



Chess Life



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RUDENKO IS WOMAN'S CHAMP

Soviet Women Players Capture Four Top Spots In Championship

Reiterating the present-day dominance of the chess players of the Soviet Union, four U.S.S.R. women players took the four top spots in the Woman's World Championship Tournament held at Moscow; and there is little consolation to the United States to know that their two entries could place no better than in a tie for 12th in the 16-player event.

First place went to Mrs. Ludmilla Vladimirovna Rudenko with 11½-3½, losing a game to Mrs. Gisela K. Gresser in the opening round and thereafter drawing five games. Second place went to Mrs. Olga Nikolaevna Roubtsova (Rubsova) with 10½-4½, while third place was shared by the two other Soviet entrants, Valentina Bielova and Elizabeth Bykova, with 10-5 each. Fifth place was a tie between the former German Woman's Champion Edith Keller, the French Woman's Champion Mme. Chaudé de Silans, and the English Woman's Champion Eileen Tranmer.

The new World Champion, successor to the late Vera Menchik Stevenson, was born in Lubny in 1904. She began to play chess in 1925 and participated in the First Soviet Women's Championship in 1927 where she placed fifth. In 1928 she won all 12 games in the first Woman's Championship of the City of Moscow, finishing 1½ points ahead of Roubtsova. And since then has had numerous other triumphs in the U.S.S.R. In her youth she was devoted to sports and is an excellent swimmer. By profession she is a typographical worker and is now employed in the Ufa plant.

The runner-up, the daughter of Nikolai Nikolaevich Roubtsov who was a well-known Russian player in pre-Soviet days, was born in 1909. She won the first Soviet Woman's Championship in 1927 and the second Soviet Woman's Championship in 1931. Her successor in 1934, Semenova, wrote at the time in *Shakmatnyi Listok* that she was still probably the strongest Russian woman chess player—a judgment she confirmed by winning the Woman's Championship several times after 1934, including the tournament that ended in January 1949.

The English Woman's Champion Eileen Tranmer finished strong, winning 5 and drawing 3 in her last eight games to pull into a tie for fifth. She bested Mrs. Gresser in the final round, while the German Champion Edith Keller was defeated Miss N. May Karff. In fact Miss Tranmer has the aspect of a dangerous threat in the future, as she defeated Mme. Chaudé de Silans in their game in the Championship as well as in their individual game in a recent Woman's Tournament at Barcelona in which they tied for first place.

MANN IS VICTOR IN CENTRAL OHIO

To no one's surprise, Walter Mann, current Ohio titleholder, won the 10-man Central Ohio Championship with a 4-0 score, giving second place winner, J. Schroeder, his only defeat. Schroeder had 3-1 to place second, while Frederick and Siebrecht tied for third with 2-1 each.

LAWSON Y OFFERS BEGINNERS COURSE

The Lawson YMCA (Chicago) continues its practice of including chess in its 46 courses termed "Classes in Modern Living" with an eight week course in chess for beginners taught by Abe Swet, chairman of the Lawson Y Chess Club.

WOMAN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP Final Standings

- Ludmilla Rudenko (U.S.S.R.) 11-3½
- Olga Roubtsova (U.S.S.R.) 10½-4½
- Valentina Bielova (U.S.S.R.) 10-5
- Elizabeth Bykova (U.S.S.R.) 10-5
- Edith Keller (Germany) 9½-5½
- Chaudé de Silans (France) 9½-5½
- Eileen Tranmer (England) 9½-5½
- Fannie Hoemkerk (Holland) 8-7
- Clarice Benini (Italy) 7-8
- Maria Teresa Mora (Cuba) 6-9
- Josza Laegros (Hungary) 6-9
- Gisela K. Gresser (U.S.A.) 5-10
- N. May Karff (U.S.A.) 5-10
- Hruvkova Baiska (Czechoslovakia) 5-10
- Ingrid Larsen (Denmark) 4½-10½
- Rosa Germanowa (Poland) 4½-10½

ADAMS TRIUMPHS AT PORTSMOUTH

Weaver Adams, former U.S. Open Champion and present New England titleholder, spent two days in Portsmouth, N. H. On the first night he gave his famous two-board simultaneous with lecture and his victims were Orlando Lester and Robert Hux, winner and runner-up in the recent Newburyport Open Tournament. In the 25-board exhibition on the second evening Adams won 21, lost 2, and drew 2. Those winning their games were Clark Church of Amesbury, (Mass.) and Damon Wallace of Dover (N. H.). Draws went to Bart Gould of Newburyport (Mass.) and Orlando Lester of Portsmouth (N. H.). Despite the bad weather (snow and sleet) two players from Maine drove 78 miles (one way!) to get their crack at the master!

