

COLORADO CHESS INFORMANT



**GM JESSE KRAAI
DENVER OPEN CHAMPION**



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Dues are \$15 a year or \$5 a tournament. Youth (under 20) and Senior (65 or older) memberships are \$10. Family memberships are available to additional family members for \$3 off the regular dues.

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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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Grandmaster Jesse Kraai
(Photo by John Brezina)

From the Editor

"To Lament That Which Will Pass"

Always keeping an eye around the country for other state affiliates newsletter/magazine's I see that another one will no longer produce a printed issue. The fact of the matter is, there are only a few state issues to be seen even online any more, let alone printed. All of which brings me to this - in my estimation the state newsletter/magazine will one day be obsolete simply because it will be unnecessary.

The reason is that the flow of information is so instantaneous now that periodicals that are released quarterly (like this one) are retreading old news. When chess news happens today, it goes online almost immediately, and with bells and whistles to boot.

I am grateful that the *Denver Chess Club* has allowed me to reprint their articles from their website, but it is what it is - events that may have happened months ago, and as such, have already been read and digested by the time it is presented here.

Don't feel sad, I'm not. This is what will happen, and of course there will be those who still want it, but their voices will grow fewer as the online websites stay up to date. Enjoy it for now, but one day, even this venerable publication will be no more.

May Caissa be with you.

Fred Eric Spell



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70th Colorado Open Chess Tournament

August 31 - September 1, 2019

**Sheraton Denver Tech Center
7007 South Clinton Street
Greenwood Village, CO 80112
(303) 705-6648**



TIME CONTROL:

(Five Round Swiss System Tournament)

Rounds 1 & 2 - G/90; d/05

Rounds 3 thru 5 - G/90; inc/30

SECTIONS:

Championship (Open)

U1900

U1600

U1300

ENTRY FEE:

\$45 (if received by 8/28)

\$50 at site

Cash Prizes Per Entries

**(Championship 1st Prize
at least \$300)**

ROUND TIMES:

**Saturday - 9:00am, 2:00pm,
7:00pm**

**Sunday - 9:00am, 3:30pm
(CSCA Membership Meeting
is at 2:00pm)**

ENTRIES:

Richard Buchanan

1 Sutherland Road,

Manitou Springs, CO 80829

or online at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yywpaxot>

2019 DENVER OPEN REPORT

by J.C. MacNeil

Without question, the 2019 Denver Open was the biggest and best Denver Open ever. The *Denver Chess Club*, in co-operation with the *Colorado State Chess Association*, intended to make this tournament special for Colorado and surrounding states' chess players and our efforts were rewarded with a fantastic tournament. Incredibly nearly 50% of the 160 registered players were from outside the Denver area. We can boast that it was truly a national event as we had players from all over the United States at this tournament. Players of all levels of ability came to Denver, Colorado to mix, mingle, and perhaps play against the GM and IM's we had invited to the 2019 Denver Open.

International Master Danny Rensch kicked things off Friday night with an entertaining off the cuff lecture for a nice crowd before he played a great 26 board simul. Mr. Rensch had to resign against Dean Clow and Dwight Sehler and gave up a draw to another player, whose name I'm sorry to say I failed to get. Otherwise, the founder and driving force behind the best online playing site - *Chess.com* - had no trouble winning all his other games.

In the meantime, the 1st round of the 50 player Championship section was up and running. What a thrill it must have been for the young Sheena Zeng, from Kansas, to be paired against WGM Tatev Abrahamyan. Or how about Colorado native and rising star, Daniel Herman, being paired against GM Jesse Kraai. Now imagine having such a good position that you could turn down a draw offer from the Grandmaster. That turned out to be turning on Superman's cape, but I sure admire Daniel's nerve.

Maybe the surprise of the round was recent Colorado University student, Eamon Montgomery, upsetting the internationally respected chess coach and instructor, Sunil Weeramantry. If you ever wonder why the current U.S. Champion, GM Hikaru Nakamura is so good, it could be because Mr. Weeramantry is his stepfather. Earle Wikle, a strong Colorado Springs Expert, gave GM Andrey Gorovets a great game. Sara Herman played the well known, and previous from Colorado, IM John Watson.



The young Neil Bhavikatti had the pleasure of losing to the only a few years older GM Andrew Tang, a teenage genius from Minnesota.

Just a sampling of what this tournament meant for Colorado players. The DCC fully intends to expand on the precedent set by his tournament. We will be actively looking to find a sponsor. To that end, It will surely help that the local CBS news affiliate interviewed and filmed players at this tournament (you can watch the report online at <https://tinyurl.com/yybuub42>).



In addition to the TV news coverage, we had DGT boards running for the top three games of the championship section. Chris Peterson provided excellent commentary on those game for rounds 1, 3 and 5. Even better was rounds 3 and 5 were broadcast on the *Chess.com* twitch channel. I am pleased that Mr. Peterson has agreed to fill us in on how that came about and his interaction with the GM/IM's and other players who joined him on Twitch - "Prior engagements prevented me from playing in the tournament. Instead, I was volunteered to do commentary. Initially it was just going to be to a live audience on site. Once Danny Rensch got involved, I was broadcasting to viewers around the world. Nick Barton, the program manager with *Chess.com* helped get the stream set up for round 3. Initially I was broadcasting on the chesscomevents channel. A secondary channel *Chess.com* is using to help promote smaller, locally run tournaments. For round 5, I was broadcasting on the main channel getting hundreds of concurrent viewers and thousands of unique visitors (a replay of the round 5 broadcast can be seen here: <https://www.twitch.tv/videos/417830952>). Playing these long time control events over a weekend is exhausting but so is doing commentary! It was especially fun doing analysis of the games with IM Danny Rensch, GM Fidel Corrales-Jimenez, and GM Jesse Kraai. If nothing else, at least fast forward the replays to the point where they are analyzing their games. There is a lot of wisdom to be gleaned."

Some players not on the top boards were brave enough to hop on the stream and show their games. U1800 section winner, Stephen Marquez, showed one of the games that led to his 5-0 win of the section. Nikolas Theiss from the east coast showed us a couple of games from his 5-0 performance in the U2200 section. Local stars Gunnar Andersen and Josh Bloomer also

hopped on to go through a couple of their favorite games. Particularly interesting was Bloomer's wins over two IMs. Make sure to check those out!



The only negatives about the stream was the difficulty with the technology. The DGT boards used by the CSCA to relay the moves are old. Also, the way the moves are relayed are not ideal so I had to manually transfer the games to analysis boards for the broadcast. Donations to the stream will help go toward purchasing some new equipment. If the DCC intends to broadcast more tournaments and commentary, an investment in quality equipment will be a must. If you like the idea, like the streams, or want to support chess in Denver, consider donating to the club. Any audio/video advice or equipment would go a long way.

I imagine that IM Danny Rensch, after taking a first-round bye to do the lecture and simul, was quite pleased to tie for 1st place with GM Jesse Kraai. They each finished with 4.5 points and share the combined 1st and 2nd place prize of \$1750. I am absolutely sure that Josh Bloomer and Sullivan McConnell are pleased to share the combined 3rd place and U2400 prize with GM Jimenez and GM Gorovets. Everybody knows Mr. Bloomer can hang with GM/IM's across the board. They each won \$187.50.

Maybe soon in the future, chess tournament results will be reported as sports in newspapers and on TV. If you don't think chess is a sport then you have never felt your heart pounding, or had your fist clenched, while waiting for your opponent's next move. You have never held your breath waiting for your opponent to step into the trap you have set. You have never experienced the thrill of winning against a better player. Tournament chess is not some pass time game at all. It is a one on one blood sport.

Before getting to the results of the Denver Open Under sections, let me say what a great idea it was for the CSCA to organize a Girls tournament and hold it in conjunction with the Denver Open. Quoting Todd Bardwick: "45 Girls from 1st -12th grade played in the tournament. Woman Grandmaster, Tatev Abrahamyan, spoke to the excited girls before the tournament, signed autographs, took pictures with the girls, and answered

questions about what it is like being a Woman's Chess Champion." Real nice trophies were awarded to the top scoring player for each school grade 1 thru 12.

What chess needs the most is more women players, and if these young girls were inspired by WGM Abrahamyan, then that cannot be anything but good. They can also look to the current U.S. Women's Champion, 17-year-old Jennifer Yu, for inspiration. Maybe within a few years, there will be a female contender that challenges a man for the undisputed, undivided, World Chess Championship title. How cool would it be if one of the girls at this tournament is the one to do that. See the tournament results and the name of a possible future World Champion here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3rguon>.

Ann Davies and Alayne Wilinsky have very interesting comments on this topic. Quoting Ann Davies: "My personal view is it will take time for women/girls to catch up in the world of chess, politics, corporate America, etc. This is because women have been held back for so long by society. Even in this modern world, there are many countries and cultures that have negative attitudes about women and their abilities. Bottom line, things are changing for the better for women. It will just take time. The Colorado State Chess Association as well as other organizations, should do as much as they can to promote women playing chess. If it means having special tournaments just for girls, then so be it." Ann also provides this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y3t9f5bh> saying, "I find myself in agreement with the opposite points made by Shankland and Shahade. I see truth in both of their opinions."



Ms. Wilinsky prepared a Google document with her thoughts. Please take the time to click the following link (<https://tinyurl.com/yywuvz9x>) and read what she has to say. I found the *Chess.com* blog post link, and also the studies link, within the document to be illuminating.

So now on to the main tournament report. In addition to the 50 players in the Championship section, we had 110 players in the 3 Under sections. Thus, counting the CSCA Girls tournament players, there were over 200 chess players wondering around the Embassy Suites hotel lobby on Saturday morning. Was just great to see. Speaking of the Embassy Suites hotel, it is an understatement to say it's awesome. The rooms are terrific, the

staff is friendly and courteous, the free help yourself to the all you can eat, or the made to order, breakfast is a hungry man's dream. I took full advantage of that.



In the U2200 section the top seed, Nikolas Theiss from Maryland, took the clear 1st prize of \$400 with a perfect 5- 0 score. His fine performance included a last round win against the hard to beat, Haroun Mueller-Omar. Michel Doyon and Joshua Blanchfield share the combined 2nd and 3rd place prize of \$270. Earning their prize money with 4 point scores.

I played in the U1800 section and this was like the first time I didn't know and hadn't ever played before any of the players that I was paired against. How refreshing. If only I could have played like Stephen Marquez from New Mexico who won all his games and took the clear 1st place of \$400. Alexander Freeman won the \$220 2nd place prize with a nice 4.5 score, only giving up a draw to Charles Schwartz. Who, aside from his 1st round win, scored all his 3.5 points from upset wins and draws.

Sharing 3rd place and winning \$75 each with 4 point scores, was and Jeffrey Baffo and Ryan Blackman from Arizona. Due to a large number of players in this section, we added a \$100 U1600 prize. Which was shared by Somnath Mukherjee, Jacob Ornelas from Nevada, Charles Schwartz, Roberto Popa, and Ann Davies.

We had a 3-way tie for 1st place in the U1400 section. Danny Hunter, Alayne Wilinsky and Sean Simpson all finished with 4 points and they share the combined 1st, 2nd, and U1200 prize of \$360. The prize fund for this section seemed low to me since there was nearly the same number of entries as the U2200 section. The TD's explained to me that the higher section traditionally gets a bigger slice of the pie. The disparity of the prize money between the U2200 and U1400 sections is another reason to get better at chess.

The winners of each section received a classy trophy. I watched GM Kraai's Twitch stream where he reviewed his games from this tournament (<https://www.twitch.tv/jessekraai/videos>) and there in plain sight is a still photo of him and Danny Rensch arm in arm holding the trophy. During his commentary, GM Kraai mentions that even though he won the trophy on tiebreaks he gave it to his friend, since Danny's kids would appreciate it

more than his 3-year-old daughter. How cool was that? Was funny that in the chat "chessgremlin" asked if they were going to time share the trophy. For the 3 way tie in the U1400 section, we decided to award the trophy to Alayne Wilinsky even though Danny Hunter was 1st on tiebreaks. Due to the fact that Alayne had 2 upset wins and she drew her last round game against the higher rated Mr. Hunter. Hopefully Mr. Hunter will not hold this against us.

There are so many people to thank for making the 2019 Denver Open the success that it was I don't know where to begin. Let's start with the Vice President of the CSCA, Kevin McConnell. First, he personally donated a large sum of money to assure the presence of the special guests we had at the tournament. Then he worked tirelessly to promote the tournament and arranged the closing pizza party at his own expense. 15 boxes of pizza were devoured in like 15 minutes. I am not making that up - 15 boxes of Pizza Hut pizza gone in 15 minutes!

We could not have had this tournament without tournament directors. Todd Bardwick and Dean Clow did a great job. Mr. Clow's *CaissaChess* software is a great convenience in the writing of these reports.



To make the Girls tournament happen the CSCA needed to have a guaranteed registration of 60 players. Mr. McConnell's sons, Griffin and Sullivan, stepped up and said they would cover any shortfall with their own allowance and tournament winning money. The boys ended up donating around \$300.

The CSCA President, Richard "Buck" Buchanan, was all for this tournament from the start. Without his support, the tournament would not have happened. Mr. Buchanan also assisted the FIDE tournament director, Tom Nelson, free of charge. The DCC president, Brian Wall, has been dreaming of a tournament like this in Denver for years. He also donated a considerable amount of his inheritance money and was responsible for promoting and bringing in the special guests. See an interesting "Lessons Learned" written by Mr. Nelson after the tournament (<https://tinyurl.com/y5n5oxs4>). There is way more to directing a tournament than just getting the pairings right. Especially when FIDE rules are involved.



Without the approval of Meint Olthof for us to risk losing several thousand dollars of DCC funds, the 2019 Denver Open would have been just another weekend tournament. Mr. Olthof also handled all the myriad hotel and special guest details with equanimity. Chris Peterson donated his time to provide commentary on the top three boards of the Championship section. Mr. Peterson also arranged with IM Danny Rensch to have the games streamed to the *Chess.com* Twitch channel. Tournament Directors Todd Bardwick and tech wizard Dean Clow ran the Under sections with efficiency. Ann Davies had the great idea of giving away door prizes and took care of all the details involved with that.

I would most like to thank the 160 players who registered to play in the 2019 Denver Open and the 45 young ladies who played in the inaugural CSCA Girls tournament. The fantastic attendance is the true reason why we will be aiming for bigger and better next year. Thank you all very much.

Finally, I must not fail to mention that the photos in this report were taken by John Brezina. See all of Mr. Brezina's tournament pictures at these links:

Danny Rensch Simul (<https://tinyurl.com/y4sark3t>)
CSCA Girls Tournament (<https://tinyurl.com/y2ku84wp>)
Championship Section (<https://tinyurl.com/y47cgxf3>)
Under Sections (<https://tinyurl.com/y3qtk5z>)

Also I must thank Richard Shtivelband for uploading most of the Championship section games onto the Denver Chess Club website (<https://tinyurl.com/yyfrccg6>), just search games dated

4/26/2019 thru 4/28/2019, or enter a name into one of the search boxes and check "ignore colors". Or you can play over the games at <https://tinyurl.com/y622k5e8>.

(Editor's note: IM John Watson wrote an online report at USChess.org of the Denver Open, along with a few games that he annotated as well. You can find his report online here: (<https://new.uschess.org/news/2019-denver-open/>).

Ann Davies has also pointed out to me that several other people helped make this tournament a success - "In addition to Alayne Wilinsky, Brian Wall, Lior Lapid, and myself, I know of many others who facilitated picking up guests from the airport, etc. I believe John Brezina hosted Sunil Weeramantry and Lior hosted Tatev Abrahamyan and Fidel Corrales Jimenez. Also, Lior and I both contributed to meet the \$500 stipend for Fidel."

I should also mention that DCC board members Alayne Wilinsky and Vibi Varghese promoted the tournament with email blasts, that may have well been why we had so many players from outside the Denver area.

Thanks again to all the players, and to all who made the biggest and best Denver Open ever happen!

(Final standings for the Denver Open can be found online here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3wfp3ay>).



Memories of 1977 & 1978

by Curtis Carlson

"While emotions play a role in most decision-making, logic must be at the core of the process."

- IM Erik Kislik

"The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it."

- Neil deGrasse Tyson

"Puritanism: The haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy."

- H.L. Mencken

"I give as good as I get."

- Udo Dirkschneider

"The computer has shown us the extent of the defensive resources in chess, and top players nowadays are remarkably tenacious."

- Steve Giddins

"Alekhine correctly diagnosed Capablanca's universal tendency/weakness to simplify for simplification's sake, even when his position deteriorated with the simplification."

- IM Cyrus Lakdawala

I have scores of memories from half a century of chess, and at age 65 my thoughts often drift into struggles from decades ago and what might have been. It's been thirty years since I played in a tournament, but chess is always on my mind. No one gives up the royal game for long.

In *The Road to Chess Improvement* Grandmaster Alex Yermolinsky said he was 'simply going nowhere,' but took advice from Alekhine and Botvinnik to *study his own games*. His strength then increased markedly. As he said, *"...it takes more courage to admit your shortcomings in certain areas of chess skill, rather than write it off as infrequent lapses of concentration that blunders in fact are...once you analyze your own games in detail you might not like what you see."*

When I studied the six games in this article again after forty years I didn't like what I saw! I don't expect to become the next world champion from this introspection, but maybe I'll improve a little. Notes in **red** and **green** are mine with help from Houdini Chess Engine (HCE), Komodo Chess Engine (KCE), and ChessBase. Perhaps I rely too much on computers, but in my opinion it's irresponsible not to.

"It's like having a live-in strong player ready to get to work any time day or night, with no expense involved except for a slightly higher utility bill." - GM Alex Yermolinsky,

and

"...during a game it is not often one achieves the same clarity of

thought and boldness, which one acquires in front of the screen of a powerful computer..." - GM Evgeny Tomashevsky.

This is also true when games are over! More than anything programs are valuable truth seekers.

"The basic problem with annotating games, and indeed the more so now that we have computer assistance, is that it's hard to assess how you would have felt about the position had you had it yourself." - GM Jonathan Speelman

I wish HCE and KCE had been available when I was young and foolish enough to think chess was my calling.

"Not everyone is born with a bright chess talent; some might later want to switch to other areas because there is more to life than chess. But Yusupov and I never intended to engage exclusively in raising champions. For us, it was very important to contribute not only to the growth of our students as chess players, but also to the students' personal growth." - GM Mark Dvoretzky.

I appreciate HCE's stoic contributions to my personal growth, even if it doesn't greatly respect my wishes. In contrast, my longtime friend Brian Wall (a talented amateur) cares about my feelings but taught me a lot less.

North American Open / Round 9
Stillwater, Oklahoma / August 3, 1977
 Sicilian Defense, Najdorf / Amsterdam Variation (B93)

George Trammell (1945, age 23)

Curtis Carlson (2223, age 23)

(<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18624>)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 (This was my third NAO Najdorf in five years with this opponent, but my first with Black.) **6.f4 e5 7.Nf3 Qc7 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.O-O b5 10.Kh1 Bb7 11.Qe1 g6** (Most common, but 11...Be7 {First choice of HCE, KCE, Stockfish}, 11...b4 {Browne-Stean 1972}, and 11...Rc8 {Zerdo-Saric 2000} have also been played.) **12.fxe5** (12.b4 Bg7 13.a4 bxa4 14.fxe5 dxe5 {14...Ng4?! might work if Black had castled.} 15.Nxa4 O-O 16.Qe2 = Postupa-Ledford 2013.) **12...dxe5 13.Qh4 Be7** = (This allows easy development of the dark squared bishop, and now Black must deal with annoying pressure on the h4-d8 diagonal for several more moves. KCE and Stockfish prefer the flexible 13...h6 14.Bd2 {14.Bg5 Bg7 gets White nowhere.} 14...Bg7 = {or 14...b4 = KCE}. Interesting is 13...h5!? which further weakens the dark squares but stops any Bh6 ideas. Black dislikes the well known continuation 13...Bg7 14.Bh6 O-O 15.Ng5 Rae8 16.g4 +=, although HCE prefers 16.Be2! intending to threaten the d7 knight with Bg4.) **14.Bg5** (14.Qg3 Nh5 15.Qf2 O-O {15...Ndf6 += HCE} 16.Bh6 Rfd8 = Tukmakov-Tal 1973; 14...b4! 15.Nd5 Nxd5 16.exd5 Bxd5 17.Bh6 f6 18.Rae1 Qc6 19.Qf2 Qe6 -/+ HCE) **14...h6 15.Nd2** (15.a4 b4 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Qd8 18.Bxe7 Qxe7 19.Qxe7 Kxe7 = Commons-Defotis 1973 US Championship; 15.Rae1!? O-O-O = Beckler-Carlson cr 1981.) **15...Qd6** (This slightly awkward move is HCE's second choice after 15...Qd8. Also possible was the optimistic 15...b4 16.Ne2 Rd8, so if 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.Rxf6? Rd6 -/+ HCE. 15...Kf8?! 16.Bxf6 Nxf6 17.Rxf6 Kg7 18.Raf1 Rhf8 19.Qf2 Bxf6 20.Qxf6+, +- is Formanek-Santolini 1982. At the 1976 Keres

Memorial in Vancouver Formanek beat me in 22 moves with 6.f4 in another game I'd rather forget.)



