# Westward Ho! 

The Magazine of the West of England Chess Union


## Autumn 1998

## Vol. 4 No. 7

## West of Crngland Chess hition

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## Editorial

## Inter-County Competition

Inevitably, with neither Gloucestershire nor Hampshire competing as counties, the season just past was something of a damp squib, though this should not detract from the achievement of Wiltshire, under the able leadership of Fenella Headlong, in winning the 1st Division for the first time in their history. Congratulations to them on this historic first. Unfortunately, it seems as if Fenella is choosing this moment to bow out, and Wiltshire, like other counties, may find it hard to identify a successor at all, let alone one as good. Well done, Fenella.

A positive note for next season is the return of Hampshire to the fold. They have a new set of officers in place and will surely be major players in next year's championship.

## British Championships

We welcome the return of the British Championships to the westcountry, this time to Torquay, and WECU President, Stuart Dean, will be welcoming everyone at the event's opening ceremony at 2.15 on Monday 27th July. The Riviera Centre may prove to be the one of the best venues ever for this flagship event and the entry looks like breaking records both in quantity and quality.

The Championships have a new Director in the shape of Neil Graham of Nottingham, and his policy is that local officers should be involved in the organisation as far as possible. A Devon sub-committee has been meeting regularly at the Riviera Centre, arranging a wide range of evening events and other chessorientated diversions for visitors and holidaymakers. Another feature is a display in the entrance foyer of Devon chess activities, including Westward Ho!s.

## British Championship Qualifying Places

The Union has had to review the way it dispenses with the three QPs available to it. Naturally, one is to be retained with the Easter Congress, but the other two are having to be shared around westcountry congresses that qualify and wish to have them. The qualification criteria are very specific and only the Frome and Torbay Congresses have expressed a need to be involved in a three year rolling programme of awards, with the position of Paignton still under review. In the short term, Torbay (November '98) and Frome (May '99) will have a QP each for next season. The three WECU qualifiers this year were:-
C. Beaumont - Hanham (WECU Easter Congress)
A. Hunt - Cowley (Frome)
A. Lewis - Barbican (Frome)

Richard Rendell decided to step down as Junior Organiser before the June Council Meeting, leaving the way clear for a successor to be appointed. In fact, the Union has been trying to find such a person for some time, as Richard had earlier expressed a wish to stand down but did not wish to leave the Union in the lurch. No-one has been identified and at the moment the post is vacant. The fact is that many counties have exactly the same problem with this post - several have, at best a new junior secretary in post and others none at all.

There are probably reasons why this is emerging as a pattern, but they are not easy to identify and counter. There is no doubt about the enthusiasm and commitment of players and organisers at the Under-11 level in most counties. But something happens at the secondary level that dilutes this, leaving organisers less willing give up their precious free time for juniors who are less than fully-committed and may not appreciate the opportunities being offered them.

What has happened to their earlier enthusiasm? Probably a number of things. If they've been playing chess at some representative level since the age of 8 , there may be a feeling of "been there - done that". Other hobbies take over, and perhaps weekend jobs to get extra pocket money make it difficult to fit chess in.
In Devon it has been noted, even in the keener chessplaying secondary schools, that some of the promising primary school chess "stars" never even show up at the secondary school chess club from day 1. They seem happy to put their chess behind them and start afresh, and no one seems to know why. Certainly there may be an opportunity here for someone to investigate this phenomenon and come up with some reasons and possible solutions.

In the short term, however, it would be a great pity if the Union adopted a defeatist attitude. We do need a capable junior organiser who can keep going the opportunities that we do provide, while bearing in mind that we may need to evolve to accommodate a changing milieu. The position is open to someone who feels they can meet this challenge. Anyone wanting more information before deciding should contact President Stuart Dean, Richard Rendell or myself.

Finally, my thanks to all who have contributed by providing copy for this issue, notably, Frank Kingdon, Adrian Rookes, Ken Bloodworth, Gerry Jepps, Ron Powis, John Wheeler et al. Keep it coming in!

Views expressed herein may not necessarily be those of the Union Executive.

Bob Jones
Editor

## Around the Counties



## Hampshire

Hampshire Chess Association have had something of a traumatic year, trying to identify officers prepared to run the different aspects of their work. These problems seem to have now been resolved and a new team of volunteers is on hand to fly the Hampshire banner next season. For the record, they are:-

President: Liam O'Sullivan
8, Little Park Mansions, Titchfield Lane, Wickham
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General Secretary: John Wheeler,
52, St. Matthews Road,
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PO6 2DL
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SO30 4QQ
Tel: 01489-799671
Match Captain: Dominic Tunks, 125, Rival Moor Road, Petersfield.
GU31 4HX
Tel: 01730-302058

Postal Match Captain: Peter Marshall, 57, Janson Road,
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SO1 5GL
Tel: 01703-902328
Grading Officer: Roger Marsh,
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PO12 4HG
Tel: 01705-503595

Junior Secretary: Joe French,
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Tel: 01256-472537

WECU Executive Delegate:
Nigel Johnson, c/o 68a, High Street, Bideford, $N$. Devon.
EX39 2AN
Tel: 01489-797475
WECU Council: Liam O'Sullivan (as above)
Internal local leagues and competitions were unaffected by these difficulties and finished as follows:-

## Portsmouth \& District League

## Division I

|  | P | W | D | L | Gs | Pts |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| 1. Cosham A | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 40 | 18 |
| 2. Chichester A | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | $321 / 2$ | 13 |
| 3. Gosport B | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 31 | 10 |
| 4. Gosport B | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | $281 / 2$ | 10 |
| 5. Portsmouth A | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 30 | 8 |
| 6. Fareham A | 10 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 18 | 1 |

## Division II

| 1. Emsworth A | 10 | 9 | 1 | 0 | $41 \frac{1}{2}$ | 19 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 2. Cosham B | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 14 |
| 3. Chichester B | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 28 | 10 |
| 4. Cosham C | 10 | 2 | 5 | 3 | $301 / 2$ | 9 |
| 5. Petersfield A | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | $311 / 2$ | 8 |
| 6. Fareham B | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | $81 / 2$ | 0 |

## Division III

| 1. Portsmouth B | 10 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 40 | 17 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. Emsworth B | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | $401 / 2$ | 16 |
| 3. Victory | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | $38^{1 / 2}$ | 15 |
| 4. Portsmouth C | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | $22^{11 / 2}$ | 5 |
| 5. Gosport C | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 18 | 5 |
| 6. Petersfield B | 10 | 1 | 0 | 9 | $191 / 2$ | 2 |

Individual Championship:

| 1st | D. Cordner | (Cosham) | $51 / 2 / 6$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2nd | D. Tunks | (Emsworth) | 5 |
| 3rd | D. Scotney | (Victory) | $41 / 2$ |

Details kindly sent by John Wheeler.

31st Cotswold Congress

May 23rd - 25 th
Archway School :: Stroud
Open:

| 1st | D. A. Curnow | (Gloucester) u/g | $51 / 2$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2=$ | N. Beveridge | (Hereford) | 4 |
|  | G. Bolt | (Gloucester) |  |
|  | M. Broomfield | (London) |  |
|  | P. Lane | (Exeter) |  |
|  | D. Pye | (Portsmouth) |  |
| Grading: E. M. White | (Bristol) | 4 |  |

Premier: (U-156)

| 1 st | B. H. Boomsma | (Paignton) | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2nd $=$ | R. M. George | (Ludlow) | $41 / 2$ |
|  | J. R. Nicholson | (Manchester) |  |
| Grading: |  | R. Korzeniewski (Luton) | 4 |


| Major: | (U-126) |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 st | F. S. Collins | (Solihull) | 5 |
| 2nd $=-$ | R. Jones | (Lutterworth) | $41 / 2$ |
|  | T. N. Marke | (Bristol) |  |
| Grading: C. Woolcock | (Barry) | 4 |  |


| Minor: | (U-100) |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1st | S. Williams | (Cwmbran) | $51 / 2$ |
| 2nd | N. Wood | (Bristol) | $41 / 2$ |
| 3rd $=$ | N. Carter | (Maidenhead) | 4 |
|  | K. A. Parker | (Cheltenham) |  |

Grading: S. Griffin (Cheltenham) 3
When was the last time an ungraded player won the top section of one of our westcountry congresses? Well, it happened at this year's Cotswold Congress when David Curnow was a surprise runaway winner of the Open. To be fair, he was at one time a leading English junior player, but never the less, one usually needs to be in current good form to stand a chance of winning any of our weekend congresses. However, the warning signs were there as early as round 2 when he beat a congress regular in the following manner.

White: D. A. Curnow.
Black: P. Helbig
Pirc Defence - Austrian Attack

1. e4 g6
2. d4 d6
3. Nc 3 Bg 7
4. f4 Constituting the

Austrian Attack, which Nunn describes as "one of the most crucial lines in the Pirc, as the sharp play does not allow any second-best moves by Black" - a judgement borne out by the subsequent play. Nc6
5. Bb5 a6
6. Вxc6+ bxc6
7. Nf3 Bg4
8. $0-0$ e6
9. Be 3 Ne 7
10. Qd2 Bxf3
11. Rxf3 0-0
12. f5! exf5
13. Bh6! fxe4
14. Nxe4 Nf5
15. Bxg7 Kxg7 16. Raf1 d5

Giving the knight a very comfortable "hole" on c5.
17. Nc5 h5? Offering White the opportunity to smash open the King's position by force.Offering White the opportunity to smash open the King's position by force.

18. Rxf5 gxf5
19. Rxf5 Rh8
21. Rg5+ Kf8
20. Qf4 Qe7
23. Ne6+ Ke7
25. Qf5+ Qe6
22. Re5 Qd6
24. $\mathbf{N g} 5+\mathrm{Kd} 7$
25...Kd8 26. Nxf7mate
26. Rxe6 1-0


Final position.

## Frome Congress

8th - 10th May 1998
Open:

| 1st= | K. Arkell <br> M. Turner | (Midland Monarchs) 4 $1 / 2$ <br> (Midland Monarchs) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3rd | A. Smith | (Cowley) |

British Championship Qualifying Places to:-
A. Hunt (Cowley) 3½
A. Lewis (Barbican) 3

Grading prize U180- D. Pugh (Grendel)
Major (U-170)

| st $=$ | C. Purry | (Guildford) 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | A. Ruffle | (Birmingham City) |
| $3 \mathrm{rd}=$ | R. Allen | (Bristol \& Clifton) $31 / 2$ |
|  | A. Bamford | (Wells) |


| B. Gosling | (Frome) |
| :--- | :--- |
| T. Anderson | (Southampton) |
| M. Blackmore | (Exeter) |
| A. Hibbitt | (Burnham on Sea) |
| C. Thomas | (Harambee) |
| S. Chadaway | (Handsworth Wood) |
| T. Woodward | (Trowbridge) |

Grading Prize U-130
S. Chadaway

Lermediate (U-135)
$1 \mathrm{st}=$ T. Millward

| A. Rawlinson | (Bath University) |
| :--- | :--- |
| R. Turner | (Sedgemoor) |

Crading Prize U-110
G. Berryman (Frome)
S. Cooke (Exeter)

Finer (U-100)

Ist | P. Sartain | (Keynsham) | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| M. Buckley | (Keynsham) | 4 |
| S. Buckley | (Keynsham) |  |
| R. Adams | (Gillingham \& Shaftesbury) |  |
|  | J. McArthur | (Keynsham) |
|  | J. Eyre | (Cockfosters) |

Grading prize U-180

> R. Adams.

Somerset Trophies:
Somerset Champion:
D. Pugh.

Mendip Major Trophy:
A. Bamford.

Roy Hossell Trophy:
R. Turner.

Cyril Chapman Trophy: P. Sartain
J. Mackereth Trophy:

Cuprinol Junior Trophy:
D. Roberts.

Tyeam Competition:
J. McArhtur

174 players entered.
And now for some of the action from the top section
with four games selected and annotated by Brian
Gosling.
White: A. Lewis.
Back: K. Arkell

## English Symmetrical

$$
\begin{array}{lc}
\text { 1. c4 c5 } & \text { 2. Nc3 Nc6 } \\
\text { 3. g3 g6 } & \text { 4. Bg2 Bg7 } \\
\text { 5. e3 d6 } & \text { 6. Nge2 Nf6 } \\
\text { 7. d4 0-0 } & \text { 8. } 0-0 \mathrm{Bg} 4 \\
\text { 9. h3 cxd4 } & \text { 10. hxg4? }
\end{array}
$$

This leads
to a difficult game for White. He not only compromises his King-side pawn structure, his Queenside comes under attack. He now has difficulty completing his development. This leads to a difficult game for White. He not only compromises his Kingside pawn structure, his Queen-side comes under attack. He now has difficulty completing his development.

[10.exd4!? looks like a viable alternative. 10...Bxe2 11.Nxe2=] 10...dxc3
11. Nxc3 h6
12. Nd5 Nxd5
13. cxd5 Ne5
many weaknesses.
15. Qb3 Qc7
14. f4? This creates too
14...Nc4
16. Rb1 Rfc8 Black has a big positional advantage.
17. Rf2 Qd7
18. Qd1 Rc7
19. b3 Nb6
20. a4 Qd8
21. 44 Nd 7
22. Be3 Rc3
23. Qd2 Rac8!? The control of the c-file is crushing. White tries to break out, but it leads to disaster. 24. e5 better, maybe,
[24.g5!? hxg5 25.f5]
24...dxe5
25. d6 exf4
26.gxf4 Nc5
27. b4 Nd3
28. Bxa7? Perhaps a better might be [28.dxe7 Qxe7 29.Rf3]
28...Qxd6 [28...Nxf2 might
be the shorter route 29.Bxf2 Qd7 30.Qd1 exd6 31.Bd5]
29. Rf3 b6 30. a5 bxa5
31. bxa5 Qd7 Attacking both bishop and g-
pawn 32. Bb6? better 32.
Bf2
32...Qxg4
33. Rxd3 Rc2 the final destruction
34.Rd8+ Kh7
35.Qd5 Rxd8 threatening mate... how? Not [35...Qxf4?? 36.Rxc8 Rxc8 37.a6 Rcl+ 38.Rxcl Qxc1+39.Bf1]
36. Bxd8 [36.Qf3 there is nothing else anyway 36...Qh4 37.Qh3 (37.Bxd8?? Bd4+ 38.Kf1 Rf2+ 39.Kel Rxg2+ 40.Qf2 Qxf2+ 41.Kd1 Qd2\#) 37...Qxh3 38.Bxh3]
36...Bd4+!! a decisive
sacrifice. 37. Kf1 [37.Kh1 is not much help 37...Qh4+ 38.Bh3 Qxh3\#] 37...Qe2\# A beautiful positonal win.


