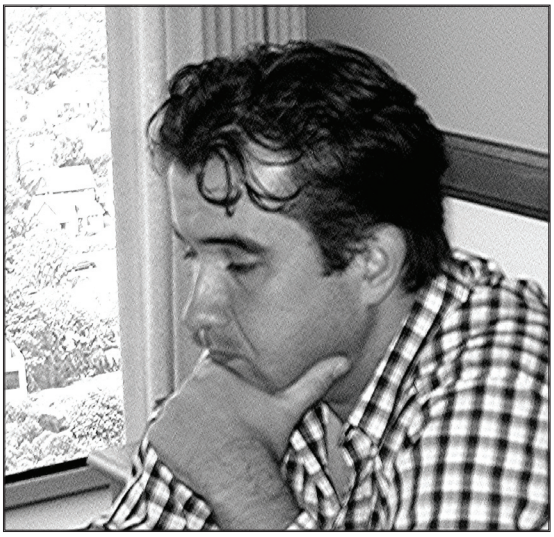
Rank & File

September-October 2008 Volume XXXI, No. 5 $3.00

IM Enrico Sevillano

2008 SCCF State Championship



Alexandre Kretchetov

SCCF

Los Angeles Open

October 31-November 2, 2008

at the

LAX Hilton

5711 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90045
Five Rounds — Swiss System
3-day schedule 40/2, SD/1; 2-day schedule rounds 1-2 G/60

Entry Fees:
$69 if received by 10-30, $79 at door
SCCF membership required of rated state residents ($18, jr. $10)

Registration: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Friday, 8:30-10 a.m. Saturday
Rounds: 3-day 7 p.m., 11-5:30, 10-4:30; 2-day 10:30-1:00 Saturday (G/60), then merges

Entries: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Place #1, Los Angeles, CA 90038

HR: $109 (310) 410-4000, mention chess. Parking $8/day.

More details, on-line entry, advance entry lists:
www.westernchess.com

(Prizes based on 200 players, 50% of each prize guaranteed)

Open

1st: $1600
2nd-5th: $800-$400-$300-$200
U2200: $600-$300-$150

Amateur
(Under 2000/unr)

$600-$300-$150
U1800: $500-$250-$150
U1600: $500-$250-$150
U1400: $400-$200
U1200: $100
Unrated: $100
(Unrated may win Unrated prize only in this section)

Best Game prize $25, both sections eligible

November 2

LAO Halloween Scholastics. 5-SS, G/30. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Open to gr. 12-below. **In two sections: Open**: Trophies to top 5, top 3 U1200, top 2 Unrated. **Reserve** (Grade 6/below U1000): Trophies to top 5, top 3 U700, top 2 Unrated. **All**: Trophy to best costume each section. Refreshments. **Reg.**: 8:30-9:15. **Rds.**: 9:30-11-12:15-1:45-3. EF: $16 if received by 10-31, $20 door. Inf: John Hillery, admin@westernchess.com. On-line ent: www.westernchess.com. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038.

November 2

LAO Hexes. 3-SS, G/90. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Six-player sections by rating. **EF**: $20 if received by 10-31, $25 door. $$ 40-20-10 each section. **Reg.**: 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Rds.**: 10:45-2-5. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038, online at www.westernchess.com.

Around the Nation

2008 SCCF Election

The SCCF Annual Membership Meeting was held on September 1, 2008, in conjunction with the Southern California Open at the Pasadena Hilton. Results of the election were as follows: Anthony Ong 16, Michael Nagaran 15, Takashi Iwamoto 12, Rick Aeria 11, Jim Bullock 11, Ron Rezendes 8 (elected); Essam Mohamed 7, Ivona Jezierska 2. – *Elliot Landaw*

2009 U.S. Championship

The Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis has been selected by the United States Chess Federation to host the 2009 U.S. Championship. The Chess Club and Scholastic Center, which was founded by retired investment fund manager Rex Sinquefield and opened in July 2008, is located at 4657 Maryland Avenue in St. Louis' fashionable and historic Central West End neighborhood. The three-level, 6,000-square-foot facility possesses an array of customized features, including DGT chess boards, hand-made wooden chess tables, LCD-screen televisions, video installation art, overhead paging and an adjustable lighting system. The primary colors of the club are black and white, the colors of a traditional chessboard.

The players' room is private and enclosed with its own kitchen and restroom. There is ample natural lighting with windows along two walls and two skylights in the space. Recessed adjustable lighting fixtures cover the ceiling to ensure an even light with appropriate brightness.

"We are proud to bring the 2009 U.S. Chess Championship to St. Louis," said Tony Rich, executive director of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis. "I am certain that the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis and the United States Chess Federation will make this an event unlike any other. The USCF has done an exemplary job of promoting chess nationally, and now we can bring that same national perspective to St. Louis."

The championship will be held in May 2009. It will be a 9-round event, using the Swiss system with one round per day and a rest day between rounds 5 and 6. Time controls will be the classical 40 moves in two hours, with the remaining moves in one hour.

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Invitations to potential tournament participants will be issued to some of the top-rated U.S. players, the top-rated women, among other qualifiers and wild card participants, who will be announced later.

The championship will have a purse of $100,000, with $30,000 awarded to the winner, twice the amount of last year's tournament. In case of equal scores, no tie-breakers will be used. Instead, prize funds will be evenly divided between winners. – *USCF news release*

Southern Californians Score At U.S. Open

Temperatures reached 108 in Dallas in early August, and our IM Enrico Sevillano was equally hot. He tied for first in the 109th U.S. Open with GM Alex Shabalov and IM Rade Milovanovic, taking first on tiebreaks and earning a spot in the 2009 U.S. Championship. He had seven wins and two draws, with Shabalov and IM Michael Mulyar. His interview by Elizabeth Vicary can be viewed at http://main.uschess.org/content/view/8645/471/

Enrico was not the only Southern Californian to attract attention. Julian Landaw, who has now entered college at UC Berkeley (go Bears!), had something of a trifecta. He tied for fifth in the Open (7-2), for first in the Denker Tournament of High School Champions, and was clear first in the U.S. Open Blitz (earning a $1200 paycheck).

Joel Banawa was also in the fifth place tie. Others with plus scores were Max Landaw and Indra Lahiri (6 points); Jeremy Stein, Donald Danlag, and Cheston Gunawan (5½); and Eric Zhang, Vanessa West, Nathaniel Lagemann, and Ryan Polsky (5).

The turnout of 379, with only two grandmasters participating, was rather disappointing and widely attributed to poor support by the local players. – *Randy Hough*

IM Enrico Sevillano – G. Battaglini
US Open, Dallas 2008
B10 CARO-KANN DEFENSE, Irregular Variation

1. e4 c6 2. c4 e5 3. Nf3 d6 4. d4 Bg4 5. dxe5 Bxf3 6. Qxf3 dxe5 7. Qg3 Nd7 8. Nc3 Ngf6 9. Bd3 g6 10. 0–0 Bg7 11. Rd1 0–0 12. Be2 Qc7 13. Be3 Rfd8 14. h4 Nf8 15. h5 Ne6 16. Qh4 Nf4 17. h6 Bh8 18. g3 Ne6 19. Kg2 Nd7 20. Bg4 Ndf8 21. Rac1 Nd4 22. Bg5 Re8 23. Ne2 Nfe6 24. Bf6 Nxe2 25. Bxe2 Bxf6 26. Qxf6 Kf8 27. Bg4 Nd4 28. c5 b6 29. f4 bxc5 30. Rxc5 1–0

Ryan Polsky – Jeffrey Gelman
US Open, Dallas 2008
E76 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE, Four Pawns Attack

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 c5 4. d5 d6 5. e4 Bg7 6. f4 Nfd7 7. Nf3 0–0 8. Bd3 Na6 9. 0–0 Nc7 10. Qe2 e5 11. f5 Qe7 12. g4 gxf5 13. exf5 f6 14. g5 fxg5 15. Nxg5 Nf6 16. Ne6 Bxe6 17. fxe6 e4 18. Nxe4 Nxe4 19. Bxe4 Bd4+ 20. Kh1 Rxf1+ 21. Qxf1 Qh4 22. Qg2+ Kh8 23. Bg5 Qh5 24. Bf3 Qg6 25. Bd2 Qf6 26. Bc3 Bxc3 27. bxc3 Rg8 28. Qe2 Ne8 29. Rc1 Qg5 30. Rf1 b6 31. Bh5 Nc7 32. e7 Ne8 33. Bxe8 Rxe8 34. Rf8+ Kg7 35. Rxe8 Qc1+ 36. Kg2 Qg5+ 37. Kh3 Qh6+ 38. Kg3 1–0

Cover photos: John Hillery.

Advertising Rates: Full page $80, half page $45, 1/4 page $25, 1/8 page $15, back cover (3/4 page) $80. (All rates are for camera-ready copy.) Flyer insert $50 (advertiser must supply flyers). 50% discount for tournaments requiring SCCF membership. Display ads should be sent to the Editor, flyers to the Publisher (addresses at right). Payment should be sent with order to the Editor. SCCF reserves the right to reject any advertising.

SCCF Online
The SCCF Web page is located at:
WWW.SCCHESS.COM

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Rank & File

Editor	John Hillery 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1 Los Angeles CA 90038 rfeditor@westernchess.com
Publisher	David Argall
Contributing Editors	Jack Peters Tim Hanks Al Pena
Contributors	Chuck Ensey Randy Hough Cyrus Lakdawala Jerry Yee Chris Roberts
Subscriptions/Address Changes	Randy Hough, **Membership Secretary** P.O. Box 205 Monterey Park CA 91754 (626) 282-7412 randallhough@yahoo.com

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2008

SCCF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2008 SCCF State Championship, held August 16-24 at the Century City law offices of Cheong, Denove, Rowell & Bennett, once again brought together Southern California's top players and a selection of promising challengers. This year's tournament included four IMs, masters Alexandre Kretchetov and Julian Landaw (winner of the Denker Tournament of High School Champions), and fast-rising experts Christian Tanaka and Danyul Lawrence.

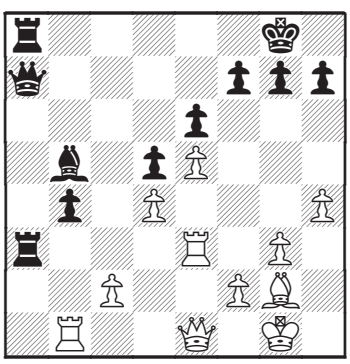
Tying for first place with undefeated scores of 5-2 were IM Enrico Sevillano and Alexandre Kretchetov. On tiebreak, Sevillano received the winner's trophy – for the third year in a row! As Sevillano had tied for first in the U.S. Open a week before, and tied for first in the Southern California Open a week later, one must say that he had a successful summer!

John Hillery directed for the SCCF. Special thanks are owed to John Rowell, who provided the playing site, and to all who donated to support this event. Unfortunately, the cost of the Championship continues to exceed the SCCF's resources, but with a vigorous fundraising effort it should be possible to continue the tradition next year.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	IM Enrico Sevillano	*	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	5.0/7
2	Alexandre Kretchetov	0	*	1	1	½	½	1	1	5.0/7
3	IM Andranik Matikozyan	1	0	*	½	½	1	½	1	4.5/7
4	IM Jack Peters	0	0	½	*	1	1	1	1	4.5/7
5	IM Cyrus Lakdawala	0	½	½	0	*	1	½	1	3.5/7
6	Christian Tanaka	1	½	0	0	0	*	½	½	2.5/7
7	Julian Landaw	0	0	½	0	½	½	*	1	2.5/7
8	Danyul Lawrence	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	*	0.5/7

Julian Landaw – IM Cyrus Lakdawala
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A08 KING'S INDIAN ATTACK

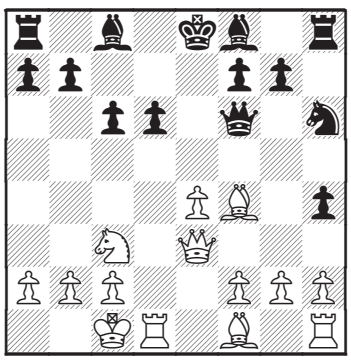
1. e4 e6 2. d3 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6 4. Ngf3 c5 5. g3 Nc6 6. Bg2 Be7 7. 0–0 0–0 8. e5 Ne8 9. Re1 b5 10. h4 Nc7 11. a3 Bd7 12. Nf1 a5 13. N1h2 a4 14. Ng5 Nd4 15. Ngf3 Nf5 16. Ng4 b4 17. Bg5 Nb5 18. Bxe7 Qxe7 19. axb4 cxb4 20. d4 a3 21. bxa3 Rxa3 22. Ne3 Nxe3 23. Rxe3 Nc3 24. Qe1 Rfa8 25. Rc1 Bb5 26. Nd2 Qa7 27. Nb1 Nxb1 28. Rxb1



28. ... b3 29. Rexb3 Rxb3 30. Rxb3 Bc4 31. Rb4 Qxd4 32. Bf1 h6 33. c3 Qc5 ½–½

IM Jack Peters – Danyul Lawrence
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B00 NIMZOVICH DEFENSE

1. e4 Nc6 2. d4 e5 3. dxe5 Nxe5 4. Nf3 Nxf3+ 5. Qxf3 Qf6 6. Qg3 d6 7. Nc3 c6 8. Bf4 h5 9. 0–0–0 h4 10. Qe3 Nh6

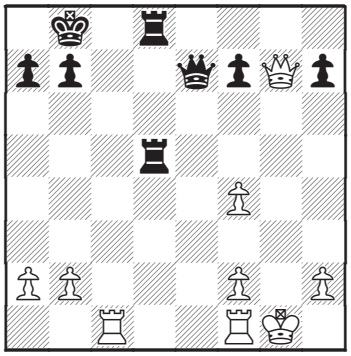


11. e5 dxe5 12. Bg5 Ng4 13. Bxf6

gxf6 14. Qf3 f5 15. h3 e4 16. Nxe4 1–0

IM Enrico Sevillano – IM Andranik Matikozyan
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B00 CENTER COUNTER DEFENSE

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. d4 Nc6 4. Nf3 Bg4 5. Be2 0–0–0 6. c4 Qd6 7. d5 Ne5 8. Qd4 Bxf3 9. gxf3 c5 10. Qe3 e6 11. f4 Nd7 12. Nc3 exd5 13. cxd5 Ngf6 14. Qf3 Nb6 15. Be3 Nbxd5 16. Rd1 Qc6 17. Nxd5 Rxd5 18. 0–0 Be7 19. Qh3+ Qd7 20. Qg2 Rd8 21. Rc1 Kb8 22. Bf3 Rd3 23. Bxc5 Nd5 24. Bxd5 Rxd5 25. Bxe7 Qxe7 26. Qxg7



