

The Right Move



2010 APR

English Chess Federation—Junior Chess Magazine

director.juniorchess@englishchess.org.uk

4NCL Junior Successes!



A magnificent weekend at Wokefield Park in Berkshire concluded this season's Junior 4 Nations Chess League. We were extremely pleased to be able to welcome over 100 players, ranging from those competing in the strong FIDE rated under 18 section, to under 9s playing in their first tournament outside school. Congratulations to all competitors.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer excellent facilities to both players and parents alike and would like to thank Wokefield Park for the service that they provided.





Our evening exchange tournament proved as popular as ever, attracting over 30 teams; including combinations of dads and daughters, coaches and pupils, eager adults and of course, simply juniors.

Under 9	points
1st Heathside under 9s	17
2nd Richmond Juniors under 9s	14
3rd Yateley Manor under 9 A	13

Full crosstable: http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910_junior_U9.pdf

Under 11

1st Basingstoke A	20
2nd Yateley Manor under 11 A	17
3rd Richmond Juniors under 11s	15

Full crosstable: http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910_junior_U11.pdf

Under 14

1st Richmond Juniors under 14s	14
2nd King's College Junior School	11
3rd Yateley Manor under 14	10

Full crosstable: http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910_junior_U14.pdf

Under 18

1st Reading Rooks	12
2nd Pride & Prejudice	9
3rd Cardiff AJs	8

Full crosstable: http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910_junior_U18.pdf

There will be three weekends in next season's Junior 4NCL, to take place at the Barcelo Hotel, Oxford:

- 13th - 14thNovember 2010
- 5th - 6th February 2011
- 19th - 20thMarch 2011

The entry form will be available on the 4NCL website shortly.



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Saxony 2010

Monday 15th February

I think I can truthfully say that this has been our most efficient group ever as far as communications is concerned. Money and forms were all in on time and everybody arrived at Manchester Terminal One on time. If only we could have said the same thing about the Lufthansa plane! The party was made up of 8 players; Henry Broadley, Stephen Chung, William Foo, Andrew Horton, Jacob Manton, Joseph McPhillips, James Walsh and Matthew Walsh with Peter Purland and Glynis South as leaders. Check in and security were no problem but it soon became obvious that the timing of our plane was. Heavy snow in Frankfurt had caused a problem and not only was our plane late but the connection had been cancelled. In the end we left 2 hours late with little idea what was happening at the other end. I must say I was singularly unimpressed with Lufthansa's organisation and it was only thanks to our own initiative and a man at our check in desk that we got a connection at

continued on page 9

EDITOR'S FOREWORD AND BASIC ADVICE

**by Andrew Martin
International Master**



A.M.

It's a great pleasure to have you along this month. We lead with Claire's report on the excellent Four Nations Junior Chess League (4NCL). Please consider playing next year if you don't already do so. Dates and locations are there. Peter Purland sends news of the competitive World Trials. Meanwhile, **can I make a further appeal to send in** your games/stories/reports etc. to: a.martin2007@yahoo.co.uk We are here to help you! Thanks, Andrew

Karpov, Anatoly (2705) - Portisch, Lajos (2635)

[D18]

Portoroz/Ljubljana, June 1975

Anatoly Karpov has put his hat into the ring for FIDE President. What a good ambassador for chess he would make! To celebrate, here is one of Karpov's finest games, with notes from Karpov himself.

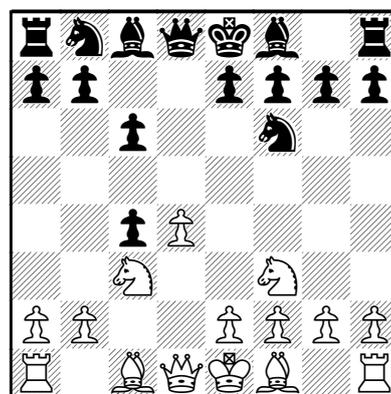
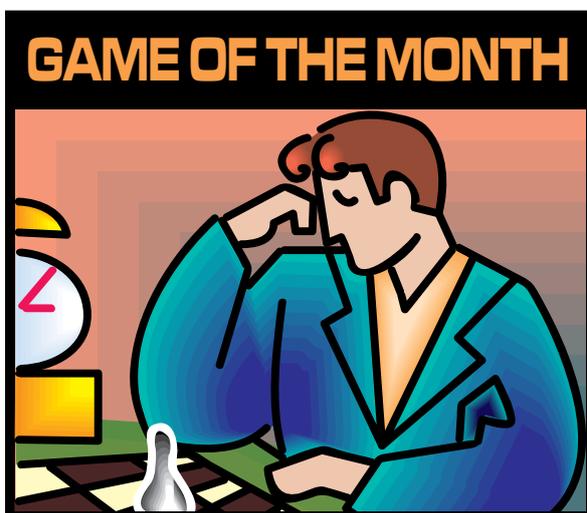
1. ♘f3

A move which has only recently entered my opening repertoire. White does not commit his pawns and, depending on the opponent's reply, can get into a Sicilian, a King's Indian or various Queen's Pawns openings.

1...d5 2.d4

Portisch is perfectly content to play the position arising after 2. c4 d4, and so I avoided that continuation.

2...♘f6 3.c4 c6 4. ♘c3 dxc4



So, a Slav Defence. Its main difference from the Queen's Gambit is the fact that Black leaves the c8-h3 diagonal open for

his Bishop.

However, 4...♟f5 at once is bad because of 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.♞b3.

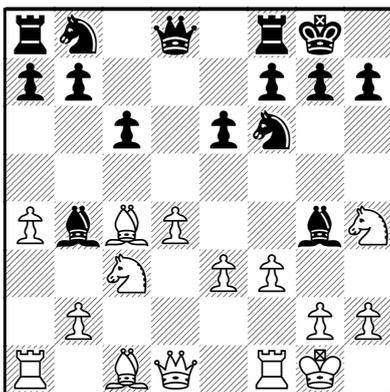
5.a4

Clearly intending to regain the pawn without trouble. This continuation gives White a small advantage in view of the freer development of his pieces. However, he must always bear in mind the one marked weakness in his camp - the b4-square which will always be under Black's control.

5...♟f5 6.e3 e6 7.♟xc4 ♟b4 8.0-0 0-0 9.♞h4

The only way to continue the struggle for an opening advantage. Sooner or later, White exchanges Knight for Bishop, obtaining the notorious advantage of the two Bishops, which, in view of the closed nature of the position, only ensures a small edge.

9...♟g4 10.f3

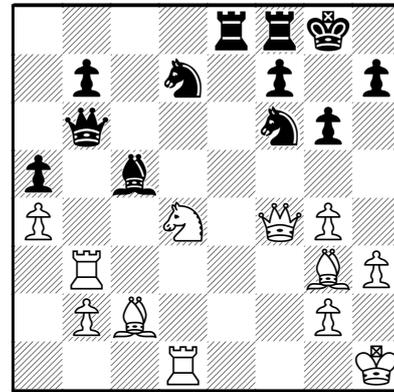


10...♟h5

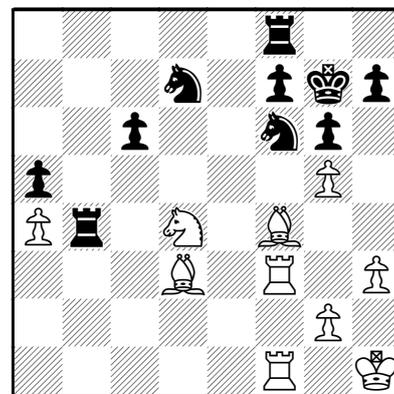
The text-move is double-edged, as White's pawns can mount an attack.

10...♞d5 11.fxg4 ♞xh4 is also playable; 12.♞f3 is now strongest as White need not fear 12...♞xc3 (♞12...♞d7 13.♟d2 a5 14.♞ad1 ♞ad8 15.♟b3 ♞5f6 16.h3

c5 17.♟e1 ♞g5 18.♟g3 cxd4 19.exd4 e5 20.♞b5 exd4 21.♞xd4 ♞c5 22.♟f2 ♞e5 23.♟g3 ♞c5 24.♞f5 ♞b6 25.♞h1 ♞c5 26.♟c2 ♞de8 27.♞f4 ♞cd7 28.♞f3 g6 29.♞f4 ♟c5 30.♞b3



30...♟b4 31.♞f3 ♟c5 32.♞b5 ♞e2 33.♟d3 ♞xb2 34.♞g5 ♞g7 35.♞df1 ♞c6 36.♞c1 ♞a2 37.♞c4 ♞d2 38.♟f4 ♞b2 39.♞c3 ♞b4 40.g5 ♟d4 41.♞xc6 bxc6 42.♞xd4



1-0 Karpov, A (2705)-Kupreichik, V (2460)/Riga 1975/MCD) 13.bxc3 ♟xc3 because of 14.♞b1 followed by 15.♟a3.

