

# Chess Mess

By The Doubled Pawns

RATINGS!! From the Chess Federation of Canada:

1. Steve MacLeod 1592
2. Brian MacLeod 1431
3. Dave Nichols 1379
4. Tony Smith 1370
5. John Moore 1299
6. Blair Thompson 1282
7. Glen Emerson 1131
8. Andre Boisjvenue 1118
9. Brad Waters 980

Both the CFC Bulletin and the CANADIAN CHESS CHAT have published articles on the recent Georgetown Closed, the first time a Georgetown event has made these prestigious publications. Another, expanded Georgetown Closed is in the works for January 77.

GDHS OPEN: With one round to go, the leader is Tony Smith with 4½ pts., followed by Blair Thompson, Brian MacLeod and Dave Nichols each with 4.

BRAMPTON C.C. SWISS: Next week we will have a full report on this tournament, which was won by Georgetown's S. MacLeod and J. Kaleswicz of Brampton. Brian MacLeod and Tony Smith tied for 5th.

THOMPSON-MACLEOD RATED MATCH: Blair Thompson 1 Brian MacLeod 2. Blair Thompson cut Brian MacLeod's 2 pt. lead in half by winning game 3 on Dec. 12. Brian appears to come out of the opening with the edge, but he weakened his Q-side, and while trying to fend off threats there, blunders a piece. White: B. Thompson (1268) Black: B. MacLeod (1431) Queen's Gambit Declined.

1. N3 (B. Thompson had just defeated B. MacLeod in the GDHS Open with 1...e4, so this move is a small surprise!) 1...Nf6 2. d4 d5 3. e4 e6 4. Bg5 Ndg7 5. Ne3 e6 (The Cambridge Springs Defence, one of Black's best bets in the QGD) 6. e3 Qa5 7. Bxf6 (Avoiding such catastrophes as 7...a3 Nc4 8. Re1 d4 9. Bxe4 Nxe5 10. Nxe5 Qxe5, Hands-S. MacLeod, 1975 Toronto Open) 7...Nxf6 8. a3 Ne4 9. b4? Nxe3 10. ba5 Nxd1 11. Kxd1 e5 12. ed5 ed3 13. Bb5 ch Bd7 14. a4 a6? (14...e4, intending 15...Bb4, 14...Bd6 and 14...Bc6 were all good plans. The text weakens square b6 and pawn b7.) 15. Bxd7 ch Kxd7 16. Ne5 ch Ke6 17. Bb1 cd4 18. cd4 f6 19. Bb6 ch Bd6 20. Nf3 Rabb2 21. Re1 ch Kd7 22. Nhd g6 23. g3 f5 24. Nf3 Bf6 25. Ne5 ch Ke7 26. Kd2 Rge8? (26...Bxe5 would have reached an inferior but probably drawable ending due to White's weak a-pawns. The text loses a piece, and with it the game.) 27. Re1 ch Kd8 fxd6 ch and White soon won.

PROBLEMS: Last week's solution: White wins by 1. Rd8 ch, since if 1...Bxd8 2. Qe8 mate or if 1...Rxd8 2. Qxb7. This week's problem: White: Kg2 Q7, Rd1, N's f5, g5, P's a2, b3, e6, f2, g4, h4. Black: Kh8, Qe8, Re8, N's b8, b6, Bf6, P's a6, b5, e4, g7, h7. White to play and mate. Solution next week.



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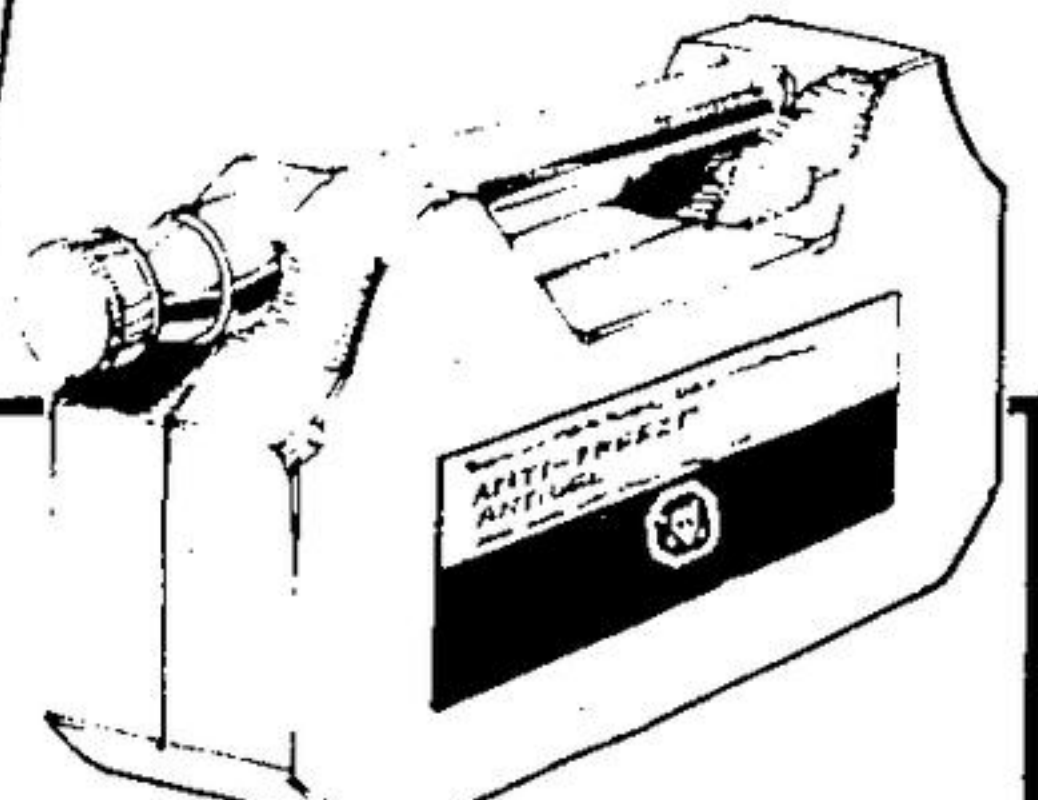
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