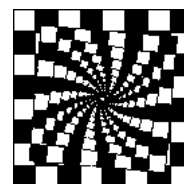


C.I.A. News

Chess Ideas Australia


May, 2008



A Busy Term of Chess in Melbourne

There are four interschool tournaments this term, so if your school will let you compete there are plenty of opportunities to play chess. The tournaments are:

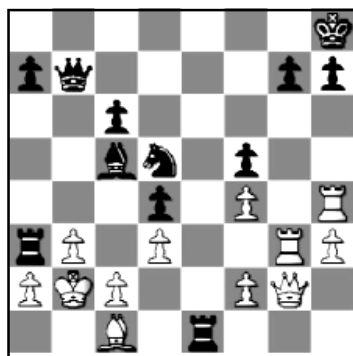
-  An Open tournament at Weeden Heights Primary School on Friday May 9th
-  A Girls' tournament at Camberwell Girls' Grammar School on Friday May 23rd
-  An Open tournament at Mont Albert Primary School on Friday June 13th
-  An Open tournament at Caulfield Grammar Malvern on Tuesday June 17th

 **More information about the tournaments can be found at www.chessideas.com.au. Click on Chess Events and then Tournaments. Good luck to all competitors.**

Want to join our *Kids Knight Class* on a Wednesday 5.30—6.30 taught by Ross Neumann in our offices in Ripponlea? To find out more phone us on 9532 - 8370 or email admin@chessideas.com.au

A Real Life Checkmate

It was a very exciting day at the Brighton Grammar Tournament in March, with an excellent standard of chess. One of the best games of the day was played by the very talented Bobby Cheng of Greythorn Primary. From the position below he checkmated his opponent in four moves. Can you see how?





The Great Mikhail Tal

At the age of 8 Tal learnt to play chess while watching his father play. He started to receive coaching when he was 13 and very rapidly improved, becoming **Latvian Champion by the age of 17, and then at the age of 20 became youngest player to win the Russian Championship. By beating Mikhail Botvinnik in 1960 he became the youngest player to win the World Championship. He was just 23 years old!** This record was broken in 1985 by the great Garry Kasparov who became World Champion at 22 years old.

Tal loved the game and considered that **"Chess, first of all, is art."** He was known as the Magician from Riga, championing **imaginative attacking** chess, often finding **sacrifices for the initiative** (a threat that your opponent must respond to).

With such **intuitive, imaginative and aggressive**

sive sacrifices, he created vast complications for his opponents, and many masters found it impossible to solve all the problems he presented over the board. Tal convincingly beat virtually every notable grandmaster with his trademark aggression.

Some famous Tal Quotes are;

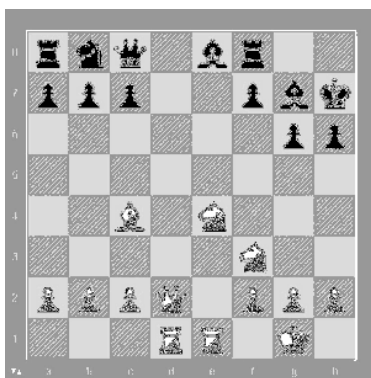
"Some sacrifices are sound, the rest are mine."

"To play for a draw, at any rate with White, is to some degree a crime against chess."

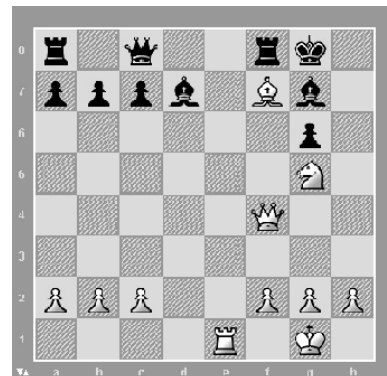
And finally (referring to his piece sacrifices) "They can only take them one at a time!"

We will finish this brief history with a brilliant attack carried out by Tal against perhaps the best defensive player of all time Tigran Petrosian.

USSR Team Cup 1974 · Pirc Defense: Classical Variation.



