

Tri-Bridges Tribune

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TRI BRIDGES CHESS CLUB

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Vahini vs. Aimee Yang
Picture by Joshua Anderson

Introduction

Located in Exton, Pennsylvania, our club meets every Tuesday for friendly games, socializing, and skill-building. In addition to casual play, we host tournaments that give members the chance to compete, learn, and grow as players. We also offer instructional classes to help members expand their chess knowledge and deepen their understanding of the game.

My name is Azim Julkipli, and I am the editor of these monthly newsletters. Having been a proud member of the Tri Bridges Chess Club for many years, I've made lasting friendships and had the opportunity to volunteer within our wonderful community.

This newsletter is designed to keep our members connected and informed. Each issue will feature updates on local events, tournaments, and club news, along with puzzles, book recommendations, and annotated games. Our goal is to celebrate the achievements of our players and foster a welcoming environment that inspires both beginners and experienced players to continue their chess journey with enthusiasm.

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The Battle of Hastings

By Tanay Parripati

Played in 1895, "The Battle of Hastings" showcases a common strategy for preventing an opponent from castling and converting that advantage into a powerful attacking initiative. The game culminates in a beautiful, calculation-intensive tactical sequence that has made it one of the most celebrated games in chess history.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. c3 Nf6 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4

Although this variation of the Italian Game is now most often seen at the beginner level, in the late 19th century, it stood at the cutting edge of opening theory, and the world's strongest players regularly used it.

6...Bb4+ 7. Nc3

Today, people consider this move somewhat dubious, as modern analysis shows that Black can gain a slight advantage with perfect play after the tactical sequence starting with Nxe4. During the late nineteenth century, however, many players regarded the move highly, as the ensuing attack against the Black king was both dangerous and difficult to defend accurately over the board.

7...d5

7... Nxe4

The better course of action.

8. O-O Bxc3 9. d5

Otherwise black gets d5 with little compensation for white

9...Bf6 Ne5 is a solid alternative

10. Re1 Ne7

A similar idea to the game, as White is trying to get a pin on the e-file to prevent the black castle, but the Bf6 provides too much support

11. Rxe4 d6

Preventing White from playing d6

12. Bg5

Removing Black's pillar of support

12...Bxg5 13. Nxg5 h6 14. Qe2

Committing to stopping the black castle using the pin on the e-file

14...hxg5 15. Re1 Be6!!

Black gives back the piece and will castle to relative safety while still up 2 pawns

16. dxe6 f6 17. Re3 c6

White is threatening to stack a queen and rook on the h-file if Black castles, so c6 allows Qa5 tempo on the e1 rook in some lines while also supporting the d5 push.

18. Rh3 Rxh3 19. gxh3 g6

And black has a sizable advantage as white's initiative peters out

8. exd5 Nxd5

White has a very good IQP in this position, as black struggles to match White's activity

9. O-O

Getting out of the pin and hitting the d5 knight

9...Be6

While a very reasonable move for the black side, delaying castling seals black's fate.

9... Bxc3 10. bxc3 O-O This was a better try

10. Bg5

Alternative continuations worth considering include 10. Re1, intending to follow up with Ng5 and launch an attack against the castled king, as well as 10. Bxd5 Bxd5 11. Re1+, which forces Black's king to f8 and prevents castling.

10...Be7 11. Bxd5 Bxd5 12. Nxd5 Qxd5 13. Bxe7 Nxe7 14. Re1

This sequence of exchanges allows White to establish a pin along the e-file, preventing Black from castling because the knight on e7 would be left undefended. This is a common tactical motif that frequently appears in open games and is a useful pattern to recognize in your own play.

14...f6

Black decides to try and manually castle, but there isn't enough time

15. Qe2 Qd7 16. Rac1 c6 17. d5

A nice clearance sacrifice to bring the knight to d4 and open up the board

17...cxd5 18. Nd4 Kf7

Black's almost finished castling, but he won't have enough time

19. Ne6 Rhc8 20. Qg4 g6 21. Ng5+

Opening an attack on the queen

21...Ke8 22. Rxe7+!!



