

CHAMP HOT NE COLD ON BOBBY

"In my opinion, the upcoming match in Reykjavik will be very interesting from the point of view of chess art," said world champion Boris Spassky at a press conference of Soviet and foreign newsmen, June 16, prior to leaving for Iceland on June 21.

The world champion fielded a variety of questions:

"Who would you have selected as challenger for the title, if you had been given the choice?"

"Definitely Fischer," replied Spassky. "I think very highly of him both personally and as a chess player. I am looking forward to the match as a great chess event, although, naturally, I cannot predict how it will come out."

"Fischer's match results against the other challengers are without precedent in the history of chess. How do you assess them?"

"Fischer was stronger than his opposition."

"Do you place much importance on physical preparation for the match?"

"No less than theoretical preparation."

"What are your favorite sports?"

"Lately, tennis," answered Spassky. "I am still not very good, but I keep at it."

"In preparing for the match with Fischer, have you learned all his strong and weak points?"

"Permit me not to answer that question. After all, I do have a right to professional secrets!"

"Fischer always carries a collection of all your games around with him," observed one of the American reporters. "Do you have all of his games?"

"Yes, of course, I have them all."

"Tell us about your theoretical match preparations."

"Without fail," responded the champion with a smile, "I will tell you after the match."

"What do you think about Fischer's assertion that he will definitely win the match in Reykjavik?"

"Fischer has a right to talk that way."

"Fischer" noted the American newsmen, "alleges that Soviet chess players always try to make life unpleasant for him. Is this so?"

"I entertain no such view," retorted Spassky. "Besides, Fischer's accusation is not substantiated by the facts. I do not understand such statements."

Asked for some biographical information about himself, Spassky revealed that he is 35 years old, was introduced to chess at the age of 9 and became a grandmaster at 18. He is married, has a daughter, Tanya, and a son, Vasya, who will be 5 years old on the day the match begins.

International grandmasters Yefim Geller (Spassky's second) and Nikolai Krogius and international master Ivo Ney will accompany the world champion to Reykjavik.

(translated from "Sovetsky Sport", June 17, 1972)

The queen on her color-blood red on black silk sheets. They have been stained before even before my birth And after your's witch of nostalgic chess games.

The queen on her color. Then begin with one of your pawns. Does it seem a small sin to treat him as expendable? Power Fuel for the checkmate of kings They sing songs about it- subtly subversive And we learn to be clever assassins.

— by James Wilkinson

SAY YOU SAW IT IN THE BARB

THE CHESS GROUPIES

by Jude Acers (US senior master)

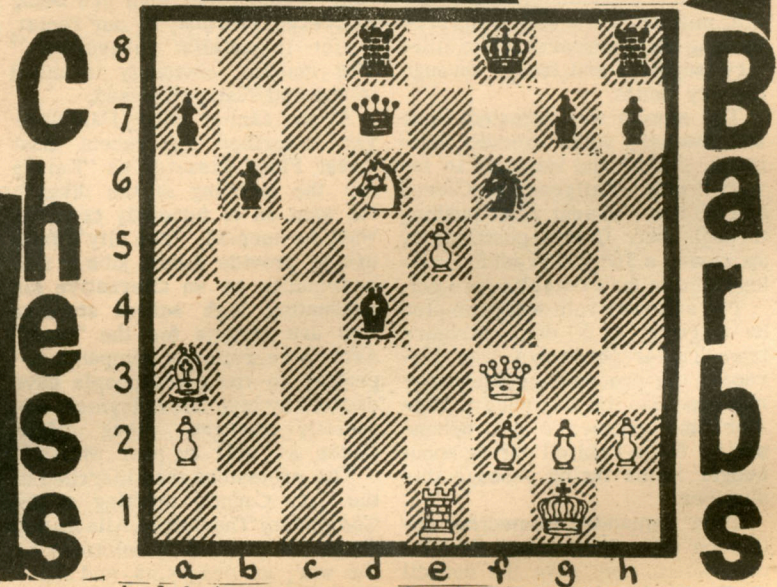
QUESTIONS YOU ASK JUDE ACERS: Q. Do you think the Fischer-Spassky world title match will be played to completion? A. I doubt it seriously. But we may hope so. Q. What chance do local players like Dennis Fritzinger, Roy Ervin, Craig Barnes and John Grefe have to play in the tournaments which qualify them for international mastership? A. None. The US Chess Federation in New York does not even know that these masters doth breathe. I detect no anger from them and do not know why this is so—time flies. Q. Fischer said on nationwide television that he is NOT a genius, really a fantastic statement. Who do you think have natural talent or genius in the United States today? A. As Fischer said, this is not very important, but to answer your question: Milan Vukcevic (Cleveland, Ohio), Reuben Fine (Washington, DC), Robert E. Burger (Berkeley), Arthur Bisguier (New York) and George Koltanowski (San Francisco). Some of the things done by these players defy belief. Burger once beat Fischer in 13 moves in an exhibition game. Smith once played 5 players simultaneously blindfolded at 30 seconds a move for a Florida television station (I expert, 1 Class A player and 3 lower rated players). He won 3, lost 1, drew 1. Koltanowski played 32 opponents at one time BLINDFOLDED in Scotland and did not lose a single game. But Fischer remains the No. 1 player in the world. Q. I have heard some incredible things about Walter Browne, Jude Acers and Bernard Zuckerman. It is difficult to believe that professional chess-players interest women at such a mad-clip pace. Be honest—are women or "chess groupies" part of the chess world? A. Why, do

