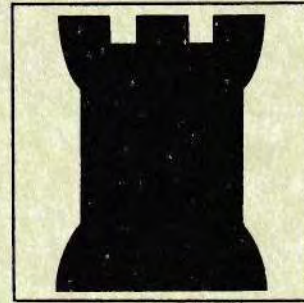


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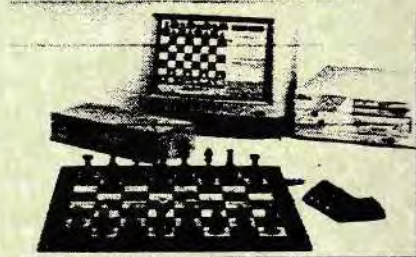


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Editorial

by Alan Borwell

No. 63
Autumn 1998

In the previous Magazine, we informed you about the change in future publication dates and have repeated the notice on page 40 of this edition. There has been a longer gap than normal since our last issue, but we hope that you will find plenty of news, articles and games in this one to interest you.

We can congratulate the new 1997/98 Joint Scottish Champions, Jonathan Lennox and Iain Mackintosh after a very competitive and hard-fought tournament. Every player scored at least one victory and one loss and only 4½ points separated the joint winners from those in joint bottom place - remarkable!

On the international scene, George Pyrich and I attended a very interesting and successful ICCF Congress in Riga, Latvia, and you can read his excellent report starting on page 9. We heard during the Congress that Scotland and Canada are now almost certain to become joint Bronze medallists in the Olympiad XI Final, which will be a momentous milestone for our small country! Joe Watson was awarded his IM title - many congratulations on this well deserved achievement!

Entry forms and tournament notes have already been distributed and we hope that you have completed and returned them to our new Secretary, Iain Sneddon - if not, please hurry!the closing date for entries is rapidly approaching! It is encouraging to see an increasing number of members playing in ICCF tournaments, including by Email, but it is important that entries to our domestic events do not diminish - so please try to support your Association's traditional tournaments.

---o0o---

News from the Secretary, Iain Sneddon

I would like to start by giving a vote of thanks to Alan Hind for all the hard work he has put into making the Association such an excellent and well run organisation that it is today. I hope to be able to carry on his good work.

By now everyone should have received an entry form for the new season. If anybody has not yet received one, please get in contact with me right away.

The Executive are wanting to develop a "Games Archive" of all games played in the Association's Tournaments. Therefore, would all players please send a copy of the gamescore as well as the result of all games that they play to the Tournament Controller, so that they can be passed onto Alan Armstrong.

INDEX OF CONTENTS

	Pages		Pages
Editorial/Secretarial News/Index	1	ChessBase 7.0 Review	27
Championship/Candidates 97/99	3	More than one perspective.....	28/29
Premiers/Majors/Minors 1998	4	Queen v Three Minor Pieces	30
Quartets/Openings/Endgame	5	ICCF Individual Tournaments	31
Challenge Tournament	6	Friendly Internationals	32
SCCA League 1998	7	ICCF Email Team Tourney	33
100 Club	7	XI Olympiad Final	34/35
ICCF Congress Report	9-11	XII Olympiad Preliminaries	35/36
The Corresponding Difference	12-13	V European Team Prelims	37
Another Three Scottish Masters	13	4th North Atlantic Team Tourney	38
What is Chess About?	14-15	Bernard Partridge Memorial	39
Book Reviews	17-19	"Friends of Scotland" Tourney	40
Games Column	20-26	Notices Etc	40

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SCOTTISH CCA CHAMPIONSHIP 1998/99 Controller: A. Maxwell

No	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts
1	F. TEUNISSE	◆				½		-	½			
2	I. MACKINTOSH		◆				½	-				
3	D.R.R. ELLIS			◆		½		-				
4	R.F. TURNER				◆			-				
5	J.A. FINDLAY	½		½		◆		-				
6	A.N. MACMILLEN		½				◆	-				
7	M. HARKINS	-	-	-	-	-	-	◆	-	-	-	w/d
8	A.T. HISLOP	½						-	◆	½		
9	I.F. REEMAN							-	½	◆		
10	S.R. GILLAM							-			◆	

Please send games, with annotations, to the SCCA Magazine Games Editor:-
Bernard Milligan,
15 Bothwell Court,
Hawick,
Roxburghshire,
TD9 0BA.

SCOTTISH CCA CHAMPIONSHIP 1997/98 Controller: A. Maxwell

No	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts	Place
1	C.J. LENNOX	◆	½	1	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	½	0	8	1 st =
2	G.R. SPROTT	½	◆	0	1	1	½	½	1	½	½	1	1	7½	3 rd
3	C.R. BEECHAM	0	1	◆	½	½	0	½	0	0	0	0	1	3½	11 th =
4	S.A. MURRAY	½	0	½	◆	½	0	0	½	½	0	0	1	3½	11 th =
5	R.W.M. BAXTER	½	0	½	½	◆	½	½	1	½	½	½	1	6	6 th
6	I. MACKINTOSH	0	½	1	1	½	◆	1	½	1	1	½	1	8	1 st =
7	D.M. LIVIE	0	½	½	1	½	0	◆	½	1	½	0	0	4½	7 th
8	J. COPLEY	0	0	1	½	0	½	½	◆	½	0	½	½	4	8 th =
9	A.T. HISLOP	0	½	1	½	½	0	0	½	◆	½	½	0	4	8 th =
10	G.E. WALLWORK	0	½	1	1	½	0	½	1	½	◆	½	1	6½	4 th =
11	R. TURNER	½	0	1	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	◆	½	6½	4 th =
12	A. NISBET	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	½	1	0	½	◆	4	8 th =

CANDIDATES 1998/99

Controller: C.R. Beecham

Section A

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts
1	G.M. ANDERSON	◆	½				0		-		
2	A. ARMSTRONG	½	◆		1				-	0	
3	G.H. BIRD			◆				1	-	0	
4	W.M. COOK		0		◆		½		-	0	
5	J. COPLEY					◆			-		
6	D.R. CUMMING	1			½		◆		-		
7	B. GOODWIN			0				◆	-	0	
8	P. MacDONALD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	◆	-	w/d
9	B. MILLIGAN		1	1	1			1	-	◆	

Section B

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts
1	C. ALMARZA-MATO	◆						½			
2	A. ARMSTRONG		◆	0	0				0	1	
3	A.C. BROWN		1	◆							
4	D.R. CUMMING		1		◆			0			
5	D.A. HUGHSON					◆					
6	S.G. MACKENZIE						◆		0	½	
7	M.A. MAY		½	1				1	◆		
8	B. MILLIGAN						1			◆	
9	G. SAXTON		0				½				◆

CANDIDATES 1997/98

Controller: C.R. Beecham

Section A

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts
1	J.A. FINDLAY	◆	1	½	1	1	1	1	5½
2	M. HARKINS	0	◆	0	1	0	1	½	2½
3	I. REEMAN	½	1	◆	1	½	1	1	5
4	S. RILEY	0	0	0	◆	0	0	0	0
5	G. SAXTON	0	1	½	1	◆	0	1	3½
6	K. SEYFRIED	0	0	0	1	1	◆	0	2
7	I. SNEDDON	0	½	0	1	0	1	◆	2½

Section B

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts
1	G.H. BIRD	◆	0	0	½	0	1	0	1½
2	D.R. CUMMING	1	◆	½	½	½	1	0	3½
3	D.R.R. ELLIS	1	½	◆	1	0	1	0	3½
4	R.A. GIULIAN	½	½	0	◆	0	1	0	2
5	S.G. MACKENZIE	1	½	1	1	◆	1	0	4½
6	S. RILEY	0	0	0	0	0	◆	0	0
7	F. TEUNISSE	1	1	1	1	1	1	◆	6

PREMIER TOURNAMENTS 1998 Controller: J. Anderson

SECTION A

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts
1	D. CRICHTON	◆	½	0	½	1		½	
2	D.R. CUMMING	½	◆	0	1	1	½	0	3
3	H.S. FLOCKHART	1	1	◆	½	1	1	½	5
4	S.H. HILTON	½	0	½	◆	0	½	½	2
5	W. HYND	0	0	0	1	◆	½	0	1½
6	J.P.L. LUMSDEN		½	0	½	½	◆	½	
7	S.M. YOUNG	½	1	½	½	1	½	◆	4

SECTION C

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts
1	A.C. BROWN	◆	½	1	1	1	1	4½
2	G. LLOYD	½	◆	½		1	1	
3	D.G. McROBERTS	0	½	◆	½	1	½	2½
4	J. MORROW	0		½	◆	1	0	
5	I. SNEDDON	0	0	0	0	◆	1	1
6	D. TRENNER	0	0	½	1	0	◆	1½

SECTION B

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts
1	A. ARMSTRONG	◆			1	½	1	½	
2	A.G.E. BIRD		◆	1	½	0	0	½	
3	B.W. GRANT		0	◆		½	0	0	
4	A.D. KILGARIFF	0	0		◆	0	½	0	
5	G. LLOYD	½	1	½	1	◆	1	½	4½
6	G.R. McDONALD	0	1	1	½	0	◆		
7	G. PLANT	½	½	1	1	½		◆	

SECTION D

No		1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts
1	R. BEACON	◆	0	0	0	1	0	1
2	M. JESSING	1	◆	½	½	0	1	3
3	I.H. MARSHALL	1	½	◆	0	1	0	2½
4	B. MILLIGAN	1	½	1	◆	½	1	4
5	B. THOMPSON	0	1	0	½	◆	0	1½
6	S.M. YOUNG	1	0	1	0	1	◆	3

MAJORS 1998 Controller: D. Salter

No	SECTION A	1	2	3	4	5	Pts
1	A.D. CRAWFORD	◆	1 1				
2	J. CASSIDY	0 0	◆		0 0	0 0	
3	R. HOLLAND			◆		0 0	
4	A.R. PETRIE		1 1		◆	0½	
5	S.M. YOUNG		1 1	1 1	½ 1	◆	

No	SECTION B	1	2	3	4	5	Pts
1	R. BEACON	◆	1 1	1	1		
2	J.S. CRAWLEY	0 0	◆	0 0	0 0	0 0	0
3	R.B. CROSBIE	0	1 1	◆		1	
4	A. KNOX	0	1 1		◆	½½	
5	J.R. MILNE		1 1	0	½½	◆	

No	SECTION C	1	2	3	4	5	Pts
1	C. DOWELL	◆		1 1	½ 0	0 1	
2	J.W. KILGOUR		◆	0 0	0 0	0	
3	R. MALCOLMSON	0 0	1 1	◆	1 1	½½	5
4	T.F. McAINSH	1½	1 1	0 0	◆	1 1	5½
5	R.J. SIMPSON	1 0	1	½½	0 0	◆	

MAJOR/MINOR/QUARTETS/CHALLENGE
 Entries can be made at any time to Iain Sneddon.
 New pairings will be arranged when there are
 sufficient new players to do so.

MINORS 1998 Controller: D.J. Savage

No	SECTION A	1	2	3	4	5	Pts
1	S. FAIRWEATHER.	◆			0 0		
2	R. GASCOIGNE		◆	0 0	0 0		
3	F. HALL		1 1	◆			
4	R. MALCOLMSON	1 1	1 1		◆	1 1	
5	M. POLLOCK				0 0	◆	

No	SECTION B	1	2	3	4	5	Pts
1	J.M. ARMSTRONG	◆	0 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	6
2	D.W. COOPE	1 0	◆	1 1	0 1	1 1	6
3	S. FAIRWEATHER	0 0	0 0	◆		0	
4	P. WILDIG	1 0	1 0		◆	1 1	
5	A.R. PETRIE	0 0	0 0	1	0 0	◆	

Wanted:
 More articles for future editions of 'your' magazine!

QUARTETS 1998

Controller: A. Armstrong

No	Postal Knight	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	D.R. CUMMING	◆	½½	11	11	5
2	D. EDNEY	½½	◆	11	11	5
3	I. SNEDDON	00	00	◆	11	2
4	S. WHITEHEAD	00	00	00	◆	0

No	Q199	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	A.G.E. BIRD	◆	10	11	11	5
2	J.C. BOYLE	10	◆		11	
3	A.W.I.CAMPBELL	00		◆		
4	J.W. KILGOUR	00	00		◆	

No	Q197	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	A.R. ANGUS	◆	1		1	
2	R.B. CROSBIE	0	◆	11	11	
3	R. LOUGHRAN		00	◆		
4	M. POLLOCK	0	00		◆	

No	Q200	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	J. ANDERSON	◆				
2	G.R. McDONALD		◆	0		
3	I. SNEDDON		1	◆	0	
4	J.M. WALKER			1	◆	

No	Q198	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	S.H. HILTON	◆		½½		
2	A.D. KILGARIFF		◆	0½	1½	
3	M. MACLEOD	½½	1½	◆	11	4½
4	S. WHITEHEAD		0½	00	◆	

No	Q201	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	I. SNEDDON	◆				
2	J.W. KILGOUR		◆			
3	J. HAMILTON			◆		
4	C. McINTEE				◆	

OPENINGS TOURNAMENTS 1998

Controller: T. Thomson

No	Section A	1	2	3	4	5	Pts
1	J. CASSIDY	◆	00	00	void	11	2
2	J.R. MILNE	11	◆	00	00	11	4
3	S.M. YOUNG	11	11	◆		11	
4	Dr. M. BALLAN	void	11		◆	11	
5	M.G. BROWN	00	00	00	00	◆	0

Opening moves are 1 e4 d5 2 exd5 ♖xd5 3 ♜c3 ♗a5
4 b4 ♗xb4 5 ♞b1 ♗d6 (Scandinavian - Kortch-Mises
Gambit, B01)

ENDGAME TOURNAMENT 1997/8

Controller: A. Hind

No	Section E04	1	2	3	4	Pts
1	E.A. BAILEY	◆	00	00	00	w/d
2	R. LOUGHRAN	11	◆	½ ½	11	5
3	Dr. M. BALLAN	11	½ ½	◆	11	5
4	J. NIELSEN	11	00	00	◆	2

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Address Changes?

Members are asked to advise changes of address promptly to their opponents, tournament secretary, the Scottish CCA Secretary and the Editor of the SCCA Magazine, please.

CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT

[by Bernard Milligan]

The highlight of the Autumn Magazine report is undoubtedly David Salter's Novag Sapphire suffering its first defeat at the hands of a human opponent. A number of players have managed to hold the silicon beast to a draw, but it still has a massive plus score in its favour. Extensive preparation enabled David Cumming to gain the honour of being the first to take the full point in a game against it. Clearly the trick is to steer it out of its opening library as soon as possible. David's superb style can be seen in the Games Column. Strangely, none of our IMs or GMs have yet taken up Novag's challenge. It is unclear whether other commitments, or fear of losing, have prevented this! With the new season starting, it will be interesting to see who has the courage to try and inflict a second defeat on Novag. Anyone who particularly doesn't want to be paired against a computer must drop me a note before the start of the new season.

Players should also remember that they might also be allocated additional opponents later in the season. Clearly, if any of you feel that you can only manage a certain number of games, you should let me know. In both cases I will take note and ensure you get the games that suit you.

By the time you receive this magazine you should all have received your entry forms for the new season and I look forward to seeing you all playing again. We try to offer a good service and it would be appreciated if as many of you as possible would try to persuade at least one of your friends to join. The more participants we have, the greater the opportunity each of you will have to play someone different in the Challenge Tournament.

Pairings since the Summer magazine are as follows:-

Class	Pairings/Opponents' Mem. Nos
Class 1	
D R Cumming (166)	219, 317, 390,
G Lloyd (264)	315,
G H Phillips (379)	L15, 114, 390,
Class 2	
C Dowell (316)	395,
J P E Jack (L15)	315, 379,
A R Petrie (315)	L15, 264, 391,
Class 3	
C Almarza-Mato (317)	166, 261,
M P Ford (219)	114, 166, 389, 395,
J Hamilton (390)	166, 261, 379,
S Hilton (114)	219, 379, 389, 391,
T F McAinsh (261)	317, 389, 390,
Class 4	
C McIntee (391)	114, 315
J Owens (395)	114, 316,
G Swan (389)	114, 219, 261,

Results since the Summer magazine are as follows :-

155	R Beacon	1	0	D G Meldrum	355	233	R B Crosbie	0	1	D Salter	L89
L02	D G McRoberts	1	0	R Crosbie	233	316	C Dowell	0	1	R Beacon	155
264	G Lloyd	1	0	T McAinsh	261	389	G Swan	0	2	M Hall	Intro
264	G Lloyd	½	1½	N Sapphire	Comp	389	G Swan	0	1	J Hamilton	390
382	S Fairweather	0	2	R Crosbie	233	166	D R Cumming	1½	½	C Dowell	316
382	S Fairweather	0	2	C R James	312	383	S Nicoll	½	½	J Milne	L90
382	S Fairweather	0	2	T F McAinsh	261	383	S Nicoll	0	1	G Lloyd	355
382	S Fairweather	0	2	G Lloyd	264	L02	D G McRoberts	½	½	A Armstrong	049
382	S Fairweather	0	2	R Malcolmson	376	166	D R Cumming	1	0	N Sapphire	Comp
382	S Fairweather	0	2	M Pollock	378	313	J Armstrong	0	2	J F Rutherford	356
049	A Armstrong	1½	½	D McRoberts	L02	L15	J P E Jack	0	1	S Hilton	114
L15	J P E Jack	½	½	D G Meldrum	355	313	J Armstrong	0	1	S Hilton	114
219	M P Ford	2	0	S Nicoll	383	356	J F Rutherford	0	1	S Hilton	114
L84	C A Macgregor	0	2	G Lloyd	264	049	A Armstrong	1	0	I Sneddon	057
376	R Malcolmson	½	½	A Proudler	L34	316	C Dowell	0	1	C Almarza-Mato	317
L02	D G McRoberts	½	½	R Malcolmson	376	316	C Dowell	2	0	J F Rutherford	356
166	D R Cumming	2	0	T F McAinsh	261	355	D G Meldrum	½	1½	C Black	L88
379	G H Phillips	1	0	R Crosbie	233	L88	C Black	2	0	G Murphy	380
261	T F McAinsh	2	2	C R James	312	155	R Beacon	1	0	D G McRoberts	L02
355	D G Meldrum	½	1½	G Lloyd	355	049	A Armstrong	½	½	A Proudler	L34
057	I Sneddon	0	2	N Sapphire	Comp	049	A Armstrong	2	0	N J Banner	387

Scottish CCA League 1998

DIVISION 1 (Controller: J.P.E. Jack)

A BLACK KNIGHT

1	G.R. Sprott	v E1	1 ½
2	R. Kilpatrick	v D2	
3	I.F. Reeman	v C3	
4	A.T. Hislop	v B4	0 1
5	I. Sneddon	v F5	0 ½

B FIVE BRAVE ENGLISHMEN

1	P.L. Coleman	v D1	1 ½
2	D.J.R. Barnes	v C2	1
3	R. Goosey	v F3	
4	A.J.C. Rawlings	v A4	1 0
5	A. Robertshaw	v E5	1 1

C BRUTAL REALISM

1	J.S. Murray	v F1	½ ½
2	A. Thomson	v B2	0
3	P. Coffield	v A3	
4	S. Brady	v E4	1 1
5	W. Taylor	v D5	½ ½

D PERTH CORRESPONDENTS

1	A.P. Borwell	v B1	0 ½
2	I. Mackintosh	v A2	
3	Dr. A. Brown	v E3	1 1
4	J.N. Falconer	v F4	1 1
5	D. Harvey	v C5	½ ½

E CATHCART

1	D.M. Livie	v A1	0 ½
2	G.W.G. Livie	v F2	0 ½
3	J. Nielson	v D3	0 0
4	M. Harkins	v C4	
5	A. Maxwell	v B5	0 0

F KIRKCALDY KINGS

1	G.D. Pyrich	v C1	½ ½
2	T. Thomson	v E2	1 ½
3	G. Saxton	v B3	
4	I. Marshall	v D4	0 0
5	S. Donohoe	v A5	1 ½

DIVISION 2 (Controller: I. Sneddon)

A BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY

1	A. Hind	v E1	
2	G.Lloyd	v D2	1 1
3	A. Petrie	v C3	
4	R. Malcolmson	v B4	0
5	C.R. James	v F5	1 0

B KNIGHT SAC

1	T. Tait	v D1	½ ½
2	P. Tait	v C2	0 0
3	R. Holland	v F3	1 1
4	I. McKechnie	v A4	1
5	P. Thomson	v E5	

C GENERAL ACCIDENT

1	A. Copsey	v F1	
2	P. Kirby	v B2	1 1
3	K. Cook	v A3	
4	S. O'Niell	v E4	
5	J. Doherty	v D5	0 0

D SUPERKINGS

1	A. Armstrong	v B1	½ ½
2	S. MacKenzie	v A2	0 0
3	M. Keen	v E3	
4	B. Milligan	v F4	
5	R. Crosbie	v C5	1 1

E CASTLEHILL

1	D.Kleppang	v A1	
2	M. Chalmers	v F2	½ ½
3	R. Noble	v D3	
4	C. Strong	v C4	
5	A.Paulin	v B5	

F THE SOCIAL BUZZARDS

1	P. Doye	v C1	
2	J. Vivante-Sowter	v E2	½ ½
3	G.E. Wallwork	v B3	0 0
4	P. Malbon	v D4	
5	D. Gleed	v A5	0 1

DIVISION 3 (Controller: I. Sneddon)

A WANDERING CLERGY

1	Rev. B. Norris	v E1	0 ½	vD1	1 1
2	Rev. E.A. Bailey	v D2	1 1	vC2	
3	Rev. D. Hume	v C3	½ ½	vB3	1 ½
4	Rev. S. Whitmore	v B4	1 1	vF4	0 ½
5	Rev. W. Alexander	v F5		vE5	

B SOCIAL EAGLES

1	S. Hilton	v D1	½ ½	vC1	0 ½
2	J. Watson	v C2	1 0	vF2	1 1
3	B. Hanison	v F3	0 ½	vA3	0 ½
4	G. Rosser	v A4	0 0	vE4	1 ½
5	G.J.S. Ross	v E5		vD5	

C KINGSTON

1	A. Cullen	v F1	1 1	vB1	1 ½
2	C. Wright	v B2	0 1	vA2	
3	K. Hurst	v A3	½ ½	vE3	
4	J. Young	v E4	1 0	vD4	1 1
5	J. Grant	v D5		vF5	1 0

D D AND A

1	E. Coleman	v B1	½ ½	vA1	0 0
2	J. McKenna	v A2	0 0	vE2	0 0
3	J.M. Herries	v E3		vF3	0 0
4	A. Knox	v F4	0	vc4	0 0
5	C. Campbell	v C5		vB5	

E KNIGHTS OF THE BOARD

1	S.M. Young	v A1	1 ½	vF1	1 ½
2	R. Beacon	v F2	1 1	vD2	1 1
3	P. MacDonald	v D3		vC3	
4	R. Loughran	v C4	0 1	vB4	0 ½
5	J. MacDonald	v B5		vA5	

F THE SOCIAL FALCONS

1	C. Dowell	v C1	0 0	vE1	0 ½
2	W. Elliot	v E2	0 0	vB2	0 0
3	D. Price	v B3	1 ½	vD3	1 1
4	S. Taylor	v D4	1	vA4	1 ½
5	M. Shine	v A5		vc5	0 1

100 CLUB

This is a club for members who would like to help with the development of the Scottish Correspondence Chess Association. Currently there are almost 80 units issued but we need to increase this to 100 - please help us!

The subscription is only £1 per month per unit, with two prizes each month currently approx £24 and £16 respectively - members may apply for more than one unit if they so wish!

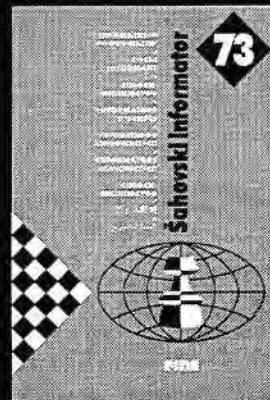
A monthly bankers order form can be obtained from our Treasurer, David Kilgour, "Willowbank", Peebles Road, Galashiels, TD1 1TH. If you return it to him before the 10th of the month, then you will be eligible to be in the draw for that month.

Recent Winners:	June	July	August	September	October
First	K. McAlpine	J.W. Kilgour	G.W.G. Livie	D. Livie	J.S. Murray
Second	G. McKnight	G.E. Wallwork	J. Anderson	I. Mackintosh	A.P. Borwell

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ICCF Congress 1998 - Riga, Latvia

19th to 25th September 1998

[Report by George Pyrich]

The 26th ICCF Congress, in conjunction with meetings of the ICCF Presidium and numerous committees, was held at the Hotel Latvija, Riga from 19th to 25th September, 1998. The Congress was hosted for the first time by the Latvian Federation (LKSF), who impressed everyone with their organising efficiency and the warmth of their hospitality.

Riga, the capital city of Latvia, was founded in the 12th century. Nowadays it is a busy, modern city of almost 800,000 inhabitants (from a total national population of some 2,500,000). Visitors are soon aware of the clearly apparent modernisation which has taken place since 1991 when Latvia regained its independence following the break-up of the Soviet Union. However, this has been achieved tastefully and the city's elegant wide avenues and many magnificent stone buildings have been retained. Riga has enjoyed a varied and at times troubled history. Not many people are aware that in the 17th century it was Sweden's largest city! The newly constructed Museum of the Occupation of Latvia 1940 provides an account of life in a more modern but troubled time.

Of course, Riga has a rich heritage of chess, being the city of Nimzowitsch, Tal and, latterly, Shirov and Shabalov. Every chess-player knows of the Latvian Gambit! Correspondence chess has always been a popular pastime in Latvia. In Soviet times, it was one of only a few activities not subject to the omnipresent control of the KGB and it allowed Latvians contact with others from the outside world. The Latvian CC Federation was founded as recently as 1991 and its team has since been able to qualify for the 12th Olympiad Final where it is considered to have good medal prospects.

ICCF President, Alan Borwell opened proceedings and formally welcomed a total of 53 participants from 25 countries and expressed thanks to the Latvian hosts for their hospitality, whilst also referring to the rich heritage of correspondence chess in Latvia and the Baltic States. The Congress showed its respect to the memories of those who had passed away during the previous year, mentioning especially three great stalwarts of ICCF, Reg Gillman (ENG), Dr. Jozsef Vándorffy (HUN) and Francek Brglez (SLO).

The ICCF President then reported changes which had taken place from 1 January 1998 to the roles and duties of ICCF Presidium members, according to the authority granted by the 1997 Congress to enable changes to be made within the Presidium when mid-term vacancies arose. In his letter of 21 December 1997, he had announced that Nol van't Riet (NLD) would become Deputy President (Development), Ragnar Wikman (FIN) Deputy President (Rules) and Eckhard Lüers (GER) Deputy President (Tournaments). The resulting Presidium vacancy, that of Zonal Director (Europe), was filled following a ballot of members and the Congress

unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Gian-Maria Tani (ITA). The President had also announced subsequently the appointment of Dr. Tani as World Tournament Office Controller and Egbert Bösenberg (GER) as European Tournament Office Controller. The other vacancy within the ICCF Presidium, that of Zonal Director (Latin America), was filled by Congress with the election of Carlos Cranbourne (ARG), who arrived in Riga towards the end of the meetings.

Additionally, the President acknowledged the outstanding work carried out by the ICCF Web-Master, Eckhard Lüers (GER), before his retirement from this role on 31st July 1998. The Congress was hugely appreciative of the tremendous contribution made by Eckhard in establishing an informative and lively web-site (www.iccf.com) for the whole world to visit and learn about ICCF's activities and services. The President welcomed Soeren Peschardt (DEN) as the new ICCF Web-Master and wished him success and satisfaction in his important role.

The report of the General Secretary, Dr Fritz Baumbach (GER) gave the usual overview of ICCF membership throughout the world, inviting the Congress to extend a warm welcome to new members Malawi. During his address, the General Secretary referred to the excellent progress which had been made in establishing official Email contacts amongst member federations of which there are now more than 50.

The ICCF Treasurer, Carlos Flores (ESP), confirmed the healthy position of ICCF's finances, reporting a surplus of almost CHF 21,000 for the year ended 31/12/97 increasing the balance of the General Fund from CHF 119,000 to almost CHF 140,000 at 31/12/97.

One of the highlights of the Report of the outgoing Deputy President (Tournaments), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), was confirmation that the Final of the World Cup VI event had been won by a native of Riga, Mrs. Olita Rause, who was later presented with a unique trophy by the ICCF President at a Civic Reception hosted by the Mayor of Riga held during the Congress. Another Riga resident, Mrs. Ingrida Priedite, one of the main organisers of the Congress, was confirmed as having finished in second place, achieving the Ladies Grandmaster title, in the final of Ladies World Championship V. Ragnar also provided an up-date of progress in the numerous ongoing World Championship and Olympiad tournaments. Whilst the final of World Championship XIII had been completed for some time, the customary special prize for the World Champion, Mikhail Umansky (RUS), a silver plate with the final score table engraved, was presented to the Russian delegate, Sergey Grodzensky.

The Ratings Commissioner, Gerhard Binder (GER) reported that his work had involved the computation of the results of 26,909 games played by 7,695 players in

1,281 tournaments and 138 country matches. Presently, the Ratings database contained a main list of 6,524 players, 4,864 with fixed ratings and 846 title holders. The Ladies List held 220 players, 153 of which held fixed ratings.

In my Report as Qualifications Commissioner, I was able to confirm the award of new titles to 13 Grandmasters, 1 Lady Grandmaster, 132 International Masters (including Joe Watson), 4 International Ladies Masters and 8 International Arbiters. Additionally, Congress gave its approval to Title Norms in respect of numerous new World, Continental, Team and Invitational events.

The Deputy President (Development), Nol van't Riet (NLD) presented a very impressive Marketing Report containing various statistics. The number of participants in ICCF World and European tournaments had fallen substantially over the last 12 years. Whilst various factors were recognised as being contributory to this decline, Nol also reported the growth of Internet chess, notably the IECG organisation which had attracted several thousand new Email CC players, the vast majority of whom were not affiliated to any ICCF member federation. Leading from this, Nol then submitted proposals, which were approved by the Congress, that ICCF would in future actively and intensively seek to promote and market its activities throughout the world. On Nol's proposal, Congress unanimously approved the setting up of a new Marketing Commission which would seek to promote ICCF's activities according to the marketing model of the "four P's" - product, place, price and promotion - with the aim of getting as many players as possible involved in correspondence chess (preferably ICCF play and organisation) by either post or Email, the two modes being considered of equal standing.

Significantly, Congress approved a motion that this new Commission be funded by a yearly budget equivalent to 5% of ICCF's total revenue. The main tasks allocated to the new Commission were production and distribution of a brochure for recruiting new member federations, presentation of advertisements in a number of the biggest chess magazines world-wide, the setting up of an ICCF Press Office providing monthly reports about ICCF's top events and the building of an internet site with promotional information for possible new interested players.

Another essential part of Nol's proposals recognised the growing development of Email chess. Presently it is estimated that some 80% of ICCF's chess games are played by the traditional postal method whilst Email transmission accounts for the remaining 20%. However, it is anticipated that, before too long, the proportions between these 2 modes of communication will be reversed. With this in mind, Congress approved plans to adopt a much fuller programme of ICCF Email tournaments, largely to mirror the existing structure of the postal tournaments, whereby the present ICCF Email Championship and Email Cup system will be replaced by Master Class (11 players) and 7 player groups in Higher Class (1900+) and Open Class.

Agreement was also reached that parallel World CC Championships by post and Email would be held in future whereby players will have the right to choose to

play by either post or Email in future World Championship Semi-Finals, 3/4 Finals and Finals. Additionally, plans were approved to commence the 1st ICCF Email World Championship with the first stage, the Semi-Finals, commencing in March 1999 with sections of 11 players. The further stages, 3/4 Finals and Finals, would likely have either 13 or 15 players. Finally, plans for Email Olympiads were also approved in principle, although it is likely that the first of the series will not commence until late 1999 or the year 2000 in order to avoid a clash with next European Team Championship scheduled to commence in the second half of 1999.

The "ICCF 2000" Project Leader, Pedro Hegoburu (ARG), provided a comprehensive report of his extensive activities over the past year, notably progress made with preparation of the "ICCF 2000" book. As indicated by its title, the book, whilst coinciding with the millennium, will provide articles covering the history of ICCF and correspondence chess and also contain short contributions by each member federation, memorable CC games, historic photographs and accounts of more topical activities such as the development of Email correspondence chess.

The report of the Deputy President (Rules), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), provided confirmation of numerous significant developments, notably that results of games played in ICCF 1st and 2nd class which started after 30/12/97 would be included in the ICCF Ratings thereby extending an important service to a significantly higher number of participants. Also, Congress gave its approval to a proposed schedule whereby the ICCF Rating List would be issued twice per year by the year 2000 (e.g. every 6 months as opposed to annually at present).

However, much of the attention of Congress was focused upon proposals submitted to substantially alter the titles awarded by ICCF. Previously, there had been considerable discussion and debate, most notably in Tim Harding's magazine "*Chess Mail*", with regard to the very substantial increase in the numbers of new IM titles awarded (1993 - 59, 1997 - 124) and consequent speculation that the title was becoming devalued. This writer was amongst those who attempted to clarify this speculation, emphasising that title norms were based exclusively upon ratings and that there was no evidence whatever that there was any "inflation" in the ICCF Rating System and that the substantial increase in the number of new IM's was due almost entirely to there being a very substantially increased number of events being held where IM norms were available.

Additionally, proposals had emerged for the introduction of a new award, that of "Senior International Master" (SIM), which would rank between the current IM and GM titles. The supporters of this plan argued, with some justification, that there existed comparatively few GM tournaments. With few opportunities for those who achieved the IM title to subsequently seek to achieve the GM title, many players who did achieve the IM title, consequently gave up CC when faced with this situation.

Delegates also acknowledged the present situation where, in view of the ICCF rules specifying "quota numbers" of participating GMs in events to enable GM

norms to be achieved together with the relatively small number of active GMs, had resulted in there being only a small number of new events annually where GM norms were available.

After considerable debate, Congress gave its approval (with 14 votes against) to the overall package which had been previously considered very carefully before being formulated by the ICCF Presidium. The approved package can be summarised as follows:-

- (i) Qualification requirements for the International Master title remain unchanged. Thus, for example, as at present, the title may be obtained directly in a 15-player event.
- (ii) The new title of Senior International Master was introduced and would be awarded to those players who either achieved at least 3 IM norms in title tournaments with a total of at least 30 games or achieved 2 IM norms in title tournaments with a total of at least 18 games provided they had a fixed ICCF rating of at least 2450 prior to the commencement of the tournaments.
- (iii) The current common requirement for the Grandmaster title whereby a player must achieve a necessary score in a 15 player event containing at least 5 Grandmasters or players with fixed ratings of 2600 or higher was amended with the introduction of new requirements that players must either obtain at least 2 Grandmaster results in title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games or one or more Grandmaster result(s) in title tournaments with at least 14 games providing that they had a fixed ICCF rating of at least 2550 prior to the commencement of the event(s). Additionally, both conditions contain the proviso that at least 5 of the games must have been against at least 5 Grandmasters or players with fixed ratings of at least 2600.
- (iv) As at present, it remains the responsibility of member federations to provide appropriate and correct applications for all ICCF titles.

Whilst it is hoped that these measures will prove to be both successful and popular, this writer also hopes they will not significantly add to the workload of the Qualifications Commissioner! It should also be mentioned that the Congress did not give any consideration to changing the current title arrangements for women.

Despite the heavy agenda, the Congress delegates were still able to find time to participate in the customary schedule of social events. All the Congress participants greatly enjoyed a day's sightseeing around the very many places of interest in and around Riga. One of the traditional items in the Congress agenda was a friendly match between teams representing the Congress participants and the host city. Whilst the ICCF team was by no means weak, containing numerous titled (both ICCF and FIDE) players, the host team fielded a truly impressive line-up, including 3 FIDE GM's on the top 3 boards, 2 of whom departed shortly afterwards to represent Latvia at the FIDE Olympiad in Elista!

Needless to say, the host team ran out convincing and impressive winners by a score of 13.5 to 6.5. Also included amongst the week's events was the traditional annual Blitz tournament. This year's event contained a strong field of 22 players. Unfortunately, the SCCA's representative found himself sadly out of form and, to borrow cricketer's parlance, "did little to trouble the scorers"!

At the closing banquet, traditionally hosted by ICCF, the Congress delegates toasted the successful future of chess in Latvia and the Baltic States, before thanking their gracious and hospitable Latvian hosts and bidding farewell.

Before returning home, the Scottish representatives, with their wives, joined some 30 other Congress participants on a short trip to neighbouring Estonia, the homeland of the legendary Paul Keres. The very many highlights of this short trip, whose hosts included the winner of World Championship IX, Tõnu Oim (EST) (also likely winner of the current World Championship XIV), began with a musical welcome by children outside the school which had been attended by Paul Keres, in Pärnu. This was followed by a visit to a very interesting exhibition on CC organised by Estonian CC friends, a lunch hosted by the Estonian Minister for Culture and Sports and the planting of a commemorative tree by ICCF to the memory of Paul Keres. The following day, we visited the historic and attractive capital city Tallinn, which included a visit to the hugely impressive Paul Keres Chess Club Rooms. Thereafter, the Scottish party began an eventful return journey homewards, with plenty of time to reflect upon a truly memorable visit to the Baltic States!



(From left of picture)

*Back: George Pyrich, Ervin Liebert (EST), Fritz Baumbach (GER)
Front: Catherine Pyrich, Moira Borwell, Margot Pöschel (GER),
Tõnu Oim (EST)*

The Corresponding Difference

[by Tom Craig]

"Correspondence Chess will have an adverse affect on your game because it will encourage you to move pieces when analysing a position"

This unsolicited pearl of wisdom was provided by the father of a defeated opponent, in a corner of the analysis room, at a mid 1970s Glasgow Chess Congress. Over 20 years later, this advice rang loudly in my ears as I contemplated the position after my 24th move in the following game.

Tom Craig (Scotland)

v

Bernard Berriot (France)

ICCF V European Champ S3 B5,
1995/98

A70 QP Benoni Defence

The Benoni is a curious opening:

1. It spans variations of the Kings Indian making it difficult to classify, and this presents a nightmare for the "research based" CC player
2. The statistics from actual play are distorted by very strong players winning with the white pieces against inferior opposition
3. The main lines are simply the most popular ones; the strongest lines are often hidden away in obscure games or annotations

A slight change in the move order can leave a research based opponent spending long hours finding material unrelated to your intended strategy. In this game, I hold back ♖f3 leaving my opponent to contemplate lines involving an early ♙g5; a move which makes it more difficult for Black to free himself with b7-b5.

1	d4	♗f6
2	c4	c5
3	d5	e6
4	♗c3	exd5
5	cxd5	d6
6	e4	g6
7	h3	a6
8	a4	♙g7
9	♙d3	0-0
10	♗f3	

10 ♙g5!? ♗bd7 11 ♗f3.

10	.....	♞e8
11	0-0	c4!?

Interesting; I had expected 11 ... ♗bd7 or 11 ... b6 12 ♙f4 ♞a7. No doubt my opponent was following quality published analysis. There

was a distinct lack of examples of this variation in my chess library. I followed my instinct that this premature action, which leaves White with full control of d4, could prove too high a price for Black to pay.

12	♙c2	
12	♙xc4	♗xe4 13 ♗xe4 ♞xe4
14	♙g5	♞f8+ (14 ... ♞b6+)

12	♞bd7
----	-------	------

The approach explained in the preamble was not a success, my opponent had played nothing but "next day replies"!

13	♙e3	♞b8?!
13	... ♗c5?	14 ♙xc5 (14 e5!?
	♗fd7 15 exd6)	14 ... dxc5 15
	♗d2±; 13 ... ♞c7	

14	Qe2!?	
----	-------	--

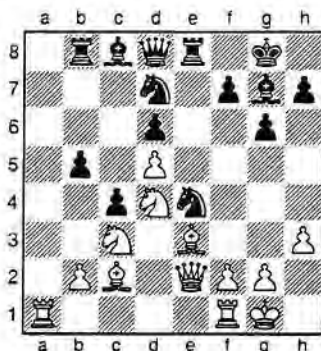
I could have just played 14 ♙a7 ♞a8 15 ♙d4 ♞b8 16 a5 but instinct dictated that this line must have been well considered by the source of his 13th move.

