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Alexander Khalifman, 14th World Chess Champion

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STOP PRESS

Wang Puchen in World Under-10

Wang Puchen, the 9-year-old national under-12, under-14 and under-16 titleholder, has made a trip to Spain to play in the World Under-10 Championship in Oropesa de Mar. Puchen was accompanied to Spain by his father, and we will report on his trip and the results in the December issue of *NZ Chess*.

Wang Puchen scored 6/11, finishing 32= in a field of more than 90. Four of the under-10s had FIDFE ratings, one as high as 2349.

Geoff Gill moves across Tasman

Geoffrey Gill, of Whangarei, a regular competitor in tournaments in Auckland and other northern centres in recent years, has just sent out a message to say that he is joining the migration of chess players across the Tasman. Geoff is moving to the Shell oil refinery in Geelong, 70km west of Melbourne, and by the time this appears in print will have made the move.

Death of Garry Koshnitsky

One of Australia's greatest chess players, Garry Koshnitsky, 91, has died. Koshnitsky, Russian-born and a contemporary and keen competitor on a level with Cecil Purdy, won the Australian, Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia titles, and was also a correspondence IM. In addition, he and his wife Evelyn held many administrative posts and organised many tournaments. He played one of the most spectacular moves ever, which deserves a place among the chess classics. See page 12. .

New Zealand Chess

Vol 25 Number 5

October 1999

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 - 9 As usual in Blenheim, the 1999 South Island Championship was another enjoyable event, especially for long-time competitor Arie Nijman, who achieved a result he never expected - he took the title.
 - 13 Great news for Congress players and Howick-Pakuranga CC - GM Ian Rogers is coming.
 - 14 An Auckland team finds the going tough in China, and so does Ryan Trass in Vietnam.
 - 16 A progress report by Gordon Hoskyn on correspondence chess has become a regular feature of *NZ Chess*, and includes games from the current championship.
 - 18..Kasparov beats The World.
 - 19..The 1999 knockout world championship was played without Kasparov, Karpov and Anand, and top seeds started to get knocked out early. The result was a final between Khalifman and Akopian, with Khalifman becoming a somewhat unexpected official world champion. Peter Stuart reports in detail.
 - 26 Peter Stuart's overseas news review includes a report that the FIDE bureaucracy were not prepared to grant Judit Polgar maternity leave so she could not defend her world women's title, which has been won by Xie Jun.
- The next issue:* Paul Spiller reports on the Auckland team's trip to China, which included a number of interesting games; we will also report on Wang Puchen's play in the World Under-10 Championship; and the end-of-year rating list will appear.

Howick-Pakuranga host 1999-2000 Congress

December 28, 1999 - January 11, 2000

Two overseas GMs and one overseas IM are coming ... the playing venue will be the Exhibition Hall at the Waipuna International Hotel & Conference Centre ... first-class accommoda-

Birkenhead Licensing Trust Open

By NM Peter Stuart

Until just a week before the tournament, played on the weekend of 2/3 October, this was the 26th North Shore Open. While the sponsorship application had been made to the Trust by the club some months earlier, it had just missed the deadline for an allocation meeting and the trustees' favourable response was notified too late to advertise the change. One result was an increase in the prize fund from \$1250 to more than \$2000. It was therefore both ironic and disappointing that the total entry this year was so far down on last year's 48. The North Shore club is hopeful that the sponsorship will be ongoing and looks forward to bigger and better things in the year 2000.

Nevertheless there were seven players rated over 2000, including three of the top four on the latest active NZCF rating list. It was hard to go past these three – Alexei Kulashko, Robert Smith and Paul Garbett – as favourites although Bruce Watson, and Leonard McLaren both have a fine pedigree too in weekend tournaments.

Early upsets

In this event the first two rounds are rapid chess, 30 minutes per player. The idea of this is both to allow for six rounds instead of the usual five and to minimize the amount of time devoted to obvious mismatches. Some of the pairings in those early rounds apparently were not mismatches and three of the top seven failed to win their first two games.

The most stunning upset came in round one when top seed Kulashko drew with 9-year old Wang Puchen; this could perhaps better be described as Puchen drawing with Alexei as the youngster had a huge position when the draw was agreed.

Garbett and McLaren were the only players left with 100% scores after their third round victories against Daniel Johns and Don Eade respectively. Smith twice tried to sacrifice a piece against Roger Perry who twice refused; probably he should have accepted the second

sacrifice with clear advantage. As it was an equal ending was reached and later agreed drawn.

The most interesting game of the round was Krstev-Wang where fortunes fluctuated until Antonio's attack finally broke through after a final defensive error.

The half point bye option was taken up by no fewer than nine players for the Saturday night round and these included the joint leaders. Of the four players on 2½/3 only Kulashko, who slew the Perry Dragon, was able to catch up with Garbett and McLaren. On board 2 Watson gained a space advantage against Smith but the latter defended accurately enough for the draw. Chris Dale (1517) came close to beating Krstev, who finally salvaged half a point thanks to his opponent's time shortage, while Geoffrey Gill beat Don Eade to move to 3 points. Wang picked up a nice scalp after Paul Beach won a pawn but forgot to extricate his bishop before it was trapped.

The leaders after round 4 were thus: Kulashko, Garbett and McLaren 3½; Watson and Gill 3; Krstev, Perry, Dunn, Prashant Mistry, Michael Howard, Johns, Wang, Dale and Simisa Nedeljkov 2½.

Half-point bye popular

With everyone back on deck on Sunday morning the top clash was Garbett-Kulashko which seemed to inexorably descend into a bad bishop versus knight ending (with all the rooks still on as well) which Garbett was unable to defend; if there was a defence it was certainly not obvious. On board 2 Smith played the opening against McLaren poorly, lost a pawn and then had to jettison an exchange. This left Kulashko and McLaren on 4½/5. Gill played carelessly to lose a pawn against Watson who went on to win without trouble. Krstev, Perry and Mistry moved to 3½ although Perry needed some mistakes from Johns in a drawn ending.

Birkenhead Licensing Trust Open, 2/3 October, 1999

Name	Cl	Rtg	R1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts	TB
1 Kulashko A.	AC	2364	D7	W15	W9	W14	W10	D3	5	21½
2 Watson B.R.	AC	2180	W21	D9	W18	D5	W8	W10	5	17½
3 McLaren L.J.	NS	2229	W23	W16	W17	D50	W5	D1	5	14½
4 Krstev A.	NS	2031	W19	L17	W7	D13	W22	W14	4½	
5 Smith R.W.	WT	2357	W13	W11	D14	D2	L3	W17	4	22½
6 Dunn A.S.	-	1878	W25	L12	W24	D50	D7	W11	4	19
7 Wang P.	AC	1537	D1	W20	L4	W15	D6	W22	4	18
8 Gill G.	WH	1862	W30	L10	W19	W17	L2	D9	3½	19½
9 Hair P.I.	NS	1832	W26	D2	L1	D50	W13	D8	3½	18½
10 Garbett P.A.	NS	2353	W24	W8	W12	D50	L1	L2	3½	18½
11 Mistry P.	NS	1857	W28	L5	W21	D12	W16	L6	3½	17½
12 Johns D.P.	NS	1579	W34	W6	L10	D11	L14	W20	3½	17
13 Dale C.L.	AC	1517	L5	W28	W25	D4	L9	W27	3½	16½
14 Perry R.L.	AC	2023	W31	W22	D5	L1	W12	L4	3½	15
15 Beach P.K.	AC	1895	D20	L1	W29	L7	W19	W23	3½	15
16 Howard M.I.	NS	1602	W33	L3	W31	D50	L11	W21	3½	15
17 Eade D.	AC	1561	W27	W4	L3	L8	W18	L5	3	19
18 van den Heuvel A.	NS	1796	W29	D50	L2	D23	L17	W25	3	18
19 Courtney H.K.	GA	1319	L4	W33	L8	W28	L15	W30	3	16½
20 Cheng H.	NS	1254	D15	L7	D23	D21	W24	L12	2½	18½
21 Evans T.	NS	1459	L2	W26	L11	D20	W32	L16	2½	18½
22 Nedeljkov S.	-	1725	W32	L14	W27	D50	L4	L7	2½	18½
23 Hooton B.R.	PT	1477	L3	D29	D20	D18	W26	L15	2½	17½
24 Pocock G.W.	GA	1486	L10	W30	L6	D50	L20	W32	2½	15½
25 Judkins G.L.	GA	1164	L6	W34	L13	D50	W31	L18	2½	15
26 Gothorp T.H.T.	GA	1101	L9	L21	D33	W29	L23	W31	2½	13
27 Bajwa A.	WT	unr	L17	W99	L22	D31	W28	L13	2½	12½
28 Sullivan A.G.	-	1140	L11	L13	W34	L19	L27	W33	2	13½
29 Hodgkinson BP	NS	1089	L18	D23	L15	L26	D33	W34	2	13½
30 Jones G.M.	NS	1156	L8	L24	L32	W33	W34	L19	2	12½
31 Morrison M.K.	AC	1290	L14	W32	L16	D27	L25	L26	1½	15½
32 Cloete D.I.	NS	1055	L22	L31	W30	D50	L21	L24	1½	13½
33 Jackson M.D.	NS	972	L16	L19	D26	L30	D29	L28	1	15
34 Cumming R.	NS	unr	L12	L25	L28	W99	L30	L29	1	12

With one round to go the leaders were: Kulashko & McLaren 4½; Watson 4; Garbett, Krstev, Perry & Mistry 3½; Smith, Dunn, Gill, Hair, Eade & Wang 3.

Alexei and Leonard effectively opted for a half-point bye in the last round with their one move draw and the question became whether Watson could catch the leaders by defeating Garbett for whom only a win would bring any financial reward. As always, playing for a win with the black pieces proved difficult and Paul

drifted into a slightly inferior position and then Bruce combined to win material and soon the full point. Perry looked a cinch to reach 4½ but a horrendous blunder in an easily won position cost his queen and this allowed Krstev to reach 4½ instead. Mistry blundered early in the middle game so Krstev had fourth prize to himself.

Smith and Alan Dunn won to reach 4 points, a total also gained by Wang who played a steady game to beat Simisa Nedeljkov.

Grade prizes

Dunn won the first under-2000 prize, the second being shared by Paul Beach, Geoffrey Gill, Philip Hair and Prashant Mistry. In the under-1700 grade Wang Puchen took the first prize while Chris Dale, Michael Howard and Daniel Johns shared the second prize. Helen Courtney finished first in the under-1400 grade and was followed by Alshan Bajwa, Harry Cheng, Thomas Gothorp and Gary Judkins. Thus more than half the players received prizes!

Wang, P – Kulashko, A
[B21] Sicilian
R 1

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.ϕxc3 ϕc6 5.ϕe3 e6 6.ϕc4 ϕb4 7.ϕge2 ϕge7 8.0-0 0-0 9.a3 ϕa5 10.b4 ϕb6 11.ϕf4 a6 12.ϕd6 ϕc7 13.ϕc1 b5 14.ϕb3 ϕb7 15.f3 ϕxd6 16.ϕxd6 ϕc8 17.ϕd2 ϕb6 18.ϕfd1 ϕc8 19.ϕd6 ϕg5 20.f4 ϕf6 21.e5 ϕg6 22.ϕc2 f5 23.exf6 ϕxf6 24.ϕe4 ϕe7 25.ϕc5 ϕxd6 26.ϕxd6 ϕc7 27.ϕe4 ϕc4 28.ϕxd7 ϕxd7 29.ϕxd7 ϕf7 30.ϕc5 ½-½.

Smith, R W – Perry R L
[A08] King's Indian Attack
R 3

1.e4 c5 2.d3 ϕc6 3.g3 d5 4.ϕd2 ϕf6 5.ϕg2 g6 6.ϕgf3 ϕg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.ϕe1 dxe4 9.dxe4 e5 10.c3 ϕc7 11.ϕe2 ϕg4 12.h3 ϕe6 13.a4 b6 14.ϕc4 h6 15.ϕd2 ϕfd8 16.ϕad1 ϕd7 17.ϕc1 ϕad8 18.ϕxd7 ϕxd7 19.ϕh2 ϕh7 20.ϕg4 ϕxg4 21.hxg4 ϕd8 22.g5 h5 23.ϕe3 ϕe7 24.ϕf3 ϕc6 25.ϕf5 ϕf8

25...gxf5!? 26.exf5 ϕc4 27.ϕxc4 ϕxf3 28.f6 ♞.

26.ϕxe7 ϕxe7 27.ϕxh5 ϕxa4

27...gxf5! 28.ϕxh5+ ϕg7 29.ϕh6+ ϕg8 30.g6 ϕf6 31.ϕh7+ ϕf8 and White is yet to demonstrate sufficient compensation for the piece.

28.ϕg4 ϕc4 29.ϕf3 ϕg7 30.ϕxe6 ϕxc6 31.ϕg2 e4 32.ϕd1 ϕxd1 33.ϕxd1 ϕc6 34.ϕd5 ϕxd5 35.exd5 ϕd6 36.ϕf3 ϕf8 37.ϕe3 ϕe7 38.ϕe4 ϕb8 39.f3 b5 40.ϕc5+ ϕd7 41.g4 a6 42.ϕf2 ϕd6 43.ϕg3 ϕe7 44.ϕxe5 ϕxg5 45.f4 ϕd8 46.ϕd4 ϕe7 47.ϕb6 ϕd6 48.ϕd4 ϕe7 49.ϕb6 ϕd6 50.ϕd4 ϕe7 ½-½.

[In addition to Peter Stuart's report, Antonio

Krstev has supplied notes to his game with Wang Puchen, which attracted attention not just because of Puchen's age, but because it was sharply contested, full of life and interest. Antonio's notes are indicated by his initials – Ed.]

Krstev – Wang
[D45] Queen's Gambit
R 3

Notes by Peter Stuart & Antonio Krstev (AK)

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.ϕc3 ϕf6 4.ϕf3 e6 5.e3 dxc4 6.ϕxc4 ϕd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.e4 ϕc7?

8...ϕc7

9.ϕg5 h6 10.ϕh4 g5?

10...ϕbd7 11.e5 g5 12.ϕxg5 hxg5 13.ϕxg5 ϕxe5 14.dxe5 ϕxd1 15.ϕaxd1 ϕxe5 16.ϕfe1 ϕxc3 17.bxc3 ϕg7 and White still has work to do in the ending.

11.ϕxg5!

AK: A sacrifice on the basis that White has control of the centre and both bishops and the queen is active.

11...hxg5 12.ϕxg5 ϕbd7

12...e5 13.ϕf3 ϕbd7 14.ϕg3! ϕh5 (14...ϕh8? 15.ϕh4+ ϕg8 16.ϕh6) 15.ϕh4 ϕd6 16.dxe5 ϕxe5 17.ϕxf6 ϕxf6 18.ϕxh5 and bishop pair does not compensate for White's extra pawns.

13.f4!?

Preferring attack to the better ending after 13.e5 ϕxe5 14.dxe5 ϕxd1 15.ϕaxd1 ϕxe5 16.ϕfe1 ϕxc3 17.bxc3 ϕg7.

AK: If 13.e5, White regains the piece, but the attack weakens. This way, the Black pieces remain limited.

13...ϕe8 14.ϕf3

14.ϕh6!

14...ϕh7

14...ϕg7? 15.ϕg3! ϕh8 16.e5.

15.ϕg3?

15.ϕh6 ϕh8 16.ϕxf8 ϕxf8 retains some advantage for White but after the text Black has enough defensive resources.

AK: If 15.Bh6, White takes the rook, but the attack is less strong. So White just improves the position of his pieces.

15...ϕh8 16.e5

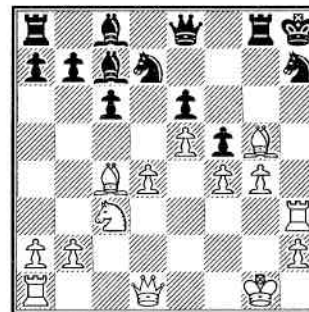
AK: Closing in both bishops and paralysing the king's wing.

16..f5

AK: 16.. f6 is stronger, but the opening is still bad for Black.

17.ϕh3 ϕg8 18.g4!

AK: The right move, to open the position before Black can counter-attack on the queen-side.



18...ϕf7

18...ϕd8! 19.ϕxd8 (19.gxf5 ϕxg5 20.ϕxe6 ϕxf4+ 21.ϕxg8 ϕxg8+ 22.ϕh1 ϕxe5!?!-+) 19...ϕxg4+ 20.ϕh1 ϕxd8 21.ϕxe6 ϕdf8 and Black should be able to consolidate his material advantage.

19.ϕh6 ϕg6 20.ϕh5 ϕb6?

20...ϕg7!?

21.gxf5!

AK: Before the Black knight comes on d5. Now ...Qf5 is not possible because of Bd3.

21...ϕxc4

21...ϕg7 22.ϕb3 ϕxf5 23.ϕh1 ϕd5 24.ϕc2 and White's attack is looking menacing again.

