

MONTANA CHESS NEWS

OCT. - NOV. - DEC. 1985

VOLUME X - ISSUE 4

HAMMEL TOPS TURKEY OPEN WITH PERFECT SCORE

GREER WINS RIMROCK OPEN

CHINOOK OPEN Sponsor - Great Falls Community Chess Club January 25-26, 1986

Place: Card Room, 11 4th St. N., Great Falls, MT 59401.
Registration: 8:30-9:00am Jan. 25. Advance entries to Dennis Petrak, P.O. 2830, Great Falls, MT 59403. USCF & MCA (or equal) required. Entry fee = \$5 advance, \$8 at door.
Rounds: 5 Round Swiss System. 9:30am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm / 9:00am, 2:00pm.
Time Control: 40 moves / 2 hours, then 20 moves / hour thereafter.
Prizes: Guaranteed: 1st-\$75, 2nd-\$50, 3rd-\$25.
Notes: Limited smoking. No computers.

VALENTINE OPEN Sponsor - University/Community Chess Club February 8-9, 1986

Place: Room 362, Social Science Bldg., Univ. of Mont. Campus, Missoula, MT.
Registration: 8:00-9:00am, Feb. 8. Advance registration is advised. USCF & MCA (or equal) required. Entry Fee = \$5 advance, \$8 at door, experts 1/2 price, masters free.
Rounds: CLOSED - 6 Man Round Robin of top six rated players.
OPEN - 5 Round Swiss System. 9:30am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm/9:00am, 2:00pm BOTH
Time Control: 40 moves / 2 hours, then 20 moves / hour thereafter.
Director: Daniel McCourt, 262 St. Johns, Lolo, MT 59847.
Prizes: \$\$ and Trophies.
Notes: No Smoking. No Computers.

BILLINGS OPEN Sponsor - Montana Chess Association March 15-16, 1986

Details to follow at a later date.

1986 MONTANA POSTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: Jim Loy reports that this event is underway with ten participants: Duane Hildenstab, Dennis Petrak, Mike Jensen, Bill McBroom, John Austreng, Jim Loy, Darren Stacey, Kip Stubberud, Lyle Petersen and Ron Erickson. They are playing a round robin with plans to be completed by October 14, 1986. Jim provided a short article on hints for postal players which we'll try to squeeze in next issue.

GOOD NEWS - For 1986 Chess in Montana is the recent development of two new chess clubs - in Colstrip and Ronan. Les Brennan reports that his group of about 12 players is meeting on Tuesday evenings in Colstrip. Kenneth Gingras says there are about 20 players active in his area with plans to meet on Thursdays in Ronan.

P1 Name	Rate	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5	TOT
1 Bill Hammel	1927	W13	W15	W19	W2	W4	5.0
2 Romie Carpenter	1865	W20	W3	W5	L1	W7	4.0
3 Dan Britt	1592	W10	L2	W12	W5	W9	4.0
4 Mike Jensen	1940	W12	D19	W14	W6	L1	3.5
5 Jim Fletcher	1694	W21	W9	L2	L3	W13	3.0
6 Kip Stubberud	2085	L9	W18	W8	L4	W10	3.0
7 Dave Shughart	1674	L14	W16	W13	W8	L2	3.0
8 Gordon Shuck	1713	W16	W14	L6	L7	W12	3.0
9 Tom Booth	1527	W6	L5	D10	W18	L3	2.5
10 Mark Jarvi	UNR	L3	W20	D9	W15	L6	2.5
11 Ron Erickson	1722	D18	W21	W15	WD	—	2.5
12 Mike Hantzis	1516	L4	W17	L3	W16	L8	2.0
13 Tom Skokie	UNR	L1	W22	L7	W17	L5	2.0
14 Geiza Sarnoch	1171	W7	L8	L4	L20	W22	2.0
15 Terry Marks	1652	W22	L1	L11	L10	W18	2.0
16 John Barto	1435	L8	L7	W22	L12	W21	2.0
17 Sherwood Moore	1243	L19	L12	W21	L13	W20	2.0
18 Lyle Petersen	1481	D11	L6	W20	L9	L15	1.5
19 Dan McCourt	1686	W17	D4	L1	WD	—	1.5
20 Dennis Petrak	1496	L2	L10	L18	W14	L17	1.0
21 Phil Reno	1374	L5	L11	L17	W22	L16	1.0
22 Gary Moore	1099	L15	L13	L16	L21	L14	0

