



# Check is in the Mail

by FIDE Master Alex Dunne

## The Dunne Diet

Miniature games, such as you will find below, may be the perfect diet food for chess players looking for a snack: low in carbohydrates, zero calories, delicious, and you can devour all that you want since they are guaranteed non-fattening. Let the feast begin!

### ENGLISH OPENING [A28]

W: Valery Kedrov  
B: SM Sergey Simonenko (2467)

*Correspondence 1987*

**1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 e5 3 Nf3 Nc6 4 d4 exd4 5 Nxd4 Bb4 6 g3 Bxc3+ 7 bxc3 Ne5 8 Qb3 Qe7 9 Be3 Nfg4 10 Nc2 Nxf2 11 Kxf2 Ng4+ 12 Kf3 f5, White resigns.**

White offers proof you do not have to have a lead in development to execute a successful attack.

### BENKO COUNTER GAMBIT [A57]

W: David Shanholtzer (1802)  
B: Gregory Gillman (1861)

*USCF Postal 1986*

**1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 b5 4 Nf3 g6 5 cxb5 a6 6 Nc3 axb5 7 e4 b4 8 Nb5 Nxe4 9 Qe2 f5 10 d6 Na6 11 Ng5 Qb6 12 Nxe4 fxe4 13 Qxe4 Bb7 14 Qe5 Kf7 15 dxe7 Bxe7 16 Nd6+, Black resigns.**

### FRENCH DEFENSE [C11]

W: G. Menke  
B: Paul Keres

*Correspondence 1935*

**1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Nf3 c5 6 dxc5 Bxc5 7 Bb5 a6 8 Bxd7+ Nxd7 9 0-0 b5 10 a3 Bf7 11 Bf4 d4 12 Na2 Rg8 13 Nxd4 Qh4 14 Ne2 g5, White resigns.**

From *Red Letters*, Tim Harding's book on the Soviet postal championships, comes this miniature.

### CATALAN OPENING [A32]

W: Yakov Neishtadt  
B: V. Bobkov

*USSR Championship 1963*

**1 c4 Nf6 2 d4 e6 3 g3 c5 4 Nf3 cxd4 5 Nxd4 Bc5 6 Nb3 Qb6 7 Nxc5 Qxc5 8 Nd2 Qc6 9 e4 h5 10 Bg2 h4 11 0-0 Qc7 12 Re1 hxg3 13 hxg3 d6 14 b3 Nbd7 15 Ba3 a5 16 Nf3 Ra6 17 Nd4 Nc5 18 Nb5 Qe7 19 e5 dxe5 20 Rxe5, Black resigns.**

From Erik Osburn's book *First Anglo-Pacific Invitational Chess Cham-*

*pionship* comes the first game finished in the tournament.

### DANISH GAMBIT [C44]

W: Tadahiko Mori (2386)  
B: Tom Van Dijk (2317)

*Anglo-Pacific Tournament 1985*

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 c3 dxc3 5 Bc4 cxb2 6 Bxb2 d6 7 Nc3 Be7 8 Qc2 Be6 9 Nd5 Nf6 10 0-0-0 Qd7 11 Rhe1 0-0-0 12 Bb5 Kb8 13 Qa4 Rhe8 14 Nxf6 Bxf6 15 Bxf6 gxf6 16 Nd4, Black resigns.**

### FROM GAMBIT [A02]

W: Kyle Evans (1191)  
B: Tim Nagley (1938)

*Correspondence 1997*

**1 f4 e5 2 fxe5 d6 3 exd6 Bxd6 4 Nf3 Nf6 5 d4 Ne4 6 c4 0-0 7 e3 Re8 8 Qc2 Bg4 9 h3 Qh4+ 10 Nxf4 Bg3+.**

The current World Champion shows he knows how to play minis, too.