PLAN CHICAGO CITY TOURNEYS

The Chicago City Championship, conducted by the Illinois State Chess Association, will be held at the Chicago Chess & Checker Club, 542 So. Dearborn St. Chicago, beginning February 8th.

The Chicago Chess League Individual Championship will also begin in February and will be composed of ten entrants, nominated by the member clubs of the league, playing in a single round robin event.

METRO LIFE TOPS N. Y. COMMERCIAL

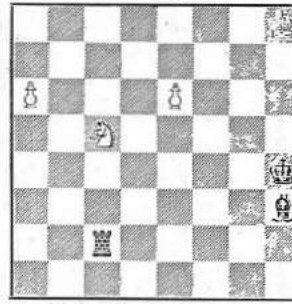
In the 16 team New York Commercial Chess League at the half-way mark, the Metropolitan Life Chess Club remains undefeated with an 8-0 match score for first honors; second and still in the running is the Consolidated Edison Chess Club with 7-1, with Investment Bankers Chess club close on their heels with 6½-1½. R. H. Macy with 6-2 is not far behind the leaders.

Position No. 69
By J. Peacock
Bury St. Edmunds
British Chess Magazine, 1949



8. Qp1, p7, p4P, 2K5, P7, 3x1P2, 8
White to play and win

Position No. 70
By Richard K. Guy
Forest Hill, London
British Chess Magazine, 1949



TK, 8, P3P3, 2S5, 7K, 7b, 2r5, 8
White to play and win

White To Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojam

FOR SOME strange reason, although very popular upon the Continent, the composing of end-game positions is almost a dead art in these United States and in England. Among American composers who are active, we have presented the infrequent compositions of Branton, Nash, Groesser and Major—almost the complete list for a rather large country. This issue we reprint two examples of the equally rare English origin.

Position No. 69 is the first from J. Peacock in six years. It illustrates in particular the necessity for care in endings where both players threaten to queen a pawn. If White is heading in his queening, he finds a "book" draw position the reward for his haste.

Position No. 70 by Richard K. Guy is one of his lighter compositions in which a typical problem theme is utilized as the winning maneuver. Long the ranking British end-game composer, Mr. Guy no longer composes, reducing the English ranks of end-game experts almost to zero.

Correction: Mr. Guy submits from London the following revision of his endgame position No. 65: Remove White Pawn at KR4 and Black Pawn at KR4. Add a Black Pawn at KK4. The position in Forsythe will then be: 8, k3p3, 7p, 6p1, 1b5, 3P4, 8 K7; and the solution will follow the original intention without the unplanned variation of 1 B-K8 which defeated the original setting.

For solutions, please turn to page three.

Official Team Line-Up Announced In U.S.A. vs. Yugoslavia Match

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS have been settled for the spectacular radio match between the U.S.A. and Yugoslavia which will be held from February 11 through February 14 as a double round event. The match will be played by short wave radio and the Udemann cable code will be used for the moves. The unusually fast time limit for master play of fifty moves in the first two hours is expected to speed up the play considerably and avoid the necessity of adjudications.

The U. S. team will play from the Chanin Bldg, 122 East 42nd St, New York City, and tickets for spectators may be obtained from Chess Review, which jointly sponsors the event for the U. S. with the United States Chess Federation.

Both sides have marshalled an impressive line-up with American's premier players on top boards facing the leading Yugoslav masters, so the contest will be a definite test of strength between the U.S.A. and one of the strongest chess groups in Europe, aside from the U.S.S.R.

