

COLORADO CHESS INFORMANT



**COLORADO SCHOLASTIC
ONLINE CHAMPIONSHIP**



The *Colorado State Chess Association, Incorporated*, is a Section 501(C)(3) tax exempt, non-profit educational corporation formed to promote chess in Colorado. Contributions are tax deductible.

Dues are \$15 a year. Youth (under 20) and Senior (65 or older) memberships are \$10. Family memberships are available to additional family members for \$3 off the regular dues. Scholastic tournament membership is available for \$3.

- Send address changes to - *Attn: Alexander Freeman* to the email address ColoradoStateChess@hotmail.com.
- Send pay renewals & memberships to the CSCA. (See back cover for EZ renewal form instructions.)

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From the Editor

With measured steps, the Colorado chess scene may just be coming back to life.

It has been announced that the Colorado Open has been scheduled for Labor Day weekend this year - albeit with safety protocols in place. Be sure to check out the website as the date nears (www.ColoradoChess.com) because as we are aware, things could change. The Denver Chess Club has also announced a tournament in June of this year - go to their website (www.DenverChess.com) for more information on that one.

It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that a friend and 'chess bud' of mine has passed away. Not long after his 70th birthday in January, Michael Wokurka collapsed at his home on the 22nd - and never regained consciousness. No prior warning or health issues were known. His obituary online is listed here: <https://tinyurl.com/2rz9zrca>. He loved the game of chess, and especially the camaraderie that tournaments would bring with his fellow players. Rest in peace my friend, you are sorely missed.



Michael J Wokura (1951-2021)

May Caissa be with you.



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(Email article submissions to ColoradoStateChess@hotmail.com)

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CSCA NEWS

Members of the Board and all the CSCA members,

I have resigned as President of the CSCA. I felt led to move closer to my family, so my wife Nell, our son Shawn and I are moving to Oklahoma. Nell and I have purchased a really nice home in Claremore, Oklahoma just 14 miles from my brother and his family.

I will really miss the friendships developed over the last 13 years of playing chess in Colorado. Reuniting with chessplayers my path has crossed before my family moved to Colorado; Dean Brown, and Brad Lundstrom. It has been nice serving on the Board with both of them. I am proud that the Board selected Brad to replace me. We have known each other since back in 1987. He is highly qualified and I know he will do a great job for Colorado chess. I trust you will give him your full support as he leads Colorado chess during these difficult times.

Playing and serving the Colorado chess community has been one of the highlights of my life. It is amazing how quickly the years have rolled by. I will try to write a summary of my chess experiences in Colorado for the Colorado Chess Informant.

My sincerest thank you to Colorado chess for all the wonderful memories!

Paul Covington



Brad Lundstrom / New CSCA President

Hello Colorado Chess Players,

(I've updated this earlier post to include several recent events in Colorado chess for the Informant.)

After the recent surprising news of Paul Covington's resignation as our CSCA President, as Vice President, I was nominated, I accepted and the CSCA board voted me in as President. Following a man like Paul is a tall task! As a three-time President, Paul built tremendous connections, shared his experience and worked passionately to serve Colorado Chess. With appreciation and much respect, we thank you Paul!

As my first action, I appointed Paul to stay on the board and participate online as President Emeritus or as an advisor to attend meetings as a non-voting member. I have also reached out to Richard "Buck" Buchanan, a former many times CSCA President, officer, and senior tournament director, and will be seeking his ongoing wise counsel.

I have been a CSCA member since tenth grade when I played in the Denver Open summer of 1971. Back then, smoking was allowed, rooms were smoky, and the air conditioning broke down during 95 degree temps. I have always appreciated our non-smoking rule and air conditioning since then! My friend, the late James Hamblin, won the event by upsetting Colorado Hall of Famer and now IM John Watson. I went to that tournament with my mentor Tom Wayman and we stayed at Curt Carlson's. Curt later became a two-time Colorado Champion. Now fifty years later, the three of us still stay in contact. Chess has many wonderful rewards beyond our successes on the board with forever memories and lifelong friendships.

For me, chess is an important part of life! I have loved and stayed active in chess tournaments my whole life during college, through raising three children and an almost forty-year corporate career as a district manager at Safeway Stores Inc. I have been a part of Zachary Bekkedahl's Chessmates team for the past nine years and have helped direct over seventy scholastic tournaments. I also manage a chess program at the Greeley Senior Center, two scholastic private clubs and provide group and private lessons. My efforts in CSCA duties, as with all our board members, are as a volunteer.

Internet chess is booming, with Chess.com reporting over 35 million members on their site alone; and around Colorado many players are playing tournaments online through both the Denver Chess Club (<https://lichess.org/team/denver-chess-club>) and the Colorado Springs Chess Club (<https://www.chess.com/club/colorado-springs-chess-club>). We are thankful for online chess because of the current restrictions we face together, and we will continue to explore online chess options. Last June I led a CSCA challenge to all Colorado chess players to an online fundraiser tournament. Over 120 players and special guests including GM Alex Fishbein, IM Keaton Kierra, GM Timur Gareyev (who played blindfolded!) joined some of our top masters and many generous friends of chess to raise \$3,400! All proceeds were donated to the Salvation Army food pantry on behalf of the CSCA.

There was also a non-CSCA Colorado Online Scholastic Tournament held on March 13th that was open to our scholastic players and neighboring states that was a fun event! Jesse Cohen of Summit Chess and Zachary Bekkedahl of Chessmates teamed to put on this event. Over 100 scholastic players competed and the event leaders generously donated \$600 to the CSCA Scholastics fund!

Regarding the 4th FIDE World Chess Championship for Players with Disabilities, that Kevin McConnell and Paul Covington opened the door to in Denver this spring, has unfortunately been canceled for this year. Hopefully we can revisit this opportunity next year.

Since last March over-the-board chess tournaments in Colorado have been almost non-existent with a notable exception of our recent Colorado Closed. We have an excellent returning Scholastic Director in Tom Nelson and he brings a wealth of experience and talent to us! Unfortunately, we did not do a regular Colorado Scholastics tournament this year, and with the issues of online cheating and the stringent USCF rules, did not run an online CSCA Scholastic tournament either. However, since this annual scholastic tournament qualifies Colorado's elementary, middle school, high school and girls' champions to join our Senior Champion at the US Open (to be held in New Jersey in late July to early August), we decided to make an exception and invited the top ten rated players (that did apply) for each section: Elementary, Middle School, High School, and Girls. We posted and followed all the CDC guidelines in conducting a safe and smaller over-the-board scholastic tournament on March 20th. Congratulations to our new scholastic state champions! Look for our Scholastic Director Tom Nelson's report and many photos from this tournament also in this issue.

In mid-March, I sent out a press release to the Denver Post and several Denver TV stations. We were thrilled that KDVR channel 31 Fox news sent out two reporter-camera people to cover our scholastic tournament! With the inspiring and amazing story of Griffin McConnell and his return to chess after his very recent brain surgery, most of the news story focused on his life adventures but many of our players were on TV in the background as well. The story aired on channel 31 that Saturday night, March 20th at 9:30pm. Later, Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura saw the story and posted it on his twitch social media account along with another documentary about Griffin and his incredible family's story and in the first five days it already had over one million views worldwide!

There is another online fundraising event coming up on April 10th, that is non-CSCA. It is hosted by MVL, which is a group that has volunteer lawyers that provide pro-bono legal assistance to people in our local community that are in need of legal assistance but cannot afford it. They are leading the event and taking the registrations and donations. Alayne Wilinsky from the Denver Chess Club has very graciously offered to TD the event using Lichess as the Denver Chess Club has been doing now with their online tournaments for several months. These types of opportunities bring many new chess players into contact with our CSCA members and provide us the possibility of adding new long-term members. It also is exciting to have the Colorado Chess Association seen in a progressive positive light in getting our memberships involved and taking steps to help others as we promote our game and organization. Check the CSCA web site news to learn more about this event. After seeing their tournament plans and goals, I am happy to endorse their event and both Brian Wall and I have agreed to play in their online tournament and donate to their cause. I hope you will consider joining us!

We are scheduled and hopeful for the Colorado Open, as always to be held over Labor Day weekend at the Embassy Suites at the Denver Tech Center, to be our return to over-the-board events. We will keep you posted of how things are progressing and our plans. I understand active and well-run chess tournaments are the most important thing to most of our CSCA members. Once we get tournaments back into place, there's a long list of additional ideas to build the CSCA, but first things first.

Other important items to highlight: We are extremely fortunate to have as our Colorado Chess Informant editor, Fred Spell, a nationally awarded online Chess State Magazine editor. Also, thanks primarily to Ann Davies, CSCA received a US Chess grant of \$5,700 to promote scholastic girls' chess in Denver. We look forward to CSCA board member, Gracie Salazar, helping lead our efforts in this area.

I love chess as an art, sport and science. But even more, it's brought many wonderful, brilliant people into my life, opened many doors and I am ready to give back. As a fifty-year tournament player, and following a wonderful but challenging corporate business career, I will do my best to provide leadership and pull a large number of wise and passionate chess leaders together. I am appreciative of anyone that serves chess. Because I well understand we all are imperfect, I count integrity and good intentions first. I stand for unity, teamwork, and good will for all chess players.

I am excited about the CSCA team that I will be serving with and we cannot wait to get chess tournaments and activities going again. I will always be open to communicating with CSCA members and any chess player. Thank you for the honor of serving and I will give you my best!

Meet the rest of the Board...

**Jesse Cohen** / Vice President

National Master Jesse Cohen is stepping into the role of Vice President. I'm happy to join alongside Brad Lundstrom and the many other fine members serving. I have always wanted to see Colorado flourish for chess. I'm excited to serve.

**Alexander Freeman** / Secretary

I am 28 years old and I have been involved with Colorado Chess for more than 12 years. I have many other hobbies other than chess like music, poker and always doing the unexpected. I am looking forward to working with the rest of the CSCA board to make this a great year for Colorado Chess.

**Joshua Samuel** / Treasurer

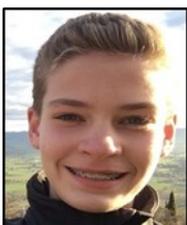
I am 65 years old and have been involved with the local chess community since 1973. Playing on the University of Colorado Chess team as team captain 1973 through 1976. Over the years I have consistently played in local and National chess tournaments. I share the goals with our chess community in bringing a National chess event to the state within the next few years. My commitment to the local chess community will extend to my involvement on the CSCA board. I look forward to my position as Treasurer and the challenges that I will face.

**Gracie Salazar** / Member at Large

Gracie was born and raised in Denver Colorado. She began coaching chess to elementary students in 2016 and continuously added more students throughout the years while working for PALS Chess Academy. She helped start the Colorado Women's Chess & Wine Club. Still in its infancy, the turnout has been great and Gracie looks forward to seeing this continue to grow with aspirations of getting women and young ladies more involved in the chess community. When not playing chess, Gracie teaches Barre classes at the Bar Method in Cherry Creek North. She is also a member of The Denver Astronomical Society, has a collection of telescopes and enjoys stargazing. She is a devoted mother and wife and absolutely loves life.

**Alayne Wilinsky** / Member at Large

Alayne is a software Product Manager by trade who also enjoys playing guitar and drums, as well as Muay Thai kickboxing when she is not playing chess. She is an active Denver Chess Club board member who manages their online Lichess.com presence since Covid-19.

**Andrew Roerty** / Junior Representative

I am a sophomore currently attending Liberty Common High School. I hope to study engineering in college. I began playing chess at around the age of 7, and began playing in my first tournaments when I was about 9. I reached a peak USCF rating of 1726, and my current rating is 1720. My greatest achievement so far would be placing 4th in the K-8 Scholastic Championship in 2018. I have aspirations to achieve a rating of 2000 or higher at some point in my chess career. I hope to help grow chess in Colorado as the Junior Representative.

**Tom Nelson** / Scholastics Director

I've been involved with scholastic chess since my youngest son was in the 5th grade. Shortly after he started playing in tournaments I became a Tournament Director. A few years later I volunteered to be the CSCA Scholastic Coordinator and stayed in the role for 10 years. When the USCF hosted the National Elementary tournament in Denver I was invited to help them with their National Scholastic tournaments as their volunteer coordinator. I helped put together approximately 27 tournaments ranging from 500-5,000+ players. During this time I also acquired Senior TD status and FIDE Arbiter status.

2021 Colorado Scholastic Online Championship Review

by NM Jesse Cohen

This was one-of-a-kind, unprecedented, multi-state tournament with 128 players, 40 awards, 10 *chess.com* membership upgrades, 2 brilliancy prizes, and live commentary from NM Zachary Bekkedahl, and myself. Due to the massive success of this event - I'll be interested to pursue more online options even as life returns to normalcy.

20% of the proceeds are being donated to the *Colorado State Chess Association!*

The tournament was live broadcasted on Twitch and is available for watching on my channel *NMJesseCohen*.

Without further ado - here are the top 10 finishers of each division and some selected games from the winners with their own commentary. Enjoy!

Kindergarten-3rd Grade Final Standings

1. Shubh Misra
2. Beau Regoli
3. Rehaan Kumar
4. Ashwin Mathimaran
5. Calvin Vonne
6. Elias Traff
7. Shaurya Misra
8. Raylan Davidson
9. Graham Wallace
10. Daniel Hayden

4th-6th Grade Final Standings

1. Ayush Vispute
2. Cayden Hetzel
3. Grayson Manuel
4. Vedant Margate
5. Visant Prajan Sankaranarayanan
6. Karthik Jella
7. Evan Sun
8. maxim Kaikov
9. Sarvesh Rajesh
10. Harsh Vishal Mali

7th-8th Grade Final Standings

1. Christopher Lee
2. Isaiah Mares
3. Benji Simberg
4. Kevin Bu
5. Archer Murane
6. Tanishka Tagare
7. Aidan Ricenbaw
8. Tanush Shekhar
9. Aj Parasuram
10. Blake Wehrman

9th-12th Grade Final Standings

1. Shiven Saxena
2. Atharva Vispute
3. Andrew Roerty
4. Luke Donofrio
5. Vedanth Sampath
6. Curtis Chun
7. Sami Al-Adsani
8. Wesley Woo
9. Owen Curtis
10. Steven Bu

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade / Round 6

Shubh Misra (600)

Daniel Hayden (Unrated)

(Commentary by Shubh Misra) 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Bc5 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 e4 7.Ne1 Qe8 8.e3 Nb4 9.a3 Nc6 10.d3 exd3 11.Qxd3 Ne5 12.Qc2 Nxc4 13.Ne2 d5 14.b3 Nb6 15.Qxc5 Qd8 16.Qc3 Re8 17.Nf4 Ne4 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.Bb2 Qf6 20.Qxf6 gxf6 21.Bxf6 Be6 22.b4 Bc4 23.Neg2 Bxf1 24.Rxf1 Nc4 25.Rc1 Nd2 26.Rxc7 Nf3+ 27.Kf1 Rec8 28.Rxb7 Rc1+ 29.Ke2 Rc2+ 30.Kd1 Rd2+ 31.Kc1 Rc8+ 32.Kb1 Rcc2 33.Rb8+ Rc8 34.Rxc8+ Rd8 35.Rxd8# 1-0

I started game with the typical English opening, c4 followed by Nc3 to control the center. Black responded by e5 and Nc6. Next step was to create dragon light square bishop to control h1-a8 diagonal. Further controlled the center by placing Nf3 followed by castling. Later Black pushed the e-pawn forward, so I passively brought the knight to e1. I wanted to stop the e4-pawn to come towards other end, so I pushed e3. Black perhaps wanted a powerful outpost on d3, so I pushed a3 to kick that knight out from my zone. Black's e4 was annoying for me so I played d3 to make Black's position weaker by trading.

