.Rxe5 Qg7 34.Rd4 Rad8 35.Rc4+ Kb8 36.Qd6+ Ka8 37.Qd5+ =.)

Modern Defense A41

George Elgin 1800

Don Sutherland 2234

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (5)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.c4 d6 4.Be3 Nc6 5.Ne2 e5 6.d5 Nce7 7.Nd2 f5

8.f3 b6 9.Qc2 Nf6 10.Nc1 fxe4 11. Nxe4 Nf5 12. Bf2 0-0 13.Nb3 a5

14.a4 Nxe4 15.fxe4 Nh6 16.h3 Qf6 17.Bd3 Qg5 18.Rg1 Bd7 19.Qd2

Qe7 20.Nc1 Nf7 21.Ne2 Bh6 22. Be3 Bxe3 23.Qxe3 Nd8 24.Rf1

Nb7 25.Bc2 Nc5 26.Nc3 Rxf1+ 27. Kxf1 Rf8+ 28.Kg1 Qf6 29.Qe2 Qg5

30.Kh2 Qf4+ 31.Kg1 Qg3 32.Qe1 Qg5 33.Kh2 Kg7 34.Rd1 Qf4+ 35. Kg1



35...h5 36.Qd2 g5 37.Qxf4 exf4 38. Nb5 Bxb5 39.axb5 Kf6 40.Kf2 Ke5 41.Rc1 Re8 42.Kf3 Kd4 0-1

Sicilian Defense

Doug Huddleston 2099

William Molina 1515

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Be2 Qc7 8.0-0 d6 9.Nc3 e5 10.Be3 f5?

Black can't survive all this line opening when he is so underdeveloped. Better is 10...Nf6, e.g. 11.Kh1 Be7 12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Nd7, or 11.c5!? Nd7! (11...dxc5 12.f4 ±).

11.f4 g6 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Rxf5! gxf5 15.Bh5+ Ke7



16.Qf3(?)

A nice crush is 16.Nd5+! cxd5 17.Qxd5 Rd8 18.Bg5+ Nf6 19.Qf7+ Kd6 20.Qxf6+, etc. But White's position is so overwhelming that much exactitude is not required.

16...Ke6 17.g4 f4 18.Qe4!

The bishop at e3 is off limits because of 19.Qf5+ Kd6 20.Ne4+ or 19...Ke7 20.Qf7+.

18...Ne7 19.Bxf4 Bg7 20.g5 Raf8 21.Bg4+ Kf7 22.Be3 Ke8 23.Rd1 Ng6 24.Na4 Rf7 25.Bb6 Qb7 26.Rd8+ Ke7 27.Qd3 Qxb6+ 28.Nxb6 Rxd8 29.Qa3+ Ke8 30.Qc5 Rf4 31.Qxc6+ Kf8 32.Nd7+ Kg8 33.Qe6+ Kh8 34.c5 Nf8 35.Nxf8 Rff8 36.c6 Rfe8 37.c7 Ra8 38.Qc6 1-0

Modern Benoni A70

Raymond Smith 1790

J.P. Hyltin 1960

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.e4 Bg7 8.Bd3 0-0 9.h3 Re8 10.0-0 c4 11.Bc2 a6 12.a4 Nbd7 13.Be3 Qc7 14.Re1 Rb8 15.a5 b5 16.axb6 Nxb6 17.Bd4 Nfd7 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.Nd4 Nc5 20.Nc6 Rb7 21.Na5 Rb8 22.Qd4+ f6 23.Nxc4 Nxc4 24.Qxc4 Rxb2 25.Na4 Rb5 26.Nc3 Rb2 27.Ba4 Bd7 28.Bxd7 Qxd7 29.Ra5 Qa7



30.Nb5 Qb6 31.Nxd6 Qxa5 32.Nxe8+ Kf8 33.Rc1 Qd2??

J.P. said he didn't see that the reply was with check! A forced line is 33...Nb3! 34.Rc3! Nd2 35.Qc8 Rb1+ 36.Kh2 Nf1+, with a draw.

34.Qxc5+ Kxe8 35.Qc8+ Ke7 36.Qe6+ Kf8 37.Qxf6+ Ke8 38.Rc8+ 1-0

Scotch Game C47

Brad Sawyer 1563

Gary Zintgraff 1839

S.A. City Chp. 1999 (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Nc3 Bb4 7.Bd2?! (7.Bd3 =) 7...Qe7 8.f3 d5 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 Qe5 11.f4? (11.exd5) 11...Qd4+ 12.Kh1 dxe4 13.Ne2 Qc5 14.Ba6 Bxd2?

14...Bxa6 15.c3 Ba5 16.b4 Qc4 and Black stays a piece up.

15.Bxc8 Raxc8 16.Qxd2 Rcd8 17.Qc3 Qxc3 18.Nxc3 Rfe8 19.Rad1 e3 20.Rfe1 Rd2 21.Rxd2 exd2 22.Rxe8+ Nxe8 23.Kg1 Nf6 24.g3 Nd5 25.Nd1 Nb4 26.Kf2 Nxc2 27.Ke2 Nd4+ 28.Ke3 c5 29.g4 f5 30.gxf5 Kf7 31.h3 Kf6 32.Kxd2 Kxf5 33.Ke3 Nc2+ 34.Kf3 Nb4 35.Ne3+ Ke6 36.a3 Nd3 37.Nd1 a5 38.Ke3 c4 39.b3?



39...Nxf4?

39...Ne1! 40.bxc4 Nc2+ and ...Nxa3 wins for Black.

40.Kxf4 cxb3 41.Ke4 c5 42.Kd3 Kd5 43.Kc3 c4 44.Ne3+ Kc5 45.Nxc4 a4 46.Nb2 g5 47.Nxa4+ Kb5 48.Kb3 h5 49.Nc3+ Ka5 50.Ne4 g4 51.h4 Kb5 52.Ng3 1-0

MOVING?

Don't leave TK en passant!

The post office does not forward bulk mail. Please send your new address to P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023.

LETTERS

Busted again

I wish to bring to your attention some analysis of my game Patty-Wheeler, Texas Senior 1999, which was published in the July-August *Texas Knights*.

On Mr. Bill Wheeler's 20th move you annotate 20...a3! [instead of 20...Bb4 as in the game] (a) 21. b3 Bb4 22.Red1 Nc3 23.Qh4 Nxa2 24.Bf6 Rfe8 -. However, Black is not winning here, rather it is White.



