



CHESS MATE

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Hou Yifan, the No.1 rated among women from China regained her World Women's Chess Title earlier this month at Lviv in Ukraine. She unseated titleholder Mariya Muzychuk of Ukraine by 6-3 without losing a single game in the best of 10-series. See report on page 14.

World Women Championship



Hou Yifan who won the World Women's Title for the third time is seen posing during a free day photo shoot in Lviv. *Below: Mariya Muzychuk* played to rating expectations and Elo changes was zero for this match as if it was unrated! Pics www.fide.com



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FORM IV

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I, Anand Aaron, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

March 10, 2016

Anand Aaron, Publisher

National Team

Railways-A Wins Maiden Title

Petroleum Sports Board Wins Women's Title

Railways-A and Petroleum Sports Board-Women won the National Team Championships that took place at KIIT Law College in Bhubaneswar this February. The Railways need to be congratulated for their maiden team title, defeating the star-studded Petroleum team en passant. It is relevant to note here that the Indian Railway team had won the 16th World Railways Championship in Piestany, Slovakia, 2004.

Thirty-six teams in the 26th NTC and eleven in the 14th Women's Team Championship battled for the title. In women, the top four seeds took the top four places in the same order, no upsets. However, top seed Petroleum Sports Board-Men finishing fourth was a clear surprise in the Open section. Fourth seed Airports Authority finished second while third seed Air India took third place. Second seed Railway Sports Promotion Board-A won the title by a clear margin of 16 points from a maximum 18 Match Points. They won seven matches and drew against both Railway-B and Airports Authority of India drawing twice on all four boards.

The Railways with two GMs and two IMs beat the all GM team of the Petroleum Sports

Board. Ratnakaran helped set-up the Railway win by inflicting a crucial defeat over Kidambi with the black pieces on third board. Top seed Arun Prasad drew P Karthikeyan, Deep Sengupta drew Deepan Chakkravarthy, Kidambi lost to Ratnakaran, Kunte drew Dhopade. The Railway-A was impressive as their individual scores indicate: P Karthikeyan 3½/6, Deepan 7/9, Ratnakaran 6/8, Arghyadip Das 4/6, Swapnil Dhopade 6½/7. Unfortunately the Railways do not have a women's team. It is high time they cobble together a women's team from the young talent available.

Top seed Petroleum drew Airports Authority and lost to both Rly-A and Air India to go out of the podium in many, many years. They were a dominant force after the Bank Sports Board stopped recruiting fresh players. From 1998 to 2015, Petroleum' dominance has been so complete that they have been regularly winning the title, except twice. Some of Petroleum's top grandmasters like Harikrishna, Sasikiran, Vidit Gujrathi, Surya S Ganguly and the ONGC sponsored National champion Karthikeyan Murali, did not compete. Probably some of them are too big for this event!

Airports Authority finished second thanks to: IM N.R.Visakh 7/9, IM George Antony Stany (6/9), GM M.Shyam Sundar (7½/9), IM V.A.V. Rajesh (7½/9). All the four players are gaining rating. They won six matches and drew three to remain undefeated runner-up.

Air India finished third with 14 points: Swayams 6/9, Bakre 4/8, Satyapragyan 5½/9, N Srinath 6½/9, C.S. Gokhale 1/1. They lost badly to the winners, Rly-A ½-3½ with only Swayams Mishra managing a draw on top board against P.Karthikeyan. Tejas Bakre, S.Satyapragyan and N.Srinath went down to Deepan Chakravarthy, K.Ratnakaran and Swapnil Dhopade. Besides this defeat, Air India drew TN-B and Airports Authority 2-2.

Women: The Petroleum Sports Board Women team distributed the 28 games among their five players to beat main rivals, Air India 2½-1½ and the rest 4-0 to win the title for the second successive year. Eesha Karavade of Pune and Srija Seshadri of Neyveli (TN) made hundred percent scores. Eesha's win against Michelle decided the issue in favour of Petroleum. Although the other games ended in draws, it was a

real fierce battle aggregating 285 moves on the four boards!

National Women's Champion Padmini Rout was two pawns down in a rook ending but drew Vijayalakshmi in 107 moves! Eesha beat Srija in a rook and opposite colour bishop ending after 72 moves. Soumya drew Bhakti in 35 and Vaishali drew Air India's Tania Sachdev in 71 moves.

The key scorers: Petroleum: Padmini Rout 4½/5, Eesha Karavade 6/6, Soumya Swaminathan 5½/6, R Vaishali 5½/6, Srija Seshadri 5/5. Air India: S Vijayalakshmi 6/7, Michelle Catherina 5/7, Bhakti Kulkarni 6½/7, Tania Sachdev 5½/6, Aarthie Ramaswamy 1/1.

Final placings: 1 Railway Sports Promotion Board-A 16/18; 2 Airports Authority of India 15; 3 Air India 14; 4 Petroleum Sports Promotion Board 13; 5-9. Delhi, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu-A, Rly-B, Gujarat 11 each; 10-17. LIC, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar-B, Bihar-A, Odisha Master Chess Foundation-A, Tamil Nadu-B, Andhra Pradesh-A 10 each...36 teams.

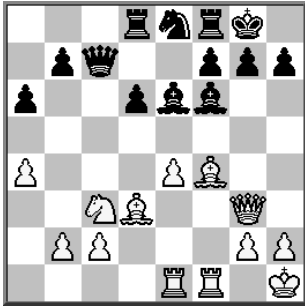
Women: 1 Petroleum Sports Promotion Board 14/14; 2 Air India 12; 3 TN 10; 4 Odisha KIIT Univ 8; ...11 teams.

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Analysis by IM Manuel Aaron

Michelle Catherina (AI, 2212)
Eesha Karavade (PSPB, 2400)
Sicilian Scheveningen B85

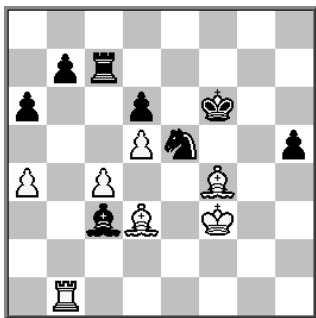
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2
a6 7.Be3 Nf6 8.0-0 d6 9.a4
Be7 10.f4 0-0 11.Kh1 Nxd4
12.Qxd4 e5 13.Qd3 exf4 14.
Bxf4 Be6 15.Qg3 Ne8 16.Bd3
Bf6 17.Rae1 Rd8



18.Nd5 [A.Vouldis 2539 vs
A. Sokolov 2583, in 2004 went:
18.e5 Bxe5 19.Bxe5 dxe5
20.Rxe5 g6 21.Qe3 Nd6 22.Qh6
Rfe8 23.a5=] 18...Bxd5
19.exd5 Bxb2 20.Bg5 f6 After
this move, black has a weak e6
square and black takes all care
so that it could not be exploited
by white. 21.Bh6 Be5 22.Bf4
g6 The knight intends to get to
g7 and defend the e6 square.
23.Qh3 Ng7 24.Bh6 Rde8!
Black is extremely sensitive to
any form of white occupation of
her e6 square. 25.Re4 f5!
26.Rc4 Qd7 [Stronger was:
26...Qa5 27.Qf3 Rc8 28.Rh4
Bf6 29.Rf4 Rc7 30.g3 Rff7
31.Rb1 Rfe7 With patient,
sensible play, black has
achieved an excellent position.] 27.Rb1 Rc8 28.Rcb4

Rc7 29.Bg5 Qf7 (threatens
30... Qxd5) 30.Qf3 Nh5 31.g4?
[White has not been able to get
any compensation for the pawn
that she tossed away on the
18th move as black plays a
very careful, risk-free posi-
tional game. Better was to re-
frain from opening the position
and continuing: 31.a5 putting
the onus of finding a win on
black.] 31...fxg4 32.Qxf7+
Rxf7 33.Rxg4 Rf2 34.Rg2
Rxg2 35.Kxg2 Kg7 Black is in
no hurry to improve on her ex-
tra pawn. Slowly, she builds up
her position, making her king
join the attack in the endgame.
36.h3 h6 37.Be3 Nf6
[37...Nf4+? 38.Bxf4 Bxf4
would lead to a draw despite
black's extra pawn thanks to
the existence of opposite colour
bishops.] 38.c4 Re7 39.Kf3
Rf7! Presenting the opponent
with little, little pinpricks like
a vague discovered attack can
gradually lead to the defender
losing heart and giving up the
battle without much resista-
nce. 40.Kg2 Nh5 41.Rb6
Nf6 42.Rb1 g5! 43.Rb6 [A
very interesting alternative is:
43.Bf5 b5 44.Be6 bxc4 45.Bxf7
Kxf7 46.Rb7+ Kg6 47.Ra7
Nxd5 48.Bc1 c3 49.Rxa6
Nb4+] 43...g4 44.Bf5 gxh3+
45.Bxh3 Rc7 46.Bf5 [46.c5?
Nxd5!-+] 46...h5! 47.Kf3 Nd7
48.Rb1 Kf6 49.Bd3 Bc3 50.
Bf4 Ne5+!

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This leads to an opposite colour bishop ending but one in which the black king is in such a commanding position that victory is certain for black.

51.Bxe5+ Kxe5 52.Bg6 Kd4! 53.Bxh5 Kxc4 54.Kf4 Re7!

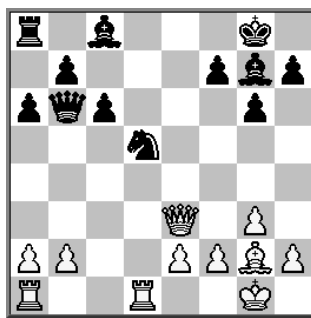
The white king is cut off from the theatre of operations on the queen- side.

55.Bg4 b5 56.axb5 axb5 57.Be6 b4 58.Ke3 Rg7! 59.Rf1 Rg2 60.Bf5 Bd4+! 61.Kf3 Rd2 62.Be4 b3 63.Rc1+ Kb4 64.Rc6 Bc5! It is interesting to see how carefully and skilfully black guides her b-pawn to victory. **65.Rc8 b2 66.Rb8+ Kc3 67.Rb7 Rf2+! 68.Kg3 Rf1 69.Kg2 Re1! 70.Bh7 Bb4! 71.Rc7+ Kd4 72.Kf2 b1Q** Black played this ending with great patience, skill and determination. **0-1.**

S Vijayalakshmi (AI, 2382)

Bidhar Rutumbara (ODI, 1828)
Neo-Grunfeld D78

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 c6 7.Na3 a6 8.Be3 Nbd7 9.Qc1 Re8 10.Rd1 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 Rxe5 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Nc4± Re6 15.Nb6! Rxe3 16.Qxe3 Qxb6



17.Rxd5! Qxe3 18.Rd8+ This intermezzo wins the ending for white. **18...Bf8 19.fxe3 Kg7 20.e4+- Bc5+ 21.Kh1 Bb6 22.Re8 f5 23.Re7+ Kf6 24.Rxh7 Rb8** Black has to struggle to get her queen-side pieces into play. **25.exf5 Bxf5 26.e4! Be6 27.Rf1+ Ke5 28.b3 Be3 29.Re7 Kd6 30.Rg7 g5 31.Rf3 Bc1 [31...Bd2?? 32.Rd3+ wins the Bishop.] 32.Rc3! Bb2 33.Rd3+! Kc5 34.Rxg5+ Kb4 35.Rd6 Bf7 36.e5 1-0.**

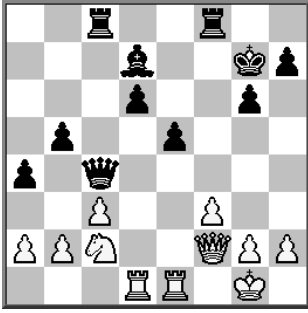
R Vaishali (PSPB, 2332)

