

COLORADO CHESS

INFORMANT

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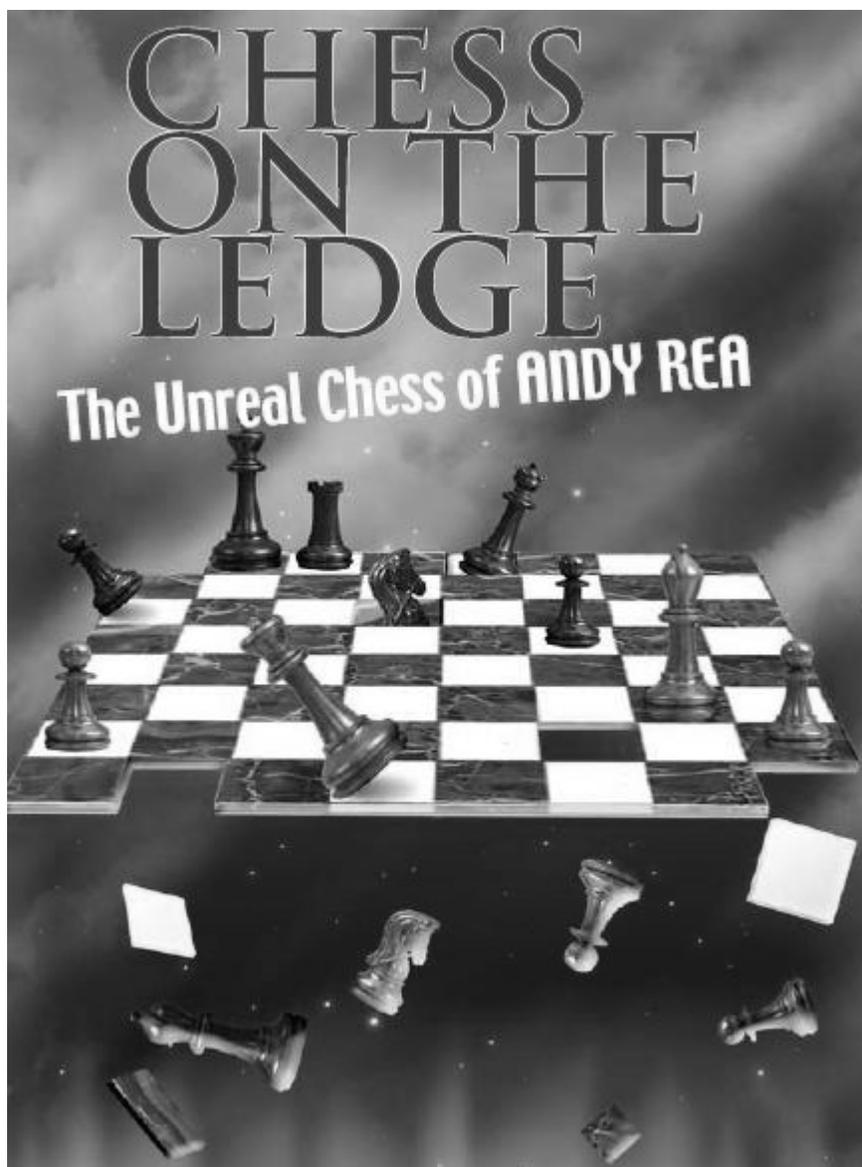
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Former CSCA Pres. Rea Publishes New Book!

COLORADO STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION

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Send address changes and memberships to Randy Reynolds. Send pay renewals to Richard Buchanan.

CSCA Board of Directors

President:

Klaus Johnson
3605 Endicott Dr.
Boulder, CO 80305
(303) 854-7898
boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Lee Lahti
(970) 372-8590
lee.lahti@comcast.net

Secretary:

Randy Reynolds
1839 Thyme Court
Fort Collins, CO 80528
(970) 206-9107
randy_teyana@msn.com

Treasurer:

Richard Buchanan
844 B Prospect Place
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
(719) 685-1984
buckpeace@pcisys.net

Members at Large:

Dean Brown
(719) 573-5176
browndw1@mindspring.com

Tom Nelson

(303) 880-4332
timbdnelson@comcast.net

Junior Representative:

Mitesh Shridhar
(303) 667-3885

USCF Delegates:

Richard Buchanan
Dean Brown

January 2009 CSCA Editor:

Tim Brennan
timmybx@aol.com

Webmaster

Tournament Clearinghouse:

Rick Nelson (970) 824-4780
rick@ramdesigns.com

Prison Chess: Randy Canney

CO Chess Tour:

Randy Reynolds

Scholastic Chess:

Tom Nelson

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Contributors to this issue:

Paul Anderson
Todd Bardwick
Richard Buchanan
Anthea Carson
Gennaro "Max" Connors
Derek Fish
Klaus Johnson
Lee Lahti
Matt Lasley
Matt McClain
Markus Petters
Andy Rea
Randy Reynolds
Bill Scanlon

The 65th Square CO Chess Informant Editor Tim Brennan



Greetings Chess Friends!

It has been a couple of years since I had the privilege of being the editor of the Colorado Chess Informant. Before you get all excited at my return, I am just going to be a one time guest editor for this issue :-). It was fun for me to put it together again. Randy Reynolds will be taking over for the April 2009 issue. If there is anyone out there who is interested in the job on a more permanent basis please let us know!

When I last edited an issue of the CCI, I was living in Denver. Now I live in Colorado Springs. It has been great to be able to get to live and play chess in the two biggest cities in the state, and both are filled with wonderful people and players. When I lived in Denver I

rarely had to travel more than a few miles to a tournament. In the past few years I have enjoyed playing in some new locations around the state such as Loveland, Salida, Pueblo and the Air Force Academy.

Special thanks to Matt Lasley who helped me to proofread this issue, and to Randy Reynolds who provided feedback, and handled the publishing and distribution of things. Thanks also to everyone who contributed to the issue!

I hope all of you have a wonderful 2009 with lots of rating gains, and bonecrushing tactics!!

Cheers,
Tim. ☺



Jerry Maier and Kathy Schneider battle at the Turkey Hunt

President's Report

by CSCA President Klaus Johnson

So far in the first three months of the Tour year, there have been five events. The Colorado Open was held in late August with 72 players in two sections, the Pueblo SOCO was held a week later with 14 players in one section, the DCC Columbus Day event was held on second weekend in October with 23 players in two sections, the Boulder Fall Classic was held on the second weekend in November with 31 players in two sections, and the DCC Turkey Trot was held two weeks later with 34 players. The Winter Springs Open completed our tour events of 2008 with 33 players. With these six events, \$217 have been placed in the CO Tour fund. At this pace, there will be more than \$500 in by the end of the tour year.

Over the next three months there will be five more CO Tour events, three of which attracted more than 30 players last year. The 4th Al Ufer tournament will be the first rated event in Colorado for 2009. Although this is a relatively new event, it has already become the most popular annual one-day tournament in Colorado. Three weeks later, the Boulder Winter Grand Prix will be held. In 2007 the event had 27 players, and last year attendance increased to 34. Hopefully this trend will continue and the tournament will boast 40 or more players in 2009. The Loveland Open will be held on the first full weekend in February. This strong tournament has had more than 30 years of history in Colorado. The following weekend, Pueblo's Valentine Day tournament will be held. Recent tournaments in Pueblo have had turnout at around 20 players, but by the time the tournament is held more than five months will have passed since the last Pueblo tournament. The Colorado Springs Open will be held on the first weekend of March, and has been the largest annual tournament in Southern Colorado.

The tentative date for the Colorado Closed and Scholastic Closed has been placed for the weekend of March 21st. In order to be eligible, players must have played at least six USCF rated games since the last Colorado Closed, with at least four of those being played in Colorado. Invitations will be sent out six weeks before the tournament, so be sure to get your required # of games soon.

This issue's Colorado Chess Volunteer is Liz Wood in recognition of her work to revitalize the Pueblo club. If you'd like to nominate somebody for April, please send an email to boulderchessclub@yahoo.com by February 1st with your nomination and why this person should be recognized.

If you would like more information on what is going on with Colorado chess, check out the monthly email newsletters. You can request for them to be sent to you directly by sending an email to boulderchessclub@yahoo.com, or you can read current and past newsletters by going to www.colorado-chess.com. The first newsletter was written in September 2008, and I will continue writing them until the conclusion of my term as CSCA President in September 2009. I'd always like to hear from you and your suggestions on how to improve Colorado Chess. I plan to attend all of the CO Tour events this year, so if you'd like to speak with me face-to-face, just attend a Tour event!

Klaus Johnson
CSCA President

Liz was taught how to play chess in 1981 by two players named Charlie Darrah and Jim Matthers. Within six months she was playing in tournaments and within five years she became a scholastic tournament director with her then-husband Mark Wood. She became a very active player with the Denver Chess Club and from 1986-1989 travelled to several tournaments outside the state including the New York Open and the US Open.

In 1987, the US Closed Championship was held in Estes Park at the Stanley Hotel and Liz helped out by transporting players from the airport to the hotel. One of her passengers was a fellow named Danny from Las Vegas, who wrote the bulletins for the men's closed. When asked who wrote the bulletins for the women, Danny replied that nobody wrote them because nobody wanted to read about the women's games. Liz decided to write the bulletins herself at her own expense and distributed copies of the games to all of the women for each round. The 1987 Women's Closed ended up being a historic event as Anna Akhsharumova, (wife of grandmaster Boris Gulko) ended up winning the tournament with a perfect score. So in an ironic twist, nearly everybody wanted a historical memento of this accomplishment and requested a copy of the Liz's bulletins for these 'unwanted' games.

In 2001, Liz moved to Pueblo and begin attending chess club at Barnes and Noble on Monday nights. One day a week was not enough chess for her or many of Pueblo's players, so they began playing on different nights of the week at local coffeehouses. With more players playing more often, there was renewed interest in a tournament. In 2004, Liz helped organize the first tournament in several years in Pueblo (The Ever-So Slow Tournament). Unrated tournaments soon became a common occurrence. Starting in 2007, the tournaments became rated and now Pueblo hosts six rated tournaments a year. These tournaments are for the most part organized by Liz and directed by Jerry Maier.

The Pueblo Chess Club now meets on Mondays at Barnes & Noble and on Tuesdays at The Daily Grind Café. They have three upcoming tournaments, a Valentine's Day tournament in February, Spring is Sprung in April, and the Pueblo Open in June. With all of this activity, it is clear that chess in Pueblo has been rejuvenated in the last couple of years, thanks in no small part to Liz Wood.



Liz Wood :
Colorado
Chess
Volunteer
Jan 09

by Klaus Johnson

by Matt Lasley

Father-Daughter Chess

Blame Walt Smith for corrupting me with the Danish gambit. I'm glad he's filling little minds young and old with attacking thoughts. It seems my taste for gambits lately might be rooted in having a ready excuse for a loss—after all, I spotted you a pawn...or two. Insights in this review are from Fritz 6.

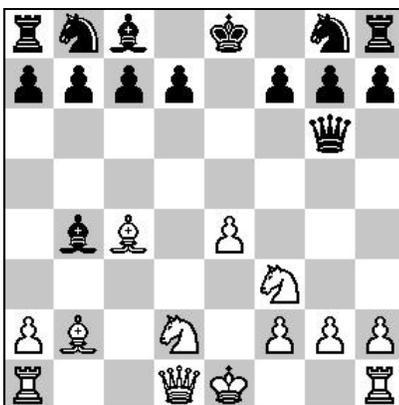
W: Lasley, M
B: Stauffer, P

CSSCS 1: "The Opening" 10/11/08
Danish Gambit ECO: C21

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. c3 dxc3 4. Bc4 cxb2 5. Bxb2 Danish Gambit Accepted! White has given a pawn to develop each bishop and Black has nothing developed! Black is fine. Chickening out doesn't really help—especially by not taking the first pawn. Peter's no chicken.

5. ...Bb4+ Usually this check is delayed a bit. 5. ...d5 returning the pawn and getting on with development is more mainline. A continuation is 6. Bxd5 Nf6 7. Bxf7+ Kxf7 8. Qxd8 Bb4+ 9. Qd2 Bxd2+ 10. Nxd2 with passers for both teams! Fritz favors Black a teensy bit.

6. Nd2 Qg5 7. Nf3 Qg6 Diagram

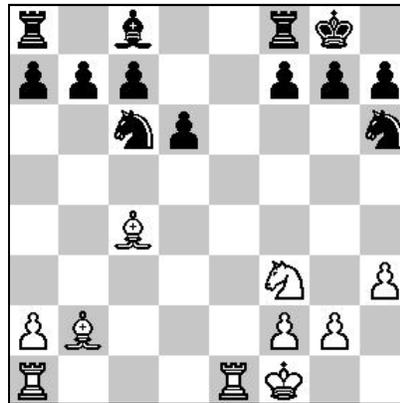


8. Ne5 Castling was better. That knight came out because it poisons the g-pawn, but moving it again makes that pawn takeable, and Black's better. We both missed that, but this simplification sequence helps Peter solidify his lead.

8. ...Bxd2+ 9. Qxd2 Qxe4+ 10. Qe2 Fritz likes 10. Kf1 which I didn't consider, but the humble king move simply guards the g-pawn

allowing Re1 pins, Bxf7 checks and other threats favoring white—even 2-pawns down.

Qxe2+ 11. Kxe2 Nh6 12. Rhe1 O-O 13. Kf1 d6 14. Nf3 Nc6 15. h3 Diagram



Peter has played an annoying number of top-choice moves. I thought this might appear defensive, but the intent is definitely to sneak up on that h-Knight. Be vvery vvery quiet...

15. ...b6 this wastes time and I was delighted to see it during the game. 15. ...Bd7 connects the rooks and holds the lead easily. I seriously looked at 16. Bd5 Bb7 17. Rac1 Na5 18. Bxb7 Nxb7, but wanted to keep my Bishop. Fritz instead prefers 16. ...Ba6+ or Nb4 and numerous fork threats for Black.

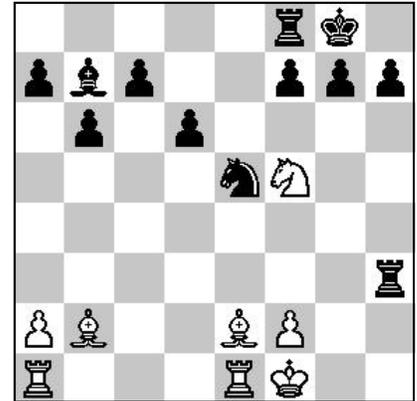
16. g4 Bb7 17. Nh4 Rae8 18. g5 Ne5 19. Be2 Pushing the g-pawn is hated by Fritz. It takes a while for it to like 17. Nh4. Knight on the rim is dim, but I wanted to take the last escape square from his h-Knight. I've managed all 3 of these moves without suspicion. His own 18. ... Ne5 is annoying, and I have to take care to protect the fork at d3, so blocking my own rook stunk. Fritz thinks I should trade that Knight off with 19. Bxe5, which I didn't consider. I thought Black still has time to move the King to the corner and leave g8 an escape for the Knight, but Fritz sees 17. ...g5! both blocking my g-pawn and kicking my knight.

19. ...Re6 20. gxf6 Fritz thinks I should be more patient and hold off on this capture. I only saw that the rook helps his pawn structure, I didn't see what was really wrong...

20. ...Rxf6 21. Nf5 Rxf3 Diagram top next

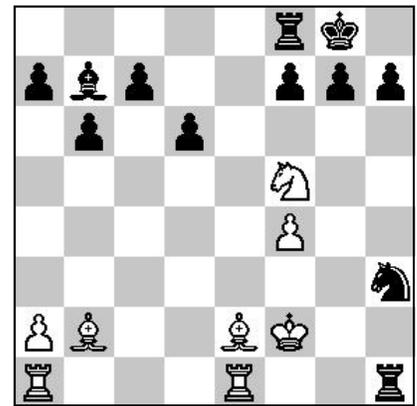
Great! He's fully developed, and even after bludgeoning that Knight I actually gave 5 pawns for it and I'm still overdrawn on material. And he's also got a mate threat on me—this is painful.

22. f4 Nf3 23. Kg2 I wondered about this when I played it, and didn't see there was a square for him to protect his Rook. Fritz is okay with



it. I was being stubborn not to take the Knight. I actually started noticing around now that if for some reason he moved g6, Ne7 is mate.

23. ...Ng5+ 24. Kf1 Rh1+ 25. Kf2 Nh3+ Diagram



This seemed a mistake—basically losing the Knight. Much power pointed at my King, but the King is armed. Fritz likes 25. ...Rh2+ best.

26. Kg3 Re8 27. Rxf1 Rxe2 I thought this a mistake at the time, and Fritz likes it 2nd best behind what I expected: 27. ...Bxf1.

28. Bxg7 A nice escape square, but Fritz prefers Rae1 pinning the rook with threat of mate.

28. ...Nf2? Key error at this late state. I expected Bxf1, but Fritz wants to attack my loose knight with the Bishop at c8 or e4.

29. Rhg1 Ne4+ 30. Kh3 Nf2+ 31. Kh4

31. ... Ne4?? The Knight gets in the way again, blocking the rook's protection against the game-ender. I actually didn't see the dual mate threat of Ne7 and Nh6. I did stop to take the time to look before I found the mate. All of Fritz's suggestions block this mate, starting with 31. ...h5, simply making an escape.

32. Ne7#

A hard-fought game that I was lucky to win.

Alexa was too efficient in her games of this same tournament making very few mistakes to correct. Of course, I'm blatantly bragging on my daughter. I think her only upset win from the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls might be more interesting. DuWayne posted this at the ColoradoChessGames.com website.

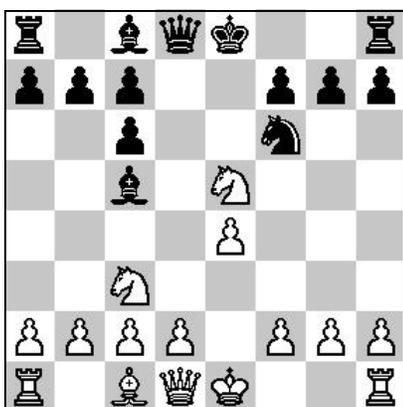
W: Olvera G. (1244)

B: Lasley A. (1095)

Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls, Lubbock TX, Round 4 7/30/08

Four Knights Game ECO: C48

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 Bc5 4. Bb5 Nf6 5. Bxc6 dxc6 6. Nxe5 Diagram



6. ...Qd4 Alexa has seen this sort of position from White's side of a Spanish many times, so this move is pretty natural. Fritz sees a cute forcing sequence: 6. ...Bxf2+ 7. Kxf2 Qd4+ 8. Kf1 Qxe5. Fritz evaluates this nearly identically to Alexa's move, it's based on the same idea and might freak her opponent out better.

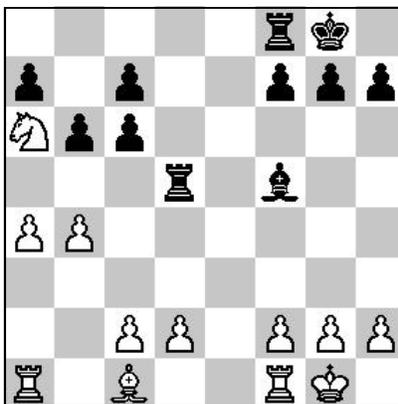
7. Nd3 Nxe4?? Indeed a blunder as the Knight is now subject to pin and will fall. Fritz prefers getting that c5 Bishop out of reach of the d3 knight to b6, d6, e7 or even f8.

8. Qe2 O-O 9. Qxe4 Qxe4+ To avoid trades while down a piece, she could develop the bishop with 9. ...Bg4.

10. Nxe4 Bb6 11. O-O Bf5 12. Nec5 Rad8 13. a4 Rd5 14. b4 Bxc5 15. Nxc5 b6 16. Na6 Diagram top of next column

16. ...Bxc2 The Knight is a bit stuck over there, and Fritz suggests. 16. ... Bc8 17. Nxc7 Rd7 18. Na8 Ba6 19. Nxb6 axb6 and the piece lead is changed to 2 pawns. The evaluation is the same as Alexa's capture, but perhaps this line leaves room for error. Of course, there was room for error as it was.

