

C04

□ Tal

■ Vaganian

Dubna

1973

1.e4 Tal wins in twelve moves against a fellow Grandmaster! **e6 2.d4 d5** The French Defence. **3.Nd2 Nc6** More common is 3...c5 to fight for the center. **4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.e5 Nd7 6.Nb3 f6** Necessary in order to break up White's pawn center. **7.Bb5** Developing the Bishop to where it helps to control the center – by pinning the c6 Knight ahead of time, or threatening to exchange it if necessary. **fxe5 8.dxe5 Nc5?** A third move for the Knight!
9.Ng5 Tal has a better center pawn than his opponent. The White e pawn sits solidly on the 5th rank, giving White a space advantage of 5 ranks to his opponent's 4. **Bd7?** [9...Nxb3 10.axb3 Bc5 And Black is surviving.] **10.Bxc6 bxc6** The Bishop must defend the e6 pawn.
11.Qh5+ Played to bring up Black's g-pawn. **g6 12.Qf3!** Black Resigned. He cannot defend the 7th Rank and the c5 Knight at the same time. Here is the continuation Tal was intending had play continued: [12.Qf3! Qe7 13.Nxc5 Qxc5 14.Qf7+ Kd8 15.Qf6+ And White wins a Rook – the point behind 11.Qh5+!]
1-0