

IMPRESSIONS OF PIATIGORSKY CUP

by Art Kaye

San Francisco Chronicle Correspondent

The Piatigorsky Cup is to chess players what the Davis Cup is to tennis, the Masters to golf, the World Series to baseball, and the National Football League championships to football.

The other night, I had the opportunity to watch one round of a great tournament and this is going to be just an observation and not an analysis.

At about 6:30 p.m. the spectators came into the Nautilus Room of the Miramar Hotel. After they were seated and quieted down, there entered—one by one—the ten participants introduced by the tournament director, Isaac Kashdan.

Photos

Photographers were allowed five minutes in which to get their pictures. After that no pictures could be taken.

Bobby Fischer, who has phenomenal hearing, could detect the click of a shutter a block away. Since the pictures were taken during the first five minutes of play, Fischer refused to play and so penalized himself in time.

Bent Larsen and Miguel Najdorf shooed away autograph hunters. Mrs. Sammy Reshevsky said she didn't photograph well and Mrs. Tigran Petrosian referred her autograph hunters to her husband.

However, Reshevsky posed for photographers. Hein Donner and Borislav Ivkov were last to arrive.

Setting

Fischer did not like the chess set used, so a new set had to be dug up for him.

The setting is great—five boards and a magic lantern projection of the moves. The "white" pieces are actually pink to show up better on the screen. There is literally no "bad" seat. But the closer you are the more fun you get watching the chess greats.

How do they look? Well, Petrosian was very neat in a short-sleeved plaid shirt. Donner wore the same type of shirt but with a hairdo a la North Beach. Portisch was very natty in a maroon-and-blue stripe short sleeve knit shirt. Ivkov wore a sports jacket and Wolfgang Unzicker a semi-Western style buff shirt and pants.

Boris Spassky appeared in a blue suit and tie, Fischer very thin in a grey suit and Najdorf in a blue suit, the jacket of which he hung over the back of a chair. In a white shirt, open at collar and with sleeves rolled up past his elbows was Larsen. Reshevsky was in somber suit and toupee.

Pacers

Habits—most of them pace when they have time—Fischer almost a military march as he steps from one playing platform to another — thump — thump — thump. Larsen walks up and down near the rope with his hands behind his back. Najdorf takes one player at a time and whispers in their ear. Petrosian usually

walks with his arms folded.

The most nervous one is Donner who smokes constantly and puffs nervously on his cigarettes. Spassky, on the other hand, lights each cigarette slowly, cupping the match as if lighting the cigarette in a high wind.

When Fischer sits down, he always shoots his chair into the table with two short jerks.

Stance

Petrosian folds his arms across his chest, then leans forward until his elbows rest on the board. His wife follows his game with a pocket set. Sometimes he wraps his legs around the chair legs.

Reshevsky appears never to move anything, even the chess pieces. Donner bangs his knees together and has a sad look. Fischer and Unzicker arch their backs and almost touch heads when peering intently at the board.

Spassky seems almost in a conversational pose, sitting sideways and well back in the chair with legs crossed and one arm usually draped on the chair back. Sometimes Petrosian puts his head in his hands and rocks sideways. Reshevsky pulls at his collar and tie.

Noise

The noise level was higher than at a library, to my surprise. There is an analysis room but the fun is out front and you might surprise yourself and actually come up with your favorite player's next move. They play slowly and use up most of their time.

I had an orgy of chess and highly recommend the feat to all chess fans . . . strong players and patzer's alike!

My friend, Art, would win many more games at chess if he could remember his moves as well as his vivid picture of the participants in the Piatigorsky Cup tournament.

It might interest the fans to know the ages of the contestants: Petrosian, USSR, World Champion, 37; Donner, Holland, 39; Fischer, USA, 23; Ivkov, Yugoslavia, 33; Larsen, Denmark, 31; Najdorf, Argentina, 56; Reshevsky, USA, 55; Spassky, USSR, 29, and Unzicker, West Germany, 41.

