

COLORADO CHESS INFORMANT



70th COLORADO 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 or \$5 a tournament. Youth (under 20) and Senior (65 or older) memberships are \$10. Family memberships are available to additional family members for \$3 off the regular dues.

- Send address changes to *Ann Davies*.
- Send pay renewals & memberships to *Dean Brown*.
- See back cover for EZ renewal form.

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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On the cover:

*Emblem of the
Colorado State Chess Association*

From the Editor

With the new Board elections, we have a few new players sitting at the table. And it appears that they are hitting the ground running. Please welcome one and all as I am sure they will do Colorado chess proud. Congrats to the new and returning Board members!

With a quick but unbelieving glance at the calendar, I see that I have been Editor of this fine periodical for 10 years now.

It does seem like yesterday that I was appointed at the helm, succeeding Randy Reynolds. I think back and look at all the previous Editor's and feel so honored and humbled to be counted amongst them.

A few months back the *Chess Journalists of America* awarded me as Editor, 'Best State Online Magazine'. Of course I don't do this alone - I want to thank the authors of articles submitted, and the readership for having their continued trust in me!

May Caissa be with you.

Fred Eric Spell



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(Email articles to spellfe@hotmail.com)

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Review of Minutes of Membership Meeting (at the Colorado Open)

(Paul Covington took the following notes)

President's Report: Buck Buchanan summarized the past CSCA Board year as very good.

- ◆ Colorado Open had 118 players.
- ◆ Colorado Blitz 26 players.
- ◆ Denver Open - The DCC and CSCA partnered and the event was a great success.
- ◆ Colorado Closed could only fill three sections.
- ◆ Colorado Class was cancelled due to poor attendance and escalating hotel costs.
- ◆ Blitz and Quick events had low attendance.
- ◆ The City of Manitou awarded CSCA their top nonprofit award.
- ◆ Chess Journalists of America (CJA) awarded Fred Spell the winner of the Best State Online Magazine. CJA selected Todd Bardwick as honorable mention for his Best Historical article on Bobby Fischer's Visits to Colorado.

Vice President's Report: Kevin McConnell summarized Denver Open as a success.

- ◆ Scholastic Girls event had 47 paid players and plans to expand that event. He suggested better prize fund for lower sections.
- ◆ CJA awarded John Watson best tournament article for his Denver Open 2019 report.
- ◆ Treasurer's Report: Dean Brown reported that a year to date comparison of CSCA account shows a \$800 gain. He also reported that all event winners were either paid at the event or by mail (check mailed next day).
- ◆ Paul Covington asked that we honor our Colorado Invitational representatives:
 - ◆ Denker: Akshat Jain
 - ◆ Barber: Sullivan McConnell
 - ◆ All Girls: Sara Herman
 - ◆ Senior: Alaa -Addin Moussa
- ◆ Paul and Alaa-Addin represented Colorado in the US Chess membership meeting in Orlando.
- ◆ Scholastic Report: Todd Bardwick stated there were approximately 275 players at the Scholastic Championship held at the Arapaho Fair Grounds. The site was very good and cost \$4,000.
- ◆ Members' Input:
 - ◆ DuWayne Langseth expressed displeasure at the Boulder Open tournament's slow payment of prize money to Rhett. J.C. MacNeil responded that this was not the right place to raise this issue. Paul investigated and found the check was mailed the day after tournament to the address associated with the credit card that paid for the online entry fee. That check was never cashed. After the correct address was obtained, a new check was issued.
 - ◆ Earle Wikle asked the Board to establish standardized times for championship events, suggested round 1 be G/90 with d/10 and all other rounds G90; +30 increment.
 - ◆ Gunnar Andersen suggested two day and three day schedules for Colorado Open.
 - ◆ Buck reviewed history of past Colorado Open Labor Day (Sat. Sun. Mon.) events and noted very poor attendance.
 - ◆ Rob Cernich encouraged CSCA to promote chess better.
 - ◆ Brian Wall asked for later start time 10:00am (at this meeting Brian stated 9:00am was alright).
 - ◆ J.C. MacNeil asked for paper voting ballots and advance notice of people running for office.
 - ◆ Kevin McConnell asked for better CSCA promotions, more scholastic all girls events and women only events.
 - ◆ Alex Freeman wanted to know the benefits of a CSCA membership? Paul Covington explained advantages of being part of an organization to underwrite events and hopefully bring a US Open to Denver.
 - ◆ CSCA members also requested some kind of survey be done in order to ascertain Member's opinions. (Added by Ann)

Election:

- ◆ Buck announced appointment of Todd Bardwick as the 2018-2019 Board selected member at large.
- ◆ President: Paul Covington and Buck Buchanan were nominated, Buck yielded to Paul, elected by acclamation.
- ◆ Vice President: Kevin McConnell won by voice acclamation.
- ◆ Secretary: Ann Davies won by voice acclamation.
- ◆ Treasurer: Dean Brown won by voice acclamation.
- ◆ Member at Large: Lior Lapid, Brad Lundstrom and Earle Wikle were nominated. Brad deferred to Earle but Lior received more votes and is the new Member at Large.
- ◆ Scholastic Representative: Griffin and Sullivan McConnell were nominated. Sullivan deferred to Griffin, elected by voice acclamation.
- ◆ Colorado Delegates: Primaries - Buck Buchanan, Paul Covington; Alternates - Alaa-Addin Moussa, Earle Wikle.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm.

The membership minutes were accepted as corrected unanimously by the current board.

Board Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 3:05pm

Board: Paul Covington, Kevin McConnell, Dean Brown, Ann Davies, Lior Lapid and Griffin McConnell. **Members:** J.C. MacNeil, and Brian Wall. **Guests:** Gracie Salazar and Meint Olthof.

We had a quorum so the meeting was called to order.

We reviewed the minutes from the Annual Membership Meeting, made some corrections and accepted the minutes as corrected.

We then did training regarding the duties of a 501(c)3 board, affiliate responsibilities to US Chess, and obligations to Colorado non-profit law.

Paul read Todd Bardwick's resignation from the board and scholastic director positions due to his increased responsibilities as his Mother has been put into hospice care. We are thankful for his contributions and leadership Todd has provided the CSCA Scholastic program and sharing his historic perspective of the CSCA. The Board voted to present Todd with a plaque thanking him for his service to the CSCA.

Dean Brown presented the account balances: Main - \$12,139.69, Secondary - \$978.19 and the Scholastic - \$20,623.55. These accounts will be stored in the same bank with separate checking accounts all under the leadership of the Treasurer. Other names will be added to the accounts as needed.

Other actions taken:

- ◆ DGT boards purchase - awaiting follow up vote after consulting technical advice.
- ◆ Exploring options to supply chess sets and boards for Title 1 school chess program for all girls chess club. Lior to furnish sets until permanent solution is found.
- ◆ Exploring funding for Women's Chess and Wine club. Awaiting more information. Gracie Salazar agreed to organize this activity.
- ◆ Kevin to resubmit Grant for Women's and All Girls chess activities.
- ◆ Board voted to hold the Class Championship 2019 in Loveland at the Ranch. Scheduled for Oct 26/27.
- ◆ Board appointed Kevin, Ann, and Lior to represent CSCA in meetings with Denver Chess Club regarding how to help with the Denver Open 2020. Work in progress.
- ◆ Paul introduced using the 501(c)3 status for fundraising. Suggested this method as a way to support future chess events. Other fund raising ideas have come forward since the meeting.
- ◆ Board appointed Gracie Salazar to fill the Member at Large position.
- ◆ Board approved the Hall of Fame program. Randy Canney appointed as committee chairman.
- ◆ Board appointed Dean Clow as webmaster.
- ◆ Board appointed Fred Spell as Colorado Chess Informant editor.
- ◆ Board appointed Todd Bardwick as CSCA Historian.
- ◆ Board appointed Lior Lapid as Scholastic Director.
- ◆ All these appointments and Board members include one year of free CSCA membership to honor their service.
- ◆ Tournament dates were scheduled and will be announced shortly. Some sites are not firm yet.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm

Qualifications for the Colorado Closed 2020 are:

1. Top six rated players that apply to play.
2. US Chess registration must be listed as CO (Colorado).
3. The rating supplement that will be used is the February Supplement.

This applies to both the Colorado Championship
and Colorado Scholastic Championship



Colorado Chess Hall of Fame: Call for Nominees

The idea of starting a Colorado Chess Hall of Fame started in 2014 when I saw an advertisement while watching a video the Saint Louis Chess and Scholastic Center produced. The idea was launched in 2015 when Randy Canney accepted Chairmanship of the Committee which selected the first group of honorees.

This is a call for nominations to be considered for induction into the Colorado Chess Hall of Fame. Randy Canney is forming a committee to evaluate nominees. To be nominated a person should have made a significant impact on Colorado Chess as a player, organizer, teacher or supporter.

Send your nominations to rcanney@hotmail.com. Include games, reports, stories, pictures, and other information to support your nominee.

Deadline for entries: January 31, 2020

The standard was set very high by the first class of inductees in 2015, I expect this class to be just as prominent in Colorado's colorful chess history.

Paul Covington / CSCA President



COLORADO CHESS HALL of FAME

Richard “Buck” Buchanan

Since moving to Colorado in 1977, Buck Buchanan has been the heart and soul of Colorado chess. Over the last four decades, he has tirelessly given in every imaginable way to Colorado chess and the CSCA. He has held every leadership role in the CSCA, including a decade long stint as President from 1991-2002, many years as Vice President since 1984, many years as Treasurer, and he has been our continual USCF delegate. He also edited the CSCA Bulletin from 1984-1994. In addition, he has organized and directed more tournaments than one can list. Not just a leader and organizer, Buck is a strong player. He has perpetually kept an expert's rating, and jumped over 2200 in rating when he won the Colorado Springs Championship in 1993. Everyone in the organization knows Buck, and we all owe him the heartiest of thanks.

Alexander Fishbein

Alexander Fishbein moved to Colorado at the age of 11, and almost immediately began dominating the Colorado chess scene. He won the Colorado Open Championship in 1985, 1987, and 1988, and the Colorado Closed Championship in 1987. In 1985, he won the first *Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions*. In the 1990s, Alex won tournaments in Stavanger, Norway, and Herning, Denmark and shared first place in several major Opens in the United States, including the World Open and National Open. He was awarded the grandmaster title in 1992. Since 2012, he has regularly appeared in *Grand Prix* tournaments in the eastern United States and has finished first or equal first several times. He now lives in New Jersey with his wife and three children.

Royal Franklin

Royal Franklin was a stalwart of the CSCA during the formative years of the Fischer boom. Royal served as the President of CSCA for the year 1975-76 and was the USCF Regional Vice President during that time as well. He also was the editor of the CSCA Bulletin from 1976-1978. Royal was a leader in the move toward getting chess organizations recognized as non-profits, which has helped such organizations tremendously. Royal was the author of a booklet called “Chess Organizations and 501 (C)(3)” which he supplied and distributed around the country. His work was recognized by the USCF, and he was named as the Chairman of the USCF Non-Profit Committee. He received inquiries from state organizations and gave advice on their getting this tax status. In his booklet he gave Colorado's Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws as examples of the documents that were needed. Royal, along with inductees like John Howell and Dr. J. Juan Reid, really laid the groundwork for the CSCA's continued success. Royal Franklin died on January 26, 2018.

Christine Hendrickson

A multi-talented renaissance woman, Chris Hendrickson was the strongest female chess player in Colorado for almost 30 years, and perennially in the top 50 female players in the United States. She was a member of the U.S. Women's Olympic Postal team, and played overseas in international chess tournaments as well. She did more for prison chess in Colorado than anybody, and was the Prison Chess Coordinator for the CSCA for decades. She was never afraid to enter any of the prisons to play against inmates. Chris scheduled and

organized numerous simuls in prisons by other players, and donated books, magazines, and chess boards for the “shut-ins” (as she liked to call the inmates). A talented artist, her sketches frequently graced the pages of the CSCA Bulletin and she illustrated the first “Chessman Comic” with text by John Watson. Last but not least, she and John Watson opened the “Chess House” in Denver in the early 1970s, and it immediately became the hot bed of Colorado chess. Chris Hendrickson died far too young on June 27, 2005.

John Howell

John Howell was an earlier leader and sponsor of chess in Colorado, and he played a key role in the growth of Colorado chess in the pre “Fischer boom” days. He gave significantly both of his time and money to support chess in Colorado. He served as president of the CSCA during 1964-65 and was also a regional Vice President of the USCF for three years. He was member of the Denver Chess Club for decades, and held every position of leadership within the club. He was integral in laying the groundwork for Colorado’s hosting the U.S. Open Championship in Aspen in 1968, and was a driving force behind Colorado’s landing of the Fischer-Larsen Candidates match in 1971. John Howell died on March 7, 2000.

Dr. J. Juan Reid

One could fairly call Dr. J. Juan Reid a founding father of the CSCA. He was the first president of the Colorado State Chess Association, serving from 1958 to 1961. In 1958 the official State Championship tournament was held in Colorado Springs and was very likely organized and directed by Juan. In the November 1962 “CSCA Newsletter” the Editor, Richard Moore, noted that Juan “has been chiefly responsible for the growth and development, administration, and business activities for the organization. He has done a remarkably fine job. Reid is currently the District Vice President for the United States Chess Federation.” In 1964 Juan Reid received a Distinguished Service Award from the CSCA. He was also active in the Colorado Springs Chess Club, serving as President and Tournament Director, and in matches with clubs from other cities he usually was on board one. One of his major accomplishments in Colorado Springs was arranging for top Grandmasters to come and give simuls, including Samuel Reshevsky and Larry Evans. Juan was usually able to score a draw against the visiting masters, including Bobby Fischer, who played 32 boards in his 1963 visit and defeated everyone except Juan. Juan Reid died on March 18, 1981.

John Watson

John moved to Colorado in the early 1970’s and immediately made his mark on Colorado chess by opening the “Chess House”. Located in a lovely old house on 8th Avenue, the Chess House immediately became the center of Colorado chess. There were monthly tournaments, John gave lessons, and he also edited the CSCA Bulletin during that time. During those years, John was the strongest player in Colorado, and he won the Colorado Open Championship in 1974 and 1975. He began to make his presence known on the national stage, and eventually became an International Master. He is now best known as a chess theorist and author, and has written more than thirty books on many aspects of chess. His 1999 book *Secrets of Modern Chess Strategy* won the British Chess Federation’s *Book of the Year* award as well as the United States Chess Federation *Book of the Year*. The successor volume *Chess Strategy in Action* was the Chesscafe *Book of the Year*. Watson has a regular book review column at The Week in Chess, the publication of the London Chess Centre (available online). He has a weekly Internet radio show ‘Chess Talk with John Watson’ on Chess.FM, the radio arm of the Internet Chess Club (ICC). John is also a chess coach; his students have included Tal Shaked - the 1997 World Junior Champion, Senior Master Patrick Hummel, Abby Marshall, and also other US scholastic champions. John and his wife now live in San Diego, California.



2019 Colorado Open First Gunnar!

by Richard "Buck" Buchanan
Chief Tournament Director

The Colorado Open was held as usual on Labor Day weekend and drew a fine attendance of 118 players. Among the attendees were Mitch Fishbein, the son of GM Alex Fishbein who ruled Colorado chess in his younger years; old friends George and Julian Lombardi; and lots of new and familiar faces. Gunnar Andersen won the State Championship title and also the State Speed Championship, though it wasn't easy. In the last round of the Championship he had to defeat the mighty Sullivan McConnell, whose score was 4-0 at the time and who had defeated him in the Quick Chess tournament.

In the Championship Sullivan McConnell led the tournament with a perfect score after four rounds, having beaten Masters Brian Wall and Adam Markos. But, alas, there was a fifth round. Also scoring 4-1 were Eamon Montgomery and Alaa-Addin Moussa for a split of the 2nd place and top Expert prizes. Other prize winners were Sami Al-Adsani, Vedanth Sampath, and bottom-rated Aiden Sirotkine.

Josh Samuel took the U1900 section with 4.5 points, followed by Tim Brennan and Craig Moffitt. In U1600 another 4.5 points gave first place to Andrew Eskenazi, followed half a point back by Norbert Martinez and Coleman Hoyt. In the U1300 section came the tournament's only 5-0 score, chalked up by James Curtis. A point back were Owen Vonne and Joseph Morrison.

I have put in this issue a small selection of games. There will be more in the next issue of the Informant.

Gunnar won the Quick Chess tournament (as stated above, if you didn't notice) with a 9-1 score. Brian Wall took second with 8 points, and then Sully with 7.5.

In the Membership Meeting I gave up the

CSCA Presidency for the absolutely very last time (again). Lotsa luck to Paul Covington and the new Board.

ROUND 1

Sami Al-Adsani (1831)

Zachary Bekkedahl (2180)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 a6 8.0-0 Rb8 9.h3 b5 10.cxb5 axb5 11.e5 dxe5 12.dxe5 Nd7 13.e6 fxe6 14.Ng5 Nd4 15.Be3 Nc5 16.Rc1 b4 17.Nce4 Nxe4 18.Bxe4 h6 19.Bxd4 Qxd4 20.Qxd4 Bxd4 21.Nf3 Bb6 22.Ne5 Ba6 23.Nd7 Bxf1 24.Rxf1 Rbd8 25.Nxf8 Kxf8 26.Rc1 Rd2 27.Rc2 Bxf2+ 28.Kg2 Rxc2 29.Bxc2 Bd4 30.a3 Bxb2 31.axb4 Kf7 32.Kf3 Be5 33.g4 Kf6 34.b5 Bd4 35.Ke4 e5 36.h4 Bf2 37.h5 gxh5 38.gxh5 Kg5 39.Bd1 Bg3 40.Be2 Kf6 41.Bc4 Bf2 42.Bd5 Bc5 43.Bc6 Bd6 44.Be8 e6 45.Bd7 Kf7 46.Kf3 Ke7 47.Bc6 Kf6 48.Ke4 Be7 49.Kf3 Bc5 50.Ke4 Bd6 ½-½

Gunnar Andersen (2345)

Brad Lundstrom (1974)

1.d3 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.0-0 0-0 6.a3 a5 7.c4 e5 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.Bd2 Nc5 10.b4 axb4 11.axb4 Rxa1 12.Qxa1 Nb3 13.Qa7 Nxd2 14.Nxd2 b6



15.Nb5 c5 16.h3 Re8 17.Qb8 Bf8 18.Na7 Be6 19.Qxd8 Rxd8 20.Ra1 d5 21.Nc6 Rd6 22.b5 dxc4 23.Nxc4 Bxc4 24.dxc4 Nd7 25.Ra7 Kg7 26.Bd5 Kh6 27.Nd8 1-0

Gregory Bain (1013)

Steve Mechels (1617)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Bg5 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.Qd3 Nc6 7.a3 Ng4 8.Bxg4 Bxg4 9.Be3 e5 10.d5 Nd4 11.Nge2 Nxe2 12.Nxe2 f5 13.Bd2 fxe4 14.Qxe4 Bf5

15.Qc4 a6 16.0-0 b5 17.Qc6 Bd7 18.Qc3 e4 19.Qb3 Qh4 20.Ng3 a5 21.Bc3 a4 22.Qb4 Bxc3 23.Qxc3 Rac8 24.Qe3 Rce8 25.Rad1 Re5 26.Rd4 Rfe8 27.Re1 Bf5 28.c3 Kg7 29.Nxf5+ gxf5 30.Qg3+ Qxg3 31.hxg3 h5 32.Re3 Rh8 33.f4 Ree8 34.Kf2 Kf6 35.Ke1 h4 36.Kf2 h3 37.Kg1 Reg8 38.Rd2 h2+ 39.Kh1 Ke7 40.Rc2 Kd7 41.c4 Rb8 42.c5 b4 43.c6+ Ke7 44.Rd2 Kf6 45.Rc2 Rb5 46.Rd2 Rc5 47.Re1 bxa3 48.bxa3 Rc3 49.Ra2 Rxg3 50.Ree2 Rd3 51.Red2 Rc3 52.Rdc2 Rb3 53.Rcb2 Rd3 54.Rd2 Rb3 ½-½

Tim Brennan (1800)

Phillip Brown (1556)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qd3 Bd7 5.Bd2 a6 6.Qg3 Qf6 7.Qxc7 Qxd4 8.Nf3 Qc5 9.Qxc5 Bxc5 10.exd5 Nf6 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.Bd3 Nbd7 13.O-O O-O 14.Rfe1 Rac8 15.Ng5 Bg4 16.Nge4 Rfd8 17.h3 Be6 18.Bg5 h6 19.Nxf6+ Nxf6 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Ne4 Bd4 22.Reb1 f5 23.Ng3 f4 24.Nf5 Bxf5 25.Bxf5 Rc5 26.Bd3 Rg5 27.Kf1 Kg7 28.Rd1 Bxb2 29.Rab1 Bc3 30.Rxb7 Ra5 31.Ke2 Rxa2 32.Rxf7+ Kxf7 33.Bc4+ Ke7 34.Bxa2 Rc8 35.Kf3 a5 36.Kxf4 a4 37.Ke4 a3 38.Rd5 Rb8 39.Kd3 Bb2 40.Ra5 Rb4 41.Ra7+ Kf6 42.c4 Bc1 43.c5 Rb2 44.Bc4 Rxf2 45.c6 Rxg2 46.c7 Rg3+ 47.Kc2 1-0

Ann Davies (1585)