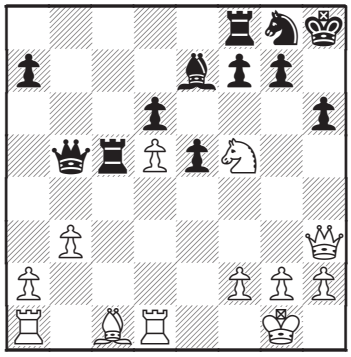
26. ... Qe4 27. Qg3 Rd3 28. f3 Qd4+ 29. Kh1 f5 30. Qh4 Rd2 31. Rb1 a6 32. a3 Qd3 33. b4 Rg8 34. Qe1 Qc2 0–1

Christian Tanaka – Alexandre Kretchetov
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A42 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE

1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. e4 Nc6 5. Be3 e5 6. Nge2 exd4 7. Nxd4 Nge7 8. Be2 0–0 9. 0–0 f5 10. Nxc6 Nxc6 11. exf5 Bxf5 12. Bf3 Kh8 13. c5 dxc5 14. Bxc5 Re8 15. Qb3 Nd4 16. Bxd4 Qxd4 17. Rad1 Qc5 18. Qxb7 Rab8 19. Qc6 Qxc6 20. Bxc6 Rf8 21. Rd2 Rb6 22. Ba4 Bh6 23. f4 Be6 24. g3 g5 25. f5 Rxf5 26. Rd8+ Kg7 27. Rxf5 Bxf5 28. Bb3 Rd6 29. Rg8+ Kf6 30. Nd5+ Ke5 31. Re8+ Re6 32. Ne7 Ra6 33. Bc4 Bd7 34. Rh8 Rd6 35. Rxh7 g4 ½–½

Alexandre Kretchetov – IM Jack Peters
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B51 SICILIAN DEFENSE

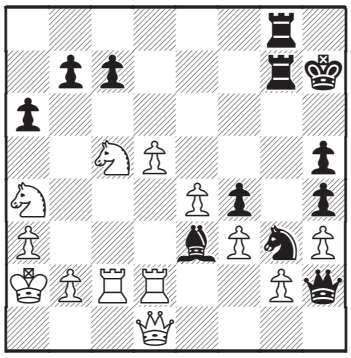
1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bb5+ Nd7 4. d4 Ngf6 5. Nc3 cxd4 6. Qxd4 e5 7. Qd3 h6 8. Nd2 Be7 9. Nc4 0–0 10. Bxd7 Qxd7 11. Ne3 Qc6 12. 0–0 Be6 13. Ncd5 Bxd5 14. exd5 Qd7 15. Nf5 Kh8 16. Qh3 Ng8 17. c4 Rac8 18. b3 b5 19. cxb5 Rc5 20. Rd1 Qxb5



21. Qg4 g6 22. Nxe7 Nxe7 23. Bxh6 Re8 24. Qh3 Kg8 25. Bg5 Nf5 26. Bf6 Ng7 27. Qh6 1–0

IM Cyrus Lakdawala – Christian Tanaka
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
E61 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. d4 0–0 5. Bf4 d6 6. e3 Nbd7 7. Be2 Nh5 8. Bg5 h6 9. Bh4 g5 10. Nd2 gxh4 11. Bxh5 e5 12. d5 f5 13. e4 f4 14. Bg4 Nf6 15. Bxc8 Qxc8 16. h3 Qe8 17. Nf3 Qg6 18. Rg1 Qh5 19. Qe2 a6 20. 0–0–0 Rf7 21. Kb1 Kh8 22. Rd2 Rg8 23. Ne1 Qg6 24. Nf3 Qh5 25. Ne1 Qg6 26. f3 Qg3 27. Nd3 Bf8 28. Rc1 Rfg7 29. Rcc2 Be7 30. a3 Nh5 31. Ka2 Qh2 32. Qf1 Ng3 33. Qd1 Kh7 34. c5 dxc5 35. Nxe5 h5 36. Na4 Bf6 37. Nd3 Bd4 38. Ndxc5 Be3



39. Ne6 Bxd2 40. Nxg7 Be3 41. Ne6 Nh1 42. Qf1 b5 43. Nac5 Kh6 44. Nxa6 Nf2 45. Rxf2 Bxf2 46. Qxf2 Rxg2 47. Qd4 1–0

Danyul Lawrence – IM Enrico Sevillano
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
D00 TROMPOVSKY ATTACK

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 d5 3. Bxf6 exf6 4. e3 Bd6 5. c4 dxc4 6. Bxc4 0–0 7. Nc3 a6 8. Nge2 f5 9. Qc2 Nc6 10. a3 Rb8 11. Bd3 g6 12. h4 b5 13. h5 b4 14. hxg6 bxc3 15. gxh7+ Kh8 16. Qxc3 Qf6 17. f4 Ne7 18. Bc4 Bb7 19. Kf2 Nd5 20. Qd2 Qg6 21. Bxd5 Bxd5 22. Rh2 Rb3 23. Nc1 Rb7 24. Nd3 Rfb8 25. b4 f6 26. Rc1 c6 27. Qe2 Rg7 28. Ne1 Re8 29. Rh3 Bxg2 30. Rf3 Bxf3 31. Qxf3 Qg1+ 32. Ke2 Rg3 0–1

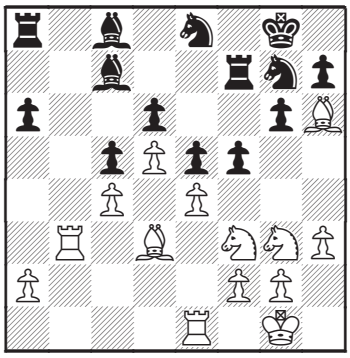
IM Andranik Matikozyan – Julian Landaw
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A07 KING'S INDIAN ATTACK

1. g3 e5 2. Bg2 Nc6 3. d3 d5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. 0–0 Be7 6. c3 a5 7. a4 h6 8. Qc2 Be6 9. e4 0–0 10. exd5 Bxd5 11. Re1 Bc5 12. Nbd2 Qd6 13. Ne4 Nxe4 14. dxe4 Bc4 15. b3 Bd3 16. Qa2 Rad8 17. Nh4 Ne7 18. Be3 ½–½

IM Cyrus Lakdawala – Alexandre Kretchetov
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A47 COLLE SYSTEM

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. Nbd2 c5 4. e3 b6 5. Bd3 Bb7 6. 0–0 Be7 7. c3 0–0 8. e4 d6 9. Re1 Nbd7 10. Qe2 e5 11. d5 Nh5 12. Nf1 g6 13. Bh6 Ng7 14.

Ng3 a6 15. c4 Nf6 16. Rab1 Bc8 17. h3 Nfe8 18. b4 f5 19. bxc5 bxc5 20. Qb2 Rf7 21. Qb6 Qxb6 22. Rxb6 Bd8 23. Rb3 Bc7



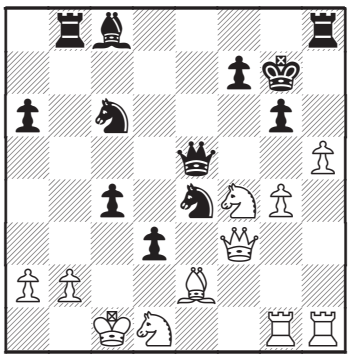
24. Reb1 f4 25. Nf1 Nf6 26. N3d2 Nd7 27. Be2 Nf6 28. R3b2 Nge8 29. Bd1 Bd7 30. f3 Re7 31. a3 Kf7 32. Bg5 Kg7 33. Bh4 h5 34. Be1 g5 35. Nh2 Kf8 ½–½

IM Enrico Sevillano – IM Jack Peters

(Annotated by IM Jack Peters on page xx)

Christian Tanaka – IM Andranik Matikozyan
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
E84 KING'S INDIAN DEFESNE, Sämisch Variation

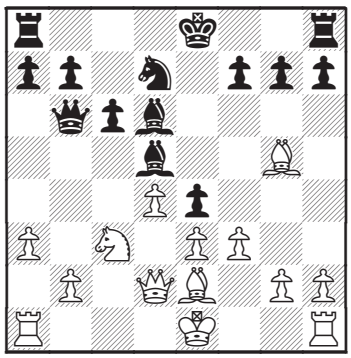
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f3 0–0 6. Be3 Nc6 7. Nge2 a6 8. Qd2 Rb8 9. h4 h5 10. 0–0–0 b5 11. Bh6 e5 12. Bxg7 Kxg7 13. dxe5 Nxe5 14. Nf4 bxc4 15. Be2 Rh8 16. Rdg1 c6 17. Nd1 d5 18. Qd4 Qd6 19. exd5 cxd5 20. g4 hxg4 21. fxg4 Nc6 22. Qd2 Qe5 23. h5 Ne4 24. Qe3 d4 25. Qf3 d3



26. hxg6 dxe2 27. Nh5+ Kxg6 28. Nc3 Nxc3 29. bxc3 Bb7 30. g5 Nb4 31. Qf6+ Qxf6 32. gxf6+ Kf5 33. Ng3+ Ke5 34. Rxh8 Nd3+ 35. Kd2 Rxh8 36. Nxe2 Kxf6 37. Rb1 Nc5 0–1

Alexandre Kretchetov – IM Enrico Sevillano
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
D35 QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED, Exchange Variation

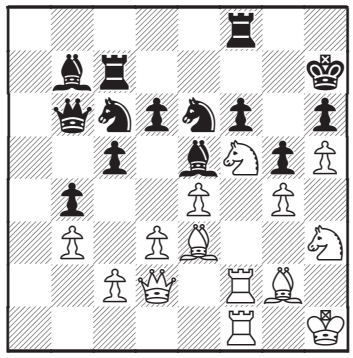
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 d5 4. cxd5 exd5 5. Bg5 c6 6. e3 Qb6 7. a3 Ne4 8. Nxe4 dxe4 9. Qd2 Be6 10. Ne2 Nd7 11. Nc3 Bd5 12. Be2 Bd6 13. f3



13. ... exf3 14. Nxd5 fxg2 15. Rg1 cxd5 16. Bf3 h6 17. Bh4 g5 18. Bg3 Bxg3+ 19. hxg3 Nf6 20. 0–0–0 Qc7+ 21. Kb1 Qxg3 22. Bxg2 Qd6 23. Rdf1 0–0 24. Rf5 Rae8 25. Bxd5 Nxd5 26. Rgxg5+ hxg5 27. Rxg5+ Kh8 28. Qd1 Nf6 0–1

Julian Landaw – Danyul Lawrence
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B25 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Closed Variation

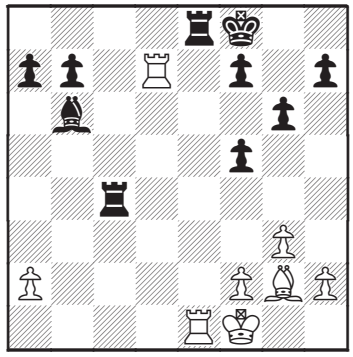
1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. d3 d6 6. f4 e5 7. Nh3 exf4 8. Nxf4 Nge7 9. 0–0 0–0 10. g4 h6 11. Be3 Rb8 12. Rb1 b5 13. a3 a5 14. h3 b4 15. axb4 axb4 16. Nce2 Ba6 17. b3 Kh7 18. Rf2 Rc8 19. Qd2 Qb6 20. Rbf1 Nd4 21. Ng3 Rc7 22. h4 Bc8 23. Qd1 Ne6 24. h5 g5 25. Nh3 Nc6 26. Nf5 Be5 27. Kh1 Bb7 28. Qd2 f6



29. Nxh6 Kxh6 30. Nxg5 Nxg5 31. Bxg5+ Kg7 32. Bxf6+ Rxf6 33. Qg5+ Kf7 34. Rxf6+ Bxf6 35. Qg6+ Ke7 36. Qxf6+ Kd7 37. Qf5+ 1–0

Danyul Lawrence – Christian Tanaka
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A45 TROMPOVSKY ATTACK

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 g6 3. Bxf6 exf6 4. c4 Bg7 5. Nc3 0–0 6. g3 f5 7. Bg2 c5 8. e3 Nc6 9. Nge2 cxd4 10. exd4 Qb6 11. Nd5 Qxb2 12. 0–0 Nxd4 13. Nxd4 Qxd4 14. Ne7+ Kh8 15. Qxd4 Bxd4 16. Rad1 Bb6 17. Rd6 Re8 18. Re1 Kg7 19. Kf1 Kf8 20. Nxc8 Raxc8 21. Rxd7 Rxc4



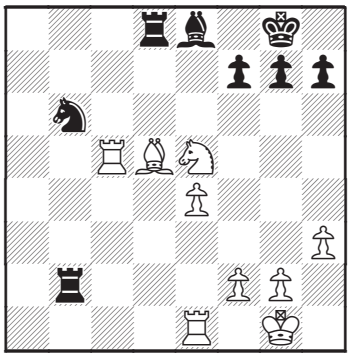
22. Rxf7+ Kxf7 23. Bd5+ Kf6 24. Rxe8 Rc7 25. Re6+ Kg5 26. h4+ Kh6 27. Bf3 Bd4 28. Re2 b5 29. Rd2 Bc3 30. Rd6 b4 31. h5 a5 32. hxg6 hxg6 33. Bc6 Re7 34. Ba4 Re1+ 35. Kg2 Re2 36. Bb3 a4 37. Bxa4 Rxa2 38. Be8 Be1 39. Rxg6+ Kh7 40. Re6 Bxf2 ½–½

IM Andranik Matikozyan - IM Cyrus Lakdawala
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A07 KING'S INDIAN ATTACK

1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 c6 3. Bg2 Bg4 4. 0–0 Nd7 5. d3 Ngf6 6. Nbd2 e5 7. e4 Bd6 8. h3 Bh5 9. exd5 cxd5 10. c4 d4 11. Re1 ½–½

IM Jack Peters – Julian Landaw
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
C90 RUY LOPEZ, Anti-Marshall

