



CHESS MATE

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Indians took a brilliant 1-2 finish in the FIDE Grand Prix at Chengdu in China on July 14, 2016. Dronavalli Harika (centre, from Guntur, AP) made her huge presence felt in the World Women's stage by winning the event on tie-break, Koneru Humpy (right, from Vijayawada, AP) led the Grand Prix itself with a joint first finish. Ju Wenjun (China, is at left) made it a podium sweep by the Asians! Photo: from www.chengdu2016.fide.com

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Harika Wins Chengdu Grand Prix



After Koneru Humpy, India has another player up in the big league: Dronavalli Harika. Harika, the 1991-born World No.10 won the FIDE Women's Grand Prix at Chengdu remaining undefeated. She has another strike in the last leg of the 2015-2016 Grand Prix at Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia in October. Humpy, World No.3 ranked, born 1987, herself has never won the Grand Prix, finishing second all three times to Hou Yifan. This time, Humpy is leading by over 81 points but has finished her quota of three events. In the picture below, Harika smiles at the closing while Zhao Xue of China and Humpy are also seen behind her.



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CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| National Challengers | 4 |
| Story: Arvind Aaron | |
| Analysis: Manuel Aaron | |
| Viji, Michelle Win | 13 |
| Story: Arvind Aaron | |
| Analysis: IM M Aaron | |
| Composers Meeting | 15 |
| Story: C.G.S. Narayanan | |
| Rathanvel Impresses | 16 |
| By Arvind Aaron | |
| Manish Anto, Divya Win | 20 |
| Story: Manuel Aaron | |
| Analysis: Manuel Aaron | |
| Chess Magic | 27 |
| By Manuel Aaron | |
| Endgame Tactics | 28 |
| By Arvind Aaron | |
| Harika Wins Chengdu | 30 |
| Humpy Leads Grand Prix 32 | |
| Kasparov's Comeback | 33 |
| Tournament Calendar | 34 |



↑ Medal winners in the National Under-11 Championship pose with guests at the closing ceremony in Raipur. See page 20

National Challenger, Noida

Undefeated Ravi S Teja Wins

Four GMs Failed To Qualify!



Undefeated IM Ravi S Teja (10/13), 1993 born, of the Railway Sports Promotion Board won the Amity University 54th National Challenger Chess Championship that concluded at Noida in UP on July 19. Ravi took home Rs.150,000 in a total prize fund of Rs.500,000. He was one of the four undefeated players, the others being Praneeth Surya, Kunte and Abhishek Kelkar (all qualifiers).

The event took place from July 8-19, 2016. Four of the eight GMs made it and an equal number failed to make the cut. Top seed Aravindh

Chithambaram of Chennai suffered two back to back defeats against Andhra players - Mehar Chinna Reddy and D.B. Chandra Prasad in Rounds 5 and 6. Then, he recovered strongly to finish ninth and take the last qualifying spot!

Untitled Dhulipalla Bala Chandra Prasad, born 1996 was the surprise of the event. He scored 3/5 against GMs. Chennai GMs Aravindh Chithambaram and Vishnu Prasanna went down to this player who started as seed 34 but finished second.

Unlike Chandra Prasad, champion Ravi S Teja from

Eluru, AP, did not face many GMs but scored 2½/3 against them. His victims included R.R.Laxman and Sriram Jha. His draws were against Sidhant Mohapatra, Mehar Chinna Reddy, S Nitin, Utkal Ranjan Sahoo, Vishnu Prasanna and Praneeth Surya.

Apparently, AICF's policy of not rating this event in order to attract GMs did not yield the desired benefit. Only 8 GMs played, fewer than previously. The GMs who qualified would have lost rating had FIDE-rating been applied with the exception of R.R. Laxman who would have gained 2.10 Elo had the event been rated.

Remarkably, among the nine qualifiers to the Premier, three are from the Railways while the Petroleum has only one!

Top finishers (top nine advance) in points with rating changes (lost or saved since this was not rated!): 1 IM Ravi S Teja (Rly, +17.2) 10/13; 2-5. D.B.C. Prasad (AP, +71.6), FM K Praneeth Surya (Tel, +3.50), GM A Kunte (PSPB, -2.60), IM Abhishek Kelkar (Mah, +6.50) 9½ each; 6-13. IM S Nitin (Rly, -9.10), GM R.R. Laxman (Rly, +2.10), GM Shardul Gagare (Mah, -15.30), GM Aravindh Chithambaram (TN, -15.60), GM Sriram Jha (LIC, -4.70), GM Tejas Bakre (AI, -3.30), IM Neeraj Kumar Mishra (Jha, +10.70), Utkal Ranjan Sahoo (Odi, +36.60) 9 each; 14-23. M Kunal (TN, -5.40), GM S.L. Narayanan (Ker, -14.10), GM

Vishnu Prasanna (TN, -22.80), IM Akshat Khamparia (Rly, -5.30), Santanu Borpatra Gohain (Asm, +27.0), IM Vikramaditya Kulkarni (Rly, 16.80), Gusain Himal (Chan, -19.0), IM V.A.V. Rajesh (AAI, +2.40), Sidhant Mohapatra (Odi, +64.40), Harsha Bharathakoti (Tel, +21) 8½ each...163 players.

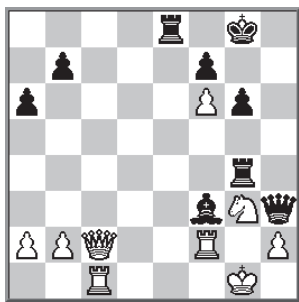
Here is a large selection of games:

Madhab Sarma 1858

Aravindh Chithambaram 2543
Grunfeld Defence D94

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 g6
4.c4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Be2
dxc4 7.Bxc4 c5 8.0-0 cxd4
9.Nxd4 Qc7 10.Qb3 Nbd7 11.
Be2 a6 12.Bd2 e5 13.Nf3 Nc5
14.Qa3 e4 15.Nd4 Qe5 16.f4
exf3 17.gxf3 Qh5 18.Rf2 Ne6
19.Nxe6 Bxe6 20.e4 Rfd8
21.Be3 Bf8 22. Qa4 Bc5 23.f4
Bg4 24.Bxc5 Qxc5 25.e5
Bxe2 26.exf6 Bf3µ 27.Re1
Bc6 28.Qc2 Re8 29.Rd1 Bf3
30. Rc1 Rad8 31.f5 Qd4
32.fxg6 hxg6 33.Kf1 Qc4+
34.Kg1 Qg4+ 35.Kf1 Qh3+
36.Kg1 Rd4 37.Ne2 Rg4+
38.Ng3

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38...Rxc3+! 0-1.

Sunilduth L Narayanan 2515
Dawhuo Melesayi 1857
King's Indian E90

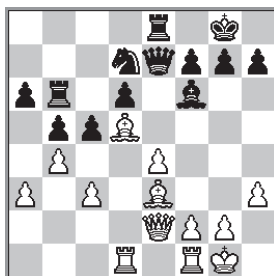
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7
4.e4 d6 5.h3 Nbd7 6.Bg5 c5
7.d5 a6 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Bd3 Ne8
10.0-0 f6 11.Be3 b6 12.a3 Rb8
13.Qd2 Rf7 14.b4 Qc7
15.Rab1 Ra8 16.Be2 Ne5
17.Nxe5 fxe5 18.Rb3 Nf6
19.Rfb1 Rf8 20.Qb2 Re8
21.bxc5 bxc5 22.g4 h6
23.Na4 Kh7 24.Qc2 Nd7
25.Kg2 Ra7 26.Bd2 Rf8
27.Qd1 Rf7 28.g5 hxg5
29.Bxg5 Qd8 30.Bg4 Nf6
31.Bxf6 Bxg4 32.Qxg4 Bxf6
[If black plays 32...Rxf6
33.Rb8 Qa5 (33...Qc7 34.R1b6!
Rf4 35.Qe6+-) 34.Qh4+ Bh6
35.Rh8+ Kxh8 36.Qxh6+ Kg8
37.Rb8+-] 33.Rb8 Qa5
34.Qe6 Rg7 35.Rf8 Qd2
36.Rbb8 Qg5+ 37.Qg4 Qxg4+
38.hxg4 Kh6 39.Rh8+ Rh7
40.Rxh7+ Kxh7 41.Nc3 Bg5
42.Na4 Bc1 43.Rb3 Kg7
44.Nb2 Kf7 45.Nd3 Bd2
46.Rb8 a5 47.a4 Ra6 48.Kg3
g5 49.Kf3 Ra7 50.Ke2 Bf4
51.Nxf4 exf4



52.e5 dxe5 53.Kf3 Kf6 54.
Ke4 Ra6 55.Rb5 Kf7 56. Rxc5
Rh6 57.Kxe5 Rh2 58.f3 Rf2
59.Ke4 Re2 60.Kf5 Re3 61.
Kxg5 Rxf3 62.Rxa5 Rf1 63.
Ra7 Ke8 64.a5 f3 65.Kf4 f2
66.Kf3 Rc1 67.Kxf2 Rxc4 68.
a6 Rxc4 69.Rb7 Ra4 70.a7
Kf7 [If 70...Ra3 71.Rb8 Kf7 72.
a8Q+-] 71.d6 Ke6 72.d7! 1-0.

Himal Gusain 2453
Rooop Saurav 1830
Ruy Lopez C84

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5
a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.d3 b5 6.Bb3
Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 d6 9.a3
Bg4 10.Be3 Qd7 11.h3 Bh5
12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.Bxd5 Bxf3
14.Qxf3 Rab8 15.c3 Bf6 16.
Rad1 Ne7 17.Ba2 Ng6 18.d4
Qe7 19.Qg4 Rfe8 20.Bd5 Rb6
21.dxe5 Nxe5 22.Qe2 c5 23.
b4 Nd7



24.c4± bxc4 25.Qxc4 Rb5
26.bxc5 dxc5 27.Qa4 Nb8 28.
Bc4 Rb7 29.Bxc5 1-0.

S Nitin 2398
Vatsal Singhania 1815
Ruy Lopez C97

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.h3
a6 7.Be3 e5 8.Nb3 Be7 9.g4
h6 10.Rg1 b5 11.h4 b4 12.Nd5
Nxd5 13.exd5 Nb8 14.g5
hgx5 15.hgx5 g6 16.Qd2 a5
17.f4 Ba6 18.fxe5 dxe5
19.0-0-0 Bd6 20.Nc5 Qc7
21.Ne4 Nd7 22.Bxa6 Rxa6
23.Rh1 Rf8 24.Qe2 Ra8?
[△24...Qb7] 25.Qb5 Rb8



26.Qc6! [26.Qc6 Ke7
27.Qxc7 Bxc7 28.d6++] 1-0.

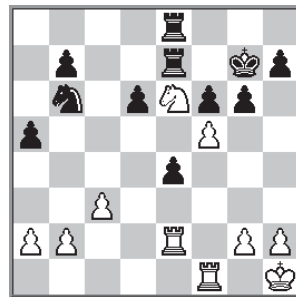
Ravi S Teja 2387
Ganesh Tajane 1812
King's Indian Defence E68

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7
4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.c4 Nbd7
7.Nc3 e5 8.e4 a6 9.h3 b5
10.Qc2 b4 11.Nd5 Nxd5
12.cxd5 exd4 13.Rd1 d3
14.Rxd3 Nc5 15.Rd1 Re8
16.Nd4 Bd7 17.Nb3 Na4
18.Na5 Bb5 19.a3 Qf6 20.Ra2
bxa3 21.Rxa3 Nc5 [Not
21...Nxb2? 22.Rd2 Na4
23.Rxa4 Bxa4 24.Qxa4-+]
22.b4 Nd7 23.Nc6 Ne5

24.Nd4 Nc4 25.Rf3 Qe7 26.Rc3
Nb6 27.Rxc7 1-0.

