

# Rank & File

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2007

VOLUME XXX, No. 6

\$3.00

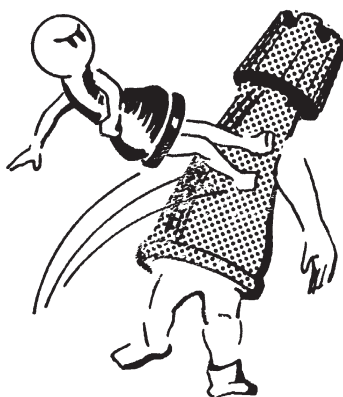
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*Tired of high entry fees?*

Play in the

# 9TH ANNUAL JOSEPH ILETO MEMORIAL



**December 8-9**

5-SS, rds. 1-3 30/85, SD/30, rds 4-5 40/2, SD/1

SIERRA VISTA PARK

311 N RURAL DR. at E. Emerson, Monterey Park, CA 91755

**Prize Fund**

**\$300-200-100**

U2300 \$100	U1500 \$100
U2100 \$100	U1300 \$75
U1900 \$100	U1100 \$75
U1700 \$100	Unrated \$50

**Entry fee: \$30 if received by 12/7, \$40 at door. Special Entry Fee: Juniors not eligible for cash prizes \$10 (trophies to top 5). Full details on page 23.**

***A State Championship Qualifier***

**Entries: SCCF, P.O. Box 205, Monterey Park CA 91754**



# Around the Nation



## Western States Open

The annual Western States Open attracted 339 players to Reno the weekend of October 12-14, including several Southern Californians who did well.

GM Melikset Khachiyan and IM Enrico Sevillano scored 4½ of 6 to join five GMs (Ildar Ibragimov, Alexander Ivanov, Sergey Kudrin, Gregory Serper, and Alex Yermolinsky) in a tie for first in the Open section. Khachiyan downed Kudrin and drew with Ibragimov, Sevillano, and Yermo, while Sevillano also drew with GMs Serper and Alex Stripunsky, downing IM Josh Friedel. Matthew Beelby, Gregg Small, John Bryant, and Robert Akopian turned in even scores in the extremely strong section.

Vadim Kudryavtsev took the Expert section by a full point with 5-1/2, beating John Rinaldo (4 points) in the final round. John R. Williams, Francisco Alonso, and Randy Hough scored 3½. Michael Taylor had led Class A, but finally tied for second with 4½ after losing in the last round. Tom Fries scored 3½, as did John Anderson in Class B. And Richard Martin tallied 4 points in Class C. – *Randy Hough*

## North American Youth Championships

Four Americans earned gold medals over the weekend of October 5-7 at the North American Youth Chess Championship in Aguascalientes, Mexico. Winners included

Simone Liao (Agoura Hills), 5-0 in the girls under-8 section, Raymond Sun (Texas), 5-0 in boys under-8, Claudia Munoz (Texas), 4-1 in girls under-10, and Robert Lau (Hawaii), 7-0 in boys under-16.

## Pan Am Intercollegiate

Alaa-Addin Moussa writes that he is thinking about the possibility of assembling a team to participate

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in the Pan American Intercollegiate, to be held at Miami Dade College in Florida, December 27-30, 2007 (<http://www.mdc.edu/panamchess/>).

"I am currently attending CSUSM and think it is unlikely that any one CSU campus can field a team on its own, so I'm thinking of assembling a team of CSU (Southern California) campuses. Do you think that SCCF can help spread the word in its membership of CSU students who might be interested in playing this event?"

Any players interested can e-mail him at [amoussa@cox.net](mailto:amoussa@cox.net).

## World Youth Championships

Jerry Yee informs us that five local players will be among those participating in the 2007 World Youth Championship, to be in Antalya, Turkey November 17th-November 29th. They are:

Simone Liao (8 years old), Varun Krishnan (9 years old), Michael Yee (13 years old), Christian Tanaka (14 years old), and Elliott Liu (17 years old). Good luck to all!

## Amateur Team: 25 and Still Going

It doesn't seem that long, but the 25th Annual U.S. Amateur Team West is almost here. Have you formed your team yet?

This year's version, to be held February 16-18 at the LAX Hilton Hotel, once again offers an inexpensive and fun tournament, in which you and your friends can compete for trophies, clocks, and a shot at a national championship!. An on-

line playoff with the winners of the East, North and South is scheduled for March.

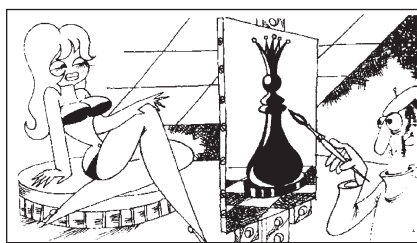
The event is open to four-player teams (plus an optional alternate) with an average rating below 2200, so everyone's contribution matters! Plus, there are prizes for each class, as well as best junior, senior, college and industrial team – and even a special prize for best team name!

See page 21 for full details. If you don't have a team yet, what are you waiting for? For help in forming teams ("... we need one more player rated 1743"), or to enter on line, go to [www.westernchess.com](http://www.westernchess.com). Don't be left out!

## We're sorry, ...

... but SCCF dues are going up. As of March 1, 2008, the cost of a 1-year membership will rise to \$18/year for adult, \$10/year for juniors under 18.

But there's still time to save! Until then, you can renew at the current rate (\$14/\$9)! And, if you renew for more than one year, you save even more! Get two years for \$27, or three years for only \$40. Send your renewal to **SCCF, P.O. Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754**.



PHOTOS. P. 16: San Diego Chess Club. Others: John Hillery



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Rank & File Editor John Hillery  
835 N. Wilton Pl. #1  
Los Angeles CA 90038  
[rfeditor@westernchess.com](mailto:rfeditor@westernchess.com)

Publisher David Argall

Contributing Editors  
Jack Peters  
Tim Hanks  
Al Pena

Contributors  
Chuck Ensey  
Randy Hough  
Cyrus Lakdawala  
Chris Roberts  
Barbara McCaleb

Subscriptions/Address Changes  
Randy Hough, Membership Secretary  
P.O. Box 205  
Monterey Park CA 91754  
(626) 282-7412  
[randallhough@yahoo.com](mailto:randallhough@yahoo.com)

Rank & File — ISSN 8750-9164 USPS 738-230, published bimonthly by the Southern California Chess Federation, 1300 Ballista, La Puente CA 91744. Periodical postage paid at Industry, CA. POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to SCCF, PO Box 205, Monterey Park CA 91754. Subscriptions: \$14 adult, \$9 junior.

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# 29th Annual Southern California Open

The 29th Annual Southern California Open, held September 1-3 at the LAX Hilton, had a modest turnout of 113. Our new champion is IM Tim Taylor, who scored 5-1 in the 56-player Open section, and tool the title on tiebreak over IM Enrico Sevillano and rapidly improving junior John Daniel Bryant.

Next at 4½-½ were IM Andranik Matikozyan, IM Ganbold Odondoo, Gregg Small, Alaa-Addin Moussa, Christian Tanaka, and Kevin Zhang. Catalino Santos took the Class A prize with 4-2.

In the Amateur (U1800) section, Carl Bolm took home the trophy 5½-½, followed at 5-1 by William Wijaya, Nestor Dagamat, Grant Yosenick, Robert Xue and Robert Escalante.

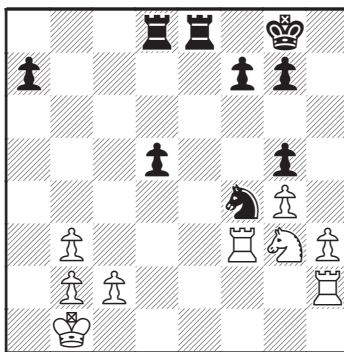
Worthy of note was the remarkable total of 135 for the one-day Scholastic tournament. Despite the numbers, both sections saw clear winners with 5-0, Sean Manross in the Open and David X. Chen in the Reserve.

John Hillery directed, with the assistance of Elie Hsiao.

**Michael Casella – IM Tim Taylor**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**

## **B00 IRREGULAR DEFENSE**

1. e4 Nc6 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 Nf6 4. Nc3 Bg4 5. Be3 e5 6. d5 Ne7 7. h3 Bd7 8. g4 h6 9. Qd2 Ng6 10. 0-0-0 Be7 11. Bd3 c5 12. dxc6 bxc6 13. Bc4 Be6 14. Bb3 Bxb3 15. axb3 Qa5 16. Kb1 Rd8 17. Rhg1 Qb4 18. Ne1 d5 19. exd5 cxd5 20. Ne2 Qxd2 21. Bxd2 Ne4 22. Rf1 Nxd2+ 23. Rxd2 0-0 24. Ng3 Bg5 25. Re2 Rfe8 26. Nf3 e4 27. Nxc5 hxc5 28. Re3 Nf4 29. f3 Ng2 30. Re2 exf3 31. Rxf3 Nf4 32. Rh2



32. ... Re1+ 33. Ka2 d4 34. Rh1 Re3 35. Rxe3 dxe3 36. Kb1 Rd2 37. Ne4 Rg2 38. Re1 Nxb3 39. Rxe3 Rxc4 40. Nd6 Rg1+ 41. Ka2 g4 42. Nf5 Kh7 43. c4 g6 44. c5 0-1



**IM Ganbold Odondoo – IM Andranik Matikozyan**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**  
**B82 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Najdorf Variation**

*(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)*

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. f4**

An attacking system against the Najdorf Sicilian.

**6. ... e6 7. Bd3 Nbd7 8. Qf3 Qb6 9. Nb3 Qc7**

The Queen maneuver chases White's Knight from the center.

**10. Bd2 b5 11. Ne2**

The immediate 11. a4 b4 12. Na2 a5 13. c3 lets Black fight back with 13. ... d5! 14. e5 Ne4.

**11. ... Be7**

Stronger is 11. ... Bb7, not fearing 12. a4 Nc5! 13. Nxc5 dxc5 or 12. Na5 Nc5.

**12. a4 bxa4 13. Rxa4**

White has the edge because the a-pawn is vulnerable.

**13. ... Nb6 14. Ba5 Qa7 15. Ra2 Bb7**

Now the natural 16. Ned4 0-0 17. Qe2 gives Black counterplay by 17. ... Nbd7! 1.8 c3 Nc5.

**16. 0-0!? Nc4+ 17. Kh1**

Welcoming 17. ... Nxa5 18. Nxa5 0-0 19. Rfa1, as the a-pawn will fall.

**17. ... Ne3 18. Rfa1 d5 19. Ng3**



Not 19. e5? d4.

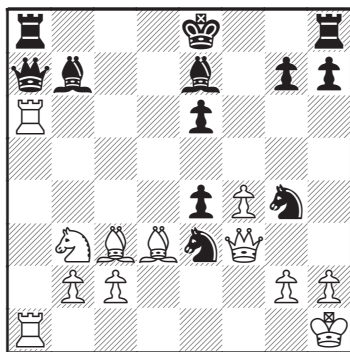
**19. ... dxe4 20. Nxe4 Nfg4?!**

A fantastic attacking conception, slightly flawed. The routine 20. ... Nxe4 21. Bxe4 Bxe4 22. Qxe4 0-0 23. Bc3 Nd5 holds White to a small advantage.

**21. Bc3**

White could thwart Black's idea with 21. Be1! f5?! 22. Rxa6.

**21. ... f5 22. Rxa6! fxe4?**



Inaccurate, as 23. Bb5+! Kf7 24. Qxg4! Nxg4 25. Rxa7 should win for White. The correct 22. ... Bxa6 23. Rxa6 fxe4 leads to the game.

**23. Rxa7? exf3 24. Rxa8+ Bxa8 25. Rxa8+ Kf7!**

Black imagines 26. Rxh8?? fxe4+ 27. Kg1 Bh4, mating.

**26. Ra7! Ra8!?**

Objectively, no more effective than 26. ... Nxg2 27. Bb4 Nf2+ 28. Kg1 Nh3+, but much more thrilling!

**27. Rxa8 fxe4+ 28. Kg1 Bh4 29. Ra7+ Ke8 30. Ra8+**

Leading to repetition. White could try for more with 30. Bb5+! Kf8 (not 30. ... Kd8?? 31. Rd7+ Kc8 32. Rd2) 31. Bb4+ Kg8 32. Ra8+ Kf7 33. Rf8+ Kg6 34. f5+! exf5 (forced, as 34. ... Kh6?? 35. fxe6 guards f2) 35. Be8+ Kh6 36. Rxf5 Nxf5 37. Bd7 Nfe3 38. Bxg4.

**30. ... Kf7**

Black must avoid 30. ... Kd7?? 31. Nc5+ Ke7 32. Ne4 and 30. ... Ke7?? 31. Bb4+ Kf6? 32. Rf8 mate.

**31. Ra7+ Ke8 32. Ra8+ Kf7 33. Ra7+, Drawn**

**Tatev Abrahamyan – John**

**Daniel Bryant**

**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**

**B90 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Najdorf Variation**

*(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)*

**1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. f3 e5 7. Nb3 Be6 8. Be3 Be7 9. Qd2 0-0 10. 0-0-0 Nbd7 11. g4 b5**

Typical strategy for the English Attack against the Sicilian Defense -- attack the opponent's King.

**12. g5 b4**

The latest wrinkle, surpassing 12. ... Nh5 13. Nd5 Bxd5 14. exd5 f5 in popularity.

**13.**

**Ne2**

Black takes the initiative after 13. Nd5?! Nxd5 14. exd5 Bf5.

**13. ... Ne8 14. Ng3**

Another line begins 14. f4 a5 15. f5 a4.

**14. ... a5 15. Kb1**

A sensible precaution in a wild

position.