11.g4 ♟g6 12.♞xg6

This is the first time I have had this position in tournament play. I knew that the exchange of minor pieces is normally deferred, but I saw an interesting plan and was very attracted by it.

12...hxg6 13.♞b3!?

This and the following few moves decide not only the result of the opening stage of the game, but of the game itself. The basic problem for White is the imprisonment of his Bishop on c1. When considering where to develop this Bishop, White must not forget that his pawns have been advanced considerably, and that a counter-thrust by Black in the centre could turn out to be very unpleasant. Black is planning the advance c6-c5, which would undermine White's centre, to strengthen his Bishop on b4, and place a Knight on the active c6-square. White clears d1 for a Rook with gain of tempo, as the Bishop cannot retreat, because of the unprotected pawn on b7.

13... ♖e7

13... ♖b6 is possible, as White cannot drive the Bishop away immediately by 14. ♘a2?! (Best would be 14. ♖d1, strengthening the defence of d4 and preparing the pawn advances g4-g5 and e3-e4.) 14... ♕e7, and the loss of time stops White creating problems for Black in the ending.

14.g5

This drives the Knight away from f6, takes control of the d5-square, and in the case of c6-c5 (which is now threatened) allows d4-d5. It was this move in mind that it was necessary to exchange on move 12, since now if 14... ♘fd7 then White has 15 f4.

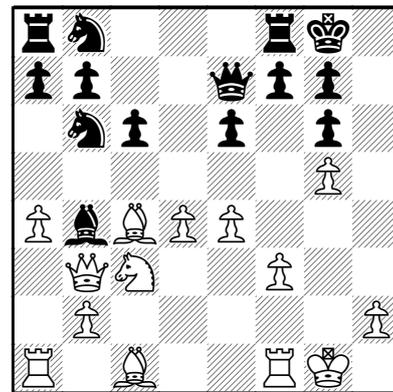
14... ♘d5

Forcing events.

After 14... ♘fd7 15.e4 Black does not have to transfer his Knight to b6. It appears that Portisch did not like his

cramped position after 15.f4, which is now not so worrisome for Black.

15.e4 ♘b6



15... ♘xc3 16.bxc3 only strengthens White's centre.

16. ♘a2!

When considering his previous move, Black had relied mainly on the retreat of the Bishop on c4, which would have won him an important tempo for the advance c6-c5. This zwischenzug upsets these plans as the capture 16... ♘xc4 is poor for Black because of 17. ♘xb4 with a decisive spatial advantage for White. 16... ♕a5 16... ♕d6 17. ♕e2.

17. ♕e2 e5

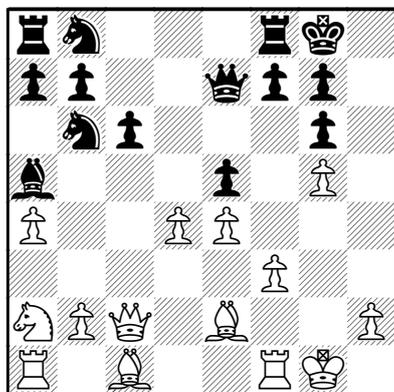
The alarming position of his minor pieces, which are trapped on the Q-side, forces Black into extreme measures.

HELP US
HELP YOU!

We also need games,
reports, letters, and
photos from all of our
readers. Send to A.M.

17...c5 does not give the hoped for freedom after 18.dxc5 (≤18.♖b5 ♘c6! 19.♗xc5 (19.dxc5 a6!) 19...♗xc5 20.dxc5 ♘xa4) 18...♗xc5+ 19.♙e3.

18.♗c2!



Another preliminary move, threatening the Bishop. While opening the way for an advance of the b-pawn, the Queen defends the second rank, the e4-pawn and controls the c5-square.

