ENNGSTON GANABIT

The Magazine of The Kingston & Thames Valley

EDITOR..... D L Barasi CONTRIBUTING EDITOR..... J E Pattle

JUNIOR EDITOR..... G D Keane

Pattle FEBRUARY 1975

The first of the Centenary events confirmed Mr. Barden's Statement that Kingston has maintained a high standard throughout the Club's existence. We scored on a good half of the boards in the simutaneous display.

By winning many of the inter-club competitions we can make '75 a memorable year. Last season the B team earned promotion(Surrey) and our C team have now joined them in D.3 of the Thames Valley League.

Valley League.

A-TEAM REPORT by Peter Roche (Captain)

THAMES VALLEY D.1 2nd W8 D1 L5

Although we came 2nd the season before
this competition was weakened by teams
that fielded unrepresentative sides.

The best clubs seemed to have selected

their best players when playing us. We crushed Acton $7\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$, Wimbledon B 6-2 and Surbiton A 8-0.

SURREY TROPHY - 2nd W5 D2 L1
We had been promoted to this premier
division the season before last. Several
strong clubs were missing(Mushrooms,
Richmond) and we lost against a solid
Guildford side. Our wins were convincing
and we held Sutton(av. grade 179) and
Mitcham(180) to draws.

ALEXANDER CUP

After beating Streatham & Brixton and South Norwood by $6\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$ we drew with a very powerful Sutton side (av.181 over 10 bds.). We were eliminated on board count and the victors hammered an impressive Wimbledon $6\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$ in the final. Reaching the semi-final was our best result for many years.

This was a promising season and the results were achieved without the help of Nunn, Lally and Stone, and with Rowson and Sheehan playing but 9 games between them.

GRADING LIST

Chess Club number 3

	grade	change 1st Team
J Nu nn	227	+14
C Clegg	186	+ 7 113/24 48%
K Inwood	183	+20 16 2 /21 79%
C Todd	179	2/4 (50%)
C Gillman	17 7	- 6 1/5 (20%)
S Death	174	- 3 10/15 67%
G Keane	171	+ 8 13/20 65%
M Groom	171	13/18 72%
D Rowson	168	$+ 1 2\frac{1}{2}/5 (50\%)$
C Plasa	167	+24
G Malpas	161	+25
P Roche	161	+ 1 15½/21 74%
J Pattle	161	- 7 11/24 46%
M Wedderall	158	9 / 17 56%

Tournamentresults

N. Andrews: London U12 4th Surrey U14 4th; Hammersmith Open $3\frac{1}{2}/7$: Enfield U15 1st 52/6; SCCU U14 2nd; British U14 3rd= 78/11. C.Plasa: London U14 1st= 81/11: Islington(under 160) 1st= $5\frac{1}{2}/6$; Enfield Major 4/6 England's U.14 rep. v German FR 12/2; Internat. Candidates - U.15 qualifier London Internat. Invitation Tournament 1/5:Surrey U16 1st; British U.14 52/11 G. Keane British U. 18 7th $6\frac{1}{2}/11$ (incl. 32/5 v Glorney Cup players). S. Death scored $4\frac{1}{2}/11$ in this event and drew with winner. Both players came 4th with 7½/11 in London U18. J.Nunn shared #st prize in the first LARA Open and D.L. Barasi made it a Kingston double by winning the Major.

INTERNAL COMPETITIONS

(i) After 1.Q-R8? Black should play 1. . . . RxP! Then both 2.QxR, RxR and 2.RxR, RxQ are useless for White. 2.Q-Kt7 is relatively best, but after 2.... RxR; 3.QxR, R-R1; 4.QxP there is no more than a draw for White.

(ii) The winning line was 1.RxR, QxR; 2.Q-R4!, R-B8ch!; 3.K-B2! and Black loses a Rook or is mated. But not 1.Q-R7?, R-B8ch!; 2.RxR, RxR.

What I believe to be the reason for this double blunder is that both players expected White to win by his back-row threats. They saw that Q-R7 was met by R-B8ch and then observed that Q-R8 was not open to this reply - and neither looked hard enough for another resource that they did not expect to be there.

Graham Keane knew that 27...N-Q2 won the exchange, but only after he had played 27 Q-K5? The queen on being attacked was placed on KN5 and his opponent blundered when he took the rook. For now B-K5!! is unanswerable. 28..P-R3! does win - for black.