Aravindh Chithambaram 2543
G.B. Joshi 2123
Sicilian Dragon B70

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2
Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bg5 Nc6
9.Nb3 Be6 10.Re1 Rc8 11.Bf1
Nd7 12.Qd2 Nb6 13.Bh6 Ne5
14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.f4 Nec4
16.Qd4+ f6 17.Nd5 Bf7 18.
Bxc4 Rxc4 19.Qd3 Rc8 20.c3
Nc4 21.Re2 e6 22.Ne3 Qb6
23.Kh1 e5 24.Nd5 Bxd5 25.
exd5 a5 26.Qh3 Rc7 27.Nc1
[From here on, black takes the
upperhand. If 27.Rb1 a4
28.Nd2 Qb5 29.Qd3 Rc5
30.Nxc4 Qxc4 31.Qxc4 Rxc4
32.g3 Rc5±] 27...Qc5 28.Qf3
Nb6 29.Rd2 Re7 30.Nb3 Qb5
31.Rf1 [31.Re1±] 31...e4
32.Nd4 [If 32.Qd1 e3 33.Re2
Qxd5±] 32...Qxd5 33.Qe2 Qc4
34.f5 Qxe2 35.Rxe2 Rfe8
36.Ne6+?

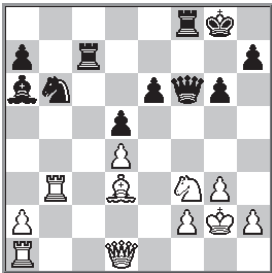


36...Rxe6!? 37.fxe6 Rxe6
38.g4 d5 39.Kg2 Re5 40.Kg3
Kf7 41.Rd1 Ke6 42.b3 Nd7
43.c4 dxc4 44.bxc4 Nc5
45.Rb2 Ke7 46.Rb6 h5 47.h3
hgx4 48.hgx4 Re6 49.Rb5 b6
50.Rdb1 Nd7 51.Kf4 Kd8
52.c5 bxc5 53.Rxa5 e3

54.Ra8+ Ke7 55.Rh1! [55.Ra7 e2 56.Re1 Kd8 57.Ra4 Nb6! 58.Re4 Nd5+ 59.Kf3 Ra6 60.a4±] 55...e2 56.Rh7+ [56.Rh7+ Kd6 57.Ra6+ Kd5 58.Rxd7+ Kc4 59.Rxe6] 1-0.

Ramnath Bhuvanesh 2307
Aravindh Chithambaram 2543
 Sicilian B50

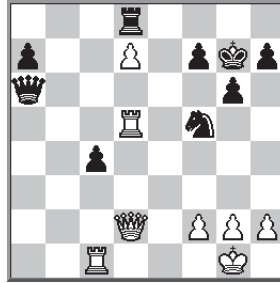
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 e6 5.Bb3 Nc6 6.c3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 b5 9.Nbd2 d5 10.e5 Nd7 11.d4 Ba6 12.Bc2 b4 13.Nb3 Rc8 14.Bf4 bxc3 15.bxc3 cxd4 16.Nfxd4 Bg5 17.Bxg5 Qxg5 18.Nf3 Qf4 19.g3 Qh6 20.Re3 f6 21.exf6 Qxf6 22.Nbd4 Nxd4 23.cxd4 Nb6 24.Rb3 g6 25.Kg2 Rc7 26.Bd3?



26...Bc4! 27.Rb2 [Better was: 27.Bxc4 dxc4 28.Rb2 Qd8] 27...Qxf3+! 28.Qxf3 Rxf3 29.Kxf3 Bxd3 30.Kg2 g5 0-1.

M Kunal 2309
Preet Sheth 1640
 Sicilian Rossolimo B31
 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.Bxc6 bxc6 6.Re1 e5 7.c3 Ne7 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 exd4 10.Nxd4 0-0 11.Nc3 Bb7 12.e5 Re8 13.Bg5 d5 14.Na4 Qc7 15.Bf6 c5 16.Rc1 c4 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Nb5 Qc6 19.Nd6

Red 8 20.Nc5! Rxd6 [20... Qxc5? 21.Nxb7 and 22 Nxd8 winning the exchange.] 21.exd6 Nf5 22.Nxb7 Qxb7 23.Re5 Qxb2 24.Rxd5 Qxa2 25.d7 Rd8 26.Qd2 Qa6



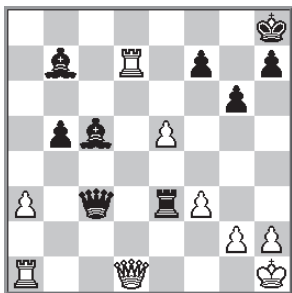
27.Rxf5!! If 27...gxf5 28 Qg5+ and 29 Qxd8 winning a rook. 1-0.

K Praneeth Surya 2413
S Mari Arul 2165
 Ruy Lopez C84

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.Nc3 Bb7 9.a3 Nd4 10.Nxd4 exd4 11.Ne2 c5 12.Ng3 d5 13.e5 Nd7 14.Re1 c4 15.Ba2 Nc5 16.Nf5 Ne6 17.Qg4 Kh8 [Black must let his d4 pawn go. If 17...Bc5? 18.Nxg7! Nxg7 19.Bh6+-] 18.Nxd4 Nxd4 19.Qxd4 Rc8 20.Qg4 d4 21.dxc4 Rc6 22.Qe2!± Qc8 23.cxb5 Rxc2 24.Qh5 d3 25.Be3 axb5 26.Bb1 g6 27.Qd1 Qc6! 28.f3 Rxb2 29.Bxd3 Rd8 30.Re2 Qc3?! [30...Rxe2! 31.Qxe2 Qc3 32.Rd1 Qxe5=] 31.Rxb2 Rxd3 32.Rd2? Rxe3+- 33.Rd7 Bc5! 34.Kh1 Ba6?

See diagram on the next page

[This is a tame move that has the seeds of defeat in it. Black can win brilliantly with:

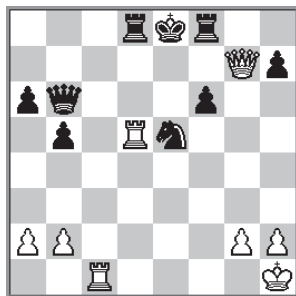


liantly with: 34...Bxf3! 35.gxf3 Re1+!! 36.Qxe1 Qxf3#] 35. Rxf7 Bd4 36.Rc1 Qb2 37.Rb1 Qc3 38.h3 Rxe5 39.Rc1 Qe3 40.Rd7 Bb6? [This loses. Best was: 40...Bc5! 41.Rxc5 Rxc5=] 41.Rc6!+- b4 42.axb4 Kg8 43.Qa1! Qf2 [After 43...Qe1+ 44.Qxe1 Rxe1+ 45.Kh2 Bg1+ 46.Kg3 black must surrender his Ba6 or suffer mate.] 44.Rxb6 Re1+ 45.Kh2 1-0.

C Sai Vishwesh 2281
Sunilduth L Narayanan 2515
 Sicilian B21

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 e6 5.Nf3 a6 6.Bc4 b5 7.Bb3 Bb7 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Bf4 Bc5 10.Rc1 d6 11.Qe2 Nge7? [When a player makes a bizarre move like this, in all likelihood, he is not liking the position and something is worrying him. Best was the natural development: 11...Nf6 12.Rfd1 Qe7+] 12.Rfd1 Ng6 13.Bg3 Qe7 14.e5 Ncxe5 15.Bxe5 dxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxf2+ 17.Qxf2 Nxe5 18.Qg3 f6 [△18...Ng6 19.Nxb5!? (Threat 20 Rc7) 19...0-0 20.Rc7 Qf6 21.Rxb7 axb5 22.Rxb5 Qxb2+] 19.Bxe6!+- Black cannot recover from this grievous blow. 19...Qxe6 20.Qxg7 Qb6+

21.Kh1 Rf8 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rd8?



[This leads to a draw. Black could win with: 23...Qe6! guarding all the key squares around his king and gradually beat back white's attack.] 24.Rxe5+ fxe5 25.Qxe5+ Kd7 26.Qg7+ Ke6 27.Re1+ Kd6 28.Qe7+ Kc6 29.Rc1+ Kd5 30.Rd1+ Kc6 31.Rc1+ Kd5 32.Rd1+ Kc4? [Black wants to win, if possible. But this loses. Best was to repeat: 32...Kc6=] 33.Qe4+- Rd4 34.Rc1+ Kb4 35.a3+! [35.a3+ Ka4 (35...Ka5 36.b4+ Ka4 37.Qc2+ Kxa3 38.Qc3+ mates.; 35...Kb3 36.Qc2+ Ka2 37.b4+ Kxa3 38.Qc3+ mates.) 36.Qc2+ Ka5 37.b4+ wins.] 1-0.

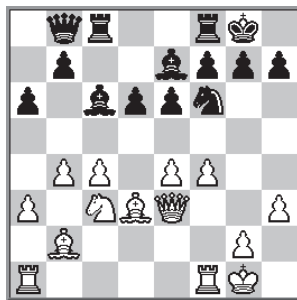
K Srikanth 1966
Ravi S Teja 2387
 Caro-Kann B12

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 e6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Bf4 Ne7 6.Nge2 b6 7.Qd3 Ba6 8.Qe3 c5 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Nbc6 11.dxc5

See diagram

11...e5! 12.Bg3 bxc5 [12...dxe4=] 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.Qxc5 For black it is an attractive move as he wins a pawn, prevents black from cas-

ting and threatens the Nc6. But his lack of development on the king-side helps black launch an imaginative attack. **14...Rc8 15.Rd1 Nd4! 16.Qxa7 Ra8 17.Qc5 Bxe2 18.Bxe2?** [After this black's brilliance takes over the game. Much better was: 18.Rxd4 exd4 19.Bxe2 Nxc3 20.Bd6 Qc8 21.Qxd4 Nxe2 22.Kxe2 Qxc2+ 23.Ke3 and there is dynamic equality.] **18...Ra5! 19.Qc4 Nxc2+ 20.Kd2** [If 20.Kf2 Qb6+ is devastating.; or 20.Kf1 Nce3+ wins the queen.] **20...Nde3+ 21.Kc1 Qxd1+ 22.Bxd1 Nxc4 23.Bxc2 Rxa3+ 24.Re1 Ra1+ 25.Bb1 Kd7! 26.Kc2** [26.Bxe5? Nxe5 27.Rxe5 Rb8-+] **26...Na3+ 27.Kb2 Rxb1+ 28.Rxb1 Nxb1 29.Kxb1 f6 30.Kc2 Kc6 31.Kd3 Ra8 32.f4 Rd8+ 33.Ke4 exf4 34.Bxf4 Kb5 35. Be3 Kc4 36.Bd4 Re8+ 37.Kf3 Kd3 38.h4 h5 39.g3 g5 40.Bxf6 Re3+ 41.Kf2 g4! 42.Bd4 Rf3+ 43.Kg2 Kc4 44.Be5 Re3** [White resigns as black could win here, or in any later move with: 44...Rxc3 45.Bxc3 Kxc3 46.Kf2 Kd2 47.Kf1 Ke3 48.Kg2 Ke2 49.Kg1 Kf3 50.Kh2 Kf2-+] **0-1**



