

# Long-range attack

I FIRST met the young Swedish player Dan Cramling at the World Cadet (under-18) Championships in Wattignes, France. Our individual game was played in the last round, when I was looking for the full point, but after a rather erratic Petroff's opening we eventually agreed to split 1/2-1/2. He played with a steady if somewhat unambitious style and throughout the tournament had been difficult to beat.

Some months later I was

invited by the Islington club in London to compete on top board in a match they had arranged against a visiting Swedish youth group. When I turned up at the playing hall, who should I find lined up against me but Cramling. I won this game, but only after a violent time scramble, and neither he nor I was happy with the outcome.

In Austria, at the World Junior Championships, we had another crack at each other. I managed to pull

myself out of my slumbers during the middle of the tournament and scored a conclusive victory in a pleasing manner.

World Junior,  
Insbruck 1977.

## SICILIAN DEFENCE

M. Chandler (New Zealand)      D. Cramling (Sweden)

1. e4

*As White against me in London Cramling had shown a preference for the English opening, but we dispensed with any subtlety after 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 e4!? 4.Ng5 b5!? With his liking for quiet*

systems I expected another Petroff, but no, he wants a fight!

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| 1. ...  | c5   |
| 2. Nf3  | Nc6  |
| 3. d4   | cxd4 |
| 4. Nxd4 | Nf6  |
| 5. Nc3  | e5   |
| 6. Ndb5 | d6   |
| 7. Nd5  |      |

This line against the Pelikan was fashionable in England at the time (see last week's column), and as I play the opening for both sides I decide to explore.

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| 7. ...  | Nxd5 |
| 8. exd5 | Nb8  |

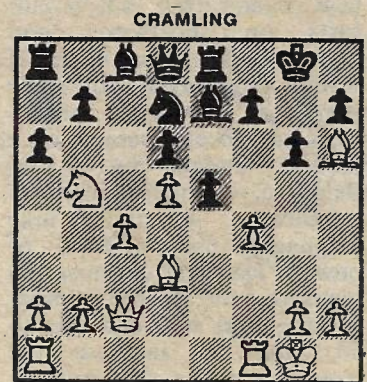
Although avoiding the continuation 8...Ne7 9.c4 Nf5 10.Bd3 a6? 11.Qa4 as in Mestel-Fedorowicz last week, this move is a little passive.

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| 9. c4   | Be7   |
| 10. Bd3 | 0-0   |
| 11. 0-0 | Nd7?! |

Theory gives 11...a6! 12.Nc3 Nd7. After the text Black must play with great care.

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| 12. Qc2 | g6  |
| 13. Bh6 | Re8 |
| 14. f4! | a6? |

It was imperative to defend with 14...f5! 15.fxe5 Nxe5! Now I could swing my sacrificial idea into action.



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| 15. f5!! | axb5 |
| 16. fxg6 |      |

In return for his sacrificed knight White has open lines leading straight to the Black king.

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| 16. ... | f6 |
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Or (a) 16...hxg6 17.Rxf7! Kxf7 18.Bxg6ch Kg8 19.Bf7ch! Kh8 20.Bg7ch!! followed by 21.Qg6ch mating; or (b) 16...fxg6 17.Bxg6! Nf6 18.Bxh7ch! Kh8 19.Qg6 Rg8 20.Bxg8 Qxg8 21.Rxf6! with a decisive material advantage.

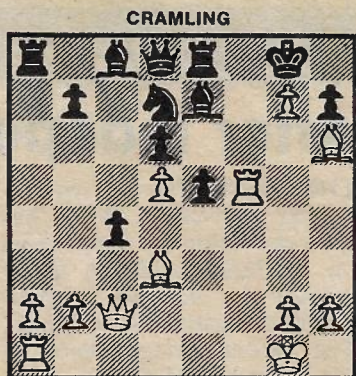
It is interesting to note the potential the attack has with the use of long-range pieces. By now I was getting warmed up and I decided to keep the fine diagonal of my white-squared bishop open rather than go collecting pawns.

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| 17. g7 | f5 |
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Necessary because of the threat of 18.Bxh7ch Kf7 19.Qg6 mate. Now if I played 18.Bxf5 Cramling would have 18...Nf6 swapping off the bishop. So...

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| 18. Rxf5 | bxg4?! |
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18...Bf6, keeping the defensive possibilities of...e4, is a superior method of trying to stave off mate. I might have replied 18.Be4 anyway, but as it is White can cement the position with no loss of tempo.



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| 19. Be4  | Bf6 |
| 20. Rg5! |     |

Now that...e4 is not possible this move can be played immediately.

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| 20. ...  | Kf7 |
| 21. Bxh7 | Rg8 |
| 22. Qf5! | Ra7 |

Played with an air of resignation. If Cramling had attempted to hold out by 22...Nc5, I had a queen sacrifice planned: 23.Bg6ch Ke7 24.Qx16ch! Kxf6 25.Rf1ch Ke7 26.Rf7ch Ke8 27.Rc7dis.ch and mate. 23. Qe6 checkmate

MURRAY CHANDLER