Chess

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The K-K clash

AS KARPOV so Kasparov. A neat anagram and, considering the one-upmanship displayed by these two leading Soviet players in Moscow recently, perhaps also an apt epigram.

At just 18 years old, Garri Kasparov is thought by some to be second in real playing strength only to world champion Anatoly Karpov. Yet the two had never clashed in a serious game until an unusual event in the USSR this year to mark the 26th congress of the Soviet Communist Party. Four teams were created by the Soviet Chess Federation: A "first team" (comprising the national squad minus Kasparov), a "second team", an "old generation" and a "youth team" (with Kasparov).

Some observers felt that the prime objective of this exercise was to force a meeting between Karpov, now 29, and his most dangerous potential rival in the next world championship series. Overall Karpov's team pulled through on 28½ points, ahead of youth 23½, golden oldies 23 and the second team 21. But of particular interest were the results of the top boards, which formed a miniature tournament, resulting in victory for Kasparov.

Although they ended in draws, both of the K v K games were well contested. In the first encounter Karpov came under heavy pressure as Black in a Petroff defence. Sovietsky Sport recounts how, when Kasparov eventually offered a draw, he had to wait 15 minutes before Karpov's acceptance. During the return game, given below, tension mounted when Karpov this time offered a draw. Kasparov thought for 15 minutes — and refused. Shortly afterwards young Garri thought better of it, offered a draw back, and Karpov declined!

ENGLISH OPENING

A. KARPOV	G. KASPAROV
1. c4	Nf6
2. Nc3	c5
3. Nf3	e6
4. q3	b6
5. Bq2	Bb7
6. 0-0	Be7
7. d4	c×d4
8. Q×d4	d6
9. Bg5	位 网络多路 包细 耶
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An interesting idea to counter Black's defensive "hedgehog" formation of pawns on the third rank.

9. ... a6 10. B×f6

The point is to capture immediately, before Black's other knight comes to d7. Karpov now builds up the pressure on the target d6.

40		Divido
	第 直 3	B×f6
11.	Qf4	0-0
12.	Rfd1	Be7
13.	Ne4	BXe4
14.	QXe4	Ra7
15.	Nd4	Qc8
16.	b3	Re8



Garri Kasparov: No 2?

17. a4			Qc5	
18. Ra2			Bf6	
19. Rad2			Rc7	
20. Qb1				
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It's not easy to increase the pressure — on 20. Nc2 simply 20 ... Be7 defends. Karpov's move initiates an aggressive but committal queenside expansion.

21. b4!? Qh5

Of course not 21 ... Q×

Of course not $21 \dots Q \times c4$ $22 \cdot Rc2$. **22.** Rc2 Rec8

23. b5

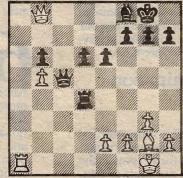
20. .

Now the c-pawn is a genuine sacrifice.

23. ... a×b5 24. a×b5 R×c4 25. R×c4 R×c4 26. Qa2 Qc5 27. Qa8 R×d4 28. Q×b8 ch Bf8 29. Ra1

For his pawn Karpov has gained tremendous-pressure along his opponent's back two ranks.

KASPAROV



KARPOV

29	d5
30. Bf1	Rc4
31. Ra8	Rc1
32. Qe8	d4
33. Ra7	Qf5
34. Ra8	Qc5
35. g4	

To deprive Black's queen of f5.

35. . . . Qd6 36. Rd8! Qb4 37. Rd7 h6

White has won the battle of f7 but Black still has counterplay. 38. Q×f7 ch Kh7 39. g5 Qb1!

Forcing liquidation, as 40. Q×f8 R×f1 ch 41. Kg2 Rg1 ch would win for Black.

40. g6 ch Q×g6 ch 41. Q×g6 ch K×g6

Draw agreed

After 42. R×d4 the rook and opposite-coloured bishop ending is level.

MURRAY CHANDLER