DAILY ECHO

CHESS

by Alan Dommett

11.9.2010

DIAGRAM 1

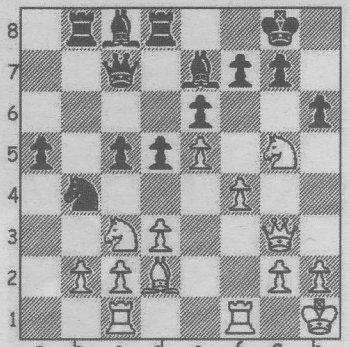
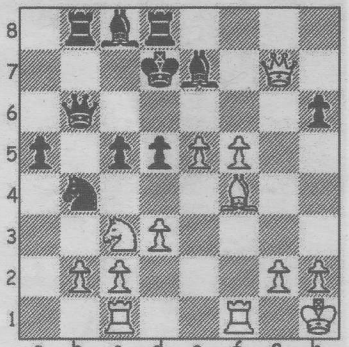


DIAGRAM 2



THE 16th Dorset Rapidplay Championships take place at Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Southbourne on Sunday, October 31 (9.45am start) and this popular all-day tournament will feature the usual high number of cash and book prizes as well as presentation of the Dorset Rapidplay Championship Cup, awarded to the highest placed player qualifying under B&DCL registration requirements.

The six-round event has a time control of 30 minutes each for the complete game and full details can be obtained from Martin Simons (tel 01202-513504)

The following game is taken from the British Championships Major Open and White lulls his opponent into a false sense of security with some passive opening play before delivering a stunning sacrificial blow.

Spink, B – Iyengar, I
Brit Ch Major Open, 2010
Closed Sicilian (B23)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 e6 4.Nf3 d5 5.Bb5 Nge7 The alternative development is 5...Nf6 which invites 6.e5 Nd7 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.d3 Be7 and a level position. **6.0-0 a6 7.Bxc6+ Nxc6 8.d3 Be7 9.Kh1** White's whole approach to the opening has been cagey and this move, played to alleviate any threats along the a7/g1 diagonal, is a further example of his high level of vigilance. **9...0-0 10.a3 b5 11.Bd2 Rb8 12.Qe1** The queen heads for the kingside while Black is given free rein on the opposite wing. **12...b4 13.axb4 Nxb4 14.Rc1 a5 15.Qg3 Qc7** Responding to the threat of 16.f5, which would have unveiled an attack on the rook, providing the time for White to continue with 17.Bh6/e5 and a massive assault on the enemy king. Forced into a rethink, White comes up with an imaginative plan B that his opponent completely overlooks. **16.e5 Rd8 17.Ng5 h6 (Diag 1) 18.Nxf7!** The early caution is thrown to the winds and White sacrifices out of the blue! **18...Kxf7 19.f5 Ke8** Suddenly Black is in deep trouble and with 19...Kg8 20.Bxh6 losing, 19...g5 20.fxg6+ Kg8 21.Rf7 no improvement and 19...Bf8 20.fxe6+ Kg8 22.Bxh6 suffering a similar fate, his king must run to the centre for cover. **20.Qg6+ Kd7** There is no turning back now, as 20...Kf8 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.fxe6 Bf6 23.Rxf6+ ends in mate. **21.Qxe6+ Ke8 22.Qg6+ Kd7 23.Bf4 Qb6 24.Qxg7 (Diag 2)** and Black, unable to prevent the advance of either passed pawn regaining material, resigned. Best is probably 24...Rb7 (24...Re8 25.e6+ Kc6 26.Bxb8 Qxb8 27.f6 is fatal) whereupon 25.Bxh6 leaves Black penned in a corner and totally bereft of counterplay.

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