



The Check Is in the Mail October 2006

I will be out of the office October 4-8 while I travel to Los Angeles for my son's wedding.

Ed Duliba 15th USCCC Champion



In one of the closest finishes in many years, SIM Edward Duliba nosed out IM Kenneth Reinhart by a half point to win the 15th US Championship. Duliba's victory owes much to his strong endgame play.

Ed Duliba at 50 is in the prime of his chess life. He is the first man to accomplish the Grand Slam of American correspondence chess: he tied for first in the 1992 Golden Knights, tied for first in the 1998 USCF Absolute Championship, and now a first place finish in the 15th US Championship. As dessert, Edward also holds down 4th board in the current 13th Olympiad team. Bravo, Ed!

The 15th USCCC was closely contested. Kenneth Reinhart made a strong effort to become co-champion. The final game between Reinhart and Foust was extended beyond the cutoff date, but Foust held the draw on Move 100 and Reinhart finished half a point out. Third place was taken down by IM John Mousessian. All three top finishers were undefeated. A full report will be covered in Chess Life in the February 2007 issue.

GAME OF THE MONTH

CATALAN OPENING (E04)

White: Ed Duliba (2573)

Black: Michael Foust (2362)

15 USCCC Final

**1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 dxc4
5.Nf3 a6 6.0-0 Nc6 7.e3 Bd7 8.Nc3
Bb4**

This game was started in June 2003.
Popular now is 8...Bd6.

with Julius Simon and IM James Skeels tied for first with undefeated 6-2 scores. Finishing third was Robert Rizzo, also undefeated.

The crosstable is from J. Franklin Campbell and is much neater online at www.correspondencechess.com/campbell/

Name	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	T
1 IM Rizzo, Robert	2 4 5 9										5 1/2
2 IM Skeels, James	2 4 1 3										6
3 IM Eckert, Douglas	2 3 8 4										3
4 Concha, Hugo Javier	2 3 8 0*										3
5 Everitt, Gordon	2 3 3 1										4
6 IM Miettinen, Kristo	2 2 7 4										4 1/2
7 Poliakov, Leon	2 2 6 0										3
8 Simon, Julius	2 2 4 8										6
9 Haag, Russell	2 0 5 7										1

19th World Champion – Christophe Leotard of France

ICCF GM Christophe Leotard of France has clinched first place in the 19th World CC Championship Final, a category 15 Event, with an undefeated score of 8 1/2-2 1/2. An early game of Leotard's can be found at the end of the column.

SEPTEMBER TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Trophy Quads

Clark Hayward 03QAB15 5-1
Thomas Everson 04QB21 4 1/2-1 1/2

John Collins Tournament

Lonnie Mosley 04CC45 5-1
David Domotor 04CD51 5-1
Thomas Everson 04CB46 5-1
Bill McGreevy 04CB46 5-1
Philip DeAugustino 04CB01 5-1
Frank Spooner 04CB01 5-1

Swift Quads

Daniel Duke 06SQ02 5 1/2-1/2

Classified Ads

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STATISTICS

The average age of correspondence players in the USCF ? I took the first 100 players who signed up for various events (that made division much easier!). The numbers ranged from 18 (we have at least one six year old playing but not counted here) to 81. The average age ? 48.88 Anybody care to do the same for OTB chess ?

USCF NEWS FLASH

Joan DuBois writing an eletter to a cc player stated (8/31/06) “My understanding is that we [USCF] will not be sending out the rating postcards but rather offering an area on our website where players can go and check the rating of their games.”

CROSSTABLES

Keith Rodriguez has asked for crosstables. He notes, “I know I for one enjoy checking out the latest standings.

Any players can make decisions later on in the tournament based on those standings.:

I have been entering newly created tournaments into the USCF computer. In the not too distant future they will be available online. Until then, at your request, I will send you email crosstables for free, or by US post if you send a S.A.S.E. with your request.

TOURNAMENTS I WOULD LIKE TO FILL IN OCTOBER

The following tournaments need just one more entry to be active: First come, first served!