CHALLENGERS . 1 P. Clemow 2. N. Andrews QUALIFIERS: (S.1)P Hegarty & C.Russell; (S.2) -"Ah" . . P-QB4. I knew you'd answer so." 1 J.MacGregor 2 P. Westcombe.

GAIVIE	GROU	P HANDICAP - G	. Roberts.	
D.J: Rodgers (grad		J.E.PATTLE	M.D.J. GROOM	S.DEATH
G.D. KEANE	äe,	.,y .	V	v
(Thames Valley To	ournament)	. Silversides	T.B. West(Sur)	oiton) G.KEANE
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	1		1 P-QB4 N-KB3	(Wimbledon
1 P-QB4 P-KN3	32 NxB all black	(Kingston A	2 P-Q4 P-K3	College v Tiffins)
2 N-QB3 B-N2	needs to play is	- Sutton)	3 N-KB3 P-Q4	1 P-K4 P-KN3
3 P-Q4 P-Q3	NxN 33 PxN P-Q7	1 P-K4 P-K4	4 N-QB3 P-B4	2 P-Q4 B-N2
4 P-K4 N-KB3	but	2 N-KB3 P-Q3	5 B-N5 B-K2	3 N-QB3 P-Q3
5 B-K2 0-0	32 P-Q7?	3 P-Q4 N-Q2	6 P-K3 P-QN3	4 N-B3 N-KB3
6 P-B4 P-B4	33RxN! PxR	4 B-QB4 P-QB3	7 PxBP NPxP	5 B-K2 0-0
7 P-Q5 P-K3	34 NxP K-B1???	5 Pxp PxP	8 PxP PxP	6 B-KN5 P-KR3
8 N-B3 PxP	35 R-E7+ 1-0	6 0-0 B-B4	9 B-N5+ B-Q2	7 B-KB4 P-R3
9 KPxP N-K1	P. Vallis	7 N-N5 N-N3	10 Q-K2	8 Q-Q2 K-R2
10 0-0 N-B2	V	8 N-K6 Q-R5	(10 BxN BxB/B3	9 P-KR4 P-QN4
11 Q-N3 P-B4	M. J. SHEEHAN	9 B-KN5 QxKP	11 QxP BxN+	10 B -03 P-B4
12 B-Q2 N-Q2	(Kingston A-	10 B-Q3 Q-QN5	12 PxB BxB	11 PxP PxP
13 QR-K1 R-N1	Surbiton)	11 NxNP+ K-B1	13 0xR Q-Q6	12 P-K5 N-R4
14 P-QR4 P-QR3	1 P-K4 P-KN3	12 BxN P-K5	14 OTN+ K-K2-) 13 B-K3 B-N2
15 B-Q3 P-N3	2 P-Q4 B-N2	13 BxKP?! QxB	10 0-0	14 Q-K2 Q-B1
16 R-K2 N-B3	3 P-QB4 P-Q3	14 N-B3 Q-N	11 ByN ByB/3	15 P-KN4 P-N5
17 KR-K1 B-Q2	4 N-QB3 N-KB3	מרא דטארות ני	-2 12 0-0 B-K3	16 PxN PxN
18 N-KN5	5 B-K3 P-K4	10 NXB NXN	13 KR-Q1 BxN	17 R-KN1 P-B5
(18 R-K7 R-K1)	6 P-Q5 0-0	17 Q-Q4 B-R	6 14 PxB Q=R4	18 PxP+ K-R1
18 N-N5	7 Q-Q2 P-QB3	18 QxN+ K-Q	2 15 P-R/ PxP	19 BxBP PxQNP
19 P-N3 Q-B3	8 B-Q3 PxP	TA ATTACH VALUE	' 16 BxP BxB	20 R-N1 QN-Q2
20 N-Q1 Q4Q5+	9 KPxP' R-K1	20 Q-KN5 R-N	1 17 QxB N-R3	21 B-Q3 PxP
21 K-N2 P-QN4:3	10 P-B3 N-R31	21 PxB QxB	18 R-07 N-R2	22 RXKNP BXN
22 RPxP PxP	11 P-KR4? P-K5?!	22 QxR+ and w	ins. 10 W VE W	-K3 23 Q-Q2 NxP
23 N-KB3! PxP	12 PxP NxP	definition communication and a second	20 NxBP R	
24 QxR RxQ	13 BxN(?) P-B4	Bulgarian In	ter- 21 Own P	
25 NxQ PxB	14 BxP(?)BxB	national Has	22 R-N1 Q	1-0 26 B-Q4+
26 R-K7 N-B3	15 N-K2 N-N5	White: Popov	rmingham 23 RxR	1-0
27 N-K6?	16 B-N5 0-N3	Black: Nunn		1-0
(27 N-B6 R-N2)	40 11 04 11 06	P-Q4, N-KB3; 2 P-OB4, P	-QB4; 3 P-Q5, JOHN	NUNN - RESULTS
28 N-Q8 R-N1	II Wash Haso b	-K3; 4 N-QB3, PxP; 5 PxP.	P-O3: 6 N-R3	ingham International
29 N-B6 =)	19 K-K1 NxBP B	-KN3; 7 N-Q2, B-N2; 8 N-N5, P-KR3; 10 B-R4, N-	R3: 11 P.K3 $3rd=$	The British Champ
27 NxN	no and no N.	-B2; 12 P-R4, P-N3; 13 B.	K2. B.R3: 14 -1 on	ship 11th= 6/11
28 PxN B-B3+	20 8-11 11-80 0	-O, Q-Q2; 15 P-K4, QR- -R4; 17 P-B4, P-B4; 18 P-Q	K1. 16 O.R2	t Silk Fellowship 1st
29 K-R3 N-K5	∩ 1 V	XB, NXQP; 20 O-O2, N(R4	xP: 21 B.O1 Played	for England in
30 R-QB7 B-R5	P	xP; 22 B-B2, P-K6; 23 O.	K1. O.N5: 24 Studer	its' Olimpiad.
31 B-B3? B x B	В-	-N3, N-K7+; 25 K-R1, Rx xB+; 27 PxN. P-K7; 28 O-I	R+; 26 OxR	F

