

Upsetting experiences

THE OCCASIONAL sensation is bound to happen whenever young talent and established stars mix, but this year's Lloyds Bank Masters in London saw an epidemic of them. Undoubtedly the greatest upset was the eclipse of top seed Viktor Korchnoi, who lost three games and scored only five points from nine rounds. He was also fortunate to draw with 19-year-old Swedish girl Pia Cramling, who went on to gain a "men's" international master norm — the first by a woman outside Eastern Europe.

Grandmaster and 1982 British champion Tony Miles ultimately won the Lloyds Trophy on tie-break ahead of GM Vlastimil Hort (Czechoslovakia), IM Lev Gutman (Israel), Mark Hebden (England) and Darryl Johansen (Australia). All scored seven points. Being an experienced campaigner in these Swiss-system competitions, Tony took his one loss to an unrated player in his stride — unlike Korchnoi, who admitted he found it hard to combat unfamiliar opponents. Viktor's opponents in the games he lost must certainly have been new faces to him: 16-year-old Indian schoolboy Dibyendu Barua, American IM Sergei Kudrin and 18-year-old Oxford student John Hawksworth.

Pia Cramling's remarkable performance rating of 2464 compares well with the current 2395 rating of women's world champion Maya Chiburdanidze of the USSR. She drew with Hort and English GM Raymond Keene as well as Korchnoi, and lost only to Gutman. Another women's result which excited the press was 15-year-old Teresa Needham's victory over Grandmaster Janos Flesch. One must remember, however, that the Hungarian's rating is quite low.

There was, however, little question as to the finest "child bites grandmaster" game of the tournament. The official press release hailed this performance by the young Barua as the most notable by an Indian since Sultan Khan beat Capablanca 50 years ago.

BISHOP'S OPENING

D. BARUA (India)	V. KORCHNOI (Switzerland)
1. e4	e5
2. Nf3	Nc6
3. Bc4	Bc5
4. 0-0	Nf6
5. d3	d6
6. c3	Bb6
7. Bg5	

More thematic is 7.Nbd2. Now Korchnoi is able to seize a kingside initiative by biffing this bishop.

7. ...	h6
8. Bh4	Qe7
9. Nbd2	g5
10. Bg3	Bg4
11. h3	Bd7
12. Bb3	Nh5
13. Nc4	Nf4

13...N×g3 is answered by 14.N×b6.

14. d4	0-0-0
15. a4	a6
16. d5	Nb8
17. N×b6 ch	c×b6

18. Nd2	Rd8
19. Nc4	Kc7
<i>Using the king as a defensive piece.</i>	
20. f3	h5
21. Qd2	b5
22. Ne3	g4
23. h4	g×f3
24. R×f3	R×g3!

A promising rook-for-bishop sacrifice which nets Korchnoi a strong initiative. But Barua fights on tenaciously with a mixture of defence and counter-attack.

25. R×g3	Q×h4
26. Nf1	b×a4
27. B×a4	Bg4
28. Re1	Qg5
29. c4	h4
30. c5!	

With threats of 31.c×d6 ch and 31.Qa5 ch.

30. ...	d×c5
31. d6 ch	Kb6
32. Rb3 ch	Ka7
33. Qa5	Bc8
34. Ne3	c4
35. d7!	c×b3
36. Qc5 ch	Ka8
37. d×c8=Q	R×c8
38. Q×c8	Qg3
39. Kf1	h3
40. g×h3	Nd3?

Missing a trick. Black has an immediate draw by perpetual check if he chooses, but even stronger is 40...Qf3 ch 41.Kg1 Nd3! and White should lose.

41. Ke2!

Effectively forcing an exchange of queens. Both players were now running into severe time-trouble (the control was at move 50) and in the ensuing endgame Korchnoi loses the thread.

41. ...	N×e1
42. Qg4!	Q×g4 ch
43. N×g4	Nc2?

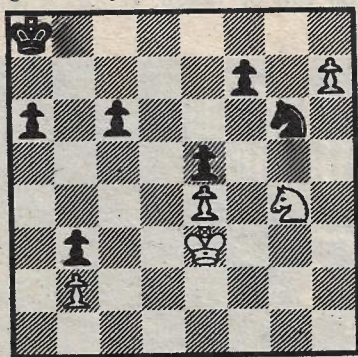
The wrong way. The knight must guard the outside passed h-pawn with 43...Ng2.

44. Kd3	Na1?
45. Be8!	

Barua avoids 45.h4? b5 and now wins by force, despite the heroic efforts by the poor knight on a1 to stop the h-pawn.

45. ...	Nc6
46. B×c6	b×c6
47. h4	Nc2
48. h5	Nd4
49. h6	Ne6
50. h7	Nf4 ch
51. Ke3	Ng6

White is still two pawns down but the young Indian found the win instantly.



52. N×e5!	Nh8
53. N×f7!	N×f7
54. e5	Resigns

The knight cannot hold both pawns and one of them must queen.

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