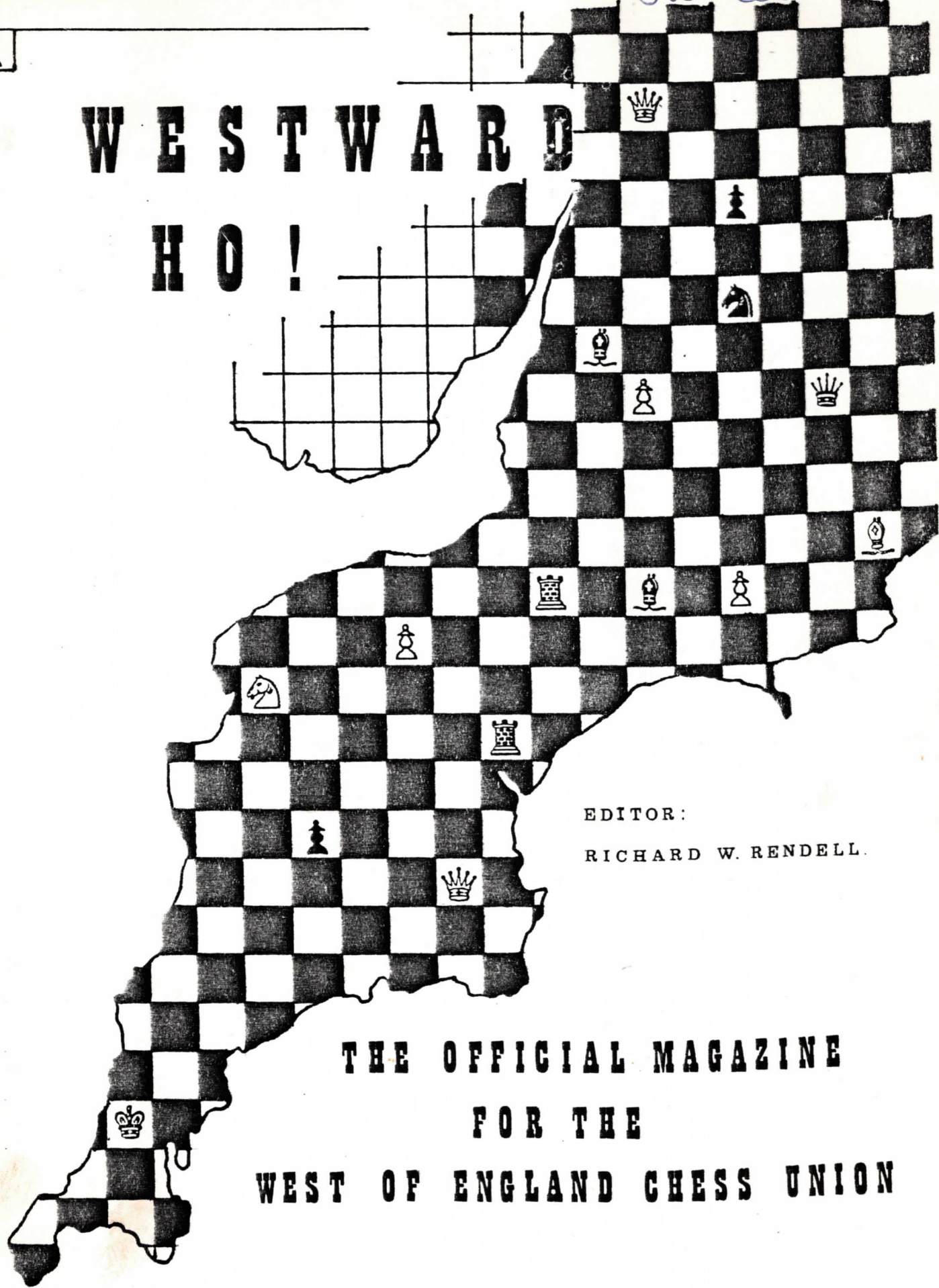


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WESTWARD HO!



EDITOR:
RICHARD W. RENDELL.

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE
FOR THE
WEST OF ENGLAND CHESS UNION

JULY 1988



Here we are again, the final edition of this financial year. And what a year it has been. I must admit I have struggled to get each edition out on time, due mainly to me having fingers in too many pies. For this reason I have decided to print only 3 issues next financial year, hopefully in October/November, February and May. The decision to print only 3 issues in future was not an easy one but I now feel it is the right one. I simply do not have time. I trust this will be acceptable.

I trust many of you on hearing this will be saying to yourself : If only 3 issues are going to be printed, how much will the subscription fees be now? Well, of those of you who responded to my questionnaire in the last Edition, no one said the present cost is too much. Therefore, for this reason, I am proposing the cost to be £4.50 for the 3 editions, with a 50p discount if the funds are sent before 15 September 1988. I think you will find this is effectively the same charge as last year. In addition to this, on agreement with the WECU, I can offer a WECU Grading List for £1.50, which is the standard price for it. Thus, although, I, as Editor of the Westward Ho!, have no control over the Grading List, I am in fact the chief stockist for it. I therefore enclose an additional sheet for completion and return for renewal of subscriptions.

Finally on this subject, I think you will realise that this new format is really no different to that of the past: a Grading List issue and 3 others, although please note, the Grading List is from the WECU, the 3 Westward Ho! from me. However, if you wish to subscribe to both, please make your cheques payable to "Westward Ho!" and I will pass your £1.50 onto the WECU.

Now to get on with this quarter's edition. I have found the questionnaire responses of great use, even though only 13% of the readers responded. There is an article on these responses on Page 3. Last quarter's "Pot Pourri" seemed very popular and has therefore been repeated again this quarter with various games I have been sent, including two from Michael Adams with his own commentary which I feel makes up for his absence in the WECU Championships, which is the main feature of this Edition. The commentary is as usual from David Le Moir and is of his usual high standard.

In answer to several letters from readers, I have persuaded our resident Controller, Steve Boniface, to do a feature called "Legal Clinic" in which he tries to answer those questions asked. Again I hope to make this a fairly regular feature if it is required.

The Problem Page has been retained although changed slightly - see "Your Views and Comments" on Page 3 for the reasons why- and I trust this will be liked. Thankfully I received many answers to the Competitions posed in the last editions, most of which were correct. For the correct answers see Page 28.

Finally my thanks to those who have submitted material which has aided me in writing this edition (and the others this year) and I trust that you, the reader, enjoy reading it.

Richard Rendell
Editor

September 1988 WECU Grading List

As mentioned above this will be on sale on the 1st of September 1988, priced £1.50. Those of you who wish just a Grading List or additional ones please send your cheques made payable to the "WECU" to me at 7 Wellesley Close, Bowerhill, Melksham, Wiltshire. SN12 6XT. Post and Packing is included in this price.

Please note that I am dependant on receiving the necessary information from

the BCF and WECU in advance of the 1st of September and therefore cannot be held liable if the lists are not available by then.

Please also note that Lists will be on sale at the Devon County Chess Association Paignton Congress from Sunday 4th to Saturday 10th of September 1988 and Saturday 30th September 1988 at the Centenary Congress of the Plymouth Chess Club to which I shall be attending. If the Lists are not available by then I shall be taking orders for it.

Richard Rendell
WECU Grading List Stockist

THE Devon County Chess Association 38th Annual PAIGNTON CONGRESS

To be held at Oldway Mansion, Paignton from Sunday 4 September to Saturday 10 September 1988 by Courtesy of TORBAY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Premier (open to players graded over 159 or 144J)

Prizes £300, £150, £75, £50, £25, £20

Entry Fee: £15.00

Challengers (open to players graded less than 170 or 155J)

Prizes £150, £100, £75, £50, £40, £30, £20

Entry Fee: £12.00

American Tournaments (to be held in graded sections of 8 with a maximum grading of 169 or 154J Morning or Afternoon play available)

Prizes £40, £25, £15

Entry Fee: £10.00

Swiss (open to players graded under 125 or 110J)

Prizes £75, £50, £40, £30, £20, £15

Entry Fee: £ 8.00

Quick Play will be held on Friday, 9th September at 7.30pm. Open to all.

Opening Ceremony: Sunday 4th September at 5.15 pm.

Closing Date for entries : Thursday 18th August 1988

Sponsored by Messrs F.D.Browning, Frozen Foods, Torquay.

Tournament Secretary: Lewis MOATE Water's Edge, 46 Thatcher Avenue, Torquay, Devon, TQ1 2PO Tel: (0803) 23345

WECU Grading List September 1988 will be on sale at Congress

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YOUR VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Further to the Questionnaire sent out with last quarter's Westward Ho! I now summarise your comments and views. Of 140 sent out there were 18 responses (13%) which is quite high for such an effort. Despite the low return several things came to my notice.

Firstly, all who answered the questionnaire thought the price was about right. As mentioned in the Editorial I have found my time limited and am struggling to get the issues out on time and for this reason have decided that I will print only 3 editions next year. Several of the responses mentioned that they would not mind if this was the case.

Secondly, 94½% thought the Content was Excellent/Good and 89% thought the Lay-Out was Excellent/Good. I must admit that I wondered whether the Lay-Out was acceptable. I have been experimenting with the Lay-Out and regret my typing is not brilliant. It is also very hard to get anyone to proof-read it before I print the magazine. Thus spelling and gramatical errors creep in. I have therefore made a conscious effort to improve the Lay-Out despite the fact that this had not been criticised. I have tried to leave more room at the top and bottom of the page and between articles in order that a good visual effect is obtained. I trust this can be noted from this edition. Of the 94½% in favour of the Content, 78% thought that it was only Good. Again, I have found writing/typing parts of it very boring but the articles sent by others have on the whole been very good, especially those from David Le Moir. However, some have been very thread-bare and I have had to work on these. Thus some of the articles haven't been as good as I would like them but the quality is often decided by the time constraint. Thus by printing only 3 editions the quality of Content will be better. The County Match Reports have caused a lot of worry and comment and these are expanded later.

The notation has inspired a lot of comments over the year but I have stuck rigidly to the long algebraic notation. Not surprisingly 50% were in favour of the shortened version (e.g. Nf6) but 28% were in favour of the long version and only 28% of the good old-fashioned P-K4. I believe that people should be persuaded to take up the algebraic notation as this is the notation normally accepted these days but personally prefer d2-d4 etc which my computer will only accept. Thus I am still intending to stick with the long algebraic notation as this offends the least.

Most people thought the Problem Page was a good idea (89%) of which 61% thought the problems were about right. However, 34% thought they were too difficult and the general view was that it should be made more of a Puzzle Page. Thus the change of name this quarter and change in format. I hope you find this more palatable and the puzzles amusing. I will try to get a general theme for them in future although this may be hard to do.

The County Match Reports were general thought of as too long and rather boring. I would personally agree with this view but many like to see the results and their name printed. I have tried several ways of giving the results but they still take up a lot of room. It also takes ages printing them all. Perhaps next year I will try printing them smaller by reducing them down and printing them across the page rather than down - i.e. like the print on the Grading List. I won't bother with the Captain's reports because these are also considered boring.

There were several requests for more West of England Players' games, especially our top players like Michael Adams, Gary Lane etc. I have therefore printed another "Pot Pourri" as well as the West of England Championships in this edition to satisfy this demand. I hope to make "Pot Pourri" a regular occurrence but this depends on me receiving annotated games.

I have also received several articles from several players, some of which have printed in this issue, other I have saved for future editions. I have received two articles from David Shire on the Latvian Gambit which I hope

to print in the next edition. I have received several requests for the continuation of the Leigh Strange Column. However, I understand that Leigh has left the country and I cannot get hold of her. It has been rumoured that she is currently over in U.S.A. on a teaching sabbatical.

Finally, may I thank all those of you who have responded to me and for your thoughts and views. May I further thank those of you who have sent me articles and annotated games and please keep them coming.

Richard Rendell

The Centenary Congress of the PLYMOUTH CHESS CLUB

will take place at the New Continental Hotel from Friday 30 September to Sunday 2 October 1988.

This congress will take place to celebrate Plymouth Chess Club's Centenary.

OPEN Entry Fee: £14.00
Prizes £700, £350, £250, £150, £100 and various others (entries permitting)

MAJOR (Player graded under 160) Entry Fee: £10.00
Prizes £175, £125, £100, £60, £40 and various others (entries permitting)

MINOR (Player graded under 120) Entry Fee £ 8.00
Prizes £100, £80, £60, £40, £30 and various other (entries permitting)

Controllers: Steve Boniface, Ron Bruce and Bob Luffman
Highest placed eligible player will receive a free entry to the 1989 British Championship to be held in Plymouth.

Entries close on Friday 23 September 1988. Juniors (Under 18 on 31/8/88) may deduct £2 from entry fee.

There will also be a CENTENARY DINNER on the Saturday night. Guests will include Civic Dignitaries, the Presidents of the BCF, WECU, DCCA and well known players. Lounge suits or equivalent dress please. Cost £11 per person pre-payment.

Enquiries and entries to the Congress Secretary :
E.A.Crickmore 5 Hereford Close, Woodbury Park, Exmouth, Devon
Tel: 0395 268293

WECU Grading Lists will be on sale at the Congress on Saturday 1 October.

WILTSHIRE COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION
2nd ANNUAL "QUICK PLAY" TOURNAMENT

will take place at the Rodbourne Road Methodist Hall, Rodbourne Road, Swindon Wiltshire on Saturday 15 October 1988.

Venue is 10 minutes walk from the centre of Swindon and the Railway station. Exact details of the venue can be obtained from the Controller.