Saina Salonika

(KiiT Univ Odi 1894)

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.Nb3 Nc6 9.Re1 Be6 10.Bf1 Rc8 11.Nd5 Ne5 12.c3 Nxd5 13.exd5 Bg4 14.f3 Bd7 15.Bg5 Qb6+ 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Qd2 b5 18.Bh6 Qb6+ 19.Be3 Qc7 20.Qf2 Nc4 21.Bd4 e5 22.dxe6 fxe6 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Bd3 a5 [After 24...e5! the game is equal though white has a safer king position compared to the exposed nature of the black king.] 25.Rad1 a4 [Again, 25...e5 denying access to the d4 square to the white knight would have given black a good game.] 26.Nd4 e5 27.Bxc4 Qxc4 28.Nc2

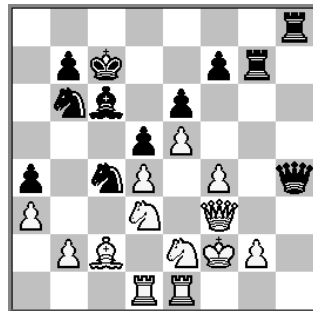


28...Bf5? [Probably it slipped black's mind that her d6 pawn was 'on take'. 28...Qc7=] 29.Rxd6 Bxc2 30.Rd7+ Rf7 31.Rxf7+ Qxf7 32.Qxc2 Qxa2 33.Qd3?! [This threatens 34 Qd7+ winning the rook. Stronger was: 33.Rxe5± Qc4 34.Qd2 Rc7 35.Qd6 Rf7 36.Re4 Qc7 37.Qd4+-] 33...Rc5 34.Rd1 Bf7 35.Qd6 Qa7 36.Kh1 a3 black hardly has a good move. Her rook is protecting the key e5 pawn while her queen is protecting her Rc5. 37.bxa3 Kf7 [A shade better was: 37...h5 but that would also lose.] 38.Qd8 Rxc3 [After 38...Rxc3 39.Rd7+ Ke6 40.Rd6+ (40.Rxa7?? Rc1+ and it is black who mates!) 40...Kf7 41.Qf6+ mates.] 1-0.

George A Stany (AAI, 2429)
 Deep Sengupta (PSPB, 2556)
 French Defence C06

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 a5 8.0-0 a4 9.a3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nb6 11.Nb1?! [Natural and best is: 11.Nf3] 11...Na5 12.Nbc3 Bd7 13.Rb1 Bc6 14.Nf4 Be7 15.Qg4 g6 (This indicates that black plans 0-0-0) 16.Bc2? [As black is very strong on the

queen-side white must try a king-side attack a sample line of which could be: 16.Nh3 h6 17.Nf4 Qd7 18.Bxg6 Rg8 19.Bxf7+ Kxf7 20.Qh5+-] 16...Nac4 17.Qd1 Qb8?! 18.Nh3 h6 19.Nf4 Kd7 20.Nd3 [20.Qg4!?] 20...Qf8 21.Re1 Kc8 22.Bf4? [This only encourages black to start a pawn storm on the king-side. Better was to play 22.Na2 with the idea of Nab4.] 22...g5 23.Bg3? h5 24.h3 g4 25.hxg4 [Best for white was to try for equality with: 25.h4! Qd8 26.Nc5 Bxh4 27.Bxh4 Qxh4 28.N3xa4=] 25...hxg4 This looks like a safe pawn, but within a few moves black is able to mass his major pieces on the h- and g-files with good effect. 26.Qxg4 Qh6 27.f4 Kc7 28.Rbd1 Rag8 29.Qf3 Bh4! 30.Bf2 Rg7 31.Ne2 Bxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Qh4+!



33.Kf1 [If 33.g3 Qh2+ 34.Kf1 (34.Qg2 Qxg2+ 35.Kxg2 Ne3+ 36.Kf3 Nxc2-) 34...Bb5! 35.Bb1 Nxb2! 36.Nxb2 Rxg3 mating.] 33...Qh2 (Threat 34...Rxg2! 34 Qxg2 Nd3+ winning.) 34.Kf2 Qh4+ 35.Kf1 Bb5 [Simpler: 35...Rhg8-+] 36.f5 Rhg8 37.Ndf4 Rg3

38.Qh5 [38.Nxg3 Nxe5+ 39.Bd3 Nxf3-+] **38...Ne3+ 39.Kf2 Nxd1+ 40.Bxd1 Rxc2+ 41.Ke3 R8g3+ 42.Kd2** [42.Nxg3 Qxc3+ 43.Qf3 Nc4+ mates.] **42...Qxf4+ 0-1.**

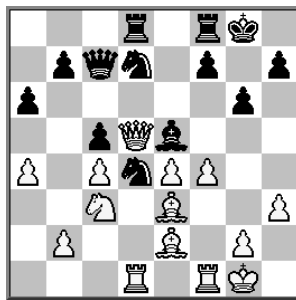
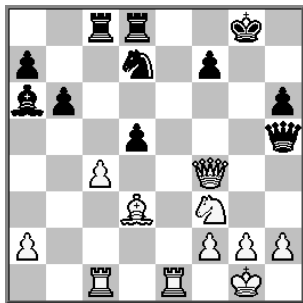
V.A.V. Rajesh (AAI, 2341)
Abhijit Kunte (PSPB, 2506)
 Nimzo-Indian E54

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 c5 7.0-0 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nbd7 10.Bg5 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Qc7 12.Qe2 b6 13.Rac1 Bb7 14.Bd3 h6 15.Bd2 Rac8 16.Rfe1 Rfd8 17.c4 This is new! **17...Qd6 18.Bc3 Qf4?!** [better 18...Nh5 19.Qe3 Nf4 20.Bf1 Ng6=] **19.Nd2! Nb8 20.d5 exd5 21.Be5 Qg5 22.Nf3 Qh5 23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Qe7 Ba6 25.Qxf6 Nd7 26.Qf4±**

26...dxc4 [If 26...Bxc4 27.g4! Qh3 28.Re7 f6 29.Bf5+ -] **27.Bf5+- Rc5 28.Qg3+! Kf8 29.Qd6+ Kg7 30.Bxd7 Bb7 31.Qe7 Rxd7 32.Qxd7 Bxf3 33.Qd4+! Kh7 34.Re8 Qd5** [If 34...Rg5 35.Rh8+ Kg6 36.Rg8+ Kf5 37.Qd7+ Kf6 38.Rxc5 Qxc5 39.Qd8+ Ke5 40.Qxc5+ hxg5 41.gxf3+ -] **35.Qf6! 1-0.**

Tejas Bakre (AI 2462)
J Deepan Chakkravarthy
 (Rly-A 2481)

King's Indian Def E81
1.Nf3 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e4 d6 5.d4 0-0 6.Be2 Bg4 7.Be3 Na6 8.0-0 c5 9.d5 Nc7 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Rb8 12.Be2 a6 13.a4 Nd7 14.Qd2 e6!? A pawn sacrifice to get the white queen into a trap. **15.dxe6 Nxe6 16.Qxd6 Nd4 17.Rad1 Be5! 18.Qd5 Qc7 19.f4 Rbd8**



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Map to come: www.chess-mate.com/aca.htm

20.fxe5 [White could escape the trap and end up with a slight advantage offering his queen: 20.Bg4 Bf6 21.Bxd7 Rxd7 22.e5! Rxd5 23.Nxd5 Qc6 24.Nxf6+ Kg7 25.Bxd4 cxd4 26.b3±] **20...Nxe5 21.Rxd4 cxd4 22.Bxd4 Nc6** [If 22...Rxd5 23.Nxd5 Qd6 24.c5 Qe6 25.Rf6 Qe8 26.b4 Kg7 27.b5± With only two bishops and a pawn for the queen, white still stands better as his pieces are aggressively posted.] **23.Qg5 Nxd4 24.Bg4 Ne6 25.Qh6 Qxc4 26.Nd5 Rxd5!** Black gives back the exchange for a pawn to reach a much superior ending. **27.exd5 Qxd5 28.Bxe6 Qxe6 29.Qf4 Rd8 30.Qc7 Rd7 31.Qc8+ Kg7 32.Qc3+ f6 33.Kh1 Qe5 34.Qb4 Qd4 35.Rf4 Qd1+ 36.Kh2 Qd6** forcing the exchange of queens as he is threatening g6-g5. **37.Qxd6 Rxd6 38.Rb4 b6 39.Rc4 g5 40.b4 h5 41.Rc7+ Kg6 42.Ra7 b5 43.axb5 axb5 44.Rb7 Rd5 45.Kg3 Rf5!** This shuts off the white king from the queen-side. **46.Kh2 h4! 47.Kg1 Kh5 48.Rh7+ Kg6 49.Rb7 Kh6 50.Kh2** Probably white lost on time. Though black is a pawn up, it is not at all clear how he could win if white kept his rook on the b-file constantly threatening the b5 pawn. **0-1.**

K Ratnakaran (Rly-A 2463)

S Satyapragyan (AI 2445)

King's Indian Att A08

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 d5 5.Nbd2 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.0-0 Nge7 8.c3 b6 9.Re1 a5 10.exd5 exd5 11.d4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.cxd4 0-0 14.Nf3 Bf5 15.Bg5 f6 16.Bd2 [16.Bf4 is usual here.] **16...Be4 17.Rc1 Nf5 18.Bf4 Ra7 19.g4**

Ne7 20.Qb3 Kh8 21.h3 g5 22.Bg3 h6 23.h4 Ng6 24.Rc6 Qd7 25.Rd6 Qxg4 26.Nh2 Qh5 27.Bxe4 dxe4 28.hxg5 hxg5 [28...fxg5? results in a winning double attack. 29. Qxb6+-] **29.Rxe4 Re7** [Better was: 29...f5 30.Ree6 f4 31.Rxg6 Raf7±] **30.Rxe7 Nxe7 31. Rxb6± Nf5 32.d5 Nd4 33. Qd3 f5 34.Bd6 Re8 35.Rb8 Rxb8 36.Bxb8 Qe8 37.Bc7 Qe1+ 38. Kg2 g4 39.Qe3 Ne2** (threatens 40....Qg1#!) **40.Nf1 Kh7 41. Qe6 f4 42.Qe4+ Kh8 43.Bxf4 Qd1 44.Be5 g3 45. Qh4+ Kg8 46.Qd8+ Bf8 47. Qg5+! Kf7 48.Qf6+ Ke8 49. Qc6+ 1-0.**

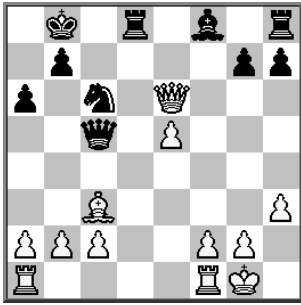
N Srinath (AI, 2469)

Swapnil Dhopade (Rly-A 2478)

Caro-Kann, Advaced Var. B12

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.dxc5 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bb5 Qa5+ 7.Nc3 e6 8.Be3 Nge7 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Qxf3 a6 11.Ba4 0-0-0 [V.Jensen 2270 - D.Pedersen 2260, Nordre Efteraar, 1998, went: 11...Nf5 12.0-0 g6 13.g4 Nxe3 14.fxe3 f5 15.gxf5 Bxc5 16.fxe6 0-0-0 17.Bxc6 bxc6 18.Kh1 Rhe8 19.Qg4 Qb4 Black won in an endgame.] **12.Bxc6** [After 12.Qxf7 d4 13.Qxe6+ Kb8 14.0-0-0 dxe3 15.fxe3 Qxc5 16.Rxd8+ Nxd8± Black has an extra knight for three dubious white pawns.] **12...Nxc6 13. Qxf7 d4!± 14.Qxe6+ Kb8 15. Bd2 dxc3 16.Bxc3 Qxc5 17. 0-0**

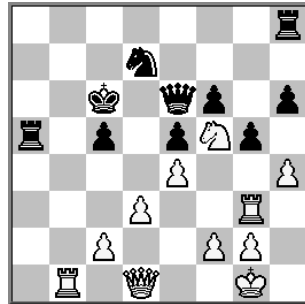
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17...g5! 18.Rae1 Bg7 The end is near for white as black's extra piece has started working and e5 will fall soon. 19.Re4 Rhe8 20.Qg4 Bxe5 21.Re3 Bxc3 22.Rxc3 Qe5 23.h4 Though it is hopeless for white, he should try to generate some activity on the queen-side with 23 a3. 23...h6 24.Qh5 gxh4 25.Qxh4 Qg5 26.Qh3 Nd4 27.Kh1 Re4 Black's grip over the white forces is getting tighter and tighter. 28.g3 Qd5! 29.Kh2 Re5! 30.g4 h5! 0-1.

