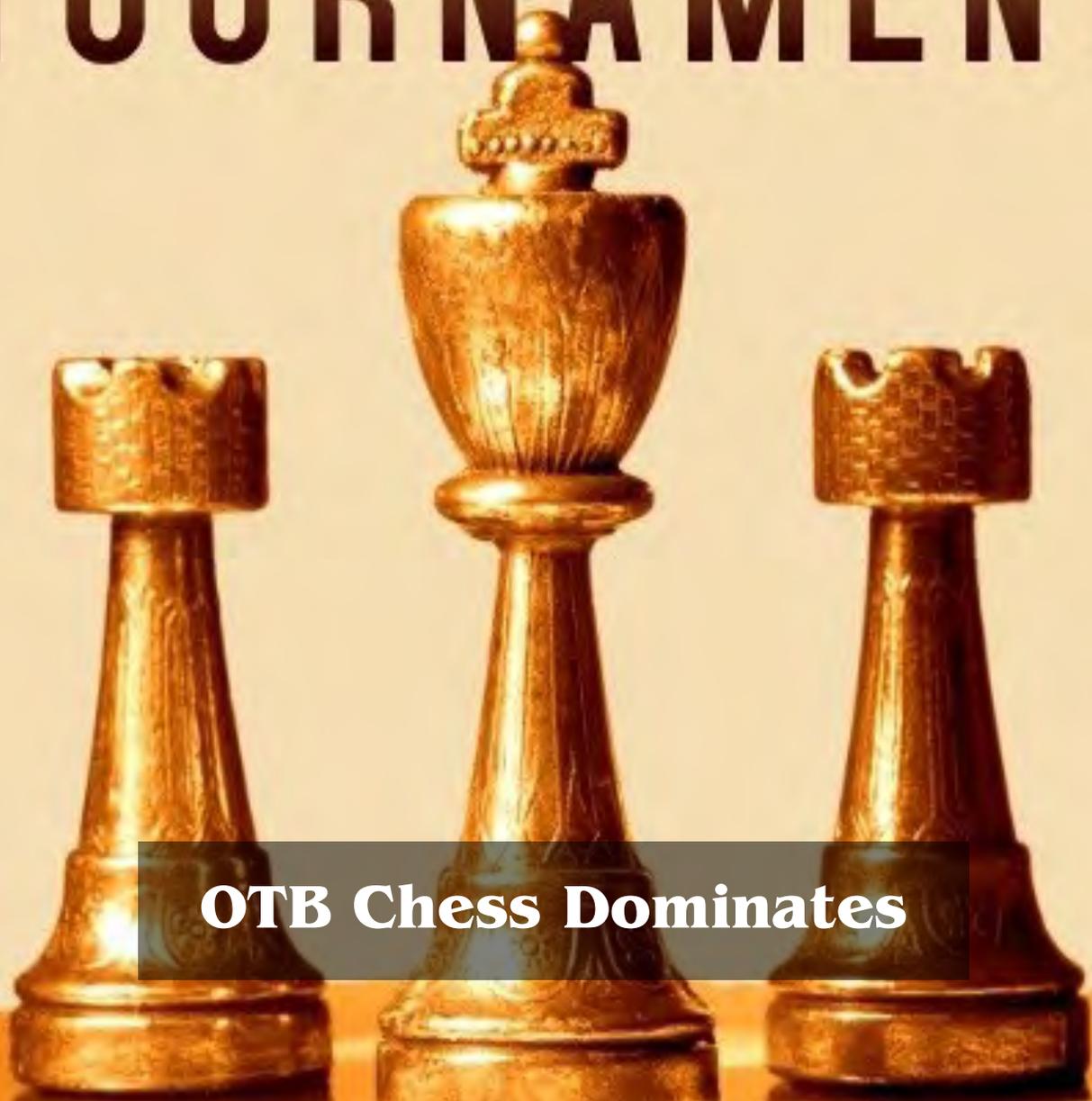


COLORADO CHESS INFORMANT

CHESS TOURNAMENT



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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.

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Articles in the CCI **do not** necessarily reflect the views of the CSCA Board of Directors or its membership.

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From the Editor

It has certainly been awhile since I've put the magazine out this size! Over-the-Board chess has returned - and with a vengeance! Thank you to players and organizers for keeping the faith. So much to review in this issue, so sit back and enjoy all that it has to offer!

May Caissa be with you.
Fred Eric Spell

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(Email article submissions to ColoradoStateChess@hotmail.com)

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CSCA President – Brad Lundstrom’s Message

It is finally spring and Colorado Chess in 2022 has already been off to a busy and great start!

After a slow beginning with registrations, our annual *Colorado Scholastic (grades K-12) Championship* was held February 12-13th and drew 210 players. Congratulations to our new Colorado Scholastic Champions: **Griffin McConnell** - High School, **Harsh Mali** - Middle School and **Iris Li** - Elementary! These three Champions will join our upcoming champions from the *Senior Open* on April 2nd & 3rd and the *Scholastic Girls Open* on April 23rd and all five will be invited to represent Colorado in the *Tournament of State Champions* at the US Open in Rancho Mirage, California to be held July 29th-August 7th. The *K-3 Championship* was won by **George Lin** with a 5.5 score and the one-day *K-1 Unrated Championship* saw a perfect 6-0 score by **Avyukth Shrikkanth**.

The evening before the main scholastic tournament featured the *Colorado Scholastic State Blitz - 5 minute Championship*. In the six round event the High School Championship went to **Luke Donofrio** with a perfect 6-0, Middle School saw a tie for first with 5.5 between **Tyler Theiszen** and **Rowen Orgel**. Elementary also had a tie for 1st with **Kaavya Sakthisaravanan** and **Eli DeJong** each scoring 4.5 points.

It takes a ton of planning and hard work to make a large scholastic event like this a success. Many thanks to our wonderful leaders in the Colorado Chess community that volunteered their time and expertise for an excellent tournament: CSCA Scholastic Director and Chief Tournament Director - Tom Nelson, Todd Bardwick, Dean Clow, Andrew Starr, Jesse Cohen, DuWayne Langseth, Richard “Buck” Buchanan, Sharmila Kamath and many other players and chess parents.

Our *2022 Colorado Closed Championship* was held March 11th-13th featured Colorado’s top six rated players that applied to compete and the next six in a Challengers section. Similarly the Scholastic Closed had the top six rated players that applied to play and the next group as a Challengers section. Congratulations to **NM Sullivan McConnell** and **NM Richard Shtivelband** who tied for 1st and shared the 1st-2nd prize but Sullivan McConnell finished 1st on tiebreaks and repeats as our 2022 Colorado Closed State Champion! The Challengers section champion was **Rhett Langseth**, the Scholastic Closed State Championship was won by **Sikander Baker-Nager** and the Scholastic Challenger by **Liam Newell**. Congratulations to all our new 2022 State Champions! Thank you to Tom Nelson and Richard “Buck” Buchanan for directing a smooth and enjoyable tournament.

The *Colorado Scholastic Chess League* completed their fall schedule - online this year. CSCA Vice President and NM Jesse Cohen did an excellent job directing this project.

Upcoming CSCA State Tournaments include the *Senior Open & Under 50* in Loveland April 2nd-3rd, the *Scholastic Girls Open* in Denver, April 23rd, the *Colorado State Quick Championship* in Colorado Springs on June 3rd, the *Colorado Class Championships* in Colorado Springs June 4th-5th, the *Colorado Blitz Championship* on September 2nd and the *2022 Colorado Open* in Denver September 3rd-4th. Some absolutely great news is that Tournament Director Tom Nelson has agreed to direct all these CSCA tournaments!

The *Denver Chess Club* will host the *2022 Denver Open* on May 20th-22nd with a FIDE section and they project several Grandmasters, International Masters and FIDE Masters will attend! So far GM Jesse Kraai and IM Zurab Javakhadze have committed to play. There will also be US chess rated sections for under 2200, 1800 and 1400. Great work by DCC President Richard Shtivelband and his team for bringing this outstanding event to Colorado!

The McConnell family is embarking on a wonderful project in bringing the *2022 North American Chess Cup for Children with Disabilities Tournament* to Denver on June 21st-26th this summer. We will be inviting and hosting players and their families from the United States, Canada, Mexico and South America for this event. There will be a huge need for volunteer help and this is an early call out to Colorado chess players that are willing to donate their time and efforts to help in a wide variety of ways for this tournament. Contact Kevin McConnell McConnell2@yahoo.com if you are interested in being a part of this amazing event.

With the *Denver Chess Club* and *Colorado Springs Chess Club*’s leading the way, we are seeing local chess activity boom and many new players all over Colorado. We continue to receive local mainstream media newspaper and television coverage as chess is recognized as an important and valuable part of our culture. Life is normalizing and we are all optimistic as we look forward to future great chess events in Colorado!

Brad Lundstrom

President / Colorado State Chess Association



Colorado State Chess Association Board Meeting

A Board meeting was called by CSCA President Brad Lundstrom, and held online on January 17, 2022.

1. In attendance:

Voting Board Members:

Brad Lundstrom, President / Jesse Cohen, Vice President / Scott Lett, Secretary /
Joshua Samuel, Treasurer / Andrew Starr, At-large Representative

Non-Voting Attendees:

Shirley Herman, Richard Shtivelband, Brian Wall, Kevin McConnell, Lex Huberts

2. Purpose of meeting

The purpose was a regular Board meeting.

3. Summary:

Brad brought the meeting to order.

Brad summarized progress on the CSCA tournament schedule. Please see <https://www.coloradochess.com/newtourn.shtml> for details.

Brad announced the agreement with Tom Nelson to act as Chief Tournament Director for CSCA tournaments.

Josh summarized recent financial transactions of the CSCA.

Scott recapped the prior meeting.

Scholastic events:

The upcoming scholastic tournament (February) was discussed. Two major topics were discussed. First, a call for help and the slow registrations. Second, the topic of how to select scholastic players to represent Colorado at the national level. Of special interest was the topic of selecting a girls' representative and the need to organize a girls' championship soon, as presented by Jesse Cohen.

Events and fundraising for young players with disabilities.

Kevin McConnell introduced his nonprofit (Chess Abilities Inc.), the efforts to field a team for the upcoming Olympiad for young players with disabilities in Russia and an upcoming (June 21-27) tournament he is organizing in Denver. He discussed the difficulties in getting children with disabilities to participate in person playing over-the-board. He asked for assistance with fundraising and onsite tournament help. He will follow up with details to the board.

Denver Chess Club & Denver Open:

Richard discussed efforts to organize the *Denver Open*, the effort to invite (and pay for) top chess talent, and requested co-sponsorship from the CSCA.

Richard introduced Lex Huberts, who recently moved from California, where he was active in local chess. He wishes to contribute to the good of chess in Colorado, and expressed his view that many strong players will attend the *Denver Open*.

Brian Wall was also available to add detail to the DCC effort and help needed with the visiting VIPs. He also mentioned that Colorado player Mirza Peljto lost his Louisville home in the Marshall Fire.

Shirley Herman requested that the CSCA not participate in any way with any event where her children could not compete because of a COVID vaccination & masking requirement, singling out the *Denver Open*. No action was taken, except to assure Shirley that her donation wouldn't go to the DCC. Brad expressed sadness that we are in a time of controversy, and suggested the board may take up the matter by vote at a later time. Richard made no further comment about the COVID safety requirements, but said that they had come in the spirit of good relations between DCC and CSCA.

Brad asked for a volunteer to act as delegate to the USCF at the US Open ... nobody stepped forward.

4. Actions taken:

Board Votes / none taken.

5. Discussions, Followup Assignments from the President:

None provided.



Colorado Chess News

Congratulations to Colorado's new National Masters: Griffin McConnell and Neil Bhavikkiti!

They both passed the magical 2200 US Chess rating barrier on March 19th, 2022 at the Summit School of Chess Tournament directed by CSCA Vice President and NM Jesse Cohen. Here is a link to all the results from this never to be forgotten tournament:

<https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202203195182.0-12807276>

Along with Sullivan McConnell, Griffin's brother, this now gives Colorado three High School Players that are US National Masters! Amazing work Griffin and Neil - Congratulations!

Colorado's Iris Li invited to the 2022 World Youth & World Cadet Championships

Iris Li, Colorado's 2021 Girls State Champion and our 2022 Elementary State Champion has received exciting news from US Chess! US Chess published the list of US Chess members who are the official invitees for the 2022 World Youth and World Cadet Championships. Iris is on the list (Girls Under 10)! The announcement can be viewed on the US Chess website at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2p89cj6f>.

Latest information on the 2022 World Cadet Championships is that they are scheduled to be held September 15th-28th, 2022, in Batumi, Georgia (<https://fide.com/calendar/18857>). US Chess will provide us more details once they get further information on the event. Iris, Colorado Chess Players are all very proud of you and wish you continued great chess play!



Iris Li

(Picture courtesy of her mother - Yiwei Yan)

2022 North American Chess Cup for Children with Disabilities Tournament to Denver on June 21st-26th

The McConnell family is embarking on a wonderful project in bringing the 2022 North American Chess Cup for Children with Disabilities Tournament to Denver on June 21st-26th this summer. We will be inviting and hosting players and their families from the US, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America for this event. There will be a huge need for volunteer help and this is an early call out to Colorado chess players that are willing to donate their time and efforts to help in a wide variety of ways for this tournament. Contact Kevin McConnell at McConnell2@yahoo.com if you are interested in being a part of this amazing event!

Delegate Opportunity to Represent Colorado at US Open July 30th - August 7th

Our CSCA Board is accepting applications for our Colorado Delegate. If you'd like to represent Colorado during the 2022 US Open national US Chess meetings during the US open July 30th-August 7th to be held in Rancho Mirage, California. We currently have filling in as our state delegate Paul Covington, our CSCA President Emeritus a non-voting CSCA Board member. He is in a long process of being back and forth from Colorado to his new home in Oklahoma but has filled this position before and would be happy to do it again this year in 2022. Although he is a great choice since he is ultimately leaving Colorado, we are opening it up to any other CSCA members that are planning on attending the US Open this summer. If you are playing and are a delegate, it makes for a full day of delegate meetings and then your US Open tournament game will be played in the evening. If you are interested, email by April 30, 2022 to be considered to either Brad Lundstrom (chesscoach2014@gmail.com) or Jesse Cohen (jessecohen@gmail.com).



CSCA President's Letters to School Principals

(Editor's note: Recently CSCA President Brad Lundstrom sent out two letters of accolades to the Principals of two students listed below...)

****Sent to Neil Bhavikatti's Principal (Ryan Silva) at Cherry Creek High School (March 26, 2022)****



Neil Bhavikatti

Hi Mr. Silva,

A Cherry Creek Student, Neil Bhavikatti, recently earned a US Chess Masters Rating. This accomplishment is extremely rare for a player this young in chess and surprisingly Colorado now has three High School US Chessmasters. Neil is now in the top .7% of the total 39,372 serious rated chess players in the USA. That means 99.3% are rated lower than Neil on today's US national rating list.

Also, Neil finished runner up and 2nd in this year's *Colorado's High School Championship* in a state event featuring 210 players grades K-12 at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds held February 12-13, 2022.

Finally, Neil was invited to play in the *Colorado Closed Championship* with the top six players in Colorado - open to all ages. This was held March 11-13 in Denver at the Embassy Suites North by Hilton. Incredibly, Neil finished 2nd (3rd on tiebreak) in this most prestigious Colorado Closed invitational tournament.

You have a brilliant and amazing student at Cherry Creek that I wanted to ensure you were

aware of this Mr. Silva.

Thank you,

Brad Lundstrom

President / Colorado State Chess Association

****Sent to Iris' Principal (Kenneth Wildenstein) at Stargate School (April 1, 2022)****



Iris Li

Hi Mr. Wildensen,

I wanted to ensure that you knew about the amazing achievements that a student at your Stargate School, Iris Li, has accomplished on the state and national level in Chess competitions.

Here are some of those achievements:

► Iris won the 2021 *Colorado Girls (Grades K-12) State Championship* last year and qualified to play in the *United States Open* in New Jersey at the *Chess Tournament of State Champions*. Amazingly in a field of girl's state champions from all 50 states and grades K-12 and as an upcoming 4th grader, she managed an even record in the overall event.

► In February 2022 she played in the *Colorado State Scholastic Championship* at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds (210 players overall). Iris won the Colorado Elementary Championship and for the second year in a row, a \$700 stipend to represent Colorado at this year's US Open in California - this time as our State Elementary Champion versus the Elementary State Champions across the USA.

► Iris just returned from St. Louis where she played in the *Mid-America Open* with many of the top players in the nation of all ages.

Thank you,

Brad Lundstrom

President / Colorado State Chess Association

(The emails were warmly received by the respective Principals.)



2021-2022 Colorado Chess League Season Results

by CSCA Vice President Jesse Cohen

The Colorado Chess League, formally the Denver Chess League, has been around for over 20 years. I was asked by Bruce Galler in 2013 to take over managing the league. While we saw strong numbers, they slowly began to decrease as time went on. In 2020 I turned control of the Colorado Chess League over to the CSCA. I did this with the belief that their nonprofit status and greater sphere of influence would increase the scholastic participation of the league across the state. Funny enough, when I was asked to take over the role of Vice President - the job of managing the league fell back into my lap.

I'm not going to sugar coat things. This has been a trying season for the league. Between the pandemic, reluctance from some to transition the league to an online format, and trying to educate parents on how to navigate *chess.com*; things became frustrating and confusing for many. This was definitely a trial by fire season but the good news is that we learned a lot! One of the biggest things we learned was the importance of finding student leaders at schools to spearhead their own chess clubs because, frankly, we don't have enough parents/staff members stepping up.

All struggles aside - I want to say how proud I am of our board, this league and the students/staff that stepped up to make the league happen this year. We ended up with 14 teams that competed in a round robin format and one playoff game to determine 3rd place.

I am personally putting a request out to all readers. If you, or someone you know, is able to help increase participation in the league for our 2022-2023 season (beginning October 2022), please let me know. Thanks!

Here are your final standings for the 2021-2022 Colorado Chess League:

- 1st Place – Cherry Creek High School
- 2nd Place – Chatfield High School Team A
- 3rd Place – Regis Jesuit High School

And now, some tactics puzzles from this season...

destituefailure



White to move

Answer: Bxf7+!! Kxf7 (if Kf8 Bd5 c6 Nxd4!! Bxd1 Ne6+) Nxe5+ 1-0

Kimball_W

Cswhitehouse12



White has just played Bg5??

Black to move

Answer: ...Bxf3!! Bxd8 (if Qxf3 Qxg5 0-1) Bxd1 0-1

Shivensaxena

Sunbear96



White has just played g4 to launch a kingside assault but has missed something.

Black to move

Answer: ...e5! Bishop moves, then ...e4! Winning a piece.

QGal190

WaffleCap



Black to move

Answer: ...Qh4!! 0-1

Prettypinkunicorns



The Colorado Closed & Scholastic Closed Tournaments

by Tom Nelson

The Colorado Closed and Scholastic Closed tournaments took place at the Embassy Suites by Hilton on Hampton Avenue in Denver on March 11-13.

First a special thanks to Shirly Herman who stepped in as a house player when one of our Scholastic Closed players had to bow out because of illness.

This year the tournament went so well that our biggest concern was reminding the players to move their clocks forward an hour due to Daylight Saving Time.

With four players in the Scholastic Closed Challenger section we decided to go with a double round robin. After six rounds with 5 points Liam Newell became this year's winner.

Going into the fifth round Sikander Baker-Nagar had clinched the Scholastic Closed title. Second place came down to the one of the last games to finish in the tournament with both players taking their time down to below three minutes each. In the end Rowen Oregel was able to pull out the win against Tanya Prabhu to finish one-half point ahead of Tyler Thieszen for second place honors.

Going into the fifth round, in the Closed Challenger section, Rhett Langseth and Eamon Montgomery went into the game with a winner takes all right to the championship title. With a fortress of pawns on the board both Rhett and Eamon weaved rooks back and forth seeking the advantage. When the dust cleared this year's winner with four points went to Rhett.

The Closed section like the Closed Challenger section came down to the last game. With a win Sullivan McConnell would take the championship outright. However, Daniel Herman had his sights on not letting that happen. In a hard-fought contest Daniel was able to walk away with a draw leaving the door open for Richard Shtivelband, who had lost to Sullivan earlier in the day, to match points with him.