you think that all American ladies worship Mr. Joe Namath? Browne has more machismo, savvy and lady killing tendencies in his little finger than any athletic jock who ever lived! One of the best things that the recent Life magazine articles on Fischer achieved was the humanization and maleness of a professional chess master. Chessplayers are tough hombres. They have to be just to survive. Dennis Waterman is also sneaky and grandmaster class in the lady meeting department. Q. One of the really memorable experiences in my chess career was meeting you and Zuckerman in a McAlpin Hotel tournament in New York last year. I had several questions about the future of US chess if Fischer wins the world title and so chased after you into the hotel dining room like a true teeny bopper fan. However, a smashing lass was keeping you busy. She seemed to be everywhere at the chess tournament and knew a lot about chess. You seemed to be listening to her carefully as well. Just who is this beautiful chick and does she play in tournaments? A. Her name is _____, and you're right: she has a powerful effect on chessplayers! She's everybody's good buddy and learned about the whole US chess scene by meeting US master John Grefe as he was hitching a ride across the Bay. Grefe was so interested in _____ that he lost a ten move game to Robert E. Burger in the Mechanics' Institute masters tournament just one hour after meeting her (honest)! _____ has found what I have known for some time—that the personalities and freaky happenings in the chess world are almost entirely the fascination of it. The quality of play or ratings of player "A" versus player "B" are but a minute portion of a chess tournament, be-

lieve me. Dozens of people have remarked how interesting it is to see Australian grandmaster Walter Browne quiver like a rubber band at the board. I remember one woman who was absolutely paralyzed at watching Spassky, world champion, about to make a move. "He sits with legs crossed, very still. His cigarettes curl smoke to the roof straight up. If a bomb went off that man wouldn't hear a thing and would play on! I like his nose. I like how he reaches out and makes a move with great speed after being motionless for twenty minutes. To put it bluntly, he's very, very sexy," she told me later. _____ could play in tournaments but chooses just to watch. She has seen analysis of thousands of Grefe's moves and so, of course, would have no problem playing in many tournaments if she chose to... Nifty gal and already a friendly legend. She pops up everywhere. I am President of her fan club! Yeaaaaa...

NEWS: MODERN CHESS OPENINGS — VOLUME II is hot off the press at \$12.50 from Chess Digest, Box 21225 Dallas, Texas 75211... Better move pronto if you want your copy, as Kenneth R. Smith has obtained the whole first edition and they won't last long... The Lone Pine International Tournament Book is now available—notes by Waterman, Grefe, Fritzinger with 117 games, more than 30 with notes. Price \$2.60 (add \$1 for airmail if you like) from John Grefe, US Master, 2206 Haste St., Apt. 19, Berkeley, CA 94704. Bargain of the year. Move fast on this one, too. The cover alone is worth the price!... The largest tournament of the state's largest chess club is now completed. The 1972 Berkeley Chess Club Champion is R. Carl Shiflett with 6½ out

of 7 points. (A win is 1 point, tie is ½ point, loss is a goose egg.) USCF expert Donald F. Dean zoomed to second place. Class winners were Dr. Richard Hansen (B), Peter Stokes (C) and a Class D tie between William Forward and Bruce Hildreth. A biggie with 115 players clawing for the goodies. Ringmaster was Martin E. Morrison, who states flatly that the first requirement to organize and direct a nationally rated chess tournament is to be AT LEAST a little crazy. If you aren't, your qualifications will improve as the tournament progresses... Jeff A. Kent won the 1972 California Class Championships held in Fresno. Top expert was Los Angeles veteran Ronald Gross in the 80-player tournament. Los Angeles grandmaster Isaac Kashdan put in a rare appearance at the tournament banquet. Kashdan was favored to succeed Alekhine as world champion in the early thirties. Kashdan was on two world championship teams as well and runs the Sunday chess column in the Los Angeles Times. He is totally different in attitude, manner than all other grandmasters. He prefers to be neither seen nor heard most of the time. "I play the board always, never the opponent," Kashdan once told me. Perhaps this explains his great record against Alekhine, twice world champion. Kashdan played him 7 times and lost only once! You had to stay cool when playing Alekhine because strange things happened... US master John Grefe (2367) will conduct a simultaneous exhibition at the Berkeley Central YMCA, 2001 Allston Way, on Friday, July 7, at 7:30 pm. Winners may choose to have their game annotated by the master, or to receive a copy of the Louis D. Statham Masters & Experts Tour-



by Jude Acers failed to find White's correct plan in variation (C)! Can you do better? Think like a grandmaster! Alexander Kotov's analysis is given elsewhere in this issue, which proves White must win beautifully in all lines! You will be amazed at how much YOU can see if you really try to. Turn off the radio for this one though.

