

Pinball wizard

ANATOLY KARPOV'S victory at Tilburg could be considered the Soviet World Champion's personal response to the fast-rising threat of Garri Kasparov — but then, Karpov always wins Tilburg. Since the inception of this annual Dutch super-tournament six years ago, Karpov has won it four times. The other two occasions he did not participate, being otherwise engaged in defending his world title.

This time he started with a hat-trick, and was only momentarily halted by an accidental setback against Hungarian Lajos Portisch in round four. He seemed a little more determined than usual, perhaps spurred on by his young rival and compatriot Kasparov's landslide victory in the recent Moscow Interzonal. Home Grandmaster Jan Timman put up a reasonable struggle for first, though another potential challenger, the great Dane Bent Larsen, sank without trace. Probably Larsen was not helped by his luggage being stolen before the start. Fortunately, as the sponsors of Tilburg are the Interpolis insurance company, all was covered.

Final scores: 1, Karpov 7½ points; 2, Timman 7; 3-4, Andersson (Sweden) and Sosonko (Holland) 6½; 5-6, Petrosian and Smyslov (both USSR) 6; 7-9, Browne (USA), Nunn (England) and Portisch (Hungary) 5; 10-11, Hubner (West Germany) and Torre (Philippines) 4½; 12, Larsen 2½.

Karpov must have left Tilburg especially well satisfied. Not only did he easily outdistance four of the competitors in the coming candidates matches, but he also won the players' informal pinball competition. Both he and ex-World Champion Petrosian are addicts of this decadent Western pastime. In round 10, pleading illness, Karpov postponed his (chess) game against Smyslov — and spent the day totting up his record 1.63 million on the machine. Beat that Kasparov!

Holland 1982

CARO KANN DEFENCE

A. KARPOV R. HUBNER
1. e4 c6

The Caro Kann defence did appallingly at Tilburg. Perhaps if this had been the last, rather than the first round, Hubner might have chosen something different.

2. d4	d5
3. Nd2	dxe4
4. Nxe4	Bf5
5. Ng3	Bg6
6. h4	h6
7. Nf3	Nd7
8. h5	Bh7
9. Bd3	Bxd3
10. Qxd3	Ngf6
11. Bf4	e6

This plan of kingside castling, rather than queenside castling, has been patronised by Larsen in conjunction with the pawn push a5-a4-a3 to weaken White's king position. Hubner proceeds somewhat more circumspectly.

12. 0-0-0 Be7

13. Ne5 0-0
14. c4

In round nine, also against Hubner, Timman chose the solid 14.Nxd7 Qxd7 15.Be5 Rad8 16.Qe2 and Black never quite equalised.

14. ... c5
15. d5 Nxe5
16. Bxe5 Ng4



17. Bxg7!

A bold sacrifice, though analysis later revealed Hubner could have stood quite well by declining it with 17...Bg5 ch! 18.Kc2 Nxf2.

17. ... Kxg7?
18. Qe2! Bg5 ch
19. Kb1 Nf6
20. dxe6 Qc8
21. e7 Re8
22. Rd6

A piece down, Karpov calmly builds up the pressure.

22. ... Qg4
23. Qe5 Kg8
24. Re1 Nd7



25. Rxd7! Qxd7
26. Nf5

Threatening mate on g7.

26. ... f6
27. Qd5 ch!!

Having sacrificed a whole rook, Karpov now elects to swap queens! The point is that White's connected passed pawns in the centre are almost impossible to stop.

27. ... Qxd5
28. cxd5 Bf4
29. g3 Bc7
30. Kc2!

Spotting the devilish trap 30.Nxh6 ch Kh7 31.Nf5 Rad8!! and Black wins! After Karpov's subtle king move, however, Black is curiously helpless.

30. ... b5
31. Nxh6 ch Kh7
32. Nf5 Rg8
33. d6 Ba5
34. Re6 Rg5
35. Rxh6 Rxh5
36. d7 Rh2
37. Ne3 Resigns

The e-pawn will queen next move.

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