14	b5?
----	-------	-----

At last, Bernard takes more than one day to contemplate his reply! 14 ... ♞c7 15 ♗d2 b5 16 axb5 axb5 17 ♞a7 ♞d8 18 ♞fa1

15	axb5	axb5
16	♗d4!	♗xe4

16 ... ♙b7 17 ♗bxd5+; 16 ... b4 17 ♗c6+.



17	♗xe4	
----	------	--

17 ♗c6? ♗xc3 18 bxc3 ♞f6?! (18 ... ♞c7 19 ♗xb8 ♞xb8 20 ♞a3 ♗b7) 19 ♗xb8 ♗xb8 20 ♞a3

17	.....	♙xd4
18	♙xd4	f5
19	f3	fxe4
20	fxe4	♗e5
21	♞f2	♞f8
22	♞xf8+	

Oh dear, I set up the wrong position during my analysis of this critical position! There are certain moments in a game which deserve exclusive quality analysis time. All other CC games in progress become irrelevant. Often, I replay through every move of the game to reset the position in my mind. Unfortunately, at some point 17 ♙xe4 came to replace 17 ♗xe4 (17 ♙xe4 ♙xd4 18 ♙xd4 f5 19 f3 fxe4 20 fxe4 ♗e5 21 ♞f2 ♞f8 22 ♞xf8+ ♞xf8 23 ♞xf8+ ♙xf8 24 ♗xb5). Lady luck was on my side. I had not lost any material, my opponent was unaware of my hasty little upset and I still had the better position.

22	.....	♞xf8
23	♞xf8+	♙xf8
24	♞a7	

24 ♙xe5 dxe5 25 ♞a7 ♙b7

24	♗d7
----	-------	-----

24 ... ♙b7 25 ♙b6!±; 24 ... ♞b7?? 25 ♞a8+; 24 ... ♗f7 25 ♙f2

25	♙d1	♙b7
26	♙g4	♞e8
27	♙f2	

27 ♙xd7+!? ♙xd7 28 e5.

27	.....	h5
28	♙f3	

Preparing e5. 28 ♙xd7+ ♙xd7 29 ♙e3 was not as clear cut as I had previously thought; 28 ♙d1!? prepares for Black's inevitable pawn push with b4 with c3

28 ♘c8
 29 ♖e3 ♜b7
 30 ♜a5
 30 ... b4? 31 ♜a6 ♖e7 32 ♜c6.
 30 ♖e7
 31 ♖f4 b4
 32 e5!? dxex5+
 33 ♗xe5 ♜xe5
 34 ♖xe5 ♖d8
 35 ♖d4
 35 ♜c5 c3 36 bxc3 b3 37 d6 ♜b6!
 (37 ... ♜b8 38 ♗e4 b2+; 37 ... b2
 38 ♗xb7 b1=♙ 39 ♜xc8+ ♖d7 40
 ♜c7+ ♖d8 41 ♗e4±).
 35 c3
 36 bxc3 b3
 37 ♜a1

37 ♗e4 b2 38 ♗xg6 b1=♙ 39
 ♗xb1 ♜xb1 is interesting to
 analyse on a wet Sunday, when no
 games have come through the post!

37 b2
 38 ♜b1 ♗f5
 39 ♗e4 ♗xe4
 40 ♖xe4 ♖c7!?

Slightly more subtle than 40 ... ♖d7
 keeping ♜d8 as a possibility. White
 has to be careful, it is easy to swap
 down to technically drawn rook and
 pawn ending

41 c4 ♜b3
 42 c5 h4
 43 ♖d4 g5
 44 ♖c4 ♜b8
 45 ♖c3 ♜d8
 46 ♖d4

46 ♜xb2 ♜xd5 47 ♖c4 ♜f5 48
 ♜d2 and in an OTB game, with the
 king-side pawns removed and a
 quick play finish, this position would
 attract a large number of spectators
 around the board and many diverse
 opinions after White or Black had
 blown it!

46 ♜b8
 47 ♖c4 ♖d7
 48 ♖c3 ♜b5
 49 ♜xb2 ♜xc5+
 50 ♖d4 ♜c1
 51 ♜b7+

51 ♖e5 g4 52 hxg4 ♜c3 53 g5, but
 I follow the advice on P164 of
*Comprehensive Chess Endings :
 Volume 5 Rook Endings*; "two
 connected pawns normally win in all
 cases"

51 ♖d6
 52 ♜b6+ ♖d7
 53 ♜g6
 1 0



Another Three Scottish Masters

[by Raymond Baxter]

In August, the SCCA Executive approved the award of the SCCA Master Title to George Sprott, Jim Stewart and myself. We have each gained the required three norms.

George Sprott was Scottish Champion 1988/90 and obtained a second norm with an ICCF grade of 2305 in 1992. His third norm comes from his ICCF grade of 2315.

Jim Stewart had ICCF grades of 2380 in 1996 and 2325 in 1997. He has now gained a third norm for his ICCF grade of 2323.

I gained my first norm for an SCCA grade of 2380 in 1990 and my second for an ICCF grade of 2305 in 1996. A current ICCF grade of 2329 provides my third norm.

Scottish players with international titles are also SCCA Masters. There are now 18 SCCA Masters, listed in order of date of achieving this title.

1979	Ken McAlpine (IM 90)	1993	Alan Borwell (IM 93)
1981	Douglas Bryson (IM 85, GM 86)	1993	Colin McNab (IM 94)
1983	Philip Giulian (IM 92)	1994	Tommy Craig
1986	Alan Norris	1995	George Pyrich (IM 95)
1987	Graham Morrison	1997	Simon Gillam
1988	Tim Wickens (IM 88)	1997	Joe Watson
1989	Richard Beecham	1998	Raymond Baxter
1990	Andy Muir (IM 90, GM 95)	1998	George Sprott
1992	David Kilgour (IM 92, GM 96)	1998	Jim Stewart

Norms have also been achieved this year by Douglas Finnie (second norm) and Tom Thomson (two norms), and the following 13 players have SCCA Master Norms:-

I. Aird, C.F. Boyle, D.H. Dempster, D.S. Finnie (2), Mrs. M. Inglis, D.M. Jenkins (2),
 D.M. Livie (2), P.J. McGowan, D. McKerracher, C.J. Morrison, G.A. Morton,
 J.A.B. Stevenson (2), T. Thomson (2)

There is no time limit for norms awarded under the current rules. Once a norm is gained it cannot be lost. However, this was not always the case under some previous rules, where norms lapsed after six years. All previously awarded norms have been checked, and the above list includes only the norms which remain valid.

What is Chess about?

A Cosmogonic Vision

[Carlos Almarza-Mato]

Pol. (aside) *"Though this be madness, yet there is method in't"*
Hamlet, W. Shakespeare.

"The fascination of chess is that it mirrors each man's struggle against the forces of darkness which attempt to gain control over his consciousness." (Rabbi Tzvi Abraham).

The following lines are a cosmogonic vision of chess. They may be true or perhaps I may be totally wrong. But for those who "believe" perhaps their vision of chess will never be the same.....

---o0o---

Chess may be understood as a game with a deep symbolic meaning. The symbols contained in a game, consciously and subconsciously, keep occult and strange relations with the mind in the way the brain creates processes and carries out creative ideas through different paths, e.g. convergent thinking, divergent thinking and lateral thinking.

In chess, we have four states which represent a symbolic and cosmogonical archetype. Here they are with their possible or impossible meanings:-

1. PAWNS: The "lower" state; revolutionaries; heretics; servants; brute force. But the only transmutable element.
2. KNIGHTS: Rich soldiers, but also the Knights Templar with the proper mystical connections.
3. BISHOPS: The church (any church), but also the Inquisition; secular power with spiritual links. Support of the Establishment (represented by King and Queen)
4. KING/
QUEEN: Power; God-sent medieval monarchs. The Establishment.

(If you are wondering about the Rooks, I will say that they are the only non-living element. A sort of material protection for the rest of the elements).

Curiously enough, a Bishop may trap a Knight on an empty board, while a Knight would need the help of pawns at least. While in the opening, pawns protect King and Queen, in the ending all pieces have to protect the pawns to win the game (since the pawn's fate is to carry out an "alchemical transmutation" on reaching the eighth rank).

So a game of chess is a sort of alchemical creation which operates on the very players themselves too (for good or evil). And chess is also the archetypal representation of a missing knowledge pursued by the alchemists, Templars, Kabbalists, mystics of every occult tradition, etc. As in Bergman's film *The Seventh Seal*, we are playing against death (represented by our opponent) when we play chess.

Symbolically speaking, chess operates on an occult plane. It is the fight of matter against spirit, of fear against impulse, the instinct of survival. Every move can be "a point of no return." With every move, a door (or many) may be closed for ever. In the end, there will be only one door for both players to go through. In this moment, the player reaches a cosmological fate: the destruction of the forces of darkness which would otherwise destroy him. This is the ORDEAL. Chess, with its philosophical depth, is but another quest for the symbolic Holy Grail, or, in other words, for the so-called "verbum dismissum" of alchemists and kabbalists. The human being is a transcendental creation. Literally, one who can go beyond his own limited nature in search of the spiritual Truth. The game of chess is one of the ways to self-perfection which also allows the fulfilment of the Delphi oracle: "Know Thyself," using a sort of esoteric knowledge, that is, one transmitted through symbols.

Before the first move is made, the player has to fight against the forces of darkness within himself. Then, the same player becomes a kind of "light-seeker." Moves appear one after another creating a sort of chaos which both players try to put in order using their knowledge of strategy and their tactical skill. The player becomes a "demiurgos" or creator who tries to infuse light into a chaotic microcosm that he himself has created. Even when seemingly immutable laws are applied (strategy?), the final outcome may mean sheer disaster, for the player is

also confronted against a universe with its own paradoxical laws (tactics?), with a logic of its own, a logic which surpasses the limited conscient nature of the human being, in clear contrast to the unlimited universe of our subconscious plane. And it is on this subconscious plane where the archetypal meanings of chess have their realm, in the sun-bathed silent forest of our imagination, where we can listen to the music of the universe, where the mysteries find their explanation like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, in a world of contradictory paradoxes where the pristine light abides.

And on the surface, the Fischerean and Kasparovian concept of attack: the destruction of both the enemy's position as well as his willpower, to provoke that only one of the warriors fulfils the Ordeal. Or the Nimzowitschean approach of indirectness later patronised by Petrosian and Karpov, where everything seems to be what it is not, or Spassky's eclecticism, in which the fight is against he himself in a philosophical battlefield, or the speculative (Latin - speculum - "mirror") style of Tal

In a sense or another, consciently or unconsciently, we have seen how the great masters have restored, one time or another, to use the metaphor of "light against darkness", converting themselves into heroes and their opponents in the incarnated forces of evil (rivalries like those of Kasparov/Karpov; Korchnoi/Karpov; Fischer/the Russians; Nimzowitsch/Tarrasch; Korchnoi against the Soviets after his defection, etc.) The supreme clash of Thesis versus Antithesis to reach an apparently impossible Synthesis through the power of the negation.

When the player starts the game, he is tearing the veils to begin an initiatory trip (realise it or not). The final result would mean the achievement of a glorious feat or sheer self-destruction (Fischer, Alekhine . . .). The control of the superior forces and the confirmation of one's own principles or the emptiness and the prevailing of the chaos, the way back to contemplate oneself in the Shakespearean mirror "where all images are distorted."

Unfortunately, in these days of utter pragmatism, in a super-professional chess, we are starting to lose the philosophical part of chess, the mystical part of the game and its initiatory meaning, in the same way that we cannot understand most of the Kabbalistic or mystical images for lack of the key to interpret them. Or perhaps this is a subconscious way to preserve a secret. And so the human being will always have a mystery to unravel.

---o0o---

P.S. In fact, I have written nothing. Nothing in the above lines exists. You have created everything with your imagination through the association of ideas only existing within your mind. I have done nothing so as everything is done, as the Tao teaches. But never forget the ancient Egyptian proverb which goes:

"When the order of mankind fails, the hope remains that something unforeseen will take its place."



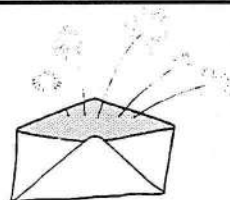
Editor. This is the first of a series of articles from our Spanish member and friend, Carlos Almarza-Mato. As you can see, Carlos has an excellent command of the English Language and is an M.A. in English Philology which he gained by studying at Valladolid University which dates back to the 13th Century! He has a great affection for Scotland and the SCCA, and we are delighted and grateful to be able to publish such interesting articles.

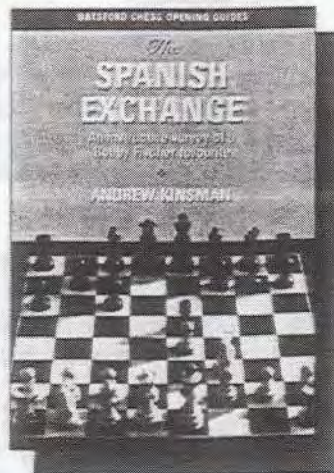
Future articles include one about chess training methods, based on Carlos' own knowledge and experience, which will provide some useful hints, but he emphasises that "every player must search and think for themselves." He is also producing a reassessment about Bobby Fischer, which should be very interesting to those of us who lived through the Fischer era.

We look forward to publishing these articles in future editions of the SCCA Magazine.

Readers' Letters

In earlier years, we have received interesting letters about correspondence chess and the Association from readers. We would be very pleased to hear from you, with your views, suggestions and queries. These will be published with responses (as appropriate) from SCCA officials, for the benefit and interest of all members / subscribers.





THE SPANISH EXCHANGE

Andrew Kinsman

When Bobby Fischer scored a series of devastating victories with the Exchange Spanish (1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Bxc6!) it led to a full-scale revival of this time-honoured variation. Championed today by top flight players such as Timman, Shirov and Rozentalis it remains one of the most dreaded lines at White's disposal. Plans and ideas are more important than the memorisation of book lines which makes it perfect for the positional club player.

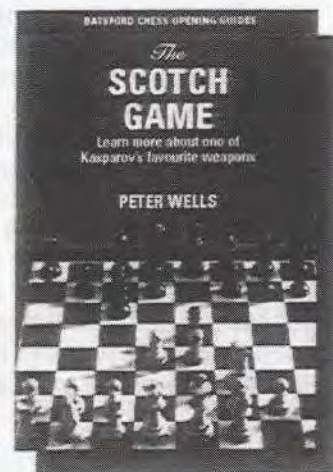
0 7134 8471 3 £14.99

THE SCOTCH GAME

Peter Wells

Garry Kasparov incorporated the Scotch (1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4) into his opening repertoire as a way to ruffle Anatoly Karpov's feathers in their 1990 vintage World Championship match. The lively and dynamic Scotch offers great potential for aggression without the risk of the romantic gambits. Highly recommended for controlled attacking play.

0 7134 8471 3 £14.99



THE SICILIAN ACCELERATED DRAGON

Peter Heine Nielsen and Carsten Hansen

The ULTIMATE work on this dynamic line of the Sicilian. The Accelerated Dragon (1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6!) has a great advantage over the standard highly theoretical form in that the plan of plan of trying to mate Black on the kingside with Be3, f3, Qd2, Bh6 and h4 falls flat on its face! At club level many White players will mistakenly try this anyway which makes it into a really cunning way to meet 1 e4. The once feared Maroczy Bind (5 c4) has also been effectively defused which has persuaded many top GMs to turn to this opening as an active yet reliable weapon.

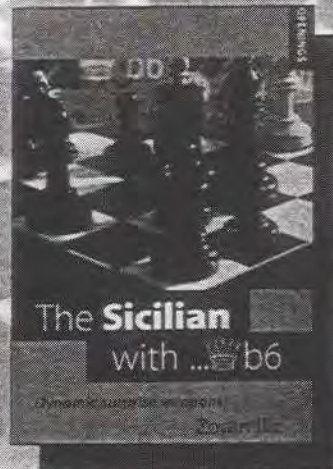
0 7134 7986 8 £14.99

THE SICILIAN WITH ...QB6

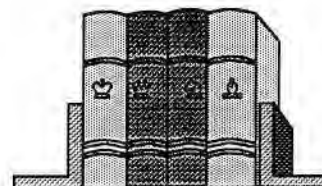
Zoran Ilic

Do YOU want all the counterattacking potential of the Sicilian Defence without the massive amount of theory? The lines with 4 ...Qb6 (after 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 - or 2 ...Nc6 - 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4) offer this opportunity, one which should be taken now while the theory of these lines is still young. Ilic also examines 6 ...Qb6 as a means of defusing the much-feared Sozin-Velimirovic Attack (1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6).

0 7134 8238 9 £14.99



NEW BOOKS



BATSFORD
b

The Complete Richter-Rauzer by Peter Wells & Viacheslav Osnos 320 pages, £17.99

This is an essential book for the strong 1 e4 player or Sicilian Richter-Rauzer addict. Packed with up-to-date analysis from modern tournament practice, it covers all main lines in considerable depth, as well as deviations such as 6 ... Bd7 and 6 ... e6 7 Bb5 and Keres novel 7 Qd3!? which remains a good alternative to placing the Q on d2.

The Chess Player's Battle Manual by Nigel Davies 160 pages, £11.99

This GM author works actively with club players and coaches them in key skills such as game planning, building a usable opening repertoire etc.

The book includes a section on how to beat computers. For the correspondence player who is worried that opponents may be using them, there is good advice on how to turn this to your advantage!

A nice, compact, well researched and written book - ideal for CC players wishing to progress to 2000+ ratings!

From Beginner to Expert in 40 Lessons by Aleksander Kostyev 147 pages, £11.99

Translated by Jon Speelman, this book endeavours to achieve the impossible in its title! However, it does include helpful lessons on some of the basic principles of good chess.

Judgement & Planning in Chess by Max Euwe 176 pages, £14.99

A classic book, written almost half a century ago, which deserves to reappear in this modern figurine/algebraic notation format, with some updating of references by John Nunn.

Essentially, this is a timeless training manual covering all the basic positional concepts as well as principles for attacking and exploitation of weaknesses. Do we get this quality of writing nowadays?

Chess Choice Challenge by Chris Ward & John Emms 144 pages, £11.99

A series of 80 well chosen test positions, which are the basis for an entertaining and instructive book.

Points are awarded according to moves selected - which can provide a valuable lesson in "always looking for the best move" in a position, rather than merely a good one!

Mastering the Nimzo-Indian by Tony Kosten 145 pages, £12.99

Following his earlier successful book "New Ideas in the Nimzo-Indian Defence," GM Tony Kosten deals with the strategy of this very important chess opening. He thoroughly considers the various pawn structures which can arise and the battle for control of the central squares.

There is a neat summary table of valuations, ECO codes and games references.

Learn from the Grandmaster by Raymond Keene 160 pages, £12.99

Another reprint (in figurine/algebraic notation) of an old book first published in 1975. Five of the original contributors have been substituted by a rather strange conglomeration of new ones - not achieving much improvement!

Tactical Chess Endings by John Nunn 208 pages, £13.99

This claims to be "an instructive guide to tactics in the endgame" and this description is justified.

Many OTB games in GM play are decided by errors or missed opportunities in the endgame phase. Even in CC, there are plenty of examples where games have concluded in an unexpected way in the ending.

Divided into chapters according to "theme", e.g. stalemate, zugzwang, perpetual check, etc, the selected examples have been well compiled.

This is an updated reprint of the 1981 edition, which was also written by this prolific author.

Batsfords Chess Opening Guides

The Spanish Exchange by Andrew Kinsman 144 pages, £14.99

The Scotch Game by Peter Wells 160 pages, £14.99

Two more excellent specialist openings books, nicely presented using selected games, mostly from the last decade.

Some may consider the Spanish Exchange to represent a rather unimaginative way to play this most historic opening. However, it is a very potent method whereby White can gain a secure advantage, without allowing Black to play his favourite variation. 65 games used.

