

Richard Shorman

Chess

EXHIBITION RESULTS

Chess master Jude Acers packed the Alameda Chess Club with a standing-room-only audience for a stimulating lecture ("One of the Most Incredible Games Ever Played") and simultaneous exhibition, Dec. 7.

Acers played 21 opponents, winning 19 games, while losing only to Alameda Chess Club president Marvin Smitherman and to 14-year-old Matt Hubbard, who caught the master napping in the opening and went on to score a well-deserved victory.

White: Matt Hubbard; Black: Jude Acers; Gruenfeld Defense.

1P-Q4 N-KB3 2 N-KB3 P-KN3 3 P-B4 B-N2 4 N-B3 P-Q4 5 PxP NxP 6 P-K3 0-0 7 B-B4 N-N3 (Black equalizes easier after 7 . . . NxN 8 PxN P-B4.) 8 B-N3 B-N5 (interior to 8 . . . P-B4 or 8 . . . N-R 3 plus 9 . . . P-B4) 9 0-0 QN-Q2 10 P-KR3! BxN 11 QxB P-QB3 12 P-Q5! PxP 13 NxP N-B4 (Better are both 13 . . . P-K3 and 13 . . . NxN.) 14 R-Q1 NxB (Correct is 14 . . . N-3-Q2.) 15 N-B6ch BxN 16 RxQ QRxR (wrong rook . . .) 17 PxN P-QR3 18 QxP R-Q8ch 19 K-R2 N-Q4 20 QxRP B-K4ch (Missing White's 22nd move; best is 20 . . . N-N5.) 21 P-B4 B-Q3 22 Q-K2! NxKP 23 QxN P-N4 24 P-N3 R-B1 25 K-N2 P-R4 26 PxP! R-B7ch 27 K-B3 K-N2 28 P-N6! R-B8ch 29 K-K4 P-B4ch 30 K-Q3 P-B5 31 PxP R-B4 32 Q-K6 Resigns.

XXXVIII USSR CHAMPIONSHIP

Topping the list of 25 entrants in the current USSR Championship is Vladimir Tukmakov with 6½-1½ (one game adjourned) after nine rounds of play. His closest competitors are Podgaets, 6 points, Gipslis, 5½(1), Stein and Bagirov, 5½ each. With three adjourned games to finish, Viktor Korchnoi's tally of 4-2(3) could still put him in the lead.

Here is a double-edged battle from this event, annotated by international grandmaster Ratmir Kholmov (translated from "Sovetsky sport," Nov. 29, 1970).

White: Ratmir Kholmov. Black: Vladimir Savon.

Riga, 1970, XXXVIII USSR Championship.

Sicilian Defense

1 P-K4	P-QB4	21 P-K5!?(g)	PxP
2 N-KB3	P-Q3	22 Q-R3	N-B1!
3 P-Q4	PxP	23 BxB	B-R6!(h)
4 NxP	N-KB3	24 KR-K1?(i)	R-N5ch
5 N-QB3	P-QR3	25 K-Q2	Q-B7ch
6 B-KN5(a)	P-K3	26 N-K2	R-Q5ch
7 P-B4	B-K2	27 K-B3	RxR
8 Q-B3	Q-B2	28 RxR	QxN(j)
9 0-0-0	QN-Q2	29 R-QR1!	B-K2?(k)
10 P-KN4	P-N4	30 BxP	Q-K5
11 BxN	NxB	31 B-N5ch	K-B2
12 P-N5	N-Q2(b)	32 R-R4	Q-K8ch
13 P-QR3	R-QN1	33 K-N2	PxP(1)
14 P-KR4(c)	P-N5	34 Q-B5ch	K-N2
15 PxP	RxP	35 R-K4	B-R6ch!
16 B-R3	QN3!?(d)	36 KxB	Q-B6ch
17 N-B5!	RxP!?(e)	37 K-R4	QxPch
18 NxNPch	K-B1	38 K-N4	Q-N7ch
19 NxPch!	PxN	39 K-R5	Q-R6ch,
20 BxP	K-K1-(f)		and Black forfeited. (m)

(a) Nearly always leads to extremely sharp and interesting play. Another consideration influencing my choice of moves was that until now I had a minus score against this talented master.

(b) The fight begins. In this variation the player able to forestall the other's attack is usually the one to dictate future events. Here it is White who imposes his will on an action-packed, although far from errorless, game.

(c) Best according to latest theory, since 14 R-N1, 14 P-B5 and 14 B-R3 all have been determined to hold out fewer prospects.

(d) Curiously, the text move has never been tried before. Against Minic at an international tournament in Yugoslavia this summer Fischer preferred to take his king out of the center with 16 . . . 0-0.

(e) White has a strong attack after 17 . . . , PxN 18 N-Q5.

(f) The king moves away from the danger zone. Black goes under fast on 20 . . . K-N2? 21 Q-R5 R-B1 22 Q-R6ch K-R1 23 P-N6.

(g) It is difficult to say whether this is the correct decision, but the natural 21 N-Q5 R-N8ch 22 K-Q2 Q-Q5ch 23 K-K2 Q-B5ch! somehow did not appeal to me. Now White wins back his piece, but it costs the initiative.

(h) This bishop causes White nothing but trouble.

(i) Results in unpleasant repercussions for White; better is 24 K-Q2.

(j) Even though my king was still exposed, I did not lose heart. In the first place, my opponent's flag was up and, secondly, I had discovered a fascinating resource.

(k) Stronger is 29 . . . B-B4.

(l) Perhaps not best, but at this point Savon had only a few seconds left on his clock to complete another seven moves.

(m) Black's flag fell and he was charged with the loss.