

# Amazing Larsen

THE CLARIN tournament was won by the amazing Danish Grandmaster Bent Larsen with a three point margin on 11/13 points! Second was a four-way tie between Andersson (Sweden), Miles (England), Najdorf (Argentina) and Spassky (USSR) on 8 points. The following game was the most brilliant of the tournament.

## BENONI DEFENCE

<b>B. IVKOV</b> (Yugoslavia)	<b>F. GHEORGHIU</b> (Rumania)
1. d4	Nf6
2. c4	c5
3. d5	g6
4. Nc3	Bg7
5. e4	d6
6. Nf3	0-0
7. h3	e6
8. Bd3	e×d5
9. e×d5	Re8 ch
10. Be3!	

The key to White's play. He intends to meet 10...Bh6 by 11.0-0! — as Gheorghiu played as White against Ulf Andersson in Manila 1975 — and after 11...B×e3 12.f×e3 R×e3 he has 13.Qd2 followed by Qh6 with a dan-

gerous attack. This time, with Black, Gheorghiu decides to break on the Queenside.

10.	b5!
11. N×b5	Ne4
12. 0-0	B×b2

Possibly 12...a6 is better. Now Ivkov begins a combination of exceptional depth.

13. B×e4!	R×e4
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Giving up the defensive Black-squared bishop with 13...B×a1 14.Q×a1 is just too risky.

14. Qc2	R×e3
15. Q×b2	R×f3

What is White to do? 16. g×f3 is met by 16...B×h3 with threats of 17...Qg5 mating and 17...B×f1, regaining the exchange with a pawn interest.

Ivkov's calm positional reply of putting his rook on the open file is a magnificent rejoinder.

16. Rfe1!	Bd7
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On 16...Rf5 (or 16...Rf6) White

has 17.Nc7 while 16...Qf6 17.Q×f6 R×f6 18.Re8 ch wins.

17. g×f3	Qg5 ch
18. Kh1	Na6
19. N×d6	B×h3
20. Rg1	

What a shame — 20.Qh8 ch! K×h8 21.N×f7 ch regaining the Queen would have been a lovely finish. However Ivkov's efficient mopping up operation leaves the matter in little doubt anyway, despite White's exposed kingside.

20. ...	Qf4
21. Rg3	Q×d6
22. R×h3	Re8
23. Kg2	h5
24. Qc3	Nc7
25. Re1	Rd8
26. Rh4	Ne8
27. Rhe4	Qb8
28. Re7	Nd6
29. Qf6	Rf8
30. Qf4	Rd8
31. R1e6!	f×e6
32. Qf6	Resigns

Yefim Geller won the 47th USSR Championship shortly before Christmas — for the first time since 1955. He drew his first seven games, but scored six points from the following seven, finishing undefeated on 11½/18 ahead of Yusupov 10½, Kasparov and Balashov 10.

The following combination from the event shows he can be as aggressive as ever.



Geller to move continued:

22. Nd5	e×d5
23. Nh6 ch	Kg7
24. Qf7 ch!	R×f7
25. R×f7 ch	Kh8
26. Bd4 ch	

Here we see the point of Geller's 22nd move — the e-pawn has been deflected, and can no longer block this fatal check. Now checkmate is forced.

26. ...	Bf6
27. R×f6	Resigns

White mates after 6...Ng7 7.Rf7 Rg8 8.B×g7 ch R×g7 9.Rf8 ch.

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