NxB+; 27 PxN, P-K7; 28 Q-B2, R-KB1; 29

Resigns.

Po Fianchettoes!

The Bright Young People at my club are forever referring to the Taimanov. I am dimly aware that they are not speaking about the Taimanov Defence to the Ruy Lopez. They then start talking nineten to the dozen about the accelerated fianchetto. I am in deep water now and shut my ears.

A square wood-shifter nearing fifty before my grading slips any further, I suggest two new laws of chess:

(I) All games to start I P-K4 P-K4

Any player who fianchettoes a bishop forfeits the game and is declared a case for treatment.

The trouble started as early as 1789 when E. Stein published Nouvel Essai sur le leu des Echecs and gave the line I P-K4 P-QN3 2 B-B4 B-N2 3 P-Q3 P-KB4 4 PxP BxP 5 Q-R5ch P-N3 6 PxP N-KB3 7 B-B7

Then at the 2nd international tournament, London, 1862, the Rev. J. Owen played I... P-QN3 as Black five times, losing to Paulsen and Blackburne, but defeating Barnes, Green and Robey. Owen won third prize, behind Anderssen and Paulsen, and ahead of

Rev. G. A. MacDonnell, Dubois, Steinitz etc.

In Budapest 1896, the game Maroczy v Charousek commenced I P-QN3, White losing through an unsound sacrifice. This is the first example I can trace of what P. W. Sargeant calls the Queen's Fianchetto Opening. Another example is Baratz v Miss Menchik, Hastings 1927, also won by Black. Nimzovitsch also used this opening, but no examples are given either in My System or Chess Praxis. As is well known, Larsen plays I P-QN3 with success, despite his defeat by Spassky. In Vienna 1893, B. Fleissig essayed the Polish Opening P-QN4 and was mated in 20 moves by Schlechter.



Back to London, 1862. In passing I note that Mongredien played the Robatsch, scoring 1½ out of 4. Mr. Deacon essayed I P-KN3. Using the Sicilian Defence, Barnes played 2... P—KN3 twice and Paulsen once. The game Hannah v Barnes went:- I P-K4 P-QB4 2 N-KB3 P-KN3 3 P-Q4 PxP 4 NxP B-N2. Blackburne v Barnes was the same by transposition. Can this really be the accelerated fianchetto they were on about? If so, it is very old hat.