Shiven Saxena (1391)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6 5.h3 Nbd7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Be2 b6 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Qd2 Re8 10.Rad1 e6 11.Bh2 Qe7 12.Qe1 Rac8 13.Rd2 e5 14.d5 e4 15.Nh4 Nxd5 16.Nxg6 hxg6 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Rxd5 Bxb2 19.c3 Qf6 20.Rd4 a5 21.Qd2 Ba3 22.Qc2 Qe6 23.Bc4 Qe7 24.Bd5 c6 25.Rxe4 Qd8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Qxg6+ Kf8 28.Qh6+ Ke7 29.Bf3 Kd8 30.Bxd6 Bc5 31.Rd1 Bxd6 32.Rxd6 c5 33.Bg4 Rc7 34.Rd1 Ke7 35.Qd6+ Kd8 36.Qxb6 Kc8 37.Qxa5 Qe4 38.Bf3 Qc2 39.Qa8+ Nb8 40.Qd5 Nc6 41.Bg4+ Kb7 42.Qxc5 Qa4 43.Rb1+ Ka6 44.Be2+ 1-0

Jeffrey Davis (1723)

Jeffrey Cohen (1505)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.c4 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Be2 d6 9.0-0 Bd7 10.Qd2 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc6 12.f3 a6 13.b3 Rb8 14.a4 a5 15.Rac1 Nd7 16.Be3 Nc5 17.Rb1 b6 18.Rfd1 Qe8 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.cxd5 Qd8 21.Bb5 Rc8

22.Rdc1 Rc7 23.b4 axb4 24.Rxb4 Ra7
25.Bd4 Bxd4+ 26.Qxd4 Qc7 27.Bc6 e5
28.Qe3 f5 29.Rcb1 fxe4 30.fxe4 Qf7
31.Rxb6 Nxe4 32.h3 Nc5 ½-½

ROUND 2

Zachary Bekkedahl (2180)

Jesse Hester (2010)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 Qc7 4.Bg2 Nf6
5.d3 Nc6 6.0-0 Be7 7.Nc3 a6 8.b3 0-0
9.Bb2 d5 10.Nd2 d4 11.Ne2 e5 12.h3 b5
13.f4 Bb7 14.g4 Rfd8 15.f5 Nd7 16.Ng3
Nb6 17.Nh5 Bf8 18.g5 c4 19.Nf3 Rac8
20.g6 hxg6 21.fxg6 f6 22.Ng5 fxg5
23.Ng3 Be7 24.Rf7 Nd7 25.Nf5 Bf8
26.Rxd7 Ne7 27.Nxe7+ Bxe7 28.Qh5 1-0

Neil Bhavikatti (2215)

Sullivan McConnell (2171)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.Nc3 0-0 8.d3 d6
9.a3 Bg4 10.Be3 Qd7 11.Nd5 Na5
12.Ba2 Nxd5 13.Bxd5 c6 14.Ba2 Kh8
15.h3 Be6 16.b4 Bxa2 17.Rxa2 Qe6
18.c4 Nb7 19.Rc2 Rfc8 20.Qe2 h6



21.Rfc1 f5 22.exf5 Qxf5 23.d4 e4 24.Nd2
d5 25.cxd5 cxd5 26.Nb3 Rc4 27.Nd2
Rxc2 28.Rxc2 Nd6 29.Rc7 Bd8 30.Rc5
Nb7 31.Rc1 Rc8 32.Nb3 Rc4 33.Qb2
Qc8 34.Nc5 Nd6 35.Qe2 Bf6 36.Rxc4
bxc4 37.a4 Kh7 38.Qd2 Nf5 39.Kh2 g5
40.g3 Be7 41.Kg2 Kg6 42.Qc3 Nd6
43.Qc2 Nf5 44.Qc3 Bf6 45.Qd2 h5
46.Qd1 Be7 47.Qd2 Qc6 48.Qc2 Bd6
49.Qd1 Bxg3 50.Qb1 Nh4+ 51.Kf1 Bd6
52.b5 axb5 53.axb5 Qc8 54.Ke2 Qxh3
55.b6 Qf3+ 56.Kd2 Bf4 57.b7 Qxf2+
58.Kd1 Bxe3 59.Qb6+ Kh7 60.Qc7+ Kh6
61.Qa5 Qf3+ 62.Kc2 Qe2+ 63.Kb1 Qd1+
64.Ka2 Qc2+ 65.Ka3 Bc1+ 66.Kb4 Bd2+
67.Ka3 Qc1+ 68.Ka2 Bxa5 69.b8Q Qd2+
70.Ka1 Bc3+ 71.Kb1 Qd1+ 0-1

Eric Billaux (2128)

Brian Wall (2200)

1.e4 Na6 (See my note on one of Brian's
games from the Colorado Springs Open)
2.d4 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.Nc3 Qd6 5.Bc4
Nf6 6.Nge2 Bf5 7.Bf4 Qd7 8.0-0 Nb4
9.Bb3 c6 10.Qd2 e6 11.Rfe1 Be7 12.Ng3
Bg6 13.Nce4 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Bxe4
15.Rxe4 Nd5 16.Be5 0-0 17.Rg4 f6
18.Bg3 f5 19.Rh4 g5 20.Rh5 f4 21.Re1
fxg3 22.hxg3 Bf6 23.c3 Rae8 24.Bc2 Rf7
25.f4 gxf4 26.gxf4 Rg7 27.Be4 Rf8
28.Rf1 Qd6 29.Kh2 b5 30.g3 Kh8 31.Qd3
Qc7 32.Rf3 Rff7 33.Qd2 Be7 34.Kh1
Bd6 35.Qh2 Nf6 0-1

Keith Glass (930)

Anna Hacker (1114)

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.g3 Bf5
5.Bg2 Nf6 6.Ne2 Nb4 7.d3 Nc6 8.a3 d4
9.e4 Be6 10.Nd2 Bc5 11.0-0 0-0 12.h3
Qd7 13.Kh2 g5 14.b4 Bd6 15.c3 g4 16.h4
dxc3 17.Nxc3 Nd4 18.Nd5 Nxd5 19.exd5
Bf5 20.Be4 Bxe4 21.dxe4 f5 22.Bxd4
exd4 23.Nb3 fxe4 24.Nxd4 Be5 25.Ne6
Bxa1 26.Nxf8 Rxf8 27.Qxa1 Qxd5
28.Kg1 Rf3 29.Rd1 Qf5 30.Qa2+ Kg7
31.Qb2+ Kg6 32.Rd4 Qf6 33.a4 Rd3
34.Rd6 Qxd6 35.h5+ Kxh5 36.Qh8 e3
37.Qxh7+ Qh6 38.Qxd3 exf2+ 39.Kxf2
Qf8+ 40.Kg2 Qxb4 41.Qh7+ Kg5
42.Qg7+ Kf5 43.Qf7+ Ke5 44.Qxc7+
Qd6 45.Qg7+ Ke6 46.Qxg4+ Ke7
47.Qg7+ Ke6 48.Qxb7 Qd2+ 49.Kh3
Qh6+ 50.Kg2 Qd2+ 51.Kf3 Qc3+ 52.Kg2
Qd2+ 53.Kf3 Qc3+ 54.Kg2 Qc2+ 55.Kh3
Qxa4 56.Qc8+ Qd7 57.Qa6+ ½-½

Matthew Lofton (2112)

Gunnar Andersen (2345)

1.Nf3 b5 2.d4 Bb7 3.Bf4 Nf6 4.e3 a6 5.a4
b4 6.Be2 e6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Nbd2 d6 9.Ne1
0-0 10.Bf3 Qc8 11.Nd3 c5 12.dxc5 dxc5
13.Nc4 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Nbd7 15.e4 Qb7
16.Bg5 h6 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.Rfe1 Rad8
19.Qe2 Rd4 20.b3 Rxe4 21.Qf1 Qd5
22.Rxe4 Nxe4 23.Qe2 Bf6 24.Re1 Nc3
25.Qf3 Qxf3 26.gxf3 Bd4 27.Kg2 Rd8
28.f4 Nd5 29.Kf3 Ne7 30.Rd1 Rd5
31.Nb6 Rh5 32.Nxb4 Rxh2 33.Kg3 cxb4
34.Nc8 Nxc8 35.Rxd4 Rh5 36.Rd8+ Kh7
37.Rxc8 a5 38.c3 bxc3 39.Rxc3 Kg6
40.Rc7 Rh1 41.Rb7 Rd1 42.Kf3 h5
43.Rb5 Rd5 44.Ke4 h4 45.Kf3 Kf5
46.Rb7 f6 47.Rxg7 Rd3+ 48.Kg2 Rxb3
49.Ra7 Kxf4 50.Rxa5 e5 51.Ra6 f5
52.Rh6 Kg5 53.Rh8 Ra3 54.Rg8+ Kf6

55.Ra8 e4 56.a5 Ke5 57.a6 Kf4 58.Rh8
Rxa6 59.Rxh4+ Kg5 60.Rh3 f4 61.Rh8
Rg6 62.Re8 Kf5+ 63.Kf1 Re6 64.Rg8
Ra6 65.Kg2 Rg6+ 66.Rxg6 Kxg6 67.Kf1
Kf5 68.Ke2 Kg4 69.f3+ Kg3! 70.fxe4
Kg2 0-1

J.C. MacNeil (1661)

Tim Brennan (1800)

1.b4 e5 2.b5 c6 3.e4 d5 4.bxc6 bxc6
5.exd5 cxd5 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Qe2 Bxb5
8.Qxb5+ Qd7 9.Nc3 Nf6 10.Nf3 Nc6
11.Rb1 Rb8 12.Qxb8+ Nxb8 13.Rxb8+
Ke7 14.Ba3+ Ke6 15.Rxf8 Rxf8 16.Bxf8
d4 17.Ne2 Qb5 18.Nexd4+ 1-0

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2123)

Adam Markos (2282)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 c5
5.Nc3 b6 6.d5 0-0 7.Qc2 Bxc3 8.Bxc3
exd5 9.Bxf6 Qxf6 10.cxd5 Na6 11.a3 b5
12.e4 c4 13.Be2 Nc5 14.0-0 d6 15.Rfe1



Bg4 16.e5 dxe5 17.Nxe5 Qxe5 18.Bxg4
Qd4 19.Bf3 Rfe8 20.d6 Rxe1+ 21.Rxe1
Rd8 22.Bc6 a6 23.d7 Ne6 24.Rd1 Qe5
25.Qd2 Qc7 26.Qd5 Qa5 27.Qd6 Qb6
28.Re1 g6 29.Rxe6 fxe6 30.Qxe6+ Kg7
31.Qe7+ Kh6 32.g4 Rh8 33.g5+ Kh5
34.Bf3+ Kh4 35.Qe5 Qb8 36.Qd5 Rf8
37.Kg2 Qd8 38.Qe6 Qxg5+ 0-1

ROUND 3

Tim Brennan (1800)

Ted Doykos (1749)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5
5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.N1e2 e6 8.O-O
Bd6 9.f4 Qc7 10.f5 exf5 11.Bf4 Bxf4
12.Nxf4 O-O 13.Qf3 Nbd7 14.h4 Qb6
15.c3 c5 16.Rad1 cxd4 17.Rxd4 Ne5
18.Qe2 Nxc4 19.Qxc4 Rac8 20.Qd3
Qxb2 21.c4 h6 22.Rb1 Qxa2 23.Rxb7

Rfe8 24.h5 Re1+ 25.Nf1 Bh7 26.Rd8+ Re8 27.Rd4 Qa6 28.Rb1 g5 29.hxg6 fxg6 30.Rd6 Rc6 31.Rd8 Qxc4 32.Rxe8+ Nxe8 33.Qd7 Qc5+ 34.Kh1 Rc8 35.Rb7 Rc7 36.Qxe8+ Kg7 37.Ne6+ Kf6 38.Rxc7 Qd6 39.Rf7+ Ke5 40.Nc7+ Kd4 41.Nb5+ Kd5 42.Ne3+ Kc5 43.Nxd6 Kd4 1-0

Jesse Hester (2010)

Matthew Lofton (2112)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 c5 4.e5 Ng8 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Ne4 d6 7.exd6 Bxd6 8.b3 Nf6 9.Nxd6+ Qxd6 10.Bb2 Nd4 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Bd3 0-0 13.0-0 e5 14.Qf3 Bg4 15.Qg3 Bh5 16.Rfe1 Rfe8 17.a3 Bg6 18.Bxg6 hxg6 19.d3 a5 20.Rab1 Re6 21.Qf3 Rae8 22.g3 Nd7 23.b4 axb4 24.axb4 b6 25.Qd5 Qxd5 26.cxd5 Rd6 27.Bxd4 Rxd5 28.Be3 Re6 29.Rec1 Rxd3 30.Rc8+ Kh7 31.Ra1 f6 32.h4 g5 33.h5 g6 34.g4 gxh5 35.gxh5 f5 36.Bxg5 Nf6 37.Ra7+ Rd7 38.Bxf6! 1-0

Brian Wall (2200)

Eamon Montgomery (2134)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.f3 0-0 6.Bg5 Nc6 7.Nge2 a6 8.Qd2 Rb8 9.Bh6 e5 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.d5 Na5 12.Ng3 c5 13.h4 h6 14.Nd1 b5 15.Ne3 bxc4 16.Bxc4 Rb4 17.Rc1 Ng8 18.b3 Bd7 19.Bxa6 Rd4 20.Qc3 Qb6 21.Bc4 Ra8 22.0-0 Qd8 23.Nc2 Nxc4 24.Nxd4 cxd4 25.Qxc4 Qxh4 26.Nh1 Rxa2 27.Rf2 Rxf2 28.Nxf2 Nf6 29.Qc7 Qg5 30.Ra1 Bb5 31.Qxd6 Be2 32.Ra8 Nh7 33.Nh3 Qg3 34.Qd8 h5 35.Qh8+ Kh6 36.Rg8 1-0

ROUND 4

Sami Al-Adsani (1831)

Gunnar Andersen (2345)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Bxe7 Ngxe7 7.e3 0-0 8.Bd3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nb4 10.Qe2 Nxd3+ 11.Qxd3 dxc4 12.Qxc4 c6 13.0-0 Nf5 14.Ne4 Qd5 15.Qxd5 exd5 16.Nc5 Nd6 17.b3 Rfe8 18.Rfc1 Re7 19.Rc2 f6 20.Nd3 Kf7 21.a3 g5 22.g4 Re4 23.h3 h5 24.Nc5 Re7 25.Kg2 Rh8 26.Re1 hxg4 27.hxg4 Rh4 28.f3 Nb5 29.Rce2 Nxa3 30.e4 b6 31.exd5 Rxe2+ 32.Rxe2 cxd5 33.Nb7 Nb5 34.Nd8+ Kf8 35.Ne6+ Kf7 36.Nd8+ Kg8 37.Nc6 Rh8 38.Ne7+ Kf7 39.Nxd5 Rd8 40.Nb4 Nxd4 41.Rd2 Nc6 42.Rxd8 Nxd8 43.f4 gxf4 44.Kf3 Ne6 45.Nc6 a5 46.Na7 Nd4+ 47.Kxf4 Nxb3

48.Nc8 a4 0-1

Zachary Bekkedahl (2180)

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2123)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 e6 4.d4 d5 5.e5 Qb6 6.Bd3 Bd7 7.0-0 Rc8 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Nbd2 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.Nb3 Bd6 12.Bg5 0-0 13.Bc2 Ne5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5



15.Be3 Qc7 16.h3 Bh2+ 17.Kh1 Bf4 18.Bxa7 Bb5 19.Bd3 Bxd3 20.Qxd3 b6 21.Qd4 Nd7 22.Rfe1 Rf6 23.g3 Bd6 24.Kg1 Bxg3 25.Re2 Be5 26.Bxb6 Bh2+ 27.Kh1 Nxb6 28.Rae1 e5 29.Qg4 Bf4 30.Nd4 Rg6 31.Qh4 Qd7 32.Rxe5 Bxe5 33.Rxe5 Re8 34.Nf3 Rh6 35.Rxe8+ Qxe8 36.Qd4 Qe4 37.Qxe4 dxe4 38.Ng5 Nc4 39.b3 Nd2 40.c4 Ra6 41.c5 h6 42.b4 hxg5 43.b5 Rxa2 44.c6 Rc2 0-1

Neil Bhavikatti (2115)

Adam Markos (2282)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.c3 c5 6.f4 b6 7.Ndf3 Be7 8.Ne2 Ba6 9.f5 Bxe2 10.Bxe2 Nc6 11.0-0 exf5 12.Bd3 0-0 13.Bxf5 cxd4 14.cxd4 Ndb8 15.Bf4 g6 16.Bc2 Na6 17.Rc1 Na5 18.Bh6 Nc4 19.Qe2 Nc7 20.Bxf8 Bxf8 21.Bb3 Bh6 22.Rxc4 dxc4 23.Qxc4 Ne6 24.d5 Rc8 25.Qe2 Nc5 26.Rd1 Nxb3 27.axb3 Qd7 28.Qd3 Rd8 29.Qe4 Qb5 30.Qc4 Qd7 31.Kh1 Qf5 32.Qd3 Qf4 33.Qd4 Qf5 34.Qd3 Qf4 35.g3 Qg4 36.Kg2 Bg7 37.h3 Qb4 38.Qc4 Qa5 39.d6 h6 40.Qc7 Rf8 41.d7 Qb5 42.Rd2 1-0

Sullivan McConnell (2171)

Brian Wall (2200)

1.e4 Nh6 2.d4 g6 3.Be3 d6 4.f3 f6 5.Bc4 e6 6.Qd2 Nf7 7.Nc3 c6 8.a3 Bg7 9.h4 Na6 10.Nh3 Nc7 11.Nf2 Qe7 12.Be2 Bd7 13.g3 e5 14.d5 h5 15.0-0-0 c5 16.Rdg1 b5 17.g4 hxg4 18.fxg4 a5 19.h5 g5

20.Rd1 Nh6 21.Bxc5 0-0 22.Be3 b4 23.Nb1 Rfb8 24.Rdg1 bxa3 25.Nxa3 Rb4 26.Nc4 Rab8 27.Nxa5 Rxb2 28.Qc3 Ba4 29.Qxb2 Rxb2 30.Kxb2 Nb5 31.Ra1 Qc7 32.Nc6 Nd4 33.Rxa4 Nxe2 34.Ra7 1-0

Ryan Snodgrass (1726)

Tim Brennan (1800)

1.d4 b5 2.Bf4 Bb7 3.e3 a6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.h3 e6 6.Nbd2 d6 7.Be2 Nbd7 8.0-0 h6 9.c4 g5 10.Bg3 b4 11.Rc1 g4 12.hxg4 Nxg4 13.Qa4 c5 14.dxc5 dxc5 15.Rfd1 Rc8 16.Ne1 Rg8 17.Bf3 Bxf3 18.Nexf3 Nxe3 19.Bh4 Be7 20.Bxe7 Rxe7 21.Kh1 Kxe7 22.fxe3 Rg3 23.Rg1 Qc7 24.Rxg3 Qxg3 25.Qd1 Qh3+ 26.Kg1 Rg8+ 27.Kf2 Rg2+ 28.Ke1 Qg3+ 0-1

ROUND 5

Gunnar Andersen (2345)

Sullivan McConnell (2171)

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.c4 c5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 e5 6.0-0 Nge7 7.d3 0-0 8.Bd2 d6 9.a3 a6 10.Rb1 Rb8 11.b4 cxb4 12.axb4 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.Qc1 Be6 15.Ng5 Bd7



16.Nge4 Be6 17.Bg5 f6 18.Bh6 Qd7 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.f4 h6 21.fxe5 Nxe5 22.d4 Qa7 23.Kh1 Qxd4 24.Rd1 Qa7 25.Rxd6 Bc4 26.Ra1 Qc7 27.Qg1 Nc8 28.Rda6 Rb6 29.Ra8 Re6 30.R1a7 Nxa7 31.Rxa7 Qxa7 32.Qxa7+ Rf7 33.Qg1 Ra6 34.h3 h5 35.Kh2 Rc7 36.Nc5 Rd6 37.N3e4 Rd8 38.Qf2 Rf7 39.Nb7 Rd1 40.Nbd6 Rf8 41.Qa7+ Bf7 42.Qe7 Rxd6 43.Nxd6 1-0

Zachary Bekkedahl (2180)

Griffin McConnell (1999)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.c3 Qc7 6.Qc2 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.Ne2 Bxe2 9.Qxe2 Nxd4 10.Qg4 Nc6 11.0-0

Nf6 12.Qh4 e6 13.Bg5 Be7 14.Nd2 h6
15.Rac1 Nh7 16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.Qa4 0-0
18.f4 Qc5+ 19.Kh1 Nf6 20.Qd1 Rad8
21.Nb3 Qd6 22.Bb1 b6 23.Qe2 Rfe8
24.Rcd1 Qe7 25.Bd3 Nb8 26.Bb5 Nbd7
27.Nd4 Ne4 28.Rf3 Qh4 29.Kh2 f5
30.Nc6 Ra8 31.Nd4 ½-½

Tim Brennan (1800)

Luke Namesnik (1546)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.f4 Bg7 4.Nf3 d6
5.Bc4 e6 6.f5 Nf6 7.fxg6 hxg6 8.d3 a6
9.a4 Nc6 10.O-O Bd7 11.Qe1 Nb4



12.Bb3 Qc7 13.Bf4 Nh5 14.Bd2 Nf6
15.Qe2 O-O-O 16.a5 d5 17.e5 Ng4
18.Bf4 Rh5 19.Rae1 Rdh8 20.h3 Nh6
21.Na4 Bxa4 22.Bxa4 Qxa5 23.Ra1 Qb6
24.c3 Nc6 25.Bxc6 Qxc6 26.d4 f6 27.Ra5
Kd8 28.Rxc5 Qa4 29.exf6 Bf8 30.Rc7
Nf5 31.Qxe6 Ne7 32.fxe7+ Ke8 33.Rc8#
1-0

Mark Brown (1463)

Joshua Samuel (1878)

