



### **The Check Is in the Mail June 2009**

**The Correspondence chess Office will be closed from 13 June to 22 June so I may teach at the Atlanta Castle Chess Camp in Georgia.**

### **2001 GOLDEN KNIGHTS**

#### **John Burton has done it again !**

The most successful Golden Knights player of the last few years has repeated as Golden Knights champion. John Burton of California finished second in 1997 and 1998, first in 1999, second again in 2000, and now first again in the 2001 Golden Knights.

John's five year stretch of first and seconds rank him among the greats of Golden Knights finishers. Only a small handful of players have ever been successful at repeating as Golden Knight champion.

At 71, John has begun to hang up his Kings, no longer playing in the Golden Knights. John notes that he no longer has the ability to concentrate and see enough moves ahead even with moving the pieces around. It has been a great run, and he deserves his retirement as one of the Golden Knight greats.

### **GAME OF THE MONTH**

When a White Pawn arrives at d7 on Move 18, Burton makes sure to rush reinforcements to that area.

#### **CENTER COUNTER GAME (B01)**

**White: John Burton (2462)**

**Black: James Tracz (2267)**

**2001 Golden Knights Final**

**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nxd5 4.d4 g6**

Although 4...Bg4 is the most popular move in this position, 4...g6 has its adherents and scores about as well.

**5.c4 Nb6 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.c5!?**

One aspect of Burton's style is he keeps au courant with the latest theory. this apparently anti-positional thrust (weakening d5) is based on the following plan to regain control of d5.

**7...Nd5 8.Bc4 Nxc3**

It is now or later. After 8...c6 (8...e6 shuts in the white squared Bishop and leaves the dark squares a bit suspect) 9. Qb3 00!/? 10. 00! Black will now play 10...Nxc3 anyway.

**9.bxc3 0-0 10.0-0 Nc6**

This is one of the critical choices for Black -- piece play against the center or immediately attack White's c5 with ...b6. Oddly the two choices have produced very different results OTB vs. CC. Black has scored well with 10...b6 by CC but with miserable results OTB.

And 10...Nc6 has been the favorite OTB but with weak results by CC.

### 11.Re1 h6

Black goes off the beaten track here Zeberski-Maslak, Valoz Cup 2007 saw 11...Bg4 12. Bg5 h6 13. Bh4 g5 14. Bg3 e5!? 15. dxe5 Qe7 with a slight plus to White though Black went on to win.

### 12.Bf4

This seems better than 12. Ba3 e6 13. Rb1 Rb8 14. Qc2 Bd7 15. Bd3 += as in Hasan-Uddin, New Hite Plus Open 2002

### 12...b6

Black treads dangerous waters here, combining two different ideas (wing play with ..b6, center play with ...Nc6) along with the innocuous 11...h6.

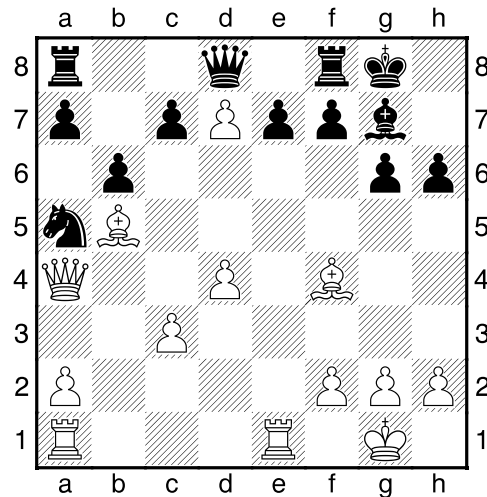
### 13.Qa4 Bb7

Black continues to push but Black cannot maintain the Bishop on this diagonal. Black would have been better off (though White has the edge) with 13...Na5

### 14.Bb5 Na5 15.c6 Bc8 16.Ne5 Be6 17.Nd7 Bxd7

Black is miserably placed after 17...Re8 18. Rxe6! fxe6 19. Bd3 when White is fully compensated for the exchange.

### 18.cxd7



The star of the show is the Pawn on d7, lacking one step of becoming a supernova. Black can no longer hold the position.

