

**CHESS**

# Entering at the top

by Murray Chandler

**N**INETEEN-YEAR-OLD Anthony Ker from Eastbourne has notched up a brilliant New Zealand success in London by achieving a coveted international master result. Playing in the 10th annual Lloyds Bank Masters tournament, Ker made 5½ points from nine games against strong opposition which included two grandmasters and four international masters.

This score qualifies him for one of three such "norms" needed towards the title of international master and he has a full three years to try for the remaining two. If he does succeed New Zealand will double its present number of international masters. Since the death of Dr Fairhurst, the former Scottish champion who settled in Auckland, 62-year-old Ortvin Sarapu is our only such titleholder at the moment.

Ker currently plays for the Lower Hutt club, although he has belonged to Wainuiomata in the past, home town of one or two other players of some note. He went to London after competing in the World Junior Championships in Gausdal, Norway, where he finished in 20-29th place from 60 competitors. It was a result he was reasonably happy with at the time, especially considering he still does not even possess a world ranking.

After Gausdal and the Lloyds Ker estimates he will enter next January's list at an ELO-rating of 2300 plus, which will put him in the top three or four in New Zealand, although he is not in the six-man Olympiad team departing for Dubai this November.

The winner of Lloyds Bank was Simon Agdestein, a 19-year-old Norwegian, who, like Ker, flew to London direct from Gausdal where he had finished first equal on points. Agdestein is certainly living up to his promise as the world's youngest grandmaster at the moment, though he did lose the World Junior title on tie-break to the Cuban player, Walter Arencibia.

This week's game features a brisk Ker win from Gausdal against the Canadian representative Vinod Puri:

**KING'S INDIAN DEFENCE**

<b>A KER</b>	<b>V PURI</b>
1. d4	Nf6
2. c4	g6
3. Nc3	Bg7
4. e4	0-0
5. Nge2	d6
6. Ng3	e5
7. d5	Ne8?!
8. h4	f5
9. e×f5	g×f5
10. Bg5	Qd7
11. Nh5	Bh8

*White's unusual 5. Nge2 hints at aggressive intentions, and Black should prefer immediate central counterplay with 7... c6.*

12. Qd2	Nf6
13. Ng3	Bg7
14. Bd3	f4
15. Nf5	Ng4
16. Qe2	R×f5
17. Q×g4	Rf7
18. Qh5	Bh8
19. f3	

*With the plan of castling queenside and then prising open the g-file with g3.*

19. ...	Na6
20. 0-0-0	Rf8
21. g3	Qf7
22. Q×f7! ch	

*Well judged. White's attack is actually enhanced by the queen exchange. Instead 22. Qh6 Bf5 23. B×f5 Q×f5 24. g×f4 Bg7 is much less clear.*

22. ...	R×f7
23. g×f4	e×f4
24. Rhg1	B×c3
25. b×c3	Kh8
26. Rde1	Bf5
27. B×f5	

*More accurate was 27. Re7! Raf8 (27. ... R×e7 28. Bf6 ch) 28. B×f5 R×f5 29. Bh6 with a position similar to the game, but where White's rook has already invaded the seventh rank. Of course even now White is still winning, but the abrupt finish does take a little co-operation from Puri.*

27. ...	R×f5
28. Re6	Raf8
29. Bh6	Rg8?
30. Bg7 ch!	Resigns

*30. ... R×g7 31. Re8 ch forces checkmate. Black should have tried 29. ... Rc8, when White's simplest is 30. Re7 Rh5 31. Bg7 ch Kg8 32. Bf6 dis ch Kf8 33. Rgg7 with murderous domination.*

In a final round upset the little-known Arencibia and Agdestein, both trailing by half a point, were black against the two leaders Klinger (Austria) and Bareev (USSR) respectively. Both had surprise wins and, as the Cuban had beaten the Norwegian in their earlier individual game, he received first prize — an international master title. No more norms necessary for him. Just how dramatic that last game was can be seen from the Cuban's final combination.

In the following diagram Klinger looks secure but Arencibia found the inspired 1. ... R×g3 ch! 2. h×g3 Q×e2 ch 3. K×e2 h2 and suddenly the Black pawn cannot be prevented from queening:

