



# Chess Barbs

by Jude Acers (US senior master)

Diagram 6 (Suetin--Borisenko, Riga, 1968): White to move and win. Solution elsewhere in this issue.

**NEWS:** Who will win the \$210,000 world title chess match -- Robert Fischer (Los Angeles, Calif.) or Boris Spassky (Moscow, USSR)? This week 26 of the world's leading professional grandmaster and international masters tell you what they think is the answer!

**DAVID BRONSTEIN (USSR),** "It will be a very interesting match. It is a pity that draws are tie count. They are not to count in 1975. If this match were for the first to score ten wins it would be an unforgettable affair. The challenger is always in the better position. The champion has to persuade himself that he is really the challenger and to play as if he is! I'd like to see one game fought for three playing sessions, yes, three days. There wasn't one in the challengers matches. Fischer must be the favorite."

**ROBERT BYRNE (USA),** "I believe Fischer will win. Would you like a score?  $12\frac{1}{2}$  to  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ! They will play 21 games. Fischer will be world champion for the next 15 years. The interest in the match in the USA is tremendous. We never had such publicity for chess as now. Fischer had an interview on nationwide television that lasted for an hour. My God! Fischer played through a game on the air and do you know which game he chose--Morphy vs. the Duke of Brunswick!"

**VLADAS MIKENAS (USSR),** "It

will be a great fight. Spassky will remain world champion."

**ENRIQUE MECKING (Brazil),** "Fischer will win easily."

**LEVENTE LENGYEL (Hungary)** "After the fight in the Fischer--Petrosian match I would say the chances are 50-50."

**TIGRAN PETROSIAN (USSR),** "There is an old Russian proverb: 'Do not trouble your head!'"

**VASSILY SMYSLOV (USSR),** "It is their business. I had three world championship matches and believe me I have had enough of it."

**IGOR BONDAREVSKY (USSR),** "As Spassky's second I can only say it will be a very interesting and extremely difficult match."

**P.H. Clarke (England),** "I think Spassky will win--in any case that would mean another great match."

**MIGUEL NADJDORF (Argentina),** "Fischer, easily."

**W. R. HARSTON (England),** "Gracious, I just don't know and would rather not forecast."

**SALO FLOHR (USSR),** "In spite of Fischer's reputation I bet on Petrosian in their Buenos Aires match. It cost me 50 roubles, but I shall recover my money by betting on Spassky now!"

**JAN HEIN DONNER (Holland),** "Of course Fischer will win."

**C.H. O'D ALEXANDER (England),** "For long I thought Spassky would probably win, but now I have joined the great majority and now favor Fischer."

**SVETOZAR CLIGORICH (Yugoslavia),** "I think the chances are even. There were some rumors

that I would be Fischer's second, but I shall not."

**FREDERICK OLAFSSON (Iceland),** "I always thought Spassky had a better chance. Still think it."

**FLORIN GHEORGHU (Roumania),** "It will be a great match if Spassky plays in his best form. Fischer has the better chances."

**RAYMOND KEENE (England),** "I suppose Fischer will win, though in a way, I'd like to see Spassky hold the world title."

**DAVID LEVY (Scotland),** "I think Spassky."

**BORIS KURAJICA (Yugoslavia),** "I just don't know. I hope Fischer will."

**VLASTIMIL HORT (Czechoslovakia),** "Spassky will have to play much better than Moscow, 1971. It will be very interesting. Fischer has the better chance."

**ANDRE LILIENTHAL (USSR),** "It will be the biggest match for years. Spassky will win."

**ALEXANDER KOTOV (USSR),** "The better man will win. With good preparation that should mean Spassky will come out on top. Fischer's opponents in the candidates' matches lost because they did not prepare well either theoretically or practically."

**EVGENY VASIUKOV (USSR),** "It is a match of the greatest interest. For the first time in many years the opponents are from two different countries. There is more interest in this world chess championship title match than any previous match in history. The challenger has an advantage because the eyes of the audience are on him. I know for sure who will win but I am not telling!"

**LEONID SHAMKOVICH (USSR),** "The most interesting match for ten years. I believe Spassky will avoid the many mistakes of Taimanov, Larsen Petrosian."

**AIVAR GIPSLIS (USSR),** "I will tell you who will win only when I know the exact arrangements."

Acers note: Isn't this match marvelous food for thought? It is the talk of the entire world.

**WHERE TO PLAY CHESS:** Berkeley YMCA, Fri., 6:30 pm ... Hardcastle Coffeshop, all hours, 2516 Telegraph ... Oakland - East Asia Book and Game Center, 5897 College ... S.F. Mechanics' Institute Chess Room, 4th floor, 57 Post.

Want to play in an official chess tournament that is nationally rated? Have a question on how YOU can play chess? Phone Martin Morrison, USCF Regional Vice President (and Berkeley's crack organizer!), 582-1973 (Castro B-izer!), 582-1973 (Castro Valley). What are you waiting for?