

COLORADO CHESS INFORMANT

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**Tyler Hughes Shines at the US
Chess Championships
-- Exclusive Interview**

COLORADO STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION

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Send address changes and memberships to Randy Reynolds. Send pay renewals to Richard Buchanan. **See page 27 for E-Z renewal form!**

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The Passed Pawn CO Chess Informant Editor Randy Reynolds

Greetings Chess Friends,

It's just so incredible.

I'm talking about this issue's cover story, with Tyler Hughes doing so well at the US Championships. Watch the logic: Tyler has beaten GM Boris Gulko. And Tyler has beaten me. Ergo, I am just as good as Gulko. Amazing... really boggles the mind when you think about it.

Before any of you claim my logic is faulty, let me just say -- **Oh, look! Is that a hanging piece over there?!**

Now that I've distracted you, the interview with Tyler is just the beginning of this great issue! We've got the report from the Colorado Closed, including several games from that event. And Matt Lasley shares some of his Danish Gambit experience from a recent tournament.

Paul Anderson, another of my consistent contributors, has a tragic tale of his road to 2000. C'mon, Paul! You can do it! I've also put in a game of my own I was happy enough with, and there's a new feature on page 18: "Classic Colorado". Sometimes it's nice to get back to some older games.

Also, rumor has it there **might** be a new Informant editor in the near future, too!

.....

Wh-why are you all cheering?

Enjoy this issue! ☺

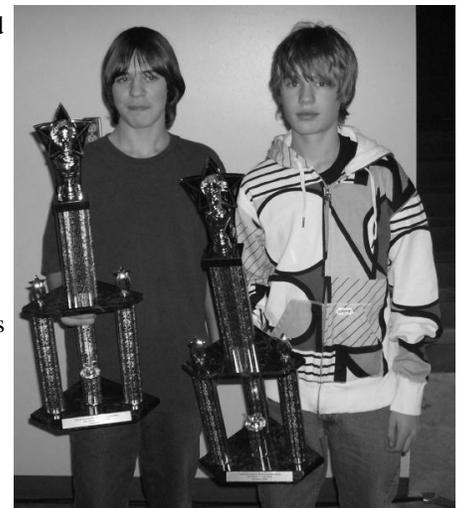
Mailbag

I just noticed (and Rhett did) that he and Evan were the only State Champions without their picture in the last Informant. I'm sending one of both of them. Rhett is on the left, and Evan is on the right.

-- DuWayne Langseth

[Ed. note: Thanks for this elusive picture. I had to leave before the awards ceremony, so I missed on getting this picture, though I got others from Brian Wall and other channels.

Also, I should mention that Evan and Rhett were co-champions for the 7-9 section, not 1st and 2nd as I reported in the last Informant. I was thinking in terms of trophies, but Evan and Rhett both had the same score, making them co-champions. --RSR]



President's Report by CSCA President Klaus Johnson

Hello again Colorado Chess Players! There's been several tour events in the last three months, this is shaping up to be a very active year! First up was the March Madness, which had 22 players in 2 sections. The open section was won by NM Tyler Hughes with a perfect 4/4. The reserve (U1600) was won by Ben Wilkinson and Daniel Zhou with 3.5/4. The Colorado Closed and Class were held the following weekend, a more detailed account is shown on page ___ but the big winners were GM Dashzegve Sharavdorj with 4.5/5 in the Closed section and Richard Herbst who had a perfect 5/5. Anthea Carson won the Spring is Sprung tournament in Pueblo with 4.5/5 a week later. The Boulder Open's attendance was down from last year, only 38 players in two sections, but the open section was very strong with five masters and three experts attending. IM Michael Mulyar dodged the mine field and won the open section outright with 4.5/5. In 2nd place was Tyler Hughes with 4.0/5, and 3rd-4th was shared by NM Philipp Ponomarev and Jef-

frey Csima with 3.5/4. Derek Fish crushed the reserve (U1600) with a perfect 5/5. The Springs Fundraiser the following weekend was the last of five (!) consecutive weekends with tour events. Mitch Anderson won the 12-player tournament with a perfect 4 for 4. After just a week off, we had one more tour event the first week of May. The Super Saturday G/29 tournament was held in Fort Collins. Not sure if it was the low cost, the time control, or the one day event, but a total of 36 players showed up to play in the six round tournament. Mitch Anderson won his second successive tour event with a perfect 6 for 6. George Voorhis and Josh Divine followed in 2nd-3rd with 5 points. Interestingly enough, both of their only losses came at the hands of Alexander Yu who gained more than 200 quick rating points in the tournament.

Over the last two months of the tour season (July and August), there are fewer tour events. The only event in July is the CO Quick Championship in Boulder on July 11th. Although not a tour event, the Boulder Invitational and the Boulder Chess Festival will be held the last weekend of July. The Invitational is an 8-player round robin and has been fairly strong the last couple of years. The year finishes with a bang though as the first four weekends in August are

already filled up with tour events. There is the classic Pikes Peak Open on Aug 1st-2nd, It's a Hot Time in Town Tonight in Pueblo on August 8th. The second Super Saturday tournament in Boulder will be held on the 15th, and the brand new Monument Open on August 21st-22nd. The CO Open will then kick off the 2009-2010 Tour during Labor Day weekend.

Even if you are not going to play in the CO Open this year, you should consider attending the membership meeting that Sunday. This will be your chance to voice any concerns or advance new ideas about Colorado Chess to the entire community. The membership meeting is also where we will vote in our new CSCA board. For those of you who want to take an active role in improving Colorado chess, I urge you to run. I know of at least one position that will be vacant, as I will not be running for reelection in September. For those of you who run for President, part of the August newsletter will be available for any personal statement that you wish to make (150 words or less). If you'd like to write a statement, please contact me before August 1st.

Klaus Johnson
CSCA President

Randy Reynolds : Colorado Chess volunteer July 09 by Klaus Johnson

This quarter's volunteer of the quarter is Randy Reynolds. Randy has been wearing a lot of hats lately, he's one of the leaders of Northern Colorado Chess, the director of the Loveland Open, is Secretary of CSCA, and is the Informant editor on top of all that.

Randy was fairly active in the chess scene during scholastics, but like many of us, fell out of it during his early adulthood. In 2000 he moved to Colorado and took up chess again, this time also becoming a TD. The first couple of years, he was an assistant to Charles Moore at the Loveland Open. When Charles was temporarily relocated to Singapore for work in late 2006, Randy took

over as chief TD in Loveland. Randy's also been a TD at many scholastic tournaments, both locally for kids around Loveland and Fort Collins, and at the state level, he is usually in the backroom at the annual state championship. He was even a volunteer TD at the Elementary School Nationals in 2006.

Randy was first elected Secretary in 2004 and has served the board as such every year except in 2007-08 when he lost a close race for CSCA president. As secretary, he has made the most difference by updating the CSCA website (the member list in particular), and by keeping tabs of the CO Tour standings. When I first joined CSCA (in 2004), the tour standings were updated on the website only sporadically, usually you had to wait until the next Informant to find out how the Tour was going. Now, Randy's been able to perfect the method of calculating the points so that it only takes a few

minutes once a tournament is rated. Every time I request a tour standings update for one of the monthly newsletters, I always get it within 24 hours.

In addition to his work as Secretary and one of the organizers of Northern Colorado, Randy has also been the editor of every Informant issue except for one since April 2006 (this issue is lucky thirteen). The two issues before April 2006 (Oct 05 and Jan 06) were not printed, so CSCA might be a very different organization today if Randy had not stepped up and taken on this large responsibility.

If you'd like to nominate somebody for Volunteer of the quarter, please send an email with your nomination to boulderchessclub@yahoo.com by August 15th. This year's nominees so far have been Liz Wood, Dean Brown, and Randy Reynolds.

by Randy Reynolds

Tyler Hughes: Dark Horse of the US Championships

Local player Tyler Hughes was given an opportunity not many in Colorado are given - the chance to play in the US Chess Championships. 24 of the strongest players in the nation gathered together in St. Louis for the 9 round event.

Despite Tyler being at the bottom of the competitive field ratings-wise, he didn't let the underdog title slow him down as he proceeded to score 4.0/9 for the event, including an amazing first round upset against Grandmaster Boris Gulko.

I sat down with Tyler (OK, OK, you got me... e-mailed...sheesh!) to chat about his experience at the United States tournament of tournaments.

Randy: Many know this, but some don't - how did you qualify for the US Championships in the first place?

Tyler: I qualified by winning the 2008 U.S. Junior Closed in Lindsborg, Kansas.

Randy: What kind of preparation did you do to get ready?

Tyler: I revamped some of my openings, studied Dvoretsky, and ran 3 miles a day. I tried to prepare for each one of my 23 possible opponents with both white and black, but that became too daunting so I decided to just focus on specific systems I needed to improve. I actually ended up not using very much of my preparation, because most of my opponents seemed to play offbeat lines which threw me on my own resources early on.

Randy: What were your expectations going in to the tournament?

Tyler: I just hoped not to spend the whole tournament on the bottom board. I wasn't really sure how I'd do, as I'd never before played in a field of predominantly chess professionals.

Randy: Were you nervous?

Tyler: I wasn't nervous at all when I was first invited. I just felt excited to play - I found out that I was going to be invited from Brian's email list in late January, and the high from that lasted until mid March. At that point I realized I was actually going to have to play all these people and started to worry about making a complete spectacle out of myself.

Randy: What was different about the US Championships that you've never seen at Colorado tournaments before?

Tyler: Well, the media coverage was totally new for me. I'd never been asked for my autograph before, and being interviewed after games also took some getting used to. Sometimes it felt like I'd rather be back a pawn down

and in time trouble against Gulko than answer a question live on ChessFM!

Randy: We all know what post-mortems are like in local tournaments. Someone points out all my mistakes, I sadly nod to all their advice... Are the post-mortems any different at the national level? How so?

Tyler: That was pretty much my experience too; I really enjoyed the post-mortems though, it was fascinating to analyze with such strong players. I ended up doing a post-mortem with every one of my opponents, and I think these taught me a great deal.

Randy: What was your most frustrating moment at the tournament?

Tyler: My most frustrating moment was probably my loss to Ibragimov in round 6. I threw everything I could at him that game and he found some excellent only moves to stay in the fight. It was painful to pour everything I had into that game and still come up short. On the other hand I prefer losing in that fashion to my debacles with Onischuk and Benjamin, as they both made me look like an idiot.



GM Boris Gulko (L) and Tyler Hughes await the start of the first round of the 2009 US Chess Championships.

Randy: And what about your happiest moment?

Tyler: My happiest moment was beating Shankland in round 7. I had lost the previous rounds 5 and 6, and for a long time I was in a difficult position and it looked like I was going to lose again, which would be three losses in a row e.g. “castling queenside.” I managed to defend alright and the position was heading for a draw in a rook endgame when Shankland tried a daring plan of sacrificing a pawn to gain time to push a dangerous passer on the other side of the board. I managed to find the right defensive moves and he actually still had a draw close to the end, but he missed it and I gained a somewhat undeserved victory by rushing my king-side pawns.

Randy: What surprised you the most? Something that defied your expectations of what you thought the US Championship would be like?

Randy: I heard you just barely missed out on gaining IM norms. What was the story behind that?

Tyler: My 4.0/9 score gave me a FIDE performance rating of 2448, I believe, and 2450 is required for an IM norm. I had some bad luck in that one of my opponents, Charles Lawton, had no FIDE rating, and therefore was counted as a 2100 for the calculations of IM norms, despite being a much stronger 2350 USCF player. It was a little frustrating to come so close, but going in I didn't expect to perform anywhere near IM level. It was only in the last few rounds I started wondering about whether I could get it.

Randy: Which was your favorite event out of the 2008 US Junior closed, the 2008 World Junior Championship, or the US Championships?

Tyler: Definitely the US Championships.

now, you probably don't have to worry about playing any of us Colorado people ever again (not that you worry). So what's the secret of rapidly improving chess? What do you think the average tournament player in Colorado be studying/doing to best improve their game?

Tyler: I don't think there's any magic formula to rapidly improving at chess, everyone has their own plateaus to break through. I struggled around 1900, and again in the 2100s, and most recently in the 2250-2300 range, but I think those barriers are different for every player. I think these periods where results level off are normal, healthy periods during which one builds up the necessary knowledge and experience to break through to the next level.

I think the most important thing for any aspiring player to do, however, is to study every game he or she plays, both wins and losses. I think some players aren't self-critical enough, and I think this can make progress difficult. Even won games can contain numerous mistakes, and it is just as important to identify these as it is to figure out what went wrong in lost games. If you analyze enough of your games, patterns of mistakes will probably emerge, and knowing these should help you fix problems in your game.

Randy: Thanks for the interview, Tyler, and congratulations on a great finish against a brutal field!

I asked Tyler to annotate one of his favorite games, and he sent me his game against GM Boris Gulko. You'll definitely want to check it out on page 6; it's got a lot of great insight from a great chess player. Oh, and the best part: regular chess players like me can actually understand the annotation!

Thanks again, Tyler!

“... The most important thing for any aspiring player to do ... is to study every game he or she plays....”

-- Tyler Hughes

Tyler: It hadn't occurred to me that most of the other players knew each other already. Despite the stakes involved, people were pretty friendly with one another. I thought that in such a prestigious event everyone would be too focused to have fun.

These people have basically been my heroes since I was 9 years old, and the whole experience of actually playing these guys just felt surreal the whole time. I expected stone-faced gods or something, but actually I came to realize they are just talented people with a passion. I guess that should be obvious, but it was surprising for me, at least.

Randy: What did you learn from your experience?

Tyler: On a personal level, I did much better than I expected. Before St. Louis I didn't feel particularly ambitious as a chess player anymore, but now I can see myself possibly chasing a GM title in the future. I never thought I would be in the game for as long as I managed against Christiansen and Ibragimov, for example. And I certainly never thought I could beat Gulko. These partial successes make me wonder how far I can go with chess.

Randy: On a personal note, since you're heading to UTD for college

annotated by
Tyler Hughes

GM Gulko vs. Hughes

W: GM Boris Gulko (2631)

B: Tyler B. Hughes (2316)

2009 U.S. Championship, St. Louis, MO
Round 1, May 8, 2009

At the start of this game I still couldn't believe I was playing in the U.S. Championship. I was a little nervous, but as soon as the clocks started I felt my anxiety melt away. I'm not sure why this is, because in the past I've had great problems with nerves. Perhaps the sheer magnitude of my skill deficit compared to this field made me feel less pressure; I was expecting to get killed every game so just tried to give each move my best shot.

1.d4 Preparing for Gulko felt quite hopeless, as he plays 1.Nf3, 1.e4, and 1.d4.

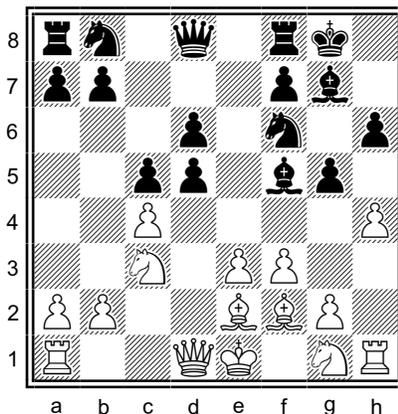
1...Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Bg5 This wasn't a total surprise, as I had seen that he had played it in some games, but he generally prefers other variations.

4...d6 5.e3 0-0 6.Be2!? An unusual move order; much more common is 6.Nf3. I have actually dabbled in this variation myself as White, playing it against GM Sharavdorj in the Colorado Closed this year [Ed. note: Page 10]. In that game Sharavdorj used a line with an early ...h6, ...g5, and ...Nh5 after my Nf3, and my coach Petr Kiriakov and I discussed this idea of developing Be2 first, to avoid the Nh5 line. We decided it wasn't great, because often after Nf3 Bf5 White would like to play Bd3, but this option isn't as good with the early Be2 move order because of the lost tempo.

6...h6 7.Bh4 c5 8.d5 Bf5 9.f3!? This move surprised me. I haven't seen this idea before in this variation. Nf3 has always seemed automatic to me. White is preparing e4, and I didn't want to retreat Bf5 to d7 or c8 where it would be very passive, so I felt my next move was necessary to give it another square to go to.

9...g5 10.Bf2 e6 I felt that my only way for counterplay was with this move, trying to open the center or establish a queenside pawn majority. [10...a6 I also considered playing 10...a6 with the idea of ...b5, but after 11.e4 Bg6 12.a4 I didn't see a way to proceed other than ...e6.]

11.h4 exd5!? (Diagram)



I'm embarrassed to say that the fact that I was committing positional suicide on the kingside never crossed my mind. Since my g-pawn has advanced to g5, trading off my e-pawn like this leaves me with a gaping hole on f5. However, I do receive some dynamic compensation in the form of queenside play, and by the course of the game, I'm not sure 11...exd5 was such a bad decision. It's very risky, but other moves don't give me as much play. I'd like to play moves as daring as this in the future, but I really should have realized the positional ramifications.

12.hxg5 hxg5 13.cxd5 Qa5 This felt natural, placing the knight in a pin and introducing possible tactical ideas such as ...Nxd5.

14.Bd3! I didn't expect this move at all, but it is very logical. Trading the light bishops is an excellent way of highlighting my weak kingside squares. Also, 14.Bd3 clears e2 for the Ng1, which was previously very limited in options to due the pawn on f3.

14...Bxd3 The only way to avoid this exchange would be to retreat my bishop to d7 or c8, but that wouldn't solve my problems on the light squares as his bishop would also remain.

15.Qxd3 Nbd7 16.Nge2 Rfe8 A classic "which rook" dilemma. Here I think I made the right choice in moving my king's rook instead of my queen's rook to e8. The advantage of Rfe8 is that it gives my king an escape square on f8, if instead I had played Rae8, I could never move my Nf6 because of Qh7#. [16...Ne5! Another way to play was to go after the queen right away, but after 17.Qf5 I didn't see a way to save my g5-pawn, although perhaps I would have some compensation based on Nd3+ ideas.]

17.Kf1!? Another move that caught me off

guard, but once he played it I saw the logic. He wants to get the king out of the center, but castling kingside doesn't make much sense because the Rh1 is well placed already on the open file, and castling queenside is very dangerous due to my queenside majority and strong Bg7. [17.e4 Ne5 18.Qc2 c4 I was planning on this move, threatening to intrude on d3 with the knight. 19.0-0 (19.Nc1?! This is too passive. 19...g4! 20.f4 (20.Qe2 gxf3 21.gxf3 Nxd5!+) 20...Ng6µ f4 and e4 are hanging.) 19...Nd3= Dynamically balanced, white has the superior structure and king position, while black has more activity and will soon have an uncontested bishop on g7 after Nxf2. If white tries to avoid this with Be3, ...g4 gives decent play. 20.Be3 g4=]

17...Ne5 18.Qf5 Ne4! I had seen that white must give up his dark squared bishop after Qxg5.

