

2nd Article
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Finally—

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Fischer Shows He Can Win

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Bobby Fischer has fought back strongly and is moving closer to winning the World Chess Championship.

A week ago, he was in serious trouble, trailing 2-0. His successes in the past week, however, show that he is a serious threat for the title, held so long by the Russians.

First, let us review the week's play. Then we can discuss some of Fischer's manners and reasons.

Last Sunday, in the third game, he produced a completely new concept in the opening. With the black pieces, he surprised Spassky with a new move in the Benoni Opening. Spassky studied his response for more than a half hour. This Fischer surprise obviously had a strong psychological effect; Spassky later made a number of slightly inferior moves and Fischer, with relentless accuracy, scored his first win.

In the fourth game, on Tuesday, a completely different turn of events occurred. Spassky, with some surprising opening innovations, and playing the aggressive Sicilian Defense, turned the tables. He gained a tremendous initiative with his bishops raking the board, and at one stage, he had a possible continuation that would have won him the game. Then, by a strange transposition of moves, Spassky overlooked a clever simplifying maneuver by Fischer, who escaped, luckily, with a draw. This tie game was the first draw of the match.

In Thursday's fifth game, which with 27 moves was fairly short for world championship chess, both Spassky and Fischer opened as in the first game — Spassky with his favorite Queen's Pawn Move and Fischer countering with the Nimzo-Indian Defense.

Both players then quickly varied from the first game, however, and a tense struggle continued. In the middle game, both players were maneuvering their major pieces behind chains of pawns.

Then at the 26th move, Fischer struck with a series of forcing maneuvers which brought on Spassky's resignation, as indicated in the diagram at right.

The victory, chess experts agree, is a perfect example of how Fischer's positional pressure tends to force errors from an opponent. There is no room for error in championship chess. Thus, after five games, the score stands 2½-2½.

Chess professionals have been fascinated by the aggressive character of the last three games. Both players are fighting for their chess lives and producing powerhouse moves.

Americans, most of whom do not understand the psychological and physical stresses of championship chess, clearly have mixed feelings about Fischer's performance thus far. His demands for special privileges, his seeming erratic behavior, his constant indecision — all are alien to American concepts of games.

Unfortunately, it isn't widely known that his demands for special favors have, in many cases, benefited his opponent. Thus, in asking for 30 per cent of television fees, he was also asking for 30 per cent for Spassky.

But why is Bobby Fischer the terrible-tempered one? Let's look at his background.

Fischer has always had an unsettled life. His father left him when Fischer was very young. Then, at the age of six, he found the game of chess — which gave him a fulfillment of his deepest need, a need to prove himself. From chess, too, he has secured power. His chess genius has overcome all his obstacles except one and that one is Boris Spassky.

In Fischer's life, too, all other interests except chess have been ignored. His successes have been produced entirely on his own and he has demonstrated an immense capacity for private study. Psychologically he is trapped, unable to realize that sensitivity to the rights and interests of others is a condition of success as a social being. Throughout the past, Fischer has alienated his best friends and companions, much to the disappointment of those of his fans who realize his supreme chess genius.

Former World Champion Mikhail Tal once offered Fischer some advice and indicated that Fischer should read more outside of chess to become a more well-rounded individual and thus a better chess player. Paul Keres, the Estonian Grandmaster, wrote lengthy articles commenting on Fischer's lack of understanding in the logic of human relations.

There are three major factors in attempting to understand Bobby Fischer. The first is his tremendous ability to concentrate on chess. Fischer's belief is that chess is a game in which achievement come entirely from within yourself. With mastery of the game, he feels, he could achieve complete self-power, as well as power over the external world. He has little sense of outside duty or obligation. His only duty, as he sees it, is to develop mastery of his chess powers. He dropped out of high school at the age of 16, rejecting education and general culture for an exclusive interest in chess.

The second factor is his absolute self-confidence. His righteousness as to his mission leaves him with no self-doubt. Once asked whether he ever doubted himself, he answered succinctly "Never". In the past 400 years, chess has had only four prodigies, players who have achieved

chess mastery at an early age. Fischer is the latest, an exceptional genius who is also a loner. To himself, he is a law unto himself. For Fischer, the International Chess Federation must change its rules, not Fischer. This self-confidence is his tremendous strength in chess. But, it also leads to the weakness of not being able to come to grips with reality in human relationships.

