

Magazine

Unity Chess

7

Weekly
Magazine

Champion



of

**Unity
WOMEN**

September 6th
2020

1
st



**Woman Grandmaster
Anna M. Sargsyan**

Interview



Strategy Corner

Opening

Tactic and Combination

1st Unity
WOMEN
Championship



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From the editor

Why are there more men chess masters than women chess masters? Many men may answer this question: Well, men are smarter. Mastering this game, which is a mixture of mathematical calculations, requires great care and vigilance. As a result, the superiority of men in this field is a sign that their IQ is higher than women. British researchers have dismissed the claim that men are smarter than women in chess. British researchers prove that both of these interpretations: men's high IQ and cultural reasons are far from the truth. A group of British researchers who have researched in this field say that the superiority of men in chess competitions has one reason.

A simple reason: women are not interested in chess. The research team, which works at two prestigious European universities, the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom and the University of Tübingen in Germany, first looked at the statistics of chess players.

For example, in the German Chess Association, which has 120,000 members, the ratio of women to men is one in sixteen. As a result, in the 30,000 competitions that the association holds throughout the year, the number of female participants is much lower than men.

The research team then compared the top 100 men and 100 women of the German Chess Association. Interestingly, there is no noticeable difference in the overall result of this study. Besides, the top three women on the list scored better than their male. In the next 70 ranks, men were better than women, and again in the last 20 ranks, women were better than men. This research Proves that gender is not directly related to IQ and women are just as smart as men.

M.R.Salehzadeh



1st Unity WOMEN Championship

Tournament Report

This week, the Unity tournament was dedicated to the women's section, which was held on September 6, with 218 chess players in attendance.

10 WGM, 6 IM, 26 WIM, 32 WFM, and 4 WCM participated in this Tournament.

Iran, Indonesia and the Philippines had the highest participation.

You will see the details of the winners and prizes next.



Anna M. Sargsyan: Beyond Danger!

After two hours of relentless struggle, the women's grandmaster Anna M. Sargsyan (2402) from Armenia won the first place with an extraordinary brilliance with 97 points.



IM & WGM Gulnar Mammadova

After him, Azeri international master Gulnar Mammadova (2400) came in second with 63 points.



WGM Daria Voit

Women's grandmaster Daria Voit (2361) from Russia also came in third with 61 points.

UNITY CHESS

Women

Online Championship

► **Open**

1

September
6th 2020



1

**WGM Anna
M. Sargsyan**



\$50



2

**IM Gulnar
Mammadova**



\$30



3

**WGM Daria
Voit**



\$20

UNITY CHESS

MEGA EVENT

Online Championship

Under
2200-2100

1

September
6th 2020



Under 2200



1

**WGM Janelle
Mae Frayna**



\$20



2

**WFM Xeniya
Balabayeva**



\$10



3

**WIM Umami
Fisabilillah**



\$5

Under 2100



1

**Eline
Roegers**



\$20



2

**WCM Parnian
Ghomi**



\$10



3

**Homa
Alavi**



\$5

UNITY CHESS

MEGA EVENT

Online Championship

Under
2000-1900

1

September
6th 2020



Under 2000



1

WFM Atabayeva
Ogulgerek



\$20

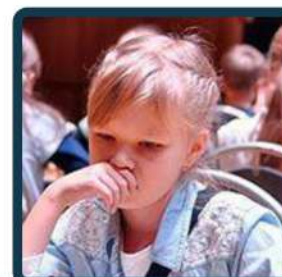


2

Laysa
Latifah



\$10



3

WCM Ksenia
Strukova



\$5

Under 1900



1

Divya
M



\$20



2

WFM Christine
Elisabeth



\$10



3

WCM Theodora
Paulina Walukow



\$5

UNITY CHESS

MEGA EVENT

Online Championship

Under
1800-1700

1

September
6th 2020



Under 1800



1

**Cecilia Natalie
Liuviann**



\$20



2

**WFM Alya
Sekar Kinasih**



\$10



3

**Justnin
Macapuno**



\$5

Under 1700



1

**Paula
Oviedo**



\$20



2

**Tatjana
Kogan**



\$10



3

**Jarel Renz
Lacambra**



\$5

UNITY CHESS

MEGA EVENT

Online Championship

Under
1600-1500

1

September
6th 2020



Under 1600



1

Mereilim
Zamanbek



\$20



2

Oksana
Slapoguzova



\$10



3

Barchinoy
Shokirjonova



\$5

Under 1500



1

Niza
Chilingwe



\$20



2

Jee Ann
Faye Barry



\$10



3

Samaneh
Sohrabi



\$5

UNITY CHESS

MEGA EVENT

Online Championship

▶ **Unrated**
Under1400

1

September
6th 2020



**Under
1400**



1

**Chilufya
Phiri**



\$20



2

**Maria Eduarda
Rosa Da Costa**



\$10



3

**Naleli
McPherson**



\$5

Unrated



1

**Nasiba
Tursunova**



\$20



2

**Gabriela Elvia
Claros Roca**



\$10



3

**Lebo Ralekwape
Seroka**



\$5

UNITY CHESS

MEGA EVENT

Online Championship

► **Lucky Prizes**

1

September
6th 2020



50



**WFM Cherry
Ann Mejia**

\$5



**WFM Tannaz
Azali**

\$5



100



150



**Jallen Herzchelle
Agra**

\$5



**Nazilya
Azizova**

\$5



200

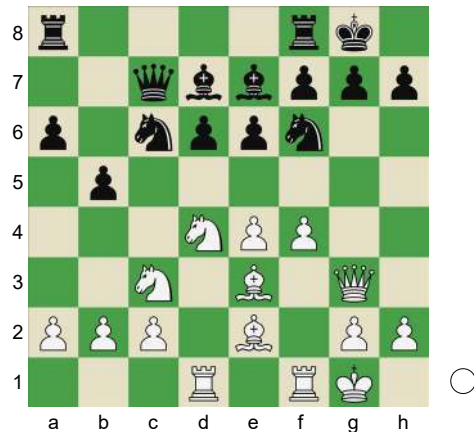




Opening

□ Sargsyan,Anna M 2405
 ■ Serikbay,Assel 2247
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena 06.09.2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 Nc6 8.0-0 Be7 9.f4 d6 10.Qe1 0-0 11.Rd1 Bd7 12.Qg3 b5



