

OPEN FILE

The Magazine of the Royal Air Force Chess Club

Spring 1976

Editorial	1
Master Play	2
Match Reports	6
The ABC of Chess	8
BCF News	11
Short Story	12
Notes of Nostalgia	15
Letters	16
Problem Page	23
Kings Own Opening	24
Sage Counsel	26
Games Section	27
Game Special	32
Flights of Whimsy	35

* * * * *

Acknowledgements:

Cover and Typing Pat Jones

(Who, in a fit of if you can't beat them - join them, has enrolled on a college secretarial course, just so she can make a better job of this mag. The only trouble is she says when she's finished it she'll be a professional and need payment!)

SECRET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/15/01 BY 60322 UCBAW/STP

1. The purpose of this document is to provide information regarding the activities of the [redacted] in the [redacted] area. This information is being provided to you for your information only and is not to be disseminated outside of your organization.

2. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

3. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

4. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

5. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

6. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

7. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

8. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

9. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

10. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

11. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

12. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

13. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

14. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

15. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] is believed to be involved in [redacted] activities and is currently [redacted] in the [redacted] area.

EDITORIAL

An explanation is due to our members for the sporadic appearance of their magazine recently.

The last issue, which should have been published in December, 1975, was late in preparation because of the huge job of collating and collecting facts and figures from the CSCC and choosing and annotating some of the hundreds of games played. The proofs for that issue were sent to the printers in January but were not processed until mid-March. No blame lies on our printers for this - the work is done free, all we do is supply the paper - so, naturally, this magazine takes a very low priority over their other, official, tasks. As this is being written, the previous issue of the magazine has not yet been completed, but your editor has deemed it advisable to deliver the proofs of this issue when he goes to collect the copies of the previous one, thereby trying to regain some of the lost time. It means that letters and articles sent by members for publication may not appear as promptly as has been the case, but please don't let that stop you sending me anything of interest.

As promised (threatened!) in the last issue, the title of your magazine has been changed, for the reasons stipulated above there has been no time to canvass the opinion of members on this, so I hope the change meets with your approval. The cover is by no means definitive and if anyone can come up with any improvements I'll be delighted to hear about them. The title, however, must stay. I'm all for changes, if they're for the better, but some things are better for being consistent and having changed it once I don't think it in the best interests of your magazine to alter it any more. So "Open File" it stays for at least as long as the present editor remains at his post.

The achievement of Tony Miles must rank as the best news for British chess since the days of Howard Staunton, and many of us hope that he will now go on to attain the ratings stipulated by Jim Slater to qualify for his £5000 prize. Perhaps, this breakthrough will be just the first of many: like the four minute mile and the ascent of Everest, once it had been done then queues formed of people waiting to repeat the feat. Would anyone care to predict how many British Grandmasters there will be in ten years time?

One of the most encouraging aspects of Tony Miles' qualifying is his youth - he's one of the youngest ever Grandmasters - and the whole world of chess is now at his feet. It would be letting our chauvinistic enthusiasm run away with us to talk of a British world champion but the potential of this young man is certainly exciting and stimulating.

Dennis Jones

MASTER PLAY by JOHN NUNN

I'M delighted to announce that IM John Nunn has agreed to contribute an article for each issue of "Open File". (This is to give the mag. a bit of class after your editor's dragged it down to his level). To introduce his second article, here is a pen portrait of the International Master.

John was born in London in April, 1955, and learnt chess when four years old. He first played in a tournament three years later, but the first real sign of promise came when he won the London under-12 Championship at the age of nine; the first of three consecutive victories in this event. In 1967, he played in the British under-14 Championship at Oxford, finally securing the title with a last round win against a little known Midland junior called Tony Miles. However, John met with an unexpected reverse in the London under-14 Championship in December of the same year, for he lost to an unknown player entering his first tournament. This player, who went on to win the title, was Michael Stean. The British under-14 title in 1968 went to Tony Miles who suffered only one loss in the event - to John Nunn.

From then on John made steady progress, winning the London under-14 in 1968, the under-18 the year after, and sharing the under-21 title with Andrew Law in 1970. However, despite three attempts he never managed to gain another British title.

In the meantime, John's mathematical ability had developed in parallel. He had shown promise from an early age and passed O-level Maths at 12 and received 2 A-levels at 14. At this stage the interest of a Maths tutor at Oriel College was aroused. John completed another year at school, took O-level English and French (he never was very good with words) and at the age of 15, in 1970, he went to Oxford University, which provoked a certain amount of interest in the national dailies.

1971 was a slack year for chess, the only good result being equal first at the Islington Open Swiss in December, including a win over Bojan Kurajica. After this John went to Sweden for a junior international, winning 8 out of 9. On returning he won the Oxford University Championship and continued to have good results until November 1972.

From here until June 1973, John's results were very poor, due possibly to approaching Finals in June. After he had obtained a first class degree in these, he embarked on a very successful four months of chess. Firstly, he won a junior international in France, then the Major Open at Eastbourne and finally he came second to Larsen in a very strong Swiss event in London.

Starting on post-graduate research in algebraic topology, John also found time for many tournaments in the coming years. Finally, at the end of 1974 came the big chance to become an International Master at the European Junior Championship at Groningen, Holland. Originally Jonathan Mestel was due to play, but he was invited to Hastings, so John went in his place. After a close fight with Peter SZekely of Hungary, John took the European title, and, after some discussions about ELO rating, the IM title, too.

After a hectic year in 1975, with television chess, a win in the Amsterdam Mastersgroup, and the problems of embedding complexes in Euclidean space, what next? John has now played in 90 tournaments, with a thousand games behind him - can he, like Tony Miles, ever become a GM? Only the future can tell!

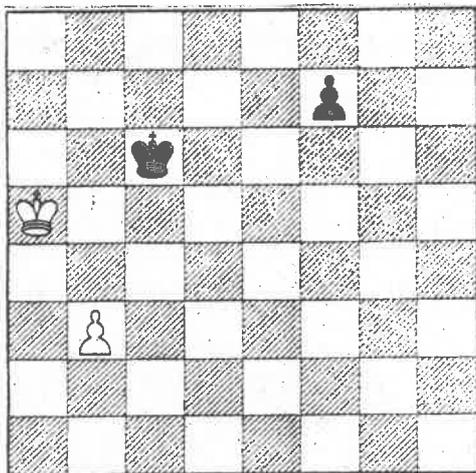
MERE PAWNS

by

JOHN NUNN

Lowly pawns have long been despised, but all chess players know how important they are to the game. How often has inattention to our pawn structure led to the loss of but a single pawn, an advantage which the opponent remorselessly converts into victory? As a reminder of how vital these most insignificant of all chessmen can be, I shall devote this article entirely to king and pawn endings. Most club players never reach the ending with adjudication intervening in the middle game, but I still think it worthwhile to study these endings, not only for the practical value (more and more weekend tournaments involve 10 minute play offs) but also because of the inherent beauty of such endings.

Firstly we shall see how even grandmasters can go wrong in apparently the most trivial positions.



GAME ONE

The game is Ljubojevic - Browne Amsterdam 1972, it is Black to play and the game concluded 1. ...P-B4? 2.K-N4 and was agreed drawn since after 2.K-Q4 3.K-B3 K-K5 4.K-Q2 K-B6 5.P-N4 both sides promote. Correct was 1.K-Q4! Then if 2.K-N4 K-Q5 cuts the White king off so White must try to promote his own pawn with 2.P-N4 but then 2.P-B4; 3.P-N5 P-B5; 4.P-N6 K-B3!; 5.K-R6 P-B6 6.P-N7 P-B7; 7.P-N8=Q P-B8=Q+ leaves White with the choice between mate in one or losing his queen to a skewer.

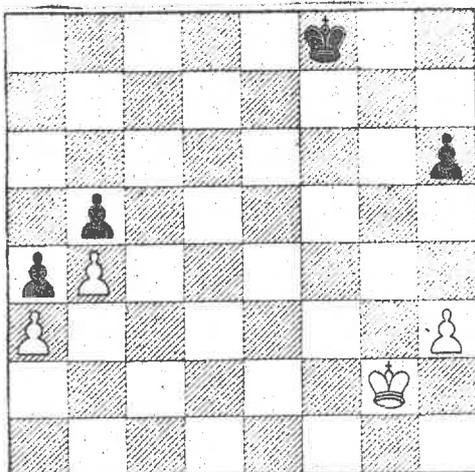
Some years ago I had a lucky escape in a king and pawn ending:-

This is Emerson-Nunn, 1969 and it is Black to move. I could see that after I move my king, White can advance his QNP and both sides promote. Then, if Black has put his king on the second rank Q-R7+ swops queens and wins, while if Black had put it on the third Q-N6+ would serve a similar function. As ...K-R4 loses the queen to a skewer I hoped for the best and played 1. ...K-B4. The game went on 2.P-N4 P-N4.... 6. P=Q P=Q. In this position the exchange of queens cannot be forced and so we have the ending of Q+RP v. Q, believed to be drawn. The game did in fact end quickly in a draw. But White could have won! The key move is the remarkable 2.K-N5!.. There are then two main variations:-

- A) 2.P-N4; 3.K-B4 K-K5; (3. ...K-B5; 4.K-Q3 P-N5 transposes to B); 4.P-R4.... 7. ...P-N8=Q; 8.P-R8=Qch (we have reached Q+NP v. Q which is probably also a draw with the pawn on the second, but here White can force a queen swop), K-B5 (If 8... K-B4(K4); 9.Q-Q5+ followed by Q-Q4+); 9.Q-KB8+ K-K5 (Or 9.K-K4; 10.Q-B5+); 10.Q-K7+ K-B6; 11.Q-B6+ K-K7 (11.K-K5; 12.Q-QB6+ K-B5; 13.Q-Q6+ and after 13. ...K-K5 14.Q-Q5+ or 13. ...K-B6; 14.Q-Q3+ the exchange cannot be avoided); 12.Q-K5+ K-B6(B8); 13.Q-KB5+ K-K7; 14.Q-Q3+ and finally wins.
- B) 2.P-N4; 3.K-B4 P-N5; 4.K-Q3 K-B5; 5.P-R4! (Now Black is forced to expend another tempo with his king since 5. ...P-N6 allows the pawn to be stopped by 6.K-K2), K-B6; 6.P-R5 P-N6; 7.P-R6 P-N7; 8.P-R7 P-N8=Q; 9.P-R8=Q+ K-B5; 10.Q-K4+ and 11.Q-K3+ winning.

These lines are based upon analysis by Emerson after the game.

We can see that king and pawn endings often contain surprising resources and are far more than just a matter of counting.