What a move! The situation here is amazing, as every single white piece is hanging (and Rxc1 would come with mate), yet black cannot take a single one. Black's queen capturing the rook will leave the c8 rook with insufficient defense after Rxc8.

22...Kf8

22... Kxe7 23. Re1+ Kd6 (23... Kd8 24. Ne6+) 24. Qb4+ Rc5 25. Re6+ White wins too much material

23. Rf7+!!

Steinitz once again leaves all his pieces hanging! He wasn't able to take the hanging queen, as Rxc1 is a back rank mate. Black still cannot take the rook, as either the c8 rook or the queen would hang.

23...Kg8 24. Rg7+!!

And again!

24...Kh8

24... Kf8 25. Nxh7+ Black is now forced to capture the rook, dropping his queen and both his rooks

25. Rxh7+

And again! Black reigned here, after which Steinitz demonstrated the following mate in ten, only avoidable if Black takes the rook and sacrifices all of his pieces

Kg8 26. Rg7+ Kh8

Kf8 lost to Nh7

27. Qh4+

Without the h-pawn, this check is now available, forcing Black to take the rook 27 ... Kxg7 28. Qh7+ Kf8 29. Qh8+ Ke7 30. Qg7+

Another somewhat common pattern where the queen gives checks in a snaking pattern until she gets to the square she needs to be on 30. Ke8 31. Qg8+ Ke7 32. Qf7+ Kd8 33. Qf8+

The Queen has arrived

33. Qe8 34. Nf7+ Kd7 35. Qd6#

With a beautiful Epaulette mate.

1-0

Annotated game

Annotated By Chris Romeril

Below is a game annotated by Chris Romeril, who played as White against Quinten L Guy. This game was played at club during the Sunday Game Hour tournament. Chris shows how he was able to exploit his opponents color weakness in the game, and eventually converting his advantage into a win.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 O-O 6. h3 Na6 7. Be3 e5 8. d5 Nc5 9. Nd2 a5 10. g4 Bd7?!

This move isn't bad, I just think black should stick to the plan and play b6, the bishop isn't doing much more on d7 as it was c8

11. Be2 b6

And now I think I am out of the book variation. I know I want to attack on the kingside, so I play h4

12. h4 c6?!

I guess since I am attacking on the kingside black will play on the queenside in a flip flop sort of way. I don't think this is good though, the center will be locked which should benefit the attacker, me

13. h5 cxd5 14. cxd5 Qc8 15. Rh4 ?

This is not the right square for the rook, it will become a target. I wanted to keep the rook on the h-file which was bound to open up.

15. Rg1 is much better

15... Rb8 16. a4!

This shuts down the queenside

16... Qd8 17. g5 Ne8

My original plan was top hop from d2 to b1 to a3 to b5 with my knight and dominate the queenside but I feared black was too quick with f5

18. Bb5



This moment right here was critical for the game. If I can trade the light square bishops off I will have a much easier endgame because all my pawns are on light squares, making the dark bishop useless because all of the black pawns are on dark squares, the same color as his bishop

18... Bxb5 19. Nxb5 Nc7?! 20. Qe2? Nxb5 21. Qxb5

maintaining control of the light squares, it's hard for black to trade queens (the side with less space generally wants to trade pieces) because the moves

21... Qd7? 22. Bxc5 Qxb5 23. axb5 dxc5 gives a passer

21... Qe8? 22. h6 Qxb5 23. axb5 Bh8 gives white more space and it makes black's pieces passive

21... Qc7?! loses pressure on g5

21... f5 22. gxf6 Bxf6 23. Rg4 Qc8 24. f3±

I have a nice light square blockade and control with 8 pieces/pawns on light squares

24... Kf7?!

