

Richard Shorman

Chess

STRONG FINISH

An international women's tournament just completed in Tbilisi was swept away smartly by world champion Nona Gaprindashvili. Her 12-1 tally consisted of a jolting first round defeat at the hands of schoolgirl Ketino Gachechiladze followed by twelve successive victories.

The next three places were taken, as expected, by the Soviet contingent to this year's interzonal competition, Nana Aleksandria and Natalya Konoplyova at 8½-3½ and Marta Shul with 8-4.

But the sensation of the event was the remarkable debut performance of the youngest participant, 12-year-old Maiya Chiburdanidze, whose six points included convincing wins against international women masters Andreeva and Shul.

White: Maiya Chiburdanidze. Black: Olga Andreeva. Tbilisi 1973. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 c3 Nf6 3 e5 Nd5 4 d4 cd 5 cd d6 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Nc3 Nc3 8 bc de 9 d5 e4 10 Ng5 Ne5 11 Ne4 Qc7 12 Qd4 Bd7 13 Ba3 f6 14 d6! Qc6 15 de Be7 16 Be7 Ke7 17 Qb4 Kf7 18 f4 Rhe8 19 fe Re5 20 0-0-0 Re4 21 Rd7 Ke8 22 Re7 Resigns.

WINNING FORMULA

Originally intended to describe his last round victory over grandmaster Larry Evans at Lone Pine, John Grefe's introductory remark applies nearly as well here:

"This game has much to offer chess lovers: a theoretical opening, a speculative pawn sacrifice, some tense psychological moments, a few instructive errors and a flashy queen sacrifice."

White: Rex Wilcox
Lone Pine, 1973.

Black: Jerome Hanken

Robatsch Defense

1 P-K4	P-Q3	16 NxKP(d)	NxN
2 P-Q4	P-KN3	17 BxN	R-KB1
3 N-QB3	B-N2	18 B-B2	N-B4
4 P-B4	P-QB3	19 P-KR4	N-Q3
5 N-B3	B-N5	20 P-R5	N-N4
6 B-K3	Q-N3	21 K-R1(e)	R-QN1
7 Q-Q2(a)	BxN	22 Q-Q3	R-N3!
8 PxB	N-Q2	23 Q-N3(f)	RxP
9 0-0-0	Q-R4	24 PxP	P-KR3?(g)
10 K-N1	P-QN4	25 B-K3!!	RxBP(h)
11 P-K5(b)	P-N5(c)	26 BxRP!	RxQ
12 N-K4	P-Q4	27 BxB	K-Q1
13 P-K6	PxP	28 B-K5	N-Q3
14 N-N5	N-B1	29 P-N7	Resigns(i)
15 B-R3	N-R3		

(Expanded notes contributed by U. S. senior master John Grefe)

(a) According to Soviet opening specialist, grandmaster Aleksei Suetin, this move is better than 7 Q-Q3 N-B3 (not 7...QxNP? 8 R-QN1 Q-R6 9 RxP, and if 9...N-B3?, then 10 RxPch!, as Black cannot play 10...KxR because of 11 N-Q5ch) 8 0-0-0 P-Q4! 9 P-K5 N-K5!, after which Black obtained a good game in Suetin—Gufeld, Tbilisi, 1969-70 (10 NxN?? PxN 11 QxP B-B4).

(b) English theorists Keene and Botterill offer this fascinating alternative in their book "The Modern Defense": 11 P-B5 KN-B3 12 B-Q3 P-N5 13 N-K2 0-0 14 B-KR6 P-B4 15 BxB KxB 16 P-KR4 KR-B1 17 P-N3 N-N3 18 P-R5 P-B5 19 RPxP PxP 20 Q-R6ch K-R1 21 PxQP PxP 22 QR-N1!, "with a very complex and difficult position."

(c) Keene and Botterill recommend 11...P-Q4! but give no further analysis.

(d) Varying from Aleksandria—Polikhroniade, Women's Interzonal Tournament, Okhrid, Yugoslavia, 1971, which went 16 KR-K1 N-B4, with an unclear situation.

(e) Black threatened 21 . . . N-B6ch.

(f) If 23 PxP, then 23 . . . N-B6 wins.

(g) Permits a brilliant finish. On 24 . . . PxP White seems to have nothing better than 25 R-R7 B-B3 26 R(1)-R1 NxP 27 R-R8ch BxR 28 RxBch R-B1 29 RxRch (or 29 BxN RxR 30 BxR Q-B4!, equalizing; but not 29 . . . P-B4? 30 QxQP!, and White wins) KxR 30 BxN P-B4! 31 QxP RxB 32 QxR PxP, with a draw in sight.

(h) On other rook moves the Black KRP goes, and with it the game.

(i) Even the most desperate measures fail, e.g., 29...R-R3 30 P-N8(Q) ch N-K1 31 QxNch! (White's second queen sacrifice!) KxQ 32 R-R8mate.

HOLIDAY TOURNAMENTS

The California Class Championships will be held May 26-28 in the Vineyard Room of Del Webb's Townhouse, 2220 Tulare St., Fresno. The 6-round Swiss system contest will feature a time control of 40 moves in two hours and a guaranteed minimum prize fund of \$1,000. Entry fee is \$10 (Amateur) or \$15 (Open) plus USCF and CSCF memberships. Also scheduled are a rapid transit tourney (Fri., May 25 at 7 p.m.), the North-South Match (Sun., May 27 at 1:30 p.m.), the California Invitational State Championship (Sat.-Mon.) and other events. Round one of the Class Championships starts Sat., May 26 at noon. Gordon Barrett, assisted by Elwin Meyers, is the tournament director. Please bring sets and clocks.

The fourth annual Santa Clara Memorial Day Open Chess Championship will take place in the LERA Main Auditorium (corner of Mathilda Ave. and Java St., seven blocks north of Bayshore, opposite Sunnyvale), May 26-28. Ted Yudacufski of Monterey will direct the 6-round Swiss system event. Prize money runs as high as \$300 for first place in the USCF Open and as low as \$25 to the second unrated spot, a total of 15 cash awards in three playing categories plus trophies. Entry fee is \$15 for the USCF Open Division and \$10 for the USCF B and C Divisions. Round one is slated for Sat., May 26 at 10 a.m. Please supply your own chess equipment.

KOLTANOWSKI COMES TO HAYWARD

World renowned blindfold champion George Koltanowski of San Francisco will give a **free** simultaneous exhibition, a chess lecture, a demonstration blindfold performance and a truly amazing "knight's tour" display at Cal State University, Student Union Bldg., Hayward, from noon until 5 p.m., Wed., May 30.

Convenient parking is not available for non-students on campus, so be sure to stop in at the University Information Center and inquire about legal car space.