16.Rf3!? (Doubling on the f file is logical but creates a diagonal pin on e4 that helps Black get untangled. Safer is 16.a4 b4 17.Nd1 {17.Nc4 Qe6 18.Nd1 Nxe4 == Poulsen-Baljon 1974.} 17...Rd8 = HCE) **16...Kf8!?** (As Magnus said, too weak too slow! This doesn't ruin Black's game, but offers no hope of advantage. Black should have listened to his knight's whispers and played 16...Nh5!, where it's no longer a target on f6, aims at f4, and clears the way for ...f5. 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Qxe7 {18.Qf2 O-O == HCE}; 18...Kxe7 19.Raf1 Rhf8 = {Nimtz-Mitov 1988}; 19...f5 == HCE. Other tries are 16...O-O-O!? 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.Raf1 Nh5 19.Qg4+ Kb8 20.Rxf7 Nf4 = HCE, and 16...Nd5!? 17.exd5 Bxg5 18.Nde4 Qe7 19.Nxg5 Qxg5 = HCE) **17.Raf1 Kg7 18.Bxf6+ Nxf6 19.Qf2** = (19.a4 Rhf8 {19...b4? 20.Nc4 Qe6 21.Nd5 +- HCE} 20.axb5 axb5 21.Nxb5 Qc5 22.Qe1 Nh5 = HCE) **19...Rhf8 = 20.Nd5** (This leads to quick simplification, but 20.a4 b4 21.Nd1 Rac8 = HCE is no better.) **20...Nxd5 21.Rxf7+ Kg8 22.exd5 Bxd5 23.Rxf8+ Rxf8 24.Qe2 Rxf1+ 25.Nxf1** (Not 25.Qxf1? Qb4 +/- . White needs to keep an eye on e5 to keep Black's queen busy.) **25...Qf6** (25...Kg7, 25...h5, 25...Bc6, and 25...Bf7 were all better.) **26.Ne3 Bb7 27.Ng4 Qf4 28.Nxe5 Qc1+ 29.Qf1 Bxg2+ 30.Kxg2 Qg5+ 31.Kh1 Qxe5 =** (Here my draw offer was immediately accepted. 32.Bxg6 Qd5+ 33.Qg2 Qd1+ 34.Qg1 Qf3+ 35.Qg2 Qd1+ is a perpetual.) ½-½. This was played when Jimmy Carter was president and gas was 80¢ a gallon! I've gone over this game several times and other than move 16 don't see improvements.

"One cannot force an opponent to make a mistake, and if no mistakes by either side are made, the logical result is a draw. Like it or not, that is chess." - IM Colin Crouch

2045 FIDE rated George Trammell lives in Oklahoma and has played in many national events. He has an interesting tactical battle with veteran GM Larry Christiansen at: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1089220>. Good players get lucky sometimes!

"The imagination of nature is far, far greater than the imagination of man." - Richard Feynman

**North American Open / Round 12
Stillwater, Oklahoma / August 5, 1977
Sicilian Defense, Najdorf (B98)**

Elliott Winslow (2300, age 25)

Curtis Carlson (2223, age 23)

My fourth and last game (and third loss) to a well known IM.
(<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18625>)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qa5 (I hoped to surprise EW with an offbeat line but he played quickly and confidently.) **9.O-O-O Bd7 10.Be2** (10.e5! dxe5 11.fxe5 Nc6 12.Nf5! shows Black's idea of a lateral pin is ineffective, as in Valentine-Carlson 5th US Correspondence Championship 1983. P. Whitehead-Carlson 1979 Masters Open went 10.Nb3 Qc7 11.e5 Bc6 12.Qg3 dxe5 13.fxe5 Ne4 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.Bd3 Bg6? 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.h4 +/-, but 15...Bxg5! 16.Qxg5 Bg6 = is OK for Black. Exchanging on g5 doesn't allow Black's queen to get deflected to e7 where it's not aiming at White's e5 pawn. My aversion to beneficial trades might have been eradicated if I had studied Capablanca more carefully! According to HCE and Stockfish White's best is 10.Bxf6! Bxf6 11.e5! dxe5 12.Nxe6! {Better than 12.Qxb7? exd4 -. It makes a difference where the knight is lost!} 12...Bxe6 13.Qxb7 exf4 14.Qxa8 O-O 15.Nd5 Qxa2 16.Nxf6+ gxf6 17.Qe4 +/- . Overall ...Qa5 and ...Bd7 is dubious since it gives White many ways to gain the advantage.) **10...Nc6 11.Qg3 h6 12.Nb3 Qc7 13.Bh4 g5?!** (Maybe too optimistic, but I didn't have the courage to play 13...O-O = HCE. If 13...b5 14.Kb1 += HCE. 13...Rc8 offers a draw - 14.Qxg7 Rg8 15.Qxh6 Rg6 16.Qh8+ Rg8 17.Qh6 Rg6 =, but 14.Rd2 is also equal.) **14.fxg5 Rg8 15.Rhf1** (15.Kb1 Ne5 16.Qf4 hxg5 17.Bxg5 Nh5 18.Bxh5 Rxg5 19.g4 += HCE) **15...Ne5 =** (This knight is Black's pride and joy and keeps the game level. If 15...hxg5 16.Bxg5 Nh7 17.Bxe7 Rxg3 18.Bxd6 +- HCE, but with a knight on e5 Black has 18...Rxc3! 19.Bxc7 Rxc7 -+ HCE. Chess is a simple game!) **16.g6** (Stops ...hxg5 and ...Nh7, but also good were 16.Qe1 hxg5 17.Bg3 Rc8 = HCE and 16.Qe3 hxg5 17.Bg3 b5 = HCE) **16...Rxg6 17.Qh3 Bc6!?** += (HCE's third choice after 17...Rc8 = and 17...b5 =. In the post mortem EW said it was 'incredibly passive!')

"It is important to handle criticism well in chess, and to seek out expert opinion from those more knowledgeable than you are. Unlike in the vast majority of other fields, in chess the opinions of experts are easy to prove or demonstrate." - IM Erik Kislik

18.Nd4 = (HCE's second choice after 18.Rf4 +=, which guards e4 and plans to double rooks on the f file.) **18...O-O-O?** (Walking into an uncomfortable pin is inconsistent and weak. If Black wanted to castle he should have left the bishop on d7, but now 18...Nxe4 is best: HCE at depth 25 says 19.Bxe7 Nxc3 20.Qxc3 Kxe7 is equal, but Black must play carefully with his king in the center. 21.Bh5 Rf6 22.Rxf6 Kxf6 23.Nf3 Rf8 24.Nxe5 dxe5 25.Rf1+ Ke7 = HCE. If 20...Qxe7 21.Nxc6 bxc6 {Not 21...Nxc6? 22.Bh5 +- HCE. The knight stays on e5 to block the long diagonal.} 22.g3 Kf8 = HCE) **19.Rf4** (EW missed 19.Nxc6! bxc6 20.Bxa6+ +/- HCE. I would likely have played 19...Qxc6? and resigned after 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Rxf6 Rxf6 22.Nd5) **19...Kb8?** (Too weak to slow! Now White wins

material. Overly passive play was my great bane: breaking the pin is desirable, but Black is only slightly worse after 19...d5! The indirect threat on White's f4 rook gives Black time to make simplifying trades. 20.Rdf1 Nxe4 21.Nxc6 Nxc6 22.Nxe4 Bxh4 23.Qxh4 dxe4 24.Rxf7 Qe5 25.g3 += HCE)

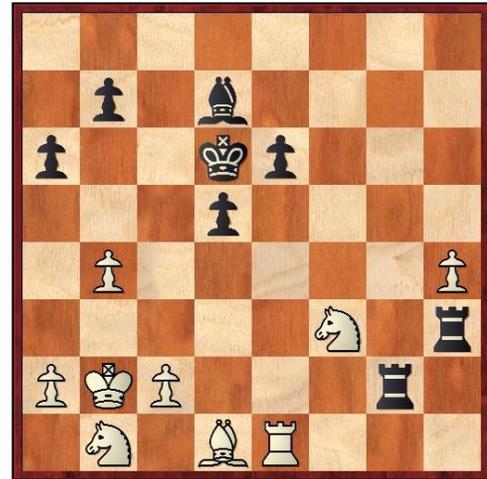
"When the position is bad, increasing the confusion factor is often an effective defensive technique."

- GM Ian Rogers

20.Rdf1 Ned7 (My pride and joy retreats.) 21.R4f2 Qa5? (Yet another slip. Black's attempt to prevent Bh5 is easily met. The best try was protecting the loose bishop with 21...Re8, although White is still better after 22.Nxc6 Qxc6 23.Kb1 += HCE) 22.Nb3 (This is OK, but 22.Nxc6+ bxc6 23.Bd3 was close to += since Black can hardly move anything. 22.Bd3 was also very strong.) 22...Qb6 (HCE's third choice after 22...Qc7 and 22...Qe5. Black plans to steal a pawn in another galaxy while White is busy.) 23.Bh5 Rg7 24.Bxf6 Bxf6 25.Rxf6 Nxf6 26.Rxf6 Qg1+ 27.Bd1 Qxg2 28.Qxg2 Rxg2 29.Rxh6 d5 30.Nd4 += (White stops 30...d4 but allows 30...dxe4. Not 30.e5 d4 31.Nb1 d3 32.cxd3 Rxd3 +=, but 30.exd5! Bxd5 31.Nc5! Bc6 32.Nd3 is close to +/-) 30...Kc7? (A blunder which should have lost more material. As usual, I was low on time. Black wants his king on e7 to support the weak f7 pawn, but taking advantage of White's last to clear the d file with 30...dxe4 += was best even though it scatters pawns. After 31.Nxc6+ bxc6 32.Nxe4 Rg1 33.Nd2 Re1! it's only +=. Fewer pawns on the board make rooks better and knights worse.)

"...the computer showed the defensive margin in chess is much greater than had generally been thought, and even extremely bad positions could be held, if the defender knuckled down and did not commit further mistakes. It is true that one or two players from past generations had realized this years before, Emanuel Lasker being the outstanding example, but it was a lesson that escaped most players." - GM Jan Timman

31.e5 (EW played this instantly, but Black can resign after 31.Rh7 +/- HCE) 31...Rdg8 32.h4 (32.Rh7 isn't as good now since Black has 32...R8g7, but it's still close to +/- after 32.Bf3 R2g5 33.Rh7 Rxe5 34.Rxf7+ Kd6 35.h3 +/- HCE. Also good were 32.Rf6 Be8 33.h4 and 32.Nce2 intending to block the g file with Ng3. White has several ways to improve his position.) 32...Kd7 33.b4 (I'm not sure what the idea behind this move is, but HCE prefers to relocate the knights with 33.Nf3 Ke7 34.Ne2 and N2d4 where it's hard for Black to do anything.) 33...Ke7 34.Rf6 +/- (34.Bf3 Rh2 {34...R2g6 35.Rxg6 Rxg6 36.Nxc6+ bxc6 37.Ne2 +/- HCE} 35.Nce2 Bb5 36.Nf4+-HCE. Black's defense is improved with his king better placed.) 34...R8g6 35.Rf3? (A slip that blocks his bishop. White is still much better after 35.Rxg6 fxc6 36.Nce2 or 35.Rf1 Rh2 36.h5 +/- HCE) 35...f6? (Another of my many faults was not being opportunistic. I should have noticed 35...R6g4 wins the h4 pawn and makes White regret his last. 36.Nce2 Rxh4 37.Nxc6+ bxc6 38.c3 Rhh2 = HCE) 36.Re3! (36.h5 Rh6 37.exf6+ Rxf6 38.Nxc6+ bxc6 39.Rh3 +/- HCE) 36...fxe5 37.Rxe5 Kd6 38.Re1 Bd7 += (38...Rg1 39.Re3 Bd7 +=) 39.Nf3 (White wants a knight on e5.) 39...R6g3 40.Kb2! (Natural, but HCE says it's now dead even! 40.Nb1 Be8 41.Nbd2 += HCE) 40...Rh3 41.Nb1



41...e5? (I err again. 41...Ba4! {Threatening 42...Bxc2 and 43...Rxf3} 42.Ng5 Rxh4 43.Rxe6+ Kd7 = HCE. 41...Be8 and 42...Bh5 was also better than what I did, which isn't saying much. The active Black rooks make it hard for White to make progress.) 42.Rxe5 Bg4 43.Re3 Bxf3 44.Rxf3 Rxh4? (This is suicide. The only hope was 44...Rxf3 45.Bxf3 Rf2 46.Bd1 Rf4. For some reason I was oblivious to a double attack on the fourth rank.) 45.a3 +- Rh1 (Black should resign, but I wanted to make time control first.) 46.Rd3 Rgg1 47.Nc3 Kc6 48.Bf3 Rh4 49.Rxd5 Kc7 50.Rf5 Rh3 (Another slip on the last move of time control, but 50...Rg7 51.Rf8 Kb6 52.Ne4 Rh6 53.c4 is also hopeless.) 51.Rf7+ 1-0 A memorable and terrible game. One spectator asked if we drew! At times I wonder how I ever got a rating with four digits.

I met IM Elliott Winslow in St. Louis in 1971, when he easily won all of about five blitz games I was fortunate to have had with him. Now 67, he lives in San Francisco and recently won the 2019 CalChess Senior State Championship. He is a regular at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club in San Francisco and usually does well in their tournaments.

"At 2871, Magnus Carlsen is 362 points above my FIDE rating of 2509. That's the same difference between me and a 2147 player. I will now quit chess, and begin a Carlsen religion."

- GM Danny Gormally

Appreciation Open / Round 3 Denver, Colorado / May 7, 1978

Sicilian, Boleslavsky Variation, 7.Nb3 (B59)

Curtis Carlson (2223, age 24)

Dmitry Agrachov (2155, age 19)

(<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18626>)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.O-O a5 9.a4 O-O 10.Kh1 Nb4 11.f4 Be6 12.Be3 (White should probably play 12.f5 before Black plays ...Rc8. As a youngster I believed development wasn't everything, it was the only thing.) 12...Rc8 = 13.Bf3 (Most common, but 13.Rc1 and 13.f5 are playable. If 13.f5 Bxb3 14.cxb3 d5 15.exd5 Nbx3 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Bg1= the bishop pair compensates for the doubled pawns. Also good was 13.Bg1 so there's no threat on e3

when a knight arrives on d5. Black was threatening 13...Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxc2 with advantage.) **13...d5!** (13...exf4 14.Bxf4 Nd7 15.Nd4 Ne5 += Slatin-Kalinin 2001; 13...Qc7 14.Rf2 Bc4 = Boetzer-Seils 1998.) **14. fxe5** (14.exd5 Nfxd5 leads to exchanges favorable for Black.) **14...Nxe4 15.Bd4** (15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Nd4 Bc5 = Platanov-Polugaevsky 1968) **15...Nc6** (This retreat is unnecessary. HCE and Fritz 15 prefer 15...Bf5 =, 15...Qc7 = was also good. Other tries are 15...Nc5 16.Rf2 {? 16.Bxc5 Bxc5 17.Nb5 = HCE} 16...Nxb3 17.cxb3 Bc5 18.Bxc5 Rxc5 19.Qd4 Qe7-/+ Wehmeier-Degerman 2001, and 15...f5 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Bxe4 Thorsteinsson-Arnason 1981 where 19...Qxf1+ = is best.) **16.Nb5 = Re8 17.c3 Bf8 18.Qe2?!** (White is oblivious of the danger to his isolated e5 pawn. Better was 18.Nd2 Qh4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.g3 Qg5 21.Bxe4 Nxe5 = HCE. 18...Ng5 and 18...Nxd4 19.N3xd4 Nc5 are both equal. After 18.Qe2 White is worse with misplaced knights.) **18...Qg5 += 19.Rae1?** (Another poor move. It's better to trade queens with 19.Qe3 Qxe3 20.Bxe3 Nxe5 21.Nxa5 Re7 += HCE. Now Black gets a dangerous initiative.) **19...Nxe5 -/+ 20.Nxa5?** (I didn't realize how badly off I was. The best try was 20.Bxe4 dxe4 21.Nd2 -/+) **20...Nxf3!?** (This lessens Black's edge. White is in serious difficulties after 20...Bg4! 21.Qd1 Nxf3 22.gxf3 Bh5 23.Re3 f5-/+ 20...Bf5 was also good. Black should have tried to exploit White's queen being on the same file as his rook.) **21.gxf3 Nc5 22.Rg1**



22...Qd8? (Dmitry also didn't know how well he stood! Obvious and good was 22...Qh5 when HCE finds nothing better than 23.Bxc5 Bxc5 24.Nd4 Bxd4 25.cxd4 b6 26.Nb7 {26.Nb3? Qf5 and 27...Rc2 is -/+} when 26...Bd7 is close to winning.) **23.b4 Bd7 = 24.Qg2** (24.Bxg7!? Rxe2 25.Bd4 Bg7 26.Rxg7+ Kf8 27.Rxe2 Ne6 28.Rxh7 Qg5 = HCE) **24...Rxe1 25.Rxe1 Bxb5** (25...Nxa4 26.Nd6 =) **26.axb5 Ne6 27.Nxb7 Qh4 +=** (27...Qc7 = HCE) ½-½. Here I accepted Black's draw offer, but could have continued since the outside pawn might become a factor after 28.Qg3 Qxg3 29.hxg3 Nxd4 30.cxd4 Bxb4 31.Rb1 Be7? 32.b6 +-, but Black has 31...Rb8 =. I was lucky not to have lost, although I didn't know it then. I'm repeatedly surprised at how bad my old games are.

2200+ strength Dmitry Agrachov played chess in Colorado for

three years after immigrating from Russia in 1977. His tournament results were consistently good. I last saw him in 1980 when he was preparing to play in the US Junior Championship, but don't know what happened to him afterwards. We played six tournament games: after he won the first and I won the second we had four cautious draws since neither of us wanted to lose again! In June 1977 we went to the Jerry Spann Memorial in Muskogee, Oklahoma with Paul Nikitovich, Chris Hendrickson, and someone else I don't recall. When we ate at a fast food place Dmitry put ketchup on a piece of bread, like it was butter! Some condiments must have been unknown in Russia before glasnost and perestroika.

