



Scottish
Correspondence
Chess



August 1989
No.31
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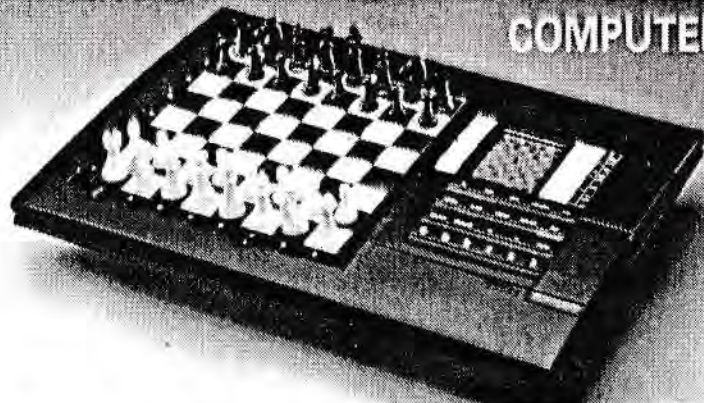
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SCOTTISH C.C.A. MAGAZINE No. 31**EDITORIAL**

(by Alan Borwell)

August 1989**Price £1.00**

Another bumper edition which we hope will have articles and games of interest to all our readers. Our national competitions for this season are well underway and the Scottish Centenary Cup Final is nearing an exciting conclusion.

On the international scene, Scotland currently leads its section in the Olympiad Preliminaries and Philip Giulian was a joint winner of the 3rd BPCF Grand Open. There are new Scottish CCA and ICCF Rating Lists (which should stimulate some further interesting correspondence!!)

Completion of the enclosed membership questionnaire would be very helpful and appreciated by your very active and forward-looking office-bearers.

Please do all you can to promote interest in our association with your friends and chess players in your local community.

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1989-90 Magazine only - £4 per annum (incl postage)

SECRETARIAL NOTES (by Alan Hind)

A few bits and pieces to communicate to you in this issue. Firstly, the news of the AGM can be obtained from the minutes reproduced later in the magazine. The audited accounts are also printed and the good news is that the costs of membership and magazine are not increasing this year. It is to be hoped that this will compensate in some small way for the increase in postal costs to be levied from the beginning of October.

Thanks to your response to my plea for Quartet players, I have been able to start two new sections and these are set out later. You will also find entry forms for the new season with relevant notes, and details of our next Open tournament. Please try to get new people interested as the larger our membership becomes the more interesting the competitions.

Finally, I have compiled an article for new postal players which sets out, as succinctly as possible, the basics of correspondence chess. (Editor: Published elsewhere in magazine).

ICCF THEMATIC TOURNAMENTS

Tournaments for sections of 5-7 players, two games against each opponent. The top two players qualify for each final. The entry fee is £3.50 per group (payable to BPCF) to be sent to: Mr. A.M. Anderson, 3 Winterfield Gardens, Duns, Berwickshire, TD11 3EZ.

TT No. 1/90 MARSHALL DEFENCE

1 d4 d5 2 c4 Nf6
Entries close 1.12.89.
Start 1.3.90.

TT 3/90 BLACKMAR-DIEMAR

1 d4 Nf6 2 f3 d5 3 e4 dxe4
Entries close 1.2.90
Start 1.5.90

TT No. 2/90 FRENCH DEFENCE

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6
4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5 6 Nf3 Nc6
7 Be3 Qb6 8 Na4 Qa5 9 c3 cxd4
10 b4 Nxb4
Entries close 1.1.90
Start 1.4.90

OPEN TOURNAMENTS (Douglas Livie)

The Scottish Centenary Cup Final nears an exciting climax, the Semi-finals of the first Scottish Open Tournament are now underway and entries are invited for our second Scottish Open Tournament which will begin on 6th November 1989 (entry form enclosed with magazine).

SCOTTISH CENTENARY CUP FINAL

The Final is being very keenly contested, with more draws than conclusive results. Mark Thomas is the favourite but all except one player could still win!

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts	Pos
1 J Copley (Shropshire)	•	1/2		1	0	1/2			
2 E Wood (Manchester)	1/2	•	1/2	1	1/2				
3 D Quinn (Greenock)		1/2	•						
4 A G E Bird (London)	0	0		•	0	1	1		
5 M Thomas (Nottingham)	1	1/2		1	•	1/2	1/2		
6 V W Griffiths (Northampton)	1/2			0	1/2	•	1/2		
7 D Neil (Carlisle)				0	1/2	1/2	•		

SCOTTISH OPEN TOURNAMENT SEMI-FINALS

Section A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 GE WALLWORK	•						
2 B MARTIN		•					
3 WR SHAW			•				
4 JG O'DONNELL				•			
5 N DOWN					•		
6 L STEPHENSON						•	
7 N CHARALAMBOUS							•

Section B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 N DOWN	•							
2 WD TAYLOR		•						
3 N KILGARIFF			•					
4 DA FENNELLY				•				
5 GR NIXON					•			
6 KJ KEADY						•		
7 GA LITTLE							•	
8 M ROSS								•

Section C	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 A KILGARIFF	•							
2 EE WRIGHT		•						
3 CP BOTHAM			•					
4 JD ACKERS				•				
5 V DILWORTH					•			
6 RG WALKER						•		
7 GE WALLWORK							•	
8 P CASSAR								•

Section D	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 J TIMPERLEY	•							
2 RWM BAXTER		•						
3 D NEIL			•					
4 GE WALLWORK				•				
5 P WILDIG					•			
6 GD PYRICH						•		
7 D HARVEY							•	
8 C TRINDER								•

SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENCE CHESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Chess Suppliers (Scotland) Ltd., 15 Hope Street, Glasgow on Sunday 4th June 1989 at 2.30 p.m.

Present: A P Borwell (President), A Hind, G W G Livie, R Montgomery, G D Pyrich, A J Shaw and G Wood

Apologies P M Giulian, D M Livie and A Maxwell

Minutes of last Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 15th May 1988, which were published in Bulletin No. 28, were approved.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report made the following points:

- Ordinary membership numbers were almost static compared with 1987/88 but the numbers participating in competitions, especially the SCCA League, had increased. Publicity and membership ideas must be pushed in the year ahead for the Association to make further progress.
- The SCCA Open tournaments continued to be a success, with special thanks due to Douglas Livie for their organisation and control. The SCCA sees an ongoing commitment to running these tournaments.
- Consideration was given during the year to the running of a Scottish Closed Championship for Scottish nationals only. This was rejected at this point in time as it was felt that insufficient numbers would be available to run two concurrent Championships. Definition of nationality for representative purposes was being addressed by the Executive.
- Minor changes to the Rules took place prior to the commencement of the 1988/89 tournament cycle.

- A membership questionnaire for issue to members on key SCCA issues would be issued with the next magazine.
- The quality of the magazine continued to improve with many favourable comments both nationally and internationally. Many thanks are due to the sterling efforts of both Alan and Moira Borwell for its production.
- The grading system had been overhauled and computerised by our Grading Officer, Graham Wood. The implementation of this system in the production of the gradings for this season would be a major step forward in ironing out the inconsistencies within the current published grades. A paper had been reproduced in the SCCA magazine on the detailed methods applied.
- Internationally, Scotland's representatives in the major team and individual tournaments had fair results. It was disappointing, however, that withdrawals took place even at this level. Douglas Bryson added the winning of the Norwegian International Tournament to his success in the Scottish Centenary. Tim Wickens gained the IM title.
- The next ICCF Congress would be held in England and it was hoped that the SCCA would be well represented there. Our President, Alan Borwell, who is also the ICCF Treasurer, would be attending in that capacity as well as representing the SCCA. Full details will appear in a future magazine.
- It was the intention of the SCCA to run another international tournament in 1990 subject to ratification by ICCF. This was seen as providing an opportunity for Scottish players to achieve norms and titles.
- Friendly internationals continued, with their administration helped by the split of responsibilities between Phil Giulian and Michael Dyer. The meeting formally ratified the position of Assistant International Secretary to replace one of the posts on the Executive for "Other Members".
- Finance was healthy and our Treasurer would be making specific comment in his report.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer circulated copies of the audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 1989. (These are reproduced later in this magazine). The accounts showed the relatively healthy state of our finances with competition fees increased. We had been given assurance that the SED grant remitted to us by the SCA was safe for the present. The accounts reflected the payment of the Centenary Tournament prizes but funds had been built up to cover this expense.

As a result of the careful stewardship of our funds, it was possible to hold fees at their current level.

The Auditor, Mr. Hamish Bell, had indicated his willingness to stand for re-election.

Fund-raising continued on a small scale with our Annual Raffle around New Year, and the 100 Club (which still needs new members to participate).

Election of Office-Bearers

The following were elected to the Executive Committee:

President	A P Borwell
Vice President	G W G Livie
Secretary	A Hind
Treasurer	G D Pyrich
Assistant Secretary	D M Livie
International Secretary	P M Giulian
Assistant International Secretary	M T Dyer
Grading Officer	G Wood
Publicity & Membership Officer	A J Shaw

The creation of a new post of Assistant Publicity & Membership Officer to replace the one remaining "Other Member" post on the Executive was recommended and accepted. No nominations were made at the meeting but the Executive had the power to co-opt during the year. The Constitution would be amended to take account of the changes in the composition of the Executive.

Election of Auditor

It was agreed that the present Auditor, Mr. Hamish Bell, be re-elected for the ensuing year under the same terms and conditions.

Subscriptions

There would be no change in fees for the coming year.

It was also proposed and agreed that the New Member discount of £2 should continue.

This would mean a continuing fee structure of:

Full Membership (including Magazine)	£ 7
Life Membership (excluding Magazine)	£50
Championship/Candidates entry fee	£ 4
All other tournaments	£ 2
League player with Magazine	£ 6
League player without Magazine	£ 2

Any Other Business

- It was agreed that a 2/3-page introduction to the basics of postal chess be produced as a supplement to the Rules Brochure and issued to all new postal chess players. It would also be reproduced in the magazine.
- Controllers would be asked to provide a report of problems encountered in their tournaments and how they were resolved. This would be required at the end of each year. This should allow guidelines to be developed as an adjunct to the Rules.

" FERNSCHACH "

This monthly magazine contains official results as well as information about ICCF events, now in both German and English. It has been given a fresh image and contains many interesting games, which are very well annotated. It can be obtained through Chess Suppliers (Scotland).

SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENCE CHESS ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1989

1988		GENERAL ACCOUNT	1989	
£	£	INCOME	£	£
		MEMBERSHIP FEES		
402.00		Annual (127)	381.00	
<u>94.81</u>		Life Members Fund	<u>98.05</u>	
496.81			479.05	
<u>4.00</u>	492.81	less Discount	<u>48.00</u>	431.05
		COMPETITION FEES		
250.00		Individual	331.00	
<u>122.00</u>		League	<u>137.00</u>	
372.00			468.00	
<u>170.00</u>	202.00	less Prizes	<u>222.00</u>	246.00
		BULLETIN		
646.48		Sales	868.42	
<u>471.19</u>	175.29	Expenses	<u>639.36</u>	229.06
		GRANT		
	275.00	Scottish Chess Assoc		275.00
		ADJUDICATIONS		
30.00		Fees Received	33.00	
<u>33.00</u>	(3.00)	Fees Paid	<u>40.00</u>	(7.00)
	110.50	DONATIONS		175.50
	<u>10.00</u>	MISCELLANEOUS		
	<u>1262.60</u>			<u>1349.61</u>

1988	GENERAL ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE	1989
	AFFILIATION FEES	
5.00	SCA	7.50
46.00	ICCF	55.20
<u>37.00</u>	BPCF	<u>60.00</u>
		122.70
-	SCCA/BPCF/WCCA Meeting	123.50
178.29	CONTROLLERS EXPENSES	142.57
115.01	SECRETARIAL EXPENSES	57.75
95.90	ADVERTS/STATIONERY	118.86
5.00	BANK CHARGES	4.16
	INTEREST CHARGES	15.22
	CORPORATION TAX (1987/88)	62.37
16.59	AUDITOR'S FEE	20.00
<u>28.80</u>	MISCELLANEOUS	
527.59		<u>667.13</u>
<u>735.01</u>	SURPLUS FOR YEAR	<u>682.48</u>
	LIFE MEMBERS ACCOUNT	
50.00	Membership Fees	50.00
<u>72.94</u>	Interest Received	<u>77.88</u>
122.94	less transferred to	127.88
	General Fund	<u>98.05</u>
<u>94.81</u>		
<u>28.13</u>	SURPLUS FOR YEAR	<u>29.83</u>

1988		INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT	1989	
£	£	INCOME	£	£
390.20		LOTTERY SALES	304.00	
<u>175.00</u>	215.20	less Prizes	<u>175.00</u>	129.00
		OPEN TOURNAMENT		
541.00		Entry Fees		
<u>294.25</u>	246.75	less Accrued Prizes		
	27.00	INTERNATIONAL MATCH FEES		83.00
	158.47	INTEREST RECEIVED		203.29
		100 CLUB		
851.00		Subscriptions	799.00	
<u>413.50</u>	437.50	less Prizes	<u>441.50</u>	357.50
	<u>13.80</u>	UNPRESENTED CHEQUES		
	<u>1098.72</u>			<u>772.79</u>
		EXPENDITURE		
		LOTTERY EXPENSES		
50.03		Printing & Expenses	71.20	
<u>14.00</u>	64.03	Licence	<u>12.50</u>	83.70
	500.00	ICCF CONGRESS		350.00
		CENTENARY TOURNEY PRIZES		1001.00
	<u>100.00</u>	CENTENARY TOURNEY BOOK		<u>100.00</u>
	<u>664.03</u>			<u>1534.70</u>
	<u>434.69</u>	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		<u>(761.91)</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 1989					
1988			1989		
£	£	ASSETS	£	£	
		CLYDESDALE BANK PLC			
230.46		Current Account	(28.56)		
433.69		General Deposit A/c	433.69		
<u>5702.57</u>	6366.72	Internat Deposit A/c	<u>1994.81</u>	2399.94	
	13.00	NATIONAL GIROBANK		19.00	
	10.00	NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK		10.00	
		NATIONWIDE ANGLIA		3886.93	
	<u>105.75</u>	DEBTORS		<u>69.00</u>	
	6495.47			6384.87	
		LESS LIABILITIES			
358.00		GENERAL ACCOUNT	297.00		
<u>554.65</u>	<u>912.65</u>	INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT	<u>554.65</u>	<u>851.65</u> *	
	<u>5582.82</u>			<u>5533.22</u>	
		REPRESENTING			
		CAPITAL ACCOUNT	OPENING BALANCE	SURPLUS	CLOSING BALANCE
			£	£	£
		General Fund	2502.09	682.48	3184.57
		Life Members Fund	853.30	29.83	883.13
		International Fund	<u>2227.43</u>	<u>(761.91)</u>	<u>1465.52</u>
			<u>5582.82</u>	<u>(49.60)</u>	<u>5533.22</u>
		*Notes:			
		Accrued Prizes	804.65		
		Other Creditors	<u>47.00</u>		
			<u>851.65</u>		

Auditor's Report

I have examined the foregoing accounts and have obtained such explanations as I consider necessary. In my opinion these accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the Association's affairs at 31st March 1989.

BASIC POINTS OF CORRESPONDENCE CHESS

(by Alan Hind)

1. Rules

All of the basic rules of over-the-board chess apply as supplemented by specific postal chess rules on such issues as method of correspondence, time control, etc. Make sure you read the Rules Brochure with which each new member is supplied. If you have any questions or encounter any problems during play, you should IMMEDIATELY contact your Controller. DO NOT let a long time elapse, eg. if you do not hear from an opponent for 10 days, you should write to the opponent and also notify the Controller.

2. Communication

The most common correspondence chess problems arise because of lack of communication. There are any number of perfectly respectable reasons why a player may have to stop play temporarily. Typically, a player has to go on a business trip at short notice or has examination commitments. You can be granted an official leave provided you contact the Controller and explain the circumstances. You must also notify your opponents. Troubles arise when a player neglects to promptly inform the Controller and his opponent of the reason for the delay.

Not only is it a rule, but it is also common courtesy to inform all opponents and the Controller if you wish to withdraw. "Silent" withdrawal is considered unacceptable.

3. Recording of Moves

A score card is 2 score sheets modified to allow for the recording of details needed to calculate the "total time taken". In the majority of our tournaments, you play 2 games against each of your opponents - in 1 game you will have white and in the other you will have black. In certain tournaments you may have 1 game only against each opponent. The notation that you use to record your moves may be either algebraic or descriptive if you and your opponent agree.

If you cannot agree, then international numeric must be used (see 8 below). Besides recording your move (in the correct column) on the score card, you must record the "time" details in the appropriate columns. You enter in the first "time column" the date you received the score card, you enter in the second the date you expect the GPO to assign a postmark, and you enter in the third the total times taken. For example, if you receive the score card on Thursday 15th and posted it on Friday 16th, you would enter 15 in the first "time column" and 16 in the second, while your entry in the third would be 1 more than the previous entry. If, however, you posted late on Friday 16th so that you expect that you miss the last collection that day and the score card is uplifted at the first collection on Saturday 17th, then the entry in the second column should be 17 and your entry in the third column should be 2 more than the previous entry.

