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Gary Kasparov achieves record rating

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COPY DEADLINE

The deadline for the June issue is

Saturday, May 30.

Copy should include details of coming events for this year.

HOME PAGE ON WORLD WIDE WEB

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STOP PRESS

Otago Easter

Tony Love and David Guthrie each scored 5/6 (2 draws each) to win the Otago Easter, ahead of John Sutherland and Derek Partridge on 4.

NZ Women's Championship

Howick-Pakuranga CC have set up arrangements for the NZ Women's Championship at Queen's Birthday weekend, and as Teresa and Rosaleen Sheehan are likely entrants, the event could see the first across-the-board meeting between the Ong and Sheehan sisters.

World Cities Championship

NZCF has received advice from Ignateous Leong about the inaugural World Cities teams chess championship, to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from July 7 to July 14. It will be followed by the Gundarna International Open to be played July 15-23. Further information is available from NZCF.

World Championship

FIDE has announced that the World Championship knockout series to be inaugurated at the end of this year will be jointly hosted by Holland and Kalmykia. The Dutch interests have become involved because of the timing of the event in conjunction with the historic Groningen International tournament and the Hoogovens tournament in Wijk Aan Zee. The preliminary rounds and quarter-finals will be played in Holland and semi-finals and final in Elista, Kalmykia.

COVER: Gary Kasparov gained 25 rating points between January and March (see page 24 for his Groningen victory) to reach a record FIDE rating of 2820 - a massive 58 points ahead of his nearest rival, Vladimir Kramnik.

The premium advertising space opposite is available at \$20.00 per issue.

New Zealand Chess

Vol 23 Number 2 April 1997

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 - 13 Tim Hare came from nowhere to win the Major Open at Congress, and gives some insights into his thinking with analysis of one of his most interesting wins.
 - 17 Without the top players, Civic's Easter tournament did not produce master games, but they were full of interest, as Mike Schwass's review discloses.
 - 18 The latest ratings of currently active the top women and girls are listed.
 - 19 Overseas visitors for the Fencible Masters added extra glamour to Howick-Pakuranga's perennially popular Latvian Gambit tournament.
 - 19 Upper Hutt honours Bernie Newman and Waitemata remembers John Van Pelt.
 - 20 Our selection of New Zealand news includes changes in officeholders in several clubs.
 - 21 Most clubs have reported their 1997 open tournament plans, and we give the schedule.
 - 22 At 14 years and 2 months, Etienne Bacrot has become the youngest ever GM, as NM Peter Stuart reports.
 - 23 David Guthrie and Russell Metge head the lists of top-rated juniors.
 - 24 Peter Stuart's overseas news review runs to 6 pages, because there have been a number of significant tournaments, and many interesting games.
 - 30 NZCF Council news includes advance notice of a headquarters move to Auckland.
- Coming in June:** The rest of the Fencible Masters games, including more annotation by GM Sermek, IM Ben Martin reports on Australia's Doerbel Cup tournament, reports on the Otago Easter, Waitemata Trust Open and NZ Women's Championship, and a catch-up report on junior tournaments and games.

1997 New Zealand Women's Championship

Hosted by Howick-Pakuranga Chess Club at Queens Birthday weekend

6-round open Swiss, starts Friday night, May 30, last round Monday morning, June 2.

Entry fee \$40 (juniors \$25), entries to

Dr Tony Booth, 14 Nelson St, Howick Auckland.

Top organisation, keen competition, open to all women and girl players

Fencible Masters international tournament

About three years ago the Howick-Pakuranga Chess Club made a decision to host an international chess event to coincide with the 150-year celebrations that were to take place in 1997. Howick was established as an early settlement for troops arriving from England to protect Auckland, and settlers and their families were promised allotments of land. A re-enactment of the landing took place at Cockle Bay beach earlier this year.

The funding of this event was only made possible because of a general donation to the club a few years ago by patron Janis Borovkis and sponsorship by Spiller Enterprises Ltd.

Overseas players needed

Having had some previous experience in organising chess events such as this, I knew that the most difficult part was attracting the necessary overseas players. In a 10-round event it was necessary to have four overseas players from two different federations. Also, since three IMs were necessary for title purposes, this meant that two of these overseas players needed to be IMs or GMs. Of the four local IMs (R Dive, B Martin, O Sarapu and V Small), three were unavailable, but fortunately Vernon Small made a welcome return to competition chess at this tournament.

By Paul Spiller, tournament co-ordinator

After some approaches to overseas players, three Australians - IM Stephen Solomon, FM Eddy Levi and Tim Reilly - and Slovenian GM Drazen Sermek all accepted invitations to play. The only hiccup arose when Drazen Sermek ran into some difficulties obtaining a New Zealand visa. After a few hasty calls to the NZ Immigration Department in The Hague (Netherlands) the problem was resolved.

The New Zealanders who accepted invitations were New Zealand champion Alexei Kulashko, FM Paul Garbett, IM Vernon Small, FM Bob Smith, FM Ewen Green and Leonard McLaren. This meant the tournament met a FIDE category 4 requirement with an average rating of 2344, and untitled players could achieve an IM norm by scoring 6/9.

All the players duly arrived. Some came early, including GM Sermek because of problems with international flight connections, whilst Eddy Levi from Australian enjoyed a few days' relaxation at Harrah's casino.

The tournament began with a players' meeting following the last round of the 1997 Latvian Gambit tournament, when players drew lots that decided their colour allocation and pairings. This was followed by a complimentary buffet meal for players at the Waipuna Conference Centre.

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1	Solomon, S.	AUS m 2385	x	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8½
2	Sermek, D	SLO g 2575	0	x	1	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	7½
3	Garbett, P	NZL f 2300	0	0	x	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	5½
4	Small, V	NZL m 2330	0	½	½	x	1	½	1	½	0	½	4½
5	Smith R W	NZL f 2300	0	0	½	0	x	1	0	½	1	1	4
6	Relly, T	AUS 2335	0	0	½	½	0	x	½	1	½	1	4
7	Kulashko, A	NZL 2380	0	0	0	0	1	½	x	0	1	½	3
8	McLaren, L J	NZL 2275	0	0	0	½	½	0	1	X	½	½	3
9	Levi, E	AUS f 2265	0	0	0	1	0	½	0	½	x	1	3
10	Green, E	NZL f 2290	½	0	0	½	0	0	½	½	0	x	2

Pre-tournament favourite was Drazen Sermek, rated at 2575 and fresh from a 1= placing in the strong Open event in Cannes, France. He seemed untroubled in winning the Latvian tournament, and was 180 Elo points ahead of 2nd seed Stephen Solomon.

NZCF president Ted Frost officially opened the tournament on Monday morning at the Howick Bowling Club's superb function room. As part of the opening formalities, Bob Smith was awarded his FIDE Master badge and certificate and the first round duly got under way.

Two rounds on some days

Because of time constraints on the availability of the venue, 9 rounds had to be squeezed into 6 days. This meant the possibility of 12 hours' playing time on some days. However, the majority of games were finished within the first 4-hour playing session (time control, 40 in 2 + 60 minutes to finish).

Second seed Solomon set the pace by steamrolling through his opposition. GM Sermek kept up with him until round 6, when Sermek was held to a draw by IM Small. Solomon's excellent endgame play accounted for several opponents who had promising positions early. The Kulashko-Solomon game is particularly interesting.

The crucial encounter between the two top seeds took place in round 8. At this stage Solomon had scored 7 straight wins, while Sermek was on 6½. To win the tournament Sermek needed to score a full point, since it was likely that both players would win their last-round games. As can be seen from the annotated games, Sermek missed a win and then by trying to avoid a draw got an inferior position and was given no second chance by Solomon.

Perhaps the irony of the tournament was that Solomon, trying hard to make a perfect score, was held to a draw by Ewen Green in the last round. Ewen had come close to

beating Sermek earlier in the tournament, but had a poor result overall.

Of the other players, Paul Garbett was on target for his final IM norm, but realistically needed to beat either Bob Smith or Tim Reilly in rounds 7 or 8, since he had to face Sermek in the last round. However, both these games were drawn and Paul was given no chance in his encounter with the GM.

Vernon Small had a promising return to competition chess and demonstrated that he is still one of New Zealand's strongest players. Bob Smith started well with 2/3, but was on the wrong end of some hard-fought encounters in the middle rounds. Tim Reilly found some form later in the tournament, but could not reproduce the form that took him to 2nd in the recent Australian Championships.

Alexei Kulashko had a disappointing tournament. After only ½ from the first six games he showed great fighting spirit to score 2½ in the last three games. Leonard McLaren and Eddy Levi also finished on 3.

NZ needs more

In conclusion, the Fencible Masters was a most enjoyable event, both from an organisational and I believe the players' point of view. Congratulations to Stephen Solomon, who had a fantastic tournament, and to all the other competitors for making this such a successful event. NZ certainly needs more events of this calibre.

The Howick-Pakuranga Chess Club gratefully acknowledges the assistance provided by Bob Gibbons and Peter Stuart, who combined forces to direct this event and produce professional, round-by-round bulletins (usually within a few minutes of the end of each round).

- The Fencible Masters produced highly competitive, interesting games. All will be published in *NZ Chess*, including two games annotated by GM Sermek. - Editor.

Fencible Masters games

Tension throughout the Fencible Masters started in the first round, and our selection opens with the complex game between the eventual winner and the current NZ champion, with a combination of analysis and notes.

Kulashko, A – Sermek, D

Fencible Masters (1) [B30]

Notes by Alexei Kulashko and IM Ortvin Sarapu, extra notes by FM Anthony Ker

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5

We prepared this variation in advance. [The Sicilian is the most popular, and also the most heavily analysed opening of all time. By playing 3.♖b5 instead of the usual 3.d4 Kulashko avoids many of the more complex lines and keeps the game in familiar territory. – A Ker]

3...e6 4.0–0 Nge7 5.Nc3

Way back in 1974 against GM Kurajjaca I played 5.c3 etc. Alekei's 5.♗c3 is better.

5...Nd4

An alternative is 5...♗c7. [5...d5 6.exd5 exd5 7.d4 is good for White. Moving the ♖ twice in the opening is unusual. – Ker]

6.b4!?

An interesting idea, to sacrifice a ♖ to make use of White's advantage in development. [A ♖ gambit similar to the newly revived Evan's Gambit [1.e5 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.b4]. White offers a ♖ to weaken Black's control of d4. – A Ker]

6...a6 7.Be2 Nxe2+ 8.Nxe2 cxb4 9.Bb2

White's advantage in development is worth more than the ♖.

9...d5 10.Ng3 Nc6 11.Re1 d4

The GM has to close the centre, as after say 11...f6, ♖h4! gives White a strong attack.

12.e5 Be7 13.Re4 d3 14.cxd3 Qxd3 15.Ne1 Qd5 16.d3 b5

The alternative 16...0–0 is too dangerous, as White continues with 17.Nh5. Now on 17...f6 there follows 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Qg4+ Qg5 21.Nxf6+ Or on 17...g6 18.♗f6 ♗xf6 19.exf6 etc.

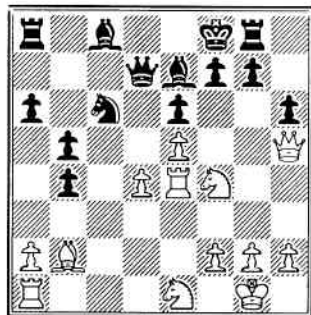
17.Nh5 Kf8

[17...0–0 is too dangerous. After 18.Qg4 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 White has a pincer grip on the dark squares. – Ker]

18.Qg4 Rg8 19.Nf4 Qd7 20.Qh5 h6

Perhaps a better defence was 20...♗h8, and not weakening the g6 square.

21.d4



[White's attack is proceeding strongly. He now threatens 22.d5 exd5 23.e6! – Ker]

21...Nd8 22.d5! Bb7

Black cannot play 22...exd5! 23.e6! fxe6 24.Ng6+ Ke8 25.Ne5+ g6 26.Nxg6 and White wins! The best defence after 23.e6! was 23...♗d6!

23.Rd1 Qe8

If instead 23...♗d5, then 24.♗e3± and Black has no good moves left. Unfortunately the sacrifice 24.♗xd5± does not give an attacking advantage. For example, 24...exd5 25.e6 ♗d6! 27.exf7 dxe4 and the Black ♗ escapes. Also if 26.♗e5 ♗c6 27.♗g6+ fxe6 28.♗f4 ♗f6 29.♗xg6 ♗xe6 and if now 30.♗xf6 ♗xe1#.

24.Qf3 g5

[Black had to prevent 26.♗g6, a smothered mate! – Ker]

25.d6 Bxd6

If 25...gxf4? 26.d7! wins the . Or 25...Qc6 26.dxe7+ Kxe7 27.Nd5+! exd5 28.Qf6+ Qxf6 29.exf6+ Kf8 30.Re7 etc.

26.exd6 gxf4

[If 26...Bxe4 White responds 27.Qh5 and Black has problems defending his ♖. – Ker]

27.Qh5 Rg6 28.Rxf4 Kg8

[White was threatening 30.♗xg6. – Ker]

29.Qe5?!

The right move here is 29.Rg4! with the threat of ♗xh6. After 29...Kh7 30.Rxg6 fxe6 31.Qe5 Qg8 32.Nf3 with advantage to White.

29...Kh7

[Now Black has to avoid 31.♗h8#. – Ker]

30.Rd3?

Here 30.d7 is stronger. With White now in time trouble Black defends his position and wins.

30...Nc6 31.Qh5 e5 32.Rh4 Qe6 33.d7 Rd8

34.Nf3 Rxd7 35.Rxd7 Qxd7 36.Ng5+ Kg7

37.Ne4 Qd5 38.Rg4 0–1

Garbett, P A – Green, E M

Fencible Masters (1) [B08]

1.d4 g6 2.e4 ♗g7 3.♗f3 d6 4.♗e2 ♗f6 5.♗c3

0–0 6.0–0 c5 7.dxc5 dxc5 8.♗e3 b6 9.e5 ♗g4

10.♗d5 ♗xd5 11.♗xd5 ♗c6 12.♗g5 ♗gxe5

13.♗xe5 ♗xe5 14.♗c7 ♗f5 15.♗xa8 ♗xa8

16.f4 ♗g4 17.c3 b5 18.♗xe7 b4 19.♗xc5

bxc3 20.bxc3 ♗xc3 21.♗ad1 ♗c8 22.♗xa7

♗a8 23.♗c5 h5 24.h3 ♗f6 25.a3 ♗e4 26.♗f3

♗c8 27.♗xe4 ♗xe4 28.♗b4 ♗xb4 29.axb4

♗c4 30.♗d8+ ♗g7 31.♗b8 ♗c2 32.♗f2 ♗c1+

33.♗h2 ♗b1 34.♗e2 f5 35.♗d2 ♗f7 36.♗b6

h4 37.♗d7+ ♗e8 38.♗h7 1–0

Solomon, S – Small, V

Fencible Masters (1) [B54]

Notes by IM O Sarapu

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6

5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 d6!?

It is remarkable that this move is not in the books! The Taimanov variation starts here with ♗e7. Paulsen's ♗c7 is also an alternative.

7.Nxc6!?

Solomon finds a way to play against d6, with advantage in development that gives White good chances.

7...bxc6 8.0–0 Nf6 9.f4 d5

Safer here seems ♗e7, to castle.

10.e5 Nd7 11.Be3

Now the squares c5 and d4 become important.

11...Be5?

Loses control of the square c5. Better was e5, but then 12.♗f3 and later f5 etc., which is still good for White.

12.Bxc5 Nxc5 13.b4!

Now White has a clear advantage.

13...Nd7 14.Na4 0–0 15.Qd4 a5 16.a3 Ba6

Vernon has just got rid of his bad ♗.

17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.c4 axb4 19.axb4 Qa8

20.cxd5 exd5

Perhaps better was cxd5, but White would then advance his b–♖ strongly.

21.Nc5 Nxc5 22.bxc5 Rxa1 23.Rxa1 Qb7 24.f5!

Vernon defended his bad opening well, in his first match game in three years. However, White still has the advantage of 4 ♖s against 3 on the ♖–side. Threats like f6 and e6 are hard to meet.

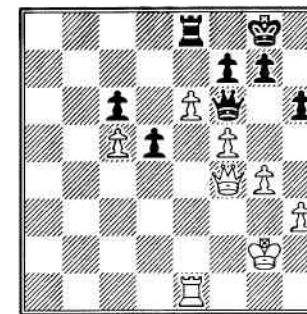
24...Re8 25.h3 h6 26.Re1 Qd7 27.g4

Black's blocked ♖ on d5 is out of play, but the White ♗ is exposed to some perpetual check threats. Solomon calculated well to prevent them.

27...Qe7 28.e6 Kf8

Black could consider f6 and passive defence.

29.Kg2 Qf6 30.Qf4 Kg8



The threat was ♗d6+.

31.Qc7 fxe6 32.Qxc6 Qb2+ 33.Kf1! Qb8 34.Rxe6

White has won a ♖ and his c5-♖ is very strong.

