

CHESS VOICE

The publication of CalChess, Northern California's US Chess Federation affiliate ♔ Winter 2016

Grandmaster Sam Shankland conducted a session in November with Berkeley Chess School instructors, at which he suggested against openings with the word “exchange” in their name, or bore the name of aficionados, because those are favored by the cult of the incorrect.

He was talking about openings like the Hamppe-Allgaier-Thorold Gambit, an antique from the 1700s. Johann Allgaier (1763-1823) published its first analysis in 1796's *Neue theoretisch-praktische anweisung zum schachspiel, Teil 2* (New theoretical and practical instruction for playing chess, part 2). Some called Allgaier “the German Philidor” — the French theorist said we oughtn't block our bishops'

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Der
Anweisung
zum
Schachspiel
zweiter Theil,

welcher enthält:

das neue Kriegsspiel, das uralte Königs-
spiel, das pythagoräische oder arithme-
tische Schachspiel, eine Abhandlung über das
Schachspiel unter drey oder vier Personen.

Von

Johann Allgaier.

Mit Kupfertafeln.

Wien 1796,

bey Franz Joseph Kösel, Buchhändler in der
Singerstrasse.

CHESS VOICE

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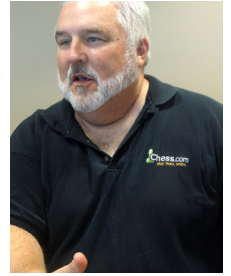
On the Cover

A reproduction of the cover to Johann Allgairer's 1796 chess handbook *Neue Theoretische-praktische Anweisung zum Schachspiel*.

From the CalChess President

Fair Game

Chess is a game played between two players. Not one player versus another player and a kibitzing friend. Not one player versus another player and his StockFish app on his iPhone. A fair game means only two players. Period.



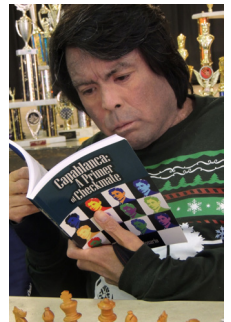
All too often, I find players (especially in scholastic tournaments) getting assistance through interference from a spectator; either from a friend, parent or just the player at the next board. Maybe they think their intrusion is not a big deal. They are “just helping”. Pointing out an obvious move, showing another player that they can get out of check-mate, calling a rule transgression is not helping. It is interfering and regardless of the circumstances, a clear violation of USCF rules. These behaviors will very

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From the Editor

Hello Again

Volunteer chess editorship is a thankless job for crazy people — to do the same magazine twice is mostly unheard of, but here I go on my third tour of duty. My first change is to restore the name *Chess Voice* — the *California Chess Journal* has been dead for a long time. I intended to re-establish a six-times-yearly schedule, but a long illness crushed me in December, and any plans I make from here are stuck with the appendage “health permitting”.



Tournament protocol has changed over the years to make gathering games more difficult — for decades, carbon-copied scoresheets were the norm, so a newspaper columnist or magazine editor could scoop up hundreds of candidates for publication. These days, directors run scoresheets off their portable sheetfeed printers, meaning the journalists have to approach players and ask for games, and I've always hated that.

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Byambaa Wins 44th Capps Memorial

WFM Uyanga Byambaa won the 44th Carroll Capps Memorial held Nov. 7-8, 2015. Her USCF rating rose to 2275 as a result, making the UC Berkeley student the highest-rated woman in the Bay Area.

John Donaldson directed 31 players in one section.

White: WFM Uyanga Byambaa (2267)

Black: IM Vladimir Mezentsev (2450)

Sicilian Dragon

Notes by U. Byambaa

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. Nc3 Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Bc4 O-O 8. Bb3 d6 9. f3 Bd7 10. h4

A tricky move order! 10. Qd2 is more common. Black should immediately play 10....h5, otherwise very dangerous.

10.... Na5

Strange move. 10....Ne5 is more accurate.

11. Qd2 Rc8

This was Black's last chance to play ...h7-h5.

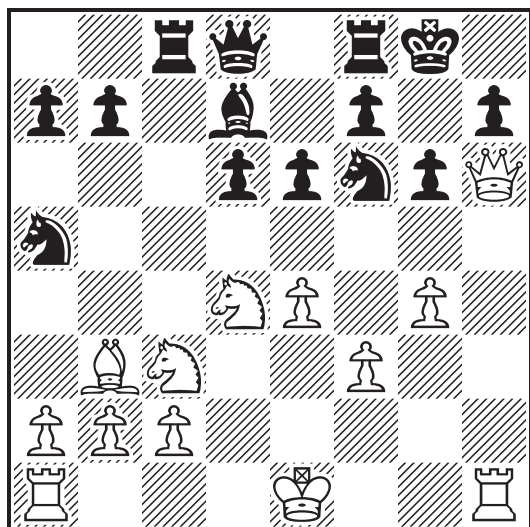
12. h5!

Executing the main idea of the Yugoslav Attack.

12.... Nxe5 13. g4 Nf6 14. Bh6 Bxh6

Better is 14. ... Nxb3 15. axb3 +-.

15. Qxe5 e6



Mechanics Institute Carroll Capps Memorial November 7-8, 2015

- 1 WFM Uyanga Byambaa
- 2 IM Vladimir Mezentsev
- 3 NM Siddarth Banik

16. O-O-O

Missing the winning shot of 16. g5! Nh5 17. Rxe5 gxe5 18. Nf5 exf5 19. Nd5 when the threat of Nf6+ is unstoppable. Unfortunately, I was calculating 16.g5 Nh5 17.Rxe5 gxe5 18.Nf5 exf5 19.g6 Qh4+. Due to this ...Qh4+, I couldn't figure out a way to get out of it. As a result, I decided to castle long.

16.... Rxc3

A common exchange sacrifice in the Dragon Sicilian. Black tries to create counterplay on the queenside.

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Chess master, science fiction author, chemist

Carroll Capps: A Retrospective

California chess historian Kerry Hamilton Lawless is the curator of chessdryad.com.

Part 1 of 12

Born in 1913, Carroll Mather Capps was raised in Oakland, California. He was 16 years old when he started playing chess at Oakland Technical High School.

The Northern California chess scene was very different before World War II. There were no weekend chess tournaments, no chess ratings, and very few opening books. During that period, high school was the cauldron where most chess players were formed; some of them graduated to the local chess clubs.

Chess clubs were where chess players went to play and socialize. Competition was keen, but friendship and bonding over the game were equally important. Almost every city, town, large company and college sported a chess club.

There were interclub round robin tournaments, league matches between chess clubs and an occasional simultaneous exhibition by a visiting master.

The highlight of the year was the San Francisco vs. East Bay team match, designed to choose the players for the annual Northern California vs. Southern California match later in the year.

Graduating from Oakland Tech, Carroll attended UC Berkeley; eventually earning a degree in chemistry. Sometime during his university years, he joined Oakland's Castle Chess Club and began to play in the Northern California Chess League.

The first mention of his chess activities has him winning on Castle's board 18 against Crafts of the UC Berkeley Chess Club on April 1, 1933. Castle CC won by a score of 14-11. Several months later, he played for the East Bay Team against the San Francisco Team; both he and his team won.

By 1937, he had become a strong club player (a Class A player by modern standards) and agreed to play on the annual Northern California chess team



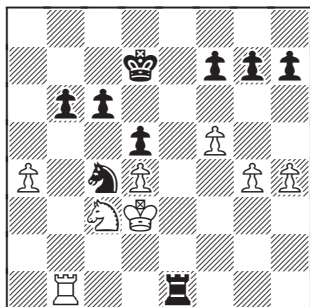
against the Southern California chess team. Capps lost to Gordon on board 10.

The event was held at the Hotel Anderson in San Luis Obispo (240 miles south of San Francisco) on May 30th. In those days, there were no modern highways and travel from Northern California to Southern California often took the better part of a week, so both teams agreed to play in the middle of the state; even so, it was an overnight affair. Players often brought their spouses and made it a mini-vacation. The North won by a score of 13-12.

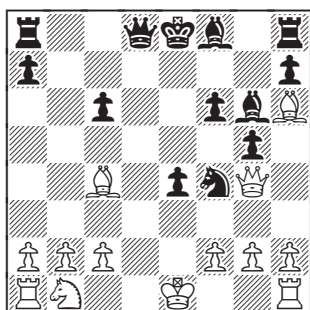
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Positions from Capps Memorials

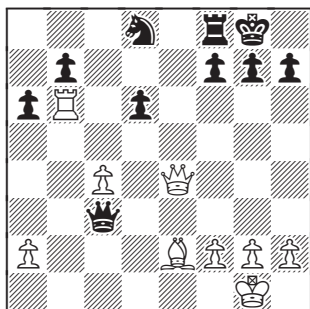
1. Goodwin-Shipman
1999 Capps Memorial
Black to play.



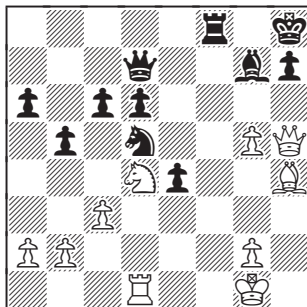
2. Rodel-Kaugars
1999 Capps Memorial
Black to play.



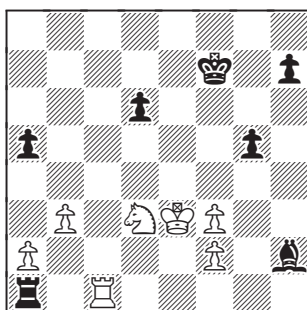
3. J. Regan-Snyder
2000 Capps Memorial
Black to play.