22.fxg6 ϕxg6 23.ϕg4

AK: White wants Bf6+ and take the queen, but Black is preparing 23...Ne3!, so if 24.Bf6 Qxf6 25.exf6 Ng4 26.f7 Bd7 and Black is better.

23...ϕe3?

23...ϕg8.

24.ϕh3

24.ϕxh7+! ϕxh7 (24...ϕxh7? 25.ϕf6+) 25.ϕh3+ ϕg7 26.ϕxe3 wins comfortably.

24...ϕf5 25.ϕf2

AK: The first mistake in a good game for White. 25.Kh1! is the move.

25...ϕg7?

After this Black is lost but 25...ϕb6! would have kept him well in the game.

AK: 25...Bb6! is right, not allowing Rg1.

26.ϕf6 ϕc2+ 27.ϕe2 ϕb6

AK: Too late.

28.ϕg4 ϕxd4+ 29.ϕf1 1-0.

Kulashko, A – Perry, R L
[B72] Sicilian
R 4

1.e4 c5 2.ϕf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.ϕxd4 ϕf6 5.ϕc3 g6 6.ϕe3 ϕg7 7.ϕe2 ϕc6 8.h4 h5 9.ϕd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 ϕg4 11.ϕxg4 ϕxg4 12.f3 ϕe6 13.g4 ϕe5 14.ϕxe6 fxe6 15.gxh5 ϕxf3 16.h6 ϕf6 17.ϕdg1 ϕh7 18.h5 ϕe8 19.hxg6+ ϕxg6 20.ϕe2 ϕxe3 21.ϕxe3 ϕc6 22.ϕh3 ϕc4 23.ϕxg6 ϕxg6 24.h7 ϕh8 25.ϕh5+ ϕg7 26.ϕg1+ ϕf8 27.ϕg6 e5 28.ϕd5 1-0.

Garbett, PA – Kulashko, A
[A57] Benko Gambit
R 5

1.d4 ϕf6 2.e4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.ϕf3 b4 5.b3 g6 6.ϕb2 ϕg7 7.e4 d6 8.ϕd3 0-0 9.0-0 e5 10.dxe6 ϕxe6 11.a4 ϕc6 12.ϕbd2 ϕg4 13.h3 ϕxf3 14.ϕxf3 ϕd7 15.ϕc2 ϕxb2 16.ϕxb2 ϕde5 17.ϕe1 ϕe8 18.ϕd1 ϕf6 19.ϕh1 ϕd4 20.ϕc2 ϕc6 21.ϕe3 ϕf4 22.ϕd5 ϕxd5 23.cxd5 ϕf4 24.ϕb5 ϕe7 25.ϕd2 g5 26.ϕfe1 ϕg6 27.ϕxf4 gxf4 28.f3 h5 29.ϕe2 h4 30.ϕg1 a5 31.ϕf2 ϕe5 32.ϕc2 ϕg5 33.ϕd7 ϕe5 34.ϕb5 ϕf8 35.ϕf1 ϕe7 36.ϕb5 ϕag8 37.ϕf1 ϕd7 38.ϕdd2 ϕe7 39.ϕe1 ϕb6 40.ϕc4 ϕg3 41.ϕf2 ϕe8 42.ϕf1 ϕg5 43.ϕfe2 ϕg6 44.ϕd3 ϕge5 45.ϕf2 ϕf8 46.ϕf1 ϕh7 47.ϕf2 ϕf6 48.ϕc1 ϕh5 49.ϕee1 ϕg3 50.ϕb5 ϕe7 51.ϕd3 ϕc7 52.ϕb1 ϕd8 53.ϕcd1 ϕe8 54.ϕd3 ϕf8 55.ϕc1 ϕh5 56.ϕa6 ϕf6 57.ϕc8

Black's next prevents the bishop's return to the f1-a6 diagonal yet if the bishop remained on that diagonal it would not be able to hinder the f7-f5 break. White was on the horns of a dilemma.

57...ϕa7 58.ϕed1 ϕe7 59.ϕc4 ϕd8 60.ϕg4 ϕe8 61.ϕc2 ϕc7 62.ϕc4 ϕa8 63.g3

A desperate gasp for air but it probably serves only to shorten the agony.

63...hxc3+ 64.ϕg2 ρb6 65.ϑdc1 ρxc4 66.ϑxc4 ϕe7 67.ϑc2 ϕf6 68.h4 ϑe8 69.ϑc1 ϑe5 and Black won, 0-1

Smith, RW – McLaren, LJ
[A01] Nimzo-Larsen
R 5

1.b3 e5 2.ρb2 d6 3.e3 ρf6 4.c4 g6 5.d3 ϕg7 6.ρf3 0-0 7.ρb2 ϑe8 8.ϑc2 ρbd7 9.ϑe2 b6 10.0-0 ρb7 11.ρg5? d5 12.cxd5 ρxd5 13.ρge4?

According to plan but perhaps 13.ρgf3 was better.

3...f5 14.ϑc3?

14.ρg3 f4!? 15.exf4 exf4 16.ρge4 ρb4 17.ϑb1 (17.ϑc4+ ϑd5) 17...ϑxb2 18.ϑxb2 ρe5 is also better for Black but at least it doesn't lose a pawn.

14...ρb4 15.ϑb1 ρc5 16.ϑd1 ρbxd3 17.ρf3 ϑxf3 18.ϑxf3 e4 19.ϑe2 ϑf6! 20.ϑxd3 ρxd3

Forcing White to give up the exchange, else lose a piece.

21.ϑxd3 exd3 22.ϑxd3 ϑad8 23.ϑb5 c6 24.ϑe2 ϑc7 25.ρa4 ϑxb2 26.ρxb2 ϑb4 27.ϑc4+ ϑxc4 28.ρxc4 b5 29.ρa5 ϑe6 30.g3 ϑd2 31.b4 ϑed6 32.ϕg2 ϑb2 33.ρb3 ϕf7 34.h4 ϑd3 35.ϕf3 ϑc3 36.ϑd1 ϑxa2 37.ρc5 ϑcc2 38.ϕf4 ϑxf2+ 39.ϕe5 ϑad2 40.ϑxd2 ϑxd2 41.e4 fxe4 42.ϕxe4 ϑb2 43.ρd3 ϑb3 44.ρe5+ ϕe6 45.ρxc6 ϑd6 0-1.

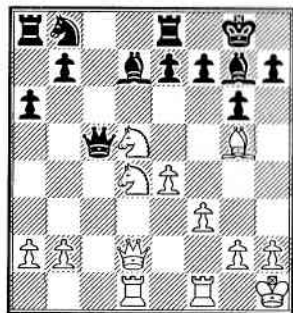
Watson – Garbett
[D90] Grünfeld
R 6

1.d4 ρf6 2.c4 g6 3.ρc3 d5 4.ρf3 ϕg7 5.cxd5 ρxd5 6.ϑh3 ρb6 7.ϑf4 0-0 8.e3 ϑe6 9.ϑc2 ϑf5 10.ϑd2 c5 11.ϑd1 cxd4 12.ρxd4 ϕg4 13.ϑe2 ϑc8 14.ϑg5 ϑe8 15.0-0 a6

15...ϑxe2 16.ϑxe2 ρc6 was preferable; the ϕg4 becomes a liability after the text.

16.f3 ϑd7 17.e4 ρc4 18.ϑxc4 ϑxc4 19.ρd5 ϑc5 20.ϕh1 ϑd6

20...ϑxd4 21.ϑxd4 ϑxd4 22.ϑxd4 was not an attractive alternative for Black.



21.ρxe7+!

21.ρf5!? is also strong: 21...gxf5 22.ρxe7+ ϑxe7 23.ϑxe7 ϑxe7 24.exf5 and the badly placed black pieces offer him a bleak future.

21...ϑxe7

21...ϕh8 22.ρd5 ρc6 gives better drawing chances but half a point was no good for Paul so he goes in for the complications which, unfortunately for him, turn out worse.

22.ρf5 ϑxd2 23.ρxe7+ ϕf8 24.ϑxd2 f6 25.ρd5 fxe6 26.ρb6 ρb5 27.ϑf1 ρd7 28.ρxd7+ ϕf7 29.ρb6 ϑe8 30.b3 ϑc6 31.ρc4 ϑe7 32.ϑd8 ϑc3 33.ϑd3 ϑf6 34.ϕg1 ϕg7 35.ϕf2 g4 36.a4 gxf3 37.gxf3 ϑf7 38.ϑc8 ϑe7 39.ϑdd8 ϑc3 40.ϕe3 ρb4 41.ϕe2 ϕh6 42.ρc3 ϑa5 43.ϑd6 ϑd7 44.ρd5 ϑf7 45.ϑh8 ϑc6 46.b4 ϑxd5 47.bxa5 ϑc6 48.ϑxc6 bxc6 49.ϑa8 ϕg5 50.ϑxa6 ϕh4 51.ϑxc6 ϑa7 52.a6 ϕh3 53.ϕd3 ϕxh2 54.ϕc4 ϕg3 55.ϕb5 g5 56.ϕb6 ϑe7 57.a7 ϑxa7 58.ϕxa7 ϕxf3 59.ϑh6 1-0.

Mind Sports Olympiad

The 1st Mind Sports Olympiad was held in London at the end of August, with 93 competitors in the masters chess event - 18 of them grandmasters. First equal were GMs Alexander Barburin (IRL), Lev Pasakhis (ISR) and Jon Speelman (ENG) on 7/9, with NZ-born GM Murray Chandler on 4= only half a point behind.

NZ Chess had lost track of Scott Wastney, but his name appears in this event, scoring 4.5.

1999 South Island Championship

The new St John Ambulance headquarters in Blenheim lived up to Peter Voss's expectations and proved to be an excellent venue for the 1999 South Island Championships. The venue could have catered for a much bigger tournament, but although the entry in the championship was only 16 players - with five from the North Island - the tournament was enjoyed by all participants.

As the only player rated above 2000, and with a 300-point gap back to the next seeded player, Mark Sinclair was a tournament favourite who lived up to expectations. He conceded only two draws and was not severely tested in winning the event, although analysis suggested that Ross Jackson might have done better than a draw.

Some of the highly-seeded players did not fare so well, with second seed Graham Haase having to settle for 5th place on 5, behind Ross Jackson, Arie Nijman and Bruce Donaldson on 5.5. As Sinclair and Jackson were not South Islanders, the result was the Nijman and Donaldson shared the South Island title.

It was particularly pleasing and surprising to Arie Nijman, who believed that he had competed in practically all South Island Championships over the last 40 years. He has been runner-up several times, and did not think he would ever win the title.

The last round decided the minor placings. Bruce Gloistein, noted for always going for the opponent's king, found his tactics pay off in the early stages and after 6 rounds was on 4.5, only half a point behind Sinclair. However, losses to Sinclair and Jackson in the last two rounds saw him drop back through the field.

After losing to Donaldson in the first round, Jackson was steady and did not lose again, but had three draws in the middle stages.

Nijman and Donaldson both finished strongly. After starting with three wins, Nijman lost to Sinclair, drew with Jackson and lost to Haase, so on 3.5 after 6 rounds was somewhat off the pace. Wins against Dan Dfolejs and Michael Nyberg pulled him back up in the last two

rounds.

Donaldson's upward swing was even more dramatic. He had only 1.5 points from the first four rounds, and won four in a row in the second half.

Last-minute dash

The tournament ran smoothly under the direction of Chris Bell. However, Chris reports that it was the scene of the most noisy and dramatic incident he can recall in any tournament he has directed. Mark Sinclair and Michael Nyberg were staying some distance from the venue and Mark was cycling back and forth. Mark was drawn to play Hamish Gold in round 5 and didn't turn up. There was no sign of him after 15 minute...30...45...and approaching the 60-minute deadline.

With about 3 minutes left before defaulting the game, Mark appeared in the car park, running flat out - and tripped and fell flat on his face. He picked himself up, raced inside, ran to his board and made a move in time to keep the game alive.

Then he was able to take time out to clean up his bloodied hands and get his breath back. It didn't help Hamish. Mark's rapid-play skills came to his aid and Hamish was mated on move 43.

With Bruce Donaldson sharing second prize, Bruce Gloistein was able to take the grade prize for players below 1650 rating, and four players shared the second prize - Don Stracy, Michael Nyberg, Hamish Gold and Peter Voss.

Numbers problem

Needless to say, there was discussion about the size of the fields (there were only 11 in the South Island Rapid) and how to build up the number of entries in future events. Changes in school holidays, with the universities acting independently, and changes in working hours, incomes and lifestyles were among the factors identified as contributing to the downward trend.

South Island Championship, 1999

Player	Rat	R1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Tot	Pl
1 M Sinclair	2169	W8	D4	W5	W3	W9	D2	W6	W11	7	1
2 L R Jackson	1786	L4	W8	W14	W10	D3	D1	D5	W6	5.5	2=
3 A Nijman	1693	W15	W10	W9	L1	D2	L5	W11	W8	5.5	2=4
4 B Donaldson	1595	W2	D1	L6	L11	W7	W9	W10	W5	5.5	2=
5 G G Haase	1848	D6	W12	L1	W7	W11	W3	D5	L4	5	5
6 B Gloistein	1607	D5	W13	W4	L9	W14	W10	L1	L2	4.5	6
7 D M Stracy	1643	L12	W16	D11	L5	L4	D15	W13	W14	4	7=
8 M Nyberg	1636	L1	L2	W15	L13	W16	W14	W12	L3	4	7=
9 H Gold	1512	W13	W14	L3	W6	L1	L4	W16	L12	4	7=
10 P Voss	1468	W11	L3	W16	L2	W13	L6	L4	W16	4	7=
11 D Dolejs	1729	L10	W15	D7	W4	L5	W13	L3	L1	3.5	11=
12 E Laws	unr	W7	L5	L10	L14	D15	W16	L8	W9	3.5	11=
13 B Williams	1772	L9	L6	W16	W8	L10	L11	L7	W15	3	13=
14 N Todd	1703	W16	L9	L2	W12	L6	L8	D15	L7	2.5	14=
15 H Goeckel	1362	L3	L11	L8	W16	D12	D7	D14	L13	2.5	14=
16 R Keeling	1467	L14	L7	L13	L15	L8	L12	L9	L19	0	16

Rapid Championship

In the Rapid championship there was a similar pattern to the main event - Mark Sinclair went through with a picket fence, to be assured of at least a share of first after 5 of the six rounds.

Michael Nyberg, seeded in midfield, lost to Sinclair in round one, but won his way back to be the only player within striking distance with a round to go. A draw with John van Ginkel gave Nyberg second place on 4.5/6.

This result also gave van Ginkel the South Island Rapid title. He shared third place on 4 with John Gillespie, but all the other place-getters were from the North Island. Nick Todd won a grade prize.

Selected games

Donaldson met Sinclair early and was not deterred by nearly 400 points' difference in their rating.

Donaldson, B – Sinclair, M
[C88] Ruy Lopez / Spanish
R 2

1.e4 e5 2.♂f3 ♁c6 3.♁b5 a6 4.♁a4 ♁f6 5.0-0 ♁e7 6.♖e1 b5 7.♁b3 0-0 8.a4 ♖b8 9.c3 d5 10.d3 ♖d6 11.axb5 axb5 12.♁g5 ♁e6 13.♁bd2 ♖a8 14.♖e2 dxe4 15.dxe4 ♁xb3 16.♁xb3 ♖e6 17.♖c2 ♖fd8 18.♁fd2 h6 19.♁xf6 ♖xf6 20.♁f1 ♖g6 21.♁e3 ♁g5 22.♖xa8 ♖xa8 23.♁d5 ♖d6

24.♖d1 ♖d8 25.g3 ♁b8 26.♁e3 ♖f8 27.♖xd8 ♖xd8 28.♁g2 ♖d6 29.h4 ♁e7 30.♁e3 ♁f8 31.♖e2 c6 32.♖g4 ♁h7 33.♖c8 g6 34.h5 gxh5± Fritz 5 suggests 34...♁g7 35.♁a5=

35.♁g2= Fritz suggests 35. ♁a5 ♁d7 36. ♁xc6 ♁h8±
35...♁d7 36.♁f5 ♖d3± 37.♖xc6 ♁g7 38.♖d5± 38...♖xd5 39.cxd5 ♁f8 40.♁f3 ♁g6 41.♁e4 ♁g5 42.f3=

Fritz suggests 42.f4+ exf4 43.gxf4+ ♁g6 44.♁h4+ ♁f6±
42...♁f6+ 43.♁xe5 ♁d7+ ½-½

Gold, H – Gloisten, B
[B13] Giuoco Piano / Italian
R 4

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.♁d3 g6 5.♁f4 ♁g7 6.♁f3 ♁c6 7.c3 ♁f6 8.♁bd2 0-0 9.♖e2 ♁h5 10.♁g3 ♖e8 11.♁e5 ♁xe5 12.dxe5 e6 13.♁f3 f6 14.♁h4 ♁f4 15.♖f1 a5 16.exf6 ♁xf6 17.♁g3 e5 18.♁b5 e4 19.♁xe8 exf3 20.♁xf4 ♖xe8+ 21.♁e3 d4 22.cxd4 ♖e4 23.gxf3 ♖xf3 24.♖c4+ ♁h8 25.♖g1 ♁f5 26.♖e2 ♖c6 27.♖c1 ♖d7 28.♖d2 ♖e8 29.d5 ♖d6 30.♖g3 h6 31.♁f1 ♁h7 32.♁c5 ♖a6+ 33.♁g1 ♖e2 34.♖d1 ♁xb2 35.♖e3 ♖xe3 36.♁xe3 ♁e5 37.♖b3 1-0

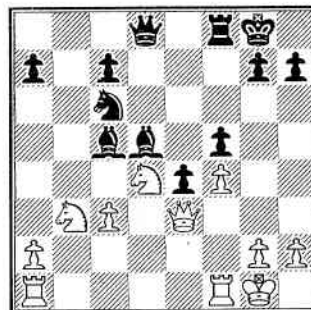
A tactical error cost Arie Nijman a piece against Sinclair.