White: S. Buckley.
Black: K. Arkell.

## Caro Kann

1. e4 c6 2.d4 d5
2. e5 c5 A variation favoured by Botvinnik in his World Championship match against Tal.

## 4. dxc5 Nc6

5. Bb5 e6 Black's play is aimed at gaining back the pawn.
6. Qg4 h5
7. Qa4 Bd7
8. Qd4 a5
9. Be3 Ne7
10. Qd2 Nxe3
11. 0-0 Qxc5
12. Bxc6 Bxc6
13. c3 a4
14. Nf3 Nf5
15. Qxe3 Qa5
16. Nd4 A valuable piece.
16...Be7
17. Nd2 g6
18. b4


The problem with this move is that it leaves the c-pawn backward on a file in which it can be attacked.
18. .....Qb6
19. Qd3 Bd7
20. Rab1 0-0
21. 44 Rfc8
22. Rf3 Bf8
23. a3 Rc7
the backward c-pawn
25. Rc1 Qa6

Attacking
pressure on the backward pawn.
27. Rxd3 Bh6 28. N2f3 Rf8 Black
now creates a skillful attack on the Kingside.
29. Kf2 f6 30. exf6 Rxf6
31. h4 Be8 32. Ne5 The knights look
awesome.
32...Bf8
33. Nb5 Rg7 34. Ke2 b6
35. Nd4 Ba6
36. b5 Bb7
[36...Bxa3
would be good except for 37.Ra1 Bxb5 38.Nxb5+-]
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { 37. c4 Bc5 } & \text { 38. Ndc6 Rf8 } \\ \text { 39. cxd5 exd5 } & \text { 40. Rxd5 Bc8 } \\ \text { 41. Nd4 Bh3 } & \text { 42. Kf3 g5 }\end{array}$
41. Nd4 Bh3
42. Kf3 g5 Black gets
a deadly initiative.This pawn destroys White's position.
43. Rh1??


Throwing away White's advantage [43.hxg5!? Bxa3 (43...Rxg5 44.Rcxc5!! bxc5 45.Rxc5 This sac gives White a powerful passed pawn) 44.Rh1+-]
43...gxf4
44. Rxh3 fxg3+
45. Kg2 Rf2+
46. Kg1 g2! It's all
over. Can you spot the mating threat? [46...Bxa3? leads to nothing 47.Rxg3 Rxg3+ 48.Kxf2]
47. Nef3 Rf1+ 48. Kh2 Rh1\# 0-1

White: D. Gunter.
Black: S. Buckley Rd 4.

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 The Trompowsky Attack has become very popular. 2...Ne4
2. Bf4 c5
3. f3 Nf6
4. d5 g6
5. Nc3 d6
6. e4 Bg7
7. Qd2 Bd7
8. Bh6 Bxh6
9. Qxh6 b5!
10. Nge2 Qa5
11. Nc1 Na6
12. Nb3 Qb6
13. Qd2 0-0
14. h4? This attack is too premature. White needs to complete his development
15. ....Rfc8
16. h5 c4
17. Nd4 b4


Black has a very strong initiative 18. Nd1 c3
19. bxc3 bxc3 20. Qe3 not much better is [20.Nxc3 Nb4 21.Nce2 Nxh5] 20. ....Nb4 White misses the threat and loses a piece.
21. hxg6 Qxd4
22. gxf7+Kxf7
23. Qxd4 Nxc2+
24. Kf2 Nxd4 Black now has an easily won ending.
25. Rc1 c2
26. Ne3 Rab8
27. Ba6 Rc3
28. g4 Kg6
29. g5 Nh5
30. 44 Nxf 4
31. Rh6+ Kg7
32. Rhh1 Nh3+


White: M. Turner.
Black: A. Smith Rd 3.

1. c 4 h 5 Basmania finally comes to the Frome Open!
2. Ne3 h4
3. d4 c5
4. dxc5 Qa5
5. e4 Qxc5
6. Be3 Qa5
7. h3 A useful move that prevents the awkward pawn push to h3.
8. ....Nf6
9. Bd3 Nc6
10. Nf3 g6
11. Qd2 Bg7
12. 0-0 d6 Black should quickly conclude development. 12.a3 Consolidates b4 12...Be6
13. b4 Qd8
14. Rac1 Qd7
15. Nd5 White plans c 5
15...Nh5 Perhaps Bxh3 should be considered [15...Bxh3 16.gxh3 Qxh3 at least this would be consistent with the push of the h-pawn]

> 16. Be2 Ne5
17. Nxe5 Bxe5
18. c 5 White gains space.
18. .... $0-0$ ??


This was the losing move. Black could have have considered the forthcoming exchanges carefully. Better is [18...Bxd5 19.exd5 dxc5 20.bxc5 Rd8+-]
19. Bxh5 Bxd5 20. exd5 [20.Qxd5?! gxh5 21.Qd1 f5+-]
20. ....gxh5
21. Bh6! Qf5 Black decides to give up the exchange rather than lose quickly to a kingside attack. [21...Rfd8 22.Qg5+ Kh8 23.Qxh5+-]
22. Bxf8 Rxf8
23. f4 Bf6
24. $\mathbf{c} 6 \mathrm{Kh} 8$
25. b5 Rg8
26. c7 Qxh3
27. c8Q 1-0


Classic play against an off-beat opening.

## Obituaries

## Leon York

Frome's Ambassador of Chess
Born 1946 Died May 15th 1998
A tribute from Gerry Jepps:
Leon York of the Frome Chess Club and inspiration of the Frome Congress, tragically lost his life in a road traffic accident, just a few days after organising this year's event.

He had a great love and enthusiasm for chess and revitalised the game in Frome after it had lain dormant for many years. The thriving junior section was started by Leon in 1977 and the keenness for chess that it engendered in so may youngsters was a great source of pleasure to him. He was the original motivator and driving force behind the popular nine year old Frome Congress. His enthusiasm made this annual event in a small and ancient market town grow rapidly to become one of the westcountry's major tournaments, with the list of competitors including International and Grandmasters. All who have attended the congress will have enjoyed Leon's light and tongue-in-cheek way of handling the ceremonials

Leon had considerable publicity skills and was not inhibited in approaching any person or organisation for a worthy cause, and was well-known and respected for his energetic fund-raising activities.

For most of his adult life he worked for British Rail, in which profession his inimitable way of handling the public and never-failing humour were priceless assets.

An interesting feature of Leon's life, and one that gave his friends great pleasure to see, was the manner in which this youngster from Whitewell Boy's Home acquired, all in mature adulthood, first the mother he had not known as a child, then Lesley his much-loved wife with her ready-made family, then a lively brood of foster children and finally a young daughter of their own.

All who knew Leon will share the sentiments underlying the following statement from Gerry Udell, Frome Chess Club Secretary: "We will always remember Leon for his humorous and lively personality, not only as a chess colleague but as a very dear friend. All his chess associates throughout the region and country will wish to take this opportunity to say "Our hearts go out to his wife Lesley and family". Frome has lost a great man, a King of Chess,

Steve Boniface adds: Leon was one of the real characters of the game, and his great enthusiasm and drive were never surpassed. Only a few days previously, Leon had handed out the prizes himself at the Frome Congress in his own inimitable way, with a
cheerful word for Grandmasters and beginners alike. Standing 6 ft 7 " tall he was literally a giant character of the game, and will be sorely missed for his particular combination hard work and good humour.

## David Hooper

Born 1915
Died Taunton Sunday May 3rd aged 82

## A tribute from Brian Gosling

Although a former international player of the post war period, he will best be remembered for his excellent books, his most famous being "The Oxford Companion of Chess", which he wrote in collaboration with Ken Whyld. He was also an authority on the games of Steinitz and Capablanca ("The Unknown Capablanca" 1975 with Dale Brandreth) and was one of the world's leading experts on the endgame.

Recently there has been a number of books on the endings, but forty years ago this area of chess was somewhat neglected. Then in the late 1950s David collaborated with Max Euwe to produce "A Guide To Chess Endings". This was the first major book in the West on endings for twenty years. The book was wellreceived and enhanced David's reputation as an authority on this aspect of the game.

He then wrote two more books, "Practical Chess Endings", which was a Routledge Series Handbook, and "A Pocket Guide to Chess Endgames" (1970). The Pocket Guide was popular with club players because it was ideal for taking away to matches and tournaments. It was small but gave a complete coverage of the endings and had a useful glossary.

Today we tend to take endgame theory for granted, but there was a time when very little was known about this aspect of the game. Endgame theory is the accumulated knowledge gained by the work of dedicated individuals down the centuries. David now takes his place alongside those famous analysts from the past: Philidor, Kling, Berger, Troitzky, Cheron and Grigoriev.

I was personally acquainted with David and had a number of interesting discussions with him about his writing and the famous players he knew. I was saddened to learn of his death and wish to acknowledge his contribution to chess both as a player and writer.

There is a photograph of David Hooper in action in the archive section.

## Civil Service Championship

S.W. Region Heats

Taunton Civil Service Club :: 20th March

|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | pts |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nicholas, J | 146 | x | $1 / 2$ | - | - | 1 | 1 | $21 / 2$ | 1 st |
| Carr, J. J. | 141 | $1 / 2$ | x | 1 | $1 / 2$ | - | - | 2 | 2nd |
| Brusey, A. | 166 | - | 0 | x | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 3rd |
| Pope, S | 141 | - | $1 / 2$ | 0 | x | 1 | - | $11 / 2$ |  |
| Hendy, J | 149 | 0 | - | - | 0 | x | 1 | 1 |  |
| Hewitt, A |  | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | x | 0 |  |

Jeff Nicholas and John Carr go on to the national finals at Leeds

## Inland Revenue Inter-Area Championships.

The South West team did very well to get the highest score of the day, only losing overall 1st place on tie break from the team from the East. Jeff Nicholas did win the prize for the highest score by any player on Board 2.

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\text { 1st } & \text { Eastern Region } & 10 / 15 \text { pts } \\
\text { 2nd } & \text { South West } & 10 / 15 \text { pts } \\
\text { 3rd } & \text { West Midlands } & 91 / 2 / 15
\end{array}
$$

South West players were:-

| 1. Alan Brusey | (Teignmouth) | 166 | $3 / 5$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. | Jeff Nicholas | (Camborne) | 146 | $4 / 5$ |
| 3. | Simon Goudge |  | $u / g$ | $3 / 5$ |

Report from Alan Brusey.

## WECU Grading Lists 1998-1999 <br> £2.50

Available from Keverel Chess
Keverel Lodge, 40, Phillipps Avenue, Exmouth. EX8 3HZ

Tel \& fax 01395-223340

# WECU Inter-County Competition 

Harold Meek Competition

|  | Cornwall | Devon | Dorset | Somerset | Wilts | Points |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cornwall | XXXXX | $51 / 2$ | 5 | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| Devon | $10^{1 / 2}$ | XXXXX | $71 / 2$ | 11 | $51 / 2$ | 4 |
| Dorset | 11 | $81 / 2$ | XXXXX | 12 | 8 | 7 |
| Somerset | 9 | 5 | 4 | XXXXX | 4 | 2 |
| Wiltshire | 12 | $10^{1 / 2}$ | 8 | 12 | XXXXX | 7 |

Wiltshire won on a board count tie break from Dorset, as their individual match was drawn.
Wayling Cup Competition

|  | Devon | Dorset | Somerset | Wilts | Points |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Devon | XXXXX | 7 | $81 / 2$ | $61 / 2$ | 4 |
| Dorset | 9 | XXXXX | $81 / 2$ | 5 | 6 |
| Somerset | $51 / 2$ | $71 / 2$ | XXXXX | $21 / 2$ | 0 |
| Wiltshire | $11 / 2$ | 3 | $51 / 2$ | XXXXX | 2 |

WECU nominations for the National Stages were as follows:-
Championship: Wiltshire (Champions) vs MCCU (2)
Dorset (RunnersUp) vs SCCU (1)
Under 175 Devon vs SCCU (2)
Under 150: $\quad$ Dorset (Champions) vs EACU (2) or MCCU (2)
Devon (Runners Up) vs SCCU (2)
Under 125: $\quad$ Hants vs NCCU (2)
Under 100: $\quad$ Devon vs NCCU(1)
Programme for 1998/99

| Rd 1 | 3rd Oct ‘98 | Wilts v Cornwall | Dorset v Devon | Hants v Somerset |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rd 2 | 28 Nov '98 | Devon v Wilts | Cornwall v Hants | Somerset v Devon |
| Rd 3 | 16th Jan ‘99 | Hants v Wilts | Somerset v Devon | Dorset v Cornwall |
| Rd 4 | 6th Feb '99 | Wilts v Somerset | Hants v Dorset | Cornwall v Devon |
| Rd 5 | 6th Mar'99 | Wilts v Dorset | Somerst v Cornwall | Devon v Hants |

The WECU Jamboree to be on Sunday 20th September 1998

Details of the matches aabove are as follows:-

| DEVON | v <br> 6th | SOMERSET |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 Wheeler J F. | 181 | $1-0$ | Whitcutt J | 181 |
| 2 Hodge D J | 180 | $1-0$ | Littlejohns D | 160 |
| 3 Hewson B W | 176 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Rowe D | 158 |
| 4 Cowley D R | 174 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Fewkes J E | 155 |
| 5 Dunn A | 150 | $0-1$ | Jepps G N | 153 |


| 6 | Lane P C R | 171 | $1-0$ | Bamford A B | 153 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 7 | Brusey A W | 166 | $1-0$ | Winch C E | 149 |
| 8 | Regis D | 164 | $1-0$ | Default | 0 |
| 9 Pickering A | 163 | $1-0$ | Mc Kinley C T 144 |  |  |
| 10 | Bellers C J | 161 | $0-1$ | Gosling B G E | 142 |
| 11 | Frost N A | 156 | $1-0$ | Manning P | 140 |
| 12 | Lee R A | 156 | $1-0$ | Chapman P M | 136 |
| 13 | Blackmore M153 | $0-1$ | Dobber P | 136 |  |
| 14 | Hill D | 153 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Paine A | 144 |
| 15 | Gorodi J G | 150 | $1-0$ | Baker M R | 133 |
| 16 | Towers R C | 149 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Cole E W | 132 |


| 17 | Abbot M V | 149 | $1-0$ | Default | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 18 | Taggart I | 148 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Ayres J | 129 |
| 19 | Annetts I S | 142 | $0-1$ | Senior N N | 128 |
| 20 | Ingham W | 144 | $0-1$ | Barratt C F | 119 |
| 21 Pope S | 141 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Hunter G | 121 |  |
| 22 Kennedy P J | 141 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Eadie R | 118 |  |
| 23 | Duckham J | 136 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Turner R D | 113 |
| 24 | Adams D | 133 | $1-0$ | Hurn P | 113 |
| 25 | Scott R | 132 | $1-0$ | Maishman R M111 |  |
| 26 Chick T | 130 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Cooper M E | 106 |  |
| 27 | Jones R H | 128 | $1-0$ | Young A | 99 |
| 28 Atiomo W | 128 | $1-0$ | Sarginson I A | 103 |  |
| 29 | Murr R | 126 | $0-1$ | Berryman G T | 94 |
| 30 Praill T | 121 | $1-0$ | Dodden P | 90 |  |

