

Stateless and defective

THE KORCHNOI-Petrosian candidates' match was, as expected, a real grudge affair, partly because of Korchnoi's defection from the USSR last year and also because there's a private feud between the players. Draws were offered through the arbiter (the two men are not on speaking terms) and the games were bitterly fought.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT
World Championship challenger's match, 1977

T. Petrosian (USSR)	V. Korchnoi (Stateless)	7. bxc3	cxd4
1. d4	Nf6	8. cxd4	Bb4 ch
2. Nf3	d5	9. Bd2	Bxd2 ch
3. c4	e6	<i>Here Schlechter tried instead 9...Qa5 but got a disadvantage after 10.Rb1! Bxd2 ch 11.Qxd2 Qxd2 ch 12.Nxd2 0-0 13.Bb5!</i>	
4. Nc3	c5	10. Qxd2	0-0
<i>Korchnoi is playing the Semi-Tarrasch Defence to the Queen's Gambit, and Petrosian follows a line played as early as Rubinstein-Schlechter, San Sebastian, 1912.</i>		11. Bc4	Nc6
5. cxd5	Nxd5	12. 0-0	b6
6. e4	Nxc3	13. Rfe1	Bb7
		14. Rad1	Ne7
		15. d5	eXd5
		16. eXd5	Nf5

Up till now both players have been following one of Korchnoi's own games, as black against Uhlmann at Zagreb in 1960. The East German proceeded 17.Bd3 Nd6 and the game was level — perhaps Korchnoi was hoping for a repeat performance?

17. Ne5!

A powerful innovation which leaves Korchnoi stunned and unable to put up much resistance throughout the rest of the game. White now threatens to play 18.d6 which puts a horrible bind on the Black position, so Korchnoi blockades the pawn.

17. . . .	Nd6
18. Nc6!	Bxc6
19. dxc6	Nxc4
20. Qf4	



PETROSIAN

The point. The temporary bishop sacrifice allows White's pawn to make it to the sixth anyway, and the game must already be technically won. A passed pawn this far advanced exerts a tremendous cramping influence on the opposition's game and all combinations seem to work because a pawn queens at the end of them!

20. . . .	Nd6
21. Rxd6	Qc7
22. g3	h6

Number one goes 22. . . .Rae8 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.Re6! Qc8 (Or 24. . . .Qxf4 25.Rxe8 mate) 25.Rxe8 ch Qxe8 26.c7! Qc6 27.Qe4! A pretty combination of back-rank mates and pawn promotions . . . 27. . . .Qc1 ch 28.Kg2 g6 29.Qe8 ch Kg7 30.c8=Q and wins.

23. Qe5	Rac8
24. Qd5	Kh7
25. Re4	Kg8
26. Kg2	a6
27. h4	b5
28. g4	Kh7
29. Re2	Kh8

Korchnoi's moves speak for themselves. Petrosian is playing cat and mouse.

30. g5	h5
31. Rd2	Rfe8
32. Qf3	g6
33. R(2) d5	Rf8

The idea was mate by 34.Rd7 Qxc6 35.Qxf7 etc.

34. Rf6	Qe7
35. Rd7	Qe8

with a fatal penetration to g7. Three guesses for White's next move!

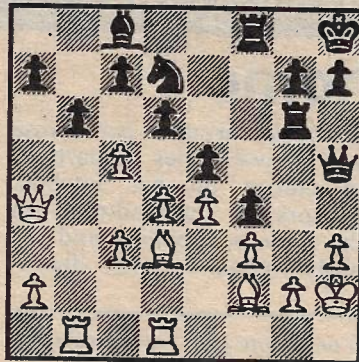
37. Qxh5 checkmate.

A crushing victory but a game very typical of the former world champion's style.

PROBLEM

It's spot the win time, from the third Winstones Open Tournament run by the North Shore Chess Club. White has just erred with 22,c5. What did Black play?

Auckland 1976. Black to play and win. Hint: for those



P. BEACH

M. BARLOW

who have difficulty — what would Black play if his knight was not on d7?

SOLUTION:

White resigned. Bd7 dis. ch 5, Kg1 Bxh4 and (or 4, Kg1 Qg5 ch and mates) ch! 3, Kxg2 Bxh3 ch 4, Kh2 1. . . Nxc5! 2, dx5 Rxe2 clearance sacrifice with ch! etc. So Beach played a he would have 1. . . Rxe2 If Black had no knight on d7

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