I offered my c4 hanging pawn to trap his knight behind dark bishop c5. My queen skewered the bishop and knight. After few moves, I tried for checkmate through the queen and bishop battery, but it was protected smartly by Black, at least I won a pawn.

Few moves later, Black brilliantly trapped my f1 rook, Black's e4-pawn was really dominating. Later Black started attacking with his knight, and I had to be very careful for any forks by that knight. I chose attack as the best defense policy, so I moved my rook to the 7th rank and started gobbling Black's pawns on the 7th rank. The idea was to get my rook ready for any back rank checkmate to Black.

The turning point was when Black's rook almost checkmated me at back rank. But I had an escape route for my king for that threat already. Black called another reinforcement of the second rook, however I had a plan to lure his second rook to leave its 8th rank. As a part of the strategy, I positioned my dark bishop to close any

escape of Black's king. The moment Black's rook left the 8th rank, I checked with my only rook and after 2 unsuccessful blocks from Black, his king was checkmated.

The game was very dynamic and Black played a good game albeit with a few blunders from both sides.

7th-8th Grade / Round 5

Ayush Vispute (1592)

Grayson Manuel (1477)

(Commentary by Ayush Vispute) 1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ng3 Nc6 5.g3 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.O-O Nge7 8.Re1 O-O 9.Nf1 Rb8 10.e5 b5 11.a3 (I knew that a5 and b4 were coming, so I decided to defend just a little bit on the queenside.) 11...a5 12.Bf4 b4 13.h4 (He wasn't threatening anything so I decided to proceed with my attack, otherwise he would steamroll me.) 13...Nf5 14.c3 (Two things were accomplished with this move: 1. I defended the d4 square which his knights could move to and make my life not the best, and 2. Put pressure on the b4 pawn.) 14...Bd7 15.N1h2 (His previous move wasn't accomplishing anything, so I used the tempo to continue with my attack. I wanted to go g4, and later attack the fianchetto on the kingside with my queen and bishop, as well as the knight.) 15...bxc3 (At the moment, I thought that this was really good for me, as the attack on the queenside had basically been traded off.) 16.bxc3 Rb2 17.Qc1 (This move gained tempo and also allowed me to back up my f4 bishop and attack the kingside on the dark-squares.) 17...Qb6 (17...Rb3 This was something I had considered when I played c1. He would play d4 which would leave my c-pawn hanging. I would have to retreat my bishop, and I would lose tempo. However, I decided that attacking on the kingside with my knight or bishop would allow for extremely good compensation.) 18.Ng4 (I wanted to go to f6 and trade off the bishops, or go to h6 either which would make his dark squares weak. Afterwards, I would advance my pawns and make sure to defend my second file, which is where his rook is attacking. I thought Qb3 would be played, putting pressure on my queenside.) 18...Nce7 (The end of the game. This move blundered his kingside and allowed me to win the game.) 19.Nf6+ \$3 Bxf6 20.exf6 Nc6 (20...Nc8 This was the other option he had. I would immediately go to g4 and then push my pawns. His bishop was traded off so ideas with h6 would be overpowering.) 21.g4 e5 22.Nxe5 Nxe5 23.Bxe5 Nxb4 24.Qh6 (Attacking two things at once and forcing checkmate regardless of all moves.) 1-0

9th-12th Grade / Round 5

Shiven Saxena (1485)

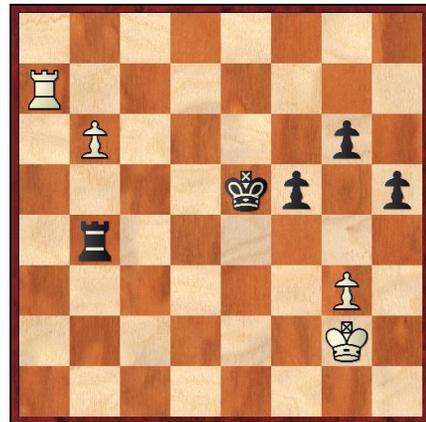
Sami Al-Adsani (1873)

(Commentary by Shiven Saxena) 1.c4 (The English) 1...Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.d4 Bb4 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Bg2 c6 8.0-0 h6 9.Bf4 Bf5 10.Qb3 Qe7 11.a3 Ba5 12.Rfe1 Ne4 13.Nd2 (This move is necessary to negate Black's attack.) 13...Nxd2 14.Bxd2 Bb6 15.e3 Nd7 16.Rac1 (C-file is semi-open so I want to use it.) 16...Nf6 17.Na4 (I wanted to re-manuever the knight to the c5 square.) 17...Qd8 18.Nxb6 Qxb6 19.Qxb6 (The trade gives him doubled pawns, so it is better for me.) 19...axb6 20.f3 Rfe8 21.Re2 (Slight mistake for me, the bishop move next forces

me back.) 21...Bd3 22.Ree1 g5 23.g4 (Denies the knight access and blocks his kingside pawns.) 23...Rac8 24.Bf1 Bxf1 25.Rxf1 c5 26.dxc5 bxc5 27.Bc3 Re6 28.Rfd1 Rd8 29.b4 c4 30.Kf2 (Activates the king.) 30...b5 31.e4 Ra6 32.Ra1 Rd7 33.a4 (Gives the pawn up in order to push the b-pawn.) 33...bxa4 34.b5 Rb6 35.Rxa4 (Black can't take the pawn because the knight would be hanging.) 35...dxe4 36.Ra8+!! (This combination allows me to win the knight and the game.) 36...Kh7 37.Rxd7 Nxd7 38.Rh8+ Kg6 39.Rg8+ Kh7 40.Rg7+ Kh8 41.Rxf7+ Kg8 42.Rxd7 exf3 43.Rd5 Kf7 44.Kxf3 Kg6 45.Rc5 (Trying to trade rooks and simplify.) 45...Rb7 46.Rc6+ Kh7 47.b6 (Same idea here.) 47...Rf7+ 48.Rf6 Rd7 49.Kg2 (I should have moved up to e4 'king activity' is important and I missed that during the game.) 49...h5 50.gxh5 g4 51.Rc6 Rd3 52.b7 (The pawn can't be stopped - Rd8 is met by Rc8.) 52...g3 53.hxg3 Re3 54.Rc7+ (This move allows no chances for Black as the king to the 8th rank would allow promotion and checkmate so Kh6.) 54...Kh6 55.Bd2 (Pins and wins the rook.) 55...c3 56.Bxe3+ Kxh5 57.Rxc3 Kg4 58.b8Q Kh5 59.Rc5+ Kg4 60.Qf4# 1-0

Tactics From the Championship!

(1) Kumaran Lenin - Luke Donofrio (Round 1)



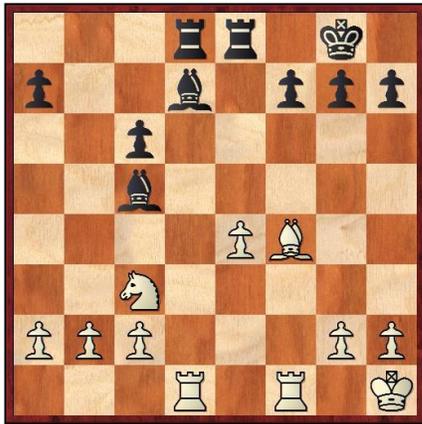
White to move - be brilliant and save the game!

(2) Owen Christ - Curtis Chun (Round 1)



White to move - Black just played the natural e6??
Why does this lose?

(3) Benji Simberg - Tanishka Tagare (Round 2)



White to move - Black has just played Rad8 to defend the bishop on d7.

(6) Steven Bu - Jacob Findley (Round 4)



White to move - Black has just played Rg6? This seems so natural. How can it lose?

(4) Vedant Margale - Rowen Oregel (Round 2)



Black to move - White has just retreated with Na3. How does Black capitalize on this lead in development?

(5) Abhijit Dande - Aaron Lucas (Round 3)



White to move - Black just played Ne7.

Answers to Tactics:

- (1) 39.Rb7!! (Only move that doesn't lose.) 39...Rb2+ 40.Kf3!!= (If 39.b7?? Kf6!! wins, not 39...Kd6 because of 40.Ra6+ and Black's g-pawn is too vulnerable. Black's winning plan is Kg5, Kg4, win White's g3 pawn and promote a pawn. 39.Rb7!! ensures White will be able to pop out and give checks to the Black king when needed.)
- (2) While it wasn't found in the game: 1.Qa4+! Ke7 (If 1...Qd7 2.Bb5 Nd7 3.Qxg4.) 2.Qb4+ Ke8 (If 2...Qd6 3.Qxb7+ wins the rook on a8.) 3.Bb5+ Nd7 (Nothing left to do.) 4.Qxg4.
- (3) 19.Bc7! White wins the exchange and is able to keep Black gasping for air after 19...Kf8 20.Bxd8 Rxd8 21.Rd3! (intending to double and keep Black pinned up.)
- (4) 15...Nxe4! 16.c3 (If 16.fxe4 Bxb2 17.Nc4 Nxc2+) 16...Nxc3! 17.bxc3 Bxc3+ 18.Kf2 Bxa1=.
- (5) 14.Nxf6+ gxf6 15.Qc2! with double attack on c7 and h7.
- (6) Black's rook has no idea this rook is going to be locked out of the action and White will completely take over the game. 27.f5! Rg5 28.g4! h5 29.Qf4!+ (Take a deep look at this position to discover just how hopeless Black's situation really is!)

And a Few More Games From the Tournament:

Mukund Gurumurthi (1646)
Griffin McConnell (2009)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 c5 4.0-0 Nc6 5.d3 e5 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.e4 d4 8.a4 Be7 9.Ng5 Bg4 10.Ngf3 a6 11.h3 Bh5 12.g4 Nxg4 13.hxg4 Bxg4 14.Re1 Qd6 15.Nf1 h5 16.N1h2 Bd7 17.Nd2 h4 18.Nc4 Qg6 19.Kf1 Rd8 20.Bf3 h3 21.Ke2 f5 22.Rg1 Qf7 23.exf5 Bxf5 24.Be4 Bxe4 25.dxe4 Qxc4+ 26.Qd3 Qxd3+ 27.cxd3 Kf7 28.f4 Bf6 29.f5 Na5 30.Bg5 c4 31.Rad1 b5 32.axb5 axb5 33.Bd2 Nb3 34.dxc4 bxc4 35.Bb4 Rh4 36.Rg4 Rxg4 37.Nxg4 d3+ 38.Ke3 d2 39.Nxf6 gxf6 40.Bxd2 Rxd2 0-1

Cory Foster (1700)**Abhijit Dande** (Unrated)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 a6 4.Bg2 d6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.0-0 Nd7 7.d3 Ngf6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Qd2 h6 10.Be3 b6 11.h3 Bb7 12.a3 0-0 13.Rac1 Rfe8 14.Rfe1 Rac8 15.Ne2 Bf8 16.c3 d5 17.e5 Nxe5 18.Bf4 Nxf3+ 19.Bxf3 e5 20.Be3 Qd7 21.d4 Qxh3 22.dxe5 Ng4 23.Bxg4 Qxg4 24.Bf4 d4 25.Qd3 c4 26.f3 Bxf3 27.Qxd4 Bc5 0-1

Kumaran Lenin (1580)**Luke Donofrio** (1868)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.Bf4 d5 4.e3 b6 5.Bd3 Bb7 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.c3 c5 9.Nbd2 Bxg3 10.hxg3 Nc6 11.Re1 Rc8 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 cxd4 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.cxd4 g6 17.Be4 Bd5 18.Bxd5 exd5 19.Qd2 Rc4 20.Re5 Rfc8 21.Rxd5 Rc2 22.Qe3 Rxb2 23.a4 Rcc2 24.Qe8+ Kg7 25.Qe5 Qxe5 26.Rxe5 Rxf2 27.Rd1 Rxg2+ 28.Kh1 Rh2+ 29.Kg1 Rbg2+ 30.Kf1 Rh1+ 31.Kxg2 Rxd1 32.Rd5 Kf6 33.Rd7 Ke6 34.Rxa7 Rxd4 35.Ra6 Rb4 36.a5 Ke5 37.axb6 f5 38.Ra7 h5 39.Rb7 Rb2+ 40.Kf3 g5 41.Rb8 g4+ 42.Ke3 Rb3+ 43.Kf2 h4 44.Re8+ Kd4 45.Rd8+ Ke5 46.Re8+ Kf6 47.gxh4 Rxb6 48.Rg8 Rb3 49.h5 Kf7 50.Rh8 g3+ 51.Kg2 f4 52.Rh7+ Kf6 53.Rh8 Kg5 54.Rg8+ Kh4 55.h6 f3+ 56.Kf1 Rb1# 0-1

Dominic Martinez (Unrated)**Aaron Dunigan-AtLee** (1450)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4 e6 4.c3 Nc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 a6 7.d5 Na5 8.Be2 Ne7 9.b4 exd5 10.bxa5 Qxa5+ 11.Bd2 Qc5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.0-0 Be7 14.Qc1 Qxc1 15.Rxc1 Bf6 16.Bc3 Nxc3 17.Nxc3 0-0 18.Rab1 Bf5 19.Rb3 Rac8 20.Nd2 Rfe8 21.Kf1 Bg5 22.Rd1 b5 23.Nf3 Bf6 24.Rc1 b4 25.Bxa6 Rxc3 26.Rbxc3 bxc3 27.a4 d5 28.Bb5 d4 29.Bxe8 d3 30.Bb5 d2 31.Nxd2 cxd2 32.Rd1 Bc3 33.Ke2 g6 34.Bd3 Bxd3+ 35.Kxd3 Ba5 36.Kc4 Kf8 37.Kb5 Bc3 38.a5 Ke7 39.Kb6 Bd4+ 40.Kb7 Bxf2 41.a6 Bc5 42.a7 Bxa7 43.Kxa7 f5 44.Rxd2 h6 45.Rd5 Ke6 46.Ra5 f4 47.Ra3 h5 48.Kb6 Kf5 49.Kc5 g5 50.Kd4 h4 51.Ra5+ Kg4 52.Ke4 h3 53.gxh3+ Kh4 54.Ra3 g4 55.Kxf4 gxh3 56.Rg3 Kh5 57.Rg4 Kh6 58.Rg5 Kh7 59.Kf5 Kh6 60.Kf6 Kh7 61.Rg6 Kh8 62.Kf7 Kh7 63.Rc6 Kh8 64.Rh6# 1-0

