CHESS Wholly terror

by Murray Chandler

T'S TIME, I think, to dig out those old game scores and see how many wins one had against Nigel Short when he was a kiddy. So far this year the 21-year-old English grandmaster has swept through two supertournaments and will probably be terrorising another by the time you read this. His latest victory was outright first prize of \$US10,000 at the Revkjavik supertournament in Iceland, ahead of several world class contemporaries. His formula seems simple enough. First you win all your games at the beginning (5/6 in Wijk aan Zee, 6/6 in Reykjavik). Then you cruise home with draws, and perhaps the odd loss to an Icelander (keeps the natives happy). In Holland's Wijk aan Zee tournament in January Victor Korchnoi managed, by heroic efforts, to catch Short and tie for first. There was little chance of that in Iceland.

Like the young Russian, Andrei Sokolov - just ousted by Anatoly Karpov in the World Championship Candidates Final at Linares - Short has made a quantum leap in the past 18 months. Already No 8 on the January 1987 international Elo rating list, Short must now rank as a potential challenger to Soviet superstar Garri Kasparov. But this probably has nothing to do with Kasparov's current campaign to have the World Championship revert back to a three-year cycle, so that he won't have to defend his title so soon. Understandably Kasparov says he is sick of playing Karpov so much; when these two clash as scheduled in another Brussels supertournament this month it will be their 100th game! Unfortunately for Kasparov, Karpov's win over Sokolov means another K-K slugging match.

Listener readers will already have seen one of Short's early wins from Iceland, against Yugoslav grandmaster Lubomir Ljubojevic, last column. This game from round six, against Dutch No 1 Jan Timman, also features a brilliant burst of finishing tactics.

	FRENCH	I DEFENC	CE
N SHORT		J TIMMAI	N
1. e4		e6	AND AND
2. d4		d5	-
3. Nc3		Bb4	
4. e5		c5	
5. a3		B×c3 ch	
6. b×c3		Ne7	1
7. Nf3	i ma-	Qa5	
Aiming	for the i	nteresting	new io

tea 8. Bd2 Nc6 9. Be2 c×d4 10. c×d4 Qa4! as in Short-Korchnoi, Brussels 1986, among other games.

Eng

Hol

Sz

USSR

2615 x 1/2

1. Short

Timman

4: Korchnoi

2. Tal

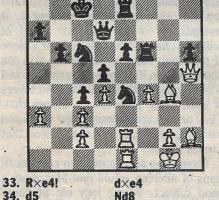
8.	Qd2!?	Bd7
9.	Rb1	Bc6
10.	Bd3	Nd7
11.	0-0	c4
12.	Be2	h6
13.	h4	0-0-0
14.	Bd1	f5
15.	e×f6 e.p.	N×f6?
	c	11 . 1

A few moves later this knight is expelled from the e4 square, and Black's e-pawn comes under attack. Instead 15. ... g×f6! looks fine for Timman.

	o jereo j	01 1 0110110		
16.	Qe1		Ne4	Ann our
17.	Rb4		Rhf8	
18.	Ne5		Qc7	tor a vil
19.	Bg4		Rf6	
20.			Nd6	
21.	Bh3	and the second	Bd7	
22.	Rf2	- interest	Nc6	
23.	Rb1		Nf7	
24.	N×d7		Q×d7	
	Bf4!		g5	

In 10 moves the position has been transformed. Both White bishops will secure menacing diagonals, as 25. ... R×f4? 26.B×e6 would cost Black the queen. 26. Re? Re8

		1100	
IJ	f 26	g×f4 27. R×e6 wins.	
27.	Bh2	g×h4	
28.	Q×h4	Ng5	
29.	Bg4	Qg7	
80.	Rbe1	b6	
31.	Qh5	Qd7	
32.	f4	Ne4	
		S I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	



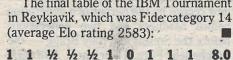
34. d5 35. Qe5!

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The point to White's lovely positional exchange sacrifice. Next move Black will be painfully caught on the diagonals by 36. f5!, threatening Qb8 checkmate. 35. . Rf5

36. d×e6! Ignoring Timman's desperate attempt to close the position; now 36.... $R \times e5$ 37. $e \times d7$ ch wins. 36. ... Od2 37. Q×e4 Rd5 38. e7 dis.ch Kc7 39. f5 dis.ch Resigns 39. ... Kb7 40. Rd1 is one way to go. The final table of the IBM Tournament





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