This is an over-reaction because now I get Nc4 with tempo

25. Nc4

Getting another piece on a light square, pressuring pawns on b6 and d6

25...Qc7

Notice how many pieces I have on light squares and notice how many pieces black has on dark squares, the difference is, my dark squares are not weak like his light squares because 1) I have a dark bishop and 2) he can't get to them easily, the knight looks at light squares for example. (Yes, for those of you counting, he has 9 pieces on dark squares)

26. hxg6+ hxg6 27. O-O-O Rbc8

27... Rfc8 28. Bxc5 bxc5 29. Qxa5 Qxa5 30. Nxa5 Ra8 31. Nc6 (31. Nb7 Be7 and my knight is probably trapped) 31... Rxa4 is the following line I expected

28. Bxc5?!

The computer doesn't like that move because the knight was bad and now I can weaken

my dark squares which makes sense. I still have an advantage but only if black delays taking the bishop. It's pinned to the knight for example

28...Qxc5?

28... Rfd8 29. b3 Qxc5 30. Qxc5 Rxc5 31. Kb2 results in a similar position to what transpired

29. Qxc5

29. Qd7+ which I briefly considered in the game is a knockout punch 29... Be7 30. Rh1! is the move I missed 30...Qxc4+ giving up the knight

with check 31. Kb1! Qc2+ 32. Ka1 and there is no perpetual because the queen guards a4 and mate is incoming

29...Rxc5 30. b3!

A dream endgame for white, everything is on a light square (minus the king) negating the dark bishop

30...g5?!

This is the final nail, as this gives up a tempo, allowing me to get out of the pin while attacking both pawns

30... Be7 31. Kb2 Rb8 is just solid and I still have some work to do

31. Kb2 Ke7 32. Rh1

A nice move to pry the king away from e7

Not 32. Nxb6?? Rb8 33. Nc4 Rxc4

32... b5?

If 32... Rh8 33. Rxh8 Bxh8 34. Nxb6

33. Rh7+ Rf7 34. Rxf7+! Kxf7 35. Nxd6+ Kg6 36. Nxb5

And I grab two pawns leaving me with a passer, the rook has no infiltration making this an easy endgame for white because the dark square bishop is locked out of the game. The absence of the light square bishops was felt most around move 21 or 22 with f5 but its real value would have been in this endgame, for example if there was a black bishop on d7 the rook would have to move and it could help black open lines on the queenside or sneak into h3-g2 and snack on some pawns maybe. 1-0

Can you solve this chess related word puzzle?

Unscramble these words to uncover popular openings!

Cilainsi
Kcanorna
Polyuzer
Shligen
Nhercf

Find the missing vowels for these chess openings!

S _ T C H G _ M _
S _ C _ L _ _ N
N _ M Z _ - _ N D _ _ N
V _ _ N N _ G _ M _
G _ _ _ C _ P _ _ N _

Answers on Page 9

Haring Tournament

By Joshua Anderson

Over the last three years, we have had a wonderful experience hosting the Irwin qualifier for the Irwin Championship at the U.S. Open. With this experience in mind, we tried to host the Haring qualifier. With many top 20 scholastic players in the area, we hoped to have a good turnout for a 5-round Swiss. Unfortunately, the Rajeev sisters, the Nigam sisters, Samika Nettem, Alicia Marsboom, Sophie Liu, and Yashvi Natarajan were all unavailable. Still, we had 6 talented players who came out, including Chloe Wang, who came from 4 hours away.

The field consisted of 2 Fide Masters, 3 Class A players, and a very brave Sudiksha Kottha, who was about 600 points lower rated than the next lowest person in the field. In round robins, the field can play out where the top players play at the end, but here that was not the case. The top 2 players met in the first round, and with Chloe's upset of Aimee Yang, if the FMs could simply "hold serve," the event was Wang's to lose. Wang and Yang did indeed hold serve, though the 1700s (who have all been Class A players at one point) played hard. Speaking of playing hard, Kottha, 600 points below everyone else, gave her best against really tough odds and got some incredible material to learn from.



