CHESS 23 March, 2024 David Ellis ellisd19@bigpond.com 043979860



 *Abdusattorov*  *Pragg*

 **Nodirbek Abdusattorov** **vs Praggnanandhaa R**

 (Prague Masters 2024); two sacrifices gain material for Black.

  **UZBEK’S RAPID RATING RISE**

 **Nodirbek Abdusattorov** has been mentioned more than once in recent articles and recently gained a further tournament victory, the **Prague Masters** (10 players, rating range 2660-2747), where he scored 6.5/9 finishing 1.5 points ahead of second place Thai Van Nguyen (Vietnam). He won five drew two with his only loss being to Praggnanandhaa. Still only 19, his recent successes have catapulted him into fourth place in the latest ratings on 2765, behind only Carlson, Caruana and Nakamura. At 11 years old he became the youngest ever to enter the top 100 rating group and he became a Grandmaster aged 13 years 1 month. In 2021 at the age of 17 he became the youngest to win the **World Rapid Championship**. In 2022 he was a member of the Uzbekistan team which won gold (he gained silver for Bd 1).

 In contrast the three Indians, Pragg with 5/9, Gukesh (4.5) and Vidit (3) all disappointed with what was for them a warm-up before the Candidates which starts on April 3. They are probably happy Abdusattorov failed to qualify.

The **AUTUMN BLITZ** take place tomorrow. Enrol today at cawa.org.au.

The **GUFELD CUP** will be played over Easter, Sunday 31 March & Monday 1 April.

Both events part of the WA Grand Prix.

 **CHESS FILM WINS OSCAR**

Inspired by the peace anthem

‘Happy Xmas, War Is Over’ by

John Lennon and Yoko Ono, the

11-minute film ‘**War Is Over’**

won the 2024 Oscar for Best

Animated Short Film’. The

award was presented by Anya

Taylor-Joy (Beth Harmon in The

Queens Gambit). An English and

a German soldier play a game of

chess across the trenches with

moves transferred by carrier

pigeon. The game is a replay of

Bogoljubov vs Trott (Southsea

1950). Check out the film!

**SOLUTION**: 1…Rxd6!! 2.Re8+

(to protect against Qd1 fork)

2…Kh7 3.Bxd6 Bd4!! 3.Qxd4

Qxf3 4.Qf2 Qd1+ (so Black gets

his fork after all) 5.Re1 Qxd6

and wins with B+N vs R - it

took superlative play to defeat

Abdusattorov in Prague.