13.e5! A typical breakthrough in the Sicilian defence. **13...dxe5?!**
 [13...Ne8 would be better, for example: 14.Ne4 d5 15.Nf2 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Qxc2 17.Qe3 Qc7 18.Rc1 Qd8 19.a3 b4 20.axb4 Bxb4 21.Rc2 Be7 22.Bd3 Bb5 23.Rfc1 g6 24.h3 Qb8 25.g4 Ng7 26.Kg2 Re8 27.Rc7 Bd8 28.R7c3 1/2-1/2 (28) Munoz Portugal,G (2322)-Sosa Patino,C (2439) ICCF email 2009]
14.fxe5 Nxe5?
 [Δ14...Ne8 15.Nf3 Rc8±]
15.Bh6?
 [15.Bf4 Bd6 16.Nb3+- with the idea of Rxd6.]
15...Ne8 16.Bf4 f6 17.Kh1 ♞
 1-0

□ Voit,Daria 2361
 ■ Mammadova,Gulnar 2382
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena 06.09.2020

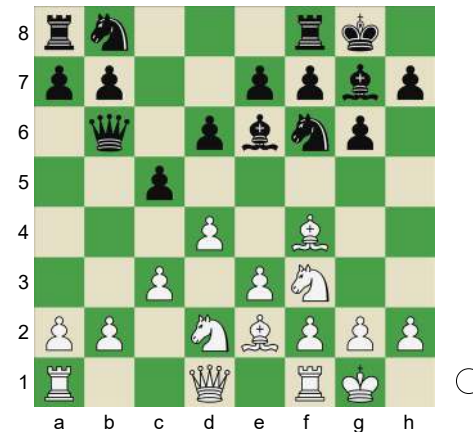
1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.e4 c6 4.Nc3 d5 5.e5 Nh6



6.h4!? An interesting plan in such positions that Black develops his knight on the h6 square. **6...Bg4 7.Be2 Nf5?! 8.Ng5! Bxe2 9.Nxe2 h6?! 10.Nf3?**
 [10.Nxf7! Kxf7 11.g4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4±]
10...e6 11.g4±
 1-0

□ Chilufya,Phiri 1297
 ■ Injac,Teodora 2316
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena 06.09.2020

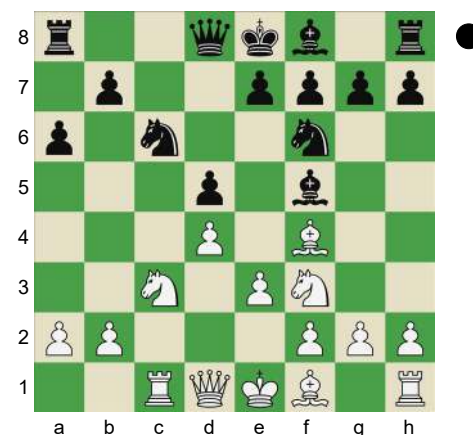
1.d4 Nf6 2.c3 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Bf4 d6 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.Be2 Be6 8.0-0 Qb6



9.e4!? An interesting novelty. White sacrifices the b2-pawn to seize the initiative.
 [9.Ng5 Bd7 10.Qb3 h6 11.Ngf3 cxd4 12.exd4 Nc6 13.h3 Rfe8 14.Bh2 Be6 15.Bc4 Bxc4 16.Nxc4 Qa6 17.a4 Rac8 18.Ne3= 1/2-1/2 Osmak,I (2392)-Kuzubov,Y (2660) Benasque 2018]
9...Qxb2 10.d5 Bg4 11.Nc4 Qb5
 [11...Qxc3?? 12.Bd2+-]
12.Nxd6↑
 0-1

□ Zahedifar,Anahita 2213
 ■ Voit,Daria 2361
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena 06.09.2020

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bf4 a6 7.Rc1 Bf5 8.e3



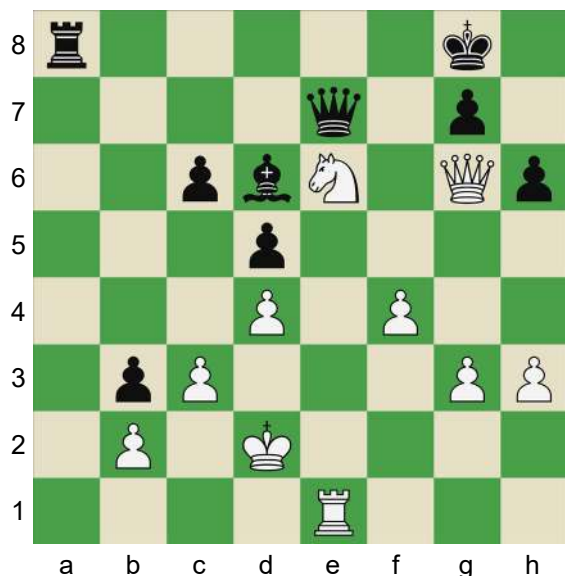
Rc8!? A deep opening preparation.
 [8...e6 9.Qb3± Na5? 10.Qa4+ b5? (10...Nc6 11.Ne5±) 11.Nxb5 axb5 12.Bxb5+ Nd7 13.Bc7 Qc8 14.Ne5 Nc6 15.Ba5!+-]
9.Ne5
 [9.Qb3 Na5=]
 [9.Be2 e6 10.0-0 (10.Qb3 Na5 11.Qa4+? b5 The point of 8...Rc8. Now the c3-knight is pin! 12.Qd1 Nc4±) 10...Bd6=]
9...Nd7?
 [9...Nxe5 10.dxe5 Ne4 11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Rxc8 Bxc8 13.Qxd8+ Kxd8= 1/2-1/2 (55) Pap,G (2492)-Solak,D (2629) Zadar 2011]
10.Nxc6 Rxc6 11.Nxd5 Qa5+ 12.Nc3±
 0-1



