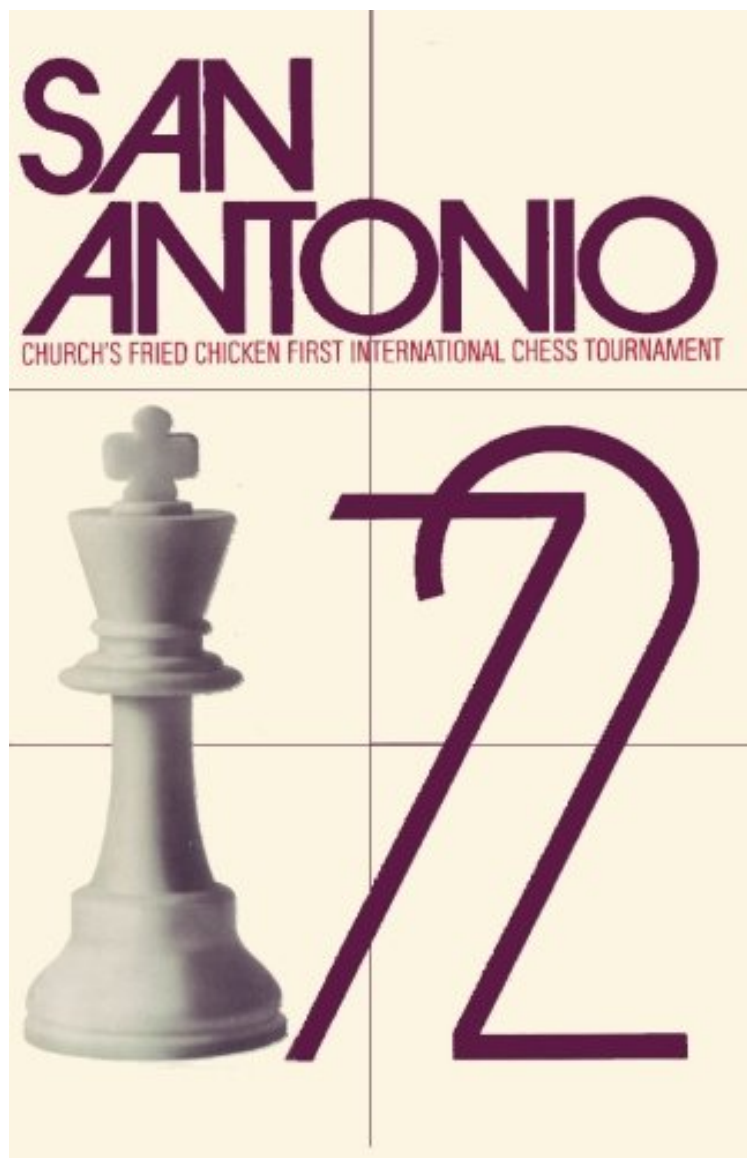


(Free) San Antonio, 1972: Church's Fried Chicken, Inc. First International Chess Tournament

## San Antonio, 1972: Church's Fried Chicken, Inc. First International Chess Tournament

*Bent Larsen, David Levy, Bill Church*  
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**Bent Larsen, David Levy, Bill Church : San Antonio, 1972: Church's Fried Chicken, Inc. First International Chess Tournament** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised San Antonio, 1972: Church's Fried Chicken, Inc. First International Chess Tournament:

1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Includes funniest chess note ever by Larsen.By Chess Book

AddictKen Smith who always played the Morra Gambit goes 1. E4. His opponent does not play Sicilian and Larsen comments '1...c5 wins a pawn'8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Way Overpriced For A Mediocre EffortBy Jerry LI am generally reluctant to spend \$26.00 for a chess book, but sponsor Bill Church went all out to attract some of the world's best players at the time - Petrosian, Karpov, Portisch, Larsen and Gligoric among them - in order to promote chess in America.This book is not worthy of the tournament. Annotations are sparse (or nonexistent) and most are by Levy and Bent Larsen.A good tournament book will have a summary of each round with details of the most important games and comments by the players. Not in this book. There is some biographical material on each player. There are also two articles, one offering lame comments on directing the tournament by TD George Koltanowski, and the other consisting of the observations of a reporter covering her first chess tournament.And for \$26.00 I expect a lot of at the board photographs and some interviews with the top players. The only pictures were small head shots of the players in the corner of their bios.I was looking forward to a good read to go along with the games but I could have done just as well by pulling the games from a Chess Informant database.

San Antonio 1972 was either the strongest chess tournament ever played in the history of the United States or, if not the very strongest, then second only to New York 1924. What makes this book especially great is not merely was it a great tournament with great players, but that the players annotated some of their own games. In this day and age, there are millions of games in the chess databases, but annotated games are increasingly hard to find. This book has games annotated by Karpov, Larsen, Hort, Suttles, Mecking, Donald Byrne, Gligoric, Keres, Saidy, Portisch, Kaplan, Evans and Smith. Two games were annotated by both Larsen and Petrosian. In addition, many of the games were annotated by International Master David Levy. This book was originally published in Descriptive Chess Notation. Since that time, Descriptive has become almost obsolete. For that reason, all 120 games in this book have been converted into modern Algebraic Notation and are included in an appendix in the back of the book. The games in the back are grouped and sorted alphabetically according to the player of the white pieces. Thus, all games in which Browne played White are first, followed by the games by Byrne, Campos-Lopez, Evans, Gligoric, Hort, Kaplan, Karpov, Keres, Larsen, Mecking, Petrosian, Portisch, Saidy and Smith in that order.

About the AuthorFour of the top ten rated players in the world participated, including Petrosian, ranked number 3, Portisch, ranked number 6, Karpov ranked number 7 and Larsen, ranked number 10.