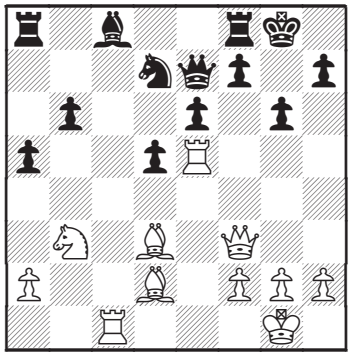
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. 0–0 Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 d6 8. a4 Na5 9. Ba2 c5 10. c3 Bg4 11. d3 0–0 12. Nbd2 Qd7 13. h3 Be6 14. Bb1 bxa4 15. Qxa4 Qxa4 16. Rxa4 Nb3 17. Nxb3 Bxb3 18. Ra3 Be6 19. Ng5 Bc8 20. Ba2 Nd7 21. Nf3 Nb6 22. Be3 Bd7 23. Ra5 Na4 24. Bd5 Rab8 25. Rxa6 Rxb2 26. Ra7 Nb6 27. d4 exd4 28. cxd4 Rd8 29. dxc5 Nc8 30. Rc7 dxc5 31. Ne5 Be8 32. Bxc5 Bxc5 33. Rxc5 Nb6



34. Rd1 Kf8 35. Nd3 Rb5 36. Rxb5 Bxb5 37. Nb4 Bc4 38. Rd4 Bb3 39. Nc6 Rd6 40. Bxb3 Rxc6 41. Rd8+ Ke7 42. Rb8 Nd7 43. Rb7 Rb6 44. Rxb6 Nxb6 45. f4 Nd7 46. Kf2 Nc5 47. Bd5 Kd6 48. Ke3 f5 49. Bg8 Nxe4 50. Bxh7 Ke6 51. Bxf5+ 1–0

IM Cyrus Lakdawala – Danyul Lawrence
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A04 COLLE SYSTEM

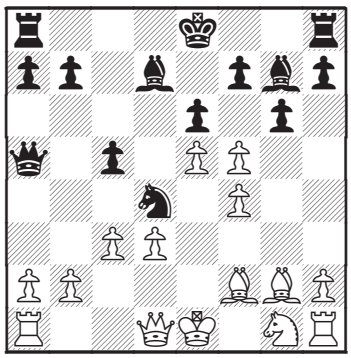
1. Nf3 c5 2. c3 Nf6 3. d4 e6 4. e3 d5 5. Nbd2 Bd6 6. Bd3 0–0 7. 0–0 b6 8. e4 cxd4 9. e5 dxc3 10. bxc3 Bxe5 11. Nxe5 Qc7 12. Qe2 Qxc3 13. Nb3 Qb4 14. Bd2 Qe7 15. Rac1 Nfd7 16. Rfe1 a5 17. Qh5 g6 18. Qf3 Nxe5 19. Rxe5 Nd7



20. Ree1 a4 21. Nd4 Qf6 22. Qxf6 Nxf6 23. Rc6 Ba6 24. Bxa6 Rxa6 25. a3 Nd7 26. Bb4 Nb8 27. Rc7 Re8 28. Rec1 Ra8 29. Rb7 Na6 30. Rxb6 Rec8 31. Rxc8+ Rxc8 32. Nc6 Ra8 33. Bd6 Kg7 34. f4 Kf6 35. Kf2 g5 36. Kf3 h5 37. h3 Kf5 38. g3 1–0

Julian Landaw – IM Enrico Sevillano
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B24 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Closed Variation

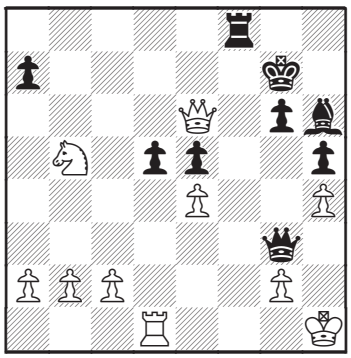
1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. d3 e6 6. Be3 Nd4 7. f4 Ne7 8. e5 Qb6 9. Na4 Qa5+ 10. c3 Nef5 11. Bf2 d6 12. g4 Bd7 13. Nxc5 dxc5 14. gxf5



14. ... Ba4 15. Qc1 Nc2+ 16. Ke2 Nxa1 17. f6 Bh6 18. Nh3 Nc2 19. Ng5 Bxg5 20. fxg5 Rd8 21. h4 Qc7 22. Qf4 Bc6 23. Bxc6+ Qxc6 24. Rh3 Qb5 25. Qc1 Qa4 26. Rf3 c4 0–1

IM Andranik Matikozyan – Alexandre Kretchetov
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B34 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Dragon Variation

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Nf3 g6 4. d4 cxd4 5. Nxd4 Bg7 6. Nxc6 bxc6 7. Bc4 e6 8. 0–0 d6 9. Bf4 e5 10. Be3 Nf6 11. Qd3 Ng4 12. Rad1 Qh4 13. h3 Nxe3 14. fxe3 0–0 15. Rf3 Be6 16. Bxe6 fxe6 17. Rxf8+ Bxf8 18. Qc4 Qe7 19. Qxc6 Rd8 20. Qc4 h5 21. Kh1 Bh6 22. Qd3 Qg5 23. Nb5 Qxe3 24. Qc4 d5 25. Qc7 Rf8 26. Qe7 Qg3 27. Qxe6+ Kg7 28. h4



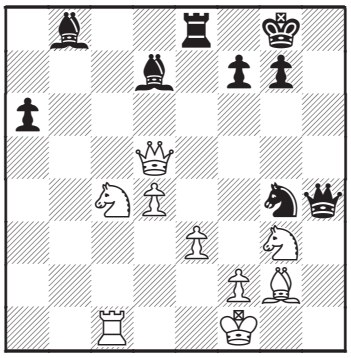
28. ... Rf4 29. Qxe5+ Kh7 30. Qc7+ Bg7 31. Qxa7 d4 0–1

Alexandre Kretchetov – Julian Landaw

(Annotated by IM Jack Peters on page xx)

Danyul Lawrence – IM Andranik Matikozyan
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
D00 TROMPOVSKY ATTACK

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 d5 3. Bxf6 exf6 4. g3 c6 5. Bg2 Bd6 6. e3 0–0 7. Nd2 Nd7 8. Ne2 f5 9. c4 dxc4 10. Nxc4 Bc7 11. 0–0 Nf6 12. Nc3 h5 13. b4 a6 14. a4 h4 15. Qe2 Re8 16. b5 hxg3 17. hxg3 cxb5 18. axb5 f4 19. bxa6 Rxa6 20. Rxa6 bxa6 21. gxf4 Bxf4 22. Qf3 Bb8 23. Rc1 Ng4 24. Ne2 Qh4 25. Ng3 Bd7 26. Nf5 Qh2+ 27. Kf1 Qh5 28. Ng3 Qh4 29. Qd5



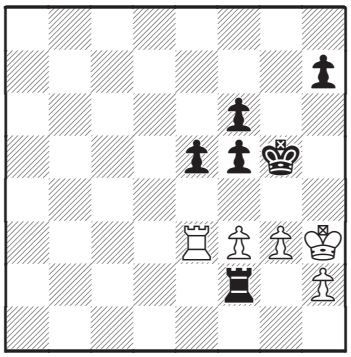
29. ... Bb5 30. Kg1 Bxg3 31. fxg3 Qh2+ 0–1

IM Jack Peters – IM Cyrus Lakdawala

(Annotated by IM Cyrus Lakdawala on page xx)

Christian Tanaka – IM Jack Peters
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
E00 CATALAN SYSTEM

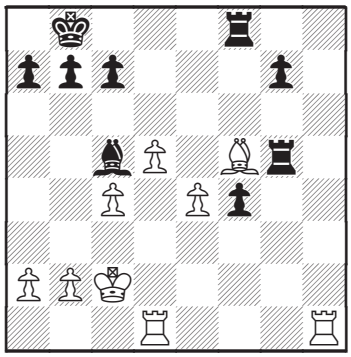
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 Bb4+ 4. Bd2 Be7 5. Bg2 d5 6. Nc3 0–0 7. Nf3 c6 8. b3 dxc4 9. bxc4 c5 10. dxc5 Nfd7 11. 0–0 Nc6 12. Rb1 Nxc5 13. Qc2 Bd7 14. Rfd1 Qc8 15. Bf4 f6 16. e4 Na5 17. Nd2 Rd8 18. e5 f5 19. Nb5 Bc6 20. Nd6 Bxd6 21. exd6 Bxg2 22. Kxg2 Qc6+ 23. f3 Nd7 24. Qc3 b6 25. Nb3 Qxc4 26. Qc1 e5 27. Bg5 Re8 28. Nxa5 Qxa2+ 29. Qd2 Qxa5 30. Qxa5 bxa5 31. Rb7 Nf6 32. d7 Red8 33. Rd6 Kf7 34. Bxf6 gxf6 35. Ra6 Ke7 36. Raxa7 Rxa7 37. Rxa7 Rxd7 38. Rxa5 Rd2+ 39. Kh3 Kf7 40. Ra7+ Kg6 41. Ra3 Rf2 42. Re3 Kg5



43. Ra3 h5 44. Rb3 f4 45. Ra3 f5 46. Ra5 Re2 47. Ra8 fxg3 48. hxg3 Rf2 49. Rg8+ Kf6 50. Rf8+ Ke6 51. Rh8 Rxf3 52. Kg2 Ra3 53. Rxh5 Ra2+ 54. Kf3 e4+ 55. Ke3 Rg2 56. Rg5 Ke5 57. Rg8 Rxg3+ 58. Rxg3 f4+ 59. Kf2 fxg3+ 60. Kxg3 Kd4 61. Kf2 Kd3 0–1

IM Enrico Sevillano – Christian Tanaka
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
B01 CENTER COUNTER DEFENSE

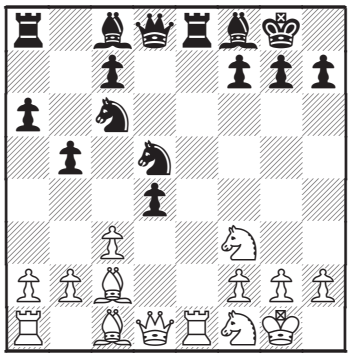
1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Nf6 3. d4 Bg4 4. Nf3 Qxd5 5. Be2 Nc6 6. c4 Qh5 7. d5 0–0–0 8. Ng5 Ne5 9. f3 Bf5 10. Qd4 Ned7 11. h4 e5 12. Qc3 Qg6 13. h5 Nxh5 14. g4 Nf4 15. Bxf4 exf4 16. Nxf7 Qxf7 17. gxf5 Qxf5 18. Nd2 Re8 19. Ne4 Nc5 20. 0–0–0 Nxe4 21. fxe4 Qe5 22. Bg4+ Kb8 23. Qxe5 Rxe5 24. Bf5 Bc5 25. Bxh7 Rg5 26. Bf5 Rf8 27. Kc2



27. ... f3 28. Rhf1 g6 29. Be6 a5 30. Rd3 f2 31. Kd2 Rg1 32. Ke2 g5 33. e5 g4 34. d6 cxd6 35. exd6 g3 36. d7 Kc7 37. Rd5 b6 38. Bh3 g2 39. Bxg2 Rxg2 40. b3 Kd8 41. Rd3 Rg1 42. Rdd1 Rxf1 43. Rxf1 Rg8 44. a3 Rg1 45. b4 axb4 46. axb4 Bd4 47. c5 bxc5 48. bxc5 Bxc5 0–1

IM Andranik Matikozyan – IM Jack Peters
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
C77 RUY KLOPEZ, Anderssen Variation

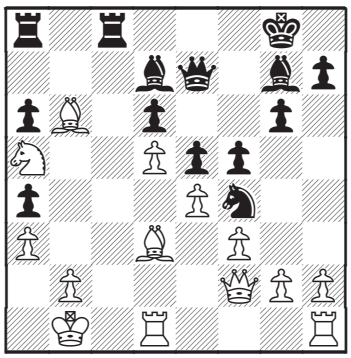
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. d3 d6 6. c3 Be7 7. 0–0 0–0 8. Re1 b5 9. Bc2 Re8 10. Nbd2 Bf8 11. Nf1 d5 12. exd5 Nxd5 13. d4 exd4



14. Bxh7+ Kxh7 15. Ng5+ Kg8 16. Qh5 Nf6 17. Qxf7+ Kh8 18. Qg6 Rxe1 19. Nf7+ Kg8 20. Nh6+ Kh8 21. Nf7+ ½–½

Danyul Lawrence – Alexandre Kretchetov
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
E88 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE, Sämisch Variation

1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. e4 Nf6 5. f3 0–0 6. Be3 e5 7. d5 c6 8. Nge2 a6 9. Qd2 cxd5 10. cxd5 b5 11. Nc1 Nbd7 12. Nb3 Nh5 13. 0–0–0 Nb6 14. Qf2 Na4 15. Nxa4 bxa4 16. Bb6 Qe7 17. Na5 Bd7 18. Kb1 Rfc8 19. a3 f5 20. Bd3 Nf4



21. g3 Nxd3 22. Rxd3 Rab8 23. Rc1 Rxc1+ 24. Kxc1 fxe4 25. fxe4 Qg5+ 26. Kb1 Qg4 27. Bc7 Rc8 28. Rc3 Qxe4+ 29. Ka1 Qh1+ 30. Ka2 Bf5 0–1

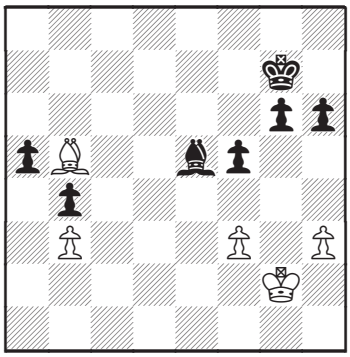
Christian Tanaka – Julian Landaw
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
E01 ENGLISH OPENING

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 c5 4. Nf3

cxd4 5. Nxd4 d5 6. Bg2 e5 7. Nf3 d4 8. 0–0 Nc6 9. a3 h6 10. b4 e4 11. Nfd2 Bf5 12. Bb2 Qd7 13. Nb3 Rd8 14. b5 Ne5 15. Qxd4 Qxd4 16. Bxd4 Nxc4 17. Bxf6 gxf6 18. Nc3 Nxa3 19. Nxe4 Nxb5 20. Nxf6+ Ke7 21. Nd5+ Ke8 22. Nf6+ Ke7 23. Nd5+ Ke8 24. Nf6+ Ke7 25. Nd5+ Ke8 26. Nf6+ ½–½

IM Cyrus Lakdawala – IM Enrico Sevillano
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
A46 POLISH DEFENSE

