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But Don't Count Out Spassky, Yet

By **FRANK ANDERSON**
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Bobby Fischer now has a three-point lead over Boris Spassky and needs only 4½ points to win the Chess World Championship. Does that mean that the American Fischer practically has the championship in his pocket?

Not at all. The competition in Reykjavik, Iceland, last week, reveals that the Rus-

sian Spassky has made a remarkable comeback. If Spassky had not made a tragic error in the 13th game Friday, he would have won two out of three points during the week. However, he did err and for the week each man won a game and the third one was a draw. Fischer now has eight points to Spassky's five.

This is a big lead but Spassky cannot be counted out because of his fine play for the week. In the past 150 years many world championship matches have been contested. In more than half of them critical turning points have occurred after the halfway mark in which an apparent loser has become the winner. You can never count a loser out until the final game.

The 13th game on Thursday and Friday produced an exciting game for the spectators. Fischer, for the first time in the match, played Alekhine's Defense against Spassky's pawn to king four. In the middle game, Spassky sacrificed a pawn for a strong attack on Fischer's king side. In the ensuing difficult midgame, both sides made a few errors. Fischer should have exchanged pieces on his 19th move, blunting the attack. Spassky probably overlooked Fischer's tempo-

rary queen sacrifice on the 29th move. This neat simplification of forces left Fischer with a superiority in material which he adeptly capitalized on with the adjournment. However, Spassky defended like a genius and should have drawn except for a mistake on his 69th move. The tension in this game and complexity of play has rarely been seen in championship play.

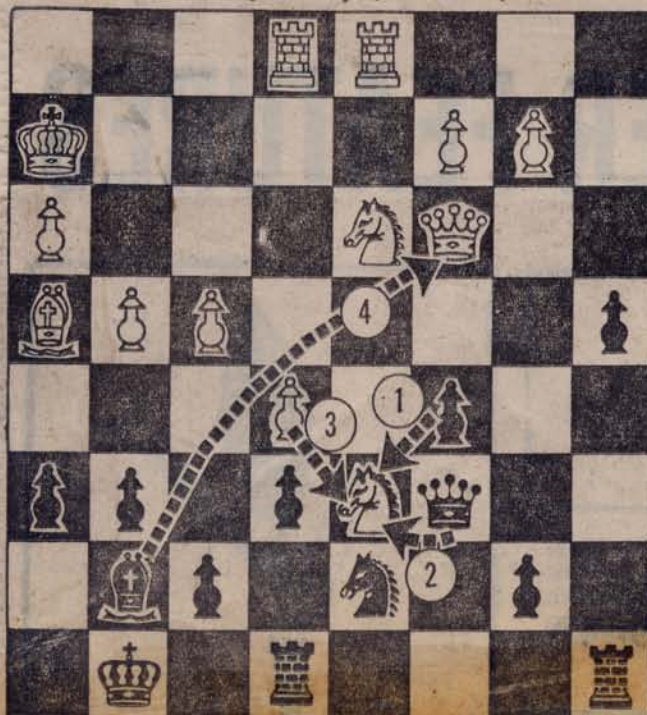
Sunday's 11th game showed a complete reversal of form, for we saw Bobby Fischer on the defensive from the beginning. Spassky allowed the "Poisoned Pawn Variation" of the Sicilian Defense but this time improved on a previous game by playing a different 11th move. This gave him more flexibility in the attack, and Fischer was hard-pressed to hold back the surging Spassky. By the 24th move, Fischer's queen was lost for a bishop and the American Challenger could have resigned. Instead, petulantly he played on for a few moves, but Spassky had a fine win to add to his victory achieved in the first game of the match.

The 12th game on Tuesday was a positional battle of world championship caliber. Again Fischer played a Queens Pawn Opening, and for the first time in the match, we saw the orthodox defense to the Queens Gambit. This style of opening gives black a solid position with counter-attaching chances if white over-steps the positional requirements. In

the middle-game maneuvering, it was clear that Fischer had a slight advantage with his two bishops versus bishop and knight. Spassky missed a few better equalizing maneuvers near the time control and the game was adjourned at move 40 where the players and their seconds could make an extensive overnight analysis. Upon resumption, the game continued another 15 moves but Fischer could make no headway and a draw was agreed when most pieces had been exchanged.

Frank Anderson is Marketing Manager of Gulf Computer Sciences in San Diego. He is the winner of many major chess tournaments, including gold medal performances at the Chess Olympics in Holland and Germany. Anderson has established records in blindfold chess play as well as chess exhibitions by playing 100 games simultaneously. He has programmed the computer to play chess and has demonstrated this to a national scientific convention.

WHITE: Boris Spassky (U.S.S.R.)



BLACK: Bobby Fischer (U.S.A.)

Fischer Wins By Cool Defense

The position at the left occurred after Spassky's 29th move in the 13th game (1) where he moved his knight into the heart of Fischer's position. This looks dangerous for the American Champion, but Fischer surprises the Russian by (2) capturing the invading knight and after (3) white captures black's queen, then Fischer neatly simplifies to a better ending by (4) capturing the white queen. Fischer went on to win a tough battle lasting over 70 moves only when Spassky faltered near the end.