Nijman, A – Sinclair, M

[C41] Philidor's Defence

R 4

1.e4 e5 2.♂f3 d6 3.d4 ♁f6 4.♁c4 ♁e7 5.dxe5 ♁xe4 6.♖d5 ♁e6 7.♖xb7 ♁c5 8.♖xa8 ♁xc4 9.b4 ♁ca6 10.♖d2 dxe5 11.♖e4 ♁d5 12.♖e3 e4 13.♁d4 ♁xb4 14.♁xb4 ♁xb4+ 15.c3 ♁c5 16.0-0 0-0 17.♁d2 f5 18.f4 ♁c6 19.♁b2b3?



19...♁xb3 0-1

Jackson, R – Sinclair, M

[A60] Modern Benoni

R 6

1.d4 ♁f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.♁c3 exd5 5.♁xd5 ♁xd5 6.♖xd5 ♁e7 7.♁f3 ♁c6 8.♁e5 0-0 9.♁xc6 bxc6 10.♖d2 ♁f6 11.e3 d5 12.♁e2 ♖b8 13.0-0 ♁e6 14.♖c2 ♖a5 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.♖d2 ♖b6 17.♖ab1 ♖fc8 18.b3 g6 19.♁f3 ♖a6 20.e4 c4 21.bxc4 ♖xb1 22.♖xb1 dxc4 23.e5 ♁xe5 24.♁b7 ♁f5 25.♁xa6 ♁xc2 26.♖e1 ♖c6 27.♁b5 ♖c5 28.♖xc2 ♖xb5 29.♖xc4 ♁g7 30.f4 ♁d6 31.♖c2 f5 32.♁f2 ♁f7 33.♁e3 a5 34.♁e2 ♖b4 35.g3 ♁e6 36.♁d2 ♖a4 37.♁c3 ♖c4 38.♁d3 ♖a4 39.♖b2 ♖a3 40.♁c4 ♁e7 41.♁d2 ♁d6 42.♁b5 ½-½

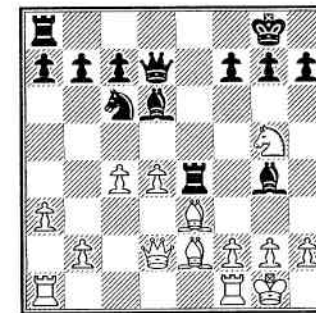
Dan Dolejs gave up a R for a B and P against Arie Nijman, but it did not pay off and Dan was soon on the defensive.

Nijman, A – Dolejs, D

[B01] Centre Counter / Scandinavian

R 7

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♁f6 3.c4 e6 4.dxe6 ♁xe6 5.♁f3 ♁b4 6.♁e2 ♁c6 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 ♁g4 9.♁e3 ♖e8 10.a3 ♁d6 11.♁c3 ♖d7 12.♖d2 ♁e4 13.♁xe4 ♖xe4 14.♁g5



14...♖xd4 15.♁xd4 ♁xc2 16.♖xe2 ♁xd4 17.♖e4 g6 18.♖ad1 c5 19.♖fe1 h6 20.♁f3 ♁xf3+ 21.♖xf3 ♁g7 22.g3 f6 23.♖d5 ♖d8 Black lost on time. 1-0

With the final round to play, Graham Haase was alone in second place but was driven back on the defensive by Donaldson's positive play. Donaldson placed his pieces well and made best use of the half-open g-file to leap-frog into 2= place.

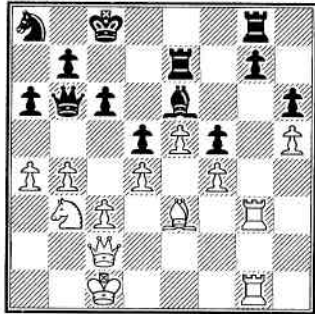
Arie Nijman joined Donaldson when Michael Nyberg played briskly but could not find a winning line. After the major pieces were exchanged Nijman had two Bs for a R and P, plus united Ps on the middle files which proved too strong.

Nyberg, M – Nijman, A
[C55] Giuoco Piano / Italian
R 8

1.e4 e5 2.♂f3 ♁c6 3.♁c4 ♁f6 4.d4 exd4 5.0-0 ♁e5 6.e5 d5 7.exf6 dxc4 8.♖e1+ ♁e6 9.fxd7 ♖g8 10.♁g5 ♖d5 11.♁c3 ♖f5 12.g4 ♖g6 13.♁ce4 ♁b6 14.♁xf7 ♁xf7 15.♁f6+ ♁d8 16.♁xg8 ♁xg8 17.♖e2 ♁d7 18.♖f3 ♁c5 19.♖f5+ ♖xf5 20.gxf5 ♁b4 21.♖e2 ♖e8 22.♖xe8 ♁xe8 23.♁f4 ♁xc2 24.♖d1 ♁d6 25.♁g5 ♁e5 26.♖d2 d3 27.b3 b5 28.bxc4 bxc4 29.♖d1 ♁xg7 30.♖b1 c3 31.f6 ♁f8 32.♖b8+ ♁f7 33.♖d8 ♁d6 34.♖d7+ ♁e6 35.♖g7 ♁f7 36.f4 d2 37.f5+ ♁xf5 38.♁xd2 cxd2 39.♖xf7 d1 ♖+ 40.♁g2 ♖e2+ 41.♁g1 ♁c5+ 42.♁h1 ♖f3# 0-1

Donaldson, B – Haase, G G
[B12] Advance Variation, 3.e5
R 8

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Qf5 4.h4 h6 5.g4 Qd7 6.h5
Qa5+ 7.c3 Qa6 8.f4 e6 9.Qf3 Qe7 10.Qb2 0-0-0
11.b4 Qb6 12.Qb3 Qc7 13.a4 a6 14.Qe3 f5
15.Qh3 fxd4 16.Qxg4 Qf5 17.Qxf5 exf5 18.Qh4
Qg8 19.Qg6 Qe8 20.Qg1 Qf7 21.Qc2 Qe6 22.0-0-0
0 Qe8 23.Qg3 Qe7 24.Qd3 Qa8 25.Qxe7+ Qxe7



26.Qc5 Qc7 27.Qxe6 Qxe6 28.Qxf5 Qd7 29.Qg6
Qxg6 30.Qxd7+ Qxd7 31.Qxg6 Qe7 32.f5 Qf7
33.Qf4 Qe8 34.f6 gxf6 35.Qxf6+ Qe7 36.Qxh6
Qf8 37.Qg5+ Qe8 38.Qf6 Qc7 39.Qd6 Qf1+
40.Qc2 Qg1 41.Qf6 Qg2+ 42.Qb3 1-0

Rapid games

The manner in which Mark Sinclair scored a picket fence in the South Island Rapid is illustrated in the next three games.

Nyberg, M – Sinclair, M
[C54] Giuoco Piano / Italian
R 1

1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.Qc4 Qc5 4.c3 Qf6 5.d4 exd4
6.cxd4 Qb4+ 7.Qc3 Qxe4 8.0-0 Qxc3 9.d5 Qf6
10.Qe1 Qe7 11.Qxe4 d6 12.Qg5 Qxg5 13.Qxg5
h6 14.Qe2 hxd5 15.Qe1 Qe6 16.dxe6 f5 17.Qe3
g4 18.h3 d5 19.Qd1 Qd6 20.Qd3 Qh6 21.Qe5
c6 22.Qe1 0-0-0 23.Qb3 Qdh8 24.Qc3 Qb8
25.Qee3 gxh3 26.Qxh3 Qxh3 27.Qxh3 Qxh3
28.gxh3 Qxe6 29.Qxg7 0-1

Gold, H – Sinclair, M
[A60] Modern Benoni
R 5

1.d4 Qf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 e6 4.Qc3 exd5 5.Qxd5
Qxd5 6.Qxd5 Qe7 7.Qf3 Qc6 8.a3 0-0 9.e3 d6

10.Qd3 Qc6 11.Qh5 g6 12.Qh6 Qe5 13.Qxe5
dxe5 14.Qxg6 fxd6 15.e4 Qd3 16.Qe3 Qxc4
17.Qxd3 Qxd3 18.f3 Qad8 19.Qe3 Qh4+ 20.Qf2
Qxf2+ 21.Qxf2 Qxe4 22.Qhe1 Qc6 23.Qxe5 Qd2+
24.Qe2 Qfd8 25.Qe3 Q8d3+ 26.Qf2 Qxe2+ 0-1

Sinclair, M – Williams, B
[C53] Giuoco Piano / Italian
R 6

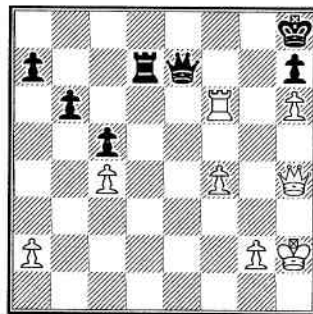
1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Qc6 3.Qc4 Qc5 4.c3 d6 5.d4
exd4 6.cxd4 Qb4+ 7.Qc3 Qf6 8.0-0 Qxc3
9.bxc3 0-0 10.Qe1 d5 11.exd5 Qxd5
12.Qa3 Qxc3 13.Qc2 Qxd4 14.Qxc3 Qxf3+
15.Qxf3 Qe6 16.Qxe6 fxe6 17.Qxf8+ Qxf8
18.Qxf8 Qxf8 19.Qxe6 c5 20.f4 c4 21.Qb1
Qf7 22.Qe4 1-0

Koshnitsky classic

Startling, totally unexpected match-winning moves should be even more rare in correspondence chess than over the board. But here's a classic.

Koshnitsky, G – Wolfers, A
[A52]
Australian CC Champ, 1948

1.c4 Qf6 2.d4 e5 3.dxe5 Qg4 4.e4 Qxe5 5.f4 Qg6
6.Qf3 Qb4+ 7.Qc3 Qe7 8.Qd3 Qxc3+ 9.bxc3 d6
10.0-0 0-0 11.Qd4 Qd7 12.Qf5 Qd8 13.Qe3 Qc5
14.Qc2 Qe8 15.Qd4 Qe6 16.Qa4 Qd7 17.Qxd7
Qxd7 18.h4 f6 19.Qg4 Qad8 20.h5 Qxd4
21.cxd4 Qf8 22.e5 dxe5 23.dxe5 Qh8 24.exf6
gxf6 25.Qad1 Qf7 26.Qxd8 Qxd8 27.Qe1 Qd7
28.Qh4 c5 29.Qe3 b6 30.Qh2 Qe6 31.Qh6 Qg7
32.Qxe6 Qxh6 33.Qxf6 Qg7 34.h6 Qe7



35.Qe1!! If 35...Qg8 36.Qe6 and Black's Q has nowhere to go. 1-0

GM Ian Rogers to play in Howick Congress

Paul Spiller advises that Australian GM Ian Rogers has advised that he will play in the 107th New Zealand Chess Congress, being staged by Howick-Pakuranga CC.

Ian Rogers will join GM Drazen Sermek, of Slovenia, and IM Herman van Riemsdijk, of Brazil in the field, so ambitious competitors can be assured that IM norms will be available from the championship. These entries also help ensure that there will be a Swiss field of at least 18 players.

Ian Rogers, accompanied by his wife Cathy, came to New Zealand for the 1996-97 Congress, hosted by North Shore CC. This was the first Congress under the revised rules encouraging overseas masters to compete.

Ian Rogers won that tournament with 9.5/11, conceding three draws. Alexei Kulashko was runner-up on 8.5, with Russell Dive and Paul Garbett on 8. Kulashko and Garbett gained IM norms in that tournament.

The preliminary closing date for entries for the Championship and Major Open is November 30. Entry forms have been circulated through clubs, or are available from Paul Spiller, 59 Uxbridge Road, Howick, Auckland (tel 09 535 4962).

International Olympic Committee recognises FIDE

NZCF has received a copy of the certificate issued by the International Olympic Committee to FIDE after its recognition of the World Chess Federation. NZCF is taking steps to obtain from the relevant New Zealand bodies what effect, if any, this will have for chess in NZ.

The NZCF bulletin observes: "This is certainly a step in the right direction, but don't hold your breath!"

Open tournaments scheduled for 1999 and 2000

Details of each event are available from the organising club

All-Canterbury Championship, Christchurch, December 11-12.
NZ Championship & Major Open, Howick-Pakuranga CC, Auckland, Dec 28 - Sat, Jan 9.
NZ Rapid Championship, Howick-Pakuranga CC, Auckland, Sun-Mon, Jan 10-11, 2000.
South Island Championship, September, 2000, Otago CC.
NZ Championship & Major Open, 2000-2001, Waitemata CC, Auckland, Dec 28 - Jan 9.
NZ Rapid Championship, 2001, Waitemata CC, Jan 10-11, 2001.

Clubs are asked to supply details of 1999 and 2000 events as soon as dates are finalised

NZ team meets tough opposition in China. . .

A 5-player team travelled to Shenyang in Northern China in October to play in two events hosted by the Chinese Chess Association and the Shenyang Municipal Government as part of Shenyang's 1999 chess and bridge festival.

The team consisted of NM Peter Green, Nigel Hopewell, Paul Spiller, Hilton Bennett and Bob Gibbons, and the two events were the second World Cities Championship and the Asian team championship.

Bob Gibbons reports that the world teams event was won by the Russians from Kemerovo with the Chinese team from Handon second. Initially seeded 11th of the 14 teams competing, Auckland finished in 12th place. The event was extremely strong, with a quarter of the participants GMs and another quarter IMs. The average ratings of the teams was 2375, so it was difficult throughout. The accommodation and venue were excellent, but playing two rounds a

day proved gruelling.

The low point came early when our team snatched defeat out of the jaws of victory against Singapore, but they were able to reverse this later against the German team from Starnberg in a much more important match with a side bet of a dozen beer! The team finished level with Singapore on 11.5 points.

The Asian teams championship was equally tough, with 15 GMs and 25 IMs among the 70 players. Uzbekistan, with a score of 23/36, just won the tournament by half a point ahead of Kasakstan, India and the Philippines all on 22.5, China A and China B both on 22 and China C on 21.5.

New Zealand finished on 6, in 15th place among the 16 teams.

Although the going was tough, there was much of interest in the New Zealanders' games. A full report by Paul Spiller, along with a selection of games, will appear in the December

. . .and Ryan Trass also finds it tough in Vietnam

The field of 22 players in the 1999 Asian Junior Boys' Championship, played in Vung Tau, Vietnam, included five IMs and four FMs, and two-thirds of the field held FIDE ratings.

Top seeded was the Indian player, K Sasikiran (2536) and he ran out the winner with 8.5/11. Hidden strength in the field was revealed when Darwin Laylo, of the Philippines, who was unseeded, finished second on 8, ahead of Hafizulhimi Mas, of Malaysia.

Ryan Trass scored 2, with one win and two draws, but most of his games were well played.

There were 16 players in the girls' championship, two of them Women's International Masters and three WFM's. Yu Wang, of China, third seed on 2221 rating, won by going through unbeaten to score 10/11, ahead of Kieu Thien Kim Le, of Vietnam, on 9.5, and S Vijayalakshmi, of India on 8.5.

