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North Island champion

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COPY DEADLINE

The deadline for the October issue is

Saturday, September 27

Copy should include details of coming events for this year.

HOME PAGE ON WORLD WIDE WEB

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STOP PRESS**Success for Ben Martin**

Over in Australia, IM Ben Martin has won the ANU Open tournament with 6½/7, and his success included a win over GM Ian Rogers. Ian was half a point behind Ben when they met, so Ben says Ian felt obliged to play sharply in a dangerous position. They were the only titled players in the field.

Tough World Junior competition

David Guthrie scored 4½/13 in the 1997 world junior championship in Zagan, Poland, and finished 74th in the boys' field of 78. The entry included 5 GM's and 25 IM's and the joint winners were IM Tal Shaked USA and IM Vigten Mirumian ARM on 9½. WGM Harriet Hunt ENG was clear winner of the girls' title with 10½/13.

Kasparov not in world champs

FIDE reports that Garry Kasparov has told the IOC that he will not play in the world championship knockout scheduled for the end of the year. (See report page 17).

Palmerston North tourney

There were 16 entrants in an under-1800 rapid event staged by Palmerston North CC. Winner was Steve Aburn, who is now president of the club.

British Player of the Year

Luke McShane, who has become England's youngest IM at the age of 13, has achieved another distinction. He has just been voted Britain's "player of the year", the first non-GM to have received this award.

ON THE COVER: FM Anthony Ker no longer wears the woolly hat which was his trade mark for a long time, but NZ Chess had some difficulty bringing the player into focus at the North Island championship.

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

New Zealand Chess

Vol 23 Number 4 August 1997

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 - 12 There was a triple tie in the North Island rapid championship, after Matthew Barlow had taken a clear lead but couldn't hold a R and P ending against Graeme Spain.
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 - 30 NZCF Council news includes suggestions for change in the format of the North and South Island championships and technical adjustments in the rating system.
- Coming in October:** Results of the South Island and New Zealand junior and age group championships, David Guthrie reports on the 1997 World Junior, and Ben Martin reports on the ANU Open.

1997 South Island Chess Championship

Hosted by Canterbury Chess Club Inc.

An 8-round open Swiss at the Canterbury Chess Club rooms, 227 Bealey Avenue, Christchurch, from 29 September to 3 October.

Prize fund, approximately \$1000, with grade prizes.

Entry fee \$50 (juniors \$25). Entries to

Gavin Dawes, Canterbury Chess Club, P O Box 25-242, Christchurch

Plus South Island Rapid, Saturday, 4 October, entry \$25 (jun \$15).

1997 North Island Championship

By Ted Frost

Hastings and Havelock North Chess Club's team headed by Dave Porteous made first-class arrangements for the North Island Championship at the Arataki motel and holiday camp at Havelock North, but a last-minute glitch occurred over tournament director arrangements. Urgent enquiries failed to find a replacement, and a compromise arrangement saw Dave handle the tournament administration himself, with assistance from Bob Gibbons in Auckland in preparation of the draw.

This led to communication problems which delayed play in the early stages of the event, but as these were resolved the tournament settled down to solid play in which Anthony Ker established dominance in the middle stages with wins over Mark Sinclair in round 5 and Tony Dowden in round 6 and was not seriously challenged. With 5½/6 he was clear leader by a point with two rounds to go, and draws in each of the last two rounds ensured him of clear first.

The battle for minor placings was intense, with Stephen Lukey and Matthew Barlow also unbeaten. Stephen conceded four draws, which enabled him to share second place with Hilton Bennett. Hilton faltered early with a loss to Mark Sinclair in round 3, but ran up three straight wins in the second half of the tournament to be clear second with a round to go. A draw with Ker in the final round ensured top places for both players on the top board.

Matthew Barlow drew five games and won the other three, to share fourth with Mark Sinclair and the improving Alan Dunn, who lost to Ker in round 2 and Dowden in round 5, but otherwise gave away only one draw.

The field included eight players rated over 2000, and three of them - Peter Stuart, Graeme Spain and Tony Dowden - were among the seven who finished on 5. The others were William Lynn, Ross Jackson and

Dan Dolejs. Jackson and Dolejs shared second place behind Alan Dunn in the under-1800 grade, and Dan's efforts included the most spectacular escape of the tournament when he stole a draw from Peter Stuart.

Graham Mears joined the group on 5 points with wins against the higher-rated Ted Frost and Lawrence Farrington in the last two rounds to with the under-1400 grade. He was just half a point ahead of Chad Miller, another of the improving juniors.

The other 2000+ player was former New Zealand champion David Lynch, who has not played in a major event for some years. He enjoyed the event, but missed some opportunities and scored 3½.

A feature of the field was the geographic spread of the competitors. Naturally there was a good local entry, but the field included players from Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, T^aupou and Gisborne, and four South Islanders from Nelson, Christchurch and Ashburton.

Another welcome feature of the event was participation of eight juniors, and most of them showed continuing improvement which will be reflected in their ratings.

Ker,A - Spain,G
(R3) [D07]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 ♁c6 3.♁c3 dxc4 4.d5 ♁a5 5.♁g5 h6 6.♁h4 ♁f6 7.e4 e6 8.♁xf6 gxf6 9.♁a4+ c6 10.dxc6 ♁xc6 11.♁xc4 ♁d7 12.♠d1 a6 13.♁c2 ♠c8 14.♁d2 ♁e5 15.♁e2 ♁c7 16.♁f3 ♁b4 17.♠c1 ♁c4 18.♠xc4 ♁xc4 19.♁d4 ♁xd4 20.♁xd4 ♠g8 21.0-0 ♁e7 22.♁de2 ♠g8 23.a3 ♁a5 24.♠fd1 b5 25.b4 ♁b6 26.♁f4 ♁a7 27.♁f1 ♁e8 28.♠xd8 ♠xd8 29.♁e2 ♠d4 30.♁cd5+ exd5 31.♠c7+ ♁d6 32.♠xa7 ♠xe4+ 33.♁f3 ♁e5 34.♁d3+ ♁d4 35.♁c5 ♠e1 36.♠xa6 ♁c3 37.♠xf6 d4 38.♠d6 f5 39.h3 ♁h5+ 40.g4 fxg4+ 41.hxg4 ♁f7 42.♠xh6 ♁d5+ 43.♁f4 ♠e2 44.♁g3 d3 45.♠d6 ♁c4 46.g5 ♠a2 47.♁e4+ ♁c2 48.f4 ♠xa3 49.♁f2 ♁b3 50.f5 ♠a2+ 51.♁f3 ♁xb4 52.g6 ♠a8

53.f6 ♠g8 54.g7 ♠a8 55.♠d4 ♁b3 56.♠xc4 bxc4 57.f7 d2 58.♁xd2+ ♁c3 59.♁xc4 ♁xc4 60.g8♁ ♠xg8 61.fxg8♁+ 1-0

Ker,A - Sinclair,M
(R5) [E00]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 ♁f6 3.a3 b6 4.♁c3 ♁b7 5.f3 d5 6.♁g5 ♁e7 7.cxd5 exd5 8.e3 0-0 9.♁d3 c5 10.♁ge2 ♁c6 11.0-0 ♠e8 12.♁d2 h6 13.♁h4 ♁a5 14.♠ad1 ♁e4 15.fxe4 ♁xh4 16.exd5 ♁g5 17.♁f4 ♁e7 18.♠del cxd4 19.exd4 ♁f620.♠xe8+ ♠xe8 21.♁b5 ♠e7 22.h4 ♁xh4

23.♁f2 ♁d6 24.b4 ♁b3 25.♁c2 ♁xd5 26.♁xd5 ♁xd5 27.♁c8+ ♁h7 28.♁d3+ g6 29.♁c4 ♁e4 30.♁xf7 h5 31.♁g8+ ♁h6 32.♁f8+ ♁g5 33.♁xb3 ♠e8 34.♁f4+ ♁xf4 35.♁xf4 ♠e3 36.♁c2 ♠c3 37.♁xg6 ♁g3 38.♁e2 1-0

Lukey,S - Stuart,P
(R5) [E11]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 ♁b4+ 4.♁d2 ♁e7 5.♁g2 d5 6.♁f3 0-0 7.0-0 dxc4 8.♁c2 c5 9.♁xc4 ♁bd7 10.♠d1 b5 11.♁b3 ♠b8 12.♁f4

1997 North Island Championship

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
1	AF KER	CI	2299	W17	W6	W9	D4	W5	W8	D2	D3	6½
2	SG LUKEY	CA	2193	W24	W12	D8	D9	W7	D4	D1	W10	6 40.5
3	HP BENNETT	HA	1909	W36	W22	L5	D8	W14	W7	W12	D1	6 35.5
4	MJ BARLOW	NS	2095	W20	D11	W23	D1	W10	D2	D5	D9	5½ 40
5	M SINCLAIR	PE	2105	W16	W32	W3	D7	L1	W9	D4	D8	5½ 39.5
6	A DUNN	PT	1661	W25	L1	W11	W22	L8	D21	W19	W14	5½ 35
7	PW STUART	NS	2091	W13	W14	W10	D5	L2	L3	D11	W18	5 41
8	RA DOWDEN	WA	2063	W29	W18	D2	D3	W6	L1	D14	D5	5 41
9	GA SPAIN	GA	2070	W32	W19	L1	D2	W16	L5	W21	D4	5 37
10	KW LYNN	HA	1842	W33	W15	L7	W24	L4	W11	W17	L2	5 36
11	D DOLEJS	GA	1600	W27	D4	L6	W25	W20	L10	D7	W16	5 35.5
12	LR JACKSON	WE	1649	W26	L2	L16	W19	W24	W22	L3	W17	5 34
13	GW MEARS	NS	1387	L7	W34	L14	W31	L18	W26	W22	W21	5 29.5
14	Q JOHNSON	CA	1587	W34	L7	W13	W20	L3	W16	D8	L6	4½ 36.5
15	C MILLER	PK	1087*	W28	L10	L21	W23	L17	W32	D29	W19	4½ 28.5
16	MR BURN	GA	1458	L5	W30	W12	W21	L9	L14	W23	L11	4 35
17	C SMITH	HH	1487	L1	L25	W33	W30	W15	W18	L10	L12	4 34
18	R TRASS	GA	1536*	W31	L8	L25	W27	W13	L17	W20	L7	4 32.5
19	C CLARK	HA	1338	D23	L9	W30	L12	W28	W24	L6	L15	3½ 33.5
20	B GLOISTEIN	CA	1457	L4	W27	W28	L14	L11	W25	L18	D22	3½ 33
21	L FARRINGTON	WE	1514	D30	D23	W15	L16	W32	D6	L9	L13	3½ 33
22	E FROST	WE	1491	W35	L3	W31	L6	W25	L12	L13	D20	3½ 32.5
23	DI LYNCH	HH	2007	D19	D21	L4	L15	W29	W33	L16	D25	3½ 30
24	A BARLOW	WE	1481	L2	W26	W35	L10	L12	L19	D27	W34	3½ 30
25	RL KEELING	AS	1251	L6	W17	W18	L11	L22	L20	W36*	D23	3½ 29.5
26	P SAVAGE	WE	1226	L12	L24	L29	W34	W31	L13	D32	W35	3½ 25.5
27	C TRASS	GA	unr	L11	L20	W36	L18	L33	W28	D24	W32	3½ 25
28	JM DAVIS	NA	1603	L15	W33	L20	D29	L19	L27	W35	W30	3½ 24.5
29	R SHEEHAN	HH	1365	L8	L31	W26	D28	L23	D30	D15	D33	3 28.5
30	B COOZE	HH	1151	D21	L16	L19	L17	W35	D29	W33	L28	3 25
31	P CROWE	HH	unr	L18	W29	L22	L13	L26	W36	L34	bye	3 22
32	EA OTENE	AC	1384	L9	L5	W34	W35	L21	L15	D26	L27	2½ 29
33	T SHEEHAN	HH	1317	L10	L28	L17	W36	W27	L23	L30	D29	2½ 26
34	R GORDON	HH	1165	L14	L13	L32	L26	D36	W35	W31	L24	2½ 23.5
35	S SHEEHAN	HH	754	L22	W36	L24	L32	L30	L34	L28	L26	1
36	M BERRY	NA	unr	L3	L35	L27	L33	D34	L31	L25*		½

c4 13.Ψc2 Ξb6 14.e4 ♖b7 15.ϕf2 ♁a8 16.a3 Ξc6 17.ϕc3 a6 18.e5 ϕd5 19.ϕxd5 exd5 20.ϕxd5 Ξc8 21.ϕxb7 Ψxb7 22.Ψe4 ♁b6 23.Ξac1 c3 24.Ξxc3 Ξxc3 25.bxc3 ♖xa3 26.Ψd5 ϕb8 27.Ψb3 ϕe7 28.ϕe4 ϕc6 29.d5 ϕa5 30.Ψc2 ϕc4 31.d6 ϕd8 32.Ψe2 Ψc6 33.Ξe1 Ψd7 34.Ψh5 a5 35.ϕc5 Ψc8 36.e6 g6 37.exf7+ Ξxf7 38.Ξe8+ Ξf8 39.Ψd5+ ϕg7 40.Ξxf8 ϕxf8 41.ϕh6+ 1-0

Dunn, A - Dowden, A
(R5) [C18]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.ϕc3 ♖b4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 ♖xc3+ 6.bxc3 Ψc7 7.ϕd3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Ψc3+ 9.ϕd2 Ψxd4 10.ϕf3 ♁b6 11.ϕg5 ϕc6 12.Ξb1 Ψc7 13.f4 h5 14.0-0 ϕge7 15.Ξf3 f6 16.exf6 gxf6 17.ϕh3 ϕd4 18.c4 ϕxf3+ 19.Ψxf3 ϕd7 20.cxd5 Ξd8 21.dxe6 ϕc6 22.Ψe2 Ψd6 23.ϕf2 f5 24.Ξd1 Ψd5 25.ϕe4 Ψxe6 26.ϕxc6+ Ψxc6 27.Ξe1 Ξh7 28.ϕb4 Ξd7 29.ϕh3 a5 30.ϕg5 axb4 31.ϕxh7 bxa3 32.Ψe5 ϕd8 33.ϕf6 Ξc7 34.Ψa5 Ψc5+ 35.Ψxc5 Ξxc5 36.Ξd1+ ϕc8 37.Ξa1 Ξa5 38.ϕxh5 b5 39.ϕg3 b4 40.ϕe2 b3 41.ϕc3 b2 42.Ξa2 ϕd5 43.ϕb1 Ξc5 44.ϕxa3 ϕe3 45.ϕf2 ϕd1+ 46.ϕe1 Ξc1 47.ϕd2 Ξa1 48.Ξxb2 ϕxb2 49.ϕb5 Ξa5 50.ϕd4 ϕc4+ 51.ϕd3 ϕd6 52.h3 Ξa3+ 53.ϕe2 Ξg3 54.ϕf2 Ξd3 55.ϕf3 ϕe4+ 56.ϕe2 Ξa3 57.g4 ϕd8 58.ϕd4 Ξxh3 59.gxf5 Ξa3 60.ϕc2 ϕg3+ 61.ϕd2 Ξa4 0-1

Johnson, Q - Bennett, H
(R5) [A52]

1.d4 ϕf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 ϕg4 4.ϕf3 ϕc5 5.e3 ϕc6 6.a3 a5 7.ϕc3 0-0 8.ϕe2 Ξe8 9.0-0 ϕgxe5 10.ϕxe5 ϕxe5 11.e4 d6 12.ϕh1 f5 13.b3 ϕg4 14.ϕxg4 fxe4 15.Ξa2 Ψf6 16.ϕd5 Ψf7 17.Ξe2 c6 18.ϕc3 Ψh5 19.Ξd2 Ψh4 20.Ψe1 Ξe5 21.Ξd3 Ψf6 22.f4 Ξe8 23.ϕb2 Ψe7 24.Ξd1 ϕd7 25.Ψg3 h5 26.f5 Ξf8 27.Ξd1 Ξae8 28.h3 gxf3 29.ϕd5 hxf3+ 30.ϕxg2 cxd5 31.exd5 Ψf7 32.Ξe6 ϕxe6 33.dxe6 Ξxe6 34.Ξg1 Ξe2+ 35.ϕh1 Ξxb2 0-1