The other book is a rather more substantive work, with 88 games, slightly smaller print and very instructive commentary by an excellent and creative author. A useful opening for CC players as there is still plenty of scope for creativity in less analysed variations.

Cadogan Chess Books

After a rather long gap and changing of seats of various chess editors, this series of new Cadogan titles arrived in September. Most of them have been published in association with the new *Gambit Publications*, who also produce their own titles - which all seems very complicated!

Here are the new titles under the "Cadogan" banner. Incidentally, it is very exasperating that the price is not printed on these books!

Easy Guide to the Nimzo-Indian by John Emms 128 pages, £12.99

This was the first in the new "easy guide" series intended to present openings in a relatively simple way. Perhaps more useful to OTB players where opponents are unable to call upon databases, except for that which can be stored in the human memory!

Easy Guide to the Reti Opening by Angus Dunnington 128 pages, £12.99

It is mentioned on the cover that this author has written a regular column in the *Yorkshire Post* since he was 15 years old. It was about that time when we invited him to play in the Perth Congress and it is good to see that he has developed into an excellent author. The Reti has never been one of my favourite openings, but maybe that is because I don't really understand its subtleties!

Easy Guide to the Sicilian Scheveningen by Steffen Pedersen 128 pages, £12.99

Is this book trying to achieve the impossible? This is probably one of the most profound and heavily analysed of all Sicilian variations.

For strong postal players - beware! This book does not include well-known innovations, so what about the lesser known ones which are so important for quality CC games.

Fianchetto Grünfeld by Mikhailchishin & Belyavsky 192 pages, £14.99

Now we have something of rather more appeal to CC players. The Grünfeld is one of those active and unbalanced defences which can make it difficult for White. It offers Black not only chances of equalising but also for gaining a decisive advantage.

The solid Fianchetto System aims to restrict Black's active piece play and focuses attention on his potential Q-side weaknesses.

Translated by Ken Neat from the work of two leading Ukrainian GMs. Mikhailchishin is probably the World's leading expert on this variation.

Averbakh's Selected Games by Yuri Averbakh 192 pages, £16.99

Contains 60 well annotated games, selected by this distinguished 75-year-old Russian GM.

Again translated by Ken Neat, this book is a celebration of a lifetime of chess. He repeats the words of Tarrasch that "chess, like love and music, can make man happy!" Certainly, there are many games in this book which inspire this feeling.

Uncompromising Chess by Alexander Belyavsky 192 pages, £15.99

Written by the 1973 World Junior Champion, this book contains 71 of Belyavsky's finest games. This Ukrainian is one of the most direct, aggressive and creative of modern Grandmasters. He also has an original and humorous style of writing which is brought out in Ken Neat's meticulous translation.

The Quickest Chess Victories of all time by Graham Burgess 224 pages, £14.99

A collection of games won in 13 moves or fewer. Hopefully, most CC players are less blunder-prone in the openings.



A Startling Chess Opening Repertoire by Chris Baker 240 pages, £16.99

This English author has recently become an IM and this is his first book for Cadogan.

His selection of "startling" openings is interesting as it provides CC players with ideas for using less well known and heavily analysed openings.

It recommends the Max Lange Attack for White, the interesting 1 ... e6 2 Nf3 d5 3 Nc3 against the French and a deferred d4 against the Sicilian, after either Bb5 or g3.

For Black, he offers the Scandinavian or Modern Defence with ... d6 and/or ... g6 and the Nimzowitsch 1 ... Nc6, all of which offer plenty of scope for creativity!



The Mammoth Book of the World's Greatest Chess Games by Burgess, Nunn & Emms 560 pages, £9.99 published by Robinson, London

Certainly the first part of the title is accurate, but how can a book claim to contain the World's greatest chess games if it includes only three CC games?! (Rubezov - Borisenko, 1960/63; Estrin-Berliner, 1965/68; Kopylov-Korolov, 1981/83)

Included is Deep Blue v Kasparov - hardly a "great chess game"! To my mind, the greatest chess games of all time should be like musical masterpieces or fine works of art. They should be error-free and full of beauty and creativity. Therefore, there are surely many more CC games which would justify selection, including some played in more recent years!

Of course, there are many famous and fascinating games in this collection covering the period 1834-1997, and the price represents good value nowadays.

Chess Champion from China Life and Games of Xie Jun by Xie Jun 223 pages, £15.99

The story of a remarkable young Chinese lady who became Women's World Champion in 1991.

Contains a selection of 40 annotated games, coupled with the inside story of the development of a talented chess player in a Chinese setting.

Xie Jun's ability to write and produce such a book in English is also a testament to her remarkable linguistic talents.

101 Chess Opening Traps by Steve Giddins 112 pages, £10.99

This is a useful little book for unsuspecting CC players who might be tempted to stray from well analysed variations, only to fall into an opening trap.

How to Beat your Dad at Chess by Murray Chandler 127 pages, £9.99

Contains 50 deadly checkmating patterns - very elementary. Surely Dads who play CC allow their sons (or daughters) to win a few games to encourage them - that's my excuse anyway! (Niall hasn't seen this book yet!)

Guide to the Bogo-Indian by Steffen Pedersen 160 pages, £14.99

Similar in style to the Cadogan "Easy Guide" series - indeed the same author as their Sicilian Scheveningen book!

Recently arrived, it covers all lines of the Bogo, explaining strategies and tactical ideas for both players. Most of the book deals with 4 Bd2 and its sub-variations, the ambitious 4 Nbd2 and the Catalan Bogo 3 g3 Bb4+ are also covered.

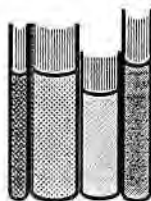


Trends Opening Booklets all £3.95 each

These useful booklets each contain 100 selected games covering recent theory and opening innovations. Each chapter deals with a different sub-variation and a commentary by the team of experienced analysts.

Albin Counter Gambit	Chris Ward
Bird's Opening, Vol 2	Natasha Negan & Susan Lalic
Colle System, Vol 2	Susan Lalic
London System, Vol 2	Glenn Flear
Sicilian Najdorf, Vol 3	Bogdan Lalic
-do- Scheveningen, v2	Graham Buckley

More than 130 titles have now been published in this popular series over almost 10 years and their price has remained unchanged since 1993!



Thinker's Press Inc.

How Purdy Won The Correspondence Chess Career of a World Champion 176 pages, \$18

This is a second edition of one of the most famous and highly regarded CC books. It provides a fascinating insight into the mind and games of the first ever World Correspondence Chess Champion (1950-53).

Sadly, Cecil Purdy died in 1979 and, remarkably, he played only 46 competitive correspondence chess games. Nowadays, with Semi-Finals, 3/4-Finals, along with CC Olympiads and international GM invitation tournaments, most of the leading World Championship contenders have played many more CC games. When I visit Australia at the end of this year, I am hoping to meet many CC friends, including the co-authors of the book, Frank Hutchings and Kevin Harrison.

French Defence by Nikolay Minev, IM 328 pages, \$25

Another Thinkers' Press publication which is also a second edition of "French Defence - New and Forgotten Ideas". It contains 520 complete and instructive games, with a further 203 complete games in the notes. It claims to contain 1000 forgotten lines, suggestions and TNs from standard book theory.

This book should provide a source of creative ideas for French Defence exponents -recommended!



My 75 Year Chess Career by Walter Muir

International Correspondence Chess Master
and new ICCF Honorary Member
by Jerry P. Hopfer
354 pages, £12.99
(Copies still available from Qualitext Business Services [until 31/12/98] at this price)

This is a wonderful book about this fascinating "Dean of American Correspondence Chess"!

Walter was born in 1905 and this is the story of how his love of chess has been intertwined in his life for over 75 years.

It is also an embroidered travelogue of the experiences of Walter and his dear, now departed wife Dorothy during their last 50 years together. He says he learnt to drive an automobile (defensively!!) in 1946.

There are 80 of his fine games, a complete tournament schedule and a record of all the football games he attended 1923-1980!!

It is a beautifully written book, full of fascinating stories and anecdotes, leaving the reader with a warm feeling of admiration and well-being.

I was delighted at the ICCF Congress in Riga this year to bestow the title of Honorary Member of ICCF on this wonderful ambassador for our game - it is richly deserved.



GAMES SECTION

Selected by GAMES EDITOR Bernard Milligan,
15 Bothwell Court,
Hawick.
TD9 7EP.



Taking over this column is a daunting prospect. I follow in the footsteps of such giants as John Hawkes, Douglas Bryson and George Pyrich. Things can only go downhill from here on in.

I won't pretend to have a fraction of the chess talent of any of my predecessors, but I will do my best to maintain their high standards.

This is the members' column. Its contents will largely be governed by you. **Please** send in your annotated games. You may not think they're quite up to Grandmaster level, but very few of our members are Grandmasters. Rest assured, your games deserve to be enjoyed by others.

Many players send in games which have been annotated and printed either using ChessBase or Fritz. Although not necessary it would be appreciated if any such player could provide the game on disk. This saves me a lot of typing and should cut down on any errors on my part.

I start this daunting journey with a contribution from Carlos Almarza-Mato, so set up the boards and enjoy.

ICCF - EU/H/1249

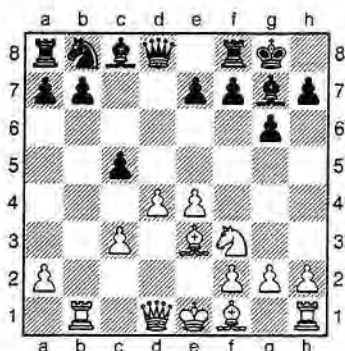
White: C. Almarza-Mato

Black: S. Enderlein

Grunfeld Defence - Main line [D85]

- | | | |
|---|------|------|
| 1 | d4 | ♘f6 |
| 2 | c4 | g6 |
| 3 | ♘c3 | d5 |
| 4 | cxd5 | ♘xd5 |
| 5 | e4 | ♘xc3 |
| 6 | bxc3 | c5 |
| 7 | ♞b1 | ♘g7 |
| 8 | ♘f3 | 0-0 |
| 9 | ♘e3 | |

Please send games (preferably annotated) to Games Editor, Bernard Milligan, 15 Bothwell Court, Hawick, Roxburghshire, TD9 7EP.



9 ♘e2 cxd4 10 cxd4 ♖a5+ 11 ♘d2 ♗xa2 12 0-0 ♘g4 13 ♘e3 ♘c6 14 ♞xb7 ♞ab8 15 ♞xb8 ♞xb8 16 h3 ♘xf3 17 ♘xf3 e6 18 d5 ♘e5 19 ♘g5 h6 20 ♘e7 ♞b2 21 d6 ♞d2 22 ♗b1 ♗a4 23 ♗b8+ ♖h7 24 ♗c7 ♗d4 25 ♘g4 ♖g8 26 ♗c8+ ♖h7 27 ♗c7 ♖g8 28 ♗c8+ ♖h7 29 ♗c7; ½-½; P Well - J Rowson, (Agency Int, London, 1998).

- | | | |
|----|-------|-------|
| 9 | ..... | ♖a5 |
| 10 | ♗d2 | cxd4 |
| 11 | cxd4 | ♗xd2+ |
| 12 | ♖xd2 | |

In this line White has to accept some risks. The king can be an attacking piece (Steinitz). The idea is to leave the King on the Queen side to help in the control of Black's pawns.

- | | | |
|----|-------|-----|
| 12 | ..... | ♞d8 |
| 13 | d5! | |

The first step of White's strategical plan: the creation of a pawn wedge.

- | | | |
|----|-------|-----|
| 13 | | ♘c6 |
|----|-------|-----|

Taking advantage of the pin.

- | | | |
|----|-----|----|
| 14 | ♘c5 | e6 |
| 15 | d6 | |

The second step.

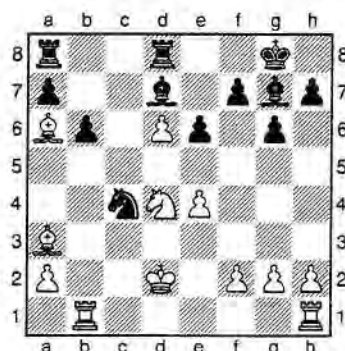
- | | | |
|----|-------|----|
| 15 | | b6 |
|----|-------|----|

What about 15...e5? A good plan would be then 16.♘c4 with the idea of ♘g5 or even ♖c2 and ♞d1. Black chose a difficult plan.

- | | | |
|----|-----|------|
| 16 | ♘a3 | ♘d7 |
| 17 | ♘a6 | ♘e5! |

Threatening 18...♘xf3 and a possible e5 isolating White's advanced pawn.

- | | | |
|----|-----|------|
| 18 | ♘d4 | ♘c4+ |
|----|-----|------|



18 ...♘g4 19 ♘f3 ♘c8 20 ♘c4 ♘b7 21 ♖e1 ♘xe4 22 ♞d1 ♞ac8 -+

- | | | |
|----|-------|------|
| 19 | ♘xc4! | ♘xd4 |
| 20 | f4 | ♘c6 |

In positional games one has to decide among plans which are far more clear. Intuition can play an important role. Black decided to attack White's pawn, instead of basing his plans on a possible ...e5.

21 e5!

A positional sacrifice. White decided that the pawn configuration gives him a clear strategical advantage. But for now accurate play is needed. 21 ♖d3 ♘c5 22 ♘xc5 bxc5 23 e5 ♘xg2 24 ♞hd1 ♘f3 25 ♞d2 ♞ab8 =

- | | | |
|----|-------|------|
| 21 | ..... | ♘xg2 |
| 22 | ♞hc1 | ♘e4 |
| 23 | ♘d3 | ♘d5 |
| 24 | ♞c2 | f6 |
| 25 | ♘b2!! | |

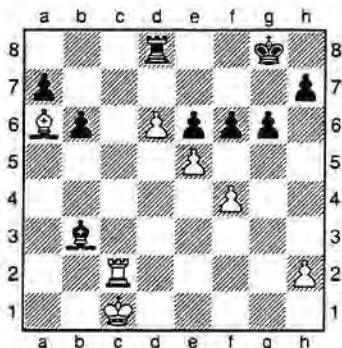
The second positional sacrifice based upon the following considerations: (a) White's King can help to stop Black's pawns on the Queen side; (b) White must

change the dark squared Bishops because his central pawns are on dark squares and dark is the promotion square of White's Q-pawn; (c) A pair of Rooks must be changed to tie Black down to his back rank. Then White will control the c-file too; (d) A fight for conjugated squares between the remaining Bishops will appear.

25 ♖xa2
26 ♜a1 ♖xb2
27 ♜xb2!

Following the established plan of battle.

27 ♖d5
28 ♜c1 ♜dc8
29 ♖a6 ♜xc1
30 ♖xc1 ♜d8
31 ♜c2 ♖b3



31 ... fxe5 32 fxe5 g5 33 ♜c7 h5
34 ♜xa7 ♜f8 35 d7 (35. ♜d7 ♜a8=) 35 ... ♜d8=

32 ♜c7

32 ♜c8 ♜xc8+ 33 ♖xc8 ♖a4
34 ♖xe6+ ♖f8 35 d7 ♖xd7
36 ♖xd7 ♖e7±

32 ♖a4

32 ... h5=

33 ♖c8

33 ♖c4 fxe5 34 ♖xe6+ ♖h8
35 fxe5 a5 36 ♖d5 b5 37 Kb2 b4±

33 ♖b3

In connection with 32 ... ♖a4 and 33 ... ♖b3 and with the benefit of hindsight, I suppose Black never knew how to play this position. Nevertheless I suppose that in case of 31 ... fxe5 32 fxe5 g5 33 ♜c7 h5 34 ♜xa7 ♜f8 the correct plan would be 35. ♜e7! Black has many difficulties. White's Bishop controls c8 and f1. Black cannot attempt to bring his king to e8 because White would play ♖b5 and ♜h7 posing new threats. The position is very complicated but

White managed to show that those central pawns were very dangerous for Black. In chess simply you have to choose, so committing yourself to the consequences. Black took his decisions and lost. He was bold enough (credit should be given to him) to decide and play accordingly. Chess is a complicated game and I have always found it very difficult to annotate my own games.

34 ♖b7

34. ♖a6=

34 a5

34 ... fxe5 35 fxe5 a5 36 ♖b2 ♖d1 37 ♜e7 ♖g4 38 d7 ♖f8 39 ♜xh7 =

35 ♜e7

35 ♜c8 ♜xc8+ 36 ♖xc8 ♖a4
37 ♖xc6+ ♖f8 38 d7 ♖xd7
39 ♖xd7 ♖e7±

35 fxe5

36 fxe5 ♜f8

37 ♖c6 ♖d5

37... ♜f2 38.d7 ♜c2+ 39. ♖d1+-

38 ♖xd5

1 0

♖♖♖♖♖

Now for an intriguing game from one of our friends from the Netherlands. Dick passed on the following game via Tom Thomson.

Lovers of the exotic are in for a treat after Dick's 1...h6. Even at Correspondence Master Class level, there is still plenty of scope for the bold player willing to venture down the tracks of the more unorthodox opening systems.

WT/M/GT/368, 1998

White: Otakar Pachman

Black: Dick Langerack

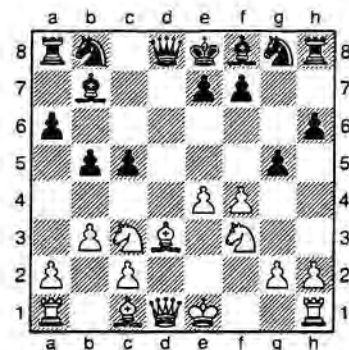
Basman-Macho Counter Attack

[A40]

1 d4 h6
2 e4 d6
3 ♖c3 a6
4 f4 b5
5 ♖f3 ♖b7
6 ♖d3

Maybe 6.a3 is more circumspect.

6 c5
7 dxc5 dxc5
8 b3 g5



A typical Basman move, fights for e5, clears the h-file and gets the Bishop to g7, here with tempi on ♖c3.

9 fxc5 ♖g7
10 ♖b2 hxg5
11 ♖xc5 ♖d7
12 ♜f3 ♖f6!?

To forestall 0-0-0 and tell ♖g5 not to be too optimistic about f7.

13 ♖d5!?! ♖xd5
14 exd5 ♜a5+

That came in handy. The game already plays itself in that there is no going back on heavy measures.

15 ♖f1

15 ♖e2 c4 16 bxc4 bxc4 17 ♖xc4 ♜h4 18 d6 ♜c8 19 ♖xf7+ ♖f8 and Black has ♜xc2 and ♜xg5.

15 ♜h6!
16 d6 ♜b8



Now how on earth will White save the ♖g5 or ♖b2?

17 ♖h7

17 h4?? ♖xc5; 17 ♖e4 ♖xb2; 17 ♖xf6 ♜xf6 18 ♖f5 ♖h6 19 g4 ♖e5 20 ♜f4 ♖hxg4 with the idea 21 ... ♜xf5 and 23 ... ♖e3+. The answer is an unbelievable six move sequence by the white Bishop all by itself! Watch this.....

17 ♖xc5
18 ♖xc5 ♜xd6!
19 ♖xf7+ ♖d8
20 ♖e8! ♖f6

20 ... ♖xe8? 21 ♜h5+, and ... ♜xg5.

21 ♜xd7 ♜xb2
22 ♜g4!!

With the idea 22... ♜xa1?? 23 ♜f8+ +-, saving Rook AND Queen.

22 ♜f6

I really didn't (and don't) see anything better.

23 ♜d1+ ♜d4
24 ♜f5 ♜c7

Probably short of winning, but it seemed logical to walk out of the pin, the more so as 24 ... e6 25 g4 exf5 26 c3 ♜c7 (26 ... fxg4?? 27 ♜xf6+) 27 g5! seemed impossibly difficult too.

25 ♜e1

Also 25 g4 proves very tough. I really would like to see a run from Fritz5.

25 e6!?

A very nasty trap for White; he had to play 26 ♜f4+ to take away d2 from the black Queen, in which case I don't see a win for Black, but he played

26 ♜xe6? ♜xe6
27 ♜xe6 ♜d2!

White is in terminal trouble but still manages to squeeze an endgame out of it.

28 g3 ♜e8
29 ♜f7+ ♜b6
30 h4 ♜a5!?