Position after 20...a3 (analysis)

25.Rd4 (threatens Qxh7+, which is not stopped by ...Bf8 [25...Bf8 26. Qxh7+ Kxh7 27.Rh4+ Bh6 28.Ng5+ Kg8 29.Rxh6]) 25...h5 26.Qg5 Bf8 (forced) and now two variations win:

(a) 27.Rh4 cxb3 (or 27...Nxc1) 28.Rxh5 Bg7 29.Qh6[!!] is a brutal reminder of the strength of the f6 bishop;

(b) 27.Bxg6 fxg6 28.Qxg6+ Bg7 29.Ng5 Nxc1 30.Qh7+ Kf8 31. Bxg7+ Qxg7 32.Rf4+ +-.

John Patty
San Antonio

Yep. When you're right you're right! Even Fritz 5 needs patience and/or some spoon-feeding of good

candidate moves. It looks like your earlier suggestion of 12...Ne5 (instead of Wheeler's 12...Nb6) was critical for Black's game.

It gets worse . . .

In McCue-Patty from the Texas Action Championship:



Position after 30.Qxd6

Mark McCue pointed out that my suggested defense 30...Re8 loses to 31.Qd7+ K-any 32.Qxh3. Ouch!

(In the game, Black lost after 30... Rhb3? 31.Be5+ Kf7 32.Qf6+ Ke8 33.Qe6+ Kf8 34.Bd6+ 1-0.)

He gives 30...Rb7! (forced) 31. Ra8 Kh7 32.Qf8! Qg4+ 33.Kf1! [33. Kh1? Qf3+ -+] 33...Qd1+ 34.Kg2 Qd5+!! 35.Kf1 [35.Kxh3 Rb3+ 36. Bg3 Qh1+ 37.Kg4 Rb4+, mating] 35...Qd1+ 36.Kg2 Qd5+ = with a draw, as Black must keep checking to prevent being mated.

Now some good news

I sent you letters from four more Mansfield campuses that will begin new chess clubs this year. I understand that the TCA program is a one-time offer per campus. These campuses have not purchased sets before. If there are any questions, please let me know.

This makes nine campuses in the Mansfield ISD that have chess programs. Over the summer our school

district held a 2-day "for credit" continuing education class for faculty members who want to lead chess programs. We had approximately 16 faculty members attend. Al Woolum led the training. There will be two more "in-service" training sessions for interested faculty members this Fall. The school district is paying overtime stipends for faculty who lead chess clubs on campus. The school district has also purchased about \$2,000 worth of clocks, sets, and demo boards in the past few months.

I thought you might appreciate the update. Thanks for all your help and support at TCA!

David Harry
Mansfield



FIDE World Championship

Alexander Khalifman, 33, of Russia won the six-game final match over Vladimir Akopian of Armenia by a score of 3.5-2.5 to win the FIDE World Championship title and \$660,000, with \$396,000 going to the loser. The event was held July 31-Aug. 29 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. The official website is at www.worldfide.com.

U.S. Championship

In the first eight-player section, Boris Gulko (5.5) and Alex Yermolinsky (4) qualified for the semifinals. In Section 2, Gregory Serper (4.5) qualified, while Yasser Seirawan, Alexander Ivanov and Joel Benjamin (4 each) were going into a playoff match as we went to press.

With one round left in the Women's Championship, Anjelina Belakovskaia had a lock on the title with 6.5-1.5. Trailing were Jennifer Shahade (5), Olga Sagalchik (4) and Anna Khan (4).

Both events are being held Aug. 22-Sept. 11 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

100th U.S. Open is strongest ever

by NM Selby Anderson

Six players tied for first at the 100th anniversary U.S. Open, held Aug. 10-19 in Reno, Nevada. Alex Yermolinsky, Alexander Goldin, Alex Shabalov, Michael Mulyar, Gabriel Schwartzman and Eduardas Rozentalis scored 7.5 out of 9, each winning \$3,733. Yermolinsky won a blitz playoff for the ring and the title.

The Sands Regency sponsored the event, which had the largest prize fund in U.S. Open history (\$63,300) as well as the strongest field. Twenty-five grandmasters competed, some of them having been eliminated from the FIDE world championship knockout tournament being held in Las Vegas. The international flavor of this year's Open was accentuated by the flags and place cards announcing everyone's ratings (USCF and FIDE) and the country or state they were representing. A total of 488 players competed at the Sands Regency.

Texas players included Nouredine Ziane, David John, Antonio Pina, George Trammell, Robert Chalker, Mark McCue, Greg Wren, George Abood and myself. Gary Gaiffe, who was attending as a delegate, helped post moves to the demo boards.

I finished with 6-3 and won some loose change for U2300 prize money, \$71 being less than the entry fee. My most exciting moment came when I achieved a winning position against GM Blatny and botched it. The first prize for U2300 went to eleven-year-old NM Hikaru Nakamura, who achieved fame last year as the youngest master in U.S. history. In the last round he defeated GM Alejandro Hoffman of Argentina with a brilliant sacrificial mating attack. Nakamura finished with 6.5 and won \$2,000. (See next page for games.)

USCF Election and Delegates' Meetings

The first Executive Board under the new bylaws was elected this summer. Bob Smith (FL), Doris Barry (AZ), and Helen Warren (IL) were elected to four-year terms. Jim Pechac (OH), John McCrary (SC), Tim Redman (TX), and Joe Ippolito (NJ) were elected to two-year terms. One board member elected previously, Garrett Scott, will remain in office until next year.

The officers, determined by a vote of the Board, are Bob Smith, President; John McCrary, Vice President; Jim Pechac, VP of Finance; and Doris Barry, Secretary.

At the awards luncheon, Benjamin Franklin was inducted into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. Posthumous honors were conferred on Ken Smith, as well as Fan Adams, Alice Loranth and Jerry Spann. I was presented with a Meritorious Service award.

In the Delegates' Meetings, a significant budget item would have eliminated State Affiliate Support Program funding for fiscal 1999-2000. A substitution was voted to restore \$15,000, or half of last year's funding, to SASP. An existing \$1,200 line item which gave \$100 per year per region for Women's Chess activities was modified to give \$1,200 per year for Women's Chess activities, "split evenly between all regions who want to organize chess events for women and apply before the deadline set by the USCF office."

A motion to create a new organization devoted to scholastic and junior chess was scaled back after discussions in the Scholastic, Bylaws and Finance committees. The following motions were substituted and approved: (1) The USCF shall have a full time Scholastic Director, working in consultation with the Scholastic Committee and Executive Director. (2) The Finance Committee shall include at least one member recommended by the Scholastic Committee. (3) The Scholastic Committee is authorized to create an experimental online rating system for over-the-board scholastic competition, at no cost to the USCF. A motion for the USCF to charge a fee for scholastic crosstables was referred to the Scholastic and Finance committees.

A roll call vote was taken on the Bylaws changes recommended by the OMOV (One Member One Vote) Committee. The motion failed by a vote of 36-45-1. Of the Texas delegates, Anderson, Gaiffe, John, Redman and Woolum voted against, and Salinas voted for the motion. (Note that a swing of five votes would have changed the outcome. See Tim Redman's interview by Larry Evans for more on the OMOV issue.) The current OMOV Committee was extended for another year to develop a proposal and report at next year's meeting.