Last Week's Three Games . . . Move By Move

ELEVENTH MATCH GAME

Sicilian Defense		5 N-QB3	P-QR3	14 N-N1	Q-N5	23 Q-QB3	PxB
White: Boris Spassky		6 B-KN5	P-K3	15 Q-K3	P-Q4	24 P-R4	P-R6
Black: Bobby Fischer		7 P-B4	Q-N3	16 PxP	N-K2	25 PxQ	PxPch
<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	8 Q-Q2	QxP	17 P-B4	N-B4	26 KxP	R-R6
1 P-K4	P-QB4	9 N-N3	Q-R6	18 Q-Q3	P-R5	27 Q-B6	N-B4
2 N-KB3	P-Q3	10 BxN	PxB	19 B-N4	N-Q3	28 P-B6	B-B1
3 P-Q4	PxP	11 B-K2	P-KR4	20 N(1)-Q2	P-B4	29 PxKP	PxKP
4 NxP	N-KB3	12 O-O	N-B3	21 P-QR3	Q-N3	30 KR-K1	B-K2
		13 K-R1	B-Q2	22 P-B5	Q-N4	31 RxKP	Resigns

TWELFTH MATCH GAME

Queen's Gambit Declined		11 B-Q3	P-R3	27 B-B3	Q-R3	42 B-K5	R-Q7
White: Bobby Fischer		12 P-R4	PxP	28 P-R3	Q-N4	43 Q-R8ch	K-R2
Black: Boris Spassky		13 NxP	Q-R4ch	29 B-K2	Q-B3	44 BxN	PxB
<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	14 N-Q2	B-N5	30 B-B3	Q-N4	45 Q-B3	P-B4
1 P-QB4	P-K3	15 N-B3	P-B4	31 P-N3	B-K2	46 P-N4	Q-K5
2 N-KB3	P-Q4	16 N-N3	Q-Q1	32 B-K2	Q-N5	47 K-N2	K-N3
3 P-Q4	N-KB3	17 O-O	PxP	33 B-R6	R-B3	48 R-B1	B-R6
4 N-B3	B-K2	18 NxP	B-N2	34 B-Q3	N-B4	49 R-QR1	B-N5
5 B-N5	P-KR3	19 B-K4	Q-N1	35 Q-B3	R-B1	50 R-QB1	B-K2
6 B-R4	O-O	20 B-N3	Q-R2	36 NxN	BxN	51 PxPch	PxP
7 P-K3	QN-Q2	21 N-B6	QBxN	37 R-B1	R-Q1	52 R-K1	RxPch
8 R-B1	P-B3	22 BxB	QR-B1	38 B-QB4	Q-Q7	53 KxR	B-R5ch
9 B-Q3	PxP	23 N-R4	KR-Q1	39 R-B1	B-N5	54 K-K2	QxQch
10 BxP	P-QN4	24 B-B3	P-QR4	40 B-B7	R-Q2	55 KxQ	BxR
		25 R-B6	RxR	Adjourned Position			
		26 BxR	R-QB1	41 Q-B6	Q-B7	Draw Agreed	

THIRTEENTH MATCH GAME

Alekhine's Defense		23 P-B4	B-Q4	50 R(5)xBCH	R-B3
White: Boris Spassky		24 N-QB5	Q-B1	51 R-Q6 CH	K-N2
Black: Bobby Fischer		25 Q-B3	P-K3	52 R-Q7 CH	K-R3
<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	26 K-R2	N-Q2	53 R(7)-Q2	RXR
1 P-K4	N-KB3	27 N-Q3	P-QB4	54 KXR	P-N5
2 P-K5	N-Q4	28 N-N5	Q-B3	55 P-R4	K-N4
3 P-Q4	P-Q3	29 N-Q6	QxN	56 P-R5	P-QB5
4 N-KB3	P-KN3	30 PxQ	BxQ	57 R-QR1	PXP
5 B-QB4	N-N3	31 PxB	P-B3	58 P-N6	P-R5
6 B-N3	B-N2	32 P-N5	RPxP	59 P-N7	P-R6
7 QN-Q2	O-O	33 PxP	P-B4	60 B-K7	R-KN1
8 P-KR3	P-QR4	34 B-N3	K-B2	61 B-B8	P-R7
9 P-QR4	PxP	35 N-K5ch	NxN	62 K-B2	K-B3
10 PxP	N-R3	36 BxN	P-N4	63 R-Q1	P-N6
11 Q-O	N-B4	37 R-KB1	R-R1	64 K-B3	P-KR8
12 Q-K2	Q-K1	38 B-B6	P-R6	65 RXQ	K-Q4
13 N-K4	N(3)xRP	39 R-B4	P-R7	66 K-N2	P-B5
14 BxN	NxB	40 P-B4	BxP	67 R-Q1 CH	K-K5
15 R-K1	N-N3	41 P-Q7	B-Q4	68 R-QB1	K-Q6
16 B-Q2	P-R5	42 K-N3	R-R6 CH	69 R-Q1 CH	K-K7
17 B-N5	P-R3	43 P-B3	R(R1)-R1	70 R-QB1	P-RB6
18 B-R4	B-B4	44 R(4)-KR4	P-K4	71 B-B5	RXP
19 P-KN4	B-K3	45 R-R7 CH	K-K3	72 RXP	R-Q2
20 N-Q4	B-B5	46 R-K7 CH	K-Q3	73 R-K4 CH	K-B8
21 Q-Q2	Q-Q2	47 RXP	RXP CH	74 B-Q4	P-B7
22 QR-Q1	KR-K1	48 K-B2	RB7 CH	75 RESIGNS	
		49 K-K1	RXP		