The competition will consist of a 7 Round Swiss, 25 minutes each per game, Start 9.30 am.

OPEN Entry Fee £7.00

MINOR (Grade 151 - 180) Entry Fee £6.00

GRADED (Grade 121 - 150) Entry Fee £5.00

MINI (Grade of 120 and below) Entry Fee £4.00

75% of Entry Fees will be paid out in prize money.

Controller & Secretary: M J Morton 19 Bruce Street Rodbourne Swindon Wiltshire

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Tel: Stroud (045 36) 2518

JUNIOR SECRETARY - no one at present, but Brian J FRANCIS is acting for the
time being. All Correspondence to him at 15 Chancellor
Road, Walton, Street, Somerset, BA16 9RX
Tel: Street (0458) 42068.

FIXTURE SECRETARY Frank C KINGDON 6 Blenheim Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 5AZ
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or ring me on Melksham (0225) 709619

LEGAL CLINIC

By Steve Boniface

I have received several letters from readers concerning the rules of Chess, particularly about the behaviour of other players, especially in Chess Congresses. I have therefore passed these letters onto Steve Boniface, who, I am sure most know, is our local BCF Arbiter and who controls over a dozen Congresses each year, including the WECU Easter Congress, the East Devon and Hanham. I am sure you will agree, he is much better placed than me to answer such queries! (RWR)

Do you know which is the latest edition of THE LAWS OF CHESS ?

No? I am sure you are one of many. The answer is the 1985 edition. How many of you have actually read the rules? Again I am sure the answer is not many. Too many people rely on a vague recollection of those tiny sixpence booklets which spent most of their lives supporting the leg of a wobbly table. I have yet to meet a player who can tell me the gist of the bare King rule.

Now for questions brought up in readers' letters:

Can I consult the controller at any time during the game?

Yes. The Arbiter can give factual information as to the Laws, though players are not unreasonably expected to have read them.

But the Laws don't cover every situation.

That's one reason to have impartial Controllers who can make judgments on undocumented situations based on existing Laws and their previous experience of other, similar situations.

Can I stop my clock while I consult the Arbiter?

The Laws clearly state that only the Arbiter should stop both clocks. However, should it prove difficult to get one of the Controllers to the board in a reasonable time, it would be acceptable for the clock to be halted provided both players agreed. Nevertheless, either or both players could be penalised if it were thought unnecessary.

What would be an unnecessary stoppage?

Players have been known to stop clocks to have a cup of coffee, go to the toilet or even to have a rest. The clock is an integral part of the game, and must generally be kept running except for emergencies or to adjust the hands before a quick-play finish.

So what is actually different in a quick-play finish?

Surprisingly little, depending on the event. Some Congresses publish full sets of additional rules, others just the modifications to the Full Laws. Strickly speaking, most fast finishes are 'Allegro' which normally follow the BCF pattern. The most important differences lie in the greater discretion allowed to the Arbiter in the event of a flag falling.

My opponent is making no attempt to win on the board in an Allegro finish, but as he is ahead on time my flag will fall first. What can I do?

Provided you have reasonable chances of saving the game, the Controller may decide that the game should be drawn, even after your flag falls. You should appeal to him if you think this is the case. But there are other factors. He will assess whether it is possible to win the game at all; if one player is demonstrating the winning technique; if his opponent is playing to draw or win himself; and whether aimless play is in fact subtle manoeuvring.

What if I think the Arbiter is wrong?

Normally your entry form will commit you to accepting his decision without appeal. However, if you think a mistake in Law has been made, most Arbiters will listen to a well-put case. In bigger events you may have the right to appeal to a more senior Controller, or an Appeals Committee.

One Controller told me I must write down the moves, even in an Allegro finish. Is this right?

Yes, you must record the game move by move in proper notation until the last five minutes on your clock in each time-control.

By 'proper' I assume you mean Algebraic?

The Laws say Algebraic. However, the BCF has always permitted Descriptive notation, and you will not be penalised. Nevertheless algebraic is encouraged and it is noteworthy that more mistakes tend to be made in the old version. This can be disastrous when you seal a move.

Can't I just tick off the moves?

No. The whole point is that the scoresheet provides information to the Controllers, the Congress records, and in many cases, to the public. In any case, it's in your interest to record the game, in case of disputes and necessary when claiming a draw by repetition, for instance.

But it's my scoresheet isn't it?

No! It belongs to the organisers. That's why you may have to lend 'your' sheet to your opponent if he needs it to correct an error on his own.

In that case, can I write in my own scorebook instead?

No!! The Laws clearly state you must use the one provided. In practice, you will normally be allowed to make a parallel copy in your own book, though the official sheet is the only one that counts.

Why should my opponent need to see my scoresheet?

He may have missed a move by accident; he may not have been recording the game and have been told by the Arbiter to catch up before making another move.

So this is a punishment in his own time?

In a way. In the first instance, the Arbiter will warn the player. This is normally enough. Another offence could be penalised by adding time to his clock. Finally, he could be defaulted for refusing to abide by the Laws.

I've never seen that. Why doesn't it happen more often?

The final sanction? Because it's rarely necessary. Every player is entitled to one warning. Most problems occur in Allegro finishes where one player forgets to record in the heat of the moment. The arbiter just says 'record' to the offending player and normally that is all that is needed.

It seems to me that Controllers are motivated more by subjective views of "fair play" than enforcing the rules. In my submission, rules are rules. If one is in breach one should default the game. Well?

Unfortunately everyone argues this way until it is they who are in breach of the rules. In my experience, very few such offences are deliberate or malicious, and it's in everyone's interest to cultivate Arbiters good enough to know the difference. Many chess players are known to be temperamental and whilst not wishing to pander to prima donnas, it is in no-one's interest to take a heavy-handed inflexible approach which can only antagonise people.

So what's the point of making rules?

Firstly, they allow you to play the game. No-one disputes the way a bishop moves.

Secondly, they describe known situations and explain how they should be tackled.

Lastly, they give guidelines to typical situations and specify possible remedies depending on the circumstances. Some situations are not envisaged and the Arbiter must use his judgment.

Such as?

A player dies of a heart attack; the lights go out.

What about general behaviour?

The Laws forbid you to distract or worry your opponent. That coupled with commonsense covers most situations.

What about spectators? Can they point out illegal moves or if a flag has fallen?

Bystanders have no rights and should not interfere, though there is little one can do short of ejection. The Arbiter may consult spectators on matters of fact, however, provided they are impartial.

How do I become an Arbiter?

Start by knowing the Laws!

Steve Boniface

Have you any further questions to mind that you would like the answer to? Or perhaps witnessed a strange situation in a Congress, the decision or result of which you didn't totally comprehend?

If so. Please do not hesitate to put it in writing to me and I will pass it onto Steve. If this article prompts further questions etc I will print a further "Legal Clinic" in a future edition.

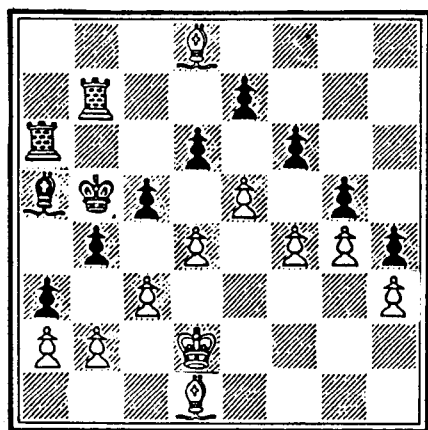
(RWR)

PUZZLE PAGE

As mentioned in the Editorial and "Your Views and Comments" this quarter I have changed the format of the Problem and Competition Page. This time, I give the answer below the problem; there is no competition as this is the last Edition of this financial year and hence, the change in name.

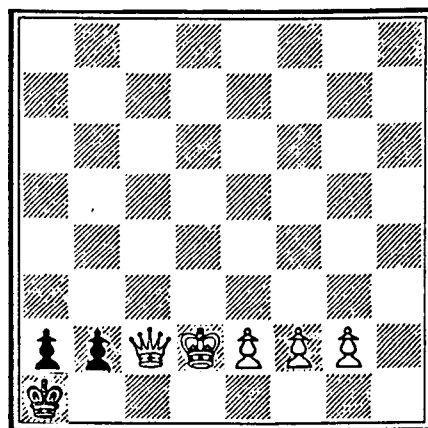
There is also a theme to this quarter's Puzzle Page : Unusual Pawn Positions.

I start with a couple of easy ones - provided you see the first move.



White to play and draw.

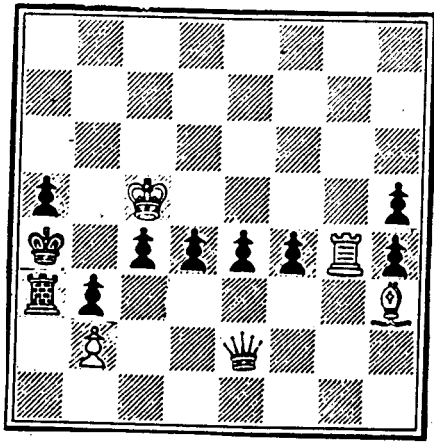
1. Bd1-a4+ Kb5xa4;
Rejection of the Bishop permits a perpetual check by 1...Kb5-c4; 2.Ba4-b3+ Kc4-b5; etc
2. b2-b3+ Ka4-b5; 3.c3-c4+ Kb5-c6; 4.d4-d5+ Kc6-d7; 5.e5-e6+ Kd7xd8; 6.f4-f5!...Drawn.
White now refuses all sacrifices (e.g. 6...Ba5-c7; 7.Kd2-d3 Ra6-a4; and simply move the King!



White to play and win.

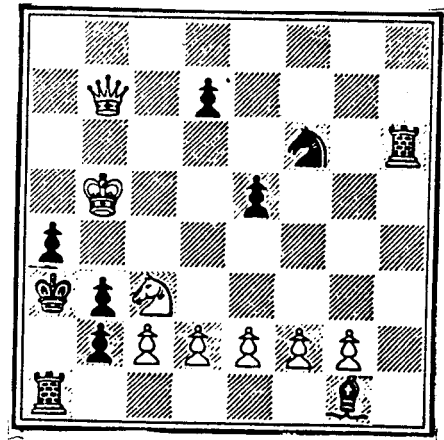
1.Qc2-c3 Kal-b1; 2.Qc3-d3+ Kb1-a1;
3.Qd3-d4 Kal-b1; 4.Qd4-e4+ Kb1-a1;
5.Qe4-e5 Kal-b1; 6.Qe5-f5+ Kb1-a1;
7.Qf5-f6 Kal-b1; 8.Qf6-g6+ Kb1-a1;
9.Qg6-g7 Kal-b1; 10.Qg7-h7+ Kb1-a1;
11.Qh7-h8(Not 11.Qh7-h1+? b2-b1=Q)
Kal-b1; 12.Qh8-h1+
Note that Black has no choice.

The next two are slightly more difficult; but much prettier:



White to play and win.

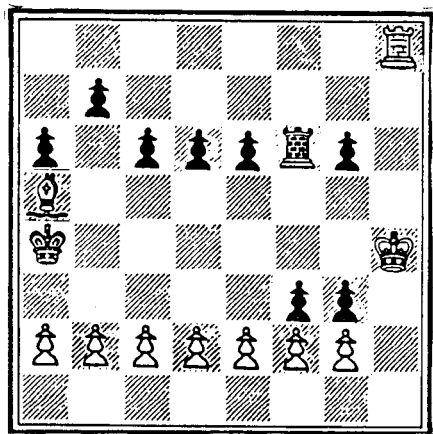
1.Rg4-g1... threatens 2.Bh3-d7++, thus:
 1...Qe2-g4; (the only move) 2.Bh3xg4
 h5xg4; 3.Rg1-c1... threatens Rclxc4++
 thus: 3...c4-c3; 4.Rc1-d1...same threat
 i.e.Rdlxd4++ 4...d4-d3; 5.Rd1-e1 e4-e3;
 6.Re1-f1 f4-f3; 7.Rf1-g1 g4-g3; 8.Rg1-h1
 h4-h3; 9.Rhlxh3 any; 10.Rh3-h4++.



White to play and draw.

1.Nc3-b1+ Ralxb1; (If 1...Ka3-a2;
 2.Nb1-c3+ Ka2-a3; 3.Nc3-b1+ etc)
 2.Qb7-a6... threatening 3.Qa6xa4++
 2...Rh6-h4; 3.g2-g4 Rh4xg4; 4.f2-f4
 Rg4xf4; Black must keep on capturing
 the pawn as the Rook is the only piece
 that can guard a4 and stop mate.
 5.e2-e4 Rf4xe4; 6.d2-d4 Re4xd4;
 7.c2-c4 Rd4xc4; White has now run
 out of pawns and his King can only
 move to one square. Thus:
 8.Qa6xa4! Rc4xa4; Stalemate.

The next position has two answers:



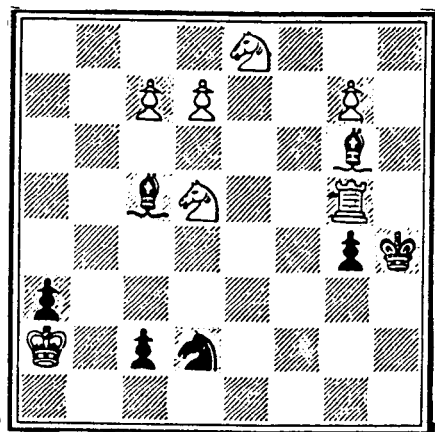
White to play and win.

