

# Ex-Champ Spassky Beaten By Berkeley Chess Expert

By ALAN BENSON

After defeating American Grand Master Robert Byrne in San Juan, Puerto Rico, former World Chess Champion Boris Spassky gave a simultaneous chess exhibition at Chess City in New York. A simultaneous is where the Grand Master plays more than one person, usually between 10 and 50 people, at the same time! Spassky played 41 players, including 2 Masters and 7 Experts. When it was all over the final score was 32 wins, 8 draws and 1 loss. Charles Maddigan, formerly a student at U.C. Berkeley, went to New York to become a full-time chess pro, a hard road in which few have made the grade.

White: Boris Spassky (USSR)

Black: Charles Maddigan.

King's Gambit — Feb. 5, 1974

1. P-K4

Spassky played this move on all 41 boards!

1. . . . P-K4

2. P-KB4 PxP

3. N-KB3 P-Q3

"A high class waiting move" — Fischer. As a result of losing his first game with Boris Spassky at Mar Del Plata, Argentina, 1960, Fischer published an article in the first volume of the "American Chess Quarterly" entitled "A Bust to the King's Gambit." In his game with Spassky, Fischer played 3 . . . P-KN4, but made a mistake later in the middle game and lost. So, in effect we have Spassky playing against Fischer's analysis. Perhaps this is why he varies with his seventh move.

4. P-Q4 P-KN4 5. B-B4

If instead 5 P-KR4 P-N5 6 N-N5 (Nothing is gained by 6 BxP PxN 7 QxP N-QB3 or 6 N-N1 P-B6 — Tarjan prefers 6 . . . P-B6 over 6 . . . B-R3) 6 . . . P-KB3! 7 N-KR3 PxN 8 Q-R5 plus K-Q2 9 BxP Q-K1 10 Q-B3 K-Q1, and Black wins (Fischer).

5. . . . P-KR3 6. 0-0

Possible is 6 P-KR4 P-N5 7 0-0 PxN 8 QxP with great complications favoring Black. Or Black could play 6 . . . B-N2, transposing into the Philidor Gambit, which then gives White a choice of 7 N-B3, 7 P-B3 or 7 Q-Q3.

6. . . . B-N2 7. N-B3

This move is rarely seen. Usual is 7 P-B3 N-QB3 (Fischer gives 7 . . . N-K2 as best, e.g., 8 P-KN3 P-Q4!; Other tries at this point are 8 . . . PxP 9 NxP, and White won, as in Hanstein-Von der Lasa, Berlin 1849; 8 . . . N-N3 9 PxP (9 Q-N3 0-0 10 PxP PxP 11 K-R1 N-B3 12 Q-B2 QN-K2 13 QN-Q2 B-K3, and Black is a little better; but Fischer won against Mott-Smith, Chicago siml. 1964.) 9 . . . PxP 10 N-K1 B-R6 11 R-B2 Q-N5 plus 12 K-R1 N-Q2 13 N-Q3 0-0-0 14 NxP NxN 15 BxN Q-N3, with sharp play as in Kantorowitsch-Seliwanowski, Moscow, 1955; 8 . . . P-N5 9 N-R4 P-B6 10 NxP (Also 10 B-K3 QN-QB3 11 N-Q2 0-0 12 P-KR3 P-KR4 13 PxP PxP 14 QNxP, as in Szekeley-Von Freymann, Abbazia 1912; or 10 N-R3 0-0 11 B-B4, Reti-Cohn, Abbazia 1912). 10 . . . PxN (As yet untried is 10 . . . P-Q4 first, before capturing the knight.) 11 . . . KxB (11 . . . K-Q2 12 QxP Q-B1 may be better — Kmoch.) 12 WxP plus K-N1 (Also to be tested is 12 . . . K-K1 13 Q-R5 plus K-W2 14 Q-N4 plus K-B3 15 P-Q5 plus K-N3 16 B-K3