**15. ... Nb6**

Logical but rare. Many games have tested 15. ... a4 16. Nc1 b3 and 16. ... Qb8.

**16. f4 a4 17. Nc1 exf4 18. Bxf4 b3 19. cxb3 axb3 20. a3**

Probably best, although White must anticipate sacrifices at a3. After 20. axb3 Qd7, Black will invade



**JOHN DANIEL BRYANT**

with . ... Qd7-a7-a1. And 20. Nxb3 R x a 2 ! 21. Kxa2 Q a 8 + 22. Kb1 B x b 3 should favor Black.

**20. ...**

**d5 21. Qf2**

Black gets ample compensation from 21. Nxb3 Nd6.

**21. ... Nd6 22. Be3 Nbc4 23. Bd4?**

## Prize Winners

### Open

1st-3rd: IM Tim Taylor, IM Enrico Sevillano, John Daniel Bryant, 5-1; 4th-5th: IM Andranik Matikozyan, IM Ganbold Odondoo, Gregg Small, Alaa-Addin Moussa, 4½-1½; U2200: Christian Tanaka, Eric Zhang, 4½-1½; U2000: 1st: Catalino Santos, 4-2; 2nd: Richard Ding, Krishna Kaliannan, Randy Higa, Varun Krishnan, 3½-2½.

### Amateur

1st: Carl Bolm, 5½-½; 2nd-5th: William Wijaya, Nestor Dagamat, Grant Yosenick, Robert Xue, Robert Escalante, 5-1; U1600: 1st: Rocky Martinez, 4½-1½; 2nd: Dennis Neymit, 4-2; 3rd-4th: Shirolly Anand, Carla Naylor, Aaron Simo, Pablo Recarte, 3½-½; U1400: David Connors, Armen Siwajian, Grant Jones, Jessica Jones, 3-3; U1200: Elijah Mackey, David Alday, Robert Gradner, Aaron Chow, 2½-3½.

### Scholastic Open

1st: Sean Manross 5-0; 2nd-5th: Andrew Danielson, Kevin Casey, Christoph Kunesh, Adam Roth, 4-1.

### Scholastic Reserve

1st: David X Chen, 5-0; 2nd-4th: Kevin Shao, Evan Anthopoulos, Shashan Dattathri, 4½-½; 5th: Andrew Friedman, 4-1.

### Action

1st: William Pennucci, 4-1; 2nd-3rd: Rasool Bayati, Henry Castro, Joseph Roth, 3½-1½; U1800: Jerry Yee, Adam Roth, Maxwell Chou, 2½-2½.

### Hexes

1st-2nd: Richard Henderson, Alfred Tabayoyong, 2½-½; 3rd: Charles Sciolieri, 2-1.

White will conquer g7, but Black's attack is more deadly. The correct 23. Be5 guards a3 and keeps the position too complicated to assess.

### 23. ... Qa5 24. Bxc4

If 24. Bxg7 Kxg7 25. exd5, setting up a Queen check at d4, Black breaks through with 25. ... Nxa3+! 26. bxa3 Bxd5 27. Qd4+ Kg8 28. Nh5 Nf5 29. Qxd5 Qxa3, possibly followed by 30. Qe5 b2! 31. Qxb2 Rfb8 32. Bb5 Rxb5! 33. Qxb5 Qa1+ 34. Kc2 Rc8+ 35. Kd2

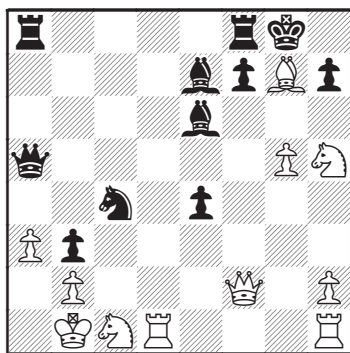
Q c 3 +  
36. Ke2  
Q e 3 +  
37. Kf1  
Q f 3 +,  
w i n -  
n i n g .

2 4 .  
... Nxc4  
2 5 .  
Nh5?!  
d x e 4  
2 6 .  
Bxg7



TATEV ABRAHAMYAN

Against 26. Nf6+, simplest is 26. ... Bxf6 27. gxf6 e3 28. Qg2 g6, leaving White helpless.



### 26. ... e3! 27. Qh4

Also 27. Qe2 Bf5+ 28. Nd3 is refuted by 28. ... Bxa3. For example, 29. bxa3 Nxa3+ 30. Kb2 permits 30.. ... Nc4+ 31. Kb1 Qa2+! 32. Qxa2 Rxa2 33. Bxf8 Kxf8, and White's extra Rook won't prevent mate by 34. ... Na3+.

### 27. ... Bf5+ 28. Nd3

Or 28. Ka1 Qxa3+!

28. ... Nxa3+ 29. bxa3 Qxa3, White Resigns.

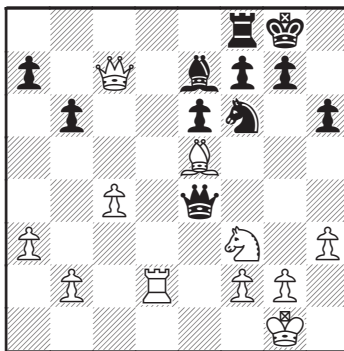
## IM Enrico Sevillano – Show

### Kitagami

Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007

### B22 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Alapin Variation

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Be2 e6 7. h3 Bh5 8. 0-0 Be7 9. Be3 cxd4 10. Nxd4 Bxe2 11. Qxe2 0-0 12. Rd1 Nc6 13. Nd2 Rfd8 14. N2f3 Nxd4 15. Bxd4 Qe4 16. Qf1 b6 17. Qa6 Nd5 18. Be5 Rd7 19. Rd4 Qc2 20. Qb5 Rdd8 21. Rd2 Qf5 22. Rad1 h6 23. c4 Nf6 24. Nd4 Qh5 25. Nf3 Rxd2 26. Rxd2 Qf5 27. Qc6 Rf8 28. a3 Qe4 29. Qc7



29. ... Qb1+ 30. Kh2 Ne4 31. Qxe7 Nxd2 32. Nxd2 Qe1 33. Bd6 Ra8 34. Qb7 Rd8 35. Qc7 Ra8 36. Qc6 Rd8 37. Ne4 f5 38. Be7 1-0

Takashi Kurosaki received the Best Game prize for his far-sighted sacrifice Knight sacrifice against Francisco Alonso. For his investment, he gets complete control of the dark squares, while the White pieces are cut off on the Queenside by a wall of pawns.

## Francisco Alonso – Takashi

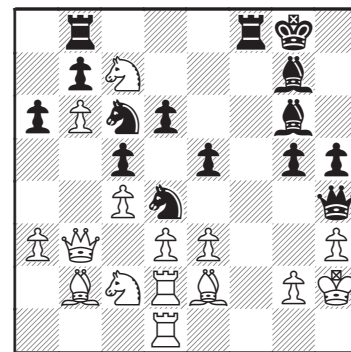
### Kurosaki

Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007

### A04 ENGLISH OPENING

1. Nf3 c5 2. e3 g6 3. c4 Bg7 4. Qc2 Nc6 5. a3 e5 6. Nc3 d6 7. d3 Nge7 8. Rb1 h6 9. Be2 Be6 10. 0-0 0-0 11. b4 Qd7 12. Qb3 Rab8 13. b5 Nd8 14. Nd5 f5 15. b6 a6 16. Nc7 Bf7 17. Bb2 Nec6 18. Rfd1 Ne6 19. Nd5 g5 20. Rd2 Bg6 21. Rbd1 f4 22. Ne1 fxe3 23. fxe3 Qf7 24. h3 h5 25. Nc2 Qf2+

26. Kh2 Qh4 27. Nc7 Ned4



28. exd4 exd4 29. Bf3 Be5+ 30. Kg1 Qg3 31. Ne1 g4 32. hxg4 hxg4 33. Ne6 gxf3 34. Nxf8 Rxf8 0-1

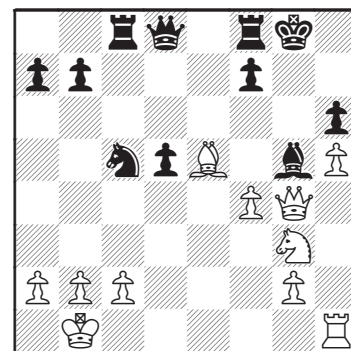
Another strong contender for the prize. Watch those White Kingside pawns!

## Barry Lazarus – Miguel Cayetano

Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007

### B19 CARO-KANN DEFENSE

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bf5 5. Ng3 Bg6 6. h4 h6 7. Nf3 Nd7 8. h5 Bh7 9. Bd3 Bxd3 10. Qxd3 e6 11. Bd2 Ngf6 12. 0-0-0 Be7 13. Kb1 c5 14. dxc5 Nxc5 15. Qe2 Qc7 16. Ne5 0-0 17. Ng4 Rac8 18. Bc3 Nd5 19. Be5 Qa5 20. Nxb6+ gxh6 21. Rxd5 exd5 22. Qg4+ Bg5 23. f4 Qd8



24. Nf5 Kh7 25. Nxb6 f6 26. Qf5+ Kh8 27. fxe5 fxe5 28. Qxe5+ Kh7 29. Ng4 Rh8 30. Nf6+ Kg7 31. Ne8+ 1-0

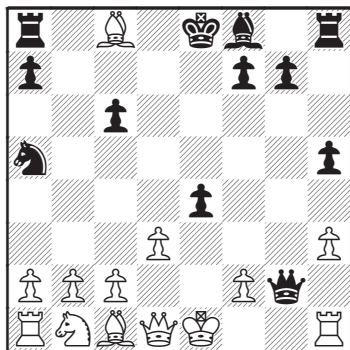


**IM Ganbold Odondoo – Carl Pilnick**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**  
**C18 FRENCH DEFENSE, Winawer Variation**

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 Qc7 7. Qg4 f5 8. Qg3 Nc6 9. Nf3 cxd4 10. cxd4 g6 11. Bd2 Nge7 12. Bd3 Bd7 13. 0-0 0-0-0 14. Bh6 Rhg8 15. Bg5 Kb8 16. Rfb1 Ka8 17. a4 Rge8 18. Qh4 h5 19. a5 Rb8 20. Bc1 Nc8 21. Ba3 Nxa5 22. Qf6 Rg8 23. Qf7 Qd8 24. h4 Nc6 25. c3 Qe8 26. Qf6 N6e7 27. Ng5 Rf8 28. Nxe6 1-0

**Eric Qi – Catalino Santos**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**  
**C59 TWO KNIGHTS DEFENSE**

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. Ng5 d5 5. exd5 Na5 6. Bb5+ c6 7. dxc6 bxc6 8. Be2 h6 9. Nf3 e4 10. Ne5 Qd5 11. Ng4 Nxg4 12. Bxg4 Qg5 13. h3 h5 14. d3 Qg6 15. Bxc8 Qxg2



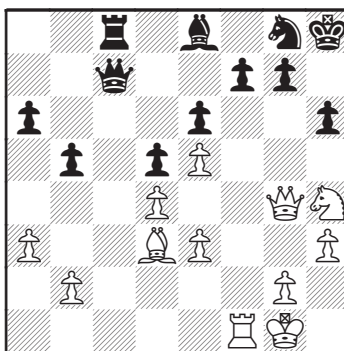
16. Bd7+ Kxd7 17. dxe4+ Bd6 18. Ke2 Qxe4+ 19. Be3 Rhe8 20. Na3 f5 21. Qd2 f4 22. Qxa5 Re5 23. Qa6 Kc7 24. Rad1 Bxa3 25. bxa3 fxe3 26. Qd3 exf2+ 27. Qxe4 Rxe4+ 28. Kxf2 Rf8+ 29. Kg1 Re2 30. Rh2 Rxh2 31. Kxh2 Rf2+ 32. Kg3 Rxc2 33. Kh4 g6 34. Rd3 Rxa2 35. Kg5 Rg2+ 36. Kf4 g5+ 37. Ke5 h4 38. Kd4 Rg3 39. Rd1 Rxh3 40. Rf1 Rxa3 41. Kc5 Ra5+ 42. Kb4 Rb5+ 43. Kc4 h3 44. Rf7+ Kb6 45. Rf8 g4 46. Rb8+ Ka6 47. Rc8 h2 48. Rxc6+ Rb6 49. Rc5 h1Q 50. Kd4 Qd1+ 51. Ke4 Qf3+ 52. Kd4 Rb4+ 53. Ke5 Re4+ 54. Kd5 Qf5+ 0-1



**CARL BOLM, WINNER OF THE AMATEUR SECTION**

**A Rook? Of course, a Rook!**  
**John Anderson – Gerardo Gonzalez**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**  
**C02 FRENCH DEFENSE, Advance Variation**

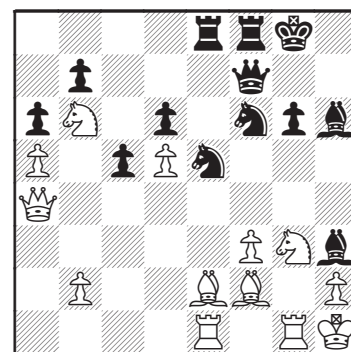
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Nge7 6. Be2 cxd4 7. cxd4 Qb6 8. Nc3 a6 9. 0-0 Nf5 10. Na4 Qa7 11. Be3 Nxe3 12. fxe3 Be7 13. Rc1 Bd7 14. Nc5 Bxc5 15. Rxc5 b6 16. Rc1 0-0 17. Bd3 h6 18. a3 Rfc8 19. Qe2 Ne7 20. Nh4 Rxc1 21. Rxc1 Rc8 22. Rf1 b5 23. Qf2 Be8 24. h3 Qc7 25. Qg3 Kh8 26. Qg4 Ng8