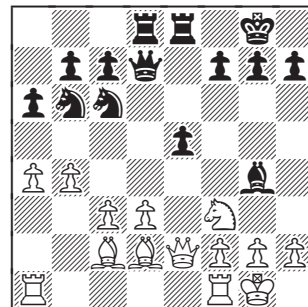
4. Siegrist-Alsua
2000 Capps Memorial
Black to play.



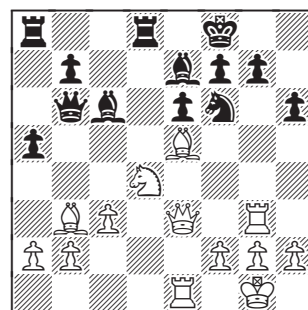
5. Arrieta-Sevillano
1995 Capps Memorial
Black to play.



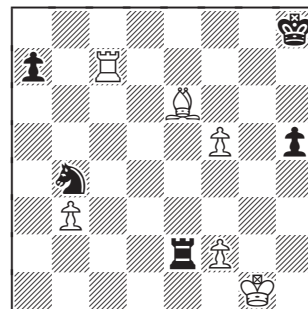
7. Nollet-Sloan
1995 Capps Memorial
Black to play.



8. Sevillano-Baker
1995 Capps Memorial
White to play.



9. DeGuzman-Aigner
2007 Capps Memorial
White to play.



Solutions: 1. 1...Re3+ 2. Kc2 Na3+ 0-1 2. 1...Bh5 0-1 3. 1...Qe1+ 0-1 4. 1...Nf4 0-1 5. 1...Rxc1 2. Nxc1 Bf4+ 0-1 6. 1...Bg3# 0-1 7. 1...e4 0-1 8. 1. Nxe6 1-0 9. 1. f6 Re1+ 2. Kg2 Rxe6 3. Rc8+ Kh7 4. f7 1-0

The Life and Times of Carroll M. Capps

Continued from Page 4

There were other events beside the North-South team match during the day; the festivities often included chess problem solving contests and rapid transit tournaments. Rapid transit is similar to modern speed chess, except that instead of 5 minutes to play all the moves, the player must make his move every 10 seconds or lose. The event always concluded with a dinner for all the players and their spouses.

On June 26, master Arthur Dake played a 20-board simultaneous exhibition at the Mechanics' Institute CC; Carroll was one of two players to win.

In 1938 at the 10th Annual North-South match, he beat A. V. Taylor on board 12. The North won again by a score of 14.5-10.5.

During the Northern California Chess League season, on March 25, 1939, the Castle CC lost to the Mechanics' Institute CC by a score of 4.5-2.5. Although on board 5, Carroll, playing for the Castle CC, beat Vladimir Pafnutieff (author of the book *How To Create Combinations*).

Not long after, on April 8th, the annual match between San Francisco and the East Bay was won by the former by a score of 14.5-10.5. Capps playing 8th board for the East Bay lost to Leslie Boyette.

On May 21st, he played on the 15th board for Northern California and drew with Leroy Johnson of Southern California. The North won by a small margin, 14-12. Board one featured a historic encounter between A. J. Fink, problem editor for several Northern California newspapers, and Herman Steiner, chess editor of the *Los Angeles Times*; they drew.

In early 1940 he played in the Mechanics' Institute CC Championship, but only tied for 7-8 place with 6 points out of 12.

Mechanics Institute CC Championship 1940

White: Carroll Capps

Black: Peter Lapiken

Reti Opening

Notes by E.J. Clarke

1. Nf3 d5 2. b3 c5 3. Bb2 f6 4. e3 e5 5. Nxe5 fxe5 6.

Qh5+ Kd7 7. Bxe5 Qe8 8. Qg4+ Qe6 9. Qg3 Nc6 10. Bxg7 Bd6 11. f4 Nd4 12. Bxh8 Nxc2+ 13. Kd1 Nxa1 14. Bxa1 Ne7 15. Be2 Kc7 16. Nc3 a6 17. Bf3 b5 18. Qg7 Kb8 19. h3 Nf5 20. Qxh7 Ra7 21. Qh8 d4 22. exd4 cxd4 23. Re1 Qg6 24. Re8 Rc7 25. Nd5 Ne3+ 26. Nxe3 dxe3 27. Rxe3

A hopeless struggle. 27... Qb1+ 28 Ke2 Rc1 29 Be5, etc.

1-0

The 12th Annual North-South Match, played on June 9th, was won by Northern California with a lopsided score of 18.5-6.5. Capps won on board 11 against Erickson. Playing for the Castle CC against the Los Angeles Chess and Checker Club on July 20, 1941 in Santa Barbara, he beat their Team Captain, E. R. Elliott, on board 3; the final team score was 9-2.

According to Mike Goodall (long-time Northern California organizer and member of the ChessDryad Hall of Fame), Capps enlisted in the Navy at the outbreak of World War II and became a photographer in the South Pacific.

During the war, Bay Area and California chess stopped almost completely. Most Northern California chess clubs folded due to lack of participation. Of course the traditional bastion of chess, Mechanics' Institute, still drew players, even though most of the men between the ages of 18 and 35 had enlisted. It was a very patriotic time. When the war ended, he returned to civilian life as a paint chemist.

By the time he returned to the Bay Area, he was undoubtedly of expert strength, as his showing in the first post-war North-South match of May 26, 1946 attests to. He played 3rd board for the North and beat M. Casdan. The North beat the South by a score of 14-11. He also won the Mechanics' Institute CC Championship with a score of 10-2; followed by Vladimir Pafnutieff 9.5-2.5 and A. J. Fink 9-3.

The next year, April 5, 1947, he led the MICC against the East Bay team on 1st board and beat A. Loera; it was a walkover, 16.5-4.5 (A.J. Fink won on board 2 and A.B. Stamer won on board 3, etc.) He played 2nd board on the North-South Match, played in Atascadero.

The North crushed the South with a score of 17-5; although he lost to 3-time California champion Harry Borochoy. He also headed the MICC team against a North Bay team and won against ChessDryad Hall-of-Famer Jim Hurt.

World blindfold champion George Koltanowski, decided to settle in Santa Rosa. Knowing that he needed a large number of regional chess players to support him, Koltanowski started giving free simultaneous exhibitions to the sickly clubs of Northern California.

To increase his audience, he also started a chess column in the *Santa Rosa Press Democrat*, a chess column in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and a chess magazine, *California Chess News*.

1948 Was a good year for Capps. On April 24th as MICC's 1st board, he beat the Central California combined team's 1st board, N. Preo. MICC won the match by a score of 16-5. 1st Board again for MICC, he beat UC Berkeley's Pomeroy. The match was closer than usual with MICC scoring 5.5-3.5 against UCB. Playing 2nd board for the Oakland CC team against the SF Russian CC team, he beat S. Kondrashoff; team score was Oakland CC-Russian CC, 8.5-2.5.

In a second match he play 1st board for the Oakland CC, winning against Carl Bergman of the Berkeley CC; OCC won by a score of 9.5-5.5. Both matches were played in the Oakland CC meeting rooms at 387 12th Street. Again playing 1st board for MICC, he beat Dr. Branch of the Castle CC. The November 19th match score was MICC, 5.5 verses Castle CC, 1.5.

On the 12th of March, 1949, Capps played 2nd board on the East Bay team, against the MICC team and lost to 4-time California Champion, A.J. Fink. Even so, the East Bay team won by score of 16.5-9.5. George Koltanowski put on a spectacular chess festival and simultaneous exhibition on December 5th at the Marines' Memorial Club Ballroom in San Francisco. Kolty played 271 games which took about 13.5 hours; he only played 37 boards at a time. Because he could play only one group at a time, other players such as Carroll Capps of Oakland gave small side simultaneous exhibitions while people were waiting to play Kolty.

The first United States Chess Federation rating list appeared in their newspaper, Chess Life, on November 20, 1950. They listed C. M. Capps as having an expert

rating of 2160. The first Northern California rating list listed Capps as a master; A. J. Fink was the only player listed as a national master and George Koltanowski was listed as an international master (FIDE, the world chess organization, had published their own title list in 1950.) The NCC rating list was published in the last issue of Kolty's chess magazine in December 1950.

The 1st Pacific Invitational was held on February 1951 in Kolty's Barton Studio CC in San Francisco. Capps tied for 4-5; Arthur Dake won the tournament. Here are some Carroll Capps games from the event:

First Pacific Invitational 1951

White: H. J. Ralston

Black: Carroll Capps

Nimzo-Indian Defense

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 O-O 5. Nf3 d5 6. a3 Bxc3+ 7. bxc3 Nbd7 8. Bd3 c6 9. O-O Qa5 10. Qc2 dxc4 11. Bxc4 e5 12. e4 exd4 13. cxd4 Nb6 14. e5 Nxc4 15. exf6 Nd6 16. fxc7 Kxc7 17. Ne5 Qd5 18. Qd2 f6 19. Qh6+ Kg8 20. Ng6 Rf7 21. Nf4 Qf5 22. Bd2 Rg7 23. Rfe1 Bd7 24. Nh5 Rg6 25. Qf4 Qxh5 26. Qxd6 Bh3 27. Re3 Rxc2+ 28. Kh1 Rg6 29. Rg1 Rf8 30. Rxc2 hxc2 31. Qg3 Bf5 32. Re1 Rd8 33. Bb4 Rd7 34. Re8+ Kf7 35. Qb3+ Rd5 36. Re7+ Kg8 37. Re8+ Kh7 38. Re7+ Kh6 39. Re8 g5 40. Rh8+ Bh7 41. Bf8+ 1/2-1/2

First Pacific Invitational 1951

White: Henry Gross

Black: Carroll Capps

Colle System

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3 Be7 4. Bd3 d5 5. O-O O-O 6. Nbd2 c5 7. c3 Nbd7 8. Ne5 Nxe5 9. dxe5 Nd7 10. f4 Re8 11. Nf3 Qc7 12. Qe1 b6 13. Bd2 Bb7 14. Qg3 g6 15. Ng5 Kg7 16. h4 Bxc5 17. Qxc5 h6 18. Qg3 h5 19. Rf2 c4 20. Bc2 Rad8 21. Raf1 Nc5 22. f5 exf5 23. Rxf5 Ne4 24. Rxf7+ Qxf7 25. Rxf7+ Kxf7 26. Qf4+ Kg8 27. Be1 Re6 28. Bxe4 dxe4 29. Bg3 Rd1+ 30. Kh2 Rd2 31. Qf1 Bd5 32. Bf4 Re7 33. Qc1 Rd3 34. Qe1 Be6 35. Qg3 Bf5 36. Bg5 Re6 37. Bf6 Rd2 38. Qg5 Kh7 39. b3 cxb3 40. axb3 Bg4 41. Kg3 Rd3 1/2-1/2

Continued next issue.

