Lec 24

Tuesday, November 30, 2021  10:45 AM

1. Will is a nice guy, but a little clueless.
2. Like, the other day, he bought a book of crosswords for me,
   but he mailed it book-rate,
3. so it took forever to arrive.
4. Oh, remind me to show you the last puzzle in it sometime—
   it has these two really fiendish clues you would love.
5. Anyway, it took almost three weeks before I finally got it.
6. Anyway, they combine to form an anagram of the final answer.

Example 4

1. MR. ASHLEY: Welcome to the ACM chess challenge. I’m Maurice Ashley. My
   2. partner is Yasser Seirwan. Garry Kasparov is playing against IBM’s
   3. Deep Blue, and we want everyone to have a chance to do it.
Deep Blue, and as most everybody here knows, he is down. I didn’t
already. So Kasparov needing to play well in order to come back. A big
question for him is whether or not he can handle the psychological
pressure of being down against the computer that, first of all,
everybody thought he was going to beat, including himself and, second
of all, he simply has no idea how strong it is because this version
that they’re using has never been tested and is clearly playing some
terrific chess.

Yasser, yesterday’s game was a model of computer cold-bloodedness.

MR. SEIRAWAN: Precision.

MR. ASHLEY: It just did not care about Kasparov’s attack and just
ripped him off the board. It was unbelievable.

MR. SEIRAWAN: It’s terrible. I’m still recovering.

(Laughter.)

MR. SEIRAWAN: Actually, prior to the match I had said, okay, it’s
great. This is wonderful. There’s a lot of hype, the best computer
the world versus the best human player in the world. Well, it’s no
contest. Garry is going to just win. And I would be shocked, shocked
if the computer won any game. So naturally --

MR. ASHLEY: So you’re in shock.

MR. SEIRAWAN: I’m in shock.

So naturally Deep Blue won the first, and just as you were saying,
Maurice, I can’t fault any single move that the computer made.

We had dinner last night together with a group of ourselves, and we
just kept going through the game at various stages, and we said, this
is a very, very serious opponent for Garry. This is a very legitimate
match, and of course now that Garry is down a point, he’s got to prove
himself. Yesterday I had spoken about the fact that in tennis — and
again I’m probably misattributing the quote. It was of Rod Laver, when
he was going to sum up his opponent, he said, I only need to see 3
shots. I need to see the forehand, backhand and the serve, and then I
will tell you how long or how many sets the match is going to last
before I win.

And Garry said the same thing on Friday at the press conference. He
said basically I need to see the computer on offense, on defense, and
then the match is going to be mine. So he basically saw the first 2
games as just being his ability to sum up his opponent and then
vanquish him in the latter half of the match.

Well, that may still work, but he’s got his work cut out for him. He’s
made it more difficult for himself.

MR. ASHLEY: What about the psychological pressure on him? From what
I’ve seen, I’ve seen Kasparov down in matches before. He was down
against Anand in game 9. He was down against Kramnik in the Paris leg
of the Gran Prix tournament and came back and won. In each case
Kasparov seems to bounce back from matches. He is not just the kind of
guy who goes down in chess games and falls apart.