27. Rxf7 Bxf7 28. Ng6+ Bxg6 29. Qxg6 Nf6 30. exf6 gxf6 31. Qxh6+ Kg8 32. Qxf6 Qf7 33. Bh7+ Kf8 34. Qh8+ Ke7 35. Qxc8 Qxh7 36. Qc7+ 1-0

**Michael Yee – John Daniel Bryant**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**  
**A65 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE, Sämisch Variation**

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f3 0-0 6. Be3 c5 7. d5 e6 8. Qd2 exd5 9. cxd5 Nbd7 10. Nge2 Ne5 11. Ng3 a6 12. a4 h5 13. Be2 h4 14. Nf1 Nh7 15. Qc1 f5 16. Nd2 fxe4 17. Ndx4 h3 18. 0-0 hxg2 19. Kxg2 Qh4 20. Kh1 Nf7 21. Rg1 Bf5 22. Qd2 Rae8 23. Bf2 Qe7 24. Rae1 Qd7 25. a5 Nf6 26. Ng3 Bh6 27. Qd1 Ne5 28. Na4 Bh3 29. Nb6 Qf7 30. Qa4



30. ... Nfg4 31. Ne4 Nxf3 32. Rxg4 Nxe1 33. Nd7 Qf5 34. Ndf6+ Kh8 35. Nxe8 Bxg4 36. Bxg4 Qxg4 37. Bd4+ Rf6 0-1

**IM Tim Taylor – IM Enrico Sevillano**  
**Southern California Open, Los Angeles 2007**  
**A02 BIRD'S OPENING**

1. f4 c5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. e3 g6 4. b3 Bg7 5. Bb2 0-0 6. Be2 Nc6 7. 0-0 b6 8. a4 Bb7 9. Na3 a6 10. Qe1 e6 11. Nc4 d5 12. Nce5 Ne8 13. Nxc6 Bxc6 14. Bxg7 Nxg7 15. d4 cxd4 16. exd4 Nf5 17. Bd3 Nd6 18. Rd1 Bb7 19. Ng5 Qe7 20. Qe3 Rae8 21. Rde1 h6 22. Nf3 Ne4 23. Nd2 f5 24. Nf3 1/2-1/2





# 5TH ANNUAL WESTERN PACIFIC OPEN

October 19-21, 2007

The 5th Annual Western Pacific Open, held at the LAX Hilton October 19-21, had a somewhat disappointing turnout of 85. Curiously, last year's October event, which conflicted with a major tournament in Reno, drew 99. GM Melikset Khachiyan took first place with 4½-½. Clear second at 4-1 was rapidly improving young master Julian Landaw, who drew with Khachiyan and IM Tim Taylor, and upset IM Andranik Matikozyan.

In the Premier (U1800) section, Danil Fedunov topped the field with 4½-½, followed at 4-1 by Jim Chao, Michael Taylor, Michael Brown, Alexander Bykovtsev, and Ryan Pol-sky. In the Amateur (U1400), Wenbo Du and Franz Bisson tied for first with 4½-½.

The Scholastics proved a bright spot, with 58 players. Both sections produced clear winners, Ashkion Soroudi with 4½-½ in the Open, and Adam Gushansky 5-0 in the Reserve.

John Hillery directed, with the assistance of Randy Hough.

## Alexandre Kretchetov – GM Melikset Khachiyan 5th Annual Western Pacific Open, Los Angeles 2007 D86 GRÜNFELD DEFENSE, Exchange Variation

(Notes by Los Angeles Times chess columnist Jack Peters)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. cxd5

The Exchange variation, an aggressive system against the Gruenfeld Defense.

4. ... Nxd5 5. e4 Nxc3 6. bxc3 Bg7 7. Bc4 0-0 8. Ne2 Nc6

Instead of the usual 8 ... c5.

9. 0-0 e5 10. d5

Most natural, but White has tried 10 Be3 and the wild 10 Ba3

Re8 11 Bxf7+!? Kxf7 12 Qb3+ Kf6 13 f4.

10. ... Na5 11. Bd3 c5

Closing the center and planning to post the Knight at d6. Alternatively, Black could counterattack by 11 ... c6 12 c4 b5!? or keep his options open with 11. ... b6.

12. c4 b6 13. a4 Nb7 14. Nc3 Bd7 15. Qe2 a5!

Ruling out a4-15xb6. White's only Queenside target will be the easily defended b-pawn.

16. Be3?

Too slow. White must generate activity on the Kingside, and 16. f4! Does the job. Then 16. ... exf4? 17. e5 looks dangerous only to Black.

16. ... Nd6 17. Rab1 f5 18. f3 f4

Advantage to Black. White no longer can make threats, and the dynamic tenet "Passive positions lose" bodes ill for White.

19. Bf2 Bf6 20. Rb2 Ra6

Odd, but 20. ... Rb8 21. Rfb1 makes Black worry about Bf2xc5.

21. Rfb1 Qc7

Black's obvious goal is a Kingside attack with ... g6-g5-g4. First he must maneuver to guard b6 efficiently.

22. Qc2 Bc8 23. Bf1?!

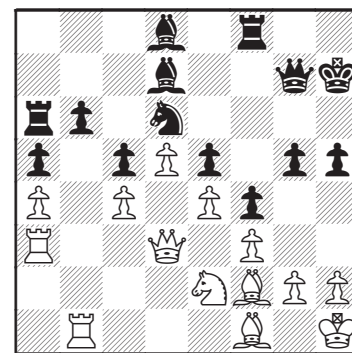
White should lessen the danger with 23. g4 or 23. Kf1 Bd8 24. Ke2.

23. ... Bd8 24. Kh1 Qg7 25.



GM MELIKSET KHACHIYAN

Rb3 g5 26. Qd3 Bd7 27. Ra3 h5 28. Ne2 Kh7



29. Nc1 g4 30. Nb3 gxf3?!

The last chance is 31. Qxf3 Bg4 32. Qd3, intending Nb3-d2-f3.

31. gxf3 Rg8 32. Nxc5

Not sound, but Black threatened the spectacular 32. ... Nxc4! 33. Qxc4 b5 34. axb6 Rg6.

32. ... Bh4

Also winning is 32. ... bxc5 33. Bxc5 Nf7, intending 34. ... Rg6.

33. Qe2 Bxf2 34. Qxf2 bxc5 35. Qxc5

White will not get an opportu-

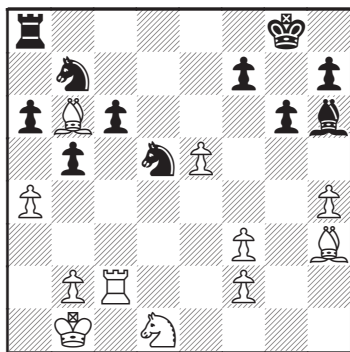
nity to use his connected passers.

**35. ... Nxc4 36. Ra2 Rc8 0-1**

After 37. Qf2 Rg6, Black soon invades on the g-file.

**IM Tim Taylor – Tianye He  
5th Annual Western Pacific Open,  
Los Angeles 2007  
D80 NEO-GRÜNFELD DEFENSE**

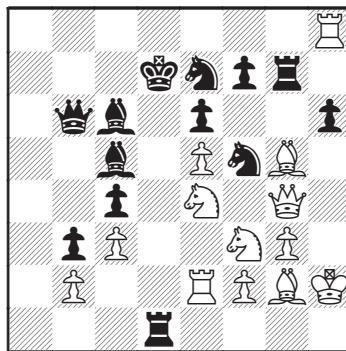
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. e3 Bg7 5. Qb3 dxc4 6. Bxc4 0-0 7. Nf3 Nc6 8. Be2 Na5 9. Qc2 Bf5 10. e4 Bg4 11. Be3 Bxf3 12. gxf3 b6 13. 0-0-0 c6 14. h4 b5 15. Qd2 Qb6 16. d5 Qc7 17. d6 exd6 18. Qxd6 Qxd6 19. Rxd6 Rfc8 20. Rhd1 Nb7 21. R6d2 a6 22. Kb1 Re8 23. Bb6 Bh6 24. Rc2 Rac8 25. a4 Re6 26. Bf1 Ra8 27. Bh3 Rd6 28. e5 Rxd1+ 29. Nxd1 Nd5



30. Rxc6 bxa4 31. Bc8 Nxb6 32. Bxb7 Rd8 33. Nc3 Nd7 34. Rd6 Bf8 35. Rd1 Be7 36. Nd5 Bxh4 37. Nf6+ Bxf6 38. exf6 Kf8 39. Bxa6 a3 40. b4 a2+ 41. Ka1 h5 42. Bb5 Ke8 43. f4 h4 44. Rd3 Kf8 45. Rxd7 Rc8 46. Bc6 Kg8 47. b5 h3 48. Rd3 1-0

**IM Andranik Matikozyan – Julian Landaw  
5th Annual Western Pacific Open,  
Los Angeles 2007  
A08 KING'S INDIAN ATTACK**

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. g3 d5 3. Bg2 e6 4. 0-0 Be7 5. d3 c5 6. Nbd2 Nc6 7. e4 b5 8. Re1 a5 9. h4 Ba6 10. a3 dxe4 11. dxe4 Qb6 12. e5 Nd5 13. Qe2 Rd8 14. Qe4 c4 15. c3 Bc5 16. Re2 Nce7 17. h5 b4 18. axb4 axb4 19. Qc2 b3 20. Qe4 Nf5 21. Qg4 Nde7 22. Ne4 Bb5 23. h6 Rg8 24. hxg7 Rd1+ 25. Kh2 Rxg7 26. Ra8+ Kd7 27. Bg5 Bc6 28. Rh8 h6



29. Nxc5+ Qxc5 30. Bxe7 Kxe7 31. Qf4 Rd3 32. g4 Kd7 33. Ne1 Bxg2 34. Nxd3 cxd3 35. Rd2 Bf1 36. gxf5 Kc7 37. Qa4 Qxe5+ 38. f4 Qc5 39. Qd4 Qxd4 40. cxd4 Rg2+ 41. Rxg2 Bxg2 42. fxe6 fxe6 0-1

## Prize Winners

### Open

1st: GM Melisket Khachiyan, 4½-½; 2nd: Julian Landaw, 4-1; 3rd-4th: IM Tim Taylor, Alexandre Kretchetov, 3½-1½; U2200: Christian Tanaka, Tianye He, 3½-1½; 5th/1-2 U2400/3rd U2200: Ron Hermansen, Vadim Kudryavtsev, Lawrence Stevens, Vincent Huang, 3-2.

### Premier

1st: Danil Fedunov, 4½-½; 2nd/3rd/1-3 U1800: Jim Chao, Michael Taylor, Michael Brown, Alexander Bykovtsev, Ryan Polsky, 4-1; 4th: Sarkis Kasamanian, Kelly Zhang, 3½-1½; U1600: 1st: Sean Manross, 3-2; 2nd-3rd: Carla Nayllor, David Connors, Anna Karapetyan, Armen Siwajian, Daniel Benjamin, 2-3.

### Amateur

1st-2nd: Wenbo Du, Franz Bisson, 4½-½; 3rd: Christian Garcia, 4-1; U1200: Jan Olderdiessen, Darren Chow, 3-2; Unrated: Michael Hemmat, 3-2.

### Scholastic Open

1st: Ashkon Soroudi, 4½-½; 2nd: Adrian Urias, 4-1; 3rd: James Campbell, 3½-1½; 4th: Henry Wang, 3½-1½; 5th: David Yang, 3½-1½; 1-3 U1200: Aaron Householder, William Chen, Scott Xue, 3-2; Unrated: Andrew Kao, 4-1.

### Scholastic Reserve

1st: Adam Gushansky, 5-0; 2nd: Shashan Dattathri, 4-1; 3rd: Alesander Blaine, 4-1; 4th: Daniel Mousseri, 4-1; 5th: Brock Etheridge, 3½-1½; 1-2 U700: Andrew Negus, David Minasyan, 3½-1½; 3rd U700: Cezar Cozianu, 3-2; 1st Unrated: Michael Paddock, 2-3; 2nd Unrated: Elizabeth Paddock, 1½-3½

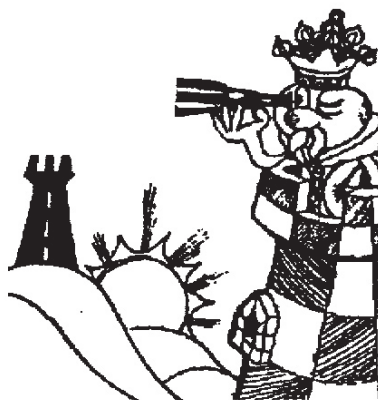
### Hexes

1st-2nd: Craig Faber, Richard Henderson, 2½-½.



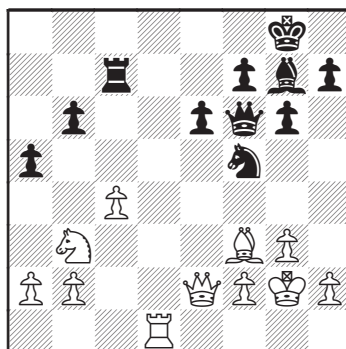
# Tactics

by NM Tim Hanks

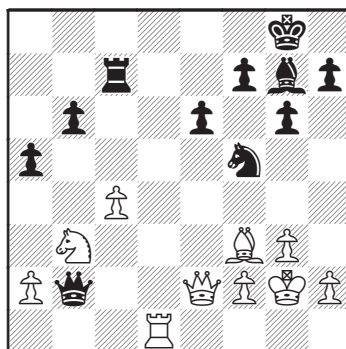


As a chess player, you have to love football, since so much that happens on the gridiron can be related to the chessboard. In fact, you find football coaches making comments that relate their game plan preparations to a game of chess all the time. One of my favorite offensive plays in football is the screen pass. This is where the defensive lineman are “allowed” to get through the offensive line while two offensive linemen run wide to a specific side of the field and then turn and block up field for a running back who takes a short pass from the quarterback. When I see this kind of play I think of a deflection move.

