

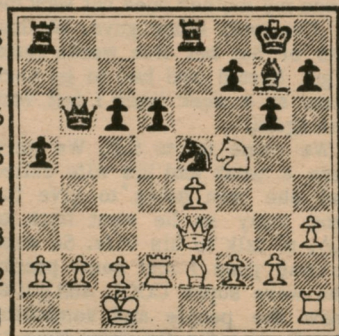
CHESS BARBS

by Jude Acers

(US senior master)

DIAGRAM: Hoping to blunt Black's initiative and emerge from the exchanges a pawn up, White has just played 1 Nd4-f5 (Polees-Kremenetsky, Moscow, 1973). Then all hell broke loose, as Black shot back with a pair of double exclamation marks that must have knocked White right off his chair. Can you analyze his seven-move main line combo right through to the mate? Solution will be found in this issue of the BARB.

NEWS: The first of two interzonal world championship competitions opened for business June 2 in Leningrad with the drawing of lots for the 17-round qualifier. Regular playing days were set for June 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25 and 27. Adjourned games will be completed on June 6, 10, 15, 19, 24, 26 and 28, as needed, with two free days, June 11 and 20, allotted during the tournament. An interesting sideline of value to the participants has been the organizers' attention to playing conditions: games and adjournments will take place in the giant Palace of Culture, with a seating capacity of 1,050 for an overflow Moscow chess public; special rooms have been provided



Black to move and win.

apart from the main auditorium for analysis of the games, for chess journalists and for just plain relaxing by the players themselves; no traffic will be allowed on the streets outside the tournament building (I) during play, from 4 p.m. to midnight.

A re-cap of the tournament line-up is enough to convince most anyone what a tremendous contest lies ahead: R. Byrne, Cuellar, Estavez, Gligorich, Huebner, Karpov, Korchnoi, Kuzmin, Larsen, Quinteros, Radulov, Rukavina, Smejkal, Taimanov, Tal, Torre, Tukmakov and Uhlmann. The top three qualify to play in the 197 Candidates' Matches with the best three from the second interzonal in Brazil and seeded former champions Spassky and Petrosian.

After three rounds, IGM Bent Larsen set the pace by posting a score of 3-0. American grandmaster Robert Byrne temporarily holds second with 2½-½. Mikhail Tal, whom many observers consider the most likely winner of the tournament and Fischer's next challenger, suffered an upset loss to IM Guillermo Estavas of Cuba in round three.

Stay tuned to the fabulous BERKELEY BARB chess hotline for the best in games and news from the Palace of Culture...

GAMES: How could we have overlooked this one? Here is an exciting, action-packed adventure story from the People's Division of the Santa Clara Open.

White: Kang Mei, Castro Valley (Unrated). Black: Greg Hoyal, Oakland (1457). Sunnyvale, May 26, 1973. Two Knights' Defense 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 d5 5 ed Nd4 6 c3 b5 7 cd bc 8 de Nd5 9 Qa4ch Bd7 10 Qc4 Qg5 11 Qd5 Rd8 12 0-0 Be7 13 d4 Qg6 14 Qf3 0-0 15 Be3 f6 16 Qd5ch Kh8 17 e6 Bc8 18 Qc6 Bd6 19 d5 Be5 20 Nc3 Rd6 21 Qc4 Ba6 22 Nb5 Rb8 23 a4 f5 24 Ba7 Rb7 25 Be3 c6 26 dc Rc7 27 Qc5 Black resigns.

* * *

A triple round robin match-tournament was held recently in Riga to determine the Soviet representative for the world junior championship, slated for July and August in England.

The winner was still unresolved at the end, due to a 7½-4½ tie between Aleksandr Belyavsky and Sergei Makarychev; but the event's top brilliancy was actually fought out between the tail-enders, Panchenko and Kochiev.

White: A. Panchenko. Black: A. Kochiev. Riga, 1973. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 Bc4(A) e6 7 Bc3 Be7 8 Qe2 0-0 9 0-0-0 Qc7 10 Bb3 a6 11 Rhg1 Nd7 12 g4 Nc5 13 g5 Bd7(D) 18 Nf5! Nb3ch Nc5 13 g5 Bd7(B) 14 Qh5 Rfc8 15 Rg3(C) g6 16 Qh6 Bf8 17 Qh4 Be7(D) 18 Nf5! Nb3ch 19 ab ef 20 Nd5 Qa5(E) 21 Ne7ch Ne7 22 Bd4 Qalch(F) 23 Kd2 Qa5ch(G) 24 Ke2(?) fe!(H) 25 Qh6 Bg4ch!(I) 26 Rg4 Nf5 27 Qh3(J) Rc2ch 28 Kf1 Qb5ch 29 White resigns(K).

(Notes by A. Roshal, translated and adapted from "64", No. 19, May 11-17, 1973, pp. 2-3)

(A) The Sozin variation is made to order for these two: Panchenko attacks with a vengeance and Kochiev defends with a passion.

(B) Up to here, rapidly and confidently played on both sides.

(C) Charge!

(D) Definitely not an offer of a draw, rather an enticement into no-holds-barred battle. Elapsed time to acceptance of the challenge -- 22 minutes.

(E) Played after an hour's thought. Kochiev felt that he had at least a draw, while masters watching the game agreed that Black should try to save his position by 20...Qd8 21 Nf6ch Bf6 22 gf.

