

LEISURE LINES

continued

solution. There were a lot of overseas entries in the bag this month, including ones from Papua, New Guinea and Saudi Arabia.

However, the winning entry came from a far more 'exotic' spot —

Nuneaton — and was sent in by Mr Keith Kondaker.

Solution:

Bluebird

Auk

Cockatoo

Egret
Drongo

Congratulations, Keith, your prize is on its way.

Happy New Year and good puzzling for 1985 to all! **END**

MICROCHESS

Dr John Nunn looks at the Super Constellation's performance in the Major Open at Brighton.

White: R Moss. Black: Super Constellation. Notes by Grandmaster Dr John Nunn.

The Novag Super Constellation took part in last year's Championships held at Brighton. It played in the Major Open, a reserve tournament just below the Championship itself, and acquitted itself well against some good club players. The following game from this event illustrates the strengths and weaknesses of computer play.

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| 1 e2-e4 | e7-e5 |
| 2 Ng1-f3 | Ng8-f6 |
| 3 d2-d4 | e5xd4 |
| 4 e4-e5 | Nf6-e4 |
| 5 Qd1xd4 | d7-d5 |
| 6 e5xd6 e.p. | Ne4xd6 |
| 7 Nb1-c3 | Nb8-c6 |
| 8 Qd4-f4 | g7-g6 |
| 9 Bf1-d3 | Bf8-g7 |
| 10 Bc1-d2 | |

(A rather insipid move. 10 Bc1-e3 is usual.)

- 10 ...Qd8-e7+?

(This check is tempting because it forces White to correct his last move by playing the bishop to e3. Unfortunately for Black, the queen is worse posted at e7 than at d8, since it is exposed to attack down the open e-file and by Nc3-d5.)

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| 11 Bd2-e3 | Nc6-e5? |
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(Sometimes it is worth spending two moves to exchange a knight for a bishop, but not here. Black now falls dangerously behind in development.)

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| 12 0-0-0 | Ne5xd3+ |
| 13 Rd1xd3 | Bc8-e6 |
| 14 Be3-d4 | ?-0 |
| 15 Bd4xg7 | Kg8xg7 |
| 16 g2-g4! | |

(An excellent move, starting a powerful kingside attack based on the advance of the two flank pawns.)

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| 16 ...Nd6-e8 |
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(The computer cannot formulate a plan to deal with this new threat and makes pointless moves. Black's only hope is to seek exchanges, so he should have tried 16... Qe7-f6 17 Qf4-g3 Ra8-d8 followed by ...Nd6-c4 opposing rooks.)

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|-----------|---------|
| 17 h2-h4 | Qe7-f6 |
| 18 Qf4-g3 | c7-c5 |
| 19 h4-h5 | c5-c4 |
| 20 Rd3-d4 | g6-g5 |
| 21 Nc3-e4 | Qf6-f4+ |

(Black cannot avoid losing a pawn.)

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| 22 Qg3xf4 | g5xf4 |
| 23 Ne4-c5 | c4-c3 |

(23... Be6xg4 loses material after 24 Rh1-g1 f7-f5 25 Nc5-e6+ forking king and rook.)

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| 24 Rd4xf4 | c3xb2+ |
| 25 Kc1xb2 | Be6-c8 |

(Not only is black a pawn down, but his pieces lie scattered helplessly along the back rank.)

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| 26 Rh1-d1 | b7-b6 |
| 27 Nc5-d7 | Bc8xd7 |
| 28 Rd1xd7 | h7-h6 |
| 29 Nf3-d4 | Kg7-g8 |
| 30 Nd4-f5 | Ne8-f6 |
| 31 Nf5xh6+ | Kg8-g7 |
| 32 Nh6-f5+ | Kg7-h7 |
| 33 Rd7-d6 | Nf6-e8 |
| 34 Rd6-h6+ | Kh7-g8 |

(Most human players would have resigned by now, but the Super Constellation continues plodding along.)