DORSET v WILTSHIRE 10th January 1998

| 1 | Noyce R C | 195 | $0-1$ | Morris C F | 208 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | White G A | 191 | $0-1$ | Zeidler S P | 209 |
| 3 | Simons M J | 184 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Law A | 206 |
| 4 | Pleasants A J | 191 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Haydon R | 195 |
| 5 | Clark I C | 186 | $0-1$ | Richmond P A197 |  |
| 6 | Freeman M J | 172 | $0-1$ | Headlong T | 193 |
| 7 | Hopkins J R | 184 | $1-0$ | Richmond J | 188 |
| 8 | Jenks C B | 172 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Elliott S | 179 |
| 9 | Willetts G J | 171 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Bourne J D | 177 |
| 10 | Dommett A J166 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Windebank G | 167 |  |
| 11 | Laker L | 166 | $1-0$ | Wingfield N | 159 |
| 12 | Simms T E | 164 | $1-0$ | Phoutsady C | 152 |
| 13 | Clancy M | 162 | $1-0$ | Callow C T | 152 |
| 14 | Tyrer J | 164 | $1-0$ | Cooke A | 151 |
| 15 | Lines T J | 159 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | Ward D E | 147 |
| 16 Crisp S C | 155 | $0-1$ | Tanner G | 132 |  |
|  |  | $8-8$ |  |  |  |

17 Needham H 153 1/2-1/2 Willson J 131
18 Kingdon F C 153 1/2-1/2 Grant S 130
19 Mann C P B 150 1-0 Woodward T 137
20 Sarahs K A 145 0-1 Champion A W128
21 Phillips N 139 1/2-1/2 Chase Jenny 113
22 Cartwright G1371-0 Carver R 105
23 McKenna J 132 1-0 Duffy P 93
24 Walker B $1301 / 2-1 / 2$ Brown D 90 5-3

CORNWALL v DORSET 31st January 1998

| 1 | Greet A N | 208 | $1-0$ | Noyce R C | 195 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | Menadue J F | 189 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | White G A | 191 |
| 3 | Grime R.J. | 167 | $0-1$ | Simons M J | 184 |
| 4 | Trudeau G | 145 | $1-0$ | Pleasants A J | 191 |
| 5 | Bartlett S | 136 | $1-0$ | Clark I C | 186 |
| 6 | Boulden D | 128 | $1-0$ | Freeman M J | 172 |
| 7 | Sellwood C | 128 | $0-1$ | Jenks C B | 172 |
| 8 | Greet D | 127 | $0-1$ | Willetts G J | 171 |



WILTSHIRE v DEVON (Under 100) 14th February 1998

|  | Walters M | 99 1-0 | Tatam T | 99 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Gladwell A | $961 / 2-1 / 2$ | Atkins K | 98 |
| 3 | Brown D | 900-1 | Moore C | 97 |
| 4 | Squirrell M | 920-1 | Hyland Tom | 97 |
| 5 | Grant C | 790-1 | Grist P | 90 |
| 6 | Ellis G | 67-1 | Light T | 86 |
| 7 | Default | 0-11 | A.N.Other | 0 |
| 8 | Default | $\begin{gathered} 00-1 \\ 11 / 2-6^{1 / 2} \end{gathered}$ | A.N.Other | 0 |
|  | DEVON | 7th March | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DORSET } \\ & \text { ch } 1998 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 1 | Dempsey A | $2001 / 2-1 / 2$ | Simons M J | 184 |
| 2 | Wheeler J F | 181 1/2-1/2 | Noyce R C | 195 |
| 3 | Hodge D J | 180 0-1 | Clark I C | 186 |

4 Lane P C R 171 1-0 Waddington M174
5 Dunn A 150 0-1 Jenks C B 172
6 Brusey A W 166 1/2-1/2 Willetts G J 171
7 Regis D $164 \quad 1-0 \quad$ Laker L 166
8 Pickering A 163 0-1 Simms T E 164
9 Thynne T F 162 1-0 Tyrer J 164
10 Halmkin P E 159 0-1 Lines T J 159
11 Frost N A 156 1-0 $\quad$ Crisp S C 155
12 Bhackmore M153 0-1 Needham H D153
13 Gorodi J G 150 1-0 Kingdon F C 153
14 Towers R C 149 1⁄2-1/2 Catchpole J F. 151
15 Abbot M V 149 0-1 Papworth D E 146
16 Taggart I 148 1/2-1/2 Sarahs K A 145 $71 / 2-81 / 2$

| W | 144 | Rapkins D G 143 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 Ametts IS | 142 1/2-1/2 | Miller T W B 144 |
| 19 Pope $S$ | 1410-1 | Brackner P 137 |
| 20. Dectham J | $1361 / 2-1 / 2$ | Oldfield J A 133 |
| 21 Roderick A | 120 1/2-1/2 | McKenna J 132 |
| 22 Chick T | 130 0-1 | Walker B 130 |
| 23 Lame N | 120 1-0 | Harris J E 130 |
| 24 Jomes R H | 128-1 | Cherryson J C 129 |
| 25 Atiomo W | 128 1-0 | Wallace P 126 |
| 25 Roberts P J | 128 0-1 | Hamilton Taylor 125 |
| 27 Sparke E G | 124-0-1 | Jackson P A 125 |
| 23 Praill | 121 1/2-1/2 | Ambrose C J F125 |
| 29 Allen J E | 119 1/2-1/2 | Primmett A D 122 |
| 30 Vasey J H | 117 0-1 | Dalzell J 121 |
| 31 OReilly A | $1131 / 2-1 / 2$ | Bullock A C 117 |
| 32 Atkins K | 981-0 | Litchfield M 100 |
|  | 7-9 |  |

CORNWALL v SOMERSET
7th March 1998
1 Greet A N 208 1-0 Buckley S. T 181
2 Menadue J F 189 1⁄2-1/2 Brierley M 173
3 George I.M. 178 0-1 Buckley D E 170
4 Grime R.J. $1671 / 2-1 / 2$ Littlejohns D 160
5 Trudeau G 145 1-0 Fewkes J E 155
6 Bartlett S 136 1⁄2-1/2 Jepps G N 153
7 Sellwood C 128 1-0. Bamford A B 153
8 Greet D $1271 / 2-1 / 2$ Winch C E 149
9 Munday P 1260-1 Wood D C 146
10 Wilde T J E 120 0-1 Gosling B G E142
11 Stockton M 117 0-1 Chapman P M 136
12 Brewer K 800-1 Dobber P 136
13 Hollingworth J110 1/2-1/2 Baker MR 133
14 Manton T 104 1/2-1/2 Ayres J 129
15 Manton P 107 1-0 Default 0
16 Hughes M 990-1 Barratt C F 119
7-9

National Stages
Championship Quarter-Final
Dorset 21/2-131/2 Kent
Wiltshire $61 / 2-91 / 2$ Gtr. Manchester

## U-175 Quarter-Final <br> Bristol 16.05.98

| $\quad$ Devon | Surrey |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. P. Lane | $1701-0$ | J. M. Shepley 174 |  |
| 2. A. Brusey | $1661-0$ | R. K. Thomas d/f |  |
| 3. D. R. Regis | $1640-1$ | D. Sedgewick 173 |  |
| 4. A. Pickering | $1631 / 2-1 / 2$ | C. Briscoe | 171 |
| 5. C. Bellers | $1611 / 2-1 / 2$ | P. M. Stimpson170 |  |
| 6. P. Halmkin | $1591 / 2-1 / 2$ | C. R. Clegg | 168 |
| 7. N. Frost | $1561-0$ | M. C. Page | 164 |
| 8. D. Hill | $1531-0$ | N. D. Grey | 156 |
| 9. J. Gorodi | $1500-1$ | A. N. Smith | 156 |
| 10. R. Towers | $1490-1$ | A.S. James | 156 |
| 11. M. Abbott | $1490-1$ | S. R. Jones | 152 |
| 12. I. Taggart | $1481 / 2-1 / 2$ | P. R. Archer | 151 |
| 13. W. Ingham | $1440-1$ | P. E. Barnard | 141 |
| 14. S. Homer | $1440-1$ | F. C. Manning | 133 |
| 15. I. S. Annetts | $1421-0$ | default |  |
| 16. R. H. Jones | $1281-0$ | default |  |
|  | $8-8$ |  |  |

Devon won on board count 49-60, Surrey paying the price for their 3 defaults.

U-175 Semi-Final
Wootton Bassett 13.06.98.

| Devon |  |  | Essex |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. P. Lane | $1700-1$ | A. Brett | 173 |  |  |  |
| 2. A. Dunn | $1670-1$ | T. Coote | 173 |  |  |  |
| 3. A. Brusey | $1661-0$ | G. McNally | 172 |  |  |  |
| 4. D. R. Regis | $1640-1$ | W. Sanders | 171 |  |  |  |
| 5. A. Pickering | $1631-0$ | P. Doye | 170 |  |  |  |
| 6. C. Bellers | $1610-1$ | L. Marden | 169 |  |  |  |
| 7. P. Halmkin | $1591-0$ | D. Millward | 168 |  |  |  |
| 8. N. Frost | $1560-1$ | I. Smith | 161 |  |  |  |
| 9. M. Blackmore $1531 / 2-1 / 2$ | K. Clow | 173 |  |  |  |  |
| 10. D. Hill | $1531-0$ | C. Ramage | 167 |  |  |  |
| 11. . Walton | $1520-1$ | I. Hunnable | 166 |  |  |  |
| 12. J. Gorodi | $1501-0$ | L. Crane | 164 |  |  |  |
| 13. M. Abbott | $1491 / 2-1 / 2$ | R. Waldteufel | 163 |  |  |  |
| 14. W. Ingham | $1440-1$ | N. Twichell | 160 |  |  |  |
| 15. S. Homer | $1440-1$ | A. Hartland | 160 |  |  |  |
| 16. I. S. Annetts | $1421 / 2-1 / 2$ | D. Pearse | 158 |  |  |  |

## $61 / 291 / 2$

Essex paid Devon the compliment of fielding a strong team with no chance of defaults, just two of which would have put Devon in the final.

|  | U-150 Preliminary |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Essex |  |  |
| 1. Revon | Towers | $1491 / 2-1 / 2$ R. Slade |
| 2. M. Abbott | $1490-149$ |  |
| 3. J. White | 149 |  |
|  | $1471-0$ S. Williams | 147 |



CORNWALL v SOMERSET
7th March 1998

| Gre | 2081 | Buckley S. T |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 Menadue J F | 189 1/2-1/2 | Brierley M |
| 3 George I.M. | 178 0-1 | Buckley D E |
| 4 Grime R.J. | 167 1/2-1/2 | Littlejohns D |
| Trudeau G | 1451 -0 | Fewkes J E 155 |
| 6 Bratlett S | 136 1/2-1/2 | Jepps G N 15 |
| 7 Sellwood C | 128 1-0. | Bamford A B |
| 8 Greet D | 127 1/2-1/2 | Winch C E 149 |
| 9 Munday P | 126 0-1 | Wood D C 146 |
| 10 Wilde T J E | 120 0- | Gosling B G E142 |
| 11 Stockton M | 1170-1 | Chapman P M 136 |
| 12 Brewer K | 800-1 | Dobber P 136 |
| 13 Hollingwor | J110 1/2-1/2 | 1/2 Baker M R 133 |
| 14 Manton T | 104 1/2-1/2 | Ayres J 129 |
| 15 Manton P | 1071 -0 | Default |
| 16 Hughes M | 99-1 | Barratt C F 119 |
|  | 7 |  |

## National Stages

Championship Quarter-Final
Dorset $21 / 2-131 / 2$ Kent
Wiltshire $61 / 2-91 / 2 \quad$ Gtr. Manchester

## U-175 Quarter-Final <br> Bristol 16.05.98

| Devon | Surrey |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| 1. P. Lane | $1701-0$ | J. M. Shepley 174 |  |
| 2. A. Brusey | $1661-0$ | R. K. Thomas d/f |  |
| 3. D. R. Regis | $1640-1$ | D. Sedgewick 173 |  |
| 4. A. Pickering | $1631 / 2-1 / 2$ | C. Briscoe | 171 |
| 5. C. Bellers | $1611 / 2-1 / 2$ | P. M. Stimpson 170 |  |
| 6. P. Halmkin | $1591 / 2-1 / 2$ | C. R. Clegg | 168 |
| 7. N. Frost | $1561-0$ | M. C. Page | 164 |
| 8. D. Hill | $1531-0$ | N. D. Grey | 156 |
| 9. J. Gorodi | $1500-1$ | A. N. Smith | 156 |
| 10. R. Towers | $1490-1$ | A. S. James | 156 |
| 11. M. Abbott | $1490-1$ | S. R. Jones | 152 |
| 12. I. Taggart | $1481 / 2-1 / 2$ | P. R. Archer | 151 |
| 13. W. Ingham | $1440-1$ | P. E. Barnard | 141 |
| 14. S. Homer | $1440-1$ | F. C. Manning | 133 |
| 15. I. S. Annetts | $1421-0$ | default |  |
| 16. R. H. Jones | $1281-0$ | default |  |
|  | $8-8$ |  |  |

Devon won on board count 49-60, Surrey paying the price for their 3 defaults.

U-175 Semi-Final
Wootton Bassett 13.06.98.

| Devon |  |  | Essex |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1. P. Lane | $1700-1$ | A. Brett | 173 |  |  |
| 2. A. Dunn | $1670-1$ | T. Coote | 173 |  |  |
| 3. A. Brusey | $1661-0$ | G. McNally | 172 |  |  |
| 4. D. R. Regis | $1640-1$ | W. Sanders | 171 |  |  |
| 5. A. Pickering | $1631-0$ | P. Doye | 170 |  |  |
| 6. C. Bellers | $1610-1$ | L. Marden | 169 |  |  |
| 7. P. Halmkin | $1591-0$ | D. Millward | 168 |  |  |
| 8. N. Frost | $1560-1$ | I. Smith | 161 |  |  |
| 9. M. Blackmore 153 | $1 / 2-1 / 2$ | K. Clow | 173 |  |  |
| 10. D. Hill | $1531-0$ | C. Ramage | 167 |  |  |
| 11. E. Walton | $1520-1$ | I. Hunnable | 166 |  |  |
| 12. J. Gorodi | $1501-0$ | L. Crane | 164 |  |  |
| 13. M. Abbott | $1491 / 2-1 / 2$ | R. Waldteufel | 163 |  |  |
| 14. W. Ingham | $1440-1$ | N. Twichell | 160 |  |  |
| 15. S. Homer | $1440-1$ | A. Hartland | 160 |  |  |
| 16. I. S. Annetts | $1421 / 2-1 / 2$ | D. Pearse | 158 |  |  |
|  | $61 / 2$ | $91 / 2$ |  |  |  |

Essex paid Devon the compliment of fielding a strong team with no chance of defaults, just two of which would have put Devon in the final.