18...♘6d7

The complications after 18...exd4 19.b4! ♙xb4 20.♘xb4 ♗xb4 21.♙a3 ♖a5 22.♙xf8 ♗xg5+ (22...♙xf8 23.f4 and the pawn advance is deadly) 23.♙h1 ♙xf8 leave Black the worse off after 24.a5 ♘6d7 25.♗b2 ♘c5 26.♗xd4.

19.dxe5 ♗xe5 20.♙h1

A useful prophylactic move. The King moves away from the open a7-g1 diagonal and avoids dangerous intermediate checks. A further point is that f4 is now threatened, White can play this move at any time, and in preventing it Black has to give way in other parts of the board.

20...♗e8

Portisch considered this move to be the cause of his troubles, but I, on the other hand, consider it a good move. We

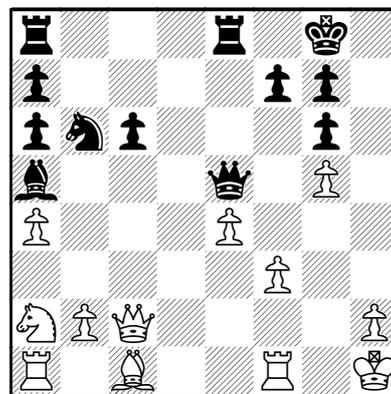
now get a keen struggle “for and against” the advance of White’s centre pawns. The rook attacks not only the e-pawn but also, behind it, the Bishop at e2.

21.♙c4 ♘b6 22.♙d3 ♘a6

The threat is stronger than its execution. By defending against f4 and b4, Black compromises his Q-side pawn structure. However, all is not as simple as it seems. White still has difficulty in developing his dark-squared Bishop, and his a1-Rook cannot easily emerge. At the moment Black is better developed and intends to take advantage of this.

22...♘8d7 23.b4! ♗xa1 24.bxa5 ♘c8 (24...♘xa4 25.♙e3 ♗b2 26.♗xa4) 25.♙b2 ♗xa2 26.♙c4! and the Queen is trapped; Possibly he should try 22...c5 here.

23.♙xa6 bxa6



24.♗d1!

This fine move is not at all obvious. White has a series of possible continuations, but all are considerably weaker.

≤24.♗b1 c5 and Black has no worries; ≤24.♘c3 takes away the powerful effect of the Queen on the c-file, which allows 24...c5, when 25.♙e3 fails to 25...♘c4; Nor can the Bishop be developed immediately: 24.♙e3? ♘d5!

24...c5

24...♖ad8 25.♙e3 ♘d5 26.♙d4!

25.♙e3

It is now clear that White has solved all his problems and has emerged from the opening with an advantage. But it would be ludicrous to suggest that the game would be all over in another seven moves.

25...♞ac8 26.♘c3

26.♘c1!? deserves attention, to be followed by moving the Knight to d3 or e2. However, White has a different plan, control of the d5-square. Now Portisch cannot really permit White to achieve his regrouping, but, on the other hand, has no means of preventing it.

26...♞c4 27.♙c1

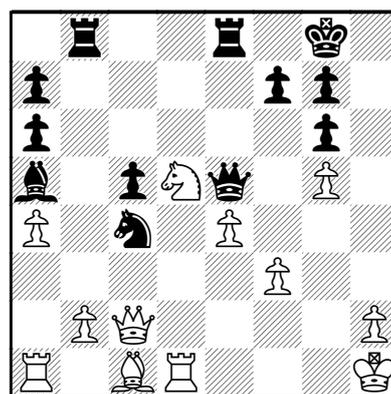
The Bishop retreats from where he came. Stunned by the rapid and unexpected development of events, Portisch makes a grave error on the next move, which leads to immediate defeat.

27...♞b8?

It is difficult to say what Portisch was thinking about at this moment, what variations he had calculated or on what he was relying. Clearly, he simply overlooked that the d5-square could be occupied not only by the Rook (with tempo) but with the Knight (with decisive effect).

After the necessary 27...♙xc3 there was still a long struggle ahead - Black is only slightly worse in the ending after 28.♞xc3 (28.♞d5 ♞xd5! 29.exd5 ♞e1+ 30.♙g2 ♙xb2 31.♞xc4 ♙xa1∞) 28...♞xc3 29.bxc3.

