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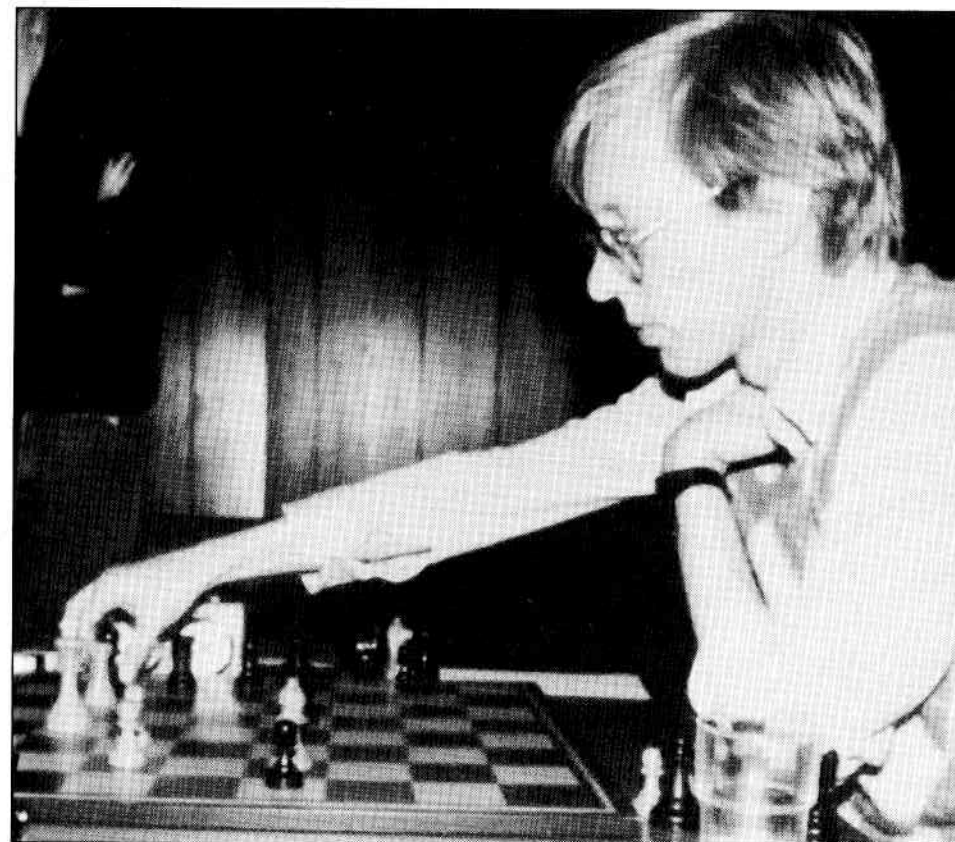
New Zealand Chess



Official magazine of the New Zealand Chess Federation (Inc.)

Volume 24 Number 2

April 1998 \$3.50 (incl. GST)



NZ-born Murray Chandler - GM, editor, bookseller, now a publisher

NEW ZEALAND CHESS

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STOP PRESS**NZ Women's Championship**

Vivian Smith won the New Zealand Women's championship played at Easter. Ten players competed and Vivian scored 5½/7 (3 draws), just heading Rosaleen Sheehan, Teresa Sheehan and Katrine Metge, all on 5. Teresa Sheehan won the best game prize.

Civic Easter

Russell Dive 5½/6 won the Civic Easter tournament, clear of Arto Satonen (a Finnish visitor) 5 and Alan Winfield, Mike Schwass and Sergei Tkatchenko 4. Jeff Boardman won the A grade prize and Sergei Tkatchenko (13, a recent arrival in Wellington from Russia) won the B grade prize and also the prize for best junior.

Australian Masters

New Zealand has received the usual invitations to the Australian masters tourney in Melbourne in the second half of May. Stephen Lukey has shown interest in playing.

New club in Porirua

A new chess club is being set up in Porirua and will join NZCF as an associate member. It is expected to open in May, with play on Saturday nights. Contact, Phillip Coghini tel (04)237-6578.

ON THE COVER: New Zealand-born Murray Chandler has made a successful career in chess. He earned the grandmaster title, is editor the British Chess Magazine and proprietor of the BCM chess shop. Now he is managing director of a new publishing enterprise in Britain, Gambit Publications. (See book review, page 13).

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

New Zealand Chess

Vol 24 Number 2 April 1998

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- 5 Sending a team to the chess Olympiad costs \$3000 a player - well over \$30,000 for the team. Most of this is met by the players themselves, so NZCF has launched an appeal for all the support the team can receive. Team details appear in the NZCF president's report on page 30.
- 6 Alexei Kulashko annotates the best of his play at Congress - and also the worst.
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IN THE NEXT ISSUE: Reports and games from the Asian Cities Championship, the Australian Masters, Waitakere Trust Open and Waikato Open, plus latest overseas news. Anthony Ker reviews *101 opening surprises*.

Waitakere Trust Open -- over \$3200 in prizes

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1998 Latvian Gambit Open

By Paul Spiller

After a slight decline in entries over the last few years, 1998 saw a boost in numbers to 70 in this year's Latvian Gambit Open. There was a wide geographical spread of players from Whangarei, Waihi, Te Puke, Rotorua, Palmerston North and Napier.

The entry of 52 in the Under-1700 section included a group of 11 Hamilton schoolpupils who were playing in their first chess tournament and had been encouraged to do so by Hamilton teacher and chessplayer Gary Judkins.

Also entered was an exchange student, Ilse Krauer from Paraguay. This was her first event as well. Jim Cater also made a welcome return to this tournament.

Several players made good starts in this section, including Igor Bjelobrk, Henry Vital and Vivian Smith, who won their first four games. Smith and Vital lost in round 5, to give Bjelobrk a clear lead with 5/5. He was held to a draw in round 6 by Ryan Trass, but this gave him 5½ and clear first. Four players finished in 5 points for a share of second: R Phillips, C Millar, H Vital and R Kerry.

Other leading scores: R Trass 4½; AJ Cater, V Smith, C Wilson, M Burn, R Starr, S Ramanakumar, M Garland, C Chilvers, M Chilvers, Y Metz 4; J Bojtor, B Whitaker, 3½; P Wallis, S Price, AJ Booth, T Evans, N Todd, K Williams, GW Pocock, CA Walker, C Trass, R Neal, G Judkins, J Borovkis, N Cotter, D Phillips, Nedeljekov, W Han 3.

There were some good performances by the juniors (in addition to Igor Bjelobrk), with Chad Miller finishing 2= on 5, Ryan Trass on 4½ and the Chilvers brothers Mark and Craig on 4. Look out for these players over the next few years.

Open section

The Open section attracted a very strong field of 17, including NZ Champion Alexei Kulashko, Paul Garbett, Bob Smith, Ortvin

Sarapu, Leonard McLaren and both Greens. A dark horse, and top seed, for this event was Arto Satonen (Elo 2250) from Finland. Kulashko was certainly the man to beat, however, after some impressive form of late.

Upsets were forthcoming as early as round 1, with Satonen losing a close struggle with Nigel Hopewell, Bob Smith losing to Scott Wastney and Ewen Green to Leonard McLaren. By the end of round 3 only Kulashko and Sarapu were on 3 points. Their quick draw in round 4 kept them ½ a point clear of Peter Green and Bob Smith.

In round 5 Kulashko defeated Peter Green and Sarapu went down after playing a rook sacrifice against Smith, which just failed to win after some clever defence by Smith.

Bob played a safe quick draw with Elexei in round 6 (quite an amazing comeback for Bob with 4½ out of the last five rounds). This guaranteed Alexsei first place and \$600 and at least 2= for Bob.

Ortvin Sarapu continued his good run of form in this tournament by defeating Scott Wastney, and Paul Garbett joined Sarapu and Smith in second place by virtue of a win over Peter Stuart.

1996 winner Leonard McLaren, after a first round win over Ewen Green, lost 3 games in a row, showing that there were no easy games in this section.

Leading scores: Open: A Kulashko 5; RW Smith, PA Garbett, O Sarapu 4½; A Satonen, P Green, PW Stuart, E Green 3½; L McLaren, N Hopewell, S Wastney, JM Davis 3.

Computer glitch

Tournament director Bob Gibbons, assisted by Paul Spiller, only just managed to cope with the large number of entries, after a computer glitch which meant all the pairings had to be done with pairing cards. Thanks to Bob for handling a difficult situation well.

Olympiad Appeal

To all chess friends,

On behalf of the New Zealand Federation and our Open and Women's teams for this year's Olympiads we appeal for donations in support of the teams' travel and accommodation expenses for the 1998 Chess Olympiads being held in Elista, capital of the Kalmyk Republic, in September/October.

Once again chess finds itself in a sporting limbo, not recognised as a physical sport and therefore not funded by the Hillary Commission or the Sports Foundation. FIDE is developing a relationship with the International Olympic Committee as witness the recent World Championship match at IOC headquarters in Lausanne and we can hope that this will eventually lead to recognition of chess as an Olympic sport in New Zealand. Whether that will help with funding for what we perceive to be in the best interests of chess in New Zealand is another matter but the fact remains that at present the entire responsibility for such funding rests with the chess community.

For many years the Olympiad has been the Federation's first priority for funding as it provides the maximum exposure to higher levels of competition which we lack to a considerable extent in New Zealand. Apart from the benefits that this experience brings to New Zealand chess we should recognise that our teams are representing all New Zealand chess players and that they have already invested heavily (in both time and money) in the chess scene.

Travel expenses are likely to be in the region of \$3000 per player and any funds not raised by the chess community will be borne by the players. The players recognise this but are surely deserving of our greatest support. I know they will be more than thankful for any support you can give.

Donations should be sent to: NZCF Olympiad Appeal
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All donations will be acknowledged in *New Zealand Chess*.

Peter Stuart
President, NZCF

Congress grade results

In the New Zealand Rapid Championship at Congress, Chris Burns won the grade prize for under-1900 players, with Philip Hair and Scott Macleod the runners-up. The under-1500 prize was shared by Terry Powell, Rick Loos and Graham Judkins.

Tom Gothorp won the under-1200 grade prize, with William Anderson runner-up.

In the New Year Open, Igor Bjelobrk won the grade prize for under-1600 players, with Ross Jackson, Yuri Tesanyuk and Colin Clark as runners-up. Nic Croad won the grade prize for under-1400 players, with Teresa Sheehan runner-up.

Champion takes the initiative

After his arrival in New Zealand, our national champion Alexei Kulashko quickly demonstrated his positive style of play, which one top opponent summed up by saying "he likes to take the initiative." There was a subtle but significant difference in that assessment between taking the initiative and simply being aggressive.

Kulashko's style is shown in his game from the Hamilton Congress, which he has selected as his best of the tournament.

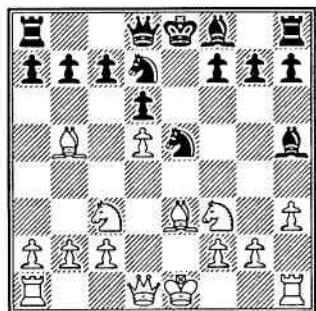
Kulashko, A – Walsh, B

105th NZ Champ, R 10 [B00]

Notes by Alexei Kulashko

1.e4 d6 2.f3 d6 3.d4 f6 4.c3 g4 5.♙e3 e6 6.h3 ♗h5 7.d5 exd5 8.exd5 ♗e5 9.♗b5+

I played this move and walked away from the board. I didn't know for sure what I was going to do after 9...c6. The only thing I prayed for was Black's next move, 9...♗f7. 9...♗f7



10.♗xe5! ♗xd1 11.♗xd7+ ♗e7 12.♗c6+ bxc6 13.dxc6 f6?

I believe that 13...♗xd7 is absolutely necessary. The endgame, with little advantage for White after 14.♗g5+ f6 15.♗d5+ ♗e6 16.cxd7 ♗xd5 17.♗xd1+ ♗e6 18.♗e3 ♗xd7 would be more enjoyable for Black compared to the position he got in the game. Another option is 13...♗b8. In my opinion it doesn't help. White's initiative is very strong, e.g., 14.♗d5+ ♗d8 15.♗xd1 ♗xb2 16.0-0 ♗e7 (16...♗xa2 17.♗g5+ f6

18.♗f1 ♗e7 19.♗xe7 f6 20.♗de1) 17.♗f1 ♗f6 18.♗b1 ♗xc2 19.♗xf6 gxf6 20.♗d4 ♗g6 21.♗b3.

14.♗xd1 ♗f7 15.0-0 g6 16.♗f1 h5?

This is a serious mistake. Now White has time to complete development comfortably. Black must try 16...♗b8 with the idea of giving up the worthless ♗ on a8 for the excellent ♗ on d5.

17.♗d4 ♗g7 18.♗d5 g5 19.♗e2 ♗f8 20.♗de1 ♗g6 21.♗e7

In fact, White plays with two extra pieces. Black's ♗ on a8 and ♗ aren't worth a lot. White's attack develops itself.

21...♗b8 22.a4

Taking the last square on the b-file from Black's ♗.

22...h4 23.g4 hxg3 24.f6 ♗h8 25.g4 ♗xh3 26.♗f5+ ♗h6 27.♗xf6 ♗xf6 28.♗h7# 1-0

Champion's worst game

It is human nature for players to annotate their best games, and to analyse their losses in private, but valuable lessons can be learned from mistakes - especially those made by top players. Kulashko has lost few competition games in New Zealand, so there was a newsworthy aspect to his game against Mark Sinclair at the Hamilton Congress.

Alexei has annotated for *NZ Chess* what he describes as his worst game at the Congress, and says there was a valuable lesson for him in the loss.

Kulashko, A – Sinclair, M

105th NZ Champ, R 2 [C52]

Notes by Alexei Kulashko

1.e4 e5 2.f3 f3 3.♗c4 ♗c5 4.b4 ♗xb4 5.c3 ♗a5 6.0-0

6.d4 is the best move, but I had played it against Mark before so I chose an old-fashioned line which was popular in the world championship matches Steinitz-Chigorin.

6...d6 7.d4 ♗b6 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.♗b3 ♗f6 10.♗g5 ♗g6 11.♗d5 ♗e7 12.♗xe7 ♗xe7

13.♗xc6 ♗xc6 14.♗xe5 ♗e6 15.♗c4 ♗d8 16.♗a3+ ♗e8 17.♗xb6 ♗xb6

Theory evaluates this position as equal. Mark spent about 40 minutes on the opening moves and successfully avoided all traps. Obviously, White doesn't have advantage here. Black's position is better. At this moment Mark offered me a draw and I should have accepted it...but it was psychologically impossible after playing 17 book moves simply to take half a point. By the way, I hadn't lost a single tournament game since March, so I was more than overconfident. Fortunately I kept playing and lost - in the long term early defeat was very helpful. It reminded me that every game requires concentration from start to end.

18.c4

Trying to develop the ♗b1. Loses a ♗, though.

18...♗e6 19.♗c3 ♗d3 20.♗a4+ ♗c6 21.♗xc6+ 21.♗b5 ♗d7.