The official line-up of the opposing teams will be:

Board	United States	Yugoslavia
1.	Sammy Reshevsky	vs. Svetozar Gligorich
2.	Reuben Fine	vs. Vasya Piro
3.	Isaac Kashdan	vs. P. Trifunovich
4.	Al Horowitz	vs. Vasilav Rehar
5.	Arnold S. Denker	vs. Milan Vidmar, Jr.
6.	Herman Steiner	vs. Stoyan Puc
7.	Arthur W. Duke	vs. Boris Milich
8.	Alexander Kewitz	vs. Boris Kostich
9.	Robert Byrne	vs. A. Matanovich
10.	Albert S. Pinkus	vs. Boris Ivkov

Yugoslavia has an enviable record in recent team events, beginning with a smashing series of victories in the first Balkan Championship in 1946. Of the individual players Trifunovich, Gligorich and Pirc are equally formidable. Trifunovich placed 10th in the Candidates Tournament at Saltsjobaden, while Gligorich and Pirc tied for 11th with Book. Recently Pirc tied Dr. Max Euwe in a match and Trifunovich tied Miguel Najdorf, while Gligorich

won a match against Gideon Ståhlberg. All three have held the Yugoslav championship. Young Vidmar, son of the veteran Dr. Vidmar is almost his father's equal as a dangerous opponent, while Matanovich (18) and Ivkov (16), representing youth on the team, tied for fourth in the 1949 Yugoslav champions'ip.

America rests its hopes on an equally formidable line-up, headed by Grandmasters Samuel Reshevsky and Dr. Reuben Fine. Reshevsky, five times U. S. Champion, has a distinguished list of international achievements, which is matched by Reuben Fine, who placed in a tie for first in the spectacular Avro tournament of 1938. Kashdan also has a distinguished list of European successes, as does Al Horowitz who was one of mainstays of (Please turn to page 3, col. 3)

SANDRIN FOLLOWS BLINDFOLD WAY

U.S. Open Champion Albert Sandrin, Jr. continues in his specializing in blindfold chess, following in the steps of George Koltanowski. In a weekend tour in January on Friday Sandrin played and won a six board blindfold simultaneous at Wilson Junior College in Chicago; on Saturday played a 10-board blindfold simultaneous at Decatur Chess Club in Decatur, winning nine and losing one game to David Mitchell; and on Sunday played an 8-board blindfold simultaneous at the University of Illinois Chess Club at Urbana, winning seven and losing one to J. Bajorek, for a score of 22 wins and 2 losses out of 24 games.

An amusing sidelight to the Decatur event was the fact that Mitchell was thirsting for revenge which he gained, as he was still smarting under the ignominy of a six-move defeat in a blindfold simultaneous held in Decatur in 1947 when Sandrin pounced mercilessly upon an opening error as follows: 1. Kt-KB3, Kt-QB3; 2. P-K4, P-K4; 3. B-B4, B-K2; 4. P-Q4, PxP; 5. P-QB3, Pxp??; 6. Q-O5! Resigns.

AUSTIN HEADS GREATER CHGO

Austin Chess & Checker Club leads in the Greater Chicago Chess League at the half-way mark with a 5-0 match score. Second place is jointly held by Berwyn Chess Club and Hawthorne Chess Club with 3-2 each.

In the Chicago City Chess League at the mid-season point Illinois Institute of Technology leads the "A" Section with 3-0 in matches; Austin Chess & Checker Club and Irving Park Y Chess Club are tied for lead in the "B" Section with 2-1 each; and I. I. T. College team and Roosevelt College Chess Club are tied for first in the "C" Section with 1½-½ each.

FEDERAL LEADS IN D. C. LEAGUE

At the half-way mark, the Federal Chess Club holds the lead in the District of Columbia chess league with 6-0 in match points, while Washington Chess Divan, with one less match played, is second with 5-0. Two late starters in the League, George Washington University and the University of Maryland, have partial scores of 2½-1½ and 1-2 respectively, while Army Map Service lags behind with 0-6 as a match score.

CHICAGO TOPS INTERCITY PLAY

A Chicago team, headed by U. S. Open Champion Albert Sandrin, in a trip to Kankakee (Ill.) walked away with all honors in a triangular match. In the morning Chicago downed the Decatur (Ill.) team by 5-0 and in the afternoon bested the Gary (Ind.) team 4-1, while Decatur outpointed the Gary Club reserves by a 3½-2½ score. The tri-city match was arranged by Al Sandrin of Chicago, Kenneth Reareck of Gary and West Rising of Kankakee.

ENGLISH OPENING Marshall Chess Club Championship, New York, 1949

Notes by A. E. Santasiere

White: A. E. SANTASIÈRE. Black: J. COLLINS.
1. P-Q4 P-K4 4. P-Q4 P-P
2. Kt-QB3 Kt-KB3 5. KtP B-K15



After 22... B-R3! COLLINS

White had to be prepared for Kt-K4. There are several alternatives, this move tends to be livelier than the others.

