

## CHESS

by Alan Dommert

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DIAGRAM 1

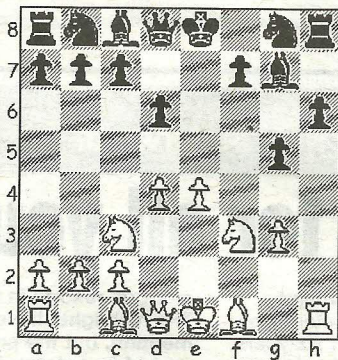
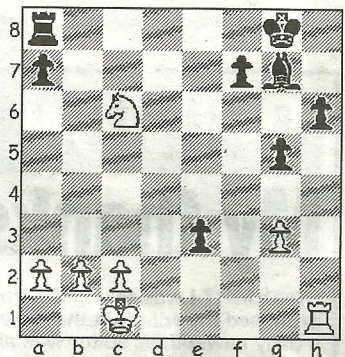


DIAGRAM 2



The Dorset Junior Championships, held at the beginning of the month, attracted an entry of 39 players who were divided into year 2 to 4 (20 players) and year 5 & 6 (12) with the remainder in year 7 and above. The youngest sections (under 7 and 9yrs) were won by Jasper Lyne and Megan Tubbs, both of Abbey School, with scores of 5/7 and 6/7 respectively and in the middle section four players finished with 5 points, the tie break being won by Leon Sams (Abbey) ahead of Jenson Weeks (Moordown St Johns), Alex Wharf (St Andrews) and Harry Shaw (St Michaels).

The higher age group featured both the Under-14 section, won by Max Staveley (Shaftesbury School) with a 4/7 score, and the Under-16 event incorporating the Dorset Junior Championship which was won by Jamie Macdonald (Gillingham School) on an impressive 7/7 score, finishing two points clear of Grigori Lvov (Bournemouth School Boys).

The following game is taken from the recent London Classic won by Vladimir Kramnik and is a battle between two of the four leading British GMs who took part in the tournament, the field of play chosen being a gambit opening that really had its heyday in top level chess a century or so ago.

Short, N - McShane, L  
3rd London Classic, 2011  
King's Gambit Accepted (C34)

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 h6 The Becker Defence, preparing to support the advanced pawn and hang on the material gain at a cost of a somewhat airy kingside. 4.d4 g5 5.Nc3 d6 6.g3 fxg3 7.hxg3 Bg7 (Diag 1) 8.Be3 In Fedorov-Notkin (Chigorin Memorial, 1996) White decided to place his king's bishop on the business side of matters instead and, after 8.Bc4 Nc6 9.Be3 Bg4 10.0-0 Nf6 11.Qd3 0-0 12.Nxg5!? hxg5 13.Bxg5, made the pin tell to such an extent he went on to win in 22 moves. 8...Nf6 9.Qd3 Ng4 10.0-0-0 c6 11.Re1 Nd7 12.e5 dxe5 13.Bh3 The more combative 13.Nxg5 appears inviting, but after 13...hxg5 14.Rxh8+ Bxh8 15.Qh7 Qf6, leads nowhere. 13...Nxe3 14.Rxe3 0-0 15.Ne4 Nf6! Instigating a host of exchanges that serve to improve Black's position... 16.Bxc8 exd4 17.Bxb7 dxe3 18.Bxa8 Nxe4 19.Qxe4 Qb6!... especially when he finds a clever intermezzo threatening to break his opponent's defence wide open on the b-file! 20.Ne5 Rxa8 21.Qxc6 Qxc6 22.Nxc6 (Diag 2) Re8! Support for the dangerous e-pawn will prove much more rewarding than holding on to an irrelevant a-pawn. 23.c3 Re6 24.Nxa7 Be5 25.Nb5 No time to sacrifice the g-pawn (in order to centralise the king) as 25.Kd1 Bb8! followed by 26...e2+ wins. 25...e2 26.Kd2 Bxg3 27.Re1 White must give up the exchange and with it the game, although Short continues, thereby allowing his opponent to play to the galley over the closing moves. 27...Bxe1+ 28.Kxe1 h5 29.Nd4 Ra6 30.a3 h4 31.Kxe2 g4 32.c4 h3 33.Kf2 h2 34.Kg2 Rh6 35.Kh1 g3 36.Nf5 g2+ 0-1

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