21...bxc6 22.♗fc1 ♗b8 23.♗c2 ♗b4 24.c5 ♗c4 25.♗ac1 ♗xc5 26.f3 ♗c4 27.♗f2 ♗d7 28.♗e2?

If White manages to swap all 4 ♗s he won't have any trouble. White must play 28.♗e2 i.e., 28...♗cd4 29.♗d1 ♗c4 30.♗xd3! ♗xd3+ (30...♗xd3 31.♗d2) 31.♗e3.

28...♗xc2 29.♗xc2 ♗a3 30.♗c3 c5 31.h4 ♗c6 32.g4 ♗c4 33.g5 ♗d3 34.♗c1 c4 35.♗e3 ♗c5 36.h5 ♗a6?

36...c6 and 37...♗b4. After the forced 38.♗d2 White is in zugzwang. The ♗side ♗s are not dangerous.

37.f4 h6 38.a4 ♗b6 39.gxh6?

A blunder in time trouble. 39.♗g1!?

39...♗xh6 40.♗h1 g6 41.f5+. 41...♗xh5 42.♗xh5 gxh5 43.f6 c6 44.♗f4 44.e5 ♗f5 and 45...♗e6.

44...♗d6 45.a5 ♗e6 46.e5 h4 47.♗a4 ♗g6 48.♗g4 ♗xe5 49.♗xh4 ♗d4 0-1

Smith, R – Kulashko, A

Round 7 [B83]

1.e4 c5 2.f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 d6 6.♗e2 ♗e7 7.0-0 0-0 8.f4 ♗c6 9.♗e3 e5 10.♗b3 exf4 11.♗xf4 ♗e8 12.♗d2

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♗g5 13.♗f2 ♗xe3 14.♗xe3 ♗e6 15.♗d1 ♗e7 16.♗d4 ♗h8 17.♗xe6 fxe6 18.♗xf8+ ♗xf8 19.♗c4 ♗c7 20.♗f1 ♗e7 21.♗f4 ♗g8 22.h3 ♗f8 23.♗xf8+ ♗xf8 24.♗xf8+ ♗xf8 25.♗f2 ♗e7 26.♗e3 ♗f6 27.♗e2 ♗e5 28.♗d3 ♗a8 29.♗d4 a6 30.a4 ♗b6 31.b3 a5 32.♗b5 ♗e7 33.♗e2 ♗bd7 34.♗d4 ♗c5 35.♗d1 ♗ed7 36.c3 ♗b6 37.♗c2 g6 38.♗b5 ♗d7 39.♗d4 e5+ 40.♗e3 ♗a6 41.♗a3 ♗e6 42.♗d3 ♗c5 43.♗c4 ♗xc4+ 44.♗xc4+ ♗f6 45.♗d5 b6 46.g3 ♗a6 ½-½

Hare, T – Kulashko, A

Round 9 [A37]

1.♗f3 c5 2.g3 g6 3.♗g2 ♗g7 4.0-0 ♗c6 5.d3 e6 6.c4 ♗ge7 7.♗c3 0-0 8.♗b1 a6 9.♗d2 ♗b8 10.a3 b5 11.cxb5 axb5 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 d5 14.♗b3 ♗b6 15.♗fc1 ♗d8 16.e3 ♗f8 17.♗e2 ♗g7 18.♗c5 ♗a5 19.♗d1 ♗b7 20.♗c2 e5 21.♗bc1 ♗d6 22.♗c7 ♗b7 23.♗xb7 ♗xb7 24.♗c3 ♗c6 25.♗b3 ♗e8 26.h4 ♗c7 27.♗b2 ♗d6 28.♗c5 ♗c7 29.♗a3 ♗a7 30.♗g5 h6 31.♗f3 ♗a6 32.♗c1 ♗c6 33.♗c3 ♗a7 34.♗e1 ♗f8 35.♗c2 ♗c7 36.♗e1 ♗c8 37.♗e2 ♗a6 38.♗c3 ♗e6 39.d4 e4 40.♗f1 ♗b8 41.♗d1 ♗d7 42.♗c2 ♗b6 43.♗e1 ♗c7 44.♗b1 ♗e8 45.♗d2 ♗a6 46.♗c3 ♗d6 47.♗c2 ♗c4 48.♗c1 g5 49.hxg5 hxg5 50.♗b3 ♗g4 51.♗c5 ♗xc5 52.dxc5 ♗f3 53.♗g2 ♗xg2 54.♗xg2 ♗h6 0-1

Fighting chess at Congress

By Ted Frost

The last three rounds of the New Zealand Championship at Hamilton reflected the competitive atmosphere of the Congress as a whole. In round 9, for example, there were only two draws. It was not surprising that one of these was the shortest game of the round. What was surprising was that it went to 40 moves, so all games went to the first time control. The average length of games in that round was a fraction under 60 moves, and the longest went to 106 moves.

In an 11-round Swiss tournament with a wide spread of ratings and only 18 players, leaders tend to be paired down the field in the closing rounds. That happened in Hamilton, and as the struggle for places, rating points and prize money meant that every half-point counted, higher-rated

players had to avoid soft draws and play positively for wins. So there was only one draw in round 10 and three in round 11.

The competitive tone, but in a climate of enjoyable chess, was evident in the 68-move draw between Anthony Ker and Stephen Lukey in round 4. Not only have the players held the usual post-game post-mortem, they have both gone to the trouble of preparing detailed analysis of the game. It includes a pot-pourri of good moves and bad, along with comments on missed opportunities, the influence of the clock, and chess etiquette.

Their effort gives us the opportunity to publish the two sets of commentary side by side - Anthony Ker's in the left-hand column of the following pages, Stephen Lukey's in the right-hand column.

A lucky escape

Lukey,S - Ker,A
Round 4 [B07]

Notes by FM Anthony Ker

Never give up! In the fourth round of the NZ Championship in Hamilton Stephen Lukey and I fought a see-saw battle. At one point Stephen achieved an overwhelming advantage, but time trouble and resourceful defence enabled me to claw back for a draw.

1.e4

Stephen switches easily between e4 and d4. Against me the prospect of playing the White side of a Pirc was attractive.

1...d6

I hate to disappoint my fans.

2.d4 ♟f6 3.♟c3 g6

The standard Pirc position. There are many ways for White to proceed, ranging from the conservative Classical (4.♟f3) to the expansionist Austrian (4.f4) and the hyper-aggressive Mad Dog (4.h4).

4.♟g5

This is Robert Byrne's suggestion, developing the ♟ before playing f4.

4...♟bd7 5.f4 h6 6.♟h4 ♟h5

Most enjoyable game

Lukey,S - Ker,A
Round 4 [B07]

Notes by NM Stephen Lukey

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♟f6 3.♟c3 g6 4.♟g5 ♟bd7 5.f4

This looks the most direct approach. I played 5.♟d2 in an earlier game against Anthony.

5...h6 6.♟h4 ♟h5 7.♟h3

A pretty unusual place for a ♟. 7.♟d2 ♟xf4 and 7.♟ge2 g5 have also been played.

7...♟df6

The most aggressive. 7...♟b6 is a solid alternative, when White can choose between 8.g4, 8.f5, 8.♟e2 and 8.♟d2.

8.e5 ♟g4?

Too aggressive. Black should swap material with 8...dxe5 9.dxe5 ♟xh3 10.gxh3 ♟xd1+ 11.♟xd1 ♟d7 12.♟g2 c6 with a playable game.

9.♟d3!

This essentially refutes Black's strategy. The ♟ takes up an aggressive post, a possible ♟ swap is prevented, and the sting is taken out of ♟c3.

9...dxe5

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Anthony Ker)

OK, it looks weird, breaking all the rules of development to put the ♟ on the edge of the board. But there is method in the madness. Black plans a series of threats to keep White off balance. The first is obvious - ♟f4.

7.♟h3

Develops, defends f4 and sets a trap: 7...♟xf4?? 8.♟xf4 g5 9.♟e6! Resigns. Ker-B Freeman, Dunedin, 1982-83. Having won the White side of that encounter I was not about to put my head in the noose, much to Stephen's disappointment.

7...♟df6

I suspect that 7...♟b6 is better here. Black threatens ♟xh3, but the ♟ is awkwardly placed on f6 and interferes with its counterpart.

8.e5

The peaceful 8.♟d2 gives White a good game. However, Stephen wants to punish me for my risky opening play!

8...♟g4 9.♟d3

A good reply. Not 9.♟e2?? ♟e3 and White loses material.

9...dxe5 10.dxe5

Stephen took a long time over this seemingly straightforward recapture. If 10.fxe5 I intended 10...♟e3 11.♟d2 ♟xd4! when 12.♟b5+ c6 13.♟xd4 allows 13...♟xc2+ regaining the ♟. However, White can improve with 11.♟f3 ♟xd4 12.♟f2 when Black must give up a piece for three ♟s.

10...g5

Fighting chess! The object of Black's attentions is the ♟ on e5 and this move seeks to undermine its defence.

11.♟e2

A tremendous response. White ignores the attack on his ♟ and prepares to embarrass Black's ♟. Now, if 11...gxh4 12.0-0-0 c6 13.♟g6! ♟xd1+ 14.♟xd1 fxc6 15.♟e6! ♟(either)f6 16.♟d3 with two huge threats: 17.♟d8# and 17.♟xg6#.

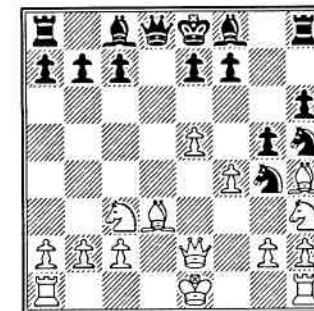
11...♟d4 12.♟b5 ♟c5 13.0-0-0

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Stephen Lukey)

If 9...♟e3 10.♟f3 ♟xh3 11.♟xe3 ♟f5 12.♟xf5 gxf5 13.♟f3 winning a ♟.

10.dxe5 g5!?

Black plays to destroy White's e♟.



11.♟e2

A very original sacrifice which I had in mind when I played 9.♟d3. White aims to catch Black's ♟ on the ♟ file.

11...♟d4

Clearly surprised, Black had a long think and came up with this. As 11...gxh4 also loses, it really comes down to which move makes things harder for White. After 11...gxh4 12.0-0-0 c6 White can choose between (A) 13.♟g6 and (B) 13.e6.

After A) 13.♟g6 A1) 13...fxg6 requires more of White, but still loses after 14.♟xd8+ ♟xd8 15.♟d1+ ♟c7 (15...♟e8 transposes to the previous line) 16.e6! ♟hf6 17.♟f2! h5 18.h3 ♟xf2 19.♟e5+ ♟b6 20.♟d4+ ♟c7 (Postscript: White has to find another way to win in this line, as 20...♟a6 may defend.) 21.♟b5+ cxb5 22.♟c5+ ♟b8 23.♟e5#, A2) 13...♟b6 14.♟xh5 ♟e3+ 15.♟d2 ♟xe2 16.♟xe2 ♟e6 seems to lose after 17.♟g1! ♟c4 18.♟xg4; A3) 13...♟xd1+ 14.♟xd1 fxc6 15.e6! ♟hf6 16.♟b5! wins;

B) After 13.e6 13...♟xe6 14.♟xe6! ♟xd3! 15.♟xg4 ♟f6 16.♟xh4 ♟g6 17.♟he1 ♟g7, Black can castle at the cost of a ♟.

12.♟b5??

12.0-0-0! appears to win. The first point is that Black can't play 12...♟b6 because of 13.♟d5 ♟c5 14.♟c7! winning. The second point is that 12...♟c5 loses to 13.♟b5+ c6

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Anthony Ker)

Continuing to offer the ♖. Black cannot accept: 13...gxf4 14.♗xc7+ ♜xc7 15.♖b5+ is fatal. The ♔ needs room.

13...♖g7

Creates a flight square (f8) for the ♔, makes possible ♖side castling and attacks e5 again.

14.♖e1 ♗xf4 15.♗xf4 16.♖c3

16.♖b4 is a tempting alternative. 16...♜xe5 allows a beautiful finish: 17.♗xc7+ ♜xc7 18.♖b5+ ♔f8 19.♜xe7+!! ♜xe7 20.♗d8#. However, Black can improve with 16...♜xb4, sacrificing the exchange after 17.♗xc7+ ♔f8 18.♗xa8 ♖xe5 with good compensation. Here Stephen offered me a draw. He had just realised he had only 10 minutes left to play 24 moves and was understandably concerned, even though he felt his position was better. Unfortunately, he offered it while I was in the middle of thinking about my move. This is bad etiquette. You should offer a draw after making your move but before pressing the clock (if your opponent is not at the board, press the clock and make your offer the moment he returns to the board). Interrupting your opponent's concentration is a no-no. Anyway, I was reluctant to stop such an interesting game and annoyed at this interruption. I also hoped that Stephen's clock would take its toll, so I quickly refused and played

16...♗xe5

A shocker. Almost anything would be better, say 16...0-0 or 16...a6. Stephen perked up and quickly replied

17.b4

Oh dear. Suddenly Black is in terrible strife. The ♜ cannot protect c7 and e5 at the same time. My intended 17...♗xd3+ 18.♜xd3 is even worse - White threatens the ♜ and 19.♜d8#. 18...♜e3+ 18.♜e3 fxe3 20.♗xc7+ ♔f8 21.♗d8# doesn't help, either. Naturally I was very annoyed with myself for falling into this trap and determined to find some way of escaping. It looks hopeless. Stephen expected 17...♖g4 18.bxc5 ♖xe2 19.♖xe2 when he is a piece for two ♖s up, with an excellent game. Instead, I spotted a swindle.

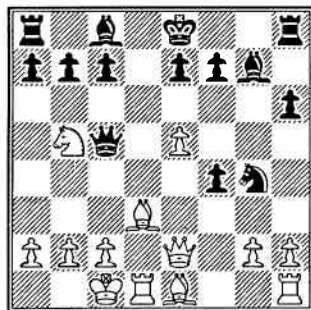
Lukey-Ker (Notes by Stephen Lukey)

14.♗d5! This leaves 12...♜e3. I overlooked that 13.Rd2! puts Black in a very difficult situation, primarily because the ♜ won't be under attack to a ♗ on e3. The variations are A) 13.gxf4 14.♖b5+ c6 15.♗d5!! winning; B) 13...♜e2 14.♖e2 when 15.♗b5! winning follows after 14...gxf4, 14...c6 or 14...f5, and 14...♗d7 allows 15.♗xd7! winning; C) 13...♖g7 14.♖b5+ c6 15.♗d5!! winning; D) 13...a6 14.♖b5+! axb5 15.♗d5 ♜c5 16.♜b5!! ♜c5 17.♗c7#; and E) 13...c6 14.♗b5! ♜b6 15.e6 ♖e6 16.♜e6! 12...♜b6 13.♗d5 ♜c5 14.♗xc7+ Postscript: 12.♗d1 also appears to win.

12...♜c5 13.0-0-0 ♖g7 14.♖e1?!