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James Pattle's letter brought about the first major changes in the rules since the sixteenth century. Share prices for Indian Defences fell sharply and panic buying of 'The Ruy Lopez Opening'books started shortly before the following game was played at the club:-

1 P-K4 P-K4 (Compulsory). Lopez experimented with this position in the sixteenth century. 2 N-KB3 P-Q3 as played in Atwood-Wilson 1796 3 P-Q4 PxP 4 NxP N-KB3 5 N-QB3 B-Q2(!) 6 B-QB4 N-QB3! in order to allow the bishop to rest on the long diagonal without breaking the rule. 7 0-0 B-K2 8 P-KB4 NxN 9 QxN P-B4 10 Q-B2 B-B3 11 R-K1 0-0 12 P-QN3 P-QR3 13 P-QR4 Q-B2 14 Q-N3 KR-Q1 15 B-Q2 the extended fianchetto (at R3) is also prohibited. P-QN3 16 QR-Q1 R-Q2 17 N-Q5 NxN?? 18 PxN BxQP (for B-N2= 1-0) 19 BxB R-N1 20 P-KB5 P-QN4 21 B-R6 B-B1? 22 P-B6??(QxP+ wins!) P-N3 23 B-N7 (the bishop was immune at R6 and still is at N7) P-B5 24 BxQBP!: PxB black does not understand the sac. 25 R-Q5 PxP 26 R-R5!! PxP (or PxR 27 B-R8+ KxB 28 Q-N7+ fianchettoes black) 27 RxP 1-0

G. Keane V P. Richmond (British under-18) 1P-K4 P-QB3 2 P-QB3 P-Q24

3 N-QB3 PxP 4 NxP B-B4

5 B-Q3 P-K3 6 N-H3 N-Q2 7 0-0 BxN 8 BxB KN-B3 9 B-Q3 P-B4? 10 B-KN5 PxP 11 NxP B-K2 12 Q-K2

0-0 13 QR-Q1K-R114 B-N5:Q-B2 15 NxP: PxN 16 BxQN NxB 17 BxB KR-K1 18 B-Q6 Q-R4

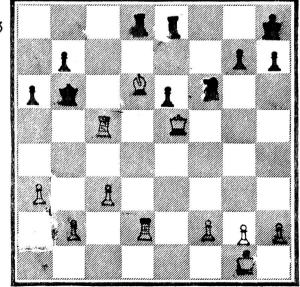
19 P-QR3 Q-KB4 20 R-Q3 QR-B1 21 KR-Q1 N-B3

22 P-QB3 Q-N4 23 R-K3 Q-N6 24 R-K5? P-QR3

25 R-B5? QR-Q1 26 R-Q2 Q-N3: 27 Q-K5

White had a good opening and won a pawn. From then on he played weakly but it is black who now goes wrong. Black only plays two more moves before resigning, but he could have won with the correct 28th move. Give the Blunder, the Swindle by white and the correct 28th black move.

Par times: 10 sec. - Novice, 3 min. - Below standard, 5 min .- Good Club Player, 1 hour - you must be a Chess Master





R. P. Michell by James Pattle

The Michells lived in Alexandra Road, Kingston for over 20 years and were both club members for a long period. Michell held the Championship Cup from 1931-8 and was a useful board 2. J.H.Blake (for details see my article in KG 2), who was Champion for 5 years during the following decade, led the team, The rivals played an interesting game at the British Championship, Scarborough 1909, Michell playing a desperate counter attack with Black.

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-QB3 N-KB3 3 B-B4 N-B3 4 P-Q3 B-N5 5 B-KN5 BxN+ 6 PxB P-KR3

7 B-Q2 N-QR4? 8 B-N3 NxB 9 RPxN P-Q4 10 P-B3 0-0 11 N-K2 N-R2 12 0-0 P-KB4

13 PxQP QxP 14 P-KB4 P-K5 15 P-B4 Q-K3 16 B-B3 R-Q1 17 B-K5 N-B3 18 P-Q4 P-B3

19 N-B3 N-N5 20 P-Q5 PxP 21 PxP Q-KN3 22 Q-Q4 P-N3 23 B-B7: R-Q2 24 BxP P-R3

25 N-R4 B-N2 26 P-B4 R-K1 27 KR-K1 P-K6 28 N-B3 R/Q2-K2 29 P-R3 N-B7

30 K-R2 P-KR4 31 P-N3 P-R5 32 R-KN1 NxP 33 KxN Q-N5+ 34 K-R2 R-K3 35 R-N2 P-K7

36 R-K1 Q-B6 37 PxP QR-K2 38 QR-KN1 R-K4 39 RxP+ 1-0

He entered the British Championship 15 times between 1904 and 1931, winning 2nd prize at Shrewsbury(behind Atkins) and at Edinburgh 1926 (won by Yates) as well as tying for 2nd and 3rd places a further two times. He was quite possibly the strongest player never to have won the title.

