

CHESS

by Alan Dommett

22/10/11

DIAGRAM 1

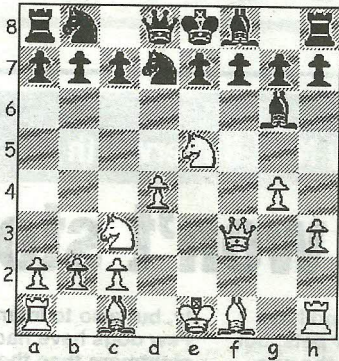
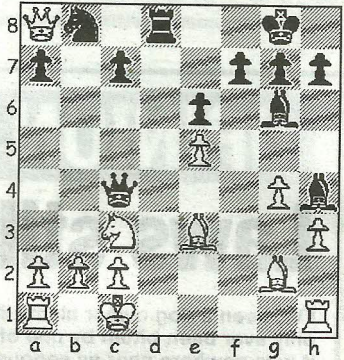


DIAGRAM 2



The 46th Dorset Open Congress took place at the Bournemouth International Hotel last weekend and attracted one of the strongest Open sections of recent years, yet it was to be a local player who emerged victorious. Southbourne's Martin Simons took the title with a 4/5 score, a half-point clear of Philip Tozer (Athenaeum), Mark Lyell (West London) and Mike Waddington (Dorchester). Grading prizes were awarded to Meri Grigoryan (West London), who recently gave a simultaneous display in the town centre, and Doug Butcher (Winchester).

First place in the Major event was shared between David Helsby (Lewisham) and Matthew Wilson (Basingstoke) with 4/5 scores, a half-point ahead of Brendan O'Gorman (DHSS) and Jonathan Wright (London), with the Intermediate being won by a similar margin by Nigel Dicker (Glastonbury) ahead of Timothy Allen (Battersea). Veteran Alan Fraser (Beckenham) won the Minor event with a maximum 5/5 score, his nearest challengers being 10yr-old Harry Grieve (Yateley), Jennifer Goldsmith (Harrow) and Wimborne's Phil Holden (all 3/5 scores).

The following game is Martin Simons critical second round win against Mark Lyell, a classic example of attacking chess played by both sides and with

no quarter given.

Simons, M - Lyell, M

Dorset Open Congress, 2011
Blackmar-Diemer Gambit (D00)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 dxe4 4.f3 exf3 5.Nxf3 Bg4 The Teichmann Defence - probably the first (often the only) way Black learns to counter the BDG and the basic strategy is to compete for the d4/e5 squares by pinning the f3-knight. 6.h3 Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 Nfd7?! However, this is a rarity when compared to the main line 8.Nbd7 and 8...e6 alternatives. 9.Qf3 (Diag 1) Nxe5 An exchange that prevents White acting on principle in this variation by removing the white-squared bishop as soon as the knight is challenged. In Andersson-Ohman (Stockholm, 1996) Black allowed this reversion, but, after 9...c6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Bc4 e6 12.0-0 Qf6 13.Qe3 Qh4 14.Rxf7! Qxh3 15.Qxe6+, he probably regretted it because his king was hunted across the board, on course for a mate on the a-file in 20 moves. 10.dxe5 e6 11.Qxb7 Be7?! Black wants a slice of the action too, even if it will cost him his rook! In truth, saving the piece with 11...Nbd7 does not look that inviting and in the greediest of lines (12.Bb5 Qh4+ 13.Ke2 Rd8 14.Be3 Be7 15.Qxc7 Bxc2 16.Rac1 Bg6 17.Rcd1) White gorges himself on the d-file. 12.Qxa8 Bh4+ 13.Ke2 0-0 14.Bg2 Qd4 15.Be3 Qc4+ 16.Kd2 Rd8+ 17.Kc1 (Diag 2) Bxc2! Just when it seems that Black's aggression is fading, he offers another piece in hope of salvation after 18.Kxc2 Qxd3+ 19.Kc1 Qxe3+ 20.Kc2 Rd2+ 21.Kb3 Qb6+, when his opponent ends up in a mating net. White has none of it... 18.Bf1! Bd3 19.Bxd3 Qxd3 20.Qe4 Qa6 21.Kc2 ...eventually finding a safe haven for his king that also allows his rooks to work in tandem. 21...Nc6 22.Rhf1 Rb8 23.a3 Qb7 24.b4 a5 25.b5 and it was here, still a rook in arrears and an exchange of queens imminent, that Black resigned.

● Any enquiries regarding the Chess column should be addressed to Alan Dommett by emailing a.j.dommett@btinternet.com