## Devon

1. R. Towers
2. M. Abbott
3. M. Cox

## U-150 Preliminary <br> Essex

$1491 / 2-1 / 2$ R. Slade
1490-1 J. White149

1471-0 S. Williams 147


|  | U-100 Quarter-Final |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Frampton-On-Severn |  |
| Devon | Lancashire |  |
| 1. A. Tatam | $991 / 2-1 / 2$ P. Tittrington | 93 |
| 2. S. Arriss | $981 / 2-1 / 2$ C. Tillotson | 92 |
| 3. T. Hyland | 970-1 D. Newton | 91 |
| 4. S. Hoare | 941-0 A. Smith | 85 |
| 5. W. Tindal | 951-0 R. Nicholas | 90 |
| 6. C. Peach | $921 / 2-1 / 2$ A. Wiseman | 90 |
| 7. P. Grist | 900-1 C. Kerns | 97 |
| 8. T. Light | 861-0 R. Neale | 81 |
| 9. I. S. Mason | 710-1 C. Lythgoe | 71 |
| 10. J. Tuck | 520-1 C. Lamb | 67 |
| 11. default | 0-1 T. Boughton | 64 |
| 12. default | 0-1 C. Walker | 72 |
|  | 41/2 $711 / 2$ |  |

So no glory for any WECU team this year. In fact, it is said that the Kent team were a bit peeved at the onesidedness of their match with Dorset, which can be deemed a little ungracious, as Dorset had agreed to travel most of the way to Kent for the match.

Still, there's always next year.......
Meanwhile, a game from the National Stages.
White: P. E. Halmkin (Devon)
Black: D. Millward (Essex)
Devon v Essex U-175 Semi-Final, 1998

## Scotch Gambit

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Be7 5.c3 Nf6? Allowing ...e5, which usually heralds an early White attack. Black generally gets in an early d 6 to prevent this. 6.e5 Ne4 7.Bd5

7...Ng5 Losing a piece. 8.Nxg5 Bxg5 9.Qh5 Threatening both mate and the bishop. 9...Qe7 10.Qxg5 f6 11.Qh5+ A useful intermezzo, allowing the Queen to come back to the e-file 11...g6 12.Qe2 Nxe5 13.cxd4 Nd3+ 14.Kd1 Qxe2+ 15.Kxe2 Nb4 16.Bb3 d6 17.Be3 Bf5 18.Nc3 0-0-0 19.Nd5 Nxd5 20.Bxd5 Rde8 21.Rac1 Re7 22.Rc3 Rhe8 23.Rhe1 g5 24.Kd2 Bg6 25.Bc4 h6 26.d5 Kb8 27.Ra3 b6 28.Bd4 Re4 29.Be3 [29.Bxf6 Rf8 30.Bg7 Rxf2+ and black has counterplay.] 29...R4e7 30.Bb5 Rf8 31.Re1 Re5 32.Bc6 Re4 33.f3 Rc4 34.Re3 Rxc3 35.bxc3 Kc8 36.Bd4 Kd8 37.Re6 1-0

## West of England Championship

## Weymouth Easter 1998

The 52nd Annual West of Championship was held at the Rembrandt Hotel, where 78 players gathered to contest the Championship itself and the two other sections. The charts here tell the full story.

Open Section.

|  | Name | Gd | Club | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | tot | prize |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Beaumont, C. R. | 210 | Hanham | 24+ | 7+ | $9=$ | 10+ | $19=$ | $6+$ | $27=$ | 51/2 | WECU champion |
| 2 | Brierley, M | 173 | Burnham | 13= | $23=$ | 6= | $7-$ | 21- | 25+ | 15- | 21/2 |  |
| 3 | Clark, I.C. | 186 | Oakdale | 28+ | 8= | 12= | 27- | 4- | 11+ | 18- | 3 |  |
| 4 | Collier, D. O. | 184 | Clifton | 6- | 28+ | 16= | 8 - | $3+$ | $21=$ | 23 $=$ | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 5 | De Coverly, R | 173 | Bourne End | 12= | 16+ | 13= | 6- | 7 - | 23 $=$ | 14= | 3 |  |
| 6 | Dilleigh, S. P. | 175 | Horfield | 4+ | 19- | $2=$ | 5+ | $18+$ | 1- | $17=$ | 4 |  |
| 7 | George, I.M. | 178 | Camborne | 17+ | 1- | 27- | 2+ | $5+$ | $10=$ | 8- | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 8 | Grossett, D.D. | 164 | Clifton | 18+ | 3= | 10- | 4+ | 26- | 15+ | 7+ | $41 / 2$ | Grading prize |
| 9 | Haydon, R | 195 | Clifton | 14+ | 27+ | $1=$ | $19=$ | $12=$ | 26= | $10=$ | $41 / 2$ |  |
| 10 | Headlong, T | 193 | Swindon | $25=$ | 22+ | $8+$ | 1- | by $=$ | $7=$ | $9=$ | 4 |  |
| 11 | Heasman, R | 165 | Basingstoke | by= | 20- | 15- | 16+ | 23= | 3- | 22+ | 3 |  |
| 12 | Holt, P. J. | 182 | Olton | 5= | 26+ | $3=$ | 20+ | 9= | 19- | 13= | 4 |  |
| 13 | Hopkins, J. R. | 184 | Dorchester | $2=$ | 25+ | $5=$ | $17=$ | 27 $=$ | 18= | $12=$ | 4 |  |
| 14 | Horner, R.M. | 159 | Gateshead | 9 - | 21= | 18- | 24= | 25+ | $20=$ | $5=$ | 3 |  |
| 15 | Lane, P. C. R. | 170 | Exeter | 27- | 18= | 11+ | 26- | 28+ | 8 - | $2+$ | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 16 | Littlejohns, D. P. | 160 | Taunton | by= | 5- | 4= | 11- | $24=$ | $22=$ | 28- | 2 |  |
| 17 | Pleasants, A. J. | 191 | Weymouth | $7-$ | 24+ | 23+ | $13=$ | 20+ | 27- | $6=$ | 4 |  |
| 18 | Rudd, J | 197 | Yeovil | 8- | $15=$ | 14+ | 21+ | 6- | $13=$ | 3+ | 4 |  |
| 19 | Simons, M. J. | 184 | Southbourne | 21+ | 6+ | 20= | 9= | $1=$ | 12+ | 26= | 5 | 2nd= |
| 20 | Thompson, I.D. | 199 | Guildford | 22= | 11+ | 19= | 12- | 17- | 14= | 21+ | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 21 | Waddington, M | 174 | Dorchester | 19- | 14= | 22+ | 18- | $2+$ | 4= | 20- | 3 |  |
| 22 | White, I. R. | 166 | Gloucester | $20=$ | 10- | 21- | 25- | by + | 16= | 11- | 2 |  |
| 23 | White, S. M. | 157 | Gloucester | 26= | $2=$ | 17- | 28= | $11=$ | 5+ | 4= | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 24 | Wilkinson, J. R. | 169 | Gosport | $1-$ | 17- | 28- | $14=$ | 16= | by+ | 25- | 2 |  |
| 25 | Wright, A. D. | 136 | Plymouth | 10= | 13- | 26- | 22+ | 14- | 2- | 24+ | $21 / 2$ |  |
| 26 | Yeo, M. J. | 194 | Southampton | 23= | 12- | 25+ | 15+ | 8+ | $9=$ | 19= | $41 / 2$ |  |
| 27 | Buckley, S. T. | 181 | Keynsham | 15+ | $9-$ | $7+$ | $3+$ | $13=$ | 17+ | $1=$ | $41 / 2$ | 2nd= |
| 28 | Aston, P. A. | 176 | Palace | 3 - | 4- | 24+ | 23= | 15- | by= | 16+ | 3 |  |



Winner of the West of England Championship, Chris Beaumont (right) shares a joke with his last round adversary Simon Buckley, who so nearly won it himself. Martin Simons, (left) joint 2nd, looks on.

## Major

|  | Name | Gd | Club | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | tot | prize |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Adams, M. W. | 136 | Wimborne | 2- | 16+ | 6- | by= | 5= | 15- | 12- | 2 |  |
| 2 | Annetts I S. | 142 | Tiverton | 1+ | 15+ | 8- | 7= | 14= | 10- | 6- | 3 |  |
| 3 | Bartlett, S | 136 | Bodmin | by $=$ | 13= | 4- | 11- | by+ | 16+ | 9+ | 4 |  |
| 4 | Blackmore, M | 153 | Exeter | 12+ | 11- | 3+ | 14= | 6+ | 8- | 10= | 4 |  |
| 5 | Boomsma, B | 141 | Paignton | by $=$ | 8- | 12- | 16+ | 1= | 6- | 15= | $21 / 2$ |  |
| 6 | Chapman, P. M. | 136 | Yeovil | 15- | 12+ | 1+ | 11- | 4- | 5+ | 2+ | 4 |  |
| 7 | Fewkes, J. E. | 155 | Yeovil | 17+ | 14+ | 11= | 2= | 9- | 13+ | 8= | $41 / 2$ | 3rd= |
| 8 | Gosling, B. G. E. | 142 | Frome | 10= | 5+ | 2+ | by= | 11+ | 4+ | 7= | $51 / 2$ | 1st |
| 9 | Hart, J. S. | 130 | Sutton/Cheam | by= | 10= | 15= | 13+ | 7+ | 11- | 3- | 31/2 |  |
| 10 | Headlong, F. M. | 154 | Swindon | 8= | 9= | 13- | 15+ | by= | $2+$ | 4= | 4 | Ladies champion |
| 11 | Holt, P. J. | 144 | Kinson | 16+ | 4+ | 7= | 6+ | 8- | 9+ | 14= | 5 | 2nd |
| 12 | Holt, T. J. | 142 | Olton | 4- | 6- | 5+ | 3+ | 13- | 14- | 1+ | 3 |  |
| 13 | Jacquest, S | 130 | Ormskirk | by $=$ | 3= | 10+ | 9- | 12+ | $7-$ | 16+ |  |  |
| 14 | Pope, S | 141 | Exeter | by+ | $7-$ | 17+ | 4= | 2= | 12+ | 11= | $41 / 2$ | Grading prize |
| 15 | Taylor, G. P. | 159 | Gloucester | 6+ | 2- | 9= | 10- | 16- | 1+ | 5= | 3 |  |
| 16 | Woodward, T. F | 137 | Trowbridge | 11- | 1- | by+ | 5- | 15+ | 3- | 13- | 2 |  |
| 17 | Kaye, M | 105 | Dorchester | 7 | by+ | 14 | wd | wd | wd |  | -- |  |

## Minor

|  | Name | Gd | Club | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | tot | prize |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Ainsley, G. J | 106 | Calderdale | 32+ | 27- | 19+ | 7= | 6= | 16= | 30+ | $41 / 2$ |  |
| 2 | Atkins, K. P. | 98 | Exeter | 23+ | 16+ | 28- | 24+ | 22- | 6+ | 29+ | 5 | 2nd= |
| 3 | Bacon, F. J. | 66 | Olton | 8- | 14- | 21- | 30- | 23+ | by+ | 25- | 2 |  |
| 4 | Balem, J | 110 | Weymouth | 30+ | 19+ | 27- | 17- | 33= | 10+ | 8+ | 41/2 |  |
| 5 | Bartlett, M. J. | 123 | Kinson | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd |  |  |
| 6 | Burt, D.F. | 121 | Parkstone | by= | 26= | 20= | 12+ | $1=$ | 2- | 11= | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 7 | Cooke, S. J. | 109 | Exeter | 20+ | 29= | 26+ | 1= | 31+ | 27- | 28+ | 5 | 2nd= |
| 8 | Crooks, R. D. | 116 | King's Head | 3+ | 31- | 33+ | 22- | 9= | 18+ | 4- | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 9 | Curry, D | 78 | Halesowen | 28- | 11+ | 22- | 23+ | 8= | 34+ | 26+ | 41/2 | Grading prize |
| 10 | Draisey, H. J. | 108 | Horland | 11+ | 28= | $29-$ | 26- | 12+ | 4- | 34- | 21/2 |  |
| 11 | Eastwick-Field, S | 104 | Braille C. C. | 10- | 9- | 30+ | 19= | 20+ | 24= | 6= | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 12 | Freke, R. B. | 83 | Yeovil | 31- | 25+ | 16= | 6- | 10- | 23+ | 33- | $2^{11 / 2}$ |  |
| 13 | Greenland, G | 89 | Leamington | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd |  |  |
| 14 | Griffin, S | 82 | Cheltenham | 16- | 3+ | 17- | 33- | 21+ | 20- | 18- | 2 |  |
| 15 | Hamilton, M | 102 | Bournemouth | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd | wd |  |  |
| 16 | Hollingsworth, J. | 110 | Camborne | 15+ | 2- | 12= | 32+ | 28= | 1= | by= | 4 |  |
| 17 | Huba, M | 105 | King's Head | 34+ | 24- | 14+ | 4+ | 26- | 28- | 20= | 3 |  |
| 18 | Jones, S. A. | 90 | Dorchester | 29- | 23+ | 32= | 20= | 34= | 8- | 14+ | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 19 | Kelly, W. J. | 117 | Weymouth | 23+ | 4- | 1- | 11= | 32+ | $8=$ | by $=$ | 4 |  |
| 20 | Lewis, W. J. |  | Barry | $7-$ | 30+ | 6= | 18= | 11- | 14+ | 17+ | 4 |  |
| 21 | Marner, H | 69 | Dorchester | 27- | 22- | 3+ | 34- | 14- | 30- | by + | 2 |  |
| 22 | Mills, N | 96 | Yeovil | 26- | 21+ | 9+ | 8+ | 2+ | 29- | 27- | 4 |  |
| 23 | Patching, G. R. | 36 | Braille CC | 19- | 18- | by+ | 9- | 3- | 12- | 32- | 1 |  |
| 24 | Primett, A. D. | 122 | Southbourne | 23+ | 17+ | 31- | 2- | by= | 11= | 30= | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 25 | Spink, D. K | 70 | Braille CC | 24- | 12- | 34- | by+ | 30- | 32+ | $3+$ | 3 |  |
| 26 | Stephenson, T | 106 | Exeter | 22+ | 6= | 7- | 10+ | 17+ | 31- | 9- | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 27 | Tipper, D. I. | 117 | Downend | 21+ | 1+ | 4+ | 31+ | 29+ | 7+ | 22+ | 7 | 1st |
| 28 | Vann, M | 124 | Bourne End | 9+ | 10= | 2+ | 29- | 16= | 17+ | 7- | 4 |  |
| 29 | Ward-Ackland |  | Oxford | 18+ | 7= | 10+ | 28+ | 27- | 22+ | 2- | 41/2 |  |
| 30 | Waters, R | 95 | Taunton | 4- | 20- | 11- | 3+ | 25+ | 21+ | 24= | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 31 | Willis, A. R. | 100 | Exeter | 12+ | 8+ | 24+ | 27- | 7- | 26+ | 1- | 4 |  |
| 32 | Wilson, M |  | Exeter | 1- | by+ | 18= | 16- | 19- | 25- | 23+ | 21/2 |  |
| 33 | Buckley, S. B. | 87 | Keynsham | 2- | 34+ | 8- | 14+ | 4= | 19- | 12+ | $31 / 2$ |  |
| 34 | Chapman, T |  | Yeovil | 17- | 33- | 25+ | 21+ | 18= | 9- | 10+ | $31 / 2$ |  |

## Round 1

Chris Beaumont was bound to be favourite for the title being, as he was, the only player in excess of a 200 grade. Never the less, games still have to be won, and with almost half the field in the 180s and 190s this was never going to be easy. It is essential therefore in these situations for the leading candidates to at least begin well. Rudd (197) and Pleasants (191), for example, were both first round losers and were never quite in contention after that.