19.Qxg5 White must go in for it, otherwise I play ...Re5 protecting g5 with a good game. [19.e4?! Re5 20.Qh3 g4 21.Qg3 Rae8=+]

19...Re5! I'm happy with this active move. White only has two squares.

20.Qf4 I think this move is inaccurate, because it allows me to exchange off Bf2, increasing my dark square counterplay. [20.Qg3 Nxe3+ (20...Nxb2?! 21.e4 Nd3 22.Be3 This looks good for white; I'm becoming worried about black's king.) 21.Bxe3 Rxe3 I also like this position for black, due to my strong dark squared bishop and active rook.; 20.Qh4?? Rh5!+]

20...Nxb2 There's no good way for white to avoid ...Nd3xf2.

21.Rb1 [21.Qg3 Qd3-f5-xg5-f4-g3 is a huge loss of time, black has great compensation, for example: 21...Nd3 22.Rd1 Nxf2 23.Qxf2 (23.Kxf2 b5) 23...b5!+ 24.e4 b4 25.Nb1 Qxa2-+ Things are becoming grim.]

21...Nd3 [21...Nxd5 Actually I totally missed that this move was possible. 22.Nxd5 Rxd5 Bg7 protects g7. While black has won a pawn, the kingside looks pretty exposed. However, there doesn't seem to be a way for white to exploit this.]

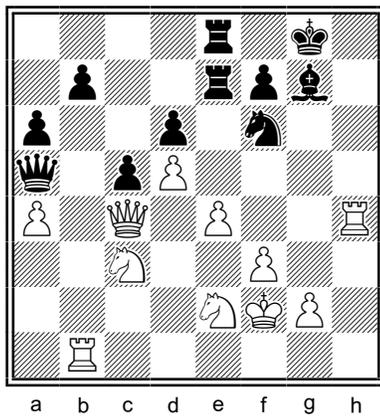
22.Qc4 Nxf2 The end of my knight's whirl through white's territory. This piece led an accomplished life, eliminating b2 and the dark squared bishop, and giving me decent counterplay on the dark squares all over the board for the rest of the game.

23.Kxf2 Rae8 24.e4 [24.Rxb7?! Rxe3=+ This was possible, but my rooks look strong.]

24...R5e7 I need to defend my b7-pawn, and the rook wasn't really good on e5, it only went there to chase away white's queen.

25.Rh4 I assume that the idea of this move was to double on the h-file, but Gulko never gets time to do this.

25...a6 Threatening to expand with ...b5, which Gulko prevents. Although I didn't realize it at the time, the inclusion of a6 and a4 turns out to be in my favor, for reasons mentioned later.



26.a4 (Diagram) Nd7! This is my favorite move of the game. I realized that it is critical not to allow white time to play Ne2-g3-f3. White has been eyeing the weakness of this square ever since 14.Bd3, and this strategy is close to coming to fruition. If the knight gets to f5, my position becomes basically lost as the kingside will be untenable.

The immediate purpose of Nd7 is to delay the Ne2-g3-f5 maneuver by opening up the Bg7 to attack Nc3. This knight will be much more active from e5, where it hits Qc4 and menaces White's king. The problem, of course, is that Nd7 leaves the b7 pawn hanging. My first candidate move was 26...Qc7, simply to prepare Nd7 by protecting b7. However, this variation leads to misery for black: [26...Qc7? 27.Ng3! Nd7 28.Nf5 Now my rook is forced to reoccupy the e5 square, again getting in the way of my knight and bishop. 28...Re5 29.Rbh1 Black's position is terrible. There no counterplay, and all white needs to do is maneuver the queen to the kingside and there will be no way to defend. The knight on f5 is just too strong.]

27.Rxb7 Ne5 If the pawns were still on a2 and a7, White would have Qb5 here, forcing an exchange of queens.

28.Rxe7 [28.Qb3? Rxb7 29.Qxb7 Ng6!+ Black

wins a piece, as both Rh4 and Nc3 are hanging.]

28...Rxe7 [28...Nxc4? This just loses 29.Rxe8+ Bf8 30.Rg4+ Kh7 31.Rxf8 White has too much material for the queen, plus my king will be in grave danger once a knight arrives on f5.]

29.Qb3 Qd8! This retreating move is actually aggressive. My queen wasn't really doing anything on a5, and on d8 accomplishes the dual purposes of defending against Qb8+ and threatens the loose rook on h4, which will gain me a very useful tempo once I move my rook from e7.

30.Nd1?! Consistently trying to get a knight to f5, but it seems to be too slow. Better was to reposition the king. [30.Ng3? This move is thematic with white's light squared strategy on the kingside, but it lets black's counterplay get out of control, for example: 30...c4 31.Qc2 Rb7 32.Nf5 Rb2! 33.Qxb2 Nd3+; 30.Kg3! Gulko and I analyzed this move in the post-mortem. This calm king shift dodges many of Black's tactical ideas, and gives white a much better chance of weathering the storm. It is strange that the king is safer on g3 than it is on f2, but such is chess.]

30...c4! [30...Rb7?! This was another tempting option which I didn't have time to calculate, but it's not so good. 31.Qxb7 Qxh4+ 32.Kf1 Nd3 33.Qc8+! Bf8 34.Qg4+ Qxg4 35.fxg4=]

31.Qe3 Rb7! All of the sudden, black is becoming very active.

32.Rh5 [32.Kg3!? Perhaps this move would dodge some of the tactics, the same idea as 30.Kg3. But Black still seems to have the better of it. 32...Rb1 33.Nf2 Ng6+ The king is not so safe on g3 either because ...Be5+ is coming.]

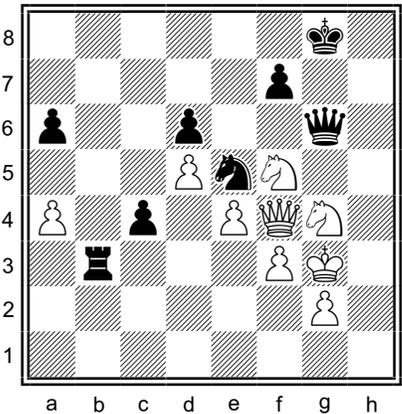
32...Nd3+ 33.Kg3 The king must step forward. [33.Kf1?? Rb1]

33...Rb1 34.Nf2 Be5+! 35.Rxe5!? I didn't expect Gulko to sacrifice the exchange here, but looking at the alternatives, it was probably the best option. [35.f4 Nxf4! This idea is crucial - without it Be5+ would be pointless. 36.Nxf4 Rb3+ With the a-pawn back on a2 and a7 this resource would not be available. It's funny how one little difference like a4 and a6 instead of a2 and a7 enable my initiative to grow instead of fizzle.; 35.Kh3 Nxf2+ 36.Qxf2 c3+ Black seems to be winning because of the dangerous c-pawn. 37.f4 Bg7 38.Kh2 c2 39.e5 Perhaps white can create some counterplay, but it shouldn't be enough. 39...c1Q 40.Nxc1 Rxc1]

35...Nxe5 36.Nd4 Qf6 37.Nf5 Finally, 23

moves after Gulko began this plan with 14.Bd3, a knight arrives on f5!

37...Rb3 38.Qf4 Qg6+ 39.Ng4?? (Diagram)



I was relieved to see this move. Gulko's oversight was probably due to our mutual time pressure one move before the control. [39.Kh2 This is a tricky position. Even though I'm up an exchange, it is possible for me to lose quickly due to the knight on f5. Actually, the move I was planning, 39...Kf8, loses instantly! 39...Kh8 (39...Kf8? 40.Qh4! Ouch. All of the sudden white is winning thanks to the dual threats of Qh8+ and Qd8+. I can try to hang on with ...f6 but it is very bad. 40...f6 41.Qh8+ Kf7 42.f4 Nd7 (42...Ng4+?? 43.Nxg4 Qxg4 44.Nh6+--)) 43.Ng4! A nice shot, bringing the last piece into the attack.]

39...Qxg4+! [39...Nxg4?? 40.Ne7+ I think this is what Gulko was counting on with 39.Ng4.]

40.Qxg4+ Nxg4 41.Kxg4 c3 The c3 pawn will cost Gulko his knight. I can't improve on Brian's comment that the knight is "comically posted on his proud outpost, alone and choking on his own hubris." Just a few short moves after reaching the promised land, it is forced to leave to throw itself under the tracks of my c-pawn.

I'm quite proud of this game, although as I've pointed out, I missed a great deal. Going into the tournament all I wanted to do was play interesting games and maybe pull off a couple of upsets, but this was beyond my expectations. I'd never defeated a GM before, and it was a wonderful way to start the tournament. The next 5 GMs I played beat me with varying degrees of ease, but it was nice to come away with this scalp of the only player ever to have won both the American and Soviet championships. **0-1**

by Klaus Johnson

Colorado Closed Round-by-Round

Round 1 was held on Friday night, the six games between the Closed and the Scholastic Closed were the only games being played. In the closed section, the favorites (Sharavdorj, Mulyar, and Ponomarev) were seeded against the bottom three seeds (Hughes, Anderson, and Wall). All three favorites won. In the scholastic section, Herbst, Reilly, and Lehti managed to defeat their opponents (Scudder, Twerskoi, and Chen), so going into Saturday, the top three seeds in each section all had a point.

Round 2 was held concurrently with the first round of the Colorado Class. In the closed section, Sharavdorj defeated Ponomarev in a long 63-move struggle to emerge as the only perfect 2-0. Hughes defeated Mulyar with an

under-promotion, and Anderson and Wall split the point. In the Scholastic section, Herbst defeated Reilly, Twerskoi upset Lehti, and Chen beat Scudder after a long game.

During the end of round 2 and in between rounds, Philipp Ponomarev attempted to defend his Colorado Closed title while participating in the online qualifier for the US Championship. Unfortunately, Philipp was unsuccessful in qualifying for the US Championship, and had very difficult pairings on Saturday (Sharavdorj in the morning, Mulyar in the afternoon). In the other round 3 games, Hughes beat Mitch and Sharavdorj extended his perfect streak to 3-0. In the scholastic section, Herbst won again to increase his lead, as the other two games ended in draws.

Sharavdorj continued his perfect run by defeating Mitch in the 4th round, which guaranteed him the title as both Hughes—Ponomarev and Wall—

Mulyar were drawn (in 114 moves!). Herbst also clinched the scholastic section by defeating Chen. Lehti also won to put himself in good position for second place, but Twerskoi won to stay in contention.

In the last round, Mulyar and Sharavdorj played a quick draw, which left the door open for Hughes to take sole 2nd place with a win over Wall (Brian lost some time on the clock as he went out for an evening stroll and found himself locked out of the building). Ponomarev defeated Anderson in 28 moves and stayed in 4th place. With the title locked up, Richard went for a 5th win and was not disappointed, going 5-0 for the 2nd year in a row. Ben Reilly and Phillip Scudder agreed to a draw fairly quickly, but David Twerskoi tried for over 60 moves to win to get sole possession of 2nd place. Jackson Chen defended well and second place was shared.

by Klaus Johnson

Colorado Class Championship

The Colorado Class was a huge success, with forty-six players playing in five different sections, everybody was playing opponents who were roughly their own strength.

In the A-section, Daoud Zupa shook off a first-round draw to DuWayne Langseth and emerged victorious with 3.5/4, winning the 7-player section by a full point.

The 8-player B section was won by Robert Frohardt who won his first three games and then drew his last game. In 2nd place was Anthea Carson with 3 points, whose only loss was to Robert in the 3rd round.

In the largest (13-player) section, both Daniel Zhou and Brendon Barela had 3-0 records going into the final game. The game ended in a draw. They split the 1st prize money, but Daniel won the title on tie-breaks.

Similarly, both Matthew Lasley and his daughter Alexa were a perfect 3 for 3 going into the last round of the class D section. That game also ended in a draw, and Matthew ended up winning the title by just a half-point on the first tie-breaker.

Ginny Gaige was the only player in the Colorado Class to have a perfect record, she won the class E title by a full point and gained more than 200 rating points in the process.

Congratulations to the winners of the classes, Daoud Zupa, Robert Frohardt, Daniel Zhou, Brendon Barela, Matthew Lasley, Alexa Lasley, and Ginny Gaige!

**SELECT GAMES
FROM BOTH THE
COLORADO
CLOSED AND
THE COLORADO
CLASS
CHAMPIONSHIPS
ARE PUBLISHED
ON PAGES 9-11.**

by Klaus Johnson

Colorado Class Games

Annotations by Randy Reynolds

W: Schneider, Kathy

B: Leroux, Zoe

Colorado Class E (1), March 28, 2009

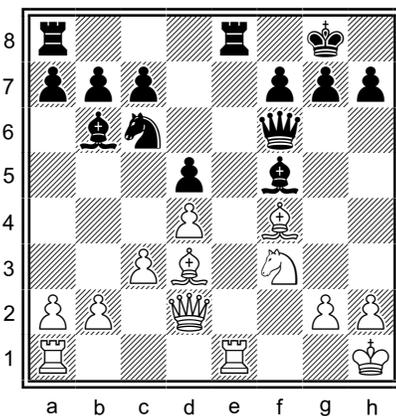
1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nc6 3.e3 g6 4.Be2 Bg7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Nc3 0-0 7.h3 d6 8.Nd5 Be6 9.Nxf6+ Bxf6 10.d4 Nb4 11.a3 Nc6 12.d5 Bd7 13.dxc6 Bxc6 14.h4 d5 15.cxd5 Bxd5 16.a4 Rc8 17.a5 c4 18.Nd4 c3 19.bxc3 Rxc3 20.Bd2 Rc8 21.a6 b6 22.f4 Bxh4 23.Bf3 Bc4 24.Be2 Bf6 25.Bxc4 Rxc4 26.Ra4 Qc8 27.Rxc4 Qxc4 28.Qe2 Qc8 29.Nb5 Qxa6 30.g4 Qb7 31.Qf3 Qb8 32.g5 Bg7 33.Bc3 Bxc3 34.Nxc3 a5 35.Kg2 b5 36.Rh1 b4 37.Qh3 h5 38.gxh6 Kh7 39.f5 bxc3 40.fxg6+ fxg6 41.Qe6 Qd8 The scoresheet loses accuracy here, but things definitely went from good to bad for White quickly here. 0-1

W: Cronin, Ed

B: Lasley, Alexa

Colorado Class D (1), March 28, 2009

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.c3 Nf6 6.d4 Bb6 7.0-0 Nxe4 8.Re1 d5 9.Bd3 Bf5 10.Bxf4 0-0 11.Qc2 Re8 12.Nbd2 Nxd2 13.Qxd2 Qf6? 14.Kh1?? (Diagram)



[14.Bg5 Qg6 15.Nh4] 14...Bxd3 15.Bg5 Qf5 16.Nh4 Qg4 17.h3 Qg3 18.Rad1 h6 19.Bxh6? [19.Nf3 Be4] 19...Qxh4 20.Bxg7 Kxg7? [20...Rxe1+ 21.Qxe1 Qxe1+ 22.Rxe1 Kxg7] 21.Rg1? [21.Rxe8 Rxe8 22.Qxd3]

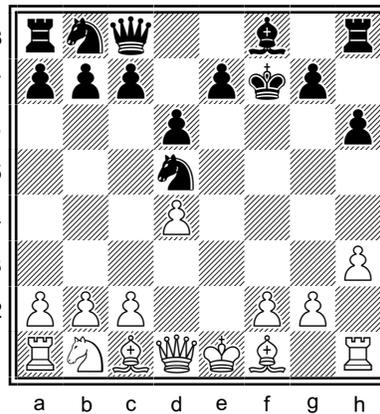
21...Bg6 22.Rgf1 Ne7 23.Rf4 Qh6 24.Rdf1 Nf5 25.Qf2 Re2 26.Qf3 Re3 27.Qxd5 Ng3+ 28.Kg1 Ne2+ White resigns. 0-1

W: Bagstad, Gary

B: Splichal, La Moyne

Colorado Class B (1), March 28, 2009

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.h3 Bh5 6.e6 Qc8 7.exf7+ Bxf7 8.Ng5 h6 9.Nxf7 Kxf7?? (Diagram) [9...Qe6+] 10.Qh5+ Ke6? 11.Qg4+ Black resigns. 1-0



W: Foster, Cory

B: Frohardt, Robert

Colorado Class B (1), March 28, 2009

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bg5 Be7 8.f4 Qc7 9.Bb3 Bd7 10.Qd2 Nc6 11.0-0? Qb6 12.Rad1 e5 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Bxf6 (Diagram) Nxd4?? [14...Bxf6 15.Rf2 exd4 16.Nd5 Qd8] 15.Bxf7+ Kxf7 16.Bxe5+ [16.Bxe7+ Ke8 (16...Kxe7?? 17.Nd5+) 17.Rf2] 16...Nf3+ 17.Kh1 Qg1+ 18.Rxg1 Nxd2 19.Rxd2 Be6 20.Rf1+ Kg6 21.Nd5 Bg5 22.Rd3 Rhf8 23.Rdf3 Rxf3 24.Rxf3 Bxd5 25.exd5 Re8 26.h4?? [26.Bg3 Re2 27.h4 Bf6 28.Rf2 Rxf2 29.Bxf2 Bxb2] 26...Rxe5 27.hxg5 Rxd5 28.Rc3 Rb5 29.b3 Kxg5 30.Rc4 h5 31.Kh2 Kf6 32.a4 Rb6 33.Rc5 g5 34.g3 Re6 35.Kg2 b6 36.Rc4 Kf5 37.b4 Re4 38.Rc6 Rxb4 39.a5 bxa5 40.Rc5+ Kg4 41.Rxa5 Rc4 42.Rxa6 [42.c3 Rxc3 43.Ra4+ Kf5 44.Ra5+] 42...Rxc2+ 43.Kf1 Kxg3 44.Ra3+ Kh4 45.Ra4+ g4 46.Ra3 g3 47.Ra4+ Kh3 48.Rf4 g2+ 49.Kg1 Rc1+ 50.Kf2 g1Q+ 0-1

