

Steady!

THE WORLD under-18 championship which has just finished in France was won by the Israeli player N. Grinberg with 7½/9. Despite sharing the lead for a long time, I failed to capitalise on some good chances in the final rounds and was just edged out of the title spot, only managing to score seven points. Four players shared third place with 6/9 — I. Rogers (Australia), G. Kasparov (USSR), M. Petursson (Iceland) and A. Groszpetter (Hungary).

A noticeable difference from ordinary events was the fact that each player was accompanied by a second. A second is an experienced player whose main job is to help with analysis of any adjourned games. However, for such an important tournament it was essential to prepare openings in advance and I was greatly assisted in this by my second, the English theoretician Leslie Blackstock whose advice on openings was invaluable.

Grinberg played steady chess throughout, taking few chances. Here, however, is a game definitely not typical of his style!

WORLD CADET, 1976

SICILIAN

N. Grinberg (Israel) M. Petursson (Iceland)

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

A line popularised by Fischer around 1960.

- 6. . . . e6
- 7. g4 Nc6
- 8. g5 Nd7
- 9. Be3 Be7!?

An unclear position was reached in Donoso — Najdorf, Argentina 1971 after 9 . . . Qc7. 10. Qd2 b5. 11. O-O-O Bb7.

- 10. h4 Nx d4?!

Allowing the white queen a dominating position.

- 11. Qxd4 Ne5
- 12. Be2 O-O
- 13. O-O-O b5
- 14. R(d)g1

Eyeing the black monarch!

- 14. . . . Qa5
- 15. Kb1 Bd7
- 16. f4 Nc6

16 . . . Nc4 is a more aggressive possibility.

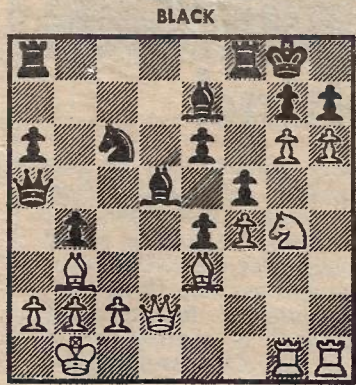
- 17. Qd2 b4
- 18. Nd1 Na7
- 19. Bc4 Bc6
- 20. Nf2 d5!

Black observes the well known maxim that a counter in the centre is the best antidote to a flank attack.

- 21. Bb3 dxe4?

21 . . . R(f)d8 (threatening d4) must be played. It has the additional advantage that Bf8 is playable as a defensive measure. Grinberg now conducts the attack in fine style.

- 22. h5 Bd5
- 23. g6! Nc6
- 24. Ng4 f5
- 25. h6! . . .



WHITE

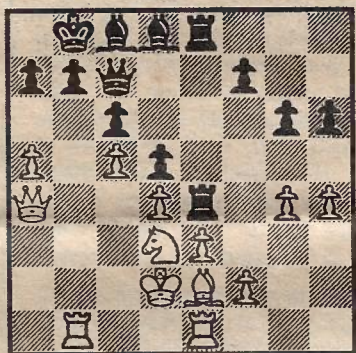
A pretty position in the assault — black's king side is still intact and the white pawns are on the sixth rank.

- 25. . . . h×g6
- Or 25 . . . f×g4. 26. Qh2 where all lines win.
- 26. Qh2 f×g4
- 27. h×g7 K×g7
- 28. Q×h7 ch Kf6
- 29. R×g4 Rg8
- 30. Rh6 Resigns

Ian Rogers, the Australian, played some imaginative combinations. He impressed me in the second round with a really nice double-rook sacrifice — the point being one was sacrificed on b6 and the other on h1!

BLACK

Chia (Singapore)



WHITE

Rogers (Australia)

- 1. Rb6!! B×g4
- 2. B×g4 R×g4
- 3. R(e)b1! a×b6
- 4. a×b6 Qh2
- 5. Rh1! . . .

To lure the queen off the crucial black diagonal.

- 5. . . . Q×h1
- 6. Qa7 ch Kc8
- 7. Qa8 ch Kd7
- 8. Q×b7 ch Ke6
- 9. Q×c6 ch Kf5
- 10. Q×e8 Rg1
- 11. Qd7 ch Ke4
- 12. b7 Rd1 ch
- 13. Kc2 R×d3?

In time trouble, Chia stumbles into a mate in one but his position is lost anyway.

- 14. Qg4 mate.

Solution to last week's problem:

(3K4 / kp6 / p7 / 1P6 / 16 / 7P / 8)

- 1. b6 ch (a) Kb8!
- 2. h4 a5
- 3. h5 a4
- 4. h6 a3
- 5. h7 a2
- 6. h8=Q a1=Q
- 7. Qg8! (b) Qa2
- 8. Qe8 Qa4
- 9. Qe5 ch ka8
- 10. Qh8 and mates.

(a) 1. b×a6? b5!
(b) Not 7, Q×a1? Stalemate if immediately 7, Qe8 then 7 . . . Qg7 draws.

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