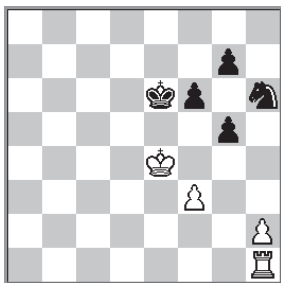
19...b5 20.cxb5 axb5 21.Qe2 g6 22.Nxb5 Nxe4 23.Bxe4 Qxb5 24.Bd3 Qb7 25.b5 Bd5 26.a4 e5? [This invites the white queen into his castled position! \triangle 26...Bd8 27.Rfb1 (27.a5 Bxa5 28.Rxa5 Qb6+-) 27...Ba5=] **27.fxe5 dxe5 28.Qxe5 f6 29.Qg3 Qb6+ 30.Kh1 Bd6 31.Qg4 Rc7** [The f6 pawn is lost. If here: 31...Be5 32.Bxg6! Bxb2 33.Rad1! Rcd8 34.Be4+- Kh8 35.Rxd5+-] **32.Bxf6 Rcf7** [If 32...Bc5 33.a5! Qd6 34.Bc4! Rxf6 35.Bxd5+ Kg7 36.b6! Rxf1+ 37.Rxf1 Rd7 38.Qe6! Qxd5 39.Rf7+! Rxf7 40.Qxd5+-] **33.Bxg6! Rxf6 34.Rxf6 Rxf6 35.Be4+ Kh8 36.Bxd5 Rf8 37.Rd1 Qf2 38.Bc4 Be5 39.a5 Re8 40.Qh5! Qf8 41.Re1 Qe7 42.a6! 1-0.**

Mehar Chinna Reddy ²³⁷³
Aravindh Chithambaram ²⁵⁴³
 Sicilian Defence B53
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 a6 5.h3N Nc6 6.Qe3 Nf6 7.c4 e6 8.Be2 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 Qc7 11.b3 Ne5 12.Ba3 Qa5 13.Bb2 Bd7 14.a3 Nxf3+ 15.Bxf3 Rac8 16.b4 Qc7 17.Be2 Qb8 18.f4 Bc6 19.Bd3

See diagram

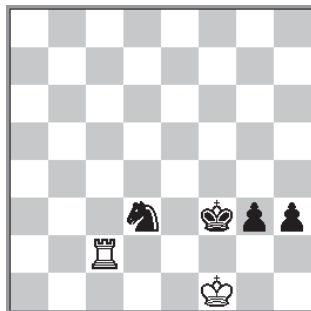
Vinayak Kulkarni 2168
R.R. Laxman 2389
 Nimzo-Indian Defence E26
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Bd3 Bg4 9.Ne2 Bh5 10.f3 Bg6 11.Bb5+ Nc6 12.0-0 0-0 13.Nf4 Qa5 14.Nxg6 hxg6 15.a4 c4 16.Ba3 Rfc8 17.Bxc6 Rxc6 18.Bb4 Qc7 19.e4 a5 20.Ba3 dxe4 21.d5 Rd8 22.fxe4 Rb6 [22...Nxe4??

23.Qe1+] 23.d6 Rbxd6 24.Bxd6 Rxd6 25.Qf3 Rd3 26.Qf4 Qxf4 27.Rxf4 Rxc3= 28.e5 Nd7 29.Re1 g5 30.Rf3 [30.Rd4 Nc5 gives an edge for black.] 30...Rxf3 31.gxf3 Nc5 32.Rc1 Nxa4 33.Rxc4± b5 34.Rc8+ Kh7 35.Ra8 Kg6 36.Rxa5 Nc3 37.Ra7! b4 38.Rb7 Nd5 39.Rb5 [39.Kf2+-] 39...Nf4 40.Rxb4 Kf5 41.Rb5 Ke6 42.Kf2 Nd3+ 43.Ke3 Nxe5 44.Ke4 f6 45.Rb7 Nf7 Black has a fortress which cannot be easily breached by white. 46.Rb6+ Nd6+ 47.Kd4 Ke7 48.Kd5 Nf5 49.Rb7+ Kf8 50.Rd7! Kg8 51.Ke4 Nh6 52.Rd1 Kf7 53.Rh1 Ke6!



Black realises white's plan of playing h2-h4 and prepares an ambush into which white, who has been having the upperhand for long, falls. 54.h4? Nf5! 55.Rh2 gxh4 With an outside passed pawn, black has a clear advantage. 56.f4 g5 57.Kf3 Nd4+ 58.Ke4 [If 58.Kg4 f5+! 59.Kh5 (59.Kxg5?? Nf3+) 59...g4! 60.Rxh4 g3! 61.Rh3 (61.Rh1 Nf3!) 61...Ne2-+ (61...g2!! also wins. Find out yourself, how!)] 58...Nf5 59.Kf3 Nh6 60.fxg5 fxg5 61.Ra2 Kf5 62.Ra6 Nf7 63.Kg2 g4 64.Ra5+ Ne5

65.Ra8 It is amazing how this knight prances around the board, shielding his king from checks and shepherds his two pawns to victory. 65...Nd3 66.Rf8+ Ke4 67.Re8+ Ne5 68.Rh8 Ng6! 69.Ra8 Nf4+ 70.Kg1 g3 71.Ra2 h3 72.Rb2 Nd3 73.Ra2 Ke3 74.Rc2 Kf3 75.Kf1?!



[Trickier and with possibilities of draw would result from: 75.Rd2 Nf4 (75...Nf2 76.Kf1 h2 (76...Ng4 77.Kg1 h2+ 78.Kh1 Nf2+ 79.Rxf2+ gxf2 80.Kxh2 f1R 81.Kh3 Rh1#) 77.Rxf2+ gxf2 stalemate.) 76.Rd1 (Black has to be careful and not allow the white king to stalemate himself at h1.) 76...Ne2+ 77.Kh1 Ke3 (or 77...Kf2 78.Rf1+! Ke3 (78...Kxf1 stalemate!) 79.Rf3+! Ke4 80.Rxg3! Nxg3+ 81.Kh2=) 78.Rd3+! Kf4 79.Rd1! and black is unable to win!] 75...Nf4 [Premature resignation. He should continue still further as there could be concealed stalemate possibilities: 75...Nf4 76.Kg1 (76.Rc3+ Kg4 77.Rc2 (77.Kg1 Ne2+ forks K and R; 77.Rc4 h2-) 77...h2) 76...Ne2+ 77.Kh1 g2+ and queens with check.] 0-1

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National Challengers (W), Chennai

Vijayalakshmi, Michelle Take 1-2

Two players from Air India, Chennai, IM Vijayalakshmi Subbaraman and WIM Michelle Catherina (see exclusive pictures in back inside cover) remained undefeated and took the top two places in the 43rd National Women's Challengers Championship. Together with M Mahalakshmi, the Chennai trio took the podium. The third undefeated player was R Vaishali also of Chennai.

The National Women's Challengers took place from June 16 to 25 at the Nehru Stadium in Chennai. The top eight players qualified for the National Women's Premier.

The tournament attracted three IMs, five WGMs and eight WIMs. There were totally 118 players participating from all over the country.

The tournament was going along peacefully for Vijayalakshmi when WGM Swati Ghate (who had won this event in 2001 and the Premier itself in 2006) caught up with her on 7½ points at the 9th round with consecutive victories over WIM Pratyusha Bodda (a lucky but plucky win!) and WIM M. Mahalakshmi (a good attacking game). However, in the 10th and penultimate round, Ghate's luck ran out as she lost a very exciting game to 20-year old Michelle Catherina who had won this tournament at

Delhi in 2012 at the age of 16 (!) Michelle went on to grab the second place with a final round draw against R. Vaishali, the defending champion.

Bharat Singh Chauhan, CEO, AICF and Deputy President, Asian Chess Federation distributed the prizes in the presence of D.V. Sundar, Vice President, FIDE and V Hariharan, Honorary Secretary, AICF.

In order to encourage players with "high ratings" to compete in the National Challengers without fearing loss of FIDE-Rating points, the AICF decided not to rate it. They applied the same yardstick for the parallel women's event too in order to maintain parity.

Arpita Mukherjee (7/11) would have won 132 rating points had this event been rated! Her last round defeat to Mahalakshmi spoilt her chances of missing more rating!

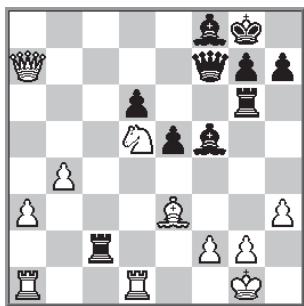
Final standings (rating changes which would not take place is given in brackets): 1 IM S Vijayalakshmi (TN, AI, +4.90) 9/11; 2 WIM P Michelle Catherina (TN, AI, +28.0) 8½; 3-7. WIM M Mahalakshmi (TN, -28.80), WGM Swati Ghate (Mah, LIC, +27.0), WGM Soumya Swaminathan (Mah, PSPB, -9.40), IM Eesha Karavade (Mah, PSPB, -15.20), WIM R Vaishali (TN,

+16.0) 8 each; 8-13. P Bala Kannamma (TN, +46.60), WIM Bodda Pratyusha (AP, -43.40), IM Nisha Mohota (WB, PSPB, -23.70), WGM Kiran Mohanty (Odi, LIC, +30.20), WGM Mary Ann Gomes (WB, PSPB, -11.20), WFM G Lasya (AP, +3.20) 7½...118 players.

Honorary Editor Manuel Aaron annotates two important games:

P Michelle Catherina 2135
S Vijayalakshmi 2384
 Sicilian Kalashnikov B32

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 Bc7 7.N1c3 a6 8.Na3 Nf6 9.Be2 Nd4 10.Nc2 Nxe2 11.Qxe2 0-0 12.Ne3 b5 13.Ned5 [C Billoire vs V Bronznik, St Quentin Op, 2004 went: 13.0-0 bxc4 14.Qxc4 Nh5 15.Ned5 Bg5 16.Qc7 Qxc7 17.Nxc7 Bxc1 18.Rfxc1 Rb8 19.h3 f5 20.Rd1 Rd8 21.Rac1 0-1] 13...Nxd5 14.Nxd5 bxc4 15.Qxc4 Be6 16.0-0 f5 17.exf5 Rxf5 18.Rd1 Bf8 19.Be3 Rc8 20.Qe4 Rh5 21.Bb6 Qd7 22.b4 Rg5 23.Be3 Rg4 24.Qd3 Qf7 25.a3 Bf5 26.Qxa6 Rc2 27.h3 Rg6 28.Qa7



28...Rxc2+! This can be described as a very promising

speculative sacrifice. It does not give any solid returns immediately, but slowly the screws tighten till white breaks. 29.Kxg2 Be4+ 30.Kh2 Qf3 31.Rg1 Bxd5 Thus, effectively, black has sacrificed the exchange for aggressive possibilities. 32.Rg3 Qf5 33.a4 white thinks that everything is under control and proceeds to roll her passed pawns on the queen-side. 33...Be4 34.Rag1 g6 35.Rg5 Qf6 36.Qb6 Bh6 37.Qb8+ Kf7 38.Qa7+ The queen must all the time be in touch with f2, as otherwise black is ready with a final Rxf2 sacrifice. 38...Ke6 39.R5g2 Bf4+! 40.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 41.Kh1 Black's bishop on e4 is practically worth two rooks. 41...Rxf2! 42.Qa6 Bxg2+ 43.Rxc2 Rf1+ [After 43...Rf1+ 44.Rg1 Qf3+ 45.Kh2 Rf2+ mates.] 0-1.

Swati Ghate 2281
P Michelle Catherina 2135
 Caro-Kann B12

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nd2 e6 5.Nb3 Nd7 6.Nf3 Ne7 7.Be2 h6 8.0-0 g5 9.Ne1 Qc7 10.Bd2 [Ashwin Jayaram 2487 vs K Sasikiran 2666, National Premier Ch, Jalgaon, 2013 went: 10.Nd3 b6 11.Be3 Bg7 12.f4 c5 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.Ndxc5 gxf4 15.Rxf4 Bxe5 16.Rh4 Ng6 17.Nxd7 Kxd7 18.Rh5µ 0-1] 10...c5 11.Nxc5 Nxc5 12.dxc5 Bg7 13.Bb5+ Kf8 14.Bc3 Bxe5 15.Bxe5 Qxe5 16. Bd3 Kg7 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Nd3 Qf6 19.Re1 b6 20.b4 Rac8 21.Rb1

**Rhe8 22.Ne5 bxc5 23.Nd7
Qc3 24.Rb3 Qc4 25.Qa1+
Nd4! 26.bxc5 e5!**



When playing this move, black must have calculated far, including the exposure of her king to a dangerous discovered attack along the long black diagonal. **27.Nxe5 Nxb3! 28.axb3 Qf4! 29.Nd3+ Qf6 30.Qxf6+ Kxf6 31.Ra1 Re2! 32.Ra2?** [32.Rc1 was more stubborn.] **32...Rxc5! 0-1.**

Chess Magic of August 2016 will feature this event.

