



The Check Is in the Mail
May 2009

USA another inch closer to qualifying



Keith Holzmueller has won his remaining game in the 16 Olympiad, Board 3, for the USA, to move the USA team into third place, ahead of Scotland and Slovakia as the qualifying round moves toward its conclusion. The US team has two games left, Gary Kubach vs. Australia and Mihai Harabor vs. Slovakia. I will keep you posted. Go Team USA !

GAME OF THE MONTH

Keith demonstrates the perils of possessing the isolated d-Pawn in this instructive game from the Olympiads.

ENGLISH OPENING (A25)

White: A. Brown (2409)

Black: Keith Holzmueller (2466)

16 Olympiad, 2006

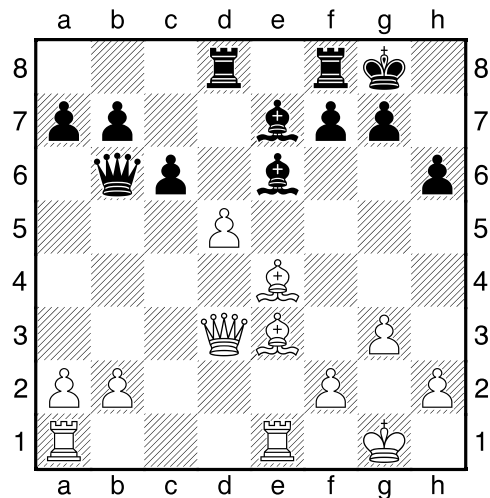
**1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.Nc3 Bc5
5.e3 d5 6.cxd5 Nb4 7.d4 exd4 8.exd4
Be7 9.Nge2 Nbx d5 10.Nxd5 Nxd5
11.0-0 Be6 12.Re1**

Wajnberg-Wolff, World Championship 2000, continued 12. Nf4 Nxf4 12. Bxf4 c6 with a short draw.

12...0-0 13.Nf4 Nxf4 14.Bxf4 c6

These exchanges have favored Black. The isolated d-Pawn has to be used to attack. As the pieces come off the board, attacking chances grow less and its weakness grows more.

**15.Qd3 Qb6 16.Be4 h6 17.Be3 Rad8
18.d5?**



The d-Pawn was not a fatal weakness, but now White jeopardizes his whole game by thus unwarranted thrust.

18...Bc5 19.Bxc5 Qxc5 20.Rac1 Qb4 21.a3

Otherwise the d5 Pawn is for free.

21...Qxb2 22.Rb1 Qf6 23.Rxb7 cxd5 24.Bg2 Bf5 25.Qf3 a6

The net result of 18. d5 -- White is simply down a dangerous passed Black d-Pawn.

26.Rbe7 Qg6 27.Qf4 d4 28.R7e5 Bc2

Preparing the advance

29.Qd2 d3 30.Be4 Qd6 31.Ra5 Rfe8 32.Qe3 ?

White has had enough. By evacuating the blockading square, he invites the crushing advance of the d-Pawn. I suspect, however, that this was a recording error for 32. Re3. The game then could have ended with 32. Re3 Qd4 33. Bf3 Rxe3 34. fxe3 Qf6 35. Kg2 Rc8 36. Bg4 Rc4 37. Bf3 Bb1 38. Bd1 Qc6+ 39. Bf3 Qc7 and Black invades.

32...Qd4 33.Bf3 Rxe3 0-1

TOP TEN ICCF/US RATED

GM Robin Smith	2642
GM John Timm	2642
GM Alik Zilberberg	2613
GM Jason Bokar	2580
GM Daniel Fleetwood	2578
SM Tim Murray	2569
IM Rene duCret	2549
SM Edward Duliba	2538
GM Victor Palciauskas	2537
SM Jon Edwards	2531

16. Olympiad section 3											TD Flores Gutierrez, Carlos										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score	%	Team results	B1	B2	B3	B4	Place			
Germany	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	27	75	18	6.5	6	7	7.5	1			
Sweden	1.5	2.5	2	3	2.5	2	2.5	3.5	2	4	23	63	13	5.5	3.5	7	7	2			
U.S.A.	1.5	2		2.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	19.5	57	12	3.5	5.5	7	3.5	3			
Scotland	1.5	1	1.5		2.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	4	3.5	19.5	54	8	5	6	4	4.5	4			
Slovakia	1	1.5	1.5	1.5		2.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	3	17.5	54	8	5	5.5	4	3	5			
Latvia	0.5	2	1.5	2.5	1.5		1	2.5	2	2	15.5	46	7	4	5	4.5	2	6			
Croatia	1	1.5	1.5	2.5	0.5	1		1.5	2.5	2.5	14.5	46	6	4	6.5	1.5	2.5	7			
Australia	1	0.5	1	1.5	0.5	1.5	1.5		2.5	2.5	12.5	37	4	4	1	3	4.5	8			
Belgium	0.5	2	1.5	0	1.5	2	1.5	1.5		1	11.5	31	2	5	2	2.5	2	9			
Bulgaria	0.5	0	1.5	0.5	1	1	1.5	1.5	3		10.5	30	2	1.5	3	2.5	3.5	10			

