Using chess to make children better in Ireland socially adjusted, more intelligent, better human beings

When you receive this issue, the Women's World Championship in Sochi should be close to finishing.

As we write the semi-finals have just started. You can follow the games at http://sochi2015.fide.com/

The University of Texas in Dallas has a very strong chess team, full of Grandmasters. They have a scholarship program for talented chess players.

They recently played a match tournament against the very best US juniors. The juniors won 26.5-23.5. As one Grandmaster commentator said (before the event) I'm sure the UTD players are overjoyed at the idea of playing a bunch of underrated prodigies on the rise.

Several games feature on our puzzles page. The junior team:



R-L: Kayden Troff (16, GM), Darwin Yang (18, IM), Akshat Chandra (14, IM), Samuel Sevian (14, GM), Jeffery Xiong (13, IM).



In this issue:

- 2 In the Beginning (289-292) by Igor Sukhin
- 3 Special Mazes by Jérôme Maufras
- 4 Carissa Yip Youngest ever USA Female Master
- 5 Judit Polgar to Hou Yifan
- 6 Chess cartoon, meal & signatures
- 7 Special Mazes solutions
- 8 Puzzles

by FST Kevin O'Connell



Brazilian stamp for correspondence chess. Note the special way postal chess players name the squares (a1 is '11' and so on).

In the Beginning

Chess Camp 5 by Igor Sukhin Checkmate in Two

In the Beginning – 289 (Chess Camp 5-29) White to move.



In the Beginning – 291 (Chess Camp 5-40) White to move.



In the Beginning – 290 (Chess Camp 5-36) Black to move.



In the Beginning – 292 (Chess Camp 5-43) Black to move.



289. 1. **当**1-h1.

290. 1...**⊈**c7-c8.

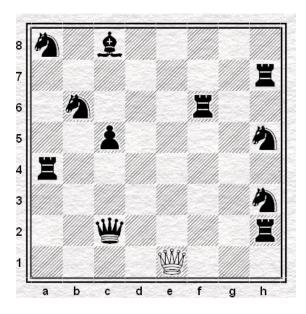
291. 1. ₩a8-a1+.

292. 1... 4 b7-d8.

Special Mazes

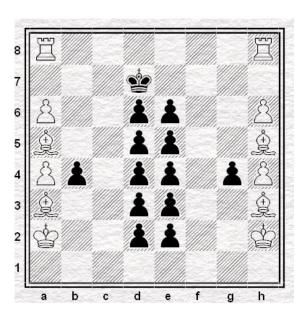
Continuing our series. -A piece has to go from one square to another; this piece is the only one to move (which means only White makes any moves); this piece can't capture Black's pieces; although Black's pieces don't move, they can capture (let's say they are the guardians of the black fortress), so you should never land on a square on which you could be captured.

Elizabeth the first - Get to b5 without landing on a square on which your queen could be captured. Then draw a line from your starting point to b5 (via all the squares you have landed on). To make it harder, you have to get to b5 in 4 moves!

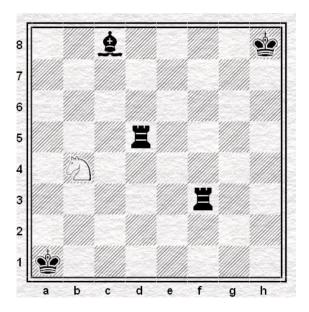


Fit for a King - Get to c6 without landing on a square on which your king could be captured (you have to start by the e7 square and you can't go back!). Then draw a line from your starting point to c6 (via all the squares you have landed on).

by Jérôme Maufras



Knight's tour de force - Get back to b4 without landing on a square on which your knight could be captured. Then draw a line from your starting point to b4 (via all the squares you have landed on).



Solutions are on page 7.

Carissa Yip – Youngest Ever Female Master in USA

Carissa is 11. She qualified for the US National Master by getting a rating of 2000+ shortly after a Legends of Chess tournament in Boston, Massachusetts. She won all her games, defeating two masters in the process, and shared first place with 3.5/4. If that sounds strange, it's because she took a half-point bye in the first round.



"I hope that the record can bring more opportunities for me to participate in more strong invitational tournaments," Carissa told ChessKid.com. "It takes hard work to reach master, and there are a lot of ups and downs but in the end it's worth it."



No stranger to records, Carissa was just 10 when she beat her first Grandmaster. That was last August at the New England Open, Leominster, Massachusetts.



Carissa YIP (2118) – Alexander IVANOV (GM, 2578).



White was clearly better, but now is winning. Of course, White must avoid 29. \(\mathbb{Z}\) e4xa4?? \(\Delta\) e6xg5 and Black wins.

The game ended **29.②g5xe6**[29.營h4xh7+ �ɡ8-f8 30.營h7-h4 a4xb3 and then 31.還d1-d8! also wins.] **29... ②c8xe6 30. 罩d1-d8 營e8xd8 31.營h4xd8+ ②g7-f8 32. 罩e4xa4 1-0.**

That game broke the record set by Judit Polgar in 1987 when, aged 11, she beat GM Lev Gutman in the SWIFT tournament in Brussels.

