

# COLORADO CHESS INFORMANT



**Denver Open**



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

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

- Send address changes to - *Attn: Scott Lett* to the email address [chesscoach2014@gmail.com](mailto:chesscoach2014@gmail.com).
- Send pay renewals & memberships to the CSCA. (See back cover for EZ renewal form instructions.)

The *Colorado Chess Informant* (CCI) is the official publication of the CSCA, published four times a year in January, April, July and October.

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

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## From the Editor

Well, after 13 years it is over for my tenure as editor of this magazine. Due to personal and work related time constraints I am unable to dedicate my editing efforts anymore.

I want to thank all the wonderful authors of articles that were submitted over these years, the various Board of Directors who expressed confidence in my ability to edit, but most of all I want to thank the readership for all the kind words over the years about my work with this magazine - I greatly appreciate you all!

I don't know what the future holds for this publication, but I'm sure it will be a bright one. Once again, thank you all and...

May Caissa be with you.  
*Fred Eric Spell*

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**On the cover:**

*Denver Open playing room*  
*by John Brezina*

## CSCA President – Brad Lundstrom’s Message

Hello Colorado Chess Players,

I hope that this finds you enjoying a beautiful Colorado summer and you are also getting to play in many of the wonderful chess tournaments across the state. I’d like to especially thank a truly outstanding Tournament Director: Tom Nelson for our CSCA tournaments and many others this past year. Also, great appreciation to the *Denver Chess Club*, the *Colorado Springs Chess Club* and the strong efforts with the new *CSU-Fort Collins Chess Club* would top the list, although it is clear that there are many good things going on all over with chess in Colorado that are also much appreciated! I know you will enjoy all the great news in our July Informant.

Our 2022 Colorado Open this year will be held at the Sheraton, as always over Labor Day weekend on September 3 and 4th and we are looking for an excellent tournament using the many things we learned last year that will make this one great! There will be a Colorado Blitz Championship Tournament held the night before the main event but at a different site due to availability and the increased site costs. Look for all the details at our online CSCA website under Upcoming Tournaments.

It’s important for CSCA members to attend our annual membership meeting during our Colorado Open between rounds 4 and 5 on that Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. As in past years, we will have an election for our CSCA board for next year. There will be several open positions including mine as I will not be seeking re-election as President and also, Joshua Samuel will not be continuing as Treasurer. I hope you will consider serving on the board as it’s an interesting and challenging but rewarding experience. We look forward to getting some new folks with new ideas and good energy on the board as we go forward in Colorado Chess!

Times are changing not only with some new CSCA board members but our nationally acclaimed and long time editor of the *Colorado Chess Informant*: Fred Eric Spell is retiring after 13 incredibly great years of service to all Colorado chess players. We are searching for a new editor, we will utilize our CSCA News site and our CSCA Vice President Jesse Cohen is leading our committee in looking at new ways to provide information to Colorado chess players.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of allowing me to serve you all as CSCA President over the past 1 ½ years. Thank you to so many great people that make Colorado Chess great all across the state. I hope the rest of your summer is awesome and we will see you at the *Colorado Open* September 3rd!

**Brad Lundstrom**

*President / Colorado State Chess Association*



# Colorado Chess News

## **Congratulations to Colorado's newest National Master Daniel Herman!**

Following Daniel's repeat as the 2022 Colorado Master/Experts Champion and tie for 1st in the Colorado Quick Chess Championship, Daniel had another great tournament with a 4-0 performance to launch him from 2197 at M/E Class Championship over the 2200 mark to 2210. Congratulations Daniel and all of the Colorado Chess community is very proud of you!

## **New Editor for *Colorado Chess Informant* Needed**

As many of you are now aware, our spectacular editor Fred Eric Spell is retiring from doing the Informant. He will be deeply missed both as a character and as the most amazing editor this magazine has ever had. We NEED someone willing to step up to help take us into the next era of chess news/information for Colorado. One suggested idea is a video informant that we post to YouTube (or a similar platform). We would have tournaments, authors, and the Colorado chess scene send in their articles, games, and news for us to put in a video format. This is the direction I'd like to see us go in however many people are still a fan of having an actual magazine (even in a purely digital form).

We are very open to receiving help including from our High Schoolers. Many of you go to college and we know the importance of having community service on your college application. This is an excellent opportunity to help make the informant better than ever and fuel your future! We're also looking for people who know how to make and edit videos.

Please let me know if you're someone interested in contributing to making a great Informant so we can carry the great tradition that Fred Eric Spell has formed all these many years!

*NM Jesse Cohen - Vice President of the CSCA*

## **Colorado Visit by Sunil Weeramantry**

The Parker Chess Club (<https://parkerchessclub.godaddysites.com/>) is excited to announce the return of a very special guest who will be giving a lecture at our club on Monday July 11, 2022 from 6-8pm during our regular club meeting time. We are honored that Sunil Weeramantry will return to give a lecture and sign copies of his books which we'll have a limited supply of.

Mr. Weeramantry is the executive director of the National Scholastic Chess Foundation as well as a member of the USCF Scholastic Committee since 1986. In addition, a FIDE Master and a former two-time New York State champion. Sunil is one of the most successful chess coaches in the country. He is also the author, with Ed Eusebi, of the best-selling chess book, *Best Lessons of a Chess Coach*.

His many accolades in chess are too numerous to list here. He is also the step father to Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura. In addition, we'll have NM Kris Littlejohn in our lecture audience. He is Nakamura's long-time second.

Please join us and welcome these two special guests to Colorado at the Parker library upstairs in the Event Hall room A on Main Street in Parker, Colorado. Email me with any questions at [skibrezina@gmail.com](mailto:skibrezina@gmail.com).

*John Brezina / Parker Chess Club*

## **Chess Grandmaster Timur Gareyev takes on 55 kids at once at a Fort Collins camp on June 17, 2022**

Awesome last day at Zachary Belkedahl's Chessmates summer camp in Fort Collins as we hosted International Grandmaster Timur Gareyev for a simultaneous exhibition. Our visiting Grandmaster spoke to our students and allowed every one of them to individually challenge him. Timur scored a perfect 55-0-0 but a few courageous warriors gave him a good fight. Everyone enjoyed meeting this brilliant living chess legend. Timur was friendly, kind, funny and absolutely lethal on every chess board. A day these kids will never forget.

(KDVR link to their story: <https://kdvr.com/news/local/chess-grandmaster-timur-gareyev-chessmates-camp-fort-collins/>)

# Colorado Chess News (continued)

## Colorado Nominations for 2022 United States Chess Journalists Awards

*Colorado Nominations as submitted by Colorado Chess Association President Brad Lundstrom*

### Best State Magazine/Newsletter

#### Colorado Chess Informant: Quarterly Issues

Editor: Fred Eric Spell

Link: <https://www.coloradochess.com/informants.shtml>

### Single Article of Local Interest

#### The Colorado Closed and Scholastic Closed Tournaments

By Tournament Director and Colorado Scholastic Director: Tom Nelson

Chess Informant: April 2022 Issue, pages 8-13

Link: <https://www.coloradochess.com/informants.shtml>

### Best Club Newsletter

#### Denver Chess Club

Editor: J.C. McNeil

Club President: Richard Shtivelband

Link: [www.DenverChess.com](http://www.DenverChess.com) / Click on 'News' tab for monthly club newsletters

Denver Chess Club newsletter also reprinted in the Colorado Informant / April 2022 Issue, pages 24-27

Link: <https://www.coloradochess.com/informants.shtml>

### Best Instructive Article

#### The Chess Detective

By NM Todd Bardwick

Chess Informant: April 2022 Issue, page 38

Link: <https://www.coloradochess.com/informants.shtml>

### Best Coverage by Mainstream Publication

Colorado has two entries (*Note that the 2nd entry is past the June 1, 2022 cut off so it will be a CJA 2023 Colorado Nomination*)

(1) Online search: Griffin McConnell Denver Post

Reporter: Tayler Shaw - October 16, 2021

Link: <https://www.denverpost.com/2021/10/27/brain-surgeries-17-year-old-chess/>

(2) GM Timur Gareyev visits Zack Bakkadahl's Chessmates Summer Camp and plays 55 Colorado kids simultaneously -  
Channel 31 Denver Fox News reporter Evan Kruegal - June 17, 2022

Link: <https://kdvr.com/news/local/chess-grandmaster-timur-gareyev-chessmates-camp-fort-collins/>



# Hall of Famer, John Harris

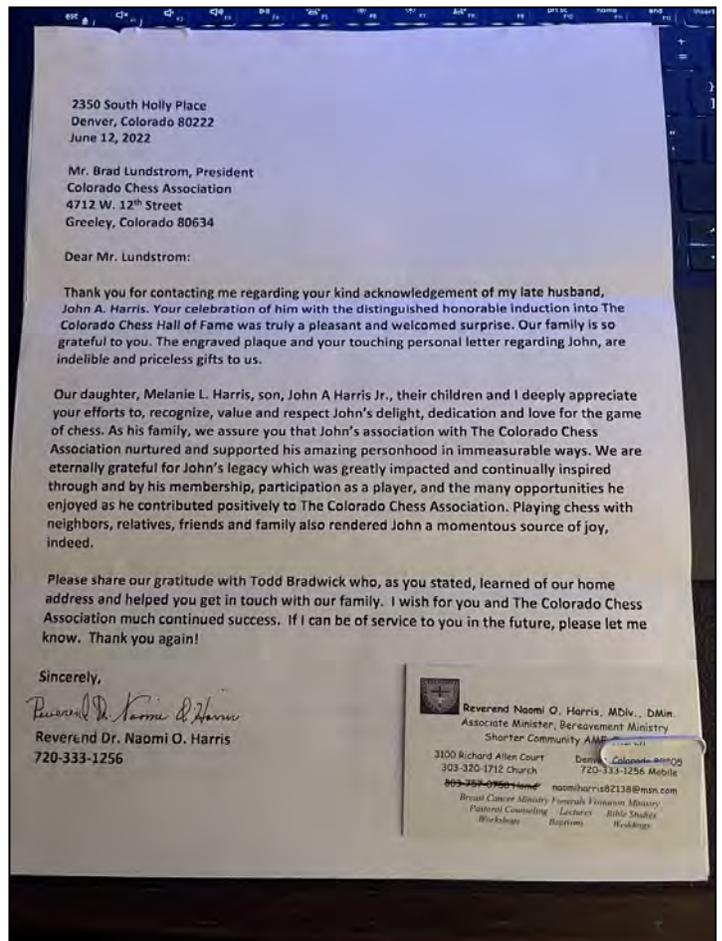
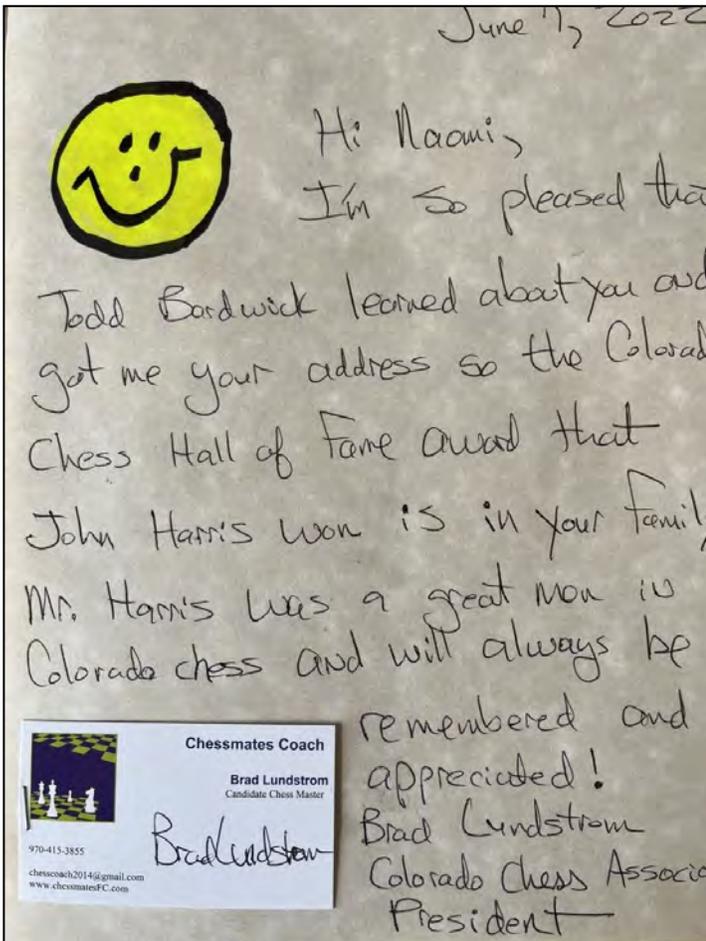
by CSCA President Brad Lundstrom

John Harris was inducted into the Colorado Chess Hall of Fame at a special ceremony before last year's 2021 Colorado Open.

As John is now deceased, CSCA had lost contact with his family through the ensuing years. After many efforts, Todd Bardwick located his family and shared the information with me. I wrote a note of congratulations and mailed his award plaque to his family and received a kind thank you letter (see below).

John Harris was a very important leader in the CSCA in the 1960s and early 70s as he did a lot of great things for Colorado Chess. Top of the list, he was key part of bringing 1968 U.S. Open to Aspen, Colorado. The legendary Danish GM Bent Larsen won that US Open. Three years later that happy memory and his good relations with John Harris helped convince Larsen to agree to play a famous match in the US and in Denver, Colorado. During a very hot and unforgettable summer of 1971 Larsen came back to Colorado and in Denver he played a world semifinal candidates match against Bobby Fischer with Bobby scoring an astounding 6-0.

During the breaks John played some recreational tennis with Fischer as they both enjoyed that sport as well. It was wonderful for Denver and Colorado chess fans to witness that historic match and see Bobby first hand during his incredible march to the 1972 World Chess Championship. Later in Reykjavik, Iceland, Bobby defeated Boris Spassky and became the first and only US player to be the World Chess Champion that following summer. Many of us Colorado chess old timers including myself still recall the Denver match and seeing Bobby Fischer and Bent Larsen playing in person, very fondly. Later, John Harris also helped bring the 1977 US Invitational Championship to Denver.



## Joshua Samuel at the National Open

The National Open was held in Las Vegas, Nevada at the *The Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino Hotel* between June 8th through the 12th, and Colorado's own Joshua Samuel was there. Here, he presents three of his wins (he finished 4.5 out of 7).

**Shravan Sriram** (1709)

**Joshua Samuel** (1935)

### Round 1

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 c6 5.e4 dxe4 6.Nxe4 Bb4+ 7.Nc3 Qa5 8.Bd2 Qc7 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.O-O O-O 12.Rc1 Re8 13.Re1 Bf4 14.b4 b6 15.d5 Bxd2 16.Qxd2 Nf8 17.Nd4 Bd7 18.dxc6 Bxc6 19.Nxc6 Qxc6 20.c5 Red8 21.Qe2 Rd4 22.Ne4 Rad8 23.Nxf6+ gxf6 24.Be4 Qa4 25.Rc4 bxc5 26.Bc2 Qa6 27.Bxh7+ Kxh7 28.Rxd4 Qxe2 29.Rxe2 Rxd4 30.h3 cxb4 31.Rc2 a5 32.Rc6 Nd7 33.Rc8 Kg7 34.Ra8 Rd5 35.Kh2 Nb6 36.Ra6 Na4 37.Rc6 Rb5 38.Rd6 Nc3 39.Kg3 Nxa2 40.f3 b3 41.Kg4 b2 42.h4 b1Q 43.g3 Qf5# 0-1

**Joshua Samuel** (1935)

**Jason Zhang** (1856)

### Round 4

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Bd3 Bxd3 5.Qxd3 e6 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.O-O Ne7 8.Bg5 Qc7 9.Bxe7 Bxe7 10.Re1 c5 11.c4 dxc4 12.Qxc4 Nb6 13.Qb5+ Qd7 14.Nc3 Qxb5 15.Nxb5 O-O 16.dxc5 Bxc5 17.Rac1 Rfc8 18.a3 a6 19.Nc3 Rc6 20.b4 Be7 21.Ne4 Rac8 22.Rxc6 Rxc6 23.Ned2 Nd5 24.Nd4 Rc3 25.N2b3 g6 26.g3 Kg7 27.Rc1 Rxc1+ 28.Nxc1 b6 29.Nd3 a5 30.Nc6 Bf8 31.bxa5 bxa5 32.Nxa5 Bxa3 33.Nc4 Be7 34.Kg2 h5 35.f4 h4 36.g4 Nb4 37.Nxb4 Bxb4 38.g5 Kf8 39.Kh3 Be1 40.Ne3 Ke7 41.Ng2 Bf2 42.Nxh4 Kd7 43.Nf3 Kc6 44.Kg4 Kd5 45.Nd2 Kd4 46.Kf3 Be1 47.Ne4 1-0

**Darian Nguyen** (2099)

**Joshua Samuel** (1935)

### Round 5

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bf4 Nf6 4.Nbd2 Bd6 5.e3 Bxf4 6.exf4 Nc6 7.c3 O-O 8.Bd3 b6 9.Qe2 Bb7 10.h4 Qd6 11.Ne5 Nd7 12.Ndf3 f6 13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Ng5+ Kg8 15.Qh5 fxe5 16.hxe5 Nxe5 17.fxe5 Nxe5 18.O-O-O Rf5 19.g4 Nxe4 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.g6+ Kf6 22.Qh4+ Rg5 23.f4 Qxf4+ 24.Kb1 Qe4+ 25.Ka1 Qxg6 26.Rdg1 Kf7 27.Rh3 Rf8 28.Rf3+ Ke7 29.Rxf8 Kxf8 30.Qh8+ Ke7 31.Qb8 Ne3 32.Qxc7+ Ke8 33.Qb8+ Kf7 34.Qc7+ Kg8 35.Qb8+ Kh7 36.Qh2+ Qh6 0-1



# Pics from the GM Timur Gareyev simul



*GM Timur Gareyev being interviewed by Evan Kruegal of Denver's Fox News Channel 31*



*GM Gareyev plays Chessmates students at NM Zachary Bekkedahl's Summer Camp in Fort Collins*



*Evan Kruegal, GM Timur Gareyev & Zachary Bekkedahl*



*Parents of the Chess Camp kids at the Awards Assembly*

# COLORADO OPEN

5 Round Swiss Tournament	
Date	September 3 - 4, 2022
Time Control	Rds 1-2 G/90, 5 seconds delay; Rds 3-5 G/90, 30 seconds increment
Site	Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel Address: 7007 S Clinton St, Greenwood Village, CO 80112 Phone: (303) 799-6200
Directions	Thank you for choosing to have your Event with us! Here's your reservation link your guests can use to make reservations: <a href="https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1655738210138&amp;key=GRP">https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1655738210138&amp;key=GRP</a> Book your group rate for Colorado Chess Association You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event. Event Summary: Colorado Chess Association Start Date: Friday, September 2, 2022 End Date: Sunday, September 4, 2022 Last Day to Book: Wednesday, August 3, 2022 Hotel(s) offering your special group rate: • Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel for 159 USD per night • Friday, September 2nd up to max five rooms at special rate • Saturday, September 3rd up to max twenty rooms at special rate Book your group rate for Colorado Chess Association
Sections	Championship (open) U1900 U1600 U1300
Entry Fee	\$45 if received online by 6 p.m. 9/2/2022, \$50 at site
Prizes	Cash prizes per entries. Championship 1st Prize at least \$300.
Registration	Online registration until 6 p.m. 9/2/2022. At the door registration 7:30-8 a.m. Players registering after 8 a.m. will receive a 1/2 point bye for the first round.
Round Times	Saturday 9:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 7:00 PM; Rd 4 Sunday 9:00 AM (CSCA Membership Meeting 2:00 PM), Rd 5 3:30 PM unless delayed.
Entries	Brad Lundstrom
Email	<a href="mailto:chesscoach2014@gmail.com">chesscoach2014@gmail.com</a>
<b>Bye Policy</b>	
Second day Byes must be requested before Round 3 One 1/2 point bye may be requested. All other byes will be 0 point byes Round 5 byes will be 0 point byes	
Register Online Here: <a href="https://oaisachess.net/online-registration/index/1700">https://oaisachess.net/online-registration/index/1700</a>	
All players must have current USCF memberships. Players without current USCF memberships will be given 0 point byes until their membership has been renewed. CSCA membership required of all Colorado players.	