The boys' tournament winner lost one game, to the second seed. Here is that game, which featured sharp play on both sides:

Sasikiran,K – Mas,H

[E97]

R 8

1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 g6 3.♠c3 ♠g7 4.e4 d6 5.♠f3 0-0
6.♠e2 e5 7.♠e3 ♠g4 8.♠g5 f6 9.♠h4 ♠e8 10.0-0
♠c6 11.d5 ♠e7 12.♠d2 h5 13.h3 ♠h6 14.♠c1 c5
15.dxc6 bxc6 16.b4 ♠e6 17.♠b3 ♠d8 18.♠a5
d5 19.♠b7 ♠b8 20.♠c5 ♠f7 21.♠a6 ♠c8
22.cxd5 cxd5 23.cxd5 ♠d8 24.d6 ♠ef5 25.d7
♠c6 26.♠a4 ♠d6 27.♠e4 ♠d4 28.♠c8 ♠b6
29.♠c6 ♠xe4 30.♠xb6 axb6 31.♠d1 ♠d4
32.♠d3 ♠xh4 33.g3 ♠xh3 34.♠f1 ♠f3+ 35.♠g2
♠h2+ 36.♠xf3 ♠g4 37.♠g2 e4+ 38.♠xe4 f5+
39.♠f3 ♠e5+ 40.♠e3 ♠xg2 41.♠d4 ♠g4+
42.♠xg4 ffg4 43.♠c6 ♠h6+ 44.♠e2 ♠xf2+
45.♠e1 ♠d2+ 46.♠d1 ♠g5 47.♠c7 ♠f6 48.♠b5
♠d6+ 49.♠e1 ♠d8 50.♠e8 ♠e6+ 51.♠d2 ♠xe8
52.dxc8 ♠ ♠fxe8 0-1

Sarfati in Australia

Sonter,M – Sarfati,J

[C68]

Gold Coast Open, 1999

Notes by Jonathan Sarfati

1.e4 e5 2.♠f3 ♠c6 3.♠b5 a6 4.♠xc6 dxc6 5.0-0
♠d6 6.d4 exd4 7.♠xd4 ♠xd4 8.♠xd4 ♠d7 9.♠e3
0-0-0 10.♠c3 ♠d6 11.♠b3 b6 12.a4 a5 13.♠fd1
♠b7 14.♠d4 f6 15.♠d2 ♠e6 16.♠e2

White lacks outposts for his Ns, and is drifting.

16...♠e7 17.♠e3 ♠g6 18.♠d4 ♠c8 19.♠c4 ♠he8!
20.f3

20.♠xd6+ ♠xd6 21.f3 f5 with strong pressure.
20...♠f8 21.c3 e5 22.♠b5 ♠e6 23.♠ba3 h6 24.g3
f5 25.e5 ♠d5

25...♠xd1+ 26.♠xd1 ♠xc4 27.♠xc4 ♠xe5
would win a p, but relieves a lot of Black's
pressure, and the extra p is doubled.

26.f4 ♠e7 27.♠d2 ♠c6 28.♠b5 ♠xd2 29.♠xd2
♠f8

White's protected passed pe5 will be securely
blockaded by Ne6. Then Black can prepare g5,
with a clear plus because of his unopposed
light-squared B, and White's lack of counter-
play. If White tries to defend the K-side, then
Black could make use of his Q-side majority
supported by the B pair.

30.b4

This desperate move just loses a p and opens
lines for Black's Bs.

30...cxb4 31.cxb4 axb4 32.♠e3 ♠c5 33.♠f1 ♠e4
34.g4 g6 35.gxf5 gxf5 36.♠e1 ♠e6 37.a5 bxa5
38.♠xa5 ♠b6 39.♠a1 b3 40.♠c4 ♠d4 41.♠xd4
♠xd4 42.♠a5+ ♠c8 43.♠xb3 ♠xa1 and Black
won easily. 0-1

Here are the most successful games played by
Ryan Trass:

Nguyen,T – Trass,R

[B38] Symmetrical Variation

R 8

1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 e5 3.♠f3 g6 4.♠c3 ♠g7 5.e4 cxd4
6.♠xd4 d6 7.♠e2 0-0 8.0-0 ♠c6 9.♠e3 ♠d7
10.f3 ♠b6 11.♠a4 ♠a5 12.♠b5 ♠e6 13.♠c1 ♠d7
14.a3 a6 15.b4 ♠d8 16.♠d4 ♠xd4 17.♠xd4
♠xd4+ 18.♠xd4 ♠c8 19.♠c3 a5 20.♠fc1 axb4
21.axb4 ♠a8 22.♠d1 ♠e5 23.♠e3 ♠xc4 24.♠xc4
♠xc4 25.♠b6 ♠b5 26.♠xa8 ♠xa8 27.♠b3 e6
28.♠d1 ♠c8 29.♠b6 ♠a3 30.♠xb5 ♠xb3 31.♠f1
♠c2 32.h4 h6 33.♠h2 ♠b2 34.♠g1 ♠f6 35.♠h3
g5 36.♠d3 ♠f4 37.g3 g4+ 38.fxg4 ♠f2 0-1

Trass,R – Switzer,T

[A06] King's Indian Attack

R 3

1.♠f3 ♠f6 2.b3 d5 3.♠b2 ♠c6 4.e3 ♠f5 5.♠b5 a6
6.♠xc6+ bxc6 7.0-0 e6 8.♠d4 c5 9.♠xf5 exf5
10.♠f3 g6 11.c4 c6 12.♠c3 ♠g7 13.cxd5 ♠xd5
14.♠ac1 0-0 15.♠fd1 ♠b4 16.d4 cxd4 17.exd4
♠c8 18.a3 ♠d5 19.♠a4 ♠e8 20.♠c5 a5 21.g3
♠e7 22.♠c2 ♠h6 23.♠c1 f4 ½-½

Trass,R – Hoang,H

[B06] Pirc, Modern Defence

R 6

1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♠g7 3.f4 c6 4.♠f3 d5 5.e5 h5
6.♠d3 ♠h6 7.♠c3 ♠f5 8.♠e2 e6 9.c3 ♠d7 10.0-0
h4 11.♠g5 ♠f8 12.♠h1 ♠e7 13.♠g1 ♠xd3
14.♠xd3 ♠xg5 15.fxg5 ♠f5 16.♠f3 ♠e7 17.♠e3
0-0-0 18.♠f2 ♠b8 19.b4 ♠b6 20.a4 ♠c4
21.♠fe1 ♠a8 22.♠a2 ♠c8 23.a5 ♠h5 24.♠b1 b6
25.♠e2 ♠ch8 26.♠f1 ♠d8 27.♠c2 ♠e7 ½-½

2000 South I Championship in Dunedin, but others - where?

NZCF is still looking for venues for three
national tournaments next year - the North Is-
land Championship (July school holidays), the
NZ Junior Championship (July school holi-
days) and NZ Women's Championship (Easter
or Queen's Birthday weekend).

Next year's South Island Championship will
be held in Dunedin, as the Otago Club is cele-

brating its 125th anniversary. The 2000-2001
NZ Championship has been allocated to Wait-
emata CC, so two congresses in succession will
be held in Auckland.

Federation Council hopes clubs are giving
thought to the events not yet allocated, so deci-
sions about them can be made at the annual
meeting during the coming Congress.

Correspondence chess

By Gordon Hoskyn

Seven N.Z. correspondence players have Elo ratings exceeding 2,200 rating points.

NZCF President and life member Peter Stuart is not only a top-rank administrator, he is also a most accomplished correspondence player. Peter heads the national rating list with 2350 points. Even the in-form Bruce Barnard, who has won the last three NZ championships, plays second fiddle to Stuart.

Here are the leading players and their ratings: Stuart 2350, Barnard 2340, Michael Hampl 2335, Russell Dive 2285, John Barrance 2255, Maurice Heasman 2245 and Tim Doyle 2215.

The NZCCA master points list has also been updated by Peter Stuart, to include only those players active in the last 20 years. Nine players hold the NZ master title by amassing 25 or more master points. They are Michael Freeman 39.8 (an International Correspondence Master), Paul Garbett and Bob Smith 39.5, Michael Hampl 37.5, Peter Stuart 34.0, Bruce Barnard 33.5, Maurice Heasman 30.1, Russell Dive 30.0 and Roger Chapman 25.0 (also an ICM).

Michael Rocks retiring

Michael Rocks is to retire from the position of handicap tourney director and certificate tourney director at the end of the current season. After 10 years of outstanding service to both the association and the membership, Michael is to take a well-earned rest.

During his decade in the hot seat, many timely and necessary changes were introduced by him. Thank you, Michael, for a job very well done.

His successor will be Wellington's Philip Coghini, who has big shoes to fill, but carries the best wishes of the membership.

Trophy tourneys progress

Progress scores in the 1999-2000 trophy tourneys:

HP Whitlock Memorial Championship: LB Frost 6/8, GA Hoskyn 5/8, ML Dunwoody 3.5/5, TJ Doyle 3/4, BW Millar 3/5, PJ Voss 1.5/4, PAR Vetharanim 1/3, HP Bennett 1/3, PB Goffin .5/2, DJ Cooper .5/3, RJ Dive 0/2.

Reserve Championship: A Short 5/6, EN Roberts 3/4, EGA Frost 2.5/6, JC Rapp 2/4, GE Lovelock 1.5/3, CA Mold ½, JCX Rapp 1/3, BM Williams 1/3, KG Reed 0/1, RS Phillips 0/2.

TT 2: JCV Larsen 8/10, BJ Edwards 7.5/11, DE Dolejs 3/3, J Veldhuizen 2/6, W Anderson 1.5/6, EA Gidman 1.5/6, PC King 1.5/7.

TT 3: A N Hignett 6/7, CM Ford 5/5, GH Mills 4.5/8, RGA Taylor 4/6, PE Rossiter 3.5/5, PG Coghini 3/6, AW Hendry 2/4, LR Cotton 1.5/8, BG Sullivan .5/6.

TT 4: RR Trevis 4/5, A Clark 3/3, CL Ward 3/3, LI Purvis 0/4, SR Chowdhury 0/5.

Selected games

These games are from the current tourneys:

Dive,RJ – Frost,L
[A00]

66th NZCCA Champ, 1999

Notes by Jack Frost

1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4 4.e3 0-0 5.♗d3 c5 6.♗f3 d5 7.0-0 b6 8.cxd5 exd5 9.a3

Black gains early equality in this variation of the Nimzoindian. Whilst a3 is thematic, my preference would be Ne5 or dxc5.

9...♗xc3 10.bxc3 ♖a6 11.♗xa6 ♗xa6

There goes White's good B!

12.♖b2 c4 13.♗d2 ♗e8 14.♗e1

The Rubinstein variation is all about White gaining space and attacking the centre by pushing the e-p. Russell tries an unusual, though not completely unknown, way of facilitating this p push.

14...♗e6 15.♗f1

With the clear intention of continuing with Ng3.

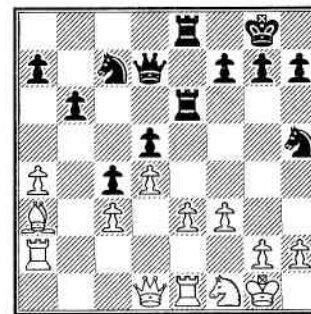
15...♗c7 16.f3 ♗e7 17.a4 ♗e8

Black is also eyeing that e4 p push!

18.♗a3 ♗d7 19.♗a2

Too slow! Ng3 was imperative.

19...♗h5!



Changes the whole strategy of the game. Prevents Ng3 and also allows Black's f-p to advance.

20.♗a2 f5

Unable to push his e-p, White's strategy is in tatters.

21.♗c2 ♗f7 22.g3 a6 23.h3 ♗f6

Slowly increasing the pressure on the White k's position.

24.♗g2 ♗g6 25.♗ee2 ♗e6 26.♗f2?

Adding a royal touch to the defence of the p line-up. A sad mistake, it is probable that 26.h4 could have extended the game.

26...f4! 27.g4

I think Russell had gambled on this move to relieve the pressure.

27...fxe3+

But if he had, he'd overlooked this one!

28.♗xe3 ♗ef4 29.♗h2 ♗xe3

If 30.Nxe3, Nd3+ wins quickly. Not 30.Kxd3, Nd3! And if 30. Qd2, Re2+.

30.♗xe3 ♗d3+ 31.♗g1 ♗e6 32.gxh5

Might as well take this N, there's no other defence.

32...♗xe3 33.♗e2 ♗e1 34.♗b2 ♗xf3+ 35.♗f2 ♗d2+!!

Mate in 2. If 36.Kxe4, Nf8++. 0-1

Frost,L – Voss,P

[B17]

66th NZCCA Championship, 1999

Notes by Jack Frost

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 dxe4 4.♗xe4 ♗d7 5.♗c4 ♗g6 6.♗g5 e6 7.♗e2 ♗b6 8.♗b3 h6 9.♗5f3 a5 10.a3 a4 11.♗a2 c5 12.♗f4 ♗bd5 13.♗e5 ♗a5+

14.♗d2 cxd4 15.♗g3 ♗e7 16.0-0

The d-p can wait. I wasn't about to enter a losing line.

16...0-0 17.♗fe1 b5

With the intention of controlling c4. Disastrously, Black's Q is now cut off from the main scene of action.

18.♗xd4 ♗d7 19.c3 ♗fe8 20.♗ad1 ♗a6 21.♖b1

Intending to centralise.

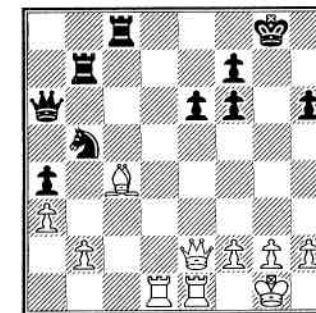
21...♗a7 22.♗d3 ♗b7 23.c4!

The c4 square proves vulnerable after all. As Tal remarked, in such positions, combinations are as natural as a baby's smile!

23...♗c7 24.♗e4 bxc4 25.♗xc4 ♖b5 26.♗xb5 ♗xb5 27.♗xf6

The sting in the tail, smashing Black's p shield.

27...♗xf6 28.♗xf6+ gxf6



29.♗d5

The R can't be taken. 29...exd5 30.Qg4+.

29...♗cb8 30.♗h5

Capitalising on the Q-side pins.

30...♗a5 31.♗e3 ♗f8 32.♗xh6+ ♗e7 33.♗e3 ♗b6 34.♗c5+ ♗d6 35.♗xe6+

An elegant sacrifice to fatally expose the Black K.

35...fxe6 36.♗h7+ ♗d8 37.♗h8+ ♗d7 38.♗xb5+ 1-0

Millar,B – Dunwoody,M
[D05]

66th NZCCA Champ, 1999

Notes by Murray Dunwoody

1.d4 d5 2.♁f3 ♁f6 3.e3 e6 4.♙d3 c5 5.c3 ♙d6
6.♁bd2 ♁bd7 7.0-0 ♖c7 8.♗e1 0-0 9.e4 dxe4
10.♁xe4 ♁xe4 11.♗xe4 c4 12.♙c2 ♗d8 13.♗h4
h6 14.♙d2 b5?

When I set up my board I thought White's Q was on e2. This was the way I had written it in my score book!!

15.♗g4 ♁f6 16.♖xh6 ♁xg4 17.♖h7+ ♔f8
18.♖h8+ ♔e7 19.♖xg7 ♙xh2+ 20.♔f1 ♙f4
21.♖xg4 ♙xc1 22.♗xc1

22.Qg5+ or Qh4+ would have been a better bet. Then White can play Rxc1. White has allowed Black to play 22.Rh8, which is a no-no at this stage of the game.

Kasparov beats The World

The Kasparov vs. the World chess match, which started on June 21, ended on October 23 with a victory for Kasparov. Over 3 million visitors from over 75 countries took part in the event.

The game was a fascinating one, much, much better than anyone had any right to expect, at least until the final stages. The event took place on the MSN network., and The World voted with the help of advisers Etienne Bacrot, 16, Florin Felecan, 19, Irina Krush, 15, and Elisabeth Pähtz, 14. GM Danny King acted as moderator.

The event finished controversially with accusations that some players used multiple votes to choose moves that caused a critical position for the World to become definitely lost. Subject to confirmation by Kasparov's analysis, 51...Ka1 was a clear draw.

When The World resigned, Kasparov had analysis to the final position which showed a forced win for him (mate in 25!).

Kasparov,G – The World [B52] Sicilian Internet game

1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 d6 3.♙b5+ ♙d7 4.♙xd7+ ♖xd7
5.c4 ♁c6 6.♁c3 ♁f6 7.0-0 g6 8.d4 cxd4 9.♁xd4
♙g7 10.♁de2 ♖e6 11.♁d5 ♖xe4 12.♁c7+ ♔d7
13.♁xa8 ♖xc4 14.♁b6+ axb6 15.♁c3 ♗a8 16.a4
♁e4 17.♁xe4 ♖xe4 18.♖b3 f5 19.♙g5 ♖b4

22...♗h8 23.♖g5+

Too late.

23...♔f8 24.♔g1 ♙b7 25.♖f6 ♗g8 26.♁g5 ♖e7
27.♁h7+ ♔e8 28.g3 ♔d8 29.♖e5 f5 30.♁f6 ♗g6
31.♁h5 ♖g5

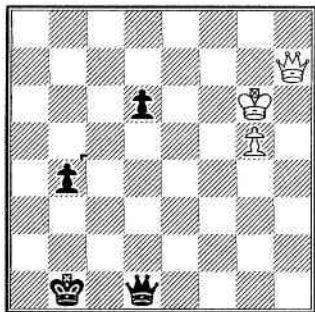
Now Black gets going.