(F) The rest of the spectator's gallery was almost unanimous in labeling this move as the fatal check.

(G) Here is the draw Kochiev had in mind earlier (presuming the king goes back to cl). Now it was White's turn for some deep thinking, since, if he could escape the checks, a mate in three hovered over Black's head (Qh7ch, Rh3ch and Rh8mate). On 24...fe (covering h3 with the bishop), for example, White would win with 25 Qh6 Nf5 and then 26 Qh7ch. Panchenko took 40 minutes to reject 24 c3 Kf8 25 Qh7 Be6 26 Qh8ch Ng8 27 Bf6 fe, as offering too little in his opinion, and...fell right into Black's trap.

(H) Played instantly.

(I) A stunning deflection sacrifice.

(J) Already, the queen has been thrown into headlong retreat.

LENINGRAD TOURNAMENT FLASH!

FLASH!! News from the Leningrad Interzonal: Tal, favored to win this tournament hands down, got off to a disastrous start by losing two games to Estevas and Torre, then could only draw versus Smejkal and finally found himself in a lost ending against Korchnoi in round four. Two more of his games have had to be postponed, and it is not at all clear whether Tal will even finish his playing schedule. The story from Leningrad is that Tal contracted a case of food poisoning just before the tournament. To give an idea of how badly he is playing, Tal actually "hung" his queen against Torre and then, for the first time in his life, time trouble or no, overlooked a mate in one...

American international grandmaster Robert Byrne, on the contrary, has been playing like a house afire and so far is in firm command of second place after six rounds. When you take into account that he is also writing daily (I) articles for his New York Times column, Byrne's performance makes an ever greater impression.

White: Eugenio Torre. Black: Robert Byrne. Leningrad, 1973. Dutch Defense 1 g3 f5 2 Bg2 Nf6 3 c4 e6 4 b3 Be7 5 Bb2 0-0 6 f4 d4 7 Nf3 c5 8 0-0 b6 9 e3 Bb7 10 Qe2 Nc6 11 Nc3 Qd7 12 Nd1 Rad8

(K) There was no need to wait for 29...Qe2.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS: U.C. Berkeley, Student Union Bldg. 4th floor, June 16-17. 4-round Swiss in 3 divisions (M-Expert-A; B; C-D-E and Unrated). Total Prize Fund: \$1,250 (1st overall, \$200, 1st A, \$150; 1st B, \$100; 1st C, \$100; 1st D, \$100, etc.), based on approx. 150 entries. Entry fee, \$12.50 for M-Expert-A section, \$7.50 for other divisions (plus USCF membership). Registration

13 Nf2 Ne4 14 d3 Nf2 15 Kf2 Bf6 16 Bf6 Rf6 17 cd Qd5 18 Ne5 Qd6 19 Bc6 Bc6 20 Rgl Bb7 21 g4 Qc7 22 Rg3 Rd5 23 Ragl Re5 24 fe Qe5 25 gf Rf5ch 26 Kel Rf7 27 Qc2 g6 28 e4 Ba6 29 Rlg2 Qalch 30 Ke2 Rfl 31 Qd2 Rbl 32 Qg5 Relch 33 Kf3 Qdlch 34 Kf4 Rflch 35 Ke5 Qalch 36 Ke6 Bc8ch 37 Kd6 Rf6ch 38 Kc7 Be6 39 d4 Qd4 40 Rd2 Rf7ch 41 Kb8 Qe4 42 White resigns.

Undisputed leader at this point is Bent Larsen, who came to Leningrad under protest, complaining that the event was top heavy compared with the interzonal scheduled for Brazil. Larsen has conceded a single draw (to Torre, in the longest game yet played) and has won all the rest in very convincing form. If a brilliancy prize is awarded, then Larsen's beautiful first round crush over Rukavina will be a top contender for it.

White: Josip Rukavina. Black: Bent Larsen. Leningrad, 1973. English Opening 1 c4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 g3 c5 4 d5 d6 5 Bg2 Na6 6 Nf3 f5 7 0-0 Nf6 8 Nc3 0-0 9 Nel Rb8 10 Qd3 Bd7 11 b3(?) Ne4! 12 Be4 fe 13 Qc2 Bh3 14 Ng2 Nb4 15 Qd2 e3! 16 fe Rflch 17 Kfl e6 18 Bb2 ed 19 cd Qg5 20 Rdl Be5 21 e4 Qg4 22 Kgl Rf8 23 Ne3 Qg5 24 Ng2 Qh5 25 Rel Bg2 26 Kg2 Rf2ch! 27 Kf2 Qh2ch 28 Kfl Qh3ch 29 White resigns.

on Sat., June 16, from 10:30 a.m.; round one at noon. Tournament Director, Elwin Meyers, assisted by Ed Delgado. Please bring sts and clocks.

SOLUTION TO DIAGRAM: Black uncorked a whopper with 1...Qb2ch! (Or was that obvious?) 2 Kb2 Nd3ch 3 Ka3 Bb2ch 4 Ka4 Re4ch! (But how about this one?!) If now, 5 Qe4, then the door closes with 5...Nc5mate! 5 c4 Rc4ch 6 Kb3 Rc3ch 7 Ka4 Ra3mate. Not bad, not bad at all...