

# Richard Shorman

# Chess

## CHESS MASTER ON TOUR

### Attention, Chess Organizers!

USCF Senior Master Jude Acers, just returned from a nation-wide chess promotion tour, will be available until May 1972 for simultaneous exhibitions and chess lectures in the Bay Area. Local clubs, schools, libraries, hospitals, community and recreation centers, etc., are invited to capitalize on the infectious enthusiasm for chess that Acers generates during his colorful presentation.

Liberal terms, including free to those unable to pay, make his unselfish offer too good to pass up, regardless of the size or skill level of your chess interest group. Call Richard Shorman, 782-5029, for additional information.

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Here is a current sample of the incisive play to be expected at the master's hand.

White: Alan Bourke (2215)                      Black: Jude Acers (2408)  
USCF Match Game No. 3, San Francisco, Dec. 2, 1971. Sicilian Defense

1 P-K4	P-QB4	9 N-R3	P-Q4!(b)
2 N-KB3	N-QB3	10 PxP(c)	BxN
3 P-Q4	PxP	11 PxB	Q-R4
4 NxP	N-B3	12 Q-Q2	N-Q5
5 N-QB3	P-K4	13 B-Q3	B-R6!
6 N/4-N5	P-Q3	14 O-O(d)	N-B6ch
7 B-N5	P-QR3	15 PxN	R-N1ch
8 BxN(a)	PxB	16 Resigns(e)	

(notes and ratings supplied by Jude Acers)

(a) Old and questionable. Best is 8 N-R3, according to an interesting theoretical article by Andrew Soltis in "Chess Digest," 1971.

(b) Pelikan's powerful freeing move.

(c) A serious, though common error. Correct is 10 NxP BxN 11 PxB B-K3 12 N-K3 Q-R4ch 13 Q-Q2 QxP 14 B-Q3 O-O-O (Geller-Pilnik, Amsterdam, 1956).

(d) If 14 B-K4, then 14 . . . P-KB4. White must play 14 K-B1 and hope for the best.

(e) Black mates in four moves.

## POWERFUL ALEKHINE MEMORIAL

### All-Grandmaster Tourney in Moscow

World Champion Boris Spassky heads the list of leading grandmasters now competing in the very strong Alekhine Memorial Tournament in Moscow. But Leonid Stein, three-time winner of the coveted USSR Championship (in 1963, 1965 and 1967), heads the tournament scorechart, with Spassky trailing far behind.

Interim standings after 12 of 17 rounds are Leonid Stein (USSR)—8½ points; David Bronstein, Tigran Petrosian and Vasily Smyslov (all, USSR)—7½; Vladimir Tukmakov (USSR)—7; Anatoly Karpov, Viktor Korchnoi and Mikhail Tal (all USSR)—6½ (plus 1 adjourned game); Robert Byrne (USA)—6½; Vlastimil Hort (Czechoslovakia), Vladimir Savon (USSR) and Boris Spassky (USSR)—6; Fridrik Olafsson (Iceland)—5½; Florin Gheorghiu (Romania)—4½; Yuri Balashov (USSR)—4; Wolfgang Uhlmann (East Germany)—3½ (1); Bruno Parma (Yugoslavia)—3½; and Levente Lengyel (Hungary)—2(1).

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**IN THEIR FIRST DUEL** since Spassky beat him on the road to the world title in 1968, Korchnoi exacted sweet revenge.

The champion (who had postponed this game on account of illness) sacrificed a pawn on move 10 in return for the initiative amid complications and what he believed to be adequate compensation in the form of active piece play and control of the only open file.

Korchnoi shattered the dream with an exchange combination, however, parting with his fianchettoed bishop to expose the positional weakness of his opponent's plan. Spassky was virtually forced to win two minor pieces for a rook, which left him faced with the awesome power of two mobile passed pawns that even a World Champion could not stop. White: Viktor Korchnoi. Black: Boris Spassky. Alekhine Memorial, Moscow, 1971. Catalan System 1 N-KB3 P-Q4 2 P-B4 P-K3 3 P-KN3 N-KB3 4 B-N2 B-K2 5 O O O 6 P-Q4 P-B3 7 Q-B2 QN-Q2 8 P-N3 P-QN3 9 R-Q1 B-N2 10 N-B3 P-QN4 11 PxNP PxP 12 NxNP (Korchnoi invariably follows the rule that the best way to refute a sacrifice is to accept it.) Q-R4 13 P-QR4 N-K5 14 N-Q2 QR-B1 15 Q-R2 P-QR3 (Spassky had this position in mind when he gave up the pawn. Black appears to have sufficient compensation, but it is only an illusion.) 16 BxN! (Very strong. Chess principles do not sanction trading off a fianchettoed bishop, but here it is justified since Black cannot build up an attack along the long diagonal. He will have other problems to worry about.) PxB 17 N-B4 RxN (Positionally forced; otherwise White plants a knight on Q6.) 18 PxR PxN 19 RPxP Q-B2 20 P-B5 (White has a won game, which Korchnoi demonstrates in short order.) B-Q4 21 Q-R7 Q-Q1 22 P-B6 N-B3 23 B-R3 BxB 24 RxB B-B5 (An attempt at counterplay with 24 . . . N-N5 is easily repulsed by 25 P-R3.) 25 P-N6 P-K6 26 RxP N-Q4 27 P-N7 (White can well afford to surrender the exchange with such beautiful advanced pawns on the march.) NxR 28 PxN Q-N4 29 P-Q5 BxKP and Black resigned without waiting for White's reply (Notes by Salo Flohr, translated from "Sovetsky sport," Dec. 12, 1971).