Deflections are often stunning moves and hold their own special place in the realm of tactical combinative play. They can be blatantly powerful or very quiet (or sneaky) and happen in all phases of a game. A deflection is a move that forces a piece to “leave its post” (i.e. be deflected), and thus the defensive formation collapses. Another way of defining how deflections work is when taking advantage of an “over-worked piece.” For a simple example of a deflection move look at Position 1. It’s Black to move. What would you do?



White has set up a screen pass in that he’s using the b-pawn as “bait.” If Black falls for the bait, White will get the first down and perhaps even more. Do you see how? See Position 2.

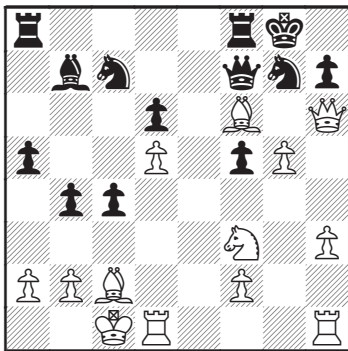


The Black Queen is defended by the Bishop on g7. If the Bishop is forced to move (deflected) from defending the Black Queen White will win the Queen. In this rather simple example **1. Rd8+** wins at once, since Black must reply **1. ... Bf8**, and then **2. Qxb2** and White wins the Queen (touchdown) and Black

can resign. Players often fall for deflection moves as a result of not realizing the clever transitions occurring from sequencing moves in the position. In this example Black was covering the d8-square before capturing on b2. In his mind there were no checks. The b2-pawn was “undefended” and thus it seemed logical to simply capture the pawn. Better would have been to play **1. ... a4** or **1. ... h6** and Black would actually retain a small edge.

Tactics remains at the center of attention in just about all chess games. In fact, the greater the difference in player strength the more likely the game will be decided by tactics versus long-term strategic play. Another fact is that the lower a player’s rating the more likely the game will be decided and lost by a tactical oversight. In some cases the stronger player can play a “waiting game” until the weaker opponent creates a blunder (or weakness) allowing the opportunity to spring a tactical combination. With chess tactics you create one or more threats that did not exist before the tactical move is made. Tactics are the watchdog of strategy. Tactical play is improved with concentrated practice and from experience. Even the greatest chess players are prone to tactical oversights and mistakes and thus no player is immune from tactical ploys and motifs. You must constantly practice and test yourself to harden your tactical alertness even if you reach the highest levels. Take a look at Position 3 with White to move. It’s Steinitz vs Blackburne, London 1876. How would you proceed?

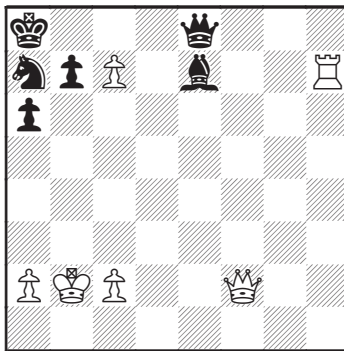
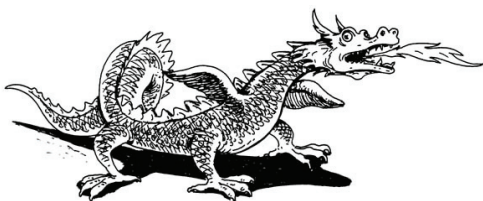




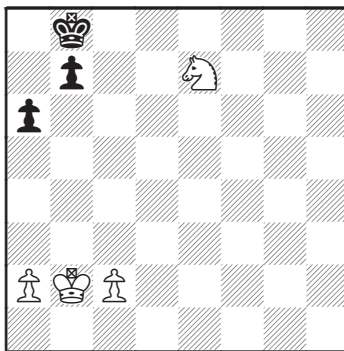
White must act quickly, otherwise his advantage could be lost. In this example a deflection move **1. g6!** comes to the rescue. This move can also be considered a kind of clearance move since it will allow the White forces to infiltrate with devastating results. By the way ... if you considered **1. Nh4!!** and **1. Rhg1** you get full credit as they are very strong alternative moves as well. Let's consider some Black reply possibilities to the move **1. ... g6:**

- 1. ... Qxf6? 2. Qh7#
- 1. ... hxc6 2. Ng5 Qxf6 3. Qh7#
- 1. ... Qxg6 2. Bxg7 Qxg7 (or Qxh6 3. Bxh6 and White has won a piece with sustained pressure on the g-file) 3. Rhg1 and White wins.

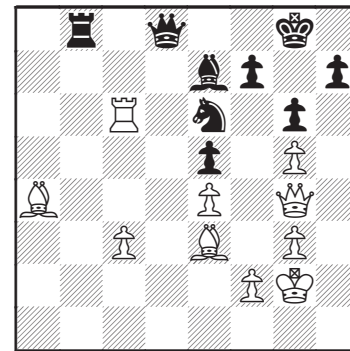
Deflections (or sometimes these kinds of moves are called distractions) many times involve a piece being moved away from controlling a vital square or line. By the way... let me just comment quickly about another combination move called a decoy which some people may confuse with a deflection. Decoys, also sometimes called enticements, occur when a piece is lured onto a fatal square. To illustrate a typical decoy take a look at Position 4. It's White to move. What would you do?



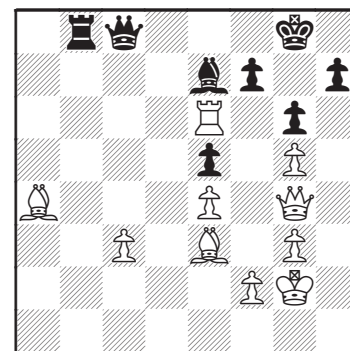
When a decoy type combination is executed you plan to tactically force your opponent's pieces onto certain squares with the ultimate goal of gaining material or forcing mate. In this example White plays **1. Rxd7!** (the decoy move) and if **1. ... Qxd7** then **2. Qxa7+ Kxa7** **3. c8=N+! Kb8** **4. Nxe7** and emerges a full piece ahead with an easily won endgame as shown in Position 5.



So generally a decoy is actually a kind of "reverse deflection" that sets a deadly trap by enticing a piece onto a square where it will be subject to attack as part of a tactical combination. Black could have avoided being forced into the lost endgame and "prolonged" play, albeit painfully, with **1. ... Qh8+**, but after **2. c3 Nc8** **3. Rd7** the game would be very difficult to defend. For another example of a decoy see Position 6 with White to move. This is Fischer – Shocron, Mar Del Plata, 1959.



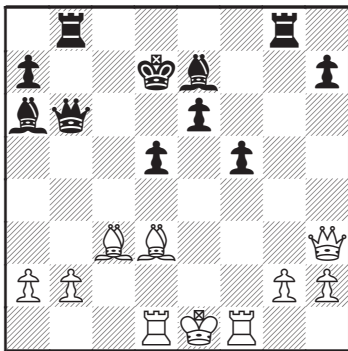
Black's Kingside looks vulnerable, especially on the dark squares – and thus the position looks ripe for some decisive and forcing action. Fischer does his safety check and lashes with a clever combination, beginning with **1. Rxe6!** Now if **1. ... fxe6** **2. Qxe6+ Kf8** (or **Kh8** which basically leads to the same fate as in the game) **3. Qxe5 Kf7** **4. Bd4** and White has an irresistible attack. Thus, Shocron replied **1. ... Qc8** pinning the Rook and White Queen, feeling probably confident he's caught the young Fischer with a *zwischenzug*. See Position 7. At first it appears Black has busted White's combination with a classic "intermezzo gotcha" -- but Fischer was prepared for this. Can you determine his reply?



Fischer employs the decoy move **2. Bd7!!**, since if **2. ... Qxd7** **3. Rxg6+ hxc6** **4. Qxd7** and wins. Shocron, totally stunned, could find nothing to refute the decoy and resigned.

In the next example (Position 8), it's Black to move. What would you do?





The White King is pretty much stuck in the center, but so is Black's King. This should trigger a feeling that the position is ripe for tactical combinations of some types, perhaps for either side. It's these kinds of positions where studying tactics helps you to consider moves that go "outside the box" – which is so important if you want to win more games. Evaluating the material we find that Black is up a pawn and thus with liquidation should win an ensuing endgame. It's fine to look for ways to simplify a position towards one that is "a won endgame" but we all know that winning a won game is not always as straightforward as we think. You should aim to do all you can to end a game as soon as possible and (if possible) before entering an endgame. Thus it's important to capitalize on what's best right now and reap the greatest material gain along with eliminating any counterplay at all times. In this position a key square for Black to try to "exploit" is e3. If Black can gain control of that square with his Queen, White will be lost, since the two White Rooks wedge the White King into a mating net. Considering this plan we now consider deflection moves. Is there a way to deflect the White Queen from defending the e3 square without losing time to any White counterplay? The answer is yes -- and it comes pretty fast beginning with **1. ... Rg3!!** A powerful deflection move. Okay, so now what? Let's consider some of White's replies.

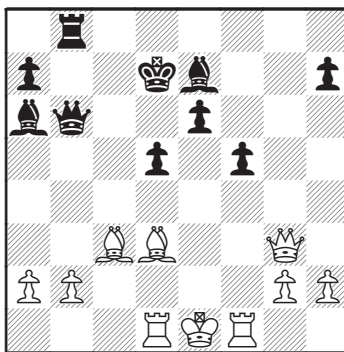
If 2. Bxa6 Rxh3 3. gxh3 Qxa6

and Black has a big material and clearly a winning advantage.

If 2. Qxh7 (a totally useless move) then Qe3+ 3. Be2 Qxe2#

If 2. hxg3, which cuts off the White Queen from defending the e3 square, then 2. ... Qe3+ 3. Be2 Qxe2#

So this leaves just one other reply: **2. Qxg3**. See Position 9.



Black continues with another deflection move – **2. ... Bh4!!**, which pins the White Queen and King and now threatens mate in 2. Thus if:

3. Qxh4 then 3. ... Qe3 4. Be2 Qxe2#

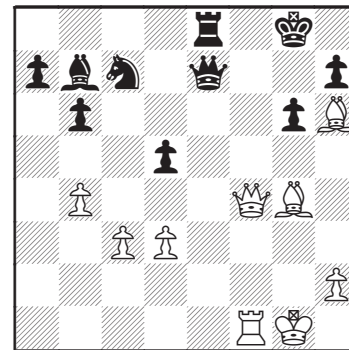
3. Bxa6 then 3. ... Bxg3+ 4. hxg3 Qxa6 and Black's advantage is overwhelming.

3. Rf3 then 3. ... Bxg3+ 4. Rxg3 Qg1+ 5. Ke2 Bxd3+ 6. Rdx3 Kd6 and Black should have no problem reeling in the full point with his advantage.

Deflections are moves you must always be looking out for, not only to play on offensively but when you're defending. The best way to find or expect a deflection is to look for pieces that are "overworked." Avoid positions where you have only 1 piece working to keep a position together. This may tactically be more prevalent in the endgame when there's a higher chance a single piece may be overworked. Soon or later a deflection opportunity will come up and the overworked position will quickly crumble.

Improving your ability to calculate and visualize tactical combinations takes practice. Tactical problem solving will help in this development. Avoid moving the pieces when solving problems so as to strengthen your over-the-board play. Be alert, play sharp and always remember to do your safety check. Good luck and happy solving! Solutions on page 19.

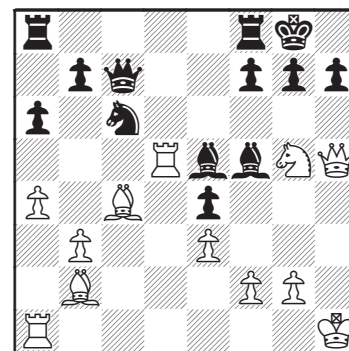
#### Problem No. 1. White to move.



- a) Black is winning.
- b) The position is nearly equal.
- c) White is winning.

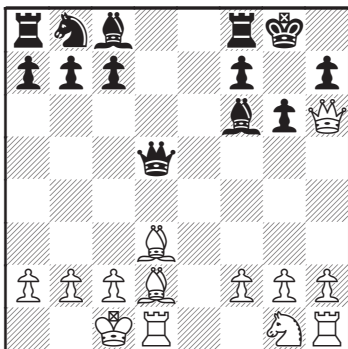
Prove your answer with analysis and a variation.

#### Problem No. 2. White to move.



- a) Black is winning.
  - b) White is winning.
  - c) There are chances for both sides. The position is roughly equal.
- Validate your move selection with analysis.

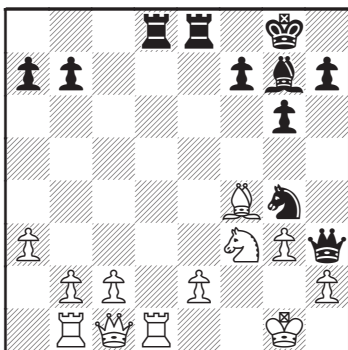
**Problem No. 3. White to move.**



- a) The game is roughly equal.
- b) Black is better.
- c) White is better.

Prove your answer with a variation.

**Problem No. 4. Black to move.**



- a) 1. ... Rxe2 is the best move and Black will win.
- b) 1. ... Nxh2 is the best move and Black will win.
- c) 1. ... Bd4+ is the best move and Black will win.
- d) Something else but White sustains some drawing chances.

Prove your answer with a variation.