plus P-B4 17 QxB-Evans.) 13 Q-B7 plus K-R2 14 R-B6!, threatening 15 RxP mate, 14 . . . N-B4! 15Q-N6 plus K-N1 16 Q-B7 plus draw, as in Issakow-Nowotelnov, Moscow 1947. 8 . . . P-Q4! 9 PxQP PxNP 10 PxP (If instead 10 N-K5 PxP plus 11 K-R1 0-0 12 P-Q6 QxP, and wins — Fischer.) 10 . . . 0-0 11 Q-N3 Q-Q3 12 K-N2 N-B4, winning — Fischer. However, in the last variation Dr. Euwe points out that better is 11 N-K5 Q-Q3 (Not 11 . . . NxP 12 NxP RxN 13 RxR KxR 14 Q-K1 plus) 12 N-Q2 BxN 13 PxB QxP 14 Q-K1) 7 . . . N-QB3 8 Q-N3 (also 8 P-KN3, and now best is 8 . . . B-R6! 9 R-B2 (But not 9 PxP BxR 10 Q xB, as in Spielmann-Grünfeld, Carlsbad 1923, because of 10 . . . Q-K2 11 PxP 0-0-0 12 Q-R3 plus (12 N-Q2 PxP or 12 B-B4 QxKP) 12 . . . K-N1 13 Q-B5 PxP 14 BxNP B-B3 with decisive advantage) 9 . . . Q-Q2 10 PxP Q-N5 plus 11 K-R1 N-KB3 12 QN-Q2 PxP, and White will have problems developing his queenside.) 8 . . . Q-K2 9 P-KR4 N-B3 (Or even better is 9 . . . PxN 11 RxPN-B3 followed by 12 . . . 0-0-Fischer.) 10 PxP PxP 11 NxP NxKP 12 NxN QxN 13 BxP plus K-Q1 14 BxP NxP, winning — Fischer. Keres continues to equality with 15 B-N5 plus K-Q2 16 Q-Q5! N-K7 plus (If instead 16 . . . QxQ 17 BxQ N-B7 18 N-R3 NxR 19 R-B7 plus K-K1 20 N-N5, and White is better.) 17 K-B2 Q-KN5! 18 N-Q2 P-B3 P-B3 19 Q/K6 plus QxQ 20 BxQ plus KxB 21 KxN.)

7. . . . N-QB3

8. B-N5

On 8 N-K2 Q-K2 9 Q-Q3 B-Q2 10 B-Q2 0-0, with interesting play.

8. . . . B-Q2 10. BxN PxB

9. P-KN3 P-N5

The correct recapture, as after 10 . . . BxB, White plays 11 N-R4 P-B6 12 N-B5!

11. N-KR4 P-B6 13. Q-Q2 N-N3

12. B-K3 N-K2 14. NxN

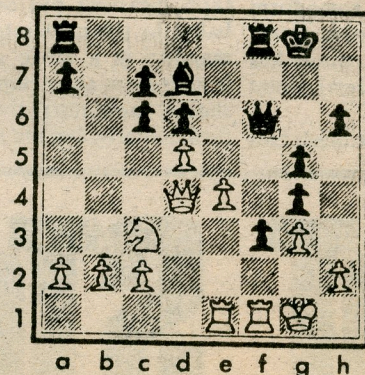
An interesting try here is 14 N-B5, as after 14 . . . BxN 15 PxB N-K2 16 B-K3 Q-Q2 with a complicated position. Black has problems with his King, but the closed KB file blunts White's attack.

14. . . . PxN 15. QR-K1 P-N4

Preparing to castle on the kingside!

16. P-Q5 0-0 18. QxB Q-B3!

17. B-Q4 BxB



An excellent move! If, instead of the exchange of Queens, Spassky plays 19 Q-K3, Q-K4, then Black will be able to develop a promising attack.

19. QxQ RxQ 21. RxKP R-K1

20. P-K5 PxP 22. RxR plus

Had to swap, since 22 KR-K1 P-B7 plus and wins.

22. . . . BxR

23. R-Q1 PxP

24. RxP

Not 24 NxP, because 24 . . . P-B7 plus 25 K-N2 (25 K-B1 B-N4 plus wins) 25 . . . B-B3 26 P-B4 K-B2 27 R-KB1 K-K3 28 RxP RxR plus 29 KxR BxN 30 PxB KxP, with a won King and Pawn ending.

24. . . . B-B3

25. R-Q2

Spassky cannot take time to go after the queenside pawns with 25 R-R5, because of 25 . . . P-B7 plus 26 K-B1 B-N7 plus! and

wins.

25. . . . K-B2

27. K-K3 K-K4

28. P-N4 P-B7!

Transposing into an ending with the superior minor piece, Bishop vs. Knight. The rest is easy.

29. RxP RxR

30. KxR K-Q5

31. N-N1 B-R5

32. K-K2 BxP

33. N-R3 B-R5

34. K-Q2 P-R3

35. N-N1 K-B5

36. N-B3 B-B3

37. N-Q1 KxP

38. N-K3 B-B6

39. N-B5 K-R6

40. K-B3 KxP

41. Resigns

*Corrections to the Spassky-Maddigan Game!*

- 1) 8. Q-R5 plus (plus = check)
- 2) Add after: knight) 11. BxP ch (Also 11. QxP 0-0 12. BxP ch with compensation - Keres.)
- 3) 12. QxP ch
- 4) 13. . . . K-Q2
- 5) Start line with: 9. . . . P-N5 10. BxP (But not 10. KN-Q2, because of 10. . . . NxP!) 10. . . . PxN
- 6) 16. QR-K1
- 7) 26. K-B2 K-K3