

Richard Shorman**Chess****KORCHNOI'S SUCCESS**

B E V E R W I J K, Jan. 30 (TASS) (translated from "Sovetsky sport," Jan. 31, 1971). Leningrad grandmaster Viktor Korchnoi took first prize in the Netherland's annual "Hoogoven Tournament" with a score of 10 points out of a possible 15. In the final round he defeated Robert Huebner of West Germany on the 40th move.

Icelandic grandmaster Fridrik Olafsson was determined to win his last round game against Jan Donner, since a victory would have placed him equal first with Korchnoi. But the Dutch grandmaster defended himself tenaciously and the contest was declared drawn on move 42.

Former world champion Tigran Petrosian beat Carel Van Den Berg (Holland), Svetozar Gligoric (Yugoslavia) downed Ulf Andersson (Sweden) and Vlastimil Hort (Czechoslovakia) suffered defeat at the hands of young Henrique Mecking (Brazil).

Thus, 2nd-5th places were shared by Petrosian, Olafsson, Gligoric and Ivkov, just ½ point behind the leader.

Following a weak start and two losses, Korchnoi first recovered, then finished strongly with 3½ points out of his last four games, a result that shows the contender for the world's chess crown to be in excellent competitive form.

Petrosian also performed well. One may assume that the former world title holder viewed the event more as training than as a race for points. In this respect Petrosian's tournament tactics proved their worth, for he fought through all 15 rounds without losing a game.

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The shortest game of the tournament was won in eight (!) moves, certainly a rarity in present-day international chess events.

White: Tigran Petrosian.

Black: Hans Ree

Beverwijk, Holland, 1971.

English Opening

1 P-QB4	P-K4	5 N-Q5!(c)	NxN
2 N-QB3	N-KB3	6 PxN	P-K5?(d)
3 N-B3	N-B3	7 PxN	PxN
4 P-KN3(a)	B-N5(b)	8 Q-N3!	Resigns(e)

(a) White more often plays **4 P-Q4** here, retaining a minimal advantage after **4 . . . PxP 5 NxP B-N5 6 B-N5** (Vasily Panov, "Kurs debyutov," Moscow, 1968, pp. 406-07).

(b) Botvinnik credits **1 P-QB4 P-K4 2 N-QB3 N-KB3 3 P-KN3 B-N5!** with being the best equalizer against this particular variation, citing his game (Botvinnik—Langeweg, Hamburg, 1965) as an example: **4 B-N2 0-0 5 N-B3 R-K1 6 0-0 BxN 8 NPxB N-B3 8 P-Q3**, and now **8 . . . P-K5!** gives Black a good game. But Petrosian demonstrates that the situation is **not** the same when all four knights have been developed first. Instead of playing the textmove, Black can transpose into regular lines by **4 . . . P-Q4 5 PxP NxP 6 P-Q3 (6 B-N2? NxN 7 NPxN P-K5!) B-K2 7 B-N2 B-K3** (Harry Golombek, "Modern Opening Chess Strategy," London, 1959, pp. 246-47).

(c) The strength of the English Opening frequently rests on such subtle opportunities for punishing apparently insignificant transgressions in Black's order of moves.

(d) After **6 . . . N-K2 7 Q-N3 (7 NxP P-Q3! 8 N-B3 NxP)** Black must choose between **7 . . . B-Q3**, with an untenably cramped position, or loss of a pawn (but not **7 . . . P-K5 8 N-N5!**).

(e) White cannot be prevented from winning a piece, and with it the game, e.g., **8 . . . P-QR4 9 P-QR3 B-B4 10 PxNP R-QN1 11 PxB/Q RxQ 12 QxQch KxQ**.

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GOLDEN BEAR PREMIER AND CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Martin Morrison and Elwin Meyers will direct the Regional Golden Bear Premier Championship and Class Tournament, both events sponsored by the Central California Chess Association and the Berkeley Chess Club.

Class Competitions

Open to USCF members with ratings of Class A or lower. CCCA California State Chess Championship qualifying points will be awarded to CSCF members in the Class A Division only. Prizes, based on 100 entries, are \$75 each for 1st Class A, 1st Class B, and 1st Class C plus \$25 each for 2nd Class A-B-C and 1st Class D/E. Entry fee is \$5, with USCF membership required (may be obtained at a 20 per cent discount at the tournament site). Round one of this four-round Swiss system weekend tourney begins at noon, Saturday, Feb. 13, in the Student Union Building, 4th Floor, corner of Telegraph Ave. and Bancroft Way, University of California, Berkeley. Please bring sets and clocks.