After spending lots of time, White comes up with a casino move. 14.♖f2 ♗xf2 15.♜xf2 keeps the advantage after either 15...♜c6 or 15...♜xf2.

14...♗xf4 15.♗xf4 gxf4



16.♖c3!

16.♖b4?! was the original idea. As Anthony pointed out after the game it works a treat after 16...♜xe5?? (16...♜b6 17.♗xc7+ ♔f8 18.♗xa8) 17.♗xc7+! ♜xc7 18.♖b5+ ♔f8 19.♜xe7+!! (Gold coins please!) 19...♜xe7 20.♗d8#. I was worried (rightly) that that 16...♜b6 17.♗c7 ♔f8 18.♗a8 ♜e5 19.c3 ♜c5 give Black too much counterplay. A couple of minutes after playing 16.♖c3 I looked at the clock and noticed to my horror that I only had 11 minutes to make 24 moves. In a breach of etiquette (unintentional!) I offered Anthony a draw.

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Anthony Ker)

17...f3

In addition to setting up the swindle, this move confuses the picture and cost Stephen a couple of precious minutes while he checked variations. I also threw in a cheeky draw offer to add to the complications!

18.gxf3 ♗xd3+ 19.♜xd3 ♜g5+

17...f3 set up this move by clearing the diagonal.

20.♔b1 0-0 21.♖xg7

Right idea, wrong move order. 21.♗h1 would have forced resignation.

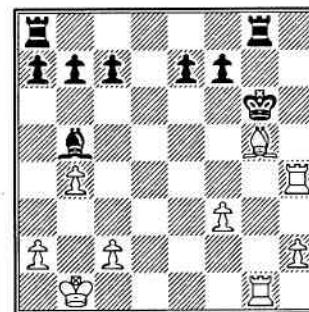
21...♖f5

A vital zwischenzug. Now if White moves the ♜, Black can safely recapture: 21...♜xg7 22.♗hg1 ♖g6 saves the day.

22.♖xh6 ♖xd3 23.♖xg5 ♖xb5 24.♗hg1

Black has done well to escape into an equal material, opposite-coloured ♖s endgame, but he still has problems with the ♔. White threatens a discovered check, winning the exchange, and mate on the g and h-files is a distinct possibility.

24...♔h7 25.♗d4 ♗g8 26.♗h4+ ♔g6



Time for another draw offer; I'd just spotted a forced win for White!

27.♖d2+

27.♖e7+ wins outright: 27...♔f5 28.♗h5+ ♔e6 29.♗e1+ ♔d7 30.♗xb5± Stephen's clock saves me again!

27...♔f6 28.♗f4+ ♔e6 29.♗e1+ ♔d7 30.♗xf7 ♗ae8 31.h4 ♖c4 32.♗h7 ♗g2 33.♖g5 ♗e2 34.♗xe2

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Stephen Lukey)

16...♗xe5??

Anthony immediately replies to the draw offer with a gross blunder! More by luck than good management, White retains a threatening position. As 16...♖xe5 17.b4 wins, 16...a6 loses to 17.♗d4 ♜c6 18.e6!, and 16...0-0 17.♗d4 ♜c6 18.♖e4 wins, it looks like Black has to try 16...♗e3. But 17.♗d4 ♜c6 18.♖xe3 fxe3 19.♗d6+! ♔f8 20.♖b5 ♜b6 21.♗c4 ♜xb5 22.♗d8+ also seems to win. It looks like the correct move was shake hands, accept the draw offer, and thank God that White was kind enough to offer the draw!

17.b4

Black can't avoid losing a piece.

17...f3!

A desperate try that had the merit of making me use of 3 of my remaining 10 minutes.

18.gxf3 ♗xd3+ 19.♜xd3 ♜g5+ 20.♔b1 0-0 21.♖xg7 ♖f5

Played instantly in the hope that White replies too fast.

22.♖xh6??

White falls for it hook, line and sinker. Of course, 22.♗g1 wins easily.

22...♖xd3! 23.♖xg5

After playing this move I had around two and a half minutes left.

23...♖xb5 24.♗hg1 ♔h7 25.♗d4 ♗g8 26.♗h4+ ♔g6 27.♖d2+??

27.♖e7+! ♔f5 28.♗h5+ ♔e6 29.♗e1+ (the move I missed) wins.

27...♔f6 28.♗f4+ ♔e6 29.♗e1+ ♔d7 30.♗xf7 ♗ae8 31.h4 ♖c4 32.♗h7 ♗g2 33.♖g5 ♗e2 34.♗xe2 ♖xe2 35.f4

About 30 seconds left, but White's moves are easy.

35...♖g4 36.♔b2 ♔d6 37.♔c3 b6 38.a3 c5 39.b5 ♖e2 40.a4 a6 41.bxa6 ♖xa6 42.h5 ♖c8 43.♗g7 ♖f5 44.h6

White is making substantial progress, Black goes for a desperate try.

44...♗a8 45.♖e7+ ♔e6

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Anthony Ker)

We continued blitzing until move 40. White's extra ♖ and the presence of ♖s gives him good winning chances, despite the opposite-coloured ♖s.

34...♖xe2 35.f4 ♖g4 36.♖b2 ♖d6 37.♖c3 b6 38.a3 c5 39.b5 ♖e2 40.a4 a6 41.bxa6 ♖xa6 42.h5 ♖c8 43.♖g7 ♖f5 44.h6 ♖a8 45.♖xe7+ ♖e6 46.♖b2

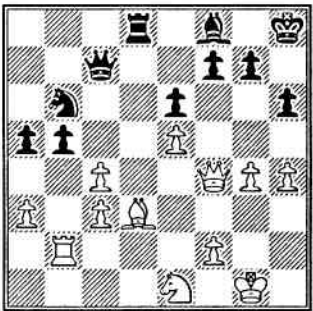
46.♖b3! Stephen missed a chance with 46.♖b2, which allowed Black to exchange off his ♖ for three ♖s and the resulting ♖+♖+♖ vs ♖+2♖ ending was drawn.

46...♖xa4 47.h7 ♖b4+ 48.♖c3 ♖xh7 49.♖xh7 ♖xf4 50.♖d8 b5 51.♖b6 ♖d5 52.♖h5+ ♖c6 53.♖a7 b4+ 54.♖b2 ♖c4 55.♖b8 ♖b5 56.♖d6 ♖c3 57.♖e7 ♖c4 58.♖f6 ♖f4 59.♖e5 ♖c4 60.♖g7 ♖g4 61.♖f6 ♖f4 62.♖e5 ♖c4 63.♖c1 67.♖b2 ♖g4 64.♖d6 ♖c4 65.♖f8 b3 66.c3 ♖xc3+ ♖b4 68.♖h4+ ½-½

Walsh, B - Bennett, H

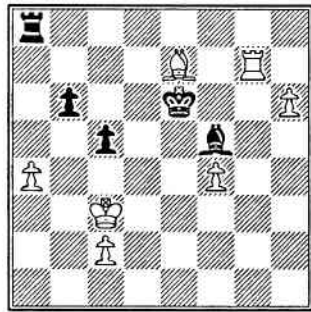
105th NZ Championship, R 8 [A46]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.♖f3 b5 3.g3 ♖b7 4.♖g2 e6 5.0-0 c5 6.c3 ♖e7 7.♖g5 d6 8.♖bd2 ♖bd7 9.♖e1 h6 10.♖xf6 ♖xf6 11.e4 ♖b6 12.♖e2 0-0 13.♖ad1 a6 14.e5 dxe5 15.dxe5 ♖d5 16.♖e4 ♖ad8 17.h4 ♖d7 18.♖d2 ♖f8 19.♖ed1 ♖c7 20.a3 ♖b6 21.b3 ♖d5 22.♖b2 ♖c6 23.♖e1 a5 24.♖g4 ♖h8 25.♖f4 ♖f8 26.g4 ♖c7 27.♖d3 ♖xc4 28.♖xe4 ♖xd3 29.♖xd3 c4 30.bxc4



30...♖xd3 31.♖xd3 bxc4 32.♖e1 ♖d5 33.♖d2 ♖xa3 34.♖a2 ♖e7 35.♖f3 ♖h7 36.♖g2 ♖xh4 37.♖xh4 ♖xe5 38.♖f3 1-0

Lukey-Ker (Notes by Stephen Lukey)



46.♖b2??

White thinks that anything wins. Simply 46.♖b3 wins, as after 46...c4+ 47.♖b2 ♖xa4 48.h7 ♖xh7, White keeps his f♖.

46...♖xa4 47.h7 ♖b4+ 48.♖c3 ♖xh7 49.♖xh7 ♖xf4 50.♖d8 b5 51.♖b6 ♖d5 52.♖h5+ ♖c6 53.♖a7 b4+ 54.♖b2 ♖c4 55.♖b8 ♖b5 56.♖d6 ♖c3 57.♖e7 ♖c4 58.♖f6 ♖f4 59.♖e5 ♖c4 60.♖g7 ♖g4 61.♖f6 ♖f4 62.♖e5 ♖c4 63.♖c1 ♖g4 64.♖d6 ♖c4 65.♖f8 b3 66.c3 ♖xc3+ 67.♖b2 ♖b4 68.♖h4+

A most enjoyable game despite the errors and the overall result. ½-½

Cooper, D - Wastney, S

105th NZ Championship, R 10 [B40]

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 e6 3.c4 ♖c6 4.♖c3 ♖f6 5.d3 ♖e7 6.♖e2 0-0 7.0-0 d6 8.h3 ♖d7 9.♖e3 a6 10.a3 ♖c8 11.♖b1 ♖a5 12.♖d2 ♖c7 13.♖h2 ♖d4 14.f4 b5 15.g4 bxc4 16.dxc4 ♖c6 17.♖d3 ♖b7 18.♖e1 d5 19.exd5 exd5 20.g5 dxc4 21.gxf6 ♖xf6 22.♖xc4 ♖fe8 23.♖f2 ♖f5 24.♖e2 ♖h4 25.♖xc5 ♖h1 26.♖xf7+ ♖xf7 27.♖xc8 ♖xc8 28.♖xh1 0-1

Sinclair, M - Gibbons, R

105th NZ Championship, R 11 [D06]

1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 d5 3.cxd5 ♖xd5 4.♖f3 ♖f5 5.♖c3 ♖xc3 6.bxc3 c5 7.♖b3 ♖c8 8.e3 ♖e6 9.d5 ♖d7 10.♖b1 b6 11.♖e5 f6 12.♖xd7 ♖xd7 13.♖e2 g6 14.0-0 ♖f7 15.e4 h5 16.f4 ♖g7 17.c4 ♖h7 18.♖g3 ♖e8 19.e5 f5 20.♖b2 ♖d8 21.h4 ♖g8 22.♖d1 e6 23.♖a4 ♖f7 24.♖f1 ♖g7 25.♖d2 ♖h7 26.♖bd1 ♖c8 27.dxc6 1-0

Book review

Secrets of practical chess reviewed by Ted Frost

New Zealand-born GM Murray Chandler, who has made a successful career from the commercial side of chess as proprietor of *British Chess Magazine* and the BCM Chess Shop in London's Kensington, has joined in a new venture - publishing. He is managing director of Gambit Publications Ltd, and British GM John Nunn is the chess director.

The company's aim is to produce a select range of quality books aimed at players of all levels. Chess has a huge literature, with intense competition in the publishing field, so something different, some special quality, is needed to offer a chance of success.

Secrets of practical chess is one of the small initial book list to come from Gambit. As a player who does some coaching of juniors at a very basic level, the title appealed because I am always looking for literature which offers effective assistance in coaching. Competing with all the other

attractions for New Zealand youngsters, it has been necessary to try and find material for about 20 minutes in a pre-play session, giving useful instruction on a particular point to a varied level of young players, some of whom have a very limited attention span.

In a quick read of *Secrets of practical chess* the heading "When to analyse" caught my eye, and a couple of sentences stood out:

When analysing a given position, it is fair to say that one almost always sees more in the first five minutes than in the next five minutes. The five minutes after that is even less productive, and so on. I have observed that if a player spends more than 20 minutes on a move, the result is almost always a mistake...

That could have been written as personal advice for myself, and it and the example given provided a useful coaching text. The lesson was well received - a plus for John Nunn's message and his crisp, clear style.

Secrets of practical chess deals with many useful points in the same way, with down-to-earth advice, well written and clearly stated. John Nunn does not spare himself in dealing with failings such as laziness. Against Xie Jun as White, he faced Black pawns on a4 and b3, with White pawns on b2 and c3, and a possible threat of a breakthrough sacrifice by ...a3 at some stage.

After analysing several lines (using valuable time), Nunn found an easy way out by playing Ra3, taking the rook out of effective play and giving Black a definite plus. His analysis of the game is an enlightening exercise in self-chastisement.

This makes *Secrets of practical chess* browser-friendly as well as a good read and a useful reference for improvers and their coaches.

Secrets of practical chess is available from NZ Chess Supplies at \$ 42.00.

Hare, T - Ker, A

105th NZ Championship, R 11 [A04]

1.♖f3 d6 2.b3 ♖g4 3.g3 ♖d7 4.h3 ♖xf3 5.exf3 e5 6.♖b2 ♖c6 7.d4 ♖xd4 8.♖xd4 exd4 9.♖g2 ♖c6+ 10.♖f1 ♖e7 11.♖d3 ♖d7 12.♖d2 c5 13.f4 ♖f6 14.♖f3 0-0 15.g4 ♖h8 16.g5 ♖g8 17.♖g2 d5 18.h4 ♖d8 19.♖f1 ♖c7 20.f521...♖g6 22.♖f3 ♖e5 23.♖h3 ♖xg4 24.♖xg4 ♖ae8 25.♖f3 ♖e4 26.f6 ♖e6 27.fxg7+ ♖xg7 28.♖h3 ♖f4 29.♖d3 c4 30.♖d2 ♖g4+ 31.♖g3 ♖e8 32.h5 ♖f4 33.♖xd4+ ♖e5 34.♖d1 ♖xa1 35.♖xa1+ ♖e5 36.h6+ ♖f8 37.♖c1 ♖xg5 38.♖a3+ ♖e7 39.♖xa7 ♖e4+ 40.♖h2 ♖d4 41.♖a3+ ♖g8 42.♖g2 ♖e4+ 43.♖g1 ♖f3 44.♖f1 ♖d4 0-1

Barlow, M - Spain, G

105th NZ Championship, R 10 [D02]

1.d4 d5 2.♖f3 ♖c6 3.g3 ♖g4 4.♖g2 e6 5.0-0 ♖g7 6.b3 ♖xf3 7.exf3 g6 8.♖b2 ♖g7 9.f4 0-0 10.c3 ♖f5 11.♖d2 ♖c7 12.♖f3 ♖c8 13.♖e5 b6 14.c4 dxc4 15.bxc4 c5 16.dxc5 ♖xc5 17.♖a3 ♖xe5 18.♖xc5?? ♖xa1 19.♖xa1 bxc5 0-1

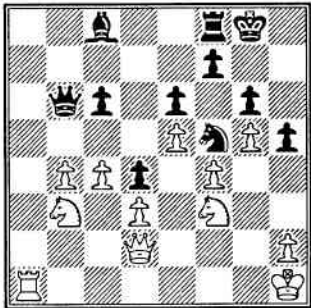
Excerpts from the diary of a rapid player - NZ Rapid Championship 1998

By Tony Dowden

After holidaying in the Hamilton area I turned up to the NZ Rapid hoping to play the top seeds and vowing to avoid short draws (for once). Afterwards three losses seemed an awful lot, so maybe I should remember to offer the odd draw next year. The games were a mixed bag. Saturday produced two swindles: one really classy, the other less so.