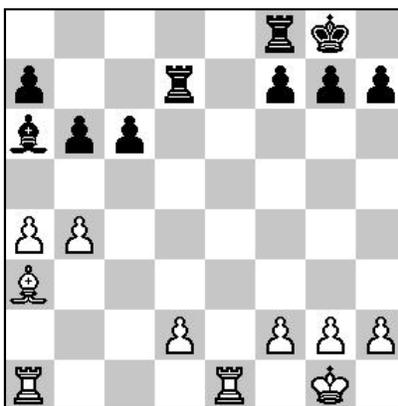
17. Nxc7? She voluntarily does what the previ-



ously suggested line pushed for! Although here, the Bishop attacks a6 via fork threat instead of directly.

17. ...Rd7 18. Na6 Bd3 19. Re1 Fritz suggests 19. b5 here, and after 19. ...Bxf1 20. Kxf1 White retains a little material lead of 2 pieces for the rook. It's hard to see for us used to thinking of rooks are more than pieces, unless thinking it through to the end of the exchange. So, after Alexa recaptures, the material is dead even and a new game begins.

19. ...Bxa6 20. Ba3 Diagram



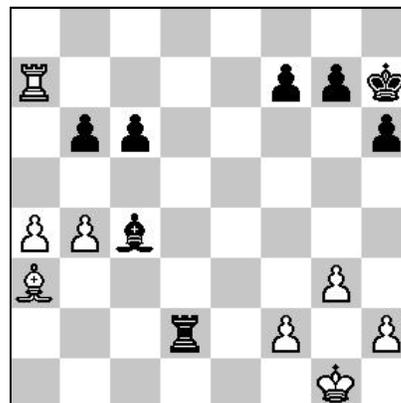
The obvious target is White's isolated d-pawn, which is why Black is probably better here. However, it can't be snatched now because of the discovered attack on the f-rook 20. ...Rxd2 21. b5 cxb5 22. Bxf8 Kxf8 23. axb5 Bxb5 24. Rxa7 and White is up. There's a theme again of a whole piece being worth more than the exchange rook for piece. Obvious when you think about it, but I see some kids forgetting it when grabbing a rook seems better than grabbing a piece if the cost is not counted. In any case, Alexa fixes the weakness first.

20. ...Rfd8 This is actually a difficult spot for white, though many moves are playable—how to defend that d-pawn? Retreating with 21. Bc1 is Fritz's favorite, but who wants to admit that the previous move was a mistake?

21. Ra2 seems pretty straightforward, but lets Black untangle the Bishop with tempo moving to c4 to attack the rook, and then over to e6 for a safe spot and Black is comfy. Alexa opts for some royal breathing space instead.

21. ...h6 22. g3 The same idea, but the wrong pawn! The King can still be trapped back there since Alexa's light-square bishop can fire on this diagonal. That will be important!

22. ...Rxd2 23. Rxd2 Rxd2 24. Re1+ Kh7 25. Re7 Bc4 26. Rxa7? Diagram



This drops the Bishop. I was peeking at this point and saw 26. ...Rd1+ 27. Kg2 where I was trying to make 27. ...Bd5+ work, which it does, but not as forcefully as 27. ...Bf1+ 28. Kf3 Rd3+. Alexa actually finds the best move.

26. ...Ra2 27. a5 Bd5 This seemed too obvious to me, but a mate threat is a mate threat. Grabbing the Bishop is actually not very good. White's threat to queen is real. Now the Black threat to mate is a much clearer present danger. Alexa felt her opponent may have seen her bishop move as aimed to prevent the queening, and missed the other direction it was pointed in.

28. axb6?? Ra1+ white resigns as mate is coming next move.

The recent Chess Life had an article about the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls. Now's the time for the girls out there to start brushing up to stake a claim to try for the Colorado invitation to that tournament. The top performing girl in the high-school section at the Colorado State Scholastic Championship traditionally represents Colorado. Check www.colorado-chess.com for details and registration for that 21-22 February tournament. The invitational is now at the Texas Tech campus—home for SPICE: Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence. The scholarships available to the top girls at that tournament are pretty impressive. ♖

by NIM Todd Bardwick

DISCOVERED CHECK and DOUBLE CHECK

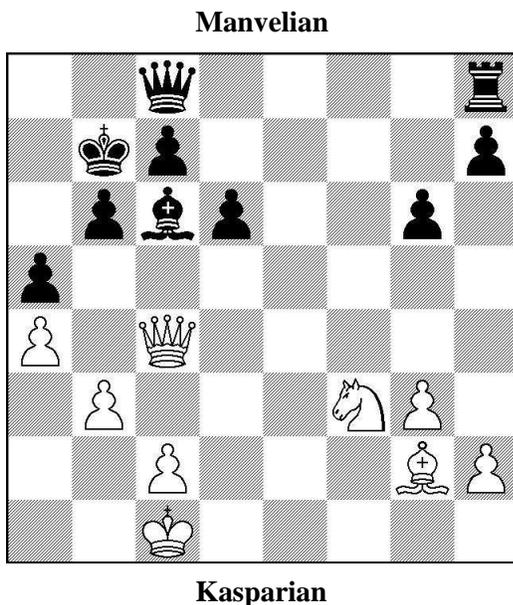
bringing his king into center of the board. White

One of the rarer types of tactics that you don't see nearly as often as pins and forks is the discovered check. Discovered check occurs when a player moves a piece that reveals a hidden piece behind it that attacks the enemy king.

Double check is a more dangerous form of a discovered check where not only the hidden piece attacks the king, but also the piece that moves. Double checks force the king to move because capturing or blocking one of the checking pieces is not possible as the other piece also attacks the king.

Masters love to set up double checks because of their awesome checking power with two pieces suddenly attacking the enemy king.

Here is a position from a game from Erevan played in 1936 with White to move.

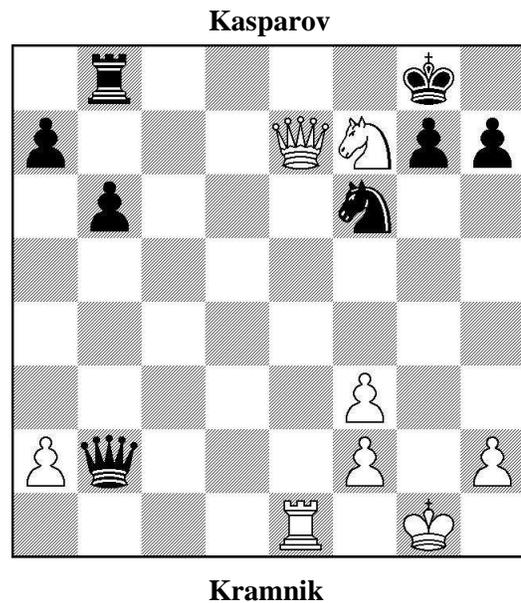


Starting with material, Black is ahead by an exchange and a pawn. If the queens were to trade, Black would win easily. Both light-squared bishops, a knight and a king are on the h1-a8 diagonal. Whenever you observe pieces lined up on the same diagonal, rank, or file, you should note that tactical discovery possibilities exist.

White sets up the double check by playing **1.Qxc6+!** Black must recapture the queen (or be in big trouble after **2.Nd4**),

is running out of attackers, but they are perfectly positioned! The game continued **1...Kxc6 2.Ne5 ++ Kc5 3.Nd3+** White drives Black's king towards him, away from his friends. **3...Kd4 4.Kd2! Resigns** as 5.c3 mate cannot be stopped!

Here is a critical position from Game 10 of the 2000 World Championship Match between Garry Kasparov and Vladimir Kramnik.



Position after 22...Kg8

Kramnik sets up a trap and a discovered check by playing **23.Qe6!** Kasparov replied **23...Rf8?**

Kramnik demonstrates the power that a queen and knight have attacking the king using a discovered check. **24.Nd8+ Kh8 25.Qe7 25...Resigns** The rook can't escape. After **25...Rg8 26.Nf7** is mate. If **25...Kg8**, White would play **26.Ne6 Rf7 27.Qd8+ Rf8 28.Qxf8** mate.

Discovered checks and double checks don't always work, but whenever the possibility of creating one exists, be sure to spend extra time to carefully consider the options. ♖

Todd Bardwick is the author of Teaching Chess in the 21st Century and Chess Workbook for Children. He can be reached at www.ColoradoMasterChess.com

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by Tim Brennan

The Max Connors chronicles

Editors Note: I got the chance to meet Max in June 2008 at the National Open in Las Vegas, NV. I had heard of him previously from my friend, and fellow chess player, Francisco Baltier, who used to live and play in Denver, and now lives in Tucson. Both Francisco and another friend, Troy Oberg, knew Max from Tucson. They both told me how funny he is, and told me about his hilarious blog at <http://chessloser.wordpress.com>. When I found out that Max now lives in Colorado I thought he would be a great person to interview for the magazine.

Tim: Max, could you kind of introduce yourself to the *Colorado Chess Informant* readers?

Max: Well, my real name is Gennaro Connors, that's what the USCF has me registered as. I go by "Max" because Gennaro seems difficult for people to pronounce. I usually explain it as "like Rio de...." and people get it.

I've always been interested in chess from the outside looking in. About two years ago, I read "The Chess Artist" by J.C. Hallman and LOVED it. I went online, found a bunch of chess blogs and got really interested, and decided I would learn to play chess. I set a goal for myself to make it to rated master. I figured I would just study, play, and BAM, there it is. About a year later, I realized how that is so not going to happen.

Tim: You run a very funny chess blog. It is laugh out loud funny. You even get comments from strong players like Elizabeth Vicary. Could you tell us about it, and how you got started with that?

Max: I started my blog, **HARDCORE PAWNOGRAPHY** to chronicle my progress, and also to write about chess. I'm rarely serious, as you can tell by the title of my blog. I found lots of humor in chess, and I wanted to kind of open people's eyes that chess is a game, and can be fun, and chess can be funny. You can be serious

about learning and studying, but you don't have to be serious all the time. You can have fun as you play. I also wanted to break the image of chess being boring and for nerds, geeks, and old men. I think chess is punk rock, it's fringe, it's subculture, it's edgy and weird and has a weird cult following. It's a huge part of American culture but we don't acknowledge it. There are tons of references to chess in cartoons and TV shows all the time, from *Malcolm in the Middle* to *Terminator*: *Sarah Connor Chronicles*.

"I think chess is punk rock, it's fringe, it's subculture, it's edgy and weird"

Tim: Where in Colorado do you live, and how long have you been there?

Max: When I got into chess, I lived in Arizona, south of Tucson. Tucson has a kick ass chess scene, which I didn't realize until it was time to leave. Cycling and mountain biking are my first passion. I am a huge cycling/mountain biker. Before I got into chess, I bought a house in Fruita, Colorado so I could ride my mountain bike all the time. Then, before I left for Colorado, chess came along, so I moved to Colorado with the chess monkey on my back. For the last year, I've been living in Fruita, Colorado, where we have some of the best mountain bike trails in the states, and we have the Fruita Fat Tire Festival. But there is no chess. There is me, and one or two guys in Grand Junction, 7 miles away, who play. But no real chess scene. Had I gotten into chess a bit earlier, I probably wouldn't have moved here, but I'm here now so I make the best of it. I get all my chess online or at tournaments. There is a chess club in Delta, Colorado, about 40 miles away. The guys there are super friendly and really good, and they have a pretty kick ass chess club. I'm just too lazy to drive there, it's my own damn fault.

Tim: From talking to you and looking at

your blog you are quite a road warrior when it comes to chess.

Max: I have to travel to tournaments, but that's cool, I love to travel and see new things and meet new people. Thanks to my blog, I've made friends all over the states, and I get to meet them at tournaments, so I can show up and I kind of already know someone.

Tim: What are your plans and goals now for chess?

Max: I don't know if I'll ever make master, but I'm having a blast anyway: going to tournaments, meeting people, studying and playing chess.

I think, if I've contributed anything to the chess world, it's the "Beer round." It started when I was losing all my games and I got fed up, I got a beer for my last round and drank while I played and won. From then on, usually my last round I drink a beer while I play, relaxed and having fun. It's probably a useless contribution that no one wants, but it's my contribution, so there is that.

I see tournaments as a form of "chess convention," like a sci-fi convention. A bunch of geeks getting together to enjoy something they all love. It's about the people, and occasionally making art out of a game. Some games are just pure art, beautiful, and I love that.



Ultimately though, it's a game, people need to lighten up and have fun.

Tim: Thanks max! I hope more people in Colorado get to meet you.

Max: Rock on man... ♠

Check out Max's blog at <http://chessloser.wordpress.com/>

by Derek Fish

To Catch a Fish

I recently competed in the Colorado Open Chess Championship, in the Open section, unusual in itself as I am an Unrated player and this was only my second tournament.

Before the tournament even started I was "+0 -1" due to a 24-hour stomach bug. The symptoms had barely subsided when at 7:00 AM I decided to attend the tournament, having already pre-registered and paid.

In the event itself, I was saddled with four Black games and only one White. Thanks to my weakness, fatigue, and lack of sleep, I was repeatedly out-played by my opponents, so that I reached the final round with only 0.5 point. As if all that weren't enough, my chess set was "swindled" from me and not returned. I entered my final round with dangerously low morale and energy.

Tikila Nichols (1052)
Derek Fish (Unr)
Colorado Open 2008, 5th Round Sicilian

1.e4 c5 2.Bc4

I had only seen this move played by amateurs who know the Scholar's Mate.

2...Nc6

I now know that 2...e6 is best, transposing to one of the many 2...e6 Sicilian variants.

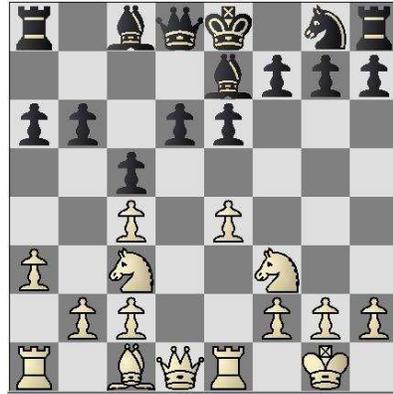
3.Nf3 d6 4.0-0 a6

Essentially, I was playing my normal Sicilian Najdorf except without taking into account my opponent's moves.

5.d3 e6 6.Nc3 Na5

I jumped at the chance to acquire the Bishop pair, one of my favorite advantages, without realizing that I was falling behind in development.

7.Re1 Be7 8.a3 Nxc4 9.dxc4 b6 Diagram



After 9...b6

Here I thought that I would have compensation because both my Bishops could be quickly posted on the long diagonals, but I was in for a surprise.

10.e5

I couldn't believe such a simple move had escaped my notice, after being demolished by an identical advance in a nearly identical game three rounds earlier. Here I began thinking. Obviously, I can't take the pawn, but I also couldn't defend d6 or advance to d5 safely. So, I decided that I would allow White to capture on d6 and then bring my Rook to d7 via a7. All this, to my tired brain, seemed the answer to everything: my Bishop would move to d6, vacating e7 for the Knight, after which I could castle.

10...Ra7 11.Qe2 d5

I was desperately trying to free up my position. I knew that White, given the chance, would rip open the center and attack my King if I didn't castle quickly.

12.cxd5 exd5 13.Bf4 Be6 14.Rad1

Here I was feeling proud at how well I had improved my position. I felt that if I could only play my Rook to the d-file, I would have full equality. I didn't even see the pin on the d-file.

14...b5

If I had been thinking, I would have played 14...Qa8 in an instant, defending all the weak points and breaking the pin.

15.Ne4

Amazingly, I still thought I was fine in this position. I thought White was planning to invade g5, so I played:

15...h6 16.Nd6+ (Diagram) This was a real wake-up call.



After 16...Nd6

16...Bxd6 17.exd6 Nf6 18.Ne5 0-0

I couldn't afford to allow 19.Nxf7 Kxf7 20.Qxe6+ with an overwhelming attack, so instead I "allowed" White to win the Exchange.

19.Nc6 Qd7 20.Nxa7

Here, I thought for a long time. I eventually came to the conclusion that recapturing by 20...Qxa7 was essentially resigning because White gains a positional advantage with 21.b4. I decided that, if I were going to lose, I would rather go out with a bang than with a whine, so I launched an ambitious attempt to regain the Exchange.

20...Re8

Black threatens to win back the Exchange with 21...Bg4, then regain the Knight and win the d-pawn. My compensation lies in the fact that White's extra Knight is dominated and en prise in the corner.

21.Be5 Ne4 22.a4 Bg4 23.f3 Rxe5

I knew the fork was only an illusion, since the f-pawn is pinned to the Queen. I knew that 24.fxc4 would still leave me the Exchange down, but that I would win the d-pawn

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for the Exchange and also have a dominating Knight on e4 (the Bishop deflects the f-pawn so the Knight cannot be chased off).

24.Qf1

A very strong move. Black cannot regain his Material since 24...Qxa7 25.fxe4 Bxd1 26.Rxd1 dxe4 27.d7 is suicide. And now the Knight is forced to relinquish the e4 square. I decided to capture on f3 with the Bishop, then on d6 with the Knight. I thought I would be gaining two pawns for the Exchange.

24...Bxf3 25.gxf3 Rg5+ 26.Kh1 Nxd6 27.axb5 axb5 28.Ra1

I didn't want to open the a-file, but other moves gave White a passed a-pawn, or just an extra Rook. At least now I have some extremely ephemeral compensation: White's King is dangerously stuck in a corner and his extra Rook is stuck guarding his dominated Knight. In other words, for the next few turns I could attack White's King with essentially a Queen, Rook, and Knight vs a Queen and Rook. I began a plan to redirect my Knight to the strong e3 square via c4 or f5.

28...d4 29.Qd3 g6 30.f4??

I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw this move (I was so shocked I even wrote the wrong move on my scoresheet!). I had entertained some wild fantasies of sacrificing my Knight to open the h1-a8 diagonal with a mating attack, and suddenly White opens the diagonal himself! No matter how sick you are, no matter how tired you are, no matter how bad your position is, if you have one last shot at the win, don't ever resign!

30...Qb7+

This simple check guarantees me at least a winning endgame, thanks to the unfortunate position of the White Queen.

31.Re4 Nxe4 32.Qxb5

White could have prolonged the game with

32.fxg5 Nf2+ 33.Kg1 Nxd3, although the endgame is completely lost for him.

32...Nf2#

By this time it was nearly 9:00 PM, and the board was growing hazy before my eyes. As Mr. Nichols reached out to shake my hand, I recoiled, horrified that he was reaching out to take my Queen and that I would lose after all ... A miracle win. This game taught me some valuable lessons: even the most puny compensation is better than no compensation at all. And also, never give up, because if you can be swindled in a winning position, so can your opponents.

Here's another game in which I managed something of a swindle:

Derek Fish Cory Foster

Pike's Peak Open, 1st Round
Queen's Gambit Declined

1.d4 d5(!!)

My one weakness, had Mr Foster known it, is quiet positions. Though I play 1.d4 exclusively, it is only because I dread the Sicilian infinitely more than the Queen's Gambit. I can handle the more-dynamic Slav, Semi-Slav, and even Queen's Gambit Accepted, but what I really love is a good Indian game ... ah, well.

2.c4 e6(!!)

My worst fears, realized!

3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Nf3 c5!?

I don't like this move because it made me very happy to see it played. Black reasons that he can afford to open the center since his King is castled and mine is not, but on the other hand my pieces are more aggressively developed.

7.cxd5 cxd4

Black couldn't have played either 7...exd5 straight away or traded off some pieces with 7...Nxd5 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Nxd5 exd5

10.dxc5 Qxc5 11.Rc1 with advantage to White.

8.Qxd4

I jumped on this aggressive move in an instant. My idea is that I can use the d4 square as an outpost to gain control of the d-file.

8...exd5 9.Be2 Be6 10.0-0 Nc6 11.Qa4

White had many better squares for retreating the Queen and still controlling d4, but all fail: 11.Qh4 h6, 11.Qd3 Nb4, 11.Qd2 Ne4, 11.Qd1 Ne4!

11...a6

This move shows up the poor position of the Queen on a4. White is forced to reorganize his army to counterbalance the time Black gains from chasing the Queen.

12.Rac1 b5 13.Qc2 Rc8 14.Qb1 h6?! 15.Bxf6 Bxf6

White willingly trades off his dark-square Bishop because it can't help him win the d-pawn, while the Black Knight could defend it.

16.Rfd1 Bxc3?