1.Ba5-d8...

(a) ...f3xg2; 2.Kh4-h3 g2-g1=Q;
 3.Rh8-h4+ Ka4-b5; 4.a2-a4+ Kb5-c5;
 5.b2-b4+ Kc5-d5; 6.c2-c4+ Kd5-e5;
 7.d2-d4+ Ke5-f5; 8.e2-e4+ Kf5-g5;
 9.f2-f4++.

(b) ...g3xf2; 2.Kh3-g3 f2-f1=Q;
 3.Rh8-h4+ Ka4-b5; 4.a2-a4+ Kb5-c5;
 5.b2-b4+ Kc5-d5; 6.c2-c4+ Kd5-e5;
 7.d2-d4 Ke5-f5; 8.Rh4-f4+ Kf5-g5;
 9.Bd8xf6+ Kg5-h6; 10.Rf4-h4++.

And finally, the hardest and most strange!:



White to play and win

Black threatens 1...c2-c1=N+; 2.Ka2-a1 Nd2-b3++.

Thus White must continually check.

1.Rg5-h5+ Kh4xh5; (if 1...Bg6xh5; 2.d7-d8=Q+
 or 1...Kh4-g3; 2.Rh5-h1... wins)
 2.Nd5-f4+ Kh5-h6; (if 2...Kh5-g5 or h4; 3.d7-d8=Q+
 wins) 3.g7-g8=N+ Kh6-h7; 4.Ng8-f6+ Kh7-h6;
 (Not 4...Kh7-h8?; 5.Nf4xg6++) 5.Nf6xg4+ Kh6-h7;
 6.Ne8-f6+ Kh7-g7; 7.Kf4-e6+ Kg7-f7; 8.d7-d8=N+!
 9.Kf7-e7; 9.c7-c8=N++!

I think you will agree, this is a remarkable finish.

Richard Rendell

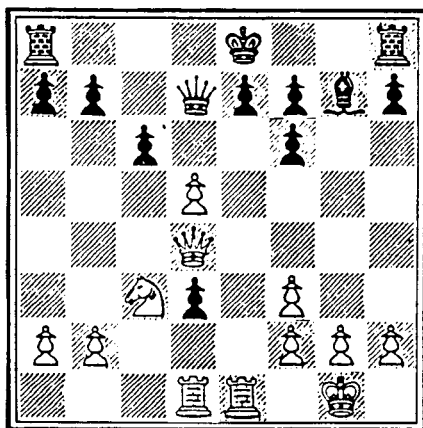
The 43rd West of England Chess Union Congress took place at Weston-Super-Mare over the Easter Weekend with 110 competitors. Unfortunately, we were denied many familiar sights especially Michael Adams' powerful play. Michael was away doing well at Oakham. Thus in Michael's absence it was expected that one of the former holders would take the senior title. However, this was not to be and surprisingly a new name was engraved on the Cup. Of the strong players present, very few did themselves justice. Gary Lane's crafty defensive play, Alan Ashby's calm but elegant attacks and David Shire's brilliantly analysed combinations were hardly anywhere to be seen and several others fared remarkably badly.

The tournament however was unusually strong - only two players, both good juniors, graded below 180 - and some very even (at times boring) play threw up a deserving champion who had challenged for the honour in the previous four years.

Round 1

In the first round only six games were decisive and the play was generally quite tedious. The winners were Beaumont, Freeman, Headlong, G.House, Le Moir and Moore. Lane was surprisingly held to a steady draw by Garwood.

Shire had a crushing advantage against me, but miscalculated in an interesting (and slightly embarrassing) way:



Shire (White) overpressed with 1.d5-d6 0-0-0 !; 2.Qd4xa7... (As he planned; note 2.Relxe7? ... loses to 2...Qd7xe7!) 2...Qd7xd6; (Not 2...e7xd6; 3.Nc3-b5! c6xb5; 4.Rd1-cl+...winning the queen) Now White had planned to make decisive use of his rooks, starting with 3.Nc3-b5 c6xb5; 4.Rd1-cl+ Kc8-d7; 5.Qa7xb7+ Kd7-e8; 6.Rd1xd3!! Qd6xd3; 7.Qb7xe7 mate.

Now try it on a chessboard. You will notice the rook is no longer on d1 !

Shire suddenly noticed what was wrong and, greatly depressed, simplified:

3.Qa7-a8+ Kc8-c7; 4.Qa7-a5+ Kc7-b8; 5.Nc3-e4 Qd6-c7; 6.Qa5xc7+ Kb8xc7; 7.Ne4-c5 e7-e6; 8.Nc5xd3...

but Black's raking bishop gave him the advantage in the ending. Shire yet managed to contrive an attractive finish for me (to avoid losing Prosaically).

8...Rd8-d6; 9.Nd3-f4 Rd6xd1; 10.Relxd1 f6-f5; 11.b2-b3 b7-b5!;

Not 11...Rh8-a8; 12.a2-a4. The text move now threatens 12...Rh8-a8; 13.Rd1-d2? Bg7-h6; winning the knight. Thus the White rook cannot defend the a-pawn from a1 and d2.

12.Nf4-h5 Bg7-e5; 13.f3-f4 Be5-c3!; 14.Rd1-d3...

White intends to force the bishop from the a1-h8 diagonal by the threat perpetually to attack it.

14...b5-b4!; 15.a2-a4...

If 15.Kg1-f1... then...Rh8-a8; 16.a2-a4? b4xa3; 17.Rd3xc3 a3-a2; queening.

15...b4xa3:e.p.!

This is the point of Black's play since 11...b7-b5. The twin motifs of pawn promotion and back rank mate combine nicely.

16.Rd3xc3:a3-a2; 17.Rc3-cl Rh8-b8!; 18.Rcl-a1 Rb8xb3; 19.Ralxa2 Rb3-b1 mate.

Round 2

With the seeding system ensuring the maximum grading gap between opponents, the first round usually produces the most attractive and decisive play. It didn't, so what would the second round produce?

There were more decisive games - nine - but the play was still rather dour. Since all of the first round winners drew, they were joined on $1\frac{1}{2}$ points by Cowling, Easton, Garwood, Lane and Walker.

Round 3

Things livened up a little in this round. When Lane was being pressed back by Headlong and in his own unique way building up the tension (and his own possibilities for counterplay) as time trouble approached, I thought we were in for another Lane win. Indeed, at adjournment, Lane was a piece ahead but Headlong had kept the draw in hand and administered a draw by repetition.

Four of the leaders won: Cowling beat me when I over-simplified to turn a winning ending into a drawn one and finally miscalculated to lose, Garwood beat Moore when the latter's dominant position turned sour and Beaumont and Easton won the games I give below.

Following the leaders came a group of four on 2 points: Lane and Headlong, Boyce (who beat Davies) and Truran (who beat Freeman).

C.BEAUMONT v M.WALKER

1.Ng1-f3 Ng8-f6; 2.c2-c4 g7-g6; 3.Nb1-c3 Bf8-g7; 4.e2-e4 d7-d6; 5.d2-d4 0-0; 6.Bf1-e2 e7-e5; 7. 0-0 Nb8-c6; 8.d4-d5 Nc6-e7; 8.Nf3-d2...

A battle of opposite wing attacks is in prospect. White will advance b2-b4 and c4-c5, Black f7-f5-f4 and g6-g5.

9...Nf6-e8;

Black could have changed the nature of the game by 9...c7-c5; or played for the exchange of bishops by 9...Bg7-h6; before the knight at d2 moves away to c4.

10.b2-b4 f7-f5; 11.c4-c5 Ne8-f6; 12.f2-f3 f5-f4; 13.Nd2-c4 g6-g5; 14.a2-a4...

I do not know much of the theory in this opening. The game Vilela-Niceuski 1982 went...14.Bc1-a3 h7-h5; 15.b4-b5 Nf6-e8; 16.Ba3-b4 Ne7-g6; 17.a2-a4 Rf8-f7; 18.a4-a5 Bg7-f8; 19.c5-c6..., drawn soon afterwards. I get the impression that Beaumont's faster plan of forcing b4-b5-b6 may be slightly better than bottling it up with c5-c6.

14...h7-h5; 15.Bc1-a3 Nf6-e8; 16.b4-b5 Rf8-f6;

The rook is better placed both defensively, and for attack on f7, intending ...Bg7-f8 and Rf7-g7.

17.b5-b6! a7xb6; 18.c5xb6 Bc8-d7;

With the rook protecting d6, his original intention may have been 18...c7-c6; but 19.d5xc6 b7xc6; 20.Qd1-b3... or 20.Nc4xe5?! Rf6-e6!; 21.Qd1-b3 Bg7xe5; 22.b6-b7... leaves Black in difficulties coping with the passed pawns and the pressure on d6. Now White gradually builds up the pressure along the b and c files.

19.Qd1-b3 Ne7-c8; 20.b6xc7 Qd8xc7;; 21.Ra1-b1 Ra8-a7; 22.Nc3-b5 Bd7xb5; 23.Qb3xb5 Qc7-d8; 24.a4-a5 Rf6-f7; 25.Qb5-b3 Bg7-f6; 26.Rf1-c1 Qd8-d7; 27.Rc1-c2! Bf6-d8?;

Black has made room for his pieces but, as White's decisive next move shows, it is not easy to arrange them effectively. Now that Black has secured d6 and b7, White will double rooks on the c-file which will put enormous strain on the black position. If the knight moves away from c8, it gets in the way on e7 and leaves b6 and the pawn at d6 vulnerable. However, this is not necessary.

28.Nc4xe5! Resigns.

Sudden death. 28...d6xe5; 29.Be2-b5!! leaves the Queen without a square to escape to. Thus Black has the option of giving up the Queen for 2 minor pieces or the exchange (Rook for Knight) and a pawn. Resignation is simpler.

A.EASTON v G.HOUSE

1.Ng1-f3 e7-e6; 2.c2-c4 d7-d5; 3.d2-d4 c7-c5; 4.c4xd5 e6xd5; 5.Nb1-c3 Nb8-c6; 6.g2-g3 Ng8-f6; 7.Bf1-g2 Bf8-e7; 8. 0-0 0-0; 9.Bc1-g5 c5xd4; 10.Nf3xd4 Rf8-e8; 11.Ra1-c1 h7-h6; 12.Bg5-e3 Bc8-g4; 13.h2-h3 Bg4-e6; 14.Nd4xe6 f7xe6; 15.Qd1-b3 Nc6-a5; 16.Qb3-b5 a7-a6; 17.Qb5-b6 Qd8xb6; 18.Be3xb6 Na5-c6; 19.Rf1-d1 Nf6-d7?!; 20.Nc3xd5! e6xd5; 21.Bg2xd5+ Kg8-f8; 22.Bd5xc6 Nd7xb6; 23.Bc6xe8;Kf8xe8;

White's combination leaves him with a rook and two pawns versus bishop and knight. Both sides will find their weaknesses easy to defend, so White's passed pawn (and the possibility of creating two connected passed pawns) is the main chance of a decisive result. In the sequel, Black allows White to play his trumps too easily.

24.Rc1-c7 Ra8-b8; 25.b2-b3 Nb6-a8; 26.Rc7-c4 Rb8-d8; 27.Rd1xd8+ Ke8xd8; 28.Kg1-g2 b7-b5; 29.Rc4-d4+ Kd8-c7; 30.f2-f4 Kc7-c6; 31.e2-e4 Na8-b6; 32.Kg2-f3 a6-a5; 33.Rd4-d2 a5-a4; 34.Rd2-c2+ Kc6-d7; 35.e4-e5 Nb6-d5; 36.Kf3-e4 Nd5-b4; 37.Rc2-d2+ Kd7-e6; 38.f4-f5+ Ke6-f7; 39.b3xa4 b5xa4; 40.a2-a3 Nb4-a6; 41.Ke4-f3 g7-g6; 42.g3-g4 h7-h5; 43.Rd2-d7! h5xg4+; 44.h3xg4 g6xf5; 45.g4xf5 Kf7-e8; 46.Rd7-a7 Na6-c5; 47.Ra7-a8+ Ke8-d7; 48.Ra8-a7+ Kd7-e8; 49.f5-f6 Be7-d8; 50.Kf3-f4 Bd8-b6; 51.Ra7-e7+ Ke8-f8; 52.Kf4-f5 Nc5-b3; 53.Re7-b7 Bb6-d8; 54.Rb7-h7 Nb3-d4+; 55.Kf5-g6 Resigns.

Round 4

Beaumont took the sole lead when Garwood's sacrificial attack broke down quickly. Behind on three points came Easton and Cowling, who drew their game, and Truran, who caused a sensation by beating Lane. Gary crippled his own queenside in trying to create attacking chances and was unable to build up the usual tension. His own King was always the more vulnerable.