34...Qf4+ 35.Kg2 Qd2+ 36.Kg3

The White ♘ is running from checks to h4 and h5.

36...Rb8 37.Re8+ Rxe8 38.Qxe8+ Kh7 39.Qg6+ Kh8 40.Qe8+ Kh7 41.Qe7 Kh8 42.Kh4 Kh7 43.f6

Solomon played out many endgames in the tournament, perhaps this is his greatest strength. 1-0

Smith, R W - Reilly, T
Fencible Masters (1) [B07]

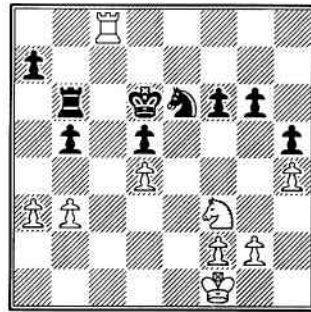
1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♖f6 3.♗c3 g6 4.g3 ♖g7 5.♖g2 0-0 6.♗ge2 ♗c6 7.h3 e5 8.♗e3 ♖d7 9.0-0 exd4 10.♗xd4 ♗e8 11.♗d2 b5 12.a3 a5 13.♗f4 ♗b8 14.f3 ♗e5 15.b3 ♗c8 16.♗h2 h5 17.♗c5 ♗h7 18.♗d2 h4 19.gxh4 ♗d8 20.♗xa5 ♗c6 21.♗xc7 ♗xa1 22.♗xd8 ♗exd8 23.♗xa1 ♗e5 24.♗b6 ♗e8 25.♗c7 ♗bc8 26.♗c1 ♗e6 27.♗xd6 ♗c6 28.♗c7 ♗ed8 29.♗xb5 ♗d4 30.♗xd4 ♗xd6 31.♗dxc6 fxe6 32.c4 ♗a6 33.♗xg6 ♗f7 34.♗e5+ ♗f6 35.f4 ♗xa3 36.b4 ♗b3 37.♗d1 ♗f8 38.b5 ♗g6 39.♗xg6 ♗xg6 40.♗f1 ♗b2+ 41.♗g3 ♗a8 42.♗d3 ♗a1 43.♗f3 ♗h5 44.f5 ♗bb1 45.♗e2 ♗g1+ 46.♗f4 1-0

McLaren, L J - Levi, E
Fencible Masters (1) [C42]

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.♗xe5 d6 4.♗f3 ♗xe4 5.♗e2 ♗e7 6.d3 ♗f6 7.♖g5 ♗bd7 8.♗c3 h6 9.♗c3 c6 10.0-0-0 ♗a6 11.♗he1 ♗c7 12.♗e4 ♗xe4 13.dxe4 ♖g4 14.♗xe7 ♗xe7 15.♗d4 ♗e6 16.f4 ♗ad8 17.g4 g6 18.h4 c5 19.♗xe6 fxe6 20.f5 ♗hf8 21.♗d3 ♗f7 22.g5 b5 23.c3 e5 24.♗f1 gxf5 25.♗xf5+ ♗e7 26.♗df1 c4 27.♗e2 ♗c6 28.♖g4 ♗f4 29.♗c2 a5 30.♗xf8 ♗xf8 31.♖f5 ♗g2 32.♗f2 ♗xh4 33.♗h2 ♗xf5 34.♗xh7+ ♗e6 35.exf5+ ♗xf5 36.g6 ♗f2+ 37.♗c1 ♗g2 38.♗b7 ♗xg6 39.♗xb5 ♗f5 40.♗xa5 ♗e4 41.a4 d5 42.♗b5 d4 43.cxd4 exd4 44.♗h5 ♗g1+ 45.♗d2 ♗g2+ 46.♗c1 ♗d3 47.♗h1 ♗e2 48.a5 d3 49.a6 ♗g6 50.♗h2+ ♗e3 51.♗h3+ ♗d4 52.a7 ♗a6 53.♗h7 ♗c5 54.♗d2 ½-½

McLaren, L J - Solomon, S
Fencible Masters (2) [C42]

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.♗xe5 d6 4.♗f3 ♗xe4 5.♗e2 ♗e7 6.d3 ♗f6 7.♖g5 ♗bd7 8.♗c3 h6 9.♗h4 ♗xe2+ 10.♗xe2 g6 11.♗b5 ♗d5 12.c4 c6 13.♗xd6+ ♗xd6 14.cxd5 ♗b4+ 15.♗d2 cxd5 16.a3 ♗d6 17.♖g3 ♗e7 18.♗c1 ♗e5 19.♗b3 h5 20.d4 ♗c6 21.♗xd6+ ♗xd6 22.0-0 b6 23.♗c3 ♗d7 24.♗a6 ♗ae8 25.♗fc1 ♗d8 26.♗d2 ♗e7 27.♗f3 f6 28.♗e3 ♗e6 29.h4 b5 30.♗f1 ♗b8 31.b3 ♗ee8 32.♗ec3 ♗b6 33.♗c8 ♗xc8 34.♗xc8 ♗xc8 35.♗xc8



35...♗a6 37.♗b8 ♗xa3 37.♗xb5 ♗a1+ 38.♗e2 ♗f4+ 39.♗d2 ♗xg2 40.♗c5 ♗a2+ 41.♗c2 ♗xc2+ 42.♗xc2 ♗e6 43.b4 ♗f5 44.♗c3 ♗f4 45.♗g1 ♗xh4 46.b5 ♗f3 47.♗e2+ ♗g4 48.♗b4 h4 49.♗a5 h3 50.♗a6 h2 51.♗g3 ♗xd4 52.♗xa7 ♗xb5+ 53.♗b6 ♗f3 54.♗xb5 ♗xf2 0-1

Sermek, D - Smith, R W
Fencible Masters (2) [B22]

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d6 3.d4 ♗f6 4.♗d3 cxd4 5.cxd4 g6 6.h3 ♖g7 7.♗f3 0-0 8.♗c3 ♗c6 9.0-0 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.♗e3 ♗e6 12.♗g5 ♗e7 13.♗xe6 ♗xe6 14.♗a4 h6 15.♗c4 ♗e7 16.♗fd1 ♗fd8 17.♗b5 ♗d4 18.♗xd4 exd4 19.♗xd4 a6 20.♗f1 ♗xd4 21.♗xd4 ♗d8 22.♗e3 ♗b4 23.e5 ♗e8 24.g3 ♖f8 25.♗e1 ♗d7 26.♗f4 ♗xf4 27.gxf4 g5 28.♗d1 ♗c5 29.♗d5 ♖g7 30.b4 ♗d7 31.♗c7 ♗e7 32.e6 ♗b6 33.♗d8+ ♖f8 34.exf7+ ♗xf7 35.♗d5 ♗xd5 36.♗xd5 gxf4 37.♗f5+ ♗e8 38.♗xf4 ♗f7 39.♗c4 ♗d8 40.♗e2 ♗d6 41.♖g4 ♗c7 42.♗d4 ♗c1+ 43.♗g2 ♗c7 44.♗e6 ♗e1 45.♗d5 ♗e5 46.♗c4+ ♗b8 47.f4 ♖f6 48.♗f3 h5 49.♖f7 h4

50.♗d5 ♗g1 51.♗e4 ♗g3 52.♗f5 ♗b2 53.b5 axb5 54.♗b4 ♗c3 55.♗xb5 ♗g7 56.♗e6 ♗g6+ 57.♗e7

Levi, E - Reilly, T
Fencible Masters (2) [B07]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♗f6 3.♗c3 g6 4.♗c4 ♖g7 5.♗e2 ♗c6 6.e5 ♗g4 7.♗b5 0-0 8.♗xc6 bxc6 9.h3 ♗h6 10.♗f3 ♗b8 11.♖f4 ♗xb2 12.♗d2 ♗f5 13.0-0-0 ♗b4 14.♗e2 ♗a4 15.♗c3 ♗c4 16.g4 dxe5 17.♗xe5 ♗xe5 18.♗xe5 ♗xd4 19.♗e2 ♗d6 20.♗b1 ♗g7 21.♗xd4 ♗xd4 22.♗xc6 ♗a4 23.♗xe7+ ♗h8 24.♗xc8 ♗xc8 25.a3 ♗e6 26.♗d1 c5 27.♗e5+ ♗g8 28.♗c3 ♗b8 29.♗e1 ♗f4+ 30.♗e3 ♗c4 31.♗d2 ♗a2 32.♗c3 ♗d4 33.♗e5 ♗b5 34.♗b2 ♗xa3 35.♗xa3 ♗xa3 36.♗xc5 ♗b5 37.c4 ♗d4 38.♗c7 ♗b3+ 39.♗xb3 ♗xb3 40.♗d2 ♗xh3 41.♗xa7 ♗f3 42.c5 ♗xf2+ 43.♗d3 ♗f1 44.♗e4 ♗c1 45.♗d5 ♗d1+ 46.♗e5 ♗e1+ 47.♗d6 ♗d1+ 48.♗e5 ♗e1+ 49.♗d6 ♗d1+ ½-½

Green, E M - Kulashko, A
Fencible Masters (2) [A37]

1.g3 c5 2.♖g2 g6 3.c4 ♖g7 4.♗c3 ♗c6 5.a3 a5 6.d3 d6 7.♗f3 e5 8.0-0 ♗ge7 9.♗b1 0-0 10.♖g5 f6 11.♗e3 h6 12.♗e1 f5 13.♗c2 f4 14.♗d2 ♖g4 15.b4 axb4 16.axb4 cxb4 17.♗d5 ♗xd5 18.cxd5 ♗e7 19.♗xb4 ♗d7 20.gxf4 ½-½

Small, V A - Garbett, P A
Fencible Masters (2), [D94]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 ♗f6 4.♗c3 g6 5.♗f3 ♖g7 6.h3 0-0 7.♗e2 a6 8.a4 a5 9.0-0 ♗a6 10.b3 ♗e4 11.♗b2 ♗ac5 ½-½

Reilly, T - Sermek, D
Fencible Masters (3) [A57]

Notes by GM Drazen Sermek

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.♗c3 axb5 6.e4 b4 7.♗b5 d6 8.♗c4 g6 8...♗bd7. 9.e5!?! dxe5 10.d6?! 10.♗f3. 10...exd6 11.♖g5 ♗a5! 11...♗b7 12.♗xf6 ♗xf6 13.♗c7+ ♗d8 14.♗xa8 ♖xg2 15.♗d5 e4 16.♗a4! unclear. 12.♗f3 ♗c6! 12...h6 13.♗xe5 hxg5 [only move] 14.♗xf7 ♗c7+ 15.♗f1 ♗xb5! 16.♗a4! ♗e6 17.♗xe6!

(17.♗xb5+ ♗xf7 18.♗xe6+ ♗xe6 19.♗xb8 ♗e4+) 17...♗xe6 18.♗xh8 ♗c4+ 19.♗g1 ♖g7 20.♗e1+ ♗f8 21.h3 (21.h4 ♗xh8 22.hxg5 ♗h5) 21...♗xh8 22.b3 ♗d3 23.♗e3 ♗d1+ 24.♗h2±].

13.♗c7+!?! 13.♗b3 h6! (13...d5? 14.♗xd5 ♗xd5 15.♗c7+) 14.♗xf7+ ♗e7 15.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 16.♗c4 g5+] 13...♗d7

Only move. [13...♗xc7 14.♗xf6 ♗g8 15.♗g5 ♗d8 16.♗xd8 ♗xd8 17.♗xf7+ ♗e7 18.♗xd6±].

14.♗d5 14.♗xf6 ♗xf6 15.♗d5 ♗d8 16.0-0 ♖g7.

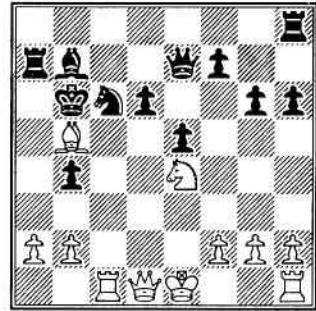
14...♗e7 15.♗xe7!?

15.♗xf6 ♗xf6 16.♗d2 ♖g7 17.♗e4 f5 18.♗d6+ ♗c7±.

15...♗xe7?! 15...♗xe7! 16.♗d2 d5 [only move] (16...h5; 16...h6 17.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 18.♗f3+) 17.♗f3 ♗d6! (17...♖f5 18.g4!) 18.♗xd5 [only move] (18.♗xd5 ♗d4) 18...♗xd5 19.♗xd5 ♗b8 20.♗c4 ♗a6 21.♗xe5 h6 22.♗xf6+ ♗xf6±.

16.♗d2 16...h6 16...h6 Only move. 17.♗xf6 ♗xf6 18.♗b3! ♗a7 19.♗xc5+ ♗c7 20.♗e4 ♗e7 21.♗c1 ♗b7 22.♗b5 22.♗d5 ♗d4±.

22...♗b6!



22...f5 23.♗d5+-; 22...♗a5 23.♗d5 ♗d7 24.♗f6+-; 22...♗c8 23.0-0 ♗b8 24.♗xd6+ ♗xd6 25.♗xd6±. 23.♗xc6!

23. hxd6? hd8 24. xc6 hd6 ; 23. hxd6 hxd6 24. hxd6 f5 .
 23... xc6 24. hb3 hb5!
 24...d5 [unclear] 25. c5 hd6! (25... hb8? 26. hxb4+ hc7 27. ha6+) 26. hxb4+ hc7 27. a3 hb8 28. hd2 hb5 29. hd3 [unclear].
 25. hxb4 [unclear] 25. hd2 d5 26. hxd5 hd8 .
 25... ha4 26. hxd6+ hxd6 27. hxd6 a6! f 28. f3
 28. b3!? hxa2 29. hc4+ xc4 30. bxc4 hd8 31. 0-0 hc5 32. hfd1 hd4 .
 28... hxa2 29. cf2
 Unclear [29. hxf7 hh7 30. hxe5 he7 31. f4 hxb2 f].
 29... hxb2+ 30. hg3 f5 31. hb1 hxb1 32. hxb1+ hc5 33. hf7 he8 34. hxb6 e4! f 35. fxe4 fxe4 36. hg4 e3 37. he1 e2!
 37... hd4 38. hxe3 hxe3+ 39. hxe3 hxe3 40. hg4= .
 38. h4
 Unclear. [38. cf2 hd4+]
 38... hd4 39. hh2 hb7!
 39... he3? 40. hf3 hb7 41. hg1 hd2 42. hxe2+ hxe2 43. hxe2 hxe2 44. hg4= .
 40. cf2! hd3 41. ha1
 Unclear. [41. hf3? hxf3 42. gxf3 hd2 43. f4 he4+]
 41... hxg2! 42. hxg2? ?
 42. ha3+ hc4 [unclear] (42... hd4 43. hxg2 e7 h 44. hf3+) 43. hc1 hd5 44. ha2! =.
 42... e1 h 43. hxe1 hxe1+ 44. hf3 he2+ 45. hg3 he4 46. hg5+ hf5 47. hf3 Δ he3+ 0-1

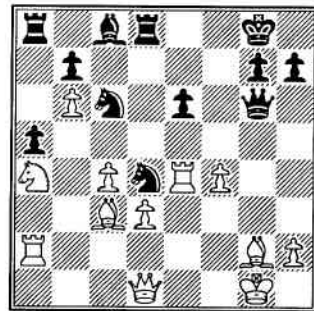
Garbett, P A – McLaren, L J
 Fencible Masters (3) [B80]

1. e4 c5 2. hf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. hxd4 hf6 5. hc3 e6 6. g3 hc6 7. hg2 hd7 8. 0-0 de7 9. he1 0-0 10. hxc6 hxc6 11. a4 a6 12. a5 hc7 13. de3 hd7 14. hd2 hac8 15. hd4 hf6 16. hd1 cxd4 17. hxd4 hf6 18. c4 hfd8 19. hc3 e5 20. hd3 b5 21. axb6 hxb6 22. hf5 hf8 23. hd2 he8 24. b4 hd7 25. hc3 de6 26. hecl hf6 27. h3 hb8 28. hab1 ha8 29. he2 hd4 30. hd1 hb6 31. hf5 hac8 32. hdcl 32... hxf5 33. hxf5 hd4 34. hb7 hb8 35. hxa6 he4 36. hb3 d5 37. cxd5 hxb4 38. hxb4 hxb4 39. hc4 hxg3

40. hxb4 hxe2+ 41. hxe2 hxd5 42. hb8+ he7 43. hb7+ hf6 44. xc4 hd1+ 45. hg2 hxf5 46. hxf7+ hg6 47. hf3 e4 48. hf4 he1 49. hxe4 hxe4 50. hd3 hf5 51. hf3 1-0

Kulashko, A – Small, V A
 Fencible Masters (3) [B40]