Playing against Brian Wall, Richard was already in a tough match when he discovered his opportunity. Nothing was easy, the position on the board complicated. With a flint like concentration and several precise moves Richard prevailed. He had his 3.5 points.

Along with the sweet knowledge of knowing he had taken the outright championship by points from Sullivan was also the reality that this chess tournament came with tie breaks.

Congratulation Sullivan and Richard on your 3.5 points.

Congratulations Sullivan on being this year's Closed champion.

To all of our players, thank you for making this year's tournaments such a success!

The Games of Brian Wall in the Colorado Closed

Daniel Herman (2189)

Brian Wall (2220)

Round 1 (Notes by Brian Wall)

(I remembered how hard Emmanuel Lasker fought two pawns down against Steinitz in their first match.) 1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.c4 Nc6 4.d5 Nd4 5.Nf3 c5 6.Nxd4 cxd4 7.Be2 e5 8.O-O d6 9.Nd2 f5 10.f4 Nf6 11.fxe5 dxe5 12.Bd3 f4 13.c5 Ng4 14.Nc4 O-O 15.Qe1 Ne3 16.Bxe3 dxe3 17.Nd6 b6 18.b4 a5 19.a3 (Daniel's computer said 19.a3 axb4 20.axb4 Rxa1 21.Qxa1 bxc5 22.bxc5 Bg4 23.Qe1 Qc7 24.Qb4 Bh6 was also good for me.) 19...Ba6 20.Bxa6 Rxa6 21.Qe2 Ra8 22.Nc4 bxc5 23.bxc5 Qc7 24.c6 Rfb8 25.Qg4 Kh8 26.Rab1 Bf8 (Looked very feeble, a Broken Wing strategy encouraging the hyper-aggressive (-7) move 27.Qe6???????, allowing my Pawn Wave to flourish at last.) 27.Qe6 (When I first considered 27.Qe6??????? Bc5+/Bf2, but then I saw 27.Qe6??????? Qa7+ drew, and then I saw 27.Qe6??????? Qa7+ won for me. I couldn't believe my eyes and checked my calculations 5-6 times.) 27...e2 28.Rfe1 Qa7+ 29.Kh1 Rxb1 30.Rxb1 Qf2 31.Qxe5+ Kg8 32.Qe6+ (Was like a Benko game where he threw a rook.) 32...Kg7 33.Qe5+ Kh6 34.Qa1 f3 35.Ne3 Qxe3 0-1

Brian Wall (2200)

Neil Bhavikatti (2187)

Round 2

1.g3 d5 2.Nf3 c6 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.O-O Bf5 5.b3 h6 6.Bb2 Nbd7 7.d4 e6 8.c4 a5 9.Nc3 Ne4 10.Nd2 Nxd2 11.Qxd2 Bb4 12.a3 Bxc3 13.Qxc3 O-O 14.f3 Nb6 15.e4 Bg6 16.Rae1 f5 17.exf5 exf5 18.c5 Nd7 19.Bc1 Qf6 20.Bf4 Rfe8 21.Be5 Nxe5 22.dxe5 Qe6 23.f4 Bf7 24.Qd4 Qd7 25.Bf3 g6 26.Kf2 Be6 27.h3 Kf7 28.Rg1 h5 29.Ke3 Reb8 30.Rc1 b6 31.Bd1 Ra6 32.Kd2 Qa7 33.Re1 bxc5 34.Qxc5 Qxc5 35.Rxc5 d4 36.g4 hxg4 37.hxg4 fxg4 38.Rg1 Bxb3 39.Bxg4 Bd5 40.f5 gx5 41.Bxf5 Rb3 42.Rg4 Re3 43.Rxd4 Rxe5 44.Bd3 Rb6 45.Bc4 Ke6 46.Rxa5 Bxc4 47.Rxe5+ Kxe5 48.Rxc4 Kd5 49.Kc3 ½-½

Brian Wall (2200)

Sullivan McConnell (2248)

Round 3

1.g3 c5 2.Bg2 Nc6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 e6 6.Nge2 Nge7 7.O-O O-O 8.d3 f5 9.f4 d6 10.Be3 a6 11.Qd2 Nd4 12.Rf2 Rb8 13.Raf1 b5 14.b3 Qb6 15.h3 Bd7 16.g4 b4 17.Nb1 Nec6 18.exf5 exf5 19.Bd5+ Kh8 20.g5 Rfe8 21.Kh2 Re7 22.Bxd4 Nxd4

23.Nxd4 Bxd4 24.Re2 Rxe2+ 25.Qxe2 Re8 26.Qd1 Qd8 27.Re1 Re7 28.Nd2 Qe8 29.Nf3 Bc3 30.Rxe7 Qxe7 31.Kg3 Qe3 32.h4 Kg7 33.Qc2 Kf8 34.a3 Be1+ 35.Kg2 bxa3 36.Nxe1 Qxe1 37.Qa2 Qc1 0-1

Griffin McConnell (2189)

Brian Wall (2200)

Round 4

1.e4 g6 2.c3 c6 3.d4 d5 4.e5 h5 5.Bd3 Nh6 6.Ne2 Bf5 7.Bxh6 Rxh6 8.Bxf5 gxf5 9.h4 Qb6 10.Qb3 e6 11.Nd2 c5 12.O-O Nc6 13.a3 Qxb3 14.Nxb3 c4 15.Nd2 b5 16.Nf4 Ne7 17.g3 Ng6 18.Ne2 Rh8 19.Rfb1 Bh6 20.f4 Kd7 21.b3 Rhb8 22.a4 a6 23.b4 a5 24.bxa5 Rxa5 25.axb5 Rxb5 26.Rxa5 Rxa5 27.Kf2 Ra7 28.Nf3 Ke7 29.Rb8 Rd7 30.Ne1 ½-½

Richard Shtivelband (2272)

Brian Wall (2200)

Round 5

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d5 4.exd5 Nf6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Bc4 Nbd7 7.O-O Nb6 8.Bb3 a5 9.a3 a4 10.Ba2 Nbx5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.Re1 c6 13.c3 Bg4 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 e6 16.Bd2 b5 17.Rad1 Qd6 18.Qg4 Rad8 19.Qh4 Rfe8 20.Bg5 Rd7 21.Qe4 Nf6 22.Qf3 Nd5 23.h4 h6 24.Bc1 Rde7 25.h5 g5 26.g3 Rd7 27.Kg2 Red8 28.Rd2 Qe7 29.Bb1 c5 30.dxc5 Qxc5 31.Rde2 Rd6 32.Bc2 R6d7 33.Kh2 Rd6 34.Kg1 R6d7 35.Kf1 Rd6 36.Qh1 R6d7 37.f4 Nxc3 38.bxc3 Bxc3 39.Be3 Qxa3 40.Qe4 Bxe1 41.Qh7+ Kf8 42.Qxh6+ Ke8 43.Kxe1 Qa1+ 44.Kf2 gxf4 45.gxf4 Rc8 46.f5 Qe5 47.Qf4 Qxf4+ 48.Bxf4 Rc4 49.Bg5 Kf8 50.h6 Rxc2 51.Rxc2 Kg8 52.Bf6 exf5 53.Ke3 b4 54.Kf4 b3 55.Rc8+ Kh7 56.Kg5 1-0

And Now for Some Closed Challenger Games:

Anthony Whitt (1869)

Brad Lundstrom (1913)

Round 1 (Notes by DuWayane Langseth)

1.e4 e6 2.b3 d5 3.Bb2 dxe4 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Qe2 Be7 6.O-O-O b6 7.Nxe4 Bb7 8.d3 Nc6 9.g4? (This just causes White problems. Black is winning now.) **9...Nd4! 10.Qe3 e5?** (Black played well up to this point. 10...c5 was much better and he could have wiggled out of things with 11.Qg3 Nxe4 12.dxe4 0-0 13.f3. But I like the trap Black is setting with the threat of Bg5.) **11.Bg2 Nxe4 12.f4 Nc5 13.Bxb7 Nxb7 14.Qxe5 c5 15.Qxg7 Bf6?** (Brad had a solid advantage after 15...Rf8. This turns the tables over to Anthony.) **16.Re1+ Kd7 17.Qxf7+ Kc6 18.Nf3?** (White gives away the advantage. 18.Re6+ Nxe6 19.Qxe6 Nd6 20.Qxf6 was much better and winning for him. Now Black is clearly better.) **18...Nd6 19.Nxd4+ Bxd4 20.Re6 Rf8?** (20...Qf8 gets the queens off letting pressure off your king, and keeps the h-pawn that's useful in stopping White's kingside pawns.) **21.Qxh7 Bxb2+ 22.Kxb2 Rxf4 23.Qg6 Qh8+ 24.Kb1 Qd4 25.h4 Raf8 26.Rhe1 R4f6?** (26...Rf1 ties White up and he has nothing much to do. Now 27.Qe4+ Qxe4 28.R1xe4 Rxe6 29.Rxe6 goes into a pretty equal endgame.) **27.Rxf6? Rxf6 28.Qg8 Kb5 29.Qg7 a5?** (29...Ka6 was better taking away his checks and gaining an important tempo here. It's an even game now.) **30.Qd7+ Kb4 31.Qa4+ Kc3 32.Qxd4+ cxd4 33.a4 Rf2 34.Re6 Rf1+ 35.Ka2 Kxc2!?** (The computer doesn't like it, but

maybe it is Black's best chance to have winning chances. Keeping the knight is the Stockfish choice with Nf7.) **36.Rxd6 Kxd3 37.Kb2?** (Just wastes time. Those kingside pawns are a tempo away from doing some serious damage, and the h-pawn should be pushed. After this, strangely neither side can make any real progress.) **37...Rf2+ 38.Kc1 Rf1+ 39.Kb2 Rf2+ 40.Ka3 Ke3 41.Re6+ Kd2 42.Rxb6 d3 43.Rd6 Rf4 44.Kb2 Rxc4 45.h5 Rg5 46.h6 Rh5 47.Re6 Rh2 48.b4 Kd1+ 49.Kb1 d2 50.bxa5 Re2 51.Rd6 Ke1 52.h7 Rh2 53.Re6+ Re2 54.Rd6 Rh2 55.Re6+ Re2 56.Rxe2+ Kxe2 57.h8Q d1Q+ 58.Kb2 Qd2+ 59.Kb3 Qd3+??** (Black three moves that draw here instead: Qxa5, Qd1, Qd5.) **60.Qc3!** (The only winning move, but it's very difficult and would take White 51 moves with best play; Black lost on time here.) **1-0**

The Games of Earle Wikle:

Earle Wikle (1925)

Rhett Langseth (2118)

Round 1

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Bc4 Nxe4 4.Bxf7+ Kxf7 5.Qh5+ Kg8 6.Qd5+ e6 7.Qxe4 d5 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.Nf3 Qf6 10.Be3 Bd6 11.Nc3 a6 12.0-0-0 b5 13.g4 Bd7 14.g5 Qf5 15.Nh4 Qh3 16.Nf3 b4 17.Nb1 Be8 18.Nfd2 Ne7 19.Rde1 Nf5 20.Qf3 Qh4 21.c3 Bh5 22.Qg2 bxc3 23.bxc3 Kf7 24.Nf3 Bxf3 25.Qxf3 Rhb8 26.Bd2 Rb6 27.Rxe6 Kxe6 28.Re1+ Kd7 29.Qxf5+ Kc6 30.Re6 Rab8 31.Na3 Qxh2 32.c4 Qh1+ 33.Re1 Bxa3+ 0-1

Eric Billaux (2144)

Earle Wikle (1925)

Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Nbd7 9.0-0-0 Qc7 10.f5 e5 11.Nde2 b5 12.Bxf6 Nxf6 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.exd5 Bb7 15.Ng3 Rc8 16.Bd3 0-0 17.f6 Bxf6 18.Qf5 e4 19.Bxe4 Bxb2+ 20.Kxb2 Qc3+ 21.Kc1 Qa3+ 22.Kd2 Qc3+ 23.Ke2 g6 24.Qf3 Qe5 25.Kf2 f5 26.Bd3 Bxd5 27.Qe2 Qd4+ 28.Kf1 f4 29.Ne4 Rce8 30.c3 Qg7 31.Re1 Re5 32.c4 Bc6 33.cxb5 axb5 34.Qc2 Qd7 35.Re2 f3 36.gxf3 Rxf3+ 37.Ke1 Rd5 38.Rf1 Rdx3 39.Qxd3 Rxd3 40.Nf6+ 1-0

Eamon Montgomery (2141)

Earle Wikle (1925)

Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2 d5 6.Nc3 0-0 7.0-0 dxc4 8.Ne5 Be6 9.e4 Nbd7 10.Bf4 Nxe5 11.Bxe5 Qa5 12.Qe2 Rad8 13.h3 b5 14.a3 Qb6 15.Rad1 a5 16.d5 Bd7 17.Qf3 cxd5 18.exd5 b4 19.d6 Rfe8 20.dxe7 Rxe7 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Nd5 Qxf3 23.Nxe7+ Kf8 24.Bxf3 Kxe7 25.axb4 axb4 26.Rc1 Be6 27.Rfe1 Bxb2 28.Rxc4 Bc3 29.Re2 Kf8 30.Rc7 Bxh3 31.g4 h5 32.Ree7 Bxg4 33.Rxf7+ Kg8 34.Bxg4 hxg4 35.Rb7 Rf8 36.Rxf8+ Kxf8 37.Kg2 Ke8 38.Kg3 Be1 39.Kxg4 Bxf2 40.Rxb4 ½-½

Earle Wikle (1925)

Brad Lundstrom (1913)

Round 5

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Nf3 Nbd7

7.0-0 e5 8.Be3 Ng4 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bc1 c6 11.d5 c5 12.Ng5 Nxf2 13.Rxf2 fxg5 14.Rxf8+ Bxf8 15.Bg4 Nb6 16.b3 Qe7 17.Bxc8 Rxc8 18.Qg4 Re8 19.Bxg5 Qd7 20.Qg3 Be7 21.Bh6 Bf8 22.Be3 Be7 23.h4 Kh8 ½-½



Colorado Closed Final Standings

| Player | Rtg. | Pts. | Rd1 | Rd2 | Rd3 | Rd4 | Rd5 |
|----------------------------|--------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Richard Shtivelband | (2272) | 3.5 | W5 | W6 | D3 | L2 | W4 |
| Sullivan McConnell | (2248) | 3.5 | D3 | D5 | W4 | W1 | D6 |
| Neil Bhavikatti | (2187) | 2.5 | D2 | D4 | D1 | L6 | W5 |
| Brian Wall | (2220) | 2.0 | W6 | D3 | L2 | D5 | L1 |
| Griffin McConnell | (2189) | 2.0 | L1 | D2 | W6 | D4 | L3 |
| Daniel Herman | (2189) | 1.5 | L4 | L1 | L5 | W3 | D2 |

Colorado Closed Challenger Final Standings

| Player | Rtg. | Pts. | Rd1 | Rd2 | Rd3 | Rd4 | Rd5 |
|-------------------------|--------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rhett Langseth | (2118) | 4.0 | W6 | W5 | L2 | W4 | W3 |
| Eric Billaux | (2144) | 3.0 | D3 | W6 | W1 | L5 | D4 |
| Eamon Montgomery | (2141) | 3.0 | D2 | W4 | W5 | D6 | L1 |
| Anthony Whitt | (1869) | 2.5 | W5 | L3 | W6 | L1 | D2 |
| Brad Lundstrom | (1913) | 1.5 | L4 | L1 | L3 | W2 | D6 |
| Earle Wikle | (1925) | 1.0 | L1 | L2 | L4 | D3 | D5 |



Colorado Scholastic Closed Final Standings

| Player | Rtg. | Pts. | Rd1 | Rd2 | Rd3 | Rd4 | Rd5 |
|-----------------------------|--------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sikander Baker-Nagar | (1669) | 4.5 | W4 | W5 | W2 | X | D3 |
| Rowen Orgel | (1451) | 3.5 | X | D4 | L1 | W3 | W5 |
| Tyler Thieszen | (1513) | 3.0 | W5 | X | D4 | L2 | D1 |
| Abhijay Balamurgan | (1393) | 2.0 | L1 | D2 | D3 | L5 | X |
| Tanya Prabhu | (1204) | 2.0 | L3 | L1 | X | W4 | L2 |
| Vendant Margale | (1666) | 0.0 | F | F | F | F | F |

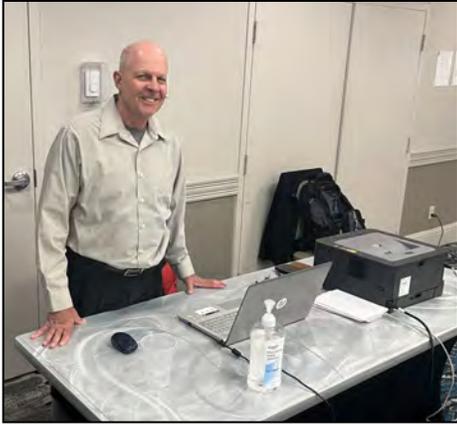
Colorado Scholastic Closed Challenger Final Standings

| Player | Rtg. | Pts. | Rd1 | Rd2 | Rd3 | Rd4 | Rd5 | Rd6 |
|----------------------------|-------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Liam Newell | (663) | 5.0 | W4 | W3 | W2 | W4 | W3 | L2 |
| Kenneth Fleenor III | (754) | 4.0 | W3 | W4 | L1 | L3 | W4 | W1 |
| Ahas Weerapura | (101) | 3.0 | L2 | L1 | W4 | W2 | L1 | W4 |
| Rue Weerapura | (101) | 0.0 | L1 | L2 | L3 | L1 | L2 | L3 |



Pics from the Colorado Closed Tournaments

Provided by Brad Lundstrom & Earle Wikle



Tom Nelson



Richard "Buck" Buchanan



Brian Wall



Tanya Prabhu - Rowen Orgel



Sikander Baker-Nagar - Tyler Thieszen



Daniel Herman w/mom Shirley



Anthony Whitt - Eric Billaux



Eamon Montgomery - Rhett Langseth



Griffin McConnell



Earle Wikle



Griffin McConnell - Neil Bhavikatti



Sullivan McConnell - Daniel Herman



Brian Wall - Richard Shtivelband



2022 Colorado Scholastic State Championship

by Tom Nelson

This year's 2022 Colorado Scholastic State Championship took place February 11-13.

I first want to thank everyone who helped put on the tournament and who participated. Without you the tournament would have only been a thought and a dream.

We began with our Blitz championship on Friday the 11th.

After battling some tough driving weather, we ended with 22 players. One of the players, Naisha Trivedi, was actually visiting from the country of India.

Our top three finishers in each of the sections were:

| K-5 Blitz | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Place | Name | Total |
| 1 | KAAVYA SAKTHISARAVANAN | 4 ¹ / ₂ |
| 2 | ELI DEJONG | 4 ¹ / ₂ |
| 3 | MAXIM KAIKOV | 4 |

| K-8 Blitz | | |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Place | Name | Total |
| 1 | ROWEN OREGEL | 5 ¹ / ₂ |
| 2 | TYLER THIESZEN | 5 ¹ / ₂ |
| 3 | VEDANT MARGALE | 3 ¹ / ₂ |

| K-12 Blitz | | |
|------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Place | Name | Total |
| 1 | LUKE DONOFRIO | 6 |
| 2 | JACOB FINDLEY | 4 |
| 3 | OWEN CHRIST | 3 ¹ / ₂ |

Saturday and Sunday brought better weather and just under 200 players.

