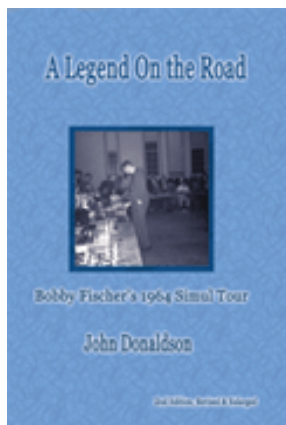




**SKITTLES
ROOM**



A Legend on the Road
by John Donaldson

In 1994, Yasser Seirawan's Inside Chess Enterprises released a book by John Donaldson called *Legend on the Road: Bobby Fischer's 1964 Simultaneous Exhibition Tour*. It was well received and soon sold out. Since that first edition, the author has discovered much new material and dozens of additional games from that tour. A second, revised and enlarged edition has just been released by Russell Enterprises, Inc. We hope you this excerpt from pages 137-142 of the new edition...

Excerpt:

Legend on the Road:

*Bobby Fischer's 1964 Simultaneous
Exhibition Tour*

by John Donaldson

Sacramento, April 15
+47, -2, =1

Chess Titleist Beats 47 Simultaneously
Sacramento Bee, April 16, 1964:

United States Chess Champion Robert J. Fischer of Brooklyn played a 50-board simultaneous exhibition last night at McClellan Air Force Base.

He defeated 47, a few of them this area's stronger players, and drew one and lost two.

Winners were Marlon Sanders of Manteca, San Joaquin county, and Mark Holgerson of Sacramento. The draw went to Airman Second Class Charles Singleton of McClellan, who promoted Fischer's appearance in the capital.

Chuck Singleton remembers Bobby's visit well:

Bobby took the bus from San Francisco to Sacramento where I met him at the Greyhound station at 6:45 p.m. the night of the exhibition. A big crowd was there to meet him at McClellan Air Force base, site of the simul, and had he

wanted to he could easily have played 75 to 100 boards. As it was, he made short work of the 50 who faced him, with the exhibition only lasting 2½ hours. My game was the last to finish and afterwards we went to Shakey's for some pizza and beer, where we talked about chess until three in the morning.

The following day we went over to Colonel Ed Edmondson's (USCF President) home for a cookout. Bobby played Las Vegas chess (a derivative of chess with dice) with Walter Harris, the first black player to achieve a master rating. Later that day I drove him to Davis for his clock simul. There I got to hear him give another great lecture. The night before, at the suggestion of Dr. Alex Janushkowsky, he had demonstrated his game with Addison from the 1963-64 U.S. Championship. Despite having no time to prepare, Fischer ad-libbed perfectly. At Davis he showed his game with Benko, another of his victories on the way to an 11-0 result at the Championship.

When the last game in Davis ended I drove him back to McClellan where he was staying at the Officer's billets. The following morning he flew south for his next exhibition.

What follows is one amateur's account of what it was like to beat Fischer.

(131) Caro-Kann B18

Fischer - M. Sanders

Sacramento (simul), April 15, 1964

Notes by Marlon Sanders.

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4

Seems like masters hate to play d4 on the second move but here we are by transposition.

3...dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Nc5 e6

His fifth move I had never seen. I questioned my 5...e6 at the time but it may have been the winning move?

6.Nxb7

What now, chump? You are playing a Grandmaster with one pawn down. He can beat you with that pawn. He can even beat you without it! Don't quit now. Try to get a few pieces out.

6...Qc7 7.Nc5 Nf6 8.Nb3 Be7

You feel better now with eight moves on the board.