Wilkinson 0-1 Beaumont
Lane 0-1 Buckley
Waddington 0-1 Simons
White: J. R. Wilkinson (169) Gosport
Bhack: C. R. Beaumont (210) Hanham Neo-Grünfeld Indian Defence
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.e4 Nb6 9.d5 Na5 10.Qe1 Nac4 11.Nc3 e6 12.b3 Qf6 13.Bg5 Qxc3 14.Qxc3 Bxc3 15.Rac1 Nd6 16.Rxc3 Nxe4 17.Rxc7 Nxd5 18.Rc4 Nıg5 19.Nxg5 h6 20.Ne4 b6 21.Rd1 Ba6 22.Rcd4 Rfe8 23.Nd6 Rc2 24.Bxd5 exd5 25.Rxd5 Rxa2


White sacs a knight to get his rooks working, but it doesn't seem sufficient, as Black gets in an attack of his own first.. 26.Nxf7 Kxf7 27.Rd7+ Kg8 28.R1d6 Ra1+ 29.Kg2 Bf1+ 30.Kf3 Rf8+ 31.Kg4 Be2+ 32.Kh3 Rf7 33.Rxg6+ Kh7 34.Rxh6+ Kxh6 35.Rxf7 Ra3 36.f4 a5 37.g4 Rxb3+ 38.Kh4 a4 39.f5 Rb4 40.h3 b5 41.Rf6+ K87 42.Kg5 a3 43.Rg6+ Kf7 44.Rf6+ Ke7 Black must return his extra piece in order to avoid the perpetual check, leaving White a pawn up, but the pawn on a3 is strong. 45.Re6+ Kd7 46.Rxe2 Rb2 47.Re6 a2 48.Ra6 b4 49.f6 b3 50.f7 Rf2 51.Kg6 b2 -1

Final position


Peter Lane had been in good form this season and on this occasion essayed the Four Pawns Attack with which he has had some experience on both sides of the board. His attack develops well and Simon would have been happy with a draw early on, but being a fine endgame player he defends well and emerges with a superior position.
White: P. C. Lane. (171) Exeter
Black: S. T. Buckley (181) Keynsham
King's Indian Defence - Four Pawns Attack 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 b5 8.cxb5 a6 9.bxa6 Qa5 10.Bd3 Bxa6 11.0-0 Nfd7 12.e5 dxe5 13.f5 gxf5 14.Nh4 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 e6 16.Qg3 Kh8 17.Qh3 Kg8 18.Qg3 Kh8 19.Qh3 Re8 20.Nf3 Kg8 21.Bh6 Qb4 At this point Black offered a draw. 22.Qg3 Qg4 23.Qxg4 fxg4 24.Bxg7 gxf3 25.Bh6 fxg2 26.Rf2 Nf8 27.Rxg2+ Ng6 28.h4 Kh8 29.Rf1 Ra7 30.Ne4 f5 31.Nf6 Ree7 32.h5 Rf7 33.hxg6 Rxf6 34.g7+ Kg8


White opts to give up his bishop to thin out the clutch of Black pawns that will surely start to mobilise shortly, and plans to regain the material anyway. 35.dxe6 Rxh6 36.Rxf5 Rg6 37.Rf8+ Kxg7 38.Rxb8 Rxg2+ 39.Kxg2 Kf6 Materially level, but White's pawns are much more vulnerable to king and rook. 40.Rb6 Rxa2 41.Kf3 Ra4 42.e7+ Kxe7 43.Rb7+ Ke6 44.Rxh7 Rb4 45.Rh2 Kd5 46.Rg2 Rb3+ 47.Kg4 e4 48.Rd2+ Rd3 49.Rh2 Kd4 50.Kf4 Rf3+ 51.Kg4 Rf1 52.Rd2+ Kc4 53.Rc2+ Kd3 54.Rxc5 e3 55.Rd5+ Ke4 56.Rd8 e2 57.Re8+ Kd3 0-1

White: M. Waddington. (174) Wimbourne Black: M. J. Simons (184) Southbourne Sicilian Defence - Grand Prix Attack
1.Nc3 c5 2.e4 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bc4 e6 6.0-0 Nge7 7.e5 d5 8.Bb5 0-0 9.Bxc6 Nxc6 10.d3 f6 11.Re1 Bd7 12.Qe2 fxe5 13.fxe5 Qc7 14.Nb5 Qb6 15.c4 a6 16.Nd6 Losing the key e-pawn 16...Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Qxd6 18.Nxd7 Qxd7 19.Be3 Qd6 20.Bf2 Having secured a central pawn majority Black now seeks to exchange, develop and attack - all at the same time. 20...Rxf2 21.Qxf2 Bd4 22.Re3 Rf8 23.Qe2 Qf4 Pins don't go away. 24.Re1 Rf5 25.g3 Time now to get all pieces off leaving an easily-won endgame. 25...Qxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Re5 27.Qxd4 Rxe1+ 28.Kf2 cxd4 29.Kxe1 dxc4 30.dxc4 e5 31.b4 Kf7 32.Ke2 e4 33.Kd2 Ke6 34.Ke2 g5 35.Kd2 g4 36.Ke2 a5 37.a3 axb4 38.axb4 Kd6 39.Kd2 d3 40.Kc3 Ke5 0-1


Former Champion Ian George made a good start, denting his opponent's hopes of making the early running.
White: I. M. George. (178) Camborne
Black: A. J. Pleasants (191) Weymouth

## Spanish Exchange

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.d4 exd4 6.Qxd4 Bg4 7.Bg5 Qxd4 8.Nxd4 h6 9.Be3 Nf6 10.f3 Bd7 11.Nb3 b6 12.N1d2 c5 13.a4 a5 14.Nc4 Be6 15.Nbd2 Be7 16.Kf2 0-0 17.g4 Nd7 18.h4 Bd6 19.g5 hxg5 20.hxg5 Ne5 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.f4 Bxb2 23.Rab1 Bd4 24.Bxd4 cxd4 25.f5 Bd7 26.f6 Black fatally misses the danger on the h-file 26...g6?? 27.Rh4 1-0

Final position


Quickest win of the round was this one White: I. C. Clark. (186) Bournemouth Black: P. Aston. (174) Paignton Palace Nimzowitch Defence
1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 e5 3.d5 Nce7 4.Be2 Ng6 5.a3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bc5 7.Nf3 a6 8.0-0 d6 9.Ne1 Bd7 10.Kh1 Qe7 11.Bf3 0-0-0? 12.Nd3 Ba7 13.Qe2 h6 14.Be3 Bd4 15.Nb4 Nf4 16.Qc4 Bxc3 17.Nxa6 Ba5 18.b4 c5 1-0 Final position.


Round 2
Beaumont (1) 1-0 George (1)
Buckley (1) 0-1 Haydon (1)
Simons (1) 1-0 Waddington (1)

This time is was Buckley's turn to bite the dust.
White: S. T. Buckley. (181) Keynsham
Black: R. Haydon (195) Bristol \& Clifton Closed Sicilian
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nge2 e6 4.g3 d5 5.exd5 exd5 6.Bg2 d4 7.Nd5 Bd6 8.d3 Nge7 9.Nef4 Bf5 10.h4 0-0 11.0-0 Ne5 12.Nxe7+ Qxe7 13.Nd5 Qd7 14.Re1 Rae8 15.Bh6 Re6 16.Bf4 Rfe8 17.Be4 Bg4 18.Qd2 Nf3+ 19.Bxf3 Bxf3 20.Bxd6 Bxd5 21.Bxc5 Bc6 22.Rxe6 Rxe6. 23.f3 Qd5 24.Qf4 [24.Bxa7 Qxf3 forcing mate] 24...Qxc5 0-1 Final position.


White: C. R. Beaumont. (210) Hanham
Black: I. M. George (174) Camborne
King's Indian Defence - Classical Variation 1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4 a5 10.Ba3 axb4 11.Bxb4 Nd7 12.a4 h6 13.Nd2 f5 14.a5 Nf6 15.c5 f4 16.Nc4 Ne8 17.Bg4 Bxg4 18.Qxg4 Rf6 19.cxd6 cxd6 20.Nb6 h5 21.Qh3 Ra6 22.Nb5 f3 23.g3 Bh6 24.Ra3 Kh7 25.Rd1 h4 26.Rdd3 hxg3 27.hxg3 Nc7 28.Nxc7 Qxc7 29.Rac3 Qd8 30.Rxf3 1-0 Final position


White: M. J. Simons. (184) Southbourne Black: S. Dilleigh (175) Horfield Closed Sicilian
1.e4 c5 2.d3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.f4 d6 6.Nf3 e5 7.0-0 Nge7 8.f5 gxf5 9.Nh4 fxe4 10.dxe4 0-0 11.Nc3 Nd4 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.exd5 f5 14.c3 Nb5 15.Qd3 Nc7 16.Nxf5 Bxf5 17.Rxf5 Rxf5 18.Qxf5 Qf6 19.Qxf6 Bxf6 20.Be3 Kf7 21.Rf1 Ke7


A clever move that frees up White's pieces, yielding a superior position. 22.Bxc5 dxc5 23.d6+ Kxd6 24.Rxf6+ Ke7 25.Rh6 Rb8 26.Rxh7+ Kd6 27.Rh6+ Ke7 28.Kf2 b6 29.Ke3 Rf8 30.Bf3 Rf7 31.Ke4 Nb5 32.Bg4 Nd6+ 33.Kd5 Nf5 34.Re6+ Kd8 35.Kxe5 Ne3 36.Rg6 Nxg4+ 37.Rxg4 Rf2 38.h4 Rxb2 39.h5 Rxa2 4.h6 Re2+ 41.Kf6 1-0 Final position


## Round 3

Haydon (2) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Beaumont (2)
Thompson ( $1^{1 / 2}$ ) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Simons (2)
George (1) 0-1 Buckley (1)
Consolidation for Beaumont and Simons in this round, allowing Buckley to claw back a half point on them.

White: R. Hayden.
Black: C. Beaumont
Queen's Pawn Opening
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 0-0 6.Be2 c5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Ne5 cxd4 9.exd4 Bf5 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Be5 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Bxe5 13.Ng3 Bf6 14.Nxf5 gxf5 15.Bd3 e6 $1 / 2-1 / 2$

White: I. D. Thompson. (199) Guildford Black: M. J. Simons. (184) Southbourne English Opening - Shirov Variation
1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.g3 Bxc3 4.bxc3 d6 5.Bg2 Ne7 6.d3 0-0 7.Nh3 Nbc6 8.0-0 f6 9.f4 Be6 10.Rb1 Qd7 11.Nf2 b6 12.Qc2 White thought for nearly half an hour over this move and seems to have decided on a plan of gradual expansion on the kingside. 12...Rae8 13.h3 Kh8 14.Kh2 Nd8 15.Nd1 e4 16.dxe4 Bxc4 17.Ne3 Bg8 18.c4 Ne6 19.Bb2 Nc5 20.g4 Ng6 21.Nd5 Bxd5 22.cxd5 Qe7 23.Rbc1 Rf7 24.Bd4 Nxe4 25.Qa4 Ne5 26.Bxc5 dxc5 27.e4 a5 28.Rcd1 Rd8 29.Kg3 Qd6 30.Qc6 Re7 31.h4 Red7 32.Qxd6 cxd6 33.Rb1 Rb8 34.Rb5 Ne7 35.g5 Nc8 36.Bh3 Rc7 37.Rfb1 c4 $1 / 2-1 / 2$

Final position


After a lot of maneouvring and with flags hovering a draw is agreed.