Bill Hammel of Great Falls won the 1985 Turkey Open with a perfect score of 5. Romie Carpenter and Dan Britt tied for 2nd-3rd with 4 points each. Dan's score won him the best under 1700. The two strongest players in the tournament, Kip Stubberud and Mike Jensen, had to settle for 3 and 3½ points respectively. John Barto of Great Falls won the best under 1500 prize and a new player from Superior won the best under 1300 (as an unrated). With 2½ points, Mark Jarvi (the new player), earned a very respectable performance rating of 1670. Roger White has been coaching him, so there is little wonder he wasn't the average fish. (Roger, we all look forward to your return to chess in Montana.) Tom Booth victimized Kip Stubberud to win the prize for the biggest upset. (Report by Bill McBroom.)

RD4 BD6 Marks-Jarvi BENKO OPENING 1 g3 f5 2 Bg2 d5 3 c4 Nf6 4 Nc3 e6 5 d4 Bb4 6 Qa4+ Nc6 7 Bd2 0-0 8 Nf3 dxc4 9 a3 Be7 10 Qc4 Ne4 11 e3 Na5 12 Qa2 c5 13 d5 c4 14 Nxe4 fxe4 15 Bxa5 Qxa5+ 16 Nd7 exd5 17 Bxe4 dxe4 18 Qxc4+ Kh8 19 Qxe4 Bf6 20 b4 Bf5 21 Qxb7 Qb6 22 Qxb6 axb6 23 Rcl Bd3 24 Nc4 Rac8 25 Kd2 Bxc4 26 f3 Rfd8+ 27 Kel Bb2 28 Rbl Bc3+ 29 Kf2 Rd2+ 30 Kgl Rcd8 31 h4 Rdl+ 32 Rxd1 Rxd1+ 33 Kh2 Rd3 34 b5 Rxe3 35 Rdl Bxb5 36 Rd8+ Be8 37 f4 Kg8 38 h5 Kf2 39 Kh3 Bel 40 h6 Rxc3+ 41 Kh2 gxh6 42 a4 Ke7 43 Rdl Re3 44 f5 h5 45 f6+ Kf7 46 Kg2 h4 47 Kf1 Bg3 48 a5 bxa5 49 Rbl h3 50 Rb7+ Kxf6 51 Rb6+ Kg7 52 Rbl h2 53 Rb7+ Kf8 54 Rxh7 Bc6 55 Rf7+ Ke8 56 Rf8+ Kd7 57 Rd8+ Kc7 58 Rc8+ Kb6 59 Rh1 a4 60 Rh4 hl=Q+ 61 Rxhl Bxhl 62 Kgl a3 63 Kf1 a2 White Resigns. 0-1

RD5 BD9 Reno-Barto QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED 1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e3 c6 5 Bd3 Bb4 6 Bd2 0-0 7 Nf3 Nd7 8 0-0 b6 9 Qc2 Re8 10 Rael Ba6 11 b3 e5 12 cxd5 Bxd3 13 Qxd3 Bxc3 14 Bxc3 e4 15 Qe2 exf3 16 Qxf3 Nxd5 17 Bb2 Qf6 18 Qg4 Qe6 19 Qg3 Qg6 20 Qf3 N/2f6 21 Qe2 Re6 22 Bcl Nf4 23 Qf3 Nd3 24 Rdl Nxc1 25 Rxc1 Qe4 26 Qe2 Nd5 27 Rfel Nf4 28 Qg4 Nd3 29 Qxe4 Rxe4 30 Rxc6 Nxe1 31 Rc3 Ree8 32 Kf1 Nxc2 33 Kxc2 Rac8 34 Rd3 f6 35 h4 b5 36 f4 b4 37 Kf3 Rc3 38 Ke2 Kf7 39 f5 Rec8 40 d5 Rxd3 41 Kxd3 Ke7 42 e4 Kd6 43 Kd4 Rc2 44 h5 Rxa2 White Resigns. 0-1

RD5 BD3 Dan Britt-Tom Booth FRENCH 1 P-K4 P-K3 2 N-QB3 P-Q4 3 P-Q3 B-N5 4 KN-K2 Pxp 5 Pxp QxQ+ 6 KxQ N-KB3 7 P-K5 N-N5 8 N-K4 0-0 9 P-QB3 R-Q1+ 10 K-B2 B-K2 11 P-KB4 P-QN3 12 P-KR3 N-KR3 13 P-KN4 B-R5 14 B-N2 B-N2 15 N-B6+ Pxn 16 BxB N-QR3 17 BxR RxB 18 Pxp K-B1 19 P-B5 N-N1 20 Pxp Pxp 21 P-N5 K-B2 22 B-B4 P-K4 23 B-K3 R-KB1 24 QR-Q1 K-K3 25 KR-B1 P-QB4 26 N-N1 N-B2 27 N-B3 B-N6 28 P-B4 N-R3 29 R-KN1 B-B5 30 BxB PxB 31 QR-K1+ K-B2 32 N-K5+ K-K3 33 N-N6+ K-B2 34 NxR KxN Black Resigns. 1-0

