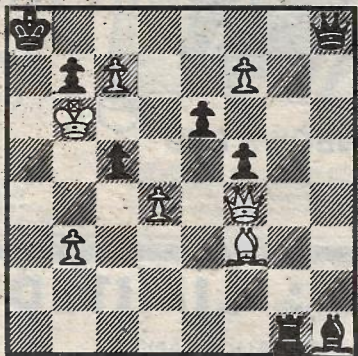


The answer

by Murray Chandler



White to play and mate in two moves.

THE KEY MOVE solution to the Lloyds Bank British problem-solving puzzle (above), given in this column back in April, was 1. Qh2.

Of the 226 *Listener* solutions received by the organisers, only 20 were incorrect. This makes us considerably smarter than the *Irish Sunday Press* (17 wrong from 83 entries), but marginally inferior to the London *Guardian*. A crushing victory, however, to the *Scunthorpe Evening Telegraph*, whose one reply was 100 percent correct. All *Listener* readers who submitted the right answer will now be contacted directly for the second, more difficult, postal phase of the competition. As the cunning Lloyds Bank PR department are also offering prizes to the columnists whose readers do best, I can sincerely wish you the very best of luck.

On to less frivolous matters. All 16 participants in the World Championship Candidates tournament in Montpellier this month are now known. Here they are, along with their current international Elo ratings (for the uninitiated, an Elo of 2550 is already strong grandmaster level; anyone over 2600 is world championship level): Belyavsky (USSR) 2640, Timman (Holland) 2640, Korchnoi (Switzerland) 2630, Portisch (Hungary) 2625, Vaganian (USSR) 2625, Ribli (Hungary) 2605, Yusopov (USSR) 2600, Smyslov (USSR) 2595, Spassky (France) 2590, Short (England) 2575, Seirawan (USA) 2570, Tal (USSR) 2565, Chernin (USSR) 2560, Noguieras (2555), Sokolov (USSR) 2555, Spraggett (Canada) 2550. Nigel Short, 20, became the youngest qualifier by winning on tie-break after a play-off with van der Wiel (Holland) and Torre (Philippines).

Short's qualification can be partially attributed to many years' support from various British organisations, ever since his exceptional talent was first spotted. It is this sort of support — funds to attend Soviet tournaments; specially organised games against grandmasters — that we so urgently need to work on here in New Zealand. A good example is the Wellington youngster Jonathan Sarfati, now North Island champion, who has yet to participate in a single international master tournament. At the North Island Championships in Havelock North, Sarfati finished on 7/8, a point clear of Ortvin Sarapu, Peter Green, Alan Johnston and Michael Hopewell. In August Sarfati also won the South Island championship tournament.

Auckland's Paul Spiller, who has been involved in several international events here in the past, tells me he is still hopeful of finding a sponsor for a grandmaster tournament next year. Such an event would be a fabulous publicity boost — it is seven years since New Zealand's best clashed with top foreign GMs.

This week's game features an impressive attacking victory by Sarfati in the North

Island Championship, against no less a figure than Ortvin Sarapu, international master and many times national champion.

RUY LOPEZ

O SARAPU	J SARFATI
1. e4	e5
2. Nf3	Nc6
3. Bb5	a6
4. Ba4	Nf6
5. Nc3	b5
6. Bb3	d6
7. Ng5?	

Sarapu's fifth move was unusual, but this (admittedly tempting) move proves highly dangerous.

7. ... d5!

The standard counter in such positions: Black is prepared to invest a pawn to show that White's knight sally is too time-consuming. Now if 8. Nxd5 Nd4! is good, intending 9. Nxf6ch Qxf6 10. Bxf7ch Ke7 11. d3 h6 12. h4 hxg5 13. Bxg5 Qxg5! 14. hxg5 Rxh1ch and Black wins.

8. exd5	Nd4
9. d6	Nxb3
10. dxc7	Qxc7
11. axb3	Bb7
12. 0-0	h6
13. Nf3	e4
14. Re1	

After Sarfati's reply White's knight has to move anyway, so better defensive chances were offered by 14. Ne1.

14. ...	0-0-0
15. Nh4	Bd6
16. h3	Bc5!
17. Nf5	h5

Black could regain his sacrificed pawn with 17. ... Bxf2ch 18. Kxf2 Qf4ch 19. Kg1 Qxf5, but the direct attack is even stronger.

18. Ne3	g5
19. Qe2	g4
20. h4	g3
21. Ncd1	

If 21. fxc3 Ng4 threatening 22. ... Qxg3.

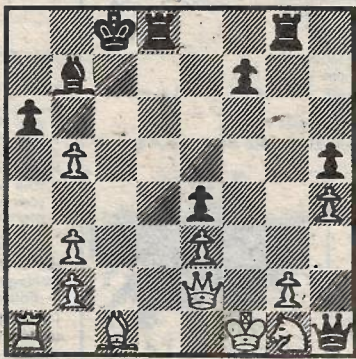
21. ...	gxf2ch
22. Nxf2	Rhg8
23. Rf1	Ba7!

As David Beach points out in the Wellington Evening Post this redeployment of the bishop along the b8-h2 diagonal is decisive.

24. Nh3	Nd5
25. c4	Bb8
26. Rf2	Qh2ch
27. Kf1	Qh1ch
28. Ng1	Nf4

28. ... Bh2 is even simpler.

29. Rxf4	Bxf4
30. cxb5	Bxe3
31. dxe3	



31. ...	Rd1ch
32. Qxd1	Qxg2ch
33. Ke1	Qxg1ch
34. Kd2	Rd8ch
35. Resigns	