



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

**9 PAN-AM TEAM TOURNAMENT  
USA CLINCHES FIRST PLACE**

16	Venezuela	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	1	1.5	1	1	10.5	17	0	6.5	0	4	0	16		
15	Nicaragua	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	17	28	4	7.5	1.5	5.5	2.5	15	
14	México	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1.5	1.5	0	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1	1	1	1	1	3	18	5	3	4	7	4.5	4.5	2.5	14
13	Ecuador	1	0.5	2	1	1.5	1	1	1.5	1	1.5	2.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.5	22	5	3	7	8	2	6.5	6	13
12	Brasil (Verde)	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1	0.5	2.5	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	25	3	8	8	2	6.5	3	7	12
11	Canadá 2	1	1	0.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1	1.5	1.5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	25	5	4	2	4.5	6.5	7.5	7	11
10	Canadá 1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1	1.5	1	2.5	2	2.5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	30	5	0	15	7.5	11	4	7.5	10
9	Guatemala	1.5	2	1	0	1.5	2.5	2.5	1	1.5	2.5	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	30	5	5	1	6	8	9	9	9
8	Cuba	1	2	1.5	2	2.5	2	2	3	2	2.5	1.5	2.5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	35	5	8	19	6	10.5	9	9.5	7
7	Argentina (Blanco)	3	2.5	1	2	2	1.5	2	2	1.5	1.5	3	3.5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	35	5	8	19	6	10.5	9	9.5	7
6	Perú (Blanco)	2	0.5	2.5	1.5	2	2	2.5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	35	5	8	19	6	10.5	9	9.5	7
5	Argentina (Celeste)	2.5	1	2.5	2	2	2	1.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	3.5	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	36	6	1	2	3	9.5	10	7.5	9	5
4	Chile	1	1.5	1.5	2	2	2.5	2	2	4	3	2.5	3.5	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	39	6	6	2	1	9.5	9.5	9	11	4
3	Brasil (Amarelo)	2	1.5	2	2.5	1.5	3	2.5	3	2.5	3.5	3.5	2	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	39.5	6	5	2	7.5	11.5	10	10.5	3	
2	Perú (Rojo)	1	2.5	1.5	3	3.5	1.5	2	2	2.5	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	39.5	6	6	2	2	9	10.5	8.5	11.5	2
1	U.S.A.	3	2	3	1.5	2	1	3	2.5	2.5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	40.5	6	7	2	4	8	11.5	12.5	8.5	1

Although the tournament is not officially over, the USA has clinched first place in the Ninth Pan-Am Team Tournament. The US team was composed of Wesley Brandhorst on Board 1; Michael Millstone, Board 2; Michael Proof, Board 3; and Corky Schakel, Board 4.



SIM Wesley (Ted)

Brandhorst led the US squad on Board 1 with a solid +3 -2 =10 score (8-7) finishing ahead of two GMs and four other IMs.

**GAME OF THE MONTH**

Ted's win over the strong Peruvian Grandmaster Angel Acevedo Villalba was one for the record books. Acevedo lost only two games at the 9 Pan-Am. Here, almost, are both of them.

**GRUNFELD DEFENSE (D97)**

**White: Wesley Brandhorst, (2477)**

**Black: A. Acevedo Villalba (2551)**

**9. Panamerican 2007**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3**

Take note of this curiosity -- the 9 Pan-Am game Santana Penate-Acevedo Villalba game being played at the same time continued 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. Nc3 d5 transposing back into this game.

**3...d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 0-0 7.e4 Na6 8.Be2 c5 9.d5 e6 10.0-0 exd5 11.exd5 Bf5 12.Be3 Qb6 13.b3 Rfe8 14.Rad1 Ng4 15.Bd2 Ne5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.Be3 Qa5 18.Rc1 Rac8 19.Rfd1 Nb4**

An earlier game Matisson-Baklanov, ICCF 2003 varied with 19...Nb8 20. Bf3 a6 21. a4 Qd8 with a slight edge to White though Black won later.

**20.d6 Red8 21.Bg4 Bxg4**

An even earlier game Bachmann-Herbrechtsmeier, Corres. 1998 saw 21...b5 22. Qe2 Bxg4 23. Qxg4 Bxc3?! 24. d7!? with an edge to White.