Remember to keep a record of all the moves played in your games, together with details of the time taken for each move. It is essential when making any claim to the Controller to enclose a copy of the game score and time details. It is more than useful to keep the position noted as well as the moves to minimise the risk of missing or misplaying moves when you receive your opponents' replies. If you retain the position it is equally useful to check it at least occasionally by playing through the game score.

4. Time Control

There are 2 sets of time controls. For Championship, Candidates and Handicap, the time control is 30 days for the first 10 and each subsequent 10 moves. For all other tournaments, the time control is 20 days for the first 10 moves and 10 days for each subsequent 5 moves. Time saved is carried forward. Please note that in the Openings Tournament the prescribed opening moves do not count in these calculations. In all 1-year tournaments, failure to meet the time control will result in a loss. It is normal for the opening moves to be played quickly, allowing time to be carried forward and used later in the game.

The time taken to make a move is usually the difference, in days, between when the score card was received and when the reply was posted. Same day replies count zero time.

5. Duration of Play

You will receive from your Controller the names, addresses and telephone numbers of your opponents and the starting date for your games. Games unfinished by the adjudication date - which the Controller will have indicated on the pairing sheet - go for adjudication, unless an agreement is reached with your opponent.

Players for the "Handicap" should note the special provision in the rules which allows games to be carried forward to the following season.

6. Adjudication

Should it happen that, with less than 2 weeks before the adjudication date, a game is still in progress and looks like continuing after that date, you should try to agree a result with your opponent. DO NOT continue the game after the adjudication date. If you have not heard from your opponent nor reached agreement with him by the time a week has elapsed after the adjudication date, DO NOT leave it for several weeks. The Association is sorry to say that there are many players who lose games simply because they do not make an adjudication claim. A significant number of games which are unfinished at the adjudication date have a claim made by ONE PLAYER ONLY. In the absence of an opposing claim, this claim will be upheld. There are also a certain number of games in which NEITHER player makes a claim - even by 3 weeks after the adjudication date, despite efforts by Controllers - and the only possible decision is to award BOTH PLAYERS A LOSS.

7. Adjudication Procedures

There are a few straightforward points to be borne in mind when you are making adjudication claims. The first is to have a clear copy of the game score and a copy of the final position. It is not unknown for players to send in a score which contains some clerical errors but no diagram of the final position - or they may only send in an incorrect diagram (eg. pieces on wrong squares). The second point is to state your claim, a win or a draw (as the case may be). You are permitted to submit analysis supporting your claim. The third is to send the adjudication fee. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to the Association rather than to the particular Controller to whom you are sending the claim.

8. International (Numeric) Notation System

8	18	28	38	48	58	68	78	88
7	17	27	37	47	57	67	77	87
6	16	26	36	46	56	66	76	86
5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85
4	14	24	34	44	54	64	74	84
3	13	23	33	43	53	63	73	83
2	12	22	32	42	52	62	72	82
1	11	21	31	41	51	61	71	81
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h

Castling kingside (white) = 5171
 Castling kingside (black) = 5878
 Castling queenside (white) = 5131
 Castling queenside (black) = 5838

As shown in the above diagram, each square is identified by a 2-figure code number. Moves are indicated by putting first the square of origin and then adding the square of destination, thus giving a 4-figure number. There are no special indications for captures, check or en passant, the above number being sufficient. Castling is indicated by the king move alone (as above).

Hence any move consists of 4 figures except when queening a pawn. This is indicated as above, ie. by stating the square of origin and square of destination but adding, as a fifth figure, the code number corresponding to the piece into which the pawn is converted, viz:

1 = Queen, 2 = Rook, 3 = Bishop, 4 = Knight

CHAMPIONSHIP 87-89

Controller: D Savage

No.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts
1	A T HISLOP	●			½		½	½	½	0	
2	T G JOHNSTON		●	½			½	½	0	½	
3	R KILPATRICK		½	●	½	1	1	½	0	1	
4	D M LIVIE	½		½	●	½	1	0	½	0	
5	G W G LIVIE			0	½	●	1	0	0	½	
6	M MacLEOD	½	½	0	0	0	●	0	0	0	1
7	G D PYRICH	½	½	½	1	1	1	●	0	0	4½
8	A J SHAW	½	1	1	½	1	1	1	●		
9	G R SPROTT	1	½	0	1	½	1	1		●	

CANDIDATES 87-89

Controller: C R Beechan

No.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts
1	I AIRD	●		½	1	0	0	½	0	1	
2	C BOYLE		●	½	1	½	1	½	0	1	
3	I S CAMPBELL	½	½	●	½	½		1	½	1	
4	M DYER	0	0	½	●	0	0	0	0	1	1½
5	D HARVEY	1	½	½	1	●	½	½	0	1	5
6	P MCGOWAN	1	0		1	½	●	½	0	1	
7	I A MARKS	½	½	0	1	½	½	●	0	1	4
8	M MOOHAN	1	1	½	1	1	1	1	●	1	7½
9	A R WILSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	●	0

CHAMPIONSHIP 88-90

Controller: A Maxwell

No.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts
1	C R BEECHAM	●							½			
2	G H BIRD		●									
3	M T DYER			●	½	0				½	½	
4	R KILPATRICK			½	●		1		½		½	
5	G D PYRICH			1		●	½		½	½	½	
6	I REEMAN				0	½	●			½		
7	M ROSS							●				
8	G R SPROTT	½			½	½			●			
9	JAB STEVENSON			½		½	½			●		
10	G E WALLWORK			½	½	½					●	

CANDIDATES 88-90

Controller: C R Beechan

No.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Pts
1	C BOYLE	●						1	1				
2	R DICKSON		●					0	0				
3	K FRYER			●									
4	S GOWLAND				●		1	½					
5	D HARVEY					●					½		
6	J M HERRIES				0		●						
7	I A MARKS	0	1		½			●			1		
8	M McBETH	0							●				
9	P MCGOWAN		1							●			
10	J W McINTYRE				½		0				●		
11	A TANKEL											●	

Entries to Scottish CCA Quartets and Handicap events can be made at any time, with games starting as soon as opponents can be arranged. All other individual tournaments and the SCCA League begin towards the end of each year, with entries to reach our Secretary, Alan Hind, by mid-October. (Entry forms with our Summer issue).

PREMIERS

Controller: C R Beecham

A	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 JS CAIRNEY	•				½	
2 NA DOWN		•	11		1	11
3 DA FENNELLY		00	•			
4 PB GRANT				•		
5 T MASON	½	0			•	
6 RS MONTGOMERY	00					•

B	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 ME CROASDALE	•			00		00
2 DA GIBB		•				
3 DV GIBBS			•			0
4 S BOWLAND	11			•	01	10
5 AD PENMAN				10	•	
6 T THOMSON	11		1	10		•

C	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 R BIRRELL	•					-
2 T HALLIWELL		•	1			-
3 IH MARSHALL		0	•			-
4 J HERRIFIELD				•		-
5 K SEYFRIED					•	-
6 E THOMPSON	-	-	-	-	-	•

D	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 M COOPER	•	½½	1½		11	11
2 RA GIULIAN	½½	•	0½			
3 A MAXWELL	0½	1½	•			11
4 PJ MOIR				•	0	11
5 G REID	00			1	•	
6 L STEPHENSON	00		00	00		•

E	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 SL CLARK	•					
2 C DONKIN		•				
3 S MARTIN			•			
4 WS ROACH				•		
5 ZE SADOWSKI					•	
6 IP WHITTAKER						•

MAJORS

Controller: G.V.G. Livie

A	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 F ANDRES	•					11
2 A ARMSTRONG		•				11
3 RJ BURRIDGE			•			11
4 J CASSIDY				•		11
5 MH DUNN					•	11
6 K McCLELLAND	00	00	00	00	00	•

B	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 D COSGROVE	•		10	0		00
2 D CRICHTON		•			0	
3 F HALL	01		•		0	
4 J McTAGGART	1			•	00	½½
5 D SALTER		1	1	11	•	
6 A WRIGHT	11			½½		•

C	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 B LLOYD	•	½1	11	½0		
2 CA MacGREGOR	½0	•	0			00
3 MF PEARCE	00	1	•			
4 RF TURNER				•	½1	
5 J WATSON	1½			½0	•	½
6 SR MITCHELL		11			½	•

D	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 M HANLEY	•	00	00	00		
2 A NISBET	11	•	11			
3 R PELLIS	11	00	•			
4 I SNEDDON	11			•		
5 J STALLARD					•	
6 A PETRIE						•

E	1	2	3	4	5
1 B GOODWIN	•				11
2 W HARPER		•			
3 NR McEVAN			•		
4 V McGLINCHEY				•	11
5 J THORNTON	00			00	•

QUARTET FINALS

Controller: R Birrell

POSTAL KNIGHT

Final	1	2	3	4
1 P FERRY	•	00		00
2 K GORDON	11	•		0
3 J McCARTAN			•	0
4 MJ MacLEOD	11	1	1	•

POSTAL SHIELD

Final	1	2	3	4
1 JG BLENCOVE	•	½½		10
2 RJ BURRIDGE	½½	•		1
3 AWI CAMPBELL			•	
4 GD PYRICH	01	0		•

QUARTETS

Controller: R Birrell

Q132	1	2	3	4
1 J J BRADY	•	10	00	01
2 J ANDERSON	01	•	0	11
3 B P CHAPMAN	11	1	•	11
4 D G PARSONS	10	00	00	•

Q137	1	2	3	4
1 J ANDERSON	•	11		
2 A ARMSTRONG	00	•		11
3 AGE BIRD			•	1
4 R PELLIS		00	0	•

Q133	1	2	3	4
1 D SALTER	•	11		11
2 R F TURNER	00	•		
3 M H DUNN			•	
4 I TAYLOR	00			•

Q138	1	2	3	4
1 SR CAPSEY	•	0	0½	0
2 MF PEARCE	1	•		
3 T TAIT	1½		•	½½
4 A WRIGHT	1		½½	•

Q134	1	2	3	4
1 NA DOWN	•	11	11	11
2 WM GRANT	00	•		11
3 H McKEAN	00		•	11
4 JM WALKER	00	00	00	•

Q139	1	2	3	4
1 BW GRANT	•	1	½	
2 CA MacGREGOR	0	•		
3 T McMORRAN	½		•	0
4 I SNEDDON			1	•

Q135	1	2	3	4
1 M HANLEY	•	00	00	00
2 DG PARSONS	11	•		
3 R STOKES	11		•	
4 TN TALBOT	11			•

Q140	1	2	3	4
1 DB McGARVA	•		11	
2 CC McKAY		•	11	
3 F McKENZIE	00	00	•	00
4 R MITCHELL			11	•

Q136	1	2	3	4
1 W CAMERON	•			
2 BP CHAPMAN		•		11
3 ME CROASDALE			•	
4 DG McROBERTS		00		•

Entries to Quartets can be made at any time to Alan Hind. New sections will be formed when there are four new players awaiting pairings.

QUARTETS cont.

Q141	1	2	3	4
1 R BEACON	•			
2 M H DUNN		•		
3 C C MCKAY			•	
4 D SALTER				•

Q142	1	2	3	4
1 H MCKEAN	•			
2 D G PARSONS		•		
3 J PARKER			•	
4 D SALTER				•

OPENINGS TOURNAMENTS (by Alan Hind)

Section DT1 (Tchigorin's Defence)					
No	1	2	3	Pts	Pos
1 J G Blencowe	•		oo		
2 G Reid		•			
3 G Wood	11		•		

Section DT2 (Nimzowitsch Defence)							
No	1	2	3	4	5	Pts	Pos
1 N A Down	•		11		11		
2 D V Gibbs		•			11		
3 B W Grant	oo		•	o	11		
4 G A Morton			1	•	11		
5 GE Wallwork	oo	oo	oo	oo	•	o	N/D

Result 1987-88 :-
 EDIE 1/2 PELLIS 1/2

HANDICAP TOURNAMENT (by Allan Hislop)

Results are starting to come in at a fair pace and I can see already that there will be some promotions. Remember adjudication is 15th September, although in the Handicap you can carry games over to next season if both players agree.

Regarding time control, which is 30 days for 10 moves, it should be noted that calculations are made at move 10, at move 20, and move 30 etc. Time saved in each group of 10 moves is carried over to next group of 10. In effect, time taken is checked at move 10, 20, 30, 40 etc and total time taken should not exceed 30, 60, 90, 120 days respectively.

If you post a move and do not get a reply in 14 days, then you should repeat the move using Recorded Delivery. Again, if you receive a move and cannot reply within 10 days, you must immediately inform your opponent. These are the rules. Another way, of course, is to make a quick telephone call to your opponent which can fix up things much easier.

Finally, to any player who has asked for more opponents late in the season and has not been paired before adjudication date, would they re-apply using the entry form for next season.

SCOTTISH CCA LEAGUE 1988/89 (Controller : Ken Gordon)

The League results so far have been few and far between, which probably indicates that there is some excellent competition in all Divisions.

In Division 3, Knights of the Square Table have 3/3 already, and in Division 4A, Glasgow Polytechnic are doing even better with 4/4. For the League Championship, Richard Beecham has got The Establishment off to a good start with two wins against Douglas Livie of Chess Suppliers, but the key pairing could be on Board 3 between Tommy Craig and Robert Inglis (Streatham & Brixton).

We omitted to include the adjudications from last season in the previous magazine. All 6 were draws:

Div 1: Wickens 1/2 Shaw; Beecham 1/2 Dempster; Pyrich 1/2 Ross
 Div 2: Falconer 1/2 Neil

DIVISION 1

A CROWWOOD "A"	B	STREATHAM & BRIXTON
1 B Martin 1/2 o	v B1	1 C A McNab v D1
2 P Rodger 1/2 o	v D2	2 S R Gillam v C2
3 P McGowan	v C3	3 R A Inglis v F3
4 A Maxwell	v B4	4 Mrs M Inglis v A4
5 W Hulme 1 1/2	v F5	5 R Haldane v B5

C BRUTAL REALISM

1 M Ross	v F1	1 G R Sprott v B1
2 P Coffield	v B2	2 I S Campbell 1 1/2 v A2
3 J S Murray	v A3	3 I Reeman v E3
4 B Keenan	v E4	4 T Johnston v F4
5 A Thomson	v D5	5 G Wood v C5

E CHESS SUPPLIERS "A"

1 A J Shaw 1 1/2	v A1	1 T S Wickens v C1
2 D M Livie o o	v F2	2 C R Beecham 11 v E2
3 C F Boyle	v D3	3 T J Craig v B3
4 L R McKenzie	v C4	4 K Fryer v D4
5 W S Roach	v B5	5 A Hind v A5

D BLACK KNIGHT

F THE ESTABLISHMENT

DIVISION 2

A IRVINE

- 1 D Gillespie v E1
- 2 G McPeake v D2
- 3 T Barrett v C3
- 4 J Shankland v B4
- 5 J Anderson v F5

C PERTH CORRESPONDENTS

- 1 A P Borwell v F1
- 2 D A Gibb v B2
- 3 W Rutherford v A3
- 4 J Falconer v E4
- 5 K A Wilson v D5

E DALNUIR

- 1 I Aird v A1
- 2 M Gannon v F2
- 3 W McGlinchey v D3
- 4 D McAdam v C4
- 5 M Alexander v B5

DIVISION 3

A KIRKINTILLOCH

- 1 A Swann v E1
- 2 R Turner v D2
- 3 P McConnell v C3
- 4 W Harper v B4
- 5 D Blackett || v F5

C WANDERING DRAGONS "A"

- 1 A J C Ferguson v F1
- 2 J Lancaster v B2
- 3 S Gowland v A3
- 4 D Crichton o v E4
- 5 H Nimmo v D5

E KNIGHTS OF THE SQUARE TABLE

- 1 B Eley v A1
- 2 R W N Baxter || v F2
- 3 P Cassar v D3
- 4 R C P Freeman | v C4
- 5 N Down v B5

B KIRKCALDY KINGS

- 1 G D Pyrich v D1
- 2 A Burnett v C2
- 3 I Marshall || v F3
- 4 T Thomson v A4
- 5 M C Grayson v B5

D CATHCART

- 1 A Grant v B1
- 2 A T Hislop v A2
- 3 J G O'Donnell v E3
- 4 D McRoberts v F4
- 5 A Petrie v C5

F REAL TELECOM

- 1 R Dickson v C1
- 2 J McIntyre v E2
- 3 J Carlin o o v B3
- 4 D Neil v D4
- 5 S Brady v A5

B PAISLEY (YRCA) "A"

- 1 S McDonald v D1
- 2 R Cochrane v C2
- 3 G Reid v F3
- 4 I Gourlay v A4
- 5 A Wisbet v E5

D CROWWOOD "B"

- 1 D L Gillespie v B1
- 2 W J Hutchison v A2
- 3 C M Hutchison v E3
- 4 R Henery v F4
- 5 J Stallard v C5

F GOVAN KNIGHTS

- 1 M T Dyer v C1
- 2 P Muir o o v E2
- 3 R Stokes v B3
- 4 J McKenna v D4
- 5 J Mann o o v A5