### SICILIAN DEFENSE [B92]

W: GM Tunc Hamarat (2585)  
B: IM Slobodan Mirkoic (2390)

*Kazic Memorial 1998*

**1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Be2 e5 7 Nb3 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Kh1 b5 10 a4 b4 11 Nd5 Nxd5 12 Qxd5 Ra7 13 Be3 Be6 14 Qd2 Rb7 15 f4 Qc7 16 f5 Bd7 17 f6 Bxf6 18 Rxf6 gxf6 19 Bh6 Re8 20 Bxa6, Black resigns.**

### SICILIAN DEFENSE [B81]

W: Gene Bate (1877)  
B: A. Stewart (1579)

*2002 Golden Knights*

**1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 g4 Nc6 7 g5 Nd7 8 Be3 Nb6 9 Qd2 d5 10 Bb5 Bd7 11 exd5 exd5 12 0-0 a6 13 Nxc6 bxc6 14 Rhe1 Be7 15 Bc5 Nc8 16 Rxe7+ Nxe7 17 Re1 axb5 18 Rxe7+ Qxe7 19 Bxe7 Kxe7, Black resigns.**

The Oops Award for 2004 goes to this game. What was Black thinking?

### FOUR KNIGHTS' GAME [C47]

W: GM Hendrik Sarink (2304)  
B: SM Abraham Ramirez (2354)

*ICCF Jubilee Officials 2001*

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 d4 exd4 5 Nxd4 Bb4 6 Nxc6 Nxe4 7 Nxd8, Black resigns.**

### AMERICAN DEFENSE [D06]

W: Gheorghe Miron  
B: Cornel Matei

*Romania Cup 2003*

**1 d4 d5 2 c4 Nf6 3 Bg5 Ne4 4 Bf4 e5 5 dxe5 Bc5 6 e3 Bb4+ 7 Ke2 g5 8 cxd5 gxf4 9 Nf3 Bf5 10**

**Qa4+ Nc6 11 dxc6 Ng3+, White resigns.**

White's unusual winning move merits applause.

### QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED [D35]

W: George Askew (1931)  
B: Joel Harrison (2134)

*USCF e-mail 2004*

**1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 Bg5 Be7 6 e3 c6 7 Bd3 Nbd7 8 Nge2 0-0 9 Qc2 h6 10 h4 Ne8 11 Bxe7 Qxe7 12 g4 Ndf6 13 g5 Ng4 14 Bf5 Bxf5 15 Qxf5 Qe6 16 Qxe6 fxe6 17 gxh6 Nxf2 18 0-0, Black resigns.**

Attila Schneider's advice: "Don't move your king to a5 in the opening" holds true even today. White resigns rather than face **11 Kd3 Nb4+ 12 Kc4 Nxd2+ 13 Kb5 Bd7+ 14 Ka5 b6, mate.**

### TWO KNIGHT'S DEFENSE [C57]

W: Jan Magerciak  
B: Mathon

*Correspondence 1988*

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 Ng5 Bc5 5 Bxf7+ Ke7 6 Bd5 d6 7 Nf7 Qf8 8 Nxf8 Bxf2+ 9 Kxf2 Nxe4+ 10 Ke3 Qf4+, White resigns.**

### QUEEN'S GAMBIT [D20]

W: D. Dunham (1384)  
B: George Agnew (1608)

*WCCF 2004*

**1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 Nc3 a6 4 e3 b5 5 a4 b4 6 Qf3 Ra7 7 Bxc4 bxc3 8 Bxf7+ Kd7 9 Qd5, mate.**

### KING'S GAMBIT [C39]

W: Ron Farrar (2006)  
B: Dale Boroviak (1871)

*ASPC 2003*

**1 e4 e5 2 f4 exf4 3 Nf3 g5 4 h4 g4 5 Ne5 Nc6 6 d4 Nxe5 7 dxe5 f3 8 gxf3 Be7 9 Bc4 Bxh4+ 10 Kf1 Bg5 11 f4 Be7 12 Qxg4 Bf8 13 Qh5 Qe7 14 f5 b5 15 Bg5, Black resigns.**

Black's knights perform a classic ballet with the chessboard as their stage.

### TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENSE [C55]

W: Benko  
B: Nikolai Sorokin

*Correspondence 1916*

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Nf6 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 d5 6 Bb5 Ne4 7 Nxd4 Bd7 8 Nb3 Qe7 9 Qxd5 Nxe5 10 Qxb7 Nf3+ 11 Kf1 Ng3+, White resigns.**

A fifteen-year-old future GM finds postal tough sledding.

**DUTCH DEFENSE** [A10]

W: John Staffer  
B: Robert Byrne

*Victory Tournament cc 1943*

**1 c4 f5 2 Nc3 Nf6 3 Nf3 b6 4 g3 Bb7 5 Bg2 c5 6 0-0 d6 7 d4 e6 8 Qc2 Be7 9 d5 exd5 10 cxd5 Qd7 11 Ng5 0-0 12 Ne6 Rf7 13 Qxf5 b5 14 Qd3 b4 15 Ne4 h6 16 Nxf6+ Bxf6 17 Qg6, Black resigns.**

**KING'S GAMBIT** [C38]

W: Robert Felber (2253)  
B: IM Guenter Weintitschke (2407)

*ICCF Jubilee Officials 2004*

**1 d4 e5 2 f4 exf4 3 Nf3 g5 4 Bc4 Bg7 5 0-0 d6 6 d4 h6 7 c3 Nc6 8 h4 Qe7 9 a4 Bd7 10 a5 a6 11 Qd3 Nd8 12 b3 g4 13 Ne1 f3 14 gxf3 Qxh4 15 Ng2 Qg3 16 Ra2 Ne7 17 Bf4 Qh3 18 Ne3 Ng6, White resigns.**

**GUIOCO PIANO** [C55]

W: Rob van Meurs  
B: Tanju Sari (2016)

*ICCF e-mail 2001*

**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 Bc4 Bc5 5 c3 Nf6 6 0-0 Nxe4 7 cxd4 d5 8 dxc5 dxc4 9 Qe2 Qe7 10 Re1 Nxc5 11 Be3 Nd3 12 Rd1 Bg4 13 b3 Nd4, White resigns.**

www.chessfriends.com offers some unusual benefits to correspondence players. One of them is a chance to

play an e-mail simul against a world champion.

**NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE** [A20]

W: GM Mikhail Umansky (2517)  
B: Alex Dunne (2311)

*E-mail simul 2004*

**1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Qc2 0-0 5 e4 c5 6 e5 cxd4 7 a3 Qa5 8 exf6 dxc3 9 axb4 Qxa1 10 fxg7 Re8 11 bxc3 e5 12 Nf3 Qa6 13 c5 Qg6 14 Qxg6 hxg6 15 Bh6 d5 16 cxd6 a5 17 Ng5 axb4 18 Bc4 Be6 19 Nxe6 Rxe6, White resigns.**

### CORRESPONDENCE CHESS TOURNAMENT UPDATES FOR OCTOBER 2004

**CONGRATULATIONS!****SENIOR MASTERS**

Stephen Douglas 2413

**MASTERS**

Thomas Langland 2209

**TOURNAMENT WINNERS****JOHN COLLINS MEMORIAL CLASS TOURNAMENT**

William Couch 02CAB38 5-1

Matthew J. Leachman 03CCD11 5-1

Douglas D. Walls 04CM04 6-0

**TROPHY QUAD TOURNAMENT**

Marshall Whitecotton 03QB29 6-0

**E-MAIL TOURNAMENT WINNERS****EXPRESS TOURNAMENT**

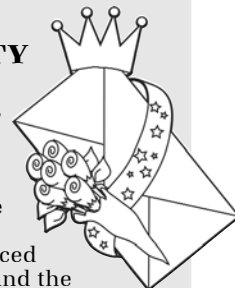
David M. Ballard 04ET06 5½-½ 1st place

## CORRESPONDENCE CHESS PLAYERS

You are invited to send me your comments, questions and correspondence games (with or without annotation). Because of the volume of mail, submissions cannot be returned, and personal replies are not possible. Send letters to: Alex Dunne, *Chess Life*, 3068 US Route 9W, Suite 100, New Windsor, NY 12553 or e-mail: alex.dunne@cqservices.com

