

Richard Shorman

Chess

KAPLAN SCORES IN FREMONT EXHIBITION

Taking on 17 opponents simultaneously at the Irvington Library in Fremont, Apr. 25, international master **Julio Kaplan** missed a perfect score by only one-half a point. The popular former world junior champion prefaced this impressive display with a particularly lucid analysis of his brilliant prize game from the recent Lone Pine event.

Sole survivor of the exhibition was Class A player **Kerry Lawless** of San Leandro, who earned his draw in an interesting double-edged contest. The game is presented here in 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) with notes by Lawless.

White: Kerry Lawless. Black: Julio Kaplan (in simultaneous exhibition). Fremont, Apr. 25, 1974. Caro-Kann Defense 1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 de 4 Ne4 Nf6 5 Nf6 gf 6 Bf4 (I was through with my book knowledge at this point. My bishop move was played to stop e5 and c5, as the pawn sac would prevent me from castling.) Bf5 7 Bc4 (More accurate is 7 Ne2.) Rg8 8 Bg3 e6 9 c3 (Opening space for my queen.) Bd6 10 Ne2 (Best, since e5 cannot be held back in the long run.), h5 (Although Kaplan did not consider 10...h5 a blunder, it is at least premature.) 11 Bd6! Qd6 12 Ng3 Bg4 (But this error was freely admitted after the game.) 13 f3 Bf5 14 Nf5 ef 15 0-0 (Too risky. wPerhaps 15 Qe2 or 15 Qb3 was better.) h4 16 Re1 Kf8 17 Qd2 Rg6! (This move came as a surprise. I had planned on 17...f4, thus pinning the pawn to the diagonal because of the threat of Qh6.) 18 f4 Nd7 19 Re3 Nb6 20 Bb3 Kg7 21 Qf2 Rg4 22 Rf1 c5!?! (A very good freeing move, but it forces queens off the board.) 23 dc Qc5 24 Rh3! Qf2 25 Rf2 Rd8 (Less precise than 25...Re8.) 26 Re3 Kf8 27 Kf1 (Unnecessary, as 27 g3 could have been played at once.) a5 28 a4 Nc8 (There was nothing better.) 29 g3 hg 30 hg Re8 31 Rfe2 (It would be wrong for White to initiate the trade of rooks.) Re3 32 Re3 Nd6 33 Bd5 Rg8 34 Ke2 (Also possible was 34 Kg2, keeping Black's rook off the second rank. However, Kaplan pointed out that 34 c4 b6 35 Rb3! would have given White winning chances.) Rh8 35 Kd3 Rh2 36 Re2 (If 36 b3, then 36...Rb2 37 Kd4 b6, followed by Rd2 and Re2, probably holds for Black.) Rh3 37 Re3 Rh2 38 Drawn.

The prettiest combination of the evening occurred at the expense of San Jose club member **Bill Bates**:

White: Julio Kaplan (in simultaneous exhibition). Black: Bill Bates. Fremont, Apr. 25, 1974. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 d6 2 Nf3 c5 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Be2 e5 7 Nb3 Be7 8 0-0 Nc6 9 Bg5 Be6 10 Bf6 Bf6 11 Nd5 0-0 12 c3 Be7 13 a4 f5 14 ef Bf5 15 Bg4 Bg5 16 Bf5 Rf5 17 Qg4 Qf8 18 Rad1! (Threatening to post a knight at e6 via c7, which is ineffective immediately, according to Kaplan, because of the variation 18 Nc7 Rc8 19 Ne6 Qf6!) Qf7 19 Nd2! Ne7 20 Ne7 Be7 21 c4 Rf4 22 Qe2 Rd4 23 b3 Rf8 24 Ne4 d5 25 cd Qd5 26 Rd4 ed 27 Qd3 Bb4 28 Rc1 Re8 29 f3 Rd8 30 Rc7 Bd6 31 Nf6!! (Black was caught completely unawares by this stock shot, but enjoyed the elegant finish as much as the spectators did.) gf 32 Qh7 Kf8 33 Qg7 Ke8 34 Qg6 Kf8 35 Qf6 Ke8 36 Rh7! Resigns (On the "best" defense, 36...Rb8, Kaplan had 37 Qg6! Kd8 38 Qg7 in store, with the dual menace of 39 Qd7mate and 39 Rh8.)