On his first visit to Hastings in 1895, the year of the great International, he won a minor tournament. He played in the "Victory" Hastings 1919 and from 1923-1935 missed only one year's congress. He came 3rd once, 4th twice and 5th twice. At Hastings he had been top British player once, beaten Sir George Thomas the year the gentleman had won (in fact he had scored 6 wins and 3 draws from their 9 Hastings encounters), beaten his rival Blake, drawn with Tartakover (the winner) as well as World Champions Capablance, Botvinnik and Euwe. At Margate 1923 he held Alekhine to a draw and among his other vitims are Bogolyubov, Reti, Colle, Znosko-Borovsky, Sultan Kahn, Atkins, Yates, Winter, Alexander, The Great Black Death of the Chess-board Blackburne (to whom he never lost) and Miss Menchik. He had met most leading. Grandmasters and defeated all the leading British players of his time. He had even beaten Janovsky - a World Championship Challenger

He played in two Olympiads - the only ones to be held in England. The first Official International Team Tournament was held in London in 1927 and Michell, playing bottom board, held his own to help the British finish 3rd - our best performance. At Folkstone 1933 he did less well, but his wife finished 4th in the World Women's Championship after Miss Menchik, Miss Price(who ran the celebrated Gambit Chess Rooms in the City) and Miss Gilchrist, so it was a pleasant few weeks. At hamsgate 1929, the British players each played 7 foreign players and Michell had the third best performance, including draws with Rubinstein and Maroczy. Two years later his wife tied for the British Ladies Championship and won the title outright in 1932 and 1935.

Michell was impertubable in defence and his style was sound and solid rather than brilliant.

He worked at the admiralty and his interests were English and French Literature, Walking and playing Badmington and Tennis.

Editorial

KG 3 extends a warm welcome to new members and old friends. Kingston is one of the few chess clubs in this country that produces its own magazine. Kingston is a special club and a glimpse at our past will show that. In a century of great change in chess play and organisation we produced leading players. Today we are a very stong club and our first team players are available to help you improve.

Bill Waterton is doing a great job as centenary organiser but will need your help in running the events in the year's programme. As we enter our next hundred years there is news that Jahn West programme. As we enter

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our next hundred years there is news that John Nunn, in winning the European Junior Championship, may have gained the International Master Title. Kingston '75 has improved internal competitions, many teams and a constant introduction of new ideas. There is a lot to celebrate and work to be done - play your part.

PENGUIN BOOK OF CHESS POSITIONS (ALEXANDER) REVIEW BY JE PATTLE

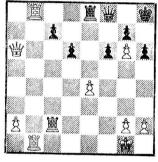
This book is part of a batch recently released and reflects the standards of the late author, a man who had been a top-ranking Givil Servant, one of the best British players of his time and a leading chess journalist.

Part 1 offers a systematic introduction to general combinative play with a fairly comprehensive examination of tactical motifs and typical attacks on the castled king for a book of this size. Part 2 features 70 positions for solving with a set of hints to refer to if necessary. Part 3 consists of test papers (3 sets of 10 positions plus hints) with a marking system based on time and accuracy. It is here that you can compare your score with the results of top players - Keene, Hartston, Penrose, Whiteley and Jana Hartston. Grading equivalents are also given.

Players suffering from a plethora of solid opening systems incorporating fianchettoes should brush up on their tactical provess with the aid of this admirable paperback. An excellent buy at the price.

Here is an amusing specimen to whet your appetite:

CAPABLANCA v THOMAS (Hastings 1919)



* Solution on back page.

- (i) The game finished 1 Q-R8 1-0 Why was black wrong to resign?
- (ii) White should have played another move. Give the winning line.

Had Q-R8 been sound, the position may well have been given in the set to which Alexander gives Schiller's Quote: 'Better to end with horror than a horror without end.' As it is 'Man is but an ass'(A Midsummer Night's Dream) is indeed more suitable:

21 years ago

Ken Inwood won the British under-18 Championship(1953). Here is an important game from the event which shows the Inwood hallmark: first a period of calm and balance inwhich he is always the equal of his opponent and then an inexplicably easy finish against a defence that always disintegrates.