Deep Sengupta (PSPB 2556)
Rakesh Ranjan (Bih, 1930)
 Sicilian Defence B30
 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.d3 Nd7 6.Nbd2 e5 7.Nc4 Qc7 8.Bd2 a5 9.a4 b6 10.0-0 Ba6 11.b3 Be7 12.h3 0-0-0 13.Nh2 g5

14.Qh5 Bxc4 15.bxc4 f6 16.Rab1 Qd6 17.Ng4 Qe6 18.Nh6 Rdf8 19.Rfe1 Bd8 20.Re3 Kc7 21.Rg3 Qe8 22.Qd1 Qg6 23.Nf5 Qf7 24.Qe1 White threatens the winning 25 Bxa5! against which there appears to be no defence. 24...Qe6 25.Bxa5 Kb7 26.Bc3! Bc7 27.a5 Ra8 28.h4 h6! 29.Qd1 b5 30.cxb5 Bxa5 31.bxc6+ Kxc6 32.Bxa5 Rxa5



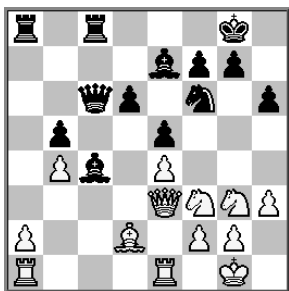
33.Rh3! Now that white has made an opening on the queen-side and has one rook diverted there, he turns his attention to the king-side engaging black on a wide front. 33...Rha8 34.hxg5 hxg5 35.Rh7 Qa2 36.Kh2 Rb8 37.Rxb8 Nxb8 38.Qh5! Qe6 39.Re7 Qc8 40.Re8 Qc7 41.Qh8 [41.Qh8 Kb7 42.Rc8!! Qxc8 43.Nd6+ white wins.] 1-0.

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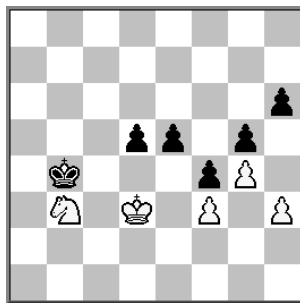
Saurabh Anand (Bihar 2060)
 Debashis Das (PSPB 2487)
 Ruy Lopez C91

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6
 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5
 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.d4 Bg4
 10.d5 Na5 11.Bc2 c6 12.b4
 Nc4 13.dxc6 Qc7 14.Nbd2
 Nb6 15.h3 Be6 16.Nf1 Qxc6
 17.Bd2 h6 18.Ng3 a5 19.Bb3
 Nc4 20.Qe2 Rfc8 21.Bxc4
 Bxc4 22.Qe3 axb4 23.cxb4



23...Rxa2? [The a2 pawn may be captured, but not by the rook which loses a bishop. Correct was: 23...Bxa2 24.Nf5 Bf8 25.Ng3 Bc4+] 24.Rxa2 Bxa2 25.Qa7! Black must have overlooked this double attack which wins a bishop. 25...Bd5 with this move black gets one pawn as compensation for his piece. 26.exd5 Nxd5 27.Rc1 Qe8 28.Qb7 Rxc1+ 29.Bxc1 Nxb4 30.Nf5 Bf8 31.Ba3 Qe6 32.Ne3 Qb3 33.Bxb4 Qxb4 Now black has 3 pawns as compensation for his knight, almost level. But it is only 'almost'! 34.Nd5 Qc4 35.Kh2 b4 [This loses a pawn. Better was 35...Qc5! and black could hope for a draw.] 36.Nxb4 Qb3 37.Qe4! f5 38.Qd5+ Qxd5 39.Nxd5 Kf7 40.Nh4 Ke6 41.Nc7+ Kf6 42.g4 f4 43.f3

Kf7 44.Kg2 g6 45.Nd5 Bg7
 46.Kf1 Ke6 47.Nc3 Bf6
 48.Ng2 d5 49.Ke2 g5 50.Kd3
 Bd8 51.Ne1 Ba5 52.Nc2 Kd6
 53.Na1 Bxc3 54.Kxc3 Kc5
 55.Nb3+ Kb5 56.Kd3 Kb4



I am reminded of an old Fischer story. During the peak of his powers Bobby Fischer had boasted that he could beat any woman player in the world giving the odds of a knight. The Soviets took up the challenge and proposed a match with their Woman Champion. On that, Fischer is said to have got together the games played by their lady champion and did not get back to the Soviets on that topic. The Soviets are reported to have said, "Fischer is Fischer, but a Knight is a Knight!" On the same lines one can say here: A grandmaster is a grandmastr, but a knight is a knight! 57.Nc1 Kc5 58.Nb3+ Kb4 59.Nc1 Kc5 60.Kc3 Kc6 61.Nd3 Kd6 62.Ne1 Kc5 63.Kd3 Kd6 64.Ng2 Kc5 65.h4 Kd6 66.hxg5 hxg5 67.Ne1 Kc5 68.Nc2 Kd6 69.Nb4 Kc5 70.Na2 Kd6 71.Nc3 Ke6 72.Nd1 Ke7 73.Nf2 Ke6 74.Nh3 Kf6 75.Kc3 Kg6 76.Kb4 e4 77.fx4 dxe4 78.Kc4 Kf6 79.Kd4

e3 80.Kd3 Kg6 81.Ng1 Kf7 82. Nf3 Kf6 83.Ke4 Kg6 84.Ke5 Kh6 85.Kf6 e2 86.Kf5! 1-0.

**S Kidambi (PSPB 2504)
K Ratnakaran (Rly-A 2463)
English Opening A39**

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.Nc3 g6
4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.d4 cxd4
7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.0-0 Ng4 9.e3 d6
10.b3 Nge5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.
Bb2 Rb8 13.Qc2 Bf5 14.e4
Bd7 15.c5 f5 16.f4 [Better was
to develop his pieces before
opening up the centre: 16.
Rad1=] 16...Ng4 17.Nd1 Bxb2
18.Qxb2 fxe4 19.Bxe4 e5
20.Bf3 exf4 21.Bxg4 Bxg4
22.gxf4 d5! 23.Ne3 Bh5 24.
Rae1 Qa5 25.Qd4 Rbe8 26. b4
[Not 26.a4? Re4 27.Qb2
Qxc5-+; If 26.Ng2 Qxa2
27.Ra1 Qxb3 28.Rxa7 Rf7 29.
Rxf7 Kxf7 30.f5 g5 31.Ra1
Qb8?] 26...Qxa2 27.Qc3 Re4!
28.Ra1 Qe2 29.Rae1 Qb5 30.
Nc2 Qe4 31.Qxc4 Rxc4 32.
Rf2 Bg4 33.Ra1 d4 34.Rd2
Rxf4 35.Rxa7 Bf5 36.Ne3
Bh3 37.Ra8+ Kg7 38.Ra7+
Kh6 0-1.**

**George A Stany (AAI 2429)
S Nitin (Rly-B 2377)
Sicilian Kan B42**

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 g6 6.c4 Bg7
7.Nb3 Ne7 8.Nc3 0-0 9.h4 d5
10.c5 f5 11.exd5 exd5 12.h5
f4 13.hxg6 hxg6 14.Ne2 f3 15.
gxf3 Nbc6 16.Bh6 Bxh6
17.Rxh6 Ne5 18.Ned4± Nf5
19.Bxf5 Bxf5 20.Qd2 Nc4
[20...Qf6 21.Rh1 Rfe8 22.
Kf1=] 21.Qc3 Qe7+ [if
21...Qg5 22.Nxf5 Rae8+ 23.Kf1
Re5 24.f4 Qxf5 25.Rxg6+! Qxg6**

26.fxe5= There are quite a few sub-variations in the just viewed line. Check them out yourself! **22.Kf1 Qg7 23.Rh2 Rae8 24.Kg2 Re5 25.Rah1 Bd7 26.Ne2 Rg5+ [Not 26...Rxe2? 27.Rh8+ Kf7 28.Qxg7+! Kxg7 29.R1h7+ Kf6 30.Rxf8+ Kg5 31.Kg3!] 27.Ng3 Qxc3 28.bxc3 Kf7 29.Nd4 Ke7 30.Rh7+ Kd8 [If 30...Rf7 31.f4 Rg4 32.Nde2 g5 33.f3+] 31.Rg7 Ne5 32.Rhh7 Kc8 33.f4! [After 33.f4 Rxf4 34.Rh8+ Kc7 35.Ne6+- wins a rook.] 1-0**

**R.R. Laxman (Rly-B 2420)
M Shyam Sundar (AAI 2512)
Slav Defence D12**

**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6
4.e3 Bf5 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nh4 Bg6
7.Nxg6 hxg6 8.Bd3 Nbd7
9.h3 Bd6 10.0-0 Qe7 11.f4
Bc7 12.c5 Nh5 13.Qg4 Rh6
14.b4 [If 14.e4 dxe4 15.Nxe4
f5+] 14...f5 15.Qf3 Nhf6
16.Bd2 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4
18.Qf2 [18.Qd1=] 18...g5
19.fxg5 Qxg5 20.Nxe4 Qg6!
[20...fxe4?? 21.Qf7+ Kd8
22.Qg8+-] 21.Nd6+ Bxd6
22.cxd6 Rxh3 23.e4 0-0-0
24.exf5 Rdh8! 25.Qf4 exf5
26.Rae1 [26.Qxf5?? Rh1+
27.Kf2 Qxf5+-+] 26...Rh1+!
27.Kf2 R1h4! 28.Qg5 Qxd6
29.Qxg7 [An alternative was:
29.Re8+ Rxe8 (29...Kc7??
30.Qd8#) 30.Qxh4 Re4-+] 29...Nf6 30.Qf7 Qxd4+
31.Be3 Rf4+! 32.Kg1 [If
32.Ke2 Qb2+ 33.Bd2 Re4+
Black wins.] 32...Rxf1+!
33.Kxf1 Rh1+ 34.Kf2 Qh4+!
35.g3 Rh2+! White cannot es-
cape immediate mate. 0-1**

Hou Yifan Regains Title Wins It For The Third Time

Hou Yifan, 22, from Xinghua, China won the World Women's Chess Championship for the third time at Lviv in Ukraine on March 14.

Hou Yifan, born Feb 27, 1994 became the youngest world women's champion in 2010. She was eliminated when Anne Ushenina won the FIDE Knock Out Championship in 2012. She wrested the title back in 2013 and lost the title in 2015 when she did not participate in the event.

This 6-3 win over Mariya Muzychuk is her third title. She won three games and drew six to remain undefeated. Both players played to rating expectations. The 131 Elo lead had the final say.

In the best of ten series, Hou Yifan won games 2, 6, 9 to win with a game to spare. Hou Yifan is over 100 points ahead of the second highest rated player in the women's list. Judit Polgar, Maya Chiburdanidze and Hou Yifan are the three women who have been in the men's top 100. This is a significant achievement. Her best rating is 2686 recorded in March 2015.