The Hamppe-Allgaier-Thorold Gambit, Move by Move

Continued from Page 1

pawns because they're useful for center control — Allgaier showed Philidor's influence in his writings about the King's Gambit, and in his games (published in a posthumous edition of *Neue theoretisch-praktische anweisung*).

The Swiss master Carl Hamppe (1814-1876) is perhaps best remembered for a fantastic draw he played against Meitner, Vienna 1872. Hamppe's contribution to the theory of the gambit was the inclusion of the Vienna (naturally) Game move 2. Nc3 before the King's Gambit move f2-f4.

Edmund Thorold (1832-1899) was a professor at the Sheffield



Collegiate School in the United Kingdom. A non-professional chess enthusiast, Thorold's addition to the gambit's theory was the eminently-logical 8. d2-d4 (even Morphy was inclined to a premature 8. Qd1xg4).

Vienna 1922

White: Josef Emil Krejciak

Black: NN

Hamppe-Allgaier-Thorold Gambit

1. e4

1. e4 and 1. d4 make up more than 80 percent of master practice. 1. d4 results in more draws. 1. e4 leads to a greater number of decisive games.

1.... e5

1...c5 has supplanted 1...e5 as Black's most popular reply. One reason is many players are afraid of open games; some are especially terrified of gambits like the Allgaier for the wildly-unbalanced positions that can arise. (When they say they don't want to learn offbeat theory for the sake of preparedness, it's because they don't trust their tactics. In sharp gambit play, theory is meaningless, and tactics are everything. Some 1...c5 players are afraid of open games because their tactics are weak.)

2. Nc3

Philidor would frown, because his c-pawn fights for center control. Philidor-NN 1790: 1. e4 e5 2. f4 ef4 3. Nf3 g5 4. Bc4 Bg7 5. h4 h6 6. d4 d6 7. c3! c6 8. Qb3 Qe7 9. O-O Nd7 10. hg5 hg5 11. Ng5 Qg5 12. Bf7 Kf8 13. Bf4 Qh4 14. Bd6 Ne7 15. Bg6 Bf6 16. Qf7#.

2.... Nc6

2...Nf6 3. f4 d5 is a different kind of game.

3. f4

The inclusion of 2. Nc3 means that 4. f4xe5 is legitimate because 4...Qd8-h4+ is not an effective fork.

3.... exf4

In the 1700s and 1800s, it was mannerly to accept a gambit. Since then, acceptance of gambits became a matter of theory.

4. Nf3

The black f4-pawn restores ...Qd8-h4+ as a constructive check because g2-g3 would not be a useful interposition.

4.... g5

A second point of 2. Nc3 is that White's control of d5 inhibits an immediate ...d7-d5. 4...g5 is old-fashioned and good — the g5-f4 pawn pair restrains White's queen bishop and both rooks.

5. h4

White applied the same positional logic: If the f4-g5 pawns restrict my pieces, I must knock them down before Black plays ...Bf8-g7. For instance, 5. Bc4 Bg7 6. h4 h6 7. hxg5 hxg5, and the pawn pair stands up because h6-pawn is not pinned.

5.... g4

Not 5...f6, because 6. Nxc5.

6. Ng5

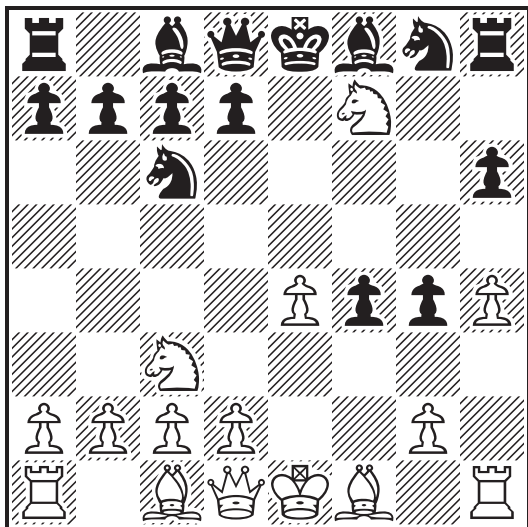
White had reasons to inject 2. Nc3, Black had rationale for 2...Nc6: White can't play the centralizing 6. Nf3-e5, while 6. Nf3-g1 lacks spirit (GM Motylev played 6. Ng1, because that's what grandmasters do).

6.... h6

Wins a piece.

7. Nxf7

The knight is a desperado. 7. Nxf7 is disruptive.



7... Kxf7

Else Black is forked.

8. Qxg4

8. d4 is the best move, establishing the center control that White sought following 3...exf4.

8... Bd6 9. Bc4+ Kf8 10. d4 Nxd4 11. Bxf4 Nxc2+ 12. Kd2 Nxa1 13. Bxd6+ cxd6 14. Rf1+ Nf6 15. Qg6 1-0

Before the Internet turned chess-by-mail into a relic, correspondence was the place for “theme tournaments”, where each game starts with the same moves.

Theme tournaments were a testing ground for unusual openings, because advance agreement was the only way to reach some positions, while three days per move was sufficient time to navigate them. 100 years ago, California postal players conducted a Hampe-Allgaier Gambit tournament.

Postal theme tournament 1916

White: V. Asher

Black: G.E. Hart

Hampe-Allgaier Gambit

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 exf4 4. Nf3 g5 5. h4 g4 6. Ng5 h6 7. Nxf7 Kxf7 8. d4 d6 9. Bxf4 Nf6 10. Bc4+ Kg7 11. O-O Be7 12. Qd2 Bd7 13. e5 Ng8 14. Be3

Be8 15. Qe2 h5 16. Nd5 Bxh4 17. Nf4 Rh6 18. Ne6+ Rxe6 19. Bxe6 Qe7 20. Bb3 dxe5 21. dxe5 Bg3 22. e6 Qh4 23. Rf7+ Bxf7 24. exf7 Nf6 25. Qd2 Qh2+ 26. Kf1 Qh1+ 27. Bg1 Ne4 28. Qe3 Bf2 29. Qxe4 Qxg1+ 30. Ke2 Qxa1 0-1



The great master Walter Shipman played the Hampe-Allgaier with both colors, once in the 2000 Capps Memorial, and in 1946 against the mathematician who invented the rating system.

Pittsburgh Open 1946

White: IM Walter Shipman

Black: Arpad Elo

Hampe-Allgaier Gambit

1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Nf3 g5 4. h4 g4 5. Ng5 h6 6. Nxf7 Kxf7 7. Bc4+ d5 8. Bxd5+ Kg7 9. d4 Nf6 10. Bxf4

Or 10. Nc3 Bb4. 10. Bxf4 enables the attack with ... Bf8-d6, but White brings his center pawns forward.

10... Nxd5 11. exd5 Bd6 12. Be5+ Bxe5 13. dxe5

Neither side has any development — unheard of for the gambit player, especially after a piece sacrifice. White’s compensation is a pair of lovely center pawns, plus the space provided, but one is chopped right off.

13... Re8 14. O-O Rxe5 15. Nc3 c5 16. Qd2 Qxh4 17. Qf4 Qe7 18. d6 Qe6 19. Qf8+ Kg6 20. Nd5 Rxd5 21. Rae1 Re5 22. Rxe5 Qxe5 23. Qxc8 Qd4+ 24. Kh1 Nd7 25. Qxd7 g3 26. Qf7+ Kg5 27. Rf5+ 1-0

MI Capps Memorial 2000

White: NM Paul Gallegos

Black: IM Walter Shipman

Hampe-Allgaier Gambit

1. e4 e5 2. f4 Nc6 3. Nc3 exf4 4. Nf3 g5 5. h4 g4 6. Ng5 h6 7. Nxf7 Kxf7 8. Bc4+ d5 9. Nxd5 Be6 10. d4 f3 11. gxf3 Nf6 12. fxg4 Bxd5 13. exd5 Qe8+ 14. Be2 Qe4 15. O-O Qxd4+ 16. Qxd4 Nxd4 17. Bd3 Bc5 18. Kg2 Kg7 19. c3 Nxd5 20. cxd4 Bxd4 21. Bc4 Rad8 22. g5 hxg5 23. Bxg5 Bf6 24. Bxd5 Bxg5 25. Rad1 Bf6 26. Bxb7 Rxh4 27. Rxd8 Bxd8 28. Rd1 Rb4 29. b3 Rxb7 1/2

GM Tsegmed takes 1st place; Klotz-Burwell in 2nd, crosses 2200

BAC Class Warfare Championship

Bay Area Chess Class Warfare Championship November 27–29, 2015

Open

- 1 GM Batchuluun Tsegmed
- 2 NM Hunter Klotz-Burwell
- 3 NM Siddarth Banik
- 4 IM Maximillian Meinhardt
- IM Ricardo DeGuzman
- NM Ladia Jirasek

Expert

- 1 Seaver Dahlgren
- 2 Archit Dasika

A

- 1 Rishabh Raj
- 2 Alex Stiger

B

- 1 Cesar Mendoza
- 2 Kimberly Liu
- Sanat Singhal

C

- 1 Sherman Wu
- 2 Kimberly Liu
- Rui Yang Yan
- Aravindsingaram Kannappan
- Manas Manu
- Saadiq Shaikh

D/E/Unr

- 1 Nikko Le
- 2 Kyle Wu
- Leon Zhao
- Mihir Kondapalli
- Reka Sztaray
- Vyom Vidyarthi
- Ria Deshpande

Jordan and Tom Langland directed 186 players in seven sections at the Santa Clara Convention Center on Thanksgiving weekend.