G.LANE V M.TRURAN

1.e2-e4 c7-c5; 2.c2-c3 d7-d6; 3.d2-d4 Ng8-f6; 4.d4xc5 Nb8-c6; 5.Nb1-d2 d6xc5; 6.Ng1-f3 g7-g6; 7.Bf1-c4 Nf6-g4; 8. 0-0 Ng4-e5; 9.Bc4-b5 Bc8-d7; 10.Nd2-c4 Bf8-g7; 11.Nc4xe5 Nc6xe5; 12.Nf3xe5! Bg7xe5; 13.Qd1-b3 a7-a6; 14.Bb5xd7+ Qd8xd7; 15.Bc1-h6 Qd7-c7; 16.g2-g3 c5-c4; 17.Qb3-d1 Be5-d6; 18.Qd1-g4 Qc7-d7; 19.Qg4-e2 Qd7-c7; 20.Rf1-e1 0-0-0; 21.b2-b3? Bd6-e5; 22.Ra1-c1 Rd8-d3; 23.b3xc4 Qc7xc4; 24.Bh6-e3 Kc8-b8; 25.Be3-b6 Rh8-c8; 26.Rc1-d1 Rd3xd1+; 27.Qe2xd1 Qc4xc3; 28.a2-a4 Be5-d6; 29.Kg1-g2 Qc3-c6; 30.Qd1-b3 f7-f5; 31.Kg2-h3 f5xe4; 32.Re1-b1 Qc6-d7+; 33.Kh3-h4 e7-e5; 34.g3-g4 h7-h5; 35.h2-h3 h5xg4; 36.h3xg4 Rc8-h8+; 37.Kh4-g3 Qd7-h7; 38.Kg3-g2 e4-e3!; 39. Resigns.

Boyce and Headlong drew their game to reach $2\frac{1}{2}$ points. Freeman joined them by beating Wheeler, who, like Lane, myself and Staples (all three now on 2 points), Moore (with $1\frac{1}{2}$ points), Ashby and Andrews (both with only 1 point) were having a torrid time. Also on $2\frac{1}{2}$ were Heasman, G.House, P.House, Osborne and Dilleigh, who all won their games, and Garwood.

G.COPELAND v R.HEASMAN

1.d2-d4 d7-d5; 2.c2-c4 c7-c6; 3.Ng1-f3 Ng8-f6; 4.Nb1-c3 d5xc4; 5.a2-a4 Bc8-g4; 6.e2-e3 e7-e6; 7.Bf1xc4 Nb8-d7; 8.h2-h3 Bg4-h5; 9. 0-0 Bf8-b4; 10.Bc4-d3 0-0; 11.e3-e4 e6-e5; 12.Bd3-c2...

Accepting doubled pawns in order to create attacking chances on the Kingside. In the end, it is Black who gets the Kingside attack.

12...Bh5xf3; 13.g2xf3 e5xd4; 14.Qd1xd4 Bb4-c5; 15.Qd4-c4 Nf6-h5; 16.e4-e5 Rf8-e8; 17.Qc4-d3 Qd8-h4!?!; 18.Qd3xd7 Re8-e6!;

Cutting off the Queen's line to h3, so threatening 19...Qh4-g3+; 20.Kg1-h1 Qg3xh3+; 21.Kh1-g1 Nh5-g3!; mating on h1. Both 19.Nc3-e2 and 19.Nc3-e4 are interesting, complicated replies. White chooses his simplest.

19.Kg1-g2 Ra8-d8; 20.Qd7xb7 Bc5xf2!; 21.Rf1xf2 Qh4-g3+; 22.Kg2-f1 Qg3xh3+; 23.Kf1-e1...

He cannot get away from perpetual checks even here. 23.Kf1-g1 allows perpetual check by: 23...Qh3-g3+; If 23.Kf1-e2 Re6xe5+; 24.Nc3-e4 Nh5-g3+; 25.Ke2-e3 (25.Ke2-e1? Qh3-h1 mates) Qh3-h6+; 26.f3-f4 Ng3xe4; 27.Bc2xe4 Qh6-h3+!; 28.Rf2-f3 Re5xe4+!; 29.Ke3xe4 Qh3-e6 mates. After the move played Black has a perpetual check but is tempted to try for more.

23...Re6xe5+; 24.Nc3-e4 Qh3-h1+; 25.Rf2-f1 Qh1-h4+; 26.Rf1-f2 Nh5-g3; 27.Qb7-a6 f7-f5; 28.Qa6-c4+?!...

28.Ra1-a3... is better. We shall soon see why.

28...Kg8-h8; 29.Ra1-a3 f5xe4; 30.Ra3-e3?...

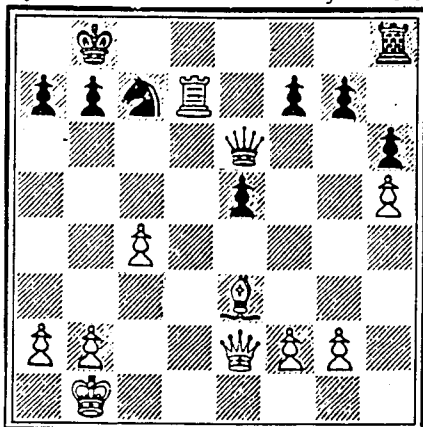
The next move was easy to miss. 30.f3xe4 still leaves a sharp struggle.

30...Re5-c5!; 31.Re3xe4...

31.Qc4xc5 Qh3-h1 mates. 31.Qc4-a6 Rc5xc2. So White loses material.

31...Rc5xc4; 32.Re4xh4 Rc4xh4; 33.Rf2-g2 Rh4-h1+; 34.Ke1-f2 Rh1xc1; 35.Kf2xg3 g7-g6; 36.Resigns.

Varley was rather unlucky when his pawn win led his rook up a blind alley:



Dilleigh (Black) had just played 1...Qa6-e6; defending the f-pawn, but deserting the a-pawn. Varley naturally played:

2.Be3xa7? Kb8xa7; 3.Rd7xc7 Ka7-b6; and his rook was lost!

Round 5

Beaumont stayed half a point ahead by drawing with Cowling. Easton and Truran drew their game and G.House, Boyce, Dilleigh and Headlong joined them and Cowling on 3½ points by beating Osborne, Heasman, Freeman and Garwood respectively. Alone on 3 points came P.House, who drew steadily with Gary Lane by avoiding and kind of complications.

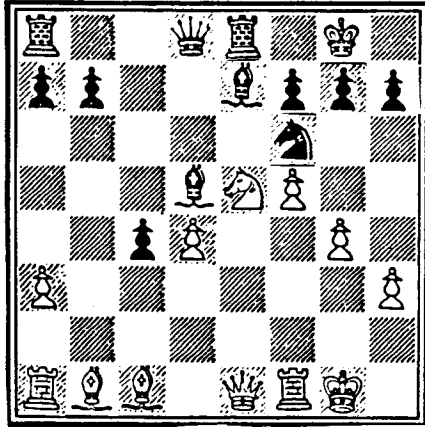
Dilleigh's win came when Freeman mishandled his attack in an interesting way:

S.DILLEIGH v M.FREEMAN

1.d2-d4 d7-d5; 2.c2-c4 c7-c6; 3.Ng1-f3 Ng8-f6; 4.Nb1-c3 e7-e6; 5.c4xd5 c6xd5; 6.e2-e3 Nf6-e4; 7.Nc3xe4 d5xe4; 8.Nf3-d2 f7-f5; 9.f2-f3 Bf8-d6; 10.Bf1-b5+ Nb8-c6; 11. 0-0?! Qd8-h4; 12.g2-g3? Bd6xg3; 13.h2xg3 Qh4xg3+; 14.Kg1-h1 0-0; 15.Qd1-e2 Rf8-f6; 16.Qe2-h2! Rf6-h6; 17.Qh2xh6! g7xh6; 18.Rf1-g1... and White wins.

Go back to move 14 and try 14...Rh8-f8!. The defence in the game fails and the attack breaks through.

In the game between Heasman and Boyce, Boyce was a pawn ahead (see diagram overleaf), but White's pawns, knight and bishops look dangerous. Boyce, however, spies the airy nature of White's King and decides to take aim with his Queen and Bishop.



1...b7-b5!; 2.g4-g5 Bd5-b7!; 3.g5xf6 Qd8xd4+; 4.Bc1-e3...

4.Qe1-f2 Be7-c5!; (4...Qd4xe5; 5.f6xe7 Qe5za1; 6.Bc1-b2 traps the queen) 5.Ne5-d7 Qd4-d5!; 6.Qf2xc5 Qd5-g2 mate.

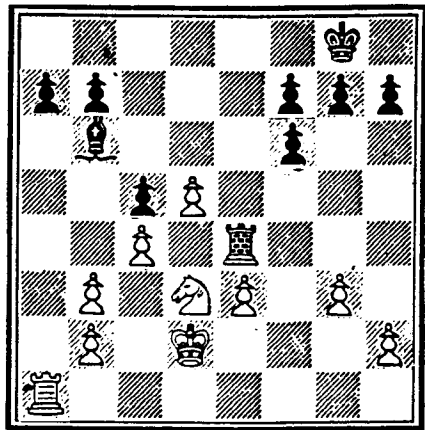
4...Qd4xe5; 5.f6xe7 Qe5xe7; 6.Be3-d2 Qe7-f6; 7.Qe1-g3! Re8-e2!;

Not 7...Qf6xa1; 8.Bd2-c3...

Now White is threatened from all sides, however, his next move threatens mate on g7.

8.Bd2-c3 Qf6-b6+; 9.Rf1-f2 f7-f6; 10.Ra1-a2 Re2-e3; wins the bishop leaving Black 3 pawns up.

Hindley (White) had all the advantages against Davies and now gained a decisive plus by a delicate little combination:



1.b3-b4! Re4xc4; 2.b4xc5 Bb6xc5;(otherwise he loses the a-pawn) 3.b2-b3! Bc5-b4+; 4.Nd3xb4 Rc4xb4; 5.Ra1xa7 Kg8-f8; 6.Kd2-c3 Rb4-b6; 7.Kc3-c4 (The Black pieces are hopelessly tied down. b3-b4-b5 and Kc4-c5 threatens to win the rook!) Kf8-e7; 8.b3-b4Ke7-d6; 9.b4-b5 f6-f5; 10.Ra7-a8 g7-g6; 11.Ra8-h8 h7-h5; 12.h2-h4 Kd6-d7; 13.Kc4-c5 Rb6-f6; 14.b5-b6 (zugswang) g6-g5; 15.h4xg5 Rf6-g6; 16.Rh8-b8 Rg6xg5; 17.Rb8xb7+ Kd7-c8; 18.Rb7xf7 Rg5xg3; 19.Kc5-c6 Rg3-g6+; 20.d5-d6 Resigns.

Collier was suffering with the rest of us in the lower half of the order. He began to climb out of this unaccustomed state with a very well played ending which helped Wheeler sink still further.

G.WHEELER v D.COLLIER

1.c2-c4 b7-b6; 2.Ng1-f3 Bc8-b7; 3.g2-g3 e7-e5!?!; 4.Bf1-g2 e5-e4; 5.Nf3-d4 g7-g6; 6. O-O Bf8-g7; 7.Nd4-c2 f7-f5; 8.d2-d3 Ng8-f6; 9.Nb1-c3 O-O; 10.d3xe4 Nf6xe4; 11.Nc3xe4 f5xe4; 12.Ra1-b1 d7-d6;

White's play has been insufficiently challenging to the ambitious black opening scheme. Black now starts to build up an attack, but soon switches to an ending where his active rooks can attack broken pawns on the queenside.

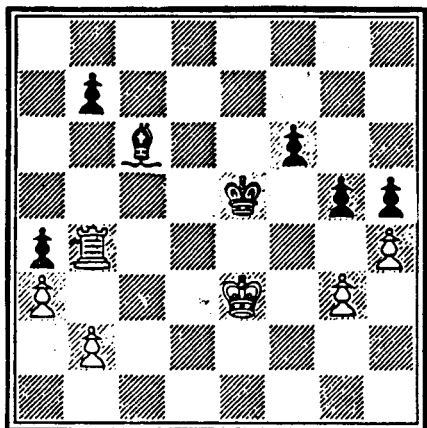
13.Bc1-e3 Nb8-d7; 14.Be3-d4 Qd8-e7; 15.Bd4xg7 Qe7xg7; 16.Nc2-e3 a7-a5; 17.b2-b3 Qg7-e5; 18.Qd1-d2 Nd7-f6; 19.Rb1-d1 Ra8-e8; 20.Qd2-d4 Qe5-h5; 21.Rd1-d2 Re8-e5; 22.a2-a3 Bb7-c8; 23.b3-b4 Bc8-h3; 24.b4xa5? Bh3xg2; 25.Kg1xg2 Re5xa5; 26.Qd4-c3 Qh5-c5; 27.Rd2-a2 Ra5-a4; 28.Rf1-b1 Ra4-a5; 29.Rb1-f1 Qc5-e5; 30.Qc3xe5 Ra5xe5; 31.Rf1-d1 Re5-c5; 32.Rd1-d4 Rf8-e8; 33.Ra2-b2 Rc5-a5; 34.rb2-b3 Ra5-a4; 35.Rb3-c3 Re8-a8; 36.Ne3-c2...

The beginning of the end, as White's pieces become more and more passive. Black now prepares to use his pawns in the attack.

36...Ra8-a5; 37.f2-f3 Ra5-e5; 38.f3-f4 Re5-c5; 39.h2-h3 d6-d5; 40.Nc2-b4 c7-c6; 41.Rc3-c2 Ra4xa3; 42.c4xd5 Rc5xc2; 43.Nb4xc2 Ra3-c3; 44.Nc2-e1 c6xd5; 45.Kg2-f2 Kg8-f7; 46.Ne1-g2 Kf7-e6; 47.Rd4-b4 Nf6-d7; 48.Ng2-e3 Ke6-d6; 49.Rb4-a4 b6-b5; 50.Ra4-a7 d5-d4; 51.Ne3-d1 Rc3-c1; 52.Nd1-b2 Rcl-b1; 53.Ra7-a2 Nd7-b6; 54.g3-g4 Nb6-d5; 55.Resigns.

