

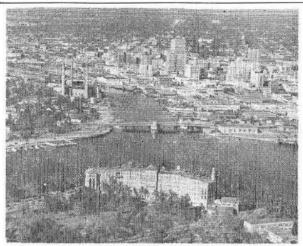
Chess Life



Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Friday, June 20, 1952

BRASKET TOPS STEINMEYER



TAMPA - SITE OF THE OPEN The City of Tampa, as seen from Davis Island. The large building in the foreground is the Municipal Hospital.



USCF EXECUTIVES AT FORT WORTH The USCF EXECUTIVES AT FORT WORTH
The USCF Executive Committee as it appeared in session at the U.S. Open
Championship and Congress at Fort Worth in 1951. Left to right, USCF Secretary Phil J. Mary, USCF Vice-President and Treasurer Edward I. Trend, USCF
President Harold M. Phillips, USCF Vice-President Frank R. Graves, USCF
Past President Elbert A. Wagner, Jr., USCF Vice-President William Byland, and USCF Membership Secretary Glenn E. Hartleb



TOP PLAYERS AT TRANS, MISSISSIPPI Sested, left to right: Frank J. Cabot III, Robert Steinmeyer, and Curt Brasket; standing, left to right: Dr. Giles A. Koelsche, Franz Neugebauer, Harry A. Lew, John Penquite, Kimhall Nedved, and Paul Poschel.

28th Trans-Mississippi Attracts 80 Players for a Photo-Finish

By JOHN G. WARREN

The 28th Annual Trans-Mississippi Open Tournament—nicknamed by its players this year as the "Northern U.S. Open"—was won by Curt Brasket, youthful Tracy, Minn. player, in a photo-finish over Robert Steinmeyer of St. Louis, Mo. Brasket and Steinmeyer each scored 5½-1½ in the 6 round event, but Brasket's SB points totaled 20.25 while Steinmeyer 20.

meyer's was an even 20.

The tournament had 80 entries, more than doubling last year's list of 39, and members of the tournament committee of the Tri-City Chess and Checker Club, Davenport, Ia., sponsors of the event, have already begun plans to enlarge it to 7 or 8 rounds next year.

In third place was Povilas Tautvaisas, former Chicago Champion and current Illinois Open titlist. Frank J. Cabot III of Sturgeon Bay, Frank J. Cabot III of Sturgeon Bay, Wis. was fourth, and Paul Poschel former IIIinois Champion and former U.S. Correspondence Champion, was fifth. Other cash prize winers were Richard Kujoth, Wisconsin Champion, sixth; and Paul Adams, Chicago, seventh. Strength of the jevent was illustrated by the facts that the Illinois Champion, Kimball Nedved, placed

Champion, Kimball Nedved, placed 9th; the Iowa titlist, John Penquite of Des Moines, came in 11th; and last year's Trans-Mississippi champ-

last year's Trans-Mississippi champion, Dr. G. A. Koelsche, the present Minnesota Champion, placed 20th.
Other strong mid-west players who found the competition exceptionally rough wdre Dr. L. C. Young of Madison, Wis., 19th; George Eastman of Detroit, Mich., 22nd; Harry A. Lew of St. Louis, Missouri State Champion, 25th; Alfred Ludwig, Omaha Champion and former U.S. Correspondence title-holder, 29th; and Lec Magee, strong

former U.S. Correspondence title-holder, 29th; and Lec Magee, strong Nebraska player, 34th. Prizes totaled about \$300.00 with \$237.00 in cash and the remainder in merchandise awards. There were 17 prize winners. Brasket took home \$90.00 as the first prize money.

Among the best performances Among the best performances was that of Paul Adams, young Chicagoan, who won a victory over Tautvaisas in the 4th round and then drew with Brasket in the 5th to assure himself a place among the prize winners. Steinmeyer's draw in the fourth round, with draw in the fourth round, with Angelo Sandrin of Chicago, brother of Al Sandrin, the former U.S. Open Champion.

The event was held in the spac-ious Chamber of Commerce audi-torium, Davenport, Ia. At least

five State Champions participated, with numerous other district, city

with numerous other district, city and sectional titleholders.

The tournament held special significance for Franz Neugebauer of Chicago, four-time Trans-Mississippi titleholder. It was the 25th anniversary of his first Trans-Mississippi championship, won in 1927. He also did credit to himself in such strong competition, finishing in 18th place. ing in 18th place.

THERIEN WINS AT QUEBEC CITY

Therien took the Quebec City Championship in addition to the Quebec City Speed title. At the Quebec City Speed title. At the same time young Loic Therien (his 9-year old son) won the Que-bec City "B" Championship and the Quebec City Juvenile title. Bernard LeSage took the Quebec Junior title (16-21) and also the Junior Speed. Miss Jacqueline Giroux triumphed in the Quebec Women's Chempioschip. Championship.

TEARS TAKES NO. TEXAS OPEN

Fred C. Tears with a perfect 7-0 score won the North Texas Open at Fort Worth in a 25 player 7 round Swiss event staged by the Fort Worth Chess Club. Second place went to Louis Dina with 51/2place went to Louis Bina with 372-132, losing a game to Tears and drawing with William A. Bills. William A. Bills and R. B. Potter both scored 5-2 for third, Bills lost one game to Tears and drew with Dina and Frank T. Bly, while Pot-ter lost to Tears and Dina.

