

Richard Shorman

Chess

FISCHER DEFAULTS WORLD TITLE

World chess champion Robert Fischer forfeited his FIDE title following his refusal to bow to the will of the World Chess Federation concerning prospective match regulations. Soviet challenger Anatoly Karpov, who qualified to meet Fischer by winning a series of tournaments and matches over a period of three years, was declared FIDE world champion by default.

An extraordinary session of the World Chess Federation debated for three days over Fischer's insistence on an open end match, with victory going to the first player to score ten wins, the champion to retain his title, splitting the prize fund, in the event of a 9-9 tie.

Voting closely on both issues, the 70 member congress accepted the ten-win demand by 37-33, but rejected the tie match condition by 35-32 (three abstentions).

"Fischer said the voting meant he would definitely not play the title match," reported FIDE Vice President Florenco Campananes of the Philippines. The five million dollar contest was to have been played in Manilla this June.

NATIONAL OPEN RESULTS

Two international grandmasters and two USCF experts earned \$650 each for identical 7-1 scores at the ninth annual National Open in Las Vegas, March 2-7. The first place trophy was awarded to IGM Pal Benko of New York, with Berkeley's grandmaster Walter Browne, Alfonso Ferriz of Mexico (expert trophy) and Alex Suhobek of Monterey (senior trophy) following in tie break order.

Canadian master Peter Biyiasas, international women's master Maria Ivanka of Hungary, Eugene Martinovsky of Detroit, Andreas Budinsky of Hungary, John Watson of Denver and William Kennedy of Los Angeles finished with 6½ points and \$200 apiece.

George Koltanowski, FIDE arbiter, served as chief tournament director for the eight round Swiss open, held at the Stardust Hotel.

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Here are some outstanding games of the tournament, recorded in USCF endorsed coordinate chess notation (files lettered "a" to "h," ranks numbered "1" to "8," always counting from White's lower left corner regardless of whose turn to move; pawn captures designated by file letters only):

White: Snead (1800). Black: E. Martinovsky (2334). National Open, Las Vegas, 1975. Grunfeld Defense 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cd Nd5 5 e4 Nc3 6 bc Bg7 7 Bc4 0-0 8 h4 c5 9 Ne2 Nc6 10 h5 cd 11 hg hg 12 Bh6 dc 13 Qcl Bh6 14 Rh6 Kg7 15 Rh4 Qd2 16 Qd2 cd 17 Kd2 Na5 18 e5 g5 19 Rd4 Nc6 20 Re4 Bf5 21 Re3 Rfd8 22 Ke1 Nb4 23 Bb3 Be6 24 Rcl Bb3 25 Rb3 Nd3 26 Rd3 Rd3 27 Rc7 Rad8 28 F3 R8d7 29 Resigns.

White: G. Loelsche (1905). Black: T. Erbe (1636). National Open, Las Vegas, 1975. Sicilian Defense 1 Nf3 c5 2 e4 g6 3 d4 Bg7 4 Nc3 Qa5 5 Bd2 cd 6 Nd5 Qd8 7 Bc4 Nc6 8 0-0 e6 9 Rel Na5 10 Bd3 Nh6 11 Bg5 f6 12 Nf6 Bf6 13 Bh6 e5 14 Qd2 b6 15 Nd4 ed 16 e5 Be7 17 Bg7 Rg8 18 Qh6 d5 19 Qh7 Rg7 20 Qg7 g5 21 Bb5 Bd7 22 e6 Resigns.

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White: M. Ivanka (2390) Black: W. Browne (2540). National Open, Las Vegas, 1975. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bb5 Bd7 4 Bd7 Nd7 5 d4 cd 6 Nd4 Ngf6 7 Nc3 g6 8 0-0 Bg7 9 Be3 0-0 10 f4 Nb6 11 Qe2 Rc8 12 Rad1 Nc4 13 Bc1 Qb6 14 b3 e5 15 Na4 Qb4 16 fe de 17 c3 Qa5 18 Nf3 Nb6 19 Nb6 Qb6 20 Be3 Qc6 21 Ne5 Qe4 22 Nc4 Rc4 23 bc Re8 24 Rd3 Ng4 25 Re1 Bf8 26 Kh1 Bc5 27 Bc5 Qe2 28 Re2 Re2 29 Rd8 Kg7 30 h3 Re1 31 Bg1 Ne5 32 Kh2 NC6 33 Rd7 Rb1 34 Rc7 Kf6 35 Bc5 Ke6 36 Bb4 a5 37 Bc5 h5 38 Kg3 Rb2 39 Kf3 Ne5 40 Ke4 Nd7 41 Bd4 Kd6 42 Rc8 Rg2 43 c5 Ke7 44 a3 Rb2 45 c4 Rb3 46 Kd5 Nf6 47 Bf6 Kf6 48 c6 bc 49 Rc6 Kf5 50 c5 Rd3 51 Kc4 Ra3 52 Ra6 Rh3 53 Ra5 Rh1 54 Ra7 Ke6 55 Ra6 Ke5 56 Ra2 Rc1 57 Kb5 h4 58 Re2 Kf4 59 Rf2 Kg3 60 Rf7 g5 61 c6 h3 62 Rf5 g4 63 Rc5 Rc5 64 Resigns.

