

STAR OF THE WEEK

Japanese kid Ogino checkmates all

by S S Shreelamar

Queen's Road: The advent of a number of international schools has also brought in foreign kids who are good at studies and sports et al.

Japanese kid Ryoya Ogino, a Grade 6, student of Indus International School, is one such outstanding example. Ogino won the gold medal with a rating performance of 1,503 in the Under-12 category. Ryoya Ogino scored seven out of a possible eight points to triumph. It was truly an intense finish.

A total of 151 entries from different schools across Asia and Australia made the Astro Merdeka rapid open chess championship quite tough.

Ryoya Ogino started playing chess at the age of seven. His mother inspired him to learn more about it. He came to India along with his mother and brother to learn English. Ryoya Ogino, joined Indus International School, Bengaluru, when he was in Grade 3. He started receiving coaching to play chess in the schools from Grade 5.

The school conducts regular talent search to identify special potential amongst students. During one such talent hunt, Ryoya Ogino came to the fore. He was taught different techniques and modes of the chess by a proficient coach in Indus. He underwent a specialised sports skill development programme designed with the sole objective to nurture his potential under coach Rohan Shandilya.

Ryoya Ogino has a special aptitude for 'Blitz' and 'Rapid' style of the game which are of five and 25 minute duration respectively. Besides his favorite sport chess, he also loves playing soccer.

His favourite subjects in school are ESL (English as a second language) and Mathematics. His icons are Bobby Fischer and Vishwanathan Anand and he



Ryoya Ogino

He underwent a specialised sports skill development programme designed to nurture his potential

aspires to become a world class chess player and also win the world chess championship.

Ogino was extremely elated when he won the gold at the Malaysian Festival 2015.

"It was truly a dramatic finish. I thank my school and my coach for their exhaustive preparation and motivation that helped me stay focused in this highly competitive tournament," Ogino said.

With more exposure and opportunities, Ogino is bound to cause a lot of trouble for all his opponents in future. Surely, Ogino will be an inspiration to many boys and girls in his school and outside as well.