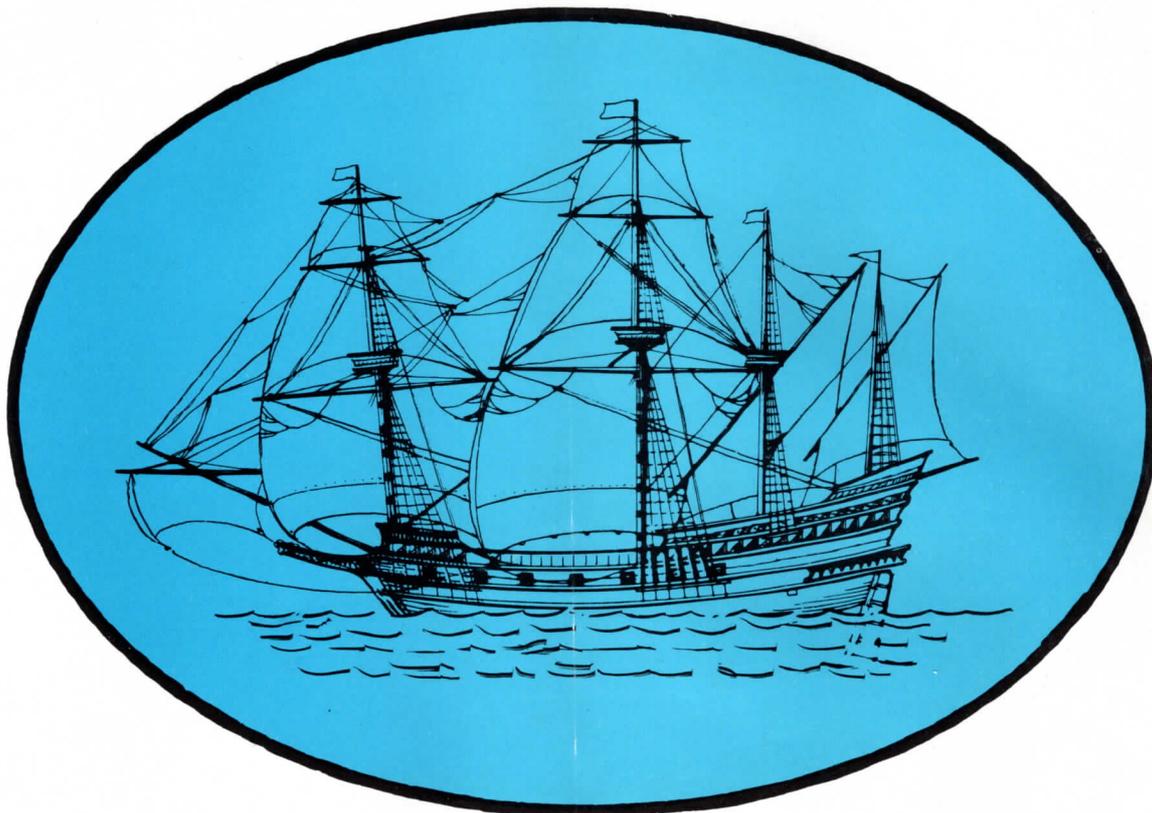


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WESTWARD HO!



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CHESS UNION



WECU CONGRESS EDITION

No 18.
JUNE '81.

WEST OF ENGLAND CHESS UNION

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U 90 - N. Hassett (Brixham)

Over 60's Prize : R. Graham (Exeter)

Under 12's Prize : P. Hawthorne (Paignton)

* * * * *

COTSWOLD CONGRESS

The fourteenth "Cotswold" was this year held in a new location - The Institute, Painswick. Due to the non-availability of its usual venue in Stroud, a fresh location had to be hurriedly found and, thanks to the generosity of the Governors of the Institute, the "Cotswold" was able to take place after all. The entries were a little down compared with past years but this was due to lack of normal advertising.

The quality of the players who entered the OPEN was, on the average, much higher than previous years and no fewer than ten of them were graded over 200. It was a pity that John Nunn was, this year, unable to spare the time from University studies to take part but I am assured that he will be playing in the giant quick-play Congress which takes place in Stroud on Sunday, 6th Dec., 1981. Last year nearly 300 players took part and it is fully anticipated that far more will play this year.

Promptly at 10 o'clock on the Saturday, R.O. Powis, the Chief Controller, got the 1981 "Cotswold" under way. The first two rounds brought no surprises with all the top graded players winning their respective games. The important 3rd Round began to sort things out a bit. Conquest was paired with Basman but after some four hours was forced to resign when he found Basman's creative opening too difficult a problem to solve. This game appeared to throw the brilliant youngster off balance for he only picked up half a point from his remaining games! Another youngster also fell by the wayside in this round when P. Wells, the British Under 16 Champion, lost to Taulbut.

Round 5 saw Hebden leading by half a point from Basman, Taulbut and Wells. In his game with Davey, Wells was a very lucky winner. Both players were in dire time-trouble with both clocks hanging. After out-playing his opponent all the way through the game Davey missed a mate on the move in the mad blitz and lost on time!

Round 6 saw Basman paired with Hebden, Taulbut with Roe and Wells with Newton. Basman and Hebden drew whilst Taulbut beat Roe and Wells beat Newton. These results meant that Hebden, Taulbut and Wells tied for 1st place. Basman, Hutchings and Binks shared 2nd place.

In the MAJOR Tournament, the eventual winners T. Acton and S. Miller were always in the forefront and were never headed. Both finished with 5 points each and shared first place. Humphreys finished half a point behind.

The MINOR Tournament was a rather more exciting affair with the lead continually changing place. At one time the local player, R.W. Morris, appeared to be the eventual winner but slipped up in his last two games and finished second to T. Cambray of Cirencester.

As always, the Congress was impeccably controlled by R.O. Powis and was ably assisted by his son, Michael. A never-ending supply of refreshments was provided by Mrs. Richardson and her staff and, considering the confined space that they had to work in, did wonderfully well.

continued

Arrangements are already in hand for Britain's biggest quick-play on Sunday 6th Dec., at Stourd and it is hoped that even more West of England players will enter. Just to show how popular this great one-day congress is it is worth mentioning that Ken Butt of Plymouth demonstrated just what enthusiasm means when he organised a 43-seater coach from his home town and then confided to the Congress Secretary that he could have filled a double-decker!! How I wish there were more Ken Butt's around!

C.H. Breach,
Cotswold Congress Secretary.

* * * * *

CHESS BITS

Will all County Match Captains please note that the new Union Match Captain is Mr. R.J. Gregory of 1, Two Acres Road, Hengrove, Bristol, Avon. Tel: Bristol (0272) 716286.
- - - - -

The Editor of Westward Ho! wishes it to be known that the election of the new President will in no way curb his expressions of criticism when he feels that they are necessary.
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Your Annual Subscription is now due - please fill in and post your renewal fee on the inserted form. You will then ensure receiving your Grading Issue promptly.
- - - - -

St. Trinians' goes to West Buckland - See report on WECU Junior Congress.
- - - - -

Congratulations to Peter Clarke - West of England outright champion.
- - - - -

Will all County Match Captains please note that any dispute arising out of a County Match in the regional stage must be referred to the Union Secretary and NOT the BCF (See WECU Competition rules).
- - - - -

Paignton Congress entry forms enclosed with this issue.

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FINAL HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE TABLES:-

<u>Division 1</u>						<u>Division 2</u>					
	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>AV.</u>	<u>Pts</u>		<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>AV.</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Southampton	6	5	1	3.75	11	AMF Leggs	6	4	0	3.25	8
Isle of Wight A	5	2	1	2.10	5	Isle of Wight B	6	4	0	3.00	8
Portsmouth	6	1	2	2.25	4	Co-Op	6	2	1	1.83	5
Cosham	5	1	0	1.70	2	Salisbury	6	1	1	1.92	3
 <u>Division 4</u>											
	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Pts</u>					
Gosport B	12	8	2	44½	27½	18					
Co-Op B	12	9	0	44	27	18					
Petersfield	12	6	3	39½	32½	15					
Fareham E	12	6	2	38	34	14					
Portsmouth D	12	5	1	36	36	11					
Leigh Park B	12	1	2	27	44	4					
Co-Op C	12	2	0	22	50	4					

PORTSMOUTH & DISTRICT LEAGUE TABLE:

Division 1

	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Cosham A	10	8	1	37	23	17
Portsmouth A	10	7	1	36	24	15
Portsmouth B	10	4	3	31	29	11
Gosport	10	2	4	28½	31½	8
I.B.M.	10	2	1	25	35	5
Fareham A	10	1	2	22½	37½	4

* * * * *

WEST OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Winchester proved to be a very good centre for the Easter Congress and was well attended. Great credit must go to Hampshire County Chess Association for providing excellent playing facilities in the well-lit Territorial Drill Hall.