Black could have won the ♜e6 by ♜d1+ and ♜e2+, and maybe this would have been the quicker course, in retrospect, because White drums up some last nasty moves.

31 c3 ♜e7!

31 ... ♜xe6?? 32 ♜c7+ ♜b6
33 cxd4

32 b4+ ♜a4
33 cxd4

Best try.

33 ♜xf7+
34 ♜xf7 c4
35 h5 c3
36 ♜b3+ ♜xb4
37 ♜h4

I was glad he played this instead of the prosaic 37 h6, c2 etc, which also wins after many ++

37 a5!
38 h6 a4
39 d5+ ♜a3
40 h7 axb3
41 h8=♜ c2

A fitting end, don't you think? I hope you found this interesting.

0 1

♜♜♜♜♜

Since entering the Challenge Tournament, David Salter's Silicon beast, Novag Sapphire, has been causing mayhem as it roused opponent after opponent.

David Cumming has perhaps turned the tide as he becomes the first player to win a correspondence game against the unrelenting machine.

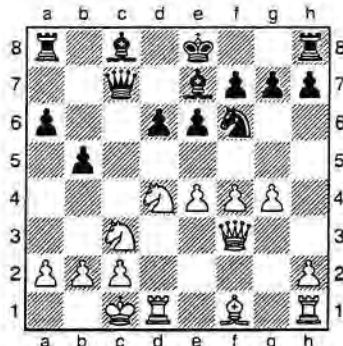
Challenge Tournament, 1998

White: N Sapphire

Black: D Cumming

Sicilian Najdorf [B99]

1 e4 c5
2 ♜f3 d6
3 d4 cxd4
4 ♜xd4 ♜f6
5 ♜c3 a6
6 ♜g5 e6
7 f4 ♜e7
8 ♜f3 ♜c7
9 0-0-0 ♜bd7
10 g4 b5
11 ♜xf6 ♜xf6

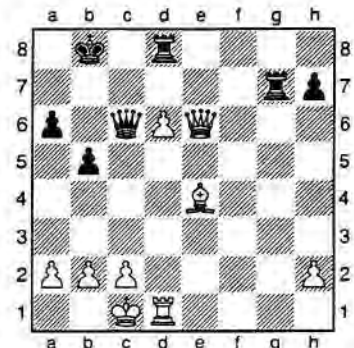


In my postal games against Humans recently, I have preferred 11 ... ♜xf6 here. However, owning a Sapphire myself. I knew the machine's opening repertoire so I played the main line.

12 g5 ♜d7
13 f5 ♜c5
14 f6 gxf6
15 gxf6 ♜f8
16 ♜g1 ♜d7
17 ♜g7 ♜xg7
18 fxg7 ♜g8
19 e5 0-0-0
20 exd6 ♜b6
21 Ne4 ♜c6
22 ♜xc6 ♜xc6
23 ♜xf7

The Sapphire was still in book at this point. A superior alternative was 23 ♜c3 ♜xe4 24 ♜xc5+ ♜b8 25 ♜c7+ ♜a8 26 ♜xf7! which may well be White's best according to Nunn and does indeed seem to be winning, hence my reason for preferring to play 11 ... ♜xf6 against human opponents!

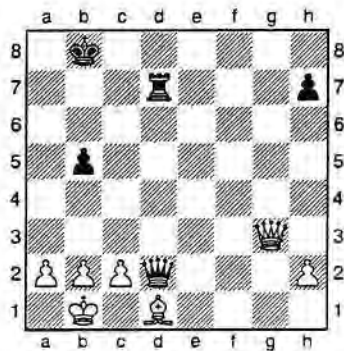
23 ♜xe4
24 ♜xe6+ ♜b8
25 ♜g2 ♜xg7
26 ♜xe4



Sapphire had exhausted its known theory with this move and had started to think for itself here.

26 ♜c5
27 ♜f3?! ♜g1
28 d7 ♜c7
29 ♜xa6 ♜xd1+
30 ♜xd1 ♜xd7
31 ♜a5+ ♜b8
32 ♜e1 ♜g5+
33 ♜b1 ♜d2

In an OTB game which I used as a "dress rehearsal" for this postal encounter, my own Sapphire, in TR8 mode, then played 34 ♜g3+!?



The game finished as follows:-
 34 ... ♖a7 35 ♜g1+ ♜d4!
 36 ♜xd4+ ♜xd4 37 ♖c1 ♜h4
 38 h3 ♜xh3 39 ♙g4 ♜h2 40 ♙f5
 h5 41 ♖d1 h4 42 ♖e1 ♖b6 43
 ♖f1 ♖c5 44 b3? b4! 45 ♖g1
 ♜d2 46 ♖f1 ♖d4 47 ♖g1 ♖c3
 48 ♖f1 ♖b2 49 ♖e1 ♜h2 50
 ♖f1 ♖xa2 51 ♖g1 ♜d2 52 ♖f1
 ♖b2 53 ♙e6 ♜xc2 54 ♙f7 ♜c3
 55 ♖e2 ♜xb3 56 ♙g8, and
 resigns. 0 1!!, played on Saturday,
 17th January, 1998.

34 ♜e5+ ♖a7 and Black wins,
 Varlamov - Kirillov, corres 1989.

34 ♜xd2 left me out of book and
 was different to the 34 ♜g3+!? as
 played in my OTB game vs. my
 own silicon monster. I still figured
 that as near as damn it, Black
 should effectively be winning, so
 time to start playing chess for
 myself.

- | | | |
|----|-------|------|
| 34 | ..... | ♜xd2 |
| 35 | ♖c1 | ♜xh2 |
| 36 | ♙f3 | h5 |
| 37 | ♖d1 | h4 |
| 38 | ♙e4 | h3 |
| 39 | ♖e1 | ♖c7 |
| 40 | a3 | ♖d6 |
| 41 | ♙f5 | ♖e5 |
| 42 | ♙c8 | ♜h1+ |

And with that, David Salter decided
 to call it a day for his Sapphire. He
 said in his note "Novag is
 approaching a minus-5 evaluation
 and it would probably take another
 2 months to actually make it resign,
 so I'll save us the agony!"

0 1
 ♖♖♖♖♖

I was tempted to publish one of
 Novag's wins to make up for
 David's victory. But not for too
 long!. Instead I settled for one of
 its masters own games.

Challenge Tournament, 1998

White: D Salter

Black: J F Rutherford

Queen's gambit Chigorin [D07]

[Notes by David Salter]

- | | | |
|---|-----|------|
| 1 | ♙f3 | d5 |
| 2 | d4 | ♙c6 |
| 3 | c4 | ♙g4 |
| 4 | ♙c3 | ♙xf3 |

Early departure from the usual.
 What's he up to?

- | | | |
|---|------|--------|
| 5 | exf3 | dx c4 |
| 6 | ♙xc4 | ♜xd4?! |

Ah, pawn grabbing. But in
 common with a number of opening
 situations, there's a downside.
 Black cannot hold onto the material
 without suffering positionally.
 Capturing by 6 ... ♙xd4 allows
 7 ♙d5 and there are a surprising
 number of tricks in that line to keep
 White happy.

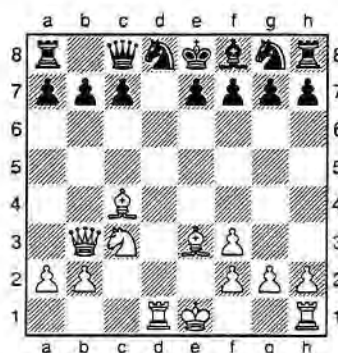
- | | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| 7 | ♜b3 | ♙d8?! |
|---|-----|-------|

White rejects 7 ♙xf7+ ♖xf7
 8 ♜b3+ e6 as there is greater
 scope for Black to muddy the
 waters. Retaining the threatening
 Bishop, and indeed the Bishop pair,
 looked better. Black's response
 defends the attacked pawns but
 clutters his back rank with non-
 participants. A developing move at
 the cost of a pawn was advisable.

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| 8 | ♙e3 | ♜d7 |
|---|-----|-----|

White takes advantage of the
 Queen and deploys the second
 Bishop. 8 ♙b5 ♜e5+ doesn't look
 so convincing. Black's retreat may
 have been too orientated towards
 stopping ♙b5. 8 ... ♜f6 may have
 been a lesser evil.

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| 9 | ♜d1 | ♜c8 |
|---|-----|-----|



Again White can bring more
 firepower to bear at the expense of
 the Queen's vulnerable position.
 The reply 9 ... ♜f5 may have been

tried but that white Knight would be
 ready to spring to b5 again.

- | | | |
|----|--------|------|
| 10 | ♜xd8+! | ♖xd8 |
|----|--------|------|

With such a lead in development
 and potential to embarrass the
 King, I was happy to give up the
 Rook for the poor defending
 Knight. 10 ... ♜xd8? 11 ♙xf7+
 ♖d7 12 ♜e6++.

- | | | |
|----|------|-----|
| 11 | ♙xf7 | ♙f6 |
| 12 | ♙e6 | ♜b8 |

White's Bishop imposes a blockade
 as well as driving away the Queen.
 12 ... ♙d7 would invite 13 0-0 with
 ♜d1 to follow.

- | | | |
|----|--------|-----|
| 13 | ♜d1+?! | ♖e8 |
|----|--------|-----|

White was intent on using the d-file
 for attacking and so it seemed the
 King on e8 would stop Black's
 Knight from redeploying via that
 square onto d6. However 13 ♙f4
 is unpleasant, as in 13 ... ♙e8
 14 ♜a4 ♙f6 15 ♙d5.

- | | | |
|----|-----|----|
| 14 | 0-0 | g6 |
|----|-----|----|

With the same intent, White wants
 to get the Rook available for the d-
 file but even here 14 ♙f4 is good.

- | | | |
|----|-----|-----|
| 15 | ♙e4 | ♜d8 |
|----|-----|-----|

Despite the slower than necessary
 build-up, White can now finish off.
 15 ... ♙g7 was another try but
 16 ♙h6 exposes the shortcomings
 of the Black position. (16 ... ♙xh6
 17 ♙xf6+)

- | | | |
|----|-----|-----|
| 16 | ♜b3 | ♜b8 |
|----|-----|-----|

Again 16 ... ♙g7 prolongs matters.

- | | | |
|----|--------|-----|
| 17 | ♙f7+ | ♖d8 |
| 18 | ♜d1+?! | |

Not bad, but inaccurate as 18
 ♜d3+ is quicker. (18 ... ♙d7 19
 ♙c5 ♜c8 20 ♙e6++)

- | | | |
|----|-------|-----|
| 18 | ..... | ♙d7 |
| 19 | ♜d5 | ♜c8 |
| 20 | ♙c5 | |

The "flashy" 20 ♙f6 works just as
 well. Black tried to hold onto
 material for too long. The resulting
 positional difficulties brought on by
 under-development and allowing
 the Queen to be harassed, were
 too great even to survive some
 inefficient latter moves by White.

1 0
 ♖♖♖♖♖

In the following encounter Colin Macgregor demonstrates how it is possible to gain a winning advantage right at the start of the game. An object lesson for those who think they can skimp on any serious analysis in the opening stages.

WT/III/956, 1998

White: C Macgregor

Black: L Bogers

4 Knights [C50]

(Rubenstein Variation with colours reversed.)

I had played Leonardo Bogers in a tournament some 3 years ago, at the time of my marriage, and as a wedding present, he sent me a beautiful clan crest and motto in wood!

1	e4	e5
2	xf3	xc6
3	xc4	xc5
4	xc3	xf6
5	xd5!	xe4

The only analysis of this line was by I Glaskov in the 1970s in the Soviet weekly "64". His analysis showed that the alternative 5...d6 allows 6 d4! xc4 7 xd4 xd4 (7 ... xd5 8 b5+ xf8 9 xb3 xb4+ 10 c3 xc3 11 bxc3 xc3+ 12 d2 xa1 13 xa1 with advantage to White) 8 g5 . The text move, however, gets Black into terrible trouble.

6 xe2 xf2+

The alternatives at move 6 are no better.

6 ... xf2 7 d4 wins material;

6 ... d6 7 d4 xd4 8 xd4 xd4 9 c3 is good for White

7	d1	f5
8	d3	xd4?
9	xd4	xd4
10	dxe4	f4



This blocks off the diagonal for the black-squared Bishop. White's pieces have more space, however.

11	c3	c6
12	cxd4	cxd5
13	h5+	

Black's King is very exposed.

13	....	g6??
14	xe5+	e7
15	xh8+	f8
16	xf8+	

To simplify things.

16	....	xf8
17	xd5	g5
18	d2	d6
19	b4	g4+

A delaying tactic.

20	d2	d8
21	ac1	

White is a Rook and Knight ahead, and is threatening to get his Rooks into play, with devastating effect.

1	0
♖	♗
♘	♙
♚	♛

Our esteemed International Secretary recently earned the title of International Master. With all the hard work he does for the SCCA, it beats me where he finds the time to provide games for the magazine, never mind play such high class chess. This is one of Tom's neat wins at a level I doubt I will ever reach.

EU/MSM/V/3-10, 1994

White: J Ferreira (2235)

Black: T Thomson (2200)

Ruy Lopez (Exchange Variation) [C68]

1	e4	e5
2	xf3	xc6
3	b5	a6
4	xc6	dx6
5	0-0	g6
6	a3	e6
7	xe2	f6
8	d1	0-0-0
9	d4	g4
10	e3	exd4
11	xd4	e7
12	xd8+	xd8
13	d1	e8
14	xc4	h5?

14 ... xe4? 15 d6+! ; 14 ... g6? 15 f4 e7 (15 ... c5? 16 d2 e7 17 a5+-) 16 d3 ; 14 ... e7 15 h3.

(A) 15 ... d7 16 d3 g5 (16 ... h5 17 a5 e6 18 d4 b6 19 c4+ c5 20 d3 xe3 21 xe3 a5 22 b4 axb4 23 a3 bxa3

24 xa3 b7 25 a1 c5 26 a7+ c6 27 d1 h6 28 c4 a8 29 ce5+ fe5 30 xe5+ b5 31 b1+) 17 xg5!+- fxg5 18 d4 f6 19 a7 d8 20 b8+ e7 21 c5+ f7 22 xc7 g6 23 xd7 .

(B) 15 ... e6 16 d4 f7? (16 ... d7 17 d2+) 17 g4++] 15 d3? [15 d2! e7 16 f4! h6 (16 ... g5 17 g3) 17 xc7 .

15	....	e7
16	d2	

16 h3 e6 17 d2 c5 =; 16 f4 h6 17 b3 c5 =.

16	c5
----	------	----

16 ... h6 17 d4 d8 18 b3+

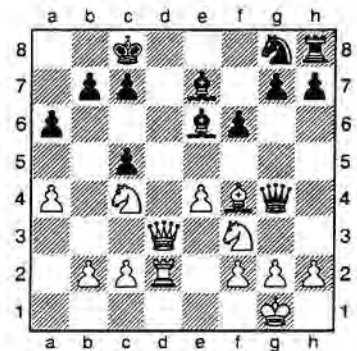
17	f4	e6
----	----	----

17 ... g5 18 g3 e8 19 b3+

18	a4?!
----	------

18 b3 xc4 19 xc4 g4 20 g3 b8 21 h3 c8 22 f7 .

18	g4
----	------	----



18 ... g5 19 g3 f7? (19 ... $\text{h6!?$ 20 b3 xc4 21 xc4 f7 22 c3+) 20 b4!

(A) 20 ... b8 21 b5 xc4? (21 ... g4 22 b6; 21 ... h5 22 b6; 21 ... h6 22 a5 d8 23 f1 xd2 24 xd2 e8 25 bxa6+-) 22 d7 d6 23 d8+ a7 24 xd6+- .

(B) 20 ... xc4?? 21 d7+ b8 22 xc7+ a7 23 b8+ b6 24 c7+ c6 25 d8 f8 26 c8+ (C) 20 ... cb4 21 d4 b8 22 a5 d6 23 xd6 cxd6 .

19	g3	h6
----	----	----

19 ... f5 20 c3+ .

20	h3
----	----

20 $\text{e3!?$ h5 21 c3 d8 22 d4 f7 23 xe6 xe6 24 xd8+ xd8 25 f3 c6 26 b4 cb4 27 xb4 .

20	....	g6
21	b3	xc4

22 ♖xc4 ♗f7
23 ♖e2

23 ♖c3 ♖e6 24 ♖a5 ♖c6 25 c3
♗d8 26 ♗d5 ♗xd5 27 exd5 ♖d7
28 b4 ±.

23 ♖e6

23 ... ♗d8 24 ♗xd8+ ♗xd8 (24 ...
♗xd8) 25 ♖xd2+ ♗c8 26 ♖a5
♗d6 27 ♗xd6 cxd6=) 25 ♗f4 g5
26 ♗e3 ♗e7 27 ♖d3 ♖e6=.

24 ♖e3 ♗e8=

24 ... ♗d8 25 ♗xd8+ ♗xd8 26
♖xc5 ♖xe4=.

25 a5?!

25 b4 ♗f8.

25 ♗f7

26 b3

26 ♗e2

26 ♗b8

26 ... ♗d6 27 ♗xd6 ♗xd6 28 e5
fxe5 29 ♗e2 e4 30 ♖xc5 ♖f6.

27 ♗e2

27 ♗d1!? ♗d6 28 ♗xd6 ♗xd6 29
♖xc5.

27 ♖c6

28 ♖d3

28 e5 ♗f8.

28 ♗d8

28 ... ♗d6 29 ♗xd6 ♖xd6 30
♖xd6 ♗xd6 31 e5=.

29 ♖c3

29 ♖c4 ♖e8 (29 ... ♗d6 30 ♖e6
♖d7 31 ♖xd7 ♗xd7 32 e5 ♗f5
33 ♗f4±).

29 ♖b5

29 ... ♗d6 30 ♖e1.

30 ♗d2 ♗d6

31 e5

31 ♖e3 ♖xa5 32 ♗d5 b6; 31
♗xd6 ♗xd6 32 e5 fxe5 33 ♗xe5
♖b4.

31 ♗e4

32 ♗xd8+ ♗xd8

33 ♖e3 ♗xg3

34 fxc3 c4

35 ♖d2 ♗e7

36 bxc4 ♖c5+

37 ♗f1 ♖xc4+

38 ♖d3 ♖xd3+

39 cxd3 fxe5

40 ♗xe5 ♗c8

41 d4 ♗f6

42 ♗f3 ♗d7

43 g4 c6

44 ♗e2 ♗e6

45 ♗d3 ♗d5

0 1

♗♗♗♗♗

Geoff Lloyd can always be relied upon to produce some spirited play as the following two games demonstrate.

Geoff is consistent with his approach and seems to like opening the f-file as soon as possible.

SCCA Premiers, 1998

White: A Kilgariff

Black: G Lloyd

Larsen's Opening A01

1 b3 g6

2 ♗b2 ♗f6

3 e4 ♗g7

4 ♗f3 d6

5 ♗c3

Tactics already, keep your eyes open at all times!

5 ♗xe4

6 ♗c4 ♗xc3

7 ♗xc3 ♗xc3

8 dxc3 0-0

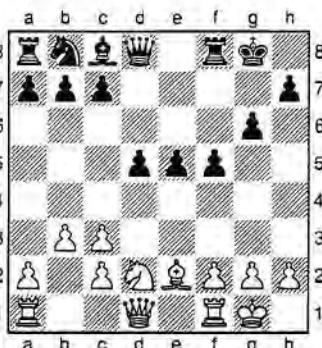
Well my pawns look pretty healthy to me and the centres on a plate.

9 0-0 e5

10 ♗d2 d5

11 ♗e2 f5

I have been pushing the f-pawn with a great deal of success in OTB play in the Modern Defence, particularly when White responds to ♖b6 with ♖b3 and an early exchange of Queens follows. The f-file is a dangerous file to occupy. Just look at the centre now!



12 c4 d4

13 ♗f3 ♗c6

14 ♖c1 e4

The moves play themselves.

15 ♗e1 f4

16 ♖b2 f3

17 gxf3 ♖g5+

18 ♗h1 ♖d2

19 fxe4 ♖xe2

20 ♗g2 ♗h3

21 ♗ae1 ♗xg2+

22 ♗xg2 ♖f3+

23 Kg1 ♗f4

0 1

♗♗♗♗♗

SCCA Premiers 1998

White: D Trennor

Black: G Lloyd

Larsen's Opening [A01]

The Modern can produce some lively play as the following game reveals. White adopts a much more aggressive style than the previous game, kicks the King's Knight around but still manages to lose.