## The Long View

by John Hillery

Another superb Alekhine combination, as he outplays opening theoretician Grünfeld in the midgame.

### Grünfeld – Alekhine

Carlsbad, 1923

#### QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bg5 Nbd7 6. e3 0-0 7. Rc1 c6 8. Qc2

Beginning the “battle for the tempo,” which was much the rage at the time. White wants to postpone Bf1-d3, in the hope that Black will run out of useful waiting moves and play ... d5xc4.

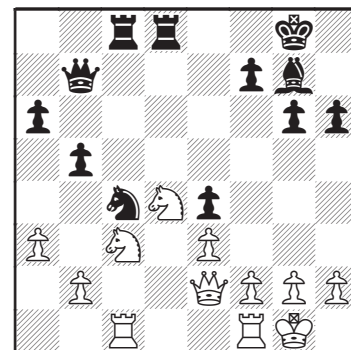
8. ... a6 9. a3 h6 10. Bh4 Re8 11. Bd3 dxc4

Who has gained more from the transaction? The Black Rook is at e8, where it may support ... e6-e5, while White has gained the move a2-a3. He tries to use the latter factor to mount a Kingside attack, transferring his Bishop to b1.

12. Bxc4 b5 13. Ba2 c5 14. Rd1 cxd4 15. Nxd4 Qb6 16. Bb1 Bb7

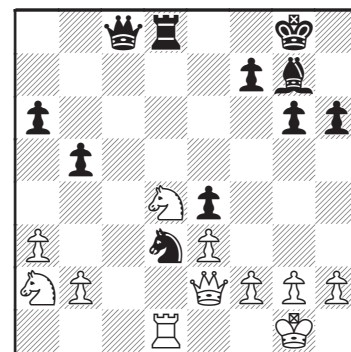
Black's edge in development proves the critical factor. Alekhine had to foresee the defensive maneuver 17. Ndx b5 Qc6! (not 17. ... axb5 18. Rxd7, overloading the Nf6) 18. Nd4 Qxg2, and Black's attack is faster.

17. 0-0 Rac8 18. Qd2 Ne5 19. Bxf6 Bxf6 20. Qc2 g6 21. Qe2 Nc4 22. Be4 Bg7 23. Bxb7 Qxb7 24. Rc1 e5 25. Nb3 e4 26. Nd4 Red8



Rudolph Spielmann once remarked that he could play combinations just as well as Alekhine. If only, he sighed wistfully, he could obtain the positions Alekhine did ...

27. Rfd1 Ne5 28. Na2 Nd3 29. Rxc8 Qxc8



30. f3 Rxd4 31. fxe4

Black wins after 31. exd4 Bd4+ 32. Kf1 Nf4 33. Qxe4 Qc4+ 34. Ke1 Nxe4+ 35. Kd2 Be3+. White hopes to escape with the text move, for now Black has two pieces *en prise*.

31. ... Nf4 32. exf4 Qc4 33. Qxc4 Rxd1+ 34. Qf1 Bd4+, White resigns

## 43rd Annual American Open

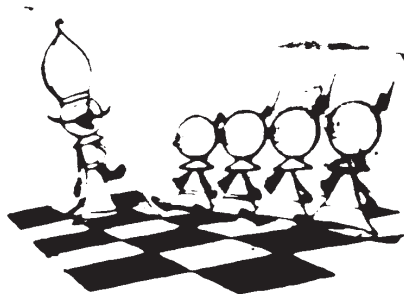
LAX Renaissance Hotel

November 22-25

**\$\$\$40,000 b/400, \$20,000 guaranteed!**

see page 22 for full details

# HERE & THERE



## San Luis Obispo County Championship

The September 15 S.L.O. County Championship was won by Vadim Kudryavtsev with a perfect 4-0, qualifying him for next year's State Championship. Mark Keller and Warren Williamson became San Luis Obispo County Co-champions each with a 3-1 score. The 24-player Open saw 6 players tie with a score of 3-1 (in addition to Keller and Williamson, they were Alex Bykovtsev; Tony Miller, Robert Reynolds; Allan Sung). Youth prizes were won by Connor Reck and Zach Lindsay, with Connor taking first on tie-breaks. Jason Mayr provided the tournament site at his art gallery. Barbara McCaleb directed the tournament. – *Barbara McCaleb*

## La Palma Chess Club

Craig Faber and W. Leigh Hunt won the 12-player top section of La Palma Chess Club's four round swiss that ended Sept. 28th. Other winners in that section were Mehrdad Miralaie, Joma Packing, Austin Hughes, Serio Pragale, Eren Karadayi, and Yoshio Dupree. In the second U1630 section, Carmen Marie Childress was clear first with a fine undefeated score of 3½. Other win-

ners were Robert Escalante, Henry Wang, newcomer Christopher Kao, Dr. Harold Valery, Gregory Parker, Ryan Hughes, and newcomer David Yang. Note, the club championship runs from Oct. 5th through Nov. 30th. For complete standings and a schedule of events see the club's website at <http://www.lapalm-achess.741.com>. – *Chris Roberts*

## Pasadena Chess Club

Dave Matson and Larry Stevens tied for first place with 5-1 scores in the 36-player Liberty Open, ending in August. Next with 4½—1½ were Ike Miller and Tianyi. Class prize winners included Gregg Fritchle, Rolando Tenoso, Robert Xue, Isidoro Can, Jared Ogassian, Guanyang Yu and Raymond Law.

San Gabriel Valley Open, held in September and October, has now held for over 50 years! This year, twenty nine players entered. The winner with a perfect score of 6-0 was Ike Miller. Jesse Victoria was a clear second with 5-1. Class prizes went to Gregory Hall and Timothy Thompson (U2000), Rolando Tenoso and Robert Xue (U1800), Robert Burlingame (U1600), David Galfond (U1400) and Ronald Reyes (unrated).

## Chess Palace 17th Anniversary

On Sat. the 13th of October the Chess Palace of Garden Grove marked the 17th year of it's life with a very nice one day tournament and a fun party. Located in an upscale industrial park on Valley View, just off the 405 freeway, this fine club and chess business was run

by Charles Rostedt for the first 14 years of its operation. Charles sold it to the Ong family and 21-year old Anthony, who is a near Master, now is the "Man" at the club. He is ably assisted by his five siblings and his Dad. For a full range of Chess Palace events and chess services, go to the highly user friendly [www.ChessPalace.com](http://www.ChessPalace.com). Anthony is the webmaster.

In its present location, Chess Palace can accommodate sixty-five or so for a tournament by putting up a tent outside its back door, as on weekends the other units in the building are not active.

Alas, the Chess Gods did not look with favor on the CP for the anniversary event. The steady rain on that Saturday kept the entries to only 19 when twice as many were expected. Still, we 19 had a great time. The good will and the scrumptious food were plentiful (everything from spaghetti to sushi, and a great Birthday cake of which YHR ate a bit too much!)

The winner of this gala affair, a 4 round game 30 event, was the congenial near Senior Master Reynaldo Del Pilar with a first round bye and 3 wins. I was the only other master and got two out of three with a first round bye. I was thoroughly outplayed and upset in round three by 1801 rated Joseph Scherzinger who lamented the lack of an upset prize. (A lot of my opponents this year would have a crack at that as I recover from serious health problems. Actually, I beat two A players, a good sign of progress for the old guy!)

14-year-old Chris Tanaka was tied for 2nd with Jason Garfield, Miguel Cayetano, and Pirouz Hendi. Chris is pushing master and will likely make it by the end of the year.



I used to go to the “old” CP but got out of the habit when it moved. (It’s only 4 miles from the old site). With the really positive experience this was, in spite of the long drive, I will be back soon. Anthony has promised a game 15 event which is my favorite time control and does not require scorekeeping! – *OLM (Not “old,” but “Original” Life Master), Jerry Hanken, President, CJA*

## Exposition Park Chess Club

On September 2, Auluvance Tillmon, Reynaldo Cruz, Jose Quiroz, Johnny Sabbath and Juan Gonzalez topped sections in the monthly free tournament at the Exposition Park Chess Club. On October 7, winners were Marc Conde, Vartan Ghazarian and Roland Cash. For photos of the club, see [chess.expoparkla.com](http://chess.expoparkla.com). The club meets every Sunday afternoon in the public library, 3665 S. Vermont Ave. in Los Angeles.

## Arcadia Chess Club

John Hale, Randy Hough, Ike Miller and Lawrence Stevens shared first place in the 54-player Bill Smith Memorial at the Arcadia Chess Club, ending in September. Class prizes winners included Gregg Fritchle (A), Terrence Sun and Kelly Zhang (B), Edgar Cavanenghi (C), and Christopher Hung (D-E-unrated).

The Arcadia Chess Club meets at 6:30 p.m. Mondays in the Senior Citizens building, 405 S. Santa Anita Ave. For information, call Fred Brock at (626) 331-1638 or Mel Clark at (626) 447-9355. Web site: [www.geocities.com/arcadiachess-club](http://www.geocities.com/arcadiachess-club).

## AAA Chess Fall Scholastic

This scholastic event, held September 22 at the First Lutheran Church in Glendale, attracted 95 players. Winners were Boris Kitap-

szyan (K-12), Gevork Ayrapetyan (K-8), and Jacob Allins (K-5). Harut Keshishian directed.

## Costa Mesa Octos

Michael W. Brown and Jason Garfield shared first place in the September 15 Octos. For cross-tables of past Octos and information about future events, see <http://members.cox.net/octochess>.

## San Diego Chess Club

In July and August the SDCC hosted the 6 round Summer Swiss with 63 players in 3 sections. The Open Section was won with authority and a full point margin by NM David Hart with 5 points. Tying for BU2100 with 4 points were two locally famous Filipino players: Raoul “Capablanca” Crisolago and Alejandro (Ed, the Chess Balladeer) Baluran. Trailing with 3½ were Leonard “Leonid, the Computer Whiz” Sussman, NM Bruce “Morphy” Baker, current club champion John “The Thunderbird” Funderburg and James “The Brilliant” Mahooti. In the Reserve Section, Hercules Madriaga, Player of the Month for August, scored an impressive 6 out of 6, trailed by Chris Borgan with 4½ for Second Place and William Wijaya with 4½ for BU1900. Buddy Morris and Ron Soto tied for 3rd with 4 and Richard Jensen was 2nd U1900, also with 4. Dayne Nix managed to rack up 4 points to win BU1800, followed by Jason Qu, Jerry Soelberg and Pejman Sagart with 3½ for 2nd U1800.

In the Booster Section, Morgan Fox and Karen Kaufman tied for First Place with a solid 5 points each. Five other players came in with 4 points: Joseph Sanna and William Murray (2nd, 3rd Place), Manuel

San German (BU1400), Anthony Arciga & James Coulston (2nd, 3rd U1400).

In August and September 63 players attended the 6 round San Diego Open Shoot Out. Two different styles of play were offered: a Slow Section, “The Tortoises” (40/90, SD/60), where a five hour game was possible, and a Fast Section, “The Hares,” where a three hour contest was the maximum time limit (G/90). We find that offering a choice of time controls is helpful to boost attendance. Some new players are attracted to the club with the shorter time limit because they work the next morning and cannot stay up past midnight, as some of our regular-style long games may require. The international chess scene seems to be moving towards faster time controls these days, but some players are resisting and remain adamant that to play “quality” chess they need the traditional 5 or 6 hour game. Others cannot stand such long drawn out contests and do much better with a faster pace. This is a difficult problem that has created heated debate at several meetings over the past few years when these issues are brought up. It is hard to keep everyone happy, so like Solomon, we have split the baby in two, and offered the dual time control event. It seems to work well and most people are satisfied, although some now complain that the playing field is diluted! So we also try alternating the time controls from one event to the next. I am going to look into how other clubs are handling this important issue and

report back in the next *Rank and File*.

In the Slow Section of the Shoot Out, first place was won by gunslinger and Expert Raoul Crisolago, who edged out several masters to win with 5 points. Bruce Baker was 2nd with 4½. Newcomer Erik Montany rode into town



DAVID HART

Erik Montany rode into town



and won BU2200 with 4½, while George Zeigler and John Funderburg had to settle for BU2200 with 4 points. Brad Salz won BU2000 with 3½, and the BU1900 winner was Alfredo DeLeon, also with 3½. The Fast Section was larger than the Slow Section, so it was split into and Upper and Lower (U1700) Divisions. James Mahooti won the Upper Fast Section, dubbed "The Fast & The Furious", with 5½ out of 6, followed by Buddy Morris, Hercules Madriaga and Ed Baluran with 4. Richard Jensen, Ron Rezendes and Marty Lower tied for BU1900 with 3½ and Jason Qu, Jerry Soelberg and Chuck Ensey tied for BU1800 with 3. In the Fast Lower Division, renamed "The Quick & The Dead," Manuel San German machine gunned his way through the field with 5½ points, a full point ahead of Ryan Nichols, who came in BU1500 with 4½. Hard core long hair Tom Kuhn was 2nd with 4 notches on his gun and the spunky chess maven Monica Ness was BU1400 with 2½.

On October 4th IM Cyrus Lakdawala played a simultaneous exhibition against 17 club players. He suffered no losses and only one draw, against William Wijaya. See our website at [groups.msn.com/sandiegochess](http://groups.msn.com/sandiegochess) to view games from this event plus many others along with photos and stories.