Round 6

Beaumont determinedly ground Boyce down. In the end, though, Boyce squandered his drawing chances by grabbing a "hot" pawn. Only Truran and G.House could keep up with the pace, their wins against Cowling and Dilleigh keeping them within half a point of the lead with $4\frac{1}{2}$ points.



G.House's ending against Dilleigh (Black) was very well played.

1.b2-b3! a4xb3; 2.Rb4xb3... gives Black the problem that White may force Rxc6 at a moment when the King cannot stop the queening of the a-pawn. But can White open up a second front?

2...Ke5-f5; 3.Rb3-b4 Bc6-h1; 4.Rb4-c4 Bh1-g2; 5.Rc4-c2 Bg2-h1;

Or 5...Bg2-d5; 6.Rc2-c5 Kf5-e6; 7.Ke3-d4 B moves; and White wins the g-pawn.

6.Rc2-h2 Bh1-d5; 7.Rh2-d2 Bd5-h1; 8.Rd2-d4 Bh1-g2; 9.Ke3-f2 Bg2-h1; 10.Rd4-c4 Bh1-e4;

No choice: 10...Bh1-c6; 11.Rc4xc6;

10...Bh1-d5; is met similarly to the game continuation.

11.g3-g4+! h5xg4; 12.h4-h5 Be4-f3; 13.Rc4-c7 Resigns.

The pawn wins the bishop. Had Black played 10...Bh1-d5; then 11.Rc4-c5 Kf5-e6; 12.g3-g4! h5xg4; 13.h4-h5 Bd5-e4; 14.Rc5-c7... winning the bishop through the threat of h5-h6-h7.

Three players moved up to 4 points, Easton and Headlong (who drew their game) and Paul House, who beat me embarrassingly quickly.

The losses of Dilleigh, Cowling and Boyce left them on $3\frac{1}{2}$ points and they were joined by Osborne, Collier and Lane, who beat Ashby, Heasman and Piper respectively. Lane won quickly with a surprisingly bold Kingside attack.

G.LANE v M.PIPER

1.e2-e4 e7-e5; 2.Ng1-f3 Nb8-c6; 3.Nb1-c3 Ng8-f6; 4.Bf1-b5 d7-d6; 5.d2-d4 e5xd4; 6.Nf3xd4 Bc8-d7; 7. O-O Bf8-e7; 8.Nd4-f5 Bd7xf5; 9.e4xf5 O-O; 10.Bc1-e3 Qd8-c8; 11.g2-g4 Nc6-e5; 12.Bb5-e2 c7-c6; 13.f2-f4 Ne5-d7; 14.g4-g5...

Black has lured forward the White pawns...and soon regrets it.

14...Nf6-e8; 15.Be2-d3 d6-d5;

15...f7-f6; breaks the advance of the pawns. Maybe White would have gone for the piece sacrifice: 16.Bd3-c4+ d6-d5(16...Kg8-h8 may be better); 17.Nc3xd5 c6xd5; 18.Bc4xd5+ Kg8-h8; 19.Bd5-e6 Be7-d6; 20.Qd1-h5... intending Rf1-f3-h3.

16.f5-f6! Be7-c5;

16...g7xf6; 17.Qd1-h5...wins.

17.Be3xc5 Nd7xc5; 18.Bd3xh7+! Kg8xh7; 19.Qd1-h5+ Kh7-g8; 20.Rf1-f3 g7-g6; 21.Qh5-h4 Resigns.

There is no defence to Rf3-h3.

Round 7

With Beaumont half a point ahead of his Bristol & Clifton clubmate Truran who he played in the last round and Headlong another clubmate playing G.House, who was the only other player who could catch Beaumont if he only drew with Truran, there was a strong likelihood that there would be a quickly agreed draw on the top board as soon as Headlong stopped G.House from winning.

Thus Beaumont must have been slightly worried when Headlong failed to turn up on time for the start of the last round and furthermore so when, at last, Headlong turned up 20 minutes later and the game started 1.e2-e4 c7-c5; 2.c2-c3... with Headlong with the White pieces. However, he soon started to play passively and a draw was agreed after 9 moves. In the meanwhile, Truran and Beaumont had played 11 non-committal moves and it came as no surprise that a draw was agreed within seconds of the Headlong/House draw. It was thus a pity that the tournament should end in such a way however this should distract us away from the fact that Beaumont fully deserved the honour of becoming Champion with 5½ points with Truran and G.House tied second with 5 points together with Paul House who beat Easton. Headlong and Osborne, who beat Boyce, came equal fifth on 4½ points. Four points, and some kind of respectability, was reached by Lane and Dilleigh(4-move draw), Staples who beat Copeland, Cowling and Collier (who drew), Easton, Garwood (beat Davies) and Varley, who had a wild win against Freeman.

M.FREEMAN v P.VARLEY

It is difficult to make sensible judgments about this game. Black gambits a pawn in the opening; White holds on to it at the expense of development, then wins another pawn at the expense of some counterplay. Soon afterwards he cleverly, gives back one pawn to win the exchange but now the counter-storm breaks. Facing the rampant f-pawn and lively black minor pieces, White gives back all the extra material (plus two pawns) and puts his faith in his own passed b-pawn. Just when it appears he has secured a reasonable ending, he plays a false pawn-promotion combination (probably in time-trouble) and loses a rook!

1.d2-d4 d7-d5; 2.c2-c4 Ng8-f6; 3.Nb1-c3 g7-g6; 4.Bc1-f4 Bf8-g7; 5.e2-e3 c7-c5; 6.d4xc5 Qd8-a5; 7.Qd1-a4+ Qa5xa4; 8.Nc3xa4 Bc8-d7; 9.Na4-c3 Nb8-a6; 10.c4xd5 Na6xc5; 11.Bf4-e5 O-O; 12.f2-f3 Bg7-h6; 13.Be5-d4 Ra8-c8; 14.e3-e4 Nf6-h5; 15.g2-g3 Rf8-e8; 16.Ke1-f2 a7-a6; 17.f3-f4 b7-b5; 18.b2-b4 Nc5-a4; 19.Nc3xa4 Rc8-c2+; 20.Kf2-f3 b5xa4; 21.Bf1-d3 Rc2-c7; 22.Bd3xa6 e7-e6; 23.d5-d6 Rc7-c6; 24.Ba6-b5 Rc6xd6; 25.Bd4-c5 Rd6-d2; 26.Kf3-e3 Bd7xb5; 27.Ke3xd2 e6-e5; 28.Ng1-f3 e5xf4; 29.g3-g4 Nh5-f6; 30.e4-e5 Nf6xg4; 31.Nf3-d4 Bb5-c4; 32.Kd2-c3 Bc4-d5; 33.b4-b5!? Bd5xh1; 34.Ra1xh1 Re8-c8; 35.Nd4-c6 Bh6-f8; 36.Bc5-d6 f7-f6; 37.Kc3-d4 f4-f3; 38.h2-h3 f6xe5+; 39.Bd6xe5 Ng4xe5; 40.Kd4xe5 Rc8-e8+; 41.Ke5-d5 f3-f2; 42.Rh1-f1 Re8-e2; 43.Nc6-d4 Re2xa2; 44.b5-b6 Ra2-b2; 45.Kd5-c6 a4-a3; 46.b6-b7 Bf8-g7; 47.Nd4-b5 Bg7-e5; 48.Nb5xa3 g6-g5; 49.Rf1xf2?? Rb2xf2; 50.Resigns.

He forgot that the bishop at e5 controls the queening square. 49.Na3-c4! Rb2-d2; 50.Kc6-d5 Be5-g3; 51.Nc4-b6... seems to secure a comfortable draw with the likely exchange of the passed pawns and minor pieces leaving a Rook and Pawn ending that Black cannot win.

I have not mentioned the Brigadier Morris best junior game. To be honest, the entry was disappointing. Both Walker and Piper had difficult ties in this tournament. Their wins were superior to those of the juniors in the other Congress Sections, were not amongst the most "publishable" played. On the other hand, if you are playing to win, the attractiveness of the game is of only passing importance. Piper's only win, against Collier, just shades it over Walker's last round miniature against Andrews.

D.COLLIER v M.PIPER

1.d2-d4 ng8-f6; 2.c2-c4 e7-e6; 3.Nb1-c3 Bf8-b4; 4.e2-e3 c7-c5; 5.Ng1-f3 d7-d6; 6.Bf1-d3 Bb4xc3+; 7.b2xc3 Nb8-c6; 8. O-O O-O; 9.Nf3-h4?! e6-e5; 10.f2-f4?! e5-e4; 11.Bd3-e2 Nf6-e8; 12.g2-g3 f7-f5; 13.d4xc5 d6xc5; 14.Qd1-d5+?! Qd8xd5; 15.c4xd5 Nc6-a5; 16.Bc1-a3 b7-b6; 17.Kg1-f2 Ne8-d6;

White has contrived to weaken his centre pawns - the c-pawn cannot get to c4 to support the d-pawn. Black exploits the advantage of the two knights in such a position.

18.Ral-d1 Bc8-d7; 19.g3-g4 Bd7-b5!; 20.Rf1-g1 Bb5xe2; 21.Kf2xe2 Ra8-d8;
 22.Ba3-c1 Nd6-b5; 23.Bc1-d2 f5xg4; 24.Bd2-e1 Nb5-c7; 25.d5-d6 Nc7-e8;
 26.Rg1xg4 Rd8xd6; 27.Rd1xd6 Ne8xd6; 28.Rg4-g5 Rf8-d8; 29.Rg5-d5 Nd6-f7;
 30.Rd5xd8+ Nf7xd8; 31.Nh4-f5 Na5-c4; 32.Be1-h4...

The problem bishop emerges too late to affect the result.

32...Nd8-c6; 33.Nf5-g3 Nc4-d6; 34.f4-f5 Kg8-f7; 35.Bh4-g5 Nc6-e7; 36.Bg5-f4
 Ne7xf5; 37.Ng3xf5 Nd6xf5; 38.Bf4-b8 a7-a6; 39.Bb8-a7 b6-b5; 40.Ba7xc5 Kf7-e6;
 41.Bc5-b4 Ke6-d5; 42.Bb4-a5 Kd5-c4; 43.h2-h3 Nf5-e7; 44.Ba5-b6 Ne7-d5;
 45.Resigns.

This game concludes my report. You will find the results of the other competitions in the Congress Round-Up. It is hoped that games from these other tournaments will be featured in future editions of the Westward Ho!

David Le Moir

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

<u>DATE</u> (1988)	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CONTACT NUMBER</u>
15 August to 18 August	British Speed Chess Championships	01 3879494 ext 5237
20 August to 29 August	Lloyds Bank Masters	01 806 6518
4 September to 10 September	38th Annual Paignton Congress	0803 23345
17 September	WECU Senior Jamboree at the Preston Centre, Yeovil	
18 September	8th Keynsham Quickplay Congress	0225 28283
30 September to 2 October	Plymouth Chess Club Centenary Congress	0395 268293
8 October	WECU County Championships 1st Round Hampshire v Wiltshire Somerset v Dorset and Cornwall v Devon	
29 October	WECU County Championships 2nd Round Hampshire v Somerset Wiltshire v Dorset and Cornwall v Gloucestershire	
4 November to 6 November	Hanham Chess Congress	
26 November	WECU County Championships 3rd Round Gloucestershire v Wiltshire Somerset v Devon and Dorset v Cornwall	
10 December	WECU County Championships 4th Round Gloucestershire v Somerset Devon v Wiltshire and Cornwall v Hampshire	

These are all the tournaments and events I have been advised of until the end of the year. Have you a tournament in this period that you are running? Or do you know of a tournament/event not mentioned?

If so - please advise me in order that it can be included in the September Edition.

GEMS OF THE CHESS BOARD

A game played in the British Championship at Tunbridge Wells, 1909.

I.GUNSBURG v A.J.MACKENZIE

Ruy Lopez

1.e2-e4 e7-e5; 2.Ng1-f3 Nb8-c6; 3.Bf1-b5 Ng8-f6; 4.d2-d3 d7-d6; 5.h2-h3...

This line of play is not often seen, it prepares for an early advance of g2-g4.

5...a7-a6; 6.Bb5-a4 b7-b5; 7.Ba4-b3 Nc6-a5; 8.Nf3-g5...

This peculiar move is to force Na5xb3 and induce h7-h6 afterwards.

8...Na5xb3; 9.a2xb3 h7-h6; 10.Ng5-f3 c7-c5; 11.c2-c4...

The opening play has become very interesting.

11...Bc8-d7; 12.Nb1-d2 g7-g6; 13.Nd2-f1 Bf8-g7; 14.Nf1-e3 Nf6-g8;

An unlikely looking move. However, the intention is to reroute to c6 via e7. The alternative of castling would be dangerous in view of the attack by g2-g4. The Black King must find a safe haven and e8 doesn't seem to be the best place.

15.g2-g4 Ng8-e7; 16.Bc1-d2 Qd8-c8;

A mistake. b5-b4 is a must at this stage, otherwise White will blow open the Queenside and the Black King will become even more vulnerable.

17.b3-b4...

This move leads to a decisive advantage.

17...h6-h5; 18.Rh1-g1 h5xg4; 19.h3xg4 f7-f6;

Intending Ke8-f7 followed by Rh8-h3 and Qc8-h8. However, Black never gets the chance.

20.Ra1-c1 Ke8-f7; 21.c4xb5 a6xb5; 22.b4xc5 d6xc5; 23.Bd2-b4...