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 b5 3. Bg5 Bb7 4. Nbd2 h6 5. Bxf6 exf6 6. e3 a6 7. a4 b4 8. Bd3 g6 9. 0–0 Be7 10. c3 Nc6 11. a5 0–0 12. c4 f5 13. c5 d6 14. cxd6 cxd6 15. Nc4 Rb8 16. Qa4 Bf6 17. Rac1 Kg7 18. Rfd1 Re8 19. Bf1 d5 20. Nb6 Re6 21. Rc5 Nxa5 22. Nxd5 Bxd5 23. Qxa5 Bxf3 24. gxf3 f4 25. exf4 Bxd4 26. Qxd8 Rxd8 27. Kg2 Bxf2 28. Rcd5 Rxd5 29. Rxd5 Be3 30. Re5 Rxe5 31. fxe5 a5 32. b3 Bf4 33. Bb5 Bxe5 34. h3 f5



35. Be8 Kf6 36. Ba4 g5 37. Bd7 Bd4 38. Kf1 Ke5 39. Kg2 Kf4 40. Be8 Bb6 41. Bd7 h5 42. Be8 h4 43. Bd7 Bc5 44. Bc6 Bd4 45. Bd7 Bb6 46. Bc6 Ke3 47. Bd7 Kd2 48. Bc6 f4 49. Bd7 Ke3 50. Bc6 Bd8 51. Bb5 g4 52. hxg4 h3+ 53. Kxh3 Kxf3 54. g5 Bxg5 55. Bc6+ Kf2 56. Kg4 Bh6 57. Bd5 Ke3 58. Bc6 Bf8 59. Bd5 Bd6 60. Bc6 Bb8 61. Bd5 a4 62. bxa4 Bc7 63. Kh3 f3 64. Bc4 Kd4 65. Bf7 Kd3 66. Be6 Ke2 0–1

48th Annual

Pacific Southwest Open

The 2008 edition of Southern California's longest-running tournament, held July 4-6 at the LAX Hilton, had a somewhat disappointing turnout, but featured a strong field and some first-rate chess. Tying for first in the 49-player Open section with 5-1 were IM Tim Taylor and veteran master Gregg Small. Taylor drew with IM Enrico Sevillano in the final round, while Small upset IM Jack Peters. The tournament's other IM, Andranik Matikozyan, had been knocked out earlier by "giant-killer" Michael Yee, who finally fell to Taylor in round 5. Next at 4½-1½ were Sevillano, Joel Banawa, and Julian Landaw.

In the 36-player Amateur (U1800) section, Alejandro Ruiz swept the field with 6-0, followed by Wendell Salveron (5-1) and Naollin Olguin (4½-1½). In the Scholastics, Dwayne Edwards scored 4½-½ in the Open and Gregory Kuhn 5-0 in the Reserve.

John Hillery directed for Western Chess. Complete standings and a selection of games may be found

Michael Yee received the Best Game prize for his victory over IM Andranik Matikozyan.

Michael Yee – IM Andranik Matikozyan
Pacific Southwest Open, Los Angeles 2008
E84 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE, Sämisch Variation:

(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f3 0-0 6. Be3 Nc6

The Sämisch Panno variation of the King's Indian Defense.

7. Nge2 a6 8. Qd2 Rb8 9. 0-0-0 b5 10. h4 Na5

This immediate counterattack is Black's most aggressive and riskiest line.A bit safer is 10. ... e5 11. d5 Na5.

11. Nf4!?

Instead of the customary 11. Ng3.

11. ... Nxc4 12. Bxc4 bxc4 13. h5 c6

Matikozyan used this idea to defuse my attack in a 2004 game with White's Knight at g3. That game went 14. Bh6 Qa5 15. Bxg7 Kxg7 16. hxg6 fxg6 17. Qh6+ Kg8 18. e5?! dxe5 19. Nge4 Rb7!, defending along the seventh rank.

14. g4 Qa5?!

This fails, as does 14. ... Re8? 15. hxg6 hxg6 16. Qh2. Apparently Black must return the pawn by 14. ... g5 15. h6! Bh8 16. Nfe2 Re8 17. Bxg5, accepting a miserable position.

15. g5!

Seeing 15. ... Qxg5? 16. Nxg6 and 15. ... Nxh5 16. Nxh5 gxh5 17. Qh2.

15. ... Nd7 16. Qh2 Re8

The desperate 16. ... gxh5 17. Qxh5 h6 will cost Black a piece after 18. Rdg1 and 19. gxh6. Or, if 16. ... Qxg5, one neat line is 17. Nfd5 Qxh5 18. Nxe7+ Kh8 19. Qg3 Qa5 20. Nxc6 Qc7 21. Rxh7+!, mating.

17. hxg6 hxg6 18. Qh7+ Kf8 19. Rh6

Imaginative and winning but much more complicated than 19. Ne6+! fxe6 20. Qxg6, with the deadly threat of 21. Rh7. Then 20. ... Nf6 21. gxf6 exf6 22. Rh7 Rb7 23. Rdh1 leaves Black helpless against 24.

Rh8+.

19. ... e5 20. Nxg6+

Also crushing is 20. Rxg6 fxg6 21. Nxg6+ Kf7 22. f4! exd4 23. Bxd4 Rg8 24. Qh5!.

20. ... fxg6 21. Rxg6 Re7

Nor can Black flee, as 21. ... Ke7 22. Qxg7+ Kd8 23. Rxd6 chases him.

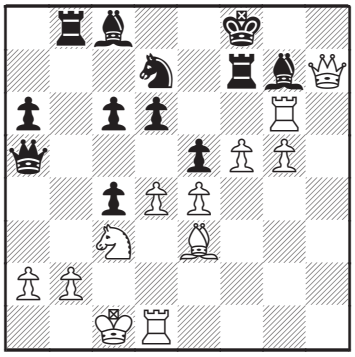
22. f4!

Getting more pieces into the attack. White threatens mainly 23. fxe5 and 24. Rf1+.

22. ... Rf7

Trying to neutralize the f-file. Black cannot stand 22. ... exf4 23. Bxf4 Ne5 24. Bxe5! dxe5 25. Rxg7! Rxg7 26. Rf1+. He could reach an endgame by 22. ... Rxb2!? 23. Kxb2 exd4 24. Bxd4 Qxc3+ 25. Bxc3 Bxc3+ 26. Kxc3 Rxh7, but White's pawns are overwhelming after 27. Rgxd6.

23. f5!



A new attacking scheme. Alternatively, White could invade on the f-file by 23. Rxg7! Rxg7 24. Qh8+ Kf7 25. fxe5 or 24. ... Rg8 25. Qh6+ Ke7 26. Qh7+ Kf8?! 27. fxe5.

23. ... exd4

Black cannot bolster his Kingside with 23. ... Rb7 24. f6 Nxf6, as 25. gxf6 wins anyway: 25. ... Rxf6 26. Rxg7! Rxg7 27. Bh6 Rxh6 28. Rf1+, or 25. ... Bxf6 26. Rxf6! Rxf6 27. Qh8+ Kf7 28. Rg1 Ke6 29. Qh3+ Kf7 30. Qxc8.

24. f6

White chooses a much more spectacular finish than 24. Bxd4 Ne5 25. f6 Bxf6 (or 25. ... Nxg6 26. fxg7+) 26. Qg8+ Ke7 27. gxf6+ Rxf6 28. Rg7+ Rf7 29. Bxe5.

24. ... Qb4

As 24. ... dxc3 permits 25. Rxg7, mating.

25. Rd2 dxc3

Setting a couple of sneaky traps. White refutes 25. ... Bxf6 by 26. Qg8+ Ke7 27. gxf6+ Nxf6 28. Rxf6! Rxf6 29. Bg5. Then 29. ... dxc3 30. Bxf6+ Kxf6 31. Rf2+ Ke5 32. Qh8+! Kxe4 33. Qh4+ Kd5 34. Qg5+ forces mate.

26. Rxg7

Avoiding 26. fxg7+?? Ke7 27. Re6+ Kd8! 28. g8Q+ Kc7 29. Qgxf7 because 29. ... cxd2+ 30. Bxd2 Qxb2+ 31. Kd1 Qb1+ 32. Bc1 Qd3+ draws.

26. ... cxd2+ 27. Kd1 Nxf6

Hoping for 28. Rxf7+?? Ke8, when 29. ... Bg4+ will turn the tables.

28. Qh8+!

White finds a long sequence ending in mate.

28. ... Ke7 29. gxf6+ Kxf6 30. Bg5+ Ke5 31. Rxf7+ Kxe4 32. Rf4+ Kd5 33. Qd4+, Black Resigns.

White intends 33. ... Ke6 34. Qe4+ Kd7 35. Rf7 mate.

IM Tim Taylor – Joel Banawa
Pacific Southwest Open, Los Angeles 2008
E30 NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE, Leningrad Variation

(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bg5

The Leningrad variation against the Nimzo-Indian Defense.

4. ... c5 5. d5 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 h6 7. Bh4 d6 8. Nf3 Qe7 9. e3 e5 10. Qc2

The battle is for control of the b1-h7 diagonal, particularly f5.

10. ... g5

Another method is 10. ... Nbd7 11. Nd2 e4.

11. Bg3 Nh5 12. Bd3 Ng7 13. Nd2 f5

Black wins the first battle, but at the cost of misplacing his Knight and neglecting development.

14. f3

Intending h2-h4.

14. ... h5 15. 0-0-0

White could open Kingside files by 15. h4 f4 16. Bf2 g4 17. g3, although 15. ... g4 probably improves.

15. ... Na6

First 15. ... h4 would limit White's possibilities.

16. h4 g4 17. Kb2 Bd7 18. Ka1 0-0-0

Where to hide the King? Black can barely stand White's threats on the b-file. It's uncertain if 18. ... 0-0 would be more comfortable.

19. Rb1 Rdf8?

Increasing his troubles. After 19. ... Kb8! 20 Qb2 Bc8 21 Qa4 Ka8, Black can defend b7 and may redeploy the Knight at a6.

20. Qb2 Be8 21. Qa3

Black can never move ... Kc8-b8 without hanging the Knight. In addition, he must beware of tricks such as 21. ... Rh6? 22 Rxb7! Kxb7 (or 22. ... Qxb7 23 Rb1) 23 Rb1+ Ka8 24 Qxa6 Qc7 25 Bxe5!.

21. ... Qc7 22. Rhe1?!

Letting Black bury his Bishop by 22. ... f4 23. Bf2 g3. Much safer is 22. Rhc1, intending Rc1-c2-b2.

22. ... Rf7 23. Rb2 Rh6?!

Last chance for 23. ... f4.

24. Reb1 Rg6 25. f4! e4 26. Bc2

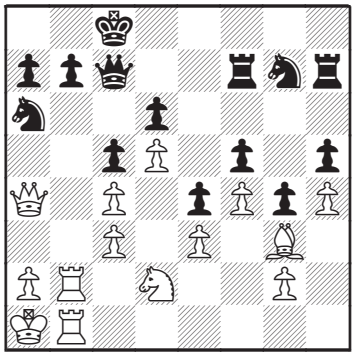
The Bishop at g3 looks useless, but it's more important that Black has no Kingside counterplay.

26. ... Rh6 27. Ba4 Bxa4 28. Qxa4

Foreseeing 28. ... Qd7? 29. Qxa6.

28. ... Rh7?

Only 28. ... Qd8 avoids a breakthrough. Then 29. Nb3 Qd7 30. Qa3 Ne8 31. Na5 b6 32. Nc6 Qb7 looks precarious but might hang on.



Continued on page 14 ...

Tactics

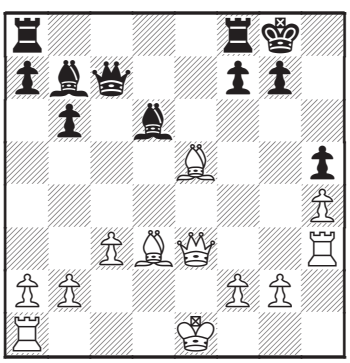
by NM Tim Hanks

Chess is richly artistic and for many of us is appreciated best when going over many of our better games or some of the most amazing games and moves ever played. There are thousands of fantastic games documented and fully analyzed demonstrating some of the most unexpected and shocking moves you could ever imagine or hope for. It's some of the best entertainment you could ever want from the love of chess. There is almost nothing better than finding a sensational winning combination based on sound tactics and sacrificial principles and executing it perfectly as your opponent plays the best defense. It's these kinds of wins that add a unique dimension to the game somewhat similar you may think to the artist and his paintings or the musician-composer and his music.

Every game we play offers another opportunity to create our own "personal masterpiece" that may in fact become the part of chess literature and history. With today's outstanding and easy chess recording capabilities the games played today can live on forever for all of future generations to play over, learn from and enjoy. I always encourage my students to take some time to record their games, whether practice games, tournament or club games, not only for post-analysis and review but because they represent your personal collection of art just like the Artist's paintings in a gallery.

To improve at chess it's really important to go over your games, especially when you lose, so you can learn from the mistakes and of course avoid repeating them. The time you spend understanding everything now will pay big dividends in the long run as you understand tactics better and win more games with less mistakes.