Wesley Woo (1800)**Shiven Saxena** (1485)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nbd7 7.Nh3 e5 8.d5 Nh5 9.Qd2 f5 10.Bh6 f4 11.Bxg7 Kxg7 12.Be2 Nb6 13.Nf2 Qg5 14.g4 Ng3 15.hxg3 Qe7 16.gxf4 exf4 17.0-0-0 a5 18.Rh3 Kg8 19.Rdh1 Rf7 20.Bd3 a4 21.Ne2 g5 22.Nd4 a3 23.b3 Qf6 24.Bb1 Nd7 25.Rxh7 Rxh7 26.Rxh7 Kxh7 27.e5+ Qg6 28.Bxg6+ Kxg6 29.Qd3+ Kg7 30.e6 Nf6 31.Nf5+ Kf8 32.Ne4 Nxe4 33.Qxe4 b6 34.e7+ Ke8 35.Ng7+ Kd7 36.e8Q# 1-0

Qwen Christ (1435)**Curtis Chun** (1780)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.0-0 Bg4 7.Nbd2 Nxd4 8.c3 Nxf3+ 9.Nxf3 e6 10.Bg5 a6 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Qa4+ Qd7 13.Qxg4 h5 14.Qd4 e5 15.Nxe5 Qc7 16.Rfe1 0-0-0 17.Bf5+ Kb8 18.Nd7+ Rxd7 19.Bxd7 Qxd7 20.Rad1 Rg8 21.Qxd5 Qg4 22.Re8+ Kc7 23.Rxf8 Rxf8 24.Qd6+ Kc8

25.Qxf8+ Kc7 26.Qd6+ Kc8 27.Qd8# 1-0

Jacob Findley (1356)**Owen Curtis** (1750)

1.e4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.cxd5 exd5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Nc3 Qd6 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.d4 Bg4 8.Be2 Be7 9.Qb3 Qb6 10.Qc2 0-0 11.0-0 Nc6 12.d5 Nb4 13.Qb3 Qd6 14.Rd1 Rfd8 15.h3 Bf5 16.Nd4 Bg6 17.Bc4 a6 18.a3 Nbx5 19.Nxd5 Nxd5 20.Qxb7 Nb6 21.Be2 Rdb8 22.Qf3 Qf6 23.Bf4 Rd8 24.Nc6 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Bd6 26.Bxd6 cxd6 27.Qxf6 gxf6 28.Rxd6 Kg7 29.Bf3 Re8 30.Nb4 Nc4 31.Rxa6 Nxb2 32.a4 Be4 33.Bh5 Bg6 34.Bg4 Rb8 35.Nc6 Re8 36.a5 Re1+ 37.Kh2 Rc1 38.Nb4 Be4 39.f3 Bg6 40.Bd7 Rc4 41.Rb6 Nd3 42.Nxd3 Bxd3 43.a6 Rc7 44.Bc6 Kf8 45.Bb7 Ke7 46.a7 Rc2 47.a8Q Bf1 48.f4 Bc4 49.Bf3 1-0

Griffin McConnell (2009)**Andrew Roerty** (1720)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 d6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bb5 e6 6.d3 Be7 7.0-0 a6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.h3 h5 10.b3 Rb8 11.a4 0-0 12.Qe1 d5 13.e5 Nh7 14.Qe2 a5 15.Nd2 g6 16.Kh1 f5 17.Nd1 Ba6 18.Ne3 Rf7 19.Ba3 Nf8 20.c4 Rg7 21.Rac1 Nd7 22.g4 hxg4 23.hxg4 Rh7+ 24.Kg2 Kf7 25.Rh1 Qg8 26.cxd5 cxd5 27.Rxh7+ Qxh7 28.Rh1 Qg8 29.Kf2 Bb7 30.Rh2 Nb6 31.Nd1 c4 32.Bxe7 cxd3 33.Qxd3 Kxe7 34.Qb5 Nd7 35.Nf3 Bc8 36.Qxa5 Rxb3 37.Nd4 Rb6 38.g5 Kf7 39.Ke3 Ba6 40.Nc3 Bc4 41.Qa7 Ke7 42.Qc7 Ke8 43.Qc8+ 1-0

Aaron Dunigan-AtLee (1450)**Cory Foster** (1700)

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.0-0 c6 6.c4 0-0 7.b3 d6 8.Bb2 Qe8 9.Nbd2 Nbd7 10.Re1 e5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.e4 f4 13.gxf4 exf4 14.e5 Ng4 15.Qe2 Ngxe5 16.Nxe5 f3 17.Ndx3 Qd8 18.Nxd7 Bxd7 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Rad1 Qc8 21.Qd2 Bg4 22.Re7+ Kg8 23.Qh6 Rf7 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.Qxh7+ Kf6 26.Qh4+ Kg7 27.Qe7+ Kh6 28.Qg5+ Kg7 29.Re1 Be6 30.Qe5+ Kh7 31.Qxe6 1-0

Atharva Vispute (1705)**Wesley Woo** (1800)

1.e4 c6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 e5 4.Ng3 Bd6 5.Be2 d4 6.Nc4 f6 7.c3 c5 8.a4 Ne7 9.Nh4 0-0 10.Bg4 Nbc6 11.Nf5 Nxf5 12.Bxf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 Re8 14.0-0 Rc8 15.Re1 Bb8 16.Re4 Ne7 17.Qh5 dxc3 18.Rh4 Qxd3 19.Qxh7+ Kf7 20.Bh6 Rg8 21.Rg4 Nxf5 22.bxc3 Qxc3 23.Rc1 Rcd8 24.g3 Qf3 25.Qg6+ Kf8 26.Be3 Rd1+ 27.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 28.Kg2 Nxe3+ 29.Nxe3 Qd7 30.Nf5 c4 31.Qh7 e4 32.Nh6 Qd5 33.Qxg8+ Qxg8 34.Nxg8 Kxg8 35.Rxe4 Kf7 36.Rxc4 Be5 37.f4 Bd6 38.Kf3 b6 39.Rc6 Bc5 40.Rc7+ Ke6 41.Rxa7 Kf5 42.Rxg7 Ke6 43.h4 1-0

Owen Curtis (1750)**Steven Bu** (1590)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bg5 d4 11.Ne4 Be7 12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Qb3 Re8 15.Rfe1 Rb8 16.Rad1 Be6 17.Qc2 Rbc8 18.a3 Bg4 19.Qd2 Rcd8 20.h3 Bf5 21.b4 a6 22.a4 Be4 23.b5 Bxf3 24.Bxf3 Ne5 25.Bxb7 axb5 26.axb5 Qb6 27.Bc6 Nxc6 28.bxc6 Qxc6 29.e3 d3 30.Rc1 Qe4 31.Rc3 Re7 32.Recl

h6 33.Rc4 Qf5 34.g4 Qe6 35.Rd4 Red7 36.Qxd3 Rxd4 37.exd4
g6 38.Qe3 Qd5 39.Rd1 Kg7 40.f3 h5 41.Qe4 Qb3 42.Rb1 Qc3
43.d5 hxg4 44.hxg4 Qc5+ 45.Kg2 Rxd5 46.Re1 Qd4 47.Qxd4+
Rxd4 48.Kg3 Kf6 49.Re2 g5 50.Re1 Kg6 51.Re7 Rf4 52.Re3
Kf6 53.Ra3 Kg6 54.Ra5 f6 55.Rb5 Kf7 56.Rf5 Rxf5 57.gxf5 Ke7
58.Kg4 Kd6 59.Kh5 Ke5 60.Kg6 Kf4 61.Kxf6 Kxf3 62.Kxg5
Ke4 63.f6 1-0

Kylan Jin (1380)

Mukund Gurumurthi (1646)

1.d4 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Bd3 e6 4.f4 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Nf3 Be7 7.0-0 c4
8.Bc2 b5 9.Nbd2 Rb8 10.Ne5 Nxe5 11.fxe5 Nd7 12.Qh5 g6
13.Qf3 0-0 14.e4 Bb7 15.exd5 Bxd5 16.Be4 Nb6 17.Bxd5 Nxd5
18.Ne4 f5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Bh6 Rf7 21.Bg5 Kg7 22.Rf2 Rf8
23.Nxf6 Bxf6 24.Bxf6+ Rxf6 25.Qe3 Rxf2 26.Kxf2 Qf6+ 27.Qf3
Qh4+ 28.Kg1 Rf8 29.Qe2 Qe7 30.Qe5+ Qf6 31.Qxf6+ Rxf6
32.Re1 Kf7 33.Re5 Rf5 34.Re2 Kf6 35.g3 h5 36.Kg2 a6 37.Re3
g5 38.Rf3 Rxf3 39.Kxf3 Kf5 40.h3 a5 41.g4+ hxg4+ 42.hxg4+
Kf6 43.Ke4 a4 44.a3 Kf7 45.Ke5 Ke7 46.d5 exd5 47.Kxd5 Kf6
48.Kd6 Kg6 49.Ke6 Kg7 50.Kf5 Kh6 51.Kf6 Kh7 52.Kxg5 Kg7
53.Kf5 Kf7 54.Ke5 Ke7 55.Kd5 Kf6 56.Kc5 b4 57.Kxb4 1-0

Christopher Lee (1206)

Benji Simberg (1560)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.e4 c6 4.Nf3 d5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.exd5 Nxd5
7.Nxe5 Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bd6 9.Nf3 Qe7+ 10.Be2 Nc6 11.0-0 0-0
12.Re1 Bf5 13.Bb2 Qf6 14.Qc1 Ne5 15.c4 Rfe8 16.d4 Nd3
17.Bxd3 Bxd3 18.d5 Qf4 19.Qc3 Be5 20.Nxe5 Bf5 21.Nf3 f6
22.c5 Be4 23.d6 b6 24.cxb6 Qxd6 25.Qc4+ Kh8 26.Rxe4 Qxb6
27.Rb1 Rxe4 28.Qxe4 Rd8 29.Qe3 Qd6 30.Qe2 Qd5 31.Bd4 Qf7
32.h3 Re8 33.Qb2 Qc7 34.Qb7 Qd6 35.Qb5 Rd8 36.Bxa7 h6
37.Bc5 Qd5 38.Qb4 Qxa2 39.Bf8 Qf7 40.Qe7 Rxf8 41.Qxf7
Rxf7 42.g4 Kh7 43.Kg2 Kg6 44.Kg3 Re7 45.h4 h5 46.g5 Re4
47.gxf6 gxf6 48.Rb6 Rg4+ 49.Kh3 Kf5 50.Nh2 Rf4 51.Kg3 Rc4
52.f3 Rc3 53.Nf1 Rc5 54.Ne3+ Ke5 55.f4+ Ke4 56.Re6+ Kd4
57.Kf3 f5 58.Rh6 Rc3 59.Rd6+ Kc5 60.Rd5+ Kc6 61.Rxf5 Kd6
62.Rxh5 Ke6 63.f5+ Kf6 64.Kf4 Rc4+ 65.Kf3 Rc5 66.Ke4 Re5+
67.Kd4 Ra5 68.Nd5+ Kf7 69.Ke5 Ra6 70.f6 Re6+ 71.Kf5 Rc6
72.Rh7+ Kf8 73.Rd7 Rc5 74.h5 Rc2 75.h6 Rf2+ 76.Kg4 Rg2+
77.Kh3 Rg6 78.h7 Rh6+ 79.Kg4 Rg6+ 80.Kf5 Rh6 81.Kg5 Rxh7
82.Rxh7 Kg8 83.Kg6 Kf8 84.Rh8# 1-0

Vedanth Sampath (1763)

Atharva Vispute (1705)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.g3 Nbd7 4.Bg2 e5 5.0-0 Be7 6.c4 c6 7.d5
Qc7 8.Nc3 0-0 9.e4 Nc5 10.Qc2 a5 11.Be3 b6 12.Bxc5 bxc5
13.a3 Ba6 14.b3 Rab8 15.Rab1 Rb7 16.Rb2 Rfb8 17.Rfb1 g6
18.Ne1 cxd5 19.exd5 Nd7 20.Nd3 f5 21.Na2 Bf6 22.b4 cxb4
23.axb4 e4 24.Nf4 Bxb2 25.Qxb2 Ne5 26.b5 Nxc4 27.Qd4 Rxb5
28.Rc1 Rb1 29.Ne6 Rxc1+ 30.Nxc1 Qe7 31.Qc3 Ne5 32.h4 Bc8
33.Nf4 a4 34.Na2 Rb1+ 35.Kh2 Ng4+ 36.Kh3 Nxf2+ 37.Kh2
Ng4+ 38.Kh3 Bd7 39.Nb4 Rb3 40.Qd4 g5 41.Nc6 Bxc6 42.dxc6
gxf4 43.Bf3 0-1

Isaiah Mares (1186)

Archer Murane (1403)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nxc6 Qf6 6.Qe2

dx6 7.Nc3 Nh6 8.Be3 Bg4 9.f3 Bxe3 10.Qxe3 Be6 11.Bd3
0-0-0 12.Qxa7 Qg5 13.Qf2 f5 14.h4 Qf6 15.0-0-0 fxe4 16.Bxe4
Qf4+ 17.Kb1 Ng4 18.Qa7 Rd6 19.Qa8+ Kd7 20.Rxd6+ Kxd6
21.Qxh8 Nf6 22.Rd1+ Ke7 23.Qxg7+ Ke8 24.Qg5 Qh2 25.Qxf6
Bd7 26.Bxh7 Qxg2 27.Bg6+ Qxg6 28.Qxg6+ Kf8 29.Rxd7 c5
30.Qf7# 1-0

Wesley Woo (1800)

Andrew Roerty (1720)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Bc4 Bg7
7.0-0 a6 8.a4 0-0 9.Bb3 Nc6 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.f4 Qb6+ 12.Kh1
Ng4 13.Qf3 Kh8 14.f5 Ne5 15.Qg3 Bd7 16.Qh4 d5 17.exd5 Bxf5
18.dxc6 Nxc6 19.Nd5 Qd4 20.Qxd4 Bxd4 21.c3 Bg7 22.Bg5 e6
23.Nf6 h6 24.Nd7 hxg5 25.Nxf8 Bxf8 26.Bc4 Ne5 27.Be2 Kg7
28.b4 Nd3 29.Bxd3 Bxd3 30.Rf3 Be4 31.Rf2 Rc8 32.Rc1 Bxb4
33.c4 Bd3 34.Rb2 Ba3 0-1

Owen Christ (1435)

Owen Curtis (1750)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Bd3 0-0
7.0-0 Bg4 8.Bg5 c6 9.Re1 Nbd7 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 h6 12.Bh4
Qc7 13.g4 g5 14.Bg3 Bxg3 15.fxg3 Rae8 16.Kg2 Kg7 17.h4 Qd6
18.hxg5 hxg5 19.Qf5 Ne4 20.Nxe4 dxe4 21.Bxe4 Qg6 22.Qxg6+
fxg6 23.Bf3 Nf6 24.Re2 Rxe2+ 25.Bxe2 Re8 26.Bd3 Nxe4
27.Kf3 Nf6 28.Kf2 Nd5 29.Re1 Rh8 30.Kg1 Rf8 31.Kg2 Nb4
32.Re3 Nxd3 33.Rxd3 Re8 34.Kf2 Rh8 35.Kg2 Kf6 36.d5 c5
37.c4 Ke5 38.Kf3 Rh2 39.d6 Rh8 40.Rd5+ Ke6 41.Rxg5 Rg8
42.Rxc5 Kxd6 43.Rd5+ Kc6 44.b4 a6 45.a4 Rg7 46.b5+ axb5
47.axb5+ Kb6 48.Kg4 Ka5 49.Kg5 Kb4 50.Rd6 Kxc4 51.Rxg6
Rxg6+ 52.Kxg6 Kxb5 53.Kh7 Kc5 54.g4 b5 55.g5 b4 56.g6 b3
57.g7 b2 58.g8Q b1Q+ 59.Qg6 Qb7+ 60.Kh6 Qh1+ 61.Kg7
Qb7+ 62.Kh6 Qh1+ 63.Kg7 Qb7+ 64.Kh6 ½-½

