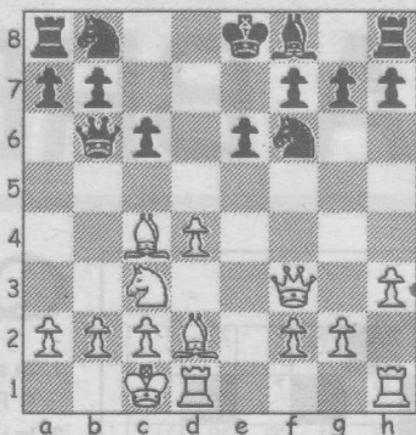


CHESS by Alan Dommett**DIAGRAM 1**

THE race for the Bournemouth League 1st Division title has been thrown wide open after the latest round of matches that included a superb performance by Wimborne A against Southbourne A.

After travelling in the worst of conditions to take on the reigning champions, Wimborne currently hold a 2-1 advantage with the adjourned game looking to be in their favour as well.

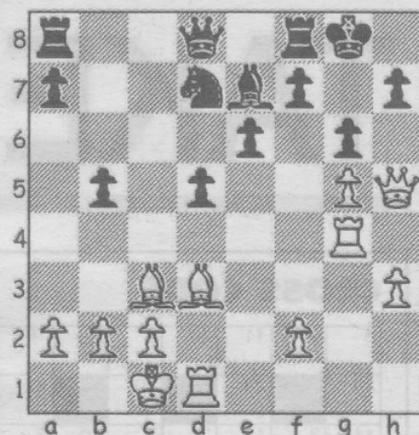
Outgraded on every board, the visitors made a solid start when Michael Lewis drew with Graham White on board 3 and this was soon followed by a similar result on the board above when Southbourne's Martin Simons offered the draw to Phil Taylor-Bowd after evaluating the positions in the remaining games.

However, there was to be a swift turn-around of fortunes in both of these games, as Graham Willetts conjured up some winning tactics against Russell Pegg, while on top board Ian Clark, somewhat characteristically, found a way out of deep trouble against Walter Braun to reach an adjournment that should at the very least secure the half-point required to win the match.

The following miniature is taken from the Hastings Congress and shows the importance of treating each occasion on its merits when deciding whether to accept or decline a sacrifice.

Kwiatkowski, F – Gregory, S
85th Masters Hastings, 2010
Scandinavian Defence (B01)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 The main line sees Black retreat the bishop and after 6...Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 e6 9.Bg2 c6 10.h4 there is conflict on

DIAGRAM 2

both sides of the board, whereas this capture gives White a greater chance to dictate the play. **7.Qxf3 c6 8.Bc4 e6 9.Bd2 Qb6** A two-pronged attack on the white pawns, but neither can be taken in complete safety. **10.0-0-0 (Diag 1) Be7** Cautious and rightly so, as 10...Qxd4?! 11.Bg5 Qxc4 is a sharp variation that needs careful handling. In Lastin-Maljutin (Moscow, 1997) Black opted to stay compact with 11...Qe5, but after 12.h4! Be7 13.Rhe1 Qc7 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Ne4 Bxh4? 16.Nd6+ Kf8 17.Rxe6 Na6 18.Nxf7! he was totally lost and resigned. The testing line is obviously 11...Qxc4, whereupon 12.Bxf6 Nd7 13.Rxd7! Kxd7 14.Bxg7 Bxg7 15.Qxf7+ Kc8 16.Qxg7 leaves White the exchange down, but not without compensation. **11.g4 0-0?** Having protected the knight, 11...Qxd4 was playable, as 12.Bh6?! is answered by 12...Qc5! and if 13.Bxg7 Qg5+ wins the bishop. **12.g5 Nd5 13.Rhg1 Nxc3 14.Bxc3 Qd8 15.Qh5.** Suddenly White threatens to direct all his pieces towards the enemy king. **15...Nd7 16.Rg4 b5?** Far too slow and missing White's imaginative reply. 17.d5! cxd5 If 17...bxc4 18.dxc6 picks up the pinned knight with advantage. However, now White is after more than just the b-pawn and finds a stunning way to finish the game. **18.Bd3 g6 (Diag 2) 19.Qxh7+!** The g-pawn shut one door to a mate, but this queen sacrifice opens another and, realising that 19...Kxh7 20.Rh4+ Kg8 Rh8 mate is forced, Black resigned.

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