Below are two games played in this tournament:

Aimee Yang vs. Chloe Wang

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. d3 Nf6 5. O-O O-O 6. c3 d5 7. exd5 Nxd5 8. Nbd2 Nb6 9. Bb5 Bd6 10. Ne4 f5 11. Nxd6 cxd6 12. Qb3+ Kh8 13. Re1 Qf6 14. a4 Be6 15. Qd1 a6 16. Bxc6 bxc6 17. a5 Nd7 18. Ng5 Bd5 19. f4 h6 20. Nf3 e4 21. dxe4 fxe4 22. c4 Bxc4 23. Rxe4 d5 24. Rxc4 dxc4 25. Qxd7 Rfd8 26. Qc7 Rd1+ 27. Kf2 Rxc1 28. Rxc1 Qxb2+ 29. Kg3 Qxc1 30. Ne5 Qe3+ 31. Kg4 Qe4 32. g3 c3 33. Qb7 h5+ 34. Kg5 Re8 35. Ng6+ Kh7 36. f5 Qg4# 0-1

Sudiksha Kottha vs. Yashaswini Ayithi

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 a6 4. Bc4 b5 5. Bb3 d6 6. d4 c4 7. Bc2 Nf6 8. Bg5 Be7 9. O-O Bb7 10. Re1 Nbd7 11. a4 O-O 12. Nbd2 Qc7 13. h3 Nb6 14. a5 Nc8 15. Nf1 Ne8 16. Qd2 h6 17. Bxe7 Qxe7 18. Ng3 Nf6 19. e5 Nd5 20. Ne4 Rd8 21. exd6 Nxd6 22. Nc5 Bc8 23. Ne5 Qc7 24. Rad1 Nb7 25. Nxb7 Bxb7 26. Ra1 Ne7 27. Be4 Bxe4 28. Rxe4 Nc6 29. Nxc6 Qxc6 30. Rg4 Kh8 31. Qf4 Qd7 32. Re1 Qe7 33. Re3 Rd5 34. Rh4 Rg5 35. Rg3 Rxg3 36. Qxg3 Rd8 37. Rh5 Rc8 38. Qh4 Qxh4 39. Rxh4 Rb8 40. Re4 b4 41. Re5 bxc3 42. bxc3 Rb1+ 43. Kh2 Rb3 44. Rc5 Rxc3 45. Rc6 Ra3 46. Rxa6 c3 47. Rc6 Kg8 48. a6 Kf8 49. a7 Rxa7 50. Rxc3 Ke7 51. Kg3 Kd6 52. Kf4 Kd5 53. Ke3 g5 54. Rd3 Ra4 55. Rd2 f5 56. g3 Ra1 57. f4 gxf4+ 58. Kxf4 Rf1+ 59. Ke3 Re1+ 60. Kf3 Re4 61. g4 fxg4+ 62. hxg4 Rxd4 63. Re2 e5 64. Kg3 Rd1 65. Kf2 Kd4 66. Kf3 Rd3+ 67. Kf2 e4 68. Re1 Rd2+ 69. Kg3 e3 70. Kf3 Rf2+ 71. Kg3 Kd3 72. Rh1 Rf6 73. Ra1 e2 74. Ra3+ Kd4 75. Ra4+ Kd5 76. Ra5+ Kd6 77. Ra6+ Ke7 78. Rxf6 e1=Q+ 79. Kg2 Kxf6



Chess Master in History

By Azim Julkipli

Emmanuel Lasker was the second world chess champion from 1894 to 1921, and the longest time any world champion has held their title (27 years) This Chess Master in History delves into the life and games of Lasker.

Emmanuel Lasker was born on December 24, 1868 in what is now Barlinek, Poland. He was sent to Berlin to study mathematics at the age of 11, living with his brother Berthold, who was among the top chess players himself. He taught him how to play the game of chess. Emmanuel Lasker often played at a coffeehouse, and he was able to gain his master title in a tournament in one of their tournaments in 1889. This gave him the opportunity to play in higher level tournaments, and helped expand his chess skills.



Lasker performed incredibly well in his tournaments, and he received a perfect score in a tournament in New York City, winning all 13 games, one of the few times in history that such a score had been achieved at this event. He also played many matches against strong players, and won all of his matches from 1889 to 1893, except for drawing a quick playoff match against his brother.

He also founded a chess magazine called, "The London Chess Fortnightly", which was published from 1892 to 1893. After the last issue was released, he traveled to the U.S. , where he stayed for the next two years.

Lasker also challenged Siegbert Tarrasch, a strong chess player who had won 3 consecutive tournaments filled with strong players. However, Tarrasch denied, saying that he should prove himself worthy of this match by trying to win a major international event. Lasker then challenged Steinitz, and as said in the last issue, won the match against the reigning world champion at the time, which made him the second world chess champion.

However, there were still many doubts about Lasker being the world champion. Some people argued that Lasker had not played two other players in the top 4 (Siegbert Tarrasch and Mikhail Chigorin) and others thought that the only reason Lasker had won was because Steinitz was old at the time he played him.

To prove that he was worthy of the title, he played in many tournaments, achieving high scores and placing ahead of many other top players. One example of this was the Hastings 1895 tournament, where he got third, ahead of Tarrasch and Steinitz, and another example was at St Petersburg in 1914, in which he overtook a $1\frac{1}{2}$ point barrier to finish the tournament and be placed ahead of both Capablanca and Alexander Alekhine, both of which would become future chess masters (in history?)

These tournaments bolstered his title, and he soon received challenges from other strong players. In 1906, Lasker and Géza Maróczy agreed to a World Championship, but the arrangements were not established, so it never happened. Frank Marshall played against Lasker for the title in the following year, but he was not able to win any of his games, with the final result being $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$. In 1908, Lasker played against Tarrasch and played amazingly, winning 4 out of the first 5 games. Tarrasch was confused by the style of Lasker's play, which possibly could have led to his loss. One example of this was in the second game, where after 19 moves, Lasker was a pawn down, with doubled pawns and a bad bishop, a winning position for Tarrasch, but 20 moves later Tarrasch was forced to resign. Lasker was able to win the match with eight wins, five draws, and three losses.

The next year, Lasker played David Janowski, drawing a short match (2 wins, 2 losses). Many months afterwards, they played a longer match against each other. Lasker knew of Janowski's all out attacking style,

so he chose to defend through his attacks and then take advantage of his vulnerability. This allowed Lasker to win 8-2. However, Janowski asked for a revenge match, so they played a World Championship match, where he did not win a single game, losing 9½ to 1½. Janowski, like Tarrasch, also did not understand Lasker's moves.

Between his two matches with Janowski, Lasker organized another World Championship match against Carl Schlechter. Carl Schlechter had a hard time winning tournaments due to his lack of aggressive play and his overwillingness to accept draws, with around 80% of his games ending in a draw. In the first 4 games, Lasker attacked Schlechter but Schlechter was able to defend against the attacks, resulting in draws for the first four games. In the fifth game, Lasker was able to gain a significant advantage, but he played a blunder that lost him the game. Then Schlechter was able to secure a seemingly miraculous string of draws. In the seventh, he drew despite being down a pawn, in the seventh Lasker nearly lost because of an exchange sacrifice by Schlechter, and in the ninth he only drew due to a blunder from Lasker. In the tenth game, Schlechter, winning the match 5-4, attempted a tactical win and got a huge advantage, but missed a simple win, took many risks, and eventually lost the game, tying the match, which meant Lasker still kept his title.

Lasker was challenged by Capablanca, but he decided he wanted something different than the first to win ten games method, as he would be in the semi-tropical weather of Havana, and draws could prolong the end of the tournament. Lasker put forth a series of conditions, but Capablanca did not agree to some of them, so the match was cancelled. Lasker was offended by his denial, and the two of them did not talk to each other for a while. Lasker was also challenged by Rubinstein, and he accepted given that Rubinstein could fund it. However, Rubinstein did not have many rich friends, so the match did not happen.