Vedant Margale (1605)

Grayson Manuel (1477)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Qb6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bd3 Bd7 7.Be2
Rc8 8.a3 c4 9.0-0 Qd8 10.h3 b5 11.Re1 a5 12.Be3 Ra8 13.Nbd2
Nge7 14.Nf1 Nc8 15.b4 cxb3 16.Bxb3 Nb6 17.N1d2 Rc8 18.Rf1
Qc7 19.Qc2 Na7 20.Rfc1 a4 21.Ba2 Bxa3 22.Rd1 b4 23.Bb1
Qxc3 24.Qxc3 Rxc3 25.Nf1 Nc4 26.Bd2 Nxd2 27.Rxd2 Be1
28.Rd1 Bb2 29.Ra2 a3 30.Ne3 b3 31.Rxb2 axb2 32.Ne1 Re1
33.Nd3 Rxd1+ 34.Nxd1 0-0 35.N1xb2 Rb8 36.Ne5 Bb5 37.Kh2
Bc4 38.g3 Nb5 39.Nbd3 Nxd4 40.Kg2 Bxd3 41.Nxd3 Kf8 42.f4
Ke7 43.Nc5 h6 44.Kf2 Rb5 45.Ke3 Rxc5 46.Kxd4 Rc1 47.Bd3
b2 48.Ke3 b1Q 49.Bxb1 Rxb1 50.Kd3 Rb3+ 51.Kd2 Rxg3
52.Ke2 Rxh3 53.Kf2 d4 54.Ke2 d3+ 55.Kd2 g5 56.fxg5 hxg5
57.Ke1 g4 58.Kd2 g3 59.Kxd3 g2+ 60.Ke2 g1Q 61.Kd2 Qg2+
62.Kc1 Rh1# 0-1

Curtis Chun (1780)

Griffin McConnell (2009)

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 d5 3.f4 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Bd3 Bg4 6.Nf3 e6 7.Nbd2
a6 8.0-0 Rc8 9.h3 Bh5 10.Be2 Be7 11.Ne5 Bg6 12.Ndf3 Ne4
13.Nxc6 Rxc6 14.Ne5 Rb6 15.Qa4+ Kf8 16.Nd7+ Kg8 17.Nxb6
Qxb6 18.Bf3 Ng3 19.Rd1 h5 20.Qe8+ Bf8 21.b3 Kh7 22.Qd7
cxd4 23.exd4 Qc6 24.Qxc6 bxc6 25.Be3 Be7 26.c4 Ra8 27.cxd5
cxd5 28.Rac1 a5 29.Rc7 Bf6 30.a3 Rb8 31.Rc3 h4 32.Bf2 Nf5

33.Rd2 Be7 34.Ra2 Bd6 35.Bg4 Bxf4 36.Bxf5 Bxf5 37.Bxh4 f6
38.Bg3 Bxg3 39.Rxg3 Rc8 40.Re3 Rc1+ 41.Kf2 Be4 42.Rb2 f5
43.b4 axb4 44.axb4 f4 45.Re1 Rc7 46.b5 e5 47.b6 Rb7 48.dxe5
Kg6 49.Rc1 d4 50.Rc7 Kf5 51.Rxb7 Bxb7 52.Rc2 d3 53.Rc7
Ba6 54.Rd7 1-0

Cayden Hetzel (1515)

Ayush Vispute (1592)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.Qxd4 Nf6
7.e5 Nd5 8.e6 f6 9.exd7+ Qxd7 10.0-0 e5 11.Nxe5 fxe5
12.Qxe5+ Kf7 13.Qxh8 Nf6 14.Bg5 Bg7 15.Bxf6 Bxh8 16.Bxh8
Ba6 17.Re1 Rxh8 18.Nc3 Rb8 19.Rad1 Qf5 20.Ne4 Kf8 21.Rd6
Rxb2 22.Rf6+ Qxf6 23.Nxf6 Kg7 24.Nd7 Rxc2 25.h3 Rxa2
26.Re7+ Kh6 27.f4 Ra1+ 28.Kh2 Bd3 29.g4 g5 30.f5 Ra2+
31.Kg3 Re2 32.f6 Rxe7 33.fxe7 Bg6 34.Nf6 a5 35.Nd7 a4
36.Nf8 Bf7 37.Ne6 a3 38.Nd4 a2 39.Nc2 Kg6 40.h4 gxh4+
41.Kxh4 Kf6 42.Na1 Kxe7 43.Kg5 Kd6 44.Kf4 Kc5 45.Ke5 Kb4
46.Kd4 Bb3 47.g5 c5+ 48.Kd3 c4+ 49.Kd2 c3+ 50.Kc1 Kc4
51.g6 hxg6 52.Nc2 Bxc2 53.Kxc2 g5 54.Kc1 a1Q+ 55.Kc2 Qb2+
56.Kd1 Qd2# 0-1

Andrew Roerty (1720)

Vedanth Sampath (1763)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.d5 a5
8.0-0 Na6 9.Ne1 Nc5 10.f3 Nh5 11.Be3 f5 12.b3 f4 13.Bf2 Qg5
14.Bxc5 dxc5 15.Nb5 Rf7 16.Qd2 Bf8 17.a3 Qd8 18.Nd3 Bd6
19.b4 b6 20.bxa5 Rxa5 21.Rfb1 g5 22.Nc1 Nf6 23.Nb3 Ra6
24.a4 g4 25.a5 g3 26.h3 Ne8 27.axb6 cxb6 28.Rxa6 Bxa6 29.Ra1
Bxb5 30.cxb5 Qb8 31.Qa2 Rc7 32.Nd2 Kg7 33.Qa8 Qxa8
34.Rxa8 c4 35.Nxc4 Bc5+ 36.Kf1 Nd6 37.Nxe5 Bd4 38.Nc6 Bc5
39.Ke1 Nf7 40.e5 Be3 41.d6 Rb7 42.Bc4 Ng5 43.Bd5 Rd7
44.Ra7 Rxa7 45.Nxa7 Bc5 46.d7 Be7 47.Nc6 Kf8 48.d8Q+ Bxd8
49.Nxd8 Ke7 50.Nc6+ Kd7 51.h4 Ne6 52.Bxe6+ Kxe6 53.Kd2
Kd5 54.Kc3 h5 55.Kd3 Kc5 56.e6 Kd6 57.e7 Kd7 58.Ke4 Ke8
59.Kxf4 Kf7 60.Kxg3 Ke8 61.Kf4 Kf7 62.Kg5 Kg7 63.e8Q Kh7
64.Qe7+ Kg8 1-0

Owen Curtis (1750)

Wesley Woo (1800)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 e6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.e3 Be7 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 b6
8.b3 Bb7 9.Bb2 Nbd7 10.Qe2 Rc8 11.Rac1 c5 12.cxd5 exd5
13.Rfd1 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Re8 15.Ba6 Bxa6 16.Qxa6 Nc5 17.Qe2
Nfe4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Nf5 Bf6 20.Rxc8 Qxc8 21.Bxf6 Qxf5
22.Bb2 Rc8 23.Qf3 Qxf3 24.gxf3 Nf6 25.Bxf6 gxf6 26.Rxd5
Rc2 27.a4 Rb2 28.Rd3 Kg7 29.Kg2 Kg6 30.Kg3 h5 31.h4 f5
32.f4 Kf6 33.f3 Rb1 34.e4 Rg1+ 35.Kh2 Re1 36.e5+ Ke6
37.Rd6+ Ke7 38.Rh6 Re3 39.Rxh5 Rxb3 40.Rxf5 Kf8 41.e6 Rb4
42.Rxf7+ Ke8 43.Rxa7 Re4 44.fxe4 1-0

Aaron Dunigan-AtLee (1450)

Aleksey Kaikov (1800)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6
7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 0-0 9.cxd5 exd5 10.e3 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6
12.Nf3 c5 13.0-0 Qd6 14.Bg3 Qe6 15.Rfel Ne4 16.Nd2 f5
17.Nxe4 fxe4 18.Qe2 Nb8 19.Rf1 c4 20.f3 exf3 21.Rxf3 Nc6
22.a4 Na5 23.Raf1 Rxf3 24.Qxf3 Nb3 25.Be5 Re8 26.Qg3 Re7
27.Rf6 Qd7 28.Rd6 Qf5 29.Rf6 Qb1+ 30.Rf1 Qe4 31.Qf2 Rd7

32.Qf8+ Kh7 33.Rf4 Qxe3+ 34.Rf2 Qe4 35.Qf5+ Qxf5 36.Rxf5
Nd2 37.Rf2 Ne4 38.Rc2 a6 39.Bf4 Rb7 40.Bc1 b5 41.axb5 Rxb5
42.Kf1 Rb3 43.Bb2 a5 44.Ke1 a4 45.Kd1 a3 46.Bxa3 Rxa3
47.Kc1 Rxc3 48.Rxc3 Nxc3 49.Kc2 Ne4 50.g3 Kg6 51.Kc1 Kf5
52.Kc2 Kg4 53.Kc1 Kh3 54.g4 Kxg4 55.Kc2 Kh3 56.Kc1 Kxh2
57.Kc2 Kg2 58.Kd1 h5 59.Ke2 Kg3 60.Kf1 c3 61.Ke2 h4
62.Kd3 h3 63.Ke2 h2 64.Kd3 h1Q 65.Kc2 Qg2+ 66.Kd3 Qd2#
0-1

Archer Murane (1403)

Benji Simberg (1560)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nxd5 4.Bc4 Nxc3 5.Qf3 e6 6.Qxc3
Nc6 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.0-0 f6 9.Re1 e5 10.Qb3 Qe7 11.Qxb7 Rb8
12.Qa6 Rb6 13.Qa3 Qxa3 14.bxa3 Bc5 15.d3 Nd4 16.Be3 Nxc2
17.Bxc5 Nxe1 18.Bxb6 Nxf3+ 19.gxf3 axb6 20.Rb1 Bc6 21.Bb5
Kd7 22.a4 Bxb5 23.axb5 Kd6 24.Kf1 Ra8 25.Rb2 Kc5 26.Ke2
Ra4 27.Rc2+ Kd6 28.Rb2 Rh4 29.Rc2 Rb4 30.Rc4 Rxb5 31.Ke3
Rb2 32.Rh4 Kd5 33.Rxh7 f5 34.f4 exf4+ 35.Kxf4 Rxf2+ 36.Ke3
Rxa2 37.Rxg7 Rxh2 38.Rxc7 Rh3+ 39.Kf4 Rxd3 40.Kxf5 b5
41.Rb7 Kc4 42.Ke4 Rd8 43.Rc7+ Kb3 44.Rc6 b4 45.Rh6 Kc2
46.Rh2+ Rd2 47.Rh1 b3 48.Ke3 b2 49.Rh4 b1Q 50.Rc4+ Kb3
51.Rf4 Qd3# 0-1

Aleksey Kaikov (1800)

Cory Foster (1700)

1.g4 e5 2.Bg2 d5 3.c4 c6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.h3 Nf6 6.Qb3 Be7 7.g5
Ne4 8.Bxe4 dxe4 9.h4 0-0 10.Nc3 Be6 11.Qc2 Nc6 12.Qxe4 f6
13.Nf3 f5 14.Qa4 e4 15.Nh2 a6 16.a3 b5 17.Qd1 Nd4 18.f3 Bb3
19.fxe4 Bxd1 20.Kxd1 fxe4 21.Nxe4 Qd5 22.d3 Qb3+ 23.Kd2
Qc2+ 24.Ke3 Rad8 25.Bd2 Nf5+ 26.Kf3 Nd6+ 27.Bf4 Nxe4
28.dxe4 Qb3+ 29.e3 Bd6 30.Kg4 Bxf4 31.exf4 Qc2 32.Rae1
Qg2+ 33.Kh5 g6+ 34.Kh6 Qh3 35.Nf3 Qd7 36.Ne5 Qg7# 0-1

Luke Donofrio (1868)

Shiven Saxena (1485)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3 Qf6 6.c3 Nxd4
7.Bxd4 Bxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Bc4 Be6 10.Bxe6 fxe6 11.Nd2 Qxd4
12.cxd4 Ne7 13.0-0 Kd7 14.Rac1 Nc6 15.Nf3 Rhf8 16.Rfel Rf4
17.Re3 Raf8 18.Rcc3 h6 19.h3 g5 20.g3 R4f7 21.Rcd3 h5
22.Nxg5 Rxf2 23.Rf3 R8xf3 24.Rxf3 Rxb2 25.Rf7+ Ke8
26.Rxc7 Nxd4 27.g4 hxg4 28.hxg4 e5 29.Nf7 Nf3+ 30.Kf1 Nd2+
31.Ke2 Nxe4+ 32.Ke3 Rb4 33.g5 Kf8 34.g6 Nf6 35.Kd3 e4+
36.Kc2 Rb6 37.Kd1 Ng4 38.Ng5 d5 39.g7+ Kg8 40.Rd7 Rg6
41.Nh3 Rxg7 42.Rd8+ Kf7 43.Nf4 Ke7 44.Rb8 Kd6 45.Ra8 Rf7
46.Nh3 Nf2+ 47.Nxf2 Rxf2 48.Rxa7 Kc6 49.a4 d4 50.Ra8 e3
51.Rd8 Kc5 52.Rc8+ Kb4 53.Rd8 Kc3 54.Rc8+ Kd3 55.Ke1 Rh2
56.Rf8 Rh1+ 57.Rf1 Rxf1+ 58.Kxf1 Kd2 59.Kg2 e2 60.a5 e1Q
61.a6 bxa6 62.Kf3 Qe3+ 63.Kg4 Qf2 64.Kg5 Ke3 65.Kg4 Ke4
66.Kg5 Qf4+ 67.Kh5 Qg3 68.Kh6 Kf5 69.Kh7 Kf6 70.Kh8 Qg7#
0-1



2021 CSCA Scholastic Qualifier Tournaments

by Tom Nelson

In a year that we hope never happens again choices needed to be made. Exceptions determined. Since our annual Scholastic State tournament could not happen, we decide to host four USCF qualifier tournaments for players to represent the CSCA and the state of Colorado.

Sending out the emails we had for our 2019 and 2020 entrees we chose up to the top 10 rated players for each division that were interested in playing an over the board tournament.

On March 20th at the Embassy Suites on Hampden Avenue in Denver we held our Rockefeller, Barber, Denker and Haring qualifier tournaments.

To all who made this year tournament happen.

To every parent and young scholastic player for their perseverance to attend the tournament.



To National Masters and former Colorado State Champions Jesse Cohen and Lior Lapid for taking the time to do commentary during the rounds. Jesse from home and Lior on site.