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 dxc4
5.Bxc4 e6 6.Nc3 c6 7.h3 Bd6 8.Bxd6
Qxd6 9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.Nh4 0-0 11.Nxf5
exf5 12.0-0 Ne4 13.Qc2 Ndf6 14.Rfe1
Rfe8 15.Rad1 Nxc3 16.bxc3 g6 17.Qb3
Re7 18.Be2 Rae8 19.Bf3 Ne4 20.c4 b6
21.a4 Rb8 22.Bxe4 fxe4 23.Rb1 c5 24.d5
Reb7 25.Qc2 f5 26.Rb2 Kg7 27.Qc3+
Qf6 28.Qxf6+ Kxf6 29.Reb1 Ke5 30.Kf1
Kd6 31.Ke2 a6 32.f3 exf3+ 33.gxf3 b5
34.axb5 axb5 35.e4 b4 36.Ra1 Ke5
37.Ke3 fxe4 38.fxe4 Rf7 39.Rg2 Rbf8
40.Rg5+ Kf6 41.h4 Kg7 42.Rg3 Rf1
43.Rxf1 Rxf1 44.d6 Kf6 45.Ke2 Rc1
46.d7 Ke7 47.Rd3 Kd8 48.e5 Rxc4
49.Re3 Kxd7 50.e6+ Ke7 51.Re5 b3
52.Kd3 b2 53.Kxc4 b1Q 54.Kxc5 Qd3
55.Rd5 Qc3+ 0-1

Paul Covington (1829)

J.C. MacNeil (1661)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 c5 4.c3 d5 5.Nd2
Bd6 6.Bg3 Nc6 7.Ngf3 Qe7 8.Ne5 cxd4
9.cxd4 Bd7 10.Re1 0-0 11.Bd3 Nb4
12.Bb1 Bb5 13.a3 Nc6 14.Qb3 Ba6



15.Nxc6 bxc6 16.Rxc6 Rab8 17.Qc2
Bxg3 18.hxg3 Rfc8 19.Rc5 g6 20.b4 Nd7
21.Rxc8+ Rxc8 22.Qb2 Nb6 23.Bc2 Qc7
24.Kd1 Bb5 25.e4 Ba4 26.Nb3 Nc4
27.Qc1 Nxa3 28.Nc5 Nxc2 29.Nxa4 Qc4
30.Nc5 Qxd4+ 31.Qd2 Qa1+ 32.Kxc2
Qxh1 33.exd5 exd5 34.Qxd5 Qf1 35.Qd7
Qxf2+ 36.Kb3 Rxc5 37.bxc5 Qxc5
38.Qb7 Qb6+ 39.Qxb6 axb6 40.Kb4 Kg7
41.Kb5 Kf6 42.Kxb6 Kf5 0-1

Eamon Montgomery (2134)

Neil Bhavikatti (2115)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0
5.Nf3 d5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Nbd7 8.cxd5
exd5 9.e3 c6 10.Bd3 Re8 11.0-0 g5
12.Bg3 Qe7 13.Rae1 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Ne4
15.Nd2 Ndf6 16.Be5 Nd7 17.Bxe4 dxe4
18.Bg3 Nf6 19.f3 Bf5 20.fxe4 Bxe4
21.Nxe4 Nxe4 22.Be5 f6 23.Bxf6 Nxf6
24.Qg6+ Qg7 25.Rxf6 Qxg6 26.Rxg6+
Kh7 27.Rd6 Rad8 28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.e4
Kg6 30.Kf2 Kf6 31.Ke3 Ke6 32.Rf1 c5
33.d5+ Ke7 34.c4 a6 35.a4 Rb8 36.e5 b5
37.axb5 axb5 38.Ke4 bxc4 39.d6+ Kd7
40.Kd5 Rb2 41.e6+ Kc8 42.Rf8+ Kb7
43.e7 Rd2+ 44.Kxc5 Re2 45.e8Q 1-0

Alaa-Addin Moussa (2123)

Mitch Fishbein (2218)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7
5.g3 Nc6 6.Bg2 Bxd2+ 7.Nbxd2 d6 8.0-0
0-0 9.e4 e5 10.d5 Nb8 11.b4 a5 12.a3
Na6 13.Rb1 Bg4 14.Qc2 axb4 15.axb4
Rfc8 16.Rfc1 c5 17.dxc6 bxc6 18.Ne1
Rab8 19.Qa4 Ra8 20.Qc2 Nc7 21.Qb2



Rab8 22.Bf1 d5 23.Nd3 d4 24.f3 Bd7
25.c5 Nfe8 26.Nc4 f6 27.Re1 Be6 28.Nb6
Rd8 29.f4 Bf7 30.Qf2 g6 31.Bh3 Nb5
32.fxe5 fxe5 33.Rf1 Rb7 34.Qxf7+ Qxf7
35.Rxf7 Rxf7 36.Be6 Nec7 37.Bxf7+
Kxf7 38.Nxe5+ Ke6 39.Nxc6 Rf8 40.Rd1
Na6 41.Nxd4+ Nxd4 42.Rxd4 Ke5
43.Rc4 Rf3 44.Nd5 Rb3 45.c6 Kd6 46.c7
Nxc7 47.Nxc7 1-0

Andrew Roerty (1726)

Jeffrey Davis (1723)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7
5.cxd5 exd5 6.e3 0-0 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.Qb3
c6 9.Nf3 Re8 10.0-0 Nf8 11.Ne5 Nh5
12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Rfe1 Be6 14.Qc2 Nf6
15.Rad1 Rac8 16.e4 dxe4 17.Nxe4 Nxe4
18.Bxe4 Red8 19.Qa4 Qc7 20.Nf3 Qb6
21.b4 Bd5 22.Bxd5 Rxd5 23.Qb3 Ne6
24.Re5 Nxd4 25.Rxd4 Rxe5 26.Rd7 Rd5
27.Re7 Qd8 28.Re1 h6 29.Ne5 Qf6 0-1



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COLORADO OPEN

CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
RICHARD "BUCK" BUCHANAN

	RTG	PTS	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5	
1	GUNNAR ANDERSEN	2345	4.5	W12	W19	D8	W16	W2
2	SULLIVAN McCONNELL	2171	4.0	W30	W11	W7	W5	L1
3	EAMON MONTGOMERY	2134	4.0	W23	W14	L5	X	W11
4	ALAA-ADDIN MOUSSA	2123	4.0	W28	L7	W29	W13	W8
5	BRIAN WALL	2200	3.5	W15	W10	W3	L2	D6
6	ALEKSANDR BOZHENOV	1990	3.5	X	W9	D13	D8	D5
7	ADAM MARKOS	2282	3.0	W22	W4	L2	L11	W16
8	MITCH FISHBEIN	2218	3.0	W31	W21	D1	D6	L4
9	RHETT LANGSETH	2135	3.0	W27	L6	D12	W15	D10
10	ERIC BILLAUX	2128	3.0	X	L5	H	W18	D9
11	NEIL BHAVIKATTI	2115	3.0	W17	L2	W28	W7	L3
12	BRAD LUNDSTROM	1974	3.0	L1	W27	D9	D14	X
13	ZACHARY BEKKEDAHL	2180	2.5	D16	W20	D6	L4	D14
14	GRIFFIN McCONNELL	1999	2.5	W18	L3	H	D12	D13
15	CORY KLAUSS	1927	2.5	L5	W17	H	L9	W26
16	SAMI AL-ADSANI	1831	2.5	D13	W26	W24	L1	L7
17	VEDANTH SAMPATH	1681	2.5	L11	L15	B	W22	D23
18	AIDEN SIROTKINE	1572	2.5	L14	B	D21	L10	W28
19	MATTHEW LOFTON	2112	2.0	X	L1	L20	W28	F
20	JESSE HESTER	2010	2.0	W25	L13	W19	F	U
21	DEAN CLOW	2050	2.0	W29	L8	D18	H	U
22	BEN GURKA	1915	2.0	L7	L28	W26	L17	W27
23	GEORGE VOORHIS	1801	2.0	L3	L25	H	X	D17
24	RICHARD SHTIVELBAND	2273	1.5	F	W30	L16	D27	U
25	AKSHAT JAIN	2230	1.5	L20	W23	H	U	U
26	DAVIN YIN	1818	1.5	H	L16	L22	W30	L15
27	ALEXANDER FREEMAN	1765	1.5	L9	L12	W30	D24	L22
28	WESLEY WOO	1758	1.0	L4	W22	L11	L19	L18
29	RICHARD PUGH III	1606	1.0	L21	W31	L4	F	U
30	RYAN BATEN	1887	1.0	L2	L24	L27	L26	B
31	MARK KROWCZYK	1933	0.0	L8	L29	U	U	U

COLORADO OPEN

UNDER 1900 SECTION

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
RICHARD "BUCK" BUCHANAN

	RTG	PTS	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1 JOSHUA SAMUEL	1878	4.5	D13	W29	W8	W14	W7
2 TIM BRENNAN	1800	4.0	W21	L6	W9	W11	W14
3 CRAIG MOFFITT	1790	4.0	W20	W23	D7	W12	D4
4 MIRZA PELJTO	1799	3.5	L14	W28	W23	W13	D3
5 JEFFREY DAVIS	1723	3.5	D29	W26	H	D19	W17
6 J.C. MACNEIL	1661	3.5	W35	W2	H	L7	W15
7 MARK BROWN	1463	3.5	W18	W17	D3	W6	L1
8 STEVEN MECHELS	1617	3.5	D33	W31	L1	W27	X16
9 TED DOYKOS	1749	3.0	W24	L14	L2	W26	W19
10 JOSE LLACZA	1752	3.0	W28	L19	D20	W21	D12
11 RYAN SNODGRASS	1726	3.0	W22	D15	H	L2	W25
12 ROBERTO BOLIVAR	1709	3.0	D31	W34	W15	L3	D10
13 ADITYA KRISHNA	1618	3.0	D1	W16	H	L4	W23
14 LUKE NAMESNIK	1546	3.0	W4	W9	W19	L1	L2
15 PAUL COVINGTON	1829	2.5	W25	D11	L12	W20	L6
16 FRANCISCO BALTIER JR	1730	2.5	D34	L13	W24	W18	F8
17 ANDREW ROERTY	1726	2.5	W30	L7	D27	W32	L5
18 LEONARD SISTEK JR	1600	2.5	L7	W30	H	L16	W31
19 RITHVIK IJU	1490	2.5	W27	W10	L14	D5	L9
20 GEORGE PESCHKE	1554	2.5	L3	W35	D10	L15	W33
21 PHILLIP BROWN	1556	2.5	L2	D22	W31	L10	W32
22 WILLIAM WOLF	1314	2.5	L11	D21	D25	D29	W27
23 DAVID YOMTOBIAN	1669	2.0	W32	L3	L4	X	L13
24 ROBERT CARLSON	1595	2.0	L9	D25	L16	D35	B
25 ROBERT CERNICH II	1483	2.0	L15	D24	D22	W30	L11
26 VEDANT MARGALE	1472	2.0	H	L5	D33	L9	W35
27 CORY FOSTER	1793	1.5	L19	W33	D17	L8	L22
28 JOHN KRUE	1566	1.5	L10	L4	H	D33	D30
29 JEFFREY COHEN	1505	1.5	D5	L1	H	D22	U
30 NATHAN WOO	1408	1.5	L17	L18	B	L25	D28
31 ARCHER MURANE	1298	1.5	D12	L8	L21	B	L18
32 KEVIN BU	1150	1.5	L23	B	H	L17	L21
33 GREGORY BAIN	1013	1.5	D8	L27	D26	D28	L20
34 TAYLOR ANDREWS	1446	1.0	D16	L12	H	F	U
35 STEVEN BU	1175	1.0	L6	L20	H	D24	L26

COLORADO OPEN

UNDER 1600 SECTION

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
RICHARD "BUCK" BUCHANAN

	RTG	PTS	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1 ANDREW ESKENAZI	1577	4.5	W9	W11	W8	W3	D2
2 NORBERT MARTINEZ	1500	4.0	W21	W13	H	W7	D1
3 COLEMAN HOYT	1511	4.0	W24	W16	W18	L1	W6
4 ANN DAVIES	1585	3.5	W12	L7	H	W18	W11
5 HARSH MALI	1533	3.0	D6	L18	H	W22	W14
6 AYUSH VISPUTE	1414	3.0	D5	W17	W16	D8	L3
7 JULIAN LOMBARDI	1409	3.0	W22	W4	H	L2	D8
8 DANIEL RENAUER	1333	3.0	W10	W19	L1	D6	D7
9 ALAYNE WILINSKY	1278	3.0	L1	W23	H	D13	W17
10 DAVID GROVER	1502	2.5	L8	D15	W22	L14	W20
11 DEAN BROWN	1400	2.5	W23	L1	D13	W19	L4
12 SHIVEN SAXENA	1391	2.5	L4	L22	W23	W16	D13
13 ALEXANDER ZHANG	1325	2.5	W17	L2	D11	D9	D12
14 KARY FANG	1282	2.5	L16	W24	D19	W10	L5
15 CHARLES ZHANG	1196	2.5	L19	D10	W20	L17	W18
16 JOE BEANE JR	1500	2.0	W14	L3	L6	L12	W22
17 MURLIN VARNER JR	1500	2.0	L13	L6	W21	W15	L9
18 CAYDEN HETZEL	1192	2.0	W20	W5	L3	L4	L15
19 JACK NAUMAN	1461	1.5	W15	L8	D14	L11	U
20 TYLER THIESZEN	1444	1.5	L18	D21	L15	W24	L10
21 AMITAI SEBBA	1349	1.5	L2	D20	L17	B	U
22 DONALD HILLMAN	1263	1.0	L7	W12	L10	L5	L16
23 JOHN LESSARD	1058	1.0	L11	L9	L12	U	W24
24 JONATHAN REINHARD	993	1.0	L3	L14	B	L20	L23

COLORADO OPEN

UNDER 1300 SECTION

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
RICHARD "BUCK" BUCHANAN

	RTG	PTS	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1 JAMES CURTIS	954	5.0	W13	W22	W23	W3	W4
2 OWEN VONNE	1162	4.0	W25	W10	L3	W15	W9
3 JOSEPH MORRISON	1010	4.0	W24	W8	W2	L1	W14
4 ALEX POLOTSKY	Unrtd	3.5	W15	W9	W5	H	L1
5 IAN MOFFITT	1100	3.5	W21	W18	L4	W14	D6
6 KUMARAN VIJAYALAKSHMI	1009	3.5	D11	W26	D8	W13	D5
7 LUCAS FASSMAN	Unrtd	3.0	H	H	U	W20	W18
8 MICHAEL McNAMARA	1181	3.0	W17	L3	D6	W22	D11
9 DEREK YIN	1097	3.0	W20	L4	W10	W16	L2
10 IRIS LI	876	3.0	W12	L2	L9	W25	W22
11 CHENHAO ZHANG	855	3.0	D6	W12	L14	W23	D8
12 DANIEL SMITH	1238	2.5	L10	L11	W26	W17	D13
13 MICHAEL SCHMIDT	Unrtd	2.5	L1	W19	W18	L6	D12
14 KEITH GLASS	930	2.5	X	D23	W11	L5	L3
15 THOMAS THIESZEN	863	2.5	L4	W21	W17	L2	D16
16 ANANTHAJIT PARASURAM	752	2.5	L22	W25	W24	L9	D15
17 CHAD AUGUST	862	2.0	L8	W20	L15	L12	W23
18 CHARLES BEASLEY	803	2.0	X	L5	L13	W24	L7
19 DARREL LEFEVRE	722	2.0	L23	L13	L25	W26	W24
20 ELIEZER POLOTSKY	631	2.0	L9	L17	W21	L7	W25
21 SHANKAR PARASURAM	685	2.0	L5	L15	L20	B	W26
22 GEORGE LOMBARDI	1299	1.5	W16	L1	H	L8	L10
23 ANNA HACKER	1114	1.5	W19	D14	L1	L11	L17
24 ILAN SEBBA	975	1.0	L3	B	L16	L18	L19
25 TREVOR THIESZEN	672	1.0	L2	L16	W19	L10	L20
26 YOSHI POLOTSKY	355	1.0	B	L6	L12	L19	L21
27 SIMEON BLATCHLEY		0.0	F	U	U	U	U
28 MARILYN FULLMER		0.0	F	U	U	U	U

2019 Sinquefield Cup Report

by John Brezina

(More of John Brezina's pictures can be found here:
<https://tinyurl.com/y5dex93p>)

The Sinquefield Cup, the tournament that brought me back into chess, returns for its seventh year. My favorite annual tournament returns bigger and better, this year boasting a total of twelve players including World Champion Magnus Carlsen. Eleven rounds of classical chess plus many side events starting with the fan favorite autograph session. A great opportunity for fans to get up close and personal with their favorite players.

I met many new faces again as this two week chess extravaganza has turned into vacation trips for many chess fans. The opening ceremony was tied into the Rapid & Blitz closing ceremony for the first time as several players would participate in both tournaments. Maurice Ashley introduced all the players first and then Rex & Jeanne Sinquefield each spoke briefly before chief arbiter Chris Bird announced the round one pairings.

While Rex gets much deserved attention for his chess contributions, Dr. Jeanne does much for chess including starting the Scouts Chess Merit Badge which recently surpassed 250,000 kids! She also recently wrote "*Learn to Read & Write Chess*" and has graciously allowed me to share the PDF file attached here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5rmlzdz>.

I returned to St. Louis for the final two rounds where Ding Liren and Ian Nepomniachtchi were leading the pack with 5.5 points. Magnus was a full point back having drawn all his games, extending his classical streak to nearly ninety games without a loss. After round five on the players rest day, Magnus was invited to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Cardinals vs. Rockies game.



Before the start of round ten, artists from the St. Louis Community College were inspired by the world's largest chess piece and had a small art show near the chess club.



The penultimate round had Maxime Vachier Lagrave defeat Ian Nepomniachtchi after blundering away his knight and showing much disgust with himself. Rapid & Blitz winner Levon Aronian settled for a quiet draw with Ding Liren which put the Chinese number one in the sole lead for the final round.

But the most excitement came from the World Champion's board where he would grind down Wesley So in a rook endgame and run his pawns down the board for his first victory. This put Magnus just half a point behind first for the final round and was all smiles after his interview with Maurice Ashley. Despite his loss, Wesley was still gracious by signing autographs shortly after his game.

Round eleven would be the most exciting with Magnus looking for a second win and Ding Liren needing a win to secure the Sinquefield Cup. Jeanne Sinquefield returned to ring the opening bell for the last round while husband Rex could be seen downstairs often watching the live commentary in the club. Next door the duo of Cristian Chirila and Alejandro Ramirez did live commentary at the Kingside Diner for the entire event.

The two former world champion challengers Karjakin and Caruana ground down into a long draw while Nakamura & Anand settled for a quick draw. Hikaru was kind enough to join Cristian Chirila right afterwards to analyze his and the remaining games in play. Wesley So and Aronian also settled for a quick draw as both would finish tied for last place. Ian Nepomniachtchi would blunder yet again in a rook endgame that should have been drawn against Anish Giri. A victim of his own quick play sometimes and a surprise finish after such a strong start.

Magnus Carlsen kept the pressure on Maxime Vachier Lagrave and after a piece exchange and tucking his own King in the corner, won his second game in a row and temporarily put himself in first place.

The attention turned to the Ding Liren and Shak Mamedyarov game that would decide Ding's fate. He played it safe from the beginning despite knowing a win would secure first and held onto the draw which set up an early morning tie break the next day.



The World Chess Hall of Fame across the street from the chess club is not to be missed. In addition to beautiful and professional exhibits and a wonderful shopping store, the monthly music shows are a nice bonus. I was able to attend the show of a local band after round eleven, *Brothers Lazaroff*.

They converted the upstairs exhibit to a concert venue with seating for about one hundred, even rolling out a baby grand piano. Many of the players and other chess dignitaries attended to relax after such a long tournament. However, two players would not relax that evening as they prepared for the first Sinquefield Cup tie breaks. The games would start at an early 10:00am as Ultimate Moves was scheduled for early afternoon.

I arrived early the next day as fans lined up outside the club. A crowd slowly formed upstairs to watch the first of two rapid games followed by two blitz games. Ding Liren showed up early as he always does trying to mentally prepare for the world champion. Magnus showed up last minute as he makes his presence known and is always fast paced. And after a quick run down of the rules by chief arbiter Chris Bird, a handshake started playoff game number one.

Both rapid games ended in relatively expected draws forcing the blitz games. Of course Magnus was heavily favored in the blitz format, not losing a playoff in over a decade. However lightning struck in game one. With a better position on the board, Ding had trouble finishing the win and then the unthinkable happened. The world champion flagged his clock and the loss put him in the uncommon situation of a must win final game. Magnus would have the white pieces for game two and appeared at the board unusually early and in deep play mode.

The game turned into a tactical battle as Ding had two bishops, knight and rook working in harmony against a queen, bishop and knight. Controlling the long diagonal, the bishop and rook were unleashed by the knight on move forty forcing checkmate or exchanging the queen. A brilliant win by Ding Liren as even Magnus seemed impressed by the beauty of the position and graciously resigned with a bit of a smile.

Back downstairs after the final interview with Maurice, Ding Liren was quickly mobbed by fans all wanting pictures and kindly obliged. *New in Chess* editor Dirk Jan ten Geuzendam sat down with Ding Liren for a short interview as Ultimate Moves would commence in about an hour. This annual event after the Sinquefield Cup has become a favorite to watch.

Rex and his son Randy each pick a team of the best players in the world where all take turns moving in a six game blitz format match. Mostly for bragging rights and a little fun and relaxation. Seeing the players in a relaxed mood and trash talking amongst rivals is a treat. The usual serious faces turn to smiles and laughter yet the fighter in some players is hard to hide. And extra special this year was the attendance of Garry Kasparov.