Placing 8th with 4-3 points, Mrs. Maxine Cuilip continued to prove herself the top ranking woman player in the Southwest.

MARTIN TAKES E. WASH, TITLE

William H. Martin of Ellensburg won the East Washington District Championship 5½-½ in a 7 player round robin event at Yakima. He drew with Eli Treisman of Yakima drew with Ell Treisman of Yakima who placed second in the event with 5-1. Treisman also drew with C. Groot of Richland. Martin was awarded a membership in the USCF, while Treisman and George Carter of Grandview, who placed third, were given subscriptions to the Washington Chess Letter, monthly publication of the Washington Chess Federation. O. W. LaFreniere of Yakima directed the event.

MSCA SETS DATE FOR CAMP OUTING

The annual outing of the Massachusetts State Chess Ass'n promises more than usual fun this year, for the whole of Indian Head Camp at Pembroke, Mass. will be at the disposal of the chess players, com plete with lake. Members are warned to save September 7th for this gala affair and to bring pienic lunches, swimming suits, fishing rods, suntan oil . . . and, oh yes,

U. S. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Omaha, Nebraska August 18-23, 1952

Entry Fee:- None. Rooms:— Available at special rate of \$1:50 per day.

For Details:— Write to Nebraska Chess Association 317 YMCA Bldg. Omaha 2, Nebraska

PENQUITE TOPS SO. DAKOTA MEET

John Penquite of Des Moines travelled to Rapid City to win the South Dakota Open Championship 5-1 in a 15 player Swiss, losing one game to P. Cooper Ellis of Scotts-bluff, Neb. Ellis placed second on S-B points with 4-2, losing a game to Bryant W. Holmes, and drawing with Bertin Goddard and M. F. Anderson.

Tied for third and declared South Dakota Co-Champions were M. F. Anderson of Rapid City and Bryant W. Holmes of Sioux Falls, with 4-2 each and equal S-B and with 4-2 cach and equal S-B and Solkoff points. Anderson lost to Penquite, and drew with Ellis and Holmes. Holmes lost to Penquite, and drew with Merl W. Reese and Anderson. Merl Reese of Denver placed fifth, also with 4-2, losing to Penquite, and drawing with Holms and Goddard.

CRAMER WINS PEORIA OPEN

H. G. Cramer won the 16 player Peoria Open Championship 7½-1½, Josing no games but drawing with J. E. Hodge, A. R. Hartwig, and Lorence O'Russa. Second and third on S-B points with equal 6½-2½ scores were J. E. Hodge and A. R. Hartwig, Hodge lost a game to C. A. Lyon and drow with Corner. A. Lyon and drew with Cramer, Ray Shipman, and R. L. Pockling-ton of Joliet. Hartwig lost to Hodge and drew with Cramer, but for-feited one round. Ray Shipman was fourth with 5½-3½, losing to Cramer and Louis Hafner, and drawing with Hodge, John Roecker, and Dean Lybarger.

DAHLSTROM WINS IN CHICAGO PARK

Finals of the Chicago Park Sys-tem Championship saw Burton Dahlstrom place first, with Paul C. Adams second, and Raymond Mc-Gill third. The finalists in qualified in various Park District prelimin-ary tournaments. Raymond McGill, who placed third, is one of the most promising young Negro players in Chicago.

U. S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Tampa, Florida July 14-25, 1952

Place: Hotel Floridan, Tampa.

Finance: James B. Gibson Jr. Chairman, 501½ Franklin St., Tampa 2, Fla. South American Correspondence: Arthur Montano, Chairman, P.O. Box 1823, Tampa

Housing: Bill Roberson, Chairman, 114 So. Brevard,

Tampa, Fla. Women's Tournament: James B. Gibson, Jr., 501½ Franklin St., Tampa, Fla.

Treasurer: Eli Solomon, 822 Franklin St., Tampa 2, Fla.

Address Inqueries to: James B. Gibson, Jr., 501½ Franklin Street, Tampa 2, Fla.

Chess. Life

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EINAR MICHELSON

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A NOTHER old-timer in American chess passed away last month when Einar Michelson succumbed to a heart-attack. Associated in his early days with Capablanca, Michelson was always a colorful character in American chess, winning the Western Chess Ass'n Championship in 1907. In more recent years, Michelson was active in chess in Chicago, winning City and State titles upon a number of occasions. His last chess venture in tournament play was a fourth on S-B points in the 70 player Wisconsin State Championship only a few weeks before his death. His many friends will miss him as they gather round the board, for unlike many experts, Einar Michelson loved his chess and could be found most nights at the club, busily engaged in playing.

A PROGRAM FOR TAMPA

W HEN the USCF Board of Directors meets at Tampa this July, several W very important matters will be presented for discussion and action, for there is no mihimizing the fact that dilatory action in the past on several of the problems that confront the Federation has permitted these problems at last to become critical.

We will not endeavor to suggest to the Board what its course of action should be, nor will we attempt to outline its agenda. But we will suggest that the following matters deserve and demand careful consideration:

1) Membership. There have been a number of abortive schemes proposed by various Boards for a membership drive; but none of these has ever matured into a bonafide membership drive. In the critical state of the Federation, if it is to survive and develop chess in the USA, the problem of a larger membership must be solved. It is essential to the life of the Federation that its membership be increased.