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MATCH ON TV

Switch on to Channel 9, KQED, this Sunday morning from 10 am to 1 o'clock in the afternoon and you may be treated to unprecedented T.V. coverage of a world title chess match.

New York chess master Shelby Lyman (USCF 2220) will relay all the moves, complete with analysis, played in Reykjavik, Iceland, between world champion Boris Spassky and star challenger Robert Fischer.

Lyman will be in telephone contact with Frank Brady (Fischer's biographer in the book, "Profile of a Chess Prodigy") for on-the-scene background information on the participants and tape-recorded interviews from Reykjavik.

The show, which may run as long as 5 hours, comes direct from New York facilities of the National Public Broadcast System.

In a separate series on Channel 9 international master and world

blindfold chess champion George Koltanowski will present the second and third match games on Friday, July 7, at 7:30 pm and continue each Friday to the end of the match.

Another full-length KQED telecast of the fourth battle between the Soviet and American chess giants is scheduled for 10 am, Sunday, July 9. Further chess programming of the special Sunday morning broadcasts will depend on how much the chess playing public is willing to pay for the privilege.

Will you pay \$1 an hour to watch blow-by-blow descriptions of the greatest chess event of all time?

Send money, any amount, NOW to KQED-CHESS, 1011 Bryant St., San Francisco, CA 94103 or phone in a membership pledge, mentioning KQED's chess coverage as your reason for supporting public television, to 864-2000.

THE SOLUTION

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ment Book. Non-winners may have their game annotated for a fee of \$1 or purchase the Tournament Book for \$2.25. Please bring board and men. Games unfinished by 11 pm. may be submitted to adjudication and prizes mailed. Call Martin E. Morrison, 582-1973, for more information.

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS:

Berkeley YMCA, Fri., 7:30 pm...
Hardcastle Coffee Shop, 2516 Telegraph, all hours. . . "The Loft", 5422 College (in Oakland), all hours. . . East Asia Book and Game Center, 5897 College (Oakland), 6 pm. to midnight. . . S.F. Mechanics' Institute Chess Room, 57 Post, 4th floor, all hours.

SOLUTION TO DIAGRAM NO. 19:

((somewhere else in this issue)) Boleslavsky--Ravinsky (USSR, 1949). Kotov gives: (A) 23...Qg4 24 Nf5ch1 and (1) 24...Kg8 25 Qb3ch Nd4 26 Ne7ch Kf7 27 Nd5 with decisive threats. (Acers note: the point is that if now 27...Qe6 28 Qf3ch and Black loses his queen.); (2) 24...Kf7 25 Nh6chl gh 26 Qf6ch Kg8 27 Qd8ch is crushing, mate in 2; (3) 24...Bc5 25 Bc5ch bc 26 ef Qf3 27 fgch Kf7 28 gh/Ql leaving White a piece up. (Acers note: is 28 gh/Nch as good?)

(B) 23...Bc5 24 ef and (1) 24...g6 25 Bc5 bc 26 Qe3l wins; (2) 24...Bd6 25 fgchl (no credit for other moves!) Kg7 26 Bb2ch Kg6 27 Qf6ch Kh5 28 Re6l wins everything; (3) 24...Ba3 25 fgch Kg7 26 Qg3chl Kf6 27 Qf4ch Kg7 (27...Kg6 28 Re3 mates) 28 Qg5ch Kf8 29 Qf6ch Kg8 30 Re3 Bd6 31 Qg5chl Kf7 32 Rf3ch Bf4l 33 Rf4ch Ke8 34 Qe5ch Qe7 35 Qh8ch Kd7 36 Qc3 with attack plus material wins. (Acers note: the most difficult variation by far.); (4) 24...Qd6 25 fgch Kg7 26 Bb2ch and (a) 26...Kg8 27 Qb3ch Kf8 28 Bh8 and wins. Black is always mated if he interposes his queen by Qg3ch and Qg7 mate; (b) 26...Kh6 27 Qg4l

with mate threats all over the place; (c) 26...Bd4 27 Bd4chl Qd4 28 Re7ch and believe it or not White's attack is absolutely decisive. For example, 28...Kh6 29 Qh3ch Kg5 30 Qg3ch Kh5 31 Re5ch Qe5 32 Qe5ch and White

pushes his K-side pawn to attack Black's king later. Or 28...Kg6 29 Qf7ch Kg5 30 hechl Kh4 31 Qf5l Rdg8 32 Re4ch Qe4 33 g3ch winning queen and rook.

(C) 23...Be5 24 Re5 a6 (Acers note: the point is that Black has nothing better) 25 Qb3ll leaves Black helpless.

If you are a weak amateur player you can double your playing strength by thoroughly covering these variations again and again, NOW! It's a lot of fun figuring out everything as well.

sit-in

From page 9

pected to happen if he returned to Vietnam. The student replied matter of factly that he expected to be jailed and probably tortured and possibly executed. "But", he said, "they have all our names already."

All Vietnamese students in the United States are on 6 month visas. In four cases so far, when students came into the office to have their passports validated, the documents were simply impounded by the consulate.

The Thursday noon demonstration was synchronized with another held at the same time in Washington, DC. --em



BERKELEY'S NEWS