# Denver Open

by J.C. MacNeil

(Reprinted with the permission of the Denver Chess Club / [www.DenverChess.com](http://www.DenverChess.com))

I don't think there are enough superlatives in the Oxford English Dictionary to describe what an awesome tournament the DCC 2022 Denver Open was. It may well have been the highest attendance of any chess tournament ever held in Colorado. ONE HUNDRED and EIGHTY EIGHT - yes 188 - players registered to play in the annual premier Denver Chess Club tournament. Note: Tim Brennan has informed me that the Ed Levy I tournament in 2002 had 325 players, and Ed Levy II in 2003 had 261 players. OK so the 2022 Denver Open had the best Colorado tournament attendance in the last 19 years. I will always correct any errors of fact.

Players from all over the country came to Denver, Colorado to possibly play against special guest GM Jesse Kraai, or to have a shot at winning substantial prize money. An astounding 42% of the players were from outside the Denver area. With four sections it was possible for any player, of any level of ability, to win some big bucks, in addition to the classy 1st place trophy we had for each section.

The event opened with a Friday afternoon Blitz tournament that included GM Jesse Kraai's participation. Thirty-seven players choose to play in this 9 round side event. As usual, Andrew Starr directed the tournament with efficiency, despite a faulty hotel WiFi connection. Surprisingly GM Kraai did not take 1st place. The Grandmaster was upset by Sullivan McConnell in round 3.



*Jesse Lozano (r) from Texas was thrilled to be paired against GM Jesse Kraai for round 2 of the main tournament.*

The young Sullivan also won against the well known and strong NM Chris Peterson to finish with 8.5 points - only giving up a draw to his brother Griffin (who now is also a new Colorado Master). This fine performance won Sullivan \$200. GM Kraai ended up with 8 points and won \$75. I'm sure Sullivan is now on GM Kraai's list. I should also mention that relatively low rated Luke Donofrio (1459) must be a great blitz player. He finished with 5.5 points. Only losing to Griffin, NM Wall, and GM Kraai. His final score was all from big upsets.

For me, it was just a great feeling to walk into the tournament room Saturday morning for round 1 of the Main Event, and see wall to wall chess players filling the room. As I am sure it was for DCC President, Richard Shtivelband, and DCC Vice President, Lex Huberts. They put in a lot of time and effort to make this great tournament happen. Thanks very much to both of you.

Also, no tournament happens without Tournament Directors. FIDE National Arbiter Tom Nelson and USCF Director Earle Wikle ran the show in exemplary fashion. The rounds started on time, game results were entered correctly, and the very few playing disputes were settled quietly, quickly, and without quibble. That is all that can be asked of TDs. The DCC thanks you both kindly.

It is no surprise that GM Jesse Kraai took 1st place in the FIDE-rated Champion section. But I guess it is a little surprising that it was not with a perfect score. Another new Colorado Master, Neil Bhavikatti, held the Grandmaster to a last round draw. Nevertheless, 4.5 points secured clear 1st place and Mr. Kraai and takes home a nice \$1000 prize check.

Neil and apparently a real strong Class A player, Jorge Rubio, tied for the combined 2nd and 3rd place prize with 4 points, and they each pocket \$625. The young Bhavikatti's score also includes a draw against the no doubt soon to be an International Master, Gunnar Andersen. Jorge's score was all big upset wins. He only lost to Mr. Andersen. I suspect Mr. Rubio will soon be a USCF Expert. Gunnar won the U2400 prize of \$250 with 3.5 points.

Also, I'd like to mention the young - I'm guessing like 9 years old - Iris Li is going to be a force to be reckoned with. She finished out of the money but had two big upsets. Winning against strong Expert Michael Ginat and winning against NM Richard Shtivelband, who everyone knows is not at all easy to beat. NM Brian Wall managed to win against the youngster, but Brian will testify that Iris gave him all he could handle in their last round battle. Note: Mr. Ginat's current rating is slightly less than 2200 but he has USCF Life Master norms. Also, Brian has told me that he at one time was concurrently both the Colorado state chess and backgammon champion.

The U2200 section had an unusual 5 way tie for 1st place. Alexander Xie, Orgil Batsaikhan, Dmitry Kishinevsky, Luis DeAvila, and Tyler Mandel all finished with 4 points. They share the combined 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize, and each won \$270. Mr. Mandel is probably the most deserving of the prize money. After a 1st round loss to Christopher Motley, Tyler won 4 in a row against higher rated players. Amongst players

finishing with 3.5 points, two young players are notable. Namely, Sikander Baker-Nagar and Harsh Mali. All of Sikander's points were from upsetting much higher rated players, while Harsh had four upsets and only lost to Mr. Xie.

The U1800 section was won by Kristopher Zelkin with a perfect score. No losses, no draws. Set 'em up and mow 'em down, and won \$450. Mr. Zelkin is also the DCC Tuesday night U1900 Championship winner.



*FIDE National Arbiter, Tom Nelson, quietly settling a dispute.*

Photographer extraordinaire, John Brezina took the 2nd place prize of \$350 with four wins and a half point 4th round bye. Six players tied for 3rd place: Matthew O'Malley, Jeff Nohrden, Luis Jimenez, Coen Beaver, Amitai Sebba, and Derek Yin. They all ended up with 4 points, and each won \$33.33. The young grade school age Derek completely outplayed me in a knight and pawn ending and made it look easy. It is of some consolation that he also upset the strong Srikar Appana. There were numerous upsets in this section. Notably Tanya Prabhu, Shubh Misra, along with many others.

Also, in the U1400 section, we had a perfect 5-0 winner. Unrated Paul Morgan won \$250 for his fine play against more experienced players. The 2nd and 3rd place prize was shared by Kamron Correia and Andrew Robichaud. They each won \$125. I'm glad to see Mr. Robichaud winning some money and not letting won games slip away. Chad August had two over 500 point rating difference upset wins. James Manning, Trevor Thieszen, Christian Seidel, and Mitchell Keller also had huge upsets. Once again the upset wins and draws show that it's always best to play the position and not the opponents rating.

Congratulations to all the prize winners, and a big THANK YOU to all 188 players who made the 2022 DCC Denver Open extraordinary. Also, many thanks to John Brezina for the photos used in this report. *(Note: Other than the Tom Nelson photo, all pictures are by Mr. Brezina.)*

See all of Mr. Brezina's fine photography of the tournament with the links below. Mr. Brezina says, "These photo links are lower resolution since the files are so big. If you or anyone needs the full resolution version of a certain picture just let me know. email: [skibrezina@gmail.com](mailto:skibrezina@gmail.com)

Round 1: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/bEsRA3VbTc5cQEcx6>  
 Round 2: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/HFiU6HuJHsU75BUa8>  
 Round 3: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/7poXTXxMxS692EFM7>  
 Round 5: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/cU5hQa3H5MUZxVUq8>

*(Note: John was not in attendance for round 4, hence no round 4 pictures.)*

*Final Standings can be found here:*  
<https://tinyurl.com/2ecsm66f>

**Trevor Bradford** (Unrated)  
**Petra Lambert-Gorwyn** (1035)  
 Round 1

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.dxe5 Nxe4 5.exd6 Nxd6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 Nc6 9.a3 b6 10.Nc3 Bg4 11.Nd5 Re8 12.Nxe7+ Nxe7 13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Ng5+ Kg8 15.Qxg4 Nef5 16.Bd2 Nh6 17.Qf3 Ndf5 18.Rad1 Qxd2 19.Kf1 Qxg5 20.Qc6 Rxe1+ 21.Rxe1 Rd8 22.Qxc7 Ng4 23.h3 Nge3+ 24.fxe3 Nxe3+ 25.Rxe3 Rd1+ 26.Ke2 Rd5 27.Qc8+ Kh7 28.Qg4 Qd8 29.Qe4+ g6 30.Rd3 Rxd3 31.Qxd3 Qe8+ 32.Qe3 Qb5+ 33.Qd3 Qxb2 34.Kf2 a5 35.Qb3 Qf6+ 36.Qf3 Qxf3+ 37.Kxf3 b5 38.c3 f5 39.Ke3 Kg7 40.Kd4 Kf6 41.Kc5 Ke5 42.Kxb5 Kf4 1-0

**Andrew Robichaud** (1237)  
**Quinsen Joel** (Unrated)  
 Round 1

1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.Nc3 e6 4.Bd3 Bb4 5.Nge2 Nf6 6.a3 Be7 7.Ng3 c5 8.e5 Bxg2 9.exf6 Bxf6 10.Rg1 cxd4 11.Nce4 Bh3 12.Qh5 Bf5 13.Nd6+ Ke7 14.Ngxf5+ exf5 15.Bf4 g6 16.Qe2+ Kf8 17.0-0-0 Nc6 18.Bc4 Qc7 19.Rde1 h5 20.Bxf7 Ne7 21.Be5 Rh7 22.Bxf6 Qxd6 23.Bxe7+ 1-0



*Two young Colorado Masters are ready to battle. Sullivan McConnell has the White pieces against Neil Bhavikatti.*

**Neil Bhavikatti** (2206)  
**Gunnar Andersen** (2374)  
 Round 2

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5 5.Qd2 0-0 6.0-0-0 Ne4 7.Nxe4 dxe4 8.Ng5 Qd5 9.Kb1 h6 10.c4 Qc6 11.d5 Qxc4 12.e3 Qa4 13.b3 Qa3 14.Nxe4 Bf5 15.f3 a5 16.Qc1 Qb4 17.Qc4 Qa3 18.Qc1 Qb4 19.Qc4 Na6 20.Qxb4 axb4 21.Bxa6 Rxa6 22.Bxc7 Rfa8 23.Rd2 Bc3 24.Rc2 Ra3 25.Re2 Rxb3+ 26.axb3 Ra1+ 27.Kc2 Rxh1 28.g4 Bxe4+ 29.fxe4 f6 30.Bb6 Be5 31.Bc5 Kf7 32.Bxb4 Bxh2 33.Rf2 Be5 34.Bc3 Bxc3 35.Kxc3 Rg1 36.e5 Rxg4 37.e6+ Kg7 38.Ra2 f5 39.Ra7 h5 40.Rxb7 Kf6 41.Rb8 h4 42.b4 Ke5 43.Re8 Kxd5 44.Rxe7 Re4 45.Kd3 Rxe6 46.Rd7+

Kc6 47.Rg7 Kb5 48.Rb7+ Rb6 49.Rh7 g5 50.Rh5 Rg6 51.Kd4 Kxb4 52.Ke5 Rg8 53.Kxf5 Kc4 54.e4 g4 55.Rxh4 g3 56.Rh1 Kd3 57.e5 g2 58.Rg1 Rf8+ 59.Kg4 Ke4 60.Rxg2 Rg8+ ½-½

**Gary Jelinek** (Unrated)

**Andrew Robichaud** (1237)

Round 2

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.c4 Nf6 6.Be2 g6 7.cxd5 Bg7 8.Nc3 Nxd5 9.Ne5 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Bxe2 11.Qxe2 0-0 12.0-0 Qc7 13.Bd2 Rd8 14.Qc4 Bxe5 15.Qb5 Bxh2+ 16.Kh1 Bd6 17.Qg5 e6 18.Rfe1 Be7 19.Qh6 Bf8 20.Qh3 Rd5 21.Re5 Rxe5 22.dxe5 Qxe5 23.Re1 Qh5 24.Qxh5 gxh5 25.Re5 Nd7 26.Rxh5 f6 27.g4 Rc8 28.f4 Rc5 29.g5 f5 30.Rh3 Rd5 31.Rh2 Nc5 32.Re2 Ne4 33.Be1 Rd1 34.Kg2 Bd6 35.Kf3 Rd3+ 36.Re3 Rxe3+ 37.Kxe3 Kf7 38.c4 a6 39.Ba5 Bc5+ 40.Kd3 b6 41.Bc3 Nxc3 42.Kxc3 0-1

**GM Jesse Kraai** (2454)

**Jesse Lozano** (2201)

Round 2

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bg4 8.Be3 0-0 9.Qd2 c5 10.d5 Qa5 11.Rc1 Bxf3 12.gxf3 Nd7 13.h4 h5 14.f4 Rad8 15.c4 Qa3 16.Rh3 Qa4 17.e5 e6 18.Qc2 Qa5+ 19.Bd2 Qa6 20.Rg3 Rfe8 21.d6 Nf8 22.Bg2 Rb8 23.a4 b6 24.Qb3 Qc8 25.Qb5 a6 26.Qc6 Qxc6 27.Bxc6 Rec8 28.Be4 b5 29.cxb5 axb5 30.a5 Nd7 31.a6 Rb6 32.a7 1-0

**Richard Shtivelband** (2294)

**Jorge Rubio** (1793)

Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nd5 Bg7 11.c3 f5 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.Nc2 0-0 14.Nce3 Be6 15.Bd3 f5 16.Qh5 e4 17.Bc2 Ne5 18.Nf4 Qf6 19.Nxe6 Qxe6 20.Bb3 Nc4 21.0-0-0 Kh8 22.Kb1 Rac8 23.Rhe1 Rc5 24.Bxc4 bxc4 25.g4 Rb8 26.gxf5 Qe5 27.Rd4 Qf4 28.Rxc4 Bxc3 29.Re2 Rxc4 30.Nxc4 d5 31.Ne3 d4 32.Nd5 Qe5 33.Qf7 d3 34.f6 Rg8 35.Re1 Bxe1 36.Ne7 Qg5 37.Nxg8 Qxg8 38.Qd7 Bb4 39.a3 d2 40.f7 Qg1+ 41.Ka2 d1Q 0-1



*The young Iris Li (White pieces) will go on to upset NM Richard Shtivelband.*



*Photographer extraordinaire John Brezina has handed someone his camera. He is playing Black against Jeff Nohrden.*

**Wentao Wu** (1908)

**Brian Wall** (2209)

Round 2

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 f6 8.exf6 Nxf6 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Bg5 e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Bh4 Bxh2+ 15.Kxh2 Ng4+ 16.Kg3 g5 17.Bxg5 Qxg5 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Rh1+ Nh6+ 20.Kh2 Qh4+ 21.Kg1 Qxf2+ 22.Kh2 Ng4+ 23.Kh3 Ne5+ 24.Kh2 Nf3# 0-1

**Iris Li** (1781)

**Richard Shtivelband** (2294)

Round 3

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nf3 Qe7+ 7.Be2 Bg4 8.0-0 0-0-0 9.a3 Bxc3 10.bxc3 Nf6 11.Be3 Ne4 12.Qd3 Bf5 13.Rfe1 Rhg8 14.c4 g5 15.cxd5 Rxd5 16.c4 Rd7 17.d5 g4 18.Nd4 Nxd4 19.Qxd4 b6 20.Qb2 g3 21.Rac1 gxh2+ 22.Kh1 Rxc2 23.Kxg2 Qh4 24.Qe5 Bh3+ 25.Kh1 Rd6 26.Qxh2 Nxf2+ 27.Bxf2 Qe4+ 28.Kg1 Rg6+ 29.Bg3 Qe3+ 30.Kh1 Qe4+ 31.Kg1 Bf5 32.Qf2 Kb7 33.c5 Qh4 34.Rc3 Be4 35.c6+ Kb8 36.Bf3 Rxc3+ 37.Kf1 Bf5 38.Re8+ Bc8 39.Rce3 Qc4+ 40.Be2 Qc1+ 41.Bd1 Qxd1+ 42.Qe1 Rf3+ 43.Kg2 Rxe3 44.Rxc8+ Kxc8 45.Qxd1 1-0