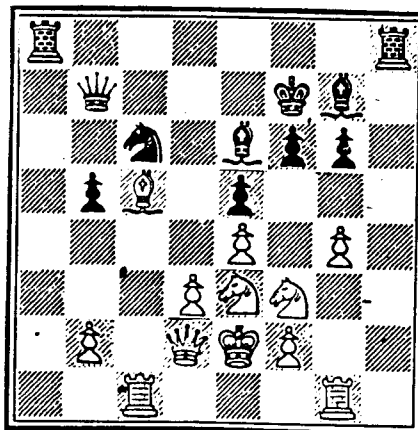
Gaining the c-pawn. Black is beginning to look in disarray.

23...Qc8-b7; 24.Bb4xc5 Bd7-e6; 25.Qd1-d2...

This move leads to complications. Better was Bc5xe7.

25...Ne7-c6; 26.Ke1-e2...

A highly interesting situation. However, White has got his King safe whilst Black's King is still out in the open and easy to attack.



26...Nc6-a5; 27.Qd2-b4 Na5-b3; 28.Rc1-c4;

A clever reply. If 28...Be6xc4; then 29.Ne3xc4... also collects the knight on account of Nc4-d6+.

28...Rh8-c8;

Another pretty move in response. If 29.Qb4xb3 then Rc8xc5.

29.Bc5-d6 Be6xc4;

This allows a brilliant finish. Nb3-a5 was the correct move here.

30.Ne3xc4 Qb7-c6;

This move appears to save the piece and if Qb4xb3 then b5xc4 wins as both the Queen and bishop are under attack and White must swop Queens to save the bishop leaving him a rook for a bishop down. However, White has seen something else...

31.Nc4xe5+...

The Knight must be taken otherwise Black loses his Queen.

31...f6xe5; 32.Qb4xb3 Kf7-f6;

If 32...Kf7-e8; then 33.Qb3-e6+ Ke8-d8; 34.Qe6-e7 mate. However, Blacks for a prettier mate:

33.g4-g5 mate.

CONGRESS ROUND-UP

I continue the Congress Round-Up from where I left off in the July 1988 Edition. Namely, on the West of England Chess Union Championship which took place at Weston-Super-Mare over the Easter Weekend (31 March to 4 April 1988). The main Championship is ably reported on by David Le Moir in this Edition and I therefore do not intend to say much on this score. However, I did personally attend on the Saturday and Easter Monday and would like to take this opportunity of praising the Congress Secretary, Ron Powis and his helpers together with the Congress Controller, Steve Boniface. The Congress ran very smoothly and professionally. The venue was exceptional and the perfect place for such a Congress. It seems a pity that next year's Congress won't be at Weston.

As mentioned in David's report, Chris Beaumont won the Championship with $5\frac{1}{2}$ points from 7 with P.House, G.House and M.Truran all equal second on 5. The Ladies Championship was won by Jane Eastwood (Street) with 4 points from 6 with the two Spiller girls, Anne and Beth (Yatton & Clevedon) equal second with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points. The Open Championship was won by K.Norman (Wokingham) with 4 from 6 points with R.Burton (Weymouth) and J.Naylor (Rugby) equal second on $3\frac{1}{2}$. There was a four-way tie in the Challengers for first place: I.Clark (Oakmead), M.Sellars (Horfield, Bristol), G.Miller (South Bristol) and C.Weeks (also South Bristol) all with $4\frac{1}{2}$ from 6. The best percentage in the Congress was by P.Chapman, who won the Reserves Tournament with $5\frac{1}{2}$ from 6. Second was J.Parker (Lynton) with 5 points, and J.Foxall, third, with $4\frac{1}{2}$. The minor was won by K.Wilkinson (Truro) with 5 from 6, R.Boxall (Basingstoke), Second with $4\frac{1}{2}$ and P.Chivers (Midsommer Norton), A.Stout (Parkstone) and P.Wood (Burnham-on-Sea) all third equal on 4 points.

The Open Championship and Challengers were grouped together as was the Ladies and Reserves due to lack of entries in the Open and Ladies Championships. The Ladies Champion, Jane Eastwood and Reserves Champion, P.Chapman fought a titanic battle in the first round which seemed to go on all Congress but finished after four sessions in a draw, the only $\frac{1}{2}$ point P.Chapman dropped, The Congress had a sad conclusion. There were three games left outstanding when we got to the Prize-giving ceremony. These games were therefore transferred to a back room to be played to their conclusion. However, there is a strange WECU ruling that no play in the Congress can continue after 5 pm on the final day. These games were therefore stopped and sent for Adjudication which was a great pity but alas the Controllers' hands were tied. Fortunately, all six players involved accepted the ruling without even a murmur.

The next event in this report is not a Congress but instead a Quarter-Final match between Bedfordshire and Dorset from the BCF Minor Championship. Greville Marples (Dorset Match Captain) was the only Match Captain involved in the latter stages of the Championships who sent me a copy of the Match Results. I must say this is a great pity but I cannot force Match Captains to send me reports. (However, next year I will be getting the Match results from the new Fixture Secretary, Frank Kingdon, within 2 weeks of the Match which will make life a lot easier)

Dorset v Bedfordshire

Played at Basingstoke Chess Club on Saturday 14th May 1988

Rate of play: 54 moves in 2 hours 15 minutes.

1.S.J.SHUTLER (199) $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ P.GAYSON (199) 2.M.L.COWLING (192) 1-0 A.BRYCE (186)
3.A.J.DOMMETT (192) 0-1 R.C.P.FREEMAN 4.M.J.FREEMAN (196) 1-0 P.L.ROE (176)
5.M.J.SIMONS (189) 1-0 J.N.WINGFIELD (184) 6.S.C.E.ROBINSON (185) 0-1 K.T.ROSE (175)
7.M.R.CHARTER (190) 0-1 P.S.N.KENDALL (181) 8.R.M.PEGG (183) 0-1 P.HABERSHON (169)
9.C.W.JOHNS (176) 0-1 S.LEDGER (169) 10.I.C.CLARK (174) $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ P.PRITCHARD (163)
11.A.J.PLEASANTS (-) 1-0 A.ELWIN (167) 12.R.VALENTINE (170) $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ R.MAHONEY (161)
13.J.F.CATCHPOLE (168) $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ P.THOMAS (151) 14.M.P.WADDINGTON (161) 1-0 P.GILL (152)
15.G.H.WINDEBANK (170) $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ G.VALERIO (149) 16.T.E.SIMMS (159) 0-1 S.MATTHEWS (146)

Dorset $7\frac{1}{2}$ - $8\frac{1}{2}$ Bedfordshire

In the unfinished game between T E Simms and S Matthews (Board 16), Simms had finally to resign after he had a Rook, Bishop and 3 pawns (1 doubled & 1 single on opposite sides) to 2 Rooks and 3 united pawns. Matthews claimed a win, but even a draw would have giving Beds a win on Board Count.

The Match was neck and neck all the way but I felt slightly disappointed as we outgraded them overall. I tried to enthuse the team members with confidence without over-confidence, but we only just lost the Match. Better luck next year!

The venue was excellent for a sixteen board match at the Basingstoke Bridge and Chess Club and well controlled by Mr R E Boxall who runs the Basingstoke Quick Play Tournaments. My thanks to him.

Greville Marples.

For the third year running Hampshire Chess Association organised the WECU Qualifier at Southampton University, thanks to the co-operation of the Students Union and their Chess Club who were rewarded by having several past and present students in the prize list reports Peter Marshall. Fifty-five competitors played in the six round accelerated Swiss Tournament held on 20-22 May. With two paid entry places to the British Championship in August as the principal incentive, not surprisingly there was a formidable entry with the top seventeen players graded 180 or above. At the lower end there were a dozen players graded 140 or under playing for their 'further education' or grading prizes.

After very keen competition, the highest-ranked competitor, FIDE Master, Philip Rossiter, 19, from Portsmouth, won first prize of £75 plus entry to the Championship. Philip won impressively with five straight wins before taking a last round draw to secure victory. Second and third places were shared by Jeremy Fraser-Mitchell of the University and Simon Roe of Richmond and ex-University. Each won £50 but the coveted second Championship place went to Jeremy on tie-break. The success of Jeremy, doing post-doctorate research in physics, was particularly meritorious since with a grade of 172 he was only ranked twenty-third in the tournament. Furthermore, five of his six opponents were ranked in the top eleven.

The Under 175 Grading Prize was shared by Ian White of Gloucester and David Neil, one of Hampshire's promising juniors, with 4 out of 6. Fraser-Mitchell would, of course, have won this but for 'one person, one prize'. The Under 155 prize went to F.McLeod of the University with $3\frac{1}{2}$ out of 6 and the Under 130 to N.stuart with 3 out of 6. Finally, the 'biggest upset' prize was won by M.Nesbit of Bristol who overcame a 47-point difference to beat an opponent

whose name shall remain in decent obscurity!

Laurie Walker and Hampshire Secretary, Len Walters, were responsible for organising the tournament. Laurie was also due to act as Controller but with late business calls taking him away for part of the time, Iain Stenhouse forewent his own playing entry to act as Controller.

Peter Marshall

The Street Chess Congress (Incorporating the Somerset Senior Championships) was also played over the same weekend, 20-22 May. This was the first of its kind and it was held at the Victoria Club, Street with three tournaments. Although the entries for each tournament was low the competition was keen and evenly matched. The Open tournament for the Denys Bonner Trophy was won by G.M.Brown of Clevedon (138) with $4\frac{1}{2}$ points from 5. Second equal were G.N.Jepps (Frome, 155) and D.C.Wood (Burnham-on-Sea, 157) with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points. To make the numbers even in both the Open and Major tournaments G.M.Brown moved up from the Major and finished winning the Open in convincing style. The Major tournament for the Roy Hossell Trophy was won by that TV Personality, Leon York, (127) with $4\frac{1}{2}$ points from 5. Second was Ben Garrett of Cornwall (116J) with 4 from 5 and third equal the Francis' boys, Matthew and Crispin of Unity Club, Street, 99J and 109J respectively with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points. The Minor tournament for the Cyril Chapman Trophy was won by Mike Ward of Taunton (85) and Derek Garrett (92 and father of Ben) with 5 from 6 points. Mike Ward won the trophy on "sum-of-the-opponents' scores". The Congress Secretary was Brian Francis (and my thanks to him for sending me this report) and Controller, Steve Boniface.

The British Chess Federation Junior Squad Championships were held at the American School on 28 and 29 May reports Adrian Champion from Devizes. The event was sponsored by Lloyds Bank Plc.

I was fortunate to go as three of our youngsters from my club, Devizes, were invited to enter. It was certainly an eye-opener. In the Under 8's there were no fewer than 62 entrants and in the Under 7's 26. My club were extremely hopeful that Mark Smith might win the Under 7's competition. However, on getting to the Tournament, I found that several of the other competitors were regular Tournament players and three of them regular England players, who were getting regular training from our top players. In fact, the Under 7 tournament was stronger than the Under 8's!

It was therefore extremely pleasing that Mark Smith came fourth equal with a score of $5\frac{1}{2}$ points out of 9. His sister, Julie Smith scored $3\frac{1}{2}$ points from 9 and Shane Chivers 3 from 9 in the Under 8's to finish 46th and 48th respectively. All three players are pupils of the Potterne Primary School and members of Devizes Chess Club, and were presented with certificates of creditable performance by the Under 14 Girl World Champion. Mark also received a trophy for his performance. Alas, Mark lost to both the eventual winner, Joseph Conlon and Adam Hunt who came second but both games were extremely tight with the winners obtaining the result on their experience in the end. Incidentally, Joseph Conlon scored an impressive 9 out of 9 and Adam Hunt 8 points with Mandy Haslinger third with 7 out of 9, Mandy losing to both Joseph and Adam; Adam losing to Joseph. I include the moves from Mark's game against Joseph Conlon below as well as Mark's final round game against Geroid Finglass from Birmingham who was also vying for a place, in which Mark won playing a defence named after one of the great World Champions:

Round 4

Joseph Conlon (Berkshire) v Mark Smith (Wiltshire) French Defence

1.e2-e4 e7-e6; 2.d2-d4 d7-d5; 3.e4-e5 c7-c5; 4.c2-c3 Nb8-c6; 5.Bf1-b5 Ng8-f6; 6.Ng1-f3 a7-a6; 7.Bb5xc6+ Ne7xc6; 8.Bc1-e3 Qd8-b6; 9.Qd1-c2 Bf8-e7; 10. Nb1-d2 Bc8-d7; 11. 0-0-0 Qb6-a7; 12.Rh1-e1 b7-b5; 13.d4xc5 Be7xc5; 14.Be3xc5 Qa7xc5; 15.Nd2-b3 Qc5-b6; 16.Qc2-d2 a6-a5; 17.Qd2-e3 Qb6xe3; 18.Relxe3 b5-b4; 19.Kc1-b1 a5-a4; 20.Nb3-c1 b4xc3; 21.Re3xc3 0-0; 22.Nc1-e2 f7-f6; 23.e5xf6 Rf8xf6; 24.Ne2-d4 Nc6xd4; 25.Rd1xd4 Rf6-g6 ?; 26.Nf3-e5 Rg6xg2; 27.Ne5xd7 Rg2xf2;

28.h2-h4 Ra8-e8; 29.Nd7-c5 e6-e5; 30.Rd4xd5 e5-e4; 31.Rc3-e3 Rf2-f4; 32.Rd5-d4 h7-h6; 33.Nc5xe4 Rf4xh4; 34.Rd4xa4 Kg8-h8; 35.Ne4-f6! Re8xe3; 36.Ra4-a8+
Black Resigns. as Mate follows next move.

