

Richard Shorman

Chess

MATCH POINT AND NEW WORLD CHAMPION

White: Boris Spassky

Black: Robert Fischer.

World Championship, Match Game No. 21.

Reykjavik, August 31, 1972.

Sicilian Defense

1 P-K4	P-QB4	22 BxP	R-Q7!(i)
2 N-KB3	P-K3(a)	23 BxRP	RxQBP
3 P-Q4	PxP	24 R-K2	RxR
4 NxP	P-QR3	25 BxR	R-Q1
5 N-QB3	N-QB3	26 P-R4-(j)	R-Q7
6 B-K3(b)	N-B3	27 B-B4	R-R7
7 B-Q3	P-Q4(c)	28 K-N3	K-B1
8 PxP	PxP(d)	29 K-B3(k)	K-K2
9 O-O	B-Q3	30 P-KN4(1)	P-B4!(m)
10 NxN(e)	Px N	31 PxP	P-B3
11 B-Q4	O-O	32 B-N8	P-R3
12 Q-B3(f)	B-K3	33 K-N3	K-Q3
13 KR-K1	P-B4(g)	34 K-B3?(n)	R-R8!(o)
14 BxN	QxB	35 K-N2	K-K4
15 QxQ	PxQ	36 B-K6	K-B5(p)
16 QR-Q1	KR-Q1	37 B-Q7	R-QN8
17 B-K2	QR-N1	38 B-K6	R-N7
18 P-QN3	P-B5	39 B-B4	R-R7(q)
19 NxP!(h)	BxN	40 B-K6	P-R4(r)
20 RxB	BxPch	41 Resigns	
21 KxB	RxR		

(Notes by international grandmaster Paul Keres, translated from "Sovetsky sport," Sept. 2, 1972, pg. 4)

(a) Yet another new opening variation in this match. So far as I know, Fischer has never played the Paulsen system before.

(b) Leads to a more complex game than the simplifying exchange on QB6.

(c) Once again demonstrating Fischer's superb opening preparation. In the past this advance was regarded as dubious because of **8 PxP NxP 9 NxN**, etc., but Fischer has discovered a significant improvement that compels re-evaluation of the variation.

(d) The point! The game now takes on the character of a French Defense with an isolated **QP**, in which Black's active pieces fully compensate the pawn weakness.

(e) This trade only strengthens Black's position in the center. More logical is **10 P-KR3** with the idea of **N3-K2** and **P-QB3**.

(f) A risky move, as Fischer could have created serious tactical threats by **12 . . . N-N5 13 P-KR3 Q-R5**. He prefers, however, to avoid any sharpening of the game and calmly continues developing. The safer choice for White is **12 P-KR3**.

(g) Black accepts weak king-side pawns in hopes of putting his two bishops and center pawns to good use in the ending.

(h) A fine sacrifice of the exchange that rids White of unpleasant positional pressure. Black's main threat was **19 . . . B-QN5**.

(i) Fischer confronts White with maximum difficulties. Passive defense by **22 . . . R-Q3** yields White sufficient counterplay with **23 R-K7**, whereas now **23 R-K7** gives Black winning chances after **23 . . . RxQBP 24 BxPch K-B1 25 R-R7 RxRP**. Therefore, the world champion eliminates Black's last queen-side pawn.

(j) Well played. If after **26 . . . R-Q7 27 B-B4** Black tries **27 . . . RxP**, then White's passed pawns become very dangerous on **28 P-R5 R-R7 29 P-R6**

(k) Probably simpler is **29 P-B4**, in order, to get the king-side pawns off of the second rank.

(l) An ending has been reached in which White has enough compensation for the exchange, and the game would normally end in a draw. But White complicates his task by **30 P-KN4**, when he should move **30 K-N3** followed by **31 P-B4** instead.

(m) Very strong. The sacrificed BP is not so important, but the newly created passed RP is, and the Black king must no longer remain confined to the defense of his rearward **BP**.

(n) The decisive error, allowing the Black king to penetrate into White's position. After the correct **34 P-B4** Black would hardly have been able to realize his slight advantage.

(o) Threatening **35 . . . R-KN8**; if **35 B-B7**, then follows **35 . . . K-K4 36 B-K6 R-KN8**, etc.

(p) Now White's position is critical, his queen-side pawns immobilized and Black's **RP** ready to move down the board.

(q) Of course, there is no point in **39 . . . KxP**, letting the White pawn reach **R6**.

(r) Here Spassky sealed his next move. Black threatens to play his king to **KN5** and advance his passed pawn, against which there seems to be no adequate defense. (Spassky sealed **41 . . . B-Q7?**, which loses quickly, but even **41 K-R3 RxBP** leaves Black with good winning chances. Karpov) White resigned the game and the match without resuming play.

GREFE WINS WEST COAST OPEN

Chess master John Grefe scored a perfect 4-0 sweep to win the West Coast Open, held Nov. 18-19 at the University of California, Berkeley. Martin Morrison and Elwin Meyers directed the four-round, Swiss system event, which attracted nearly 200 players. Complete results:

Overall Winners

1st, John Grefe, Berkeley, 4-0, \$200; 2nd, Borel Menas, Daly City, and Dennis Fritzingler, Berkeley, 3½-6, \$100 each.

Class A

1st, Jon Sjogren, Berkeley, Frank Flynn, Portola Valley, and Peter Klimek, Berkeley, 3-1, \$50 each.

Class B

1st, David Lewis, Berkeley, 4-0, \$100; 2nd, George Harris, Berkeley, Raymond Segal, Berkeley (\$18 each), Mingson Chen, Oakland, and Henk Dewilde, Berkeley (\$6 each), 3½-½.

Class C

1st, Peter Schwartz, Berkeley, 4-0, \$50; 2nd, Uri Barevan, San Francisco, Kip Brockman, San Leandro, Robert Clipson, Oakland, Charles Ensey, Oakland, Juergen Kasprik, Piedmont (\$18 each), and Thomas Choporis, San Carlos (\$8), 3½-½.

Class D/E

1st, Romeo Samo, San Francisco, John Martin, Modesto (\$41 each), and Robert Joslin, Redwood City (\$16), 4-0.

Best Game Prizes

Rex Wilcox, San Francisco, M/E division; Gene Lee, Mt. View, class A; Donald Stone, Moraga, class B; Martin Marshall, Berkeley, class C; and Robert Oliver, Berkeley, class D/E, \$10 each.