Information. No membership drive can become effective without accurate dissemination of information concerning Federation activi-ties. The failure to publish the Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting at Fort Worth is inexcusable, for in no other way could the membership at large learn what was determined and what plans had been laid for future activities. It was even more inexcusable that no copy of the Minutes was supplied (as in the past) to the individual directors, so that those who were not present could at least observe the developments with intelligent interest.

3) Chess Life. The continuing deficit accumulated in publishing Chess Life must be erased by some scheme of promotion which will inincrease the circulation to a point where it will carry the costs of publication. Otherwise there is no conceivable alternative but to suspend publication. We have been clamoring for a number of years for the Board to authorize and implement the promotion of Chess Life circulation; and now it is evident that no further delay can be permitted. In fact, it is almost too late for any promotional scheme to be sufficient. In fact, it is almost too late for any promotional scheme to be sufficiently effective.

The U.S. Championship Three-Year Cycle Plan. It remains for the Board to fulfill the promises made to the membership in implement-ing the Three-Year Cycle Plan of qualification for the U.S. Championship.

There are many other important subjects for discussion, no doubt, but to the Editor these seem the paramount items in the agenda which must be discussed, investigated, and the riddles solved, if the Federa-tion is to continue doing business at the old stand. Not to handicap the Board of Directors in their decisions in regard

to CHESS LIFE, the Editor will submit the Board his resignation as editor, which they may accept, table or refuse as they chose.

Montgomery Major

The Kibitzer Has His Day

Dear Mr. Major: With the approach of summer, many state and local tournaments will be taking place, most popular dates bunching around the 4th of July and Labor Day.

I should therefore like to take a little space in Chess Life to once again urge the use of the S-M system for breaking ties in a Swiss type

The tenacity with which many adhere to the S-B system is beyond

my ken, particularly since many reasons have been set forth indicating the unfairness of the S-B.

There are many who still want to be convinced that all opponents of a player should be considered in computing a player's tie-breaking score. They still cannot see why the lost games should be included. In

an effort to corroborate and support previous reasons given, I offer a new approach or hypothesis.

Assure a general condition where "A" wins from B draws with C loses to D.

For this draw with C, A receives one-half point, as does C. The draw indicates that A and C wound up even, after an even start. In effect, the tournament gives one half point to each of the players in any one contest, and the two contestants vie to win, each from the other, the half point the other received.

Since A and C drew their game, their position at the end of the game was no different than at the start of the game. In other words, the half-point is given to the players at the start of the game, not at the end.

There should be no dissenting criticism of my remark that each There should be no dissenting criticism of my remark that each game starts off as a draw. Thus, in the game between A and B, the tournament gives each one half point before the first man is moved. Since A won from B, A wins B's one half point, while B loses the half point given him. For A, therefore ½ plus ½ equals 1. For B, ½ minus ½ equals 0. For his game with C, A has his ½ and retains it at the end of his game without change. For his game with D, which he lost, A's score is ½ minus ½ equals 0. Totalling his score, A has for the three games.

1/2, 1/2, 1/2, 1/2 minus 1/2; total 11/2.

Putting this in words, A's plus score of 1½ was gained from all opponents B, C and D. That is to say—B, C and D all figured in the determination of A's plus score. Or, in any tournament, a player's plus score is made from all opponents faced. Although this hypothesis seems far-fetched, it does have reason, and does support the contention of the

The S-B system, which claims A garnered his 1½ only from B and C, once again is shown to be faulty, as shown from the above.

EPHRAIM SOLKOFF

Mate The Subtle Way!

by Vincent L. Eaton

Address all communications to this column to Vincent L. Eaton, 612 McNelll Road, Silver Spring, Maryland. Problem No. 340

Problem No. 339 By Godfrey Heathcote First Prize

Sydney Morning Herald, 1907-08 Black 10 men

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White: 11 men 6B1, 1pr2qr1, 5pSP, 2p2R1P, Ppk2KR1, 2S4Q, P4B2, b7 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 341 By V. Pachman First Prize Czech Chess Federation, 1948



White: 9 men B2R4, 7q, 1p3p2, R2SP1pp, 2QSk3, 8, PP1, 5K2 White mates in two moves

Hampstead and Highgate Express, 1905-06 Black: 11 men • 1 😩 6 6 E \$ (ii) 0 0 9 4

By Godfrey Heathcote First Prize

White: 10 men 6K1, pS2RTPQ, p7, r2k3r, 52s4, 1P2p3, BB5p, 2Rb2hq White mates in two moves

Problem No. 342 By L. Loshinsky Second Prize
U.S.S.R. Tourney, 1948
Black: 12 men



LIEPNIEKS WINS LINCOLN EVENT

The Spring Tournament, held at the Lincoln Chess Club, ended in a 7½-½ victory for Alexander Liepnieks, who drew with runnerup Dr. E. Hinman. Hinman tied for second with 6-2, losing to A. Sildmets and drawing with Liepnieks and J. Warner. Also with 6-2 in

and J. Warner. Also with 6-2 in lie for second was A. Sildmets, who lost to Liepnieks and P. Wood.

The Second Group was won by John Danenfelds with 4½-1½, with E. Arminis second. In the Third Group Harry Inde triumphed with 6½-½, and J. Weber placed second. In the Fourth Group event victory went to Avid Graya with victory went to Arvid Grava with 5-1, and W. Zobens and E. Jansons tied for second.

