



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

**The CC Office will be closed 27-31  
July so I may teach at the chess camp  
in Rochester.**

**BOBBY FISCHER’S CC “CAREER”**



Bobby Fischer began playing postal chess in 1955 under the auspices of the Chess Review tournaments. He was put into a group of players whose average rating was 1131 (old style rating) which would be around 1600 in today’s ELO. As a beginner, Fischer was unrated, of course. He was 12 years old and had yet to experience any of the great victories that were to come.

At this time all these early Fischer correspondence games are lost, but one. Fischer’s results were a kind of mirror of

his fireworks rise. Among the more experienced players, Fischer’s CC rating took some hits. His first published CC rating was 1198 in August 1955. A year later it had dropped to 1082. A year after that his name would be gone from the CC list.

Here is the crosstable of Fischer’s only CC tournament:

55-P32

S. Frankel	1032		1	1	1	1	1F	=	5 ½-½
Don Reithel	1256	0		?	?	0	1	?	?
S. Maxwell	1048	W	W		W	0	0	0	0-6
J. Ellis	1044	0	?	?		0	1F	=	?
A. W. Conger	1222	0	1	1	1		1	1	5-1
B. Fischer	0000	0F	0	1	0F	0		0F	1-5
V. H. Mattem	1182	=	?	1	=	0	0F		?

**GAME OF THE MONTH**

The player of the white pieces later attended a Pennsylvania chess club for many years where he was known as “the guy who beat Fischer.” Here is how he did it.

Be careful – this game is as brief as life.

**KING’S INDIAN DEFENSE (E70)**

White: A. Conger (1222)

Black: Bobby Fischer (0000)

Correspondence 1955-6

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6

Already we see a Fischer trademark – the King’s Indian Defense was a favorite of his for many years. He honed it into a deadly instrument, but first he had to learn how to wield it.

3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6

For a few years in the Fifties Fischer did without an immediate 4...d6 preferring

to castle instead, but eventually he went back to the immediate 4...d6.

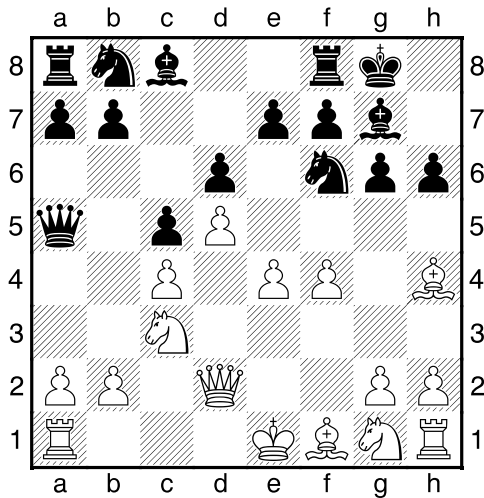
5. Bg5

Averbakh's System was somewhat new in the Fifties, but Fischer was always known for his opening preparation. He follows current (1950) theory for some time. Today the favored line after 5. Bg5 is 5...00 6. Qd2 c5 7. d5 e6.

5. ...h6 6. Bh4 00 7. f4 c5 8. d5 Qa5

Furman-Borisenko, Kiev 1954 saw 8...a6 9. a4 Qa5 10. Bd3 e6 11. dxe6 which was roughly even.

9. Qd2 Qc7



But Fischer was not yet Fischer. This retreat is weak, Contemporary play Vorpernik-Bogdanovic, Novi Sad 1955 saw 9...e6 10. Bd3 exd5 11. Bxf6 Bxf6 12. Nxd5 Qxd2+ 13. Kxd2 Bd8 which was equal.

10. Bd3 e6

Better was 10...Na6 or even 11...Re8.

11. Nb5 Qb6 12. Nxd6!?

And now Fischer gave up and shortly after withdrew from postal chess., but not completely from correspondence chess. In 1961 Fischer teamed with Leonard Barden to play a radio match against Penrose and Clark, and later, 1965, Fischer played by telex in the Havana Olympiad, but these events were not postal events nor conducted at the postal time limits.

What made Fischer withdraw from postal ? We may never know but a likely answer can be found on the cover of Chess Review, December 1956:



“The Game of the Century,” fame, and world wide OTB competition, and

Bobby was gone from postal play forever.