1. e4 c5 2. hf3 e6 3. b3 hf6 4. e5 hd5 5. c4 he7 6. hb2 hbc6 7. g3 hf5 8. hc3 d6 9. exd6 hxd6 10. hg2 0-0 11. 0-0 a6 12. he4 de7 13. he1 hfd4 14. hd3 ha5 15. a3 hb6 16. b4 cxb4 17. axb4 hd8 18. xc3 f5 19. hec5 hxc5 20. hxc5 a5 21. ha4 hc7 22. b5 he5 23. d3 f4 24. b6 hf7 25. he1 hec6 26. gxf4 hxf4 27. he4 hf5 28. f4 hg6 29. ha2



29... e5 30. fxe5 hf5 31. he3 hg4 32. hf1 hf8 33. hf2 hxf2 34. hxf2 hf8 35. hg3 hf5 36. hf2 hxe3 37. hxe3 hf3 38. hd2 hf5 39. h4 hxe5 40. hxe5 hxe5 41. hc3 he2 42. hxe2 hxe2 43. hxe2 hxd3 44. hd5+ hf8 45. hf2 a4 46. hxb7 hxc4 0-1

Solomon, S – Levi, E
 Fencible Masters (3) [D01]

1. d4 hf6 2. hc3 d5 3. hg5 hf5 4. f3 hbd7 5. hxd5 hxd5 6. e4 h6 7. hh4 hc3 8. hd3 hxf1 9. exf5 c6 10. hxf1 hb6 11. b3 0-0 12. he2 hf6 13. c4 e5 14. fxe6 fxe6 15. a4 a5 16. hf2 c5 17. hc3 hd7 18. hc3 cxd4 19. hxd4 hc5 20. he1 e5 21. hxc5 hxc5 22. hc1 e4 23. fxe4 hhf8+ 24. hg1 hxb3+ 25. c5 hxc5+ 26. hxc5+ hxc5 27. h4 hd4 28. hh3 hxa4 29. hc3 b6 30. hd3 ha2 31. hb1 hf6 32. hxc5 hxc5 33. hxc5+ hd7 34. hb7+ hd6 35. hd5+ he6 36. hxc7 ha4 37. g3 hxe4 38. hxa5 he1+ 39. hg2 hef1 40. ha6+ he5 41. he7+ hd5

42. hd7+ he5 43. ha2 he6 44. hh7 hf5 45. ha6+ he5 46. hxb6 hf2+ 47. hf3 hf8 48. had6 hf3 49. hg4 1-0

Smith, R W – Green, E M
 Fencible Masters (3) [B67]

1. e4 c5 2. hc3 hc6 3. hg2 d6 4. d4 cxd4 5. hxd4 hf6 6. hg5 e6 7. hd2 a6 8. 0-0 hd7 9. f3 b5 10. he1 de7 11. h4 0-0 12. g4 hxd4 13. hxd4 ha5 14. e5 dxe5 15. hxd7 hxd7 16. hxe7 hf8 17. he4 hac8 18. hd3 f5 19. hb4 hb6 20. gxf5 a5 21. hd6 he3+ 22. hb1 hc5 23. hxb5 hxe7 24. hxe7 exf5 25. hd1 h6 26. xc4+ hf8 27. hd8+ hf7 28. hg8+ hf8 29. de6+ 1-0

Solomon, S – Garbett, P A
 Fencible Masters (4) [D52]
 Notes by IM Ortvain Sarapu

1. d4 d5 2. hf3 hf6 3. c4 c6 4. hc3 e6 5. hg5 hbd7 6. e3 ha5

The Cambridge Springs defence. It is impressive that both players know this variation so well!?

7. hd2

Pachman gives this as the classical variation in his book "Queen's Gambit".

7... dxc4 8. hxf6 hxf6 9. hxc4 hc7

Pachman: "The basic position of the Rubinstein Variation. Practical tests have shown that Black can equalise."

10. de2 de7

Also playable here is c5 .

11. 0-0 0-0 12. hc1 hd8 13. hc2 hd7 14. he5 de8 15. hf3

In the game Prucha–E Richter (Prague 1945) there was played [15. hf3 hd7! 16. hfd1 hf8 17. a3 hd6 18. he4 f6 (Pachman)]

15... hac8 16. g3 hd7 17. hxd7 hxd7 18. hfd1 de8 19. hb3 hb6 20. hxb6 axb6 21. a3 ha8 22. h4

Black has two qs , but the q on e8 is a problem. How to make it active? Perhaps Black should try ... hf6 and ... hf7 .

22... b5 23. he4 b4 24. axb4 hxb4 25. hc5 hxc5?

Giving up the two qs . 25... Ra7 and doubling hs on the a -file was better. Then bringing the q to e7 would draw the game.

26. hxc5

From now on Paul is struggling with his bad q .

26... ha4 27. hb1 hb4 28. ha5 b6

With the idea of improving the scope of his q .

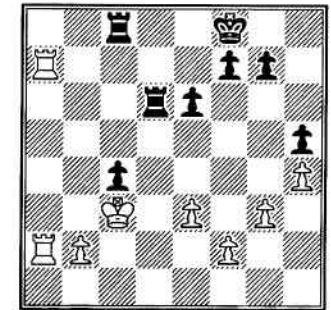
29. ha2 c5 30. haba1 hf8 31. dxc5 hxc5 32. ha7 hc8?

GM Sermek, who was also watching the game, told me it must be a draw. Black could simply play ... hxc2 and after White wins the c - f it is a dead draw. Perhaps Paul played to win!?

33. ha1a2 hb6 34. hf1 qc6

The bad q disappears, but now the White q becomes very strong.

35. hxc6 hbc6 36. he2 h5 37. hd3 c4+ 38. hc3 hd6



39. ha8! hxa8 40. hxa8+ he7 41. ha7+ hf6 42. hxc4 hd2

Solomon finishes the game in fine style. 43. b4 hxf2 44. b5 he5 45. hd7 g6 46. b6 hb2 47. b7 f5 48. hc5 he4?

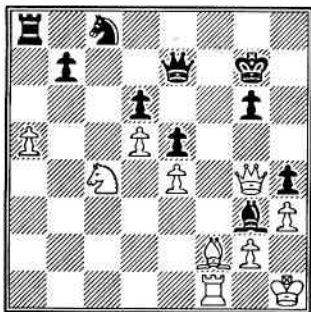
This loses immediately. 48... hb1 49. hc6 he4 would give White problems in finding how to win!

49. hd4+ 1-0

Small, V A – Smith, R W
 Fencible Masters (4), [E97]

1. d4 hf6 2. c4 g6 3. hc3 hg7 4. e4 d6 5. hf3 0-0 6. de2 e5 7. 0-0 hc6 8. d5 he7 9. b4 a5

10.♖a3 axb4 11.♙xb4 ♖d7 12.a4 h6 13.♖d2 f5 14.f3 h5 15.♖h1 ♖h6 16.♖b3 ♖f6 17.c5 fxe4 18.fxe4 ♖g4 19.a5 ♖h7 20.♗d3 ♗d7 21.h3 ♖xe2 22.♖xe2 h4 23.cxd6 cxd6 24.♖d2 ♖h5 25.♖c4 ♖xf1+ 26.♖xf1 ♖c8 27.♖e1 ♗e7 28.♗f3 ♖f4 29.♖xf4 ♖xf4 30.♗g4 ♖g5 31.♖f2 ♖g7



32.♖b1 ♖f6 33.♖c1 ♗d8 34.♖b6 ♖xb6 35.♙xb6 ♗e8 36.♖e7+ ♖h8 37.♖h2 ♖b8 38.♖d7 ♖e7 39.♖c7 ♖c8 40.♖xe7 1-0

Levi, E - Sermek, D

Fencible Masters (4) [B30]

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 ♖c6 3.♖b5 e6 4.0-0 ♖ge7 5.♖c3 ♖d4 6.a4 a6 7.♖e2 ♖ec6 8.d3 g6 9.♖xd4 cxd4 10.♖b1 ♖g7 11.♖d2 0-0 12.♖a3 f5 13.f4 d6 14.♖c4 d5 15.exd5 exd5 16.♖a3 ♖e6 17.♖f3 ♗d6 18.g3 ♖ab8 19.♗e2 ♖f7 20.♗g2 b5 21.axb5 axb5 22.b4 ♖xb4 23.♖fb1 ♖c6 24.♖xb5 ♖xb5 25.♖xb5 ♗c5 26.♖c7 ♖e7 27.♖a6 ♗xc2 28.♖b4 ♗xd3 29.♖c7 ♖c8 30.♖xe7 ♗c3+ 31.♖h1 ♗xe7 32.♖xd5 ♗d6 33.♖e1 ♖f8 34.♖a1 d3 35.♖d1 ♖c2 36.♗f1 ♖xd5 37.♗xd3 ♖xf3+ 38.♗xf3 ♗c6 39.♖d5 ♖f7 0-1

McLaren, L J - Kulashko, A

Fencible Masters (4) [B22]

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 e6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5 ♗xd5 5.d4 ♖f6 6.♖a3 ♖e7 7.♖b5 ♖a6 8.♖e3 0-0 9.♖e2 ♖d8 10.0-0 ♖d7 11.c4 ♗f5 12.♖c3 cxd4 13.♖xd4 ♗a5 14.a3 e5 15.♖f3 ♖e6 16.♗c2 e4 17.b4 ♗f5 18.♖d4 ♗e5 19.♖xe6 ♗xe6 20.♖b5 ♖g4 21.♖xg4 ♗xg4 22.♖xa7 ♖d3 23.♖ae1 ♖c8 24.f3 ♗g5 25.f4 ♗g6 26.f5 ♗g4 27.♖e3

♖h4 28.♖e2 ♖xc4 29.♗xc4 ♗xe2 30.♖d4 h6 31.♖c3 ♗c2 32.f6 ♖d2 33.♗c8+ ♖h7 34.♗g4 g6 35.♖e3 ♖f2+ 36.♖xf2 ♗xc3 37.♗xe4 ♖d6 38.♗xb7 ♖xf6 39.b5 ♖c5 40.♗c7 ♖e4 41.♗xc3 ♖xc3 42.b6 ♖f5 43.♖e1 ♖b5 44.h3 g5 45.♖e7 ♖g6 46.♖h2 ♖f6 47.♖a7 ♖e4 48.♖d4+ ♖e6 49.a4 ♖b4 50.b7 ♖d6 51.♖c5 ♖xb7 52.♖a6 ♖d7 53.g4 ♖e5 54.♖xd6 ♖c7 55.♖b4 ♖b7 56.♖c5 ♖c7 57.♖a3 ♖c2+ 58.♖g1 ♖a2 59.♖d3 ♖e4 60.♖b3 f5 61.gxf5 ♖a1+ 62.♖f2 ♖a2+ 63.♖g3 ♖xf5 64.a5 ♖c2 65.a6 ♖c7 66.♖b2 ♖e4 67.♖a3 ♖a7 68.♖g4 ♖d5 69.♖h5 ♖e4 70.♖xh6 ♖f5 71.♖a5+ ♖f4 72.♖c1+ ♖g3 73.♖a3+ ♖h2 74.♖xg5 ♖g2 75.h4 ♖h2 76.♖e3 ♖a8 77.♖c5 ♖h1 78.a7 ♖h2 79.♖b3 ♖h8+ 80.♖g5 ♖h7 81.a8 ♗g7+ 82.♖f5 ♖f7+ 83.♖e4 ♖f4+ 84.♖e3 ♖f3+ 85.♖xf3 1-0

Green, E M - Reilly, T

Fencible Masters (4) [A25]

1.g3 g6 2.♖g2 ♖g7 3.c4 e5 4.♖c3 ♖c6 5.e3 f5 6.d3 d6 7.♖ge2 ♖f6 8.0-0 0-0 9.♖b1 a5 10.a3 g5 11.f4 gxf4 12.exf4 ♖h8 13.h3 ♖g8 14.♖e3 ♗e8 15.♗e1 ♖d7 16.♖d1 ♗g6 17.♖b5 ♖ac8 18.♗f2 ♖h5 19.♖h2 ♖f6 20.d4 exd4 21.♖bxd4 ♖g7 22.♖f3 ♖xd4 23.♖xd4 ♖xd4 24.♖xd4 ♖f6 25.♖c3 ♖cg8 26.♖g1 ♗h6 27.♖d5 ♖e8 28.♖d3 c6 29.♖c3 ♖g6 30.c5 d5 31.♗d4+ ♖f6 32.♖e3 ♗g7 33.♖e2 h5 34.h4 ♖h7 35.♖e5 ♖c8 36.♗e3 ♗f8 37.♖d4 0-1

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Clear margin in the Major Open

Tim Hare, of Upper Hutt, scored a decisive win in the New Zealand Major Open at the North Shore Congress, conceding only three draws to score 9½ and finish 1½ points clear of his nearest challengers. Before Congress, Tim had played mainly in rapid events and was seeded only ninth in the Major Open.

When Hare drew with Russell Metge in round 3, the lead was shared by Paul Dunn, Arthur Casilang and Bob Gibbons with three wins. In round 4 Dunn beat Gibbons and Casilang beat Metge, giving Dunn and Casilang a half-point lead over Hare and Alan Dunn, who had scored three wins after drawing in round 1.

Paul Dunn beat Casilang in round 5 to take the outright lead, while Hare stayed in close touch with a win over Alan Dunn. In round 6 Hare took the lead by beating Paul Dunn in an encounter which the winner has annotated. From that point Hare dominated the tournament, beating off several challengers and drawing with Miomir Arandjelovic in round 8 and Dave Cooper in round 10.

After draws in rounds 2 and 3, Arandjelovic progressed solidly through the field and from round 6 held second place. He lost to Cooper in the final round, which opened up Hare's lead and enabled Cooper and Hilton Bennett to catch Arandjelovic on 8 points to share 2=. Bennett beat early leader Casilang in this round.

Zyg Frankel went all out to win against Hare in the last round, to try and take second place outright. He lost and had to be content with 5= with Russell Metge (who beat Paul Dunn in the last round), Noel Nuval (who beat Gibbons) and Paul Beach.

Dunn, P - Hare, T

NZ Major Open (6) [A10]

Notes by Tim Hare

1.c4 f5 2.g3 g6 3.♖g2 ♖g7 4.d4 d6 5.♖f3 c6 6.0-0 ♖h6!?

Normally the Leningrad Dutch involves Black playing ♖f6. Black "has" to contest the e4 square - despite the fact that, with a little judicious preparation, White can always force e4. ♖h6 has been sponsored by the British IM Michael Basman. Basman writes (in T D Harding's excellent Batsford book on the Leningrad): "There are many ideas behind this move (♖f6). Firstly it does not block the ♖'s diagonal, nor the ♖'s line, after castling. Secondly, the black squares of the ♖-side have weakened; a ♖ on f7 can defend h6 and g5. Thirdly, sometimes White plays d5 and Black answers e5; in this case a ♖ on f7 can defend d6."

Devotees of the Leningrad will recognise the merits of Basman's rationale. In addition, a ♖ on f7 contests e5 and, in not occupying f6 provides a potential ♖-side home for the ♗. Sitting alongside all this strategic stuff is the very practical consideration that ♖h6-f7 can look like a perverse use of one's time - especially at a fairly critical point in the game. White can easily become over-reassured that he is indeed going to realise that "theoretical advantage", heave a huge sigh of relief, become complacent, lose objectivity and suffer as a consequence. On a cautionary note you do have to be quite nerveless to play ♖h6 before White has castled ♖-side. Blitzkrieging with the h-♖ is a fairly obvious plan for White, and one that can easily result in disaster for Black.

7.♖c3 0-0 8.d5 ♖f7 9.♖e3

White, quite sensibly, wants to exchange the Indian ♖. However, Black can play c5, releasing the pressure on c6 and controlling d4.

9...c5 10.♗c2 ♖d7 11.♖ae1!?

This looks like a case of the "wrong ♖." Thematic for Black is the b5 ♖ break. This is much harder to prevent and made more attractive for Black, without a White ♖ on the a-file.

11...a6 12.a4 ♖b8 13.♖c1 ♖f6 14.b3 ♖d7 15.♖d2 ♗e8

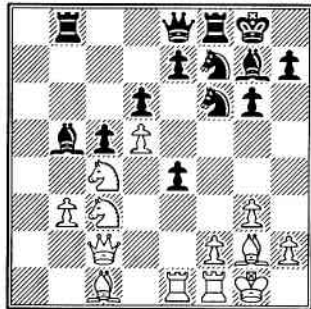
Something of a double-edged move. It supports the b5 break but juxtaposes the ♗

with White's ♖. Such x-ray attacks can easily become the cause of problems later on.

16.e4 b5 17.axb5 axb5 18.cxb5 fxe4

White's move 18 has vacated c4 for the ♖. The big drawback is that b3 is now a very-difficult-to-defend target. I was banking on being able to hold the e7 square and counter-attack down the b-file.

19.♗c4 ♖xb5



20.♖h3?