KARPOV ASSUMES 2-1 LEAD OVER SPASSKY

With four wins needed to pass the semi-final stage on the road to the world championship, young **Anatoly Karpov** has scored his second victory to one over seasoned past titleholder **Boris Spassky** after six games.

In the other semi-final match, **Viktor Korchnoi** increased his lead to 3-1 versus another former champion, **Tigran Petrosian**, with one game drawn.

Karpov's revenge for his stinging defeat in round one came in a finely executed positional triumph with the White pieces against Spassky's heavily committed King's Indian Defense.

White: Anatoly Karpov. Leningrad, 1974; 3rd Match Game. King's Indian Defense 1 P-Q42 P-QB43 N-QB34 P-K45 N-B36 B-K27 0-08 P-Q5(a)9 B-N510 P-QR411 Q-Q212 P-R313 BxB14 P-QN3(c)15 B-K3(e)16 B-K217 P-KN4!(f)18 K-N219 P-B320 P-N521 B-B222 B-K323 Q-K1!(h)N-KB3P-KN3B-N2P-Q30-0P-B4 B-N5QN-Q2(b)P-QR3Q-B2QR-K1BxNP-K3K-R1(d)N-KN1P-K4 Q-Q1Q-R5(g)B-R3B-N2Q-B5Q-R5QxQ24 KRxQ25 P-R426 PxP27 P-R528 KR-QN129 P-N4(i)30 BxNP31 PxP32 R-N633 R-R1ch34 B-R6ch35 BxR36 RxQP37 B-Q138 R-N639 R-N140 N-R441 N-N642 N-B8!43 N-Q644 N-B5ch45 PxN(p)46 PxP47 B-R448 QR-K149 RxRch50 B-B251 R-R152 P-Q653 R-QN154 R-Q155 R-K1P-R3 PxPN-K2P-B3PxPN-B4(j)N-Q5(k)NxQBPB-B3K-N2(l)K-N1 RxBK-N2B-K2B-Q1R-B2(m)N-Q6P-N4(n)N-QB4(o)R-Q2NxN P-K5NxPR-K2N-B4BxRB-Q1K-B3N-Q2K-K4K-B5Resigns

(Condensed notes by international master **Boris Vladimirov**, translated from "Sovetsky sport," Apr. 19, 1974) (a) Spassky returns Karpov's favor of adopting the rarely played Caro-Kann Defense in game two by choosing a seldom met variation of the King's Indian Defense. (b) After this move Black can no longer expand on the queen side, and he is left with only one possible plan, that of organizing a break in the center. Meanwhile, however, White activates his pieces. (c) Karpov refuses to be tempted into capturing the KP, preferring to fortify his cramping pawn chain. (d) Spassky, in turn, intends 15...N-KN1, followed by P-K4 and P-KB4, striving to create a favorable situation for his knights. (e) White realizes what his opponent is playing for, and so withdraws his pieces in order to more effectively counter the anticipated pawn advances. (f) Perfectly timed to thwart Black's primary objective. (g) Carrying out a mistaken plan. Essential was 18...P-QR4 to prevent White's pawn thrust on the queen side. With knights versus bishops and controlling less space, Black should concentrate the struggle on only one flank. (h) After the exchange of queens Black cannot stop White from enforcing P-R5 and P-QN4, which yields a clear plan of attack. (i) Black's position has become so difficult that he elects to offer the sacrifice of a piece for counterchances. (j) If now 30 PxN, then 30...P-K5 31 B-Q2 P-K6 (or 31...PxPch 32 BxP PxP) 32 B-K1 PxP, with definite counterplay for Black. (k) The decisive error. Black must swap his own passive bishop for its dangerously active opposite by 30...B-R3. In just a few moves Spassky will be compelled to give up his rook and a pawn for this powerful piece. Black still retains defensive resources after 30...B-R3 31 BxB NxB 32 PxP NxP 33 N-R4 NxN 34 RxN R-B2 35 R-N6 R-Q1. (l) Or 33...K-N1 34 RxQP. (m) If 39...BxP, then 40 N-R4 NxN 41 BxN, and Black cannot play 41...NxP on account of 42 KR-KB1 N-R5ch 43 K-N3. (n) Black seems to have obtained some fighting chances, but Karpov's next move destroys all illusions. (o) White wins easily after 42...P-N5 43 N-Q6 PxPch 44 K-B1. (p) The game was adjourned here, with Spassky sealing his move under a severe material and positional handicap.