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Chess

FISCHER WINS OPENER, LEADS MATCH 3-8

The first of ten scheduled match games between America's Robert Fischer and the Soviet Union's Mark Taimanov ended in victory for Fischer after five hours of play.

Only once during his last three major tournaments, all of which he won by impressive margins, did Fischer use the King's Indian Defense, and then not in the form adopted against Taimanov. The Soviet grandmaster avoided the more popular opening continuations, including the variation which bears his name, choosing instead an obscure line less likely to have been deeply analyzed by his ambitious foe.

The ensuing complications saw Fischer grimly holding on to an extra pawn's worth of material while taking the heavy punishment meaded out by Taimanov in return. At long last, however, the attack was beaten back and superior force carried the day against greater mobility.

1	P-Q4	N-KB3	22	B-B4	P-Q4
2	P-QB4	P-KN3	23	PxP	PxP
3	N-QB3	B-N2	24	N-N5	N-N3
4	P-K4	P-Q3	25	N-Q4(k)	Q-Q2
5	N-B3	0-0	26	Q-K3	K-R2
6	B-K2	P-K4	27	P-KR3	R-KBI
7	0-0(a)	N-B3	28	B-R6	R-N3
8	P-Q5	N-K2	29	R-B7	Q-R5(1)
9	B-Q2(b)	N-K1(c)	30	RxBch(m)	KxR
10	R-B1(d)	P-KB4	31	BxPch	K-B2
11	PxP	PxP	32	B-K2	R-1-QN1
12	N-KN5(e)	P-KR3	33	NxP	R-N8(n)
13	N-K6	BxN(f)	24	RxR	RxRch
	PxB	Q-B1	35	K-R2	Q-Q2
.15	Q-N3(g)	P-B3(h)	36	N-Q4(o)	Q-Q3ch
16	B-R5(i)	QxP	37	P-N3	Q-N5
17	QxP	N-B3	38	N-B6	Q-N3
18	B-K2	KR-N1	39	NxP	QxQ
19	Q-R6	RxP	40	BxQ	R-K8
20	KR-QI	P-K5(j)	41	Resigns(p)	
21	Q-R3	R-N2			

- (a) Closing the center with 7 P-Q5 changes the course of the game, e.g., the placing of Black's knights, but not the balance of position. A recent tournament trial ran 7...QN-Q2 8 B-K3 N-N5 9 B-N5 P-KB3 10 B-R4 N-R3 11 12 B-N3 N-Q2 P-KN4 P-KB4 (Mecking-Gligorich, lorca, 1970).
- (b) Perhaps Taimanov extracted this rarely played move from Mikhail Yudovich's opening manual, "Star-oindiyskaya zaschita" (The King's Indian Defense, Moscow, 1967, pg. 76), without realizing that Fischer had critically reviewed that book ("A Russian Pot-Boiler") for Chess Double ("A Russi gest Magazine (No. 2, 1969, pp. 33-34). Usual here are 9 P-QN4 (Taimanov's variation!), 9 N-Q2 P-B4 (which Fischer played against Korchnoi at the rapid transit tourney held after the "Match of the Century" in Yugoslavia last year) 10 P-QR3 P-QR4 11 R-N1 N-K1 12 P-QN4 RPxP 13 PxP P-N3 (Taimanov—Kavalek, Wijk aan Zee, 1970) and 9 N-K1 N-Q2 10 N-Q3 P-KB4 11 B-Q2! (Keres).
- (c) Following Yudovich's suggested improvement over 9 N-R4 10 P-KN3 P-KB4 11 PxP BxP 12 N-KN5 N-KB3 13

P,KN4 B-Q2 14 N/5 K4 (Boriseno—Terentiev, Gorky, 1961). (d) More energetic is 10 P-QN4 P-KB4 11 Q-N3 N-KB3 12 PxP PxP 13 P-B5 K-R1 (Korchnoi—Geller, Moscow, 1971).

- (e) Both sides may have calculated the continuation from here to move 15, or even beyond to move 19, but evidently they hold opposite views about who stands better afterward. Taimanov sacrifices a pawn and Fischer wins
- (f) Exchanging off an imprisoned bishop for a domineering horse (forced, of course).

(g) White's point.

- (h) Black's counter-point, blocking the enemy queen's flight path along the long white diagonal after the trade of
- (i) And not 16 R-N1 or 16 KR-Q1 because of 16. N-B2.
- (j) A crucial decision to consolidate the material and to contain White's pieces within reasonable limits (20 Q-B1? 21 QxQch RxQ 22 B-K3 or 20 . . . R-N3 21 Q-R5 P-Q4 22 PxP PxP 23 N-R4). But the initiative shifts to White regardless as Fischer pays the price for his extra pawn.

 (k) Black apparently does not fear 25 N-B7 NxB (25

Q-B2 26 NxR NxB 27 B-R6 R-Q2 28 Q-B5) 26 NxQ NxBch 27 K-B1 NxR 28 RxN, remaining with rook, bishop and (passed)

pawn vs. White's queen.

(1) Fischer has managed to retain his pawn plus while weathering the storm, and now White must cope with count-

(m) Necessary to keep up the attack. If 30 B-K2, then 30 . N-K1 (not 30 . . . QyP 31 NxP) 31 R-B8 NxB 32 QxN BxN wins a piece. Also good for Black is 30 BxP (30 NxP? QxRch 31 B-B1 N-K1) QxRch 31 B-B1 P-B5 32 BxP (32 RxBch KxB 33 N-B5ch K-N3) NxB 33 QxN N-K1 34 Q-R4ch R-R3.

(n) The pressure slackens for a moment and Fischer

seizes the opportunity to force further simplification. Why he let White's QRP live, however, is still a mystery.

(o) Kotov claims that up to here Taimanov has pursued a promising line of attack, but that now 36 Q-N5 or 36 P-N4 should be substituted for the mistaken knight move ("Sovetsky sport," May 18, 1971).

(p) After 41 B-N4 (Taimanov's sealed move) N-K4 Black s easily: 42 K-N2 (42 B-KB5?? N-B6ch 43 K-N2 R-N8mate) N-3xB 43 PxN NxP 44 B-Q4 R-Q8 45 N-B6 R-Q7 46 P-R4 P-K6.

DVI TOURNEY RESULTS

Craig Barnes of Berkeley scored an unbeatable 3-0 to win the second DVI Semi-Open Invitational in Tracy, May 15. Second place in the Expert-A Division was taken by last year's champion Harold Chappel, Tracy, who finished with 2-1 (losing only to Barnes in the final round).

In the USCF B-C Division, George Roust of Livermore earned his 3-0 sweep by defeating second-ranking (2-1) Gary Kobliska, Berkeley, in their individual game. David Peltier, Pleasanton, took third spot, followed by Gary MacLeod, Fremont (4th), and Leon Hopkins, Castro Valley (5th), with identical scores of 2-1.