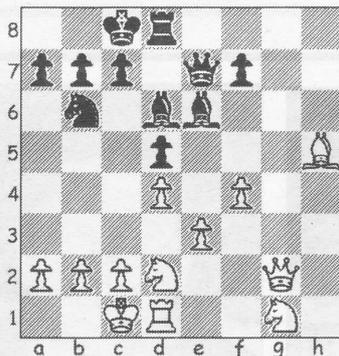


CHESS

by Alan Dommett

DIAGRAM 1



THE Bicentenary Congress, held last weekend at its new home in Bournemouth, proved an instant success with over 100 competitors taking part in the Open, Major and Minor sections and it also provided the added bonus of a local league player winning the main event.

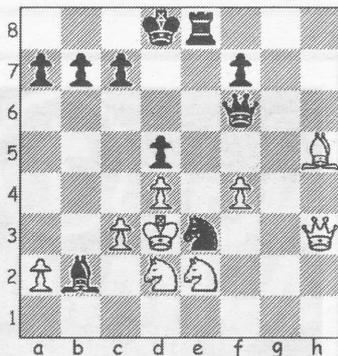
Wimborne's Allan Pleasants celebrated his recent move to the club with victory in the Open, compiling a 4/5 score that took him a half-point clear of three players who shared the runners-up spot, Michael Yeo (Ringwood), Keith Gregory (Cosham) and Dominic Bennett (Clifton). A detailed report on the outcome of both the Major and Minor competitions will be given next week.

The following game, taken from a nail-biting last round that featured all four players on the top boards level on points and in with a chance of the title, is Allan Pleasants' trophy-clinching win with the black pieces.

Braun, W – Pleasants, A
Bournemouth Congress, 2010
Trompowsky Attack (D00)

1.d4 d5 2.Bg5 Nf6 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3 Bd6 5.Bd3 f5 Making use of the doubled pawn to limit the scope of the bishop and also signalling an intention to defer castling because further support may be required from the g-pawn, which will in turn weaken the dark squares on the kingside. **6.Nd2 Be6 7.Qf3 g6 8.h3 Nd7** Black presses on with development and allows the speculative pawn advance that follows. In Tregubov-Gunnarsson (Gausdal, 1994), Black stifled this idea with 8...h5, but went on to lose in 51 moves. **9.g4?! fxc4 10.hxc4 Qg5**

DIAGRAM 2



11.Be2 A sad necessity and a significant loss of tempo that Black is quick to punish. **11...h5! 12.Qg2 0-0-0 13.f4 Qe7 14.gxh5 gxh5** Black emerges from the opening with a good game if White now removes the passed pawn, as 15.Bxh5 (15.Rxh5? Rxh5 16.Bxh5 Qh4+ picks up the bishop) Nf6 16.Bf3 Rxh1 17.Qxh1 Bf5 seizes the initiative. **15.0-0-0 Nb6 16.Rxh5?** Played as the trap mentioned in the previous note no longer exists, but Black is unconcerned and offers even bigger bait on the opposite wing! **16...Rxh5 17.Bxh5 (Diag 1) Ba3! 18.c3?** While the bishop was taboo (18.bxa3?? Qxa3+ 19.Kb1 Na4 20.Nc4 Nc3+ 21.Ka1 Qxa2 mate) 18.Nb1! kept the attack at bay, as 18...Bxb2+ 19.Kxb2 Nc4+ 20.Ka1 Nxe3 21.Qd2 Nxd1 22.Bxd1 leads to no more than equality. **18...Na4!** Winning the b-pawn, and the reply that White missed when making his last move, because the bishop still cannot be captured due to the mating net remaining in place. **19.Nb1 Bxb2+ 20.Kc2 Bf5+ 21.Kd2 Re8 22.Qf3 Nb6!** The knight is heading for the c4 square to add to the pressure on the e-pawn. **23.Ke2 Nc4 24.Rd3** Giving up the exchange, in a last-ditch attempt to stop the central breakthrough, but White soon succumbs under a final onslaught. **24...Bxd3+ 25.Kxd3 Nxe3 26.Ne2 Qf6 27.Qh3+ Kd8 28.Nd2? (Diag 2) Qa6+!** and it was here, faced with the further heavy loss of material, that White resigned

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