Eying the very attractive e6 square – often the Achilles heel of Leningrad systems. I think that White needed to prepare his occupation of e6 more carefully. After the game spent a good deal of time look at lines beginning 20.♗xe4 ♗xd5 21.♗exd6 ♗b4. This analysis became more and more whimsical as we assessed long sequences of forced captures. On reflection I think Black is clearly better after 20.♗xe4 ♗g4!? 21.♗exd6 ♗xd6 22.♗xd6 exd6 23.♗xe8 ♗bxe8 Although White is nominally ahead on material his position appears difficult, to say the least. White can try ; 20.♗xe4 ♗g4!? 21.h3 ♗ge5 22.f4 ♗xc4 23.bxc4 ♖a4 and Black's play down the b-file looks to hold the balance.

20...♗d7! 21.♗g2

What else? Exchanging on d7 would leave the White squares around White's ♖ painfully exposed.

21...♗f5 22.♗xe4 ♖b5 23.♖d2

Abandoning b3 to its inevitable fate.

23...♖xb3 24.♗a5 ♖a4 25.f3 ♗e5 26.♗xf6+ ♖xf6

Time, or rather the lack of it, was becoming an increasing problem for White.

27.g4 ♗d7 28.♗e4?!

28.g5!?! with the idea of f4, contesting e5, looks to give better chances, although White is seriously compromising his ♗-side in the process.

28...♗b4 29.♗xb4 cxb4

Puts the a5 ♗ en prise and takes the ♗ one square further towards promotion – can't be bad!

30.♗c6 ♗xc6 31.dxc6 ♖xc6

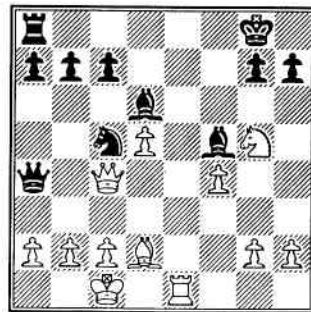
With two extra ♗s, significantly better ♖s, the fairly obvious plan of rolling the b-♗ and White's time trouble, the rest is a matter of "technique"; ie, retain control and check every move three times to make sure that (a) your ♖ isn't about to be taken, and your ♗ isn't about to be "spatially embarrassed." Petrosian recommends that players "sit on their hands" in such positions – excellent advice.

32.g5 ♖c3 33.♖e3 e5 34.♖d3 ♗d4+ 35.♗h1 b3 36.♖e3 ♖b5 37.♖d2 b2 0-1

Beach, P K – Gibbons, R E

NZ Major Open (2) [B21]

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5 3.exd5 e4 4.d3 ♗f6 5.dxe4 ♗xe4 6.♗f3 ♖c6 7.♖e2 f5 8.♗c3 0-0 9.♗xe4 fxe4 10.♖xe4 ♖f5 11.♖c4 ♗e8+ 12.♖e2 ♗d7 13.♖d2 ♗e4 14.♖b3 ♖e8 15.0-0-0 ♗xe2 16.♗he1 ♖d6 17.♗g5 ♗c5 18.♖c4 ♗xe1 19.♗xe1 ♖a4

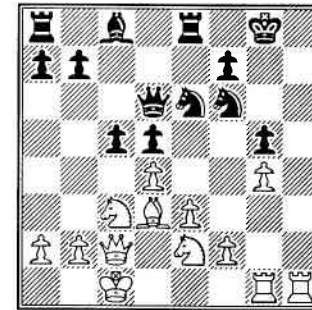


20.b4 ♖a3+ 21.♗b1 ♗d3 22.♖c3 ♗xe1 23.♖xe1 ♖e3 24.♖g3 ♖d2 25.a3 a5 26.b5 ♖e3 27.♗c6 ♖xa3 28.♗a2 ♖d6 29.♗d4 ♗f8 30.♗c6 ♖xe6 31.dxe6 ♖a3+ 32.♗b1 ♖b4+ 33.♖xb4 ♖xb4 34.♗h4 ♗xf4 35.e7 ♗f7 0-1

Metge, R C – Cruden, N B

NZ Major Open (2) [D36]

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 d5 4.♖g5 ♗e7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♖c2 0-0 7.e3 ♗bd7 8.♖d3 h6 9.♖f4 c6 10.♗ge2 ♗e8 11.h3 ♗f8 12.0-0-0 ♖d6 13.g4 ♗e6 14.♖xd6 ♖xd6 15.♗dg1 c5 16.h4 g5 17.hxg5 hxg5



18.♗h6 ♗g7 19.♗g3 ♗xd4 20.♗xf6 ♗xc2 21.♗h5+ ♗f8 22.♗xd6 1-0

Nuval, N S – Hare, T

NZ Major Open (4) [A43]

1.d4 c5 2.♗f3 cxd4 3.♗xd4 ♗f6 4.♗c3 d5 5.g3 e5 6.♗f3 ♗c6 7.♖g5 d4 8.♗e4 8...♗xe4 9.♖xd8 ♖b4+ 10.c3 dxc3 11.♖g5 c2+ 12.♖d2 cxd1♖+ 13.♗xd1 ♖xd2+ 14.♗xd2 ♗xd2 15.♗xd2 15...♖e6 16.b3 ♗d8 17.♖g2 ♗xd2 18.♗xd2 ♗e7 19.♗c1 ♗d8+ 20.♗e1 ♗d6 21.f4 exf4 22.gxf4 ♖d5 23.e4 ♗e6 24.f5 ♗e5 25.♗c5 ♗xe4+ 26.♖xe4 ♖xe4 27.b4 ♗d6 28.f6 gxf6 29.a3 f5 30.♗f2 a5 31.♗b5 axb4 32.axb4 ♗c7 33.♗e3 b6 34.♗f4 ♗b7 35.h4 ♗a6 36.♗xf5 ♖xf5 37.b5+ ♗xb5 38.♗xf5 ♗c5 0-1

Arandjelovic, M – Dunn, P

NZ Major Open (07) [B13]

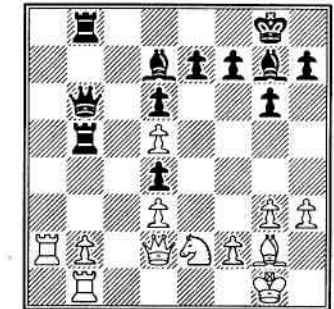
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.♖d3 g6 5.♖f4 ♖g7 6.c3 ♗c6 7.♖e2 ♗h6 8.♗d2 0-0 9.♗gf3 ♗e8 10.0-0 ♖f5 11.♗fe1 ♖xd3 12.♖xd3 f6 13.♖e3 ♗f7 14.♖e6 ♗b8 15.♗b3 b6 16.c4

dxc4 17.♖xc4 ♗f8 18.d5 ♗e5? 19.♗xe5 fxe5 20.♖xe5 1-0

Gibbons, R E – Hare, T

NZ Major Open (9) [B20]

1.e4 c5 2.c4 ♗c6 3.♗c3 g6 4.d3 ♖g7 5.♖d2 ♗f6 6.g3 d6 7.♖g2 a6 8.♗ge2 ♗b8 9.a4 ♖g4 10.h3 ♖d7 11.0-0 0-0 12.♗d5 b5 13.axb5 axb5 14.cxb5 ♗xb5 15.♖c3 15...♗xd5 16.exd5 exd4 17.♗xd4 cxd4 18.♖d2 ♖b6 19.♗a2 ♗b8 20.♗b1



20...e6 21.♗c1 exd5 22.b3 ♗c8 23.♗ba1 h6 24.♗h2 ♖e6 25.♖f4 g5 26.♖d2 ♖c5 27.♗a8 ♗bb8 28.♗a5 ♖c2 29.♖xc2 ♗xc2 30.♗a8 ♗xa8 31.♗xa8+ ♗d7 32.♗a1 ♗xf2 33.♗b1 ♗c2 34.b4 ♗c6 35.b5 ♗b6 36.♗e2 ♖e5 37.♗b4 ♗g7 38.♗g1 ♖d7 39.♗xd4 ♖xd4+ 40.♗xd4 ♗xb5 41.h4 ♖e6 42.♖f3 ♗f6 43.♗f2 ♗e5 44.♗e3 f5 45.♗a4 ♗b3 46.♗d4 f4+ 47.gxf4+ gxf4+ 48.♗xf4 ♗xd3+ 49.♗xd3 ♗xf4 50.♖d1 ♖g4 51.♖a4 ♖f3 52.♖d7 h5 53.♖e8 ♗g4 54.♗e3 ♖e4 55.♖f7 ♗xh4 56.♗f4 ♖g2 57.♖g6 d4 58.♖d3 ♗h3 59.♖f5+ ♗h2 60.♗g5 ♖f3 0-1

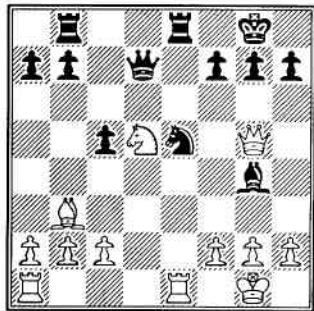
Metge, R C – Arandjelovic, M

NZ Major Open (10) [D51]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.♖g5 ♗bd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♖c2 ♖e7 7.e3 ♗f8 8.♖d3 ♗e6 9.♖h4 g6 10.♗ge2 0-0 11.♖g3 c5 12.♗f4 c4 13.♖e2 ♗xf4 14.♖xf4 ♖f5 15.♖d2 ♖d7 16.♖g5 b5 17.♖f3 b4 18.♗xd5 ♗xd5 19.♖xe7 ♗xe7 20.♖xa8 ♗xa8 21.♖xb4 ♖d3 22.b3 ♖g4 23.♖d2 ♖xg2 24.0-0-0 ♗c8 25.♖b4 cxb3+ 26.♗b2 ♗c2+ 27.♗xb3 ♖d5+ 0-1

Frankel, Z – Nuval, N S
NZ Major Open (9), [C47]

1.e4 e5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.♁c3 ♁f6 4.d4 exd4
5.♁d5 ♁e7 6.♁c4 d6 7.♁xd4 ♁e5 8.♁b3 ♁xe4
9.♁b5 0-0 10.♁bxc7 ♁b8 11.♁e3 ♁c5
12.♁xe7+ ♁xe7 13.♁d5 ♁d8 14.0-0 ♁e6
15.♁d2 ♁d7 16.♁fd1 ♁g4 17.♁xc5 dxc5
18.♁e1 ♁fe8 19.♁g5



19... ♁f5 20.♁e7+ ♁xe7 21.♁xe7 ♁g6 22.♁e4
♁g5 23.f3 ♁f5 24.♁e3 ♁h4 25.♁xc5 ♁d7
26.♁xa7 ♁f8 27.♁f2 ♁g5 28.♁ad1 ♁c6
29.♁h1 h5 30.♁g3 ♁f5 31.♁d6 ♁f4 32.♁xc6
bxc6 33.♁e4 ♁d8 34.h3 ♁d1+ 35.♁h2 g5
36.h4 ♁d2 37.♁xg5+ ♁xg5 38.hxg5 ♁xg2
39.♁h3 ♁g7 40.a4 ♁g6 41.♁g3 ♁xg5 42.♁e5+
f5 43.f4+ ♁xf4 44.♁f3 h4 45.a5 h3 46.a6
♁g2 47.♁g3 h2 48.♁hx2 ♁g4 49.a7 ♁h4+
50.♁g1 ♁d8 51.♁f2 f4 52.♁e6+ 1-0

Dunn, P – Howard, M I
NZ Major Open (10) [E95]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.♁f3 g6 3.c4 ♁g7 4.♁c3 0-0 5.e4
d6 6.♁e2 ♁bd7 7.0-0 e5 8.♁e1 ♁e8 9.♁f1
♁f8 10.d5 ♁g4 11.♁b1 f5 12.g3 fxe4 13.♁xe4
♁f5 14.♁fd2 ♁h6 15.♁g2 ♁d7 16.h3 ♁xe4
17.♁xe4 ♁xc1 18.♁xc1 ♁g6 19.♁g5 ♁f8
20.♁d3 ♁g7 21.c5 ♁b8 22.♁e4 dxc5 23.♁xc5
♁d6 24.♁ed1 ♁b6 25.♁c3 ♁d6 26.b4 a6
27.a4 ♁e7 28.a5 ♁e8 29.♁e1 ♁f6 30.♁cd1 b6
31.♁xa6 ♁a8 32.b5 bxa5 33.♁xa5 ♁8d7
34.♁c3 ♁b6 35.♁b3 e4 36.♁d4 ♁e5 37.♁ed1
♁bd7 38.♁c4 ♁b6 39.♁xc7+ ♁xc7 40.♁xc7
♁c8 41.d6 e3 42.fxc3 ♁xe3 43.♁f2 ♁e5
44.♁c6 ♁f8 45.♁g1 ♁fd7 46.♁d5 ♁f7
47.♁f1+ ♁e8 48.♁xb6 ♁xf1+ 49.♁xf1 1-0

Hare, T G – Frankel, Z
NZ Major Open (11) [A00]

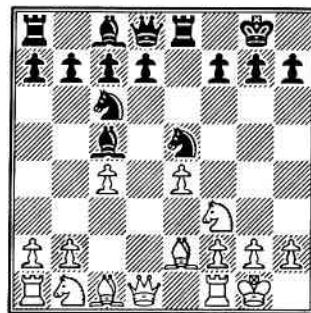
1.g3 e6 2.♁g2 d5 3.d3 ♁d6 4.♁d2 f5 5.e4
♁f6 6.♁e2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.c4 dxe4 9.dxe4 e5
10.♁b3 ♁h8 11.exf5 ♁xf5 12.♁f3 ♁c7 13.♁e3
♁a6 14.♁h4 ♁e6 15.♁c2 c5 16.a3 ♁ae8 17.b3
♁b8 18.♁c3 a6 19.♁f5 ♁xf5 20.♁xf5 ♁c6
21.♁h3 ♁d4 22.g4 ♁d7 23.♁e4 ♁e7 24.♁xf6
♁xf6 25.♁h1 e4 26.♁ad1 ♁e7 27.g5 ♁xg5
28.♁xd4 cxd4 29.♁xd4 ♁f4 30.♁e1⊕ 1-0

Cooper, D J – Arandjelovic, M
NZ Major Open (11) [C88]

1.e4 e5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.♁b5 a6 4.♁a4 ♁f6 5.0-0
♁e7 6.♁e1 b5 7.♁b3 0-0 8.a4 ♁b7 9.c3 d5
10.d4 exd4 11.e5 ♁e4 12.cxd4 ♁a5 13.♁c2
f5 14.exf6 ♁xf6 15.♁c3 ♁xc3 16.bxc3 ♁c4
17.♁d3 g6 18.♁h6 ♁g7 19.♁xg7 ♁xg7 20.♁e6
♁f6 21.♁ae1 ♁d6 22.♁e3 ♁e4 23.♁e5 ♁f8
24.axb5 axb5 25.♁xe4 dxe4 26.♁g5 ♁e8
27.♁h3 h6 28.♁d7+ 1-0

Casilang, A S – Bennett, H P
NZ Major Open (11), [A52]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 ♁g4 4.♁f3 ♁c5 5.e.c
♁c6 6.♁e2 0-0 7.0-0 ♁e8 8.e4 ♁xg5



9.♁g5?? ♁xf3+ 10.♁xf3 ♁xg5 11.♁c3 d6
12.♁d5 ♁d8 13.♁h5 ♁e5 14.♁h1 c6 15.f4
♁xc4 16.f5 cxd5 17.♁xf7+ ♁xf7 18.♁xd5+
♁f8 19.♁xc4 ♁f6 20.♁ae1 ♁d4 21.b3 ♁d7
22.♁e2 ♁c6 23.♁h5 ♁g8 24.♁g4 ♁e7 25.h4
♁ae8 26.♁f4 d5 27.e5 ♁xe5 28.♁ff1 ♁c3
29.♁xe7 ♁xe7 30.♁g3 ♁e5 31.♁g4 ♁c7 32.g3
d4+ 33.♁h2 ♁e4 0-1

Civic Easter honours shared

by Mike Schwass

Gavin Marner and Phil Monrad are the 1997 Civic Easter Tournament winners. Both went through undefeated, conceding two draws in the six rounds. They had a diplomatic and energy-saving 7-move draw in round 5 before both drawing again in the final round. Marner drew with Don Stracy while Monrad drew with Mike Schwass.

Marner's King's Bishop's Gambit yielded the full point in the two games he essayed it. On both occasions reckless opponents were seduced by the queen check on h4, only to be driven back with gain of tempo later on.

The tournament featured innovative timetabling by the organisers with players given the Saturday off. Dubbed "family friendly" the idea was well received and may well be repeated next year. Wellington's weather was certainly in fine form so it was nice to have a day outside away from the travails of the chessboard.

Mike Schwass finished third in the A grade with 4½/6, while Lawrence Farrington and Aaron Barlow shared the B grade prize. Lawrence also took the upset prize with a win over 1937-rated Brian Nijman, a rating difference of 483 points!

Patrick Savage took the C grade ahead of some competitive and promising players including Nick Croad and Pascal Harris, who both looked as though they would improve quickly as the year progresses.

The tournament was ably directed by Chris Bell. However, Chris did raise some concerns about the presentation of the pairing rules and their ease of application.