W: Mullikin, Tom

B: Dempsey, Michael

Colorado Class D (1), March 28, 2009

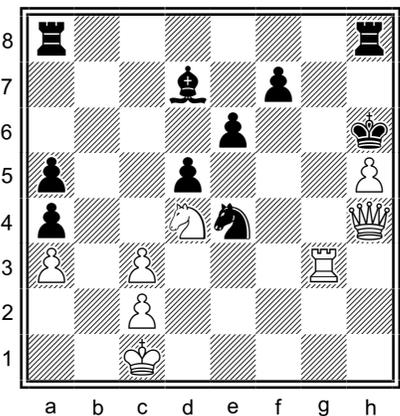
1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 d3 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bxd3 d6 6.Bf4 e5 7.Bg3 Nf6 8.Qb3 h6 9.c4 Be7 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Nd5 Qa5+ 12.Qc3 Nxd5 13.Qxa5 Nxa5 14.cxd5 b6 15.b4 Nb7 16.Bb5 a5 17.0-0 axb4 18.Rfb1 f5 19.Rxb4 fxe4 20.Rxe4 Nc5 21.Rb4 Bg4?? 22.Rxg4 h5 23.Rg6 e4 24.Nd4 h4? 25.Bxd6 Bxd6 26.Rxd6 Na4 27.Ne6 Rfc8 28.Bxa4 Rxa4 29.Rxb6 Rxa2 30.Rd1 Rcc2 31.Rf1 e3 32.Ng5 exf2+ 33.Kh1 Rc8 34.g3 Re2 35.Kg2 Rf8 36.Rb3 Re5 37.Ne6 h3+ 38.Kxh3 Re1 39.Nxf8!? Rxf1 40.Kg2 Rd1 41.Rf3 f1Q+ 42.Rxf1 Rxf1 43.Kxf1 Kxf8 44.Kf2 Ke7 45.Kf3 Kd6 46.Kf4 Kxd5 White goes on to win. 1-0

W: Baffo, Jeff (1822)

B: Morris, Gerry (1935)

Colorado Class A (2), March 28, 2009

1.Nc3 d5 2.e4 e6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e5 Nfd7 6.h4 c5 7.Bxe7 Kxe7 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.dxc5 Qa5 10.Qd2 Qxc5 11.0-0-0 h6 12.Qf4 a6 13.Bd3 b5 14.h5 Bb7 15.Rhe1 Nb4 16.a3 Nxd3+ 17.Rxd3 a5 18.Nd4 Bc6 19.Na4! bxa4 20.Rc3 Qxc3 21.bxc3 Rac8 22.Qh4+ Ke8 23.Re3 Nc5 24.f3 Bd7 25.g4 Kf8 26.Qe1 Ra8 27.f4 Ke7 28.f5 Rhc8 29.f6+ gxf6 30.exf6+ Kxf6 31.Qh4+ Kg7 32.g5 Rh8 33.Rg3 Ne4 34.gxh6+ Kxh6 (Diagram)



35.Rg1? [35.Qf4+ Kxh5 (35...Kh7 36.Qxf7+ Kh6 37.Qg6#; 35...Ng5 36.Qxg5+ Kh7 37.Qg7#) 36.Qg4+ Kh6 37.Rh3#] 35...Rag8 36.Qf4+ Rg5 37.Nf3 e5 38.Nxe5 1-0

by Klaus Johnson

Colorado Closed Games

W: Hughes, Tyler

B: Sharavdorj, Dashzegve

Colorado Closed (1), March 27, 2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 d6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 g5 7.Bg3 Nh5 8.e3 e6 9.Be2 Nd7 10.Qc2 Qe7 11.Nb5 Qd8 12.c5 a6 13.Nxc7+ Qxc7 14.Bxd6 Qd8 15.Nd2 Nhf6 16.e4 Bf8 17.Nc4 Bxd6 18.Nxd6+ Kf8 19.0-0 Ne8 20.Nc4 Qc7 21.b4 b6 22.Qb2 Rg8 23.Rac1 bxc5 24.bxc5 Rb8 25.Qa3 Kg7 26.Ne3 Nef6 27.Bf3 Kh8 28.e5 g4 29.Be2 Ne4 30.Nxg4 f5 31.exf6 Ndx6 32.Ne5 Qg7 33.g3 Nd7 34.Nxd7 Bxd7 35.c6 Bc8 36.Qe3 Nf6 37.Bf3 Rb5 38.Rb1 Rf5 39.Rb8 Qg5 40.Qxg5 hxg5 41.Be2 Rd5 42.f4 g4 43.f5 Kg7 44.fxe6 Rxd4 45.c7 Rd6 46.e7 Re8 47.Rxf6 Kxf6 48.Bxg4 Re6 49.Bxe6 Kxe6 50.Rb2 Kxe7 51.Rc2 Bd7 52.Rc3 a5 {Personally, your editor is a bit confused how GM Sharavdorj held off all those extra pawns with a bishop, but it could have happened.} 0-1

W: Ponomarev, Philipp

B: Wall, Brian

Colorado Closed (1), March 27, 2009

1.d4 d6 2.e4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Bg5 a6 5.a4 c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Qd2 Bxc3 8.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 9.bxc3 dxc5 10.Be3 Nf6 11.f3 Nfd7 12.a5 Ne6 13.Ne2 e5 14.Nc1 Kd8 15.Be4 f6 16.Nb3 Kc7 17.Nxc5 Nxc5 18.Bxc5 Nxa5 19.Rxa5 b6 20.Bb4 bxa5 21.Bxa5+ Kd6 22.Bb4+ Kc7 23.Ba5+ Kd6 24.Kf2 Bb7 25.Bb4+ Kc7 26.Rd1 Rad8 27.Ba5+ 1-0

W: Mulyar, Michael

B: Anderson, Mitch

Colorado Closed (1), March 27, 2009

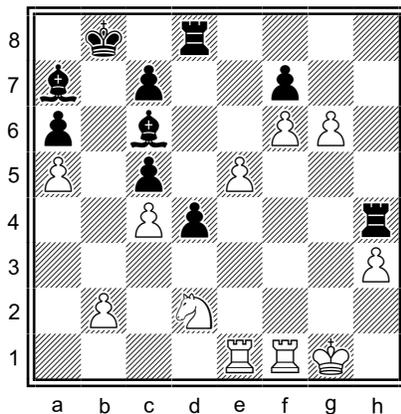
1.c4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bg4 5.h3 Bh5 6.Nc3 e6 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.h4 dxc4 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.g5 Nd5 12.Bxc4 Qc7 13.Bd2 Nxc3 14.Bxc3 Nb6 15.Bb3 Nd5 16.Bd2 Bb4 17.Bxb4 Nxb4 18.Qd2 Qb6 19.0-0-0 0-0-0 20.Kb1 Kb8 21.Qe2 Rh5 22.Qf3 Qc7 23.e4 Rdh8 24.Qg4 Qe7 25.Bc4 f5 26.gxf6 Qxf6 27.Qg3+ e5 28.Be2 Rxh4 29.dxe5 Qe7 30.e6+ Ke8 31.Rxh4 Qxh4 32.Qxh4 Rxh4 33.e7 Rh8 34.Bg4+ 1-0

W: Wall, Brian

B: Anderson, Mitch

Colorado Closed (2), March 28, 2009

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 Bb6 13.Nd2 Nxd2 14.Qxd2 c5 15.Nb3 d4 16.Bf2 Bc6 17.c4 Qd7 18.f5 0-0-0 19.a4 a6 20.a5 Ba7 21.Rae1 g6 22.f6 Qe6 23.Qd3 h5 24.h4 Kb8 25.Nd2 g5 26.hxg5 h4 27.Qh3 Qxh3 28.gxh3 Rh5 29.Bxh4 Rxh4 30.g6 (Diag)



30. ... Rxh3 31.g7 Rh1+ 32.Kf2 Rh2+ 33.Kg3 Rxd2 34.e6 fxe6 35.Rxe6 Rg2+ 36.Kh4 Rh2+ 37.Kg5 Rg2+ 38.Kh6 Rh2+ 39.Kg6 Rg2+ 40.Kh6 Rh2+ 41.Kg6 Rg2+ 42.Kh6 1/2-1/2

W: Mulyar, Michael

B: Hughes, Tyler

Colorado Closed (2), March 28, 2009

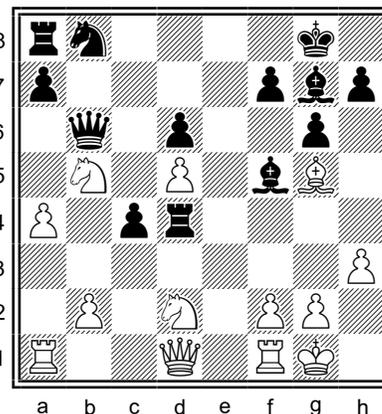
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.Ne3 e5 7.d3 Re8 8.Bg5 c6 9.Nd2 h6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.b4 Be6 12.b5 d5 13.bxc6 bxc6 14.Qb3 e4 15.Rac1 Bg5 16.e3 d4 17.Ncxe4 dxe3 18.Nxg5 exd2 19.Nxe6 dxc1N 20.Qb7 Rxe6 21.Qxa8 Nxd3 22.Qxa7 Re1 23.Qa8 Qb6 0-1

W: Sharavdorj, Dashzegve

B: Wall, Brian

Colorado Closed (3), March 28, 2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.e4 Bg7 8.h3 0-0 9.Bd3 Re8 10.0-0 c4 11.Bc2 b5 12.Nxb5 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 Rxe4 14.Bg5 Qb6 15.a4 Bf5 16.Nd2 Rd4? (Diagram) 17.Be3 Rxd2 18.Qxd2 Qd8 19.Rfc1 Bd3 20.Na3 Qh4 21.Nxc4 Bxc4 22.Qb4 Na6 23.Qxc4 Qxc4 24.Rxc4 Bxb2 25.Rb1 Ba3 26.Rc6 Nc5 27.Rxd6 a5 28.Bxc5 Bxc5 29.Rc6 Bb4 30.Rd1 Rd8 31.d6 Rd7 32.Kf1 Kg7 33.Rc7 Rxd6 34.Rxd6 Bxd6 35.Rc6 Bb4 36.Ke2 h5 37.Rb6 Bc3 38.f4 f5 39.Kd3 Be1 40.Rb1 Bg3 41.Rf1 h4 42.Kc4 1-0



W: Anderson, Mitch

B: Hughes, Tyler

Colorado Closed (3), March 28, 2009

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Kh1 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 Bc5 10.Qd3 b5 11.f4 h5 12.e5 Ng4 13.Ne4 Bb7 14.Bf3 Bxe4 15.Qxe4 Rc8 16.Bxg4 hxg4 17.f5 g3 18.h3 Bf2 19.fxe6 dxe6 20.Be3 Qxc2 21.Qb7 0-0 22.Rac1 Qe2 23.Bxf2 Rxc1 24.Rxc1 gxf2 25.Qf3 Qe1+ 0-1

W: Ponomarev, Philipp

B: Anderson, Mitch

Colorado Closed (5), March 29, 2009

1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bg5 Nbd7 4.f3 c5 5.dxc5 Qa5 6.Bxf6 Nxf6 7.Qd4 e6 8.b4 Qc7 9.e4 a5 10.Nb5 Qb8 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.a3 Be7 13.Rd1 Bf6 14.Qe4 Nc3 15.Nxc3 Bxc3+ 16.Kf2 0-0 17.Bb5 axb4 18.axb4 Bf6 19.Ne2 e5 20.Nc3 g6 21.Bd7 Bg7 22.Nd5 Bxd7 23.Ne7+ Kh8 24.Rxd7 Ra7 25.Rhd1 f5?? 26.Qd5? [26.Nxg6+ hxg6 27.Qh4+ Kg8 28.Qe7 Rf7 29.Qxf7+ Kh8 30.Qxg7#] 26...e4 27.Rd8 e3+ 28.Ke2 1-0

W: Reilly, Ben

B: Twerskoi, David

Scholastic Closed (1), March 27, 2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Bd3 0-0 9.0-0 Re8 10.a3 Nh5 11.Bg3 Nxg3 12.hxg3 Nf6 13.b4 Bd6 14.b5 Bg4 15.Qa4 Qd7 16.Rfc1 h5 17.Ne2 Rec8 18.Ne5 Bxe5 19.dxe5 Ne8 20.f3 Bf5 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.Ba6 Rc7 23.Nd4 Bg6 24.f4 Qg4 25.Kf2 h4 26.gxh4 Qxh4+ 27.Kg1 Qg3 28.Qb3 Be4 29.Bf1 c5 30.Ne2 Qg6 31.Nc3 c4 32.Qd1 Rc5 33.Qd4 Rac8 34.Nxe4 Qxe4 35.Qxe4 dxe4 36.Rc3 f6 37.exf6 gxf6 38.Rd1 R8c6 39.Rd4 Nd6 40.g4 Kf8 41.Rc2 c3 42.Rb4 a5 43.Rb3 Ke7 44.Kf2 f5 45.g5

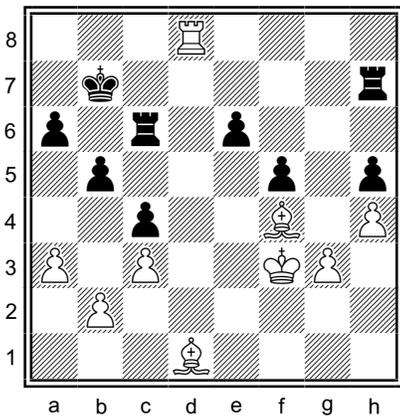
Kd7 46.Ke1 Kc7 47.Kd1 Kc8 48.Kc1 Kc7
49.Rg2 1-0

W: Herbst,Richard

B: Scudder,Phillip

Scholastic Closed (1), March 27, 2009

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Bc4 Bf5
5.Qf3 c6 6.Nge2 e7 7.d3 Bb4 8.Bd2 Nf6 9.Qg3
Bg6 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.a3 Bxc3 12.Nxc3 Qd8
13.Ne4 Bxe4 14.dxe4 Nxe4 15.Qxg7 Qf6
16.Qxf6 Ndx6 17.Be3 Ng4 18.Bc1 Ngxf2
19.Rxf2 Nxf2 20.Kxf2 0-0-0 21.Be3 a6
22.Rf1 Rd7 23.Ke2 b5 24.Bb3 Rg8 25.g3 Kb7
26.Rf6 Rg6 27.Rf4 f5 28.c3 Rh6 29.Rf2 Rg6
30.Bd4 Rh6 31.Kf3 Rc7 32.Re2 c5 33.Be3
Rg6 34.Bf4 Rc6 35.h4 h5 36.Rd2 Rg7 37.Rd8
c4 38.Bd1 Rh7? (Diagram)



39.Kf2 Kb6 40.Bf3 e5 41.Bxc6 exf4 42.Bf3
fxg3+ 43.Kxg3 1-0

W: Chen,Jackson

B: Lehti,Dylan

Scholastic Closed (1), March 27, 2009

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.d4 b5
6.Bb3 Nxd4 7.Nxd4 exd4 8.Bd5 Rb8 9.Qxd4
Bd7 10.a3 Nf6 11.0-0 Be7 12.Be3 c5 13.Qd3
Nxd5 14.exd5 0-0 15.b3 f5 16.f4 Bf6 17.Ra2
Re8 18.Kh1 c4 19.Qd2 Rc8 20.Bd4 Re4
21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Qa5 Qd4 23.Qxa6?? Qf2
24.Rg1 Re1 0-1

W: Reilly,Ben

B: Herbst,Richard

Scholastic Closed (2), March 28, 2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 c5 5.e3 b6
6.Nc3 0-0 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 Ne4
10.Qc2 f5 11.0-0-0 d6 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.h4
Nf6 14.Ng5 Qe7 15.f3 Nbd7 16.Rhg1 Ne5
17.g4 Nxf3 18.Bxf6 Rxf6 19.Nxf3 Bxf3 20.Be2
fxg4 21.Bxf3 gxf3 22.Qe4 Raf8 23.Rdf1 f2

24.Rg2 Qf7 25.Qg4 Rg6 26.Qh3 Rxc2
27.Qxg2 Qf3 28.Qxf3 Rxf3 29.Kd2 a5 30.Ke2
Rf7 31.Rxf2 Rxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Kf7 33.Kf3 Kf6
34.Kf4 g6 35.b3 h6 36.a4 g5+ 37.hxg5+ hxg5+
38.Kg4 Kg6 0-1

W: Lehti,Dylan

B: Twerskoi,David

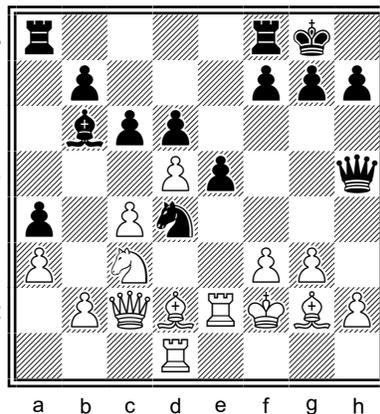
Scholastic Closed (2), March 28, 2009

1.Nf3 e6 2.g3 f5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.d3 Be7 5.0-0 0-0
6.Nbd2 d6 7.Re1 Nc6 8.e4 fxe4 9.Nxe4 e5
10.c3 Kh8 11.Qb3 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Rb8 13.h4
Qe8 14.Ng5 Qg6 15.Qd1 h6 16.Nf3 Bg4
17.Qd3 Bxf3 18.Bxf3 Bxh4 19.Kg2 Bg5
20.Rh1 Bxc1 21.Raxc1 Rf6 22.Rcf1 Nd8
23.Qe2 Ne6 24.Bg4 Qf7 25.Qe3 a6 26.Rh5
Kg8 27.Rfh1 Ne5 28.b3 Rf8 29.f3 Qe7 30.Bf5
Kf7 31.f4 exf4 32.gxf4 Ke8 33.b4 Rxf5
34.bxc5 Rxf4 35.cxd6 exd6 36.e5 Rf2+
37.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 38.Kxf2 dxe5 39.Re1 Qf7+ 0-1

W: Twerskoi,David

B: Herbst,Richard

Scholastic Closed (3), March 28, 2009



1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Bc5 4.Bg2 Nge7 5.d3
0-0 6.e3 d6 7.Nge2 Bf5 8.a3 a5 9.0-0 Qc8
10.d4 Ba7 11.Re1 Bh3 12.Bh1 Qg4 13.d5 Nb8
14.Qd3 Na6 15.Nb5 Bb6 16.Bd2 Nc5 17.Qc2
a4 18.Rad1 Nf5 19.f3 Qg5 20.Kf2 Nb3
21.Ng1 Qh6 22.Nxh3 Qxh3 23.Bg2 Qh5
24.Re2 c6 25.Nc3 Nfd4 26.exd4 Nxd4 (prev.
Diagram) 27.Qb1 Nxe2+ 28.Kxe2 Qxh2
29.Kd3 Qxg2 30.Rf1 Ba5 0-1

W: Chen,Jackson

B: Reilly,Ben

Scholastic Closed (3), March 28, 2009

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0
b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.a4 Rb8 8.axb5 axb5 9.Nxe5
Nxe5 10.d4 Bxd4 11.Qxd4 d6 12.f4 c5
13.Qc3 Neg4 14.e5 c4 15.exf6 Qb6+ 16.Be3
Nxe3 17.Re1 0-0 18.Qxe3 exb3 19.Qxb6
Rxb6 20.fxg7 Kxg7 21.c3 Be6 22.Nd2 Rc8
23.Re4 b4 24.c4 Rbc6 25.Nxb3 Rxc4 26.Nd4
Kf6 27.Rd1 Ra8 28.Re3 Ra2 29.Nxe6 fxe6
30.Rxd6 Rxb2 31.Rdxe6+ Kf7 32.Re7+ Kf6
33.R7e6+ Kf7 34.Re7+ Kg6 35.R7e6+ Kg7
36.Re7+ Kg6 37.R7e6+ Kf7 1/2-1/2

W: Lehti,Dylan

B: Reilly,Ben

Scholastic Closed (4), March 29, 2009

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Bf5 4.d3 e6 5.0-0
Bc5 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.c4 c6 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Nb3
Bb6 10.Nfd4 Bg6 11.a4 a5 12.Re1 Re8
13.Bf4 Na6 14.Qd2 Nc5 15.Qc3 Nxb3
16.Nxb3 Ng4 17.d4 Nf6 18.Nc5 Bxc5
19.dxc5 Ne4 20.Qd4 Ng5 21.Bxg5 Qxg5
22.e4 dxe4 23.b4 axb4 24.Qxb4 Rab8
25.Rad1 f5 26.Rd7 Re7 27.h4 Qf6 28.Rd6
Qe5?? 29.f4 {And the queen is trapped} 1-0



by Matt Lasley

It's Not What You Think

Each game has a lesson. Sometimes I see them. Sometimes I even learn them. Sometimes there's a streak of lessons across many games, and sometimes that even happens in a single tournament. This was my first time in the Parents' section of the Denver Scholastic Chess Series. The theme was when I think I know the lesson, the real lesson was something else.