Tactic and Combination

□ Voit,Daria
 ■ Mammadova,Gulnar
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

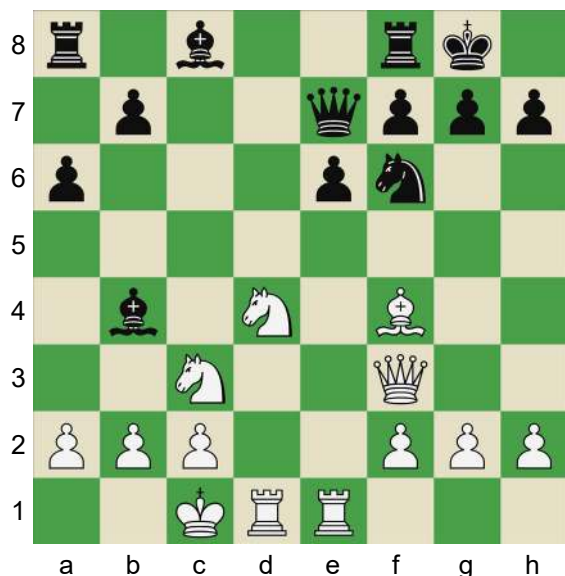
2361
 2382
 06.09.2020



29.Ng5! ΔQh7 29...hxg5 30.Rxe7 Bxe7 31.Qxc6+-
 1-0

□ Gevorgyan,Maria
 ■ Voit,Daria
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

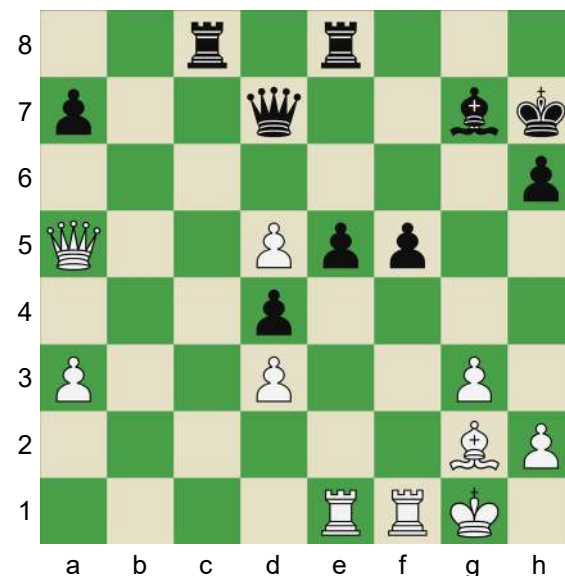
2228
 2361
 06.09.2020



15.Nf5!→ Qe8
 [15...exf5 16.Rxe7 Bxe7 17.Bd6!+-]
 16.Nxg7! Kxg7 17.Be5!?
 [Δ17.Bh6+! Kg6 18.Re5! ΔQg3 Bxc3 19.Qg3+ Ng4 20.Qxg4+ Kxh6 21.Qg5#+-]
 17...Be7 18.Ne4 Qb5 19.Nxf6+-
 [19.Bxf6+! Bxf6 20.Qxf6+ Kg8 21.Re3+- ΔRg3]
 1-0

□ Kim,Kristina
 ■ Khalafova,Narmin
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

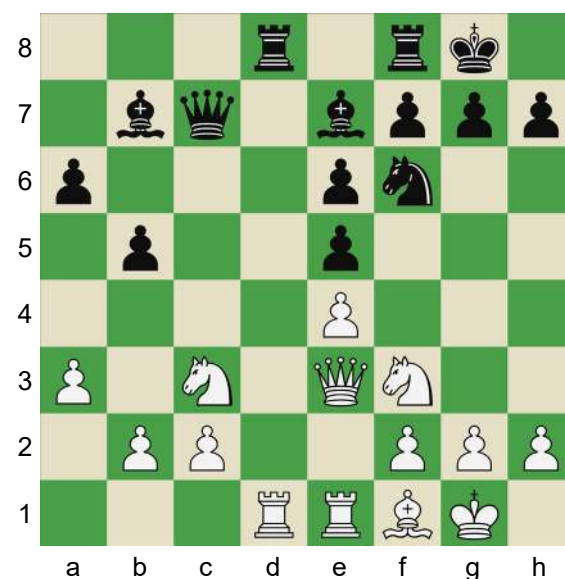
2019
 2279
 06.09.2020



26.Rxf5! Rc2
 [26...Qxf5 27.Be4!+-]
 27.Be4+-
 0-1

□ Cyfka,Karina
 ■ Khalafova,Narmin
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

2415
 2279
 06.09.2020



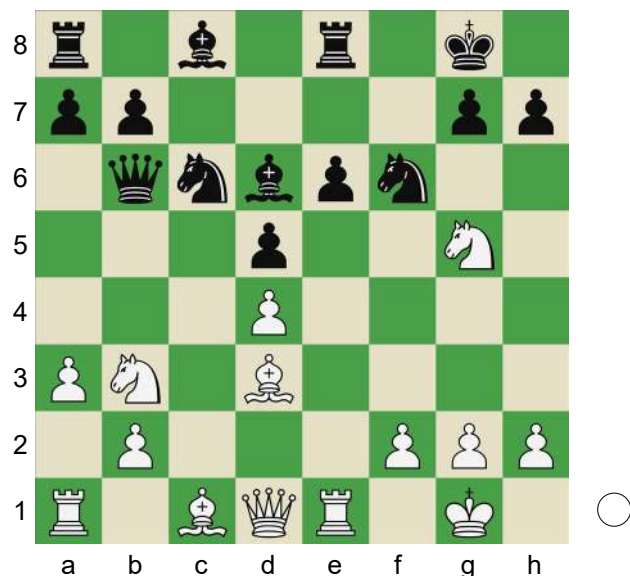
16...Ng4! ΔBc5 17.Qe2 Bc5! 18.Rxd8 Rxd8 19.Nd1 Rxd1! / \Nxf2 20.Rxd1 Nxf2 21.Re1 Nxe4+! 22.Kh1 Nf2+ 23.Kg1 e4! ΔNg4
 [23...Ng4+! 24.Kh1 e4+-]
 24.Nd2 Ng4+ 25.Kh1 Qxh2#+-
 0-1