"Chess is an amazing game, teaching you everything from planning to patience to humility. One of my life goals is spreading knowledge about chess to the world." - IM Erik Kislik

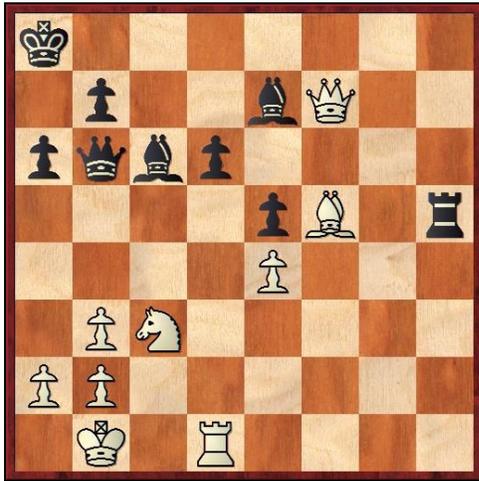
**Appreciation Open / Round 4
Denver, Colorado / May 7, 1978
Sicilian, Najdorf (B98)**

Walter D. Morris (2231, age 20)
Curtis Carlson (2223, age 24)

(<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18627>)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qa5 9.O-O-O Bd7 10.Bd3 Nc6 11.Nb3 Qc7 12.Rhe1 h6 13.Bxf6!? (Walter may have disliked 13.Bh4 because of 13...Nxe4!?) {Salgado-Carlson Masters Open 1979, and Reeve-Carlson SLC Futurity 1980}, although HCE says it's equal 14.Qxe4 Bxh4 15.Nd5 Qd8 16.g3 Be7 17.Nxe7 Qxe7 18.Kb1 Rd8. Without a dark squared bishop it's hard to advance the d6 pawn since c5 and e5 will have less cover.) **13...Bxf6 += 14.Bf1 O-O-O** (This was obvious, but HCE says Black is clearly better after 14...O-O and slightly better after 14...Rc8. These seemed wrong, since ...O-O castles into an attack and ...Rc8 forgoes ...O-O-O! Castling short is actually good, since it's hard for White to launch an offensive with no pieces aiming that way. Black's dark squared bishop is an attacker and a defender.) **15.Kb1 = Na5** (Black is slightly cramped so he trades pieces. HCE likes 15...Kb8 while Stockfish likes 15...g5. Even 3300 strength programs have differences of opinion! HCE also likes the strange 15...Be8, which must want to relieve the queen from protecting the d6 pawn.) **16.Rd3 Bc6** (Elliott Winslow would call this move incredibly passive!) **17.Red1 Nxb3 18.cxb3 Kb8** (Black hurries to get a rook on the c file.) **19.g3** (It's better to get out of the diagonal pin with 19.Qe3 = HCE) **19...Rc8** (As always, slow and steady. Best was 19...Bxc3! 20.Rxc3 f5 +=, and if 21.Bd3 fxe4 22.Bxe4 d5 23.Bd3 d4 wins the exchange. HCE gives White's best as 21.Qe3 Bxe4+ 22.Bd3 Bxd3 23.Rcxd3 +=. ...f5 eluded me again! I didn't learn much from my game with Trammell.) **20.Bg2 Rhd8 = 21.Qe3!?** (White's wants to triple on the d file, but more accurate was 21.Qe2 or 21.Qf2 with an eye on c2.) **21...Ka8** (The passivity never ends. The drawback to White's last is 21...Bb5! 22.R3d2 Bxc3 23.bxc3 Qxc3 24.Qxc3 Rxc3 25.Kb2 {25.Rxd6? Bd3+ -/+} 25...Re3-/+) **22.Qd2 = Qb6 23.h4 g6 24.Qe1 Be7 25.Bf3 h5 26.f5!?** (White wants to win and tries to complicate. 26.a3 Kb8 27.Ka2 = HCE) **26...e5?** (I don't recall why I made this terrible move. Now Black has to struggle with a

gaping d5 hole. Much better was 26...Qa5 intending ...Qe5.) 27.g4 +/- hxg4 (27...gxf5 28.gxf5 Rh8 is probably better since it doesn't allow White's bishop to occupy f5. I was reluctant to leave a target on h5.) 28.Bxg4 gxf5 29.Bxf5 Rb8 +/- 30.h5 Rh8 31.Rh3 Rh6 32.Qg3 (HCE prefers 32.Qe2 Rbh8 33.a3 +/-) 32...Rbh8 33.Qg7!? (This allows Black to equalize. KCE and HCE think 33.Qg4 += is best.) 33...Rxb5! 34.Rxb5 (34.Qxh8+ Rxb8 35.Rxb8+ Ka7 36.Rh7 Qb4 37.Rxf7 Bd8 = HCE) 34...Rxb5 35.Qxf7



35...Rh2! (Walter was expecting resignation, but the game goes on. This is what he missed when playing 33.Qg7.) 36.Bg4 (36.Qxe7? Qf2 -+) 36...Qf2 37.Qxf2 Rxf2 ... and drawn on move 46. Not all my luck is bad.

Walter Morris (born 1958) is from Ames, Iowa, and has been my good friend since we met at the 1976 North American Open. He received an IM title in 1979 after an outstanding 5.5 - 3.5 finish at the Lone Pine Masters tournament, where he beat six time US Champion Walter Browne. He also defeated Tony Miles, Larry Christiansen, and more top players in other events. Walter, a man of many talents, got a PhD from Cornell University in 1986. He continues to make beating strong players look easy.

"...I learned from Dvoretzky to stay true to my own moral values, which should never be discarded, and to never cross lines that should not be crossed no matter what."
- GM Artur Yusupov

North American Open / Round 8
Stillwater, Oklahoma / August 2, 1978
Sicilian, Alapin (B22)

Edgar Thomas McCormick (2138, age 64)
Curtis Carlson (2245, age 24)
(<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18628>)

1.e4 c5 2.c3 (Somehow he knew I hated the Alapin.) 2...Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4 Nc6 5.Nf3 cxd4 6.cxd4 d6 7.exd6 Qxd6 (HCE also likes 7...Bg4. If 8.dxe7? Qxe7 Black already has the advantage.) 8.Nc3 g6 9.Bc4 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Bg7 11.Qb3 O-O 12.Ng5 Qf6 13.O-O!? (This gives up the bishop pair. HCE

prefers 13.Be2 =+, while Rybka suggests 13.Ne4 Qf5 14.Bd3 = {+= HCE}) 13...Na5 14.Qa4 Nxc4 15.Qxc4



15...Bd7 (Also good was 15...b6 and ...Bb7 when the bishop pair and White's broken pawns give Black a slight but enduring advantage. Also reasonable was 15...Bf5 16.Re1 Rac8 17.Qb3 b6 =+. Black's light squared bishop is the most significant piece on the board since it has no counterpart.) 16.Re1 Rac8 17.Qb3 Bc6 18.Ne4 Qf5 19.f3 Qa5 20.Bb2 Bd5 -/+ 21.Qd1 b6 (Even more passivity! Best was 21...Rfe8, planning to open the center with ...h6, ...f5, and ...e5.)

"It is important not to miss the right moment. As Lenin said, 'Yesterday was too early, but tomorrow will be too late. We must storm the Winter Palace today, Comrades!' The situation is analogous in chess." - GM Alexei Kosikov

22.a4 Rfd8 23.Qe2 Bc4 (23...e5! was still best.) 24.Qf2 e6? = (As usual, tired and slow. HCE says it's still -/+ after 24...h6 25.Qh4 Re8) 25.Qh4 h6 26.Ba3 g5!? 27.Qf2? (27.Qh5 Rd7 = HCE) 27...Bd3 28.Bb4?



28...Qd5? = (Excessive faith in nominal material values also plagued me for many years, and I was already low on time. Obvious and good was 28...Qxb4 29.cxb4 Bd4 30.Re3 Bxa1 -+ HCE) 29.a5 Rc4 (Pivoting on the strong point a la Nimzovich,

but it's still equal.) **30.Rad1** (30.Be7 = HCE) **30...Rxb4** => (I finally noticed the c3 pawn is overworked.) **31.Rxd3 Ra4 32.axb6 axb6 33.f4** (A good move which hopes to open the f file and create a g5 weaknesses.) **33...Ra2** (33...f5 34.Ng3 Ra2 35.Qf3 Qxf3 36.Rxf3 Rd6 = HCE) **34.Rd2 Rda8** (Best was 34...Rxd2 35.Qxd2 g4 = HCE.) **35.fxg5 hxg5?** (This automatic recapture is wrong. Black is only a little worse after 35...Ra1 or 35...Rxd2 36.Qxd2 hxg5 37.Qxg5 Qxg5 38.Nxg5 Ra3, although he would have to admit he's playing for a draw.)



36.c4? (Bad play by both sides. 36.Nxg5! makes Black regret his last move.) **36...Rxd2 37.cxd5 Bxd4??** (In severe time pressure I make a howler. I forgot my rook was hanging! After 37...Rxf2 38.Kxf2 Bxd4+ 39.Kf1 exd5 40.Nxg5 f6 => Black's extra pawn and long range bishop offer some hope to win despite the bad structure.) **38.Nxd2 1-0** White claimed a win when my flag fell. More than forty years later I kick myself for 28...Qd5 and 37...Bxd4. How happy it would make me to go back in time and change some moves! Chess really is one long regret.

"It is no disgrace to lose - if one has fought to win."
- Master Po

This was my only game with two time New Jersey champion Edgar Thomas McCormick (1914-1991). He played chess more than fifty years and was well known nationally. His 1938 loss to the great Frank Marshall is at <https://tinyurl.com/FMEM1938>.

"Problems tend to snowball, multiplied by your perception; it seem like all 'dark forces' of chess rise against you to punish the coward."
- GM Alex Yermolinsky



Ghenrikh Kasparian's 531 page classic 'Domination in 2545 Endgame Studies' has many fascinating positions. #2072 is on page 431 (Horwitz & Kling 1851 - White to play):



The given solution is **1.Qg8+ Ke7 2.Nc6+ Kd7 3.Ne5+ Kc7 4.Qf7+ Kb8 5.Qe8+ Ka7 6.Qd7+ Ka6 7.Qc8+ +-.** Shredder's Endgame Database (<https://tinyurl.com/yywv9qcq>) prefers **1.Qg7+ Ke8 2.Qd7+ Kf8 3.Nc6 Qe3 4.Qd6+ Ke8 5.Qd8+ Kf7 6.Qg8+ Kf6 7.Qg6#.** White's queen is ideally posted on d7 where it stops distractions on d3 and h3.

"Different perceptions of the relative merits of certain advantages are what makes chess so fascinating."
- GM Nigel Short

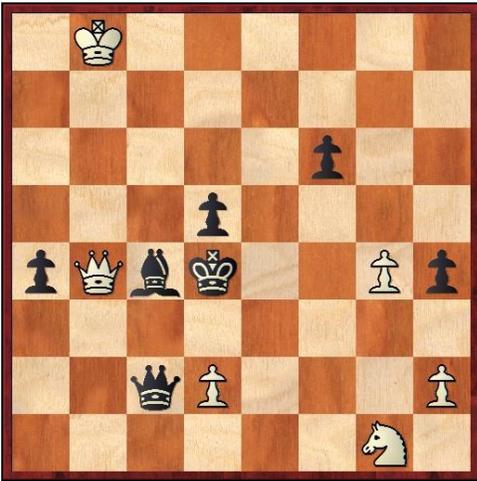
There's another oversight in diagram # 2086 (F. Sackmann 1921 - White to play):



The given solution is **1.Nb5+ Kd5 2.e7 c2 3.Nc3+ Kd6 4.e8Q c1Q 5.Qd8+ Kc6 (c5) 6.Qc8+ (c7) king moves 7.N checks +-;** **5...Ke6 6.Qc8+ Ke5 7.Qc5+ Ke6 8.Qc6+ Kf5 9.Qg6+ +-,** but the counterintuitive **3...Kc4!** draws. **4.Na2 Kb3 5.Nc1+ Kb2 6.Ne2 Ng1!** must be what the composer missed. (Of course not **6...Nf4?? 7.Nxf4 c1Q 8.Nd3+ +-)** **7.e8Q Nxe2 8.Qxe2** is a book draw; **if 4.Ne2 Nf4! 5.Nc1 Ne6+ and 6...Nc7** draws.

“The truth is rarely pure and never simple.” - Oscar Wilde.

#2156 also has a mistake (Troitsky 1910 - White to play):



The given solution is **1.Qb6+ Ke5 2.Qc7+ Ke6 3.Nf3 Qb3+ 4.Kc8 Qxf3 5.Kd8 (5...d4 6.Qe7 Kd5 7.Qb7 +-) 5...Qa3 6.Qd7+ Ke5 7.Qf5+ Kd4 8.Qxf6+ Ke4 9.Qf5+ Kd4 10.Qf4+ K moves 11.Qf8 (e3) +-**, but 3...Qe4! is at least a draw. Instead of 3.Nf3? White should take a draw with **3.Qc6+ Ke7 4.Qc7+ Kf8 5.Qd8+ Kf7 6.Qd7+**. It's easy to be judgmental when using a program! Shredder's endgame database allows six pieces, but one with seven pieces is at <https://syzygy-tables.info>.

“Obviously, not everything in life lends itself to a clear logical explanation!” - GM Mark Dvoretsky

US Open / Round 9
Phoenix, Arizona / August 15, 1978
 Philidor Defense (C41)

Curtis Carlson (2245, age 24)

IM John Peters (2519, age 27)

(<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18629>)

My third game against this well known IM and the first I didn't lose. A few months earlier at the Lone Pine Masters tournament he defeated three GMs and drew Portisch, Petrosian, and Lein - see <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=81012>.

I wasn't optimistic about doing better than them.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.O-O O-O 7.h3 (7.Re1 and 7.a4 are most common, but the text has been played by several Grandmasters.) 7...c6 8.a4 Nxe4 (My esteemed opponent outrated me by 300 points, so instead of simplifying it's surprising he didn't try 8...b6, 8...Qc7, or 8...a5 that would give me more ways to go wrong.) 9.Nxe4 (9.Bxf7+!? Rxf7 10.Nxe4 exd4 {10...d5 11.Neg5 Bxg5 12.Bxg5 Qc7 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Qxe5 = HCE, KCE} 11.Nfg5 Bxg5 12.Nxg5 Rf6 13.Qxd4 d5 += Schlechter-Burn 1907) 9...d5 10.Bb3 (10.Ng3 dxc4 11.dxe5 Nc5 = HCE; 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.dxe5 dxc4 12.Nd6 += HCE. Like Bobby I wanted to keep my light squared bishop!) 10...dxe4 11.Nxe5 Nf6 (11...Bd6 12.f4

exf3? {12...Qe7 += HCE} 13.Nxf3 {13.Nxf7! Rxf7 14.Qxf3 Nf6 15.Bg5 Be7 16.Rae1 +- HCE} 13...Qa5? 14.Ng5 +- Nf6 15.Qd3 h6 16.Nxf7 1-0 Carlson-Amateur, Las Cruces 1975; 13...h6 14.Qd3 Nf6 += HCE) 12.c3 Nd5 13.f3 exf3 14.Qxf3 Be6 15.Bc2 c5 16.Qd3 g6!? (This natural move lets White continue development easily. It's only slightly worse for Black after 16...f5) **17.Bh6 +/- Re8!?** (Another natural move that increases White's edge. HCE prefers the exchange sac 17...cxd4 18.Qxd4 Nf6 19.Bxf8 Qxf8 20.Kh1 +=) **18.Rae1 Bd6?** (Now Black is lost. To meet the obvious threat of 19.Nxg6 f6 20.Rxe6 a better try was 18...Bh4 19.Re2 Nc7 which is also difficult for Black. 18...Bf8 19.Bxf8 Rxf8 20.Nxg6 f6 21.Rxe6 Nf4 is also possible but it's still bad after 22.Rxf4 Rxf4 23.Rxg6+! hxg6 24.Qxg6+ Kf8 25.Qh6+ Ke8 26.Qxf4 with three pawns for the exchange.) **19.Qf3 Qc7**



20.Be4? (White foolishly blocks his own rook when 20.Bb3! +- was overwhelming. The bishop's work c2 was done, so aiming at four hostile pieces on the a2-g7 diagonal was obvious and good. It took a stronger player than me to see something so deep.) **20...cxd4 (Peters was obviously relieved and played this instantly.) 21.cxd4 Bxe5 22.dxe5 Qxe5 23.Kh1 Qh5 24.Qxh5 gxh5 25.Bxd5 (White still has a small edge and could hope to make something out of the bishop pair with 25.Bf3. HCE likes 25.Rf3 +/- I just wanted not to lose again! White's objective now is to trade rooks for an opposite colored bishop ending.) 25...Bxd5 26.Bd2 =+ Be4 27.Bc3 Rac8 28.Rd1 Bc6 29.Rf5 Re6 30.a5 Rg6 31.Rd2 Re8 32.Re5 Rxe5 (Black goes for the full point because of the rating difference, but must make this exchange since he can't cede both open files.) 33.Bxe5 f6 34.Bc3 Kf7 (We were moving quickly with only two minutes each left to make the 50 move time control. About a dozen spectators were watching.)**

“The clock is just as much a part of the game as the board and pieces and losing because of time-trouble is no different than losing because of weak play - it's still a zero on the scoresheet. The only difference is that, if you run very short of time, you will almost certainly lose; if you play more quickly, you may lose because of weak play, but then again you may not.”

- John Nunn.

35.Re2 f5 36.Kh2 Be4 37.g3 h4 38.g4 Ke6 39.gxf5+ Kxf5 40.Rf2+ Ke6 41.Re2 Kd5 42.Rd2+ Kc6 43.Re2 Bf5 44.Rf2 Bd7 45.Rf6+ (Hallelujah! The draw is guaranteed.) 45...Kb5 46.Rxg6 hxg6 47.Kg2 g5 48.Bf6 g4 49.hxg4 Bxg4 50.Bxh4 Kxa5 51.Kf2 Kb4 52.Ke3 Kb3 53.Bf6

After the dust settled from our time scramble I left the board briefly. When I returned Peters looked at me, smiled slightly, and said, "This is a draw.", and we shook hands. He then said I missed an 'easy win' with 20.Bb3, which surprised me since I never expected to do so well against such a strong player.

"If your opponent has played inaccurately, you must punish him, even if he is a 2800+ World Champion." - IM Colin Crouch.

I've thought about this game every day for 41 years, and at times it seems like a dream.

"Time waits for no one, least of all me." - Mick Jagger

"Time is the substance I am made of. Time is a river which sweeps me along, but I am the river; it is a tiger which destroys me, but I am the tiger; it is a fire which consumes me, but I am the fire." - Jorge Luis Borges

I met John Peters (who changed his name to Jack) at the 1974 US Open in New York City. He easily won our first two games, both in 1976: Del Webb's Townhouse tournament in Phoenix, and the Keres Memorial in Vancouver, British Columbia. After two disasters it was nice not to lose! We played for the fourth and last time in the 1979 World Open, where I finally won. Afterwards he said "You're a terror with White", but he hadn't seen my game with Agrachov. Jack Peters got his IM title in 1979 and wrote a column for the Los Angeles Times for many years. He still plays actively in Los Angeles and at age 68 holds a 2400 rating.

The 1978 Phoenix US Open was memorable for several reasons: it was consistently hotter than 100 degrees, I won \$400, and Joe Bradford of Texas took clear first with 10.5 out of 12! His fine win over GM Jim Tarjan is at:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1141396>.

This is the position after Black's 28th move:



(Bradford - Tarjan / 1978 - White to play)



Joe won handily after 29.Qxc5 Qxc3 30.Rd8+ Bf8 31.Bd4, but missed 29.Rd8+! Bxd8 30.Qh8+! Kxh8 32.Rxd8+ Rf8 33.Rxf8#, and if 29...Bf8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Qh8+ Ke7 32.Qd8#. It was an interesting struggle to see in progress. Jim struck back in their next game with an excellent exchange sac: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1141411>.

JT retired from chess after the 1984 US Championship, but resumed play in 2014. In 2017 he defeated former world champion Vladimir Kramnik very nicely:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1886224>.

"I may be an old lion, but if you put your head in my mouth I'll bite it off!" - Emanuel Lasker.

No one ever quits chess for long.

As always, I learn from my own articles while writing them! I appreciate the opportunity to share memories. These bad games and a few others are at:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=100480>.

Comments, corrections, and criticisms are welcomed and appreciated: Curt2309@comcast.net.



U.S. Chess Championship Report From St. Louis

by John Brezina, Brian Wall w/J.C. MacNeil

J.C. MacNeil - Once again we are treated to a John Brezina report from St. Louis with a few pictures of his in this article. All of his great photos from this stellar event can be viewed online at <https://tinyurl.com/yy8f2s2y>. For this trip he was accompanied by Brian Wall, and later joined by Dwight Sehler and Elena Novik.

We'll start out with Mr. Brezina's summary of the event, followed by Mr. Wall's stories and tales. Lengthy, but well worth your time to read.

John Brezina - Hello, Colorado chess fans! Another great US Chess Championship just finished in St. Louis and I was able to attend the final two rounds. This has become one of my favorite annual tournaments. The St. Louis Chess Club has hosted each year since opening and once again put on a professional event for spectators live or online. US chess fans should make a pilgrimage once to this great event where you can not only watch the twelve best men and women play up close but also have a chance to meet them.

Weeks before this planned trip I had learned that our Denver Chess Club President Brian Wall turned the magical chess age of 64, so I decided to invite him along for his lifetime of dedication to chess. Eventually, our DCC friends Dwight Sehler and Elena Novik would join us in St. Louis. While I have known Brian for many years, I very much enjoyed getting to know Dwight and Elena and their joy of chess. While many of us just show up to play chess at the DCC, try getting to know some other members as we all have a story to share.