	_	
COLLE	SYSTEM	
WHITE BLACK	WHITE BLACK	
Inwood Landry	Inwood Landry	
1. Kt-K B3 P-Q4	14. P-K B 4 B-B 2	
2. P-Q 4 Kt-K B 3	15. P-K Kt 3 O-B 3	
3. P-K 3 P-K 3	16. O-O B 2 P-K R 3	
4. Q Kt-Q 2 Q Kt-Q 2	17. B-K 3 B-Kt 3	
5. B-Q3 B-Q3	18. P-B 4 O-K 2	
6. Castles Castles	19. B-O 2 B-O 1	
7. P-B 3 P-B 4	20. B-O B 3 P-B 3	
8. B-Kt 1 P-K 4	21. O R-K 1 O-O B 2	
9. PXKR KIXP	22. B-O 5 ch K-R 1	
10. Ki×Kt B×Kt	23. O-Ki 6 O-O 2	
IL P-K 4 P×P	24. B-K 4 P-B 4	
12 KIXP KIXKI	25. O×R P ch K-Ki 1	
is. Bxkt O-R's		
A Property of the Control of the Con		
as he is mated after 26.	Q×B; 27. B-Q5 ch,	
	uicker way of mating was by	
25. B-O 5 ch.		

And Landry was the runner-up!

Ken has been the most successful

Kingston Championship contestant since Michell and Blake and when he has one of his best seasons (as he did last year) makes an invaluable contribution to the first team.

KINGSTON CHAMPIONS

1931-8	R.P.	Michell
1939	J.A.	Peck
1940	T.W.	Letchworth
1942	J.H.	Blake
1943	T.W.	Letchworth
1944-6	J.H.	Blake
1947	J.E.	Redon
1948-9	J.H.	Blake
1 950	P.	Katz
1 952-3	D.G.	Groen
1955	J.M.	Ellam
1956	H.	Ewans
	K.P.	Inwood
1960	J.M.	Ellam
1961-2	D.	Shallcross
1963	K.F.	Inwood
1964 - 6	T.C.	Fox Ridout
19.67	S.J.	Ridout

1968 K.F. Inwood 1969 J.D. Nunn

1970 J.D. Nunn

1974 G.D. Keane

& S. Death

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Slater/Kennington (Surrey Reserve Ch) N. Williams 1st. P.Roche 2nd.

G.Malpas - won the Silver Queen for best match results W19 D4 L3 81%

The Championship



The National Crisis disrupted the fixed dates schedule. The Grand Canary with Gauguin-like colours of its flowers may have produced a more peaceful setting.

The Sub-committee for Tournaments wanted a strong entry, but the absence of Messrs. Nunn, Clegg, Sheehan, Lally (left), Todd, Gillman, Rowson and Plasa - a stronger list than the Championship itself - left the event wide open.

A slightly better writer than myself wrote: "The play, Iremember, pleased not the million; 'twas caviare to the general" (Hamlet). The play was of lesser interest. Sadly, Stone was absent. He displays " a certain architectual quality" (Peake's Gormenghast Trilogy) in his game, and the spark of originality, whether Basmaniae or Larsenic, was rarely seen.

Bluhders, on the other hand, frequently "filled the air with barbarous dissonance" (Milton). "Beware the Jabberwock!" With no clear candidate for honours reputations developed with awe and the fear of relegation resulted from an evenly matched group. Ken Inwood became the favourite but evoled 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik' motifs which lacked impetus. Malcolm Groom did not show his match-form and James Pattle promised 'Real Mature Chess' but like Kafka's Land Surveyor never reached the Castle. Malcolm Wederell was too unadventurous, Peter Roche did not exhibit his true strength and I missed chances and ruined plausible positions.

Everyone was suprised that their redoubtable opponents were less redoubtable than expected, and the two young debutants, S.Death and G.Keane, were a little suprised at themselves. Stephen's methods are utra-solid, unpicturesque but systematically powerful. Graham displays a more positive style. After a two-game play-off we have co-champions.

This year I hope that the shape of play will not resemble Tolkein's monstrous Gollum - becken instead the humour, competitiveness, courage and standards our players are capable of. "A beast that wants discourse of reason!" (Hamlet).