32.♁f4 ♖h6 33.♖d6+ ♔e8 34.d5?

Brian had forgotten about the pin on his R on c1.

34...♗d8 35.♖e5 ♙xd5 0-1

20.♖f7 ♙d4 21.h3 ♗xa4 22.♗xa4 ♖xa4 23.♖xh7
♙xb2 24.♖xg6 ♖e4 25.♖f7 ♙d4 26.♖b3 f4
27.♖f7 ♙e5 28.h4 b5 29.h5 ♖c4 30.♖f5+ ♖e6
31.♖xe6+ ♔xe6 32.g3 fxg3 33.fxg3 b4 34.♙f4
♙d4+ 35.♔h1 b3 36.g4 ♔d5 37.g5 e6 38.h6 ♁e7
39.♗d1 e5 40.♙c3 ♔c4 41.♙xd4 exd4 42.♔g2 b2
43.♔f3 ♔c3 44.h7 ♁g6 45.♔e4 ♔c2 46.♗h1 d3
47.♔f5 b1 ♖ 48.♗xb1 ♔xb1 49.♔xg6 d2 50.h8 ♖
d1 ♖ 51.♖h7



51... b5

The position which became the subject of controversy, with analysis that 51...Ka1 would lead to a draw.

52.♔f6+ ♔b2 53.♖h2+ ♔a1 54.♖f4 b4 55.♖xb4
♖f3+ 56.♔g7 d5 57.♖d4+ ♔b1 58.g6 ♖e4
59.♖g1+ ♔b2 60.♖f2+ ♔c1 61.♔f6 d4 62.g7 1-0

1999 World Championship, Las Vegas

By NM Peter Stuart

The second FIDE knock-out style World Championship started on 31st July in Caesar's Palace in the world's gambling capital; probably an apt venue given the lottery effect of playing two-game matches. The total prize fund was three million dollars (NZD5.88m) of which 20% went into FIDE coffers. Of the remaining \$2.4m the 36 players eliminated in the first round each took home \$4800 and the 32 round 2 losers \$8640. The prize money then doubled round by round until the semi-finals (\$138,240). The losing finalist won \$316,000 and the new champion \$528,000.

Top players not there

Two notable late withdrawals were Anatoly Karpov and Alexander Morosevich, replaced by Vadim Milov and Alexei Dreev respectively. It was well known that Gary Kasparov and Vishy Anand would not be taking part as they had their own version of a championship match, though it now looks as though they will miss out on both events. Alexei Shirov, who won Kasparov's candidates series only to see Gary renege on the right to challenge for his title, was playing in Las Vegas, as was Gata Kamsky who chose a tough arena for a comeback after several years studying medicine.

The format for the first five rounds, up to the quarter-final stage, was for two-game matches using a Fischer time control of 40 moves in 100 minutes, 20 moves in 50 minutes, and all remaining moves in 10 minutes with additional time of 30 seconds for each move. If tie breaking was necessary then a pair of 25-minute rapid games were played followed, if necessary, by a pair of 15-minute rapid games; in all the rapid games each player gained an extra 10 seconds with each move. If there was still no result then the match went into sudden death blitz mode, White having 4 minutes to Black's 5 and both players receiving additional time of ten seconds per move. The semi-finals were of four normal games and the final was of six games.

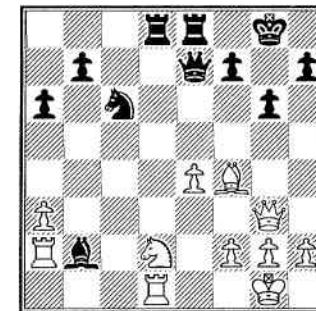
Rounds 1 and 2

There were only minor upsets in the first round though several of the higher rated players had to come back from first game defeats, most notably (at least in retrospect) Alexander Khalifman, who was well beaten by Dibyendu Barua (India) in their first game. Khalifman broke back, won the first tie-break game and lost the second, finally taking the 15-minute games 1½-½. Sergey Dolmatov was another who needed a win against a lower rated opponent in game 2:

Dolmatov – Kotsur

[B42] Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♁xd4 a6 5.♙d3 g6
6.c4 ♙g7 7.♁b3 ♁e7 8.♁c3 0-0 9.0-0 ♁bc6
10.♙f4 d5 11.cxd5 exd5 12.♖e2 d4 13.♁b1 ♁b4
14.♁1d2 ♁xd3 15.♖xd3 15.♖xd3 ♁c6 16.♁f3 ♗e8
17.♗fd1 ♙g4 18.a3 ♖e7 19.♁bd2 ♙xf3 20.♖xf3
d3 21.♖xd3 ♙xb2 22.♗a2 ♗ad8 23.♖g3?
23.♖e3.



23...♖xe4! 24.♗f1

24.♗xb2 ♖e1+ 25.♗xe1 ♗xe1+ 26.♁f1 ♗dd1
→.

24...♖c2 25.♖g5 ♗e2 26.h4 ♗dxd2 27.♙xd2
♗xd2 28.♗e1 ♗d1 29.♖e3 ♖b1 30.♗xd1 ♖xd1+
31.♔h2 ♖b1 1-0.

The 28 top seeded players entered the fray in round 2 and five of them were immediately eliminated: Kamsky, Sadler, Sakaev, Salov and Smirin. The American took full advantage of a Khalifman mistake in their first game but the Russian won the second game and took the 25 minute play-off games 1½-½. Veteran Viktor

Korchnoi had a WLWLWW sequence to end Dolmatov's interest in the event.

Kamsky - Khalifman
Game 1 [B83] Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 e6 6.♗e2 ♗c6 7.0-0 ♗e7 8.♗c3 0-0 9.f4 e5 10.♗xc6 bxc6 11.♔h1 ♗e6 12.♗f3 ♗c4 13.♗e1 ♗d7 14.b3 ♗a6 15.f5 ♗f6 16.g4 h6 17.g5 hxg5 18.♗xg5 ♗h7 19.♗c3 ♗b7 20.♗g1 ♗f6 21.♗g3 d5 22.exd5 cxd5 23.♗xd5 e4 24.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 25.♗e2 ♗xf5 26.♗d4 g5 27.♗f1 ♗g6 28.♗c4 ♗ac8 29.h4 ♗xc4 30.bxc4 g4 31.♗xg4 ♗xg4 32.♗g1 ♗xg1+ 33.♗xg1 f6 34.♗xa7 ♗f7 35.♗b8+ ♗g7 36.♗g3+ ♗h8 37.♗h6 1-0.

Khalifman - Kamsky
Game 2 [E15] Queen's Indian

1.♗f3 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.d4 b6 4.g3 ♗a6 5.b3 ♗b4+ 6.♗d2 ♗e7 7.♗g2 c6 8.♗c3 d5 9.♗bd2 0-0 10.♗c2 ♗bd7 11.e4 ♗c8 12.0-0 ♗xe4 13.♗xe4 dxe4 14.♗xe4 b5 15.c5! b4 16.♗xb4 ♗f6 17.♗e1 ♗d5 18.♗a5 ♗c8 19.♗e4 ♗xf1 20.♗xf1 ♗f6 21.h4 g6 22.h5 ♗d8 23.♗d2 f5 24.♗e2 gxf5 25.♗e1 ♗f6 26.♗h3 h6 27.♗h4 ♗f7 28.♗g2 ♗c7 29.♗f3 ♗g7 30.♗a6 ♗d7 31.♗xh5 ♗b8 32.♗f3 ♗h7 33.♗e5 ♗xe5 34.dxe5 ♗ff8 35.♗e2 ♗g8 36.♗g2 ♗g7 37.♗h1 f4 38.♗f3 ♗gf8 39.♗e4+ ♗f5 40.♗xf5+ exf5 41.♗h5 ♗g6 42.♗xg6+ ♗xg6 43.♗f3 ♗d8 44.♗xf4 h5 45.♗d1 ♗f7 46.♗h1 ♗g6 47.♗e1 ♗b4 48.♗e2 ♗d3 49.e6 ♗xc5 50.e7 ♗e8 51.♗c2 ♗d3 52.♗xc6+ ♗f7 53.♗d6 ♗xe7 54.♗xe7 ♗e5+ 55.♗f4 ♗xc6 56.♗c5 ♗e6 57.b4 a6 58.♗g5 ♗e5 59.♗xh5 ♗d5 60.♗g5 ♗e4 61.f4 ♗d3 62.♗e7 ♗b2 63.a3 ♗d1 64.a4 ♗c3 65.b5 axb5 66.a5 ♗d5 67.a6 1-0.

Shirov - Sokolov
Game 1 [C42] Petroff

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.♗xe5 d6 4.♗f3 ♗xe4 5.d4 d5 6.♗d3 ♗c6 7.0-0 ♗e7 8.♗e1 ♗g4 9.c4 ♗f6 10.♗c3 0-0 11.cxd5 ♗xd5 12.h3 ♗e6 13.a3 ♗f6 14.♗e4 ♗f5 15.♗b3 ♗b6 16.d5 ♗xe4 17.♗xe4 ♗e7 18.♗e3 ♗ec8 19.♗ac1 ♗d6 20.♗b1 ♗d7 21.♗c5 g6 22.♗ec1 ♗ac8 23.♗d4 a6 24.♗a2 ♗fe8 25.♗d3 ♗e4 26.♗a5 ♗d6 27.b4 ♗e5 28.♗f3 ♗b2 29.♗c2 ♗g7 30.♗c5 ♗d7 31.♗b3 ♗cd8 32.♗c3 ♗d6 33.♗ac5 ♗d7 34.♗d2 ♗f6 35.♗c4 ♗xc4 36.♗xc4 ♗e4 37.♗a5 ♗de7 38.♗b3 ♗e5 39.♗a4 ♗h2+ 40.♗f1

40.♗h1? ♗xf2+! 41.♗xf2 ♗c1+.
40...♗g3+! 41.♗e1 b5 42.♗c6 ♗e5 43.d6 cxd6

44.♗cxa6 ♗f5 45.♗xb5 ♗xc3 46.♗xe8??

46.fxc3 ♗a1+ 47.♗d2 ♗xe3 48.♗xe8 ♗xd3+ 49.♗xd3 is unclear.

46...♗a1+ 47.♗d2 ♗b2+ 0-1.

Korchnoi - Dolmatov
Game 1 [A88] Dutch

1.c4 f5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.g3 d6 4.d4 g6 5.♗g2 ♗g7 6.0-0 0-0 7.♗c3 c6 8.♗b3 ♗h8 9.♗d1 ♗a6 10.♗a3 ♗e8 11.b4 ♗c7 12.♗b2 e5 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.♗a5 ♗a6 15.b5 b6 16.♗a3 ♗c5 17.bxc6 e4 18.♗d4 ♗f7 19.♗ac1 ♗e6 20.♗cb5 a6 21.♗d6 ♗c7 22.♗b7 1-0.

Round 3

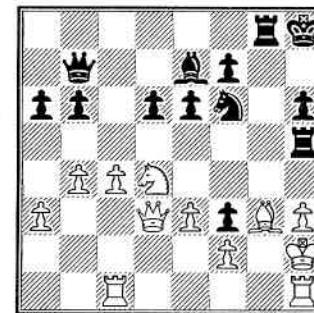
The full results were as follows (winners in bold): V.Korchnoi (SWI, 2676) - **V.Kramnik** (RUS, 2760) 1/2-1/2, 0-1; **V.Topalov** (BUL, 2690) - L.Psakhis (ISR, 2581) 1-0, 1/2-1/2; Z.Almasi (HUN, 2663) - **M.Adams** (ENG, 2708) 1/2-1/2, 0-1; S.Rublevsky (RUS, 2660) - **A.Dreev** (RUS, 2679) 1/2-1/2, 0-1; J.Timman (NED, 2650) - **A.Fedorov** (BLR, 2659) 0-1, 1/2-1/2; P.Leko (HUN, 2701) - **S.Movsesian** (CZE, 2659) 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 0-1, 1/2-1/2; **K.Georgiev** (BUL, 2650) - P.Svidler (RUS, 2684) 1-0, 1/2-1/2; E.Bareev (RUS, 2698) - **V.Akopian** (ARM, 2646) 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 0-1, 1/2-1/2; J.Magem (ESP, 2528) - **J.Polgar** (HUN, 2671) 1/2-1/2, 0-1; M.Krasenkov (POL, 2647) - **V.Zvjaginsev** (RUS) 0-1, 1/2-1/2; J.Lautier (FRA, 2638) - **B.Gelfand** (ISR, 2713) 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 0-1, 0-1; **A.Khalifman** (RUS, 2628) - K.Asrian (ARM, 2575) 1/2-1/2, 1-0; R.Leitao (BRA, 2574) - **L.Nisipeanu** (RUM, 2584) 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 0-1; **V.Ivanchuk** (UKR, 2702) - S.Shipov (RUS, 2658) 1-0, 1-0; A.Belyavsky (SLO, 2618) - **N.Short** (ENG, 2675) 0-1, 1/2-1/2; **A.Shirov** (ESP, 2734) - G.Milos (BRA, 2586) 1-0, 0-1, 1-0, 1-0.

In three of the four quarters (the results are given in draw order so the first four results belong to the top quarter, etc) the higher-rated player won every match but in the second quarter there were three "upsets" with Peter Leko becoming the second 2700+ (after Kamsky) to go, while Vladimir Akopian overcame a 52-point rating difference in disposing of the

highly-regarded Evgeny Bareev. The ultra-smooth progress of Vladimir Kramnik and Vassily Ivanchuk continued, both players looking to be in top form. This did not mean that progress was necessarily smooth for all the top seeds. Shirov, for example, looked to be weathering a severe storm in his second game but blundered in time trouble. As in round 2, however, he dominated the rapid games.

Shipov - Ivanchuk
Game 2 [E39] Nimzoindian

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♗b4 4.♗c2 c5 5.dxe5 0-0 6.a3 ♗xc5 7.♗f3 b6 8.♗g5 ♗b7 9.e3 h6 10.♗h4 ♗e7 11.♗d1 d6 12.♗e2 a6 13.0-0 ♗c7 14.♗d2 ♗bd7 15.♗fd1 ♗fd8 16.♗b1 ♗c5 17.♗c2 ♗ac8 18.♗d4 ♗ce4 19.♗f3 ♗xc3 20.♗xc3 ♗xf3 21.gxf3? ♗b7 22.♗g2 g5 23.♗g3 g4 24.h3 gxf3+ 25.♗h2 ♗h8 26.♗cc1 ♗c5 27.b4 ♗h5 28.♗h1 ♗g8 29.♗d3



29...♗xg3! 30.♗xg3
30.fxc3 ♗g4+ 31.♗g1 f2+.
30...♗g5+ 31.♗h4 ♗c4 0-1.

Round 4

In round four the 16 remaining players were playing for places in the quarter-finals which would guarantee almost \$70,000 to the losers. Safety first tactics were in evidence in most of the matches, leading to many draws and ultimate decisions coming in the rapid play-offs. The exception to this was the match between Shirov and Nigel Short which featured two complex fighting games. Two more 2700+ players departed, including unpredicable Ivanchuk who lost to the Rumanian surprise packet Liviu-Dieter Nisipeanu who turned 23

on the second day of the event. After three draws Ivanchuk uncorked an astonishing 13th move blunder with the black pieces and resigned on seeing White's reply.

The results: Topalov - **Kramnik** 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 0-1, 0-1; **Adams** - Dreev 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1-0, 1-0; **Movsesian** - Fedorov 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1-0, 1/2-1/2; Georgiev - **Akopian** 1/2-1/2, 0-1; **Polgar** - Zvjaginsev 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1-0, 1-0; **Khalifman** - Gelfand 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1-0, 1/2-1/2; **Nisipeanu** - Ivanchuk 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1/2-1/2, 1-0; **Shirov** - Short 1-0, 1/2-1/2.

Nisipeanu - Ivanchuk
Game 4 [C45] Scotch

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗c5 5.♗xc6 ♗f6 6.♗d2 dxc6 7.♗c3 ♗e7 8.♗e2 ♗f6 9.0-0 ♗xe4 10.♗xe4 ♗xe4 11.♗e1 0-0 12.♗d3 ♗d5 13.b4 ♗xf2+??

Presumably expecting 14.♗xf2?? ♗d4+ and 15...♗xa1 winning; alas...

14.♗xf2 1-0.

Shirov - Short
Game 1 [C11] French

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.♗g5 dxe4 5.♗xe4 ♗e7 6.♗xf6 gxf6 7.♗f3 ♗d7 8.♗c4 c5 9.0-0 0-0 10.♗e1 ♗b6 11.♗f1 cxd4 12.♗xd4 ♗h8 13.c3 e5 14.♗h5 ♗d5

But not 14...cxd4?? 15.♗xf6 ♗xf6 16.♗d3 mating.

15.♗ad1

15.♗e2 is intrinsically better but Shirov decides to stake everything on his attack.