Notes by Erich W. Marchand
W. NEWBERRY. A. KAUFMAN
1. P-Q4 P-K3 3. Kt-QB3 B-K15



After 21... BxKt! KAUFMAN

Black threatened both Kt-K7 ch and Q-K4. If 22... R-Q2, Kt-K4 (22... Q-K4 may be even stronger); 23... B-K2, BxR; 24... BxR; 25... QxR, Kt-K6, If 22... B-R2, no Q-K4; 24... R-K2 (or 23... B-K1, BxP), Kt-K7 ch; 25... R-K2 but 22... Q-B2!; 23... R(1)-Q1, BxR; 24... R-K2, Kt-K7 ch; 25... R-B1, Kt-R3; 26... RxQ, KtQ, etc. Al Sandrin has suggested 22... Q-R4 but 22... P-QR4! appears to win brilliantly as pointed out by

BEST BUY IN CHESS IS CHESS LIFE.

Tournament Life

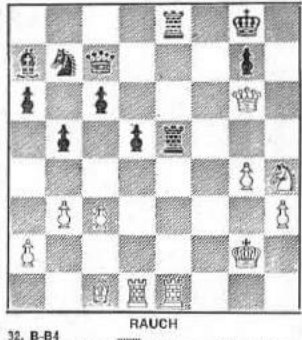
Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

192 Seville Drive Rochester 17, N. Y.

Kaufman. White's salvation lies in 22... Q-K3! so that 22... Q-K4 or 23... Q-K5 are met by 23... B-B1. Black can win a P by 22... KtP, but it is difficult to win because the ending will have Bs of opposite colors.
22. Q-B2 24. B-K7
23. BxP QxR

RUY LOPEZ Quebec Provincial Championship Montreal, 1949

Notes by Edw. J. Korpany
White: DR. J. RAUCH. Black: M. GUZE
1. P-K4 P-K4 5. O-O B-K5
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 6. B-Q4 KtP
3. B-K15 P-QR3 7. B-K15 P-Q4
4. B-R4 Kt-B3



After 31... RxP GUZE

BUDAPEST DEFENSE First Game, Match, 1949

Notes by K. Crittenden
White: W. C. ADICKES. Black: K. CRITTENDEN
1. P-K4 Kt-KB3 3. P-K4 Kt-K15
2. P-QB4 P-K4 4. P-K4 P-O3

Black gave up a P for development. Capablanca-Yarntower, Kissing, 1928, continued 6... PxP, BxP; 6... B-K3, P-K15; 7... PxP, Q-K5; 8... Kt-KB3 and BxKt; has development but no KP.
9... Kt-K2
Avoiding the above lines, transposing to the normal variation with one difference: Black's QP at Q blocks the KR.



After 42... K-R5 MARCHAND

Notes by Max Herzberger
J. KUPERSMITH. E. MARCHAND
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 6. O-O QK1-Q2
2. P-KB3 Kt-KB3 7. R-K1 P-B4
3. P-K3 P-KK3 8. P-B3 P-B3
4. Kt-Q2 Kt-Q2 9. KtP KtP



Solutions: Mate The Subtle Way

Crowded out of last issue was acknowledgment of solutions received as follows from William J. Couture and G. Muntanich, correct keys to 127 and 128 and the author's solution to 129; from John W. Kennedy, correct key to 127 and the "cook" to 129; from Edmund Nash, the key of 127 and "cook" to 129; and from John Spaur, correct solutions to 127 and 128.
No. 131 (Oppenheimer): 1. Kt-K4, allowing a cross-check which is the principal variation.
No. 132 (Jacobs): 1. R-R3, K-R4; 2. R-K6 ch, KxR; 3. Kt-B6 mate! If 1... mate, Kt move; 2. P-R5 ch and 3. B-K7 mate, if 1... P-R4; 2. R-K6 and 3. P-B5 mate. A mysterious key is followed by a pretty and hard-to-see third-move mate.
No. 133 (White): 1. R-R3 ch, K-R6; 2. R-R3 ch; 3. R-K3 ch; 4. R-K1 ch; 5. R-Q4 ch; 6. R-K5 ch; 7. R-B5 ch; 8. R-B6 ch; 9. B-K6 ch; 10. R-K7 ch, K-R1; 11. R-R7 ch, K-K1; 12. R-B8.