Another mistake. Trading pieces is a bad idea. Black should instead have played 16...d4!, sacrificing a pawn but gaining play with his two Bishops. This sort of advance would also have worked on move 13 or 14.

17.Rxc3 Qf6 18.Nd4 Ne5!?

Black might have tried 18...Nxd4 19.Rxd4 Rxc3 20.bxc3 Rc8, but he apparently feared trading pieces. Actually, this plan would have gained a sterile equality, since Black's d-pawn would be no weaker than White's c-pawn.

19.Rxc8!

Forcing the exchange of the Knights, after which White is in control.

19...Bxc8

Obviously, 19...Rxc8 is met by 20.a4! and White penetrates via the queenside.

20.Nf3

The discovered attack on the d-pawn forces Black's next move.

20...Rd8 21.Nxe5 Qxe5 22.Bf3

Sets a trap. If Black rushes in with 22...d4, then White exploits the skewer on the d-file with 23.Qd3! White now has a winning endgame, due to the fact that nearly all of Black pawns are vulnerable to the White Bishop.

22...Be6 23.Rd4 Rc8 24.b3!

White has no intention of allowing Black's Rook onto c4. White knows that if Black can't find some play quickly, he will succumb.

24...Rc5 25.h3

White seeks kingside Space, hoping to add to his central advantage. 25.g3 makes the White pawns immune to the Black Bishop, but allows 25...Bh3.

25...Bf5 26.Qb2 Rc2 27.Qa3 Be4 28.Bd1 b4 29.Rxb4??

As his victory is in sight, White blunders a whole Bishop! This mistake forced me to scramble for the compensation needed for a draw.

29...Qa1 30.Rd4 Rc1

Black would have won with 30...Rxa2 and 31...Bc2.

31.Qxa6 Rxd1+ 32.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 33.Qf1 Qc2 34.Qa1 Qc6 35.a4 Qg6 36.Qf1 Qb6 37.Qd1 f6 38.f3?

I can only imagine that my head was still spinning from the sudden reversal; nothing else could explain the blunder of a whole pawn.

38...Bf5!?

This leads to a draw. Black might have won with 38...Qxe3+ and 39...Bd3. Apparently, Mr Foster feared my connected passed pawns, but the Bishop and Queen can easily blockade them while simultaneously attacking my kingside. Essentially, it would lead to a similar situation as the text, but with an extra pawn in Black's pocket.

39.Qxd5+ Be6 40.Qa8+ Kh7 41.Kf2 Bxb3 42.a5 Qc5 43.a6 Bd5 44.Qb8 Qa5 45.a7

After the game, I thought that 45.e4 was winning here due to 45...Qd2+ 46.Kg3 Qg5+ 47.Kh2 Qe5+ 48.Qxe5 and White picks up the Bishop as well, but in fact it only draws after the correct 45...Bc6.

45...Qd2+

At first glance, it seems that Black keeps his extra piece with 45...Qa6 46.e4 Bc6 47.Ke3 Qb7, but the White Queen is immune, allowing 48.Kd4! with a draw.

46.Kg3 Qe1+ 47.Kh2 Qxe3 48.a8Q, 1/2-1/2

A miracle save, for both sides ... This game taught me that a winning position really only means this: if you play per-



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fectly all the way to the end, you have a good chance of winning.

And here is another game I am rather proud of, even though I lost:

Derek Fish - Tyler Hughes

Boulder Blitz Semi-Final 2008
King's Indian

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1
My favorite move in this position, this maneuver aims to advance to c5 with the support of the Knight on d3.

9...Nd7 10.Nd3 f5 11.Bd2! A nifty waiting move, leaving Black the chance to blunder with 11...fxe4. Now Black has to spend a tempo to return his Knight to f6.

11...Nf6 12.f3 f4 13.c5 g5 14.h3 h5!?

I don't like this move mainly because I don't think it adds enough to Black's kingside attack to make it worth the tempo. I have seen kingside attacks succeed in the King's Indian without this move, most of them involving sacrifices. Of course, Tyler was playing a 5-minute game against a total amateur (me), and it's not like I managed to punish him for it, so he can be forgiven.

15.cxd6 cxd6 16.Rc1 Bd7? But this is a real mistake, allowing White to pull off a small combination.

17.Qb3! b5 17.Nxe5! dxe5 17.d6+ Kh7 18.dxe7 Qxe7 I was amazed that Tyler had overlooked this, especially since I had fully expected to lose within the first 20 moves. I then proceeded to blunder my advantage ...

19.Bxb5? Inconceivable! White, who ordinarily loves playing in positions where he is material down, rushes to gain a pawn! White stood better after 19.Nd5 Nxd5 20.exd5, with a weak square and a passed pawn to boot.

19...Rab8 20.Qa4?? Qc5+ and Black soon won. ♖

Teachers' Guide for The Fox

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Ever heard the expression "crazy like a fox?" That perfectly describes the Fox (Fig. 1):

1. e4 f6 2. d4 Kf7

There's also the Modified Fox:

1. f3 e5 2. Kf2 d5

The Fox opening is not as crazy as it looks, moving the king out there on the second move. Still, it is not considered a good opening. In fact it's considered a bad opening.



Figure 1: The Modified Fox

In many typical Fox games Black will waste a lot of time in an attempt to immediately punish White for their unorthodox play. Black will madly chase White around the board, even trying to do a type of four-move checkmate (i.e., mate with the Queen and Bishop).

This is just a psychological trick that the White Fox has played—getting Black not to develop by chasing “the fox” around madly.

For example, look at this example of a game played from the Fox. White's has a great Knight outpost on c5 (a “knight outpost” is a knight that cannot be chased away by a pawn), leaving Black's bishop on b6 permanently stuck. White will be forced to trade the Knight in order to chase the Knight away. But look—the Bishop was one of Black's only developed pieces! This lesson just shows the importance of piece development, and the importance of not underestimating your opponent.



So why is the Fox considered to be a "bad opening?"

Because the Fox gives the opponent essentially two free moves.

But what do you do with those two free moves. At any point in the game most players unless their masters give their opponents two free moves because they make moves that don't do anything for their position, and give their opponent space to develop their pieces. That, however, is not an automatic win. Think about it, can you win every game based on one or two free moves?



But in the Fox, playing these "bad moves" against an average player the false sense that your playing is not sound, and as they try to capitalize on this poor assumption, then you can take the psychological advantage and play smarter tactics.

It also shows a trap that a lot of average players fall into in that they think that if they just do all the right moves from an opening, they will automatically win. Some players will just memorize all the moves from openings and then expect to win.

The Fox can teach the importance of thinking while playing, always!

So how can you protect your king if you don't castle?

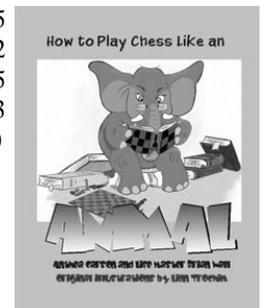
Take a look at this position. It looks like the king is unsafe, but this is a perfect example of why chess is a game of illusions. **It looks like the king can get checkmated at any moment, but there is no checkmate threat because the king is only unsafe if your opponent can do something to it.** It's true that there is a lot of space around the king, and that the king is usually safer when surrounded by pawns, but it is also true that the king can be out in the open in the endgame when all the pieces have been traded.

Here is a recent fox game that I played as white against Jerry Maier at the Poor Richards Chess Club in Colorado Springs

1.f3 d5 2.Kf2 e5 3.e3 Ne7 4.c4 Be6 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Nc3 Nb4 7.a3 Nd3+ 8.Bxd3 Qxd3 9.Nge2 Bc5 10.b4 Be7 11.Bb2 Nd7 12.Nc1 Qg6 13.d3 0-0 14.N1e2 a6 15.Rc1 Rad8 16.h4 Nf6 17.e4 Nh5 18.g4 Nf4 19.Nxf4 exf4 20.h5 Qf6 21.Na4 Qg5 22.Rxc7 Bf6 23.Rc5 Qh6 24.Bxf6 Qxf6 25.e5 Qe7 26.Qc2 b5 27.Rc7 Qg5 28.Nc5 Qxe5 29.Re1 Qxc7 30.h6 g6 31.Qb2 f6 32.Rxe6 Rd6 33.Qb3 Rxe6 34.Qxe6+ Qf7 35.Qxa6 Re8 36.Kf1 Qa2 37.Ne4 Qb1+ 38.Ke2 Qc2+ 39.Ke1 Qc1+ 40.Kf2 Qe3+ 41.Kg2 Qe2+ 42.Nf2 Kf7 43.Qxb5 Re3 44.Qd7+ Re7 45.Qd5+ Re6 46.a4 Qd2 47.Qc4 Qb2 48.a5 g5 49.a6 Qa3 50.b5 Qa5 51.Ne4 Qe1 52.a7 Qe2+ 53.Nf2 Qe3 54.a8Q Kg6 55.Qae4+ Rxe4 56.Qxe4+ 1-0



Anthea Carson is the co-author of "How to Play Chess Like an Animal", available at <http://www.chesslikeananimal.com>



Prepared & annotated by
Richard Buchanan

Colorado Open Games

August 30-31,
2008
Denver, CO

W: Larry Wutt**B: Anthony Cordova**

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.f4 d5 4.Bb5+ Nc6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.Nf3 Ba6 7.d3 Nf6 8.e5 Nd7 9.0-0 c4 10.d4 c5 11.Ne2 Qb6 12.c3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Be7 14.Qe1 0-0 15.Nc3 Rfe8 16.Qg3 f6 17.Rf2 Rab8 18.Be3 Nf8 19.h4 Qd8 20.h5 f5 21.Qh3 Bc8 22.g4 Bb4 23.Kh2 Bxc3 24.bxc3 Qa5 25.Rc1 Qa3 26.gxf5 exf5 27.Qg2 Be6 28.Ng5 Rb7 29.Nxe6 Nxe6 30.Qxd5 Rb2 31.Rcc2 Rxc2 32.Rxc2 Qa4 33.Rg2 Kh8 34.Qf3 Qa5 35.d5 Nc5 36.Bxc5 Qxc5 37.Rd2 Qe7 38.d6 Qd7 39.Qd5 Re6 40.Rb2 g5 41.hxg6 hxg6 42.Rb8+ Re8 43.Rxe8+ Qxe8 44.e6 g5 45.Qxf5 gxf4 46.e7 Kg7 47.Qg5+ Kf7 48.Qh5+ 1-0

W: Ron Rossi**B: Alex Li**

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.a4 0-0 9.Be2 Nc6 10.0-0-0 Na7 11.f4 Qc7 12.Rhe1 Ne8 13.f5 Nf6 14.h4 Bd7 15.e5 dxe5 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nxe6 Bxe6 18.fxe6 fxe6 19.Qd7 Qxd7 20.Rxd7 Bxh4 21.Rh1 Bg5+ 22.Kb1 Rf7 23.Rhd1 Re8 24.Ne4 Be7 25.Bc4 Bf8 26.Ng5 Rf6 27.Rxb7 Nc6 28.Rb6 h6 29.Nxe6 Rxe6 30.Rxc6 Kf7 31.Re1 Ke7 32.Bxe6 Rxe6 33.Rxe6+ Kxe6 34.c4 g5 35.Kc2 h5 36.Kd3 h4 37.Ke4 g4 38.Rf1 Be7 39.Rf5 Bf6 40.Rh5 a5 41.Rh6 1-0

W: Losol Amarbayasgalan**B: LaMoyne Splichal,**

4 Knights 1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Bb4 5.a3 Bxc3 6.dxc3 0-0 7.0-0 d6 8.Re1 Be6 9.Bd3 h6 10.Bd2 Re8 11.h3 a6 12.Qc1 Kh7 13.Kh1 Qd7 14.Bf1 d5 15.exd5 Bxd5 16.Be2 Rad8 17.Be3 e4 18.Nd4 Ne5 19.Rd1 c5 20.Nb3 c4 21.Nd2 b5 22.b3 Qc8 23.b4 Bb7 24.Bd4 Re6 25.f4

exf3 26.Nxf3 Nxf3 27.Bxf3 Bxf3 28.gxf3 Qc7 29.Rg1 g6 30.Qf1 Qf4 31.Qf2 Rde8 32.Qg3 Nh5 33.Qxf4 Nxf4 34.Kh2 Re2+ 35.Kg3 Nh5+ 36.Kg4 f5+ 37.Kh4 Nf4 38.Kg3 g5 39.h4 Nh5+ 40.Kh3 Nf4+ 41.Kg3 Rxc2 42.hxg5 Ne2+ 43.Kh4 Nxc1 44.Rxc1 hxg5+ 45.Rxc1 Ra2 46.f4 Rxa3 47.Kh5 Re7 48.Rg6 a5 49.Bf6 Rd7 50.Rh6+ Kg8 51.Kg6 1-0

W: Daniel Zhou**B: Greg Bain**

2 Knights 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5?! 6.Nxf7 Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Ke6 8.Nc3 Nd4?! 9.Bxd5+ Kd6 10.Qd1 c6 11.Bf3 Bf5 12.d3 Be7 13.Be4 Kc7 14.Be3 Bxe4 15.Nxe4 Rf8 16.Qd2 h6 17.0-0-0 b6 18.f4 Bf6 19.Nxf6 gxf6 20.fxe5 fxe5 21.Bxh6 Rg8 22.Rhe1 Qd5 23.c4 Qxg2 24.Rxe5 Qg6 25.Qg5 a5 26.Qxg6 Rxc6 27.Bf4 Kd7 28.Rde1 Ne6 29.Bg3 Re8 30.d4 1-0

W: Artem Bolshakov**B: Tim Martinson**

Slav 1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Bf5 5.Be2 Nbd7 6.Nf3 e6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Ne5 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Nd7 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.Bb5 0-0 12.Bxd7 Qxd7 13.e4 Bg6 14.exd5 exd5 15.Nxd5 Rad8 16.Nc3 Qe6 17.Qe2 Bd3 18.Qf3 Bxf1 19.Kxf1 Qxe5 20.Bf4 Qf5 21.Qxb7 Qxf4 22.Qxe7 Qxh2 23.Re1 Rde8! 0-1

W: Gerry Morris**B: Tyler Hughes**

King's Indian 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 0-0 6.Nf3 e5 7.d5 Na6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Be3 Nc5 10.Nd2 a5 11.Be2 Bd7 12.g4 c6 13.g5 hxg5 14.Bxg5 a4 15.Qc2 Qa5 16.a3 cxd5 17.cxd5 b5 18.Be3 Rfc8 19.f3 Rab8 20.Kf2 Nh5 21.Rag1 Qd8 22.Bg5 Bf6 23.h4 Bxg5 24.hxg5 Nf4 25.Bf1 b4 26.axb4 Rxb4 27.Rh4 Qb6 28.Rxf4 Nd3+ 29.Kg2 Nxf4+ 30.Kh1 Kg7 0-1

W: Anthea Carson**B: Daoud Zupa**

Colle 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.e3 g6 4.Be2 Bg7 5.c3 0-0 6.Nbd2 b6 7.dxc5 bxc5

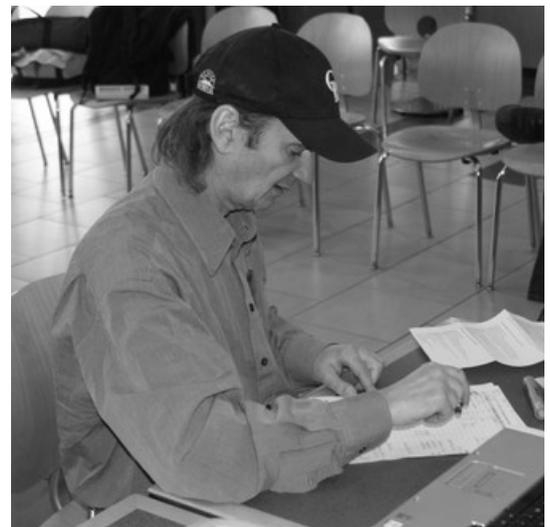
8.0-0 d5 9.Re1 Bb7 10.Nf1 Qc7 11.Ng3 Rd8 12.Qa4 e5 13.Qh4 Nbd7 14.e4 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Ng5 h6 17.Nxe4 Bxe4 18.Qxe4 f5 19.Bc4+ Kh7 20.Qh4 Nb6 21.Bb3 c4 22.Bc2 Rd7 23.Bg5 Rf8 24.g4 Nd5 25.Bxh6 Bxh6 26.g5 Nf4 27.Rad1 Rfd8 28.Rxd7+ Rxd7 29.Ba4 Qb7 30.Qg3 Bxg5 31.Bxd7 Qxd7 32.h4 Bf6 33.b3 Qd2 34.Qe3 Qd5 35.f3 Nd3 36.bxc4 Qxc4 37.Rd1 Nc5 38.Rb1 a5 39.Rb8 Qd5 40.Rc8 Ne6 41.Qa7+ Kh6 42.Qe3+ Nf4 43.Kf2 Qxa2+ 44.Ke1 Bxh4+ 45.Kd1 Qb1+ 46.Kd2 Bf6 47.Rc6 Qb2+ 48.Kd1 Qb3+ 49.Kd2 Bg5 50.Qxe5 Qa2+ 51.Kd1 Qb1+ 52.Kd2 Nd3+ 0-1

W: Morgan Robb**B: Robert Blaha**

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qc7 5.Nc3 Nxd4 6.Qxd4 e5 7.Nd5 Qb8 8.Qc3 Bd6 9.Qg3 Kf8 10.Bg5 f6 11.Be3 Ne7 12.Bc4 b5 13.Bb3 a5 14.Nxf6 gxf6 15.Bh6+ Ke8 16.Qg7 Ng6 17.Bf7+ Kd8 18.Bxg6 Rf8 19.Qxh7 Bb7 20.Bxf8 Bxf8 21.0-0-0 Bc6 22.Qf7 Bh6+ 23.Kb1 Bg5 24.h4 1-0

W: Richard Herbst**B: David Hufnagel**

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 Be7 8.Bg5 b5 9.Qf3 Qb6 10.Be3 Qb7 11.Qg3 b4 12.Na4 Bd7 13.f3 Nc6 14.0-0-0 Na5



Tireless TD LaMoyne Tabulates at the Turkey Hunt

photo Markus Petters

15.Qxg7 Rg8 16.Qh6 Nxb3+ 17.axb3 Rg6
18.Qh3 Rc8 19.g4 Nxe4 20.fxe4 Qxe4
21.Nb6 Rc7 22.Nxd7 Kxd7 23.Kb1 Rxc4
24.Qf3 Qg6 25.Rhg1 f5 26.Rxc4 fxc4
27.Qf1 Bf6 28.Qd3 Qh5 29.Qxa6 Qxh2
30.Qb5+ Ke7 31.Nc6+ Kf7 32.Nxb4 d5
33.Qd3 d4 34.Bg1 Qh5 35.Na2 Kg7 36.b4
Ra7 37.Bxd4 e5 38.Bxa7 1-0

W: Randy Schine

B: Daniel Zhou

QGD 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.a3 Nf6 4.Nc3
Nbd7 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Bg5 0-0 7.Qc2 b6 8.e4
Bb7 9.e5 Ne8 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Bd3 h6
12.h4 c5 13.cxd5 cxd4 14.d6 Qd8 15.Ne2
Bxf3 16.gxf3 Nxe5 17.Nxd4 Qxd6 18.Be4
Rd8 19.Rd1 Qb8 20.Rg1 Nf6 21.Ke2 Qc8
22.Qxc8 Rxc8 23.Bb1 Nd5 24.Nf5 exf5
25.Rxd5 Ng6 26.Rxf5 Rfe8+ 27.Kd2 Ne5
28.b3 Red8+ 29.Ke2 Re8 30.Kd2 Red8+
1/2-1/2

W: Chaitanya Neuhaus

B: Chris Hanagan

Richter 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bg5 Nbd7
4.Nf3 c6 5.e3 g6 6.Bd3 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0
8.Ne2 h6 9.Bh4 Re8 10.Ng3 g5 11.Bxg5
hxg5 12.Nxg5 Nf8 13.Nh5 Bh8 14.h3
N8h7 15.Nxh7 Nxh7 16.f4 f5 17.Rf3 Kf7
18.Ng3 e6 19.c4 Nf6 20.Rf2 Rg8 21.Nh1
Qf8 22.cxd5 cxd5 23.Rc1 Qe7 24.Rfc2
Bd7 25.Rc7 Qb4 26.Qe2 a6 27.a3 Qb6
28.R1c3 Ke8 29.Qc2 Bc6 30.R7xc6 bxc6
31.Rxc6 Qd8 32.Rxe6+ Kf7 33.Rc6 Qe8
34.Rc7+ Nd7 35.Qe2 Kf8 36.Bxf5 Nb6
37.Qd2 Nc4 38.Qb4+ 1-0