Indian Composers Meet German Master

By C.G.S.Narayanan



L-R: C.G.S. Narayanan, N Shankar Ram, Torsten Linss and Kalyan Seetharaman

Torsten Linss, Professor of Mathematics from Dresden and a German Grandmaster in chess composition, visited (NIT) National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, TN, for a seminar on Mathematics in the first week of June 2016.

Three internationally known Indian composers - FM for chess composition and Editor of AICF Chronicle C.G.S.Narayanan, IM for chess composition N.Shankar Ram and Kalyan Seetharaman, Indian Team leader of 10th WCCT and co-Editor Kobulchess – took this opportunity to meet Mr.Linss at the NIT campus on 7 th June and discussed different aspects of problem chess. The Indians presented Mr.Torsten Linss a copy of IM Manuel Aaron’s book, ‘Indian Chess History by Manuel Aaron and Vijay D Pandit’ on the occasion.

Mr.Torsten Linss after showing us some of his astounding more-movers also presented us issues of the German problem magazine ‘Harmonie-Aktiv’ which he edits.

Rathanvel Impresses In Kiit Event

Second seed Boris Grachev (Rus) clocked a 2703 rating performance to finish one point ahead of the 201-player Elite Group in the KiiT International Chess Festival that concluded on May 30. Top seed Ivan Popov finished second and tied with eight others on 7½ points.

Candidate Master V.S. Rathanvel, 15, of Tamil Nadu who impressed in the Chennai Open earlier continued his good performance to take third place here. It was a huge achievement for this teenager who started as the 30th seed, faced six Grand Masters and remained undefeated in this event. He is trained by K Visweswaran of Chennai.

Players from 11-nations took part in this 10-round Swiss. India had 165 players, Bangladesh 16, Russia and Nepal 5 each, etc. The field had 62 titled players of which 13 were GM, 2 WGMs, 15 IMs, 2 WIMs.

Praggnanandhaa of Chennai, born 2005, became an International Master from this event. He had won World Age Group titles and is the younger brother of WIM R Vaishali. He scored an unbeaten 3/5 against GMs including top seed Ivan Popov.

Two others made IM norms: Rathanvel (TN) and K.S. Raghunandan (Kar). Raghunandan lost to two GMs and beat two GMs, Shardul Gagare and F Amonatov.

Significant Indian rating gainers among the top 30:

Rathanvel +58.60
Sidhant Mohapatra +20.20
K.S.Raghunandan +67.20
R Praggnanandhaa +46.80
Krishna N Teja +38.60
Rajdeep Sarkar +60.80

The tournament director was IM S.C.Sahu. IA Debashis Barua was the chief arbiter. The organisers were All Odisha Chess Association and KIIT University. The venue was KIIT University in Bhubaneswar. The World Junior will take place in Odisha this year.

Final placings: 1 GM Boris Grachev (Rus) 8½/10; 2-9. GM Ivan Popov (Rus), CM V.S. Rathanvel (TN), GM Diptayan Ghosh (WB), GM Ziaur Rahman (Ban), GM Mikhail Mozharov (Rus), GM Farrukh Amonatov (Tjk), GM Shardul Gagare (Mah), Sidhant Mohapatra (Odi) 7½ each; 10-23. GM Evgeny Giezerov (Rus), FM K.S. Raghunandan (Kar), FM R Praggnanandhaa (TN), GM R.R. Laxman (ICF), Himal Gusain (Chnd), GM Karen Grigoryan (Arm), IM Ravi S Teja (Rly), IM Dinesh K Sharma (UP), IM Swayams Mishra (AI), IM Krishna N Teja (AP), CM Arjun Erigaisi (Tel), D.P.C. Prasad (AP), Arjun Kalyan (TN), IM Vikramaditya Kulkarni (Rly) 7 each...201 players.

Games Section

By Manuel Aaron

The next few games are from the National Under-11 Championship that took place at Raipur.

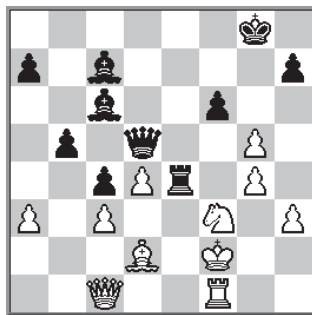


F Manish Anto Cristiano

Aaryan Varshney 1681
Manish Anto Cristiano F 1668
 French Exchange C01

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Be3 Nge7 8.0-0 f6 [Garcia Ramos 2318 vs Garcia Roman 2353 in Valencia 2003 went: 8...Qd7 9.Kh1 0-0-0 10.Nb5 a6 11.a3 Ba5 12.Nc3 Bxc3 13.bxc3 and 29 1-0 following an attack down the b-file.] **9.h3 Bh5 10.a3 Ba5 11.g4?** [Even though this move drives away the black bishop, it permanently weakens white's castled position. This weakness may not be immediately apparent but see what happens later! Better was:

11.Na4! 0-0 12.c3 Re8 13.Nc5±] 11...Bf7 12.b4 Bb6 13.b5 Na5 14.Nh4 0-0 15.f4? [15.Qf3=] 15...Nc4 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Nf3 Nd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.c3 c6 20.bxc6 Bxc6 21.Qd2 Bc7 22.Rae1 Re8 23.Qb2 Qd5 24.Qc1 Re7 25.Bd2 Rae8 26.Rxe7 Rxe7 27.Qd1 b5 28.Kf2 The ill effects of his 11th move are apparent now. Black's attack flows unhindered along the long white diagonal. **28...Re4 29.Qc1 g5! 30.fxg5**

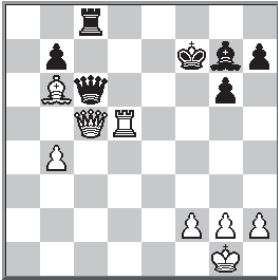


30...Rxc4!! 31.Ke1 [If 31.hxc4 Qxf3+ 32.Ke1 Bg3+ mates.] **31...Qe4+ 32.Kd1 Qd3** [Faster was 32...Rg2!] **33.Nh2** [If 33.hxc4 Qxf1+ 34.Ne1 b4! for 35... Ba4+] **33...Bxh2 0-1.**

Raahil Mullick 1800
Manish Anto Cristiano F 1668
 French Advance C02

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.a3 Bd7 7.b4 cxb4 8.axb4 f6 9.Bd3 fxe5 [Vladimir Potkin 2533 vs

Bartosz Socko 2556, ACP Blitz, 2004 went: 9...g6 10.0-0 fxe5 11.dxe5 Bg7 12.Be3 Qc7 13.Na3 Nxe5 14.Nb5 Bxb5 15.Bxb5+ Nc6 16.Nd4 Qd7 17.Bg5 e5 69, 1-0] **10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.dxe5 g6 12.0-0 Bg7 13.Be3 Qc7 14.Bxa7 Bxe5 15.Bb6 Qb8 16.Rxa8 Qxa8 17.Qe2 Bg7 18.Bb5 Bxb5 19.Qxb5+ Kf7 20.c4 Nf6 21.cxd5 exd5 22.Nc3 Qe8 23.Qc5 Qc6 24.Rd1 Rc8 25.Nxd5 Nxd5 26.Rxd5**



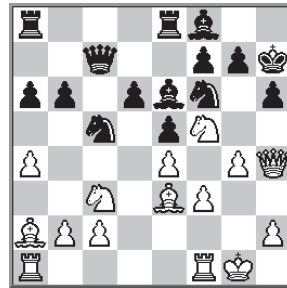
[26.Qxd5+?? Qxd5 27.Rxd5 Rc1+ mates.] **26...Qe6!! 27.Rd1 Rxc5 28.bxc5 Qe2 29.Rf1 Bd4 30.h3 Qc2 0-1.**

D Gukesh 2056

Manish Anto Cristiano F 1668
 Sicilian Najdorf B90

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a4 e5 7.Nde2 b6? [As the white knight has gone to e2 and not f3, and will be heading for f5 via g3, black's natural move seems to be ...Be6 which was indeed successfully tried long before FIDE Ratings were born: F Lukes vs J Dvorak, Czech Army Ch, Prague, 1955, went: 7...Be6 8.f4 Qc7 9.f5 Bc4 10.Ng3 Nbd7 11.Bxc4 Qxc4 12.Qe2 Rc8 13.Be3 Be7 14.0-0

Qxe2 15.Ngxe2 Rc4 16.b3 Rc7 and 0-1] **8.Bg5 Bb7 9.Ng3 Nbd7 10.Bc4 Qc7 11.Qe2 h6 12.Be3 Be7** [Though black gives priority to developing his undeveloped dark square bishop, best here seems to be to stall white's immediate Nf5 with 12...Nc5 bringing pressure on e4.] **13.0-0 0-0 14.Nf5± Rfe8 15.f3 Bf8 16.Ba2 Nc5 17.Qf2 Bc8 18.g4 Kh7 19.Qh4 Be6**



[Patient defence was called for in this grave situation. Best: 19...Ng8±] **20.Bxh6!** [Stronger seems to be: 20.Nxh6 gxh6 21.Qxf6 Bg7 22.Qh4 Bxa2 23.Rxa2 Ne6 24.Ra3!+-] **20...gxh6 21.Qxf6 Nd7 22.Qh4 Qd8 23.Qg3** With a pawn up and black's castled position in a shambles, white believes he has better chances with the queens on the board. **23...Be7 24.Kh1 Bxf5 25.gxf5 Rg8 26.Qh3 Qf8 27.Nd5 Bg5 28.Rg1 b5 29.f6!** This increases the power of the queen. **29...Nxf6 30.Qf5+ Rg6 31.Rxg5! hxg5 32.Nxf6+ Kg7 33.Nh5+ Kh6 34.Bxf7 Rg8 35.Qe6+** He does not give the check from f6 as he wants that square for his knight. **35...Kh7 36.Bxg8+ Qxg8 37.Nf6+ 1-0**

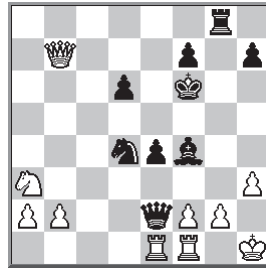
S Rohith Krishna 1761
Raunak Sadhwani 2084
 Nimzo-Indian Leningrad E30
 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4
 4.Bg5 h6 5.Bh4 c5 6.e3 d6 7. Nf3
 8.Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 b6 9.Bd3 Bb7
 10.Qe2 Nc6 11.0-0 e5 12. dxe5
 dxe5 13.Rfd1 Qe7 14. Bf5 Nb8?



[If 14...0-0?? 15.Rd7! wins for white. Because of this, black goes into a time consuming manoeuvre relocating his knight from c6 to d7; The simplest way to equality was: 14...g5! 15.Bg3 0-0=] **15.Bg3 Nbd7 16.Qd2 Be4??** [This loses. He could get a good game with: 16...Bxf3! 17.gxf3 Rd8=] **17.Bxe4 Nxe4 18.Qd5!** A double attack. 1-0.

M Pranesh 1746
Bharath Subramaniyam 1896
 Sicilian Sveshnikov B33
 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4
 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.
 Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.
 Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nd5 f5 11. exf5
 Bxf5 12.Qf3 Nd4 13. Nc7+
 Qxc7 14.Qxa8+ Ke7 15. c3 b4
 16.cxb4 Qb6 17. Bxa6 Qxb4+
 18.Kf1 Qd2 19.Qb7+ Kf6 20.
 h3 Bd3+ 21. Bxd3 Qxd3+ 22.
 Kg1 Rg8 [H Weiss vs R
 Panken, Nassau Ch, 1988 went
 22...Ne2+ 23. Kh2 Bh6 24.Rhf1
 Rg8 25.Rad1 Bf4+ 26.Kh1 Qg6

27. Rxd6+ Kf5 28.Qxf7+?? Qxf7
 and 0-1 move 34. But this game
 is not a judgment on this varia-
 tion as white was winning
 throughout until his incredi-
 ble queen blunder on the 28th
 move.] **23.Kh2 Bh6** [Δ23...e4
 24.Rhg1 Bh6 25.g3 Bf4 26.Rg2
 Nf3+ 27.Kh1 Nh4 28.Qb5 Qf3
 29.Qf1 d5=] **24.Rhd1 Bf4+ 25.
 Kh1 Qe2 26.Rf1 e4 27.Rae1?**



[With all the black forces
 circling his king-side, white
 had to be extra careful. After
 this move black mates quickly.
 White could equalise with:
 27.Qb6 Be5 28.Rae1 Qd3
 29.Rg1 Ne2 30.Rxe2 Qxe2
 31.Rb1=] **27...Rxxg2!! 28.Kxxg2**
 [If 28.Rxe2 Rh2+ 29.Kg1 Nf3#]
28...Qf3+ 29.Kg1 Qxxh3
30.Qe7+ This is the only way
 white could prevent immedi-
 ate mate. **30...Kxe7 31.Rxe4+**
Kd7 [Δ 31...Kf8 32.Re8+ Kg7
 33.Rg8+ Kxg8 and mate next
 move.] **32.Re7+ Kxe7**
33.Re1+ Kd7 34.f3 Nxf3+
 [This is not accurate. 34...
 Bh2+ mates in three moves.]
35.Kf2 Qg3+ 36.Ke2 Nd4+
37.Kf1 Qf3+ 38.Kg1 Ne2+
 [Faster was: 38...Bg3! and
 mate in three.] **39.Rxe2 Qxe2**
40.Nc4 Bg3 41.Nb6+ Kc6
42.Nd5 Qf2+ 43.Kh1 Kxd5?
 [43...Qf1#] **44.b3 Qh2# 0-1**

National U-11, Raipur

Manish Anto, Divya Win

By Manuel Aaron

Manish Anto Cristiano of Tamil Nadu and Divya Deshmukh of Maharashtra won the National Under-11 titles at Raipur on July 6, 2016.

The Suresh Agrawal Memorial 30th National Under-11 Chess Championship held in Raipur by the Raipur District and Chhatisgarh State Associations from June 28 was won by rank outsider, Manish Anto Cristiano, seed No 17.

In the closely fought Open section, Tamil Nadu players swept the podium with F Manish Anto Cristiano winning the title on better tie-break from team-mate M Pranesh, both scoring 9/11. Manish Anto lost to Gukesh (AP), drew Pranesh, H. Bharath Subramaniam and beat the rest. Just from this single event, Manish gained 152.40 Elo.

Seed No. 10 Pranesh finished second and gained 76.4 Elo. He too lost one game, drew two and won eight. All the players suffered at least one defeat. Top seed Raunak Sadhwani of Nagpur surprisingly lost three games and finished on 7/11 losing 114 Elo.

Manish, born 27 July 2005 is a 6th Standard Student at Vidya Mandir Extancia in Guduvanchery. His father, Dr Francis Xavier is the Principal

of Annai Velankanni's Engineering College in Perungalathur, while his mother Dr Brintha Therese works for VIT University in Chennai. Dr Francis is a former University chess player and the only one who beat this writer in a big simultaneous display in Nagercoil (capital of Kanyakumari District in TN State) about 20 years ago. The family lives in Guduvanchery, just beyond the southern outskirts of Chennai city. Manish has an elder, FIDE-rated brother who is now inactive in chess.

Manish already has some International exposure as he represented India at the World U-8 Championship in Al Ain, UAE, in 2013, and in the Asian U-10 in Seoul, South Korea, 2015. In most tournaments he led at the start but then tended to choke at the finish!

Manish is trained by C.Natarajan (Chennai) and Ukraine GM Aleksander Goloshchapov.

Unlike the results in the Open section, the Girls' section went exactly as expected. Top seed Divya Deshmukh of Nagpur won the title with 10/11 by a clear one point margin. She had won the National U-7 Girls and U-9 Girls earlier. Rakshitta Ravi of Tamil

Nadu who won the U-9 Girls in 2014 took second place with 9. In this section too all players suffered at least one defeat. But Divya and Rakshitta, with their vast experiences in playing Asian and World Championships thanks to their previous National victories, pulled ahead of the rest. Divya beat Rakshitta and lost to N Satwika.

It was Divya's third National title. She is trained by GM R.B. Ramesh of Chennai and Gurpreet Singh Maras of Nagpur. "The Raipur event was very well organised and Divya enjoyed playing there." said her mother Dr Namrata Deshmukh.

A total 140 boys and 82 girls took part in this edition which is the selection event for the Asian and World Under-12 Championships of 2017.

The Chief Arbiter was IA Ambrish C Joshi.

Top final standings (in tie-break order):

Open: 1-2. F Manish Anto Cristiano (TN), M Pranesh (TN) 9/11 each; 3-6. S Rohith Krishna (TN), V Pranav (TN), Sreeshwan Maralakshikari (TL), Mahitosh Dey (OD) 8½ each; 7-10. L.R. Srihari (TN), Harshit Ranjan Sahu (OD), H.Bharath Subramaniam (TN), Samip Roy (WB) 8 each.

Girls: 1 Divya Deshmukh (MH) 10/11; 2 Rakshitta Ravi (TN) 9; 3-5. Bhagyashree Patil (MH), Kriti Mayur Patel (MH), Dhyana Patel (GJ) 8 each; 6-9. N Satwicka (AP), Alaina Vincent (MH), Chinnam Vyshnavi (AP), C Tina (TN) 7½ each; 10. S Vijayasubasri (TN) 7.

We present a large selection of games from page 22.

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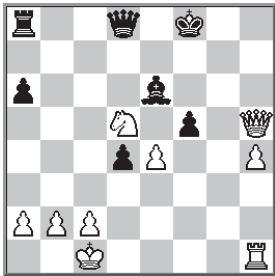
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Divya Deshmukh 1908
Ananya Anamika (1130)
 Sicilian Najdorf B99

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6
 7.f4 Nbd7 8.Qf3 Be7 9.0-0-0
 h6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.g4 Qc7
 12.h4 b5 13.Bxb5 0-0 [W.
 Murawski 2032 vs D.Bachan
 2133, Gdansk, 2005 went:
 13...axb5 14.Ndxb5 Qb6 15.
 Rxd6 Qc5 16.e5 Rb8 17.Rc6
 Qb4 18.exf6 Bb7 19.fxg7 Rg8
 20.Rd1 Bxc6 21.Qxc6 Qxf4+ 22.
 Kb1 Rd8 23.Nc7+ Ke7 1-0]
 14.Bxd7+- Bxd7 15.g5 Bxd4
 16.Rxd4 e5 17.fxe5 dxe5
 18.Nd5 Qd8 19.gxh6!! exd4
 20.hxg7 f5 [If 20...Re8 21.Qh5!
 f5 (21...Kxg7 22.Rg1+ Kf8
 23.Qh6#) 22.Rg1! Rxe4
 23.Qh8+ Kf7 24.g8Q+ Qxg8
 25.Qf6+! Ke8 26.Rxg8#]
 21.gxf8Q+ Kxf8 22.Qh5 Be6

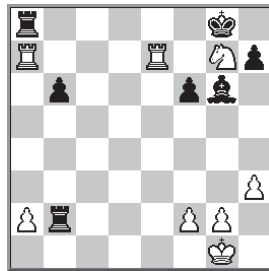


23.Nf4 [Stronger was:
 23.Qh6+!! Kf7 24.Rg1 (Threat
 25 Rg7+ and 26 Qh8+) 24...Qh8
 25.Qg6+-] 23...Qf6 24.e5 Qf7
 25.Qh8+ Qg8 26.Nxe6+ Ke7
 27.Qf6+ Kd7 28.Nc5+ Ke8 29.
 Qc6+ Ke7 30.Qd7+ Kf8 31.
 Ne6+ Qxe6 32.Qxe6 (38) 1-0.

Aradhana Gangopadhyay 1130
Rakshitta Ravi 1716
 Giuoco Piano C54

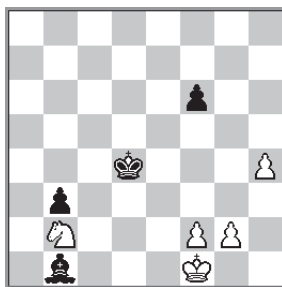
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4
 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4

6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bxd2+
 8.Nbxd2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5
 10.Qb3 Nce7 11.0-0 0-0
 12.Rfe1 c6 13.Rad1 Qc7
 14.Ne4 [Karl Pitschel vs
 H.Gifford, Paris 1878 (!) went:
 14.Ne5 Be6 15.a4 Nf5 16.Ndf3
 Nd6 17.Ng5 Rab8± drawn after
 the 55th move.] 14...Bg4
 15.Rc1 Qb6 16.Ne5± Qxb3
 17.Bxb3 Bh5? [17...Be6 18.
 Nc5 Bc8 19.Rc2 h6±] 18.Nd6
 b6? [18...Rab8 19.Bxd5 Nxd5
 20.Nd7+-; 18...Rfb8 19.g4 Bg6
 20.h4 h5 21.Nxg6 Nxg6
 22.Bxd5 cxd5 23.gxh5 Nxh4
 24.Kf1 Nf3 25. Re7 Nxd4
 26.Rc5±] 19.Bxd5 Nxd5
 20.Nxc6!+- The two white
 knights control almost en-
 tirely black's first rank. 20...f6
 21.Ne7+ Nxe7 22.Rxe7 Rfd8
 23.Nf5± [White should win
 with: 23.Rcc7! Rxd6 24.Rxg7+
 Kf8 25.Rxh7 Kg8 26.Rxh5
 Rxd4 27.h4 a5 28.Rhh7 Rc8
 29.Rcg7+ Kf8 30.Rb7 Kg8
 31.g3 Rd2 32.h5 Rc1+ 33.Kg2
 Rcc2 34.h6 Rxf2+ 35.Kh3 Rh2+
 36.Kg4 Rc4+ 37.Kf3!+- The
 threat is 38 Rbg7+ Kf8 39
 Rh8#] 23...Bg6 24.Nxg7 Rxd4
 25.h3 Rd2 26.Rcc7 Rxb2 27.
 Rxa7?