The Congress was admirably controlled by Terry Hollington and Tim McEvoy and the friendly and relaxed atmosphere that lasted throughout the weekend was largely due to their hard work and efficiency.

Many old friendships were renewed and many new ones started. The strength of the Union was reflected in the cheerful atmosphere that prevailed.

RESULTS.

In the Championship P.H. Clarke scored 4 wins and 3 draws to be the outright winner thus becoming the 1981 West of England Champion and gaining the place in the British Championships in August.

Equal 2nd/3rd were P.K. Wells (Portsmouth) and S.J. Shutler (Dorset) 5/5 (26 players) G. Lane (Paignton) and I. Thompson (Exeter) scored 4½.

Owing to the low entry, the Open Tournament was played within the Challengers. R. Burton (Weymouth) won the Challengers and the place in next year's Championship, with P.J. Telfer (Bristol) second. The Open winner was D.A. Bennett (London) 5/6, with G. Leyton second 4½.

Reserves: Equal 1st/2nd A. Richards (Cheltenham) K.R. Walker (Hants) 5/6.
3rd J.C.B. Date (Cheltenham).

All-play-All Sections: "A" 1st L. Mouillaux; "B" Equal 1st/2nd R.H.B. Spencer and J.L. Wheeler; "C" 1st A.D. Rookes. In this tournament, Miss A. Landon (Exmouth) scored 3½ missing the Ladies Championship by ½ point.

A detailed report of certain games played in the above tournaments commences on the following page.

* * * * *

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Round 1

Already a few surprises: Ashby loses a complex game to Mordue and Lane, the Champion, draws. Of the other favourites, Staples draws a see-saw game with LeMoir while Clarke, Wells and Moore all win. It is not a round for Kings who get horribly battered in the three games that I give here.

A.R. Cullinane - K.W. Derrick Kings Gambit

1. P-K4	P-K4	5. NxP	B-N5ch	9. K-Q3	Q-B3(c)	13. Q-K1	BxN
2. P-KB4	PxP	6. N-B3	N-QB3	10. P-B3	Q-R3ch!	14. PxB	Q-K4
3. N-QB3(a)	Q-R5ch	7. NxPoh(b)	K-Q1	11. P-B4(d)	Q-Q3	15. K-Q3	N-Q2
4. K-K2	P-Q4	8. NxR	N-Q5ch	12. K-B3(e)	N-KB3	16. P-B5	NxPch

White Resigns

- (a) I must confess that I know very little about this variation except that I don't trust it!
- (b) This seems to be the logical move but now his own king goes for a walk.
- (c) M.C.O. chickens out at this point "with great complications". I cannot be of any greater help!
- (d) After 11. KxN Q-Q3ch 12. K-B4 B-K3ch 13. K-N5 Q-R3 mate!
- (e) This looks insufficient. Perhaps best is 12. P-B5 Q-Q2 13. K-B3 or even 13. P-B6!? Now there is no escape.

P.K. Wells - I.C. Cock Nimzo-Indian Defence

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	9. P-N5	N-K2	17. P-K4	N-B4	25. QxBP	N-Q3
2. P-QB4	P-K3	10. P-QN3	O-O	18. R-R3	R-Q1(d)	26. R-B4	P-KR4
3. N-QB3	B-N5	11. B-N2	P-QN3	19. N-Q5!	NxP(e)	27. Q-N6ch	K-R1
4. P-K3	P-B4	12. R-R4!(b)	B-N2	20. B-KB3	PxN(f)	28. QxPch	K-N2
5. KN-K2	P-Q4	13. Q-R1	PxP	21. BxN	PxB	29. Q-N5ch	Resigns
6. P-QR3	BPxP(a)	14. PxP	N-B1	22. R-KN3	QxR		
7. PxB	PxN	15. B-K2!(c)	N-Q2	23. BPxQ!	P-B3		
8. NxP	N-B3	16. O-O	Q-M4	24. BxP!(g)	PxB		

- (a) This is frowned upon in most variations of the Nimzo-Indian as it simultaneously gives up the 2 bishops and opens lines on which they can work.
- (b) A multi-purpose move: it prepares to put pressure on the QRP, protects the QBP and prepares a possible switch over to the K-side along the 4th rank.
- (c) He can leave his own KNP as 15.. BxP? 16. R-N1 B-N2 17. N-Q5! NxN 18. RxPch removes Black's with an easy win.
- (d) Now the storm breaks. He could cover his KN2 by ... P-B3.
- (e) Or, 19... PxN 20. R-KN3 with disaster on Black's KN2.
- (f) But here he could support his knight by N(1)-Q3! and life is not at all simple. Instead of 20. B-KB3, White could have won the black Q by 20. P-B4 Q-R3 21. R-R3 QxR 22. PxR PxN but Black has plenty of counterplay along the long diagonal. After the 20... N(1)-Q3, White does not have that resource and he may have to play 21. B-B1 to make progress. After 21... N-Q7 22. BxN QxB 23. N-K7ch K-B1 24. BxB NxB 25. N-B6 followed by 26. RxP, White breaks in on the 7th rank. If 21... Q-R5 22. P-N3 Q-R6 23. B-N2 Q-R4 24. N-K7ch K-B1 25. NOB6 BxN 26. P-B6 and the passed pawn becomes a nuisance.
- (g) The point of this last move. The exposed K cannot survive.

continued

T. Mordue - A.P. Ashby French Defence

1. P-K4	P-K3	9. R-K1	B-Q2	17. BxPch	KxB(d)	25. N-N1	N(R3)-N5
2. P-Q4	P-Q4	10. B-B1	P-QR4	18. Q-B2ch	K-R1(e)	26. N(1)xP	NxN
3. N-Q2	N-QB3	11. B-K3	P-R5	19. QxB	N-R2	27. NxN	RxP
4. KN-B3	N-B3	12. QN-Q2	P-R6	20. B-B4	Q-K1	28. BxP	R-QB1
5. P-K5	N-Q2	13. P-QN3	B-N5(a)	21. R-K3	K-N2	29. R-R3(g)	Q-B1
6. N-N3	B-K2	14. B-Q3!(b)	P-B4	22. N-K1!(f)	K-B2	30. R-R7ch	K-K1
7. B-N5	0-0	15. PxPe.p.	PxP	23. N-B2	Q-K2	31. Q-N3!	RxB(h)
8. 0-0	N(2)-N1	16. P-B3!(c)	BxP	24. R(1)-K1	B-KN1	32. QxB	N-N1
						33. QxNch	Resigns

- (a) White has allowed his Q wing to get bottled up, Presumably, this was deliberate as he could have taken preventive measures by 11. P-QR4 or 12. N-B5. With the text move, Black takes up the challenge - he knows it is dangerous to desert his K-side with his most useful defensive piece but he does not want White to consolidate by P-QB3.
- (b) Simply threatening the classic B sacrifice on KR7 which Black takes steps to avoid.
- (c) Positionally, this is compulsory, as ...B-B6 otherwise ties him up completely.
- (d) By declining the sacrifice by 17... K-R1 Black would invite enormous complications probably starting with 18. B-N6 threatening 19. N-K5 and Q-R5ch or even 18. N-K5 at once.
- (e) 18...K-N2 looks better. He cannot make up his mind where to put his king. By the time he decides to move to the centre, his position has seriously deteriorated.
- (f) A good manoeuvre, making room for the rooks on the K-side and preparing to attack the advance Black QRP.
- (g) Neatly squashing Black's counterplay
- (h) Now it's all over. Naturally, if 31...RxN 32. Q-N6ch mates but 31...N-K7 32. N-N4 followed by 33. B-Q6 is also hopeless.

Round 2.

At the end of this round, only two players (Moore and Mordue) were on 100% Moore demonstrated convincingly the superiority of BxN v RxP in an open middle game position and Mordue won an ending by the clever use of Zugswang. However, things were rather hotting up as Lane, Ashby, Staples and LeMoir all won and Wells and Clarke produced a very hard-fought draw.