Tactic and Combination

□ Khalafova, Narmin
 ■ Legowo, Parahita Millyena
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

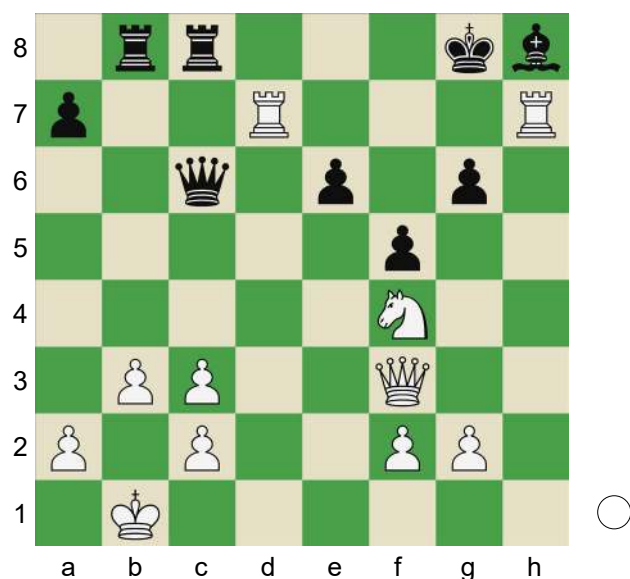
2279
 2016
 06.09.2020



15.Nxh7! ΔNxf6 15...Nxh7 16.Bxh7+ Kxh7
 [16...Kf8 17.Bg6! ΔQh5 Qd8 18.Qh5 Ne7 19.Bg5!+- ΔQh8]
 17.Qh5+ Kg8 18.Qxe8+ Kh7 19.Re3!+-
 1-0

□ Mekni, Wala
 ■ Kinasih, Alya sekar
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

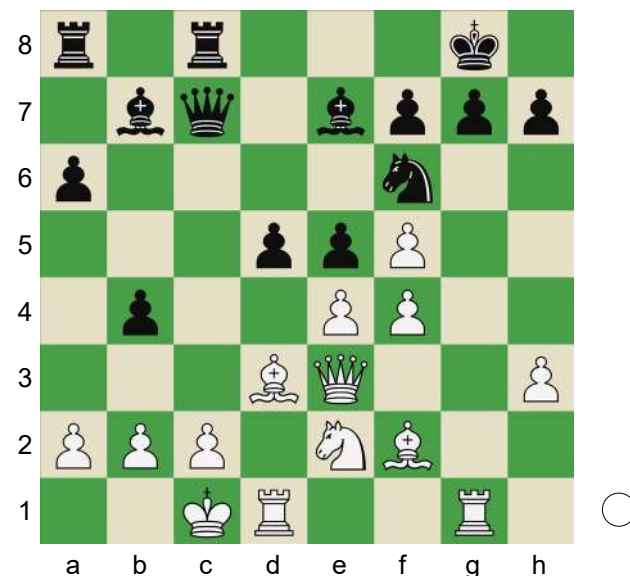
1729
 06.09.2020



25.Rxh8+! Kxh8 26.Qh3+ Kg8 27.Qh7+-
 1-0

□ Mekni, Wala
 ■ Roebers, Eline
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

2066
 06.09.2020



21.fxe5! Nxe4
 [21...Qxe5? 22.Rxg7+! ΔBg3 Kxg7 23.Bg3! d4 24.Qg5+ Kf8 25.Bxe5+-]
 22.f6!→ Bc5 23.Rxg7+ Kf8 24.Rg8+! ΔQh6 24...Kxg8 25.Qh6! Nxf6
 26.Rg1+-
 1-0

□ Khalafova, Narmin
 ■ Claros Roca, Gabriela Elvia
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

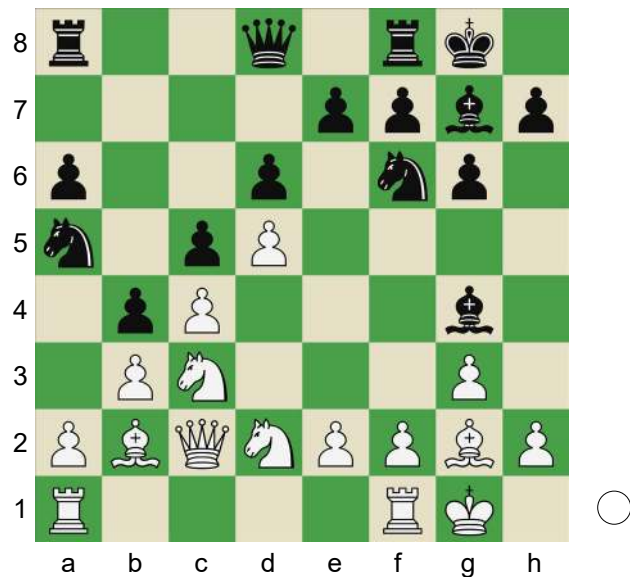
2279
 06.09.2020



12.d6! ΔNd5 12...exd6 13.Nd5!→ Qc6 14.Ng5! h6
 [14...Be6 15.Bxh5 gxh5 16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.Qxh5+ Kd7 18.Qf7+ Kc8
 19.Qf6!+-]
 15.Nxf7 Rh7 16.Bxh5 gxh5 17.Qxh5+-
 1-0

□ Sargsyan, Anna M.
 ■ Revita, Samantha Glo
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