1 b3 g6

2 ♗b2 ♗f6

3 e4 ♗g7

4 e5 ♗e4

5 d3 ♗g5

6 h4 ♗e6

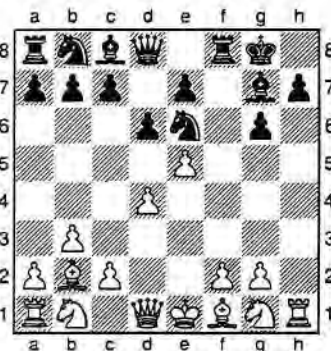
7 h5 d6

A little prod at the centre.

8 d4 0-0

9 hxg6 fxc6

Here's that f-file again.



10 ♗f3 dxe5

11 ♗c4 exd4

12 ♗g5 ♗f5!

13 ♖g4 b5

14 ♗xe6 ♗e5+

15 ♗f1 bxc4!

16 ♖f3 ♗xe6

17 ♖xa8

This at first looks OK for White, however the Queen is out on a limb and I have ideas to ensnare the crowned lady!

17 c3

18 ♖xc3 ♗a6+
 19 ♘g1 dxc3
 20 ♗a3 ♖e2
 21 ♗c4 ♗d4
 22 ♘h2

[22 ♗e3 ♗xe3 23 fxe3 ♖xc2 24 ♗xa7 e5 25 ♗c5 ♗g5 26 ♗d5+ ♘h8 still leaves Black winning comfortably. *BM*]

22 c6!!

White resigned. I don't think there's a way out after ♗c7+ and ♗b7!

0 1

♘♘♘♘♘

Finally, we have a fine game played by Tom Craig in the Alan Shaw Memorial Tournament, in which he narrowly failed to reach the IM title norm.

Alan Shaw Memorial 1995/6

White: Tom Craig (SCO)

Black: David Anderton (ENG)

French Defence C18

Tom says, "I was aware that David was a devoted French Defence man, but his 7th move really took me by surprise. It was even more surprising to discover that the variation has a name - the Eingorn Variation.

1 e4 e6
 2 d4 d5
 3 ♗c3 ♗b4
 4 e5 c5
 5 a3 ♗xc3+
 6 bxc3 ♗e7
 7 ♗g4 ♘f8!?
 8 a4

In an OTB game, this unusual variation would have more impact. Calmly, I was able to consider three alternative replies. 8 ♗f3 ♗a5 9 ♗d2 ♗a4 with counter play; 8 ♗d1!?; 8 h4!? intending ♖h3. 8 ... ♗c7 9 ♗d1!, Kasparov v P. Nikolic Horgen, 1994.

8 b6

8 ... ♗c7 9 ♗f3 (9 ♘d1!) 9 ... cxd4, Eingorn.

9 ♗f3 ♗a6
 10 ♗b5!?



I did find one of David's OTB games with this line: 10 ♗d3 ♗xd3 11 cxd3 ♗d7 12 0-0 ♘g8 13 ♗a3 ♖c8 (13 ... h6) 14 c4 h6 15 dxc5 bxc5 16 ♖ab1 ♘h7 17 ♖b7 ♖c7 18 ♖xc7 ♗xc7 19 d4 ♖c8 (19 ... ♖b8!?) 20 ♖c1 ♗a5 21 cxd5 ♗xa4 22 dxe6 ♗xa3 23 ♖f1 fxe6 24 ♗xe6 cxd4 25 ♗xd7 d3 26 g3 ♖c1 27 ♖xc1 ♗xc1+ 28 ♘g2 ♗a3 29 ♗e1 a5 30 ♗xd3+ (30 ♗xd3!) 30 ... ♗xd3 31 ♗xd3 a4 32 ♗b4 g5 33 f4 ♘g6 34 ♘f3 a3 35 ♘e4 h5 36 ♗a2 h4 37 ♗c3 h3 38 ♗a2 ♗f5 39 ♘d5 ♗e3+ 40 ♘d6 ♗f5+ 41 ♘d5 ♗e3+ 42 ♘d6 ♗f5+; ½:½, Thomas Ernst v David Anderton, Gausdal TM, 1992.

10 ♗xb5
 11 axb5 ♗e8!?

11 ... cxd4 12 cxd4 ♗c7 13 0-0 ♗xc2?! 14 ♗g5!; 11 ... ♗c7.

12 c4!?

He suggested "If 12 ♖b1 ♗d7."

12 ♗d7

12 ...cxd4 13 cxd5 ♗xd5 (13 ... ♗xb5) 14 ♗xd4 ♗d7 15 c4 ♗e7 16 ♗a3±; 12 ... dxc4 13 dxc5 ♗xb5 14 cxb6; 12 ... h5 13 ♗f4 ♗g6 (13 ... dxc4) 14 ♗e3.

13 cxd5 ♗xd5

13 ... exd5 14 0-0 (14 c4?!) 14 ... ♗g6 15 ♗d2 (15 ♖e1).

14 c4

14 0-0? ♗c3.

14 f5?!

Black offered a draw! 14 ... ♗c3 15 ♗f4±; 14 ... ♗e7 15 0-0 (15 ♗a3); 14 ... ♗b4 intending a5 15 ♗e4.

15 exf6

15 ♗g3 ♗c3.

15 ♗5xf6

15 ... ♗7xf6 16 ♗h4: (A) 16 ... ♗c3 17 dxc5 bxc5 18 ♗a3 ♗f34 19 0-0 (19 ♗e5!) 19 ... g5?! 20 ♗g4?? (20 ♗xg5!) 20 ... h5 -+; (B) 16 ... ♗b4 17 0-0.

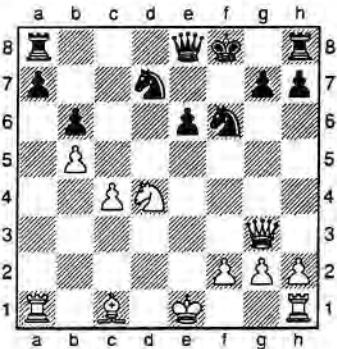
16 ♗g3

16 ♗f4 cxd4.

16 cxd4

16 ... ♗e4 17 ♗f4+ ♗df6 18 0-0 intending ♖e1.

17 ♗xd4



17 ♗c5

17 ... ♗e4 18 ♗f4+ ♗df6 19 ♗c7!?!; 17 ... ♘f7 18 0-0 ♗b8 19 ♗f4!?! e5 20 ♗f5 ♖g8 (20 ... g6 21 ♗h6+ ♘g7 22 ♗e3) 21 ♗e3±; 17 ... ♖c8? 18 ♗d6+ ♘g8 19 ♗c6.

18 0-0 ♘f7?!

18 ... ♘g8 19 ♗e3 ♗ce4 20 ♗c7±.

19 ♗c6 ♖f8

19 ... a5 20 ♗e3! ♗fd7? 21 ♗xc5 ♗xc5 22 ♗f3+!

20 ♗e3 ♘g8

Black has effectively taken four moves to castle!

21 ♗xc5 bxc5

22 ♖a2! ♗d7

23 ♗d6! e5

23 ... ♖f6 24 ♖d1!

24 ♖fa1 ♗f7

24 ... e4? 25 ♖xa7 ♖xa7 26 ♖xa7 ♖f7 27 ♗d5 e3 28 ♖a8!

25 ♗e7+ ♘h8

26 ♗xd7 ♖ae8

27 ♗xa7 ♖xe7

27 ... ♗xe7 28 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 29 ♖a8.

28 ♗xc5 ♖c7

29 ♖a7!

1 0

ChessBase 7.0

A review by Bernard Milligan

There were times when most Correspondence players were happy with only a few books and the occasional magazine to help them prepare for their games. Times changed and players began to look for ever more sophisticated means of ensuring they were up to date with the latest theory. Computerised databases such as ChessBase soon appeared to help the hard pressed correspondence player. Its speed in handling large games databases soon made it a must for any serious player.

The developers have constantly sought to improve on the program's performance over the years and the latest incarnation now available is ChessBase 7.0, which retails for around £225. With such a hefty price tag, players need to be sure it is what they want, so this article will look at some of the key improvements over the previous versions.

The main attribute of any computer software is its ease of operation for the user who generally doesn't want to spend hours learning how to do simple tasks. ChessBase 7.0 gets top marks in this department. Being a Windows-based program, everything is done by simply clicking the mouse and the developers have improved on previous versions by including one click access to the latest features.

Speed of operation is probably the next most important factor. The promotional literature boasts an improvement in speed by up to 100 times in some important functions. Certainly I found the speed impressive and was able to find the relative games from a million plus database in under a minute and that was only using a P166. What has to be borne in mind, however, is that speed claims should not be taken at face value as the hardware on your PC is what determines how fast you get things done. For example the developers claim removal of 30,000 doubles from a 900,000 database in 18½ minutes on a P233. More like 3 to 4 hours on my machine but as this is the sort of operation you only do occasionally that hardly seems to matter. What matters to me is being able to find suitable games to help me prepare and study the lines I am following in my own correspondence games. ChessBase 7.0 performs this task perfectly.

Now for a look at some of the impressive new tools available that I particularly liked. My favourite has to be what the developers have called the Opening Report. This allows the user to get a report based on the current game position from the games available in the reference database. By right clicking on the game board and selecting Opening Report, the program searches through the entire database for games where that position has occurred. The report generated from this information is impressive. Information produced includes historical development of the line, its popularity over the years, lists of strong Grandmasters and other notable players who have used that line and the critical lines and main plans. Any of the players' games highlighted in the report can be instantly accessed and viewed by mouse selection from the report. The critical lines and main plans are ideal for learning the opening under investigation, with information on what is normally played and the expected replies. All of this is of course dependent on the quality of your database, but as ChessBase 7.0 comes complete with Bigbase98, this won't be a problem. One of the first questions I asked myself was, "Is the information on these lines really any better than I would find in a good book?" I decided it was. Authors'

views are always subjective and they will generally only include lines which they consider relevant. ChessBase simply considers all the games played and therefore probably gives a more accurate overall picture. Books quickly become out of date, whereas if you frequently add new games to your database, your Opening Report will guide you with up to date information.

ChessBase 7.0's Repertoire Management allows you to build and maintain a database on your own choice of openings. As new games are added to your collection, these are scanned to see if any are relevant to your opening repertoire and, if they are, they are added to the repertoire database. This facility is a good idea since it saves you the time in having to sift through any large new database you buy just to find games relevant to your own opening preferences.

The new position tree is also a pretty useful tool and is similar to the openings books you can get for Fritz5. From a particular position you get a list of moves available, percentage score, average Elo and performance. This allows players, at a glance, to determine which lines may be good or bad for your side. Careful selection can then allow you to better utilise your time in analysing the appropriate lines. All too often players waste time analysing lines which are irrelevant and the use of the position tree should cut down on this waste of time. Correspondence players with a large number of games and limited study time will find this facility invaluable.

As I mentioned earlier, all of these valuable tools depend on having a good up-to-date database. This program takes this into account by allowing you to automatically download the latest games from the Internet free of charge. Games are downloaded from Mark Crowther's TWIC site which means you have instant access to the latest games played by the world's strongest players. The program also allows you to freely download any enhancements which the developers have come up with since you bought your copy of the program. Such after-sales service has got to be a major selling point for any software.

ChessBase 7.0 also allows the use of multiple analysis engines, any of which can be locked on a particular position in a game whilst you merrily explore the rest of its moves and variations. You can return to the analysis position later and see what the module has come up with whilst working in the background. In fact you can have a second or third analysis module switched on as you play through the other moves to see what might have been played at each point in the game.

There are many other subtle improvements which could be mentioned, but the main question is, "Would I recommend ChessBase 7.0 to serious correspondence players?" The answer is an emphatic **yes**. The program simply offers the best method to date for improving your play. You still have to put in the work but this will take out a lot of the pain involved. One piece of advice though is shop around. Traders can be competitive and as a result give special offers at different times. Phone around for the best price. A few pounds in phone calls could save you £50 on the purchase price.

We would like to thank Malcolm Pein of CB Software for providing us with the Review Copy of ChessBase 7.0.

More than one perspective of correspondence chess!

[by Neil R. McEwan]

Just how many games are played between SCCA members outwith the jurisdiction of the Association? Surely there must be a number of games ongoing between members on a "friendly" basis. The games below are between two SCCA members who still fit in friendly games around the time-limits of competitive matches.

Interestingly, we have never clashed in a competitive postal match, and as one player is playing regularly in SCCA events, whilst the other plays more frequently in ICCF events, it is quite possible that we might never lock horns competitively. This would give a joint satisfaction that in our only competitive OTB match back in our university days, we drew a game which involved two clubmates trying to knock the other into oblivion. That game featured a daft opening too!

Usually, both games have been annotated by the winner and the loser, allowing an unconventional insight into the minds (!?) of both players.

Friendly, 1996/97

White: N.R. McEwan

Black: S.G. Mackenzie

Nimzowitch Defence [B00]

1 e4 ♖c6

NRMcE: Typical play by Stuart! He picks something relatively obscure, but generally considered to be sound. This means that the game is one versus one, and not book plus player versus player. Now what does BCO say?

SGM: Ian Marks' article on the horrors of the Nimzowitch (Mag 58) was published after we began this. I wouldn't have suggested it otherwise.

2 d4 d5
3 exd5

NRMcE: Stuart occasionally ventures into a book shop and comes out with a book on an opening which he wants to test. Often the testing ground is accessed via my letter-box. However, I had recently invested in a copy of Benjamin and Schiller's book *Unorthodox Openings*. I had spotted something which might provide an interesting little sideline.

SGM: Neil has lots more books than I have. I assumed he wasn't bothering with them here. This move seems at first to lead simply to a position where Black has an extra pawn and better development. 3 e5 or ♖c3 are usual.

3 ♗xd5

NRMcE: This is predictable enough, and in keeping with the line in Benjamin and Schiller's book. This book is split into three sections, "The Good", "The Bad", and "The Ugly". The line to follow is 4 ♖c3!? which they printed in "The Good" section, and gave the credit for its invention

to Frank Marshall. This seemed good enough to me, although I now leave readers to draw their own conclusions.

4 ♖c3 ♗xd4
5 ♗e2

NRMcE: Marshall's move. Now the line considered is 5 ... e6 (although Keene suggests 5 ... ♗g4!?) 6 ♖b5! ♗d8 7 ♗f4 ♗d6 8 ♗xd6 cxd6 9 0-0-0 with a good position for White. This looks reasonable enough to me.

5 ♗f5

NRMcE: 5 ... ♗f5 seems much more aggressive than 5 ... e6, but less brutal than 5 ... ♗g4. Now for the chess equivalent of Route 1 football.

6 ♖b5!?

SGM: This move eschews development, but has a high irritation factor.

6 ♗b6
7 ♗f4 ♖c8

SGM: Very ugly. The rook is forced to defend a pawn that won't be advancing anytime soon. The K-sides of both teams wonder when their turn will come. In White's case, the answer is never!

8 ♗f3?!

NRMcE: Why did I play this? Well, the QN is now protected by the KB. In addition, this frees up the f1-a6 diagonal for the Bishop. There is also the added bonus of a cheapo in the making if the QB moves, allowing a discovered attack on the black QB on f5. However, the white KN is blocked from its "natural" developing f3 square.

SGM: Hmmm. This seems to force Black to make a move he wants to play anyway.

8 e6

9 0-0-0 ♖f6
10 h3?!

NRMcE: Messy. However, I was concerned about the prospect of the knight suddenly making an unwelcome attack on f2. Couple this with the potential for an attack on the Queen via ... ♗g4 and the skewer through to the rook, and I decided that this was a "logical" plan.

10 ♗c5
11 ♗g3 0-0!

SGM: One in the eye for Nikolai Gurtovoi! An attacking piece of castling, exploiting White's dubious strategy of attacking a meaningless pawn while failing to develop his pieces.

12 ♗xc7

SGM: Hard to see what White can do but follow his plan.

12 ♗xf2
13 ♗xb6 ♗xg3
14 ♖xa7?

NRMcE: You have two minutes to justify your decision to play this move, starting from now. Excuse number one - chess player's myopia. Excuse number two - I had a lousy position anyway. Excuse number three - I arrived home late from a brilliant party. All these are dreadful and worthless excuses. How about blaming it on the fact that this move was transmitted via e-mail from Sweden, and I was using a Swedish keyboard, which encrypted the move wrongly. Brilliant! That one is so far-fetched that nobody could think it was a made up excuse. Besides Scots never play well on foreign soil - ask any supporter of a Scottish football team.

SGM: ♗e3 might delay the imminent terror a little longer.

14 ♖xa7
 15 ♗xa7 ♜xc2+

NRMcE: This position reminds me of a comment made by Larsen on *The Master Game* (yes I'm old enough to remember it - just!). "I could move my King, or I could resign. I think resigning gives better winning chances."

SGM: I'm not old enough. We share a birthday, but it's separated by three years. I agree with the sentiment, however.

16 Resigns

SGM: Before things get really horrid. The ♗a7 consoles itself on its "good war," while the K-side troops off to the dole office to seek posts with "no previous experience required."

The result of this game would seem to vindicate the current situation in the SCCA Grading List (although I wish to submit our OTB gradings as Exhibit A - NRMcE).

SGM: Correspondence allows me to avoid the hideous mistakes that characterise my OTB play. It also exposes my lack of opening knowledge to slightly less derision.

☺ ☺ ☺

Friendly, 1991

White: N.R. McEwan

Black: S.G. Mackenzie

Paris Gambit [A00]

1 ♖h3!

NRMcE: Nimzowitch would have approved. This is straight out of the *Hypermodern* textbook.

SGM: And straight out of any textbook known to me. BCO dignifies this with the name Amar Opening, but doesn't look at 3 f4.

1 e5?!

NRMcE: Moving pawns in the centre of the board. It will never catch on. However, to its credit, this pawn had a burning ambition to be a RP and is eventually captured on the h-file.

2 g3 d5
 3 f4 ♗xh3
 4 ♗xh3 exf4

NRMcE: Moving gradually toward the periphery of the board.

5 0-0 fxc3
 6 e4

NRMcE: Yes, I know this is the advancement of a central pawn, but what else could I do? 6 hxg3 moves a pawn towards the middle of the board, and other pawn moves would involve disrupting the static pattern of the Q-side. Nobody said that life as a hypermodern was ever easy.

6 ♖h4
 7 ♗g2

NRMcE: Advancing the King in readiness for the endgame!

7 ♗d6

SGM: I should just grab the Pe4 and play for exchanges, but I had convinced myself this could be won in a few more moves.

8 ♖f3 gxf2?!

NRMcE: This pawn has now achieved its lifelong quest and reached the wings of the board. It has one further wish - to metamorphose into a Queen. Sadly, not all pawns fulfil their ambitions.

SGM: As Neil knows, I am an unrestricted pawn grabber, but also a chess agoraphobic. This generally means I become paralysed by all sorts of hypothetical threats emerging from the wild blue yonder, but don't spot the one that actually picks me off. This is why I ensure that none of my league games look anything like this.

9 ♖xf7+ ♗d8
 10 ♖e6

NRMcE: There is no clear mating threat at the moment, but there is no harm in looking intimidating.

10 ♖g3+
 11 ♗h1 ♗e7

NRMcE: Mate on h2 is prevented by that black pawn. If only it had been less ambitious.

12 ♗c3 ♖g6

SGM: Looking for exchanges was a good idea before White annexed the centre. It's a bit late now. 12 ... dxe4 is better. However, my horror of these wide open spaces causes me to seek the sunlit uplands of simplification.

13 ♗xd5 ♖xe6
 14 ♗xe6 ♗bc6

NRMcE: And so it appears that the threats have been parried. Maybe it is time to reconsider the notion of central pawns.

15 c3

NRMcE: This is shaping up for a pawn-thrust in the centre of the board. However, even the ultra-hypermodernist would consider this acceptable at this stage in the game.