While he was going through all these challenges, he also continued on with his other studies. He studied mathematics and philosophy, published some math articles, had spots as a lecturer for short periods of time, and published a few other books, discussing philosophy, chess, and other topics.

After World War I, Capablanca and Lasker tried to arrange a match again. They were able to agree on the terms, with the match occurring in 1921, but Lasker insisted on an additional clause that said he could play anyone else before this match, and if he lost the title before the match was played, the contract would be nullified. He also insisted that if he resigned the title, it would go to Capablanca.

It was announced sometime in 1920 that Lasker had decided to resign the title. Some have speculated it was because the conditions were not popular with the chess community, and that he also did not have the finances to cover the match. However, Lasker was not aware that chess enthusiasts in Havana had just raised \$20,000 for the match. When Capablanca had heard that Lasker resigned, he traveled to the Netherlands to inform him that the finances could be covered by the enthusiasts. Lasker agreed, but insisted that this was now Lasker trying to win the title from Capablanca, and if Capablanca lost, Lasker would give up his title for the younger players in chess.

After the first 4 draws between the two of them, Capablanca won the fifth, as Lasker had blundered a pawn in an equal position. The next four games were drawn, but the tenth game turned into a win for Capablanca again, as Lasker was not able to create the activity he needed to win, and Capablanca was able to get into a superior endgame. The eleventh and fourteenth games were also won by Capablanca, while the other two games were drawn. This ended the match, resulting in a victory for Capablanca with 9-5 and ending Lasker's 27 year reign as World Chess Champion, a record not broken to this day.

Lasker was shocked at how Steinitz had died with little money, and decided to not die poor. He asked for higher fees for matches, and also argued that chess players should have the right to own the copyright of their own published games instead of the publishers. While this caused

some commotion at the time, it eventually helped to create more chess professionals, as they had more ways to increase their income. Lasker also impacted the names of many chess openings, such as Lasker's Defense to the Queen's Gambit and the Lasker Variation in the French Defense.

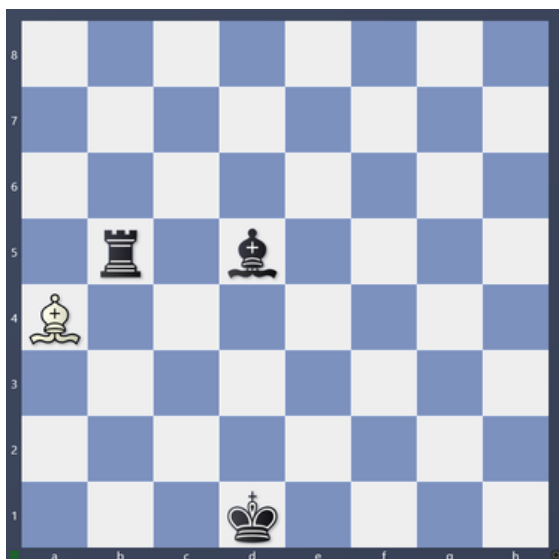
Lasker died of an infection on January 11, 1941, closing a remarkable career of chess, math, philosophy, and other studies, leaving behind an incredible history.

Below is a game played by Lasker against Capablanca, where he slowly turns his advantages into a victory:

Lasker vs. Capablanca

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Bxc6 dxc6 5. d4 exd4 6. Qxd4 Qxd4 7. Nxd4 Bd6 8. Nc3 Ne7 9. O-O O-O 10. f4 Re8 11. Nb3 f6 12. f5 b6 13. Bf4 Bb7 14. Bxd6 cxd6 15. Nd4 Rad8 16. Ne6 Rd7 17. Rad1 Nc8 18. Rf2 b5 19. Rfd2 Rde7 20. b4 Kf7 21. a3 Ba8 22. Kf2 Ra7 23. g4 h6 24. Rd3 a5 25. h4 axb4 26. axb4 Rae7 27. Kf3 Rg8 28. Kf4 g6 29. Rg3 g5+ 30. Kf3 Nb6 31. hxg5 hxg5 32. Rh3 Rd7 33. Kg3 Ke8 34. Rdh1 Bb7 35. e5 dxe5 36. Ne4 Nd5 37. N6c5 Bc8 38. Nxd7 Bxd7 39. Rh7 Rf8 40. Ra1 Kd8 41. Ra8+ Bc8 42. Nc5 1-0