People often ask, what does it take to create fascinating combinations or better yet how to create more opportunities for winning tactical combinations in their games? What I explain is that in just about every game there usually comes a point when some level of a tactical combination is there to be executed. For example … take a look at position No. 1 with White to move. Let's quickly assess the position… White is up a pawn, has an attacked Bishop at e5 and also an attacked Pawn on g2 (by the Black Bishop on b7). The White King is also still uncastled – lurking, it seems, precariously in the center. Black, in fact, is threatening to infiltrate along the e-file and possibly win the exchange, as the Rook on h3 may have no safe retreat after Bxg2. So … with that review it looks like Black is doing pretty well and may, in fact, be winning. So what would you play for White? **White to move. What would you do?**



This is from the game David Janowski versus Friedrich Samisch, Marienbad, 1925. Even with Black's threats and White's apparent weaknesses, as incredible as it may seem, it is actually White who is winning and can strike first with an irresistible attack! Black actually has the more serious weaknesses in his King's camp. Before you review the solution what move did you choose for White? Most rated players I asked considered the following choices:

1. Bxd6 – In which case White will retain an advantage but is not necessarily winning.

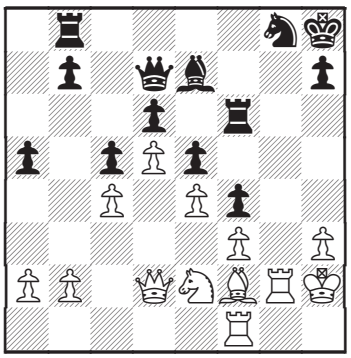
1. f4?! – Black will be slightly better

1. Bh7+ – The game would be equal and perhaps an early draw result

I leave it to the reader to work out these variations. Although all of these choices are for the most part okay none of them are the best move in the position. In fact of the many players I showed this problem to the best move was only considered a few times but not really followed through fully and thus was discarded. White's winning move is: **1. Qh6!** Good for you if you chose this move as Samisch actually resigned at this point. With this rather "shocking" double-attack motif move, after seeing it executed on the board, it's funny how all of a sudden it makes total sense. After all it threatens mate in one both on g7 and h7 and the Queen cannot be taken since if 1. …. gxh6 then 2. Rg3#. Black has no time for 1… Bxe5 due to 2. Qh7# and thus must take time defend against the mate. But its just this need for Black

to defend that creates the sustained and winning attack for White. Here is one winning line to this problem. **1. Qh6! f6** (What else? Certainly not f5?? owing to 2. Bc4+ and mate follows in a couple of moves.) **2. Qh7+ Kf7 3. Bg6+ Ke7 4. Bxd6+** (Black cannot escape) **Qxd6 5. Qxg7+ Kd8 6. Rd1 Bd5 7. Rxd5 Re8+** (Black finally got that e-file penetration, but way too late) **8. Kf1! Qxd5 9. Rd3** and Black is completely lost. So what appeared to be a somewhat precarious position for White actually turned out to be a totally winning position. But White had to be courageous and strike right away or risk losing his advantage and chance for the quick win. Let's try another one. See Position No. 2.

White's last move was Nc3-e2. It's Black to move. What would you do?

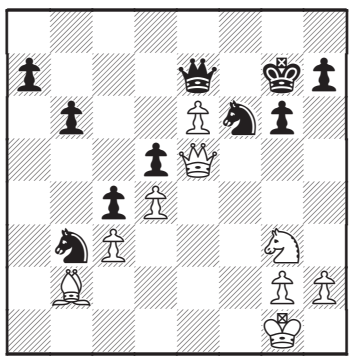


This is from the game Yuri Averbach versus Alexander Kotov, Zurich 1953. For this evaluation most players chose 1. … Rh6!?, attacking the White pawn on h3. This is not the best move since after 2. Ng1, White defends his Kingside easily and the game is roughly equal with a long battle to follow. Often a player feels there's got to be a "winning" move in a certain crucial point of a game. They can "feel it" but need just a little more time to analyze to be sure. As the clock winds down they decide on something else and pass up a chance for a quicker and perhaps sensational move and victory. Yes, there are times when it may be best to play it safe (than be sorry). However, if this becomes a trend in your playing style and games you will miss out on faster wins and many more won games. Occasionally after the stunning move is made the position almost miraculously becomes easier to analyze – especially in forcing variations like in this game. The best move is **1. … Qxh3+**. Did you have the courage to "go-for-it"? Here's are the actual moves from the game, which may have been more intuition (gut feeling) than full calculation to see through fully.

1. … Qxh3+!! 2. Kxh3 (If 2. Kg1 Rh6 3. Bg3 fxg3 4. Nxg3 Rf8 and Black has a winning attack.) **2. … Rh6+ 3. Kg4 Nf6+ 4. Kf5 Nd7!** (This move, which sustains the attack, may have been hard to see at the start.) **5. Rg5** (Black is forced to "throw" material back at White to avoid immediate mate and hope perhaps for a draw or more if White does not follow up correctly) **Rf8+ 6. Kg4 Nf6+ 7. Kf5 Ng8+ 8. Kg4 Nf6+ 9. Kf5 Nxd5+ 10. Kg4 Nf6+ 11. Kf5 Ng8+ 12. Kg4 Bxg5 13. Kxg5 Rf7** (another subtle move) **14. Bh4 Rg6+ 15. Kh5 Rfg7 16. Bg5 Rxg5+** (the constant mating threats keep White from getting any counterplay) **17. Kh4 Nf6 18. Ng3** (there's really no hope) **Rxg3 19. Qxd6 R3g6 20. Qb8+ Rg8** (White must give up his Queen too and is down too much materiel to continue and thus finally resigned). **0–1**

Here's another example to solve, from probably one of the best games played in history.

White to move. What would you do?



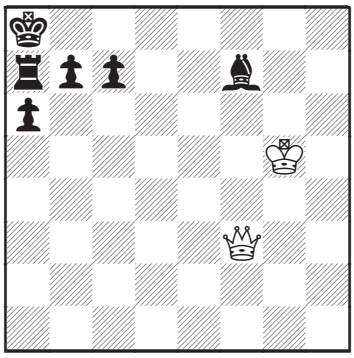
This is from the very famous game with Mikhail Botvinnik versus Jose Capablanca, Amsterdam, 1938. White has a passed central pawn that Black has set up a blockade against. Black also controls key squares such as a3 and c1 and just about all his pieces are well defended. To me this position exemplifies one of the most remarkable aspects in a game of chess: that one should never overestimate (or for that matter underestimate) any position. White wins with the totally shocking **1. Ba3!!** embarking on an amazing combination. You talk about "All-In" – take that "WPT." To fully appreciate the brilliance of Botvinnik's combination the move sequence must be fully planned and accurate. The main line continues: **1. … Qxa3** with Capa saying; "Go ahead. Make my day" – but that phrase was unheard of at the time. (By they way 1. … Nc5 does not help as 2. dxc5 bxc5 3. Ne2 and White wins easily. Other tries such as with Queen moves are no better as White would infiltrate with strong effect.) **2. Nh5+!** There it is. The *coup-de-grace* move that accents the entire combination. Truly beautiful. There's really no better play than this when two ultra-elite GM's slug it out like this. **2. … gxh5 3. Qg5+ Kf8 4. Qxf6+ Kg8 5. e7** winning, as White just needs to ward off the deluge of checks to promote the pawn. The remaining moves are pretty much forced as Capablanca tries hard for a perpetual or perhaps a miracle. **5. … Qc1+ 6. Kf2 Qc2+ 7. Kg3 Qd3 8. Kh4 Qe4+ 9. Kxh5 Qe2+ 10. g4 Qe1+ 11. Kh5** and finally Black concedes and resigns. **0-1**.

Finding beautiful combinations and stunning moves like the ones I've presented here in your own games takes courage, confidence and deep insight. The moves are always there and just waiting to be found and played. I'll venture to say that if you go over your own games you'll find stunning and often shocking sacrifices that you or your opponents missed. Take the time to play over more games, especially the brilliancies from major events,

as recognizing the tactical patterns and strategies will help you to create the opportunities in your own games and help to build your confidence to go-for-it!

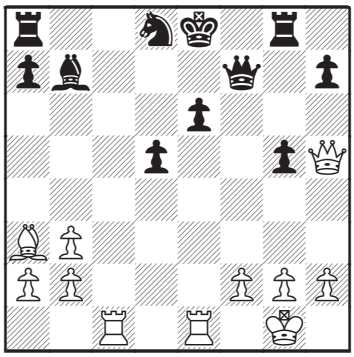
Improving your ability to calculate and visualize tactical combinations takes practice. Tactical problem solving will help in this development. Avoid moving the pieces when solving problems so as to strengthen your over-the-board play. Be alert, play sharp and always remember to do your safety check. Good luck and happy solving! Solutions on page 21.

Problem No. 1. White to move.



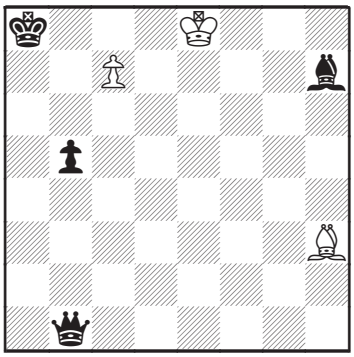
a) The position is equal with chance for both sides.
b) Black is winning.
c) White is winning.
Prove your answer with analysis and a variation.

Problem No. 2. White to move.



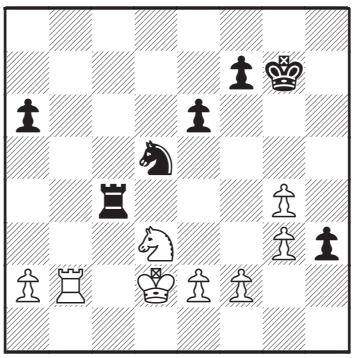
a) Black is better.
b) White is better
c) The position offers chances for both sides.
Validate your choice with analysis.

Problem No. 3. White to move. What result?



a) Black wins.
b) The game is a draw.
c) White wins.
Prove your answer with a variation.

Problem No. 4. Black to move.



a) White is slightly better.
b) The position offers chances for both sides.
c) Black is better.
Prove your answer with a variation.

... *Continued from page 11*

36. Qc8 mate.

32. Nb3 Kd8 33. Na5 Rbc7

Or 33. ... Rb6 34. Nc6+.

34. Nc6+ Rxc6

Black must lose material after 34. ... Kd7 35 Qb5 (threatening 36 Nd4+) Ng7 36 Qb8.

35. dxc6 Rc7

Not quite a blockade. The almost worthless Bishop will give itself up at b4 or c5.

36. Be1 Ng7 37. Bd2 Ne6 38. Bc1 Ke7 39. Qb7! Kf7 40. Ba3 a5

Else 41. Bb4! cxb4 42. cxb4 wins.

41. Kb2 Kf6 42. Kb3, Black Resigns.

Prize Winners

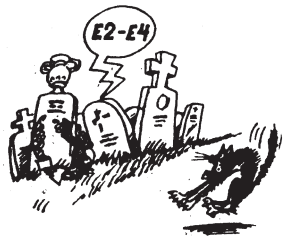
Open: 1st-2nd: IM Tim Taylor, Gregg Small, 5-1; **3rd-5th:** IM Enrico Sevillano, Joel Banawa, Julian Landaw. 4½-1½; **U2200**: Sam Hamilton, Jeremy Stein, Takashi Kurosaki, Michael Yee, Matt Robertson, 4-2; **U2000: 1st:** Michael Brown, 4-2; **2nd-3rd:** Bobby Hall, Konstantin Kavutskiy, Austin Hughes, 3½-2½.

Amateur: 1st: Alejandro Ruiz, 6-0; **2nd**: Wendell Salveron, 5-1; **3rd**: Naollin Olguin, 4½-1½; **U1600: 1st:** Anna Karapetyan, 3½-2½; **2nd-3rd:** Henry Wang, Ryan Hughes, Daniel Gong, Zheng Zhu; Yash Pershad, Daniel Lin, David Minasyan, 3-3; **U1400**: Hariharan Ramachandran, Darren Chow, 3-3; **U1200**: Robert Bryan Martin, 1-5; **Unrated**: Theodore Zhenyu Gao, 2½-3½

Scholastic Open: Dwayne Edwards, 4½-½. **Scholastic Reserve**: Gregory Kuhn, 5-0.

Hexes: Richard Henderson, 3-0.

Here & There



Pasadena Chess Club

The weekly Mount Wilson attracted 34 players, with Gregg Fritchle taking first at 4½ - ½. Willy Mapacpac and Dave Matson, a half point behind, split Under 2000 honors. Other class winners included Rolando Tenoso, Jason McKeen, Jaime Luna, Dave Galfond, Yi Lin Zheng, Tom Hogue, Jim Marshall, and Yan Jiang.

The Liberty Open, with 32 participants, was a sweep for soon-to-be Master Tianyi He, 6-0. Trailing a full point and a half behind were Jesse Victoria and Randy Hough. Class winners included Julio Cesar Marin, Ryan Yeung, Zohrab Sarkisyan, Jim Lee, and Jason McKeen.

A one-night August Quick tournament had 17 players, with Alen Melikadamian on top with 7-3, a half point ahead of He, Matson, and Victoria.

The Pasadena Club meets Friday nights at 7 pm at the Senior Center, 85 East Holly Street. The Crown City Open, a four-round swiss in two sections, begins October 17. For details on the club: Randy Hough (626) 282-7412 or randallhough@yahoo.com. – *Randy Hough*

La Palma Chess Club

National master Craig Faber won the 23-player Big Cheeses section of LPCC's Cheese Swiss with an undefeated score of 5. Other winners in that section were Mehrdad Miralaie, Mike Henebry, Sunil Deolalikar and Donovan Dunn. Newcommer Zheng Zhu won the 22-player Low Fat section with an undefeated score of 5. Other prizewinners were Dr. Harold Valery, Joe Tishy, Carlos Gomez, and Thomas Markey. The 45-player player 6-round Swiss held at La Palma's Central Park ended May 27th. As judged by IM Jack Peters, Mike Henebry won the $20 Brilliancy Prize donated by Robert Escalante. David Yang won the shortest game prize for his 20-move win.

Roger Dellaca and Craig Faber shared first place with scores of 5-1 in the Bobby Fischer Memorial, a 35-player tournament ending in August. Class prize winners included Robert Hutchinson, Daniel Alvira, Zheng Zhu, Michael Searcy and Daniel Rozsa.

The La Palma Chess Club meets 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Fridays in Central Park, 7821 Walker St. For information. call Mike Henebry at (562) 370-2146 or Leigh Hunt at (714) 635-0448. Web site: www.lapalmachess.741.com. – *Chris Roberts*

Mike Henebry – W. Leigh Hunt
La Palma, 2008
B21 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Smith-Morra Gambit

(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)

1. e4 c5 2. d4 cxd4 3. c3 dxc3 4. Nxc3

The Smith-Morra Gambit.

4. ... Nc6 5. Nf3 d6 6. Bc4 Nf6?!

Inaccurate, as 7. e5! dxe5 8. Qxd8+ Nxd8 9. Nb5 is unpleasant for Black.

7. 0-0?!

Missing his chance and returning to the main line.

7. ... e6 8 Qe2

White does not have quite enough for the pawn, but he scores well nevertheless.

8. ... a6

Acceptable, as is 8. ... Be7 9. Rd1 e5.

9. Rd1 Qc7 10. Bf4 Ng4?!

Black has also tried 10. ... Nd7 and 10. ... Ne5, but almost certainly best is 10. ... Be7. Then 11. e5?! Nh5! 12. exd6 Nxf4 favors Black.

11. Rac1 Nge5 12. Bb3

The immediate 12 Nd5 is very promising too.

12. ... Bd7 13. Nd5!