**22.Qxg4 h5**

Black is willing to pay the price of weakening his kingside in order to steal the d6 Pawn. It turns out to be a very high price.

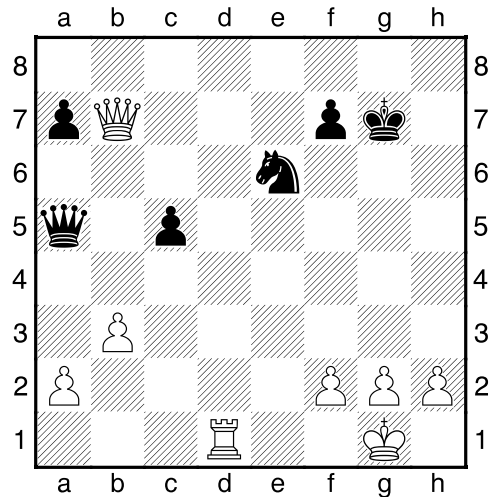
**23.Qg5 Bxd6 24.Ne4 Bf8 25.Nf6+ Kh8 26.Nxh5!**

Here comes the refutation -- twice!

**26...gxh5 27.Qxh5+ Kg8 28.Qg4+ Kh7 29.Bg5 Nc6 30.Bf6 Bh6 31.Qf5+ Kg8 32.Qh5 Rxd1+ 33.Rxd1 Rd8 34.Bxd8 Nxd8 35.Qxh6**

Brandhorst has combined to reach an easily won endgame, but the interest in this game does not quite end here.

**35...Ne6 36.Qd2 Qc7 37.Qd6 Qa5 38.Qb8+ Kh7 39.Qxb7 Kg7**



The 9 Pan-Am game Santana Penate-Acevedo Villalba also arrived at this position. White now played 40. a4 winning on Move 62. This occasionally happens to correspondence players playing in an event. The player elects to play a specific line (usually a TN) and only later in the game does he find his opponent has the refutation. To my knowledge this is the deepest such a disaster has gone to.

**40.h4 Qxa2 41.Qf3 a5 42.Rd7 Qa1+ 43.Kh2 Qe5+ 44.Qg3+ Qxg3+ 45.Kxg3 Kf6 46.Rd6 Ke7 47.Rb6 Kf8 48.Kf3 Nd4+ 49.Ke4 Kg7 50.g4 Kg8 51.g5 Kh7 52.h5 Kg7 53.f4 Kf8 54.h6 Kg8 55.f5 Kh7 56. Rb7 1-0**



Michael Millstone scored a resounding 11 ½ - 3 ½ on second board, good enough to win the silver medal (Sergio Badolati of Brazil had better tie breaks). Michael's score of 10 wins, two losses, and three draws demolished the lower half of the field scoring 7-0 against the bottom seven and a plus 4 ½-3 ½ against the top seven. Here is Michael's win against Carlos Zamora of Chile.

**KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE (E71)**  
**White: Michael Millstone (2429)**  
**Black: Carlos Zamora (2200)**  
**9 Pan-Am Team Championship 2007**

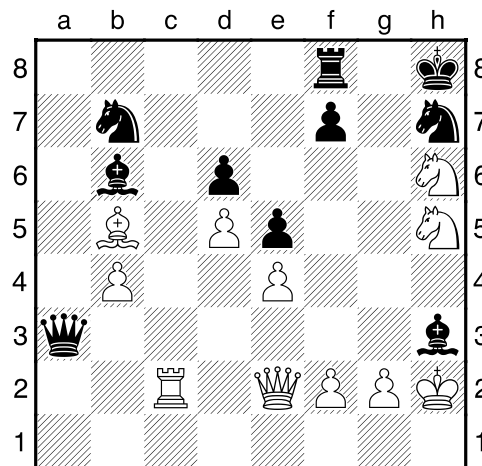
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7  
 5.h3 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Bd3 exd5  
 9.cxd5 Re8 10.Nf3 c4 11.Bc2 Na6 12.0-0  
 Bd7 13.Re1 Nb4 14.Rc1 h6 15.Bf4  
 Qb6 16.Bb1 g5 17.Be3 Qc7 18.Bd4 b5  
 19.a3 Na6 20.b4 Rad8 21.Qc2 Re5  
 22.Nxe5 dxe5 23.Be3 Ne8 24.f3 Nd6  
 25.Qf2 Ra8 26.h4 f6 27.Bc2 Qb7 28.g3  
 Nc7 29.f4 Nf7 30.fxg5 hxg5 31.Rf1 g4  
 32.Rb1 Ne8 33.Kg2 a6 34.a4 Nfd6  
 35.Bc5 Qc8 36.Ra1 Rb8 37.axb5 axb5  
 38.Ra7 Ra8 39.Rfa1 Rxa7 40.Rxa7 1-0