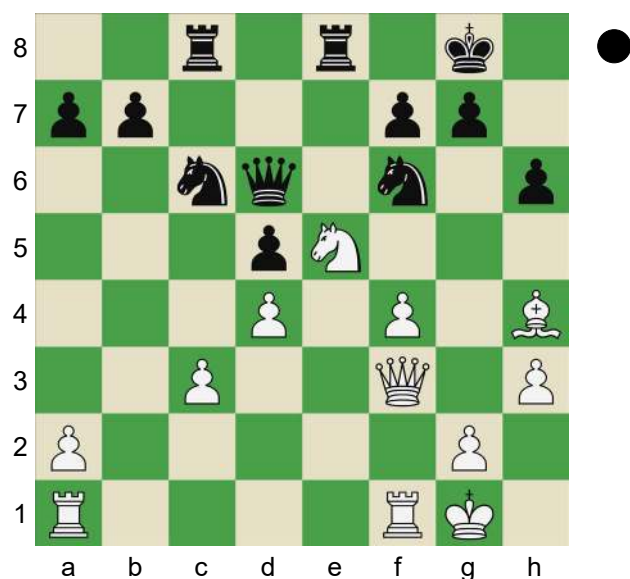
2402
 1889
 06.09.2020



13.Nce4! Bxe2 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6
 [Δ14...exf6 15.Rfe1 Bg4 16.Ne4 Nb7 17.Qd2 Bf5 18.f3=]
 15.Rfe1 Bxb2 16.Qxb2 Bg4 17.Re3! ΔRae1 17...Ra7 18.Rae1±
 1-0

□ Zahedifar, Anahita
 ■ Sargsyan, Anna M
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

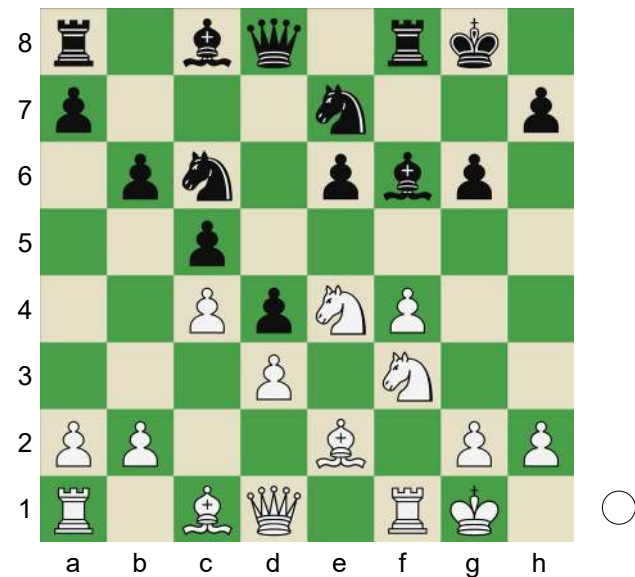
2213
 2402
 06.09.2020



18...Ne4! 19.Rad1 Ne7?!
 [Δ19...b5! 20.Rd3 f6±]
 20.c4?
 [Δ20.Bxe7! Δc4 Rxe7 21.c4! b6 22.cxd5 Qxd5±]
 20...Nf5±
 0-1

□ Khalafova, Narmin
 ■ Roebers, Eline
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

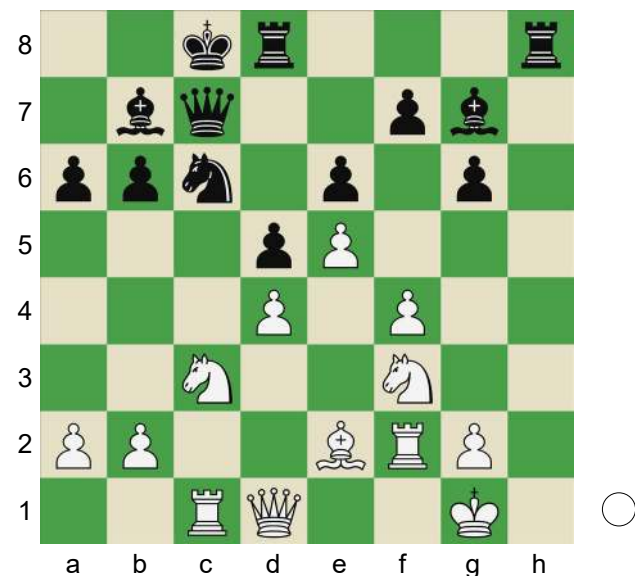
2279
 2066
 06.09.2020



13.Nxf6+! Rxf6 14.Qe1 Nf5 15.Ng5±
 [Δ15.Ne5! Bb7 16.Bf3 Rc8 17.Bxc6 Bxc6 18.b4! Qe7 19.b5±]
 1-0

□ Khalafova, Narmin
 ■ Francisco Guecamburu, Candela Be
 UnityChess Women Championship Arena

2279
 2034
 06.09.2020



20.b4! Δb5 20...Kb8
 [20...b5 21.a4! bxa4 22.Nxa4+- Δb5]
 21.b5 axb5 22.Nxb5 Qe7 23.Qa4+-
 0-1

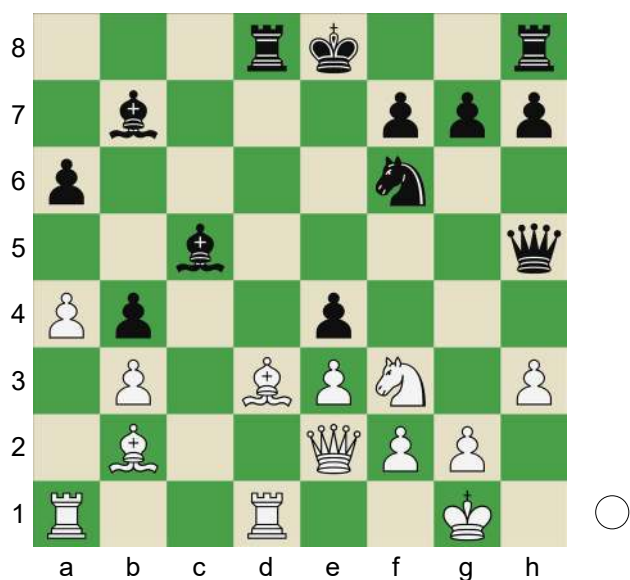
Analyze Your Game!