[Wrong strategy that would
 delight black! White unneces-
 sarily exchanges off one of her

two rooks that dominate black's second rank for an immobile black rook. She must strike when the iron is hot and continue: 27.f4! Rc2 28.Rb7 Rc1+ 29.Kh2 Rf1 30.Kg3 h6 31.h4 h5 32.Nxh5 Bxh5 33.Rg7+ Kf8 34.Rh7 Kg8 35.Rxh5 Rh1 36.Rhh7 Rc8 37.Rbg7+ Kf8 38.Rxa7 Kg8 39.Rag7+ Kf8 40.Kg4 Rh2 41.g3 f5+ 42.Kxf5 Rxa2 43.Rb7 Kg8 44.h5+-] **27...Rxa7 28.Rxa7 Bf7! 29.Nf5 Bxa2 30.Ra8+?** [A very poor move which dissipates the slight advantage which she could still get. White's advantage now lies in the black king being confined to her first rank. This is lost with the series of checks that white gives and drives the black king into an active position. Better was to keep her advantage with: 30.Nh6+ Kf8 31.Ng4! (31.Rxh7 Be6 32.f3 b5 33.Ng4 It will be very difficult for white to win this pawn-up ending.) 31...f5 32.Nf6 h6 33.Nd7+ Kf7 34.Nxb6+ Kg6 35.Nd7±] **30...Kf7= 31.Ra7+ Ke6 32.Nd4+?** [32.g4±] **32...Kd5 33.Nf3 b5 34.Rxh7 b4 35.Rd7+? Kc6 36.Rd2 Rxd2 [36...Rb1+ 37.Kh2 Bd5=] 37.Nxd2 b3 38.Nc4 Kc5 39.Nb2 Kd4 40.h4** white's only hope is his h-pawn, but black's long range bishop holds the h-pawn from far off. **40...Bb1 41.Kf1?**



[White plans to sacrifice her knight for black's passed pawn, but has not understood black's threat. Her king cannot stop black's pawn and therefore she must concentrate on advancing her h-pawn as speedily as possible. Necessary to draw was: 41.h5! Kc3 (41...Ke5 42.Kf1 Kf4 43.Ke2 Bh7 (43...Kg5 44.Kd2 Kxh5 45.Kc3=) 44.Kd2 Kg5 45.Kc3 Bg8 46.Nd3 Kxh5 47.Nc5=) 42.Na4+ Kb4 43.Nb2 Bf5 44.h6 Kc3 45.Na4+ draws as the bishop cannot leave control of the h7 square.] **41...Bd3+ 42.Ke1 Kc3 43.Na4+ Kc2** (threat 44...Bb5) **44.g4?** [White can put up prolonged resistance with: 44.h5 Bb5 45.h6 Bxa4 46.h7 b2 47.h8Q b1Q+ 48.Ke2 Qd1+ 49.Ke3 Bc6 and black should win for if 50.Qxf6?? Qd2#] **44...Bb5 45.Nb2 Kxb2 46.g5 fxg5 47.hxg5 Kc2 48.f4 b2** and 0-1.

Divya Deshmukh 1908

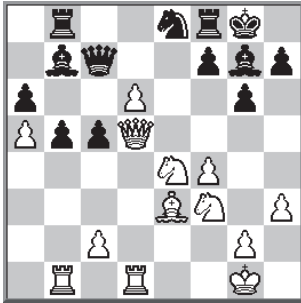
N Sathwika 1441

Trompowsky Attack A45

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5 Qb6 4.Nc3? [4.Bxf6 Qxf6 5.c3=] **4...Qxb2 5.Bd2 Qb6 6.e4 d6 7.Rb1 Qd8 8.f4 a6**

Chess Mate was founded on August 22, 1982 by IM **Manuel Aaron** with advertising support of chess patron **Dr N Mahalingam.**

9.a4 g6± 10.Nf3 Bg7 11.Bc4
 0-0 12.0-0 Ne8 13.h3 Nd7
 14.Qe2 Nb6 15.e5 [15.Bb3±]
 15...Nxc4 16.Qxc4 e6 17.Be3
 b6 18.Qb3 Rb8 19.Rfd1 Qc7
 20.a5 b5 21.Ne4 exd5 22.
 Qxd5 Bb7 23.exd6

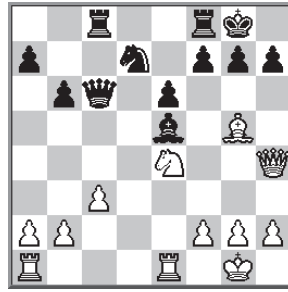


23...Qd8!-+ Suddenly the
 Ne4 is lost. 24.Qxc5 Bxe4
 25.d7 Nf6 26.Ne5 Rb7 27.Rb4
 Nxd7 28.Nxd7 Bf5! 29.g4
 Rxd7! 30.Rf1 Be6 31.Rbb1
 Bc4 32.Rfe1 Qa8 33.Kf2 Qe4
 34.Kg3 Qxc2 35.f5 Rd5
 36.Qe7 Be5+ 37.Kh4 Qg2!
 38.Rg1 Bg3+! 39.Kg5 Qxh3
 40.Rh1 h6+! 41.Kf6 Bh4+ If
 42 g5 Rxf5# 0-1.

Divya Deshmukh 1908
 Chinnam Vyshnavi 1409
 Nimzovich B00

1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.Bd3 d6
 4.Nf3 Nd7 5.c3 Ngf6 6.e5
 dxe5 7.dxe5 Bxf3 8.Qxf3
 Nxe5 9.Bb5+ Nfd7 [9...Ned7?
 10.Bg5±] 10.Qe4 c6 11.Bxc6
 Nxc6 12.Qxc6 Rc8 13.Qa4
 Qc7= 14.0-0 Qc6 15.Qh4
 [15.Qxa7?? Ra8-+] 15...e6
 16.Bg5 Bd6 17.Nd2 0-0
 18.Ne4 Be5? [18...Bb8]
 19.Rfe1

See diagram

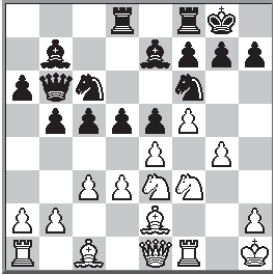


19...Nc5 20.Nxc5 Qxc5
 21.Be7+- Qc7 22.Bxf8 Rxf8
 23.Rad1 Bf6 24.Qa4 a5
 25.Rd7 Qc5 26.Red1 h6
 27.Qe4 Qb5 28.R1d2 Qc5
 29.Qe3 Qb5 30.Rb7 Bd8
 31.Rb8 Bg5 32.Rxf8+ Kxf8
 33.f4 Be7 34.Qd3+- Qxd3 35.
 Rxd3 Bc5+ 36.Kf1 Ke7
 37.Ke2 Kf6 38.Rd7 g6 39.Kd3
 Bf2 40.b4 axb4 41.cxb4 g5
 42.fxg5+ hxg5 43.Ke2 Bg1
 44.g3 b5 [44...Bxh2?? 45.Kf2
 traps the bishop.] 45.Rb7 Bd4
 46.Rxb5 Ba7 47.Rb7 Bd4 48.
 a4 Kg6 49.a5 f5 50.a6 f4 51.
 gxf4 gxf4 52.Kf3 and 63 1-0.

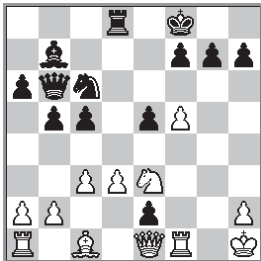
Adarsh Tripathi 1789
 Bharath Subramaniyam 1896
 Sicilian B20

1.e4 c5 2.Na3 It is amazing
 to what extent players would
 attempt bizarre moves in the
 openings to take their oppo-
 nents out of the 'book'! In my
 experience, generally, the
 better player wins, bizarre
 openings or not! 2...a6 3.f4 [It
 turns out that 2 Na3 has been
 played in an important Cham-
 pionship half-way around the
 world! F.F.Prates 2221 vs
 E.F.Choma 2266 in the
 Semi-final of the Brazil Ch. at
 Sao Paulo, 2006, went: 3.c3 b5
 4.d4 e6 5.Nf3 Bb7 6.Bd3 Nf6

7.Qe2 Be7 8.0-0 Qc7 9.Bg5 c4
 10.Bb1 d6 11.Nd2 Nbd7 12.f4
 h6 13.Bh4= and 0-1] **3...b5**
4.d3 Bb7 5.Nf3 e6 6.Be2 d6 7.
0-0 Nf6 8.c3 Be7 9.Nc2 Nc6
10.Ne3 0-0 11.Qe1 Qb6 12.
Kh1 Rad8 13.f5 e5 14.g4 d5!



We have read long, long ago that a wing attack, especially if it is premature, is best countered by a central thrust. And that is what black does here. But this move requires a lot of calculation and a vision of the future position. **15.g5** [After having started g2-g4, he has to go through with it and there is no stepping back or having second thoughts. After 15.exd5 Nxd5 16.Nxd5 Rxd5♯ white's advanced pawns on the king-side have nothing to attack and he has to contend with black's powerful bishop on the long white diagonal.] **15... dxe4 16.gxf6 exf3 17. fxe7 fxe2 18.exf8Q+ Kxf8**



When playing 14...d5, black had to visualise this position where he has two pawns for his rook but is still in a strong position. **19.Rf2 Nd4+** [This is probably the move he had planned when moving 14...d5! But it is not the best. Often, after reaching a position already calculated, one should take a few seconds to check whether he has missed some point or has a better alternative on actual 'live' scrutiny. Here, black does have a stronger alternative: 19... Nb4+ 20.Rg2 (20.Ng2 Nxd3 21.Qxe2 Nxf2+ 22.Qxf2 Rd1+-; 20.Kg1 Qc6 21.Rg2 Nxd3 22.Qxe2 Nf4 23.Qg4 Nxf2 24.Nxf2 h5! 25.Qg3 Rd3! 26.Be3 Rxe3 27.Nxe3 Qh1+ 28.Kf2 Qxa1♣) 20...Nxd3 21.Qxe2 Nf4 22.Qf1 c4 23.b3 Rd3 24.Nd5 Bxd5 25.Bxf4 exf4 26.Qxf4 Qc6 27.Qb8+ Qe8! Black would win easily after recovering the exchange as his rook is well placed to pick pawns at will.] **20.Ng2 Nc2 21.Qxe2 Nxa1 22.Be3 Qd6 23.f6?** [This loses. The best defence was: 23.Qe1! Qxd3 (or 23...Ke8 24.d4! cxd4 25.cxd4±) 24.Rd2 (skewers the Rd8) 24...Bxg2+ 25.Kg1! and white is in a near winning position!] **23...Qxd3 24.Qxd3 Rxd3 25.Kg1** [Perhaps better was: 25.Bxc5+ Kg8 26.h4 Rf3 27. Rxf3 Bxf3 28.Be7 Bd5 29.b3 Nc2 30.Kg1 Black has the advantage of a pawn, but as there are opposite colour bishops on the board, the advantage would be difficult to realise.] **25...gxf6 26.Bxc5+ Kg7 27.**

Ne3 Be4 28.Rf1 [This move, on which white must have pinned his hopes, is met by a clever counter which does not lose black his knight and puts black on the road to victory. Black has two extra pawns, but his knight is in a capturable corner. If white captures it, he would become materially ahead. Instead of going for the knight immediately, white could involve the unprotected black bishop on e4 too with: 28.Re2 Rd8 29.b3 Rc8 30.Bb4 Kg6+] **28...Nc2!** A clever play which wins the game. **29.Nxc2 Rd5!** A winning double attack. **30.Nb4 Rxc5 31.Nxa6 Rc6 32.Nb4 Rd6 33.b3 f5 34.c4 bxc4 35.bxc4 Rd4 36.Nd5** [36.Rc1 was more stubborn.] **36...Rxc4 37.Ne3 Ra4 38.Nxf5+ Bxf5 39.Rxf5 f6! 40.Rf2 Kg6 41.Re2 e4 42.Kf2 Kf5! 43.Rb2 Kf4 44.Ke2 f5 45.Kf2 e3+ 46.Ke2 Ke4 47.a3 f4 48.Rb8 f3+ 49.Ke1 Rxa3 50.Re8+ Kf4 51.Rf8+ Kg4** After 52.Rg8+ Kh4! 53.Kd1 Ra1+ 54.Kc2 e2 wins. **0-1.**