Congratulations to all our first-place state champions:

| Division | Name | Total |
|----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| K-12 | GRIFFIN MCCONNELL | 5 ¹ / ₂ |
| K-8 | HARSH MALI | 6 |
| K-5 | IRIS LI | 5 |
| K-3 | GEORGE LIN | 5 ¹ / ₂ |
| K-1 | AVYUKTH SHRIKKANTH | 5 |

Our individual trophy winners this year were:

| K-1 | | | | | | |
|--------|----------------------|-------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Number | Name | Total | Modified Median | Solkoff | Cumulative | Opponent Cumulative |
| 1 | AVYUKTH SHRIKKANTH | 5 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 50 |
| 2 | SUJAYKIRAN ANANDBABU | 4 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 42 |
| 3 | ANIRUDH SAIBALAN | 4 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 45 |
| 4 | VEIYAA BALAJEE | 3 | 14 | 15 | 12 | 41 |
| 5 | PHRANAV MOHANRAJ | 3 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 39 |

| K-3 | | | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|-------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Number | Name | Total | Modified Median | Solkoff | Cumulative | Opponent Cumulative |
| 1 | GEORGE LIN | 5½ | 20.5 | 22.5 | 20.5 | 84.5 |
| 2 | ARJUN SUNDARESAN | 5 | 22 | 25 | 19 | 85 |
| 3 | FELIX MCMILLAN | 5 | 20 | 23 | 17 | 78 |
| 4 | ASHRITH A NISTALA | 5 | 19.5 | 21 | 17 | 73.5 |
| 5 | BEAU REGOLI | 4½ | 20.5 | 22.5 | 17.5 | 86.5 |
| 6 | TREVOR THIESZEN | 4 | 20 | 20.5 | 17 | 73 |
| 7 | AARAV JA TRIPATHI | 4 | 20 | 20.5 | 16 | 72.5 |
| 8 | NOAH ZHANG | 4 | 19 | 22 | 14 | 72 |
| 9 | NEHAN VINOTH | 4 | 18.5 | 20.5 | 13 | 69 |
| 10 | SHAURYA MISRA | 4 | 18 | 18 | 15 | 67.5 |

| K-5 | | | | | | |
|--------|------------------------|-------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Number | Name | Total | Modified Median | Solkoff | Cumulative | Opponent Cumulative |
| 1 | IRIS LI | 5 | 21.5 | 23.5 | 17 | 85 |
| 2 | KAAVYA SAKTHISARAVANAN | 5 | 20.5 | 22.5 | 20 | 85 |
| 3 | SIMON STEELE | 5 | 18 | 20 | 17 | 79 |
| 4 | SHUBH MISRA | 5 | 18 | 18 | 12 | 76 |
| 5 | KRISH MATHIMARAN | 4½ | 21.5 | 24.5 | 17 | 84 |
| 6 | LUCAS AHN | 4½ | 17 | 19 | 15 | 73 |
| 7 | HENRY KOVACS | 4 | 21 | 24 | 18 | 72 |
| 8 | ABHIRAM PALLE | 4 | 21 | 22.5 | 17 | 75 |
| 9 | MAXIM KAIKOV | 4 | 18.5 | 20.5 | 15 | 74 |
| 10 | DARSHAN SATISHKUMAR | 4 | 18.5 | 20 | 18 | 77 |

Complete Final Standings can be found online at:

<https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202202130042.0-10406137>

| K-8 | | | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|-------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Number | Name | Total | Modified Median | Solkoff | Cumulative | Opponent Cumulative |
| 1 | HARSH MALI | 6 | 22.5 | 24.5 | 21 | 88.5 |
| 2 | KOEN PAZDA BEAVER | 5 | 23.5 | 25.5 | 19 | 93.5 |
| 3 | AMITAI SEBBA | 5 | 21 | 23 | 18 | 89 |
| 4 | VEDANT MARGALE | 4½ | 21.5 | 24.5 | 18.5 | 86 |
| 5 | GRAYSON MANUEL | 4½ | 21 | 23 | 18.5 | 88 |
| 6 | SAI DASARI | 4½ | 20 | 21.5 | 15 | 81.5 |
| 7 | AYUSH VISPUTE | 4½ | 19.5 | 22.5 | 15.5 | 83 |
| 8 | TYLER THIESZEN | 4½ | 19.5 | 21.5 | 17.5 | 85 |
| 9 | TANYA PRABHU | 4½ | 19.5 | 21.5 | 16 | 79 |
| 10 | KEVIN BU | 4½ | 19 | 21.5 | 16 | 77.5 |

| K-12 | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|-------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Number | Name | Total | Modified Median | Solkoff | Cumulative | Opponent Cumulative |
| 1 | GRIFFIN MCCONNELL | 5½ | 22 | 24.5 | 20.5 | 89.5 |
| 2 | NEIL BHAVIKATTI | 5 | 22 | 24 | 19 | 83 |
| 3 | SULLIVAN MCCONNELL | 5 | 20.5 | 23.5 | 18.5 | 86 |
| 4 | DAVIN YIN | 5 | 18.5 | 20.5 | 18 | 82 |
| 5 | COLBY WHITEHOUSE | 5 | 18 | 19.5 | 17 | 68 |
| 6 | VEDANTH SAMPATH | 4 | 22.5 | 26 | 16 | 96.5 |
| 7 | LUKE DONOFRIO | 4 | 20 | 21.5 | 16 | 73 |
| 8 | JACOB FINDLEY | 4 | 19.5 | 21.5 | 13 | 75 |
| 9 | ANDREW ROERTY | 4 | 16.5 | 18.5 | 14 | 77.5 |
| 10 | SHIVEN SAXENA | 4 | 15.5 | 17 | 13 | 59.5 |

Finally, our School Team Champions:

| | | | Score |
|---|---------------------------------|------|-------|
| | Cherry Creek High School | | 17 |
| 1 | NEIL BHAVIKATTI | K-12 | 5 |
| 2 | VEDANTH SAMPATH | K-12 | 4 |
| 3 | SHIVEN SAXENA | K-12 | 4 |
| 4 | CHARLIE FLAXBEARD | K-12 | 4 |
| | Campus Middle School | | 15.5 |
| 1 | ABHIJAY BALAMURUGAN | K-8 | 4 |
| 2 | VISANT SANKARANARAYANAN | K-8 | 4 |
| 3 | SARVESH RAJESH | K-8 | 4 |
| 4 | ARI JOEL MELTZER | K-8 | 3.5 |
| | High Plains Elementary | | 14.5 |
| 1 | GEORGE LIN | K-3 | 5.5 |
| 2 | ARJUN SUNDARESAN | K-3 | 5 |
| 3 | ISAAC LUCAS | K-5 | 3 |
| 4 | CHEZHIAN RAJESH | K-1 | 1 |

Pics from the 2022 Colorado Scholastic State Championship

Provided by Brad Lundstrom



Chess in Colorado Springs

by Earle P. Wikle

Peter Barlay and I started running chess tournaments again in Colorado Springs during the Fall of 2021 at two different IHOP's. Every Tuesday night, at the North Academy IHOP location, we offer free entry to our quick rated chess quads G/24; inc/5. This chess time control gives the maximum quick rated time with a 5 second increment. The purpose of this time control is meant to give the players a solid quick game and to help develop a pace, when in time pressure, that benefits the player's classical time control game. The Tuesday night quick chess tournaments have been growing in numbers. We started off with one quad, and now we are up to four quads on Tuesdays at the IHOP on North Academy, so it has been expanded significantly since its inception. Everyone enjoys once again being able to come out and play OTB chess.

The IHOP on Stetson Hills is where we host our weekend tournaments. The classical games are G/90; inc/30 and are divided between two Saturdays. Two games played one Saturday, and two games played the following Saturday. The reason for the split weekends is because of the restaurant's current hours. They close significantly earlier on Sundays. In addition, the Stetson Hills IHOP has a door that closes to the back room where we play chess and we can turn off the music. This makes the playing area in the back room quieter. Once a month, also at the Stetson Hills location, we run a Sunday quick chess 4-round Swiss tournament, which can be completed in about four hours.

Gunnar Andersen, played in our December IHOP winning clear first. Gunnar was back during the holidays and played in some Colorado events. There have been a number of young players coming up. Noticeably, Iris Li, Navneet Ramkuma, Koen Beaver, Rowan Oregel, Kaavaya Sakthisaravanan, Tanya Prabhu, and Abhijay Balamurugan. All are improving and gaining rating points in the tournaments by upsets against higher rated players. Especially 9 year old Iris Li, she is a very strong player for her age, rated over 1700 now.

At the moment, we have tournaments booked until June, and we plan to work with the restaurants to continue hosting tournaments. There may be a one month break in July or August, but we look forward to keeping the tournaments going. We might be open to a dual time control once a month, if that is what the players prefer.

IHOP November 2021

Peter Barlay (1910)

Dhakshin Ramalingam (Unrated)

Round 1

1.e4 e5 2.d4 Nc6 3.d5 Nce7 4.f4 exf4 5.Bxf4 Nf6 6.Nc3 g6 7.d6 cxd6 8.Nb5 Bg7 9.Nxd6+ Kf8 10.Qd3 Nh5 11.Qc4 Nxf4 12.Qxf7# 1-0

Dean Brown (1404)

Joe Pahk (1758)

Round 1

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.c3 Bg7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nbd7 6.h3 e5 7.0-0 8.Be3 b6 9.Qd2 Bb7 10.d5 Nc5 11.Bxc5 bxc5 12.Qc2 Nh5 13.g3 Bc8 14.Kh2 f5 15.Nbd2 f4 16.g4 Nf6 17.Rg1 Rb8 18.Rg2 Kh8 19.Rag1 Qe8 20.a4 Bd7 21.b3 c6 22.c4 cxd5 23.cxd5 Rb4 24.Nc4 Qe7 25.Ncd2 Rfb8 26.Bc4 Be8 27.Ng5 Nd7 28.Ne6 Nb6 29.Nxg7 Kxg7 30.Rb1 Bd7 31.Rgg1 Qh4 32.Nf3 Qd8 33.Nd2 Qf6 34.g5 Qe7 35.Be2 Qf7 36.Nf3 c4 37.Nxe5 dxe5 38.Qc3 Qe7 39.a5 Na4 40.Qc2 cxb3 41.Qc7 R8b7 42.Qc1 b2 43.Qd2 Qc5 0-1



Navneet Ramkumar (1654)

Cameron Solano (1143)

Round 1

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.e3 c6 6.Nbd2 Be7 7.Bd3 c5 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4 dxc4 10.Bxc4 0-0 11.N2f3 b6 12.Nc6 Qe8 13.Qe2 a6 14.e4 Bb7 15.Nxe7+ Qxe7 16.e5 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Qb4 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Bd2 Qxb2 20.Rab1 Qe5 21.Qxe5 Nxe5 22.Be2 Rfd8 23.Bc3 b5 24.f4 Rac8 25.Rb3 Nc4 26.Bxf6 Rd2 27.Rg3+ Kf8 28.Bd3 1-0

Ron Rossi (1923)

Austin Harbach (1547)

Round 1

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Bd3 dxc4 6.Bxc4 Bd6 7.Ne2 0-0 8.Nbc3 Bf5 9.0-0 Ng4 10.Bf4 Bxf4 11.Nxf4 Qd6 12.Qf3 Nc6 13.Nb5 Qd7 14.Nd5 Be6 15.Nbxc7 Nxd4 16.Qe4 Bxd5 17.Nxd5 Nc6 18.Rad1 Rae8 19.Qf4 Qe6 20.Ne3 Nxe3 21.Bxe6 Nxd1 22.Bd7 Nxb2 23.Bxe8 Rxe8 24.Qd2 Nc4 25.Re1 Rxe1+ 26.Qxe1 Kf8 27.Kf1 Nd6 28.Qb1 h5 29.Qd3 Ke7 30.Qe2+ Kf6 31.Qxh5 g6 32.Qd5 Ke7 33.a3 a6 34.h4 Kd7 35.g4 Ne7 36.Qe5 Nc6 37.Qf6 Ne7 38.h5 gxh5 39.gxh5 Nef5 40.h6 Nxh6 41.Qxh6 Kc6 42.Qf6 Kd5 43.Ke2 Kc5 44.Kd3 Kd5

45.Qd8 Kc5 46.f4 Kd5 47.Qc7 Ke6 48.a4 Kd5 49.Qb6 Ke6
50.Kd4 Kd7 51.Kd5 1-0

Lawrence Scafuri (1293)

Vibi Varghese (1588)

Round 1

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be3 cxd4 7.cxd4
e6 8.Nbd2 Nge7 9.Qb3 Qd7 10.Be2 a6 11.0-0 Nf5 12.h3 Bxf3
13.Nxf3 Be7 14.Rac1 0-0 15.Bd3 Nxe3 16.fxe3 b5 17.Kh1 Rac8
18.Bb1 g6 19.Nh2 Na5 20.Qd3 Rxc1 21.Rxc1 Bg5 22.Ng4 Rc8
23.Rxc8+ Qxc8 24.b3 Qc1+ 25.Kh2 h5 26.Nf6+ Kh8 27.Nxh5
Qxe3 28.Qc2 Qxd4 29.Qc8+ Kh7 30.Qc7 Bf4+ 31.Ng3 Kg7
32.Qxa5 Qxe5 33.Kg1 Bxg3 0-1



Kevin Seidler (2136)

Iris Li (1551)

Round 1

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 a6 7.Bd3
Bg4 8.Nge2 e6 9.Qb3 Ra7 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Rfc1 0-0 12.f3 Bh5
13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Nf4 Bg6 15.Nxg6 hxg6 16.f4 Rc8 17.Nd1
Qd7 18.Rc3 Ne4 19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.Rac1 Raa8 21.Nf2 Qd5
22.Qxb7 Rab8 23.Qxa6 Ra8 24.Qc4 Qxc4 25.Rxc4 Ne7
26.Rxc8+ Rxc8 27.Rxc8+ Nxc8 28.Nxe4 Nb6 29.b3 Nd5
30.Kf2 Kf8 31.a4 Ke7 32.Ke2 Kd7 33.g3 f6 34.Nc5+ Kd6
35.Kd3 f5 36.a5 Nb4+ 37.Ke2 Kd5 38.a6 Nc6 39.Kd3 Na7
40.Kc3 Nc6 41.b4 Na7 42.Kb3 Nb5 43.Ka4 Na7 44.b5 Nc8
45.Ka5 Kd6 46.b6 Kc6 47.b7 Kc7 48.bxc8Q+ Kxc8 49.a7 Kc7
50.a8Q Kd6 51.Qd8+ Kc6 52.Qd7# 1-0

William Wolf (1564)

Eric Billaux (2093)

Round 1

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.c3 e5 7.d4
cxd4 8.cxd4 Nxd4 9.Nc3 Ne7 10.Bg5 Ne6 11.Bxe7 Qxe7
12.Nb5 Bf8 13.Rc1 a6 14.Nc3 Bh6 15.Nd5 Qd8 16.Rc3 0-0
17.Nd2 b5 18.f4 Bb7 19.f5 Bxd5 20.exd5 b4 21.dxe6 bxc3
22.exf7+ Kh8 23.fxg6 cxd2 24.Qh5 Qg5 25.Qxg5 Bxg5
26.Bxa8 d1Q 27.Rxd1 Rxa8 28.Rxd6 hxg6 29.Rxa6 Rf8
30.Rxg6 Be3+ 31.Kg2 Rxf7 32.Re6 Bd4 33.h4 Rf2+ 34.Kh3
Rxb2 35.Kg4 Rxa2 36.Kf5 Kg7 37.g4 Rf2+ 38.Kg5 Kf7 39.Ra6
e4 40.Ra4 Bf6+ 41.Kh5 e3 42.Re4 e2 43.g5 Bc3 44.Kh6 e1Q
45.g6+ Kg8 0-1



Iris Li (1551)

Jonathan Reinhard (998)

Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qb6 5.Nb3 Bc5 6.Nxc5
Qxc5 7.Nc3 Nf6 8.Be3 Qb4 9.a3 Qxb2 10.Bd4 Qxa1 11.Qxa1
1-0

Joseph Pahk (1758)

Kevin Seidler (2136)

Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.f3 e6 6.c4 Nxe4
7.Nxc6 Qh4+ 8.Ke2 Qf2+ 9.Kd3 Nc5+ 10.Kc3 bxc6 11.Qc2
Qh4 12.Be3 Rb8 13.Bd3 Be7 14.Kd2 Nxd3 15.Kxd3 0-0 16.Nc3
d5 17.Na4 Ba6 18.Nc5 Bxc4+ 19.Kd2 d4 20.Qxc4 dxe3+ 0-1

Vibi Varghese (1588)

Peter Barlay (1910)

Round 2

1.Nf3 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.d4
Qe8 8.Re1 Ne4 9.Qc2 Nxc3 10.Qxc3 Qg6 11.Bf4 Na6 12.h4 c5
13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.Nd2 e5 15.Be3 Ne6 16.Nf1 f4 17.Bd2 Nd4
18.e3 fxg3 19.Nxg3 Nf3+ 20.Bxf3 Rxf3 21.Kg2 Bg4 22.Rh1
Raf8 23.Be1 Bd7 24.h5 Qg4 25.h6 Bc6 0-1



Dean Brown (1404)**Eugin Pahk** (1387)

Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e5 6.Nf3 Nf6
 7.Be2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 Be6 10.Nd5 Nxe4 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7
 12.Re1 Rad8 13.Bd3 Nf6 14.Ng5 h6 15.Nxe6 Qxe6 16.c3 a6
 17.Qc2 Rfe8 18.Bf5 Qe7 19.Re3 d5 20.Rg3 e4 21.Bxh6 Nh5
 22.Rg5 g6 23.Qe2 Nf4 24.Qg4 Ne6 25.Rh5 Ng7 26.Bxg6 fxg6
 27.Qxg6 Rd6 28.Qg3 Ne5 29.Rd1 Rg6 30.Bg5 Nnh5 0-1

Jose LLacza (1674)**Vibi Varghese** (1588)

Round 3

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bg5 e6 4.e3 Nbd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Be7 7.0-0
 h6 8.Bh4 0-0 9.Nbd2 b6 10.Rc1 Bb7 11.Re1 Ne4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7
 13.Bb1 f5 14.c4 Rad8 15.cxd5 exd5 16.Qa4 a6 17.dxc5 bxc5
 18.Nf1 Qd6 19.Red1 Qf6 20.Qb3 Rb8 21.Qa4 Nb6 22.Qc2 Nc4
 23.b3 Na3 24.Qd3 Qb2 25.N3d2 Nxb1 26.Rc2 Qa3 27.Nxb1
 Qa5 28.f3 Nd6 29.Rdc1 c4 30.bxc4 Nxc4 31.Nfd2 Ne5 32.Qd4
 Rbe8 33.Rc7 Nc6 34.R7xc6 Bxc6 35.Rxc6 Qxa2 36.Nc3 Qa1+
 37.Kf2 Rd8 38.Rc5 Qh1 39.Nf1 Rf6 40.Qxf6 gxf6 41.Ne2 Rb8
 42.Rc2 Rb1 43.Neg3 Rxf1+ 44.Nxf1 Kf7 45.Ra2 f4 46.exf4
 Ke6 47.Rxa6+ Kf5 48.Ng3+ 1-0



1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.Nge2 d6 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d3
 0-0 8.f4 Bd7 9.h3 Rb8 10.a4 Ne8 11.f5 e6 12.fxg6 fxg6
 13.Rxf8+ Bxf8 14.h4 Bg7 15.Bf4 a6 16.Qd2 Qe7 17.Bf3 Ne5
 18.Rf1 Nc7 19.h5 Rf8 20.Bg5 Qe8 21.Bg2 Rxf1+ 22.Kxf1 Bxa4
 23.hxg6 hxg6 24.Nxa4 Qxa4 25.c3 Qd7 26.d4 cxd4 27.cxd4 Nf7
 28.Be3 d5 29.e5 Nb5 30.Nf4 Nh8 31.Bh3 Nc7 32.Qc3 Qf7
 33.Bg4 Bh6 34.Kg2 Kg7 35.Qxc7 Bxf4 36.Qxf7+ Kxf7 37.gxf4
 Ke7 38.Be2 Nf7 39.Bd3 Nh6 40.Bxg6 Ng4 41.Bd2 Nh6 42.Kg3
 Kf8 43.f5 Nxf5+ 44.Bxf5 exf5 45.Kf4 1-0

Eric Billaux (2093)**Jose LLacza** (1674)