—George Koltanowski

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NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	19. B-B4	Donner
2. P-QB4	P-K3	20. R-R	QxRP
3. N-QB3	B-N5	21. RxP	Q-B3
4. P-K3	P-B4	22. RxR	R-R
5. B-Q3	P-Q4	23. P-R3	RxR
6. N-B3	O-O	24. P-Q5!	R-R6
7. O-O	PxBP	25. PxP	PxP
8. BxBP	QN-Q2	26. B-B4	QxP
9. B-Q3	P-QN3	27. BxPch!	Q-QB4
10. P-QR3	PxP	28. Q-K6ch	KxB
11. PxP	BxN	29. B-Q6	K-N3
12. PxB	B-N2	30. N-K5ch	Q-QR4
13. R-K	Q-B2	31. RxN	NxN
14. B-Q2	KR-K	32. K-R2	R-R8ch
15. Q-K2	QR-B	33. Q-B5ch	Q-R
16. QR-B	B-Q4	34. R-K7ch	K-B2
17. P-B4	B-N2	35. B-K5	K-N
18. P-QR4	Q-B3	36. RxPch!	R-K8

KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	23. P-B3	Ivkov
2. P-QB4	P-KN3	24. QR-R	Q-Q2
3. N-QB3	B-N2	25. PxP	P-R4
4. P-K4	P-Q3	26. N-K2	NxRP
5. B-K2	O-O	27. N-B4	P-N5
6. B-N5	P-B4	28. Q-Q3	PxP
7. P-Q5	P-QR3	29. QxBP	Q-N5
8. P-QR4	Q-R4	30. RxQ	QxQ
9. B-Q2	P-K3	31. B-B3	N-B3
10. N-B3	PxP	32. BxB	NxKP
11. BxP	R-K	33. R-N3	RxR
12. O-O	Q-B2	34. R-N6	R-Q2
13. Q-B2	B-N5	35. R-K	N-B3
14. P-R3	BxN	36. RxR	N-N5ch
15. BxB	QN-Q2	37. K-R3	NxR
16. P-R5	R-K2	38. N-R5	K-B
17. R-R4	QR-K	39. N-B6	R-B2
18. B-K2	P-R3	40. RxQP	N-B5
19. K-R2	P-KN4	41. R-Q7	RxR
20. B-N4	NxBch	42. NxRch	K-K2
21. PxN	B-K4ch	43. NxP	Drawn
22. P-N3	N-B3		

Round Seven

QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENSE

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	20. QxB	Spassky
2. P-QB4	P-K3	21. QxQP	QxRP
3. N-KB3	P-QN3	22. Q-Q	Q-N5
4. P-KN3	B-N2	23. Q-B2	KR-Q
5. B-N2	B-K2	24. KR-Q	P-KR3
6. O-O	O-O	25. RxRch	RxR
7. N-B3	N-K5	26. R-Q	RxRch
8. NxN	BxN	27. NxR	Q-K8ch
9. N-K	BxB	28. K-N2	P-QR4
10. NxN	P-Q3	29. P-R4	K-B
11. P-K4	N-Q2	30. P-R5	K-K2
12. B-K3	Q-B	31. N-B2	Q-K6
13. N-B4	P-QB3	32. Q-Q	P-B3
14. R-B	R-K	33. K-B	N-N6
15. N-Q3	P-QB4	34. K-N2	N-Q7
16. P-B3	Q-R3	35. N-R3	NxQBP
17. P-QR4	B-B3	36. N-B4	QxN
18. N-B2	PxP	Resigns	
19. BxP	BxB		

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	20. R-R	Portisch
2. P-QB4	P-K3	21. KR-N	N-QB5
3. N-QB3	P-Q4	22. Q-B	R-R
4. PxP	PxP	23. RxR	N-R5
5. B-N5	P-B3	24. R-R	Q-Q
6. P-K3	QN-Q2	25. P-N3	N-B6ch
7. B-Q3	B-K2	26. NxN	BxN
8. Q-B2	O-O	27. B-B5	P-R4
9. N-B3	R-K	28. B-R3	P-R5
10. O-O	N-B	29. B-N2	RxR
11. QR-N	P-QR4	30. QxR	BxB
12. P-QR3	N-N3	31. KxR	Q-QB
13. P-QN4	PxP	32. P-R3	PxP
14. PxP	N-K5	33. KxP	N-Q3
15. BxB	QxB	34. K-N2	N-B4
16. KR-B	B-N5	35. Q-Q	N-R5ch
17. N-K	QR-Q	36. K-N3	N-B4ch
18. N-R4	P-N4		
19. N-B5	N-Q3		

