Three-legged race

ONLY THREE LEGS — in the Philippines, Indonesia and Australia — took place on the second Asian Grandmasters Circuit in 1979. This drop-off from the first circuit in 1978, when New Zealand was among the six countries participating, may be partly blamed on 1979 being Interzonal year, with a large number of Grandmasters being tied up in these important world Championship elimination events.

The circuit should pick up again this year, and the tremendous boost Burroughs Computers have given of a \$25,000 three-year sponsorship of major national tournaments here in New Zealand will spur organisers to put us on the international map

Queensland worked hard for Australia to make its debut on the circuit last year, and was well rewarded. Ian Rogers, 19, made an International Master result, coming in third behind GMs Anatoly Lein (USA) on 7½/10 and Raymond Keene (England) on 6½ points. Shortly afterwards Rogers made a second IM norm when he tied for first place with Keene in the Sydney International.

English Grandmaster Keene gave an instructive lecture involving his game with Australian Max Fuller, the notes of which I have condensed here.

KING'S INDIAN DEFENCE

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R. KEENE	M. FULLER
1. d4	Nf6
2. c4	q6
3. Nc3	Bq7
4. e4	dő
5. Be2	0-0
6. Nf3	Bq4

A comparatively unusual variation, but one with which Max did win a nice game against Belgian GM Alberic O'Kelly de Galway in Malta, published in this column. One of Black's ideas isto put pressure on the d4 square, using the moves ...Nc6, ...e5 and ...Nfd7 or ...Ne8. The disadvantage is that he is virtually obliged to exchange his light-squared bishop, and Keene's whole strategy is designed to take advantage of this.

7.	Be3	Nfd7
8.	h3	B×f3
9.	B×f3	Nc6

With the idea of 10. . . e5 11.d5 Nd4.

10. Ne2 e5 11. d5 Ne7

Now Fuller's plan is to play on the kingside with . . .f5, and possibly . .f4. However, the problem is that then White's light-squared bishop can travel via g4 to the dominating e6 square. If White can prise open the h-file first this check will be catastrophic for Black, hence Keene's next move.

12.	h41	f5
13.	h5	14
14.	Bd2	Nf6

14. .g5 may be better, although White gets his hishop to e6 immediately with 15.Bg4. Keene stressed during the lecture that combinations will come naturally, provided the correct strategic approach is followed. Here White tries to open the kingside to gain space for his king's bishop.

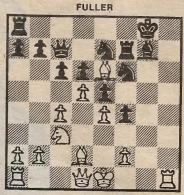
15. h×g6 h×g6 16. g3!

Now Black has to allow White to exchange, or to swap pawns himself. Either way, he no longer has a steamroller of pawns with ...g5 and ...g4 on the kingside.

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16.		g5
17.	g×f4	gxf
18.	Nc3	Qd7
19.	Ba2!	Sleven.

So the bishop will emerge via h

3	o the bish	op will emerge via	h3.
20.	Bh3 Be6 ch	c6 Qc7 Rf7	
		FULLER	



KEENE

22. Qf3 b5

In desperation Max attempts to burst open the position.

23. c×b5 c×d

24. e×d5 Re8 25. Qg2 ...

White is in no hurry to exchange off his tremendous bishop on e6 for a rook. Now the threat is Rg1.

25. . . . Nc8 26. Ne4 N×e4 27. Q×e4 Qb7 28. Qg6

The positional approach begins to reap rewards in a combinational sense—Black must prevent 29.B×f7 ch Q×f7 30.Rh8 ch! K×h8 31.Q×f7 winning the Queen.

28. . . . R×e6
29. Qh7 ch Kf8
30. d×e6 Rf6
31. 0-0-0 Ne7
32. Rdg1 Nf5
33. Qh8 chl

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KEENE

Sacrificing the Queen, since 33...B×h8 34.R×h8 ch Ke7 35.Rh7 ch followed by 36.R×b7 and White emerges a rook up.

38.... Resigns

38.... Resigns

A magnificent positional game.

MURRAY CHANDLER