

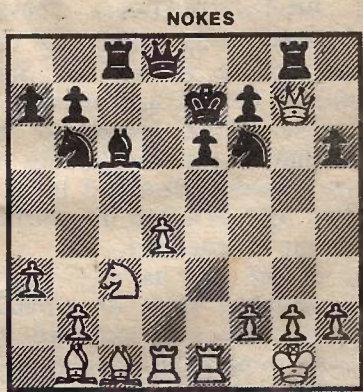
Kiwis on the wing

THE NUMBER of New Zealand chess players trying their hand on the European scene is on the increase. The most recent arrivals, following in the wake of former New Zealand champion Craig Laird who has been here a year now, are current New Zealand title-holder Roger Nokes and former championship players Mark Evans and Peter Hensman.

Although Laird has based himself in Strasbourg, London still remains the most popular starting point thanks to the frequency and geographical compactness of the English weekend tournaments. This circuit of Swiss-system events is even more gruelling now than when I first came over to pay my dues in 1975, with many local and foreign masters utilising it to keep in training between major internationals.

One such event in Bristol recently attracted a large and strong entry, which did not stop New Zealand taking a good share of the prize money. I came first equal with English Grandmaster Tony Miles, while Roger Nokes took third equal place with, among others, English GM John Nunn.

Roger is touring the circuit with his wife, also a keen player, and is gaining valuable experience with every contest. During Bristol he got his wish voiced earlier that same day — his first encounter with a Grandmaster.



- | | |
|--------------|---------|
| 25. Rxe6 ch! | Kxe6 |
| 26. Re1 ch | Be4 |
| 27. Qxh6 | Rxg2 ch |
| 28. Kf1 | Qg8 |
| 29. Rxe4 ch | Resigns |

Roger took the defeat in good heart, and in fact won all of his other games to take his share of third place. Antipodean honour was also further restored the following day:

CARO KANN DEFENCE

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| J. NUNN | M. CHANDLER |
| 1. e4 | c6 |
| 2. c4 | d5 |
| 3. cxd5 | cxd5 |
| 4. exd5 | Nf6 |
| 5. Nc3 | Nxd5 |
| 6. Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 7. d4 | Bg4 |
| 8. Qb3 | Bxf3 |
| 9. gx f3 | Nb6!? |

A dynamic alternative to the old line of 9...e6 10.Qxb7 Nx d4 11.Bb5 ch Nx b5 12.Qc6 ch Ke7 13.Qxb5 with the slightly better game for white.

10. Be3!

Safer than 10.d5 Nd4 11.Qd1 e5. Black can hardly take the pawn with 10...Nx d4 11.Bxd4 Qxd4 12.Bb5 ch.

- | | |
|-----------|-------|
| 10. ... | e6! |
| 11. 0-0-0 | Be7 |
| 12. Rg1?! | 0-0 |
| 13. d5 | Nxd5 |
| 14. Nx d5 | ex d5 |
| 15. Rx d5 | Qc7 |

Nunn was basing his opening on a game he had seen in Helsinki this year between Rantanen and Matulovic. It had gone here 15...Qc8 16.Qc3 f6? 17.Bh6 Rf7 18.Bc4 Kf8 19.Rxg7 Rxg7 20.Rg5 with a winning position for White. However Black had missed 16...Bf6! and if 17.Qxf6 Nd4 discovered check winning, which also works after my move.

Both John and I saw this in time, and he was forced to make another, more passive, response.

- | | |
|---------|-------|
| 16. Kb1 | Qxh2! |
| 17. Rg2 | Qh1 |
| 18. Rd1 | Rad8 |
| 19. Rc1 | Bf6 |
| 20. Bc5 | Rd2! |

It becomes apparent that Black's attack is the dangerous one. Not, however, 20...Rfe8 because of the devilish 21.Qxf7 ch! (21...Kxf7 22.Bc4 ch wins).

- | | |
|-------------|--------|
| 21. Ba3 | Qh5 |
| 22. Bc4 | Qf5 ch |
| 23. Ka1 | Nd4 |
| 24. Resigns | |

Because 24.Qb4 Nc2 ch 25.Rxc2 Rd1 ch leads to mate.

MURRAY CHANDLER

QUEEN'S GAMBIT

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| A. J. MILES | R. NOKES |
| 1. d4 | Nf6 |
| 2. c4 | e6 |
| 3. Nf3 | c5 |
| 4. e3 | cxd4 |
| 5. exd4 | d5 |
| 6. Nc3 | Be7 |
| 7. cxd5 | Nxd5 |
| 8. Bd3 | 0-0 |
| 9. 0-0 | Nc6 |
| 10. Re1 | Bf6 |
| 11. Be4 | Nb6?! |

Here the knight is too far from king-side defence, though the normal 11...Nce7 also took a knock recently in the game Karpov-Timman from Moscow (see the Listener of June 20).

12. Qd3 h6?!

12...g6 was called for. White now prepares the thematic realignment of his queen and white-squared bishop.

- | | |
|----------|--------|
| 13. Be3 | Re8 |
| 14. Rad1 | Bd7 |
| 15. Qe2 | Qb8 |
| 16. Bb1! | Nb4 |
| 17. a3 | N(4)d5 |
| 18. Qd3 | |

The queen now forcibly penetrates to h7 (18...g6 is no longer possible because of 19.Bxh6).

- | | |
|-----------|------|
| 18. ... | Bc6 |
| 19. Ne5 | Qd8 |
| 20. Bc1 | Rc8 |
| 21. Ng4 | Kf8 |
| 22. Qh7 | Ke7 |
| 23. Nx f6 | Nxf6 |
| 24. Qxg7 | Rg8 |

Nokes appears to have drummed up counterplay, but a rook sacrifice by Miles splits open the Black king position.