RD5 BD2 Shughart-Carpenter PETROFF'S DEFENSE 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Nxe5 d6 4 Nf3 Nxe4 5 d4 d5 6 Bd3 Bd6 7 0-0 0-0 8 c4 Nf6 9 Bg5 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Bg4 11 Qb3 Nbd7 12 Nbd2 Nb6 13 Bxf6 Qxf6 14 Ne4 Qg6 15 Nxd6 Qxd6 16 Ne5 Nxc4 17 Qxc4 Be6 18 Qc3 Rad8 19 Rfd1 Rfe8 20 Racl Bxa2 21 Nf3 Re7 22 Rd3 Bd5 23 Nh4 Qf6 24 g3 Rde8 25 Nf3 c6 26 Ne5 Qf5 27 f4 Qh3 28 Qd2 f6 29 g4 Qh4 30 Rlc3 fxe5 31 fxe5 Rf7 32 Rh3 Qe7 33 Qc2 g6 34 e6 Qxe6 35 Rce3 Qxg4+ 36 Rhg3 Rxe3 White Resigns. 0-1

RD5 BD1 Hammel-Jensen CLOSED SICILIAN 1 P-K4 P-QB4 2 N-QB3 N-QB3 3 P-KB4 P-KN3 4 N-KB3 B-N2 5 B-QN5 N-Q5 6 NxN Pxn 7 N-K2 P-QR3 8 B-QB4 P-K3 9 P-Q3 KN-K2 10 B-N3 0-0 11 0-0 P-QN4 12 P-QB3 Pxp 13 Pxp B-N2 14 B-K3 QR-B1 15 QR-B1 P-Q4 continued page 3.

16 P-K5 N-KB4 17 Q-Q2 NxB 18 QxN Q-Q2 19 P-Q4 R-B2 20 P-KN4 P-QR4 21 P-KB5 NPxP 22 Pxp Pxp 23 B-B2 Q-QB3 24 RxB Q-KR3 25 Q-B3 Q-K3 26 N-B4 Q-QB3 27 R-KR5 P-R3 28 R-R3 B-QB1 29 R-N3 P-N5 30 N-R5 P-KB4 31 PxpPe.p. Black Resigns. 1-0

Helena vs Missoula Inter City Match - September 1985:

MISSOULA			RD1	RD2	TOT	HELENA			RD1	RD2	TOT
BD1	Matthew Guthrie	2125	0	0	0	Kip Stubberud	2085	1	1	2	
BD2	Mike Jensen	1968	1	1	2	Darren Stacey	1870	0	0	0	
BD3	Thomas Mostad	1627	1/2	1	1 1/2	Steve Olson	1599	1/2	0	1/2	
BD4	Sherwood Moore	1243	0	1	1	Mark Laceky	1504	1	0	1	
					4 1/2						3 1/2

UCCC 2ND SUMMER

8/29-9/12

P1 Name	Rate	1	2	3	4	TOT
1 Matt Guthrie	2101	x	1	1	1	3.0
2 Mike Jensen	1994	0	x	1	1	2.0
3 Ron Erickson	1678	0	0	x	1	1.0
4 Romie Carpenter	1844	0	F	F	x	0

RD1 BD1 Guthrie-Carpenter KING'S GAMBIT
Romie hangs his King and Matt gets an easy point (a rare occurrence). 1 e4 e5 2 f4 Qh4+ 3 g3 Qe7 4 d3 d5 5 Nc3 dxe4 6 dxe4 Nf6 7 fxe5 Qxe5 8 Nf3 Qa5 9 Bg5 Be7 10 e5 Ne4 11 Bxe7 Nxc3?? 12 Qd8++ 1-0

P1 Name	Rate	1	2	3	4	TOT
1 Dan Britt	1589	x	1/2	1	1	2.5
2 Sherwood Moore	1266	1/2	x	1	1/2	2.0
3 Richard Gray	1296	0	0	x	1	1.0
4 Greg Herron	1272	0	1/2	0	x	0.5