W: John Lee

B: Joe Haines

Polish Opening 1.b4 Nf6 2.Bb2 e6 3.a3
Be7 4.e3 b6 5.Nf3 Bb7 6.c4 0-0 7.Nc3 d6
8.d4 Nbd7 9.Be2 c5 10.Qc2 cxb4 11.axb4
d5 12.c5 Qc7 13.Rd1 a6 14.Ne5 Nxe5
15.dxe5 Nd7 16.f4 bxc5 17.Na4 c4 18.0-0
Bxb4 19.f5 Nxe5 20.Rf4 Be7 21.g4 Bg5
22.Qc3 f6 23.fxe6 Bxf4 24.exf4 Ng6
25.Qe3 Qxf4 26.Qb6 Rab8 27.Ba3 Ba8
28.Qa7 Rfe8 29.Qf7+ Kh8 30.Bc1 Qe5
31.Bb2 Qxe2 32.Bxf6 Qxd1+ 33.Kf2
Qd2+ 34.Kg1 Rb1# 0-1

W: J. C. MacNeil

B: Dennis Bolshakov

Danish Gambit 1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3
dxc3 4.Bc4 cxb2 5.Bxb2 Nc6 6.Nf3 d6
7.h3 Be6 8.Bb5 Qd7 9.0-0 a6 10.Ba4 0-
0-0 11.Nd4 Bxh3 12.Bxc6 bxc6
13.gxh3 Nf6 14.Qd3 Kb7 15.Nd2 d5
16.Rfc1 c5 17.Rab1 c4 18.Nxc4 dxc4
19.Qxc4 Qxh3 20.Ba3+ 1-0

W: Erik Oglevie

B: Dean Brown

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.c3 Bg7 4.d4
cxd4 5.cxd4 d6 6.Bc4 e6 7.0-0 Ne7
8.Bg5 0-0 9.Qd2 Nd7 10.Nc3 a6
11.Bh6 b5 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Bd3 Bb7
14.Qf4 Nf6 15.e5 dxe5 16.dxe5 Nh5
17.Qe3 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Qd4 19.Qe4
Qxe4 20.Bxe4 Rad8 21.Rad1 f5 22.exf6+
Nxf6 23.Rfe1 b4 24.Bxg6 hxg6 25.Rxe6
Rxd1+ 26.Nxd1 Re8 27.Rxa6 Ned5
28.Ra7+ Kh6 29.Ne3 Ng4 30.Nf1 Re2
31.f3 Ne5 32.Ra5 Nc7 33.Ng3 Re1+
34.Nf1 Nc4 35.Kf2 Rxf1+ 36.Kxf1 Nxa5
37.b3 Nd5 38.Ke2 Nc3+ 39.Kd3 Kg5
40.a3 Nd5 41.axb4 Nxb4+ 42.Ke4 Nxb3
43.f4+ Kf6 44.g4 Nc5+ 45.Kf3 Nbd3
46.h4 Ne6 47.h5 Ndx4 48.hxg6 Accord-
ing to Basic Chess Endings (position 110),
the g4 pawn is too far advanced for the
knights to win. But it still might be worth
a try. 1/2-1/2

W: Alex Li

B: Artem Bolshakov

King's Indian 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.c4
Nbd7 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3
Re8 8.e4 e5 9.d5 Nb6 10.Qe2 Bd7 11.h3
c6 12.Be3 cxd5 13.exd5 Rc8 14.b3 e4
15.Nd2 Kf8 16.Rac1 h5 17.b4 Bf5
18.Ncb1 Qd7 19.Kh2 Kg8 20.Nb3 Ng4+
21.hxg4 Bxg4 22.Qd2 Nxc4 23.Qe1 Bb2
24.Bg5 Kg7 25.Rc2 e3 26.fxe3 Bf5
27.Rcf2 f6 28.Rxf5 gxf5 29.Bh4 Nxe3
30.Qd2 Rc2 31.Qd3 Rxc2+ 32.Kh1 f4 0-1

W: Michael Dempsey

B: Kevin Lucas

Hungarian 1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6
4.0-0 Be7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.d4 d6 7.d5 Na5
8.Be2 b6 9.Nh4 (see Tactics Time diagram
9) Nb7 10.f4 Nc5 11.fxe5 Nfxe4 12.Nf3



Dean Brown decides to sit down during a game for the first time after playing in 437 different rated events.

Bb7 13.Qe1 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bxd5 15.c4
Bb7 16.a4 a5 17.Bb2 Qd7 18.Bd3 Nxa4
19.Rxa4 Qxa4 20.exd6 Bxd6 21.Qh4 h6
22.Qg4 f6 23.Qe6+ Kh8 24.Qf5 Kg8
25.Qh7+ Kf7 26.Bg6+ Ke6 27.Re1+ Kd7
28.Qxg7+ Kc6 29.Be4+ Kc5 30.Bd4+
Kxc4 31.Bxb7 Rad8 32.Qg4 Qxc2
33.Bxf6+ 1-0

W: Mitesh Shridhar

B: Philipp Ponomarev

Pirc 1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 Nf6
5.f3 c6 6.Qd2 Qa5 7.Bd3 e5 8.Nge2 Nbd7
9.0-0 0-0 10.Rab1 a6 11.b4 Qc7 12.dxe5
dxe5 13.Na4 b5 14.Nc5 Rd8 15.Nb3 Nb6
16.Qe1 Be6 17.Qf2 Nfd7 18.Rfc1 Bf8
19.a3 Nc4 20.Bxc4 bxc4 21.Nc5 Nxc5
22.Bxc5 Bxc5 23.Qxc5 Rd2 24.Nc3 Rad8
25.a4 R8d4 26.a5 h5 27.Ra1 h4 28.b5
Bh3!! 29.gxh3 Qd7 30.Qxe5 Qxh3 0-1

W: Klaus Johnson

B: Paul Covington

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nb3 Bb6 6.Bc4 Nc6 7.Nc3
a6 8.Bf4 Nge7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 f5 11.Bd6
Qe8 12.e5 Qg6 13.Be2 Qg5 14.Bf3 Rf7
15.Qd2 Qxd2 16.Nxd2 Nd4 17.Nc4 Ba7
18.Rac1 Nxf3+ 19.gxf3 b5 20.Na5 Bb6
21.Bb4 Ng6 22.Kg2 Nf4+ 23.Kg3 g5
24.Rcd1 Nh5+ 25.Kg2 g4 26.fxc4 Rg7
27.Rg1 Nf4+ 28.Kf1 Nh3 29.Rg2 Bc7
30.gxf5 Rxc2 31.Kxc2 Nf4+ 32.Kf3 Bxe5

(Continued on page 16)

School uses kids' passion for chess to drive learning

By [Bill Scanlon](#)
courtesy Rocky Mountain News

Checkmate and check us out, say the kids from Ricardo Flores Magón Academy, where chess is a passion, a metaphor and a reason to show off the medals on their chests.

Nine out of 10 of the students at the K-3 charter school near the Westminster-Denver border qualify for free or reduced lunch based on family income.

But that's just one of many excuses they reject at the two-year-old school as they strive for excellence on the chess board and in the classroom.

The 6- 7- and 8-year-olds have finished second in the past two Denver Scholastic Chess Series tournaments against 20 other teams from Douglas County, Cherry Creek and many other more affluent school districts.

That, despite the fact that four out of five of them are just getting the hang of English, having spoken Spanish at home from the time they were toddlers.

"I've been playing for two years now and it's a very fun sport," Shannon Montoya, 7, a second-grader, said this morning at chess team practice. "It calms you down sometimes."

She was sitting on the carpet, playing next to 8-year-old Alec Jimenez, at one of the eight placemat-like chess boards lined up in the middle of the almost bare room.

"When you play it, it makes you really smart," said Alec. "Because when you play chess you really have to be smart and figure out your moves ... not just one, but ahead a couple moves."

Chess team members show up at 7:45 a.m., walk past the chess trophies in the trophy case, shrug off their jackets and sit down at a chess board for some serious play.

Dominic Martinez, who doubles as operations manager and chess coach

at the school, talks to them for just a couple minutes about openings — freeing the bishops, working the knights.

"Why do we move the pawns two spaces?"

"So our bishops can get out, Mr. M.," said Loiloi Griego, a second-grader.

"Before the horses, what do we want to move out?"

"The queen!" say a dozen voices.

The first one to get check mate gets a piece of candy from the aluminum bin, so the play is intense, quiet and quick.

Loiloi's mother, Sarah Griego, said chess "is not just a game for him.

"It's teaching him patience, problem-solving. It makes him stop and think of the consequences" of an action.

"It's just been wonderful for him. He's made good friends. The girl he's playing with now, Shannon, they're best friends for life."

Other parents might dream of football scholarships for their kids, but she's thinking a chess scholarship.

"He can't get injured doing this. He can't break his brain.

"We're very proud of him," Griego said. "He's striving to be the best."

Griego said Coach Martinez "pushes them, but not to the point that they want to give up."

The charter school fits her values, better than Loiloi's old neighborhood school did. "In our household, college isn't an option, he is going.

"At this school, it is hard work, not play time. The program is very vigorous."

Indeed, school runs from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and summer vacation is shortened.

Antonio Vigil, director of curriculum, said chess "develops cognitive and critical-thinking skills.

"It's a metaphor for the choices we make in life," he said. "It teaches strategy and logic."

At the academy, everything points to college.

"To be successful you have to pay attention to the choices you make in preparing for college," Vigil said.

When there's an odd number of players, Martinez plays with a team member.

Giovanny Moreno, 6, moves his center pawns ahead two spaces, moves his bishops diagonally, then is about to take the coach's pawn with a knight.

"Are you sure you want to do that?" Martinez asks gently.

"How much is a queen worth? How much is a bishop worth?" he asks, forcing Giovanny to think of the consequences a couple moves ahead. Giovanny makes a different move. "Good move! You're making me

think, Giovanny."

Giovanny beams.

Mr. M. teaches every child in the school chess — it's part of the curriculum. But joining the chess team is voluntary.

"They literally didn't know the game existed until Dominic taught them the basics," Head of School Marcos Martinez said. "They learn to concentrate at all times on the chess board.

"They do want to win," Marcos Martinez added. "We preach that competition can be good here. They like being successful."

The students switch opponents, and Jasmine Bujanda, 8, faces off against another team member. She owns the distinction of defeating Mr. Martinez — not once, but twice. Others have come close. Sebastian Ruiz, 7, is squaring off against the coach now, and it's quite a battle.

Each time Martinez thinks he has it won, Sebastian wriggles out or makes a stunning offensive move. Nothing rattles Sebastian as he makes his moves quickly and decisively. His goal is to survive until chess practice is over, and he makes it.

"Hey, Mr. M, I had a good game against Giovanni," says Miguel Zarza, 6, who was so excited during his matches that he kept pounding his thighs — quietly.

"Good for you," Martinez says, as the kids round up their coats and get ready for their first class. It's about 8:30 and they'll be taking classes, including chess, for the next 8 hours.

They'll have homework, too, but that will still leave a little time for some chess practice at home, and dreams of a first-place trophy. ♖

Photo Matt McClain

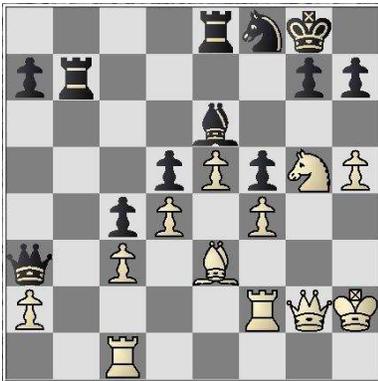


Jasmine Jimenez, 6, left, plays chess with her sister, Natalie, 7, along with other members of the chess club at Ricardo Flores Magón Academy in Westminster.

By Tim Brennan

Tactics Time!

One of the best ways to improve your game is to study tactics, such as the following from recent games played in Colorado. Answers on page 16



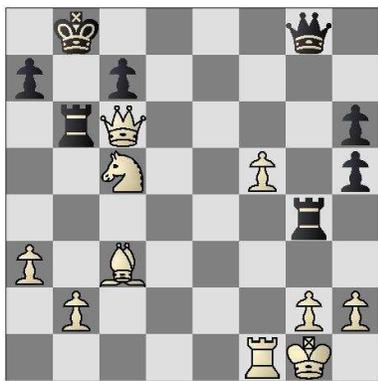
1. Wutt, L - Cordova, A
Colorado Open 2008
 White to Move



2. Amarbayasgalan - Splichal
Colorado Open 2008
 Black to Move



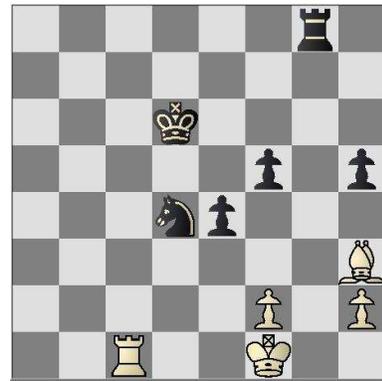
3. Robb, M - Blaha, R
Colorado Open 2008
 White to Move



4. Baffo, Jeff - Anderson, Paul
Winter Springs Open 2008
 White to Move



5. Fish, Derek - Brennan, Tim
Colorado Open 2008
 Black to Move



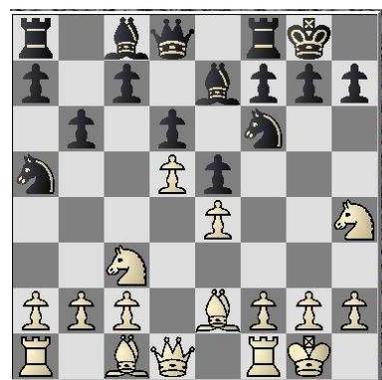
6. Lahti, Lee - Neuhaus, C
Colorado Open 2008
 Black to Move



7. Wilson, S - Endersbee, S
Colorado Open 2008
 Black to Move



8. Zupa, Daoud - Johnson, K
Colorado Open 2008
 White to Move



9. Dempsey, M - Lucas, K
Colorado Open 2008
 Black to Move

(Continued from page 13)

33.Bd6 Bxc3 34.bxc3 Nd5 35.Be5 Kf7
36.c4 Ne7 37.fxe6+ dxe6 38.c5 Ng6
39.Bg3 e5 40.Ke4 Kf6 41.Rd6+ Be6 42.c6
h5 43.h4 Rf8 44.Nb7 Ke7 45.f3 Rf6 46.c7
Rf8 47.Rd8 Bc8 48.Nd6 Rxd8 49.cxd8Q+
Kxd8 50.Nxc8 Kxc8 51.Kf5 Ne7+ 52.Kg5
Kd7 53.Bxe5 Ke6 54.f4 Kf7 55.Kxh5 Kg8
56.Kg5 Kf7 57.h5 Kg8 58.f5 Kh7 59.f6 1-0

W: Dylan Lehti**B: Gerry Morris**

King's Indian Attack 1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 e6
3.Bg2 c5 4.d3 g6 5.Nbd2 Bg7 6.0-0 Ne7
7.e4 Nbc6 8.c3 b6 9.h4 h6 10.Nh2 a5 11.f4
Ba6 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Ne4 Nde7 14.Nf2
Rc8 15.Re1 0-0 16.Be4 Nf5 17.Kg2 Nd6
18.Bf3 Ne7 19.h5 Qc7 20.hxg6 Nxg6
21.Nhg4 Rcd8 22.Rh1 Nf5 23.Be4 Bb7
24.Qf3 Bd5 25.c4 Ba8 26.Ne3 Rfe8
27.Nxf5 exf5 28.Bxa8 Rxa8 29.Rh5 Qd7
30.g4 Qe7 31.Qg3 Qb7+ 32.Kh2 fxg4
33.Ne4 Rad8 34.Qxg4 Rxd3 35.Nf2 Qf3
36.Qxf3 Rxf3 37.Kg2 Nxf4+ 38.Bxf4
Rxf4 39.Nd3 Rd4 40.Rh3 Re2+ 41.Kf1
Rd2 0-1

W: Derek Fish**B: Tim Brennan****Budapest**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Nf3 Nc6
5.e4 Ngxe5 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Nc3 Be7 8.Be2
0-0 9.Nd5 d6 10.0-0 Be6 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7
12.b3 Rad8 13.f4 Nc6 14.Bb2 f5 15.exf5
Bxf5 16.Rf3 Rfe8 17.Rf2 Qe3 18.Kf1 Qc5
19.Rc1 Re3 20.Bg4 Rde8 21.Qd5+ Qxd5
22.cxd5 Bxg4 23.dxc6 bxc6 24.Bd4 Re2
25.h3 Rxf2+ 26.Bxf2 Bd7 27.a4 Rb8
28.Rb1 c5 29.Rd1 Rxb3 30.Bxc5 Bxa4
31.Bxa7 (See *Tactics Time Diagram #5*)
Rb7 32.Be3 Bxd1 0-1

W: Ron Rossi**B: Cory Foster**

Giuoco Piano 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4
Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+
7.Nc3 Nxe4 8.0-0 Bxc3 9.d5 Bf6 10.Re1
0-0 11.Rxe4 Ne7 12.Bg5 Ng6 13.Bxf6
Qxf6 14.d6 cxd6 15.Qe2 a6 16.h4 b5
17.Bd5 Rb8 18.Rd1 Nf4 19.Rxf4 Qxf4
20.Rd4 Qf6 21.Qe4 a5 22.Ng5 g6 23.g3
Ba6 24.Qg4 Bb7 25.Rf4 Qe5 26.Nxf7

Qe1+ 27.Kh2 Bxd5 28.Nh6+ Kg7
29.Qxd7+ Kxh6 30.Kh3 Be6+ 0-1

W: Stephen Wilson**B: Steven Endersbee**

Torre 1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.c3
Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Nbd2 d5 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.0-0
c4 9.Bc2 h6 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.Ne5 Qc7
12.Ng4 Nxg4 13.Qxg4 e5 14.Qg3 Bd6
15.dxe5 Bxe5 16.f4 Bf6 17.Rad1 b5
18.Nf3 Bb7 19.Nd4 a6 20.a4 Bxd4
21.Rxd4 Rfe8 22.Re1 Qa5 23.axb5 Qxb5
24.Rb1 Qd7 25.Qf3 Qe6 26.Re1 Rad8
27.b3 Bc6 28.bxc4 dxc4 29.Qd1 Rd7
30.Rxd7 Qxd7 31.Qxd7 Bxd7 32.e4 Rb8
33.Rb1 Rxb1+ 34.Bxb1 (see *Tactics Time*
diagram 7) a5 35.Ba2 Bb5 36.Kf2 a4
37.Ke3 Kf8 38.Kd4 Ke7 39.Kc5 Ba6
40.Kb6 Bc8 41.f5 g6 42.g4 Kf6 43.Bxc4
a3 44.h3 Ke7 45.Ba2 1-0

W: Daoud Zupa**B: Klaus Johnson**

Catalan 1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 c6 3.c4 e6 4.Qc2
Bd6 5.g3 Nf6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.0-0
Re8 9.Rd1 Qe7 10.e4 dxe4 11.Ng5 Bc7
12.Ndxe4 Rd8 13.Re1 Bb6 14.Bf4 Nxe4
15.Bxe4 h6 16.Nf3 Nf6 17.Bd3 Bxd4
18.Rad1 Bb6 19.Ne5 Bd7 20.a3 c5 21.g4
Rac8 22.g5 Nh5 23.Bh7+ Kf8 24.Ng6+
fxg6 25.Bd6 Qxd6 26.Rxd6 Ke7 27.Rdd1
Nf4 28.Qc3 Rf8 29.Bxg6 Nxg6 30.Qxg7+
Rf7 31.Qxg6 hxg6 (see *Tactics Time Dia-*
gram #7) 32.Rxd7+ Kxd7 33.Qxf7+ Kd8
34.Rd1# 1-0