28.♘d5



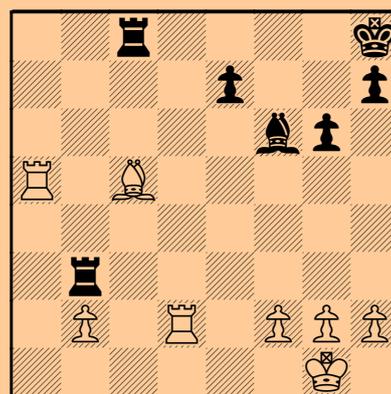
In effect, Black could resign now. Portisch plays a few moves from inertia.

28...♞xb2 29.♙f4 ♞e6 30.♞db1 ♞h3 31.♙xb8 ♞xb8 32.♞xb2

Karpov's unique style, obtaining maximal results from what appear to be minimal effects is on full display in this splendid game. 1-0

PRIZE PUZZLE

APRIL



After 1...Bc3, White resigned immediately. Was that the right thing to do?

all. Fortunately we did with seconds to spare and arrived at Dresden 2½ hours late. Henrik, Kristian and Martina had had a long wait but soon we were in the cars and heading for Sebnitz. It was about a 45 minute drive and the snow was lying deep on the sides of the road. Our accommodation was in a school camp complex (Lander Kampf), privately owned but used by schools and clubs. It is also the venue of the Saxony age group championships. The players were in 2 rooms and, after having deposited our luggage, we had a soup and salad meal before returning to our rooms, having a short meeting, unpacking and going to bed.

Tuesday 16th February

As is common practice abroad we were up and in breakfast by 0740 and, but for a delay in finding score sheets, would have been started by 0845; Just imagine that at the 4NCL! In the end we were started a little after 0900 and were playing a four round scheveningen with our team split in to two. We had white in round one which was the straight match. We won this 7½ - ½, although 6-2 might have been a fairer result, but I think the England label and our physical size gave us an extra advantage. We then went to the canteen for lunch, a very nice chicken stew with rice, before returning to relax for 45 minutes before round two. We were black this round but produced some excellent attacking chess which enabled us to produce an 8-0 victory in a round we should, in the scheveningen system, have lost 6-2. The games I went over were great to see from our point of view.

An example is the game between Andrew Horton and Jannik Ohltmanns.

1. d4 e6 2. e4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bd3 c5 5. Be3 c4 6. Be2 Nf6 7. a3 this loses a pawn after Bxc3+ 8. bxc3 Nxe4 9. Bd2 Bd7 10. f3?? Qh4+! 11. g3 Nxc3 12. hxc3 if not Nxh1+ Kf1 Qf2 ++ Qxh1 13. Kf1? Better Be3 Nc6 14. f4 e5 threatening Bh3+ 15. Kf2? Better Bf4 Qh2+ 16. Kf3 e4+ 17. Kd3 Qxc3+ 18. Nf3 which loses him an escape square Ne7 threatening Nf5++ 19. Be1 does he think I will panic? Nf5+ 20 Kd2 Qxf4++

We then had some time to ourselves before evening meal and a visit to the skittle alley. Here the players had a great time and socialized with our opponents. Joe, Jake, Henry and Andrew teamed up with Julian, Jannis and Jannik whilst William, Stephen, James and Matthew were partnered by Anna, Selina and Julia. The score was one game each and the six Germans certainly held their own. We then had our meeting followed by some free time and bed.

Wednesday 17th February

Identical timings were followed although this time we were started exactly at 0830. We had the white pieces and, on this occasion, superior end game play converted at least three draws in to wins. The players used their time sensibly and developed good pawn structures. This resulted in another win 8-0 although not without a lot

of hard work in many cases. What has pleased me is the lack of mistakes made by our players and a score of $23\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$ is a very unfair reflection on the efforts of the Saxon players. Hopefully ours will be able to carry this standard on in future tournaments. We had lunch then a period of relaxation before starting the final round at 1400. This was much closer and the score more really reflected the match with us winning $5\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$ and the top four boards being 2-2. In fact only James, Stephen and Andrew got 4 points. It would be very interesting to play them in 2 years time when our ages are similar. Most of the games were analysed by the resident coaches giving our players further insight in to the games. We then went up for our meal before playing a different type of chess. This was 5 minute chess but with the clock a 20 yard or so distance from the board. An event guaranteed to tire you out. Henry was the winner and Joe runner up. Afterwards we had our official presentation and actually met Frank! We then had our evening meeting before heading for bed.