White: Hunter Klotz-Burwell (2195)

Black: Jack Qijie Zhu (2336)

Two Knights Defense

Notes by NM H. Klotz-Burwell

1. e4

I expected Jack to play 1...d6, so I chose 1.e4 over my usual 1.d4.

1.... e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. d3

I'm not interested in sharp lines like 4. Ng5 or 4. d4 that would suit my opponent's tricky style.

4.... Be7 5. O-O O-O 6. Re1

Of course, 6.c3 and 6.Nbd2 are natural as well.

6.... d6 7. c3 Re8

An interesting move, possibly with the idea of ... Bf8 and ...Ne7-g6?

8. Ng5 Rf8 9. Nf3

I repeat once to see what he's playing for, while gaining time to think.

9.... a6

Obviously, he's playing to win.

10. Bb3

He was threatening ...Nc6-a5, grabbing the light-squared bishop, so I bring it to safety.

10.... Re8 11. Ng5 Rf8 12. Nf3

More cat and mouse.

12.... b5 13. a4 Bb7 14. Nbd2

With the standard plan of Nd2-f1-g3 and later Ng3-f5.

14.... Nb8

Another standard maneuver to bring the knight to d7, and freeing up the possibility of a future ...c7-c5. I

calchess.org

had intended to play Nf1 and Ng3, but I remembered a game by GM Svidler where he played ...Bb7, only to come back with ...Bc8 a few moves later after his opponent played Ng3. This isn't something to be afraid of, but I decided to stop the idea anyway while temporarily keeping Black's bishop out of play.

15. axb5 axb5 16. Rxa8 Bxa8

On the other hand, I released the tension with axb5, which isn't generally advisable.

17. Nf1 Nbd7 18. Ng3 Nc5

Now I have a tough decision to make. Bc2 is a natural move, and indeed in these structures White often plays like this, with the idea of a future d3-d4. On the other hand, in this unique position the a-pawns have been exchanged, allowing me to maintain pressure on the a2-g8 diagonal with 19. Ba2. I believe this would've been a better try, as the f7-pawn is always a headache for Black.

19. Bc2 Re8

The third time he's played ...Re8!

20. d4

The most obvious move.

20.... Ncd7

A strange move. 20. ... exd4 21. cxd4 Ne6 was a more sensible continuation.

21. Qd3

21. Bd3 was a better move, simply targeting b5.

21.... Qb8

Of course! I had only seen the pathetic 21...c6, blocking in Black's bishop.

22. b4

Another odd move, attempting to discourage ...c7-c5. Developing moves like Bd2 or Bg5 were more natural.

22.... Bf8

Preparing to bring the pressure on the e-file. I realized that the position was becoming difficult to play, and I decided to swing the initiative back to my side with a creative (but not fully sound) idea.

23. dxe5 dxe5 24. Bb3

My bishop reaches the juicy diagonal once more.



NM Hunter Klotz-Burwell

24.... c5

But what about this obvious move, threatening ...c4?

25. Ng5

The only consistent move.

25.... c4

Forced.

26. Bxc4 bxc4 27. Qxc4

So Black has won a piece for two pawns, but will soon lose the f7-pawn as well, as 27...Re7? runs into 28.Nf5.

27.... h6

The best move.

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BAC Class Warfare Championship

Continued from Page 11

28. Qxf7+

If 28. Nxf7?, then after 28... Kh7 White's knight will be trapped.

28... Kh8 29. Nf3 Re7 30. Qg6 Re6

After making the time control, I took stock of the position. White has three pawns for the piece, Black's king is shaky, and the a8-bishop is still out of play. However, White's queenside pawns are immobile, and if Black can consolidate he should be better.

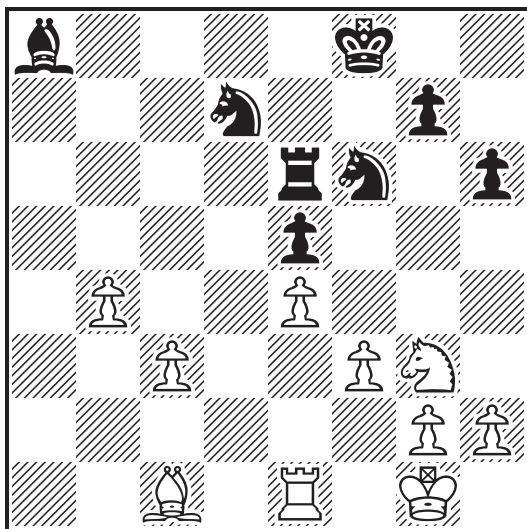
31. Nh4 Qe8

After spending some time failing to make 32. Qf5 work, I realized that Black wasn't even threatening 33... Qxg6, because 34. Nxc6+ Kg8 35. Nxf8 and with the f8-bishop gone, the queenside pawns can mobilize. But 32. Qxe8?! Nxe8 is too cooperative, as the pawns aren't threatening with the f8-bishop alive. So, I decided on 32. f3, protecting e4 against random tactics down the road, and making luft.

32. f3 Qxg6

Too obliging. Better was the waiting move 32...Kg8.

33. Nxc6+ Kg8 34. Nxf8 Kxf8



35. c4

Of course, c4 is so natural that I barely paused to think. After the game, however, I realized that I could take advantage of Black's king placement with 35.b5!

Nc5 36. Ba3 Nd7 37. Rd1 Kf7 38. Nf5, and Black is all tied up.

35... Rd6

Best, intending ...Rd6-d3 to stop the pawns from behind.

36. Be3 Rd3 37. Nf5

Supporting the bishop so that I can play Ra1 and run my pawns.

37... g6

Creative, but bad. Obviously, Black wants to disrupt White's harmony, but a pawn is too steep a price to pay. 37...h5, intending ...g7-g6, was better.

38. Bxh6+ Kf7 39. Ne3 Rb3 40. Ra1 Bb7 41. b5 Nc5

Somehow, Black has established a blockade, and my bishop is out of play on h6. Still, only White can win, with four pawns for the piece. Perhaps 42. h4 was best here, creating more luft, as my king felt uncomfortable in the game continuation.

42. Nd5 Bxd5

Of course, Black would love to trade off his useless bishop.

43. exd5 Rb4

Now White needs to play fast. He has four pawns for the piece, but the black knights can blockade them, and the important c4-pawn is under fire. I would like to play 44. Rc1, but 44...Nd3! is annoying, as 45. Rc3 Rb1+ isn't what White wants. Therefore, my next move is forced.

44. Ra7+ Ke8 45. Ra8+ Kf7 46. Ra7+

I repeat while trying to figure out how to play for a win.

46... Ke8 47. Ra8+

47. Rc7 Rxc4 48. Be3 Nfd7 49. b6 interested me, as my b- and d-pawns are quite annoying, and Black is tied up. However, the position remains complicated and I couldn't calculate all the subtleties, so I decided against it.

47... Kf7 48. Ra7+ 1/2

In time-trouble, I was forced to agree to a draw.

Chui Wins 3rd Grade Honors at CalChess Grade Level, Two Weibel Quads, Berkeley Spooky Swiss



William Chui, a 3rd-grader in the Marin Scholastic Chess program, had a good run during the fall months. He finished first at the Berkeley Chess School Spooky Swiss Nov. 1, first in Quad #1 at two Weibel quadrangulars (Nov. 7 and Dec. 6), and first among 3rd-graders at the CalChess Grade Level Championship Dec. 6.

At the end of September, his rating was 1266, but by year's end it had risen to 1482. Chui won a Chronos clock as the best game prize at the Nov. Weibel event.

Weibel Fall Quads #2

White: Stanley Ko (1427)

Black: William Chui (1342)

King's Indian Sämisch

Notes by F. Del Rosario

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6

I learned chess from Capablanca, whose preference in Indian defenses were Nimzo (...Bf8-b4), Queen (...Bf8-b4 or ...Bf8-e7), and Old (...Bf8-e7). Capablanca played just a few King's Indians (...Bf8-g7) — considering Capablanca had a more natural handle on the game than anyone else, it might suggest that the King's Indian is basically wrong.

3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f3

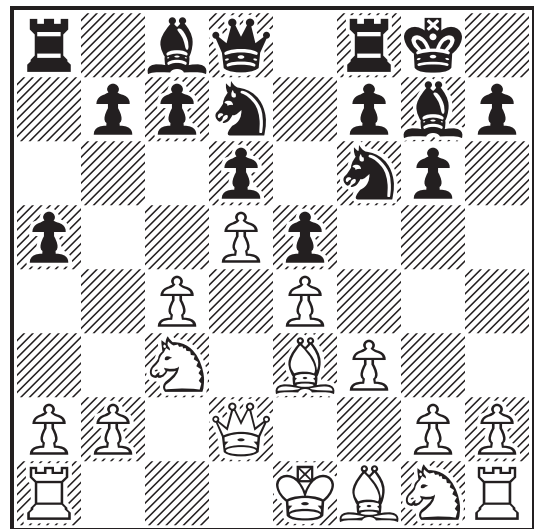
Capablanca didn't play many King's Indians as White, either, because he played in the 1920s and '30s, and it wasn't until the 1950s that Bronstein and his contemporaries began turning the KID into a serious

weapon. Capa mostly preferred kingside fianchettoes against the KID; he played one Sämisch Variation, in 1935 (near the end of his career) against Menchik.