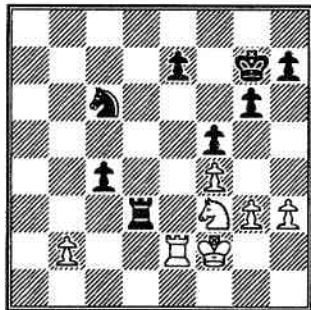
Sinclair, M - Spain, G
(R6) [A25]

1.c4 ϕc6 2.ϕc3 e5 3.g3 g6 4.ϕg2 ϕg7 5.Ξb1 a5 6.a3 d6 7.d3 ϕe6 8.e3 ϕge7 9.ϕd5 Ψd7 10.ϕe2 0-0 11.0-0 Ξfc8 12.ϕec3 ϕxd5 13.ϕxd5 ϕxd5 14.ϕxd5 ϕd8 15.Ψc2 c6 16.ϕg2 ϕe6 17.ϕh3 Ξe8 18.ϕd2 Ψc7 19.b4

axb4 20.axb4 Ξa3 21.Ξb3 Ξea8 22.Ξfb1 Ξxb3 23.Ψxb3 ♁b8 24.ϕc3 ϕf8 25.c5 d5 26.b5 Ψc7 27.bxc6 bxc6 28.Ψb6 Ξa7 29.e4 dxe4 30.ϕxe6 fxe6 31.dxe4 Ψxb6 32.cxb6 Ξb7 33.ϕb4+ ϕe8 34.ϕd6 ϕd7 35.Ξd1 ϕc8 36.ϕc7 Ξxc7 37.bxc7 ϕxc7 38.ϕf1 ϕf8 39.ϕe2 ϕc5 40.f3 ϕd4 41.ϕd3 c5 42.ϕc4 h5 43.Ξd2 g5 44.h4 gxf4 45.gxf4 ϕd6 46.Ξg2 ϕe7 47.Ξg5 ϕf6 48.Ξh5 ϕe3 49.ϕd3 ϕf4 50.Ξh8 ϕg7 51.Ξc8 ϕg6 52.Ξxc5 ϕh5 53.Ξc6 ϕxh4 54.Ξxe6 ϕg3 55.ϕe2 ϕh4 56.Ξg6 ϕh5 57.Ξg8 ϕc1 58.ϕd3 ϕf4 59.ϕc4 ϕc1 60.ϕd5 ϕf4 61.ϕe6 ϕh4 62.ϕf5 ϕh3 63.Ξe8 ϕg3 64.Ξxc5 ϕxf3 65.Ξb5 ϕh6 66.Ξb3+ ϕe2 67.e5 ϕf8 68.e6 ϕc5 69.Ξb7 ϕe3 70.e7 ϕxe7 71.Ξxe7+ ϕd4 and White won. 1-0

Dowden, R - Ker, A
(R6) [B09]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ϕf6 3.ϕc3 g6 4.f4 ϕg7 5.ϕf3 c5 6.ϕb5+ ϕd7 7.e5 ϕg4 8.ϕxd7+ Ψxd7 9.d5 dxe5 10.h3 e4 11.ϕxe4 ϕf6 12.ϕxf6+ ϕxf6 13.0-0 0-0 14.ϕe3 Ψd6 15.ϕe5 ϕd7 16.ϕg4 ϕg7 17.c4 f5 18.ϕh2 b5 19.Ξc1 bxc4 20.Ξxc4 Ξac8 21.Ξc2 ϕb6 22.Ψc1 Ψxd5 23.ϕf3 c4 24.Ξd1 Ψa5 25.ϕd4 Ξfd8 26.ϕe6 Ξd1+ 27.Ψxd1 ϕf6 28.ϕh2 Ψd5 29.Ψxd5 ϕxd5 30.ϕxa7 ϕb4 31.Ξd2 ϕxa2 32.ϕd4 ϕxd4 33.ϕxd4 ϕb4 34.g3 Ξd8 35.ϕf3 Ξd3 36.ϕg2 ϕg7 37.Ξe2 ϕc6 38.ϕf2



38...Ξxf3+ 39.ϕxf3 ϕd4+ 40.ϕe3 ϕxe2 41.ϕxe2 ϕf6 42.ϕd2 ϕe6 43.ϕc3 ϕd5 44.ϕb4 ϕd4 0-1

Stuart, P - Dolejs, D
(R7) [A27]

Notes by FM Anthony Ker

1.c4 e5 2.ϕc3 ϕc6 3.ϕf3 f5 4.d4 e4 5.ϕg5

ϕb4 6.ϕh3 ϕf6 7.e3 b6 8.ϕd2 ♖b7 9.ϕf4 a5 10.h4

Securing f4 for his ϕ.

10...d6 11.ϕe2 Ψd7 12.ϕb5 0-0 13.h5 ϕg4 14.g3 ϕxd2+ 15.Ψxd2 ϕb4 16.ϕc3 c6?

Fatal weakening of b6.

17.a3 ϕa6 18.ϕa4!

Ouch! White threatens a ϕ fork by 9.ϕxb6 and the natural response 18...Ψc7 [or 18...Ψd8] is met by another ϕ fork - 19.ϕc6.

18...Ξab8

Black surrenders a ♖ and battles on.

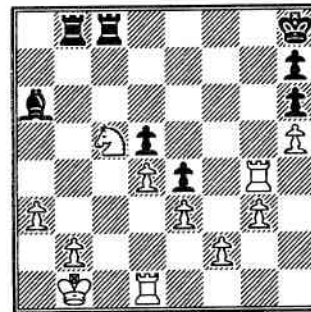
19.ϕxb6 Ψd8 20.ϕa4 Ξe8 21.Ψc2 ϕc7 22.Ξh4 Ψg5 23.Ψd2 d5?

Black needed to defend the a-♖. ϕow White's Ψ gets in and plays havoc with Black's defences.

24.ϕxg4 fxe4 25.Ψxa5 ϕe6 26.ϕxe6 Ξxe6 27.Ψc7 Ξe8 28.ϕc5 Ξc8 29.Ψd7 Ξd8 30.Ξxg4

Now Black's position is truly desperate. At this point Dan spotted an idea. It was a long shot but it was the only thing left to play for.

30...Ψh6 31.Ψe6+ ϕh8 32.Ψxh6 gxf6 33.cxd5 cxd5 34.0-0-0 Ξdc8 35.ϕb1 ♖a6



36.ϕxa6??

Thinking Dan had blundered., White took the ϕ without a second thought. Now the trap Black had been carefully preparing over the last 6 moves sprung into action.

36...Ξxb2+!! 37.ϕxb2

One down, one to go.

37...Ξc2+

Please, take me.

38.ϕb3

No, thank you.

38...Ξb2+

But I insist.

39.ϕc3

Stop this at once!

39...Ξb3+

Such a generous offer.

40.ϕd2

No, no, no!

40...Ξd3+

How can you refuse?

41.ϕe2

Leave me alone!

41...Ξd2+

You cannot be without me.

42.ϕf1

Arrrgghh!

42...Ξxd1+

A present. How nice.

43.ϕg2

Help!

43...Ξg1+

Draw agreed. There is indeed no escape for the hapless White ϕ and capturing the 'invincible ♞' results in immediate stalemate. ½-½

Jackson, L - Bennett, H
(R7) [A40]

1.ϕf3 b5 2.d4 ♖b7 3.a4 b4 4.c4 e6 5.g3 ϕf6 6.ϕg2 c5 7.0-0 ϕe7 8.dxc5 ϕxc5 9.ϕbd2 0-0 10.ϕb3 ϕe7 11.ϕe3 d6 12.c5 d5 13.a5 a6 14.ϕe5 ϕc6 15.ϕxc6 ϕxc6 16.Ψd2 ♁b8 17.ϕd4 Ξc8 18.ϕf4 e5 19.ϕxc6 Ξxc6 20.ϕxd5 ϕxd5 21.Ψxd5 Ξxc5 22.Ψe4 exf4 23.Ψxe7 Ξe5 24.Ψd7 Ξxe2 25.Ψd4 fxe3 26.hxe3 ♁b5 27.Ξfc1 Ξae8 28.Ψb6 Ξe5 29.Ψxb5 Ξxb5 30.Ξc6 Ξa8 31.Ξa4 g6 32.b3 ϕg7 33.Ξc4 h5 34.Ξcxb4 Ξab8 35.Ξxb5 Ξxb5 36.b4 ϕf6 37.ϕf1 ϕe5 38.ϕe2 ϕd4 39.Ξa2 ϕc3 40.Ξd2 ϕxb4 0-1

Bennett, H - Ker, A
(R8) [A00]

1.b4 e5 2.ϕb2 ♖xb4 3.ϕxe5 ϕf6 4.c3 ♖a5 5.e3 ϕc6 6.ϕg3 d5 7.Ψc2 Ψe7 8.ϕf3 ϕg4 9.ϕe2 0-0 10.0-0 ϕe4 11.d3 ϕxg3 12.hxe3 Ξfe8 13.d4 Ξad8 14.ϕd3 ϕxf3 15.gxf3 g6 16.ϕd2 ♖b6 17.ϕg2 ϕg7 18.e4 ϕb8 19.e5 ½-½

1997 New Zealand women's championship

By Paul Spiller

A strong field of 8 players turned out for the New Zealand women's chess championship over a long, wet Queen's Birthday weekend in Auckland. The Howick-Pakuranga Chess Club agreed to host the event as part of Howick's 150-year celebration and because Winnie Ong of the Howick club was current N.Z. champion.

Just a note here regarding a late entry received on the day. A junior player, aged about 134, wanted to enter the event on the day, but also wanted a bye in round 2 because of a commitment to play netball the following morning. Arbiter Tony Booth advised her that it was not possible to do this, and she would have to default the second round. This would have meant an additional two players without round 2 games (1 for the bye, 1 winning by default). After discussion with the girl and her mum, she agreed to withdraw. Some reports have said the Howick club refused her entry, but taking the above information into account DOP Tony Booth made the correct decision.

With the exception of Fenella Foster, I believe all the strongest active New Zealand women chess players were present.

Decisive last round

After the first 5 rounds Helen Courtney and Vivian Smith were leading with 4/5 - Helen had wins over the Ong sisters, Edith Otene and Katrine Metge and a loss to Vivian Smith; Vivian had wins over Edith Otene, Helen Courtney and Teresa Sheehan and draws with Katrine Metge and Rosaleen Sheehan. Close behind were Rosaleen Sheehan and Katrine Metge on 3½.

This set up a very exciting last round, with any of the top 4 in with a change to take the title. The last-round pairings were: R Sheehan 3½ v H Courtney 4, V Smith 4 v W Ong 1½, J Ong ½ v K Metge 3½.

Rosaleen Sheehan quickly gained a decisive advantage over Helen Courtney and then had to wait for the other games to finish. Before the round started, on form it would have appeared that Katrine and Vivian would win, but the Ong sisters turned the tables and Katrine and Vivian both lost.

This was the perfect result from Rosaleen's point of view, leaving her outright first.

One of the hardest fought games was between the Sheehan sisters.

Sheehan, R - Sheehan, T
(R3) [B30]

Notes by IM Ortvin Sarapu

5.ϕc3 e5 6.ϕdb5 d6 7.ϕd5 ϕxd5 8.exd5 ϕb8
The alternative here is ϕe7. White can then play 9.c3 or c4.

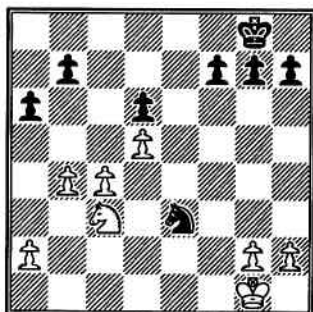
9.c4 a6 10.ϕc3 ϕf5 11.ϕe2 ϕe7 12.ϕe3 ϕd7
13.0-0 0-0 14.b4

White is playing on the ♗-side and Black on the ♘-side.

14...ϕc8 15.ϕb3 ϕg5 16.ϕac1 ϕe8 17.f4 exf4
18.ϕxf4 ϕxf4 19.ϕxf4 ϕg5 20.ϕc1 ϕg6
21.ϕg4 ϕcd8 22.ϕf5 ϕxf5 23.ϕxf5 ϕe3+
24.ϕh1 ϕf6 25.ϕ5f3 ϕh6 26.ϕc2

White returns to the ♘-side to prevent Black's initiative. Later the ♗-side majority will advance.

26...ϕe5 27.ϕh3 ϕh5 28.ϕxh5 ϕxh5 29.ϕf2
ϕe8 30.ϕg3 ϕe5 31.ϕxe5 ϕxe5 32.ϕg1 ϕe3
33.ϕf3 ϕg4 34.ϕxe3 ϕxe3



35.c5! Now White plays on the ♗-side for a passed ♗. 35...dxc5 36.bxc5 ϕf8 37.ϕf2 ϕf5 38.ϕf3 ϕe7 39.g4 ϕd4+ 40.ϕe4 ϕb5?! The ϕ and ♗ ending is lost for Black. 40...ϕc2 would give more resistance. 41.ϕxb5 axb5 42.h4 f6 43.ϕd4 g6 44.a3 ϕd7 45.ϕc3 f5 46.gxf5 gxf5 47.ϕd4 f4 48.ϕe4 f3 49.ϕxf3 ϕc7 50.ϕe4 Almost all ϕ and ♗ endings are lost when a player is a ♗ down. 50...b6 51.c6 ϕd6 52.ϕf5 ϕe7 53.ϕg5 b4 54.axb4 b5 55.ϕh6 ϕd6 56.ϕxh7 ϕxd5 57.c7 ϕc4 58.c8ϕ+ ϕxb4 59.h5 ϕb3 60.ϕc1 b4 61.h6 ϕa2 62.ϕc2+ ϕa3 63.ϕg8 b3 64.ϕb1 ϕb4 65.h7 ϕc4 66.h8ϕ ϕb4 67.ϕd4+ ϕa3 68.ϕbb2# 1-0

Titleholder Winnie Ong was unable to hold off the challengers, but against the national under-16 champion she demonstrated the power of an active rook and control of an open file.

Ong, W - Sheehan, T
(R4) [D91]

Notes by IM Ortvin Sarapu

1.d4 ϕf6 2.c4 g6 3.ϕc3 d5 4.ϕg5 c6

Usual here is 4...ϕe4.

5.ϕf3 ϕg7 6.h3 0-0 7.e3 ϕf5 8.ϕe2 dxc4
9.ϕxc4 b5 10.ϕb3 a5 11.0-0 ϕbd7 12.ϕd2
ϕb6 13.a3 ϕd7 14.ϕe2 ϕfe8 15.ϕf3

White changes her mind and loses most of her advantage.

15...ϕe4 16.ϕf4 ϕxc3 17.bxc3 ϕe6 18.ϕxe6
ϕxe6 19.ϕg5 ϕd7 20.ϕfd1 ϕd5 21.ϕa2 e6
22.ϕc2 f5 23.ϕh2 ϕh6 24.h4 ϕe7 25.ϕf4
ϕxf4 26.exf4 ϕxg5 27.hxg5 ϕad8

Black has weak squares e6 and e5. There is more manoeuvring to do.

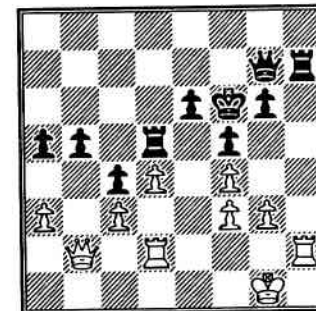
28.ϕd3 ϕf7 29.ϕh3 ϕh8 30.ϕa2 ϕg7
31.ϕh6 ϕd5 32.ϕe1 ϕe8 33.ϕb2 ϕd7 34.ϕh3
c5!?

Black is trying to get counterplay.

35.ϕd1 ϕd8 36.ϕhd3 c4

Unfortunately the ϕ on g7 is badly placed. If the ϕ was on g8, ϕc6 would give play against d4 or c3.

37.ϕ3d2 ϕh8 38.g3 h6 39.gxh6+ ϕxh6 40.f3
ϕf6 41.ϕh2 ϕh7 42.ϕdd2 ϕg7



43.ϕxh7 ϕxh7 44.ϕh2 ϕg7

Black has had to surrender the h-file. 45.ϕf2 g5 Opening lines only helps White. Better was ϕb7 or ϕd8.

