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 supertournament 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 hattrick, 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) 61/2; 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) 41/2; 12, Larsen

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

R. HUBNER A. KARPOV C6 1. e4

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.	N×e4	Bf5
5.	Ng3	Bg6
6.	h4	h6
7.	Nf3	Nd7
8.	h5	Bh7
9.	Bd3	B×d3
10.	Q×d3	Ngf6
11.	Bf4	e6

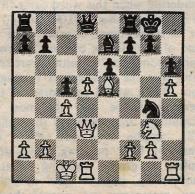
This plan of kingside castling, rather than queenside castling, has been patronised by Larsen in conjunction with the pawn push a5-a4-a3 to weaken White's king position. Hubner proceeds somewhat more circumspectly.

12. 0-0-0

13. Ne5 14. c4

In round nine, also against Hubner, Timman chose the solid 14.N×d7 Q×d7 15.Be5 Rad8 16.Qe2 and Black never quite equalised.

14. ... 15. d5 16. B×e5 N×e5



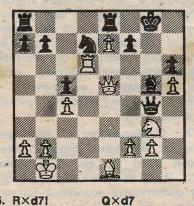
17. B×g7!?

A bold sacrifice, though analysis later revealed Hubner could have stood quite well by declining it with 17 . . . Bg5 ch! 18.Kc2 N×f2.

17. ... 18. Qe2l K×g7? Bg5 chi Nf6 19. Kb1 20. d×e6 Qc8 21. e7 Re8 22. Rd6

A piece down, Karpov calmly builds up the pressure.

22. ... 23. Qe5 24. Re1



25. R×d7! 26. Nf5

Threatening mate on g7. 16

26. ... 27. Qd5 chil

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. ... 28. c×d5 Q×d5 Bf4 29. g3 30. Kc2l Bc7

Spotting the devilish trap 30.N×h6 ch Kh7 31.Nf5 Rad8!! and Black wins! After Karpov's subtle king move, however, Black is curiously helpless.

31. N×h6 ch 32. Nf5 33. d6 Ba5 34. Re6 Rg5 R×h5 35. R×f6 Rh2 37. Ne3 Resigns

MURRAY CHANDLER