Aldridge, A – Schwass, M
Civic Easter [A25]

1.c4 g6 2.♁c3 ♁g7 3.g3 e5 4.♁g2 d6 5.e3
♁c6 6.♁ge2 ♁ge7 7.0-0 ♁e6 8.d3 0-0 9.♁b1
a5 10.a3 ♁d7 11.♁e1 d5 12.b3 ♁ad8 13.♁b2
♁h3 14.♁h1 dxc4 15.dxc4 ♁f5 16.♁c1 ♁d6
17.♁e4 ♁d8 18.♁c3 ♁g4 19.♁f4 ♁d4
20.exd4 exf4 21.gxf4 ♁xd4 22.♁g3 ♁xb2

23.♁xb2 ♁d1 24.♁h4 f6 25.♁c3 [25.♁xf6+♁] 25...g5 26.fxg5 ♁g6 27.♁e4 ♁xg5+ 28.♁g2
♁g4 29.♁e4 ♁e5 30.♁a2 f5 31.♁aa1 ♁f4
32.♁g5 ♁f6 33.♁e4 ♁g7 0-1

Frankel, Z – Barlow, A
Civic Easter, [C47]
Notes by Mike Schwass

1.e4 e5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.♁c3 ♁f6 4.d4 exd4
5.♁d5 ♁xd5 6.exd5 ♁b4 7.♁c4 ♁e7+

This has a rather "made-up" look but seems reasonable.

8.♁d2 ♁c5 9.♁e1+ ♁e7 10.♁e2 0-0 11.a3
♁e8

Sets the trap ...♁g5dis+, which later is crucial.

12.♁d1 ♁xd5 13.b4?? ♁c3+

The right move, but incorrectly followed up.
14.♁d2

And now 14...♁g5+ wins the house, e.g.,
15.♁d3 ♁f5+ or 15.♁xg5 ♁xg5+ 16.♁d3 ♁f5+
17.♁xd4 ♁xe2+ and wins. Instead

14...♁xe2??

An Easter bunny move.

15.bxc5 and White eventually won. Still, it was good to see Aaron recover from this setback, which would have discouraged lesser mortals, and go on to share the B grade title. 1-0

Marner, G – Farrington, L
Civic Easter [C33]

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.♁c4 ♁h4+?! 4.♁f1 ♁c5
5.d4 ♁b6 6.♁f3 ♁e7 7.♁c3 d6 8.♁xf4 ♁e6
9.♁d3 ♁d7 10.a4 a6 11.a5 ♁a7 12.♁d2 0-0-
0 13.b4 c6 14.d5 cxd5 15.exd5 ♁g4 16.♁e1
♁f8 17.♁e4 ♁df6 18.♁c3+ ♁b8 19.♁xd6
♁xd5 20.♁e5 ♁gf6 21.♁xf7+ ♁a8 22.♁xd8
♁xd8 23.♁d6 ♁xf4 24.♁xf4 ♁e8 25.♁xe8
♁xe8 26.h3 ♁xf3 27.gxf3 ♁e3 28.♁c4 ♁d2
29.♁g2 ♁e5 30.♁c8+ ♁a7 31.♁c5+ ♁xc5
32.bxc5 ♁xa5 33.♁b1 b6 34.♁e4 ♁xe4
35.fxe4 ♁c3 36.♁d1 a5 37.♁f3 a4 38.♁f4 h6
39.e5 ♁b4 40.♁d4 ♁xc5 41.♁xa4+ ♁b8
42.♁e4 ♁c7 43.♁d5 ♁e3 44.♁e4 ♁d2 45.♁e6
g5 46.♁f7 ♁f4 47.e6 ♁d6 48.e7 ♁xe7
49.♁xe7+ 1-0

Monrad,P – Aldridge,A Civic Easter [B14]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 e6 5.e3
e6 6.eg5 e7 7.f3 0-0 8.c5 b6 9.b4 a5
10.a3 h6 11.f4 axb4 12.axb4 b7 13.d3
xa1 14.uxa1 bxc5 15.bxc5 e4 16.0-0
exc3 17.uxc3 ec6 18.xb1 uc8 19.ub2 ea6
20.ec2 of6 21.d6 id8 22.e5 Qxe5
23.dxe5 id7 24.ua3 ia7 25.ib6 ob7
26.ud3 ia1+ 27.ob1 g6 28.h4 ea6 29.ud2
oh7 30.uf4 ud7 31.oh2 ec4 32.uxc6 uxc6
33.uxf7+ oh8 34.of8 1-0

Aldridge,A – Nijman,A Civic Easter (3) [A25]

The tournament was graced with the presence of indefatigable Arie Nijman, who gave Alan Aldridge a good win in round 3.

1.c4 e5 2.ec3 of6 3.g3 ec6 4.eg2 d6 5.d3
oe7 6.f3 0-0 7.0-0 ee6 8.eb1 ud7 9.eg5
of5 10.e4 eg4 11.f3 oh5 12.ec3 h6 13.oh3
hd4 14.exd4 exd4 15.e2 c5 16.ohf4 g5
17.ohh5 ohh5 18.f4 b5 19.ohd4 ohxg3
20.hxg3 exd4 21.ub5 allora! 21...og7 22.b3
b4 23.ibe1 iab8 24.f5 of6 25.oh3 ue7
26.c5 ue5 27.cxd6 ibd8 28.uf3 id6
29.ec1 h5 30.ec2 ih8 31.g4 hxg4 32.uxg4
ih4 33.ug2 id8 34.ih3 idh8 35.ig3 ue7

Rating of top women and girls

The ratings below are drawn from the NZCF rating list for December 1996, and includes players who have been active in the last two years.

STANDARD RATING

Top 15

1. Vivian J Smith	WT 1695
2. Winnie Ong	HP 1564
3. Joyce Ong	HP 1425
4. Edith Otene	AC 1387
5. Zoe Kingston	KP 1345
6. Helen Courtney	GA 1294
7. Lynn Parlane	GA 1293
8. Rosaleen Sheehan	HH 1278
9. Teresa Sheehan	HH 1270
10. Shanta Sheehan	HH 1171
11. Glenys Mills	KP 1157

12. Gwen M Jones	NS 1147
13. Jenny Blacklock	NS 1118
14. Katherine Ong	HP 1014*
15. Stormie Neilson	HA 1013

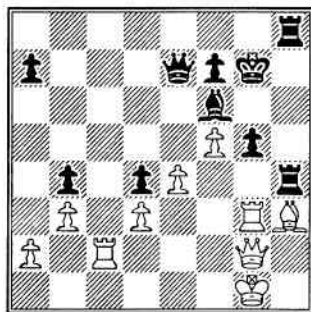
Top Girls

1. Winnie Ong	HP 1564
2. Rosaleen Sheehan	HH 1278
3. Teresa Sheehan	HH 1270
4. Shanta Sheehan	HH 1171
5. Elizabeth Morris	NS 698*

RAPID RATING

Top 15

1. Vivian J Smith	WT 1691*
2. Joyce Ong	HP 1446
3. Helen Courtney	GA 1441
4. Gwen M Jones	NS 1377
5. Edith Otene	AC 1347
6. Glenys Mills	KP 1337
7. Teresa Sheehan	HH 1333



36.e5 uxc5 37.uxg5+ of8 38.ec8+ oe7
39.ub7+ od6 40.ec6+ od5 41.ub5# 1-0

WANTED ANTIQUUE CHESS SET

Late 19th or Early 20th Century Staunton Design Chess Set wanted to compliment Chess Table of the same period. Wooden set preferred but not essential. Will take younger set if it has a history!! (Ex World Championship Match Board!!) If you can help please call: Alan Winfield on (04) 385-9293 or a/h 025 506-939.

Latvian Gambit tournament

By Ted Frost

Howick-Pakuranga's Latvian Gambit tournament is recognised as one of the most generously-sponsored, well-organised and enjoyable of New Zealand's one-day events, and 1997 confirmed its reputation. An added feature was the international flavour added by Slovenian GM Drazen Sermek, and two Australians, IM Stephen Solomon and Tim Reilly, warming up for the Fencible Masters which was to follow.

GM Sermek lived up to his top rating for both events, conceding draws to the two Australians, but winning all other games to score 5/6. While his win could be anticipated, the battle for minor places produced some surprises.

Peter Green, rated number 6 in the field of 16, lost to Sermek in round 3 but bounced back with wins over Bob Smith and Stephen Solomon, then drew with Peter Stuart in the last round to finish second. Stuart and Leonard McLaren shared third place with 4, half a point ahead of Reilly and Smith. Solomon gave no hint of what was to come in the Fencible Masters by losing in turn to Green and McLaren after earlier draws with Stuart and Sermek, and finished on 3 with Nigel Hopewell, Wolfgang Leonhardt, Scott Wastney and Prashant Mistry.

The reserve tournament also produced some surprises. Improving Alan Dunn conceded a mid-tournament draw to Julian Wai and drew with top-rated Richard Beesley in the last round to take a share of first on 5/6. Tyrone Garrett, of Napier, rated number 13 in a field of 35, lost to Burn but won the rest of his games to play well above his rating and share top place.

Two unrated players came through to the top of the field. Zelimir Jovic lost to Graham Pocock but won all other games to take a third share of first place, and N Cotter had a draw and a loss to share fourth on 4½ with Richard Beesley, whose loss to Burn cost

him a winning chance. Brian Millar, Clive Wilson and Burn were next on 4.

While the total entry of 50 was lower than in some previous years, one of the encouraging features of the tournament was participation of a number of young players.

Bernie Newman honoured

Upper Hutt CC members have honoured many years of service by Bernie Newman by electing him a life member - and also electing him for another term as president.

Since 1974 Bernie has served 4 years as president, 11 as treasurer, one as auditor and 2 as committee member. He has also contributed to the running of Wellington Chess League (now the district association) and New Zealand Chess Association (now the federation).

Bernie has taken over as president from Gerald Carter, who referred to the deaths in the past year of two valued members - Bill Winter (a member from 1959) and Stan Bridger (a member since the 1970s).

John Van Pelt

John (Jan) Van Pelt, a foundation member of the Waitemata Chess Club, sadly passed away on February 25, on his 70th birthday.

John had been out of chess action for over a year, since the discovery of a cancerous tumour on his spine, but seemed to making a gradual recovery after surgery and had been looking forward to returning to active play.

Unfortunately, he never made it back to the club, although I kept in touch with him throughout his illness and kept him informed of chess happenings.

John was a strong player for many years and was Waitemata Chess Club champion seven times. He was a stalwart club member from 1963 and will be specially remembered for his friendly, easygoing manner. John was a true gentleman, on and off the chess board.

- Bob Smith

New Zealand news

North Shore

Leonard McLaren scored 5/6 (loss to Peter Stuart) to win the first leg of the North Shore rapid championship, with Wolfgang Leonhardt half a point behind (draw with Paul Garbett, loss to Stuart). Paul Garbett lost to McLaren in the final round, and with two draws shared 3= on 4 with Peter Stuart, Bruce Watson, Darryn Elliott and Naveed Aslam.

Waitemata

Bob Smith remains president of Waitemata CC for another year, but Robert Bennett has taken over from Vivian Smith as secretary. Bruce Pollard has been elected club captain and John O'Connor treasurer. Bob Smith and Brian Palmer remain the club's coaches and school liaison officers.

The club's first tournament of the season, the Summer Cup, was won by **Bob Smith** with 6/6. Second equal on 4 were Antonio Krstev, Daniel Goudie and Alan Macfarlane.

The concurrent Under 400 tournament ended in a 3-way tie between Brian Palmer, Bruce Pollard and Paul Godfrey on 5/6, after an upset win by Godfrey over hot favourite Palmer. Fourth on 4 was Lee Smith.

The Waitemata Junior Club's first tournament this year was won jointly on 5/6 by 14-year-old **Gavin Lyes** and 11-year-old **Samantha Smith** (daughter of Vivian and Bob). The format was a 6-round swiss, with 30 minutes for each player.

Kapiti

Andrew Stanton has been elected president of Kapiti CC, with Rosemary Kingston as secretary/treasurer and Philip Peters as librarian.

Upper Hutt

Upper Hutt CC opened the year with a summer swiss tournament, with **Gerald Carter**, **Don Stracy** and **Matthew Rewiti** sharing 1st in division 1 with 3/4, ahead of

Bernie Newman 1½. Division 2 was won by **Bob Stephens** 4/4, with Roger Smith, Blair Corderoy and new junior Thanh Nguyen tied on 3.

Civic

Brent Southgate has been elected secretary of Civic CC, succeeding Bill Ramsay, and **Mike Schwass** has been elected club captain, succeeding Alan Winfield. Alan Aldridge remains president and Patrick Harnett stays as treasurer.

IM Russell Dive scored a 6/6 picket fence to win the Civic Summer Cup, his opponents including Anthony Ker. Stephen Lukey was runner-up on 5 and Ker, Paul Dunn, Mike Schwass and Brian Nijman all scored 4.

Wellington

Ross Jackson won the Wellington CC summer open with 4½/6, having a clear lead before the last round, in which he lost to Michael Nyberg. Zyg Frankel scored 4 and was followed by Nyberg, Jose Escribano and Ted Frost on 3½. This event is the first of three legs of the competition for the Petherick Trophy.

Lawrence Farrington won the summer open rapid with 4½/6, ahead of Ross Jackson, Ted Frost and Patrick Savage on 4.

Club members have split into four teams for a challenge tournament, with the Blue team (seniors headed by Justin Phillips, juniors by Patrick Savage) winning the initial event after beating the Gold team (headed by Lawrence Farrington and Colin Chow) in the first round and the Greens (led by Ross Jackson and Raymond Chew) in the final. Zyg Frankel's Red team won the right to meet the Blues in the next challenge round.

Otago

Otago CC's season started with a series of minis, and in the A grade **Robert Wansink** and **Tony Love** shared honours with 4/5. Wansink lost to Love but won all other

games, while Love drew with Richard Sutton (3rd on 3) and David Guthrie (4th on 1½). **Hamish Gold**, 5/5, won the B grade by a clear margin from Malcolm Foord, and **John van Zoomeron** 4½/5 won the C grade, with Kyaw Soe Win Pau on 3 and Trevor Rowell on 2. Anthony Ritchie 4/5 win the D grade

from Chris Bannister 3 and John Croawell 2½.

Invercargill

Ian Lang has been elected president of Invercargill CC, succeeding Gary McLean. Secretary-treasurer Robert Mackway-Jones has also taken over the role of club captain.

Open tournaments scheduled for 1997

Otago Westpac Autumn Rapid, Otago CC, Sat May 3, 25/25.

19th Waitakere Trust Open, Waitemata CC, Sat-Sun, May 11-12, 45 in 90; 15 to fin, entry \$30 (jun \$20), prizes \$2600; at Lincoln Green Hotel, Henderson. 3 divisions, above 1750 rating, 1400 - 1750, under 1400; contact, Bob Smith 2 Autumn Ave, Glen Eden (09)818-4113.

N Z Women's Championship, Howick-Pakuranga CC, Fri-Mon, May 30-June 2, 120/120, entry \$40 (jun \$25).

Invercargill Queen's Birthday tournament, Invercargill CC, Sat-Mon, May 31-June 2 40 in 2, 20 per hr; entry \$25 (jun \$20), prizes \$700, contact, Robert Mackway-Jones, 5 Pine Cres, (03)217-1154.

Wellington Queen's Birthday tournament, Wellington CC, Sat-Mon, May 31-June 2, 120/120, 5r RR, groups of 6, entry \$30 (jun \$25, U-16 \$20), prizes \$600; play noon-4, 5-9, Mon 11-3. Contact Ted Frost, 17 Croydon St, Karori (04)476-4098.

Wellington Queen's Birthday Morning Rapid (in conjunction with Wellington QB Open), Sat-Mon, May 31-June 2, 30/30 5r sw, play 9.30 & 10.45, entry \$15 (jun \$10). Contact Ted Frost.

Otago Westpac Winter Rapid, Otago CC, Sat July 5, 25/25.

North Island Championship, Hastings CC, Mon-Fri, July 14-18, 40 in 2, 20 p hr, entry \$50 (jun \$35), prizes \$1,500; contact Dave Porteous, sec-treas, PO Box 184, tel (06)876-5018 or Chris Smith, club capt, tel (06)877-4583.

North Island Rapid Championship, Hastings CC, Sat July 19, 30/30, entry \$25 (jun \$18), prizes \$1,050. Contact, Dave Porteous or Chris Smith.

Wellington Schoolpupil Championships (unrated), Wellington CC, 30/30, Sat, Aug 9.

Wellington Junior and Age Group Championships, Wellington CC, 30/30, Sat, Aug 30.

Otago Westpac Spring Rapid, Otago CC, Sat Sept 6, 25/25.

All-Wellington Rapid Championships, Wellington CC, Sat, Sept 13.

North Shore Open, North Shore CC, Sat-Sun, Sept 20-21, 40 in 90; 20 to fin.

NZ Junior and Age Group Championships, Tues-Fri, Oct 7-10, venue to be confirmed, propably in Auckland.