46.fxg5+ ϕxg5 47.ϕh4 ϕg7 48.ϕe2 ϕe7

The losing move. 48...ϕe7 with ...ϕd6 to follow was better.

49.ϕh6+ ϕg7 50.ϕxe6 ϕxa3 51.ϕe7+

The Black ϕ is exposed and will now get mated.

51...ϕf8 52.ϕe8+ ϕf7 53.ϕe6+ ϕg7 54.ϕg8+
ϕf6 55.ϕe6# 1-0

1997 New Zealand Women's Championship

			1	2	3	4	5	6	Tot	T/B
1	R SHEEHAN	HH 1278	L4	D2	W5	W8	W3	W6	4½	
2	VJ SMITH	WT 1695	D4	L5	D1	W7	W3	W6	4	18.50
3	H COURTNEY	GA 1294	W4	L2	W5	W8	L1	W7	4	18
4	KM METGE	PT 1746	D2	L8	W1	W7	L3	W6	3½	
5	W ONG	HP 1564	W2	D8	L1	L7	L3	W6	2½	
6	T SHEEHAN	HH 1270	L4	L2	L5	W8	L1	W7	2	18
7	EA OTENE	AC 1387	L4	L2	W5	W8	L3	L6	2	17.50
8	J ONG	HP 1425	W4	D5	L1	L7	L3	L6	1½	

1996-97 Correspondence titles

Bruce Barnard has won the 1996-97 NZCCA Championship by just half a point from Russell Dive, with the leaders well clear of the rest of the field. Barnard lost to titleholder Michael Hampl, but conceded only two draws (to Dive and Michael Steadman) so finished with 9/11.

Dive was unbeaten but drew 5 games, so scored 8½. Next were Hampl 6½; Gordon Hoskyn and Howard Whitlock 6; N V Cumminings 5½; J O Bishop 5; HP Bennett and D Cooper 4½; BW Millar and PAR Vetharianiam 3.

The Reserve Championship was won by T J Doyle 9/10, ahead of ML Dunwoody 8½ and Peter Voss 5. Other grades resulted: TT2, 1 JC Rapp 8½/12; 2 EN Roberts 7; JCV Larsen 5. TT3, 1 MLS Anthony 8½/11; 2 JWH Atkinson 6; 3 GH Mills 5; 4= DE Dolejs and EA Gidman 4½. TT4: 1 LB Frost 10½/11; 2 PG Godfrey 10; 3 AN Hignett 8; RJ Weston 7.

The handicap tourney was won by T Doyle, with 11/12 and an average of 5.25, ahead of 2 M Dunwoody 12½/14 and average of 5.00; 3 M Anthony 38½/42, avge 4.89; and 4= J Frost 15/16, D Kara 10/12 and K Reed 6½/10, all avge 4.50. There were 56 players in the handicapt tourney, and 31 players completed eight or more games.

NZCCA had 103 members at the time of writing the annual report, with Alan Fletcher of Hamilton as president, and Sandy Maxwell (PO Box 3278, Wellington) as secretary.

Barnard, B – Bennett, H

NZCCA Championship [B01]

Notes by Bruce Barnard

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 e1f6 3.♘b5+

The centre counter is Hilton's specialty. I thought I would try a lesser-known line.

3...♗d7 4.♗c4 ♗g4 5.f3 ♗f5 6.g4 ♗c8 7.♗c3 c6 8.dxc6 ♗xc6 9.d3 e5 10.♗e3 ♗e7 11.♗d2 0-0 12.0-0-0

Castled on opposite wing as ♖-side ♘-storm is already on the way.

12...♗a5 13.g5 ♗e8

Perhaps 13...♗xc4 is better.

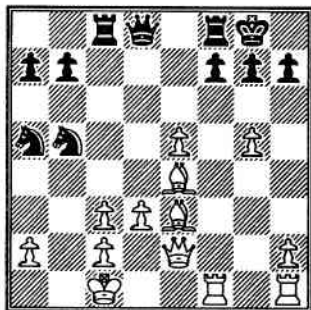
14.♗d5 ♗d7 15.f4 ♗c8

14...♗c6 is better to swap off the strong white-squared ♗.

16.fxe5 ♗b4 17.♗ge2

Development complete at last.

17...♗g4 18.♗e4 ♗c7 19.♗df1 ♗xe2 20.♗xe2 ♗xc3 21.bxc3 ♗b5



22.e6 ♗d6

If 22...fxe6 23.♗h5 g6 24.♗xg6 hxg6 25.♗xg6+ ♗h8 26.♗h6+ etc.

23.exf7+ If 23...♗xf7 24.♗d5 1-0

Hoskyn, G – Hampl, M

NZCCA Championship, best game [C56]

Notes by ICM Michael Freeman

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗c4 ♗f6 4.d4 exd4 5.0-0 ♗xe4 6.♗e1 d5 7.♗xd5 ♗xd5 8.♗c3 ♗a5 9.♗xe4 ♗e6 10.♗eg5 0-0-0 11.♗xe6 fxe6 12.♗xe6 ♗d6 13.♗g5 ♗df8 14.♗e2 a6

14...♗d7 15.♗e1 ♗xf3 16.♗xf3 ♗xg5 17.♗f7+ ♗e7 18.f4 ♗c5 19.♗xe7+ ♗xe7 20.♗e5 ♗b6 21.♗xe7+ ♗d8 22.♗xg7 ♗e8 23.♗xe8+ ♗xe8 24.♗g8+ ♗e7 25.♗xh7+ ♗f8 26.♗f5+ ♗g7 27.b3 ♗b4 28.h3 c5 29.♗e5+ ♗g8 30.f5 ♗d2 31.♗b8+ Sundqvist-Gabran, corr 1975.

15.♗d2

A new move. Previously played was 15.♗h4 ♗b4 16.b3 d3 17.♗xd3 ♗xf3 18.♗xf3

♗xh4 19.g3 ♗d8 20.♗g4 ♗d7 21.♗e4 ♗d8 22.♗xd6 ♗xd6 23.♗e2 ♗e6 24.♗d2 ♗e8 25.♗f1 ♗c6 26.♗e1 ♗xe1+ 27.♗xe1 ♗xe1+ 28.♗xe1 ♗d7 29.c3 ♗e6 30.♗e2 ♗d5 31.♗e3 b5 32.f4 ♗e7 33.g4 c5 34.h4 ♗g8 35.♗d3 c4+ 36.bxc4+ bxc4+ 37.♗e3 ♗f6 38.g5 ♗e4 39.f5 ♗xc3 40.h5 ♗e5 41.f6 gxf6 42.g6 hxg6 43.h6 ♗d5+ 44.♗d2 c3+ 45.♗c1 ♗b4 46.a3 ♗d3+ 47.♗c2 ♗d4 48.h7 ♗e1+ 49.♗c1 ♗f3 50.h8♗ ♗e3 51.♗xf6 g5 52.♗xc3+ 1-0. Owcarzak, J-Smeets, J, 1996.

15...♗f5

15...♗h5.

16.♗e4 ♗d8 17.♗e1

17.♗xd4? ♗xd4 18.♗xd4 ♗xb2+ 19.♗xh2 ♗xd4?!

17...h6 18.♗h4 ♗c5

18...♗f7.

19.♗g6 ♗hg8 20.c3 ♗b8 21.♗f3 ♗b5 22.b3 dxc3 23.♗xc3 ♗b4?

23...♗d7.

24.a4 ♗c5 25.♗c4 ♗d6 26.♗e7! ♗xc3

26...♗xe7+ 27.♗xb4 ♗d3 28.♗xe7!?

27.♗xc6+ ♗xc6 28.♗xc6 ♗xe1 29.♗c2 ♗gf8

30.♗g4 g5 31.g3 ♗d6 32.f4 ♗d4+

32...♗d2 33.f5 ♗e3+ 34.♗g2 ♗b6+.

33.♗h5 gxf4 34.♗c5 ♗f8 35.♗xc7+ ♗a8

36.gxf4 ♗d2 37.f5 ♗f8

37...♗g4+ 38.♗f2 ♗f4+ 39.♗e2 ♗e4+ 40.♗f3 ♗f4+ 41.♗xf4 ♗xf4 42.♗xf4 b5.

38.♗g2 ♗d5 39.♗c4 ♗f8

39...♗dd8.

40.f6 ♗g5+ 41.♗h3 ♗h5+ 42.♗g2 ♗g5+ 43.♗h1 ♗e3 44.h4 ♗c5 45.♗e2 ♗f8 46.♗xc5 ♗xc5 47.♗d2 h5 48.b4 1-0

Frost, LB – Kilkolly, C

NZCCA TT4 [B22]

Notes by Jack Frost

1.e4 c5 2.c3 ♗c6 3.♗f3 d6 4.♗c4 e6 5.♗e2 a6 6.d4 b5 7.♗b3 cxd4 8.cxd4 ♗f6 9.0-0 ♗e7 10.♗c3 0-0 11.♗f4

Immediate e5 is preferable.

11...b4 12.♗d1 ♗b7 13.♗c2 ♗c8 14.♗d3

Simplistic, but too time-consuming. White must get his pieces into play.

14...e5 15.♗g5 ♗xd4!

Totally unexpected. White was probably preparing for ♗d7 with approximate equality.

16.♗xd4

If 16.♗xf6? ♗xf3+ and wins.

16...exd4 17.♗xf6 ♗xf6 18.e5

White has the mistaken idea that he has an advantage and can launch an attack.

18...♗xc2!

Eliminating White's only threatening piece and dissolving all his attacking possibilities.

19.exf6

If 19.♗xc2 then dxe5 and Black's ♘s become a major problem.

19...♗c5 20.fxg7 ♗e8 21.♗xd4

What else? Perhaps hoping for the b♘ next? But...

21...♗xg2!

Wins at least the exchange and mate cannot be far off.

22.♗xg2

Black announced mate in 8 moves. 0-1

Invercargill QB tournament

The outcome of the Invercargill Queen's Birthday tournament was virtually decided in the fourth round when FM Tony Love beat John Sutherland and took a clear lead on 4-0. Sutherland and David Guthrie had already drawn, so when Love met Guthrie in the last round he needed only a draw to take first place.

Guthrie could not find a win, and when the draw was agreed Love finished with 4½/5, ahead of Guthrie 4 and Sutherland and Terry Duiffield 3½. Terry Duiffield won the B grade prize and Bruce Gloistein on 3 won the C grade. Mark Lang won the upset prize.

FIDE personnel change

In the latest political move in FIDE, executive director Casto Abundo has announced his resignation. He is a founder of Chess Planet, which has just entered into a contract to handle FIDE's Internet connection, and Mr Abundo says he will be working for this organisation.

1997 North Island Rapid Championship

Half-way through the North Island rapid championship Matthew Barlow, Mark Sinclair and Stephen Lukey had three wins, while top seed Anthony Ker and Graeme Spain each had drawn a game. In round 4 Lukey beat Sinclair and Barlow beat Ker, which put Lukey and Barlow in the lead on 4, and in round 5 Barlow beat Lukey to take a one-point lead.

In the final round Barlow met Spain, who had drawn a second game, and Spain won a R + P v R ending. This enabled Spain to catch Barlow on 5 points. They were joined by Sinclair, who benefitted from the luck of the draw and did not have to meet either of the other leaders.

The tournament ran smoothly with Peter Stuart as tournament director.

1997 North Island Rapid Championship

		1	2	3	4	5	6	Tot	T/B
1 GA SPAIN	GA 2135	W23	D10	W13	D6	W7	W3	5	19.5
2 M SINCLAIR	PE 2129	W16	W8	W12	L5	W14	W9	5	18
3 MJ BARLOW	NS 2070	W26	W21	W18	W4	W5	L1	5	17
4 AF KER	CI 2252	W19	W7	D6	L3	W17	W5	4½	
5 SG LUKEY	CA 2190	W11	W27	W9	W2	L3	L4	4	15
6 HP BENNETT	HA 1945	W17	W15	D4	D1	L9	W12	4	14.75
7 KA WONG	PE 1731	W28	L4	W10	W11	L1	W18	4	13
8 Q JOHNSON	CA 1638	W25	L2	W24	L14	W22	W16	4	12
9 MJ POST	WA 1791	W29	W33	L5	W18	W6	L2	4	11
10 LB FARRINGTON	WE 1680	W30	D1	L7	W32	D16	W17	4	11
11 M NYBERG	WE 1514	L5	W31	W37	L7	W20	W21	4	9
12 JM DAVIS	GA 1766	W22	W14	L2	D16	W15	L6	3½	11.5
13 KW LYNN	HA unr	W24	L18	L1	W29	W19	D14	3½	9.75
14 C SMITH	HH 1534*	W37	L12	W33	W8	L2	D13	3½	8.75
15 MR BURN	GA 1592	W34	L6	D29	W26	L12	W27	3½	7.5
16 GW POCOCK	GA 1492	L2	W25	W27	D12	D10	L8	3	8.75
17 P SAVAGE	WE 1431	L6	W34	W21	W20	L4	L10	3	8
18 R TRASS	GA unr	W35	W13	L3	L9	W27	L7	3	7.5
19 E FROST	WE 1525	L4	W22	L32	W31	L13	W28	3	7
20 C MILLER	PK 1547*	L33	W32	W28	L17	L11	W26	3	6.5
21 DS CAPPER	WE 1625	W36	L3	L17	W28	W24	L11	3	6
22 T SHEEHAN	HH 1333	L12	L19	W30	W35	L8	W32	3	6
23 B GLOISTEIN	CA 1503	L1	L28	L26	W36	W33	W31	3	5
24 C TRASS	GA unr	L13	W36	L8	W33	L21	W30	3	5
25 G POTINI	ZZ unr	L8	L16	W34	L27	W37	W29	3	5
26 A BARLOW	WE 1447	L3	D30	W23	L15	W32	L20	2½	
27 D DOLEJS	GA 1696	W31	L5	L16	W25	L18	L15	2	5
28 R SHEEHAN	HH 1311	L7	W23	L20	L21	W34	L19	2	5
29 R GORDON	HH 1392	L9	W35	D15	L13	D30	L25	2	4.75
30 R POCOCK	GA 1272	L10	D26	L22	W37	D29	L24	2	3.25
31 G JUDKINS	GA 1295	L27	L11	W36	L19	W35	L23	2	3
32 D SMITH	HH unr	bye	L20	W19	L10	L26	L22	2	3
33 S SHEEHAN	HH 1131*	W20	L9	L14	L24	L23	bye	2	3
34 D THORNTON	ZZ unr	L15	L17	L25	bye	L28	W37	2	1
35 B COOZE	HH 1124*	L18	L29	bye	L22	L31	W36	2	1
36 A HARRISON	ZZ unr	L21	L24	L31	L23	bye	L35	1	0
37 K WALTERS	ZZ unr	L14	bye	L11	L30	L25	L34	0	

1997 Australian Masters tournament

By ICM Michael Freeman

The 1997 event in the long-running Australian Masters series was held in Melbourne during the first two weeks of July, and contained two New Zealand representatives, myself and David Beaumont. But more on that a little later.

This event is aimed at giving Australian players a realistic opportunity to gain an IM norm, and has therefore in recent years featured some overseas and local players who are quite beatable, to assist those aiming for the norms. The venue was the same as last year, the foyer of the Australian Reserve Bank building. The conditions can be likened to playing in a glass fish bowl, and provides an excellent test lab for various earplug manufacturers. The additional furore over the Bank selling large quantities of its gold reserves greatly increased the pedestrian traffic on some days, most of whom stopped to see what was going on.

The event is generously sponsored by Hallstee Ltd, Comedy Power and Chess Ideas, who kindly provide a small appearance fee to the overseas players.

Upon arrival I found out that one of the overseas players had dropped out at the last moment, and had been replaced by a David Beaumont from Auckland, but resident in Australia for a number of years. As David was an unrated player the tournament category dropped from Three to One, with 8½/11 now required for the IM norm. Also, David had to score at least ½ a point for any IM norm to be valid.