RD1 BD1 Britt-Gray RUY LOPEZ A tactical melee in the opening and middle game leaves Rich with a material deficit. He fights on, but Dan wins the Knight and Rook Pawn endgame. 1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-KB3 N-QB3 3 B-N5 B-B4 4 P-QB3 N-B3 5 O-O O-O 6 P-Q4 Pxp 7 Pxp B-K2

8 P-Q5 P-QR3 9 B-R4 P-QN4 10 B-B2 N-QN5 11 QN-Q2 P-QB4 12 B-N1 P-B5 13 P-R3 Q-R4 14 P-K5 KNxP 15 N-K4 B-N2 16 B-Q2 P-B6 17 Pxp N-B3 18 P-QB4 N/Q1-N5 19 N/K4-N5 P-KN3 20 B-K4 BxN 21 NxB Pxp 22 PxN QxKP 23 R-K1 Q-KB3 24 N-B3 P-Q4 25 Bxp QR-Q1 26 Bxp Nxp 27 N-K5 B-Q4 28 Q-N3 BxB 29 NxB N-Q6 30 P-KB3 NxR 31 RxN RxB 32 NxR Q-Q5+ 33 Q-K3 QxQ 34 RxQ R-Q1 35 N-N3 R-Q8+ 36 K-B2 R-QN8 37 N-B5 R-QR8 38 R-K8+ K-N2 39 R-R8 P-R4 40 K-N3 P-KR4 41 N-N3 R-R6 42 Nxp P-B4 43 R-R7+ K-R3 44 N-B6 RxR 45 NxR P-N4 46 N-B6 P-B5+ 47 K-B2 P-N5 48 N-K5 K-N4 49 N-Q3 P-R5 50 Pxp Kxp 51 P-R3+ K-N4 52 K-B3 K-B4 53 Nxp K-N4 54 K-K4 K-B3 55 N-Q5+ K-N4 56 K-B3 K-B4 57 P-N4+ PxpPe.p. 58 Kxp K-N4 59 P-R4+ K-R4 60 N-B4+ K-R3 61 K-N4 K-R2 62 K-N5 K-N2 63 N-K6+ K-R2 64 P-R5 K-R1 65 K-N6 K-N1 66 P-R6 K-R1 67 N-N5 Black Resigns. 1-0

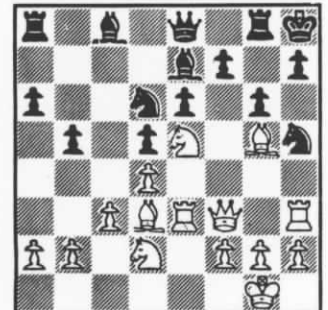
Notes by Dave Shughart

UCCC 1ST FALL

9/19-10/10

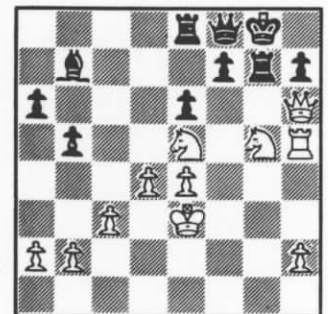
P1 Name	Rate	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	TOT
1 Mike Jensen	1968	L6	W7	W4	W3	3.0
2 Romie Carpenter	1865	--	BY	W5	W6	3.0
3 Dave Shughart	1674	W9	D8	W6	L1	2.5
4 Bill McBroom	1642	D7	D6	L1	W9	2.0
5 Tom Mostad	1627	L8	W9	L2	W7	2.0
6 Dan Britt	1609	W1	D4	L3	L2	1.5
7 Ted Catton	NON	D4	L1	W9	L5	1.5
8 Matt Guthrie	2125	W5	D3	WD	--	1.5
9 Richard Gray	1330	L3	L5	L7	L4	0

RD2 BD2 McBroom-Britt CARO KANN
1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 B-d3 Nc6 5 c3 a6 6 Bf4 e6 7 Nf3 Be7 8 Nbd2 Nf6 9 O-O 0-0 10 Ne5 Qe8 11 Re1 Nd8 12 R-e3 Kh8 13 Rh3 g6 14 Qf3 b5 15 Re1 Nb7 16 Bh6 Rg8 17 Bg5 Kg7 18 R-