DIVISION 4A

A WANDERING DRAGONS "C"

- 1 A Sharp v E1
- 2 Ms A McMonigle v D2
- 3 G Sanderson o o v C3
- 4 Mrs S Nimmo o o v B4
- 5 Mrs A Donkin v F5

C GLASGOW POLYTECHNIC

- 1 D Finnie v F1
- 2 J Lindsay v B2
- 3 J Watson || v A3
- 4 J Arnold || v E4
- 5 Ms N Fixter v D5

E CHESS SUPPLIERS "D"

- 1 P Ferry v A1
- 2 M Hanley v F2
- 3 S Young v D3
- 4 A O'Brien v C4
- 5 Dr A MacGuire-Gibson v B5

DIVISION 4B

A BNDGANE

- 1 M Moohan v E1
- 2 A Kilgariff v D2
- 3 M McGhee v C3
- 4 P Tait v B4
- 5 R Holland v F5

C VICTORIA

- 1 F Stevenson v F1
- 2 R Flood v B2
- 3 M M Chalmers v A3
- 4 B Jenkins v E4
- 5 J Anderson v D5

E CROWDALE

- 1 W Cook v A1
- 2 J Soovik v F2
- 3 B Grant v D3
- 4 Mrs J Ronald v C4
- 5 I Stockdale v B5

B PAISLEY YRCA "B"

- 1 A Cowan v D1
- 2 J Galbraith v C2
- 3 G Ritchie v F3
- 4 L Robertson || v A4
- 5 Ms J Finlay v E5

D ABERDEEN

- 1 I Reid v B1
- 2 R J Burrigge v A2
- 3 J Clifford v E3
- 4 C Bown v F4
- 5 J McKendrick o v C5

F CHESS SUPPLIERS "B"

- 1 M J MacLeod v C1
- 2 M Mitchell v E2
- 3 T Tait v B3
- 4 S McCreadie v D4
- 5 Ms F McKenzie v A5

B WANDERING DRAGONS "B"

- 1 C Donkin v D1
- 2 N Clapperton v C2
- 3 P McCarron v F3
- 4 P Young v A4
- 5 C Stewart v E5

D SAUGHTON

- 1 D Buchan v B1
- 2 R Hartley v A2
- 3 B Morrice v E3
- 4 C McGuire v F4
- 5 A H Ali v C5

F WANDERING DRAGONS "D"

- 1 M Kelly v C1
- 2 Mrs I B Orr v E2
- 3 D Poots v B3
- 4 D Morgan v D4
- 5 S Turner v A5

SCCA RATING LIST - 1/7/89
(by Graham Wood)

This list incorporates the results (notified to the Grading Officer) of games ending between 1/1/88 and 31/12/88 - the "rating period".

The calculations were made in accord with the workings of the new rating system (i.e., the ICCF system) as given in the SCCA Magazine No.30, May 1989.

A provisional rating (shown by *) is given to any player who has a total of less than 30 recorded results. A rating is not published in the list until a player has accumulated 8 or more results.

The ratings shown here are effective for all games beginning between 1/7/89 and 30/6/90.

There are 210 players in this list and there are 122 players in the files who have not yet recorded enough results in the last two years to appear in the list. Players who have no recorded results in the last three or more years are excluded from the list (there are 339 such players in the files!).

Incorporated Tournaments:

- SCCA Championship Final 1986-88 (some games only - now completed)
- SCCA Championship Final 1987-89 (some games only)
- SCCA Championship Candidates 1986-88 (some games only-now completed)
- SCCA Championship Candidates 1987-89 (some games only)
- SCCA Championship Premiers 1987-88
- SCCA Championship Majors 1987-88
- SCCA Quartets 1987-88
- SCCA League 1987-88
- SCCA Handicap 1987-88

[Please note that, especially for those players who have provisional ratings, it is quite probable that your grade may have changed more than you expected. This is likely to be due principally to the changes (as compared with the system used last year) in the way grades are calculated for players who record few results.]

ADAMS, S	1595*	CRICHTON, D	1815
AIRD, I	1865	CROCKETT, A	1855*
ALEXANDER, M	1410*	DEMPSTER, DH	2170
ANDERSON, GM	2075	DEVINE, M	1265*
ANDERSON, J	1880*	DICKSON, R	1780
ANDERSON, J (Dundee)	1480*	DOCHERTY, A	1270*
ANDERSON, KD	1835*	DOHERTY, SD	1835*
ARGO, GM	1725	DONKIN, C	1585*
ARMSTRONG, A	1610*	DYER, MT	1910
BAILEY, EA	1705*	EADIE, J	1475*
BEACON, R	1895	FALCONER, JN	1675
BEECHAM, CR	2300	FERRY, P	1625*
BEVERIDGE, CTW	1425	FISHER, RT	1400*
BIRD, AGE	1525*	FRYER, KM	1920*
BIRD, GH	2015	GANNON, M	1345*
BIRD, MJ	1410*	GARVOCK, JM	1300
BIRRELL, R	1790*	GILLAM, SR	2175
BISLAND, J	1785	GILLESPIE, DL	1635
BLENCOWE, JG	1645	GIULIAN, PM	2320
BORLAND, D	1395*	GOLIGHTLY, I	1395*
BORWELL, AP	2200	GORDON, K	1780
BOYLE, CF	1925	GOWLAND, S	1945*
BRADY, JJ	1500*	GRANT, AG	1825
BRADY, S	1525*	GRANT, BW	1595
BRANNAN, J	1625	GRANT, PB	1695*
BRYSON, DM	2610	GRAYSON, MC	1730*
BURGESS, MR	2090*	GREEN, W	1285*
BURNS, J	1305*	HALL, F	1410
BURRIDGE, RJ	1565*	HAMILTON, G	1520
CAIRNEY, JS	1735	HAMMETT, MA	2000*
CAMERON, W	1500*	HANLEY, M	1455
CAMPBELL, IS	2035	HARPER, W	1385*
CAPSEY, SR	1440	HARTFORD, Mrs EA	1695
CARLIN, J	1740*	HARVEY, D	1780
CARROLL, PJ	1365*	HARVEY, H	1115*
CASSIDY, J	1425*	HAWKES, JE	1795*
CHALMERS, BW	1690	HERRIES, JM	1715
CLARK, SL	1705*	HILL, BR	1425*
COFFIELD, P	1845	HILTON, SH	1515
COOPER, M	1845*	HIND, A	1710*
COSGROVE, D	1485*	HISLOP, AT	1975
CRAIG, TJ	2185		

HOGG, AF	1960*	MACKINTOSH, I	1790
HUTCHISON, CM	1540*	McLAY, JW	1890
HUTCHISON, WJ	1460	MacLEOD, MJ	1925
INGLIS, RA	2050*	McMENEMY, J	1285
INNES, RM	1825	McMENEMY, Mrs S	1295
JACK, JPE	1685	McMILLAN, W	1795*
JACKSON, PJ	1665	McMONIGLE, Miss A	1470*
JACKSON, R	1990	McMORRAN, T	1620
JAMES, CR	1320	McROBERTS, DG	1515
JENKINS, DM	2150	McROBERTS, J	1250*
JOHNSTON, TG	1985	MANNION, SR	2235
KEENAN, B	1720*	MARKS, IA	1875
KILGOUR, DA	2310	MARSHALL, IH	1775
KILPATRICK, R	2010	MARTIN, BJ	2210
KING, MM	1715*	MARTIN, S	2035*
KYNOCH, RJP	1620*	MASON, T	1760*
LEASK, Mrs ME	1520*	MAXWELL, A	1625*
LIVIE, DM	1890	MERRIFIELD, J	1655
LIVIE, GWG	2010	MITCHELL, IWS	1545
LOUGHRAN, R	1325*	MITCHELL, M	1555*
LUMSDEN, A	1490	MITCHELL, Robert	1900*
LUMSDEN, JPL	1620	MITCHELL, Ross	1065
McADAM, D	1190*	MOIR, PJ	1680*
McALPINE, KB	2565	MOOHAN, MJ	1965*
McARTHUR, JM	1825	MOORE, JD	1800*
McBETH, MJ	2065*	MORRISON, G	2360
McCARTAN, J	1690*	MORRISON, T	1535
McCLELLAND, AJ	2000	MORTON, GA	1980
McGHEE, Mrs M	1770*	MUIR, PS	1605*
McGHEE, ME	1705	MURRAY, EH	1375*
McGLINCHEY, V	1410	MURRAY, JS	1770
McGOWAN, A	2145	NEIL, D	1775*
McGOWAN, P	1900	NOBLE, JM	1945*
MacGREGOR, CA	1315	NORRIS, AJ	2495
McINTOSH, A	1255*	O'DONNELL, JG	1700
McINTYRE, JW	1815	PARK, F	1430*
MacKENZIE, K	1740*	PENMAN, AD	1830*
McKENZIE, LR	1705*	PROUDLER, VA	1590
McKERRACHER, D	1760	PYRICH, GD	1955
MACKIE, WV	1595*	REEMAN, IF	1990
McKINLAY, T	1500*	REID, DR	1990

REID, G	1740*	TANKEL, A	1950
ROSS, DI	1535*	TAYLOR, J	1250
ROSS, FR	1450*	THOMPSON, E	1835*
ROSS, JM	1520	THOMPSON, I	1790
ROSS, M	2000	THOMSON, A	1630*
ROUGH, RE	1730	THOMSON, T	1610*
RUSSELL, T	1900	THORNTON, J	1325*
RYAN, JMT	1710*	TOLLEMACHE, I	1065*
SADOWSKI, ZE	1770	WALLIS, G	1610
SAVAGE, DJ	1745	WALLWORK, GE	1890*
SEYFRIED, K	1765*	WARD, J	1510
SHANKLAND, J	1730*	WATSON, J	1660
SHAW, AJ	2135	WATSON, JP	1475*
SMITH, McDW	1300*	WAUGH, PCH	1365*
SNEDDON, G	1390*	WEBSTER, JJ	1400*
SNEDDON, I	1505	WHITTAKER, IP	1780*
SPROTT, GR	2075	WICKENS, TS	2195
STALLARD, J	1465*	WILSON, A	1405
STEPHENSON, L	1640*	WILSON, AR	1670*
STEVENSON, JAB	2020	WILSON, I	1380*
STEWART, KWC	1755*	WOOD, G	1950
SWANN, A	1815	YIANNI, M	1805*
SWYSTUN, MA	1970		

SCCA TOP TWENTY - 1/7/89

Recognised Ratings			
BRYSON, DM	2610	WICKENS, TS	2195
McALPINE, KB	2565	CRAIG, TJ	2185
NORRIS, AJ	2495	GILLAM, SR	2175
MORRISON, G	2360	DEMPSTER, DH	2170
GIULIAN, PM	2320	JENKINS, DM	2150
KILGOUR, DA	2310	McGOWAN, A	2145
BEECHAM, CR	2300	SHAW, AJ	2135
MANNION, SR	2235	ANDERSON, GM	2075
MARTIN, BJ	2210	SPROTT, GR	2075
BORWELL, AP	2200	CAMPBELL, IS	2035

THE SCCA MASTER TITLE (by Graham Wood)

Amendments to the rules governing the award of this title were proposed by a sub-committee (AJ McClelland, CR Beecham, PM Giulian, & DM Livie) on 17 May 1987. At a meeting of the Executive Committee on 30 August 1987, these amendments were agreed in principle but held in abeyance. It was thought best to do this to ensure that the award of the SCCA Master title was in step with the award of International- and Grand-Master titles by the ICCF.

Details of the revised ICCF system for IM and GM titles were finally presented at the ICCF Presidium in August 1988 and were also given in SCCA Magazine No.29 of December 1988.

The proposed amendments to the SCCA Master title system have been reviewed accordingly and the new rules were ratified by your Executive Committee at a meeting on 23 April 1989: the details follow.

The SCCA Master title will be awarded for gaining :-

- 1 the ICCF IM or GM title
- 2 three norms without limit of time; one norm for each of the following
 - (a) SCCA recognised grade of 2300 or above, providing at least 8 results recorded in rating period
 - (b) outright win of SCCA Championship Final or joint win with 75% or more of total points
 - (c) ½ IM norm
 - (d) 50% or more of total points in the ICCF World semi-final
 - (e) win of one 15-player ICCF World or European Master Class Group
 - (f) win of two 7-player ICCF World or European Master Class Groups

Players must be current members of the SCCA when norms are achieved and the award of the title is subject always to ratification by the Executive Committee.

I wish to put on record my thanks to the members of the sub-committee mentioned above and in particular to Richard Beecham who did much of the background research work involved in setting 'the standard' for the SCCA Master title.

Assuming that it would be the responsibility of the Grading Officer to keep records of norms/titles achieved by SCCA members, then this would be straightforward as far as points 2(a) and 2(b) are concerned. With regard to the other points, however, then I feel it would be more reliable if the members concerned were to notify (and confirm) relevant results to the Grading Officer.

ICCF RATING LIST FOR 1988 - SCOTLAND

Fixed Ratings			Not Fixed Ratings	
1	BRYSON, D M	GM 2575	JENKINS, D M	2385*
2	NORRIS, A J	2460	MARTIN, B J	2320
3	WICKENS, T S	M 2440	SHAW, A J	2320
4	KILGOUR, D A	2410	WATSON, W P	2300*
5	GIULIAN, P M	2395	LIVIE, G W G	2195
6	GILLAM, S R	2395*	HAMMETT, M A	2175
7	CAMPBELL, I S	2310	DAVIS, E	2150*
8	MORRISON, G J	2305*	GRANT, A	2130*
9	BORWELL, A P	2295	NYE, Dr V A	2105*
10	CRAIG, T J	2290*		
11	BEECHAM, C R	2280	Ladies	
12	PYRICH, G D	2225	HARTFORD, Mrs E A	1900
13	HISLOP, A T	2165		
14	TANKEL, A	2125	Shown as Australia (already!)	
15	THOMPSON, I D	2115	DEMPSTER, D M	2145

(* No results 1988)

(Editor: There are still some significant differences between ICCF and SCCA ratings, particularly for players who are much more active in international (or national events) only or where ratings are based on a smaller number of results.)

A complete copy of the new ICCF Rating List (25 pages) can be obtained by sending £2 and a large s.a.e. to Alan Borwell, 8 Wheatfield Avenue, Inchtute, Perthshire, PH14 9RY.



BITs 'n' PReEs



bij ian marks

We've all been influenced by Tal. Even if we say we haven't. In early school tournaments, I knew all about sacrifices: B-K3, Q-Q2, B-R6, QxP on R6, N-N5 and QxRP mate (I still used descriptive in those days). An enemy N on KB3? Oh well...!

But experience teaches us that material must be invested wisely. Me? I gave up sacrificing ages ago (Sorry Misha). True, I sac'ed my Q against Golding (Bulletin No. 7), but that was hardly a sac...

All the same, the spirit of the Magician is never far away.....

White: I.A. Marks
Black: M. McGhee

Scottish CC 1979-80

1 d4 Nf6
2 Bg5

Trompowsky's inspiration (which proves that ANYONE can have an opening named after them). Its main virtue is the depressing effect it often has on confirmed Nf6ers.

2 Ne4

One of about ten(!) reasonable replies. Give your opponent as many options as possible and you increase his/her chance of uncorking a lulu.

3 Bh4

To keep the e-pawn pinned.

3 d5

? from Hort. Sometimes Black flicks in ... g5, eg. Balashov-Furman, Moscow 1969, went 3 ... c5 4 f3 g5 5 fxe4 gxh4 with a surrealistic position. But here 3 ... g5 4 Bg3 Nxc3 5 hxg3 or 3 ... g5 4 Bg3 h5 5 f3 Nxc3 6 hxg3 leaves White solid. 3 ... g5 4 Bg3 h5 5 Be5 f6 6 Qd3 d5 7 f3 fxe5 8 fxe4 dxe4 9 Qxe4 Qxd4 10 Qxd4 exd4 11 Nf3 Nc6 12 Nxc5 is fun to analyse, but =+.

4 f3 Nd6
5 e4

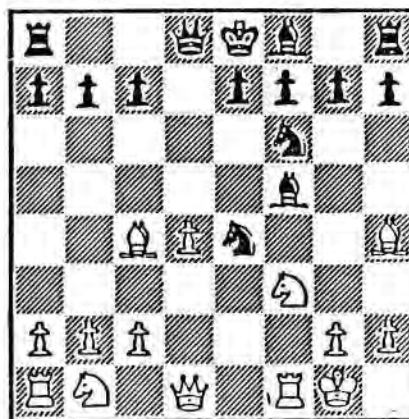
A positional move to stop ... Nf5! But now we get a sort of BDG where White has an extra tempo.

5 dxe4
6 fxe4 Nxe4
7 Nf3 Bf5

Ever noticed how in most QP openings the black QB usually belongs behind the pawns, rather than out in the open? And here Black puts it on the open f-file...

8 Bc4 Nd7
9 0-0 Ndf6

To unpin the e-pawn, but it was time to dig in with 9 ... Bg6.