3 games, 291 moves

After the first three rounds any rustiness that I was feeling had been stripped away, and the organisers were beginning to wonder if I had somewhere to sleep at nights. Those games were 90, 106, and 95 moves long respectively. The 106-move game was a win over William Paschall from Boston, USA

that I should have won in half the time, and to add to my opponent's problems he had his watch removed from the table by a passing spectator during the game!. The next game, against Stephen Solomon, was also unusual with no captures until move 57, and no checks all game.

Another long win in 91 moves over Simon Rutherford in round five started a flood of emails to the organisers over what was the record number of moves made by one player in an event. However, a few shorter games later in the tournament eventually brought my average moves per game down to a high 58.9, but probably no record.

Round eight saw the upset of the event with David Beaumont getting that very valuable point, with a win over top seed Guy West, while I played my shortest game with a win over another overseas player, John Nicholson from England. At this point John-Paul Wallace and William Paschall led with 6½/8, followed by Stephen Solomon with 6. Paschall was the only player still with a chance at the IM norm, but had to play West and Wallace in his next two games.

An entertaining tactical melee in round eleven between the two New Zealanders saw me complete wins over all the overseas players, while Paschall played very well to beat Wallace in the critical game.

Solomon wins again

Naturally, the last round saw a short draw from Paschall to secure his first IM norm, while Stephen Solomon had his fifth consecutive win to snatch first place with 9/11. As expected, Guy West and myself were still battling long after everyone else had gone home. After blundering an exchange in time trouble, I managed to obtain a drawn setup, only to have Guy play a shocker and offer a draw. This I accepted without much thought, not even noticing that

I now had a won game - another chess lesson to add to the collection.

Overall, I am pleased with my final score, and would recommend this event to any New Zealand players who are hard of hearing, are in the over 2200 bracket, and wish to play in a low-key international event.

Paschall, W FM - Freeman, M

Australian Masters, Melbourne (1) []

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f6 3.e3 d5 4.♘g5 ♘e7 5.e3 0-0 6.♗f3 h6 7.♗h4 e4 8.♘xe7 ♗xe7 9.cxd5 ♗xc3 10.bxc3 exd5 11.♗b3 ♗d8 12.c4 dxc4 13.♗xc4 ♗c6 14.♗e2 ♗d6 15.0-0 ♘e6 16.♗a3 ♘d5 17.♗f1 ♗e8 18.h3 ♗h8 19.♗c2 f5 20.♗a1 ♗f6 21.e5 e1xe5 22.dxe5 ♗xe5 23.♗xc7 ♗g6 24.g4 fxg4 25.hxg4 ♗e4 26.f3 ♗xg4+ 27.♗f2 ♗f5 28.♗c8 ♗xc8 29.♗xc8+ ♗xc8 30.fxg4 a6 31.♗d6 ♗g8 32.a3 ♗f7+ 33.♗g3 ♗c6 34.♗d8+ ♗h7 35.♗d3+ g6 36.♗e2 ♗g7 37.♗d4+ ♗h7 38.♗d8 ♗g7 39.♗d4+ ♗f6 40.♗b6 ♗e5+ 41.♗f2 ♗f6+ 42.♗g3 ♗d6+ 43.♗f2 ♗h2+ 44.♗e1 ♗h1+ 45.♗f2 ♗g2+ 46.♗e1 ♗g3+ 47.♗d2 ♗d6+ 48.♗e1 ♗f6 49.a4 ♗g5 50.a5 ♗h4 51.♗b2 ♗g5 52.♗g7 ♗g3+ 53.♗d2 ♗d6+ 54.♗e1 ♗f6 55.♗c7 h5 56.gxh5 gxh5 57.♗h7 ♗c3+ 58.♗f2 ♗f6+ 59.♗e1 ♗g6 60.♗e7+ ♗h6 61.♗f8+ ♗h7 62.♗c5 ♗h6 63.♗d4 e4 64.♗h8+ ♗g5 65.♗d8+ ♗h6 66.♗f8+ ♗h7 67.♗d2 ♗e6 68.♗c5 ♗a2+ 69.♗e1 ♗a1+ 70.♗d1 ♗g6 71.♗d5 ♗c3+ 72.♗f2 ♗b2+ 73.♗g3 ♗g7 74.♗h3 ♗e7 75.♗d4 ♗f5+ 76.♗g3 ♗g5+ 77.♗f2 ♗g4 78.♗c2+ ♗g8 79.♗e4 ♗h4+ 80.♗g2 ♗h3+ 81.♗f2 ♗h4+ 82.♗f1 ♗h3+ 83.♗e1 ♗g3+ 84.♗d2 ♗d6+ 85.♗d3 ♗d7 86.♗c3 ♗f8 87.♗e5 ♗c6+ 88.♗d4 ♗d7+ 89.♗c3 ♗c6+ 90.♗c4 ♗d7 91.♗f6+ ♗e8 92.e4 ♗e7 93.♗h8+ ♗d7 94.♗d5 ♗c7 95.♗d4 ♗a3+ 96.♗d2 ♗xa5+ 97.♗c2 ♗b6 98.♗g7+ ♗d6 99.♗f6+ ♗c5 100.♗f7 ♗d6 101.♗xb7 ♗h2+ 102.♗b3 ♗g3+ 103.♗ ♗d2 b2 ♗f2+ 104.♗a3 ♗e3+ 105.♗b3 ♗c1+ 106.♗a2 + 0-1

Freeman, M - Solomon, S IM

Australian Masters, Melbourne (3) []

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e5 4.♗c3 d6 5.e4 ♗e7 6.♗e2 ♗bd7 7.♗e3 0-0 8.g4 e8 9.♗f3 g6 10.♗c2 ♗g7 11.0-0-0 ♗f6 12.h3 a6 13.♗dg1 ♗d7 14.♗d2 ♗fe8 15.f3 ♗b8 16.♗g2 b5

17.♗b1 ♗h8 18.♗h6 ♗h4 19.♗f1 ♗a5 20.♗d2 ♗b6 21.♗e3 ♗d8 22.♗cd1 ♗e7 23.♗a1 ♗c7 24.b3 ♗b7 25.♗d3 ♗fb8 26.♗c3 b4 27.♗b2 a5 28.♗b1 a4 29.♗c1 ♗a7 30.♗e2 ♗g8 31.♗b1 e2ce8 32.♗f2 ♗f6 33.♗d3 h6 34.♗d1 ♗h7 35.♗hg1 ♗f8 36.♗h2 ♗h8 37.♗g2 ♗g3 38.♗hh1 f5 39.♗ge1 f4 40.♗g2 g5 41.♗ge1 ♗e8 42.♗c2 ♗h4 43.♗f1 ♗f8 44.♗ce1 ♗g6 45.♗g2 ♗g8 46.♗hg1 ♗f7 47.♗h1 ♗h8 48.♗d2 e2e8 49.♗c2 ♗f6 50.♗e2 ♗aa8 51.♗d2 ♗g3 52.♗c1 h5 53.♗d1 ♗h7 54.♗d3 ♗ah8 55.♗c2 ♗e8 56.♗b1 ♗c8 57.e2e2 hxg4 58.hxg4 ♗h2 59.♗c1 a3 60.♗a1 ♗h3 61.♗e1 ♗8h6 62.♗c2 ♗h8 63.♗e2 ♗g3 64.♗xh3 ♗xh3 65.♗d3 ♗h2 66.♗d1 ♗h3 67.♗e2 ♗xf1 68.♗xf1 ♗xe1 69.♗e2 ♗f2 70.♗d1 ♗e3 71.♗d3 e2e8 72.♗f1 ♗g7 73.♗d1 ♗d7 74.♗f1 e7 75.♗d1 ♗g6 76.♗f1 ♗g8 77.♗c1 ♗g6 78.♗d3 ♗d2 79.♗c2 ♗h7 80.♗e2 ♗f8 81.♗g1 ♗g6 82.♗h3 ♗h6 83.♗h1 ♗h4 84.♗f1 ♗g6 85.♗h1 ♗h7 86.♗f1 ♗h2 87.♗d3 ♗g6 88.♗c2 e2e8 89.♗d7 90.♗c2 ♗xg4 91.fxg4 ♗xg4 92.♗xe5 dxe5 93.d6 ♗xh3 94.♗d1 ♗d4 95.d7 ♗xd7 0-1

Freeman, M (2185) - Nicholson, J (2265)

Australian Masters Melbourne (7) [A57]

Notes by ICM Michael Freeman

My opponent, John Nicholson, was representing England, but has been residing in Holland for the last few years. I noticed in my database searches that he had not been playing during those years, but had a liking for the Benko in its formative years. I therefore decided to risk a very sharp but rather unsound line that has only been developed recently.

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.f3 e6 6.e4 exd5 7.e5 ♗e7 8.♗e2 ♗g8 9.♗c3 ♗b7 10.♗h3

Up to this move we have been following theory, and one of my correspondence games from a Canadian event. At this point John went into a long think, while I tried to recall my readings during that postal game.

10...♗h4+?

A new move, and not a very good one. The usual move is 10...c4, with one recent example being 10...c4 11.♗e3 axb5 12.♗f4

♗b4N 13.♗f2 e7 14.♗d1 e6 15.g3 ♗a5 16.♗h3 ♗c6 17.♗fxd5 ♗xd5 18.♗xd5 ♗c5∞ (Ivanov, S - Sivokho, S Russia 1996). Early games in this line had Black trying 10...Qd8, with the intention of trying to make room for those tied up king side pieces. 10...♗d8 11.♗f4 e7 12.♗h5! N 12...♗b6? (12...d6!?) 13.a4! axb5 (13...♗f5?! 14.♗f4! ♗d4 15.♗cxd5±) 14.♗xb5 ♗g6 15.f4! e7 16.f5 0-0-0 (only move) (16...♗gxe5 17.f6! g6 18.♗f4 ♗d8 19.♗xd5 ♗c8 20.g3+) 17.fxg6 ♗e8 18.a5! ♗d8 19.gxf7 ♗e6 (19...♗xe5 20.♗a7+) 20.a6 ♗a8 21.♗d1+ (Lalic, B - Marinkovic, I Yugoslavia 1990/Inf 51).

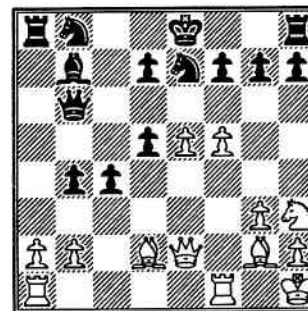
11.g3 ♗d8

The "extra move" g3 achieved over previous games attracted me to a different way of putting pressure on the black central pawns than the usual Nf4.

12.♗g2 c4 13.f4 ♗b4 14.♗d2 ♗xc3

14...e7 15.♗xd5.

15.♗xc3 e7 16.0-0 ♗b6+ 17.♗h1 axb5 18.f5 b4 19.♗d2



9...0-0

I was expecting 19...c3 20.bxc3 ♗a6 21.♗f2 ♗a7 (21...♗xf2 22.♗xf2 bxc3 23.♗xc3 ♗c4 24.f6 gxf6 25.exf6 e7 26.♗e1+) 22.♗c3 (22.♗xa7 ♗xa7 23.♗fb1 ♗f5 24.cxb4 ♗d3 25.♗e1 ♗c4 26.a4+) 22...♗c7 23.♗fe1 bxc3 24.f6 e7c6+.

20.f6 ♗g6

20...gxgf6? 21.cxf6 ♗g6 22.♗h5 with mate to follow.

21.fxg7 ♗e8 22.♗g5 e2xe5?

22...f6 is an interesting try. 23.♗xh7 ♗xe5 (23...♗xh7 24.♗h5+ ♗xg7 25.♗h6+) A) 24.♗xf6 ♗xe2 25.♗xb6 ♗xh7 (25...♗xd2 26.♗xg6 e7 27.♗f6+ ♗f7 28.g8♗+ ♗xg8 29.♗xg8 ♗xf6 and things are a little unclear) 26.♗xg6 e6 and things are also unclear.; B) 24.♗g4 24...f5 B1) 25.♗h5 ♗xg7 (25...f4 26.♗h6 with the idea of Nf8!) 26.♗g5 ♗e6 27.♗xf5+ , B2) 25.♗xf5 25...♗xf5 26.♗xf5 ♗xg7+ (26...♗xh7? 27.♗f7!) ; During the game I was expecting 22...♗xe5 23.♗h5 ♗xg5 24.♗xg5 when ideas of h4-h5, and the vulnerable point on f7 give White a winning advantage.

23.♗xf7 ♗b6c

23...♗g6 24.♗xe5 ♗xg7 25.♗g4 ♗xe5 26.♗h6! wins for White.

24.♗h5 ♗e6 25.♗g5 1-0

Congress arrangements

NZCF Council has endorsed Hamilton CC arrangements for the 1997-98 Congress, including the addition of a new tournament - a New Year Open. The Championship, Major Open and Rapid Championships are in the same format as the last Congress. The New Year Open will be a 5-round open Swiss starting on the second rest day, Tuesday, January 6, for the benefit of players not available for the full duration of Congress. The final three rounds of the New Year Open will be played on the mornings of the last 3 rounds of the Championship.

Wellington QB tourney

Wellington CC's Queen's Birthday tournament attracted only 14 players this year. Scott Wastney GA, playing in his last tournament before leaving on an extended overseas holiday trip, won the A grade with 4½/5. He drew with top-seed Stephen Lukey CI, who also drew with Chris Burns WA, and finished second on 4. Burns 3½ was third.

First place in the B grade was shared by Aaron Barlow WE and David Lillis CI with 4/5, followed by Nic Croad 3 and Ted Frost 2½.

1997 Noosa Open

By FM Bob Smith

Australia's Sunshine Coast seemed a nice spot to escape Auckland's wet winter for a few days, so on June 12 I headed across the Tasman. The Noosa Open didn't start until the 14th, so I had a day to drive up from Brisbane, acclimatise and look around.

Suncoast club member Stuart McColl and his wife Pearl kindly offered accommodation and looked after me extremely well.

The tournament attracted 82 players, headed by GM Ian Rogers and IM's Stephen Solomon and Alex Wohl.

The time control was an innovative one hour each game plus 10 seconds added for each additional move, with the extra time being cumulative. The idea was to stop players winning from losing positions, as theoretically their opponent could never run out of time.

I enjoyed this time control, and tended to push it to the limit! In one game I had 23 seconds versus my opponent's seven and a half minutes, but managed to play so quickly after the hour that when the game was agreed drawn I had 2 minutes 30 seconds versus his 1 minute 40!

I started the tournament reasonably well, despatching two lower-rated players, but was less convincing in the next two rounds. I played too positionally with white against a 1761 player in round 3 and almost paid the price, losing a piece for two pawns but managing to hold the ending. And in round 4 I won a pawn as black but foolishly simplified to a drawn ending.

At this stage Rogers, Solomon, Wohl and FM Duc Trong Dinh had perfect scores, and I had yet to get on the stage (the top three boards). But there were another three rounds (and a night's sleep) to come.

Round 4 and I made the stage! I decided to play with a bit more oomph and won nicely after sacrificing two pawns (admittedly my opponent's rating was 1446). In the

meantime Solomon forged ahead by beating Wohl, while Rogers' progress was slowed a little by a draw against Dinh.

Round 5 and this time I faced a 2000 player with black. I played perhaps my best game of the tournament, my queenside attack breaking through in just 19 moves. Rogers struggled to draw with Solomon and Wohl lost again, this time to Dinh. So the leaders going into the final round were Solomon, Dinh 5½; Rogers, Smith, Casey 5.

Solomon and Dinh were playing each other and in New Zealand I would have had the downfloat to someone on 4½; which would have suited both Rogers and me. But not in Australia! The lowest-rated player in 5 (Casey) got the downfloat, while I got black against Rogers. I thought that was the end of my chances, especially as Ian would be thirsting for revenge for my cavalier treatment of his wife Cathy in an earlier round.

The game began as expected, Ian getting a clear advantage against my Carokann. But then he overpressed, miscalculated and decided to allow a perpetual rather than risk a loss. In view of my time trouble and exposed king, I took the perpetual despite my two extra pawns. Later analysis proved my decision correct.

In the meantime Solomon rounded off another great performance by beating Dinh to take clear first. Dinh slipping into a tie with Rogers, myself and three others who managed to catch up in the last round.

Final leading scores: IM S Solomon 6½/7; GM I Rogers, FM D Dinh, FM R Smith, D Stephson, A Pardoen, 5½;...IM A Wohl 4½.