W: Matt Lasley
B: Scott Roberts

DSCS#7 Parents' Section, Round 2, 3/21/09
Danish Gambit ECO: C21

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. c3 dxc3 4. Bc4 cxb2 5. Bxb2 d5 6. Bxd5 Bb4+ 7. Kf1 This is pretty mainline, but not what I'm used to and I start thinking about some distant memory instead of what's in front of me. This just isn't very good, and some article says the only way to try is some narrow path I didn't find. Ke2 is mentioned in that same article, but still defies reason, while the obvious Nc3 and Nd2 work just fine.

7... Nf6 8. Bxf7+? Rybka3 rightly questions my mimic move. I have time to think, but don't seem to want to be burdened with that. 8. Qa4+ is worth 2pts more and though I feared 8... c6, the resulting trades simply evenly liquidates



material.

8... Kxf7 9. Qb3+ Be6 [D]

10. Qxb4 It's bad already, but taking the bishop is terrible. Sure, I saw the 10... Qd1+ but my queen can block...right? Actually it's mate in 4. At this point 10. Qc2 or 10. Qa4 will allow me to play on in a miserable piece-down condition.



Tripping in the opening

10... Qd1+ 11. Qe1 Bc4+ 12. Ne2 Bxe2# (Well, yeah, it's not really mate, that comes 13. Kg1 Qxe1# but it felt like mate at move 12 anyway). DuWayne summed it up nicely when he commented "So, let me get this straight, **you** got checkmated in 12 moves and **you** were the one playing the Danish Gambit?" Yes, the wild attacking opening got wildly attacked and killed. I thought my lesson was about moves in an opening, but really it was **play the board, not the book.**

W: Matt Lasley
B: Jonathan Zalesne
DSCS#7 Parents' Section, Round 4, 3/21/09
Danish Gambit ECO: C21

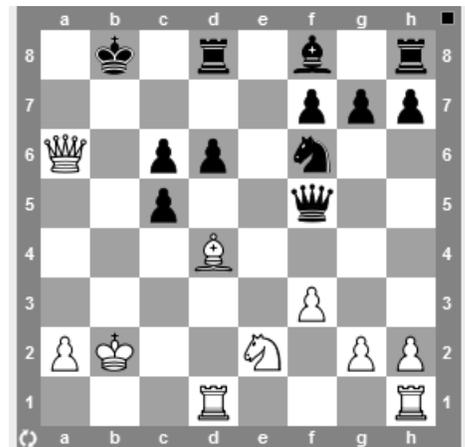
1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. c3 dxc3 4. Bc4 cxb2 5. Bxb2 Qe7 6. Nc3 Nf6 7. Qc2 d6 8. O-O-O Be6 9. Bxe6 Qxe6 10. Nb5 Na6 11. Qa4 None of the last 4 moves were top notch as we traded half a pawn of value back and forth according to Rybka. However, this is particularly bad, and she rates black up the full 2 pawns now. He said after the game that he wondered if I knew what I was doing, he felt so far ahead. DuWayne would agree with that assessment before the game started. DuWayne feels any gambit is just a faster way to lose a game by making an early donation of a pawn, so knowing that I play the Danish with its 2-pawn charity I'm sure he also doubts I know what I'm doing. While I certainly didn't feel confident, I also was not just counting pieces, and was trying desperately to generate an attack.

12... O-O-O This was not what she had in mind instead, she's thinking 11... c6 12. Nc3 Be7 13. f3 Nc5 14. Qc2

12. Nxa7+ Kb8 13. Bd4 Getting into my own way. I saw the Knight trade, but delayed a long time: 13. Nc6+ bxc6 14. Qxa6. I did not see his next move which shows the error of my bishop's spot.

13... Qxe4 14. f3 Qf4+ 15. Kb2 c5 this weakens black's base. Black has only to get rid of White's threat and then he's ahead. 15... Qf5 16. Nc6+ bxc6 17. Qxa6 Qb5+ forces the queens off and helps lock in the 2-pawn lead. Rybka still wants me to trade those knights instead of bringing the g-Knight out. I eventually get to it.

16. Ne2 Qf5 17. Nc6+ bxc6 18. Qxa6[D]



cxd4?? This is the first real error, but it's a doozy. Black's lead may not be the full 2 pawns while white has an attack rolling, but grabbing this Bishop allows 19. Qb6 leading to mate-in-8 or a free rook for white. Of course, I didn't see that either. Rybka still suggests a way to try and get rid of the nasty queen: 18... Qc8.

19. Nxd4 Qe5 There's still a way to take off the queens: 19... Qc8 20. Nxc6+ Kc7 21. Qa7+ Qb7+ 22. Qxb7+ Kxb7 23. Nxd8+. The fact Rybka **likes** this line shows how bad black is now, but it's survival. When we're both oblivious it doesn't matter much.

20. Kc3?? The little fish is just mocking

me now, as she sees 20. Qb6+ is mate-in-11. I thought this was a brilliant move to save my knight, open a path for the rook and so-on. Instead it allows black to even everything out again with 20...Qc5+! 21. Kd3 d5 22. Nxc6+ Kc7 23. Nxd8 Kxd8. By no means did I see any of these other lines. I was still worried right up until this next move...

20... c5 21. Rb1+ Kc7 22. Qb7#
I didn't really know what I was doing, but I also wasn't just completely lost either. Perhaps he knew the lesson of remaining calm facing odd openings—the real lesson was **never underestimate your opponent**.

This last game was played first and it's another case of thinking one thing is happening when it's really something else.

W: Leon Gonzales B: Matt Lasley

DSCS#7 Parents' Section, Round 1, 3/21/09
Scandinavian Defense ECO: B01

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Nf6 3. Nc3 Nxd5 4. Qf3 c6 5. Nxd5 Qxd5 6. Qxd5 cxd5 7. Nf3 out of the 8 games in the ChessOK database online that reached this position, White won none (-6 =2 +0). So, maybe I'm not doing terribly here, but I sure manage to botch it up later.

7... Nc6 8. Bb5 Bd7 9. d4 a6 10. Bxc6 Bxc6 11. Ne5 Bb5 12. a4 Bc6 I've managed to give away a free move and let him push that pawn to a4 for free.

13. Nxc6 bxc6 14. O-O e6 15. Bf4 [D]

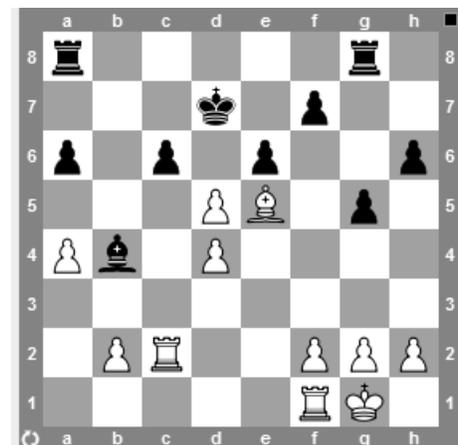


15...Kd7 After the game was over, I thought this was the key position. I thought moving the King to d7 was good centralization and would let me trade the bishops off at with Bd6. When I lost, I even declared I should've castled instead of this move. But, it turns out my second-guessing was mistaken. I had the right idea, and then didn't follow through.

16. Rac1 h6 17. c4 Bb4 More from the tempo-donation program. This is actually the first time since the beginning that Rybka shifts the advantage to white's side by a bit. While playing I had just assumed I'd been behind the whole time.

18. Rc2 g5 19. Be5 Rhg8 Sure, I looked at Rybka's suggested move, but didn't do it. **19... Rhf8 20. c5 f6 21. Bd6 Rg8 22. Re2 a5 23. f4**

20. cxd5 [D]



20... cxd5? Wrong pawn, opening a file his rook's already parked on. This is the real problem, allowing the bishop and rook to get together against my king. Had I used the e-pawn then my king can stay centralized, I get another chance to trade pawns, and I'm fighting an interesting end-game.

21. Rc7+ Ke8 22. Rfc1 Ba5 23. Rb7 h5 24. Rc5 Bd8 25. Bc7 Be7 26. Ra5

f5 27. f3 Rybka wants him to push the b-pawn here which she sees as making a passed pawn or two.

27... g4 28. f4 Kf7 29. Rb6 Ra7 30. Be5 Bd8 31. Rbxa6 I'm fixated on the pawn, while Rybka has been screaming to seize the c-file with a rook on c8. The very file that started my troubles, but I never did get it into my head that the file is more important than other things like pawns. Besides, the pawn is dead anyway. Back at **29...Rac8** the active rooks can lead to a forced draw by checking the White king..

31... Rb7 32. Rb5 Rxb5 33. axb5 Be7 34. b6 Rc8 it's just death spiral now. I've had 2 chances to play Bf6 at 33... & 34... and missed it. That Bishop still has to go. He missed **34. Ra7** which pins my bishop and will allow him to gang up on it with his bishop. Now it just runs to the end of notation after which he checkmates me along the h-wall.

35. b7 Rc1+ 36. Kf2 Rc2+ 37. Ke3 Rxb2 38. b8=Q Rxb8 39. Bxb8 Bb4 40. Be5 Be7 1-0

The lesson wasn't that castling is important, but **rooks like open files**.

Kids have a huge advantage over adults because they hear this sort of stuff all the time. It's tournaments like this that remind me I'm pretty slow to learn them.



Rooks (like this squirrel) love open files to fire down

by NM Todd Bardwick

Knights Don't Like the Rim

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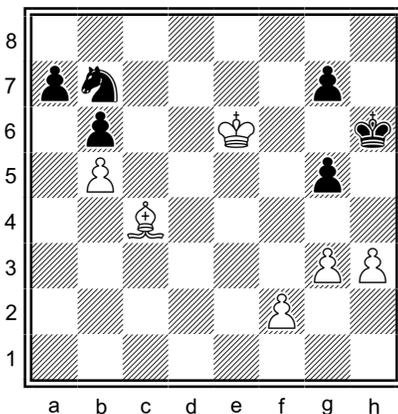
We all learn early on in our chess careers that a “knight on the rim is dim” because the knight is a slow-moving piece that is restricted on the edge or rim of the board. It takes a knight a long time to jump from one side of the board to another.

Some children start out playing moves like Nh3 early on in the game before learning that Nf3, attacking the center, is a better idea.

Of course, there are exceptions to every rule. But in general, your knights shouldn't move to the rim of the board, unless there is a good reason for it (like the rim is the best pathway for the knight to get to a better square).

Here is a position from one of my games from a simul I gave a couple summers ago.

Bykovskiy



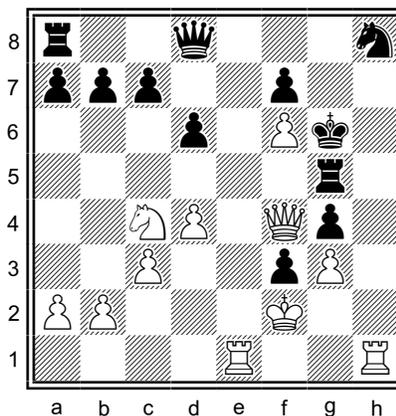
NM Bardwick (simul)
Summer 2007

Picking up the clues in the position, White as a better king position (kings also like to be centralized in the end-game once the danger of checkmate in the center of the board is gone because, like knights, they are slow-moving pieces). White has a pawn majority on the kingside, where Black has doubled isolated pawns. Black has the pawn majority on the queenside, but the b5 pawn can stop the majority because of the *en passant* rule, should Black play ...a5. Black should move his knight back to c5, a square toward the center that is supported by a pawn.

Instead Black attacks the bishop with **51...Na5? 52.Bd5** The knight is now trapped on the rim by the bishop! Black's pieces are now stuck on the queenside and White now has an advantage with his pawn majority on the kingside. **52...Kg6 53.g4 Kh6 54.Kf5 g6+ 55.Kf6** Black is in *zugzwang!* **55...Kh7 56.Kxg5 Kg7 57.h4 Resigns**

Here is an unusual position from Berlin in 1881.

Schmid



Chigorin
Berlin, 1881

Picking up clues, Black is ahead a



pawn in material, but his king in out in the open. Comparing the knights, White's is well positioned near the center, but Black's knight in the corner (two rims!) is totally out of the game. Black's inactive knight is useless in trying to defend his king.

25.Rh7 25.Re5 also leads to mate (note that White's well-placed knight helps the attack): **25...Rxe5 26.Rh6** mate or **25...dxe5 26.Nxe5+ Rxe5 27.Rh6** mate or **25...Qxf6 26.Rh6+! Kxh6 27.Qxf6+ Rg6 28.Rh5+! Kxh5 29.Qh4** mate. Black's knight can only watch his king get checkmated! **25...Qxf6** If Black captures the rook with **25...Kxh7**, then **26.Qxg5 Ng6** (at least Black knight has a move!) **27.Rh1+ Kg8 28.Rh8+! Kxh8 29.Qh6+ Kg8 30.Qg7** mate – dancing around the knight! **26.Rh6+! Kxh6 27.Qxf6+** winning.

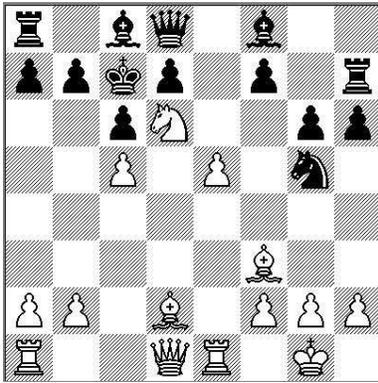
Always remember that knights are usually happier in the center of the board, not on the rim, where their mobility is restricted....and definitely not in the corner!

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

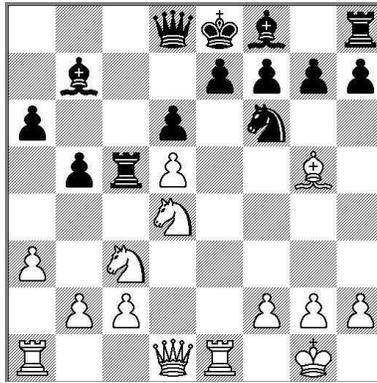
by Tim Brennan

Tactics Time!

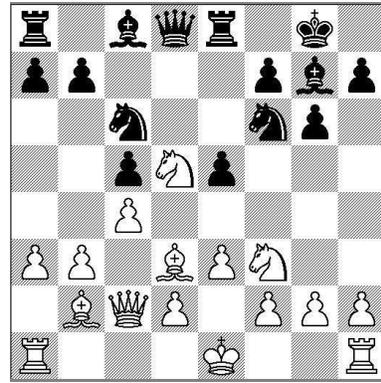
One of the best ways to improve your game is to study tactics, such as the following from recent games played in Colorado. Answers on page 16



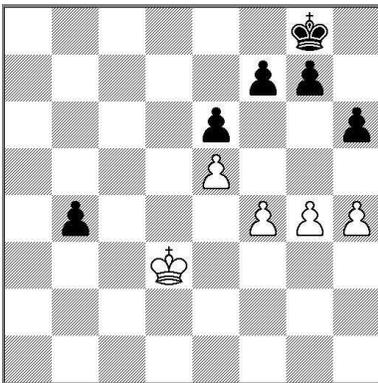
1. Fish, Derek - Barkmeyer, E
CO Class Championship 2009
 White to Move



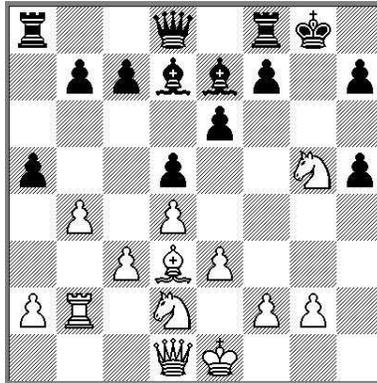
2. Wall, Brian - Evans, Julian
DCC March Madness 2009
 White to Move



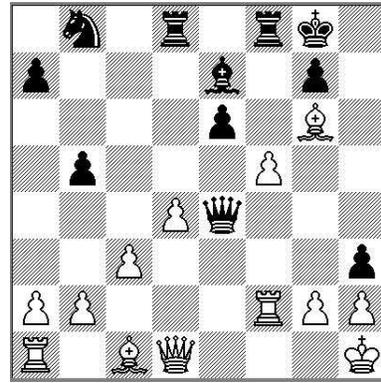
3. Anderson, P - Nichols, T
Cabin Fever Reliever 2009
 Black to Move



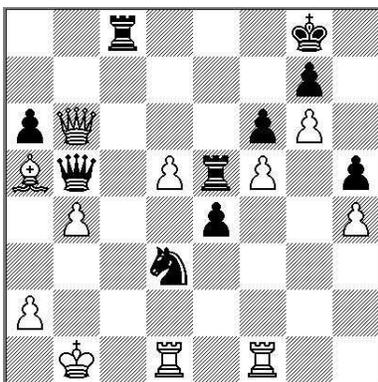
4. Spell, Fred - Seidler, Kevin
Colorado Springs Open 2009
 Black to Move



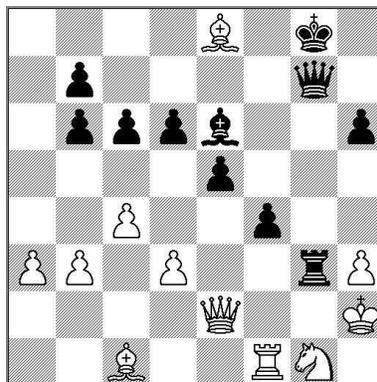
5. Langseth, R - O'Rourke, P
Colorado Springs Open 2009
 White to Move



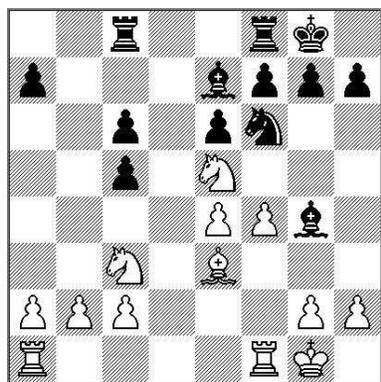
6. Anderson, M - Leeds-Tilley, K
Colorado Springs Open 2009
 White to Move



7. Roundtree, R - Evans, J
Colorado Springs Open 2009
 Black to Move



8. Aragon, Joe - Bagstad, Gary
Colorado Springs Open 2009
 White to Move



9. Fox, Shannon - Willson, Billy
DCC Club Championship 2009
 White to Move

by Klaus Johnson

Colorado Correspondence Championship Update

Jeff Baffo has taken a commanding lead in the 2009 correspondence championship. He now has 5.5/6 with just two games to play. In 2nd place is Tim Brennan with 3.5/7 with one game remaining, most players have not yet finished half of their games.