Before I talk about the US Championship, I'd like to share a heartwarming story that has been going viral recently about a young 8-year-old boy from Nigeria. The young Tanitoluwa Adewumi, or "Tani", won the New York State Scholastic Championships for K-3. And he did this by knowing the game of chess for barely a year! The Adewumi family left Nigeria in 2017 and found asylum in New York City. And now chess is changing their lives and they are helping other refugees.

The Adewumi's were invited to St. Louis for a visit to the US Chess Championship and I had the honor of meeting the entire family and chess coaches from the elementary school P.S. 116. Tani was first given a tour of the club where he gazed at the walls filled with famous chess players. Then invited downstairs to play a game with reporter FM Mike Klein of *Chess.com* and later with champions Jennifer Yu and Hikaru Nakamura amongst others. I was there also to witness his "puzzle rush" skills which were impressive. We made our way upstairs where Tani would make the opening move on the Nakamura and Dominguez board.



Tanitoluwa "Tani" Adewumi

It was an absolute pleasure speaking with his parents, Kayode & Oluwatoyin. Both were very kind and humble about the entire experience. Their other son Austin was there also along with P.S. 116 school chess program supervisor Russell Makofsky. I think we'll be hearing about Tani and his family for some time as he aspires to become the youngest Grandmaster.

We were there for the final weekend, where round 10 would pair up the tournament leaders. GM Hikaru Nakamura and GM Leinier Dominguez, each with 6.5 points. A showdown between four-time US Champ Nakamura and the newly US federated Dominguez from Cuba would be the main attraction. And with GM Fabiano Caruana at 6.0 points anything could happen.

Not to be outdone, on the women's side veteran IM Anna Zatonskih at 7.5 points would play the young leader FM Jennifer Yu with 8.0 points. A win for Anna would give her a shot at her fifth title while a win for Miss Yu would clinch her first title. This is why I try to attend the final rounds, great stuff! The next nearest contender was WGM Tatev Abrahamyan with 6.0 points (*Tatev later played in the 2019 Denver Open*).

What to watch with so many great games! Anna Zatonskih with the white pieces would press against the undefeated Jennifer Yu. With her seven wins, two draws and her IM norms secured, the young Yu would be hard to beat. After a long struggle and what looked like a possible draw by repetition, Miss Yu found a nice mating combination and therefore won the 2019 US Women's Chess Championship title with a round to spare. As a jubilant Jennifer Yu went downstairs, a great crowd greeted her with thundering applause that could be heard upstairs in the normally quiet playing hall.

Turning to the Fabiano Caruana vs. Aleksandr Lenderman game, a well prepared Fabiano would play against the Petroff Defense. No doubt still having preparation from the World Championship match, he would handily defeat Aleks and put himself temporarily in the lead. Nakamura playing with white would never get any real chances in the game. Dominguez would hold the draw and continue a great performance in his first US

Championship appearance. So with that quiet draw, we ended up with a three-way tie going into the final round!

The final round Sunday is what I relish about these tournaments. Big pressure chess games like these are where Champions shine. With the women's title already secured, all attention was on the men's side. A large crowd gathered to watch the finale and would not be disappointed.

Last year's winner Sam Shankland would play Fabiano Caruana. With queens leaving the board early the game fizzled into a quiet draw. The next game to finish would be Hikaru Nakamura playing with black against the young Jeffrey Xiong who had an incredible start to the tournament. Nakamura would play the Dutch and complicate the position where the veteran would steer the game in his favor. In the end, a king walk up the center of the board along with his knight and rook would catch Jeffrey Xiong in a mating net.



U.S. Men's Champion Hikaru Nakamura

With a win for Nakamura, his fifth title was uncertain until the end of the Leinier Dominguez vs. Timur Gareev game. All eyes were now on this game. Dominguez was heavily favored playing with the white pieces against the lower rated Gareev. The two had first met and played in the 2006 Olympiad, and the blindfold king would not go down easy. A long marathon game would ensue and with Dominguez getting to the endgame a piece up, it looked as if a tie break game would be in the works on Monday. But Gareev, showing great endgame resourcefulness, held the knight at bay and made a draw. Thus, Hikaru Nakamura became the 2019 US Chess Champion! Caruana and Dominguez tied for second place. On the women's side, Anna Zatonskih and Tatev Abrahamyan tied for second.

A great tournament for Jennifer Yu with a whopping score of 10 out of 11 points! And also for Hikaru Nakamura capturing his fifth US title fourteen years after his first. Both were a young seventeen years old for their first US titles. A great finish to a great tournament.

The trio of Yasser Seirawan, Jennifer Shahade, and Maurice Ashley once again provided great live broadcast commentating.

And next door the GM duo Alejandro Ramirez and Eric Hansen provided great live commentary which Brian Wall enjoyed very much. After an interview by Mike Klein, fans lined up for pictures and a chance to meet the US champion. Nakamura's second Kris Littlejohn made an appearance along with Sunil Weeramantry, Hikaru's stepfather and world-renowned chess coach (*Sunil also played in the Denver Open*). Many people stayed afterward to play chess at the club and catch a glimpse of their favorite players.

After an action packed weekend of chess, Monday would be a relaxing day until the closing ceremony in the evening. Dwight, Brian, and I had quite a time not just with chess, but meeting many great people and players there. The beautiful Chase Park Plaza would hold the closing ceremony and provide some great entertainment.



U.S. Women's Champion Jennifer Yu

A live band each night along with pool tables ran late into the night. We were able to hang out with Timur Gareev and friends one evening and the US champ another. And for you pool sharks out there, Dwight is an excellent pool player! Elena Novik missed the weekend but did arrive Monday for the closing ceremony. So we would all visit the Hall of Fame and tour the latest exhibit, US Chess 80 years. Great history and tradition in US chess we can all be proud to be part of as chess players.

The closing ceremony has become a great annual gala where everyone dresses up for an evening of awards, speeches, dining, dancing and relaxing chess! The Godfather of chess Rex Sinquefeld and wife Jeanne would open the awards ceremony. Local officials and US Chess representatives would also speak. First the runner ups and then each of our new champions, Hikaru Nakamura and Jennifer Yu.

Afterward many were seeking pictures with the new champions, including the latest Hall of Fame inductee Susan Polgar. Then onto the dance floor where a DJ kept the party going late into the night. Regulars on the dance floor included our very own Brian & Elena who are pretty good dancers. Chess boards were set up



Colorado's Own - Brian Wall

everywhere for play or kibitzing of some of the great players. The party would end upstairs but continue on elsewhere late into the early morning hours. Then Brian, Elena, and I caught an insanely early flight back to Denver.

Many thanks to my travel partners for a great weekend and to everyone who reads these reports. Please thank the Denver Chess Club manager J.C. MacNeil next time at the DCC for all his tireless work behind the scenes at the club and these informative reports. - *John Brezina, Parker Chess Club*

Brian Wall - The first time John Brezina took me to the Saint Louis Chess Club to watch the 2015 Sinquefeld Cup I was in awe. I could barely speak to the World Champions and Super Grandmasters in the autograph line. I stood for 4 hours a few feet away transfixed as Topalov sprang a novelty on Magnus Carlsen and beat him.

When John Brezina took me to the recently concluded U.S. Championship in Saint Louis I was more relaxed. It took me a while to get used to a sleeper couch in a bed and breakfast, I walked like a King Crab the first day. I did not feel like standing for four hours so I went to the King's Diner where GMs Alejandro Ramirez and Eric Hansen did analysis for the crowd. I soon realized that Eric saw everything I did and more, Alejandro Ramirez saw everything Eric saw and more. It took me two days to come up with a single suggestion they didn't laugh at and refute instantly.

Not only was Alejandro better and quicker on the Chessboard, but even his humor was also better and quicker. GM Nakamura predicted that GM Lenier Dominguez had an 80% chance to beat GM Timur Gareyev in the final round. Naka, Lenier, and Caruana were fighting for 50k, tied for first. *"I helped Timur Gareyev prepare last night, he drank and danced and played pool until 2:00am."* - Brian Wall. *"His position looks like it."* - GM Alejandro Ramirez

After the Women's tournament, Alejandro helped his girlfriend Tatev Abrahamyan figure out if she qualified for the World Cup.

"What, I didn't know I was playing for that!?" - Tatev.

"Yes, this year is a qualifier. The first tiebreaks is head to head." - Alejandro.

"Oh darn, I was White." - Tatev.

"That doesn't matter, you drew. The second tiebreaks is number of Blacks, you both had 5. The third tiebreaks is the Coi method." - Alejandro.

"What the hell is that?" - Tatev.

"How you did against people who broke even or had a plus score." - Alejandro.

It turned out it was still up in the air depending on games still going, but eventually, Tatev did qualify for the next World Cup.

"I am going to make you go!" - Alejandro.

"It's sounding worse all the time." - Tatev.

GM Shankland signed his book for me, Yasser Seirawan signed the "Stress of Chess" by Walter Browne since he wrote the foreword. Walter had given a simul in Saint Louis before he died and also signed the book. John Brezina grabbed a copy when he heard that. Yaz is always warm, friendly, smooth and cool.

John Brezina, Dwight Sehler, Timur Gareyev and I played pool together. After Hikaru Nakamura won the US Championship, he lost the best game of pool Dwight Sehler ever played. Every amazing shot went in. Hikaru got in his ride to go home, then raced back to shake hands with Brezina and Sehler, then raced back to his Uber limo.



Brian Wall dancing with Elena Novik

At the closing ceremony, there was a small wooden rectangle for dancing with a DJ playing great tunes. All the women were lined up in pretty dresses, they had spent weeks choosing, waiting to dance. The men were lined up along the edges obviously playing blitz. After an hour I couldn't take it anymore. I was very self-conscious at first, 64 years old, 300 pounds and could barely breathe right. Somehow after a few drinks, I didn't care

anymore and danced with all the women. They called me the luckiest man alive. I told Chris Peterson I asked 17-year-old Jennifer Yu for the honor of dancing with the US Women's Champion. Chris replied with this quip: *"Whoa, slow down there, Joe Biden!"*

I was incorporating John Travolta moves from 40 years ago with new ones I invented that night, like imitating the 4-year-old daughter of Varuzhan Akobian who ran around her father. I was doing the bump with chess babes. Eventually, Maurice Ashley and others helped me out. I was jumping up and down, I was insane. I mostly danced with Elena Novik and Jennifer from California, the woman who organized Timur's world record blindfold simul. Sometimes I would get carried away and found the women shrinking back silently shrieking, *"Hold off! Unhand me, grey-beard loon!"* which barely contained my over-exuberance. (Brian is taking that quote from "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner".)

While Timur drank and danced and played pool I tried to look up Lenier Dominguez games to help Timur in the last round. The Dominguez games were so impressive I stopped after a while. I had to agree with Nakamura's 80% prediction but Timur surprised everybody.

At one point I was sitting in a big comfy green chair watching Nakamura win the US Championship. Hikaru still remembers our draw 15 years ago with rook and knight-pawn vs. rook. It was surreal, like the US Championship coming through my TV screen into my living room.

John Brezina was hilariously funny this trip, he knows my foibles so well now he teases me like a brother. John and Dwight helped me pick out closing ceremony clothes from Goodwill and Salvation Army. I was quite shocked I could find any pants that



GM Susan Polgar with John Brezina

could fit me without any obvious connection to the circus. I met Tony, from Kansas City, who had kindly delivered 40 White Castle burgers to the bar. Later John, Dwight and I handed over a bag to some homeless guys sleeping in a storefront.

John Brezina works for United Airlines, and we flew standby to St. Louis together. Dwight Sehler and Elena Novik arrived on a later flight. We all ended up on the same flight going home Tuesday morning, at 5:00am. Before that, we all visited the Chess Hall of Fame together. - *Brian Wall*

As always, thanks to John Brezina for the report and his outstanding photography. And also thanks to Brian "Mr. Colorado Chess" Wall, for his contribution to this report as well.



2019 COLORADO CLOSED

by Richard "Buck" Buchanan
Chief Tournament Director

The 2019 Colorado Closed was played on the weekend of April 5-7 in the Hampton Inn and Suites in Lone Tree, where it had been played twice before. This year we attempted to return to our usual format, with four round-robin tournaments of six players each. However, there were problems on the way. The players in the Championship and Reserve (formerly Challenger) Sections eagerly lined up to play. But in the Scholastic sections there were problems, as for one reason or another players kept dropping out, and I was having a harder and harder time replacing them. Finally as the date came closer and the final withdrawal left the field, we found ourselves with only one Scholastic section.

The Championship and Scholastic Sections followed similar patterns. In each, two red-hot players dominated the section with win after win until, with maximum drama, they played each other in the final round! In the Championship it was Josh Bloomer who went 5-0, while Nikhilesh Kunche took second place one point behind. Gunnar Andersen was third. Other strong masters had a harder time of it, laying goose eggs while the Dynamic Duo powered their way to the last round. There was only one draw in the section, a great contrast with two years ago.

In the Scholastic Section the high scorers were the two lowest rated: Karthik Selva and Andrew Roerty. Andrew, from Ft. Collins, was a late entry who was asked to play as others were withdrawing. Karthik Selva gave up a draw to Wesley Woo while Andrew was doing his Bobby Fischer act and winning everything - until the last round when Karthik scored the point. In a tie for third place were Teah Williams and Wesley Woo with 2 points. Teah was discouraged after three losses but came back roaring and won her last two games.

The Reserve Section was more balanced. Sullivan McConnell (who received his

Master's rating at the *Denver Open!*) started out slow but then turned on all the burners to take first place with three wins and a draw. Following him were three players with three points each: Rhett Langseth, Daniel Herman, and Zach Bekkedahl.

A change made this year was that the winner of the Reserve Section no longer automatically qualified for the next year's Championship. But I'd say there's a good chance Sully will get there anyway. The tournament went smoothly. The playing room was small but with only three sections it was roomier than in previous years. None of the games took too long, the hotel was comfortable and obliging (like that free breakfast buffet!), and a good time was had by most. I won't comment further on the unhappy ones.

As usual, all the games in the Championship are published and a good selection from the other two.

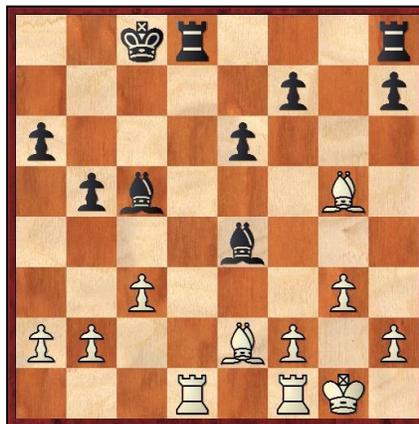
(Pictures courtesy of Shirley Herman)

Championship Section

Round 1

Gunnar Andersen (2344)
Lior Lapid (2332)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Nb3 a6 9.Nbxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Bc5 11.Be3 b6 12.Qg4 Nh6 13.Bxh6 Qxd4 14.Qxg7 Bb7 15.Qxd4 Bxd4 16.c3 Bc5 17.g3 0-0-0 18.Rad1 b5 19.Be2 Be4 20.Bg5



Rd5 21.Bf6 Rg8 22.Rxd5 exd5 23.Rd1 Kd7 24.Bd4 Kc6 25.Bh5 Bxd4 26.Rxd4 f6 27.Bd1 Re8 28.Kf1 Bf5 29.f3 Bb1

30.Bb3 Re5 31.g4 h5 32.f4 Re3 33.Bxd5+ Kc5 34.Kf2 Rh3 35.Bg2 Rh4 36.Rd5+ Kc4 37.Rxh5 Rxd4 38.Bf3 Rxf4 39.Ke3 Rf5 40.Rxf5 Bxf5 41.Be4 Bh3 42.Kf4 a5 43.Kg3 Be6 44.Bc2 Bd7 45.h4 Kd5 46.Kf4 Kd6 47.h5 Ke7 48.Bf5 Bc6 49.h6 Kf7 50.Ke3 Bd5 51.a3 a4 52.Kd4 Bc4 53.Kc5 Bf1 54.Kd6 Bc4 55.h7 Kg7 56.Ke7 1-0

Josh Bloomer (2331)
Richard Shtivelband (2273)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 Na6 3.Nc3 Nc7 4.Bf4 Nf6 5.Bd3 g6 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.h3 0-0 9.Ne2 b5 10.a4 a6 11.Qd2 Bb7 12.Ng3 Nd7 13.Bh6 e5 14.c3 Qe7 15.Rfd1 Rfd8 16.b4 Qf8 17.Bxg7 Qxg7 18.Ne2 d5 19.Ng3 f5 20.exf5 e4 21.fxg6 hxg6 22.Nxe4 dxe4 23.Bxe4 Re8 24.Re1 Re7 25.axb5 Nxb5 26.c4 Nd6 27.Bd3 Rae8 28.c5 Ne4 29.Qc1 Qf6 30.Bc4+ Kg7 31.Ra2 Nf8 32.Rae2 Nh7 33.Ne5 Neg5 34.h4 Ne6 35.Ng4 Qxh4 36.Rxe6 Rxe6 37.Rxe6 Rf8 38.Qe3 1-0

Brian Wall (2206)
Nikhilesh Kunche (2289)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 a6 8.0-0-0 Bd7 9.f4 b5 10.Bxb5 axb5 11.Ndx5 Nb4 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Nxd6+ Bxd6 14.Qxd6 Nxa2+ 15.Nxa2 Rxa2 16.Kb1 Ra7 17.b3 Qa8 18.f5 Ra1+ 19.Kb2 Qa2+ 20.Kc3 Qa5+ 21.Kd4 Qa7+ 22.Kc3 Ra6 23.Qb4 Rb6 24.Qd4 Rc6+ 25.Kb2 Qxd4+ 26.Rxd4 Ke7 27.Rhd1 Bc8 28.c4 exf5 29.exf5 Bxf5 30.b4 Be6 31.c5 Rb8 32.Rc1 f5 33.Kc3 Ra6 34.Rb1 Ra3+ 35.Kc2 Ra2+ 36.Rb2 Rxb2+ 37.Kxb2 Kf6 38.Kc3 Ke5 39.g3 Ra8 40.Rd6 Ra3+ 41.Kc2 Ra2+ 42.Kc3 Rxh2 43.b5 Rg2 44.b6 Rxg3+ 45.Kc2 Bd5 46.Rd7 h5 47.b7 Rg8 48.Rc7 Rb8 49.c6 Bxc6 50.Rxc6 Rxb7 51.Kd3 Kf4 52.Ke2 Rb2+ 53.Kf1 h4 54.Kg1 Kg4 55.Rc3 f4 56.Ra3 h3 57.Rc3 Re2 58.Ra3 f3 59.Ra8 h2+ 60.Kh1 f2 61.Rg8+ Kf4 62.Rg1 fxg1R# 0-1

Round 2

Nikhilesh Kunche (2289)
Lior Lapid (2332)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Nb3 a6 9.a4 Nf6 10.Nbxd4 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Bc5 12.Nb3 Bd6 13.Qe2 Qc7 14.h3 0-0 15.Rd1 Nd7 16.Nd4 Ne5 17.Bb3 b6

18.Bg5 Bb7 19.f4 Ng6 20.Nxe6 Qb8
21.Nxf8 Qxf8 22.Bxf7+ Kxf7 23.Qc4+
Ke8 24.Qe6+ 1-0

Richard Shtivelband (2273)
Brian Wall (2206)

1.e4 c5 2.Be2 Nc6 3.f4 e6 4.Nf3 d5 5.d3
Nf6 6.e5 Nd7 7.c3 Be7 8.d4 0-0 9.Be3
Rb8 10.0-0 b5 11.Nbd2 a5 12.Bd3 c4
13.Bc2 Nb6 14.Ng5 h6 15.Qh5 Bd7
16.Nh7 b4 17.Rf3 f5 18.Nxf8 Bxf8 19.g4
Ne7 20.Rg3 Qe8 21.Qh3 g6 22.Nf3 Bg7
23.Nh4 Qf7 24.Kh1 bxc3 25.bxc3 Na4
26.gxf5 exf5 27.Nxg6 Nxg6 28.Rag1 Rb6
29.e6 Rxe6 30.Bxf5 Rxe3 31.Bxd7 Rxc3
32.hxg3 Qe7 33.Bxa4 Qe2 34.Bd1 Qe3
35.Qg2 Qxc3 36.Qxd5+ Kh8 37.Qe4 Nf8
38.d5 Qb4 39.Bc2 Qc5 40.Rd1 Qc8
41.Kg2 1-0