W: Ted Doykos**B: Larry Wutt**

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 g6 4.Nf3
Nc6 5.cxd4 Bg7 6.Nc3 d6 7.Bc4 Nf6 8.0-0
0-0 9.h3 a6 10.a4 Bd7 11.Bf4 Rc8 12.Rc1
Nh5 13.Bh2 Nxd4 14.Bxf7+ Rxf7
15.Nxd4 Qb6 16.Nf5 Bxf5 17.exf5 Qxb2
18.fxg6 hxg6 19.Nd5 Rxc1 20.Qxc1 Qxc1
21.Rxc1 Bd4 22.g4 Nf6 23.Nxf6+ Rxf6
24.Bg3 Bc5 25.Kf1 Kf7 26.Ke2 b6 27.h4
Re6+ 28.Kf3 Rf6+ 29.Ke2 e5 30.Rc2 Ke6
31.Kd3 Rf3+ 32.Ke4 Ra3 33.Rd2 Rxa4+
34.Kf3 Rd4 35.Ra2 a5 36.h5 gxh5 37.gxh5
e4+ 38.Kg4 e3+ 39.Kg5 Kf7 40.Re2 Rd2
41.Re1 exf2 0-1

W: Tim Brennan**B: Wolfgang Kern**

English 1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2
d4 5.Ne4 Nc6 6.d3 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bxd2+
8.Qxd2 Bd7 9.Nc5 Rb8 10.Nf3 b6
11.Nxd7 Qxd7 12.b4 Qd6 13.b5 Ne7 14.0-0
0-0 15.a4 Nd7 16.a5 Nc5 17.Qb2 Rfd8
18.axb6 axb6 19.Ra7 e5 20.Nd2 f5
21.Rfa1 Ne6 22.Qa3 c5 23.Qc1 h6
24.R1a2 Kh7 25.Qa1 Nc7 26.Rb7 Rxb7
27.Bxb7 Rb8 28.Bg2 Nc8 29.Kf1 Ne8
30.Ra8 Nf6 31.Rxb8 Qxb8 32.Qa8 Qxa8
33.Bxa8 Nd6 34.Nb3 e4 35.Bc6 exd3
36.exd3 Ng4 37.h3 Ne5 38.Ke2 Nxc6
39.bxc6 Kg6 40.Nd2 Kf6 41.Kf3 Ke6
42.g4 fxg4+ 43.hxg4 Nf7 44.c7 Kd7
45.c8B+ Kxc8 46.Kf4 Ng5 47.Kf5 Kd7
48.Kg6 Ne6 49.Kf7 h5 50.gxh5 Nf4
51.Kxg7 Nxh5+ 52.Kf7 Nf4 53.f3 Nxd3
54.Kf6 Nf4 55.Kf5 Ne6 56.f4 Ng7+

Tactics Time answers:

If you have a position from a game played in Colorado with an interesting tactic please send it to me! It can be anything from a mate in one to a deep combination that only you or Pocket Fritz 3 could have possibly figured out! TimmyBx@aol.com

1. **Nxe6** followed by **Qxd5** wins a pawn with the remove a defender technique
2. **e3** sets up the dangerous threat of Qxh3 which white must defend against and doesn't have time to save the knight on d2
3. **Nxf6** unleashes great vengeance and furious anger on the black king. The game continued 14...gxf6 15.Bh6+ Ke8 16.Qg7 Ng6 17.Bf7+ Kd8 18.Bxg6 hxg6 19.Qxh8+
4. White forks the King and Rook with **Nd7+** and starts a mating net as well.
5. **..Rb7** is a double discovered attack
6. **..Nf3** threatens Rg1+ skewering the king and rook and will win the pawn on h2.
7. **..Ba5** would make it impossible for white to stop the a pawn without giving up his bishop, giving black a winning endgame, up a piece.
8. **Rxd7+** overloads the black king, and leads to a quick mate after **..Kxd7 2. Qxf7+ Kc6** (**..Kd8 3.Rd1#**) **3. Rxe6#**
9. **..Nxe4** or **..Nxd5** will win a pawn with the discovered attack on the unprotected knight on h4.

57.Ke5 Kc6 58.f5 Nxf5 59.Kxf5 b5 60.cxb5+ Kxb5 61.Ke4 Kb4 62.Kd3 Ka3 63.Nc4+ ½-½

W: Lee Lahti

B: Chaitanya Neuhaus

Old Indian 1.c4 c6 2.g3 Qc7 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 d6 5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.d4 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.0-0 Be7 9.a3 Nf8 10.b4 Ng6 11.Bb2 Be6 12.c5 0-0 13.Qc2 Nd5 14.Rad1 f5 15.e3 e4 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Nd4 Bg5 18.Nb5 Qd7 19.Nc3 Qf7 20.Nxd5 cxd5 21.Qb3 Ne7 22.Be5 Rfd8 23.Rd2 Nc6 24.Bd6 a5 25.Qxd5 axb4 26.Qxf7+ Kxf7 27.axb4 Nxb4 28.Rb2 Nd3 29.Rxb7+ Kg6 30.Bh3 Ra2 31.Be7 Bxe7 32.Rxe7 Kf6 33.Rb7 Nxe5 34.Rb5 Rc2 35.g4 g6 36.gxf5 gxf5 37.Rfb1 Rg8+ 38.Bg2 Nd3 39.Rb7 h5 40.Rd7 Ne5 41.Rd6+ Ke7 42.Rdd1 Ng4 43.Rdc1 Nxe3 44.Rxc2 Nxc2 45.Rc1 Nd4 46.Kf1 Kd6 47.Bh3 (See Tactics Time Diagram #6) Ke6 48.Rc4 Kd5 49.Ra4 Rg5 50.Ra5+ Kc4 51.Re5 Nf3 52.Rxf5 Nxb2+ 53.Ke2 Rxf5 54.Bxf5 Kd4 55.Bg6 Ke5 56.Bxb5 Kf4 57.Be8 Ng4 58.Bc6 Ne5 59.Ba8 Nc4 60.Bb7 Na3 ½-½

W: Ramyashree Gangadhar

B: Daniel Zhou

Sicilian 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.f3 Bg7 7.Be2 Bd7 8.Be3 Nc6 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.g4 Qc7 12.h4 b5 13.h5 Ne5 14.Bh6 e6 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.hxg6 fxg6 17.Qh6+ Kg8 18.f4 Nf7 19.Qh4 h6 20.Qxf6 Nh8 21.Qh4 Nf7 22.g5 Qd8 23.Qg3 h5 24.Bxh5?!



alone and win with her extra piece, White continues the attack.) **Diagram** 24...gxh5 25.Rxh5 Kg7 26.g6 Nh6 27.Rxh6 Kxh6 28.Rh1+ Kg7 29.Rh7+ Kg8 30.Qh2 Qf6 31.g7 Rfc8 32.Rh8+ Kf7 33.Qh5+ Qg6 34.Qxg6+ Kxg6 35.Rh2 Kxg7 36.Rg2+ Kf7 37.Rh2 Rh8 38.Rf2 Rag8 39.f5 exf5 40.Nxf5 Bxf5 41.Rxf5+ Ke6 42.b3 Rg1+ 43.Kb2 b4 44.Ne2

Rd1 45.Nf4+ Kd7 46.Nd5 a5 47.Rf7+ Kd8 48.Rf2 Re1 49.c3 Rxe4 50.cxb4 axb4 51.Rd2 Rf8 52.Kc2 Rf5 53.Nb6 Kc7 54.Nc4 d5 55.Nb2 Rfe5 56.Nd3 Re8 57.Kd1 Kb6 58.Nb2 Re1+ 59.Kc2 R1e2 60.Nd3 Rxd2+ 61.Kxd2 Kb5 62.Nc1 Rh8 63.Ke3 Rh4 0-1

W: Ted Doykos

B: Jackson Chen

Max Lange Attack

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.e5 d5 6.Bb5 Ne4 7.Nxd4 Bd7 8.Bxc6 Bxc6 9.0-0 Bc5 10.f3 Ng5 11.f4 Ne4 12.Be3 Qd7 13.c3 0-0-0 14.b4 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 b6 16.a4 h5 17.a5 h4 18.h3 Ng3 19.Rf2 Nf5 20.Qd3 Bb5 21.Qd2 d4 22.cxd4 Nxe3 23.Qxe3 Qxd4 24.Qxd4 Rxd4 25.axb6 a6 26.Nc3 Rxb4 27.Nxb5 Rxb5 28.bxc7 Kxc7 29.Rxa6 Rb6 30.Ra7+ Rb7

Photo Markus Petters

31.Rc2+ Kb8 32.Rxb7+ Kxb7 33.Kf2 Rh6 34.Rc3 Rg6 35.g4 Rb6 36.Ke3 f6 37.Ke4 g6 38.exf6 Rxf6 39.Ke5 Rf8 40.f5 gxf5 41.gxf5 Re8+ 42.Kf4 Rg8 43.Re3 Kc7 44.Re7+ Kd6 45.Rh7 Rg1 46.Rh6+ Kd5 47.Rh5 Rf1+ 48.Kg5 Ke5 49.Kg6 Rf3 50.f6+ Ke6 ½-½

W: Lee Lahti

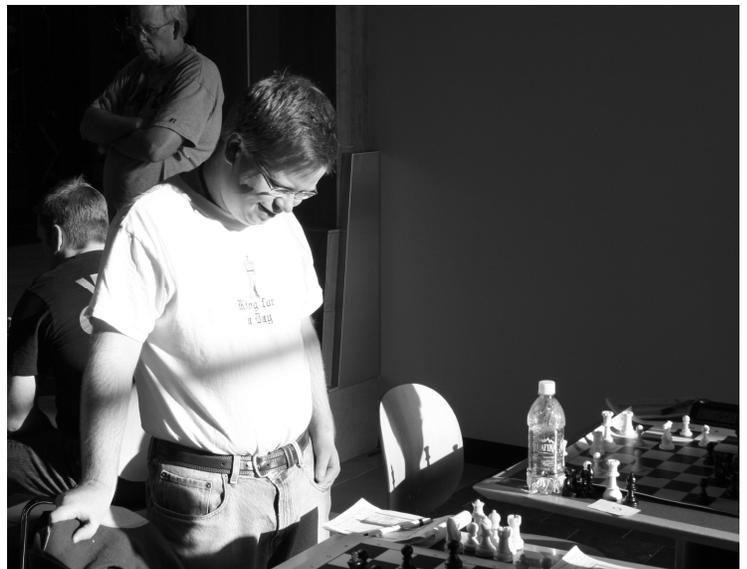
B: John Lee

English 1.c4 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.0-0 0-0 7.a3 d6 8.d3 a6 9.Rb1 Qc7 10.b4 Rd8 11.bxc5 dxc5 12.Ng5 Rb8 13.Be3 Ng4 14.Nd5 Nxe3 15.fxe3 Qd7 16.Rxf7 h6 17.Nxe7+ Nxe7 18.Bd5 Kh8 19.Ne6 Rg8 20.Rb6 Qe8 21.Nxg7 Rxg7 22.Qa1 Nf5 23.e4 Kh7 24.Qf6 Rxf7 25.Qxg6+ Kh8 26.Bxf7 Qd8 27.Bd5 Qf8 28.exf5 Bxf5 29.Qxh6+ Qxh6 30.Rxh6+ Kg7 31.Rb6 Re8 32.Rxb7+ and White won on move 54. 1-0

W: Greg Bain

B: Losol Amarbayasgalan

Giucco Piano 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Nc3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Nxe4 9.Qe2 d5 10.Bd3 Bf5 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qc2 Re8 13.Bf4 h6 14.Ne5 Qh4 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.Qd2 Qf6 17.f3 Bf5 18.a3 Nxe5 19.Bxe5 Qd8 20.Qf4 Qg5 21.Qxg5 hxg5 22.Bxc7 Rac8 23.Be5 Rxc3 24.f4 gxf4 25.Rxf4 Be4 26.Rg4 g6 27.a4 Rec8 28.Rh4 Rc1+ 29.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 30.Kf2 f5 31.Rh8+ Kf7 32.Rh7+ Ke6 33.Rxb7 Rc2+ 34.Kg3 Rxg2+ 35.Kh3 Rg1 36.Rxa7 g5 37.Ra6+ Ke7 38.Ra7+ Kd8 39.Ra8+ Kd7 40.Ra7+ Kc6 41.Rc7+ Kb6 42.Rg7 g4+ 43.Kh4 Ra1 44.Rg6+ Ka5 45.Rg8 Rxa4 46.Ra8+ Kb4 47.Rxa4+ Kxa4 48.Kg5 Kb4 49.Kf4 Kc3 50.Bf6 Kd3 51.Kg3 Ke3 52.h3 gxh3 53.Kxh3 f4 54.Kh2 f3 55.Kg1 f2+ 56.Kf1 Kf3 0-1 ♖



Randy Reynolds “sees the light” at the DCC Turkey Hunt tournament at the Tabor Center on 16th Street Mall—details page 22

Rook and Knight vs. Rook Endgame

BY NM TODD BARDWICK

There are so many different types of imbalances that can occur in chess that it is difficult to have specific knowledge about everything. When you find yourself in one you haven't studied, it is best to break the position into chunks you do understand, and then add in the other aspects of the position.

This situation arose in my 4th round game of the 1995 Colorado Open against SM David Glikzman when we exchanged down into a rook and knight vs. rook endgame. (See the article, "A Long Day's Journey into Knight," in the January 1996 CSCA Informant or in the Articles Section under CSCA Informant on www.ColoradoMasterChess.com).

This twelve-hour game holds the Colorado record for the longest game between masters and is unofficially the longest continuous game (without an adjournment) between masters in United States (according to a couple of older GM columnists I consulted).

The game started at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 5, 1995, and seven hours later, around midnight, we ended up with a rook and knight vs. rook endgame. As the last pawn was captured, I started the move on my score sheet and started the 50-move count.

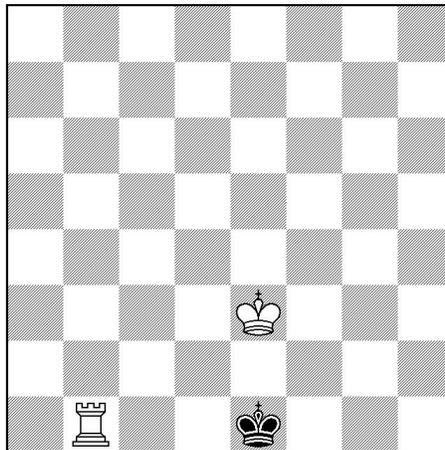
In most cases the R+N vs. R is a theoretical draw, but the strong side has virtually no losing chances and there are plenty of opportunities for the weak side to go wrong.

Half a dozen years or so before this game, David drew the R vs. R+N endgame against GM Christiansen in the American Open in Los Angeles. Christiansen didn't press too hard to win as he had another game scheduled to play an hour later. David was also familiar with a game ear-

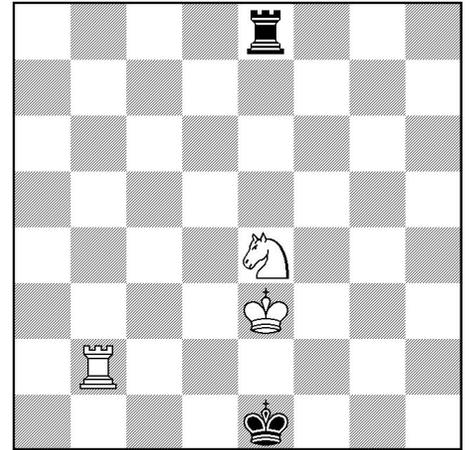
lier that year where GM Walter Browne won a R+N vs. R endgame against SM Thomas Wolski in a sudden death time control. The ending is difficult for the weak side, but theoretically drawable. David chose to test my endgame play (and endurance!)...as world-class players have lost this endgame.

More recently, Game 4 of the 2000 World Championship Match between Kasparov and Kramnik also resulted in a R vs. R+N endgame which was drawn, with Kramnik on the strong side with the knight.

Since I had never studied this particular ending, I tried to figure out whether or not I had practical drawing chances in it back when there were more pieces and pawns left of the board. Often the best way to figure out a position you don't understand is to start with something you do know, and work backwards from there. Of course, if I was to lose, the basic checkmate position with a rook would look something like this:



Black still has a rook and White has a knight to add to the board. Black, of course, doesn't want to get checkmated, so his rook would try to perpetually check the White king as Black closed in on a mating position. White would have to interpose his knight to avoid the annoying checks. Adding these pieces, the basic position before potential mate might look something like this:



Observe that the knight attacks both d2 and f2, squares already covered by the White king. Notice the knight only acts as a shield in this case, and doesn't take away more flight squares, like perhaps a bishop would (a bishop on e4 would also attack c2 and g2 making it more difficult for the Black king to escape). Black doesn't want to allow Rb1 mate, so he could run his king to d1 or f1 to escape the back rank mate.

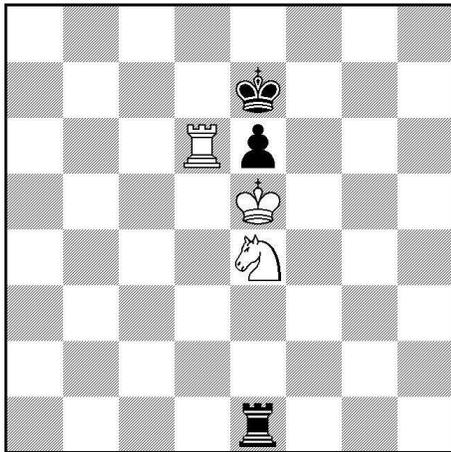
A couple other keys to the position for Black are to try to avoid moving his king into the corner, try to keep his rook as far away from his king as possible so as to avoid knight forks, and try to keep flexibility in his rook's position so that he check from either ranks or files, whichever is best at a given moment.

If you want to delve into this type of endgame in painful detail, a good source is "Secrets of Pawnless Endings" by John Nunn.

Below is the R+N vs. R endgame between David and myself and then the same endgame where both GMs Judith Polgar and Alexander Onischuk both failed to hold the draw.

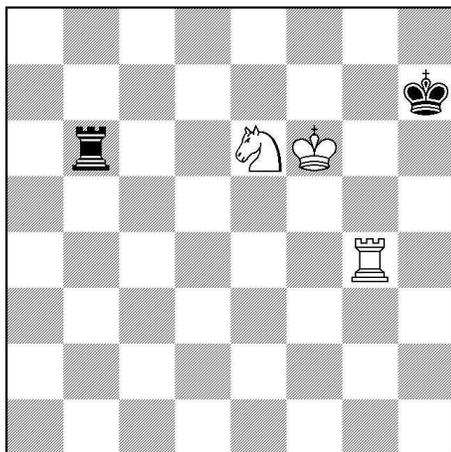
David Glikzman (2459) - Todd Bardwick (2210), Colorado Open, 9/3-4/1995

Bardwick



Gliksman

93.Rxe6+ (The last pawn is captured. This is where I started my score sheet and started the 50-move draw count.) 93...Kd7 94.Rh6 Kc7 95.Kd5 Rd1+ 96.Kc4 Kd7 97.Rg6 Ke7 98.Ra6 Kf7 99.Nc3 Rd2 100.Nd5 Rd1 101.Rd6 Kg7 102.Kc5 Rd2 103.Re6 Kf7 104.Kd6 Rd1 105.Re2 Kg6 106.Ke6 Rg1 107.Nf4+ Kg7 108.Ke7 Rg4 109.Re4 Rg1 110.Re6 Rg5 111.Rf6 Ra5 112.Rg6+ Kh7 113.Rg4 Ra7+ 114.Kf6



Ra6+ 115.Ne6 Rb6

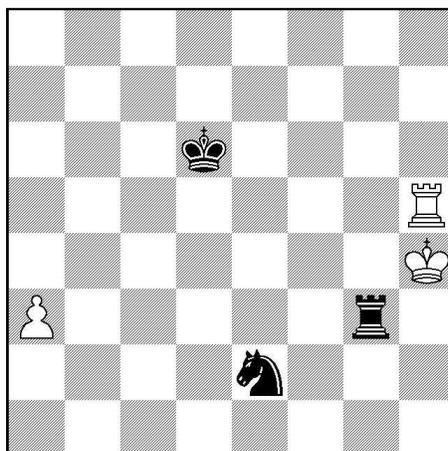
(This is similar to generic positions I saw in my mind explained above. I decided on a strategy to keep the knight pinned to the king as long as possible so it can't help to form a mating net around my king. If the White king breaks the pin, Black will try to perpetual check with the rook. Black tries to burn moves off the 50-move count by

annoying the White king as much as possible.)