The 2009 championship is an email-based round-robin tournament. All games are played simultaneously. Players have 30 days reflection time for every 10 moves with an additional 30 days vacation that can be used at any time. Games are USCF--correspondence rated. Check out the October 2009 Informant for rules and regulations for the 2010 Colorado Correspondence Championship.

First	Last	Rating	#	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Jeff	Baffo	2316	1	X			1	.5	1	1	1	1	5.5
Paul	Covington	1374	2		X						.5		0.5
Derek	Fish	974	3			X					0		0
Ginny	Gaige	1550	4	0			X	0			1		1
Klaus	Johnson	1737	5	.5			1	X					1.5
Archie	Shipp	1281	6	0					X		.5	1	1.5
Lee	Lahti	1552	7	0						X	.5	1	1.5
Tim	Brennan	1374	8	0	.5	1	0		.5	.5	X	1	3.5
Chai	Neuhaus	842	9	0					0	0	0	X	0

W: Johnson, Klaus B: Baffo, Jeff

Correspondence Championship 2009
1.c4 e5 2.b3 Nf6 3.Bb2 Nc6 4.e3 Bc5 5.d4 exd4 6.exd4 Bb4+ 7.Nd2 d5 8.Ngf3 0-0 9.Be2 dxc4 10.bxc4 Ne4 11.d5 Nxd2 12.Nxd2 Qg5 13.0-0 Bxd2 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Bf3 Rb8 16.Ba3 Bb4 17.Rb1 c5 18.Qa4 a5 19.Bc1 Qf5 20.Be3 Bd7 21.Bc6 Be6 22.a3 Bc3 23.Rb5 Rxb5 24.Qxb5 Bd4 25.Qxa5 Bxc4 1/2-1/2

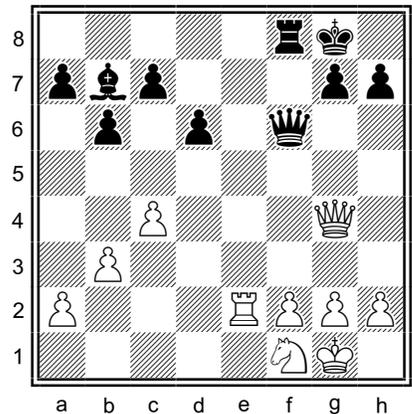
W: Lahti, Lee B: Brennan, Tim

2009 Colorado CC Championship, 2009
1.c4 Nf6 2.d4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.e3 Nxe5 5.Nf3 Nbc6 6.Nc3 Bc5 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 Nxf3+ 9.Bxf3 Ne5 10.Ne4 Be7 11.b3 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 d6 13.Bb2 f5 14.Ng3 Bf6 15.Rab1 Rb8 16.Rfd1 b6 17.e4 fxe4 18.Qxe4 Bb7 19.Qg4 Bxb2 20.Rxb2 Qf6 21.Re2 Rbe8 22.Rde1 Rxe2 23.Rxe2 Qa1+ 24.Nf1 Qf6 (Diagram) 1/2-1/2

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 and Wikipedia could have possibly figured out! TimmyBx@aol.com

- 1. Nxb7!** leaves black in a dilly of a pickle, threatening Nxd8 and Ba5+. Fritz points out that 1. Ba5+ also leads Dorothy down the yellow brick road.
- 1. Bxf6! gxf6 2. Ne4** leaves black with a problem an economic stimulus package can't even solve—he can't save his oddly placed rook on c5, and prevent the sweet smothered mate Nf6# at the same time.
- In the position, white just played Nxd5 and black missed the chance to play **1. ...e4** forking the knight and bishop, and being up a piece for 2 pawns.
- 1. ..h5!** is the game changer. After **2. g5** or **2. gxh5**, Black's king can exploit the white squares via h7 and start gobbling pawns. White is going to have to waste time hunting the lone wolf b pawn, before he can try and save his army on the kingside.
- Rhett frankly didn't give a gosh darn and burned down the Black King's mansion with **1. Qxh5** which leads to a forced mate after **1. ..h6 2. Qxh6 Re8 3. Qh7+ Kf8 4. Qxf7#** or for extra style points **3. Bh7+ Kh8 4. Nxf7#**
- 1. f6!** is a nice discovered attack on the queen, and attacks the bishop on e7, which would then fork the rooks on the next move and make a new queen. As Dick Vitale would say "It's awesome baby!"
- 1. ..Qc4** sets up an assault and battery on the open file. There is no painless way for white to stop black, and the threat of **2. ..Qc2+ 3. Ka1 Qb2#** If **2. Rc1 Qxc1+ 3. Rxc1 Rxc1#** with the knight doing a great job helping the major pieces.
- 1.Bxf4!** brings home the bacon, and fries it up in a pan. The black rook has no safe squares to run away, and if **1. ...exf4** White comes crashing in with **2. Qxe6+**.
- Shannon was a menace to Mr. Wilson with **1. h3** leaving the bishop with no where to run, no where to hide, after **1. ..Bh5 2. g4 Bg6 3. f5**



Springs Denker/Polgar Fundraiser

April 18th, 2009

#	Name	ID	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	Mitch Anderson	12788878	2003	W10	W5	W2	W3	4.0
2	Richard Buchanan	10273030	2000	W4	W7	L1	W8	3.0
3	Anthea Carson	12614322	1805	W8	W6	W5	L1	3.0
4	Tom Mullikin	12905792	1283	L2	W12	W6	D7	2.5
5	Tim Brennan	12718954	1670	W9	L1	L3	W10	2.0
6	Matt Lasley	12500896	1396	W11	L3	L4	W9	2.0
7	Dean Brown	10224098	1400	W12	L2	D8	D4	2.0
8	Liz Wood	12402559	1121	L3	W11	D7	L2	1.5
9	Gary Frenzel	12528565	1045	L5	W10	D12	L6	1.5
10	Jerry Maier	12510521	1314	L1	L9	W11	L5	1.0
11	Alexander Freeman	14201087	unr.	L6	L8	L10	W12	1.0
12	Kathy Schneider	12545281	997	L7	L4	D9	L11	0.5

USAFA Quads #9

April 25th, 2009

#	Name	Rtng	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Tot
1	Mitchell Anderson	2003	W4	W2	W3	3.0
2	Julian S Evans	1889	W3	L1	W4	2.0
3	Gerardo Fern Neri	1709	L2	W4	L1	1.0
4	George Raikas	1805	L1	L3	L2	0.0

#	Name	Rtng	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Tot
1	Thomas Mullikin	1283	W4	W2	W3	3.0
2	Daniel Jus Picard	1133	W5	L1	W6	2.0
3	Alexander Freeman	988	W6	W4	L1	2.0
4	Robert Mitchell	831	L1	L3	W5	1.0
5	John Michael Steck	unr.	L2	D6	L4	0.5
6	Melissa May Steck	unr.	L3	D5	L2	0.5

#	Name	Rtng	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Tot
1	Gary A Sauer	1610	W3	D2	W4	2.5
2	Dragan Plakalovic	1318	W4	D1	W3	2.5
3	Joseph White	unr.	L1	W4	L2	1.0
4	Gerald J Maier	1314	L2	L3	L1	0.0

A True Display of Willpower: Ward vs. Lundstrom, 1983

submitted by Herb Conley/annotated by Brad Lundstrom

[Ed. note: Herb Conley mentioned this game at the Loveland Open and sent it to me a little while later for publication.

It involves 2 strong players back 25+ years ago, at the Weld County Open chess tournament.]

1983 Weld County Open
TC 40/2 20/1

W: Les Ward
B: Brad Lundstrom

1. c4 c5 2. Nc3 g6 3. e3 Nc6 4. d4! Instead of 3. ... Nc6, maybe e5 followed by the rapid development of all available forces on d4, thus blunting White's primary plan in this position. Already, I was in a position I had not planned on, did not want, and had never even seen before!

4. ... cxd4 5. exd4 Bg7 6. Nf3 d6 It seems Black must accept a space disadvantage now and prepare counterplay of his own on the kingside.

7. Be3 Nf6 8. Be2 0-0 9. 0-0 Ng4 Nearly always, I prefer exchanging my knights for bishops, sometimes to the point of accepting positional concessions. The power and beauty of two coordinated bishops working in unison is both aesthetic and practical as an attacking device. Here I expected 10. Bf4 and was considering e5 and if 11. dxe5, the recapture would be with a minor piece. I do not consider this next move to be the most accurate, as the dark squared bishop is important for both sides in this opening.

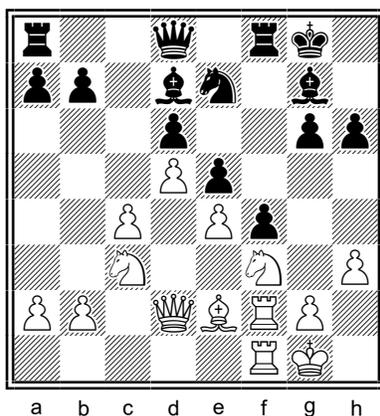
10. Qd2?! Nxe3 Here Black also had e5, but I felt 11. Bg5 f6 12. Bh4 g5 13. Bg3 f5 14. Qxg5 was good for White. Besides, I wanted the bishop pair in the ensuing complications.

11. fxe3! Shutting down much of Black's activity.

11. ... e5 12. d5 Ne7 13. e4 f5!? Striving for Kingside pressure, even at the expense of weakening Black's own king position. Black's plan is a full scale advance of all his Kingside pawns.

14. Rf2 h6 It was important to stop the knight maneuver Ng5-e6. 14. Ng5 would have been more pressing and very interesting complications would follow.

15. Raf1 f4 16. h3 Bd7 (Diagram)



The bishop is headed to e8 to support the pawn advance to h5. If Black gets in g4, then White must not exchange pawns with hxg4 as the open h-file leads to Black winning with g3 and Qh4. Of course, by declining the exchange of pawns, White can defend Black's intended assault. But this was the main theme of Black's plan. However, White does not have to exchange off his h-pawn for Black's pawn on g4 and can successfully block the kingside remaining with a slight advantage.

17. a4 g5 18. Nb5 Be8 The Black bishop has the immediate advantage over the White knight on b5 in that it can quickly

go to the kingside. Now White finds a plan that increases his advantage.

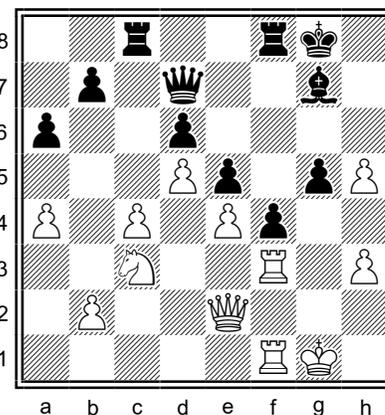
19. Nh2! a6 20. Nc3 Ng6 For Black, the problem of executing any continuation lies in Black's pieces awkwardly getting in each other's way, losing valuable time regrouping.

21. Bg4! Nh4 22. Nf3 Nxf3+ If 22. ... Ng6 then 23. Bh5! presses the bind.

23. Rxf3 h5 24. Bf5! Bd7! Two things are to be noticed here. First, by 25. Be6+, White might have played sharply by sacrificing the pawn that would recapture on e6 in order to move his knight to d5 with an interesting position. Secondly, I looked at 24. ... Rxf5 in the game position followed by 25. exf5 g4 26. hxg4 and Black has a good attack. But as stated earlier, 26. hxg4 is the wrong move and White simply avoids it and Black's onslaught. It turns out that 24. Bf5 is best, as White threatens to reduce Black to passivity. Not 25. Bg6, as ... g4! would be strong for Black.

25. g4! Rc8 26. Qe2! Qc7?! The queen needed to stay on the d8-h4 diagonal. 26. ... Qe7 would have been more accurate, but Qc7 does end up doing its intended purpose by inducing White to exchange bishops. If 27. b3, then Black would exchange bishops and regardless of which pawn White recaptures with, Black has some play with b5, e4, or g4.

27. Bxd7 Qxd7 28. gxh5! (Diagram)



This looks like a hard decision but White

now increases his attacking chances on the g-file and the kingside.

28. ... Rf6 29. Qg2 Bh6 30. Rg3! A pretty little surprise move. Black now should get his king off the g-file with Kh7 but did not sense the impending danger playing...

30. ... Qf7? 31. Qf3! Another surprise move based on the same ideas as the last move. Now if Black grabs the rook with 31. ... fxg3?? 32. Qxf6 Qxf6 33. Rxf6, White wins. And if 31. ... Kh7 then 32. h4! is strong. Now Black should play the maneuver Qe7, Rf1-g7 to meet the threat on g5 opening the file.

31. ... Rxc4? Played with haste and regretted instantly.

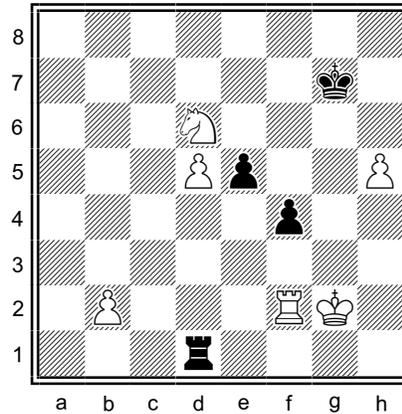
32. h4! Qg7 33. Rg4 Rf7 34. Qg2 With an unstoppable, winning control of Black's g5. Alas, Black can no longer stop any of this and, refusing to resign, plays futilely on the queenside.

34. ... b5 35. hxg5 Bxg5 36. Rxg5 Qxg5! If Black does not intend to resign, he must play this and go in to a lost but rather tricky endgame.



Leslie Ward accepting a trophy at the 1991 US Senior Open.

37. Qxg5+ Rg7 38. Qxg7+ Kxg7 39. axb5 axb5 40. Nxb5 Rxe4 41. Nxd6 Re2 42. Rf2 Re1+ 43. Kg2 Rd1 (Diagram)



Black is drumming up some drawing chances with all of White's pawns unprotected and isolated. Black hopes to use his connected passed pawns for his last chance, but he is a long way from home.

44. Nf5+ Kf6 45. h6! Rxd5! Of course not 45. ... Kxf5?? 46. h7! winning.

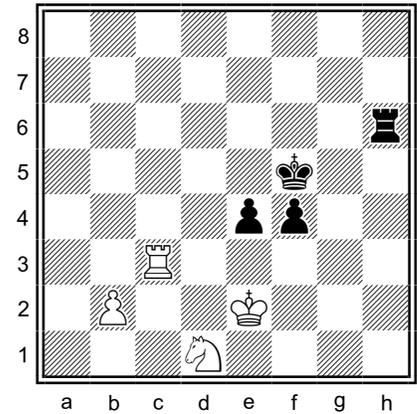
46. Ne3 Rd7 47. Kf1 Rh7 48. Ke2 Ke6 49. Ng4 Kf5 Now White can choose between repeating the position for a draw or accepting the loss of his h-pawn and trying to win with the lone b-pawn. If Black can manage to win that pawn, even at the cost of both his pawns, he could achieve a draw. To Les Ward's credit, he declined the draw and pressed on. Not that he had any serious losing chances, but against a much higher rated opponent, he finds the courage to spurn the forced draw and enter the tough endgame ahead.

50. Ne3+ Ke6 51. Nd1! The choice is made.

51. ... Rxb6 This position must offer better theoretical drawing chances than Black's choices show, as he soon ends up blundering away both of his pawns, gets his king stranded on the h-file, and is rendered helpless.

52. Nc3 Kf5 Planning to advance rapidly on the kingside, ready to sac my rook for his b-pawn and hope my connected passed pawns can keep me in the game.

53. Nd1! Rb6 54. Rf3 e4? 55. Rc3 Rh6? (Diagram)



Here, 55. ... Rb5! must be played, with chances. Seeing only Black's threats and meanwhile ignoring White's, Black now has no chances after...

56. Rc5+ Kg4 Now if 56. ... Kg6, then the exchange of rooks and blockage of Black's pawns would follow, leaving White with an easy win. So Black presses onward to death.

57. Nf2+ Kg3 58. Ne4+ Kg4 59. Rg5+ Kh4 60. Kf3 Rb6 61. Rg7! White offers his last pawn, but at the expense of check-mate.

61. ... Kh5 Here Black should resign, but I could not yet bring myself to do so, ending a stretch of 48 games without a loss in the Weld County tournaments, a period stretching over 4 years. For the record, the remainder of the game now follows.

62. Kxf4 Kh6 63. Rg2 Kh5 64. Ke5 Kh4 65. Kd4 Rb4+ 66. Kd3 Rb8 67. Kc3 Kh3 68. Rg7 Rb5 70. b4 Black resigns 1-0

A pitiful sight indeed! Well played and with commendable spirit by Ward, showing a true display of willpower.

by Randy Reynolds

The Trojan Horse Game

Once again, your humble editor had a big chance to win a share of the Wyoming Open, yet blew it by falling into an opening trap set by Shawn Svare. But there were still a few good moments, as shown in this game against Tim Martinson, who came all the way from New Mexico to play and win a share of the title.

W: Tim Martinson (1546)
B: Randy Reynolds (1671)
 Wyoming Open, Round 3, May 30, 2009

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5
 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.h5 Bh7 8.Be3 Nf6
 8...Qb6 has a bit more strength, with the threat of going to b2 and c2.

9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.Qd2 e6 11.Be2?! This is such a strange move, as White doesn't even challenge my monster h7 bishop. Definitely gives me a slight lead out of the opening, which Fritz agrees with.

11...Qc7 This queen still didn't know where she needed to be. Qb6 is still better.

12.0-0-0 Bd6 At least the bishop knows where it should go... perfect.