GM Kasparov arrived early for his 960 tournament joining fellow players and then later speaking at the closing ceremony. After all the jabs on and off the board team Randy came out victorious. Afterwards a special treat was catching a casual game between the Russian commentary team of GM Evgeny Miroshnichenko and WGM Almira Skripchenko. Later that evening I met a gentleman Carlos Perdomo, an International Master who founded www.chessatlanta.com and teaches chess throughout the Atlanta metro area.

The closing ceremony took place later that evening making for quite a long day. Maurice Ashley hosted the event and a number of speeches included Garry Kasparov who praised the players and the elite level of chess. Afterwards Rex & Jeanne presented Ding Liren with the Sinquefield Cup where it was heartwarming to see his mother taking a photo of her son with a big smile holding the trophy.

Another great tournament that all chess players should attend once, the Superbowl of chess. Later at the hotel my good friend John from St. Louis and others joined up for some late night pool and jazz. Anish Giri and his trainer Vladimir Chuchelov were a joy to talk with along with Almira and Evgeny. For fans of Hikaru Nakamura, some might know that he is an avid hiker.

Of special note was that Hikaru was hiking ten of Colorado's 14ers shortly before the start of the Sinquefield Cup. A great way to train for such a long tournament! My early morning flight back to Denver Friday morning was interesting too. While sitting there at my gate, I look over and see the Sinquefield Cup champion Ding Liren and his mother. So just before boarding my flight I gave one last congratulation to the new champ.

Thanks again to J.C. MacNeil for helping me put this together. Mark your calendars for the final *Parker Chess Club* tournament of the year. Sunday, November 3, 2019, at 2:00pm. In addition to trophies, the grand prize will be a signed vinyl 2019 Sinquefield Cup board by World Champion Magnus Carlsen. Good luck! Until next time...



St. Louis Grand Chess Tour Rapid & Blitz

by John Brezina

(More of John Brezina's pictures can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5kjrxcz>

& videos here: <https://tinyurl.com/y6cafsux>)

There is nothing like a hot humid summer day in St. Louis. Especially when the top players in the world are playing rapid & blitz chess. August is the busy month for the premier chess events of the Grand Chess Tour in St. Louis starting with the Rapid & Blitz tournament followed by the Sinquefield Cup. Adding to this year's excitement was World Champion Magnus Carlsen would be appearing in both tournaments. I was joined by fellow DCC member Dean Clow for an action-packed week of chess.

We both missed the first three days of Rapid play but showed up for all eighteen rounds of Blitz. GM Levon Aronian and GM Maxime Vachier-Lagrave shared first after nine rounds of Rapid play. Trailing just behind them were the two best Chinese players, number one GM Ding Liren and wildcard to the tour, GM Yu Yangyi. Absent was last years winner Hikaru Nakamura as players in the Grand Chess Tour pick three of five blitz tour events to play in.

The playing hall upstairs at the St. Louis Chess Club was modified this year to add extra room for spectators as boards were spread out on both sides for better viewing. In addition, beautiful new tables were designed based upon the Cuban-style with inlaid DGT boards and digital TV screens on the side for pairing info.

Round one was a mix of results and no one can deny that any event with Magnus Carlsen gets extra attention. When they let fans upstairs for the start of round one, a large crowd gathered in front of the Magnus Carlsen and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave table.

With ten great players and five games to watch at any time, it was difficult to choose one. A terrible problem, I know. Round



one finished with Fabiano Caruana losing to Richard Rapport who had a strong showing in day one of the blitz. Fabiano would finish the day with only 1.5 points.



Magnus would defeat MVL for his first of three wins on day one but would surprisingly lose three games as well. Ding Liren and Sergey Karjakin would each score best with 6.5 points for the day. And despite losing his first two games MVL would finish the day still in the lead by half a point over Levon Aronian. Next door throughout the tournament in the Kingside Diner was the excellent live commentary by Cristian Chirila and Alejandro Ramirez.

After watching the best in the world blitz all day one can't help but crave to play a little blitz themselves. It just so happened that evening the Chess Club held a seven round G5 Sinquefield blitz tournament. It was organized by International Arbiter and coach of the St. Louis Archbishops, Mike Kummer.

Dean and I both entered to have a little fun with a total of thirty players. From unrated to 2200+ players and no delay it was sure to have a few fireworks. After my first game paired with an 850 player, my next would pair me with Roman Kozelov, a Master level player. Dean and I would both play several young kids who played at lightning speed and would surprise a few opponents having no delay on the clock. The last round paired Dean up with tournament winner NM Julian Proleiko who went undefeated.

The final day of blitz had the leaderboard changing throughout. MVL and Aronian would be followed closely by the Chinese players. Fan-favorite Magnus would win three in a row but then lose three in a row starting with a loss to Fabiano. One time world blitz champion Leinier Dominguez had a tough go and only scored 6.5 total points out of eighteen games.

The final round had Aronian leading over Yu Yangyi by a full point. Shak Mamedyarov would play Yu Yangyi and a draw against MVL would secure first place for Aronian. But the beast that is MVL would come out and defeat Aronian and secure second place. Ding Liren would win his final game and tie for second place as well.



All attention turned to the Yangyi game where the game fizzled down to a same colored bishop endgame draw. Aronian's second GM Manuel Petrosyan rushed over to tell Levon who broke out into a huge smile. Yu Yangyi, therefore, joined a three way tie for second.

Sergey Karjakin who scored tops in the blitz tournament was the first to congratulate Aronian who later thanked Shak Mamedyarov for holding the draw which prevented any playoffs.

The following day would be restful for everyone until the autograph session and closing ceremony. Before that, though in the morning at the World Chess Hall of Fame I came across a bullet blitz battle between Chess.com personality Daniel Rensch against the French Beast Maxime Vachier-Lagrave. Not just any bullet game but on the big board out front along the sidewalk. It was live-streamed on the Chess.com website and quite a crowd of kibitzers showed up including former world champion Vishy Anand.



It was quite entertaining to watch as Danny Rensch is a master trash talker and both got quite a workout. I've included all five rounds I recorded on video and recommend watching to see the results and the great comeback."

Later that evening Daniel Rensch attended the closing ceremony where we talked about the Denver Open and how he enjoyed it very much. Also, I was able to see Tatev Abrahamyan and presented her with a gift of my Denver Open photo book. She not only enjoyed seeing herself on the cover but enjoyed the tournament very much and I hope to see her return next year.

After all the mingling among players and organizers, Maurice Ashley hosted a fine closing ceremony that had Mr. & Mrs. Sinquefield congratulating all the players. Then they both presented Levon Aronian the trophy where he then gave a humble, kind speech as the gentleman he is.



Dean and I both had a great time once again in St. Louis. Not just watching the best in the world play chess but playing a little ourselves. We visited the St. Louis Zoo and Art Museum and enjoyed the best BBQ ribs and mac & cheese. Then I found out Dean is quite a good ping pong player but an even better pool player. Growing up in England Dean was quite a snooker player and it was fun watching him run the table at the Chase Plaza where we ran into several players.

Of note was playing there with the very entertaining Russian duo commentary team of GM Evgeny Miroshnichenko and IM Almira Skripchenko. Almira was quite pleasant to speak with and has quite a list of credentials including six time French Women's champion, where she now resides. She speaks Russian, French, and English and also has played in the World Series of Poker.

Thanks again to everyone who do so much for chess!

I'll leave you with this Persian proverb I recently read as it caught my attention -

*"After the game is over,
the pawn and the king go into the same box."*



Parker to Paris Grand Chess Tour

by John Brezina

(More of John Brezina's pictures can be found here:
<https://tinyurl.com/y3zjtc4g>)

Hello, Colorado chess fans. Who says chess slows down in the summer? Once again I had the privilege to travel overseas and attend the Paris leg of the Grand Chess Tour. Extra special this year was that my wife and two daughters joined me for the ultimate "chess vacation".

Before we get to that, I just finished my fourth Parker Chess Club tournament. The unrated quarterly tournament is a five-round G/10 format that only requires a short afternoon and provides some tough competition. The Championship section was a strong field of twelve players who battled for a signed copy of Sunil Weeramantry's, "*Great Moves: Learning Chess Through History*".

The Open section had another twenty-four players of all ages which played for trophies. Kevin Seidler was kind enough to join me in running another fine tournament and his use of Caissa Chess software and TD skills were invaluable - thank you. And the Caissa Chess author himself, Dean Clow, not only helped but played in the Championship section.

Other DCC patrons included Dwight Sehler, Jason McEwen, and Roberto Popa. Round 5 paired undefeated Dwight Sehler with Michael Maloney from Idaho Springs. A draw would assure Dwight clear 1st place, but Michael prevailed and won, along with Dean Clow in his final game, resulting in a three-way tie with four points each. Caissa declared Dwight Sehler the winner on tie breaks.

The Open section had many young up and coming chess players. Parents and even one grandparent joined and what a pleasure to watch the young and old play together.



Many regular Parker Chess Club players showed up along with some new faces including the winner Maxim Kaikov who went undefeated. New to the club, sisters Jaydeen and Ellie Post did very well for their first tournament. The kids would take all three top spots. Kumaran Lenin with second place and club regular Darshan Satishkumar in third place.



This has become a tournament that I enjoy doing primarily for kids to give them tournament experience but an added bonus has been seeing so many stronger players participate. I noticed many younger players watching the Championship games after their own, a great opportunity and education. I am already looking forward to the final tournament later this year.

The next day we flew to the beautiful French capital of Paris, one of my favorites. The third leg of the Grand Chess Tour goes back to the Rapid & Blitz format and included three wild card players, GM Grischuk, GM Duda, and GM Dubov.

One of the main sponsors Vivendi, allowed their main headquarters to be the playing venue which was spectator friendly this year. And what a location, just a block from the famous *Arc de Triomphe* and the world's most beautiful avenue, the Champs-Elysees.

While we missed the first two days of Rapid play, the rest day in between had the Corporate Day at the Vivendi headquarters in addition to the beautiful French Chess Federation headquarters at Chateau d'Asnieres. At the Chateau six players gave simulms to ten players each.

Many local French players including some sponsors and stronger young players were invited. I was lucky enough to get a seat at GM Anish Giri's table. Before the simul the players mingled with everyone and allowed fans to get a picture or autograph. Then the President of the French Chess Federation, Bachar Kouatly, introduced all six players. GM's Alexander Grischuk, Ian Nepomniachtchi, Daniil Dubov, Jan Duda, Shak Mamedyarov, and Anish Giri.

The players made relatively quick work of us mortals, although

some had put up valiant efforts. With only ten players I must say that GM Giri seemed to reappear at my board much quicker than I would have liked.

Back at Vivendi, while the simul was going on, the Corporate Biz Cup was taking place. The top four corporate donors were paired up with GMs Hikaru Nakamura, Vishy Anand, Fabiano Caruana, and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave. They played a round-robin blitz where they took turns making moves and could collaborate moves at certain times.

We were only able to catch the last two rounds after attending the simul. Then afterward the other six players from the simul returned so the full roster could take official photos and mingle with the sponsors. The beautiful rooftop gardens of the Vivendi headquarters provided great photos of the *Arc de Triomphe*.

The start of the Blitz rounds had French favorite Maxime Vachier-Lagrave leading after the Rapids. Entering from the street you were greeted in the lobby by security and given a wrist band. Each day capacity was about 100 and tickets were offered for free in advance, very nice of the organizers. The seating was very well laid out and screens on either side let you watch each game more closely.



Between the nine rounds each day, lucky fans could occasionally catch their favorite players autograph or picture in the lobby area. Many of the players would opt for a quick walk down the street for fresh air between rounds as well. After the first day of Blitz MVL would retain his overall lead by 2 points despite scoring only fifty percent. Blitz favorite Nakamura scored best with 6.5 points yet trailed overall by 3 points.

Maurice Ashley was on set in Paris broadcasting back to St. Louis to the team of Peter Svidler, Jennifer Shahade and Alejandro Ramirez. Well worth going back and watching their commentary as GM Svidler is always fun to watch and learn from: www.youtube.com/watch?v=YoUoKZuhL8U

Day five and the final rounds would generate excitement up until the end. The tournament hall was filled to capacity and most eyes were on the leader board where French favorite Maxime Vachier-Lagrave defended his lead. After eight rounds and only 3 points gained by MVL, three others had chances to finish in first.

Just half a point behind were the Russians GM Nepo and GM Grischuk, followed closely by GM Anand. Final pairings would



have Anand vs. Nepo, Grischuk vs. Caruana, and MVL vs. Mamedyarov, any of which could act as spoilers. While it is said blitz is for the young, forty nine year old Vishy Anand secured 2th place by defeating Nepo in the final game.

An anxious MVL would try to catch quick glimpses of the other games to see what he needed to secure first place. A stunned Grischuk who was very low on time watched helplessly as Caruana nursed his pawn to the promotion square and claimed victory. With little time left in their game, MVL then got up from his board to a stunned crowd and ran to the screens to see final results.

Seeing and calculating very quickly that he only needed a draw, he returned to the board and offered Mamedyarov a draw. Initially a little hesitant and perhaps disappointed that his earlier promising position had slipped away, Shak accepted and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave is our new Paris GCT Champion!

Another great tournament in one of the world's best cities. The people of Paris could not have been more welcoming and kind everywhere we traveled. Many thanks to the organizers and sponsors of The Grand Chess Tour for their generosity and kindness. What a treat for chess fans to watch such elite players and a great opportunity for the players to earn considerable prize money. The next two legs come back to St. Louis and will both feature World Champion Magnus Carlsen. Au revoir!



Memories of 1969

by Curtis Carlson

"I consider the game of chess has three components, all of which are equally fascinating: the game itself, the artistic end-game, and the problem. Anyone who wishes to excel in any one of these must necessarily specialize." - Andre Cheron

"I am one of those who endeavors without fail to find the drawbacks to the new continuation, if, of course, my positional understanding and experience tell me that they may exist." - GM Efim Geller

"Liberalism took a drastic step in denying all cosmic dramas, but then it recreated the drama within the human being: the universe has no plot, so it is up to us humans to create a plot, and this is our vocation and the meaning of our life." - Yuval Noah Harari

"Whenever I go over a Capablanca/Marshall game, I always come away with the impression of a professor lecturing a student ill equipped to absorb the lesson." - IM Cyrus Lakdawala

"Threats and attacks are the basic elements of tactics. Just as a house is made of bricks, so all tactical operations are made of these elements." - GM Yuri Averbakh

"Chess presents us with many opportunities, and finding the ability to find those opportunities and make the most of them is every chess player's dream." - GM Alex Yermolinsky

It's hard to believe half a century has passed since the unforgettable year 1969. In Superbowl III (*January 12*) Joe Namath led the New York Jets (*18 point underdog*) to a stunning victory over the Baltimore Colts in one of the greatest upsets in sports history. Eight days later Richard Nixon became our 37th President. My 15th birthday (*also Garry Kasparov's 6th birthday*) was April 13. In June Boris Spassky defeated Tigran Petrosian to become the 10th World Champion. In July Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon. The Woodstock music festival was in August when 18 year old Anatoly Karpov became the 10th World Junior Champion. Several Colorado players went to Lincoln, Nebraska, for the 70th US Open, but not me: I was too young for a long unsupervised vacation. I started my sophomore year of high school in September, the New York Mets won the World Series in October, and The Rolling Stones toured the country in November - December. 1969 stands out for many reasons.

"Life must be lived forwards but can only be understood backwards." - Søren Kierkegaard

I began playing correspondence chess in 1967 (*see cover article at http://www.coloradochess.com/informant/October_2017.pdf*). My first over the board tournament was the unrated 1968 Junior Open (*December 28-30*), where I went 3-3. I also broke even in an unrated five round 30-30 on May 31, 1969 where reigning state champion Bill Riley rolled me in the second round. My first USCF rated tournament was the 1969

Denver Open, which was on the July 4 weekend at the Gates Rubber Company; I was lucky to win three and lose four. My second rated event was the 1969 Colorado Open, held in the basement of the YMCA over Labor Day weekend. I won two of my first three but only managed one draw in the last three to finish 2.5-3.5. It was obviously harder to break even in a rated event! My first rating was 1576. Thanks to blunders in my first and fifth rounds (*see games below*) of the Colorado Open, and weak play overall, my long coveted jump into the stratospheric 1600s took another year. I still thought my rating was OK, which is comical when nine year olds now beat International Masters: see <https://new.uschess.org/news/bryant-li-sevillano-win-cental-california-open/>. The sharp edges of reality should have made it painfully clear I wasn't destined for greatness, but chess was all I cared about.

"I'm trying to silence inner critic who says I ought to be perfect." - David McElroy

Louisiana's flamboyant Jude Acers won the Denver Open with a perfect 7-0, beating Bob Wendling and everyone else en route. In round one I lost badly to Robert O'Donnell, who was a frequent and difficult opponent for seven more years. I lost again in round two to Jeff Maguire, who faced Acers in the last round; beating me must have inspired him to keep on winning.

"In chess everything is relative." - Max Euwe

Between rounds Acers analyzed some of his games for a crowd of awed admirers. Peter Nowell said he moved three or four pieces all in one motion! He was both inspiring and intimidating; in other words, he was great! How could I ever be that good? Shortly after the Denver Open Jude gave a lecture with games of his, Bobby Fischer's, and Walter Browne's. He recommended we read everything by Doctor Reuben Fine (*I clearly remember him saying 'doctor'*), and to buy Bobby Fischer's recently released *My Sixty Memorable Games*. I got them all! The mailman delivered MSMG on July 29, and I read it immediately. It was the best \$6.95 I ever spent! I still have my original copy. I wish I had brought it to the Kavalek simul in July 1971 (*when Bobby unexpectedly showed up*) to have it autographed. If only I had known he would be there! There's as much hindsight in life as in chess.

"The only function of economic forecasting is to make astrology respectable." - Ezra Solomon

While touring the country in 1971 Acers passed through Colorado to give simul. In one lecture he made these recommendations:

- 1) Record all games;
- 2) All games must have comments only by Grandmasters and Masters;
- 3) Get four books:
 - a) *Logical Chess Move by Move*, by Irving Chernev;
 - b) *The Complete Chessplayer*, by Fred Reinfeld;
 - c) *The Ideas Behind the Chess Openings*, by Reuben Fine; and
 - d) *Chess Openings Theory and Practice*, by IA Horowitz.

4) Go over every Master game three times. The first two times play over the game and the notes, the third time play over the moves only.

“The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.”

- Mark Van Doren

It’s curious there’s only one Fine book two years after he recommended them all; I wonder what he might suggest today. Jude is known as the man in the red beret, and still plays for \$5 a game on the streets of New Orleans. I hope he records every game.

“The real talent is the ability to work hard.”

- GM Iossif Dorfman



July 2019: The man in the red beret plays Al Losoff

I continue analyzing my own games per Grandmaster Alex Yermolinsky’s advice. (*“Going over one’s own games is important, but I find that it is often the discovery of new ideas which rekindles my enthusiasm for the game.”* - GM Daniel King)

I’m not sure if my old games are amusing memories or embarrassing nightmares! Perhaps, like Schrödinger’s cat, they’re both. As before, notes are mine with help from **Houdini Chess Engine 6.02 (HCE)** with 4 CPUs.

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18855>

Denver Open / Round 1

July 4, 1969

Robert O’Donnell (age 18, 1900)

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 O-O 5.Bd3 d5 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Nbd7 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Ne2 Re8 10.O-O Nf8 11.Ng3 Ng6 12.f3 Nd7 13.e4 dxe4 14.fxe4 f6 15.Bc4+ Kh8 16.Qh5 Ndf8 17.a4 Be6 18.Bd3 Bf7 19.Qf3 Re6 20.e5 c6 21.Bc4 Re7 22.exf6 Bxc4 23.fxe7 Qxe7 24.Ba3 Qc7 25.Rf2 Nd7 26.Nf5 Bd5 27.Qg3 Nf6 28.Qxc7 1-0

Bob gave me a funny look, took my queen, and wasn’t surprised by my immediate resignation. My first rated game was in the books, but not quite like I hoped.

I played Bob O’Donnell (born 1950) in three Denver Opens. He won in 1969 and 1971, while I finally prevailed in 1975. He won the 1973 Denver Open and was one of few to win a rated game from Wendling. Bob moved to Michigan in the late ‘70s, and was Michigan state champion in 1984. Fifty years after scoring 4.5-1.5 in the 1969 Colorado Open he scored 4.5-2.5 in the 2019 Michigan Open, losing only to senior masters. He has more games at <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=43071>. He is well liked by everyone.

“A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.”

- Steven Wright

My second rated game!

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18655>

Denver Open / Round 2

July 4, 1969

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

Jeff Maguire (age 20, 1800)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.c3 Nc5 10.Bc2 Be7 11.b4 Nd7 12.Re1 O-O 13.Qd3 g6 14.Bh6 Re8 15.Nbd2 Nb6 16.Bb3 Nc4 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Qe3 Bf5 19.Rad1 Qd3 20.Qxd3 Bxd3 21.Ng5 Bxg5 22.Bxg5 Rxe5 23.Bf4 Re7 24.Rxe7 Nxe7 25.Bxc7 f6 26.Bb6 Nd5 27.Bd4 Re8 28.Nf3 Kf7 29.Re1 Ra8 30.Rd1 a5 31.a3 axb4 32.axb4 Ra3 33.Rc1 Nf4 34.Rd1 Ne2+ 35.Kh1 Nxc3 36.Bxc3 Rxc3 37.Nd4 Bc2 38.Nxb5 Rb3 39.Rc1 Rxb4 40.h3 Rxb5 41.Rxc2 Rb4 42.Kg1 Ke6 43.Kf1 Kd5 44.Ke2 Kd4 45.Kd2 Rb5 46.f3 Rb4 47.Ra2 c3+ 48.Kc2 Rb2+ 49.Rxb2 cxb2 50.Kxb2 Kd3 51.Kb3 Ke2 52.f4 Kf2 53.Kc3 Kxg2 54.Kd3 Kxh3 55.Ke3 Kg4 56.Ke4 f5+ 57.Ke3 h5 0-1

I didn’t believe in premature resignation, which was good considering the seventh round (*see below*). I’m a little surprised I found 38.Nb5 instead of automatically moving my rook, which is probably what I would do today.