10 Bxf7+!

"The use of the exclamation mark is a sign of failure. It is the literary equivalent of a man holding up a card reading LAUGHTER to a studio audience."
Miles Kington

10 Kxf7
11 Ne5+ Ke6

To defend the B...

12 Rxf5!

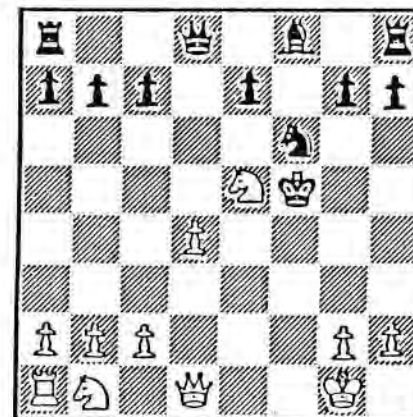
See note to move 10.

12 Kxf5
13 Bxf6

So I can play Nc3 unmolested later on and develop the QR. Besides, with the black QB gone, the action is going to be on the light squares.

13 Nxf6

Otherwise the N goes.



"When in the green lanes I muse
Alone and hear birds sing
God's pity then, say I,
On some Poor King."
W.H. Davies, POOR KINGS

14 Qf3+ Ke6
15 Qh3+ Kd6

Not much choice here.
15 ... Kd5 16 Nc3+ Kxd4
17 Qd3+ and now (1) 17 ...
Kxe5 18 Re1+ Kf4 (Ne4
19 Qxe4+ Kf6 20 Qe6+ Kg5
21 Re5+ etc) 19 Qg3+ Kf5
20 Re5 mate; (11) 17 ...
Kc5 18 Na4+ Kb4 19 Qb3+ Ka5
20 Nc4+ Ka6 21 Nc5 mate.
Good Knights!

16 Nf7+

Family fork. Shame the B
isn't on g5....

16 Kc6
17 Nxd8+

Pity to have to take this.
It would've been nice to
mate the black K with
everything else still on
the back rank.

17 Raxd8
18 Nc3 b6

Hey, he's trying to make a
run for it. Better stop
him.

19 Qf3+ Kd7

20 d5

Pinning down c6 and e6, so
that if 20 ... g6 21 d6!?
cxd6 22 Qb7+ Ke8 23 Re1
(stops Bg7!) Rd7 24 Qc8+
Rd8 (Kf7 25 Nd5!) 25 Qe6.

20 Ke8
21 Re1

Stops 21 ... g6 this time,
so the K sets off again.

21 Kf7
22 Ne4 Kg8

The d-pawn is taboo.

23 Qb3 h6

So's the N: 23 ... Nxe4
24 d6+.

24 d6+ Kh7
25 dxc7 Rc8
26 Ng5+ Resigns
1 0

26 ... hxg5 27 Qh3+ or
26 ... Kg6 27 Nf7 Rh7
28 Ne5+ Kg5 29 Qg3+ Kf5/h5
30 Qh3+ shanghais the R.

Game trivia: the black K
made eleven moves; the
white Q never got beyond
the third rank!



GAMES SECTION

Selected by Douglas Bryson

38 Duncryne Avenue,
Mount Vernon,
Glasgow G32 0RQ.

RU/M/GT/291 1988-89

White: Dr. W. Wittman (2125)
Black: I.A. Marks

Two Knights' Defence C57

1 e4 e5
2 Nf3 Nc6
3 Bc4

Alan Borwell commented in
issue 30 that he felt he
could have scored
significantly better in the
World CC Semis if he had
been playing fewer games,
without as many other
commitments. This advice
should be taken by the OTB
IM Walter Wittman of Austria
who seems to specialise in
simuls by post. In an
article titled "Don't Mess
with Fritz", Ian Marks' rapid
demolition will give WW time
to concentrate on his other
games!

Phil Giulian had warned me
that Dr. Wittman usually
offered his opponents a
choice of "training games"
along with the main feature.
Sure enough, this move was
accompanied with a selection
ranging from King's Gambits
to Grünfelds. I politely
declined.

3 Nf6
4 Ng5 d5
5 exd5 Nd4

The Fritz (great name!)
Variation. Fritz is German
for Fred.



Did you know there's a Fred too (1 e4 f5)? No? Well, From's Gambit (1 f4 e5) is really a Fred Reversed (a Derf?). Presumably there could also be a Fred Deferred (1 e4 f6 2 d4 f5).

But I digress. Flick through the results pages of Fernschach and you'll see what a CC junkie Dr. W is. I reckon he must have at least 100 Master Class games on the go simultaneously. Throw in another 100 friendlies... The Fritz is a tricky enough customer at the best of times. All the better for an opponent who might not be spending as long on his moves as he should.

6 c3

Bogolyubov - Rubinstein, Stockholm 1919, showed that Black has plenty of play after 6 d6 Qxd6 7 Bxf7+ (7 Nxf7 Qc6) Ke7 8 Bb3 Nxb3 9 axb3 h6 10 Nf3 e4.

6 b5

This is also fun at move five. Then it's called the Ulvestad Variation.

7 Bf1

7 cxd4 bxc4 makes for interesting pawns, but hardly any advantage for White, eg. 8 Qa4+ Qd7 9 Qxc4 Qxd5 10 Qxd5 Nxd5 11 dxe5 Nb4 and Black is OK: 2 Bs and White holes; or 8 dxe5 Qxd5! 9 Nf3 Nd7 10 0-0 Bb7 and Black is shaping up nicely.

7 Nxd5
8 Ne4

8 cxd4 Qxg5 is playable. 8 Nxf7 Kxf7 9 cxd4 exd4 is usually given the thumbs-down, but 10 Qf3+ Nf6 11 Qxa8 Bc5 12 d3!? was suggested by a reader to the German mag "Gambit Revue"... but he seems to have overlooked 12 ... Bb4+.

8 Qh4

Bovver chess.

9 Ng3

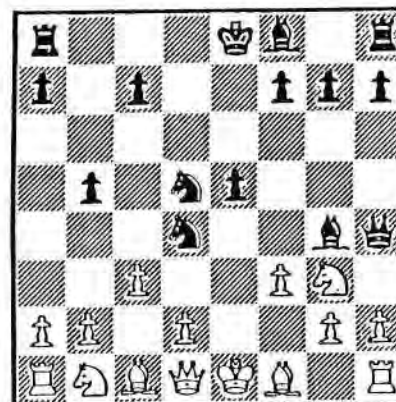
9 cxd4!? Qxe4+ 10 Qe2 Qxd4.

9 Bg4

Doesn't 10 f3 now just attack two Black pieces?

10 f3

Yes.



10 e4!

Star move! The trail beginning with 8 ... Qh4 was blazed by the 5th World CC Champion, Hans Berliner of the USA. For a piece, pawn and uncastled king (!), Black gets a multitude of attacking chances against the White K.

11 cxd4

11 fxg4 Bd6 12 cxd4 Bxg3+ 13 hxg3 Qxg3+ 13 Ke2 Nf4 mate.

11 Bd6

A Big Pin.

12 Bxb5+ Kd8

The K is safe as houses here. White has neither the development nor the access to get at him. e8 is also potentially available for a black R.

13 0-0

13 Kf2 f5 busts White. The other "natural" try 13 fxg4 Bxg3+ 14 hxg3 (an unusual echo of the note to 7 Bf1) Qxh1+ 15 Bf1 Nb4! 16 Nc3 Re8 leaves White in a state of constipation. The third attempt to unpin, 13 Qb3, is allegedly equal. You can believe that if you like.

13 exf3
14 Qb3

In the original game in this line, Estrin-Berliner, 5th World CC Championship, Estrin tried 14 Rxf3, slipped up and went down in a R+P ending. Improvements have since been found, and now Rxf3 is also supposed to be equal. You can believe that one too if you like. (White can try 14 Rxf3 Rb8 15 a4 a6 16 Bf1 Re8 17 Nc3 c6 18 d3 19 Nxd5 cxd5 20 Qd2 - Games Ed)

14 Nb4

15 Rxf3

15 Rf2!?

15 c6

16 Ba4?

Innovation? At any rate, it turns out even worse for White than the usual 16 Be2 Bxf3 17 Qxf3 Qxd4+ 18 Kh1 Bc5 19 Qf1 Nc2, which is good for Black. The Bishop is needed on the K-side.

16 Bxf3

17 Qxf3

17 gxf3 Bxg3 18 hxg3 Qxg3+ 19 Kf1 Re8 20 Qd1 Nd3 and it's goodnight from him.

17 Qxd4+

18 Kf1

18 Kh1 Re8; 18 Qe3 Qc4 (one of Kotov's creeping moves) 19 d4 Nd5 20 Qd2 Bf4 21 Bb3 Bxd2 22 Bxc4 Bxc1 -+

18 Bxg3

Simple chess. White threw in the towel.

(A) 19 Qxg3 Qc4+ 20 Kf2 Nd3+ 21 Kf3 Qd5+! 22 Kg4 (22 Ke2 Re8+ 23 Kd1 Re1+ 24 Qxe1 Nxe1 25 Kxe1 Qe4+ picks off the prodigal prelate) h5+ 23 Kh3 Qf5+

24 Kh4 Qe4+ (a nice triangle by the black Q) 25 Kh3 (25 Kg5 f6 mate) Nf2+! mates. 23 Kh4 Qe4+ 24 Kh3 Nf2+ saves a stamp.

(B) 19 hxg3 Qc4+ 20 Kg1 (20 Kf2 Nd3+ etc; 20 Qe2 Qxc1+) Qxc1+ 21 Kh2 Re8 and now either 22 g4 or 22 Qc3 Re1 with a winning advantage for Black.



Nick Down has given full annotations to two of his games from the Scottish Open and SCCA Handicap.

Scottish Open, Rd 1 Sect 8

White: Nick Down
Black: Raymond Baxter

Steinitz French C11

The Scottish Open is a tournament for gamblers, with sections varying greatly in strength, drawing together players from across the British Isles in pursuit of two promotion places in each first round group.

With dark horse opponents and possible withdrawals to contend with, consistent point-scoring is at a premium, and the draw for colours acquires great importance. Luckily, I had White against the likely front-runner in section 8, Raymond Baxter.

1 e4 e6
2 d4 d5
3 Nc3 Nf6
4 e5 Nfd7
5 f4

The Steinitz Variation, a steadier treatment of the Classical French than 4 Bg5. White plays for a small but enduring advantage to be deployed as dictated by events in the section. At this stage, a contest for promotion between John O'Donnell, Paul Cassar, Raymond Baxter and myself was taking shape.

5 c5
6 Nf3 Nc6
7 Be3 cxd4
8 Nxd4 Nc5!?

Black will not commit himself first, declining both the precarious 7 ... Qb6 8 Na4 Qa5+ 9 c3 cxd4 10 b4 Nxb4 favoured by

Yusupov in his 1986 Candidates Match against Timman, and 8 ... Bc5 9 Qd2 Nxd4 10 Bxd4 Bxd4 11 Qxd4 Qb6, after which Black enjoys a formidable defensive redoubt, but few winning chances. The inventive 8 ... Nc5 forces White to choose between castling kingside, with a negligible advantage, or queenside, providing a contest of flank attacks. A continuation similar in spirit and so deserving mention, is John Carleton's patent, 7 ... a6. A subject for a future thematic tourney?

9 Qd2 Be7
10 Be2 Bd7
11 0-0-0 0-0
12 Bf3!?

Preparing the transfer of the queen to f2, increasing White's control of the dark squares, and intending a subsequent kingside attack with Rhe1, Qg3 and f5.

12 ... Na5 threatens to expose this manoeuvre as mistimed after both 13 Qf2 Nc4 and the tragicomic 13 f5?? Nc4 14 Qf2 Nxe3 15 Qxe3 Bg5.

Nonetheless, Black prefers to continue marshalling pieces for a queenside attack, perhaps disliking an immediate sacrifice against the knight decentralisation: 12 ... Na5 13 Nxd5 exd5 14 Bxd5 with a strong attack. 12 Kbl, creating a sanctuary for the bishop at c1, was steadier.

12 a6
13 Qf2 Qa5
14 Kbl Rac8

14 ... b5? 15 Nxc6 Bxc6
16 Bxc5.

15 Nb3!?

The exchange on b3 will safeguard White's king and retain some advantage at no great risk. The bold 15 Qg3 is also promising, but events in the section were conspiring to force Raymond to play for a win: he was unlucky to draw quickly against Richard Burns, who defaulted his other games a few weeks later, and was facing defeat as Black against Paul Cassar.

15 Nxb3

16 cxb3 d4!

Sacrificing a pawn to exchange the Be3 and remove the threats 17 Bb6 and 17 Bxd5 exd5 18 Nxd5 Qd8 19 Nb6.

17 Bxd4 Nxd4
18 Qxd4 Bc6

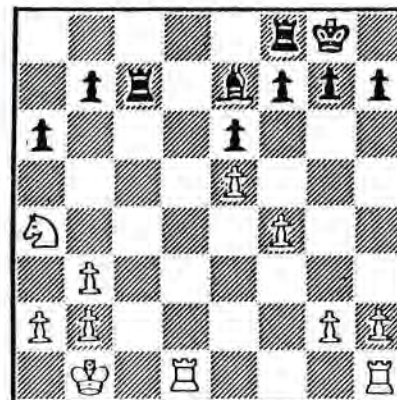
Not 18 ... Rfd8 19 Bxb7 Bc6 20 Bxc8 Rxd4 21 Rxd4, when the white rooks' domination of the d-file will decide.

19 Bxc6 Rxc6

Black is ready to vigorously pursue the attack with ... Rfc8 and ... Bb4. Switching the d1 rook along the third rank with 20 Qe4 21 Rd3 22 Rh3 does not hinder Black's play, so White adopts disruptive tactics, decoying a rook onto c7, so that Black will not be able to treble on the c-file, having instead to exchange queens or block the b-pawn's advance with ... Qb6.

20 Qd7 Rc7
21 Qa4 Qxa4

22 Nxa4



White has reached an advantageous queenless middlegame, in which rook exchanges favour White due to the vulnerability of the a6 and b7 pawns in minor piece or king and pawn endings. Nonetheless, Black has potential compensation in having bishop against knight in a position with widely spaced pawn masses. Accordingly, he begins to open lines before the knight can return from the far west to the inviting stables at e4 and d6.

22 f6

23 exf6 Rxf6?!

The isolated e-pawn proves to be a liability since White can blockade it with Ne4. 23 ... gxf6 followed by ... Kf7, ... Rfc8 and ... Bf8 would co-ordinate Black's pieces and suffice to draw a double rook ending.

24 g3 Rf5
25 Nc3 g5
26 Ne2 gxf4
27 Nxf4 Kf7
28 Rhe1 Rf6
29 Re4 Bf8
30 Rc4 Re7
31 Nd3 Rf5!

(i) 31 ... e5 32 Nc5 Rf2 33 Rh4 with Ne4 to follow;
(ii) 31 ... Bh6 32 Rg4 and 33 Ne5+.

Black's defence has been excellent. He has avoided structurally weakening pawn moves, and has regrouped his pieces so as to guard key squares along the f-file and 5th and 7th ranks. To make progress, White is forced to loosen his kingside with 32 g4, displacing the Rf5.

32 g4 Rd5
33 Rf1+ Kg8

34 Rf3

Controlling the c1-h6 diagonal, enabling 34 ... Bh6 to be met with 34 h4 and g5.

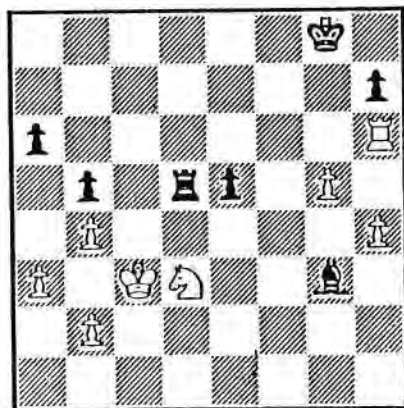
34 Red7
 35 Kc2 Bd6
 36 h4 Rc7
 37 Kc3 Kg7
 38 g5 Bh2

Correctly avoiding double rook exchanges, eg. 38 ... Rf5 39 Rxc7+ Bxc7 40 Rxf5 gxf5 41 h5 with a winning ending.

39 b4 Rxc4+
 40 Kxc4 Bd6
 41 a3 Kg8
 42 Rf6 b5+
 43 Kc3 Bg3

43 ... Be5+ 44 Nxe5 Rxe5
 45 Kd4 and black pawns fall.

44 Rh6 e5



White's claimed win was upheld by the adjudicator.

An immediate attempt to exchange the h7 pawn allows Black an attractive drawing combination: 45 g6 e4 (45 ... Kg7? 46 gxh7) 46 gxh7+ Kh8 47 Nc5 e3 and (i) 48 Nd3 e2 49 Re6 Rxd3+! 50 Kxd3 e1=Q 50 Rxe1 Bxe1=; (ii) 48 Re6 Be5+ 49 Kc2 Rd2+.

Instead White plays 45 Nc5 intending to capture the a6 pawn at an opportune moment, and creating threats against Black's king, eg. 45 ... Rd4 46 Ne6 Rxe4? 47 Rf6 mating (47 ... h6 48 g6).