Michael Proof simply blew the opposition away, winning the gold by two full points, ceding only five draws along with his ten wins for a 12 ½-2 ½ showing on Board 3. In the following game against Nicaragua, Proof sacrifices a Bishop on Move 34 (34...Bxb5 35. Qg4!) and Black sacrifices a Bishop in return only to find Proof refusing the sacrifice with 35. Kh2! and the Bishop has no safe retreat square.

**RUY LOPEZ (C99)**  
**White: Michael Proof (2396)**  
**Black: Juan Pineda (2397)**  
**9 Pan-Am Team Championship 2007**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.Re1 0-0 8.h3 d6  
 9.c3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Nbd2  
 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb7 14.d5 Bc8 15.Re3  
 Bd7 16.Rc3 Qb8 17.b4 Nb7 18.Rb1 Rc8  
 19.Rxc8+ Qxc8 20.Nf1 Qd8 21.Ng3 h6  
 22.a4 Nh7 23.axb5 axb5 24.Bd3 Ng5  
 25.Nh2 Nh7 26.Qe2 Qb6 27.Be3 Qa6  
 28.Rc1 Bd8 29.Ng4 Bb6 30.Bxh6 gxh6  
 31.Nxh6+ Kh8 32.Rc2 Qa3 33.Nh5 Rf8  
 34.Bxb5 Bxh3 35.Kh2! 1-0





Corky Schakel brought home an 8 ½-6 ½ result to cement the US team's position, with three losses, seven draws, and five wins.

Corky gives a lesson in the value of strong endgame play. After entering into a roughly even endgame with his Nicaraguan opponent, Corky proceeds to outplay him, demonstrating the superiority of the Rook over the Bishop.

### FRENCH DEFENSE (C11)

**White: Hamlet Garcia (2290)**

**Black: Corky Schakel (2391)**

**9 Pan-Am Team Championship 2007**

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 f5 10.Nc3 c5 11.dxc5  
Bxc5 12.0-0-0 Nc6 13.Rhe1 Qf6  
14.Bc4 Bb4 15.Ng5 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Re8  
17.f4 h6 18.Nf3 Kf7 19.Qe3 Kg8 20.Qc5  
Re7 21.Kb2 Kh7 22.Rd3 Bd7 23.Rxd7  
Rxd7 24.Bxe6 Re7 25.Qxf5+ Qxf5  
26.Bxf5+ g6 27.Rxe7+ Nxe7 28.Be4  
Rc8 29.Nd4 b6 30.h4 h5 31.Bd3 Re8  
32.g3 Nf5 33.Nxf5 gxf5 34.g4 Kh6  
35.gxf5 Re1 36.f6 Rh1 37.f7 Kg7  
38.Bg6 Rxh4 39.a3 Rh1 40.f5 0-1

Congratulations to the team and to our individual players!

The list of American IM's published in "The Check Is in the Mail" last month omitted Stephen Ham. Stephen has both an IM and SIM title

## JULY WINNERS

### Trophy Quads

Joseph Daudish	08Q02	5-1
Greg Whitlock	08Q02	5-1
William Shehan	08Q16	6-0
Timothy Grassel	07Q20	5 ½-½

### John Collins

James Ruth	06C52	6-0
James Brown	08C34	6-0

## OBITUARY



Ira Riddle, born 2 October 1946, long time chess organizer and magazine editor for Pennswoodpusher died July 6, 2009. Ira also organized and played in a number of Pennsylvania State CC championship tournaments.

