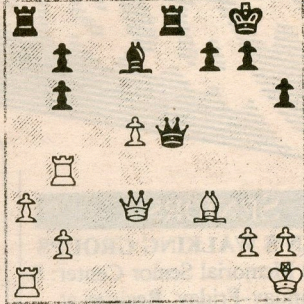


Chess



By Frisco Del Rosario
MIKENAS-BRONSTEIN
 Black to play and win.



A HERO'S WELCOME

It has been announced that grandmaster David Bronstein will participate in the Software Toolworks Open to be held Nov. 23-26 in Long Beach, Calif. This will be Bronstein's first American tournament.

Bronstein challenged Botvinnik for the world championship in 1951. The match was tied 12-12 and the rules at that time left the title with Botvinnik.

Bronstein plays in the most imaginative style of any grandmaster ever. His chess is joyful.

1947 USSR Championship

White: David Bronstein

Black: Peter Dubinin

King's Gambit

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. e4 e5 | 15. Raf1 ⁸ Nd8 |
| 2. f4 ¹ ef | 16. Nd5 ⁹ Bd7 |
| 3. Nf3 ² g5 ³ | 17. e5 ¹⁰ de ¹¹ |
| 4. h4 ⁴ g4 | 18. de Bc6 |
| 5. Ne5 h5 ⁵ | 19. e6 ¹² Bd5 |
| 6. Bc4 Rh7 | 20. Rf7 Nf7 |
| 7. d4 Bh6 | 21. Rf7 Kh8 ¹³ |
| 8. Nc3 Nc6 | 22. Qc3 Nf6 |
| 9. Nf7 ⁶ Rf7 | 23. Rf6 Qf6 ¹⁴ |
| 10. Bf7 Kf7 | 24. Qf6 Kh7 |
| 11. Bf4! Bf4 | 25. Qf5 Kh6 |
| 12. O-O ⁷ Qh4 | 26. Qd5 Kg6 |
| 13. Rf4 Kg7 | 27. Qd7 Resigns |
| 14. Qd2 d6 | |

NOTES:

1. Only Bronstein among the masters of his day had the spirit to revive the King's Gambit. White's ideas are simple: deflect the enemy e-pawn in order to create a pawn center and open the f-file leading to Black's king. In his classic *200 Open Games*, Bronstein writes in the introduction to the King's Gambit chapter: "...both players feel the desire to try to win not by collecting a material tax from the physically weakened enemy, but by using the strength of his own imagination."

"It is not secret that any talented player must in his soul be an artist, and what could be dearer to his heart and soul than the victory of the subtle forces of reason over crude material strength!"

2. White can't play d4 immediately because of ...Qh4.

3. International master Dubinin also was a player of fancy. He defends in the manner of the Romantic Era 100 years earlier, when attacking weapons like the King's Gambit were the norm. Black prevents the opening of the f-file by directly guarding the f4-pawn. He also prepares to drive off the knight with ...g4, then deliver the ...Qh4 check.

4. A logical move in White's plan — he provokes the g-pawn forward (before Black can consolidate with ...h6 and ...Bg7), unguarding the f4-pawn, while preventing the h4 check with the rook.

5. A greedy defensive idea — Black intends to protect his important f4- and f7-pawns with ...Bh6 and ...Rh7. Nowadays the continuation 5...Nf6 6. d4 d6 7. Nd3 Ne4 8. Bf4 Qe7 9. Qe2 Bg7 10. c3 h5 is fairly routine, when White has good play for his pawn.

6. Starting a combination that leaves Black with an exposed king and White with the fulfillment of both his strategic aims — the strong mobile pawn center and the open f-file.

7. White's king is very well sheltered compared to Black's.

8. White completes his development with the threat of Rf7. 15...Be6 loses to 16. d5.

9. Bronstein's second, Boris Vainstein, writes that this again prevents 16...Be6 because of 17. Nc7 and Ne8 and also prevents 16...Ne6 because of 17. Rf7 Kh8 18. Nf6! Ng5 19. Qg5!

10. Threatening 18. Nc7 followed by ed and also 18. Nf6, after which Black can't stop White's queen from infiltrating on the c1-h6 diagonal.

11. First Black exchanges his endangered pawn, then moves his bishop off the open d-file and away from the Nf6 fork.

12. Now White intends to use the a1-h8 diagonal.

13. 21...Kg6 22. Qd3 Kh6 24. Qh7 Kg5 25. Qf5 Kh6 26. Rh7.

14. There's nothing else to do about Rf7. Black is mated after king moves and Vainstein notes 23...Qg5 runs into 24. Rh6 Kg8 25. Rh8.

SOLUTION: 1...Ra3! wins (2. Qa3 Qe1 or 2. Qb1 Ra1 3. Qa1 Qe1 or 2. ba Qa1 3. Rb1 Re1).