In January of 2008 the club will once again start the search for a new Club Champion, starting with the qualifying 7 round event know as the Markowski Open. Please join us for this exciting event which last year drew over 90 players. – *Chuck Ensey*

## Gambito Open News

The September Super Gambito Open (#335) had 27 players, 10 of them with a rating over 1900, including 3 masters. IM Cyrus Lakdawala won with a 3½ score, despite allowing a draw to NM Ron Bruno Rd 3. Dmitry Kishinevsky won the BU2200 with a 3 point score, but he

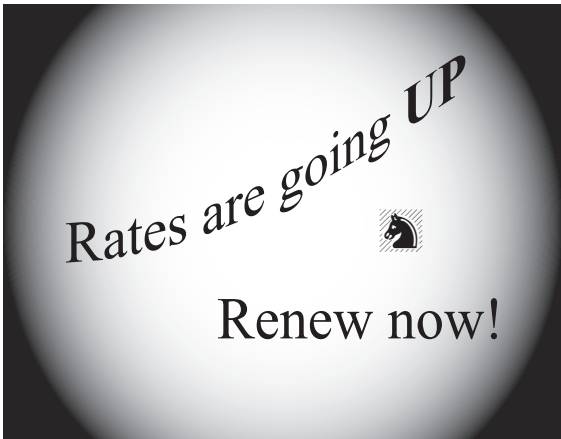
was tied by the rising and surprising young star, Alan Tsoi, who took home the U2000 prize. You may remember him from the last issue of *Rank and File*, when he won the Reserve Section in the July Super Gambito Open and was also featured on the cover of the local *Reader* magazine with the article "You can't hide who you are when you play chess"! Alan has now pushed his rating well over 1900, after being in the 1500s in early 2006. It is amazing how fast these young players can absorb chess lessons and boost their rating dramatically in such a short time frame. Ah, to be young again! It takes an old guy like me decades to raise my rating by 100 points! Ron Bruno, Raoul Crisologo and John Funderburg tied for 2nd and 2nd U2200. Jamieson Pryor, who hails from Ontario, Canada won 2nd U2000.

In the Reserve Section, another youngster, Jesse Orlowski, took First Place with a 3 points, but he was in a rare 5 way tie with 4 older players: Chuck Ensey, Jerry Soelberg, William Delaney and Chris Wonnell. For good measure, the U1600 prize was split 4 ways between Ryan Nichols, Michael Chen, Scott Householder and Tom Kuhn. Michael Chen is another very young player (8 years old) who has made a lot of rapid progress and shows a good deal of promise for things to come in the future. He should be in

the top 20 in the United States for his age the next time this USCF list is updated. He is now 1367, up from 1100 last year.

The October Super Gambito (#340) drew an unusually light turnout of 23 players. Cyrus Lakdawala once again prevailed with a 3½ point score for First Place, this time allowing a draw to NM John Bryant, who took 2nd Place with 3 points. Bruce Baker points out about Cyrus that the worst thing you can do as a player is to constantly play in a field of players rated 300-400 points below you; it makes it nearly impossible to gain rating points, and yet Cyrus has done just that, leading Bruce to opine that he is in fact, underrated at 2550! Raoul Crisologo and Leonard Sussman tied for BU2200, and there was a 3-way tie for BU2000 between Richard Jensen, Jamieson Pryor and Jason Qu. Jason is yet another young player (age 12) who has now boosted his rating over 1800 for the first time.

The Reserve Section was won by Kim Ogden, with Chuck Ensey coming in 2nd. Michael Chen won BU1600 while Darren Chow, Scott Householder and Aaron Householder split 2nd U1600. Scott is Aaron's dad, and the 6 year old Aaron is still another young player learning his way in the chess world through the Gambito Open. Darren Chow is also very young and plays with his



**There's still time to save!**

As of March 1, 2008, SCCF dues will increase to \$18/year adult, \$10/year junior. But there's still time to renew at the current rate (\$14/\$9)! And, if you renew for more than one year, you save even more! Get two years for \$27, or three years for only \$40. Send your renewal to **SCCF, P.O. Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754.**

brother who is also named Aaron. The two Aarons met in the second round and the Householder family won this battle but I am sure Chow family will get revenge in the future. One of our older players, Patrick Edwards, lost to both Chow brothers and also to Michael Chen. That's got to hurt! And in the final position Patrick had a pawn on the 7th ready to Queen, with nothing able to stop it, but his King was in a mating net with 3 pawns about to deliver an unstoppable checkmate by Aaron Chow. It was really quite pretty, but we don't have a full score sheet, the last twenty moves were blitzed out. – *Chuck Ensey*

**Alan Tsoi – Ron Bruno**  
**Gambito #335, San Diego 2007**  
**E30 NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE,**  
**Leningrad Variation**

(notes by IM Cyrus Lakdawala)

**1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bg5 c5 5. e3!?**

Also possible is 5. d5 Nxd5!? 6. Bxd8 Nxc3 7. Qb3 Ne4+ 8. Kd1 Nxf2+ 9. Kc2 Kxd8 10. Qg3 Nxh1 11. Qxg7 -- unclear.

**5. ... cxd4 6. exd4 Qa5?!**

He will regret this decision to bring the Queen out without taking on c3 first. Better 6. ... Bxc3+! 7. bxc3 Qa5 8. Bd2 d6 with a slight advantage to Black.

**7. Bd2 Nc6 8. a3?!**

Better to develop with 8. Nf3.

**8. ... Bf8?!**

8. ... Nxd4! wins a pawn.

**9. Nf3 Qb6 10. Na4**

Better 10. Bf4!, when 10. ... Qxb2?? (10. ... d6 11. Nb5 Qd8 12. c5 Ne4 13. Bd3 a6 14. Bxe4 axb5 15. cxd6 Bxd6 16. Bxd6 Qxd6 17. Qd3 b4 18. 0-0) 11. Na4 is much better for White.

**10. ... Qc7 11. Bd3 d5 12. 0-0!? dxc4 13. Bxc4 a6 14. Nc3?!**

Better was 14. Bd3.

**14. ... Nxd4!?**

My gut feeling is that this is a good move. Despite the lag in development Black should be able to grab this pawn and survive.

**15. Nxd4 Qxc4 16. Bg5 Bc5**

Instead, 16. ... Be7 17. Rc1 0-0

18. Na4 Qd5 19. Nb6 Qxg5 20. Nxa8 Nd5 is equal.

**17. Nf3 Be7 18. Rc1 0-0 19. Re1 Rd8 20. Qc2 Qg4**

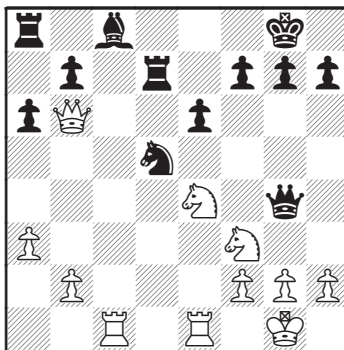
In Ron's opinion this is where he began to drift. Better was 20. ... Qd3! 21. Qb3 b5 22. Rcd1 Qf5 23. Re5 Rxd1+ 24. Qxd1 Qg4 25. Bxf6 gxf6 (25. ... Bxf6? 26. Qd5!! Ra7 27. Qc5 Ra8 28. Qc6 Rb8 29. Qe8#) 26. h3 Qg7 27. Re3 Qf8 28. Nh2 Bb7, and I'm not sure if White has full comp for the pawn.

**21. Ne4 Nd5?!**

Black can maintain equality with 21. ... Bd7 22. h3 Qh5 (22. ... Qf5 23. Nxf6+ Bxf6 24. Qxf5 exf5 25. Bxf6 gxf6) 23. Ng3 Qg6 24. Qxg6! hxg6 25. Ne5 Be8 26. Rc7 Bd6 27. Rxb7 Bxe5 28. Rxe5 Rd1+ 29. Kh2 Nd5 30. Re2.

**22. Bxe7 Nxe7 23. Qc7 Rd7 24. Qb6?!**

Much stronger was 24. Red1! Ng6 25. Qxc8+! Rxc8 26. Rxc8+ Nf8 27. Rxd7 Qxe4 28. Nd2 Qe1+ 29. Nf1 g5 30. Rdd8, winning.



**24. ... Nd5?**

24. ... Qf4!

**25. Qc5?**

Both players miss 25. Qa7! winning on the spot.

**25. ... Nf4 26. Ng3 Rd8?**

26. ... f6!

**27. Qc7**

Better 27. Qe7! Rf8 28. Ne5! and Black has to give away a piece to get the Queen out.

**27. ... Rf8 28. Rc4 g5 29. Kh1!**

Now h3! is a deadly threat

**29. ... e5 30. Qxe5**

30. Rxe5! h6 31. Qd6 Be6 32. h3.

**30. ... h6 31. Qe7**

31. Qd6! Be6 32. h3.

**31. ... Nd5 32. Qc5! Nf4 33. Re7 Be6**

On 33. ... b5 34. Rce4 wins.

**34. h3! Nd3 35. hxg4 Nxc5 36. Rxc5 Rac8 37. Rcc7 Rxc7 38. Rxc7 Bxg4 39. Rxb7** and White won in a few moves. 1-0

**Bruce Baker – Ulric Aeria**  
**Gambito #340, San Diego 2007**  
**C04 FRENCH DEFENSE, Tarrasch Variation**

(notes by IM Cyrus Lakdawala)

**1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nc6**

The Guimard variation of the Tarrasch French. The c-pawn is blocked, but Black will play for the ... f6 break.

**4. Ngf3 Nf6 5. e5 Nd7 6. Bd3**

Other moves are 6. Bb5, 6. Be2, and 6. Nb3.

**6. ... Nb4 7. Be2 c5 8. c3 Nc6 9. 0-0 Be7**

On 9. ... Qb6 10. Bd3 cxd4 11. cxd4 Nxd4 12. Nxd4 Qxd4 13. Nf3 Qb6 14. Qa4 gives White compensation for the pawn]

**10. a3?!**

Better 10. Bd3.

**10. ... f6?!**

Much stronger is the line 10. ... g5! 11. Nb3 and: a) 11. Nb3 c4 12. Nbd2 f6 13. exf6 Bxf6; b) 11. h3 h5 12. g4 hxg4 13. hxg4 f6! and the White King is in danger. Less convincing is 13. ... cxd4 14. cxd4 f5 15. gxf5 (15. Nb3 a5 16. a4 fxg4 17. Nh2 Nf8 18. Nxc4 Ng6 is a little better for Black) 15. ... exf5).

**11. exf6 Nxf6 12. dxc5 Bxc5 13. b4 Bd6 14. c4 0-0 15. Bb2 Bd7 16. Qb3 Ne7 17. Ne5<sup>2</sup> Nc6?!**

If 17. ... Be8 18. Rad1.

**18. Ndf3 Be8 19. Rfe1 Bh5**

On 19. ... Ne4 20. cxd5 Nxe5 21. Nxe5 Bxe5 22. Bxe5 Qxd5 23. Qxd5 exd5 24. f3 Nf6 25. Bd3 gives White good chances in the ending]

**20. Nxc6! bxc6 21. c5 Bc7 22. Nd4± Qe8 23. Qh3!**

White can also win a pawn with 23. Bxh5! Qxh5 24. h3.

**23. ... Bf7 24. Ba6 Ne4**

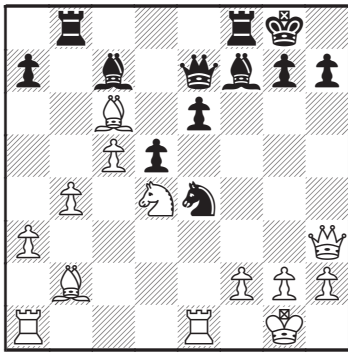
Or 24. ... Rb8 25. Nxe6.

**25. Bb7 Rb8**

Not 25. ... Nxf2? 26. Kxf2 e5 27.

Kg1, winning.

## 26. Bxc6 Qe7



## 27. Rxe4!

Destroying Black's defenses.

## 27. ... dxe4 28. Bxe4 h5

Other tries: a) 28. ... h6 29. Nc6; b) 28. ... Bg6 29. Bxg6 hxg6 30. Nxe6 (30. Nc6 Qf7 31. f3 Rb7) 30. ... Rf5 31. Qe3 Qf7 32. Nxc7 Qxc7 33. Re1, and White has too many pawns for the Exchange.

29. Nc6 Qg5 30. Nxb8 Bxb8 31. Rd1 Rd8 32. Rxd8+ Qxd8 33. Qd3 Qh4 34. g3 Qe7 35. h4 Bc7 36. Kg2 Kf8 37. Qa6 Bb8 38. Qc8+ Qe8 39. Qxe8+ Bxe8 40. f4 g6 41. Be5 Bxe5 42. fxe5 Ke7 43. Kf3 Kd7 44. Kf4 Ke7 45. Kg5 1-0

# TD Corner

## Deducting

A question I am frequently asked at the start of tournaments is, "Should I deduct time for time-delay?" My answer is always "no."

The purpose of "deducting" time is to compensate for the extra five seconds per move. One rationale is to make sure all players have the same amount of time (which, of course they won't – those five-second increments never add up exactly). Another is to get the games over more quickly so you can pair the next round.

However, the current (5th edition) Rulebook advises against deducting (though it is still permissible). The reason is a practical one. They are probably a dozen different delay clocks on the market. If a TD announces that players should deduct five minutes for time-delay, the players will form a line asking him how to set their clocks. Then they'll form another line a couple of hours later complaining that they didn't do it right and asking the TD to fix it.

In my opinion, deducting time should be used *only* if the time between rounds is so tight that there is no way to get the pairings made otherwise. And, if that's the problem, you should change your format.

