



**The Check Is in the Mail
December 2009**

SIMON WEBB MEMORIAL



Arno Nickel

Twelve Grandmasters in a stellar field with two former World Champions competed in the recently finished Simon Webb Memorial. Arno Nickel, GM from Germany won the event with a solid +5 =7 -0. Second and third were Roman Chytilek (Czech Republic) and Raymond Boger (Norway) with 7½-4½. The USA's Victor Palciauskas had a poor result (+1 =6 -5) but defeated the number two finisher.



Victor Palciauskas

GAME OF THE MONTH

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B80)

White: Victor Palciauskas (2577)

Black: Roman Chytilek (2649)

Simon Webb Memorial 2007

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 e6 6.Be3 a6 7.f3**

The English Attack has been scoring well against the Sicilian lately.

7...Nc6 8.Qd2 Be7 9.0-0-0 0-0 10.g4 Nd7

Neither move has a great track record, but 10...Nxd4 is statistically a better choice.

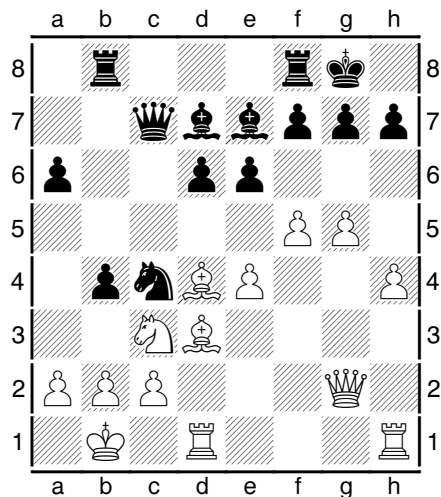
11.h4 Nde5 12.Qg2

Short-Kasparov, Belfort 1988, continued 12. Nxc6 bxc6 13. Be2 Eb8 14. g5 d5 and was assessed unclear.

12...Nxd4

Sobirey-Reichardt, email 2000 continued 12...b5 13. Nxc6 Nxc6 14. g5 b4 15. Na4 Rb8 +=

**13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.g5 b5 15.f4 Nc6 16.Be3
Na5 17.Kb1 Rb8 18.Bd3 Nc4 19.Bd4 Qc7
20.f5 b4**



21.Nd5

The Knight sacrifice on d5 may have been a surprise to Chytilek. Its main ambition is to open up the d3 Bishop's diagonal. The calmer 21. Ne2 is also playable.

21...exd5 22.f6 Bb5

There is no salvation in 22. ..Bd8 23. exd5 Ne5 24. Bxe5 dxe5 25. h5! Bb5 26. Bxh7+ Kxh7 27. g6+ Kg8 28. fxg7 Re8 29. h6

23.exd5 Ne5 24.Bxb5 Rxb5 25.fxe7 Qxe7 26.Rhe1

After the fireworks, White emerges with the better chances.

26...Re8 27.Bxe5 dxe5 28.d6 Qd7 29.h5 Rd8 30.Qe4

Victor begins some Queen maneuvering designed to deprive Black of any counterplay. There is no hurry to eat one of the weak Black Pawns.

30...Qe6 31.Qc6 Rbb8 32.Qc7 Rbc8 33.Qe7 Re8 34.Qb7 Rb8 35.Qc7 Rbc8 36.Qa5 Rcd8 37.Qxb4

White is clearly winning now.

37...Qf5 38.Qd2 e4 39.Qd4 Re6 40.d7 Qe5 41.Qxe5 Rxe5 42.c4 Kf8 43.Rd4 e3 44.Kc2 a5 45.b3

The ending is hopeless after 45...Rxc5 46. Rxe3 Rxh5 47. Rde4! **1-0**

NOVEMBER RESULTS

Walter Muir

Inoel Cardenas	09W25	4 ½-1½
Joseph Hawkins	09W18	5 ½-½
Joe Hoffmann	08W35	5 ½-½
Inoel Cardenas	09W27	4 ½-1½

JOHN COLLINS

Antonio Romero	07C34	5-1
David Hunt	08C30	6-0
Keith Wroten	08C23	6-0
John Flanagan	07C36	5-1
Frank Spooner	07C36	5-1
Cory Bloch	09C02	6-0
Leonard Carter	07C55	6-0

SWIFT QUAD

Lloyd Allred	08SQ11	4-2
Byron Berger	08SQ11	4-2

CLASSIFIED ADS

LEARN CHESS BY MAIL ! Lessons given by mail, telephone, ICC – many different ways. I specialize in players rated 800-2100 who would like to improve their game. Contact me for information. Alex Dunne, 324 West Lockhart St., Sayre, PA 18840 or chesskinetics@stny.rr.com

Quote: One often gets over his enthusiasm for playing chess over the board, but when one is stung or bitten by the *bugus chessis correspondis*, he is gone ! A hopeless incurable addict ! Such is the fascination of correspondence chess." -- George Northrop

GREENE DOMINATES 07C54

Scoring five wins and a draw, David Greene took first place in the 2007 John Collins 07C54.