### MODERN DEFENSE

**White: Ira Riddle**

**Black: Francis Jackson**

**PA Correspondence Chess 1988**

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nxe4 4.Bd3 Nf6  
5.Bg5 Bg4 6.Bxf6 gxf6 7.c3 Bh6 8.Nbd2  
Nd7 9.h3 Bh5 10.g4 Bg6 11.Bxg6 fxe6  
12.Ne4 Nb6 13.h4 Qd7 14.g5 Bg7  
15.Qd2 0-0-0 16.gxf6 exf6 17.b3 Rhe8  
0-1

## 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](mailto:chesskinetics@stny.rr.com)

**Quote:** Chess is an egotistical game, and all its protagonists hold conceits of some kind or other, else there would be no point in playing -- Charles Warburton  
My Chess Adventures

Hold on to your hats – here is a game between two top players of the United States Braille Chess Association (web site: [www.crisscrosstech.com/usbca](http://www.crisscrosstech.com/usbca) )  
Ratings are by USBCA.

### SICILIAN DEFENSE (B90)

**White: Jeff Siebrandt (1503)**

**Black: Stephen Hilton (1415)**

**USBCA, 2008**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.f3 Be7  
9.Qd2 0–0 10.0–0–0 Nbd7 11.g4 b5  
12.g5 b4 13.Ne2 Ne8 14.f4 a5 15.f5 a4  
16.Nbd4 exd4 17.Nxd4 b3 18.Kb1  
bxc2+ 19.Nxc2 Bb3 20.axb3 axb3  
21.Na3 Ne5 22.h4 Ra4 23.Bd4 Qa8  
24.Qe3 Qb7 25.Rh3 Rb4 26.Rg3 Bd8

27.h5 Bb6 28.Bxb6 Rxb6 29.Be2 Rb4  
30.Rd4 Nc7 31.Bd1 Na6 32.Rxd6 Rxe4  
33.Qc3 Nb4 34.g6 f6 35.Qxb3+ Kh8  
36.h6 hxg6 37.fxg6 Rc8 38.Qe6 Re1  
39.hxg7+ Kxg7 40.Qxf6+ Kg8 41.Nc2  
Nbd3 42.Rgx3 Nxd3 43.Rxd3 Rf8  
44.Qc3 Rh1 45.Qe5 Qc6 46.Rd6 Re8  
47.Qf5 Qb7 48.Rd7 1–0

The opening phase of this game Moves 5-25 resemble chess in a Bizarro world - and then comes the endgame. Amazing! This was John Burton's only loss in the 2001 championship.

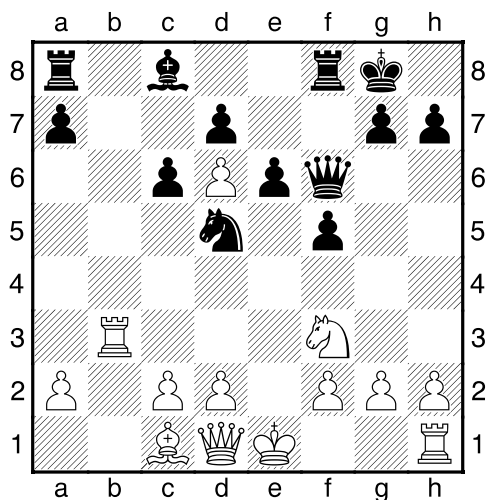
### SICILIAN DEFENSE (B30)

**White: Faraday Strook (2183)**

**Black: John Burton (2502)**

**2001 Golden Knights Finals**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 e6 4.Nc3 Nf6  
5.Bb5 Be7 6.Bxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4  
c4 9.b3 f5 10.Nd6+ Bxd6 11.exd6 Qf6  
12.Rb1 cxb3 13.Rxb3 0–0



14.c4 Nb6 15.Bb2 Qg6 16.Ne5 Qxg2  
 17.Ke2 Nxc4 18.Nxc4 Ba6 19.d3 Bxc4  
 20.dxc4 Qe4+ 21.Kd2 Qf4+ 22.Kc2  
 Qxf2+ 23.Qd2 Qxd2+ 24.Kxd2 Rfb8  
 25.Bd4 Rxb3 26.axb3 Kf7 27.Ra1 a6  
 28.b4 Rb8 29.Kc3 Ra8 30.Kd3 Re8  
 31.Be5 Rb8 32.Rxa6 Rxb4 33.Ra7 Ke8  
 34.Bxg7 Rb1 35.Ra8+ Kf7 36.Be5 h6  
 37.h4 h5 38.Rd8 Rb3+ 39.Kd2 Rb7  
 40.Ke3 Kg6 41.Kf4 Rb4 42.Rxd7 Rxc4+  
 43.Kf3 1-0

This game might serve as a model  
 definition of a scrap.