1

e3 Nd6 19 Bh6+ Kh8 20 Bg5 Nh5 DIAGRAM-1 21 Rxb5! gxb5 22 Bf6+ Bxf6 23 Qxf6+ Rg7 24 Rh3? (24 Rg3 wins a piece...Qf8 25 Rxb7 Qxb7 26 Qd8+!) Bb7 25 Rxb5 Ne4! 26 Qh4 Qg8 27 Bxe4 dxe4 28 Qf6 e3 29 fxe3 Bxg2 30 Kf2 Bd5 31 e4 Bb7 32 Ke3 Re8 33 Ndf3 Qf8 34 Ng5 Kg8 35 Qh6 DIAGRAM-2 Draw Agreed. 1/2-1/2 Too many complications? Black appears to be helpless against the threat of Nxb7 - 35...f6 36 Nxb7 Qe7 37 Nxf6+ is typical. (More page 6)



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RIMROCK OPEN

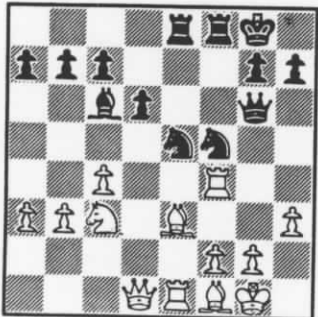
November 23-24, 1985

P1 Name	Rate	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	TOT
1 Bill Greer	1856	W5	W2	W4	D3	3.5
2 Howard Hoene	1813	W6	L1	W7	W4	3.0
3 Gordon Shuck	1713	W8	L4	W6	D1	2.5
4 Bill Lynch	2032	W7	W3	L1	L2	2.0
5 Steve Scarff	1245	L1	L6	W8	W7	2.0
6 Chad Robinson	UNR	L2	W5	L3	W8	2.0
7 Chuck Chapman	1304	L4	W8	L2	L5	1.0
8 Mickey Crews	UNR	L3	L7	L5	L6	0

Bill Greer came out of semi-retirement imposed by his isolation in Ashland to win the '85 Rimrock Open with a fine 3.5-0.5 performance. Howard Hoene put together 3 wins for second place while Steve Scarff from Wyoming and newcomer Chad Robinson shared best under 1600 money with identical 2-2 scores. Top rated Bill Lynch had to settle for two points for the second year in a row - and has to be wondering why he keeps doing this to himself. The light turnout of Billings players was again disappointing, and very cold weather and bad roads discouraged most travellers.

RD2 BD2 Hoene-Greer MODERN DEFENSE 1 e4 d6 2 d4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 f4 Nf6 5 Nf3 0-0 6 Bd3 Nbd7 7 0-0 c5 8 f5 cxd4 9 Nxd4 Qb6 10 Nce2 Ne5 11 Kh1 Bd7 12 Rb1 Nfg4 13 h3 Nx d3 14 cxd3 Ne5 15 Be3 Qa6 16 Nf4 Rac8 17 Nd5 Rfe8 18 fxc6 fxc6 19 Nb4 Qa5 20 Qb3 e6 21 a3 Qd8 22 Ne2 Qe7 23 Bxa7 Ra8 24 Be3 Bg4 25 Qa2 Bb5 26 Rbd1 Kh8 27 Nc3 Bd7 28 Qb3 Rf8 29 Qc2 Rac8 30 Qe2 Nf7 31 Nbl Qh4 32 Bf2 Qf6 33 Rd2 Ng5 34 d4 Qe7 35 Nc3 Rf7 36 h4 e5 37 hxc5 Qxc5 38 d5 Rcf8 39 Nd3 Bg4 40 Qel Bh6 41 Rc2 Rf3 42 g3 Qh5+ 43 Kgl Rx d3 44 Bb6 Rxf1 45 Qxf1 Rxd3+ 46 Rg2 Rf3 47 Qb5 Bh3 48 Rh2 Qg5+ White Resigns. 0-1