**Sullivan McConnell** (2263)

**Neil Bhavikatti** (2206)

Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 e5 7.Na3 Nge7 8.Nc2 0-0 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 Bg4 11.d5 Ne5 12.Bf4 Qd7 13.Bxe5 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Bxe5 15.Qb3 Bg7 16.f4 Rac8 17.Na3 Rfd8 18.Rad1 b5 19.f5 gxf5 20.exf5 Be5 21.f6 Ng6 22.Be4 Rb8 23.Bf5 Qe8 24.Nc2 Qf8 25.h4 Qh6 26.Bg4 e4 27.Qf3 Bxb2 28.Ne3 Bxf6 29.Nf5 Qf8 30.h5 Ne7 31.Nd4 Bxd4+ 32.Rxd4 Qg7 33.Rf4 Rf8 34.h6 Qxh6 35.Rxf7 Ng6 36.Be6 Rxf7 37.Bxf7+ Kh8 38.Qf6+ Qg7 39.Qxd6 Rf8 40.Bxg6 Qd4+ 41.Kg2 Qd2+ 42.Kh3 Rxf1 43.Be4 Qg5 44.Qb8+ Kg7 45.Qxa7+ Rf7 46.Qd4+ Qf6 47.Qc5 Qe5 48.Qe3 Re7 0-1



**Jorge Rubio** (1793)  
**Gunnar Andersen** (2374)  
 Round 3

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 c5 4.d5 Qb6 5.Qc1 e6 6.f3 Nf6  
 7.dxe6 dxe6 8.e4 Nc6 9.Nd2 e5 10.Be3 Be6 11.c3 Qc7 12.Bb5  
 a6 13.Bxc6+ Qxc6 14.Ne2 c4 15.0-0 Bc5 16.Bxc5 Qxc5+  
 17.Kh1 0-0 18.Qe1 Rfd8 19.Ng3 Rd3 20.Rf2 Rad8 21.Ndf1 Qd6  
 22.h3 h5 23.Ne3 g6 24.Re2 Qd7 25.Nd5 Ne8 26.Nf1 Kg7  
 27.Nfe3 Bxd5 28.Nxd5 Nc7 29.Ne3 b5 30.Qg3 f6 31.f4 exf4  
 32.Qxf4 Qd6 33.Qh4 Qe5 34.Rf1 Rd2 35.Ree1 Qg5 36.Qxg5  
 fxg5 37.e5 Re8 38.Rf6 Rxe5 39.Rc6 Nd5 40.Rd6 Rxe3 41.Rd7+  
 Kh6 42.Rf1 g4 43.h4 g3 44.b3 Rf2 0-1

**Brian Wall** (2209)  
**GM Jesse Kraai** (2454)  
 Round 3

1.Na3 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 Bf5 4.Bg2 e6 5.0-0 Nbd7 6.c4 c6  
 7.cxd5 exd5 8.b3 Bd6 9.Nc2 0-0 10.Ncd4 Bg6 11.Nh4 Be5  
 12.Nhf3 Bxd4 13.Nxd4 Qb6 14.Nf3 a5 15.d3 Rfe8 16.Rb1 h6  
 17.h3 Re6 18.Rb2 Rae8 19.Kh2 d4 20.Rc2 Nd5 21.Bb2 Nb4  
 22.Nxd4 Rd6 23.Nf3 Nxc2 24.Qxc2 f6 25.Kg1 Kh8 26.Rd1 Bh7  
 27.Rd2 Ne5 28.Nxe5 fxe5 29.e4 Bg8 30.Bc3 Qc5 31.Qb2 Rd7  
 32.Kh2 b5 33.b4 axb4 34.Bxb4 Qa7 35.Qc3 Re6 36.a3 Qc7  
 37.Bc5 Re8 38.Bf1 Rdd8 39.Rc2 Be6 40.Be3 Rc8 41.d4 exd4  
 42.Qxd4 Qd7 43.Qc5 Qe7 44.Qc3 Kg8 45.Bg2 Bc4 46.Bc1  
 Red8 47.Qe3 c5 48.Bb2 Rd3 49.Qf4 Bb3 50.Qg4 Rc7 51.Rc3 c4  
 52.Qf4 Qf7 53.Qe5 Rd2 54.Rf3 Qe7 55.Qxe7 Rxe7 56.Bc3 Rd3  
 57.e5 Rf7 58.Rxd3 cxd3 59.f4 Rc7 0-1

**Laura Alonso** (1220)  
**Andrew Robichaud** (1237)  
 Round 4

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5 5.Bxf7+ Ke7 6.Bb3  
 Rf8 7.d3 d6 8.a3 Qe8 9.Nc3 Qg6 10.g3 Bxf2+ 11.Kxf2 Nxe4+  
 12.Kg2 Nng5 13.Bxg5+ Qxg5 14.Nd5+ Kd8 15.Rf1 Rf5 16.Qe1  
 Nd4 17.Rf2 c6 18.Ne3 Rxf2+ 19.Qxf2 Nxb3 20.cxb3 Kc7 21.h4  
 Qe7 22.Rc1 Qe6 23.b4 Bd7 24.b5 Re8 25.Nc4 c5 26.a4 Re7  
 27.b4 Rf7 28.Qe3 Qd5+ 29.Kh2 Rf3 30.Qe4 Rxd3 31.Qxd5  
 Rxd5 32.Kg2 b6 33.Kf3 Be6 34.Ke4 Rd4+ 0-1

**Gunnar Andersen** (2374)  
**GM Jesse Kraai** (2454)  
 Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 Bd6 5.Qf3 0-0 6.g4 Nc6 7.g5  
 Nd7 8.Bxd6 cxd6 9.Qg3 e5 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.dxe5 Nb6 12.exd6  
 Bf5 13.Nf3 Rac8 14.d7 Bxd7 15.a3 Nb4 16.Rd4 Rxc3 17.Rxb4  
 Rxa3 18.bxa3 Qxa3+ 19.Rb2 Na4 20.Qe5 Re8 21.Qd4 Re4  
 22.Qxa7 Qxb2+ 23.Kd2 Qc3+ 24.Kc1 Nc5 25.Nd2 Ba4 0-1

**Neil Bhavikatti** (2206)  
**Iris Li** (1781)  
 Round 4

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4  
 Bd7 8.Nc3 Ne7 9.Bxd7+ Qxd7 10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd4 g5 12.Bg3  
 0-0-0 13.Kh1 Ng6 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.a4 a6 16.Qd2 Nh5 17.Nd5  
 Nng3+ 18.hxg3 Ba7 19.Nd4 h5 20.Nf5 g4 21.Qg5 Ne5 22.b4  
 Nc4 23.b5 a5 24.c3 Kb8 25.Nf6 Qe6 26.f4 Nd2 27.Rfe1 h4  
 28.gxh4 Nb3 29.Rad1 Nc5 30.g3 Nd7 31.Nxd7+ Qxd7 32.Nd4  
 Rdg8 33.Qd5 Qd8 34.Kg2 Rh7 35.Qf5 Rg6 36.e5 d5 37.e6  
 Rgg7 38.e7 Qe8 39.Qxd5 Rg8 40.c4 Rh6 41.c5 Rgh8 42.Nf5  
 Rg6 43.Qd8+ Qxd8 44.Rxd8+ Rxd8 45.exd8Q# 1-0

**Jorge Rubio** (1793)  
**Eamon Montgomery** (2133)  
 Round 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 e6 3.e3 d5 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Nd2 h6 7.Bh4  
 Be7 8.f4 a6 9.Ngf3 b5 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Ne5 Ne4 12.Nxe4 dxe4  
 13.Bxe4 Nxe5 14.Bxb7 Ra7 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.Bxa6 Rxa6  
 17.fxe5 0-0 18.a3 Rb8 19.Qg4 b4 20.axb4 Rxa1 21.Rxa1 cxb4  
 22.c4 b3 23.Qe4 Qb4 24.Qd3 Rc8 25.Rc1 Qa4 26.e4 Qa2  
 27.Qd2 1-0

**Karthika Sakthisaravanan** (1036)  
**Chad August** (774)  
 Round 4

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Nd7 4.c4 e6 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Bd2 Ne7 7.Bd3  
 Nf5 8.Nge2 0-0 9.Qc2 Nb6 10.g4 dxc4 11.Be4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4  
 Qxd4 13.0-0-0 Qxe5 14.Rhe1 Qxh2 15.Rh1 Qe5 16.Bxh7+  
 Kh8 17.Bg8+ Kxg8 18.Qh7# 1-0

**Vedanth Sampath** (2017)  
**Brian Wall** (2209)  
 Round 4

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6  
 7.h3 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.c4 Bd7 10.Nc3 Rc8 11.Rc1 b6 12.Qd2 Nxd4  
 13.Bxd4 Rxc4 14.Bxf6 exf6 15.Qxd6 Be6 16.Qxd8 Rxd8  
 17.Rcd1 Rcd4 18.Nd5 R8xd5 19.Bxd5 Rxd5 20.Rxd5 Bxd5  
 21.b3 Be6 22.Rd1 Bf8 23.Kg2 h5 24.e4 Bc5 25.f4 Kf8 26.Rd8+  
 Kg7 27.Kh2 a5 28.Kg2 a4 29.bxa4 Bb4 30.Rd4 Ba5 31.a3 Kf8  
 32.f5 gxf5 33.exf5 Bxf5 34.Rf4 Bc2 35.Rxf6 Bxa4 36.Rf5 Kg7  
 37.Rxh5 Bc3 38.Rh4 Bc6+ 39.Kf2 b5 40.Rg4+ Kf8 41.h4 Bb2  
 42.h5 Bd7 43.Rg5 f6 44.Rd5 Be6 45.Rd3 Kg7 46.g4 Be5  
 47.Rd8 Be4 48.Ke3 Bc6 49.Kf2 Bf4 50.Rd4 Bc1 51.Rd6 Be4  
 52.Rb6 Bd3 53.Rd6 Bc4 54.a4 Ba3 55.Rd7+ Kh6 56.axb5 Bxb5  
 57.Rf7 Bb2 58.Ke3 Bc6 59.Kf4 Bd5 60.Re7 Bc1+ 61.Kf5 Bg5  
 62.Rd7 Bb3 63.Rc7 Ba4 64.Ke6 Bb5 65.Kf7 Bh4 66.Kg8 Bd3

67.Rg7 Be4 68.Kf7 Bd5+ 69.Kf8 Bc4 70.Rg6+ Kh7 71.Rg7+ Kh8 72.Rg6 Bg5 73.Ke7 Kh7 74.Kf8 Be6 75.Ke7 Bb3 76.Kf8 Bc4 77.Rg7+ Kh8 78.Rg6 Be6 79.Ke7 Kh7 80.Rxg5 Bxg4 81.Rg6 Be6 82.Rxf6 1-0

**Jeffrey Baffo** (1725)

**Tyler Thieszen** (1500)

Round 5

1.Nc3 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nxd4 5.Qxd4 c5 6.Qd3 Nf6 7.e4 d6 8.Be2 Be7 9.Bf4 a6 10.0-0 Be6 11.Rad1 Qb6 12.b3 0-0 13.Na4 Qc6 14.Bf3 Bg4 15.c4 Rfe8 16.Nc3 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Rad8 18.Rfe1 Bf8 19.Bg5 Be7 20.Qe3 h6 21.Bxf6 Bxf6 22.Nd5 Re6 23.Kh1 Kh7 24.Qf4 b5 25.Rg1 Qb7 26.h4 bxc4 27.h5 cxb3 28.axb3 Qxb3 29.Rxg7+ Kxg7 30.Rg1+ Bg5 31.Rxg5+ hxg5 32.Qxg5+ Rg6 33.h6+ Kh7 34.Nf6+ Rxf6 35.Qg7# 1-0

**Sho Glashauser** (2160)

**Gunnar Andersen** (2374)

Round 5

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 c6 8.Be2 b5 9.Qb3 a5 10.Qc2 e5 11.dxe5 Ng4 12.Bf4 Nd7 13.e6 fxe6 14.Bd6 Rf7 15.0-0 Nde5 16.Rad1 Rd7 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bc5 g5 19.Be3 Ba6 20.Rxd7 Nxd7 21.Rd1 Qe7 22.Qd2 Ne5 23.Bxg5 Qe8 24.Bh6 Bf6 25.Qf4 Qe7 26.Bg5 Bxg5 27.Qxe5 Bf6 28.Qd6 Qxd6 29.Rxd6 b4 30.Bxa6 bxc3 31.Bd3 cxb2 32.Kf1 e5 33.Ke2 Kf7 34.f4 c4 35.Bb1 Rc8 36.e5 Be7 37.Rb6 Bb4 38.Rb7+ Kg8 39.Bxh7+ Kf8 40.Rd7 c3 0-1

**GM Jesse Kraai** (2454)

**Neil Bhavikatti** (2206)

Round 5

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 b6 4.e3 Be7 5.h3 Bb7 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 c5 8.Nbd2 d5 9.c3 Ne4 10.Qc2 f5 11.Ne5 Nxd2 12.Qxd2 Nd7 13.Nxd7 Qxd7 14.Be5 Bd6 15.f4 Bxe5 16.fxe5 a5 17.Qe2 c4 18.Bc2 b5 19.g4 g6 20.Kh2 Qe7 21.gxf5 gxf5 22.Qh5 Kh8 23.Rg1 Rg8 24.Qh6 Rxg1 25.Rxg1 Rg8 26.Rxg8+ Kxg8 27.h4 Bc8 28.Bd1 Bd7 29.a3 Qg7 30.Qxg7+ Kxg7 31.Bh5 Kh8 ½-½

**Iris Li** (1781)

**Brian Wall** (2209)

Round 5

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d5 4.exd5 Nf6 5.Bc4 Nbd7 6.Nf3 a6 7.0-0 Nb6 8.Bb3 0-0 9.Re1 Re8 10.a4 Nbx5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.c3 c6 13.Ne5 Be6 14.h4 Nc7 15.h5 Bxe5 16.Rxe5 Qd7 17.Bxe6 Nxe6 18.d5 Nc7 19.c4 f6 20.Re1 cxd5 21.cxd5 Nxd5 22.Re3 Rad8 23.Rd3 Kg7 24.Be3 e6 25.a5 Re7 26.Rc1 Rc8 27.Bc5 Rf7 28.b4 g5 29.h6+ Kg8 30.Qg4 Qe8 31.Re1 Nf4 32.Rf3 Kh8 33.g3 Rxc5 34.bxc5 f5 35.Rxf4 fxg4 36.Rxg4 Qf8 37.Rxg5 Rxf2 38.Rge5 Rf6 39.Rxe6 Qxc5+ 40.R6e3 Rf3 41.Kg2 Qxe3 42.Rxe3 Rxe3 0-1

**Austin Okray** (Unrated)

**Seth Fortinsky** (1180)

Round 5

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6 6.d3 h6 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Rb1 e5 9.b4 Rb8 10.e4 Ne8 11.Be3 b6 12.Qd2 Kh7



*Amidst admirers, GM Jesse Kraai is proudly displaying his 1st place prize check.*

13.a4 Ndf6 14.a5 Ng4 15.axb6 axb6 16.Ra1 Nxe3 17.Qxe3 f5 18.Rfd1 Nf6 19.c5 bxc5 20.bxc5 Qe7 21.cxd6 cxd6 22.Ra7 Rb7 23.Rda1 Rd8 24.exf5 Bxf5?? 25.Rxb7 1-0

**Andrew Robichaud** (1237)

**Brandon Larson** (1458)

Round 5

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Bc4 Bf5 5.d3 c6 6.Bd2 Qc7 7.Qf3 e6 8.Nge2 Nd7 9.a3 Bd6 10.Bf4 e5 11.Bg3 Ngf6 12.Qxf5 0-0 13.Ne4 Nxe4 14.dxe4 Kh8 15.0-0 b5 16.Ba2 g6 17.Qh3 f5 18.Nc3 b4 19.axb4 Bxb4 20.exf5 gxf5 21.Rxd7 1-0

**Vedanth Sampath** (2017)

**Jorge Rubio** (1793)

Round 5

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 e6 4.Bg2 d5 5.0-0 Nbd7 6.c4 c6 7.b3 Bd6 8.Bb2 0-0 9.Nbd2 Ne4 10.Qc2 Ndf6 11.Ne5 Bd7 12.f3 Nxd2 13.Qxd2 Be8 14.Rae1 Bh5 15.Qc2 Nd7 16.e4 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Bc5+ 18.Kh1 fxe4 19.fxe4 Rxf1+ 20.Rxf1 d4 21.Qd2 d3 22.Bf3 Bb4 23.Qe3 Bxf3+ 24.Qxf3 Qd7 25.a3 Bf8 26.b4 Rd8 27.Bc3 g6 28.Bd2 Bg7 29.Bg5 Rf8 30.Bf6 Qd4 31.c5 d2 32.Rd1 Bxf6 33.exf6 Rxf6 34.Rxd2 Qa1+ 35.Rd1 Rxf3 36.Rxa1 Kf7 37.a4 Re3 38.Rd1 Ke7 39.Rd4 e5 40.Rc4 Re2 41.h4 Kf6 42.g4 Rd2 43.b5 Rd4 44.Rxd4 exd4 45.Kg2 Ke5 46.b6 a5 47.Kf3 d3 48.Ke3 d2 49.Kxd2 Kxe4 50.Kc3 Kd5 51.Kd3 Kxc5 52.Ke4 Kxb6 53.g5 Kc7 54.Ke5 Kd7 55.Kf6 e5 56.Kg7 c4 57.Kxh7 c3 58.h5 c2 59.hxg6 c1Q 60.g7 Qxg5 0-1



# More Denver Open tournament room pics by Earle Wikle



# Colorado Class Championship

by CSCA President Brad Lundstrom

The 2022 Colorado Class Championship was held on June 5th & 6th of this year.

This year we had several players request to use their “live” rating which they received after playing in the Denver Open. This was a benefit to several of our Class E/Unr players giving them the chance to play for full prize money. One of our players Jonathan Sealander whose live rating from the tournament place him in the C class went on to win the C class this year.

Congratulations goes to Daniel Herman, for his third straight, championship in the Master/Expert section. We might begin to call this a dynasty.

## Our other winners for this year:

**Class A: Laurence Wutt**

**Class B: Jose Llacza**

**Class C: Jonathan Sealander**

**Class D: Peter Needham**

**Class E/Unr: Karthika Sakthisaravanan  
& Nathaniel Lasaga-Ivey**

Thanks to our great TDs Tom Nelson and Peter Barlay.