By staging this match smoothly, Ukraine Chess gets a new taste of organising success. Hou Yifan was too strong

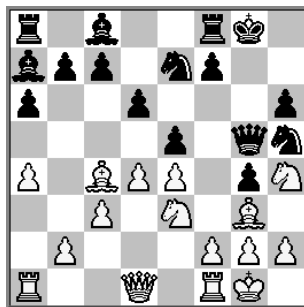
and the only question will be who will lose the title first: Carlsen in Open or Hou Yifan in Women! Both appear to be going strong. Game 6 analysis by GM Ian Rogers:

Mariya Muzychuk 2554

HouYifan 2673

Giuoco Piano C54 (6) 09.03.2016

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.0-0 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.c3 0-0 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 [9.Nxg5 hxg5 10.Bxg5 Kg7 is not supposed to be dangerous for Black.] **9...g4!?** A new move; "I thought it was an interesting option, compared to 9...Bg4, to push the knight to h4," said Hou. "Of course Black's king is a little bit weak so Black needs to be careful."] **10.Nh4 Nh5 11.a4** Preparing Na3-c2-e3. "But I like my position," said Muzychuk. **11...a6 12.Na3 Qg5 13.Nc2 Ba7 14.Ne3 Ne7** [14...Bxe3 15.fxe3 Nxg3 16.hxg3 Qxe3+ 17.Kh2 looked dangerous because the f file is open, so the f7 pawn and the f5 square are weak," explained Hou.] **15.d4!?**



15...Qg7 Though Muzychuk thought for the first time on 15.d4 - 8 minutes - Hou had reason to suspect that the Ukrainian was still following her preparation and so avoided the more forcing [15...exd4 16.cxd4 Qg7 . Hou was wise to do so, since the complications after 17.e5!? Nxd3 18.hxd3 dxe5 19.dxe5 Bxe3 20.fxe3 Qxe5 21.Rxf7! are far from clear and, if Hou was unlucky, she could have found herself facing the sort of spectacular preparation which caught her out in game 4.] **16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Nef5!?** Another very committal decision. "Probably this was the most critical moment in the game. 17.Re1 was possible," said Muzychuk. **17...Bxf5 18.exf5** "The position of the knight on f5 is very double-edged," said Hou. "If it can come to f5 it can be good but if not the knight can be a target." **18...Bc5?!** A little careless - Black should capture on g3 before playing this move, or else try 18...Nc8!? 19.Qd7 Nd6 20.Qxc7 Bb8 21.Qc5 Rc8 22.Bxf7+ Qxf7 23.Qxe5 with crazy complications where one would expect the piece to be stronger than the 3 pawns but Black's weak king will remain a handicap. **19.Re1?** With a big time advantage and a good position, Muzychuk should have started looking at forcing lines: 19.f6! Qxf6 20.Qxg4+ Qg5 21.Qf3! is very strong for White. (Hou considered only 21.Qxg5+ hxg5 22.Nf3 Nxd3 23.hxd3 e4 24.Nxd3 e3 when Black has counterplay.) Play could continue 21...Nxd3 22.hxd3 c6 23.b4 Ba7 24.Rad1 and Black is running out of constructive moves. **19...Nxd3 20.hxd3**

Kh8 "Freeing the g8 square for the knight, as well as moving away from the c4 bishop," explained Hou. **21.Qe2 Bd6 22.Qe4** Muzychuk spent almost 20 minutes on this move, which prepares a faulty plan. 22.f6! , here or next move, would exchange the f5 pawn for the g4 pawn and keep a slight edge. **22...Rab8 23.Be2? h5 24.Rad1** "I couldn't find anything to do," confessed Muzychuk. "My original idea had been [24.f3 but it failed because of 24...Ng8 25.fxd4 Nf6 26.Qe3 hxg4 followed by ...e4 and ...Nh5 (which I had missed.)] **24...Ng8 25.Kh2?!** "I was planning to play 25.f6! Nxf6 26.Qe3 "but at the last moment I changed my mind. I believe this position can be played by White," said Muzychuk. **25...Qg5! 26.Bc4 Nf6** "Once I brought out my knight to f6 and managed to isolate the knight on h4 it is definitely only Black who can play for a win," said Hou. **27.Qe3 Qxe3 28.Rxe3 e4 29.Re2 Rbd8 30.Bb3** (Muzychuk had 5 mins to Hou Yifan's 15.) **30...Rd7 31.f3** A desperate attempt to break out and rescue the h4 knight. **31...Re8 32.Rde1 Rde7 33.Bc2!?** A typical Muzychuk trick, allowing a combination which gives Black an extra queen but hoping for an unlikely counter-attack. 33.f4 Kg7 would offer no hope at all. **33...exf3!** Hou spent five minutes double-checking before falling into Muzychuk's 'trap'. **34.Rxe7 Rxe7 35.Rxe7 f2! 36.Rxf7 f1Q 37.Ng6+ Kg8 38.Rxf6** Muzychuk had originally planned 38.Bb3! which wins in every variation except 38...Bxd3+! 39.Kxd3 Ne4+ 40.Kh4 Qh1#. **38...Bc5! 0-1**

Shyaam Shines In Kamaraj Chess

by Manuel Aaron in Thoothukudi (Tuticorin)

The Third Teekay FIDE-Rated Open held in Thoothukudi this February commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the famous Kamaraj College.

It was a happy augury as Kamaraj College went hammer and tongs to make this the best ever Tournament in the history of Thoothukudi. With the active help of Prof R. Anantharam of Sivakasi, they got 4 IMs from Chennai to specially participate in this event which attracted 304 players from all over India.

In a 9-round Swiss, 23-year old Shyaam Nikhil and 45-year old R. Balasubramaniam (Integral Coach Factory, Chennai), both International Masters, tied for first with 8 points. Shyam emerged champion on tie-break. He is an M.Phil student in Economics from Scott Christian College, Nagercoil. The young champion deserved the first prize. We give below (page 17) two of his scintillating games, one of them with his own commentary.

The Kamaraj College

Named after K. Kamaraj Nadar (1903-1975), who is remembered as the "King Maker" in Indian Politics of his era, and the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu who brought free education and free Midday Meals to poor children, Kamaraj College started functioning in 1966 thanks to the dreams, vision, generosity and

single-minded devotion of the elite people of the Nadar community. Today, it is providing valuable collegiate education to youngsters from Thoothukudi and surrounding rural areas. It has 2200 students and 160 teaching staff

This tournament was held under the vital initiative of Ilango Vetrivel, the President of Kamaraj College and supported by Tamilnad Mercantile Bank, Sterlite Copper and others. As this event was a stunning success, indications are that the Kamaraj College is likely to organise its own FIDE-Rated Opens every year.

The tournament was organised by T. Karpagavalli a dynamic chess organiser in Thoothukudi who is an Assistant Professor in Kamaraj College. She runs Teekay Chess Centre under the guidance of its President, Dr S. Vaseekaran and with the support of her colleagues and numerous dedicated volunteers.

Top final standings: 1-2. P. Shyaam Nikhil (2412), R. Balasubramaniam (2189) 8; 3-6. N. Surendran (2185), P. Saravana Krishnan (2303), IM R. Ramnath Bhuvanesh (2392), M. Dusthageer Ibrahim 7½; 7-14 M.A. Joy Lazar, O.T. Anilkumar, T.V. Arunachalam Shivaa, R.M. Subramanian, M. Barath Kalyan, S. Ganesh Babu, J. Shakthi Vishal, K. Dhanasekar 7 each, 304 players.

Category Prizes: Additionally, there were several category prizes for best performers among females, veterans, in different rating slabs, different age groups (U-9, 11, 13, 17 separately for boys and girls), youngest player, visually handicapped, etc.



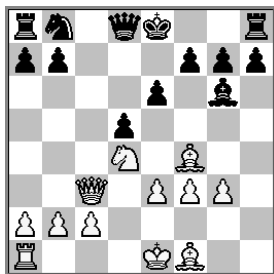
Shyaam Nikhil
(Elo 2412)

Arunachalam Shiva (1705)

Trompowsky A45
1.d4 Nf6 2.

Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4

d5 4.Nd2 Bf5 5.e3 Nxd2 6.Qxd2
e6 7.f3 Bd6 8.Ne2 c5?! 9.dxc5
Bxc5 10.Qc3! Be7 [10...Qb6
11.Qxg7 Rf8 12.Nd4±] 11.Nd4
Bg6 [11...0-0 12.Nxf5 exf5±
12.h4!!± Bxh4+ 13.Rxh4! Qxh4+
14.g3 Qd8

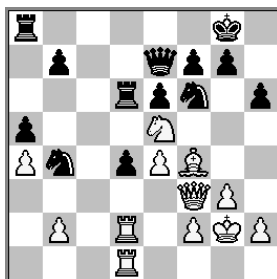


15.Nxe6!! fxe6 16.Qxg7 Rf8
[If 16...Qa5+ 17.b4! Qxb4+ 18.c3
Qf8 19.Bb5+ Nc6 20.Qxb7+-]
17.Bb5+ Nd7 [If 17...Nc6
18.Qxb7 Rc8 19.Bxc6+] 18.Bd6
Qa5+ 19.b4! 0-0-0 20.Qc3+ 1-0.

L to R: Mrs Subathra Vetrivel (founder, Ganesan Padmavathy Educational Trust, Dr D.Nagarajan, Principal Kamaraj College, and IM Shyaam Nikhil (winner).

P Shyaam Nikhil (2412)
N Surendran (2177)
Catalan E05

1.g3 Nf6 2.Bg2 d5 3.Nf3 e6
4.0-0 Be7 5.d4 0-0 6.c4 dc4 7.
Qc2 a6 8.a4 Bd7 9.Qc4 Bc6
10.Bf4 h6 11.Nc3 Bd6 12. Rfd1
a5 13.Ne5 Bg2 14.Kg2 c6 15.e4
Qe7 16.Qe2 Na6 17. Qf3 Nb4
18.Rd2 Rfd8 19. Rad1 c5
20.Nb5 cd4 21.Nd6 Rd6



22.Nxf7! A good move that tests black's defensive skills to

the utmost. **22...Kxf7?** [It appears as though white's hit on f7 should result in resignation but there is a saving! It is very difficult to find the best resource to 'save' the game from this rude shock. Sadly, black misses the utterly uninspiring, defensive reply: 22...Rda6! 23.Ne5 g5! (the bishop is trapped!) 24.Rxd4 (If 24.Ng6 Qf7 25.Ne5 Qg7) 24...gxf4 25. Qxf4 Qg7 with equal chances.] **23.Bxd6 Qxd6 24.e5! Qd5** [24

...Qxe5? 25. Qxb7+ wins the Ra8.] **25. exf6+- Qxf3+ 26. Kxf3 e5 27. fxg7 Kxg7 28. Ke4!**

Whenever possible, put your opponent on the defensive! Black is hoping to get some counter-play with his central pawns.