Greene	2409		1=	11	11	5½-½
Therrien	2249	0=		11	=0	3-3
Clark	2094	00	00		11	2-4
Earsley	2044	00	=1	00		1½-4½

Greene is merciless as he hunts down and wins Therrien's Queen.

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B53)

White: Robert Therrien (2249)

Black: David Greene (2409)

2007 John Collins

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd2 Nf6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bc4 Bg7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Rd1 Bg4 10.Be2 Nd7 11.Nd4 Nxd4 12.Bxg4 Rc8 13.Qd3 Nc5 14.Qh3 Rc6 15.Bh6 Bxh6 16.Qxh6 e5 17.Rac1 Nce6 18.Qe3 f5 19.exf5 gxf5 20.Be2 f4 21.Qe4 f3 22.Bd3 Ng5 23.Qg4 Rf4 24.Qg3 h5 25.h3 Rc7 26.Nd5 Rg7 27.Bc4 Ne2+ 28.Bxe2 h4 29.Qxf3 Rxf3 30.Bxf3 Nxf3+ 31.Kf1 Nd4 32.c3 Nf5 0-1

MICHAEL HENSLEY FIRST IN 07C46

Scoring an undefeated 5 ½- ½, Michael Hensley of Ocean Springs, Mississippi won the all-Expert John Collins 07C46.

Hensley	2054		1=	11	11	5 ½
Flowers	2159	0=		==	11	3 ½
Soricelli	2154	00	==		1=	2 ½
Fortner	2154	00	00	0=		½

When Soricelli sets a trap leaving a Pawn on a7 to be captured, it turns out that he was the one trapped.

QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENSE (E19)

White: Michael Hensley (2054)

Black: Gerard Soricelli (2154)

2007 John Collins

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Nc3 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Ne4 8.Qc2 Nxc3 9.Qxc3 f5 10.b3 Bf6 11.Bb2 d6 12.Rad1 Nd7 13.Ne1 Bxg2 14.Nxg2 c5 15.e3 g6 16.Nf4 Qe7 17.Qd3 g5 18.Ne2 Bg7 19.Nc3 cxd4 20.exd4 Rac8 21.Rfe1 g4 22.Ba3 e5 23.Nb5 Rf6 24.Nxa7 Ra8 25.dxe5 Nxe5 26.Qd5+ Kh8 27.Qxa8+ Rf8 28.Nc8 Qe6 29.Kg2 Rxc8 30.Qb7 Bf8 31.Bxd6 Bxd6 32.Rxd6 Qxd6 33.Qxc8+ Kg7 34.Qxf5 Qc6+ 35.Re4 Ng6 36.Qd5 Qc7 37.Rxg4 Qc8 38.Re4 Qc7 39.Re6 Qa7 40.a4 Qc7 41.Rd6 1-0

Inoel Cardenas shows strong form in this Walter Muir win.

NIMZOINDIAN DEFENSE (E32)

White: Joseph Hawkins (1410)

Black: Inoel Cardenas (1530)

2009 Walter Muir

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Bxc3+ 5.Qxc3 b6 6.Nf3 Bb7 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Ne4 10.Qc2 Nxc3 11.hxg3 Qf6 12.e4 d6 13.Be2 Nd7 14.d5 0-0-0 15.0-0 h5 16.Qd2 Rdg8 17.Nd4 h4 18.Bg4 Ne5 19.f3 hxg3 20.Bh3 Rh7 21.Rac1 Rgh8 22.b3 Kb8 23.Ne2 Rxh3 24.gxh3 Rxh3 25.Kg2 Rh2+ 26.Kxg3 Qh6 27.a4 Qh4# 0-1

ENTRIES FOR THE 2010 ABSOLUTE

At the end of this month (approximately) the yearly ratings for CC players will come out. At that time, I will be selecting the highest-rated applicants to the 2010 Absolute. There will be a \$500 prize fund (Thanks to Keith Rodriguez, Abe Wilson, Robert Rizzo, David Sogin, Corky Schakel, and Joan DuBois!). If your rating is over 2200, send in your bid to be accepted as one of the thirteen Absolute players for 2010. No entry fee!