116.Rh4+ Kg8 117.Ra4 Kh7 118.Ra8 Rd6 119.Ra1 Rb6 (Fortunately for Black, he has one square available to avoid mate.) 120.Ra2 Rd6 121.Rh2+ Kg8 122.Rh6 Ra6 (Again, keeping the knight pinned so as to limit White's choices.) 123.Kf5 Ra5+ 124.Kg6 Ra6 125.Kh5 Ra1 (Giving Black the option of checking from a different direction.) 126.Rf6 Rh1+ 127.Kg6 Rg1+ 128.Ng5 Rg2 (A similar position as occurred on move 115. This position is rotated 90 degrees with the knight pinned one file from the edge of the board instead of 2 files. Hopefully, this won't change anything!) 129.Re6 Kf8 130.Re1 Rg4 131.Re3 Rg1 132.Kf6 Rf1+ 133.Nf3 Ra1 134.Nd4 Rf1+ 135.Nf5 Rf2 (We have seen this position's cousin before!) 136.Ra3 Ke8 137.Rd3 Rf1 138.Rd2 Rf4 139.Ke5 Rf1 140.Nd6+ Ke7 141.Ra2 Re1+ 142.Ne4 Kf7 143.Ra7+ Kg6 Draw!

Judith Polgar (2675) – Garry Kasparov (2775), Dos Hermanas, 1996

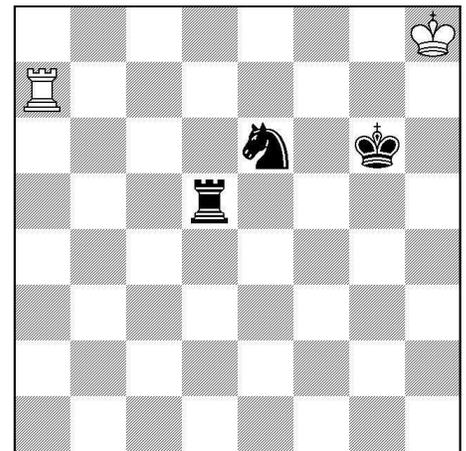
Kasparov



J. Polgar

59...Rxa3 (Starting the 50-move draw count.) 60.Kg4 Ke6 61.Rb5 Rg3+ (Forcing the White king against the edge of the board.) 62.Kh4 Rg1 63.Rg5 Rf1

64.Ra5 Kf6 65.Ra8 Rg1 66.Rf8+ (66.Ra6+ Kf5 67.Ra5+ Ke4 68.Ra4+ Nd4 draws Black's king away from White's king.) 66...Ke5 67.Re8+ Kf4 68.Rf8+ Ke4 69.Re8+ Kf3 70.Kh5 (White runs away from the Black king. 70.Rf8+?? loses to 70...Nf4 and 71...Rg4 mate!) 70...Ng3+ 71.Kh6 (71.Kg5 or 71.Kg6 don't keep the king off the h-file for long as 72.Ne4+ and the threat of 73.Nd6+ would fork the king and rook with the knight.) 71...Nf5+ 72.Kh7 Kf4 73.Rb8 Rg7+ (Forcing White's king into the corner.)

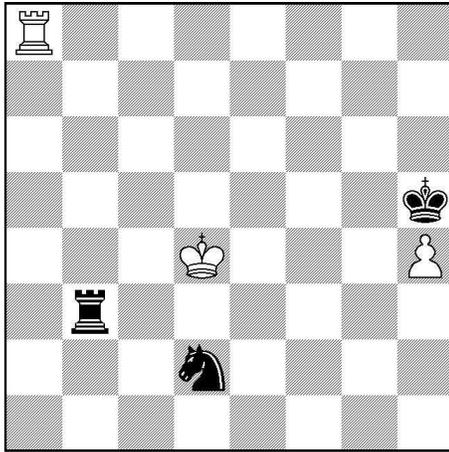


74.Kh8 Rd7 75.Re8 (75.Rb1 Kg5 76.Rg1+ Kf6 77.Rf1 is similar to the defense I used against David.) 75...Kg5 76.Re6 Nd4 77.Re1 Kf6 78.Rd1 Rd5 79.Ra1 Ne6 80.Ra6 Kf7 81.Ra7+ Kg6 82.Ra8 (Forced to avoid mate. White would prefer to have her rook in a more active location to annoy and check the Black king. White should still be drawing, but there are greater odds for disaster with the more passively placed rook.) 82...Rd7 83.Rb8 Rc7 84.Kg8 Rc5 85.Ra8 (The rook can't leave the back rank because of mate.) 85...Rb5 86.Kh8 Rb7 87.Rc8 Nc7 88.Rg8+ Kh6 89.Rg1?? (Losing by force. 89.Rc8 seems a reasonable way to hold on. White only needs to survive and keep doing what is working...the burden of proof is on Black to find a way to win.) 89...Rb8+ 90.Rg8 Ne8! 91.Resigns (If 91.Rf8 Kg6 92.Rg8+ Kf7 and if 93.Kh7 Nf6+ or 93.R moves down g-file, 93...Nf6+ 94.Rg8 Rxf8 mate.)

(Continued on page 20)

**Alexander Onischuk (2670) –
Leinier Dominguez (2708),
Biel, 2008**

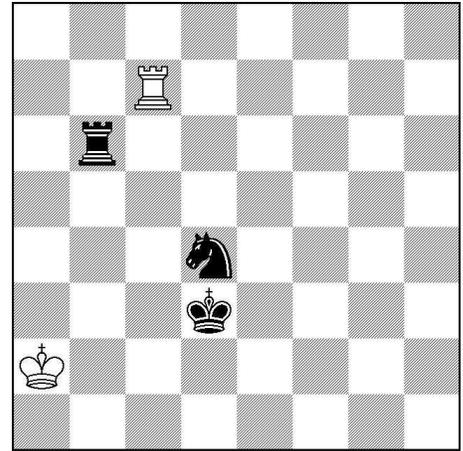
Onischuk



Dominguez

53...Kxh4 (The last capture was just made and the 50-move count begins. The position is theoretically drawn. White, of course, wants to keep his king in the center

of the board as long as he can. Cuban GM Leinier Dominguez plays on, testing Onischuk's ability to play the endgame perfectly.) **54.Rg8 Nf3+ 55.Kc4 Rb1 56.Kd5 Ng5 57.Ke5 Kg4 58.Kd4 Rd1+ 59.Ke5 Re1+ 60.Kd5 Re7 61.Kd4 Kf5 62.Rf8+ Nf7 63.Ra8 Kf4 64.Rf8 Rd7+ 65.Kc5 Ke4 66.Ra8 Rc7+ 67.Kb4 Kd4 68.Kb3 Ne5 69.Rd8+ Nd7 70.Kb2 Kd3 71.Rh8** (It is important that White rook can flexibly check from either direction.) **71... Rb7+ 72.Kc1 Nc5 73.Rh3+ Kd4 74.Kc2 Rc7 75.Rh4+ Ne4+ 76.Kb3 Rc8 77.Kb2 Rg8 78.Kb3 Rg2 79.Kb4 Rb2+ 80.Ka3 Rb8 81.Ka4 Kd5 82.Ka3 Nc5 83.Ka2 Ne6 84.Ka3 Nd4 85.Rh7 Rb6 86.Ka2 Kc4 87.Rc7+ Kd3 (Diagram)**
So far Onischuk has handled the position flawlessly for 34 of the 50 moves. Now comes the catastrophe: Onischuk should now play 88.Rh7 and resume checking from the h-file, but he plays **88.Rd7??**



Kc2! (The knight can't be taken because of mate in 2!) **89.Ka3** (89.Ra7 Rb2+ 90.Ka3 Nb5+ or 90.Ka1 Nb3 mate.) **89...Nc6 90.Ka4 Rb4+** (Forcing White's king back toward Black's king.) **91.Ka3 Rb5 0-1** (The Black knight skillfully controls the b4 square, protects a5 for the rook, prevents 91.Ra7, and clogs up the c-file from rook checks!) ♖

Congrats to Cory Foster who had a great year in 2008! Cory had an official rating of 1383 in December 2007, and ended 2008 with an official rating of 1635 jumping two rating classes. I asked Cory he secrets of success, and how others could follow in his footsteps. He wrote, "I have been studying the Polgar book, not using a chess board like they recommend, for 30-45 minutes 5 days/week for 2 years. I also spent a little time on Reuben Fine's Ideas Behind Chess Openings and I think those two, if you stay disciplined, can take anyone of average intelligence to 1600. I think the reason most adults don't improve are because they are first to prideful to accept failure which is necessary for improvement and so they give up. Secondly, they get distracted by life and don't have a disciplined and proven study structure to use."



Klaus Johnson and Jeff Baffo during the DCC Turkey Hunt



Cory Foster

by Lee Lahti

G/29 Grand Prix Update

The 2008 G/29 Grand Prix has come to an end. With the completion of the December tournament, we can rule the first year of the G/29 Grand Prix a success! Although the first 9 tournaments were a great start, we wanted to finish the final 3 tournaments of the 2008 G/29 Grand Prix with a bang.

In October, we had a surprising 24 players for a Thursday night tournament in Cheyenne. We were expecting a much smaller turnout, as previous tournaments in Cheyenne had only had 13 and 15 players respectively. But the planets must have been in alignment that Thursday night, resulting in a great showing. Our turnout was more participants than both the Wyoming Open and Closed tournaments, making it the largest attended tournament in Wyoming for 2008! Even with that many participants, we somehow managed to have a clear winner. Markus Petters was the only person to score 3/3, winning his first tournament outright after sharing 3 titles already this year. Finishing just behind with 2.5/3 were Randy Reynolds, James Kulbacki, Shawn Svare, and me.

After the phenomenal success of the October tournament, hopes were high for another strong turnout for the November tournament in Greeley. Although we had our average attendance of 15 players, we were hoping for more. Regardless of the turnout, the tournament was as tough as ever – with many games fought to a time scramble to determine the winner. In the end the top 2 seeds – Markus Petters and Dave Hansen – finished tied for 1st with 3/3. Tied for 3rd at 2/3 were Gannon White, Cory Foster, Klaus Johnson, Travis Pape, David Brunner, and Josh Divine.

After the November tournament, many of the overall prizes were all but decided. That, coupled with the approaching holidays, contributed to a low turnout – 12 players, tying the May event for lowest turnout. We had some good matchups at the event – including a final round

game between Travis Pape and me that would determine the winner of the booby prize, awarded for the player with the most game losses throughout the year. Markus Petters won his third consecutive tournament (and 6th in 7 tries), as the only player to finish with a perfect score. Coming in 2nd with 2/3 were Gannon White, Randy Reynolds, Cory Foster, Klaus Johnson, Frank Deming and Aaron Austie (in his first G/29 event).

Overall Grand Prix points were determined by combining performance results from all tournaments with a 1 point participation bonus for each tournament attended. Thus, a player attending most G/29 tournaments and having decent results can outperform someone who only attends a few events but had spectacular results, which is exactly what happened this year. Although Markus Petters won 6 tournaments this year, he only came in 5th overall with 27 points. First overall was Gannon White, with 35 points after attending all 12 G/29 events for the year. Second overall was Randy Reynolds, with 31.5 points from 11 tournaments. I finished third overall with 28.5 points from all events, winning the top Under 1400 prize. (Gannon and I were the only participants to play in all 12 events this year!) Cory Foster was right behind with 28 points from 9 tournaments for 4th overall, winning the Under 1700 prize. Cory Kohler won the Under 1100 prize for the year, finishing tied for 14th overall with 10 points from 6 tournaments. Cory Foster also won the award for the largest upset of the year – a 626 pointer over Dave Hansen in the July event. (Cory actually had the 3 largest upsets of the year, so he definitely won this award). Finally the booby prize was awarded to Travis Pape, with 17 game losses throughout the year.

See the below table for the top performers.

Between all 12 G/29 Grand Prix events, we had 186 paid entries – averaging 15.5 players per event. There were 64 different players who played in G/29 Grand Prix tournaments, with 25 playing in multiple events. With only a \$3 entry fee for each tournament, we collected \$588 in entry fees. This resulted in \$340 awarded as tournament prizes, \$66 used for rating fees, and \$152 contributed to the Grand Prix Prize Fund, which was awarded to the overall winners.

The 2009 G/29 Grand Prix is getting ready to start – bigger than the 2008 Grand Prix. The Denver Chess Club is joining Boulder, Cheyenne, Fort Collins, and Greeley as clubs participating in the G/29 Grand Prix. There will be 14 events this year – a regular tournament each month rotating between the participating clubs and 2 Super Saturday tournaments that will be double scoring G/29 Grand Prix events (and Colorado Tour events). With more events and expected higher turnouts for the 2nd year of events, we are expecting the 2009 G/29 Grand Prix to be an even bigger success!

The inaugural event of the 2009 G/29 Grand Prix is scheduled for January 21st in Boulder. Please see the upcoming tournaments section of the Informant and colorado-chess.com website for dates and location of all our upcoming events. For any questions about the G/29 Grand Prix, please contact me at lee.lahti@comcast.net.

Thank you for your interest in the G/29 Grand Prix. Hopefully we will see you at an upcoming 2009 Grand Prix event in the near future.

Name	Total Score	Events Played	Average Rating	Game Losses	Overall Prizes
Gannon White	35.0	12	1421	11	1st Overall
Randy S Reynolds	31.5	11	1604	10	2nd Overall
Lee Lahti	28.5	12	1305	16	Top U1400
Cory E Foster	28.0	9	1435	7	Top U1700, Top Upset
Markus D Petters	27.0	7	1941	1	
Archie E Shipp	24.5	10	1249	14	
Klaus R Johnson	22.5	8	1620	9	
Gary Dorsey	21.5	9	1264	14	
Travis J Pape	20.5	10	1125	17	Booby Prize
Frank A Deming	14.0	5	1756	6	
Dean H Mitchell	13.0	6	1460	9	
David Brunner	12.5	5	1426	7	
James Kulbacki	10.5	3	1782	0	
David Hansen	10.0	3	2017	2	
Tim Kohler	10.0	6	1250	14	
Cory Kohler	10.0	6	802	14	Top U1100

What's next for G/29 Grand Prix?

Jan. 21st **Boulder**

Feb. 19th **Cheyenne**

See www.colorado-chess.com for more details.

by Randy Reynolds

DCC Turkey Hunt Report

As Dean Brown arrived to the 2008 Turkey Hunt, he expressed his surprise that I was actually back attending a DCC event. True, it has been quite a while since my last DCC event, as I've taken a bit of a leave from tournaments, with the exception of the G/29 events in Northern Colorado.

As usual, the Tabor Center remains the one viable (and free) venue for the DCC. For the most part, it still remains a remarkably robust venue with a decent food court selection to match. The few comments heard from shoppers of "Ooh, look! Chess!" and "They must all be geniuses!" only serve to stoke our egos further. And the free parking at Tabor Center is the icing on the cake.

Of course, Tabor doesn't work quite as well for 2 day events, since the venue still remains closed on Sunday, so the call to all Denverites remains: Where can Denver hold 2 day tournaments for cheap? A good answer to this may earn a nomination to Klaus' new volunteer of the quarter program!

There's also the mall music, which makes me want to sleep. I kind of wish we could put our own chess-related soundtrack on the Tabor Center's PA system. Some of my nominees for the new chess-related songs:

- "One Night in Bangkok" by Murray Head (of course)
- "Give Me the Knight" by George Benson (actually, I think this one was playing that day!)
- Any song by Queen

There's also a small lighting problem that happens around 3 PM, as sunlight through the southern windows pierces through the tables and nearly blinds one side of at least 3 games being played. Apparently, there is no way to close the blinds, so the players are either stuck with the ruthless glare or end up moving their table to a different area. I was in that very area for round 3, but we were the only table that didn't move from the area. This was partly because I relished the challenge of playing the game into the sun, but

mostly because I needed a viable excuse for when I lost! (The sun was in my eyes! Really!)

But as for the tournament itself, there were 34 participants: 22 in the Open section and 12 in the reserve. Markus Petters, from Fort Collins, started his lofty quest to become a master in one year. His performance here gave me little ammunition to argue that his goal is too ambitious, as he went 4 for 4 and won sole first place. Of course, he couldn't do it without help – specifically, me losing to him in the 2nd round. The game is published below. Markus also breathed a small sigh of relief as Klaus Johnson managed to draw Robert Ramirez in the 2nd round.

My woes continued in the 3rd round as Brendon Barela and I traded down into what I thought was a drawn king and pawn endgame. Actually, according to Fritz, it was a drawn king and pawn endgame – I just played it badly and gave my opponent the win. Did I mention the sun was in my eyes?

Finally, I recovered in the last round against Losol Amabayasgalan when I beat him in the opening and had a full rook up on him 10 moves into the game. From there, Losol dug in his heels and proceeded to chase my loose queen and bishop all over the board for the next little while. I'm amazed how quickly he plays. It's really a double-edged sword: Most of his moves are pretty sound and I found myself in time trouble trying to keep up with his rapid play, but I'm convinced if he would have taken a little more time studying out the opening, he wouldn't have dug his own grave to begin with.

Anyway, I finally traded down everything but the extra rook I had and waited for the inevitable resignation. It never came, so I proceeded to queen all my pawns to see how many queens I could put on the board before he resigned. I even had to borrow a bottle of aspirin from TD LaMoyne Splichal and placed it as my 3rd queen on its appropriate square. Still, all that didn't phase Losol as he proceeded to march his king back and forth between two squares. I had one more pawn I could queen, but I was getting tired of the farce and wasn't sure what LaMoyne would give me to represent the unprecedented 4th queen on the board! (Actually, it is predated. In high school, my opponent wouldn't resign when I had a clear lead and I pro-

ceeded to add 7 new queens to the board. It was fun!) So I ended up checkmating him with my 3 queens.

It was a fun event and I hope to see more Colorado Tour events coming out of DCC. Here's my favorite game of the tournament:

W: Randy Reynolds (1700)

B: Markus Petters (2037)

G/60 DCC Turkey Hunt, Nov. 22nd, 2008

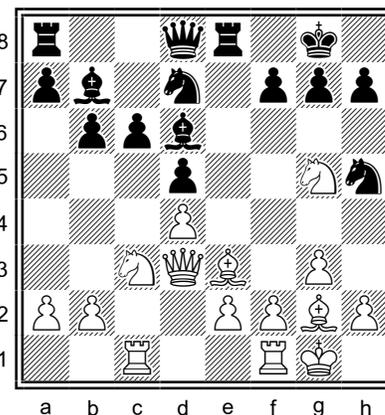
1. c4 10 minutes on this move! Or so it seemed. I think I've tried almost every opening move against Markus.

1. ... Nf6 2. g3 e6 3. Bg2 d5 4. Nc3 I wasn't crazy about defending the c pawn with d3 because I was worried we'd trade off queens and I'd lose my castling. But then I saw that Qa4+ meant I don't have to defend the pawn at all, so I continued with normal development.

4. ... Be7 5. d3 O-O 6. Nf3 b6 7. O-O Bb7 8. cxd5 exd5 Now that the bishop is fianchetto-ally committed, I can exchange pawns and not worry about opening up the c8-h3 diagonal for him.

9. d4 Trying to keep the long diagonal closed for defensive purposes, but you know black's c5 push is coming sooner or later, right?

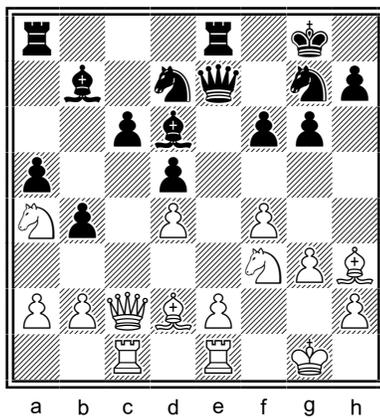
9. ... Nbd7 10. Bf4 Nh5 11. Be3 I played Bf4 first so Markus couldn't move the knight to g4 after I played Be3 at first. Markus thought the placement of this bishop here wasn't good. Fritz thinks it's got potential.



11. ... c6 12. Rc1 Bd6 13. Qd3 Re8 14. Ng5 (Diagram) Yes, it's a silly threat. I'm mostly trying to force a pawn forward so I have a weakness in the castled position to aim at.