RUY LOPEZ

Unzicker	P-K4	T2. N-B	Reshevsky	Spassky
1. P-K4	N-QB3	13. N-N3	N-QR4	1. P-Q4
2. N-KB3	P-QR3	14. B-B2	P-B4	2. P-QB4
3. B-N5	N-B3	15. PxKP	PxP	3. N-QB3
4. B-R4	B-K2	16. N-B5	N-B5	4. PxP
5. O-O	B-K2	17. N-R2	BxN	5. P-K4
6. R-K	P-QN4	18. QxQ	QRxQ	6. PxN
7. B-N3	O-O	19. PxP	P-K5	7. B-QB4
8. P-B3	P-Q3	20. N-N4	NxN	8. N-K2
9. P-KR3	P-R3	21. PxN	P-K6	9. B-K3
10. P-Q4	R-K	22. K-B	Drawn	10. O-O
11. QN-Q2	B-B			11. R-B

SICILIAN DEFENSE

Larsen Petrosian
This may well turn out to be the game of the tournament. Larsen got the typical white bind in the opening, and Petrosian never equalized. His knight march from moves 15 to 17 only lost further time and space.

Larsen's pieces completely dominated the king side. The brilliant breakthrough by 25. QxP! brought a collective gasp from the large audience that was something to hear. A few minutes later came a hearty round of applause for Larsen when the champion resigned.

1. P-K4	P-QB4	16. P-KB5	N-R3
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	17. B-N4	N-B4
3. P-Q4	PxP	18. PxP	RPxP
4. NxP	P-KN3	19. Q-KB2	R-KB
5. B-K3	B-N2	20. P-K5	BxP
6. P-QB4	N-B3	21. Q-R4	BxN
7. N-QB3	N-KN5	22. RxB	N-K3
8. QxN	NxN	23. R-B3	B-B3
9. Q-Q	N-K3	24. Q-R6	B-N2
10. Q-Q2	P-Q3	25. QxP!	N-B5
11. B-K2	B-Q2	26. RxN	PxQ
12. O-O	O-O	27. B-K6ch	R-B2
13. QR-Q	B-QB3	28. RxR	K-R
14. N-Q5	R-K	29. R-KN5	P-N4
15. P-B4	N-B2	30. R-N3	Resigns

KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE

Najdorf	N-KB3	17. N-Q	Fischer	1. N-KB3
1. P-Q4	P-KN3	18. N-K3	N-QN4	2. P-KN3
2. P-QB4	B-N2	19. N(3)-B4	N-B5	3. P-QN4
3. N-QB3	P-Q3	20. BxN	PxP	4. B-QN2
4. P-K4	P-K5	21. P-K5	PxP	5. B-N2
5. B-K2	O-O	22. B-B3	Q-B	6. O-O
6. B-N5	P-B4	23. NxP	RPxP	7. P-QR3
7. P-Q5	P-K3	24. N(2)-B4	QR-Q	8. PxP
8. N-B3	P-KR3	25. N(2)-B4	QR-Q	9. BxR
9. B-R4	PxP	26. N-B6	RxR	10. P-B3
10. BPxP	P-KN4	27. RxR	RxR	11. P-Q3
11. B-N3	P-N4	28. R-R	R-K	12. P-B3
12. N-Q2	P-R3	29. R-Q	R-B	13. P-Q3
13. O-O	R-K	30. N(6)-R5	N-K	14. P-Q3
14. Q-B2	Q-K2	31. Q-B5	R-N	15. P-Q3
15. QR-K	QN-Q2	32. Q-B5	N-Q3	16. P-QN5
16. P-QR4	Resigns	33. NxN	Resigns	