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White: G. Koelsche (1905). Black: D. Dean (2088). National Open, Las Vegas, 1975. Sicilian Defense 1 Nf3 c5 2 e4 d6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Bg5 e6 7 f4 Nbd7 8 Qf3 Qc7 9 0-0-0 b5 10 Bd5 ab 11 Nod5 Qb8 12 e5 Bb7 13 Qe2 de 14 Qc4 Be7 15 Nc7 Kf8, 16 Na8 Qa8 17 Bf6 Nf6 18 ef Ne4 19 Ne4 Be4 20 Qc7 h5 21 Rd7 Bg5 22 Kb1 Bg6 23 Rhdl Ke8 24 h4 Bh4 25 R1d4 Bg5 26 Ra4 Bc2 27 Qc2 Kd7 28 Ra8 Ra8 29 Qd3 Ke7 30 Qd6 Resigns.

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White: D. Slifko. Black: A. Hanak (2034). National Open, Las Vegas, 1975. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc6 bc 6 e5 Qa5 7 Nc3 Qe5 8 Be2 e6 9 0-0 Bc5 10 Bf3 0-0 11 Rel Qc7 12 Bg5 Nd5 13 Ne4 Qb6 14 c4 f6 15 cd fg 16 Nc5 Qc5 17 de d5 18 Rcl Qd6 19 e7 Re8 20 Rc6 Qd7 21 Qd5 Kh8 22 Qd7 Bd7 23 Rd6 Resigns.

Complete sets of the National Open daily tournament bulletins, containing 142 games in descriptive and coordinate notation, may be purchased for \$4.50, postpaid, from Steve Sayer, National Open Bulletin Editor, 342 Jones St., Apt. 1, San Francisco, Calif. 94102.

ALEXANDRIA WINS WOMEN'S QUALIFIER

Moving into a sudden-death playoff after a very hotly contested drawn match, international women's master Nana Alexandria finally prevailed over her younger rival, Irina Levitina, by a score of 9-8.

Alexandria's victory in this last of the world candidates' match series for women qualifies her to challenge current titleholder Nona Gaprindashvili.

PAUL KERES: FIRST IN TALLIN

Fifty-nine-year-old international grandmaster Paul Keres glided into first place without losing a game on his home ground in Tallin, Estonia. His winning form was forcefully expressed in seven wins and nine draws, a point ahead of the 16-man field (10½-4½).

Tied for second and third at 9½ points each were Icelandic grandmaster Fredrik Olafsson and former world champion Boris Spassky. David Bronstein and Vlastimil Hort shared fourth and fifth places with 9 points. Avair Gipslis was sixth at 8½ points.

The lone American representative in the round robin event was international grandmaster William Lombardy, who finished in a tie for seventh through ninth spots with 8 points.

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS

The Hayward Chess Club, Palma Ceia Park (corner of Miami Ave. and Decatur Way). Monday and Friday, 8-12 p.m.

Cherryland Cafe, 22472 Meekland Ave., Hayward (corner of A St. and Meekland Ave.). Evenings, except Monday and Tuesday, 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.

The San Leandro Chess Club, 205 Dutton Ave. (Washington School cafeteria, between East 14th St. and Bancroft Ave.). Monday, 7-11 p.m.

The Fremont Chess Club, 40204 Paseo Padre Parkway (near City Hall at Lake Elizabeth). Wednesday, 7-11 p.m.

The Livermore Chess Club, Fourth and J Streets. Friday, 8-12 p.m.