### POSTAL BEAUTY CONTEST

Is it right that beauty is so often only its own reward? Surely not! And thanks to the generosity of Dr. Ronald Hames, the scales of justice have become more evenly balanced between how one wins and the hard fact of victory. For now in *Chess Life* the players who conduct scintillating games will receive the Hames Correspondence Game of the Year Awards. Resident postal editor Alex Dunne is the judge of a contest with prizes of \$100 for the best game by a master and \$100 for the best game by a non-master to appear in *Chess* in the Mail during a given year. What better reason, then, to send your postal brilliancies to Alex Dunne?



## CHECK OUT USCF'S CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RATED EVENTS

### USCF's 58<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

#### 2005 Open Correspondence Chess Golden Knights Championship \$1,500 First Prize

(plus title of USCF's Golden Knights Champion and plaque)

• 2nd place \$800 • 3rd place \$600 • 4th place \$400 • 5th place \$200 • 6th thru 10th place \$100 each. **Entry fee: \$25.**

**The entry deadline is November 30, 2005.**

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members who reside on the North American continent, islands, or Hawaii, as well as those USCF members with an APO or FPO address. USCF members who reside outside of the North American continent are welcome to participate in e-mail events. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Those new to USCF Correspondence Chess, please estimate your strength: **Class A:** 1800-1999 (very strong); **Class B:** 1600-1799 (strong); **Class C:** 1400-1599 (intermediate); **Class D:** 1399 and below (beginner level). **Note:** Prize fund guaranteed (based on 400 entries) and will be increased or decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

**CORRESPONDENCE CHESS MATCHES (TWO PLAYERS)**

\* **\$5 entry fee per person** with two, four or six game options.

**WIN A CORRESPONDENCE CHESS TROPHY**

\* Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings. \* 1st place winner receives a trophy. \* **Entry fee: \$10.**

**VICTOR PALCIAUSKAS PRIZE TOURNAMENTS**

\* Seven-player class-level pairings, one game with each of six opponents. \* Players must have a USCF CC rating to enter. \* 1st-place winner receives \$130 cash prize and a certificate signed by Victor Palciauskas. \* **Entry fee: \$25.**

**JOHN W. COLLINS MEMORIAL CLASS TOURNAMENTS**

\* Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings (unrateds welcome). \* 1st-place winner receives a John W. Collins certificate. \* **Entry fee: \$7.**

**E-MAIL RATED EVENTS (NEED E-MAIL ACCESS):**

**LIGHTNING MATCH** \* Two players with two, four or six game option. \* **Entry fee \$5 per person.**

**Swift Quads** \* Four-player, double round-robin format. \* 1st-place prize merchandise credit of \$30. \* **Entry fee: \$10.**

\* Prizes: 1st place \$30 merchandise credit, 2nd place \$20 credit. \* **Entry fee: \$15.**

**Express Tournament**

\* Seven-player events, one game with each of six opponents. \* Prizes: 1st place \$30 merchandise credit, 2nd place \$20 credit. \* **Entry fee: \$15.**

**Please circle event(s) selected.**

U.S. Chess Federation  
www.uschess.org



### USCF's 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL

#### 2005 E-mail Correspondence Chess Electronic Knights Championship

(Seven-player sections, one game with each of six opponents.)

#### \$1,500 First Prize

(plus title of USCF's Electronic Knights Champion and plaque)

• 2nd place \$800 • 3rd place \$600 • 4th place \$400 • 5th place \$200 • 6th thru 10th place \$100 each. **Entry fee: \$25.**

**The entry deadline is November 30, 2005.**

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members with e-mail access. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten.

**Note:** Prize fund guaranteed (based on 400 entries) and will be increased or decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

**NOTE:** Except for Lightning Matches, Swift Quads and Express Tournaments, players will use post office mail, unless opponents agree to use e-mail.

**TO ENTER: 800-388-KING (5464) FAX 845-561-CHES (2437)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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