

CHESS

ROBERT BYRNE

A New Grandmaster Is Added

Kenneth Rogoff of Somerville, Mass., was awarded the grandmaster title at the general assembly of the International Chess Federation in Buenos Aires during the recent World Chess Olympiad. There had been no question about the caliber of Rogoff's play over the last five years, only whether he would compete in events for which grandmaster qualifying norms were established. When tournament invitations are passed out, they go first to established grandmasters.

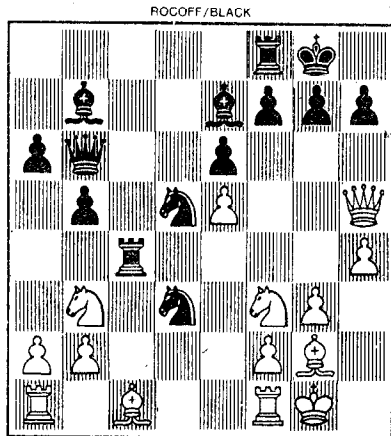
Rogoff remarked, "As you know, my rating is higher than almost 60 percent of the world's grandmasters, so I'm glad that I don't have to be bitter about it any more."

Rogoff's inclusion swells the ranks of United States grandmasters to 13, the third largest number in the world. The Soviet Union has 35 and Yugoslavia 21.

In style, Rogoff is a man for all seasons, combining clear strategy with sharp tactics, as can be seen in his encounter with Grandmaster Samuel Reshevsky in the 1978 Louis D. Statham International Tournament in Lone Pine, Calif.

The capture with 6... PxP is one of the most effective ways of meeting the Catalan Opening because, while the white queen uses time recovering the pawn with 7 Q-R4, P-QR3; 8 QxBP, Black advances smoothly with 8... P-QN4; 9 Q-B2, making way for a counter-fianchetto on the long diagonal with 9... B-N2.

The most promising way to work for



Position After 18 Q-R5

the initiative would have been 10 B-B4; instead Reshevsky chose the slower, more cumbersome 10 QN-Q2. After 10... QN-Q2, it was not possible for White to prevent... P-B4 by playing 11 N-N3, since 11... B-K5; 12 Q-Q1, P-B4 would have given Black no problems.

It was consistent for Reshevsky to advance with 11 P-K4, P-B4; 12 P-K5, but after 12... N-Q4; 13 Q-K4, Q-N3, the white center was overextended and flimsy. On 14 PxP, NxBP, Rogoff achieved a clear advantage in development.

Reshevsky should have attempted to complete his mobilization with 16 N-N3 (not 16 N-K4?, P-KR4 winning a piece), but instead held some vague hope of a kingside attack with 16 P-KR4? On 16... N-Q6, he still could not play 17 N-K4? because of 17... NxP; 18 QRxN,

N-K6! winning the exchange.

On Rogoff's powerful 17... R-B5, it's understandable that Reshevsky did not want to consign his queen to a backwater with 18 Q-R3, but his 18 Q-R5 was sharply exploited by 18... P-B4! Rogoff's most obvious threat was 19... B-QB3 and 20... B-K1, trapping the queen, but he also threatened 19... RxB!; 20 QRxR, N/4-B5!, winning the queen.

There was no way for Reshevsky to avoid material loss and decisive positional disadvantage, but his 19 PxPc.p. permitted Rogoff to force the win of a piece by 19... NxP/3; 20 Q-N5, BxN!; 21 BxB, N-Q4; 22 Q-R5, P-N3. This would have been a good place for Reshevsky to resign, but, undoubtedly angry with himself over such a drubbing, he chose to go on as self-punishment.

Finally having had enough after 33... Q-N5, he resigned.

CATALAN OPENING

White Reshevsky	Black Rogoff	White Reshevsky	Black Rogoff
1 P-Q4	N-KB3	18 Q-R5	P-B4
2 P-QB4	P-K3	19 PxPe.p.	NxP/3
3 P-KN3	P-Q4	20 Q-N5	BxN
4 B-N2	B-K2	21 BxB	N-Q4
5 N-KB3	0-0	22 Q-R5	P-N3
6 0-0	PxP	23 QxN	PxQ
7 Q-R4	P-QR3	24 BxPch	K-N2
8 QxBP	P-QN4	25 B-K3	Q-Q3
9 Q-B2	B-N2	26 B-N2	NxNP
10 QN-Q2	QN-Q2	27 QR-N1	B-B3
11 P-K4	P-B4	28 N-Q2	Q-R6
12 P-K5	N-Q4	29 NxR	PxN
13 Q-K4	Q-N3	30 P-N4	K-R1
14 PxP	NxBP	32 P-N5	B-N2
15 Q-KN4	QR-B1	32 KR-K1	P-B6
16 P-KR4	N-Q6	33 B-K4	Q-N5
17 N-N3	R-B5	34 Resigns.	

DO NOT FORGET THE NEEDIEST!

