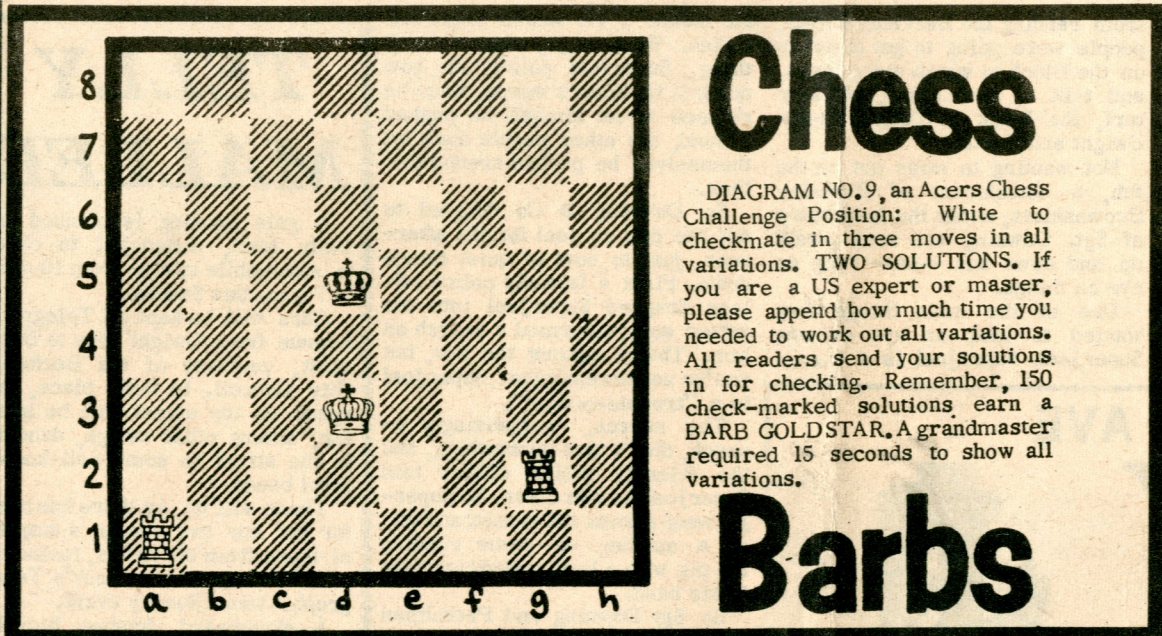


BOBBY-SPASSKY BOUT OFF



Chess

DIAGRAM NO. 9, an Acers Chess Challenge Position: White to checkmate in three moves in all variations. TWO SOLUTIONS. If you are a US expert or master, please append how much time you needed to work out all variations. All readers send your solutions in for checking. Remember, 150 check-marked solutions earn a BARB GOLDSTAR. A grandmaster required 15 seconds to show all variations.

Barbs

by Jude Acers (US senior master)

NEWS: The world title match between Fischer and Spassky is definitely cancelled. Fischer agreed to \$137,000 purse terms and then realized that the television revenue alone will pay more--not to mention enormous spectator revenue! He therefore attempted to break contract and his flat agreement to Belgrade, Yugoslavia and Reyjkavic, Iceland as the match sponsors. Chess sponsors in both cities were furious and demanded \$35,000 in currency bond from the US Chess Federation guaranteeing Fischer's appearance on June 25th. Naturally the US Chess Federation cannot meet this demand, as they already have spent several hundred thousand dollars in total expenditures to arrange the match. There is absolutely no indication that Fischer really wants to play the world title match at this point.

Many people that I know consider Fischer the world titleholder already, and perhaps in Fischer's judgment the world title match is not really necessary. I personally do not care who wins the match. I'm just hoping somehow, somewhere it will be played, because the games are going to be unbelievable. In my opinion, the longer the delay the better become Spassky's chances. His seconds, Iwo Nei and Efim Geller, are working around the clock on Fischer's games and this will help the fabulous Spassky, a quiet, well-liked world champion, who has beaten every player in the world, including Fischer, mercilessly. I don't care what US chess magazines or the press says, Boris Spassky is a worthy world champion and a wonderful human being. If the Fischer matter is not re-

solved, Dr. Max Euwe of Holland (World Chess Federation President and former world chess champion) intends to ask runner-up Tigran Petrosian of the USSR to play Spassky for the world title. This way everybody would win but the chess public. In 1966 I wrote that the world title was worth \$400,000 minimum net value with proper promotion, promotional antics a la Cassius Clay (as Fischer is marvelous in executing) and truly professional conduct by all participants in the match. Fischer did not believe me but now full well realizes that my opinion was an understatement in fact for this, the greatest chess match of all time. But, tragic for Fischer, he blindly rushed at \$150,000 and \$137,000 purse offers without realizing that sponsors were really taking no real financial risks with

the prospect of making several hundred thousand dollars in gross revenue. Now it is far too late. "Please, please Robert J. Fischer -- get it together! One must be right all at once, not in stages. You're being totally robbed by your contract terms, but you must play the match now. Good luck!"

