

CHESS

by Alan Dommert

DIAGRAM 1

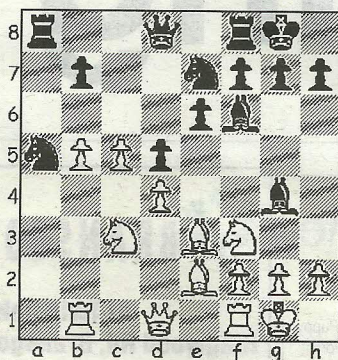
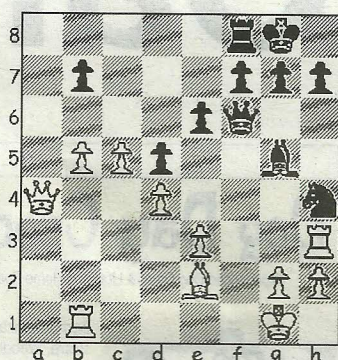


DIAGRAM 2



Although entry figures for the Exeter Congress were down this year seven local league players still made the trip and Wimborne's Jorgen Nielsen compiled an impressive 4/5 score in the Major event to take a creditable third place. There were also solid performances from Paul Errington (Bournemouth) and Paul Brackner (Dorchester) with both finishing on 2.5/5 scores, a half-point clear of John Kelly (Weymouth).

An honourable mention must go to David Rapkins (Southbourne) who was the only Bournemouth League player to compete in the Open event and his 1.5/5 score included three drawn games that were testament to his ability to battle hard against higher rated opposition.

The following game, taken from the recent 4NCL 1st Division match between Betsson.com and Cheddleton 1, features an exchange sacrifice with an immediate and fatal sting in the tail.

Hunt, A - Gormally, D

4NCL Hinckley Island, 2011
Alekhine's Defence (B05)

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 White plays right down the main line rather than opting for 4.c4 Nb6 5.f4 and an appropriately named Four Pawns Attack. **4...Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.0-0 Be7 7.c4 Nb6 8.exd6 cxd6 9.Nc3 0-0 10.b3 Nc6 11.Be3** The correct developing square, as

11.Bb2 d5 12.c5 Nd7 13.a3 Bf6 would put White's backward d-pawn under greater pressure than actually occurred in this game. **11...d5 12.c5 Nc8 13.Rb1 Bf6 14.b4 a6 15.a4** The queenside pawn majority begins to threaten, but Black soon shows that he has the greater theoretical knowledge of the position. **15...N8e7 16.b5 axb5 17.axb5 Na5 (Diag 1) 18.Na4?!** Completing the pawn chain is best, as seen in King-Adams (Brighton, 1980) when **18.b6 Bxf3 19.Bxf3 Nf5 20.Nb5 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Nc4 22.Re1 Bg5 23.e4!** led to White opening up the long diagonal to advantage and going on to win in 47 moves. **18...Bxf3 19.Bxf3 Nc4 20.Be2 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Bg5!** Highlighting the problem White has in defending the e-pawn with his bishop on e2 and forcing his opponent into an ugly defence of it. **22.Rf3 Nf5 23.Kf2 Nh4!** The rook must now vacate the f-file and Black seizes his chance to bring his queen into play... **24.Rh3 Qf6+ 25.Kg1 Rxa4 26.Qxa4 (Diag 2) Qg6!** ...with such devastating effect that it was here White resigned, powerless to answer both the threat to one rook at h3, after **27...Be3+ 28.Kf1 Qxg2+**, or the immediate loss of the other on the back rank.

● Any enquiries regarding the Chess column should be addressed to Alan Dommert by emailing a.j.dommett@btinter-