ACKERMAN TIES LUDWIG AT OMAHA

Breaking into the charmed circle for the first time, David Ackerman tied with Alfred Ludwig for the Omaha City Championship with 9-3 each. Ackerman lost one game to Ludwig and drew four, while Ludwig lost a game apiece to Ackerman and Chizum. Jerry Belzer was third with 5½ 6½ while J. Andre was fourth with 5-7.

In tieing for first, Ackerman broke the 35 year domonation of the city event by Rev. Howard Ohman, Delmar Saxton and Alfred Ludwig, which was marred only once before when Lee Magee tied Saxton in 1947 by Leet the Accept Saxton in 1947 but lost the playoff game. This year no play-off is contemplated.

Chess Life In New York By Eliot Hearst

THE pairing of Sammy Reshev-sky and Svetozar Gligorich in A sky and Svetozar Gligorich in a ten-game match now being played here at the Manhattan Chess Club was a most unexpected surprise, for, on the very eve of the contest's initiation, the Yugoslav master had been set to depart for his homeland. But a quick conference between sponsors of the Manhattan C.C. and members of the Yugoslav consulate produced a schedule for consulate produced a schedule for this most attractive struggle, pit-ting "Europe's top player"(?) against the recently-crowned "champion of the non-Communist world."

At the time of this writing the match score stands 2-1 in favor of Reshevsky with the fourth game adjourned in a fairly level, but not dead drawn, position. However, the contests thus for have been in not dead drawn, position. However, the contests thus far have been, in contrast to the knock-down-and-drag-out, exciting games of the Reshevsky-Najdorf match, quite unadventurous and commonplace with contract the American showing any inadventurous and commonplace with only the American showing any in-clination toward sharp play. Gli-gorisch, it's reported, borrowed the scores of all the Najdorf-Reshevsky games for careful study in the short time he had to prepare for his own encounters with Reshevsky; per-haps he then decided that an ag-gressive play was doomed to fail-ture for had not Najdorf attempted. ure for had not Najdorf attempted such a plan and been massacred whenever he did? The Slav's switching to the other extremeundue conservatism and caution-certainly does not seem the solution either!

The first game is the only one with a decisive result as yet. Gli-gorich, defending the black side of a King's Indian, must have been somewhat surprised by Reshevsky's countering with a line the Yugoslav himself favors as white. However, he obtained an entirely satisfactory he obtained an entirely satisfactory game with good chances for the future; then, unexpectedly, he merely sat back and shifted his knight to and fro from K1-QB2 while for twenty-one moves not a single piece was taken off the board. Reshevsky gradually built up his position and then won quickly on a time-pressure blunder by his opponent, who still had a tenable position when he erred. An interesting point was that Reshevsky was in severe time-press Reshevsky was in severe time-pressure throughout the closing stages of the game, but, as soon as Gli-gorich caught up with him in time used, the game was practically no contest as many of the American's opponents have discovered in the past. This initial encounter was also unique in that it was Gilgorich's first loss in many a moon; he bad gone undefeated through the Hastings, Havana, and Los An-geles international tourneys (40 games or so) just recently.

The second game (a Ruy-Ex-change Variation played by Gligor-ich) and the third (a Queen's Gambit declined) were not very exciting and resulted in eventual draws. It is to be hoped that the remaining games of the match will contain more of the fighting and resource-ful chess of which both players are fully capable; if not, we can bonfidently expect seven or eight draws in this short ten game match. In Brief: In a clock exhibition

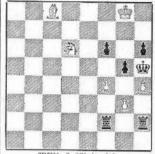
against very strong opponents, Gli-gorich scored 3 wins (vs. Boysan, Williams, and Mrs. Gresser) and 5 draws (vs. Bernstein, Jackson, Tur-ner, Gutwirth, and Landau) in a novel simultaneous at the Manhat-tan C.C. . . R. Flores, Chilean master, who it will be remembered won the Marshall C.C. Championship some five years ago, arrived in the U.S. for a two-month stay. Accompanying him was Dr. Reed, who was Chilean champion in 1932; both these experts hope to get in a lot of chess during their visit here
. . . Marshall C. C. Championship Preliminaries are beginning shortly to determine the qualifiers for next year's championship.

Best Move? By Guilherme Groesser

What's The

Chess Life

Position No. 96



2B3K1, 8, 3Sipip, 6pk, 5PiP, 6Pl, 5rir, 8 White to play

Send solutions to Position No. 96 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE by July 20, 1952.

Solutions to Position No. 93

July 20, 1952.

Solutions to Position No. 93
Oddly enough, in this position from a tournament game, either White or Black, with the move, has a winning combination. In the actual game White was blind to his opponent's deadly chances and played I. R.Kt8? whereupon Black took the mute, inherent in the position, with 1....., Kt86 ch; 2. PxKt droved, R.Be mate. (Nedelkovic Udovice, Yugoslav Master Tourney, 1951-52).

Correct play for White was, of course, I. FxK3 ch, RxR; 2. KtB3 ch, FxKt; 3. KxKt wins.

Strangely caugh, none of our solvers, whise, and the for if 2....., K-R6; 3. KxKt wins.

Strangely caugh, none of our solvers missed for the strangely caugh, none of our solvers chief but a number of Black in 1....., K-R6 ch, talk for Black in 1....., K-R6 ch, talk for Black in 1....., K-R6 ch, but a number of Black in 1

Solutions of the Black position are credited to: G. M. Banker (Kansas City), R. J. Bauer (Buffalo), W. H. James (Fox Lake), J. Kaufman (Beverly Hills), K. Lunderwood (Washington).