Gunnar Andersen (2344)
Josh Bloomer (2331)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6
5.Bb5 Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.Nc3 Nf6
8.Bg5 e6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.Rhe1 0-0 11.e5
dxe5 12.Qh4 Qe8 13.Nxe5 h6 14.Bxh6
gxh6 15.Qxh6 Nh7 16.f4 Kh8 17.g4 Rg8
18.Rd3 Rd8 19.Rh3 Rg7 20.Kb1 f6
21.Nd3 Qf7 22.Rhe3 Rxc4 23.Rxe6 Bf8
24.Qh3 Rg7 25.f5 Kg8 26.R6e3 Ng5
27.Qf1 Qc4 28.Qf2 Rd4 29.Qe2 b5
30.Nd1 Rh4 31.Rg3 Bd6 32.Ne3 Qf7
33.Rgg1 Rxh2 34.Qd1 Nf3 35.Ng4 Nxe1
36.Nxe1 Qf8 37.Nf3 Bxf3 38.Qxf3 Rh4
0-1

Round 3

Lior Lapid (2332)
Josh Bloomer (2331)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.c3
Qb6 6.Qb3 c4 7.Qxb6 axb6 8.Nbd2 b5
9.a3 b4 10.cxb4 Nxb4 11.Rc1 Nc6
12.Nb1 h6 13.Nc3 Bf5 14.Be2 e6 15.Nb5
Ra5 16.Nc3 Ne4 17.Bd1 Nxc3 18.Rxc3
b5 19.Rc1 b4 20.a4 b3 21.Bxb3 Nb4
22.Ne5 f6 23.Nxc4 Nd3+ 24.Ke2 dxc4
25.Rxc4 Nxf4+ 26.exf4 Kd7 27.Bd1 Bd6
28.b4 Raa8 29.Ke3 Rbc8 30.Rc5 Rab8
31.g4 Bh7 32.b5 Bxc5 33.dxc5 Rxc5
34.Bf3 Rc3+ 35.Ke2 Bd3+ 36.Kd2 Ra3
37.Rc1 Bxb5 0-1

Brian Wall (2206)
Gunnar Andersen (2344)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nc3
0-0 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Nh3 c5 8.d5 a6 9.Nf2
b5 10.cxb5 Qa5 11.Bd2 axb5 12.Bxb5
Ba6 13.Bxa6 Qxa6 14.Qe2 Rfb8 15.Qxa6
Rxa6 16.Rb1 Ne8 17.Kd1 Bd4 18.Rf1
Ne5 19.Kc2 Nc4 20.Nfd1 Nc7 21.Bc1
Nb5 22.Nxb5 Rxb5 23.Nc3 Rb8 24.Re1
Bxc3 25.Kxc3 Na3 26.Ra1 Nb5+ 27.Kd3
Nd4 28.Be3 Rxb2 29.Bxd4 cxd4 30.a4
Rb4 31.e5 Rxa4 32.Rxa4 Rxa4 33.exd6
exd6 34.h4 Ra3+ 35.Kxd4 Ra4+ 36.Kd3
Rxh4 37.Re8+ Kg7 38.Rd8 Rh2 39.g4 h5
40.gxh5 gxh5 41.Rxd6 h4 42.Ra6 h3
43.Ke3 Rb2 44.Ra4 h2 45.Rh4 Kf6
46.Rh8 Ke5 47.d6 Kxd6 48.Kf4 Kd5
49.Kg3 f5 50.Rxh2 f4+ 51.Kh3 Rxh2+
52.Kxh2 Kd4 53.Kh1 Ke3 54.Kg1 Kxf3

55.Kf1 Ke3 0-1

Richard Shtivelband (2273)
Nikhilesh Kunche (2289)

1.e4 c5 2.Be2 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7
5.0-0 d6 6.c3 Nf6 7.e5 dxe5 8.fxe5 Nd5
9.d4 cxd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Nc3 Bf5
12.Qb3 Ndb4 13.Bg5 Nc2 14.Qxb7 Nxa1
15.Qxc6 Nc2 16.Nd5 f6 17.exf6 Bxf6
18.Nxf6+ exf6 19.Bh6 Re8 20.Bc4+ Kh8
21.Bf7 Re2 22.Qc4 Qe7 23.Ne5 Nxd4
24.Bd5 Qxe5 25.Bf4 Qxd5 26.Qxd5 Be4
27.Qxd4 Rxc2+ 28.Kh1 Re2+ 29.Rf3
Bxf3+ 30.Kg1 Re6 31.Bg5 Rf8 32.Bh6
Rfe8 33.Qxa7 R6e7 34.Qb6 Bd5 35.a4
Kg8 36.a5 g5 37.Qb5 Re5 38.a6 Kf7
39.Qd3 Be4 40.Qd7+ Kg6 41.Qg7+ Kh5
42.a7 Bd5 0-1 (*A fine hard fought game!*)

Round 4

Lior Lapid (2332)
Richard Shtivelband (2273)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Bf4 Nf6
5.Nc3 a6 6.e3 Nc6 7.Bd3 Bg4 8.Nge2 e6
9.0-0 Bd6 10.f3 Bh5 11.Rc1 Bg6 12.Na4
e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Bxg6 Nxg6 15.Bxd6
Qxd6 16.Nc5 0-0 17.Nxb7 Qe7 18.Nc5
Qxe3+ 19.Kh1 Rfe8 20.Re1 Nh4 21.Qd4
Qg5 22.Qf2 Qd2 23.Rcd1 Qxb2 24.Nd3
Qxa2 25.Ndc1 1-0

Josh Bloomer (2331)
Brian Wall (2206)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 Bd7 7.Qd2 Rc8 8.0-0-0





Nxd4 9.Qxd4 Qa5 10.f4 Rxc3 11.bxc3 e5 12.Qb4 Qxb4 13.cxb4 Nxe4 14.Bh4 exf4 15.Rd5 Be7 16.Bxe7 Kxe7 17.Bd3 Nf2 18.Re1+ Be6 19.Bf5 g6 20.Bxe6 fxe6 21.h3 h5 22.Rd2 Ng4 23.hxg4 hxg4 24.Rd4 g5 25.g3 Rf8 26.Red1 d5 27.Rg1 e5 28.Rxd5 Ke6 29.Ra5 Kf5 30.Rxa7 Ke4 31.Ra3 Kf5 32.Ra5 Ke4 33.gxf4 gxf4 34.Rxg4 Kf3 35.Rg7 e4 36.Re5 e3 37.Rxb7 Ke2 38.b5 Ra8 39.b6 Kf2 40.Rbe7 Ra4 1-0

Nikhilesh Kunche (2289)

Gunnar Andersen (2344)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d5 4.exd5 Nf6 5.Bb5+ Nbd7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 Nb6 8.h3 Nbx5 9.Re1 a6 10.Bc4 Nxc3 11.bxc3 b5 12.Bb3 Bb7 13.a4 Ne4 14.Qd3 c5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Rxa8 Qxa8 17.Qxb5 Nxc3 18.Qxc5 Bxf3 19.Qxc3 Bxg2 20.Rxe7 Bh1 21.Kf1 Bf6 22.Re7 Qg2+ 23.Ke2 Qg1 24.Rxf7 Rxf7 25.Qc4 Bf3+ 26.Kxf3 Qh1+ 27.Ke2 Qe4+ 28.Be3 1-0

Round 5

Brian Wall (2206)

Lior Lapid (2332)

1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e5 Bd7 4.g3 c5 5.Bg2 Nc6 6.0-0 g5 7.c4 dxc4 8.Na3 g4 9.Nh4 Nxe5 10.f4 Ng6 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.Nxc4 Bc6 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.d3 Bg7 15.Be3 Bd4 16.Qxg4 Nh6 17.Qf3 Nf5 18.Qxc6+ Kf8 19.Rae1 Kg7 20.Qe4 Nxe3 21.Nxe3 Bxb2 22.Nc4 Bd4+ 23.Kg2 Rb8 24.Rb1 Qd7 25.Rxb8 Rxb8 26.Re1 Qd5 27.Re2 Rb1 28.Qxd5 exd5 29.Ne3 Bxe3 30.Rxe3 Rb2+ 31.Kf1 Rxa2 32.Re5 Rxh2 33.Rxd5 Rc2 34.Ke1 Rg2 35.Rxc5 Rxg3 36.Ke2 Rg2+ 37.Ke3 Ra2 38.Rc6 a5 39.d4 Ra1

40.d5 a4 41.d6 Kf6 42.Ra6 a3 43.Kf3 Ke6 44.Kg3 a2 45.Kg2 Kd7 46.Kh2 Rf1 47.Rxa2 Rxf4 48.Kg3 Rf6 49.Kg4 Rxd6 50.Ra5 Ke6 51.Kf4 Rd4+ 52.Kf3 Kf6 53.Ke3 Rb4 54.Kf3 Kg7 55.Ra7 g5 56.Ra6 f6 57.Ra8 Kg6 58.Ra6 g4+ 59.Kg3 Kg5 60.Ra8 Rb3+ 61.Kg2 f5 62.Ra5 Re3 63.Kf2 Rf3+ 64.Kg2 Kh4 65.Ra8 Rg3+ 66.Kf2 Rh3 67.Kg2 Kg5 68.Ra5 Rd3 69.Rb5 Kf4 70.Rb4+ Ke5 71.Rb8 f4 72.Re8+ Kd4 73.Rd8+ Ke3 74.Re8+ Kd2 75.Re4 Rg3+ 76.Kf2 Rf3+ 77.Kg2 Kd3 78.Ra4 Kc2 79.Rd4 Kb2 80.Re4 Kc3 81.Ra4 Kd3 82.Ra3+ Ke2 83.Ra2+ Kd1 84.Ra1+ Kc2 85.Ra4 Kb3 86.Rd4 Kc3 87.Ra4 Kd3 88.Ra3+ Ke4 89.Rxf3 gxf3+ 90.Kf2 ½-½

Nikhilesh Kunche (2289)

Josh Bloomer (2331)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.0-0 g6 8.c4 Bg7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Bf4 Be6 11.c5 d5 12.Be5 dxe4 13.Bxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxg7 Nxf2 15.Qf3 Nh3+ 16.gxh3 Kxg7 17.Rad1 Qa5 18.Qe3 Rfd8 19.a3 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Rd8 21.Rxd8 Qxd8 22.b4 Qd7 23.h4 Bh3 24.Qe5+ f6 25.Qe4 Qd2 26.Nb1 Qc1+ 27.Kf2 e5 28.Qxc6 Qf1+ 29.Ke3 Qe1+ 0-1

Gunnar Andersen (2344)

Richard Shtivelband (2273)

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.exd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Rb1 Be5 8.Ne2 0-0 9.0-0 Re8 10.c4 Bb6 11.Nc3 Nd4 12.d3 c6 13.h3 f5 14.Re1 Qf6 15.Be3 Be6 16.Na4 f4 17.Nxb6 fxe3 18.fxe3 axb6 19.exd4 exd4 20.Rxb6 Rf8 21.Rxe6 Qf2+ 22.Kh2 1-0

Reserve Section

Round 1

Sullivan McConnell (2150)

Zach Bekkedahl (2176)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.f4 a6 4.Nf3 b5 5.d3 Bb7 6.Qe2 Be7 7.Bd2 d5 8.e5 h5 9.g3 Nh6 10.Bg2 b4 11.Nd1 Nc6 12.Ne3 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Nc4 Nf5 15.a3 Rb8 16.Nd6+ Bxd6 17.exd6 bxa3 18.bxa3 Qxd6 19.0-0 Qc7 20.Ra2 Bc6 21.Qe1 0-0 22.Bf3 Ba4 23.Rf2 Rfc8 24.Ba5 Qc6 25.Bxh5 Ne3 26.Bd2 Bxc2 27.Bxe3 Rb1 28.Bc1 Bxd3 29.Kg2 Rxc1 30.Qe5 Be4+ 31.Kh3 d3 32.Rad2 Qc3 33.Qd6 Rc2 34.Qxa6 Rxd2 35.Rxd2 g6 36.Bg4 Qh8+ 0-1

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2131)

Rhett Langseth (2130)

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 Nbd7 4.g3 e5 5.Bg2 c6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e4 a6 9.a4 a5 10.Re1 Re8 11.b3 Qb6 12.h3 exd4 13.Nxd4 Nc5 14.Rb1 Bf8 15.Bg5 Nfd7 16.Nf5 Ne5 17.g4 Bxf5 18.gxf5 h6 19.Bh4 Be7 20.Bxe7 Rxe7 21.Re3 Rae8 22.Qd4 Nxa4 23.Qxb6 Nxb6 24.f4 Ned7 25.Rd3 Nc8 26.Na4 Nf6 27.c5 dxc5 28.Nxc5 Nh5 29.Rf1 b6 30.Nd7 Nf6 31.Ne5 Na7 32.Bf3 c5 33.Rc1 Nb5 34.Nc6 Rd7 35.Rxd7 Nxd7 36.Rd1 Nb8 37.e5 Nxc6 38.Bxc6 Nc3 39.Re1 Re7 40.Re3 Na2 41.Rd3 Kh7 42.Be4 Re8 43.Rd7 Nc3 44.Bd3 Rf8 45.f6+ Kg8 46.e6 fxe6 47.Rxg7+ Kh8 48.Rh7+ Kg8 49.Rg7+ Kh8 50.Rh7+ Kg8 ½-½

Daniel Herman (2118)

Kevin Seidler (2150)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 e6 7.g4 Be7 8.g5 Nfd7 9.h4 b5 10.a3 Bb7 11.Be3 Qc7 12.h5 Nc6 13.f4 Rc8 14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Qd4 e5 16.Qd2 Nb6 17.0-0-0 Bb7 18.Bxb6 Qxb6 19.Bh3 Rc7 20.g6 fxg6 21.hxg6 h6 22.Be6 exf4 23.Bf7+ Kd7 24.Nd5 Bxd5 25.Qxd5 Kc8 26.Qa8+ Qb8 27.Be6+ Rd7 28.Qc6+ Qc7 29.Bxd7+ 1-0

Round 2

Rhett Langseth (2130)

Zach Bekkedahl (2176)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.Nbd2 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.c3 Nfd7 7.Bc4 e5 8.Be3 Nc6 9.a4 a5 10.0-0 Qe8 11.Qb3 Nb6 12.Bd3 Ne7 13.dxe5 Be6 14.c4 dxe5 15.Bxb6

cx b6 16.Qxb6 Nc6 17.Qe3 Nb4 18.Bb1
Qc6 19.b3 Rad8 20.Rc1 Rd7 21.Nf1 Rfd8
22.Ne1 f5 23.Nc2 Nd3 24.Rd1 fxe4
25.Ne1 Bg4 26.Rd2 Bf5 27.Ng3 Bf8
28.Nxd3 exd3 29.Nxf5 gxf5 30.Rxd3 Rg7
31.g3 Rxd3 32.Bxd3 e4 33.Bf1 Bc5
34.Qf4 Qd7 35.Qb8+ Kf7 36.Be2 Bxf2+
37.Kg2 Bc5 38.Rd1 Qe7 39.Qc8 Kg6
40.Rd5 Qf6 41.Qxc5 b6 42.Qd6 Qxd6
43.Rxd6+ 1-0

Sullivan McConnell (2150)

Daniel Herman (2118)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7
5.Bb5 Nd4 6.0-0 a6 7.Bd3 d6 8.h3 Nf6
9.Nxd4 cxd4 10.Ne2 0-0 11.Ng3 e5 12.f5
d5 13.Qf3 dxe4 14.Bxe4 Nxe4 15.Qxe4
Rb8 16.d3 b5 17.Rf2 Rb6 18.Bd2 gxf5
19.Nxf5 Bb7 20.Qe2 Re6 21.Raf1 a5
22.Qh5 Rg6 23.Nh4 Bd5 24.Nxg6 hxg6
25.Qg5 Qxg5 26.Bxg5 f5 27.a3 Rc8
28.Rd2 Kf7 29.Re1 Be6 30.Rde2 Bd5
31.Rxe5 Bxe5 32.Rxe5 Ba2 33.Rxb5
Rxc2 34.a4 Ke6 35.Rb6+ Kf7 36.Rb7+
Kg8 37.Rb5 Kf7 38.Rxa5 Rxb2 39.Rb5
Rb3 40.Kf2 Rxd3 41.Rb2 Ra3 42.Rb4
Bb3 43.Rxd4 Rxa4 44.Rd7+ Kg8 45.Kg3
Be6 46.Re7 Bd5 47.Re2 Ra2 48.Rxa2
Bxa2 ... (Drawn on move 60.) ½-½

Round 3

Zach Bekkedahl (2176)

Daniel Herman (2118)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 d5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.g3
Nf6 6.Bg5 d4 7.Ne2 e5 8.Bg2 Be7 9.0-0
0-0 10.a4 Ne8 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Nd2 Be6
13.f4 f6 14.f5 Bf7 15.g4 Nd6 16.b3 a6
17.Ng3 b5 18.Nh5 c4 19.g5 Bxh5
20.Qxh5 fxe5 21.Nf3 h6 22.h4 gxh4
23.Nxh4 Ne8 24.Ng6 Qf7 25.axb5 Nf6
26.Qe2 axb5 27.Nxf8 Rxf8 28.bxc4 bxc4
29.dxc4 Rc8 30.Ra4 Nd7 31.Qg4 Nf6
32.Qg6 Rb8 33.Qxf7+ Kxf7 34.Ra6 Ne7
35.Bf3 Rb4 36.Be2 Ke8 37.Rfa1 Nxe4
38.Bh5+ Kd8 39.Ra8+ Kc7 40.R1a7+
Rb7 41.Bf3 Nc6 42.Rxb7+ Kxb7
43.Bxe4 1-0

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2131)

Sullivan McConnell (2150)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7
5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 Ne4 8.Bd2 f5
9.d5 Nxd2 10.Qxd2 Bf6 11.e4 Bxc3
12.bxc3 fxe4 13.Ng5 e5 14.Bxe4 h6 15.f4
hxg5 16.fxe5 Na6 17.Rxf8+ Qxf8 18.Qe2
g6 19.Rf1 Qc5+ 20.Kg2 Rf8 21.Rf6 Rxf6
22.gxf6 Qf8 23.Bxg6 Qxf6 24.Qh5 Nc5

25.Bf5 Kf8 26.Qg4 Ke7 27.h4 Ba6
28.Bh7 e4 29.Bxe4 Bxc4 30.Bf3 Nd3
31.Qe4+ Ne5 32.Be2 Bxe2 33.Qxe2 Qf5
34.h5 Kd6 35.h6 Nf7 36.c4 c5 37.Qe3
Qc2+ 38.Kh3 Qg6 39.Qf4+ Ke7 40.Qh4+
Kf8 41.h7 Qxh7 0-1



Kevin Seidler (2150)

Rhett Langseth (2130)

1.d4 d6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nbd7 4.g3 e5
5.e3 c6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 Re8
9.b3 Bf8 10.d5 e4 11.dxc6 bxc6 12.Qc2
Qe7 13.Ba3 Nc5 14.Rad1 Bg4 15.b4
Ncd7 16.b5 e5 17.h3 Bh5 18.Nd5 Nxd5
19.Rxd5 Bxe2 20.Qxe2 Nb6 21.Rf5 Qe6
22.Rf4 Qxc4 23.Qg4 Qc3 24.Bc1 d5
25.f3 Nc4 26.fxe4 Ne5 27.Qe2 d4
28.exd4 cxd4 29.Rf5 g6 30.Rxe5 Rxe5
31.Qf2 Qc4 32.Kh1 Rae8 33.Bb2 Bc5
34.Qf6 Qxa2 35.Ba1 Qe6 36.Qf4 Rxe4
37.Bxe4 Qxe4+ 38.Qxe4 Rxe4 39.Rc1
Bb6 40.Kg2 Re3 41.Rc4 Rb3 42.Bxd4
Bxd4 43.Rxd4 Rxb5 44.Rd8+ Kg7
45.Ra8 Ra5 46.g4 Ra3 47.Kh2 h6 48.Kg2
Kf6 49.h4 Ke5 50.Rh8 Kf4 51.h5 gxh5
52.Rxh6 Ra2+ 53.Kf1 hxg4 54.Rf6+ Kg3
55.Rxf7 Ra1+ 56.Ke2 a5 57.Ra7 a4
58.Ra8 a3 59.Ra7 a2 60.Ra3+ Kg2
61.Ra4 g3 62.Ra8 Rf1 0-1