Denker High School Tournament

The Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions was won by Steven Winer, 18, of Burlington, Vermont and Andrei Zaremba, 17, of Dearborn, Michigan. They each scored 4.5 in the five-round event, held Aug. 15-19 in Reno, NV. A total of 34 state high school champions competed at the Sands Regency, where the 100th U.S. Open was also being held.

Top-rated Patrick Hummell (2455, NV), currently the national high school champion, lost in Round 2 to tenth-ranked Pascal Openshaw (2054, IA). In another upset that round, David John (2275, TX) lost to Allen Bast (1777, MA). Hummell finished clear third with 4 points, while John finished in a tie for fourth with 3.5

points, along with Marcel Martinez (2433, FL), Stanislav Ritvin (2331, PA), Vinay Bhat (2368, CA/N), Joan Santana (2263, NJ) and Riley Yates-Doerr (2079, WA).

Martinez, who won last year's national high school championship, was defeated by Winer in the final round on first board. Shortly after that game ended, Bhat lost to Zaremba on board two.

Zaremba, as the highest scoring player in eleventh grade or under, will receive a four-year scholarship to the University of Texas at Dallas. This year UTD is adding a scholarship for the girl in eleventh grade or under with the highest score. Karen Birkendahl (1613) of Salt Lake City, Utah won that honor with 2 points.

Next issue: special Denker report from David John

Texas Postal Championship: Send \$10 entry to Jimmy Irvin, 10222 Outlaw Bend, Converse, TX 78109.

Back cover solution: Back cover solution: 1.Ra1 Kxe2 2.Ra7 Ke5 3.Re7#; 1...Kxe4 2.Ra3 Ke5 3.Re3#.

King's Indian E61
GM Alejandro Hoffman 2574
Hikaru Nakamura 2289
U.S. Open 1999 (9)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Bf4 d6 6.h3 c5 7.d5 a6 8.a4 Nh5 9.Bd2 f5 10.e3 e5 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.Be2 Nc6 13.0-0 f4 14.Nd5 Bh6 15.Ra3 Bxd5 16.cxd5 Ne7 17. e4 Nf6 18.Qb1 g5 19.a5 Ng6 20.b4 cxb4 21.Bxb4 Qe7 22.Bd3 g4 23. Nd4 Nh4 24.hxg4 Nxg4 25.Ne6



25...Nf3+! 26.gxf3 Qh4 27.fgx4 Qxg4+ 28.Kh2 Qh4+ 29.Kg1 Qg4+ 30.Kh2 Qh4+ 31.Kg1 Kf7! 32.Bc3

b5 33.Bg7 Qg4+ 34. Kh2 f3 35.Rg1 Qh4 mate 0-1

King's Indian E61
Selby Anderson 2249
GM Pavel Blatny 2598
U.S. Open 1999 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bf5 5.Bg5 Ne4 6.Nxe4 Bxe4 7. Nd2 Bc6 8.e4 Bg7 9.Be3 a5 10.f4 Bd7 11.Be2 Na6 12.0-0 e5 13.Nf3 exf4 14.Bxf4 0-0 15.h3 Qe7 16.e5 dxe5 17.Nxe5 Rad8 18.Bf3 Bc8 19.Re1 Qb4 20.b3 Qc3? 21.d5 Nb4 22.Re2! Nd3 23.Nxd3 Qxa1 24. Qxa1 Bxa1 25.Bxc7 Rde8 26.Bxa5 Rxe2 27.Bxe2 Re8 28.Kf1 Bd4 29. Be1 Bf5 30.Bf2 Rxe2 31.Kxe2 Bxd3+ 32.Kxd3 Bxf2 33.b4 Kf8 34.c5 Ke7 35.Kc4 f5 36.a4 h5 37. b5 b6

(Diagram)

38.cxb6??

The tragedy is that I looked at 38.a5! but rejected it because I didn't see everything in the time remaining. Clearly, 38...Bxc5 and 38...bxc5 lose immediately to 39.a6.

That leaves 38...bxa5 39.b6 Kd7 40.Kb5 and ...

Tournament Calendar

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

Oct. 29-31: 3rd Annual Texas Grade and Collegiate Championships. See ad, p. 34.

Nov. 26-29: Texas Open. See back cover ad.

WANTED: Nominations of players under 19 on 10/31/99 with USCF >1600 and CQ >100 for prizes in the year 2000. CQ or chess quotient is ratio of USCF rating to age. List consecutive three, five or seven years of chess achievement and USCF/FIDE. Paul Muljadi, P.O. Box 100393, San Antonio, TX 78201.



Position after 37...b6

(a) 40...Bg3 41.d6 Kc8 42.c6 +- . I was under the illusion that 42... Bxd6 42.cxd6 Kxd6 was a save, but of course 43.Ka6 ushers in the pawn.

(b) 40...a4 41.d6! (Δ 42.b7) 41... Kc8 42.c6 a3 43.b7+ Kb8 44.Ka6 winning by one tempo.

(c) 40...Kc8 41.d6! Bg3 42.Kxa5 Be5 43.Ka6 Kb8 44.d7 Bf6 45.c6 Bd8 46.Kb5 g5 47.Kc5 f4 48.Kd6! +- . 38...Bxb6 39.Kb4 Bf2! 40.a5 Be1+ 41.Ka4 Kd6 42.b6 Kc5 43.d6 Kc6!

Always keeping out my king. 44.d7 Bh4! 45.Kb4 Bd8 46.Kc4 h4 47.Kd4 Bf6+ 48.Kc4 g5 0-1

GM Larry Evans interviews newly elected board member Tim Redman

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72142.335@compuserve.com

Reno, Nevada August 20, 1999

The Financial Crisis

EVANS: You were USCF president from 1981 to 1984. My first question, Tim, is you said you were elected for two years and the reason you ran was because you hope you can do some good but there are many problems facing the organization. Could you describe what you consider to be the major problems?

REDMAN: The major problem is, I think, the current financial crisis. We had a very bad year last year. We had an operational loss of \$325,000 and an augmentation in debt of over \$400,000. So we carry a fairly heavy debt load and that restricts our room to maneuver.

The second big problem to solve is that computerization of the office has gone very, very badly and Y2K is fast approaching. We don't have an up-to-date computer system yet. A bad vendor choice delayed us by six months. The new board has made it clear to Mike Cavallo that getting a new computer system up and running must be his top priority right now.

EVANS: What is the total debt at this point?