D.A. LeMoir - D.J. Shire Latvian Counter Gambit

1. P-K4	P-K4	8. QxR	B-N2	19. N-B3	R-R1	22. Q-Q4ch	Q-K4
2. N-KB3	P-KB4	9. Q-R7	P-R3	16. Q-B2	NxP	23. QxQch	KxQ
3. B-B4(a)	PxP	10. B-K2	N-QB3	17. NxN	PxN(f)	24. P-N3	P-K6(i)
4. NxP	P-Q4!(B)	11. P-KB3?(d)	N-Q5	18. K-Q1!(g)	NxP	25. B-N2ch	K-K5
5. Q-R5ch	P-KN3	12. PxP	N-KB3	19. P-KN4!	NxR(h)	26. P-Q3	Mate
6. NxP	BxN(c)	13. R-B1	B-B4(e)	20. PxP	P-KN4		
7. B-N5ch	K-B2	14. Q-R4	Q-K2	21. B-B4ch	K-B3		

Notes marked (DJS) by Shire (Handed to me the day after the game)

- (a) The Keres variation. The late grandmaster considered this the complete refutation (DJS).
- (b) Keres' main analysis followed 4...Q-N4? when Black is mated (DJS).
- (c) Normal is 6...N-KB3 7. Q-K5ch B-K2 8. B-N5ch (to deprive the Black knight of the QB3 square) P-B3 9. NxB QxN 10. QxQch KxQ 11. B-B1! (to avoid the White square weakness after 11. B-K2 R-N1 12. P-KN3) Now after 6...PxN White has the difficult choice between 7. QxR and 7. QxPch. The main point of LeMoires

move is that if Black attempts to catch White's Q in the game with O...Q-N4? (the immediate 9...N-KB3 fails to 10. Q-R4) 10. B-K8ch! turns the tables. After 9...P-QR3, however, it is seen that 7. B-N5ch has a transpositional value only (DJS).

- (d) ! for courage and ingenuity? for unsoundness. Normal would be 11. P-QB3 (white square weakness!) Q-N4 12. P-KN3 N-KB3 13. Q-R4 QxQ 14. P-K4 N-K4! (DJS).
- (e) The main point of my defence was 13...NxB 14. P-K5 intending RxNch! (DLM)
- (f) By means of his 13th and 14th moves Black has developed his attack gaining tempi at the expense of the White Q. The crisis is now at hand. 17...QxN 18. P-Q3 (what else?) NxPch 19. K-Q1 Q-QR5 20. P-QN3 Q-B3 wins. This was my main line of analysis. Then I became attracted by the trappy text move, Seeing that 18. K-Q1 NxP 19. KxN? P-K6ch was no defence of the C-pawn I only considered the desperate 18. P-KN4 when 18...N-B6ch is killing (DJS)
(DLM) In the cold light of day, we found reason to argue with this: the variation after 20...Q-B3 can continue 21. R-QN1 N-N5(or 5) 22. B-N4 or 21... B-Q5 22. Q-B4 and White seems to have chances for survival in all cases.
- (g) White responds better in the crisis. By delaying P-KN4 for a move the Black N cannot retain the option of striking at QB7 and KB6 (DJS)
- (h) 19...P-K6 still gave chances but by now I was losing faith in my ability to calculate (DJS)
- (i) Losing, I decide to construct a nice self-mate. The final position shows what the problemist describes as a model mate - each square in the Black K8s field being blocked or guarded by one piece only. A theoretical success for Black but a sporting triumph for White (DJS)
(DLM) My thanks to David Shire for his excellent notes.

B.P.A. Andrews - M.J. Staples English Opening

1. P-QB4	P-K4	9. P-KN4	P-B4	17. N-R4	Q-B2	25. P-B5(d)	N(4)-25(e)
2. N-QB3	N-QB3	10. PxP	NxP	18. P-N4	PxP	26. PxN	NxQP
3. P-KN3	P-Q3	11. P-R3 (B)	P-R4	19. PxpP	O-O(c)	27. Q-R2	BxR
4. B-N2	P-KN3	12. B-Q2	B-Q2	20. Q-N3	R-B2	28. Rx3	P-Q4
5. P-Q3	B-N2	13. Q-B2	Q-B1	21. P-N5	QR-KB1	29. N-Q6	BxP!
6. P-K3	P-KR4(a)	14. N-K4	N-Q1	22. O-O	Q-Q1	30. QxR	RxQ
7. R-KR3	N-R3	15. N(2)-B3	N-K3	23. PxpP	BxpP	31. KxR	Q-B3ch
8. KN-K2	P-R5	16. R-QB1	P-B3	24. B-N4	B-R3	32. K-K1(g)	Q-N4
							White Resigns

- (a) White intends to develop his KN on K2, so this advance (intending ...P-R5) is playable. After 6. N-KB3, on the other hand, 6...P-KR4 is very bad as the White N covers KR4.
- (b) It is hard to imagine either king living happily on the K-side, so the players commence hostilities on the other side as neither wants to commit himself to castling yet.
- (c) Now that White is committed to his Q-side activity, Black decides it is safe to castle. White soon agrees.
- (d) Black's pieces have been massing on the K-side, so White decides to land his blow first. Now, after 25...N-Bp (25...P-Q4 26. N-Q6) 26. N(R4)xN PxN 27. RxP the position favours White who has fewer weaknesses to cover.
- (e) A spectacular, well prepared, blow in a potentially rocky position. After the simply 26. Q-R2! BxN 27. QxB N-K7ch White probably didn't like what he saw. However, it is not as simply as that. He can play 27. Pxp! or 27. Pxn!? NxQP (BxR 28. QxN) 28. Pxp! with complications in which the QP and the N at K4 are towers of strength.

continued

- (f) Now it all collapses with alarming rapidity. 28. PxP had to be played.
 (g) Allowing a winning Qfork, but K-N1 allows a Nfork and K-K3 Q-B5 is mate. An unusual game.

Round 3.

Moore and Mordue drew their game and this gave Wells and Aitken the chance to catch up. Wells outplayed Lane who played an incorrect combination that lost a rook, while Aitken turned the tables when Staples tried the wrong method of exploiting his positional advantage. A large group on 2 points consisted of Ashby (who beat Farndon beautifully), Meade (who was losing when Goodman gave him a piece), Clarke and Derrick (who drew with each other) and LeMoir (who agreed a draw in a better position despite having given away a piece in complications).

D. Farndon - A. Ashby Trompovsky Attack

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	16. P-B4	P-K5	31. R(N2)-B2	B-KB3	46. K-B2	P-R3
2. B-N5	P-B4	17. P-KN3	P-QR4	32. R-KN2(a)	BxP!	47. K-Q2(e)	K-B4
3. BxN	NPxB	18. N-KR3	B-QR3	33. PxB	NxP	48. K-B2	P-B3
4. P-Q5	P-B4	19. P-N3	P-R5	34. N-R4(b)	RxN!!	49. K-Q2	P-B6ch
5. N-KB3	B-N2	20. N-B2	PxP	35. PxR	N-B6	50. NxP	PxNch
6. P-B3	Q-N3	21. PxP	B-QB1	36. R-N2(c)	NxB	51. KxP	R-Q8
7. Q-Q2	Q-KB3	22. R-Q2	R-R8	37. KxB	BxR	52. R-K2	R-Q6ch
8. N-R3	P-QR3	23. N-Q1	B-Q2	38. RxB	RxP(d)	53. K-B2	P-Q5
9. Q-N5	P-N5	24. B-K2	K-K2	39. K-B2	P-Q4	54. PxPch	KxP
10. QxQ	BxQ	25. N-N2	B-B6	40. K-N3	R-R8	55. R-R2	P-K6
11. O-O-O	P-K4	26. ROB2	KR-R1	41. K-B2	K-Q3	56. P-N5(f)	RPxP
12. P-K3	P-Q3	27. B-Q1	B-QB1	42. P-R3	K-B3	57. PxP	PxP
13. P-B4	P-N5	28. R-K2	R(1)-R7	43. K-N3	K-N4	58. R-N2	R-B6ch
14. N-QN1	N-Q2	29. RON1	B-R3	44. P-N4	PxP	59. K-Q1	R-B4
15. N-N1	N-N3	30. R(1)-N2	B-N2	45. PxP	P-B5ch	60. R-QR2	K-Q6