This game is very interesting because Lasker needs to win this game in order to have a chance in the tournament. However, he starts off with the Exchange Variation of the Ruy Lopez, which is considered to be an opening often leading to draws, and not the typical type of opening one would want to play for a win. However, Lasker is able to slowly squeeze his opponent and he is eventually able to win the game.



Can you solve this retrograde puzzle?

In this position, White's king can only legally be on one square. Determine where the white king must be and also determine the sequence of moves that led to this position.

Answers on Page 5

Player Spotlight

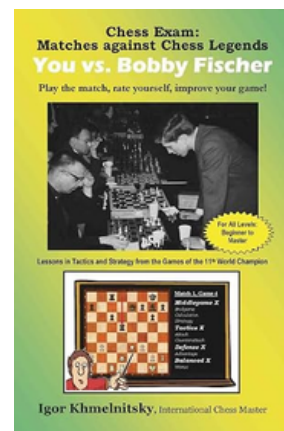


This month's player spotlight is Sudiksha Kottha! Here is her experience in the PA Haring Qualifier

During the PA Haring Qualifier Scholastic Girls Tournament, there were only six players, which was a surprising start for me. At first, I thought I might have a chance to win, but then I saw who was playing. I was the lowest-rated player in the tournament, and everyone else was rated at least 700 points higher than me. There was even a titled player in the group!

Since there were six players, we played a five-round round-robin tournament. My first two rounds were tough, but in the third round, I was close to getting a draw before making a big mistake. The next day, I played more than 50 moves against the titled player, which was a very exciting and challenging game. Even though the tournament was difficult, I learned a lot from playing stronger opponents, especially about staying focused and not giving up in tough positions. Overall, I gained a lot of knowledge and experience from this tournament. I really enjoyed the challenge, and I hope there will be more girls tournaments like this in the future!

Short Book Recommendation



By Aarush Vudathu:

I recently read the book *You vs. Bobby Fischer*, written by Igor Khmel'nitsky. The book mainly comprises games played by Bobby Fischer, but also has explanations of positions from the games. Each position is not from Fisher's perspective but from his opponents'. The book formats each position as a test with three questions. There are five matches with twelve games in each. At the end of each match, the reader can see what the book predicts their rating to be based on how many points you got throughout the questions. The chess world knows most of his opponents well, including Tiger Petrosian and Vasily Smyslov, and he has competed against many other world champions. Throughout the book, there are some very nice quotes about Fisher, and even one from Mikhail Tal. The first question of each position asks the reader to judge the position as winning for white or for black or as a drawn game. It's suggested that the reader finds the candidate moves on their own before looking at the ones in the book. The second question is out of the two to four

Short Book Recommendation Continued: candidate moves given, what is the best move Fisher's opponent could play? Once the best move has been determined, the back of the page details each move option and explains why it is correct or incorrect. Playing each position on the board helped me find the answer much more easily. The reading range that I would recommend for this book is 1000 to 1500. For 1500s, some positions might be a little easier than others, but it's still good practice as some positions are harder than others. They are all great puzzles. There are many things to like about the book. I like the style of writing as a test. It was the first book that I had read in that type of format. There is a lot of valuable information that I learned from Fisher's games and the style of how he and his opponents played. However, if there is one point I had to critique, it would be the organization of the games. For me, I would have preferred more organization. I wished the match had focused on a different topic, such as opening, middle games, or attacking, or had been played in a different sequence. There is a report card and tables at the end of the book where you can calculate how well your score is in each topic. At first, it was a little tricky, but after I read the instructions a second time, I got my rating prediction easily. These are all small formatting changes that don't change the content of the book, which is what really matters. It was a brilliant book overall, and I would recommend it to anybody within the 1000 to 1500 range.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

One of the best ways to improve at chess isn't just by studying countless books—it's by playing real games! Our upcoming club events offer great opportunities to put your skills into practice, challenge new opponents, and learn from every match. Remember, practice may not make you perfect, but it definitely makes you better! Here's what's coming up at the Tri Bridges Chess Club.