South Island Championship, Canterbury CC, Mon-Fri, Sept 29- Oct 3, 8r sw, 40/2, 20/hr.

South Island Rapid Championship, Canterbury CC, Sat-Sun Oct 4-5 (may be one day) 30/30.

Otago Westpac Summer Rapid, Otago CC, Sat Dec 6, 25/25.

New Zealand Championship & NZ Major Open, Hamilton CC, Sun Fri Dec 28 - Jan 9, 1998.

New Zealand Rapid Championship, Hamilton CC, Sat-Sun, Jan 10-11, 1998.

Youngest-ever Grandmaster

By NM Peter Stuart

Etienne Bacrot, of France, became the youngest player to qualify for the GM title when he jointly won a category 10 event at Enghien-les-Bains, near Paris, in March. Bacrot required 6 points for the norm and offered Canadian GM Kevin Spraggett a draw after 13 moves of their last round game. After Spraggett's refusal Bacrot decided to play for a win and benefitted from his opponent's time trouble. Viktor Korchnoi shared first place on 6½/9 and they were followed by local GM Iosef Dorfman on 5½.

The other scores: 4-6 IM Nataf FRA, GM Rausis LAT & GM Spraggett 5; 7-8 IM Chabanon FRA & GM M.Ivanov RUS 3½; 9 Fontaine FRA 2½; 10 IM Anic FRA 2.

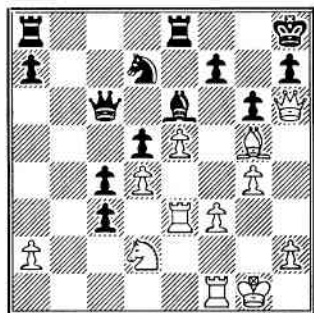
Bacrot was born on 22nd January 1983 so was 14 years and 2 months old at the time of his final GM norm. He thus beat the previous record, held by Hungarian Peter Leko, by 4 months. The record holders before Leko were his compatriot Judit Polgar (15 years, 5 months) and Bobby Fischer. It seems clear that some ex-Soviet players, in particular Anatoly Karpov and Gary Kasparov, were of grandmaster strength for some years before they achieved the title but Soviet policy was to develop their players more fully before allowing them to compete overseas. Thus Karpov was 19 when he gained the title in 1970 while Kasparov was 17 when he gained the title in 1980.

Iosef Dorfman, Bacrot's former-Soviet coach, reckons that Bacrot is "much stronger than Kasparov at the same age". We give two of his games from the Enghien event.

Bacrot - Anic

Queen's Gambit [D38]

1.d4 e4 2.c4 e3 3.f3 d5 4.e3 c3 5.g5 e1b7 6.e3 c5 7.cxd5 exd5 8.ψc2 ψa5 9.ψd3 0-0 10.0-0 c4 11.ψf5 ψe8 12.e2d2 g6 13.ψxd7 ψxd7 14.ψa1 ψxc3 15.bxc3 e1b6 16.f3 ψa4 17.ψb2 ψc6 18.e4 ψe6 19.ψe3 e1a4 20.ψc1 b5 21.ψe1 e1b6 22.ψh4 e1d7 23.g4 b4 24.e5 bxc3 25.ψh6 e1h8



26.e4! f5

26...dxe4 27.fxe4 ψg8 (27...ψb6 28.ψf6+ e1xf6 29.exf6 ψg8 30.ψxh7+! e1hx7 31.ψh3#) 28.ψxh7+! e1hx7 29.ψh3+ e1g7 30.ψh6+ e1h7 31.ψf8#

27.exf6 ψg8 28.e3c3 ψaf8

28...ψb6 was better though the final result would likely have been the same.

29.ψh4 ψb6 30.ψxe6! ψxe6 31.ψe1 ψxf6

31...ψd6 32.ψe7.

32.ψxe6 ψxe6 33.e3xd5 ψb8 34.ψf4 1-0.

Spraggett - Bacrot

Queen's Gambit

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 e1f6 4.e3c3 e6 5.e3 e1bd7 6.ψc2 e1d6 7.ψd3 0-0 8.0-0 h6 9.ψd1 ψe7 10.c5 e1b8 11.e4 e5 12.exd5 e1xd5 13.ψf1 e1xc3

Here Bacrot offered a draw.

14.bxc3 e4 15.ψe1 e1f6 16.g3 e1f5 17.e1b2 e1h7 18.ψb3 e1g4 19.ψe2 e3 20.ψxe3 e1xe3 21.ψe1 ψd7 22.ψxe3 e1c7 23.ψa3 ψab8 24.ψa4 ψfe8 25.c4 e1f5 26.ψc1 e1g4 27.ψd1 b6 28.ψa3 ψxe3 29.fxe3 bxc5 30.ψxc5 ψe6 31.ψe2 e1b1 32.e1f2 ψe4 33.ψg2 ψc1 34.h3 ψc2 35.hxg4 e1xg3+ 36.e1f1 ψxe2 37.e1xe2 ψxg4 38.e1f1 ψf5 39.e1e2 ψc2+ 40.e1d2 e1c7 41.e1e4 ψxa2 0-1.

Olympiad game

Raphaella NED - Sheehan, T

1.e4 e5 2.e1f3 e1f6 3.e3c3 d6 4.h3 e1e7 5.ψc4 h6 6.d3 e1bd7 7.ψd2 c6 8.ψb3 ψc7 9.e1h2 e1f8 10.f4 exf4 11.ψxf4 e1e6 12.ψe3 e1d7

13.e1f3 c5 14.e1d5 e1xd5 15.ψxd5 e1c6 16.ψb3 e1f6 17.c3 0-0 18.0-0 b6 19.ψe1 ψae8 20.ψf2 ψe7 21.ψd5 e1xd5 22.exd5 e1d8 23.ψf4 e1e5 24.ψxe5 dxe5 25.ψg3 ψfe8 26.ψa1 ψd6 27.c4 e1h7 28.e1h4 g6 29.ψe3 f5

30.ψef3 f4 31.ψg4 h5 32.e1f5

If 32.ψg5 e1f7.

32...hxg4 33.e1xd6 gxf3 34.gxf3 ψh8 35.e1e4 e1g7 36.e1g2 e1f7 37.b3 e1d7 and Black's extra ψ eventually prevailed (69 moves). 0-1

Rating of top New Zealand juniors

These unofficial rating lists come from NZCF's December 1996 ratings, and include players who have played in rated events in the past two years.

STANDARD, Top 30 Juniors

1. David Guthrie	OT 2012
2. Russell C Metge	PT 1928
3. Thor Russell	CA 1675
4. Matthew McNabb	CA 1674
5. Alan Dunn	PT 1594
6. Winnie Ong	HP 1564
7. Aaron Batchelor	OT 1529
8. Daniel Goudie	WT 1509
9. Alan Macfarlane	Wtz 433
10. Tertius van der Walt	HP 431*
11. Mark Le Brocq	NS 1345
12. Kyaw S WPau	OT 1392*
13. James Ware	KP 1341*
14. Michael Gibson	AC 1327
15. Leader Wong	WT 1326*
16. Joseph Wong	SP 1312*
17. Craig Hall	CA 1310
18. Rosaleen Sheehan	HH 1278
19. Teresa Sheehan	HH 1270
20. Ismail Jadallah	OT 1260*
21. Terence Law	SP 1258*
22. Emil W Pindur	HP 1243*
23. Will French	SP 1237
24. David R Munroe	NS 1230
25. Patrick Savage	WE 1229
26. Paul Godfrey	WT 1218
27. Igor Bjelobrk	SP 1211*
28. Colm Hartigan	WT 1205
29. Julian Wai	HP 1205
30. Craig Chilvers	HP 1172

Top 20 Under 16

1. Alan Macfarlane	WT 1433
2. Tertius van der Walt	HP 1431*
3. Teresa Sheehan	HH 1270
4. Ismail Jadallah	OT 1260*
5. Will French	SP 1237
6. David R Munroe	NS 1230
7. Patrick Savage	WE 1229

8. Igor Bjelobrk	SP 1211*	25. Kyaw S W Pau	OT 1310*
9. Colm Hartigan	WT 1205	26. Joseph Wong	SP 1306*
10. Julian Wai	HP 1205	27. Harry Cheng	NS 1284*
11. Craig Chilvers	HP 1172	28. Winnie Ong	HP 1281
12. Mark Chilvers	HP 1162	29. Richard Pocock	GA 1272
13. Raymond Chew	WE 1130	30. Aaron Whitehouse	NS 1249*
14. Richard Pfister	SP 1088*		
15. Paul Sweetsur	GA 1078*		
16. David J W Simpson	NS 1003*		
17. Tamehana Rennie	HA 938		
18. Murphy L Ah-chee	SP 822*		
19. Nicholas Landrigan	SP 782*		
20. Samuel Sheehan	HH 742		

Top 6 Under 12

Patrick Savage	WE 1229
Colm Hartigan	WT 1205
Nicholas Landrigan	SP 782*
Samuel Sheehan	HH 742
Sean O'Connor	WT 712
Christopher Morris	NS 669*

RAPID, Top 30 Juniors

1. David Guthrie	OT 1968
2. Russell C Metge	PT 1825
3. Thor Russell	CA 1759
4. Aaron Batchelor	OT 1648
5. Matthew McNabb	CA 1613
6. Daniel Goudie	WT 1607*
7. Alan Dunn	PT 1556
8. Niel van der Walt	HP 1489*
9. Ismail Jadallah	OT 1471
10. Craig Hall	CA 1450*
11. Emil W Pindur	HP 1384*
12. Pascal Harris	WA 1379
13. David R Munroe	NS 1378
14. Alan Macfarlane	WT 1356*
15. Raymond Chew	WE 1354
16. Bryan K Clark	SP 1354
17. Ben Riley	NS 1352*
18. Maxwell Duncan	AS 1343*
19. Teresa Sheehan	HH 1333
20. David J Simpson	NS 1333
21. Nick Glynn	OT 1323*
22. Ryan Whitehouse	NS 1317*
23. Patrick Savage	WE 1311
24. Rosaleen Sheehan	HH 1311

Top 8 Under 12

1. Andrea Richardson	AS 1307
2. Patrick Savage	WE 1212
3. Tamehana Rennie	HA 1156
4. Samuel Sheehan	HH 1131
5. Brian Kwang	WE 1079
6. Elizabeth Morris	NS 1078
7. Colin Chow	WE 1003
8. Chris Morris	NS 751

Overseas News

By NM Peter Stuart

Wijk aan Zee

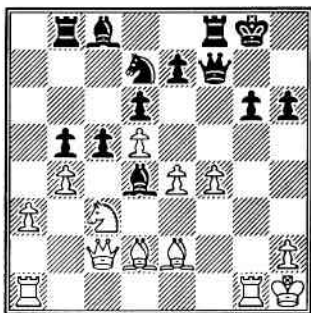
Valery Salov, playing under the Russian flag again, scored 8½/11 to win this category 16 all-GM tournament in January. Jeroen Piket NED shared the lead going into the last round but lost his final game against U.S. champion Alex Yermolinsky and had to be content to share second on 8 with Alexander Onischuk RUS and Igor Sokolov BIH. Piket had started with 5/6 but then followed six draws before his last round loss.

Yermolinsky was fifth on 7 and then followed: 6-7 Granda PER & Timman NED 6½; 8-11 Korchnoi SWI, Lautier FRA, Short ENG & van Wely NED 6; 12 Illescas ESP 5½; 13 P.Nikolic BIH 5; 14 Glek RUS 4.

Korchnoi – Onischuk

Dutch [A85]

1.c4 f5 2.♗c3 ♖f6 3.d4 g6 4.f3 ♗g7 5.e4 fxe4 6.fxe4 d6 7.♗f3 0-0 8.♗e2 c5 9.d5 ♗g4 10.0-0 ♗e5 11.♗g5 ♗bd7 12.♗h1 h6 13.♗d2 a6 14.♗c2 ♗b8 15.a3 ♗e8 16.b4 ♗xf3 17.gxf3 b5 18.cxb5 axb5 19.f4 ♗f7 20.♗g1



21.e5! ♗xe5

21...♗xg1 22.♗xg1 ♗h7 23.e6±

22.fxe5 ♗f5 23.♗d3 ♗xd3 24.♗xd3 ♗xg1 25.♗xg1 ♗h7 26.bxc5 dxc5 27.♗e4 ♗f5 28.♗e3 ♗h5 29.d6 ♗f3 30.dxe7! ♗xe3 31.♗f6+ ♗h8 32.♗xh5 ♗d3 33.♗xg6

33.♗f1 ♗g8 34.♗xh6 is even stronger.

33...♗xd2 34.♗d6 1-0.

Piket – van Wely

King's Indian [E74]

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 ♗g7 4.e4 d6 5.♗e2 0-0 6.♗g5 c5 7.d5 h6 8.♗f4 e6 9.dxe6 ♗xe6 10.♗xd6 ♗e8 11.♗f3 ♗b6 12.♗xb8 ♗axb8 13.♗c2 ♗h5 14.g3 ♗h3 15.♗d2 f5 16.♗xh5 gxh5 17.0-0-0 fxe4 18.♗dx4 ♗f5 19.f3 ♗g6 20.♗he1 a6 21.♗d5 ♗d4 22.♗d2 ♗e6 23.♗d6 ♗e5 24.♗d5! b5

24...♗xd6 25.♗df6+ ♗h8 26.♗xe8 is clearly winning.

25.♗xa6 bxc4 26.♗ef6+ ♗xf6 27.♗exe6 ♗xe6 28.♗xe6 c3 29.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 30.♗d5 cxb2+ 31.♗b1 ♗f7 32.♗g6+ 1-0

Linares

With renewed support from the municipal government, organiser Luis Rentero was able to restart the famous Linares series with a category 19 event. The average rating was 2700.8 which rounds to 2701, just making category 19. The tournament was making headlines before it started over the non-participation of Anatoly Karpov. While the FIDE world champion claims that he never said he would play at Linares, Rentero states that Karpov never even acknowledged his invitation. The grandmaster-class organiser was scathing in his criticism of Karpov, even going so far as to suggest that Karpov was afraid to play! Perhaps Karpov was at best insensitive in his handling of this invitation but the scaredy-cat charge is ridiculous with Karpov being the most active world champion in history.

As the score table suggests Gary Kasparov scored a convincing victory which shows that he has regained top form and is still the strongest player in the world. Only Vladimir Kramnik was able to keep in touch although it is true that Judit Polgar had a dream start with 4½/6 including wins over Predrag Nikolic, Vassily Ivanchuk and Alexei Dreev. She then hit a brick wall, however, in the shape of consecutive games against Kramnik, Viswanathan Anand and Kasparov – all of which she lost.

NZ Chess

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	Kasparov, G.	RUS	g 2795	x	1	1	1	1	0	½	1	½	1	½	8½	
2	Kramnik, V.	RUS	g 2740	0	x	½	1	1	½	1	½	1	½	1	7½	
3	Adams, M.	ENG	g 2665	0	½	x	½	½	½	1	½	1	1	½	6½	
4	Topalov, V.	BUL	g 2725	0	0	½	x	½	½	1	1	1	0	1	6½	
5	Polgar, J.	HUN	g 2645	0	0	½	½	x	0	1	½	1	½	1	6	
6	Anand, V.	IND	g 2765	0	½	½	½	1	x	½	½	0	1	½	5½	
7	Ivanchuk, V.	UKR	g 2740	1	0	½	0	0	½	x	½	0	1	1	5	
8	Gelfand, B.	BLR	g 2700	½	½	0	0	½	½	x	x	1	½	½	5	
9	Nikolic, P.	BIH	g 2655	0	½	½	0	0	1	½	0	x	½	1	4½	
10	Dreev, A.	RUS	g 2650	½	0	0	0	0	0	1	½	½	x	½	4	
11	Shirov, A.	ESP	g 2690	0	½	0	1	½	½	0	½	0	½	x	0	3½
12	Piket, J.	NED	g 2640	½	0	½	0	0	½	0	½	0	1	x	3½	

After six rounds Kasparov and Kramnik also had 4½ points and they kept in step with round 7 wins against Michael Adams and Polgar respectively. Then Kramnik took over the lead for himself by drawing with Alexei Shirov while Kasparov suffered his only loss at the hands of the previously hapless Ivanchuk. Both leaders won in round 9 and the scores were tied again after the penultimate round when Kasparov beat Shirov and Kramnik drew with Anand. So the stage was set for a last round clash between the leaders, the organiser's dream. Kasparov had the advantage of the white pieces and, in a mainline Nimzoindian, gained the advantage of the two bishops which he later converted to a win.

Adams was always well placed for a third place finish but Veselin Topalov had an awful start of 2/6 before climbing back with four consecutive wins and a last round draw with his English rival. Polgar's great start combined with a last-round win against Jeroen Piket gave her fifth place.

Adams – Dreev

Sicilian [B70]

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 d6 6.g3 g6 7.♗g2 ♗g7?

Correct is 7...♗xd4 8.♗xd4 ♗g7.