Meanwhile, former WECU Champion Ian George had a good position out of the opening, but an injudicious exchange let Black off the hook.
White: I. M. George. (178) Camborne
Black: S. T. Buckley. (181) Keynsham
Sicilian Defence - Moscow Variation
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.d4 cxd4 5.Qxd4 a6 6.Bxd7+ Bxd7 7.0-0 Qc7 8.Nc3 Nf6 9.e5 dxe5 10.Nxe5 Rd8 11.Bf4 Bf5 12.Qa4+ Bd7 13.Qd4 Bf5 14.Qe3 Nh5 15.Rad1 Nxf4 16.Rxd8+ Qxd8 17.Qxf4 Qc8 18.Rd1 b5 19.Nd5 e6 20.Nb6 Qc7 21.Qd2 Be7 22.g4 Bg6 23.Nxg6 Up to this point White has had a lead in development and has been posing problems, but this is a fatal error, bringing the undeveloped Black rook to life with a vengeance. [23.Na8 Qb7 24.Qd7+ Qxd7 25.Rxd7 Bxc2 26.Nc7+ Kf8 27.Nxa6 keeps the pressure on Black.] 23...hxg6 24.Qd7+ Qxd7 25.Rxd7 Bc5 26.Rb7 Rh4 27.h3 Rxh3 28.Kg2 Rh4 29.Kg3 Rh1 30.a4 Rg1+ 31.Kf3 Rf1 32.Nd7 Rxf2+ 33.Ke4 Bd6 34.axb5 axb5 35.g5 Rxc2 36.Nb8 Rc8 37.Na6 Ra8 38.Nc7+ Bxc7 39.Rxc7 Ra2 40.Rc2 f6 41.Kd4 Ra4+ 42.Kd3 Rc4 43.Rg2 Kf7 44.b3 Rc5 0-1


This was Paul Aston's only win of the competition, but it well-demonstrates his expertise with the BlackmarDiemer Gambit.
White: P. A. Aston. (176) Paignton Palace
Black: J. R. Wilkinson (169) Gosport
Blackmar-Diemer Gambit
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 dxe4 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 g6 6.Be4 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Qe1 Bg4 9.Qh4 Bxf3 10.Rxf3 Nbd7 11.Bg5 c6 12.Rh3 Qb6 13.Na4 Qc7 14.Nc5 h5 15.Ne4 Nxe4 16.Qxe4 Nb6

17.Qxg6! Nxc4 18.Qxh5 Rfe8 19.Qh7+ Kf8 20.Bh6 e6 21.Qxg7+ Ke7 22.Bg5+ 1-0

final position.
22...Kd7 23.Qxf7+ Kd6 24.Bf4+ e5 [24...Ne5 25.Bxe5+ Kd5 26.Qf3+ Kc4 27.Qb3\#] 25.Rh6+ 1-0 Round 4

Beaumont ( $2^{1 ⁄ 2}$ ) 1-0 Headlong ( $2^{1 / 2}$ )
Buckley (2) 1-0 Clark (2)
Simons ( $2^{1 / 2}$ ) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Haydon ( $21 / 2$ )
The Simons - Hayden game was a 15 move draw, while both Buckley and Beaumont both had to face Sicilian Defences. Buckley was gifted an early initiative which he did not spurn, but Beaumont had to fight long and hard to maintain his half point lead over the field.
White: S. T. Buckley.
Black: I. C. Clarke.
Sicilian Defence - O'Kelly Variation
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 allowing a Maroczy Bind 3.c4 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 Losing tempi from which Black never recovers. 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.e5 Ng8 9.Be2 Ne7 10.0-0 Ng6 11.f4 Bb4 12.Ne4 0-0 $13 . \mathrm{c5}$ Ba5 14.Rf3 Bc7 15.Bd3 f6 16.Rh3 Rf7 17.Qh5 Nf8 18.Nd6 g6 [18...Bxd6 leads to mate in 4] 19.Bxg6 Rg7 20.Bf7+ Kh8 21.Ne8 Qxe8 [21...fxe5 22.Nxg7 exf4 23.Ne8] 22.Bxe8 f5 23.Rg3 1-0 Final position


White:C. Beaumont. (210) Hanham
Black: T. Headlong (193) Swindon
Sicilian Defence - Sveshnikov Variation
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 Charteristic of the Sveshnikov Variation, formerly the Pelikan, in which it is reckoned the advanatge of having a pawn on e5 to help counter an early f 4 by White outweighs the disadvantage of a backward d-pawn. 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Qd2 Nbd7 9.f3 h5 10.0-0-0 Announcing the intention of an early kingside pawn storm. 10...Qc7 11.Kb1 Be7 12.g3 Rc8 13.f4 b5 14.f5 Bc4 15.h3 Kf8 Black refrains from castling but the loss of tempo involved in manoeuvring the king to let out the rook later in the game is vital. 16.Bg2 a5 17.g4 a4 18.g5 These games often hang on
who blinks first, and in this case White opts to press on with his attack rather than back down on the other wing. 18...Ne8 Black perhaps chooses not to open the position immediately with a series of exchanges because at the end he would need to bring the h-rook into play rapidly, and it is still be trapped. [18...axb3 19.axb3 b4 20.gxf6 Nxf6 21.Na2 (21.bxc4 bxc3 22.Qxc3 Qxc4) 21...Ra8 22.Qxb4 Be2] 19.Ne1 Qa5 20.Nd5 Qxd2 21.Rxd2 Bxd5 22.Rxd5 Nc5 23.a3 Nc7 24.Rd2 N7a6 25.Na2 Rb8 26.Rhd1 Ke8 27.h4 Kd7 28.Nb4 Rhd8 29.Bf3 g6 30.Bg2 Rb7 31.Rd5 Ke8 32.f6 Bf8 33.Nc6 Rc8 34.Nb4


Black now had only 1 minute to reach move 40 in this complex position. 34...Nxb4 35.axb4 Ne6 36.Bf1 Nc7 37.R5d3 Ne6 38.Ra3 Rcb8 39.b3 d5 40.Rxd5 Bxb4


Black just makes the time control. 41.Ra2 Bc3 42.Bh3 Rd7 43.Bxe6 fxe6 44.Rxd7 Kxd7 45.Kc1 Kc6 46.bxa4 b4 The pawn structure holds the difference between the two sides; Black's show most of the faults we try to guard against, isolated, doubled or backward, whereas White has connected and two passed pawns. 47.Kd1 Kb7 48.Ke2 Rd8 49.Bc5 Kc6 50.Be7 Rd2+ 51.Ke3 Kd7 52.Be5 Ke8 53.a5 As the Black king tries to guard against any f-pawn advance, the a-pawn advances. 53...b3 54.Ra3 Rxc2 55.Rxb3 Bd2+ 56.Kd3 Rxc5 57.Kxd2 Rxa5 58.Rb8+ Kf7 59.Rb7+ Kf8 60.Rg7 1-0 Final position


Simons (3) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Beaumont ( $31 / 2$ )
Hopkins ( $2^{1 / 2}$ ) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Buckley (3)
The Simons / Beaumont encounter finished as an 18 move draw after little more than an hour's play, which motivated Buckley to try and catch up Beaumont on 4 points each.
White: J. Hopkins. (184) Dorchester
Eack: S. Buckley. (181) Keynsham

## English

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6 6.0-0 c5 7.d4 Nbd7 8.d5 a5 9.e4 Nc5 10.Ne1 Nfd7 11.Nd3 W 12.b3 White suggests a draw for the first time. Black's response speaks for itself. 12...f5 $13 . \mathrm{f} 3 \mathrm{~h} 5$ 14h3 f4 15.g4 hxg4 16.hxg4 Rf7 17.Nxc5 Nxc5 18Bd2 Bf8 White gets his King away from the open hfile while he still can. 19.Kf2 Qh4+ 20.Ke2 Qg3 21.Bh1 Rh7 22.Be1 Rh2+ 23.Bf2 Bxg4

24.Ke1 Qh3 25.Kd2 Bh5 26.Kc1 g5 27.Bxc5 bxc5 2RRg1 Kh 7 [ $28 \ldots . . \mathrm{Bg} 7$ would be playable, as the white rook is tied to g1, and it is a move towards unlocking the second rook for entry into the attack down the h file. 29.Rxg5] 29.Nb5 Rc8 30.Rb1 g4 31.Rb2 gxf3 As Black is unable to bring every piece immediately into the attack, every exchange aids White's cause, added to which neither time has time to think before move 40 . 32.Rxh2 Qxh2 33.Rf1 2 34.Bf3 Bxf3 35.Qxf3 $\mathbf{Q g 1}$ 36.Qx2 Qxi2 37.Rxf2 Bh6 38.Kd2 Kg6 39.Ke2 Bg5 40.K13 Bh4 Time control is reached but Black's attack has petered out, leaving all his pawns on the samecoloured squares as his bishop. 41.Rg2+ Bg3 42.Na7 Rh8 43.Ne6 Kg5 44.Ne7 Rh1 45.Nf5 Rf1+ 46.Ke2 Rel + 47.Kf3 $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Final position


## White's 3rd offer of a draw is accepted.

Round 6

Beaumont (4) 1-0 Dilleigh (31/2)
Buckley ( $3^{1 / 2}$ ) 1-0 Pleasants ( $31 / 2$ )
Holt (3) 0-1 Simons (3½)
The penultimate round and a key stage for anyone keen to win the British Championship qualifying place, the WECU Championship itself or a reasonable cut of the prize money. A win here would give any of the leading contenders a small safety margin for the final round. Young Simon Buckley kept up the pressure with this win.
White:A. Pleasants.
Black: S. Buckley
Queen's Pawn Opening - Colle System
1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Bd3 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.Re1 Nc6 7.c3 e5 8.Nbd2 Qe8 9.e4 Nd7 10.d5 Ne7 11.Nc4 f5 12.Ng5 Nf6 13.exf5 gxf5 14.Ne6 Bxe6 15.dxe6 e4 16.Bf1 d5 17.Ne5 Qc8 18.Nd7 Nxd7 19.exd7 Qxd7 20.Qb3 c5 21.Bg5 Bf6 22.Bh6 Rfd8 23.Rad1 Kh8 24.Re3 Qc6 25.Rh3 Qb6 26.Qc2 Ng6 27.Qe2 Qe6 28.Qh5 Rd7 29.Bg5 Re7 30.Bb5 Bxg5 31.Qxg5 Rg8 32.Rh5 Reg7 33.g3 Rf7 34.Be2 Qe5 35.Kh1 Qe6 36.Rh6 Qe7 37.Qe3 f4 38.gxf4 Nxf4 39.Bg4 White places his bishop en prise, but Black goes for the rook, which is the stronger option. 39...Qg5 0-1 Final position.


White: P. Holt.
Black: M. J. Simons

## Philidor's Defence

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d6 3.e4 e5 4.Nf3 exd4 5.Nxd4 g6 6.Bg5 Bg7 7.Qd2 0-0 8.Bc4 Re8 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.f4 h6 12.Bh4


Black now wins a pawn 12...Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Qxh4 14.Rae1 Be6 15.Ba6 Rab8 16.b3 f5 17.Nc5 It's difficult to work out what's going on here - White puts his knight en prise and, even stranger, Black doesn't take it. Yet both scoresheets record these moves meticulously. 17...Bd5 18.Nd7 White seems determined to lose his knight. 18...Rbd8 19.Rxe8+ Rxe8 20.c4 Be6 21.c5 Bxd7 22.cxd6 cxd6 23.Qxd6

Qe7 24.Qxg6 Qf6 25.Qxf6 Bxf6 26.Rd1 Re7 27.Rd6 Kg7 28.b4 Bc3 29.a3 Bb2 30.Rd3 Be8 31.Bc8 Bg6 32.Bd7 Bxa3 33.Bxf5 Bxb4 [33...Bxf5] 34.Rg3 Kf6 35.Bxg6 Re1+ 36.Kf2 Ra1 37.Be4? loses the exchange unnecessarily. 37...Be1+ 38.Kf3 Ra3+ 39.Kg4 Bxg3 40.hxg3 e5 41.Kh4 Re3 42.Bb1 Re2 43. Kh5 Rxg2 0-1 final position


White: C. Beaumont.
Black: S. Dilleigh
King's Indian Defence - Classical Variation 1.d4 Nf6 $2 . \mathrm{c} 4 \mathrm{~g} 6$ 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.b4 The Bayonet Attack a5 10.Ba3 axb4 11.Bxb4 b6 12.a4 Ne8 13.Nb5 f5 14.a5 fxe4 15.Ng5 Nf5 16.Nxe4 Nd4 17.Nxd4 exd4 18.Bd3 bxa5 19.Rxa5 Rxa5 20.Bxa5 Bf5 21.Ng3 Bd7 22.Ne2 Qa8 23.Qa1 c5 24.dxc6 Bxe6 25.f3 Nf6 26.Bb4 Nd7 27.Bxd6 Re8 28.Qxa8 Rxa8


Leaving White a pawn up, but with a lot of work to do to capitalise on it. 29.f4 Re8 30.c5 Bf6 31.Bc4+ Kg7 32.Rd1 Re4 33.Kf2 h5 34.g3 g5 35.fxg5 Bxg5 36.Nf4 Ne5 37.Ne6+ Kg6 38.Nxg5 Kxg5 39.h4+ Kf6 40.Be2 Ng4+ 41.Bxg4 Rxg4 42.Bf4 Rg7 43.Rxd4 Rd7 Black would like to exchange rooks as the bishops of opposite colour might obviate White's 2 pawn advantage. 44.Rb4 Rb7 45.Rd4 Rd7 46.Bd6 Ra7 47.Rf4+ Ke6 48.Rd4 Ra2+ 49.Ke3 Ra3+ 50.Kf4 Rf3+ 51.Kg5 Rf5+ 52.Kh6 Bf3 53.Rb4 Rf6+ 54.Kg7 Rf7+ 55.Kh8 Kf5 56.Rb6 Bd5 57.Bf4 Rf8+ 58.Kg7 Rf7+ 59.Kh6 Bf3 $60 . \mathrm{Bg} 5 \mathrm{Bg} 4$ 1-0 Final position



13 yr old Simon Buckley looks happy with his 1 . e4 in his last round bid to become WECU Champion

## Round 7

Buckley ( $4^{1 / 2}$ ) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Beaumont (5) Simons (41/2) $1 / 2-1 / 2$ Yeo (4)
Entering the final round, Beaumont had a half point cushion, and only needed a draw to be sure of at least a share of 1st place. Buckley and Simons had to win and even Yeo, after a dismal start to the competition, now had a chance of clear second - everything to play for. Simons certainly went for it.

White:M. J. Simons. (184) Southbourne Black: M. J. Yeo (194) Southampton

## Alekhine's Defence

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.e4 Nb6 5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Nc3 exd5 9.cxd5 c4 10.Nf3 Bb4 11.Bxc4 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Nxc4 13.Qa4+ Nd7 14.Qxc4 Nb6 15.Qb5+ Qd7 16.Qxd7+ Bxd7 17.d6 Rc8 18.Be3 Rxc3 19.Bxb6 axb6 20.Kd2 Ra3 21.Rhb1 Ra6 22.Rb2 Bc6 23.Nd4 Kd7 [23_..Bxg2 is the road to ruin 24.Rg1 Bd5 25.Rxg7 Rxa2 26.Rxa2 Bxa2 27.e6 fxe6 28.Re7+ Kf8 29.Rxb7 e5 30.Rb8+ (30.d7 $\mathrm{Ke}^{7}$ 31.Nc6 + Kd6 $32 . d 8 Q+R x d 8 \quad 33 . N x d 8) \quad 30 \ldots \mathrm{Kg} 7$ 31.Nf5+ Kf6 32.Rxh8] 24.Rf1 f6 25.exf6 gxf6 26.Nxe6 bxe6 27.Rxf6 Rha8 28.a4 Rxa4 29.Rxb6 Ra2+ 30.Kc3 R8a3+ 31.Kc4 Ra4+ 32.Rb4 Rxb4+ 33.Kxb4 Rxg2 34.Rh6 Rd2 $\mathbf{3 5 . R x h} 7+1 / 2-1 / 2$



Simons considers his response to Yeo's invitation to an Alekhine's Defence, in the above game.
Below, Chris Beaumont plays 2....g6 in his crucial Rd 7 game, as follows.


