

CHESS NOTES

by J.H.J.

THERE WERE no surprises in the second round of the P.D.L. Individual Championship:

R. V. Puchades $\frac{1}{2}$, S. J. Russell $\frac{1}{2}$; K. D. F. Gregory 1, M. R. Baker 0; R. H. Storr-Best 1, Default 0; M. Jones 1, W. Laxton 0; C. Wood 0, B. K. Maund 1; B. V. Cochran 0, D. A. Bloxsom 1.

Round 3, for which the limit date is February 14, has the following pairings: Storr-Best (2) v. Gregory (2); Puchades ($1\frac{1}{2}$) v. Jones ($1\frac{1}{2}$); Maund (1) v. Russell ($1\frac{1}{2}$); Bloxsom (1) v. Baker (1); Cochran (0) v. J. B. S. Cairns ($\frac{1}{2}$); Laxton (0) v. Wood (0).

Last week I left you with 2K1k3; 2P5; 2P5; 8; 8; 8; 1r2p3; 4K3 and if you accepted the offered draw then you will now be kicking yourself!

1. Rxe2+!! Rxe2; 2. Kb7, Rb2+; 3. Ka6 Ra2+; 4. Kb6! (it is vital that White remains close to the eight rank, e.g. 4. Kb5?) Ra8; 5. Kb6 Ke7!; 6. Kb7 Kd6! and Black draws. However, now 4. ... Ra8 fails to 5. Kb7 when the c-pawn queens) ... Rb2+ 5. Kc5, Rc2+; 6. Kd5, Rd2+; 7. Ke5 (7. Ke4 fails to Rd8! when White's king is one square too remote). If now Black continues to check then the king attacks the rook! e.g. 7. ... Re2+; 8. Kf4, Rf2+; 9. Ke3, and Black has no immediate saving checks) Rd8; 8. cxd8=Q+ Kxd8; 9. Kd6! Kc8; 10. c7, Kb7; 11. Kd7, and White wins.

The league competition has restarted after the seasonal break.

DIVISION 1

COSHAM A $1\frac{1}{2}$, GOSPORT A $2\frac{1}{2}$; 1, A. F. Brameld $\frac{1}{2}$, M. D. Smith $\frac{1}{2}$; 2, S. Dean v. M. L. Newbury (u); 3, A. F. C. Carter 0, J. H. Jones 1; 4, D. Gibson $\frac{1}{2}$, D. A. Bloxsom $\frac{1}{2}$; 5, A. D. Crossin v. D. E. Pye (u); 6, C. W. Bryan $\frac{1}{2}$, D. J. White $\frac{1}{2}$.

MANGLERS A $4\frac{1}{2}$, PORTSMOUTH B $1\frac{1}{2}$; 1, K. D. F. Gregory 1, A. Daley 0; 2, D. Hannam 1, S. Kent 0; 3, E. N. Holland 1, F. S. Adam Ali 0; 4, A. G. Scoffin 1, B. Cochran 0; 5, M. Flower $\frac{1}{2}$, B. K. Maund $\frac{1}{2}$; 6, N. A. L. Phillips 0, D. Jeffery 1.

This was a good result for Manglers, who greatly increase their chances of survival in this division at the expense of their opponents, who were promoted this season.

PORTSMOUTH A 4, FAREHAM 2; 1, G. Oswald 1, J. Goddard 0; 2, D. Spurgoen $\frac{1}{2}$, T. R. S. Pavlovic $\frac{1}{2}$; 3, R. Puchades $\frac{1}{2}$, J. E. Arney $\frac{1}{2}$; 4, L. Powell 0, W. H. Silber 1; 5, M. C. Hagan 1, D. E. Evans 0; 6, N. Purkis 1, J. A. Coburn 0.

Portsmouth must be well pleased with this result where, apart from Board 1, they were, on paper, outgraded on every other board. This qualifies as the first major upset of the season!

Played in the aforementioned match Cosham A v. Gosport A:

White: J. H. Jones; Black: A. F. C. Carter — 1. e4, c5; 2. Nf3, g6; 3. d4 (3. Bc4!) cxd4; 4. Nxd4 (4. Qxd4!) Bg7; 5. Nc3, Nc6; 6. Be3 Qa5 (?); (6. ... d6!); 7. Qd2 Nf6; 8. f3, O-O; 9. g4! a6 (9. ... d6!); 10. h4, h5; 11. Nb3, Qd8 (if 11. ... Qc7; then 12. Bf4 is playable but more aggressive is 12. g5, Ne8; 13. f4!); 12. g5, Ne8; 13. Nd5 d6 (at last, but forced); 14. Bb6, Qd7; 15. O-O-O (?), e6; 16. Bh3 (also 16. Ne3!) Ne5!; 17. Qe2 Qa4 (? (17. ... Qb5!; both players were moving into time trouble); 18. Rd4! Qb5; 19. c4! (a complex position that could hardly be analyzed in the time available); 19. Qa4! 20. c5 Qb5!; 21. Qxb5 axb5; 22. Ne7+ Kh7; 23. f4 Nc4; 24. e5 (!) may suffice for White); 20. Ne7+ Kh7; 21. Rxc4, Qxb6 (21. ... d5!); 22. Nxc8 Qb5 (22. ... Qd8); 23. Qc2, Be5? (23. ... Qe5! (see diagram) Now White finds a neat forcing finish); 24. a4! Bf4+; 25. Kb1 Qe5; 26. Nb6 Rd8; 27. Rc8! Ng7 (otherwise 27. ... Rxc8; 28. Qxc8 Qh8; 29. Nd7, Rg8; 30. Qxb7 and the extra piece wins); 28. Rxd8 Rxd8; 29. Nc4! (according to choice White will end up either a rook or two pieces ahead) so Black resigns.