Overall I was pleased with this result and my play. I scored a couple of nice wins and went through undefeated, despite facing a grandmaster. The tournament was very enjoyable and the playing conditions good. I may well be back next year.

Smith,R - Crabbe,P

(R 5) [B23]

Notes by FM Robert W Smith

1.e4 c5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.f4 d6 4.♗f3 g6 5.♙c4 ♙g7 6.d3 e6 7.0-0 ♗ge7 8.♙e1 0-0 9.f5?! d5 10.♙b3 dxe4 11.dxe4 exf5 12.e5! ♗d4 13.♙g5 ♗xf3+?! ♗xb3 14.♗xf3 ♙d4+ 15.♗h1 ♘c6 16.♗d1 ♙xe5 17.♙h4

With compensation and attack.

17...h5?!

17...♙e6 18.♗h3 h5 19.♗e3 ♙c7 20.♙xe6 fxe6 21.♗xe6 with attack.

18.♗e3 ♙c7 19.♗d5 ♙a5 20.♗f6+ ♗h8 21.♗xh5 gxf5

21...♙b4 22.♗f4+ ♗g8 23.♗h3 ♗e8 24.♙h7+ ♗f8 25.♗xg6+ fxe6 26.♙g8#.

22.♙xh5+ ♗g8 23.♗h3 1-0

Cablin,J - Smith,R

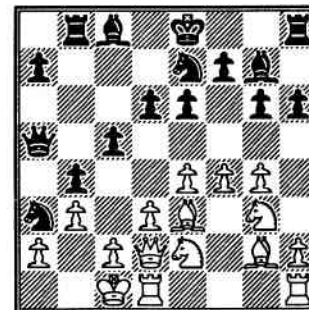
(R 6) [B24]

Notes by FM Robert W Smith

1.e4 c5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.♗e2 d6 4.g3 g6 5.♙g2 ♙g7 6.d3 e6 7.♙e3 ♗d4 8.♙d2 ♗e7 9.0-0-0?! ♙a5 10.♗b1 h6 11.f4 ♗b8 12.g4 b5 13.♗g3 b4 14.♗ce2 ♗b5!

Threat ...♗c3.

15.b3 ♗a3+ 16.♗c1



16...♗c4!

If either ♗ takes the ♗, ♙a3+ and mate.

17.♗b1 ♗xd2+ 18.♙xd2 ♗b6 19.♙c1 ♙xa2+! 0-1

Wohl,A - Solomon,S

(R 5) [D48]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c6 4.♗f3 ♗f6 5.e3 ♗bd7 6.♙d3 dxc4 7.♙xc4 b5 8.♙d3 a6 9.0-0 ♗b7 10.e4 c5 11.d5 c4 12.♙c2 e5 13.♗e2 g6

14.b3 cxb3 15.axb3 ♗c8 16.h3 ♙c7 17.♗a2 h6 18.♙d2 ♙c5 19.♗g3 ♗f8 20.♗h1 ♗g7 21.♗h4 ♙d4 22.♙b1 ♙c5 23.♙f3 b4 24.♗e2 a5 25.♙d3 ♙b6 26.♗xd4 ♙xd4 27.♙e3 ♙xd3 28.♙xh6+ ♗xh6 29.♗f5+ gxf5 30.♙xd3 fxe4 31.♙b5 ♙xd5 32.♗d2 ♗c5 33.♙a4 e3 34.fxe3 ♗xh3+ 35.♗g1 ♗xe3 36.♙a1 ♗xb3 37.♙e1 ♗cc3 38.♙h4 ♗g3 39.♗f5 ♗b1+ 40.♗h2 ♗g6 41.♗g5 b3 42.♗xg6+ fxe6 0-1

Rogers,I - Smith,R

(R7) [B17]

Notes by FM Robert W Smith

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 dxe4 4.♗xe4 ♗d7 5.♗f3 ♗g6 6.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 7.♗e5 ♙e6 8.♙e2 g6 9.0-0 ♙g7 10.c4 0-0 11.♙e3 ♗d7 12.f4 ♗xe5 13.fxe5 f6 14.exf6 exf6 15.♙d2 ♙d7 16.♗ad1 ♗f7 17.d5 cxd5 18.cxd5 ♗fd8 19.♙c4 ♗ac8 20.♙b3 b6 21.♙d3 ♗h8 22.♙d4 ♙d6 23.♙c3 f5 24.♗h1 ♙xc3 25.bxc3 ♙e5 26.c4 ♙g7 27.♗fe1 ♙e8 28.d6 ♙c6 29.♗e6 ♗e8 30.c5 bxc5 31.d7? ♙xd7 32.♗xe8+

32.♙xd7 ♙xd7 33.♗xd7 c4! 34.♙xc4 ♗xe6+. 32...♗xe8 33.♙a6 ♙c3! 34.h3 ♗e1+ 35.♗xe1 ♙xe1+ 36.♗h2 ♙e5+ 37.♗h1 ♙e1+ 38.♗h2 ♙e5+ ½-½

World championship

FIDE has issued the initial list of players to take part in the 100-player world championship knockout at the end of the year. Nearly half have won zonals, including Utut Adianto INA, winner of the 1995 zonal in which Anthony Ker played.

The remainder of the field in round 1 includes recent winners of the world junior championship, Zsuzsa Polgar as women's champion, 8 GM's and several invited players. In round 2 the winners will be joined by five former candidates (Anand, Gelfand, Salov, Kramnik and Timman), and more than 20 top-rated GM's. The 31 winners will be joined by GM Gata Kamsky in round 3 and the winners will take part in three more knockout rounds.

GM Anatoly Karpov and GM Garry Kasparov are seeded to join the winners of round 6 of the knockout, in the semi-finals.

New Zealand News

Waitemata

Club champion Bob Smith won the Waitemata CC A grade round robin with a 5/5 picket fence, ahead of Antonio Krstev 4 and Neville Easterlow 2½. In the B grade Bruce Pollard scored 4½/5 to win from John Kerry 3½ and John O'Connor 3. Tony Kessler, Paul Godfrey and Colm Hartigan shared first in the C grade on 3½/5, ahead of Colin Walker 2½. The Swiss group was headed by Lamar Ah-Chee 5/5, well clear of Joshua Calder 3 and Aaron Authier 2½.

Features of the tournament were Bruce Pollard winning round robin B, despite being ranked 5th of the 6 players, and the success of the juniors. Paul Godfrey (17) and Colm Hartigan (11) were among the joint winners of round robin C, while the winner and runner-up in the Swiss group, Lamar Ah-Chee and Josh Calder, are both in their teens.

Wanganui

The three life members of Wanganui CC were presented with life membership certificates recently. They are:

Howard Whitlock, who joined the club in 1929 and is a former president and secretary-treasurer. Howard won the club's A grade championship 11 times and has twice won the New Zealand correspondence championship.

Chas Ward, who joined the club on his arrival in Wanganui in 1974 and was club president for a long period in the 1980's and 1990's. He has twice won the club's B grade championship and is now the club's patron.

David Burnham, who joined the club in 1960 and has given long service as club captain and committee member. He has won the club's A grade championship.

Upper Hutt

Gerald Carter and **Bob Stephens** have shared first place in Upper Hutt CC's annual

handicap tournament, with Eidert Boekhold, George Brucker and Roger Smith 3=.

Division 1 of the May Swiss tournament was won by **Gerald Carter** 4/4, ahead of **Matthew Rewiti** and **Bernard Newman** 3. **Eidert Boekhold**, **Bill Orr** and **Roger Smith** shared first in the B division with 3/4.

Matthew Rewiti, **Anton Reid** and **John Frederickson** all scored 2/3 to share honours in the group 1 round robin, while **John Braddock** 3/3 won group 2.

Wellington

Justin Phillips 4/5 won the Wellington CC winter open ahead of **John Lee** and **Lawrence Farrington** 3½, followed by **Ross Jackson**, **Ted Frost**, **Michael Nyberg** and **Patrick Savage** on 3.

Colin Chow 6/6 won the junior winter open, ahead of **Arvind Vinjimoore** and **Tracy Collen** on 4. **Tracy** won the B section.

Canterbury

The Canterbury winter rapid tournament attracted 22 entries, and fourth-ranked **Thor Russell** won with 5½/6 (draw with **Craig Hall** in the last round). **Arie Nijman** was runner-up on 5 (loss to **Russell**), well clear of **Simon Kelly** and **Craig Hall** on 3½.

Otago

Dunedin's **Cock and Bull** tavern put up \$500 for the Otago CC's 6-round Winter Rapid tournament, making it the second richest tournament in the South Island. The tournament attracted 24 players.

Top seeds **Tony Love** and **Richard Sutton** lived up to their ranking and shared first place on 5/6. However, **Sutton** was upset by **Eric Rayner** in round 3 and had to beat **Love** in round 5 to regain a share of the lead. **Darryn Heperi** and **Dennis McCaughan** shared third on 4½, and this gave **McCaughan** the B grade prize. **Ray Stone** won the C grade and **A Mitchell** was awarded the upset prize.

Wellington junior tourneys

All-Wellington schoolpupils

This year Wellington District Chess Association revived a separate schoolpupils' event, instead of having it as part of the overall junior and age group championships. The move was successful and with seven of the 18 entrants holding NZCF rapid ratings it was possible to rate the event.

Patrick Savage (Karori), 11-year-old holder of the schoolpupil title, had to share first this year with **Bryan Clark** (Upper Hutt). They scored 5½/6, drawing their own game. **Colin Chow** and **Arvind Vinjimoore** shared third on 4, half a point ahead of **Pascal Harris** (Wanganui), **Jonathan Nicholls** (Tawa) and **Marco Zhang** (Hutt Valley).

Patrick Savage won the primary school section which was introduced this year, with **Daniel Reddington** (Paremata) second.

Upper Hutt

Upper Hutt CC has run junior and age group championships, with the winners qualifying for the all-Wellington events. The

junior section attracted 8 entries, with **Thanh Nguyen** winning with 5/5, ahead of **Timothy McKenzie** 4 and **Jamie Adams** and **Derek Galea**. There were 6 in the under-12 section, with **Nathan Rose** winning with 4½/5, half a point ahead of **Alex Gill**, with **Sergei Poverenov** and **Michael Clemas** 3= on 2.

N Z Junior and Age Group Chess Championships

October 7 - 10, 1997

An open tournament for all players up to 20 years old at Kelston Boys' High School, Auckland. *The tournament will be a 7-round Swiss, with school pupil, girl and age group titles and prizes*

Entry \$20, minimum 1st prize \$200.

Organised by Waitemata Chess Club Inc.

Inquiries and entries to **Bob Smith**,
2 Autumn Ave, Glen Eden, Auckland 7.
Tel (09)818-4113.

Open tournaments scheduled for 1997

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**, Waitemata CC, at the Kelston Boys High School, Kelston, Auckland. Contact **Bob Smith** (09)818-4113.

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

South Island Rapid Championship, Canterbury CC, Sat **Oct 4**, 30/30.

Mid-Canterbury Rapid Championships, Ashburton CC, Sun, **Oct 12**.

All-Canterbury Championships, Canterbury CC, Fri-Sun **Dec 5-7**, 5r Swiss, 36 in 90, 30 to fin, entry \$20.

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**.

New Zealand New Year Open, Hamilton CC, Tues-Fri, **Jan 6-9**, 1998.

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

Fencible Masters games

Garbett, P – Reilly, T

Fencible Masters (8) [B08]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 e6 3.c3 g6 4.f3 g7 5.♙e2
0-0 6.0-0 ♗g4 7.♙e3 e6 8.d5 ♙xf3 9.♙xf3
e5 10.♙e2 c6 11.a4 ♖a5 12.♖a3 cxd5
13.exd5 ♗fc8 14.♖b3 ♖c7 15.♙d4 e6d7
16.♖e1 e5 17.♙xc5 dxc5 18.♙f3 ♖e8 19.d6
♙xd6 20.♖xb7 ♙xd1 21.♙xd1 e5 22.♙c6 ♖e6
23.♙b5 ♖d6 24.e3 e4 25.♙c4 ♖d7 26.♖xd7
e1xd7 27.e4 ♙xb2 28.♙b5 e6f6 29.e4xc5
♖c8 30.e3d3 ♖xc2 31.e4xb2 ♖xb2 32.h3 ♖b4
33.♖a1 e6f8 34.♖e1 ½-½

Levi, E – Small, V

Fencible Masters (8) [B40]

Notes by IM Ortvin Sarapu

1.e4 c5 2.f3 e6 3.b4

Small mishandles the opening. Levi is an attacking player and dangerous. The ♖ sacrifice 3.b4 is a well-known reaction to 2...e6. Keres recommended it. It is a bit like the Benko Gambit, giving Black little play.

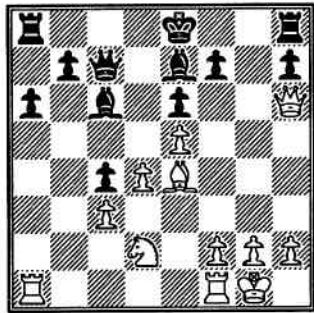
3...cxb4 4.d4 d5 5.e5 e6 6.a3 e6h6

Weakens the Black ♖-side.

7.♖xb4 ♙xb4+ 8.c3 ♙e7 9.♙xh6 g6h6 10.♙d3
♙d7 11.0-0 e2a5 12.e6fd2 ♖c7 13.♖h5 e2c4
14.♖xh6

White has won back his gambit ♖ and has the better game as well.

14...a6 15.e4xc4 dxc4 16.♙e4 ♙c6 17.♙d2



17...0-0

Perhaps this is finding the best place for the Black ♖.

18.♖e3 ♖hg8 19.♖fb1 ♙d5 20.♖a4 b5!?

Black is desperate to get counterplay.

21.♖xa6 ♖b7 22.♖ba1 ♖a8 23.♖xa8 ♖xa8
24.♖xa8 ♖xa8 25.♙xd5+ exd5 26.♖f3

White has a winning endgame.

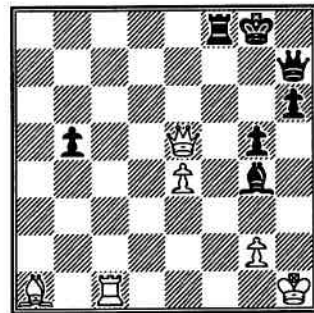
26...♖b7 27.♖xf7 b4 28.♖e8+ ♖a7 29.♖a4+
♖b8 30.cxb4 ♙xb4 31.e1f1 ♙c3 32.e6 ♙xd4
33.♖e8+ ♖a7 34.e7 1-0

Kulashko, A – Smith, R

Fencible Masters (8) [B08]

Notes by Alexei Kulashko

1.e4 d6 2.d4 e6 3.c3 g6 4.f3 g7 5.♙e2
0-0 6.0-0 a6 7.♖e1 e6 8.d5 e5 9.e4xe5
dxe5 10.♙e3 ♙d6 11.♙d3 e6g4 12.♙xg4 ♙xg4
13.e4a4 ♖ad8 14.c4 ♖fe8 15.♙d2 ♙c8
16.♖ed1 e6 17.♖a1 exd5 18.cxd5 f5 19.f3
♖d7 20.♖c2 ♖f7 21.♖dc1 fxe4 22.fxe4 ♙f8
23.e5 ♖f6 24.e3d3 ♙d8 25.e1e2 ♙d6 26.e3f3
♙g4 27.e5g5 ♖ff8 28.h3 ♙d7 29.♖h2 ♖f6
30.♖e1 h6 31.e3f3 e6g7 32.♖h4 ♖h8 33.♖g3
♖c8 34.♖h4 ♖h8 35.♖g3 ♖e8 36.♖f2 ♖e7
37.♖h1 ♖ef8 38.♖fc2 ♙b5 39.♖d1 ♙a4 40.b3
♙b5 41.♖h2 ♙e8 42.♙c1 ♙d7 43.♖h4 ♖h8
44.♖g3 ♖hf8 45.♖h4 ♖h8 46.♙b2 ♖e8
47.♖g3 ♙b5 48.a4 ♙d7 49.♖f1 g5 50.♖c2
e6g8 51.♖h1 ♖f4 52.e4xe5 ♖xf2 53.♖xf2 ♙xe5
54.♙xe5 ♙xh3 55.♙a1 ♙d7 56.♙d4 ♖h7
57.♖f6 ♙g4 58.♖c1 ♖c8 59.b4 c6 60.dxc6
bxc6 61.b5 axb5 62.axb5 ♖f8 63.♖e5 cxb5



64.♖d5+

Some onlookers recommended 64.♖c7 with the idea 64...♖xc7 ♖h8+ ♖f7 66.♖h7+ ♖e8 67.♖xc7 ♖f1+ 68.♖h2 ♖xa1 69.♖e5+ and

wins. But Black can change the move order by playing 64...♖f1+ 65.♖h2 ♖xc7 66.♖xc7 (He cannot play ♖h8+ as the ♖ is pinned) 66...♖xa1 and White cannot check and win the ♖a1.