REDMAN: Well, I look at the change in debt in the last year – an increase of about \$460,000. Claims have been made that the debt is much more, but I think those figures are incorrect because they count accounts payable but don't subtract accounts receivable. That's not normally done. At the very least, it seems to me you should subtract accounts receivable. [Laughs] So the debt load is heavy, there's no question that it's clearly over \$400,000 – a loan outstanding to a bank and then maybe another \$60,000 on a note due to a computer vendor.

EVANS: How does the board propose to attack the problem?

REDMAN: It's a tough one. When I first was elected in 1978 we had a crisis of, I think, comparable magnitude. The federation was operating at a loss and had not recognized its liability for life members, five out of six of the senior staff resigned. So this looks very much like '78 all over again. But in '78 we still had a dominant position in the market for serious chess and through

good management were able to reverse the financial situation because our market share was intact. The problem right now is that our market share is eroding. We are no longer the one place where you can play serious chess. Obviously competition from various internet providers has meant that casual chess is now played over the Internet. This has meant a decline in clubs and a decline in rated tournaments. It's a very grave situation.

EVANS: What can be done about it?

REDMAN: Well, the first thing that was done was the finance people and Jim Pechac, who's the new vice president for finance, Mike Carr, myself, Cavallo, Camaratta, Doyle, met and essentially appointed a committee to hammer out a real austerity budget. We had come up with a conservative budget last May. The first thing you have to do is stop the red ink. That is absolutely mandatory. The only way to do it at this point, given the erosion in tournament participation and the stagnation in adult membership, is to cut costs even more. Cavallo started that last year and did a pretty good job once he became aware in February of how serious things were. We'll have some of the benefit of those cuts this year but the delegates mandated that we cut even more and pretty much gave us the message that we have to come in very definitely in the black next year.

We have to start thinking of where to cut, it's never easy, and probably the fairest way to do it is just across the board. Sharing the pain. After we get back in the black, at that point we start to think of what the future of the USCF will be in the next millenium. So there is a strategic planning subcommittee which will take up the question of what we should be doing and what things are really better left to local foundations and state associations.

Online Play

EVANS: What about online play? The USCF has been giving free advertising to one of its competitors? Are there any plans to merge or do something about the Internet Chess Club?

REDMAN: The analogy that has been given – I just had breakfast with Ken Sloan, a professor of computer science in Alabama – is that the USCF itself does not run a lot of tournaments but instead sanctions, provides supervision, rating, regulation and all the rest of the technical help for people who run tournaments. There's no question that the ICC especially has hurt our market share. The question is should we look and pursue an analagous policy close to what we do in over-the-board chess – which is to allow competing groups to bid for tournaments and work in partnership with them – or should we set up our own internet chess provider? I

think it would have been prudent and useful to have done it several years ago. I think another analogy from the past is when we bought *Chess Review*. There was probably a point three or four years ago when it would have been prudent to buy ICC when we could have afforded it. Now we don't have the money to set up something that is really competitive. We don't have the resources for such a cutting edge technology as ICC has. So we work in partnership with them and see what happens.

OMOV

EVANS: Let's switch gears. You voted against one member one vote at the recent delegate meeting. Can you explain why?

REDMAN: Yes. I'm not unalterably opposed to OMOV. Currently I'm worried about just two aspects. One is the fact that we don't have an independent chess press. In his report to the board editor Glenn Petersen said *Chess Life* is a house organ. So we are not getting diversity of political opinion in *Chess Life*. In fact, when asked by a board member why he didn't put in a pro and con position on various controversial topics, the editor said he wasn't going to do it - no politics in the magazine.

EVANS: But the OMOV proposal calls for special election supplements to be mailed to dues-paying adult members independent of *Chess Life*.

REDMAN: The Internet news group rec.games.chess.politics is starting to provide what I consider to be an adequate independent forum for discussing chess ideas and so that is one reason why down the road that would be a counter-argument to the lack of an independent press.

The other aspect has to do with professional organizations I belong to that have one member one vote. National Council of Teachers of English, etc., and they have nominating committees. The effect of OMOV is not really to encourage active discussion about the way those organizations are run but seems to entrench the power of the executive director and current management. My own feeling historically is that big danger times for the USCF came when talented executive directors became highly politicized with no actual check on what they were doing.

EVANS: But hasn't that happened exactly under the current system?

REDMAN: Yes. But the problem is how you perceive OMOV as helping or hurting that. My perception is that it would make it worse. I'll give you an example. There were clear cases in this recent election where you had a highly vocal critic of the administration running and where *Chess Life* was used to present completely

misleading reports about the federation's financial health. And the annual report was also misused to present misleading figures to the voters. These came precisely at the height of the campaign. A group critical of the administration was running against a group essentially supportive of it. And so you had a rather heavy-handed use of the official USCF media to present a pro-management view using falsified figures. Now we were able to challenge that because we could within essentially a week circulate a letter to 452 voters signed by past presidents and past executive directors saying that we had been lied to. Now under OMOV there would be no way to disseminate a credible countervailing argument in time to have an effect on the election.

So those are my two reservations but I don't think OMOV would be a disaster. I think at some point my reservations will be overcome.

EVANS: In this election the correct figures did get to the voters on time but didn't change anything. There was no accountability, no retribution for what was done.

REDMAN: Retribution is a kind of strong word. There were two routine motions that came up on the second day of the delegate meeting - both of which encountered a great deal of opposition. The first motion was to ratify the actions of the executive board in the past year and for the first time in memory that was hotly debated. It narrowly passed. And the second was to ratify the appointment of Don Schultz as a delegate at large. It required only a simple majority but was debated and narrowly passed. It's not as though everyone was silent. I think people got the message.

Downsizing

EVANS: Some experts suggest the USCF might have to downsize in the future and just become a rating, sanctioning and technical organization that puts out *Chess Life*. The USCF might have to eliminate the mail order business which may not be profitable.

REDMAN: I don't think that's going to happen. I think that as opposed to Amazon.com the federation should be providing value added in the form of chess expertise. The internet marketing environment really resembles an auction which is very favorable to the consumer. It's easy to find absolutely the lowest price but it's not so easy to find the expertise about what products are good and what products are not so good, reviews that are honest and informative.

EVANS: We haven't had honest reviews.

REDMAN: We certainly need it. We should have it. I don't think we'll be getting out of the book and equipment business.

Chess Life Debates

EVANS: Are you in favor of a "From Both Sides" column in *Chess Life* featuring pro and con on hot controversial topics?

REDMAN: Yes. Not only that, I was going to button-hole the editor because Larry Parr and I have been kicking around the idea of our doing a Siskel and Ebert pro and con from time to time. But the editor seems quite adamant that he doesn't want to have this in *Chess Life*. New board members suggested it to him at our open meeting, but we can't step on his toes too much.

EVANS: So we just have to wait and see?

REDMAN: Yes. I think it's a reasonable idea.