After 18 months' play, John O'Donnell, Paul Cassar, Raymond Baxter and myself all qualified for the Semi-Finals. Having fought each other to a standstill in Section 8, three of us joined forces with British Championship players, Brian Eley and Richard Freeman, to form The Knights of the Square Table in SCCL Div.3.

SCCA Handicap 1988-89

White: Nick Down
 Black: Peter Jack

Panov-Botvinnik Attack B14

As the SCCA's only non-all-play-all tournament, the Handicap is ideal for developing an openings repertoire, or trying out new variations. Three years ago, a friend advised me that the Panov-Botvinnik was the only way to meet the Caro. Would you listen to a man who plays the Latvian, Wild Cunningham, Albin and Speyer? I did...

1 e4 c6
 2 d4 d5
 3 exd5 cxd5
 4 c4 Nf6
 5 Nc3 Nc6
 6 Nf3 e6

Black buttresses the d5 pawn, in preference to the sharp variation 6 ... Bg4 7 cxd5 Nxd5 8 Qb3. However with the Nb8 committed to c6, White can start a pawn onslaught on the queenside, with the additional possibility of Bb5 and Bxc6, gaining the knight pair in a closed position.

7 c5 Ne4
 8 Qc2 Nxc3?!

Black exchanges his king's knight for the indifferent Nc3 in order to lure White's queen onto the a1-h8 diagonal. This plan would be vindicated if Black could free his position with ... e5; since he is unable to do so, 8 ... f5 is preferable.

9 Qxc3 Bd7

The thematic 9 ... e5 fails: 10 Nxe5 Nxe5 11 dxe5 d4 12 Bb5+ Bd7 13 Qb3 (13 Qc4!?) intending 14 e6.

10 b4

An obvious move, but one with a dual purpose: freeing the d-pawn from the defence of c5, and requiring Black to play 10 ... a6, weakening b6 and starting to block his access to the f1-a6 diagonal. If White exchanges his Bf1 for a knight, ... Ba6 can strand his king in the centre all too effectively.

10 a6

11 Bf4 Be7

Opening the queenside is dubious: 11 ... b6 12 Bd3 bxc5 13 bxc5 Qa5 14 Qxa5 Nxa5 15 Rb1 Be7 16 Ne5.

12 Bd3 g5!?

Basmanian devilry! Black's king must stay in the centre, but he can lunge forward with g- and h-pawns. Black's lack of mobility along the back rank and White's control of e5 conspire against the success of this foray.

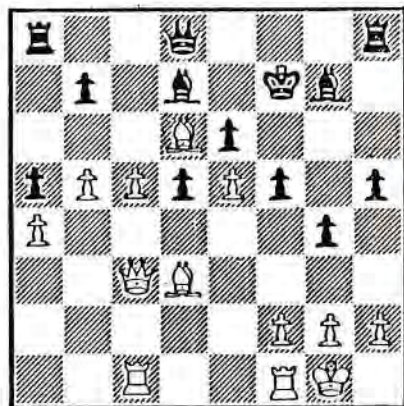
13 Bg3 f5
14 Be5 Bf6
15 Bd6 Kf7
16 0-0 g4

The tempting sacrifice is insufficient: 16 ... Nxd4 17 Nxd4 e5 18 Nb3 e4 19 Be5 exd3 20 Bxf6 Qxf6 21 Qxd3 Be6 22 Nd4 with a central bind.

17 Ne5+ Nxe5
18 dxe5 Bg7

Setting a trap on the long diagonal...

19 a4 h5
20 b5 a5
21 Rac1



Impetuously advancing with 21 c6 allows 21 ... Bxc6! 22 bxc6 Qxd6 with complications favouring Black, eg. 23 cxb7 Ra7 24 Qb3 Bxe5 and 25 ... Rhb8.

21 Rc8
22 Qb3 Bf8?!

An ungainly move, allowing White a powerful sacrifice. However, 23 ... Kg6 24 c6 bxc6 25 b6 is not an enticing prospect.

23 Bxf5 Bxd6?

Uniting more white pawns. After 23 ... exf5, White must exercise care in extracting his queen.

For example, 24 Qxd5+ Kg6 25 Qxb7 Be6 26 Rfd1 (26 g3 is also sufficient) Rh7 27 Qa6, intending to move the Bd6, with discovered attack along rank and file.


24 exd6 exf5
25 Qxd5+ Kg6
26 Qxb7 Rb8?

26 ... Be6 is trickier, forcing the queen to vanish in a parody of a fianchetto: 27 g3 Rh7 28 Qg2+.

27 Qd5 Re8
28 c6 Be6
29 Qc5 Rb6
30 d7 Bxd7
31 cxd7 Re7

White has a simplifying combination.

32 Qxb6+ Qxb6
33 Rc6+ Qxc6
34 bxc6 Resigns



Please send games (preferably annotated) to Games Editor:

Douglas M. Bryson,
38 Duncryne Avenue,
Mount Vernon,
Glasgow G32 0RQ.

Nick also enclosed the excellent miniature between Crichton-Freeman entered as a candidate for the SCCL Best Game prize. Black comments that he had to see 16 ... Rae8 before playing 10 ... e4.

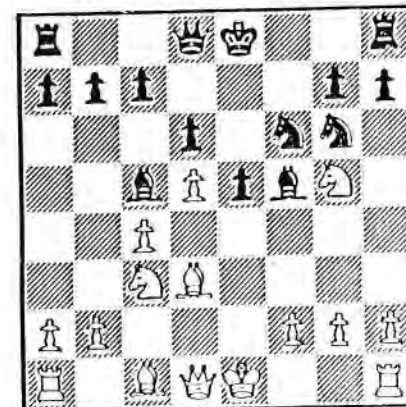


SCCL Div 3, Bd 4, 1988-89

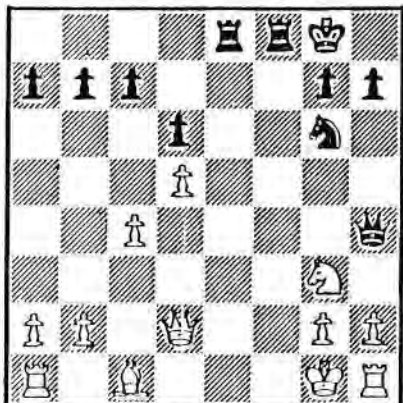
White: D. Crichton
(Wandering Dragons)
Black: R. Freeman (The Knights of the Square Table)

Mikenas/Nimzovich Defence
A40

1 c4 Nc6
2 d4 e5
3 d5 Nce7
4 e4 Ng6
5 Nc3 Bc5
6 Be2 d6
7 Nf3 f5
8 Ng5 Nf6
9 exf5 Bxf5
10 Bd3



10 e4!
 11 Ngxe4 Nxe4
 12 Bxe4 Bxf2+
 13 Kxf2 Bxe4
 14 Nxe4 Qh4+
 15 Ng3 0-0+
 16 Kg1 Rae8!
 17 Qd2



17 Qd4+
 18 Resigns



Dave Crichton's suffering continues with the following game from David Salter, Ilkley in West Yorkshire, who writes...

"I have often found in postal chess tournaments that one of the players takes great pains to avoid theory even if it means going against basic principles.

In the current SCCA Major, Group B, there seems to be one such competitor whose methods may well confuse some of the opposition, if not himself!"

White: D. Salter
 Black: D. Crichton

Irregular Opening B00

1 d4 f6?

On move 1 there are 20 legal possibilities. Black reduces this to 19 for move 2!

2 e4 Kf7?
 3 Nf3 e6
 4 Bd3

I decided that development was preferable to an early e5. Give Black the chance to tie himself in knots!

4 Ne7
 5 Nc3 g6
 6 e5 Bg7

On 6 ... f5 7 Ng5 with 8 g4 in mind, when k-side pawn pushing should do well.

7 exf6 Bxf6

8 Ne5+ Kg7

Or 8 ... Bxe5 9 dxe5 when White would try for lines involving g4, Bh6, Qf3. Black's king would remain uncomfortable but perhaps the position offers more freedom for the other pieces.

9 Bf4 Nbc6

Black must beware of lines like 9 ... d6 10 Bh6+ Kg8 11 Ng4 Bxd4 12 Qf3 Nf5 13 Bxf5 exf5? 14 Qd5+ (or 13 ... gxf5 14 Qg3 fxg4 15 Qxg4+).

10 g4

Inviting 10 ... Nxd4? 11 g5 Bxe5 12 Bxe5+.

10 Nd5
 11 Bh6+ Kg8

Not 11 ... Kxh6 12 Nf7+.

12 Nxd5 exd5
 13 Qf3 Nb4

To stop Qxd5, though 13 ... Qe7 14 Qxd5+ Qe6 might have been worth the loss of the pawn to blunt the attack.

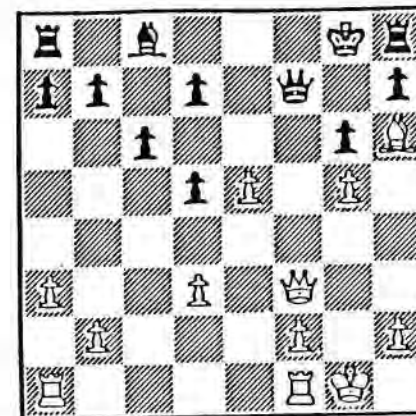
14 a3 Nxd3+
 15 cxd3 c6

16 g5 Bxe5

Not 16 ... d6 17 gxf6 dxe5 18 f7+.

17 dxe5 Qe7
 18 0-0 Qf7

White tucks away his king, prepares to bring both rooks into play by advancing pawns and opening lines. Black tries to get the queens off, allowing the king to make way for the imprisoned h-rook. In some lines, White also intended to leave the f-pawn alone and set a rook on f3 to penetrate into f6.



19 Qg3 Qe6
 20 Rae1 Kf7

21 f4

Intending 22 f5 gxf5
23 Rxf5+ Qxf5 24 Rf1 Qxf1+
25 Kxf1 Re8 26 Qf4+ Kg8
27 Qf6 (or 25 ... Rg8
26 Qf4+ Ke8 27 Qf5 d6
28 Qxh7 Be6 29 exd6).

21 Qf5
22 e6+! dxe6
23 Re5 Re8

The queen is movebound except for sacrificing by Qxe5, which opens the f-file nicely for White.

24 Rxf5+ exf5
25 Qf2 Resigns

If 25 ... Be6 26 Qd4 Ke7
27 Qf6+ Kd7 28 Qg7+ Kd6
29 Qxb7 with Rcl to come (or 28 ... Kc8 29 Rel threatening Rxe6. Rxe6, Qf8+). The Q v R advantage cannot be restrained for long.



There must be hundreds of postal games played by Scottish players each year.

Why not share your experiences by annotating one for your magazine?

Please send to our Games Editor.

And finally, in a column which produced an excellent response for more annotated games, we have Borders player, George Sprott, who overcomes a 300 OTB rating deficit, to record a fine win.

SCCA Championship 1987/89

White: G.R. Sprott
Black: G.D. Pyrich

QP Grünfeld D03

1 d4 Nf6
2 Nf3 g6
3 Bg5 Bg7
4 Nbd2

"Feinting" e2-e4 to see if Black fears the classical d4/e4 pawn centre enough to switch from the d6 Kings Indian to the Grünfeld pawn d5.

4 d5

Apparently he does!

5 e3 0-0
6 c3 Nbd7
7 b4

Planning to gain space on the Q-side while relying on his solid central pawns to restrain Black from counter-attacking there.

7 b6

If 7 ... a5, then 8 b5 as in Torre v Jansa, Biel Interzonal 1985.

8 a4 Bb7
9 Be2 Qe8

Preparing e5 and moving out of the resultant pin.

10 0-0 e5
11 Bxf6

Played to unco-ordinate Black's pieces on the k-side. Black, of course, would like to recapture with the knight, but this would now lose a pawn and eventually another move will be wasted moving the bishop back to g7 again to vacate the f6 square.

11 Bxf6
12 Nb3 Qe7
13 b5 e4
14 Nfd2 a5

Otherwise 15 a5.

15 c4 dxc4
16 Bxc4 Bg7
17 Qc2 Nf6
18 Nc1

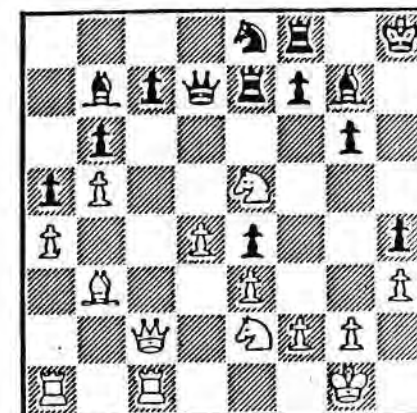
Setting off to pressurise the e4 square.

18 Rae8
19 Ne2 Qd6
20 Ng3 h5
21 Rfc1 Re7
22 h3 h4
23 Ne2 Kh8

Preparing for an eventual f7-f5!

24 Bb3 Ne8
25 Nc4 Qd7
26 Ne5

I was happy to sacrifice the pawn to gain control of the a1-h8 diagonal and open the d-file. However, Black is prepared to do his own sacrificing!



26 Rxe5!?
27 dxe5 Bxe5
28 Rd1 Qe7

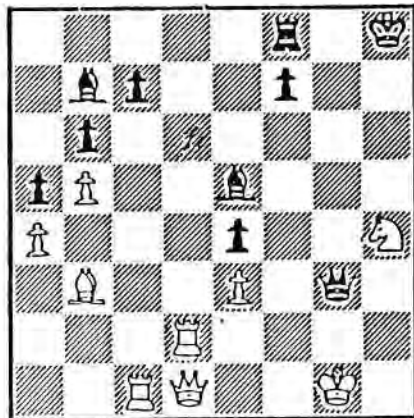
29 Rac1 Nf6
30 Rd2 g5

Black goes for broke on the k-side - a positional alternative could have been 30 ... Nd7 followed by Nc5.

31 Nd4 g4
32 Nf5 Qe8
33 hxc4 Nxc4
34 Nxc4 Qe7
35 g3 Qg5
36 Qd1

Played after a great deal of thought, seeing an eventual Qh5+ in some variations after the following continuation...

36 Nxe3
37 fxe3 Qxg3+



38 Rg2!

If White tries to save his knight: 38 Ng2 Qh2+ 39 Kf1 (39 Kf2? Bg3+ followed by mate) Qh1+ 40 Kf2 Bg3+!! 41 Kxg3 Rg8+ now 42 Qg4 is forced as 42 Kf4 Qh6+ leads to mate.

38 Qxe3+

If Qxh4 immediately, then 39 Qg4 ends Black's attack.

39 Kf1 Qf4+
40 Ke2 Bf6

Again, Qxh4 allows 41 Qh1.

41 Bxf7!

Tactics decide the issue - White finally "forces" Black to capture the knight!

41 Qxh4
42 Qg1 Qh7
43 Bg6 Qe7
44 Qh2+ Resigns

44 ... Bh4 45 Rxc7 etc.
44 ... Kg8 45 Bf5 dis ch
(a) ... Kf7 46 Qh7+ Ke8
47 Qh5+ etc. (b) ... Bg5
46 Rxc7+ Qxg5 47 Qh7++.



POST SCRIPT TO WT/M/GT/160

by C.R. Beecham

It was the end of August 1988 when I received a letter from the United States, the "sender" sticker read Bruce and Nancy Leverett, Pittsburgh P.A.

I remembered Bruce and I started play in ICCF Master Class Section WT/M/GT/160 in April 1984! I opened the envelope with interested anticipation; why was he writing to me long after our game had been completed?

The letter started: "My wife Nancy and I will be in Scotland from September 22nd for a few days Can we come and visit you?" Replying immediately, I suggested they come for a meal and break the journey from Stratford-upon-Avon to Edinburgh. Thankfully my letter left these shores just before the postal strike and in mid-September I got a call from Bruce telling me when he would arrive in Europe and that he and Nancy would be delighted to come for a meal.

My wife Pat commented that this would be the third overseas visitors we have entertained. The first was Jerzy Jablonski, my opponent in the Scotland v Poland match, the second was a Danish "Girl Scout" who was at the World Scout Jamboree at Blair Atholl, Perthshire, in the summer of 1988. My 15 year old son Mark brought her home for a week, but that's another story!!

Fortunately Bruce and Nancy arrived on time from Stratford; Bruce found driving on the left-hand side of the road "very interesting".

During the meal, Bruce told me that he had written a monograph on the Velimirovic Attack against the Sicilian Defence and from that he was approached to write the "Flank Openings" section for the next M.C.O. It took about 4 months to research and write the columns, his task made a little easier by the fact that he is President of Pittsburgh Chess Club and has access to an extensive chess library.

Bruce has been to Europe before; he captained the United States Blind Olympiad team in Bruges a few years ago and he and Nancy had decided to visit Belgium again, along with Switzerland, before returning home. Nancy was working hard writing a braille diary of the vacation, which is a very time-consuming job.

The evening passed very quickly without us even having time for a 5-minute blitz game. Before leaving, Bruce promised to annotate our game from WT/M/GT/160, which is given below.

Playing international games through ICCF tournaments can be very rewarding and from them I have formed what I hope will be lifelong friendships with two of the nicest people I have ever met.