RD2 BD3 Scarff-Robinson GORING GAMBIT 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 c3 dxc3 5 Bc4 Bc5 6 Qd5 Qe7 7 Ng5 Ne5 8 Bb3 Nf6 9 Qd1 h6 10 Nf3 Nxf3+ 11 Qxf3 Qxe4 12 Qxe4+ Nxe4 13 Nxc3 Nxc3 14 bxc3 0-0 15 0-0 d6 16 Rel Bf5 17 h3 Rfe8 18 Bd2 Bd3 19 a4 Kf8 20 Be3 Bxe3 21 fxe3 Be4 22 Rf1 Bg6 23 Rf3 c6 24 Rd1 Rad8 25 g4 d5 26 Rd4 Re4 27 Bc2 Rxe4 28 Bxg6 Rd1+ 29 Kf2 g6 30 e4 dxe4 31 Bxe4 Ral 32 Kg3 Rxa4 33 Bc2 Ra3 34 Kh4 Rd5 35 Re3 Ra4 36 Bg6 Re5 37 Rd3 Ke7 38 Kg3 Rg5 39 Bf5 g6 40 h4 gaf5 41 hxc4 Rxc4+ 42 Kf2 Rxc5 43 Rh3 h5 44 Kf3 Kd6 45 Kf4 h4 46 Rd3+ Ko5 47 Rd7 b5 48 Rxa7 Rg3 49 Rh7 Rxc3 50 Kxf5 h3 51 Kxf6 b4 52 Rh5+ Kc4 53 Ke5 c5 54 Rh4+ Kb3 55 Kd5 Kc5 56 Kc4 Kd3 57 Kd5 Kb2 58 Kc5 b3 59 Kb4 Kc2 60 Rf3 Rd3 61 Rxc4+ Kd2 62 Kg3 Rc3 63 Rf4 Kc2 64 Rf2+ Kd1 65 Rf1+ Ke2 66 Rh1 Kf2 67 Kb2 Kg2 68 Rd1 Rf3 69 Rd8 h2 70 Rg8+ Rg3 71 Rxc3 Kxc3 72 Kxb3 h1= Q 73 Kc4 Ke5 74 Kc5 Kf4 75 Kc4 Ke5 76 Kc3 Ke4 77 Kc4 Qcl+ 78 Kb5 Kd4 79 Kb6 Kd5 80 Kb7 Qc6+ 81 Ka7 Qb5 82 Ka8 Kc6 83 Ka7 Qb7++ 0-1 Chad gets high marks for solid defense against the gambit aggression by Steve, who admits to an acquaintance with former Billings resident Gary Chicoine - an ardent proponent of the Goring. For his part, Robinson has been hanging around across the board from Bill Greer.



RD3 BD1 Greer-Lynch DUTCH 1 Nf3 f5 2 d4 Nf6 3 c4 e6 4 Nc3 Be7 5 e3 0-0 6 Qc2 d6 7 Bd3 Qe1 8 Bd2 Bd7 9 b3 Nc6 10 a3 Qf7 11 0-0 Rae8 12 Rfel Ng4 13 h3 Nh6 14 e4 fxe4 15 Rxe4 Nf5 16 Be3 Bf6 17 Rael e5 18 dxe5 Bxe5 19 Nxe5 Nxe5 20 Bf1 Qg6 21 Qd1 Bc3 22 Rf4 Re7 23 Nd5 Ref7 24 Bd3 Bxd5 25 cxd5 Nxd3 26 Qxd3 Rf6 27 Bd2 Qf7 28 Bc3 Rg3 29 Kh2 Qd7 30 Qf3 Qc8 31 Kgl Nh4 32 Rf8+ Qxf8 33 Qx f8+ Kxf8 34 Re3 Rxc2+ 35 Kf1 Rg6 36 Re4 Nf3?? (Ng2 preserves Black's advantage) 37 Rf4+ Ke2 38 Rxf3 Rg5 39 Rd3 g6 40 Bd2 Rf5 41 Kg2 Black Resigns. 1-0 The diagram is the position at move 22 with Black to move - perhaps 22...Rf7 is superior with the immediate threat of 23...Nxe3.

RD4 BD2 Hoene-Lynch QUEEN PAWN 1 d4 d5 2 g3 g6 3 Bg2 Bg7 4 Nf3 Nf6 5 0-0 0-0 6 b3 Nbd7 7 Bb2 Ne4 8 Nc3 Nxc3 9 Bxc3 Nf6 10 Nd2 Bf5 11 f3 Bh6 12 g4 Be3+ 13 Kh1 Be6 14 b4 Qd6 15 Nb3 Bxc4? (a bad miscalculation overlooking White's excellent response) 16 Qd3! Bf4 17 fxc4 Nxc4 18 Qf3 Nxe2 19 Qxf4 Nxf1 20 Qxd6 exd6 21 Rxf1 Rae8 22 Ncl f5 23 Bxo5+ Kg7 24 Bxb7 Re3 25 Rf3 f4 26 Bd2 Black Resigns. 1-0

The interesting article on the next page was submitted by Bill McBroom way back in July 1984. Pressed for time and space I haven't included it in prior issues, but do feel that it is still timely - and very well done. Thanks Bill!

DOES IT PAY TO KNOW YOUR OPENINGS?