Also, thank you to Earle Wikle who engineered our excellent playing site and ran the DGT boards.

Final Standings online: <https://tinyurl.com/4a5zza7s>



Daniel Herman - James Neal



## Games of Master/Expert Champion Daniel Herman:

**Daniel Herman** (2128)

**James Neal** (2229)

### Round 1

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ngf3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Nb3 a6 9.Nbxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Qc7 11.Bb3 Bd7 12.Qh5 Nf6 13.Qh4 0-0 14.Bg5 Be5 15.Rad1 h6 16.Be3 Bd7 17.f4 Bd6 18.f5 Bxh2+ 19.Kh1 Bg3 20.Qh3 exf5 21.Nxf5 Bxf5 22.Rxf5 Rae8 23.Bxh6 Re4 24.Bxg7 Rh4 25.Bxf6 Rxh3+ 26.gxh3 Re8 27.Bd4 Qc6+ 28.Bd5 Qxc2 29.Bxf7+ Kf8 30.Bg6+ 1-0

**Neil Bhavikatti** (2232)

**Daniel Herman** (2128)

### Round 2

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 Bb4+ 6.Nbd2 Bb7 7.Bg2 Bc3 8.Ba3 Bxa1 9.Qxa1 d6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qb1 Nbd7 12.e4 Re8 13.e5 dxe5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Bxg2 16.Rd1 Bb7 17.Ndf3 Be4 18.Qc1 Qc8 19.Ng5 Bg6 20.Nc6 h6 21.Rd8 Qb7 22.Ne7+ Kh8 23.Rxa8 Qxa8 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.Nxg6+ Kh7 26.Ne5 Qe4 27.f4 Rd8 28.Kf2 h5 29.Be7 Rd4 30.Nf7 Ng4+ 31.Kg1 Rd1+ 0-1

**Daniel Herman** (2128)

**Brian Wall** (2200)

### Round 3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 a6 7.g5 Nfd7 8.Be3 b5 9.f4 b4 10.Na4 Bb7 11.Bg2 Nc5 12.Nxc5 dxc5 13.Nb3 Qc7 14.Qg4 Nd7 15.Rd1 a5 16.0-0 a4 17.Nc1 h5 18.Qh3 c4 19.g6 Nc5 20.f5 f6 21.e5 Qxe5 22.Bxb7 Nxb7 23.Qf3 Bc5 24.Qc6+ Kf8 25.Qxb7 1-0

**Eric Billaux** (2126)

**Daniel Herman** (2128)

### Round 4

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Bc5 6.Nb3 Be7 7.Qg4 g6 8.Qe2 d6 9.Nc3 Nd7 10.Bd2 b5 11.a4 b4 12.Na2 a5 13.c3 bxc3 14.Nxc3 Ngf6 15.Bh6 Bf8 16.Bxf8 Kxf8 17.Nd4 Qb6 18.Ndb5 Kg7 19.0-0 Bb7 20.Kh1 e5 21.Rad1 Rad8 22.Bc2 Nc5 23.Rd2 Rd7 24.Rfd1 Rhd8 25.f3 Ne6 26.Qc4 Nf4 27.g3 d5 28.Qb3 dxe4 29.Rxd7 Rxd7 30.Rxd7 Nxd7 31.Nd6 Qf2 32.Qxf7+ Kh6 0-1



# Colorado Quick Championship

by Chief Tournament Director Tom Nelson

On June 3, 2022 we held the *Colorado Quick Championship* at the Hyatt Place in Colorado Springs.

This G/10; d/05 time limit tournament had 29 players vying for the right to be called this year's Champion.

Finishing in the top spot with 5 points each were Rhett Langseth and Daniel Herman, each end with a 5-1 score.

For the U1600 prize we again had a tie. Finishing with 4.5 points each were Luke Donofrio and Tyler Thieszen.

Upsets in quick chess can and do happen. To get to their 4.5 points both Luke and Tyler were able to win against players with ratings differentials well above normal matches.

Our top three upsets this year were as follows.

**Benjamin Simberg** (1121) - 699 - **Brad Lundstrom** (1820)  
**Luke Donofrio** (1439) - 552 - **Rhett Langseth** (1991)  
**Tyler Thieszen** (1361) - 473 - **Mike Maloney** (1834)

Thank you all for playing in this tournament!

Final Standings online: <https://tinyurl.com/448a895r>



*Daniel Herman & Rhett Langseth  
with Prize Checks*



*Luke Donofrio & Tyler Thieszen  
with Prize Checks*



# The 1988 Peoples Tournament (& more)

by Curtis Carlson

*"I don't think I've ever played a good game of chess. Fortunately I don't want to."* - GM Jan Hein Donner.

*"People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do."* - Isaac Asimov

*"The universe in a sense is like a game of chess and for 2000 years we've been trying to figure out how pawns move."* - Michio Kaku

*"Those who expected Bitcoin to outperform gold during inflationary episodes revealed their misunderstanding of both gold and inflation. It's rooted in the false, but popular belief that rising prices cause inflation. The belief reverses causation. Inflation is a decline in the value of the currency, period. Nothing else."* - John Tamny

*"I was about to turn thirty. I was reaching the age at which I wouldn't be considered young anymore. And, pretty much out of the blue, it occurred to me to write a novel."* - Haruki Murakami

*"College rewarded me for using big words. Then I graduated and realized that intelligent readers outside the classroom don't want big words. They want complex ideas made simple."* - Derek Thompson

*"After playing 7 tough rounds of tournament chess it is always a good idea to objectively assess the bad points so that improvements can be made on the next outing. One thing that struck me was that, even if you have played what you thought was a good game, the dreaded Gila Monster would point out so many improvements, as well as errors, that it almost becomes depressing!"* - GM Paul Littlewood

*"Chess has certainly diverted plenty of psychopaths."* - GM Nigel Davies

*"The greatest hazard of all, losing one's self, can occur very quietly in the world, as if it were nothing at all. No other loss can occur so quietly."* - Søren Kierkegaard

*"Atheism is just no big a deal. Your positive philosophy on the other hand - what you do accept as true and the means by which you accept it - this is a big deal."* - Craig Biddle

My last article was about the 1987 Berkeley Peoples tournament. This time I'll share memories of the 1988 Peoples tournament. After not playing for a year I wasn't sure things would go, but hope springs eternal.

*"I just re-read Ayn Rand's essay 'The Roots of War.' This woman is incredibly awesome. Her brilliant mind never ceases*

*to amaze me."* - Dan Norton

*"If you would be real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things."* - Rene Descartes

*"The worst thing that can happen to a socialist is to have his country ruled by socialists who are not his friends."* - Ludwig Von Mises

My first round opponent was again FM David Glueck. This time there wasn't a boring draw!

*"If you don't pay attention to what your opponent is trying to do, you will always say you got unlucky."* - GM Viktor Korchnoi

*"MTV turns 40 this year. Thanks for the 14 years of music!"* - Anonymous

*"You live life looking forward, you understand life looking backward."* - Rafi Chowdhury

Berkeley Peoples' Tournament

Round 1 / February 13, 1988

FM David Glueck (2465, age 24)

Curtis Carlson (2253, age 34)

**B50 TC: 40/120** (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2022526>)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 dxe5 5.Nxe5 e6 6.Be2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bf3 Qc7 9.Qe2 Nbd7 10.Nc4 a6 11.a4 Nb6 12.Ne3 Rd8 (Not bad, but more direct was 12...Bd7 and 13...Bc6 challenging White's nice light squared bishop. HCE also suggests 12...Nfd7!? intending 13...Ne5. There's more than one way to disturb White's best minor piece.) 13.Re1 Kf8? (A ridiculous move that starts a bad plan. I was rusty after a long layoff! 13...Bd7 14.d3 Bc6= was obvious and good.) 14.d3 Nbd5? (The consistent but bad followup to the previous move. 14...Bd6+= and 14...Bd7+= were slightly worse but defensible. Now Black loses material.) 15.Nexd5 exd5 16.Bf4 Bd6 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Bxd6+ Qxd6 19.Bxd5 Bg4 20.Qxg4 Qxd5+/- 21.Qe4 g6 22.Qh4 Kg7 23.Qe4 Kf8 24.Qxd5 Rxd5 25.Re4 Rc8 26.b3 Rc7 27.Rae1 b5 (Black of course strives to exchange pawns.) 28.axb5 axb5 29.f3 c4 30.bxc4 bxc4 31.dxc4 (This allows Black to keep all rooks on the board. HCE gives 31.Rc4 Rc4 32.dc Rd2 33.c3 Rd3 34.Rc1+/-) 31...Rdd7 (Better was 31...Rde5 32.R1e2 f5+=. We were both low on time.) 32.R1e2 Rc5 33.Kf2 f5 34.Rh4 Kg7 35.c3?! (A natural move, but 35.h3 g5 36.Rh5 Kg6 37.Re6! wins. Best is 35...h6 36.Re6 Rd2 37.Kg3 Rc2 38.Rd4 f4+=) 35...g5 36.Rd4 Rxd4 37.cxd4 Rxc4 38.Ke3 Kf6? (38...Rc3 39.Kd2 Ra3= draws by cutting off the king.) 39.Kd3 Rc1? (Now the game is over. 39...Ra4+= cuts the king

**off on a different rank when it's still hard for White to win.)** 40.d5 h5 41.Kd4 g4 42.f4 Rd1+ 43.Kc5 h4 44.d6 g3 45.hxg3 hxg3 46.Re3 Rd2 1-0

Not my best effort, but an interesting ending. I'll forever kick myself for missing 38...Rc3, which seems so obvious now.

*"Nothing in this world is harder than speaking the truth, nothing easier than flattery." - Fyodor Dostoevsky*

*"It takes a long time to become young." - Pablo Picasso*

*"So do not forget to celebrate your life, no matter your age, and to discover new things every day, which is what really keeps you young in spirit. Life is too short to make it feel long." - GM Garry Kasparov*

This was my second and last game with FM David Glueck. Between chess tournaments he got a Ph.D. in chemistry and a tenured professorship at Dartmouth College. His page is at <https://glueck.host.dartmouth.edu/>.

*"It takes a strong man to cry. It takes an even stronger man to laugh at that man." - Jack Handey*

*"Collect books, even if you don't plan on reading them right away. Nothing is more important than an unread library." - John Waters*

*"The hardest thing to do in life is to escape your own perspective." - Unknown*

After losing I naturally get paired with a well known IM! I also have my second double rook ending of the day.

**Berkeley Peoples' Tournament  
Round 2 / February 13, 1988**

**Curtis Carlson (2253, age 34)**

**IM John Donaldson (2512, age 30)**

**B49 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2023131>)**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.Be3 Nf6 8.0-0 Bb4 9.Na4 0-0 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nb6 Rb8 12.Nxc8 Rfxc8 13.Bxa6 Rf8 14.Bd3 Bd6 15.f4 e5 16.b3 exf4 17.Bd4 Be5 18.Bxe5 Qxe5 19.Qf3 Qd4+ 20.Kh1 (Since White has the long range bishop and outside pawn hoping to trade queens with 20.Qf2+= is more logical. The game could continue 20...Qc3 21.Qf4 Rbe8. Also possible is 20...Qf2 21.Kf2 Ng4 22.Ke2 g5 23.h3 Ne5+=) 20...Rbe8 21.Qxf4= (HCE suggests 21.Rae1 Re5 22.Qf4 h6 when Black's control of the dark squares compensates for the pawn. Also good was an immediate 21.Rad1 Ne4 22.Be4 Qe4 23.Qe4 Re4 24.Rd7 Re2 25.h4 Rc2 26.a4+=. It's better not to allow ...d5 so easily.) 21...Nxe4 22.Rad1 d5 23.Bxe4 Qxe4 24.Qxe4 Rxe4 25.Rd2 f6 26.Kg1 Kf7 27.Rf3 Rfe8 28.Kf2 g5 29.a4 h5 30.h3 Ke6 31.c3 f5 32.b4 f4 33.g3 Kf5 34.a5 Re1 35.b5 Rh1 36.Kg2 Rxh3?+- (Black is trying too hard to win, and this should have lost. Right was 36...Ree1 setting up perpetual check.

**We were both moving quickly in time pressure.)** 37.bxc6?=(This makes no attempt to punish Black's risky play. Right was 37.b6 Kg4 38.Rfd3! +-. It's important to break the third rank pin by moving the f3 rook to a protected square.) 37...Kg4 38.c7?+- (38.Rfd3= was still right.) 38...h4 39.Rxd5 hxg3 40.Rxg5+ Kxg5 41.Kxh3 Rh8+?= (This gives White a valuable tempo to get his king to f3. After 41...Rc8 42.Rd3 Rc7-+ Black would have won the game he tried so hard to win.) 42.Kg2 Rc8 43.Rd3 Rxc7 44.Kf3! Kh4 45.a6 Kh3 46.c4 Rxc4 47.a7 Ra4 48.Rd7 (White holds by making maximum use of his rook.) 48...Ra3+ 49.Kxf4 Kh2 50.Rh7+ Kg2 51.Rg7 Ra4+ 52.Ke5 (White must keep his king off the kingside files so not to obstruct his rook. He approaches his pawn by staying off the g1-a7 diagonal so any potential promotion won't be with check.) 52...Kf2 53.Kd6 g2 54.Rf7+ Ke3 55.Rg7 Ra6+ 56.Kc5 Kf3 57.Rf7+ Draw 0.5-0.5

After White missed a win on move 37 and Black missed one on move 41 a draw seems reasonable. John said my rating would soon go up to 2300 'where it should be.' He might have thought differently had he seen my other games.

*"There is nothing so absurd which has not sometimes been asserted by some philosophers." - Cicero*

*"But the earth was made for me! If that weren't the case, why would all these twigs exist with which to build my nest?" - The Spring Robin, paraphrased by David McAfee.*

*"The business of the opening is to prepare the middle game; the business of the middlegame is to prepare the ending - always supposing a well played game...it is to the end the master player must look continually." - James Mason*

This was my second and last game with **IM John Donaldson**. He has written many fine books, including the superb **Bobby Fischer & His World**. He is busy writing another Bobby book.

*"Enjoy every sandwich." - Warren Zevon*

*"No testimony is sufficient to establish a miracle." - David Hume*

*"Chess is a miniature version of life. To be successful, you need to be calmed and disciplined, objectively evaluate all the facts, properly assess resources, carefully consider responsible choices, and adjust accordingly when circumstances change." - WGM Susan Polgar*

My third round opponent was an 18 year old expert:

**Berkeley Peoples' Tournament  
Round 3 / February 14, 1988**

**Leonard Loscutoff (2143, age 18)**

**Curtis Carlson (2253, age 34)**

**B98 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2023132>)**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4

Be7 8.Qf3 Qa5 9.0-0 Bd7 10.Nb3 Qc7 11.Bd3 (FM Paul Whitehead beat me with 11.e5! in the 1979 Masters Open.) 11...Nc6 12.Rhe1 h6 13.Bxf6=+ (13.Bh4 Ne4 14.Qe4 Bh4 15.Nd5 Qd8 leads to interesting play.) 13...Bxf6 14.e5?! (Too optimistic. 14.Be2, 14.Be1, and 14.Ne2 were all better ways to stop stop ...Bc3) 14...dxe5 15.Ne4 Be7 16.Nec5 Bc8 17.Qg3 0-0 18.fxe5 b6 19.Na4 Bb7 20.Kb1 Nb4 21.Qg4 Qc6 22.Qe4 Nxd3 23.Qxd3?+ (A miscalculation, but 23.cd Rab8! is -/+) 23...Qxa4 24.Qd7 Qxd7 25.Rxd7 Bh4 26.g3 Bc8 27.Rd6 Be7 28.Rxb6 Rd8 29.c4 a5 30.Re2 a4 31.Nd2 Ba6 32.b3 Bc5 33.Rc6 Bb4 34.Ne4 Bb7 35.Rb6 Bxe4+ 36.Rxe4 Rd1+ 37.Kc2 Rd2+ 38.Kc1 axb3 39.Rxb4 bxa2 40.Kxd2 a1Q 0-1

Games like this are dangerous since they make me feel like a good player.

*“Beware of false knowledge. It is more dangerous than ignorance.” - George Bernard Shaw*

*“When adjusted for inflation Rockefeller was worth about \$350 billion, so Elon Musk is poor.” - Kenneth Lovering*

*“For Lasker, “war is a very interesting struggle, but by no means the only one of significance in the life of humanity. The world, in its largest as in its smallest parts, is full of struggles. Struggle is indeed the essence of life.” - Florian Vauléon*

This was my only game with Leonald Loscutoff. When writing this article it dawned on me that this was the last rated game I won! My 20 year tournament chess career came to a screeching halt in 1989.