GAME THREE

Diagram Three - This is a composed position by Grigoriev (1938).

Firstly White must advance his king to the fourth rank whilst maintaining the opposition. Notice that in the king positions WK on K4, BK on K3, Black to play loses at once as White promotes first. Therefore, the correct defence for Black is to oppose kings only on the KB file. Thus play proceeds 1.K-B2! (gaining the distant opposition), K-B2! (As noted above, 1. ...K-N2; 2.K-K3 or 1. ...K-K2; 2.K-K3 permits White to take the opposition on the K-file with a resulting easy win); 2.K-B3 K-B3; 3.K-B4 K-N3!

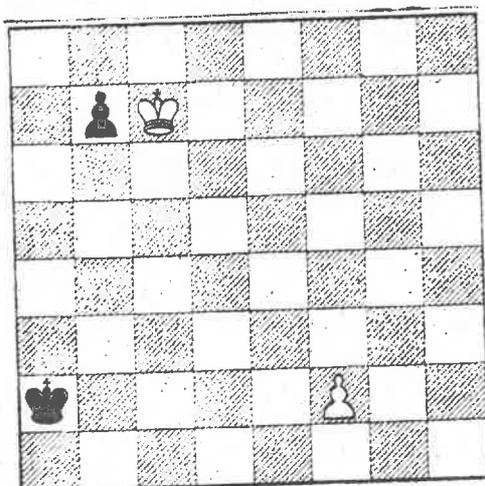
Now we come to the most difficult moment of play. White has the choice between two continuations, only deep analysis showing which is correct.

- A) 4.K-K5 K-N4; 5.K-Q5 K-R5; 6.K-B5 KxP; 7.KxP or
- B) 4.K-N4 K-B3; (of course, 4. ...P-R4+; 5.K-B4 K-B3; 6.P-R4 loses at once); 5.P-R4 K-N3; 6.P-R5+ K-B3; 7.K-B4 K-K3; 8.K-K4 K-B3; 9.K-Q5 K-N4; 10.K-B5 KxP; 11.KxP.

These two positions are the same apart from the position of the Black king and superficially it seems that both positions reduce to Q+RP-v-Q. However, forewarned by the previous position the alert reader will doubtless have noticed that the White king still lies in the square of Black's KRP. Let us therefore examine the course of position B.

11. ...K-N5; 12.K-B4 P-R4; 13.K-Q3! P-R5 (Black cannot stop the White king reaching KB1 as if 13. ...K-N6 White promotes with check whilst if 13. ...K-B6 Black gets skewered after both sides promote); 14.K-K2 K-N6; 15.K-B1 K-R7; 16.P-N5 P-R6; 17.P-N6 K-R8; 18.P-N7 P-R7; 19.K-K2 (lifting the stalemate), K-N7; 20.P-N8=Q P-R8=Q; 21.Q-N7+ and after the queen swop White wins by one tempo. Now we can see why A). is so different: Black plays 7. ...P-R4; 8.K-B4 P-R5. Now White must commit himself to one plan or the other and Black moves his king accordingly e.g. 9.P-N5 K-N5! (Black avoids check and the skewer) and the White king is now outside the square so both sides promote with a draw or, alternatively, 9.K-Q3 K-N7! and again both sides promote but Black does so first, ensuring the draw. Hence the initial position is in fact a win for White thanks to the subtle 4.K-N4!!.

Finally, since the reader should do a bit of work, too, here is a small problem:-



White to play. Can White win?

This was composed by Mandler.

* * * * *

Editors Note

I've just spent an hour with this and can't find a win for White. The best try seems to be K-Q6 but every variation I try ends up drawn. Can anyone find a win?

* * * * *

MATCH REPORTS

Before the reports on the Army match and the fine victory by the Combined Services over the Civil Service, here are the details of two local matches involving unit teams.

Shortly before our Secretary's departure from Halton, he organised a match against High Wycombe which ended in a 3-3 draw. The teams and scores are as follows:-

<u>RAF Halton</u>		<u>RAF High Wycombe</u>
Flt Lt Fox	1-0	SAC Priestley
T/A Ball	0-1	SAC Hewison
T/A Blogg	1-0	SAC Stopford
Cpl Begley	0-1	SAC Smith
Mr Grady	0-1	Flt Lt Johnstone
SAC Colbatch	1-0	LAC Bennett

I hope a return match is planned to decide the top RAF station in Bucks!

With the assistance of RAF Lyneham and some local civvies, RAF Wroughton have managed to get together a pretty strong club and at the time of writing are hoping to win the first division of the local league. The finish will be close and will probably be decided by board count, but at the start of the season a friendly was arranged with the strongest of the local clubs which Wroughton won 7-4.

D O'Byrne	0		D Jones	1
P Kingsford	0		M Burgess	1
J Dove	$\frac{1}{2}$	(Drawist!)	D Perrott	1
E Baker	0		S Harris	1
R Garroway	$\frac{1}{2}$		B Hyett	1
J Mathieson	1			

The games from the bottom two boards were splendid cut and thrust affairs and are reproduced below.

White: M J Saunders

Black: S Harris

1. P-K4	P-K4	12. Q-B3	R-N1
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	13. Q-K4	P-QB4
3. B-N5	N-KB3	14. N-Q2	B-N2
4. O-O	N-Q5	15. Q-B4	N-B2
5. NxN	PxN	16. B-R4	N-K3
6. P-Q3	P-QN3	17. Q-N4	P-B4
7. P-QB4	B-Q3	18. Q-K2	N-B5
8. R-K1	B-K2	19. Q-Q1	NxNP
9. B-N5	O-O	20. R-K2	Q-N4
10. P-K5	N-K1	21. P-B3	N-K6ch
11. BxB	QxB	22. Resigns	

* * * * *

White: B Hyett

Black: T Westcott

1.	P-KN3	P-K4	13.	Q-Q2	N-QB3
2.	B-KN2	B-QB4	14.	N-QN5	B-QR4
3.	P-K2	N-KB3	15.	P-QN4	B-QN3
4.	P-Q4	PxP	16.	KR-Q1	B-K3
5.	PxP	B-QN3	17.	NxP	R-K2
6.	N-K2	O-O	18.	NxNch	PxN
7.	O-O	P-Q3	19.	BxP	K-R2
8.	N-QB3	P-KR3	20.	Q-KB4	Q-KN1
9.	P-Q5	P-QB3	21.	Q-KR4	R-Q1
10.	N-Q4	PxP	22.	B-K4ch	PxP
11.	NxP	R-K1	23.	NxP	Resigns
12.	B-KB4	B-QB2			

* * * * *

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, our new Match Captain has plunged headlong into his job and staged two matches in recent weeks against the Army and the Civil Service (this last was a Combined Services fixture).

Army

Royal Air Force

O S Jones	1-0	P Watson
D Young	0-1	G Sage
J Regan	0-1	T Purchase
L Crowe	1-0	R Kermeen
D Snelling	0-1	D Blogg
F Crabtree	0-1	C Fox
N Wilson	1-1	J Dove
R Brewer	1-1	L Barlow
K Retallak	1-0	D McLurcan
B Anthony	<u>1-0</u>	D Perrott
	<u>5-5</u>	

It seems we escaped losing to the "Brown Jobs" by a hairs breadth and I'll never hear the last of it from the ACA Magazine Editor, Larry Crowe. Never mind, I've no doubt we'll put them firmly in their places before long.

A better story from the Combined Services fixture against the Civil Service. This was won by us 11-3 with one game still to be adjudicated.

Civil Service

Combined Services

E L Stuart	1-1	O S Jones (Army)
R Borland	adj	A Purchase (RAF)
D Taylor	1-0	G Sage (RAF)
J Watson	0-1	F Salt (RAF)
J Galleja	1-1	A Turner (RAF)
R Gleave	1-1	M Street (RN)
M Rose	1-0	R Addison (RN)
R Gleave	1-1	C Fox (RAF)
R Bauld	1-1	I Nicholson (RAF)
A Burgess	1-1	G Hindle (RN)
J James	1-1	D Blogg (RAF)
D Toweps	0-1	P Ball (RAF)
J S Clarke	1-1	I Schreiber (RN)
N Kent	1-0	P Musgrove (RAF)
T B West	0-1	T McCullough (RAF)
J Hale	0-1	D McLurcan (RAF)
P A Bond	0-1	D Young (ARMY)
R J Pomeroy	1-0	L Crowe (Army)
M Murphy	0-1	M Gilding (RAF)
T Russell	0-1	A Nelder (RAF)

THE ABC OF CHESS

by

Dave Perrott

- Algebraic Notation A system of chess notation, too simple for the average player.
- Analysis Irrefutable proof that you could have won the game you have just lost.
- Annotator A guide who tells you how it should have been played.
- Annotation An attempt to prove that you knew what you were doing all the time.
- Bishop - Rat See fianchetto.
- Blunder See sacrifice and sacrifice (positional).
- Castling A defensive move played by a cowardly opponent.
- Centre, The Squares K4, K5, Q4, Q5 which must be:-
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| (a) controlled | (h) relinquished |
| (b) occupied | (j) kept an eye on |
| (c) supported | (k) start a wing attack |
| (d) attacked | (l) not start a wing attack |
| (e) opened up | (m) press home a wing attack |
| (f) closed up | (n) realize it's no good |
| (g) undermined | (p) resign in face of opponents break through |
- Centre, The (Hyper-modern) Squares between KR1, KR8, QR1, QR8 - which doesn't help either.
- Checkmate A self inflicted torture by novices who do not know the word "resign". Korchnoi will apologise if you fall for one in a simultaneous.
- Chess A simple game made difficult by your opponent.
- Chess fever A disorder of sex-starved adolescents.
- Chess game Played in three parts unless you are beaten earlier, (See swindle).
- Chess game Opening That part of the game in which intelligence plays no part.
- Chess game Middle The intelligent part in which material is exchanged and you end up at least a pawn down.