9.Nf3 h6

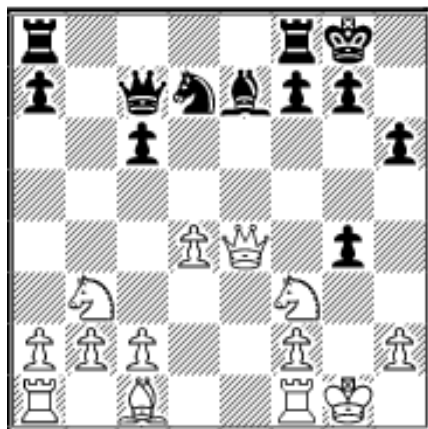
Ordinarily you would trade off his dangerous bishop but here it would only help him gain time.

10.Bd3 O-O 11.Bxf5 exf5 12.O-O Nbd7 13.Qd3 Ne4

The pawn cannot be defended directly.

14.g4 fxg4 15.Qxe4

Now you see that after 15...gxf3 he gets 16.Qxe7 and you can resign. He is coming closer to your board. Quick: think of something! You thought very seriously of resigning here.



15...Nf6

The surprise is you ever thought of it.

16.Qf5 gxf3 17.Qxf3 Bd6

You are two moves ahead and still a pawn down.

18.Bxh6 Bxh2+

You were afraid to play 18...gxh6; maybe there was more there than you can see.

19.Kh1 Qd7

You thought any other move loses. Now if 20.Qg2 or 20.Kxh2, you play ...Ng4+ and ...Nxb6 next.

20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Nc5 Qxd4

Still covering your g4.

22.Rg1+ Bxg1 23.Rxg1+ Kh8

He is looking at your board a long time the last few moves.

24. 0-1

You are more surprised than anybody! (*Chess Correspondent*, July 1964)

(132) Vienna Game C29

Fischer - M. Holgerson

Sacramento (simul), April 15, 1964

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 d5 4.Qf3?!

A move that has escaped *ECO*'s attention. Whether it was a conscious attempt to try something new or an accident is hard to say. Holgerson, who was 17 at the time, mentions that he was playing with a red and white plastic set with the kings five inches tall. His metal board, made by a friend in shop class, had copper and brass squares. An old Spielmann line in the Vienna goes 4.fxe5 Nxe4 5.Qf3.

4...Bc5 5.exd5 Bg4 6.Qg3 O-O 7.h3 Bd7 8.Nge2 e4 9.Qh4 Na6 10.a3 c6 11.b4 Bd6 12.dxc6 bxc6 13.Bb2 Qb6 14.O-O-O Rfe8 15.g4 c5 16.g5



16...Nh5!

An odd but very effective move. If the knight is taken, 17...cxb4 18.axb4 Qxb4 with ...Rb8 in the offing is fatal.

**17.Bg2 cxb4 18.Nd5 Qb7 19.Nf6+ Nxf6
20.gxf6 bxa3 21.Bc3 a2 22.d3 e3! 0-1**

23.Bxb7 Ba3+ 24.Bb2 Qa1 (or Ra1) mate.
(O.G.)

(133) Sicilian B27

Fischer - C. Singleton

Sacramento (simul), April 15, 1964

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 b6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bb7 5.Nc3 e6 6.Bd3 Bb4 7.Qg4 Qf6 8.Be3 h5 9.Qg3 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Qg6 11.Qc7 Bxe4 12.Nb5 Bxd3 13.cxd3 Qxg2 14.O-O-O Na6 15.Qe5 f6 16.Qd4 Qc6 17.c4 Ne7 18.Nd6+ Kf8 19.Rhg1 e5 20.Qe4 Qxe4 21.dxe4 Nb4 22.a3 Nbc6 23.c5 Nc8 24.Nxc8 Rxc8 25.Rxd7 Rg8 26.Kb2 b5 27.Rgxg7 Rgx7 28.Bh6 Ne7 29.Bxg7+ Kxg7 30.Rxe7+ Kg6 31.Rxa7 Rxc5 32.h4 Rc4 33.f3 Rd4 34.Rc7 35.Rc3 Rd2+ 36.Rc2 Rd3 37.Rc3 Rd2+ 38.Kb3 Rh2 39.Kb4 Rxh4 40.Kxb5 f5 41.exf5+ Kxf5 42.a4 Rh1 43.a5 h4 44.Rc4 h3 45.Rh4 h2 46.Ka6 Kg5 47.Rh3 Kf4 48.Ka7 e4 49.fxe4 Kxe4 50.a6 Kd5 51.Ka8 Kc6 52.a7 Kc7 53.Rh8 Kd7 Draw

(134) Center Counter B01

Fischer - S. Rubin

Sacramento (simul), April 15, 1964

Notes by Sid Rubin.

