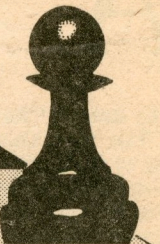


# CHESS BARBS



by Jude Acers, US Senior Master

**WORLD CHESS TITLE PLAY:**

November 19, 1 pm.....in Moscow  
It's down to the wire. Hundreds of thousands of chess fans jam the streets outside Tchaikovsky Musical Hall as Karpov is faced with one of the truly great comebacks of chess history: Old man Korchnoi has crushed his young opponent twice in six days to draw within one game of his young superstar rival. The score after 23 games, with one to go: Karpov, 3; Korchnoi, 2, with 18 games tied. All Karpov has to do is draw and he wins the chess championship of the world or the right to play Fischer for the title June 1, 1975. (Fischer has repeatedly said he will not defend his world title and has put this in writing.)

Here are all five of the world challenger decided match games so far. Get yourself a cup of coffee or something stronger and enjoy five of the most hellacious hammer and tongs chess games ever played by chess grandmasters. Karpov and Korchnoi are the world's highest rated active players according to Elo rating lists of the past three years.

If Korchnoi wins it, they will, believe it or not, flip a coin for the world-chess championship or Fischer match. That would surely be the most photographed coin toss or drawing of lots ever.

If Korchnoi wins, he states that he will give Fischer anything he wants in a world title match just for the honor of playing Fischer.

If Karpov wins, he has promised to give Fischer nothing beyond the FIDE (World Chess Federation) world title regulations in Nice, France (1974 world congress). These regulations provide the world title goes to the player who scores 10 wins, draws not counting, in 35 games or less.

If it goes to 35 games after four months of play, the leader in score wins it all.

Fischer says no play, baby, unless it goes on forever, first player to win 10 games. Also, Fischer wants the edge. If he scores 9 points before his opponent, he wants to keep the title and just play for the cash.

The cash? With T.V. and live off-stage commentary, about ten million dollars. Or...about two million dollars without live T.V. Official sealed bids for the final match will be opened in Amsterdam July 3, 1975. Highest cash will win. It has to be a million plus for any country and Fischer will demand it in advance and in gold.....

The decisive world title challenger games, hot off the squares:

The decided games of the world chess championship challengers match (winner plays Fischer or becomes world

## GRANDMASTERS SLOG IT OUT IN MOSCOW

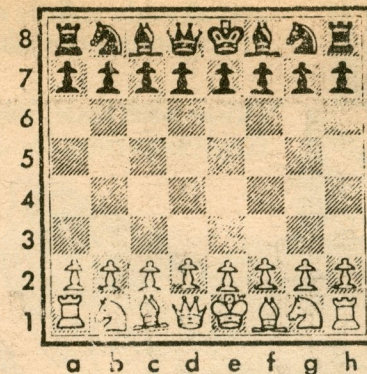
champion by default)

Round 2 White: Karpov  
Black: Korchnoi

September 19, 1974, Sicilian Defense: Dragon Variation. 1 Pe2-ef Pc7-c5 2 Ng1-f3 Pd7-d6 3 Pd2-d4 Pc5xd4 4 Nf3xd4 Ng8-f6 5 Nb1-c3 Pg7-g6 6 Bc1-e3 Bf8-g7 7 Pf7-f3 Nb8-c6 8 Qd1-d2 Oo 9 Bf1-c4 Bc8-d7 10 Ph2-h4! Ra8-c8 11 Bc4-b3 Nc6-e5 12 0 0 0 Ne5-c4 13 Bb3xc4 Rc8xc4 14 Ph4-h5! Nf6xh5 15 Pg2-g4 Nh5-f6 16 Nd4-e2! Qd8-a5 17 Be3-h6 Bg7xh6 18 Qd2xh6 Rf8-c8 19 Rd3! (note A) Rc4-c5 20 Pg4-g5!! Rc5xg5 21 Rd3-d5!! Rg5x d5 22 Nc3xd5 Rc8-e8 23 Ne2-f4!!(B) Bd7-c6 24 Pe4-e5!!(C) Bc6xd5 25 Pe5xf6 Pe7xf6 26 Qh6xh7ch Kg8-f8 27 Qh7-h8ch Black Resigns (D)