64...♖f7

If 64...♖f7 65.♖f1 with the threat of ♖d8+ or ♖a8.

65.♖c7! ♖xd5 66.♖g7+ ♖h8 67.♖xg5+ ♖h7
68.♖g7+ ♖h8 69.♖xg4+ ♖h7 70.♖g7+ ♖h8
71.♖f7+ ♖g8 72.♖xf8+ ♖xf8 73.exd5 e6e7
74.♙e5 b4 75.♖h2 b3 76.♖h3 b2 77.♙xb2
♖d6 78.♖h4 ♖xd5 79.♙c1 e6e6 80.♙xh6 ♖f6
81.g4 e6g6 82.♙c1 ♖h7 83.♖h5 e6g7 1-0

McLaren, L – Green, E

Fencible Masters (8) [B15]

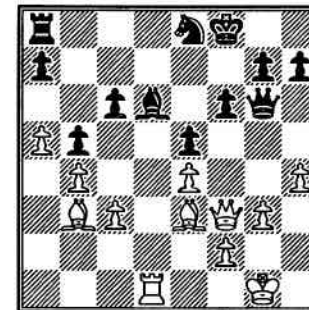
1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♙g7 3.c3 c6 4.f4 d5 5.e5 h5
6.♙d3 e6 7.e2e2 ♙f5 8.e3f3 e6 9.0-0 ♙f8
10.c4 dxc4 11.♙xc4 ½-½

Smith, R – Levi, E

Fencible Masters (9) [A07]

Notes by IM Ortvin Sarapu

1.e3f3 d5 2.g3 c6 3.♙g2 e6 4.0-0 ♙g4 5.d3
e6d7 6.e6bd2 e5 7.e4 ♙d6 8.h3 ♙h5 9.c3 0-0
10.♖c2 e2c5 11.♖e1 ♖e8 12.b4 dxe4 13.dxe4
e2e6 14.e2c4 ♙xf3 15.♙xf3 ♙c7 16.♖d1 ♖e7
17.a4 ♖ed8 18.♙e3 b6 19.♙g2 e2e8 20.♙f1 f6
21.h4 e6d6 22.e2xd6 ♖xd6 23.♖xd6 ♙xd6
24.♙c4 ♖f8 25.♖a2 e2c7 26.♖e2 ♖e8 27.a5 b5
28.♙b3 ♖g6 29.♖d1 e2e8 30.♖f3



30...h5?

♖s do not move backwards. The ♖ on h5 is weak for the endgame. Levi is not a positional player, but Bob Smith is persistent and provokes weaknesses.

31.♖d2 e6e7 32.♙d1 ♖f7 33.♖xh5 ♖c4
34.♖g6 ♖d8 35.♙h5 e6d7 36.♙xa7 ♖c8 37.♖f7

A good examples of how 2 ♖s work. The main weakness is the fact that Black has no ♙ on light-coloured squares.

37...♖xe4 38.♙g6 ♖g4 39.♙b6 e2c7 40.♖xd6
1-0

Reilly, T – Kulashko, A

Fencible Masters (9) [A59]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6
g6 6.e2c3 ♙xa6 7.e4 ♙xf1 8.♖xf1 d6 9.g3 ♙g7
10.e3f3 e6bd7 11.♖g2 0-0 12.♖e1 e6b6 13.♖c2
e6fd7 14.b3 ♖a6 15.♙b2 ♖a8 16.a4 ♖a5
17.♖e2 ♖b8 18.e2d2 ♖a6 19.♖ab1 ♖xe2
20.♖xe2 e2e5 21.e6b5 e2d3 22.♙xg7 e6xg7
23.♖e3 e2e5 24.f4 e6g4 25.♖c3 f5 26.e2c7 fxe4
27.♖e1 ♖b7 28.e6+ e6g8 29.♖xe4 e2xd5
30.♖f3 e6f6 31.♖e2 ♖a8 32.h3 e2c7 33.♙g5
♖e8 34.♖fe3 e6fd5 35.♖d3 e6b4 36.♖de3 e2c6
37.♖e1 e2d5 38.♖d3 e2cb4 39.♖f3 e2c2 40.♖c1
e2d4 41.♖d3 e6b4 42.♖e3 e2d5 43.♖d3 e6b4
44.♖e3 ♖eb8 45.♖d3 e2a2 46.♖d1 e2f5
47.♖e6 e2c3 48.♖de1 e2d5 49.♖e6a4 e2c3
50.♖e6 e2d5 51.♖e6a4 e2c3 ½-½

Sermek, D – Garbett, P

Fencible Masters (9) [B22]

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 ♖xd5 4.d4 e6 5.e3f3
e6 6.♙e3 e2c6? 7.dxc5 ♖xd1+ 8.♖xd1 e2g4
9.b4 e5 10.♙b5 ♙e6 11.e6bd2 f5 12.♖e1 0-0
0 13.♙xc6 bxc6 14.e2xe5 e2xe3+ 15.♖xe3 ♖e8
16.e2xc6 g6 17.e2xa7+ 1-0

Green, E – Solomon, S

Fencible Masters (9) [A07]

1.g3 d5 2.♙g2 c6 3.e3f3 e6 4.0-0 ♙f5 5.b3
e6 6.♙b2 a5 7.a3 h6 8.d3 ♙c5 9.e6bd2 0-0
10.c4 e6bd7 11.♙c3 ♖e7 12.♖c1 e5 13.b4
♙d6 14.c5 ♙c7 15.e4 ♙h7 16.♖e1 b5 17.♙h3
d4 18.♙b2 ♖a7 19.e1h4 ♖fa8 20.♖c2 e1f8
21.♖b3 e1h5 22.e1f5 ♖g5 23.e1f3 ♖f6 24.♙g4
♙g6 25.e3h4 ♖g5 26.♖d1 e1f6 27.e2e7+ ♖h8
28.♙f3 e6d7 29.e2xc6 ♖a6 30.e2xd4 exd4
31.♙xd4 ♖d8 32.♙g2 ♙h5 33.♖h3 e2e6
34.♙e3 ♖f6 35.e1f5 ♙g6 36.d4 ♙xf5 37.exf5
e2xd4 38.♙xd4 ♖xd4 39.♖xf7 ♖f6 40.♖e8+
e1f8 41.♖xf6 ♖xf6 42.♖xd8 ♖xd8 43.♖e1
axb4 44.axb4 ♖xf5 45.♖e8 ♙c7 46.♖e7 ♙d8
47.♖e8 ♙c7 48.♖e7 ♙b8 49.♖e8 ♙a7 50.♖e7

♙xc5 51.bxc5 ♖xc5 52.♖e8 ♘g8 53.♙f1 ♟f7 54.♖b8 ♚e6 55.♖xb5 ♖c2 56.♖f5+ ♟e7 57.♖e5 ♟f6 58.♖f5+ ♟e7 59.♖e5 ♟d6 60.♖e2 ♖c1 61.♟g2 g5 62.h3 ♚d4 63.♖a2 ♟e5 64.♙d3 ♖d1 65.♖a5+ ♟d6 66.♙c4 ♚c2 67.♙b3 ♚e1+ 68.♟f1 ♖b1 69.♖d5+ ♟c6 70.♖d1 ♖xd1 71.♙xd1 ♚d3 72.♟e2 ♚e5 73.♟e3 ♟d6 74.♙b3 ♟e7 75.♟e4 ♟f6 76.f4 ♚d7 77.fxg5+ ♟xg5 78.♙d1 ♚c5+ 79.♟d4

Obituaries

Miguel Najdorf

By NM Peter Stuart

Popular Argentine grandmaster Miguel Najdorf died in Malaga on July 4 at the age of 87. Najdorf was born in Poland and represented that country in three Olympiads during the 1930s. The last of these was at Buenos Aires in 1939, during the course of which World War II broke out. Together with several other leading European masters, Najdorf opted to stay in South America and became a naturalised Argentine citizen five years later.

Najdorf's best tournament results came in the post-war period, from 1946 to the mid-1950s, although he remained among the world's leading players for another decade.

He was unlucky to miss playing in the World Championship tournament of 1948. FIDE had announced that the winner of the Prague 1946 would qualify for the championship, but later decided that the tournament was less strong than expected. With the withdrawal of Reuben Fine from the World Championship, Najdorf's claim to the vacant position was strong, but it was not to be.

He represented Argentina on board one in Olympiads from 1950 to 1976 and qualified for the Candidates tournaments of 1950 and 1953, where he finished 5th and 6th respectively.

Najdorf was an habitual kibitzer at the most important chess events until shortly before

♚d7 80.h4+ ♟f5 81.g4+ ♟f4 82.g5 hxg5 83.hxg5 ♟xg5 ½-½

Small, V – McLaren, L
Fencible Masters (9) [E66]

1.♚f3 ♚f6 2.c4 g6 3.♚c3 ♙g7 4.g3 0-0 5.♙g2 c5 6.d4 d6 7.0-0 ♚c6 8.d5 ♚a5 9.♚d2 ♖b8 10.♙c2 a6 11.b3 e5 12.dxe6 ♙xe6 13.♙b2 ♚c6 14.♚f3 ♙e7 ½-½

his death and was captain of the Argentine Olympiad team at Yerevan last year!

Najdorf's name will doubtless live for a long time to come, thanks to the Sicilian Defence variation 1.e4 d6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 which he popularised (though he was not the first to play it) and which bears his name.

Gerald Williams

Gerald Williams, an Otago CC member who devoted many years to the cause of junior chess, has died at the age of 79.

For more than 20 years Gerald Williams set aside Friday nights to introduce primary school children to the joys of chess. Tony Love writes that the clubrooms in Maitland Street vibrated with enthusiasm as up to 70 youngsters grappled with the intricacies of the game.

Among the many excellent players who acquired early skills at these classes is one of the finest players New Zealand has produced, IM Ben Martin.

In his later years Mr Williams encouraged young women to take up the game, and a measure of his success is that two of his proteges, Jackie Sievey and Isabel McIntosh, both represented New Zealand at chess Olympiads. Jackie Sievey also won the national women's title.

Overseas news

By NM Peter Stuart

European team championship

In a nail-biting finish in the Croatian resort town of Pula, England held on to win their first major team event on tie-break points from Russia. This was, in fact, the first time that Russia (or its predecessor, the Soviet Union) had failed to win the continental team championship. The English team of Nigel Short (2690), Michael Adams (2665), Jonathan Speelman (2610), Matthew Sadler (2650) and Julian Hodgson (2555) was actually the top seed as Russia lacked Kasparov, Kramnik and Karpov. Their team was Evgeny Bareev (2665), Peter Svidler (2640), Vadim Zvjaginsev (2610), Igor Glek (2620) and Yui Yakovich (2575).

England lost one match, in round three against Belarus 1½-2½ when both Short and Adams lost. Short was winning easily but had apparently misunderstood the mechanics of the Fischer-type time control being employed. Then followed four decisive victories and a vital 2:2 draw versus Russia in round 8. With one round remaining England now had 21 points with Armenia second on 19½ followed by Russia and Croatia I on 19.

In the final round England notched up three draws but the extra half point which would have assured them of the gold medals, come what may in the Russia-Belarus match, was not forthcoming. Fortunately Russia could win their match "only" 3½-½ so the team scores were tied and England had their title on countback.

Scores: 1 England 22½, 2 Russia 22½, 3 Armenia 22, 4 Hungary 21½, 5 Germany 21½, 6 Israel 21, 7 Croatia I 20½, 8 Georgia 20, 9 Belarus 19½, 10 Bosnia & Hercegovina 19½, 11 Netherlands 19½ 34 teams.

Sokolov, I – Arlandi
[E39]

1.d4 ♚f6 2.c4 e6 3.♚c3 ♙b4 4.♙c2 0-0 5.♚f3 c5 6.dxc5 ♚a6 7.♙g5 ♚xc5 8.♚d2 h6 9.♙h4 d5 10.cxd5 g5 11.♙g3 exd5 12.a3 ♙xc3 13.♙xc3 ♚e6 14.♙e5 ♚g4 15.♙d4 ♙d7 16.♚f3

♖c8 17.♙d3 ♚c5 18.♙xc5 ♖xc5 19.h3 ♚f6 20.♚d4 ♚e4 21.e3 ♙f6 22.f3 ♚g3 23.♖g1 ♖e8 24.♟f2 ♚f5 25.♖e1 ♚xd4 26.exd4 ♖c2+ 27.♖e2

27.♙xc2 ♙xd4+; 27.♙e2 ♙f5 28.♙d1 ♙g6 followed by ♙d3 wins.

27...♙f5

27...♙b5! is even better: 28.♙xc2 ♙xd4+ 29.♟g3 ♙xe2 winning.

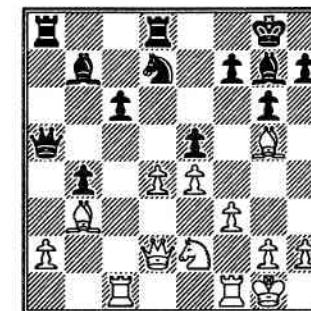
28.♙xc2

28.♙d1 ♖xe2+ 29.♙xe2 ♖xb2 should also win for Black.

28...♙xd4+ 29.♟g3 ♙xc2 30.♖xe8+ ♟g7 31.♟h2 ♙xb2 32.♖e7 a5 33.g3 ♙xa3 34.♖xb7 a4 35.♙b5 ♙e3 36.♖g2 ♙d1 37.f4 ♙f3 0-1.

Aleksandrov – Lalic
[D85]

1.d4 ♚f6 2.c4 g6 3.♚c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♚xd5 5.e4 ♚xc3 6.bxc3 ♙g7 7.♙b5+ c6 8.♙a4 a5 9.♚e2 b5 10.♙c2 b4 11.cxb4 axb4 12.♙b3 0-0 13.♙e3 ♙b7 14.♖c1 ♚d7 15.0-0 e5 16.f3 ♙a5 17.♙d2 ♖fd8 18.♙g5



18...exd4! 19.♙xd8 ♖xd8 20.♖fd1 ♚e5 21.h3 c5 22.f4 ♙h6 23.♙c2 c4! 24.♙xc4 ♚xc4 25.♙xc4 ♙a6 26.♙c2 d3 27.♙d2 ♙b6+ 28.♟h1 ♙f2 29.♖c6?

29.♖b1 ♖c8 30.♚g1 ♙xd2 31.♖xd2 ♙xf4 and Black is not yet winning.

29...♙b5

29...♙b7! 30.♖c4 dxe2! 31.♙xd8+ ♙f8 32.♖g1 ♙xg1+ 33.♟xg1 e1♙+ 34.♟h2 ♙e2

35.♟d4 ♘d6 —. Lalic's move is also winning.

30.♞cc1 ♠a8 31.♗g1 ♟xd2 32.♞xd2 ♘xf4 33.♞cd1 ♘xd2 34.♞xd2 ♘c4 35.♞b2 ♠xa2 36.♞xb4 d2 37.♞b1 ♘b3 0-1.

