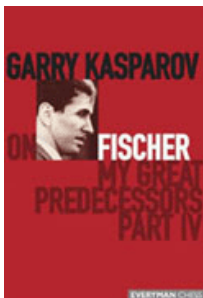




SKITTLES ROOM

From the Archives

Hosted by Mark Donlan



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From the Archives...

Since it came online many years ago, [ChessCafe.com](#) has presented literally thousands of articles, reviews, columns and the like for the enjoyment of its worldwide readership. The good news is that almost all of this high quality material remains available in the [Archives](#). The bad news is that this great collection of chess literature is now so large and extensive – and growing each week – that it is becoming increasingly difficult to navigate it effectively. We decided that the occasional selection from the archives posted publicly online might be a welcomed addition to the regular fare.

Watch for an item to be posted online periodically throughout each month. We will update the [ChessCafe.com](#) home page whenever there has been a “new” item posted here. We hope you enjoy *From the Archives*...

Bent Larsen Letter

April 22, 1972

Danish Grandmaster Bent Larsen has been one of the most popular players internationally for over four decades. Many believe that he was in his prime in the late 1960s, rivaling Bobby Fischer as the strongest player in the West. When the following letter was written, Fischer had smashed his way through matches with Taimanov, Larsen himself and former world champion Tigran Petrosian to become the official challenger of the reigning world champion, Boris Spassky. Here is a most interesting letter written to the US Chess Federation's Executive Director, and, more importantly, Fischer's confidante, Ed Edmondson.

From: Bent Larsen
To: Ed Edmondson
Date: April 22, 1972

Hello Ed,

You probably have enough worries, about the match, just now. Anyway: I have not heard from Dobsich yet. But if there are possibilities to arrange a few exhibitions after the US Open, I am all for it. And maybe a Labor Day weekend tournament.

About the "Fried Chicken" I have also had a letter from Kotanowski. He wants biography, that is easy. And measurements for a blazer? That's a new chess problem.

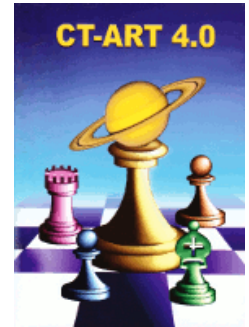
My tournament plans this year include Las Palmas (Canary Islands) 28/5-18/6. And Hastings. But not the olympiad, thanks to Elo.

I had not read Andric' article. Some of those Yugoslav chess journalists are horrible. I shall write to Ken Smith about it.

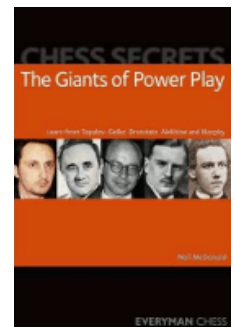
Here, I play weakly and luckily and lead with 3 of 4. The Russians cabled two days before the start that Tal and Vasyukov could not come. Not very nice.

About Bobby: It seems he spoilt the advantage you had got for him, to play first half the match in Beograd. A man from BBC said Iceland was still willing to have the whole match. So why Euwe's desperate discussions in Australia?? Apologies for my handwriting. Regards to Nancy.

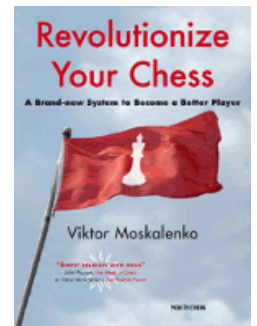
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Best wishes,
Bent Larsen

This article first appeared at ChessCafe.com in June, 1998.

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