Analyzed by: Anna Sargsyan

□ Sargsyan,Anna
 ■ Bilguun,Sumiya
 Aeroflot open B (5)

2374
 2486
 23.02.2020

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5
 8.Bd3 a6 9.a4 b4 10.Ne4 Bb7 11.0-0 c5 12.Nxf6+ Nxf6 13.dxc5 Bxc5
 14.Qe2 Qd5 15.Rd1 Qh5 16.h3 Rd8 17.b3 This all was line, but here my
 opponent did horrible mistake and I immediately used my chance. 17...e5??
 [17...0-0 This simple move will bring the game to the fight]
 18.Bb2 e4



19.Bb5+!

[19.Bxa6? Rxd1+ 20.Rxd1 Bxa6

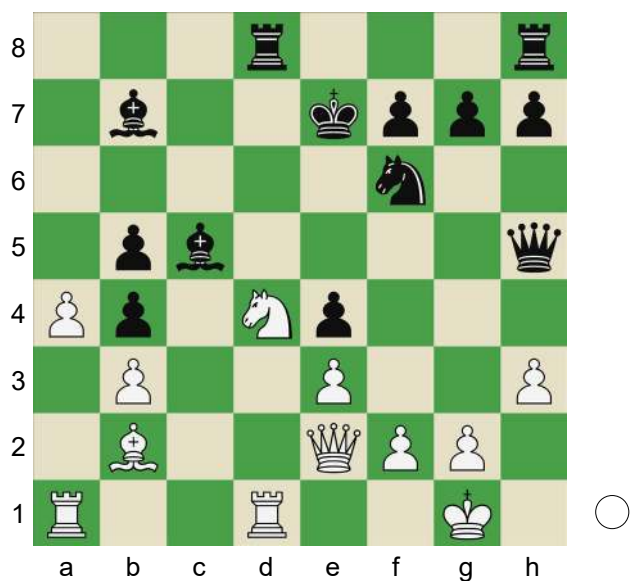
A) 21.Qxa6 0-0 22.Bxf6 exf3+ (22...gxf6? 23.g4 Qxh3 24.Nh2±);

B) 21.Bxf6 0-0! 22.Qxa6 exf3+]

19...Ke7 20.Nd4 axb5

[20...Bxd4 21.Bxd4 Qxe2 (21...Rxd4 22.Rxd4 axb5 23.Qd2 Rc8
 24.Rc1+-) 22.Bxe2+-]

[20...Rxd4 21.exd4 Qxe2 22.Bxe2+-]



21.Nc6+!! Ke6 22.Nxd8+ Rxd8 23.Qxh5 Nxh5 24.Rxd8 The rest is easy
 24...bxa4 25.Rxa4 Nf6 26.Ra5 Bd6 27.Bxf6 gxf6 28.Rb5 Bc6 29.Rxd6+
 Kxd6 30.Rxb4
 1-0

Bilguun,Sumiya



Sargsyan,Anna





“These Unity tournaments are a great experience. My parents watch me play and we analyze afterwards what happened and where I could improve. We get to play in a international tournament with players from 80 countries. The tournaments offer an invaluable experience of playing many titled players, which is probably not possible for a U1600 player like me.

Also the amount of prize money is great for such a low entry fee to encourage everyone. And finally the cheating committee is outstanding, they are doing a wonderful job and making sure that genuine people get a clean environment.”

◆ Srivastava Spandan from India



Gulnar Marfat qazi Mammadova born May 11, 1991, in Ali-Bayramly) is an Azerbaijani chess player who holds the titles of International Master and Woman Grandmaster. She has twice (2009, 2010) become the champion of Azerbaijan. In the 2016 Women's Chess Olympiad, Mammadova won the individual gold medal for the best performance on board 3.

Dear Gulnar, thank you for giving us your time and participating in this interview. How did you learn chess and how did you become a woman grandmaster?

My mother taught me to play chess. It was her childhood dream to become a chess player but for reasons, she could not be chess player so her dream was me to become chess player. I don't know how much I could make her dream come true. In my childhood, we had not many chances to participate in international tournaments so for participating in tournaments we had to win gold or silver medal of national youth championships. My first rating was 2093 at my 15 and it did not take long become 2300. but it hard to gain WGM norms. I think nowadays it is easier to become WGM and gain rating because of rating calculating...

What are your biggest successes?

My biggest chess achievements are the Olympic Gold medal in the 3rd board, 2016 Baku Chess Olympiad. European women team championships bronze medal in 2019.



Young players enjoy playing in the Arena system. What do you think about this system? Do you want our tournament to be held in the Arena system or Swiss one?

I think this system is better than Swiss as you still have many chances even if you started bad.



How much time do you spend on chess during the current pandemic, and how is it divided?

Around 3-4 hours. 1 hour I spend on playing arena tournaments.



Who is your favorite chess player in history? What about the current players?

My favorite player on all time is Fischer, and I like the playing style of Mamedyarov.

Please name some of your favorite chess books? And tell us why you like them?

Mostly I love the book series of World Champions also I love tactics books, I like books of, Rubinstein, Tal, Karpov, etc...



What do you think about the future of chess?

I think that chess will improve a lot. Besides real chess also online chess has improved a lot.

What is your opinion about Sundays With Unity tournaments? How can it become more useful and attractive?

I think it would be more attractive to qualify for the competition at the end of the year from the monthly tournament.



Participants Biography

Participants Biography

S. P. Sethuraman



Sethuraman Panayappan Sethuraman (born 25 February 1993 in Chennai) is an Indian chess grandmaster.

He achieved the three norms required for the grandmaster title with shared second place and a score of 8/10 points at the Parsvnath Open in New Delhi in 2009, third place and 6.5/9 score at the Paris International Championship in 2010, and winning the Voivoda Cup in Legnica with 7/9 in the same year.

Sethuraman won the 2004 Asian under-12 championship in Singapore and the 2009 world U16 championship in Antalya. In 2014, Sethuraman took a team bronze medal with the Indian team at the 41st Chess Olympiad in Tromsø and won the Indian National Premier Championship. With this win, he qualified for the Chess World Cup 2015, where he knocked out Sanan Sjugirov in round one and compatriot Pentala Harikrishna in the second round, before being eliminated by Shakhriyar Mamedyarov in the third. In 2016 he won the Asian Chess Championship in Tashkent. In February 2018, he participated in the Aeroflot Open. He finished second out of ninety-two, scoring 6½/9 (5–1=3).