28...Kf6 29. f4! exf4 30.Rxd4 fxg3 31. hxg3 Kg5 32.Kf3 b5 33.Rg4+ Kf5 34.ab5 Rb8 35.Rh1! 1-0

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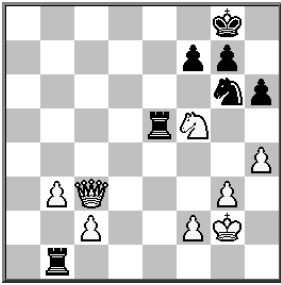
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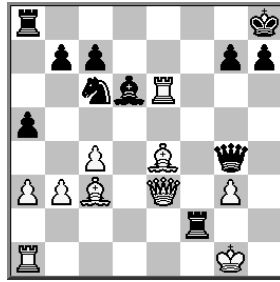
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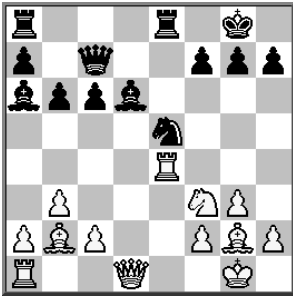
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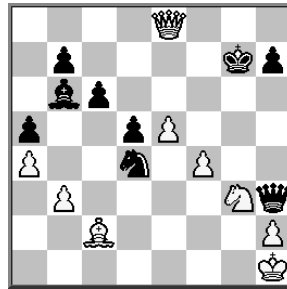
1. White to play and win



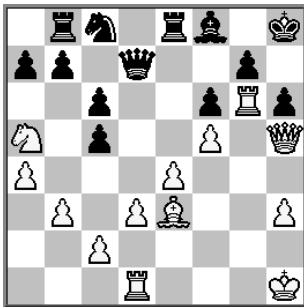
4. White to play and win



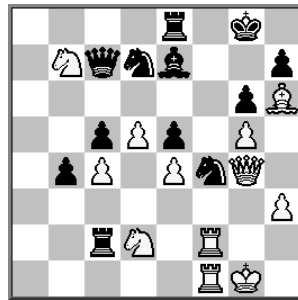
2. White to play and win



5. White to play and win



3. White to play and won



6. White to play and win

Event: Aeroflot Open 2016.
Selections: Arvind Aaron

Venue: Moscow
Solutions: Next issue.

STEINITZ SYSTEM (PART-III)

LEARN OPENING IN 20 DAYS

I prepared an opening repertoire for black based on Semi-Slav defence and classical variation of Sicilian defence for aggressive players. I think this one is better than my earlier recommendation of Scheveningen and Dutch. In some variations of both Semi-Slav defence and Classical variation of Sicilian defence, opening analysis even extend to end game. So these defences are good for players, strong in endgame.

A well prepared player equipped with Semi-Slav and Classical Sicilian will prove to be a tough nut even for a titled player. Guiding a talented chess player through the ocean of variations is an extremely difficult task. The main thing is it will take too much time. In my earlier article 2 months was the learning time. I made further research on this subject with the aim of reducing the time required. Finally I succeeded to bring down the time from 2 months to 20 days. 10 days for white and 10 days for black. Both 'e4' and 'd4' (recommended for positional players) openings are available. In the 'e4' opening section another problem was how to combat black's two main defences, the Sicilian and Ruy Lopez.

In the Sicilian, Najdorf, Dragon Pelikan, Classical, Scheveningen etc. In the Ruy Lopez there are Chigorin, Zaitsev, Marshall attack, Berlin defence, Open variation etc. But still I managed to make it to a quick learning format. The syllabus has been written in a peculiar way that the player also has to work hard Independently for another one or two months according to the guidelines given by the chess expert to get true mastery in the opening. A large amount of material will be given along with opening variations. A waterproof opening repertoire is the basis of success. Even though the time required to study the opening is very less the quality of the repertoire is very high. It is extremely difficult to get an opening advantage even for a titled player. I hope this will satisfy an enthusiastic chess player who wants to study opening quickly and wants to make rapid progress in chess. The openings are designed to study in 20 sessions, each session containing 2 hours. The fees for each session is Rs. 2000/- (Rs.1000 per hour). Home training can be arranged in Chennai area.

For details, contact: K.V. ANILKUMAR, Chess Trainer, 22C – ST. Pauls Nagar, Kovilpathagai, Avadi, Chennai. Mob No : 8680909942

Opening Theory

Rare Idea In The KID

By National Sub-Junior Champion P Iniyam

Baris Esen (Tur, 2530)

P Iniyam (Ind, 2275)

King's Indian Defence E63

14th Delhi Open New Delhi, 2016

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Nc6

7.Nc3 a6 8.Bf4 Rb8 9.Rc1 Till this point we have followed the main line.

9...b5 [This is a rare line but I had prepared it. **9...Bd7** is the main line. The reason why this move is considered to be the main line is the fact that this move retains the flexibility of plans for black. Black may play **b5** or **e5** or simply sit quietly with **e6** and await white's reaction. But since I had prepared an interesting line in this variation, I played **...b5.**] **10.Nd5** The expected and 'natural' move. White is playing the most popular move in this position. **10...Nh5!?** Only one game had been played with this move before. [**10...bxc4** Is the main move here, but I didn't like the position arising after **11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 (11...exf6** I don't like this. **12.Rxc4 Ne7 13.Qc1 Nd5 14.Bd2 1-0 Zoler,D (2503) -Kantsler,B (2420) Beersheba 2014. White threatens both **e4** and **Ba5.**] **12.Rxc4±** White simply has pressure on the **c7** pawn and his pieces are better co-ordinated.] **11.Be3N** [Novelty. But I think that **cx5** is better.**

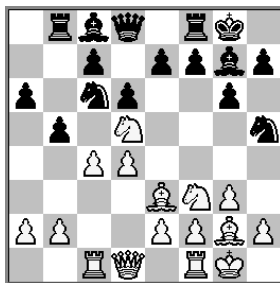


Diagram after **11 Be3** novelty

The previous game went **11.cxb5 Rxb5 12.Rxc6 Rxd5 13.Bd2 Bb7 14.Rc2 Nf6** And black drew after some difficulties in Kveinys,A (2543)-Hansen,T (2469) Fagernes, Norway, 2014.] **11...Bd7** [I thought for some time on this move and chose it because black retains flexibility. Two other alternatives A) **11...e6** and B) **11...bxc4** are worth considering here. The obvious one is: A) **11...e6** (This move gains more power now because **Nc3** simply drops a pawn.) **12.Nf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 e5 (13...Bb7 14.b3±** preserves the pawn structure.) **14.dxe5 (14.cxb5?! exf4 15.Rxc6 (15.bxc6 fxc3 16.hxc3 Rxb2±) 15...fxg3 16.hxc3 Bd7 17.Rxa6 Bxb5 18.Ra3 c5±** Black has the double Bishop advantage in an open position.) **14...dxe5 15.Be3!**

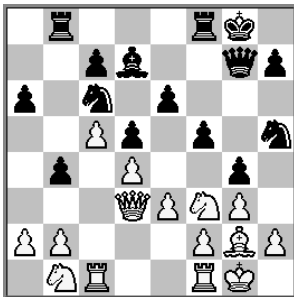
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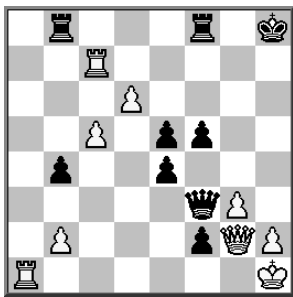
As white is threatening cxb5 and Rxc6 black has to act immediately. ([If 15.Qxd8?! Rxd8 16.Bg5! (16.Be3 e4 17.Ng5 Nd4 18.Rfe1 bxc4) 16...f6 17.Be3 e4 18.Nd2 f5] The Bishop on g2 is immobilised.) 15...Nd4! 16.cxb5 Rxb5 (not 16...axb5?? 17.Nxd4 exd4 18.Bf4+) 17.b3 Be6=; B) 11...bxc4 12.Rxc4 Bb7 13.Qd2 e6= And the game is still full of play.] **12.c5** As black's threat is to play dxc4 and Rxb2, white protects the b2 pawn by avoiding the opening of the b-file. **12...e6** I wanted to close the position as I have played b5 and have to expect white to play a2-a4 anytime attacking my Q-side pawns. **13.Nc3 b4!** **14.Nb1 d5** After this black's worries are over. **15.Qd2 f5** I wanted a complete light square blockade followed by a pawn storm on the K-side. **16.Bh6 Qf6 17.Bxg7 Qxg7 18.Qd3?** [This vacates a square for his displaced knight on b1, but at the same time relinquishes control over the g5 square. However, the main minus point of this is that later on black gains an important tempo exploiting whites Queen and Rook being on the a6-f1 diagonal. If 18.e3 g5 19.Qd1 Nf6= followed by a pawn storm.] **18...g5** **19.e3 g4!**



[I should have maintained flexibility playing 19...Nf6! first and then decided which pawn to

go first - h5-h4 or g4 or f4.] **20.Ne1 Nd8** [I wanted to bring my Knight to the K-side to join the assault on the king. Leading to equality was the exciting variation: 20...f4 21.exf4 Nxd4 22.Rd1 Nf3+ 23.Nxf3 Bb5 24.Qe3 gxf3 25.Qxf3 Bxf1 26.Rxf1 Nf6 27.Nd2= Black's Rooks have nothing to do in this closed position.] **21.Qd1** [21.Qxa6?? Bb5 22.Qa7 (or 22.Qa5) 22...Nc6 traps the queen!] **21...Bb5 22.Nd3 Nf7** This was the position I had in mind for a long time. **23.a3 a5 24.axb4!** [White shouldn't have released the tension with this exchange. Imagine the position after move 27 with the pawns still on a3 and a5. White would then have much better chances because of black's weak a5 pawn. 24.Re1 Is better.] **24...axb4 25.Re1 Bxd3** This is forced as this knight could have some effect on the e5 and f4 squares. Also, there is no further use for this Bishop. **26.Qxd3 Ng5 27.Nd2 Nf6 28.Ra1 h5 29.Ra7 h4** This creates threats and begins the assault on the K-side. **30.Rea1 Nfe4 31.Qe2** [After 31.Nxe4? fxe4! Black has a lot of pressure. (not 31...dxe4? 32.Qb3± when white has the better structure.) 32.Qe2? hxg3 33.hxg3 (33.fxg3 Nf3+ 34.Bxf3 gxf3) 33...Nf3+ 34.Bxf3 gxf3 35.Qa6 Qh6 36.Rxc7 Rf6+] **31...hxg3 32.fxg3** [Better was: 32.hxg3 Rf7+ protecting the pawn and improving the position in general.(32...Nxd2 33.Qxd2 Nf3+ 34.Bxf3 gxf3 35.Qd1 Qg4 36.Rxc7 Rf6 37.Raa7 (37.Qf1 Rh6 38.Raa7 Qh5) 37...Rh6 38.Rg7+ Qxg7 39.Rxg7+ Kxg7 40.Qxf3+)] **32...e5!?** Now the game takes a crazy turn. **33.Nxe4** [The game would be equal after: 33.dxe5 Qxe5 34.Nxe4 dxe4=] **33...dxe4** [If 33...fxe4 34.Qxg4 exd4

(34...Nf3+ 35.Bxf3 exf3 36.Qxg7+ (36.Qe6++) 36...Kxg7 37.Rxc7+ Kf6 38.Ra6++) 35.Rxc7 Qxc7 36.Qxg5+ Kh8 (36...Qg7 37.Qxd5++) 37.Qxd5±/+ For the exchange, white has a lot of pawns and black's king is exposed.; Or if, 33...Nxe4 34.Bxe4 dxe4 (34...fxe4 35.dxe5) 35.d5 The absence of the Knight and Bishop favours white.] **34.d5** [34.dxe5! Qxe5=] **34...Nf3+ 35.Bxf3 gxf3** Opening the position. **36.Qc4?** [36.Qa6!±] **36...Qh6! 37.d6+** [Now white can force a draw with: 37.Re1! f2+ 38.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 39.Kf1 f4 40.exf4 exf4 41.d6+ Kh8 42.Qd4+ Kg8= If the King goes to the 7th rank then Rac7 is annoying.] **37...Kh8 38.Rxc7** [38.Re1 is possible, but would not be strong as black can play 38...cxd6±] **38...Qxe3+ 39.Kh1 f2!** [39...Qd2?? 40.Qf1±; 39...Qf2 40.Rg1= (40.Qf1 Qxf1+ 41.Rxf1 Ra8-) 40...Rf6? 41.Qf1! The difference is that black's Rook can't move from the 8th rank and white gains a tempo. 41...Qxf1 42.Rxf1 f4 43.d7 I think white would win this.] **40.Qf1 Qf3+ 41.Qg2**



