

# Subtle Swede

IN JANUARY of this year Soviet ex-world champion Mikhail Tal and Swedish super-grandmaster Ulf Andersson played a match in Malmo, Sweden. It is not entirely clear why this event took place — Tal himself told me, just prior to it, that he didn't know why! Perhaps it was to decide clear third place from the Moscow Interzonal, with an ultimate view to finding a substitute for one of the eight world championship Candidates finalists. That is in the unlikely event that one of these finalists should be unable to play his prescribed championship qualifying match.

If through any reason a Candidate did prove unable to play, it would have been Tal who was still in with a chance. Although the six-game match ended in a 3-3 tie, it was Tal who was declared winner by virtue of his superior tie-break from the Interzonal. Andersson did have the consolation of scoring, in the final game, his first ever win over his Soviet rival after 22 previous attempts (five losses and 17 draws).

Andersson's form over the past year and a quarter has been quite remarkable. He was voted a deserved third place behind Kasparov and Karpov in the chess press's Oscar awards for his 1982 record in world-class events around the globe. He lost a mere four games last year — compared to world champion Karpov's five. Already this year Ulf has won Wijk aan Zee and come second equal in Linares, with his one loss being to Tal in the first clash at Malmo.

Here is the sixth game from the Tal-Andersson match. It is quite long, but illustrates well the subtle play of the "Swedish Capablanca", as he is sometimes known.

## QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

U. ANDERSSON	M. TAL
1. Nf3	d5
2. d4	Nf6
3. c4	e6
4. Bg5	Be7
5. Nc3	h6
6. Bxf6	Bxf6
7. e3	0-0
8. Rc1	

The aggressive 9.Qd2 followed by queenside castling is also possible here, but Andersson prefers a more sedate line known to give White a slight pull.

8. ...	c6
9. Bd3	Nd7
10. 0-0	dxc4
11. Bxc4	e5
12. Bb3	exd4
13. exd4	Re8!

A notable improvement over the game Christiansen-Gligoric, Linares 1981, which went 13...Nb6? 14.Ne5 Nd5 15.Nxd5 cxd5 16.Qd3 with advantage to White.

14. Qd2	Nb6
---------	-----

14...Nf8 15.Rfe1 Be6 16.Bc2 leaves Black's minor pieces somewhat tangled. Tal's strategy is to exchange as many pieces as possible to ease his space disadvantage.

15. Rfe1	Rxe1 ch
16. Rxe1	Bg4!

7. Ne5	Bxe5
18. Rxe5	Nd7
19. Re3	Nf6
20. h3	Bd7
21. Ne4	

21.d5 is met by 21...Be6! 22.d6 Nd5 23.Nxd5 cxd5 24.Bxd5 Qxd6 25.Rd3 Bxd5 26.Rxd5 Qc6 with an equal game.

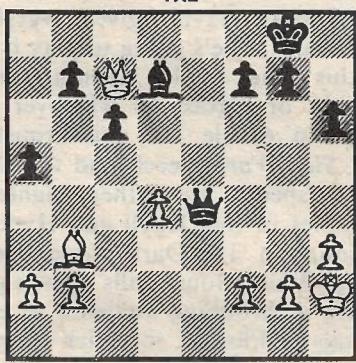
21. ...	Nxe4
22. Rxe4	Qf8!
23. Qf4	Re8
24. Rxe8	Qxe8

With the exchange of everything bar queens and bishops, the worst should be over for Black. Andersson, however, is in his speciality — the endgame.

25. Kh2!	a5?!
25...Bc8 was safer — 26.Qb8 a5 27.Qc7 Qd7.	

26. Qc7	Qe4!
---------	------

Tal puts his faith in active defence. 27.Qxd7 Qf4 ch 28.Kg1 Qc1 ch would now allow an immediate draw. Therefore Andersson elects to win a pawn at the cost of transposing to a queens-only ending — a type notoriously difficult to win because of constant perpetual check threats by the defending side.



ANDERSSON	
27. Bxf7 ch	Kxf7
28. Qxd7 ch	Kg8
29. Kg3!	Qd3 ch
30. f3	Qd2
31. b3!	

A clever resource to keep the extra pawn — 31...Qxa2 32.Qxb7. Instead 31.Qxb7 immediately fails to 31...Qg5 ch and the king will never escape the checks.

31. ...	b5?
---------	-----

After 31...Qe1 ch 32.Kh2 Qb4! Andersson would still have tremendous technical difficulties to win. Now the Swede is able to centralise his queen while gaining time on the clock.

32. Qe6 ch	Kh8
33. Qe8 ch	Kh7
34. Qe4 ch	Kh8
35. Qe8 ch	Kh7
36. Qe4 ch	Kh8
37. a4	Qc3?

A blunder, probably due to time-trouble, which loses a second pawn. After 37...bxa4 38.bxa4 Qc3 White must still work to make progress.

38. Qe8 ch	Kh7
39. Qe4 ch	Kh8
40. axb5	cxb5
41. Qe8 ch	Kh7
42. Qxb5	Qxd4
43. Qxa5	Qd6 ch
44. Kf2	Qd4 ch
45. Ke2	Qb2 ch
46. Qd2!	Qxb3
47. Qd3 ch	Qxd3 ch
48. Kxd3	Kg6
49. Ke4	Kf6
50. f4	h5

and Black resigns

The king and pawn ending is a theoretically forced win for White.

MURRAY CHANDLER