5... O-O 6. Be3 Nbd7

The scheme ...Nb8-d7, ...a7-a5, ...Nd7-c5 doesn't ensure the knight's cooperation in Black's kingside action. ...Nb8-c6, ...e7-e5, ...Nc6-e7 is more consistent in that regard.

7. Qd2 e5 8. d5 a5



9. Nge2

WFM Botez likes to develop Ng1-h3-f2 in the Sämisch, where the ideas appear to be 1 in case White pushes f3-f4, then Black is dissuaded from using the g4-square, while e4-pawn is bolstered; and 2 if the d3-bishop wants to drop back, e2 is available so the c4-pawn doesn't hang.

9... Nc5 10. O-O-O

Sämisch's f2-f3 doesn't necessarily indicate a kingside rush with g2-g4. It can also be used as a solid line against Black's kingside motion, while White attacks the queenside with Ne2-c1-d3 plus an eventual b2-b3-b4.

Continued on Page 14

Weibel Fall Quads • November 7, 2015

1 William Chui	16 Aakash Koneru	31 Ekansh Samanta
2 Aaron Ng	Palak Chhatre	32 Viraj Ghose
3 Kunal Shrivastav	17 Dhruv Jena	33 Ishaan Agrawal
4 Nolan Yeo Zhou	18 Prabhav Vashist	34 Mai-Ha Nghiem
5 Malav Ramanan	19 Jonathan Taylor	35 Ambika Tiwari
6 Samik Pattanayak	20 Chau-Ha Nghiem	Nikko Daniel Le
7 Simon Eugene Zhou	21 Ritvik Ivaturi	Jahnvi Rati
8 Amy Chan	22 Chloe Chan	36 Manav Ramanan
Bryan Wong Kaing	23 Shreeraj Uppalapati	37 Reyansh Gangal
Vishruth Dinesh	24 Marcus Chan	38 Rohan Rajaram
9 Tanabh Mishra	25 Yash Pradhan	39 Arjun Shrivastava
10 Atri Banerjee	Pranav Prakash	40 Asmi Sawant
Jason Tse	26 Bowen Long	41 Drishti Motwani
11 Nishanth Upadhyayula	Tanay Manjunath	42 Andrew Chan
12 Tanvi Deshpande	27 Sai Kishore Bhujangari	43 Sean Evans
13 Mithilesh Gopalakrishnan	28 Kavya Shree Peela	Ashley Pang
14 Arhan Chaudary	29 Alec Personius	Vincent Yang
Joshua Diao	30 Charith Vemuru	44 Bernard Chang
15 Isha Varada	Sathvik Yetukuri	45 Om Herur

Continued from Page 13

10.... b6 11. g4 Ba6

The bishop is misplaced. If either side concentrates on the queenside, it should be White because he owns more space there. The bishop should stick to the c8-h3 diagonal with ...f7-f5 as a short-term goal.

12. Ng3 Qd7 13. h4 Na4

Black is drifting. The ...Nb8-d7-c5 development is designed to press on e4 in concert with ...f7-f5.

14. h5 Nxc3 15. bxc3

Needlessly weakening. If White is committed to Be3-h6, he can play 15. Qxc3 and return the queen to d2 later.

15.... Qa4 16. Bh6

White's porous king position suggests deceleration, pushing Black back with 16. Qc2.

16.... Bxc4 17. hxc4

For the same reason, White should swap the menacing bishop with 17. Bxc4.

17.... fxg6

Capturing toward the center used to be obligatory until experience showed that ...Rf8-f7 could be useful

defensively along the second rank, with the whole file for offense.

18. Bxg7 Kxg7 19. Qh6+ Kg8 20. g5?

Shutting the queen off from returning to the defense, while that was his last chance to trade the c4-bishop.

20.... Qa3+ 21. Kd2

21. Kb1 Bxa2+ 22. Kc2 Bb3+ makes no difference.

21.... Qb2+ 22. Ke1 Qxc3+ 23. Kf2

23. Rd2 doesn't lose the queen right off, but White's game is still lost.

23.... Ng4+ 0-1

GM Gareev Aims for New Blindfold Record March 12 in Santa Clara

Grandmaster Timur Gareyev will play against 35 opponents at the same time while blindfolded at the Resurrection Lutheran Church, 2495 Cabrillo Ave., Santa Clara. This will set a new North American record, surpassing Alekhine's 33-board performance in Chicago 1932.

Destroying the Guard

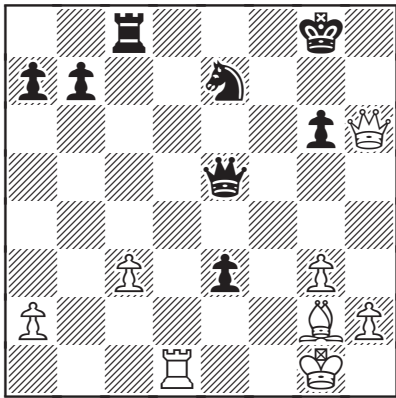
By FM James Eade

Back in the 1990's, I published chess books under the Hypermodern Press mark. This was mainly prior to the rise of the chess engines, and we were pretty much limited to our own resources when it came to analyzing games.

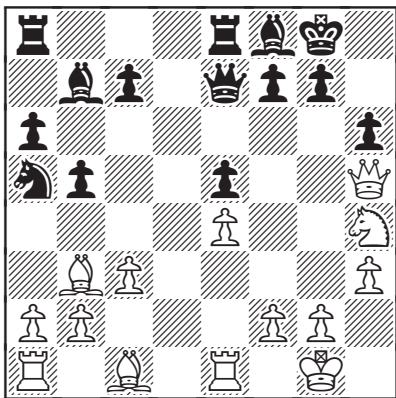
This series of articles is dedicated to remembering some of the contributors of that era. I don't want them lost in the mists of time.

This first entry is dedicated to Vladimir Pafnutieff (1912-1999) who was one of the top players in the Bay Area for a number of years. I published the second edition of his *How to Create Chess Combinations*.

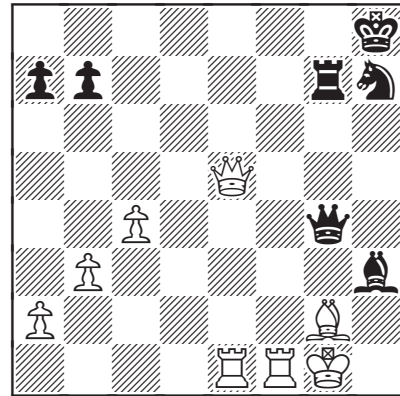
Here are some examples of the combination he named "Destroying the Guard."



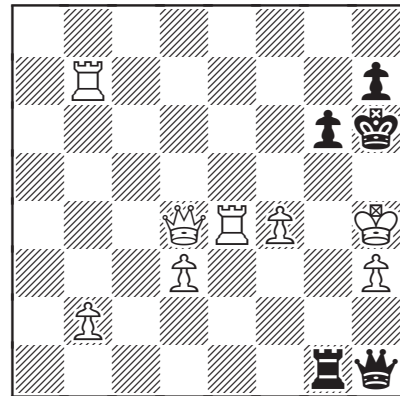
This is from the game Blatney-Kavalek, 1959.



This position occurred in Geller-Portisch, 1967.



The next example is from the game Ruchkin-Koskin, 1964.



From the game N.N.-Phillipps, 1912.

Solutions:

Position 1: 1. Bd5+ Nxd5 2. Qxg6+ Kh8 (or 2... Kf8 3. Rf1+) 3. Rd4 Qxd4 4. cxd4 wins.

Position 2: 1. Bg5 Qd7 (1...hxg5 2. Ng6, or 1... Qxg5 2. Qxf7+) 2. Rad1 Bd6 3. Bxh6 gxh6 4. Qg6+ Kf8 5. Qxh6+

Position 3: 1. Re2 Bxg2 2. Qxg7+

Position 4: 1...Rg4+ 2. Kxg4 Qg2+ 3. Kh4 g5+ with mate in one.

It was a pleasure to work with Vladimir, although I only knew him after his OTB playing career was over. Submissions can be sent in care of the editor, and the only criteria is that the positions come from a published source.

GM Chirila Wins BAC Tate Memorial...

Bay Area Chess Emory Tate Memorial November 13-15, 2015

Open

- 1 GM Ioan Chirila
- 2 IM Enrico Sevillano
- 3 NM Ladia Jirasek

Expert

- 1 Abishek Handigol
- 2 Justin Feng
Shaunak Maruvada
Karthik Padmanabean

A

- 1 Brendyn Estolas
- 2 Daniel Trimbach
Chris Xiong

B

- 1 Eeswar Kurli
- 2 Adam Vichik
Kevin Roberts
Henry Wang

C

- 1 Jaisuraj Kaleeswaran

D/E/Unr

- 1 Manas Manu
Vedant Kenkare
- 3 Sanjani Das

I have never seen this move before. I had focused on studying what would happen after h3. For instance: 7. h3 Bh5 8. Qa4 e6 9. Nc4 Nd7 10. d3 a6 11. Ne3 Qd6 12. Qh4 Bg6 13. Nc4 Qd5 14. Bf4 e5 15. Bh2 b5 16. Ne3 Qd6 17. g4 Bxd3 18. O-O-O c4 19. Nf5 Qd5 20. Rhe1 f6 21. Ne3 Qd6 22. Nf5 Qd5 23. N3d4 Nxd4 24. Nxd4 O-O-O , 1/2 in 65, E. Sevillano,E (2492)-M. Lee Los Angeles 2011.