Aleksandr Lenderman



Born in Leningrad, he arrived with his family in Brooklyn when he was four. He attended Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn where he played for one of the most successful U.S. high school chess teams of the decade, winning multiple national chess championships.

Lenderman attended Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn where, from 2004 to 2007, he was part of the "dream team" winning four straight national high school titles for the school, along with now International Master Salvijus Bercys. He played an important role in the book *The Kings of New York*, written by Michael Weinreb and published by Gotham Press in 2007.

Lenderman was first in the 2008 USCF Grand Prix, scoring higher than all the grandmasters he competed against by playing and championing in smaller events, including WCL tournaments.

In 2009, he announced after completing his second year at Brooklyn College, he planned to end his studies there and become a professional chess player. He finished first in the 2009 Atlantic Open, in front of several other GMs. He also won the 2009 USCF Grand Prix and was a co-champion of the 2009 U.S. Open. Lenderman earned

three Grandmaster norms in quick succession in the summer of 2009:

He earned his first Grandmaster norm at the Copper State International tournament in Mesa AZ, May 29 to June 3, 2009.

A second GM norm was earned at the Philadelphia International Tournament, June 25–29, 2009.

He earned his third GM norm on July 5, 2009, at the World Open in Philadelphia.

In 2014 he won the 18th Open International Bavarian Chess Championship in Bad Wiessee on tiebreak over Robert Hovhannisyan and Ante Saric, after they all tied for first with a score of 7.5/9 points.

Lenderman played for the USA team in the 2015 World Team Chess Championship in Tsaghkadzor and scored 5/7, winning the gold medal on the second board. He won the 2015 World Open after beating Rauf Mamedov in an armageddon playoff; the two had the best tiebreak among eight players who tied for first place with 7/9.

In September 2017, Lenderman participated in the Chess World Cup as the No. 104 seed in the field of 128 players. He upset Pavel Eljanov 2-0 in the first round and Aryan Tari 1.5-0.5 in the second, before losing on tiebreak in the third round to Maxime Vachier-Lagrave.

Later in the same month, Lenderman played in the Chess.com Isle of Man Open, where he finished with a record of +3-0=6, which included a win against Francisco Vallejo Pons, and a performance rating of 2768. His final score of 6/9 placed him in joint 10th to 18th place.



Participants Biography

Shanti Nur A'bidah S



- Full Name: Shanti Nur A'bidah S
- Nickname: Shanti
- Gender: Female
- Place, Date of Birth: Semarang, September 15th, 2001
- Age: 19 years old
- Nationality: Indonesia
- Religion: Islam
- Hobby: Playing chess and reading book

Autobiography

Hello, my name is Shanti Nur Abidah, I am 19 years old.

I was born in Semarang, September 15th, 2001.

I live in Jalan Kanguru Utara IV, Gayamsari, Semarang.

My nationality is Indonesia, and my religion is Islam.

Currently, I am studying as a second-semester student majoring in psychology at Gunadarma University.

Speaking of my hobby, I like to play chess. I can play chess since grade 5 elementary school.

The first national tournament I participated in was the National Chess Championship in Palembang, and I managed to become a champion.

In October 2018 I also had the opportunity to become one of Indonesia's representatives at the Chess Olympiad in Batumi, Georgia.

And now I have got the title of Woman International Master, which I got when I joined the East Asian Youth Chess Championship U20 in Korea 2016.

I am very grateful that through chess, I have the opportunity to take part in chess tournaments in various countries, and of course, get many interesting experiences.

I hope to get the title of Women Grand Master soon.

Jahongir Vakhidov



Jahongir Vakhidov is an Uzbekistani chess player who holds the title of Grandmaster, which he was awarded in 2014. Vakhidov was joint winner of the Hastings International Chess Congress in 2013/14 and 2015/16. He also qualified for the Chess World Cup 2017, where he was defeated in the first round by Peter Svidler.

Ahmed Adly



Ahmed Adly (born 18 February 1987) is an Egyptian chess Grandmaster.

In 2005, in 2011, and 2019 he won the African Chess Championship, and in 2007 he won the World Junior Chess Championship.

He tied for 1st-5th with Gabriel Sargissian, Shakhriyar Mamedyarov, Igor-Alexandre Nataf, and Pendyala Harikrishna in the Reykjavík Open 2006. In 2008 he tied for 1st-3rd with Zigurds Lanka and Dorian Rogozenko at Hamburg. He qualified for the Chess World Cup 2009 and was knocked out by Viktor Bologan in the first round.

Championships

World Junior Chess Champion, 2007, Armenia.

World championships under-18, 2004, Greece, Bronze.



Participants Biography

Cristobal Henriquez Villagra



Cristóbal Henríquez Villagra (born 7 August 1996) is a Chilean chess grandmaster.

He was awarded the title of International Master following his win in the 2013 Pan-American Youth chess championship in Brazil.

He was runner-up in the 2014 Chilean championship and won it in 2015. Henríquez Villagra won the 2014 Pan American junior championship. He played third board for Chile at the 2014 Chess Olympiad in Tromsø, Norway, scoring 6.5/9. In the 2014 World Under-18 championship, he finished in a tie for third.

In 2015 he finished in a tie for second at the FIDE zonal in Asunción, then won the playoff against three grandmasters to qualify for the FIDE World Cup in September of that year. At this event, he caused a major upset in the first round by defeating leading grandmaster Boris Gelfand in the rapid playoff.

In the 6th Arica Open in 2019 he tied 2nd-8th place with Jose Eduardo Martinez Alcantara, Deivy Vera Siguenas, Renato R. Quintiliano Pinto, Nikita Petrov, Salvador Alonso, and Diego Saul Rod Flores Quillas.

He was awarded the grandmaster title in March 2017.