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

APRIL RESULTS

Trophy Quads

Jack Keeney 5-1 08Q03
 Nicholas Polis 5-1 08Q03

Walter Muir Quads

James Sawaski 6-0 08W14
 Kevin Bachler 6-0 08W40
 Cory Moran 6-0 08W45
 Gary Walters 4½-1½ 08W19
 Rejean Gagnon 5½-½ 08W41
 Brian Cieslak 4 ½-1½ 08W51

John Collins

Antonio Romero 6-0 06C41
 Richard Wienckowski 5 ½-½ 08C14
 Thomas Buchanan 6-0 07C43

KEVIN BACHLER TOPS 08W40

Scoring a shutout 6-0, Kevin Bachler took first place in the Walter Muir quad 08W40.

Bachler	1971		11	11	11	6
Coryell	2202	00		11	1=	3½
Hadley	2117	FF	FF		11	2
Wilhelm	2003	00	0=	00		½

Kevin shows that a Rook bolstered by some friendly Pawns is easily a match for the two Bishops.

KING'S INDIAN ATTACK (A04)

White: Kevin Bachler (2224)

Black: Kenneth Coryell (2202)

2008 Walter Muir

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 Nc6 5.c3 e5 6.d3 Nge7 7.e4 0-0 8.Nbd2 d6 9.a3 h6 10.Re1 Be6 11.b4 b5 12.Bb2 Qb6 13.Rb1 a5 14.bxc5 dxc5 15.a4 b4 16.Qc2 Rfd8 17.Ba1 Qa7 18.Bf1 g5 19.h3 f6 20.Rec1 h5 21.Nb3 g4 22.hxg4 hxg4 23.Nh2 Bh6 24.Rd1 bxc3 25.Qxc3 Nd4 26.Nxc5 Rdc8 27.Rb7 Qxb7 28.Nxb7 Rxc3 29.Bxc3 Nec6 30.Nd6 Rb8 31.Nc4 Rb3 32.Be1 Kf7 33.Nxa5 Nxa5 34.Bxa5 Ra3 35.Bb6 Rxa4 36.Bxd4 Rxd4 37.Ra1 f5 38.Ra7+ Kf6 39.Ra6 Bf8 40.exf5 Kxf5 41.Nxg4 Rxd4 42.Bh3 Bd5 43.Ra5 Bf3 44.d4 Kg5 45.Rxe5+ Kf6 46.Bxg4 Bxg4 47.f4 Kf7 48.Rg5 Bd7 49.Kf2 Be7 50.Ra5 Bg4 51.Ke3 Kf6 52.Ke4 Bd6 53.Ra6 Ke7 54.Ra7+ Kf6 55.Kd5 Bb8 56.Ra6+ Ke7 57.Kc6 1-0

Quote: The greatest pleasures of chess were to be found in the field of correspondence play. -- Walter Penn Shipley

CORY MORAN FIRST IN 08W45

Usually a quad of all Masters and Experts promises some exciting chess. Unfortunately through no fault of the winner, Cory Moran of Beaverton, OR, 08W45 did not fulfill this promise. Instead, the blight of cc, dropouts, dominated.

Moran	2258		11	11	11	6
Hadley	2117	FF		11	11	4
Flesher	2239	00	0F		11	2
Beavan	2115	W	W	W		0

Here is a fragment to show a little of Moran's skill/

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B33)

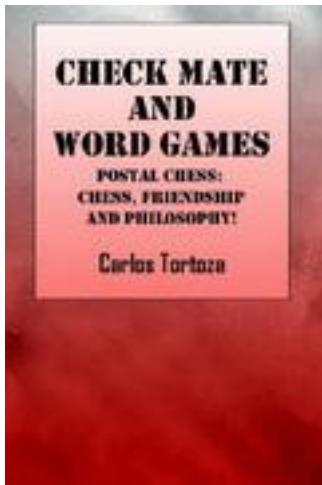
White: Cory Moran (2258)