Swindle No. 1

Dowden, T – Smith, R
Round 3



Black is positionally lost, so sacrifices another ♖ in a desperate attempt for counter-play.

1...c5! 2.ϕxc5 ♖b7 3.ϕxb7??

This natural move gives up the advantage. 3.ϕd7?? also loses after 3...♗c6 4.ϕxf8 ♗xf3+ and 5...♗h1+. The correct move was 3.ϕc4 e.g., 3...ϕxe4 4.dxe4 ♗b7 5.♗d3 ϕe7 6.c5 winning easily.

3...♗xb7 4.ϕf1??

And this plausible move actually loses. 4.♗g2! was essential.

South Island Championship

Ashburton CC has started preparations for this year's South Island Championship, which the club will host at the end of September.

The club has discussed funding and will raise money with two working bees –cutting and selling firewood.

4...ϕe3 5.ϕf2 ♖a8! 6.ϕg1 ♖a1+ 7.ϕe1 ♗d1!

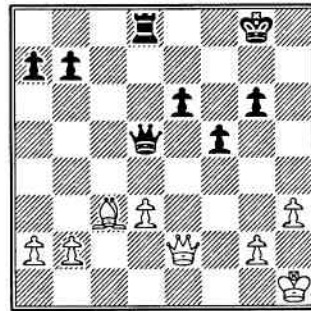
What a transformation in the position!

8.♗e2 ♗xb4 9.ϕf1

and Black soon won. 0–1

Swindle No. 2

Dowden, R – McLaren, L
Round 5



Black to play

Black has outplayed White for the entire game and is winning easily after 1...e5 2.ϕxe5 ♗xd3. However, he managed to lose two half-points in two moves by playing:

1...♗xd3?? 2.♗xe6+ ♕h7??

2...♕f8 obliges White to take a perpetual check with 3.ϖb4+ ♕g7 4.ϖc3+ ♕f8.

3.♗e7+

Ouch! When capturing on d3 Black probably only considered 3.♗f7+? ♕h6. Nonetheless even here White at least draws after 4.♗g7+!

3...♕h6 4.♗h4# 1–0

Sunday started out with 5 out of 6 and visions of sweeping all before me, but going into the last round I still had 5 points. Today we seemed to have our swindle detectors operating properly. First, a big high with a winning attack against Anthony Ker and then a low with an emphatic loss against Stephen Lukey. And we won't mention my horrible loss to Peter Green in Round 8, when he suddenly found himself a rook up...

Decent win

Dowden, R – Ker, A
Round 6 [B07]

1.e4 d6 2.ϕc3

With the cunning plan of taking Anthony out of familiar territory.

2...g6 3.ϖc4 ♖g7 4.f4 c5 5.ϕf3 ϕc6 6.0–0 e6 7.f5! exf5

7...ϕge7 might be safer. As the game develops White simply gets a good version of the 'Grand Prix' Sicilian.

8.d3 ϕge7 9.♗e1 ϕe5!?

Uncompromising, but may be too ambitious.

10.ϕxe5 dxe5 11.♗h4! ϕc6

11...h6!?

12.ϖg5 ♗d4+? 13.ϕh1 0–0?

A mistake in a difficult position. Since 13...ϕe6 is nicely refuted by 14.Nd5! it is clear that the ♗ sortie was wrong, so Black must retreat again immediately. After 13...♗d6 he can still put up a fight.

14.ϕd5

Unfortunately the ♗ is forced offside just as the attack gathers momentum.

14...♗xb2 15.♖ab1!

In conjunction with moves 19 and 20 this frees the ♖f1 to move off the back rank.

15...♗xc2 16.ϕf6+ ♖xf6 17.ϖxf6 h5

To prevent 18.♗h6.

18.exf5! ♖xf5

Necessary, because 19.fxg6 shatters the ♖ cover.

19.♗g5 ♕h7 20.♖bc1 ♗b2 21.ϖxf5 ♖ae8

Black needs a good move, but his pieces lack cohesion. 21...♗xc1+ fails to 22.♗xc1 gxf5 23.♗g5 ♖g8 24.♗xh5#

22.ϖf3!

Threatening the deadly 23.ϖh3 and 24.ϖxh5+! If 22...ϖe6 (with the idea 23.ϖh3? ♖xf6!) White plays 23.ϖxe6 fxe6 24.ϖxe5!, or if 22...♗e2 White changes his plan and plays 23.ϖg3 when the threat of 24.ϖxf7 and 25.♗xg6+ finishes Black.

22...♗d2??

A last joke.

23.♗xd2

23.ϖh3?? ♗xg5 24.ϖxg5 f6 and Black might draw! 1–0

Deflating crush

Lukey, S – Dowden, R
Round 7 [E91]

1.d4 ϕf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 d6 4.ϕc3 g6 5.e4 ♖g7 6.ϕf3 0–0 7.ϖe2 b5?!

This doesn't work as well as it did in Lukey–Kulashko in the NZ Championship a few days earlier because White hasn't played ♖g5 yet.

8.cxb5 a6 9.bxa6

Unfortunately 9...♗a5 (as in Lukey–Kulashko) can be countered here by 10.0–0.

9...ϖxa6 10.0–0 ♖xe2 11.♗xe2 ϕbd7 12.h3!

Stopping 12...ϕg4 and 13...ϕge5.

12...ϕb6 13.ϖe1!

White plans to undermine Black's ♖ chain from e7 to c5 by pushing the e♖.

13...ϕfd7

Black's plan was to continue 14...c4, ...ϕc5 and ϕd3, but with the e5 push imminent it is too slow.

14.ϖf4 ϕa4?!

14...f6!? prevents the e5 break for a long time, but makes Black's ♖ passive.

15.e5 ϕdb6 16.ϖad1!

With simple moves White has built a strong position.

16...ϕxc3 17.bxc3 ♖a4 18.ϖg5 dxe5?

Black panics as he realises his planned 18...h6? loses to 19.exd6! The move played is obviously antipositional, but was based on a tactical oversight. 18...f6 is probably best, but White is still much better.

19.ϕxe5 ♗a8?

Nothing much works here, but this turns out particularly badly.

20.ϖxe7 ϕxd5 21.ϖxf8 ϕxc3

Black had failed to analyse any further than this!

22.♗c2 ♖xe5 23.ϖxe5 ϕxd1 24.ϖh6! ♖d4

Or 24...♖xa2 25.♗xd1 ♖a1 26.ϖe8+ ♗xc8 27.♗xa1 f6 28.♗xf6 ♗f7 29.♗d8+ and mate next move.

25.ϖxc5 ♖d8 26.a4 ♗b8 27.ϖc7 ♗b2 28.ϖc8! ♗d4 29.♗c5 ϕxf2 30.♗f8+! 1–0

New Zealand Master Points

The registrar of master points, Peter Stuart, has updated the points table since Congress and has reported to Council that Peter Green gained 13 points from his 5th placing in the New Zealand Championship, which brought his total to 107 and gained him the title New Zealand Master.

The title is won by gaining 100 points in major federation events. Winning the NZ

Championship earns the biggest reward, 45 points, with 36 for second and down to 1 point for ninth. The North and South Island titles each earn 10 points and the New Zealand Junior Championship 6.

Alexei Kulashko has earned 90 points from his two NZ Championship titles.

Here is the points table, updated to January 31, 1998:

Player Name	MP	Leonhardt, W.	25	Skerrett, M.J.	5
Sarapu, O.	1203	Jackson, J.R.	24	Aldridge, G.J.	5
Garbett, P.A.	597	Carpenter, B.A.	24	Cooper, P.R.	5
Ker, A.F.	445	Lushcott, V.	23	Paris, P.O.	4
Sutton, R.J.	429	Lynn, K.W.	21	Ker, C.M.	4
Small, V.A.	328	Bennett, H.P.	21	Barlow, M.J.	3
Sarfati, J.D.	290	Pomeroy, A.J.	21	Johnston, A.J.	3
Lynch, D.I.	281	McLaren, L.J.	20	Goodhall, D.N.A.	3
Anderson, B.R.	256	Cooper, D.J.	19	Reyn, I.	3
Feneridis, A.	250	Nijman, A.J.	18	Alexander, B.J.	2
Dive, R.J.	240	Wastney, S.C.	17	McNabb, M.	2
Smith, R.W.	220	Goffin, P.B.	16	Power, P.W.	2
Martin, B.M.S.	181	Carpenter, A.L.	16	Macfarlane, A.L.	2
Stuart, P.W.	174	Vincent, M.B.	14	Boyd, D.J.	2
Haase, G.G.	148	Elliott, D.B.	13	Krstev, A.	2
Green, E.M.	145	Guthrie, D.W.	13	Goudie, D.	2
Lukey, S.G.	126	Tuffery, P.B.	13	Stott, C.J.	2
Dreyer, M.P.	118	Weir, P.B.	13	Compton, A.A.	2
Lloyd, A.J.	108	Foord, M.R.R.	12	Johnson, Q.	2
Green, P.R.	107	Swayne, E.D.	10	Craig, R.W.	2
Nokes, R.I.	107	Steadman, M.V.R.	10	Grainger, S.	2
Kulashko, A.	90	Coates, S.	10	Hare, T.G.	2
Cornford, L.H.	81	Hawkes, P.D.	9	Hopewell, N.H.	2
Sinclair, M.	81	Fabri, F.	8	van Ginkel, J.P.	1
Love, A.J.	77	Wilson, M.C.	8	Glostein, B.N.	1
Frankel, Z.	72	Clemance, P.A.	8	Lam, D.K.W.	1
Aptekar, L.I.	67	Metge, R.C.	7	Sutherland, J.L.	1
Spain, G.A.	54	Baker, C.P.	7	Mancewicz, S.	1
Dowden, R.A.	54	Weegenaar, D.P.	7	Edmonds, M.	1
Gollogly, D.A.	50	Trass, R.	6	Choo, T.N.	1
McKenzie, P.D.	42	Bates, G.T.H.	6	Spencer-Smith, G.J.	1
Metge, J.N.	32	Perry, R.L.	6	Wong, K.A.	1
Wansink, R.	31	van Pelt, J.A.M.	6	Steffensen, T.	1
Watson, B.R.	29	Freeman, M.R.	6	Stracy, D.M.	1
Boyd, K.M.	28	Whaley, M.G.	6	Davis, J.M.	1
Beach, D.H.	28	van der Hoom, M.W.	5	Tumbull, J.	1
Hampf, M.G.	26	van Dijk, P.	5	Hensman, P.J.	1
Trundle, G.E.	26	Nyberg, M.	5	Schwass, M.P.	1
Noble, M.F.	26	Nijman, B.	5		

Peter Green, National Master

Peter Green's fifth equal placing in the recent New Zealand Championship in Hamilton carried his tally of New Zealand Master points above 100, the target for award of the NZM title. Peter is only the 20th player to have won this award, the others being listed in the following article.

Peter has told *NZ Chess* that he is not aware how his points were accumulated, but they come from his consistent high placings in the NZ Championship and the North Island Championship over the past two decades.

Peter joined Auckland Chess Centre in 1974, and by 1978 his game had developed to the stage at which he was able to share first place in the North Island Championship. He repeated this success in 1986.

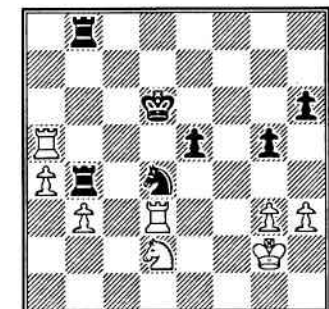
He finished first equal in the premier reserve at the 1980 Congress and since then has played in about eight NZ Championships. His best results were third in Dunedin around 1990, and equal third in Wanganui and equal fourth in North Shore a year or two earlier.

At the 1996-97 Congress in North Shore Peter finished 10th equal, with 5 points, but improved on that with 6½ and fifth equal in Hamilton, his wins including FM Bob Smith's only loss. Peter is firmly established in the top group of New Zealand players and has been selected in this year's Olympiad team.

Three of his recent games follow.

Green PR – Smith RW
 NZ Championship, 1998, R 9 [A59]
Notes by Peter Green, Fritz5 & Hiarc6
 1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6
 g6 6.♗c3 ♖xa6 7.♗f3 ♗g7 8.e4 ♗xf1 9.♗xf1
 d6 10.h3 0-0 11.♗g1 ♗bd7 12.♗h2 ♖a5
 13.♗e1 ♗fb8 14.♗e2 ♗e8 15.♗g5N ♗f8±
 15...♗xc3 16.bxc3 ♖xc3 17.♗xe7 ♗b2
 18.♗xb2 ♖xb2 19.♖b1 ♖xb1 20.♗xb1 ♗xa2
 21.♗b7 ♗df6 22.e5 dxe5 23.d6±.
 16.♗c1

16.♗d1 ♗xb2 17.♖xb2 ♗xc3 18.♖b7 ♗xa1
 19.♖xd7 ♗f6 20.♗h6±.
 16...♗a7 17.♗cc2 ♗b6 18.♖d3 ♖a6 19.♖xa6
 ♗xa6 20.b3± ♗c7 21.g3 ♗ba8 22.♗b1
 22.a4 f5 23.exf5 ♗bxd5 24.♗xd5 ♗xd5
 25.fxg6 hxg6±.
 22...♗b5
 22...f5 23.exf5 ♗bxd5 24.fxg6 hxg6 25.a4±.
 23.a4 ♗c7 24.♗a3 ♗b8 25.♗d2 h6 26.♗f4 g5
 27.♗e3 f5
 27...e6 28.dxe6 fxe6 29.e5 ♗xe5 30.♗xc5±.
 28.f3 fxe4 29.fxe4 ♗d7 30.♗ac4 ♗g8
 30...e6 31.♗f2+ ♗g8 32.dxc6 ♗xe6 33.♗f5±.
 31.♗f2 ♗e5
 31...e6 32.dxe6 ♗xe6.
 32.♗xe5 ♗xe5 33.♗g2± e6 34.dxe6 ♗xe6
 35.♗f3 ♗g7
 35...♗d4 36.♗xd4 ♗xd4 37.♗c1±.
 36.♗f2
 36.♗c1 ♗a7 37.♗cf1.
 36...♗d4 37.♗d3 ♗f7
 37...♗f6 38.♗f3±.
 38.♗f3 ♗xf2 39.♗xf2
 39.♗xf2 c4 40.♗xc4 ♗c5 41.♗dc3 ♗xb3
 42.e5±.
 39...♗e7 40.♗c2 ♗ab6 41.♗cc3 ♗b4 42.♗d2
 ♗d4
 42...♗d4 43.♗xd4 ♗xd4 44.e5 dxe5 45.♗xc5
 ♗d6 46.♗a5 ♗xb3 47.♗c4±.
 43.e5 dxe5 44.♗xc5 ♗d6
 44...♗xb3 45.♗xb3 e4 46.♗d4 ♗xb3 47.♗e5+
 ♗f6 48.♗dx6±.