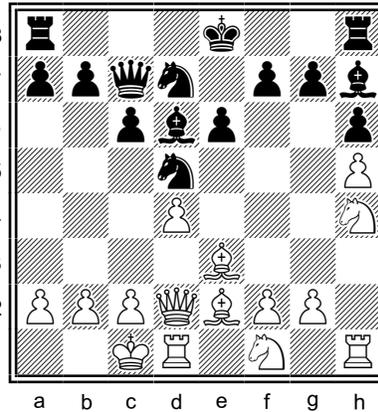
13.Nh4?? 10 minutes spent on this move, and it wasn't pretty at all. He's setting a trap for me at g3, but I can see through it.

13...Nd5 2 minutes spent on this, and it's best by Fritz. [13...Bxg3? 14.fxg3 Qxg3?? 15.Bf4 Trap! 15...Qf2 16.Rdf1 Ne4 17.Qd1 e5 18.Rxf2 Nxf2 19.Qg1 Nxf1 20.dxe5]

14.Nf1?? (Diagram) 8 minutes, and again it's bad. 4 points for black now. Of course, that's only if I make the right move.

14...N7f6?? Which I don't. [14...Bb4!! 15.c3 Looks solid, right? 15...Nxc3 Wow! I've still trapped his queen! Wow! Here's a little Boden mate variation, too! 16.bxc3 Ba3+!

17.Qb2 Qa5 18.Qxa3 Qxa3+ 19.Kd2 Qb2+ 20.Ke1 Qxc3+ 21.Bd2 Qa3]



15.Bf3? Another mistake, but I guess I'm not looking for mistakes today. [15.Bd3 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 Nxf5 17.c4 Ndf6 18.c5 Be7]

15...Be4? [15...Nb4! 16.a3 (16.c3?? Nxa2#) 16...Nxc2 17.Qc3 To guard a3, amazingly enough, for the same Boden's mate. (17.g4 Nxa3 18.bxa3?? Bxa3+ 19.Qb2)]

16.Bxe4 Nxe4 So I guess the lesson here is, if White doesn't challenge you for that light square bishop, DON'T TRADE IT!!!

17.Qd3 [17.Qe1 was best, but it's still getting bad for White. 17...Ndc3! 18.Rd3 (18.bxc3?? Ba3+ 19.Kb1 Qb6+ 20.Ka1 Qb2#) 18...Nxa2+ 19.Kb1 Nb4 20.Ra3 Nxc2 21.Kxc2 Bxa3 22.bxa3]

17...Nxe3 Pretty easy to see this tactic, but it's beautiful because there are pins as well as forks that make it work.

18.Qxe4 Nxe3 is supposedly best, but it's gonna hurt either way.

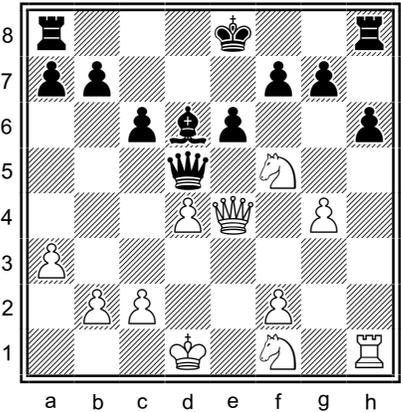
18...Nxd1 19.Kxd1 But, of course, it's never as easy as it sounds to win with the exchange up. But first those queens need to come off... White's is getting a little too powerful.

19...Qa5 Ah, but first, a snack! a2 or h5 pawn?

20.a3 Qxh5+ 21.g4 Qd5 22.Nf5! (Diagram) Ooh! Speaking of using pins and forks to your advantage! A clever way to regain a piece... Bf8 is best, forcing the trade.

22...Kd7 23.Nxd6? Trading the queens, fol-

lowed by taking the g-pawn with the knight, is best.



23...Kxd6 24.Qf4+ e5 The pawn move practically forces the trade.

25.Qxe5+ Qxe5 26.dxe5+ Kxe5 And Black's most advanced piece... yep, it's the king. Luckily the queens are off.

27.Nd2 Rad8 28.Re1+ Kf6 29.Kc1 Rhe8 All pretty obvious stuff.

30.Ne4+ Kg6 31.f4 Kh7 [31...f5 I really didn't think f5 would work, but Fritz thinks it's OK. 32.gxf5+ Kf7 Ahh!! I was thinking along the lines of Kxf5... (32...Kxf5 33.Nd6+ Rxd6 34.Rxe8 Kxf4 Even though I've given back the exchange, those two pawns on the kingside are going to get nasty.)]

32.g5 hxg5 33.Nxg5+ Kg8 34.Rg1 And he sneaks out of the pin to live another day.

34...Re3 Mainly to trap that knight, but I really shouldn't be scared of the backward knight moves.



35.f5 R d5 36.f6 g6 37.c4 R d e5 38.K d2
 Re2+ 39.Kc3 c5 Not allowing him to wander
 too far from my rooks.

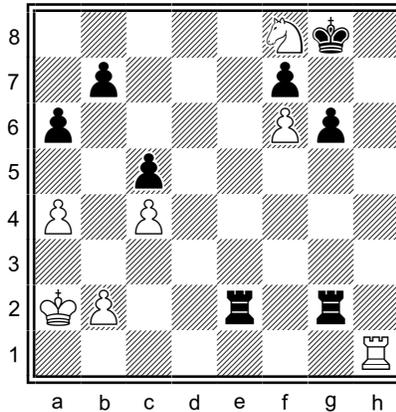
40.Kb3 a6 Again, just not allowing the king
 to run too far.

41.a4 R5e3+ 42.Ka2 R d2 I've actually got to
 watch out for back rank mates of my own
 now! Thus, denying White the d-file.

43.Rh1 Rg2 Well, let's see where that knight
 thinks he's going...

44.Nh7? [44.Nh3 Not great, but at least the
 rook's not babysitting the knight. 44...Ree2
 45.Nf4 Rxb2+ 46.Ka3 Ra2+ 47.Kb3 Rgb2+
 48.Kc3 Rf2]

44...Ree2 45.Nf8!?! (Diagram) And there it
 is, folks... The "Trojan Horse". Hmm, should
 I take it?



45...Rxb2+ 46.Ka3 Rbd2 47.Rh3 There
 really wasn't anything else, but this lets me
 get back to what I like best -- trading!

47...Ra2+ 48.Kb3 Rgb2+ White resigns
 here, as I'm not about to take the "Trojan
 Horse" and after a pair of rooks trade off (49.
 Kc3 Ra3+ 50. Kxa2 Rxb3 51. Nd7 Rh5) and
 White has no good way to advance an attack.
0-1

The final crosstable to the Wyoming
 Open is listed below. Always a fun
 tournament, as attested to by the play-
 ers from 4 states (Montana, Colorado,
 New Mexico ... and even Wyoming!)
 who attended it this year!

Wyoming Open Crosstable

#	Name	USCF ID	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Tot
1	Gregory Nowak	10310423	2129	W18	W6	H--	W7	D4	4.0
2	Shawn Svare	12707940	1619	L19	W14	W9	W15	W8	4.0
3	Tim Martinson	12928698	1546	W20	W15	L8	W11	W7	4.0
4	James Kulbacki	10287863	1851	H--	W13	W10	D8	D1	3.5
5	Brian Lee Walker	12406768	1660	W23	W19	L7	D6	W13	3.5
6	Lee Lahti	12914550	1610	W21	L1	W19	D5	W10	3.5
7	Jeffrey Csima	12475087	2068	W9	W17	W5	L1	L3	3.0
8	Randy Reynolds	12842017	1671	D10	W16	W3	D4	L2	3.0
9	Elizabeth Scott	12582914	1414	L7	W21	L2	W22	W15	3.0
10	Alexander Yu	13747500	1400	D8	W11	L4	W14	L6	2.5
11	Brian L. Walker	12709846	1665	D13	L10	W22	L3	W17	2.5
12	Gordon Hart III	13417486	1400	L15	W20	H--	L13	W19	2.5
13	Tim Kohler	13802745	1358	D11	L4	W16	W12	L5	2.5
14	Michael Martinson	13629443	1249	D16	L2	W23	L10	W21	2.5
15	Donald Opalinski	10131901	1756	W12	L3	W17	L2	L9	2.0
16	Cory Foster	12928613	1607	D14	L8	L13	D19	W23	2.0
17	Dean Brown	10224098	1455	W22	L7	L15	W21	L11	2.0
18	Allan Cunningham	11132570	1432	L1	H--	H--	H--	H--	2.0
19	Richard Song	13877843	1290	W2	L5	L6	D16	L12	1.5
20	Cory Kohler	13802751	1009	L3	L12	L21	D23	W22	1.5
21	Michael Dempsey	12952683	1259	L6	L9	W20	L17	L14	1.0
22	Kathy Schneider	12545281	1000	L17	W23	L11	L9	L20	1.0
23	Brandon Glazier	14204381	1300	L5	L22	L14	D20	L16	0.5

by Lee Lahti

G/29 Grand Prix Update

The 2009 G/29 Grand Prix is in full swing, with 6 of the scheduled 14 events now completed. In the last 3 months, we have held 4 events – including our largest and most successful yet.

On March 31st, the Denver Chess Club hosted their first G/29 Grand Prix event. For this first event in Denver, there were 25 participants – a new record, beating the 24 participants at the October G/29 event held in Cheyenne. Of the 25 players, we had 21 first time G/29 participants. With 25 players taking part, accelerated pairings were needed for all 3 rounds – and even that was not enough to produce a clear winner. Brian Wall (as the highest rated player) and Matthew Flowers (taking advantage of the accelerated pairings) tied for 1st with perfect 3/3 scores, each earning \$13 for their performance. Tim Kohler (rated 1199) knocked off a couple of unrated players on the way to clear Top Under 1500, scoring 2.5/3 and earning \$9. The Top Under 1200 prize went to newcomer Joseph White, earning \$6 with a score of 2/3. The Top Under 900 prize of \$4 was awarded to newcomer David Sweeney, with a 1.5/3 score.

The Greeley/UNC Chess Club hosted the April G/29 monthly event on April 16th. We had another nice showing – 19 players. Because of the 19 players, we only ran accelerated pairings for 2 rounds – but things seemed to work out as it should with a final round match-up of the only two undefeated players. Frank Deming was rated more than double his final round opponent - Chad Marostica. Chad had pulled off a 600 point upset over Nick Major in round 2 to reach the final round undefeated, so Frank was not taking Chad lightly. Unfortunately, Chad was not able to pull of the 900 point upset – so Frank Deming was clear 1st with a perfect 3/3, earning \$11. Jay Shaeffer snuck into clear 2nd place, with a score of 2.5/3 – his only blem-

ish a draw with Klaus Johnson. For his performance, Jay earned \$8. Chad along with Deb Banerjee were part of the group of 6 players at 2/3 that included myself, Josh Divine, Cory Foster, and Klaus Johnson. But Josh and Chad were rated Under 1500 (unlike the rest of us), so they split a combined Under 1500/Under 1200 prize – each earning \$6.50. And Cory Kohler (rated 870) had his best performance at a monthly G/29 event, scoring 1.5/3 to take the top Under 900 prize and earn his \$3 entry fee back.

On Saturday May 2nd, the Fort Collins Chess Club hosted the 1st G/29 Super Saturday tournament. As a double point G/29 event, with 6 rounds and 2 Participation bonus points available – this was a chance for some players to make a major move in the overall standings. As this was the 1st weekend G/29 event and a Colorado Tour event, I thought it would help attract additional players. I was right – as we had an above expectation 36 players attend the Super Saturday #1 (including 15 1st time G/29 participants) – a phenomenal showing for a 1st time event. As there were 6 rounds (which can realistically produce a clear winner with 80 participants), accelerated pairings were not used. The entry fee for the Super Saturday event was high for G/29 standards - \$12 instead of the normal \$3 entry fee for monthly club-night events. With the higher entry fees and large turnout, the actual prize fund blew away pre-tournament estimates. In the end of the carnage, new Expert Mitch Anderson from Colorado Spring took clear 1st with a perfect 6/6 score, earning a G/29 record \$75 for 1st place. Josh Divine and George Voorhis each recovered from early round losses to 10 year old Alex Yu (more on Alex below) to tie for 2nd with scores of 5/6, each earning \$32.50 for the combined 2nd place and Top Under 1800 prize. Frank Deming was clear 4th overall with 4.5/6, earning \$15 for 2nd Under 1800. Alex Yu (rated 1316) and Jerry Meier (rated 1264) both had very strong tournaments, finishing as part of the pack with 4/6 and earning \$20 to split the Under 1500 prizes. As proof of their strong tournament against tougher competition - in this one tournament, Alex's quick rating increased 202 points and Jerry had a just slightly worst rating increase of only 198 points. Congrats to both of them. Rounding out the prizes were Kevin Green and Alex McMahon as part of the group scoring 3/6, earning \$20 each to split the Under 1200 prizes and Chad Marostica earning \$5 for the biggest upset prize (this time just a 562-point upset – just slightly higher than Kevin Green's 551-point upset in the same round!)

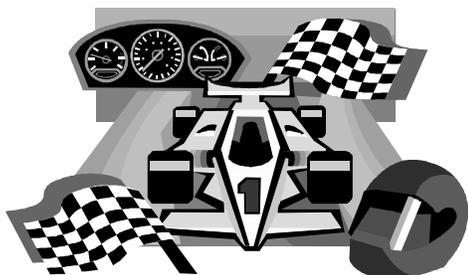
After 3 strong turnouts in a row, expectations

were high the pattern would continue with the May monthly event in Boulder on May 29th. However when the 1st round started at 7pm, we only had 8 players playing – 4 of them traveling together from Fort Collins. It turns out that some of the regular Boulder players were in a different part of the Alfred Packer Grill and didn't know where the rest of us were playing. Four more players joined the event, 2 taking a ½ point bye and 2 playing a shortened game for the 1st round. With only 12 players, no accelerated pairings were used. In the end, Julian Evans emerged as the clear winner with the perfect 3/3 score (which after 17 monthly events seems required for 1st place – either outright or shared!) For his perfect score, Julian earned \$9. I was clear 2nd with a 2.5/3, earning \$5. All players at 2/3 were rated over 1500, so the Top Under 1500 prize of \$5 went to Tim Kohler with a score of 1.5/3. And Ginny Gaige and Kevin Green split the Top Under 1200 prize, each earning \$1.50 for their efforts.

Through 6 events, I am in the lead overall with 21.5 points. Right behind in 2nd place overall with 19.5 points is Frank Deming. Cory Foster is 3rd overall with 18 points. Tim Kohler is in 4th overall and leads for the Top Under 1500 prize with 14.5 points. Aaron Evensiosky trails just behind in 5th place overall with 14 points. Rounding out the top 10 are: Klaus Johnson (currently Top Under 1800) with 13.5 points, Cory Kohler (currently Top Under 1200) with 11.5, Archie Shipp with 11 points, and Brian Wall, Markus Petters, and Josh Divine with 10 points each. But with 8 events still to go, all the prizes are still up for grabs.

The next events in the 2009 G/29 Grand Prix will take place in Cheyenne on Thursday June 18th, in Greeley on Thursday July 16th, the 2nd Super Saturday in Boulder on Saturday August 15th, and the August monthly in Fort Collins on Tuesday August 25th.

If you have any questions about the G/29 or are looking for more information, please contact me by phone at 970-372-8590 or by email at lee.lahti@comcast.net.



What's next for G/29 Grand Prix?

July 16th Greeley
Aug. 15th Boulder
Aug. 25th Ft. Collins

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

Current Standings for 2009 G/29 Grand Prix

Name	Total Score	Events Played	Average Rating	Game Losses
Lee Lahti	21.5	6	1511	3
Frank Deming	19.5	5	1716	4
Cory Foster	18.0	6	1571	10
Tim Kohler	14.5	5	1248	8
Aaron Evensiosky	14.0	5	1380	9
Klaus Johnson	13.5	4	1675	4
Cory Kohler	11.5	5	886	12
Archie Shipp	11.0	4	1277	8
Brian Wall	10.0	2	2087	2
Markus Petters	10.0	2	1958	2
Josh Divine	10.0	2	1646	2
Jay Shaeffer	9.5	2	1667	2
Randy Reynolds	9.5	3	1532	6
Anthea Carson	9.0	2	1624	3
Mitch Anderson	8.0	1	1850	0
George Voorhis	7.0	1	1822	1
Julian Evans	7.0	2	1656	1
Deb Banerjee	7.0	2	1273	5
Kevin Green	7.0	2	1088	5
Alex Yu	6.0	1	1491	2
Jerry Maier	6.0	1	1383	2
Chad Marostica	6.0	2	869	6
Eric Barkmeyer	5.5	1	1565	2
Ted Doykos	5.5	1	1545	2
Richard Song	5.5	1	1306	2
Pierre Julien	5.0	1	1603	3
Gary Sauer	5.0	1	1349	2
Brady Barkmeyer	5.0	1	1347	3
Dean Brown	5.0	1	1344	3
Alex McMahan	5.0	1	1058	3
Michael Nugent	4.5	1	1091	3
Dave Kennedy	4.5	2	809	7
Mitesh Shridhar	4.0	1	1955	0
Ronald Schroeder	4.0	1	1496	4
Matthew Flowers	4.0	1	1395	0
Artem Bolshakov	4.0	1	989	4
Michael Dempsey	4.0	1	987	4
Kathy Schneider	4.0	1	963	4

Name	Total Score	Events Played	Average Rating	Game Losses
Daoud Zupa	3.0	1	1797	1
Chris Wall	3.0	1	1708	1
Jackson Chen	3.0	1	1588	1
Landon Anglin	3.0	1	1560	0
Joseph Simon	3.0	1	1508	1
William O'Neil	3.0	1	1460	1
La Moyne Spichal	3.0	1	1443	1
Joseph White	3.0	1	1309	1
Alex Freeman	3.0	1	909	5
Ginny Gaige	3.0	2	757	4
Max Dielman	3.0	1	750	5
Joseph Haines	2.5	1	1522	1
Gordon Hart	2.5	1	1472	1
David Brunner	2.5	1	1433	1
Thomas Corbett	2.5	1	1346	1
David Sweeney	2.5	1	1223	1
Paul Kullback	2.5	1	1082	1
Dashzeveg Samdan	2.0	1	1429	2
Nicholas Major	2.0	1	1402	2
Losol Amarbayasgaian	2.0	1	1378	2
Allan Cunningham	2.0	1	1343	2
Peter Cannici	2.0	1	1342	2
Ahril Godoy	2.0	1	1341	2
Joseph Aragon	2.0	1	1316	2
Gary Dorsey	2.0	1	1296	2
Louis Berman	2.0	1	1291	2
Spencer Golsan	2.0	1	866	2
Aren Dalloul	2.0	1	804	2
Vincent Meade	2.0	1	792	2
Anuda Sharavdorj	2.0	1	672	2
Kale Mount	2.0	1	664	2
Asepha Shaeffer	2.0	1	379	2
JC Macneil	1.5	1	1459	2
Matthew Whelan	1.5	1	720	2
Arvin Bilegsaikhan	1.0	1	801	3
Colton Zadkavic	1.0	1	350	3
Randy Schine	0.5	1	1540	1

by Jeff Baffo

Trust your Instincts

W: Baffo, Jeffrey (1820)

B: Seidler, Kevin (1951)

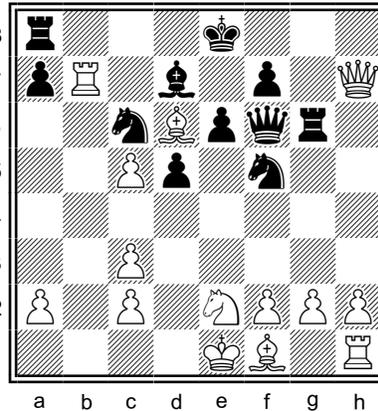
May Flowers Gm/40 Tabor Center
Denver Colorado (4), 16 May 2009

1.Nc3 d5 2.e4 e6 3.d4 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.Qg4 Ne7 6.dxc5 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 Qxe5+ 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.Bf4 There's nothing wrong with what I played, but all through the game my little voice was telling me to play 11.h4. Here is the first opportunity.