Black: Guy Hadley (2117)

Walter Muir Quad 2008

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qb6 5.Nb3 Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 7.a3 d6 8.Be3 Qc7 9.f4 a6 10.g4 d5 11.Bg2 dxe4 12.g5 Nd5 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Qxd5 Be6 15.Qxe4 0-0-0 16.Rd1 Bd6 17.0-0 1-0

BOOK REVIEW: CHECK MATE AND WORD GAMES by Carlos Tortoza



In reviewing any book I always ask myself the question, “Who is this book for?” It was a noble attempt – to show that correspondence chess can be about more than just chess – it can also include the social aspect of two players communicating with one another. After reading Tortoza's book I must come to the conclusion that this book was written by him, for him.. It does not seem suited for anyone else. The book is about a postal game (of only fair quality) played by Tortoza against Mario Augusto Vaz Junior. The analysis is superficial. That

is the checkmate half of the book. The other half is the word games – the written conversation – that accompanied each move. The dialogue is about philosophical issues (great philosophical issues captured on a postcard ? I think not.) written in torturous prose. A sample of the game analysis should suffice to warn the reader away from this book – Concerning white's sixth move – “The Whites are cautious, preferring a development auto-supported, preparing a central advance, but without leaving to reserve defensive positions, in the case the house 2BQ for the Bishop of the King who can be attacked and necessary of a safe lodging and, exactly time, strategic, therefore it is in the diagonal line that the PAWN of the ROOK of the King of the Blacks attacks!”

Tortoza's definition of correspondence chess, like so many other passages in the book, leaves the reader muttering: “The participation in Matches of Chess for mail it takes care of to a basic objective that is the taste for the sport, associated competitiveness of Matches that the participants for superior levels classify, in accordance with its performance in each Match and with its qualitative development in the noble sport of the royalty”.

The final part of the book has a hundred fifteen quotations (many duplicated) mostly well-known by famous players and writers. It might make an amusing game to see if you can decipher some of the quotes. One of my favorites: “The older I will to estimate the more white I farmers”. – Paul Keres

Perhaps a reader might like to try his hand writing about one of his games and the associated correspondence, but this time in readable English. Put simply: Do not buy this book unless you are fluent in gobbledygook..

HIGH SCHOOLS PUSH e-PAWNS

A coastal rivalry was played out when St. James of Maryland played Clackamas, Oregon, in a two game email match. Clackamas proved victorious by a 2-0 score when St. James failed to find the saving 16. Bd5+! in the following game.

TWO KNIGHTS DEFENSE (C57)

White: St. James

Black: Clackamas

Email 2009

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5
5.exd5 b5 6.Bf1 h6 7.Nxf7 Kxf7 8.dxc6
Bc5 9.Be2 Rf8 10.0-0 Ne4 11.Bf3 Nxf2
12.Qe2 e4 13.Bxe4 Kg8 14.Bf3 Ng4+
15.Kh1 Nxh2 0-1

A WORK IN PROGRESS

I am currently gathering material for a book on the USCF Absolute tournaments. For this appeal, I am only asking about the first ten years of Absolutes.

I would like to hear from participants to gather ALL their Absolute games.

I would like to hear from anyone (especially the players) who has any of the following games. I am asking for games from the winner of the Absolute in question, but I would like any games from the participants. I plan to include with the book a CD of all the Absolute games I can collect.

Here are the games I especially would like to see. If you know these players, please give them a nudge:

1978 Absolute – **Steve Tennant** : two games against William Raudenbush

1979 – **Chris Van Dyck**: games against Delaune, Clark, Valvo, Tennant, Dean

1982 – **Manfred Zitzman** and **Robert Hux**: Zitzman against Laird, Muir,

Kargol, Berry, Millson, Payne. And Riley. Hux against Laird, Dowling, Kargol, Berry, Millson, Payne, and Riley.

1983 -- **Robert Hux** against Kowalski, Sproule, Harari, Sarar, and Millson.

1984 --**Errol Liebowitz** against Kowalski, Laird, Spitzer, Vickers, Eberly, Feagin, Sweeney, Harari, and Kargol

1985 – **James O'Brien** against Vickers, Hux, Liebowitz, Kowalski, Spiegel, Fielding, Lifson, and Spiro.

For the record and history ! Let me hear from you.

BOOK QUERY:

According to the book The Batsford Book of Chess Records by Damsky, the German Master Klaus Junge (not the psychologist wrote "Chess by Correspondence and Over the Board" (in German). Does anyone know anything about this book ? Is it still in existence ? Has it ever been translated ? If you know something about it, please let me know.