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| 35 g4-g5 | Ne8-c7 |
| 36 Nf5-d6? | |

(White's position is so good that he can afford to make several mistakes and still win, but this move is the first sign of hesitation. Professional players are well aware that won games should be wrapped up as speedily and efficiently as possible, since every extra move increases the chance of a fatigue blunder. This applies especially to games against a machine unaffected by mortal weaknesses. Here 36 g5-g6 f7xg6 (36... Nc7-e6 37 g6-g7 Ne6xg7 38 Nf5-e7 mate) 37 Rh6xg6+ Kg8-h8 38 Rg6-h6+ Kh8-g8 39 Rf4-g4+ Kg8-f7 40 Rg4-g7+ Kf7-e8 41 Nf5-d6+ Ke8-d8 42 Rh6-h7 forces mate by Rg7-d7.)

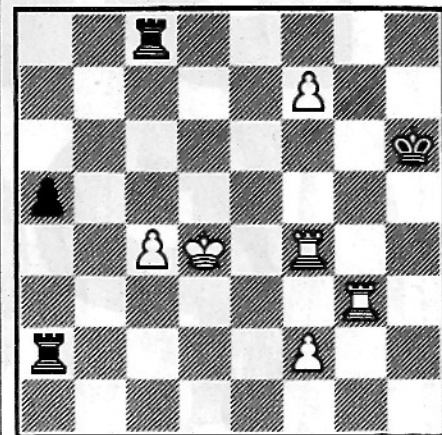
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| 36 ...Nc7-e6 | |
| 37 Rf4-g4 | Ra8-d8 |
| 38 Nd6-e4 | Kg8-g7 |
| 39 Rh6-f6 | Ne6-c5 |
| 40 Ne4xc5 | b6xc5 |
| 41 Rg4-f4 | Rd8-d7 |
| 42 h5-h6+ | Kg7-h7 |
| 43 g5-g6+ | Kh7xh6 |
| 44 g6xf7+ | Kh6-g7 |
| 45 Kb2-c3 | Rd7-d4! |

(A little trick exploiting the position of White's king. If White plays 46 Rf4xd4 he loses both rooks after 46... c5xd4+.)

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| 46 Rf4-f3 | Rd4-a4 |
| 47 Rf6-f4 | Ra4-a6 |
| 48 Kc3-c4 | Kg7-h6 |
| 49 Kc4xc5 | Ra6xa2 |
| 50 c2-c4 | a7-a5 |

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| 51 Rf3-g3 | Rf8-c8+ |
| 52 Kc5-d4? | |

(Just when White could have brought the game to a speedy end, he makes a really serious mistake. 52 Kc5-b5 Ra2-b2+ 53 Kb5-a4 Rb2-b4+ 54 Ka4-a3 escapes from the rook checks, when White's threats of f7-f8=Q+ and Rf4-h4 mate cannot be met.)



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| 52 ...Rc8xc4+! | |
| (A stunning blow for White.) | |
| 53 Kd4xc4 | Ra2-a4+ |
| 54 Kc4-b5? | |

(When a player is still punch-drunk from the effects of a blunder he is much more likely to blunder a second time. This move finally throws away the win which was still there by 54 Kc4-d5 Ra4xf4 55 Kd5-e6 Rf4xf2 56 Ke6-e7 Rf2-e2+ 57 Ke7-f8 Kh6-h7 58 Rg3-h3+ Kh7-g6 59 Kf8-g8 forcing Black to give up his rook for the pawn.)

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| 54 ...Ra4xf4 |
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(White emerges with an extra pawn, but it is of no significance and the Super Constellation forces a draw.)

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| 55 Rg3-g2 | a5-a4 |
| 56 f7-f8=Q+ | Rf4xf8 |
| 57 Kb5xa4 | Kh6-h5 |
| 58 Ka4-b4 | Kh5-h4 |
| 59 Rg2-h2+ | Kh4-g4 |
| 60 Kb4-c3 | Kg4-f3 |
| 61 Kc3-d2 | Rf8-a8 |
| 62 Kd2-e1 | Ra8-a1+ |
| 63 Ke1-d2 | Ra1-b1 |
| 64 Kd2-c2 | Rb1-f1 |
| 65 Kc2-d2 | Rf1xf2+ |
| 66 Rh2xf2+ | Kf3xf2 |

1/2-1/2

(A quite unbelievable save by the Super Constellation.) **END**