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

Mariya Muzychuk, 22 from Ukraine, is the new Women's World Champion.

We feature her throughout this issue, including a bumper puzzles section.

The recent roll of honour for the women's champions runs as follows:

- 10 Antoaneta STEFANOVA 2004-2006
- 11 XU Yuhua 2006-2008
- 12 Alexandra KOSTENIUK 2008-2010
- 13 HOU Yifan 2010-2012 & 2013-2015
- 14 Anna USHENINA 2012-2013
- 15 Mariya MUZYCHUK 2015-



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Armenia 1996 Tigran Petrosian – 9th World Champion



Austria 1985 FIDE Congress, Graz

In the Beginning

Chess Camp 5 by Igor Sukhin Checkmate in Two

In the Beginning – 293 (Chess Camp 5-55) White to move.



In the Beginning – 295 (Chess Camp 5-72) White to move.



In the Beginning – 294 (Chess Camp 5-66) Black to move.



In the Beginning – 296 (Chess Camp 5-78) Black to move.



293. 1. 型h1-h7+.

295. 1.⊈f2−f3+.

296. 1...**.**⊈g7−f8+.

Mariya Muzychuk – New (15th) Women's World Champion



Isn't that a lovely idea? A crown made out of chess pieces!

Mariya Muzychuk, 22, is a Ukrainian Grandmaster. She was born near Lviv (Lvov).

There was always going to be a new World Champion after the third round of the 64-player knockout tournament ended with the elimination of the two past champions Antoaneta Stefanova and Alexandra Kosteniuk, the other past champion, Anna Ushenina having been knocked out the round before. Muzychuk defeated Natalia Pogonina 2.5-1.5 in the final.

Hou Yifan did not take part but will play a match for the title against her new successor in October.

Mariya Muzychuk after winning the title: "My childhood dream came true!" youtube.com/watch?v=DGXL-0... #c24live



The fantastic richness of chess is well demonstrated by the following position. It is from the second game of the four between Muzychuk and Natalia Pogonina in the final match. It was the only decisive game.



The game ended 45.當f6-f4 b5-b4 46.句d4-f3 營e5-g7 47.c3xb4 包c5-d3 48.當f4-f6 包f8-h7 49.包f3-d4 包h7xf6 50.g5xf6 營g7-f8 51.彙c2-a4 包d3-e5 52.彙a4xd7 宮c7xd7 53.包d4-f3 包e5-g4 54.包g3xh5 g6xh5 55.營d2-g5+ 全g8-h8 56.營g5xh5+ 包g4-h6 57.全g2-h2 營f8-g8 58.當f1-g1 1-0.

However, a fantastic variation was revealed by the chess engines: **45.②d4-f5!**



45...②**f8-h7** (if 45...g6xf5? 46.罝f1xf5 營e5-e7 (46...營e5-e8 47.②g3xh5 ⑤f8-h7 48.罝f6-h6 and Black's position collapses.) 47.罝f6-h6 ⑥f8-g6 48.憕d2-d4 罝d7-d8 49.⑥g3xh5 ⑥g6-e5 50.⑥h5-f6+ ⑤g8-f8 51.罝h6-h8+ ⑤f8-g7 52.罝h8-h7+ ⑥g7-f8



53. 增d4-d1! **å**b7-c8 54. 增d1-h5 and the threat of Qh6 forces mate.) **46. 春f5-h6+ 全g8-g7** Several moves win, but who wouldn't like to play **47. 當f1-f5** (47. **當f6-f5** amounts to the same thing)



47...g6xf5 48.□**f6xf5 □e5-e8** (48...□**e**5xf5 49.□h6xf5+ □**g**7-g8 50.□d2-d4 f7-f6 51.□g3xh5) **49.**□**d2-d4+ f7-f6**



50.g5xf6+ 空g7xh6 51.e4-e5 d6xe5 52.罩f5xe5 and it's effectively all over but a few checks and blocks:



52... **\$b7xd5+ 53. \$\Delta g2-h2 \ \Delta d5-e4 54. \Delta d4-e3+ \Delta h6-g6 55.** \Delta c2xe4+ **\Delta g6-f7** 55... **\Delta c5xe4 56.** \Delta e3xe4+ \Delta g6-h6 57. **\Delta g3-f5+** \Delta h6-g6 58. **\Delta f5-d6+ \Delta g6-h6**