45. ♖a5! ♗e6 46. ♖c4! ♖f6

46... ♖xb3 47. ♖d6+ (47. ♖a6+ ♗f5 48. ♗f3 ♖d4+ 49. ♖xd4 ♖b3+ 50. ♖e3+ ♖xe3+ 51. ♗xe3 ♖xd4+ 52. ♗xd4 ♖d8+ 53. ♗c5 h5 54. ♖d6+-) 47... ♗e7 48. ♖a7+ ♖b7 49. ♖xb7+ ♖xb7 50. ♖xb6 ♖b4 51. ♖xe5 ♖xa4+- 52. ♖g6 ♖a2+ 53. ♗f3 ♖d4+ 54. ♗g4 ♖e6 55. ♖f3 ♖a4+ 56. ♗h5 g4 57. ♖xg4+-.

47. ♖xe5 ♖xb3

47... ♖b7 48. ♖g4+ ♗g7 49. ♖a6 ♖xb3 50. ♖dd6+-.

48. ♖g4+ ♖xg4

48... ♗g7 49. ♖d7+ ♗g6 50. ♖d6+ ♗g7 51. ♖aa6+-.

49. ♖a6+ ♗e5 50. ♖xg4 ♖c5 51. ♖a5 ♗e4 52. ♖d2 ♗e3 53. ♖a2 ♖d3 54. ♖b5 ♖f8 55. ♖b3 1-0

Lukey, S - Green, P

NZ Championship 1998, R 10 [E08]

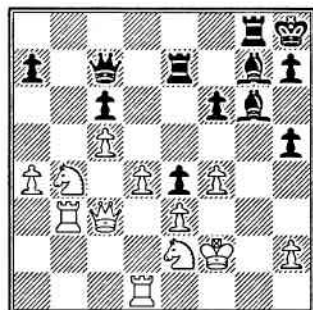
Notes by Peter Green, Fritz5 & Hiarco6

1. d4 ♖f6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 d5 4. ♖g2 ♖e7 5. ♖f3 0-0 6. 0-0 ♖bd7 7. ♖c2 c6 8. ♖f4 ♖e8 9. ♖d1 ♖f8 10. ♖c3 ♖g6 11. ♖e5 ♖xf4 12. ♖xf4 ♖f8 13. ♖ab1 g6 14. b4 ♖d7 14... dxc4 15. b5 cxb5 16. ♖xb5 ♖. 15. c5 ♖h5 16. e3 f6 17. ♖d3 ♖g7 18. b5 ♖h8 18... cxb5 19. f5 ♖e7 20. fxe6 ♖xe6 21. ♖b3±. 19. bxc6 bxc6 20. ♖e2 20. ♖b7 ♖c8 21. ♖b2 ♖c7±. 20... ♖c7 21. ♖f3 ♖e7 21... ♖ab8 22. ♖xh5 gxf5 23. ♖g3. 22. ♖b3 ♖e8 23. ♖xh5 23. ♖db1 ♖f7±. 23... gxf5 24. ♖c3 ♖g6 25. a4 ♖g8 26. f3 e5 27. ♗f2 e4 28. fxe4 dxe4! 29. ♖b4

Grandmaster games

Civic CC members were tested by Anthony Ker on a recent club night, when he invited them to find the moves played by Paul Morphy in one of his celebrated wins. Members were surprised how often the most straightforward move proved best.

Ashburton CC members also played over two grandmaster games at a recent club night, experienced players sharing boards with younger players to help work out the next move. Play ended early - heat was the problem on a very warm southern night.



29... a5!

White was short on time. Black deflects white's pieces onto the queenside prior to attacking on the kingside.

30. ♖a6 ♖c8 31. ♖xa5 ♖a7 32. ♖b6 ♖h3 33. ♖g1

33. ♖xc6! ♖f7 34. ♖c1±.

33... ♖h4+

With the object of a subsequent gain of tempo hitting the knight.

34. ♖g3 ♖xh2+ 35. ♖g2 ♖h3 36. ♖xc6 h4 37. ♖f1 ♖f3+ 38. ♗g1 ♖f5?!

38... ♖e8 39. ♖c8 h3 40. ♖g3 ♖f8+-.

39. ♖e1?+-

39. ♖d2 ♖h3 40. ♖h2 ♖xg2+ 41. ♖xg2 ♖xg2

42. ♖xg2 ♖f8+ 43. ♗h3 ♖ag7 44. ♗xh4 (44. f5 ♖g3+ 45. ♗xh4 ♖g2 46. ♗h3 ♖h6) 44... ♖g6+-.

39... ♖h3 40. ♖f2 ♖xg2 41. ♖xg2 ♖f8 0-1

Green, P - Sinclair, M

NZ Championship 1997, R 7 [E09]

Notes by Peter Green, Fritz5 & Hiarco6

1. d4 ♖f6 2. ♖f3 e6 3. g3 d5 4. ♖g2 ♖e7 5. 0-0 0-0 6. c4 c6 7. ♖c2 ♖bd7 8. ♖bd2 b6 9. e4 ♖a6 10. b3 ♖c8 11. ♖e1 ♖c7 12. ♖b2 ♖xe4± 13. ♖xe4 dxe4 14. ♖xe4 c5

14... b5 15. cxb5 cxb5 16. ♖ac1.

15. d5 ♖f6 16. dxe6 ♖xb2 17. exd7 ♖xd7 18. ♖g5 f5+-

18... g6 19. ♖h4 h5 20. ♖h3 f5 21. ♖ad1 ♖d4

22. ♖e6 ♖fe8 23. ♖xd4 cxd4 (23... ♖xe7+

24. ♖xe1 ♖xd4 25. ♖g5+-) 24. ♖xe8+ ♖xe8

25. ♖xd4±.

19. ♖d5+ ♖xd5 20. ♖xd5+ ♗h8 21. ♖ab1 ♖c3

21... ♖f6 22. ♖f7+ ♖xf7 23. ♖xf7+-.

22. ♖e7

22. ♖c7 ♖f6 23. ♖f7+ ♖xf7 24. ♖xf7+- 1-0

New Zealand news

Kapiti

Andrew Stanton has won the Kapiti CC's championship, with 5½/6, ahead of Alvaro Lacunza 4 and John Whibley 2½. Zoe Kingston set up a picket fence to win the B grade championship with 10/10, with Glenys Mills runner-up on 7. In the C grade new member Chris Ford also set up a picket fence and won with 10/10, well clear of John Holland 5½.

John Holland has been elected president of the club, with Rosemary Kingston as secretary, Guy Burns as treasurer and Andrew Stanton club captain.

Civic

Stephen Lukey scored 9/10 to win the Civic CC championship by a clear two points, and his successful run included wins over IM Russell Dive and FM Anthony Ker. The only point dropped by Lukey was a loss to Art Pomeroy. Brian Nijman won an adjourned game with Russell Dive to score 7½ and take second place, ahead of Dive and Ker on 7, Pomeroy on 5½ and Alan Aldridge and Paul Dunn on 4.

Peter King won the B grade championship with an unbeaten 7½/10 (five draws), ahead of Julian Masur 7, Ashley Koia and Phillip Coghini 6 and Colin Byford 5½. Jeff Boardman won the C grade title with a 6/6 picket fence, a point ahead of Pat Harnett, with Robin Sutton, John Gillespie and Lachman Prasad on 3.

Stephen Lukey started the new season with another convincing win, in the Summer Cup. He scored 5½/6, including wins from Anthony Ker and Russell Dive and a draw with Arthur Pomeroy. Dive and Ker were runners-up on 5, followed by Justin Phillips 4½, Pomeroy and Alan Aldridge 4, and Brian Nijman, Zyg Frankel and Mike Schwass 4.

John Gillespie has succeeded Alan Aldridge as club president with Anthony Ker

now club captain. Brent Southgate remains secretary and Pat Harnett treasurer.

Wellington

Zyg Frankel won the Wellington CC's first event of the year, the summer open, with 5/6 (loss to Ross Jackson), just ahead of Jackson 4½, John Cook 4 and Joshua Moore and Ted Frost 3.

The club is divided into four teams, which are now competing for a rapid challenge trophy as well as a trophy for standard play. The Red team, headed by Frankel and Michael Nyberg, and the first holders of the rapid trophy, winning the pplay-off against the Greens, headed by Ross Jackson and Ted Frost. The Golds, headed by Lawrence Farrington and Nic Croad, will be the next challengers.

The autumn rapid tournament resulted in a tie between Ross Jackson and Ted Frost on 4½/6, ahead of Lawrence Farrington and Nic Croad 4 and Zyg Frankel and John Eriksen 3½.

Patrick Savage and Colin Chow shared honours in the junior summer open, on 5/6, clear of Daniel Reddington 3 and Arvind Vinjimoore and Kelly Savage 2.

Arvind Vinjimoore has won a short junior 15/15 tournament with 3/4, ahead of Raymond Chew, Patrick Savage and Sergei Tkatchenko 3.

Canterbury

Canterbury CC kicked off its 1998 club programme with a summer rapid tournament, which was won by S.I rapid champion, Nick Cummings. He scored 5½, drawing only with Shane Hudson, who finished second on 5. Third was shared by Craig Hall, Quentin Johnson and Scott Nicholson, a point further back.

Following the rapid was the material handicap tournament, which was jointly won by Quentin Johnson and newcomer Martin Jeffries on 5/6. Johnson won their individual

game but lost in the last round to Pat Jordan who finished third on 4½.

Gavin Dawes has been elected president of the club, and Quentin Johnson secretary.

Taranaki junior championships

32 players took part in the Taranaki junior and age group championships held on March 28 and run in two sections. Martin Soh won the combined junior and under 16 event, with 4½/5. Ian Lewis was runner-up with 4.

In the under-12 event, 12 of the 25 participants were aged under 10. Nine-year-old Philomena McCormack won the under-12 with 4½/5. The next highest under-10 player, 'KJ' Kereopa, received a book token prize for the best result by an under-10 player. In the under-12 section, runners-up with 'KJ' Kereopa were David Geange and Matthew Landrigan.

Master games

The 1998 National Mutual New Zealand Master Games were held in Dunedin, with chess played in a series of age groups. In these results, players are from Otago unless otherwise stated.

G G Haase won the overall competition, with M Foord runner-up and T Rowell and G Dawes (Christchurch) 3=. Foord was the top player over 75, with D Cameron (Brighton) runner-up. The B grade competition was won by A Newbold, with Cameron second and J Lockhart third.

In the age groups, Haase won the 55+ section with Foord second and R A Keeling third. The 45-54 section was won by R Scarf (Ashburton), with G Stafford second and J Lockland (Warkworth) third. In the 35-44 section G Dawes and T Rowell tied for first, with A Newbold third.

Open tournaments scheduled for 1998

Otago Autumn Rapid, Otago CC, Sat, May 2.

Kapiti Debnos Rapid, Kapiti Community Centre, Sat, 9 May.

20th Waitakere Trust Open, Waitemata CC, Sat-Sun, 2-3 May.

Waikato Open, Hillcrest Lodge, Hamilton, Fri-Sun, May 22-24.

Wellington Queen's Birthday Rapid, Wellington CC, Mon, June 1.

Invercargill Queen's Birthday Weekend Open, Invercargill, May 3-June 1.

Otago Autumn Rapid, Otago CC, May 2.

North Island Championship, Wanganui, week of July 13-18.

Otago Winter Rapid, Otago CC, Sat, July 4.

Otago Spring Rapid, Otago CC, Sat, Sept 5.

All-Wellington Rapid Championship, Wellington CC, Sat, September 12.

25th North Shore Open, North Shore CC, Sat-Sun, September 26-27.

South Island Championship, Ashburton, week of September 28-October 3.

Mid-Canterbury Rapid, Ashburton CC, Sunday, October 18.

Otago Labour Weekend 60/60, Otago CC, October 26.

Otago Summer Rapid, Otago CC, Sat, December 5.

NZ Championship & Major Open, Otago CC, Dunedin, Mon, Dec 28 - Sat, Jan 9.

NZ Rapid Championship, Otago CC, Dunedin, Sun-Mon, Jan 10-11, 1999.

Junior events

Wellington primary schools teams tourney, Wed, May 27, Waitangirua School, Porirua..

Wellington inter-school teams tournament, Wellington College, Wed, July 29.

Wellington schoolpupils' championship, Wellington Chess Club, Sat, August 8.

Wellington junior & age group champs, Wellington Chess Club, Sat, August 29.

Selected games

Waitemata championship

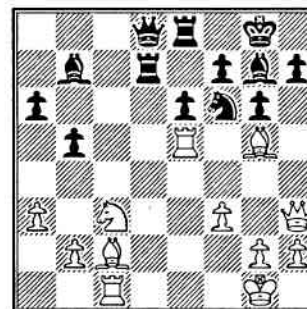
One of Bob Smith's wins in taking his 20th Waitemata CC Championship.

Harris, B - Smith, R

Morra Gambit [B53]

Notes by FM Bob Smith

1.e4 c5 2.ϕf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.c3 dxc3
5.ϕxc3 ϕc6 6.ϕc4 a6 7.0-0 ϕf6 8.ϕg5 e6
9.ϕe1 ϕe7 10.ϕd2 b5 11.ϕb3 ϕa7 12.a3
0-0 13.ϕa1 ϕe5 14.ϕe3 ϕxf3+ 15.ϕxf3
ϕd7 16.ϕc2 ϕb7 17.ϕh3 g6 18.ϕh6 ϕe8
19.e5 dxe5 20.ϕxe5 ϕf8 21.ϕg5 ϕg7 22.f3



22.ϕh4 ϕd4!

22...ϕb8! 23.ϕf4 ϕh5 24.ϕxh5 ϕxf4
25.ϕe2 ϕc3+ 26.ϕf1 ϕd2 27.ϕe1 ϕd4
28.ϕg3 ϕxe2 0-1

Civic Championship

Two of the winner's games.

Lukey, S - Ker, A

[B07]

Notes by NM Stephen Lukey

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ϕf6 3.ϕc3 g6 4.ϕg5 ϕbd7
5.ϕd2 h6 6.ϕh4 ϕg7 7.f4

Forward!

7...0-0?

Too slow. 7...c5 is much superior.

8.e5! ϕh7

Backwards!

9.ϕf3 ϕe8?

Black manoeuvres on the 8th rank!

10.ϕd3 ϕh8 11.0-0-0 dxe5 12.dxe5 ϕc5

Black forces the swap, but his ϕ gets stuck on the ϕfile.

13.ϕe3! ϕxd3+ 14.ϕxd3 ϕd7 15.ϕhd1 c6

15...ϕc8 allows 16.ϕd5 winning the exchange.