Jeff Maguire has played chess in Colorado for more than 50 years and has had good results with his Open Ruy Lopez. His daughter Aya is a fine musician; see <https://www.facebook.com/ayamaguiremusic/>. Talent obviously runs in the family.

“...chess is an exceptionally logical game having iron laws the breaking of which often leads to a rout. I liked to attack the enemy king and often did this without real justification for which I was duly punished. But I didn’t grumble about this for if the attack did come off the pleasure I got more than made up for previous failures.” - GM Efim Geller

My third rated game, and my the first I didn’t lose!

Denver Open / Round 3

July 4, 1969

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

Jerry Saltz (age 26, unrated)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nge7 5.c4 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.O-O b6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bf4 Nb4 10.Qa4+ Nec6 11.Bd2 a5 12.Bxb4 and White won on move 25. I read Nimzovich’s *My System* in 1968

and trusted his 3.e5. It worked OK this time, but not so well the next time (see game below).

Jerry Saltz was captain of our team (**Gates B**) in the 1971 chess league, where I played second board behind Wendling. He sat on the stage for the first (?) 1971 Fischer-Larsen game, and once said he liked being born the same year as Bobby (1943)! I last saw him circa 1972 and don't know what happened to him afterwards. He told me in 1970 that I was stronger than 1500, but didn't know if he was right.

"I think as long as your plans are good there's no need to hide them." - Magnus Carlsen

My fourth rated game, and my second victory!

Denver Open / Round 4

July 5, 1969

Evalds Kordons (age about 60, rating unknown)

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qb3 Bxc3+ 5.Qxc3 O-O 6.Nf3 d5 7.e3 b6 8.Bd3 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Bb7 10.Be2 Nbd7 11.O-O Ng4 12.b3 Ndf6 13.Qc2 Qd6 14.g3 Rac8 15.a4 Rfe8 16.Ba3 Qd7 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Nh4 Nxf2 19.Rxf2 Nxe3 20.Qd3 Nxd1 21.Bxd1 c5 22.Bc2 g6 23.Bb2 cxd4 24.Bxd4 Red8 25.Nf3 e5 26.Nxe5 Qxd4 27.Qxd4 Rxd4 28.Rxf7 Rxc2 29.Rxb7 Rd1#

My first of two back rank mates in the Denver Open.

"To be happy we must harmonize with the best thing in us." - Orison Swett Marden

Denver Open / Round 5

July 5, 1969

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

Mike Steinhardt (age 22, unrated)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bf4! e5 and I resigned on move 53. My novelty probably won't be repeated. I beat Mike in our next and final game in a 1970 30-30 tournament, which was the last time I remember seeing him (although he played in the 1998 Colorado Quick Chess Championship). Unfortunately (from *Familytreenow.com*) he passed away in 2007. RIP Mike.

"Most chess players have this love-hate relationship with the game: they like playing, they enjoy the thrill of playing, they hate losing - who doesn't - and I think to be healthy, to enjoy chess, you have to enjoy playing it without it becoming an addiction." - GM John Nunn

Denver Open / Round 6

July 6, 1969

Henry Mennekees (age 36, rating unknown)

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

1.e4 c5 2.Bc4 e6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Nf3 b6 5.O-O Nf6 6.Re1 d6 7.a3 Be7 8.d3 O-O 9.Bf4 Bb7 10.Qe2 Na5 11.Ba2 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nxd5 Bxd5 14.Bxd5 Qxd5 15.c4 Qd7 16.Ne5 Qd4 17.Bd2 Nb3 18.Bc3 Qd6 19.Rad1 Nd4 20.Bxd4 Qxd4 21.Nc6 Qd6 22.Nxe7+ Qxe7 23.Qe5 Rae8 24.Re3 f6 25.Qe4 f5? (25...e5 =.

I obviously didn't learn much from Nimzovich to have made such an antipositional move.) 26.Qe5 Rf6 27.d4 Rd8 28.d5 Rd7 29.Rde1 Rd6 30.Qf4 Rg6 31.Qxf5 exf5 32.Rxe7 Rg4 33.Rxa7 Rxc4 34.Re8# My second back rank mate in three games. Henry Mennekees was magnanimous in victory, and generously said I was a good player with a bright future. I wonder what he would think of me now.

"I think that a chess game is an analytical problem which always has a solution" - GM Alexander Khalifman

Denver Open / Round 7

July 6, 1969

Gregory Luke (age about 25, 1187)

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Bg5 Qa5+ 6.Bd2 Qb6 7.Nxc6 dxc6 8.Nc3 Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.e5 Nd7 11.Rb3 Qc5 12.Ne4 Qxe5 13.Qe2 Nf6 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Bc3 Qg6 16.Qd2 = (*My natural talent showed! I adroitly turned an even position into a lost one in two moves.*) 16...Bd7? 17.Rxb7 O-O-O? 18.Ba6+- Qe6+ 19.Kf1 c5



(Here almost anything wins, but 20.Rb6+ was most natural.) 20.Rxd7+ Qxa6+ 21.Rd3 Rxd3 22.cxd3 Qb7 23.Qf4 Qb1+ 24.Be1 Qxd3+ 25.Kg1 Qd1 26.Qe3 Qd4 0-1 on move 60. Games like this make it easy to see why resigning isn't always right. You don't have to play well, only better than your opponent. At least it wasn't another back rank mate!

"There are certain limits to one's chess knowledge, and believe me, most chess players I know, myself included, know chess better than they play it." - GM Alex Yermolinsky

It's sobering to look at old games, since no matter how bad my later ones were my first ones were worse! My road to improvement was gradual: I played a little better in 1971 than 1969, and a little better in 1972 (when I became an expert) than 1971. Sooner or later everyone hits a plateau, and mine was around 2250-2300. Not spectacular, but at least I outranked **Brian Wall**.

"Chess is imagination." - GM David Broinstein



I took these pictures of former World Champion Tigran Petrosian (1929-84) playing blitz at the 1978 Lone Pine masters tournament. In the top pic GM Yasser Seirawan has White. Seated on Tigran's right is GM Leonid Shamkovich (1923-2005). Standing behind Yaz are (L-R) GM Ron Henley, GM Lev Polugaevsky (1934-1995), and FM Julius Loftsson (1941-2009). I don't know who the other two standing observers are, but evidently it was OK to smoke. In the bottom pic I don't recognize anyone other than Petrosian.

*"...chess is a draw with best play. Your opponent needs to err. And that's much easier if he isn't familiar with the position."
- GM Axel Smith*

Wyoming's Bob Burley won the 1969 Colorado Open with a perfect 6-0, beating Robert Wendling and everyone else. Poor Wendling (the region's top player for many years) lost again to the undefeated tournament winner, although he was still declared Colorado champion. It was held on Labor Day weekend in the basement of the YMCA in downtown Denver. My first round opponent was Steve Steinshouer, who won the B prize at the Lincoln US Open and liked tactical slugfests. I had just read *How to Think Ahead in Chess* (and *MSMG*), and had new ideas.

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18863>

Colorado Open / Round 1

August 30, 1969

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

Steve Steinshouer (age 21, 1750)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Bg5 Bg7 7.Qd2 O-O 8.Bh6 (*HTTAIC recommended exchanging a fianchettoed bishop this way, so it must be good!*) 8...Nc6 9.Bxg7 Kxg7 10.Nb3 Be6 11.O-O-O Rc8 12.Be2 Nb4 13.a3 Na2+ 14.Nxa2 Bxb3 15.Nc3 Be6 16.h4 (*Bobby played this once, so it must be good!*) 16...Qa5 17.Nb1 Bb3 18.Bd3 Qb6 19.Nc3 Bc4 20.f3 Rc7 21.Qe2 Rfc8 22.Bxc4 Rxc4 23.Qd2 Qa5 24.Qe3 Rxc3 25.bxc3 Rxc3 26.Rd3 Qxa3+ 27.Kd2 Rxd3+ 28.Qxd3 Qxd3+? (*Steve played this instantly, but his ending is lost.*) 29.Kxd3 (*I wanted to keep Black from having connected passed pawns, but stronger was 29.cd opening the c file. "The finding of open files for the rooks is really the first stage of the middlegame - and a most important stage too, for it can determine the whole course of the game." - Max Euwe*) 29...Nd7 30.Rb1 a6 31.Kd4 Ne5 32.e5 Ne6+ 33.Kd5 Nc7+ 34.Ke4 Ne6 35.exd6 exd6 36.Kd5 Nf4+ 37.Kxd6 Nxc2 38.h5 (*One of my first books was Winning Chess, which I also read in 1968. It repeatedly said a pinned piece is a paralyzed piece! I saw*

*38...gh? paralyzed the knight after 39.Rg1, but blind materialism was typical for my primordial self. 38.Rb7 Nh4 39.c4+- HCE) 38...b5 39.hxg6 fxg6 40.Ra1 Ne3 41.c3 a5 42.Kc5 b4 43.c4 b3 44.Kb5? (*Marvin Sills said just taking the pawn with 44.Ra4 was right. Now I self destruct!*) 44...Nc2 45.Rb1?? (*There's nothing better than 45.Rd1 =, but at least White doesn't lose.*) 45...Na3+ 0-1. Another bad start, but at least I only dropped a rook instead of a queen. In my first tournaments I moved too fast, and in later events I moved too slow! Some errors were from thinking too much while others were from thinking too little.*

"Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself." - Rumi

"The secret of succeeding...in a practical game is to create the impression of momentum and progress. This automatically puts pressure on the opponent, and once an opponent feels pressure, mistakes are never far behind." - Matthew Sadler

1969 Colorado Open / Round 2

August 30, 1969

Mike Siegfried (age 16, about 1400)

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 (*I always liked the Nimzo.*) 4.Bd2 O-O 5.a3 Bxc3 6.Bxc3 b6 7.f3 d5 8.e4 Bb7 9.e5 Nfd7 10.Bd3 c5 11.Ne2 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxe5 13.Be2 Nxc4 14.h4 Ne3 15.Qd2 Nxc2+ 16.Kd1 Nxc4? (*I was young and greedy! 16...e5 17.Nf5 d4 -+. Once again I skillfully destroy my game.*) 17.Bd3 Ng6? (*17...Nd7 = HCE*) 18.Bxg6 fxg6 19.Nxe6 Qe7 20.Qe3? (*20.Bg7+- HCE*) 20...d4 -+ 21.Bxd4 Bxf3+ 22.Kd2 Bxh1 23.Rxh1 Rf7 0-1 on move 37. This was my second game with Siegfried, who beat me in the final round of the 1968 Junior Open. Our first game wasn't much better. Mike and his wife Pam live in Anchorage, Alaska, and have five children.

"Chess is like body building. If you train every day you stay in top shape. It's the same with your brain - chess is a matter of daily training." - GM Vladimir Kramnik

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18864>

1969 Colorado Open / Round 3

August 31, 1969

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

Mike Archer (age 19, 1750)

1.e4 g6 (*Mike played the Modern before it was modern*) 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nc3 Bg4 5.Be3 c6 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 Nf6 8.O-O-O b5? 9.Nxb5 cxb5 10.e5 Nbd7 11.exf6 Bxf6 12.Bxb5 O-O 13.Bc4 Rc8 14.Bb3 Qb6 15.h4 +- (*For once I actually made the move HCE likes most! Bobby played this once so it must be good.*) 15...Qc6 16.Qxc6 Rxc6 17.d5 Rc7 18.h5 Ne5 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.Bd4 Rfc8 21.f4 Ng4 22.Bxf6 Nxf6 23.Rd3 Rc5 24.Re1 R8c7 25.Rde3 Kf8 26.Rd3 Kg8 27.Rf1 Nd7 28.f5 Ne5 29.Rd4 Nc4 30.Rxc4 Rxc4 31.Bxc4 Rxc4 32.fxg6 fxg6 33.Kd2? (*Best was 33.b3 Rg4 34.Rf2 +- HCE. Fortunately I'm still slightly better even after giving back the pawn.*) 33...Rd4+ 34.Kc3 Rxd5 35.Rf4? (*35.b4 += HCE*) 35...Rc5+ 36.Rc4 Rg5 =

37.Rc7 Rxc2? (37...Rg3=HCE) 38.Rxe7 Rg3+ 39.Kd4 Rg2? (Now Black is lost again! 39...a5 was best.) 40.Rxa7 Rxc2 41.b4 g5 42.Kd3 Rc8 43.Ra5 g4 44.Rg5+ Kf7 45.Rxc4 Ra8 46.Rg2 1-0 on move 66 when I was on the right side of another back rank mate! This was my second consecutive win over a guy named Mike. He was very polite afterwards and congratulated me. This was one of my best early games, which isn't saying much.

I met Mike Archer at William Lombardy's 1968 simul at the Bear Creek shopping center. He's one of my oldest chess friends. Our second game was a two move draw in the 6th round of the 1970 Junior Open; we both wanted to play Eugene Salome in a simul. Mike frequently posts at Chessgames.com; see <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessuser?uname=parisattack>. He attended all the 1971 Fischer-Larsen games and retired after a successful career as a Forex trader.

"I am convinced that a high level of technique is something that is necessary for every chess player dreaming of great success." - GM Mark Dvoretsky

After the first round disaster I had two out of three! It was my best start ever. My joy was short lived when I was unexpectedly paired with the top ranked player in round 4.

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18866>

Colorado Open / Round 4

August 4, 1969

Marvin Sills (age 32, 2166)

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 Nc6 3.d5 Ne5 4.f4 Ng6 5.h4 e5 6.Nf3 exf4 7.h5 N6e7 8.d6 Nc6 9.Nc3 a6 10.e5 f6 11.Nd5 Rb8 12.Nc7+ Kf7 13.Bc4#

"If you're in good form, you win all your games. If you're in bad form, you can lose to your dog!" - Nigel Short

After this devastation I was ready to eat a can of Alpo since I felt like a dog. It wasn't the best way to refute the Morra, but at least I saved my rook. I wonder now how such a pairing was made: Sills was highest rated and I was at the bottom as an unrated, and there must have been six or eight others in our point group; in a Swiss system how could first play last? Some things I'll never know.

"But every error is due to extraneous factors (such as emotion and education); reason itself does not err." - Kurt Godel



1969 Colorado Open, Round 2. Standing on the left is my 6th round opponent Tom Barber. Jerry Saltz is seated second left with the cigar. He's playing a slightly annoyed Haynes Hendee (1918-1994), who did much to promote chess in Colorado. Seated third left is Richard Ericson, who's playing Virgil Fairchild (1911-1993). I'm peeking around Richard Ericson while my opponent Mike Siegfried thinks hard. On my left Richard Misare (1943-1996) plays Ron Hosler. Ron was a math professor at Metro State College in the '70s. Ed Roche is in the second row with his back to Mike Siegfried (partially obscured by Hendee).

"In the famous words of Mikhail Tal - 'Between the two evils of underestimating yourself and overestimating yourself, underestimating yourself is much worse.' And I fully agree"
- GM Vladimir Kramnik

New Jersey master Marvin L. Sills (born 1937) lived in Denver from 1968-70 and won the Al Wallace Memorial twice. He said it was his tournament! He loved the Morra Gambit and was a very good blitz player. Shortly after losing to 1880 rated Joe Mirsky in the 1970 Colorado Open he returned to New Jersey and I never saw him again. USCF's web site shows him living in Nevada in 2011 with a 2158 rating (unchanged for at least 29 years). I hope he still plays chess.

"Those who love wisdom must investigate many things."
- Heraclitus

In the 5th round I got a won position after a wretched opening, only to walk into a mate!

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18871>

Colorado Open / Round 5

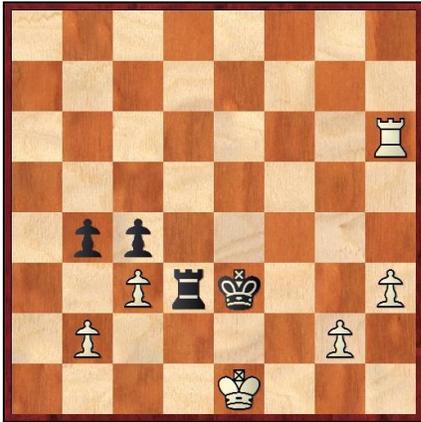
August 4, 1969

Curtis Carlson (age 15, unrated)

Steve Yamamoto (age 16, 1650)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nge7 6.Bg5 Qb6 7.Qd2 Nf5 8.dxc5 Bxc5 =+ 9.Bd3 (As a youngster my whole world was development and material. Fred Reinfeld left his mark on me. "...in our day, when at the sixth to eighth move every master formulates his plan for the middle-game, there is no "better" way of getting a cramped and passive position than by aiming only at development." - GM Mikhail Botvinnik) 9...h6 10.Bf4 g5 11.Bxf5 exf5 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.fxe3 Be6 (During the game I was worried about 13...g4 14.Nd4 Ne5 but 15.O-O =+ is only slightly worse. More than anything else I disliked being down material.) 14.Rf1 g4! (14...O-O-O +/- HCE) 15.Nd4 = Nxe5 16.Na3 Nc4! (We both missed 16...Qb2 17.Qb2 Nd3, but it's equal after 18.Kd2 Nb2 19.Rab1 =) 17.Nxc4 dxc4 18.Nxf5 += Rd8? (This gets Black into trouble. 18...Bf5 19.Rf5 Rd8 is only slightly worse. Now White gets a super knight.) 19.Nd4 Qd6 20.Qf2 (20.Rf4 Qe5 21.O-O-O +/- HCE) 20...a6 21.O-O-O Rd7? +/- (HCE dislikes this natural move and prefers 21...Qe5+/-) 22.Nxe6 (HCE says this is winning, but better was 22.Qf6 Rg8 23.Nf5 +/- Steve said he was surprised I would exchange my knight since it was impossible to dislodge, but I couldn't miss the chance to win a pawn.) 22...Qxe6 23.Rxd7 (23.Qf4+- HCE)

23...Qxd7 24.Qf6 Rh7 25.Qf5? (*The game is over after 25.Rd1 Qc7 26.Rd5 +-HCE*) 25...Rg7? (*Bad play by both sides. Best was 25...Qf5 26.Rf5 Rg7 +=HCE*) 26.Qxd7+ (*This enters a slightly better ending but 26.Qf4 and 27.Rd1 +- HCE was still right.*) 26...Kxd7 27.Rf4 (*27.Rf6 +=*) 27...b5 28.Rf6 g3!? (*28...Rg5 29.Rf7 Ke6 30.Rf4 {30.Ra7 Rf5 = HCE} 30...Rh5 = HCE*) 29.h3 Rg6 30.Rxf7+ Ke6 31.Rf4+- Ke5 32.a4? (*This is weak. 32.Kd2 Rd6 33.Ke2 heading for f3 was best, taking advantage of Black's 28th move.*) 32...Rd6? (*Black should jump at the chance to activate his rook with 32...ba! 33.Rc4 Rf6 = HCE*) 33.axb5 axb5 34.Rg4 Kf5 35.Rxg3 Ke4 36.Kc2 Rd3 37.Rg6 Rxe3 38.Kd2 Rd3+ 39.Ke1?! (*Best was 39.Kc1. Now White's king is badly placed.*) 39...Ke3 (*39...b4 immediately was better, but this turns out well for Black.*) 40.Rxh6 b4



41.Rc6? (*The move that haunts me. Anyone who knew how the pieces moved would instantly play 41.Re6+ Kf4 42.Rc6 winning everything. 41.Rf6 was also good. Oh how I wish I go back half a century and change my move!*) 41...bxc3 42.Rxc4? (*Another blunder, and now White loses! 42.bc Rc3 43.Re6 = is a draw.*) 42...cxb2 43.Rb4 (*I still thought I was winning, but Black's next move shattered my delusion.*) 43...Rc3! 0-1. Another defeat from the jaws of victory with White to a guy named Steve. I couldn't face another back rank mate! After resigning I cried for an hour, and every time I think of this game I cry a little more. There's no game I've ever played I've regretted losing so much. I agree with Larry Evans: *"It's not so much whether you win or lose, but how much winning means."*

"A single formal move can spoil any position."

- GM Mikhail Botvinnik

Somewhere around move 40 Martin Deschner said with 3 points out of 5 I would be top junior and top unrated! He couldn't believe I lost, and I could barely believe it myself.

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

Steve Yamamoto is one of my oldest and best chess friends.

After our memorable first game he easily beat me in the first round of a Gates tournament on September 26, 1969 and again in the fourth round of the Junior Open on December 27, 1970. After graduating from high school with honors in 1971 he graduated from the University of Colorado in 1975, where he also excelled. He then had four years of Dental School at Northwestern University in Chicago, then three more years in internship/residency in Oral-Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Cincinnati. He retired in 2010 after a successful career as an oral surgeon. It doesn't appear his 3-0 lifetime record against me will change anytime soon.

"Due to its sheer complexity, chess is a game where anybody could easily lose, even the greatest - for one mistake is all it takes." - GM Alex Yermolinsky

I moved to California in 1983. In December 1994 (*while back home for the holidays*) I wondered about Steve and called his office. The receptionist said *Doctor Yamamoto* was unavailable. Doctor?? To me he was Steve! I left a message saying I hadn't forgiven him for stealing my game 25 years earlier, which of course wasn't serious. He called back and we had a nice chat. And that was already 25 years ago! Time really flies, especially when you play chess. He recently went by a tournament and felt like a grandfather at a kindergarten class! I can relate.