*“I am always amazed at the enormous amount of words some people use to say nothing.” - Pellin Denizhan*

*“Good better best. Never let it rest. Till your Good is your Better and your Better is your Best.” - Stacie Schofield*

*“It would be tempting to play some tournaments in India, where Grandmasters are respected and receive decent conditions to participate. Unfortunately there’s the danger of being eaten alive by underrated Indian juniors.” - GM Nigel Davies*

In the fourth round I faced FM Richard Kelson:

Berkeley Peoples’ Tournament

Round 4 / February 14, 1988

Curtis Carlson (2253, age 34)

FM Richard Kelson (2402, age 33)

C42 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2023133>)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.c4 Nb4 9.cxd5 Nxd3 10.Qxd3 Qxd5 11.Re1 Bf5 12.Nc3 Nxc3 13.Qxc3 Be6 14.Bf4 c6 15.Re5 Qd7? (This allows a dangerous attack. Right was 15...Qc4= HCE) 16.Ng5= (I missed a chance to play like Kasparov with 16.d5! Bd5 {16...cd 17.Re6 fe 18.Qg7+/-} 17.Re7! Ke7 {17...Qe7 18.Re1 Be6 19.Qg7+/-} 18.Re1 Kd8 {18...Be6

19.Qg7+/-; 18...Kf8 19.Bh6! +- } 19.Bg5 f6 20.Bf6 gf 21.Qf6 Kc7 22.Re7+/-). White should have sacrificed material to open the long diagonal and the e file before Black castled.) 16...0-0 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Qe3?! (Play should be based on the isolated pawns and the weak squares around them. Right was 18.Re4 Bf6 19.Be5 Be5 20.Re5=) 18...Bf6 19.Re4 Rad8 20.Be5? (This leads to inferiority. Walking into a pin with 20.Rd1 was uncomfortable but best. Play could continue 20...Be5 21.Re5 cd 22.Qb3=) 20...Bxe5 21.dxe5 Qd2=+ (I skillfully changed an equal position into one that’s slightly worse. Black’s e6 pawn is safer and Black’s development is better, but White should hold.) 22.Qe2 Qa5 23.Qc4 Rd5 24.Rae1? (24.b4 Qb6 25.Qc2=+. I completely missed his next. We were already getting low on time.) 24...Rf4! 25.Qe2?? (A terrible mistake. 25.Kf1 or 25.Qc1 offered some resistance.) 25...Rxe4? (White resigns after 25...Qe1 26.Qe1 Re4. Even FM’s miss things! The next 15 moves were made quickly in mutual time pressure.) 26.Qxe4 Qxa2 27.Qb4 Qa5 28.Qe4 Qd2 29.g3 Qxb2 30.Qh4? (30.Rb1 Qe5 31.Qe5 Re5 32.Rb7 offered the best chance to resist since Black’s pawns aren’t connected.) 30...h6 31.Qe7 Rxe5 32.Qd8+ Kh7 33.Qd3+ Rf5 34.Re2 Qb5 35.Qc2 Qc5 36.Qb1 h5 (36...Qd4+) 37.Qxb7 Qd5 (37...Qb5+) 38.Qb1-/+ Qf3 39.Qe1 (HCE prefers 39.Qe4 Qe4 40.Re4 hoping Black’s scattered pawns are hard to advance. My move is second best.) 39...h4 40.Re3 Qd5 (We made time control! It’s still bad for White but no longer -+) 41.Rxe6 h3 42.Qe4 Qd1+ 43.Qe1 Qxe1+ 44.Rxe1 Rc5 (44...Rb5-/+ ) 45.Kf1=+ Kg6 46.Re7+/- (46.Re4=+ and 46.g4=+) 46...a5 47.Ke2 Kf6 48.Ra7 g5?!= (After this Black has no advantage. He can still try to win with 48...g6 or 48...Rb5) 49.Kf3 Kf5 50.Rf7+ Ke6 (Time pressure again! Black had only five minutes for his next fifteen moves while I had half an hour.) 51.Ra7 Rb5 52.Kg4 c5 53.f4 gxf4 54.gxf4 (Black’s 48th allowed White to create a dangerous passed pawn.) 54...c4 55.f5+ Kf6 56.Ra6 Ke5 57.f6 c3 58.f7 Rb8 59.Rxa5+ Kd4 60.Ra7 Rc8 61.Rd7+ Kc4?? (His turn to blunder. 61...Ke5 is a dead draw.) 62.Rc7+ Rxc7 63.f8Q (My second pawn promotion of the day!) 63...Rc5 64.Qf2 0.5-0.5 Draw on my offer.

Not all my luck is bad! HCE says it’s +7, but I didn’t trust myself to keep Black’s pawn under control. After playing so badly I was happy to split the point.

*“...the position with an isolated center pawn...always favors the side having the advantage in development. If Black is better developed, he has to control the lines for exchanges and suffocate White by blockade. But if it should be White...then he will have dynamic resources to set up a central break.” - GM Igor Zaitsev*

*“People don’t want to hear the truth because they don’t want their illusions crushed.” - Friedrich Nietzsche*

*“In CA, only about 10% of water is household use, and about half of that is landscaping. Water ought to be far more expensive for industry and agricultural. We wouldn’t be growing almonds in California if it was.” - Michael Strong*

This was my second and last game with FM Richard Kelson, who beat me in the 1978 People's Tournament. I believe he is long retired from tournament play.

*"Man - every man - is an end in himself." - Ayn Rand*

*"Human offspring require some twenty years of nurture. Three thousand years of civilization must be passed on to children during those years; without that, progress would halt." - Michael Novak*

*"I usually get up at 6 a.m., get to my analysis board and work until night, with short breaks for eating. Unfortunately, I just can't make myself work on theory of the game for more than 16 hours a day! My head can't endure more." - Vsevolod Alfredovich Rauser*

In the fifth round I was paired with a seven time Virginia champion:

**Berkeley Peoples' Tournament  
Round 5 / February 15, 1988  
Curtis Carlson (2253, age 34)  
Charles Powell (2390, age 44)**

**B01 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2022629>)**

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qe5+ 4.Be2 Bg4 5.d4 Bxe2 6.Ngxe2 Qh5 7.Bf4 c6 8.Ng3 Qxd1+ 9.Rxd1 e6+= (Powell liked offbeat openings, especially against weak players) 10.0-0 Na6 11.Nce4 0-0-0 12.c4 h6 13.a3 f5 14.Nc3 Ne7 15.Rfe1+/- g5 16.Be5 Rh7 17.Bf6 Nc7 18.h4 gxh4 19.Bxh4 Rd7 20.Nh5 Ng6 21.Bg3 Bd6?+- (21...Rhe7+=. Black rightly thought I was incapable of exploiting a small material advantage.) 22.Nf6 Bxg3 23.fxg3 Rhf7 24.Nxd7 Rxd7 25.Ne2 (White is anxious to undouble his pawns, but easier and better was 25.Kf2 with Rh1 coming soon.) 26...Rg7 26.Nf4 Nxf4 27.gxf4 Rg4 28.Rf1 h5 29.Rde1 Kd7 30.Re5 a6 31.Rf3 h4 32.a4 b5 33.b3 b4 Draw 0.5-0.5 on my offer.

HCE gives 34.Kf2 Ke7 35.g3 hg 36.Rg3 Rf4 37.Ke3 Rh4 38.Rg7 Kd8 39.Re5+/-, but I was reluctant to lose my precious pawns even if it meant activating my rooks. White could also try to win the b4 pawn with 34.a5, planning Re2-a2-a4. This was the second round in a row I drew a strong player in a winning position!

*"When you want to help people, you tell them the truth. When you want to help yourself, you tell them what they want to hear." - Thomas Sowell*

*"If he (Bill Gates) weren't a billionaire, he would be just another random blowhard with a blog - kinda like me." - David McElroy*

*"No economic fallacy is as widespread as the public's sense that the economy suffers when citizens buy goods and services from foreigners." - Donald J. Boudreaux*

This was my only game with Charles Powell (1944-1991). His picture was on the cover of the January 1969 Chess Life after he won the 1968 US Armed Forces Chess Championship. He was another chess friend who died too young. RIP Charlie.

*"We give our lives meaning by the courage of our questions, and the honesty of our answers." - Carl Sagan*

*"The events in our lives happen in a sequence in time, but in their significance to ourselves they find their own order the continuous thread of revelation." - Rafi Chowdhury*

*"Above all, don't lie to yourself." - Fyodor Dostoevsky*

In the final round I had a grandmaster draw with a FIDE master:

**Berkeley Peoples' Tournament  
Round 6 / February 15, 1988  
FM Alan Pollard (2426, age 41)  
Curtis Carlson (2253, age 34)**

**B98 TC: 40/120 (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2023132>)**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 g6 4.c4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bc4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 c5 9.0-0 Qc7 10.Qe2 Bg4 11.Ba3 Nd7 12.Rac1 Qa5 13.Bb2 e5 (After the game White praised this move although 13...Nb6 is most common.) 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 Nb6 16.Qe2 Nxc4 17.Qxc4 cxd4 18.cx4 Rad8!?! (Careless. 18...exd4 19.Bxd4 Bxd4 20.Qxd4 Qxa2 21.Ra1 Qe6 22.Rxa7 is dead equal. White could now play 19.Bc3 Qd5 20.Qd5 Rd5 21.e4 Rb5 22.d5+= with some winning chances. Fortunately Alan was happy just to split the point.) 19.Rfd1 exd4 20.Bxd4 Bxd4 0.5-0.5 Draw on my offer.

*"It's not capitalism that has to justify itself; it's everything else. Why? Because everything else has resulted only in poverty." - PragerU*

*"Lately I have been wondering about how much time I spend in self-reflection - thinking perhaps I should spend time carefully avoiding the waste of mental energy doing so." - Peter Lewin*

*"Free labor markets judge productivity quite fairly, but that doesn't mean that life is fair." - Bryan Caplan*

This was my only game with FM Alan Pollard (1947-2006), who also died too young. He was famous for gaining 500 rating points as an adult. He is well remembered and much missed.

*"The privilege of a lifetime is being who you are." - Joseph Campbell*

*"Friendship consists in forgetting what one gives and remembering what one receives." - Alexandre Dumas*

*"Never, ever concede to being part of anyone else's story. Make your own." - Martin Snow*

My final score of 3-3 wasn't spectacular, but my performance rating of 2390 was OK. I played an IM, three FMs, an Armed Forces Champion, and a strong expert! I didn't expect this to be my last tournament, but life throws us lots of curveballs.

### ***Blast From the Past***

This game was the first of many with my old friend James Hamblin. In 1970 we were both sixteen year old high school juniors! This was one of the few times I played the French:

#### **Gates Rubber Company Round Robin**

**Round 2 / October 16, 1970**

**James Hamblin (1600, age 16)**

**Curtis Carlson (1513, age 16)**

**C05 TC: 40/120** (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=2013813>)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Ngf3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Be2 cxd4 9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bd2 Ne4 13.Rc1 Bf6 14.Be3 Ne7 15.Nfd2 Nd6 16.f4 Nef5 17.Bf2 Bh4?+/- (17...a5=) 18.g3 Be7 19.g4!?= (19.Bd3 b6 20.Qe2+/-) 19...Nh6 20.Be3 b6 21.Bd3 Bd7 22.Qf3 Rc8 23.f5? +/- (Too optimistic. 23.h3 and 23.Rc8 Qc8 24.h3 are both equal.) 23...Nhf7 24.Qh3?+ (24.fe Be6 25.Rce1-/+ ) 24...exf5 25.gxf5 Bf6 (25...Bg5!) 26.Rf2 Rxc1+ 27.Nxc1 Ng5 28.Qg3 Qc8?= (28...Qe7 29.Ne2 Neg4++) 29.Bxg5?-/+ (29.Qd6 Qc1 30.Kg2=) 29...Bxg5 30.Qxg5?-+ (30...Nf1-/+ . We were both moving quickly in time pressure.) 30...Qxc1-+ 31.Rf1 Qxb2 32.f6 Qxd4+ 33.Kh1 Rxf6 34.Rxf6 Qxf6 35.Qxd5+ Qe6 36.Qa8+ Bc8 0-1

It's already been 52 years since this game was played. I didn't expect to win, but sometimes the gods are kind. James Hamblin (1953-2019) and I played in about 20 tournaments together during the Fischer boom. He was another great friend who is well remembered and much missed.

*"Life is not a polynomial equation to be solved. It's not even a set of simultaneous equations. It's more like a lot of random thunder and lightning in which dreamers pretend to find patterns."* - Robert Higgs

*"Some of the biggest idiots in the world went to Ivy league schools. You can find both intellectual genius and complete ignorance in any institution of higher learning. There is no rule that says if you went to college you are automatically intelligent, and if you did not go you are ignorant."* - Stephanie Bush

*"Chess is not a game - it's war."* - GM Garry Kasparov

### ***Brief Book Reviews***

*"I have lived a thousand lives and I have loved a thousand loves. I've walked on distant worlds and seen the end of time. Because I read."* - George R. R. Martin

*"If a book is well written I always find it too short."* - Jane Austen

*"If you don't like reading you haven't found the right book."* - J. K. Rowling

#### **1) *Eight Good Men: the 2021 Candidates Tournament* (2021) by GM Dorian Rogozenco**

This fine book has all 56 games from a hard fought double round robin of the world's top players. In March 2020 covid put it on hold, but resumed a year later to see GM Ian Nepomniachtchi edge GM Maxime Vachier-Lagrave by half a point to win the right to face World Champion Magnus Carlsen. The author capably annotates most games, but guest analysts include GM's Garry Kasparov, Boris Gelfand, and Pentala Harikrishna. Highly recommended.

*"...I would advise the readers to forget about the engine and instead analyze the games on the board...it is important to understand the purpose of each move...instead of looking at often confusing engine evaluations."* - GM Dorian Rogozenco

*"...fashion in chess is a capricious being, constantly changing its preferences."* - GM Dorian Rogozenco

*"As often happens in worse positions, an attempt to start unprepared counterplay only helps the opponent to increase their advantage."* - GM Dorian Rogozenco, referring to 19...g5? in Vachier Lagrave - Ding Liren (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1993184>)

*"One of the most important principles of strategic play is don't hurry!"* - GM Evgeniy Najer, referring to 19.f3! in Grischuk - Wang Hao (<https://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1993196>)

*"(Ian Nepomniachtchi's) main strength: the ability to create problems...by implementing a novelty, then...to increase the initiative on the board, build a time advantage...and thus force his opponent to crack under pressure."* - GM Dorian Rogozenco

*"...understanding your plan and executing it against a top player's defense are two different things entirely."* - GM Alexander Donchenko

*"When fighting against a long-lasting small initiative it is usually more important for the defensive side to display accuracy based on concrete calculations than to make decisions based on general considerations."* - GM Dorian Rogozenco

#### **2) *Bobby Fischer Comes Home* (2012) by GM Helgi Olafsson**

A fascinating recollection about the last three years of Fischer's life. You can't have too many Bobby books! Recommended.

*"I object to be called a chess genius because I consider myself to be an all around genius who happens to play chess, which is rather different." - GM Bobby Fischer*

*"Welcome to Iceland, Mr. Fischer. How does it feel to be home?" - Channel 2 reporter to Bobby upon his arrival to Reykjavik*

*"Bobby Fischer. That guy's crazy!" - Mike Tyson*

*"As far as chess was concerned, he said it was no longer a strategy game. Instead of coming up with original moves, players would only use strategies memorized from books. This was the reason he introduced what he called 'Fischer Random', which requires pieces to be placed on the board randomly...so players could not revert to old strategies from memory." - Thorsteinn Thorgeirsson*

*"Fischer's beautiful chess and his immortal games will stand forever as a central pillar in the history of our game." - GM Garry Kasparov*

*"After Bobby's death people often asked me if I considered him a friend...the answer I gave came quite naturally: Yes I did." - GM Helgi Olafsson*

*"You know, Helgi, I am a very forgiving person." - GM Bobby Fischer*

*"Tense and taciturn, one felt there was something tormenting deep down in (Bobby) that he would not reveal." - Gregor Piatigorsky (1966)*

*"...I want to thank Bobby for all the beautiful games, the time we spent together and all the excitement. I am 'pretty sure' he never intended to change my life, but he did." - GM Helgi Olafsson*

**3) Chess Crusader: Confessions of an Amateur Chess Player (2021)**  
by Carl S. Portman

An interesting memoir by an English expert obsessed by the royal game. Chess isn't only addicting to strong players! This book won't raise your rating, but is good bedside reading. Recommended for the philosophically inclined with time to spare.

*"Three things cannot be hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth. The harsh reality of the truth can be uncomfortable. This memoir might expose uncomfortable issues...but that is life, and I think we should face our demons head on, otherwise they win." - Carl S. Portman*

*"Be a first-class version of yourself, never a second-class version of anyone else." - Carl S. Portman*

*"I have known amateurs with a professional mindset and professionals with an amateur mindset. It all depends on the*

*individual. I am an amateur player. I have a career and a life away from the chess board even though I have been paid to play chess from time to time." - Carl S. Portman*

*"...chess is a game of infinite beauty. Its complexity and richness have always amazed me. It is a kaleidoscope of strategical and tactical possibilities. Chess diverted me from a potential life in the gutter." - Carl S. Portman*

*"Chess is not for everyone, but for the millions who play across the globe it is the mental nourishment they crave." - Carl S. Portman*

*"The most valuable things in my life have not been material...it is the things I did, not the things that I owned that mattered." - Carl S. Portman*

*"...dear reader...enjoy Carl's extraordinary story in his own words!" - WGM Jovanka Houska*

**4) Paul Morphy and the Evolution of Chess Theory (2004)**  
by FM Macon Shibus

This book is surprisingly good. According to *chessgames.com*, it is the most complete single volume collection of Morphy's games. I especially liked Wilhelm Steinitz' and Alexander Alekhine's essays. There are over 400 games, including many with odds. Shibus admires Morphy but also speaks candidly about what he thinks are misconceptions about his reputation. I recommend this nice book enthusiastically, and not just because the author beat me decisively in the 9th USCCC thirty years ago.

*"(Morphy) collected his points thanks not so much to his 'brilliance' but rather...he was a tougher infighter than any of his rivals." - FM Macon Shibus*

*"...Morphy always played positionally...he clearly pictured to himself...just what the given position required, and adopted himself to these requirements." - GM Alexander Alekhine*

*"It often happens that posterity remembers a player in connection with a particular one of his opponents. In Morphy's case, a special association exists with Adolph Anderssen." - FM Macon Shibus*

*"The true historical significance of Morphy's games against Anderssen is simply that he was Morphy's strongest opponent. Their match was Morphy's last important competition...it's striking how Morphy was able to score quick wins, whereas Anderssen only triumphed after marathon struggles." - FM Macon Shibus*

*"He wins his games in 17 moves, I win mine in 70! But that is only natural." - Adolph Anderssen*

*"Morphy had...(an) aversion to anything that marked him as a professional...he generally declined to play for stakes, which made him unique among 19th century masters." - FM Macon Shibus*

*“We may preface that the dashing sacrifices which mostly excite popular admiration, are in reality only possible against weak play.” - Wilhelm Steinitz*

*“...it is our duty to record our opinion that over-exertion at an early age may have been at least a contributory cause of the calamitous breakdown of Morphy’s intellect...we deem it (necessary) to warn...it is extremely dangerous to attempt too much, especially early in life.” - Wilhelm Steinitz*

##### 5) *Masterpieces and Dramas of the Soviet Chess Championships 1920-1937* (2021)

by *Sergey Voronkov*

This fine work is the *English Chess Federation’s* 2021 book of the year, and it’s very well deserved. It’s more than 500 pages long and takes a long time to read, but it’s well worth it. I never knew how strong GM Levenfish was, who narrowly missed playing in the famous 1938 ARVO tournament. Besides tying for first with GM Botvinnik in 1937, he finished near the top in the other championships he played in. *M&D* has a wealth of interesting, hard fought games and behind the scenes drama. I highly recommend this masterpiece to everyone, even *Brian Wall*.

