



Chess Barbs

by Jude Acers (US senior master)

DIAGRAM NO. 12: You are playing Black. What do you move and why? Sorry, no guesswork allowed. This is an Acers Chess Challenge position. Mail your solution to this position (taken from actual play) to the BARB for checking. Remember, only PERFECT solutions receive a checkmark and 150 correct solutions will earn you a BARB GOLD STAR!

GAMES: I would like readers to try playing blindfolded the following two games and to analyze them as well. George Koltanowski, the famous blindfold exhibition wizard, gives some superb advice on how to play blindfolded in his book, "Adventures of a Chessmaster," in case you have difficulty picturing this old, little-known chess masterpiece.

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White: Aron Nimzovitch. Black: Semyon Alapin. Riga, 1913. French Defense 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 ed Nd5 5 Nf3 c5 6 Nd5 Qd5 7 Be3 cd 8 Nd4 a6 9 Be2! Qg2 10 Bf3 Qg6 11 Qd2 e5 12 0-0-0! ed 13 Bd4 Nc6 14 Bf6!!! Qf6 15 Rhelch Be7 16 Bc6ch Kf8 17 Qd8chl Bd8 18 Re8mate(A).

(A) Gee, whilickers! Looks like a Morphy--Tal job.

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Here is the most famous queen sacrifice ever played.

White: Richard Reti. Black: Savjielly Tartakower. Vienna, 1910. Caro-Kann Defense 1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 de 4 Ne4 Nf6 5 Qd3 e5! 6 de Qa5ch 7 Bd2 Qe5 8 0-0-0!!! Ne4? 9 Qd8chl!!! Kd8 10 Bg5ch Kc7 11 Bd8mate.

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NEWS: The San Francisco International Hilton Prestige Open Tournament was a huge, record-shattering success. Only players with below expert ratings were allowed to compete for nearly \$1,500 in prize money. Workhorse Martin E. Morrison performed the nerve-racking job of chief tournament director for the more than 200 entrants. A complete list of prize winners follows. Hilton Inn, San Francisco, May 6-7, 1972: Class A, 1st, Boris Popov, San Francisco, 4½-½, \$200 plus plaque; 2nd-5th, Roger Gabrielson, Berkeley, David Obstfeld, San Francisco, Alfred Raymond, San Francisco, and John Smail, Bolinas, 4-1, \$47.50 each. Class B, 1st, Jon Sjogren, Berkeley, 4½-½, \$150 plus plaque; 2nd, Peter Prochaska,

Menlo Park, 4½-½, \$150; 3rd-6th, James Jirousek, McClellan AFB, Frederick Scholz, Berkeley, Steward Scott, Sunnyvale, and Murray Turnbull, Berkeley, 4-1, \$22.50 each. Class C, 1st, Ronald Byrne, San Francisco, 5-0, \$200 plus plaque; 2nd-5th, Howard Cockersham, Oakland, Peter Freier, Sunnyvale, Michael Maloney, Berkeley, and Peter Stokes, Berkeley, 4-1, \$47.50 each. Unrated Division, 1st, Romeo Rodriguez, San Francisco, 5-0, \$100 plus plaque; 2nd, Robert Morrison, Winton, 5-0, \$100; 3rd, Nicholas Quirarte, San Francisco, 4½-½, \$50; 4th-13th, Michael Cardillo, Douglas Clyde, Manelica Gimdalf, all San Francisco, Alan Hawkins, Palo Alto, Michael Mason, San Francisco, Donald Mayeaux, Fremont, David Olney, San Francisco, Richard Stanley, Berkeley, John Teselle, Stockton, and Joseph Tracy, San Francisco, 4-1, \$6.50 each.

The great Fischer--Spassky match for the world title may be on again, according to a news report from Amsterdam. The International Chess Federation announced on May 6 that it had received a telegram from Fischer agreeing to play all 24 match games in Reyjkavic, Iceland, beginning July 2.

Riga, Latvia, will be the site of the third women's world chess championship between Nona Gaprindashvili and challenger Alla Kushnir. Their first two matches ended in identical victories for Gaprindashvili of 8½-4½. Round one of the scheduled 16-game contest starts May 9.

There can be no doubt that one of the best chess events ever seen in the Bay Area will take place at "The Loft" coffeehouse and bar, 5422 College Ave., in Oakland (between Alcatraz and Broadway) on the weekends of May 20-21 and 27-28. Chess patzer Gary Orechwa (pronounced OR-na-qua) has shown master class philanthropy by providing the entire top floor of his coffeehouse, complete with proper lighting and tables, free food and drink for players, score sheets, wall charts, etc., etc., for a special master-expert invitational tournament. Alan Benson gets credit for organizing and directing the four round Swiss, which boasts nearly perfect playing conditions of only one round per day, with adjournments resumed

on the same day after a two-hour break, at a time control of 40 moves in 2½ hours. Invitations to play have been accepted by former world junior champion Julie Kaplan (USCF 2399, Elo 2470), John Grete (USCF 2366), Dennis Waterman (USCF 2267), Dennis Fritzinger (USCF 2208), and Australian master Trevor Hay (Elo 2300). Expert rated players include Craig Barnes, new U.S. high school champion, Alan Beson, Gary Pickler, Charles Pardini, Charles Maddigan, Ed Rosenthal, Donald Dean, Larry Hughes, Alan Laverne, Marcos Costa, Steve Cross and Takashi Kurosaki. Others who have been invited but not yet replied are master Larry Gilden (2282) and experts Peter Manetti (2150), Eric Osbun (2147), Steve Sawyer (2041), editor of the California Chess Tournament Bulletin, Bob Hasson (2024), Robert Hammie (2016), and Duane Clark (2010). Round one begins at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 20 at "The Loft." Spectators welcome!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!