White to play



The final position—black resigns.

Tal (playing white) sacrifices a knight on g5 to open up the black king, and after 5 moves his opponent resigns (see diagram above right). Can you see why? (The solution is on page 4).

Puzzle -Time

It's another forced checkmate for white, three moves and it's the all over for the black player. We could give you a hint but that would make it too easy!!



White to play



Darryl's Corner

(Darryl Johansen - International Grandmaster)

The Knight Outpost

On a bare chessboard, a knight on a1 attacks just 2 squares, on b1 it attacks 3 squares, on b2 it attacks 4 squares, but on c3 it attacks 8 squares.

From this you can see that moving from b1 to c3 in the opening makes the knight more than twice as powerful.

This illustrates why development towards the centre is so important, especially with knights which have such a small reach.

A bishop developed on b2 can extend its reach to the other side of the board, but a knight on b2 can barely make it to the mid-line of the board.

Knights become much stronger by being moved into the centre, but as a rule are vulnerable to being swapped off or nudged by pawns unless they can find an *outpost*. An outpost is a square which a knight can occupy, which is immune from attack, such as d5 in the diagram below.

One of the key strategical ideas in chess is the knight outpost where it can occupy the centre with maximum effect without being driven away.

The following game demonstrates how a well placed knight on a secure outpost can be enough to decide an otherwise even position.

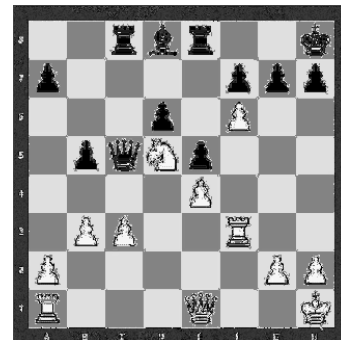
Smyslov v Rudakovsky 1945



The knight is secure on d5

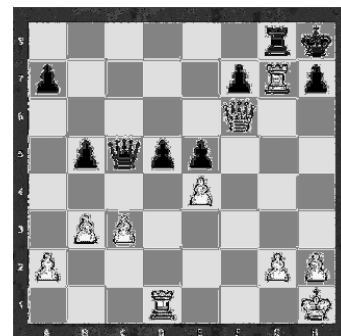
The game continued:

17...Bd8 (if 17...Qc2 18.Rf2 Qc6 19.Rc1 Qd7 20.Nc7 forking the rooks) 18.c3 b5 19.b3 white is no hurry with his knight in a secure outpost dominating the centre of the board ...Qc5+ 20.Kh1 Rc8 21.Rf3! Kh8



*white has just played 22 f6

With everything prepared Smyslov launches the attack 22. f6 gf6 23. Qh4 Rg8 24. Nf6 Rg7 25.Rg3 Bf6 26. Qf6 Rcg8 27. Rd1 d5 28. Rg7 1-0 (see diag. below for analysis)



The final position—black resigned.

If he recaptures white's rook on g7 the game would continue (28...Rg7 29. Rd5 Qf8 30. Rd8) winning the Queen.

Darryl can be contacted for private tuition on 0403 414 833

Congratulations to Malcolm Pyke, (one of our tutors) for winning the 2008 Melbourne Chess Club championship.

To enter a tournament:

Contact us by email: admin@chessideas.com.au and we will send you an entry form:

Answers:

Real Life Checkmate (page 1)

27. , Ra2!!
 28. Ka2 Qa6+
 29. Kb1 Nc3+ (if 29. Kb2 Qa3+ 30. Kb1 Nc3#)
 30. Kb2 Qa3#

Mikhail Tal v Tigran Petrosian (page 2)

19. Ng5+ hg5 20. Ng5+ Kg8 21. Qf4 Nbd7 22. Rd7 Bd7 23. Bf7 Black Resigns because after 23..... Rf7 24 Qf7 Kh8 25. Qg6 Qg8 or Kg8 26. Re7 with unstoppable threats.

Puzzling Times (page 2)

1. Qg7+ Kg7
2. Bf6+ Kg8
3. Nh6#

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