White: S. Buckley.
Black: C. Beaumont.
Sicilian Defence - Accelerated Dragon
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.dxc5 Qa5+ 5.c3 Qxc5 6.Be3 Qc7 7.Bd4 Nf6 8.e5 Nh5 9.Qd2 d6 10.exd6 Qxd6 11.Bxg7 Qxd2+ 12.Nbxd2 Nxg7 13.Nd4 0-0 14.Be2 Ne6 15.N2b3 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Nd7 17.0-0-0 Nc5 18.Rhe1 Ne6 19.Bf3 Nxd4 20.Rxd4 Re8 21.Rc4 Kf8 22.Rc7 Rb8 23.Re4 a6 24.Rh4 Kg7 25.Rb4 b6 26.Bc6 Rd8 27.Rxe7 Be6 28.Bb7 Rd6 29.Bxa6 Rbd8 30.Rd4 Rxd4 31.cxd4 Rxd4 32.b3 Rd5 33.Be2 Ra5 34.Kb2 Re5 35.Bf3 Bd5 36.Bxd5 Rxd5 37.Re2 b5 38.Kc3 Kf6 39.Kb4 h5 40.a4 bxa4 41.Kxa4 Rd1 42.b4 Kf5


Everything boiled down to this critical position. Buckley had worked hard to get to this superior endgame position, but, as Fine says in his Basic Chess Endings "There is no ending in which more mistakes in the transformation of a won position into a point scored are made than in rook endings. Even the games of the greatest masters are often chock full of inaccuracies and sometimes outright blunders." In positions like this..."to have the rook behind the passed pawn is the strongest possible position". His failure to play Rb2 immediately probably cost Buckley the full point and with it the Championship. 43.b5?
[43.Rb2 Rh1 44.h3 Rg1 45.f3 Ral+ 46.Kb5 Ke5 47.Kb6 Rdl 48.b5 Kd5 49.Kb7

and it's hard to see how Black might save this position. 49...h4 50.b6] 43...Rb1 44.Ka5 g5 45.h3 Kf4 46.f3 f5 47.b6 g4 48.fxg4 fxg4 49.hxg4 hxg4 50.Ka6 Kg3 51.b7 Kh2 52.Ka7 Ra1+53.Kb8 g3 54.Rc2 Rf1 55.Kc7 Rf7+1/21/2 Final position


Beaumont thus rescued the half point he needed for the Championship; bad luck on Simon Buckley for coming so close, but his time will surely come. In the end, Simon got his British Championship place at an event in the Midlands shortly before the cut-off date, but it was a close-run thing.

Fenella Headlong, captain of the Wiltshire county team that won the WECU Championship this year for the first time ever, won the Ladies Championship with her performance in the Major Section. Here she capitalises on defensive errrors by her opponent

White: Fenella Headlong.
Black: J. Taylor.
Sicilan Defence - 2. c3
1.e4 c5 2.c3 e6 3.d4 d5 4.e5 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Be2 Bd7 7.0-0 cxd4 8.cxd4 Nge7 9.Nc3 Nf5 10.Na4 Qc7 $11 . \mathrm{Nc} 3 \mathrm{~h} 5$ Black's plan in the Sicilian is usually a Queen-side attack a.s.a.p.in order to counterbalance an inevitable White attack on the opposite wing. Here, Black proceeds with this plan, but only after fatally weakening his king's side first, which can only help White. 12.Bg5 a6 13.Rc1 b5 14.Bd3 g6 Completing the damage; White now piles in. 15.Bf6 Rh7 16.Bxf5 gxf5 17.Ng5 Rh6 18.Ne2 Qb6 19.Nf4 Qxd4 20.Qxd4 Nxd4 21.Rc7 Rxf6 22.exf6 Bd6 23.Nxd5 exd5 24.Re1+ Intervention by the knight would have held the defence together. 24...Be6? Intervention by the knight would have held the Black defence together. [24...Ne6 25.Rb7 Bb4 26.Nxe6 Bxe6 27.Rd1] 25.Rxf7 Rc8 26.Rh7 Rc1 27.Rxc1 Ne2+ 28.Kf1 Nxcl 29.Nxe6 1-0 Final position


Black cannot prevent the f-pawn queening. 29...Nd3 after which White has a mate in 9 .
The only $100 \%$ performance of the Congress was that of D. Tipper in the Minor. This was the first of his 7 wins.
White: D. Tipper.
Black: H. Marner

## Caro-Kann

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 e6 4.e5 c5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.Bxc6 Bxc6 8.0-0 Ne7 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Qb6 $11 . g 4 \mathrm{~g} 5$ 12.Bg3 0-0-0 Having castled on opposite wings, it should now be a race to initiate a telling attack. White succeeds in this quest. 13.Qd2 Ng6 14.a3 Be7 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.b4 Be7 17.Nd4 a6 18.Rfb1 Kd7 19.b5 axb5 20.Ncxb5 Ra8 21.Nd6 Qa5 22.Qxa5 Rxa5 23.Nxf7 Rh7 24.Nd6 Bxd6 25.exd6 Nf4 26.Re1 Ra4 27.c3 Rc4 28.Re3 Rf7 29.Rae1 Rf6 30.h4 gxh4 31.Bxh4 Rg6 32.Bg3 Nh3+ 33.Kh2 Ng5 34.f3 Nf7 35.Nxe6 Kc8 36.Kh3 Nd8 37.Nxd8 Kxd8 38.Kh4 Bd7 39.Kh5 Rg8 40.Kxh6 Ra4 41.Bh4+ Kc8 42.Bf6 Bc6 43.Kh7 Kd7 44.Kxg8 A bizarre end, but White should be home and dry in any case. 1-0

## Forthcoming Congresses

# 48th Paignton Congress 

Sun. 6th - Sat. 12th September at Oldway Mansion

Ron Bruce Premier Open
Challengers U-170
Minor U-125
Details from Alan Crickmore 01395-268293

## 34th Dorset Congress

at The Fairhaven Hotel
Fri. 16th - Sun 18th October

Open:
Major: U-155
Minor: U-125

Details from Adrian Rookes 01305-767912
e-mail adrian rookes@compuserve.com

## 33rd Torbay Congress

Fri. 13th - Sun 15th November at The Riviera Centre - Torquay

Open:

| Major: | $\mathrm{U}-155$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Intermediate | $\mathrm{U}-125$ |
| Minor: | $\mathrm{U}-100$ |

Details from John Dunleavy 01548-857623






## From The Archives

The Union is currently making an effort to compile an archive of any material that relates to events and activities in which WECU has been involved since its inception in 1947. The danger is that after 50 years, there are not many folk left who remember those early post-war years and still have any written record of what took place, and if a start is not made now, much valuable and interesting material may be lost for ever.

A start is being made by trying to build on the rather incomplete set of Easter Congress bulletins inherited by your Editor when he took over. These are a rich source of key games as well as a complete record of who did what and to whom. How else are we to recall, for example, a very young Shaun Taulbut coming in the bottom half of the Junior Championship, with one of his losses annotated by Dr. Jim Aitken, the Scottish Champion? All that and much more is contained in the 1971 Souvenir Bulletin alone, recently rescued from the loft of Ernie Walker, the Congress Secretary at the time, and generously donated to the embryonic archive. And of course there are many other such bulletins.

It should be remembered that almost all the souvenir booklets listed here were the work of Ernie Walker, and the fact that we have such a complete record to retrieve is down to him. All these were done using a typewriter and wax stencil and a messy ink duplicator, which was the cutting edge of technology at the time, long before the age of computers and word processors. Thanks are hereby recorded to him for all that almostforgotten work. In fact, the older the material is, the more interesting it becomes.

At the time of going to press this is the position regarding which records we have ( Y ) and which are still "missing" ( N ). Any help in filling the gaps would be much appreciated.

| Yr | No. | Venue |  | Format |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{\prime} 46$ | 1 | $?$ | N |  |
| ${ }^{\prime} 47$ | 2 | Bristol | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{\prime} 48$ | 3 | $?$ | N |  |
| ${ }^{\prime} 49$ | 4 | Plymouth? | N |  |
| ${ }^{\prime} 50$ | 5 | Weymouth | N |  |
| ${ }^{\prime} 51$ | 6 | Newquay | N |  |
| ${ }^{5} 52$ | 7 | Weston S Mare | N |  |
| ${ }^{5} 53$ | 8 | Paignton | N |  |
| ${ }^{5} 54$ | 9 | Newquay | N |  |
| 55 | 10 | Weymouth | N |  |
| 56 | 11 | Bath | N |  |
| 57 | 12 | Bournemouth | N |  |
| 58 | 13 | Newquay | N |  |
| 59 | 14 | Paignton | N |  |
| 60 | 15 | Bristol | Y | Booklet |


| '61 | 16 | Weymouth | Y | Booklet |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| '62 | 17 | Weston S Mare | Y | Booklet |
| '63 | 18 | Falmouth | N | ? |
| '64 | 19 | Torquay | N | ? |
| '65 | 20 | Weymouth | Y | Booklet |
| '66 | 21 | Cheltenham | Y | Booklet |
| '67 | 22 | Weston S Mare | Y | Booklet |
| '68 | 23 | Penzance | Y | Booklet |
| '69 | 24 | Torquay | N | ? |
| '70 | 25 | Weymouth | Y | Booklet |
| '71 | 26 | Bristol | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{6} 72$ | 27 | Weston S Mare | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{\prime} 73$ | 28 | Newquay | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{6} 74$ | 29 | Torquay | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{7} 75$ | 30 | Weymouth | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{\prime} 76$ | 31 | Weston S Mare | Y | Booklet |
| ${ }^{6} 77$ | 32 | Cheltenham | N | ? |
| ${ }^{6} 78$ | 33 | Newquay | Y | W. Ho! No 6 |
| ${ }^{7} 79$ | 34 | Torquay | Y | W. Ho! No 10 |
| '80 | 35 | Weymouth | Y | W. Ho! No 14 |
| '81 | 36 | Winchester | Y | W. Ho! No 18 |
| '82 | 37 | Weston S Mare | Y | W. Ho! No 22 |
| '83 | 38 | Torquay | N |  |
| '84 | 39 | ? | N |  |
| ${ }^{\prime} 85$ | 40 | Torquay | N |  |
| '86 | 41 | ? | N |  |
| '87 | 42 | ? | N |  |
| '88 | 43 | ? | N |  |
| '89 | 44 | ? | N |  |
| '90 | 45 | ? | N |  |
| '91 | 46 | ? | N |  |
| '92 | 47 | ? | N |  |
| '93 | 48 | ? | N |  |
| '94 | 49 | ? | N |  |
| '95 | 50 | ? | N |  |
| '96 | 51 | Torquay | ? |  |
| '97 | 52 | Weston S Mare | Y | W. Ho! No 5 |

Meanwhile, here is some of the action from a third of a century ago, the Easter Congress of 1965, held at Weymouth. D. V. Mardle won the Open at a canter ( $51 / 2 / 6$ ) from J. C. Cock, 2nd on 4, with the rest of an illustrious field, which included four previous winners, nowhere. Interestingly, the bulletin records that second place was determined by the last round game between Cock and George Wheeler of Plymouth. After almost 8 hours play the game was still unfinished and had to be adjudicated by the B.C.F. who gave it to the Cheltenham player. Only one point separated George Wheeler ( $31 / 2$ ) in equal 3rd place and his brother John ( $21 / 2$ ) who was last-but-one - such was the closeness of the field and the quality of Mardle's performance that year. Mardle met A. R. B. Thomas in an early round and announced his intentions in the following fashion.

White: D. V. Mardle.
Black: A. R. B. Thomas Notes by Dr. J. M. Aitken Spanish

1. e 4 e 5
2. Nf3 Ne6
3. Bb5 a6
4. Ba4 Nf6
5. $0-0 \mathrm{Be} 7$
6. d4 exd4
7. Re1 I have discovered to my amusement that this move is given a ? by MCO and a ! by Barden!. If I had to choose, I would incline to Barden's side; on general grounds it seems hardly possible that such a natural move should deserve a query.
8. ...b5
9. e5 Nxe5
10. Nxe5 [9.Rxe5 d6 10.Rg5 bxa4 11.Rxg7 Nh5 is in Black's favour (Reshevsky - Euwe Dunrovni 1950)]
11. ....bxa4
12. Qxd4 0-0
13. Nc3 Rb8
14. a3 A useful resource to prevent Rb4 which can be awkward. 12...Bb7
15. Bg5 Re8 Not 13....d6 14. Ng4! threatening Rxe7 with a winning attack.

## 14. Rad1 d6

15. Qc4 d5 16. Qxa4 c5
16. Qf4 To prevent the Queen being cut off from the Kingside.
17. ...d4
18. Rd3 Bd6 A
miscalculation in an admittedly difficult position. Black might try 18...Qa5 19. Nc4 Qd8 - offering a draw by implication, or $18 \ldots$ Qb6 when if 19. Nc4? Qf3 wins. 19. Bxf6 Qxf6 [19...gxf6 20.Rg3+ Kf8 21.Nd7+ and mates next move] 20. Qxf6 Rxe5

No saving line. 20...gxf6 mate in 2 20...Bxe5 21. Qxe5 transposes.

## 21. Qxe5 Bxe5 <br> 22. Rxe5 Resigns



Final position: This game was an early indication of Mardle's trenchant form.


This fine photograph appeared in June's BCM as part of their tribute to the late David Hooper. In fact it
commemorates a defining moment in WECU history, taken as it was at the second West of England Championship, held at Bristol, Easter 1947. This took the form of an 8 player All-Play-All, and encouraged by its success, WECU itself was formed a few weeks later.