Round 4

Zach Bekkedahl (2176)

Kevin Seidler (2150)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.c3 Nc6
5.Ngf3 Nf6 6.e5 Ne4 7.Bd3 f5 8.exf6
Nxf6 9.0-0 cxd4 10.cxd4 Bd6 11.Re1 0-0
12.Nf1 Bd7 13.a3 Qb6 14.b4 Kh8 15.Bb2

Rae8 16.Rc1 Re7 17.Qd2 Be8 18.Ng5
Bf7 19.Qe3 Bg8 20.Nf3 Ne4 21.Qe2 Nf6
22.Ng3 Bf7 23.Rc2 Bh5 24.Nxh5 Nxh5
25.g3 Nf6 26.b5 Nb8 27.Ng5 Rfe8
28.Nxh7 Nxh7 29.Qh5 g6 30.Bxg6 Nd7
31.Bxh7 Nf6 32.Qh6 Nxh7 33.Rce2

Qxb5 34.Bc1 Qd7 35.Bg5 Rf7 36.Rxe6
Bf8 37.Qh3 Kg8 38.Bf4 Rf6 39.Qg4+
Kh8 40.Bh6 Rfxe6 ... (The last few moves
were unclear on the scoresheets.) 0-1

Rhett Langseth (2130)

Sullivan McConnell (2150)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.Bf4 b6 4.h3 Bb7
5.e3 h6 6.Nbd2 d6 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.Qe2
Nd5 9.c3 Qf6 10.Bh2 e5 11.Be4 c6
12.Nc4 exd4 13.exd4 0-0-0 14.Bxd5 cxd5
15.Ne3 g5 16.Qb5 a6 17.Qb3 Qe6
18.0-0-0 Kb8 19.Rhe1 Ka7 20.Ng4 Qg6
21.Rd2 f5 22.Qc2 Qf7 23.Ne3 f4 24.Qf5
Qf6 25.Qxf6 Nxf6 26.Nf1 Ne4 27.Rde2
a5 28.Rd1 Ba6 29.Rc2 Bg7 30.Ng1 Rhe8
31.f3 Nf6 32.Kd2 Re6 33.Rcc1 Rde8
34.Re1 h5 35.Rxe6 Rxe6 36.Re1 Rxe1
37.Kxe1 h4 38.Ne2 Ng8 39.Nd2 Ne7
40.Bg1 Nf5 41.Bf2 Kb7 42.Nb3 Bf6
43.Kd2 Bd8 44.Nbc1 Kc6 45.Nd3 Kd7
46.b3 Ng3 47.Bxg3 hxg3 48.h4 gxh4
49.Ndx4 Bg5 50.Ke1 Bxe2 51.Nxe2 Be3
52.Kf1 b5 53.Ke1 Ke6 54.Kd1 h3
55.gxh3 g2 56.Kc2 b4 57.a3 g1Q
58.Nxg1 Bxg1 59.axb4 axb4 60.Kd3
bxc3 61.Kxc3 Be3 62.b4 Kd7 63.h4 Kc7
64.h5 Kb6 65.Kd3 Bf4 66.Ke2 Kb5
67.Kf2 Kxb4 68.Kg2 Kc4 69.Kh3 Kxd4
70.Kh4 Ke3 71.Kg4 d4 0-1



Round 5

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2131)
Zach Bekkedahl (2176)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
 5.Be2 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.dxc5 Qa5 8.Bd2
 Qxc5 9.Nf3 Be6 10.Qb3 Qc6 11.Nd4
 Qb6 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.Nxe6 fxe6 14.0-0
 Nc6 15.Be3 Nd7 16.Bg4 Kf7 17.f4 Bd4
 18.Bxd4 Nxd4 19.Rad1 Nc2 20.Kf2 h5
 21.Bf3 Nb4 22.a3 Nc6 23.e5 Nc5 24.exd6
 exd6 25.Nb5 Ke7 26.b4 Nd7 27.g3 Nf6
 28.Rfe1 Rfd8 29.Rd3 Rd7 30.h3 Nd8
 31.Nd4 Kf7 32.Nb5 Ke7 33.g4 Rc8 34.g5
 Ne8 35.Rc3 Kf7 36.Rd1 Ke7 37.Be4 Kf7
 38.Ke3 Nc6 39.Rcd3 Rcd8 40.h4 Ne7
 41.Nc3 Rc7 42.Rd4 Ng7 43.Nb5 Rcd7
 44.Kf2 d5 45.cxd5 exd5 46.Nc3 Ke6
 47.Bb1 Ngf5 48.Re1+ Kf7 49.Rd2 Nxb4
 50.Ba2 Kf8 51.Re6 Nhf5 52.Rf6+ Kg7
 53.Rxb6 Nd6 54.Kg2 Ne4 55.Bxc4 dxc4
 56.Re2 Nc6 57.b5 Nd4 58.Re4 Rc7
 59.Kf2 Kh7 60.a4 h4 61.a5 Nf5 62.Rbe6
 h3 63.Re1 Rd2+ 64.R6e2 Rd3 65.Rc1
 Nd4 66.Re3 Rd2+ 67.Kg1 Rd3 68.Kf2
 Nf5 69.Rf3 Re7 70.a6 bxa6 71.bxa6
 Rd2+ 72.Kg1 Rg2+ 73.Kh1 Ng3+
 74.Rxg3 Rxg3 75.Nb5 Rg2 76.a7 Ra2
 77.a8Q Rxa8 78.Rxc4 Ra2 79.Rc1 Ree2
 80.Rc7+ Kg8 81.Rc8+ Kg7 82.Rc7+ Kf8
 83.Rc8+ Ke7 84.Rc7+ Kd8 0-1

Rhett Langseth (2130)
Daniel Herman (2118)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.Nf3 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.e3
 Qb6 6.Qc2 Bf5 7.dxc5 Bxc2 8.cxb6 axb6

9.Na3 Be4 10.Bc7 Nd7 11.Nb5 Rc8
 12.Rd1 e6 13.Bd3 Bxd3 14.Rxd3 Ra8
 15.a3 Ra4 16.Nd6+ Bxd6 17.Bxd6 Nc5
 18.Rd1 Ne4 19.Bb4 Nxb4 20.cxb4 Ra8
 21.Rc1 0-0 22.Ke2 Rfc8 23.Ne5 Nd6
 24.Nd7 b5 25.Rc5 Ne4 26.Nb6 Nxc5
 27.bxc5 Rd8 28.Nxa8 Rxa8 29.Kd3 Kf8
 30.Ra1 Ke7 31.Kc3 Kd7 32.Kb4 Kc6
 33.b3 e5 34.Re1 Rd8 35.Rd1 d4 36.e4 g6
 37.g4 f5 38.gxf5 gxf5 39.exf5 Rf8 40.f4
 exf4 41.Rxd4 Rxf5 42.Rd6+ Kc7
 43.Kxb5 f3 44.Rd1 f2 45.Rf1 b6 46.b4
 bxc5 47.bxc5 Kb7 48.a4 Rf3 49.a5 Rf4
 50.a6+ Ka7 51.h3 h6 52.h4 h5 53.Ka5
 Rf3 54.Kb5 Rf4 55.Kc6 Rf6+ 56.Kd5
 Kxa6 57.Ke5 Rf8 58.c6 Kb6 59.Kd6
 Rf6+ 60.Ke5 Rf8 61.Kd5 Kc7 62.Ke4
 Kxc6 63.Ke3 Kd5 64.Rxf2 Rxf2 65.Kxf2
 Ke4 66.Kg3 Ke3 67.Kg2 Kf4 68.Kh3 Kf3
 69.Kh2 Kg4 70.Kg2 Kxh4 71.Kh2 Kg4
 72.Kg2 h4 73.Kh2 h3 74.Kh1 Kg3
 75.Kg1 h2+ 76.Kh1 Kh3 ½-½

Sullivan McConnell (2150)
Kevin Seidler (2150)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Bd3 c5
 5.Qe2+ Qe7 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Nc3 Qxe2+
 8.Ngxe2 Be6 9.Be3 0-0-0 10.Nd4 Nxd4
 11.Bxd4 Ne7 12.Ne2 Bf5 13.0-0-0 Bxd3
 14.Rxd3 Nc6 15.c3 a5 16.Kc2 h5
 17.Rhd1 Nxd4+ 18.cxd4 Rh6 19.Re3 Rf6
 20.f3 g6 21.Nc3 Bg7 22.Re7 Rf5 23.Nb5
 Rd7 24.Nd6+ Kd8 25.Re8+ Kc7 26.Rc8#
 1-0

Scholastic Section

Round 1

Wesley Woo (1754)
Karthik Selva (1593)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5
 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Ba3
 b6 9.Be2 c5 10.0-0 Bb7 11.dxc5 Bxc3
 12.Rc1 Bg7 13.Qa4 bxc5 14.Rfd1 Qe8
 15.Bb5 Be6 16.Bxc6 Qxc6 17.Qxc6 Nxc6
 18.Rxc5 Rfd8 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.Kf1
 Nd4 21.Nxd4 Bxd4 22.Rd5 Rxd5 23.exd5
 Kf8 24.Ke2 Ke8 25.f3 Kd7 26.Kd3 Bg1
 27.h3 Bh2 28.Bc5 a6 29.Kc4 Bg3 30.a4
 e6 31.Kd4 Bf2+ 32.Kc4 Bg3 33.Bb4 Bc7
 34.Bf8 Bf4 35.Kc5 Be3+ 36.Kc4 Bf4
 37.Kd4 Bg3 38.Ke4 Bc7 39.g4 Bg3
 40.Bb4 Bc7 41.Bc3 Bb8 42.Be5 Ba7
 43.dxe6+ Kxe6 44.g5 Bb6 45.f4 ½-½

Round 2

Teah Williams (1750)
Karthik Selva (1593)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7
 5.Be3 0-0 6.h3 c6 7.Bd3 Qc7 8.Qd2 Rd8
 9.Nge2 e5 10.f5 Nbd7 11.g4 Nf8 12.d5
 a6 13.Ng3 c5 14.g5 Ne8 15.h4 b5 16.f6
 Bh8 17.h5 Bg4 18.Qf2 Rdb8 19.Be2
 Bxe2 20.Ncxe2 b4 21.Kd2 c4 22.Raf1
 Rb7 23.Qh2 Qa5 24.Nf5 gxf5 25.Ng3
 fxe4 26.Nf5 Qxd5+ 27.Ke2 Ne6 28.Ne7+
 Rxe7 29.fxe7 Nd4+ 30.Bxd4 exd4 31.g6
 d3+ 32.Kd1 f6 33.gxh7+ Kxh7 34.Qg2
 dxc2+ 35.Kxc2 Qd3+ 36.Kc1 e3 37.Qxa8
 Qd2+ 38.Kb1 f5 39.Rh2 Qxh2 40.Kc1
 0-1

Mukund Gurumurthi (1628)
Andrew Roerty (1628)

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.0-0 e5 5.d3
 Be7 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.e4 d4 8.Re1 f6 9.Nh4
 Qd7 10.Nf1 g5 11.Nf3 Bg4 12.Qe2 h5
 13.h4 gxh4 14.gxh4 Nh6 15.Ng3 0-0-0
 16.Kh2 Nf7 17.a4 Nd6 18.Bd2 f5 19.exf5
 Nxf5 20.Nxf5 Qxf5 21.Qe4 Rdf8
 22.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 23.Qxe5 Nxe5 24.Rxe5
 Bd6 25.f4 Bxe5 26.fxe5 Rf2 27.Bg5
 Rxc2 28.Kg3 Re2 29.Rc1 b6 30.Rf1
 Rxe5 31.Rf7 Bd7 32.Bf4 Rg8+ 33.Kf2
 Rf5 34.Rxf5 Bxf5 35.Bd5 Rf8 36.Bh6
 Rh8 37.Bg7 Rh7 38.Bf6 Rd7 39.Bc4 Kb7
 40.Bg5 Bg6 41.Kf3 a6 42.Kf4 Bf7 43.b3
 Bxc4 44.bxc4 Rf7+ 45.Ke5 Kc6 46.Bf6
 b5 47.axb5+ axb5 48.cxb5+ Kxb5 49.Kf5
 Rxf6+ 50.Kxf6 c4 0-1

Wesley Woo (1754)
Aditya Krishna (1697)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c5
 5.Bg5 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Be7 7.e3 Nc6 8.cxd5
 Nxd5 9.Bxe7 Nxe7 10.Rc1 Nxc3
 11.Rxc3 Nd5 12.Rd3 Qa5+ 13.Rd2 Qxa2
 14.Bb5+ Bd7 15.Bxd7+ Kxd7 16.e4 Nf6
 17.b3 Qa5 18.b4 Qb6 19.Nf5+ Ke8
 20.Nd6+ Ke7 21.e5 Nd5 22.Qh5 Raf8
 23.Qg5+ Kd7 24.0-0 Qxb4 25.Rfd1 g6
 26.Rd4 Qb6 27.Qh4 a5 28.Qh3 h5
 29.Rxd5 Qc6 30.Rb5 b6 31.Qe3 Rb8
 32.Rc1 Qa8 33.Rxb6 Rxb6 34.Qxb6 Qb8
 35.Qxa5 f6 36.Rd1 Ke7 37.exf6+ Kxf6
 38.Ne4+ Kf7 39.Qc3 e5 40.Qf3+ Kg7
 41.Qf6+ Kh6 42.Qg5+ Kg7 43.Rd7+ Kf8
 44.Qe7+ Kg8 45.Nf6# 1-0

Round 3

Karthik Selva (1593)
Aditya Krishna (1697)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.e3 c5
 5.Nbd2 Nc6 6.c3 b6 7.Bd3 Bd6 8.Bg3
 0-0 9.Ne5 Bxe5 10.dxe5 Nd7 11.f4 c4
 12.Bc2 f6 13.Bh4 Qe8 14.exf6 Nxf6
 15.0-0 Ne7 16.Nf3 Nf5 17.Bxf5 exf5
 18.Bxf6 Qxe3+ 19.Kh1 gxf6 20.Qxd5+
 Be6 21.Qd4 Qd3 22.Rfe1 Bd5 23.Rad1
 Qxd4 24.Nxd4 Be4 25.Kg1 Rfe8 26.Kf2
 Kf7 27.Nb5 Re7 28.Nd6+ Kg6 29.Nxc4
 Kh5 30.g3 Kg4 31.Ne3+ Kh3 32.Nxf5
 Re6 33.Nd6 f5 34.Nxe4 fxe4 35.Rd7 h5
 36.Rh7 Kg4 37.h3+! Kf5 38.Rxh5+ Kg6
 39.f5+ Kxh5 40.fxe6 Re8 41.Rxe4 ... 1-0

Andrew Roerty (1628)
Wesley Woo (1754)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bf4 e6
 5.Rc1 dxc4 6.e3 b5 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Be7
 9.Be2 0-0 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Bf3 Bb7
 12.Nxb5 Qb6 13.Nc3 Na6 14.Nge2 c5
 15.Bxb7 Qxb7 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.Qd2 Nb4
 18.Na4 cxd4 19.Rxc4 Nc6 20.exd4 Qa6
 21.b3 Bg5 22.Qc2 Na5 23.Rc3 e5 24.Rd1
 Bf6 25.dxe5 Bxe5 26.Rcd3 Re8 27.Qd2
 Rac8 28.Ng3 Nc4 29.Qb4 Bf6 30.Nc5
 Qa5 31.Qxa5 Nxa5 32.Nce4 Rc2
 33.Nxf6+ gxf6 34.R3d2 Rec8 35.Kf1
 Kh7 36.Ne4 Kg6 37.Nd6 R8c6 38.b4
 Rxd2 39.Rxd2 Nc4 40.Nxc4 Rxc4
 41.Rb2 Rh4 42.h3 Re4 43.a3 Kf5 44.Rb3
 a5 45.b5 a4 46.Rb2 Re7 47.b6 Rb7
 48.Ke2 Ke5 49.Kd3 Kd5 50.Rb5+ Kc6
 51.Kc4 Kd7 52.Kb4 Kc8 53.Kxa4 Re7
 54.Rc5+ Kb8 55.Kb5 Re2 56.a4 Rb2+
 57.Ka6 Rxf2 58.b7 1-0

Teah Williams (1750)
Mukund Gurumurthi (1628)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6
 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d6
 9.Bg5 Bd7 10.Kh1 Rc8 11.f4 a6 12.a3 b5
 13.Bf3 Na5 14.Nxa5 Qxa5 15.e5 Nh5
 16.Bxh5 gxh5 17.Bxe7 Rfe8 18.Bxd6
 Bg4 19.Qd3 Be6 20.f5 Bc4 21.Qg3 Kh8
 22.Rfd1 Rg8 23.Ne4 Bh6 24.Qh4 Be2
 25.Bb4 Qc7 26.Nd6 Bxd1 27.Qf6+ Rg7
 28.Rxd1 Bg5 29.Nxf7+ Qxf7 30.Qxf7
 Rxf7 31.f6 Re8 32.Be7 h6 33.g3 Rh7
 34.h4 Be3 35.Bb4 Kg8 36.Bd6 Kf7
 37.Bc7 Ke6 38.Rd6+ Kf5 39.Rc6 Bd4
 40.c3 Bxe5 41.Bxe5 Rxe5 42.f7 Rxf7
 43.Rxh6 Kg4 44.Rg6+ Kh3 0-1

Round 4

Karthik Selva (1593)
Mukund Gurumurthi (1628)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.e3 c5
 5.Nbd2 Nc6 6.c3 Bd7 7.Bd3 Be7 8.Ne5
 0-0 9.Bg3 Be8 10.f4 Nd7 11.Qg4 f5
 12.Qe2 Nf6 13.Qd1 Nxe5 14.fxe5 Ng4
 15.Qe2 Bh5 16.Nf3 c4 17.Bc2 Bg5
 18.Bf4 Be7 19.0-0-0 g5 20.Bg3 f4
 21.exf4 gxf4 22.Bf2 Ne3 23.Bxe3 fxe3
 24.Qxe3 Bxf3 25.gxf3 Kh8 26.Kb1 Qb6
 27.Ka1 a5 28.Rhg1 Rf7 29.Rg3 a4 30.a3
 Qc7 31.Rdgl b5 32.Qh6 1-0

Aditya Krishna (1697)
Andrew Roerty (1628)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.Be2 Nc6
 5.Qc2 e6 6.d3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Be3 b6
 9.a3 Bb7 10.Nbd2 Rc8 11.b4 cxb4
 12.axb4 Nxb4 13.Qb3 Nc6 14.Nd4 Ra8
 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.Ra2 d5 17.e5 Nd7

18.d4 Qc7 19.Rfa1 Rfc8 20.Ba6 Bb7
 21.Rc1 Bxa6 22.Rxa6 Nb8 23.Ra4 Nc6
 24.f4 Na5 25.Qb5 a6 26.Qb2 b5 27.Ra2
 Nc4 28.Nxc4 Qxc4 29.Qc2 a5 30.Bd2 b4
 31.cxb4 Qxc2 32.Raxc2 Rxc2 33.Rxc2
 axb4 34.Rb2 Rb8 35.Kf2 b3 36.Ke3 Ba3
 37.Rb1 f6 38.Kd3 Kf7 39.Ba5 b2 40.Bc3
 h5 41.g3 Kg6 42.h3 Kf5 43.h4 Kg4
 44.Be1 Rc8 45.Bc3 Kxg3 46.Bxb2 Rb8
 47.exf6 gxf6 48.Kc2 Rxb2+ 49.Rxb2
 Bxb2 50.Kxb2 Kxh4 ... 0-1

Teah Williams (1750)
Wesley Woo (1754)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nf6
 5.c3 Bg4 6.Ne2 Nc6 7.f3 Bh5 8.Nf4 Bg6
 9.Nxg6 hxg6 10.Qc2 Qc7 11.g3 e6
 12.Bf4 Bd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.Nd2 Rc8
 15.Nb3 Nb4 16.Bb5+ Nd7 17.Qd2 Nc6
 18.0-0-0 0-0 19.h4 a6 20.Bxc6 Rxc6
 21.h5 g5 22.Qxg5 Rfc8 23.Nc5 f6 24.Qg4
 Nxc5 25.dxc5 Qxc5 26.h6 g5 27.Qh5 Qf8
 28.f4 Rb6 29.fxg5 Rxc3+ 30.Kb1 Rxg3
 31.Rdf1 f5 32.g6 Rg2 33.Ka1 Rb4 34.g7
 Rxg7 35.hxg7 Kxg7 36.Qg5+ Kf7 37.Rc1
 Rg4 38.Rh7+ Ke8 39.Rc8# 1-0