GAME: An outstanding game by an outstanding USCF expert from San Francisco. Notes written especially for The Berkeley BARB by Dr. Kent Bach. White: Walter Allen. Black: Dr. Kent Bach. LERA 1972 Peninsula Open. Nimzo-Indian Defense 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 a3 Bc3ch 5 bc c5 6 Qc2(A) 0-0(B) 7 e4 d6 8 Nf3 Nc6 9 Bd3(C) e5 10 0-0 Bg4(E) 11 d5 Ne7 12 Ne1 Ng6 13 f4? ef 14 Bf4 Nh5(F) 15 Be3 Ne5 16 Be2 Qe7 17 Nf3 Rae8(G) 18 Ne5 Be2 19 Qe2(H) Qe5 20 Bd2(I) Nf6 21 Bf4 Qe4 22 Qb2 Qc4(I)(J) 23 Bd6 Re2 24 Qb7 Qe4 25 Rf2(K) Rf2 26 Kf2 Ng4ch 27 Kg3(L) Qe3, and mates in all variations(M).

(A) Best is 6 e3. (B) Here, 6...Nc6 prevents 7 e4. (C) If 9 Bg5 Qa5! (D) The classical Nimzo-Indian blockade. (E) Now 10...cd 11 cd ed wins a dubious pawn, while activating White's pieces. (F) Why exchange off a vulnerable bishop when it can be attacked later? (G) Good, too, is 17...f5 or 17...Bf3. (H) Or 19 Rf7 Rf7 20 Nf7 Bc4 and 19 Nc6 bc 20 Qe2 Qe4. (I) If 20 Rf5 Qe4. (J) Not 22...Qe7 23 Bg5. (K) On 25 Rf3 Nd5! 26 Bf8? Rg2! 27 Kg2 Nf4 28 Kgl (best) Qb7 29 Rf4 Kf8 wins. (L) Playing 27 Kgl allows the smothered mate, 27...Qe3ch 28 Khl Nf2ch 29 Kgl Nh3ch 30 Khl Qg1ch 31 Rgl Nf2mate. (M) The final moves would be 28 Kg4 f5ch 29 Kh4 g5ch 30 Kh5 Qe4! 31 g3 (or 31 Kg5 Qg4ch 32 Kh6 Rf6mate) Qg4ch 32 Kh6 Rf6mate.

QUESTIONS YOU ASK JUDE AC-

ERS: Q. What book do you recommend for the absolute beginner? A. "The Complete Chessplayer" by Fred Reinfeld (only 75 cents in paperback), then "Chess the Easy Way" by grandmaster Reuben Fine (\$1.25). Q. What is the best book ever written for the student? A. "Logical Chess, Move by Move" by Irving Chernev. Q. Who is the greatest player of all time? A. BOTVNNIK, with Spassky, Keres, Fischer and Alekhine on his heels. Q. What is the greatest chess book ever written? A. "Tal-Botvinnik 1960" by Mikhail Tal, translated into English by Hanon Russell and available at \$4 from the Cleveland Chess Foundation, Tru-Test Co., P.O. Box 5268, Cleveland, Ohio 44101. Q. As your friend and a long-time fan, I am alarmed at your column appearing next to masturbation ads and such. Are you sure it will not hurt your career? I hope not. A. The BARB people have engaged a full time professional chess master to run their chess column. He in turn lets the BARB people run their paper without comment. And believe me the BARB chess column is going to be one of the best in the world. I work very hard at it and am very proud that it is reproduced exactly as I write it. Please don't worry about me. I'm through starving forever, thanks to my brilliant manager, Russell W. Miller, and the fantastic demand for my appearances at shopping centers, bookstores and chess clubs throughout the United States. Thanks so very much to everyone responsible!

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS: Berkeley YMCA, Fri., 7:30 p.m.... Hardcastle Coffee Shop, 2516 Telegraph, all hours...S. F. Mechanics Institute Chess Room, 57 Post, 4th floor, all hours...In Oakland: the East Asia Book and Game Center, 5897 College, noon to midnight.