Klaus Jung

White's long range sacrifice on move 14 shows Day has done his homework.

COLLE OPENING (A47)

White: William Day (1994)

Black: James Anderson (1709)

2009 Electronic Knights

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 b6 4.Bd3 Bb7
5.Nbd2 c5 6.0-0 Be7 7.c3 0-0 8.e4 d6
9.dxc5 bxc5 10.Re1 Nc6 11.Nc4 d5
12.exd5 exd5 13.Nce5 Re8 14.Nxf7
Kxf7 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Qc2 Bd6
17.Bxh7+ Kf8 18.Ne6+ Rxe6 19.Rxe6
Bc8 20.Re1 Rb8 21.h3 Ne5 22.Bg5 Nf7
23.h4 Bd7 24.Bg6 Nxc5 25.hxg5 Ne4
26.Rad1 Nxc5 27.Rxd5 Qf6 28.f4 Nf7
29.Bxf7 Kxf7 30.Red1 Rb6 31.Qd2 Ke7
32.Qe3+ Kf7 33.Qd3 Ke7 34.b4 cxb4
35.c4 Bg4 36.Qe4+ Qe6 37.R1d4 Qxe4
38.Rxe4+ Kf6 39.c5 1-0

This is a feisty little game -- both sides emerge with teeth and claw marks.

FRENCH DEFENSE (C07)

White: Frederick Toenies (1891)

Black: James Ellis (2033)

2007 Golden Knights semifinal

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 cxd4
5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.Nxc6 bxc6
8.Bd3 Bd6 9.Qe2 Qb8 10.Nf3 dxe4
11.Qxe4 Nf6 12.Qh4 c5 13.Bh6 Bf8
14.0-0-0 Qb4 15.Qxb4 cxb4 16.Be3 a5
17.Ne5 Bd6 18.Bd4 Ke7 19.Rhe1 Rhd8
20.g3 Bxe5 21.Rxe5 Bc6 22.Bb6 Rd5
23.Bc5+ Kd7 24.Rxd5+ Bxd5 25.Bb5+
Kc7 26.a4 Bc6 27.Rd6 Bxb5 28.axb5
Rb8 29.Rc6+ Kd8 30.b6 Nd7 31.Bd6
Rb7 32.Bc7+ Ke8 33.f3 Nxb6 34.Bxb6
Kd7 35.Rc5 Rxb6 36.Rxa5 Rb7 ½-½

White attacks, aims his pieces at the Black King, sacrifices a Knight for an open file, and then it is Black's turn.

LARSEN'S OPENING ()

White: Michael Miller (1950)

Black: Thomas Hullsiek (1700)

Swift Quad 2009

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 Nf6 3.Nf3 c5 4.e3 e6
5.c4 Nc6 6.a3 Bd6 7.Qc2 Bd7 8.Nc3 0-0
9.Ng5 h6 10.h4 d4 11.Nb5 Be5 12.f4
Bb8 13.g3 e5 14.a4 a6 15.Na3 Nb4
16.Qb1 Bc6 17.Rh3 dxe3 18.dxe3 hxg5
19.hxg5 Ne4 20.Bc3 Re8 21.Qb2 Nd3+
22.Bxd3 Qxd3 23.Bd2 Rd8 24.Rd1 exf4
25.Rh7 Kxh7 0-1

White executes a positional squeeze, dominating the white squares, the center, the Black Bishop, and finally his opponent.

SICILIAN DEFENSE (B52)

White: Corky Schakel (2411)

Black: Keith Rodriguez (2331)

2005 Absolute Championship

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+
Qxd7 5.0-0 Nc6 6.c3 Nf6 7.d4 Nxe4
8.d5 Ne5 9.Nxe5 dxe5 10.Re1 Nf6
11.Rxe5 e6 12.c4 Bd6 13.dxe6 fxe6
14.Re1 0-0 15.Nc3 Qc7 16.g3 Rad8
17.Qe2 e5 18.Bg5 Qf7 19.Rad1 Kh8
20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Rd5 b6 22.Red1 Bc7
23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Rxd8+ Bxd8 25.Qd3
Bc7 26.Nb5 Qe7 27.Qe4 Bd8 28.Qd5
Kg7 29.Nd6 Kf8 30.Nf5 Qe8 31.Qd6+
Kf7 32.f3 a5 33.g4 Kg8 34.b3 Kf7 35.h4
Kg8 36.h5 Kf7 37.h6 1-0