Chess game End	The last chance to miss a win or draw.
Chess player Amateur	One who plays for prize money.
Chess Player Professional	One who cannot make a living from playing chess.
Chess player Rabbit	See wood pusher.
Chess Sets Classical	Two teams of chessmen clearly distinguishable in shape, size and colour, suitable for playing the game of chess.
Chess Sets Modern	Two teams of fancy chess men. Barely distinguishable in shape, size or colour. Unsuitable for playing the game of chess.
Chess Sets Old reproductions	See Chess sets - modern.
Draw	A conclusion due to both players missing the win.
Draw - Agreed	A draw (see Draw) due to confusion and mutual fear.
Draw - Grandmaster	An early conclusion due to mutual fear.
Dynamic Chess	Any game you actually manage to win.
Exchange	Swap of material.
Exchange, The	Something you lose. (See positional sacrifice.)
Fianchetto	An Italian Bishop on N2 (See Ruy Lopez & Bishop Rat)
Fools Mate	A chess players wife.
Game - Lost	What your opponent had before he won.
Game - Won	What you had as a result of analysis (see Analysis)
Giucoco Piano	Playable, but not by Italian or Spanish bishops.
Hyper Modern Play	See Centre (a) onwards.
Inside flush	Don't draw to one. (See Poker.)
J'adoube	French for "What <u>am</u> I doing, that move loses outright!"
Kings Indian Defence	Rat Bishops again. (See Yugoslav variation.)
Kings Indian Reversed	Naidni Sgnik
League Chess	A form of chess in which an adjudicator loses the end game for you.
Modesty	When I am White I win, because I am White. When I am Black I win because I am Bogoljubor.
Nimzowitsch	My system Chapter 3 - Thou shalt not shilly shally.
Open File	The one controlled by your opponents rooks.

Opening Gambit Any opening in which you lose a pawn.

Opposition Something you need to gain in the end game to beat the opposition. (See Opposition)

Opposition Not to be confused with the opposition (See Opposition.)

Opposite Wing The one your opponent controls as well. (See Centre (j) onwards.)

Pawn Promotion Crafty method of winning the end game avoidable by resignation.

Pawn Snatcher Attack is the best form of defence?

Queens Gambit Declined Q.G.D.

Resign A way of terminating a game unknown to novices.

Ruy Lopez A Spanish Bishop on QN5 (See Fianchetto.)

Sacrifice Any piece left 'en prise'.

Sacrifice Greek BxPch or something equally diabolical.

Sacrifice Positional A move so profound that it looks like a blunder.

Simultaneous Chess An expensive way of losing in which a Grandmaster offers the draw when he sees a win for you and then beats you when you are optimistic enough to refuse it.

Swindle The only way you can be beaten by your opponent.

Tactics A one move threat.

Unusual Openings M.C.O. 10th Edition page 506 & 507.

Van't Kruijs Opening See above (I don't have the 11th Edition).

Week-end Tournament Where you drive 100-200 miles to be drawn against the chap sitting next to you in the car. (This happened to Dennis Jones and me at Woolacombe!)

Wood pusher (a) A friendly description of your opponent's play
(b) A big headed, conceited opponent's description of your play.

X Takes! (Well you think of something!!)

Yugoslav (a) a variation
(b) a system
(c) an attack

Zukertort Easier to pronounce than Znosko-Borovsky and I don't know much about zug-zwang either.

B.C.F BEST GAME PRIZES

The March issue of Newsflash carries the following paragraph:

"Best Game Prizes; entries so far are disappointing, so do let me have your submissions for a £5 prize in each of the following grading sections - up to 120, 121 - 135, 136-150, 151-165, 165-180. If few entries are received the competition risks closure after this season."

By winning one of the prizes two years ago, your editor has proved that it's possible to submit real rubbish and get away with it, so why not have a go? The address for submissions is:-

Mr. P Buswell,
4 The Close,
NORWICH.

Trying to disprove the theory that lightning never strikes twice, your ever optimistic editor has submitted the following gem for this years competition.

White: D. Jones Black: M. Bohane Opening: Evans Gambit

1.	P-K4	P-K4	19.	QxN(b)	QxP
2.	N-KB3	N-QB3	20.	QR-Q1	Q-N3
3.	B-B4	B-B4	21.	Q-B3	K-B2
4.	P-QN4	BxP	22.	N-B4	Q-B2
5.	P-B3	B-B4	23.	R-Q7	QxR(c)
6.	P-Q4	PxP	24.	N-K5ch	K-K1
7.	PxP	B-N5ch	25.	NxQ	KxN
8.	B-Q2	BxB	26.	R-Q1ch	K-K1
9.	QNxB	P-Q3	27.	QxNP	R-KN1
10.	O-O	B-N5	28.	QxP	P-N4
11.	Q-R4	B-Q2	29.	P-B4	R-QB1
12.	Q-N3	N-R4	30.	P-B5	R-B1
13.	BxPch(a)	K-B1	31.	Q-R5ch	R-B2
14.	Q-Q5	P-B3	32.	P-B6	N-N1
15.	QxPch	KxB	33.	Q-K5ch	K-B1
16.	N-K5ch	K-K1	34.	Q-Q6ch	K-K1
17.	NxB	QxN	35.	Q-K6ch	Resigns
18.	Q-K5ch	N-K2			

- (a) I shut my eyes and prayed that my analysis of the next six moves wasn't up to my usual standard!
- (b) Glory be!
- (c) A difficult decision for Black. White's men are beautifully co-ordinated and that rook on the seventh would probably prove fatal. But to swap queen for rook and knight.....???

* * * * *

CONFESSIONS OF A CHESS PLAYER

by

P.A.J.

As soon as it happened I wondered just how I could have been so foolish that I didn't expect it - or at least expect something to go wrong.

I had been telling Maisie for months that I wanted to enter the Minor Tournament at Southgate-on-Sea, but what with the date co-inciding with our anniversary, I knew that there was just no chance. My Maisie's all right, but when it comes to chess - well, no words are adequate - I sometimes think she'd honestly prefer me to go down to the local every night and spend a fortune on booze, not that I don't have my fair share of that, too, but chess is, to put it mildly, a rather rude word in our house.

This particular year I hadn't entered for any tourneys at all, I had set my heart on the Southgate Minor, but when I saw that date I knew there would be trouble. I left my entry form behind the clock on the mantelpiece so that every time Maisie was dusting she'd see it and perhaps her conscience would give a bit of a twinge - but one day, without a single word, it disappeared. The Old Moo, I thought, still that's the end of it now, and went to find my latest BCM to see if there was anything else going on that I could fancy.

Just a week before the Southgate Tourney was due to take place you could have knocked me down with a feather - we was sitting in bed one night when Maisie looked all coy like and said, "Do you love me, Bert?" I replied in my usual cursory fashion - being curled up with that book on Karpov is hardly conducive to romantic thoughts, now, is it? "I've got a present for you", Maisie continued, presenting me with an envelope, "its for our anniversary."

I dragged myself away from Anatoly and ripped the packet open - well, for once in my life words failed me. Inside was not only a receipt of entry for the Southgate Minor, but a reservation note confirming a room in the classy hotel where it was all to take place. I must admit, Anatoly, World Champion you may be, and there's a lot I can learn from you, but right there and then, it was a bit insignificant!

I could hardly wait for Friday to arrive, I got the day off work and planned a nice luxurious lay-in before my train journey down to the coast. It all went as planned and before long Maisie and me was stood on the step saying our fond farewells. Mais was off to spend a day or two with her mother, while I was gone. She seemed to have got over the sulks she had had earlier when she opened her anniversary present from me. Well, I know she doesn't read much, but book tokens are always handy, aren't they? I mean if she goes down to Smiths and there's nothing she can fancy, I could always put meself out and use it up for her. I just happened to notice when I was buying the token that they have a copy of 'Tal's Best Games' in there and I haven't read that one.

Whe I got to the station there was plenty of time to spare so I thought, seeing as it was going to be a chessy weekend I'd get meself a bit of light relief on the reading side and picked up a copy of 'Playboy' and a couple of bits of more salacious reading. I always find it does me chess a bit of good, sharpens the mind or something.

Well, of course, British Rail did their usual thing and the journey took twice the usual time. I can't say I was too bothered because in the same compartment was this bird reading last months 'Chess'. I couldn't believe my eyes, she was built like well, suffice it to say that had the tourney been held in Bristol it would have suited her down to the ground. A real friendly lass she turned out to be, and before long she confided that she was feeling a bit nervous, this being her first experience of chess week-enders. I ask you, what more could I do than offer her all the help and assistance possible? Let's be honest, what would any mere man, finding himself in my position, do except try to help her along the way, and be prepared to comfort her should she fail to play a good game over the week-end. I mean, it's not that I'm any knight in shining armour, but one must be prepared to put oneself out on the odd occasion.

By the time the train deposited us at the station, there wasn't a deal of time before the first round, so we arranged that we would quickly leave our suitcases in our respective rooms - Sara, as I'd found her name to be, was staying at the "Grand", too, and meet in the dining room for tea before playing the first round.

Round One was fairly easy meat for me, I managed to pull a bit of a swindle with my opponent, and by nine o'clock I was in the bar, hoping to catch Sara for a nightcap or two. One way or another I must have missed her, so before I got too drunk to stand, I found my way to my room.

After breakfast on Saturday morning I checked to see who my opponent was and found, to my delight, I was playing one of the members of a team from our local league. No sweat here, I thought, knowing I could use my Petroff Defence which always confused him. No sign of Sara before play started, so my ploy for a nice evenings entertainment didn't look too fruitful. We'd just settled down to play when she entered the hall. Cor, what an eyeful, her low-necked, tight sweater was enough to make all the men in the room break out into a sweat. She gave me a little nod and half a smile as she sat opposite her middle aged male opponent - then she bent low over the board - how I envied him his position - straightened and with a glorious smile played N-R3, I cringed inwardly, her appearance wasn't the only thing that left something to the imagination!

I concentrated on my game, and by ten had made short work of my opponent, two up, I got up and found that Sara's oppo had obviously had an equally easy task - they were gone. Imagine my surprise when I found she had won - I searched the Hotel for her, surely all our conversation on the train had meant something to her? She had promised to spend all her free time with me but something more important must have cropped up for her, for she wasn't to be found. In despair I went to lunch in the crowded dining room, and to my delight soon Sara joined me. She was a little upset, both her opponents had made silly errors in their games, she told me, and had rather upset her with their attitudes when she had met them later. I sympathised with her, I, too, had played bad losers in the past, I told her, she really mustn't let their attitudes upset her. She could always stay in my company when she wasn't playing.

Sara was drawn against the local champion in Round 3, and honestly felt that this would be the end of her run of good fortune. What a round that proved to be. I played like a demon, but every move I made I found my opponent had the answer. The end game was such a trial of strength and only my desire to tell Sara of my success pulled me through. The game took the entire afternoon and I dashed quickly for tea before

the evening round.

On returning to the hall to check the evening's draw I was amazed to see my opponents name - Miss S. Rutherford (3 points). Luck wasn't in this - but the local champion she'd beaten in the previous round walked in then, he looked in a foul temper. I realised then what Sara had meant about bad losers - it's funny how many men hate being beaten by a woman.

