

Democratic titles

THE MARSHALL International Tournament in New York (February 10-19) represented a new type of Elo-rated event that gives even club level players a chance to gain norms for the prestigious International Master and Grandmaster titles.

In this 40-player event, as many IMs and GMs as possible

were invited to play and given reasonable appearance fees. The players without titles, or even Elo ratings, paid a substantial entry fee of between \$90 and \$150 for the privilege of doing battle with the masters — and the possibility of title norms for themselves if an outstanding result was scored.

Formerly the opportunities for playing in highly rated tournaments were reserved solely for players of international renown, or those who caught the attention of tournament organisers. But the arrival of these big Swiss-System events has enabled many more promising players to break into the international scene.

Popular New York organiser Bill Goichberg successfully arranged this latest international, and I was amazed by the general strength of the participants. Three GMs and seven IMs including myself accepted invitations to play with the cream of America's up and coming. Even including the several unrated players at the bottom, the average rating of the field was over 2350.

An extreme example of the vital need for this sort of event is the case of one of my opponents, John Watson, who in 1977 paid a massive \$2000 to get into a select all-play-all Grandmaster tourney. For this one, if he had been still unrated, he would have paid \$150.

The winner of the 1979 Marshall International, young American IM Michael Rhode, probably goes down in history as the first person to make Fide's brand new and incredibly high GM norm. He scored 8/10 against an individual field including GMs Shamkovich (USA), Ostojic (Yugoslavia) and Biyasis (Canada).

Four people gained IM norms, and a rather silly total of 12 collected Fide master norms for an over-2350 result. The Fide master title (rated theoretically I suppose between national master and international master) was instituted by the chiefs of Fide (the world chess federation) at the same time as the new GM norm — perhaps to pacify the 99 per cent of chess players who objected to the raising of the Grandmaster title.

I finished 11th equal on 5½/10, and even this relatively low score was a 2400 performance rating because of the high ratings of the field I played.

Larry Kaufman of America qualified for his IM norm with a round and a half to spare, when, although needing only a draw, he crushed Grandmaster Peter Biyasis.

- 12.Ng3 Bf6
- 13.h4!7
- 13. . . . Bxh4
- 14.Qh2 Bxg3 ch
- 15.Qxg3 f6
- 16.0-0-0 Rf7
- 17.Rd2

Here Kaufman and IM Bernard Zukerman felt that White had enough play for his pawn. Biyasis at first was of the opinion that "the pawn sac is ridiculous" but he later changed his mind!

- 17. . . . b5
- 18.Rdh2 Qa5
- 19.Kb1 b4
- 20.Nd1 Nc5?

Lulled by White's passive knight retreat, Biyasis switches to the attack. But in doing so he loses the defensive resource of . . . Nf8.

- 21.Bd2!

Clearing the square e3 and also threatening 22.a3.

- 21. . . . Qb6
- 22.Ne3 a5

Possibly 22. . . Rg7 with the idea of 23.g5 f5.

- 23.g5! Ba6
- 24.gx!6 Nx!6
- 25.Nf5

Threatening 26.Qxg6 ch! thus forcing Black's next move

- 25. . . . Kf8



- 26.Rxh7! Nxh7

The alternative defence 26. . . Rxh7 is met, as in the game, by 27.Qxg6.

- 27.Qxg6 Bx!1

Defending with 27. . . Raa7 or 27. . . Qc7 fails to 28.Bh6 ch Ke8 29.Nxd6 ch winning in both cases.

- 28.Bh6 ch

This wins the queen, but in fact 29.Rxh7! wins even more quickly — 28. . . Bd3 ch 29.Ka1 Rxh7 30. Bh6 ch! (30.Qxh7?? Nb3 ch and 31. . . Qg1 ch wins for Black) Rxh6 31.Qg7 ch Ke8 32.Qe7 checkmate.

- 28. . . . Ke8
- 29.Nxd6 ch Qxd6
- 30.Qxd6 Bd3 ch
- 31.Ka1 Nd7

Theoretically Biyasis has enough material for his queen, but his king is too exposed for survival.

- 32.Qe6 ch Re7
- 33.Qg6 ch Rf7
- 34.Bg7 Resigns

Biyasis actually picked up his queen's knight to play 34. . . Nd8, but then 35.Qc6 ch wins a rook.

MURRAY CHANDLER

KINGS INDIAN DEFENCE

L. Kaufman (USA)	P. Biyasis (Canada)
1.d4	Nf6
2.c4	g6
3.Nc3	Bg7
4.e4	d6
5.f3	0-0
6.Be3	e5
7.Nge2	c6
8.Qd2	Nbd7
9.d5	cxd5
10.cxd5	a6
11.g4	Ne8!?

The best defence is 11. . . h5!