White: C.R. Beecham
Black: B.W. Leverett

ICCF Master Class M/GT/160

Queen Gambit Accepted D28

1	d4	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	Nf3	Nf6
4	e3	e6
5	Bxc4	c5
6	0-0	a6
7	Nc3	b5
8	Bb3	Bb7
9	Qe2	Nbd7
10	Rd1	

So far, so much book and not hard to understand. White's position has attacking potential because of possible pawn thrusts to d5 or e5.

Black can play routinely with 10 ... Be7 and try to weather the storm, but naturally one seeks more active defence.

10 Qb8

This odd-looking move prepares 11 ... Bd6. Black can also consider 10 ... Qb6 or 10 ... b4. But after 10 ... Bd6 11 e4 cxd4 12 Rxd4!, Black could no longer maintain his aggressive stance: 12 ... Qb8? 13 Rxd6! Qxd6 14 e5.

11 Ne5!?

11 d5 and 11 e4 are logical but this move, a suggestion from ECO, is very interesting.

After 11 ... Bd6, White would play, not 12 f4 which only gives him weak pawns, but 12 Nxd7! Nxd7 13 d5! with a strong attack. And there is another tactical point ...

11 Nxe5
12 dxe5 Nd7

Not 12 ... Qxe5? 13 Nxb5, tearing a hole in Black's queenside, but now Black's backward development becomes important.

13 f4 c4
14 Bc2 Nc5

Black's last two moves were required to keep White's knight from going to d6 via e4.

15 b4! cxb3
16 axb3

Again threatening 17 b4.

16 Qc7

Improving on 16 ... b4? 17 Nb5 as given in ECO. But it may be questioned whether this move justifies the daring strategy of Black's 10th and 11th moves.

17 Bb2 b4
18 Na2 a5

(18 Nb1, d2 and c4! - CRB)

19 Racl g6

It was necessary to prevent 20 f5 which on the previous move could have been met by 19 ... exf5 20 Bxf5 Ne6.

20 Rd6

At move 18 I had taken comfort that my opponent's knight was going off to the sidelines like my king bishop and king rook. But this move reminded me that I was still desperate. It threatens 21 Qb5+; for instance 20 ... Be7 21 Qb5+ Kf8 22 Bb1 Rc8 23 Bd4. And obviously 20 ... Bxd6 21 exd6 Qxd6 22 Bxb8 is unpalatable.

20 Ba6

I didn't really expect my opponent to take the repetition with 21 Qf3 Bb7 22 Qe2 etc. On 21 Qd1 I could play 21 ... Qa7 threatening to take the rook.

21 Rxa6 Rxa6
22 Bd3

The complications after 22 Bd4 give a hint of things to come. Black would play 22 ... Qd7, sacrificing material after 23 Bxc5 Bxc5 and now either 24 Qxa6 Bxe3+ 25 Kf1 Bxc1, or 24 Bd3 Rc6 25 Bb5 Bxe3+

26 Qxe3 Rxc1+ 27 Qxc1 Qxb5
 28 Qc8+ Ke7 29 Qxh8 Qe2,
 with a draw likely in
 either case.

22 Ra8
 23 Bb5+ Kd8
 24 Rd1+

It seems that White must
 win the knight, or the
 king, or both. But after
 24 Bd4 Kc8! 25 Qc4 Kb7!,
 the knight is immune:
 26 Bxc5 Bxc5 27 Qxc5 Qxc5
 28 Rxc5 Kb6. What if White
 had played 23 Bd4 first?
 Then it would be crazy to
 try to transpose to the
 above line with 23 ... Kd8,
 but after 23 ... Be7
 24 Bb5+ Kf8 25 Qc4 Rc8,
 Black would be safe.

24 Kc8
 25 Rd6

It felt so good the first
 time, why not try it again?
 But now it is not hard to
 see the way out for Black.
 The character of the game
 is changing. Where did
 White go wrong?

25 Qa7
 26 Bd4

Or 26 Qf3 Bxd6 27 exd6 Rd8
 28 Qc6+ Kb8 29 Be5 Nd7
 30 Qc7+ Qxc7 31 dxc7+ Kc8
 32 cxd8(Q)+ Kxd8 with good
 chances for Black.

But not 26 ... Qb7? 27 Bc6,
 or 26 ... Rb8 27 Qc6+ Qc7
 28 Ba6+ Nxa6 (28 ... Nb7
 29 Qe8+) 29 Qxa6+ Qb7
 30 Qc4+ Qc7 31 Rc6. If
 White had played 25 Qf3,
 Black would have replied
 25 ... Rb8.

26 Bxd6
 27 exd6 Rd8
 28 Qc4 Rxd6
 29 Nc1

29 Bxc5 Rd1+ 30 Kf2 Qc7
 only transposes.

29 Qc7
 30 Bxc5 Rd1+

30 ... Rd5 would be met by
 31 Nd3. Then 31 ... Rxd3
 gives no more than a draw
 after 32 Ba6+, while 31 ...
 Kb7 32 Bd4 looks fine for
 White.

31 Kf2 Kb7

Finally Black can activate
 both rooks, in the nick of
 time, for White is
 activating his knight.

32 Ne2 Rd5
 33 Bd4 Qxc4
 34 Bxc4 a4

If Black wants to make
 progress, he must sacrifice
 the exchange.

Another method was 34 ...
 Rdd8 35 Bb5 a4!, leading to
 positions that are similar
 to the game but with a
 black pawn on e6 instead of
 d5 - probably an
 inconsequential difference.

35 Bxd5 exd5
 36 bxa4 Rxa4?

This throws away two whole
 tempi, as the rook must
 return to the first rank to
 get back in the game.
 After 36 ... Ka6! Black
 would be winning; for
 example, 37 Nc1 Ka5 38 Ke2
 Kxa4 39 Bb2 Rc8 40 Kd2 Rc4!
 (but not 40 ... b3 41 Bc3
 Ka3 42 Nd3 with a blockade)
 and White is in zugzwang.

37 Nc1 Kc6

37 ... Ra8 is more testing,
 but White still draws after
 38 Ke2 Rc8 39 Kd2 Ka6
 40 Nd3 Kb5 41 Nb2. Then,
 if 41 ... b3 42 Bc3 Ra8
 43 Nd3 holds the blockade.

38 Ke2 Kb5
 Agreed drawn.

White's king will reach b2,
 with an even easier draw
 than in the above
 variation.

(Notes by Bruce Leverett)

"100 CLUB"

This is a club for members
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 with the development of the
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 eligible to be in the draw
 for that month.

Recent winners:

	March
1st	A Taylor
2nd	A Grant
	April
1st	A J McClelland
2nd	G W G Livie
	May
1st	A J McClelland
2nd	J Watson

3rd GRAND OPEN

by Philip Giulian

The Grand Opens are for dedicated correspondence players willing to devote a considerable amount of postal chess time to one event. The tournaments are expected to last five years and play is at domestic speed. In the first round, players are placed at random into sections of approximately one hundred (!), from which the top 20% progress to the next stage. Everybody plays ten games and this effectively means that a score of 8/10 would require a tie-break to see if that was enough. In the second round, the qualifiers are placed in one section, from which 15% get to the final. Again each player has ten games and would probably need 8/10. Clearly a lot of luck is involved but for those who make it, the final is an all-play-all. Although the tournament is well run, no results are sent to the players and so I am afraid this report is restricted to information which has come to hand.

The Third Grand Open began in 1984 with four Scottish Internationalists in the field. Undoubted favourite for the event was Grandmaster Douglas Bryson, although Eddie Davis was hoping to repeat his success in winning the previous Grand Open. Making up this quartet were Andrew Muir and myself. The draw for the first round brought mixed fortunes for the Scots. Andrew Muir appeared to have the easiest task, while Douglas Bryson and Eddie Davis seemed to have "reasonable" draws. My opponents included Andrew and Eddie, as well as Alan Hurdle who had just finished fourth in the British Championships. Clearly, I would be lucky to make the second round.

The first round turned out disastrously for Scottish hopes. The biggest shock was the exit of Douglas Bryson. One loss and he was only able to score 8/10 and was eliminated on tie-break. As expected, Andrew Muir qualified comfortably with 9½/10, but then he decided not to take up his place in the second round. Eddie Davis also qualified and I was able to join him on tie-break, having scrambled eight points.

In the second round, I don't know exactly what happened to Eddie but he was eliminated. I managed to repeat my first round performance of six wins and four draws and had qualified for the final by the skin of my teeth.

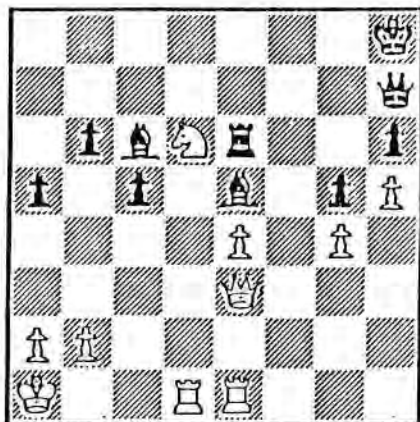
The all-play-all final of nine players looked wide open. I had played four of my opponents before. In the second round, I had beaten C. Holland and drawn with J. Wells. In the North Atlantic Team Tournament, I had drawn with Paul Lamford, the Welsh Board 1, while Tony Corkett had beaten me in the British Championships. The other four, A. Heaton, A. Crombleholme, B. Dabalawicus and R. Barton were something of an unknown quantity, but there would be no easy games in the final.

The final had not long started when Heaton decided to withdraw. My second game to finish was a short draw with Tony Corkett. I made a real mess of the early moves and was fortunate to have a draw by repetition. A solid draw with Dabalawicus was followed by a win over Wells. Originally I intended to publish this game but it appeared in various publications when I beat Douglas Bryson with the same opening variation in the Edinburgh International at Easter last year. I wasted a good position against Paul Lamford and this draw brought my score to 3½/5.

It was at this stage that the final really came alive for me. With my score, anything was still possible. A good run-in and I could still win the tournament, while losses would relegate me to the bottom. It was now that I received various chess literature including, for the first time, notification of the prizes for the Grand Open - £750 for the winner followed by £500, £250, £125 etc. A certain nervousness descended upon my games, two of which involved rather speculative sacrifices on my part. It is rather difficult to make such moves knowing that hundreds of pounds depend on the outcome.

The first of these positions came after 36 moves of my game with Crombleholme. Although I was the exchange up, his two bishops were so powerful that making progress was not easy.

White: P.M. Giulian
 Black: A. Crombleholme



37 Qb3!! Rxd6
 38 Rxd6 Bxd6
 39 Qe6 Qc7

Other moves lose as well:
 (i) 39 ... Qd7 40 Qxd7 Bxd7
 41 Rd1 or (ii) 39 ... Qe7
 40 Qxh6+ Kg8 41 Rd1.

40 Qxh6+ Kg8
 41 Qg6+ Kh8
 42 e5! Bxe5

If (i) 42 ... Bf8 43 Rf1
 Bg7 44 h6, or (ii) 42 ...
 Be7 43 h6 Bd8 44 Rd1 or
 Rf1.

43 Qh6+ Resigns

Black loses a piece: 43 ...
 Kg8 44 Qe6+.

My second last game was probably mt most interesting. The opening was rather boring but it soon sprang to life in the middle game.

White: R. Barton
 Black: P.M. Giulian

Queens Gambit, Slav Defence
 D14

1 d4 d5
 2 c4 c6
 3 Nf3 Nf6
 4 cxd5 cxd5
 5 Nc3 Nc6
 6 Bf4 Bf5
 7 e3 e6
 8 Ne5

White can virtually force a draw at this stage with 8 Bd3 Bxd3 9 Qxd3 Bd6 10 Bxd6. Many "arranged" Grandmaster draws have ended in this way.

8 Nxe5

Both the alternatives Bd6 and Nd7 give White a slight advantage.

9 Bxe5 Nd7

Also possible is 9 ... a6 10 Qb3 Bd6 11 Bxd6 Qxd6 12 Be2 b5 with slight advantage to White.

10 Qb3 Nxe5

11 dxe5 Be7
 12 Bb5+ Kf8
 13 0-0 Qb6
 14 a4!?

A new move in this position. Usual is 14 Na4 Qc7 15 f4 Rc8 which is unclear.

14 a5
 15 Rac1 g5!

It is important for Black to untangle the kingside even at the expense of the weakening pawn structure.

16 Ne2 Bb4

White was threatening Qc3 followed by Qc7.

17 Nd4 Bg6
 18 Bd3 Bc5
 19 Nb5

The alternatives are: (a) Qxb6 Bxb6 which is equal, and (b) 19 Qc3 Bxd4 20 exd4 Kg7 and Black has pressure on the pawns on d4 and b2.

19 Kg7
 20 Rc2 Rac8
 21 h3 Rc6
 22 Kb2

Not 22 Rfc1 Bxe3 23 Bxg6 Bxf2+ followed by hxg6.

22 Rhc8
 23 g3?? Bxe3!

Black wins a pawn but White gets an attack. Now if 24 Rxc6 bxc6 25 fxe3 cxb5.

24 Re2 Bc5
 25 f4 gxf4
 26 gxf4 Qd8
 27 f5 Bxf5
 28 Bxf5 exf5
 29 Rxf5 Rg6

Suddenly both kings are under attack.

30 Rg2 Rcc6

If I keep a rook on g6, my king is quite safe, whereas the white king has a pawn less for protection.

31 Qf3 Rxf2+
 32 Kxf2 Rg6+
 33 Kh2 Kg8!

So that Rxf7 is not check. Now 34 Rxf7 Qg5 wins.

34 Rf6 Be7!

Now 35 Rxf7 Bh4 or Qb6 are strong.

35 Rf4 Bf8!
 36 Rxf7

Otherwise Bg7 is very strong.

36 Bg7

37 Rxb7 Qc8!

Threatening Qc2+ as well as the rook. Of course 38 Rc7 loses to Bxe5+.

38 Qxd5+ Kh8
39 Nd4

If 39 Rc7 Qf5 threatens Qf2+ and Qf4+ and wins.

39 Rg5

Threatens Bxe5+ followed by Qxh3 mate.

40 Rxb7

If 40 Re7 Bxe5+ 41 Rxe5 Qb8 wins the rook, or if 42 Nc6 Qxb2+ 43 Kh1 Qb1 mates on g1.

40 Rxb7
41 Nc6 Qf8

Not 41 ... Qf5?? 42 Qd8+ Rg8 43 Qxg8+! Kxg8 44 Ne7+.

42 Qd8 Qxd8
43 Nxd8 Rd7

Normally with so few pawns left on the board, White should be able to hold the ending but his pawns are so scattered that the Black rook is able to pick them up easily.

44 Nc6 Rd2+
45 Kg3 Rxb2

46 Kf4

If 46 Nxa5 Ra2 wins the a-pawn and cuts the king off from the defence of the e-pawn.

46 Ra2
47 e6 Rxa4+
48 Ke5 Kg7!

Now White is hopelessly lost. The black king can help stop the white e-pawn. White has no defence to Ra1 and the advancing a-pawn.

49 Kd6 Ra1
50 Kd7 Rd1+

The white king is forced either to abandon the e-pawn or get in front of it and stop it queening!

51 Ke8 a4
52 e7 a3
53 Nb4 Rd2

Resigns



So with one game left, I had scored 5½ points and was assured of at least first equal. Twentynine games in the event undefeated and only a draw needed to net £750. It wasn't the best opening to play to aim for a draw but surely I couldn't fail now.

White: C. Holland
Black: P.M. Giullian

13 0-0 Re8
14 Qc2 Nf8?

Modern Benoni A67

1 d4 Nf6
2 c4 c5
3 d5 e6
4 Nc3 exd5
5 cxd5 d6
6 e4 g6
7 f4

I believe this to be the most dangerous line for Black to meet. Because of this, many players only use the Benoni after White has played Nf3.

7 Bg7
8 Bb5+ Nfd7

Not 8 ... Nbd7?? 9 e5 Qe7 10 Qe2 Nh5 11 e6 winning.

9 a4 a6

Logically Black should play Na6 and then Nb4 or Nc7, but I have tried both of these moves without success.

10 Be2 Qh4+

Wasting a tempo to weaken White's kingside.

11 g3 Qd8
12 Nf3 0-0

This was my new idea. Nf6 is more logical but I was afraid of e5 at some stage. My idea was to play Nbd7, h6 and g5!? followed by Ng6 or Ne5.

15 Kg2 Bg4
16 Re1 Nbd7
17 h3 Bxf3+
18 Bxf3 Rb8
19 a5

White keeps his bind on the position. Now if I play b5 at any stage, axb6 leaves me with a weak a-pawn.

19 h6
20 h4!

White is determined not to let me break out of my cramped position. By now I was feeling distinctly uncomfortable. If I do nothing, I will be slowly crushed, but what constructive moves do I have? So...

20 b5
21 axb6 Rxb6
22 Qd3 Qc7

Looking to play c4, maybe sacrificing this pawn to gain some activity with Nc5.