16.e6 fxe6 17.ϕxd7 ϕxd7 18.ϕxe6+ ϕh7

19.ϕxd7 ϕb6 20.f5 gxf5 21.ϕxe7 ϕh8

22.ϕd4 f4 23.ϕf7 c5 24.ϕe6 1-0

Dive, R - Lukey, S

[D32]

Notes by NM Stephen Lukey

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.cxd5 exd5 4.ϕc3 c5

5.ϕf3 ϕc6 6.ϕg5 ϕa5?!

A casino variation.

7.e3 h6 8.ϕh4 ϕe7 9.dxc5!? ϕxh4

10.ϕxh4 ϕf6 11.ϕb5! 0-0 12.ϕa4 ϕc7

13.ϕxc6?!

13.ϕf3 first looks better.

13...bxc6 14.0-0?

14.ϕf3 is now essential.

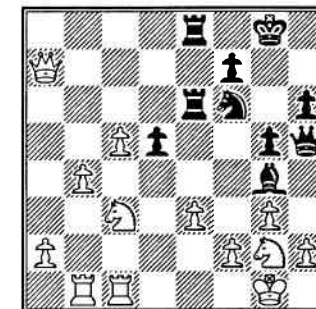
14...ϕb8 15.b4

White's ϕ is trapped on the wrong side of the board.

15...ϕg4! fc1 ϕh5 18.g3 g5 19.ϕg2 ϕfe8!

The troops are massing.

20.ϕxc6 ϕe6 21.ϕc7 ϕbe8 22.ϕxa7



22...d4!

The attack looks too strong now.

23.ϕd1 ϕe4 24.exd4

White is now 4 connected passed ♖s up!

24...ϕd2

The f3 square is critical.

25.ϕde3 ϕf3+ 26.ϕf1 ϕxh2 27.d5 ϕd4!

28.ϕe1 ϕg1+ 29.ϕd2 ϕxf2+ 30.ϕd3 ϕxe3+

31.ϕxe3 ϕxe3+ 32.ϕc4 ϕe2# 0-1

Sarfati plays in Brisbane

Earlier this year FM Jonathan Sarfati played in his first tournament outside his local club. Some of Brisbane's strongest players turned out for the Chinese New Year Open, an 8-round Swiss with 20 minutes per player per game. Sarfati scored 7½/8 for 1st, drawing with 2nd placegetter and 2nd seed David Stephson (7), who drew another game with third seed Nikolai Stawski who runs Queensland chess coaching.

Sarfati,JD - Stawski,N

Chinese New Year Open, R7/8, 1998

Notes by FM Jonathan Sarfati

1.d4 e1f6 2.c4 g6 3.e2c3 d5 4.e1f3 g7

5...e4 6.cxd5 e1xg5 7.e1xg5 e6.

6.cxd5 e1xd5?!

6...cxd5 was better, but not great. The Bg7 is blocked by the Pd4. Black will also miss its control of c5, White's outpost on the open file.

7.e4 e1xc3 8.bxc3

Black needs to play c5 to challenge White's centre, but has lost an important tempo with ...c6.

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8...0-0 9.e1b1

Hinders the Bc8's development.

9...e1a5 10.e1d2 e1e8 11.e2 h6?

Fatally weakening the K-side.

12.e1xh6! e1xh6 13.e1xh6 e1xc3+ 14.e1f1

This doesn't bother White because of his strong centre.

14...e1g4

14...e1d7 15.e1c1 e1a5 16.e1g5 e1f8 17.h4 f6 18.e1h7! e1xh7 19.e1xg6+ e1f8 20.e1xh7 and the h-pawn is hard to stop.

15.e1c1

Good enough, but quicker was 15.e1g5! e1xe2+ 16.e1g1!

15...e1a5 16.e1g5 e1xe2+ 17.e1xe2 e1xa2+ 18.e1f1 e5 19.d5 e1a6+ 20.e1g1 e1e7 21.e1h7+ 1-0

Games from Latvian Gambit

McLaren,L - Sarapu,O

[C20]

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.e4c4 exb2 5.e1xb2 d5 6.e1xd5 e1f6 7.e2c3 e1xd5 8.e1xd5 e1c6 9.e1f3 e1e6 10.0-0 e1d7 11.e1b3 0-0-0 12.e1f1 e1xd5 13.exd5 e1a5 14.e1c3 b6 15.e1e5 e1f5 16.g4 e1f6 17.e1h3 e1f4 18.g5+ e1b7 19.e1g3 e1f5 20.e1d3 e1d6 21.e1f3 e1c2 22.e1a3 e1xe5 23.e1xe5 e1c4 24.e1xg7 e1hg8 25.e1f6 e1xa3 26.e1xa3 e1d6 27.e1c5 f6 28.e1c3 e1xg5+ 29.e1xg5 e1xc3 30.e1c1 fxg5 31.e1xc3 e1xd5 32.e1e3 h5 33.e1g2 c5 34.e1g3 c4 35.e1f3 e1c5 36.e1c3 b5 0-1

Sarapu,O - Dunn,A

[A00]

1.e4 c5 2.e1f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.e1xd4 e1f6 5.e2c3 a6 6.g6 e5 e6 7.e1d2 e1e7 8.0-0-0 b5 9.e1d3 e1b7 10.f3 e1bd7 11.e1he1 e1c7 12.e1xb5 axb5 13.e1dxb5 e1c5 14.e1e3 e1c6 15.e1xd6+ e1xd6 16.e1xd6 e1xd6 17.e1xd6 e1e5 18.b3 e1fd7 19.e1ed1 e1a6 20.e1d6d2 e1c6 21.a4 e1e7 22.e1b5 e1xb5 23.axb5 e1a1+ 24.e1b2 e1xd1 25.e1xd1 e1b8 26.c4 f5 27.exf5 exf5 28.e1c3 e1e6 29.e1a1 h6 30.e1a6+ e1e7 31.e1d4 h5 32.h3 g5 33.e1h6 g4 34.e1xh5 gxf3 35.gxf3 e1xf3 36.e1xf5 e1xd4 37.e1xd4 e1e6 38.e1h5 e1d8 39.e1h6+ e1f6+ 40.e1c5 e1f7 41.b6 e1g7 42.e1h4 e1b8 43.e1c6 1-0

Overseas news

By NM Peter Stuart

Hastings

GM Michael Sadler, already closing in on England's top pair of Michael Adams and Nigel Short at 2650, won against his four main rivals in scoring an undefeated 7/9 to take first place in the 73rd running of the traditional New Year tournament. French IM Eloi Relange obtained a GM norm in his tie for second place on 5½ with GM Eduardas Rozentalis of Lithuania. Then came: 4 GM Tkachiev (KAZ) 5; 5 GM Plaskett (ENG) 4½; 6-7 GM Hebden (ENG) & GM Nunn (ENG) 4; 8 GM Rausis (LAT) 3½; 9-10 IM McShane (ENG) & GM Ward (ENG) 3.

Linares Open

Not to be confused with the category 21 round-robin in February, this event was a 9-round Swiss with 186 players. Russian GM Sergei Tiviakov lost in round 2 but won the rest of his games, including his last round encounter against Tony Miles when the English GM blundered in time trouble, to take a clear first place with 8 points. Miles shared second place on 7½ with IM Asrian (ARM) and GMs Kasimzhdanov (UZB), Kuzmin (UKR), Movsziszian (ARM), Savchenko (UKR) and Timoshenko (UKR). Among those on 7 points were GMs Epishin (RUS) and Korchnoi (SWI).

Ubeda

Following the Linares event was another Andalusian open in neighbouring Ubeda. This time 145 players competed over 10 rounds with GMs Walter Arencibia (CUB), Dibyendu Barua (IND), Karen Movsziszian (ARM) and Georgy Timoshenko (UKR) sharing first prize with 7½ points. Tiviakov was among 11 players sharing fourth on 7.

Wijk aan zee

The 60th edition of the Hoogovens tournament in January saw the top two seeds, Vishy Anand and Vladimir Kramnik come out on top with 8½/13. The category 17 (average 2670 rating) came just a week after the Lausanne World Championship match so it would have been understandable if the Indian GM arrived back in the Netherlands feeling a bit out of sorts.

Kramnik started with 4/4 but losses in round 5 (to Alexei Shirov) and 7 (to Loek van Wely) allowed Anand to take the lead which he held to the end. Anand's only loss, to Judit Polgar, came in round 6. A spurt of 2½/3 at the end gave Kramnik a share of first prize.

Anatoly Karpov started with a string of draws and then his two losses, winning for the first time in round 10.

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Kramnik V	RUS	2790	•	½	0	½	1	½	1	½	½	1	0	1	8½
2	Anand V	IND	2770	½	•	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	1	1	1	8½
3	Shirov A	ESP	2710	1	½	•	1	1	0	½	½	1	½	½	½	7½
4	Timman J.	NED	2635	½	½	0	•	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	7½
5	Adams M.	ENG	2670	0	½	0	0	•	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	7½
6	Polgar J.	HUN	2670	0	1	1	½	½	•	0	½	½	½	½	½	6½
7	Karpov A.	RUS	2735	½	½	½	½	1	•	½	½	0	0	½	½	6½
8	Gelfand B.	BLR	2675	0	½	½	½	½	1	•	½	½	0	1	½	6½
9	Piket J.	NED	2575	0	½	0	½	½	½	½	•	1	½	0	1	6½
10	Topalov V.	BUL	2740	½	0	½	0	½	1	½	0	•	1	½	1	6½
11	Salov V.	RUS	2680	½	0	1	0	½	1	1	½	0	•	½	½	5½
12	Nijboer F.	NED	2580	0	0	½	½	0	½	½	0	1	½	½	•	5
13	van Wely L.	NED	2605	1	0	½	½	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	½	4½
14	van der Sterren P.	NED	2550	0	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	1	½	4

Karpov's former world championship opponent Jan Timman had his best result for a long time in this sort of company to tie for third.

Adams – Kramnik
Sicilian [B70]

1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.♁c3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.♁xd4 ♁f6 6.g3 g6 7.♁g2 ♁xd4 8.♣xd4 ♁g7 9.0-0 0-0 10.♣b4 a5 11.♣b3 ♁e6 12.♁d5 a4! 13.♣xb7 ♁xd5 14.exd5 ♁f5 15.♁g5 ♣b8!

Fine play by Black. He is giving up two or even three pawns but will then threaten to win all the white queenside pawns when his a-pawn will become a monster.

16.♣xb8 ♣fxb8 17.♁xe7 ♣xb2 18.a3 ♣xc2 19.♣ae1 ♣a6 20.♁e4 ♁xe4 21.♣xe4 ♁b2 22.♣fe1?!

22.♣e3 offers better defensive chances.

22...♣c1 23.♣xc1 ♁xc1 24.♁f6 ♣a8 25.♣c4 ♁xa3 26.♁d4 ♁c5 27.♁xc5 dxc5 28.♣xc5 a3 29.♣c1 a2 0-1.

van der Sterren – Timman
Grünfeld [D97]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 g6 3.♁c3 d5 4.♁f3 ♁g7 5.♣b3 dxc4 6.♣xc4 0-0 7.e4 a6 8.♁e2 b5 9.♣b3 ♁c6 10.e5 ♁e6 11.exf6 ♁xb3 12.fxg7 ♁xg7 13.axb3 ♁xd4 14.♁xd4 ♣xd4 15.0-0 ♣b4 16.♁f3 ♣xb3 17.♁xa8 ♣xa8 18.♁e3 a5 19.♣fd1 a4 20.h3 e5 21.♁e4 ♣xb2 22.♁g5 ♣a6 23.♁c5 ♣d6 24.♁e4 ♣c6 25.♣ac1 ♣xc1 26.♣xc1 h6 27.♁f6+ ♁h7 28.♣d1 g5 29.f3 a3 0-1.

Kramnik – Gelfand
Queen's Gambit [D11]

1.♁f3 d5 2.d4 ♁f5 3.c4 e6 4.♁c3 c6 5.♣b3 ♣b6 6.c5 ♣c7 7.♁f4 ♣c8 8.♁h4 ♁g6 9.♁xg6 hxg6 10.e4 ♁f6 11.exd5 ♁xd5 12.♁xd5 cxd5 13.♁b5+ ♁c6 14.0-0-0 ♁e7 15.h4 ♁f8 16.♁b1 a6 17.♁a4 ♁a5 18.♣f3 b6 19.cxb6 ♣b7 20.♣c1

20.h5 g5 21.h6! gives White excellent attacking chances as 21... 21...gxh4 loses by force: 22.hxg7+ ♁xg7 23.♣g4+ ♁f6 24.♣xf4+ ♁g6 (24...♁g7 25.♣g3+ ♁f6 26.♣e5+) 25.♣g3+ ♁g5 26.f4 with material advantage as well as the initiative.

20...♣xb6 21.♣c7 ♣b8?

21...♣d8 was better.

22.♣c3 ♁c4 23.♣c6 ♣xb2+

23...♣xh4 24.♣xh4 ♣xb2+ 25.♣xb2 ♣xb2+ 26.♁a1 ♁xh4 27.♣xc4 ♣xa2+ 28.♁xa2 dxc4 29.♁d6+ and Black is virtually two pieces down in the ending.

24.♣xb2 ♣xb2+ 25.♁a1 ♁g8 26.♣xc4 ♣xf2 27.♣c8+ ♁h7 28.♣xh8+ ♁xh8 29.g3 ♁a3 30.♣d1 ♁g8 31.♣d3 ♁e7 32.♁c7 g5 33.hxg5 ♁xg5 34.♁b1 ♁e7 35.♁c2 g5 36.a4 f5 37.a5 ♁f6 38.♁b6 f4 39.gxf4 gxf4 40.♣d1 1-0.

Shirov – Kramnik
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 h6 9.♁e3 ♁e7 10.f3 ♁xd4 11.♁xd4 e5 12.♁c3 ♁e6 13.♁b1 ♣c8 14.h4 ♣a5 15.a3 b5 16.g4 ♣xc3

A dubious novelty.

17.♣xc3 ♣xc3 18.bxc3 d5 19.exd5 ♁xd5 20.♁d2 0-0 21.c4 bxc4 22.♁xc4 ♣b8+

22...♁xa3 23.♁xd5 ♁xd5 24.♁b4! ♁xb4 25.♣xd5 with some compensation was a better try. After the text White is able to consolidate and activate his pieces.

23.♁b3 ♁xa3 24.♣he1 f6 25.♣e4 ♁c5 26.♣a4 ♁c7 27.♁b2 ♁h7 28.♁e1 ♁d5 29.♣d3 ♁c6 30.♣c4! ♁e6 31.♁f2 ♁b5 32.♣xc5 ♁xc5

32...♁xd3 33.cxd3 transposes.

33.♁xc5 ♁xd3 34.cxd3 h5 35.♁c3 ♣c8 36.♁b4 ♣b8+ 37.♁a4 ♁g6 38.♁e6 ♣h8 39.♁f2 ♁h6 40.♁a5 hxg4 41.fxg4 g6 42.g5+ ♁g7

42...fxg5 43.♁c3.