MINIATURE GAMES

It's that time of the year again. Miniature games, decisive games of twenty moves or under, were created by Caissa to remind us that we are all human. Here they are, in all their humanness. Enjoy and empathize !

Checkmate ends all greed.

BLACKMAR GAMBIT (D00) **White: Mark Capron (1903)** **Black: Kushan Tyagi (0000)** **2009 Iowa State CC Championship**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 Nxe4 4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.Bc4 f5 6.Nh3 e6 7.c3 Be7 8.Nf4 Kf7 9.g4 g5 10.gxf5 gxf4 11.Qh5+ Kg7 12.Rg1+ Kf8 13.fxe6 Qe8 14.Qh6 mate 1-0

White resigns as 20. Nxe5 is easy but how does he then meet 20...h6 ?

DUTCH DEFENSE (A85) **White: Ricardo Parkes (2201)** **Black: Vladislav Hýbl (2365)** **ICCF 2005**

1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Bxf6 Bxf6 6.e4 fxe4 7.Nxe4 0-0 8.Nf3 b6 9.Bd3 Bb7 10.0-0 g6 11.Nxf6+ Qxf6 12.Be2 Nc6 13.Qd2 Rae8 14.Rad1 d6 15.b3 Ne7 16.Ng5 Nf5 17.Bf3 d5 18.Nh3 Nh4 19.Qg5 Qxg5 0-1

When playing Black, try to bring out more than one piece.

KING'S KNIGHT OPENING (C40) **White: Robert Boles (2140)** **Black: Mike Donnelly (1223)** **2009 Golden Knights**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Bd6 3.Bc4 h6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Be5 6.Bxf7+ Kf8 7.Ne6+ 1-0

Oops Award for 2009 -- When deciding on your move, it is always a good idea to look at the board.

DUTCH DEFENSE (A84) **White: S. Cardoso Contreras (2006)** **Black: Corky Schakel (2391)** **9 Panamerican Team 2007**

1.c4 f5 2.d4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 d5 5.Bg5 Bb4+ 6.Nc3 dxc4 7.Qb3 cxb3 0-1

Black's winning 13th move is amusing – and very effective !

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B52)

White: Brent Walker (1877)

Black: James Hodina (1868)

2009 Iowa State Championship

1.Nf3 c5 2.e4 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 g6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bg7 9.f3 0–0 10.0–0 Rc8 11.b3 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nce2 Nc3 0–1

Black baits a trap with a Pawn. White takes the bait. Black discovers he is the one being trapped.

ENGLISH OPENING (A21)

White: Jeffrey Endler (2220)

Black: P. Bonachea (2048)

2001 Golden Knights semifinal

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 b6 3.Nf3 Bc5 4.Nxe5 Bxf2+ 5.Kxf2 Qh4+ 6.Kg1 Qd4+ 7.e3 Qxe5 8.d4 Qe7 9.Nd5 Qd8 10.Qg4 g6 11.Qe4+ Kf8 12.Nxb6 cxb6 13.Qxa8 Nc6 14.d5 Nge7 15.dxc6 Nxc6 16.b4 Kg7 17.b5 1–0

At the end there is no good defense to Nh5-f6 and Qxh7+ and mate follows

VIENNA GAME (C30)

White: Michael Allard (2125)

Black: Wallace Norin (2009)

2008 Trophy Quad

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.f4 Nc6 6.Nf3 0–0 7.f5 Na5 8.Bg5 Nxc4 9.dxc4 c6 10.Qd3 Qb6 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.0–0–0 Qa5 13.Nd2 Qc7 14.Nb3 Bb4 15.Ne2 a5 16.Qg3+ Kh8 17.Rd3 Qe7 18.Qh4 Rg8 19.Rh3 Rg7 20.Ng3 1-0

White's game doesn't exactly move like clockwork, but his timing is good.

PETROFF DEFENSE (C43)

White: David Middleton (1585)

Black: D. Weimer (1560)

2008 Palciauskas Tournament

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.Bd3 d5 5.Nxe5 Nd7 6.Nf3 Bd6 7.c4 Qe7 8.0–0 c6 9.Re1 Ndf6 10.Nbd2 Bf5 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Ng5 h6 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.f3 f5 17.fxe4 fxe4 18.Qh5+ Kd8 19.Qd5 Re8 20.Bf4 1–0

Ignore Black's last move. He is quite lost before that.

