CHESS

Chequemate

by Murray Chandler

S CHESS on the verge of a big-time circuit to rival tennis or golf? Soviet World Champion Garri Kasparov wants one and has already formed a Grandmasters Association to help fulfil it. At the latest meeting of this embryonic body, held immediately after the Brussels super-tournament in April, the formation of a world grand prix circuit was high on the agenda. At present strong grandmaster tournaments are organised by many different countries, but haphazardly. Kasparov's goal is for a circuit of bigmoney super-tournaments, with extra prizes for the most successful players overall. Interest from potential sponsors is apparently high, and GMA politburo members (who include Jan Timman, Ljubomir Ljubojevic and Bent Larsen) may soon be dispatched to various countries for negotiations.

If such a world grand prix does materialise, Brussels will surely be one of the venues. Belgium, which can boast only a few international masters, staged no events of major significance till recently. Now, with the injection of considerable finance from the Swift Corporation, they have hosted three super-tournaments in succession. The latest was won jointly by Kasparov and the Yugoslav No 1 Ljubojevic. Both made the fantastic score of 81/2 points out of 11 games; Ljubojevic's finest result and even Kasparov gained rating points. Going into the final round Ljubojevic was a half point ahead, but took a quick draw with White against Anatoly Karpov. This allowed Kasparov to catch up by demolishing Mikhail Tal.

There were also some curious disasters. England's Nigel Short had a truly wretched time, but even he couldn't cap a dreadful hallucination by Viktor Korchnoi, the former Soviet who now plays for Switzerland, in a game against Karpov.

Karpov had just advanced a pawn, attacking Korchnoi's knight. In a "flurry of confusion" (to quote the official bulletin) Korchnoi touched his king, leaving his attacked knight en prise. When he realised what he had done Korchnoi swept the pieces from the board.

A much better Korchnoi loss was this important opening theory game from round five, magnificently handled by Dutch grandmaster Timman.

199,14	FRENCH	DERENCE
TIMMAN	TAPE 20	KORCHNOI
1. e4	ALL DESIGNA	e6
2. d4		d5
3. Nc3	in the same	Nf6
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200 200			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1. Ljubojevic	Yug	- 2620	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	81/2
Kasparov	USSR	2735	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	1,3	81/2
3. Karpov	USSR	2710	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	7
4. Timman	Hol	2590	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	61/2
Korchnoi	Sz	2625	0	1/2	0	0	X	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	61/2
6. Tal	USSR	2605	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	x	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	4	6
7. Larsen	Den	2565	0	0	1/2	1	0	1/2	X	1/2	1	0	1	1	51/2
8. Van der Wiel	Hol	2590	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	
Torre	Phil "	2540	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	72 X	1/2	1/2		5
10. Winants	Bel	2415	0	0	1/2	0	0	0	1	0				1	5
11. Short	Eng	2615	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	X	1/2		31/2
12. Meulders	Bel	2360	0	0	0	1/2	0	0			1/2	1/2	X	1	3
	Dei	2300	•	U	U	72	U	0	0	1/2	0	0	0	X	1

4.	e5	Nfd7
5.	f4	c5
6.	Nf3	Nc6
7.	Be3	Qb6
8.	Na4	Qa5 ch
9.	c3	c×d4
10.	b4!	

Not 10. N×d4 N×d4 11. B×d4 b5! winning for Black. Now 10... Qc7 11. N×d4 favours White, so Korchnoi embarks on a well-known piece-for-three pawns sacrifice that till now has been thought unclear.

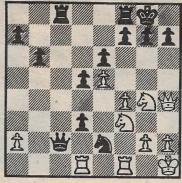
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10.			N×b4	
11.	c×b4		B×b4	ch
12.	Bd2		B×d2	ch
13.	N×d2		b6	
14.	Bd3!			

New, natural and strong. White makes no attempt to round up the black pawn on d4, going instead for fast development.

14.		Ba6
15.	Nb2	B×d3
16.	N×d3	Nc5
17.	Nf2!	Na4
18.	0-0	Nc3
19.	Qg4	0-0
20.	Nf3	Rac8
	Qh4	A STATE OF THE STA

21. f5!? was also promising, but not 21. N×d4 Rc4 22. Nf3 R×f4 intending 23. Q×f4 Ne2 ch.

21	0a4
22. Ng4	Ne2 ch
23. Kh1	Qc2
24. Rae1	d3
25. Rd1!	



The key move. Although White's pieces loom around the black kingside, Korchnoi's advanced d-pawn has become a dangerous counter-threat. The premature 25. f5 d2 26. Ng5 h6 27. N×h6 ch g×h6*28. Q×h6 allows Black the spectacular defence 28. . . . Q×f5!! and if 29. R×f5 d×e1=Q and mates.

		o with a win
25.		h6
26.	N×h6 ch!	g×h6
27.	Q×h6	f6
28.	e×f6	Rc7
29.	Ne5	Rh7

29.... Ng3 ch 30. h×g3 Rh731. f7 ch R×f7 32. N×f7 nets White two rooks and a knight — too much for one queen.

30. Qg6 ch30. . . . Kh8 31. f7 threatens 32. Qf6 ch Rg7

33. R×d3 with mate by 34. Rh3 to follow. ■

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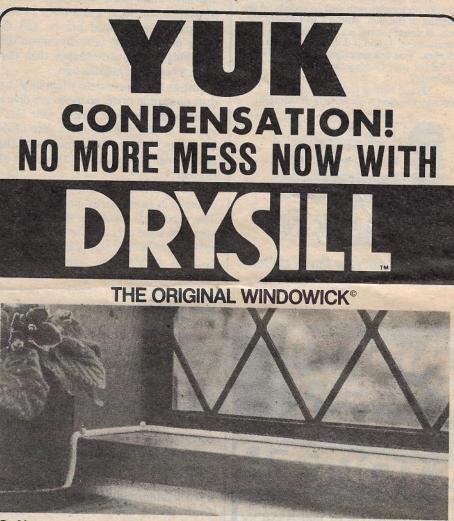
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