41...Ra8? My opponent was surprised and thought that I was winning, as I myself did, but in reality this loses! [41...f4! 42.g4□= (42.Qxf3?? exf3 43.Rf1 (43.gxf4 Rxf4 44.Rf1 Re4-) 43...e4 44.Rxf2 e3-)] **42.Rf1!+-** [42.Rxa8?? f1Q# (42...Rxa8) ; 42.Qxf3 Rxa1+ 43.Kg2 exf3+-]

42...f4 43.Re7± [43.gxf4 Rxf4 44.Qxf3 (44.d7?? Qxg2+ 45.Kxg2 Rg8+ 46.Kh3 Rf6 47.d8Q Rxd8-) 44...exf3 (44...Rxf3 45.d7 e3 46.Rc8+ Rf8=) 45.h3!+- Transposes to 43.Qxf3.a) 45.Re7?? Re4 46.h3 (46.d7 Re1 47.Re8+ Kh7 48.Rxa8 Rxf1#) 46...Re1-+; **b)** 45.d7 Rff8=; ; 43.Qxf3! and white wins! 43...exf3 44.gxf4 e4 (44...Rxf4 45.h3 Avoiding back-rank mate possibilities. 45...e4 (45...Rg8 46.Rxf2 Rd4 47.Re7 e4 48.d7+-) 46.Re7+-) 45.Re7 Rae8+-] **43...Qxg2+** [43...fxg3!= 44.d7 Ra6 45.Re8 Rh6 46.Rxf8+ Qxf8 47.Qxg3 e3!! 48.Qxe5+ Kh7 49.Qe4+ Rg6=] **44.Kxg2 e3 45.Rxe5?** [Better were: 45.gxf4 Rxf4 (45...e2) 46.Rxe5 Rg8+ 47.Kh1 Rfg4!; and 45.Rc1! fxg3 46.Rxe5! gxh2 (46...Rae8?? 47.Rxe8 Rxe8 48.hxg3 Rf8 49.Kf1+-) 47.Rxe3 Rac8! (47...f1Q+ 48.Rxf1 Rxf1 49.Rh3+ Kg7 50.Kxf1+- (50.Rxh2 Rc1-)) 48.Rh3+ Kg7 49.Kf1 Rh8=] **45...f3+!** Now black wins. **46.Kh3 e2 47.Rxf2 Rfe8!+-** [47...Rae8?? 48.Rxf3!= Rxe5 (48...Rxf3?? 49.Rxe8+ Kg7 50.Rxe2+-) 49.Rxf8+ Kg7 50.d7 Kxf8 51.d8Q+ Kf7 52.Qd7+ Kg8=] **48.Rh5+ Kg7 49.d7 Rh8** In conclusion, this game can be split into 5 parts: 1) The opening: where I successfully employ a rare idea. 2) The position gets closed and preparation for invasion on the flanks is in progress. 3) I break the position on the K-side with h4 and hxg3. 4) I open the centre with e5 and the position gets 'crazy'. 5) The position is very complicated and we both make mistakes. As Tartakower had said "The winner of the game is the one who makes the next to last mistake!" The same could be said about this game! [49...e1Q 50.dxe8Q Rxe8 51.Rxf3] **0-1.**

Indians Beat Overseas GMs

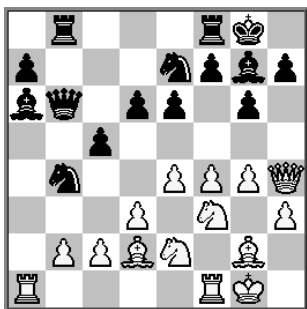
Chennai Open Analysis by Manuel Aaron

Valeriy Neverov (Ukr, 2506)

Kumar Gaurav (2030)

Closed Sicilian B25

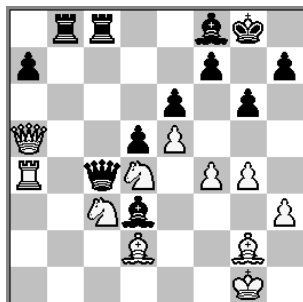
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6
4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 Rb8 6.f4 d6
7.h3 e6 8.Nf3 b5!? 9.0-0 b4
10.Ne2 Nge7 11.a3 Qa5
12.Qe1 0-0 13.g4 Ba6 14.Bd2
Qb6 15.axb4 Nxb4 16.Qh4



16...Nxc2! Black concludes his aggressive opening play sacrificing a knight to destroy white's queen-side which lacks co-ordination. He gets three pawns as compensation. 17.Qxe7 Nxa1 18.Rxa1 Bxd3 19.Nc3 Qxb2

With a material advantage of rook and three pawns for two knights, black is clearly on top. He also has the initiative as the knight on c3 is under attack.

20.Ra2 Qb3 21.e5 d5
22.Qxc5 Rfc8 23.Qa5 [If
23.Qxa7 Bf8 24.Kh2 Rb7
25.Nd4 Rxa7 26.Nxb3 Rxa2
27.Nxa2 Rc2 28.Nac1 Bc4
29.Kg3 Bxb3 30.Nxb3 Rb2-+]
23...Bf8 24.Nd4 Qc4 25.Ra4



25...Bb4 [An easier way to win was: 25...Rb4! 26.Nf3 Bc5+ 27.Kh2 d4 28.Rxb4 Bxb4 29.Qxa7 dxc3 Black wins as he has the exchange and a pawn more with an attacking position.] 26.Qxa7 Ra8! 27.Qxa8 Rxa8 [Black misses the intermezzo which would have won faster: 27...Qxd4+ 28.Kh1 Rxa8 29.Rxa8+ Kg7 30.Ra4 Bc2-+] 28.Rxa8+ Kg7 29.Nxe6+

With both of his knights under attack, white decides to sacrifice this knight to have some faint chances of surviving. But he fails...

29...fxe6 30.Ra7+ Kf8
31.Ra8+ Kf7 32.Ra7+ Ke8
33.Ra8+ Kd7 34.Na4 Qd4+!
0-1.

Artur Gabrielian (Rus, 2545)

Akash Thakur (2341)

Ruy Lopez C81

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6
4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.d4 b5
7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.Qe2 Be7
10.Rd1 0-0 11.c4 bxc4 12.Bxc4

**Bc5 13.Be3 Bxe3 14.Qxe3 Qb8
15.Bb3 Qb6 16.Qxb6 cxb6
17.Na3 Rfd8 18.Nc2 Nc5
19.Ncd4 Nxb3 20.axb3 Nb4
21.Ng5**

[In Goodricke Open, Calcutta 1999 the game between Saimeera Ravi (2110) and Anupama Gokhale (2215) went: 21.Ne1 Rdc8 22.Kf1 Kf8 23.Ke2 a5 24.Nd3 Nc2 25.Nxc2 Rxc2+ 26.Rd2⁺ drawn after 87 moves.] **21...Rac8 22.Rd2** [If 22.Ngxe6 fxe6 23.f4 (23.Nxe6 Re8 24.Nd4 Rxe5⁺) 23...Kf7⁺]

22...h6! 23.Ngxe6 fxe6 24.f4 [If 24.Nxe6 Re8 25.Nd4 Rxe5⁺ the passive rook on d8 has effortlessly got to the centre.]

24...Kf7 25.g4 g6 26.Kf2 Rc5 27.h4 Rdc8 28.h5 gxh5 29.gxh5

Better was: 29.Rh1 Nc2 30.Rxh5 Nxd4 31.Rxd4 Rc2+ 32.Ke3 Rxb2 33.Rd3 Rg8 34.Kf3 Kg6 35.f5+ exf5 36.Rxf5=

29...Rg8 30.Kf3! a5 31.f5? [31.Re1 preparing to play 32 f5 was better.]

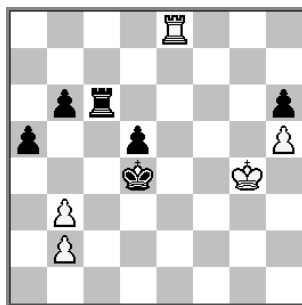
31...exf5 32.Nxf5 Ke6 33.Nd4+

If 33.Nxh6 Rh8 34.Ng4 Rxh5 35.Kf4 Nc6 and the noose is tightening around the e5 pawn. 36.Re1 Rb5+–

33...Ke7 34.Rh1 Rcc8! 35.Rh4 Rg5 36.e6 Nc6!–+ 37.Nxc6+ Rxc6 38.Rhd4 Kxe6 39.Rg4 Rxc4 40.Kxc4 Ke5 41.Re2+

If 41.Kf3 Rf6+ 42.Ke3 Rf5 43.Rh2 d4+ 44.Ke2 b5+–

41...Kd4 42.Re8



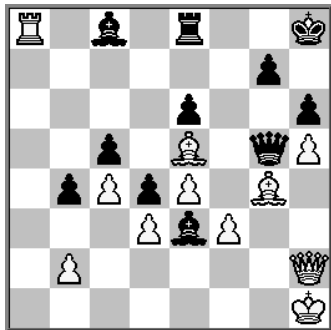
42...Rf6! 43.Rg8 Ke5 44.Re8+ [44.Rg6? Rxc6+ 45.hxc6 Kf6 46.Kh5 Kg7+–] **44...Re6! 45.Rf8 d4! 46.Rg8 d3 47.Kf3 Rd6 48.Rg1** [48.Re8+ Kf5 49.Re1 d2 50.Rd1 Kg5+–] **48...Kf5 49.Rd1 d2** A masterly endgame by Thakur. 0–1.

**K Rathnakaran (2457)
Boris Grachev (Rus, 2652)
Sicilian Defence B30**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 Nf6 5.Bg2 d6 6.0–0 Be7 7.Re1 0–0 8.c3 Bd7 9.h3 Rc8 10.Be3 Qc7 11.Nbd2 Rfd8 12.Rc1 Ne5 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14. a4 a6 15.Ra1 Bc6 16.Qc2 b5 17. axb5 axb5 18.Ra2 Ra8 19. Rea1 h6 20.Rxa8 Bxa8 21.c4 b4 22.Bf1 Nd7 23.Nb3 f5 So far, the game has been equal with black having a firm grip over d4. Now the top seeded Russian GM starts asserting himself. **24.f3 f4 25.Bf2**

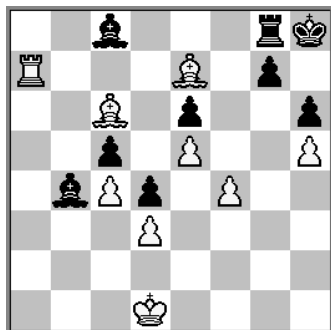


25...fxg3 26.Bxg3 Bb7
 27.h4 Rf8 28.Qe2 Bc8 29.Bh3
 Nb8 30.Kh1 Nc6 31.Rg1 Qd8
 32.h5 Bg5 33.Bg4 [A complicated alternative is: 33.Nxc5!? Nd4 34.Qd1 Qe7 35.Nb3 Nxf3 36.Rf1 Nd4 37.Rxf8+ Qxf8= with about equal chances.]
 33...Qe7 34.Qf2 Nd4 35.Nxd4 exd4 36.Qh2 Be3 37.Ra1!
 From here onwards white's position starts becoming stronger and stronger. 37...Re8 [If 37...Rd8 38.Ra5± White's idea is to play 38 Bc7 and 39 Bb6 capturing the c5 pawn.]
 38.Bd6 Qg5 39.Ra7± Kh8 40.Be5 Re7 41.Ra8 Re8



42.Qg3! With this move, white defends his Bg4 in preparation for the advance f3-f4.
 42...Rg8 [If 42...Bf2 43.Qf4 Qh4+ (43...Qxf4 44.Bxf4+-) 44.Kg2 Be3 45.Qg3! Qe7 46.Bxe6!! Bf4 47.Bxf4 Qxe6

48.Ra5!+- Qb6 49.Bc7 Qc6 50.Qd6! and c5 falls.] 43.Ra7 Bf2 44.Qf4 Qh4+ 45.Kg2 Be3 46.Qg3 Qxg3+ [If 46...Bg5 47.Bd6 and c5 cannot be defended.] 47.Kxg3 b3 Black seeks counter-play with his b-pawn, but white nips it in the bud. 48.f4! White plays the ending calmly, encircling and strangling the black pieces.
 48...Bc1 49.Bd1 Bxb2 50.Bxb3 Bc3 51.Ba4 Bd2 52.Bb5 Bb4 53.Kf2 Bd2 54.Ke2 Bb4 [54...Be3 55.Bd6 Rd8 56.Be7 Rg8 57.Kf3 and 58 Bxc5.] 55.Kd1 Bc3 56.Bc6 Bb4 57.Bd6 Rd8 58.Be7 Rg8 59.e5!