USCF vs. Peterson

EVANS: I realize you can't say much about the lawsuit of the USCF vs. Peterson. I'm troubled by litigation between the business office and organizers and many other people don't want to see this kind of thing happening in chess. The board went into closed session to discuss the matter and came out with a motion reaffirming the appointment of their attorneys in Arizona. To my mind, this means the board has rejected the concept of binding arbitration that I suggested at the open meeting.

REDMAN: I don't think the board has rejected anything, but I'm not at liberty to discuss it.

EVANS: As I see it, there are two possibilities. Either the USCF is going to proceed – and I don't like litigation because it is so costly – or seek a negotiated settlement. As we know, there has been a countersuit for \$3 million and this is an open-ended liability that could destroy the USCF if Peterson wins the case over what is a relatively trivial amount of \$20 or \$25 thousand. The hands of the new board were tied because there was a rush to file without even consulting the old board. Without discussing the merits of the case, what can you say about that aspect of it, if anything?

REDMAN: In my view the executive director does not have the right to file a lawsuit without consulting the full board.

EVANS: And that's all you can say?

REDMAN:[Laughs] Yes. That's all I can say.

FIDE

EVANS: You were appointed FIDE delegate but turned it down. Can you explain why?

REDMAN: Yes. My good friend Lynne Babcock did some research about the dictatorship in Kalmykia. I'm a member of P.E.N. which, as you know, is the International Writers Group and I'm very active in the freedom to write committee. We write to political prisoners and also contact officials in countries that imprison

writers. With the murder of the opposition journalist in Kalmykia it became clear that I simply could not in conscience participate in FIDE at this time. I was appointed FIDE delegate in May of '98 and stepped down in August of '98. I continue to advise the federation on FIDE matters because of the general experience that I've had in FIDE but I cannot participate in any way with the current regime in Kalmykia.

Free Scholarships

EVANS: At the Denker tournament here you gave free scholarships to two winners. Could you briefly describe what you're doing at the University of Texas in Dallas?

REDMAN: We have been engaged in giving chess scholarships now for about five years. Essentially we have two kinds of scholarships. One is called academic excellence scholarships that take chess ability into account. If we have two applicants, both with equivalent SAT scores and class rank, we weight chess ability heavily in awarding a scholarship. Those are available to anyone. The other thing we have been doing – and this is an innovation of the current undergraduate dean Michael Coleman – is giving competition scholarships. We have awarded scholarships to the top Texas high school player for the last couple of years, to the top Texas grade 12 player for the last couple of years, to the top sixth grade player in the Dallas Area Chess-In-Schools program, and we awarded two scholarships to the top eleventh grade and below Denker participants. This year I tried something different. I saw three young women competing and remembering that Fan Adams and Arnie Denker talked about maybe doing something for the girls, I decided to award an eleventh grade and below scholarship to a girl.

EVANS: What does it include?

REDMAN: Four years full tuition and fees for eight semesters plus a \$500 per semester additional stipend to help with living costs. The only stipulation is that students must meet our entrance requirements. They're put on a roster so when they're ready to come we have their name and they get a scholarship. If they happen to have some degree of academic distinction, they can essentially get an upgrade – a better scholarship. The point is that academic excellence comes first but chess excellence is also recognized.

EVANS: How long did it take get this past the administration?

REDMAN:[Laughs] A number of years. I had the idea years ago and then a friend and colleague of mine became the new undergraduate dean. He's a good listener and took me to the provost. The way we presented it was to talk about why it is in the university's best in

(Continued on page 33)

Tournament Crosstables

ACE Open Championship

Austin, July 2-4

Open

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Mikhail Langer	2303	=6	+3	-2	+5	+4	3.5
2 Vasfi Gucer	2150	-5	=6	+1	+4	=3	3.0
3 John Durston	1950	-4	-1	+5	+6	=2	2.5
4 Michael Calogridis	2200	+3	=5	=6	-2	-1	2.0
5 Stephen Tidwell	2072	+2	=4	-3	-1	=6	2.0
6 Armin Burghart	2103	=1	=2	=4	-3	=5	2.0

Reserve

name	rating	1	2	3	4	total
1 Scott Griggs	1743	+22	+8	+7	+5	4.0
2 Rosendo Leal	1700	+29	+12	=4	+13	3.5
3 Allen Eckert	1778	+30	+9	+14	H	3.5
4 Alan Rodenstein	1861	+24	+6	=2	=7	3.0
5 Joseph Binder	1900	+23	+25	+13	-1	3.0
6 Kenneth Farrar	1501	+10	-4	+23	+14	3.0
7 Torey Neuzil r/e	1640	+17	+15	-1	=4	2.5
8 David O'Shell	1494	+26	-1	=10	+16	2.5
9 Aizaz Ali Shaukat	1569	+20	-3	+24	=11	2.5
10 Frank W. Lawrence	1182	-6	+20	=8	+19	2.5
11 Glyn Ridge	1412	+32	-13	+15	=9	2.5
12 Charles E. Woods	1434	+18	-2	=19	+21	2.5
13 Mark Sorenson	1683	+19	+11	-5	-2	2.0
14 Daniel W. Ryan	1645	+33	+16	-3	-6	2.0
15 Gavin Kennedy r/e	1140	+34	-7	-11	+23	2.0
16 Eli Rezinsky	1350	+28	-14	+25	-8	2.0
17 Jonathan Buckman	1074	-7	+18	-21	+24	2.0
18 Colin Kennedy-Puthoff r/e	790	-12	-17	B	+28	2.0
19 Jeffrey Sneden r/e	1084	-13	+26	=12	-10	1.5
20 Joseph Justiss	960	-9	-10	+26	=22	1.5
21 John Hurst	1321	H	-23	+17	-12	1.5
22 Jerry Frazee r/e	1151	-1	U	+28	=20	1.5
23 James Fleener	1409	-5	+21	-6	-15	1.0
24 Baltazar Rodriguez	1326	-4	+28	-9	-17	1.0
25 William Tompkins	1584	+35	-5	-16	U	1.0
26 Leonid Rezinsky r/e	853	-8	-19	-20	B	1.0
27 Allen Eckert	1778	+31	U	U	U	1.0
28 Joseph Yuan r/e	918	-16	-24	-22	-18	0.0
29 Gavin Kennedy	1140	-2	U	U	U	0.0
30 Jerry Frazee	1120	-3	U	U	U	0.0
31 Joseph Yuan	918	-27	U	U	U	0.0
32 Colin Kennedy-Puthoff	790	-11	U	U	U	0.0
33 Torey Neuzil	1640	-14	U	U	U	0.0
34 Leonid Rezinsky	853	-15	U	U	U	0.0
35 Jeffrey Sneden	1084	-25	U	U	U	0.0