Round 4

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 c6 4.d4 Nxe4 5.Bxf7+ Kxf7 6.Nxe4
 exd4 7.Qxd4 d5 8.Ng5+ Kg8 9.Ne2 h6 10.Nf3 Bf5 11.c3 Nd7
 12.0-0 Bc5 13.Qd1 Kh7 14.Nfd4 Bg6 15.Nf4 Qf6 16.Nxg6
 Kxg6 17.Qg4+ Kh7 18.Qxd7 Bxd4 19.cxd4 Rhd8 20.Qg4 Re8
 21.Be3 Re4 22.Qg3 Rae8 23.b4 Rf8 24.Rab1 a6 25.a4 Rf7 26.b5
 axb5 27.axb5 h5 28.bxc6 bxc6 29.Rb8 Rg4 30.Qe5 Qg6 31.g3
 Re4 32.Qg5 Qxg5 33.Bxg5 Rxd4 34.Rc1 Rg4 35.f4 h4 36.Kg2
 hxg3 37.hxg3 Rc7 38.Kh3 Rxg5 39.fxg5 d4 40.Rd8 Kg6
 41.Rxd4 Kxg5 42.Rc5+ Kf6 43.Rd6+ Ke7 44.Rdxc6 Rd7
 45.Rc7 1-0

**Kevin Seidler** (2136)**Eric Billaux** (2093)

Round 3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nc3 c6 6.Be3 a6 7.Qd2 b5
 8.d5 bxc4 9.Bxc4 Bb7 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.dxc6 Bxc6 12.0-0 0-0
 13.Rac1 Ne5 14.Bb3 Bb7 15.Nd5 Nxd5 16.exd5 a5 17.Ba4 Ba6
 18.b3 Nd3 19.Rc6 Nb4 20.Rb6 Bxe2 21.Qxe2 Nxd5 22.Rb7
 Qe8 23.Ra7 Nxe3 24.Rxa8 Qxa8 25.Qxe3 e6 26.Rc1 Rc8
 27.Rd1 d5 28.Bd7 d4 29.Qe2 Rc3 30.Bb5 Qd5 31.Bd3 Qc5
 32.Rd2 Bh6 33.Rc2 Be3+ 34.Kf1 Kg7 35.Rxc3 Qxc3 36.Qc2
 Qb4 37.g3 h5 38.Qc4 Qd6 39.Kg2 g5 40.Qa4 Bd2 41.Qc4 e5
 42.Bc2 Bb4 43.Qd3 Qh6 44.Qf5 Bd6 45.Be4 h4 46.gxh4 Qxh4
 47.Bd3 Qh5 48.h4 Qg6 49.Qxg6+ fxg6 50.hxg5 Be7 51.f4 exf4
 52.Kf3 Bxg5 53.Ke4 Bf6 54.Kxf4 Be7 55.Ke5 Bc5 56.Be4 1/2-1/2

William Wolf (1564)**Joe Pahk** (1758)

Round 3

**Iris Li** (1551)**William Wolf** (1564)

Round 4

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 Nc6 4.Nxc6 dxc6 5.d3 Bc5 6.Be2 h5

7.c3 Bg4 8.d4 Nxe4 9.dxc5 Qxd1+ 10.Bxd1 Bxd1 11.Kxd1 Nxf2+ 12.Ke2 Nxf1 13.Be3 0-0-0 14.Nd2 Rhe8 15.Rxf1 Rd5 16.Kf2 f6 17.Rg1 Rd3 18.Nf1 Rd1 19.g4 h4 20.g5 f5 21.Bd4 g6 22.Kf3 Reel 23.Kf2 Kd7 ½-½



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Gunnar Andersen (2347)

William Wolf (1594)

Round 1

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 g6 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.dxc5 0-0 7.Ne5 Nc6 8.Be2 Qa5 9.0-0 Qxc5 10.Bf3 Be6 11.Nd3 Qa5 12.a3 Ne4 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Bxe4 Rad8 15.Qf3 Bc4 16.Rab1 e5 17.Bg5 f6 18.Bh4 f5 19.Bxd8 fxe4 20.Qxf8+ 1-0

Dean Brown (1400)

Kevin Seidler (2142)

Round 1

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bb5 Nf6 5.Bxc6 bxc6 6.d3 d5 7.e5 Nd7 8.0-0 Be7 9.d4 Rb8 10.b3 cxd4 11.Qxd4 0-0 12.Re1 Qa5 13.Bb2 Ba6 14.a4 Bb4 15.Red1 c5 16.Qd2 d4 17.Nxd4 cxd4 18.Qxd4 Nc5 19.Ne4 Nxe4 20.Qxe4 Bb7 21.Qe2 Rfd8 22.Qb5 Bd5 23.Qxa5 Bxa5 24.Rd3 Be4 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.c3 Rd2 27.Ba3 Bxc3 28.Rc1 h5 0-1



Kaavya Sakthisaravanan (1129)

Alek Bozhenov (1968)

Round 1

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 d3 4.Bxd3 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.h3 g6 7.Bc4 Bg7 8.Bf4 e5 9.Bg3 Nf6 10.Ng5 0-0 11.Qb3 Qe7 12.Nd2 Na5 13.Qc2 Nxc4 14.Nxc4 h6 15.Nf3 b6 16.0-0 Bb7 17.Rfe1 Rac8 18.b3 b5 19.Na5 Ba8 20.b4 Nh5 21.Bh2 Nf4 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.e5 Bxf3 24.exd6 Qg5 25.g3 ffg3 26.fgg3 Qxg3+ 27.Kf1 Bd4 28.Rac1 Qg1# 0-1

Karthika Sakthisaravanan (1052)

Ron Rossi (1933)

Round 1

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.0-0 0-0 6.d3 d6 7.h3 Be6 8.Bb3 h6 9.Nbd2 a5 10.a4 d5 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.d4 Nd3 13.dxc5 dxe4 14.Bc2 Nxc5 15.b4 axb4 16.cxb4 Nd3 17.Ba3 Re8 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Bxd3 Nc3 20.Qc2 Nd5 21.Be4 Qg5 22.Bxd5 Bxd5 23.f4 Qg3 24.Rf2 Re3 25.Bb2 Rae8 26.Raf1 c6 27.Bd4 Re1 28.Qd2 R1e6 29.f5 R6e7 30.Bc5 Rd7 31.Qf4 Qxf4 32.Rxf4 Bb3 33.a5 Rd2 34.R1f2 Ree2 35.Rxe2 Rxe2 36.Rf2 Re1+ 37.Kh2 Bd5 38.Kg3 f6 39.h4 h5 40.Kh2 Kf7 41.Kg3 Re4 42.Rf4 Re2 43.Rf2 Re4 44.Rf4 ½-½



Lawrence Scafuri (1311)

Joe Pakh (1734)

Round 1

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 d6 8.f3 a6 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.Nb3 Qc7 12.g4 Be6 13.g5 Nd7 14.Nd5 Bxd5 15.exd5 Nce5 16.Bd4 Rc8 17.f4 Nf3 18.Bxf3 Bxd4 19.Nxd4 Nc5 20.h4 Qb6 21.h5 Kd8 22.hxg6 ffg6 23.Bg4 Rb8 24.Ne6+ Ke8 25.Qd4 Rg8 26.Rxf7 Nd7 27.Rh8 Qxd4 28.Rxg8+ Kf7 29.Rg7+ Qxg7 30.Nxg7 Nc5 31.Ne6 Ne4 32.Rh1 Nf2 33.Rh7+ Kg8 34.Rg7+ Kh8 35.Bd1 Nh3 36.Rxg6 Nf2 37.Rh6+ Kg8 38.g6 Rc8 39.g7 Nd3+ 40.Kd2 Nxb2 41.Rh8+ 1-0

Alek Bozhenov (1968)

Lawrence Scafuri (1311)

Round 2

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nf3 c5 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.Bd3 Nc6 8.Qe2 Qc7 9.Bf4 a6 10.Bg3 Nb6 11.0-0 Nd4 12.Nxd4 Bxd4 13.Nd1 Nc4 14.c3 Bxe5 15.Bxc4 Bxg3 16.hxg3

Qxc4 17.Qxc4 dxc4 18.Ne3 b5 19.b3 cxb3 20.axb3 Bb7 21.c4 bxc4 22.Nxc4 0-0 23.Nb6 Rad8 24.Rfc1 Rd6 25.Nc4 Rc6 26.Rd1 Rc7 27.Rd6 Bd5 28.Rdxa6 Bxc4 29.bxc4 Rxc4 30.Ra7 h6 31.Rb7 Rc5 32.g4 h5 33.gxh5 Rxh5 34.g3 g6 35.Raa7 Kg7 ½-½



Jordan Joseph (1925)
Gunnar Andersen (2347)
Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.0-0 d5 8.e5 Nd7 9.f4 Be7 10.Nd2 Ba6 11.Nf3 Qb6+ 12.Kh1 0-0 13.b3 Bxd3 14.cxd3 a5 15.d4 a4 16.bxa4 Qa6 17.a5 Qxa5 18.Bd2 Qa6 19.Qc2 Nb6 20.f5 Qa4 21.Qd3 Qc4 22.Qe3 exf5 23.Rfc1 Qa4 24.Qf4 Nc4 25.Qxf5 Nxd2 26.Nxd2 Qxd4 27.Nf3 Qb2 28.a4 Rxa4 29.Rab1 Qf2 30.Rc2 Qe3 31.Rxc6 0-1

Navneet Ramkumar (1662)
Eric Billaux (2099)
Round 2

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 Na6 7.0-0 e5 8.d5 Nc5 9.Qc2 a5 10.h3 Nh5 11.a3 Nf4 12.Be3 a4 13.Nh2 Nb3 14.Rad1 Nd4 15.Qd2 Qg5 16.Bg4 Bxg4 17.hxg4 f5 18.Kh1 fxg4 19.Bxd4 exd4 20.Ne2 Rae8 21.g3 Nh3 22.Nxd4 Qxd2 23.Rxd2 Bxd4 24.Rxd4 Nxf2+ 25.Kg2 Nxe4 26.Rxf8+ Kxf8 27.Nxg4 Nc5 28.Kf2 Re4 29.Rxe4 Nxe4+ 30.Kg2 Kf7 31.Ne3 Kf6 32.Kf3 Ke5 33.g4 Ng5+ 34.Ke2 Kd4 35.Kd2 h5 36.gxh5 gxh5 37.Ke2 Nf7 38.Kd2 Ne5 39.Ke2 Nxc4 40.Nc2+ Kxd5 41.Nb4+ Ke4 42.Nd3 h4 43.Nf2+ Kd4 44.Nd1 b5 45.Nc3 c6 46.Nd1 d5 47.Ke1 Kd3 48.Nf2+ Kc2 49.Nd1 Nxb2 50.Ne3+ Kb3 51.Nf5 h3 52.Kf2 Kxa3 53.Nd4 Nd3+ 54.Ke3 h2 55.Kxd3 h1Q 56.Nc2+ Kb2 57.Ne3 a3 58.Ke2 a2 59.Nd1+ Qxd1+ 60.Kxd1 a1Q+ 0-1

Kevin Seidler (2142)
Jose Llacza (1684)
Round 2

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 Nf6 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.0-0 c5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd2 Re8 10.Rc1 c4 11.Bb1 Bxc3 12.Bxc3 Ne4 13.Be1 b5 14.Qc2 Bb7 15.h3 h6 16.Nh2 Nf8 17.Ng4 Qd6 18.f3 Ng3 19.Rf2 f6 20.Rd2 h5 21.Ne5 fxe5 22.Bxg3 Qh6 23.Bxe5 Qxe3+ 24.Kh1 Qh6 25.f4 Bc8 26.f5 Bxf5 27.Qxf5 Qxd2 28.Rf1 Qh6 29.Qf7+ Kh8 30.Qxd5 Qe6 31.Qe4

Qh6 32.Kh2 Nd7 33.Rf7 Nxe5 34.dxe5 Rf8 35.e6 Rae8 36.Rxf8+ Rxf8 37.e7 Qd6+ 38.Kg1 Qd1+ 39.Kh2 Qd6+ 40.Kg1 Qd1+ 41.Kh2 Qd6+ ½-½

Gunnar Andersen (2347)
Eric Billaux (2099)
Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qf3 Nf6 8.0-0-0 Ne5 9.Qg3 b5 10.f4 Neg4 11.Bg1 h5 12.Bd3 b4 13.Nb1 Bb7 14.Nd2 h4 15.Qf3 e5 16.h3 Nh6 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Nc4 Qc7 19.Bh2 d6 20.Rhe1 0-0-0 21.Qf1 Nd7 22.Nb3 f6 23.Kb1 Nf7 24.Nca5 Nb8 25.c3 Qb6 26.Bg1 Qc7 27.cxb4 1-0

Iris Li (1611)
Jordan Joseph (1925)
Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4 f5 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nd6+ Bxd6 11.Qxd6 Qe7 12.Bf4 Ne4 13.Qxe7+ Kxe7 14.Bd3 Nc5 15.0-0-0 Nxd3+ 16.Rxd3 d5 17.Be5 Rf8 18.f3 g6 19.Rc3 Bd7 20.Rd1 Rfc8 21.f4 c5 22.Rh3 h5 23.g4 Be8 24.gxh5 gxh5 25.Rg1 Bf7 26.Rg5 Rg8 27.Rc3 Rxc5 28.fxc5 c4 29.b4 a6 30.Ra3 Be8 31.Ra5 Ra7 32.a4 Rb7 33.Rxa6 Rd7 34.c3 Bg6 35.b5 Rb7 36.b6 Kd7 37.Ra7 Kc6 38.Rxb7 Kxb7 39.a5 Ka6 40.Kb2 Be4 41.Ka3 d4 42.Bxd4 Kxa5 43.g6 Ka6 44.g7 Bh7 45.Kb4 Bg8 46.Kc5 Kb7 47.Kd6 1-0



Ron Rossi (1933)
William Wolf (1594)
Round 3

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 e5 3.d5 Nce7 4.Nf3 Ng6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Bb4 7.Bd2 0-0 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 d6 10.0-0 Nf4 11.h3 Bxh3 12.gxh3 Nhx3+ 13.Kh2 Nf4 14.Rg1 Qd7 15.Qf1 Ng4+ 16.Kh1 Nxf2+ 17.Qxf2 1-0

Vibi Varghese (1562)
Alek Bozhenov (1968)
Round 3

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.d4 c6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 Re8 9.Qc2 Nbd7 10.Re1 Nf8 11.Bg5 Ne6 12.Bd2 Nf8 13.Rad1 Bg4 14.Qb3 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Qb6 16.Qxb6 axb6 17.a3 Ne6 18.e3 b5 19.Na2 Ng5 20.Bg2 Nfe4 21.Bb4 Nd6 22.Nc1 Nc4 23.Nd3 Bxb4 24.axb4 Ra2 25.b3 Nd6 26.f3 Rea8 27.Nc1

Rc2 28.e4 Ne8 29.e5 Ne6 30.Bh3 Nf8 31.f4 g6 32.e6 fxe6
33.Bxe6+ Nxe6 34.Rxe6 Ng7 35.Ree1 Nf5 36.Re2 Rxe2
37.Nxe2 Ra2 38.Kf2 Nd6 39.Kf3 Ne4 40.Rd3 h5 41.h3 Kf7
42.g4 hxg4+ 43.hxg4 Rb2 44.Ke3 Kf6 45.Nc3 Nf2 46.Rd2
Nxg4+ 47.Ke2 Rxb3 48.Na2 0-1

Eric Billaux (2099)

Vibi Varghese (1562)

Round 4

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4
Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.f5 Ne5 11.Qh3 Nfg4 12.Bxe7
Qxe7 13.Qg3 Qg5+ 14.Kb1 Qe3 15.Nf3 h5 16.Rxd6 h4 17.Qe1
Qxe1+ 18.Nxe1 Nf2 19.Rg1 exf5 20.exf5 Bxf5 21.Rd5 f6
22.Nf3 Nxf3 23.gxf3 g6 24.Bc4 Rd8 25.Re1+ 1-0

Alek Bozhenov (1968)

Ron Rossi (1933)

Round 4

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.0-0 Bd6 6.d4 f6
7.dxe5 Bxe5 8.Nxe5 Qxd1 9.Rxd1 fxe5 10.Nc3 Nf6 11.f3 Be6
12.b3 Kf7 13.Bb2 Rad8 14.Kf2 Rxd1 15.Rxd1 Nd7 16.Rd2 g5
17.Nd1 Rg8 18.g3 Rg6 19.Ke3 Rh6 20.Rf2 Rh3 21.Ke2 Ke7
22.Bc1 Kf6 23.Bb2 Kg6 24.Ne3 Rh6 25.Bc3 Rh3 26.Bb2 Rh6
27.Nf1 Rh3 28.Ba3 c5 29.Bc1 Nb8 30.Ne3 Nc6 31.c3 Rh6
32.Nd5 Bxd5 33.exd5 Ne7 34.c4 Nf5 35.Kd3 Nd6 36.h4 Kg7
37.hxg5 Rh3 38.Rg2 Nf5 39.Ke4 Nxg3+ 40.Kxe5 Nf1 41.Rf2
Nh2 42.Ke6 Nxf3 43.Kd7 Ne5+ 44.Kxc7 Nd3 45.Bb2+ Kg6
46.Rd2 Nxb2 47.Rxb2 Kxg5 48.d6 1-0

Kevin Seidler (2142)

Gunnar Andersen (2347)

Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.Be2
Nc6 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Be6 11.cxd5 Nxd5
12.Be5 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Bxe5 14.Qxe5 Rc8 15.Rab1 Qc7 16.Qg5
b6 17.c4 Qc5 18.Qh4 Rc7 19.Rb5 Qa3 20.Rfb1 Qxa2 21.R5b2
Qa5 22.h3 Rfc8 23.Rb5 Qc3 24.R5b3 Qf6 25.Qxf6 exf6 26.Ra1
Rd7 27.Rb4 Rc5 28.Kf1 Kf8 29.Ke1 Rg5 30.g4 Rc5 31.Rb5
Re5 32.Ra3 Ke7 33.Rb4 f5 34.Rb5 Rxb5 35.cxb5 fxg4 36.hxg4
Kf6 37.f4 g5 38.f5 Bd5 39.Rd3 Ke7 40.e4 Bb7 41.Ra3 f6
42.Kf2 Kd6 43.Rd3+ Kc7 44.Rxd7+ Kxd7 45.Ke3 Kd6 46.Kd4
Bc8 47.Bd3 Bd7 48.Be2 Be8 49.Bc4 h5 50.gxh5 Bxh5 51.Bf1
Bf3 52.Ke3 Bh1 53.Be2 Ke5 54.Bd3 g4 55.Bc2 g3 56.Bb1 g2
57.Kf2 g1Q+ 58.Kxg1 Bxe4 0-1

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Dean Brown (1400)

Iris Li (1712)

Round 3

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 a6 7.b4
Ba7 8.a4 0-0 9.h3 Be6 10.Nbd2 Bxc4 11.Nxc4 Ne7 12.Bg5 Ng6
13.Qd2 Re8 14.Rfe1 h6 15.Bxh6 gxh6 16.Qxh6 Qe7 17.Ne3
Bxe3 18.Rxe3 Qf8 19.Qg5 Qg7 20.Nh2 Nf4 21.Qg3 a5 22.b5 d5
23.Qxg7+ Kxg7 24.Rg3+ Kh7 25.Kf1 dxe4 26.d4 exd4 27.cxd4
Rad8 28.Ng4 Nxg4 29.Rxg4 Nd5 30.Rc1 e3 31.Ke2 f5 32.Rh4+
Kg6 33.fxe3 Rxe3+ 0-1

Ron Rossi (1911)

Rowan Oregel (1491)

Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6
7.Be2 0-0 8.Qd2 Nxd4 9.Bxd4 d6 10.h4 Qa5 11.0-0-0 Be6 12.a3
h5 13.Kb1 Rfc8 14.Nd5 Qxd2 15.Nxf6+ Bxf6 16.Rxd2 Bxd4
17.Rxd4 Rc5 18.Rhd1 Rac8 19.R1d2 Bc4 20.b4 R5c7 21.Kb2
Bxe2 22.Rxe2 Kg7 23.c4 Rxc4 24.Rd5 Kf6 25.Kb3 Ke6 26.Rb5
R8c7 27.Rxb7 Rc3+ 28.Kb2 Rxb7 29.Kxc3 Ke5 30.g3 Rc7+
31.Kd3 Rc1 32.f4+ Ke6 33.Re3 Kd7 34.Kd4 Kc6 35.Rc3+ Rxc3
36.Kxc3 f5 37.exf5 gxf5 38.a4 Kd5 39.Kd3 a6 40.Kc3 e5
41.fxe5 dxe5 42.Kd3 ½-½