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B80)

White: Edwin Meiners (2209)

Black: Michael Buss (2327)

2008 Electronic Knights Finals

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e6 7.f3 b5 8.Qd2 Nbd7 9.g4 Nb6 10.b3 Bb7 11.a4 b4 12.Na2 d5 13.g5 e5 14.gxf6 exd4 15.Qxd4 Bc5 16.Qe5+ 1–0

White discovers too late that he has no good defense to ...Re8 ...Re1 and ...Qxg2 mate

TWO KNIGHTS DEFENSE (C57)

White: Kristo Miettinen (2327)

Black: Peter Link (2311)

2001 Absolute

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5 5.Nxf7 Bxf2+ 6.Kf1 Qe7 7.Nxh8 d5 8.exd5 Nd4 9.d6 cxd6 10.c3 Bg4 11.Qa4+ Kf8 12.cxd4 exd4 13.Kxf2 Ne4+ 14.Kg1 Qh4 15.h3 Qf2+ 16.Kh2 Qg3+ 17.Kg1 Bf3 18.Bf1 Ng5 0–1

Mate ends all struggle.

SLAV DEFENSE (D17)

White: Frank Spooner (1607)

Black: Ken Koeplin (1722)

2007 Trophy Quad

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4
5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.Nxc4 c5 8.dxc5
Nxc5 9.Nd2 Qb6 10.a5 Qe6 11.g3 Nd3#
0-1

Seldom do you find 20 such powerful
moves packed into one 20-move
miniature

FRENCH DEFENSE (C11)

White: Keith Rodriguez (2394)

Black: B. Saxe (2338)

14th USCCC Finals 2002

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4
5.Nxe4 Be7 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Nf3 0-0
8.Qd2 Be7 9.Bd3 Nd7 10.0-0-0 b6
11.h4 Bb7 12.Rh3 c5 13.Rg3 Kh8
14.Qf4 cxd4 15.Neg5 Nf6 16.Ne5 Qe8
17.h5 Rc8 18.Bxh7 Nxh5 19.Qg4 Nxg3
20.Qxg3 1-0

Black understands the concept that
friendly pieces on the board are more
valuable than enemy pieces off the
board.

GIUOCO PIANO (C54)

White: S. Murphy (1374)

Black: V. Laramore (1513)

IECC 2008

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.0-0 Nf6
5.d3 d6 6.c3 Bb6 7.Ng5 0-0 8.Qb3 Qe7
9.Bxf7+ Rxf7 10.Nxf7 Be6 11.c4 Qxf7
12.Nc3 Ng4 13.Nd1 Nd4 14.Qc3 Ne2+
15.Kh1 Nxh2 16.Qe1 Qh5 17.g3 Nxf1+
18.Kg2 Qh3+ 19.Kf3 Nd4# 0-1

When White plays the King's Gambit,
his pieces are supposed to go forward.
When his King Knight retreats to g1 on
Move 6, you know there is going to be
trouble.

KING'S GAMBIT (C34)

White: Zaki Harari

Black: Edward Laird

1984 Absolute

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 d6 4.d4 g5 5.h4
g4 6.Ng1 Bh6 7.Ne2 Qf6 8.Nbc3 Ne7
9.Qd3 f3 10.e5 dxe5 11.dxe5 f2+
12.Kd1 Qg7 13.Nb5 Na6 14.Qe4 Bf5
15.Qxb7 Rd8+ 16.Nbd4 Qxe5 17.c3 Nc5
18.Qb5+ c6 19.Qa5 Qe4 20.Bd2 Qc2+
0-1

Nothing much seems to happen in this
game. It is what is about to happen that
causes Black's resignation.

KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE (E81)

White: Thomas Connelly (2204)

Black: Norman Cotter (2044)

2008 Golden Knights semifinal

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7
5.f3 0-0 6.Nge2 e5 7.Bg5 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7
9.Qd2 a6 10.g4 c6 11.h4 cxd5 12.cxd5
b5 13.h5 b4 14.Nd1 Rb8 15.Ng3 b3
16.axb3 Rxb3 17.Be3 Qc7 18.g5 Ne8
19.Qh2 1-0

And one to draw your own moral from:

RUY LOPEZ (C60)

White: J. Krunski (1779)

Black: B. Venturas,B (1083)

IECC 2008

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Qf6 4.Nc3
Nd4 5.Nxd4 exd4 6.Nd5 Qd8 7.Qh5 c6
8.Qe5+ Ne7 9.Nc7+ Qxc7 10.Qxc7 1-0