LINCOLN DOWNS DENVER TEAM

In an interstate, intercity match, Lincoln (Neb.) invaded Denver (Colo.) and gained a hard-fought 7½-5½ victory in the 13 board event. Scoring for Lincoln were A. Sildmets, J. Sobolevskis, J. Warner, Dr. E. Hinman, B. Schwabauer, A. Freibergs and J. Weber, while for Denver S. Torey, A. Hausner, P. Micheli, A. Rotter and J. Kahan tallicd. On first board A. Liepnieks drew with Jack Hursch.

Solutions:-

Finish It The Clever Way! Position No. 83:— 1. Q-B61, RxR; 2. Q-Kt6 ch, K-Rl; 3. Q-RP ch, Q-KR2; 4. Q-B6 ch, resigns. The best defense was L...., R-Ktl; 2. QxBP ch, K-Rl; 3. RxR ch, KxR; 4. Q-B6 ch, K-R2; 5. R-B7 ch, winning the Q.

Position No. 84:— 1. Kt-K5 eh, K-R1; 2. Kt-Kt6 eh!, PxKt; 3. R-K3 and 4. R-R3 mate.

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rq3rk1, 1b3Spp, 2sP4, 1pQ2p2, 8, 1BP5, P5PP, 2R1R1K1 White to play and win

Finish It The Clever Way!

Conducted by Edmund Nash

Send all contributions for this column to Edmund Nash, 1530 28th Place, S.E. Washington 20, D. C.

In Position No. 83, a problem-like first move leaves Black helpless.

In Position No. 84, White could have won eventually by 1. QxKBP; however, he mated Black in four moves in the game (Black fell into the mate by avoiding catastrophic loss of material in his reply to White's first move). After Black's first move, the mate in three is forced. An instructive mate!

In Position No. 80, Carl Weberg of Salina, Kansas discovered a move which appears to disprove the forced win, and thus shows a serious flaw in the gem. He points out that after 1. B-B4, RxR ch; 2. BxR! Black should play 2....., B-B3, and come out with only the loss of a pawn.

For solutions, please turn to Page three.

USCF TEAM GOES TO HELSINKI

USCF President Harold M. Phil-USCF President Harold M. Phillips has officially notified FIDE that the USA will be represented by a team in the International Team Tournament at Helsinki, August 10-31. Names of the individual members of the team (for ual members of the team (four members and two alternates) have not been released as yet, but among the volunteers for places are Hans the volunteers for places are Hans Berliner, Sidney Bernstein, Arthur B. Bisguier, Alexander Kevitz, George Koltanowski, George Kra-mer, George Shainswit, and Her-man Steiner. The last named served as captain of the U.S. Team in the last International Team Tournament at Dubrovnik.

Omaha (Neb.) Chess Club enjoyed a stirring exhibition Svetozar Gligoric who won games, and conceded two draws.

ROSEN REPEATS AT ST. LOUIS

For the second straight year Paul For the second straight year Paul Rosen won the St. Louis Speed title, this time 6-0. Lewis W. Haller was second with 4½-1½, while David Edwards placed third with 3½-2½. Harry Lew and Eugene Rosech tied for fourth with 3-3 arch.

KPFA PUTS CHESS ON AIR FRIDAYS

Radio Station KPFA of Berkley, Calif. has inaugurated a chess program each Friday night at 9:00 p.m. in which Chess Editor George Koltanowski of the San Francisco Chronicle will play a game against the listeners as well as analyse the course of the game, selecting each time the best move submitted by the listeners.

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Davenport, 1952		
2. Robert Steinmeyer (St. Louis, Mo.)	; 53. F 21-31 (5, 111) Des Me Richa ukce, ib (Wi	lenry (5.25); 2½-3½ oines, rd E. Wis.) nona, ishop

How the Rating System Works

(Kenneth Harkness, co-author of "An Invitation to Chess" and author of "Invitation to Bridge," is the inventor of the rating system adopted by the USCF to rank American chessplayers. In this series of articles, Mr. Harkness explains the mechanics of the

If your ambition is to become recognized as a chess Master the rating system gives you the opportunity to prove your ability and earn the title. In fact, the system will seek you out and shout your name from the housetops. You are listed as a Master if you average 2300 points or more in at least two tournaments, not counting preliminaries. Or you are listed as an Expert if you average 2100 to 2299. Other officially rated players below the Expert division are grouped in Classes A, B, C and D, each class covering a range of 200 points.

each class covering a range of 200 points.

In the upper echelons there are grades of Masters, too. The common or garden variety ranges from 2300 to 2499. Above this comes the Senior Master class, between 2500 and 2699. At the top of the pyramid is the Grandmaster class, from 2700 points up. The air up there is pretty thin.

Unless you live in one of the big chess centers, where strong players congregate, you cannot expect to qualify as a Master by playing only in local events. You can probably reach the rank of Expert, but you will

not go beyond this point until you compete in stronger tournaments.

