

International year of the child prodigies

TWO YOUNG prodigies chose 1979, the International Year of the Child, to launch themselves into the starry heights of international chess.

First, the USSR's Garri Kasparov, following up his half-marks score in the top section of the Soviet championships, celebrated his 15th birthday with a phenomenal win at Banja Luka, Yugoslavia, ahead of many top Grandmasters.

As this performance was possibly the greatest achievement ever by a 15-year-old it seemed unlikely that anyone would upstage it. But, at an age where several of his fellow English juniors have started to drift, 14-year-old Nigel Short promptly shifted into warp one to take first equal place in

the British championships, gaining an International Master norm.

And last Christmas at the Hastings Congress in England, Short qualified for his second and final norm — thus becoming the youngest International Master ever.

Unlike the temperamental American Bobby Fischer, who broke all records by becoming a Grandmaster at 15, Short is a remarkably stable and normal boy. Even down to the punk rock cassettes he takes on his overseas trips! But just how far this new wave of talent will go, we can only wait and see.

That Short and Kasparov are not without contemporaries can be shown from the following game from the

Buenos Aires "Clarín" tournament.

Young Marcel Tempone beat Short in a tie-break for the world under-17 championships last year. Here he clinches a sensational piece of adjudgment analysis against former world champion Tigran Petrosian.



T. PETROSIAN (USSR)

M. TEMPONE (Argentina)

Play continued:

53. Ra5 b3?

Relinquishing the seventh rank — it was imperative to play 53...Rb7. Now Tigran the Tiger gets his stripes knocked off by a herd of passed pawns.

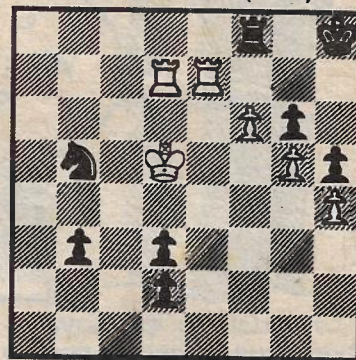
54. Ra7 ch Kf8
55. f6 g6

On 55...b2 White continues 56.Rf7 ch Kg8 57.Rxg7 ch Kh8 58.Rf1 b1=Q 59.Rxb1 Rxb1 60.g6 etc.

56. Kd5 Nb5
57. Rh7 Kg8

58. Rg7 ch Kh8
59. Re1 Bf8
60. Rd7 c3
61. e7 cxd2
62. e×f8=Q ch Rxf8
63. Ree7 Resigns

T. PETROSIAN (USSR)



M. TEMPONE (Argentina)

Before this game Tempone had a solitary half-point from seven rounds!

MURRAY CHANDLER

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION

The algebraic notation in this chess column is that used almost exclusively in Europe and in many countries elsewhere. Each square has one designation only. The vertical files are labelled a to h from White's left. In horizontal rank the squares are labelled 1 to 8 from White's end. Normal symbols are used, except that pawns as such are not mentioned; just the arrival square is given for a non-capturing pawn move.

BURROUGHS COMPUTERS NZ CHAMPIONSHIPS 1979/80

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1. E. Green	-	1	½	½	1	1	0	1	1	½	½	1	8
2. O. Sarapu	0	-	½	½	1	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	8
3. V. Small	½	½	-	½	½	1	1	1	1	½	1	½	8
4. R. Nokes	½	½	½	-	1	1	1	0	0	1	½	1	7
5. N. Metge	0	0	½	0	-	1	1	½	0	1	1	1	6
6. L. Aptekar	0	½	0	0	0	-	½	1	½	1	1	1	5½
7. R. Smith	1	½	0	0	0	½	-	½	1	½	0	1	5
8. P. Stuart	0	0	0	1	½	0	½	-	½	½	½	1	4½
9. P. Weir	0	0	0	1	1	½	0	½	-	½	½	½	4½
10. D. Beach	½	0	½	0	0	0	½	½	½	-	½	1	4
11. A. Carpinter	½	0	0	½	0	0	1	½	½	½	-	½	4
12. M. Evans	0	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	-	-	1½