

Klaus Bischoff

Seven questions for Klaus Bischoff (

Germany

). Klaus Bischoff has been a professional chess player for more than 25 years. He will be one of the commentators during the World Championship in

Bonn

What fascinates you personally about chess?

Chess is simply a wonderful game. Luring an opponent onto unknown territory, then outplaying him – that will never lose its fascination for me.

What do you consider to be your greatest success in chess?

Winning the Silver Medal with the German Team at the Chess Olympics in

Istanbul

in 2000 was a really great experience!

What do you think: Why is chess so popular and is experiencing a persistent boom world-wide?

Our good old chess is extremely well suited for the modern internet. Any enthusiast anywhere in the world may participate "live".

In your opinion, which was the most interesting game/duel in chess history?

I think the world championship match in

Baguio

City

in 1978 between Karpov and Kortschnoi was incredibly exciting. First Kortschnoi's brilliant pursuit race, then Karpov's cold-blooded counterattack, that was really quite something. This was the first world championship match where I was more or less able to understand the moves. At that time I was only 17 years old.

The match between Kramnik and Anand is not only one of the most outstanding duels in chess history, but also a contest between the two best players of our time. Who will, in your opinion, win, and why?

Naturally both are able to win the match. Otherwise no one would be interested in the outcome. I am looking forward to many fascinating games! If one of the contestants plays better and does not "only" launch well-aimed assaults at his opponent I shall be happy about his victory, from the bottom of my heart.

What effect can this Championship have on the chess world in future?

2008 is a great year for chess. The World Championship in

Bonn

and the Olympics in

Dresden

are wonderful opportunities for changing the image of chess in

Germany

in a positive way. Should this happen world-wide – all the better!

As far as chess history is concerned, for whom is, in your opinion, this match of greater importance – Anand or Kramnik?

For the winner.