Thursday 18th February

We had the usual breakfast then met for the rapid play. It was to be a 7 (or 6) round event with 20 minutes each on the clock and was being done manually. After two rounds we adjourned for sledding and we walked up to an excellent slope where we spent a good hour with the kids thoroughly enjoying themselves. Snowballing also took place and Jake was the target for the Saxons! We eventually persuaded the kids off the slope and returned to the hostel where we dried out before lunch. After lunch and our break we started the remaining five rounds of the rapid play with Joseph despatching all opposition, English and Saxon, and winning from James and William by two clear points. We then packed and socialized over chess games before getting to bed.

Friday 19th February

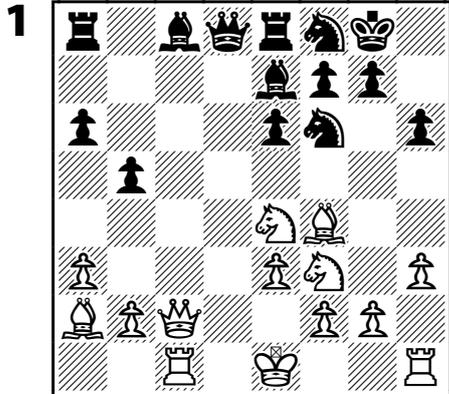
We had our usual start before final packing and departure for the station. The journey to Berlin was hassle free and we arrived on time and went in to the centre to eat. We then had our culture with a bus tour round Berlin which lasted two hours and took in all the major sites such as the Reichstag, Brandenburg Gate, Church of St. Nicholas, Charlottenberg Castle and the Berlin Wall. On our return we did some souvenir shopping at the Galerie Department Store then went to the station to eat. We then got the S-bahn to Schonefeld and went through the long process of checking in, security and boarding. However the flight left on time, arrived 10 minutes early, and we were through immigration and baggage very quickly. The parents were on time at the meeting place and so ended an excellent trip with a great group of players.

Peter Purland

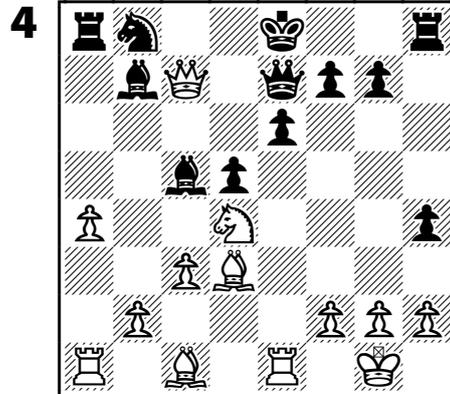
The POPULAR CHESS QUIZ PAGE

Find the best win!

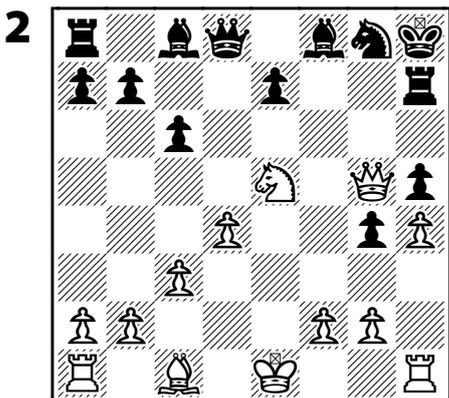
A Mixed Bag of Difficulty.



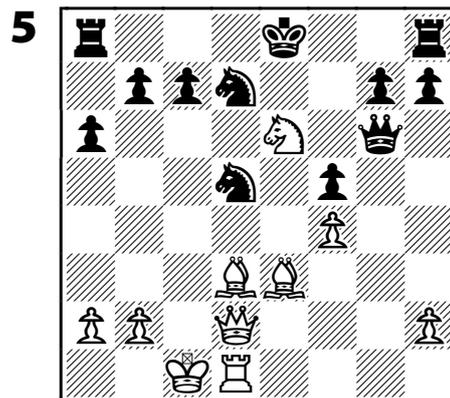
White to move and win.