### 18...e6 19.Rad1 a6 20.Bc6 Rb8 21.d5 e5

Black fails after 21...Bxc3 22. Re3 b5 23. Qa3 Nxc6 24. dxc6 Bg7 25. Qa5 Rb6 26. Qxb6! cxb6 27. c7

### 22.Bxe5 Bxe5 23.Rxe5 Qf6 24.Rde1 Kg7 25.R1e3

Also powerful is 25. Qd4! immediately

### 25...Nxc6 26.dxc6 b5 27.Qd4 1-0

An impressive rout by Burton of a strong player.

## 2001 Golden Knights Standings

John Burton	42.85
Robert Baker	39.15
Chris O'Connell	39.00
John Burton	38.45
Chuck Cullum	37.85
Javy Gwaltny	37.85
Daniel Woodard	37.25
Faraday Strock	36.85
Gary Adams	36.80
Corky Schakel	36.10
Robert Miehm	35.65
Walter Brower	35.00
James Tracz	35.00
Peter Swan	34.65
Peter Swan	34.55
Abe Wilson	34.00
Joseph Schwing	33.90
Peter Swan	33.35
Gary Adams	32.85
Bleys Rose	32.25
Barry Endsley	32.20
Daniel Woodard	31.65
Danny Horwitz	30.65
Michael Marshall	30.10
Jeffrey Endler	29.95
Michael Marshall	29.50
Richard McLaughlin	28.40
Jeffrey Baffo	26.65
Gregory Cross	25.05
Roy Tate	24.95
A. J. Zeppa	23.40
Charles Ventimiglia	22.65
Charles Ventimiglia	22.65
Tom Delahanty	21.65
William Jempty	21.65
Norman Furse	21.60
Ben Schiller	19.40
Gardner Johnson	18.70

Michael Hehir	16.50
Gerald Levitt	16.05
N. Bissonnette	16.00
Jeff Grimes	15.50

## SHORT STORY ALERT

“Deep Moves’ is a free science fiction short story with a correspondence chess side-theme, available at [www.abys sandapex.com](http://www.abys sandapex.com) in their Flash fiction section. The story is by William Highsmith.

## MAY RESULTS

### John Collins

David Greene	07C54	5 ½-½
John Flanagan	06C43	5-1
Allen Herridge	06C43	5-1
Joseph Lewis	07C37	6-0

### Walter Muir

Steven Oldner	09W25	4 ½-1 ½
Joel Summers	08W42	5 ½- ½
Richard Miller	08W47	6-0
Richard miller	09W02	6-0
Souvik Roychoudhury	08W50	6-0

### Victor Palciauskas

John Singleton	07P02	6-0
Michael Kessler	08P01	5-0

### Swift Quads

Juraj Beres	06SQ15	5-1
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### Trophy Quads

William Lewis	08Q01	5 ½-½
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## WALTERS TAKES 08W19

Gary Walters won the Walter Muir Quad 08W19 with an undefeated 4 ½ -1 ½ score.

Walters	2137		=1	11	==	4½
Hensley	2103	=0		==	11	3½
Chudnovsky	2250	00	==		11	3
Harris	2289	==	FF	FF		1

White's invasion of the queenside leaves his kingside insufficiently guarded.

### SICILIAN DEFENSE

**White: Jacob Chudnovsky (2250)**

**Black: Gary Walters (2137)**

**08W19**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.h3 Nc6 5.Bd3 g6 6.Bc2 Bg7 7.d4 d5 8.exd5 Qxd5 9.0-0 cxd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Nc3 Qd6 12.Bg5 Rd8 13.Qe2 Be6 14.Rfd1 Nb4 15.Ba4 Rac8 16.Bxf6 exf6 17.Ne4 Qb6 18.Nc5 Bd5 19.a3 Nc6 20.b4 Qc7 21.Rac1 f5 22.Nb3 a6 23.b5 axb5 24.Qxb5 Bxf3 25.gxf3 Qf4 26.Qxb7 Rc7 27.Qxc7 Qxc7 28.d5 Qf4 29.dxc6 Rc8 30.Bb5 Be5 31.Rd3 Qh2+ 32.Kf1 Re8 33.c7 Bd4 34.Re3 Bxe3 35.fxe3 Rc8 36.f4 Qxh3+ 37.Kf2 Qh4+ 38.Kf3 Qe7 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)

## OBITUARY: GM Robin Smith



Robin Smith, Grandmaster, born 17 August 1952, has died. Robin finished third with 17 ½-½ in the 1978 Golden Knights, tied for 1-3<sup>rd</sup> in the 11<sup>th</sup> USCCC, and clear first in the 13<sup>th</sup> USCCC. He was the author of Modern Chess Analysis and coauthored Who Is the Champion of Champions. Robin was awarded the Grandmaster title in 2004, which he achieved in a remarkable 64 games. His ICCF rating was a hefty 2642. He resided in Brownsville, Texas.