I am especially thankful to Carlo Pagni of Italy who found the section number Fischer played under that allowed me to reconstruct the crosstable.

## JUNE RESULTS

### Walter Muir Quads

Patrick Walsh	09W01	5½-½
Richard Miller	09W06	6-0
Scott Warren	09W07	5-1
Craig O'Brien	09W07	5-1

### Web Match

DiLucci 1 Daudish 0 09WS011

### Trophy Quads

Joseph Daudish	07Q13	5-1
Laverne Gildner	08Q12	4 ½-1 ½

### Palciauskas Tournament

Mark Wagner 08P04 5 ½-½

### John Collins

Ryan Thundercloud	07C52	6-0
Frank Coulter	06C50	6-0

### Pentad Tournament

Robert Oresick	06PEN01	5-3
Allan Ong	06PEN01	5-3

### Swift Quad

Wilbur Tseng 07SQ16 5-1

## BERES TAKES 06SQ15

Beres	2240	==	==	11	11	5
Palanker	2188	==	1=	11	11	4 ½
V. Velden	2334	FF	0=	FF	FF	½
Rosenthal	2132	00	00	FF	0	0

**In a forfeit-scarred tournament, Juraj Beres scored the win.**

**The following brutal game shows how determination can be a valuable skill.**

### QUEEN'S GAMBIT

#### ACCEPTED (D25)

**White: Juraj Beres (2240)**

**Black: Steven Rosenthal (2132)**

**06SQ15, 2006**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5  
 5.Bxc4 e6 6.Qb3 b6 7.Nc3 c6 8.0-0 b5  
 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.Nh4 Bg6 11.Nxg6 hxg6  
 12.f4 Rc8 13.Bd2 a6 14.a4 b4 15.Nd1 a5  
 16.Nf2 Be7 17.Rac1 c5 18.Rfd1 0-0  
 19.Bf3 cxd4 20.Rxc8 Qxc8 21.exd4 Nb6  
 22.Nd3 Nfd5 23.Ne5 Bf6 24.Rc1 Qd8  
 25.Qd1 Ne7 26.Be1 Ned5 27.b3 Nxf4  
 28.Nc6 Qd7 29.Nxa5 Nbd5 30.Kh1 Bg5  
 31.h4 Bh6 32.Rc5 Ne3 33.Qd2 Ned5  
 34.Nc6 Nh5 35.Qe2 Bf4 36.Qc4 Ng3+  
 37.Kg1 Qd6 38.Bf2 Nc3 39.Qxb4  
 Nce2+ 40.Bxe2 Nxe2+ 41.Kf1 Ng3+  
 42.Bxg3 Bxg3 43.Qd2 Bxh4 44.Qe3  
 Qc7 45.b4 Qh2 46.Qh3 Qf4+ 47.Qf3  
 Qh2 48.Ke2 Qg1 49.Qf1 Qh2 50.b5 1-0

**Quote:** "Thank heaven for postal chess!"

-- Jon Edwards

The following American players have been awarded the IM title by ICCF.

Gary Abram	1991
Anthony Albano	1998
Wayne Ballantyne	2000
Jason Bokar	2002
William Boucher	2003
Wesley Brandhorst	2003
Richard Callaghan	1992
Joseph Callaway	1998
Frank Camaratta	1994
Richard Cayford	1995
Wayne Conover	1998
Rene du Cret	1999
Robert Cross	1974
Karl Dehmelt	1990
Alfred Deuel	
Edward Duliba	2001
Douglas Eckert	1999
Jon Edwards	2000
David Eisen	1998
Kevin Embrey	1999
Gino Figlio	
Daniel Fleetwood	1997
Igor Foygel	1989
Bart Gibbons	1993
Isay Golyak	1994
Steve Grant	1995
Keith Hayward	1988
Herb Hickman	1993
Keith Holzmuller	2008
Robert Jacobs	1998
C. Bill Jones	1992
Craig Jones	2002
Stephen Jones	2001
John Kalish	1978
Spencer Kell	1999
John Knudsen	2001
Gary Kubach	1992
Edgardo Limayo	2002
Marc Lonoff	1998
William Maillard	1985
Eugene Martinovsky	2000