56.<u>\$</u>e4xh7 営d7-d2+ 57.⊈h2-h3 ₩e8-c8+ 58.**≜**h7-f5 \$f7xq6 ₩c8-d8 59.**\$**f5-q6+! 60.₩e3-g5+ ⊈g6-h7 61.\g5xh5+ **⊈h7-g8** 62.**₩h5-g6**+ **⊈g8-f8** 63.**₩g6-h6**+ **⊈**f8-g8 64.\(\mathbb{Z}\)e5-g5+ \(\phi\)g8-f7 65.\(\mathbb{Z}\)g5-g7+ \(\phi\)f7-e6 66.f6f7+ and it is mate in a few moves, for example 66... \$\dot\perp e6-e5 \ 67. \mathbb{Z}g7-g5+ \mathbb{Z}d8xg5 \ 68. \mathbb{Z}h6xg5+ фe5-e6 69.f7-f8₩ фe6-d7 70.₩g5-g6 \(\mathbb{E} \)d2-h2+ 71. ⊈h3xh2 ②c5-e6 72. ₩g6-e8#.

The gold medal (Adamas Fine Jewelry) and special cup (Imperial Porcelain Factory).



- You mentioned the match with Hou Yifan. I don't think you had time to really think it over, but how do you estimate your chances? You met Hou Yifan twice, if I am not mistaken.
- Yes, we played some games. I don't remember the exact score, but there were some draws and some wins for her. I hope it will be a close match.
- Did you sense before the championship that you have a shot at winning it? Did you bring a dress for the closing ceremony?
- This is actually a very interesting story. It all started with me packing at home. My sister asked: "Are you planning to be there for a long time?" And I said yes. Then she asked: "Are you taking your dress for the opening ceremony?" And I said: "No, I take it for the closing ceremony!"
- What a deep calculation!
- So in fact I was hoping to win the championship even before it started!
- Do you think this victory will affect your life?
- I think it will in a big way. I will play the World Championship match and many other tournaments. I hope it will be easier for me to play after winning such a title.

(from her press conference) (interview & photos by Anastasia Karlovich)

Puzzles

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

1 White to move. What not to play?



Anne HAAST – Mariya MUZYCHUK World Youth Girls u12 Championship 2004

3 White to play. Have fun!



Mariya MUZYCHUK – Irine Kharisma SUKANDAR World Youth Girls u14 Championship 2006

2 White's move. Simple.



Mariya MUZYCHUK – Suzanne DE KOCK World Youth Girls u12 Championship 2004

4 White to play. Find a clear win.



Mariya MUZYCHUK – Elena TAIROVA World Youth Girls u14 Championship 2005

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLES

5 White to move.



Mariya MUZYCHUK – Deysi CORI TELLO World Youth Girls u12 Championship 2004

6 White to move. Simple technique?



Mariya MUZYCHUK - Alisa MELEKHINA World Youth Girls u14 Championship 2005

7 White to move. Discover the best move!



Mariya MUZYCHUK - Sandra TRIFONOVA World Youth Girls u14 Championship 2006

8 White to move.



Mariya MUZYCHUK - Keti TSATSALASHVILI World Youth Girls u14 Championship 2006

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLES

.#8dx8g쨜.8 8d-7d호 +8g-8i쨜.8 7d-8g호 +7i-3dg.4 8g -81-719 +81-719 81-70字 +71-119:2 SoS-8-3xパイン 響c3-c2 2.24-11 1-10-11-10-11-18-3 3.24-18 3.24-18 3.24-18 3.24-18 .O-f +fb-fall 48-c8 2. 2d2-c5 3. 2d5-c7+ 空e8-d7 4. Ea1-d1+ 1-0. .0-1 ... -+トオ-トd≌.7 ðオxðオ☆ +hd-8d38.3 21-414 +288d-7d.2 Sn-En 7d-3d.4 En-4n 3d-2d.5 4n-2n 2dx4s.2 2dx3s 2d-4d.h

3.@c6xd8 \$41-g4 4.@d8xb7 \$18-b8 5.@b7-a5 \$2b8xb2 6.\$11-c1+- ... 1-0. 1. \$e\$xy\$4 [\.\@d4xc6 @g4xe7] 1...\$c8xg4 2.@d4xc6 詹g4xd1 [\.\D7xc6 3\@d1xg4+-]