San Antonio City Championship

San Antonio, July 24-25

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 James Rohrbaugh	2200	+26	+15	=9	+3	+16	4.5
2 Shawn Noland	2115	+33	+35	+10	+11	H	4.5
3 Chris Pitts	1815	+36	+12	+4	-1	+14	4.0
4 Don Sutherland	2234	+13	+5	-3	+25	+9	4.0
5 Bradley Sawyer	1563	X	-4	+37	+12	+11	4.0
6 Martin Gordon	1871	+14	-17	+33	+35	+13	4.0
7 Doug Huddleston	2099	-12	+36	+43	+15	+19	4.0
8 Bruce Lewkowski	1793	+31	+41	=16	H	+18	4.0
9 George Elgin	1800	+34	+28	=1	+24	-4	3.5
10 Raymond H. Smith	1790	+30	+42	-2	H	+24	3.5
11 Gary Zintgraff	1839	+29	+18	+17	-2	-5	3.0

12 Vicente Flores	1196	+7	-3	+47	-5	+32	3.0
13 Joseph Molina	1377	-4	+31	+42	+38	-6	3.0
14 Michael Haskins	1164	-6	+50	+21	+40	-3	3.0
15 Gerald Castleberry	1520	+44	-1	+29	-7	+34	3.0
16 Andrew I. Smith	2132	+43	+21	=8	H	-1	3.0
17 James Fleener	1409	+50	+6	-11	-19	+31	3.0
18 Victor Flores	1433	+39	-11	+41	+20	-8	3.0
19 William Molina	1515	+32	-24	+30	+17	-7	3.0
20 Mark McCue	1847	H	+23	=38	-18	+25	3.0
21 Freddy R. Jones	1521	+49	-16	-14	+27	+37	3.0
22 Cullen Hesbrook	917	-25	=26	=23	+29	+40	3.0
23 Wallace Short	1302	H	-20	=22	+30	+28	3.0
24 John Paul Hyltin	1960	+37	+19	=25	-9	-10	2.5
25 Juan Carrizales	1522	+22	+48	=24	-4	-20	2.5
26 Alfred Molina	1287	-1	=2	-27	+39	+45	2.5
27 John Lasley	1109	H	-38	+26	-21	+43	2.5
28 Martha Sanders	1030	+47	-9	-35	+33	-23	2.0
29 Barbara Samders	1133	-11	+39	-15	-22	+44	2.0
30 John Sanders	1071	-10	+45	-19	-23	+42	2.0
31 Adit Wongsaraoj	1075	-8	-13	+46	+43	-17	2.0
32 Jose DeLeon	852	-19	-40	+45	+36	-12	2.0
33 James Nielsen	1222	-2	+44	-6	-28	+46	2.0
34 Gilbert Ramos	1099	-9	-47	+50	+42	-15	2.0
35 Charles E. Woods	1434	+46	-2	+28	-6	U	2.0
36 Jose Cano	1104	-3	-7	+49	-32	+41	2.0
37 Jorge Cano	1179	-24	+46	-5	+41	-21	2.0
38 Allen Eckert	1766	H	+27	=20	-13	U	2.0
39 Kelly Todd	unr.	-18	-29	+44	-26	+49	2.0
40 Alfred Miller	1208	-42	+32	H	-14	-22	1.5
41 Daniel Marsbach	787	X	-8	-18	-37	-36	1.0
42 Charles E. Nelson	unr.	+40	-10	-13	-34	-30	1.0
43 Ralph Haskins	1286	-16	+49	-7	-31	-27	1.0
44 Sergio Lopez	909	-15	-33	-39	X	-29	1.0
45 Julio Reyes	1405	-48	-30	-32	+49	-26	1.0
46 Eric Ramirez	747	-35	-37	-31	B	-33	1.0
47 Chris Campbell	1719	-28	+34	-12	U	U	1.0
48 Selby Anderson	2269	+45	-25	U	U	U	1.0
49 Anne Hyltin	815	-21	-43	-36	-45	-39	0.0
50 David A. Sanders	unr.	-17	-14	-34	F	U	0.0

Ken Smith Memorial

Dallas, August 6-8

Open

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Alex Wojtkiewicz	2681	+14	=2	+11	+4	+7	4.5
2 Rashid Ziatdinov	2541	+26	=1	+8	+3	=4	4.0
3 Pavel Blatny	2598	+15	=8	+13	-2	+11	3.5
4 Rade Milovanovic	2427	+16	+5	+6	-1	=2	3.5
5 Selby Anderson	2249	+27	-4	+18	+19	=6	3.5
6 James Rohrbaugh	2205	+19	+12	-4	+16	=5	3.5
7 Noureddine Ziane	2352	+17	H	+10	H	-1	3.0
8 Jason Doss	2297	+21	=3	-2	-10	+17	3.0
9 David C. John	2275	+18	-11	-19	+21	+16	3.0
10 Drew Sarkisian	2247	=22	+25	-7	=8	+19	3.0
11 Ali Morshedi	2156	+23	+9	-1	+12	-3	3.0
12 Mikhail Langer	2308	+20	-6	+17	-11	=14	2.5
13 Federico Garcia	2272	+24	=14	-3	+25	U	2.5
14 Sam Quintanar	2215	-1	+13	=21	+18	=12	2.5
15 Richard Weaver	2202	-3	=21	=25	+22	U	2.0
16 Marvin Huckaby	2102	-4	+27	+24	-6	-9	2.0
17 Matthew Campbell	2077	-7	+22	-12	+24	-8	2.0
18 John Hendrick	2049	-9	+23	-5	-14	+25	2.0
19 John C. Fernandez	1948	-6	+20	+9	-5	-10	2.0
20 Alex Shaffer	2065	-12	-19	=22	B	U	1.5
21 Alexey Root	2046	-8	=15	=14	-9	=23	1.5
22 Lee Williams	2007	=10	=17	=20	=15	=24	1.5
23 Gary Blanchard	1891	-11	-18	H	=27	=21	1.5
24 John DiLucci	1762	-13	B	-16	-17	=22	1.5
25 Daniel Reiser	1500	+28	-10	=15	-13	-18	1.5

26	Michael Simpson	r/e	2026	-2	U	U	U	B	1.0
27	David Buhner		2025	-5	-16	H	=23	U	1.0
28	Michael Simpson		2026	-25	U	U	U	U	0.0

23	Jonathan Cearley		1772	-8	-15	=17	U	U	0.5
24	Roberto Lactaotao		1647	-14	-13	H	-20	U	0.5
25	Ivan Wijetunge		1729	-22	U	U	U	U	0.0
26	Robert Smeltzer		1600	U	U	-20	-17	U	0.0