To our volunteers Penny and Peter Canacci for their tireless efforts during the tournament, cleaning every set, board and table after each game finished throughout the day. Just one of their many efforts of which this tournament director is most appreciative.

To Fox 31 News for sending out their camera crews twice to video the tournament and cover the tournament on the 9 o'clock news.



To Earle Wikle (*top of next column*) for coming in on Friday night, setting up our digital boards and making it available to see the top four games on the internet.



To Brad Lundstrum, CSCA President, who spent many hours in planning and preparation to make this a wonderful tournament for all involved.

To Elisha Averett and his dad Dantzel who came to the tournament as a house player to make sure all our players were able to get in four games.



The Players Battled:



Our Champions Determined:



The Tournament Hall was Prepared:



These two pics of Iris Li taken by Yiwei Yan

The Trophies Displayed:



Congratulations:

- Iris Li** – 2021 CSCA Haring Qualifier Champion
- Derek Yin** – 2021 CSCA Rockefeller Qualifier Champion
- Davin Yin** – 2021 CSCA Barber Qualifier Champion
- Vedanth Sampath** – 2021 CSCA Denker Qualifier Champion



The 1974 US Open (& more)

by Curtis Carlson

"If it hadn't been for Botvinnik I wouldn't have been anyone." - GM Garry Kasparov

"...many progressives desire a world in which the people they are most concerned about never have to face trade-offs, and believe that public policy overseen by the right people can deliver such a world. Such a world is not possible." - Steve Horwitz

"...the practical player can appreciate that at times keeping the complexity within bounds takes priority over seeking to optimise." - GM Peter Wells

"The center is the soul of the opening." - Isaac Lipnitsky

"Many other possible worlds intervene in the real one." - Friedrich Hebbel

Whether studies aid directly in developing positional judgement in the ending is debatable, but the same theory is the foundation of each. The powers of the pieces. The elements. This is the case for acquiring 'book' knowledge." - A. J. Roycroft

"We are fast approaching the stage of ultimate inversion: the stage where the government is free to do anything it pleases, while the citizens may act only by permission; which is the stage of the darkest periods of human history, the stage of rule by brute force." - Ayn Rand

"Alekhine would rather die than not win." - GM Efim Bogoljubov

"I sometimes advise young players to learn to spend time limiting the opponent's counterplay. This is a great art, but a very important component in becoming a really strong player." - GM Vladimir Kramnik

"Logic takes you from A to B. Creativity takes you everywhere." - Albert Einstein

In the '70s I played lots of chess in lots of places. I went to seven North American Opens (1972-78, Stillwater), six US Opens (1974-79, NY City, Lincoln, Fairfax, Columbus, Phoenix, Chicago), four American Opens (1976-79, Los Angeles), three World Opens (1977-79, Philadelphia), the 1974 National Open (Las Vegas), and even the 1976 Keres Memorial (Vancouver, BC). Of all these the most memorable is my first US Open. I was a 20 year old expert who had never before been in a 500+ player tournament. Six unforgettable games are analyzed here.

"I'm learning that middle age is all about small victories." - Art Carden

"In bad positions, all moves are bad." - GM Siegbert Tarrasch

"A great discovery solves a great problem but there is a grain of discovery in the solution of any problem. Your problem may be modest; but if it challenges your curiosity and brings into play your inventive faculties, and if you solve it by your own means,

you may experience the tension and enjoy the triumph of discovery." - George Polya

After the NAO ended Friday August 9, we had two days to make the 1500 mile trip east for the Open's Sunday evening start. Six of us squeezed into a Hertz rental and took off for the Big Apple, stopping only for gas and food. On Sunday morning we arrived safe, tired, hungry, and ready to play. My companions were IM John Watson, Dave Jellison (1954-2018), Christine Hendrikson (1949-2005), Paul Nikitovich, and Cory Boyd. Paul, Dave, and Cory stayed with Paul's sister while John, Chris, and I stayed at the affordable Hotel Wilson. The tournament was at the Statler Hilton, 20 blocks away. Games began at 7:00pm and lasted until midnight or later, so we usually walked 'home' about 1:00am. I spent too much time at a 24 hour video arcade when I should have prepared for my next game. My personal life was a lot like my chess playing: routine, vague and unfocused. I was young and foolish.

"If this match induces ordinary players to sacrifice pawns more often, it will have done the chess world a great service." - C.J.S. Purdy (referring to Alekhine-Euwe 1937)

"I have known many chess players, but only one chess genius - Capablanca." - GM Emanuel Lasker

"There is nothing in war that I cannot do with my own hands." - Napoleon

As always, notes are mine with help from *Houdini Chess Engine 6.02* and whatever engines are online.

"I am currently writing the final chapter of my new book. It is illuminating to see how bad the quality of old analysis often was (including my own). Things you thought were true are just wrong. Using an engine is like getting a new pair of glasses when you are severely myopic." - GM Nigel Short

"The computer analysis can be likened to a powerful searchlight beam, which illuminates darkness and drives out irrational fears." - GM Sarhan Guliev.

75th US Open

Round 3 / August 13, 1974

Curtis Carlson (2111, age 20)

Alfred Sirutis Jr. (1809, age 32)

B77 TC: 50/150 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=166217>): 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.Bb3 Rc8 11.h4 Ne5 12.h5 Nxh5 13.0-0-0 Nc4 14.Bxc4 Rxc4 15.g4 Nf6 16.Rdg1 (This gives White nothing but was theory at the time. HCE prefers 16.Kb1+= and 16.Nb3+=, with its third choice the 16.Nde2= that Karpov used to destroy Korchnoi five weeks later; see <https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1067858>. HCE dislikes Korchnoi's 16...Qa5+=

and says 16...Re8= is best) 16...Qa5 17.Nb3 Qc7 18.g5 Rxc3? (18...Nh5=) 19.gxf6+- Rxe3 20.fxf7 (Bob Wendling would have seen 20.Qh2 h5 23.Qh5+- in a heartbeat) 20...Rc8 21.Rg2? (21.Nd4 e5 22.Qe3 ed 23.Qd2+/- . I was still trying to attack when I should have just played for material advantage.) 21...Rxf3 22.Rgh2? (After this blunder White is lost. Right was 22.Qh6+=. Three consecutive slips turned the game around.)

"A chess player, like a field engineer, cannot afford to make a mistake." - GM Mikhail Botvinnik

22...Qc4!-+ 23.Qd1 Bg4 24.Nd2 Qxa2 25.Rxh7 Rf2! 26.Rh8+ Kxg7 27.R1h7+ Kf6 28.e5+ (Desperation. After 28...Kf5=- White resigns) Kxe5? = 29.Qe1+ Re2 30.Qg3+ Kd5?+-

"It's not difficult to play chess at all. It is necessary only to be able to choose the right piece and to put it on the right square!" - GM Jose R. Capablanca.

Black generously takes d5 away from his queen. Right was 30...Kf6 31.Rc8 Qd5 32.Qg4 Re1 33.Qd1 Rd1 34.Kd1 Qg2= HCE) 31.Rc8 1-0

GM Andy Soltis often played the Dragon at the GM level and saw part of this mess, but fortunately (for him) missed the end.

"Chess is a fairy tale of blunders." - Savielly Tartakover

"Like the Duke of Parma, I always hold the sword in one hand and the olive branch in the other." - Wilhelm Steinitz

"Everybody has a plan until they get hit." - Mike Tyson

This was my only game with Al Sirutis. A Google search shows he's a retired pharmacist living in Florida, still playing chess. Someday I'll apologize for stealing this game.

"The fact is the relative values of the men are hardly commensurable, and not to be assigned with anything like precision, owing to the changeful conditions of the game." - James Mason

"The welfare state is the oldest con game in the world. First you take people's money quietly and then you give some of it back to them flamboyantly." - Thomas Sowell

"It is impossible to learn to play well, by relying solely on general principles and considerations. Nothing can replace the basic fundamental that chess is a game of calculation." - GM Sarhan Guliev

"The goal of creativity is to reveal yourself." - Boris Pasternak

"...the dogmatic approach to chess positions is a particularly superficial approach, incapable of disclosing all the immense diversity of possibilities inherent in the game." - Isaac Lipnitsky

"The difficult thing about playing this kind of game is not of course the complexity of the calculations, but the task of correctly evaluating the resulting position when you are calculating." - GM Mikhail Botvinnik, referring to his Amsterdam 1938 game with Alekhine



US Open 1974: IM Ed Formanek plays a Yugoslav attack against FIDE master Jon Jacobs. FM Frank Thornally is on Jacobs' right, and IM Tim Taylor is seated behind him, possibly in his game with me. GM Arthur Bisguier (with glasses) stands in the back.

75th US Open

Round 4 / August 14, 1974

George Shainswit (2250, age 56)

Curtis Carlson (2111, age 20)

B91 TC: 50/150 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2014070>): 1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.g3 e5 7.Nde2 Be7 8.Bg2 0-0 9.a4 Be6 10.0-0 Nbd7 (This maintains equality but HCE and Stockfish 12 prefer 10...Qc8 stopping 11.h3 and/or planning 11...Bh3. Also good is 10...Qd7=HCE. In my youth I had a Reinfeld like 'quick development' philosophy, where every piece had to be moved once before making a plan.) 11.h3+= Rc8 12.b3= Qc7+= (Again, very routine. HCE and Stockfish prefer 12...Re8=, anticipating a structure change after 13.Nd5 Bd5 14.ed where the rook is well placed behind the e-pawn. The slightly unnatural 12...Nc5= is also possible.) 13.Bb2= (More consistent was 13.f4+= threatening f5. Also good is 13.a5+=) 13...Rfd8= (HCE's third choice. Right was 13...b5!, since 14.ab ab 15.Nb5 Qc2 is better for Black. HCE gives 15.Ba3 Qb7 16.Bb4=. HCE's second choice is 13...Rfe8=, and 13...h6 and 13...h5!? were also equal.) 14.f4 exf4?! (This gives White a small edge.

"Chess is not checkers, it is not necessary to capture." - IM Alexander Cherepkov

14...Nf8, 14...h5, 14...d5, and 14...Nc5 are all reasonable. Interesting was 14...d5 15.ed Nb6, when 16.de Rd1 17.ef Kf7 18.Rad1 is dynamically equal. The reason HCE disliked White's 13th is 14...Bc4 15.bc Qb6+ wins the piece back, which of course I missed.) 15.gxf4+= Nf8 16.f5 Bd7 (16...Bc4? 17.bc Qb6 18.Qd4 Qb2 19.Rfb1+-) 17.Rc1= (White plans Nd5, ed, and c4 advancing his queenside majority. HCE prefers 17.Qd4 {intending Nd5 without allowing ...Nd5 since Qg7# isn't good for Black} 17...Bc6 18.b4+=) 17...Bc6= 18.Nf4 N8d7 19.Nfd5!? (Slightly impatient. HCE thinks 19.Qd4, 19.Kh1, and 19.Qd2 are all better and equal. During the game I expected 19.Ncd5 Bd5 20.ed Ne8 21.c4 Bf6+=) 19...Bxd5 20.exd5+= Ne5= (More aggressive was 20...Qc5 21.Kh2

Qe3=+. 20...h6=+ was also good.) 21.Ne2 b5 (This stops 22.c4 but better was 21...Nh5 not allowing White to relocate his knight. Black also has 21...Re8) 22.axb5 axb5 23.Kh2 Ra8 24.Nd4 Ra2 25.Nxb5?+ Qb6?+ (I thought I had erred, but 25...Qb8 {staying on the h2-b8 diagonal} 26.Be5 de 27.c4 e4 28.Kh1 Qg3 29.Rg1 Bc5-+ is winning. 27.Qe2 e4 28.Kh1 Qe5-+ takes prevents Nc3 and powerfully threatens 29...Rd5. When we went over the game the next day IM John Watson said Black was better with the 7th rank rook and the strong center dark squares, and it took me 47 years to believe him. HCE gives 25.Ba1=. The rest of the game was poorly played by me in time pressure.) 26.Bxe5 Qxb5? (26...de 27.Nc3 Rb2=HCE) 27.Bg3

“Two bishops are always better than one bishop.” - C.J.S. Purdy

27...Rc8 28.c4 Qb7 29.Re1 Bf8 30.Rb1 Qd7? (30...Rca8 or 30...Qb4 or 30...g6 are all +=) 31.Qf3 h6? (31...Rca8 was still best) 32.Ra1 Rca8 33.Rxa2 Rxa2 34.Bf2 Nh7 35.Bd4 Ng5?+- (Yet another weak move. Black should try to 35...Be7 intending ...Bf6. We were both low on time.) 36.Qf4 Qb7?+- (HCE prefers the wretched 36...f6) 37.Rb1 (This passive move costs White much of his edge. 37.h4 Nh7 38.Re3+- takes a step towards g3 where the rook can both attack and defend.) 37...Ra3?+- (37...Be7+= was again right.) 38.Qe3 (38.f6+-) 38...Qd7? (38...f6 was the only try but Black is still lost.) 39.Qf2 Nh7 40.Qc2 Be7? (Now this move is bad!) 41.Qb2 Ra7? 1-0

I resigned before losing more material. I never knew how lame this game was before now. There's nothing like a cold blooded computer program to put you in your place.

“People quarrel endlessly about what was mankind's greatest invention, but to me the answer is obvious: Velcro.” - Robert Higgs

“Don't Analyze Unnecessary Tactics (DAUT).” - GM John Nunn

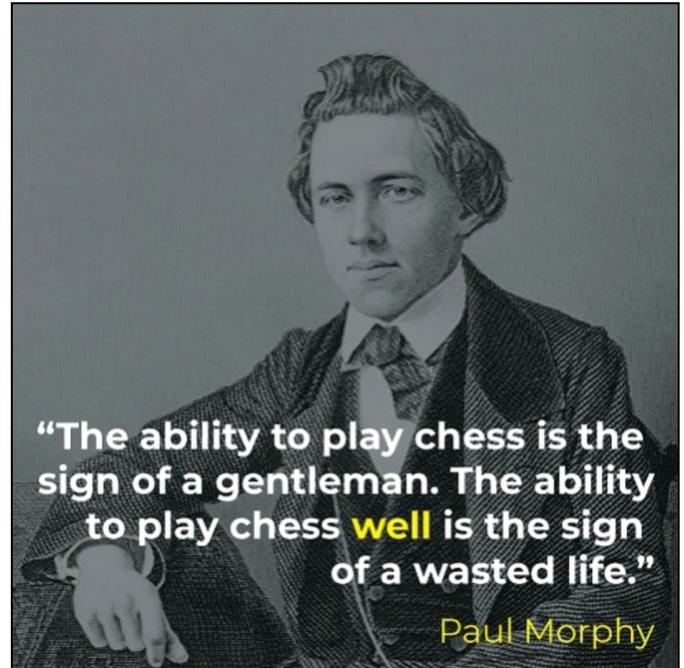
“Advancing a Pawn without a specific purpose ruins numerous endgames.” - GM Thomas Luther

This was my only game with George Shainswit (1918-1997), who played in five US championships and drew Fischer in the 1956 Rosenwald tournament where Bobby famously beat Donald Byrne. At the 1978 World Open George was mildly amused when I told him I didn't know how famous he was when we played! He was one of New York's top players for more than twenty years.