White Resigns

- (a) The story so far After Black's accurate opening play, White lost the initiative and allowed his opponent to tie him down completely. After probing for errors, Ashby decides that the only way through is to create some passed pawns by a piece sacrifice. By means of the lovely combination that follows, he manages to gain three pawns of great mobility for his piece.
 (b) After 34. N-B4, simplest is 34...RxNch! 35. KxR N-B6ch 36. K-B1 R-R8ch 37. K-B2 RxB with two pawns and a dominating position for the exchange.
 (c) Or 36. B-B2 P-N6! or 36. R-Q2 RxNch 37. K-B2 P-N6 mate.
 (d) Now a carefully turned advance of the pawns will win.
 (e) If 47. N-B3ch K-B4 48. N-K2 R-K8! causes even more embarrassment (49. K-Q2 P-B6ch! 50. KxR PxR and the P Queens). Black times his P-B6 for when all his pawns and pieces are on their best squares.
 (f) Or 56. RxP R-Q7ch 57. K-B1 K-Q6 58. RxP R-B7ch 59. K-N1 P-K7 60. R-Q6ch K-B5 61. R-K6 R-Q7 and there is no defence to ...R-Q8ch and P-K8(Q). If here 58. R-R3 R-KN7 clears up the pawns and wins.
 (g) A really fine game by Ashby.

M.J. Staples - Dr. J.M. Aitken Richter-Veresov Opening

1. N-QB3	P-Q4	9. Q-Q2	P-B3	17. N-N5	P-B5	25. RxNP(e)	N-B5!
2. R-Q4	N-KB3	10. O-O-O	N-Q2	18. QR-B1	N(2)-N3	26. R-B2	N-Q7ch
3. B-N5	B-B4	11. P-K4	PxP	19. Q-Q3(B)	R-B4!	27. K-B1	N-K5
4. P-B3	B-N3	12. PxP	N(4)-B3	20. P-KN4(c)	RxN	28. R(2)-N2	R-B2
5. P-K3	P-K3	13. P-K5	N-Q4	21. PxR	QxP	29. N-B3	N(Q4)xN
6. B-Q3	B-K2	14. BxB	RPxB	22. K-N1	R-KB1	30. PxN	P-B6(f)
7. KN-K2	N-R4	15. N-K4	O-O	23. R-B3?(d)	QxP	31. R(2)-N4	P-B7
8. BxB	QxB	16. P-KR4(a)	P-KB4	24. R-N1	Q-B4	32. Q-B1	Q-B6

White Resigns. (g)
 continued

- (a) Black has played passively, so White throws himself upon him. After Black's most desperate-looking move, White should probably settle in on Q6 and play on his central advantages. The weak Black K-side will not run away.
- (b) Staples tells me that he did not play 19. NxBP because of 19...RxN! 20. RxR N-B5! but he has since found that White gains the advantage by 21. R-B7! QxR 22. Q-Q3! ... Although Black has material equality by 22...NxKP 22. PxN Q-K1 he has a terrible game after 23. R-B1...
- (c) Forcing the exchange sacrifice as Black cannot allow White to win the KNP.
- (d) Black's last move was not exact. Better was 22...QxNP 23. KR-N1 Q-B4 23. QxQ NPxQ 24. NxP NxN 25. RxN when the White rooks will have some trouble meeting the advance of the two passed pawns. After 22...r-KB1, Staples could have played 23. Q-QR3! threatening both 24. QxRP and 24. R-R8ch! KxR 25. QxRch K-R2 26. R-R1ch winning the Q. After the retreat 23...R-R1 24. Q-R3, Black has problems (24...R-KB1 25. P-QN3 intending 26. P-QB4 N moves 27. Q-R7ch K-B2 28. RxPch).
- (e) It is not much better to play 25. QxQ RxQ 26. RxNP K-B2 followed by ...P-KN4 and the Black pawns are already rolling.
- (f) The clever incursion by Black's Knight has left the rooks helpless to stop the passed KBP. (Staples says that 29. R(2)-N4 would have held out longer).
- (g) There is no defence to 33...Q-K6ch followed by ...Q-K8.

Round 4.

Mordue marched on with a convincing win over Aitken to take the sole lead with 3½. Behind him were 3 on 3. Moore and Vells (who drew with each other) and Clarke who found a neat combination in a difficult position to beat Wheeler.

Dr. J.M. Aitken - T. Mordue Sicilian Najdorf

1. P-K4	P-QB4	14. P-QR3	R-QB1	27. PxB	N-R5	40. R(1)-B7	K-N4
2. N-KB3	P-Q3	15. N-KR4	P-N3	28. N-B3	RxBP(b)	41. R-R7	R-QR7
3. P-Q4	PxP	16. N-B3	B-B1	29. N-N5	R-K2.	42. R(B7)-	
4. NxP	N-KB3	17. B-N5	Q-N3	30. P-K5	N-B4	QN7	R-N5
5. N-QB3	P-QR3	18. QR-Q1	B-N2	31. R-B6	NxB	43. RxPch	PxR
6. P-B4	P-K4	19. B-K3	Q-B2	32. PxN	RxKP	44. RxR	P-N5
7. N-B3	QN-Q2	20. B-N5	N-B4	33. NxP	RxQP!(c)	45. R-R7	P-R4
8. B-K2	B-K2	21. N-K1	N-R4	34. R(1)-KB1	R-K7	46. R-QN7	K-B4
9. O-O	P-QN4	22. Q-B2	N-B5!(a)	35. N-R6ch	K-N2	47. K-B2	K-K4
10. B-Q3	O-O	23. BxN	PxB	36. R-B7ch	KxN	48. R-N5ch	K-Q3
11. Q-K2	B-N2	24. QxP	QxQ	37. RxB	RxP	49. P-N3	K-B3
12. K-R1	R-K1	25. RxQ	B-K4	38. P-R4	R-R5	White Resigns	
13. PxP	PxP	26. R-KB1	BxN	39. K-N1	RxP		

- (a) In this well-known line, White has failed to make any progress on the K-side, so Black takes over with a very neat temporary pawn sacrifice.
- (b) At the end of the combination, Black has all the advantages 2 pawn islands versus 4 (less pawn weaknesses to protect) more active pieces (bad White bishop) and a mortal threat to the QRP.
- (c) Nicely demonstrating (back rank mate) that White's active defence has only run him into further trouble. The rest needs no comment.

P.H. Clarke - G.W. Wheeler Dutch Defence

1. P-Q4	P-KB4	8. N-B3	QN-Q2	15. PxP	PxP	22. QxB!	QxQ
2. N-KB3	N-KB3	9. B-N2	P-B3	16. P-N5	PxP	23. R-Q7(d)	QxR(e)
3. p-KN3	P-K3	10. P-QN4	P-Q4	17. BxP	PxB?(b)	24. PxQ	P-N3??
4. B-N2	B-K2	11. P-B5	N-K5	18. QxPch	Q-B2	25. B-B6!	Resigns
5. O-O	O-O	12. N-K5	NxN(B6)	19. QxR	B-B4(c)		
6. P-N3	P-Q3	13. BxN	NxN	20. KR-Q1!	B-N2		
7. P-B4	Q-K1	14. PxN	P-QN3(a)	21. P-K6	Q-K2		

Continued

- (a) A good move on principle, as his QB threatens to enter the game unopposed by White's KB. However, it does weaken the long diagonal, as Clarke immediately shows.
- (b) Played with a clever idea in mind. He had a very good alternative in 17...R-R6! 18. B-N3 B-B4 and I think Black's bishops give him the edge.
- (c) Threatening to trap White's Q with ...B-N2 followed by ...R-R1. White can probably wriggle out by 20. Q-B3 B-N2 21. Q-Q3 (21. P-K6 Q-B2 22. Q-Q3 Q-B3) although he may face some anxious moments trying to prevent mate.
- (d) The trap is sprung and White is left with an extra, passed, pawn.
- (e) 23...R-QN1 looks a little better. Now Black blunders when he could have fought a long ending.