"...in addition to expertly analyzing purely chess related aspects, Mark (Dvoretsky) also made an emphasis on discussing moral issues... he tried to explain that a person with moral principles always has a certain choice."

- GM Sergey Yanovsky

My 6th round Colorado Open draw with Tom Barber was also bad. My 2.5-3.5 finish was good enough to win a prize, but not enough to make me happy. My Colorado Open games seem slightly better than my Denver Open games, probably because I spent a month between tournaments studying MSMG; at least I learned to play h4 against any ...g6 in any position! There was a six way tie for the junior prize with Steve, Ed Roche, Mike Siegfried, Mark Stone, Jim Olson, and Peter Nowell. All had 3-3. Roche won a round robin playoff to determine a clear winner. I missed the cut, and could only watch with envy. This was probably best, since had participated I would likely have finished last. Chess is one long regret, but it's also nice to know some regretfully bad games were never played.

"I personally gain the most satisfaction from chess when, like Botvinnik, I am engaged in studying the secrets of this ancient and eternally youthful game." - GM Efim Geller

"Education in chess has to be an education in independent thinking and judging." - Emanuel Lasker

"Once you have read Lasker's Manual of Chess, you will become wiser, which bounds to help you later on, both in chess, and in life." - Mark Dvoretsky

My third and last 1969 tournament was one game a week at the

Gates Rubber Company chess club, which met on Friday nights. I only managed 1.5-4.5, which dropped my rating to 1490. Tournament favorite Marvin Sills took clear first, beating Steve in the second round.

<https://denverchess.com/games/view/18874>

Gates Rubber Company / 6 Round Swiss October 3, 1969

Steve Yamamoto (age 16, 1650)

Marvin Sills (age 32, 2166)

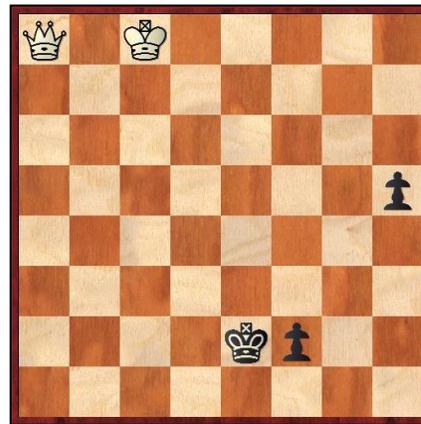
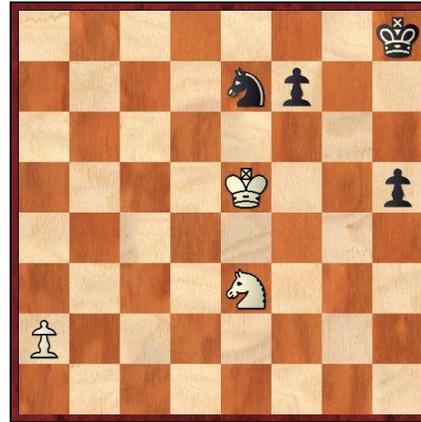
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 c5 5.e3 dxc4 6.Bxc4 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Qxd4 8.exd4 a6 9.Nf3 (*Black's time consuming idea to isolate White's d pawn is dubious, since 10.Bf6 gf 11.d5 is at least equal. 10.Nf3 is also very reasonable.*) 9...Be7 10.O-O b5 11.Bb3 Bb7!? (*This routine move leads to trouble. HCE likes 11...Nbd7 to answer 12.d5 with 12...Nc5. 11...O-O and 11...h6 were also OK.*) 12.Ne5 (*Steve missed 12.d5! ed 13.Rfe1! where White stands well, which is why Black should have castled.*) 12...Nfd7 13.Bxe7 Kxe7 14.Rfe1 (*A natural move but since exchanges help Black HCE prefers 14.Nd3 =*) 14...Nxe5 15.dxe5 Rd8 =+ 16.Rad1 Nc6 17.a3 Nd4 18.Ba2 (*18.Bd5! = HCE*) 18...g5 19.Bb1 h6 20.Ne4!? (*White should still avoid exchanges. HCE prefers 20.f3 =+ or 20.Rd3 =+.* Now Black is clearly better.) 20...Bxe4 21.Bxe4 Rac8 -/+ 22.Kf1 Rc5 23.Bb7 a5 24.Re4?! (*24.Rd3 HCE*) 24...Nb3 25.Rxd8 Kxd8 26.Re2? (*A pawn ending is hopeless. Better but still difficult was 26.Re3*) 26...Kc7 27.Bf3 Rc1+ 28.Re1 Nd2+ 29.Ke2 Rxe1+ 30.Kxe1 Nxf3+ 31.gxf3 Kc6 0-1 on move 46. Steve lasted longer against Sills than me, which should make him proud.

"I know it for sure, lots of people would look like Grandmasters if I allowed the game to slip into the territory well covered by the theory and practice of their favorite opening set-up." - GM Alex Yermolinsky

In December Steve won the 1969 Colorado Junior Championship. Fortunately for him, I wasn't allowed to play: my parents felt more chess wouldn't make my ailing GPA great again. They tried unsuccessfully (**very unsuccessfully**) to curtail my interest in our royal game, but nothing worked. They were, of course, right: I should have focused on academics. My advice to young players is not to think a game is more important than school - it isn't! Get your education, and if there's time, then (**and only then**) play chess. Chess is a great game, but unless you're 2700 it won't pay the bills. As Botvinnik said, *"I have two vocations: chess and engineering. If I played chess only, I believe that my success would not have been significantly greater. I can play chess well only when I have fully convalesced from chess and when the 'hunger for chess' once more awakens within me."*

On July 6, 1973 I bought the classic *1234 Modern End-Game Studies*, by M.A. Sutherland and H.M. Lommer (a 1967 reprint of the 1938 original); curiously, M is short for Melissa! Books on endgames aren't only written by men. I started it several times, but life got in the way and never finished. 46 years after buying it I'm trying again, and this time I'll succeed! I wish I had read it sooner, since there are many interesting positions.

Diagram 119 is on page 20:



The given solution is 1.Kd6 Nc8+ 2.Kd7! Nb6+ 3.Kc6 Nc8 4.Nf5 Kh7 5.Kb7 Kg6 6.Nh4+ Kg5 7.Nf3+ Kf4 8.Kc8 Kf3 9.a4 +-. But tablebases at Shredder and Syzygy say it's drawn after 9...Ke2 10.a5 f5 11.a6 f4 12.a7 f3 13.a8Q f2.

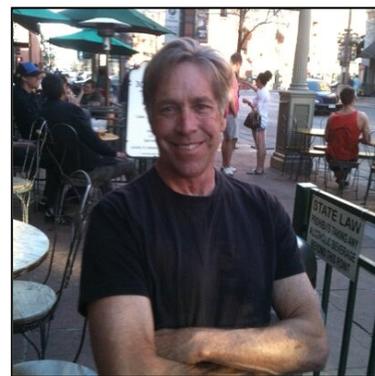
It's a book draw without the h5 pawn, but White still can't win unless it's moved to a6, a7, b6, b7, c6, c7, e6, e7, g6, or g7 (**according to Shredder**). Intuitively it seems winning for White, but tablebases don't lie! Computers have done much to deepen our understanding of chess.

"Psychology has an effect on our play and results, and this effect is no less considerable than the one of chess mastery."

- Mark Dvoretsky

I can be reached at curt2309@comcast.net if there are any questions, comments, or corrections.

This article is dedicated to the memory of Dean Thomas Carlson, who died tragically in a car crash in Parker, Colorado. He was my first chess opponent and got me in a fool's mate a dozen times before I learned to protect the f7 square. Rest in Peace my brother.



Dean Thomas Carlson
May 27, 1955 - July 24, 2019



Parker Chess Club Chess Tournament #5

**Sunday - November 3, 2019
at the Parker Library (Event Hall B, Upstairs)
20105 East Mainstreet, Parker, CO 80138**

5 Rounds / Game is 10 minutes for each player

Rounds: 2:00pm, 2:30pm, 3:00pm, 3:30pm, 4:00pm

Join us to test your chess skills & gain tournament experience!

***Win a signed vinyl 2019 Sinquefield Cup chess board
by World Champion Magnus Carlsen***

This will be a non-rated tournament with no entry fees and two sections.

A Championship section for stronger players will play for a signed vinyl 2019 Sinquefield Cup board by World Champion Magnus Carlsen. An Open section for adults and children of all ages and skill levels will play for trophies given to first, second and third place. All players will treat each other respectfully and quietly during the games.

Registration will end 15 minutes prior to first round so early registration is highly recommended. Day of registrations must show up early. We will have the room reserved from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Chess sets and clocks will be provided but you are encouraged to bring your own if needed. Photos will be taken during play and may be used for promoting future tournaments. Any questions or early registrations can be emailed to John Brezina at skibrezina@gmail.com.

The Grand Chess Tour in Zagreb, Croatia

by John Brezina

(More of John's pictures of this report can be found here:
<https://tinyurl.com/y26ok3fv>)

The global reach of chess never ceases to amaze me. One of the new locations to the 2019 Grand Chess Tour included the beautiful city of Zagreb, Croatia.

While the tournament has concluded and most of you may know the results, I'll add my perspective as a fan and share my attached photos. Chess is flourishing in Croatia for many reasons but most notably former World Champion Garry Kasparov. Mr. Kasparov was granted Croatian citizenship nearly five years ago and was a keynote speaker at the opening ceremony.

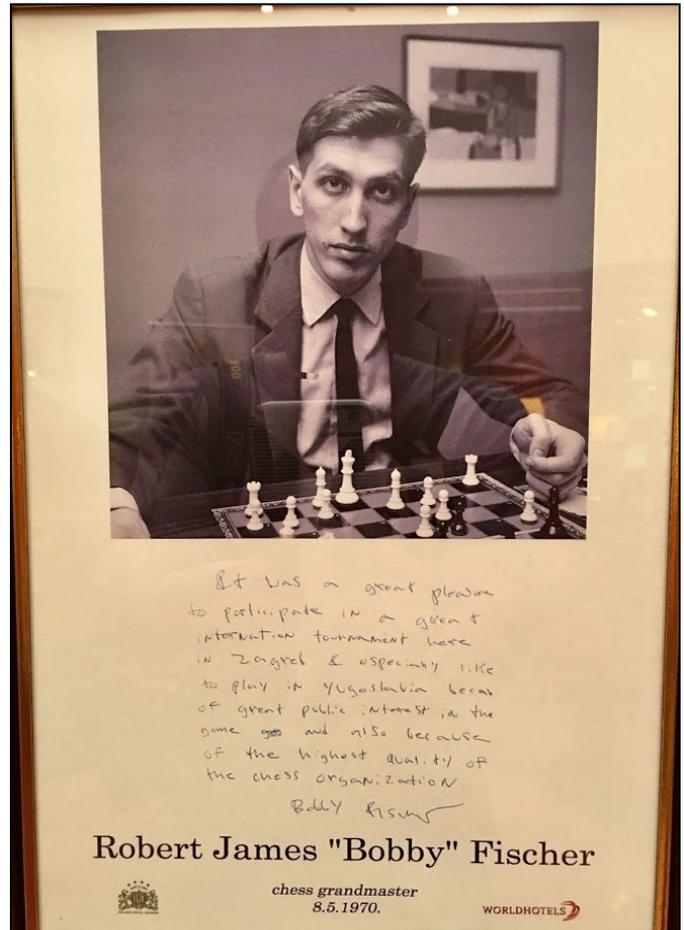


13th World Chess Champion, GM Garry Kasparov

He also made the ceremonial first move on the current World Champion's board at the start of round one. The opening ceremony was held at the beautiful Mimara Museum in the heart of Zagreb while the tournament was played in the Novinarski Dom. Both were held across the street from the Westin Hotel where the players stayed.

And a short distance away was the Palace Hotel which turns out has an interesting tie to chess. I actually booked my stay at the Palace not knowing the list of former high profile guests. After checking in and browsing through the beautiful lobby, a picture on the wall caught my attention. A young Bobby Fischer during his prime in May of 1970 stayed at the Palace Hotel during the "Tournament of Peace". A kind handwritten letter from Bobby to the hotel staff thanking them for his stay was attached.

It is well worth looking up the Rovinj/Zagreb 1970 tournament that Bobby won by a full two points over the likes of Hort, Gligoric, Smyslov, Korchnoi, Petrosian and Walter Browne. And if Fischer staying there was not enough, how about Garry



Bobby Fischer's 'Thank You' Note

Kasparov too! His picture was there with a note as well and it turns out he was there during my stay as well.

The opening ceremony was held on June 25, 2019, at the Mimara Museum. Outside a chess tournament was held during the afternoon for local kids which was well attended. Afterward, all kids were given gift bags from local sponsors but more importantly a group photo with all twelve elite GCT players.

Magnus Carlsen kindly stayed a bit longer for another group photo with all the kids. There was a short opportunity for kids and adults alike to meet their favorite players and take photos or get autographs. The ceremony inside would be by invitation only and included local officials and sponsors that gave short speeches along with Garry Kasparov.

Media from around the world were covering the event including the great staff from the *St. Louis Chess Club*. Maurice Ashley and crew provided great commentary and interviews live from Zagreb while Yasser Seirawan, IM Jovanka Houska and GM Ramirez commentated in the St. Louis studio. After the drawing of lots the players were entertained by local singers in traditional dress. Kids continued to play chess outside even after the ceremony ended and the players had departed.



The next day the tournament commenced upstairs in the historical Novinarski Dom building. Built in 1929, it is home to the Croatian Journalists' Association. Rounds did not start until 16:30 which was great for all day sightseeing and all night chess.

Many great sights throughout the city included the Cathedral of Zagreb, St. Mark's Church, old Upper Town, the National Theater, and Mirogoj Cemetery.

I was fortunate enough to attend the opening ceremony and rounds one and two. The Croatia GCT leg is one of only two classical chess formats this year, the other being the Sinquefield Cup. The other five legs all being Rapid & Blitz. Tickets for each of the rounds capped the audience to nearly 100 and sold out daily I believe.



With Young Fans, World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen

Fans slowly trickled in to fill the seating area a short distance from the boards. Unless you were a VIP in the first row, screens above the playing area allowed you to more easily follow the games. As usual, the main focus of media attention is where the World Champion plays. Garry Kasparov made the ceremonial first move on Magnus Carlsen and Anish Giri's board.

Another board of interest was the American match-up of Fabiano Caruana & Hikaru Nakamura. Round one would be as

hot as the weather outside. Four out of six games would end decisively including the 23 move masterpiece by Magnus.

Also winning in round one was recent World Championship challenger Fabiano Caruana and Wesley So who defeated Chinese number one Ding Liren. And recent Moscow Grand Prix winner Ian Nepomniachtchi would defeat former World Champion Vishy Anand with the black pieces. GM Nepo would lead the first half of the tournament and later cool off to finish tied for fourth place.

Round two would cool off literally in the playing hall as mobile air conditioning units were brought in to combat very warm and humid weather. Play would cool as well. GM Nepomniachtchi's win over GM Caruana would be the only decisive result.

The start of the round would begin with a special guest, Norwegian Ambassador to Croatia, Astrid Vestro, who made the ceremonial first move. She appeared quite smitten with Magnus after making the move, even sneaking a quick peck on the bearded cheek of the World Champion. Her interview with Maurice Ashley is worth watching as well as all their great coverage through the www.grandchesstour.org website.



Novinarski Dom - where the Tournament was held

While five games ended in draws they were far from boring. Especially the miraculous save from Vishy Anand who played world number one Magnus Carlsen. It is always a treat to watch these two World Champions battle it out over the board.

After three short days in Zagreb, I took a very early morning flight back home where I continued to follow the match. Magnus Carlsen went on to take clear first by a full point followed by American Wesley So in clear second.

Magnus would push his live rating to 2881, nearing his all-time high and separating himself further from world number two Caruana at 2817. Magnus is clearly playing prime chess this year and it will be interesting to follow the path of potential candidates for next years challenge to his title. Next up for the Grand Chess Tour is Paris without Magnus but he appears in St. Louis for the August Rapid & Blitz and Sinquefield Cup.





Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand



Grandmaster Anish Giri



Truly an epic time for chess fans with all the great internet live coverage of these events. I cannot thank the organizers enough for their kindness and generosity as well as the hard work they do to put these tournaments together. The players are always cordial and friendly to meet as well and are great ambassadors of the game. The city of Zagreb and people were all so welcoming and nice.

Until next time, keep supporting our local clubs and tournaments here in Colorado and try to help those taking up the royal game. I appreciate any feedback and would love to share my chess stories and travels if you see me around, especially at my *Parker Chess Club* - speaking of which - last night was bursting with over 30 players, mostly kids. We keep getting new kids and there is much excitement for my next tournament coming up. A young girl new to my club was at one of Lior Lapid's camps and has a great passion for the game.

Lastly, thanks to J.C. MacNeil, who helps put these reports together, the *Colorado State Chess Association*, and the *Denver Chess Club*. Keep calm and play on!



John Brezina in Zagreb

Gunnar Does it Again!

by Richard "Buck" Buchanan
Chief Tournament Director

Gunnar Andersen again scored a clean 5-0 to take the top prize at the 2019 Pikes Peak Open, held in Manitou Springs August 17-18. For a variety of reasons, the tournament was later than usual this year, which may have affected attendance. It was the weekend before the celebrated Pikes Peak Marathon and Ascent races, which meant that lots of folks were coming to town to train and get acclimated. So parking was a challenge. Even the special lot by the City Hall had threatening messages telling drivers to go elsewhere! And then, of course there was the construction on I-25 as well as the never-ending road work elsewhere.

Following Gunnar with 4-1 scores were Sara and Daniel Herman, as well as Eric Billaux (returning to tournament chess after a long absence), Jesse Hester, and Neil Bhavikatti. Other prize winners were Harsh Mali and Wesley Woo for combined U1900 and U1700; Vedant Margale and Coleman Hoyt for U1500, and Shirley Herman for U1300. Elliott Woo (no relation to Wesley and Nathan) entered as an Unrated and proceeded to win his first three games, with his victims including prize winners Daniel Herman and Jesse Hester! He lost to Eric Billaux and Sara Herman in the Sunday rounds, but he definitely took the Unrated prize!

Among the familiar faces I had not seen for a long time were Hans Morrow and Robert Rountree. Hans scored a good 3 points, losing only to top-rated players, and his scoresheets brought back memories by being in Descriptive Notation (1.P-K4) like in the books we old-timers grew up on.



