

J U D E A C E R S O N C H E S S

BLACK: SPASSKY
WHITE: KARPOV
(WORLD CHAMPION)

Position after black's 22nd move. Playing in the USSR team championships white found a remarkable move to counter the black queen sacrifice. He then liquidated and won an excellent ending in 21 moves. Try to find the key move.

KARPOV: HIS VERY PRECIOUS WIN

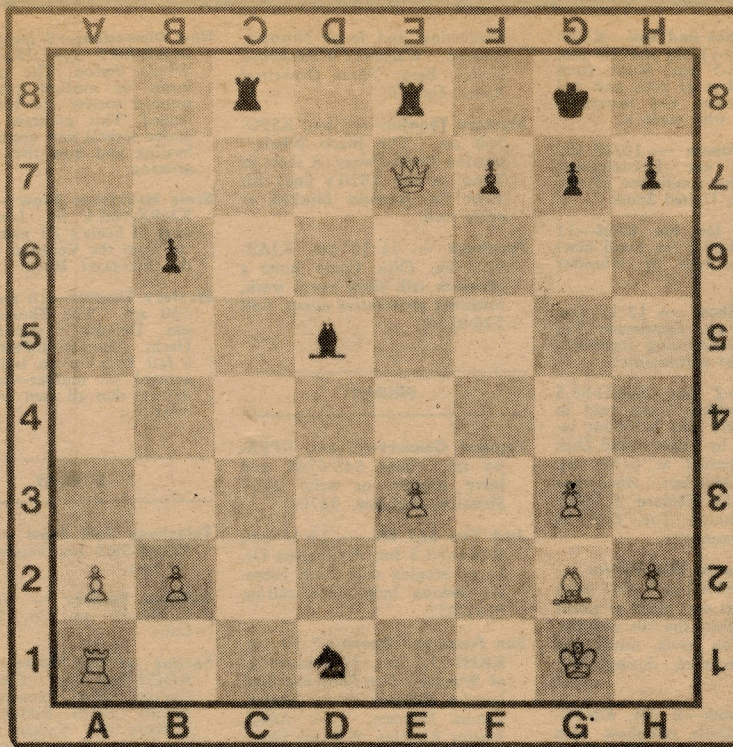
It would be well nigh believable if a more formidable, merciless opponent for Bobby Fischer appears to eclipse the 24 year old Leningrad grandmaster Anatoly Karpov. The quiet one, the newly crowned chess champion of the world that nobody has ever heard of despite the fact that Fischer forfeited a \$5,000,000 purse to avoid playing this veritable chessplaying machine. Fischer knew that defeat was certain, being, easily, one of the greatest players of all times and a professional chessplayer who knows exactly what is what.

Already the on-paper chess career of Karpov is the most amazing the chess world has ever witnessed because it does not encompass a single failure. Against the strongest available players he has won a major prize, almost always first, in every tournament he has ever played in. He has defeated Spassky by a crushing four games to one, beaten Polugaevsky and Korchnoi, the last in a 70 day ordeal that nearly destroyed both players and, by their own public admission, made both of them quite insane for a day or two. Karpov has done things that no player could possibly achieve without iron discipline, deep scholarship, good rules of health — just as I learned in the Boy Scouts.

Karpov, born to kill. Raised on grandmasters for breakfast. Under the tutorship of phenomenal theoretician-grandmasters Semyon Furman for ten years and still improving weekly. In 1968 the San Francisco international master who scored twice against Fischer, William Addison, threw out the conjecture, "If there can be a Fischer then indeed why not a super Fischer?" Certainly Karpov studied all of Fischer's forfeited tournaments and matches, determined to be more stable himself. To the only possible criticism — that Fischer is more sensationally impressive when winning — there are two very powerful arguments.

First, Karpov is just getting started, Fischer is all but finished. Second, the people that Karpov defeated in unbelievable fashion (Korchnoi, Polugaevsky and Spassky) are a hundred times more formidable than the field so magnificently blown to smithereens by Fischer (Larson, Taimanov, and Petrosian).

It is my sincere wish that Karpov lose the \$40,000 super-grandmaster tournament in Milan later this month simply because the world champion needs a breath of fresh air. Win-



ning everything again and again eliminates tension and spectator interest.

Karpov has just created a world-wide scramble for his tournament participation with a statement of total availability to all major international chess tournaments. That kind of attitude is calculated to make people ask Bobby who? Fischer never played a single game as world champion and deprived organizers of tourneys and terribly-needed promotion for chess, necessary to keep those hundred thousand prize funds just a-rolling right in the old pocket. Now we have a world champion who really plays chess, intending at least two hundred games in the next four years.

The nature of Karpov is courtesy. He will come to your tournament for a motor scooter, a cash guarantee of \$1,500 and win the first prize of \$2,000. He did exactly this in the Vidmar memorial tournament in Yugoslavia, his first appearance as titleholder. And now, believe me, Karpov mania is on the upswing. Karpov is a bitter-ender who stays to the very end of every western movie no matter how bad the conditions.