The third important factor in Fischer's makeup is his tremendous drive and perseverance in winning his major goal: The World Chess Championship. Early on in Fischer's career, people recognized his talent. One widely quoted and futuristic prediction was made by the Russian grand master Alex Kotov, who said "His future possibilities are limitless." Dr. Max Euwe, current president

of the International Chess Federation, once said, "Fischer's progress is so impressive, in a few years he will be irresistible." Paul Keres once asked for a photograph autographed by Fischer for his 16 year old daughter. "Fischer will be World Champion," he explained.

The difficulties that surround this World Championship match could have been

predicted with a study of Fischer's previous matches. He disappointed his fans eight years ago when he withdrew from world title matches, claiming the Russians created unfair conditions. One of Bobby's friends, Dr. Elliot Hearst wrote "The same mind that has produced some of the best chess combinations and positional gems of the past decade has also proved responsible for one of the most disappointing moments in American chess." This was written in 1964 and could well be a current news item.

This writer believes that Fischer will win this world championship match. He has immense promise for promoting the development of chess throughout the world as an art, as a science, and as a sport. Fischer also has potential for maturity and, with this, the possibility of being the greatest chess champion the world has seen. American Grandmaster Larry Evans commented recently in simplistic but realistic terms that if Fischer wins this match he will be a hero and that if he loses, the public will tear him apart. Another view was expressed by the Chess Analyst Hans Kmoch: "Finally the U.S.A. produces its greatest chess genius. . . and he turns out to be just a boy." We think that the world will have an American Boy Genius World Chess Champion.

The writer, a former Canadian chess champion now living in San Diego, has played and won in numerous matches and exhibitions including one in which he played more than 100 persons at one time.

Last Week's Three Games . . . Move By Move

THIRD MATCH GAME

Benoni Defense

White: Boris Spassky
Black: Bobby Fischer

White Black

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1 P-Q4 | N-KB3 |
| 2 P-QB4 | P-K3 |
| 3 N-KB3 | P-B4 |
| 4 P-Q5 | PxP |
| 5 PxP | P-Q3 |
| 6 N-B3 | P-KN3 |
| 7 N-Q2 | QN-Q2 |
| 8 P-K4 | B-N2 |
| 9 B-K2 | O-O |
| 10 O-O | R-K1 |
| 11 Q-B2 | N-R4 |
| 12 BxN | PxB |
| 13 N-B4 | N-K4 |
| 14 N-K3 | Q-R5 |
| 15 B-Q2 | N-N5 |
| 16 NxN | PxN |
| 17 B-B4 | Q-B3 |
| 18 P-KN3 | B-Q2 |
| 19 P-QR4 | P-N3 |
| 20 KR-K1 | P-OR3 |
| 21 R-K2 | P-N4 |
| 22 QR-K1 | Q-N3 |
| 23 P-N3 | R-K2 |
| 24 Q-Q3 | R-N1 |
| 25 PxP | PxP |
| 26 P-N4 | P-B5 |
| 27 Q-Q2 | QR-K1 |

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|------------|--------|
| 28 R-K3 | P-R4 |
| 29 R/3-K2 | K-R2 |
| 30 R-K3 | K-N1 |
| 31 R/3-K2 | BxN |
| 32 Qx8 | RxP |
| 33 RxB | RxB |
| 34 RxB | QxR |
| 35 B-R5 | Q-N3 |
| 36 B-B1 | Q-N8 |
| 37 K-B1 | B-B4 |
| 38 K-K2 | Q-K5ch |
| 39 Q-K3 | Q-B7ch |
| 40 Q-Q2 | Q-N6 |
| 41 Q-Q4 | B-Q6ch |
| 42 Resigns | |

FOURTH MATCH GAME

Sicilian Defense

White: Bobby Fischer
Black: Boris Spassky

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| White | Black |
| 1 P-K4 | P-QB4 |
| 2 N-KB3 | P-Q3 |
| 3 P-Q4 | PxP |
| 4 NxB | N-KB3 |
| 5 N-OB3 | N-B3 |
| 6 B-OB4 | P-K3 |
| 7 B-N3 | B-K2 |
| 8 B-K3 | O-O |
| 9 O-O | P-OR3 |
| 10 P-B4 | NxN |
| 11 BxN | P-QN4 |
| 12 P-QB3 | B-N2 |