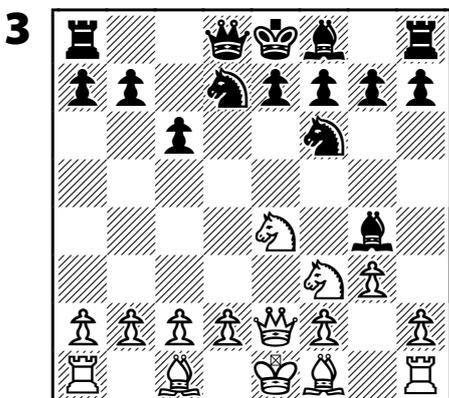
White to move and win.



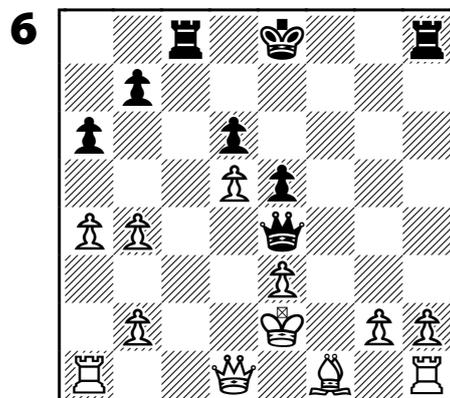
White to move and win.



White to move and win.



White to move and mate in 1.



Black to move and win.

Answers are on the last page

ENDGAME ESSENTIALS

by Andrew Martin

When you come to the endgame, any endgame, what should you be thinking about? I've compiled a basic list for you of what I consider to be the most important ENDGAME ESSENTIALS. Hope it's useful:

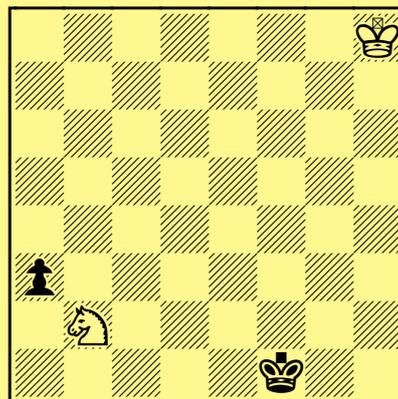
- 1) The whole point of the endgame is to create a **PASSED PAWN**;
- 2) **PASSED PAWNS** must be **PUSHED**;
- 3) **Use the King** actively and aggressively if you can;
- 4) **DON'T RUSH!** Precision is important;
- 5) **Calculation and tactical control** have a large part to play in many endgames;
- 6) The endgame should be studied in **CHUNKS**. It is useful to have a stack of basic positions in your head which you can play perfectly when called upon to do so. Dvoretsky thought 80 was enough for the competitive player. For juniors, try to have at least 20 key positions memorized;
- 7) **Carelessness and lack of concentration** are enemies to the young player and especially in the endgame;
- 8) Keep **cheerful and optimistic**, whatever the position;
- 9) **Keep fighting**;
- 10) Don't follow the basic rules above blindly. Judge every position **ON ITS MERITS**.

That's about it for now!

PRIZE PUZZLE

ANSWER

MARCH PUZZLE



Can White, to move, successfully stop the Black pawn?

1.Nc4 No, unfortunately not, but he can try.

1...a2 2.Nd2+ Ke2 3.Nb3 Kd1!

The killer blow, taking up the diagonal opposition to the Knight and simply threatening ...Kc2.

4.Kg7 Kc2 5.Na1+ Kb2 0-1

Best Answers to Quiz on page 11

- 1. 1. Bc7!**
- 2. 1. Ng6+ Kg7 2. Nxe7+ Kc7 3. Qxg8+!**
- 3. 1. Nd6# (an old idea)**
- 4. 1. Nxe6! fxe6 2. Bg6+ Kf8 3. Rxe6! Qxe6 4. Qd8+**
- 5. 1. Bxf5 (if 1... Qxf5 then 2. Nxg7+)**
- 6. 1... Rc2+ 2. Ke1 Qxb4+**

The Right Move

Editor:

Andrew Martin • a.martin2007@yahoo.co.uk

ECF Director of Junior Chess & Education:

Peter Purland.

director.juniorchess@englishchess.org.uk

Proofers: • Bob Long, Andrew Martin.

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