White wants open lines leading to Black's uncastled King. He foresees that 13. ... exd5 14. exd5 regains the piece with a persistent attack. For example, 14. ... f6 permits 15. dxc6 bxc6 16. Bxe5 dxe5 17. Nd4 Bd7 18. Nxc6! Bxc6 19. Bd5. Inserting 13. ... Nxf3+ 14. Qxf3 makes little difference; White refutes 14. ... exd5 15. exd5 Be7 by 16. Re1!, preventing castling.

13. ... Qa5 14. Nxe5 dxe5 15. Bd2 Qd8 16. Bg5! Qa5

Black has nothing better than 16. ... Qxg5 17. Nc7+ Ke7 18. Nxa8 Nd4, with some compensation for the Exchange.

17. Bd2 Qd8 18. Bg5 Qa5

Draw?

19. Qh5!

The right decision. One more nudge will crack Black's position.

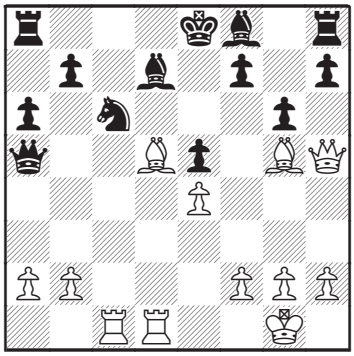
19. ... exd5?

Losing. Also demonstrably bad is 19. ... Be7? 20. Bxe7 Nxe7 2.1 Nc7+. But 19. ... Rc8 puts up a fight. After 20. Nf6+!? gxf6 21. Bxf6 Rg8 22. Rxd7, Black should reject 22. ... Kxd7? 23. Qxf7+ Be7 24. Bxe7 Nxe7 25. Qxe6+ Kd8 26. Rd1+ and try

22. ... Rg6! 23. Bxe6 Rxf6 24. Rxf7 Rxe6 25. Rxb7+ Kd8 26. Qf7 Qd2! 27. Qxf8+ Re8 28. Qf6+ Re7 29. Rf1 Rcc7. Possibly White's advantage is not decisive. Interestingly, the computer claims White wins with the mind-boggling 20. Bf6.

20. Bxd5 g6

If 20. ... Nd8, then 21. Bxd8 Kxd8 22. Qxf7 sets up 23. Be6.



21. Bxf7+

The less flashy 21. Qf3 Be6 22. Qf6, threatening 23. Rxc6, does the job too.

21. ... Kxf7 22. Rxd7+ Ke8

Or 22. ... Kg8 23. Qf3 Qxa2 24. b3!, destroying Black's defense of f7.

23. Qg4 Qxa2 24. Rxb7 Ne7 25. Qd7+ Kf7 26. Bxe7 Qe6 27. Qxe6+ Kxe6 28. Rc6+?!

Letting Black linger. White should end it with 28. Bxf8 Rhxf8 29. Rc6 mate.

28. ... Kf7 29. Bf6+ Kg8 30. Rcc7 h5 31. Bxh8 Kxh8 32. Kf1

Black can last a while, but he has no real hope of saving a draw.

32. ... a5 33. Ke2 Re8 34. Ra7 Rb8 35. Rc2 Bb4 36. Rac7 Rb6 37. R7c6! Rxc6 38. Rxc6 Kg7 39. Re6 a4 40. h3 a3 41. bxa3 Bxa3 42. Rxe5, Black Resigns.

The winner of the La Palma Chess Club's brilliancy prize.

West Valley Chess Club

In July, the Dan Wong Memorial at the West Valley Chess Club attracted 62 players. Tying for first were Maxim Sorkin and Michael Yee. Fernando Corona and David Steinhart topped the Amateur section, while Vicente Fierro and Yale Warsaw led the Booster.

In August, Michael Yee took first place in the 60-player Summer Swiss. Ed Isler and Robert Abrosini also won sections.

The West Valley Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Thursdays in the West Valley Jewish Community Center, 22622 Vanowen St. For information, call Jerry Yee at (818) 915-5572 or at jyee6@socal.rr.com. Web site: www.geocities.com/freechessclub .

Pacific Coast Open

Robert Aghasaryan and Sam Shankland scored 4½-1½ to share first place with veterans GM Melikset Khachiyan and IM Enrico Sevillano in the Pacific Coast Open, held at the Agioura Hills Renaissance Hotel July 18-20. Other section winners included John R. Williams, Michael Zhong, Kenneth Poole, Frank Arias, Sky Palma, Jarrett Milner, Robert Westreicher, David Abdella, Shushan Abrahamyan and Kevin Paul. 192 players competed in the Continental Chess Association event.

Westwood Summer Open

GM Melikset Khachiyan scored 4½ -½ to win the Westwood Summer Open, held at the Los Angeles Chess Club July 27. Khachiyan defeated the brothers Jouaquin and Joel Banawa and clinched first place by drawing IM Andranik Matikozyan in the final round. Matikozyan and Joel Banawa shared second place at 4-1. Naollin Olguin topped the Reserve (under-1800) section with 4½ -½, followed by Jeffrey Ding and Wendell Salveron at 4-1. John Hillery directed the 42-player event.

Diversity Summer Scholastics

July 27

This scholastic event in Arcadia attracted 48 players. Gerard Boberg led the Open section and qualified for the club's 2008 championship. Christopher Lopez finished second. Albert Lu and Paolo da Silva also won sections. For more information, see www.diversityeducationalcenter.com.

San Diego County Championship

August 9-10
San Diego Chess Club

The winner of San Diego County Championships and the $500 First Place prize was Grandmaster Melikset Khachiyan with a 4½ point score, and he won by a full point. He defeated tricky Expert Carey Milton in Round 1 and then a string of 3 Masters rated #5, #4, #3 in that order and finally drew with the #2 rated Bruce Baker in the last round. Melik is not a county resident so the new San Diego County Champion, by tie breaks, is NM Peter Graves of Escondido. Last years' Champion was Expert Leonard Sussman. Tying Peter Graves with 3½ points this year were Bruce Baker, Craig Faber of Yorba Linda, Romeo Ignacio, and Michael Yee of Woodland Hills, who won the U2200 prize. The U2100 prize was split between Rick Dyberg (rated 1863!) and Mario Amodeo, who is rated 1972. 2nd U2200/2100 were Carey Milton, Alejandrino Baluran, Michael Nagaran, Leonard Sussman, Simone Sobel and Varun Krishnan.

In the Reserve Section there was a 3 way tie for First Place between Alan Tsoi, Bob Defore and Dayne Freitag, all with 4 points. There was a 5 way jam at 3½ for U1900 with Haochi Shi, Esteban Escobedo, John Badger, Fausto Robles and Jason Qu. The U1800 prize was won free and clear by Ariel Gerardo with 3, and Ronaldo Salenga was 2nd U1800

with 2½. Ken Hopper, who has been out of chess for a few years, came back strong and won the U1700 with 3. Aaron Ibarra, Yash Pershad of Phoenix and Arsenio Caccam were 2nd U1700 with 2.

In the lively Booster Section, Steven Dahl, Ryan Nichols and Numan Abdul-Majeed of Tucson tied for First Place/U1500 with 4 points. Morgan Fox was 2nd U1500 with 3½.. Aaron Chow and Patrick Edwards were tied for BU1400 with 3.

This annual event broke a record for attendance with 80 players competing for prizes at every 100 point level. We were competing against the US Open in Dallas, so we lost some players due to that, but the second weekend in August seems to be a good time for many people to play and we have been happy with this date since we first moved it last year. Here are the figures: June 2006 = 47 players, August 2007 = 74 players, August 2008 = 80 players. Of course we have worked hard to promote the event and increased the prize a little bit each year, so it is not just the date that has worked in our favor. Guaranteeing the prize fund ($3,500 in 2008) helped draw some top players who otherwise might not be willing to play. Of course the bigger the guaranteed prize fund, the bigger chance we have of losing money on the event. This is always the promoter's dilemma: offering bigger prizes draws more players, but risks losing major amounts of money. Most clubs are not willing or able to suffer these large losses. Having a big entry fee is another issue. It increases the funds available for prizes, but if entry fees are set too high, they will depress the attendance. In the case of the County Championships, we have strived for the lowest possible entry fee that would still generate a decent prize fund, which was $50 in advance or $60 at the door, plus we also offered a $25 special rate for players rated U1400. The ideal solution to these problems would be to have corporate sponsors that could greatly increase the prize fund without ramping up the entry fees. But at the present time, these types of sponsors seem to be few and far between, or possibly even non-existent. Or maybe we just don't know how to approach them in the right way. If there is anyone out there with any great ideas or contacts, please feel free to share them with your local club, or get out there and do something about it yourself.

But enough talk about money woes, the real joy in chess is from playing good games. What else can be as incredibly satisfying as a well fought chess game with a sparkling combination or a brilliant conclusion? There is very little, my friends, very little, in my experience. "Chess has the ability to make men happy" is a quote I remember from one famous player. But then there is the flip side…it is very annoying to lose a game due to one mistake after playing carefully for hours. "Chess players don't sleep well at night" is another famous quote, presumably because they are filled with regret over making that one stupid move. "Why must I lose to this idiot?!!" cried out one GM in frustration, picking up his King and throwing it against the wall. It was kind of like throwing your clubs in the lake after a bad round of golf. But the joys seem to outweigh the sorrows because the vast majority of players always come back for more. The chance of creating your own unique little masterpiece with each new game is the real attraction, and it is a very powerful one. I see kids as young as 7 years old at our club and the excitement and joy and their faces is contagious and very charming. But sometimes they also burst out crying from losing. As adults we can usually control our emotions a little bit better, but they are still there. I also see players over 70 years old, even into their 80's and 90's and chess seems to be one way to keep your mind sharp and ward off incipient brain plaque. It is a great game for all ages and all nationalities. It teaches valuable lessons such patience, intestinal fortitude, the fighting spirit, the need to think outside the box, to always look for alternate solutions and many other great lessons to numerous to list here. So raise a toast to the Royal Game, I still love to ponder its infinite mysteries. – *Chuck Ensey, Vice President SDCC*

Gambito Opens

The July Super Gambito had 30 players, including 4 Masters and 5 Experts. This was a special 5 round Gambito that we have only twice a year. Cyrus Lakdawala won First Place ($225) despite being held to 2 draws, one by Eric Montany in Round 2 when Cyrus made a rare and uncharacteristic blunder in a won ending. Cy's other draw was a last rounder versus Romeo Ignacio. Bruce Baker, Rick Aeria and Leonard Sussman won a pooled prize of $120 each for Second Place/BU2400/BU2200 with 3½ points. NM Peter Graves and Romeo Ignacio tied for 2nd U2400 and Eric Montany was 2nd U2200, all with 3 points. Daniel Grazian and Jeff Turner tied for BU2000 with 2½. In the Reserve Section, newcomer Ray Viernes bumped his rating up quite bit by scoring 4½ out of 5, also raking in $150 along with 164 rating points! (1583 to 1747). His only draw was in the first round to Jason Arbeiter. Tom Kuhn won the BU1600 with 4 points for $115 and four players tied for 2nd with 3 points: Anthony Harbone, Jessica Lauser, Nestor Dagamat and Pejman Sagart. Gene Fernando arrived from a recent visit to the hospital with a walker, but showed he still has a strong game by scoring 2½ to win 2nd U1600. On the other side of the age spectrum, 7 year old Aaron Householder won BU1400 for $115. The Best Game Prize was won by Romeo Ignacio for a win over Richard Jensen and in the Reserve Section it was Jessica Lauser for a win over Scott Householder.

The August Super Gambito had a turnout of 34 players. Cyrus Lak-

dawala won First Place with a perfect 4 - 0 score. Carey Milton was BU2400 with 3½ and Raoul Crisologo was BU 2200 with 3. Rick Aeria and Peter Graves tied for Second Place with 2½, and Varun Krishnan, Daniel Grazian and Chris Wonnell tied for BU2000. Varun scored a big upset when he defeated NM Peter Graves in Round 3, also winning the Best Game Prize.

In the Reserve Section, Scott Householder also had a perfect 4 - 0 score, just like Cyrus. Anthony Harbone and Ray Viernes tied for Second Place. Anthony had a rare 3 win start, but was defeated by Ray in the last round. Harold Xavier Gonzalez and Jim Krooskos tied for BU1600 with a very solid 3 points scores. The Best Game Prize in the Reserves was won by Hector-Xavier Gonzalez for a win over Michael Chen.

Coming up on November 8th and 9th is the 8th annual Super Double Gambito, a two day 8 round extravaganza with $2,000 in prizes. For more information, call our club manager Bruce Baker at 619-239-7166 or visit the website at groups.msn.com/sandiegochess. – *Chuck Ensey*

SDCC News August 2008

In June 56 players (plus 5 house players) honored one of the world's greatest players of all time in "The Tribute to Anderssen", a 5 round tournament using the McMahon pairing system. The German Adolf Anderssen was one of the strongest players in the world in the 19th century, before world championship titles were formalized. In the late 1850's he lost a match to the famous American Paul Morphy, another player who was never formally declared World Champion, but who was clearly deserving of the title had it been invented at the time. Andersssen was also famous for "The Immortal Game", which was not a tournament game as many people think, but just a brilliant casual game. It is one of the most spectacular games of all time. Anderssen also authored "The Evergreen Game", another game that will live on forever by showcasing the beauty that is inherent in a well played combination. Adolf Anderssen was by all accounts, genial, free from jealousy, and a chivalrous player, no matter how disagreeable his opponent was - and some in some cases they were rather ornery people, such as Howard Staunton and William Steinitz.

Bruce Baker won the Tribute to Anderssen with an 8½ point score. Manuel Herrera was Second Place with 7½ and Rick Aeria third with 7. Bassam Shammas, who is from Iraq, not Iran, as I incorrectly reported last time, proved he really IS a strong player with a second great tournament in a row, this time scoring 7 points to win the BU2000. He defeated Rick Aeria AND Carey Milton and is now provisionally rated 2287/11. His only loss was to Bruce Baker in the last round, which ended a string of 10 victories in a row. Robert Defore and Jason Qu were 2nd U2000 and Mario Amodeo was 4th. Vincent Broman was clear first U1800 with 6 points, followed by Robert Draper with 5 and then Fred Borges and Caley Anderson with 4½. The Class C Section, U1600, featured a tie between Mark Lawless and Donald Klaas with 4½. Three players tied for third: Morgan Fox, Ray Viernes and Jerry Kavanau. Finally, the U1400 section also had a tie for first between Ralph White and Darryl Woodson with 3, and Chris Calbat and Patrick Edwards for third with 2½.

