

of ratings within a 100-point range caused, at least in part, by "non-chess factors" is recognized by the USCF.

Recommendation: When ratings are used to make pairings, issue invitations, and award prizes, players should be listed by 100-point rating categories (e.g., the 2000's would be all those rated 2000 through 2099), and all within a particular category would be treated as having the same rating. It might be a good idea to publish categories only, while informing the player himself of the exact rating that has been calculated. I suggest that advancement from one 100-point category to another would be more valid if it weren't official until a rating in the new category would be maintained in a subsequent competition.

The way this system would work for issuing invitations to a national championship or team is that non-rating criteria would have to be developed to rank players within a category. They could include titles, past or present, and performances in specific qualifying tournaments. For making pairings in a Swiss system tournament, ranking would be by categories, and by lot or alphabetical order within the categories. As a tournament progresses, the director would have greater freedom to regularly alternate colors, something which I consider to have far more merit than pairings made on the basis of "exact" ratings (sometimes a rating is a player's most recent one while the one used for pairing his opponent is very different than the one that will be used when the game is rated; the opponent would have played in other events since his rating was most recently published) which can result in an unfair allocation of colors. /Myers.

To Editors Of Other Chess Magazines: You may not agree with the preceding opinions and recommendations, but I hope you will agree that the subject should be discussed by tournament players in general. Unfortunately, this magazine will not reach a high percentage of them. The editorial (or dissertation...) is too long for me to expect that anyone will reprint all of it, but I would be pleased to see it quoted to any degree/HM.



(35-3) Various Openings: 1.-- c6 & 2.-- Na6, 1.Nf3 d5  
2.b3 c5 3.e4, 1.e4 b6, and 1.e4 & 2.c4

By Gerard Welling:

I Other Points of View Concerning 1.-- c6/2.-- Na6/3.-- Nc7

In MOB #25, pp.2-5, I presented "De Bruycker's Defense", an opening system based on 1.-- c6 & 2.-- Na6 (3.-- Nc7). De Bruycker's ideas are explained there, with the help of illustrative games.

While playing in the 1984 Biel Masters Tournament I saw a German junior player whose interpretation of 1.-- c6 and 2.-- Na6 was entirely different. He has had some success with it but prefers to play it only after 1.d4 as he is an expert on the Sicilian Najdorf.

Michael Braun first tried 1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 about four years ago because he liked the idea 3.Ba6: Qa5+, and otherwise Nc7 looked strange but solid.

In a junior match in Stuttgart, Fed. Repub. of Germany, in 1980, he won a very short game with it: NN-Braun 1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.Ba6: Qa5+ 4.Nc3 Qa6: 5.Qe2 b5 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0?, and now White resigned after the surprising 7.-- b4 0-1. In a later

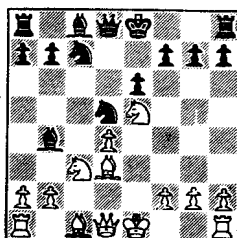
game Michael Braun played 1.c3 e5 2.g3 d5 3.Na3, and then Nc2, f2-f3, Nh3, and Nf2, but got a cramped game. That's why he decided to play it with d7-d5 as Black (Ed. Note: T.A. Dunst's preference in the 1950's): 1.d4 c6 2.e4 Na6 3.c4 Nc7 Δ d7-d5.

Recently, in the city championship of Sindelfingen (FRG), Michael tried 1.d4 c6 2.c4 Na6 3.Nc3 Nc7 4.Nf3 (this time no e2-e4) 4.-- f5!?, and scored with it.

Although his c6 & Na6 ideas do not yet constitute a coherent system, we have to admire how Michael experiments and scores with it.

In the Biel Masters Tournament, Round 10, 8/84, a strong Swedish player was the victim: Lundin-Braun (notes by Braun). 1.d4 c6 2.e4 Na6 3.c4 Nc7 4.Nc3 d5 5.ed5: cd5: 6.Nf3 (6.cd5: Nd5: 7.Bb5+ Bd7 8.Qa4 Nb6 9.Bd7: + Qd7: 10.Qd7: + Kd7:, and d5 is an outpost) 6.-- Nf6 7.cd5: Nfd5: 8.Ne5 e6 9.Bd3 Bb4 (Diagram 14) 10.Qa4+ (10.Qc2 Nc3: 11.bc3: Qd4: Δ 12.Qa4+ Bd7 13.Nd7: Bc3: +) 10.-- Bd7 11.Qc2 Nb5! 12.0-0 Nd4: 13.Qd1 Bc3: 14.bc3: Nc6 15.Nc4 0-0 16.Ba3 Nce7 17.Qb3 Qc7 18.Nd2 Bc6 19.g3 Rfd8 20.Qc2 Ng6 21.Rfe1 Nf6 22.Nf1 Qa5 (Δ Qd5) 23. resigns 0-1.

DIAGRAM 14



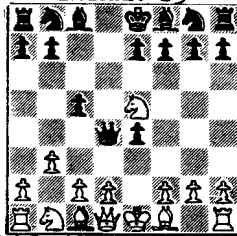
After 9.-- Bb4

## II The Reversed Budapest Defense

The Budapest Defense, 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 (3.de5: Ng4, or 3.-- Ne4?!), is a controversial opening. Your editor undoubtedly was a fan, recommending it in New Strategy In The Chess Openings. The same booklet had 1.Nf3 d5 2.a4, when 2.-- c5 3.e4 was proposed as a White opening: a reversed Budapest where a2-a4 has its points. But then why not 1.Nf3 d5 2.e4 - ? Here Becker said (source: The Budapest Defence And The Tennison Gambit by Josef Staker, Chess Digest 1982): "A comparison with the Budapest Defence is entirely appropriate, since the basis of the two openings is the same; the only difference, the omitted c-pawn two-step. The omission of c7-c5 here means, however, that Black falls behind a tempo: to his advantage! A pawn at c5 would hinder the development of the King's Bishop and weaken d5, possibly b5 as well." So that's one reason 2.a4 is played, waiting for the weakening 2.-- c5, but it has other qualities as well (see Exploring the Chess Openings, Game #2).

This whole story went through my head when I saw a 1st round game by the Swedish player Sixtensson against Dizdarević, a Yugoslav IM, at Biel 1984. He played 1.Nf3 d5 2.b3, and now 2.-- c5 3.e4!? de4: 4.Ne5, to which Dizdarević did not play 4.-- Qd4 (Diagram 15) 5.Bb5+! Nd7 6.Nc4 - which reminds me of the trap 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.b3 Nf6 4.e5 de5: 5.Ne5: Qd4 6.Bb5+ Nbd7? 7.Nc4 Qa1: 8.Bb2 Qa2: 9.Nc3 +- - but a quiet 4.-- Nf6, when later Nc3/Bb5/Qe2 regained the pawn. A remarkable version of the reversed Budapest.

DIAGRAM 15



After 4.-- Qd4

## III Owen's Defense

Recently I was looking at 1.e4 b6 in Appendix II of Basman's Play the St. George. 1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.Nc3 is not critical for Black after 3.-- e6 4.Nf3 Bb4 5.Bd3 Nf6! (Keene; Basman and