

CHESS NOTES BY J.H.J.

Keith Gregory, the P.D.L. Individual Champion, did very well at the recent Paignton Congress, where he came second equal in the Premier, with a score of 5/7 (three wins and four draws) in what was a fairly tough tournament.

In the last round Keith had Black against Susan Arkell, the reigning British Woman Champion, an I.W.M. and in contention to become England's second woman grand master.

White: Susan Arkell (199). Black: K. D. F. Gregory (192).

1, e4, g6; 2, d4, Bg7; 3, c3, d6; 4, Bd3, Nd7; 5, Bg5, c5; 6, Ne2, Ngf6; 7, Nd2, O-O; 8, O-O, h6; 9, Bh4, e5; 10, Nc4, Qc7; 11, Rc1, b5; 12, Ne3, a6; 13, f4(?), exf4; 14, Nf4, Bb7!; 14, ... g5?; only weakens Black's king position as 15, Nfd5 gains a tempo for White to reposition the attacked bishop) 15, Nfd5, Nxd5; 16, exd5, cxd4; 17, cxd4, Qb6; 18, Kh1, Qxd4; 19, Rc7, Nc5!; 20, Be7, (What else? With three pieces and two pawns en prise White must simply mix it and hope Black goes wrong) Nxd3; 21, Bxf8, Rxf8; 22, Rxb7, Qxe3; (Now White could resign!) 23, Qf3, Qxf3; 24, Rxf3,

Rc8!; 25, h3, (25, g3, allows Rc1+; 26, Kg2, Ne1+;) Rc1+; 26, Kh2, Be5+; 27, g3, Rc2+; 28, Kg1, Bd4+; 29, Kf1, (29, Kh1, leads to mate or loss of a rook / exchange after 29, ... Nf2+; and 30, ... Ng4+;) Ne5; 30, Ra3, Rxb2; 31, Rxa6??, Nf3!!; (0:1) (as after a few spite checks, White is mated by Rf2. A very neat finish to an economical game!).

The study by V. Halberstadt, 1929, echoes the position from an earlier column, and (as usual!?) it is White to move and draw.