(Note A) 19 Rd5 was believed already favorable for white. Apparently Korchnoi had a goodie waiting for Karpov if he had employed it. So far, so book. As stated by Korchnoi after the game, the entire variation appears dubious for Black. I gave it up after using it in about forty clocked games in 1969. White is given the initiative, a mechanical attack and twenty free moves on the clock. I decline. No thanks.

(Note B) Threatens to whip off Black's knight at f6. Shoot the other knight to d5 sealing Black's



tomb. It's all over already.  
(Note C) Amazing. White seals Black's queen from defending the king on g5. A dream attacking position in a world championship match.

(Note D) 27. . . Qd5. 28 RE1ch QE5 29 RE5 dE 30 Qh4 wins. Score -- Karpov 1, Korchnoi 0

(1 drawn)

Round 6 White: Karpov Black: Korchnoi. September 29, 1974 Petroff Defense 1 Pe2-e4 Pe7-e5 2 Ng1-f3 Ng8-f6 (A) 3 Nf3x e5 Pd7-d6 4 Ne5-f3 Nf6xe4 5 Pd2-d4 Pd7-d5 6 Bf1-d3 Bf8-e7 7 0 0 Nb8-c6 8 Rf1-e1 Bc8-g4! 9 Pc2-c3(B) Pf7-f5 10 Qd1-b3 0 0 11 Nb1-d2! Kg8-h8 12 Ph2-h3 Bg4-h5 13 Qb3xb7 Rf8-f6 14 Qb7-b3 Rf6-g6 15 Bd3-e2 Be7-h7(C) 16 Re1-f1! Bh5xf3 17 Nd2x f3 Bh4x f2ch (D) 18 Rf1xf2 Ne4x f2 19 Kg1xf2 Qd8-d6 20 Nf3-g5 Ra8-f8 21 Qb3-a3(E) Qd6-d8 22 Bc1-f4 Ph7-h6 23 Ng5-f3 Rf8-e8 24 Be2-d3 Re8-e4 25 Pg2-g3(F) Rg6-f6 26 Qa3-c5 Pg7-g5 27 Nf3xg5(G) Ph6xg5 28 Bf4xg5 Re4-e6 29 Ra1-e1 Qd8-g8 30 Ph3-h4 Rf6-g6 31 Re1xe6 (Black forfeits on time)

(Note A) The Petroff Defense. Best by Test!

(Note B) Capablanca's idea. (Note C) Questionable because it allows white to exchange pieces and use his material advantage. Right to 15. . . Bf3.

(Note D) What else? He must try this because after 17...BF6, 18 BF4 kills everything. One small error against Karpov and boom.

(Note E) Kills  
(Note F) For the world championship Karpov has no intention of taking any chances at all with his tightrope king. His powerful minor pieces will win if he is very careful.

(Note G) Nice. I'd just play 27 BE5 and, believe me, that's all Folks. Korchnoi is about to run out of time so Karpov gives him something else to worry about here!  
Score: Karpov 2, Korchnoi 0 (4 drawn)

Round 17 White: Victor Korchnoi, Black: Anatoli Karpov October 31, 1974 Catalan opening. 1 Pd2-d4 Ng8-f6 2 Pc2-c4 Pe7-e6 3 Pg2-g3 Pd7-d5 4 Bf1-g2 Pd5xc4 5 Ng1-f3 Pc7-c5 6 0 0 Nb8-c6 7 Qd1-a4(A) Bc8-d7 8 Qa4xc4 Pc5xd4 9 Nf3xd4 Ra8-c8 10 Nb1-c3 Qd8-a5(B) 11 Rf1-d1 Bf8-e7 12 Nd4-b3 Qa5-c7 13 Nc3-b5 Qc7-b8 14 Nb3-c5 Pa7-a6 15 Nc5xd7 Nf6xd7 16 Nb5-c3 Nd7-e5 17 Qc4-a4 00