Elliott Woo (1969)

Eric Billaux (2097)

Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6
7.Qd2 Nf6 8.f3 Bb4 9.g4 0-0 10.g5 Nh5 11.Be2 Ne5 12.Rg1 b5
13.Nb3 Bb7 14.a3 Bxc3 15.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 16.bxc3 Ng6 17.c4
Nhf4 18.Bf1 Rac8 19.cxb5 axb5 20.Nc5 Bc6 21.Nd3 Nxd3+
22.cxd3 d5 23.Kf2 Rfd8 24.Be2 f6 25.gxf6 gxf6 26.h4 Kf7
27.h5 Ne7 28.Rac1 d4 29.Bd2 Bd7 30.Bb4 Nc6 31.Bd2 Ra8
32.h6 Rg8 33.Rxg8 Rxg8 34.f4 Ke7 35.Rb1 Ra8 36.Bc1 Na5
37.Bb2 e5 38.Rg1 Rh8 39.Rg7+ Kd6 40.Bh5 Be6 41.f5 Ba2
42.Bf7 Bb1 43.Ke2 Nb7 44.Rg1 Bc2 45.Kd2 Ba4 46.Rg8 Rxg8
47.Bxg8 Ke7 48.Bxh7 Kf8 49.Bg6 Nc5 50.Bh5 Kg8 51.Bd1
Bxd1 52.Kxd1 Nxd3 53.Ba1 Nf2+ 54.Ke1 Nxe4 55.Bb2 Nd6
56.Ke2 Kh7 0-1

Iris Li (1712)

Elliott Woo (1969)

Round 4

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.c3 Nf6 6.Bf4 Bg4
7.Nf3 e6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Re1 Re8 11.Qb3 Qc8 12.Ne5
Nxe5 13.Bxe5 Bh5 14.c4 dxc4 15.Nxc4 Qd7 16.Rac1 Bg6
17.Be2 Rec8 18.h4 h6 19.Bf3 Nd5 20.h5 Bh7 21.Bxd5 Qxd5
22.Nd6 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Qxb3 24.axb3 Bxd6 25.Bxd6 Be4 26.f3
Bc6 27.b4 Rd8 28.Bc5 a6 29.Kf2 Rd5 30.g4 g6 31.hxg6 fxg6
32.Re1 Kf7 33.Kg3 Bd7 34.Re5 ½-½



Denver Chess Club

2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Tournament

by J.C. MacNeil

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*The Colorado chess Old Guard
is being replaced by fresh blood...*

It is an honor for the *Denver Chess Club* to stage a yearly memorial chess tournament in tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. on his national holiday weekend. Reverend King put his life on the line - and ultimately gave his life - to make life better for people of African-American descent. A repeated line in the United States national anthem is "... the land of the free and the home of the brave." Without question, Martin Luther King, Jr. was brave in the truest sense of the word. His tireless effort for civil rights freed countless U.S. citizens from a life of segregation and second class status.

The tournament was fantastic! We set an MLK attendance record with a registration of 86 players. The great attendance resulted in a nearly \$3000 totally awesome prize fund.

The Premier section was strengthened by the presence of the McConnell brothers, along with NM's Brian Wall and Ray Haskins, and a slew of strong Experts and Class A players. I bet that most players assumed that Sullivan McConnell would take 1st place - in light of the fact that he is well on his way to getting an IM title - and they would have been wrong. Incredibly Sullivan actually finished out of the money in 4th place after giving up a round 3 draw to Eamon Montgomery and suffering a last round loss to Neil Bhavikatti. Neil played very well to finish in clear 1st place with 4.5 points and he won \$600!!

Eamon Montgomery and Griffin McConnell shared the combined 2nd and 3rd place prize with 4 points, and they each won \$305!! In addition to his draw against Sullivan, Eamon also held NM Brian Wall to a draw. Besides winning big bucks, I would think Griffin might be even more pleased to have finished ahead of his brother, or maybe more happy about his big round 2 upset win over NM Haskins. In either case, Griffin has McConnell family bragging rights for a while.

Other notable upsets in this section were soon to be Expert, Vedanth Sampath winning against both Brian Wall and Rhett Langseth, and also drawing Neil Bhavikatti. Evan Helman winning against NM Haskins. Christopher Motley won against Anthony Whitt and DuWayne Langseth. Sikandar Baker-Nagar held Keith Oxman to a draw. Quite a few of the players mentioned in this report are teenagers or younger. The Colorado chess old guard is being replaced by fresh blood, and that is as it should be.

Another youngster, Navneet Ramkuma sits in 1st place atop the U1800 section. He crushed yours truly in the last round with a



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

sound counterattack against my usual really dubious attack. I was consoled somewhat by the fact that the kid had also beat the strong Jeffery Baffo in the previous round. Four wins and a 3rd round bye earned Navneet \$470!! Mr. Baffo took clear 2nd place with 4 points and won \$280!!

Five players shared the 3rd place prize of \$190!! - DCC Tuesday night Tournament Director Phil Brown, Andre Mancuso, Grayson Manual, Sean Diab, and myself. Yes, really. I finally once again won some money playing chess. I'm so happy. We all finished with 3.5 points. All of Mr. Diab's points were big upset wins, and he only lost to Mr. Baffo in the last round. Had there been an Upset prize, it would have been won by Andrew Robichaud for his 3rd round win against Frederick Sadler. Absolutely proving you can't look at a player's rating and assume a win is the fact that: Laura Alonso, Jeff Nohrden, Calab Pena, Dean Brown and Robson Glasscock also had big >300 point rating difference upset wins.

And yet another youngster, Abhiram Palle won the U1400 section with the only perfect score in the tournament. Five straight wins won Abhiram \$400!! Ricky Marchant, Jeff Manual, and Kamron Correia shared the combined 2nd and 3rd place prize and each of these players won \$133.33!! Surprisingly there was only one big upset game in this section. Sarvesh Rajesh won against the 537 point higher rated Jaxson Cardenas-Gunny in round 3.

I admit I don't know or even recognize the names of some of the players that I've mentioned in this report. In a way that is a good thing, in that there are so many new players playing in DCC tournaments. Maybe, if we can ever drop the mask requirement, I will at least recognize faces. So even if I don't have any idea who you are, congratulations on winning a DCC tournament prize check!! And yes, I've used too many double exclamation marks.

Also, let me say the DCC is truly sorry that due to the continuing danger of COVID, we are still not allowing players that cannot take the vaccine - due to a medical condition, or a religious belief - to play in DCC tournaments. This is especially exasperating when it's a young player who really wants to play live over the board tournament chess. We are erring on the side of caution, but still, it doesn't seem right when it's a kid we are not allowing to play. We know playing online is just not the same.



A few games from the tournament:

Grayson Manuel (1554)

Andrew Robichaud (1155)

Round 1

(Notes by Andrew Robichaud)

1.d4 g6 *(First time using the Modern over Dutch in d4 positions.)* 2.e4 Bg7 3.Bc4 Nc6 4.Ne2 a6 5.0-0 e6 6.c3 b5 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.f4 Nce7 9.Ng3 Nh6 10.f5 exf5 11.exf5 gxf5 *(During the middle of this exchange I suddenly decided it would be better to open up my g-file.)* 12.Nh5 Rg8 13.Bxh6 *(Fortunate bishop sacrifice to give me the advantage.)* 13...Bxd4+ 14.cxd4 Rxd4 15.Kh1 Rg6+ 16.Rf3 Bxf3+ 17.Qxf3 Rxh6 18.Nc3 c6 19.Ng7+ Kf8 20.Nxf5 Nxf5 21.Qxf5 Qh4 22.Qe5 Re8 23.Qh8+ Ke7 24.Qe5+ *(I realized I could block with the rook, but I wasn't sure I was winning with (24. Qe5+ Re6 25. Qg3 Qxg3 26. hxg3). If I evaluated the position one move further and realized I could threaten the bishop and pawn with Re3, I wouldn't have offered the draw. Still, I was happy to walk away with a draw after a blunder against a higher rated opponent.)* 1/2-1/2

Christopher Motley (1796)

Brian Wall (2200)

Round 1

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.Re1 d6 7.h3 Na5 8.Bb3 c6 9.c3 Nxb3 10.axb3 Ne8 11.Nbd2 f5 12.d4 fxe4

13.Nxe4 d5 14.Ng3 e4 15.Ne5 Nd6 16.c4 Be6 17.c5 Nf5 18.Nxf5 Bxf5 19.Be3 a6 20.Qd2 Bf6 21.Bf4 g5 22.Bg3 Qe7 23.Rad1 Rae8 24.Qe2 Qg7 25.Qh5 Kh8 26.Kh2 Bc8 27.Re3 Rxe5 28.dxe5 Bxe5 29.Rd2 Bf4 30.Bxf4 gxf4 31.Re1 e3 32.Rde2 f3 33.gxf3 Rg8 34.fxe3 Qg3+ 35.Kh1 Bxh3 0-1

Keith Oxman (1900)

Nicholas Brummer (Unrated)

Round 1

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.g4 Be4 5.f3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.h5 Bh7 8.e6 fxe6 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Qd6 11.Ne2 Nd7 12.Qg6+ Kd8 13.Nbc3 e5 14.Qxd6 exd6 15.Be3 Ngf6 16.Rg1 Be7 17.0-0-0 Kc7 18.Ng3 b5 19.Nf5 Bf8 20.Nh4 Rg8 21.Ng6 a5 22.a4 b4 23.Ne2 c5 24.c3 exd4 25.cxd4 c4 26.Nef4 Nb6 27.Ne6+ Kc6 28.Nexf8 Rgxf8 29.Nxf8 Rxf8 30.Bd2 Nxa4 31.Kc2 Nd7 32.Rgf1 Rf4 33.Bxf4 c3 34.bxc3 Nxc3 35.Rd3 Nb5 36.Bd2 Nc5 37.dxc5 dxc5 38.Ra1 c4 39.Rxd5 Kxd5 40.Rxa5 Kc5 41.f4 b3+ 42.Kb2 Kb6 43.Rxb5+ Kxb5 44.Bc3 Kc5 45.Bxg7 Kd5 46.Bxh6 Ke6 47.Bg7 Kf7 48.h6 Kg6 49.g5 Kh7 50.Kc3 1-0

Keith Oxman (1900)

Eamon Montgomery (2123)

Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nf6 4.g3 d5 5.Nbd2 Nc6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.c3 b5 9.Re1 Re8 10.d4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Rxe4 Bb7 13.Re1 Qb6 14.dxc5 Bxc5 15.Be3 Red8 16.Qe2 a5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Ne5 Rac8 19.Nxf7 Rf8 20.b4 Qxc3 21.Nd6 Nd4 22.Qg4 Bf3 23.Bxf3 Nxf3+ 24.Kh1 Nxe1 25.Qxe6+ Kh8 26.Rxe1 Qf3+ 27.Kg1 Qxf2+ 28.Kh1 Rc2 0-1

Andrew Robichaud (1155)

Nicholas Torres (1282)

Round 2

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 exf4 4.e5 Qe7 5.Qe2 Ng8 6.Nf3 d6 7.Nd5 Qd8 8.Nxc7+ Kd7 9.Nxa8 Nc6 10.d4 Nge7 11.Ng5 Nxd4 12.Qe4 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Nxc2+ 14.Qxc2 Qxe5+ 15.Ne4 f5 16.0-0-0 fxe4 17.Qc7+ Ke8 18.Bc3 Qc5 19.Rxd6 Nc6 20.Qxc8+ Nd8 21.Qd7# *(Andrew Robichaud - My best game by far with only two inaccuracies. 1.5/2 and feeling good.)* 1-0



Neil Bhavikatti with the Black pieces against Vedanth Sampath



*Eamon Montgomery (left) against
"Old Guard" Brian Wall*

Brian Wall (2200)
Vedanth Sampath (1980)
Round 2

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.f3 0-0 6.Bg5 Nc6 7.Nge2 Na5 8.Ng3 a6 9.Be2 c5 10.d5 Bd7 11.0-0 Qe8 12.a4 Qd8 13.Rb1 Qc7 14.f4 e6 15.e5 dxe5 16.d6 Qb6 17.fxe5 Ne8 18.Bf4 Nc6 19.Qd2 Nxe5 20.Rbd1 Nc6 21.Bh6 Nd4 22.Bxg7 Nxg7 23.Nge4 f5 24.Ng5 Qxd6 25.Qe3 Qe7 26.Bd3 Bc6 27.Nh3 e5 28.Nd5 Bxd5 29.cxd5 Nh5 30.Rfe1 Rae8 31.a5 Nf6 32.Bc4 Kg7 33.Nf4 Ng4 34.Qg3 Qg5 35.Ne6+ Rxe6 36.dxe6 f4 37.Qh3 Ne3 38.e7 Re8 39.Rxe3 fxe3 40.Re1 Rxe7 41.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 42.Rxe3 Kf6 43.Bd5 Rd7 44.Be4 Ke6 45.h4 c4 46.h5 (Brian Wall - I stopped keeping score. The rest is a re-creation.) 46...gxh5 47.Rh3 Ne2+ 48.Kh2 Nf4 49.Rc3 Rc7 50.g3 Ne2 51.Rf3 Nd4 52.Rf8 Nb3 53.Rh8 Nxa5 54.Bxh7 Nc6 55.Be4 Nd4 56.Rxh5 Rf7 57.Kg2 Kd6 58.g4 b5 59.Rh6+ Kc5 60.Rxa6 Kb4 61.Ra3 Rc7 62.Kg3 c3 63.Rxc3 Rxc3+ 64.bxc3+ Kxc3 65.g5 Ne6 66.g6 Kd4 67.Bf5 Ng7 68.Bb1 b4 69.Kg4 b3 70.Kg5 b2 71.Kf6 Nh5+ 72.Kg5 Nf4 (Brian Wall - I resigned about 6 moves later. Vedanth wins the g-pawn and I am two pawns down.) 0-1

Sikander Baker-Nagar (1604)
Keith Oxman (1900)
Round 3

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.exd5 Nxd5 4.Bc4 e6 5.Nge2 Be7 6.d4 0-0 7.Be3 Nxe3 8.fxe3 Nd7 9.Qd3 Nb6 10.Bb3 c5 11.Ne4 cxd4 12.exd4 Bd7 13.c3 Bc6 14.Bc2 f5 15.Nf2 Bg5 16.0-0 Qd5 17.Qg3 Be3 18.Bb3 Qe4 19.Kh1 Bxf2 20.Qxf2 Nd5 21.Rae1 Rf6 22.Nf4 Qxf4 23.Qxf4 Nxf4 24.Rxf4 Be4 25.Re2 Kf8 26.Bc2 Bd5 27.Kg1 b5 28.a3 a6 29.Re5 Rd8 30.Bd1 g6 31.Rf2 Kf7 32.Bf3 Bxf3 33.Rxf3 Rd5 34.Rfe3 g5 35.Rxd5 exd5 36.Re5 Re6 37.Rxf5+ Kg6 38.Rxd5 Re2 39.h3 Rxb2 40.Rd6+ Kf5 41.Rxa6 Rb3 42.Rb6 Ke4 43.a4 bxa4 44.Ra6 a3 45.Kh2 Rxc3 46.Ra4 Kd3 47.d5 Kc2 48.d6 Kb3 49.Rd4 Rc8 50.d7 Rd8 51.Rd6 a2 52.Rb6+ Kc2 53.Rc6+ Kb2 54.Rb6+ Kc2 ½-½

Ted Doykos (1819)
Brian Wall (2200)
Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6 5.Bc4 g6 6.Nf3 Bg7

7.0-0 Nf6 8.Bf4 0-0 9.Qe2 a6 10.h3 b5 11.Bb3 Bb7 12.e5 Ne8 13.Rfd1 Nc7 14.Ne4 Ne6 15.Bh2 Qc7 16.Rac1 Rad8 17.Nc5 Bc8 18.Qe4 Qb6 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Bg3 Bb7 21.Qh4 Rf5 22.Rxd7 Rxf3 23.gxf3 Rxd7 24.Bxe6+ Kh8 25.Bxd7 Nd4 26.Qxe7 h5 27.Qc5 Nxf3+ 28.Kf1 Qa5 29.e6 Qd2 30.Qe3 Qxb2 31.Bf4 Kh7 32.e7 Bd4 33.e8Q Bxe3 34.Qxe3 Qf6 35.Rc3 Bd5 36.Bd6 Qxd6 37.Ke2 Qxd7 38.Rd3 Bc4 39.Kxf3 Qxd3 0-1

William Frazier (Unrated)
Turpana Molina (1624)
Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.N1c3 a6 7.Na3 Be7 8.Be3 Nf6 9.Nd5 Nxd5 10.exd5 Nb8 11.Be2 0-0 12.Qd2 f5 13.g3 Nd7 14.Nc4 Qc7 15.h4 b5 16.Na5 f4 17.Nc6 Bf6 18.gxf4 exf4 19.Bd4 Bxd4 20.Nxd4 Ne5 21.0-0-0 Bf5 22.Ne6 Bxe6 23.dxe6 f3 24.Bf1 Rac8 25.Bh3 Nc4 26.Qc3 Qe7 27.Qd4 b4 28.Rhg1 Rc7 29.Rg3 Rfc8 30.Rdg1 g6 31.h5 Ne5 32.hxg6 Rxc2+ 33.Kb1 h6 34.Bf5 R2c4 35.Qe3 Kg7 36.Rh3 Rh4 37.Rxh4 Qxh4 38.Qa7+ Kf6 39.g7 Kxf5 40.Qf7+ Qf6 41.g8Q Rxg8 42.Qxg8 Qxe6 43.Qh7+ Kf4 44.Qg7 Ng4 45.Qd4+ Kg5 46.Qxb4 d5 47.Qd2+ Kg6 48.Ka1 h5 49.Qd3+ Qe4 50.Qxa6+ Kf5 51.Qc8+ Kf4 52.Qf8+ Qf5 53.Qb4+ Qe4 54.Qd2+ Kf5 55.Rh1 Nf6 56.Re1 Qc4 57.b3 Qb5 58.Qe3 Qb4 59.Qe6+ Kg5 60.Rg1+ Ng4 61.Qxd5+ Kg6 62.Qxf3 (Despite being completely winning, White would go on to blunder a rook due to a touch-move error, and the game ultimately ended in a draw in a position in which Black was better.) ... ½-½



*Navneet Ramkuma totally focused
on the board*

Frederick Sadler (1570)
Andrew Robichaud (1155)
Round 3 (Notes by Andrew Robichaud)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Be2 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.d3 h6 7.Be3 Bb6 8.d4 0-0 9.Qd2 exd4 10.Nxd4 Bxd4 11.Bxd4 b6 12.Rad1 Bb7 13.f3 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qe7 15.Rfe1 Rad8 16.Qf2 Nh5 17.Bc4 Nf4 18.Nd5 Bxd5 19.Bxd5 Qg5 20.Bb3 Kh8 (Hard to believe I missed a fork on the king and queen.) 21.Rd2 Rde8 (Hard to believe I did it again. I noticed it right after moving Rde8 so I got up from my chair, went into the hallway and

screamed, softly, into my mask.) 22.Red1 Nh3+ (My goal for this tournament was to keep it equal when playing into e4/e5. I think that was half of the reason why I missed a completely winning move twice.) 0-1

Andrew Robichaud (1155)

J.C. MacNeil (1600)

Round 4 (Notes by Andrew Robichaud)

1.e4 c5 2.a3 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Nc3 a6 7.Nf3 Nf6 8.Bd3 d6 9.Be3 b5 10.h3 Be7 11.Ne2 Bb7 12.Ng3 d5 (For the past month or so I've been trying to make king side attacks work when there is nothing there. I'm ready for this phase of my chess journey to end.) 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.0-0 Nxe3 (My 1155 rating is solidified by this being my 3rd or 4th time I've hung a piece in 1-2 moves after castling.) 15.fxe3 Qxg3 16.Be4 f5 17.Bd3 Ne5 18.Be2 Bc5 19.Qd2 f4 20.Qc3 Bxe3+ 21.Kh1 Nc6 22.Rad1 Rd8 23.Rxd8+ Nxd8 24.Qb4 Kf7 25.Rd1 Re8 26.Ne5+ Kg8 27.Bf3 Bxf3 28.Nxf3 Qf2 29.Rd7 Nc6 30.Qe4 Qf1+ 31.Kh2 Qc4 (Proud that I was able to consolidate a defense and "threaten" some type of counterattack. The Sicilian Mengarini variation hasn't given me much success and it might be time for a change.) 0-1