## Choosing

Who decides what equipment to use? Some older players are still under the impression that Black always gets the choice, but that's no longer the case. The USCF, wisely or not, has changed the equipment rule as follows:

- 1) Black gets the choice of standard equipment.
- 2) Time-delay clocks (with the delay in effect) are "more standard" (I know it makes no sense, but that's what it says) than "analog" clocks (you know, the ones with hands).
- 3) So, if either player has a delay and wants to use it, he can. If both

*Continued on page 20 ...*

## Solutions to Tactics by Hanks

see page 13

**Problem no. 1: c. White is winning.** This was Short vs Leko, Sarajevo 1999, which ended quickly with a deflection move **1. Bd7!** and if 1. ... Rd8 (not 1. ... Qxd7 since 2. Qf8+ Rxf8 3. Rf8#) then 2. Qxc7 Rxd7 3. Qxd7 Qxd7 4. Rf8#. In this example focusing attention on the f8 square (and it's overworked defenders) was key.

**Problem no. 2: b. White is winning.** In this complex position (Kramik vs Sadvakasov, Astana 2001), you've got a myriad of tactical motifs at work. The main line goes **1. Nxf7** (deflection) **Rxf7** (1. ... Bxb2 is another variation; then 2. Rxf5 Bxa1 3. Ne5 and mate follows shortly) **2. Qxf5 g6** (not 2. ... Rxf5 3. Rd8#) **3. Bxe5 1-0**. Black's position is hopeless. White's Bishop proves omnipotent in the attack against the weak f7 square.

**Problem no. 3: c. White is better.** With the Black Queen dominating the center and hitting both a2 and g2 White had to get busy quick or blow his chances for an advantage. The main line goes **1. Bxg6** (a powerful deflection move setting up a nice tactical combination) **hxxg6** (by the way, 1. ... Bxb2+?? results in a quick loss for Black, since 2. Kxb2 Qb5+ 3. Kc1 fxxg6 4. Bc3! and the dark square weakness allow mate to follow quickly) **2. Qxf8+ Kxf8 3. Bh6+ Bg7 4. Bxg7+ Kxg7 5. Rxd5** and White is up material and clearly better.

**Problem no. 4: d. Something else but White sustains some drawing chances.** Black's best move is **1. ... Rd4** – a neat and confusing deflection. Surprise, surprise. Let's review the other choices

If a. 1. ... Rxe2 then 2. Rxe8+ Bf8 3. Qf1 and White defends

If b. 1. ... Nxh2 (another good try) 2. Rxd8 Nxf3+ 3. exf3 Rxd8 4. c3 Bh6 5. Qf1 Qxf1+ 6. Kxf1 Bxf4 7. gxf4 Rd2 8. Re1 and Black is better but not necessary won.

If c. 1. ... Bd4+ (a good move, but not the best) then 2. Rxd4! Rxd4 3. Qf1 Qxf1+ 4. Kxf1 and White has drawing changes.

On d. **1. Rd4** (a clever deflection move and looks best for Black) then White's best defense is **2. e4** (other tries will flatly fail which is why I like 1. Rd4) and the main line proceeds as follows: 2. ... Rdxe4 3. Rd2 Bd4+ 4. Rxd4 Rxd4 5. Qf1 Qxf1+ 6. Rxf1 Rdd8 7. c3 Ne3 8. Bxe3 Rxe3 9. Nd4 and Black has a won game but he's got some work to do to win this endgame.



United States Postal Service  
**Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**

1. Publication Title <b>RANK + FILE</b>	2. Publication Number <b>87510-91164</b>	3. Filing Date <b>SEP 7 2007</b>
4. Issue Frequency <b>Bi Monthly</b>	5. Number of Issues Published Annually <b>6</b>	6. Annual Subscription Price <b>\$4 ADV 19 3V101</b>
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) <b>1300 BALLISTO LA VERNE CA 91741</b>		Contact Person <b>DONALD A. RAGILL</b> Telephone <b>626-917-4568</b>
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) <b>1300 BALLISTO</b>		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)		
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) <b>DONALD A. RAGILL 1300 BALLISTO LA VERNE CA 91741</b>		
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <b>JOHN HILLERY 335 N. HILLY BL #1 LOS ANGELES CA 90034</b>		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <b>—</b>		
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)		
Full Name <b>SO. CA. CHESS</b>	Complete Mailing Address <b>PO BOX 205 ROCKEFORD ILL CA 91754</b>	
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None		
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address	
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		

PS Form 3526, October 1999 (See Instructions on Reverse)

13. Publication Title <b>RANK + FILE</b>		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data <b>SEP 7 2007</b>	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)			
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(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)	—	—
b. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b(1), (2), (3), and (4))		590	575
c. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15c(1), (2), (3), and (4))		—	—
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	—	—
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(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	20	20
(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	4020	6020
d. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d(1), (2), (3), and (4))		4040	6040
Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15d)		4630	6615
1. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		20	10
2. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		4650	6625
Percent Paid (15f divided by 15f times 100)		97	95
6. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the <u>Nov-Dec</u> issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			
7. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner		Date	

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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... continued from page 19

players have delay clocks, or both have “analog” clocks, Black gets to choose.

4) Exception: If one player is present at the start of the round and the other is not, the player who is present gets to set up and start. By not being there at the round time, the other player forfeits any right to object, period.

## Switching

I've been seeing a few requests lately from players to insert a time-delay clock at some point in the game, typically when the player starts to worry about losing on time. Short answer: No. There is **no rule** allowing a player to “request” or “demand” a time delay clock after the game has started, **except** for the special case of an “insufficient losing chances” claim.

This claim can only be made only if the player has less than two minutes remaining in a sudden-death time control. It amounts to a draw offer, which your opponent can accept if he wants. The TD may uphold the claim (if it's something obvious like Bishop and wrong Rook pawn versus King in the right corner) or reject it and give your opponent an extra two minutes as a penalty (if the claim is obviously frivolous or made to gain time), but usually he will put in a time-delay clock and let you play it out. If you can't hold the game with five seconds a move, you had sufficient losing chances to lose. — John Hillery

## 2007-2008 Scholastic Chess Calendar

Updated 9/17/07

	Tournament	Location	EF\$\$	Grades	Info & Registration
<b>September</b>					
22	AAA	Glendale, CA	\$21.00	K-12	Armen Ambartsumian
<b>October</b>					
6	CYCL Reward Points Quads	Santa Clarita, CA	\$15.00	K-12	Non-Rated, Jay Stallings
20	Chess for Success Int.	Westwood, CA			Ivona Jezierska
21	WPO Scholastic	LAX	\$16.00	K-12	John Hillery
<b>November</b>					
3	CYCL Reward Points Quads	Santa Clarita, CA	\$15.00	K-12	Non-Rated, Jay Stallings
10	Marengo/Chess4Children	S. Pasadena, CA	\$20.00	K-12	J. Hanley; www.chess4children.com
10	St. Paul Fall Classic	Westwood, CA		K-12	Ivona Jezierska
16-18	Nat'l Youth Action	St. Louis, MO		K-12	uschess.org
17	Staser Scholastic	Buena Park, CA	FREE!	K-12	Non-Rated; Dewain Barber
17	Chess Fest	Santa Clarita, CA	\$35.00	K-12	Jay Stallings
24	American Open Scholastic	LAX	\$16.00	K-12	Randy Hough
<b>December</b>					
1	CYCL Reward Points Quads	Santa Clarita, CA	\$15.00	K-12	Non-Rated, Jay Stallings
2	3rd JTD Invitational	Los Angeles, CA		K-12	Ivona Jezierska
7th-9th	Nat'l Scholastic K/12	Houston, TX		K-12	uschess.org
<b>January</b>					
12	Marengo/Chess4Children	S. Pasadena, CA	\$20.00	K-12	J. Hanley; www.chess4children.com
19	Morrison Scholastic	Buena Park, CA	FREE!	K-12	Non-Rated; Dewain Barber
<b>February</b>					
2/29-3/2	Super States	Orange, CA	\$40.00	K-12	J. Hanley; www.chess4children.com
<b>March</b>					
<b>April</b>					
4th-6th	Nat'l Jr. Hi	Dallas, TX		K-9	uschess.org
18-20	Nat'l High School	Atlanta, GA		K-12	uschess.org
<b>May</b>					
9th-11th	Nat'l Elementary	Pittsburgh, PA		K-6	uschess.org

	Organization	Email	Phone	Website
Ambartsumian, A.	AAA Chess Club	artmik@charter.net	818-956-2293	www.aaachessclub.com
Barber, Dewain	American Chess Equipment	amchess@aol.com	714-998-5508	www.amchessaq.com
Bighamian, Mick	L.A. Chess Club	mick@lachedessclub.com	310-795-5710	www.lachedessclub.com
Bulone, Kevin	Chess4Children	kevinbulone@hotmail.com	818-489-3163	www.chess4children.com
Hanley, Joe	American Open	randallhough@yahoo.com	714-925-3195	www.americanopen.org
Hough, Randy	Youth Chess Charitable Foundation	youthchess@aol.com	626-282-7412	www.youthchess.com
Huff, David		chess.ari@verizon.net	661-510-7118	www.youthchess.com
Jezierska, Ivona		chess.ari@verizon.net	310-740-0063	www.youthchess.com
Purcell, Michael	Think Chess	michaelangelo@thinkchess.com	310-809-2171	www.thinkchess.com
Sanchez, Roel	Diversity Chess Center	roel@diversityeducationalce	626-254-9951	www.diversityeducationalcenter.com
Stallings, Jay	Cal. Youth Chess League	coachjay@cycl.org	661-288-1705	www.cycl.com
Surrow, John		chesspoints@yahoo.com		
USCF	United States Chess Federation		931-787-1234	www.uschess.org



## February 16-18

**2008 U.S. AMATEUR TEAM WEST.** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Four-player teams plus optional alternate, average rating of four highest must be U/2200, diff. between bds. 3 & 4 may not exceed 1000. Dec. list used. **EF:** \$118 per team if received by 2-15, \$30 individual (on line only), \$136 at site, under age 18 \$86 by 2-15, \$100 site. Trophies and 4 clocks to top 3 teams, U2100, U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400/unr. Trophies (1 large, 4 small) to top college, industrial, junior (under 18), Senior (over 55), U1200. Clocks to best score each board, alternate, and any 6-0. Gift certificate prizes for best team names (1st/2nd). **Reg:** 9-10 a.m. 2-16. **Rds:** 11-6, 11-6, 10-4:30. On-line entries, help in forming teams, advance entry list:

[westernchess.com](http://westernchess.com). HR:

\$109, (310) 410-4000, mention chess. Reserve by Feb. 1 or rates may go up. **Parking** \$10. **Ent:** SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N Wilton Place #1A, Los Angeles CA 90038. NS, NC, W. FIDE.

## Solutions to Chess Quiz

**Yudasin – Zaitchik, Tallinn 1985:** 1. ... Rxd5 2. exd5 Bf5 3. Ng3 (3. Qxd3 Bxd3+ 4. Kxd3 holds out longer with Rook and minor piece for the Queen, but Black is winning after Qxd5+ 5. Kc2 e4) 3. ... Qa4+ 4. b3 Nf2+ 0-1 (For if 4. ... Nf2+ 5. Nxf5 Qa2+ 6. Kc1 Ba3+ mates.)

**Inkiöv – Lukin, Plovdiv 1985:** 1. Nxe6 Bxe6 2. Nd5 b4 (Or 2. ... Qxd2 3. Rc7+ Kb8 4. Ba7+ Ka8 5. Nb6#) 3. Bb6 1-0, in view of 3. Bb6 Qb5 4. Rc7+ Kb8 5. Ba7+ Ka8 6. Nb6+.

**Forintos – Tomovic, Budapest-Belgrade 1957:** 1. Bd3+ 1. ... g6 2. Rh8+ Kxh8 3. Qf8+ Kh7 4. Qxf7+ Kh8 5. Qf8+ Kh7 6. Bxg6+ Kxg6 7. Qg8#



## 2007-2008 State Championship

Seeded into the Championship are 2007 champion Enrico Sevillano, up to three players selected on the basis of rating, and four from the 2008 Candidates Tournament.

July 29-July 1	Pacific Southwest Open	Andranik Matikozyan Gregg Small Alaa-Addin Moussa
July 7-15	State Championship	Jack Peters Tim Taylor Julian Landaw Ron Hermansen John Daniel Bryant John Funderburg Reynaldo del Pilar
July 19-22	Pacific Coast Open	Melikset Khachiyan Joel Banawa Joaquin Banawa Harutyun Akopyan
August 11-12	San Diego County Open	Adam Corper Ulric Aeria Leonard Sussman
September 1-3	Southern California Open	Ganbold Odondoo Christian Tanaka
September 15	San Luis Obispo Cty. Champ.	Vadim Kudryavtsev
October 19-21	Western Pacific Open	Alexandre Kretchetov Tianye He

### Upcoming

November 22-25	American Open	LAX
December 8-9	Joseph Iletto Memorial	Monterey Park
January 18-21	Western Class Championships	Agoura Hills
January 27	Westwood Winter Open	West LA

Each event qualifies two players (highest scoring Southern California residents not previously qualified) except that 1) In the event of a tie, all tied players will advance; 2) A score of 60% is required to qualify; 3) The SCCF Amateur, SCCF High School and any one-day event will each have one qualifying spot; and 4) All one-day tournaments shall require a 75% score and only one player shall qualify on tiebreak.

## Upcoming Events

### November 10-11

**LACC - TURKEY SHOOT.** (Sponsored by Dr. Valery's Cardinal Medical Group.) 6-SS, G/60 (no time delay) 11514 Santa Monica Blvd - Second Floor - 4 blocks West of 405 Fwy - LA, CA 90025. Prizes: \$\$ 1,000.00 Guaranteed 2 Sections 1) **OPEN:** 1st - 3rd: \$300 - \$150 - \$75 U2000: \$100 - \$50 2) **RESERVE** (U1800): U1800: \$100 - \$25 U1600: \$75 - \$25 U1400: \$75 - \$25 U1200/Unr.: Trophy and Medal **EF:** \$40 (\$30 LACC memb); \$2 off for SCCF members). **Reg:** 11:00-12:00 PM. **Rds:** 12, 2, 4 each day. 2 Free Parking lots on the SW corner of Santa Monica & Purdue; or in the building basement (\$3). **Info:** Mick Bighamian: Cell (310) 795-5710 or [Mick@LaChessClub.com](mailto:Mick@LaChessClub.com). NS. NC. W.

