

Chess

Reminiscent of Fischer

THIS YEAR'S Surrey week-end congress featured many familiar names on the circuit in England — Max Fuller the Australian; Nigel Povah, co-winner of Malta 77; Michael Franklin, winner of Ilford; International Master John Nunn; and 1976 Cutty Sark winner Dave Rumens, to name but a few. However, as Surrey is only a five round event, competition was especially fierce, and the knowledge that draws, let alone losses, were to be

avoided like the plague, served only to increase the sense of panic. After four rounds only myself and IM John Nunn were left on maximum points and naturally our last round game was a tension-filled affair. But after a violent opening skirmish I could find nothing better than to force perpetual check, allowing D. Rumens, A. Law and C. Crouch to catch us both.

Of the five of us on 4½/5 John Nunn was the most

convincing player, winning his games with a style that reminds one of Fischer — piece attacks springing from nowhere and excellent tactical skills. In round four he chose an interesting way of taking the offensive.

London 1977 KINGS GAMBIT

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| J. Kinlay | J. Nunn |
| 1. e4 | e5 |
| 2. f4 | e×f4 |
| 3. Nf3 | d5 |
| 4. e×d5 | Nf6 |

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| 5. Bb5 ch | c6 |
| 6. d×c6 | N×c6!? |
| 7. d4 | Bd6 |
| 8. 0-0 | |

Also possible here is 8, Qe2 ch Be6 9, Ng5! 0-0 with an unclear but dangerous position for White.

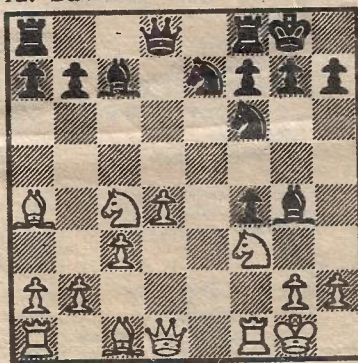
- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 8. . . . | 0-0 |
| 9. Nbd2 | Bg4 |
| 10. c3 | |

Theory gives 10, Nc4 Bc7 11, B×c6 b×c6 12, Qd3 Qd5 with an unclear position. Nunn has cleverly chosen a variation that suits his style well. Both sides have the chance to either go wrong or exploit the potential of their positions.

- | | |
|-----------|-----|
| 10. . . . | Bc7 |
| 11. Nc4 | Ne7 |

Threatening to fork two of White's pieces with 12. . . . a6 13, Ba4 b5.

12. Ba4



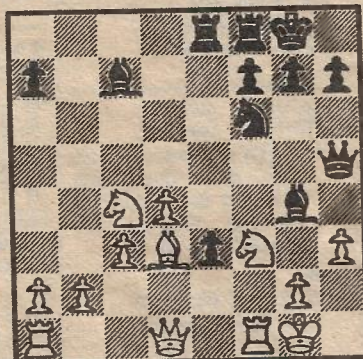
12. . . . b5!?

Nunn finds a very interesting attacking idea that allows his pieces to zoom on to their most effective squares at the cost of a pawn. Nunn confessed during the game that he had played 12. . . . b5 on impulse — 'Well it must be good, mustn't it?' he reasoned. 'Oh well, something is bound to turn up!' Kinlay's next two moves are forced.

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 13. B×b5 | Qd5 |
| 14. Na3 | Qh5 |
| 15. Bd3 | Ned5 |
| 16. Nc4 | Rae8 |

Now that everything is on its best square it's time for a combination.

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 17. h3 | Ne3 |
| 18. B×e3 | f×e3 |



19. h×g4?

There are three possible alternatives to this move. 19, Nce5 allows the promising exchange sac 19. . . . B×f3 20, Q×f3 R×e5! 21, d×e5 Q×e5 22, g3 Nh5. 19, Qe1 fails to 19. . . . B×h3 20, g×h3 e2! 21, B×e2 Re4! and White has no reasonable

defence. But the third possibility 19, Qe2, which Kinlay instantly rejected on the grounds of 19. . . . Bg3 may not be so bad. For example, 19, Qe2! Bg3 20, Nce5 Bf2 ch 21, R×f2! e×f2 ch 22, Q×f2 and with two pawns for the exchange and a knight outpost on e5 White may even be winning!

- | | |
|-----------|-------|
| 19. . . . | N×g4 |
| 20. Nce5 | R×e5! |
| 21. d×e5 | e2! |

The killer.

- | | |
|----------|--------|
| 22. B×e2 | Bb6 ch |
| 23. Qd4 | |

Of course the knight cannot interpose on d4 as it is tied down to protecting h2.

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 23. . . . | Qh6 |
| 24. Rae1 | Rd8 |
| 25. Bc4 | R×d4! |
| 26. Resigns | |

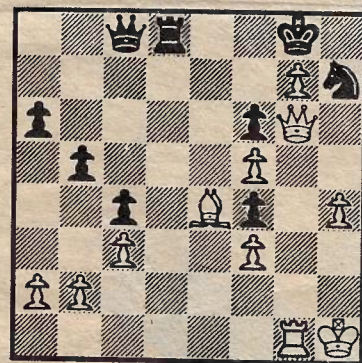
A nice demonstration near the end of blacksquare control.

PROBLEM

Fisher-Benko, USA Champs, 1965-66.

What immediate crush does Fischer find, using the same theme as in the above game except this time on the light squares.

BENKO



FISCHER

SOLUTION: Fischer proved the diagonal for his bishop to be more valuable than even his queen and played 1. Qe8 ch!! whereupon Black resigned, for on 1. . . . R×e8 2. Bd5 ch Re6 3. f×e6 he loses everything.

MURRAY CHANDLER

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION

The algebraic notation in this chess column is that used almost exclusively in Europe and in many other countries elsewhere. Each square has one designation only. The horizontal ranks are labelled a to h from White's left. In each vertical file the squares are labelled 1 to 8 from White's end. Normal symbols are used, except that pawns as such are not mentioned; just the arrival square is given for a non-capturing pawn move. The en passant move (P x P ep in the descriptive notation) merely states the file and arrival square of the capturing pawn.

Some examples: P-Q4 (White's move)] d4; P-K4 (Black's move)] e5; N-KB3 (White's move)] Nf3; N-QB3 (Black's move)] Nc6.