Brian Wall (2200)

Eamon Montgomery (2123)

Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Be3 e5 8.d5 a6 9.Qd2 Kh7 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.g4 b5 12.Ng3 bxc4 13.Bxc4 Rb8 14.h4 Ng8 15.h5 g5 16.Kf2 Nc5 17.Rhe1 Nf6 18.Be2 Bd7 19.Nf5 Bxf5 20.exf5 Rb4 21.Qc2 Re8 22.a3 Rb3 23.Bxc5 Rxc3 24.Qxc3 dxc5 25.Qxc5 e4 26.Re1 Nxd5 27.Rad1 c6 28.fxe4 Qb8 29.Rxd5 Qh2+ 30.Kf1 Qh3+ 31.Kf2 Qh2+ 32.Kf1 Qh3+ 33.Kf2 Qh2+ 34.Kf1 ½-½

Don Wisdom, Jr. (1690)

Keith Oxman (1900)

Round 4

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.d4 d6 5.f4 dxe5 6.fxe5 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bg4 8.Be3 e6 9.Nc3 Bxf3 10.gxf3 Qh4+ 11.Bf2 Qf4 12.Be2 0-0-0 13.Qc1 Qxc1+ 14.Rxc1 Nxd4 15.a3 Nxe2 16.Nxe2 Be7 17.Ng3 Bg5 18.Rc2 Bf4 19.Bxb6 axb6 20.Re2 Rd4 21.Kf2 Rxc4 22.Nh5 Rc1 23.Rxc1 Bxc1 24.Nxg7 Rg8 25.Nh5 Rg5 26.Ng3 Bf4 27.Re4 Bc1 28.h4 Rg8 29.Re2 Rd8 30.Nh5 Rd2 31.Rxd2 Bxd2 32.b3 b5 33.Ke2 Bc1 34.a4 bxa4 35.bxa4 c6 36.Kd3 Kc7 37.Kc4 Kb6 38.Nf6 h6 39.h5 Ka5 40.Kb3 Bf4 41.Nd7 b5 42.axb5 Kxb5 43.Kc3 c5 44.Kd3 Kc6 45.Nb8+ Kd5 46.Nd7 c4+ 47.Ke2 Bxe5 0-1

Phillip Brown (1599)

Andrew Robichaud (1155)

Round 5 (Notes by Andrew Robichaud)

1.c4 g6 (I believe this is my first time against the English. Being completely unprepared and playing my highest opponent to this point, I thought why not learn how to play the Modern against this after the game and with a computer review.) 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 Bd7 7.Rb1 Qc8 (I could attack his rook with Bf5, but I thought undermining his recent

pawn move and potentially blocking the bishops diagonal with his own pawn was a better play.) 8.d4 c5 9.Re1 Nc6 10.d5 Na5 11.b3 Ne8 12.Bb2 f5 (I know one of the ideas of the Modern is to close the center and create a kingside attack. Issues is the center is wide open for White and I have an ugly Beefeater.) 13.e3 b6 14.Ne2 b5 15.cxb5 Bxb5 16.Nf4 Bxb2 17.Rxb2 Ng7 18.Rd2 h6 19.Nxg6 Qe8 20.Nfh4 Rf6 21.Nf4 Nh5 22.Nxh5 ("Sorry" was all I had to say about the poor play and mental breakdown that ended this game. A lot to learn from this game before the blunders and I was happy to play against two great players on Sunday.) 1-0

Turpana Molina (1624)

Brian Wall (2200)

Round 5

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nxe5 Bd6 4.d4 dxe4 5.Nc3 Bxe5 6.dxe5 Qxd1+ 7.Kxd1 Nc6 8.Bb5 Bg4+ 9.Ke1 0-0-0 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.Be3 Ne7 12.Nxe4 Nd5 13.h3 Bf5 14.Ng5 Rd7 15.c3 Re8 16.Nf3 Be4 17.Ke2 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Bxf3+ 19.gxf3 Rxe5 20.Rad1 Rde7 21.Rd3 Rh5 22.Rd4 Rhe5 23.e4 f5 24.Ke3 c5 25.Ra4 Kb7 26.Rg1 g6 27.h4 R7e6 28.h5 fxe4 29.Rxe4 Rxe4+ 30.fxe4 gxh5 31.Kf4 Rf6+ 32.Ke5 Rh6 33.Kf5 h4 34.e5 h3 35.e6 h2 36.Rh1 Kc8 37.Kg5 Rg6+ 38.Kf5 Rg2 39.Kf6 Kd8 40.Kf7 Rf2+ 41.Kg7 Rxb2 42.a4 Ke7 43.Kxh7 Rg2 44.Kh6 a5 45.Kh5 Kxe6 46.Kh4 Kd5 47.Kh3 Rc2 0-1

Keith Oxman (1900)

Rhett Langseth (2129)

Round 5

1.e4 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.d4 Nbd7 5.Be2 Be7 6.0-0 c6 7.h3 0-0 8.Be3 b5 9.d5 b4 10.dxc6 bxc3 11.cxd7 Bxd7 12.bxc3 Nxe4 13.c4 Nc3 14.Qd2 Nxe2+ 15.Qxe2 Qc7 16.Rfd1 Be6 17.c5 dxc5 18.Ng5 Bf5 19.Qc4 h6 20.Ne4 Be6 21.Qa6 Rab8 22.Nc3 Qb6 23.Qa3 Rfc8 24.Nd5 Bxd5 25.Rxd5 Rb7 26.Rxe5 Bf6 27.Rxc5 Qxc5 28.Bxc5 Bxa1 29.Qe3 Rbc7 30.Bxa7 Ra8 31.Bc5 Rxa2 32.c3 Ra8 33.Bd4 Rac8 34.Qe5 f6 35.Qe6+ Kh8 36.g3 Bxc3 37.Bxc3 Rxc3 38.Qe4 R3c5 39.h4 Re5 40.Qb7 Rc2 41.Qa8+ Kh7 42.Qf3 Re1+ 43.Kg2 Ree2 44.Qf5+ Kh8 45.Qf3 Rxf2+ 46.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 47.Kxf2 h5 48.Kf3 g6 49.Kf4 Kg7 50.Kf3 Kf7 51.Ke4 Ke6 52.Kf4 Kd5 53.Kf3 g5 54.Ke3 Ke5 55.g4 hxg4 56.hxg5 f5 0-1



**Final Standings for this tournament
can be found online here:**

<https://tinyurl.com/295rzya5>



The 1987 Peoples Tournament (& more)

by Curtis Carlson

“Chess is the game that reflects the most honor on human wit.” - Voltaire

*“All tyrannies rule through fraud and force, but once the fraud is exposed they must rely exclusively on force.”
- George Orwell*

*“I strongly approve the study of games of reason, not for their own sake, but because they help to perfect the art of thinking.”
- Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz*

*“It is better to have a hen today than an egg tomorrow.”
- GM Jose Raul Capablanca*

*“I can say in all humility I am definitely not humble enough.”
- Peter Lewin*

*“Work hard in silence. Let your success be your noise.”
- Rafi Chowdhury*

“Our national problems usually do not cause nearly as much harm as the solutions.” - Thomas Sowell

“There is nothing in this world so permanent as a temporary emergency.” - Robert A. Heinlein

“The only thing for sure is that you are here, that you are alive, that this world is full of wonders.” - Spinoza

After playing chess nonstop in the '70s reality finally set in and I had to make a living. By 1983 I worked full time in Stockton and had little leisure time. But in February 1987 I was able to play in the annual Peoples Tournament in Berkeley. My rating (unchanged for over a year) was 2223. After a long layoff I didn't expect to take first place, but unexpectedly had one of the best results of my life with a performance rating close to 2400. Every dog has his day!

“Only a fool learns from his own mistakes. The wise man learns from the mistakes of others.” - Otto Von Bismark

“Never judge a book by its movie.” - J. W. Egan

“Chess is a foolish expedient for making idle people believe they are doing something very clever when they are only wasting their time.” - George Bernard Shaw

In the first round I faced FIDE master David Glueck, the 1982 High School co-champion. We had, as he said, a 'boring' game:

**Berkeley Peoples Tournament
Round 1 / February 14, 1987
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 33)
David Glueck (2430, age 23)**

C04 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2021847>): 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nc6 4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.e5 Nd7 6.Nb3 (This is most common but HCE prefers

6.Bb5+=. Also good are 6.c3+ and c4+=. With the text White plans to overprotect d4 a la Nimzovich) 6...a5 7.a4 Be7 8.c3 b6 9.Bb5 (Since Black intends to exchange light squared bishops 9.h4 makes more sense. If 9...Ba6 10.Ba6 Ra6 11.Ng5 +=) 9...Ncb8 10.0-0 Ba6 11.Be3 (Very routine. HCE suggests the more active 11.Ne1 and Qg4. I never liked kingside aggression vs. the French) 11...0-0 12.Nc1 (12.Ne1 was still best) 12...Bxb5 13.axb5 c6 14.Qd3 cxb5 15.Qxb5 Na6 16.Nd3 Nc7 17.Qa4 b5 18.Qc2 Nb6 19.Ra2 a4 20.Rfa1 Na6 21.b4 axb3 22.Qxb3 Nc7 23.Rxa8 Nbx8 24.Bc1 Nb6 25.Ba3 Qa8 26.Ra2 Bxa3 27.Rxa3 0.5-0.5 Draw on my offer.

“Bad arguments are often used to support good ideas. The problem...is when the arguments are shown to be faulty, it reflects poorly on the conclusion.” - Laura Meyerovich

“When a Pawn structure is prevented from advancing, the squares to which it is prevented from advancing automatically become a strong point for the opponent.” - Aron Nimzovich

“The individual has always had to struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the tribe. To be your own man is a hard business. If you try it, you'll be lonely often, and sometimes frightened. But no price is too high to pay for the privilege of owning yourself.” - Rudyard Kipling

I was pleasantly surprised to split the point. This was my first of two games with Dave, who beat me in the 1988 Peoples Tournament. You can't draw them all!

*“And I shall derive great satisfaction from a co-operation with you, in the pleasing though arduous task of ensuring to our fellow citizens the blessings, which they have a right to expect, from a free, efficient and equal Government.”
- George Washington (1790)*

“Committing a fallacy may make your conclusion fallacious, but it doesn't make it false.” - Jorge Garcia

“Steinitz...was quite sure that the combination ought to be a rare occurrence; but when appearing, ought to be a powerful triumph.” - GM Igor Zaitsev

In the second round I had a grandmaster draw with an IM:

**Berkeley Peoples Tournament
Round 2 / February 14, 1987
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 33)
IM Guillermo Rey (2413, age 35)**

C03 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2021848>): 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 a6 4.Ngf3 c5 5.exd5 exd5 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Bd3 Nf6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbd4 Nc6 11.c3 Re8 12.Re1 Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Nxd4 15.cxd4 Qb6 16.Bg5 h6 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Qxd5 Bxd4

19.Qf3=+ 0.5-0.5 Draw Slightly better was 19.Re8 Re8 20.Rf1 Qb2 21.Bc4 Rf8 22.g3 g6 23.Bb3 where Black has a pawn but no hope to win. Also good was 19.Kh1 Bf2 20.Rf1=. After the text 19...Rad8 gives Black a small edge but Guillermo wasn't in the mood to continue.

"One of the sad signs of our times is that we have demonized those who produce, subsidized those who refuse to produce, and canonized those who complain." - Thomas Sowell

"A market system is a social system in which it is rarely possible to alter one variable without affecting others. Actions have unintended and unanticipated consequences." - Paul Heyne

"For me, the essential principle of Paul Morphy's play was that of rapid development...there is great beauty, and effectiveness, in simplicity." - GM Nigel Short

This was my only game with IM Rey, who appears to have retired from tournament play shortly after scoring 5-4 in the 2002 US Championship. He is known for offbeat openings and wild tactics.

"When I was 16 I wrote to Milton Friedman. I don't remember what my letter was about, but he never answered me. When I was 24 he gave me a B in monetary theory. I feel oppressed." - Mario Rizzo

"Humans attempting to acquire the means they believe will satisfy the wants they perceive to be important is where all economics begins." - Steve Horwitz (1964-2021)

"Our idea of mental health is a very relative thing." - Vladimir Mikhailovich Bekhterev

My third round game was against my longtime friend Mike Arne:

Berkeley Peoples Tournament
Round 3 / February 15, 1987
Mike Arne (2080, age 32)
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 33)

B93 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2021849>): 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 Qc7 7.Be2 b5 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Bf3 Nbd7 10.Kh1 (Not bad but slightly passive. HCE prefers 10.Re1 e5 11.Nd5 Qb8+=) 10...e6 (10...e5 11.fe de 12.Nf5 Rc8 feels wrong but is considered equal by HCE) 11.a3 Be7 12.e5?-/+(This just loses material. Stockfish and HCE give 12.Qe1= and 12.Qe2=) 12...de 13.fxe5 Nxe5 14.Bf4 Bxf3 15.Rxf3 Bc5? = (I don't remember why I rejected the obvious 15...Rd8-/+. Also strong was 15...Nfg4 16.h3 h5. A Fishing Pole attack is always nice!) 16.Ndxb5 axb5 17.Qe2 Nfg4 18.Nxb5 Qb8 19.h3 h5 20.Re1 (20.Raf1=) 20...Ra5=+ 21.Bxe5!-/+(Exchanges help Black so best was 21.c4=+) 21...Nxe5 22.Qxe5 Rxb5 23.Rxf7?? (A time pressure blunder. Black is better after 23.Qg7 Rf8 24.Ref1 Qb7-/+ but a win is difficult) 23...Qxe5 0-1 Not all my luck is bad!

"Without deviation from the norm, progress is not possible." - Frank Zappa

"There are still problems to be solved; the whole truth in Chess is not by any means all known yet - fortunately." - Emanuel Lasker

"Socialism is like fishing: First you offer something for nothing to the gullible and unsuspecting. Then you hook 'em. Then you reel 'em in, and then you EAT 'em." - Lawrence W. Reed

This was my only rated game with Mike Arne, who once had a 2270 FIDE rating. Like many other old timers he is retired from tournament play.

"Do I exaggerate? Yes, but as a microscope exaggerates." - Lester Hunt

"I am part of everything that I have read." - Theodore Roosevelt

"Instead of getting married again, I'm going to find a woman I don't like and just give her a house." - Rod Stewart



"Each minute you waste on social media, you could be solving differential equations." - Isaac Newton

"The older you get the better you get, unless you are a banana." - Betty White

Working hard to make useful products & services for your fellow humans is deeply morally good. - Elon Musk

My fourth round game was against a strong national master:

Berkeley Peoples Tournament
Round 4 / February 15, 1987
Robert Sferra (2235, age 35)
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 33)

A01 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2021851>): 1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.Bb5 Bd6 5.Nf3 Qe7 6.c4 a6?! (Already a mistake because of 7.Bc6 bc 8.e5! Bc5 9.Qc2 Bb7 10.Ne5+/-, 6...Nf6 and 6...dc 7.bc Nf6 were equal) 7.cxd5= axb5 8.dxc6 bxc6 (Instead of this automatic move 8...Nf6 9.cb Bb7 the bishop pair compensates for the pawn) 9.Qc2 Bd7 10.d3 Nf6 11.Nbd2 h6 12.0-0 0-0 13.a4 Rae8 (HCE prefers 13...Nd5 14.Rfe1

Rfb8=+) 14.e4 Nh5 15.Rfe1 Nf4 16.d4 exd4 17.Bxd4 Qe6 18.g3 Qg6 19.Kh1 Ne6 20.Bb2 Ng5= (**Black has a small edge after 20...Qh5 21.Nh4 Qc5=+, 20...Rd8=+ was also possible**) 21.Qc3?! (**21.Ng5 hg 22.Kg1=**) 21...Nxf3 (**Black could try the optimistic 21...b4 22.Qc2 Nf3 23.Nf3 Qh5 24.Nh4 Bh3 hoping for play on the weekend squares around White's king. Black's light squared bishop vs. White's knight is an imbalance that should have been exploited**) 22.Nxf3 f6 23.Qd3 Qh5 24.Bc3? (**24.Kg1=+**) 24...c5=+ (**24...Rd8-/+**) 25.Nd2? (**25.ab Bb5 26.Qd1=+**) 25...bxa4?=**(Another weak move. 25...c4 26.bc ba 27.Kg1 Bc6 and ...Bc5 is close to winning. We were both low on time)** 26.bxa4 Bc6 27.Kg1 Be5? (**A terrible mistake. I don't remember why I rejected 27...f5=+, 27...Kh8= and 27...Rb8= were was also possible**) 28.Qc4+ Qf7 29.Qxc5+/- Qd7 (**29...Ba8 was more stubborn**) 30.a5 Bxc3 31.Qxc3 f5 32.Rac1?! (**32.f3 fe 33.Ne4+/-**) 32...fxe4 33.Qxc6= (**33.Qe3+=**) 33...Qxd2 34.Qc4+ Kh8 35.Re2 Qxa5 0.5-0.5 Draw With both flags ready to drop it was time to to shake hands. This game could have gone either way so half a point is OK.

"When wealth, brilliant company, public recognition become ends in themselves, they enslaved men of letters in glittering chains." - Peter Gay

"The West believes in happy endings, it's in our books, cinema and outlook on life. Unfortunately this sets us up for psychological devastation when things don't go according to this storyline, and also circumvents our ability to fight after a setback. For this reason I have come to the conclusion that principles and duty are a better way, just to do your duty in the best way that you can." - GM Nigel Davies

*"There are no happy endings after nuclear war."
- Michael Epawn Aigner*

This was my only game with Robert Sferra, who has a 2263 FIDE rating. I believe he too is long retired from tournament play.

"Go ahead, make plans. Imagine you have control. Give fate a good laugh." - Robert Higgs

"In general, 'the market' is smarter than the smartest of its individual participants." - Robert L. Bartley

*"Practically the entire process of a player's training comes down, in large part, to perfecting his skill in piece development. This - the sense of harmony - is innate in the great masters of this ancient game, and in the world champions. It is as though it was 'installed' in them at birth."
- GM Igor Zaitsev*

My fifth round opponent was 1970 California champion Dennis Fritzing:

Berkeley Peoples Tournament
Round 5 / February 16, 1987
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 33)
Dennis Fritzing (2303, age 45)

C41 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2021852>): 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.h3 c6 8.a4 Qc7 9.Bg5 (**9.Re1+= is most natural and most common. White can consider 9.Qe2 b6 10.Rd1+=**) 9...Re8 10.Re1 h6 11.Bh4 Nf8 12.Bg3 Ng6 13.Bb3 Bf8 14.Qd2 Nh5 15.Rad1?! (**HCE prefers the more natural 15.Bh2= or 15.d5=**) 15...Nxc3 16.fxc3 exd4 17.Qxd4!? (**Better was the obvious 17.Nd4 hoping to land on f5. Either way Black has an easy game with the gaping e5 hole**) 17...Be6 18.Bxe6 Rxe6=+ 19.Ne2 Qa5 20.Nf4?! (**Obvious but weak. 20.Kh2=+**) 20...Nxf4 21.gxf4 d5 22.Kh1 Rae8= (**22...Bc5 23.Qd3 Qa4=+**) 23.e5 Bc5 24.Qd2 Qxa4 25.c3 Qb3 26.Nd4 Bxd4 27.cxd4 f5?! (**27...Qg3 28.Rf1 f5= HCE**) 28.Re3 Qb6 29.g4+/- Rf8 30.gxf5?-/+ (**Instead of creating another weakness, 30.Qd3 was best**) 30...Rxf5 31.Rg3 Qd8 32.Rdg1 Re7 33.Qg2 Qf8 34.Rg6 Rxf4? (**White's pressure on the g file is easily neutralized. After 34...Kh8-+ the game is over**) 35.Rxh6 Rf2 36.Qg4 Qf3+ 37.Qxf3 Rxf3 38.Rh4 c5 (**Natural but impatient. Right was 38...Ref7 39.Ra1 a6-+. We were both low on time**) 39.dxc5 Rxe5 40.Rg2 d4 41.Kh2 d3 42.Rhg4 Rxc5?! (**42...Re7-/+ retained some winning chances**) 43.Rxg7+ Kf8 44.Rxb7 Rd5 45.Rgg7! = (**This is what Black missed on move 42. If 45...d2 46.Rgd7= stops the d-pawn's advance**) 45...Rf2+ 46.Kg3 Rxb2 47.Rbf7+ Ke8 48.Rxa7 Kf8 0.5-0.5 Draw Another lucky result.