Short - Chernin
Sicilian [B42]

1.e4 d6 2.♗c3 g6 3.♘c4 ♘g7 4.f4 e6 5.♗f3 ♗e7 6.♘b3 c5 7.d4 cxd4 8.♗xd4 0-0 9.0-0 a6 10.♗h1 ♗bc6 11.♘e3 ♗a5 12.a4 ♟c7 13.♟d3 ♗ec6 14.♞ad1 ♞d8 15.f5 ♗e5 16.♟e2 ♗ac4 17.♘c1 ♗d7 18.♟e1 ♞dc8 19.♟h4 ♟d8 20.♘g5 ♟e8 21.f6 ♘h8 22.♗f3 ♗xb2 23.♞xd6 ♗bc4 24.♞d4 ♗xf3 25.♞xf3 ♗e5 26.♠h3 h5 27.♗e2 ♞c5 28.♗f4 ♗g4 29.♗xh5 ♞xg5

29...gxf3 30.e5! with the idea 31.♞xg4. 30.♟xg5 ♗f2+ 31.♗g1 ♗xh3+ 32.gxh3 ♘c6 33.♗f4 ♗h7 34.e5 ♗f3 35.♗f2 ♟c6 36.♞c4 1-0

Van Wely - Guseinov
Benoni [A70]

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗f3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.♗c3 g6 7.e4 a6 8.a4 ♘g4 9.♟b3 ♘xf3 10.♟xb7 ♗xe4 11.gxf3 ♗xc3 12.♟xa8 ♘g7 13.♠a3 0-0 14.bxc3 ♞e8+ 15.♗d1 ♟f6 16.♘e2 1-0.

LinZ

This category 12 event followed immediately after Pula in late May. First place was shared by the relatively unknown Israeli GM Valery Beim and the young Hungarian GM Zoltan Almasi with 7 points. Newest and youngest grandmaster Etienne Bacrot FRA tied for third with Igor Glek RUS on 6, a half point ahead of Australian

GM Ian Rogers. Then followed: 6-7 GM Korchnoi SWI & GM Romanishin UKR 4; 8-9 GM Lanka LAT & IM Wach AUT 3; 10 IM Casagrande AUT ½.

Madrid

Yet another super-GM tournament in Spain; this one was category 17, though lacking any of the three top K's. Veselin Topalov dominated the tournament until the last couple of rounds. In fact the Bulgarian, who moved up to number 4 in the world on the 1 July list, took the lead in round 3 and after round 6 enjoyed a 1½ point lead. He was unable to win another game, however, and Alexei Shirov finished with three consecutive wins to tie the scores. The arrangements for this event provided for a tie-break match of two 20-minute rapid games and, if necessary, a single blitz play-off with Black having odds of a draw but White having 6 minutes to Black's 5. The latter was necessary as both rapid games were drawn. In the blitz game the uncommon ending of K+Q vs K+Q was reached and Topalov had secured first place.

Shirov - Salov
Scandinavian [B01]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♟xd5 3.♗c3 ♟a5 4.d4 ♗f6 5.♗f3 c6 6.♘c4 ♗f5 7.♘d2 e6 8.♗d5 ♟d8 9.♗xf6+ ♟xf6 10.♟e2 ♘g4 11.d5 ♘xf3 12.gxf3 cxd5 13.♘d5 ♗d7 14.0-0-0 ♘a3 15.c3 0-0 16.♘e4 ♗e7 17.♘xh7+ ♗xh7 18.♟d3+ ♗g8 19.♟xd7 b6 20.♠hg1 ♞ad8 21.♟xa7 ♘c5 22.♘e3 ♠a8 23.♟b7 ♠xa224.♟e4 ♘xe3+ 25.fxe3 b5 26.♗c2 b4 27.♟xb4 ♟f5+ 28.♗b3 ♠aa8 29.♞xg7+!

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1 Topalov V.	BUL g	2725	*	1	½	½	½	1	1	½	1	6½
2 Shirov A.	ESP g	2690	0	*	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	6½
3 Belyavsky A.	SLO g	2665	½	½	*	½	½	1	½	0	1	5½
4 Akopian V.	ARM g	2655	½	½	½	*	½	0	½	1	1	5½
5 Illescas M.	ESP g	2635	½	½	½	½	*	½	1	½	0	4½
6 Short N.	ENG g	2690	0	0	0	1	½	*	½	½	1	4½
7 Polgar J.	HUN g	2645	0	0	½	½	0	½	*	1	1	4½
8 Salov V.	RUS g	2665	½	0	1	0	½	½	0	*	½	3½
9 Piket J.	NED g	2640	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	½	*	2½
10 San Segundo P.	ESP g	2505	½	0	0	0	½	0	0	½	0	1½

29...♗xg7 30.♠g1+ ♗b6 (30...♗f6 31.♟h4+ ♗e5 32.♟d4 mate) 31.♟h4+ ♟h5 32.♟f6+ ♟g6 33. ♞xg6+ and the extra pawns decide in favour of the queen. 1-0.

Short - Piket
King's Gambit [C35]

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.♗f3 ♘e7 4.♗c3 ♘h4+ 5.♗e2 d5 6.♗xd5 ♗f6 7.♗xf6+ ♟xf6 8.d4 ♘g4 9.♟d2 ♗c6 10.c3 0-0-0 11.♟xf4 ♟e6 12.♗c3 g5 13.♗xg5 ♘xg5 14.♟xg5 f5 15.h3 ♗xd4 16.cxd4 ♞xd4 17.hxg4 ♞xe4+ 18.♗f2 fxg4 19.♠h6 ♠f8+ 20.♗g1 ♠xf1+ 21.♗xf1 ♠e1+ 22.♗f2 ♟e2+ 23.♗g3 ♟d3+ 24.♗xg4 1-0.

Salov - Polgar
Pirc [B07]

1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f3 g6 3.g3 ♘g7 4.♘g2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.♗c3 ♗bd7 7.e4 e5 8.h3 ♞e8 9.♠e1 exd4 10.♗xd4 ♗c5 11.♗b3 ♗fd7 12.♗f4 a5 13.♟d2 ♗e6 14.♘h6 ♘h8 15.♘e3 ♗e5 16.♟e2 a4 17.♗d4 b6 18.b3 ♠a5 19.♞ad1 axb3 20.axb3 ♘a6 21.♟d2 ♗xd4 22.♘d4 ♗d3 23.♘xh8 ♗xe1 24.♟d4 f6 25.♘xf6 ♗xc2 26.♘xd8 ♗xd4 27.♘xc7 ♗b5 28.♗xb5 ♘xb5 29.♞xd6 ♠a1+ 30.♗h2 ♘f1 31.♘xb6 ♘xg2 32.♗xg2 ♞xe4 33.♘c5 ♠b1 34.♠b6 ♠ee1 35.h4 ♠e4 36.♠b8+ ♗f7 37.♠b7+ ♗g8 38.♗f3 ♠e5 39.♠b8+ ♗f7 40.♠b7+ ♗e6 41.♘e3 ♠f5+ 42.♗e4 ♠e5+ 43.♗d3 ♠d1+ 44.♗c4 ♠e4+ 45.♗b5 ♠d7 46.♠b6+ ♗d5 47.b4 ♠ee7 48.♠a6 ♠b7+ 49.♗a5 ♠ec7 50.♠a8?

White was always going to have a job winning this ending but after this, surprisingly, the b-pawn cannot be saved; better, therefore, was 50.♘c5.

50...♗c4 51.♘c5?
51.♠d8 ♠b5+ 52.♗a4 ♠xb4+ and the roles of torturer and tortured are reversed though a draw should probably still be the result.

51...♠c6!

The exclamation is for the effect rather than the beauty of this apparently banal move. Black is winning by zugzwang!

52.♗f8

The rook cannot move at all and 52.♗a4 ♠xc5! 53.bxc5 ♠b1 wins the rook.

52...♠b5+ 53.♗a4 ♠b8! 0-1.

Topalov - Polgar
Queen's Gambit [D38]

1.c4 e6 2.♗c3 d5 3.d4 ♘b4 4.♗f3 ♗f6 5.♘g5 h6 6.♘xf6 ♟xf6 7.e3 0-0 8.♠c1 dxc4 9.♘xc4 c5 10.0-0 cxd4 11.exd4 ♗c6 12.♗e4 ♟d8 13.a3 ♘a5 14.♟d3 ♘b6 15.♠fd1 ♟e7 16.♘b5 ♗d7 17.♗c5 ♘e8 18.♟c3 ♠c8 19.b4 a5 20.♘d3 axb4 21.axb4 ♠c7 22.♟e1 ♗h8 23.h4 ♟d6 24.♘b1 ♟f4 25.♘e4 ♗e7 26.g3 ♟f6 27.♗e5 ♗f5 28.♗g4 ♟d8 29.d5 ♗d6 30.dxe6 f5 31.♗xb7 ♟e7 32.♞xd6 ♠xb7 33.♘xb7 ♟xd6 34.e7 ♟xg3+ 35.♘g2 ♠g8 36.♗e5 ♟xh4 37.♠c8 ♗h7 38.♗c4 ♗d4 39.♗d6 ♟h5 40.♗xe8 ♠xe8 41.♠xe8 ♟xe8 42.♟e6 ♘f6 43.♟xf5+ ♗g8 44.♘d5+ ♗h8 45.♘e4 1-0.

Havana

The 32nd Capablanca Memorial tournament was won by GM Peter Leko HU) with 8/11. A point behind was GM Tony Miles ENG and another point back were GMs Walter Arencibia CUB, Ivan Morovic CHI and Kevin Spraggett CAN. The other scores were: 6-8 IM Becerra CUB, GM Nogueiras CUB & GM Schlosser GER 5½; 9 GM Am.Rodriguez CUB 5; 10 IM Borges CUB 4½; 11-12 GM Gi.Hernandez MEX & GM Zapata COL 3½.

Buenos Aires

The category 13 Najdorf Tournament was sadly the last of the legendary GM's lifetime as he died a few weeks later. Joint winners GM Ivan Morovic CHI and GM Emil Sutovskij ISR scored 6½/9, a half-point clear of GM Hugo Spangenberg. Then: 4 GM Wolff USA 5½; 5-6 GM Adianto INA & GM Kotronias GRE 4½; 7-8 IM Ricardi ARG & GM Zarnicki ARG 3½; 9 GM Campora ARG 2½; 10 GM Panno ARG 2.

Malmö

In a close scoring category 13 Swedish GM Ferdinand Hellers' undefeated 6½/9 put him half a point clear of rival GMs Pia Cramling SWE, Curt Hansen DEN, Vassily Smyslov RUS, Ivan Sokolov BIH and Jan Timman NED. The field was rounded off by: 7 GM Rosentalis LIT 4½; 8 GM Akesson SWE 4; 9 IM Hellsten SWE 3½; 10 GM Hector SWE 1½.

Novgorod

The strongest tournament of the year so far (Category 19, 2719) was a six-player double round-robin in which Gary Kasparov and Vladimir Kramnik were obvious favourites. The progress of the tournament did nothing to dispel that idea as it was clear at the half-way point that this duo were in total command. After four rounds Kasparov had 4 points and Kramnik 3½; the rest of the players had 1½ or 1. In round 5 Kramnik made the most of the white pieces to defeat Kasparov and take over the lead. This was to be short-lived, however, as in round 6 Kasparov won with the black pieces versus Boris Gelfand while Kramnik drew with Veselin Topalov.

Probably the upset of the tournament came in round 8 when Nigel Short, who had had 1½ points from his first six games before beating Gelfand in round 7, now toppled Kramnik. The Russian's attack went nowhere and he underestimated Short's kingside. This proved to be the decisive moment as the PCA champion now took the lead and could look forward to the white pieces in the penultimate round against his rival. Kasparov obtained a kingside attack and sacrificed a pawn; he couldn't break through and Kramnik was unable to make use of the extra pawn in the ending.

The final round saw Short mount a sacrificial kingside attack against Kasparov but the game ended in perpetual check at move 25. Meanwhile Kramnik, playing the white pieces against Gelfand, reached a blocked position, sacrificed a pawn, regained it and sacrificed another, but was not quite able to eke out the win.

Short, last at the halfway mark with 1 point, was top scorer in the second half with 4/5 and this strong finish was sufficient to take third prize. At last year's Novgorod

tournament Short also finished third with 5/10 but then he drew eight games; this year he did not draw eight of his games!

Gelfand - Topalov
Queen's Indian [E12]

1.d4 2.f3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.2c3 2b7 5.a3 d5 6.2g5 2e7 7.2a4+ c6 8.2xf6 2xf6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.g3 0-0 11.2g2 c5 12.2d1 2e7 13.0-0 2d8 14.e3 2a6 15.2d2 2c7 16.2fd1 2e6 17.h4 g6 18.2b3 h5 19.2a2 a6 20.dxc5 2xc3 21.bxc3 2xc5 22.2d4 2xd4 23.cxd4 2d6 24.2c1 2ac8 25.2dc2 2xc2 26.2xc2 2c6 27.2c3 2b5 28.2b2 2e6 29.2c1 2c4 30.e4 b5 31.e5 2e8 32.2h2 2b6 33.2f4 2f8 34.2f3 a5 35.2h3 2e2 36.2e3 2c4 37.2f3 2e2 38.2e3 2c4 39.2g5! 2xd4 40.e6 2b2

40...2g7 allows a nice finish: 41.e7! 2e8 42.2d7 f6 43.2xe8! fxe5 44.2c6.

41.2f3 d4 42.2xf7

42.2xf7 2xf7 43.2xg6+ 2h8 (43...2g7 44.2e8+ 2h7 45.2f5+) 44.2xh5+ and White soon mates. 1-0.

Kasparov - Short
French [C18]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.2c3 2b4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 2xc3+ 6.bxc3 2c7 7.2g4 f5 8.2g3 cxd4 9.cxd4 2e7 10.2d2 0-0 11.2d3 b6 12.2e2 2a6 13.2f4 2d7 14.h4 2xd3 15.2xd3 2bc6 16.2h3 2ac8 17.2g3 2f7 18.h5 2d8 19.c3 2f8 20.2f1 2c4 21.2g1 2f7 22.a4 2fc8 23.2b1 2c6 24.2d1 2e7 25.h6 g6 26.2h5 2xa4

26...2h8 27.2h4 2g8 28.2xg6+! hxg6 29.h7 2g7 30.2h3 and wins.

27.2xa4 2xa4 28.2xe6 2c2

28...2c6 29.2f4 2c2 offered better chances; the text allows White a sacrificial mating attack.

29.2h4!

			1	2	3	4	5	6				
1	Kasparov G.	RUS g	2795	*	*	0 ½	1 ½	1 ½	½	1	1	6½
2	Kramnik V.	RUS g	2740	1 ½	*	1 0 ½	½	1 ½	½	½	½	6
3	Short N.	ENG g	2690	0 ½	0 1	*	*	0 ½	0 1	1	1	5
4	Bareev E.	RUS g	2665	0 ½	½	½	1 ½	*	0 ½	½	½	4½
5	Topalov V.	BUL g	2725	½	½	0 ½	1 0 1	½	*	*	0	4
6	Gelfand B.	BLR g	2700	0	0 ½	½	0 0 ½	½	1	1	*	4

The point being that the black king has no escape with the knight still on e6.

29...f4

29...2xd2 30.2f6 2c1+ 31.2h2 2xh6+ 32.2h3 and mates or wins the queen.

30.2xf4 2f5 31.2xg6+!

31...hxc6 32.h7+ 2h8 33.2ff6+ 2xh7 34.2xf7+ 2h8 35.2xg6 2b1+ 36.2h2 2g8 (36...2e4 37.2g5) 37.2h5+ is conclusive. 1-0.

Kramnik - Kasparov
King's Indian [E97]

1.2f3 2f6 2.c4 g6 3.2c3 2g7 4.e4 d6 5.d4 0-0 6.2e2 e5 7.0-0 2c6 8.d5 2e7 9.b4 2h5 10.2e1 2f4 11.2f1 a5 12.bxa5 2xa5 13.2d2 c5 14.a4 2a6 15.2a3 g5 16.g3 2h3+ 17.2xh3 2xh3 18.2h5 2d7 19.2xg5 h6 20.2e3 f5 21.2e2 f4 22.2b5 2h7 23.gxf4 exf4 24.2h1 2g4 25.2f3 2g6 26.2g1 2xf3+

26...2h4? 27.2g5+.

27.2xf3 2e5 28.2h5 2f7

28...2xc4? 29.2g6+ 2h8 30.2h3 gives White a winning attack.

29.2h3! 2xc4 30.2f3 2e5 31.2c1? 2xa4

31...2xc7 32.2xh6+! 2xh6 33.2h3+.