1-Keane, Death $6\frac{1}{2}/9$ 3-Inwood 5/8, Pattle 5 5-Groom $4\frac{1}{2}$ 6-Roche 4, etc.

DEATH-KEANE(P/Q 2nd game) Carl Plasa System. 1 N-KB3 N-KB3 2 P-KN3 P-KN3 3 B-N2 B-N2 4 0-0 0-0 5 P-Q3 P-Q3 6 QN-Q2 P-K4 7 P-B4 P-KR3 8 R-N1 K-R2 9 P-QN4 N-R4 10 N-N3 P-KB4 11 B-N2 N-Q2 12 Q-B2 P-B3 13 KN-Q2 P-B5 14 P-Q4 Q-K2 15 QR-Q1 KPxP 16 NxP N-K4 17 N-K4 P-B4 18 N-QN5 PxQNP 19 N/5xQP B-K3 20 BxN BxB 21 P-B5 N-B3 22 NxN+ RxN 23 NxP R-QB1 24 P-B6 QxN 25 PxQ RxQ 26 B-Q5 RxKP 27 KR-K1: RxR 28 RxR BxB 29 RxB BxNP 30 R-Q7+ ½-½ GROOM-ROCHE 1 N-KB3 N-KB3 2 P-Q4P-K3 3B-N5 P-KR3 4 B-R4 P-QB4 5 QN-Q2 N-QB3 6 PxP BxP 7 N-K4 ?? NxN 0-1

GROOM-BARASI - Implish - improvised theory! 1 P-QB4 N-QB3 2 N-QB3 P-K4
3 P-KN3 P-Q3 4 B-N2 B-K3 5 P-Q3 P-KN3 6 P-K3 B-N2 7 N-K2 Q-Q2 8 N-Q5 N-Q1

"At least we're not in the Book," I said. "You're joking?" He replied.

Later I found out that IGM Hort plays my next moves too. 9 R-QN1 P-QB3
10 N-B3 B-R6 11 0-0 P-KR4 12 BxB QxB 13 K-R1P-R5 14 N-N1 Q-Q2
15 Q-B3 N-K3 16 P-K4 N-B3 17 B-K3 P-KN4 18 Q-B5 P-N5 19 B-NS? R-R4??

(first PxP, BPxP R-R4, BxN RxQ - unclear but hardly bad)20 PxP Q-B2
21 KN-K2 R-Q1 22 P-B3(!) PxP 23 QxP NxB 24 PxN RxP 25 R-N1 RxR 26 RxR B-R1
27 N-N3 Q-K2 28 N-B5 Q-K3 and Mal playing much the better chess won some moves later.

BARASI-ROCHE 1 P-K4 P-QB4 2 N-KB3 P-QR3 3 P-QB3 P-Q4 4 PxP QxP 5 P-Q4 N-QB3 6 B-K3 PxP 7 PxP P-K3 8 QN-Q2 B-N5 9 P-QR3 B-R4 10 P-QN4 B-B2 11 B-QB4 Q-Q1 12 R-QB1 KN-K2 13 N-N3 P-QN3 14 0-0 B-N2 15 Q-K2 P-R3 16 KR-Q1 0-0(N-Q4!) 17 N-K5! NxN 18 PxN Q-N1 19 R-Q7 N-Q4 20 BxN BxB 21 R/7xB BxN 22Q-N4 K-R1 23 Q-R5 R-R2 24 R/7-B3 B-Q4 25 BxKRP P-KN3 26 Q-R4 1-0 KEANE-WILLIAMS 1 P-K4 P-KN3 2 P-Q4 B-N2 3 N-QB3 P-Q3 4 P-KB4 N-KB3 5 N-B3 P-B4 6 B-N5+ KN-Q2 7 PxP PxP 8 0-0 Q-R4 9 P-K5 0-0 10 Q-K1 P-QR3 11 B-Q3(?) P-B5 12 B-K2 Q-B4+ 13 K-R1 N-N3 14N-KN5 P-B3 15 N-K4 Q-B2 16 B-K3 B-K3? 17 N-B5 B-B1 18 P-K6 N-B3 19 P-B5! N-N5 20 PxP NxBP Q-R4 PxP 22 R-B3 NxB 23 R-R3 R-Q1 24 Q-R7+ K-B1 25 QxP 1-0