

# Chess at Dundrum

Congress report by Robert Bellin

Undoubtedly the most dominant feature of chess in England today is the popular week-end Swiss type of tournament. At once convivial and competitive, they give the amateur enthusiast a total chess workout plus the chance of crossing swords with leading players, whilst providing an initial proving ground for aspiring young talents.

These tournaments call for a positive, uncompromising game. For the week-end Swiss breeds the killer instinct by teaching that success only comes with winning; draws do not bring honour here.

Surveying today's abundant tournament calendar it is difficult to picture the barren scene of a mere ten years ago when there existed only the British Championships, Hastings, and summer congresses such as the CHESS Festival. (Plus just a few week-end tournaments then—Editor).

It is to be hoped that the present tournament held from 14-17 March at Wesley College, Ballinteer, Dublin, will prelude a big upsurge in Irish chess. With a healthy prize-list totalling £1000 provided by the Irish Civil Service Building Society, the Dundrum Family Recreation Centre, and Pan Aer Sales Limited, the tournament attracted some 280 competitors. It was organised by the DFRC Chess Club with prime mover in tournament director Harry Higgins who justly received a really appreciative ovation at the closing ceremony. Understandably in a first venture, some rough edges showed in the arrangements, but these were smoothed to insignificance by friendliness and enthusiasm.

A group of prominent English players was invited, comprising Gerald Bennett, Jonathan Mestel, Tony Miles and myself. In addition, the organisers secured the participation of 11 year-old Julian Hodgson, who was featured on a late-night TV programme. After a mini three-game simul which was screened without commentary for ten minutes, there followed a brief interview during which Julian asserted that, No, he did not want to be like Bobby Fischer but like himself ...

As might be expected, the English players

led throughout, but not without their tenacity and resourcefulness being tested to the full on several occasions. Entering the sixth and last round the top pairing were:

Miles	(4½)	Bellin	(4½)
Dennehy	(4)	Mestel	(4½)
Bennett	(4)	Keogh	(4)
Cummins	(4)	Harding	(3½)

Gerald Bennett had been the unlucky one in meetings amongst the 'big four' as he had to play both Miles and myself. Although he achieved draws with some ease in each case, this left him half a point behind the leaders. Jonathan Mestel had conceded a draw to Irishman J. Murray in round three.

Partying until the small hours had not left the leaders at their sharpest, so when Jonathan agreed a quick draw the same followed in the Miles v Bellin encounter. In the other key games, Gerald won a piece for nothing but then relaxed overmuch and fell prey to a mating attack, while Cummins competently took advantage of one of Tim Harding's off-days. Thus first place and £530 was shared between three Englishmen and two Irishmen, Keogh and Dennehy.

Julian finished with three points, a creditable score. John Ripley and T. D. Harding scored but a half-point more.

Besides the Open tournament there was a Major won jointly by R. Anderson, O. Murtagh and D. Vinke with 5½ points, and a Junior event won by G. O'Driscoll with a perfect 6/6.

## Pirc

P. Jamieson White J. Cummins Black

1 P-K4 P-KN3 2 P-Q4 B-N2  
3 N-QB3 P-Q3 4 N-B3 N-KB3 5  
B-K2 O-O 6 O-O B-N5 7 B-K3  
N-B3 8 P-Q5

This is rightly considered an innocuous continuation; both 8 Q-Q2 and 8 N-Q2 are more worrying for the black player.

8 ... BxN 9 BxB N-K4 10 B-K2 P-B4?!

The best plan is to strike at the white centre immediately with 10 ... P-B3

and then treat the position as a kind of Sicilian.