"That the endgame begins and ends with the passed pawn cannot be too often reiterated." - GMC C.J.S. Purdy

*"Chess composition is the synthesis of art ideas and chess ideas, and both of these together are inexhaustible."
- A. J. Roycroft*

*"94% of Parisians live within a 5 minute walk to a bakery."
- Ryan Alger*

This was my only rated game with Dennis. After winning two thirds of 25 blitz games at Lone Pine 1978 he said I played pretty well! I didn't know how to respond. Besides being a longtime master the multitasking Fritz is a well known poet.

"...in chess, it is the end we should consider first, so as to master more easily the simple ideas of the game, that we may become readily familiar with them, in order to go on with confidence to their combination or involution. Again, if you do not know what to do with three pieces, what about thirty-two?" - James Mason

"Life is hard. Just thought I would remind you, amigos, in case you've been napping. So be kind. You never know the battles that others are fighting." - Robert Higgs

"Supply-side economics is in reality a simple acknowledgment that production always and everywhere comes before consumption. So remove the tax, regulatory, monetary, and trade barriers to production!" - John Tamny

Berkeley Peoples Tournament
Round 6 / February 16, 1987
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 33)
Filipp Frenkel (2328, age 52)

C41 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=16858>): 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Nxf6+ gxf6 6.Ne2 h5 7.Qd3 Qd5 8.Nf4 Qf5 9.Qxf5 (9.Qc3+/- HCE. I expected a quick draw after trading queens but my opponent had other ideas) 9...Bxf5 10.Bd3 Bxd3 11.Nxd3 Nd7= 12.0-0 e6 13.Re1 0-0-0 14.b3 Bg7 15.Bb2 f5 16.Rad1 Nb6 17.Ne5 Bxe5 18.dxe5 Nd5 19.a3 Nf4 20.g3 Ng6 21.Kf1 Kc7 22.Ke2 Kb6 23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Rd1 Rxd1 25.Kxd1 Kc5 26.Ke2 b5 27.Kd3 Kb6 28.Bd4+ c5 29.Bb2 a6 30.c4 Kc6 31.Ke3 bxc4 32.bxc4 Kb6 33.Bc3 Kc6 34.Bb2 Kc7 35.Ba1 Kb7 36.Bb2 Kc8 37.Ba1 Kd7 38.Bc3 Kc7 39.Ba1 a5 40.Bc3 a4 41.Ba1 Kd8 42.Bc3 Ke7 43.f4 Kd7 44.h4 Ne7 45.Kd3 Ng8 46.Ke3 Nh6 47.Kf3 Ng4 48.Ke2 Kc6 49.Kf3 Kd7 50.Ke2 Kc6 51.Kf3 Kb6 52.Ke2 Nh6 53.Ke3 Ng8 54.Kd3 Ne7 55.Ke3 Nc6 56.Kd3 Nb8 57.Ke3 Kc6 58.Kd3 Kd7 59.Ke3 Ke7 60.Kd3 Nd7 61.Ke3 f6 62.exf6+ Nxf6 63.Bxf6+ Kxf6 64.Kf3 Ke7 65.Ke3 Kf7 66.Kf3 Kf6 67.Ke3 e5 68.Kf3 Ke6 69.Ke3 Kf6 0.5-0.5 Draw This game took over five hours and is one of my longest games. We could have agreed to peace any time after my 11th, but my opponent badly wanted to win.

“The unreasonable effectiveness of mathematics in science is a gift we neither understand nor deserve” - Eugene Paul Wigner

“Civilization advances by short steps that most don't even notice.” - Joe Quirk

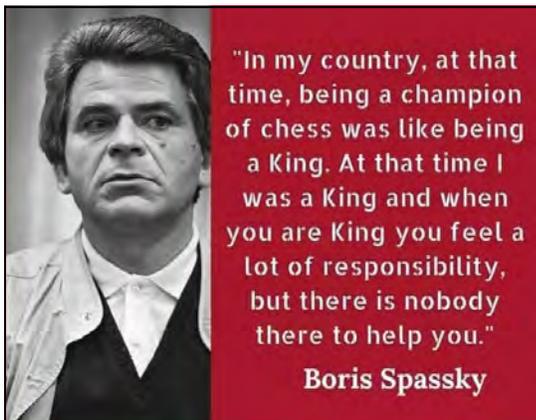
“Everything we call real is made of things that cannot be regarded as real.” - Niels Bohr

This was my only game with Philipp Frenkel. His wife is WFM Vera Frenkel.

“It constantly amazes me that defenders of the free market are expected to offer certainty and perfection while government has only to make promises and express good intentions.” - Lawrence W Reed

“The King's Indian feeds my family!” - GM Tigran Petrosian

“If you don't go to other people's funeral, they won't go to yours!” - Yogi Berra



Blast from the Past

A week after my 18th birthday (April 13, 1972) Mark Sherbring, James Hamblin, Richard Wilds, and I went to Hardin, Montana for the Big Horn Open. It's hard to believe that was half a century ago! Mark, James, and I tied for first with 4-1 after we each won three and drew each other. In the fourth round I faced the familiar Bob Burley (1926-2014), who won the 1969 Colorado Open with a perfect 6-0. In my youth I liked the Goring Gambit and used it successfully here:

Big Horn Open
Round 4 / April 21, 1972
Curtis Carlson (1883, age 18)
Robert Burley (1854, age 46)

C41 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2059559>): 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.c3 dxc3 5.Bc4 Bc5 6.Bxf7+ Kxf7 7.Qd5+ Kf8 8.Qxc5+ Qe7 9.Qxc3!?= (HCE and Stockfish both prefer 9.Qe3+/-) 9...Qxe4+ 10.Be3 d6 11.0-0 Nf6 (11...Bh3, 11...Qg6, and 11...Nge7 were also good) 12.Nbd2 Qb4 13.Qc2 Bd7 14.a3 Qg4 15.Rfe1 h6 16.Rac1 Rc8 17.Qd1 Ne5?+/- (17...Qh5= and 17...a6= were equal) 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Bc5+ Kf7? (19...Kg8+=) 20.Nf3+- Kg8 21.Nxe5+/- (21.h3 Qa4 22.b3 Qf4 23.Ne5+-) 21...Qxd1 22.Rcxd1 Be8 23.Bxa7! b6? (This loses a second pawn. Black should play 23...Kh7 and try to hold the pawn down ending) 24.Rc1 Kh7 (Better late than never! The reason 23.Ba7 worked that Black needs two moves to defend his c8 rook. The rest was played quickly in mutual time pressure) 25.Bxb6 Nd5 26.Bd4 Bb5 27.Rc5 c6 28.g3 Rhd8 29.Rec1 Ne7 30.Be3 Ba4 31.Ra5 Rd1+ 32.Rxd1 Bxd1 33.Ra7 Nf5 34.Bd2 Nd4 35.Bc3 Ne2+ 36.Kf1 Nxc3 37.bxc3 Bb3 38.f4 Kg8 39.a4 c5 40.Kf2 Bd5 41.a5 Ra8 42.Rxa8+ Bxa8 43.Nd7 Kf7 44.a6 Bc6 45.Ne5+ 1-0 As I've said before, some games are just plain fun! Bobby must have seen this game, since three months later he played 29...Bh2 in his first game with Spassky. It's nice to know I influenced the World Champion, even if it turned out badly.

“Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision.” - Unknown

“The King's Indian Defense is the defense of the brave!” - GM Garry Kasparov

“In any case, scarcity implies competition to resolve who gets how much of which goods. If monetary competition is suppressed, other forms of competition must occur.” - Armen A. Alchian

This was the first of six rated games I won from Bob. Despite the lopsided score many of our games went into close endings I was fortunate to win.

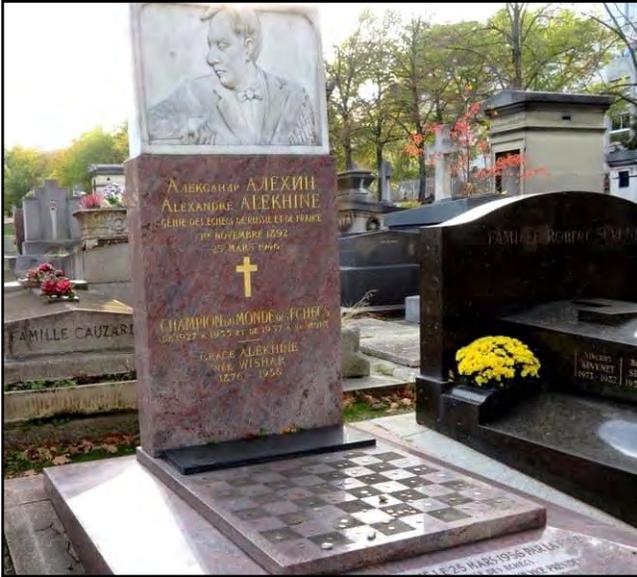
“Curiosity is the essence of our existence.” - Gene Cernan

“Beware of advice from someone who stands to make money from your decision.” - Gerry Dowd

“When the stronger side's pieces are well-placed and well-

coordinated, tactical possibilities abound. At times, such possibilities are not immediately available, but sooner or later they suffice.” - FIDE Senior Trainer Israel Gelfer

“What is a man? He’s just a collection of chemicals with delusions of grandeur.” - Ayn Rand



Alexander Alekhine’s grave in Paris, France

Brief Book Reviews

1) From Steinitz to Fischer (1976) by Dr. Max Euwe

I bought this book in 1977 at the Columbus, Ohio US Open and finally finished it 45 years later. It has 600 games in Informant style notation of eleven World Champions. Most games are well known, but it’s still a welcome addition to any library. Recommended for anyone besides *Brian Wall*.

“Wilhelm Steinitz liked characteristic positions; Emanuel Lasker liked treacherous positions; Jose Raul Capablanca liked clear positions; Alexander Alekhine liked complicated positions; Max Euwe liked methodical positions; Mikhail Botvinnik liked difficult positions; Vassily Smyslov liked solid positions; Mikhail Tal liked explosive positions; Tigran Petrosian liked quiet positions; Boris Spassky liked sharp positions; and Robert Fischer liked lively positions.”

- Dr. Max Euwe

“Although I have tried to characterize the champions by a simple adjective, this in no way implies that their preferred types of positions are the only ones they handle to perfection... all champions were masters with weapons in every domain: they are extremely familiar with positional problems, they can look ahead a great many moves, they are masters of the combination, and they are superbly skillful in the endgame.”

- Dr. Max Euwe

“We must say that the new World Champion’s great love for chess, his hard work, his training and his complete knowledge of his opponent’s games worked to win him the title. He exerts

maximum psychological and physical effort in each game and maintains this intensity from beginning to end.”

- Dr. Max Euwe, referring to Bobby Fischer

2) Calculate Like A Grandmaster (2010) by GM Danny Gormally

The always entertaining English *GM Danny Gormally* writes a fine one. He annotates 38 tactically sharp games by Tal, Shirov, Topalov, Morozevich, Anand, Fischer, Karpov, Kasparov, and of course himself. Not worthwhile for *Brian Wall*, but excellent for anyone else.

“...the analysis by grandmasters...tends to be watered down a little, with the notable exception in recent years of the Dvoretzky books, which stand out in both the quality of their analysis and their honesty.” - GM Danny Gormally

“What characterises the truly great players in any sport or competitive activity is a willingness to take risks, to take the hard road to achievement, to play without fear so to speak.”

- GM Danny Gormally

“I believe that without thorough discipline in analysis and calculation it is impossible to fully utilise your chess potential. I hope this book can go some way towards achieving that discipline.” - GM Danny Gormally

“...the reason we love chess so much is the beauty that lies in its complexity and that the human mind cannot master the game... we will never have a perfect calculating brain, and mistakes and oversights will always be made, but in a competitive sense, it is only important to see more than your opponent, who is after all faced with the same problems and complexity himself.” - GM Danny Gormally

“...I want to convey... the possibility of internal verbalization during the game, that by putting your thoughts into words you add clearer meaning to your inner game logic.”

- GM Danny Gormally

“Calculate four or five candidate moves at a time. Look for strange, funny moves that don’t appear obvious at first glance. Get the first couple of moves correct. Once you have mastered the basics, then you can move on to the more demanding stuff of calculating lengthy variations.” - GM Danny Gormally

“When you win a game it’s all too easy to get carried away by your joy with the result that you take an uncritical view of your own play. But that’s a mistake. You can learn just as much from looking for improvements in the games you win as much as you can in your losses.” - GM Danny Gormally

3) Bobby Fischer explained, and some stories (2021) by GM Zenon Franco

Any book about Bobby written by a Grandmaster is worth having, and this one is no exception. The author elucidates 60 familiar games and includes memories from top players. Not for *Brian Wall*, but good for everyone else.

“Fischer is the inventor of modern opening preparation. Unlike Botvinnik, who merely understood the importance of

preparation in general, Fischer brought it up to the modern level: he posed problems to the opponent on every move, with both colours, in any opening. Fischer immediately put pressure on anyone from the very first move! This 'high pressure chess' was later modernized by Kasparov, who is Fischer's direct follower in a way." - GM Vladimir Kramnik

"As Botvinnik said, the tactical depth of Fischer's play was not inferior to Tal's; in appearance his moves seemed much less threatening but were just as lethal as those of the Magician from Riga." - GM Zenon Franco

"It is well known that in a tactical struggle Fischer usually aims to refute his opponent's ideas with intermediate moves." - GM Yuri Averbakh

"(Bobby) tended to prefer to have an advantage in a simple position rather than a possibly greater advantage but involving unnecessary complications." - GM Zenon Franco

"Never underestimate anyone." - GM Bobby Fischer

"In General, when Fischer was on form, he was simply irresistible, as though drawing inspiration from his own successes. He was irresistible in this way in his finishing spurt in Mallorca. Who would have imagined that this would be the last tournament in the career of the 27-year-old Robert J. Fischer?" - GM Mark Taimanov

4) *Jose Raul Capablanca the Chess Phenomenon* (2020) by GM Max Euwe and GM Lodewijk Prins

Any book one World Champion writes about another is worth a careful look, and this one's not bad. It has 170 lightly annotated games with Capa's comprehensive tournament history. It appears to be a recent translation (by Victor Ciobanu) from a circa 1950 Dutch edition (I couldn't find an original publication date). There are a surprising number of typos, but it's still OK for anyone besides [Brian Wall](#).

"Many... will seek to discover the mystery of Capablanca's virtuoso style of play in the middlegame and the endgame. On the pages of this book, they will find critical guidance, which I believe, maintains its importance in our days as well." - GM Lodewijk Prins

"What is life without a luft?" - GM Siegbert Tarrasch (referring to Bernstein-Capablanca, Moscow 1914)

"I instantly see what is hidden in a position, what can happen, what is going to happen. You can try to predict, but I know!" - GM Jose Raul Capablanca

"It is remarkable - you do not make mistakes at all." - GM Emanuel Lasker, after ten blitz games with Capablanca in Berlin, 1914

"Capablanca's sacrifices were based first and foremost not on calculation, but on an intuitive sense of opportunity in position." - GM Max Euwe

"1.He gained a space advantage; 2.He harmoniously placed his pieces; 3.Forcing some weaknesses in the enemy's position; and 4.Forcing a win by sacrifice. A simple and short game, which Capablanca has had more than once." - GM Max

Euwe, referring to Capablanca-Scott (Hastings 1919)

"Capablanca, in general, is not a theorist, he is a brilliant representative of the practical approach. This is what he is and will be... I have always been a theorist, a philosopher... my ideal is Julius Caesar, who has always directed his blow to the weakest point and by that sought to discover the true value of things." - GM Emanuel Lasker, shortly before the 1921 World Championship Match

5) *Reading Jean-Jacques Rousseau through the Prism of Chess* (2019) by Florian Vauleon

Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) influenced the Enlightenment and the development of modern political and economic thought. His philosophy changed his attitude toward chess, and chess inspired his logic. The royal game's strategies describe his ideas for social management, political power, and organization. Purdue University professor Florian Vauleon (*"This book has taken me a few years to write"*) pens a brief (156 page) but fascinating elucidation of Rousseau's ideas. Who would have thought chess could be so important in the overall scheme of things? It's much too deep for [Brian Wall](#), but worthwhile for anyone interested in philosophy, chess, and societal structure, and how they relate to each other.

"With Jean-Jacques Rousseau... power is informed by the paradigm of chess, which helps him to regulate his ideal community and to define a matrix for social control." - Florian Vauleon

"For Jean-Jacques Rousseau...the game turned out to be much more than a pastime or a source of pleasure. Chess was for him a passion as much as a means to prove himself and his intellectual capacities to the world. Though he did not conceal his partiality for the game, he never admitted that chess had grown into an obsession." - Florian Vauleon

"Jean-Jacques Rousseau did not just think that chess was a struggle between two minds in the process of generating ideas. His social matrix and the legacy of his philosophy turned out to be a multidimensional struggle, a three-level chess game played on different surfaces: the individual, the social body, and the legislator." - Florian Vauleon

"...if a man excels at chess, he should not be automatically deemed a genius as one can excel at chess and still be an imbecile." - Nicolas Freret

"Chess characterized a system that would, in the very words of Voltaire, guarantee fairness and equity to everyone. It is one of the few games in which abiding by the rules is mandatory: "if you want to play chess, you must play by the rules; not to do so is not to play chess." - Florian Vauleon

As always, I appreciate the opportunity to share memories. Please send questions, corrections, and / or lavish praise to curt2309@comcast.net.



The Fork¹ Trick

by Jeffrey Baffo

Recently Life Master Brian Wall², or LMBW as I call him in print, posted a bare bones game score (link in endnotes) and titled it “The Fork Trick on Steroids”³. This assumes knowledge of the Basic pattern, and implies that Brian’s example is a very good version of that. But perhaps a primer about this chess device is in order for those who do NOT have that in their storehouse of knowledge, or might wish a “refresher” on it. Lo! The Fork Trick we speak of is a chess stratagem and is no less than a foundational tactical pattern every serious player must know. Learning it’s nuances, when it works and when it doesn’t, will pay huge dividends. IMHO, it’s not just for beginners or low rated players, because it has so many subtle variations, so many intertwined factors that work for or against it, that the higher up your game is (or aspires to be) the finer the judgement and deeper the calculations needed to employ it correctly.



“Super GM” **Brian Wall** (2211) - **Aditya Krishna** (1671)
2022 SUMMIT SCHOOL OF CHESS #7 Tournament Series
Round 4 - 3/19/2022

The trick occurs when an enemy piece stands on it’s own fourth rank and a second piece can be lured (also known the chess tactic “decoy”⁴) to the forth rank in such a manner that the two pieces are horizontally parallel and can be forked by our pawn.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Be2 Bc5? (Diagram at left)

5.Nxe5!

In our example here, Brian’s opponent is faced with the following choices;

- ◆ Ignore White’s move and proceed with his/her own development, in which case an important central pawn has been lost for nothing.
- ◆ Immediately counter attack with a “desperado” capture of one of Brian’s pawns (chosen in the game).
- ◆ Allow the full on “trick” by capturing the knight on e5 and White replies 6.d4 regaining the piece via a pawn fork.