*“In Russia, when you talk about history, you are always alluding to current times, while a historian is a prophet who predicts retrospectively.” - Dmitry Bykov*

*“Great composure and deep understanding of diverse positions helped him secure his great success.” - IM Peter Romanovsky, speaking of 16 year old Mikhail Botvinnik in 1927*

*“Politics is a thing similar to nature: you chase it out the door and it climbs back through the window.” - Nikolai Krylenko*

*“It is no secret that chess, in addition to enthusiasts and friends, has many enemies.” - Fedor Parfenovich Bohatirchuk*

*“Alekhine’s games are very instructive - he would masterfully find a way to complicate the game at exactly the right moment.” - Mikhail Yudovich Sr.*

*“Anyone who understands nothing but chess actually doesn’t even understand chess.” - Fyodor Ivanovich Duz-Khotimirsky*

*“For the USSR chess movement, chess is not an end in itself, but only a means for general cultural development of the masses...” - Fedor Parfenovich Bohatirchuk*

*“...with the current level and depth of chess technique, not progressing is tantamount to regressing. The greater a master’s talent and potential, the more systematic and deeper the work he needs to do.” - Yakov Rokhlin (1935)*

*“I think that nothing can compare with the annotations by the players themselves, especially made shortly after the game...such express notes...often contain the truths of life, original ideas, diversity of approaches to solving chess*

*problems; even the mistakes are touching on sincerity!” - Sergey Voronkov*

*“Saving a desperate position always looks like a small miracle. And even though a strict critic frowns upon such games, the public loves them!” - GM Grigory Levenfish*

*“It turns out that in addition to great talent and wide chess erudition, Yudovich has purely sporting flaw: he endures losses badly and collapses towards the finish.” - GM Grigory Levenfish*

*“Two years ago Botvinnik and I were chess antipodes. But in recent years, our styles have changed somewhat. Botvinnik’s playing style changed towards strengthening tactics, while I improved on my strategy. Nevertheless, I interpret the position very differently from my opponent.” - GM Grigory Levenfish (1937)*

*“The Soviet chess style...has developed under Botvinnik’s influence. This is a combination of a scientific approach to openings, aggressive pressure at the very start of a complicated and idea-rich middlegame, and subtle endgame technique.” - GM Grigory Levenfish*

*“Youth is a great time, but it’s also dangerous. It often brings disappointment because...too much is expected. To develop an outstanding player, it’s not enough to have youthful fervor and fresh talent, you need many other things that come with age: a huge work rate, monstrous self control, strong nerves, good health, and what’s most important, a rich reserve of ideas.” - Eugene Znosko-Borovsky*

##### 6) *The Road to Reykjavik: Bobby Fischer’s Incredible Journey to the World Chess Championship* (2021)

by *IM Tibor Karolyi*

Hungarian IM Tibor Karolyi has a well known and well deserved reputation for writing excellent books, and this one (like his others) is supreme. It has Bobby’s games from the 1970 Interzonal and the 1971 candidates matches which everyone has seen, but Karolyi’s annotations make this book a great addition to any chess library. As I said, you can’t have too many Bobby books! I recommend this one very highly, and not just because he mentions me on pages 280 and 308.

*“Fischer’s ascent came at a time when chess, for a short while, became a part of the world’s politics. Fischer also obtained the fame of a superstar, something that other champions were not able to achieve. Soviet World Champions and other world-class players...earned a comfortable living, but they were not rich, whereas Spassky and all subsequent champions...became millionaires.” - IM Tibor Karolyi*

*“After looking at it, I was convinced that the boy was devilishly talented.” - GM Yuri Averbakh, referring to D.Byrne-Fischer 1956*

*“Chess is an end in itself.” - GM Bobby Fischer*

*"...all of us...were surprised by Fischer's endgame expertise. When a young player is good at attacking or at combinations, this is understandable, but a faultless endgame technique at age 19 is something rare. I can only recall one other player who at this age was equally skillful at endgames, Vasily Smyslov." - GM Alexander Kotov*

*"(Fischer's) play is clear and transparent...it is not hard to guess (his) intentions, but it is more difficult to counter them, since his decisions are sensible and practical." - GM Efim Geller*

*"(Bobby) operates like a splendidly programmed calculating machine, which is indifferent to who is sitting opposite." - GM Efim Geller*

*"Fischer and Petrosian had something in common... (Capablanca) was their favorite player." - IM Tibor Karolyi*

*"Fischer plays blitz in the same manner as in serious games: quickly, confidently, and practically faultlessly." - GM Mikhail Tal*

*"In my view...Fischer's...openings are largely designed for weaker players." - GM Viktor Korchnoi*

*"...against Fischer one can play only actively, as when he senses that the opponent is scared...he instantly pounces on him." - GM Laszlo Szabo*

*"Fischer is fanatically devoted to chess. Even when his first prize was secure, he continued to play the remaining games as*

*if the fate of the tournament depended on them." - GM Vladimir Tukmakov, referring to Buenos Aires 1970*

*"If Fischer has even a slight edge and the opponent has no counterplay, the result can be considered a foregone conclusion." - GM Mark Taimanov*

*"Although at first glance Fischer opts for continuations that are not the most active ones, he somehow ends up in favorable positions, in which he plays like a virtuoso." - GM Mikhail Tal*

*"...Kasparov and Carlsen were both aware of Fischer's achievements and knowing that such domination was feasible may have helped them." - IM Tibor Karolyi*

*"The former world champion lost the game more than Fischer had won it - but in chess only the final result matters..." - IM Tibor Karolyi, referring to Fischer-Petrosian game 1*

*"It is so sad that Fischer did not write about his best years in chess...there is no way of replacing Fischer's work, but maybe my book helps to understand his chess better." - IM Tibor Karolyi*

I'm sorry that this issue is Fred Spell's last as CCI editor. He's done a magnificent job! Thanks very much Fred! As always, I appreciate the opportunity to share memories. I can be reached at [curt2309@comcast.net](mailto:curt2309@comcast.net).



# Colorado Senior Open

by CSCA President Brad Lundstrom

Congratulations to DuWayne Langseth for winning clear 1st with a perfect 4-0 in the 2022 Colorado Senior State Championship held in Loveland, April 2nd & 3rd.

Finishing just behind after their final round draw which left them tied at 3.5 were NM Brian Wall - our 2021 Senior Champion and Josh Samuel - our 2021 Senior Representative at last year's United States Open.

As our Colorado Senior Champion DuWayne earns the right to compete in this summer's United States Open - Tournament of Champions against the senior state champions from all 50 states.

The Under 50 section ended in a three way tie at 3.0 between NM and *Denver Chess Club* President Richard Shtivelband, Rhett Langseth and Anthony Whitt.

As always many thanks are due to our stellar Chief Tournament Director Tom Nelson.

**Final Standings online:** <https://tinyurl.com/24r9txv2>

**Games from the Champion with a few comments by him:**

**Shirley Herman** (870)  
**DuWayne Langseth** (1897)  
**Round 1**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.cxd5 exd5 4.Nf3 f5 5.e3 Nf6 6.Be2 Bd6 7.Nc3 c6 8.Nd2 Ne4 9.Ndxe4 fxe4 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Qb3 Qe7 12.Bd2 Be6 13.Bc4 Bxc4 14.Qxc4 Qf7 15.Qxf7+ Kxf7 16.Ke2 Nd7 17.Raf1 Nf6 18.f3 Ke6 19.g3 Rhf8 20.Rf2 exf3+ 21.Rxf3 Ne4 22.Rhf1 Nxd2 23.Kxd2 Rxf3 24.Rxf3 Rf8 25.Rxf8 Bxf8 26.e4 g5 27.b3 g4 28.Kd3 h5 29.Ke3 Bh6+ 30.Kd3 b5 31.a3 Bg5 32.a4 h4 33.axb5 cxb5 34.Kc3 a5 35.Kd3 hxg3 36.hxg3 Bd8 37.Ke3 Bc7 38.d5+ Ke5 39.Kd3 Bb6 40.b4 axb4 0-1

**Richard "Buck" Buchanan** (2004)  
**DuWayne Langseth** (1897)  
**Round 2**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 f5 (I'm always comfortable when I can play the Stonewall.) 4.Nf3 c6 5.e3 Bd6 6.Bd3 Nf6 7.O-O O-O 8.cxd5 exd5 (Thanks for freeing my awkward light squared bishop.) 9.Qc2 Ne4 10.Ne2 (White's knight heads for g3, but it just becomes a target there.) 10...Nd7 11.Ng3 Ndf6 12.Ne5 (White plans f4, but it just weakens g3.) 12...Bxe5 13.dxe5 Ng4 14.f4? Qh4 15.h3 Nxc3 16.hxg4 Nxf1 17.Bxf1 fxg4 18.g3 Qxc3+ 19.Qg2 Qxc2+ 20.Bxc2 Bf5 21.Kf2 Kf7 22.Bd2 Ke6 23.Rh1 Rh8 24.Bf1 h5 25.Kg3 h4+ 26.Rxh4 Rxh4 27.Kxh4 Rh8+ 28.Kg3 Rh1 29.Kg2 Be4+ 30.Kf2 Rh2+ 0-1

**DuWayne Langseth** (1897)  
**Raymond Haskins** (2111)  
**Round 3**

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 d6 3.Nf3 c5 4.c3 cxd4?! (I'm always happy to have my dark bishop freed here aiming at Black's kingside.) 5.exd4 e6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.O-O O-O 8.Nbd2 Nc6 9.Ne4 Nxe4 10.Bxe4 f5 11.Bc2 e5 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Qxd8 Bxd8 (Taking with the rook and grabbing the open file seemed like a better idea.) 14.Be3?! (Probably playing Bb3+ now would have been correct pushing the Black king into the corner.) 14...h6 (Black appears to be preparing a kingside pawnstorm, but I wasn't too concerned with my really active bishops.) 15.Bc5 Rf6 16.Rad1 Bc7 17.Bb3+ Kh7 18.Rfe1 (All of my pieces are developed and well-placed and Black has two left to bring in but has nice pawns in the center.) 18...b6 19.Ba3 g5? (Black has missed my major pin threat.) 20.Bd5 e4? (I'm happy as a clam here, as my knight would love to go to d4.) 21.Nd4 Bb7 22.Nxf5! (Now Black's position crumbles.) 22...Re8 23.Bxe4 Kh8 (The rest is a matter of technique.) 24.Nd4 Bf4 25.Bxc6 Bxc6 26.Nxc6 Rxe1+ 27.Rxe1 Rxc6 28.g3 Bc7 29.Re8+ Kg7 30.Rc8 Kg6 (Black could put up a little better fight with Kf6.) 31.Be7 1-0

**DuWayne Langseth** (1897)  
**Charles Minsky** (1800)  
**Round 4**

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 d6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Bd3 Bg7 5.O-O O-O 6.c3 Nbd7 7.Nbd2 c5 8.Ne4 Nxe4 9.Bxe4 Nf6 10.Bc2 Qc7 11.e4 Bg4 12.Be3 cxd4 13.Bxd4 e5 14.Be3 d5 15.h3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 d4 17.Bd2 Qc6 18.Bd3 Nd7 19.Qe2 Qb6 20.Rab1 Nc5 21.cxd4 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 Qxd4 23.Qxd4 exd4 24.Rbc1 Rac8 25.b3 Rfd8 26.Rxc8 (I thought his pawn on d4 was weak enough that I likely would be winning with the rooks off.) 26...Rxc8 27.Rc1 Rxc1+ 28.Bxc1 Kf8? (I was concerned about 28...d3, and not sure if I could win after that. Now I could see the path.) 29.f3 Ke8 30.Kf2 Kd7 31.Ke2 Kd6 32.Kd3 b5 33.f4 h5 (Black has resigned himself to the fact that the d-pawn will be lost and looks to how to survive after that.) 34.Ba3+ Kc6 35.Bb2 Bh6 36.f5 gxf5 37.exf5 Kd5 38.Bxd4 a6 39.g4 hxg4 40.hxg4 Bf4 41.Be3 Be5? (Ke5 was Black's best try here.) 42.g5 a5 43.a4 bxa4 44.bxa4 Ba1 45.Bd2 Ke5 46.g6 Kxf5 47.gxf7 Bg7 48.Bxa5! (The only winning move according to tablebase.) 48...Bf8 49.Kc4 (My son Rhett thought Bb4 here would have been a cool way to win. I had considered it.) 49...Ke6 50.Bb4 Kxf7 51.Bxf8 (White soon won.) 1-0



# Pics of the Colorado Senior Open



# Pure Joy

by Jeffrey A. Baffo

One of the most famous Bible quotes is the following;

(Philippians 1:12-20) “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, when you encounter trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Allow perseverance to finish its work, so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

I found this bit of wisdom to be particularly suited for chess study, as frequently the author will simply present a chess situation, give you a broad outline of what you are seeing, demonstrate the main idea, and then finish with a breathtakingly short verbal statement. They leave you, the reader to puzzles out the many details and contextual facts you might need/want. In one sense this is enraging. My thoughts whenever I was “left hanging” by an author were along these lines; “That’s it!?” Why aren’t you answering my questions? Why the bare bones explanation and paucity of alternative lines? What the heck did I buy this book for? Why do I have to do YOUR (author’s) job?”

But let’s consider this situation in full, dear reader. The fact that I, as the reader, am forced to both state and answer many trials (questions about a chess position) IS A GOOD THING! Below is a particularly piquant example. The solution follows, together with author’s words (verbal explanation) are also below in quotes and verbatim from the book.



This is a study by “Bron”, 1948 and is page 50, part of the chapter “Knights” from the incredibly powerful book *Positional Chess Handbook* by Grandmaster Israel Gelfer, published by Dover, 1999. The author’s stated purpose for presenting a few studies starring the Noble Steed was to “illustrate the knight’s extraordinary agility”.

OK, here we go.

*Methodically, White ties the noose around the black knight. 1.Kf7 Nh6+ 2.Kf8 Ng8 3.Ng4 h6 4.Kf7 Kh7 5.Ne5 Kh8 Black’s moves are forced. 6.Nc4 Kh7 7.Nd6 Kh8 8.Ne8 Kh7 9.Ke6 Kh8 10.Kd6 Kh7 11.Kd7 Kh8 12.Ke6! Before maneuvering his knight to f8, White must lose a move without letting the black knight and/or king escape form the corner. 12...Kh7 13.Kf7 Kh8 14.Nc7 Kh7 15.Ne6 Kh8 16.Nf8 ... and wins.*

Let me reprint that but indulge me while I also include my unfiltered thoughts/reaction to the author’s. Those will be in red.

*Methodically, White ties the noose around the black knight. Okey dokey, we are trapping the knight, got it. 1.Kf7 Nh6+ 2.Kf8 Ng8 3.Ng4 h6 4.Kf7 Kh7 5.Ne5 Kh8 Black’s moves are forced. No kidding! Stunning Grandmaster insight there. 6.Nc4 Kh7 7.Nd6 Kh8 8.Ne8 Kh7 9.Ke6 Kh8 10.Kd6 Kh7 11.Kd7 Kh8 12.Ke6! Before maneuvering his knight to f8, White must lose a move without letting the black knight and/or king escape form the corner. Wah??! Why??! How did you know that??! Who*

*decided that??! I thought we were trapping the knight, now you tell me we have to keep BOTH knight and king trapped. AND, we have to get our knight to f8. Again, why? How would I know that’s what’s needed? Is this endgame theory, and I just have to learn it? Is there some sort of tactical motif I could have worked out at the board to find that? And, what’s this “lose a move” thing? Why do I have to lose a move? Help me out Grand-master, I’m only rated 1700, I’ve barely got two brain cells to rub together! 12...Kh7 13.Kf7 Kh8 14.Nc7 Kh7 15.Ne6 Kh8 16.Nf8 ... and wins. Great! Wins how? Wins why?*

Here’s the way I would have liked to have this presented...

*Our goals are to keep both the black king and knight restricted until the knight simply has no safe squares left to move and must simply place itself where we can take it. Zugswang, baby. Losing because you must move. Once we are a knight up, we can force the promotion of our pawn. The tricky part comes when we find we must “lose a move”, i.e., achieve a certain position that’s currently on the board but with the HUGE DIFFERENCE that it (becomes) OUR OPPONENT’S MOVE, not ours. Thru all of this, we, as White, must be ever mindful of Black’s big hope; STALEMATE.*

*Looking at the position we can see that the black king is totally trapped in the corner and his knight is not much better. White’s first task is to make sure that the knight does not get loose on the open board. 1.Kf7 Nh6+ 2.Kf8 Ng8 3.Ng4 h6 Black’s best chance. He could make a crude grab at stalemate by 3...Nh6 hoping for 4.Nxh6?? stalemate draw! But even I could see that this would get curb-stomped by 4.Ne5! and mate next. 4.Kf7 Kh7 5.Ne5 Kh8 6.Nc4 Kh7 7.Nd6 Kh8 8.Ne8 Kh7 9.Ke6! White has to realize that Black’s king must be totally immobi-lized first, in order to force his knight to step into it’s own capture, AND capturing the black knight has to be done in such a way as to relieve the stalemate on the black king! Since a knight cannot “lose” a move, that must be done with the white king. White’s goal is to achieve the position seen as White is about to make his 9th move but make it BLACK’S move. 9...Kh8 10.Kd6 Kh7 11.Kd7 Kh8 12.Ke6 Kh7 13.Kf7 Kh8 14.Nc7 Kh7 15.Ne6 Kh8 16.Nf8! At last! Black’s king has no more moves and the black knight is now forced to fall on it’s own sword. 16...Nf6 17.Kxf6 Kg8. Now White wins the black h-pawn and promotes his own. Ta-dah!*

So, dear reader, consider it “Pure Joy” when your author gives you “Many Trials”, aka the minimalist treatment. The author didn’t answer all your questions or explore every alternative. Boo hoo. Don’t get mad, get to work! Dig in your heels, switch on your brain (and your chess engine if you have to) and formulate every question you have about the position and ANSWER THEM YOURSELF! Being forced to do a lot of the work is not you being cheated by a lazy author, its you being given the very best LEARNING experience. Use it!