Geroid Finglass (Birmingham) v Mark Smith (Wiltshire) Alekhines Defence

1.e2-e4 Ng8-f6; 2.e4-e5 Nf6-d5; 3.d2-d4 d7-d6; 4.c2-c4 Nd5-b6; 5.Ng1-f3 d6xe5;
6.Nf3xe5 e7-e6; 7.Nb1-c3 c7-c5; 8.Ne5-f3 Nb8-c6; 9.d4-d5 e6xd5; 10.c4xd5
Nc6-a5; 11.Bf1-b5+ Bc8-d7; 12.Bb5xd7+ Qd8xd7; 13.Nf3-e5 Qd7-e7; 14.Qd1-e2
f7-f6; 15.Ne5-g4 Qe7xe2+; 16.Nc3xe2 Nb6xd5; 17. 0-0 Nd5-b4; 18.Bc1-d2 Nb4-c2;
19.Bd2xa5 Nc2xa1; 20.Rf1xa1 Bf8-d6; 21.Ba5-d2 0-0; 22.Bd2-f4 Bd6xf4;
23.Ne2xf4 Nf8-e8; 24.h2-h3 Re8-e4; 25.Nf4-d5 Ra8-d8; 26.f2-f3 Re4-e2;
27.Nd5-c3 Re2xb2; 28.Nc3-a4 Rb2-c2; 29.Ng4-e3 Rc2-e2; 30.Ne3-f1 Rd8-d3;
31.Na4xc5 Rd3-c3; 32.Nc5xb7 Rc3-c2; 33.Nb7-d6 Re2xg2+; 34.Kg1-h1 Rc2-f2;
35.Ra1-e1 h7-h6; 36.Nf1-g3 Rg2-h2+; 37.Kh1-g1 Rf2-g2+; 38.Kg1-f1 Rg2xg3;
39.Re1-e2 Rh2xe2; 40.Kflxe2 Rg3xh3; 41. Nd6-f5... White Resigns.

I think you will agree these games are very refreshing for 7-year olds.

The 21st Cotswold Congress took place at King's school, Gloucester on 28 to 30 May writes Ken Bloodworth. A good entry for the Congress had an unusual distribution with the largest number (47) in the Open and the smallest number (31) in the Minor, a reversal of what is customary these days. Robert Bellin started favourite, but after a win and a draw, both he and Dr. Jana Miles failed to appear on the second day which rather upset the pairings (as well as the Organisers). Fortunately, the damage was minimised by their opponents agreeing to play each other after the expiry of the hour, rather than claim the point.

Although the highest standard of play occurred in the Open, there was also a fair measure of non-play, for the joint winner, A.J.Dunnington (Castleford) had four good wins but agreed draws with Gary Lane and Chris Beaumont after less than five minutes play. Chris Beaumont shared the first prize with Dunnington with G.Lane, D.O.Collier, T.Headlong, A.T.Mordue and P.Varley equal third. Grading Prizes went to P.Aston, M.K.Li, J.Menadue and P.Richmond all on 4 points.

Long hard fought games were the order of play in the Major in which all 41 competitors were within a reasonably narrow grading range, J.Carr (Cheltenham) and A.E.Gentry (Witney) shared the top position with 5 points just ahead of D.G.Cannon and J.Cohen on $4\frac{1}{2}$ points. Those on 4 points, namely, C.Beveridge, C.Bezant, K.J.Bloodworth, B.Boomsma, P.M.Chapman and B.Penaligon, all won grading prizes.

The best score was the $5\frac{1}{2}$ points by T.Marke (Bristol) to win the Minor with I.Bhyat (Nottingham) 5 and K.J.Roberts (Bristol) $4\frac{1}{2}$. Six players took small prizes including Jennifer Goldsmith and Mrs Doreen Helbig.

The Cotswold Congress has always been known for its excellent canteen facilities and this year was no exception. Mike Powis and family provided salad lunches at the King's School, Gloucester in addition to a large variety of snacks and drinks. Ron powis, assisted by Mike, controlled in his usual unflappable manner to ensure another smoothly run event.

Ken Bloodworth

As mentioned in the previous Edition, the BCF National Chess Day/Sports Aid 88 took place on July 2nd. I have heard of two events which occurred in the West of England. The first was at Plymouth. Here, the BCF asked them to do such an event just a couple of weeks before the event. Despite this handicap, the Plymouth Chess Club arranged a simultaneous display in the High Street, with club players playing up to 8 games at a time. I don't have the exact details but I understand a large profits was made and donated to Sports-Aid.

The second was at Southampton as Peter Marshall reports. "Following the BCF announcement of July 2nd as National Chess Day coupled with an appeal to organise events in aid of the Sports-Aid 88 fund for Children in Need, Hampshire County Chess Association Len Walters arranged such an event at Southampton.

The format was to arrange free accommodation and facilities at two sites, the Ocean Village on the waterfront and a City Centre covered shopping Arcade. At each venue strong local players took on up to ten allcomers in simultaneous play. The main accent was on encouraging local children to come along with eighty schools having been notified. A board fee of 50p was charged with a prize of £1 to winners.

With additional donations received both on and off site, a total of nearly £180 was received and paid-over. Although obviously worthwhile, it would seem that a considerably larger response would have occurred if the B.C.F. had not, with peculiar wisdom, chosen a day which coincided with Wimbledon Finals day, the Third Test Match and Henly Regatta, the first two of which attract many sports aficionados to their television sets. There was additional local competition from the Southampton Show and a major power boat race down Southampton water. Nevertheless, well done Len! and thanks to the other helpers.

Peter Marshall

Finally, The WECU Junior Congress took place at the Crispin School, Street on 9 and 10 July. The entry was extremely low, only 51 with just 8 entries for the Under 18 and Under 16 competitions which were amalgamated. This was mainly due to there being a Junior Blitz Competition in London which took many of the WECU's strongest players. Another major reason for the lack of entries was the lack of advertising of the Congress. I feel the WECU for which I am the Treasurer is very much at fault. This Congress should be one of its main events during the year. However, there is no current Junior Secretary although Brian Francis has done a great job he has made it extremely clear that he is unable to devote as much time as he would like (he is currently Acting Junior Secretary). Thus the event was badly attended and very much a loss making Congress.

As mentioned above the Under 18 and Under 16 Competitions were amalgamated so that Under 16 Matthew Brown won first prize and the Under 18 Trophy with 4 from 5 points. The Under 16 Champion was second placed Edward Holland (Waterlooville) with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points and runners-up Michael Eastwood (Street) and Andrew Ponting (Frome) with 3 out of 5, third equal. Matthew Brown of Yatton and Clevedon, also gained the paid entrance into the Lloyds Bank Masters in August.

The Under 14 Champion was Crispin Francis (Street) with $4\frac{1}{2}$ points from 5 with Simon Longley (Botley), brother Matthew Francis (Street) and Matthew Crocker (Waterlooville) taking the minor places with 4, $3\frac{1}{2}$ & $3\frac{1}{2}$ points respectively. The Girls Under 14 Champion was Genevieve O'Farrell (Southampton) with 3 out of 5.

The Under 12 and Under 11 Championship was also amalgamated, the winner being Roland Cole (Truro) with $5\frac{1}{2}$ from 6 with Kevin Barrett (Millfield) second on $4\frac{1}{2}$ and Matthew Garrett (Launceston) third on 4. The best Under 11 was Andrew Hennessey (Millfield) with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points.

The Under 10, 9 and 8 was also amalgamated but involved the most players, 19 and was extremely close. Coming into the last round there were 2 players on $4\frac{1}{2}$ points and two on $3\frac{1}{2}$. Unfortunately, the two on $4\frac{1}{2}$ had played each other and the two on $3\frac{1}{2}$ also had played each other. Thus the two on $3\frac{1}{2}$ played the two on $4\frac{1}{2}$ points and the Controller's worst headache occurred - yes all four finished on $4\frac{1}{2}$ points! The Championship was therefore decided on sum-of-the-opponents scores. This couldn't be decided until the last game was finished and consequently all the players involved and their parents were to be seen huddled round this last board who's game when the distance right down to both players having merely seconds on their clocks. Fortunately for the Controller the game was decided by a mate allowing him to escape without having disgruntled parents on his back! The result was that Steven Neville (Waterlooville) won with s-o-t-o-s of $23\frac{1}{2}$, Andrew Greet (Charlestown) second with 23, Daniel Clarke, third, with $22\frac{1}{2}$ and Charles Mann (Parkstone) fourth with 22. The best Under 9 was Jeremy Lang (Coston P School) with 4 points, also winner of the deciding last game, Best under 8, Gary Fearn (Charlestown) also 4 points and Jessica Thomas won a special prize.

There were also certificates for all other Juniors in the Under 12 and below who scored 50% or more.

The Congress Secretary was Brian Francis aided by Laurie Walker and the Controllers Steve Boniface and myself.

I think I can safely say that everyone enjoyed themselves over the weekend. It was refreshing to see young players enjoying themselves come win draw or loss. Despite the low turnout the standard of play was extremely high, even in the Under 10's, where we were shown by one of the youngest players how to mate your opponent with a King and Rook against King in impeccable style. I personally was given a good grounding by Steve as to how to become a Chess Controller and what a first lesson - a four way tie for first place!

This concludes the Congress Round-Up. A further one will appear in the next Edition. Please therefore keep your reports coming.

Richard Rendell

POT POURRI

Further to your comments on my Questionnaire sent with the last Edition, I have, after great demand, included another "Pot Pourri" in this Edition.

The first games are real gems received from Michael Adams. By the style shown in these games, it is extremely sad that Michael was unable to appear in the WECU Easter Congress. However, I hope these two games will make up for it:

Lloyds Bank Squad Under 21 Round 6 10 April 1988

M.Adams v D.Djurovic (Comments by Michael Adams)

1.e2-e4 c7-c5; 2.Ng1-f3 d7-d6; 3.d2-d4 c5xd4; 4.Nf3xd4 Ng8-f6; 5.Nb1-c3 a7-a6; 6.Bc1-e3 e7-e6; 7.Qd1-d2 Bf8-e7; 8.f2-f3 0-0; 9. 0-0-0 Nb8-c6; 10.g2-g4...

I have played this modern system against the Najdorf, frequently used by Nigel Short, on several occasions and it normally produces an interesting game! With his tenth move, White declares his intentions of a Kingside pawn storm.

10...Nc6xd4; 11.Be3xd4 b7-b5; 12.g4-g5 Nf6-d7; 13.h2-h4 Ra8-b8;

In the game between Solozenkin and Episin, Black continued 13...b5-b4; and White gained a slight advantage from the Opening.

14.Rh1-g1 b5-b4; 15.Nc3-e2 Qd8-c7;

At some stage Black should have tried Nd7-e5 with the idea of Ne5-c4. The simple plan of development which he follows is too slow and White is left with the opportunity for some nice tactics.

16.Kc1-b1 Bc8-b7; 17.h4-h5 d6-d5; 18.g5-g6 e6-e5; 19.g6xh7+.Kg8xh7;

19...Kg8-h8; was probably better, but after 20.Bd4-e3 plans of Ne2-g3-f5 or Be3-h6 leave White with a clear advantage.

20.Bf1-h3 f7-f5;

After 20...e5xd4; 21.Rg1xg7+... wins as can easily be verified.

21.Ne2-f4...

This move demonstrates the weakness of the e6 square. 21...Qc7-d6; 22.Rg1-g6... followed by Bh3xf5.

Of course, Black cannot take the bishop due to Nf4-e6 Rg1xg7+ and Qd2-h6 and he cannot take the knight as Rg7+ sets the mate again. Thus...

21...Rf8-f6; 22.Bh3xf5+ Rf6xf5; 23.e4xf5 Be7-f6;

23...e5xd4 or f4 are both answered by 24.Rg1xg7+...

24.Nf4-e6 Qc7-d6; 25.Bd4-e3 Nd7-f8;

A blunder in a lost position.

26.Be3-c5... Black Resigns.

M.Hennigan v M.Adams

1.e2-e4 c7-c6; 2.d2-d4 d7-d5; 3.e4xd5 c6xd5; 4.c2-c4 Ng8-f6; 5.Nb1-c3 e7-e6;
6.c4-c5 Bf8-e7; 7.Ng1-f3 0-0; 8.Bf1-d3 b7-b6; 9.b2-b4 a7-a5; 10.Nc3-a4
Nf6-d7; 11.h2-h4 h7-h6;

The Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings recommends 11...f7-f5; 12.Nf3-g5 Qd8-e8;
13.Kel-f1 a5xb4; 14.Ng5xe6 Nd7xc5; 15.Na4xc5 b6xc5; 16.Ne6xf8 c5-c4;
17.Nf8xh7 c4xd3; 18.Nh7-g5 Bc8-a6; 19.Kf1-g1 Nb8-c6; 20.Qd1-f3... evaluated
as unclear.

12.g2-g4...

The same publication considers 12.Rh1-h3... best with the threat of Bclxh6
followed by Rh3-g3+ and Qd1-d2 if Black captures on h6. After 12...f7-f5,
13.Qd1-e2 Rf8-f6; 14.Nf3-g5!?... is one possibility. 14.Bcl-g5!?... is also
playable. Black can try to defend with 14...f7-f5; 13.Bclxh6 e6-e5!?!; as
given by E.C.O. but it takes a brave man to defend that position with black.
The move played in the game is less testing to the defence.

12...e6-e5;

Black must react immediately.

13.d4xe5 Nb8-c6; 14.e5-e6...