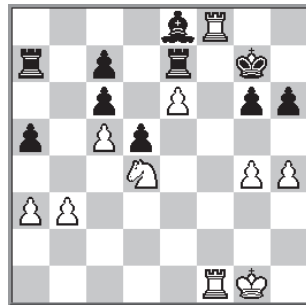
Manish Anto Cristiano F 1668

Rohith Krishna S 1761

Giuoco Piano C54

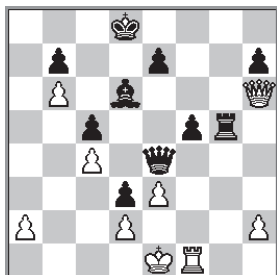
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 d5 7.Bb5 Ne4 8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Nxd2 10.Nbxd2 0-0 11.0-0 Bg4 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.h3 [13.Nb3 (was unsuccessfully tried in a 1999 Slovak U14 Ch) 13...f6 14.Qd3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 fxe5 16.Qd3 e4 and 0-1] **13...Bd7 14.Nb3 a5 15.Nc5** [A different and usual strategic idea in this position

is 15.Rc1 a4 16.Nc5± pressuring black's doubled c-pawns.] **15...Bxc5 16.dxc5 h6 17.Re1 Re8 18.Qd2 Rb8 19.Nd4 Qh4 20.b3 Rb4 21.Rad1 Qg5 22.f4 Qg3 23.a3 Rb7 24.Qe3 Qg6 25.Qd3 Qxd3 26.Rxd3±** White has strategically outplayed his opponent. He now plans f4-f5. **26...Rbb8 27.f5 g6 28.g4 Re7 29.Rde3 Rc8?** Black's forces are in a quandary. The bishop is tied to his c6 pawn. The Re7 is to blockade white's e-pawn. Black's other rook has no role to play except mark time. White's domination is complete. **30.e6 fxe6 31.fxe6 Be8 32.Rf3 Kg7 33.Ref1 Rb8 34.Rf8 Rb7 35.h4 Ra7**

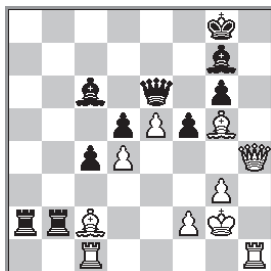


36.Kg2 Rb7 37.Kg3 Ra7 38.R8f3 This makes way for his king to enter e5. **38...Rb7 39.Kf4 Kf6 40.g5+ Kg7 41.Ke5 h5 42.Rf8 Ra7 43.Rxe8!** After this exchange sacrifice black's game collapses dramatically. **43...Rxe8 44.Nxc6 Rb7 45.Rf7+ Kh8 46.b4 axb4 47.axb4 Rb5 48.e7 Kg8 49.Kf6 d4 50.Rg7+ Kh8 51.Ne5! Rb6+ 52.cxb6 Rxe7 53.Nxg6#** A masterly game by white. **1-0**

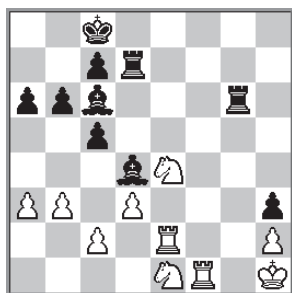
CHESS MAGIC



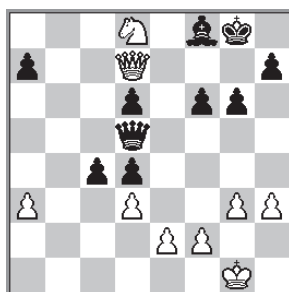
1. R Sangma- Himal Gusain



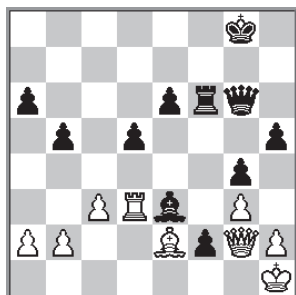
4. Mozharov-Sammed J S



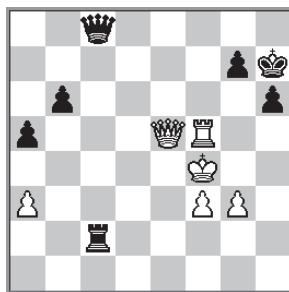
2. R.K.Sahu-Dipt. Ghosh



5. S Gagare-V Kulkarni



3. Zlatdinov-Ivan Popov



6. N Saha-Himal Gusain

Source: KIIT Open, Bhubaneswar

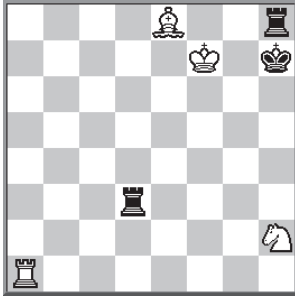
Selections: Manuel Aaron

Player in **bold** to move

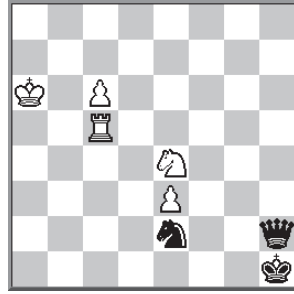
Solutions: Next issue

Endgame Tactics

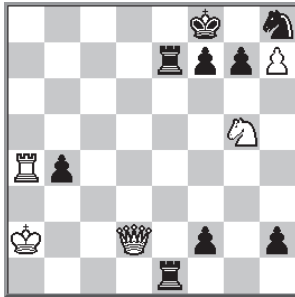
Sharpen Your Teeth!



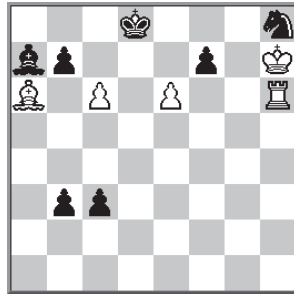
1. White to play



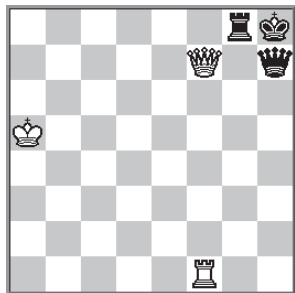
4. White to play



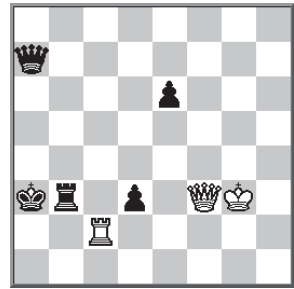
2. White to play



5. White to play



3. White to play



6. White to play

Selections by Arvind Aaron. Solutions on page 29.

1. 1.Rh1 Rh3 2.Bd7 Rh5
3.Ng4 Rf8+ 4.Kxf8 Rxh1
5.Bf5+ Kh8 6.Ne5 Rh7 7.Ng6#
1-0.

2. 1.Qd8+ Re8 2.Qd6+ R1e7
3.Ne6+ fxe6 4.Qf4+ Rf7
5.Qxb4+ Rfe7 6.Qf4+ Rf7
7.Qd6+ Rfe7 8.Rf4+ Nf7
9.h8Q# 1-0.

3. 1.Qf6+ Rg7 2.Rg1 Qh5+
3.Kb6 Qh7 4.Qd8+ Rg8
5.Qd4+ Rg7 6.Qf6 Kg8
7.Qd8+ Kf7 8.Rf1+ Ke6
[8...Kg6 9.Qd6+ Kh5 10.Qh2+
Kg5 11.Qg2+ Kh5 12.Rh1#]
9.Rf6+ Ke5 10.Qd6+ Ke4
11.Rf4+ Ke3 12.Qd4+ Ke2
13.Rf2+ Ke1 14.Qd2# 1-0.

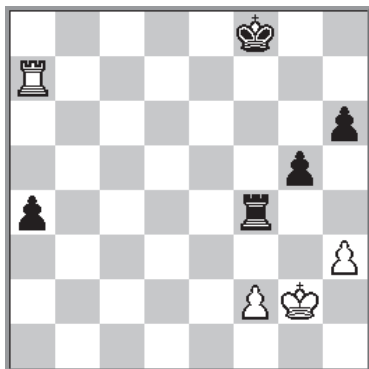
4. 1.c7 Qh6+ 2.Ka5 Qxe3
3.c8Q Qxe4 4.Rg5 Ng3 5.Qh3+
1-0.

5. 1.e7+ Kxe7 2.c7 Kd7
3.Rc6 Kc8 4.Bxb7+ Kxb7
5.c8Q# 1-0.

6. 1.Qf8+ Rb4 2.Rc3+ Ka4
3.Qe8+ Rb5 4.Rc4+ Ka5
5.Qd8+ Rb6 6.Rc5+ Ka6
7.Qxd3+ Kb7 8.Qf3+ Kb8
9.Qf8+ Kb7 10.Qc8# 1-0.

Chess Mate recommends
**Encyclopaedia of Chess
Combinations** from Chess
Informant Rs.4100 as best in
puzzles. It is available on sale
at Chess Mate in book/print
format and in Software format.

Learn Rook Endings



Rook Endings - White To Play and Draw

Rook endings are mostly drawn. Here, white draws with ease as his rook is behind the passed black pawn. **1.Kg3 Rh4 2.Rh7 Ke8 3.f4!** Swapping pawns is the easiest way to make a draw. Black king is cut off and white accomplishes his task with ease.

3...Rxf4 4.Rxh6 Kd7 5.Rg6 Rf1 6.Ra6 Draw in Alekhine-Lundin, Munich 1941. [6.Rxg5 Rg1+ 7.Kf4 Rxg5 8.Kxg5 a3] **6...Ra1 7.Kg4 a3 8.Kxg5 a2 9.Kh5=** ½-½.

There are plenty of endgame books on sale at Chess Mate. Right from basic books like Fundamentals of Chess Endings by V Subramanian (Price incl postage Rs.199), there are many other advanced books. Enquire now by SMS 9840053199.

FIDE Grand Prix

Harika, Humpy Finish 1-2 At Chengdu

After the penultimate round of the 4th leg of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix at Chengdu, China, Dronavalli Harika was leading compatriot Koneru Humpy (and Stefanova) by half a point. In the last round she offered a draw to Russia's Olga Girya despite having some chances in an ending with an extra pawn but with opposite colour bishops. Girya accepted the offer. Humpy seized her chances by defeating former world women's champion, Antoaneta Stefanova of Bulgaria and caught up with Harika on points.

Harika and Humpy tied for the first place with seven points from eleven games in the 12-player event on July 14. The tie-break favoured Harika. Both players finished one point clear of the other rivals.

This is Harika's biggest triumph since entering the semi-finals of the World Women's Chess Championship at Ukraine last year. She takes home Euro 10,000.

A determined Humpy promoted a second queen and crushed Stefanova in 65 moves in the final round.

Harika remained the only undefeated player of the tour-



Dronavalli Harika from the Qatar Masters website.

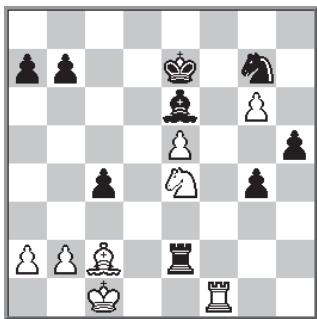
name and Humpy scored the most (five) wins of the competition. It is a huge achievement for India's leading ladies.

Final placings (tie-break order): 1-2. D Harika, Koneru Humpy (both Ind) 7/11 each; 3-5. Ju Wenjun (Chn), A Stefanova (Bul), Anna Muzychuk (Ukr) 6 each; 6-8. Bela Khotenashvili (Geo), Zhao Xue (Chn), Mariya Mucychuk (Ukr) 5½ each; 9-10. Lela Javakhishvili (Geo), Olga Girya (Rus) 5 each; 11 Tan Zhongyi (Chn) 4; 12 Pia Cramling (Swe) 3½.