“The validity of any chess laws and maxims is wholly dependent on the concrete circumstances.” - Isaac Lipnitsky

“It is very important to include in your repertoire some systems and variations on which your opinion differs, even if only slightly, from that of the theorists.” - IM Mark Dvoretsky

“I study theoretical lines in the hope that my opponents will avoid them.” - GM Alex Yermolinsky



“Progress in technology is not the product of inspiration, but gradual and unstoppable autonomous process in which people are just pawns.” - Matt Ridley

“You have to give squares to get squares.” - GM Bobby Fischer

“I don't make plans, I see plans, just like I see combinations.” - IM Willy Hendriks

75th US Open

Round 8 / August 19, 1974

John N. Jacobs (2375, age 23)

Curtis Carlson (2111, age 20)

A23 TC: 50/150 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2014071>): 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 c6 4.Nf3 e4 5.Nd4 d5 6.cxd5 Qb6 7.Nb3 cxd5 8.Bg2 Nc6 9.0-0 Bf5+= (9...Be6= is considered best since Black's e-pawn soon comes off the board, leaving the d-pawn more vulnerable.) 10.d3 Rd8 11.Bg5 Be7 12.dxe4 Bxe4? (This ridiculous move gives White a free advantage. Obvious and good was 12...de+=. I must have disliked 13.Qc2 when the e4 pawn is hard to protect, but 13...Nb4 14.Qc1 Bg6 15.Bf6 Bf6 16.Ne4 Be4 17.Be4 O-O+= opposite colored bishops keeps White's edge minimal. Black's dark squared bishop also keeps it close after 13...O-O and 13...h6. HCE gives the crazy 13...Bg6 14.Ne4 Ne4 15.Be7 Ng3 16.Bd8 Nd8 17.Qc5 Qc5 18.Nc5 Nf1=, which I would never have seen in a million years. I was too worried about material.

“Many chess lovers are afraid to give up material or are fixated on maintaining the material balance. With their intention of not risking anything they only too often make life difficult for themselves or even barter away possible success.” - GM Thomas Luther)

13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe7+= (HCE prefers 14.Be3 Qb4 15.a3 is best. Now misses the chance to reduce his disadvantage.)

15...Nxe7 (I didn't even consider 15...Ke7!+= which stops White's next move.) 15.Qd4! Qxd4 16.Nxd4 Nc6? (This only helps White develop. Better is 16...h5 17.Rfc1 Rh6+= where the rook lift is more stubborn.) 17.Rfd1 Nf6? (17...Ke7 offered the most resistance.) 18.Rac1 Nxd4 19.Rxd4 Ke7 20.Rc7+ Rd7 21.Rxd7+ Kxd7 22.Bxd5 Nxd5 23.Rxd5+ Ke6 24.Rc5 (Black has a depressing but possibly defensible position.)

"To attack is temporary, but a bad endgame is forever." - Emil Krotky

24...Rd8 25.Rc7 Rd2 26.Rxb7 Rxe2 27.a4 a5 28.Kg2 Rc2 29.Rb5 h6 30.h4 g6 31.Kf3 h5 32.Ke3 Kd6 33.b3 Rb2 34.f4 Rg2 35.Kf3 Rc2? 36.Ke4 (36.f5+-) 36...Rc3 37.Rd5+ (HCE prefers 37.Ra5 Rb3 38.Rd5 Ke6 39.a5) Ke6+= 38.Rd3 Rc1? (This weak move lets White move his king to the queenside. Much stronger {and the reason HCE preferred 37.Ra5} was 38...Rc7+= or 38...Rc8+= hoping to restrict White's king from the front.) 39.Kd4 Kd6 40.Rc3 Rb1 41.Kc4 Kc6 42.Re3 Rc1+ 43.Kd4 Rd1?+- (It's still lost after 43...Kd6 44.Re5 Rd1 45.Kc4, but not as easy for White.) 44.Ke5 Rd5+ 45.Kf6 Rf5+ 46.Ke7 Kd5 47.Kf8 f6? 48.Kg7 g5 49.fgx5 f5 50.Kg6 Rf8 51.hxg5 Kd4 1-0

This was my worst game in the tournament, and the only one where I was never better at some point. I could have resigned any time after White's 44th move.

"A thoughtful, deep study of chess (in conjunction with tournament practice) serves to develop that valuable quality of positional flair - 'feel for position' - without which no one can think of becoming a strong player." - Isaac Lipnitsky

"The positional pawn sacrifice should be in the arsenal of every chess player." - GM Vlastimil Jansa

"If you are not aiming to become a professional player, you should only play as often as possible!" - Emanuel Schiffers (1894)

This was my only rated game with three-time Texas champion FIDE master John Jacobs, who tied for first in the 1973 Mile High Open with me, Mike Dalesio, and Sal Martinez. I believe he still lives in Dallas. I don't remember seeing him again after this tournament.

"I never thought I'd see the day when chess would be all over the front pages here, but confined to only one paragraph in Pravda. I guess that's my fault. It just depend on who's winning." - GM Bobby Fischer (1972)

"All winning positions are psychologically dangerous." - GM Nigel Davies

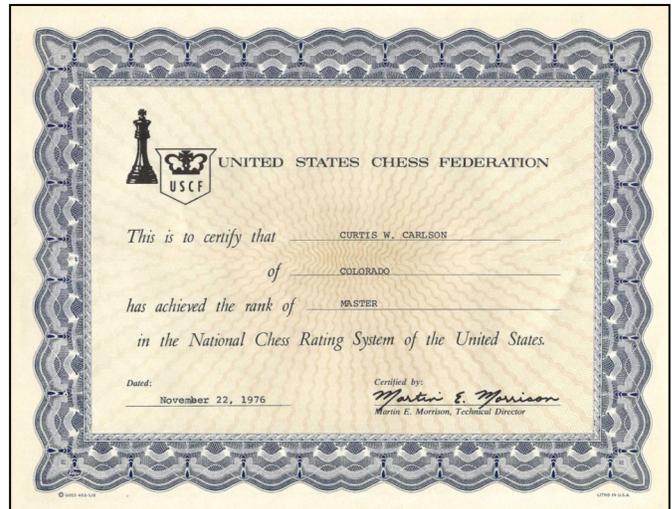
"Losing hurts more than winning is nice." - GM Nigel Short

"What I believe about the world now ... is so much at variance with what I believed when I was younger that I might as well be a completely different person." - Jordan B. Peterson

"Remember the route of the principal hero of this game: Nb1-d2-f1-e3-c2-a1-b3-a5-c6-e5-g4-h6-g8. Not bad, is it?" - GM Mikhail Tal, referring to <https://www.chessgames.com/perl/>

[chessgame?gid=1140914](https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1140914)

"The value of chess knowledge can be found in the fact that it opens the mind to the means for solving problems and for the creative achievement of specific goals." - IM Nikolay Yakovlev



Much to the envy of Brian Wall, my Master certificate was issued exactly thirteen years after John F. Kennedy was assassinated and exactly twenty years before my son Jonathan was born. Jon once asked why his birthday was on such a historic day, and I said to ask USCF!

75th US Open

Round 10 / August 21, 1974

IM Timothy Taylor (2355, age 24)

Curtis Carlson (2111, age 20)

E30 TC: 50/150 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2014067>): 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bg5 d5 (This is OK if one likes the Ragozin Queens Gambit. More aggressive and probably better is the typical 4...h6 5.Bh4 c5 6.d5. Interesting is 6...Bc3 7.bc e5 8.d6!? as in Taylor-IM Karl Burger, 1975 US Open.) 5.e3 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.Qc2 c5 8.dxc5 dxc4 (Not a mistake, but not the best. HCE likes 8...Na8, 8...Nbd7, 8...Na6, and 8...d4 which are also equal.) 9.Bxc4+= Qa5 (This is HCE's first choice, but 9...Nbd7 10.Nf3 Qa5= was also reasonable.) 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Nge2 Qxc5 12.Bb3 Nc6 13.0-0+= Bd7 (13...f5 stopping White's next is slightly better. As usual I was preoccupied with quick development.) 14.Ne4 Qe7 15.a3 f5!? (15...Ba5+= was best. The text lets White develop too easily.) 16.axb4 fxe4 17.b5!? (17.Rfd1 Nb4 18.Qe4. It seems we were both too materialistic.) 17...Nb4= 18.Qc7 (This doesn't lead to anything, but neither does 18.Qe4 Bb5=) 18...Nd3 19.Nc3 Rfc8 20.Qg3+ Qg5 21.Qxg5+ (HCE likes 21.Ne4 Qg3 22.fg+=) 21...hxg5 22.b6 (22.Ne4+=) 22...Nc5 23.Bc2 axb6 24.Bxe4 Kg7 25.Bc2 b5 26.Rxa8 Rxa8 27.Ne4 Nxe4 28.Bxe4 Bc6 29.Bd3 Ra2 30.Rb1 Kf6 31.f3 Ke5 32.Kf2 Kd5 33.Kg3 f5 34.f4 g4 35.Kh4 Kd6 36.h3 gxh3 37.gxh3 Ra8 38.Kg5?! (Playing with fire. 38.Re1=) 38...Rg8+ 39.Kf6?+- Rg3? (He walked into a mating net and I let him out! Right was 39...Be8-+. We were both low on time.) 40.Rd1 Bd5 41.h4 Rh3 (Safe was 41...Re3 and 42...Rh3 since White

can't play Rh1.) 42.Kg5 Rg3+ 43.Kh6 Rh3 44.h5 Rxh5+ 45.Kxh5 Bf3+ 46.Kg5 (At first he played 46.Be2, which I had to point out wasn't legal.) 46...Bxd1 47.Bxb5 Bc2 (It was slightly better to stop 48.Kf6 with 47...Ke7 but it's still dead even after the text.) 48.Kf6 Be4 49.Kf7 Bd5 50.Bd3 Bc6 51.Bc4 Bd5 52.Be2 Be4 1-0

Here the game was adjourned, and I actually lost when it was resumed the next morning. I didn't save the moves, but traded bishops into a lost pawn ending. I'll never know how I could have missed 39...Be8, but sometimes a pawn is worth more than a king.

"Many people spend thousands of hours studying chess, but a majority of them seem to have absolutely no idea of how to go about it." - GM Nigel Short

"...chess is so remarkable because there is always an exception to every rule." - GM Sarhan Guliev

"It is a fearful thing to love what death can touch." - Anonymous

This was my first of two games with Taylor, whom I played in the tenth round of two US Opens. Our second was much more enjoyable. It's at <https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2023072>.

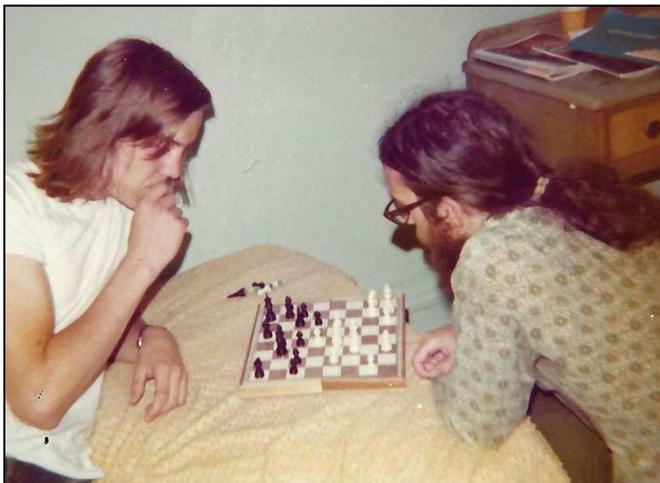
"A little revenge is more human than no revenge at all." - Nietzsche

It will be analyzed in a future article.

"In most cases we learn from reflecting on experience rather than experience itself." - Barry Hymer

"Although chess is a game of skill, no amount of hard work will ensure that you get good results - but it will make them more likely." - GM Danny Gormally

"One key to a successful Twitter and Facebook experience, and lower blood pressure, is having a mental list of people who it's almost never worth engaging with." - Steve Horwitz



NY 1974: IM John Watson (on the right) gets a chess lesson

from me between US Open rounds. Now that I'm 67 it's hard to believe I was ever 20! Photo by Christine Hendrikson

"As long as there is competition in a market economy, some will fall as others rise. Everything has a shelf life." - Jon Miltimore

"As soon as I hit a stumbling block, the motivation to earn money ... wasn't enough for me and I really needed to rediscover a love of the game to balance out the pain of failure." - GM David Howell

"I didn't come into chess to become rich." - GM Gawain Jones

75th US Open

Round 11 / August 22, 1974

Curtis Carlson (2111, age 20)

IM Jay R. Bonin (1866, age 19)

B43 TC: 50/150 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2014068>): 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3 Nf6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Nb3 b5 9.f4 d6 10.a3 Bb7 11.Be3 Be7 12.Qf3 0-0 13.Qh3 g6 (This weakening move isn't necessary. 13...Rad8, 13...Rfe8, 13...h6, and even 13...h5!? are all equal HCE.) 14.g4 d5?! (Better were 14...Rad8, 14...Rfe8, and 14...Nd7, which maintain equality.) 15.exd5 Nxd5 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.f5+= Rfe8?+- (This blunder loses quickly. The best try seems to be the awkward 17...d4 18.Bf4 Ne5+=. Another try is 17...Bd6 18.Bc5 Ne5+=. Worse is 17...Bf6 since 18.Bc5 wins the exchange.) 18.fxc6 fxc6 19.Rf7! Kxf7 20.Qxh7+ Ke6 21.Bf5+ Ke5 22.Qg7+ 1-0

This almost repeats my 1973 Colorado Open game with Bob Wendling (with colors reversed); see page 14 of the January 2018 *Colorado Chess Informant*. I resigned after 21.Bf5, but Jay lasted one more move! It was nice to be on the right side this time.

"Technology might have changed the way we look at chess, but the pieces still move in the same way they did sixty years ago." - GM John Shaw

"If Fischer was easy to get along with, he would not be Fischer." - Senior Master Ken Smith

"In a cultural atmosphere in which stating the obvious is often taboo, originality can be overrated." - Daniel Wattenberg

This was my only game with Bonin, who was one of the nation's most active players for several years. I believe he still lives in NY.

"It is important to look not only at the result but also at one's play and consider its weaknesses self-critically. That is the only way to really improve." - GM Thomas Luther

"The poorest 20% of Americans are richer than most people in much of Europe, meaning that if America's poor were a nation, it would be one of the richest in the world" - Emmanuel Rincón

"It is important to remember that the value of the pieces depends on their potential activity in a given position and not their point sum." - IM Nikolay Yakovlev

75th US Open
Round 12 / August 23, 1974
Howard Ant (1945, age 34)
Curtis Carlson (2111, age 20)

B96 TC: 50/150 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2014030>): 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Nbd7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 b5 10.a3 Rb8 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.g4 Be7 13.g5 Nd7 14.Bh3 Nc5 15.Rhg1 b4 16.axb4 Rxb4 17.f5 Qb7= (HRC theory at the time was divided over this move and 17...Qb6=. HCE and Stockfish 12 think 17...g6= and 17...Bd7= are also playable.) 18.fxe6?! (Consistent with White's 14th, but the computer gives 18.f6 gf 18.gf=. Another try is 18.b3=) 18...fxe6 19.Rg4?+ (Best is 19.b3 Rf8 20.Qe3 a5=+, and 19.Nd5 ed 20.Bc8 Qc8 21.ed Rf8) 19...g6 (19...e5 20.Nb3 Rf8 was more forceful.) 20.Rg3 Rxb2 (20...Bd7 and 20...a5 were better, since now White has 21.Nc6) 21.Bg2 Bd7 22.h4 Rb4 (22...Qb4!) 23.Qe3 Na4 24.Nb3 0-0 25.Na2 Rc4 26.Rd4 Rc7 27.h5 Rfc8 28.Rd2 Nc3 29.Nxc3 Rxc3 0-1

Dave Jellison said I crushed an Ant! After my 10th round debacle it was nice to finish with two clean wins.