- | | |
|-----------|-------|
| 13 Q-Q3 | P-QR4 |
| 14 P-K5 | PxP |
| 15 PxP | N-Q2 |
| 16 NxB | N-B4 |
| 17 BxN | BxBch |
| 18 K-R1 | Q-N4 |
| 19 Q-K2 | QR-Q1 |
| 20 QR-Q1 | RxB |
| 21 RxB | P-R4 |
| 22 N-Q6 | B-R1 |
| 23 B-B4 | P-KR5 |
| 24 P-R3 | B-K6 |
| 25 Q-N4 | QxP |
| 26 QxRP | P-N4 |
| 27 Q-N4 | B-B4 |
| 28 N-N5 | K-N2 |
| 29 N-Q4 | R-R1 |
| 30 N-B3 | BxN |
| 31 QxB | B-Q3 |
| 32 Q-B3 | QxQ |
| 33 PxQ | B-K4 |
| 34 R-Q7 | K-B3 |
| 35 K-N1 | BxP |
| 36 B-K2 | B-K4 |
| 37 K-B1 | R-QB1 |
| 38 B-R5 | R-B2 |
| 39 RxB | BxR |
| 40 P-QR4 | K-K2 |
| 41 K-K2 | P-B4 |
| 42 K-Q3 | B-K4 |
| 43 P-B4 | K-Q3 |
| 44 B-B7 | B-N6 |
| 45 P-B5ch | Draw |

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|--------|
| Agreed |
|--------|

FIFTH MATCH GAME

Nimzo-Indian Defense

White: Boris Spassky
Black: Bobby Fischer

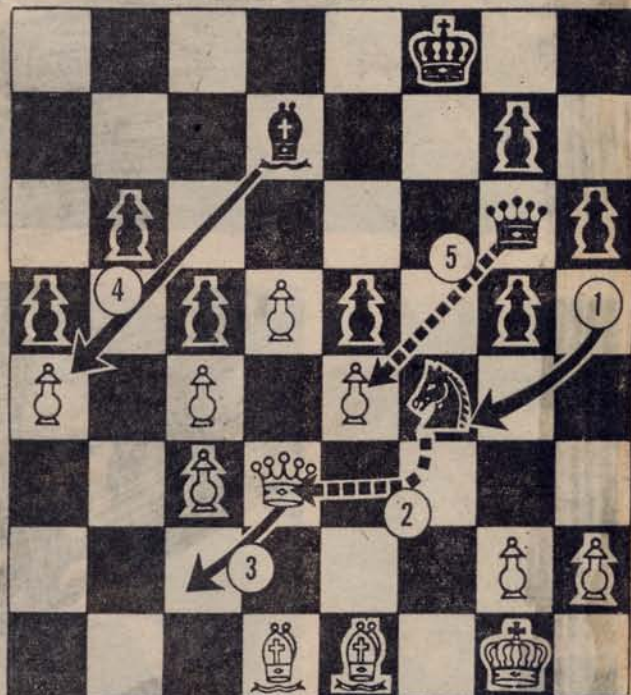
White Black

- | | |
|------------|-------|
| 1 P-Q4 | N-KB3 |
| 2 P-QB4 | P-K3 |
| 3 N-OB3 | B-N5 |
| 4 N-B3 | P-B4 |
| 5 P-K3 | N-B3 |
| 6 B-Q3 | BxNch |
| 7 Px8 | P-Q3 |
| 8 P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 9 P-Q5 | N-K2 |
| 10 N-R4 | P-KR3 |
| 11 P-B4 | N-N3 |
| 12 NxB | PxN |
| 13 PxP | PxP |
| 14 B-K3 | P-N3 |
| 15 O-O | O-O |
| 16 P-QR4 | P-QR4 |
| 17 R-N1 | B-Q2 |
| 18 R-N2 | R-N1 |
| 19 QR-KB2 | Q-K2 |
| 20 B-B2 | P-KR4 |
| 21 B-Q2 | Q-K1 |
| 22 B-K1 | Q-N3 |
| 23 O-Q3 | N-R4 |
| 24 RxRch | RxB |
| 25 RxRch | KxB |
| 26 B-O1 | N-B5 |
| 27 Q-B2 | BxP |
| 28 Resigns | |

Bobby's On The Attack

BLACK: Bobby Fischer U.S.A.

The strength of the Bobby Fischer chess attack is clearly seen in these last moves from the fifth game, when the above position at right occurred after the 26th move of black. Fischer (black) had moved his knight (1), threatening the white queen (2). The queen then moved out of harm's way (3). Fischer's next move surprised the audience as he captured a white pawn with his bishop (4). Spassky, after considering his position, resigned, knowing that if he captured the black bishop with his queen, Fischer would capture the white king's pawn (5) with the black queen. Both Fischer and Spassky knew this would have set up an unbeatable double checkmate threat.



WHITE: Boris Spassky RUSSIA