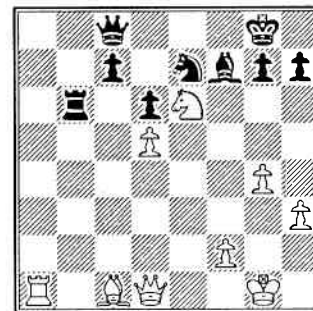
43.♁xa6 ♣d8 44.♁c4 f5 45.♁b7 e4 46.d4 f4 47.d5 e3 48.♁e1 f3

The connected pawns look menacing but the bishop pair has no trouble stopping them. 49.♁c7 ♣f8 50.d6 ♣f4 51.♁c3+ ♁h7 52.♁d3 1-0.

Anand – Topalov
Ruy Lopez [C78]

1.e4 e5 2.♁f3 ♁c6 3.♁b5 a6 4.♁a4 ♁f6 5.0-0 b5 6.♁b3 ♁c5 7.a4 ♣b8 8.c3 d6 9.d4 ♁b6 10.axb5 axb5 11.h3 0-0 12.♣e1 ♣e8 13.♁a3 b4 14.♁c4 bxc3 15.bxc3 exd4 16.♁xb6 ♣xb6 17.cxd4 ♁xe4 18.♁xf7+ ♁xf7 19.♣xe4 ♣xe4

20.♁g5+ ♁g8 21.♁xe4 ♁f5 22.♁g5 ♁e7 23.g4 ♁g6 24.♁e6 ♣c8 25.d5 ♁f7



26.♁xg7 ♁xg7 27.♣d4+ ♁f8 28.♁h6+ ♁e8 29.♣e1

29...♁d7 (Forced by the threat of ♁g5 but Black faces ruinous losses to avoid a quick mate. 30.♣xe7+! ♁xe7 31.♣e4+ ♁e6 (the queen is lost after 31...♁d7 32.♣f5+ ♁d8 33.♁g5+; while 31...♁f6 32.g5 is mate) 32.♣xh7+ ♁f7 (32...♁e8 33.♣h8+ ♁e7 34.♁g5+ ♁f7 35.♣f6+ ♁g8 36.♣g6+ ♁f8 37.dxe6) 33.♁g5+ ♁f8 (33...♁e8 34.♣e4+ transposes to the main line) 34.♣h8+ ♁g8 35.♣h6+ ♁e8 36.♣g6+ ♁f7 37.♣e4+ ♁f8 (37...♁e6 38.dxe6) 38.♁h6+ ♁g8 39.♣d4! 1-0.

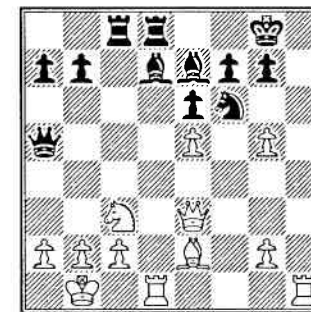
Karpov – Polgar
Grünfeld [D77]

1.d4 ♁f6 2.♁f3 g6 3.c4 ♁g7 4.g3 0-0 5.♁g2 d5 6.0-0 dxc4 7.♁a3 ♁a6 8.♁xc4 c5 9.h3 ♁f5 10.♁b2 ♁e4 11.♣c1 ♣c8 12.♣d2 ♣d5 13.♣fd1 ♣h5 14.h3 cxd4 15.♁xd4 ♣fd8 16.♁ce5 ♣xc1 17.♣xc1 ♁xf3 18.♁xf3 ♣xh3 19.♁xa7 ♣a8 20.♁d4 ♣c8 21.♣a3 ♣e8 22.♁xb7 ♁e7 23.♁c6 ♣f8 24.♣xe7 ♁e6 25.♁c3 ♣f5 26.♣d3 h5 27.♣f3 ♣c2 28.♁xf7 ♣d1+ 29.♁g2 ♣xe2 30.♣e3 ♣c2 31.♣xe6 ♣xf7 32.♁xf6 1-0.

Nijboer – Anand
Sicilian [B65]

1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♁xd4 ♁f6 5.♁c3 ♁c6 6.♁g5 e6 7.♣d2 ♁e7 8.0-0-0 0-0 9.f4 ♁xd4 10.♣xd4 ♣a5 11.♁b1 h6 12.h4 ♣d8 13.♁e2 ♁d7 14.♣e3 ♣ac8 15.e5 dxe5 16.fxe5 hxg5 17.hxg5

17.exf6 ♁xf6 18.♁e4 ♁xb2! gives Black a winning attack, e.g. 19.♁xb2 ♣b4+ 20.♁a1 (20.♣b3 ♣xe4 21.♁f3 ♣e5+ leaves White material down; 20.♁c1 ♣xc2+! 21.♁xc2 ♁a4+) 20...♣xc2 21.♣b1 ♣a5 22.♣b2 ♣xb2 23.♁xb2 ♣e5+ 24.♁b1 ♁c6 25.♁f3 ♣d4]



17...♣xc3! 18.♁d3

18.♣xc3 ♣xc3 19.bxc3 ♁e4 20.♣de1 ♁xc3+ 21.♁b2 ♁xe2 22.♣xe2 ♁xg5 is crushing. 18...♣xd3! 19.cxd3 ♁g4 20.♣h3 ♁h6 21.gxh6 ♣xe5 22.♣de1 ♣g5 23.hxg7 ♣xg7 24.♣e3 ♁g5 25.♣c6 f6 26.♣g4 ♁f7 27.♣d4 ♣g8 28.♣e4 ♁e6 29.♣h7+ ♁e8 30.♣h4 ♣g6 31.♣h3 ♣d6 32.a3 ♁d8 33.♁a1 ♣f5 34.♣h1 ♁d7 35.d4 ♣c6 36.♣h2 e5 0-1.

Belgrade–Moscow

This double-round match was played in January between teams of 12 comprising 4 men, 4 seniors (one a woman), 2 boys and 2 girls. The Yugoslav capital won the first round 6½:5½ and then improved to take the second 7½:4½. Neither team was particularly strong on the men's boards but the seniors featured match-ups between Vassily Smyslov and Svetozar Gligoric (two draws) and Nikolai Krogius and Borislav Ivkov (also 2 draws).

America–Europe

Played at the Mermaid Beach club in Bermuda, this Scheveningen match featured two apparently equal teams, both with average ratings of just over 2500. The Americans, however, won convincingly by 53½:46½ with Alexander Shabalov top scoring with 8/10 and the Brazilian duo of Rafael Leitao (18) and Giovanni Vescovi

(19) making GM norms with their 7½ points. For the European team the former Russian, now Irish, GM Alexander Baburin was the best scorer with 6/10.

Linares

A change from a 21-player round-robin in 1997 to a 7-player double round robin allowed a jump in category to 21, the second such tournament after Las Palmas 1996 which was won by Kasparov. After last year's battle of words between Anatoly Karpov and tournament organiser Luis Rentero it was no surprise that the FIDE World Champion was not an invitee this year. Also Gata Kamsky definitely seems to have given up chess in favour of medicine. Otherwise the seven participants were the highest rated available, i.e. seven of the top nine on the latest FIDE rating list.

Assuredly Gary Kasparov was the favourite with the two Crown princes, Vladimir Kramnik and Vishy Anand, the most likely to challenge. The fact of byes made score comparison more difficult than usual but it was none of those gentlemen in the lead for most of the tournament. After five rounds they all shared the lead on 2½ and had had their first bye but Alexei Shirov was in the same position while Peter Svidler also had 2½ but had yet to have his bye.

The next six rounds were magic for Shirov who scored 4/6 and enjoyed a 1½ point lead with three rounds to play. The hardest part of the event for him always seemed likely to be rounds 7/8 when he had the black pieces against Kasparov and Anand; he successfully negotiated this minefield with two draws only to lose an exciting game with the white pieces in round 9 to a resurgent Vassily Ivanchuk. This allowed the crown princes to

catch up but Shirov then won against Topalov with a brilliant endgame sacrifice and, most importantly, Kramnik in round 11. While Shirov rested in round 12 Anand closed to within half a point with a nice rook sacrifice against Ivanchuk while Kasparov and Kramnik were another half point behind. Kasparov had won in round 3 but was unable to break a long string of draws otherwise.

Round 13 saw Shirov's third loss, to Svidler, while Anand scored his fourth win, in a long game versus the out-of-form Topalov to take over the lead with 7 points. Shirov maintained second place with 6½ while Kasparov and Kramnik were next on 6.

The final round pairings were vital. Kramnik had white versus Anand and Kasparov black against Shirov. All three games, however, ended in draws and Anand had probably the finest tournament victory of his career; his Elo performance rating was 2844. For Shirov his second placing and performance rating of 2816 made this his best result too. Scores of +1 were hardly top results for Kasparov and Kramnik, the former being able to win only once while the latter managed two wins. Svidler performed solidly throughout while Ivanchuk had a bad first half but made the second best score (3½) in the second half. Veselin Topalov was simply not in good enough form to make an impression on this field.

Shirov - Anand

Caro-Kann [B12]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Qf5 4.f3 e6 5.Qe2 c5 6.Qe3 cxd4 7.f3xd4 e7 8.c4 bxc6 9.f3c3xd4 10.Qxd4 dxc4 11.Qxc4 e6 12.Qb5 Qe7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Qxc6 bxc6

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1 Anand V.	IND	2770	•	•	1 ½	0 ½	½ ½	1 ½	½ 1	½ 1	7½
2 Shirov A.	ESP	2710	0 ½	•	•	½ ½	½ 1	1 0	1 0	1 1	7
3 Kasparov G.	RUS	2825	1 ½	½ ½	•	•	½ ½	½ ½	½ ½	½ ½	6½
4 Kramnik V.	RUS	2790	½ ½	½ 0	½ ½	•	•	½ 1	½ ½	1 ½	6½
5 Svidler P.	RUS	2690	0 ½	0 1	½ ½	½ 0	•	•	1 0	½ 1	5½
6 Ivanchuk V.	UKR	2740	½ 0	0 1	½ ½	½ ½	0 1	•	•	0 ½	5
7 Topalov V.	BUL	2740	½ 0	0 0	½ ½	0 ½	½ 0	1 ½	•	•	4

15.Qe2 c5xd4 10.Qxd4 dxc4 11.Qxc4 e6 12.Qb5 Qe7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Qxc6 bxc6 15.Qe2 c5 16.Qc3 Qb6 17.f3g3 Qg6 18.Qg4 Qad8 19.h4 h6 20.h5 Qh7 21.f4 c4+ 22.Qh2 Qb4 23.f5 exf5 24.f3xf5 Qxf5 25.Qxf5 Qxc3 26.bxc3 Qe6 27.Qaf1 Qfe8 28.Qf1f4 Qd5 29.Qe4 Qe7 30.Qf4 Qc7 31.Qxc4? Qxf5!

With the several isolated white pawns the rooks will be stronger than the queen.

32.Qxf5 Qxc4 33.Qb1 Qd8 34.Qb7 Qxc3 35.Qxa7 Qcc8 36.a4 Qa8 37.Qc7 Qdc8 38.Qb7 Qe8 39.Qc6 Qac8 40.Qd7 Qcd8 41.Qc7 Qd5 42.a5 Qdx5 43.a6 Qe5e7 44.Qc6 Qf8!

Now Black cannot be prevented from winning the a-pawn.

45.Qh3 Qa7 46.g4 Qfa8 47.Qh4 Qxa6 48.Qb7 Qa5 49.Qc6 Qf8 50.Qb6 Qg5 51.Qb3 Qh8 52.Qb4 Qe8 53.Qa4 Qd8 54.Qe4 f5 55.gxf5 Qf8 0-1.

Kasparov - Anand

Caro-Kann [B17]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.Qxe4 Qd7 5.f3g5 f3g6 6.Qd3 e6 7.Qf3 Qd6 8.Qe2 h6 9.Qe4 Qxe4 10.Qxe4 Qc7 11.Qg4 Qg8 12.Qd2

12.Qxh6 f3f6 13.Qg5 gxh6 14.Qxf6 Qxg2 15.Qxh6 Qd7 and the two bishops together with White's weak kingside pawns give Black compensation for the pawn.

12...f3f6 13.Qf3 e5 14.dxe5 Qxe5 15.Qc4 Qe6 16.Qd2 0-0-0 17.0-0-0 Qd7 18.Qhe1 Qge8 19.Qb1 g5 20.h4 Qf4 21.Qxf4 gxf4 22.Qf5 f3f8

22...Qxc4? 23.Qxe8 Qxe8 24.Qxd7+; 22...Qxf5? 23.Qxe8 Qxe8 24.Qd6+ Qd8 25.f3xf5 and White's positional advantage is decisive! 23.Qh5 Qb8 24.Qxe6 Qxe6 25.a4 Qe7 26.Qe5+ Qc7 27.Qh5 Qe7 28.b3 Qf6 29.Qe5 Qe7 30.Qg4 Qxd1+ 31.Qxd1 Qg7 32.f3 Qc8 33.Qf5 Qa8 34.h5 Qf8 35.Qd7

Black has lost on time but his position after 35...Qg5 36.Qxg5 hxg5 37.h6 is lost anyway. 1-0.

Shirov - Topalov

Sicilian [B42]

1.e4 c5 2.f3f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 a6 5.Qd3 Qb6 6.Qb3 Qc7 7.Qe2 f3f6 8.Qc3 d6 9.f4 Qe7 10.e5 dxe5 11.fxe5 f3f7 12.Qf4 e6 13.0-0

Qdx5e5 14.Qae1 Qb6+ 15.Qh1 Qxd3 16.Qxd3 0-0 17.Qg3 Qh8 18.Qc7 Qa7 19.Qa4 f6 20.Qb6 Qb8 21.Qc7 Qa7 22.Qb6 e5 23.Qxa8 Qxa8 24.Qd1 Qe8 25.Qd6 Qd8 26.Qc5 b6 27.Qe4 Qd4 28.Qxc5

28.c3 f3f5 29.Qf3 Qe6 and Black has enough compensation for the exchange.

28...f3f5

28...Qxe5?? 29.Qxe5; 28...Qxe4 29.Qxd4 Qxc2 30.Qe1 is also dangerous for Black.

29.Qg4! e3e3

29...fxe5 30.Qxf5 Qe7 31.Qf3 Qxf5 32.Qxf5 Qc6 33.Qd7 Qxd7 34.Qxd7 Qd8 35.Qxd8+ Qxd8 36.g4 Qg8 37.Qg2 Qe7 38.Qf3 Qf7.

30.Qh5 Qg8?

30...Qc6! is tactically justified by the line 31.Qd6 Qg4 32.Qf7 Qe6 33.Qh5 Qg4 repeating.

31.Qf3 Qxd1 32.Qd6 Qa7 33.Qxc8 Qd7 34.Qd6 1-0.