### NIMZOINDIAN DEFENSE (E48)

**White: Quinlan Shea**

**Black: Robin Smith**

**13 USCCC Final**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Nge2 Re8 8.0-0 Bd6 9.f3 c5 10.Qe1 Nc6 11.Qh4 Be7 12.Qf2 a6 13.g4 b5 14.Ng3 b4 15.Nce2 a5 16.g5 Nd7 17.f4 Ba6 18.Bxa6 Rxa6 19.Bd2 Nb6 20.Rad1 a4 21.Bc1 c4 22.h4 f6 23.e4 dxe4 24.Nxe4 f5 25.N4g3 Qd7 26.Rfe1 Nd5 27.Kh2 a3 28.bxa3 bxa3 29.Qf3 Bb4 30.Rf1 Na7 31.Rf2 Nb5 32.Qg2 Bf8 33.Qf1 Nb4 34.Ng1 Qd5 35.Nf3 c3 36.Ne5 g6 37.Re2 Nxa2 0-1

## Announcement

### Second ICCF Veterans' World Cup

In April 2008, ICCF started the first Veterans' World Cup in memoriam of Stanislav Foglar. It is nearing the completion of the preliminary stage whereafter, winners of the 13 sections, will qualify for the 1<sup>st</sup> Veterans' World Cup Final.

The 2008 ICCF Congress in Pleven, Bulgaria decided that following the great popularity of the tournament amongst older players, a new Veterans' World Cup should be started every year, beginning in 2009. The Scottish CCA offered to organize this and subsequent tournaments on behalf of ICCF, working in collaboration with the ICCF Non Title Tournament's Commissioner. A special cup trophy will be provided by the Scottish CCA to ICCF for the winner of the event.

The Second ICCF Veterans' World Cup will be "In Memoriam of Gerhard Radosztics", who was a distinguished delegate for Austria, ICCF officer for over 20 years.

Unlike the first tournament, the 2<sup>nd</sup> VWC will be organized in three stages, which will allow several players from each group stage to advance to the Semi-finals & Final. The number of promotions will depend on the total of entries received, but groups at each stage will comprise of 13 players (12 games) played by webserver with a rate of play of 10 moves in 40 days.

ICCF Veterans' World Cups are open to all players who are 60 years old or more

at the start of the tournament. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Veterans' World Cup will be started on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009. Although the number of preliminary groups which each player may enter is unlimited, no player will qualify for more than two Semi-final groups or more than one place in the Final.

Players may enter in the usual way through their National Federations (contact [schackels@comcast.net](mailto:schackels@comcast.net)) or, where eligible, via the ICCF Direct Entry system. The Direct Entry fee is calculated based on the method of payment and currency chosen, with the exact amount shown during the registration process.

Entries from players who countries participate in the ICCF Direct Entry Scheme should send their entries, through the DE system. Closing date for Direct Entries will be 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009.

**All veteran chess players are heartily invited to enter this tournament**, both for the enjoyment of games and friendly contact/communication with senior players round the World.

### CORRESPONDENCE CHESS WITH PRISONERS

A new organization, the CCP (Correspondence Chess with Prisoners) has formed and has a website. Its goal is to bring those in the free world (outside of prison) who are interested in playing chess by US mail with those inmates behind bars within the US correctional and prison system.

The web site has photos, videos, and news articles concerning CCP.

If you are interested in playing prisoners, surf to <http://mountfurnicu.net/> CCP is a non-profit organization.

## **DROP OUT RATES OTB VS CC**

Note: This is not a scientific study as the sampling is too small.

Common knowledge has it that CC is plagued by dropouts to a much greater extent than OTB. To see how much greater I arbitrarily decided to compare two tournaments, the 2005 John Collins and a 2008 Georgia OTB.