Round 5

Andrew Roerty (1628)
Karthik Selva (1593)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5
 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Bc4
 c5 9.Ne2 Qa5 10.Qd2 cxd4 11.cxd4
 Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 Nc6 13.Rac1 Bd7
 14.Bb5 Rfd8 15.a3 Nxd4 16.Bc4 Nc6
 17.Nf4 Bf5+ 18.Ke2 Bxe4 19.f3 Bf5
 20.g4 Bd7 21.Rb1 b6 22.Rhc1 Ne5
 23.Bd5 Rac8 24.Bb7 Rxc1 25.Rxc1 Bb5+



26.Kf2 g5 27.Nd5 Nd3+ 28.Kg2 Nxc1
29.Bxc1 e6 30.Ne7+ Kf8 31.a4 Bxa4
32.Ba3 Rd2+ 33.Kh1 Ke8 34.Nc8 Be5
0-1

Teah Williams (1750)

Aditya Krishna (1697)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.d3 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.c3 d6 8.Nbd2 Na5
9.Bc2 c5 10.Nf1 0-0 11.Ng3 Re8 12.0-0
Bf8 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bd2 g6 15.Ne1 Bg7
16.f4 Bg4 17.Qc1 Kh7 18.f5 g5 19.h3
Bh5 20.Bxg5 hxg5 21.Qxg5 Bh6 22.Qh4

Rg8 23.Nxh5 Nxh5 24.Qxh5 Qf6 25.Nf3
Rg3 26.Nh2 Rg5 27.Ng4 Qg7 28.Qh4
Rg8 29.Bd1 c4 30.d4 exd4 31.cxd4
Qxd4+ 32.Kh1 Qg7 33.e5 dxe5 34.f6 Qf8
35.Bc2+ R8g6 36.Rf5 Kg8 37.Nxh6+
Rxx6 38.Rxg5+ Kh8 39.Rh5 Rxx5
40.Qxh5+ Kg8 41.Qh7# 1-0

Wesley Woo (1754)

Mukund Gurumurthi (1628)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+
5.bxc3 0-0 6.Nf3 b6 7.e3 Bb7 8.Be2 d5
9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Bd2 Qe7 11.0-0 Nd7

12.c4 N5f6 13.Rb1 Rfd8 14.c5 Be4
15.cxb6 axb6 16.Rc1 c5 17.a4 Bc6
18.Bb5 Bxb5 19.axb5 Nd5 20.Qb3 N7f6
21.Ne5 Qc7 22.Nc6 Re8 23.dxc5 bxc5
24.Rxc5 Ne4 25.Bb4 Nxb4 26.Qxb4
Nxc5 27.Qxc5 Rab8 28.Rc1 Rb7 29.Qa3
h6 30.Na5 Qb6 31.Nxb7 Qxb7 32.Qa6
Qd5 33.Qc6 Rd8 34.f4 Qd3 35.Kf2 Qg6
36.Kf3 Rd2 37.Rg1 h5 38.h3 h4 39.g4
hxg3 40.Rxg3 Qh5+ 41.Ke4 Qf5+ 42.Kf3
Qh5+ 43.Ke4 Qf5+ ½-½



CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION / FINAL STANDINGS

PLAYER	RATING	PTS.	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1) JOSH BLOOMER	2331	5.0	W5	W3	W4	W6	W2
2) NIKHILESH KUNCHE	2289	4.0	W6	W4	W5	W3	L1
3) GUNNAR ANDERSEN	2344	3.0	W4	L1	W6	L2	W5
4) LIOR LAPID	2332	1.5	L3	L2	L1	W5	D6
5) RICHARD SHTIVELBAND	2273	1.0	L1	W6	L2	L4	L3
6) BRIAN WALL	2206	0.5	L2	L5	L3	L1	D4

RESERVE SECTION / FINAL STANDINGS

PLAYER	RATING	PTS.	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1) SULLIVAN MCCONNELL	2150	3.5	L2	D4	W5	W3	W6
2) ZACH BEKKEDAHL	2176	3.0	W1	L3	W4	L6	W5
3) RHETT LANGSETH	2130	3.0	D5	W2	W6	L1	D4
4) DANIEL HERMAN	2118	3.0	W6	D1	L2	W5	D3
5) ALAA-ADDIN MOUSSA	2131	1.5	D3	W6	L1	L4	L2
6) KEVIN SEIDLER	2150	1.0	L4	L5	L3	W2	L1

SCHOLASTIC SECTION / FINAL STANDINGS

PLAYER	RATING	PTS.	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1) KARTHIK SELVA	1593	4.5	D3	W4	W6	W5	W2
2) ANDREW ROERTY	1628	4.0	W4	W5	W3	W6	L1
3) WESLEY WOO	1754	2.0	D1	W6	L2	L4	D5
4) TEAH WILLIAMS	1750	2.0	L2	L1	L5	W3	W6
5) MUKUND GURUMURTHI	1628	1.5	L6	L2	W4	L1	D3
6) ADITYA KRISHNA	1697	1.0	W5	L3	L1	L2	L4

North Gate Chess

The Chess Detective®

Pins & Skewers

by NM Todd Bardwick

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The secret to finding pins and skewers is being a good detective and noticing when the pieces are lined up or could be potentially lined up on a file, rank, or diagonal.

When you think about it, your entire life revolves about lining things up. For example, when getting dressed, you line up your feet with your socks and then line up your socks with your shoes. When you eat your cereal in the morning, you pour your cereal into your bowl, then you pour you milk onto the cereal (not the table!). After that, you line up your spoon with your cereal and then the spoon with your mouth (you don't dump it on your head!).

So looking to line up pieces for pins and skewers should come quite naturally.

Here is one of my favorite pinning positions that occurred in a game between Alexander Alekhine and Aron Nimzowitsch in San Remo, Italy, in 1930.

Nimzowitsch



Alekhine

Position after 28...Ke8
White to move

Black's knight on c6 is pinned two different ways: the bishop pins it to the queen (and the king behind her) and the rooks and queen on the c-file, pin the knight to the rook on c7, who is only protected twice. Note that the knight is attacked four times and defended four times.

Even though he is a pawn ahead in material, note that White does not want to relieve the tension of the pins and trade all the pieces on c6 because afterwards the Black king is in position to gobble up White's queenside pawns.

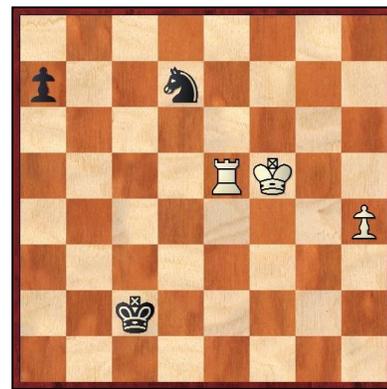
White plans to bring another attacker, a less valuable pawn, by it pushing to b5 and plays, **29.Ba4!** taking advantage of the pin on the c-file. Black defends his rook on c7 a third time with the king by playing **29...Kd8**. Notice how all of Black's pieces are tied up

in defense of the pinned knight!

But White has one extra piece that is not yet involved in attacking the pinned knight... his knight on f3. He plays, **30.h4** and **Black Resigns**. White threatens 31.h5, followed by Nh4-g6, trading for the knight on e7 which removes a defender of the pinned knight on c6, collapsing Black's defense. If Black plays 31...h5, White can play Ng5-f7-d6, again removing a critical defender of the c6 knight.

Here is the famous skewer at the end of the game in the chess movie, *Searching for Bobby Fischer*.

Josh Waitzkin, the movie's hero, is playing Black.



Position after 1.Kf5 (from f6)

Black plays 1...Nxe5. What is White's best move? Although White's pawn is a move closer to promoting, the best move is not the obvious 2.Kxe5??, which was played in the movie, because White's king is now lined up for a skewer on the long diagonal after 2...a5 3.h5 a4 4.h6 a3 5.h7 a2 6.h8Q a1Q+ 7.Kf5 Qxh8 8.Resigns.

White should play 2.h5! Nf7 3.Kg6 Ne5+ 4.Kf5 to obtain a draw by three-move repetition (the knight can prevent the pawn from advancing by jumping around on the e5, f7, h6, and g4 squares). The Black knight can prevent the pawn from advancing.

It is important to always take the time to look and see if the pieces are lined up in any way at the end of any variation you just calculated just to be sure there aren't any possible pins or skewers, so as to avoid unexpected surprises!



**Todd Bardwick is the author of Chess Strategy Workbook:
A Blueprint for Developing the Best Plan.
He can be reached at www.ColoradoMasterChess.com**

2019 COLORADO SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

by Richard "Buck" Buchanan

Eighteen players shoved wood in this year's Colorado Senior Championship, held March 23rd & 24th at *ClubChess!!* in Colorado Springs. Jesse and Josh Williams directed the tournament for the CSCA.

Brian Wall was the only master present, and he won all his games to take first place - getting himself in shape for the Colorado Closed, maybe. Taking the U2000 prize with 3-1 scores were Earle Wikle and Mark Krowczyk. Alaa-Adin Moussa also made the same score, but his rating was too high for the prize, and there was no second place, alas. Brian Rountree and Sam Bridle split the U1900 money, as Steve Kovach and Dean Brown did with the U1800. A prize for players aged 70 or older was divided between Paul Covington and (ahem!) Richard "Buck" Buchanan (I wonder who came up with the idea for that prize...).

There were a lot of hard fought games, as most players were high-rated. The tournament went smoothly, and we enjoyed the playing site.

Brian Wall (2203)
Joshua Samuel (1907)

Round 1

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c6 6.Ne2 Bd6 7.Nd2 e5 8.dxe5 Bxe5 9.0-0 Be6 10.Re1 0-0 11.Ng3 Qc7 12.Qe2 Bf4 13.Nde4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Nd7 15.Bxh7+ Kh8 16.Bd3 Nf6 17.Bxf4 Qxf4 18.Nh5 Nxh5 19.Qxh5+ Qh6 20.Qxh6+ gxh6 21.Re5 Rad8 22.Rae1 Rd4 23.Ra5 a6 24.f3 Rfd8 25.Kf2 Kg7 26.a3 R4d6 27.Rae5 Rd5 28.g4 Kf6 29.Rxd5 Bxd5 30.f4 b5 31.h4 Be6 32.g5+ hxg5 33.hxg5+ Kg7 34.f5 Bd7 35.b4 Re8 36.Rxe8 Bxe8 37.f6+ Kf8 38.Ke3 Bd7 39.Kd4 Ke8 40.Kc5 Kd8 41.Kd6 1-0

Richard "Buck" Buchanan (2000)
Brian Rountree (1907)

Round 1

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.g3 Bxc3 4.bxc3 Ne7

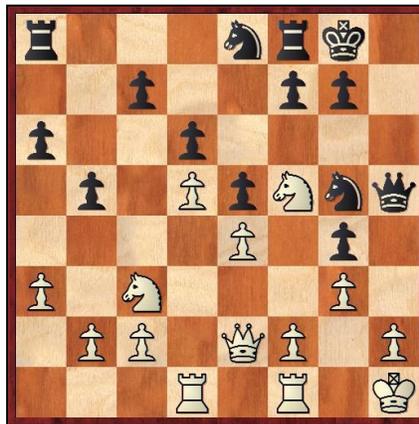
5.Bg2 0-0 6.d3 Nbc6 7.Nf3 d6 8.0-0 f6 9.Qc2 Be6 10.Rb1 b6 11.a4 Qd7 12.Rd1 Kh8 13.Ba3 Rad8 14.Nd2 Na5 15.e3 c5 16.Bb2 d5 17.cxd5 Bxd5 18.e4 Bc6 19.Ra1 Qxd3 20.Qxd3 Rxd3 21.Bf1 Rd6 22.Nc4 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Rfd8 24.Rxd6 Rxd6 25.f3 Rd7 26.Ba3 Nc8 27.Bb3 a5 28.Rd1 Rxd1+ 29.Bxd1 Kg8 30.Kf2 Kf8 31.Ke3 Ke7 32.Kd3 Nd6 33.Bc1 Bb7 34.Be3 Ba6+ 35.Kc2 Kd7 36.Bf2 Kc6 37.Bg1 Nb7 38.Bf2 Bf1 39.Be3 c4 40.Bf2 Nc5 41.Kd2 Bd3 42.Bg1 Bb1 43.Bf2 Ba2 44.Bxc5 Kxc5 45.Ke1 Bb3 46.Bxb3 cxb3 47.Kb2 b5 48.Kxb3 bxa4+ 49.Kxa4 Kc4 50.Kxa5 Kxc3 51.Kb5 Kd3 52.Kc5 Ke3 53.Kd6 Kxf3 54.Kd5 h5 55.Ke6 Kxe4 56.Kf7 f5 57.Kxg7 f4 58.gxf4 Kxf4 59.Kg6 Kg4 60.h3+ Kxh3 61.Kxh5 Kg3 62.Kg5 Kf3 63.Kf5 e4 0-1

Brad Lundstrom (1968)

Sam Bridle (1859)

Round 1

1.d4 Nc6 2.e4 e5 3.d5 Nce7 4.Nc3 Ng6 5.Nge2 Nf6 6.Ng3 Bc5 7.Be2 a6 8.Nf5 0-0 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.Nxe3 d6 11.Qd2 b5 12.a3 Ne8 13.0-0 Qg5 14.Rad1 Nf4 15.Bf3 h5 16.Kh1 Bg4 17.Bxg4 hxg4 18.g3 Nh3 19.Nf5 Qh5 20.Qe2 Ng5



21.Rg1 Nf6 22.Nh4 g6 23.Rd3 Kg7 24.f4 gxf3 25.Nxf3 Rh8 26.Nxg5 Qxg5 27.Qd2 Qg4 28.Qg2 Rxh2+ 29.Qxh2 Rh8 30.Re3 Rxh2+ 31.Kxh2 Qg5 32.Re2 Ng4+ 33.Kg2 f5 34.exf5 gxf5 35.b3 e4 36.Rge1 Qf6 37.Nd1 Qd4 38.Ne3 Nxe3+ 39.Rxe3 Qxd5 40.g4 Kf6 41.R1e2 Qe5 42.gxf5 Kxf5 43.Rf2+ Ke6 44.Rfe2 d5 45.c4 bxc4 46.bxc4 c6 47.Kf2 Qf6+ 48.Ke1 Qa1+ 49.Kf2 Qd4 50.cxd5+ cxd5 51.Ke1 Qa1+ 52.Kf2 Ke5 53.Kg2 Qb1 54.Kf2 Kf4 55.Rh3 Qb6+ 56.Ke1 Kg4 57.Ree3 Qa5+ 58.Ke2 Qb5+ 59.Ke1 Kf4 60.Rb3 Qc4 61.Rbc3 Qd4 62.Rh4+ Kg5 63.Rhh3

Qg1+ 64.Ke2 Qg2+ 65.Ke1 Kf4 66.Rh4+ Ke5 67.Rhh3 d4 68.Rh5+ Kf4 0-1

Michael Maloney (1909)

Dean Brown (1421)

Round 1

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 e5 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Ng5 Be6 8.Bxe6 fxe6 9.Qb3 Qd7 10.Nxe6 Nc6 11.Bg5 Nd8 12.Nxd8 Rxd8 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Nd5 Be7 15.0-0 Rc8 16.Rac1 Rc5 17.Rfd1 Qc6 18.Qe3 Qa4 19.b3 Rxc1 20.Qxc1 Qc6 21.Qh6 Qc2 22.Rc1 Qxe4 23.Nxf6+ Bxf6 24.Qxf6 Rf8 25.Qe6+ 1-0

Mark Krowczyk (1913)

Brian Wall (2203)

Round 2

1.d4 Nc6 2.Nf3 f6 3.Bf4 d6 4.e3 e5 5.Bg3 Nh6 6.Nc3 g5 7.Bc4 Bg7 8.dxe5 fxe5 9.Ne4 Bf6 10.Nfxg5 Bg4 11.Nxf6+ Qxf6 12.Ne4 Qg6 13.f3 0-0-0 14.Bd3 Bf5 15.Nf2 d5 16.Bxf5+ Nxf5 17.Qd3 Nb4 18.Qc3 Nxg3 19.hxg3 Nxc2+ 20.Ke2 Nxa1 21.g4 d4 22.exd4 exd4 23.Qd3 Nc2 24.Ne4 Ne3 25.Rc1 h5 26.Qb3 hxg4 27.Nc5 gxf3+ 28.gxf3 Rh2+ 0-1

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2124)

Michael Maloney (1909)

Round 2

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Bg5 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.Nd5 Nd7 11.Rd1 Kg7 12.Nxc7 Rb8 13.Nf3 Nc5 14.Nd2 a5 15.Nd5 Bd7 16.0-0 b5 17.b3 b4 18.f4 exf4 19.Nxf6 Kxf6 20.Rxf4+ Ke7 21.Nf3 Ne6 22.Rh4 h5 23.Ne5 Be8 24.Nd3 Rd4 25.Nf4 Rxd1+ 26.Bxd1 Nxf4 27.Rxf4 Rd8 28.Bc2 Ke6 29.Kf1 Ke5 30.g3 Rd2 31.Rf2 Rxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Kd4 33.Ke2 Kc3 34.Bd3 Kb2 35.c5 Kxa2 36.Bc4 Kb2 37.Kd2 f5 38.exf5 gxf5 39.Bd5 a4 40.bxa4 Bxa4 41.Be6 Ka1 42.Bxf5 b3 43.Ke3 b2 44.Kf4 Bd7 45.Bh7 b1Q 46.Bxb1 Kxb1 47.Kg5 Bg4 48.Kh4 Kc2 49.h3 Be6 50.Kxh5 Bxh3 51.g4 Bg2 52.g5 Kc3 53.g6 Kd4 54.g7 Bd5 55.c6 1-0

Brian Wall (2203)

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2124)

Round 3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Qc2 c5 6.d5 exd5 7.cxd5 d6 8.Bg2 g6 9.0-0 Bg7 10.Nc3 0-0 11.a4 Re8 12.Re1 Bb7 13.Nd2 Na6 14.Nc4 Nc7 15.Bf4 Bf8

16.Rad1 a6 17.Nxb6 Rb8 18.Nc4 Ba8
19.e4 Rb4 20.b3 Nh5 21.Bc1 Qb8 22.Nd2
Bg7 23.Bf1 Qd8 24.Bc4 Qd7 25.Nf3 Qg4
26.Kg2 Bb7 27.h3 Qd7 28.Na2 Bc8
29.Nxb4 Qxh3+ 30.Kg1 cxb4 31.Bf1
Qd7 32.Bb2 Bh6 33.Bg2 Bb7 34.Qc4
Rc8 35.Qxb4 Ne8 36.e5 1-0

Earle Wikle (2013)

Sam Bridle (1859)

Round 3

1.g3 d5 2.Bg2 c6 3.d4 Bf5 4.c4 e6 5.Nc3
Nf6 6.Nf3 h6 7.Qb3 Qb6 8.c5 Qxb3
9.axb3 Be7 10.b4 0-0 11.b5 a6 12.0-0
cxb5 13.Nxb5 Nc6 14.Nc3 Ne4 15.Na4
Bf6 16.Rd1 g5 17.e3 Rad8 18.Bd2 g4
19.Ne1 Ng5 20.f4 Ne4 21.Nc3 h5



22.Nxe4 dxe4 23.Nc2 Ra8 24.Bf1 Ne7
25.Na3 Nd5 26.Nc4 Be7 27.Kf2 f6
28.Ba5 Kf7 29.Nb6 Nxb6 30.Bxb6 Bd8
31.Bxd8 Rfxd8 32.Ra3 Rd7 33.Rb3 Ke7
34.Rb6 Rad8 35.Bc4 Rc7 36.b4 Rdd7
37.Ra1 Kf7 38.b5 axb5 39.Bxb5 Re7
40.Bc4 Kg7 41.Ra8 Rc6 42.Rxc6 bxc6
43.Rc8 e5 44.Rxc6 exd4 45.exd4 e3+
46.Ke2 Be4 47.Re6 Rxe6 48.Bxe6 Bf3+
49.Kxe3 Kf8 50.Bf5 Ke7 51.Be4 Bd1
52.d5 Bb3 53.Kd4 Ba4 54.Bg6 1-0