# Raising my Hand

by Jeffrey A. Baffo

Sometimes the pastor at Church will ask the congregation a question about “Have they ever ...?” Usually that “ever” involves some sort of bad behavior (sin) and the Padre is wanting people to confront that behavior in themselves, thereby strengthening the impact of his sermon and increasing the chance that more parishioners will take away behavior changing (life-changing) knowledge. Usually the proper response to the “Have you ever?” question is to raise your hand if you’re guilty. What follows is a fanciful scenario; imagine you are in Chess Church and the respected pastor is speaking. Here is his sermon.

## ***Beware Shallow Analysis! (How success hurts us.)***

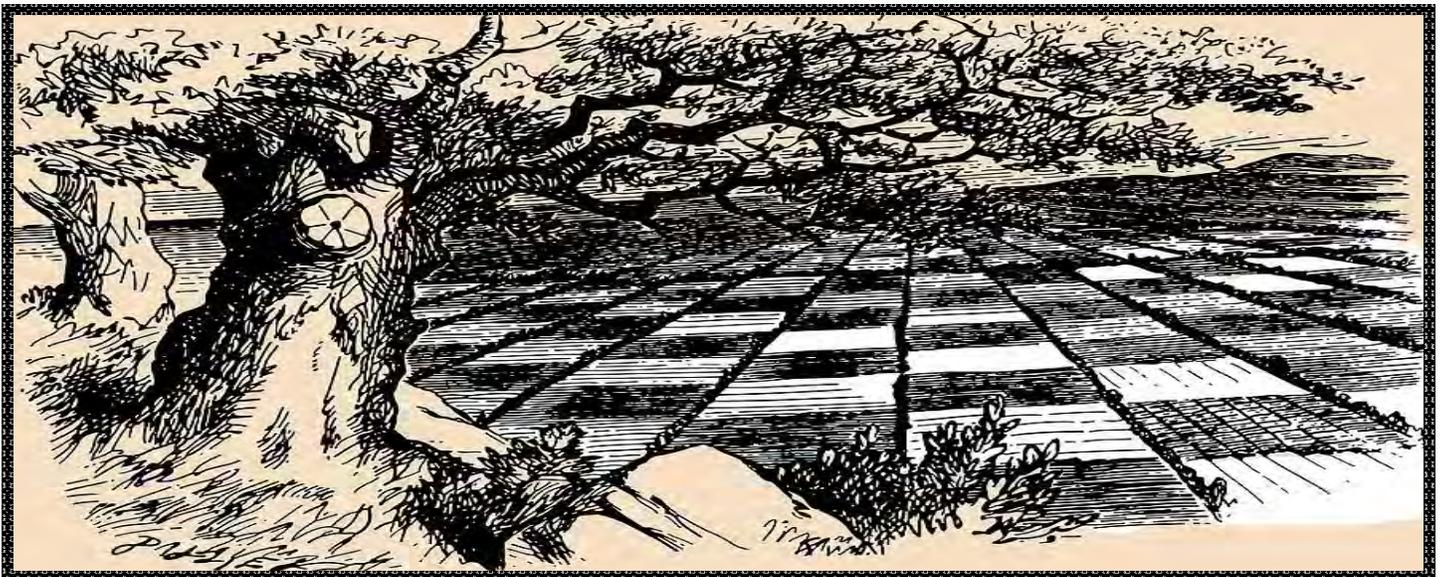
When we set about mastering a skill, we generally will look at what individual processes we need to master, then how they are integrated those into a comprehensive whole. We want to be the complete “player”, with no obvious weaknesses for our opponents to exploit. For example, if we were a tennis aficionado we wouldn’t train exclusively on our forehand and neglect our backhand, would we? Well, actually yes we would. Why? Because it feels so good to hit strong forehand shot, and those shots usually win the point immediately. Therefore, because of success (of all things) we get strongly rewarded (reinforced, the behaviorists would say) to think about, practice, and use our forehand ... and we do so at the cost of very little time being left for us to do the same with other important skills.

If we now transfer our tennis analogy to the subject of chess mastery that brings us to the subject of today’s “sermon”. The pastor’s questions might be something like “Have you ever lost a game because you missed the true importance of a move?” “Have you ever engaged in shallow analysis?” Raise your hand, congregation! (I’ve got mine up so high it hurts my ribs!)

Why do we so often truncate our analysis? Why do we look at chess combinations in short chunks and make important decisions without full exploration? Well, time is probably the main reason. In clock-limited games we simply must pick and choose where to “spend” those precious minutes. We can’t analyze every move out to mate! But that’s not the sum of it. Another important reason we use shallow analysis is this; IT WORKED! We see a check or capture (or some other “loud” move) focus in on it, and make a judgement. Then we go forward on the basis of that. Time and again our judgement proves correct and our subsequent play based on that is therefore also accurate. But then ... disaster! We left out something! We didn’t see “it”. But our opponent did. Aaagggghh! If we’d only taken more time! Were we in time trouble? No! We had plenty of time.

What’s the fix? I wish it were something simple, like one of my checklists! If I was forced to give a succinct answer it would be WORK HARDER! As glib and jingoistic as that sounds, it’s true! There is simply no substitute for thorough and deep analysis. Don’t be harmed by your own success! Continue to use the “quick scan” method to find important moves, the method that’s worked for you so often, but once you’ve selected your move, analyze it to a conclusion! What conclusion? Well, for starters, mate, if that’s appropriate. Other sign posts that would indicate a good stopping point would be, large (safe!) material gain, pawn promotion or simplified endgames. If those aren’t available you must at least analyze to a position where the picture is clear and you are confident you would understand how to proceed.

Got it? OK, you can put your hand down now.



# Stumperzug!

by Jeffrey A. Baffo

This article is drawn from the excellent book series “*Tactics in the Chess Openings*”<sup>1</sup> I hope it calls up as many pleasant memories for you as it did me, and maybe teaches a thing or two in the process.

**Michael Budde  
Dragan Muzdalo**

**U15 Tournament. Fredeburg, 1994**

(My sources are lacking. A German youth event?)

(A.C. van Der Tak/Fritz 17/Jeffrey A. Baffo)

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5** Ahhh! Memories of a naïve beginner. When chess was new, the possibilities were endless, and everything was seen with fresh eyes. I do believe that many people new to chess came upon this sequence soon after they decided to “get serious” about our royal game, and certainly very early in their tournament chess career. Likely it is one of the first openings they chose to study seriously. And what a memorable and appropriate name! Fried Liver attack. I was told “The Authorities” disapproved of it strongly but that at the same time there was no clear refutation. That got me very interested. The title of this article is what Dr. Tarrasch himself called it, an idiot move (my translation).

**4...d5 5.exd5** An older and more experienced young man duly informed me that the problem with the attack on f7 was that Black could play 4...d5 followed by 5...Na5 and “get a good attack” or words to that effect. My neophyte eyes could only see that I was winning a pawn and chasing his knight, so I mentally filed that away as “no one will play that way” and ignored it, concentrating instead on the much more sensible text move. I’d already had several of my fellow teenage peers play that way, so that was definitely where my analytical efforts would go!

**5...Nxd5 6.Nxf7 Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Ke6 8.Nc3 Ncb4** (8...Nce7 9.d4 Even the cyborgs admit White has a good attack here.; 8...Ncb4 9.0–0 c6 10.d4 Stockfish 15; 8...Ncb4 9.Bb3 c6 10.a3 Stockfish 10; 8...Ncb4 9.Bb3 c6 10.a3 Stockfish 14.)

The first “heavy duty” encyclopedia for chess openings was Bilguer’s “Hand-book of Chess” first coming out in the mid 1800’s. By the first decades of the 20th century it was a massive work of over a thousand pages, dwarfing the fledgling *Modern Chess Openings* single volume works.

Back in those days the Open games were what almost everyone played and the coverage in theoretical works reflected that. Today if the Fried Liver is mentioned at all it’s a footnote at best. Wikipedia’s note; “Handbuch des Schachspiels (Handbook of Chess, often simply called the Handbuch) is a chess book, first published in 1843 by Tassilo von Heydebrand und der Lasa. It was a comprehensive reference book on the game, and one of the most important references on opening theory for many decades” Paul Rudolf (or Rudolph) von Bilguer (21 September 1815 - 16 September 1840) was a German chess master and chess theoretician from Ludwigslust in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

Bilguer, who was a lieutenant in the Prussian army, was sent to Berlin for some sort of training course. There he met a group of six gifted German players with whom he formed a group that became known as the ‘Berlin Pleiades’ (Berlin Stars). Chess passion gripped him so strongly that he even resigned his commission! Maybe being an officer in the Prussian Army wasn’t all that great anyway, but taking a step like that, in my humble opinion, speaks to his love of Chess. General opinion was that he was the strongest of the ‘Pleiades’.

To the modern chess world he is known above all as the co-author of the *Handbuch des Schachspiels*. Even though he died tragically young, at age 24, before finishing the *Handbuch*, his good friend, and strong player Tassilo von Heydebrand und der Lasa, who did the considerable work of producing a finished book, apparently wishing to honor his departed friend, insisted on giving primary credit to Bilguer.

**9.Qe4** (9.a3 Nxc2+ 10.Kd1 Nd4 (10...Nxa1 11.Nxd5 c6 12.Nc7+ Kd6 13.Nxa8 Qh4) 11.Bxd5+ Kd6 (11...Kd7!?) 12.Qg3 c6 (12...Bf5? 13.d3 c6 14.Re1 Qf6 15.Rxe5+) 13.Re1 Qe7 14.f4 (14.Bc4 Nf5 15.Ne4+ Kc7 16.Qc3) 14...cxd5 15.Rxe5)

**9...c6 10.d4 Qd6?** (Ugh. 10...Kd7 Has to be a better try for Black. 11.Nxd5 cxd5 12.Bxd5 Nxd5 13.Qxd5+ Kc7 and Black has the extra piece and is not facing near-term destruction. Computer engines give this a clear advantage for Black, The cold-blooded monsters. Doubtful many humans would enjoy commanding the Ebony Army. Even though White is now forced to sacrifice even more material, he is well rewarded by a corresponding increase of attacking power. White cruises to a convincing victory.)

**11.a3 Na6 12.Bf4 Kd7 13.Bxe5 Qe7 14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.Qxd5+ Ke8 16.Bb5+ Bd7 17.Qxb7 Nc7 18.0–0 Bxb5 19.Rfe1 Ba6 20.Qc6+ Kd8 21.Bxc7+ 1-0**

My conclusion, dear reader is that the Fried Liver is still viable even today, and for both sides! For White, if you enjoy sacrificial attacking play and are not worried about the so-called Main Lines with 5...Na5, and for Black if you enjoy defensive play and having a material plus. Mind you - this is not the King’s Indian Attack or London system! Playing either side of this opening would require serious research, memorization, and practice.



<sup>1</sup>Volume 2, *Open Games. New In Chess, 2004. Alkmaar, The Netherlands. Revised version of 2001 Dutch version. Guys, these are older books and I found several on sale dirt cheap. Highly recommended for getting a “playing feel” for openings that pure opening analysis lacks.*

## 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](http://www.BoulderChess.com).

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

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

**Chess Knights:** (Highlands Ranch) Meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. Highlands Ranch Library, 9292 Ridgeline Boulevard, 80129. Information is also available on the Chess Knights' Web site at [HighlandsRanchLibraryChess.org](http://HighlandsRanchLibraryChess.org).

Contact: Frank Atwood (720) 260-1493 or by email: [FrankAtwood@HighlandsRanchLibraryChess.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@chessmatesfc.com) or go to [www.chessmatesfc.com](http://www.chessmatesfc.com).

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

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

**Denver Chess Club:** Meets on Tuesdays, 6:00-10:00pm at the Third Christian Reformed Church, 2400 South Ash Street, Denver. (303) 733-8940. [www.DenverChess.com](http://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/](http://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](mailto:avs1cup@yahoo.com) or through the group's *Meetup.com* page.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Lafayette Chess Club:** Meets Mondays, from 6:00-9:00pm at the Mojo Coffeehouse, 211 North Public Road in Lafayette. For more information send an email to [aerofirewp@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://www.LongmontChess.com) for current meeting location. Email Todd Burge at [Admin@LongmontChess.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:duilen@gmail.com).

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



# The Panov-Botvinnik Attack; Caro-Kryptonite or Just Another IQP Line?

by Jeffrey A. Baffo

## Summary ideas:

- Major variation of the Caro-Kann **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.ed5 cd5 4.c4**.
- Important contributions made by Botvinnik early on in it's development.
- Mentioned as early as MCO III (1916) as an unnamed subvariation "recommended by Schlechter...".
- Lightly regarded by theoreticians thru out it's history, but scores well in practice.
- Retaining all minor pieces favorable to White, each trade of these progressively leans towards Black's potential to exploit IQP type themes.
- Middlegame positions favor White, endgames Black.
- First mentioned by name in major English language theoretical works in MCO (1939) VI by the then World Champion contender Ruben Fine.
- Two main themes; 3 vs. 2 pawn majority (If White pushes c4-c5) or King side attack (In the IQP positions).



My first encounter as an up and coming correspondence player was this "false impression" game where White's sloppy play led to an easy win.

**J. Bourbonis - Jeffrey Baffo** (2107) (B13)  
(P-35 in my postal games archive.)

*Golden Knights Correspondence Semi-Final*  
*90N183, 29.06.1990*

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Be6 7.Nf3 Qa5 8.Qd2 dxc4 9.h4?! Rd8** (Black's log jam on the kingside is more than compensated for by White's disorganized and lagging development. White's next is simply bonkers.)  
**10.0-0-0? b5 11.a3 b4 12.b3 bxc3 13.Qc2 exb3 0-1** (x22)



So, as you can readily see, I was not going to come away from this game with any sort of high opinion of the Panov. How wrong I was! A scant few months later my Caro-Kann world was about to get it's first serious challenge.

**William Naff** (2106) - **Jeffrey Baffo** (2130) (B13)  
*90UM3, 18.09.1990 (P-49)*

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Be6** (White is about to show me the error of my ways. This cheeky development of Black's white squared bishop is shown to be dubious.)

**7.Bxf6 gxf6 8.c5!**



And here we see one of the two main motifs available to White. And quite a dangerous one! White renders my light squared bishop into a major hinderance.

**8...Rg8 9.Nge2 Bc8** (How else can I finish my development?)  
**10.Ng3 e5 11.Bb5 Rg4 12.dxe5 d4 13.Nce4 fxe5 14.0-0 f5 15.Nd2 Be6 16.Qe2 e4 17.Ndxe4!!** (This hammer blow exposes Black's "attack" for what it is; a bluff.) **17...fxe4 18.Nxe4 Kf7 19.f4 Bf5 20.h3 Rg6 21.Ng5+ Kg7 22.Bxc6 bxc6 23.g4 Bc8**

24.Rae1 Qd5 25.Qd3 Qxc5 26.Re5 Qb4 27.f5 Rxc5 28.f6+ Kh8 29.Rxc5 Bb7 30.f7 Bg7 31.Rh5 h6 32.Qg6 Qd2 33.Re5 Rf8 34.Re8 Qe3+ 35.Rxe3 dxe3 36.Re1 1-0

Ouchies. But the pain doesn't end there as I would stubbornly persist in playing the Caro-Kann.

**Roger Sample** (2106) - **Jeffrey Baffo** (2130) (B13)  
90UM3, (P64)18.09.1990

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nf3 Be7 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Bf6 11.Be4 Nce7 12.Ne5 g6 13.Bh6 Bg7 14.Bxc7 Kxc7 15.Qf3 f6 16.Nd3 a6 17.Bxd5 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 Qxd5 19.Qxd5 exd5

I was very pleased with myself here. The massive exchanges I'd managed to carry out were good for me ... or so I thought. The sad truth is that the result of all my work was to hand my opponent a superior endgame. He finishes me off elegantly, even offering a piece sac.



20.Rac1 Bf5 21.Re7+ Rf7 22.Rxf7+ Kxf7 23.Rc7+ Kf8 24.Nf4 Re8 25.f3 Re7 26.Nxd5 Rxc7 27.Nxc7 Ke7 28.Nd5+ Ke6 29.Nc3 Ke7 30.Kf2 Bd7 31.Ke3 f5 32.Kf4 Kf6 33.Nd5+ Ke6 34.Nb6 Be8 35.Kg5 Kd6 36.Kf6 Bb5 37.a4 Bf1 38.g3 Be2 39.f4 a5 40.b3 Kc6 41.d5+! Pretty. Kd6 42.Kg7 Kc5 43.Nd7+ Kxd5 44.Kxh7 Kd6 45.Nf6 Bd1 46.Kxg6 Bxb3 47.h4 b5 48.h5 bxa4 49.h6 a3 1-0

Prior to my 3<sup>rd</sup> and final loss (I abandoned the Caro-Kann after that.) I did have one highly notable bright spot with the Black side of the Caro-Kann. Can't resist showing it here.

**Jim Musumeci** (2008) - **Jeffrey Baffo** (2193) (B13)  
92RT17, 04.1992  
(Caro P/B attack, ORAP line)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.c5?! (The c5 push again, but at this moment premature. Still, it takes a stunning pawn sacrifice to refute it. Not often an amateur player dismantles a Grandmaster recommended line published in an important repertoire book. Very proud of this. Eventually, strong engines would confirm the soundness of my move.)