The old veteran Reshevsky picked up \$10,000 when Fischer quit after eleven games in 1961. Fischer cost the organizers in Leyden, Holland \$100,000, by dropping out of the scheduled Botvinnik match just two weeks prior to the showdown. A special building had been constructed for the event. Ha, Ha — April fool! And Fischer's withdrawal from the world interzonal in 1967, at the midway point, destroyed the tourney. Karpov has learned these lessons well.

If he ever meets Fischer, Karpov certainly must win. To quote Mr. Karpov: "There will be no repetition of the cheating that was openly admitted by Dr. Euwe of the World Chess Federation, cheating done solely to insure a match with no rules.

Every regulation will be enforced. What happened in Iceland is not going to occur again or I will not play." And if the rules are enforced Karpov is the certain winner in a match that lasts one hundred days, or even one year as Fischer desires.

The Russian chess public is not very excited about Karpov, true. All he does is cream everybody. It looks close but to the experienced eye Karpov is alone among professionals, the beginning of a new age. Only now is Karpov becoming a quiet hero. Nice people are not supposed to finish first.

The cash attraction may still be Fischer, not Karpov. But there are some things that cannot be purchased. Reputation as a chessplayer ready to challenge the entire world, ready to play for a motorcycle and defeat all comers *en passant*, that kind of thing. A spirit like this will spread fast to chess journals and Honda dealers worldwide. And every great working class effort, every struggle against the world's leading chessplayers while Fischer remains hopelessly, helplessly idle only serves to reaffirm the politics of Leningrad.

And so it was an occasion for noble mayhem when the new champion returned from the Vidmar victory more eager than ever to show the chess world his ferocious talents in the Soviet team championships with 25 grandmasters in the competition. Karpov, knowing he is the best chess master in the world, does not want Fischer to discover that fact until after the big money match. Skill means nothing, Fischer is where the bankers bank.

Meeting Boris Spassky, former world champion and Fischer's victory in Iceland, Karpov endured a great deal and just barely made the allotted forty moves in two-and-one-half hours. Both players were thunderstruck, three queens were

sacrificed, two knights were sent down the tubes and what happened was not just the game of the year.

It was quite simply, a very precious win for a player who only wins. . . .

July, 1975 Riga, Latvia

Queen's Indian Defense
White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Boris Spassky

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|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Pd2-d4 | Ng8-f6 |
| 2. Pc2-c4 | Pe7-e6 |
| 3. Ng1-f3 | Pb7-b6 |
| 4. Pg2-g3 | Bc8-b7 |
| 5. Bf1-g2 | Bf8-e7 |
| 6. Nb1-c3 | Castles |
| 7. Qd1-c2 | Pd7-d5 |
| 8. Pc4xd5 | Nf6xd5 |
| 9. Castles | Nb8-d7 |
| 10. Nc3xd5 | Pe6xd5 |
| 11. Rf1-d1 | Nd7-f6 |
| 12. Nf3-e5 | Pc7-c5 |
| 13. Pd4xc5 | Be7xc5 |
| 14. Ne5-d3 | Bc5-d6 |
| 15. Bc1-f4! | Rf8-e8! |
| 16. Pe2-e3 | Nf6-e4 |
| 17. Bf4xd6 | Qd8xd6 |
| 18. Nd3-f4 | Ra8-c8?! |
| 19. Qc2-a4! | Qd6-e7! |
| 20. Qa4xa7!! | Ne4xf2! |
| 21. Nf4xd5 | Bb7xd5 |
| 22. Qa7xe7 | Nf2xd1! |
| 23. Ra1-c1!! | Rc8-b8 |
| 24. Qe7-b4 | Bd5xg2 |
| 25. Kg1xg2 | Nd1xe3ch |
| 26. Kg2-g1 | Re6-e4 |
| 27. Qb4-f4 | Rb8-d8 |
| 28. Qf4-d4! | Rd8-e8 |
| 29. Qd4-d7 | Ne3-g4 |
| 30. Rc1-c8 | Ng4-f6 |
| 31. Rc8xe8ch | Re6xe8 |
| 32. Qd7-b7 | Re8-e6 |
| 33. Qb7-b8ch | Nf6-e8 |
| 34. Pa2-a4 | Pg7-g6 |
| 35. Pb2-b4 | Kg8-g7 |
| 36. Qb8-b7 | Ph7-h5 |
| 37. Ph2-h3 | Kg7-f6 |
| 38. Kg1-g2 | Re6-d6 |
| 39. Pb4xa5 | Pb6xa5 |
| 40. Pb4xa5 | Rd6-e6 |
| 41. Pa5-a6 | Ne8-c7! |
| 42. Pa6-a7! | Re6-e7 |
| 43. Qb7-c6ch | Kf6-e5 |
| 44. Kg2-f3! | Black Resigns |

(There is no defense to white's intended advance of the kind to b6 followed by promoting the pawn. If 44 . . . Ke5-d4 white spears a rook in whizzer pop fashion. One of the greatest games ever played.)