Tan Zhongyi - D Harika

Queen's Gambit D36

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6
4.Nf3 Nf6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5
Be7 7.Qc2 Nbd7 8.e3 Nh5
9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.h3 g6 11.Be2
Ng7 12.Bd3 Nf6 13.g4 Be6
14.Ne5 Nd7 15.0-0-0-0 16.f4
f5 17.h4 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Qc5
19.h5 Qxe3+ 20.Kb1 fxg4
21.hxg6 h5 22.Ne2 c5 23.Qc1
Qxc1+ 24.Rxc1 c4 25.Bc2 Rad8
26.Rcd1 d4 27.Nxd4 Rxf4
28.Ne2 Rxd1+ 29.Rxd1 Rf2
30.Ng3 Kf8 31.Ne4 Re2 32.Kc1
Ke7 33.Rf1

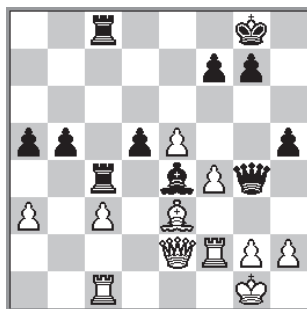


33...Bf5! 34.Kd1 Rxc2
35.Ng3 Bxg6 36.Rf6 Bd3 0-1.

Olga Girya-Koneru Humpy Nimzo-Indian E32

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 .
4.Qc2 0-0 5.e4 d5 6.e5 Ne4 7.
Bd3 c5 8. Nf3 cxd4 . 9.Nxd4
Nd7 10.Bf4 Ndc5 11.0-0 Bxc3
12.bxc3 Bd7 13.Be2 Na4
14.cxd5 exd5 15.Bd3 Nac5
16.f3 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Nc5
18.Qe3 Ne6 19.Rab1 b6 20.Bg3

Nxd4 21.Qxd4 Rc8 22.Rfd1 Be6
23.Rb4 Rc5 24.Qd3 Qc7 25.Rc1
Rc8 26.Ra4 b5 27.Rb4 Qa5
28.Qb1 a6 8 29.Be1 Qc7 30.f4
Qd7 31.Rd4 Bf5 32.Qb2 Be4
33.Bf2 R5c6 34.Rd2 Qg4
35.Be3 h5 36.Rf2 Rc4 37.a3 a5
38.Qe2



38...d4 39.Bd2 Qxe2 40.Rxe2
Bd3 41.Ree1 dxc3 42.Be3 b4 3 0-1.

D Harika - Koneru Humpy Hungarian/Giuoco Piano C50

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5
4.0-0 Nf6 5.d3 0-0 6.h3 Re8
7.a4 h6 8.Re1 a6 9.c3 d6
10.Nbd2 Be6 11.Bxe6 Rxe6
12.b4 Ba7 13.Qc2 Re8 14.Nf1
b5 15.Ng3 Ne7 16.d4 Nd7
17.Be3 Ng6 18.Nf5 Ne7 19.Ng3
Ng6 20.Nf5 Ne7 21.dxe5 Bxe3
22.Nxe3 Nxe5 23.Nxe5 dxe5
24.Red1 Qc8 25.c4 bxa4
26.Qxa4 Qb7 27.Nd5 (See dia-
gram) 27...c6 28.Nxe7+ Qxe7
29.c5 Qb7 30.Rd6 Rec8 31.Qa5
Rab8 32.Ra4 Qb5 33.Qxb5
Rxb5 34.f3 a5 35.bxa5 Rxc5
36.a6 Kf8 37.Rd7 Ke8 38.Rb7
Rb5 39.h4 g6 40.Kh2 h5 41.Ra2

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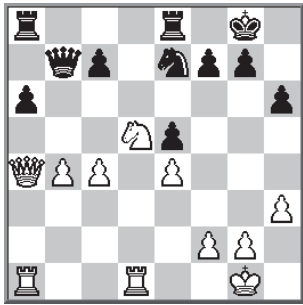


Diagram after 27.Nd5

Kf8 42.Kg3 Kg7 43.Rd7 c5

44.a7 Ra8 45.Rc7 Rb4 46.Kf2
 c4 47.Ke2 Rb3 48.Rd2 Ra3
 49.Rdd7 Rf8 50.Rxc4 Ra2+
 51.Ke3 Ra3+ 52.Kd2 Ra2+
 53.Rc2 Ra6 54.Kc1 g5 55.hxg5
 Kg6 56.Rb7 Ra8 57.Rcc7 Kxg5
 58.Rxf7 Kh4 59.Kb1 Kg3
 60.Rg7+ Kf2 61.Kb2 h4 62.Kb3
 h3 63.gxh3 Kxf3 64.h4 Kxe4
 65.h5 Kd3 66.Rgd7+ Ke3
 67.Kb4 e4 68.Kb5 Rh6 69.Rh7
 Re6 70.Rb8 Rxa7 71.Rxa7
 Re5+ 72.Kc4 Rxh5 73.Ra3+
 Kf4 74.Rf8+ 1-0

Koneru Humpy Leads FIDE Grand Prix

Koneru Humpy of Vijayawada, India, leads the FIDE Grand Prix at the end of the fourth leg in the series that concluded at Chengdu in China. With one leg of the five leg event still to be played she is 81.5 points ahead of the field.

Having played in the maximum quota of three legs, Humpy would not be competing in the last event at Khanty-Mansiysk in Siberia (Russia) this October and her chance of winning her maiden Grand Prix would depend on other factors. And if she does win, she would be getting a purse of Euros 25,000 as Grand Prix winner.

In the first three editions of the Women's FIDE Grand Prix, Hou Yifan had won every time and Humpy had always finished second. The fourth series could be different though. The standings in Grand Prix points: 1. Koneru Humpy (Ind) 335, 2. Ju Wenjun (Chn) 253.5, 3. Zhao Xue (Chn) 250.

Dronavalli Harika and Humpy took 145 Grand Prix points each from the Chengdu event. Harika is in ninth place at 190 from two events and if she wins in Russia she could overtake Humpy but would have to still hope that Ju Wenjun would fare poorly. World No.2 rated women Ju Wenjun is on 253.5 from two events and can cross Humpy even with a third place showing in Russia.

As the world women's champion Hou Yifan, who played in just one leg at Monte Carlo and won it, is not competing in the series, it has become wide open and clearly Humpy and Ju Wenjun are ahead in this race. Harika can be a surprise winner if she repeats her Chinese success at Chengdu and Ju Wenjun does not finish in the top half in Siberia.

Kasparov Plays The Top Three Americans

Garry Kasparov played a blitz tournament with the top three finishers in the 2016 US Championship – Caruana, Nakamura and Wesley So. This has been Kasparov's first over the board tournament since his retirement in 2005. Each of the four players played the other three players six times over two days in the Ultimate Blitz Challenge in St. Louis, USA, this April.

Kasparov lost three games owing to blunders. This is almost expected from one who has been out of competitive play for so long, but he lost the 10th round to Wesley So who played an inspired game. This game is given below.

The final scores: 1 Nakamura 11/18; 2 So 10; 3 Kasparov 9½ 4 Caruana (the new US Champion) 5½.

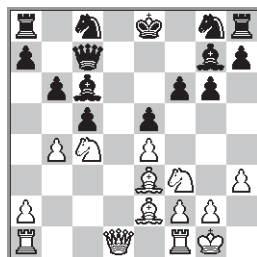
Wesley So - Garry Kasparov Modern/1d4 d6 A41

Ultimate Blitz Challenge,
St Louis, USA 29.04.2016

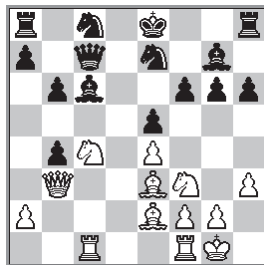
1.Nf3 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.d4 d6
4.c4 Bg4 5.Be2 Nc6 6.Nbd2
e5 7.d5 Nce7 8.h3 Bd7 9.c5!
This takes advantage of the cramped, messy situation of the black forces. 9...dxc5 10.Nc4 f6 11.d6! Nc8 12.Be3 b6?!



[Kasparov misses his chance to achieve a better position with: 12...b5! 13.dxc7 Qxc7 14.Na3 Nd6 15.Qd5 Ne7 16.Qxc5 Qxc5 17.Bxc5 Nxe4 18.Bxe7 Kxe7 19.Bxb5 Bxb5 20.Nxb5 Rab8♣] **13.0-0 Bc6 14.dxc7 Qxc7 15.b4!**



White goes all out against his rusty, legendary opponent. this move opens up the c-file where the black queen is situated. White is not afraid of black's dark square bishop as there is a black pawn on f6 hindering it. **15...cxb4 16.Rc1 Nge7 17.Qb3 h6** [If 17...0-0? 18.Ncxe5+ Kh8 19.Nxc6 Nxc6 20.Bb5 N8e7 21.Qa4 Rfc8 22.Nd4 wins.]



18.Rfd1 b5 19.Ncxe5 fxe5 20.Bxb5 Rb8 21.Ba4! Qb7 22.Rxc6! Nxc6 23.Qe6+ N8e7 24.Bc5 Rc8 25.Bxe7 This has been a game of pins. 1-0

Tournament Calendar

FIDE/World/Asian Events www.fide.com:

Aug 07-21 Aug World Junior, Bhubaneswar, India

Sep 01-06 Sep South Asian Amateur Chp. (U-2000 Elo) Srinagar
PF: 10L. 9906010563. E-mail: alljkchessasso@rediffmail.com

Sep 01-14 Sep 42nd Chess Olympiad, Baku, Azerbaijan

Sep 20-04 Oct World Youth U-14, 16, 18 Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

Oct 18-31 Oct World Cadet U-8, 10, 12 Batumi, Georgia

Nov 11-30 Nov World Chp, Carlsen v Karjakin, New York

AICF/NATIONAL/Regional Championships www.aicf.in:

Aug 22-30 Aug National U-9, B/G, Jalandhar Tel 8146729999
9357258890 PF:2L E-mail: jalandharchess@gmail.com

Sep 09-18 Sep National U-17, West Bengal

Sep 19-27 Sep National U-7, Muthialpet, Puducherry

Nov 02-14 Nov National Women Premier, New Delhi

Nov 20-28 Nov National U-15 Boys/Girls, New Delhi

OPEN/Rating Tournaments:

Aug 13-15 Aug KCA's 12th FIDE Rated U-1500, Kadavanthara,
Ernakulam, Kerala. PF Rs.6.50L (1st Rs.100,000!).
9895571000 E-mail: kottayamchess@yahoo.com

Aug 27-31 Aug Fomento Rating, Panaji, Goa PF: 2L. 9370719188

Sep 09-11 Sep TCA Rating, Theru Bazar, Dharmavaram, AP

Sep 09-14 Sep 5th K Das Mem, Bhubaneswar PF 5L. E-mail:
khordhachess@gmail.com

Sep 10-15 Sep NL Pandiyar Open, Udaipur PF: 6L.

Sep 29-02 Oct KCM Open FIDE Rated, Krishna Kounder Kalyana
Mandapam, Coimbatore PF: 3L. 9894665600

Oct 01-03 Oct DCA (U-1600) Rating Delhi, PF: 11L. 9891468906

Oct 08-11 Oct CA Kottayam Open Rating, Kerala PF 2.1L.
Tel 9447100071; 8943857644.

Oct 08-12 Oct Rail Wheel Factory Rated Open, Bengaluru
PF: 5L. Tel: 9845226786 / 9972097048

Oct 21-24 Oct Chess For Youth, Kolkata Tel: 9830194623

Nov 12-17 Nov Morphy Rating, Nashik, MH PF: 3L Tel 9689143925

Dec 19-24 Dec Bhopal FIDE Rating Open, Bhopal. Tel 9425016455.

ONE LINE HEADLINES

Chengdu: Dronavalli Harika Wins Grand Prix On Tie-Break

Chengdu: Koneru Humpy Leads FIDE Women's Grand Prix

Chennai: IM S Vijayalakshmi Wins National Women's Challengers

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Raipur: Manish Anto (TN), Divya Deshmukh (Mah) Win U-11

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India's first WGM **S Vijayalakshmi** (above) and **P Michelle Catherina** (below), both of Air India, Chennai finished 1-2 in the National Women Challengers in Chennai in June 2016.-Pic: Arvind Aaron