Joseph de Mauro	1992
R. A. McLellan	1995
Micaill Melts	1995
Kristo Miettinen	2001
Michael Millstone	2003
John Mousessian	2001
Walter Muir	1971
Timothy Murray	2004
Cesar Musitani	2001
David Myers	2007
Jerry Myers	1994
Eric Osbun	1994
Victor Palciauskas	1978
Anatole Parnas	1990
N. Eric Pedersen	1998
Dan Perry	2007
Nicholas Preo	1967
Ken Reinhart	2007
Robert Reynolds	1994
Robert Rizzo	2004
Keith Rodriguez	2003
Allan Savage	1996
Corky Schakel	2003
Christopher Sergel	2002
James Skeels	2003
Robin Smith	2003
Martin Stengelin	1998
Hisham Sunna	2003
Eric Tangborn	1989
C. F. Tears	1998
Steve Tennant	1984
Paul Thompson	2000
J. Tilghman	1999
John Timm	1997
Christopher van Dyck	1992
Alan Watson	1999
Jerry Weisskohl	2003
Walter Wood	2000
Max Zavanelli	2001

## 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)

**Two Class A players play an imaginative draw.**

**Bird's Opening (A03)**  
**White: Thomas Hullsiek (1896)**  
**Black: Jaun le Roux (1864)**  
**2009 Swift Quad**

1.f4 d5 2.a4 c5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Bb5 Bg4 6.0-0 Qc7 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 e5 9.fxe5 Qxe5 10.c4 a6 11.cxd5 Qxd5 12.Qxd5 Nxd5 13.Bc4 Rd8 14.Rf5 Nf6 15.g4 Rd7 16.Kg2 Bd6 17.g5 Ng8 18.Nc3 Ne5 19.Be2 Ne7 20.Rf2 0-0 21.b3 N7c6 22.Ba3 Ra8 23.Ne4 Bf8 24.Rc1 b6 25.Rc3 Raa7 26.Kg3 Rd8 27.Rf5 Ng6 28.Rc2 a5 29.Bb5 Nce7 30.Rf2 Nd5 31.h4 Ne5 32.Rf5 Re7 33.h5 Nc7 34.Bb2 Nd3 35.Bxd3 Rxd3 36.Rc3 Rd5 37.Rxd5 Nxd5 38.Rc4 Re6 39.Kf3 h6 40.Ng3 hxg5 41.Re4 Nc7 ½-½

A chess algebra quiz: 1) Which is stronger, two Bishops or two Knights 2) two Rooks or a Queen ? 3) two Knights and two Rooks or two Bishops and a Queen ?

**SICILIAN DEFENSE (B30)**  
**White: Gerald Weiner (2357)**  
**Black: Robert Fass (2247)**  
**2004 Electronic Knights Final**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.Nc3 Nc7 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 Bf5 8.d3 h6 9.Be3 e6 10.0-0 Nd5 11.Qd2 Qb6 12.a4 Be7 13.a5 Qa6 14.b3 0-0 15.Ra4 Nb4 16.Rd1 Rfd8 17.Qc1 Nd5 18.Qb2 Bg6 19.Rda1 f5 20.Rc4 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Bh5 22.Nd2 Bg5 23.Nf1 Be7 24.Ra2 Bf7 25.Qa1 Rf8 26.Qd1 Rad8 27.Qe2 Kh7 28.Qf3 Rd5 29.Qg3 g5 30.Nd2 Rdd8 31.Qf3 Be8 32.Rca4 c4 33.Nxc4 c5 34.R4a3 g4 35.hxg4 Bc6 36.Qh3 Rg8 37.e4 Rxg4 38.Ra1 Rdg8 39.Rf1 Be8 40.exf5 Rxg2+ 41.Qxg2 Rxg2+ 42.Kxg2 exf5 43.Rf2 Qg6+ 44.Kf1 Qh5 0-1