Pouya Idani



Pouya Idani (born 1995) is an Iranian chess player. He was awarded the title of Grandmaster (GM) by FIDE in 2014. He won the World U18 Chess Championship in 2013. He is the 3rd best chess player in Iran. (as of June 2020).

Idani represented his country in a number of chess olympiads, including 2012 and 2014.

He played in the Chess World Cup 2015, where he was defeated in the first round by Shakhriyar Mamedyarov.

He is the champion of the 2018 Goa Open tournament.

In 2008, he won 2nd place at the 7th Dubai Juniors Chess Championship and at the 4th World Schools Chess Championships - Open U13 in Singapore.

In 2009, he won 2nd place at the Iranian U14 Championship and tied in 5th place at the World U14 Championship with Mads Andersen.

Idani won the Iranian U18 championship in 2011.

He tied 3rd to 8th place at the World U18 Championship in 2012 with Jorge Cori, Jan-Krzysztof Duda, Gabor Nagy, Kacper Drozdowski, and Vladislav Kovalev.

Maxim Matlakov



Maxim Sergeevich Matlakov (Russian: Максим Сергеевич Матлаков; born 5 March 1991) is a Russian chess grandmaster. He won the European Individual Chess Championship in 2017. He acted as a second for Peter Svidler in the Candidates Tournaments of 2013, 2014, and 2016.

Matlakov won three medals at the World Youth Chess Championships: two bronze, in the Under 12 section in 2003 and Under 14 in 2005, and gold, in the Under 18 in 2009. Also in 2009, he won the Saint Petersburg Chess Championship and the Aivars Gipslis Memorial. Matlakov won the Russian Junior (U20) Championship of 2011.

He tied for second, finishing sixth on tiebreak, at the 13th European Individual Chess Championship in 2012 with a score of 8/11 points and qualified for the Chess World Cup 2013. He defeated Dutch GM Jan Smeets in the first round and was eliminated by Azerbaijani GM Shakhriyar Mamedyarov in the second round tiebreaker.



Participants Biography

In 2013 Matlakov tied for first in the Chigorin Memorial in Saint Petersburg, placing third on tiebreak, behind Pavel Eljanov and Dmitry Kokarev respectively.

In February 2014, he was a joint winner with Alexander Moiseenko of the Moscow Open. In July 2014, he tied for second with Parimarjan Negi, Gawain Jones, and Maxim Rodshtein at the Politiken Cup in Helsingør, placing third on countback. Matlakov won the blitz event from the tournament. At the Chess World Cup 2015, he was knocked out in the first round by Gadir Guseinov after losing the first set of rapid tiebreakers.

In April 2017, he finished tied for first with Nikita Vitiugov, Etienne Bacrot, and Zdenko Kozul in the Grenke Chess Open in Karlsruhe, Germany. Matlakov took second place on the tiebreak score. In June, he won the European Individual Championship in Minsk edging out Baadur Jobava and Vladimir Fedoseev on tiebreak, after all, three players scored 8½/11 points.

Gawain Jones



Gawain Christopher Bernard Jones (born 11 December 1987) is an English chess player. He was awarded the title of Grandmaster by FIDE in 2007. He won the British Chess Championship in 2012 and 2017. He competed in the FIDE World Cup in 2013, 2017, and 2019.

Jones began playing chess at the age of four, competing in his first tournaments at six. In early 1997 he hit the headlines and was featured on the front page of The Guardian newspaper when he became the youngest player in the world ever to beat an International Master in an official tournament game. He has represented England in the World Junior and World Youth Championships on many occasions and since 2008 has been one of England's highest-rated players.

An active player on the tournament circuit, he secured his Grandmaster title with successful results at the 2nd EU Individual Open Championship in Liverpool in 2006, 2006 European Club Cup in Fügen, and 4NCL 2006/7 season. Elsewhere in Europe, he took first place at Porto San Giorgio and La Laguna (both 2007). During his stay in Australasia, there were many more tournament successes, including a share of first place at the Sydney International 2008 and creditable second places at the Doeberl Cup 2008 and Queenstown Classic 2009.

Jones shared first place with Simon Williams at the London Chess Classic FIDE Open 2010. In 2011, he won the Bunratty Masters, ahead of Nigel Short, whom he defeated in their individual encounter and the Commonwealth Chess Championship in Ekurhuleni. Jones won the 2012/13 Hastings International Chess Congress as clear first.

In December 2014, he won the Challenge Match against Romain Édouard by 4–2; it was a six-game match held concurrently with the London Chess Classic. In 2016, Jones won the New Zealand Open in January, [and the Dubai Open in April edging out Vladimir Akopian on tiebreak. The next year he won in Dubai for the second time, becoming the first player to do so.

Jones edged out this time Mustafa Yilmaz, Vidit Gujrathi, Eduardo Iturrizaga, Ahmed Adly, Sergei Zhigalko, and Aleksandr Rakhmanov on tiebreak score.

In team competitions, Jones has played for England in the Chess Olympiad, the World Team Chess Championship, the European Team Chess Championship, and the World Youth Under 16 Chess Olympiad. At the 2019 World Team Championship in Astana, England took the silver medal and Jones also won an individual silver playing on board four.

Books

- Jones, Gawain (2008). Starting Out: Sicilian Grand Prix Attack. Everyman Chess. ISBN 978-1857445473.
- Palliser, Richard; Emms, John; Ward, Chris; Jones, Gawain (2008). Dangerous Weapons: the Benoni and Benko - Dazzle Your Opponents!. Everyman Chess. ISBN 978-1857445718.
- Jones, Gawain (2011). How to Beat the Sicilian Defence - An Anti-Sicilian Repertoire for White. Everyman Chess. ISBN 978-1857446630.
- Jones, Gawain (2015). The Dragon. Volume One. Quality Chess. ISBN 978-1784830076.
- Jones, Gawain (2015). The Dragon. Volume Two. Quality Chess.

Born in Keighley, West Yorkshire, Jones has lived in Italy, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand. In 2010, he returned to the United Kingdom to live in London in order to focus on his chess career and related projects.

Jones is married to Sue Maroroa, also a chess player.

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