11 P-B4 N(K4)-Q2 12 P-QR4 P-QR3 13 P-R5 N-K1 14 Q-Q2

14 B-B3 was indicated (followed, perhaps, by Q-K2 and B-B2-N3) priming the position for sacrificial P-K5 possibilities.

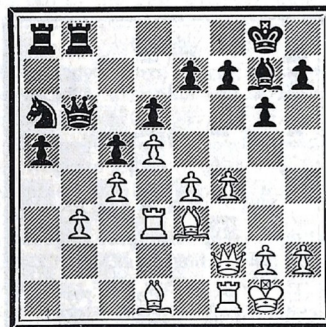
14 ... P-QN4 14 PxPe.p. QxP 16 N-R4 Q-N2 17 R-R3

This rather cumbersome manoeuvre has its points, but once again the natural 17 B-B3 was to be preferred, e.g. 17 ... N-N3 18 NxN QxN 19 P-B3 and White threatens both 20 P-QN4 and 20 P-K5.

17 ... N-B2 18 R-N3 Q-R2 19 P-B4

And here 19 B-N4 was probably best.

19 ... KR-N1 20 R-Q3 N-N3 21 NxN QxN 22 P-QN3 P-QR4 23 B-Q1 N-R3 24 Q-KB2



24 ... P-R5! 25 PxP Q-N5 26 P-K5 QxBP 27 R-Q2 N-N5 28 Q-B3 R-KB1 29 PxP PxP 30 P-B5 B-B6 31 R(Q2)-KB2 B-Q5 32 BxB

This, and the lame finish, smack of acute time-pressure. With Black having made the most of the chances given him by White's imprecise middle-game strategy, it was time to head for the draw with 32 B-K2 QxP (or 32 ... Q-B6 33 BxB QxB 34 B-N5) 33 QxQ NxQ 34 BxB PxP 35 PxP RPxP 36 B-B3.

32 ... QxB 33 Q-KR3? N-Q6 34 B-K2 NxR 35 RxN RxP White resigns.

## Vienna Game

E. Keogh White M. Kenefick Black

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-QB3 N-KB3

3 P-B4 P-Q4 4 BPxP NxP 5 N-B3 N-QB3

The solid 5 ... B-K2 is probably best.

6 P-Q3

6 B-N5 is the recommended continuation, with preference to White after 6 ... B-K2 7 Q-K2 P-B4 8 O-O NxN 9 QPxN.

6 ... NxN 7 PxN P-Q5 8 PxP

White should aim for the attack by quickly developing his king's side and sacrificing the QBP.

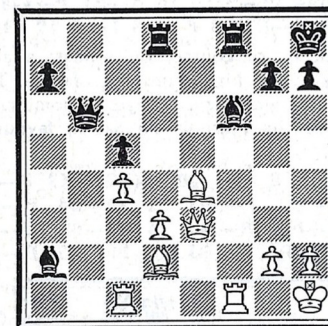
8 ... NxQP

Not bad, but 8 ... B-N5ch! 9 B-Q2 BxBch 10 QxB NxQP was better.

9 P-B3 NxNch 10 QxN P-QB4 11 B-K2 B-K2 12 O-O O-O 13 Q-N3 K-R1 14 B-K3 Q-R4 15 B-Q2 B-K3 16 B-B3 QR-Q1?

A heavy blunder. Simply 16 ... QR-N1 was right, and if 17 B-K4 then 17 ... P-B4.

17 BxP Q-N4 18 B-K4 Q-N7 19 Q-K3 P-B4 20 PxPe.p. BxBP 21 QR-B1 Q-N3 22 K-R1 BxRP 23 P-B4



Having locked the adversary's QB out of play White proceeds to a direct mating attack.

23 ... B-Q5 24 Q-R3 P-N3

On 24 ... P-KR3 comes 25 B-N5 R(Q1)-K1 26 B-K7!

25 B-R6 RxRch 26 RxR P-R4 27 Q-Q7! B-B3 28 Q-KB7 Black resigns

The unluckiest player in the tournament was surely the current Irish champion Tony Doyle who found himself at the receiving end of the two best games of the

event. We wish him better fortune next year!

### Giucco Piano

A. J. Mestel White A. Doyle Black

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-KB3 N-QB3  
3 B-B4 B-B4 4 P-B3 Q-K2 5 P-Q4  
B-N3 6 B-KN5

This appears to be a new move; it seeks to reinforce the following blockading sacrifice.

6... N-B3 7 P-Q5 N-Q1 8 P-Q6  
PxP 9 N-R3 P-QR3?