U2200

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Mark Kile	2085	+7	+3	+8	=2	=5	4.0
2 David W. Phillips	2002	+12	+5	+6	=1	=3	4.0
3 Ron Deike r/e	2127	+4	-1	+10	+8	=2	3.5
4 Shawn Noland	2093	-3	B	+7	=6	+8	3.5
5 Lewis McClary	2126	+10	-2	+9	H	=1	3.0
6 Joshua Newsham	2052	+11	=9	-2	=4	+10	3.0
7 Steve Hobart	2107	-1	-8	-4	+10	B	2.0
8 Steven Grubbs r/e	2054	B	+7	-1	-3	-4	2.0
9 Steven D. Young	1814	B	=6	-5	U	U	1.5
10 Dennis Cummings	2027	-5	B	-3	-7	-6	1.0
11 Ron Deike	2127	-6	U	U	U	U	0.0
12 Steven Grubbs	2054	-2	U	U	U	U	0.0

U2000

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Jason Howell r/e	1952	=25	+22	+15	+4	+5	4.5
2 Andres Suarez	1865	+11	+10	=5	=3	+7	4.0
3 Joe Drake	1864	=21	+6	+22	=2	+9	4.0
4 Jonathan Walsh	1810	B	+25	+12	-1	+13	4.0
5 Jim Musmeci	1957	+18	=13	=2	+10	-1	3.0
6 Ferdinand Deluna	1941	-13	-3	+24	+23	+14	3.0
7 Eric Wiggins	1934	+14	=15	=13	+20	-2	3.0
8 Robert Schuckhart	1890	-10	+21	=9	+22	+20	3.0
9 Bernard Parun	1845	-16	+23	+8	+11	-3	3.0
10 Patrick Bloom	1812	+8	-2	+17	-5	+18	3.0
11 Hugh West	1800	-2	+18	+25	-9	+19	3.0
12 John M. Dunlap	1996	+24	+19	-4	=13	U	2.5
13 Enrique Rios	1842	+6	=5	=7	=12	-4	2.5
14 Rodney Thomas	1833	-7	+24	H	+15	-6	2.5
15 Eryk Hargrove	1806	+23	=7	-1	-14	+22	2.5
16 William Mac Devin	1953	+9	+20	U	U	U	2.0
17 Curtis Fukuchi	1918	-22	B	-10	-18	+24	2.0
18 Jose Trevino	1862	-5	-11	B	+17	-10	2.0
19 Michael Austin	1856	+26	-12	-20	+25	-11	2.0
20 Robert Groover	1369	B	-16	+19	-7	-8	2.0
21 William P. Gibson	1800	=3	-8	-23	-24	B	1.5
22 Oz Ozden	1980	+17	-1	-3	-8	-15	1.0
23 Gary Hewitt	1873	-15	-9	+21	-6	U	1.0
24 John H. Kolts	1864	-12	-14	-6	+21	-17	1.0
25 Mark Gracey	1843	-1	-4	-11	-19	U	0.5
26 Jason Howell	1955	-19	U	U	U	U	0.0

U1800

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Matt Bradford	1748	+17	=3	+8	+14	=4	4.0
2 Patrick Ramsey	1725	+19	+14	+4	-3	+11	4.0
3 Anthony Pugliese	1708	+20	=1	+22	+2	=6	4.0
4 Scott Griggs	1735	+18	+16	-2	+10	=1	3.5
5 Daniel Salazar	1610	=12	+17	=15	=8	+14	3.5
6 Hugh Strain	1600	+9	=11	=10	+15	=3	3.5
7 Mark Poltorak	1697	+21	-8	=11	=16	+20	3.0
8 James Hughes	1688	+23	+7	-1	=5	H	3.0
9 Jonas Moen	1660	-6	=19	=21	+18	+15	3.0
10 Bradley Anderson	1656	=11	+12	=6	-4	+16	3.0
11 Glen Rudelis	1792	=10	=6	=7	+22	-2	2.5
12 Kris Littlejohn	1714	=5	-10	=19	=13	+21	2.5
13 Martin Alexander	1608	-16	+24	-14	=12	+22	2.5
14 Stuart Hanmer	1762	+24	-2	+13	-1	-5	2.0
15 Ivan Wijetunge r/e	1729	H	+23	=5	-6	-9	2.0
16 Joe Gilbert	1711	+13	-4	=18	=7	-10	2.0
17 Marty Buchanan	1643	-1	-5	=23	+26	=18	2.0
18 Lloyd Uhler	1621	-4	+20	=16	-9	=17	2.0
19 John M. Baker	1611	-2	=9	=12	-21	B	2.0
20 Wilson Neil	1600	-3	-18	+26	+24	-7	2.0
21 Cornelius Jones	1574	-7	=22	=9	+19	-12	2.0
22 Charles Rego	1633	+25	=21	-3	-11	-13	1.5

U1600

name	rating	1	2	3	4	5	total
1 Ajay Bangale	1581	+32	+26	+4	=3	+5	4.5
2 Robert Kaminsky	1565	+29	+25	+18	-5	+13	4.0
3 Duane Solley	1546	+10	+27	+13	=1	H	4.0
4 Salvador Luna	1530	+16	+15	-1	+29	+12	4.0
5 William Aramil	1372	+7	+22	+6	+2	-1	4.0
6 Carmen Chairez	1545	+38	+17	-5	+15	=9	3.5
7 Larry Rose	1530	-5	=30	+34	+28	+16	3.5
8 Albert Yeh	1508	+39	=12	=17	=11	+18	3.5
9 Jimmy Perry	1433	-12	+39	+33	+21	=6	3.5
10 Andy Ma	1414	-3	+20	+25	=18	+27	3.5
11 Brad Holtzclaw	1591	+14	=23	=24	=8	H	3.0
12 Tim Pernes	1587	+9	=8	=23	+24	-4	3.0
13 Marcellus Pelcher	1483	+36	+21	-3	+23	-2	3.0
14 Charles E. Woods	1444	-11	-33	+36	+31	+25	3.0
15 Kevin Sun	1409	+22	-4	+27	-6	+26	3.0
16 Doyle Lobaugh r/e	1401	-4	B	+35	+17	-7	3.0
17 Leon Powers	1588	+28	-6	=8	-16	+29	2.5
18 Michael Cathey	1524	+30	+34	-2	-10	-8	2.5
19 Rick Hoselton	1138	-24	=28	-22	+39	+34	2.5
20 David Dickson	unr.	-27	-10	+39	=30	X	2.5
21 Russell Brown	1577	+35	-13	+32	-9	U	2.0
22 Josef Ryglewicz	1562	-15	-5	+19	=34	=28	2.0
23 William Tucker	1526	+33	=11	=12	-13	U	2.0
24 William R. Martz	1518	+19	H	=11	-12	U	2.0
25 Antonio Blanco	1472	+31	-2	-10	+35	-14	2.0
26 William Trowbridge	1455	+37	-1	-29	+32	-15	2.0
27 John Downing	1449	+20	-3	-15	+33	-10	2.0
28 Michael Harvey	1441	-17	=19	+30	-7	=22	2.0
29 Anthony Garcia	1418	-2	+31	+26	-4	-17	2.0
30 Prathit Kulkarni	unr.	-18	=7	-28	=20	+36	2.0
31 Helen Jamison	unr.	-25	-29	+37	-14	+39	2.0
32 Jason Ray	1411	-1	+37	-21	-26	=33	1.5
33 Curtis Felkner	1400	-23	+14	-9	-27	=32	1.5
34 Derrick Watson	1316	B	-18	-7	-22	-19	1.5
35 Shaun Whelan	1429	-21	+36	-16	=25	F	1.0
36 Joshua Spare	unr.	-13	-35	-14	+37	-30	1.0
37 David Friedman	unr.	-26	-32	-31	-36	H	0.5
38 Doyle Lobough	1401	-6	U	U	U	U	0.0
39 Patricia Chua	unr.	-8	-9	-20	-19	-31	0.0