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.dxc6 Nxc6 5.Nc3 e5 6.d3 Bc5 7.Be2 Bf5 8.Nf3 Ng4 9.O-O Qb6 10.Qe1 Nb4 11.h3 Nxf2

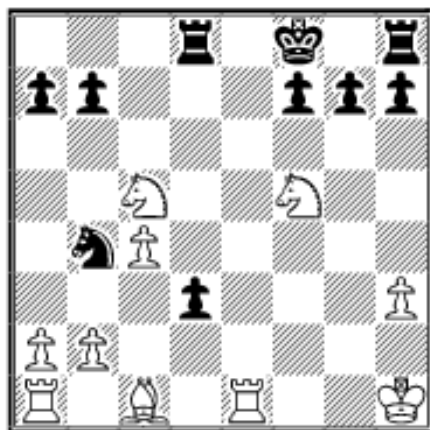
Why not 11...Bxf2+ 12.Rxf2 Nc2. If 13.Qf1 Qxf2+; if 13.Nd5 Nxe1 14.Nxb6 Nxf3+ [Editor's Note: It would appear that 15.Rxf3 axb6 16.Rxf5 Nf6 17.Rxe5+

Kd7 18.Bf3 leaves White a piece up]; if 13.Na4 Qc6.

12.d4 exd4 13.Na4 Nxb3+ 14.gxh3 d3+

Better seems 14...Qb6+ 15.Kh1 Nc2 16.Qf2 Bd6.

15.Kh1 Qe6 16.Nxc5 Qxe2 17.Nd4 Qxe1+ 18.Rxe1+ Kf8 19.Nxf5 Rd8



As 19...Nc2? 20.Nd7+ mates.

**20.Bf4 Nc2 21.Bd6+ Kg8 22.Ne7+ Kf8
23.Ng6+ Kg8 24.Nxh8 Nxe1 25.Rxe1 d2
26.Rd1 Rxd6 27.Ne4 Rd8 28.Nxf7 Kxf7
29.Rxd2 Rxd2 30.Nxd2 Ke6 31.Kg2 Ke5
32.Kf3 Kd4 33.Ke2 h6 34.b4 g5 35.c5 a6
36.a4 a5(?)**

Hastening the end.

37.Nb3+ Kc4 38.Nxa5+ Kxb4 39.Nxb7 1-0

(O.G.)

The following article and game score come from a column by Richard Fauber and Frank Garosi in the *Sacramento Bee*, June 15, 1980:

In January 1964, the legendary Bobby Fischer won another U.S. Championship by going 11-0. The invincible Fischer squashed his leading American rivals like so many bugs. He then went on to demonstrate his prowess to crowds of admiring amateurs.

Reader George W. Flynn has sent us some interesting observations on Fischer's 50-board simultaneous exhibition at McClellan Air Force Base, April 15, 1964.

"First of all, Bobby requested that absolutely no flash pictures be taken during the exhibition, although such pictures were permitted before play. To me this is early evidence that Fischer's light sensitivity is entirely genuine and not a temperamental pose.

"Second, his memory is indeed photographic. In response to an audience question, Fischer played over on a demonstration board his game, originally played months earlier with Bill Addison. His comments were in depth and without notes."