Annotators
J. B. Gee, Dr. M. Herzberger, A. Y. Hesse, Edw. J. Korpany, J. Lapin, I. Rivlin, Dr. J. Platz, J. Ragan, Fred Reinfeld, Dr. Bela Rozsa, A. E. Santasiere, J. Soudakoff, Wayne Wagner

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED Marshall Chess Club (N. Y.) Rapid Transit Tourney, 1949

"Improving on the theory of openings at the rate of 10 seconds per move."
White: S. RUBINSTEIN. Black: ED. LASKER
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 13. Kt-K4 B-K15 ch
2. P-QB4 P-K3 14. K-K2 P-KB4
3. Kt-QB3 Kt-KB3 15. Kt-B5 P-B5
4. B-K15 B-K2 16. PxP KtP ch
5. P-K3 P-KR3 17. BxKt RxB
6. B-R4 O-O 18. Q-Q3 BxKt
7. R-B1 P-B3 19. RxB Kt-Q4
8. Kt-B3 Kt-KB3 20. KR-Q1 P-QK1
9. Q-Q3 P-R4 21. KtP P-QR4
10. BxP Kt-Q4 22. K-K1 B-K1
11. B-KK15 QKt-K13 23. Q-K16 Q-B3!
12. B-K13 B-Q3



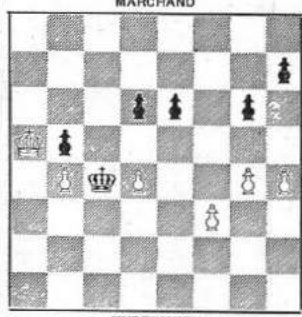
After 23... Q-B3! LASKER

RUBINSTEIN White piece of the White pieces is the son of the great Akiba Rubinstein—Ed.

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to protect his QK3 square before retaking the P.
13. B-QK3 Q-R3 21. P-KR3 KR-R1
19. Kt-K4 P-K3 22. Q-KB1 R-B8
20. Q-K1 R-B3
It seems there ought to be more than the win of P in this position; however, Black cannot stall for long since after 22... QR-K1, 24... P-R4 and eventually P-KR4 and P-KB5 give good chances of counterattack. It is not easy to find a winning namever. The combination is pretty.
23. RxR RxB 25. BxB PxB
24. R-K1 QxQ ch 29. P-QK3 B-K17
25. KxP RxR ch 30. K-Q2 BxKt ch
26. KxR B-B8 31. KxR KtP ch
27. Kt-B3 Kt-K15 32. K-B4

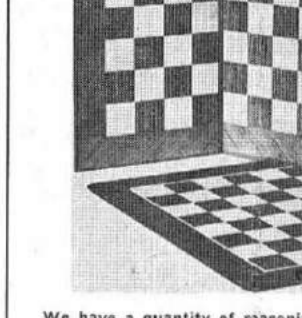


After 42... K-R5 MARCHAND

White recovers his P, but then his K is cornered.
37. ... K-Q1 43. B-B2 Kt-Q3
38. K-K7 K-Q2 44. P-K14 K-Q4
39. K-Q2 K-B3 45. K-R5 K-B5
40. B-Q2 Kt-K7 46. BxK KtP
41. B-K3 Kt-K16 47. K-R3
42. P-R4 Kt-B4

ADICKES
Forced: if 19... Kt-R6, R-R3; 20... Kt-Q7, R-Q1; and the Kt can't move despite the numerous complications: 21... P-K15, Kt-B5 ch; 22... BxKt, QxR; 23... PxP, BxP; and now Black's P-KB4 will catch the hapless R.
19... Pxp 21. Kt-K7 ch K-R1
20... Pxp Kt-K4 22. BxKt(Q)
Better is B-K4, then Black can't win with Pxp QRxKt; 23... BxKt, Kt-B5 and QxKt.
22... BxKt! 24. RxB
23... B-K4 B-P4

COLLE SYSTEM New York State Championship Rochester, 1949
Notes by Max Herzberger
J. KUPERSMITH. E. MARCHAND
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 6. O-O QK1-Q2
2. P-KB3 Kt-KB3 7. R-K1 P-B4
3. P-K3 P-KK3 8. P-B3 P-B3
4. Kt-Q2 Kt-Q2 9. KtP KtP
5. QK1-Q2 O-O 10. BFP P-B3



After 33... R-R5 MARCHAND

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