[Zugzwang! Any move that black makes would lose him material and it is his turn to move. After 59.e5! Kh7 60.Be4+ Kh8 61.Bg6 any move by black would lose material.] 1-0.

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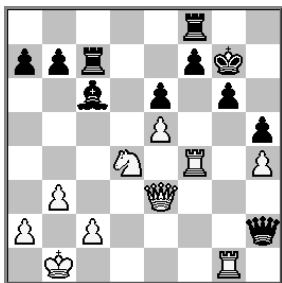
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Game Selections

By Manuel Aaron

In the previous issue we reported the Chennai Open Tournament for the Dr N Mahalingam Trophy. Now, we present the games from this event:



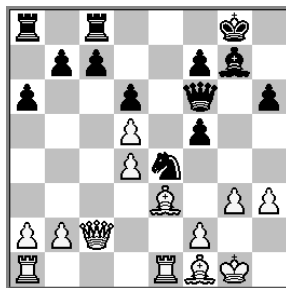
Yuri Solodovnichenko 2581
Gavi Siddayya 1971

31.Rxg6+!! fxg6 32.Nxe6+ Kh7 33.Rxf8 Rd7 34.Rh8+! Kxh8 35.Qh6+ Kg8 36.Qf8+ Kh7 37.Ng5# 1-0.

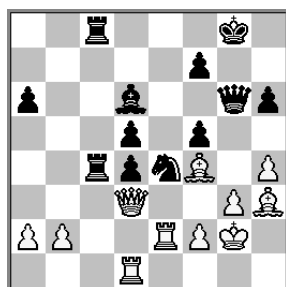
Sipke Ernst (Ned, 2536)
B Vignesh (Ind 2176)
English A28

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.e3 g6 5.d4 exd4 6.exd4 d6 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.Nd5 0-0 9.Be2 Bf5 10.0-0 Be4 11.Nc3 Bf5 12.h3 h6 13.Be3 Ne4 14.Nd5 Ne7 15.Bd3 Nxd5 16.cxd5 Re8 17.Qc2 Qd7 [△17...Rc8=] 18.Nh4! [Not 18.g4? Bxg4 19.Bxe4 Bxh3 20.Nh2 Bxf1 21.Rxf1 Re7 22.Kg2 Rae8 23.Bd3 Rxe3 24.fxe3 Rxe3 For his sacrificed knight, black has three pawns, a threat to win a fourth and an active position.]

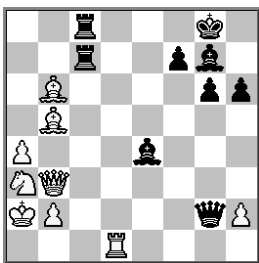
18...Qe7 19.Nxf5 gxf5 20.Bb5 Rec8 21.Rfe1± a6 22.Bf1 Qf6 23.g3



23...c5 24.dxc6 bxc6 25.Rad1 d5 26.h4?! [This is designed to prevent ...Ng5. Better was 26.Kg2] 26...Qg6 27.Bf4 Bf8 28.Bh3 c5?! [This advance seems terribly risky as he willingly accepts an isolated d5 pawn which comes under immediate attack. Better was the preparatory: 28...Rd8] 29.Kg2 [This 'brave' move gives up his advantage. He could have kept the advantage with: 29.Qb3] 29...cxd4 30.Qb3? Rc4! 31.Qd3 Rac8 32.Re2 Bd6?!



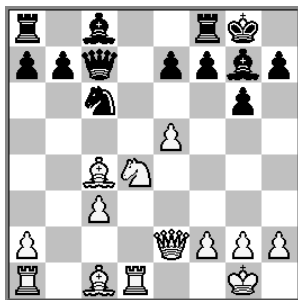
[This gives the advantage to white. Better was: 32...Be7 33.Kh2 Qh5 34.f3 R8c6! 35. Bxf5 (35.fxe4 dxe4 36.Qd2 Bb4+) 35...Qxf5 36.fxe4 dxe4 37.Rxe4 Rc2+ 38.Rd2 Rxd2+ 39.Bxd2 Re6! 40.Rxd4 Qf2+ 41. Kh3 Re2 42.Rg4+ (42.Bxh6 f5! 43.Rd8+ Bxd8 44.Qxd8+ Kh7+) 42...Bg5! 43.Rxg5+ hxg5 44.Qd8+ Kh7 45.Qd3+ f5 46.Qd7+ Kg6 47.h5+! Kh6 48. Bxg5+ Kxg5 49.Qg7+ Kxh5 50. Qh7+=] 33.Bxd6 Nxd6 34. b3 Rc3 35.Qxd4 Ne4 36. Qe5 [If 36.Qxd5 Nxc3 37.fxc3 Qxc3+ 38.Kh1 Qxh3+ 39.Rh2 Qg4 40. Rg2 Rh3+ 41. Kg1 Rg3μ] 36...Qh5 37.Rde1 Qf3+ 38. Kh2 Nxf2 39.Bxf5 Ng4+ 40. Bxg4 Qxg4= 41.Rg2 He wants to free his queen from the defence of his g3. 41...Rd3 42. Qf6 Rdc3 43.Rf1 Qg6 44.Qe5 Rc2 45. Qxd5 R8c3 46.Qe5 Rg2+ 47. Kg2 Rc2+ 48.Kh3 h5! 49.Rf4 Rxa2 50. Qf5 Qf5+ 51.Rxf5 Rb2 52. Rxh5 Rxb3 53.Ra5 Rb6 54.h5 Rb5! ½-½



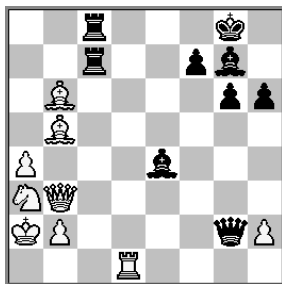
R Pragganandhaa (Ind, 2174)
Valeriy Neverov (Ukr, 2506)
 40...Rc3!! 41.Qb4 Bd5+ 42. Rxd5 [42.Ka1 Rc1+ 43.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 44.Nb1 Qc2-+; After 42.Kb1 Qd2!! as well as 42... Rxa3 both mate quickly.] 42... Qxd5+ 43.Ka1 Rxa3+! 44. Qxa3 Rc1# 0-1.

Arjun Erigaisi (Ind, 2238)
Marat Dzhumaev (Uzb, 2495)
 King's Indian E70

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Be2 c6 6.Nf3 d5 7.e5 Ne4 8.0-0 Nxc3 9.bxc3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 c5 11.Qe2 Nc6 12.Rd1 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Qc7



14.e6 Bxe6 15.Bxe6 Nxd4 16.cxd4 fxe6 17.Qxe6+ Kh8 18.Be3 [Δ18.Bg5 Rae8 19. Rac1 Qd6 20.d5±] 18... Rad8 19.Rac1 Qd7 20.d5 b6 21.Bg5 Bf6 22.Bh6 Rfe8 23.g3 Bb2 24.Rb1 Qa4 25.Rd2 Rd6 26. Qf7 Bf6 27.Rb4! Qd7 [27... Qxb4?? 28.Qxe8#] 28.Rf4 Rg8 The black king is under tight security. It is difficult to find a plan for white to penetrate into the king-side. 29.h4 Bg7



30.Re2?! [After playing so well, white misses: 30.Bg5! Rf8 (worse was: 30...e5 31.dxe6

Qxe6 32.Qxe6 Rxe6 33.Rf7+—the doubling of the rooks along the seventh rank will win for white.) 31.Qxe7 Re8 32.Qxd7 Rxd7 33.Rf3±] 30...**Bxh6!** now the game is drawn. 31.Rxe7 **Qxe7 32.Qxe7 Bxf4 33.gxf4 Rxd5 34.Qf6+ Rg7 35.Qf8+** ½–½.



Shailesh Dravid (Ind, 2230)
Nguyen Huynh Minh Huy
(Vie, 2489)

23.Nf6+! gxf6 24.Nh5! [24.Nh5 (The threat is 25 Nxf6+ forking king and queen.) 24...Kh8 (24...Ne2+ 25.Kh1+ and the knight fork threat remains.) 25.Qh6 Rg8 26.Qxf6+ mates.] 1-0.

Vitaliy Bernadskiy(Ukr, 2546)
Shailesh Dravid (Ind, 2230)
King's Indian E99

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.Nd3 f5 11.Bd2 Nf6 12.f3 f4 13.c5 g5 14.Rc1 Ng6 15.Nb5 Rf7 16.Ba5 b6 17.cxb6 axb6 18.Be1 h5 [All these moves have been played before. If now 18...Rxa2? 19.Na3 and the rook is trapped. White will play Qb3 and force the win of the exchange.] **19.Nb4 g4 20.Nc6 Qf8 21.Nca7 h4?**

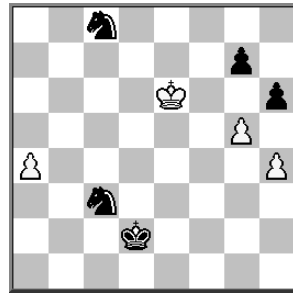
[This immediately leads black into ultimate defeat. Comparatively better was: 21...Bd7 22.Rxc7 g3 23.hxg3 fxg3 24.Bxg3 Bh6 25.a3± Black does not have enough attack for the two pawns he has lost.] **22.Nxc8 Rxc8 23.fxcg4+ f3 24.Bxf3 Bh6 25.Bd2 Bxd2 26.Qxd2 Nh7 27.g5 Rf4** [Two pawns down, black gives up defending his c-pawn and tries to go all out for a king-side attack. 27...Qe7 is no better because of 28.Nxd6! Qxd6 29.Rc6 Qe7 30.Rxg6+ Rg7 31.Re6! Qc5+ 32.Qf2 Nxc5 (or 32...Qd4 33.Rd1 Nxc5 34.Rxd4 Nh3+ 35.Kf1 Nxf2 36.Rxe5+-) 33.Qxc5 bxc5 34.Rxe5+-] **28.Bh5 Rxf1 29.Rxf1 Qg7 30.Bxg6 Qxg6 31.Rf5!** The pawn on g5 is not only one of white's two extra pawns, but it is also a thorn in black's flesh. By maintaining the pawn on g5, white forces his opponent to make further concessions in the game. **31...Rf8™ 32.Qf2!** This forces simplification leading to an easy endgame victory. **32...Rxf5 33.Qxf5 Qxg5 34.Qxg5+ Nxc5 35.Nc3** [This gives absolutely no chance for black. A faster winning variation which needed patient calculation was: 35.a4! Nxe4 36.b4 Nf6 37.Nxc7 Nd7 38.a5 bxa5 39.bxa5 Kf7 40.Kf2 Ke7 41.a6 Kd8 42.a7 Nb6 43.a8Q+

Nxa8 44.Nxa8 wins.] 35...Kf7 36.h3 Ke7 37.Kf2 Kd7 38.g3! Nxb3+ 39.Kg2 Ng5 40.gxh4 Nh7 41.Kf3 Nf6 42.a4 Kc8 The king wants to get to a6 and then play ...b5, but this plan is effectively prevented. 43.Na2! Kb7 44.Nb4 Ka7 45.Nc6+ Kb7 46.b4 Ka6 47.Ne7! Kb7 48.Nf5 Kc8 49.Ng3! Kd7 50.h5 c5 51.bxc5 dxc5 52.h6! c4 53.Nh5! Nh7 [53...Nxb5?? 54.h7!+- and h7-h8 cannot be stopped.] 54.Ke3 Kd6 55.Ng7 Ng5 56.Ne6! Nh7 57.Kd2⊙ whatever black plays he loses. 57...Nf6 58.Ng5! 1-0.