D. Farndon - A G. Lillane French Defence (By Transposition)

1. P-Q4	P-Q4	7. O-O	Q-Q1	13. P-B4	O-O	19. R-K3	P-B4
2. N-QB3	P-K3	8. Q-K2	N-KB3	14. N-K5	N(8)xN(a)	20. R-R3	P-KR4
3. N-B3	P-QN3	9. B-N5	B-K2	15. PxN	NxN	21. QxP!(b)	PxQ
4. P-K4	B-N5	10. QR-Q1	P-B3	16. QxN	P-N3	22. R-N3ch	B-N2
5. B-Q3	B-N2	11. KR-K1	QN-Q2	17. B-B6!	KR-K1	23. RxBch	K-B1
6. Pxp	Qxp	12. N-K4	Q-B2	18. Q-R4	B-KB1	24. R-R7	Resigns

- (a) Black has had to lose a lot of time in the opening and now White threatens 15. N(5)xN QxN (15...NxN(Q2) 16. BxB) 16. NxNch doubling Black's pawns. The best defence looks to be 14...KR-K1, protecting the bishop so that the knight can recapture. Instead, he allows his K-side black squares to become seriously weakened.
- (b) A nice queen sacrifice for mate. One argument in favour of using English Descriptive Notation is that you would not have known that this game contains a Q-sacrifice just by looking at the bare Algebraic score.

J.F.S. Menadue - D.J. Spire Kings Indian Defence

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	8. KN-K2	P-B4	15. B-K4	R-N1	21. BxQ(e)	BxB
2. P-QB4	P-KN3	9. P-K5(a)	KN-Q2	16. P-B4!	NxP	22. Nx3	RxN
3. N-QB3	B-N2	10. PxpP	KPxP	17. N-B6	Q-B2	23. B-Q4	N-K6
4. P-K4	P-Q3	11. O-O	N-QB3	18. N-Q5	Q-N2	24. R-B1!(f)	P-KR4
5. P-B3	O-O	12. B-QB2(b)	R-K1	19. N(5)-K7ch	K-R1(d)	25. BxN	RxB
6. B-K3	P-N3	13. B-B2	PxP	20. N-Q8!	RxN(2)	26. Q-Q5	R-N1
7. B-Q3	P-QR3	14. NxP	N(3)-K4(c)			27. QxQp	Resigns

- (a) Both players have played the opening very quickly. This is a sharp and complex line in which both players must be careful. Black isn't!
- (b) Menadue, on his score sheet, gives this a question mark. Perhaps he felt 12. B-K4 was a better way of preserving the tension. It certainly avoids the retreat forced upon him by Black's next move.
- (c) Black has released the tension himself but soon finds that he has uncorked a hurricane.
- (d) If 19...K-B1 20. R-B1! intending to remove the Knight and play QxQP. White has shunned winning the exchange not only because Black then gets play, but also because he has something better....
- (e) Winning the ♗. If so ...QxB 21. NxP is a rare mate.
- (f) This nice little touch (24...NxQ 25. R-B8ch and mates) leads to a further tangling of the black pieces and a quick resignation.

Round 5.

As usually happens on Saturday evening, the chess gets a bit serious and dour. Mordue reached an apparently satisfactory position against Wells but was suddenly squashed flat. Clarke joined Wells in the lead on 4 points with a typical grinding

win over Moore. Meade draws up level with Mordue on $3\frac{1}{2}$ when Aitken, having been forced to "sacrifice" a pawn for good compensation allows a simple mating sacrifice.

The fun is provided by Boyce, who throws everything including the kitchen sink at Shire's King.

J.R. Boyce - D. Shire Kings Indian Attack

1. P-K4	P-K3	11. P-KR4	P-N5	21. BxB	P-B3	31. K-N1	R(1)-B1
2. P-Q3	P-Q4	12. N(1)-R2	B-R3	22. N-R6ch!	K-R1(f)	32. QxP	BxP
3. N-Q2	P-QB4	13. B-B4	P-R5	23. N-B7ch	K-N1	33. QxP	B-Q4
4. KN-B3	N-KB3	14. N-N5!(b)	N-Q5	24. NxQ	QRxN	34. R-Q1	B-R1
5. P-KN3	N-B3	15. Q-R5!?	P-R3	25. KPxP	NxP	35. r-K1!	R-B7(h)
6. B-N2	B-K2	16. N-N4(ch)	PxN	26. BxN	RxB	36. R-K4!	BxR
7. O-O	O-O	17. Pxp	NxBP(d)	27. Pxp(g)	R-QB1	37. QxB	RxP
8. R-K1(a)	P-QN4	18. B-K4!	PxB	28. R-QB1?	B-Q6!	38. QxPch	K-R1
9. P-K5	N-Q2	19. K-N2!	NxRch	29. P-B3?	B-K7	39. Q-R3ch	K-N1
10. N-B1	P-QR4	20. RxN(e)	BxNP	30. Q-K5	BxPch	40. Q-K6ch	Draw

- (a) If he plays 8. P-K5 at once, the attack he plays later becomes difficult because 8...N-Q2 9. R-K1 Q-B2 forces 10. Q-K2 and this can be hit by a later ...N-Q5, besides which the Black QB will set up opposite the White Q (on ...QR3)
- (b) The alternative is to weaken the Black K by P-R5-R6, but the defence is difficult to break down.
- (c) Throwing all his available pieces at the Black K White intends, after due preparation, to sacrifice on KR6. Black would rather not wait.
- (d) Although this takes the knight dangerously far from the defence of his King, it does have the advantage that it allows ...BxQP, defending against some of the mates. Hence, White's next move.
- (e) Now the threat is simply 21. R-R1 with mate. Clearly 20...P-B3 21. P-N6 is hopeless, so Black removes the offending pawn by a countersacrifice - after all he is a rook and a piece ahead.
- (f) 22...PxN 23. Q-N6ch K-R1 24. QxPch K-N1 25. Q-N6ch K-R1 26. R-R1 is mate, so Black has to give up his Q.
- (g) Now the smoke has cleared and White must have good winning chances if he consolidates properly. However, he allows himself to be confused by some clever play and Black nearly manages to turn the tables completely.
- (h) The other mate threat, 35...R-R3, is met in the same way. Black decides his rook is better on the 7th rank and that peace negotiations are in order.

Round 6.

Clarke took sole lead (5) by beating Mordue and Wells just kept in touch ($4\frac{1}{2}$) by drawing a game with Meade which he tried very hard to win. Behind, a few players were making "late runs" - Lane and Thompson both won their second game running. In this round, Lane played, against Menadue, Q-R8ch (KxQ; N-B7ch Kmoves; NxQ leaving material equal). Menadue, suffering from shock, resigned! Thompson the exchange down in an ending, forced the queening of a pawn. Shutler won his third game on the trot against leMoir. Thus Lane, Thompson and Shutler joined Ashby (who beat Derrick) and Meade on 4 points in 3rd place.

continued

D.A. LeMoir - S.J. Shutler Sicilian Wing Gambit Deferred

1. P-K4	P-QB4	12. NxB	O-O(b)	23. R-R1	R-N7!	34. RxP	K-N2
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	13. B-Q3?!	P-QR3	24. N-Q2	NxBP(f)	35. K-Q3	N-B2
3. P-QN4	PxP	14. P-N4!?	QN-Q2	25. R-R3	N(7)xB	36. K-K3	R-N4
4. P-Q4	P-KN3(a)	15. P-R4	Q-N3!	26. PxN	P-QR4	37. R-R7	K-B3
5. B-N2	BON2	16. B-Q4(c)	NxNP(d)	27. K-K3	N-N2	38. N-B3	RxP
6. QN-Q2	P-Q3	17. BxQ	BxQ	28. R-B3	P-R5	39. R-R8	P-K4
7. B-B4	N-B3	18. RxB	NxB	29. R-R3	R-N5	40. K-Q3	R-N4
8. P-Q5	N-N1	19. R-QN1	N-Q2	30. P-Q4	P-B4!	41. K-B4	R-N2
9. P-QR3	PxP	20. RxP	QR-N1!	31. PxP	PxP	42. R-R6	P-K5
10. RxP	B-N5	21. RxR(e)	RxR	32. K-Q3	N-Q1	43. N-Q2	K-K3
11. Q-R1	BxN	22. K-K2	N-B4	33. K-B3	R-N2	44. White Resigns	

(a) The most active reply is 4...P-Q4 which leads to most of the games played in this line.