Sara and I sat down at our Board and again I noticed she played what must have been her favourite opening move - N-R3. I couldn't help but quietly say to her that should we get finished early, would she like me to give her an hours instruction on opening technique. The glorious smile flashed again, "How sweet you are", she replied, "but would it be convenient if I came to your room, mine is so crowded and small and noisy. That did it, my game fair went to pieces - or my pieces were fair game - as I gazed at her and thought of the evening ahead. Within 40 minutes there I was two pieces down, with a nasty looking gap in the middle of my defences - they weren't quite down but well on the way. Never being much of a chauvinist pig I thought, cut your losses, mate, and make the most of the rest of the evening, so I resigned. She looked so grateful it was really worthwhile.

After a noggin or two in the bar Sara again told me of her small, airless room and how on the previous night she'd managed no sleep at all and felt exhausted. Well, I mean, what bloke wouldn't feel sorry for her, wouldn't try and help her in any way possible, so I offered her the spare twin bed in my room. Her response was more eager than I could have imagined, but, first, she said, would I let her collect some things from her room, she would meet me in mine in a very short time. I gave her the key to my room and told her to leave it on the outside of the door for me when I came up later. The thought of that luxury double room upstairs and Sara watching while I explained some of my more intricate moves to her was too great to be denied.

It was now that I felt my conscience prickle a bit. Sara's choice of drink had been Martini, with a cherry, just the same as my Maisie's favourite tipple. I realized that I'd given Maisie not one thought for 48 hours, and it was thanks to her that I found myself in this position. I made up my mind to ring her at her mothers and wish her a happy anniversary, and thank her for this marvellous present to me. So I squeezed Sara's hand and made my way to the phone booth after seeing her to the lift.

Of course, the phone booth was occupied, and it was nearly half an hour before I managed to make my call. Imagine my surprise when Maisie's mum answered the phone and told me she was out. That old bat had never liked me at the best of times and now her coy voice telling me that she couldn't tell me exactly where Maisie was at that moment dispelled all doubts of my venture from my mind. Well, if Maisie could go gadding about on our anniversary, she wasn't the only one.

I made my way up the stairs so fast my feet hardly touched the ground. There was the key dangling from the keyhole as we had arranged. As I opened the door I noticed that all the lights were out, but in the faint glow from the landing I noticed the shape of a figure in the spare bed. Not wishing to upset her innocence by putting on the light I threw my clothes on my bed and in two shakes of a dogs tail had joined her. We said not a word, but, by golly she was eager. I had a

swift passing thought that her curves didn't seem quite so ample as I'd imagined but that wasn't worth bothering about.

Later, much later, I squeezed her and said, "Sara, darling". There was a moments silence then in a split second a blow like a sledgehammer hit my right ear, the bed-side light went on to reveal - yes, you being a lot brighter than me probably guessed it all along - Maisie.

I've given up chess now, like I said to my club mates, it isn't good for my health!! Oh, and by the way, Sara didn't win the tourney, she came second. I'd love to have seen her face when she found she'd been drawn against another woman!!!

* * * * *

NOTES OF NOSTALGIA

It seems several lifetimes since I first started to play chess at a competitive level as a member of my school team. Life was so much simpler then - one opened with P-K4 and went into a Lopez or a Giuoco as a matter of course. If anyone played a Sicilian, or even worse - a Queen Pawn Opening, then he was considered something of an oddity. The captain of our team noticed this lack of love for the more esoteric openings and being well versed in gamesmanship even at that tender age, got hold of a copy of MCO and found six wierd openings, one each of which he delegated to his team members. This meant, of course, that we had to play the same colours at every match but this was overcome by the simple expedient of choosing to play Black on odd boards whenever our side won the toss. As the other team would invariably choose to play White on odd boards when they won, it meant that we played every match with the same colour. As I played on Board 4 at the time, it followed that I played White all the time, and my particular opening was the Queen's Gambit. (I know that no-one in his right mind would call the QG wierd, but it was to us in those days!)

The system was remarkably successful. Our opponents were so confounded by these oddities of openings that they usually succumbed before twenty moves had been played. Our second board, in particular, became so used to administering Scholar's Mate that when one of his opponents made the correct answer he promptly resigned!

We won the league that season by a very comfortable margin, our only defeat being suffered at the hands of a team who won the toss and promptly elected to play Black on the odd boards. The ordeal of playing opponents who had what we considered to be the colours which belonged to us, proved too great a strain and we went down 0-6.

Apart from our crafty system, the game in those days was a much quieter affair than it is now. No clocks were ever used, but no-one ever sat on a losing position, hoping to get a draw at the adjournment. The adjudications were always carried out by the master who ran our club - he was a worse player than any of the team but he would talk the hind leg off any donkey and could convince a player with a rook plus that he was on the verge of checkmate. No game was ever drawn, of course - to us a drawn game was an unfinished one and we either carried on until a result was acheived or came to a decision at the adjournment by the

methods outlined above. This was satisfactory in most cases, except at one match where the opposition had a girl (of all things) playing for them. When we had convinced their match captain that the game was lost (even though the position was clearly a draw) she forthwith burst into tears and left. We later heard that she hadn't touched a pawn since. Perhaps our team was directly responsible for the country losing a potential Ladies Champion!

* * * * *

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

G A Macauley
c/o Sgt Paul Macauley
Commcentre
HQ RAF Germany

Dear Dennis,

Greetings from a newcomer to your chess fraternity and many thanks for your welcome. Congratulations on your excellent, informative and thought provoking magazine.

I fully understand that your problem is lack of official recognition for our sport. Having just finished my school career in an educational establishment of over 500 pupils which won the Yorkshire zone of the Sunday Times Schools Tournament in 74 and came second in 1975, I found our chess club received hardly any encouragement or enthusiasm. In fact, for much of the time the entire club consisted of the team of six plus two others - eight from 500, pitiful!

Anyway, here's hoping for a successful and happy future for the RAFCC.

Glen Macauley

A selection of Glen's games appears in the Games Section - Ed.

Mr F Bateman
8 Hough Road,
Brandon
Nr Grantham
Lincs

Dear Dennis,

Please note the change of address for future magazine mailing. The mag gives good value despite the corny cartoons which we manage to grimace through.

I read the comments by Mr T McCullough recently and must endorse what he says about postal chess withdrawals. Perhaps more thought could be given to telephone methods of relaying moves, which would be cheaper and quicker.

Perhaps you would like to feature a postal chess game by Mr McCullough and myself from Div. 3. I send the game not so much because I won, but because it was the only game lost by Mr McCullough in the whole season.

Frank Bateman

Does anyone else feel the same way about our 'corny cartoons'? This is the first complaint I've had but if the weight of opinion is against them let me know and I'll stop inflicting them on our readers.

Indeed, I am pleased to feature this Postal Game - see Games Section.

Ed.

RAF Police
200 Pro Coy,
B.F.P.O. 5

24th September '75

Dear Dennis,

Many thanks for my latest copy of the RAFCC Newsletter, after a quick scan I see that the high standard that the editor set himself in his earlier issues has once again been reached in its presentation. With reference to your plan for members to submit material, I wonder if the thoughts of the bulk of the readers are the same as mine. In that there are far better players than myself within the RAFCC, so why waste valuable space in your magazine? I used to edit a much smaller mag. called Gambit and in it had articles on various attacks and defences. Again I would not submit them to yourself as I feel that you have far better talent to draw on.

I am sorry to see that we have lost Denis Roots to that ever growing band of civvies. Personally, I am indebted to Denis's support on a number of chess events and undertakings that I have endeavoured to carry out. I look forward to seeing you in the New Year, Denis.

May I congratulate you and your fellow committee members on the first real attempt in the saga of gaining official recognition in my time as a member of the RAFCC. (This is in no way a criticism of the herculean effort by Peter Putt and Robin Rowe, who were, perhaps, not as well supported as they should have been). I refer to the forethought of asking Air Commodore Deare to open the CSCC.

After playing over Danny O'Byrne's game against A H Knight which I found to be a most enjoyable game, I moved onto the letters to the editor. Here I found a letter that I feel has a most unfair attack on Robert Fischer. To criticise Robert Fischer in such harsh terms, without looking in depth to the series of events leading up to this non-event of a Chess Championship is misleading to say the least.

Let us remember that the Soviet Chess Federation has dominated the FIDE since 1948. It is they that stipulated that a player in the finals and in the Inter-Zonal events may have two seconds. This they have applied also to the top tournaments where they have representatives from USSR competing. So much do they covet the title of World Chess Champion that any serious contender from other countries (especially Western Countries) is subjected to every trick in the trade. (I will expound on this later on.)

Since Robert Fischer reached the age of fourteen (Won the USA Champs) the Soviet Fed have had reports on his technique and ploys. When he was gaining experience in top tournaments around the world, they have entered (in most of them) a number of Soviet Grandmasters. They have used their brand of psychology on him. The method that they have used is to draw out all of their games against him to tire him

out. If the game had possibilities then they would hang on until the adjudication time when the non-playing Captain plus a number of other Soviet G.M.'s would analyse the position. I can recall one game when R Fischer was in a very comfortable position against one of the Soviet G.M.'s then no less a person than Geller, during an adjournment, found a way of drawing the game.

What is fair about that, when R. Fischer has to play in one game not only his opponent but other Grandmasters? To continue, after wearing out R. Fischer the ploy is to see which of their G.M.'s is doing well in the tournament, then when he is drawn against one of them, they will either give a draw or cause the game to be considerably shorter than usual.

Let us now look at the Spassky v Fischer World Championship. R. Fischer was not playing just Spassky he was playing the entire might of the USSR. Not only did Spassky have his FIDE blessed seconds (as did Fischer) but also a number of Soviet G.M.'s at Reykjavik. But, at the end of an open telephone line was a galaxy of USSR G.M.'s in the Moscow Chess Club. (The MCC is the world's most powerful chess club, it has more G.M.'s as members than the total of G.M.'s in the free world.)

Is that fair? Do you not think that when you come to defend your hard earned title that you would stipulate conditions that on the face of it would be totally unfair to your opponent, but when you consider the above factors that I have just mentioned, you would still be leaving it in the face of your opponent!!!

R. Fischer has contributed more to Chess than most people imagine. While a number of venues a decade ago were more than suitable, the way that the controller planned the internal layout, plus the way that spectators were allowed to rub, yes, rub shoulders with the players was bad enough but when the camera addicts compete with flashes, taking photos willy nilly over the shoulder or into the faces of players. Spectators talking, doors slamming, moves being criticised aloud. Well, R. Fischer was the main instrument that changed all that.

Did not the membership of the RAFCC increase because of the worldwide interest in the Fischer - Spassky match? No small way due to Fischer.