### November 17

**COSTA MESA OCTOS.** 3-SS, G/80. (Digital Clocks with delay G/75). 8 player sections by rating. Odd Fellows/Rebekah Hall, 2476 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA. **EF:** \$27 advance, \$32 at site, \$2 disc. to all Southern Calif. Chess Federation members. \$\$ prizes per entries. **Reg:** 9:45-10:15 a.m. **Rds:** 10:30-1:45-5:00. (New times) Rounds may start earlier if your opponent is present and ready. **Info/Ent:** Takashi Iwamoto ([takashi@cox.net](mailto:takashi@cox.net)), 24275 Tama Lane, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677. Home: (949) 643-2981 Cell: (949) 689-3511. Web site: <http://members.cox.net/octochess/>. NS, NC.

### November 22-25

**43RD ANNUAL AMERICAN OPEN.** 8-SS, 40/2, SD/1. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. \$\$40,000 b/o 400 entries, 50% of each prize guaranteed. **In 6 sections** (Unr. must play in U1400/Unr.

or Open). **Open:** \$4000-2000-1000-700-600-500, U2450/Unr. \$1000-500, U2300/Unr. \$600-300. **U2200, U2000, U1800:** Each \$3200-1600-800-400. **U1600:** \$2600-1300-650-350. **U1400/Unr:** \$2200-1100-550, U1200 \$1000-500 (not a separate section; U1200s also eligible for U1400 prizes), Unrated: \$350-200 (Unrateds in this section eligible for these prizes only). **EF:** Open, U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400 \$120 if rec'd by 11/20, \$50 more for players rated under 2000 playing in Open, Unrated \$40. **All:** \$25 more at door. SCCF membership req'd, \$14, \$9 jrs under 19 includes *Rank & File* magazine, OSA. Elegant trophy each section winner. **Special \$1000 gtd. prizes** in memory of Joyce Jillson: \$100 (brilliancy), \$100 (positional win by player 1700+), \$100 (positional win by player U1700), \$100 (known true gambit); biggest rating gain by established player rated over 1000: \$400, \$200 (latter female only). No checks at door - cash, credit card or money order only. **4-day schedule:** **Reg.** closes noon 11/22, **Rds.** 12:30-7:30, 12:30-7:30, 10:30-5, 10-4:30. **3-day schedule:** **Reg.** closes 11:30 a.m. 11/23, **Rds.** 12-2:30-5-8 (G/1), schedules merge in Rd 5 and compete for common prizes. Byes (2 max) with advance notice. CCA minimum ratings and TD discretion will be used to protect you from improperly rated players. November Rating Supplement used. Lectures and videos. **HR:** \$99, (310) 337-2800, mention chess. **Parking** \$7. **Info:** Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, [randallhough@yahoo.com](mailto:randallhough@yahoo.com). **Ent:** American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754 or [www.americanopen.org](http://www.americanopen.org). NS, W, F. **GP: 100. State Championship Qualifier.**

### November 24

**AMERICAN OPEN SCHOLASTIC.** 5-SS, G/45. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Open to HS/below. **In 4 sections:** **K-12:** trophies top 5, 2 each grades 9-12, 1 each K-8. **K-8:** trophies top 5, 2 each K-8. **K-6:** trophies top 5, 2 each K-6. **K-3:** trophies top 4, 2 each K-3. **EF:** \$16 received by 11/20, \$20 at door. **Reg:** 9-9:45 **Rounds:** 10-11:30-1-3-4:30. **Enter:** [www.americanopen.org](http://www.americanopen.org) or American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **Info:** Randy Hough (626) 282-7412.

### November 24

**AMERICAN OPEN QUICK CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.** 5-SS (double round), G/10. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. \$1000: \$250-150; U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, Unr. each \$100 (Unrated eligible only for Open and Unr. prize). **EF:** \$30 received by 11/20, \$35 at site. **Reg** closes 8 pm. **Rounds:** 8:15-9-9:45-10:30-11:15. Double bye (1 pt) available for round 1. **Enter:** [www.americanopen.org](http://www.americanopen.org) or American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **Info:** Randy Hough (626) 282-7412. **GP: 6**

### November 25

**AMERICAN OPEN ACTION.** 5-SS, G/30. LAX Renaissance Hotel, 9620 Airport Bl, Los Angeles, CA 90045. **EF:** \$20 received by 11/20; \$25 at door. 80% of entry fees returned in prizes **Reg:** 11-11:45 a.m. **Rounds:** 12-1:15-3-4:15-5:30. **Enter:** [www.americanopen.org](http://www.americanopen.org) or American Open, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **Info:** Randy Hough (626) 282-7412

### December. 8-9

**9TH ANNUAL JOSEPH ILETO MEMO-**

**RIAL.** 5-SS, 30/85, SD/30 (1st 3 rounds), 40/2, SD/1 (last 2 rounds). Sierra Vista Rec Center, 311 N Rural Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91755. \$1300 guaranteed: \$300-200-100, U2300, U2100, U1900, U1700, U1500 each \$100, U1300, U1100 each \$75, Unrated \$50. **EF:** \$30 if rec'd by 12/6, \$40 at door. Special option for HS/below: \$10, 5 trophies only. SCCF membership req'd of So. Californians: \$14, \$9 jrs. **Reg.:** 9-9:40 am, **Rds.:** 10-2-6, 10-4. **Info:** Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, [randallhough@yahoo.com](mailto:randallhough@yahoo.com). **Ent:** SCCF, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754. **GP:** 15. **State Championship Qualifier.**

#### December 15-16

**LACC - DECEMBER OPEN.** 6-SS, G/60 11514 Santa Monica Blvd - Second Floor - 4 blocks West of 405 Fwy - LA, CA 90025. Prizes: \$\$ 1,000.00 (b/30) 1st-3rd \$\$ 300-150-75 U2000: \$\$ 100-\$50 - Fritz 10 U1800: \$100 - \$25 (or Fritz 10) U1600: \$75 - \$25 (or Fritz 10) U1400: \$75 - \$25 (or Fritz 10) U1200/Unr.: Fritz 10. **EF:** \$40 (\$30 LACC memb); \$2 off for SCCF members). **Reg:** 11:30-12:00 PM **Rds:** 12, 2, 4 each day. 2 Free Parking lots on the SW corner of Santa Monica & Purdue; or in the building basement (\$3). **Info:** Mick Bighamian: Cell (310) 795-5710 or [Mick@LaChessClub.com](mailto:Mick@LaChessClub.com). NS. NC. W.

#### January 1

**NEW YEAR'S DAY OPEN.** 5-SS, G/45. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd - Second Floor - 4 blocks West of 405 Fwy - LA, CA 90025. \$\$ 1,000.00 (b/40). Open: \$300 - \$150 - \$75 - A Digital Chess Clock - Fritz 10. U1800, U1600, U1400: \$100-\$50- Fritz 10, U1200: A Digital Chess Clock - Fritz 10 **EF:** \$30 (\$20 LACC memb) - \$2 off to SCCF members. **Reg:** 11-11:45 a.m **Rds:** 12, 2, 3:30, 5, 6:30 2 Free Parking lots on the SW corner of Santa Monica & Purdue; or in the building basement (\$3) **Info:** Mick Bighamian: Cell (310) 795-5710; [Mick@LaChessClub.com](mailto:Mick@LaChessClub.com) NS. NC. W.

#### January 18-21

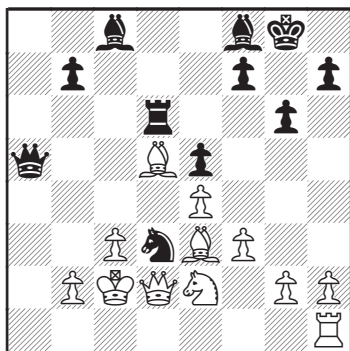
**15TH WESTERN CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS.** 6-SS, Renaissance Agoura Hills Hotel, 30100 Agoura Road, Agoura Hills CA 91301 (US-101 to Reyes Adobe Road exit). Adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains, 26 miles west of Burbank, 12 miles from Malibu, 28 miles from Ventura. Free parking. In 10 sections. Slow sections: Master, Expert, A, B, C: Choice of Jan 18-21 or Jan 19-21 with all rounds 40/2, SD/1, or Jan 20-21 with rds 1-3 G/60, then 40/2, SD/1. Fast sections: 1700-1899, 1400-1699, D, E, U900/Unr: Jan 19-20, G/90. \$\$G 20,000 based on 250 paid entries (re-entries count as half entries, U900 as quarter entries), minimum \$16,000 (80% each prize) guaranteed. **Master** (over 2199): \$1500-800-400-200, top U2400 \$700-400. **FIDE. Expert** (2000-2199): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class A** (1800-1999): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class B** (1600-1799): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class C** (1400-1599): \$1000-500-300-200. 1700-1899: \$1000-500-300-200. 1400-1699: \$1000-500-300-200. **Class D** (1200-1399): \$1000-500-300-200. **Class E** (Under 1200): \$1000-500-300-200. **Under 900/Unr:** Trophies to top 7. Rated players may play up 200 points. Unrated must play in A or below with maximum prize A \$700, 1600-1799 \$600, B \$500, 1400-1699 \$400, C \$300, D \$200, E \$100; balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 9 sections EF:** Jan 18-21 \$104, Jan 19-21 \$103, Jan 20-21 \$102, Jan 19-20 \$101 mailed by 1/11, all \$105 online at [chesstour.com](http://chesstour.com) by 1/15, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 1/15 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site; all \$40 less to unrated. **Under 900/Unr Section EF:** \$28 mailed by 1/11, \$30 online at [chesstour.com](http://chesstour.com) by 1/15 (entry only, no questions), \$35 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 1/15, \$40 at site. All: Re-entry (except Master) \$60. Advance EF \$10 less if paid with \$49 USCF dues. SCCF memb. (\$14, jrs \$9) required for rated Southern CA residents. **Jan 18-21 schedule:**

**Reg.** Fri to 6:30 pm, **rds** Fri 7, Sat 6, Sun 11-6, Mon 10-4:30. **Jan 19-21 schedule:** **Reg.** Sat to 10 am, **rds** Sat 11-6, Sun 11-6, Mon 10-4:30. **Jan 20-21 schedule:** **Reg.** Sun to 9 am, **rds** Sun 10-12:30-3-6, Mon 10-4:30. **Jan 19-20 schedule:** **Reg.** Sat to 10 am, **rds** Sat 11-2:30-6, Sun 10-1:30-5. **All schedules:** Bye all, limit 3, Master must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **HR:** \$84-84, 818-707-1220, reserve by 1/4 or rate may increase. Car rental: Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Questions:** [chesstour.com](http://chesstour.com), 845-496-9658. **Ent:** Continental Chess, c/o Goichberg, Box 661776, Arcadia CA 91066. \$10 service charge for withdrawals. Advance entries posted at [chesstour.com](http://chesstour.com). **GP:** 80. **State Championship Qualifier.**

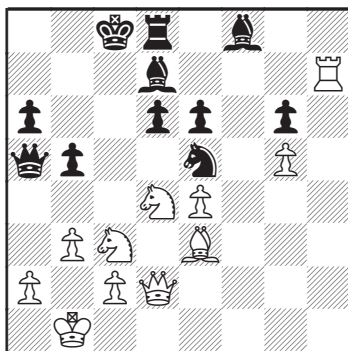
#### January 27

**2008 WESTWOOD WINTER OPEN.** 5-SS, G/40. Los Angeles Chess Club, 11514 Santa Monica Blvd, LA, CA 90025, 2nd floor (4 blocks West of 405 Fwy). \$1500 b/50, 80% of each prize guaranteed. **In two sections: Open:** \$400-200-50, U2200 125, U2000 125. **Reserve** (U1800) \$200-100, U1600 \$125, Under 1400/unrated \$100, U1200 \$75. **EF:** \$47 if received by 1/26, \$55 at site. SCCF memb. (\$14, under 18 \$9) req. for rated S. CA residents. No checks or credit cards at site. Half point byes: limit 1, must be req. w/entry. **Reg:** 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10-11:30-1:30-3:15-4:45. 2 Free Parking lots on the SW corner of Santa Monica & Purdue, or in the building basement (\$3). **Inf:** [admin@westernchess.com](mailto:admin@westernchess.com). **Ent:** SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Place #1, Los Angeles, CA 90038. On-line entry: [www.westernchess.com](http://www.westernchess.com). **GP:** 10. **State Championship Qualifier.**

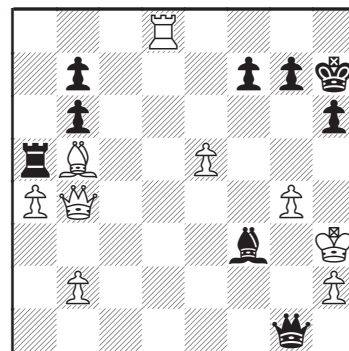




YUDASIN - ZAITCHIK  
TALLINN, 1985  
*BLACK TO MOVE*



INKIOV - LUKIN  
PLOVDIV, 1985  
*WHITE TO MOVE*



FORINTOS - TOMOVIC  
BUDAPEST-BELGRADE, 1957  
*WHITE TO MOVE*

**Solutions on page 21**

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SCCF  
PO Box 205  
MONTEREY PARK CA 91754