"One of the central dogmas of chess didactics states that evaluations lead to plans and moves. This order can be easily reversed: knowing the good plans or moves leads you to the correct evaluation." - IM Willy Hendriks

"Grandmaster skill becomes apparent in the ability to make the correct choice - which pieces to exchange and which to leave on the board." - IM Nikolay Yakovlev

"We need to look at the source of the Elo points." - GM Levon Aronian

This was my only game with Howard Ant, who still plays actively online at age 81. My Najdorf book knowledge came in handy! I had seven wins, two draws, and three losses that will forever haunt me. Chess really is one long regret! *Anatoly Karpov* said *"analyze your losses, understand them, then forget them"*, which is difficult when thinking about 25...Qb8 vs. Shainswit, 38...Rc7 vs. Jacobs, and 39...Be8 vs. Taylor.

"History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." - James Joyce.

Maybe I should have just stayed home.

"The terrible thing about chess is you have only yourself to blame." - GM Bent Larsen.

How did we do? Besides my 8 points, John had 8.5, Paul 7, Dave 5.5, Cory 5, and Christine 4.5; overall we did OK. The crosstable is at <https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chesscollection?cid=1021099>. I could have done better than 58th place out of 543, but I could also have done worse. At least I was in the top 11%, which was far better than I did in high school.

"One of the methods used by statisticians [socialists] to destroy capitalism consists in establishing controls that tie a given industry hand and foot, making it unable to solve its problems, then declaring that freedom has failed and stronger controls

are necessary." - Ayn Rand

"The fundamental principle of the middlegame consists in coordinating the pieces which have already been brought into action." - GM Jose R. Capablanca

"Fischer possesses an amazing ability to reduce complex positions to simple ones, with a clear plan. For years he has trained himself to work intensively at the board, avoiding short and colorless draws, and playing, as it is said, 'to the bare kings'. It is extremely dangerous to allow him the initiative." - GM Viktor Korchnoi



1512 Damiano book, which reminds me of the Voynich manuscript.

Brief Book Reviews

"Real chess player read chess books the way others read gossip magazines." - GM Simen Agdestein

1) *Bobby Fischer and His World* (2020) by International Master John Donaldson

This magnificent work is worth its weight in gold. The author (my longtime friend) put a tremendous amount of time and research into a fine biography. Highly recommended, and not just because he quotes me on pages 449-450.

"Children without parents grow into wolves. I am only a person, but a person with an unusual fate." - GM Bobby Fischer

"...the most dangerous thing when playing Fischer was to allow the American grandmaster a position with a minimal advantage, but where you have no counterplay. He plays such positions like a virtuoso." - GM Mikhail Tal

"As soon as Fischer senses the slightest decrease in his opponent's energy, or uncertainty in his play, he instantly musters all his strength and begins playing with a trebled determination to win." - GM Mark Taimanov

"I've probably read a thousand books on chess and I've absorbed the best from them." - GM Bobby Fischer

"It is not known how Fischer's chess biography will develop."

One thing is clear: the strongest player on the planet can only be a person of high convictions, deep moral principles, and great intellect.” - GM Efim Geller (1962)

“...at the board Fischer made a very good impression. One could feel the intensity he committed to every move. In my view, his immense capacity for work and his stamina went a long way to accounting for his success.” - GM Igor Bondarevsky

“When Petrosian played like Petrosian, Fischer played like a very strong grandmaster, but when Petrosian began making mistakes, Fischer was transformed into a genius.” - GM Mikhail Botvinnik (1971)

“Fischer is not only a strong player, but also very hard to oppose as a personality - because he fights to the last and never gives up. We didn’t pay enough attention to this trait of his character.” - GM Paul Keres (1972)

“This match cannot end normally. Either I’ll be taken to a hospital or else he’ll be taken to a lunatic asylum.” - GM Anatoly Karpov, referring to his aborted 1975 match with Fischer

“Fischer is fanatically devoted to chess. Even when his first prize was secure, he continued to play the remaining games as if his fate in the tournament depended on them.” - GM Vladimir Tukmakov (1970)

“Fischer takes encounters with all the leading Soviet grandmasters very seriously. Incidentally, he is on excellent terms with most of us. He respects us as colleagues and adversaries.” - GM Viktor Korchnoi

“There is no luck involved in chess. You just have to work at it.” - GM Bobby Fischer

“I played through several hundred Morphy games and was amazed by his inventiveness.” - GM Bobby Fischer

2) *On the Origin of Good Moves* (2020)

by IM Willy Hendriks

This interesting book by the author of the controversial *Move First, Think Later* (2012) combines theory, history, and personal philosophy which in some ways it reminds me of *Lasker’s Manual of Chess*. It’s not for everyone, but I liked it and recommend it for higher rated players.

“AlphaZero seems to think you can learn to play chess perfectly without taking the slightest notice of chess history.” - IM Willy Hendriks

“We all prefer to attack rather than defend, but sometimes you have to call the opponent’s bluff, otherwise you will be fooled around with.” - IM Willy Hendriks

“...every way to improve your attacking play will simultaneously improve your defensive play. Your attacks can only become stronger if you take into account the good defenses. The lines you calculate will be more to the point if they take into account the strongest replies.” - IM Willy Hendriks

“The idea than an advantage will disappear if you don’t act upon it has been hailed as a brilliant discovery, but I fail to see why. For one thing, there are many types of advantage that

don’t need ‘attacking’ to materialize.” - IM Willy Hendriks

“We have all looked at the contrast between ‘all out attacking’ and ‘slow positional play’ before, but it would be too simple to reduce...to just this. More fitting is the opposition between a ‘concrete’ approach, trying to treat every position according to its own merits, and a ‘rule based approach, trying to develop general ideas for every position.” - IM Willy Hendriks

“Soviet chess ideologists made Chigorin the forefather of their school of chess, but they would have been better off with Steinitz, Tarrasch, or Lasker. The concepts of planning and balance combine perfectly with Soviet planning in economics and their dialectical philosophy.” - IM Willy Hendriks

“If you want to invest some time and spice up your play, mastering a new opening can be a good idea.” - IM Willy Hendriks

3) *Luther’s Chess Reformation* (2016)

by GM Thomas Luther

This book has many interesting middlegames and endgames and talks much about training young players. Luther says *“Sad but true: I was able to go for a career as a professional chess player because as far as other professions were concerned I had as good as nothing to lose.”* This sounds like a personal zugzwang! Another good book for chess teachers and stronger players.

“A good chess player and above all a master needs to be able to put up with a fair amount of uncertainty. That is one of the abilities which are part of a player’s talent, which after all is composed of a whole series of qualities.” - GM Thomas Luther

“A chess player who in addition to his title and playing strength also has broad knowledge and is a good companion will be far more respected than the chess fanatic whose world stretches no further than the edge of the board. Always remember: chess is only a small part of life and the rest of the world should not be shut out.” - GM Thomas Luther

“If one is involved with chess ‘as a secondary occupation,’ then one at some point comes up against limits. Chess is a strenuous matter ... anyone who wants to reach his maximum must concentrate totally on chess. That involves important compromises with or giving up education. Anyone who concentrates on education will hardly make it to the top and at the very least will not be able to achieve his possible maximum.” - GM Thomas Luther

“There is no safeguard for the innocent fellow who thinks he can get along by just playing chess.” - GMC C.J.S. Purdy

“Chess can be a very lonely thing, especially when you have just lost a game.” - GM Thomas Luther

4) *My Joyous Battles with Chess Villains* (2020)

by FIDE Master David Lucky

I thoroughly enjoyed this superb collection of 119 high quality, well annotated games by David *‘should be an IM’* Lucky. His games remind me of Tal, and I especially liked game #83 where he devastates Life Master Brian *‘should be an expert’* Wall. Highly recommended.

“Great skill in chess cannot at all be attained without some original work.” - James Mason

“Chess, first of all, is an art.” - GM Mikhail Tal

“How does Tal win? It is very simple: he puts his pieces in the center and then he sacrifices them somewhere.” - GM David Bronstein

5) *Revolutionize Your Chess: A Brand New System to Become a Better Player* (2009) by GM Viktor Moskalenko

Another good book for stronger players. Moska makes you think by emphasizing several simultaneous ideas: *Material, Development, Piece and Pawn placement, King Position, and Time*. In other words, don't get obsessed with one thing, but learn to juggle several balls at once. It's no longer brand new, but well worth reading.

“Steinitz's Elements and Nimzovich's System, two milestones in chess history, have meant a lot for the understanding of thousands of players. But only by a good understanding of the time factor will we be able to take chess to a new dimension.” - GM Viktor Moskalenko

“Never forget chess is all about the definitive interplay of all relevant factors, and not the pronounced sway of any single one of them in particular. Appearances can be misleading.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

6) *60 Memorable Magnus Carlsen Games* (2020) by GM Andrew Soltis

The prolific Soltis cranks out another good one. The games are well selected with annotations not too heavy or too light. It seems to be aimed at players rated 2000 or less, but still a good read for anyone.

“Kasparov described (Magnus) Carlsen as essentially a positional player - ‘more Karpovian ... with Fischer-like intensity.’ But Carlsen is Fischer on steroids.” - GM Andrew Soltis

“It's nice to be financially secure. Apart from that I don't think too much about money ... I spend hours playing chess because I find it so much fun. The day it stops being fun is the day I give up.” - GM Magnus Carlsen

“A regular opening for Magnus means one he has played more than twice in a row.” - GM Jon Ludwig Hammer

7) *The Fine Art of Chess* (2019) by Lyudmil Tsvetkov

This strange 812 page tome is the longest chess book I've ever read. I learned a few things and it's OK for the 50 well selected games, but the crazy annotations leave you wondering what to think. The author's *Amazing Chess Tactics* (2020), a collection of 820 puzzles from recent games, is well worth reading and can be recommended more enthusiastically.

“The more patterns one is aware of, and capable of putting to good use, the stronger player he will be.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“Chess is religion. Chess is art. Chess is science. Some games inebriate us, some games instruct us, some games fascinate us.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“Tempo moves basically denote it will be your move again.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“When it comes to tactics, heed the unexpected - tactics are often unexpected, originating from subtle figurine interdependencies.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“Multiple chess positions are prone to lightening turnarounds owing to tactical blunders.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“Chess is a weird thing, opportunities for both sides exist throughout the game.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“The quest for truth in chess is reminiscent of the Holy Grail - nearly impossible to achieve.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

“Great players rarely forgive the misapprehensions of weaker ones.” - Lyudmil Tsvetkov

As a retired senior citizen I read lots of books! Hopefully these reviews are helpful.

“A good person pays back favors. A smart person pays them forward.” - Henry Reagan (fictional TV character)

“Analysis is the search for good, better and best moves: an iterative procedure familiar to player, solver, and composer ... it is an activity fundamental to, even equivalent to, good chess.” - A. J. Roycroft

“All strong chess players have a difficult character.” - GM Boris Spassky

As I was finishing this article I was saddened to hear my longtime friend John Siadak passed away in early March. 46 years ago I was lucky to draw our only game in the 1975 Intercollegiate. USCF master Mike Hoffer also passed in early January. He had 2500 Facebook chess friends and was a powerful presence in Florida's chess community for many years. RIP John and Mike.

“Harmoniously uniting in itself the curious, the beautiful, and the true, chess appears to hold a permanent relation to the innate susceptibilities of intelligence; and there is now little question of its increasing value as a mental recreation or of its fitness for use by all sorts and conditions of men. As the struggle to be shifts more and more from hand to brain, the need of a rational exhaust - a thinking change in thought - becomes more and more imperative, and will not be denied.” - James Mason (1894)

As always, I appreciate the opportunity to share memories. I am at curt2309@comcast.net if there are any questions, comments, or corrections.

“Life Lesson: If you want to see the world beyond your small pond, don't be koi.” - Tom G. Palmer



Tactics Time!

by Tim Brennan

One of the best ways to improve your game is to study tactics, such as the following, from games played by Colorado players. Answers are on the next page.



1. J.C. MacNeil - George Peschke
DCC Fall Classic / 2019
Black to move



2. Ben Gurka - Brian Wall
DCC October / 2019
Black to move



3. Rob Cernich - J.C. MacNeil
DCC October / 2019
Black to move



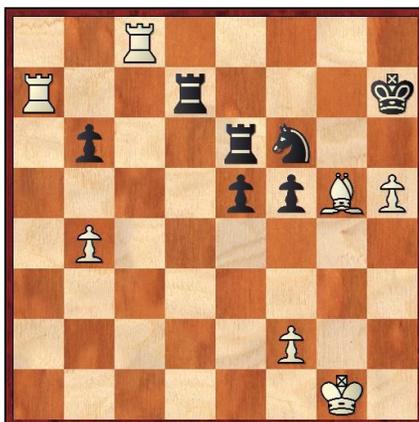
4. Ross Inman - Gunnar Anderson
Colorado Springs Championship / 2019
Black to move



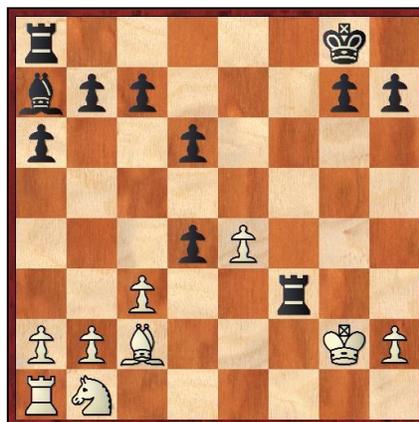
5. Sam Bridle - Rhett Langseth
Colorado Springs Championship / 2019
Black to move



6. Neil Bhavikatti - Sullivan McConnell
Colorado Open / 2019
Black to move



7. Jesse Hester - Matthew Lofton
Colorado Open / 2019
White to move



8. Davin Yin - Brian Wall
DCC Championship / 2019
Black to move



9. Rhett Langseth - Gunnar Andersen
Thanksgiving Open / 2019
Black to move



Tactics Time Answers:

1. **22...Bf5** pins the White queen to the king.
2. **16...Qxh2+!! 17.Kxh2 Rh6+ 18.Qh4 Rxh4#.**
3. **20...Rxc3!!** busts White's position apart. If **21.Rxc3 Bxd4+**.
4. Black is in check and also threatening White's queen. Black wins a piece with **16...Qxd6!** White does not have time to recapture and protect the queen. For example, **17.exd6 Nxd2.**
5. **31...Qg4+!! 32.hxg4 Bxg4#.**
6. **49...Bxg3!** White cannot recapture because of **50.fxg3 Nxe3+** forking the king and queen.
7. **38.Bxf6!!** Removes the defender of the rook on d7 and threatens **39.Rh8#** - Black cannot meet both threats.
8. **22...Rf2+!!** Black forks the White king and bishop and sets up a deadly discovered check if the rook is taken, **23.Kxf2 dxc3+ 24. Ke2 cxb2** and Black will make a queen.
9. **33...Nd2+** clears the way for the bishop **34.Kc1 Bxg6.**



The Chess Detective®

Raking Bishops Problems

by NM Todd Bardwick

(Reprinted with permission of the Author, the United States Chess Federation & Chess Life magazine)

In the January 2021 edition of the *Colorado Chess Informant* we looked at some examples showing the power of the raking bishops. Now it's your turn to test your skills using these powerful diagonal weapons.