Of course as a lover of chess and all it stands for, I do not agree with all of Mr. Fischers sayings and tactics/antics, but every man is entitled to a fair assessment, and your remark, 'That he acts like a spoilt brat', is neither fair nor correct in its entirety.

I remain yours sincerely

Barry Hollyoak

With respect to your first comment, Barry - cobblers! Open File is the organ for all RAFCC members and as such needs the thoughts, opinions and games of our lesser players just as much as those of our experts. I'm sure that most of our readers prefer playing games they can understand rather than epics that fly right over their heads.

On your second point, thanks for the compliment, Barry, but it should go on record that this achievement was the work of Chas Fox alone - as indeed was the whole of the recent (unsuccessful) bid for recognition.

As the originator of the anti-Fischer comments, perhaps I should say a couple of words to defend myself and Mike Hurst who wrote in agreeing with my comments. No-one disputes the improvements in playing conditions initiated by the American, nor is there much controversy about the unfair methods employed by the Russians in his early tournaments. But the fact remains that the demands made by Fischer as defending champion made the acceptance of them for the Fischer - Karpov match totally impossible - these demands were not rejected by the Russians remember, they were turned down by FIDE after a free vote of all the delegates. And this defence of Fischer's antics does nothing to explain why he retired into seclusion after beating Spassky, and has played no chess since then. Victor Korchnoi, at a simultaneous in Swindon, said that he'd heard that Fischer was a patient in a psychiatric clinic. He also said that if the Fischer-Karpov match had taken place, then Karpov would not have stood a chance. Coming from a man who is both a Russian and a losing semi-finalist for the world Championship, does that sound like unfair prejudice?

Ed.

36 Gibson Drive
Whitkirk
Leeds

Dear Dennis,

I really do spend hours with your problems and once nearly sent a letter requesting the solution, but when I saw it in the magazine it was so obvious that I can't understand how I missed it - I'm not that bad! So, to excuse myself, and to allow others to excuse themselves, I have evolved the Grandmaster Defence.

Grandmaster Defence - Or - Why I never send in the answers to your problems.

1. It really is too obvious and brutal.
2. I have an attack of chess blindness from which grandmasters occasionally suffer.

3. I haven't sent in the answers to your latest puzzle yet because of course I've rejected the obvious solutions. I suppose Tony Turner has sent the answers in? Ah yes, but he never suffers from this grandmaster complaint that I feel coming on again! I usually find that the complaint lasts until the next issue of the magazine. Two other variations of this defence come to mind. One is when you have just ground out a win against a tricky opponent and on rising from your chair a spectator remarks, "I'm surprised you didn't see that mate in two". Quickly you say, "Ah, yes, I suppose it's the artist in me that I preferred the subtleties of my 20 move combination. Bet you never saw that one, eh?".

A cruder play is, when just about to lose a match to an inferior opponent you climb up and stand in the middle of the board and shout, "Why should I lose to this idiot?" It does marvellous things to the ego.

I am thinking of doing a piece for you on "an appreciation of Arthur Mushens", as I have been a secret admirer of his for years and anyone who can stand the strain of not being beaten for four years deserves it. What do you think?

Look after yourself,

Jack Elliot

A year ago, I suggested that anyone holidaying in Bournemouth could spend a pleasant hour or so playing chess with the giant sets on the end of the pier there. Now Ernie Weetman has written with another attraction from the resort.

12 Thistlebarrow Road
Queens Park
Bournemouth

Dear Dennis,

May I extend an invitation to RAFCC members who may be holidaying in or around Bournemouth to visit the Southbourne Club? We play on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 at the Church Hall, Douglas Road, Southborne. We're not the top club by any means, but we're the youngest in the Bournemouth and District League and hope, in our first season, to gain promotion to Division II. (Results to date, played 4, won 4). Our team strength averages around 1.20 and I play as Captain on Board 3.

Unfortunately, we are not sponsored and have to make a charge of 20p to cover rent and electrics.

So for those at a loose end in Bournemouth on any Wednesday evening; along Belle Vue Road, turn up Seafield Road at the South Cliff Bar Corner, then second on the right is Douglas Street.

Cheers,
Ernie

P.S. May I say Hello to all ex-RAF Seletar/Lyneham/Tangmere/Gan/Rudloe Manor chessites?

Now a letter from John Dove regarding CSCC 75

Dear Dennis,

Let me begin by adding my own thanks to Charles Fox. It must be rare indeed for nobody to have cause for complaint regarding the facilities at a chess congress. It was, of course, all the more remarkable as it became quite unexpectedly a one man job. Thank you.

One matter was unofficially discussed during the tournament which I feel deserves an airing in your columns. Let me first say that I have no axe to grind. I leave the RAF soon and the standard of my chess is unlikely to put me in contention for a placing (Quiet, Dennis). I do feel, however, that serious consideration should be given to having a professional controller run CSCC. I gather this could be done for about £50, alternatively, it is possible that Anne Sunnucks would do it merely in return for running a bookstall at the congress. (Incidentally, I thought this an excellent feature at Halton.) I am sure no competitor would begrudge the slightly raised entry fee. The controller could circulate the rules to representatives of all three Services beforehand for agreement. The standard of Service Chess is improving rapidly and if I were one of the top group, I would want it run properly.

If Wally Adam is reading this, I know he will not think I am getting at him personally. I know we are all grateful for all that he does for us.

There was a lot of spare time at Halton. Most of us can only get away occasionally to play chess, could we get someone to come and talk to us about the game? I enjoyed the simultaneous match, but do hope that some will consider their behaviour at future events. Some consultation is traditional, but I think we should stop short of laughing, shouting and moving the pieces about the board between moves!

Apart from Charles Fox's management, what was the most remarkable thing about the tournament? Yes, Dennis Jones did not have a single draw!!! I say that to distract attention from my own performance; although I finished with the same score as last year, I felt that I was more involved with my games than ever before. Perhaps this is merely indicative of a general rise in standards.

John Dove

I'll ignore the comments about my lack of draws and concentrate on your suggestion of a professional controller. Does the need exist? You say, "if I were one of the top group, I would want it run properly" This implies that it isn't run properly at the moment, a sentiment with which I strongly disagree. I consider that the RAFCC has been singularly fortunate in having Jack Elliott and, latterly, Wally Adam to give up their time and control the Championships. Having been to several civvy congresses, I can testify that the standard of controlling is certainly no better than ours and can even be worse. But this is an important issue and deserves serious consideration by all our members, so anyone who holds definite opinions for or against John's idea is welcome to air them in these columns. - Ed.

* * * * *



PROBLEM PAGE

The Problems set in the October issue were as follows:-

1. 4k3/4Bp2/1p2nP1P/2p5/2K1b1B/8/P7/8
From Taimanov - Smyslov (USSR Champs 1967).
2. 7k1/6pp/3n4/1n1p1P2/p1pP1NP1/PpP1K3/1B5P/8
Euwe - Averbach (Candidates Tournament 1953).

No need for comments from me, just read this letter:-

Sqn Ldr M S Read MB ChB D Av Med RAF

Dear Dennis,

Having declined to send in the correct answer for the last problem spot, in order to allow Tony Turner the "Heroic Solver" tag, (you'll never hear the last of that one!) I thought I had better trot in some answers for your next edition, or you might think we do nothing but work out here.

Incidentally, I would have thought one of the best opportunities for promoting the case for official recognition of chess in the RAF would be for all members to consider a regular contribution to the magazine in order to demonstrate the active enthusiasm in the RAF for the game. One obvious way, of course, is to see many more people sending in the answers for the problem spot, so what about it, chaps? If we can solve them in Cyprus, with wine at 15p a bottle and gin cheaper than lemonade, surely they will look much clearer from the UK end. I have to wear an eye patch to prevent me seeing four kings!

But I digress. Naturally, I enjoyed the challenge of your two problems, so here are some proposed solutions.

In No. 1 I would usually opt for the king sacrifice with 1. KxP self ch! This move leaves Black thrashing about in the dark on the verge of a nervous breakdown, with a White bishop mate or pawn promotion not very far away. However, that's a bit advanced for British chess at the moment, so how about:-

1. B-B3! Any Black bishop move will a) allow mate with B-B6 b) lose the bishop with a check move or c) if 1....BxB then the pawn queens. After 1. B-B3, any Black knight move brings 2.BxB with either a piece advantage or the queening of the KRP. So that leaves us looking for this elusive "beautiful finish", which after 1. B-B3 must be 1....P-N4ch 2. K-B3 N-N4! 3. P-R7! Resigns.

Problem No.2 looks like 1...NxRP 2. BxN N-N4 3. B-B1 NxBP 4. N-K2 N-N8 5. Resigns. Black is threatening 5....P-R6 6. BxP NxB 7.N-B3 P-N7 and there is no defence.

I was thinking of sending a photo of Tony Turner struggling with A Dragon for your cartoon without words feature, but the police have confiscated all the prints.

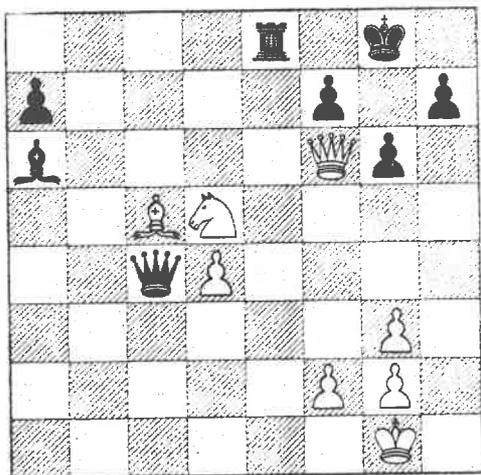
Yours sincerely,
Martin Read

Martins solution is (need I say it?) dead right and the idea of all our members making regular contributions to the magazine is a beautiful one, but so is the idea of perpetual motion. But as Martin says, How about it chaps?.

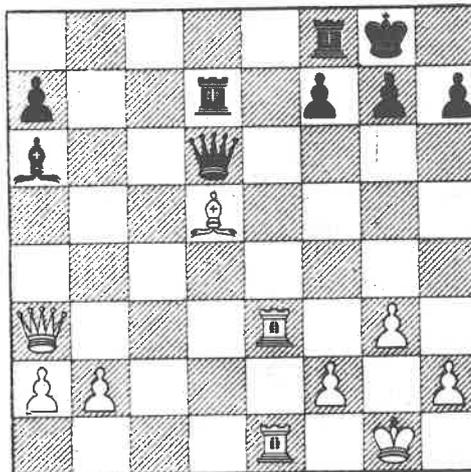
Other successful solutions were sent in by Barry Hollyoak and John Dove, who adds,
 "Incidentally, Dennis, I am of course quite immune to any denigrating remarks of yours, but it does occur to me that some potential solvers may be put off at the thought of having their mistakes paraded in the magazine. Perhaps you could reassure them that they will only be mentioned by name if successful. You can give my name as I only send a solution "pour encourager les autres" - and that's my excuse for any mistakes!