There were 168 players in the 2005 John Collins and 30 of them dropped out (Surprisingly, the higher the rating the more likely they were to drop out) or about an 18% drop out rate.

In the Georgia OTB tournament (which I selected because it was roughly the same size) – 162 players and 16 dropouts, or about 10% -- and once again, the stronger players were more likely to drop out than lower rated players.

The major difference, of course, is that cc players drop out of multiple games while OTB players drop out of one.

Considering an OTB tournament lasts a weekend and a CC tournament lasts a couple of years, you might draw a different conclusion about CC dropouts.

I suspect even Black had a lot of fun in this gritty game.

## **QUEEN GAMBIT DECLINED (D36)**

**White: Tim Corkum (1844)**

**Black: Joel Summers (1644)**

**Express Tournament 2009**

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5  
5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Be7 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.Qc2 0–  
0 9.Nf3 Re8 10.0–0 Nf8 11.h3 Ng6  
12.Ne5 Qd6 13.f4 Nd7 14.Bxe7 Rxe7  
15.Rac1 Ngf8 16.Qf2 Nb6 17.f5 f6  
18.Ng4 h5 19.Nh2 Bd7 20.Rfe1 Rae8  
21.Nf1 Nh7 22.h4 Rc8 23.Ng3 Be8  
24.Nce2 Bf7 25.Nf4 Qb4 26.Nfxh5 Rce8  
27.Nf4 Nc4 28.Bxc4 dxc4 29.e4 Qa5  
30.Ng6 Rd7 31.e5 fxe5 32.Nxe5 Rde7

33.Ne4 Bd5 34.h5 Bxe4 35.Rxe4 Nf6  
36.Rh4 c5 37.Nxc4 Qd8 38.dxc5 Re2  
39.Qd4 Qc7 40.Nd6 Qc6 41.Rh2 Re1+  
42.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 43.Kf2 Rc1 44.b4 Qa6  
45.Kg3 Qxa2 46.h6 Qb3+ 47.Kh4 Rd1  
48.h7+ Kh8 49.Qf4 Re1 50.Kg5 Re7  
51.g4 a6 52.Qd2 Nd7 53.Nc8 Rf7  
54.Qe1 Nf8 55.Nd6 1–0

Robert Baker who finished second in the 2001 Golden Knights shows how careful calculation can thread the needle of complications in this exciting win.

## **SICILIAN DEFENSE (B21)**

**White: Robert Baker (1780)**

**Black: Javy Gwaltney (2219)**

**2001 Golden Knights Final**

1.e4 c5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Bb5 Bg7  
5.Bxc6 bxc6 6.d3 Rb8 7.Nc3 d6 8.0–0  
Nf6 9.Qe1 0–0 10.b3 Nh5 11.h3 f5 12.e5  
h6 13.Bd2 Be6 14.Qe3 Qd7 15.Rae1  
Rbe8 16.Kh2 Kh7 17.Ne2 Rb8 18.c4  
Bf7 19.Rg1 Bh8 20.g4 Ng7 21.Qf2 fxg4  
22.hxg4 Ne6 23.Qh4 dxe5 24.f5 Bg7  
25.fxe6 Bxe6 26.Rg3 Rh8 27.Nc3 Kg8  
28.Nxe5 Bxe5 29.Rxe5 g5 30.Bxg5 Qd4  
31.Bf6 1–0

Chris O'Connell shows his attacking skill that brought him third place money.

## **ENGLISH OPENING (A11)**

**White: Chris O'Connell (2398)**

**Black: William Jemty (2121)**

**2001 Golden Knights**

1.c4 c6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 e5 4.cxd5 cxd5  
5.d4 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 e4  
8.Nc3 Nc6 9.f3 exf3 10.Nxf3 Nf6 11.0–  
0 0–0 12.Nh4! Re8 13.Rad1 Bg4 14.h3  
Be6 15.e4 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.d5  
Qb6+ 18.Kh2 Red8 19.Qg5 h6 20.Qh5  
Qb5 21.a4 Qa5 22.Bxe4 Nb4 23.Nf5  
Nxd5 24.Nxh6+ gxh6 25.Qxh6 1–0