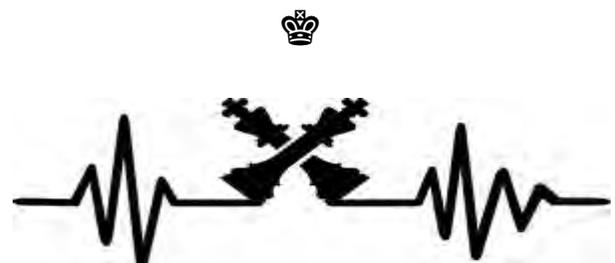
5...e5 6.Nc3 exd4 7.Qxd4 Be7 8.Be3 0-0 9.Rd1 Nc6 10.Qa4 d4! (Refuting the line in the book "Opening Repertoire for the Attacking Player".) 11.Bxd4 Nxd4 12.Rxd4 Qc7 13.b4 a5 14.a3 Bg4 15.Qc2 axb4 16.axb4 Qe5+ 17.Nge2 Bxe2 18.Nxe2 Ra1+ 19.Rd1 Ne4 20.Rxa1 Qxa1+ 21.Nc1 Rd8 22.Be2 Rd2 23.Qc4 Rxe2+ 24.Kxe2 Qb2+ 25.Ke3 Qxf2+ 26.Kxe4 Qxg2+ 27.Kd3 Qxh1 28.Qf4 h6 29.Nb3 Qb1+ 0-1 (Time / Postal Game 86)

**Jeffrey Baffo** (2131) - **Eric Perlman** (1622) (B13)  
2 Game postal match (2), 02.05.1993

1.e4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 Be6 7.g3 (This seems to allow White to focus in on the d5 square and keep a safe edge. Certainly Black's 6...Be6 idea is again shown as having serious flaws.) 7...Qa5 8.Bg2 Ne4 9.Bxe4 dxe4 10.d5 0-0-0 11.Bd2 Nb4 12.Nxe4 Bf5 13.Qb1 e6 14.a3 Bxe4 15.Qxe4 exd5 16.Qf5+ Kb8 17.0-0-0 g6 18.Qe5+ Bd6 19.Bxb4 Bxe5 20.Bxa5 b6 21.Nf3 Bg7 22.Bd2 dxc4 23.Ng5 1-0

So, that third painful loss I mentioned was actually to ... myself! I played the White side of the Panov attack and got an easy game with just basic opening book recommendations. This was the final straw and I concluded the Panov Botvinnik was a "refutation" of the Caro-Kann, at least for me personally. I would not be on the Black side of an opening offering White such clear plans while simultaneously being so devoid of active counter chances.

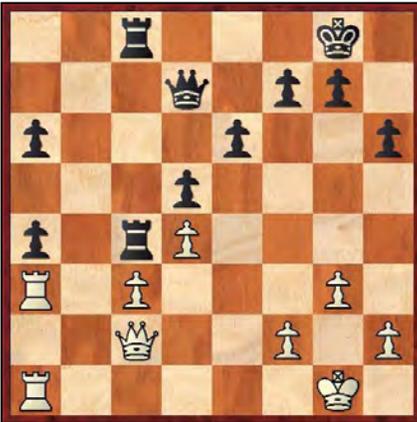
My conclusion is this; although the Panov-Botvinnik seems mild-mannered and theoreticians are lukewarm towards it, for me it is slow poison, the Kryptonite that even a Superman's opening repertoire must fear.



# 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.



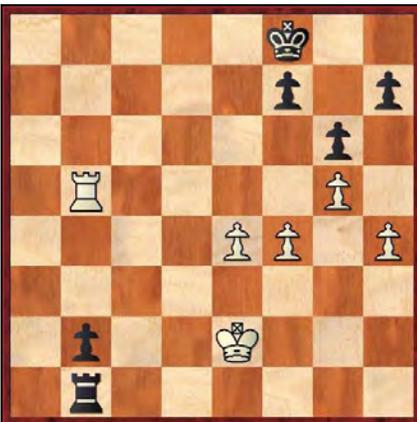
**1. Meint Olthof - J.C. MacNeil**  
DCC Fall Classic / 2021  
Black to move



**2. Lior Lapid - DuWayne Langseth**  
Colorado Open / 2021  
White to move



**3. Joseph Simon - Matthew Hills**  
Colorado Open / 2021  
Black to move



**4. Elliot Woo - Gary Warmerdam**  
Colorado Open / 2021  
White to move



**5. Brian Wall - Grayson Manuel**  
Summit Chess / 2021  
White to move



**6. Jeffrey Baffo - Matthew Miller**  
Colorado Open / 2021  
White to move



**7. Brian Wall - Juan Salgado**  
DCC November / 2021  
Black to move



**8. Evan Helman - Brian Wall**  
DCC November / 2021  
Black to move



**9. Brock Glasscock - Brian Wall**  
DCC November / 2021  
Black to move



## Tactics Time Answers:

1. **25...Rxd4** picks up a pawn taking advantage of the pin on the White queen.
2. **53.Ng8!** Threatening to fork the king and bishop on e7. The game continued **53...Bd7 54.Ne7#** with a lone knight checkmate.
3. **11...Nxe4!** Alertly grabs a pawn, taking advantage of the loose bishop on h4. If **12.Bxe7 Qxe7** protecting the knight.
4. On the previous move White played **42.Ke2??** allowing the skewer trick **42...Rh1 43.Rxb2 Rh2+**. White could have drawn with **42.Kg2=** preventing this.
5. **21.Bg6** threatens **Qxf7#** and **Qxb3**.
6. **19.Bf5** deflects the Black queen from the light squares. The game continued **19...Qd8 20.Qe6+ Kf8 21.Qf7#**.
7. When playing these types of openings you have to be careful about playing d3 before castling, because it is easy to miss tactics like **11...Qa5+** picking up a piece. **12.Bd2 Qxb5**.
8. **24...Qc5+** deflects the White queen. **25.Qxc5 Bxc5+ 26.Kh1 Rxh6** picking up a piece.
9. **28...Qxf2+ 29.Rxf2 Rd1#**.



# The Chess Detective®

## “May the Force be With You”

by NM Todd Bardwick

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

Young Jedi’s know that forcing moves are strong moves because they force your opponent’s immediate response and prevent him from carrying out the plans of his evil empire.

A good chess detective should recognize that an exposed king is a clue that forcing moves are possibly lurking around the corner.

Checks and double checks are prime examples of forcing moves because your opponent is required by the rules of chess to get out of check.

By playing a series of forcing moves you can seize the initiative and force your opponent to follow your course of action.

Sacrificing a piece in order to expose your opponent’s king while putting him in check at the same can start sequence of forcing moves. Of course, this requires deep, accurate, analysis, as an oversight may leave you behind in material that you may not be able to recover later.

Consider this position from the London Chess Club in 1912 between Edward Lasker (*White*) and Sir George Thomas.



**Position after 10...Qe7**

If White’s knight were not on e4, then 11.Qxh7 would be mate. A logical try is 11.Nxf6+ to uncover the Qxh7 threat. Unfortunately for White, 11.Nxf6+ can be met by 11...gxf6 and Black’s queen keeps Black from getting mated on h7.

When a tactical idea doesn’t quite work with one sequence of moves, don’t give up on it too soon. First try reversing the move order.

In this position, Lasker switches his first and second move and plays 11.Qxh7+!! forcing 11...Kxh7 12.Nxf6+ (double check!) 12...Kh6 12...Kh8 13.Ng6 mate. Now White plays a series of forcing moves, keeping Black’s king in check so that Black cannot consolidate his position, protect his king, and win the game with his extra queen. 13.Neg4+ Kg5 14.h4+ 14.f4+ is another forcing line leading to mate in all variations: 14...Kxf4 15.g3+ Kf3 16.0-0 mate or 15...Kg5 16.h4 mate or 14...Kh4

15.g3+ Kh3 16.Bf1+ Bg2 17.Nf2 mate. 14...Kf4 15.g3+ Kf3 16.Be2+ Kg2 17.Rh2+ Kg1 18.0-0-0 mate!

Consider this position from Kotov (*White*) & Bondarevsky, Moscow 1936.

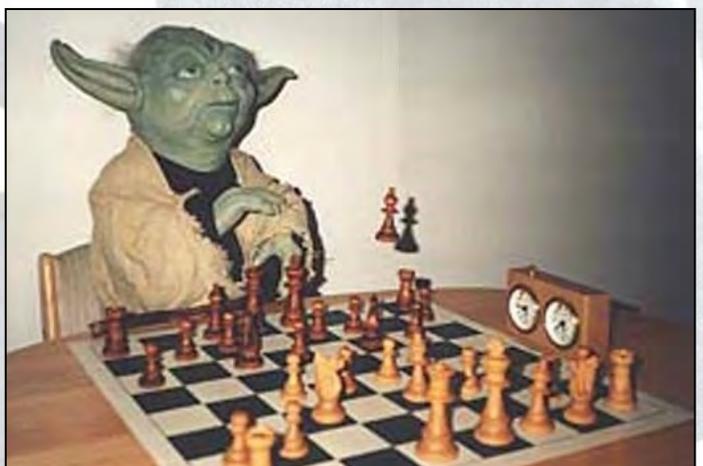


**Position after 21...Qh4!**

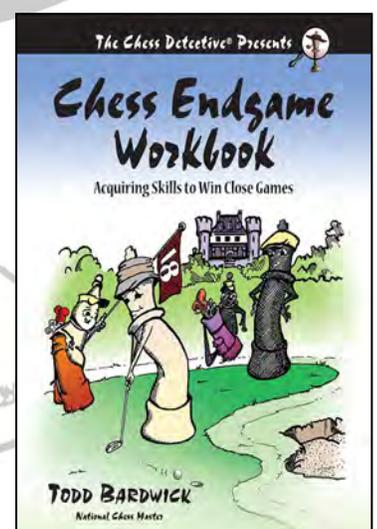
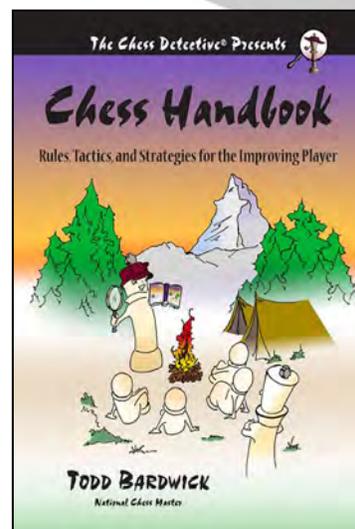
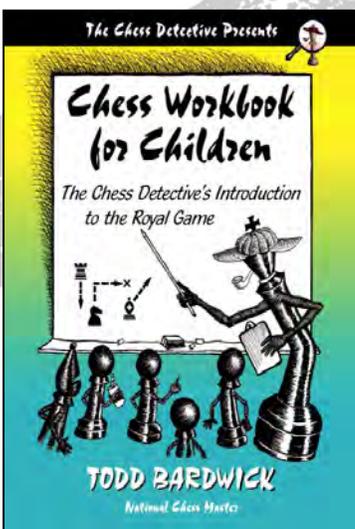
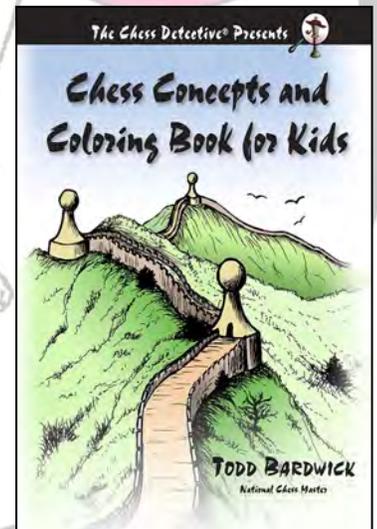
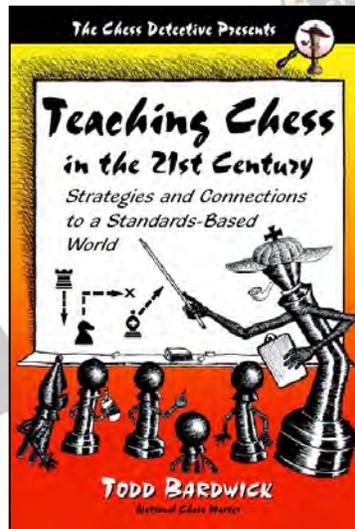
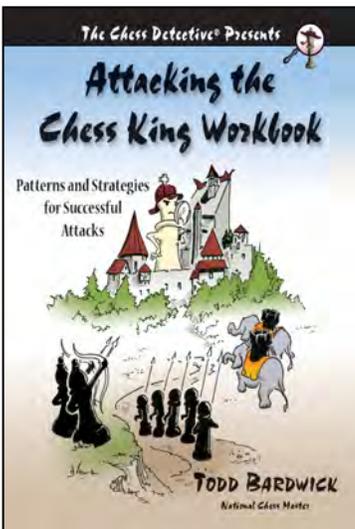
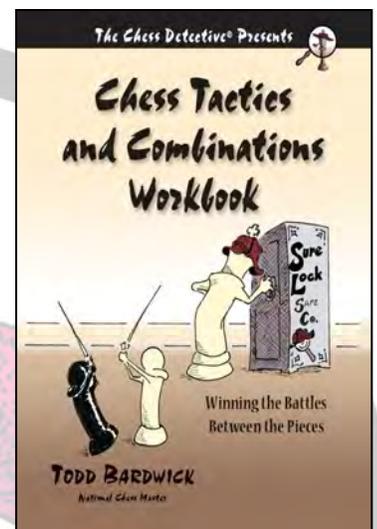
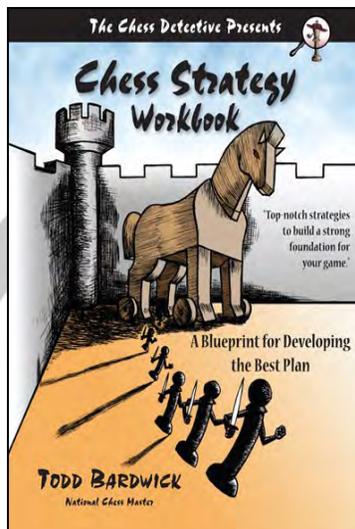
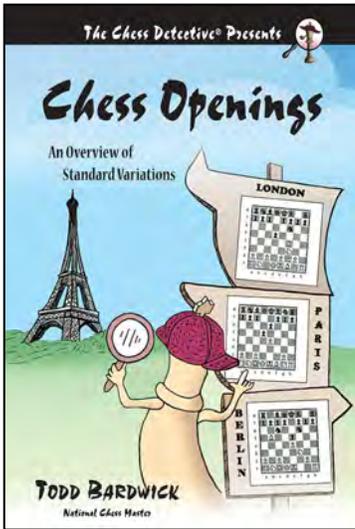
Black sacrifices his rook because he sees a winning series of forced moves. 22.Bxd4 Ne4+ 23.Ke3 23.Kf1 Bxe5 24.Bxe5 Nxe5 25.fxex4 Ng4 threatening 26...Nh2 mate and 26...Ne3+ mate, winning material. 23...f4+ With this move, Black forces mate in four!

24.Nxf4 Qf2+ 25.Kd3 Qxd4+!! 26.Kxd4 Bc5+ 27.Kd3 Nxe5 mate!

Remember that finding a forcing sequence of moves can be hard work and will require a young Jedi’s full concentration. Don’t just guess and try a move, hoping that it works. Analyze your moves thoroughly and remember Master Yoda’s wise words, “Either do or do not, there is no try!”



NM Todd Bardwick can be reached through his website at [www.ColoradoMasterChess.com](http://www.ColoradoMasterChess.com)



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

# UPCOMING COLORADO TOURNAMENTS

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

Name	Date	City
IHOP Quick Quads Mondays in July 2022	July 4 - 25, 2022	Colorado Springs
DGC July 2022	July 5 - 26, 2022	Denver
Northern Colorado Chess Club: Wednesday' In July	July 6 - 27, 2022	Fort Collins
Northern Colorado Chess Club: Sac'n Saturday Swiss July	July 9, 2022	Fort Collins
Fort Collins Summer Championship	July 23, 2022	Fort Collins
NCCC Club Championship Qualifier	August 3 - 31, 2022	Fort Collins
Northern Colorado Chess Club: Sac'n Saturday Swiss August #1	August 13, 2022	Fort Collins
Northern Colorado Chess Club: Sac'n Saturday Swiss August#2	August 27, 2022	Fort Collins
2022 Colorado Open Blitz Championship	September 2, 2022	Denver
2022 Colorado Open	September 3 - 4, 2022	Denver

# UPCOMING COLORADO SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS

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

Name	Date	City
King of Chess Tournament	July 16, 2022	Aurora
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #1	September 24, 2022	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #2	October 15, 2022	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #3	November 12, 2022	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #4	December 3, 2022	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #5	January 7, 2023	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #6	February 4, 2023	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #7	March 11, 2023	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #8	April 1, 2023	Englewood
Denver Scholastic Chess Series #9	April 29, 2023	Englewood

# Colorado Co-Champion Rhett Langseth Defeats Strong GM!

Sheridan Wyoming Open  
April 30, 2022 / Round 2  
**Rhett Langseth (2151)**  
**Alexander Fishbein (2523)**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.Bf4 O-O 5.Nbd2 d6 6.e4 Nh5 7.Be3 Nd7 8.Bc4 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.O-O Qe7 11.a4 h6 12.a5 Rd8  
13.Qb3 a6 14.Rfd1 Nf8 15.Nf1 Re8 16.Rd2 Ne6 17.Rad1 Nf6 18.Ng3 Ng4 19.Nf1 Nxe3 20.Nxe3 c6 21.Qb6 Rf8 22.Ng4 Nc5  
23.Rd6 Nxe4 24.Rxg6 Kh7 25.Rxg7+ Kxg7 26.Ngxe5 Qc5 27.Qc7 Qxf2+ 28.Kh1 Qe3 29.Rf1 Nf2+ 30.Rxf2 Qxf2 31.Nxf7 Be6  
32.N7g5+ Bf7 33.Nxf7 Rac8 34.Qe5+ Kg6 35.Qe6+ Kg7 36.Qxh6+ Kg8 37.Qh8# 1-0



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