Point taken, John, thanks. Henceforth, no correct solution = no names.

So how about this little pair then? In number one, White to play, causes immediate resignation with his next move - but it's not so easy to find!



1



2

In number two, White found an ingenious and surprising move which won at least the exchange. Can you find it?

* * * * *

THE KING'S OWN (TUMBLEWEED) OPENING

A comment by Martin Ream sparked off an interest for me in this little known opening, so I did some research and found that the basic moves are as follows:-

1. P-K4 P-K4
2. P-KB4 PxP
3. K-B2!

The exclamation mark does not denote "good move", but "Ye Gods!". This opening (?gambit?) was invented by a WHK Pollock, champion of Ireland, (where else?) in the early 1890's and used by him for several years with startling success. It's main claim to fame though, must lie in the fact that it is surely the only chess opening to have a poem composed in it's honour. This poem I have lifted straight out of Irving Chernev's Chess Companion - and I hope there's no copyright on it!!

In Seattle last summer, with nothing to do,
 I went to the chess club and there met a Jew
 From New Orleans, a rabbi - no matter what name -
 Perhaps you have met him or heard of the same;

He's a player of note and his problems in chess
Get some mighty good players in an awful bad mess.

He asked "Do you play, sir?" I said "Just a little"
Well, sit you down here and let's have a skittle.
He glanced round the room. "I judge by the looks
That you players here are not up in the books."
I replied with a laugh and a gentle a-hem,
"No, we long, long ago got far beyond them."
With a shrug of his shoulders the Whites he gave me,
"Make your opening", he said "and we will soon see."
I played P to K's fourth, which he seemed to approve
And replied with the same; 'twas a very good move.
The King's Bishop's pawn I put out with some force,
And he took it at once as a matter of course.
But judge the expression that came o'er his face
When I played out my King to KB's second place.
"Oh well" said the rabbi "that looks a bit hazy,
If I'm any judge the King's Gambit's gone crazy".
So he out with his Queen and he checked at R's five,
With the evident purpose to flay me alive.
With a soft gentle push I interposed pawn,
He took it with his, in a moment t'was gone.
He thundered out "Check" in such stentorian tones
That it gave me the shivers, a quake in the bones;
But I slipped the King over to K's second square,
Then he took my rook pawn with his, and said, "There,
You must take that with your rook, and then it is plain
That my queen takes the other one out in the main;
And with no pawns on King side, I must say I can't see
How you can prevent me from queening my three -
Should the game ever get to the point where they're needed".
"I don't think it will" I replied. But he needed
me not; and when he captured my little KP
I brought out my knight to the king bishop three;
Next came pawn to queen four to free up his house,
I replied with my queen's knight, attacking his spouse,
Which he played to knight three, giving check to my king.
At the same time remarking, "I'm on to this thing."
The King to rook one I quietly played
and QB to knight five he likewise essayed.
Not wishing that harm should come to my horse
I transferred king's rook, from his second across
To knight two. He now thought to win at a canter
So he took up his queen, and at rook four, instanter
He put her, and checked; but I moved to knight's square
And he, little dreaming of the trap that was there,
Whipped off my poor knight, as he laughingly said
"This horse is of no use, so off comes his head."
My knight, he is gone - oh alas tis too true,
But I'll interpose bishop and see what he'll do.
"Well, if you want me to take all your pieces and done,
Shove 'em out and I'll capture them, every darned one."
So he grabbed the poor prelate at once by the neck
And I somewhat surprised him by R's check.
Not till then did the truth dawn clear on his brain,
And he tried hard to save his fair queen, but in vain.

"Now what kind of a game do you say you call that?"
 "THE KING'S OWN" I replied "and I'll bet you a hat
 You can't find it in any or all the chess books
 You have studied." And I judged from his looks
 That he somewhat doubted when I told him the same
 Was a notion of Pollock's, who gave it that name.

Personally, I haven't the slightest doubt that the whole thing
 is all Pollock's.

* * * * *

SAGE COUNSEL

Surely the greatest thrill in any chess player's life is the sac-
 rifice of the strongest piece for a winning attack. When that
 sacrifice is speculative and relies on the opposition making a
 mistake, then it is doubly courageous.
 Geoff Sage has already been the recipient of a 'Game Special' prize
 and it would be unfair to award it again when there are other excel-
 lent games competing for the award, but the game that follows is
 something special. So it's featured separately from the others -
 play it over and you'll see why!

Suffolk -v- Cambridge II

White: D G Rayner Black: G W Sage Opening: Reti
 Notes by Geoff Sage

- | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|--|
| 1. | N-KB3 | P-Q4 | |
| 2. | P-QB4 | P-B3 | |
| 3. | N-QB3 | N-KB3 | |
| 4. | PxP | PxP | |
| 5. | P-KN3 | N-QB3 | |
| 6. | B-N2 | P-K3 | |
| 7. | O-O | B-K2 | |
| 8. | P-QN3 | O-O | |
| 9. | B-N2 | P-K4 | Clearing a path for my queens bishop and threatening P-K5 |
| 10. | P-Q3 | B-N5 | |
| 11. | Q-N1?! | | Presumably to cover the K4 square |
| 11. | | Q-Q2 | |
| 12. | R-K1 | | Still more cover for his K4 square, but unfortunately for him, it lessens the defence of his KB2. |
| 12. | | QR-Q1 | |
| 13. | N-Q2? | | This creates far too many Black square weaknesses on K3 and Q4. |
| 13 | | B-KR6 | |
| 14. | B-R1 | Q-B4! | The final temptation to play P-K4. He readily accepts the bait. |
| 15. | P-K4 | PxP | |
| 16. | PxP | QxPch!! | A bolt from the blue, but I knew it was not quite sound. In other words, it was a gamble with the odds stacked in my favour. |
| 17. | KxQ | N-N5ch | |
| 18. | K-K2 | | Other tries lead to neat mates. |
| | | RxNch! | |
| 19. | KxR | B-N4ch | |
| 20. | K-K2? | | The only saving move was 20. K-Q1 |
| | | N-Q5ch | |

21. K-Q3 And now White is past the point of no return.
 N-B7ch Come into my parlour, said the spider to the fly!
22. K-B4 R-B1ch
 23. K-Q5 B-K3ch
 24. KxP N-B3ch
 25. K-Q6 B-K2 mate.

* * * * *

GAMES SECTION

Two miniatures first, from Glen Macauley.

White: G A Macauley Black: R Foreman

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------|---------|-----|----------|----------|
| 1. | P-K4 | P-K4 | 6. | P-Q4!(b) | NxP?(c) |
| 2. | N-KB3 | N-QB3 | 7. | P-QB3 | N-N3 |
| 3. | B-B4 | N-KB3 | 8. | BxPch | K-K2 |
| 4. | N-N5 | P-Q4 | 9. | PxN | P-KR3 |
| 5. | PxP | NxP?(a) | 10. | B-N3 | PxN??(d) |
| | | | 11. | BxPch | Resigns |

- (a) N-QR4 or even N-Q5 are better .
 (b) I have since found out that NxBP followed by Q-B3ch is stronger though judging by this game this isn't bad either.
 (c) A bad mistake. PxP might be better.
 (d) Touch rules were enforced in this match and at this point my opponent touched his rooks pawn and my bishop and then let go again, being kind hearted (?) I was prepared to let him do another move, however two of my team mates who were watching the game immediately shouted out, "You've touched it, you've got to take it!" So he did, with a nasty result.

(Is that what's known as a 'forced move'? - Ed.)

White G A Macauley Black: Herr Lohr

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------|----------|-----|----------|------------|
| 1. | P-K4 | P-Q4 | 9. | B-QB4 | B-KB4 |
| 2. | PxP | N-KB3 | 10. | B-N3 | N-Q6ch |
| 3. | P-Q4 | NxP | 11. | K-B1 | N-B4!!(a) |
| 4. | P-QB4 | N-N5?(a) | 12. | Q-R5 | NxB |
| 5. | Q-R4?(b) | N-QB3! | 13. | PxN | NxP |
| 6. | P-Q5??(c) | P-QN4!! | 14. | Q-K1(f) | B-Q6ch!(g) |
| 7. | PxP?(d) | N-Q5! | 15. | N-K2 | NxR |
| 8. | N-QR3 | P-K4 | | Resigns. | |

- (a) This is bad. N-N3 or B3 are much better.
 (b) This move, which looked to me as if it won a piece, was terrible, but only because he found P-QN4!! P-QR3 was much better.
 (c) I should have realised my mistake and played P-QR3.
 (d) What else? QxP N-B7ch K-Q1 NxR QxNch B-Q2 didn't seem too good, neither did Q-Q1 N-K5 etc., but both are, in fact, better than my move, probably the first being best.
 (e) Wins material in every variation especially Q-B4?? B-Q6ch.
 (f) Perhaps he'll be greedy and take the rook and let me play QxPch.
 (g) No such luck.

Our old mate Denis Roots is still pushing wood with the best of them.
He writes:-

"Thought you might like a postal game to look at. I was board 25(!)
for Norfolk in the Inter-Counties Div. 2 and my opponent for just one
game was from Middlesex. The opening was unusual and little in the
bible to help me."

White: D C Roots Norfolk Black C E A Henstock Middlesex

Opening: Latvian (Greco Counter) Gambit

1.	P-K4	P-K4	9.	N-Q2	QN-Q2
2.	N-KB3	P-KB4(a)	10.	P-KB3(c)	NxN
3.	E-B4	PxP	11.	PxN	N-Q2
4.	NxP	N-KB3	12.	BxB	QxB
5.	P-Q4(b)	P-Q4	13.	PxP	Q-B4ch? (d)
6.	B-N3	B-K3	14.	K-R1	NxP(e)
7.	O-O	B-K2	15.	Q-R5ch!	Resigns.
8.	B-N5	P-QB3			

- (a) Frantic search in my (10th) edition of MCO only revealed 5 columns!
- (b) For the eager rook hunters, 5.N-B7 Q-K2 6.NxR P-Q4 7.B-N3?
B-KN5 and White loses his queen!
- (c) Must challenge the pawns and open my KB file. His KB2 could be
found weak fairly shortly.
- (d) Unwise. The Q could have helped defend until he castles long.
- (e) This pawn snatch really is silly. 14....O-O-O would have helped.