(b) With his 10th and 11th moves, Black has cleared his lines for defence of his extra pawn. He now invited 13. RxP RxR 14. QxR NxKP 15. BxB KxB 16. Q-Q4ch N-B3 17. P-N4 Q-R4ch 18. K-K2 Q-B4 19. QxQ PxQ 20. R-QN1 NxP 21. RxP with a probable draw or 16. QxP Q-R4ch 17. K-K2 with a similar result. This was not what I wanted so I developed a plan of a K-side attack, using the Q+B pressure along the long diagonal.

(c) An obvious reply, which prevents Black's next, is 16. R-N3... Shutler says he was going to play 16...Q-B4 which renews the lethal threat of ...NxNP! attacking White's KB2. But, then I could play 17. N-R2! intending P-N5 followed by N-N4 and P-R5, breaking in along the KR file. In fact, I rejected 16. R-N3 because of 16...Q-B2 and the knight reaches ...QB4 with gain of tempo.

But the move played is worse, as Black shows that White is pinned up hill and down dale.

(d) A beautiful move, which would also have been the reply to 16. R-N1. If now 17. BxB QxPch 18. K-Q1 QxNch 19. K-Q2 Q-K6ch! 20. K-B3 (K-Q1 N-B7 mate) KxB and wins.

(e) 21. RxN R-N8ch.

(f) Another good move - 25. KxN NxBch or 25. N-B4 N(7)xB and the knight protects the rook! After this, Black tries hard to make things difficult for himself but eventually gets the reward for some fine play in the first 25 moves.

B.P.A. Andrews - I.P. Legg English Opening

1. P-QB4	P-K4	13. P-K4	R-Q2	25. NxR	NxN	37. P-R5	P-N4
2. N-QB3	N-KB3	14. Q-B2	Q-K1	26. Q-B7	K-B1	38. P-R6	R-R1
3. P-KN3	P-Q4	15. P-Q4!(a)	KPxP	27. QxP(N7)	R-Q1	39. P-R7	R-R1
4. PxP	NxP	16. KPxP	BxP	28. BxN	QxB	40. R-N7	K-B5
5. N-B3	N-QB3	17. QxB	PxN	29. QxQch	KxQ	41. P-N4	P-N5
6. P-Q3	N-N3	18. PxP	BxP	30. R-B7ch(d)	K-K3	42. P-N5	K-B6
7. B-N2	B-K2	19. BxN(b)	R-B2	31. RxQRP	R-Q7	43. P-N6	P-N6
8. O-O	O-O	20. Q-B2	BxR(c)	32. P-R3	R-N7	44. R-N7	P-N7
9. B-K3	B-K3	21. N-N5!	P-N3	33. RxP	K-Q4	45. RxP	Resigns
10. Q-B1	P-B4	22. B-Q5	N-Q1	34. R-KN7	K-B4		
11. KR-Q1	B-B3	23. RxB	BPxB	35. RxP	R-N6		
12. B-B5	RxB2	24. R-QB1	K-N2	36. P-KR4	RxP		

(a) In this opening, Black takes on a large responsibility and has to be careful about such break-outs by White. If now 15...BPxP 16. NxP and Black cannot avoid the weakening of his K-side (NxBch PxN) without losing a pawn. He plays instead for the win of a pawn, but he weakens his white squares in the process.

(b) Removing the guard from the rook and thereby gaining control of the Q file. If now 19...RxRch 20. RxR RPxB 21. N-N5 P-N3 22. Q-Q5ch the Black King

gets pushed around.

- (c) 20...RxN looks better, as the knight now becomes very active.
- (d) Thus White wins material at last and wins the R+P ending, with considerable help from Black who is in very serious time trouble.

D. Shire - A. Cullinane QP Slav Defence

1. P-Q4	P-Q4	7. BxB	QxNch	13. Q-N3	P-B3(c)	19. Q-B7(f)	N-K2
2. P-QB4	P-QB3	8. B-K2	P-QB4!(a)	14. N-B3	P-K4	20. RxN	K-B1(g)
3. N-QB3	P-K3	9. BxP(?)	QxNP	15. R-Q5!	P-KN3	21. B-R6ch	K-B2
4. P-K4	PxP	10. Q-Q6?	N-Q2	16. KR-Q1	P-K5(d)	22. RxNch!	QxB
5. NxP	B-N5ch	11. O-O-O	Q-N4ch?(b)	17. P-B5!	PxN(e)	23. B-B4ch	K-K1(H)
6. B-Q2	QxP	12. B-K3	Q-K2	18. B-QN5	Q-K3	24. R-Q8ch!	Resigns(i)

Notes By David Shire (Except for the note marked (DLM)).

- (a) In the early days of this positionally motivated gambit (W is embarking on a black square campaign) it was rapidly established that 8...QxNP 9. Q-Q6 N-Q2 10. O-O-O! was not the way for Black to defend. Flicking in the moves 8... P-QB4 9. BxP gives Black an opportunity which he does not accept.
- (b) The difference is that QB3 is unblocked! 11...Q-B3 12. QxQ PxQ 13. B-K3 gives a difficult queenless middlegame in which White will attempt to attack the weak Black Q-side pawns with his bishops.
- (c) 13...KN-B3 14. QxP R-KN1 ensures that some Black pieces get into action. Now he has great development difficulties.
- (d) Black intends ...P-KB4 and KN-B3 to disentangle his position, but 16...P-K5 opens a line for the WQ into his position.
- (e) 17...P-QR3 was the last chance.
- (f) The consequence of 16...P-K5 is now apparent.
- (g) He must escape the threatened discovered check.
- (DLM) But this allows a beautiful mating combination with two sacrifices - the sort we would all like to have in our collection.
- (h) 23...B-K3 24. R-Q7 is fatal, so Black prefers to opt for the gentlemanly course.
- (i) Sparing White the choice of mating piece after 24...QxR.

Round 7.

Clarke drew quickly with Lane and, when Thompson held Wells to a hard-fought draw, became the new champion. Much praise is due to Shutler, who nicely converted a small positional advantage against Meade into a win. Apart from the inevitable quick draws, there were some exciting tactical games in this round. Mordue beat Staples in one of these to come up to fourth place, while Boyce spoiled a well-created winning position against Cullinane in time trouble. I give below two more really hairy games.

R. Heasman - B.P.A. Andrews Guioco Piano

1. P-K4	P-K4	9. N-R3	P-QR3	17. N-Q5	Q-Q1	25. Q-N3!	N-Q6ch(f)
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	10. B-Q5	N-K3	18. Q-K2	P-N3	26. QxN	PxN
3. B-B4	B-B4	11. N-B4	B-B2	19. P-R4(b)	PxP	27. Q-B3	K-N3(g)
4. P-B3	Q-K2	12. QBxN	QxB	20. N-N5!	RxP	28. Q-B5ch!	KxR
5. P-Q4	B-N3	13. N-K3	P-KN3(a)	21. Q-B3(c)	K-N2	29. Q-R7ch	Resigns
6. B-KN5	N-B3	14. P-QR4	R-QN1	22. NxB(d)	QxN		
7. P-Q5	N-Q1	15. B-R2	O-O	23. P-R5	PxP(e)		
8. P-Q6	PxP	16. P-R5	N-B4	24. RxP	P-R3		

- (a) Black has been unable to unravel his position after White's pawn sacrifice but there was no point in trying to keep the knight out of ...KB4; it is arising at ...Q4. The move played creates an easily exploitable weakness.

continued

- (b) At last, when Black threatens to do something active, White starts his K-side attack.
- (c) Thanks to White's last move, he does not need to be distracted from his K-side attack. Naturally, 21. QxR? N-Q6ch loses, but the White queen now has an excellent post and White is already threatening N-B6ch.
- (d) Diverting the queen (so that White can play P-R5 without losing the N on N5) and opening the bishop's diagonal to KB7.
- (e) White threatened 24. P-R6ch K-N1 25. Q-B6. The natural 23...Q-Q1 probably fails to 24. NxrP! RxB! 25. RxR KxN 26. Pxp dbl.ch KxP 27. Q-B5ch K-N2 28. R-R7ch K-N1 29. R-R6! R-K1 30. Q-R7ch K-B1 31. Q-R8ch K-K2 32. Q-B6ch K-B1 33. R-R8 mate. If 25...R-R1 26. P-R6ch! KxN 27. QxP mate; otherwise the knight escapes and White is ahead on material.
- (f) Desperation. Here are a couple of nice possibilities: (1) 25...PxN 26. RxPch K-B3 27. R-B5ch K-K2 28. BxP! RxB 29. Q-N5ch K-K1 (defending his Q) 30. Q-N8ch and mates. (2) 25...RxB (to avoid 28. BxP above) 26. N-K6 dbl.ch K-B3 27. RxPch! K-K2 28. Q-N5ch! P-B3(K-K1; N-B7 mate) 29. R-R7ch! K-K1 (KxN; Q-B5 mate) 30. Q-N6ch and mate next move.
- (g) Losing at once; he could have lost even more prettily by 27...P-B3 (27...RxB is probably his only hope) 28. Q-B5 R-R1 29. RxPch! Pxr 30. Q-B7ch K-R3 31. O-O-O. RxB 32. R-R1 mate.