15...cxd4 16.♗xd4 f5 17.♗g3 ♗c5 18.♗d2 ♗b6 19.♗c2

It would be nice to dissuade the ♗c5 from continuing its attack on f2 by playing 19.b4 but this runs into 19...♗xf2+! 20.♗xf2 ♗f6 21.♗g5 ♗g4 when White will simply be material down without an attack.

19...♗f6 20.♗e5 ♗g8 xe8+ ♗g7 24. 21.h3 ♗e8 22.♗xe8+ ♗xe8 23.♗b4 ♗c6

24...♗d6! 25.♗xd6! ♗xd6 26.♗xc8 ♗xg3! 27.♗xa8 ♗xc3 28.♗xa7 ♗xb4 would be a draw.

25.♗dd8 ♗b6 26.♗g8+ ♗f6

26...♗h6 27.♗xc8 ♗xc8 (forced, as 27...♗xc8? allows mate in 2) 28.♗xc8 ♗xc8 29.♗xf5+ ♗g5 is also probably drawn.

27.♖h5+ ♔e5 28.♖d3 ♗h6 29.♗e2 ♗c1+ 30.♖d1 ♗xc3 31.♗f3 ♗e6?!

Parrying the threatened mate in 2 but 31...♗d4 32.♗e8+ ♗e6 33.♗xa8 ♗b2 was a better way of doing it.

32.♗xa8 ♗xb4 33.♗e8 ♗d4

The threat was 34.♖d5 mate.

34.♖d8 ♗b6 35.a3 ♗a5

35...♗xa3? 36.♗e1+.

36.♖d2 f4 37.♗g4 ♗c4 38.♗e1+ ♗c3 39.♖dd1 ♗b3 40.♗b1 ♗c2 41.♗b4 f5

41...♗xa3 42.♗xf4.

42.♗f3 ♗e4 43.fxe3 ♗xf3 44.gxf3 ♗xa3 45.♗xf4 b6 46.♖d4 1-0.

Quarter-finals

Two more 2700+ players were eliminated in round 5, leaving just Michael Adams from the original seven. In the first knock-out championship arguably the two strongest players fought out the final, even if one had a free passage to that final. The lottery factor seemed not to be important but in Las Vegas it became much more evident.

One more high seed had to go as Adams was playing Kramnik; after 2 draws Kramnik won a pawn in each of the 25-minute games but Adams was able to hold both endings. It was Adams' turn in game 5; he gained an edge and was able to easily evade the complications Kramnik sought by an exchange sacrifice.

Perhaps the biggest upset of the entire event was the demise of Shirov at the hands of the previously scarcely known Nisipeanu. Both players were happy to split the first point and Shirov then gained an attacking position with the white pieces. He left his king too exposed, however, and Nisipeanu's counter attack carried the day. Khalifman won his first game against Judit Polgar who was unable to reciprocate in game 2, while Vladimir Akopian won the rapid play-off against Movsesian.

Detailed results: Kramnik - Adams ½-½, ½-½, ½-½, ½-½, 0-1, 0-1; Akopian - Movsesian ½-½, ½-½, 1-0, ½-½; Khalifman - Polgar 1-0, ½-½; Nisipeanu - Shirov ½-½, 1-0.

Khalifman - Polgar
Game 1 [D39] Queen's Gambit

1.♖f3 ♖f6 2.c4 e6 3.d4 d5 4.♗c3 dxc4 5.e4 ♗b4 6.♗g5 e5 7.♗xc4 cxd4 8.♗xd4 ♗xc3+ 9.bxc3 ♗a5 10.♗b5+ ♗d7 11.♗xf6 gxf6 12.♗b3 a6 13.♗e2 ♗c6 14.0-0 ♗c7 15.♗ab1 ♖a5 16.♗a3 ♗c8 17.c4 ♗c5

17...♗xc4? has been tried before in a 1988 game Eingorn-Yudasin which continued 18.♗xc4 ♗xc4 19.♖fd1 ♗c3 and now White could have obtained good attacking chances by playing 20.♗b3.

18.♗c3 e5 19.♗b3 ♗xb3 20.axb3 a5 21.♖fd1 ♗e6 22.h3 0-0 23.♗g3+ ♗h8 24.♗h4 ♗e7 25.♗g4 ♖g8 26.♖d3 ♖g5 27.♗xe6 ♗xe6 28.♗bd1 ♖cg8 29.♖d6! ♗c8

29...♖xg2? 30.♗f1 ♗e7 31.♖d7 ♗f8 (31...♗c6? 32.♖1d6) 32.♗xf6+ ♗g7 33.♗xg7+ ♖2xg7 34.♗xb7 is probably won for White.

30.g3 ♗g7 31.♖1d5 h6 32.♗xe5! ♖d8

32...♗xe5 33.♗xf6+ ♗f8 34.♗xe5 +-.

33.♖ed5 ♖xd6 34.♖xd6 ♖g6 35.♗f4 a4 36.bxa4 ♗xc4 37.♖d8 ♗c3 38.♗g2 ♗b4 39.♖a8 h5 40.♗b8 ♗xe4+ 41.♗h2 ♖g5 42.♗h8+ ♗g6 43.♖g8+ ♗f5 44.♗h7+

44... ♖g6 45.♗xh5+ ♖g5 46.♖xg5+ fxg5 47.♗xf7+ ♗e5 48.♗e7+ ♗f5 49.♗xe4+ is clear. 1-0.

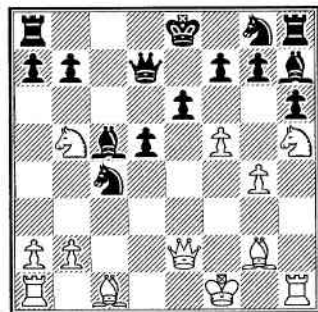
Shirov - Nisipeanu

Game 2 [B12] Caro-Kann

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♖f5 4.♗c3 e6 5.g4 ♗g6 6.♗ge2 c5 7.h4 h6 8.f4 ♗e7 9.♗g2 ♗xh4+ 10.♗f1 ♗e7 11.f5 ♗h7 12.♗f4 ♗d7

12...cxd4? 13.fxe6! dxc3 14.exf7+ ♗xf7 15.♗xd5+ ♗e8 16.♗xd8+ ♗xd8 17.♗xb7 and White wins the exchange.

13.♗h5 ♖f8 14.dxc5 ♗c6 15.♗b5 ♗xc5 16.c4 ♗xe5 17.♗e2 ♗xc4



18.♗xd5! ♗xb5

Obviously the bishop cannot be taken.

19.♗xc4 ♗b6 20.fxe6 0-0-0 21.exf7 ♗e7 22.♗c6+ ♗b8 23.♖f4+ ♗a8 24.♗xb6 axb6 25.♗e5 ♗hf8! 26.♗e2

26.♗xg7 ♗d3+ 27.♗xd3 ♗xf7+ 28.♖f5 ♗xf5 29.gxf5 ♗xf5+ 30.♗e1 ♖dd5 31.♗f6 ♖fe5+ 32.♗f1 ♖f5+ with a draw by perpetual check.

26...♗d5 27.♗hf1?

27.♗xg7 ♗xf7 28.♗e6 ♖f2+ (28...♗e7!? 29.♗xd8 ♗xe5+ 30.♗d2 ♗e3+ 31.♗d1 ♖f4) 29.♗e1 ♗b4 30.♗xc5 ♖dd2 31.♖c1 and Black draws by either 31...♗d3+ or 31...♗d3. After the text move Black is winning.

27...♗e3 28.♗b5 ♗xf1 29.♖xf1 ♗g6 30.♖f4 ♗d6 31.♗xd6 ♖xd6 32.♗c4 b5 33.♗b3 ♗d3+ 34.♗e3 g5 35.♖f2 ♗c4 36.♗xc4 bxc4 37.♗e4 ♖d7 38.♖f6 ♖xf7 39.♖xh6 ♖fe7+ 40.♗f5 ♖d5+ 41.♗g6 ♖e2 0-1.

Semi-finals

Michael Adams impatiently sacrificed a piece in game 1 against Akopian. Both players made mistakes with Adams unfortunately making the last one. After a draw in game 2 Adams made no headway with white in game 3 against Akopian's French Defence. Indeed Akopian gained the advantage and was able to end the match with no need for the fourth game. Thus the last of the 2700+ players was gone!

In the other match both players missed better chances in the first game with nerves and tiredness now playing a major role. The second game was quietly drawn and, after a rest day, Khalifman inflicted upon Nisipeanu his first defeat of the whole tournament. The Rumanian, however, came back to win a fine endgame after a serious mistake by Khalifman so the rapid play-off would decide. Khalifman won the first rapid game after a poor opening by Nisipeanu, which drew some nasty criticism from Gary Kasparov. The reverse happened in the next game but Nisipeanu was unable to capitalise on his undoubted endgame advantage.

Adams - Akopian

Game 3 [C07] French

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗d2 c5 4.♗gf3 cxd4 5.exd5 ♗xd5 6.♗c4 ♗d6 7.0-0 ♖f6 8.♗b3 ♗c6 9.♗bxd4

♗xd4 10.♗xd4 a6 11.♗e1 ♗c7 12.♗b3 ♗d7 13.♗f3 ♗d6 14.h3 0-0-0 15.c3 h6 16.a4 ♗b8 17.♗e2 g5 18.♗e3 ♗h2+ 19.♗h1 ♖f4 20.♗xf4 gxf4 21.♗e5 ♗xe5 22.♖xe5 ♗c6 23.♖d1 ♖hg8 24.f3 ♗d5 25.♗c2 ♗c7 26.h4 ♗d6 27.♖ce1 ♗c7 28.a5 ♗h5 29.♗h2 ♖g3 30.♗a4 ♗c6 31.♗b3 ♗d5 32.♗a4 ♗c6 33.♗xc6 bxc6 34.♗c2 ♖d5 35.♖xd5 cxd5 36.♗d3 ♖b8 37.b4 ♗b7 38.c4 dxc4 39.♗xc4 ♗a7 40.♖b1 ♖c8 41.♗b3 ♖c3 42.♗a4 e5 43.♗e8 f5 44.h5 e4 45.fxe4 fxe4 46.♗g6 e3 47.♗h3 e2 48.♗g4 ♖f1 49.♗xf4 ♗e3 50.♗f3 e1 ♗ 51.♖xe1 ♗c2+ 52.♗f2 ♗xe1 53.♗xe1 ♖c4 54.♗f2 ♖xb4 55.♗f3 ♖a4 56.g4 ♖xa5 57.♖f5 ♖b5 58.♗f4 a5 59.g5 ♖b4+ 60.♗e4 hxg5+ 61.♗f5 g4 62.h6 g3 63.h7 ♖b8 64.♗f4 a4 65.♗xg3 a3 0-1.

Khalifman - Nisipeanu

Game 3 [E12] Queen's Indian

1.d4 ♖f6 2.♗f3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.a3 ♗a6 5.♗c2 ♗b7 6.♗c3 c5 7.e4 cxd4 8.♗xd4 ♗c6 9.♗xc6 ♗xc6 10.♗f4 ♗h5 11.♗e3 ♗b8 12.g3 ♗c5 13.♗xc5 bxc5 14.0-0-0 ♖f6 15.f4 0-0 16.♗g2 e5 17.f5 ♗d8 18.♖f3 ♖b8 19.♖d2 g6 20.♖d1 ♗h8 21.g4 gxf5 22.exf5 ♗xf3 23.♖xf3 ♗xg4 24.f6 ♗xf6 25.♗f5 ♖b6 26.♗xe5 ♖e8 27.♗xc5 ♗e7 28.♗xe7 ♖xe7 29.c5 ♗c6 30.b4 a5 31.♗c2 axb4 32.axb4 ♗g7 33.♗b3 ♖e5 34.♖d2 ♖ce6 35.♖f5 ♗g6 36.♖xe5 ♖xe5 37.b5 ♖e3

37...♖xc5 38.♖xf6+!
38.♖e2 ♖f3 39.b6 ♗d5 40.b7 ♖xc3+ 41.♗b2 ♖c4 42.b8 ♗ 1-0.

Nisipeanu - Khalifman

Game 4 [C45] Scotch

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.d4 exd4 4.♗xd4 ♗c5 5.♗xc6 ♗f6 6.♗d2 dxc6 7.♗c3 ♗e7 8.♗f4 ♗e6 9.♗d3 0-0 10.0-0 ♖g6 11.♗g5 ♗e5 12.♗xe5 ♗xe5 13.♗e2 ♗g4 14.♗xg4 ♗xg4 15.h3 ♖f6 16.♖e1 ♖fe8 17.♗f1 ♗b4 18.f3 ♖ad8 19.♖f4 ♖d7 20.♖ad1 ♗xc3 21.bxc3 ♖ed8 22.♖xd7 ♖xd7 23.♗e2 ♗f8 24.g4 ♗e8 25.h4 ♗d6 26.h5 ♗b5 27.♗d2 f6 28.♖g1 h6 29.♖d1 ♗e7 30.♗e1 ♖xd1 31.♗xd1 c5 32.♗d2 ♗d6 33.♗d3 ♖f7 34.f4 b6 35.c4 ♗e6 36.♗g3 ♗e7 37.♗h4 ♗e8 38.♗e1 ♗d7 39.♗d2 ♗e7 40.♗c1 ♗e6 41.♗b2 c6 42.♗c3 b5 43.♗e1 ♗d6 44.cxb5 cxb5 45.♗f2 ♗b7 46.f5+ ♗f7 47.e5 fxe5 48.♗e4 b4 49.♗xe5 c4 50.♗d5 ♗a5 51.♗d4 a6 52.♗e5 ♗g8 53.♗c5 b3 54.axb3 cxb3 55.c4 ♗f7 56.♗d5 ♗e7 57.c5 ♗d7 58.♗xg7 ♗c6 59.♗e4 1-0.

The Final

The final match of six games between Alexander Khalifman and Vladimir Akopian took place from 22nd to 28th August, there

1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Khalifman	1	½	0	1	½	3½

being one rest day between rounds 3 and 4.

The first game was a debacle for Akopian who soon had to give up a piece to stay in the game. Whereas Khalifman had lost four games along the way, this was the first suffered by Akopian. Shades of Tigran Petrosian! The Armenian broke back in his next white game, determinedly grinding out a win from a drawn rook ending but game 4 saw Khalifman once again recover from a loss by winning the next game, perhaps the best of the match. The remaining two games were full-on fights too but in the end no further blood was spilled. We give all six games:

Akopian - Khalifman

Game 1 [A15] English

1.♠f3 ♠f6 2.c4 g6 3.b4 ♠g7 4.♠b2 0-0 5.g3 d6 6.♠g2 e5 7.d3 ♠h5 8.♠c3 f5 9.0-0 ♠c6 10.b5 ♠e7 11.e4 c5 12.bxc6 bxc6 13.c5 d5 14.exd5 cxd5 15.♠b3 e4 16.dxe4 fxe4 17.♠xe4 ♠xb2 18.♠xb2 dxe4 19.♠g5 ♠f5 20.♠xe4 ♠b8 21.♠c3 ♠d5 22.♠a3 ♠xe4 23.♠xe4 ♠hf6 24.♠f3 ♠c7 25.♠ac1 ♠e7 26.c6 ♠f5 27.♠c3 ♠bc8 28.♠fe1 ♠g7 29.♠cd1 ♠c7 30.♠e6 h5 31.♠e5 ♠h7 32.h3 ♠g8 33.♠e4 ♠f6 34.♠e5 ♠g8 35.♠e4 ♠f6 36.♠xf6 ♠xf6 37.♠b4 ♠e7 38.♠b8 ♠d6 39.g4 hxg4 40.hxg4 ♠f7 41.♠g2 ♠g7?

Unnecessary. After 41...♠g5 42.♠h1+ ♠g7 43.♠h8+ ♠f7 White's attack has petered out.

42.♠e1?

White fails to take advantage of his opponent's inaccuracy; he gets good drawing chances by 42.♠b1 intending 43.♠b7.

42...♠d8 43.♠b2 ♠g5 44.♠e3 ♠d6 45.♠a3 ♠xa3 46.♠xa3 ♠f7 47.♠e2 ♠c6 48.♠a4 ♠d5 49.♠f3 ♠e7 50.♠g3 ♠f6 51.♠c4 ♠e5 52.♠c1 ♠d4 53.♠e1+ ♠f6 54.♠g2 ♠exc6 55.f4 ♠e7 56.♠f1

♠c3+ 57.♠g2 ♠c2 0-1.