One of the best places to win your spurs is at the U.S. Open Championship. As the name implies, you need no special qualifications to compete in this event. Everybody is welcome. This is an especially good rating tournament, for the contestants come from all over the country and usually in-clude several Masters. Last year, no less than eight players earned ratings of 2300 points or more at the U.S. Open in Pt. Worth. Master points can also be earned in some of the Regional, State, City and of the Regional, State, City and Club championships. As a rough guide, a Swiss System must average close to 1900 and a Round Robin over 1900 to make it possible for the winner or Idading scorers to earn ratings of 2300 points. Ratings in the Expert class can be earned in tournaments averaging around 1800. However, these are only approximate figures. In future lists of rated tournaments, published semi-annually, we will try to in-clude the number of players earning Master and Expert ratings.

How Tournaments are Rated

By this time you are aware of the fact that you earn what we call a "performance rating" when you play in a rated contest. The amount you can carn depends on two fac-

- 1. The strength of the competition.
 - 2. Your score.

The scores you make in various tournaments, taken by themselves, are no indication of your playing strength. You may win all your games in one contest, then finish near the bottom in another-not because you have become a weaker player, but because the other contestants are stronger than before.

To evaluate performance under different conditions we must have so me way of measuring the strength of the competition. This is easy when the tournament is a round-robin between players with previous ratings. For example, here are the final standings in the Wertheim Memorial Tournament, New York 1951, and the last average ratings (at that time) of the contest-

Patings (at the sants:

1 Reshevsky 2714
2-3 Euwe 2501
2-3 Najdorf 2719
4 Fine 2789
5 Evans 2516
6-7 Horowitz 2517
5-7 R. Byrne 2351

8 Guimard 2501 9 O'Kelly ... 2540 10 Bisguier 2364 11 Kramer 2389 12 Shainswit 2397

Total 30.324

If we add up the individual ratings and divide by the number of players (30,324 divided by 12), we get an average of 2527 for this tournament. When we do this we are figuring what mathematicians call the "arithemetical mean." Everybody is familiar with this kind of average.

In the above example, there is an almost even distribution among

three classes of players. At the top of the scale, the entries include three Grandmasters with ratings between 2714 and 2789; in the middle are five Senior Masters with ratings between 2501 and 2540; at the bottom are four Masters with ratings between 2351 and 2397. (They did not finish exactly in ac-cordance with their ratings, but the average strength of the tourna-ment is not affected by the results.) It can be seen with the naked eye

that the arithmetical mean of 2527 is fairly representative of the strength of this contest. If a player made an even score in this com-pany, he would be entitled to a performance rating of 2527 points

Unfortunately, the arithmetical mean does not always produce such a satisfactory figure. In some tournaments the distribution of en-tries is lop-sided. There may be one or two players with extremely high ratings, as compared with the rest of the field, and these high figures pull up the average so that it no longer represents the general strength of the tournament. For example, here are the results of the 1951 Rhode Island State Championship:

1 Suesman... 2192 2 Martin.... 2175 3 Grossguth 1940 4-5 Reich 1875 4-5 Wholey... 1825 Total 15.303

The arithmetical mean of the individual ratings is 1913 points (15,-303 divided by 8). But it is obvious that this is too high. The ratings of Suesman and Martin have pulled up the average too much. Common sense tells us that a player who made an even score in this contest would be entitled to a rating of about 1850 — halfway between Reich's 1875 and Wholey's 1825. And common sense would then be taking what is known as the "median" value to represent the strength of this tournament. The figure of 1850 is at the middle of the list of contestants' ratings. Half of the players have ratings of more than 1850; the other half have ratings of less then 1850. less than 1850.

When we use the median value, instead of the arithmetical mean, we get a figure which is representative of a tournament's strength but is unaffacted by extreme values at the top or bottom of the scale. For instance, in the example given, the median value of 1850 would not be affected in any way if Reshev-sky were to substitute for Suesman. Our imaginary player who made an even score would still get a performance rating of 1850 points; he would not gain anything by losing to Reshevsky's 2714 instead of to Suesman's 2192,

(This is the third of a series of articles by Mr. Harkness, The fourth will appear in the next issue of CHESS LIFE.—The Editor.)

STAHRES CONQUER DEL-MAR-VA MEET

The annual Del-Mar-Va (Dela-are, Maryland, Virginia) event at ware, Maryland, Virginia) event at Salisbury (Md.) resulted in a Stabre family triumph. Karl J. Stabre and his nephew, Walter Sullivan, tied for first place with 10-2, while Paul Stabre, the 18-year old son, placed third with 9-3. Dr. A. W. Morris was fourth with 3½-3½ in the 13 player round robin event.

In the play-off, Stahre scored 2-1 against Sullivan to gain clear 2-1 against Sullivan to gain clear possession of the title. In the regular event K. J. Stahre lost games to I. R. Aslop and Walter Sullivan, while Sullivan lost to H. O. Michaelson and drew with Dr. A. W. Morris and E. A. Yaroszewski. Young Paul Stahre lost to father Stahre, cousin Sullivan, and H. O. Michaelson.

Tournament Life

Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

192 Saville Drive Rochester 17, N. Y.

BIRD-BENONI GAMBIT

B.P.C.C. Tournament Correspondence Chess

Notes by Dr. M. G. Sturm

White by Dr. M. G. Sturm
White DR. M. G. STURM
(IT rinidad)
1. P. KB4 P.Q4
1. P. KB4 P.Q4
2. P. QB4!?
Spening, but it must be a rare one, not appearing even in R. E. Robinson's exhaustive compilation, "P. KB4." I have christened it the Bird-Benoni Gambit, because, should Black repty 2...., P.Q5
or, P.P., White is then conducting, with a move in hand, an improved variation of the Benoni Counter-Gambit, 1.
P.Q4, P.QB4; 2. P.Q3, P.B4!, Declined or Accepted.