**In the battle between order and disorder, side with order. Black's pieces are harmonious; White's forces discordant.**

**Alekhine's Defense (B03)**  
**White: Brennan Price (1417)**  
**Black: Patrick Walsh (1413)**  
**2009 Walter Muir**

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.exd6 exd6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Qf3 Nc6 8.Be3 0-0 9.Rd1 Nb4 10.a3 Nc2+ 11.Kd2 Nxe3 12.fxe3 Re8 13.Bd3 Bg5 14.Re1 c5 15.dxc5 dxc5 16.Kc2 Nd7 17.h4 Bh6 18.Nd5 Ne5 19.Qf1 b5 20.b3 Qa5 21.Nf3 bxc4 22.Bxc4 Nxc4 23.bxc4 Rb8 0-1

Enjoy a very strong attacking game by IM Rodriguez

### **SICILIAN DEFENSE (B80)**

**White: Keith Rodriguez (2331)**

**Black: Abe Wilson (2336)**

**2005 Absolute**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e6 7.f3 b5 8.g4 h6 9.Qd2  
Nbd7 10.0-0-0 Bb7 11.h4 Ne5 12.Rg1  
Rc8 13.g5 Nfd7 14.g6 Nxg6 15.Nxe6  
fxe6 16.Rxg6 Kf7 17.h5 Qh4 18.Ne2  
Ne5 19.Nf4 Nxf3 20.Qb4 Ng5 21.Bd3  
e5 22.Qb3+ Ke8 23.Ne6 Nxe6 24.Qxe6+  
Qe7 25.Qg4 Qd7 26.Re6+ Kd8 27.Bb6+  
Rc7 28.Qg6 Be7 29.Be2 Bxe4 30.Qxe4  
Qxe6 31.Kb1 Bf6 32.Qc6 Qd7 33.Bxc7+  
Ke8 34.Qa8+ Kf7 35.Qxh8 Qxc7  
36.Qa8 b4 37.Qxa6 Ke7 38.Bb5 b3  
39.axb3 e4 40.Qa8 Qd8 41.Qxe4+ 1-0

### **CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUBS**

There are many correspondence chess clubs (postal, email, webserver, and who knows what else) out there. I would like to hear from readers who have a favorite organization. A list of such organizations would be invaluable to the CC player, but organizations have a habit of appearing and disappearing. So if you are a member of a CC organization that you particularly enjoy, drop me an email at [chesskinetics@stmy.rr.com](mailto:chesskinetics@stmy.rr.com) and I will see what groups out there might be worth a checkup.

Not all Grandmaster draws are pusillanimous, friendly, short affairs. Some are like this game by American Grandmaster Daniel Fleetwood.

### **SICILIAN DEFENSE (B90)**

**White: H. van Kempen (2554)**

**Black: Daniel Fleetwood (2546)**

**18 World Chmshp, 2006**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.f3 Nbd7  
9.Qd2 b5 10.a4 b4 11.Nd5 Bxd5 12.exd5  
Nb6 13.Bxb6 Qxb6 14.a5 Qb7 15.Bc4  
g6 16.Ra4 Rb8 17.Nc1 h5 18.Na2 Bh6  
19.Qe2 0-0 20.Nxb4 e4 21.0-0 exf3  
22.Qxf3 Ng4 23.Nc6 Qxb2 24.Nxb8  
Qxb8 25.Kh1 Ne3 26.Re1 Nxc2 27.Rg1  
Be3 28.Rf1 Bc5 29.Bxa6 Ne3 30.Re1  
Qb2 31.Bf1 Qd2 32.Rea1 Re8 33.R4a2  
Qd4 34.Bb5 Re5 35.Bd7 Rxd5 36.Re1  
Re5 37.a6 d5 38.Rb1 Re7 39.Bh3 h4  
40.Rc1 Kg7 41.Bc8 Ba7 42.Bh3 Qb4  
43.g4 hxg3 44.hxg3 Qb6 45.Qf4 Bb8  
46.Qf2 Be5 47.Qf3 Bd4 48.Re1 Qb3  
49.Rae2 Qa3 50.Bf1 Re6 51.Qf4 Qc3  
52.Bh3 Re4 53.Qf3 f5 54.Bf1 Bc5  
55.Rxe3 Bxe3 56.a7 Qxe1 57.a8Q Bf2  
58.Kg2 Bxg3 59.Qxg3 Rg4 60.Qxg4  
fxg4 ½-½



**Israeli stamps for 2005 World Team Championship**