ICCF INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENTS (by Alan Borwell)

Members of the Scottish Correspondence Chess Association are eligible to compete in ICCF promotion tournaments, which are structured to encourage participation by C.C. players of all standards. You can choose between World or European-only sections ranging upwards from third class, second class to first class. Higher Class and Master Class events require evidence of C.C. playing strength with entries.

Tournaments are organised in 7 or 15 player sections, except World III Class which is 7-player only. They begin as soon (in theory) as entries have been received from seven different countries. Sometimes, in practice, there are two players from the same country, particularly from USSR or DDR. After you have selected a Class, you need to win a Section to be promoted and to score more than one-third of the points to avoid relegation!

The entry fee of £3.50 (for 7-player groups) or £4.50 (for 15-player groups) should be made payable to BPCF and sent to Mr. Michael Anderson, 3 Winterfield Gardens, Duns, Berwickshire, TD11 3EZ.

Scottish CCA entries to ICCF events from Oct 1988-Mar 1989:

I W S Mitchell	WT/III & EU III	M Dunn	WT/II
I H Marshall	WT/H	R Musgrave	EU/I/GT & EU/I
R Inglis	WT/M & EU/M	--do--	WT/I
M J MacLeod	TT/3/89	J P E Jack	EU/III
C F Boyle	WT/H & EU/H	I Aird	WT/H

23 Qc4 Nb8

Intending Rb4.

24 Ra4 Nfd7
25 Re2 Qd8
26 Nd1 h5

At least this stops the pawn storm on the kingside.

27 Bd2 Rb7
28 Ba5 Qc8
29 Qc2 Nb6
30 Ra1 N8d7
31 Bc3 Ra7
32 Bxg7 Kxg7

Without the black-squared bishop, my king position is suddenly very vulnerable.

33 Qc3+ f6
34 g4 hxg4

Final Scores

1st= P.M. Giulian, A.R. Corkett, C.K.D. Holland 5½;
4th B.P. Dabaluwicus 5; 5th A.K. Crombleholme 4½
6th= P.A. Lamford, R.A. Barton 4; 8th J.C. Wells 2

It would be helpful if members changing their address could advise both Alan Hind and myself, to ensure that all correspondence and magazines are properly directed.

Alan P. Borwell, Editor

35 Bxg4 Rh8

I have to stop h5 or Ne3 and Nf5 will surely spell the end.

36 h5! Rh6

If 36 ... gxb5 37 Be6 and my extra pawn is useless against Ne3 and Nf5.

37 hxg6 Rxb6
38 Ne3 Qf8

My position is in tatters. My only chance is to run with the king.

39 Rh1 Kf7
40 Kf3 Ke7
41 Reh2 Kd8
42 Be6 Resigns

White was threatening Rh8, Nf5 winning the queen.

INTERNATIONAL REPORT

(by Philip Giulian)

Graham Morton has joined the long list of recent Scottish successes by winning an International Thematic Tournament. As well as congratulating him on his victory, I would like to thank him for his suggestion for the magazine. Recently during a telephone conversation, Nick Down came up with the same recommendation. Basically, the idea is that we, as members of the same Association, should be willing to assist each other research opponents in international events. At present, the difficulty is that when a start list arrives, most players have no idea whether other members have previously met these opponents or not. Consequently in future we intend to publish the start lists of Scots competing in Master Class and Higher Class. We will also publish final scores. I would welcome anyone's views on this idea.

I have written a full report elsewhere in the magazine on the Olympiad. There have been no results since the last issue in either the Ladies Olympiad or any of the individual events. Play has begun in the Australian John Kellner Memorial, in which Simon Gillam and I are representing Scotland. I am awaiting more details of Simon's section and will write a short description of the event for the next magazine. The International Master title will be awarded to anyone scoring 8½/14 in my section.

Our friendly match with the Clergy has ended in a narrow success for Scotland, with victory being secured with the last games to finish.

Results:

Men's Olympiad (Scotland 14/22)

Bd 1 Bryson ½ v Belgium
 Bd 2 McNab 0 v Czechoslovakia
 McNab 1 v Norway
 Bd 3 Borwell 1 v Portugal
 Borwell 1 v Brazil
 Bd 5 Giulian 1 v Singapore

Scotland (4½) v Italy (14½)

Bd 4 C R Beecham 0 0 Bd 13 D G McRoberts 1 1

Scotland (5½) v Argentina (2½)

Bd 7 I A Marks ½ 0

Scotland (14½) v Israel (19½)

Bd 9 I Marshall 1 ½ Bd 15 R E Rough 1 0

Scotland (3) v Ukraine (10)

Bd 2 A P Borwell 0 0 Bd 5 C R Beecham 0 0

Scotland (16) v The Clergy (14) (Final Result)

Bd 8 J Stallard 1 ½ Bd 11 Thompson 1 1
 Bd 10 Grant 1 0

Scotland (6) v Australia (3)

Bd 4 R Inglis 1 Bd 17 IWS Mitchell 1
 Bd 16 Mrs M Inglis 1 Bd 21 B W Grant 0

Scotland (1½) v USA (9½)

Bd 12 D Savage 0 Bd 26 D V Gibbs 0 0
 Bd 14 J M T Ryan 0 0 Bd 27 B Goodwin 1 ½
 Bd 22 J Stallard 0 0

2nd NORTH ATLANTIC TEAM TOURNAMENT

Final standings (after adjudications decided):

		Points	%	Scotland's score against each team
1	England	44½	61.81	2 - 6
2	France	40	55.56	3½ - 4½
3	USA	39½	54.86	5 - 3
4	Canada	38½	53.47	4½ - 3½
5	Portugal	38	52.78	3 - 5
6	Scotland	37½	52.08	- - - -
7	Iceland	36½	50.69	4½ - 3½
8	Spain	32	44.44	4½ - 3½
9	Ireland	31	43.06	5 - 3
10	Wales	22½	31.25	5½ - 2½
				37½ - 34½

2nd North Atlantic Team Tourney

RD. 1	P. M. GIULIAN 1M=75% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	E. GIBNEY	IRL	0	0	1/2	0	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	4
2	A. B. MOURA	POR	1	0	0	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	3
3	A. M. STEWART	GDE	1/2	1	0	1/2	1	1	0	1	1	1	7
4	P. A. LAMFORD	GBW	1	1	1/2	0	0	1/2	1	1	1	1	7
5	K. V. GRIVAINIS / G. GREINER	USA	1/2	1/2	0	1	0	1	0	1/2	0	1	4 1/2
6	Z. L. SAROSY	CAN	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1/2	1	1	4 1/2
7	F. CHEVALDONNEI	FRA	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	0	1	1	1/2	1	6 1/2
8	P. M. GIULIAN ●	GBS	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1	0	1	1	1/2	1	4 1/2
9	E. PASCUAL	SPA	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1	0	0	0	1	1	4
10	J. A. PALSSON	ICE	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	1	2 1/2

1M norm

1/2 IM norm

RD. 2	T. S. WICKENS 1/2 IM=65% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	A. DOYLE	IRL	0	1	1	1	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	5
2	V. E. ABRANTES	POR	0	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	0	0	2
3	T. THOMAS	GDE	0	1	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	1	1	1	5
4	J. D. THORNTON	GBW	0	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	0	3 1/2
5	S. GRANT	USA	1/2	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	6
6	A. J. UGGE	CAN	1/2	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	6
7	E. SAVOSTIANOFF	FRA	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	6
8	T. S. WICKENS ●	GBS	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1 1/2
9	R. CRUSI	SPA	1/2	1	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	1	1	1	4
10	N. OLAFSSON	ICE	1/2	1	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	4 1/2

1/2 IM norm

1/2 IM norm

1/2 IM norm

RD. 3	G. MORRISON 1/2 IM=70% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	T. FAYNE	IRL	0	0	0	0	1/2	1	0	0	0	1/2	3
2	N. M. LAVRADOR	POR	1	0	0	1	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	0	0	4 1/2
3	M. ALCOCK	GDE	1	1	0	1	0	1/2	1/2	1	0	5 1/2	
4	D. K. EVANS	GBW	1	0	0	1/2	0	1	0	0	0	2 1/2	
5	K. K. DEHMELT	USA	1	1	1	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	7	
6	Z. LESKOWSKY	CAN	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0	1	0	1	0	4 1/2	
7	A. DOBRINE	FRA	0	0	1/2	0	1/2	0	0	0	1	2	
8	G. MORRISON ●	GBS	1	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	7	
9	L. LLAYERIAS	SPA	1	1/2	0	1	1/2	0	1	1/2	0	4 1/2	
10	J. IN THOR	ICE	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	6	

1/2 IM norm

1/2 IM norm

RD. 4	A. J. NORRIS 1/2 IM=70% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	T. D. HARDING	IRL	0	0	0	1	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	0	2 1/2
2	V. L. CORDEIRO	POR	1	0	1	1/2	1	1	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	6
3	P. J. SOWRAY	GDE	1	0	0	1	1	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	6
4	C. I. PRICE	GBW	0	1/2	0	0	1	1	0	1/2	1	1	4
5	M. E. ZAVANELLI	USA	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	3	
6	D. V. DOUTHWAITE	CAN	1/2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	3 1/2	
7	J-M MASUREL	FRA	1/2	1	1/2	0	1	1	0	1	1	6	
8	A. J. NORRIS ●	GBS	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	
9	A. PADROS	SPA	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0	0	0	1/2	2 1/2	
10	B. MAGNUSON	ICE	1	1/2	0	0	1/2	1	0	0	1	3 1/2	

1/2 IM norm

continued

RD. 5	I. J. CRAIG 1/2 IM=75% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	N. MONTGOMERY	IRL	0	1/2	1	1	0	0	1/2	0	1	1	3 1/2
2	J. D. SOUSA	POR	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7
3	I. CHAFFAN	GDE	1/2	0	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	0	1	1	3
4	N. M. BOLLER	GBW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1
5	B. F. GIBBONS	USA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
6	C. PARE	CAN	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	6
7	A. LELIEVRE	FRA	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1/2	1	5 1/2
8	I. J. CRAIG ●	GBS	1/2	0	0	1	1/2	1/2	0	1	1/2	0	3
9	J. PAREDES	SPA	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	5 1/2
10	J. HALFDANARSON	ICE	0	1/2	1	1/2	0	0	1/2	1	0	1	3 1/2

1/2 IM norm

1/2 IM norm

RD. 6	C. R. DEECHAN 1/2 IM=75% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	J. F. GIBSON	IRL	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
2	N. S. RAJIA	POR	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7 1/2
3	J. E. HAWKES	GDE	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1/2	1	1	4
4	G. CANTILLO	GBW	1/2	0	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0	1/2	1/2	4 1/2
5	Dr. J. EYERTOV	USA	0	1/2	0	1/2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
6	N. E. SHEPHERD	CAN	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2 1/2
7	P. BELLVIRE	FRA	0	0	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
8	C. R. DEECHAN ●	GBS	0	0	1/2	0	1	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	2
9	J. BOADA	SPA	1	1/2	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	6 1/2
10	B. J. KARLSSON	ICE	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	1/2	0	1	5

1/2 IM norm

RD. 7	G. D. PYRICH 1/2 IM=80% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	D. FENNELLY	IRL	0	1/2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1/2	3
2	N. S. AHARAL / G. MONTGOMERY	POR	1/2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1 1/2
3	D. J. N. BARNES	GDE	1	1	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	1	7 1/2
4	J. TIPLADY	GBW	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	2
5	G. W. BERRY	USA	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	6 1/2
6	B. MacLEOD	CAN	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	7 1/2
7	F. TARCY	FRA	1	1	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	5
8	G. D. PYRICH ●	GBS	1	1	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	5
9	F. J. MUÑOZ	SPA	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	0	2 1/2
10	I. SAEMUNDSSON	ICE	1/2	1	0	1/2	0	1/2	0	0	1	1	3 1/2

1/2 IM norm

1/2 IM norm

RD. 8	S. R. MANNION 1/2 IM=80% ●	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts.
1	B. O' SICHINU	IRL	0	1	0	1/2	1	1/2	1	0	1	0	5
2	P. M. PALMARES	POR	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1/2	1	0	5 1/2
3	P. F. TIMSON	GDE	1	0	0	1	1	1/2	1	1/2	1	1/2	6 1/2
4	K. O. JONES	GBW	1/2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/2
5	K. A. NAAG Jr.	USA	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1/2	0	0	3 1/2
6	L. NEWDAVER / J. F. CLEEVE	CAN	1/2	1	1/2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
7	N. PINSON	FRA	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1/2	1/2	3
8	S. R. MANNION ●	GBS	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	6 1/2
9	J. L. LOPEZ / C. FLORES	SPA	0	0	0	1	1	0	1/2	0	0	0	2 1/2
10	B. THORBERGSSON	ICE	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	8

1/2 IM norm

C C OLYMPIAD XI PRELIMINARIES

(Section 2)

1 CZECHOSLOVAKIA		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	A LANC WIM 2430							1/2			
2	J AMBROZ -									1	
3	M WEINER IM 2435										
4	R NACHALA 2380					1/2		1/2			
5	J KOLIN 2335										
6	P MISKOVSKY 2480										

2 BELGIUM		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	A VAN OSMAEL WIM 2530							0		1/2	
2	J ROOSE 2330								1/2		
3	B VAN LEEUWEN 2140				1		1/2	1	1	0	
4	D WEYNS -										
5	V LEROY 2265					1/2				1/2	
6	H VBBN -						1	0			

3 SINGAPORE		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	H F GLASER 2380								1/2	0	
2	A CHIA -					1/2			0	0	
3	K-S TEO -					0	0			0	
4	C-V LEONG -				1/2	0		1	1/2	1/2	
5	H-Y WONG -					0	1/2			0	
6	B TEO -						0				

4 ARGENTINA		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	J S MORGADO GM 2475										1/2
2	B MARCUSSI IM 2470										
3	P BUJ IM 2445										
4	R A REDOLFI IM 2385				1/2						
5	A LAURENCENA 2405										
6	C G PAPIER IM 2315										

5 PORTUGAL		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	F SILVA WIM 2280								1/2		
2	R SILVA PEREIRA WIM -				1/2					1/2	
3	H NETO WIM -			0	1					0	
4	J D DE SOUSA -				1			1			
5	A OLIVEIRA WIM -				1					1/2	
6	C QUARESMA -						0				

6 FINLAND		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	T PERMAN WIM 2355										
2	H SABEL 2395								1/2	0	
3	K TANNI -				1				1/2		
4	S SJÖMAN 2420	1/2									
5	K KAUNONEN IM 2465		1/2	1/2					1/2	1/2	
6	R WIKMAN IM 2405		0	1		1					1/2

7 BRAZIL		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	G FRAGA PORTILHO 2355	1/2	1								
2	S HONCE DE CRESCA -										
3	N SILOS BIAVA WIM 2440		1/2						1/2	0	
4	A PACINI WIM 2360			0		0			1/2		
5	O ALCANTARA SOARES 2350								1/2	1/2	
6	P A GUENEZ BRIAO -										

8 NORWAY		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	T STRAND WIM 2370			1/2		1/2				1/2	
2	K V STRAND IM 2445		1/2	1			1/2			0	
3	F LARSEN 2325			0			1/2	1/2		1/2	
4	P STIGAR -	1/2		1/2				1/2			1/2
5	Ø HJERTENES -						1/2	1/2		1/2	
6	Ø BREKKK -		1								

9 SCOTLAND		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	D M BRYSON GM 2565		1/2	1					1/2		
2	C A MCNAB (FIDE) IM(2435)	0		1		1/2	1		1		
3	A J NORRIS / R.P. BORNWELL		0	1		1		1	1/2		1/2
4	T S VICKERS WIM 2470			1/2							
5	P M GIULIAN 2370	1/2	1			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2
6	A KILGOUR 2365										

10 HUNGARY		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	S BRILLA-BANFALVI GM 2545				1/2						
2	J FÖLDI IM 2450										
3	F FABRI 2550		1							1/2	
4	I MÜLLNER 2345								1/2		
5	T FLORIAN 2415									1/2	
6	I FODOR WIM 2195						1/2				



OLYMPIAD REPORT (to 30/6/89)

by Philip Giulian

Twenty months after the start of play, Scotland's challenge for one of the two qualifying places is beginning to take shape. In percentage terms, we are currently in first place, just ahead of Czechoslovakia, Portugal and Hungary, but two of these countries have completed very few games. I remain convinced that if we can top 60% (an average score of 5½/9 per player), we will qualify for the Final. To date, Scotland are on course with 14/22 (63.6%).

	CS	BE	SI	AR	PO	FI	BR	NO	SC	HU	Pts	%
1 Czech	*	-	-	-	½	½	½	1	-	-	2½/4	62.5
2 Belgium	-	*	-	-	1½	1	½	1½	2	0	6½/12	54.2
3 Singapore	-	-	*	½	½	½	1	1	½	-	4/17	23.5
4 Argentina	-	-	½	*	-	-	-	-	½	-	1/2	50.0
5 Portugal	-	½	3½	-	*	0	1	½	1	-	6½/11	59.1
6 Finland	½	½	2½	-	1	*	-	1½	½	½	7/13	53.8
7 Brazil	½	1½	0	-	0	-	*	1½	½	-	4/10	40.0
8 Norway	½	1½	2	-	½	1½	1½	*	1½	½	9½/19	50.0
9 Scotland	0	1	4½	-	2	1½	1½	2½	*	1	14/22	63.6
10 Hungary	-	1	-	½	-	½	-	½	1	*	3½/6	58.3

(Individual results are shown on the preceding pages)

Cynics might argue that almost all of our plus score is due to victories over Singapore, who appear to be the weakest side in our group. However, Singapore have proved a tough nut to crack and have been taking points from a number of the more fancied sides. Scotland also have several favourable positions in the remaining games and I believe our present score probably gives a true reflection of our progress to date.