Dr. J.M. Aitken - A. Ashby Sicilian Defence

1. P-K4	P-QB4	9. Q-Q2	P-Q4	17. QN-Q2	Q-K3	25. Q-QB3	R-K4(e)
2. N-KB3	P-K3	10. Pxp	NxP	18. N-Q4!?(a)	N-R6ch?(b)		
3. P-Q4	PxP	11. B-R6	P-K4	19. PxN	PxN	26. P-Q6	QR-K1
4. NxP	P-QR3	12. BxB	KxB	20. Pxp	Q-B3	27. R-KN1(f)	N-K7
5. B-Q3	P-KN3	13. N-B3	N-B5	21. P-Q5	N-Q5	28. QxB	NxR
6. O-O	B-N2	14. B-B2	Q-B3	22. KR-B1	BxP!(c)	29. Q-K3!(g)	N-R6
7. B-K3	N-K2	15. Q-K3	N-B3	23. R-B4!	N-K7ch!(d)		
8. P-QB3	O-O	16. B-K4	R-K1	24. K-R1!	N-B5	30. QxN	Draw (h)

- (a) This is where the fun starts. Black has equalised easily and intends to take the initiative in the centre and on the K-side. White refuses to sit back and plays to remove the aggressive Black knight (18...PxN 19. QxN).
- (b) Loses a pawn, but weakens White's K-side and his central black squares.
- (c) Black has settled in on the black squares but White's passed pawn looks dangerous. The text move regains the pawn (23. QxB Q-N4ch forking K+N) but White keeps on developing his pieces.
- (d) Without this, his last move lost material. Now 24. QxN Q-N4ch 25. K-R1 B-N7ch! wins because the White bishop is pinned. But White can still ignore all the pieces Black is putting en prise!
- (e) In the ending, the passed QP may become powerful, so Black opts to keep attacking.
- (f) Black threatened 27...RxB! 28. QxQch KxQ 29. Nxrch RxB! 29. RxR B-N7ch. Now Black, apparently, in time trouble, chose to win the exchange, but probably overlooked White's 29th move. Instead, he probably wins after 27...B-K3, threatening to win the exchange in two different ways.
- (g) Keeping the knight trapped and avoiding 29. KxN? Q-N4ch forking K+N.
- (h) There is still plenty of play, but Black's time pressure was getting serious.

The Challengers/Open

This year, the Challengers and Open tournaments were combined but with a separate prize list for each. Position in each Championship depended on the final position in the combined table. The winner of the Challengers was Burton and of the

Open, Bennett. They both scored $4\frac{1}{2}$ out of 6 in the combined tournament.

Of the two, Burton had many adventures before recording his win. Consider the following game:-

R. Burton - K. House Ruy Lopez

1. P-K4	P-K4	9. P-KR3	B-R4	17. O-O	P-KN3	25. R-B2	QxNP
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	10. QN-Q2	QN-Q2	18. Q-K2	PxP	26. P-B5	Q-B4
3. B-N5	P-QR3	11. P-QN4	B-K2	19. Pxp	RxP	27. PB6	N-K6
4. B-R4	P-Q3	12. N-B1	O-O	20. B-N2	R-B2	28. R-Q2	NxQP(e)
5. P-Q4	B-Q2	13. NQN3	R-B1(a)	21. P-B4(c)	N-B5	29. Q-B3	N-N5(f)
6. P-B3	N-B3	14. NxB	NxN	22. B-Q4	B-B3	30. Q-B4	R-Q1(g)
7. B-B2	B-N5	15. NxP	NxN	23. BxB	QxB	31. Q-R6	Resigns
8. P-Q5	N-QN1	16. QxN	P-QB3(b)	24. QR-Q1	Q-N7(d)		

- It is hard to tell whether Black left on the coming combination deliberately. It certainly develops Black's game and he can make it very difficult for White to keep his pawn.
- The White pawn at QB3 is very weak. If now 17. B-Q2 P-KN3 18. Q-K2 PxP 19. PxP N-B5 20. O-O NxB 21. QxN B-B3, Black wins back the pawn.
- In order to recapture his pawn, Black has been forced to weaken his K-side. White now aims to exploit the weakness.
- Dangerous though it is, this Queen excursion is not as silly as it looks. If now 25. P-B5 Black can simplify by 25...N-K6 26. QxN RxB and White can make no progress with his attack in view of the threat to his KNP.
- This is probably carrying things too far. He could leave White to prove that he has enough for his pawn by leaving the position largely as it is or go for a drawn ending with 28...NxB 29. RxN QxR 30. QxQ rXq 31. RxR P-KR3! 32. R-B7 R-N1 33. R-Q7 P-KN4 34. RxP K-R2 followed by ...K-N3.
- Here he could get 3 pawns for a piece by 29...NxP 30. QxN P-Q4 but White is better.
- Finally, he allows the mate, and White gets the reward for his bold play.

Bennett, on the other hand, had few alarms and the following game shows him exploiting efficiently the control of greater space:-

D.A. Bennett - I. Stenhouse Alekhine's Defence

1. P-K4	NOKB3	8. B-K3	B-K2	15. Q-N3	P-QR4	22. Q-N3	Q-B4(d)
2. P-K5	N-Q4	9. O-O	O-O	16. P-QR3	N-B3	23. QxP	N-Q2
3. P-Q4	P-Q3	10. P-KR3	B-R4	17. P-Q5	N-Q1(b)	24. N-Q4	Q-K4
4. PxP	KPxP	11. QN-Q2	Q-Q2	18. Q-Q3!	P-B4(c)	25. N(2)-B3	Q-K5
5. P-QB4	N-KB3	12. KR-K1	N-QN5(a)	19. P-QN4!	RPxP	26. R-K1!(e)	N-K4?
6. B-Q3	N-B3	13. B-N1	B-N3	20. PxP	RxR	27. B-N5	Resigns
7. N-KB3	B-N5	14. BxB	RPxB	21. RxR	PxP		

- White has chosen an unambitious line which aims to establish a slight space advantage. Black's subsequent attempts to wriggle out eventually leave him twitching on his rear ranks. The immediate attempt to gain space by 12...P-Q4 still leaves everything to do after 13. P-B5 intending P-KN4 followed by either B-KB4 or B-QN5. I wonder if Black considered 12...P-QN4!? here?
- He needs counterplay, so 17...N-K4 is probably better.
- If 18...Q-B4 19. QxQ PxQ 20. N-Q4 (or 20. B-N5 R-K1 21. BxN PxB 22. N-Q4) P-KN3? 21. B-N5 winning a piece. Black's recipe creates a slight weakness that White exploits immediately to open lines on the Q-side.
- Attempting to get some manoeuvring room for his pieces, but the queen runs up a blind alley.

continued

- (e) Decisive, as White threatens to win the bishop by 27. B-N5 or any other bishop move. The only defence is 26...Q-Q6 when 27. B-Q2!! wins e.g. 27...B-B3 28. R-K3! trapping the Q or 27...N-K4 28. RxN!! PxR 29. QxB PxN 30. B-N4! winning the rook!