P-Q4, P-QB4; 2, P-Q5, P-B4!, Declined or Accepted.

2. K1-KB3

1 have invariably received this reply, but consider — P-Q5 or — P-XP at least as strong, White, as is frequently the case, not benefiting much, if at all, from his move in hand.

3. PXP K1XP 4, P-K4! K1XP?

Giving White too much scope, and adding real point to the Gambit. Strongest probably is 4. — K1-K13!; 5. B-B4!?

(Stum-Holt, Correspondence).

5. P-Q4! K1-K13.

White has a fine attacking position, and Black must be very careful, e.g. 6. — K1-Q2; 7. B-Q34, P-X4; 8. O-O, PXP7?; 9. BXP ch, K-K2 ... XXB also loses); 10. B-K15 ch, K1-33; 11. KBXK1, PXB; 12. P-K3 wins. (Sturm-Martin, Correspondence).



Philadelphia City Championship Philadelphia, 1952

Notes by J. N. Cotter

White by J. N. Cotter

White J. COTTER
J. SEIBERT
J. SE

KIA, O.O. ia.

Date his P with ____, BxRt and O.S. ch.

Solution of the provided and provided an

Nets time development of the control of the control

dding to prevent the break once and all.

22. P.KR4
Risky to be sure, but the only method

3rd & Final Edition

of preventing death by slow strangu-

After 30 ... B-K2

宣曲 8 1 \$ 8 ð 買

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June 28-29, July 4-6 Michigan State Championship Battle Creek, Mich.

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Annotators

July 4-6

Dallas Invitation Tournament Dallas, Texas Players rated Class A or higher

are invited to participate; 6 round Swiss; entries accepted to 1:00 p. m. Friday July 4; entry fee \$5.00 minimum with final fee and disposition of prize money subject to majority vote of players; play at Skyline Lounge of YMCA, 605 No. Ervay St.; rating qualification bas-USCF National Rating List; for details contact: Fred Tears, 2849 Fondren Drive, Dallas, Tex.

August 1-4

Colorado Open Championship Denver, Colo. Open to all; two champions, open

and state; \$100.00 cash first prize; entry fee \$6.00; for details, write: Merl W. Reese, tournament direc-tor, 1740 Glenarm, Denver 2, Colo. August 29-September 1

New England Championship

Newburyport, Mass.
Open to all New England residents, including students attending

New England schools; begins 7:30 p.m. Friday August 29; 6 round Swiss; First prize \$100.; a rated tournament; held at Newburyport YMCA, 13 Market St.; for details write: O. A. Lester, Jr., 63 High St., Newburyport, Mass.

August 30-September 1 Louisiana State Championship New Orleans, La. Open to Louisiana players; de-

tails not yet settled but will be reported later.

August 30-September 1

Southwestern Open Championship

Dallas, Texas
Open to all; 7 round Swiss; titles: Southwestern Open, Women's
and Junior Champions, also Texas
State Champion; cash prizes and
trophy; held at Hotel Adolphus,
Dallas; entries accepted until 1:00 Dallas; entries accepted until 1:00 p.m.; play begins 2:00 p.m.; entry fee \$6.00 (plus USCF and TCA membership which totals \$4.00); college students and juniors under 21 entry fee \$1.00 plus USCF and TCA membership; guaranteed first prize \$150.00; second prize \$100.00; trophies in addition to Texas, Women's and Junior Champions; other prizes for details or hotel other prizes, for details or hotel reservations, write: C. Frederick Tears, Jr., 2849 Fondren Drive, Dallas 5, Texas. 100% USCF Rated

August 30-September 1

2nd Annual Midwest Open Championship

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Friday, June 20, 1952

NIMZOINDIAN DEFENSE Hollywood International Tournament Los Angeles, 1952

Notes by John E. Howarth

B-KKt5 resident the shows him the to the key.! the door, but he holds

B-R52

After 17 , B.

9 1 1 1 \$ 4 ŧ 9 0 4 8 8 8 8 0 盟 盟 藝

STEINER

STEINER
Here 17....., BxKt may not balance the position evenly, but for practical reasons it was best; and it may lead to a balanced position.
18. Q-82! P-Kt3
F 18...., RxR; 19. BxKt, P-Kt3; 20. BxB, QxB; 21. RxB and White is material ahead. 19, KR-K1 20, Kt-K5 R-B1 2T. Q-Q2 Q-Q4

reatening, B-B8 and k was t 23. Q-B4

B-Kt6
R-QB1 KR-Q1
at once Black is ulse the attack is finding it harder to

mate. R-RB Resigns brilliant effort on the part of the rmer U.S. Champion. **DUTCH DEFENSE** Philadelphia City Championship Philadelphia, 1952

Notes by J. N. Cotter

White

White

White

J. SEIBERT

I. KI-KB3 P-Q4 J. P-Q84 P-Q83

2. P-Q4 P-K3 J. KI-Q85 P-K84

Thus, by a circuitous route, arriving at a Sionewall formation.