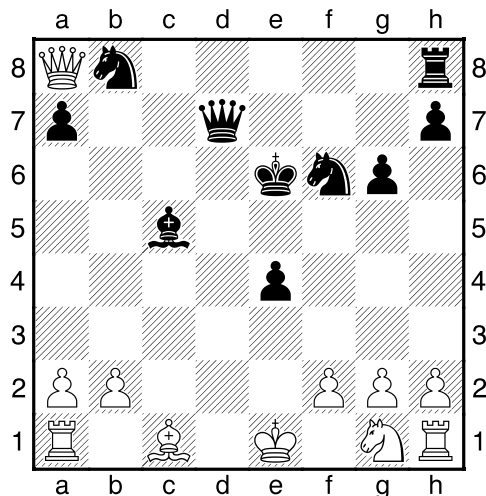
### QUEENSGAMBIT DECLINED (D32)

**White: Charles Hiber (2127)**

**Black: Bradford Drake (2001)**

**John Collins 2006**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5  
 5.e4 dxe4 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Qb3 Be6 8.Bxe6  
 fxe6 9.Qxe6+ Qe7 10.Qc8+ Kf7 11.dxc5  
 g6 12.Nb5 Qd7 13.Nd6+ Ke6 14.Qxb7  
 Bxd6 15.Qxa8 Bxc5



16.Bf4 Rd8 17.Nf3 Bb4+ 18.Kf1 Nc6  
 19.Qxd8 Qxd8 20.Ng5+ Kf5 21.Kg1  
 Nd4 0-1

Black, a Senior CC Master from Latvia,  
 attacks, sacks, and retracts – not a  
 formula for a successful result.

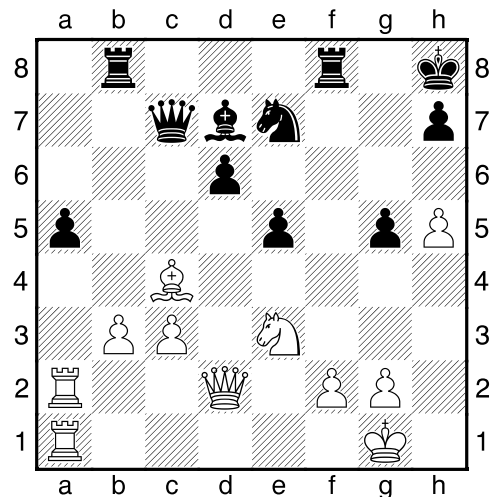
### SICILIAN DEFENSE (B33)

**White: IM Keith Holzmueller (2500)**

**Black: SM Ralvo Dzenis (2468)**

**16 Olympiad, 2006**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4  
 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3  
 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c3 0-0  
 12.Nc2 Bg5 13.a4 bxa4 14.Rxa4 a5  
 15.Bc4 Rb8 16.Ra2 Kh8 17.Nce3 g6  
 18.h4 Bxe3 19.Nxe3 f5 20.h5 g5 21.exf5  
 Bxf5 22.0-0 Ne7 23.b3 Qc7 24.Qd2 Bd7  
 25.Rfa1



25. ...a4 26.bxa4 g4 27.a5 g3 28.fxg3  
 Nf5 29.Nxf5 Rxf5 30.Be2 Qc5+ 31.Kh2  
 Rg8 32.g4 Qf2 33.Bf3 Qh4+ 34.Kg1  
 Rxf3 35.gxf3 Bxg4 36.fxg4 Rxg4+  
 37.Qg2 Qh3 38.Qxg4 Qxg4+ 39.Rg2  
 Qc8 40.Kh2 1-0