Miles top but Nigel falls short

Phillips & Drew Kings, London 1980

LONDON'S GREATEST tournament for over 50 years, the Phillips and Drew Kings, produced some superb chess and, from the English point of view, both success and disappointment. Winners of the category 13 event, with all but two of the players Grandmasters, were Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland, Ulf Andersson of Sweden and Tony Miles of England, an exceptional performance from Britain's No 1. But at the other end of the scale was 14-year-old prodigy Nigel Short making a disastrous failure, with only two points.

As a whole, the tournament — with £10,000 in prizemoney — was a huge success, generating unprecedented press and spectator interest.

GM 2590 Sweden

GM 2545 England

GM 2545 Holland

IM 2495 England

GM 2600 Holland

QM 2570 Hungary

GM 2580 Denmark

GM 2530 England

GM 2515 England

IM 2360 England

GM 2605 Rom.

GM 2590 Yug.

GM 2540 USA

GM 2695 Switz.

1. Andersson

2. Korchnoi

4. Sosonko

5. Speelman

6. Gheorghiu

7. Ljubojevic

8. Timman

9. Sax

10. Browne

11. Larsen

12. Stean

13. Nunn

14. Short

3. Miles

World Champion Anatoly Karpov had been invited, but when he pulled out for unclear reasons (Soviet retaliation over the Olympics?) Viktor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector, was asked as a replacement.

In one time-trouble incident the Yugoslav Grandmaster Lubomir Ljubojevic, playing Englishman Jon Speelman, accidentally fumbled a Queen move and instead of landing on g8 it slithered along to h8—where it was en pris. Assistant arbiter and tournament organiser Stuart Reuben promptly ruled the Queen must stay, whereupon the temperamental Yugoslav's howls of protest shattered the silence of the room. The disturbance was only resolved when, while

Reuben and chief arbiter Harry Golombek were debating the problem,
Speelman offered Ljubojevic a draw!

Speelman went on to make a much deserved first Grandmaster norm by scoring the prescribed 7½ points.

Here is some of the fine chess: England 1980

SICILIAN with 3.c3.		
G. SAX (Hungary)	L. LJUBOJEVIC	(Yugos
1. e4	c5	lavia
2. Nf3	e6	
3. c3	d5	
4. e5?!	d4!	

Of course. Black prevents a transposition to the French defence and gums up White's development at the same time.

5. Bd3

After 5.c×d4 c×d4 6.Bb5 ch Nc6
7.Qa4 Bd7 8.B×c6 B×c6 9.Q×d4
B×f3!? (also 9...Q×d4) 10.Q×d8
R×d8 11.g×f3 White has less than
equality. Probably he stands worse
anyway — the text looks very arti-

		Nc6
Qe2		Nge
0-0		Ng6
Qe41?		Be7
	Qe2 0-0 Qe4!?	Qe2 0-0

The expected complications between these two gifted attacking players have already begun — the e-pawn is taboo because of 8...d×c3 9.d×c3 Ng×e5 10.N×e5 N×e5 11.Bb5 ch Nd7 12.Rd1 with dangerous pressure.

9.	Na3	0-0
10.	c×d4	c×d
11.	Nc2	Qc7!
12.	Re1	Rd8
13.	h4	

With his next two aggressive moves Sax tries to deflect Ljubojevic from his surprise.

13. . . . h5
14. g4 h×g4
15. h5

plan of ... Rd5, but gets an unfortunate

And although White is a piece up, he is completely lost positionally. Black's threats of ...Bb7, ...Nh3 ch and ...Bf6 cannot be countered, so . . .

A sparkling minature from Ljubojevic. There is an amusing postscript
to this game. The boy on the demonstration board did not see Sax resign
so, when the game ended, he counted
the pieces and seeing White had one
extra sent his score of the game to the
analysis room as 1-0! Apparently
International Master Bill Hartston,
who did an excellent day-by-day
commentary on the games, spent
some time with his audience trying to
fathom why Black had given up until

MURRAY CHANDLER

the truth dawned!