It is worth highlighting the performances of a couple of juniors. First, J. Goddard, only 12 years old, who played very steadily throughout. He beat the high-graded P. Girdlestone when the latter blundered in the ending of a well-fought game and also trounced I. Stenhouse as follows :-

I. Stenhouse - J. Goddard

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	9. KN-K2	Q-R4	17. PXP	B-N5(a)	25. K-Q4	B-K7
2. P-QB4	P-KN3	10. R-QN1	N-Q6ch!	18. K-Q2	QR-B1	26. KR-K1	P-QN4!
3. N-QB3	B-N2	11. QxN	QxB	19. N-B3	B-B5ch	27. P-K5(e)	RXP
4. P-K4	P-Q3	12. P-KR4	Q-K4	20. K-Q3	B-R3(b)	28. P-KN4	P-N5
5. P-B3	O-O	13. N-Q5	NxN	21. B-K2	R-B7!(c)	29. P-QR3(f)	B-K6mate
6. B-N5	QN-Q2	14. BPxN	P-B4!	22. KR-KN1	RxNch!		
7. Q-Q2	P-B4	15. Q-B3	PxP	23. KxR	RxB(d)		
8. PXP	NxBP	16. QxQ	BxQ	24. K-Q3	R-K6ch		

- (a) By means of some good play Black has gained the two bishops and opened up the position of White's K. He is already winning.
- (b) Threatening to bring a rook into the 7th rank. White can apparently prevent this by 21. B-K2 BxB 22. KxB, but Black finds a paradoxical reply.
- (c) Now 22. BxB R-Q7 is mate. If now 22. QR-K1, Black plays 22...RXP! (Since the mate is still on) and only after 23. KR-KN1 exchange off to a winning ending with 23...BxBch.
- (d) Black has only a slight material advantage but the rook and bishops work so well together that Black looks for a mating net.
- (e) R-Q6 mate was threatened.
- (f) Allowing the mate, but if 29. P-N5 B-N2, Black's threat of R-K3! mate wins more material.

Another junior who did well was C. Hawthorne, who ran up against tough opposition. In Round 2, his combination of iron strategy and clever tactics gave Bray no chance.

C. Hawthorne - C. Bray Sicilian Defence

1. P-K4	P-QB4	8. B-N5	P-QR3	15. P-QB3	N-B3	22. NxB	PxP(d)
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	9. N-R3	B-K2(a)	16. P-QR4(b)	R-QN1	23. Q-R5!(e)	R-KB1
3. P-Q4	PxP	10. N-B4	P-N4	17. PXP	PxP	24. N-B7ch!	QxN(f)
4. NxP	N-B3	11. BxN	PxB	18. Q-K2!	P-N5	25. RxQ	PxP
5. N-QB3	P-K3	12. N-K3	N-Q5	19. B-N5	B-Q2	26. K-Q2	P-N8(?)
6. N(4)-N5	P-Q3	13. B-Q3	B-K3	20. BxN!	BxB	27. RxQ	RxR
7. B-KB4	P-K4	14. N(B3)-Q5	R-QB1	21. R-R7!(c)	BxN	28. Q-B5!(g)	Resigns

- (a) Too passive, but after 9...P-QN4 he probably feared a sacrifice on QN4.
- (b) White has established such a grip on the position that he can set about creating more weaknesses. Note that he does not castle - that could give Black attacking chances.
- (c) It is rare to gain control of the 7th rank so early in a game. Now 21...R-N2 22. RxR BxR 23. Q-N5ch loses a pawn and 21...B-Q2 is worse. However, Black spies a small combination that may get him out of trouble.
- (d) Now 23. PXP? R-R8ch 24. K-Q2 R-N7ch and 23. RxBch QxR! 24. NxQ PXP! are neither too bad for Black. But in this position White finds the killer, the logical extension of his play on the 7th rank.

continued

- (e) The threat is 24. NxPch! BxN 25. QxPmate or 24...K-B1 25. Q-R6mate. There is only one defence.
- (f) If 24...K-Q2 25. N-K6ch! KxN 26. Q-B5mate.
- (g) With a lethal mate threat.

However, our final game see Hawthorne very cleverly out-manoevred by G. Leyton.

G. Leyton - C. Hawthorne French Defence

1. P-K4	P-K3	9. B-B4	P-QN4	17. QN-Q2	P-R5	25. Q-R7ch	K-B2
2. P-QB4(a)	P-Q4	10. B-N3	B-N2	18. B-B2	B-Q4	26. B-N6ch	K-K3
3. BPxP	PxP	11. P-Q4	N-N3	19. B-N1	P-N5	27. QxP!(g)	Q-K2(h)
4. PxP	N-KB3	12. B-KB4	QNxP(B)	20. Q-B2!(e)	P-N3	28. B-K8ch	K-B4
5. B-N5ch	QN-Q2	13. B-K5	N-N3	21. N-R4!(f)	BxN	29. Q-N6ch	Resigns(i)
6. N-QB3	B-K2	14. R-B 1	B-Q3	22. PxB	N-R4		
7. N-B3	O-O	15. R-K1	P-R3(o)	23. NxP!	PxN		
8. O-O	P-QR3	16. N-N1(d)	P-QR4	24. QxPch	N-N2		

- (a) Not a very good line against the French Defence. However, it does have the advantage of taking the opponent out of his "book" lines and leading to positions not normally encountered by players of the French Defence.
- (b) Black is at least equal as White will have an isolated QP without a lot of attacking chances. However, he potters about and fails to come up with a good plan.
- (c) He wants to play ...R-K1 but fears N-KN5 in reply.
- (d) An interesting re-grouping. He makes no challenge to the Q5 square and aims instead to weaken the Black squares in his opponent's position (N-Q2-N3-B5).
- (e) Now 15...P-KR3 comes home to roost and Black has not even played the R-K1 that move was designed to help bring about. The mate threat forces a further weakening.
- (f) The sacrifice on KN6 cannot be prevented.
- (g) Decisive. The apparent alternative 27. QxN gives Black a chance after 27...Q-N4 28. P-N3 QxN 29. R-KB1...
- (h) Better was 27...N-B4 28. BxN dbl.ch KxB 29. P-B3! and Black must jettison material to avoid mate.
- (i) K-B5; P-KN3 is mate.

Finally, a nice finish by one of the joint winners of the Reserves Tournament

A. Richards - R.J. Jackson Closed Sicilian

1. P-K4	P-QB4	7. N-B3	O-O	13. P-N5	N-N5?	19. N-K7ch	K-R1
2. N-QB3	N-QB3	8. O-O	P-QR3	14. N-Q5	Q-Q1	20. QxN	R-K1
3. P-KN3	P-Q3	9. P-QR4	Q-B2	15. NxP	NxN	21. PxPch	KxP
4. B-N2	N-B3	10. N-R4	R-N1	16. PxN	NxP	22. B-R6ch!	KxB
5. P-Q3	P-K3	11. P-B5	N-Q5	17. P-B6!	BxP	23. Q-B6ch	K-R4
6. P-B4	B-K2	12. P-KN4	PxP	18. Px3	NxR	24. B-B3ch	Resigns

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

County Matches:-

Oct. 24th, 1981. Cornwall/Wilts; Devon/Somerset; Hants/Dorset.
Nov. 14th, 1981. Somerset/Dorset; Devon/Wilts; Glos/Cornwall.
Dec. 12th, 1981. Wilts/Hants; Dorset/Glos; Devon/Cornwall.
Jan. 16th, 1982. Cornwall/Dorset; Glos/Hants; Wilts/Somerset.
Feb. 6th, 1982. Hants/Dorset; Cornwall/Somerset; Wilts/Glos.
Feb. 20th, 1982. Somerset/Glos; Hants/Cornwall; Dorset/Devon.
Mar. 13th, 1982. Glos/Devon; Dorset/Wilts; Somerset/Hants.

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Sep. 26th, 1981. Executive Meeting at Exeter.
Oct. 3rd, 1981. Senior & Graded Jamboree at the Rougemont Hotel, Exeter.
Feb. 27th, 1982. Junior Jamboree. Venue Taunton or Ilminster.
Mar. 6th, 1982. Executive Meeting, Taunton.
June 5th, 1982. Annual Council Meeting, Taunton.

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B.C.F. Management Board Meetings 1981/82:-

Sept. 12th, 1981. Congress.
Nov. 28th, 1981. Finance & Administration.
Jan. 23rd, 1982. Junior Chess.
Mar. 20th, 1982. Grading & International Chess.
May 15th, 1982. Levy. Also Council Meeting to vote on Levy.
June 19th, 1982. Home Chess and Publicity.
July 10th, 1982. Annual Council Meeting.

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Congresses In The West (Sept. - Nov.):-

Sept. 6th - 12th, 1981. Paignton
Oct. 9th - 11th, 1981. Hexagon - Golden Coast & Minor
Oct. 12th - 16th, 1981. Hexagon - Open
Oct. 16th - 18th, 1981. Hexagon - Open & Minor
Nov. 27th - 29th, 1981. Torbay.

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