I

Position after 17.Kb2
Black to move



II

Position after 19.exd4(p)
Black to move



III

Position after 18...f6
White to move



IV

Position after 21...Qxb7(r)
White to move



V

Position after 17...a6
White to move



VI

Position after 26...Nxb7(r)
White to move

NM Todd Bardwick is the author of 'Chess Strategy Workbook', 'Chess Endgame Workbook', 'Chess Tactics & Combinations Workbook' & 'Attacking the Chess King Workbook for Rated Players'

He can be reached at www.ColoradoMasterChess.com

I**This game between Eugen Sobernheim and Salomon Langleben was played in 1895 in Montreal, Canada.**

Black sacrifices his queen to set up the bishops to chase the king into Black's territory to mate him with 17...Qa3+! 18.Kxa3 Nd3+ (The knight prevents the king from retreating.) 19.b4 Rxb4 20.Rxd3 Rb1+ (The bishops are set up for the chase.) 21.Ka4 Bd7+ 22.Ka5 Bd8+ 23.Kxa6 Bc8+ 24.Ka7 Bb6+ 25.Ka8 Ba6#.

II**This position is from a game between Aron Nimzowitsch and Siegbert Tarrasch played in St. Petersburg, Russia, 1914.**

Black's bishops stare menacingly at White's king. Black sacrifices his bishop with 19...Bxh2+! 20.Kxh2 Qh4+ 21.Kg1 Bxg2! (Sacrificing the other bishop, threatening 22...Qh1#. 22.Kxg2 Qg4+ followed by the ...Rd5-h5 rook lift.) 22.f3 Rfe8 23.Ne4 Qh1+ 24.Kf2 Bxf1 25.d5 (25.Nf6+ Kf8 26.Nxe8 Qg2+ followed by 27...Rxe8+ or 25.Rxf1 Qh2+ are both winning for Black.) 25...f5 26.Qc3 Qg2+ 27.Ke3 Rxe4+ 28.fxe4 f4+ (Quicker is 28...Qg3+ 29.Kd2 Qf2+ 30.Kd1 Qe2#) 29.Kxf4 Rf8+ 30.Ke5 Qh2+ 31.Ke6 Re8+ 32.Kd7 Bb5#.

III**This game was played in The Hague, Netherlands in 1921 between Alexander Alekhine and Max Euwe.**

19.Bxe5 fxe5 (Also losing are: 19...Bxe5 20.Bc4+ Kh8 21.Nf7+ or 19...fxe5 20.Bc4+ or 19...Be6 20.Bxd6 Rxd6 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.Bc4) 20.Bc4+ Resigns (20...Be6 21.Bxe6+ Qxe6 22.Qg7#).

IV**This is a position from 1968 between Mikhail Botvinnik and Lajos Portisch in Monte Carlo, Monaco.**

22.Ng6+ Kh7 23.Be4 (Here come the bishops!) 23...Bd6 24.Nxe5+ g6 25.Bxg6+ Kg7 26.Bxh6+! Resigns.

V**From Francisco Benitez vs. Max Euwe, Puerto Rico in 1948.**

18.Qa3! (The queen can be used as a raking bishop too! 19.Rd8# is threatened. 18...Qxa3 19.Rd8+ Ke7 20.Re8#.) 18...g6 19.Rd8+ Resigns (19...Kg7 20.Rxg8+ followed by 21.Qxe7).

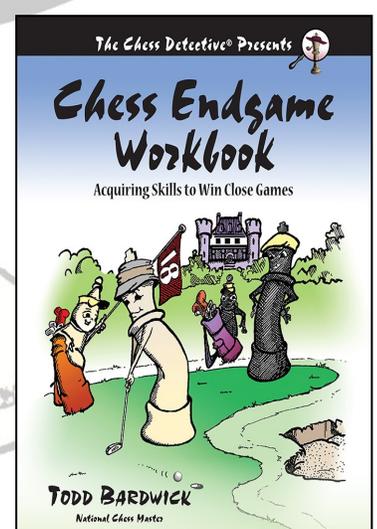
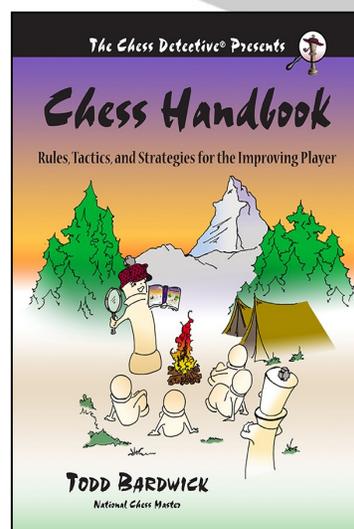
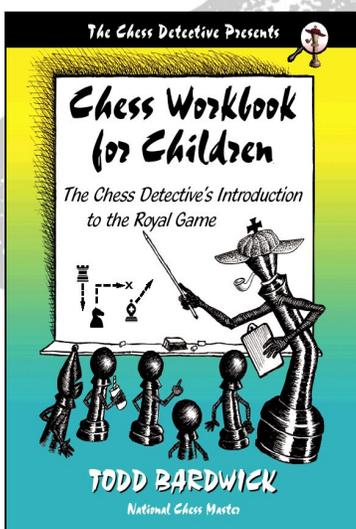
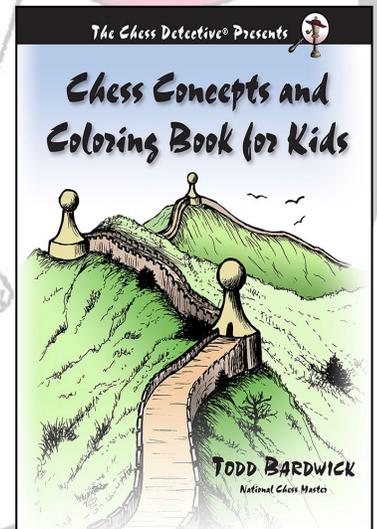
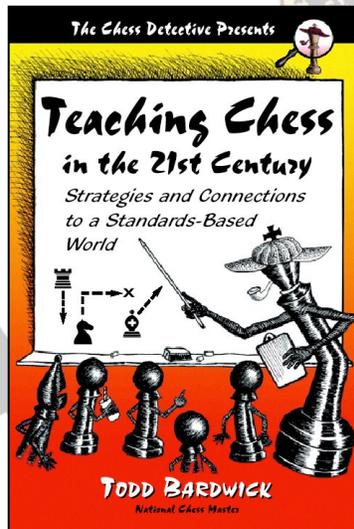
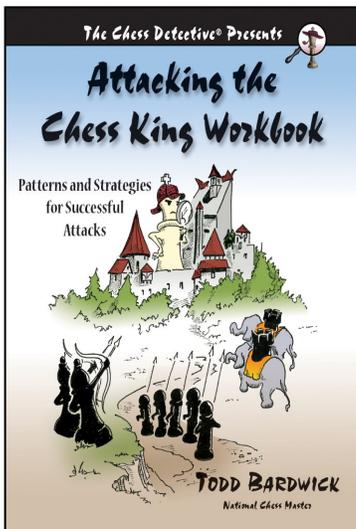
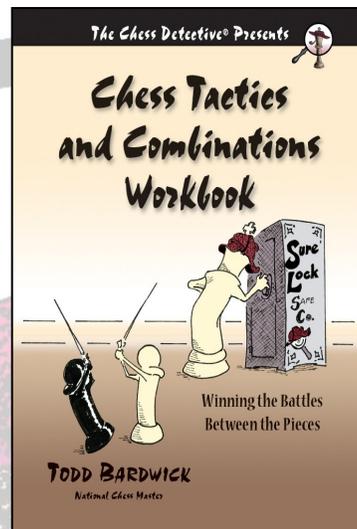
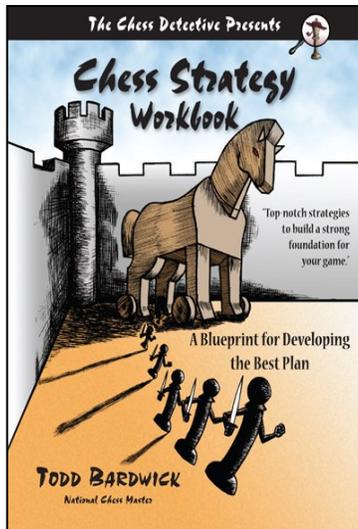
VI**This position is from a game between Michael Adams and William Stanton played in London Lloyds, England, in 1993.**

27.Nf6+! (Clearing the path for the queen and bishops to dominate on the diagonals.) 27...gxf6 28.Qg4+ Kh8 29.Qh4 f5 30.Qf6+ Kg8 31.Bh6 Be5 32.Qxf5 Resigns.



NM Todd Bardwick is the author of 'Chess Strategy Workbook', 'Chess Endgame Workbook', 'Chess Tactics & Combinations Workbook' & 'Attacking the Chess King Workbook for Rated Players'

He can be reached at www.ColoradoMasterChess.com



*NM Todd Bardwick's books can be purchased at Amazon.com here:
<https://tinyurl.com/y4dk56ky>*

COLORADO CHESS CLUB DIRECTORY

Boulder Chess Club: Meets Wednesdays at the University Memorial Center (First Floor) on the CU Boulder campus, 6:30-9:30pm. 1669 Euclid Avenue, 80309. www.BoulderChess.com.

Carbondale Chess Club: Meets every Tuesday from 6:00pm until the wee hours at Kahhak Fine Arts & School, 411 Main Street, Carbondale, 81623. All levels and ages are welcome and chess coaching is available. Please contact Majid Kahhak at (970) 704-0622 or email: Mkakhak@sopris.net.

Castle Rock Chess Club: Meets every Monday from 6:00-9:00pm at the Philip S. Miller Library, 100 South Wilcox Street, Castle Rock, 80104.

Chess Knights: (Highlands Ranch) Meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. Highlands Ranch Library, 9292 Ridgeline Boulevard, 80129.

Information is also available on the Chess Knights' Web site at HighlandsRanchLibraryChess.org.

Contact: Frank Atwood (720) 260-1493 or by email: FrankAtwood@HighlandsRanchLibraryChess.org.

Chessmates Chess Club: (Fort Collins) 4825 South Lemay Avenue, 80525. Mondays & Thursdays 5:00-6:30pm for Advanced players, Tuesdays for Beginners from 5:15-6:15pm. Instructed by Zachary Bekkedahl. For more information contact Zachary Bekkedahl by email at info@chessmatesfc.com or go to www.chessmatesfc.com.

Colorado Springs Chess Club: Meets Tuesday evenings, 7:00-10:00pm, in the ballroom of the Acacia Apartments building, 104 East Platte Avenue. Scheduled activities every meeting at 8:00pm (must show up by 8:00pm or you might be locked out). For information see our website at www.SpringsChess.org or email Richard "Buck" Buchanan at buckpeace@pcisys.net or call (719) 685-1984.

Craig Chess Club: Call Rick or Mary Nelson, (970) 824-4780 to schedule play.

Denver Chess Club: Meets on Tuesdays, 6:00-10:00pm at the Third Christian Reformed Church, 2400 South Ash Street, Denver. (303) 733-8940. www.DenverChess.com.

Denver Chess / Meetup.com: This group is run through the social site Meetup.com, and our page is www.Meetup.com/Learn-to-Play-Chess/. Players must join in order to receive information and sign up for events. Contact: David Costantino at avs1cup@yahoo.com or through the group's Meetup.com page.

Durango Chess Club: Meets on Wednesdays from 6:00-9:00pm at Durango Joe's Coffee Shop, 732 East College Drive.

Fort Collins Chess Club: Currently meets Tuesdays, 7:00pm, in the food court of the Lory Student Center (2nd level), Colorado State University. You can email Randy Reynolds at randy_teyana@msn.com.

On the web - groups.yahoo.com/group/fort_collins_chess.

Fort Lewis College Chess Club: Meets Thursday nights in the X-treme room which is located the College Union Building, the club is sponsored by the school and is a USCF affiliate club. For more info, contact Andrea Browne at (970) 247-6239.

Grand Junction Chess Club: Meets Mondays at 6:30pm in the Safeway at Starbucks, 2901 Patterson Road. Call Rick Lovato at (970) 243-1073.

Grand Junction Junior Chess Club: Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Building, 2853 North Avenue. Call Rand Dodd at (970) 245-4015.

Greeley Chess Club: Meets Wednesdays, 6:00-9:00pm at Your Place Coffee, 2308 West 17th Street, Greeley. Contact Brad Lundstrom at ChessCoach2014@gmail.com. Or call him at (970) 415-3855.

Lafayette Chess Club: Meets Mondays, from 6:00-9:00pm at the Mojo Coffeehouse, 211 North Public Road in Lafayette. For more information send an email to aerofirewp@yahoo.com or contact Victor Creazzi at (303) 332-7039.

Longmont Chess Club: Meets Wednesdays from 6:30-9:00pm. Check www.LongmontChess.com for current meeting location. Email Todd Burge at Admin@LongmontChess.com or call (720) 220-5240.

North Jeffco Chess Club: Meets Thursdays from 7:00-10:00pm at the Grandview Tavern & Grill, 7427 Grandview Avenue in Arvada. Email jax@well.com for more information.

Northeast Denver Chess Club: Meets Mondays and Thursdays from 4:00-8:00pm at 2575 Vine Street, Denver. Call (303) 320-6716 for more info.

Pagosa Springs Chess Club: Meets on Tuesdays (6:00-9:00pm) and on Saturday mornings (9:00-Noon) at Nello's Restaurant, 135 Country Center Drive, #A. For more information contact Anthony Steventon by email at asteveton@centurytel.net or at (970) 731-3029.

Parker Chess Club: Meets every Thursday from 7:00-9:00pm at the new Parker library in Parker, CO. All levels and ages welcome. Contact John Brezina at skibrezina@gmail.com.

Pueblo Chess Club: Meets at the Hanging Tree Café, 209 South Union, 81003 on Tuesdays and Thursdays after 6:30pm. For more info contact Liz Nickovich at chessliz@comcast.net or by phone at (719) 696-8389.

Rifle Chess Club: Meets Thursdays, 6:30-9:00pm, at City Hall. For information email Dane Lyons at duilen@gmail.com.

Stonebridge Games Chess Club: (Longmont) Meets Tuesdays at 5:00pm. 449 Main Street, Longmont. Call (303) 776-3796 for more info.



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