ROUND 1

Gunnar Andersen (2334)
Gary Bagstad (1700)

1.b4 e5 2.Bb2 d6 3.e3 Nc6 4.b5 Nce7 5.d4 exd4 6.Qxd4 Nf6 7.Bd3 Ng6 8.h4 Ne5 9.Nf3 Nxf3+ 10.gxf3 Be7 11.Nd2 b6 12.0-0-0 Bb7 13.Rdgl g6 14.h5 Rg8 15.hxg6 hxg6 16.Qh4 Nh5 17.Qxh5 gxh5 18.Rxg8+ 1-0

Robert Rountree (1657)
Brian Wall (2213)

1.e4 h6 (See Brian's online messages for an explanation of his openings in this tournament.) 2.d4 c5 3.Nf3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3 e5 8.Nb3 Be6 9.Qd2 Be7 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Be2 b5 12.Nd5 Bxd5 13.exd5 Nb8 14.Kb1 0-0 15.Qa5 Nbd7 16.Qxd8 Bxd8 17.g4 Nb6 18.Bxb6 Bxb6 19.c4 b4 20.Bd3 a5 21.Rc1 a4 22.Nd2 Be3 23.Rcd1 Bxd2 24.Rxd2 Nd7 25.h4 g6 26.b3 axb3 27.axb3 Ra3 28.Rb2 Nc5 29.Kc2 f5 30.gxf5 gxf5 31.Re1 e4 32.fxe4 fxe4 33.Bxe4 Rf2+ 34.Kb1 Rxb2+ 35.Kxb2 Rxb3+ 36.Ka2 Rh3 37.Rg1+ Kf7 38.Bg6+ Kf6 39.h5 Rh2+ 40.Kb1 Ke5 41.Rd1 Na4 42.Re1+ Kd4 43.Re4+ Kc5 44.Rf4 Nc3+ 45.Ka1 Ra2# 0-1

Daniel Herman (2135)
Vibi Varghese (1616)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Be3 Bg4 8.Qd4 Bxf3 9.gxf3 Bf6 10.Qe4+ Be7 11.Qxb7 Nd7 12.0-0-0 a5 13.Rg1 0-0 14.Qe4 Nf6 15.Qf4 Kh8 16.Bd3 a4 17.Rxg7 Kxg7 18.Qh6+ Kh8 19.Bd4 1-0

Sara Herman (2030)
James Mulberry (1500)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 d6 5.Bb5 Bg4 6.d5 a6 7.Ba4 b5 8.Nxb5 axb5 9.Bxb5 Rb8 10.Bxc6+ Bd7 11.Bxd7+ Qxd7 12.Qe2 Be7 13.0-0 Qa4 14.c4 0-0 15.Nh4 Rfc8 16.Nf5 Bf8 17.Bg5 Nd7 18.b3 Qa7 19.Qg4 f6 20.Nh6+ gxh6 21.Be3+ 1-0

Vedant Margale (1456)
Edward Yasutake (1908)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Be3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Bf3 Qa5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.c3 Rd8 14.Qc2 Qc7

15.Rad1 Be6 16.b3 Bd5 17.Be2 e5 18.c4 Be6 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.f4 Bf5 21.Qc1 Bd3 22.Bxd3 Rxd3 23.fxe5 Bxe5 24.Bf4 Qb6+ 25.Kh1 Bg7 26.h3 Qd4 27.Qe1 Qd7 28.Bh2 Rd2 29.a4 Qd3? 30.Qe8+ 1-0

Jesse Hester (1967)
Nathan Woo (1408)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 Nf6 6.e4 d6 7.Nge2 e5 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 Ne8 10.Be3 Nd4 11.Bxd4 cxd4 12.Na4 Nc7 13.b4 b5 14.cxb5 Nxb5 15.Nb2 Be6 16.a4 Nc7 17.Nc4 Rc8 18.Na5 Na6 19.Qd2 Qb6 20.Rab1 Rc7 21.f4 Bh6 22.Qe1 Rfc8 23.f5 Ba2 24.Rb2 Rc2 25.Rxa2 Rxa2 26.b5 Bd2 27.Qb1 Rxa4 28.Nc6 Kh8 29.Qb3 Nc5 30.Qxf7 Qc7 31.Ne7 Nd7 32.fxg6 h5 33.Qh7# 1-0

Christopher Motley (1752)
Elliott Woo (Unrated)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bc4 Bf5 6.d4 e6 7.0-0 Be7 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Bxd5 c6 11.Bb3 0-0 12.Nd4 Bg6 13.Qg4 Nd7 14.Ne6 Nf6 15.Nxd8 Nxg4 16.Nxb7 a5 17.Bf4 a4 18.Bc4 Bxc2 19.Rac1 Bg6 20.Be2 Nf6 21.Rxc6 Be4 22.Rb6 Nd5 23.Bd6 Nxb6 24.Bxe7 Bxb7 25.Bxf8 Kxf8 26.b3 Bd5 27.Rd1 axb3! 28.axb3 Bxb3 29.Rb1 Ra3 30.Bd1 Bxd1 31.Rxb6 Ra1 32.h3 g6 33.Rb2 Bb3+ 34.Kh2 Be6 35.f3 Ke7 36.Kg3 Kf6 37.Kh2 Ra2 38.Rb5 Bc4 39.Rb1 Kg5 40.Kg3 f5 41.Rc1 f4+ 42.Kh2 Be2 43.Rc3 Bf1 44.Kg1 Bxg2 45.Rc5+ Kh4 0-1

ROUND 2

Sami Al-Adsani (1838)
Daniel Herman (2135)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Be7 7.Bg2 d5 8.Bc3 0-0 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Nbd2 c5 11.Re1 Rc8 12.Rc1 cxd4 13.Bxd4 Bc5 14.Bb2 Bxf2+! 15.Kh1 Bxe1 16.Qxe1 Qe7 17.e4 Nc5 18.Ba3 Nfxe4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Ne5 Qc7 21.Bxe4 Nxe4 22.Bxf8 Qxe5 23.Bb4 Bb7 24.Kg1 Qd4+ 25.Kf1 Qf6+ 26.Kg1 Ng5 27.Qe2 Nh3# 0-1

Rhett Langseth (2148)
Alexander Freeman (1776)

1.Nf3 f5 2.d4 Nf6 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 b6 5.Ne5 Bb7 6.Nd2 d6 7.Nef3 Be7 8.Bb5+ c6 9.Bc4 d5 10.Bd3 0-0 11.Ne5 Ne4 12.f3

Nxd2 13.Qxd2 Nd7 14.h4 c5 15.c3 Bf6 16.Nxd7 Qxd7 17.g4 Rae8 18.Qh2 cxd4 19.exd4 fxd4 20.fxd4 e5 21.dxe5 Bxe5 22.Bxe5 Rxe5+ 23.Qxe5 Re8 24.Qxe8+ Qxe8+ 25.Kd2 Qa4 26.Rhg1 Qf4+ 27.Kc2 Bc6 28.Raf1 Qh2+ 29.Kb1 Qd2 30.Rg3 b5 31.Rgf3 g6 32.Bxg6 Kg7 33.Rf7+ Kh6 34.Bc2 Qg5 35.Rxh7# 1-0

Wesley Woo (1751)

Eric Billaux (2106)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nc3 e5 4.d5 Ne7 5.e4 Ng6 6.Be3 Bb4 7.f3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 d6 9.Bd3 0-0 10.Ne2 b6 11.0-0 Nd7 12.Nc1 Nc5 13.Nb3 Nxd3 14.Qxd3 f5 15.a4 f4 16.Bf2 a5 17.Nd2 Bd7 18.Qc2 Qg5 19.Kh1 Rf6 20.Rg1 Qh5 21.Nf1 Raf8 22.Qb2 Ne7 23.Ra2 Rh6 24.Be1 Rff6 25.Qf2 g5 26.g4 fxd3 27.Rxd3 Rg6 28.Qg2 g4 29.Rf2 gxf3 30.Rxf3 Rxf3 31.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 32.Rxf3 Rg4 33.Rg3 Rxg3 34.Bxg3 Bxa4 35.Bh4 Kf7 36.Bg5 Bc2 37.Ng3 a4 38.Bc1 Bd3 39.Kg2 Bxc4 40.Kf2 Nc8 41.Ba3 Na7 42.Ke3 Nb5 43.Bb4 a3 0-1

Barry Rabinovich (1709)

Sara Herman (2030)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 d6 7.e3 g5 8.Bg3 Nh5 9.Bd3 Bg4 10.Qc2 f5 11.h3 Bxf3 12.gxf3 f4 13.exf4 Nxf4 14.Bh7+ Kh8 15.0-0-0 Nc6 16.h4 e5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Be4 Nxc4 19.Bxf4 Rxf4 20.Nd5 Bxb2+ 0-1

Edward Yasutake (1908)

Andrew Eskenazi (1586)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.cxd5 Bg7 7.Bb5+ Nbd7 8.d6! 0-0 9.dxe7 Qxe7+ 10.Nge2 a6 11.Bd3 Re8 12.0-0 b5 13.Bg5 Bb7 14.Rc1 Qd6 15.f3 b4 16.Bf4 Qe6 17.Na4 Nd5 18.Bc4 Nxf4 19.Bxe6 Nxe2+ 20.Qxe2 Bxd4+ 21.Kh1 Rxe6 22.Qd2 1-0

Coleman Hoyt (1524)

Robert Rountree (1657)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6 4.c3 Bd7 5.d4 Be7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Re1 0-0 8.Nbd2 Bg4 9.h3 Bd7 10.Bxc6 Bxc6 11.d5 Bd7 12.Nf1 Ne8 13.c4 f5 14.exf5 Bxf5 15.Ng3 Bd7 16.Ne4 h6 17.Be3 Nf6 18.Nc3 a6 19.a4 Nh7 20.a5 Ng5 21.Nxg5 Bxg5 22.Ne4 Be7 23.b4 Qe8 24.Qd2 Qg6 25.Ng3 Bh4 26.Kh2 Bf6 27.Ra3 Bh4 28.Qd3 Bxg3+ 29.fxd3 Qxd3 30.Rxd3 Rf5 31.Rd2 Raf8 32.g4 Rf1 33.Ree2 Ba4

34.Rf2 R1xf2 35.Rxf2 Rxf2 36.Bxf2 Bb3 37.c5 Bxd5 38.cxd6 cxd6 39.Be3 Kf7 40.g5 h5 41.h4 g6 42.g3 Bf3 43.Kg1 Ke6 44.Kf2 Bg4 45.Bb6 d5 46.Ke3 Kf5 47.Bc5 Bh3 48.Kf3 d4 49.Bd6 e4+ 50.Kf2 e3+ 51.Ke1 d3 52.Bf4 d2+ 53.Ke2 Bg4+ 0-1

ROUND 3

Gunnar Andersen (2334)

Rhett Langseth (2148)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bg5 Bf5 4.f3 h6 5.Bxf6 exf6 6.e4 Be6 7.Nge2 c6 8.Nf4 Bd6 9.Nxe6 fxe6 10.Qd3 Qc7 11.0-0-0



Bxh2 12.exd5 Bf4+ 13.Kb1 cxd5 14.g3 Bxg3 15.Qg6+ Kd8 16.Bh3 Re8 17.Nb5 Qf4 18.Qxg7 Re7 19.Qg8+ Re8 20.Qf7 Re7 21.Qf8+ Re8 22.Qa3 a6 23.c4 Nc6 24.Nc3 Qxf3 25.Rhf1 Qh5 26.Bxe6 Rxe6 27.cxd5 Bd6 28.Qb3 Nb4 29.dxe6 Qg6+ 30.Kc1 Nd3+ 31.Rxd3 Qxd3 32.e7+ Bxe7 33.Re1 Bd6 34.Qb6+ Kd7 35.Qxb7+ Be7 36.Nd5 Qc4+ 37.Kb1 Kd6 38.Nxc7 Qxc7 39.Qxa8 1-0

Eric Billaux (2106)

Brian Wall (2213)

1.e4 a6 2.d4 g6 3.Be3 Nf6 4.Nc3 d5 5.e5 Ng4 6.Bf4 f6 7.Be2 Nh6 8.Qd2 Nf7 9.0-0-0 Bg7 10.exf6 exf6 11.Bf3 c6 12.Re1+ Kf8 13.h4 h5 14.Nh3 Bh6 15.Bxh6+ Nxh6 16.Nf4 Kg7 17.Ne6+ Bxe6 18.Rxe6 Re8 19.Rxe8 Qxe8 20.Ne2 Nd7 21.Nf4 Nf8 22.Qb4 Qd7 23.Re1 Ng8 24.Kb1 b5 25.a3 Re8 26.g3 Ne6 27.Nd3 Nh6 28.Bg2 Nf7 29.Bh3 f5 30.Qc3 a5 31.f3 a4 32.g4 fxd4 33.fxd4 Nf8 34.Nc5 Rxe1+ 35.Qxe1 Qe8 36.Qg3 hxg4 37.Bxg4 Qe8 38.Ka2 Qe7 39.Qh3 Qf6 40.c3 Nd6 41.h5 g5 42.Qe3 Kf7 43.Nd3 Ne4 44.Ne5+ Kg7 45.Bf3 Ng3 46.Ng4 Nf5 47.h6+ Kf7 48.Qd2 Qd8 49.Ne5+

Kf6 50.Nxc6 Qd6 51.Nb4 Kg6 52.Qd3 Kf6 53.Nxd5+ Ke6 54.Qxb5 Kf7 55.Qb7+ Kg8 56.c4 Qxh6 57.Nc3 Nxd4 58.Bd5+ Kh8 59.c5 Nfe6 60.c6 Qf6 61.c7 Nxc7 62.Qxc7 Nf5 63.Qc8+ Kg7 64.Ne4 Qe5 65.Qg8+ 1-0

Daniel Herman (2135)

Elliott Woo (Unrated)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bh5 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 e6 9.Bg2 c6 10.h4 Bb4 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Nbd7 13.h5 Nxe5 14.dxe5 Qxd1+ 15.Kxd1 Nxd4 16.hxg6 Nxf2+ 17.Ke2 Nxd1 18.gxf7+ Kxf7 19.Bxh1 h5 20.Be3 b6 21.Bxc6 Raf8 22.Rd1 h4 23.Bf3 h3 24.Rd7+ Kg8 25.Bg4 Re8 26.Rd1 h2 27.Rh1 g5 28.Bxg5 Kf7 29.Bf3 Rc8 30.Bd2 Rc5 31.Kf2 Rxe5 32.Kg2 Rf5 33.Bg4 Rf6 34.Be3 Rg6 35.Kg3 Rhg8 36.Rxh2 Rxd4+ 37.Kf3 e5 38.Rh7+ R8g7 39.Rh8 e4+ 40.Ke2 Rg2+ 41.Bf2 Ke6 42.Ke3 Rc7 43.Re8+ Kf7 44.Rxe4 Re7 45.Rxe7+ Kxe7 46.Kf3 Rh2 47.c4 Kd7 48.c5 b5 49.Kg3 Rh1 50.Bd4

(The scoresheets become unclear at this point.) ... 0-1

Christopher Motley (1752)

Edward Yasutake (1908)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Be2 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Bg7 9.f4 0-0 10.Qg1 Be6 11.g4 Qc7 12.g5 Nd7 13.Nd5 Bxd5 14.exd5 e6 15.Qg3 exd5 16.cxd5 Rfe8 17.Be3 Bxb2 18.Rd1 Qc2 19.Kf2 Nc5 20.Qf3 Re7 21.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 22.Kg2 Rd8 23.Rd2 Bc1 24.Rhd1 Bxd2 25.Rxd2 Qc1 0-1

Jessie Hester (1967)

Barry Rabinovich (1709)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 g6 5.f3 Bg7 6.Be3 0-0 7.Qd2 Nbd7 8.0-0-0 a6 9.g4 b5 10.h4 h5 11.Bh6 Nb6 12.Qg5 Nh7 13.Qf4 e5 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Qe3 Qc7 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.c5 Nc4 18.Bxc4 bxc4 19.gxh5 gxh5 20.Nge2 f5 21.Rhg1+ Kh8 22.Qh6 fxe4 23.Nxe4 Bf5 24.N2g3 Bxe4 25.Nxe4 Rad8 26.Rxd8 Rxd8 27.Nf6 Rf8 28.Qxf8+! 1-0

ROUND 4

Sara Herman (2030)

Gunnar Andersen (2334)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.h3 c6 8.a4 a5

9.Re1 exd4 10.Nxd4 Nc5 11.Bg5 h6
12.Bh4 Nh7 13.Bg3 Be6 14.Bxe6 fxe6
15.Nce2 e5 16.Nf5 Nxe4 17.Ned4 exd4
18.Qg4 Rxf5 19.Qxf5 d5 20.Be5 Qf8
21.Qxf8+ Rxf8 22.f3 Bf6 23.fxe4 Bxe5
24.exd5 Bf6 25.dxc6 bxc6 26.Re6 Rc8
27.Rd1 Nf8 28.Re2 Nd7 29.g4 Nb6 30.b3
Nd5 31.Rf2 Ne3 32.Rd3 Nd5 33.Rf5 Nb4
34.Rd2 c5 35.Kg2 Rc6 36.Re2 Kf7 37.h4
g6 38.Rf3 Re6 39.Ref2 Ke7 40.h5 gxh5
41.gxh5 Nd5 42.Kh3 Re5 0-1

Elliott Woo (Unrated)

Eric Billaux (2106)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bg5 Nbd7 4.e3 c5
5.Nc3 g6 6.Bd3 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 a6
9.a4 b6 10.Bf1 Bb7 11.e4 cxd4 12.Nxd4
Rc8 13.Nf3 Rxc3 14.bxc3 Nxe4 15.Nd4
Nxc5 16.Qg4 e5 17.Nb3 f5 18.Qb4 Qc7
19.Rad1 Nc5 20.a5 b5 21.c4 bxc4
22.Qxc4+ Kh8 23.Nd2 Qc6 24.h4 Nh3+
25.Kh2 Nxf2 26.Rb1 e4 27.Rb6 Qc7
28.Reb1 d5+ 29.Kg1 dxc4 30.Kxf2 Qf4+
31.Ke2 Bh6 32.Nxc4 Bd5 0-1

Edward Yasutake (1908)

Alexander Freeman (1776)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Be2
Nxd5 5.d4 c6 6.c4 Nf6 7.Nc3 e6 8.Nf3
Na6 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Bg5 Qc7 11.Qd2 h6
12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Rfd1 Bf4 14.Qc2 0-0-0
15.c5 Rdg8 16.Kh1 Qd8 17.Qa4 Bb8
18.Bxa6 bxa6 19.Qxa6+ Kc7 20.b4 Be8
21.Qe2 Bb7 22.b5 cxb5 23.Nxb5+ Kc8
24.c6 Bxc6 25.Nxa7+ Bxa7 26.Qa6+ Bb7
27.Qxa7 Qd5 28.Rac1+ Kd7 29.Ne5+
Ke7 30.Rc7+ Kf8 31.Qb8+ Kg7
32.Rxf7# 1-0

Harsh Mali (1502)

Robert Rountree (1657)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Be7 4.d4 d6
5.dxe5 dxe5 6.Qxd8+ Bxd8 7.Nc3 f6
8.Be3 Bg4 9.Nh4 Be7 10.h3 Bd7 11.g4
g5 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 0-0-0 14.Ke2
Bd6 15.Nd5 a6 16.Rad1 Nce7 17.Nb6+
cxb6 18.Bxb6 Bc7 19.Be6+ Kb8
20.Rxd8+ Bxd8 21.Bxd8 Nc6 22.Bxc8
Nxd8 23.Bd5 Kc7 24.Rd1 Nc6 25.Bxc6
Kxc6 26.Ke3 h5 27.f3 hxg4 28.hxg4 Rh2
29.Rd2 Rh7 30.Rd8 Rf7 31.Re8 a5
32.Re6+ Kc5 33.Kd3 Rd7+ 34.Ke2 Rf7
35.Ke3 b5 36.Ra6 a4 37.a3 Kc4 38.Ke4
Kc5 39.b4+ axb3 40.cxb3 Rf8 41.b4+
Kc4 42.Re6 Kb3 43.Rb6 Kc4 44.Rd6 Rf7
45.Rd5 Rc7 46.Rc5+ Rxc5 47.bxc5 Kxc5
48.Kd3 b4 49.a4 b3 50.Kc3 b2 51.Kxb2

Kb4 52.a5 Kxa5 53.Kc3 Kb5 54.Kb3 Kc5
55.Kc3 Kd5 56.Kd3 Kd6 57.Kd2 (*The
distant opposition.*) 57...Kc6 58.Kc2 ½-½

Barry Rabinovich (1709)

Nathan Woo (1408)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Nbd7
5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 0-0 7.c5 c6 8.Be2 b6 9.b4
Rb8 10.0-0 Nh5 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Qa4
b5 13.Qxa7 Rb7 14.Qa3 Nhf6 15.Qb2 e5
16.a4 bxa4 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxa4 Nxf3+
19.Bxf3 Bf5 20.Qd4 Rfb8 21.Nb6 Nd7
22.Nxd7 Qxd7 23.g4 Rxb4 24.Qxb4
Rxb4 25.Ra8+ Qc8 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.h3
Kf8 28.Rc1 ½-½

Leonard Sistik (1600)

Ayush Vispute (1424)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.e4 Nc6 4.Nf3 e6
5.d3 Be7 6.Be2 0-0 7.Bf4 a6 8.a3 d5
9.0-0 d4 10.Na2 Nd7 11.Rb1 e5 12.Bd2
b5 13.Qc2 Nb6 14.b4 bxc4 15.bxc5 Bxc5
16.Bb4 Bxb4 17.Nxb4 Nxb4 18.Rxb4
cxd3 19.Bxd3 a5 20.Rb5 f5 21.Nxe5 fxe4
22.Qb3+ Kh8 23.Bxe4 Ba6 24.Rxb6
Bxf1 25.Bxa8 Qe7 26.Ng6+ hxg6
27.Qh3+ Kg8 28.Bd5+ 1-0

ROUND 5

Gunnar Andersen (2334)

Eric Billaux (2106)

1.Nc3 e5 2.e4 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4
5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.g3 d6 8.Bg2 Bd7
9.0-0 Nf6 10.f4 Be7 11.f5 e5 12.Nde2
Na5 13.Kh1 Bc6 14.a4 Nc4 15.Bc1 Rd8
16.Qd3 Nb6 17.a5 Nbd7 18.h3 Nc5
19.Qe3 b5 20.axb6 Qxb6 21.g4 Qb7
22.Ng3 h6 23.Rd1 0-0 24.Nd5 Nxd5
25.exd5 Bd7 26.Qe1 Bh4 27.f6 Bxf6
28.b4 Na4 29.Ne4 Be7 30.c4 Rfe8 31.c5
Bb5 32.g5 hxg5 33.cxd6 Rxd6 34.Nxd6
Bxd6 35.Bxc6 f6 36.Bxf6 gxf6 37.Be4
Re7 38.Qh4 Rg7 39.Rg1 Bf8 40.Qxf6
Nc3 41.Rxc7+ Qxc7 42.Rg1 Nxe4
43.Rxc7+ Bxc7 44.Qe6+ Kf8 45.Qf5+
Nf6 46.Qxe5 Kf7 47.h4 Kg6 48.Qg5+
Kh7 49.Qf5+ Kg8 50.Qe6+ Kh7 51.Qf5+
Kg8 52.Kg1 Bd7 53.Qd3 Bb5 54.Qh3
Bd7 55.Qb3 Bb5 56.d6+ Kh7 57.Qc2+
Kg8 58.Qc8+ Kh7 59.Qc2+ Kg8 60.Qc8+
Kh7 61.Qf5+ Kg8 62.h5 Bd7 63.Qg6 Be8
64.Qxe8+! 1-0

Daniel Herman (2135)

Edward Yasutake (1908)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5 Qb6 4.Nc3 Qxb2

5.Bd2 Qb6 6.Rb1 Qd8 7.e4 d6 8.f4 g6
9.e5 dxe5 10.fxe5 Nxd5 11.Bb5+ Bd7
12.Qf3 Bxb5 13.Nxb5 a6 14.Qxd5 axb5
15.Qxb7 Nd7 16.e6 fxe6 17.Bc3 Rg8
18.Nf3 Bg7 19.Bxc7 Qa5+ 20.c3 Rxc7
21.0-0 Rb8 22.Qc6 Qb6 23.Qe4 Nf6
24.Qe2 Nd5 25.c4 Nc3 26.Qe5 Nxb1
27.Rxb1 Qd6 28.Qxc7 b4 29.Ne5 Qd4+
30.Kh1 Qf4 31.Qg8+ 1-0

Neil Bhavikatti (2108)

Wesley Woo (1751)