Round Eight

SLAV DEFENSE

Portisch	P-Q4	31. P-B4	Unzicker	39. R-R6
1. P-Q4	P-QB3	32. B-Q3	B-Q5ch	40. K-N2
2. P-QB4	N-B3	33. K-N2	P-N3	41. B-B2
3. N-KB3	PxP	34. B-K2	P-QB4	42. R-QB6
4. Q-N3	B-B4	35. B-KB3	N-B4	43. R-B5
5. QxBP	QN-Q2	36. B-K2	K-K2	
6. P-KN3	37. B-QR5	P-R4		
7. B-N2	P-K3	38. P-R3	N-K6ch	
8. O-O	B-K2	39. K-B3	P-B4	
9. N-B3	O-O	40. B-N6	P-B4	
10. R-K	N-K5	41. B-B4	N-B7	
11. Q-N3	Q-N3	42. B-R5	K-N5	
12. QxQ	PxQ	43. B-Q8ch	K-B3	
13. NxN	BxN	44. B-QB7	K-B3	
14. N-K5	NxN	45. B-Q6	N-B3	
15. BxB	N-B5	46. B-B8	N-N5	
16. B-Q3	P-QN4	47. B-KR6	K-K2	
17. P-K3	KR-Q	48. B-N5ch	K-B	
18. R-Q	B-N5	49. B-N5	K-B2	
19. P-QR3	B-K2	50. B-Q8	K-N2	
20. R-N	P-K4	51. B-K8	N-Q6	
21. P-QR4	PxQP	52. B-R5	N-B8	
22. PxQP	B-B3	53. B-R4	N-Q6	
23. PxP	RxP	54. B-Q2	N-B7	
24. PxP	PxP	55. K-N2	N-K5	
25. P-N3	N-R6	56. K-N2	N-K5	
26. R-N2	N-N4	57. BxN	NxN	
27. QR-Q2	QR-Q	58. B-B6	P-R5	
28. B-B4	RxR	59. B-B3	Drawn	
29. RxR	RxR			
30. BxR	K-B			

GRUENFELD DEFENSE

Unzicker	P-K4	12. N-B	Reshevsky	Spassky
1. P-K4	N-QB3	13. N-N3	N-QR4	1. P-Q4
2. N-KB3	P-QR3	14. B-B2	P-B4	2. P-QB4
3. B-N5	N-B3	15. PxKP	PxP	3. N-QB3
4. B-R4	B-K2	16. N-B5	N-B5	4. PxP
5. O-O	B-K2	17. N-R2	BxN	5. P-K4
6. R-K	P-QN4	18. QxQ	QRxQ	6. PxN
7. B-N3	O-O	19. PxP	P-K5	7. B-QB4
8. P-B3	P-Q3	20. N-N4	NxN	8. N-K2
9. P-KR3	P-R3	21. PxN	P-K6	9. B-K3
10. P-Q4	R-K	22. K-B	P-K6	10. O-O
11. QN-Q2	B-B	23. K-B	P-K6	11. R-B
12. Q-N2	Drawn	24. K-Q5	QxQ	12. Q-K4ch
13. BxN		25. K-Q5	QxQ	13. BxN
14. BxN		26. K-Q5	QxQ	14. BxN
15. BxN		27. K-Q5	QxQ	15. BxN
16. BxN		28. K-Q5	QxQ	16. BxN
17. BxN		29. K-Q5	QxQ	17. BxN
18. BxN		30. K-Q5	QxQ	18. BxN
19. BxN		31. K-Q5	QxQ	19. BxN
20. BxN		32. K-Q5	QxQ	20. BxN
21. BxN		33. K-Q5	QxQ	21. BxN
22. BxN		34. K-Q5	QxQ	22. BxN
23. BxN		35. K-Q5	QxQ	23. BxN
24. BxN		36. K-Q5	QxQ	24. BxN
25. BxN		37. K-Q5	QxQ	25. BxN
26. BxN		38. K-Q5	QxQ	26. BxN
27. BxN		39. K-Q5	QxQ	27. BxN
28. BxN		40. K-Q5	QxQ	28. BxN
29. BxN		41. K-Q5	QxQ	29. BxN
30. BxN		42. K-Q5	QxQ	30. BxN

GRUENFELD DEFENSE

Spassky	1. P-Q4	N-QB3	26. Q-B2	K-R
2. P-QB4	P-KN3	27. PxP	PxP	2. P-QB4
3. N-QB3	P-Q4	28. Q-Q2	K-N2	3. N-QB3
4. PxP	NxP	29. R-KB	Q-K2	4. P-K3
5. P-K4	NxN	30. Q-Q4ch	R-B3	5. N-K2
6. PxN	B-N2	31. N-K4	BxN	6. P-QR3
7. PxN	B-N2	32. BxB	Q-B4	7. NxN
8. PxN	B-N2	33. QxQ	RxRch	8. P-QN4
9. PxN	B-N2	34. Kxr	PxQ	9. PxP
10. PxN	B-N2	35. P-KR4	N-B5	10. NxN
11. PxN	B-N2	36. K-K2	N-K4	11. P-B3
12. PxN	B-N2	37. K-K2	R-B3	12. Q-B2
13. PxN	B-N2	38. K-K2	Q-K2	13. P-K4
14. PxN	B-N2	39. R-K2	Drawn	14. P-K4
15. PxN	B-N2	40. R-B2	Drawn	15. P-K4

