

# Bunnies and barracudas

CHess TERMINOLOGY is peculiar anywhere, but in America they have their own spectacular brand of slang for describing good and bad players.

As in New Zealand, an opponent may be dubbed a patzer or woodpusher. But whereas at home the most rhetorical method of stating

someone's utter inability to even move the pieces is to call him a "rabbit" or, God forbid, a "bunny", the ever inventive Americans have branched out into "fish".

The local club, or "aquarium", abounds in various species of the undersea world. "Sharks" lurk for possible prey while to call someone a

"barracuda", "flounder" or even "minnow" speaks for itself.

There were few fishes in the 1979 Philadelphia International held just after the World Open. It was another of those title norm opportunity events.

Rumanian GM Florin Gheorghiu dispatched GM norm candidate after GM norm candidate on his way to first prize of \$1000.

I succumbed to Gheorghiu in round eight when well in with a chance at first. Even a

loss to Peters after that still left me with a 2505 performance rating for the tourney, one of my best ever international results. But still the elusive GM norm is just out of reach...

Results: F. Gheorghiu (Rumania) 8/10; J. Peters (USA) 7½; P. Benko (USA), R. Gruchacz (USA) 7; H. Agantysson (Iceland), R. Balinas (Philippines), M. Chandler (NZ), M. Diesen (USA), L. D. Evans (USA), S. Oden Dahl (USA), M. Wilder (USA) 6½.

GRUNFELD DEFENCE

L. KAUFMAN (USA)	M. CHANDLER (NZ)
1. d4	Nf6
2. c4	g6
3. Nc3	d5
4. Nf3	Bg7
5. Bg5	Ne4
6. cxd5	Nxg5
7. Nxg5	e6
8. Nf3	exd5
9. e3	c6

Against Browne I castled and countered his queenside minority attack with ...a6, ...c6 and ...b6, eventually gaining a draw. Studying the variation afterwards, the following strange idea occurred to me.

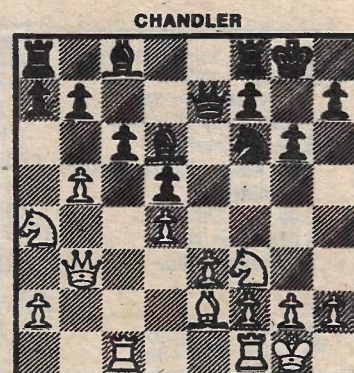
10. b4 Bf8?

Kaufman looked incredulous and started rubbing his eyes when I played this move! When several spectators exhibited similar reactions I was moved to tell him that it was worth playing just for the response.

But Black's idea has a point. The bishop will be well placed on d6 with a position not dissimilar to those occurring in some variations of the Queen's Gambit. Also, by playing 10...Bf8 immediately (rather than 10...0-0 and a later ...Re8 and ...Bf8 as is sometimes played) Black reserves the option on the development of his king's rook.

11. Qb3	Bd6
12. Be2	0-0
13. 0-0	Nd7
14. b5	Nf6
15. Rac1	Qe7
16. Na4	

White is aiming for 16...Bd7 17.Nc5 with a large advantage. But Black foils this with a sacrificial offer strikingly similar to one in the game Tal-Geller, USSR championship 1978.



CHANDLER	KAUFMAN
16. ...	Ne4!
17. bxc6	bxc6
18. Rxc6	

Anything else allows 18...Bd7 with a fine game for Black. But is the sacrifice sound?

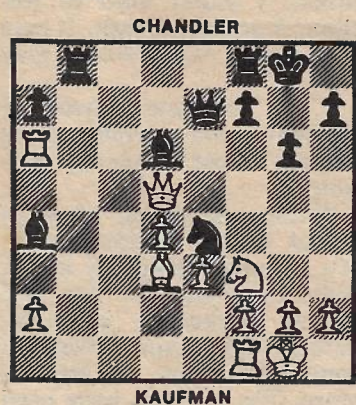
18. ...	Bd7
19. Ra6!	

Instead 19.Rccl meets 19...Rab8 20.Qd1 Ba3 while if 19.Qxd5 Bxc6 20.Qxc6 Rab8 Black's control of the open files outweighs his theoretical material disadvantage of rook against piece and two pawns.

19. ...	Rab8
20. Qxd5	

If 20.Qd1 Black wins with 20...Rb4! 21.Nc5 (21.Rxa7 Bxa4) Bxc5 22.dxc5 Nc3 followed by 23...Nxe2 ch and 24...Bb5.

20. ... Bxa4  
21. Bd3!



On 21.Rxa4 comes 21...Nc3, but now, with every minor piece attacked, it is not immediately apparent how Black can do better than 21...Rfd8 22.Qxe4 Qxe4 23.Bxe4 Bb5 24.Rxa7 Bxf1 25.Kxf1 and White wins with three pawns for the exchange. However...

21. ...	Nxf2!!
22. Rxf2	Qxe3
23. Qe4	

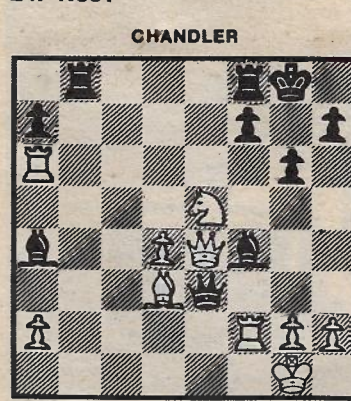
Of course 23.Qxd6 Qxd3 24.Rxa4 allows 24...Rb1 ch forcing checkmate. Meanwhile

though, my two bishops are still under attack so a queen swap is impossible.

23. ... Bf4!

With the idea of 24.Qxe3 Bxe3 25.Rxa4 Rb2 winning a whole rook back and remaining the exchange up. However there is a miraculous draw hidden here for Kaufman by means of 24.Rxa4 Rb2 25.Nd2!! when 25...Rxd2 26.Qxf4 Qxf4 27.Rxf4 Rxd3 28.Rxa7 f5 planning 29...Rd8 is equal. Perhaps this is the ultimate assessment of my 16...Ne4!

24. Ne5?



Overlooking the draw, Kaufman falls into a neat rook decoy sacrifice.

24. ...	Rb1 ch!
25. Bxb1	Qc1 ch
26. Rf1	Be3 ch

Winning the queen and more besides...

27. Qxe3	Qxe3 ch
28. Kh1	Bb5
29. Raf6	Bxf1
30. Rxf1	Qxd4
31. Resigns.	

MURRAY CHANDLER