The SDCC is open every day for casual play and has tournaments on Wednesday nights starting at 7 PM and on Saturday at 10 AM. Call our Club Manager Bruce Baker at 619-239-7166 for more information. You can read also read all about it on our website at http://groups.msn.com/sandiegochess. – *Chuck Ense*

Les Crane 1933 – 2008

A former talk show host who had the chutzpah to go up against Johnny Carson, Crane founded the Software Toolworks company in 1984. (Ten years later, he sold it for $462 million.) Its major product, Chessmaster, was one of the first dedicated chess playing computers.

Crane sponsored several major tournaments in Los Angeles: the American Open in 1987 (387 players) and 1989 (600), as well as the Software Toolworks $130,000 Championship (740 players), which in 1988 displaced the American Open from Thanksgiving weekend. Such all-time great GMs as Mikhail Tal, David Bronstein, Bent Larsen, Sammy Reshevsky, and Boris Spassky (as an honored guest, not a participant) came to Los Angeles through Crane's generosity. The 1989 Software Toolworks Festival also included the U.S. Championship, with the American Open taking place during a break.

Chess sponsorship usually proves to be evanescent, and such was the case with Software Toolworks (there was one more U.S. Championship, in Durango, Colorado, in 1992), but Southern California chess owes a lasting debt of gratitude to Les Crane. R.I.P.

– Randy Hough

November 27 – 30
44th Annual American Open
LAX Renaissance Hotel
The Southland's premier tournament!
Full details on page 23

Games From Recent Events

IM Enrico Sevillano – IM Jack Peters
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
E97 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE, Classical Variation

(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 0-0 6. Be2 e5 7 0-0 Nc6 8. d5 Ne7

A King's Indian Defense *tabiya*.

9. b4

This has supplanted 9 Ne1 and 9 Nd2 in popularity.

9. … Nh5 10. g3 f5 11. Ng5

The threat of Ng5-e6 is the theme of this complicated line.

11. … Nf6 12. f3 a5

Limiting White's Queenside possibilities. More common are 12. ... c6 and 12. ... f4.

13. bxa5 White must avoid 13 Ba3?? axb4 14 Bxb4 because 14. ... h6 15 Ne6 Bxe6 16 dxe6 c5 traps the Bishop.

13. … Rxa5 14. Qb3 b6 15. Be3

I expected 15 Bd2, preparing to open a file with a2-a4-a5.

15. … Bh6?

The lineup of Bishops will inconvenience Black more than White. After 15. ... f4! 16. Bf2 (Black gets excellent compensation from 16. gxf4 Nh5 17. fxe5 Bxe5) h6 17. Ne6 Bxe6 18. dxe6 Nh7, the position remains very unclear. White will have to sacrifice a pawn by c4-c5 to preserve the one at e6.

16. Kh1

Threatening 17. Ne6 Bxe6 18. Bxh6.

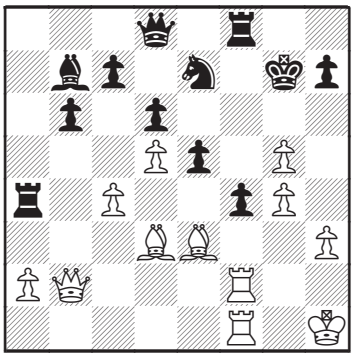
16. … Kg7 17. Qb2!

Menacing f3-f4.

17. … Neg8

Trying to correct my error by 18. ... Kh8 and 19. ... Bg7, but White reacts at once.

18. exf5 gxf5 19. f4 Bxg5



I did not trust 19. ... Ne7 20. Nb5 Ng6 21. Rab1 (threatening 22. Nxc7) Ra8 22. Bf3, when Black's center is too shaky.

20. fxg5 Nd7

I felt relieved that I had reduced the pressure on e5.

21. Rf2!

But now White builds up against f5, and Black's position collapses.

21. … Nc5 22. Raf1 Ne7 23. g4! Na4?!

An attempt to swindle. However, the sturdier 23. ... Ra8 also fails, as 24. Bxc5! bxc5 25. Ne4 leaves Black helpless against 26. Bd3 and either 27. Nf6 or 27. Ng3. I rejected 23. ... f4 because of 24. Bxc5 bxc5 25. Ne4, but even more convincing is 24. Bxf4! exf4 25. Ne4+ Kg8 26. Nf6+ Rxf6 27. gxf6 Ng6 28. Rxf4!, foreseeing 28. ... Nxf4 29. Rxf4 Kf7 30. g5 and 31. Bh5+.

24. Nxa4 Rxa4 25. Bd3 Bb7 26. h3?!

White should call my bluff with 26. gxf5 Nxd5 27. cxd5 Bxd5+ 28. Rf3!, winning. Then White refutes 28. ... Rxa2 29. f6+ Kh8 30. Qb4 Qa8 31. Qg4 e4 by 32 g6.

26. … f4?

Useless. There is still some hope with 26. ... Nxd5 27. cxd5 Bxd5+ 28. Kg1 Rxa2 29. Qc3 Rxf2 30. Rxf2 fxg4.

27. Bxf4 Nxd5 28. Bxe5+!

Best. Even my "trap," 28. cxd5 Bxd5+ 29. Kg1 Rfxf4 30. Rxf4 Rxa2, fails if White finds 31. Rf7+! Bxf7 32. Rxf7+.

28. … dxe5 29. Qxe5+ Nf6+ 30. Kg1 Qxd3

Or 30. ... Qd6 31. gxf6+.

31. gxf6+ Kg8 32. f7+!, Black Resigns.

It's mate in four moves.

Alexandre Kretchetov – Julian Landaw
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
C46 THREE KNIGHTS DEFENSE

(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 g6

The Three Knights Defense, advocated by Steinitz.

4. d4 exd4 5. Nxd4 Bg7 6. Be3 d6 7. Be2 Nf6 8. Qd2 0-0 9. 0-0 Re8

White has an advantage in space, but chances are almost even.

10. Nxc6 bxc6 11. Bf3 Ng4 12. Bxg4 Bxg4 13. Bd4 Be6

Sharpest is 13. ... f6, preserving the Bishops. Black can parry 14. f4 by 14. ... c5 15. Bf2 f5 16. h3 Bh5, as 17. exf5 gxf5 18. Qd5+ Kh8 19. Qxf5 Bg6 20. Qg4 Bxc2 is fine for Black.

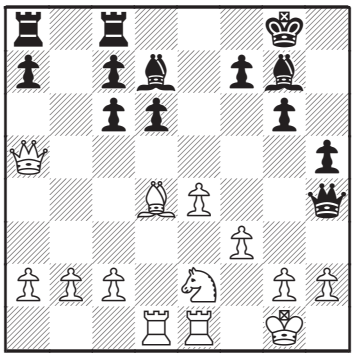
14. Rfe1 h5?!

Needlessly weakening his Kingside. Better is 14. ... Bxd4 15. Qxd4 Qg5.

15. Rad1 Qh4 16. f3 Red8 17. Ne2!

A very effective maneuver. White clears c3 for the Queen, while the Knight heads for d4 or f4.

17. ... Bd7 18. Qa5! Rdc8



White will shatter Black's seemingly solid structure. However, 18. ... Bxd4+ 19. Nxd4 c5 provides no relief, as 20. Nb3 threatens 21. Qxc7 and 2.1 e5.

19. Bxg7 Kxg7 20. e5! d5

The plausible 20. ... Qe7 loses control of the dark squares to 21. exd6 cxd6 22. Qc3+ Kh7 23. Ng3 Be6 24. Ne4 d5 25. Nc5. Worse is 24. ... Rd8 because 25. Nf6+ Kh6 26. g4! Rac8 27. h4 harries Black's King.

21. Qc3 Kg8 22. Nd4 Rab8 23. Nxc6 Bxc6 24. Qxc6 Rxb2

Even the tougher 24. ... Qc4 25. Qxc4 dxc4 25. b3 won't save Black.

25. e6 Qf6

Or 25. ... Qe7 26. Qd7.

26. Qd7, Black Resigns.

If 26. ... Rbb8, then 27. exf7+ Qxf7 28. Re7 Qf6 29. Qxd5+ Kf8 30. Re6 attacks.

IM Jack Peters – IM Cyrus Lakdawala
SCCF State Championship, Los Angeles 2008
C10 FRENCH DEFENSE, Rubinstein Variation

(Notes by IM Cyrus Lakdawala)

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bd7

The Fort Knox Variation of the French Defense. A very odd choice on my part because after the 5th round I was in clear 2nd place and was desperate to beat Jack with the Black pieces. But as I explained to him later, I was "groveling for the win!"

5. Nf3 Bc6 6. Bd3 Nd7 7. 0–0 Ngf6 8. Ned2

8. Ng3 is the main line.

8. ... Be7 9. Nc4!?

Gives up control of e4, but he has the strategic threat of Na5. I had this position against GM Tigran Petrosian this year at the National Open G/10 Championship. The game went 9. Re1 0–0 10. b3 Bxf3 11. Qxf3 c6 12. Bb2 Re8 13. Nc4 Qc7 14. Ne5 Rad8 15. Rad1 Bf8 16. c4 Nxe5!? 17. dxe5 Nd7 18. Bxh7+!? Kxh7 19. Qxf7 Re7 20. Qh5+ Kg8 21. Rd3 g6! 22. Qxg6+ Bg7 23. Red1 Rc8 24. h4 Nf8 with a terribly complex position. After securing an advantage later I botched the game in the timescramble.

9. ... 0–0!?

I decided to allow him his "threat." Other possibilities were 9. ... Be4 (equal) and 9. ... Bxf3 10. Qxf3 c6 11. Qg3 0–0.

10. Na5 Bd5!

An important move. He must be provoked into c4, which will weaken his d4 square and his dark squares later.

11. c4 Bxf3 12. Qxf3 c6! 13. Nxb7 Qb6 14. Nc5 Nxc5 15. dxc5 Bxc5

Jack said after the game he felt Black was already a shade better due to the weak d4 square and the dark-square control. I felt the position was dynamically balanced. White has the Bishop pair and a Queenside pawn majority.

16. Rb1 a5 17. a3!

White must react vigorously or else Black will establish a central bind on the dark squares.

17. ... Bd4?!

Chickening out. My intuition said play 17. ... a4! 18. b4! axb3 19. Rxb3 Qc7 *(19. ... Qxb3?? 20. Bxh7+)* 20. Bb2 *(20. Bg5 Nd7 is about equal)* 20. ... e5! *(not 20. ... Be7? 21. Bxf6! Bxf6 22. Bxh7+! Kxh7 23. Qh5+ Kg8 24. Rh3 Bh4 25. Rxh4)* 21. Qg3 Rfe8 22. Re1 Bd6, and Black's grip on the dark squares compensates him for any attacking chances White has here 23. c5? Bxc5 24. Bxe5 Bxf2+! 25. Kxf2 Rxe5! with a clear advantage.

18. b4 axb4 19. axb4 Rfd8?!

Yet again I went against my intuition which said Black can withstand the attack after 19. ... c5! 20. bxc5 Qxc5 21. Rb5 Qc7 22. Rg5 Rfd8 23. Bf4 Qe7, and the dark-square bind compensates White's attacking chances.

20. c5! Qc7 21. Bf4! Qd7

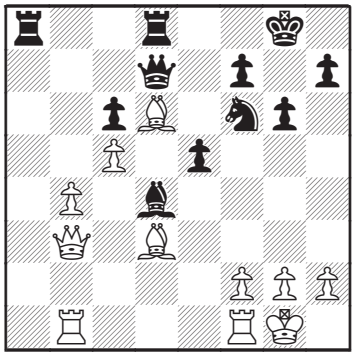
Now White entrenches his Bishop to d6. I had planned 21. ... Be5? but realized it loses after 22. Bxe5 Qxe5 23. Qxc6 Ng4 24. g3 Qh5 25. Qg2 Ra2 26. c6.

22. Bd6 e5! 23. Bf5 Qe8

23. ... Qb7?? 24. b5 wins.

24. Qb3 g6 25. Bd3 Qd7

Threatening ... Ne8.



26. b5 Bxc5??

A hallucination. 26. ... cxb5 27. Bxb5 Qf5 28. Bc6 Ra6! holds for Black. For example: 29. Bb7 *(29. Qb7? Ra2 favors Black; 29. Be7 Rxc6 30. Bxd8 Ne4 31. Qf3 Bxc5 leads to equality)* 29. ... Raxd6 30. cxd6 Rxd6 is equal.

27. Bxc5 Qxd3 28. Be7!+-

It's all over. The only reason I played on was Jack's clock.

28. ... Qf5 29. Bxd8 Rxd8 30. bxc6 Rc8 31. Rfc1 Kg7 32. h3 Rc7 33. Qc4 Ne4 34. Qc2 Kf6

I looked at the desperado 34. ... Rxc6 but White easily brushes off the threats of perpet with 35. Qxc6 Qxf2+ 36. Kh1 Ng3+ 37. Kh2 Qf4 38. Qf3 Nf1+ 39. Kg1.

35. Rb7 Rc8 36. c7 Ke7 37. Rd1 Nd6 38. Qc5 1–0

October 12
2008 Westwood Fall Open
5-SS, G/40. Los Angeles Chess Club, 11514 Santa Monica Blvd, LA, CA 90025, 2nd floor (4 blocks West of 405 Fwy).
$$1500 b/50, 80% of each prize guaranteed.
In two sections:
Open: $400-200-50, U2200 125, U2000 125.
Reserve (U1800) $$200-125, U1600 $100, Under 1400/unrated $100, U1200 $75.
EF: $47 if received by 10/11, $55 at site.
Reg: 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds**: 10-11:30-1:30-3:15-4:45.
Ent: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Place #1, Los Angeles, CA 90038.
On-line entry: www.westernchess.com.
GP: 10. State Championship Qualifier.

Letters

Sponsors deserve to be recognized. The story on the Candidates tournament (July/August) might well have expressed thanks to Chess Palace for their provision of a site and all-around hospitality, and to Kele Perkins for his donation of a beautiful wooden board to winner Chris Tanaka.

– Randy Hough,
Tournament Director

Solutions to Tactics by Hanks

(see page 14)

Problem no. 1: c. White is winning. Actually White forces checkmate in 3 beginning with 1. Qh3. Other moves are less effective. This is a classic example of "when you see a good move to wait and look for a better one." If you played 1. Qxf7 then Black responds with 1. … b5 and the game will go on for many more moves and is probably a draw since Black can set up a pretty effective blockade.