7... e6

I didn't think Ne3 was much of a threat.

8. Ne3 Qd7 9. Nxe4 Nxe4 10. Bb5 Bd6

I wanted to guard the e5-square so his knight could not go there. 10. ... a6 11. Qa4 +/- Since he attacks my knight on g4, I have no time for ...Rc8.

11. d4

11. Qa4 Nge5 12. Nxe5 Bxe5 13. Bxc6 bxc6 = I thought the activity of my pieces (with an eventual ...Rb8 and ...Rfd8) would compensate for my pawn structure weakness.

11... a6 12. Be2 Nf6 13. dxc5 Bxc5 14. Qc2 O-O 15. Bg5 Nd5 16. Rd1 Qc7 17. Qc1 Be7 18. Bd2 Rfd8 19. O-O Rac8 20. Rfe1 Bc5

I wanted to attack the weakness at f2, because it would eventually tie down one of White's pieces to the defense.

21. Bd3 Qb6 22. Re2 Rd7 23. Bc2 Rcd8 24. Rde1 Nf6 25. b4 Bd6

Richard Koepcke directed 70 players in four sections at the Bay Area Chess center in Milpitas Nov. 13-15.

White: IM Enrico Sevillano (2535)

Black: NM Ladia Jirasek (2220)

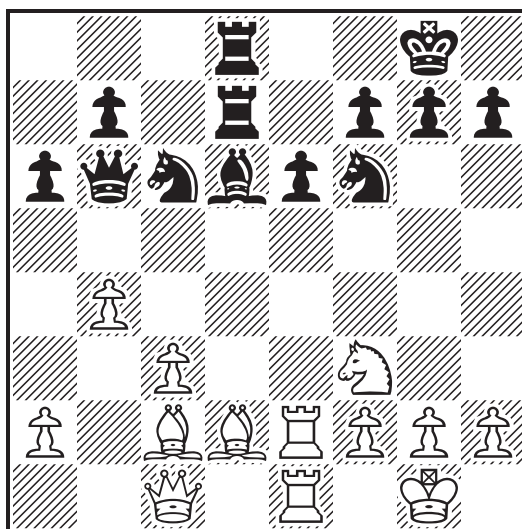
Alapin Sicilian

Notes by NM L. Jirasek

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Na3 Bg4

I decided to play this instead of e6 because I wanted to get to the line with 7.h3.

6. Be2 Nc6 7. Nc2



26. a3 Qc7

I felt with his last few moves he was trying to play c4 and gain queenside space. When I play the c3-Sicilian, fighting for queenside space is a common plan. With ...Qc7, I set a trap.

27. c4 Nd4!!

I got lucky and he fell for it. Even though the knight is guarding d4, I will be able to take on h2 and uncover my rook to take the knight.

28. c5

28. Nxd4 Bxh2+ 29. Kh1 Rxd4 -+ ; 28. Bg5 Nxe2+ 29. Rxe2 Be7 -/+

28.... Nxe2+

It looks like I win material, but my extra exchange won't be able to do much. 28. ... Nxf3+! 29. gxf3 Bxh2+ 30. Kg2 Rd4 (30. ... Nh5?! I considered only about this move during the game, but it is not good) 31. Rh1 Bf4 32. Bxf4 Qxf4 33. Qxf4 Rxf4 34. Re3 -/+ This would

Continued on Page 18



NM Ladia Jirasek

...and Stages a 19-Board Simul at Kolty CC



(from left) G. Jeffers, Mel Bandanza, GM Chirila

GM Ioan Chirila conducted a 19-board simultaneous exhibition Nov. 19 at the Kolty Chess Club in Campbell. Three players achieved draws against the exhibitor: George Jeffers (1922), Anaiy Somalwar (1913), and Eliam Huai-Yang Chang (1981).

The Kolty Club is the second-oldest chess club in the region after Mechanics Institute in San Francisco, named for George Koltanowski (1903-2000), a chess ambassador for more than 50 years.

The club is in the midst of its Alexander Levitan Memorial, named for a three-time club champion.

White: GM Ioan Chirila
Black: George Jeffers (1922)
Queen's Gambit Declined
Notes by G. Jeffers

I decided at the last minute to play in this simul. Recently my play was reasonably solid so I figured what better opportunity to test myself. Going into the game I was sure I would lose, but simply wanted to learn how such a strong player as GM Chirila would defeat me.

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Nf3 Be7 5. Bf4 c6 6. e3 O-O 7. Rc1 Nbd7 8. h3 Re8 9. Qc2 Nf8 10. a3 Ng6

My plan was to 1) enable ...e5, 2) get some defensive capability on the kingside, and 3) generate some freedom for my light-squared bishop. Eliminating his dark-squared bishop would be the job for my dark-squared bishop. In a database, I found a few games

Continued on Page 19

Bay Area Chess Tate Memorial

Continued from Page 17

have been a much better line and would offer more winning chances.

29. Rxe2 Be7 30. Bf4 Qc8 31. Ne5 Rd4 32. Be3 R4d5 33. Nc4 Rh5 34. h3? Nd5 35. Bd2 Qc7 36. Be4 Rh4?

Black loses the advantage, and the game will eventually end in a draw.

36.... b5! -/+

This move didn't occur to me because I didn't want to voluntarily give my opponent a protected passed pawn.

37. g3 Rxh3 38. Bg2 Rh5 39. Bf3 Rf5 40. Be4 Rf6 41. Bg5 h6 42. Bxf6 Bxf6 43. Rc2

From this point, we were in time pressure, so some better moves were missed by both sides.

43.... Bg5?!

43. ... h5 44. Qe1 h4 45. Kg2 hxg3 46. fxg3 g6 =/+

44. Qe1 Nf6 45. Bf3 Nd5 46. Qe2 Bf6 47. Nd6 Be7 48. Nc4 Bf6 49. Nd6 Be7 1/2

Takeaways: 1. Piece activity can compensate for a bad pawn structure. 2. Sometimes winning material is not the best option. If that extra material can't do anything, then you're not actually up material. 3. Quality over quantity. The quality of my position with 28... Nxf3 would be much better than the quantity of my material with 28...Nxe2

In Memorium

By **Francisco Anchondo**

I first met Emory at the 1988 Armed Forces Chess Championship. He scared everyone. Grandmasters feared his brilliant combinations; very few could coordinate the pieces as Emory did. We were all blessed to see him work out his complicated tactical finesse at the board. Swift, deadly and ever so brutal. Emory had some personal favorites: games against FM Ryan Porter, NM Henry Terrie (2001 U.S. Open), GM DeFirmian (2001 New Jersey Open), FM Teddy Coleman (1993 World Open), GM Varuzhan Akobian (2006 U.S. Championship).

Emory Tate was a rare breed. What a lot of people do not understand is that Emory was a genius, though his ego plus his pride made him a difficult person to deal with. Nonetheless, I loved Emory. I saw him struggle with all of life's obstacles — he was my brother.

It was an honor to be with him. He is one of the few I allowed to chew me out, while I got on his case about his drinking habit. I mentioned it to him and he scolded me. "OK, Emory," I said, "I will have a drink with you, only 'cause it's you." Emory burst out laughing. I miss that side of Emory which very few knew he had.

"Remember that 9-move loss to GM Yermolinsky?" he said (2001 Western States Open). "We are the old lions driven out of the pride." In his own way, he was telling me he was tired, and his time was close. Only afterwards did I realize he was saying goodbye.

"Yes, but the old lions still have teeth," I said. We were tight, two chess gladiators.

Emory was a true warrior with no quit in his onslaughts over the board. I miss my friend. It brings tears to my eyes and a lump in my throat. I cannot believe he is gone. On Feb. 6-7 2016, Ensenada Mexico will host its annual Carnival Chess Tournament in honor of the late Emory Tate (champion in 2011). I am sure it will be a most memorable event.



Chirila Simultaneous Exhibition

Continued from Page 17

where White usually played Bd3 and Black did not bring the knight to g6. White scored better than 75% in these games.

11. Bg3 Bd6 12. Bxd6 Qxd6 13. Be2

I was a bit surprised he did not play 13. Bd3. I could now see the general endgame setup which I was overly optimistic about.

13.... e5!

Exclamation mark not for move quality but it helped my mentality since I felt it certainly opened my game and I went from an inferior position to roughly equal.

14. dxe5 Nxe5 15. cxd5 Nxd5 16. O-O?!

After 15...Nxd5, I realized I did not like 16. Rd1 because I likely end up with an isolated pawn on d5. I was also looking toward ...c5, ...b6, and challenging the h1-a8 diagonal.

16.... Nxc3 17. Qxc3 Nxf3+ 18. Bxf3 Be6

About here I considered offering a draw and starting to think “wow, I have a more or less equal position against a GM and would be happy with a draw”. Then I remembered my goal and decided to play on.

19. Rfd1 Qe7 20. Rd4 Rad8 21. Rcd1 Rxd4 22. Qxd4 c5 23. Qa4 b6

Happy my position developed as I intended

24. Qa6

An unpleasant surprise (which I totally overlooked) threatening Bb7 and Qxa7. Got a bit worried about this until I realized I could go with the original intent of getting the bishop to b7.

24.... Bc8 25. Qd3 g6

25. ...Bb7 26. Bxb7 Qxb7 27. Qd7 and White gets the 7th rank. If 27...Rb8 28. Qf5±.

26. Bc6 Rf8

I grew more concerned. White has the open file and my rook isn't helping much.

27. e4 Bb7 28. Bxb7 Qxb7 29. e5

NM Juan del Pino mentioned to me after the game that White's f4/e5 setup is correct with the 4-vs.-3

kingside majority. I did not appreciate this during the game.

29.... Re8 30. f4 b5 31. Qd5 Qxd5

A move made somewhat in haste but realizing I could protect my queenside pawns. I felt I might be slightly better with the queenside majority.