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6
5.Qe2 Bg4 6.d3 e6 7.h3 Bh5 8.Bd2 Be7
9.g4 Bg6 10.Bg2 h6 11.Ne5 Bh7 12.0-0-0
Qc7 13.f4 Nd5 14.c4 Nb4 15.a3 N4a6
16.Rhf1 b5 17.Kb1 b4 18.axb4 Nxb4
19.Bxb4 Bxb4 20.d4 a5 21.f5 exf5
22.gxf5 0-0 23.f6 g6 24.Qe3 Re8
25.Qxh6 Bf8 26.Qh4 c5 27.Ng5 1-0

Elliott Woo (Unrated)

Sara Herman (2030)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 c5
5.c3 cxd4 6.cxd4 d5 7.e3 0-0 8.Bd3 Nc6
9.0-0 Nb4 10.Bb1 b6 11.a3 Nc6 12.Ba2
Bf5 13.Qe2 h6 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Qb5 Rc8
16.Qxd5 Qc7 17.Rac1 Be6 18.Qb5 Bxa2
19.b3 a5 20.Qd3 a4 21.bxa4 Nb4 22.axb4
Qxc1 23.Nb3 Qc3 24.Qxc3 Rxc3 25.Nc1
Bc4 26.Re1 Rc8 27.h3 Rc7 28.b5 Bxb5
29.axb5 Rxc1 30.Kf1 Rxe1+ 31.Kxe1
Rc1+ 0-1

Hans Morrow (1900)

Doyle Lobaugh (1500)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5
5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.h3 c5
9.Be2 Nc6 10.Be3 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qc7
12.0-0 Rd8 13.Qa4 Nxd4 14.cxd4 Bd7
15.Qb4 e6 16.Rac1 Qb8 17.Rfd1 Bf8
18.Qb2 Ba4 19.Rd2 b6 20.Bb5 Bxb5
21.Qxb5 Rc8 22.Rdc2 Qb7 23.f3 Rxc2
24.Rxc2 Rc8 25.Qb3 Rxc2 26.Qxc2 Qd7
27.Qb3 Bg7 28.e5 Bf8 29.a4 Qe7 30.Qd1
Qd7 31.Qc2 Be7 32.Kh2 Bf8 33.Qc4 Be7
34.g3 Bf8 35.h4 h5 36.Qb5 Qxb5 37.axb5
Be7 38.Kh3 Kg7 39.g4 hxg4+ 40.Kxc4
Kh7 41.h5 gxh5+ 42.Kxh5 Kg8 43.f4 Kf8
44.Kg4 Ke8 45.f5 exf5+ 46.Kxf5 Kd7
47.d5 Bb4 48.Kf6 Ke8 49.Bf4 Be7+
50.Kf5 Kf8 51.d6 Bd8 52.e6 fxe6+
53.Kxe6 Ke8 54.d7+ Kf8 55.Bb8 Be7
56.Bd6 1-0



PIKES PEAK OPEN

OPEN SECTION

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
RICHARD "BUCK" BUCHANAN

	RTG	PTS	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5
1 GUNNAR ANDERSEN	2334	5.0	W27	W17	W8	W5	W3
2 DANIEL HERMAN	2135	4.0	W15	W18	L9	W17	W11
3 ERIC BILLAUX	2106	4.0	W24	W12	W7	W9	L1
4 NEIL BHAVIKATTI	2108	4.0	W16	W25	H	D7	W12
5 SARA HERMAN	2030	4.0	W23	W14	W13	L1	W9
6 JESSE HESTER	1967	4.0	W28	L9	W14	W18	W8
7 BRIAN WALL	2213	3.5	W20	W10	L3	D4	W19
8 RHETT LANGSETH	2148	3.0	W21	W19	L1	W10	L6
9 ELLIOTT WOO	Untrd	3.0	W31	W6	W2	L3	L5
10 HANS MORROW	1900	3.0	W22	L7	W23	L8	W24
11 EDWARD YASUTAKE	1908	3.0	L25	W16	W31	W19	L2
12 WESLEY WOO	1751	3.0	W33	L3	W26	W27	L4
13 HARSH MALI	1502	3.0	H	W30	L5	D20	W21
14 BARRY RABINOVICH	1709	2.5	W34	L5	L6	D28	W23
15 VIBI VARGHESE	1616	2.5	L2	L32	H	W29	W28
16 ANDREW ESKENAZI	1586	2.5	L4	L11	D22	W34	W30
17 MARK KROWCZYK	1940	2.0	W29	L1	W32	L2	U
18 SAMI AL-ADSANI	1838	2.0	W32	L2	W25	L6	U
19 ALEXANDER FREEMAN	1776	2.0	W26	L8	W24	L11	L7
20 ROBERT ROUNTREE	1657	2.0	L7	W22	H	D13	U
21 LEONARD SISTEK	1600	2.0	L8	L26	W30	W32	L13
22 COLEMAN HOYT	1524	2.0	L10	L20	D16	W33	D25
23 JAMES MULBERRY	1500	2.0	L5	W34	L10	X	L14
24 DOYLE LOBAUGH	1500	2.0	L3	W33	L19	W26	L10
25 VEDANT MARGALE	1456	2.0	W11	L4	L18	D30	D22
26 SHIRLEY HERMAN	953	2.0	L19	W21	L12	L24	W34
27 GARY BAGSTAD	1700	1.5	L1	W29	H	L12	U
28 NATHAN WOO	1408	1.5	L6	L31	W33	D14	L15
29 DEAN BROWN	1400	1.5	L17	L27	D34	L15	W32
30 ALEXANDER FRIEDERICH	857	1.5	B	L13	L21	D25	L16
31 CHRISTOPHER MOTLEY	1752	1.0	L9	W28	L11	F	U
32 AYUSH VISPUTE	1424	1.0	L18	W15	L17	L21	L29
33 JOY SATO	985	1.0	L12	L24	L28	L22	B
34 NICHOLAS GILMORE	Untrd	0.5	L14	L23	D29	L16	L26

The Chess Detective®

Pins & Skewers Problems

by NM Todd Bardwick

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In the July 2019 edition of the *Colorado Chess Informant*, we looked at some examples of pins and skewers. Now it is your turn to try to be a good detective and figure out how to win games when you observe that pieces are lined up!

1



4



2



5



3



6



1

Black just played 36...Rd5? lining up his rook and knight on a light-squared diagonal and White has a light-squared bishop.

White plays 37.Rxf7+! Resigns.

If Black would have continued playing, White would have simplified the position after 37...Kxf7 38.Bb3 Ke6 39.Rxd4 Rbd8 40.Kf2 Ke5 41.Rxd5+ Rxd5 42.Bxd5 Kxd5 43.f3 gxf3+ 44.Kxf3 and White would win the king and pawn ending.

This position is from a game that took place in the 2007 World Chess Cup between Shakhriyar Mamedyarov and Zdenko Kozul.

2

Black notices that White has his pieces lined up on dark-squared diagonals and looks for ways to take advantage with his bishop.

He played 38...Rxe3! and Black Resigned.

After 39.Rxe3 Rxe3 40.Kxe3 Bg5+ skewers the king and rook and wins back the exchange.

Black would win the king and pawn ending after 41.Ke2 Bxd2 42.Kxd2 f4. This position is from a game between Alexey Shirov and Garry Kasparov in Linares, Spain 1997.

3

This position is from a game between Vassily Ivanchuk and Alexey Shirov from Sofia, Bulgaria in 2009.

Shirov played 22...d4 gaining space in the center and realizing that even though the pawn was attacked three times and defended only twice, White couldn't take it because of a pin on the g1-a7 diagonal.

After 23.Nxd4 Qb6 24.Rfd1 (24.Nc2 Qxe3+ 25.Nxe3 Rxd2 wins because the knight on d4 was also pinned to the rook.) 24...Rd5 25.White Resigned because Black can play 25...Rcd8 bringing an extra attacker on the pinned knight. If White plays 25.Nc2, then 25...Rxd2 26.Rxd2 Rxc2 27.Qxb6 Rc1+ & 28...axb6.

4

Donato Rivera played White in this game against Bobby Fischer in Varna, Bulgaria 1962.

Fischer noticed that White's bishops are lined up on the b-file and took advantage by gaining a tempo to attack them with the queen by threatening mate with 14...Qc6 15.f3 Qb5 16.Ba4 Qxb2 17.Resigns

5

Black's last move with his queen walked her into a pin, a dangerous plan. Be extra careful when you voluntarily walk into a pin!

White took advantage of the pin by playing 24.Rf7! Bxg4 25.Bf6 exf6 (notice the g7 bishop can't capture on f6 because it is pinned to a mate on h7).

26.Rxd7 Taking advantage of another pin! 26...Bxd7 27.exf6 a4 28.fxg7+ Kxg7 29.Kf2 and White went on to win. This position is from 2008 in Sofia, Bulgaria, between Teimour Radjabov and Bu Xiangzhi.

6

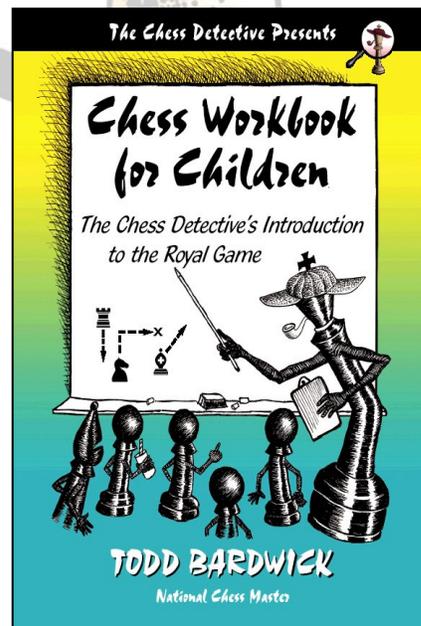
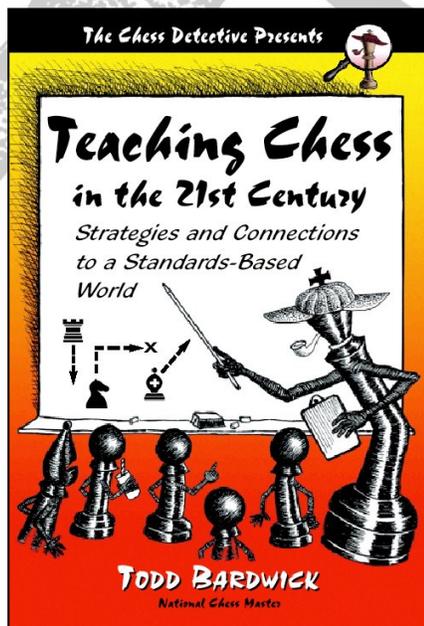
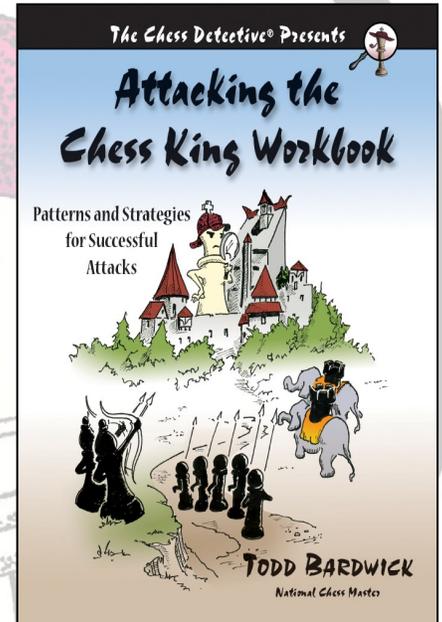
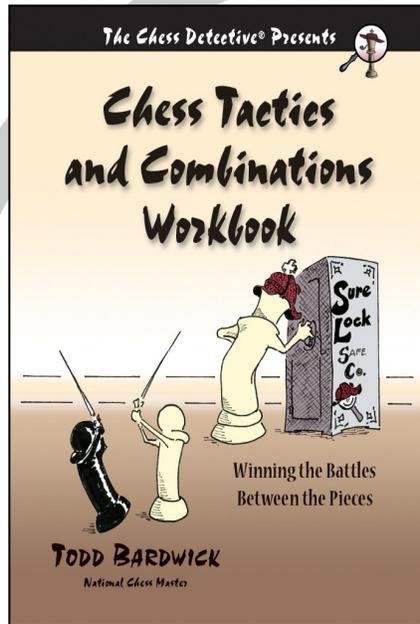
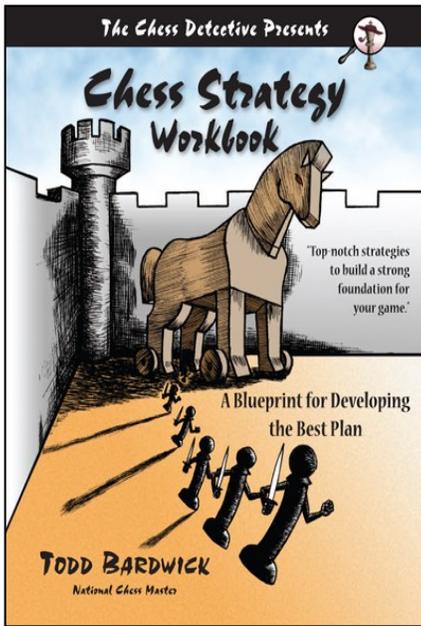
Amsterdam, The Netherlands, was the site for this game where this position occurred between Garry Kasparov and Jan Timman in 1994.

24.Re5! Skewering the queen and the knight. 24...Bxe5 (24...Qxd3 25.Qxd3 Bxe5 26.Qc2 with the advantage.) 25.Ne7+ Kg7 26.Nxd5 Bxb2 27.Nf4 Bxd3 28.Nxd3 Bxc1 29.Qxc1 Rxd3 30.Qg5+ Resigns

As Kasparov forks the king and knight.



NM Todd Bardwick is the author of 'Chess Strategy Workbook', 'Chess Tactics & Combinations Workbook' & 'Attacking the Chess King Workbook for Rated Players'. He can be reached at www.ColoradoMasterChess.com



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

COLORADO CHESS CLUB DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

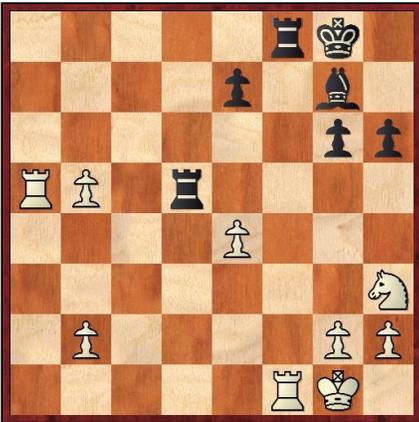
Stonebridge Games Chess Club: (Longmont) Meets Tuesdays at 5:00pm. 449 Main Street, Longmont. Call (303) 776-3796 for more info.



Tactics Time!

by Tim Brennan

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



1. Rhett Langseth - Vedanth Sampath
DCC Tribute to MLK / 2019
Black to move



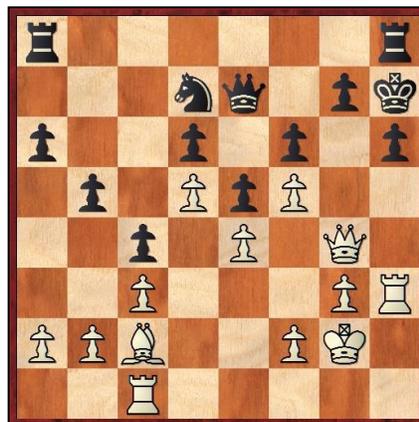
2. Neil Bhavikatti - Gunner Andersen
DCC Tribute to MLK / 2019
Black to move



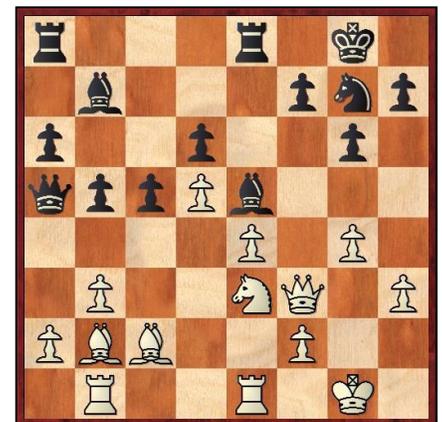
3. Gunner Andersen - Brian Wall
Denver Chess Club / Jan 2019
White to move



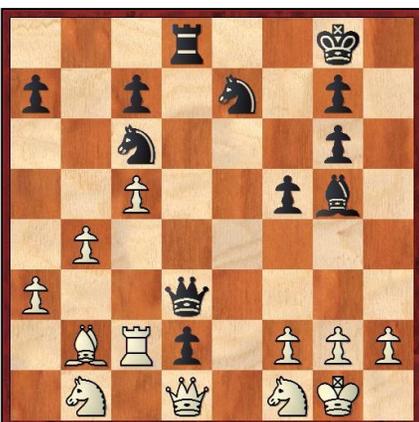
4. Mark McGough - Brian Rountree
Club Chess!! Strong Swiss / 2019
Black to move



5. Sullivan McConnell - Aditya Krishna
State Scholastic Championship / 2019
White to move



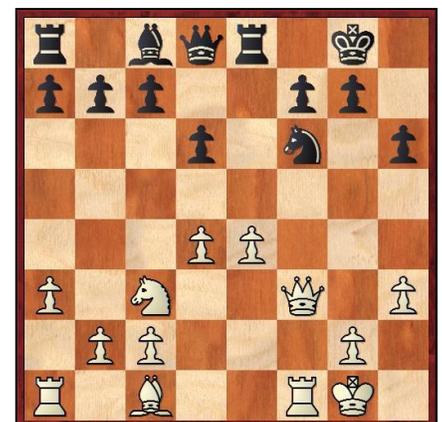
6. Coleman Hoyt - Tyler Bowling
Denver Chess Club / Feb 2019
Black to move



7. Sara Herman - Brian Wall
President's Open / 2019
Black to move



8. J.C. MacNeil - Tim Brennan
Colorado Open / 2019
White to move



9. Sullivan McConnell - Vibi Varghese
Winter Springs Open / 2018
White to move



Tactics Time Answers:

- 1. 26...Bd4+** and White has no good way to get out of check. If 27.Kh1 Rxf1+ 28.Ng1 Rxc1#. If 27.Nf2 Bxf2+ and White cannot recapture because of 28.Rxf2 Rd1+ 29.Rf1 Rdx1#.
- 2. 21...g5** attacks the White rook, which cannot move and still protect the bishop on g4.
- 3. 27.Qxd8!!** Clearance sacrifice threatening 28.Nf6+ forking the king and queen.
- 4. 13...b4** attacking the knight, which cannot move because of 14...Bxf2+ discovered attack on the queen.
- 5. 30.Rxh6+!** blasts open the kingside. Black cannot recapture because of either 30...gxh6 or 30...Kxh6 31.Qg6#.
- 6. 23...Bxb2** overloads the White rook which cannot recapture and protect the other rook on e1.
- 7. 27...Qxc2!! 28.Qxc2 d1Q.**
- 8. J.C. made me bleed my own blood with a double knight fork on d4 - 18.Nfxd4+ exd4 19.Nxd4+.**
- 9. 14.Bxh6!** Overloads the g7 pawn. **14...gxh6 15.Qxf6.**



UPCOMING COLORADO TOURNAMENTS

55th Annual Colorado Springs City Chess Championship

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

Club Chess!! / Classical Wednesdays

October 2 - 30
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Strong Swiss October

October 2 - 30
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Fall Fury Blitz

October 3
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

October 4
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Fall Fury Blitz

October 10
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

October 11
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

Denver Chess Club Fall Classic

October 12 - 13
5 Round / Swiss
G/90; d/05 & G/90; inc/30
Denver

Club Chess!! / Fall Fury Blitz

October 17
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

October 18
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

IHOP Quicik Chess October

October 20
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Fall Fury Blitz

October 24
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Club Chess!! / Friday Night Quick

October 25
4 Round / Swiss
G/24; inc/05
Colorado Springs

CSCA Class Championship

October 26 - 27
4 Round / Swiss
G/90; inc/30
Loveland

Club Chess!! / Fall Fury Blitz

October 31
5 Round / Double Swiss
G/5
Colorado Springs

Denver Chess Club One Day Classical

November 2
3 Round / Swiss
G/60; d/10
Denver

UPCOMING COLORADO TOURNAMENTS

Colorado Springs Chess Club

November Swiss 90

November 5 - 26

4 Round / Swiss

G/90; inc/30

Colorado Springs

IHOP Quick Chess November

November 10

4 Round / Swiss

G/24; inc/05

Colorado Springs

Pawn Gobbler Tournament

November 16

5 Round / Swiss

G/25; d/00

Pueblo

Colorado Springs Chess Club

December Swiss 90

December 3 - 17

3 Round / Swiss

G/90; inc/30

Colorado Springs

Winter Springs Open

December 7 -8

4 Round / Swiss

G/90; inc/30

Manitou Springs

IHOP Quick Chess December

December 15

4 Round / Swiss

G/24; inc/05

Colorado Springs

For more detailed information on these upcoming Colorado events, please visit the CSCA website at

<http://www.coloradochess.com/newtourn.shtml>



UPCOMING COLORADO SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS

Denver Scholastic Chess Series #2

October 19

5 Round / Swiss

Denver

Summit School of Chess Tournament Series #2

October 19

5 Round / Swiss

G/30; d/00

Denver

Denver Scholastic Chess Series #3

November 16

5 Round / Swiss

Denver

Summit School of Chess Tournament Series #3

November 23, 2019

5 Round / Swiss

G/30; d/00

Denver

Denver Scholastic Chess Series #4

December 7, 2019

5 Round / Swiss

Denver

Summit School of Chess Tournament Series #4

December 14, 2019

5 Round / Swiss

G/30; d/00

Denver

For more detailed information on these upcoming Colorado events, please visit the CSCA website at

<http://www.coloradochess.com/tournament/scholastic>



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