This automatic response to the threatened 10 N-N5 is the root cause of Black's subsequent problems. He should immediately kick the dangerous QB with 9... P-KR3, since he need fear neither 10 BxN QxB 11 N-QN5 K-K2 nor 10 N-N5 PxN 11 NxQPch K-B1 12 NxKNP B-B4 13 N(Q6)xBP NxN 14 NxN R-R5.

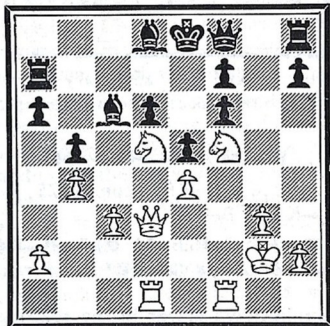
10 N-B2 BxPch

Once again trading time for material, but a decent continuation for Black is not readily apparent.

11 K-K2 B-B4 12 N-R4 N-K3  
13 N-B5 Q-B1 14 KBxN PxN 15  
P-QN4 N-B5ch 16 K-B1 P-Q4 17  
BxQP B-R2 18 P-N3 NxN 19 QxN

Black is, of course, quite lost; a slow asphyxiation his gruesome fate. This encounter would surely figure prominently amongst the Marquis de Sade's favourite games.

19... B-N1 20 N(B2)-K3 R-R2  
21 R-Q1 P-Q3 22 Q-B4 B-Q2  
23 K-N2 P-N4 24 Q-Q3 B-B2  
25 KR-B1 B-B3 26 N-Q5 B-Q1



27 P-B4 R-Q2 28 R-B1 R-N1  
29 PxP! BxP 30 R-B8! R-N3 31 Q-B2  
Black resigns.

Ve haf vays of making you resign ... Black can't take any more; the threat is 32 N-B7ch, and further gobbling with 31 ... BxRch is worse than useless since it allows 32 KxB Q-N1 33 Q-B6; finally, if 31 ... Q-N1 then 32 R-QB1 threatening 33 Q-B7 is the nicest way to mate.

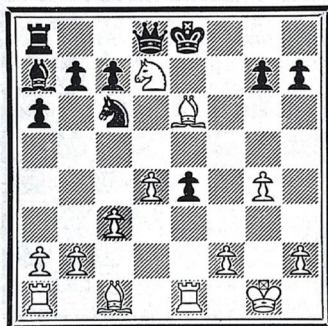
### Ruy Lopez

R. Bellin White A. Doyle Black

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-KB3 N-QB3  
3 B-N5 P-QR3 4 B-R4 N-B3 5  
O-O B-B4 6 P-B3 B-R2 7 P-Q4  
NxKP 8 Q-K2 P-B4 9 QN-Q2!  
O-O 10 NxN PxN 11 QxKP P-Q4  
12 B-N3 B-K3 13 Q-K3 R-B4  
14 P-N4! R-B5?

The only way for Black to keep in the game is with the 'sacrifice' 14 ... RxN 15 QxR PxP.

15 NxP R-K5 16 QxR PxQ 17 BxBch  
K-B1 18 N-Q7ch K-K1 19 R-K1



If the student consults his library he will discover that the players have thus far followed (one of them unwittingly) an analysis by Rauzer. He concluded that White has a decisive advantage, an assessment fully upheld by the present game.

19... Q-R5 20 RxP R-Q1 21  
B-B5 dis ch! N-K2

White wins back the queen after 21 ... K-B2 22 P-N5 Q-R4 23 B-K6ch K-N3 24 B-N4 Q-R5 25 B-B5ch.

22 N-K5 Q-B3 23 BxP R-Q4  
24 N-N6 B-B4 25 PxN Q-B6 26  
RxBch K-Q1 27 B-B4 QxNPch  
28 B-N3 R-R4 29 QR-K1 Q-QR5  
30 P-N3 Q-N4 31 R-Q1ch K-B1  
32 RxBPch Black resigns.

After 32 ... K-N1, 33 R-B8 dbl ch KxR 34 N-K7 is a lovely mate.