Clifton Ford (1806)

Richard "Buck" Buchanan (2000)

Round 3

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 c6 5.Bg2
Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 dxc4 8.Ne5 Nd5
9.Nxc4 Nd7 10.e4 N5b6 11.b3 Bb4
12.Qc2 Nxc4 13.bxc4 e5 14.d5 Nc5 15.a3
Ba5 16.Be3 Bb6 17.Rfd1 Qf6 18.h3 Qg6
19.a4 Nd7 20.Bxb6 axb6 21.Rab1 f5
22.exf5 Qxf5 23.Be4 Qxh3 24.dxc6 Nc5
25.cxb7 Bxb7 26.Bxb7 Nxb7 27.Rxb6
Nc5 28.Rd5 Rf5 29.Rxc5 Raf8 30.Nd1
Rh5 31.Qe4 Qh2+ 32.Kf1 Qxg3 33.Rd6
Rh5 34.Rd2 Qh3+ 35.Qg2 Qh6 36.Rd3

Qc1 37.Ke2 Qf4 38.Rg3 g5 39.Ne3
Qxf2+ 40.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 41.Ke1 h6
42.Rxe5 Ra2 43.Nf5 Rb8 44.Nxh6+ Kh7
45.Rd3 Kxh6 46.a5 Rb4 47.Re6+ Kh5
48.a6 Rxc4 49.Rd2 Rca4 50.Rxa2 Rxa2
51.Kf1 Kh4 ½-½

Brian Rountree (1907)

Ron Rossi (1940)

Round 3

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Bc5 3.Nf3 d6 4.c3 Bg4 5.Bc4
Qe7 6.d3 Nc6 7.b4 Nxb4 8.cxb4 Bxf3
9.Qa4+ c6 10.bxc5 Bxg2 11.Rg1 Qh4+
12.Kd1 Bf3+ 13.Kc2 Qxh2+ 14.Nd2
Qxg1 15.Nxf3 Qf2+ 16.Nd2 Nf6 17.Rb1
Rb8 18.fxe5 dxe5 19.Qxc6+ bxc6
20.Rxb8+ Kd7 21.Rxh8 Qxc5 22.Nb3
Qf2+ 23.Bd2 Ng4 24.Rf8 Ne3+ 25.Kc3
Nxc4 26.Kxc4 h5 27.Rb8 Kc7 28.Ra8 h4
29.Bg5 Kb7 30.Rd8 Qxa2 31.Kb4 Qb2
32.Ka4 Qc2 33.Kb4 Qb2 34.Ka4 ½-½

Paul Covington (1893)

Mark Krowczyk (1913)

Round 3

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 c5 4.c3 e6 5.Bd3
Bd6 6.Bg3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bxg3 8.hxg3 cxd4
9.exd4 Ne4 10.Nbd2 f5 11.Qe2 Qf6
12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.Qe3 0-0-0 14.Bb5 Nb8
15.Bd3 Nc6 16.Rde1 Kb8 17.Ne5 Nxe5
18.dxe5 Qxe5 19.f3 Qxg3 20.fxe4 Qxe3
21.Rxe3 fxe4 22.Be2 Rdf8 23.Rf1 Rxf1+
24.Bxf1 Kc7 25.c4 Kd6 26.cxd5 exd5
27.Rg3 g6 28.Nb3 Rf8 29.Be2 Ke5
30.Kd2 d4 31.Nc5 Bc6 32.Rg5+ Kf6
33.Rg4 Ke5 34.Rg5+ Rf5 35.Rg4 b6
36.Nb3 d3 37.Bxd3 exd3 38.Nd4 Rf6
39.Nxc6+ Rxc6 40.Kxd3 Kf5 41.Rd4 h5
42.b4 a6 43.a4 g5 44.Rd5+ Kg4 45.b5
axb5 46.Rxb5 h4 47.a5 bxa5 48.Rxa5
Re6 49.Kd2 Kf4 50.Ra3 g4 51.Rb3 Re5
52.Ra3 h3 53.gxh3 g3 54.Ra4+ Kf3
55.Rg4 Rh5 56.Rg8 Rxh3 57.Rf8+ Kg2
58.Ke2 Rh2 59.Rg8 Kh1+ 0-1

Brian Rountree (1907)

Brian Wall (2203)

Round 4

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7
5.Re1 Nf6 6.c3 0-0 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 d5
9.e5 Ne4 10.Nc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Na5
12.Bg5 a6 13.Bd3 Be6 14.Qe2 Rc8
15.Ree1 Nc4 16.a4 Qd7 17.Ra2 Rc6
18.Nd2 f6 19.exf6 exf6 20.Bf4 Re8
21.Nxc4 dxc4 22.Bc2 Bg4 23.Qf1 Be2
24.Qe1 Bd3 25.Qd1 Bxc2 26.Qxc2 Rce6
27.h3 Bf8 28.Qb1 g5 29.Be3 Bd6 30.Ra1

Bb8 31.Qf5 Qd6 32.g3 Rxe3 33.fxe3
Qxg3+ 34.Kf1 Rxe3 35.Qg4 Rf3+
36.Ke2 Qf2+ 37.Kd1 Rd3# 0-1

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2124)

Brad Lundstrom (1968)

Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Be2 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.dxc5 Qa5 8.Bd2
Qxc5 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.h3 Qb6 11.a3 a6
12.Be3 Qd8 13.Qc2 Bd7 14.Rd1 Qc8



15.Na4 Qe8 16.Nb6 Rd8 17.g4 Be6
18.Ng5 Nd7 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.exd5 Ncb8
21.b4 Rc8 22.Rc1 Nf6 23.Qb3 e6 24.dxe6
fxe6 25.Bf3 h6 26.Ne4 Nxe4 27.Bxe4 d5
28.cxd5 Rxc1+ 29.Bxc1 exd5 30.Qxd5+
Rf7 31.0-0 Kh7 32.Bxg6+ Kxg6 33.Qd3+
Kf6 34.Qd6+ Qe6 35.Bb2+ 1-0

Dean Brown (1421)

Paul Covington (1893)

Round 4

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bb5 a6
5.Bxc6 bxc6 6.0-0 Nf6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4
Be7 9.Nd6+ Bxd6 10.exd6 0-0 11.d4
cxd4 12.Qxd4 Qf6 13.c4 Qxd4 14.Nxd4
Nb4 15.c5 a5 16.Rd1 Nd5 17.Be3 a4
18.a3 Rb8 19.Rd2 Ba6 20.Rc1 Rb7 21.h3
f5 22.Nf3 h6 23.Ne5 Rfb8 24.Bd4 g5
25.Kh2 Nf4 26.Re1 Kh7 27.g3 Ng6
28.Nxc6 dxc6 29.Rxe6 Bc4 30.Rf6 Rf8
31.f4 gxh4 32.gxf4 Rxf6 33.Bxf6 Rd7
34.Rd4 Bb5 35.Kg3 Kg8 36.Rb4 Kf7
37.Bd4 Ke6 38.b3 Ra7 39.bxa4 Rxa4
40.Rxa4 Bxa4 41.Bg7 h5 42.Bh6 Bd1
43.Bg5 Nf8 44.h4 Nd7 45.Bh6 Nxc5
46.Bf8 Ne4+ 47.Kg2 Nxd6 48.Bxd6
Kxd6 49.Kf2 Kd5 50.Ke3 Ba4 51.Kd3 c5
52.Kc3 Bb5 53.Kb3 0-1



COLORADO SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

MARCH 23 & 24, 2019

JESSE & JOSH WILLIAMS

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

	PLAYER	RATING	PTS.	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4
1)	BRIAN WALL	2203	4.0	W12	W4	W2	W5
2)	ALLA-ADDIN MOUSA	2124	3.0	W10	W11	L1	W8
3)	EARLE WIKLE	2013	3.0	W13	L5	W6	W9
4)	MARK KROWCZYK	1913	3.0	W17	L1	W10	W11
5)	BRIAN ROUNTREE	1907	2.5	W7	W3	D9	L1
6)	SAM BRIDLE	1859	2.5	W8	D9	L3	W14
7)	RICHARD BUCHANAN	2000	2.0	L5	H1	D13	W17
8)	BRAD LUNDSTROM	1968	2.0	L6	W16	W12	L2
9)	RON ROSSI	1940	2.0	W16	D6	D5	L3
10)	PAUL COVINGTON	1893	2.0	L2	W17	L4	W15
11)	MICHAEL MALONEY	1909	1.5	W15	L2	D14	L4
12)	JOSHUA SAMUEL	1907	1.5	L1	W14	L8	D13
13)	CLIFTON FORD	1806	1.5	L3	D15	D7	D12
14)	STEVE KOVACH	1668	1.5	W18	L12	D11	L6
15)	DEAN BROWN	1421	1.5	L11	D13	W16	L10
16)	FRED SPELL	1535	1.0	L9	L8	L15	B
17)	JAMES MULBERRY	1505	1.0	L4	L10	B	L7
18)	DUWAYNE LANGSETH	1964	0.0	L14	U	U	U



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: Mkahhak@sopris.net.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

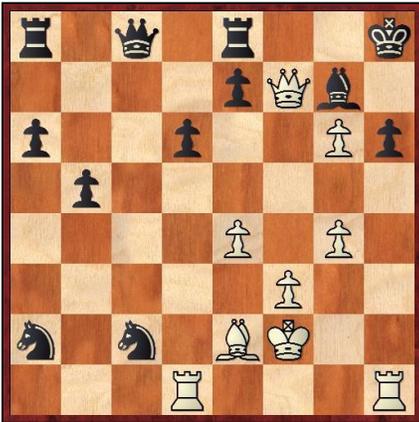
Stonebridge Games Chess Club: (Longmont) Meets Tuesdays at 5:00pm. 449 Main Street, Longmont. Call (303) 776-3796 for more info.



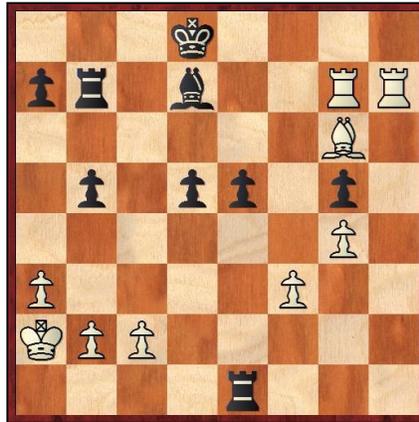
Tactics Time!

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. Coleman Hoyt - Dean Brown
Pikes Peak Open / 2018
White to move



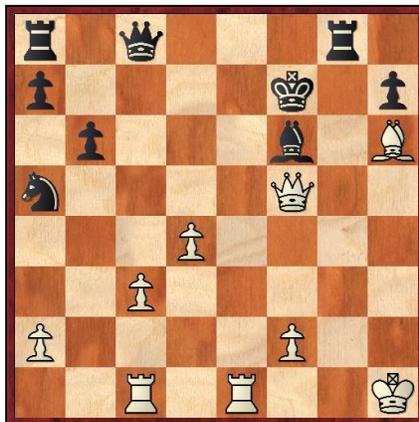
2. Richard Shtivelband - Brad Lundstrom
Pikes Peak Open / 2018
White to move



3. Larry Osborn - Derek Eskeldson
July Mating Game / 2018
White to move



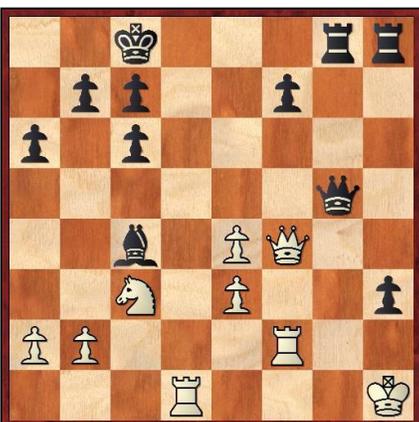
4. Brian Rountree - Earle Wikle
2nd Thanksgiving Open / 2018
Black to move



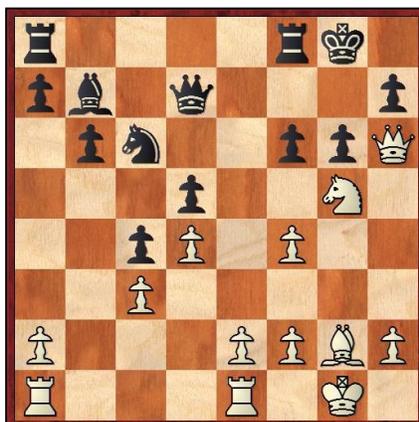
5. Brian Wall - Richard Shtivelband
Club Chess!! Quick / 2018
White to move



6. Rithvik Ijju - Alayne Wilinsky
DCC January / 2019
Black to move



7. Calvin DeJong - Brian Wall
DCC Tribute to MLK / 2019
Black to move



8. Alaa-Addin Moussa - Griffin McConnell
DCC Tribute to MLK / 2019
White to move



9. Steve Kovach - Haroun Mueller-Omar
DCC Tribute to MLK / 2019
Black to move



Tactics Time Answers:

1. **28.Rxh6+!! Bxh6 29.Qh7#.**
2. **34.Bf5** adds a third attacker to the bishop on d7. Black cannot play **34...Bxf5** because of **35.Rh8#**.
3. White lost their queen early for no compensation, but went into “*NOTHING IS OVER*” Rambo mode and his opponent missed **25.Bf2#** in a completely lopsided position.
4. **19...Rxf3** wins a piece of pumpkin pie. If White recaptures with **20.Qxf3 Nh4+** fork, or if **20.Kxf3 Ngxe5+ 21.dxe5 Nxe5+** fork.
5. **26.Qh5+ Rg6 27.Qd5+ Qe6 28.Qxe6#** is a cute mate in three, forcing the rook to take away one of the escape squares.
6. **22...Bc5+** discovered attack on the queen. **23.bxc5 Rxd2.**
7. **25...Qg2+ 26.Rxg2 hxc2+ 27.Kg1 Rh1+ 28.Kf2 Rf1+ 29.Rxf1 gxf1Q#.**
8. **20.Bxd5+** wins a pawn. The bishop cannot be taken because of **20...Qxd5 21.Qxh7#.**
9. **33...Qxe5** taking advantage of the pin.



UPCOMING COLORADO TOURNAMENTS

Strong Swiss July

July 3 - 31
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Classical Wednesdays

July 3 - 31
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Summer Sizzle Blitz

July 11
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

July 12
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

CSCC / July Mating Game

July 16 - 23
4 Round / Swiss
G/45; d/10
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Summer Sizzle Blitz

July 18
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

July 19
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

Boulder Open

July 20 - 21
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; d/10 (Rds 1-3) - G/90; inc/30 (Rds 4-5)
Boulder

Club Chess!! / Summer Sizzle Blitz

July 25
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

July 26
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

Colorado Quick Championship

July 27
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

Colorado Bughouse Championship

July 27
4 Round / Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

DCC Rapid

August 3
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; d/05
Lone Tree

CSCC / August Swiss 90

August 6 - 27
4 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

UPCOMING COLORADO TOURNAMENTS

Pikes Peak Open

August 17 - 18
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; d/05 (Rds 1-2) - G/90; inc/30 (Rds 3-5)
Manitou Springs

Colorado Open

August 31 - September 1
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; d/05 (Rds 1-2) - G/90; inc/30 (Rds 3-5)
Greenwood Village

CSCC / September Swiss 90

September 3 - 24
4 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

55th Annual Colorado Springs City Chess Championship

October 1 - 29
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

DCC / Fall Classic

October 12 - 13
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; d/05 (Rds 1-3) - G/90; inc/30 (Rds 4-5)
Centennial

*For more detailed information on these upcoming
Colorado events, please visit the CSCA website at
<http://www.coloradochess.com/newtourn.shtml>*



UPCOMING COLORADO SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS

July - Chess Academy of Denver

July 13
5 Round / Swiss
Denver

August - Chess Academy of Denver

August 3
5 Round / Swiss
Denver

Denver Scholastic Chess Series #1

September 28th
5 Round / Swiss
Denver

Summit School of Chess Tournament Series #1

September 28
5 Round / Swiss
G/30
Denver

Denver Scholastic Chess Series #2

October 19
5 Round / Swiss
Denver

Summit School of Chess Tournament Series #2

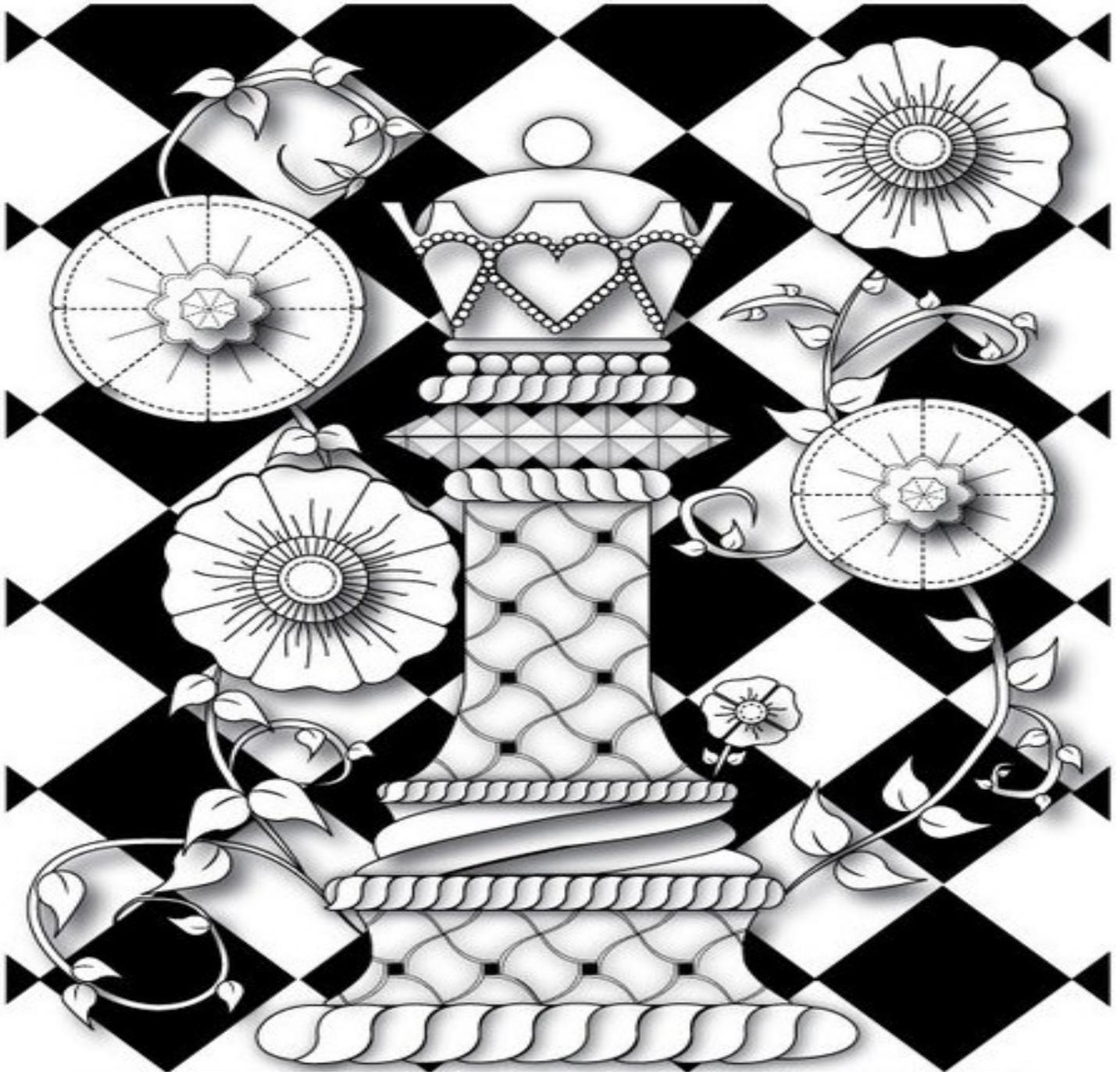
October 19
5 Round / Swiss
G/30
Denver

Denver Scholastic Chess Series #3

November 16
5 Round / Swiss
Denver

*For more detailed information on these upcoming
Colorado events, please visit the CSCA website at
<http://www.coloradochess.com/tournament/scholastic>*





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