

# The next great Dane

MURRAY CHANDLER

**D**ANISH JUNIOR Curt Hansen, recently turned 20, is shaping up as the greatest Scandinavian talent since Bent Larsen. His record over the past 18 months includes second in the 1982-83 European junior championship, first prize (and a grandmaster norm) at Esbjerg, and this year a remarkable pair of 2-0 mini-match victories over East German grandmaster Knaak and the mighty Larsen himself. Hansen's latest achievement is winning the title of world junior champion in Kiljava, Finland. In spite of a couple of notable absentees (Short of England and Murshed from Bangladesh), the field in Kiljava was no walkover, and included last year's winner Kiril Georgiev of Bulgaria and Soviets Aleksei Dreev and Lembit Oll. The USSR had two places because of Dreev's automatic qualification as world under-17 (cadet) champion.

Final leading scores from Finland were: 1. Hansen 10½/13 points; 2. Dreev 10; 3-4. Georgiev (Bulgaria) and Thorsteins (Iceland) 9; 5. Oll 8½; 6-9. Hickl (West Germany), Rehels (Israel), Saeed (UAE) and Stohl (Czechoslovakia) 8. Alas, upon perusing the results of the 54-player competition in the weekly Swiss/German magazine *Die Schachwoche*, this diligent columnist can find no mention of New Zealand representation. I find this particularly sad, as I cannot believe that, with the right financial backing, not one of our top juniors was available to make the trip. Did anyone even try to organise anything, beyond the usual two or three letters telling a hard-up student he is eligible to pay a \$2000 airfare? I imagine not. New Zealand's geographical situation always makes things difficult, but the world junior championship is one prestigious event we should not miss.

Another prestigious event where we will definitely be represented, however, is the biennial Chess Olympiad this November in Thessaloniki, Greece. The New Zealand men's squad, in board order, is Vernon Small (Christchurch), Ortvin Sarapu (Auckland), Robert Smith (Waitemata), Mark Levene (Auckland) and David Gologly (Auckland). The women's team is Fenella Foster (Wainuiomata), Winsome Stretch (Auckland), Vivian Burdred (Waitemata) and Lynn Carline-Powell (Auckland). One consolation for the men's team, if they arrive to find themselves paired against the Soviet Union in round one (as happened in Lucerne), is that both Anatoly Karpov and Garri Kasparov could be absent. As I write these two great players are slugging out their world championship contest in Moscow.

An attractive attacking effort from a medium-sized Dane in the world junior championship:

QUEEN'S GAMBIT

C. HANSEN	K. GEORGIEV
1. d4	Nf6
2. Nf3	e6
3. c4	c5
4. Nc3	d5
5. cxd5	Nxd5
6. e3	Nc6
7. Bc4	cxd4
8. exd4	Be7
9. 0-0	0-0
10. Re1	Nxc3
11. bxc3	b6

- 12. Bd3 Bb7
- 13. h4!?

*A pawn offer which Black ignores. After 13...Bxh4 14.Nxh4 Qxh4 15.Re3 White threatens Rh3 with a very strong attack.*

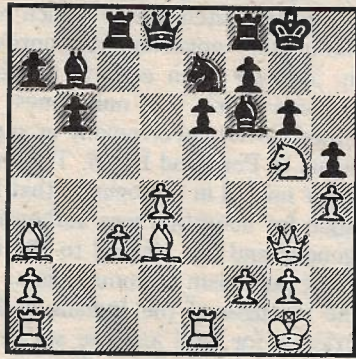
- 13. ... Bf6
- 14. Ng5 g6
- 15. Qg4 h5

*To prevent h5 by White.*

- 16. Qg3 Ne7
- 17. Ba3! Rc8?

*It was essential to reinforce the e6 square with 17...Qd7. Now Hansen crashes through with a powerful knight-for-two-pawns sacrifice.*

GEORGIEV



HANSEN

- 18. Nxe6! fxe6
- 19. Rxe6 Rc7

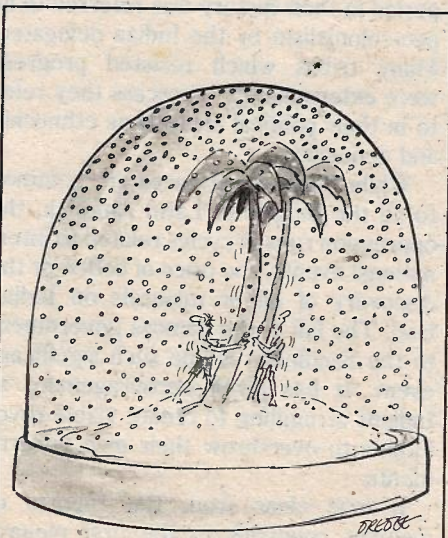
*On 19...Rf7 White plays 20.Bxe7 Bxe7 21.Rxg6 ch mating. Another defensive try is 19...Qc7 (trying to swap queens) 20.Bd6 Qxc3, when the simplest win is just 21.Rae1 with overwhelming threats.*

- 20. Rae1 Rf7
- 21. Bxg6 Rd7

*Or 21...Rg7 22.Rxf6 with two extra pawns and the attack still rages.*

- 22. Bxf7 ch Kxf7
- 23. Rxf6 ch! Kxf6
- 24. Qe5 ch Kf7
- 25. Qe6 ch Kf8
- 26. Qf6 ch Resigns

*After 26...Ke8 the quickest mate is 27.Qg6 ch Kf8 28.Re6! with 29.Rf6 to follow.*



*"Bloody hell, what next? First a bleedin' earthquake and now a snowstorm!"*