18 Bc1-f4 Qb8-a7 19 Bf4xe5 20 Qa4-e4 Ne5-c6 21 Rd1-d7 Be7-f6 22 Ra1-d1 Qa7-b6 23 Qe4-c2 Nc6-a5 24 Rd1-d3 Ph7-h6 25 Pa2-a3 Rc8-c7(C) 26 Pb2-b4 Rc7xd7 27 Rd3xd7 Rf8-c8 28 Rd7-d3 Nc4 29 Nc3-e4 Qb6-c7 30 Ne4-c5?(D) Nc5-e5 31 Rd3-d2 Pb7-b6 32 Pf2-f4 Pb6x c5 33 Pf4xe5 Qc7xe5 34 Bg2-b7 Rc8-c7 35 Qc2-e4 Qe5-A1ch 36 Kg1-g2 Qa1xa3 37 Pb4xc5 Rc7x c5 38 Rd2-d3 Qa2-a5 39 Qe4-f3 Qa5-b6 40 Rd3-d7 Rc5-f5 41 Qf3-g4 Qb6-f2ch 42 Kg2-h3 Pg7g6!

(Note A) 7. NE5!!? It's being analyzed by Leningrad masters according to Anatoli Lutikov. Looks wild all right.

(Note B) Lutikov suggests 10 . . . Qb6 is better. He's right.

(Note C) The interesting move 25. Qb5 (Lutikov) gives white problems too.

(Note D) Incredible. 30 NE4x F6 ch draws easily. Korchnoi is in the pressure again. Now he loses the exchange or a full piece or a pawn depending on what he can find with the second hand racing.

(Note E) Threatens 43...Rh5ch and if 43 QE4 Black mates in 3. Score: Karpov 3, Korchnoi 0, 14 drawn!

Round 19 White: Korchnoi, Black: Karpov. November 4-5, 1974 Queen's Pawn Opening. 1 Pd2-d4 Ng8-f6 2 Bc1-g5 Pe7-e6 3 Pe2-e4 Ph7-h6 4 Bg5xf6 Qd1xf6 5 Ng1-f3 Pd7-d6 6 Nb1-c3 Pg7-g6 7 Qd1-d2 Qf6-e7 8 0 0 0 Pa7-a6 9 Ph2-h4 Bf8-g7 10 Pg2-g3 Pb7-b5 11 Bf1-h3 Pb5-b4 12 Nc3-d5 Pe6xd5 13 Bh3xc8 0 0 14 Bc8-b7 Ra8-a7 15 Bb7xd5 Pc7-c6 16 Bd5-b3 Qe7xe4 17 Qd2-d3 Qe4xd3 18 Rd1xd3 Nb8-d7 19 Rh1-e1 Nd7-b6 20 Pa2-a4 Pb4xa3e.p. 21 Pb2xa3 Pa6-a5 22 Rd3-c3 Bg7-f6 23 Pa3-a4 Pc5-c6 (Note A) 24 Pd4xc5 Pd6xc5 25 Nf3-d2 Kg8-g7 26 Re3-f3 Ra7-c7 27 Nd2-c4 Nb6xc4 28 Bb3xc4 Rf8-d8 29 Pc2-c3 Rc7-d7 30 Kc1-c2 Rd7-d2ch 31 Kc2-b3 Rd2-d1 32 Re1xd1 Rd8xd1 33 Bc4-b5 Rd1-d5? 34 Rf3-e3 Rd5-e5 35 Re3-d3 Re5-e2 36 Rd3-f3 Re2-e5 37 Kb3-c4 Re5-f5 38 Rf3-d3 Rf5xf2 39 Kc4xc5 Bf6-e5 40 Kc5-b6 Rf2-g2.