William H. McBroom

In the thematic 1984 Midsummer Open the 47 double King Pawn games played were distributed as follows:

9 Ruy Lopez	5 Petrov's Defense	3 Bishop's Opening	2 Evan's Gambit
7 Four Knights Game	4 Scotch Game	2 Latvian Gambit	2 Vienna Game
5 King's Gambit	3 Two Knights	2 Giuoco Piano	2 Vienna Gambit
			1 Alapin Opening

A question often asked is whether knowledge of the openings importantly influences the outcome of the game. Overall in the Midsummer Open White won 53% of the games and Black won 36% with 11% being draws. However, when Black was the player to leave the book White's winning percentage increased to 67%. An even larger proportional increase occurred for Black: when White left the book Black got the point 63% of the time.

The advantage of book knowledge is even more pronounced when the relative strengths of the players is taken into account. With White as the higher rated player White's win rate stands at 87% when Black leaves the book. As the higher rated player Black also benefits when his opponent leaves the book - - - an almost identical winning rate of 86% was found.

It may be recalled that these figures are for only 47 games. Yet, exactly the same conclusion is reached (with somewhat lower percentage levels) for some 300 games including the 1984 Crocus Open, the 1984 State Open, the 1984 Midsummer Open and closed State Championship, along with several UCCC club tournaments. One's winning chances are distinctly increased when one's opponent leaves the book and this advantage is enhanced if one's opponent is lower rated. For the 300 plus games being considered, Black's overall win rate is 38%, but 48% when White leaves the book and 66% when Black is the higher rated player with White leaving the book. The corresponding figures for White are higher: 46%, 67% and 74%.

A surprise in all of this is that for these 300 plus games the average number of book moves is a mere 3.6. The slightly higher figure of 4.5 for the Midsummer Open possibly resulted from the thematic nature of the tournament which made it possible to concentrate on a limited number of openings. These figures belie the expectation that tournament players come "booked up" 20 moves deep in all variations-- at least Montana players do not.

One way to improve one's chess would seem to be to devote some time to the Openings. Since the relative advantage to Black in having his opponent leave the book is as great as White's, but since Black's overall win rate is lower than White's, book knowledge would seem to be one of the best things one can do to improve one's defensive game.

By the "book" is meant MCO 12. As anyone knows who has a Chess Digest opening pamphlet or a Batsford opening monograph, there are "main lines" not found in MCO 12. Thus, the average number of book moves considered here is likely to be a conservative figure. Yet, this fact does not detract from the obvious advantage of knowledge of the book. Book lines, after all, have developed over many years of master play. Book lines are designed to retain White's initiative for as long as possible. And, from the Black side, Book lines make sure that while White may have the initiative, he doesn't have an advantage. Thus, White's first inaccuracy makes it possible for Black to seize the initiative (or at least get equality).

The opening isn't everything, of course. One needs tactical skill for the middlegame and technique in the endgame. But you may not be able to apply these skills if you botch the opening. Does it pay to know book openings? Decide for yourself - - and ignore book lines at your peril.

MONTANA'S RATED PLAYERS - DEC. 1985

Matt Guthrie	MS 2114	Martin Spies	MS 1644	Matt Janke	BZ 1408
Kip Stubberud	HL 2092	Tom Mostad	MS 1640	Richard Gray	MS 1389
Bill Lynch	BL 2032	Bill McBroom	MS 1631	Phil Reno	MS 1388
Mike Jensen	MS 1985	Duane Hildenstab	HL 1630	Mark Kellie	— 1385
Tim Loy	BZ 1948	Phil Lechtenberg	BL 1629	Dennis Vollin	MS 1381
Bill Hammel	GF 1927	Dan Britt	MS 1609	Jack Judd	HL 1365
Bill Greer	AS 1856	Steve Olson	HL 1586	Lawrence Dunkin	GF 1348
Darren Stacey	HL 1847	Tom Booth	PL 1577	John Austreng	GF 1299
Romie Carpenter	MS 1833	John Jacob	— 1532	Sherwood Moore	MS 1299
Howard Hoene	BL 1813	Jim Chester	BZ 1506	Charles Chapman	BL 1283
Mike Keown	MS 1772	Dan Polette	BZ 1505	Greg Herron	— 1262
Bob McKean	MS 1717	Mark Laceky	HL 1504	Ron VandeVen	MS 1237
Gordon Shuck	WH 1713	Dennis Petrak	BE 1496	Richard Johnston	— 1157
Jim Fletcher	MS 1694	Lyle Petersen	PD 1481	Gary Moore	MS 1099
Ron Ericksom	MS 1686	Coyle Long	BT 1478	Thad Person	— 1094
Dan McCourt	LO 1672	Keith Ratliff	— 1441	Dennis Donnelly	— 1051
Dave Shughart	FL 1670	John Barto	GF 1435	Paul Zylawy	MS 1048
Ray Jorgenson	PL 1658	Tim Hovet	MS 1432	Tim McCutcheon	— 911
Gregg Ford	MS 1648	Otto Grosse	GF 1414		