Judit Polgar to Hou Yifan – Changing of the Guard

A little over 26 years ago, in January 1989, Judit Polgar, then 12 years old, appeared on the FIDE Rating List at 2555. She was the youngest player to break into the Top 100 and she topped the list of female players.



The decisive factor 26 years ago was Judit's fantastic performance of 12.5/13 in the 1988 Thessaloniki Olympiad. Playing on 2nd board, behind sister Susan, she helped the Hungarian team to take the gold medals in that Olympiad. A feat that the same team, which also included younger sister Sofia, repeated in 1990.



Signed by Judit (before she developed her lovely 'smiley' signature), Susan & Sofia.

For 26 years she maintained that position of female No.1 but as of March 1st, the reigning women's world champion, Hou Yifan has passed her.



Judit's signature with the smiley J, which she began to use about 1990.

Judit remains in the Top100 (66=) with a rating of 2675, while Yifan (2686) moved up to 58=.



The top of the women's list:

2686 HOU Yifan

2675 Judit POLGAR

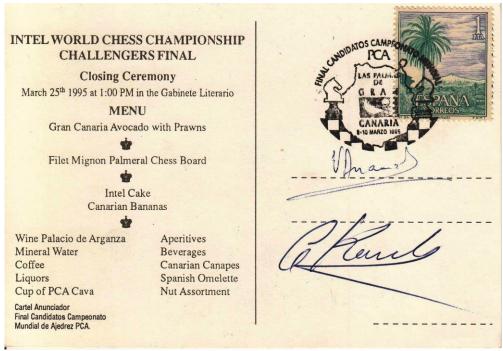
2581 Humpy KONERU (India)

Alexandra Goryachkina (Russia) tops the girls' list with a rating of 2456.

Chess cartoon, meal & signatures – 1995 Anand-Kamsky

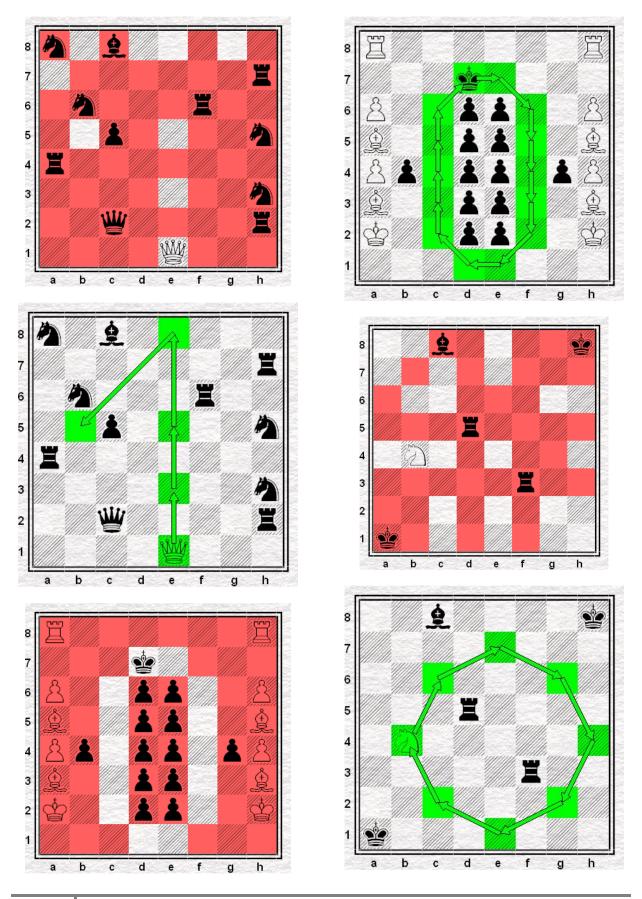


Cartoon modified by Gata Kamsky's father Rustam He added some horns to the player (Kasparov) top right



Closing ceremony meal with some chess dishes Signed by Anand & Kamsky

Special Mazes – Solutions



Puzzles

selected by FST & FM Kevin O'Connell (www.kochess.com)

1 White to move. Simple(?) technique.



Samuel SEVIAN – Leonid KRITS UTD – US Juniors, Dallas 2015

3 Black to play. Make the pieces work!



Conrad HOLT – Darwin YANG UTD – US Juniors, Dallas 2015

2 White's move. Opposite bishops draw?



Samuel SEVIAN – Valentin IOTOV UTD – US Juniors, Dallas 2015

4 Black to play. Find a clear win.



Conrad HOLT – Kayden TROFF UTD – US Juniors, Dallas 2015

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLES

30, @e2xf1 &h6xe3+ 0-1.

Cb-80호 6g-4h☆. 7E Tb-80호 사-Eh호. 3E] **사i-8jō, 3E 8g-89호 4h-8 3A. gi-q5i q6xh5 35. gi-h** 호 68-48 호 68-48 호 68-48 전 1.8 전 1.8

1. 25. Add-15 86. C15xg7 Cpx77cp 70x16xg7 27. 812-d4+1-0.