The picture shows Hooper with the white pieces in play against Andrew Thomas, in the penultimate round. Thomas won this game, virtually assuring him of the Championship. In fact, fine though the photograph is both in quality and as a record of a key moment in the history of westcountry chess, in truth the event was not exactly a high point in Hooper's playing career as he came last.

|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | A. R.B. Thomas | $\mathbf{x}$ | 1 | $1 / 2$ | 1 | $1 / 2$ | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 1 | $51 / 2$ |
| 2 | F. E. A. Kitto | 0 | $\mathbf{x}$ | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 0 | 1 | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 4 |
| 3 | H. V. Mallison | $1 / 2$ | $1 / 2$ | $\mathbf{x}$ | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 0 | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | H. V. Trevenen | 0 | 0 | $1 / 2$ | $\mathbf{x}$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | $1 / 2$ | 4 |
| 5 | R. M. Bruce | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{x}$ | 1 | 0 | $1 / 2$ | 3 |
| 6 | C. Sullivan | $1 / 2$ | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{x}$ | $1 / 2$ | 1 | 3 |
| 7 | R. A. Slade | 0 | $1 / 2$ | $1 / 2$ | 0 | 1 | $1 / 2$ | $\mathbf{x}$ | 0 | $2^{1 / 2}$ |
| 8 | D. V. Hooper | 0 | 0 | 0 | $1 / 2$ | $1 / 2$ | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{x}$ | 2 |

Seated in the centre, complete in winged collar, is probably Dr. C. A. Marsh of Gloucestershire, a Vice President and patron of WECU in its early years.
Ken Bloodworth has identified the others as follows:Standing left to right is
H. V. Trevenen (Cornwall), who went on to become WECU Champion in 1949 \& 1950.
A. Wilson-Osborne, a founding father of WECU.
R. A. Slade (Devon) later moved to Surrey.

Rowena Bruce (Plymouth) then current and, in all, 11 times British Ladies Champion.
Ron Bruce (Plymouth) 40 years Devon Match
Captain, starting at about this time, taking over from....
H. V. Mallison (Exeter) Doyen of chess in Devon \&

Exeter for many years before this time.
C. Sullivan (Bristol)
C. Welch, a founding father of WECU.
F. E. A. Kitto (Exeter) later moved to Cornwall

The game being played out in the photograph is the following one..
White: A. R. B. Thomas.
Black: D. V. Hooper
Notes by Capt. P. D. Bolland, Somerset's top player at the time, are taken from the tournament booklet.

French Defence

1. e4 e6
2. d 4 d 5
3. Nc3 Nf6
4. Bg5 Bb4
5. e5 h6
6. Bd2 Bxe3
7. bxe3 Ne4
8. Bc1 c5
9. Qg4 g6
10. Bd3 Ne6 MCO gives

Qa5 with an even game.
11. Bxe4 dxe4
12. Ne 2 cxd 4
13. exd4 Nxd4
15. Qxe2 Qa5+
14. Qxe4 Nxe2
16. Bd2 Qa4
17. Rb1

17. ...Qc6 Black dare not take either pawn owing to $0-0$ with a tremendous attack.
18. 0-0 b6
19. Rfd1 Bb7
20. f3 0-0-0
21. Bb4 Kb8
22. Bd6+ The impregnable position of this bishop means that the only counterplay Black can get is on the Kingside, and that takes too long. Meanwhile, his Queenside is ripped open by the advance of the c-pawn.
22. ...Ka8
23. c4 g5
24. Rd4 f5
25. c5 g4
26. fxg4 h5
27. cxb6 hxg4
28. bxa7 g3
29. hxg3 Rh7
30. Rc4 Qa6
31. Rc2 Qxe2
32. Rxe2 Kxa7
33. Bc5+ Kb8
34. Bd6+ Ka7
35. Re3 Rc8
36. Ra3+ Ba6
37. Bb8+ Rxb8
38. Rxa6+ Kxa6
39. Rxb8 Rc7
40. Rd8 Rc1+ Black
cemot hold his central pawns as the White king can free a passed g-pawn and all is then over.
41. Kh2 Ra1
42. Rd6+ Kb5
43. Rxe6 Rxa2
44. Rf6 Kc5
45. Rxf5 Kd5
46. Kh3 Ke6
47. g4 resigns

A grme played by White in his usual polished style.

## Peter Waters

l. the last issue, I published a game from the WECU Championship of 1968 involving a Devon junior called Peter Waters. I made the point that he seemed to appear from nowhere at the age of 14 with a readymade grade of c. 200, played for four years, and then vanished from the scene as quickly and unaccountably as he had appeared.

WECU Life Vice President Ken Bloodworth has written in to confirm this recollection, and can flesh it out in more detail.......

Prior to the advent of Michael Adams, only Peter Waters had shown such promise as to suggest that the Westcountry might have a future British Champion.

Indirectly, Peter was responsible for much chess history as he was the catalyst that brought North Devon into organised chess, and very soon some of their officials made names for themselves, in particular Ralph Newman and Joan Parker, who both went on to hold high office in Devon, WECU and the BCF.

Peter Waters was the son of a Braunton doctor and when quite young showed an amazing talent for the game., but at that time, there was little organised chess in the area. When Devon and Plymouth Match Captain Ron Bruce heard about him, he and his wife Rowena went up to North Devon to play in a small tournament to test Peter. With Ron's help, the Barnstaple club came into existence to give Peter the opportunity for regular practice.

Ron soon introduced Peter to the county team and I well remember his first match. One car load of our opponents was late arriving and about 20 minutes after the start of the match I saw this little lad in short trousers watching other games and assumed his opponent hadn't arrived. "No, I've won", he said, and I then saw his bewildered elderly opponent still staring incredulously at the board.

The newly-appointed BCF Coach, Bob Wade, became interested in Peter, and I organised the first BCF Training Tournament at Plymouth College. Jean-Luc Seret, French Junior and later Senior Champion came over and Wade himself played in the top section. Peter beat Wade, conceded only one draw to Seret, and won the tournament easily.

I took Peter, then aged 14, to Penzance for the WECU Championship, when he finished equal third, just half a point behind A. R. B. Thomas and Dr. Aitken, the joint winners. Later that year, Rowena Bruce took him to Oxford, where he became joint British Under 18 Champion.
Peter played for England in the Glorney Cup in 1968, $69,70 \& 71$, and lost only one game in that period. He helped England obtain a very narrow half point lead over a very strong Dutch team in Plymouth in 1968 (Bohm, Timman, Ligterink etc.) helped retain the Glorney Cup in Dublin in 1969, scored a maximum in Scotland in 1970, when he was disappointed not to have won the book prize for the best score in each team. What more could I have done? he asked me. Unfortunately, Tony Miles had also scored a maximum, on the next board above Peter.

Ralph Newman founded the North Devon League and brought their clubs into the Devon team competitions. Peter played top board for Barnstaple and held his own against the best county players, and when Peter and Peggy Clarke arrived in the area, Barnstaple became a real force in the top division.

The Clarkes formed the Hexagon, and their first congress was at Barnstaple, subsequently at Woolacombe. That first entry included one former and two later British Champions, (Golombek, Bellin and Botterill) plus many other well-known names. Peter won decisively with a maximum score, including Golombek among his scalps.

At their invitation, my wife and I visited his parents en route to Woolacombe the following year. They had little knowledge of chess organisation, and did not fully realise Peter's tremendous potential. They were very appreciative, however, of the help being given by Devon's officials.

Peter went to University to read Computer Science but did not shine academically. On leaving university, I believe he got a job in computers, probably in Bridgwater, for a short time, but the last time I heard from him, he intended applying for a post in the Computer Department of Plymouth Polytechnic, now University, with George Wheeler. However, Peter played in a big London congress and to capture such a player, one of the competitors persuaded, and presumably helped, him obtain a job in London, and so the Plymouth idea was given up. Ron Bruce had been hoping that he was about to get a new top board player for Plymouth and Devon.

Exactly what happened in London I do not know, but within a year Peter had vanished completely from the chess scene.

Had he come to Plymouth, would his chess career have continued to flourish? We may never know.

And now for two of his games. This first is from the 1968 WECU Championship, with analysis by Dr. J. M. Aitken, former Scottish Champion, from the tournament booklet. Aitken's description of Peter's play was "clinical" rather than brilliant, and this may be why not so many of his games were published.

## White: P. Waters (Barnstaple)

Black J. C. Cock (Cheltenham)
WECU Championship 1968 Penzance.

## Sicilian Defence

$\begin{array}{ll}\text { 1. e4 c5 } & \text { 2. Nf3 Nc6 } \\ \text { 3. d4 cxd4 } & \text { 4. Nxd4 Nf6 } \\ \text { 5. Nc3 d6 } & \text { 6. Bg5 e6 } \\ \text { 7. Qd2 Be7 } & \text { 8. } 0-0-00\end{array}$
9. f 3 A quiet continuation. 9. $\mathrm{f} 4, \mathrm{Nb} 3 \&$ Ndb 5 are the main lines given in MCO.
9. ....a6 10. Nb3 b5
11.Be3 A safety move. Not 11. g4? b4 12. Ne 2 Nxe4 wins. 11...Qc7 12. g4 b4
13. Ne 2 a 5
14. Kb1 Ne5
15. Ned4 Ba6
16. g5 Nfd7
17. f4 Nc4
18. Bxe4 Bxc4
19. 55 a4
21. f6


Waters pursues the attack with great vigour.
21...gxf6 After this the attack becomes irresistible. 21....Bd8 might have the position.
22. gxf6 Bxf6
23. Bh6 Rfb8
24. Qf4 Be5


This is brilliantly refuted, but what can Black do? $24 . .$. Qe7 or Qd8 both lose to Nc6 or if $24 . .$. .Bxd4 25. Rxd4 wins.
25. Rhg1+ Kh8

26. Qxe5+! dxe5
27. Bg7+ Kg8
28. Bxe5+ Kf8
29. Bxc7 1-0

Black is already a piece down and must lose more material. If, for example, 29....Rc8 30. Bd6+ 30. Ke8 Bxc5 etc. A splendid climax to a fine tournament performance by Waters.

This second game comes from the Glorney Junior International. His opponent, E. Holt, had won all his games until meeting Peter, including Scotland's victory over a strong Dutch team that included the young Timman. Even after this game, Holt was the highest scoring Scots player.

White: P. Waters (England)
Bhack: E. J. Holt (Scotland)
Glomey Cup 1968.
Spanish

1. e4 e5
2. Nf3 Ne6
3. Bb5 a6
4. Ba4 d6
5. 0-0 Bd7
6. c4 Nd4
7. Nxd4 exd4
8. d3 g6
9. Bxd7+ Qxd7 10. f4 Bg7
10. $550-0-0$
11. Na 3


Heving castled on opposite wings both sides are keen to open lines against their opponent's king, but White makes the first move and maintains the momentum.
12. ...Be5
13. b4 gxf5 14. exf5 Nf6
15. b5 a5
16. b6 exb6
17. Bg5 Rhg8
18. Bxf6 Bxf6
19. Nb5 Rg5
20. Qf3 Kb8

Having
secceeded in establishing an open file g-file, Black now gets fatally sidetracked.

## 21. Rab1 Qc6 <br> 22. Na3 Qc5



[^0]

White has the choice of a mate in 5 or 8 moves. Black's best chance to struggle on is probably ... [26...Qc1+ 27.Rxcl Rxb7 28.h4 Rg7 29.Qc6+ Rc7 30.Qxd6]
27. Rb8+ Ke7
28. Re1+ Be5
29. f6+ Ke6
30. Re8+ 1-0

Final position



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Philip Trussler looks at......

The Secrets of Practical Chess by John Nunn Gambit Publications 1998 176pp $£ 14.99$

Gambit is a new publisher with strong links to BCM. They boast a formidable editorial board including Murray Chandler as MD, Graham Burgess, lately of Batsford, as Chess Director and Dr. John Nunn as Chess Director. As well as being one of our foremost GMs, Nunn is also one of the finest chess writers around.

The book's objective is, to quote from the introduction, "...aimed at players who are primarily interested in improving their results". Well, that must include the majority of players! In writing what is an extended essay on the practice of playing chess, John Nunn has, in his lucid style, drawing on his years of playing experience, succeeded in writing an outstanding primer on chess and how to win.. Any club or tournament player who reads and studies this book should almost certainly achieve improved results. The book will prove an investment to all young and aspiring players.

The book is arranged in five broad areas: At the board: The Opening; The Middle Game; The Endgame and Using A Computer. Each section is full of invaluable practical advice. For example, in dealing with when to analyse, he goes on to discuss when it is sensible not to analyse, under the acronym DAUT; Don't Analyse Unnecessary Tactics. Other areas discussed in this large section "At The Board", include Making Your Opponent Think and some clever pages on blunders and oversights.

In the short section on Openings, it is pleasing to see Nunn taking a frank and critical scythe to openings books in particular. Kosten's book on the Latvian Gambit comes in for constructive criticism. The general advice is to avoid off-beat openings and concentrate instead on the mainline openings best suited to one's own particular style.

The section on the Endgame amounts to what even a very experienced player would find to be a stimulating, thought-provoking refresher course. To expect the unexpected is sound advice for any aspect of the game, but no more so than in the endgame. Nunn cites the following example.


Shirov had headed for this position because it seems an obvious draw after, for example $1 . \mathrm{Kg} 5 \mathrm{Kg} 2$ 2. f4 Kf3 3. 55 Ke 4

However, after the surprising $1 . \mathrm{Kg} 3$ ! Shirov resigned. The threat is simply to push the pawn to f 6 and then run with the king to take the f7-pawn, simultaneously defending White's own pawn. Black can only try to extract his king from the box by $1 . . . \mathrm{Kg} 12$. f4 Kfl 3.f5 Ke 2 , but White can keep Black's king at bay: 4Kf4 f6 (or $4 \ldots \mathrm{Kd} 3 \mathrm{5} . \mathrm{Ke} 5$ and wins after $5 \ldots \mathrm{Ke} 3$ 6. f6 or 5...Kc4 6. Kf6) 5. Kc4! Kf2 6. Kd5. The backward move of White's king is sufficiently counter-intuitive that even such a strong player as Shirov overlooked it."

Nunn criticises the technique of counting in the endgame (e.g. my pawn queens in 3 moves and my opponent queens in four - therefore I win). Indeed, he goes so far as to say "I strongly advise against the technique of counting, the main reason being that it fails to detect any finesses in the position".

Just 100 years ago, BCM reviewed another, earlier primer; the second edition of James Mason's "The Art of Chess". It described the book as "...one of the best modern works on the whole scope and range of the game". These words are apposite to Nunn's book, which is surely destined to become a classic of its kind. At $£ 14.99$ it might be said that the book is not cheap for a mere 176 pages, but don't be too concerned about the quantity; appreciate and learn from its immense quality.
P.K.T.

Another of Gambit's recent titles is My Best Games of Chess by Vishy Anand (238pp f15.99).Anand takes the reader through forty of his games, from 1986 (against Inkiov) to 1997 (against Lautier), explaining his thinking behind a host of sparkling games. Most games are linked with a few biographical notes, setting the game in its context and charting in outline his rapid rise from a 10 yr old being caught up in the Korchnoi Karpov thriller-in-Manilla to being a World Championship finalist himself in 1995. With a helping hand from the ever-reliable John Nunn, Anand has produced a book full of gems.
R. H. J.

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[^0]:    23. Rb5! Qxa3
    24. Rxb6 Rd7
    25. Rfb1 Kc8
    26. Rxb7 Kd8