32.2xf4

32...2xf4 33.2e6 2g8 34.2xg8 2xg8 35.2f5+ 2h8 36.2ff6+ 2h7 37.2f8+ wins the queen and soon mates. 1-0.

Gelfand - Kasparov
Queen's Indian [E12]

1.d4 2f6 2.c4 e6 3.2f3 b6 4.a3 c5 5.d5 2a6 6.2c2 exd5 7.cxd5 g6 8.2c3 2g7 9.g3 0-0 10.2g2 d6 11.0-0 2e8 12.2e1 2bd7 13.h3 b5 14.e4 2c8 15.2f4 b4 16.2a4 b3 17.2xb3 2xe4 18.2c2 2df6 19.g4 2d7 20.g5 2h5 21.2h2 f5 22.2c3 2ab8 23.2ab1 2xc3 24.bxc3 2xb1 25.2xb1 2c4 26.2d2 2xd2

26...2xd5 27.2d1 2c6 28.2d3 2g7 29.2xd6! 2xd6 30.2xe4.

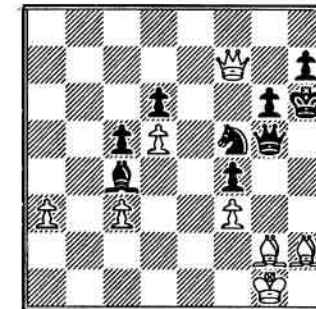
27.2xd2 f4 28.2e1

28.2xf4? 2f5.

28...2e5 29.2e4

29.2xe5 dxe5 30.d6 2f8 and the 2d6 will be rounded up by the knight.

29...2xe4 30.2xe4 2xh3 31.2g2 2g4 32.2e1 2g7 33.f3 2xg5 34.2b1 2f5 35.2b8+ 2g7 36.2xa7+ 2h6 37.2f7



37...2f1! 38.2xf1

38.2xf4 2xf4 39.2f8+ 2h5 40.2xf1 2g3+ 41.2h1 2c3 42.2f7 h6 is also decisive.

38...2e3+ 39.2e1 2h4+ 40.2e2 2xh2 41.2d3 2f5 0-1.

Short - Kramnik
Sicilian [B72]

1.e4 c5 2.2f3 2c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.2xd4 2f6 5.2c3 d6 6.h3 g6 7.2e3 2g7 8.2c4 0-0 9.2b3 2a5 10.2d2 2d7 11.2h6 2c8 12.2xg7 2xg7 13.2d3 a6 14.f4 e5 15.2de2 2b6 16.0-0 2b5 17.2f3 2e2 18.2xe2 2xb3+ 19.axb3 exf4 20.2hf1 2a5 21.2xf4 2a1+ 22.2b1 2d7 23.2xd6 2c5 24.2e3 a5 25.e5 b5 26.2h4 2g8 27.2d5 2e6 28.2h6 2xc2+ 29.2xc2 2c8+ 30.2c3 1-0.

Short - Topalov
Sicilian [B90]

1.e4 c5 2.2f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.2xd4 2f6 5.2c3 a6 6.2e3 2g4 7.2g5 h6 8.2h4 g5 9.2g3 2g7 10.2e2 h5 11.2xg4 2xg4 12.f3 2d7 13.2f2 2c6 14.0-0 e6 15.2xc6 2xc6 16.2d4 2e5 17.2d2 2ff6 18.2xe5 dxe5 19.a4 0-0 20.b3 2fd8 21.2e3 2f4 22.2xf4 gxf4 23.2fd1 h4 24.2xd8+ 2xd8 25.2d1 2c8 26.2d2 2f8 27.2d1 2e7 28.2f2 f5 29.2f1 fxe4 30.fxe4 a5 31.2e2 2e8 32.2d1 2h5+ 33.2c1 2g8 34.2d3 h3 35.gxh3 2g1+ 36.2b2 2f3 37.2xe5 2xe4 38.2f2 2f6 39.2c4 2g5 40.h4+ 2g4 41.h5 f3 42.h6 2f4 43.2d2

43.2xf3+ works after 43...2xf3? 44 h7 but not after 43... 43...2xf3 44.2d2+ 2f4 45.2xe4 2g6 and the e-pawn will surely prove White's undoing.

43...2g6 44.h7 2h6 45.h82 2xh8 0-1.

Leon

Peruvian GM Julio Granda Zuniga and England's John Nunn enjoyed a rating advantage of 60 or more points over their mostly Spanish rivals and duly took the top honours in this category 10 event. Scores: 1 GM Granda 6½; 2 GM Nunn 6; 3-4 GM Izeta ESP & IM Sion ESP 5; 5 Del Rio ESP 4½; 6-8 GM Campora ARG, Estremera ESP & IM Mellado ESP 4; 9 GM Lima BRA 3½; 10 IM De la Villa ESP 3.

Frankfurt

A quadrangular rapid tournament in July was won by Viswanathan Anand ahead of Anatoly Karpov. The time control was a basic 15 minutes per game with an extra 10 seconds added after each move played. First a double round-robin was played with the top two then playing a four-game match to decide the top two placings. In the round-robin Anand led with 4½/6 followed by Karpov 3½, Veselin Topalov 2½ and Eric Lobron 1½. The German GM won his match for 3rd/4th; the first four games were split 2 wins apiece, the pair of blitz games 1:1, and Lobron won the sudden death play-off.

Anand won his match against Karpov 3:1, winning the first two games and drawing the others.

Dortmund

The 25th edition of this international tournament featured six of the world's top ten - category 18 with an average rating of 2699.5. Vladimir Kramnik was a runaway winner, leading from go to whoa. After three rounds Viswanathan Anand and Judit Polgar

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1 Kramnik V.	RUS	g	2770	•	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	½	6½
2 Anand V.	IND	g	2765	½	•	0	1	½	½	1	½	½	5½
3 Topalov V.	BUL	g	2745	½	1	•	½	0	½	½	½	½	5
4 Ivanchuk V.	UKR	g	2725	0	0	½	•	½	1	½	1	½	5
5 Polgar J.	HUN	g	2670	0	½	1	½	•	½	1	½	½	4½
6 Gelfand B.	BLR	g	2695	½	½	½	0	½	•	½	½	½	4
7 Short N.	ENG	g	2660	½	0	½	0	0	½	•	1	½	4
8 Karpov A.	RUS	g	2745	0	½	½	½	½	½	0	•	½	4
9 Hübner R.	GER	g	2580	½	½	½	0	½	½	0	½	•	3½
10 Yusupov A.	GER	g	2640	0	0	0	½	1	½	½	0	½	•

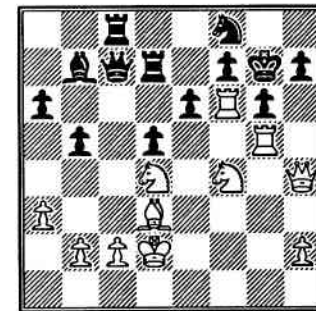
shared the lead with him on 2½ points but both then gradually fell off the pace. With two rounds to go the Kasparov-acclaimed "heir apparent" was 1½ points ahead of Anand and Vassily Ivanchuk and by then he was coasting home with draws.

Among the slowest starters were Veselin Topalov and Ivanchuk, both starting with a loss and two draws but finishing with 4/6 to move up to a share of third place. Polgar reached 3½/5 but then consecutive losses to Kramnik and Yusupov put paid to her chances of a top placing. Anatoly Karpov recovered from his round one loss to Kramnik after a time trouble mistake by beating Artur Yusupov in the second round, but that was to be his only highlight.

The first three rounds produced 10 decisive results (out of 15 games) but the remaining six rounds produced only another nine.

Topalov - Polgar
English [A16]

1.c4 e1f6 2.e3 d5 3.cxd5 e2xd5 4.g3 g6 5.dg2 c6 6.e1f3 dg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 de6 9.e2a4 e2a6 10.de2 de8 11.e3 b5 12.e3c3 e1xc3 13.de3c3 e5 14.a3 de5 15.b4 cxb4 16.axb4 e2b6 17.e2a3 e2b8 18.e2a1 de7 19.e1h4 de4 20.e2d1 e1fc8 21.e1f3 e6 22.e1g2 e1f8 23.de2d2 e2c6 24.e2a6 e2b8 25.e2a3 e2e7 26.e2e1 e2d5 27.e4 e2b6 28.e1f4 e2b729.de7c7 de7 30.e2a5 e2a4 31.e2d3 de3 32.e2d3 de4 33.e5 e2b6 34.e2xa4 bxa4 35.e2xa4 de4 36.e2a3 e2xb4 37.e2e8 e2b1+ 38.e2g2 e2b2 0-1.



32.e1f3e6+ e1xe6 33.e2xe6 e2a5+ 34.b4 e2xa3 35.e1f5+ dg8 36.e2e7+ de7 37.e2e7 e2c3+ 38.e2e2 d4 39.e2f4 1-0.

Ivanchuk - Short
Sicilian [B40]

1.e4 c5 2.e1f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.e2xd4 e2b6 5.e2c3 de5 6.e2a4 e2a5+ 7.c3 de4 8.e2xd4 e1f6 9.e2c5 b6

Varying from 9...e2c6 with which he beat Topalov at Novgorod.

10.e2b3 e2h5 11.f3 0-0 12.e1f4 e2c6 13.e2e3 e5 14.de5 e2e8 15.g4 e2g6 16.0-0-0 e2e6 17.e2b1 de7 18.e2d3 d6 19.h4 e2h8 20.e2h2 f6 21.de3 e2e7 22.e4 e2f7 23.h5 h6 24.e2a1 e2c6 25.e2hd2 e2d8 26.e2c2 e2e6 27.e1f2 e2f7 28.e2c3 e2c8 29.e2a3 e2d4 30.e2d5 e2c6 31.e2c3 e2b8 32.e2b5 e2f7 33.c5 bxc5 34.de5c5 de8 35.e2xd6 e2xd6 36.e2xd6 e2xd6 37.e2xd6 de6 38.e2xe6 e2d1+ 39.e2c2 e2xf1 40.e2xc6 e2b5 41.e2a6 1-0.

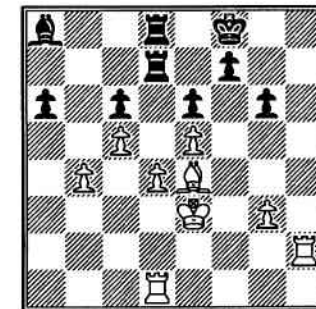
Kramnik - Ivanchuk
Queen's Gambit [D45]

1.e1f3 e1f6 2.c4 c6 3.e2c3 d5 4.d4 e6 5.e3 e2bd7 6.e2c2 b6 7.de3 de7 8.0-0 de7 9.b3

de8 10.de2b2 c5 11.cxd5 cxd4? 12.de6 dxc3 13.e2d7+ e2xd7 14.de3c3 de4 15.de4 de3f3 16.gxf3 de3 17.e2xc3 e2g5+ 18.e2h1 b5 19.e2a5 1-0.

Kramnik - Polgar
Queen's Gambit [D30]

1.e1f3 d5 2.d4 e6 3.c4 de4+ 4.de2 de2d2+ 5.e2bxd2 e1f6 6.g3 0-0 7.de2 e2e7 8.0-0 b6 9.e2c1 de7 10.e2e5 e2bd7 11.e2xd7 e2xd7 12.e2c2 e2ac8 13.c5 c6 14.e2a4 de8 15.e4 dxe4 16.e2xe4 e2xe4 17.de4e4 e2fd8 18.e2fd1 e2c7 19.b4 g6 20.e2a3 e2e7 21.e2f3 b5 22.a4 bxa4 23.e2a1 a6 24.e2xa4 de7 25.e2a2 de7 26.e2ad2 dg7 27.e2f4 e2cd7 28.e2e5+ e2f6 29.f4 h5 30.e2f2 h4 31.e2e3 h3g3 32.h3g3 de8 33.e2h2 e2xe5 34.fxe5 e2f8



35.e2f1 de4 36.e2h7 e2h8d7 37.e2h8+ de7 38.e2xa8 e2xb4 39.de3c6 e2b3+ 40.e2f2 e2d2+ 41.e2e1 1-0.

Anand - Short
Ruy Lopez [C87]

1.e4 e5 2.e1f3 e2c6 3.de5 a6 4.de4 e1f6 5.0-0 de7 6.e2e1 d6 7.c3 de4 8.d3 e2d7 9.de3 de3f3 10.e2xf3 de5 11.e2d2 0-0 12.de2 h6 13.e2f1 e2b6 14.e2ad1 de3 15.fxe3 g6 16.e2g3 e2g5 17.e2h3 dg7 18.e2f3 e2g8 19.e2fd1 e2af8 20.e2b3 e2d8 21.e2c4 e2xc4 22.de4c4 e2e7 23.e2f6 e2e8 24.e2h4 e2gf8 25.b4 e2d7 26.de5 c6 27.de3 e2e6 28.e2g3 e2d8 29.e2f3 e2g5 30.e2g4 d5 31.cxd5 cxd5 32.h4 e2h7 33.e2gf5 f6 34.h5 e2g5 35.h3g6 e2d6 36.d4 e2e4 37.de5 e2e5 38.e2xe5 e2xe5 39.e2f5 e2xc3 40.e2xd5 e2xe3+ 41.e2h2 e2g5 42.e2d7+ e2xg6 43.de2+ e2h5 44.e2f5 e2h4 45.e2d3 e2e5+ 46.g3+ e2h5 47.de1+ e2e2+ 48.de2e2++ 1-0.

NZCF Council report

By Ted Frost

North and South Island Championships

Arising from Tournament Director difficulties which arose at the 1997 North Island Championships, attention has been focussed on the timetable for the North and South Island Championships (particularly the retention of adjournments) and also the qualifications required for those appointed as Tournament Director of NZCF events.

Peter Stuart has pointed out that a report on appointment of Tournament Directors was submitted to Council 10 years ago, but no action was taken. This matter is being referred to the Technical Committee, and its report will be referred to clubs for consideration.

Regarding adjournments, it has been pointed out that players are now familiar with single session play, and that retaining adjournments (because of the pressures from two rounds in a day) is no longer necessary. Among other advantages of single-session play would be the removal of anomalies arising from adjourned games treated as draws in making the draw.

Council intends to put an amendment to the next annual meeting, to provide for single-session play, and is referring possible timetables to clubs for consideration.

Rating system

Council officers have been in consultation with former rating officer Rowan Wood, who is in Norway, over amendments to the rating programme. Refinements are being worked through, among them the inclusion of player data (registration, birthdates, sex) which will enable the database to be used to check registrations and enable sectional lists (juniors, women) to be extracted through the system instead of manually.

Some other technical matters are also being reviewed, for example adjustment for the year 2000 and the capacity of the system.

Council has made decisions on one or two matters - that while tournaments including visiting overseas players are rated, the visitors should not be included in the published rating list; also that for various reasons the May and October closing dates for the rating lists be maintained. The relationship of the New Zealand list to FIDE ratings is also being examined, as there is some feeling that the gap between the two has widened.

Chess in schools

Council has endorsed the programme being developed for chess in schools, including the start of email matches. It has decided that schools which take an active part in competitions run under the NZCF umbrella be recognised as associate members.

A database of these schools is being built up as a basic group to be invited into the 1998 junior chess programme which will be outlined at the start of the new school year. This database will provide information for use in promotion and seeking sponsorship.

FIDE acrimony

There has been a fresh outbreak of acrimonious exchanges between FIDE and Asian officials, over world team championship arrangements. NZCF Council has reviewed this debate, and also the improvements which have been evident in FIDE administration and the progress made in negotiations with the IOC. FIDE is preparing a 100-page case for presentation to the IOC at the end of the year, entitled "Chess is a sport."

Council considered that the acrimonious exchanges with the parties polarised are harmful to FIDE. Council has sent a message to FIDE emphasising the need for a united front, particularly during this delicate period of negotiations with the IOC.

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: Thurs, 7.15, Methodist Centre, 56 Landon Street. Inquiries Pres, Hilton Bennett, 65 Te Aroha St (07)839-6406 or (025)964-773.

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.

Waiemata 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)818-2342.

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.. Club capt, John Smeed, 14- Great South Road, Huntly. (07)828-7481.

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. Pres, Dennis Davey, 22a Cargill Grove (03)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. Contact, Geoffrey Gill (09)438-3035.

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