Problem no. 2: b. White is better. The stunning first move sets up a "milling motif" tactical combination giving White a large advantage. The main lines goes **1. Rc7! Qxh5 2. Re7+ Kf8 3. Rxb7+ Ke8 4. Re7+ Kf8 5. Rxh7+ Ke8 6. Rxh5** with a large advantage for White.

Problem no. 3: c. White wins. The main line is **1. c8=Q+ Ka7 2. Qc7+ Ka8 3. Bg2+ Be4 3. Qh7!** (a nice skewer-pin) and will win easily – thus **1-0.**

Problem no. 4: c. Black is better. The main line goes **1. … Rc1!** (Ouch. Did you consider this move?) **2. Kxc1** (Another try is 2. f3 h2 3. Nf2 Rf1 winning for Black as well) **2. … h2** and Black emerges with a large material advantage, thus **0-1.**

2008-2009 State Championship

Seeded into the Championship are 2008 co-champions Enrico Sevillano and Alexandre Kretchetov, two players selected on the basis of rating, and four from the 2009 Candidates Tournament.

June 28-29	My Kingdom For A Horse	Enrico Sevillano Joshua Gutman
July 4-6	Pacific Southwest Open	Tim Taylor Gregg Small
July 17-20	Pacific Coast Open	Melikset Khachiyan Joel Banawa John Daniel Bryant Eugene Yanayt
July 27	Westwood Summer Open	Andranik Matikozyan
August 9-10	San Diego County Open	Peter Graves Craig Faber Bruce Baker Romeo Ignacio Michael Yee
August 16-24	State Championship	Jack Peters Cyrus Lakdawala Julian Landaw Christian Tanaka Danyul Lawrence

Upcoming

Aug. 30-Sept. 1	Southern California Open	Pasadena
September 13	San Luis Obispo Cty Open	San Luis Obispo
October 12	Westwood Fall Open	West LA
Oct. 31-Nov. 2	Los Angeles Open	LAX
November 27-30	American Open	LAX
December 13-14	Joseph Ileto Memorial	Monterey Park

Each event qualifies two players (highest scoring Southern California residents not previously qualified) except that 1) In the event of a tie, all tied players will advance; 2) A score of 60% is required to qualify; 3) The SCCF Amateur, SCCF High School and any one-day event will each have *one* qualifying spot; and 4) All one-day tournaments shall require a 75% score and only *one* player shall qualify on tiebreak.

Upcoming Events

September 13

San Luis Obispo County Championship. 4-SS, G/60. Upper Room, Church of the Nazarene, 3396 Johnson Ave., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. 90% of Entries returned as prizes. **In two sections: Open: EF:** $35 in advance, $45 at site. **Reserve** (U1400/Unrated): **EF**: $25 in advance, $30 at site. **Both**: $5 discount to SCCF or S.L.O.CC members. One ½ pt. bye okay any round if requested with entry. **Reg**: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Rds**: 10:00, 12:15, 2:45, 5:00 **Ent**: San Luis Obispo Chess Club, 234 Via La Paz, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. **Inf**: Barbara McCaleb, 805-544-0717, bmccaleb@calpoly.edu. **State Championship Qualifier**.

September 20

Chess Union Fall Octos. 3-SS, G/75. Colton Community Center 670 Colton Ave. Colton, CA 92324. Top section plays a Quad. $$70 1st each section. **EF**: $30 **Reg**: 9:30-10:00 a.m. **Rds**: 10:15-1:30-4:10. **Ent**: on-site or online at TheChessUnion.com. No checks or credit card entries at door. No time delay allowed. **Info**: Call (951) 990-7990. NC.

October 5

LACC October Scholastic. 5-SS, G/30, K-12 11514 Santa Monica Blvd - Second Floor - 4 blocks West of 405 Fwy - LA, CA 90025. Free Parking on the streets; or in the building basement ($3) Format: USCF-Rated (may join at site - $19/yr). **Reg**: 1:30-2:00 p.m. **Round Times**: 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00. **EF**: $25 ($20 LACC memb; $2 off for SCCF members - Free for new LACC Junior members, $100/yr). **Prizes**: Trophies, Medals, Special Prizes! Everybody receives a prize! Info: Mick Bighamian: Cell (310) 795-5710; Mick@LaChessClub.com.

October 12

2008 Westwood Fall Open. 5-SS, G/40. Los Angeles Chess Club, 11514 Santa Monica Blvd, LA, CA 90025, 2nd floor (4 blocks West of 405 Fwy). $$1500 b/50, 80% of each prize guaranteed. **In two sections: Open**: $400-200-50, U2200 125, U2000 125. **Reserve** (U1800) $$200-125, U1600 $100, Under 1400/unrated $100, U1200 $75. **EF**: $47 if received by 10/11, $55 at site. SCCF memb. ($18, under 18 $10) req. for rated S. CA residents. No checks or credit cards at site. Half point byes: limit 1, must be req. w/entry. **Reg**: 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds**: 10-11:30-1:30-3:15-4:45. 2 Free Parking lots on the SW corner of Santa Monica & Purdue, or in the building basement ($3). **Inf**: admin@westernchess.com. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Place #1, Los Angeles, CA 90038. **On-line entry**: www.westernchess.com. **GP: 10. State Championship Qualifier.**

October 19

Chess Union Octo-Action. 5-SS, G/30. Colton Community Center 670 Colton Ave. Colton, CA 92324. 8-player sections by rating. $$60 1st each section. **EF**: $15. Reg: 12:00-12:15 a.m. **Rds**: 12:20-1:20-3-4-5:15. **Ent**: on-site or online at TheChessUnion.com. No checks or credit card entries at door. No time delay allowed. Info: Call (951) 990-7990. NC.

October 31-November 2

Los Angeles Open. 5-SS, 3-day 40/2, SD/1, 2-day rds. 1-2 G/60 then merges. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. $$8000 b/200, 50% of each prize guaranteed. **In 2 sections: Open**, $$1600-800-400-300-200, U2200 $600-300-150. **Amateur** (U2000/Unr), $$600-300-150, U1800 500-250-150, U1600 500-250-150, U1400 400-200, U1200 100, Unr. 100. Unr. may win Unrated prize only. **Reg**: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Fri., 9-10 a.m. Sat. **Rds**: 3-day 7 p.m., 10:30-5, 10-4:30. 2-day: 10:30-1 (G/60), then merges. **EF**: $69 if rec'd by 10-31, $79 at site. **All**: $25 Best Game prize, all sections eligible. One halfpoint bye if requested with entry, rds 4-5 cannot be revoked. SCCF membership req. of S. Cal. res., $18 reg, $10 jrr. **HR**: $109, (310) 410-4000. Be sure to mention Western Chess. **Parking** $8/day. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038, on line at www.westernchess.com. **Inf**: admin@westernchess.com. NS, W, F. WCL JGP. **GP: 30. State Championship Qualifier.**

November 2

LAO Halloween Scholastics. 5-SS, G/30. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Open to gr. 12-below. **In two sections: Open**: Trophies to top 5, top 3 U1200, top 2 Unrated. **Reserve** (Grade 6/below U1000): Trophies to top 5, top 3 U700, top 2 Unrated. **All**: Trophy to best costume each section. Refreshments. **Reg**.: 8:30-9:15. **Rds**.: 9:30-11-12:15-1:45-3. EF: $16 if received by 10-31, $20 door. Inf: John Hillery, admin@westernchess.com. On-line ent: www.westernchess.com. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038.

November 2

LAO Hexes. 3-SS, G/90. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Six-player sections

by rating. **EF**: $20 if received by 10-31, $25 door. $$ 40-20-10 each section. **Reg**.: 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Rds**.: 10:45-2-5. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038, online at www.westernchess.com.

November 27 – 30

44th Annual American Open. 8SS, 40/2, SD/1. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. $$36,000 b/o 400 entries, 50% of each prize gtd. **In 6 sections** (Unr. must play in Unr. or Open). **Open**: $3600-1800-800-600-500-400, U2450/Unr. $800-400, U2300/Unr. $600-300. **U2200, U2000, U1800**: Each $3000-1500-700-300. **U1600:** $2400-1200-500-300. **U1400/Unr**: $2000-1000-500, U1200 $900-450 (not a separate section; U1200s also eligible for U1400 prizes), Unrated: $300-150 (Unrateds in this section eligible for these prizes only). Special prizes $1400 in memory of Joyce Jillson: Best tactical games 200-100, best positional games 200-100, best tactical game non-Master 200, biggest rating gain by woman 400, biggest rating gain under age 13 200 (established ratings over 1000). **EF**: Open, U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400 $120 if rec'd by 11/25, $50 more for players rated under 2000 playing in Open, Unrated $40. **All**: $30 more at door. SCCF membership req'd, $18, $10 jrs under 19 includes Rank & File magazine, OSA. No checks at door – cash, credit card or money order only. **4-day schedule: Reg**. closes noon 11/27, **Rds**. 12:30-7:30, 12:30-7:30, 10:30-5, 10-4:30. **3-day schedule: Reg**. closes 11:30 a.m. 11/28, **Rds**. 12-2:30-5-8 (G/1), schedules merge in Rd 5 and compete for common prizes. Byes (2 max) with advance notice. CCA minimum ratings and TD discretion used to protect you from improperly rated players. November Rating Supplement used. Lectures and videos. **HR**: $99, (310) 337-2800, mention chess. **Parking** $6. **Info**: Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, randallhough@yahoo.com. **Ent**: American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754 or www.americanopen.org. NS, W, F. WCL JGP. **GP: 80. State Championship Qualifier.**

November 29

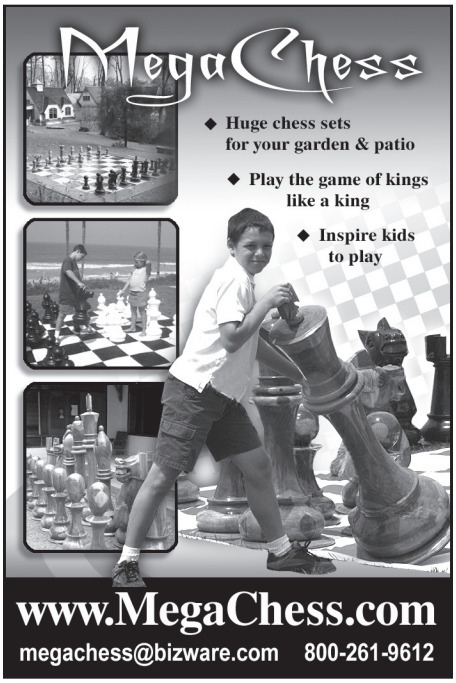
American Open Scholastic. 5-SS, G/45. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Open to HS/below. **In 4 sections K-12**: trophies top 5, 2 each grades 9-12, 1 each K-8. **K-8:** trophies top 5, 2 each K-8. **K-6:** trophies top 5, 2 each K-6. **K-3:** trophies top 4, 2 each K-3. **EF**: $16 received by 11/25, $20 at door. **Reg**: 9-9:45. **Rounds**: 10-11:30-1-3-4:30. **Ent**: www.americanopen.org or American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **Info**: Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, randallhough@yahoo.com.

November 29

American Open Quick Chess Championship. 5-SS (double round), G/10. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. $1000: $250-150; U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, Unr. each $100 (Unrated eligible only for Open and Unr. prize). **EF**: $30 received by 11/25, $35 at site. **Reg** closes 8 pm. **Rounds**: 8:15-9-9:45-10:30-11:15. Double bye (1 pt) available for round 1. **Ent**: www.americanopen.org or American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **Info**: Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, randallhough@yahoo.com. **GP: 6**

November 30

American Open Action. 5-SS, G/30. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. **EF**: $20 received by 11/25; $25 at door. 80% of entry fees returned in prizes **Reg**: 11-11:45 a.m. **Rounds**: 12-1:15-3-4:15-5:30. **Ent**: www.americanopen.org or American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **Info**: Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, randallhough@yahoo.com.



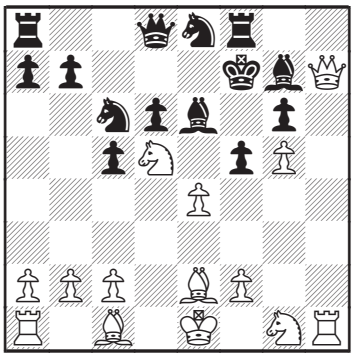
Solutions to Chess Quiz

(see page 24)

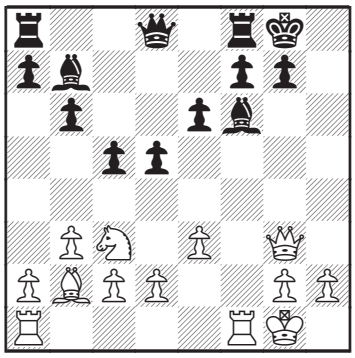
Liu Wenzhe – Jan Hein Donner, Buenos Aires 1978: Though it appears Black's King is well-defended, his position collapses immediately after **1. Qxg6+ Kxg6 2. Bh5+ Kh7 3. Bf7+ Bh6 4. g6+ Kg7 5. Bxh6+ 1–0**

Mildenhall – Ardin, Coventry, 1978: White starts by eliminating the only good defender with **1. Rxf6 Qxf6** (Black can hold out a bit longer with 1. … d4, but his position is hopeless after 2. Raf1 dxc3 3. Bxc3 Be4 4. Rh6 Bg6 5. Qh3) **2. Nxd5 Qh6** (and not 2. … Qxb2 3. Ne7+ Kh7 4. Qh4#) **3. Bxg7! Qg6** (instead, 3. … Qxg7 4. Nf6+ leads to mate) **4. Ne7+ Kxg7 5. Nxg6**, and White is winning on material.

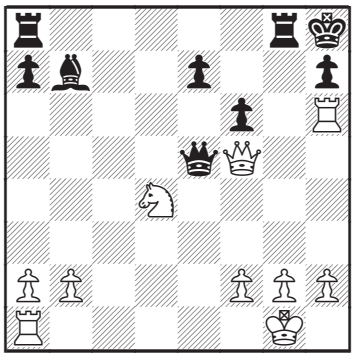
Titov – Kovalev, Tashkent, 1978: Black wins with a *line-clearance* motif – **1. ... Rxg2+ 2. Kf1 Rg1+! 3. Kxg1 Rg8+ 4. Kf1 Ba6+**, and mate soon follows.



Liu Wenzhe – Donner
Olympiad, Buenos Aires 1978
White to move



Mildenhall – Ardin
Coventry, 1978
White to move



Titov – Kovalev
Tashkent, 1978
Black to move

Solutions on page 23

SCCF
PO Box 205
Monterey Park CA 91754