Even more revealing is the awe Fischer inspired in his opponents, Flynn continues: "About moves 25 to 30, I offered to draw! I was a pawn-grabber's pawn ahead and yet reasonably certain the axe was going to drop on me sooner or later. I expected a display of Fischer temperament, since I doubted the etiquette of my own action. Fischer showed no irritation whatever. He even took

the offer seriously ... His eyes moved rapidly back and forth over the board, obviously calculating the endgame. Satisfied, he smiled and said, 'Let's play a little longer.'

(135) Sicilian Hyper-Accelerated Dragon B27

Fischer – G. Flynn

Sacramento (simul), April 15, 1964

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c5

This move order is a favorite of Canadian IM Lawrence Day.

4.dxc5

This move is the only real try to attempt to refute Black's setup. 4.Nf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 transposes into the Accelerated Dragon and 4.d5 is a Schmidt Benoni.

4...Qa5 5.Nf3

Natural, but there is also something to be said for 5.Bd2 Qxc5 6.Nd5 b6 7.Be3 Qc6 8.Bb5 Qb7 9.Bd4 f6 10.Nf3 with a big advantage for White, Mestel-Day, Lucerne Olympiad 1982.

5...Nc6 6.Bd3 Bxc3+

This move might look risky, but Black didn't have a lot of choice, as 6...Qxc5 was strongly met by 7.Nd5.

7.bxc3 Qxc3+

Going whole hog. Black wins a pawn, but White has excellent compensation.

8.Bd2 Qxc5 9.O-O Nf6 10.Re1 d6 11.Rb1 a6 12.Be3 Qh5 13.h3 Nd7

Here 13...O-O was safer.

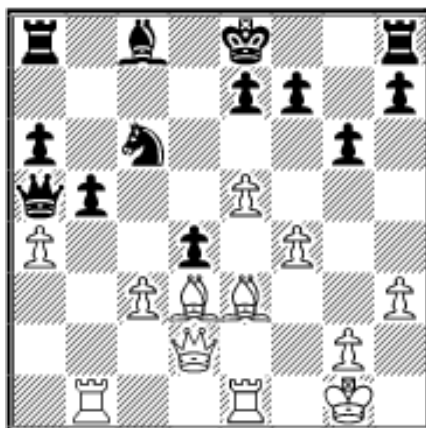
14.Qd2 Nde5 15.Nxe5 Qxe5

If 15...Nxe5, 16.Be2 is awkward for Black's queen.

16.f4 Qa5 17.c3 b5

Flynn fearlessly leaves his king in the center. 17...O-O was better.

18.e5 d5 19.a4 d4



20.Be4 dxe3 21.Bxc6+ Kf8 22.Qxe3 Rb8
23.axb5 axb5 24.c4 b4 25.c5 Bf5 26.Ra1
Qc7 27.Be4?

Bobby would have retained his advantage
with 27.Bd5 Kg7 28.c6. The text blunders a
pawn and leaves Fischer fighting for the half-
point.

**27...Bxe4 28.Qxe4 Qxc5+ 29.Kh2 e6
30.Rec1 Qb5 31.Rc7 Kg7 32. Raa7 Rhf8
33.Rcb7 Rxb7 34.Rxb7 Qd5 35.Qxd5 exd5
36.Rxb4 Rd8 37.Rd4 f6 38.Kg3 f5 Draw**

Flynn adds: "Fischer was very friendly to me. After the exhibition he hurried out into the hallway, put his hands on the wall above his head and seemed to be panting from exhaustion. He recovered quickly and started signing scoresheets. I was the second player to reach him and he commented that I had played 'a nice game.' The first player to have his scoresheet signed spoke up and said, 'Say, you signed it "R. Fischer." Can't you sign it Bobby Fischer?'

"Bobby never replied, but his expression changed to complete disgust and he stared at the man for a long 30 seconds, then turned away and began a brief but pleasant conversation with me.

"It was the only sign of 'The Fischer Temper' and I thought it not entirely without justification."

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