14. ... g6 15. f4?! Fritz hates this, probably because of the a7-g1 diagonal opening against my own king, but I need a pawn to get up into Black's face. Of course, it does block my own bishop, too...hmm...

15. ... f6 16. Nf3 Qe7 17. Bd2 a5 18. Qc2 b5 19. Rfe1 b4 20. Na4 Ng7 21. Bh3 (Diagram) Trying to trade the knight on d7 with something easier to fork on b6.



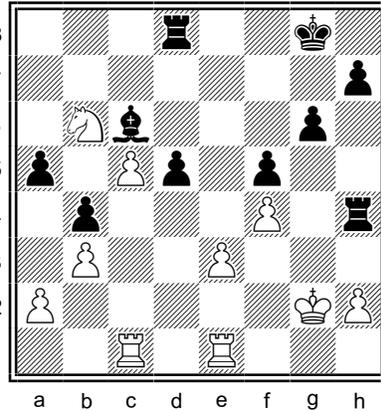
21. ... f5 22. Ne5 Bxe5 23. fxe5 Fritz says the d pawn take is a tiny bit better, apparently.

23... Ne6 24. Be3 c5 25. dxc5? Ah, there's that c5 push I talked about previously. There's a lot of different variations on what can be taken with what first, and unfortunately I didn't have time to go through all the variations. And then, of course, the fianchetto bishop's diagonal threatens to open back up. Fritz likes Nxc5 a little better than my move.

25... Nxe5 26. Bf4? This is a little sloppy, but I saw no other clear way to get the e5 knight off his square. He was holding a lot of the position together. 26. Bg2 Rad8 27. Qb3, attacking the weak d5 pawn, was considered better by Fritz.

26... Nxf4 27. gxf4 Nc4 28. Qd3 Bc6 29. b3 Qe3+ 30. Qxe3 Nxe3 31. Nb6 Rad8 32.

Bg2 Nxf4 33. Kxg2 Re3 34. Kf2 Rh3 35. Kg2 Rh4 36. e3?? (Diagram)

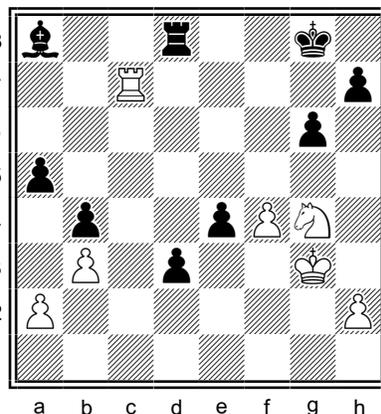


This is a bad mistake, as it lets the bishop into the game too easily. Fritz suggests 36. h3 Rxf4 37. Kg3 Re4 38. e3, which loses a pawn rather easily, but it's still better than the mess I find myself in here.

36... d4+ 37. e4 I'm running really short of time here, and considering it was a desperation play, Fritz puts it right at the top of the list. The trap is if the bishop takes the e-pawn, since I'd sacrifice the e-rook for the bishop and try to get the c-pawn in. There's definitely more than one way to screw that up, so in retrospect, it was a pretty good plan.

37. ... fxe4 38. Kg3 Rh5 39. Nc4? A valuable pawn goes down.

39. ... Rxc5 40. Ne5 Rxc1 41. Rxc1 Ba8 42. Rc7 d3 43. Ng4! (Diagram)



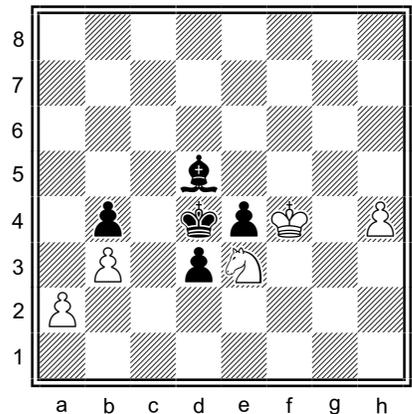
43. ... Rf8! This would have been great if

Black would have pushed his pawn, as 43. ... d2?? fails to the neat perpetual 44. Nf6+ Kf8 (Kh8?? 45. Rxf7#) 45. Nxf7+ and the knight checks will never end. Props to Markus for seeing this last ditch chance to draw.

44. Ne3 h5 45. Rd7 Bc6 46. Rd6 Bb7? I really was expecting Be8 here, protecting the loose g pawn. I guess Markus didn't see the rook fork.

47. Rxf6+ Kf7 48. Rb6 Ba8 49. Ra6 Rd8 50. Kf2 Kg7 51. Rxa5 Rf8 52. Rg5+ Kf7 53. Rf5+ Ke7 54. Rxf8 Kxf8 Now the rooks are off, maybe there's still hope.

55. Kg3 Kg7 56. Kh4 Kg6 57. f5+ Kh6 58. f6 Kg6 59. f7 Kxf7 60. Kxh5 Ke6 61. Kg4 Ke5 62. h4 Kd4 63. Kf4 Bd5? (Diagram)



I thought this was a great way to get the bishop back into the game, as the knight can't take (If so, Black takes back and waltzes over to the h-pawn, while White's king is stuck babysitting the protected passed pawns.) But 64. Ne5+ Kc3 65. Ne3 Bf7 66. Kxe4 d2 67. Nd1+ Kc2 68. Ne3+ Kc1 eventually lets White mop up both passed pawns and get a draw out of this game. Amazing! But again, there wasn't much time for all this analysis, not that I would have necessarily seen it all.

64. h5 64... Bg8 I can't remember the rest, but Black eventually wins with the passed pawns. 0-1 ♖

by Andy Rea

Alive and Well!

Our Illustrious Editor recently asked me how I have been since my return from 4 years in Kuwait! I would gladly share with Tim, but he also asked if I could write an article on this- gladly! I returned late July, and while playing in the US Open in Dallas was important, I firstly had to be aware of where I would resettle. Much as I appreciate so much that is Colorado, for family reasons I am now in suburban DC, Fairfax, VA.

So far I have been able to work minimally, but keeping the door open to emerging from my work sabbatical. I have been able to play in several events, to include said US Open, where for the 5th time I lost but 1 game. Alas I lack that Mulyar touch in winning in bunches, too many draws! I have also played in DC, VA, and a road trip for the South Carolina Championship. All that, and I have finally completed writing a book, *Chess On The Ledge!*

I will include an abridged excerpt from Ledge, but first, 2 games....

W: Ian Aird(1954)

B: Andy Rea(2128)

Rd9 US Open

We are both 5-3, I need all sorts of breaks for Expert\$, White is looking for A \$. In spite of drawing 2 FMs, I have rating risk if I don't win- but that's normal anyway, play to win!

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bb5+ Bd7 4. Bxd7+ Qxd7 5. c4

Maroczy Bind, which I think is overrated anyway, more so without White's light square Bishop. Still, White gains space while hitting the d-file.

5...Nf6 6. Nc3 Nc6 7. d4 cxd4 8. Nxd4 g6 9. f3 Bg7 10. Nde2

Unexpected, but very solid

10...0-0 11. 0-0 Ne8 12. Be3 Nc7 13. Qd2 Ne5 14. b3 Diagram



Black has some pawn breaks available, but per usual there are repercussions as White is ready to hit e6, d5, d6 in many lines. Normal stuff, you have to be alert!

14...Rfd8 15. a4 e6 16. Rad1 Qe7 17. Rfe1 f6 18. Qc1 Qf7

It's a fight for ...d5 after all

19. Nf4 Bf8 20. Nd3 Nc6 21. Nb5 d5 22. Nxc7 Qxc7 23. exd5 exd5 24.Nf4 Diagram



It seems Black has lost the central skirmish- but what's an Exchange among friends?!

24...d4!? 25. Ne6 Qb6

White has an unsafe King, especially if Be3 is captured. However, he can save the Bishop and hit hard in Blacks camp!

26. Bh6 Bxh6 27. Qxh6 Rd7

I would speak of nerves of steel here, but its just not so! I thought I was right that White wouldn't get to my King first, but the price of error here is steep, so I was more than a bit concerned here!

28. Nf4 d3+ 29. Kf1 d2 30. Re2 Qxb3 31. R1xd2 Rxd2 32. Rxd2 Qxc4+ 33. Kf2 Qc5+!

This ends well, no escape for White as his King and Queen are in trouble, one will bite the dust.

34. Kg3 Ne7 0-1

Two months later I am on the road in Columbia SC... after two wins, I am reminded in Rd3 I am not IM

strength, dang! In Rd4 I play a youngster who is already Expert rated, likely stronger!

W: Daniel Gurevich(2023)
B: Andy Rea(2127)

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Bc4 Nf6 5. e5 d5

Forced but quite playable.

6. Bb5 Ne4 7. Nxd4 Bd7 8. Bxc6 bxc6 9. 0-0 c5

The Bishop Pair has less impact if one or both are confined

10. f3 cxd4 11.fxe4 Bb5 12.Rf4 Bc5

Here 13.Qf3 or 13.Qh5 appear to sternly test the Black position—check for yourself to see if White missed- or not...

13.b4 Bb6 14.a4 Diagram



Not winning a piece!

14...Be2 15. Qd2 d3+ 16. Kh1 Bd4 17. Nc3

Darn, only move but it's good, White is alive.

17...Bxe5 18.Rf5 f6 19.cxd3 Bg4



White could play the passive 20.Rf1 dxe4 and defend against an active Bishop Pair - or, he can go for the gusto, sac an Exchange and actually have more winning chances!

20.Rxe5!? fxe5 21.Nxd5 0-0 22.Bb2 Be6! 23.Qc3?

White falters, this wins a pawn but the attack dies, meaning the Black Rooks will have their way. 23.Ne3 was fairly necessary, White is worse but not yet lost....

23...Bxd5 24.Qxe5 Rf7 25.dxe5 Qf8 26.h3 Re8 27.Qd4 Rf4 28.Qc3 Rf1+

Looks simple, but White still has resources

29. Rxf1 Qxf1+ 30. Kh2 Qf4+ 31. Kg1 Qg3 32. Kf1 Diagram



So annoying, 32...Rf8+ 33.Kg1 is not mate. But, I find at least one plan that works

32...Re3 33. d6 Rxd3 34. Qc4+ Kf8 35. dxc7 Rd1+ 36. Ke2 Re1+

Not 36...Qe1+?? 37.Kf3! 1-0!

37.Kd2 Qf2+ 38.Kc3 Re3+ 39.Kd4

Here 39. ..Rxb3+ is quicker, but I really wanted to clip White's last swindle hopes out there on c7.

39...Re7+ 40.Kc3 Qg3+ 41.Kd2 Qxg2+ 42.Kd1 Qg1+ 43.Kc2 Qh2+ 44.Kb1 Qxc7

Now its over- Whites King is unsafe but a Queen trade reaches a lost ending

45.Qf1+ Kg8 46.Qd1 Qd7 47.Qb3+ Qe6 48.Qxe6+ Rxe6 49.Bd4 Re4 50.Bc5 Kf7 51.Kc2 Ke6 52.Kc3 a6 53.Bd4 g6 54.b5 axb5 55.axb5 Kd5 56.b6 Kc6 57.Bf2 Rf4 58.Bg1 Rh4 (1-0, 65)

About that book, *Chess On The Ledge!* It was decades in writing, can be ordered from www.thinkerspressinc.com or at the

local bookstore (ISBN# 1-888710-36-5) - as advertised, a snippet from this book of 70 games.....



(Continued on page 26)

Ledge Game #6, STOMPEDE

1. Nf3 c5 2. g3 Nc6 3. Bg2 d5 4. d3 e5 5. Nc3 f6 6. Bd2 Be6 7. 0-0 Bd6 8. e4 d4 9. Nb5 Bb8 10. c3 a6 11. cxd4 axb5

Not clear what's wrong with the mundane 11...exd4 12.Na3 Nge7, but how bad can this get?

12. d5 Bxd5 13. exd5 Qxd5? 14. Nxe5! Diagram



Black does not win a Pawn, instead finding bad news on the e-file...

14...Qxg2+!? 15. Kxg2 Bxe5 16. Bc3 Nge7 17. Bxe5 fxe5 18. Qg4 0-0 19. Qd7 Rab8

Here 20.f4 is not pretty, but White has no reason to defend when he can still press the offensive.

20.Rad1 Kh8 21.h4 Rfd8 22.Qe6 Ng6 23.h5 Nf8 24.Qf7 Rd7 25.Qf5 Rbd8 26.h6 g6 27.Qf6+ Kg8

The White plan of hitting g7 has been dangerous, but has lent Black just enough time to regroup. The disdain of a messy f2-f4 is too conservative....

28.a3 Rf7 29.Qh4 Rd4 30.Qg5

Rf5 31.Qe3 Kf7 32.f3 Ne6 33.b3 b6 34.Qd2 b4 35.a4 Nc7 36.g4 Rff4 37.Rf2 Ke6 38.Qc1 Nd5 39.Kg3 Nc3 40.Re1 g5 Diagram

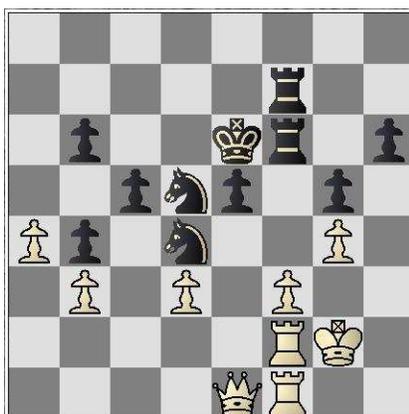


40...Rxd3?? 41.Qxf4, UGH... with Rf4 safely part of Black's dominant center, Black has very powerful compensation for the Queen- White is gasping for air, minimal counter play!

41. Qc2 Kf6 42. Kg2 Kg6 43. Rh1 Kf6 44. Kg3 Rd7 45. Rhf1 Nd4 46. Qb2 Kg6 47. Kg2 Rdf7 48. Qd2 Kxh6 49. Qe3 Re7 50. Rb2 Kg6 51. Kg3 h6 52. Qe1 Kf6 53. Kg2 Ke6

The Black King is everywhere! White clearly has seized the defensive!

54. Rh1 Rf6 55. Rf1 Ref7 56. Rbf2 Nd5 Diagram



Black has total control!

57.Kg3 Nxb3 58.Qe4 Kd6 59.Re1 Re6 60.Ref1 Nxd4 61.Rh1 Ref6 62.Rhf1 Nc6 63.Ra1 Nc3

White can only dream of Q-h7, Blacks threats on all fronts proves to be decisive.

64. Qe3 Nd4 65. Raf1 b3 66. a5 b5! 67. Qd2 b4 68. Qb2 Kc6 69. Kh3 Kb5 70. Qa1 Na4 71. a6 Rxa6 72. Qc1 Nc3 73. Qe3 Re6 74. Qc1 Ra7 75. Rb2 Ra2 Diagram



Done deal! Trading Rooks is not ideal for White, but Black can hit 76.Rf2 with lines like 76...Rf6 77.Qe3 Rxb2 78.Qxe5 Rxf2 79.Qb8+ Rb6 80.Qe8+ Nc6 81.Qg8 b2 82.Qc4+ Ka4 83.Qxc5 b1Q 84.Qxb6 Qf1+ 85.Kg3 Qg2#

76.Qd2 Rxb2 77.Qxb2 Ra6 78.Qh2 Rh2 79.Qxe5 b2 80.Qb8+ Ka4 81.Qa7+ Kb3 82.Qxc5 Ra1 83.Qc4+ Ka3 84.Rf2 b1=Q 85.Qxd4 Qh1+ 0-1

Thanks for hanging in there, I hope the separation is not permanent! ♖



Name that opening!

- 1. a4 1.d3
- 1. a3 1.e3
- 1. Na3 1. f3
- 1. b3 1. f4
- 1. b4 1. g3
- 1. Nc3 1. h3
- 1. c3 1. h4
- 1. c4 1. Nh3

- Anderssen's Opening
- Amar Opening
- Barnes Opening
- Benko's Opening
- Bird's Opening
- Clemenz Opening
- Desprez Opening
- Dunst Opening
- Durkin Opening
- English Opening
- Larsen's Opening
- Mieses Opening
- Saragossa Opening
- Sokolsky Opening
- Van Kruijs Opening
- Ware Opening



Answers page 30

For more details see:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_chess_openings

Results of November's CO Tour Events

On November 8th and 9th, the Boulder Fall Classic was played. Turnout was unusually high, as the 31 players in two sections nearly doubled the sixteen players last year. Robert McConnell of Michigan was the winner in the open with 4.5/5. He was followed in 2nd-3rd by Mitesh Shridhar and Julian Evans of Maryland. The reserve was played as a double round robin, at the end of 6 rounds both Resse Cantwell and Brent McConnell had 4 out of 6 points. Brent won the blitz playoff to take home the winner's trophy.

Thirty-four players participated in the DCC Turkey Trot on November 22nd. In the open section, Markus Petters earned the title with a perfect 4.0. Robert Ramirez was second with 3.5/4, and Mitchell Anderson, Klaus Johnson, Julian Evans, and Cory Foster tied for 3rd-6th with 3 points. In the reserve section, Ramyashree Gangadhar won with a perfect score, Tim Kohler and Aaron Austie were in 2nd-3rd place with 3.0/4.

-Klaus Johnson

Nationally Ranked Coloradoans (Dec 2008)

Name	Place	Section	USCF
Michael Mulyar	T-72 nd	Overall	2445
Tyler Hughes	44 th	Under 21	2265
Tyler Hughes	8 th	Age 17	2265
Mikhail Ponomarev	T-20 th	65 and over	2200
Richard Herbst	35 th	Age 17	2019
Sarangerel Viktor	60 th	Women	1842
Ben Reilly	80 th	Age 14	1765
Dylan Lehti	T-97 th	Age 16	1751
Jackson Chen	19 th	Age 10	1745
Daniel Zhou	81 st	Age 11	1556
Joshua Higa	82 nd	Age 11	1553
Ryan Swerdlin:	23 rd	Age 8	1436
Amrita Nag:	60 th	Girls Under 13	1284



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by Paul Anderson

Footprints in the Sand

Chess has opened up a lot of doors for me. Who knew, when I started playing chess, it would lead me into the realms of web publishing, art design, online retailing, and now chess video critic? When I started playing chess, I was just trying to get some email to my alumni account at UCCS.

I have been following in the footsteps of LM Brian Wall. He once told me, "Each chess game is like a footprint in the sand. By examining them, you can see where a Master is going and where he has been" (Wisdom of Brian 1:1). Brian has left behind a lot of tracks since May 21, 2001. I have played over a lot of them, and they have definitely had an impact on my chess. I started leaving my own tracks March 1, 2004 (http://home.att.net/~cs.chess/newsletter/Mon_Mar_01_v1.html). I noticed several times our tracks crossed and became only one set of footprints. This bothered me because it was usually when I was suffering defeat (0-6). So, I said to Brian, "The last time I saw only one set of footprints, I got a draw (http://home.att.net/~cs.chess/newsletter/Tue_Aug_05_2008.html). What happened?" Brian replied, "It is because I carried you."

Of course, Brian would cringe to hear me say, "I am following in his footsteps," especially after looking over some of my recent games. He would probably say, "I don't play garbage like that!" However, what I mean is that, as Brian has taken his chess into new frontiers, I have been inspired to use chess as a vehicle to explore new avenues. He was publishing games online long before I was and it was his style that reassured me that someone in this class world of chess could write about chess and have it enjoyed, if not for its cutting edge theory, at least for its humor and entertainment value. Now he has started publishing analysis through chess videos on Youtube.

I am not one to jump right into the latest fads and follow all the sheep onto Myspace and Facebook just because everyone is doing it. I have to see the practical value. Even when Brian started his Yahoo group, I waited about 2 years before following along when I realized it offered more spam protection than my online guest book. But when Tim Brennan put out his

classic Halloween parody video, I just couldn't resist signing up for Youtube anymore.

I have been watching and reviewing chess videos for several days now and feel qualified to act as the authority on chess videos. With that in mind, I would like to announce my awards for the best of 2008:

The award for best screenplay in a chess video goes to LM Brian Wall for his life story and commentary in Shattering The Scheveningen, Part 1 (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pV3rjuo0UiY>).

The award for best actress in a chess video goes to Anthea Carson for her dance moves in The Crab Chess Opening (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJYwk2CMYpw>).