GRUENFELD DEFENSE

Fischer	1. P-Q4

Round Ten

PIRC-ROBATSCH DEFENSE

Larsen

1. N-KB3	P-KN3	30. P-R4	R-QR
2. P-K4	B-N2	31. P-R5	P-KN4
3. P-Q4	P-Q3	32. P-R6	P-N4
4. N-B3	N-KB3	33. RPxP	N(Q)xNP
5. B-K2	O-O	34. R-QB	N-Q3
6. O-O	B-N5	35. R-QR	PxP
7. B-K3	N-B3	36. RxR	Nxr
8. Q-Q2	P-K4	37. NxNP	K-B
9. PxP	PxP	38. NxP	N-KB2
10. QR-Q	QxQ	39. N-N4	N-N3
11. RxQ	KR-Q	40. N-Q5	N-Q2
12. KR-Q	RxR	41. B-R4	N-B4
13. RxR	N-K	42. B-B6	N-Q
14. N-Q5	BxN	43. NxP	NxB
15. PxP	N-Q5	44. NxPch	K-B2
16. B-Q	N-K3	45. NxPch	K-N3
17. P-B3	B-B	46. P-R7	K-N2
18. B-R4	P-QB3	47. P-KB4	N-Q2
19. N-N4	B-B4	48. K-Q3	N-R4
20. N-Q3	BxN	49. P-B4	N-QB3
21. PxP	R-Q	50. K-B3	N-B4
22. R-Q	P-B3	51. P-B5	N-Q2
23. B-N3	N(1)-N2	52. K-N3	N-B4ch
24. K-B2	K-B	53. K-R3	K-R
25. P-QR4	P-QR4	54. P-B6	N-Q2
26. K-K2	K-K2	55. P-B7	N-B
27. B-B4	N-B2	56. P-B5	K-N2
28. P-N4	N(N)-K	57. K-R4	Resigns

SLAV DEFENSE

Unzicker

1. N-KB3	P-Q4	17. B-KR6	KR-K
2. P-B4	P-QB3	18. B-Q2	P-QR4
3. P-Q4	N-B3	19. BxB	PxB
4. N-B3	PxP	20. B-N3	R-R4
5. P-QR4	B-B4	21. R-K	N-B
6. P-K3	P-I-3	22. Q-Q2	KPxR
7. BxP	B-QN5	23. QR-B	N-N3
8. O-O	O-O	24. I	Nxp
9. Q-K2	B-N5	25. R-B4	R-N4
10. P-R3	B-KR4	26. BxN	RxB
11. R-Q	QN-Q2	27. N-B5	R(R)-R4
12. P-K4	Q-K2	28. RxNP	P-N3
13. P-K5	N-Q4	29. RxR	RxR
14. N-K4	P-KB4	30. N-K4	R-N6
15. PxP e.p.	PxP	31. Q-B4	Drawn
16. N-N3	B-N3		

QUEEN'S GAMBIT

Spassky

This was the second meeting between the Russians, and the second quiet draw. This was expected, and it has become part of the normal state of things that Russians competing in international tournaments will draw with each other.

It is no help to their standings, since each player loses half a point.

1. P-Q4	P-Q4	12. B-Q2	R-Q
2. P-QB4	PxP	13. B-B3	3-Q2
3. N-KB3	N-KB3	14. QR-B	B-K
4. P-K3	P-K3	15. P-KR3	RxRch
5. BxP	P-B4	16. RxR	R-Q
6. O-O	PQR3	17. RxR	KxR
7. PxP	BxP	18. K-B	K-K2
8. QxQch	KxQ	19. K-K2	P-N3
9. QN-Q2	N-B3	20. KN-Q4	NxN
10. R-Q	K-K2	21. BxB	BxB
11. N-N3	B-N3	22. NxP	Drawn

RUY LOPEZ

Fischer

Automatic draws are not the style with Americans, certainly not with Fischer. The 23-year-old U.S. Champion had not won a game since the third round, and he was starving for points.

Reshevsky had the worst of the opening, with a backward pawn on the open QB file, and the strong outpost for White's knight. Fischer went all out in the attack against the queen side pawns, eventually winning one.

The action then shifted to the king side, where Reshevsky attempted to find counterplay. In almost no time Fischer also had his queen and rook ready for mating threats. It was the black king which was more vulnerable, as Fischer soon showed.

Reshevsky