11...Qf6 12.Bd6 "12.h4!" I kept slapping away my little voice "Premature!, Bad kid, go away!" but it's real good here, too!

12...Bd7 13.Rb1 Rg6 14.Rxb7 Nf5 (Diagram) 15.Qh3 "15.h4!!" By now my little voice is getting hoarse screaming for this move. It is STILL the right move! For example, 15...Nxd6 The move I

feared... 16.cxd6 0-0-0 17.Rc7+ Kb8 18.h5+- absolutely crushing...



"h4!!" continues to whisper The Voice

15...Nxd6 16.cxd6 0-0-0 17.Rb3? Here again my instincts were denied, I wanted to go with 17.Rc7+ but talked myself out of it. Why!?!? after Kb8 18.Qd3!! annihilates...

17...Na5 18.Ra3? [18.Qe3!! d4!

(18...Nxb3 19.Qxa7! Mating, wow!) 19.Qd3 is a King Killer.]

18...Nc4 19.Rxa7 Kb8 20.Rc7 [20.Rxd7]

20...Nxd6 21.Rc5 Ne4 22.Qe3 Nxc5 23.Qxc5 e5 24.Ng3 Qg5? Incredibly, this loses!

25.Qe3 Arrrrrrgggh, but NOT LIKE THIS! [25.Bd3!, e4 26.0-0 White is winning. The Bishop is taboo. 26...exd3?? (Something like 26...Bc8 holds out for a while...) 27.Rb1+ finds the Dark Monarch again on the block.]

25...Qxe3+ 26.fxe3 Ba4 27.Be2 Bxc2 28.0-0 f6 29.Rc1 Be4 30.c4 f5 31.cxd5 Bxd5 32.Bd3 Be6 33.Bxf5 Bxf5 34.Nxf5 Rd2 Despite White's howling mad blunders the position is mostly equal... however, via mad time scramble, Kevin, however never seem flustered, smoothly doubling his Rooks on my 7th. 0-1

by Jeff Baffo

Avoiding Strangulation

W: Baffo, Jeffrey (1820)

B: Anderson, Mitch (2004)

May Flowers Gm/40 (2), May 16, 2009

1.Nc3 Nf6 2.f4 d5 3.e3 Bg4 4.Be2 Bxe2 5.Qxe2 c6 6.Nf3 e6 7.b3 Too intent on creating the typical Bird's set up... [7.0-0; 7.d3 are probably better]

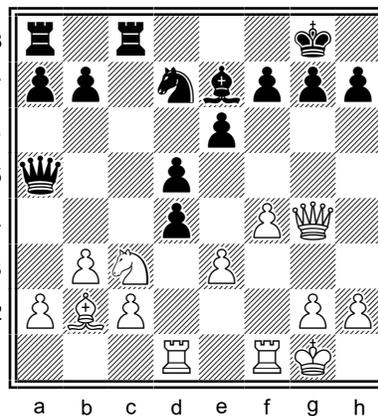
7...Nbd7 8.Bb2 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.d3 [10.a4, a handy move, appropriate for many moves hereabouts.]

10...Qc7 Here I became possessed with a mad panic to prevent Black's ...e5, so...

11.d4 c5! Sadly my panic reaction just helped my opponent find an even better pawn break.

12.Ne5 Rfc8?! Not a bad move, but the other Rook would have been a bit better.

13.Rad1 Qa5 14.Nxd7 Nxd7 15.Qg4 cxd4 (Diagram)



Through his simple yet powerful play, Mitch has taken control of the game. For better or worse, I decide to lash out rather than allow Black to finish the suffocating bind he is creating. It should NOT have worked.

16.Nxd5! For guts, but sadly, that is all this move has...

16...Qxd5 17.Rxd4 Black is winning handily, Mitch need only find a few key move to defuse the situation and sail off with the full point.

17...Nf6! 18.Qg3 Qa5! So far, so good. Mitch is showing the White attack for what it is, pure bluff..

19.Rd7 Nh5 Still winning but I might have resigned had he played 19...Rxc2!

20.Qf3 Now with 20...Bd8 Black is a little twisted up, but will untangle soon White's "attack" having wilted in the mean time.

20...Bf6? Mitch's first real error, now Black still has a decent edge but he's made things much harder than they needed to be, by giving White a dangerous weapon: hope.

21.Be5 Bxe5 22.Qxh5 Now if Black wants to go for the win he has to play 22...Bc3 and hope he can weather the storm after 23.Qxf7+. Mitch told me he thought White's pawns plus initiative outweighed the Bishop.

22...g6 23.Qxe5 Now White has pulled ahead and, though probably not winning, can force Black in to a difficult defense for many moves. Now however, comes a shocker...

23...Qc3?? 24.Rd8+ and Mitch resigned... 1-0

Spring is Sprung Open
 April 4th, 2009

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Anthea J Carson	1805	1812	W6	W4	W3	D2	W5	4.5
2	Robert Rountree	1563	1587	W7	W11	W4	D1	H---	4.0
3	Ted K Doykos	1712	1690	W9	W5	L1	W7	L4	3.0
4	Michael C Davis	1414	1440	W8	L1	L2	W10	W3	3.0
5	Dean W Brown	1400	1412	W10	L3	W11	W6	L1	3.0
6	Gerald J Maier	1314	1299	L1	D8	W10	L5	B---	2.5
7	Russel J Stark	1231	1258	L2	W9	W8	L3	H---	2.5
8	Liz Wood	1121	1140	L4	D6	L7	B---	W9	2.5
9	Thomas Mullikin	1283	1239	L3	L7	B---	W11	L8	2.0
10	Isaac Martinez	1116	1106	L5	B---	L6	L4	W11	2.0
11	Kathy A Schneider	997	967	B---	L2	L5	L9	L10	1.0

USAFA Quads #10
 May 30th, 2009

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	Julian S Evans	1861	1864	L2	W4	W3	2.0
2	Josh Divine	1718	1742	W1	L3	W4	2.0
3	Anthea J Carson	1793	1794	D4	W2	L1	1.5
4	Alex Cacas	1816	1791	D3	L1	L2	0.5

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	Brendon Ch Barela	1675	1697	W2	W3	D4	2.5
2	Gerardo Fern Neri	1709	1700	L1	D4	W3	1.5
3	Howard Notgarnie	1611	1602	W4	L1	L2	1.0
4	Derek Austin Fish	1578	1574	L3	D2	D1	1.0

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	Kurt Kondracki	1551	1562	W2	W3	L4	2.0
2	Alexa E Lasley	1519	1536	L1	W4	W3	2.0
3	Donald P Binnix	1559	1538	W4	L1	L2	1.0
4	Matthew Lasley Sr	1470	1464	L3	L2	W1	1.0

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	James M Powers	1101	1171	W2	D3	W4	2.5
2	Thomas L Mullikin	1296	1297	L1	W4	W3	2.0
3	Isaac Martinez	1091	1119	W4	D1	L2	1.5
4	Gerald J Maier	1330	1249	L3	L2	L1	0.0

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
1	Matthew Lasley Jr	918	1003	W2	W4	W3	3.0
2	Alexander Freeman	1035	1016	L1	D3	W4	1.5
3	Gary G Frenzel	1045	1001	D4	D2	L1	1.0
4	Robert Mitchell	822	807	D3	L1	L2	0.5

by Paul Anderson

Make Haste Slowly

Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit” (Ecclesiastes 7:8 (King James Version)). This is one of those proverbs that seem to have a direct chess application. Just change “end of a thing” to endgame and “beginning” to opening and you will get my drift. Can you win a chess game when losing the opening? I think so. Can you win a chess game when losing the endgame. I think not.

I have gotten to where I am in chess today by taking advantage of this truth. I have not worried about studying opening theory. I was just hoping to develop my pieces without being too far behind. I started chess late; I never had any thoughts about becoming a Grandmaster. I just wanted to play well against my dad, but when I focused on endgame skills and increasing my level of patience, my rating increased.

I reached a peak of 1994 and was hoping to achieve expert level before I start learning about chess openings. However, it is never easy to cross these milestones for some reason. I remember trying to break into the class A rating for 3 years before landing at 1805 on December 5th, 2004. Breaking 1900 was even harder, as it took another 3 years, falling from 1885, 1897, and 1899 before crossing over with 1904 on January 5th, 2008. Now, in one year, I had a shot at passing 2000. Would my endgame skills and patience be up to the challenge?

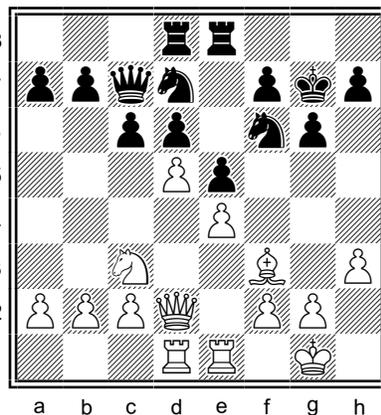
I am not the quickest endgame player. I know I have to move fast in the opening to avoid the pitfalls of time pressure. I

would rather suffer some weaknesses in the opening than try to rely on my endgame skills with 2 minutes on the clock. Some players have mastered the art of patience in time pressure, but they are usually masters. My dad’s favorite quote from his senior yearbook was, “Make haste slowly” (D. Anderson, 1961). I think he was just trying to be clever then, but now I find a lot of wisdom in his statement. I currently lack the ability to think patiently yet move quickly. I am just not a clutch player. They wouldn’t give me the ball with 2 seconds left on the clock. I would probably be the guy who threw it to the other team when trying to get it inbounds. They wouldn’t put me in the lineup with 2 minutes left and down 4 points. I would probably be the guy who missed hearing the play and threw the ball out of bounds on 4th down. This inability cost me my first shot at expert.

W: Deloslado,Edelreich (1697)
B: Anderson,Paul (1990)
 Colorado Springs Open,
 March 8th, 2009

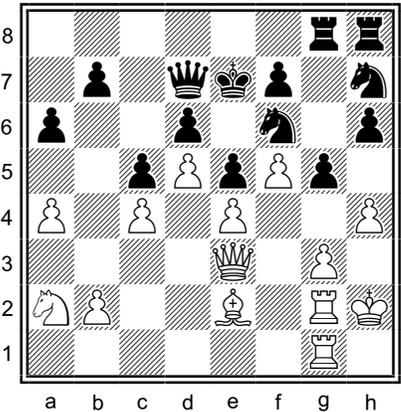
B06: Modern Defence **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be3 Bg4 6.Be2 Nd7 7.Qd2 Qc7 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Ngf6 10.0-0 0-0** last book move

11.Bh6 Rfe8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Rfe1 Rad8 14.Rad1 14...e5 15.d5 (Diagram)
 White gains space

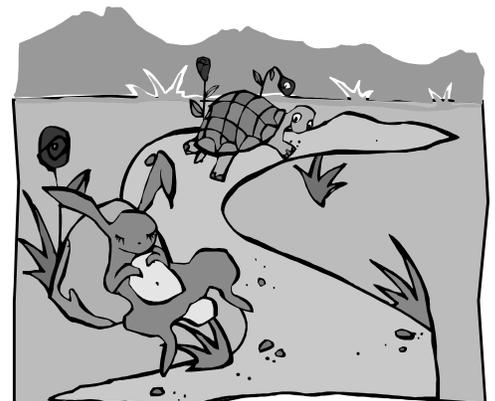


15...c5 16.Nb5 Qb6 17.c4 a6 18.Nc3 Qa5 19.Be2 h6 20.g3 Rb8 21.a4 Nf8 22.Rf1 N8h7 23.Kh2 Qc7 24.h4 Qd7 25.Qe3 g5 26.Rg1 Rh8 27.f4 Rbe8 28.f5 White wins space

28...Reg8 29.Rg2 Kf8 30.Rdg1 Ke7 31.Na2? (Diagram) [31.Rb1= would allow White to play on]



With little time left on his clock, Edelreich pins all his hopes on one last ditch effort to get to my king. This is the last time I put much thought into my move. I considered the possibility that sending my queen out on a material raid could leave the door to the hen house open, but I saw the potential queen trade and figured that would be too hard for him to see in his time pressure. Plus, it appears as if he is already starting to crumble in the time pressure, as I am getting at least a couple of pawns.



31...Qxa4+ 32.b4? [32.Qa3 Qxa3
33.bxa3 Nxe4 34.Bf3+]

Ok, I get a knight, too, and the queen sac is still in play.

32...Qxa2 33.bxc5 Qxc4 34.cxd6+
[34.Bxc4?? White will choke on that
34...Ng4+ 35.Kh1 Nxe3+]

Well, this was not the move I wanted and should have been easy to see, but I did not. Perhaps I should have taken this as a sign to reconsider my plan, but I did not.

34...Kd7 [34...Kf8 and Black has prevailed
35.Rb1 Qxe4 36.Qxe4 Nxe4
37.Rxb7 Kg7+]

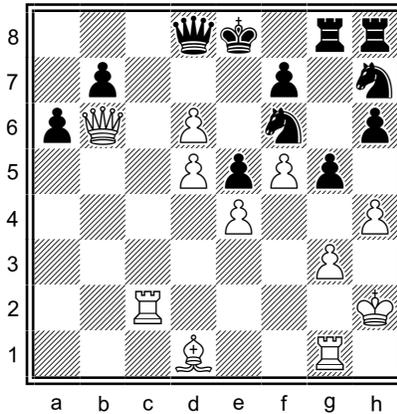
35.Qb6+ [35.Bxc4?? materialistic play, which will be punished
35...Ng4+ 36.Kh1 Nxe3+]

My planning has failed me. He hasn't taken the bait...twice. Now, I am in panic mode. He is playing too well in extreme time pressure, and my dreams of an easy endgame have disappeared.

35...Qc8 [35...Qxe4?? will allow the opponent to give mate in 2
36.Qc7+ Ke8

37.Qe7#]

36.Bd1 Ke8 37.Rc2 Qd8?? (Diagram)



But even a better move would not have saved the game [37...Qb8 38.Rc7 Kf8
39.Rxb7 Kg7 40.Rxb8 Rxb8 41.Qxa6
Nxe4+]

38.Rc7 Kf8 39.Qxb7 Edelreich offers a draw with 2 seconds left on his clock. His offer awakens me from my time pressure haze. I realize my clock is fine. I have not made the most of my time. I rushed through my last eight moves just to keep his clock running. Now, I have a decision to make. Do I take the draw or not? I

knew before this game started that not playing this game would give me a rating of 1999. So, a win would be the only way to make expert rating (2004). A draw to a lower rated player would move me back to 1994. However, I have totally ruined my position, and he is only one move away from gaining another hour on his clock. My only hope is to find a move that is complicated enough to make him hesitate, so that the 2 seconds elapse before he hits his clock. Of course, if he makes the move fast enough, the draw offer is not likely to return, and I will lose the 2nd place prize money. So, do I choose greed or vanity? I just sat there, wishing it had never come to this. **1/2-1/2**

The money and the feeling that I did not deserve to win compelled me to take the draw. My first shot at expert was gone. My second strike would come a couple weeks later, as a victory over Mitch Anderson would have put me at 2005, but he didn't want his rating to fall below 2000 and didn't give me any chances for a win. Maybe I will get another shot this summer and this goal will end better than it has begun.

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CLUB DIRECTORY: PLACES FOR YOU TO PLAY CHESS

Editor's note: PLEASE send new or updated information to randy_teyana@msn.com for listing here.

Adams State College Chess Club meets Tuesdays, 6:30-10 PM, at Adams State College Student Center in the food court. Meets during academic year. (late August through April) For info call Joe Kolupke (719) 589-9354 or E-mail: jakolupke@adams.edu for more details.

The **Aurora Chess Club** meets Saturdays, 1-4 PM, at the Aurora Public Library, 14949 E. Alameda. They now have a coach for those that want to learn to play. Contact Jeff Baffo at jbaffo2004@msn.com or (303) 617-9123.

Boulder Chess Club is back in business and meets every Wednesday at the UMC Alferd Packer Grill 6:30-11:30 PM. See www.geocities.com/boulderchessclub/ or E-mail boulderchessclub@yahoo.com for more details.

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

Chess Knights meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evening from 7-9pm. From 470 & Broadway, on Broadway go 1.3 miles south, at the light, turn right onto Highland Ranch Parkway, go 0.2 miles, to the first light, turn left onto Ridgeline Blvd., go 0.2 miles, the library is on the left. We meet in the conference room on the left beyond the restrooms. Information is also available on the Chess Knights' Web site at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HighlandsRanch-ChessClub/>. Contact: Frank Atwood 720-260-1493 or frank_atwood80120@yahoo.com

Colorado Springs Chess Club meets Tuesday evenings, 7 - 10 PM, in the downstairs game room of the Acacia Apartments Building, 104 E. Platte. Scheduled activities every meeting at 8 PM. (must show up by 8 or you might be locked out) For information see our website at: www.springschess.org or contact Buck Buchanan at buckpeace@pcisys.net or (719) 685-1984.

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

The **Denver Chess Club** meets Tuesdays 6:30-11 PM at the 1st Avenue Presbyterian Church (1 block West of Broadway and 1st & Acoma). Contact Bruce Bain at (720) 318-6496 or E-mail yaxisx@aol.com for more info.

The **Durango Chess Club** meets at 6:30 PM Wednesdays. Speed chess and informal instruction take place along with regular games in a casual atmosphere. Newcomers of all ages are welcome. No dues required. The location alternates weekly between Steaming Bean and Magpies Newsstand. Call

John Mical, 259-4718.