Sipke Ernst (Ned, 2536)
Bhakti Kulkarni (Ind, 2313)
English Opening A11

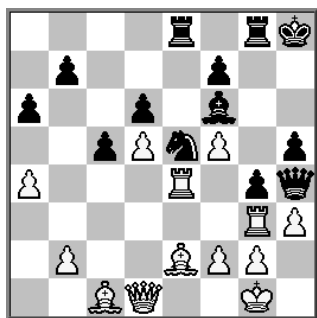
1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.b3 Bd6 6.Bb2 Nbd7 7.Qc2 Qe7 8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 Ba3 10.Bxa3 Qxa3 11.d4 Qe7 12.Rab1 b6 13.b4 dxc4 14.Bxc4 c5 15.bxc5 bxc5 16.Be2 Nb6 17.Nb5 cxd4 18.Nfxd4 Bb7 19.Qc7 Qxc7 20.Nxc7 Rab8 21.Rfc1 Be4 22.Ra1 Rfd8 23.f3 Bb7 24.Rab1 Rbc8 25.Kf2 [⊔25.Ndb5 Rd7 26.Nxa7 Rdx7 27.Rxc7 Rxc7 28.Rxb6 Nd7 29.Rd6±] 25...Nfd5 26.Ncb5 Rxc1 27.Rxc1 e5 28.Nb3 Ba6 29.a3 Bxb5 30.Bxb5 Rc8 31.Rxc8+ Nxc8 32.Na5 Nd6 33.Ba4 Ne7 [33...Nb6 34.Bb3 a6=] 34.Ke2 f6 35.Kd3 Kf7 36.f4 Ke6 37.Bb3+ Kf5 38.g3 Kg4! 39.Be6+ Kf3 40.fxe5 fxe5 41.g4 Ne4!± 42.Kc4 Kxe3-+ 43.Kb5 Kd4 44.Nb3+ Kc3 45.Nc1 Ng5 46.Bd7 e4 47.a4 Nf3 48.Ka6 Nd4 49.Bb5 [Not 49.Kxa7? Kd2 50.g5 Kxc1-+] 49...Kd2 50.Bf1 Kxc1 51.Kxa7 e3 [An easy win was: 51...Nb3! controlling the

a-pawn. Then black must collect the white bishop for his e-pawn while his other knight goes after white's king-side pawns.] 52.Kb6 e2 [⊔52...Nf3 53.h3 Nd2 54.Bd3 Nb3 55.a5 Nd5+ 56.Kb5 Nxa5 57.Kxa5 Nf4 58.Bf1 Nxb3!] 53.Be2 Ne2 54.Kc5 Nc3 55.Kd6 Nc8+ 56.Ke6 White's plan is now clear. He wants to get both black pawns and dare white to mate him with her two knights. 56...Kd2 57.h4 h6 58.g5



58...hxg5? [Black should win with: 58...h5! 59.Kf7 Ke3 60.Kxg7 Kf4 61.a5 (61.Kh6 Kg4 62.a5 Kxh4-+) 61...Kf5 62.g6 Ne4 63.a6 Ned6 64.Kh7 Ne8 65.g7 Nf6+ 66.Kh8 (66.Kh6 Nd6!! 67.g8Q (67.a7?? Nf7#) 67...Nxc8+ 68.Kxh5 (68.Kg7 Nb5 69.Kxg8 Kg4 70.Kf7 Kxh4 and black queens first.) 68...Nf7!! 69.a7 Nf6#!) 66...Na7 67.g8Q Nxc8 68.Kxg8 Kg4 69.Kf7 Kxh4 70.Ke6 Kg4 71.Kd7 h4 72.Kc7 h3 73.Kb7 Nb5 74.Kb6 h2 75.Kxb5 h1Q-+] 59.hxg5 Ke3 60.Kf7 Kf4 61.g6 Kf5 62.Kxg7 Now the game is drawn. 62...Ne7 63.a5 Nb5 64.a6 Na7 65.Kh6 Nxc6 66.Kh5 Nf4+ 67.Kh4 Ne6 68.Kg3 Ng5 69.Kf2 Kf4 70.Ke2 Ke4 71.Kf2 Nf3 72.Kg3 Nd4 73.Kg4 ½-½

21.exf5 Rg8 [Elaborately preparing an attack down the g-file which does not materialise. Better was: 21...gxh3 22.Rxh3 Qg4 23.Rhe3 Qxd1 24.Rxd1 Ng4=] **22.Rg3 Bf6 23.Re4** Black is in trouble with his g-pawn under pressure. **23...h5 24.Be2 Rae8**



25.Rb3 c4 [The trapping of the black queen has evolved slowly. If he had seen the threat he could have prepared a retreat square as follows: 25...Bd8 26.Rxb7 Qf6 27.hxg4 hxg4 28.Bf4 Qxf5 29.Bxe5+ Rxe5 30.Rxe5 dxe5 (30...Qxe5? 31.Rxf7+-) 31.Bxa6±] **26.g3 Qxh3 27.Rxe5! Bxe5 28.Bxc4!** Black is cool and precise! She picks up an offensive pawn before playing Bf1 next move. Black knows that his queen will be trapped next move. But he cannot escape! **1-0.**

More games under Indians beat visiting GMs are given separately in page 24 of this issue.

Obituary: R.Meenakshisundaram 1945-2016

Cuddalore Loses A Chess Lover

(With input from Stephen Saviour and V.Lenin, both of Cuddalore, TN)

Cuddalore, in Tamil Nadu, has lost an ardent chess lover, R.Meenakshisundaram, a Retired Deputy Collector.

Meenakshisundaram, born 20 Dec 1945, died 9 Jan 2016, was unknown outside Cuddalore. He was an enthusiastic chess fan who used to take part in Open Tournaments around Cuddalore and occasionally win prizes which gladdened his heart. His wife recalls that he used to bring home some small prizes won at tournaments and proudly show them to her.

After retirement his chess life started in earnest. He was a regular visitor at all tournaments, either as player or spectator and was often requested to preside over prize distribution ceremonies. Basically a kind and affectionate person, he gave advice and recommendations to the handful of coaches in Cuddalore as he was interested in chess development.

From May 2015, he started coaching children in the age range of 10-15 years under the banner of Chanakya Chess Coaching Centre. For this, he spent a lot of money converting the first floor of his house into a kind of mini theatre equipped with a projector, computers, chess sets, etc. People in the know believe he could have profitably rented out that place instead of creating the expensive infrastructure for a chess academy with dubious returns.



The last time they met, Meenakshisundaram (see pic) proudly told Stephen Saviour about his organising a “Najdorf” tournament that weekend. In such an event, all players must compulsorily start their games with a specific variation of the Najdorf Sicilian, either as white or as black.

Meenakshisundaram’s association with chess goes back to 1973 when he was one of the founding fathers of the South Arcot District Chess Association (SADCA) which evolved into the present Cuddalore District Chess Association. He was the first Joint Secretary of the SADCA which had Dr M.Balakrishnan, as President and R.Sivaraman as Secretary. Dr Balakrishnan from Villupuram was popularly known as the Paambu doctor (snake doctor), famed for treating snake bites.

Meenakshisundaram is survived by his wife Rukmani, son Vidyaraman who lives in Texas, USA, and daughter Vijayalakshmi in Neyveli. Both children are married and are well off.

The National Junior, 1980: Remarkably, the SADCA with enthusiastic Sivaraman as Secretary organised the 10th National Junior Champi-

onship in Cuddalore in 1980. The top results of that championship shows many who became famous in later life: 1 Promod Kumar Singh (Bihar) 8/9; 2-3 D.V.Prasad (Kar), Dibyendu Barua (WB) 7; 4-7 Rohini Khadilkar (Mah), Ashok Aaron (TN), Jayashree Khadilkar (Mah), Arvind Aaron (TN) 6½ each; 8 S.Paul Arokiaraj (TN) 6...et al. Others not in the prize list included Lanka Ravi, Krishnamoorthy Murugan (both became IMs later) and Dhiraj Raghuvanshi who is now the President of Chess Association of Uttaranchal.

The National Junior was however held in difficult circumstances by the SADCA as their cash resources did not match their enthusiasm for organising. Arvind Aaron recalls that the organisers tried to save money by providing the TN players in this championship with cheap lodging which required them to sleep on bare Table Tennis tables! They protested and after about five rounds, were put up in Brindavan Lodge on par with players from other States.

One incident from this championship needs to be mentioned here. Youthful exuberance of some players from the North saw fire crackers being set off on the third floor of the Lodge leading to some damage, unpleasantness and tension with the owners of the Lodge. This added to SADCA’s woes but they managed it.

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

FIDE/World/Asian Events www.fide.com

Apr 05-15 Apr Asian U-8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Apr 18-28 Apr World Amateur, Halkidiki, Greece

May 02-12 May Asian Junior B/G, Delhi

Jul 09-18 Jul Asian Schools, Tehran, Iran

Aug 07-21 Aug World Junior, Bhubaneswar

Sep 01-06 Sep South Asian Amateur (U-2000 Elo) Chp. Srinagar

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

Sep 01-15 Sep World Youth U-14, 16, 18, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

Sep 17-30 Sep Chess Olympiad, Baku, Azerbaijan

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

Oct 26-05 Nov Asian Seniors, Mandalay, Myanmar

Nov 11-30 Nov World Championship, Carlsen v ???, New York, USA

Nov 16-25 Nov Asian Amateur, Kuwait City

Nov 18-01 Dec World Senior Chp., Marianske Lazne, Czech Rep

AICF/National/Regional Championships www.aicf.in

May 15-19 May National Cities, Kankarbagh, Patna, Bihar

Jun 17-25 Jun National Women's Challenger, Tamil Nadu

Jun 28-06 Jul National U-11 B/G, Chattisgarh

Jul 09-19 Jul National Challenger, Uttar Pradesh

Jul 22-30 Jul National U-13 B/G, Chp., Gujarat

Sep 18-26 Sep National U-7 B/G, Puducherry

OPEN/Rating Tournaments

Apr 02-06 Apr 2nd Triple C Rated, Puri PF Rs.505050. 7381090920

Apr 08-12 Apr KCA Rated Open, Kottayam PF: 6.51L. 9895571000.

Apr 24-29 Apr All India Rating, Thane. PF:3L. 9869017221

Apr 25-29 Apr LV Desai Mem Rating, Mardo, Goa. PF: 1.50L

Apr 29-01 May Calicut Open Rated, Kozhikode PF: 2L.

May 17-22 May Pavna Rating, Aligarh, UP PF: Rs.4L. 9927978698.

ONE LINE HEADLINES

Moscow: FIDE Candidates Standings At Half-Way: 1-2 Aro-
nian, Karjakin 4.5/7 each; 3 Anand 4; 4-5 Caruana, Giri 3.5
each; 6-7 Nakamura, Svidler 3 each; 8 Topalov 2.

Lviv: Hou Yifan Beats M Muzychuk 6-3 To Regain Title

Kolkata: Diptayan Ghosh Is India's 43rd Grand Master

Thoothukudi: Shyaam Nikhil (Kanyakumari) Wins Rated

Elo: Tejaswini Sagar of Ahmedabad in Indian Top 10 (W)

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