8.♗xc6 bxc6 9.e5 dxe5 10.♗xd8+

10.♗xc6+ ♗d7 11.♗xa8 ♗xa8 is not as clear. After the text White obtains a very nice endgame.

10...♗xd8 11.♗xc6 ♗b8 12.♗e3 ♗xb2 13.0-0-0 ♗c7 14.♗b5! ♗b4 15.a3 ♗xb5 16.♗xb5+ ♗b7 17.♗xa7 ♗f5 18.♗b2 ♗g4

NZ Chess

19.♗b5 ♗c8 20.♗d2 ♗a6 21.a4 e4+ 22.♗d4 ♗h6 23.♗e2 e5 24.♗a7 ♗c4 25.h3 ♗f6 26.♗d6 ♗xa4 27.♗e3 ♗f8 28.♗xf5 ♗b4+ 29.♗c1 gxf5 30.c3 ♗a4 31.♗b2 ♗b5 32.♗d2 ♗e7 33.♗d5 e3 34.♗xe3 ♗c4 35.♗a1 ♗xa1 36.♗xa1 ♗d5 37.♗b2 ♗d8 38.♗c2 ♗a5 39.♗d1 h5 40.♗d2 ♗b6 41.♗e1 f4 42.♗a1 f3 43.♗a4+ ♗c5 44.c4 ♗f6 45.♗a5 ♗d7 46.♗d3 f5 47.♗xb6+ ♗xb6 48.♗e3 e4 49.♗b4+ ♗c6 50.♗b5 ♗c5 51.♗b8 ♗d7 52.♗h8 ♗e5 53.♗d4 ♗d3 54.♗xh5 1-0.

Anand – Kasparov

Sicilian [B85]

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 6.♗e2 e6 7.0-0 ♗e7 8.a4 ♗c6 9.♗e3 0-0 10.f4 ♗c7 11.♗h1 ♗e8 12.♗f3 ♗b8 13.♗d2 ♗a5 14.♗f2 ♗c4 15.♗c1 e5 16.♗de2 exf4 17.♗xf4 ♗e6 18.b3 ♗e5 19.♗b2 ♗bc8 20.♗ac1 ♗c5 21.♗g3 g6 22.♗ce2 ♗xf3 23.gxf3 b5 24.axb5 axb5 25.♗d4 ♗c6 26.♗g2 b4 27.♗g3 ♗b5 28.♗xe6 fxe6 29.f4 e5 30.♗b2 ♗c5 31.f5 g5 32.♗ce1 ♗c6 33.♗e2 ♗f7 34.♗c1 ♗g8 35.♗e3 ♗c3 36.♗d2 ♗xc2 37.♗xb4 ♗xe2 38.♗xe2 h5 39.♗xh5?

39.♗e1 was essential.

39...♗xe4 40.♗f3 g4 41.♗g2 ♗h8

The knight is lost after 42 f6 (42 ♗g3 ♗xg3) ♗d8 43 ♗f5 ♗g6. 0-1.

Nikolic – Shirov

Queen's Gambit [D44]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.♗f3 e6 5.♗g5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.♗h4 g5 9.♗xg5 hxg5 10.♗xg5 ♗bd7 11.exf6 ♗b7 12.g3 c5 13.d5 ♗b6 14.♗g2 b4 15.0-0 0-0 16.♗b1 ♗a6 17.dxe6 ♗xg2 18.e7 ♗xf1 19.♗xf1 ♗c6

20.exd8♙+ ♔xd8 21.♖d5 ♔xh2 22.♔g1 ♔h8 23.♙f4 ♖e6 24.♙f3 ♙h3 25.♙d1 b3 26.a4 ♙h2+ 27.♔f1 ♙h1+ 28.♔e2 ♙xf3+ 29.♔xf3 ♔c8 30.g4 ♔h3+ 31.♔e4 c3 32.bxc3 c4 33.♖e7+ ♔d8 34.♖c6+ ♔e8 35.♙g3 ♖c5+ 36.♔d5 ♖d3 37.♔b1 ♔d7 38.♖b8+ ♔c8 39.♔xc4 ♖c5 40.♖c6 ♖e4 41.♖e7+ ♔d7 42.♙d1+ ♔e8 43.♖d5 ♙d6 44.♔e1 1-0.

Ivanchuk – Polgar
Grünfeld [D77]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.♖f3 ♙g7 4.g3 0-0 5.♙g2 d5 6.0-0 ♖c6 7.♖c3 dxc4 8.d5 ♖b4 9.e4 e6 10.♙g5 h6 11.♙e3 ♖d3 12.dxc6 ♙xc6 13.h3 ♙d7 14.♙d2 ♙xh3 15.♙xh6 ♔a8 16.♙xg7 ♔xg7 17.♖g5 ♙xg2 18.♔xg2 ♖h5 19.♙c3 ♖df4+!

20.♔h2 ♔h8; 20.♔f3 f6 21.gxf4 fxe5 22.f5 ♔xf5+; 20.gxf4 ♙g4+ 21.♔h2 ♔h8 22.♖h3 ♖xf4+—

0-1

Topalov – Kramnik
Catalan [E07]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♖f3 ♖f6 4.♖c3 e6 5.g3 ♖bd7 6.♙g2 dxc4 7.a4 ♙e7 8.0-0 0-0 9.e4 e5 10.dxe5 ♖g4 11.♙f4 ♙a5 12.e6 fxe6 13.♙e2 ♖ge5 14.♖d4 ♖d3 15.♖xe6 ♔f6 16.♙c7 ♙b4 17.♖d4 ♙c5 18.♖c2 ♙xb2 19.♖d1 ♙b3 20.♖de3 ♖7e5 21.h3 ♙e6 22.♔h2 ♔h6 23.♔ab1 ♙g4 24.♖xg4 ♖xg4+ 25.♙xg4 ♙xc2 26.♙g5 ♖xf2 27.♔xf2 ♙xf2 28.♔f1 ♙d4 29.♙e5 ♙d7 30.♙c1 ♙e6 31.♙xg7 ♔xg7 32.♙g5+ ♔g6 33.♙xc5 ♙d6 0-1.

Kasparov – Nikolic
Scotch [C45]

1.e4 e5 2.♖f3 ♖c6 3.d4 exd4 4.♖xd4 ♖f6 5.♖xc6 bxc6 6.e5 ♙e7 7.♙e2 ♖d5 8.c4 ♙a6 9.b3 g5 10.g3 ♙g7 11.♙b2 0-0 12.♖d2 f6 13.♙h5 ♖b4 14.h4 g4

14...♖c2+ 15.♔d1 ♖xa1 16.hxg5 fxe5 17.♙xh7+ ♔f7 18.♙d3 ♔g8 19.♙xa1 ♙xg5 20.♔h5 ♙g4+ 21.♙e2 ♙e6 22.♔xe5+—.

15.♔d1

Threatening to win the Nb4 with 16.a3.

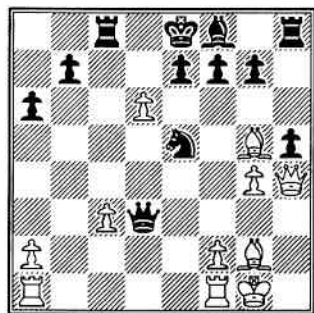
15...c5 16.a3 ♖c6 17.♙d3 f5

17...h6 18.exf6 ♙xf6 19.♙xg4+ also allows White an extra pawn.

18.♙xf5 ♙xe5 19.♔e1 d6 20.♙e4 ♙b7 21.♙xg4+ ♙g7 22.♙d5+ ♔h8 23.♙xe5 dxe5 24.♙xg7+ ♔xg7 25.♖e4 ♔ad8 26.♖xc5 ♙c8 27.♔a2 1-0.

Shirov – Ivanchuk
Sicilian [B90]

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♖xd4 ♖f6 5.♖c3 a6 6.♙e3 ♖bd7 7.g4 d5 8.exd5 ♖b6 9.♙g2 ♙xg4 10.♙d3 ♔c8 11.0-0 ♖c4 12.♙g5 ♖xb2 13.♙g3 ♙c7 14.♙h4 ♙xc3 15.♙xf6 h5 16.♙g5 ♙xd4 17.h3 ♖c4 18.c3 ♙d3 19.hxg4 ♖e5 20.d6



20...♖f3+! 21.♙xf3 ♙xf3 22.dxc7 ♙xe7 23.♔fe1

23.♙xe7 ♔c4 24.♔h2 ♔xg4 25.♙h3 ♙f4+ 26.♔h1 ♔xc7+—.

23...f6 24.♙e3 ♙xg4+ 25.♙xg4 hxg4 26.♔ab1 b5 27.♙d4 ♔f7 28.♔e4 ♔he8 29.♔xg4 ♙f8 30.♔g3 ♔c4 31.♔d3 ♔e2 32.♙b6 ♔xa2 33.♔e1 ♙c5 34.♔d7+ ♔g6 35.♙xc5 ♔xc5 36.♔ee7 ♔g5+ 37.♔f1 ♔h6 38.♔a7 a5 39.♔e8 a4 40.f4 ♔f5 0-1.

Topalov – Kasparov
Queen's Gambit [D35]

1.c4 e6 2.♖c3 d5 3.d4 ♙e7 4.cxd5 exd5 5.♙f4 ♖f6 6.e3 ♙f5 7.♙b3 ♖c6 8.g4

A novelty and probably a bad one. The complications of 8.♙xb7 are usual.

8...♖xg4 9.♖xd5 0-0 10.♙g2 ♙h4 11.♙g3 ♙e6 12.♔f1 a5 13.♖h3 a4 14.♙c4 ♖a5 15.♙c5 b6 16.♙xh4 bxc5 17.♙xd8 ♔axd8 18.♖e7+ ♔h8 19.d5 ♙d7 20.♔c1 c4 21.♖g5 h6 22.♖f3 ♔b8 23.h3 ♖f6 24.♖d4

24.♔c2 ♔fe8 25.♖c6 ♖xc6 26.dxc6 ♙f5 27.♔d2 ♙d3+ 28.♔g1 ♖e4 is also winning for Black.

24...♔xb2 25.♙f3 ♔xa2 26.♔g2 ♔e8 27.♖c6 ♙xc6 28.♖xc6 ♖xc6 29.dxc6 ♔xe3 30.♔xc4 ♔b3 31.♔d4 ♔bb2 32.♔f1 ♔d2 33.♔b4 ♔h7 34.♔b7 ♖e8 35.♔g3 g6 36.♔e1 ♖d6 37.♔xc7 ♔g7 38.♔d7 ♖f5+ 39.♔f4 ♔xf2 0-1.

Ivanchuk – Kasparov
King's Indian [E81]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.♖c3 ♙g7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.♙g5 a6 7.♙d2 c5 8.d5 b5 9.cxb5 ♖bd7 10.a4 ♙a5 11.♖ge2 ♖b6 12.♖c1 axb5 13.♙xb5 ♙a6 14.♖1a2 ♙xb5 15.axb5 ♖h5 16.♔b1 ♙d4 17.♙h6 ♔fe8 18.b3 e6 19.dxe6 ♔xe6 20.♙e3 ♙xe3 21.♙xe3 d5 22.b4 ♙a3 23.bxc5 ♖c4 24.♙d4 ♖f4 25.0-0! ♙xa2 26.♔f2 ♙a3 27.♖xd5

With three pawns for the piece and better placed pieces White is already winning.

27...♙d3 28.♙xd3 ♖xd3 29.♔c2! ♖a3 30.♔a2 ♖xc5 31.♔ba1 f5 32.♖c7 ♔e5 33.♖xa8 ♖xb5 34.exf5 ♔xf5 35.♖b6 ♖c3 36.♔c2 1-0 (time).

Kramnik – Polgar
King's Indian [E97]

1.♖f3 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.♖c3 ♙g7 4.d4 d6 5.e4 0-0 6.♙e2 e5 7.0-0 ♖c6 8.d5 ♖e7 9.b4 ♖h5 10.♔e1 f5 11.♖g5 ♖f6 12.♙f3 c6 13.♙e3 cxd5 14.cxd5 h6 15.♖e6 ♙xe6 16.dxe6 fxe4 17.♖xe4 ♖xe4 18.♙xe4 d5 19.♙c2 e4 20.♔c1 d4 21.♙d2 e3

21...d3 22.♙b3 ♙d4 23.♙e3 ♙xc3 24.♔xe3 ♙d4 25.♔c4 ♙b2 26.♙f1 and White wins the e-pawn.

22.fxe3 d3 23.♙b3 ♙d6 24.♙g4 ♙e5 25.♔f1 Better is 25.♙h4.

25...♙xh2+ 26.♔h1 ♙g3?

26...♙e5.

27.♙d4 ♙e5 28.♔f7 ♔xf7

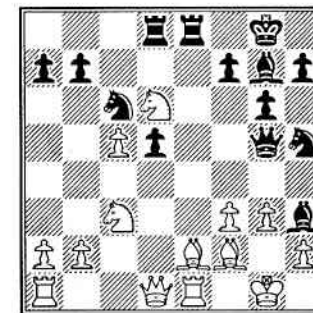
28...♖c6 29.♔xf8+ ♔xf8 30.♔f1+ ♔g7 31.♙d7+ ♔h8 32.♔f7+—.

29.exf7+ ♔h7 30.♙xe5 ♙xe5 31.♔c5 ♙d6 32.♔c4 ♖c6 33.b5 ♖e5 34.♔d4 ♙f8 35.♔e4 ♙g7 36.♙b4 d2 37.♔xe5 ♔d8 38.♔e8 1-0.

Gelfand – Topalov
King's Indian [E92]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.♖f3 g6 3.c4 ♙g7 4.♖c3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.♙e2 e5 7.♙e3 exd4 8.♖xd4 ♔e8 9.f3 c6

10.♙f2 d5 11.exd5 cxd5 12.0-0 ♖c6 13.c5 ♖h5 14.g3 ♙h3 15.♔e1 ♙g5 16.♖db5 ♔ad8 17.♖d6



17...♙d4! 18.♙c1

18.♙xd4? ♖xg3 19.♔f2 ♖xe2 20.♔xe2 ♙g2+ 21.♔e1 ♖xd4 22.♙xd4 ♙f1+ 23.♔d2 ♔xe2+ 24.♖xe2 ♙xa1+; 18.♖xe8? ♖xg3! 19.♖f6+ ♙xf6 20.♙xd4 ♙g5 21.♔f2 ♖f5+; 18.f4!? ♙xf2+ 19.♔xf2 is not as clear though Black still gains strong attacking chances after 19...♖xf4.

18...♙e3 19.♙xe3 ♔xe3 20.♔f2 d4 21.♖d1 ♔xe2+! 22.♔xe2 ♙d5 23.♖e4 ♖e5 24.♙g5 ♔e8 25.♔d2?

25.♙h4 is better.

25...♙c4 26.♖dc3 h6 27.♙h4 dxc3 28.♔d8 cxb2 29.♔xe8+ ♔g7 30.♔d1 ♙c2+ 31.♔d2 b1♙ 32.♙xh3 ♙cc1 0-1.

Kasparov – Kramnik
Nimzoindian [E59]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.♖c3 ♙b4 4.e3 0-0 5.♙d3 c5 6.♖f3 d5 7.0-0 ♖c6 8.a3 ♙xc3 9.bxc3 dxc4 10.♙xc4 ♙c7 11.♙a2 b6 12.♔e1 e5 13.e4 ♙g4 14.dxc5 bxc5 15.h3 ♔ad8 16.♙e2 ♙xf3 17.♙xf3 ♔d6 18.♙g5 h6 19.♙h4 ♔fd8 20.♔ab1 ♖e7 21.♙c4 ♖c8 22.♙g3 ♖b6 23.♙b5 ♔e6 24.a4 c4 25.♙e2 ♔d3 26.a5 ♖c8 27.♔b4 ♔xc3 28.♔xc4 ♔xc4 29.♙xc4 ♙b8 30.♙c5 ♖d6 31.♙d3 ♖d7 32.♙a3 ♖f8 33.♔b1 ♙c7 34.♔c1 ♙d8 35.a6 ♖g6 36.♙c5 ♔e7 37.f3 ♖e8 38.♙f1 ♔c7 39.♙c3 ♔d7 40.♔h2 ♔e7 41.♔c6 ♔h7 42.♙c1 ♖c7 43.♙c3 ♙d7 44.♔c5 ♙d6 45.♙d2 ♖e6 46.♔d5 ♙b8 47.♔b5 ♙d6 48.♔b7 ♖d4 49.♙b4 ♙f6 50.♙c5 ♖c6 51.♙c3 ♔e6 52.♙c4 ♔e7 53.♙d5 ♖d4 54.♔xa7 ♔xa7 55.♙xa7 ♖e7 56.♙c4 h5 57.♙c5 1-0.