15 ♗g6
 16 d4 ♗ce7
 17 e5 ♗xd5
 18 exd6 ♗f6
 19 dxc7+ ♗xc7

SGM: The dust clears. Materially I'm ahead. Back in the real world, my kamikaze pilot won't be returning from his mission, while out on the K-side prairie the white bishops look much more at home than the black knights.

20 ♗g5 ♗h5?

NRMcE: This allows the first piece of the heavy artillery to move into place.

21 ♗f7+ ♗d6
 22 ♗g4 ♗g3+
 23 ♗xh2

NRMcE: Amazingly, this pawn sat on the seventh rank for the last 14 moves, over half the game, without ever managing to be promoted. Is this a record?

23 ♗e4
 24 ♗d7+ ♗c6
 25 d5+ ♗b5
 26 a4+ Resigns

SGM: At this point Neil went all 19th century on me by "announcing" mate in a maximum of 6. Annoyingly enough, this turns out to be correct, despite the fact that the King has a choice of 5 moves. My knights don't get to interpose in any variation, and as for my rooks..... This game reinforces my firmly held belief that chess players should complete their development before embarking on any form of military action.

NRMcE: The end is nigh. For example, 26 ... ♗c4 27 ♗e2 ♗b3 28 ♗xb7+ ♗c2 29 ♗c1 checkmate. Alternatively 26 ... ♗a6 27 ♗e2+ ♗b6 28 a5+ ♗c5 29 b4 #.

[Editor: This is a nice "theme" for other players to follow - ask your partners to co-operate!]

Queen v Three Minor Pieces

[by John Hawkes]

CC 1987

White: Heinrich Burger (GER)

Black: Dr. W. Stern (GER)

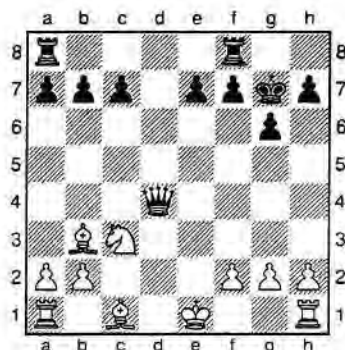
Grünfeld Defence D98

1 d4 ♘f6
2 c4 g6
3 ♘c3 d5
4 ♘f3 ♘g7
5 ♖b3 dxc4
6 ♗xc4 0-0
7 e4 ♘c6
8 e5

8 ♘e2 ♘g4 9 ♘e3 ♘xf3 10 ♘xf3 e5 11 d5 ♘d4 12 ♘d1 b5!?

was the lively variation from the Karpov-Kamsky Match 1996 (Game 1).

8 ♘e6
9 exf6 ♘xc4
10 fxg7 ♖xg7
11 ♘xc4 ♘xd4
12 ♘xd4 ♗xd4
13 ♘b3



With the two pawns bonus (majorities on both flanks), Black could be said to be well ahead on material and position: the other side of the coin is that he needs open lines to make the most of his rooks - and those extra pawns are line-blockers.

13 a5
14 0-0 a4
15 ♘c2 ♖fd8

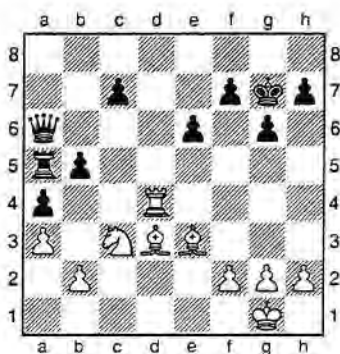
It's hard to get at the Achilles' Heel b2. 15 ... a3 16 ♘e3 ♗c4 17 ♘b3 ♗c6 18 ♘d5 and White can play b3 after.

16 a3 ♗c4
17 ♖e1 e6

18 ♖e4 ♖d4
19 ♖xd4 ♗xd4
20 ♘e3 ♗c4
21 ♖d1 ♖a5
22 ♖d4 ♗a6

Something is clearly not right for Black - his queen and rook are getting very restricted.

23 ♘d3 b5



A new phase begins where White has four fighting units and can always play sensible positional chess and profit when secondary mating possibilities colour the play.

24 ♖d8 e5
25 ♘c5 h6
26 ♘f8+ ♖h7
27 ♘b4 ♗f6
28 ♖b8 ♖a6
29 ♘xb5 ♖e6
30 ♘c5 e4
31 ♘xa4

The heavy pieces are centralised but not yet at maximum fire-power. And there's a passed pawn to worry about.

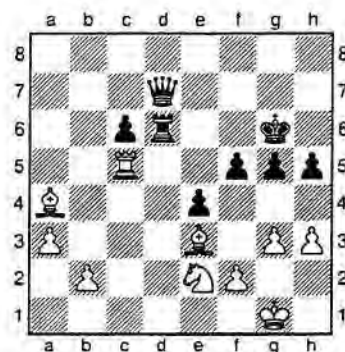
31 ♗e5
32 ♘e3 f5
33 g3 g5
34 ♖b5 ♗f6
35 ♘c2 h5
36 ♖d5! ♖g6
37 ♘d4 ♗e7
38 h3 c6
39 ♖c5 ♗d6
40 ♘e2 ♗d7

Creating checking (maybe even mating) threats on the white squares. 40 ... f4? 41 f3.

41 ♘e3 ♖d6

Finally at full power!

42 ♘a4



42 f4

The explosion!

43 gxf4 ♗xh3
44 ♖xg5+ ♖f7
45 f5!

Cutting the queen off.

45 h4
46 ♘d4 c5
47 ♘b3+ ♖f6

Staying at home is just agony.

48 ♘c6

Winning the exchange.

48 c4
49 ♖g6+ ♖xf5
50 ♖xd6 ♗g4+
51 ♖h2 cxb3

51 ... h3 would have allowed the spectacular variation 52 ♖g6!! ♗h4 ♖ 53 ♘e7+ ♖e5 54 ♘xc4 ♗xe7 55 ♖e6+.

52 ♘d4+ ♖e5
53 ♖b6 h3
54 ♖b5+ ♖d6
55 ♖g5 ♗d1
56 ♖g1 ♗d3
57 ♖xh3
1 0



ICCF INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENTS

(by George Pyrich)

Unfortunately, we missed out our last issue as I was engaged with my ICCF duties. So, once again, we have a substantial list of new entries to report (numbers 11 to 23 below) as well as those unallocated last time (1998 - 1 to 10 and 1997 - 27 to 43).

We should mention also Elaine Hartford and Rosie Giulian who recently commenced play in Ladies World Championship 7 Semi-Finals, Sections 1 and 3 respectively, as well as George Sprott, our nominee in the 63rd European Championship Preliminaries which commence shortly.

No	Name	Tournament Class/Players	ICCF	Tourney Ref	Method of Play
1997					
27	C. Dowell	European 3 rd	7	EU/III/1155	Corr
33	D. Edney	European 1 st	7	EU/I/1868	Corr
37	G.M. Anderson	World Higher	15	W/II/GT/54	Corr
43	J.H. Nielsen	Email Master	7	EM/M/A022	Email
1998					
1	J.S. Crawley	European 1 st	7		Corr
2	J.S. Crawley	Thematic 7/98	6		Corr
3	G. Saxton	Thematic 7/98	6		Corr
4	G. Saxton	Email Cup	7	EM/C/A049	Email
5	G. Saxton	Email Cup	7	EM/C/A050	Email
6	G. Saxton	World 1 st	7	W/I/1432	Corr
7	J.A. Findlay	Thematic 7/98	6		Corr
8	J.R. Milne	Thematic 7/98	6		Corr
9	A. Macmillan	Email Master	7	EM/M/A033	Email
10	A. Roberts	Email Cup	7	EM/M/A028	Email
11	D.S. Finnie	Email Master	7	EM/M/A034	Email
12	D.S. Finnie	Email Master	15	EM/M/GT/A012	Email
13	J. Anderson	Thematic 7/98	6		Corr
14	I. Marshall	European Higher	7	EU/H/1279	Corr
15	B.J. Goodwin	World 1 st	15	W/H/GT/64	Corr
16	D.J. Savage	World 1 st	7	W/I/1438	Corr
17	A.C. Norris	World Master	7	W/M/778	Corr
18	A.C. Norris	World Master	7	W/M/783	Corr
19	C. McIntee	European 2 nd	15	EU/II/GT/192	Corr
20	C. McIntee	Thematic 11/98	6		Corr
21	C. McIntee	Thematic 12/98	6		Corr
22	J.P.E. Jack	World 3 rd	7		Corr
23	J.H. Nielsen	Email Master	7	EM/M/A041	Email
24	T. Thomson	Email Master	7		Email

There are also quite a number of final results to report.

Name	Tournament Class	Final Place	Score
T.J. Craig	WC20sf5	8=	7/14
C. McKay	EU/H/1140	3=	3½/6
T. Thomson	EM/M/A007	2	4/6
T. Thomson	EM/M/A015	2=	4/6
G.M. Anderson	W/I/1408	2	5/6
A. Roberts	EM/C/A014	3=	3/6
I. Aird	W/M/654	2	4½/6
A. Armstrong	W/II/905	3=	3½/6
S. Macgilchrist	EU/H/1176	4=	3/6
B.W. Grant	EU/II/1196	4=	2½/6
H.S. Flockhart	EM/C/A017	3=	3½/6
Rev. A.C. Norris	W/II/1370	3=	3/6
D.J. Savage	W/II/1374	5	2/6
B.W. Grant	W/II/GT/32	10	6/14
M.P. Ford	EU/II/1191	1=	4/6
S. Brady	W/H/898	5	2½/6
M.G. Brown	EU/III/1137	4=	2½/6
P.M. Giulian	WC20sf7	3=	9/14
M.T. Dyer	MN5	6=	4½/10
G. Lloyd	EU/II/1195	2=	3½/6
A. Knox	EU/III/1143	6	1/6
P.M. Giulian	W/M/GT/314	2	10½/14
I.A. Marks	W/M/GT/344	13	4½/14
M.T. Dyer	W/M/GT/343	9=	7/14
T. Thomson	W/M/GT/346	8=	7/14

ICCF Email Tournaments (10 moves in 40 days)

1. Email Promotion Tournaments

For players rated 2100 or over
7 or 15 player World M-Class sections
Promotion to Candidates/World Ch.
Rating and Title eligibility

2. Email Cup Tournaments

3 stage events for other standards of chess players.
Preliminaries - 7 players
Semi-Finals - 9 players
Finals - 11 players
Cash prizes in each Final, CHF400, CHF200, CHF100. Players scoring over 50% in Final qualify for Email Promotion Tournaments.

£6 per section entry fee to George Pyrich, 13 Ardgartan Court, Balfarg, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6XB.



First Email Chess World Championships

As decided by the 1998 ICCF Congress, the first official Email Chess World Championships will be started in early 1999.

There will be 3 stages: Semi-Finals, ¼-Finals and Final, and qualifications will be interchangeable with the parallel postal World Championships.

Entries are invited for the Semi-Final stage (via member federations) from players already with qualifications, winners of the requisite Master groups, holders of ICCF or FIDE GM titles, players with fixed ratings of at least 2570, plus two extra nominations per member federation. (Scotland also have a further 2 places as participants in Olympiad Final XI and as prospective Bronze medallists).

Member federations must submit entries/nominations to reach ICCF not later than 28/2/99. The entry fee is CHF 30 per player. Further details available from George Pyrich or Tom Thomson.

Friendly Internationals



[Tom Thomson]

Results reported since the last issue of the Magazine

Scotland (10½) v Bulgaria (23½) Final Result

Bd 5	J. Watson	0-2	S. Spasov
Bd 14	E. Hartford	0-2	R. Aleksandrov
Bd 18	A. Armstrong	½-½	A. Zonev

Scotland (11) v Japan (0)

Bd 3	G.M. Anderson	1-0	K. Akadegawa
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Scotland (10) v Israel (14)

Bd 1	A.P. Borwell	½-1½	I. Oren
Bd 17	C. Dowell	1-1	R. Shtrikman

Scotland (12½) v India (7½)

Bd 4	T. Thomson	0-1	H.J. Samtani
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Scotland (20) v France (28)

Bd 4	I. Mackintosh	½-1½	P. Pansier
Bd 6	A. Armstrong	½-1½	J. Poupinel
Bd 9	I. Marshall	0-2	H. Le Penne
Bd 10	D.J. Savage	0-1	M. Muneret
Bd 13	J. MacArthur	½-1½	P. Lebled
Bd 14	G.M. Anderson	1-1	M. Vandervost (correction)
Bd 15	D.R. Cumming	½-½	J.C. Carpentier
Bd 16	P.H. MacDonald	0-2	M. Coclet
Bd 18	A. Hind	2-0	J.L. Brege
Bd 19	S.M. Young	1½-½	A. Fietkaw
Bd 28	G. McDonald	1-0	G. Reymond

Scotland (16) v Netherlands (34)

Bd 8	E.A. Hartford	1-1	M. Reijen
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Scotland (13) v Sweden (16)

Bd 2	A.P. Borwell	0-1	C. Thornros
Bd 4	K.W.C. Stewart	0-1	I. Lundgren
Bd 5	A. Hind	½-1½	U. Norevall
Bd 8	D.R. Cumming	½-1½	E.M. Svensson
Bd 9	E. Sowden	1-1	K. Hallburg
Bd 10	A. Dearnley	1-0	L.H. Andersson
Bd 11	A. Armstrong	½-½	L. Ekenlov
Bd 13	D.J. Savage	0-2	E. Nylander
Bd 14	D.G. McRoberts	1-0	C. Johansson
Bd 17	G.M. Anderson	1-1	N.A. Nilsson
Bd 23	C. Dowell	1-1	T. Pettersson
Bd 26	F. Teunisse	½-1½	P-G Hogborg

Scotland (10½) v Peru (1½)

Bd 6	A. Armstrong	2-0	E. Huguet
Bd 10	I. Marshall	1-1	A. Beyer

Scotland (7) v Social C.C.A. (4)

Bd 8	A. Armstrong	2-0	G. Ross
Bd 9	D.G. McRoberts	1-1	J. Watson
Bd 10	E.A. Hartford	0-1	S. Taylor
Bd 12	B. Milligan	2-0	T. Anglim
Bd 13	A. Dearnley	1-0	W. Elliot
Bd 14	J.R. Milne	0-1	M. Shine

Scotland (2½) v A.S.P.C.C. (3½)

Bd 1	G.D. Pyrich	0-1	K. Mettinen
Bd 9	D.G. McRoberts	½-½	M. Mulford
Bd 19	G. McCoy	1-0	R. Charucki

ICCF THEMATIC TOURNAMENTS

Sections of 5-7 players, two games against each opponent. Top two players qualify for each Final.

Entries by 15/12/98, start 1/2/99

1. Elephant Gambit, C40

1 e4 e5 2 ♖f3 d5

Entries by 15/12/98, start 1/2/99

2. Sicilian, Accelerated Dragon, B27

1 e4 c5 2 ♗f3 g6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♗xd4 ♗g7

Entries by 15/1/99, start 15/3/99

3. Ruy Lopez, Bird Variation, C56

1 e4 e5 2 ♗f3 ♗c6 3 ♗b5 ♗d4

Entries by 15/1/99, start 15/3/99

4. French Defence, Tarrasch, C05

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♗d2 ♗f6 4 e5 ♗fd7
5 f4 c5 6 c3 ♗c6

Entry Fee is £6 per group (payable to Scottish CCA) to :-
Mr. George D. Pyrich, 13 Ardgartan Court, Balfarg,
Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 6XB.

Final Table

	Scotland		Bulgaria
1	A P Borwell	1-1	I Minkov
2	G D Pyrich	½-½	I Christov
3	K W C Stewart	½-1½	G Sapundjiev
4	T Thomson	0-2	L Kaltchev
5	J Watson	0-2	S Spasov
6	G E Wallwork	0-2	S Kaltchev
7	M H Dunn	0-2	K Botchev
8	I Sneddon	0-2	L Parvanov
9	I Mackintosh	2-0	D Gerasimov
10	M Harkins	void	D Angelov
11	W M Cook	½-½	R Angelov
12	W Harper	2-0	S Salimov
13	G M Anderson	0-2	T Demirev
14	Mrs EA Hartford	0-2	R Aleksandrov
15	D J Savage	½-½	I Popov
16	S Riley	void	T Kirkov
17	D R Cumming	void	P Stefanov
18	A Armstrong	½-½	A Zonev
19	A Roberts	0-2	B Ignatov
20	C A Macgregor	½-½	P Panayotov
	Final Result	10½-23½	

Please send your results to Tom Thomson, immediately on completion of each game (whether it is a win, draw or loss!)

Tom Thomson, 8 Swallow Crescent,
Buckhaven, Fife, KY8 1HH, Tel. 01592-581354
Email: robertbruce@cableinet.co.uk

If you've enjoyed playing international opponents in friendly matches, then why not try an ICCF event? Details are given in the blue entry form which is enclosed with this magazine.

ICCF OLYMPIAD XI FINAL

Team Scores

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	Games	%
1	Czechia/Slovakia	◆	3	4	3½	4½	3½	4	3	3½	4	6	4	2½	45½	72	63.2
2	Germany	3	◆	3	3	3	2½	2½	4½	4	3½	5	4	6	44	70	62.9
3=	Canada	2	3	◆	3	2½	3½	3½	4	3½	4	3½	4½	3	40	72	55.6
3=	Scotland	2½	3	3	◆	3	3	3	4½	3½	3½	4½	3	3½	40	72	55.6
5	Russia	1½	3	3½	3	◆	2½	4	3½	3½	4	3½	4	3	39	70	55.7
6	Poland	2½	2½	2½	3	3½	◆	3½	3½	2	2½	3½	3½	5½	38	70	54.3
7	Sweden	2	3½	2½	3	2	2½	◆	3½	4	4	3	3	3½	36½	72	50.7
8	England	3	1½	2	1½	2½	1½	2½	◆	3	4½	4½	4	3½	34	71	47.9
9	Netherlands	2½	2	2½	2½	2½	4	2	3	◆	4	2	3	4½	34½	72	47.9
10	Denmark	2	2½	2	2½	2	3½	2	1½	2	◆	2½	4	2	29½	72	41.0
11	Hungary	0	1	2½	1½	1½	2½	3	1½	4	3½	◆	3	3½	27½	69	39.9
12	Romania	2	1	1½	3	2	2½	3	2	3	2	2	◆	2½	26½	70	37.9
13	USA	3½	0	3	2½	2	½	2½	2½	1½	3	1½	3½	◆	26	79	37.1

[Neither Russia nor Poland is expected to reach 40 pts and therefore Scotland and Canada are likely to share the Bronze medal position!]