5...Bxf2+ 6.Kxf2 Nxe5 7.d4 Ng6 8.e5 Ng8 9.Rf1 N8e7 10.Kg1 0–0 11.Ne4 h6 12.Bd3 b6 13.Qh5 Nd5 14.Bxh6 gxh6 15.Rf6 Kg7 16.Raf1 Ndf4 17.R1xf4 Rh8 18.Rxf7+ Kg8 19.Bc4 Nxf4 20.Rxd7+ Kf8 21.Rf7+ Ke8 22.Re7+ Kxe7 23.Qf7#

So, as we have the basic structure firmly in mind, why would LMBW call his game’s example the “Fork Trick on steroids”? Well simply this; when Black replies with the desperado 5...Bxf2+ and Brian recaptures 6.Kxf2, his loyal White-squared bishop is already preemptively standing on e2 preventing any further harassment of the White king (now placed on f2) by moves such as 6...Ng4+.

To sum up, a “good” fork trick will, at a minimum smash the enemy center pawn and allow full equality to be established there. A “better” fork trick not only results in the enemy’s pawn center being destroyed, but it allows our own central pawn(s) to hold sway there unopposed by any peasant counterparts. A “bad” fork trick would be one where the defender can counter attack successfully via something like a “Traxler-style” bishop crashing into the f2 square, then further pieces harassing the king. Here that counter-stroke is impossible due to Brian’s “steroid enhanced” defender, the bishop on e2.

The Fork Trick is usually seen in open games, Italian game, Ruy Lopez, 3 knights, 4 knights, etc, but it’s principals; smashing the enemy center and forking pieces with a pawn via the Decoy stratagem, are found in almost every opening, including queen pawn and flank openings. Learn it!

¹ The player employing a fork will do the following; attack his opponent by threatening at least two of his or her units, thereby making successful defense very difficult or impossible. Any chess piece, even including the king can perform this maneuver.

² Chess legend! He may have written his own article or annotated game featuring the Fork Trick. I could not find it, but if you can, READ IT!

³ Facebook post - <https://denverchess.com/games/view/21247>

⁴ The decoy tactic occurs when a piece is lured to a square (usually by sacrifice) and then captured, forked, or otherwise taken advantage of on that new square.



Details Matter (or Sublime Subtleties)

by Jeffrey Baffo



HtRYC¹, page 422. Opening Test #2. “How should White handle this position?”

Eduardas Rozentalis (2590) - **Gawain Jones** (2540)

[C68] Ruy Lopez, Exchange Variation

Queenstown (6), January 20, 2009

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.0-0 Bd6 6.d4 exd4 7.Qxd4 f6 8.b3 Ne7 9.h3 Ng6 10.Ba3 Nh4 11.Qe3 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 0-0 (*Diagram*)

13.Rd1 Qe7 14.Bxd6 cxd6 15.Qd3 Rd8 16.c4 Be6 17.Nc3 b5 18.Ne2 bxc4 19.bxc4 Qf7 20.Rac1 c5 21.Nf4 Rab8 22.Qc3 Rb4 23.Nd5 Bxd5 24.Rxd5 Qb7 25.Qd3 Rb8 26.Rxd6 Rb1 27.Rf1 Rxf1+ 28.Kxf1 Qb1+ 29.Qxb1 Rxb1+ 30.Ke2 Rcl 31.Rxa6 Rxc4 32.Ke3 Rc2 33.a4 Rc3+ 34.Kd2 Ra3 35.f4 h5 36.a5 Ra4 37.Kd3 Ra3+ 38.Kc4 Ra4+ 39.Kxc5 Rxe4 40.Rc6 Rxf4 41.a6 Kh7 42.a7 Ra4 43.Kb6 Kg6 44.Rc5 1-0

My answer; I believe it is time to eliminate the two B's / doubled pawn dichotomy and play 13.Bxd6!! My reasons are as follows;

- It allows White to complete his development without loss of time.
- It saddles Black with a weak backwards pawn on a half-open file.
- It leaves Black with the headache of keeping his bishop gainfully employed. Though not the case at present, the very real prospect of a good knight vs. bad bishop set piece could arise.

Specific moves//ideas;

- c4 to establish Maroczy Bind like control over d5.
- Nc3 to augment control of d5 or Na4-c4 to strike directly at the d6 pawn.
- Rooks to double on the d file and support the White e-pawn.
- Rook lift(s) behind the cover of the e and/or c-pawn to swing to the king side for an attack on the Black king.

Judgement; I was both spot-on correct and knee-jerk-impulsive wrong. I got the ideas and positional goals correct but failed to find the precise move order. Silman gives his typical cogent explanation (see pages 575-577 in HtRYC) and without giving an excessively lengthy quote from him I believe I got those ideas correct, but a honkin' big “HOWEVER” is coming... the correct move is 13.Rd1! as played in the game. Firstly, I should be ashamed of completely missing the active idea for Black of ...f5, which Silman quite rightly draws the reader's attention to in his answers section. Secondly, I glibly assumed the recapture 13...cxd6, when in fact that is not at all compulsory. The difference is this; with 13...Qxd6 Black avoids the weakling at d6. It's true that he loses his primary positive imbalance (BB vs. BN) and White keeps his (Healthy Pawn Majority) but the final judgement would seem to be Black's lack of weakness coupled with White's lack of active play, while Black still has the pawn break f5 as his potential counter-punch. Computer analysis confirms a difference of .38 of a pawn with the game's preparatory 13.Rd1! vs. my jump-the-gun 13.Bxd6?!. Note; My criteria for “significant difference” (when studying with an engine) is above a quarter (.25) of a pawn. In other words, IMHO, the better move has to be at least .26 of a pawn or more superior to the other choice, if there is any hope of even a strong player to be able to make use of it. So, I flubbed it... by missing a small but significant nuance. Ah yes, dear reader, details matter!

¹ *How to Reasses Your Chess, completely revised 4th edition. 2010 by Jeremy Silman, Siles Press, Los Angeles, CA. USA*



<https://nextdoor.com/pages/betty-baffo-centennial-co-1/>

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. Doyle Lobaugh - Laurence Reifurth
Colorado Springs Open / 2020
 White to move



2. Daniel Herman - Sara Herman
Colorado Springs Open / 2020
 Black to move



3. Mark Zeringue - Clinton Eads
Colorado Springs Open / 2020
 White to move



4. Daniel Herman - Brian Wall
Colorado Closed / 2020
 White to move



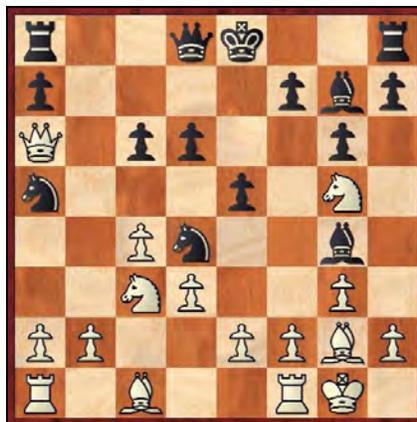
5. Jeff Cohen - Andrew Starr
DCC Nearly Normal / July 2021
 Black to move



6. Jason McEwan - Chris Burkhardt
DCC Nearly Normal / July 2021
 White to move



7. Brad Lundstrom - Earle Wikle
Colorado Senior Open / 2021
 White to move



8. Phillip Brown - Owen Christ
Denver Chess Club / August 2021
 White to move



9. Tim Brennan - Ken Doykos
Colorado Open / 2021
 White to move



Tactics Time Answers:

1. **13.Nc4** is an easy to miss knight fork of the queen and rook. If **13...dxc4 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Qxd6**.
2. **29...Rxc3!** The rook appears to be defended, but is overloaded because of the advanced a pawn. **30.Rexc3 Rxc3** and White cannot recapture because of **31.Rxc3 a1Q+**.
3. **17.f3** attacks the Black knight, which has no escape squares.
4. **40.Bf3** and Black cannot move his queen and maintain protection of the bishop.
5. **26...Bxf2+!** Discovered attack **27.Kxf2 Rxc1**.
6. **30.Rxc5!** Black does not have time to recapture and stop **Rg8** skewering the king and rook.
7. **17.Nxc6** with a discovered attack on Black's queen. **17...Qxe3 18.Nxe7+** in between move, and White ends up a piece and a pawn.
8. **12.b4** traps the Black knight.
9. **18.Nb5** (or **18.Ne6**) attacks and overloads the Black queen. **18...Qe7 19.Bxe5** and Black cannot recapture because of **20.Qxh7#**.



The Chess Detective®

by NM Todd Bardwick

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

Have you ever dreamed of solving complicated mysteries like Sherlock Holmes?

Every time you play chess you can pretend that you are a famous detective. The better you become at observing clues and putting together all the pieces of the puzzle, the stronger your game will be.

Before jumping into analyzing the position, you should first make observations about the position pick up all the clues you can find. Then you can try to solve the chess mystery of figuring out the correct plan and finding the best move. A good time to gather clues is when your opponent's clock is running.

An example of chess observations from a tactical perspective is noticing simple things about the position like how the pieces are positioned in relationship to one another. For example, if the king and queen end up on the same diagonal, see if there is a bishop that can pin or skewer them. Maybe they are on the same file or rank. Then you can look and see if a rook is nearby. Maybe you observe in one variation that there is potential for a back rank mate. That is an important clue that might come up in other lines of analysis... don't forget about it!

From a positional point of view, say you observe your opponent has some weak pawns. Then try to figure out the best way to attack them. You may also try to imagine where the best square is for each of your pieces and then figure out how to get them there. Another observation you might make is that the queens are off the board. This may be a clue that it is safe to centralize your king. Of course, all these questions can be flipped around to observe the same things about your opponent's pieces and position.

Here is a position from the 2001 Western States Open in Reno...



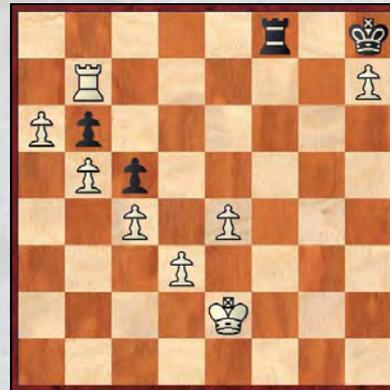
FM Emory Tate

**Position after 7...Nf5?
White to move**

GM Alex Yermolinsky

Let's pretend you are White and are ready to gather clues about the position. Obviously, Black's last move attacked the bishop on h4. You might also notice that if you could play Nc7+, you would fork the Black king and rook. Upon further investigation, you discover that if this were possible, it would actually be checkmate! The Black king would not have any escape squares. Unfortunately, Black's queen guards c7. Ok, well the next question you ask yourself is, can White drive the queen from the c7 square? 8.b4 doesn't work due to 8...cxb4 9.cxb4 Bxb4+. Are there any other ways to deflect the queen? Yes! White played 8.Qa4! (If 8...Nc6, then 9.Qxa5 would win the queen and renew the Nc7 mate threat.) The game concluded 8...Qxa4 9.Nc7#.

Let's try another position...

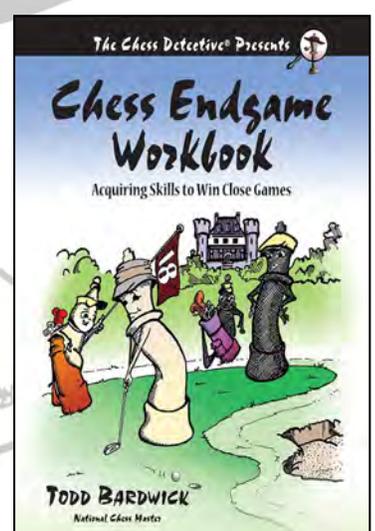
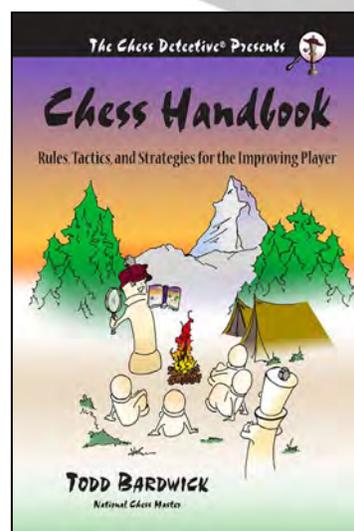
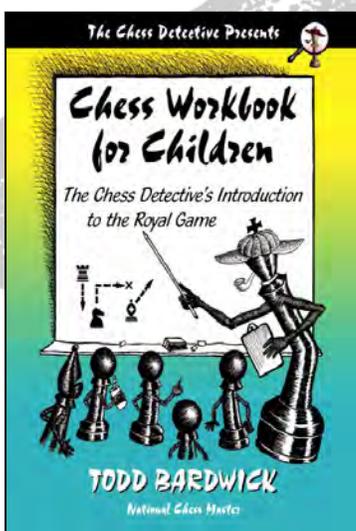
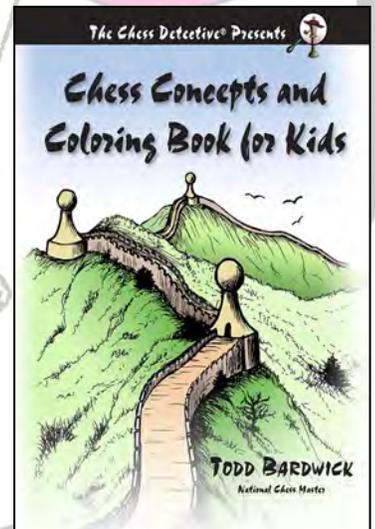
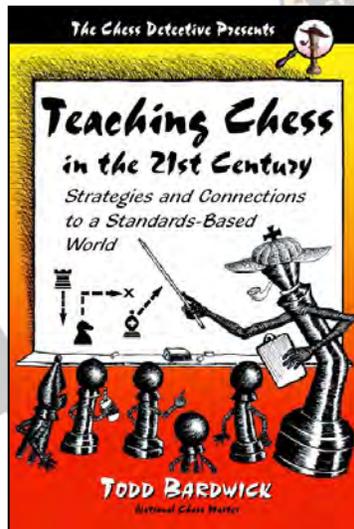
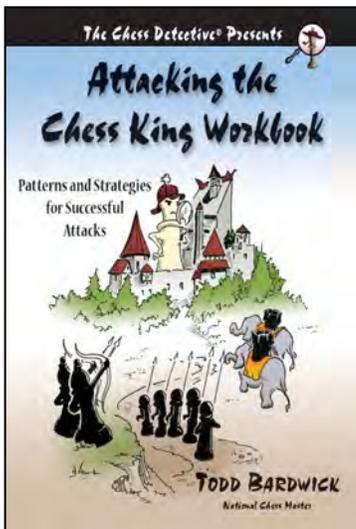
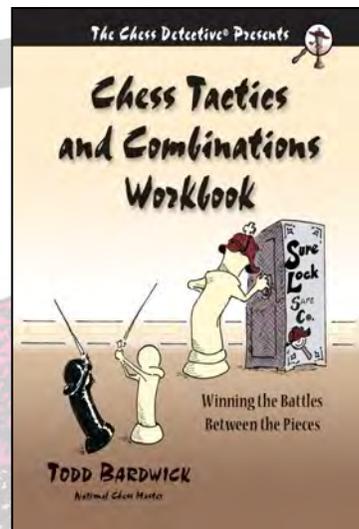
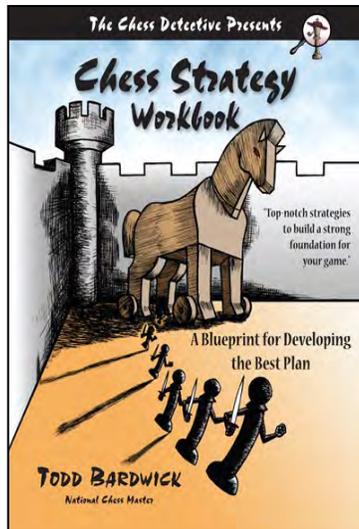


Black to move

First pick up some clues... well, at first glance, it looks like Black is in a lot of trouble. Black is down four pawns and White's queenside pawns are quite dangerous. It is Black to move though, and you never want to give up without a fight. Note that neither of Black's pawns and can move and his king can't either. Those are your important clues! If the Black rook wasn't on the board, it would be stalemate. So, can Black force White to take the rook? Yes! Black could play ...Rf2+! and then continue to check the White king by offering the rook on each move, since White cannot capture the rook due to stalemate!



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>*

UPCOMING COLORADO TOURNAMENTS

(For more detailed information, go online to: <http://www.coloradochess.com/newtourn.shtml>)

| Name | Date | City |
|--|------------------------|------------------|
| IHOP Quick Quads, Every Tuesday in April 2022 | April 5 - 26, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| Northern Colorado Chess Club: Second Saturday Swiss | April 9, 2022 | Fort Collins |
| IHOP Chess April 2022, TWO Saturdays | April 16 - 23, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| 2021-2022 Summit School of Chess Series #8 | April 16, 2022 | Denver |
| Northern Colorado Chess Club: Fourth Saturday Swiss | April 23, 2022 | Fort Collins |
| IHOP Sunday Quick Chess April 2022 | April 24, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| Sheridan Wyoming Open | April 30 - May 1, 2022 | Sheridan, WY |
| IHOP Chess May 2022, TWO Saturdays | May 7 - 14, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| IHOP Sunday Quick Chess May 2022 | May 15, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| Denver Open 2022 | May 20 - 22, 2022 | Denver |
| 2022 Colorado Quick Chess Championship | June 3, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| 2022 Colorado Class Championship -- more information to follow | June 4 - 5, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| IHOP Chess June 2022, TWO Saturdays | June 11 - 18, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| IHOP Sunday Quick Chess June 2022 | June 12, 2022 | Colorado Springs |
| 2022 Colorado Open Blitz Championship | September 2, 2022 | Denver |

UPCOMING COLORADO SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS

(For more detail information go online to: <http://www.coloradochess.com/tournament/scholastic>)

| Name | Date | City |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| Chessmates Series | April 9, 2022 | Fort Collins |
| 2021-2022 Summit School of Chess Series #8 | April 16, 2022 | Denver |
| 2022 Girls Ruth Haring National Tournament Qualifier | April 23, 2022 | Denver |
| Denver Scholastic Chess Series #9 | April 30, 2022 | Englewood |
| Chessmates series | May 7, 2022 | Fort Collins |

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: Mkahlhak@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: Currently is only meeting online. Go to <https://cshess.webs.com/> for information, or call Paul Anderson at (719) 551-9833, or reach out by email at cshess@juno.com.

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: This is an online club and also a place to advertise face-to-face club meetings. We are having problems with a consistent site to play at. Until further notice go to <https://lichess.org/team/fort-collins-co-chess-club> to get weekly information on the next club meeting.

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 Thursday's, 6:00-9:00pm at *Zoe's Cafe* located at 715 10th Street in Greeley. Club is informal and free of charge. Please show support of Zoe's by purchasing food and drinks - tips are donated to charity projects they support. Club is directed by Brad Lundstrom - he can be reached at (970) 415-3855 or at ChessCoach2014@gmail.com.

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.





GUIDE TO A SUCCESSFUL CHESS CLUB

A US CHESS PUBLICATION | PREPARED BY THE US CHESS CLUBS COMMITTEE

This publication shows how to organize and manage a club, no matter the size or geographic location. It presents a pathway for starting a club, it will help a struggling club, and it will improve a currently healthy club.

Revised September 3, 2021

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Attack, Attack, it's Good to Attack!

by Jeffrey Baffo



<https://nextdoor.com/pages/betty-baffo-centennial-co-1/>

What do I need to attack? TARGETS! How do I know what is a GOOD TARGET? Look for these:

1. Undefended pieces or pawns.
2. Underdefended pieces or pawns.
3. Important squares or lines. Even if it's empty it can still be valuable, for example; squares on your back-rank that lead to checkmate possibilities.
4. High value pieces that can be chased (attacked) by lower value units, an example is a pawn stampede chasing your knight.
5. Pieces or pawns that can be forked, pinned, or skewered.
6. Pieces or pawns that have an important job and you can mess that up.
7. Pieces or pawns that are "trapped" they have no room (or too little room) to run away (and it's hard to defend them).

If you love to attack, make that attack unstoppable! Focus in on the ideas listed above, each of them has the idea that **ATTACKS NEED TARGETS!** (If you can't say what your target is, then you're not really attacking.) Make targets your mission. Identify them, isolate them, make the right preparations to attack them, and then **STRIKE!**



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