Surprising that resignation comes with Queens and allsorts of bits
left on the board but my 16. PxP and 17. QR-K1 looks to be killer-
diller stuff to me. Anyway, a point scored for the county mustn't
be sniffed at even on Board 25!

Am playing for Dereham 'B' Team in the Norfolk League and getting
plenty over-the-board games on club nights. Postal chess is now
suffering from Ryland's itis and proving terribly costly for enthus-
iasts. It's a pity that this breeding ground for players couldn't be
allocated a special low postage rate.

All the best,
Denis Roots

I no longer play postal chess these days but when I did I seem to
remember most of my games as dull, stodgy affairs. That last game
proves that not everyone has the same problems, as does this next
gem from Frank Bateman,

White: T McCullough Black: F Bateman Opening: Dutch Defence

1.	P-Q4	P-KB4	11.	R-B1	NxN
2.	N-KB3	P-K3	12.	QxN	P-KR5
3.	P-KN3	N-KB3	13.	BPxP(c)	BPxP
4.	B-N2	P-Q4(a)	14.	R-B2	P-KR6
5.	QN-Q2	P-KR3	15.	B-KR1	O-O
6.	O-O	N-K5	16.	N-K5	NxN
7.	P-N3	N-Q2	17.	PxN	B-Q2
8.	B-N2 (b)	B-K2	18.	Q-Q4	B-QB3
9.	P-B4	P-QB3	19.	R(1)-B1	Q-K1
10.	P-K3	P-KR4	20.	B-KB3	Q-N3

21. P-QN4	P-QR3	28. Q-Q1	BxNP
22. B-K2	B-KN4	29. RPxB	P-R7ch
23. B-Q3	R-B2	30. K-R1	RxP
24. RxB	PxR	31. Q-QB1	Q-N3(e)
25. RxP	Q-R3	32. Q-K3	RxB(N2)
26. BxRP(d)	P-B5	33. Q-B4	RxB
27. KPxF	BxP	34. Resigns	

- (a) This opening was new to me, perhaps I was unwise to give control of his K5 square to him at this stage of the game. Luckily my opponent didn't seize his advantage when the postman delivered move 5.
- (b) A Double Fianchetto against the Dutch! I can't see the possibilities if any, so I decide to be a good boy and play at my Dutch effort.
- (c) Obviously my KRP has been overlooked in order to gain development on his queens side.
- (d) After this move White loses his tempo. Possibly this is one of the pitfalls of postal chess whereby an opponent fears adjudication of his game because he has less material in a balanced game and so takes what is going.
- (e) This move finished the game, the rest was academic, but Mr. T. McCullough knows his postal chess and plays on ready to pounce on any slip.

* * * * *

Two of David Bloggs' games from Halton 75 follow, I hope John Nunn doesn't get fed up with seeing his losses paraded!

White: D Blogg Black: R Sullivan Notes by P Ball & D Blogg

CSCC Round 2

1. P-Q4	N-KR3	16. Q-Q2	N-B2
2. P-QB4	P-Q3	17. QR-Q1	N-K1
3. N-QB3	P-KN3	18. Q-B1!	Q-B2
4. B-N5	B-N2	19. P-B4	P-R3
5. P-K4	QN-Q2	20. P-B5	NPxP
6. B-Q3(a)	P-QB4	21. PxB	N-N4(f)
7. P-Q5	N-K4	22. BxN	PxB
8. N-K2(b)	B-N5	23. QxP	N-B3!
9. P-B3	B-R4	24. PxB	QR-K1
10. N-B4	P-KR3	25. RxN!!(g)	Q-K2
11. NxB(c)	NxN	26. RxRch	KxRch
12. B-K3	P-K3	27. R-B1ch	K-N1
13. B-K2	KN-B3	28. QxQ	RxQ
14. PxB(d)	PxB	29. B-R5	B-Q5ch
15. 0-0(e)	0-0	30. K-R1	RxB
		31. B-B7ch	Resigns.

- (a) N-B3 is better.
- (b) 8. P-B4 NxB 9. QxN P-KR3 10. B-R4 0-0 11. N-B3 B-Q2 12. 0-0-0 P-QR3 13. QR-N1 P-QN4 14. P-KR5 with an interesting game.
- (c) 11. BxN!! BxB 12. P-KN4 wins a piece.
- (d) 14. Q-Q2 followed by 0-0-0 would have been better.
- (e) 15. Q-Q2 stops castling ... Q-K2 16. 0-0-0 R-Q1 17. P-B4 N-B2 18. P-KN4 if 18. ... 0-0 it would be suicide because of the attack on the Kings side.
- (f) Of course not 21. ... PxB 22. N-Q5 Q-Q2 23. RxP!! (If ... QxR 24. N-K7ch K move 25. NxB)
- (g) The cruncher.

CSCC Simultaneous

White: J Nunn Black: D Blogg Notes by P Ball & D Blogg

1.	P-K4	P-KN3	25.	P-B4	N-B4
2.	P-Q4	P-Q3	26.	P-QN4?	NxB
3.	N-QB3	B-N2	27.	QxN	K-N1
4.	P-KB4	N-Q2(a)	28.	KPxP	KPxP
5.	N-B3	P-QB4	29.	P-B5(f)	B-Q5
6.	P-Q5	KN-B3	30.	Q-K4	PxNP
7.	B-K2	O-O	31.	PxP	QPxP
8.	O-O	P-QR3	32.	B-K8	R-N2
9.	P-QR4(b)	K-R1	33.	Q-N4	K-N2
10.	K-R1	N-N1	34.	P-R4	R-K2
11.	B-K3	QN-B3	35.	B-N5	P-N6
12.	N-Q2	B-Q2	36.	P-R5	P-N7
13.	P-K5	N-K1(c)	37.	P-B5	QxP
14.	N-B4!	P-N4	38.	PxP	P-B3
15.	PxP	RxP	39.	Q-R5	K-N1
16.	RxR	QxR	40.	B-Q8	Q-R2
17.	N-N6	Q-N2	41.	B-B7ch	RxB
18.	NxB	QxN	42.	PxRch	QxP
19.	BxNP	Q-N2	43.	QxQ??(g)	KxQ
20.	Q-Q2(d)	N-B2	44.	P-N4	K-N3
21.	Q-Q3	R-N1	45.	K-N2	B-K6!!
22.	B-B6	Q-R2(e)	46.	R-N1	B-B8
23.	N-N5	NxN	47.	K-N3	K-N4
24.	BxN	N-R3	48.	K-B3	K-R5
			49.	Resigns	

- (a) 4. N-QB3 isn't bad either 5.P-Q5 N-Q5 6.B-K3 P-QB4
6.PxPep NxP leaving Black with an open file.
- (b) A Modern variation of the three pawn attack bar Black's N-Q2.
- (c) Even though I was cramped I was ready for anything.
- (d) Waste of tempo.
- (e) Interesting isQxP 23.R-N1 QxR 24.NxQ RxNch 25.B-N1
- (f) Batter maybe 29.NPxP PxP leavin' White with a passed pawn.
- (g) 43.Q-N4ch is suffiecient to win.

* * * * *

Pete Ball sent me a selection of his games from the last LARA Congress; I wonder how many members attend congresses and never let me know how they fared? Even a game or two would be very welcome, but a full report on the congress would be marvellous. Not that I'm asking for every one of your games, just a summary with a score of your best effort(s).

2nd LARA Congress

White; C Harris Black: P Ball Opening: Modern or Pirc Defence

1.	P-K4	P-KN3	11.	PxP	PxP
2.	N-QB3	B-N2	12.	BxP	BxQP
3.	N-B3	P-Q3	13.	R-K1?(c)	BxNP
4.	P-Q3(a)	N-KB3	14.	R-N1	B-B6
5.	N-Q5	NxN	15.	N-Q2(d)	BxRP
6.	PxN	O-O	16.	B-B3	BxR!
7.	B-K2	P-QB4(b)	17.	BxR	QxN(e)
8.	O-O	P-QN4	18.	QxQ	BxQ
9.	B-K3	B-N2	19.	RxB	N-Q2
10.	P-Q4!	P-QR3!	20.	BxP	RxB

21.	R-Q1	R-K1	27.	BxB?	PxB
22.	B-R3	R-K8ch	28.	K-K1	P-R5
23.	RxR	BxR	29.	K-Q1	P-R6
24.	B-N2	P-N5	30.	K-B1	P-R7
25.	P-KR3?	P-QR4	31.	P-N4??	P-R8(Q) Mate
26.	K-B1	B-B6			

- (a) The quiet variation of the Modern Defence, more usual is 4.P-Q4.
 (b) 8.PxPep NxP and I am ahead in development as well as the open file, My opponent did not like this so he allowed me to start a Q side attack which I never finished.
 (c) P-B3 is better.
 (d) If 15.R-KB1 BxP 16.QxQ RxQ 17. QR-Q1 N-B3 and the two pawns advantage should win.
 (e) Of course, not 17.BxN 18.BxP Q-R4 19.R-K2 R-K1 20.B-N4 RxR 21.BxQ R-K8ch 22.QxR BxQ 23.BxB BxP 24.B-R4 and the QRP falls. White now has reasonable drawing chances, which he does not get with QxN.

* * * * *

LARA Congress

White: P Ball Black: R Gallagher Opening: Reversed Benko Gambit

1.	N-KB3	P-Q4	17.	BxN	BxB
2.	P-K3	P-QB4	18.	N(5)-K4	P-QR3
3.	P-B4	P-Q5	19.	NxBch	QxN
4.	P-QN4(a)	PxP	20.	N-K4!	Q-K4
5.	P-QR3	PxP	21.	RxP	PxR (e)
6.	BxP	N-QB3	22.	QxR	QxQ
7.	P-Q3	N-B3	23.	RxQ	K-N2?
8.	B-N2	Q-R4ch?	24.	N-Q6!	RxP??
9.	QN-Q2	Q-B2(b)	25.	RxB	R-Q7
10.	O-O	P-KN3	26.	R-QR8	RxP
11.	Q-N3	B-N2	27.	RxP	R-QB6
12.	KR-N1	O-O	28.	K-B1	K-B1
13.	Q-N2(c)	KR-Q1	29.	R-R7	P-R4?
14.	N-N5	R-N1?(d)	30.	RxPch	K-N1
15.	BxN!	QxB	31.	K-K2	RxP
16.	BxP	R-K1	32.	NxR	KxR (f)

- (a) This inaugurates the Benko Gambit which is usually played by Black, I have come to the opinion that if it's a good opening for Black, then it must be strong for White.
 (b) This shows that Q-R4ch just helps my development.
 (c) This puts pressure on the Q's pawn which becomes important as the game proceeds.
 (d) This allows me to gain two pawns, P-K4! is better.
 (e) This is better than 21. P-B4 22.N-B6ch and I win a rook.
 (f) The rest is elementary with my opponent resigning on move 41.