41 Pc3-c4(B) Rg2xg3 42 Rd3-d7 Pg6-g5 43 Ph4xg5 Ph6xg5 44 Pc4-c5 Rg3-c3 45 Pc5-c6 Pg5-g4 46 Pc6-c7 Pg4-g3 47 Bb5-c6 Be5xc7ch 48 Rd7xc7 Kg7-h6 49 Rc7-c8 Pf7-f5 50 Rc8-f8 Rc3xc6ch 51 Kb6xc6 Kh6-b5 52 Rf8-g8 / Kg5-f4 53 Kc6-b5 Kf4-f3 54 Kb5xa5 Pf5-f4 55 Ka5-b4 Kf3-g2 56 Pa4-a5 Pf4-f3 57 Pa5-a6 Pf3-f2 58 Pa6-a7 Pf2-f1/Q 59 Pa6-a8/Qch Qf1-f3 60 Qa8-a2ch Qf3-f2 61 Qa2-d5ch Qf2-f3 62 Qd5-d2ch Qf3-f2 63 Kb4-c3 Kg2-g1 64 Qd2-d1ch Kg1-g2 65 Qd1-d3 Qf2-c5ch 66 Kc3-b3 Qc5-b6ch 67 Kb3-c2 Qb6-c6ch 68 Kc2-d2 Qc6-h6ch 69 Qd3-e3 Qh6-h4 70 Rg8-b8 Qh4-f6 71 Rg8-b6 Qf6-f5 72 Rb6-b2 Kg2-h2 73 Qe3-h6ch Kh2-g1 74 Qh6-b6ch Kg1-h2 75 Qb6-b8 Kh2-h3 76 Qb8-h8ch Kh3-g4 77 Rb2-b4ch Kg4-f3 78 Qh8-h1ch Kf3-f2 79 Rb4-b2 Black resigns.

(Note A) I would never play this. Black's queenside pawns are shattered as they advance toward Korchnoi's advancing king.

(Note B) The sealed move. Both players worked all night on the endgame, a terrific struggle all the way. Grandmaster opinion is that it was not a clear loss at adjournment. Score: Karpov 3, Korchnoi 1, 15 drawn -- 6 games to go.

The most incredible game of Victor Korchnoi's career, bringing him within striking distance of young Anatoly Karpov. Here is the game that shocked Karpov out of his knickerboos. It will undoubtedly be voted the most brilliant game of the year by the World Chess Federation panel of Chess Informator and will definitely be designated the most important theoretical innovation of the year.

Korchnoi's idea at move 11 was derived from home analysis of the drawn game in round 5 three months ago. Karpov was blown apart in 1 hour and 2 minutes, a record for a world title game in itself.

White: Viktor Korchnoi. Black Anatoly Karpov.

World Championship Candidates' Final; Match Game No. 21. Moscow, 1974. Queen's Indian Defense.

1 d2-d4 ng8-f6 11 Qc2-d2!! Nf6 xd5?  
2 Ng1-f3 e7-e6 12 Bg2xd5 Ra 8-b8?  
3 g2-g3 b7-b6 13 Ng5xh7!! Rf8 -e8;  
4 Bf1-g2 Bc8-b7 14 Qd2-h6 Nc6-e5;  
5 c2-c4 Bf8-e7 15 Nh7-g5! Be7xg5;  
6 Nbl-c3 O-O 16 Bclxg5 Qd 8xg5;  
7 Qd1-c2 c7-c5 17 Qh6xg5 Bb 7xd5;  
8 d4-d5! e6xd5 18 O-O Bd 5xc4;  
9 NF3-g5 Nb8-c6?! 19 f2-f4 Black resigns.