32. Rxd5 Rc8 33. Kf2

33.Ra7 a6 34. Ra7 Rc6 =

33.... a5 34. Ke3 Kf8 35. Rd7 b4 36. Ra7 c4 37. Kd2

37. Rxa5 c3 and one pawn will promote.

37.... Rc5 38. Kc2 c3

I had overcome the fear of botching the endgame and losing. Another useful lesson from Juan was that Black should play ...h5 earlier to counter g4. Had I done this, I believe the ending is better for Black since White cannot defend the kingside pawns.

39. axb4 axb4 40. Rb7 cxb2+

40...Rc4 41. g3 cxb2+ 42. Kxb2 Rc3 43 g4 transposes into the game.

41. Kxb2 Rc3

41...Rc4 42. g3 h5 and it seems the g- and h- (or f- and g-) pawns fall, and Black should be winning. Then I realized White has 43. Rb8+ Kg7 44. Rb7 with the threat of e6. If 43...Ke7, then 44. Rb7+ and either f7 falls or White carries out the aforementioned e6 threat — then it's equal or Black could get into trouble so I went for the safer 41...Rc3.

42. g4 Rxh3 43. Rxb4 h5

I could not allow 44. g5 without conceding a draw.

44. gxh5 gxh5 45. f5 Kg7

45...Rh1? 46. f6 with a perpetual or Black is saddled with a vulnerable f7-pawn

46. Rb7 Rf3 47. e6 Rxf5 48. Kc3

The king makes it to the corner in time.

48.... Kf8 49. exf7 Rxf7 1/2

After the game I asked Chirila if I missed a better way to play the ending. He said it should certainly be a draw but he was surprised I was able to get queenside activity faster than he had anticipated.

First, an Easy Example

By Frisco Del Rosario

This is the 22nd installment of *How to Play Like Magnus Carlsen (or at least passably well)*, which began as a WordPress site at friscodelrosario.net.

The tagline is meant to be a joke, aimed at the ridiculous promises found on bookcovers, like *How to Beat Anyone at Chess* by Ethan Moore, available in bookstores (I've never heard of him, either).

The parenthetical clause, though, is possible, and every world champion, grandmaster, and master shares a habit required to play passably well. The great chess teacher Purdy said:

To play this game passably well, not only do you have to recognize all the threats, you have to see the unreality of their unreal threats.

A chess student gets nowhere until:

1) He recognizes his own threats as false. Say you're contemplating a move that you feel is menacing. Good advice for evaluating that move is: "Imagine your opponent does nothing, passing the move back to you. What then?" If, in fact, your move is faulty, then making it is a wasted move, and the move is the most precious commodity in chess. (A mistake by weak players that goes unnoticed is using a move to prevent the opponent from making a mistake — bad chessplayers think chess is all about prophylactic pawn moves.)

2) He recognizes his opponent's threats as false. This is where most chessplayers are horribly, wretchedly bad — in Purdy's terms, such chessplayers do not play passably well. Most chess students learn to deal with threats in the worst possible way — their crappy coaches teach them to panic at the sight of anything that looks like a threatening move. Ask any group of chessplayers: "What's the first thing to do when your opponent threatens you?" Almost all of them shriek: "Defend! Run! Hide!" Those who are on the way to becoming passable chessplayers say the first thing they do is look for some way to ignore the threat.

GM Sam Shankland says the same thing in a different fashion. Shankland told a group of Berkeley Chess School teachers that when the opponent appears ready

to pounce upon a move, they should think: "What if I just do it?". In other words, what if I just let the opponent spring his trap — if it can be determined that it really doesn't hurt us, then he's wasted his time.

I've been using Carlsen games to illustrate the concept of unreal threats, because Carlsen is a popular, contemporary champion, but the game that woke me up to the idea — without which, one cannot play passably well! — was the final game of the Capablanca-Marshall match in 1909:

New York 1909, 23rd match game

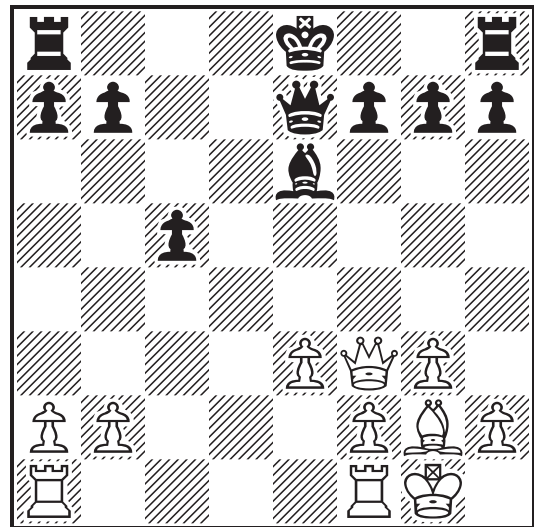
White: Frank Marshall

Black: J.R. Capablanca

Tarrasch Defense

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 4. cxd5 exd5 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. g3 Be6 7. Bg2 Be7 8. O-O Nf6 9. Bg5 Ne4 10. Bxe7 Qxe7 11. Ne5 Nxd4 12. Nxe4 dxe4 13. e3 Nf3+ 14. Nxf3 exf3 15. Qxf3

White permitted exchanges that helped Black simplify and equalize because he thought 15. Qxf3 would maintain an initiative and preserve winning chances.



Capablanca simply ignored the unreal threat:
15...O-O!

If 16. Qxb7, then Qxb7 17. Bxb7 Rab8 plus ...Rxb2. Marshall was so demoralized by 15...O-O! that he lost fighting spirit, along with the match.

20. ... Qxc5+ 21. Bc3 b4 is hairy, but White should succeed: 22. Rxd7 bxc3 23. Rxf7 cxb2+ 24. Kb1 Rxf7 25. Qxa8+ Qf8 +-

21. Bc3 Rac8? 22. Rxd7 Qxc5 23. Kb1 b4

World Youth Championship 2003, Halkidiki

White: Magnus Carlsen (2450)

Black: Zaven Andriasian (2311)

Slav Defense, Czech Variation

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 dxc4 5. a4 Bf5

There's another Slav in this issue where the bishop is harried. It's enough to cause one to take up Smyslov's 5...Na6, like Aronian-Carlsen, 2014 Olympiad.

6. Nh4 e6

If Black saves his bishop — aiming to show the h4-knight as misplaced — then the least clumsy retreat is 6...Bc8, and then if White restores the knight with 7. Nf3, a draw might be claimed soon — a waste of the white pieces but a savings in physical energy.

7. Nxf5 exf5

It cost a bishop for knight, but Black gained some space. His pawns will contest the white squares in the bishop's absence.

8. e3

8. Bg5 moves the bishop outside the pawn chain, but Black gets pressure with ...Bf8-b4 plus ...Qd8-a5.

8.... Bd6

8...Bb4 is still indicated for indirectly fighting for the central white squares.

9. Bxc4 O-O 10. Qf3 g6 11. h3 h5

First played in Kashdan-Jackson, Hastings 1932.

12. Bd2

Kashdan didn't have Carlsen's kingside designs, and played 12. O-O.

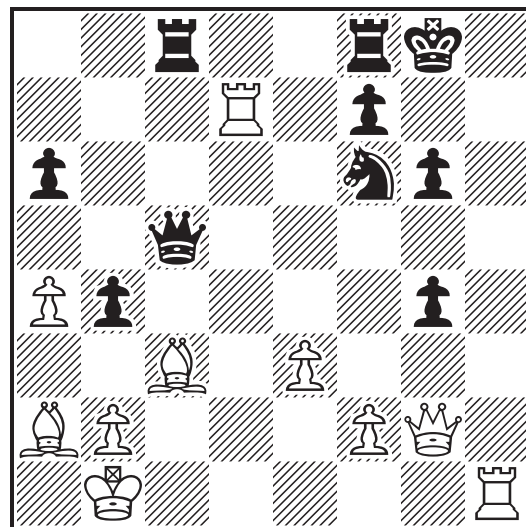
12.... Nbd7 13. O-O-O a6 14. g4 fxg4 15. hxg4 hxg4

If Black makes the non-attacking move 15...Nxc4, perhaps White plays 16. e4 to free the bishop, with e4-e5 plus Nc3-e4 in store.

16. Qg2 b5 17. Ba2 c5 18. Ne4 Qe7

18. ... Nxe4 19. Qxe4 c4 20. Qxg4 and White is on the verge of a winning attack.

19. Nxd6 Qxd6 20. dxc5 Qe7



Black's first identifiable threat, and it can be ignored. White's winning handily, but that doesn't make it a less useful example of the right way to play: 23...b4 threatened, White's answer is a bigger threat.

24. Qxg4 1-0

Byambaa-Mezentsev

Continued from Page 3

17. bxc3 Qc7

17. ... Nxb3+ was necessary.

18. Kb1

Prevents a possible check on a1 from the queen after ...Qxc3.

18.... Rc8?

18. ... Nxb3 19. cxb3 Qa5 20. Ne2 Qe5 {Hard to say if Black has a full compensation for the exchange} ; 18. ... d5 19. exd5 exd5 20. Bxd5 Nc4 21. Bxc4 Qxc4 22. Qh4 Qa6 23. Nb3 Again, White is doing great.

19. g5 Nh5 20. Rxh5 gxh5 21. Nf5 exf5 22. g6 1-0

Black resigned in view of 22...Be6 23.gxh7+ Kh8 24.Qf6+ Kxh7 25.Rh1 Kg8 26.Rxh5 Nxb3 27.Rh8#; 22...Bb5 23.Rg1 Nxb3 24.gxh7+ Kh8 25.Qg7#; 22...hxg6 23.Qxg6+ Kh8 24.Qh6+ Kg8 25.Rg1#.