Khalifman - Akopian

Game 2 [E38] Nimzoindian

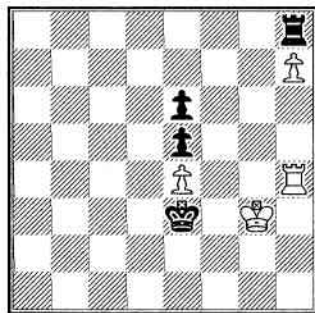
1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 e6 3.♠c3 ♠b4 4.♠c2 c5 5.dxc5 ♠c7 6.♠f3 ♠xc5 7.g3 ♠b6 8.e3 ♠e7 9.♠g2 a6 10.0-0 ♠c7 11.b3 d6 12.♠b2 ♠bd7 13.♠g5 ♠b8 14.♠ac1 0-0 15.♠fd1 b6 16.♠ce4 ♠xe4 17.♠xe4 ♠b7 18.♠c3 ½-½.

Akopian - Khalifman

Game 3 [B51] Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.♠f3 ♠c6 3.♠b5 d6 4.0-0 ♠d7 5.c3 ♠f6 6.♠e1 a6 7.♠a4 c4 8.d4 cxd3 9.♠g5 ♠e5 10.♠hd2 ♠xa4 11.♠xa4+ b5 12.♠d4 h6 13.♠xf6 gxf6 14.a4 ♠b8 15.♠xe5 dxe5 16.♠a7 ♠a8 16...♠b6 17.♠xb6 ♠xb6 18.axb5 axb5 19.♠a8+ ♠d7 20.♠eal ♠c6 (20...♠g7 21.♠xh8 ♠xh8 22.♠a8 ♠g7 23.♠g8 ♠a6 24.f3 ♠a2 25.♠f2 +-; 20...h5 21.♠a7+ ♠e6 22.♠e8 +-) 21.♠b8 is clearly better for White.

17.♠b7 ♠c8 18.♠d5 ♠b8 19.axb5 axb5 20.♠xd3 h5 21.♠f1 ♠d7 22.♠e2 e6 23.h4 ♠c5 24.♠g3 ♠e7 25.♠ed1 ♠c6 26.♠d3 ♠bd8 27.♠xd8 ♠xd8 28.♠xh5 ♠g8 29.♠a5 b4 30.♠b5 ♠c8 31.♠g3 bxc3 32.bxc3 ♠xb5 33.♠xb5 ♠a3 34.♠e2 ♠c5 35.g4 ♠d6 36.♠g2 ♠c6 37.♠b2 f5 38.f3 ♠h8 39.♠g3 ♠e7 40.h5 fxe4 41.fxe4 f5 42.♠f3 fxe4+ 43.♠xe4 ♠g8+ 44.♠h3 ♠h8 45.♠g3 ♠g5 46.♠h2 ♠c5 47.♠g4 ♠f4 48.♠h3 ♠c4 49.♠f1 ♠f8 50.♠h2 ♠g8+ 51.♠f3 ♠xh2 52.♠xh2 ♠xc3 53.h6 ♠d3 54.h7 ♠f8+ 55.♠g3 ♠h8 56.♠h4 ♠e3



57.♠g2 ♠d3 58.♠f3 ♠d4 59.♠e2 ♠c5 60.♠d3 ♠d8+ 61.♠c3 ♠h8 62.♠h5 ♠d6 63.♠b4 ♠b8+ 64.♠c4 ♠h8 65.♠h1 ♠c6 66.♠h2 ♠d6 67.♠b4 67.♠b5 allows the stalemate combination

67...♠xh7!

67...♠c6 68.♠c4 ♠d6 69.♠a2 ♠e7 70.♠c5 ♠c8+ 71.♠b6 ♠h8?

71...♠f6 draws quite comfortably.

72.♠h2 ♠d6?

72...♠f6 73.♠c7 ♠g6 74.♠d6 and the pawn ending would be easily won for White; but 72...♠d7! 73.♠d2+ ♠e8! 74.♠d6 ♠xh7 75.♠xe6+ ♠e7 76.♠h6 ♠d7 is an easy draw. After 72...♠d6 Black is lost.

73.♠d2+ ♠e7 74.♠c7 ♠f6 75.♠h2 ♠g5

75...♠e7 76.♠h1 puts Black in zugzwang.

76.♠d6 ♠f6

76...♠f4 77.♠xe6 ♠xe4 78.♠h4+ ♠f3 79.♠xe5 is also hopeless

77.♠d7 ♠f7 78.♠h3 ♠f6 79.♠h1 ♠f7 80.♠h4 ♠f6 81.♠h1 ♠f7 82.♠f1+ ♠g7 83.♠e7 ♠a8

[83...♠xh7 84.♠f7+ ♠g6 85.♠xh7 ♠xh7 86.♠xe6 ♠g7 87.♠xe5 ♠f7 88.♠d6+-.

84.h8♠+! 1-0.

Khalifman - Akopian

Game 4 [E92] King's Indian

1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 g6 3.♠c3 ♠g7 4.e4 d6 5.♠e2 0-0 6.♠f3 e5 7.♠e3 exd4 8.♠xd4 ♠e8 9.f3 c6 10.♠f2 d5 11.exd5 cxd5 12.0-0 ♠c6 13.c5 ♠h5 14.♠d2 ♠e5 15.g3 ♠g7 16.♠fd1 ♠e6 17.♠xe6 fxe6 18.f4 ♠f6 19.♠b5 ♠e7 20.♠ac1 a6 21.♠d4 ♠f6 22.♠f3 ♠a5 23.♠xa5 ♠xa5 24.b4 ♠c6 25.♠b1 h6 26.a4 g5 27.fxe5 hxg5 28.g4 ♠e5 29.♠xe5 ♠xe5 30.♠e3 ♠f8 31.♠f1 ♠f4 32.♠xf4 gxf4 33.♠f3 ♠f7 34.a5 ♠d8 35.♠be1 d4 36.♠e4 d3 37.♠d1 d2 38.♠fxf4 ♠xf4 39.♠xf4 ♠e8 40.♠f2 ♠c7 41.h4 e5 42.♠c4 ♠d5 43.♠f3 ♠f8+ 44.♠e2 ♠d8 45.♠f3 ♠f8+ 46.♠e2 ♠d8 47.♠c2 ♠f4+ 48.♠e3 ♠d5+ 49.♠e2 ♠f4+ 50.♠f3 ♠f7 51.c6 bxc6 52.♠xc6 ♠d3+ 53.♠e4 ♠e7 54.h5 ♠d4+ 55.♠xe5 ♠xb4 56.♠c7+ ♠f8 57.♠d7 ♠g2 58.h6 ♠g8 59.g5 ♠e3 60.g6 ♠b5+ 61.♠e4 1-0.

Akopian - Khalifman

Game 5 [C90] Ruy Lopez

1.e4 e5 2.♠f3 ♠c6 3.♠b5 a6 4.♠a4 ♠f6 5.d3 b5 6.♠b3 ♠e7 7.0-0 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.♠e1 ♠a5 10.♠c2 c5 11.♠bd2 ♠c6 12.♠f1 ♠e8 13.h3 h6 14.♠g3 ♠f8 15.d4 cxd4 16.cxd4 exd4 17.♠xd4 ♠xd4 18.♠xd4 ♠e6 19.♠f4 ♠c8 20.♠b3 a5 21.♠ad1 a4 22.♠xe6 ♠xe6 23.♠c1 g6 24.♠d3 ♠xc1 25.♠xc1 ♠d7 26.b3 axb3 27.axb3 ♠b7 28.♠d2 ♠xe4 29.♠xe4 ♠xe4 30.♠xh6 ♠xh6 31.♠xh6 ♠e8 32.♠d2 ♠e5 33.♠d1 ♠c8 34.f4 ♠c3 35.♠xd6

♠xb3 36.f5 ♠c3+ 37.♠h2 ♠c5 38.fxe6 ♠xd6+ 39.♠xd6 ♠b8 40.gxf7+ ♠xf7 41.♠d3 b4 42.♠b3 ♠e6 43.g4 ♠d5 44.h4 ♠c4 45.♠b1 b3 46.h5 ♠d5 47.h6

47.♠g3 ♠e5 48.♠h4 ♠f6 49.g5+ ♠g7 50.♠g4 ♠b4+ is also drawn.

47...♠e6 48.h7 ♠h8 49.♠xb3 ½-½.

Khalifman - Akopian

Game 6 [A77] Modern Benoni

1.d4 ♠f6 2.♠f3 e6 3.e4 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.exd5 d6 6.♠c3 a6 7.a4 g6 8.♠d2 ♠bd7 9.e4 ♠g7 10.♠e2 0-0 11.0-0 ♠e8 12.♠c2 ♠b8 13.♠a3 ♠e7 14.h3 h6 15.a5 g5 16.♠c4 ♠e5 17.♠xe5 ♠xe5 18.f4 ♠d4+ 19.♠h2 b5 20.axb6 ♠xb6 21.e5 dxe5 22.fxe5 hxg5 23.♠xg5 e4 24.♠a4 ♠d6 25.♠g3 ♠xd5 26.♠h5 ♠f8 27.♠c3 ♠h8 28.♠xf7 ♠xf7 29.♠xf7 ♠e5 30.♠xd5 ♠xd5 31.♠xd5 ♠xd5 32.♠d2 ♠xd2 33.♠xd2 ♠h7 34.♠c3 ♠f4 35.♠e1 e3 36.♠g1 ♠xg3 37.♠xg3 a5 38.♠f4 e2 39.♠f2 ♠b7 40.♠xe2 ♠xg2 ½-½.

Kasparov's references to "tourists" notwithstanding, the players who came out on top, Khalifman and Akopian, fully deserved their success. The new champion, in particular, twice had to come back from behind in two-game matches early in the competition. Certainly if there had been fewer players and longer matches the results might have been different, but the new champion does, after all, hold his title for just twelve months. Perhaps it is just a matter of us not taking the whole business of world championships quite as seriously as we used to in the days of Candidates matches and 24-game title matches.

Our sub-zone a "fiasco"

FIDE's decision to create the new sub-zone which includes New Zealand has attracted unfavourable international attention because of the results of the first zonal which was played. Here's what the *British Chess Magazine* said: "The creation of a 'sub-zone' (comprising Australia, New Zealand and Fiji) at the 1998 FIDE Congress has backfired disastrously. A weak, excessively large zonal tournament in Queensland in April resulted in no less than 15 players making FIDE master and international titles, due to the application of FIDE rules more applicable to world class events. Peter Parr, former

Overseas news

By NM Peter Stuart

Biel

The GM tournament at this year's Biel Chess Festival was a six-player double round-robin of category 14 in which Dutch GM Jeroen Piket snuck home with first prize in a close finish.

Viktor Bologan was the early leader after winning his first two games, but he was unable to win another. The lead then oscillated between Piket and the Israeli GM Boris Avrukh with their mutual encounters proving decisive. Piket won both games, in rounds 5 and 9, each time wresting the lead from his rival. Top rated Alexander Onischuk started slowly with 1/3 and gradually clawed his way back into contention but ran out of rounds.

Scores: 1 GM Piket (NLD) 7; 2 GM Avrukh (ISR) 6½; 3 GM Onischuk (UKR) 6; 4 GM Bologan (MDA) 5; 5 IM Pelletier (SWI) 3½; 6 Bunzmann (GER) 2.

Avrukh – Onischuk [A86] Dutch

1.d4 f5 2.g3 3.♘g2 g6 4.c4 ♘g7 5.♗c3 0-0 6.♗h3 d6 7.♗g5 e6 8.♗d2 e5 9.d5 c5 10.e4 ♖e8 11.exf5 gxf5 12.♗h6 a6 13.♗xg7 ♗xg7 14.0-0 b5 15.b3 b4 16.♗a4 ♗d8 17.♗g5 ♗a7 18.♗e6+ ♗xe6 19.dxc6 f4 20.♗ad1 ♗e8 21.♗xc5 ♖e7 22.♗e4 ♖xe6 23.♗fe1 ♗c6 24.gxf4 ♗h8 25.♗g3 ♖c8 26.♗xc6 ♖xc6 27.fxg5 dxe5 28.♗d5 ♗xd5 29.♗xd5 ♗f6 30.♗dx5 a5 31.♗f5 ♗a6 32.♗e7 a4 33.♗b7 a3 34.♗xb4 ♗d8 35.♗e5 ♗g4 36.♗e4 ♗g6 37.c5 h5 38.♗b6 ♗gg8 39.h3 1-0.

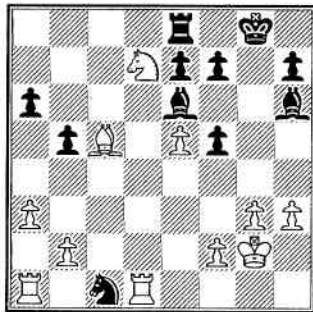
Avrukh – Piket [D45] Queen's Gambit

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.e3 e6 5.♗f3 ♗bd7 6.♖c2 ♗d6 7.b3 0-0 8.♗b2 b6 9.♗d3 ♗b7 10.0-0 ♗c8 11.♗ad1 ♖c7 12.e4 dxc4 13.♗xc4 e5 14.♗e2 c5 15.dxc5 ♗xe5 16.♗xe5 ♗xe5 17.♗xe5 ♖xc5 18.f3 ♗fd8 19.♗d3 g6 20.♗fd1 ♗xd3 21.♖xd3 ♗g7 22.♖c3 ♖xc3 23.♗xc3 ♗c6 24.♗b5 ♗xb5 25.♗xb5 ♗c7 26.♗d8 g5 27.♗f2 ♗e7 28.♗e3 ♗h5 29.g3 ♗f6 30.g4 h5 31.h4 gxh4 32.g5 ♗h7 33.f4 h3 34.♗c4 h2 35.♗d1 f6 36.g6 ♗xg6 37.♗h1 f5 38.♗xh2 ♗f6 39.♗d2 ♗xe4+ 40.♗f3 ♗d4 41.♗g2+ ♗h6 42.♗f7 ♗g4 43.♗g3 h4+ 44.♗xh4 ♗xf4 45.♗g3 ♗g5 46.♗e2 ♗e4

47.♗d2 f4+ 48.♗g2 ♗d4 0-1.

Piket – Avrukh [D97] Grünfeld

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 c5 10.dxc5 ♗e6 11.♖c2 ♗c6 12.0-0 ♖c7 13.h3 ♗b4 14.♖b1 ♖xc5 15.♗e3 ♖c8 16.♗c1 ♖b7 17.♗d4 ♗c4 18.a3 ♗c6 19.♗xc6 ♖xc6 20.♗f3 ♗d6? 21.♗d1 ♖c5 22.♗d4 ♖e6 23.e5 ♗d5 24.♗c4 ♗f4 25.♗c5 ♖f5 26.♖xf5 gxf5 27.♗xa8 ♗e2+ 28.♗h1 ♗xa8 29.♗d7 ♗c6 30.♗c5 ♗e8 31.g3 ♗h6 32.♗g2 ♗c1



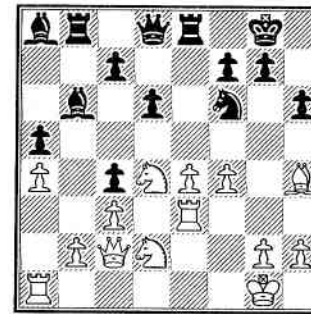
33.♗xe7! ♗xe7 34.♗f6+ ♗g7 35.♗d8 ♗d2 36.♗xd2 ♗b3 37.♗d8 ♗xa1 38.♗g8+ ♗h6 39.g4 fxg4 40.hxg4 ♗xg4

40...Bd5+ 41.Kg1 Rxe5 42.f4 Re1+ 43.Kf2 +.

41.♗xg4+ ♗h5 42.♗f6+ ♗h6 43.f4 ♗c2 44.♗g4+ ♗h5 45.♗g3 1-0.

Bologan – Piket [C65] Ruy Lopez

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗b5 ♗f6 4.0-0 ♗c5 5.c3 0-0 6.d4 ♗b6 7.♗g5 h6 8.♗h4 d6 9.a4 a5 10.♗e1 exd4 11.♗xc6 bxc6 12.♗xd4 ♗e8 13.♗d2 c5 14.♗c2 ♗b7 15.f4 e4+ 16.♗d4 ♗b8 17.♗e3 ♗a8 18.♖c2



18...♗d5! 19.♗xd8 ♗xe3 20.♖b1 ♗bxd8 21.h3

21.Kf2 Ng4+ 22.Kg1 Ne3 23.Kf2 =

22.♖a2 ♗xe4 23.♗xc4 ♗d5 24.b3 ♗xd4 25.cxd4 ♗xg2 26.♖f2 ♗e6 27.♗xa5 ♗de8 28.♗c4 ♗g6 29.♗h2 ♗xf4 30.♗g1 ♗xg1 0-1.

Women's world championship

Just as the Las Vegas event featured sometimes acrimonious argument between FIDE and defending champion Anatoly Karpov, to say nothing of earlier problems involving Messrs Bobby Fischer and Gary Kasparov, so this year's Women's title match had its share of controversy.

