

Chess

Sweeping the field

DAVID BEACH scored a massive 10½/11 in the premier reserve of the New Zealand Congress to win by a two point margin. By winning this event Beach qualifies for next year's championship field — the type of competition needed to test our promising young players. He

gave us a brief example of class plan in round 5 to share joint first at that stage.

SICILIAN
Wellington 1977-78

D. Beach	C. Marshall
1. e4	c5
2. Nf3	Nc6
3. d4	cxd4
4. Nx d4	Nf6

5. Nc3	e5
<i>Pelicans, pelicans, pelicans. Everybody's playing Pelicans! Beach tries a lesser known path with White than the normal 5.Ndb5.</i>	
6. Nb3	Bb4
7. Bc4	d6
8. 0-0	Be6
9. Qd3	Bxc3

10. bxc3	d5?
<i>Black must castle immediately with 10...0-0. Eg. 11.Bxe6 fxe6 12.Rd1 d5! Now his King has an unhappy life in the centre.</i>	
11. exd5	Bxd5
12. Ba3	
	<i>Ugh!</i>
12. ...	Bxc4

13. Qxc4	Qd5
14. Qa4	Nd7
15. Rad1	Qe6
16. Rd6	Qf5
<i>Now the fun starts</i>	
17. Nd4!	



MARSHALL

BEACH

17. ... Qe4
If 17... exd4 18.Rel ch wins, eg... Nce5 19.Rxe5 ch!
 18. Qb5 Ncb8
It's still hands off, this time because of the loose b-pawn. However, one tends to avoid moves like Ncb8 if at all possible.
 19. Rd5!
Finally forcing the capture.
 19. ... exd4
 20. Qxb7 Nb6
 21. Rxd4! Qe6
The White queen is immune as well it seems, as after 21... Qxb7. 22. Rel ch Kf8 23.Rd8 is checkmate.
 22. Rfd1 Nc6
 23. Rd6 Qc8
 24. Rel ch Resigns

* * *
 White to play
 Wellington 1978



CHANDLER/LAIRD

Solution: 1. Bxf7 ch! winning a decisive pawn, as 1... Kxf7 fails to 2. Rxd7 ch! Qxd7 3. Nxe5 ch winning the queen. This position occurred during Craig's and my "Chess-o-thon" in Cuba Mall, Wellington, in which we played over 340 games against the public to raise funds for overseas competition. We both claim credit for the combination — he set it up and I played it.

* * *
 In my November 19 column I wrote a theoretical article on the rise and fall of 9... Nb6!? Since then it seems to have risen again with some new analysis which seems to

make the whole tactic okay again. In the crucial 10, Be3 line (after 1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Nf3 Bg4 7. cxd5 Nx d5 8. Qb3 Bxf3 9. gxf3 Nb6! 10 Be3!) Keene in the *British Chess Magazine* suggests Black can improve on Sisniega — Grospeter, World Junior Austria 77, with 10... e6 11. 0-0-0 Be7! (Grospeter played 11... Rc8? to which Sisniega replied 12 Kbl!) 12. d5 exd5 13. Bxb6 axb6 14. Nx d5

when now, Keene says, Black can castle. Viz, 14... 0-0! 15 Nf6 ch Bxf6 16. Rxd8 Rfxd8 with an unclear position due to White's exposed king, or 15. Nxb6 Nd4! again pressuring the White king.
 So, the old 9... Nb6 won't just lie down and die, but before long I am sure another attempt to stamp RIP on its headstone will be made.

MURRAY CHANDLER