MS=Missoula, HL=Helena, BL=Billings, BZ=Bozeman, GF=Great Falls, AS=Ashland, WH=Whitehall, LO=Lolo, FL=Florence, PL=Plains, BE=Black Eagle, PD=Paradise, BT=Butte, —=Unknown. This list is derived from the 1985 Annual List of USCF for players active in 1985, with the results of tournaments through October 16, 1985.

1ST FALL CONT'D: RD3 BD1 Britt-Shughart ??????? 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 Bg4 4 Be2 Nd7 5 Be3 f5? 6 Nc3 f4 7 Bc1 Ngf6 8 h3 Bh5 9 g4 Bg6 10 Qd3 d5 11 dxe5 dxe4 12 Qb5 exf3 13 Bxf3 c6 14 Qe2 Nd5 15 Nxd5 cxd5 16 Bxf4 Be4 17 Bxe4 dxe4 18 Qxe4 Nc5 19 Qe2 Qa5+ 20 Bd2 Qa6 21 Qxa6 Nxa6 22 f4 Nb4 23 Bxb4 Bxb4+ 24 c3 Bc5 25 Ke2 g6 26 b4 Bb6 27 c4 Rf8 28 Kf3 Bd4 29 Rael Bc3 30 Re4 Bxb4 31 Rb1 a5 32 a3 Bxa3 33 Rxb7 Rf7 34 Rb5 Bb4 35 c5 Rc8 36 e6 Rfc7 37 Rc4 Rxc5 38 Rxc5 Rxc5 39 Rxc5 Bxc5 40 Ke4 a4 41 Kd3 a3 42 Kc2 Ke7 43 f5 gxf5 44 gxf5 Kf6 White Resigns. 0-1

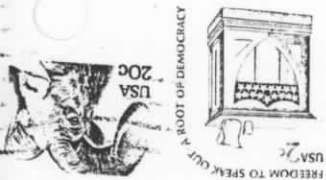
RD4 BD3 Catton-Mostad BUDAPEST 1 P-Q4 N-KB3 2 P-QB4 P-K4 3 PxP N-N5 4 N-KB3 N-QB3 5 QN-Q2 B-N5 6 P-K3 KNxP 7 B-K2 P-QN3 8 P-QR3 B-Q3 9 O-O B-QN2 10 N-K4 NxN 11 BxN B-K4 12 N-KN3 Q-K2 13 R-N1 P-KN3 14 P-QN4 O-O 15 B-N2 R-N1 16 BxN BxB 17 BxB QxB 18 P-N5 B-N2 19 QxP QR-Q1 20 Q-N4 Q-QB4 21 P-QR4 R-Q7 22 KR-B1 R-K1 23 N-B1 R-R7 24 R-R1 RxR 25 RxR R-K5 26 Q-Q7 RxBP 27 Q-Q8+ K-N2 28 Q-QN8 Q-Q4 29 P-B3 R-B7 30 K-R1 RxP 31 QxBP QxBP White Resigns. 0-1 Games selected by Romie Carpenter.

RD4 BD1 Jensen-Shughart QUEEN PAWN 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Bf5 3 g3 Nf6 4 Bg2 Nc6 5 a3 Qd7 6 Ne5 Nxe5 7 dxe5 Ne4 8 f3 Nc5 9 Be3 e6 10 Nd2 O-O-O 11 b4 d4 12 Bf2 d3 13 bxc5 dxe2 14 Qxe2 Bxc5 15 Be3 Bd3 16 Qf2 c6 17 f4 f5 18 Rd1 Bc4 19 Bf3 Bd5 20 O-O Be7 21 Nc4 h5 22 h4 Rdg8 23 Rfel Qe8 24 Bxd5 exd5 25 Nd6+ Bxd6 26 cxd6 b6 27 Qc2 Black Resigns.

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SSWID LSHLE
PRESORTED

LES BREUNAN
P.O. Box 1899
CULSTRIP, MT 59323
M1286



Montana Chess Association
William M. Lynch
Editor
4245 Palisades Park Dr.
Billings, MT 59106