The **Fort Collins Chess Club** currently meets Tuesdays, 7 PM, in the food court of the Lory Student Center (2nd level), Colorado State University. E-mail Randy Reynolds at randy_teyana@msn.com. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fort_collins_chess/

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

Grand Junction Junior Chess Club meets every 3rd Sat. of the month at the Knights of Columbus Bldg, 2853 North Ave. Call Rand Dodd at (970) 245-4015.

The **Greeley Chess Club** meets Thursdays, 7-10 PM, Best Western Inn, Lopiano's Restaurant, 8th Ave and 8th St. Call Herb Conley at (970) 352-6142.

The **Longmont Chess Club** meets Thursdays, from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at Abbondanza Pizzeria, 461 Main St., in Longmont, Colorado. Contact James Drebenstedt at (720) 494-0993 for more info.

Also in Longmont, **Stonebridge Games Chess Club** meets Tuesdays at 5 PM. 449 Main Street, Longmont. Call 303-776-3796 for more info.

The **Northeast Denver Chess Club** meets Mondays and Thursdays from 4-8 PM at 2575 Vine Street, Denver. Call (303) 320-6716 for more info.

The **Rifle Chess Club** meets Thursdays, 6:30-9:00 PM, at City Hall. For info. email Dane Lyons at duilen@gmail.com.

Pueblo Chess Club meets at Barnes and Noble (4300 Freeway) on Mondays, Daily Grind (209 S. Union) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. All nights 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Thursdays are G/15 tournaments. For more info contact Liz Wood at 719-566-6929.

USAF Academy Chess Club meets most Fridays during the school year, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Fairchild Hall, Room 5D2. Call Jim Serpa or Pete Cohen, (719) 333-4470.

In Westcliffe, the **Dean Moon Chess Club** plays on Fridays beginning 12:30 in the community room adjacent to the library, 209 Main (1/2 block west of Highways 69 and 96/main inter-section). Casual. No dues. All levels welcome. Call Russ Stark, 719-371-0696.

Colorado Tour 2009 Standings (through Pueblo Open (no May Flowers))

Top 10 Overall

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Klaus Johnson	1769	344.06	65
2	Jeffrey Baffo	1823	288.14	45
3	Ted Doykos	1701	274.71	53
4	Tyler Hughes	2277	269.29	28
5	Julian Evans	1821	264	41
6	Anthea Carson	1719	262.53	60
7	Mitesh Shridhar	2056	247.29	28
8	Cory Foster	1628	238.91	50
9	Dean W. Brown	1446	235.94	83
10	Mitchell Anderson	1972	231.45	40

Top 10 Expert

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Mitesh Shridhar	2056	247.29	28
2	Richard Herbst	2003	158.6	14
3	Daoud Zupa	2029	153.69	21
4	Richard Buchanan	2005	144.44	31
5	Markus Petters	2018	131.92	19
6	Brian Wall	2175	111.87	20
7	Jeffrey Csima	2052	54.62	10
8	Robert Ramirez	2086	51.15	8
9	Robert O'Donnell	2113	41.45	5
10				

Top 10 Class B

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Klaus Johnson	1769	344.06	65
2	Ted Doykos	1701	274.71	53
3	Anthea Carson	1719	262.53	60
4	Cory Foster	1628	238.91	50
5	Jackson Chen	1709	174.41	34
6	Randy Reynolds	1639	127.39	23
7	Dylan Lehti	1760	94.78	10
8	Tim Brennan	1687	91.81	18
9	La Moyne Splichal	1602	79.79	17
10	Frank Deming	1769	68.07	10

Top 10 Class D

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Gerald Maier	1284	168.89	60
2	Michael Dempsey	1250	105.92	33
3	Thomas Mullikin	1295	101.03	43
4	Alexander Yu	1339	64.06	15
5	Anatoly Makarevich	1361	62.7	20
6	Edward F. Cronin	1394	53.44	13
7	Losol Amarbayasgalan	1385	52.33	13
8	Tim Kohler	1309	49.17	15
9	Alex Li	1380	47.85	17
10	Dennis Bolshakov	1202	42.75	14

Top 10 Active

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Dean W. Brown	1446	235.94	83
2	Kathy Schneider	946	147.58	83
3	Klaus Johnson	1769	344.06	65
4	Anthea Carson	1719	262.53	60
5	Gerald Maier	1284	168.89	60
6	Ted Doykos	1701	274.71	53
7	Cory Foster	1628	238.91	50
8	Jeffrey Baffo	1823	288.14	45
9	Thomas Mullikin	1295	101.03	43
10	Julian Evans	1821	264	41

Top 10 Class A

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Jeffrey Baffo	1823	288.14	45
2	Julian Evans	1821	264	41
3	Mitchell Anderson	1972	231.45	40
4	Morgan Robb	1938	136.38	13
5	Kevin Seidler	1916	111.26	13
6	David Meliti	1881	102.6	13
7	Igor Melnykov	1933	97.35	14
8	Paul Anderson	1969	83.87	11
9	Ken Doykos	1817	76.97	12
10	DuWayne Langseth	1840	76.82	11

Top 10 Class C

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Dean W. Brown	1446	235.94	83
2	Derek Fish	1470	184.7	32
3	Lee F. Lahti	1576	170.48	33
4	Brendon Barela	1467	170.09	27
5	Daniel Zhou	1541	115.28	21
6	Eric Barkemeyer	1552	109.79	23
7	Samdan Dashzeveg	1593	100.16	19
8	Anthony Cordova	1510	94.35	21
9	Joseph R. Aragon	1441	86.32	20
10	Rhett Langseth	1543	82.85	17

Top 10 Class E

	Name	Rating	Points	Games
1	Kathy Schneider	946	147.58	83
2	Isaac Martinez	1163	54.93	24
3	Ken Johnson	1131	54.74	21
4	Ginny Gage	759	51.49	26
5	Artem Bolshakov	1010	46.65	16
6	Liz Wood	1150	38.04	24
7	Gregory Bain	1034	28.71	10
8	Alex Mc Mahon	986	25.6	6
9	Kevin Green	1100	25.6	6
10	Kevin Lucas	996	25.05	9

Upcoming Tournaments

2009 Colorado Quick Championship, July 11, 2009

7 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/15 TD/3

Site: Boulder, University Memorial Center Room #415.

Entry fee: \$20, \$15 for Jr/Sr/Unrated

Prizes: 75% of Entries, top CO player will be 2009 Colorado Quick Champion

Registration: 9:00-9:45, **Rounds:** 10, 10:45, 11:30, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15 Play-offs (if necessary) at 4:00.

Entries: Klaus Johnson

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

Website: www.geocities.com/boulderchessclub

A CO Tour event

CSCA membership req'd (\$15/yr, \$10/yr for Jr/Sr), OSA

Not a qualifier for the Boulder Club Championship.

July 2009 G/29 Grand Prix Event, July 16, 2009

3 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: Game/29, no delay

Site: Zachariah's Food Court, University Center Lower Level, UNC Campus, Greeley, CO

Directions: Take Highway 34 into Greeley. From Highway 34, turn North (Left if heading East on Highway 34, Right if heading West) onto 11th Ave. Continue on 11th Ave until you reach 22nd Street. Turn Right on 22nd Street. Take the first Left into the parking lot of the University Center.

Entry fee: \$3

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

Registration: 630-700pm. Onsite registration only, but please email if you intend to come, **Rounds:** 7pm, 8pm, 9pm.

Entries: Lee Lahti

E-mail: lee.lahti@comcast.net

A G/29 Grand Prix Event, hosted by the Greeley & UNC Chess Club.

3rd Boulder Invitational, July 24-26, 2009

8 round Round Robin system tournament.

Time Control: G/115 TD/5

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

Entry fee: \$45

Prizes: 1st: \$250, 2nd: \$100

Round Times: 7/24--2:30, 7:30. 7/25--9:30, 2:30, 7:30. 7/26--9:30, 2:30

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

Phone: (303)854-7898

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

Invitational: List of invited players below. If any players refuse the invitation then they will be replaced with the highest rated players (July supplement) who want to play. All players have until July 10th to declare their intention to play.

2008 Invitational Champion: Philipp Ponomarev

2008 T-2nd place Invitational: Renard Anderson

2008 T-2nd place Invitational: Mikhail Ponomarev

2008 T-2nd place Invitational: Pierre DuCharme

2008 T-2nd place Invitational: Ted Doykos

2008 Festival Open Champion: Randy Reynolds

2008-09 Boulder Club Champion: Mitesh Shridhar

2009 Colorado Closed Champion: Dashzegve Sharavdorj

Boulder Chess Festival Open, July 25 - 26, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/115 TD/5

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

Entry fee: \$30

Prizes: 60% of Entries, players who were eligible to play in the Invitational will be limited to \$50 in winnings.

Registration: 9:00-9:30, **Rounds:** July 25th 9:30, 2:30, 7:30, July 26th 9:30, 2:30.

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

Phone: (303)854-7898

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

Held concurrently with the 3rd Boulder Invitational

Festival Open champ. will earn a place to the 2010 Boulder Invitational

USAFA Quads #12, July 25, 2009

3 round Round Robin system tournament.

Time Control: Game/60, t/d5

Site: The Milazzo Center, Building 5226, US Air Force Academy, CO

Directions: From I-25, take Exit #150 (Academy Blvd/the South Entrance to the Academy), turn west toward the mountains. The road becomes Stadium Drive. Take Stadium Drive, over the railroad bridge, about 5 miles. Turn left up Community Center Drive about 2 miles. Near the hill crest on the left is the fitness center. Turn left onto Aspen Drive (before Falcon and Eagle Drives). Continue straight to the next stop sign and turn left. Proceed straight for 100 yards (the fitness center is now on your left). The Milazzo Center and its parking lot will be on your right (opposite the baseball field).

Open: The Highest 4 USCF-rated players form a Quad; the next 4 highest form the next Quad, etc. If participation requires, the lowest rated "Quad" may be a 6-person, 3 round, Swiss section.

Entry fee: \$12 if received by June 25, 2009; \$15 on-site registration.

Prizes: 1st in each Quad: \$40. If Swiss section used: 1st in Swiss is \$40, 2nd is \$20.

Registration: 7/23, 8:30-9 AM, **Rounds:** 9:15 AM, 12:15 PM, 2:15 PM.

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

Phone: (719) 660-5531

E-mail: pmjer77@aim.com

Open to all USCF members; USCF membership may be obtained at on-site registration or on-line at www.uschess.org. Sponsored by the USAFA Community Center with Southern Colorado Chess direction.

Pikes Peak Open, August 1-2, 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 July 30, \$35 at site. \$8 EF discount for juniors, seniors, unrated. CSCA required, (\$15, jrs & srs 10), OSA

Prizes: Cash prizes per entries

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

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

Phone: (719) 660-5531

E-mail: pmjer77@aim.com

Colorado Tour Event

Upcoming Tournaments (Continued)

Hot Time in Town Tonight Tournament, Aug. 8, 09

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/30 TD 5

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

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. Cash prizes based on entry fees will be distributed at the conclusion of the event.

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

Entries: Liz Wood

Phone: 719-566-6929

E-mail: chessliz@comcast.net

An Open One-Day Rated Chess Tournament

Final round byes must be requested before the start of Round 2, and are irrevocable.

Jerry Maier, (719-660-5531) Send pre-registrations to: Jerry Maier at 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs CO 80919-2213 or pmjer77@aim.com by August 6th.

Colorado Tour Event

Super Saturday G/29 II, August 15, 2009

6 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/29 no delay

Site: University Memorial Center Room 415, CU Campus, Boulder, CO

One section: Open to all USCF members

Entry fee: \$12, \$3 less for Jr/Sr/Unrated

Prizes: 60% of Entries, remainder of entries aside from rating fees will go towards G/29 grand prix prize fund

Registration: 9:00-9:30, **Rounds:** 9:30, 10:45, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45.

Entries: Klaus Johnson

Phone: (303)854-7898

E-mail: boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

A CO Tour event

CSCA membership req'd (\$15, \$10 for Jr/Sr), OSA.

Monument Open, August 22 - 23, 2009

6 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: All Rounds: G/120

Site: Sundance Mountain Lodge, 1865 Woodmoor Drive, Monument, CO 80132

Directions: If coming from north of Monument Hill: Take I-25 South to exit 161 (State Highway 105 / Monument). Head east (away from the mountains) on S.H. 105, then make a left onto Woodmoor Drive (1st traffic light). The Lodge is 1/3 of a mile on your right. If coming from south of Monument Hill: Take I-25 North to exit 161 (State Highway 105 / Monument). Head west (toward the mountains) on S.H. 105, then make a right onto Woodmoor Drive (1st traffic light). The Lodge is 1/3 of a mile on your right. Restaurant, bar and lodging on site. Check out their website: www.sundancemountainlodge.com.

Reservations: Special rate of \$98 per day for the 22nd and/or 23rd, based upon room availability, is guaranteed thru June 24. After June 24, the rate is on an as available basis. Call 719-481-6000 or email reservations@sundancemountainlodge.com. Must mention you're with the chess tournament.

Sections: Open (open to all) and Reserve (U1500).

Entry fee: \$40; Sr, Jr, Unr \$32. \$5 less if preregistered by August 20,

2009. Please include email address for confirmation of prepayment.

Prizes: Cash prizes per entries paid at end of event.

Registration: 8:30 - 9:30 AM Saturday, **Rounds:** 8/22 Saturday - 10:00 AM, 2:30 PM, 7:00 PM; 8/23 Sunday - 9:00 AM, 1:30 PM, 6:00 PM..

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

Phone: (719) 660-5531

E-mail: pmjer77@aim.com

CSCA & USCF required, OSA. See <http://www.uschess.org/> for USCF membership rates. CSCA Membership rates are Adults (age 21-64) \$15 for one year or \$5 per tournament. Youth (under 21) and Seniors (65 or older) are \$10. Family memberships available for \$3 off regular dues with only one magazine (Colorado Chess Informant) delivered to the family address. More information at <http://www.colorado-chess.com/>. Memberships available on site.

Final round byes must be requested before the start of Round 3, and are irrevocable.

Wheelchair Accessible. Mon Roi friendly!

Colorado Tour Event

August 2009 G/29 Grand Prix Event, Aug. 25, 2009

3 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: Game/29, no delay

Site: Lory Student Center, 2nd Floor Food Court, CSU Campus, Fort Collins, CO

Directions: Turn from College Ave onto W. Laurel St. Once on Laurel, Turn left into CSU at the 2nd stop light at Meldrum St. Park in the parking lot near Lory Student Center.

Open: One open section. Accelerated Pairings used with more than 12 entries. USCF membership required.

Entry fee: \$3

Prizes: 100% of entry fees, minus USCF rating fee. (60% of total entry fees for tourney prizes, remainder after rating fee to Grand Prix Prize Fund.)

Registration: 6:30-7:00pm, **Rounds:** 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00pm.

Entries: Lee Lahti

Phone: (970) 372-8590

E-mail: lee.lahti@comcast.net

Onsite registration only, but please email if you intend to come.

A G/29 Grand Prix Event, hosted by the Fort Collins Chess Club.

USAFA Quads #13, August 29, 2009

3 round Round Robin system tournament.

Time Control: Game/60, t/d5

Site: The Milazzo Center, Building 5226, US Air Force Academy, CO

Directions: From I-25, take Exit #150 (Academy Blvd/the South Entrance to the Academy), turn west toward the mountains. The road becomes Stadium Drive. Take Stadium Drive, over the railroad bridge, about 5 miles. Turn left up Community Center Drive about 2 miles. Turn left onto Aspen Drive (before Falcon and Eagle Drives). Continue straight to the next stop sign and turn left. Proceed straight for 100 yards (the fitness center is now on your left). The Milazzo Center and its parking lot will be on your right (opposite the baseball field).

Open: The Highest 4 USCF-rated players form a Quad; the next 4 highest form the next Quad, etc. If participation requires, the lowest rated "Quad" may be a 6-person, 3 round, Swiss section.

(Continued on page 32)

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

**Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Permit No. 2533
 Denver, CO**

(Continued from page 31)

Entry fee: \$12 if received by June 25, 2009; \$15 on-site registration.
Prizes: 1st in each Quad: \$40. If Swiss section used: 1st in Swiss is \$40, 2nd is \$20.

Registration: August 27, 2009, 8:30-9:00 AM, **Rounds:** 9:15 AM, 12:15 PM, 2:15 PM.

Entries: Jerry Maier 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80919
Phone: (719) 660-5531

E-mail: pmjer77@aim.com

Open to all USCF members; USCF membership may be obtained at on-site registration or on-line at www.uschess.org. Sponsored by the USAFA Community Center with Southern Colorado Chess direction.

2009 Colorado Open, September 5 - 6, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: Rd 1: G/90, Rds 2-5 40/90 G/60

Site: Indigo Room, Double Tree Hotel, 7801 E. Orchard Rd. Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Open: Open to all USCF members

Reserve: Open to U1600 and unrated players

Entry fee: \$45, \$10 less for Jr/Sr/Unrated, \$5 less if rec'd by 9/2

Prizes: \$2000 b/80 (72 players last year). Open section: \$300-\$180-\$120. U2000/U1800 \$120-\$60. U1600 section: \$240-\$160-\$120. U1400/U1200 \$120-\$60. U1000 \$80, Unrated \$80

Registration: Saturday 8:00-9:00, **Rounds:** Sat: 9, 12:30, 6 Sun: 9:30, 4 (membership meeting at 3).

Entries: Richard Buchanan 1 Sutherland Rd. Manitou Springs, CO 80829

Phone: (719)685-1984

E-mail: buckpeace@pcisys.net

Double Tree Phone # 1-303-779-6161. Ask for chess rate (\$69).

First CO Tour event of 2009-2010!

CSCA membership req'd (\$15, if rec'd by \$10), OSA.

SOCO Open II Tournament, October 3, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/30 TD 5

Site: The Daily Grind, 209 S. Union, Pueblo

Directions: Take 1st Street exit, three blocks to Union; Union & D St.
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. Cash prizes based on entry fees will be distributed at the conclusion of the event.

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

Entries: Liz Wood **Phone:** 719-566-6929

Jerry Maier, (719-660-5531) Send pre-registrations to: Jerry Maier at 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs CO 80919-2213 or pmjer77@aim.com by October 1st.

Colorado Tour Event

Winter Wonderland Tournament, Dec. 12, 2009

5 round Swiss system tournament.

Time Control: G/30 TD 5

Site: The Daily Grind, 209 S. Union, Pueblo

Directions: Take 1st Street exit, three blocks to Union; Union & D St.
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. Cash prizes based on entry fees will be distributed at the conclusion of the event.

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

Entries: Liz Wood **Phone:** 719-566-6929

E-mail: chessliz@comcast.net

Jerry Maier, (719-660-5531) Send pre-registrations to: Jerry Maier at 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs CO 80919-2213 or pmjer77@aim.com by December 10th.

Colorado Tour Event