[ECE #133 -Friday Night Tournament](#)

Date and Time: Friday, July 10 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Sections: Open, U1200, U900, U600, U300

Time Control: G25 d5

[ECE #134 – Sunday Game Hour](#)

Date and Time: Sunday, July 12 @ 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sections: Open, U1200, U600

Time Control: G60 d5

[Triple Crown Event – Trophies and cash prizes – \\$1000+ prizes](#)

Date and Time: Saturday, July 18 @ 12:00 pm - Sunday, July 19 @ 5:00 pm

Section: Open, Open, U1500, U500

Time Control: 1st leg is G3 d2, 2nd is G10 d2, 3rd is G25 d5

[ECE #135 – Saturday Tournament](#)

Date and Time: Saturday, July 25 @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Sections: Open, U1200, U800, U400

Time Control: G25 d5

This poster was made by Cherry Perumalla, and it advertises the Triple Crown Event.

However, as noted on the poster, the tournament ends at 2:00 PM, with the third and final leg of the tournament starting at 9:00 AM.



The poster for the Triple Crown Event features a chess knight and king flanking the title 'TRIPLE CROWN' in large, bold letters. Below the title, it says 'THREE LEGS. THREE CHANCES. ONE CHAMPION.' The main headline reads 'TROPHIES AND CASH PRIZES \$1000+ PRIZES!'. The event dates and times are listed as July 18 @ 12:00 PM and July 19 @ 5:00 PM (with a crossed-out 11:00 PM and a 2:00 PM note). The entry fee is \$20 per leg. The sections are Open, U1500, and U500. A \$300 bonus is offered for winning all three sections. The poster details the three legs: 1st Leg (G3 d2, Saturday 12:00 PM noon), 2nd Leg (G10 d2, Saturday 6:00 PM), and 3rd Leg (G25 d5, Sunday 9:00 AM). Entry fees are \$20 per leg. A \$50 fee is required to play in all three legs. Prizes are listed for each section: Open (cash prizes), U1500 (cash prizes), and U500 (trophies awarded to top finishers). The bottom of the poster repeats the slogan 'THREE LEGS. THREE CHANCES. ONE CHAMPION.' with stars.

TRIPLE CROWN
THREE LEGS. THREE CHANCES. ONE CHAMPION.

TROPHIES AND CASH PRIZES
\$1000+ PRIZES!

ENTRY FEES:
JULY 18 @ 12:00 PM
JULY 19 @ ~~11:00 PM~~ 2:00 PM
\$20 PER LEG

SECTIONS:
OPEN • U1500 • U500

\$300 BONUS FOR WINNING ALL 3 SECTIONS! PRIZES BASED ON ENTRIES.

TRIPLE CROWN is a three-leg event inspired by the horse racing event of the same name.
There are three sections – Open, U1500, U500

1ST LEG	2ND LEG	3RD LEG
G3 d2	G10 d2	G25 d5
SATURDAY 12:00 PM (NOON)	SATURDAY 6:00 PM	SUNDAY 9:00 AM

ENTRY FEES (PER LEG):
1ST LEG \$20 | 2ND LEG \$20 | 3RD LEG \$20

\$50 TO PLAY IN ALL 3 LEGS!

OPEN	U1500	U500
CASH PRIZES! BASED ON ENTRIES	CASH PRIZES! BASED ON ENTRIES	TROPHIES! AWARDED TO TOP FINISHERS

★ **THREE LEGS. THREE CHANCES. ONE CHAMPION.** ★