* * * * *

LARA Congress

White: P Ball Black: H Cooke Opening: Closed Sicilian by trans.

1.	N-KB3	N-KB3	7.	R-K1	Q-B2
2.	P-KN3	P-QB4	8.	QN-Q2	O-O
3.	B-N2	P-K3	9.	N-B1	B-Q2(a)
4.	P-Q3	N-QB3	10.	P-QB3	QR-B1
5.	O-O	B-K2			
6.	P-K4	P-Q3			

11.	B-K3	P-K4(b)	24.	R-N1	B-N5
12.	R-B1	Q-R4	25.	Q-N3!??	BxN!
13.	P-QR3	P-KR3	26.	RxB	NxP
14.	P-Q4!?(c)	BPxP	27.	R-K3	N-B3
15.	PxP	Q-N4	28.	NxP??	NxN!!
16.	PxP	PxP	29.	QxB	QxQ
17.	P-QN4	P-QR4	30.	RxQ	N-Q4!
18.	N(1)-Q2(d)	PxP	31.	RxN??(f)	NxR
19.	B-B1	Q-R4	32.	B-B5	RxB??(g)
20.	N-B4	Q-Q1	33.	RxR	R-N1
21.	B-N6	Q-K1	34.	R-QN5	N-B3
22.	PxP	BxP(e)	35.	B-N2	N-Q1
23.	R-K3?	Q-K2	36.	K-B1	K-B1

Draw agreed on Move 54.

- (a) Here we have two contrasting ideas, my opponent is playing a Sicilian Variation as Black, while I am playing a King's Indian Attack.
- (b) His Q's pawn is now a weakness to play on.
- (c) This brings complications into the game which I like, it makes a more interesting game.
- (d) 18.B-B5 is better but I rejected it for a complicated game.
- (e) If 22. ...NxP 23.N-Q6 should give reasonable chances to White.
- (f) 31. B-B5!!
- (g) 32. N-B3 wins for Black.

* * * * *

GAME SPECIAL

Another three games for your delectation which I consider to be out of the ordinary in one way or another. The first, from Glen Mcauley is fine sacrificial stuff against the Sicilian Defence.

White: G Macauley Black: T Onon

1.	P-K4	P-QB4	13.	BxN	BxB
2.	N-KB3	P-Q3	14.	BxNP!	PxB
3.	P-Q4	PxP	15.	N(Q4)xp	Q-N3
4.	NxP	N-KB3	16.	NxPch	K-B1
5.	N-QB3	P-QR3	17.	P-K5	B-Q1?(c)
6.	B-KN5	P-K3	18.	NxKBP!	R-N1?(d)
7.	P-KB4	B-K2	19.	RxN	B-QB3
8.	Q-B3	Q-B2	20.	RxBch	RxR
9.	B-Q3	QN-Q2	21.	NxR	QxN
10.	O-O-O	P-QN4	22.	R-Q1	Q-N3
11.	KR-K1	B-N2	23.	Q-Q3	K-B2
12.	Q-N3!(a)	P-KR3?(b)	24.	Q-Q6	Q-K6ch
			25.	K-N1	BxNP
			26.	Q-Q7ch	Resigns

- (a) Borrowed from Spassky who played it against Fischer.
- (b) O-O-O is supposed to be better but then I would have played BxNP!
- (c) B-K2 would have been better, preventing NxBP but still probably losing after P-B5!
- (d) KxN must have been better, this loses a full piece.

* * * * *

Now a pleasing miniature from Gordon Chapman who demonstrates very clearly how to punish inexact play. Perhaps this game would have won the prize if Black had made things a bit harder. As it was, Gordon had it just a little too easy to justify the award.

White: G Chapman Black: T Bratco

1.	P-Q4	N-KB3	11.	N-B3	PxP
2.	P-QB4	P-K3	12.	BxBP(g)	P-QN3(h)
3.	N-QB3	P-KR3?(a)	13.	B-N5ch!(j)	P-B3
4.	P-K4	B-N5(b)	14.	B-Q3	K-Q2?!
5.	P-K5!(c)	BxNch	15.	P-R5!(k)	N-B1
6.	PxB	N-K5	16.	PxP	PxP
7.	Q-B2	N-N4	17.	O-O-O!!(l)	K-B2??
8.	B-Q3!(d)	P-KN3(e)	18.	B-N5!!	RxR??(m)
9.	P-KR4!	N-R2(f)	19.	BxQch	KxB
10.	QxBP	P-Q4	20.	RxR	Black resigned on 29.

- (a) If you play hyper-modern openings (i.e. letting White have the centre then trying to break it) you can't afford passive moves.
- (b) A move too late.
- (c) The anchor point for a king side attack.
- (d) Developed with attack. White threatens P-KR4 winning the knight.
- (e) A forced weakening of the Black squares.
- (f) Four moves with one knight and only on the second rank!
- (g) BxNP, PxP QxPch doesn't quite work as the Black king can escape at Q2.
- (h) Another pawn move!
- (j) A difficult decision for Black. If N-Q2 or B-Q2 White plays 14.B-Q3 and the mating threats after 15. BxNP are hard to defend against as the Q2 flight square has gone.
- (k) With the Black pieces tied up and the king in front, the attack must be fatal.
- (l) Black knights pawn will fall anytime, best to complete development.
- (m) The penalty for not developing.



And now the winner. Pete Ball has come close on several occasions to winning the prize, but each time he's been pipped at the post by someone else. This time, the £1 is his for the pleasing way in which he demolishes his opponent in a county match.

Bucks II -v- Berks II Board 15

White: P Ball Black: J A A Baker Notes by Pete Ball

Opening Catalan or Benko Gambit Reversed.

1.	N-KB3	N-KB3	
2.	P-KN3	P-KN3	
3.	B-N2	B-N2	
4.	P-Q3		Form of the Modern Defence but played as White instead of Black.
	P-Q4	
5.	O-O	P-QB4	
6.	P-QB4	P-Q5	This is the Catalan or a type of reverse Benoni. My next move brings about the Benko Gambit usually played, as Black to the Benoni.

7. P-QN4! PXP As good as any other 7. ...P-K3 or P-QN3.
8. P-QR3 Hoping for 8. ...PxP 9.Q-R4 B-Q2 10.BxP
N-B3 11.Q-N5! White has a powerful attack
- N-QB3
9. PXP NXP
10. B-R3 N-QB3
11. QN-Q2 O-O
12. Q-R4 R-K1
13. KR-N1 The pressure on the QN and R file is
adequate compensation for the pawn.
- P-K4
14. N-N5 Preparing for 15.N(5)-K4 NxN 16.NxN and
17.N-Q6, then 18.P-B5 with what should be
a won position.
..... B-Q2? A blunder for he believed my next move
was impossible.
15. RXP! N-R4 If 15.R-QB1 (My threat 16.RxB NxR
17.BxN) 16.B-B5!
16. RxB!! This really complicated the situation though
at the time I was not certain that it won
because it was difficult to see all variations.
- NxR
17. BxR QxN Of course not 17. QxB 18.QxN White's
a piece up.
18. QxN(7) RxB
19. B-N4!! This move protects my knight and attacks
Black's knight, which has nowhere to go.
- NxP
20. NxN P-K5? Now my opponent becomes desperate.
21. Q-N7!! R-K1
22. RXP Resigns 22. Q-B3 23.R-R8!! Q-K3 forced 24.RxRch
QxR 25.N-Q6!! Q-Q1 (If 25. Q-K3
26.Q-N8ch B-B1 27.QxBmate) 26.QxBPch K-R1
27.N-K8 B-R3 (27. B-K4 28.Q-B8mate)
28.B-B8 Q-N4 29.N-B6 now mate in three at
the maximum.

Congratulations Pete, on joining our list of Game Special winners.
If any readers consider they have a game worthy of consideration
for our £1 prize please send it to the Ed. with your annotations.

* * * * *

LOONY LIMERICKS

A certain fortunate woodpusher,
Won Ernie. He'd never been flusher.
He played a young honey
And offered her money,
But failed 'cos he would try to rush her!

* * *

An old Ruritanian Grandmaster -
Short sighted and getting no faster -
Once fancied a dolly,
He chased her, by golly,
And caught her, then blindly ran past her.

* * *

FLIGHTS OF WHIMSY

In order to maintain consistency with the new metric system being introduced in most sports, the BCF has agreed to consider the introduction of Metric Chess for a trial period of ten years beginning next year on 1st October (tenth month).

The rules for this new form of the game will remain unchanged apart from the introduction of the new board, ten squares by ten, and two extra pawns on each side and a new piece, two for each side. This new piece, to be placed at the start of the game on the outside of each rook, will be known as the tenner. The choice of name was dictated by the wish to reflect the spirit of metrication and also as the first step in a process of simplification of nomenclature shortly to be introduced with a view to the computerisation of all chess playing. Under this new system, all chess pieces will be known by number, the king No 1, Queen No 2 and so on. As all the squares will also be designated numerically, the move K-KR1 will soon be known as 1-1/1. Readers will doubtless appreciate the simplicity of this new system.

But to return to metric chess. The tenner will be allowed to move only after ten moves have been completed with the other pieces and then will move five or ten squares in any direction. It will be allowed to jump over other pieces in it's path providing they are not other tenners or an exact number of five other pieces. In this case, the tenner must retreat five squares in any direction other than the one originally chosen, or not, whichever is sooner. As soon as the tenner has completed his move, he must then remain static for another ten moves unless he is taken by an opposing piece, in which case the piece taking the tenner will be allowed five consecutive moves or a new tenner providing that this occurs on move 10, 20, or 30 of any game taking place on the 10th of the month (or the first March in a leap year.)

Another change shortly to be introduced concerns the phrase "chessmen". In recognition of International Womens Year, FIDE have decreed that all references to chess pieces as "men" will be banned and the pieces are forthwith to be termed "chesspersons". The present pieces which are exclusively male, knights and bishops, are to be split into one each of the two sexes. Thus, the queen's bishop will become Mistress of the Queen's Wardrobe (M) and the queen's knight will be termed Lady in Waiting (L). The powers of these pieces will remain unchanged. The king's knight and king's bishop will retain their present titles as it was thought that the expression "King's Mistress" could be mis-leading.

* * * * *



Pawn-broker