Anand – Dreev
Sicilian [B66]

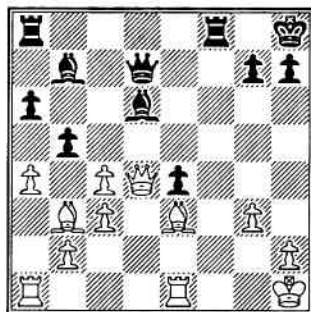
1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♁xd4 ♁f6
5.♁c3 d6 6.♁g5 e6 7.♣d2 a6 8.0-0-0 ♁d7
9.f3 h6 10.♁e3 ♣c7 11.g4 ♁e5 12.h4 b5
13.♁e2 g6 14.g5 hxg5 15.hxg5 ♣xh1
16.♣xh1 ♁h5 17.♠b1 ♁g3 18.♣h7 ♁c4
19.♁xc4 ♣xc4 20.b3 ♣f1+ 21.♠b2 a5 22.♣h8
a4? 23.♁dxb5 ♁xb5 24.♁xb5 axb3
25.♁xd6+ ♠d7 26.♁f5+ 1-0.

Ubeda

This category 16 tournament started just a few days after Linares, giving Spain two concurrent super-GM events. Joel Lautier came off a string of less than impressive results to record one of his best performances, scoring 8/11 to lead Alexander Belyavsky home by a 1½ point margin. Ulf Andersson held second place for most of the way but his last round loss to Zoltan Almasi dropped him back to a tie for fifth place. The other two players sharing the lead going into the final round, Evgeny Bareev and Alexander Khalifman, drew their last games to share third place.

Almasi – Khalifman
Ruy Lopez [C89]

1.e4 e5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.♁b5 a6 4.♁a4 ♁f6 5.0-0
♁e7 6.♣e1 b5 7.♁b3 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5
♁xd5 10.♁xe5 ♁xe5 11.♣xe5 c6 12.d3 ♁d6
13.♣e1 ♣h4 14.g3 ♣h3 15.♣e4 ♣d7 16.♁d2
♁b7 17.♣f1 c5 18.♣e1 ♠h8 19.a4 ♁f4 20.♁e4
♁h3+ 21.♠h1 c4 22.dxc4 ♁xf2+ 23.♣xf2 f5
24.♣d4 fxe4 25.♁e3



25...♣h3! 26.♣xd6
26.♠g1 ♁xg3!
26...♣f2 27.♁xf2 e3+ 28.♣d5 ♁xd5+ 29.cxd5
exf2 30.♣f1 ♣f8 31.axb5 ♣g4 32.♠g2 ♣f3+
33.♠h3 ♣f5 34.♣a4 ♣h5+ 35.♣h4 ♣xh4+
36.♠xh4 ♣e2 0-1.

Belyavsky – Khalifman
King's Indian [E90]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 g6 3.♁c3 ♁g7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 0-0
6.♁g5 ♁bd7 7.♁f3 e5 8.d5 h6 9.♁e3 ♁c5
10.♁d2 a5 11.a3 ♁e8 12.b4 axb4 13.axb4
♣xa1 14.♣xa1 ♁a6 15.♣a3 f5 16.♁b3 ♁b8
17.c5 ♁d7 18.♁a5 ♁df6 19.c6 bxc6 20.♁xc6
♣d7 21.♣a8 ♠h7 22.♁b5 f4 23.♁d2 f3 24.g4
♁xg4 25.♁a7 ♣e7 26.hxg4 ♁xg4 27.♁c6 ♣f7
28.♣d8 ♁f6 29.♣b8 h5 30.♣a7 ♁g7 31.♠d1
♁f6 32.♠c2 ♁xe4 33.♁xe4 ♁f5 34.♁d3 ♣xd5
35.♁e7 1-0.

Akopian – Illescas
Sicilian [B52]

1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 e6 3.b3 d6 4.♁b2 ♁f6 5.♁b5+
♁d7 6.♁xd7+ ♁bxd7 7.♣e2 ♁e7 8.0-0 0-0

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Lautier, J.	FRA g 2630	x	1	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	½	1	½
2	Belyavsky, A.	SLO g 2665	0	x	½	1	½	½	0	½	½	1	1	6½
3	Bareev, E.	RUS g 2665	½	½	x	½	0	½	1	½	½	½	1	6
4	Khalifman, A.	RUS g 2650	½	0	½	x	1	½	0	½	1	½	1	6
5	Almasi, Z.	HUN g 2595	½	½	1	0	x	1	1	½	½	0	0	5½
6	Andersson, U.	SWE g 2655	½	½	½	½	0	x	½	½	½	½	½	5½
7	Yusupov, A.	GER g 2665	0	1	0	1	0	½	x	½	½	½	½	5½
8	Korchnol, V.	SWI g 2635	0	½	½	½	½	½	½	x	½	1	½	5½
9	Leko, P.	HUN g 2600	0	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	x	1	½	5
10	Timman, J.	NED g 2630	½	0	½	½	1	½	½	0	0	x	½	4½
11	Akopian, V.	ARM g 2655	0	0	0	0	1	½	½	½	½	½	x	4½
12	Illescas, M.	ESP g 2635	½	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	½	½	0	x

9.c4 ♣c7 10.d4 cxd4 11.♁xd4 a6 12.♁c3
♣fe8 13.♣ad1 ♣c5 14.♣d3 ♁e5 15.♁a4 ♣a5
16.♣h3 ♁g6 17.f4 e5 18.♁f5! ♁xf4 19.♣xf4
exf4 20.♁c3 ♣d8 21.♁xg7 ♠xg7 22.♣g4+
♠h8 23.♣f5 ♠g8 24.♣h6 ♠f8 25.♣g5 d5
26.♣xh7 ♁c5+ 27.♁xc5 ♁xh7 28.♣h6+ ♠e7
29.♣h4+ ♠f8 30.♣h6+ ♠e7 31.♣h4+ ♠f8
32.♣xh7 ♣e6 33.♁xe6+ fxe6 34.♣g7+ ♠e8
35.♁f6 ♣d6 36.♣g8+ ♠d7 37.♣xa8 ♣b6+
38.♠f1 dxe4 39.♣f8 1-0.

Lautier – Belyavsky
Nimzoindian [E42]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 e6 3.♁c3 ♁b4 4.e3 c5 5.♁ge2
b6 6.a3 ♁a5 7.♣b1 ♁a6 8.♁d2 0-0 9.♁g3
♁b7 10.♁d3 d5 11.cxd5 cxd4 12.exd4 ♁xc3
13.bxc3 ♣xd5 14.♣e2 ♁c7 15.f3 e5 16.♁c4
♣c6 17.dxe5 ♣fe8 18.f4 ♣ad8 19.0-0 ♁g4
20.♣b2 ♣c5+ 21.♠h1 ♣xd2 22.♣xd2 ♁c3
23.♁xf7+ ♠xf7 24.♣d7+ ♠f8
24...♣e7? 25.♣xe7+ ♠xe7 26.♣xe3!
25.♣g1 ♁xg2 26.♣xg2 ♣c6 27.♣d2 ♁e6
28.♁h5 ♁a8 29.♠g1 ♣c5+ 30.♣f2 ♠g8 31.♁g3
♣b5 32.f5 ♁c5 33.♣xa7 ♁d3 34.f6 1-0.

Geneva

The 13th Open was one of the strongest open tournaments ever held in Switzerland with 16 GMs and IMs in the field of 74. No fewer than five players tied for first place with 6½ points in the 9-round Swiss but tie-break points favoured Polish GM Alexander Wojtkiewicz. The most notable performance was that of 21-year old Swiss student FM Richard Forster whose opponents included seven GMs; his 6½ points was enough for his first GM norm. The others on 6½ were GMs Rustem Dautov GER, Dmitry Gurevich USA and Vladimir Tukmakov UKR.

Santiago

Local GM Ivan Morovic played a 6-game match against England's Michael Adams in January in the Chilean capital. Adams won the first game and, after three draws, also the fifth and sixth games for a 4½-1½ victory.

Bermuda

The "Mermaid Beach Club GM Tournament" in January-February was won by Julian Hodgson with 8½/10, giving the 33-year old English GM perhaps the best

result of his career. Sharing second place on 6½ with American GM Nick De Firmian the Canadian IM Alexander Lesiege gained his second GM norm. Johann Hjartarson ISL was next on 6 and then followed: 5 IM Vescovi BRZ 5½; 6 IM Shaked USA 4½; 7-8 IM Hellsten SWE & IM Waitzkin USA 4; 9 IM Bezold GER 3½; 10-11 IM Ashley USA & IM Maiwald GER 3.

Nova Gorica

This Slovenian town's open tournament in February was won by Ukrainian GM Vladimir Malaniuk with 7/9. Sharing second place on 6½ points were GM Djuric YUG, GM Epishin RUS, GM Gofstein ISR, IM Kogan ISR, GM Kozul CRO, GM Sermek SLO, GM Timoshenko SVK & GM Wojtkiewicz POL.

Faroe Islands

The fifth leg of the Nordic Grand Prix, a 9-round Swiss, was won by Russian GM Peter Svidler with 7½ points. Bosnian GM Igor Sokolov took an unshared second place on 7 while GM Helgi Stefansson ISL was third on 6½ and GM Curt Hansen DEN fourth on 6. There were 40 players.

Cannes

Recent visitor to New Zealand GM Drazen Sermek SLO followed up a good result at Nova Gorica with a tie for first place in a 50-player Open tournament with GM Michele Godena ITA, GM Andrei Sokolov RUS and WGM Xie Jun CHN. They scored 6½/9, a half-point margin over GM Joe Gallagher ENG, young American IM Tal Shaked and four others.

London

A friendly match between China and England resulted in a win for the visitors 10-8. The match was in the form of a double round Scheveningen match between teams of three. The Chinese team of Ye Jiangchuan, Peng Xiaomin and Wang Zili won the first round 3-0 against England's Keith Arkell, McDonald and Ward. England won the next three rounds 2-1 to tie the scores but the Chinese took the last two rounds by a similar margin.

NZCF Council report

Tournament venues

There were no early bids for the 1997 South Island Championship, but Ashburton CC (which wishes to stage the event next year as an anniversary tournament) made an offer, then Canterbury also came forward. After discussion between the clubs, this year's event is to be held in Christchurch, in the week beginning September 29.

The NZ Junior and Age Group Championships are due to be held in the following week, starting Tuesday, October 7. Papatoetoe CC is looking at the possibility of running the event, but has not yet confirmed that it can.

Promotion and sponsorship

In preparation for a coordinated campaign to gain sponsorship, NZCF Council has asked clubs for information on local sponsorship and publicity, including regular chess columns. More than half the affiliated clubs have responded and an impressive portfolio of information is being assembled.

Chess as a sport

FIDE is building up its case for submission to the IOC on recognition of chess as an Olympic sport, and has sent out a questionnaire to national federations on the subject. It lists New Zealand as a country in which chess is recognised as a sport - which is not up to date in view of the Hillary Commission's withdrawal of support two or three years ago.

Headquarters of NZCF

Since the mid-1980s the headquarters of the New Zealand Chess Federation has been in Wellington. This has been longer than the average time for the base to remain in any centre since member clubs adopted a cycle to share the headquarters responsibility among centres which could handle it. While

By Ted Frost

in Wellington federation affairs have been handled by a small team.

Through councillor Peter Stuart, Auckland clubs have expressed their willingness to take over responsibility for the administration of federation affairs from the end of this year, and inquiries have shown that a strong team is available and will be nominated for election to office at the next annual meeting. It is not envisaged that all functions will be based in Auckland, but that some can be carried out by suitable people located elsewhere, in accordance with existing practice (for example, location of the technical committee in Auckland).

The Wellington councillors have accepted the proposal in principle and look forward to receiving nominations for an Auckland-based council later in the year. Meanwhile, the Council will plan for an orderly transfer of headquarters to Auckland from the start of 1998.

1997 Australian Masters

Michael Freeman has accepted an invitation to play in this year's Australian Masters tournament, which will be held in Melbourne from June 30 to July 13. Stephen Lukey is one of the reserves in the 12-player field, which will include three Australian IMs (G West, J-P Wallace and S Solomon), and players from Mongolia (G Altan-Och), USA (W Paschall) and England (J Nicholson).

Invitations

NZCF has received advice that a FIDE world composition tournament being run by the German Chess Federation, and closing May 1, 1998. NZCF has details.

BCF advises that the 1997 British Championship will be held in Hove from August 3-16. Sponsors are the accountancy firm of Smith and Williamson, with the first prize 10,000 pounds.

Affiliated Clubs

Ashburton PO Box 204, Ashburton. Meets Monday 7.30pm (Feb-Oct), Room 1 (upstairs), Public Library, cnr Havelock and West Streets. Contact, Roy Keeling (03)308-6936.

Auckland Chess Centre Meets Monday & Thursday 7.15pm, junior coaching Wednesdays, 17 Cromwell St, Mt Eden, Auckland 1003. Tel (09)630-2042 clubroom; contact Mark Henderson (09)815-6230.

Canterbury 227 Bealey Avenue, Christchurch. Wednesday, 7.30pm. Tel (03)366-3935 clubroom. Pres, Mark Guy, 9 Bennett St (03)352-6991. Sec, Pat Jordan (03)338-4274.

Civic Tuesday 7.30pm, Museum Room, Turnbull House, Bowen Street, Wellington 1. Pres, Alan Aldridge (04)477-4784; Sec, Brent Southgate (04)475-7604.

Gambit Sec, Ted Frost, 17 Croydon St, Karori, Wellington 5 (04)476-4098.

Hamilton Inquiries Pres, Hilton Bennett, 65 Te Aroha St (07)855-1037.

Hastings-Havelock North P.O. Box 184, Hastings. Wednesday 7pm, Library, Havelock N High School, Te Mata Rd. Sec, Chris Smith (06)877-4583.

Howick-Pakuranga Tuesday 7.30pm, St John Ambulance Hall, Howick-Pakuranga Highway, Highland Park. Pres, Paul Spiller (09)535-4962.

Invercargill Wednesday 8pm, staff room, South School, Ness St. Sec, Robert Mackway Jones, 5 Pine Cres, Invercargill (03)217-1154.

Kapiti Wednesday, 7.30pm, Salvation Army Hall, Bluegum Rd. Paraparaumu Beach. Sec, Rosemary Kingston, 51 Ames St, Paekakariki. d, Raumati Sth (04)298-8157.

New Plymouth 11 Gilbert St, New Plymouth. Tuesdays, 7.30pm. Pres, R P Bowler, 17a Hori St (06)753-6282. Contact, Bob Bowler.

North Shore P.O. Box 33-587, Takapuna, Auckland 9. Meets Wednesday 7.30pm, Northcote Community Centre, cnr College Rd/Ernie Mays St, Northcote. Club capt, Peter Stuart, 24 Seacliffe Ave, Belmont (09)445-6377.

Otago 7 Maitland St, Dunedin. Wednesday and Saturday, 7.30pm. Tel (03)477-6919 clubroom. Sec, Dennis McCaughan (03)478-0160.

Upper Hutt Monday 7.30pm, Hapai Club, 879 Fergusson Drive. Sec, Glen Sullivan, 14a Crystal Grove, Birchville, U Hutt (04)526-5085.

Waitemata Thursday 7.30pm, Kelston Comm Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston; jun 6-7.30pm Thursdays, schooldays. Pres, Bob Smith, 2 Autumn Ave, Glen Eden (09)818-4113 or contact Bruce Pollard (09)818-9234.

Wanganui Monday, 1st floor, Commercial Club, St Hill St. Pres, Gordon Hoskyn, 7 Pehi St (06)343-6101; sec, K Yorston, 5 Mitchell St (06)343-7166.

Wellington Saturday 7.30pm, Lighthouse Centre, 235 Karori Road, Karori. 6pm, juniors. Pres, Tim Frost (04)476-3541. Sec, Ted Frost (04)476-4098.

Associate members

Huntly Tuesdays 7.30pm 14 Ralph Street.. Sec, Laurie Madden 2 McDiarmid Crescent, Huntly (07)828-7289.

Napier Sec Andrew Reid, 22 Russell Road, Napier.

NZ Correspondence Chess Assn, P.O. Box 3278, Wellington. Sec, J W (Sandy) Maxwell, (04)237-4753.

Palmerston North Tuesday, 7.30pm, Palm Nth Intermediate School, Ferguson St. Club capt, Ian Barker, 72 Argyle Street (06)353-0193.

Papatoetoe Wednesday 7.30pm, St George's Anglican Church Hall, Landscape Rd, Papatoetoe. Contacts, John McRae (09)278-4520 or Katrine Metge (sec) 278-7173.

Petone Gambit Thursday 7.30pm Central Bowling Club, Roxburgh St, Petone. Pres, Mark Noble, 97 Seddon St, Naenae, Lower Hutt (04)567-0467.

Whangarei Gambit Thursday 7pm, Whangarei YWCA. Sec, Paul Bell (09)438-8053.

District Associations

Auckland Chess Assn, Pres, Peter Stuart, 24 Seacliffe Ave, Belmont, Auckland 9. (09)445-6377.

Wellington District Chess Assn Inc, sec, Ted Frost, 17 Croydon St, Karori, Wellington 5; (04)476-4098.