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.

Coaches' Corner (continued from page 13)

Players should also be familiar with the proper way of offering a draw. They should make their move, offer a draw, and then punch their clock. Once made, the offer cannot be withdrawn until their opponent either accepts or declines verbally or by moving a piece. Making a draw offer too often may be considered as annoying the opponent, and the TD has the option of penalties if deemed necessary.

This could be the biggest and best year yet for scholastic chess in Texas, but we all need to put in a little work to keep things running smoothly.

If you have a question or article that you feel is appropriate for Coaches' Corner, please send it to Forrest Marler, 2109 Ave T, Huntsville, Tx 77340, or e-mail to fmarler@tca.net.

Rewarding Top Players: A Good Practice?

by WIM Alexey Root

Recently Novag Industries dropped its sponsorship of the \$25,000 Grand Prix. The USCF Policy Board decided to fund the Grand Prix until a new corporate sponsor is found. As most *Texas Knights* readers know, the Grand Prix rewards top finishers in open chess tournaments. Details of the Grand Prix are in the tournament life section of every *Chess Life*. Major tournaments are advertised as Grand Prix events.

Throughout May, the online newsgroup rec.games.chess.politics debated whether USCF should fund the Grand Prix. Some chessplayers posting to the newsgroup felt more pages in *Chess Life* would be a better use of \$25,000. Other posters complained that the same top players won Grand Prix prizes year after year. One writer went even further. He said that top players are not welcome at many events because they drive 100 miles, win the top dollars, and are not seen again until the next Grand Prix event. In his opinion, top players took prizes away from club regulars and contributed nothing.

There are counter-arguments to these assertions, some of which were mentioned online. Top players create games we can learn from and enjoy. If top players participate in your local Grand Prix event, you may be able to observe those chess games as they unfold. I'll never forget watching Grandmaster Alexander Ivanov as he battled time trouble in an open section chess game in Los Angeles. It was inspirational to see how, even under duress from the clock, GM Ivanov worked brilliant combinations on the chessboard.

If top players attend your local Grand Prix event, you may be paired against one of them. Last month I wrote about simul. Though it is exciting to play a chess star in a simul, I think it is even more satisfying to play a star one-on-one. When I lived in Los Angeles, I was paired against International Master Igor Ivanov in six different open chess events. I lost every game. However, I am very glad I had the chance to play Igor. I learned from each encounter. Also Igor, like many top players, graciously analyzed each game with me post-mortem. Igor has consistently finished at the top of the Grand Prix. In my opinion, he deserves all the prizes he has won. He educated a generation of chessplayers in Southern California through his open chess play.

In addition to hosting Grand Prix opens, clubs have other methods to encourage top players. Policies such

as free club memberships to titled players, free IM and GM entries to chess tournaments, and invitations to chess stars to give simul and lessons benefit every club member. Austin Chess Enterprises (A.C.E.) Club has been a Texas leader in organizing these special offerings. When I lived in Austin, players over 2400 got free club memberships. Consequently, strong players attended weekly club meetings. Furthermore, A.C.E. featured simul and lessons.

If we want to further our own knowledge of chess, and have the general public and media take chess seriously, we should follow the A.C.E. example and support our chess stars. Each Grandmaster or International Master has spent countless unpaid hours studying and practicing chess. Many of the top U.S. players put in as much time at the chessboard as Michael Jordan spent on the basketball court. We should treat top chess players with the respect that we show sports heroes like Jordan. Future generations of chess players should be shown how to admire and emulate those who have mastered chess.

Redman (continued from page 30)

terests to do this. I found if you talk about it that way you get better results than if you say "I want to play chess. Give me money." [Laughs]

Redman's Academic Endeavors

EVANS: You mentioned earlier that you're working on a biography of Ezra Pound. Could you briefly discuss what you're doing outside of chess?

REDMAN: Yes, absolutely. Of course I teach 19th and 20th century British and American literature as well as Italian Medieval and Renaissance literature at the University of Texas at Dallas. I'm currently working on a major biography of Ezra Pound for, I think, Henry Holt, although it might shift to another publisher - it depends on what my agent does. My research is about 95% complete and I have collected a huge photo archive plus a tremendous amount of new information through my friendship with both sides of the family and my research in Italy about Pound's involvement with Italian fascism, his incarceration for 12 years after the war. Right now I project publication in 2002.

EVANS: How do you have time for all this plus chess?

REDMAN: Since I served on the board before, there's no learning curve. I like to keep busy and I am.

EVANS: Thank you, Tim. In closing let me wish you luck and condolences in serving on the new board.

REDMAN: [Laughs] Thank you too, Larry. It's a nice thing, only two more years. I'm not going to run again.

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Open section:

Top: 1st \$500, 2nd \$250; **U2200:** 1st \$250, 2nd \$125; **U2000:**
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Reserve section (under 1800):

Top: 1st \$300, 2nd \$150; **U1600:** 1st \$200, 2nd \$100; **U1400:**
1st \$150, 2nd \$75; **U1200:** \$100. (Unrated limited to \$100 in Reserve.)

"U----" prizes are based on the highest score by any player rated below the rating shown.

Entry fees: \$40 if received by Nov. 24, \$50 at site. Junior (under 19) entry fees: \$20 advance, \$25 at site; a junior entry counts 1/2 of an adult entry towards the "based on" number of players. USCF and TCA membership required, other states accepted. Make checks payable to "SACC".

Registration: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 26th.

One or two half point byes available any round(s) with notice before Round 1.

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

Info: e-mail: txchess@texas.net - tel: 210-695-2324

BLITZ TOURNAMENT: Saturday 8:30 p.m.