The award for best actor in a chess video goes to Tim Brennan for his impression of the giggling grim reaper in the Halloween Gambit (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzALeHw_rUU).

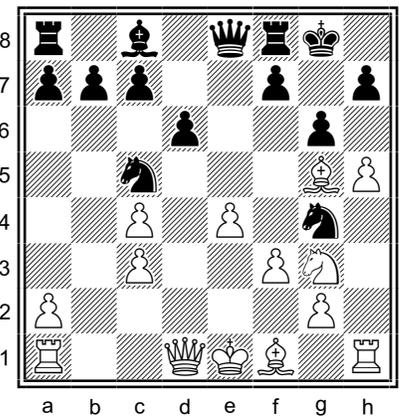
The award for best director in a chess video goes to Chris Peterson for his production, direction, and editing of Fork Trick, Part 1 (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oT6QcOHJ-M>), which includes the famous Juliet vs Friar Tuck game (http://home.att.net/~cs.chess/newsletter/Tue_Jun_29_v1.html).

And the award for best chess video goes to Chess For Girls (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=430_7GLyEkM), mostly for inspiring this amazing piece of literature (http://home.att.net/~cs.chess/newsletter/Tue_Apr_19_v1.html):

This game comes from Jason Caldwell and Renae Delaware. I was happy to publish this game as Renae has only given me her wins in the past, and I think she is starting to get a big head. So, I feel it is my job to bring her some humility. Also, I was watching Saturday Night Live, and I saw a commercial that reminded me of her. The product was called "Chess for Girls." I think she would like it because she is the only chess player I know who has unicorns and dragon stickers on her chess clock. However, her chess set is lacking that feminine touch. The "Chess for Girls" set comes with pieces that smell like strawberries, unicorns instead of knights, a queen whose hair you can braid, a king that makes bubbles, bishops that come with swim suits and evening gowns, and a Malibu van for carrying all the pieces. The good thing about this set is that if you miss mate-in-1, you can claim the bubbles got in your eye.

W: Caldwell, Jason (1929)
B: Delaware, Renae (1344)
 CSCC Eccentric CO Springs, 12.04.2005

E70: King's Indian: Miscellaneous lines with 4 e4, including 5 Nge2 and 5 Bd3 0-0 6 Nge2 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 e5 last book move 7.h4 Nbd7 8.Bg5 Qe8 9.h5 exd4 10.Qxd4 Ng4 [10...Nxb5 11.Qe3 Bxc3+ 12.Qxc3 Nxb3 13.Qxg3 Qxe4+ 14.Qe3♣] 11.Qd1 [11.Qd2!? is worthy of consideration 11...Nb6 12.Bf4=] 11...Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Nc5 A sound move 13.f3?? (Diagram)



13...f6?? [♠13...Qe5 it becomes clear that Black will call all the shots 14.Ne2 Qxg5 15.fxg4 Bxg4-+] 14.Bf4 Ne5 15.hxg6 Nxb6 16.Bh6 Rf7 17.Be2 Qe5 18.Kf2 Nf4 19.Qd4 Nxe2 20.Nxe2 Be6 21.Rad1 Re8? 22.Ng3 [♠22.Bf4!? Qxd4+ 23.cxd4± (≤23.Nxd4 f5♣)] 22...Na4 23.Rd3 [♠23.Rh5!? is a viable option 23...Qxd4+ 24.cxd4=] 23...Nb2♣ 24.Rh5 Nxd3+ 25.Qxd3 f5 26.exf5 Bd7 [♠26...Bxc4!? 27.Qd2 Bd3-+] 27.Rg5+ Kh8 28.Nh5?? further deteriorates the position [28.Qd2!? ♣] 28...Bxf5 [28...Qe1#] 29.Rxf5?? leading to a quick end [♠29.Qd4 Qxd4+ 30.cxd4-+] 29...Rxf5 [29...Qe1#] 30.Bg7+- Qxg7 31.Nxg7 Kxg7 32.Qxf5 1-0



Colorado Tour 2009 Standings (thru Winter Springs Open)

Top Overall

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Jeffrey Baffo	1823	155.13	22
2	Cory Foster	1628	154.73	22
3	Klaus Johnson	1777	152.15	27
4	Mitesh Shridhar	2048	131.36	14
5	Philipp Ponomarev	2352	98.18	5
6	Markus Petters	2040	97.78	13
7	Dean W. Brown	1465	89.27	27
8	Richard Herbst	2002	86.86	9
9	Tyler Hughes	2271	86.86	9
10	Jackson Chen	1719	86.56	17

Top Active

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Dean W. Brown	1465	89.27	27
2	Kathy Schneider	941	59.08	27
3	Klaus Johnson	1777	152.15	27
4	Cory Foster	1628	154.73	22
5	Jeffrey Baffo	1823	155.13	22
6	Gerald Maier	1240	59.84	18
7	Jackson Chen	1719	86.56	17
8	Derek Fish	1363	81.64	14
9	Mitesh Shridhar	2048	131.36	14
10	Alex Li	1390	35.68	13

Top Expert

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Mitesh Shridhar	2048	131.36	14
2	Markus Petters	2040	97.78	13
3	Richard Herbst	2002	86.86	9
4	Richard Buchanan	2011	57.69	13
5	Robert Ramirez	2092	42.97	4
6	Robert O'Donnell	2113	41.45	5
7				
8				
9				
10				

Top Class A

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Jeffrey Baffo	1823	155.13	22
2	Igor Melnykov	1920	79.22	9
3	Morgan Robb	1906	78.54	5
4	Daoud Zupa	1969	70.89	9
5	Mitchell Anderson	1912	64.23	7
6	Larry Wutt	1862	60.05	7
7	M. Paul Covington	1901	54.57	7
8	Ken Doykos	1826	52.48	6
9	Bill Wehmiller	1834	44.75	9
10	Billy Willson	1864	39.27	4

Top Class B

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Cory Foster	1628	154.73	22
2	Klaus Johnson	1777	152.15	27
3	Jackson Chen	1719	86.56	17
4	Julian Evans	1668	73.67	9
5	Ted Doykos	1732	66.9	10
6	Dylan Lehti	1770	58.91	5
7	Tim Brennan	1704	58.12	10
8	Wolfgang Kern	1799	49.09	5
9	James C. MacNeil	1600	42.03	4
10	Anthea Carson	1661	40.89	13

Top Class C

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Dean W. Brown	1465	89.27	27
2	Daniel Zhou	1506	67.87	13
3	Lee F. Lahti	1541	64.41	10
4	Rich Monroe	1586	56.08	8
5	Chaitanya Neuhaus	1436	55.2	10
6	Jiri Kovats	1477	52.21	9
7	Ryan Swerdlin	1443	39.91	9
8	Anthony Cordova	1490	39.27	5
9	Craig Lewis	1485	39.27	5
10	Jeffrey Serna	1547	39.27	5

Top Class D

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Derek Fish	1363	81.64	14
2	Brendon Barela	1326	79.11	13
3	Gerald Maier	1240	59.84	18
4	Losol Amarbayasgalan	1385	52.33	13
5	Ramyashree Gangadhar	1313	44.32	12
6	Alex Li	1390	35.68	13
7	Eirik Ogilvie	1318	34.83	8
8	Thomas Mullikin	1353	31.58	13
9	Frank Riley	1300	30.7	9
10	Alan August	1376	29.08	9

Top Class E

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Kathy Schneider	941	59.08	27
2	Dennis Bolshakov	1194	35.48	10
3	Artem Bolshakov	1024	29.58	10
4	Tikila Nichols	1184	24.89	9
5	Gregory Bain	1017	21.02	5
6	Ken Johnson	1158	18.39	9
7	Ginny Gage	784	18.16	13
8	Brian Riley	771	12.28	4
9	Kevin Lucas	1000	10.51	5
10	Victor Creazzi	607	9.21	5

Upcoming Tournaments

2009 Colorado Email Correspondence Championship, January 1, 2009

Time Control: 30 days for 10 moves plus up to 30 days vacation

Open: If more than 11 players, there will be a semi-final round and a final round.

Entry fee: \$6

Prizes: Winner will be considered 2009 Colorado Correspondence Champion. No cash prizes as entry fee will only cover rating costs.

Round Times: All entries must be RECEIVED by December 29th.

Entries: Klaus Johnson 3605 Endicott Dr. Boulder, CO 80305

Phone: (303)854-7898

E-mail: CSCAemailcc@gmail.com

Pairings and Colors will be posted on December 31st and time will start ticking at midnight January 1st 2009.

A Colorado Championship event:

USCF must remain current for duration of tournament.

CSCA must remain current throughout 2009.

USCF Correspondence rated.

4th Al Ufer Memorial, January 3, 2009

4 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: Game/60; 5-sec Delay

Site: Masonic Lodge, 455 El Paso Ave, Manitou Springs, Colorado

Directions: Take I-25 to Exit 141, US 24 West. Head 3 1/2 miles west towards the mountains and depart US 24 at the Manitou Avenue exit. Turn west onto Manitou Ave. then go 1 mile to the Manitou Springs City Hall. Turn right for 2 1/2 blocks to the Masonic Lodge.

OPEN: Open to all.

RESERVE: Open to players rated under 1600.

Entry fee: \$30 if received by 01/01/09; \$35 at site. \$9 off EF for seniors(65 & over), juniors (under21), and unrateds (no USCF Rating on the USCF Ratings web site on day of registration). CSCA membership required (\$15, \$10for juniors, seniors). OSA.

Prizes: Open: 1st: 10% of total EFs, 2nd: 7%, Master: 6%, Expert 6%, A: 6%, B: 6%, UNR: 6%. Reserve(Under1600): 1st: 10%, 2nd: 7%, C: 6%, D: 6%, E: 6%, U1000: 6%.

Registration: January 3, 2009 8-8:45AM., Rounds: 9AM, 11:15AM, 2PM, 4:15PM..

Entries: Dean Brown 4225 Hedge Lane, CO Springs, CO, 80917.

Phone: (719) 573-5176

E-mail: browndw1@mindspring.com

COLORADO TOUR Event

Unrated players may only win prizes in the Open Section.

One non-retractable 1/2 bye may be requested no later than the start of the 2nd round.

A Southern Colorado Chess Event.

Poor Richard's Bookstore Jan, Feb, Mar

4 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: Game/85; 5-sec delay

Site: Poor Richard's Bookstore, 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs, CO, 80919-2213

Directions: A block west of Nevada Ave between Boulder and Platte Streets.

Consecutive Wednesdays: One section USCF Regular Rated Open

Entry fee: \$10

Prizes: Based on entries.

Registration: 6:15-6:45 PM, may join in on any Wednesday., Rounds: 7 PM

Entries: Jerry Maier, 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs, CO, 80919-2213

Phone: (719)660-5531

E-mail: pmjer77@aim.com

A Colorado Springs Chess Club Event.

An half point bye will be allowed.

Calvary United Methodist Church, Jan 17, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/30

Site: Calvary United Methodist Church 4210 Austin Bluffs (1/4 mile E. of Academy)

Open: USCF Rated- 14 years and older

Entry fee: \$15 if submitted by November 30, 2008 \$17.50 if submitted anytime during December, 2008 \$20 if submitted anytime during January, 2009

Prizes: Cash prizes, based on entries

Round Times: 7:30AM to 8:15 AM

Entries: Calvary UMC Chess Tournament 2520 Bennett Ave. Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Phone: 719-520-0232 or 228-3800

E-mail: Birdtoes@Comcast.net

[Full details available here.](#)

In conjunction with the Scholastic Event.

January 2009 G/29 Grand Prix Event, Jan 21, 2009

3 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/29

Site: University Memorial Center, CU Campus, Room #382

Open: One open section, USCF membership required

Entry fee: \$3

Prizes: 100% of entry fees minus rating fee (60% towards tourney prizes, rest go into Grand Prix prize fund)

Registration: 6:30-7:00, on-site registration only., Rounds: 7, 8, 9.

Entries: Klaus Johnson

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

Not a USCF Grand Prix event.

Opening Quiz
Answers

Bird (f4)	Durkin (Na3)	Mieses (d3)	Clemenz (h3)
Ware (a4)	English (c4)	Barnes (f3)	Desprez (h4)
Anderssen's (a3)	Dunst (Nc3)	Saragossa (c3)	Amar (Nh3)
Sokolsky (b4)	Van Kruijs (e3)	Benko's (g3)	Larsen's (b3)

2009 Boulder Winter Grand Prix, Jan 24 - 25, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/90, TD/5

Site: University Memorial Center #415

Open: One Open Section

Entry fee: \$35, \$30 if rec'd by Jan 21st, \$8 less for Jr/Sr/Unrated

Prizes: \$675 gtd. \$180-\$120, \$75 each for U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200

Registration: Sat: 9-10 AM., Rounds: 10, 2, 6. Sun 11:30, 3:30.

Entries: Klaus Johnson 3605 Endicott Dr. Boulder, CO 80305

Phone: (303)854-7898

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

Website: www.geocities.com/boulderchessclub

A USCF Grand Prix event (6 points)

A large qualifier for the 2009 Boulder Club Championship

A CO Tour event

CSCA membership required, (\$15, \$10 for Srs/Jrs), OSA

Loveland Open, February 7 - 8, 2009

4 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: 40/2, G/1

Site: Larimer County Fairgrounds, McKee Community Building, 5280 Arena Cir., Loveland, CO, 80538

Directions: I-25 to exit 259, Crossroads Blvd. Go east to the second light, then go north. Look on left for the archway, and turn left there.

Open: Open to all USCF members and unrated.

Santa Fe: Open to all USCF members rated under 1610 and unrated.

Entry fee: \$30 (\$25 if received by Feb. 5th)

Prizes: Based on entries.

Registration: 8-9:30 AM, Rounds: 10 AM, 4 PM; 9 AM, 3 PM..

Entries: Randy Reynolds 1839 Thyme Court, Fort Collins, CO 80528

Phone: 970-310-4224

E-mail: randy_teyana@msn.com

A Colorado Tour Event. CSCA Membership required (\$15, \$10 for jr./sr.). OSA. 25% off for junior, senior, or unrated.

A Valentine Tournament, February 14, 2009

An Open One-Day Rated Chess Tournament

Time Control: 5SS, G/30 TD 5

Site: Location: at the Daily Grind, 209 S. Union, Pueblo (take 1st Street exit, three blocks to Union; Union & D Street)

Registration: 9:00-9:45, Rounds 10, 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45.

Entry fee: \$20; Sr, Jr, Unr \$15; CSCA & USCF required, OSA. Pre-registration entry fee: \$15, which must be paid at the time of pre-registration.

Prizes: Cash prizes based on entry fees will be distributed at the conclusion of the event. Final round byes must be requested before the start of Round 2, and are irrevocable.

Entries: For further information, contact Liz Wood, chessliz@comcast.net (719-566-6929) or Jerry Meier, (719-660-5531) Send pre-registrations to: Jerry Maier at 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs CO 80919-2213 or pmjer77@aim.com by February 12th. A CO Tour Event

February 2009 G/29 Series Event - Cheyenne, Wyoming (QC), February 19, 2009

3 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/29, no delay

Site: Laramie County Community College Cafeteria, 1400 East College Drive, Cheyenne, Wyoming

Open: One Section. Accelerated Pairings with more than 12 entries

Entry fee: \$3

Prizes: 100% minus USCF rating fee (60% for tourney prizes, remainder to Grand Prix Prize Fund)

Registration: 6:30-7:00 pm, onsite only, e-mail if you intend to come, Rounds: 7:00-8:00-9:00 p.m..

Entries: Allan Cunningham

Phone: (307)635-3102

E-mail: adcdac@bresnan.net

A Colorado G/29 Grand Prix Event

Not a USCF GP Event

Colorado Springs Open, March 7 - 8, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: Rds 1-3 40/90 and G/1; Rds 4-5 40/2 and G/1

Site: Manitou Springs City Hall, 606 Manitou Ave.

Open: One open section

Entry fee: \$30 if rec'd by March 5, \$35 at site. \$8 EF discount for juniors, seniors, unrated

Prizes: Cash prizes per entries

Registration: 8:30 - 9:30, Rounds: 10, 2:30, 7:00; 9:00 AM, 3:00.

Entries: Richard Buchanan 844B Prospect Place, Manitou Springs CO 80829

Phone: (719) 685-1984

E-mail: buckpeace@pcisys.net

CSCA required, (\$15, jrs & srs 10), OSA.

Colorado Tour Event

Spring is Sprung Open III, April 4, 2009

A One-Day Rated Chess Tournament

Time Control: 5SS, G/30 TD 5

Site: Location: at the Daily Grind, 209 S. Union, Pueblo (take 1st Street exit, three blocks to Union; Union & D Street)

Registration: 9:00-9:45, Rounds 10, 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45.

Entry fee: \$20; Sr, Jr, Unr \$15; CSCA & USCF required, OSA. Pre-registration entry fee: \$15, which must be paid at the time of pre-registration.

Prizes: Cash prizes based on entry fees will be distributed at the conclusion of the event. Final round byes must be requested before the start of Round 2, and are irrevocable.

Entries: For further information, contact Liz Wood, chessliz@comcast.net (719-566-6929) or Jerry Meier, (719-660-5531) Send pre-registrations to: Jerry Maier at 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs CO 80919-2213 or pmjer77@aim.com by April 4th.

A CO Tour Event

(Continued on page 32)

2009 Boulder Open, April 10 - 12, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: 40/120 G/60 (2-day schedule, Rds 1-2 G/90 TD/5)

Site: Best Western Boulder Inn, Flatirons Room, 770 28th Street Boulder, CO

Open : Open to all

Reserve: Open to players rated under 1600

Entry fee: \$50, \$40 if rec'd by April 8th. \$10 less for Jr/Sr/Unrated

Prizes: \$1500 b/50 (46 players last year) Open: \$300-175-125, U2000, U1800 \$100 each. Reserve: \$250-150-100, U1400, U1200, \$100 each.

Registration: 3-day Regis: 4/10 6:00-6:30 PM, 2-day: 4/11 9:00 AM-9:45 AM, Rounds: 4/10 6:30 PM, 4/11 10:00, 5:00, 4/12 9:30, 4 -- 2 day: Rds 4/11 10:00, 1:30, 5:00, 4/12 9:30, 4.

Entries: Klaus Johnson 3605 Endicott Dr. Boulder, CO 80305

Phone: (303)854-7898

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

A USCF Grand Prix Event (6 points)

A CO Tour Event

Open section is grand qualifier for 2009 Boulder Club Championship

Reserve section is mini-qualifier for 2009 Boulder Club Championship
CSCA membership required (\$15, \$10 for Jr/Sr), OSA.

Pueblo Open III, June 6, 2009

A One-Day Rated Chess Tournament

Time Control: 5SS, G/30 TD 5

Site: Location: at the Daily Grind, 209 S. Union, Pueblo (take 1st Street exit, three blocks to Union; Union & D Street)

Registration: 9:00-9:45, Rounds 10, 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45.

Entry fee: \$20; Sr, Jr, Unr \$15; CSCA & USCF required, OSA. Pre-registration entry fee: \$15, which must be paid at the time of pre-registration.

Prizes: Cash prizes based on entry fees will be distributed at the conclusion of the event. Final round byes must be requested before the start of Round 2, and are irrevocable.

Entries: For further information, contact Liz Wood, chessliz@comcast.net (719-566-6929) or Jerry Meier, (719-660-5531) Send pre-registrations to: Jerry Maier at 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs CO 80919-2213 or pmjer77@aim.com by June 4th.

A CO Tour Event

**Scholastic Schedule**

See <http://www.coloradochess.com/scholast/> for details

Jan 10, 2009 CSSCS #4 The Holiday Transition CO Springs
Jan 17, 2009 Denver Scholastic Chess Series #4 Denver
Jan 17, 2009 Calvary United Methodist Church CO Springs
Feb 7, 2009 Denver Scholastic Chess Series #5 Denver
Feb 14, 2009 CSSCS #5 The Pre-State Endgame CO Springs
Feb 21-22, 2009 Scholastic State Championship Denver
March 14, 2009 CSSCS #6 The Combination CO Springs
March 21, 2009 Denver Scholastic Chess Series #6 Denver
April 11, 2009 Denver Scholastic Chess Championship (#7)
April 18, 2009 CSSCS #7 The Series Finale CO Springs

Colorado State Chess Association
1839 Thyme Court
Fort Collins, CO 80528

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