	Board 1				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	
1	Zilberberg	AS	IM	2580	USA	◆	1	½	1	0	1	½	½	1	1	0	½	½	7½
2	Sloth	J	GM	2635	DEN	0	◆	½	½	½	1	1	½	1	½	0	0	0	5½
3	Ballon	GJ	IM	2465	NLD	½	½	◆	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	3
4	Hébert	J	GM	2500	CAN	0	½	½	◆	1	½	1	½	½	½	0	½	0	6
5	Krzyszton	J	GM	2605	POL	1	½	½	0	◆	1	½	1	1	0	½	½	½	7
6	Bryson	DM	GM	2580	SCO	0	0	½	½	0	◆	0	½	½	0	½	1	½	4
7	Hammar	B		2525	SVE	½	0	1	0	½	1	◆	0	1	½	0	0	0	4½
8	Breazu	M	GM	2500	ROM	½	½	1	½	0	½	1	◆	1	½	½	½	½	7
9	Honfi	K	IM	2475	HUN	0	0	1	½	0	½	0	0	◆	0	0	0	½	2½
10	Zapletal	J	IM	2505	CSR	0	½	1	½	1	1	½	½	1	◆	½	½	1	8
11	Burger	H	IM	2570	GER	1	1	1	½	½	½	1	½	1	½	◆	½	0	8
12	Webb	S	GM	2615	ENG	½	1	1	1	½	0	1	½	1	½	½	◆	1	8½
13	Sanakojev	GK	GM	2595	RUS	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	0	1	0	◆	6½

	Board 2				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	
1	Abram	G	IM	2580	USA	◆	½	0	1	0	½	0	1	0	1	0	½	0	4½
2	Poulsen	A	IM	2630	DEN	½	◆	0	½	½	0	½	1	0	0	0	½	1	4½
3	v Oosterom	JJ	GM	2575	NLD	1	1	◆	½	1	½	½	1	1	1	1	½	1	10
4	Berry	J	GM	2570	CAN	0	½	½	◆	½	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	0	5
5	Matlak	M	(IM)	(2420)	POL	1	½	0	½	◆	0	½	1	1	1	½	1	½	7½
6	Muir	AJ	IM	2540	SCO	½	1	½	½	1	◆	½	½	1	1	1	1	½	9
7	Andersson	G	GM	2505	SVE	1	½	½	1	½	½	◆	½	1	0	1	1	½	8
8	Rotariu	G	GM	2415	ROM	0	0	0	0	0	½	½	◆	½	½		1	0	
9	Meleghegyi	C	GM	2605	HUN	1	1	0	½	0	0	0	½	◆	0	0	½	0	3½
10	Lanc	A	IM	2570	CSR	0	1	0	½	0	0	1	½	1	◆	1	½	6	
11	Palm	H	IM	2560	GER	1	1	0	½	½	0	0		1	0	◆	1	½	
12	Hollis	A	GM	2545	ENG	½	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	½	½	0	◆	0	3
13	Korolev	SI	IM	2615	RUS	1	0	0	1	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	◆	7½

	Board 3				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	
1	Maillard	WE	IM	2550	USA	◆	½	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	½	0	0	½	2½
2	Jensen	VN	IM	2500	DEN	½	◆	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	0	1	0	0	3½
3	Weijerstrass	R	IM	2415	NLD	1	1	◆	0	½	0	½	0	0	½	½	0	0	4½
4	Wright	J	IM	2490	CAN	1	½	½	◆	1	½	½	0	0	0	½	1	½	6
5	Sek	Z	IM	2570	POL	1	½	1	0	◆	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	8
6	McNab	CA	(GM)	2500	SCO	1	½	½	½	½	◆	1	½	½	0	½	1	½	7
7	Carlsson	I	IM	2455	SVE	1	1	1	½	0	0	◆	½	0	½	0	1	1	6½
8	Suta	M	IM	2455	ROM	0	1	½	1	½	½	½	◆	½	0	0	0	½	5
9	Glatt	G	IM	2505	HUN	1	½	1	1	½	½	1	½	◆	0	½	½	0	8
10	Privara	I	IM	2570	CSR	½	1	1	1	0	1	½	1	1	◆	½	0	½	8
11	Maeder	K-H	GM	2585	GER	1	0	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	◆	1	½	7½
12	Povah	N	GM	2595	ENG	1	1	½	0	0	0	0	1	½	1	0	◆	½	5½
13	Umanskij	MM	IM	2690	RUS	½	1	1	½	½	½	0	½		½	½	½	◆	

ICCF OLYMPIAD XI FINAL (contd)

Board 4					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	
1	DeMauro	JA	IM	2615	USA	◆	0	0	½	½	0	1	0	0	0	½	½	5	
2	du Jardin	J		2505	DEN	1	◆	½	½	½	0	0	½	0	½	1	0	½	5
3	Idema	AA	IM	2540	NLD	1	½	◆	½	½	0	1	1	1	½	½	½	1	8
4	Widmann	K	IM	2530	CAN	½	½	½	◆	0	½	½	1	1	½	½	½	½	6½
5	Bieluczyk	B	IM	2500	POL	½	½	½	1	◆	½	1	½	0	½	1	0	½	6½
6	Kilgour	DA	IM	2490	SCO	1	1	1	½	½	◆	1	½	1	½	½	1	½	9
7	Korman	U	IM	2305	SVE	0	1	0	½	0	0	◆	½	0	0	1	0	0	3
8	Mititelu	G		2350	ROM	1	½	0	0	½	½	½	◆	0	½	½	0	½	4½
9	Fabri	F	IM	2545	HUN		1	0	0	1	0	1	1	◆	0	0	0	½	
10	Mraz	M	IM	2505	CSR	1	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	◆	½	1	½	8
11	Baumbach	F	GM	2530	GER	1	0	½	½	0	½	0	½	1	½	◆	½	1	6
12	Thomas	T	IM	2485	ENG	½	1	½	½	1	0	1	1	1	0	½	◆	½	7½
13	Stoljar	SE	IM	2535	RUS		½	0	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	0	½	◆	

Board 5					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	
1	Kubach	GL	IM	2510	USA	◆	½	½	½	0	½	0	1	0	1	0	½	½	5
2	Sørensen	T	IM	2480	DEN	½	◆	½	0	½	0	½	1	0	0	0	½	½	4
3	Sprenger	EH		2410	NLD	½	½	◆	½	1	½	0	½	0	½	0	½	0	4½
4	Pineault	D	IM	2470	CAN	½	1	½	◆	1	½	½	1	½	0	1	1	½	8
5	Mularczyk	J		2460	POL	1	½	0	0	◆	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	½	4
6	Giulian	PM	IM	2395	SCO	½	1	½	½	0	◆	0	½	½	½	½	½	½	5½
7	Lindgren	M		2540	SVE	1	½	1	½	1	1	◆	1	½	0	½	1	½	8½
8	Miron	C		2660	ROM	0	0	½	0	1	½	0	◆	0	0	0	0	0	2
9	Györkös	L	(IM)	(2410)	HUN	1	1	1	½	1	½	½	1	◆	0	0	½	½	7½
10	Trapl	J	IM	2510	CSR	0	1	½	1	1	½	1	1	1	◆	0	½	1	8½
11	Anton	VM	GM	2620	GER	1	1	1	0	1	½	½	1	1	1	◆	½	½	9
12	Timson	P		2550	ENG	½	½	½	0	0	½	0	1	½	½	½	◆	½	5
13	Korelov	AP	IM	2590	RUS	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	0	½	½	◆	6½

Board 6					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Pts	
1	Camaratta	FA		2530	USA	◆	½	½	0	0	½	1	0	½	0	0	½	½	4
2	Hyldkrog	L	IM	2475	DEN	½	◆	½	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	½	½	0	7
3	van Perlo	GC	GM	2455	NLD	½	½	◆	0	1	½	½	0	0	½	0	1	0	4½
4	MacLeod	D	IM	2520	CAN	1	1	1	◆	0	½	1	1	1	½	0	1	½	8½
5	Konca	D	IM	2455	POL	1	0	0	1	◆	0	½	½	1	0			1	
6	Borwell	AP	IM	2320	SCO	½	0	½	½	1	◆	½	½	1	½	0	0	½	5½
7	Hjort	B	IM	2495	SVE	0	1	½	0	½	½	◆	½	½	1	1	½	0	6
8	Hang	Ing E		2120	ROM	1	0	1	0	½	½	½	◆		½	0	½	½	
9	Keszi	J		2485	HUN	½	0	1	0	0	0	½		◆	0	½	0	0	
10	Göth/Sevecek		IM	2460	CSR	1	0	½	½	1	½	0	½	1	◆	½	½	1	7
11	Kreuzer	M	IM	2660	GER	1	½	1	1		1	0	1	½	½	◆	1	½	
12	Sowray	P		2380	ENG	½	½	0	0		1	½	½	1	½	0	◆	0	
13	Bloch	M		2590	RUS	½	1	1	½	0	½	1	½	1	0	½	1	◆	7½

ICCF OLYMPIAD XII PRELIMINARIES SECTION 4

Board 1					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts	
1	Camilleri	H		2395	MLT	◆	0	1	0	0	½	1	1	0	1	½	0	5
2	Markauss	J		2545	LAT	1	◆	1	½	1	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	8
3	Chia	C-S	(2200)		SIP	0	0	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Portilho	GF		2410	BRS	1	½	1	◆	0	½	½	0	0	½	0	0	4
5	Har-Even	A		2500	ISL	1	0	1	1	◆	1	0	1	1	1	½	0	7½
6	Leonardo	JP		2430	POR	½	½	1	½	0	◆	½	½	½	0	½	1	5½
7	Wolny	R		2450	POL	0	0	1	½	1	½	◆	0	1	½	0	½	5
8	Cayford	T		2420	USA	0	½	1	1	0	½	1	◆	½	1	1	1	7½
9	Miskovsky	P		2505	CSR	1	½	1	1	0	½	0	½	◆	1	0	1	6½
10	Gillam	SR		2365	SCO	0	½	1	½	0	1	½	0	0	◆	½	½	4½
11	Thorbergsson	B		2525	ISD	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	0	1	½	◆	1	7½
12	Keglevic	P		2305	CRO	1	0	1	1	1	0	½	0	0	½	0	◆	5

ICCF OLYMPIAD XII PRELIMINARIES SECTION 4 (contd)

Board 2					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts
1	Attard	W	2110	MLT	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Vitomskis	J	2505	LAT	1	◆	1	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	½	1	10
3	Teo	B	2260	SIP	1	0	◆	0	0	0	½	0	0	0	0	0	1½
4	de Cresce	SH	2450	BRS	1	½	1	◆	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	8½
5	Granski	M	2495	ISL	1	0	1	0	◆	0	1	½	1	0	½	1	6
6	Oliveira	AM	2315	POR	1	0	1	½	1	◆	0	0	0	½	0	½	4½
7	Dors	R	2500	POL	1	0	½	½	0	1	◆	½	½	½	0	0	4½
8	Callaghan	RS	2485	USA	1	0	1	0	½	1	½	◆	0	½	½	½	5½
9	Spodny	J	2460	CSR	1	0	1	½	0	1	½	1	◆	½	½	0	6
10	Pyrich	GD	2335	SCO	1	0	1	0	1	½	½	½	½	◆	0	1	6
11	Palsson	JA	2455	ISD	1	½	1	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	◆	0	7½
12	Klaic	P	2450	CRO	1	0	1	0	0	½	1	½	1	0	1	◆	6

Board 3					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts
1	Sollars	C	(2200)	MLT	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Pulkis	V	2500	LAT	1	◆	½	0	1	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	6
3	Williams/Mooi		(2200)	SIP	1	½	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	½	2½
4	Felicio	C	2350	BRS	1	1	1	◆	½	1	0	½	½	½	½	1	7½
5	Kuperman	B	2325	ISL	1	0	1	½	◆	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3½
6	Moura	AB	2415	POR	1	½	1	0	1	◆	½	½	½	½	½	1	7
7	Matlak	J	(2200)	POL	1	1	1	1	1	½	◆	1	1	½	1	1	10
8	Dehmelt/Meyers		2430	USA	1	0	1	½	0	½	0	◆	½	½	0	0	4
9	Manduch	M	2450	CSR	1	½	1	½	1	½	0	½	◆	1	1	1	8
10	Craig	TJ	2335	SCO	1	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	0	◆	½	½	6
11	Kristinsson	J	2440	ISD	1	½	1	½	1	½	0	1	0	½	◆	½	6½
12	Paravic	Z	(2200)	CRO	1	½	½	0	1	0	0	1	0	½	½	◆	5

Board 4					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts
1	Camilleri	S	(2200)	MLT	◆	0	½	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	1½
2	Strautins	U	2485	LAT	1	◆	1	1	1	1	1	½	0	1	½	1	9
3	Teo	K-C	2310	SIP	½	0	◆	½	0	½	0	0	½	0	0	0	2
4	Alvarenga	RF	2435	BRS	1	0	½	◆	½	1	1	½	½	1	1	1	8
5	Azar	P	2455	ISL	½	0	1	½	◆	½	1	½	½	½	1	1	7
6	Almeida	MC	(2200)	POR	1	0	½	0	½	◆	½	½	0	1	½	½	5
7	Marcinkiewicz	A	2405	POL	1	0	1	0	0	½	◆	0	0	½	½	½	4
8	Martinowsky	E	2380	USA	1	½	1	½	½	½	1	◆	½	1	½	1	8
9	Danek	L	2545	CSR	1	1	½	½	½	1	1	½	◆	½	1	½	8
10	Livie	DM	2290	SCO	½	0	1	0	½	0	½	0	½	◆	½	½	4
11	Gudmundsson	K	2385	ISD	1	½	1	0	0	½	½	½	0	½	◆	0	4½
12	Movre	D	2345	CRO	1	0	1	0	0	½	½	0	½	½	1	◆	5

Board 5					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts	
1	Sammut	R	(2200)	MLT	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	1	½	½	2½
2	Strautins	V	2470	LAT	1	◆	½	½	0	0	1	½	1	1	1	0	6½	
3	Wang	M-L	(2200)	SIP	1	½	◆	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	½	½	7½	
4	Amorim	GS	2455	BRS	1	½	0	◆	½	0	½	0	0	1	1	½	5	
5	Eljakhim	D	(2200)	ISL	1	1	1	½	◆	1	1	½	1	1	½	1	9½	
6	Demetrio/Cordiero		2285	POR	1	1	0	1	0	◆	0	½	½	1	1	0	6	
7	Haag/Nizynski	M	(2200)	POL	1	0	0	½	0	1	◆	0	1	1	½	½	5½	
8	Embrey	K	2500	USA	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	◆	½	½	1	½	7½	
9	Marczell	P	2475	CSR	1	0	0	1	0	½	0	½	◆	1	0	½	4½	
10	Beecham	CR	2235	SCO	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	◆	0	0	0	½	
11	Thorsteinsson	E	2360	ISD	½	0	½	0	½	0	½	0	1	1	◆	0	4	
12	Krivic	D	2245	CRO	½	1	½	½	0	1	½	½	½	1	1	◆	7	

Board 6					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts
1	Mifsud	T	(2200)	MLT	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Dauga	Z	2450	LAT	1	◆	1	1	1	1	½	0	1	1	½	1	9
3	Leong	V	(2200)	SIP	1	0	◆	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4	Barata	HAG	(2200)	BRS	1	0	1	◆	1	½	½	1	0	1	½	½	7
5	Oren	I	2410	ISL	1	0	1	0	◆	½	0	0	0	1	½	0	4
6	Morais	VM	2375	POR	1	0	1	½	½	◆	1	1	0	1	0	0	6
7	Sapa	W	2240	POL	1	½	1	½	1	0	◆	1	1	½	½	½	7½
8	Owen	L	2420	USA	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	◆	½	½	½	0	5½
9	Laurenc	P	2445	CSR	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	½	◆	1	½	½	7½
10	Jenkins	DM	2310	SCO	1	0	1	0	0	0	½	½	0	◆	½	0	3½
11	Halldorsson	JA	(2200)	ISD	1	½	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	◆	½	7
12	Strucic	I	(2200)	CRO	1	0	1	½	1	1	½	1	½	1	½	◆	8

Final Scores: Latvia 48½/66pts; Brazil 40; Czech/Slovakia 39½, USA 38; Israel 37½; Iceland 37; Croatia 37; Poland 34; Scotland 24½; Singapore 14½; Malta 9 (Latvia and Brazil qualify for Final XII - Congratulations!)

Bernard Partridge Memorial - Semi-Finals

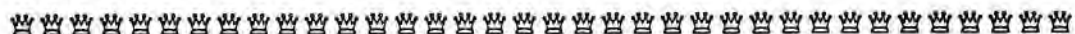
The top placed 3 players (some shared) have qualified for the next stage which began on 1/3/98. Completion, to determine the 12 finalists, is expected to be achieved by 31/3/2000.

No	Section 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Pts
1	H. Starke GER	◆	½						1	1	1		
2	T. Hartogh GER		◆										
3	T. Christiansen DEN	½		◆	½	½		1	1		1		
4	S. Nordfjörd ISD			½	◆							1	
5	J.M.Poulsen DEN			½		◆					½	1	
6	J.M. Bussers BEL						◆						
7	CM Fordham-Hall ENG		0					◆				½	
8	U. Huser GER	0	0						◆				
9	A. Truyens BEL									◆			
10	W. Lautenbach GER	0	0		½						◆	1	
11	A. Dromberg SVE	0		0	0		½				0	◆	

No	Section 3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Pts
1	J. Poell NLD	◆											
2	A.K. Pedersen DEN		◆										
3	L. van Damme BEL			◆									
4	H. Kunz GER				◆				½				
5	H. Haraldson ISD					◆							
6	K.R. Winkler GER						◆						
7	G. Strömberg DEN							◆					
8	R. Baatz GER			½					◆			0	
9	E.C. Sowden ENG									◆			
10	M.J. Summers BEL										◆		
11	G. Grothe GER								1			◆	

No	Section 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts
1	H. Starke GER	◆	1	½					1	1				
2	V.B. Andersen DEN		◆	1			1	1						
3	J. Nielsen DEN	0	0	◆			1	½		½	1			
4	G. Voss GER	½			◆		1	1		½				
5	E. Vieijra BEL					◆		1						
6	A.N. Morris ENG	0	0	0			◆	0	1					
7	L. van Damme BEL			½			1	◆	1	½				
8	G. Herzing GER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	◆		0			
9	J. Frijling NLD									◆				
10	R. Woelk GER	0	½	½			½				◆			
11	L. Meeusen LUX								1			◆		
12	D. Mena SVE		0										◆	

No	Section 4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Pts
1	H. Gnirk GER	◆												
2	CA v Wieringen NLD		◆	0										
3	R. Boger NOR			◆										
4	J. Harm GER				◆					½	½			
5	H.C. Schmidt DEN					◆								
6	S. Williams ENG						◆							
7	W. Verhaeghe BEL							◆						
8	S.M. Jakobsen DEN								◆					
9	J. Kracht GER			½						◆		½		
10	T. Lang GER			½							◆			
11	F. Cottagnie BEL											◆	1	
12	V.F. Isaksen DEN								½		0	◆		



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Scottish CCA Magazine - Publication Dates

We have had considerable problems in producing magazines just before Christmas, immediately after the AGM and before/coinciding with the ICCF Congress in late September/early October. Therefore, we have had to review our schedules, including the SCCA Magazine, ICCF commitments, Church Magazine and family holidays (normally early October but also a visit to Australia over the next Christmas/New Year period to watch some cricket!)

Although it is intended to continue with the current quarterly editions in Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn each year, the planned publication dates will be varied beginning with the next edition. The forward plan is as follows:-

- ◆ **Autumn edition** Planned publication/distribution - late October/early November
(containing ICCF Congress Report)
- ◆ **Winter edition** Planned publication/distribution - late January/early February
(containing final results in all domestic competitions)
- ◆ **Spring edition** Planned publication/distribution - late April/early May
(containing details of new domestic competitions)
- ◆ **Summer edition** Planned publication/distribution - late July/early August
(containing SCCA AGM report and new Rating List)

Annual subscribers will receive Spring/Summer/Autumn/Winter editions (i.e. the subscription will cover the 4 editions published in each SCCA financial year). Of course, 1998 subscribers will receive both Autumn and Winter 1998/9 editions, with new 1999 subscribers receiving a complimentary copy of the Winter 1998/9 edition plus the next four editions.

Articles/letters/news from members/subscribers are requested for the Magazine and annotated games are greatly appreciated by our Games Editor. For inclusion in future editions, they should reach us at least one month prior to the planned publication dates shown above.

Alan and Moira Borwell

Fernschach International 1999

SCCA Members and Subscribers wishing to order this CC publication should contact Mr. Steve Williams, 43 Church Lane, Colchester, CO43 4AE (Tel. 01206 542753).

It is understood that the subscription for 1999 will be £25 for 11 editions.

"Friends of Scotland" Email Tournament

It is regretted that it has not been possible to begin this tournament, as there are implications which require to be agreed with ICCF. We understand that ICCF will be preparing guidelines for all member federations for the organisation of this kind of Email international invitation tournament. We will make a further announcement when these guidelines have been decided and announced by ICCF (after its 1999 Congress).



ICCF PRESIDIU
1998 CONGRESS
RIGA, LATVIA

Front: A.A. van 't Riet (NLD), A.P. Borwell (SCO), Dr. F. Baumbach (GER), R. Wikman (FIN)
Back: Prof M. Zavanelli (USA), H-E Lüers (GER), Dr. G-M Tani (ITA), Ing. M. Samraoui,
C. Flores Gutiérrez (ESP), C. Cranbourne (ARG) (from left of picture)

QUALITEXT BUSINESS SERVICES

Further to our announcement in the Summer 1998 edition, we have decided to close the above business at 31/12/98. Accordingly, we thank all customers for their support over the last 6 years and recommend that you now contact Sam Collins of Chess & Bridge Suppliers (Scotland) for your future requirements - see advert below.

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