



Chess Barbs

by Jude Acers (US senior master)

DIAGRAM NO. 16: Show two stalemates that White must avoid, then prove a forced checkmate in four moves with White to move in all variations! An Acers Chess Challenge position. Send solution to BARB offices for checking. It will be returned to you IF CORRECT. Sorry, if you make one slip you will be knifed.

NEWS: The Great Dane is back! Bent Larsen won the international tournament at Teaside, England after some temporary worries (caused by his disastrous refusal to take draws with Fischer in equal positions). He scored 11-4. Larsen's pseudo-master critics who consider him a Class C player must now go into hiding again. What a fighter and memorable personality Larsen is! ...Here are the 15 players qualified for the final 1973 world championship zonal tournament by selection of a World Chess Federation committee or by right of performance in 1971 Candidates events: KORCHNOI, GELLER, TAIMANOV, KERES, POLUGAEVSKY, SMYSLOV, TAL, STEIN, KARPOV (as World Jr. Champion, though HUG of Switzerland is not invited), LARSEN, UHLMANN, HORT, GLIGORICH, HEUBNER and PORTISCH. Tragic is the failure of the World Chess Federation to automatically guarantee all world title match finalists a permanent place in the world title finals. Bronstein, Euwe, Tal, Botvinnik, Smyslov and Keres should have permanent invitations even if they reach age 125...

master Lubomir Kavalek. ***
 White: Lawrence Kaufman (Maryland). Black: Lubomir Kavalek (Washington, D.C.), U.S. Zonal Tournament, New York City, 1972. English Opening 1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 d6 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 d4 Nd7 5 e3(A) Ngf6 6 Be2 c6 7 h3 Bh5(B) 8 de?(C) de 9 0-0 e4! 10 Nd2(D) Bg6!(E) 11 b3 Qc7 12 Qc2(F) Qe5! 13 Rdl Bd6 14 Nfl 0-0 15 Bb2 Qe7 16 Rd2 Ne5 17 Radl Nf3chl! 18 gf ef 19 Bd3 Qe6! 20 Ng3(G) Qh3 21 Bfl Qh6!(H) 22 Bd3(I) Ng4 23 Nce4 Qh3 24 White resigns (J).

(A) 5 Be3 was played in the game Taimanov -- Shackes. Black then played 5...Be7. I intended to improve with 5...c6 to be followed by Ngf6. Unclear but interesting is 5...f5. (B) Also good is simply 7...Bf3 8 Bf3 Be7 with equality. (C) To be considered is 8 g4?! Bg6 9 Nd2 with the idea of 10 f4. Acers note: NEVER, NEVER make moves that free your opponent's pieces when you are not certain what to do with your position. (D) If 10 Nh4?! Be2 11 Qe2 Qa5! with the idea of 12...g5, spearing a knight. (E) Black has a clear advantage. (F) Possible was 12 Bb2 Qe5 13 Na4. (G) If 20 Nh2 Bh2chl (or 20...Qh3 21 Nf3 Qg4chl 22 Kfl Qf3 23 Bg6fg 24 Rd6 Ng4!) 21 Kh2 Qe5ch 22 Khl Qh5 23 Kh2 Ng4ch 24 Kg3 Ne5 25 Kh2 Bd3! 26 Rd3 Qg6 27 Rgl Qd3. (H) Not 21...Qh4 22 Rd4! (I) 22 Qcl Ng4. (J) 24 Bfl Qh2mate. ***

TOURNAMENT RESULT: "The Loft" Master & Expert Invitational, sponsored by Gary Orechwa and directed by Alan Benson, was won by soft-spoken, hard-hitting Berkeley chess master John Grefe with a 3½-½ score. Julio Kaplan and Dennis Waterman tied for second at 3-1 each. Free food and

drink for all 17 players guaranteed that there would be no starving chess masters at the tournament.

QUESTIONS YOU ASK JUDE ACERS: Q. Now that you are traveling and writing a chess column, I would imagine you have a greater appreciation of George Koltanowski's achievements. He has been writing his San Francisco Chronicle column, rain or shine, since 1947 and gave exhibitions under almost impossible financial and personal circumstances for 40 years. A. To put the matter mildly, Koltanowski is a living legend and still gives an occasional exhibition. My goodness, he beat me in a 34-board exhibition when I was a 13-year-old teenie weenie bopper in New Orleans! He once played 32 people blindfolded at the same time and set a world record for the display. His great secret is his charming wife, who has been with him from rags to riches all the way and attends many of his public appearances to this day. Most chess masters crack up due to fatigue, loneliness and criticism. Koltanowski is of tougher fiber, believe me. If there is any bitterness or discord with local chess organizers, that's tough. He's paid his dues in blood by chess promotion the hard way. My manager would not permit me to cross the street for the starvation wages paid Koltanowski for some of his best public appearances in hard times. The story of his life and world fame can be read in "Adventures of a Chess Master" (David McKay Publishers), which I rate as A-1 entertainment.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP THAT YOU CAN PLAY IN: (1) Berkeley Chess Club Nationally Rated Chess Tournaments. Each Friday, June 9, 16, 23, 30, at the Central YMCA, 2001 Allston Way. Entry is free if you join the Berkeley Chess Club! (\$2.50). Here's a chance for YOU to play in a rated chess tournament by showing up before 7:15 p.m. on any Friday! For entry or details write Martin Morrison, Box 1622, Oakland CA 94604; (2) Concord Chess Club. Four games, June 10-11. Play at 40 moves in 1½ hours in five divisions for all class players. Entry, \$5. Starts 10:30 a.m. at Concord Senior Citizens Center, 2974 Salvio St., Concord CA. Prizes will be healthy. Morrison has details (above address); (3) THE BIGGIE! STAMER MEMORIAL. GUARANTEED \$1,000 OPEN TOURNAMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO JULY 1-4, 1972. Play eight games, twoper day, at 40 moves in 2 hours, starting at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Room, 4th floor, 57 Post St. A fantastic tournament to play in or EVEN TO WATCH. It will be packed with all the local chess heavies and YOU are encouraged to drop by. Only catch is that you must wear shoes and a little clothing! Get your entry to Ray Conway, club director, by June 26th (\$20) and save \$2 pronto. What are you waiting for -- a world title match?!

GAME: All notes are by grand-