Shirov - Svidler

Sicilian [B90]

1.e4 c5 2.f3f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 f3f6 5.Qc3 a6 6.Qe3 e5 7.Qb3 Qe6 8.Qd2 Qbd7 9.f3 h5 10.0-0-0 Qc8 11.Qb1 Qe7 12.Qd5 Qxd5 13.exd5 Qb6 14.Qxb6 Qxb6 15.g3 0-0 16.Qh3 Qa8 17.Qhe1 a5 18.a4 Qc7 19.Qf1 Qfc8 20.Qb5 Qf8 21.f4 exf4 22.gxf4 Qb6 23.Qe2 Qe8?

The beginning of a faulty plan which allows a lightning attack on the black king's position.

24.f5 Qc7 25.f6 g6 26.Qd7 Qd8 27.Qe6! Qe8

27...fxe6 28.Qg5 Qf7 29.Qg2 Qe8 30.dxe6 Qxe6 31.Qxg6+ Qd7 32.Qf7+ is decisive.

28.Qg5

28...Qxe6 29.dxe6 Qh7 30.e7 Qh6 31.Qd5 Qg8 32.Qg2+- 1-0.

Ivanchuk - Kramnik

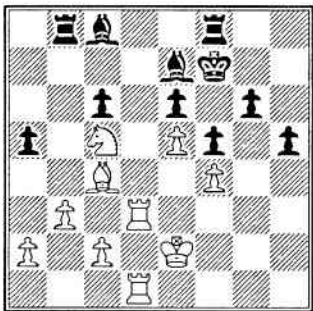
Sicilian [B57]

1.e4 c5 2.f3f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 f3f6 5.Qc3 d6 6.Qc4 Qb6 7.Qdb5 a6 8.Qe3 Qd8 9.Qd4 Qg4 10.Qxc6 bxc6 11.Qf3 Qe5 12.Qe2 e6 13.0-0-0 Qe7 14.Qd4 Qc7 15.Qxe5 dxe5 16.Qa4 0-0 17.Qd3 Qa5 18.b3 Qb8 19.Qd2 Qxd2+ 20.Qxd2 g6 21.Qd1 Qg7 22.Qe2 a5

23.♖c3 ♖b4 24.♗cd3 ♗e7 25.g3 h5 26.h4 f5
27.♖c3 ♖b4 28.♖e3 ♗f6 29.f4!

Sacrificing the h-pawn, the start of a very imaginative plan.

29...exf4 30.e5+ ♗f7 31.gxf4 ♗e7 32.♗ed3
♗xh4 33.♗c5 ♗e7



34.♗d6! ♗xd6 35.exd6 ♗d8 36.d7 ♗e7

36...♖b7 37.♗d6 ♗a8 38.♖xe6 and White has more than sufficient compensation for the exchange.

37.dxc8 ♗bxc8 38.♗xd8 ♗xd8 39.♗xe6 ♗h8
40.♗g5 h4 41.♗h3 ♗f6 42.♗f2 ♗d8 43.♗d3
a4 44.♗g5 a3

This pawn is a real headache for White who now has to worry about a rook penetration on the first rank. White should have played a2-a4 on move 42 though even then progress would not have been easy.

45.♗f3 c5 46.♗g5 ♗d4 47.♗f3 ♗d7 48.♗e3
♗d8 49.♗f3 ♖e8+ 50.♗f2 ♗d8 51.♗xh4

White could, of course, have saved five moves by making this capture in the identical position on move 46.

51...c4! 52.bxc4 ♗b8 53.c5 ♗b2 54.c6 ♗e7
55.♗xg6+ ♗d6 56.♗e5 ♗xa2 57.♗c4+

57.♗xf5 ♖xc2+! 58.♗xc2 a2.

57...♗c7 58.♗g3 ♗a1

58...♖xc2? 59.♗xa3 ♖c3? loses to 60.♗b5+.

59.♗xa3 ♗xa3 60.♗h4 ♗xc6

The ending is now clearly drawn.

61.♗g5 ♗a5 62.♗xf5 ♗d6 63.♗g4 ♗e7 64.♗d3
♖c5 65.♗f3 ♗d6 66.♗e4 ♗h5 67.c4 ♗h4
68.♗f5 ♗c5 69.♗e5 ♗h3 70.♗e4 ♗h4 71.♗e2
♗h2 72.♗f3 ♗d4 73.♗f1 ♗h1 74.♗f2 ♗h8
½-½.

Shirov - Ivanchuk

Caro-Kann [B17]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 dxe4 4.♗xe4 ♗d7
5.♗g5 ♗df6 6.♗c4 e6 7.♗e2 ♗d6 8.♗d2 ♗c7
9.0-0-0 b6 10.♗1f3 h6 11.♗h3 ♗e7 12.♗e5
c5 13.♖b5+ ♗f8 14.♗c4 cxd4 15.♗xd6 ♗xd6
16.♗f4 ♗d5 17.♗e5

White can regain the pawn at once by 17.♗xd4 ♗xd4 18.♗d1 but has no advantage after 18...♗xd1+ 19.♗xd1 ♖b7.

17...♗f5 18.c4!?

Initiating some very complex and interesting play.

18...♗c5 19.♗f3 ♗xe5 20.♗xa8 ♗c7 21.♗c6
♗b8 22.♗f3 ♖b7 23.♗a3+ ♗g8 24.f3 g5
25.♗a4 e5 26.♗he1 ♗g7 27.♗c2 ♗h4 28.♗d2
♖c8 29.♗b1 ♖xc4 30.♗g1 ♖c5 31.g3 ♖a5
32.♗d3 ♗g6 33.♖b3 ♗d6 34.♖c2 e4 35.♗c4
♗e5 36.♗c7 ♗b4 37.♗d1 ♗d5 38.♗xd5 ♖xd5
39.fxe4 ♗xe4 40.a3 ♗b5 41.♗a2 d3 42.♖cc1
d2 43.♖c2 ♗d3! 44.♖xd2 ♖c5 45.♗d8 ♗c4+
46.b3

46.♗a1 ♗xd2 47.♗xd2 ♗c1+

46...♗c3+ 47.♗a1 ♖a5! 0-1.

Topalov - Shirov

Grünfeld [D85]

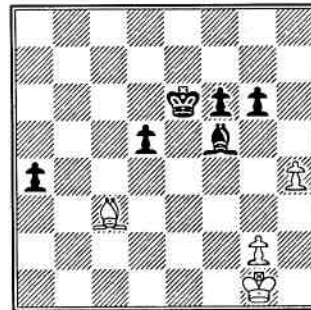
1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♗xd5 5.e4
♗xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♖b5+ c6 8.♗a4 0-0
9.♗e2 ♗d7 10.0-0 e5 11.f3 ♗e7 12.♗e3 ♗d8
13.♗c2 ♗b6 14.♖b3 ♗e6 15.♗ad1 ♗c4 16.♗c1
b5 17.f4 exd4 18.♗xd4 ♗g4 19.♗de1 ♗c5
20.♗h1 a5 21.h3 ♗d7 22.a4 bxa4 23.♗a2

But not 23.♗xa4 ♗b6 gaining the two bishops as 24.♖b3?? a4 25.♗a2 ♗xd4 loses a piece.

23...♗e8 24.e5 ♗b6 25.f5 ♗d5 26.♗d2 ♗b4
27.♗xa4

27.cxb4? ♗xc2 28.♗xc2 ♗xd2.

27...♗xa2 28.♗xa2 ♗xe5 29.fxg6 hxg6
30.♗g5 ♗d5 31.♖e3 ♗d6 32.♗e2 ♗d7 33.c4
♗xd4 34.cxd5 ♗xe3 35.♗xe3 ♖e8 36.♗c3
♗xd5 37.♗h6 ♖e5 38.♖f3 ♗c5 39.♗a1 ♗f5
40.♖e3 f6 41.♖xe5 ♗xe5 42.♗a2+ ♗d5
43.♗xd5+ cxd5 44.♗d2 a4 45.♗c3 ♗f7 46.h4
♗e6 47.♗g1



47...♗h3!!

It is problematic whether Black can win with normal moves but the tempi gained by this magic bishop sacrifice allows the black king to decisively support the queenside pawns. 47...♗g4 48.♗f2 ♗f5 49.♗e3 and already progress is difficult.

48.gxh3 ♗f5 49.♗f2 ♗e4 50.♗xf6

The second tempo; the pawn must be taken as after 50.♗e2 d4 the f-pawn can march too.

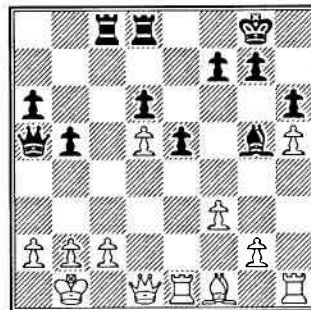
50...d4 51.♗e7 ♗d3 52.♗c5 ♗c4 53.♗e7 ♗b3

54.♗e1 ♗c2 55.♗c5 d3 56.♖b4 a3. 0-1.

Ivanchuk - Anand

Sicilian [B63]

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6
5.♗c3 ♗c6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♗d2 ♗e7 8.0-0-0 0-0
9.f3 ♗xd4 10.♗xd4 a6 11.h4 b5 12.♗b1 ♗c7
13.h5 h6 14.♗h4 ♖b7 15.♗e2 ♖ac8 16.♗d2
♖fd8 17.♖e1 e5 18.♗xf6 ♗xf6 19.♗c3 ♗g5
20.♗d1 ♗a5 21.♗d5 ♗xd5 22.exd5



22...♖xc2! 23.♗xc2 ♗xa2 24.f4

24.♖c4 ♖c8+ 25.♗c4 bxc4 26.♗c3 ♖b8
27.♖xc4 ♗xb2+ with a winning attack.

24...♖c8+

The point of f3-f4 is revealed by 24...♗xf4? 25.♖h3.

25.♗d2 ♗xf4+ 26.♗e2 ♗xb2+ 27.♗f3 ♖c1

28.♗e2 ♗c3+ 29.♗g4 ♗g3+ 30.♗f5 g6+
31.♗e4 f5#. 0-1.

Kishinev

A category 12 tournament in the Moldovan capital in February was won in remarkable fashion by 20-year old Alexander Morosevich with 8½/9. The Russian GM finished 3 points ahead of GMs Viktor Bologan (MDA) and Konstantin Sakaev (RUS).

Calcutta

The Goodricke International in February, an 11-round Swiss, was won by Uzbek GM Alexander Nenashev with 8 points. Equal second on 7½ were seven GMs: Barua (IND), Dao Thien Hai (VIE), Ehivest (EST), Schlosser (GER), Short (ENG), Speelman (ENG) and Yurtayev (KGZ).

Cannes

This year's Festival des Jeux featured a double-round Scheveningen match between teams of seniors and juniors, won by the all-GM oldies 16½:15½. Viktor Korchnoi (SWI) and Boris Spassky (FRA) scored 5/8 for the winners with help from Svetozar Gligoric (YUG) 4 and Mark Taimanov (RUS) 2½. The youth team scoring was headed by GM Etienne Bacrot (FRA) 5 and GM Ruslan Ponomarev (UKR) 4½. The two youngest grandmasters in the world are 15 and 14 respectively. The scoring was completed by IM Nataf (FRA) 3½ and GM Shaked (USA) 2½.

Ashburton beat Canterbury

An Ashburton team of eight players visited Christchurch late in February and played Canterbury. The result was in doubt until the very end, when S Bennett mated P Balloch with 1 second to go, to give Ashburton a narrow win.

NZCF Council report

Olympiad Team Selection

National selectors Bob Gibbons and Arthur Pomeroy announced the selection of five players for the Open team for this year's Olympiad scheduled for Elista in September/October. The five, in alphabetical order, are Peter Green (Auckland), Alexei Kulashko (Auckland), Mark Sinclair (Petone), Bob Smith (Waitemata) and Scott Wastney (Gambit). Yet to be determined are a possible sixth player and the board order for the Open team plus the selection of the Women's team which is deferred until the second half of April – after the national Women's Championship being played at Easter.

Michael Freeman has been appointed by the Council as Team Manager and will also captain the Open team. Clearly there are some notable absentees from this year's team yet we have an interesting blend of experience and youth, and all five players finished in the top seven of the recent national championship.

Asian Cities Championship

For the first time in a good many years New Zealand will be represented in this event by an Auckland team comprising (in board order) Paul Spiller, Hilton Bennett, Bob Gibbons and Peter Goffin. The championship is being held at Genting Highlands (in Malaysia, about 50km from Kuala Lumpur) April 8 - 16.. Format is a Swiss of nine rounds with the unusual time control of 23 moves in one hour plus one hour to finish. It is good to see the country being further represented in Asian chess.

NZCF Rating Code Numbers

The February Council meeting accepted a recommendation from the Rating Committee to add 3000 to all existing code numbers so as to avoid a recurring problem of officials confusing ratings and code numbers due to

By NZCF President Peter Stuart

the now significant overlap. Thus new code numbers will range from 3001 upwards. Any player already issued with a 1998 NZCF registration card showing the old code number should carefully add 3000 to that number. The new numbers will range from 3000 to well over 5000.

Tournament organisers and directors should check all code numbers from the latest available list, paying special attention when filling in Swiss pairing cards – if you get the player's code number wrong at the start the mistake is repeated on every one of that player's opponents' cards. We survived much more difficult code number changes in 1991 and with care we'll do so again.

Chess in Schools

The Junior Chess Committee is currently developing a new concept aimed at introducing chess into more schools by offering the game as an enrichment option. A standard programme, probably including a video, will provide for eight lessons spread over one term with local clubs supplying chess sets and boards and, most important, tutors who would probably attract some recompense. Enrichment courses are normally held after school hours and the Council's aim is to have the scheme trialled in the third term. All clubs have received full information.

N.Z. Junior Championship

Starting this year titles will be awarded at two-year intervals instead of the previous four years. Thus there will be, subject to minimum numbers of players in each age category, titles for under-18, under-16, under-14, under-12 and under-10 years.

Federation addresses

Send all NZCF mail to the Secretary, NZCF, PO Box 216, Shortland Street, Auckland 1030. Or email the Secretary at nzchessfed@xtra.co.nz.

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, 17 Cromwell St, Mt Eden, Auckland 1003. Tel (09)630-2042 clubroom; contacts club captain Paul MacDonald (09)419-2015; secretary Tony Kessler (09)412-8184.

Canterbury, PO Box 25-242, Christchurch. Meets Wednesday, 7.30pm., 227 Bealey Avenue; tel (03)366-3935 clubroom. Pres, Gavin Dawes (03)352-4851; Sec, Quentin Johnson (03)355-7166.

Civic Tuesday 7.30pm, Museum Room, Turnbull House, Bowen Street, Wellington 1. Pres, John Gillespie (04)476-3729; 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; sec, Kees van den Bosch (09)521-5828.

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)292-8157.

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)818-2342.

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)473-1167. Sec, Ted Frost (04)476-4098.

Associate members

Huntly Tuesdays 7.30pm 14 Ralph Street.. Club capt, John Smeed, 140 Great South Road, Huntly. (07)828-7481.

Napier Sec , 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. Sec, Martin Sims (06)354-9058; club capt, Tony Dowden (06)216-6478.

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