Zsuzsa Polgar (Hungary) won the title in 1996 by defeating then champion Xie Jun of China.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Total	
Xie Jun	CHN	2528	½	1	0	½	1	0	½	½	1	½	1	0	½	1	½	-	8½
Galliamova	RUS	2556	½	0	1	½	0	1	½	½	0	½	0	1	½	0	½	-	6½

Shenyang

GMs Alexei Dreev (RUS) and Ye Jiangchuan (CHN) shared first place in a category 13 round-robin in July with 6/9. Michal Krasenkov (POL) and Peng Xiaomin (CHN) tied for third place on 5½.

British Championship, Scarborough

Julian Hodgson ran away with the British Championship, a quick draw in the final round seeing him still a full point ahead of his closest

The Women's Candidates tournament was played in December 1997 at Groningen, alongside the preliminary stages of the first World Championship played on the knock-out system. This event was won by Alisa Galliamova with Xie Jun taking second place. Thus this year's title match should have been between Polgar as champion and Galliamova as challenger.

The Hungarian, however, had recently given birth and sought a six-month postponement, something FIDE apparently could not live with. Unfortunately the only bid for the new match between Galliamova and Xie Jun came from China and Galliamova refused to play the entire match in her opponent's home territory so it looked as though Xie Jun was going to win the title by default.

In the end a split venue match was arranged with half the match being played in Galliamova's home town Kazan and the other half in Shenyang which appears to be becoming a Chinese version of Elista.

The first half of the best-of-16 game match was played in Kazan starting on 30th June. Twice did Xie Jun take the lead but both times Galliamova immediately equalized the scores. The home advantage weighed more heavily in the second half and Xie Jun regained her title with a game to spare:

pursuers.

Unfortunately for the organisers the event partially coincided with the Las Vegas World Championship so there was no question of the participation of Michael Adams, Matthew Sadler, Nigel Short, Jon Speelman or Tony Miles.

With Commonwealth players eligible to take part, this year's field reached 92 players. In sharing second place with GM Peter Wells on 8 points, the Bangladesh IM Ziaur Rahman

gained a GM norm as did Scottish number one Jonathan Rowson who shared fourth place on 7½ points.

Kozalin

A very strong 10-round Open in this Polish town featured no fewer than 49 GMs in a field of 74 players. American GM Alexander Shabalov won first prize with 8 points. Sharing second were GMs Alexandre Lesiège (CAN) and Zbynek Hracek (CZE) on 7.

Amsterdam

A small all-GM category 15 tournament in August was won by Ivan Sokolov (BIH) with an undefeated 5/7. There followed: 2-3 P.Nikolic (BIH) & Timman (NED) 4½; 4-5 Piket (NED) & Reinderman (NED) 3½; 6 Avrukh (ISR) 3; 7-8 Ljubojevic (YUG) & van der Sterren (NED) 2.

Gentofte

The final event in the Nordic Visa grand prix was won by Swedish IM Tiger Hillarp Persson with 10/13. On 9½ points were GMs Simen Agdestein (NOR) and Sune Berg Hansen (DEN).

US Open, Reno

Following closely on the World Championship event at nearby Las Vegas, this 488-player Swiss attracted 26 grandmasters. There was a six-way tie for first place with 7½ points from 9 rounds: GM Goldin (ISR), Mulyar (USA), GM Rozentalis (LIT), GM Schwartzman (USA), GM Shabalov (USA) and GM Yermolinsky (USA).

Kramnik v Switzerland

Following in the footsteps of Kasparov, Vladimir Kramnik took on a national team with an excellent result, a 4-2 victory. Kramnik beat IM Richard Forster and Richard Gerber while drawing with GM Joe Gallagher, IM Yannick Pelletier, Florian Jenni and Denis Bucher.

Polanica-Zdroj

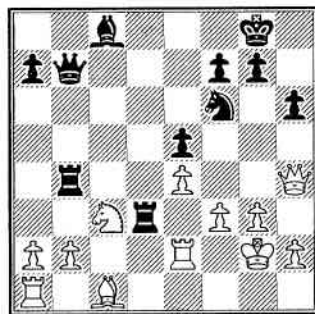
The category 15 Rubinstein Memorial provided Dutch GM Loek van Wely with one of his best career results when his undefeated 7

points gave him clear first place. Belgian GM Mikhail Gurevich was second on 6½ followed by GM Alexander Onischuk (UKR) on 6. Then followed: 4 GM Milov (SWI) 5; 5 GM Khenkin (GER) 4½; 6-7 GM Kempinski (POL) & GM Sutovsky (ISR) 4; 8 GM Rustemov (RUS) 3½; 9 Buzmann (GER) 2½; 10 GM Markowski (POL) 2.

Markowski - Onischuk

[E05] Catalan

1.♠f3 d5 2.g3 ♠f6 3.♙g2 e6 4.c4 ♙e7 5.d4 0-0 6.♙c3 dxc4 7.♗e5 ♗e6 8.♙xc6 bxc6 9.♗xc6 ♗e8 10.♗xe7+ ♗xe7 11.♗a4 e5 12.♗xc4 cxd4 13.♗xd4 e5 14.♗h4 ♗b8 15.0-0 ♗b4 16.e4 h6 17.♗e1 ♗d8 18.f3 ♗d3 19.♗g2 ♗b7 20.♗e2



20...♙g4! 21.fxg4

21.Rf2 Bxf3+! 22.Rxf3 Nxe4 and White has no defence to knight moves with discovered attacks on two lines.

21...♗xe4 22.♗xe4 ♗xe4 23.♗h3

23..Nxe4 Qxe4+ 24.Kh3 Rd1 25.Bxh6 Rxa1 26.Qg5 Qg6+.

23...♗e1 24.♗xh6 ♗xa1 25.♗g5 f6 26.♗g6 ♗xc3

26..Rxc3 27.bxc3 Rxa2 28.Qe8+ Kh7 29.Bd2 g6. 0-1

Rustemov - Sutovsky

[D97] Grünfeld

1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 d5 4.♗f3 ♙g7 5.♗b3 dxc4 6.♗xc4 0-0 7.♙f4 ♗a6 8.e4 c5 9.dxc5 ♙e6 10.♗b5 ♗d7 11.♗xb7 ♗xc5 12.♗b4 ♗e6 13.♙e5 a5 14.♗a3 ♗b6 15.♙c4 ♗g4 16.♙g3 ♗b4 17.♗xb4 axb4 18.♗d5 ♗xb2 19.♗b1 ♙c3+ 20.♗e2 ♗c5 21.♗b6 ♙e6 22.♗xe6 fxe6 23.♗xa8

♗xa8 24.h3 ♗xa2+ 25.♗f1 ♗f6 26.e5 ♗d5 27.♗g1 b3 28.♗h2 b2 29.♗bd1 ♗e4 30.h4 h6 31.♗d3 ♗f7 32.♗h3?

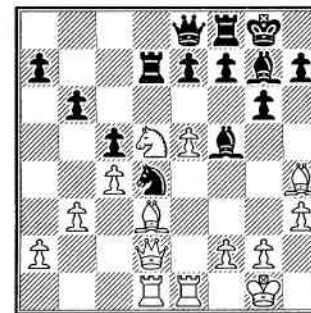
Overlooking an unusual double knight fork, but White was on the skids anyway, e.g. 32..Rb1 Ra1 33.Rdd1 Nb6.

32...♗xf2+! 0-1.

Van Wely - Kempinski

[E91] King's Indian

1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 ♙g7 4.e4 0-0 5.♗f3 d6 6.♙e2 ♗a6 7.♙f4 ♗e8 8.e5 ♗d7 9.♗d2 dxe5 10.dxe5 ♗dc5 11.0-0 ♙g4 12.♗e3 ♗a4 13.♗e4 b6 14.b3 ♗4c5 15.♗c3 ♗b4 16.♗ad1 ♗e6 17.♙g3 c5 18.h3 ♗f5 19.♗d5 ♗c2 20.♗d2 ♗d8 21.♗h4 ♗d7 22.♙d3 ♗c4 23.♗xd4 ♗xd4 24.♗fe1



24...♗xh3! 25.♗f6+ exf6 26.exf6 ♗a8?

Black adopts a faulty tactical plan. Either 26...Be6 27.fxg7 Kxg7 or 26...Qc8!? 27.fxg7 Kxg7 lead to interesting play.

27.♙e4 ♗f3+?

..27...Qc8 28.fxg7 Re8 is still okay for Black.

28.♙xf3 ♗xd2 29.♗xd2

Much better was 29.fxg7! Rxd1 30.Rxd1 and all three of Black's remaining pieces are under attack, without reply!

9...♗h6 30.♗xa8 ♗xd2 31.♗e2 ♙c3?

..31...Rxa8 32.Rxd2 Be6 33.g5 h5 is drawn.

32.♙d5 ♙g4?

32...Be6 33.Bxe6 fxe6 34.Rxe6 h6 35.f4 Bd2 is obviously better for White, but it is much preferable to what follows in the text.

33.f3 ♗f5 34.♙g5 ♙d4+ 35.♗h2 h5 36.♗e7 a5 37.♗h6 ♙xf6 38.♙xf8 1-0.

Sutovsky - Milov

[B40] Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 e6 3.g3 ♗c6 4.♙g2 ♗f6 5.d3 ♙e7 6.0-0 0-0 7.♗bd2 ♗b8 8.a4 d5 9.♗e1 a6 10.c3 b5 11.axb5 axb5 12.e5 ♗d7 13.♗f1 ♗b7 14.d4 ♗a8 15.♗b1 b4 16.h4 ♗a2 17.♗g5 ♙a6 18.♙c3 bxc3 19.bxc3 ♗a5 20.♗g4 ♙xg5

20...Wxc3? 21.Nxe6.

21.♙xg5 ♗h8 22.♙xd5 ♗dxe5 23.dxe5 exd5 24.♙f6! ♗g8

24...gxf6 25.exf6 Rg8 26.Qxg8+ Kxg8 27.Re8+.

25.e6 fxe6 26.♗xe6 ♗c7 27.♗e3 gxf6 28.♗f5 ♗d8 29.♗xc6 ♙d3

29...Rf8.

30.♗b8! ♗a6 31.♗xd8

31.Rxd8 Rxc6 32.Ree8 and mate in 2. 1-0.

London

The 93-player open played during the "Mind Sports Olympiad" in September saw a three-way tie for first with Alexander Baburin (IRL), Lev Psakhis (ISR) and Jon Speelman (ENG) all scoring 7 points from 9 games. Murray Chandler tied for fourth place on 6½ points with three more Israeli GMs: Murey, Smirin and Zilberman.

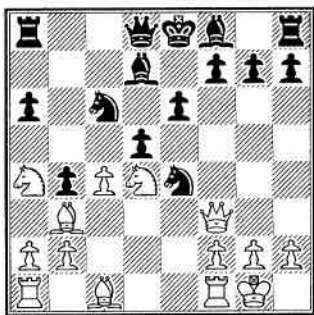
US Championship, Salt Lake City

Boris Gulko won the final match of the knock-out phase of the United States Championship against Grigory Serper. The event started with two groups of eight players. Gulko headed one group ahead of Alex Yermolinsky while Serper won the other ahead of a three-way tie for second between Yasser Seirawan, Joel Benjamin and Alexander Ivanov. Seirawan won the play-off, tied the four game match against Gulko at a standard time control, drew the first pair of 25-minute play-off games, but lost the 15-minute games ½-1½. In the other semi-final between Serper and Yermolinsky all four games at the normal time control were drawn with Serper winning both 25-minute games.

The best of four game final saw Gulko win the first two games and run out the winner 2½-½.

Kudrin - Fedorowicz
[B87] Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.♁f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♁xd4 ♁f6 5.♁c3 a6 6.♁c4 e6 7.♁b3 b5 8.0-0 b4 9.♁a4 ♁d7 10.c3 ♁xe4 11.♁f3 d5 12.e4 ♁c6



13.♁xe6! ♁xe6 14.cxd5 ♁d4

..14...Bxd5 15.Bxd5 Qxd5 16.Nb6 is hopeless for Black.

15.♁xe4 ♁xb3 16.dxe6! ♁xa1 17.♁c6+ ♁e7 18.♁b7+

18...Kf6 19.Qxf7+ Ke5 20.Bf4+ with a mating attack. 1-0.

Yermolinsky - Christiansen
[D36] Queen's Gambit

1.d4 ♁f6 2.♁f3 e6 3.c4 d5 4.♁c3 ♁bd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♁g5 c6 7.e3 ♁e7 8.♁c2 0-0 9.♁d3 ♁e8 10.0-0 ♁f8 11.h3 ♁e6 12.♁fe1 ♁c8 13.a3 ♁g6 14.b4 a5 15.♁a4 ♁e4 16.♁xe7 ♁xe7 17.♁c5 f5 18.bxa5 ♁xa5 19.♁eb1 ♁a7 20.a4 ♁f8 21.a5 ♁c8 22.♁b6 h6 23.♁b3 ♁h7 24.a6 ♁xc5 25.dxc5 ♁f6 26.♁d4 ♁e5 27.♁xf5+! ♁xf5 28.♁xf5 ♁xf5 29.♁b1

29...g6 30.axb7 Qb8 31.Ra8+- 1-0.

Fürth

The Pyramiden-Franken Cup open tournament was won by English GM Stuart Conquest with 7½/9. Sharing second on 7 points were GMs Agrest (SWE), Bischoff (GER), Kinder-

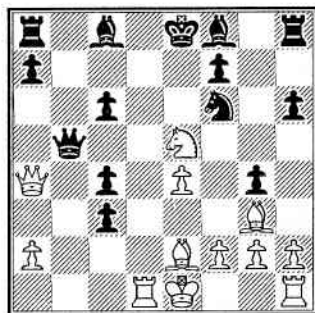
mann (GER) and Yakovich (RUS).

Belyavsky v Bacrot

Alexander Belyavsky won this six-game match in Albert (France) 3½-2½, winning the second game and drawing the rest.

Belyavsky - Bacrot
[D43] Queen's Gambit

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♁f3 ♁f6 4.♁c3 e6 5.♁g5 h6 6.♁h4 dxc4 7.e4 g5 8.♁g3 b5 9.♁e2 ♁bd7 10.d5 b4 11.dxe6 bxc3 12.exd7+ ♁xd7 13.♁c2 g4 14.♁d1 ♁b7 15.♁e5 ♁xb2 16.♁a4 ♁b5?



17.♁d8+

17...Kxd8 18.Nxc6+ Kd7 Qxb5 +- 1-0.

Berlin

German GM Robert Hübner played an eight-game blindfold simul against the second division SC Kreuzberg team in late September. Hübner made the brilliant score of 6½-1½, conceding just three draws to the team which had an average Elo rating of 2296. This result gives a performance rating of about 2550!

Chandler resumes active play

New Zealand-born GM Murray Chandler has rearranged his business affairs in order to resume active play, and also to devote more time to Gambit Publications, which he co-founded. He is managing director of this venture.

Murray was owner and editor of the British Chess Magazine, but has given up the editorship and sold his shares. However, Murray is continuing to contribute to the

Affiliated Clubs

Clubs are requested to advise *NZ Chess* of any changes in details given below.

Ashburton PO Box 204, Ashburton. Meets Monday 7.15pm (Feb-Oct), Room 1 (upstairs), Public Library, cnr Havelock and West Streets. Contact, Roy Keeling (03)308-6936.

Auckland Chess Centre Meets Monday 7.30 & Thursday (social) 7.30pm, 17 Cromwell St, Mt Eden, Auckland 1003. Tel (09)630-2042 clubroom; contacts club captain Paul MacDonald (09)534-7930; 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.

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, 103 Koromiko Road, Gonville, Wanganui. Tel (06)347-6098.

Hamilton: Wed, 7.30pm, St Pauls Collegiate School. Inquiries Gary Judkins (07)855-5392.

Hastings-Havelock North P.O. Box 184, Hastings. Wed, 7.30 pm, Library, Havelock N High School, Te Mata Rd. Sec, Chris Smith (06)877-4583.

Howick-Pakuranga Tuesday 7.45pm (juniors 6.30-7.30), St John Ambulance Hall, Howick-Pakuranga Highway, Highland Park. 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 (04)292-8157.

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

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

Pres, Trevor Rowell, (03)455-1441.

Upper Hutt Monday 7.30pm, Hapai Club, 879 Ferguson Drive. Sec, Roger Smith (04)528-2721.

Waitemata Thursday 7.30pm, Kelston Comm Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston; jun 6-7.30pm Thursdays, schooldays. Contact Bruce Pollard (09)818-2342.

Wanganui Mondays 7pm, 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 Friday 7pm, Lighthouse Centre, 235 Karori Road, Karori. Contact, L Ross Jackson (04)563-8013.

Associate members

Gisborne, 4/26 Harris St, Gisborne. M.P.Grieve (06)863-0101.

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

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

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

Whangarei Thursday 7pm, Whangarei YWCA, Rust St.. Contact, Geoffrey Gill (09)438-3035.

District Associations

Auckland Chess Assn, Sec, Kees van den Bosch, 61A St Johns Road, Auckland 1005 (09)521-5828.

Wellington District Chess Assn Inc,