Crucial to our chances will be the games on boards 4 and 6 where there is only one result so far. On the other boards things are much clearer. Douglas Bryson won against Singapore, but equally important he managed to draw a bad position against Belgium. Undoubted star of the team so far has been Colin McNab. Colin has already scored "plus two" and is confident of improving this still further. He has a rather deceptive style of play. He often appears to be doing very little but I know from personal experience how suddenly his opponents find themselves under strong attack or the victims of some spectacular sacrifice.

The following game is a good example of Colin's play. It appears for quite a time that Black should be able to hold the position, then suddenly he is in hasty retreat with his position in disarray. Notes are by Colin.

White: C. A. McNab	14	Rd2	Qa8
Black: K. W. Strand (Norway)	15	Ne1	Na5
	16	f4	Bxg2

English Opening A14

1	c4	e6
2	Nf3	d5
3	b3	Nf6
4	g3	Be7
5	Bg2	0-0
6	0-0	b6
7	Bb2	Bb7
8	d3	c5
9	e3	dxc4
10	bxc4	Nc6
11	Qe2	Qc7
12	Nc3	Rad8
13	Rfd1	Qb8

So far as in Taimanov-Gipslis, Yurmala 1978, White's next move has been recommended as giving a slight advantage.

17	Nxg2	Rd7
18	Rad1	Rfd8
19	Ba1	Nc6

My opponent commented after the game, "I never found a plan and sat there just waiting." Meanwhile, White builds up his position on the kingside.

Black's plan of increasing the pressure on the long diagonal, by putting his queen on a8, is rather slow.

20	g4	Ne8
----	----	-----

21 Ne4 Nb4

Threatening Nxd3.

22 Ng3 Bf6
23 Bxf6 Nxf6
24 Ne1 Ne8
25 Kf2 Qb8
26 Nf3 Nc6
27 h3 Qd6
28 Kg2 Qe7

After a prolonged bout of manoeuvring, White now begins a central advance which very quickly leads to an overwhelming position.

29 d4! cxd4
30 exd4 Qb4
31 d5 exd5
32 cxd5 Ne7

On 32 ... Re7 White simply continues 33 Qf2.

33 Rd4 Qc5
34 d6!

After 34 Ne4 Qa5 35 d6 Ng6, the threat to f4 would be annoying.

Special mention must also be made of Alan Borwell who took over the games of Alan Norris almost one year ago. Alan B. has worked hard on these games and several have shown significant improvement since he took over. He has clinched very useful victories over his Portuguese and Brazilian opponents and hopefully he can improve further on his current +2 score.

34 Ng6

Black cannot capture on d6:
(a) 34 ... Nxd6 35 Ne5 Rc7
36 Ne4 wins; (b) 34 ...
Rxd6 35 Rxd6 Rxd6 36 Rxd6
Qxd6 37 Nf5! and White wins
a piece.

35 f5 Nf8
36 Ne4

Beginning a queen-hunt.

36 Qa5
37 Rd5 Qa3
38 Ne5 Rb7
39 R1d3 Qc1
40 Rc3 Qf4
41 Rc4 Nd7

If 41 ... b5 42 Rcd4 Qc1
43 Rc5 Qa3 44 Rc3 and then
either 44 ... Qa5 45 Nc6 or
44 ... Qa6 45 Nc5.

42 Ng3 Resigns

In view of 42 ... Qh6
43 Nxf7 Kxf7 44 Qe7+
picking up the rook on e8 or
42 ... Qg5 43 Nf3 Qf6 44 g5
Qa1 45 Rd1 netting the Q.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of my own games is that my long drawing sequence has come to an end with my victory over Singapore.

A number of these games have not exactly been exciting but others have not been lacking in that respect.

White: W. Leroy (Belgium)
Black: P.M. Giulian

French Defence C19

9 Qxh7 cxd4
10 Ne2 Nbc6
11 f4 Bd7
12 Qd3 dxc3
13 Qxc3

1 e4 e6
2 d4 d5
3 Nc3 Bb4
4 e5 c5
5 a3 Bxc3+
6 bxc3 Ne7
7 Qg4!

Also possible is 13 Nxc3 a6
14 Rb1 Rc8 (not 0-0-0??
15 Qxa6) with an unclear
position.

13 Nf5
14 Rb1 d4

Possibly the refutation of the French Winawer (!?) and the move which led Botvinnik to give up the opening for part of his career. In recent times, Qg4 has been scoring very heavily.

An alternative is 14 ...
Rc8 15 Bd2 a6 16 g3 b5
17 Bh3 Qb6 which led to a
draw in Tal-Farago, but
Short has won recently
against Levitt (I think!)
with White in this line.

7 Qc7?!

15 Qd3 0-0-0
16 Rg1 Kb8!?

Accepting the challenge although the main alternative 0-0 has done very badly after 8 Bd3 with a strong attack. All this has led to 7 ... Kf8 being tried but after 8 Nf3 Qa5 9 Bd2 Qa4 10 Ra2 b6 11 Qf4, White is slightly better.

At the Olympiad in Greece in 1988, Nogueiras played 16 ... Be8 against Sznafik. That game continued with 17 g4 Nh4 18 Rg3 f6 19 exf6 e5, although perhaps ... Bg6 20 Qc4 Bf7 was better.

8 Qxg7 Rg8

17 g4 Nh4

18 Bd2 Bc8

This was my idea on playing my 16th move. I intended to re-route the bishop to b7.

19 Rg3 b6
20 Bb4!

I had under-estimated this move when playing 16 ... Kb8. Now if I play 20 ... Nxb4?? 21 Rxb4 and my d-pawn is lost.

20 Ka8
21 Bd6 Qd7
22 Nxd4 Nxd4
23 Qxd4 Rxd4!

The only chance. Now 24 Rxd4?? Nf3+ wins the queen.

24 Rc3

If 24 Qc3 f5! fending off the threat of Bb5 winning the queen.

24 Qb7
25 Be2? Rxf4!

The same tactic! Now of course 26 Qxf4 Ng2+ wins the queen.

26 Qd3 Qg2

Now fortunately after 27 Rxb6??, I have Qg1+ winning the rook. Otherwise 27 ... axb6 28 Rxc8+ Rxc8 29 Qa6 would be a nice mate!

27 Rb4!

The only defence. Otherwise I play Bb7 with a good position. I was also threatening Qg1+ in some lines.

27 Qxb2
28 Rxf4 Qxf4
29 Bf3+ Bxf3+
30 Qxf3+ Qxf3
31 Rxf3 Rd7
32 Rc3

Agreed drawn.

Unfortunately my extra pawn is of little value, especially with bishops of opposite colour and an immobile rook.

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READERS' LETTERS

Editor: Another interesting letter concerning the SCCA Grading System has been received, this time from from Simon Gillam, Newcastle. He writes as follows:

"I was disappointed to see Graham Wood's reply to the letter from Robert Inglis in the May 1989 issue. He did not adequately address either of the problems raised about SCCA rating.

Graham claimed that the grading system developed by the ICCF has the least deficiencies of all systems. But it is easy to spot major flaws in the system, and these flaws are much more serious when it is used for SCCA rating instead of the ICCF for which it was designed. For players with less than 30 recorded results, the two main problems, detailed below, could be repaired fairly easily, but it requires the Grader to take complaints like Robert's rather more seriously.

The first problem arises because Rc is an average of all opponents. Winning against a lowly rated opponent can pull down your grade, because it reduces the average rating of opponents by more than the win increases DP. This is clearly intolerable in any serious grading system. This problem is less serious in international events, where most games are between players with similar ratings, but can cause ridiculous distortions in domestic events when players 800 points apart can meet.

The worst excesses could be removed by first calculating a rough grading estimate for a player, then excluding any wins against players more than 400 points below (and losses to players more than 400 points above). You could achieve even more accurate results with more complicated rules for dealing with games against opponents of widely differing strengths (grouping and averaging, or excluding games from the average then awarding a small credit for the win). All this is very easy to do when the Grader has all individual results.

The second problem is with the "correction factor" F, which stops a player who scores above 50% from scoring the full value of his performance (and also similarly limits results below 50%). For example, a player scoring 80% against opponents averaging 1800 achieves a performance of 2040, but is only given a grading of 1997. For higher percentage scores, the "correction" is even greater.

This sort of correction factor is reasonable when there is a prior belief that a new player cannot really be so much stronger than his average opponents. It stops a player with an initial lucky streak coming on with a very high grading. But these arguments do not apply over 30 games, and do not apply with the spread of SCCA gradings. A player near 2200 strength, playing in a variety of SCCA events, should be expected to score over 80% against typical opposition. The grading system will give him an artificially deflated rating for several years, until he plays 30 games. Even then, it will take many more games at the same standard to boost the deflated grading up to something close to the true level. This inbuilt deflation is surely much worse than the risk of someone keeping a lucky streak going for 30 games.

A simple improvement would be to keep the full correction factor for only the first 10 games, and phase it out gradually between games 10 and 30. Any grading system that allows a correction factor to deflate gradings over 30 or more games is inconsistent with belief in the normal probability function, which is claimed to be the basis of the grading system.

The SCCA gradings would also be improved if they took into account rather more events. Graham's article says that they only cover SCCA events, plus other games notified individually by the player, both at the start and at the end of each game. I would have thought that it would be much more efficient for the SCCA to include automatically games by Scottish players in many ICCF events, leading BPCF events and many of Scotland's friendly internationals. The SCCA Grader is more likely than the individual players to have access to gradings for the opponents."

Editor: We asked Graham Wood to reply to Simon Gillam's letter and he responded as follows:

"I welcome Simon Gillam's letter on the SCCA Rating System. His strongly worded criticisms raise several points which I shall do my best to address.

(Please refer to "The New SCCA Rating System: Part 2", SCCA Magazine No. 30, May 1989, pages 14-21.)

Mr. Gillam has misrepresented somewhat the calculation of a provisional grade, ie. the rating of a player who has not yet recorded 30 results.

The scoring rate P is expressed as a percentage and from it can be derived a (probable) difference in rating. Conversely, a difference in rating can be used to derive a (probable) scoring rate (ie. the probability of achieving a win against an opponent). "Probable" differences in rating and "probable" scoring rates are just that - probabilities: you would have to achieve it consistently 80 times out of 100 for it to even begin to be reasonably accurate. So, for players who have so far only a relatively small number of results, the distorting (both for them and consequently for each of their opponents) effects of extremes are tempered by the use of the correction factor F as shown in the table below:-

P	F	DP	(DP * F)
1	0.5	677	338.5
0.9	0.68	366	248.9
0.8	0.82	240	196.8
0.7	0.92	149	137.1
0.6	0.98	72	70.6
0.5	1	0	0
0.4	0.98	-72	-70.6
0.3	0.92	-149	-137.1
0.2	0.82	-240	-196.8
0.1	0.68	-366	-248.9
0	0.5	-677	-338.5

ie, the range of (DP * F) is 677 and calculations are based on the Student distribution of probability theory

The result of $(DP * F)$ is then added to R_c (which is the average rating of all that player's opponents to date) to derive R_p . But then (and this is what Mr. Gillam left out perhaps) R_p is used as the player's grade for the next series of calculations covering the results in the rating period concerned.

So, the actual results are compared with the expected results (based on the difference between R_p and his opponents' grades in that rating period) and all the changes of rating are calculated. This is where the development coefficient formula, $k = r * p_1$, is brought into play. For example, if R_p (which now becomes R_o) is less than or equal to 2000 (the most likely case with SCCA players who have not yet played many games), then $r = 20$, $p_1 = 1.25$ and thus $k = 25$. This then magnifies the individual changes in rating if you are scoring better (or worse) than expected in each game in this rating period.

Once all these individual changes in rating are calculated, then the significance factor, f , is derived from your performance in this rating period. Thus, again, if you have scored significantly better (or worse) than expected, the sum of the rating changes in all your games ending during the rating period is multiplied by 1.25 or 1.5 before, finally, we get the player's new grade.

Mr. Gillam expressed his concern that games against low-graded opponents lowered R_c and hence pulled down your grade. This is not quite the full story though and I believe, as described above, that the development coefficient and the significance factor largely counterbalance the effects of R_c .

And now to Mr. Gillam's point about including more results: I agree that as many results as possible should be included but, unfortunately, it is not as straightforward as one might think.

The start grade of each opponent must be known and the start and end date of each game must be notified to the Grading Officer. If you are posting moves to and fro over the period of a game you are in the best position to ask your opponent what his/her grade is. The Grading Officer does not have the grading lists of all other associations/federations and it would not help much if he did.

Some countries do not use the ELO system; ICCF only publishes a list of players who have a rating of 2000 or higher (men) and 1600 or higher (women); lists are just that: lists!, they give no indication as to whether the "WILSON, A" shown is the same as the WILSON A you're playing against or is it the WILSON, AB who's been listed with an initial missing? or are they three different people!?

Steps are being taken, however, by captains of "friendly" internationals and SCCA controllers of "open" events to get the grades of players on their entry forms at the outset and then to the Grading Officer with the crosstables of results.

As the Editor said last issue "really the best way for players to ensure greater accuracy is to play a larger number of games in SCCA events".

Editor: This topic has certainly spurred some members into action! Readers' letters are very welcome and I hope more of you will put pen to paper and express your opinions on any topic related to correspondence chess.

New teams will be most welcome into the SCCA League. It is an excellent way for OTB players to try postal chess for the first time as the League involves only 2 games against one opponent. Details can be obtained from Alan Hind, SCCA Secretary.

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READERS' LETTERS

The following letter has been received from Mr. F. Andres of Kilmarnock.

"I have just received issue 30 of SCCA Magazine. A fair number of queries and ideas have been born with it. I will try and go over them.

I am a 45 year old publican and have spent my whole life in the catering industry. Due to its unsociable hours, I was never in a position to become a club member or indeed to obtain a regular game of chess, not to mention time to sit and look at an "Openings" book, "end-game" theory or "middle-game" ideas. I was under the impression that you had to be somebody good at chess to aspire to play in any type of tournament whatever. Alas for the lost years!

As luck will have it, I came across the Thor tournament in Glasgow two years ago and entered it. Naturally I lost all my games, but I played well enough to realise that you don't have to be a Master to play in a competition.

I managed to get a copy of "Pergamon Chess", through it "Scottish Chess", and through it SCCA's Magazine.

A major step had been achieved. A new world of chess opened to me where I could play chess and learn the hard way, and enjoy losing games to friendly people who wrote little notes and who I may never meet.

I like the magazine, but... it seems directly aimed at those who know. The information in it is useful mainly for the informed. Perhaps a page with explanatory articles for the uninformed? They could be repetitive articles turning over every year.

It also seems that one has to happen upon it. Papers such as Saturday Glasgow Herald and Evening Times etc with their chess sections could perhaps from time to time "place" something relating to correspondence chess. I'm sure they could find the odd game worth publishing."

(Editor: It is most refreshing to receive letters such as this. The suggestions are appreciated and will be acted upon. Articles specially prepared for new postal chess players will be included in the magazine. We will also ask our friendly chess correspondents to give us more support!!)

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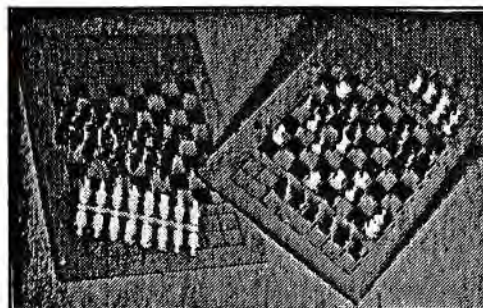
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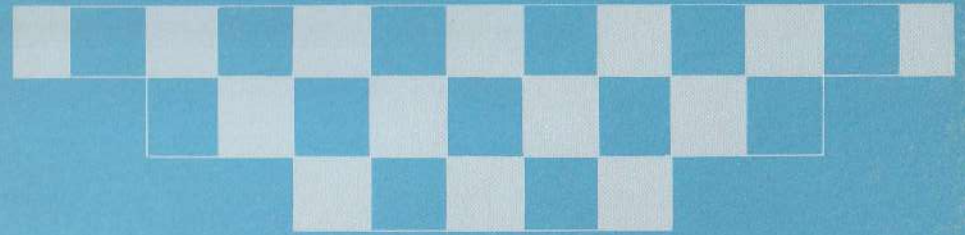
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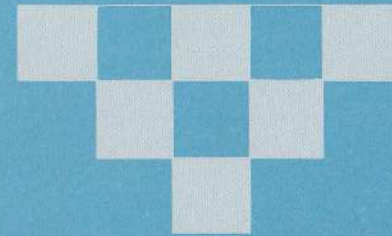
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