5. P-KK13 KI-KB3 6. P-B5

Doubtless premature. In advance of this sort, Black usually has two effective counter-measures. Either play for a timely ..., P-K4 or attempt an immediate breakup with ..., P-QK13, and Hickman could hardly be criticized for failing to see at this stage that the latter plan would obtain the most effective play for his pieces. E.g.: 6..., P-QK13, T. P-QK14, P-QR1; (and now I) 8. P-KRP, P-XBP, etc. or II 8. P-KK1P, B-XP; or III) 8. KLR4, P-XBP; in each case with an easy defense. Finally, if instead 7. P-XP, P-XP and Black can complete his development and play for a timely ..., P-QB14.

Ki-Q3! B-B3 15, Ki-B4 Q-KI lile Black enjoys an aggressive posi-n in the middle, it is difficult to find table squares for his minor pieces, addition P-QB4 for White promises

P-QKH4

36. B-R3 ch K-K2
White was threatening to win the Exchange with 41. K-K2. Black is defending himself resourcefully but the R sortie is only a temporary expedient. In the long run Black cannot prevent the K from coming to K3 to support the advance of the center Ps.
41. K-K2 R-QBB 44. B-K2 R-KR8 42. K-Q2 R-KK18 45. P-Q5 B-Q1 43. B-B3 R-KB8 46. P-Q6 ch ... K-B2 R-KR center advance or support the support that the support the support that the suppor

42. K-Q2 R-KK(18 45. P-Q5 B-Q1 43. B-B3 R-KB8 46. P-Q6 ch. K-B2 Black has only a choice among evils. White now conducts the final onslaught in a most precise and elegant manner. 47. B-R5 chi K-B1 49. K-Q3 P-R44 48. B-K161 RXP ch. The best counterchance. In an extremely unpleasant position Hickman offers the best possible resistence. 30. P-K6 P-KR5 51. BXP!! The B is, of course, inmune because of 52. P-K7 ch, etc., but there is another beautiful poly P-K7 Ch, etc., but there is another beautiful poly P-K7 Ch, etc., but there is another beautiful poly P-K7 S2. BXB!! Now on P-K17: 53. P-K7 ch, K-K12: 54. P-K3(Q). P-K18(Q): 55. Q-B2 ch and mate next move. K-K12 53. B-B5!! find. On the inferior but more obvious S3. P-K7, R-R1 and Black can atill resist. S1. M-K16 R-K18 R-K11 for M-K11; 53. S2. K-K18; 55. S-K-K18; K-K12: 58. B-K18; 55. S-K-K18; K-K12: 58. B-K18; K-K18; 55. S-K-K-K12: 58. B-K5. K-K18; 55. S-K-K-K18; 55. B-K-K18; 55. B

53. P.K17 54. B.B6 chl K.R3.
Naturally if K.K11 or ..., K.B1; 55.
P.K7 wins quickly.
55. B.P6 K.K12 56. B.K3
And so the B returns triumphant after its grand tour. As White was suffering from mild time pressure, Black delayed his resignation until the next time control at move 60.

56. R-KR1 57. P-K7 K-B2 58. K-K2 R-KK11 59. B-Kf1 R-R1 60. K-B2 Resigns

KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE Manhattan vs. Marshall Match New York, 1952

G. KRAMER

G. KRAMER

(Manhattan)

L. P-04

L. EVANS

(Marshall)

L. P-04

L. EVANS

(Marshall)

L. P-04

Refraction to lake possession of the cember, which, as a rule, is carefully set up, which, as a rule, is carefully set up, be broden to society the set up to

the range of the KB.

8. B-K2

Continued development is in order. The tempting P-B5 must not be indulged in, as the Kt would merely be driven to a satisfactory post at B4.

8. D-C B-B2 11. OxB K-B2.

8. D-C B2 11

After 17. PxP



KRAMER

The most natural move in the world, but no more than the astonishment which greeted the instant reply, which in the end nets the exchange.

Kt-Q5 18. Q-K3

His position is so solid time out for capture of 28. P.KB4 P.QR4 3C 29. P-B5 Q-Q4 The alternative is P-B6 has no terrors for a re P-86 which, however,

placed momentarily on the defensiv

36. P-Kt3

Q-KB4 It is as simple as all this and White's hopes for an attack go a-glimmering. 33, Q-Q2 R-K5 37, Q-Q87 ch 33. Q-Q2 34. Q-R2 ch 35. Q-B4 Q R-K5 K-Kt2

Resigns Q-B5 ch

Pondence).
6. P-K3
7. B-Q84 B-Kt5 ch
8. Kt-B3 BxKt ch
9. PxB 0-0
10. 0-0 P-Kt3
11. B-KKt5
12. P-K5
13. Q-Q3
14. R-B2!

After 14. R-B2!

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of preventing to the control of the

ph. B-R4, White would be the presentative irresistable attack with 29, Kt-KKt5 and 30, Q-KKt2.

29, QxB QxQ ch 30, KxQ B-K2 Virtually forced as White was threatening to play 31. B-KKt5 with threats of mate among other things. On the alternative 30...., Kt-K3 White would have continued with 31. B-R6, KR-K1; 32 ExKt, R-R5; 33. B-Kt5, and the jie is up. ExKt, R-R5; 34. B-Kt5 and the present of th

SEIBERT



COTTER

31. R-R8ch K-Kt2 32. B-R6!
The point. Now if ..., KxR; 33. BxR ch and 34. BxB wins a whole piece.
72. K-B3 33. BxR Resigns Black has no suitable counterplay to compensate for the loss of the exchange.

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