In 1916, a Rising Star

By Frisco Del Rosario

In each of the chess magazines I've produced, there's been a Capablanca-themed feature — The Instructive Capablanca, The Logical Capablanca, Capablanca: The Late Period, something like that. This time, Capablanca: Invisible Moves.

I have a blind spot about moving pieces backward. If the positionally-appropriate or tactically-crushing move means going 8th-rank-toward-1st-rank, I miss many. There is a whole section about backward (similarly, horizontal moves are harder to see than vertical moves) moves in IM Neiman's and FM Alek's *Invisible Chess Moves*, which Chess Café named book of the year in 2011.

To help acquire the habit of recognizing backward-going moves, I opened a page of Capablanca games from 1916 (100 years ago, Capablanca was rising and ambitious, three years before peaking in the 1919 Kostic match, five years before taking the world championship from Lasker). I think this is a focused application of Purdy's recommended practice routine: By guessing at Capablanca's backward- (and forward-) going moves, I'll improve gradually. When the most naturally-gifted chessplayer in history made a backward move that I missed — then the task is to figure out why.

Casual game, New York 1916

White. J.R. Capablanca

Black: NN

Queen's Gambit Declined

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. c4 e6 4. Nc3 Bd6

In the queen pawn games, B-Q3 is a more active development than B-K2. White can usually play Bf1-d3 more confidently than Black can move ...Bf8-d6 because he has more time. White can soundly achieve e2-e3-e4, threatening to pawn fork at e5, while the exchangedxe4 Nxe4 would hit the d6-bishop. Defending the double queen pawn game as Black is tough:

You control less time, your pawns control less space, your pieces occupy less active squares.

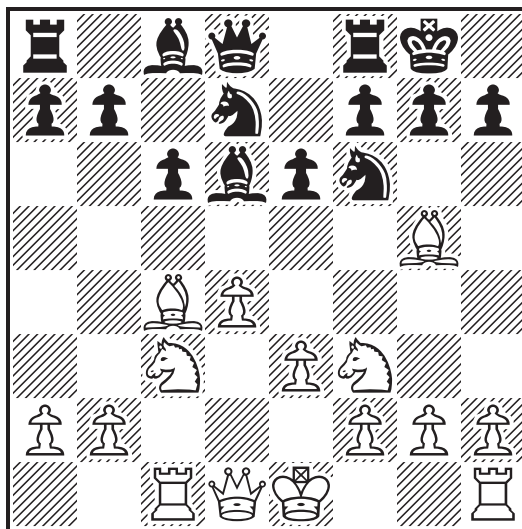
5. Bg5 c6 6. e3

Too soon for 6. e4: 6...dxe4 7. Nxe4 Qa5+.

6... O-O 7. Rc1

In case Black captures on c4, White can play Bf1xc4 in one step.

7... dxc4 8. Bxc4 Nbd7



9. Bd3

A finesse by the bishop: Before Black could play ...Nd7-b6 as a threat followed by ...Nb6-d5, White steps back to the longer diagonal. The effect is to tie up Black's development — Black was looking at ...Nd7-b6-d5 to develop his queenside minors, but if he tried 9...Nb6 with the white bishop on d3, then 10. e4 leaves the knight out of play. I guessed 9. O-O — 9. Bd3 is the master's move; he sees that ...Nd7-b6-d5 plus ...Bc8-d7 is not a great development, but it's as much as Black can plan for, so White shuts that off with a move that increases his mobility.

9... Be7

Given the absence of his d5-pawn, Black sees White's e3-e4 or Nc3-e4 as problematic.

10. O-O b6

For several moves, I would only guess to bear down on the c6-pawn, while Capablanca developed his pieces. Most of the time when we students guess the master's moves incorrectly, it's a matter of using inactive force.

11. Qc2 Bb7 12. Ne5 g6 13. Bh6 Re8 14. Rfd1 Nxe5 15. dxe5 Nd5 16. Nxd5

Seems forced. ...Nd5-b4 is unpleasant, while Black's recapture only slightly helps his rook (and hinders the queen bishop).

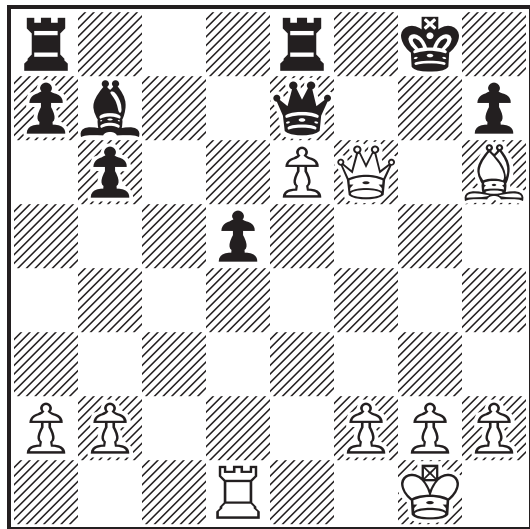
16... exd5 17. e6

I suddenly thought that this game should be familiar to me, because the e6-f7-g6 pattern of attack is huge in my teaching and writing, following Capablanca's games against R. Scott (Hastings 1919) and C. Jaffe (New York 1910). This game went right into my list of Capablanca games that demonstrate attacking that common — and brittle! — defensive formation.

17... f5 18. Bxf5 gxf5 19. Qxf5 Bf6 20. e4

I guessed 20. Rd4 — 20. e4 is much better, because whereas 20. Rd1-d4 serves to improve one rook, 20. e3-e4 aims to improve both.

20... Qe7 21. exd5 cxd5 22. Rc7 Qxc7 23. Qxf6 Qe7



24. Qe5

I saw this backward move, because the tactics demand it. Only the checkmate on g7 prevents Black

from ...Qxe6, so White must stay on the c3-f6 diagonal, and keep in touch with the e6-pawn.

24... Rf8 25. Rd3 Qf6?

White is a little better in this rook endgame: 25... Rf6 26. Qg5+ Kh8 27. Rg3 Rxe6 28. Bg7+ Kg8 29. Bf6+ Kf7 30. Qg7+ Ke8 31. Qxe7+ Rxe7 32. Bxe7 Kxe7 33. Rg7+ Ke6 34. Rxb7.

26. Rg3+ Kh8 27. Bg7+ 1-0

Sticking with this issue's Hampe-Allgaier-Thorold Gambit theme, Capablanca played a striking backward-going move in the 8th game of his match with Cuban champion Corzo, when Capa was 13 years old.

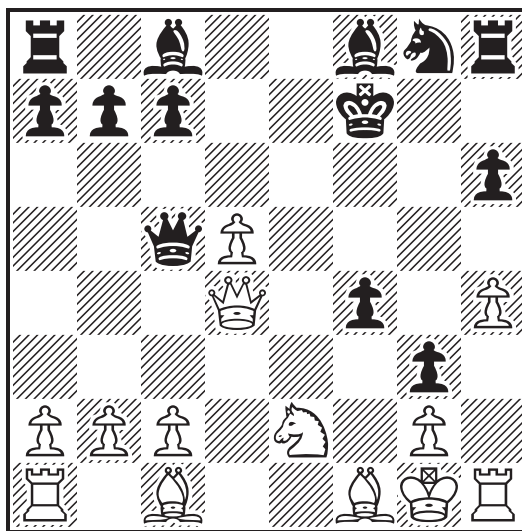
Havana 1901

White: Juan Corzo

Black: J.R. Capablanca

Hampe-Allgaier-Thorold Gambit

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. f4 exf4 4. Nf3 g5 5. h4 g4 6. Ng5 h6 7. Nxf7 Kxf7 8. d4 d5 9. exd5 Qe7+ 10. Kf2 g3+ 11. Kg1 Nxd4 12. Qxd4 Qc5 13. Ne2



13...Qb6!

First time I saw this game, I guessed wrong. Just a hunch.

14. Qxb6 axb6 15. Nd4 Bc5 16. c3 Ra4 17. Be2 Bxd4+ 18. cxd4 Rxd4 19. b3 Nf6 20. Bb2 Rd2 21. Bh5+ Nxh5 22. Bxh8 f3 23. gxf3 Nf4 24. Be5 Rg2+ 25. Kf1 Rf2+ 26. Ke1 Nd3+ 0-1

From the Editor

Continued from Page 2

Journalism has also evolved greatly since my first stint as editor in 2001. The Internet is a more timely source for tournament news and announcements, so why bother?

I've been asking myself that often lately. Attending every weekend tournament to beg for contributions is next to impossible, and not much fun. Here's what I can offer: In the '40s, the Australian magazine *Chess World* — under the editorship of Cecil Purdy — set out to teach chess. Purdy was the greatest chess teacher ever, and decades later, his *Chess World* articles are as instructive as ever.

I can't rival the Internet for timeliness, but if the reborn *Chess Voice* can be half as valuable for students as Purdy's *Chess World* was, I'll say my third tour as editor of Northern California's chess magazine was the charm.

Frisco Del Rosario
Feb. 21, 2016

From the CalChess Board

Continued from Page 2

likely result in forfeit and possible removal from the tournament.

With the advent of technology, players are tempted into the bad decision of getting outside assistance with their moves with outside sources. Be it from an iPhone app, premoving/analyzing on a Monroi or Ply-Count, or a trip to the bathroom to chat with someone. This is cheating and will not be tolerated — players have been forfeited from games, removed from tournaments and even banned from future play. FIDE and the USCF are taking this issue seriously and so are we. Just don't do it! You *will* get caught.

With the CalChess Scholastic State Championships coming up, I implore coaches, parents and players to take some time away from your tactics and endgame training to focus on the importance of fair play. All that time and effort you are putting into chess can be thrown away by a simple interference or cheating episode that can ruin the event for all those involved.

Tom Langland, CalChess President