14.Bcl-b2... was worth considering.

14...f7xe6; 15.g4-g5 Nc6xb4; 16.Bd3-b1...

16.g5xh6... was powerfully answered by 16...Rf8xf3.

16...Bc8-a6;

The idea of Rf8xf3 followed by Nd7-e5 is still in the air.

17.Bcl-b2 Qd8-c7; 18.g5xh6 Rf8xf3;

Finally played! Now Black's attack proves stronger than White's.

19.Rh1-g1 Nd7-e5; 20.Rg1xg7+ Kg8-f8;

Not 20...Kg8-h8?; as Rg7xe7...

21.Na4xb6...

White's last chance was 21.Qd1-d4... but in serious time trouble he makes it
simple for me:

21...Ne5-d3+; 22.Bb1xd3 Nb4xd3+; 23.Qd1xd3 Ba6xd3; 24.Nb6xa8 Qc7-f4; 25.h6-h7
Qf4-e4+; 26.Kel-d2 Rf3xf2+; 27.Resigns.

The next game is taken from a Simultaneous display played at the Bristol
and Clifton Club before the Second World War. It was played in 1937 and was
between Aelred Horn (now President of Cornwall C C A) and Dr Alekhine - see
picture overleaf. Aelred says he recognises:

2nd from the left himself!; 3rd from left Mott. Sitting Down, John Hall, Hilda
Hall and Mrs Dewfall. 2nd from the right Chapman (?), and 3rd from the right
Dewfall. Can you recognise any of the other players?

Aelred advises me that Alekhine disposed of everybody except one (he lost to
Cuttle) in about four hours. (He also mentions that Mr Welch, who was then
Secretary of the Club, used to play Hilda Hall regularly in Club Matches
despite the fact she was only a moderate player - because the sight of her
was usually enough to defeat any male player before he got started! - she
was very good looking.). If anyone else can drum up another game from this
simul (or any others against other well-known players) I will willingly
print it in the next Pot Pourri. There were 40 players in this simul so there
must be some of the other players still around.



Dr.A.Alekhine v E.A.Horn

1.e2-e4 e7-e5; 2.Ng1-f3 Nb8-c6; 3.Bf1-b5 a7-a6; 4.Bb5-a4 Ng8-f6; 5. 0-0 b7-b5;
 6.Ba4-b3 Bf8-c5; 7.a2-a4 Bc8-b7; 8.c2-c3 0-0; 9.d2-d4 e5xd4; 10.e4-e5 Nf6-e4;
 11.c3xd4 Bc5-b6; 12.d4-d5 Nc6-e7; 13.Nf3-g5 Ne4xg5; 14.Bc1xg5 Qd8-e8;
 15.Nb1-c3 Ne7-g6; 16.e5-e6 f7xe6; 17.a4xb5 e6-e5; 18.d5-d6+ Kg8-h8; 19.d6xc7
 Bb6xc7; 20.Nc3-d5 Bc7-d8; 21.Bg5xd8 Qe8xd8; 22.b5xa6 a8xa6; 23.Ralxa6 Bb7xa6;
 24.Rf1-e1 d7-d6; 25.g2-g3 Ba6-b7; 26.Bb3-c4 Bb7xd5; 27.Bc4xd5 Qd8-b6;
 28.Qd1-d2 Ng6-d7; 29.Bd5-g2 Ne7-f5; 30.b2-b4 Nf5-d4; 31.Rel-b1 h7-h6; 32.Kg1-h1
 Nd4-f3; 33.Qd2-e3 Qb6-b7; 34.b4-b5 e5-e4; 35.b5-b6 d6-d5; 36.Bg2xf3 Rf8xf3;
 37.Qe3-c5 Rf3-f7; 38.Kh1-g1 Kh8-h7; 39.Rb1-b5 Rf7-f6; 40.h2-h4 Kh7-g6; 41.Qc5-d4
 Kg6-f7; 42.h4-h5 g7-g6; 43.h5xg6+ Kf7xg6; 44.Qd4-e5 Rf6xb6; 45.Rb5xd5 Resigns.

You may think this a bit premature but what can Black do? White threatens Qe5-f5+ followed by Rd5-d7+ winning the exchange as well as Qe5-e8+ and Rd5-d7+. He also threatens the pawn on e4 and Black cannot defend all attacks. E.g. 45...Rb6-f6; 46.Qe5xe4+ Kg6-g7 (Kg6-f7?; 47.Qe4-h7+ wins the Queen); 47.Qe4-g4+ Kg7-f8; 48.Qg4-d4 Qb7-b1+; 49.Kg1-g2; 50.Qb1-g6 Rd5-d8+; 51.Kf8-g7 Rd8-d6... with the swapping of the pieces and winning with the passed pawn.

Finally, I have received some of the best games from the Hanham Congress which took place last November. However, alas, I have received no commentary. But in view of their quality I have printed a couple:

G.Lane v C.Weeks

1.e2-e4 e7-e6; 2.d2-d4 d7-d5; 3.Nb1-d2 Ng8-f6; 4.e4-e5 Nf6-d7; 5.c2-c3 c7-c5;
 6.f2-f4 Nb8-c6; 7.Nd2-f3 Qd8-b6; 8.g2-g3 f7-f6; 9.Bf1-d3 c5xd4; 10.c3xd4
 Bf8-b4+; 11.Kel-fl...

I must admit I know very little about the French Defence, rarely do I play 1.e2-e4..., but I would guess that the first 10 moves are all book. However, I would have thought that this last move was a surprise in some respects. But there again, I can see several reasons for it: one, the idea of getting the King to relative safety on g2 whilst leaving the rook on h1; two, the white squares on the Kingside have been made weak by f4 and g3 and therefore the King on g2 will strengthen the White squares and will enable White to make a pawn advance if he wishes and three, Black's black-squared bishop is very poor and therefore White doesn't wish to allow Black the opportunity of swapping it off for one of his potentially active pieces.

11...0-0; 12.**Kf1-g2 a7-a5**; 13.**Bd3-c2 Qb6-c7**; 14.**Qd1-d3 f6-f5**; 15.**g3-g4 Bb4-e7**; 16.**a2-a3 b7-b5**; 17.**g4xf5 e6xf5**; 18.**Ng1-e2 Bc8-a6**; 19.**Bc2-b3 Nd7-b6**; 20.**Ne2-c3 Qc7-d7**;

White in a matter of a few moves has taken control of the game. Black has mustered all his pieces around the Queenside but you get the feeling all the action will take place on the Kingside. The e6 square looks additionally weak for Black.

21.**Qd3-d1 Nc6-d8**; 22.**h2-h4 Nd8-e6**; 23.**Nc3-e2 Nb6-c4**; 24.**Ne2-g3 b5-b4**;

As mentioned White seems intent on blasting open Black's Kingside defence. Meanwhile Black attempts to obtain some counter-play on the Queenside. But it has been very slow.

25.**a3xb4 a5xb4**; 26.**Bb3-c2 g7-g6**; 27.**h4-h5 Rf8-b8**; 28.**Qd1-g1!...**

The idea is to get the Queen onto h2. Suddenly in a matter of a few moves White's Kingside attack has taken off and Black's pieces are no where.

28...**Qd7-e8**; 29.**Qg1-h2 g6xh5**; 30.**Ng3xf5 Resigns**.

Perhaps a premature resignation but Black is helpless, all his pieces are hopelessly positioned.

D.Lynch v C.Beaumont

1.**e2-e4 g7-g6**; 2.**d2-d4 Bf8-g7**; 3.**Nb1-c3 c7-c5**; 4.**d4-d5 d7-d6**; 5.**Ng1-f3 Ng8-f6**; 6.**Bf1-e2 0-0**; 7. **0-0 Nb8-a6**; 8.**a2-a4 Na6-c7**; 9.**Rf1-e1 Ra8-b8**; 10.**h2-h3 a7-a6**; 11.**Bc1-f4 b7-b5**; 12.**a4xb5 a6xb5**; 13.**e4-e5...**

After a slow build-up the game suddenly comes to life, with White forcing the position.

13...**Nf6-e8**; 14.**Nc3-e4 c5-c4**; 15.**Nf3-d4 Bc8-b7**; 16.**e5xd6 Ne8xd6**; 17.**Ne4xd6 e7xd6**; 18.**Nd4-c6 Bb7xc6**; 19.**d5xc6 Bg7-e5**; 20.**Bf4xe5 d6xe5**;

Now that the dust has settled let's look at the position. Black has just got his isolated d-pawn back into play. However, he has opened the a- and d-file for his opponent. Furthermore the pawn on c6 makes b7 and d7 very weak. Can White take full advantage?

21.**Ra1-a7 Rb8-c8**; 22.**Qd1-d7!...**

Stopping Black from exchanging Queens and taking full advantage of d7 being weak for Black.

22...**Rf8-e8**; 23.**Re1-d1 Qd8-e7**; 24.**b2-b3 c4xb3**; 25.**c2xb3...**

Threatening **Be2xb5**.

25...**Kg8-f8**; 26.**Qd7-d2 Re8-d8**; 27.**Qd2-h6+ Kf8-g8**; 28.**Rd1-c1 Qe7-b4**; 29.**Be2-g4 f7-f5**; 30.**Bg4xf5! Qb4xd4**;

Taking the bishop would allow White a neat winning combination : 31.**Qh6-g5+ Kg8-f8 or h8**; 32.**Ra7xc7 Rc8xc7**; 33.**Qg5xd8+** etc and if the rook is not taken mate follows. 31...**Kg8-f7** is met by 32.**Qg5xf5** followed by **Qf5xe5+** and **Ra7xc7** etc.

31.**Bf5-e6+! Kg8-h8** (**Nc7xe6** allows mate by **Qh6xh7+** etc); 32.**Be6xc8 Qd4xa7**; 33.**Bc8-d7 Qa7-a3**; 34.**Qh6-g5 Kh8-g7**; 35.**Qg5xe5+ Kg7-h6**; Black Resigns.

Richard Rendell

ANSWERS TO LAST QUARTER'S COMPETITIONS

I start first with the answer to the Competition from the Problem and Competition on Page 13 of last quarter's edition. I did give you a clue: "Which combination of pieces can you not normally mate with". This clue was supposed to help you not hinder you. The answer to this question was: 2 knights. Thus it must surely be logical to look for a mate with two knights firstly by sacrificing the queen and secondly promoting the pawn to a knight.

Thus:

1.Qc1-h6+ Kf8-f7 (Forced); 2.Ng4-e5+ Kf7-e6 (not 2...f6xe5; 3.Qh6-g6+ Kf7-f8; 4.Qg7-g8++); Now White has run out of useful Queen checks and the pawn on d6 is attacked Hence 3.d6-d7... threatening d7-d8=Q. If 3...Qa4-c2+; 4.Kh7-h8 leaves Black without another check and he cannot defend both d8 and e8. If 3...Qa4-a8; 4.Qh6-f8... and the pawn queens. Hence 3...Ke6-e7; 4.Qh6-f8+! Ke7xf8 (no real other option, 4...Ke7-e6; 5.d7xe8+ leaves him a Queen down); 5.Ne5-g6+ Kf8-f7; 6.d7-d8=N++.

Winner: Graeme Oswald of 8 Portland Close, Waldrige Park, Chester-Le-Street, Durham, DH2 3HP.

The answer to the additional competition from Page 28 of last quarter's edition ("what two famous games were the two games featured in 'The Dawning of the Rising Star' in the last edition") was of course, Games 23 and 24 of the latest World Championships between Kasparov and Karpov in Seville 1987 in which Kasparov (Black) blundered in Game 23 and lost but recovered to win the last game (no 24) with the White pieces so retaining the World Championship. The match score ended in a 12-12 draw but under the terms agreed before the match Kasparov retained the title.

Winner: Doreen Helbig of 38 Audley Grove, Lower Weston, Bath, Avon.

NEWS FROM SOMERSET

The County's A.G.M. was held this year on 11 June 1988 at the Victoria Club, Street and was attended by fifteen of the county's members which was slightly up on previous years. The county's officers were all re-appointed, namely R H Northage as President, J E Fewkes Secretary, C E Winch Treasurer, G I Miller Match Captain Grading Officer M J Carter Correspondence Captain S G Cook, Senior Tournament Secretary L York and Junior Team and Tournament Secretary J Eastwood. BCF Delegate R H Northage, WECU Executive Delegate, G N Jepps and WECU Council Delegate D G Woodruff also retained their posts. The Match Captain reported that the first team were second in the WECU Minor Counties competition. The team won on tie-break in the BCF quarter final but subsequently lost in the semi-final to a very strong Cambridgeshire team, 4 - 12. The second team tied with Gloucestershire II for second place in the WECU competition for second teams.

The Correspondence Captain announced results for the previous season: Somerset I 3rd in Div 1 with 19/30; Somerset II 4th in Div 2 with 11.5/20 Somerset III 10th in Div 2 with 6½/20 and Somerset IV 4th in Div 3 with 10½/20. It has been decided that only three teams will be entered next year due to reduced support.

The trophy winners were : Somerset Cup: Weston-Super-Mare; Henry Powell: Taunton; Charles Marsh Cup: Wincanton; Charles Marsh Shield: Sedgemoor; County Championship: G M Brown (Clevedon); Roy Hossell: L York; Cyril Chapman: M J Ward (Taunton); Home-Play Tournament: R Challis (Axbridge); F J Pearce Rosebowl: Millfield; Ralph Gray Cup: Millfield.

Finally, it was agreed that next year's AGM would be held at the Victoria Club, Street on Saturday 10 June 1989.