1600-1999 Express Tournament
1600-1999 Swift Quad
1600-1799 Walter Muir
0000-1399 Lightning Match
(2 or 6 games)
1600-1799 Lightning Match (2 games)
1400-1599 Lightning Match (2 games)
Master/Expert Lightning Match (2)
1800-1999 Trophy Quad

TOP 10 ICCF/US LIST

1. GM John Timm	2642
2. SIM Tim Murray	2620
3. GM Robin Smith	2618
4. GM Alik Zilberberg	2608
5. GM Viktor Palciauskas	2577
6. SIM Daniel Fleetwood	2563
7. SIM Jason Bokar	2561
8. SIM Edward Duliba	2558
9. IM Rene DuCret	2549
10. SIM Jerry Weisskohl	2541

Quote:

The far greater time and quietness available [for correspondence chess] facilitates an astonishing improvement in the performance of one or both players -- Eduard Dyckhoff

I haven't seen any of World Champion Leotard's Final round games, but he is tough indeed. Brilliant maneuvering brings down our own IM William Maillard in the 13th Olympiad.

ENGLISH OPENING (A13)

White: Christophe Leotard (2655)

Black: William Maillard (2412)

13 Olympiad 2000

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Bxc3 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Ba3 d6 9.Qb1 Ng6 10.c5 Na6 11.cxd6 cxd6 12.d4 Rc8 13.Rc1 Qd7 14.c4 Rfd8 15.Qb5 Qxb5? 16.cxb5 Nc7 17.Rab1 Ne8 18.Nh4 Bxg2 19.Nxg6 Rxc1+ 20.Rxc1 Bb7 21.Ne7+ Kf8 22.Nc6 Bxc6 23.bxc6 Nc7 24.e4 Ke8 25.d5 f6 26.Rd1 exd5 27.exd5 Ke7 28.Kg2 Nb5 29.Rd3 Nc7 30.Kf3 Kf7 31.h4 g6 32.Bc1 Ke7 33.Bf4 Kf7 34.Ke3 Ke7 35.Kd4 Kf7 36.a4 h5 37.Rb3 Ke7 38.a5 b5 39.a6 Kf7 40.Bd2 Rb8 41.Bb4 Ne8 42.Ba5 Ke7 43.c7 Rc8 44.Rxb5 Ng7 45.Rb7 Nf5+ 46.Kd3 1-0

Paging Damsky's [The Heavy Pieces in Action](#) -- Skeels shows you really don't have to worry about which is stronger, Bishop or Knight -- Just exchange them all off and fight with the big stuff!

SLAV DEFENSE (D43)

White: Jim Skeels (2413)

Black: Kristo Miettinen (2274)

2nd USCCC eMail Championship

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Bb4 6.e3 Qa5 7.Bxf6 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qxc3+ 9.Nd2 gxf6 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Rb1 Nd7 12.Rb3 Qa5 13.Qc2 Nb6 14.Qb2 Nc4 15.Bxc4 dxc4 16.Rc3 Qg5 17.g3 b5 18.Ne4 Qg6 19.Nd6+ Kd7 20.Nxc8 Rhxc8 21.0-0 Re8 22.d5 Qh5 23.dxc6+ Kxc6 24.a4 a6 25.Ra3 Qe5 26.Qa2 Rab8 27.axb5+ axb5 28.Rd1 Rb6 29.Rd4 Qe6 30.Qd2 Re7 31.Ra8 Re8 32.Ra1 Re7 33.Rd1 Kb7 34.Qa5 Qc6 35.Rd6 Qxd6 36.Rxd6 Rxd6 37.Qxb5+ Kc8 38.Qxc4+ Kd7 39.Qh4 Re5 40.Qxh7 Ke7 41.h4 f5 42.Kg2 Rd2 43.h5 f4 44.exf4 Ree2 45.g4 Rxf2+ 46.Kg3 Rg2+ 47.Kh4 Rh2+ 48.Kg5 Rd6 49.f5 Rb2 50.Qg7 Rb5 51.h6 Rg6+ 52.Qxg6 fxg6 53.Kxg6 1-0

In a difficult position Poliakoff over-extends himself with 33...h5 and finds his King in a mating net.

ENGLISH OPENING (A32)

White: Julius Simon (2248)

Black: L. Poliakoff (2260)

2nd USCCC eMail Final 2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.Nf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Bd2 Nc7 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.e4 Bd6 10.Bc4 a6 11.Qe2 b5 12.Bb3 f6 13.a3 Bb7 14.0-0 Qe7 15.Rfd1 0-0 16.Be3 Rac8 17.Rac1 Kh8 18.Nd4 Rfd8 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Qg4 Be5 21.Bb6 Rxd1+ 22.Nxd1 Qd6 23.g3 Qd7 24.Qe2 Ne8 25.f3 a5 26.Nf2 a4 27.Ba2 Nc7 28.Nd3 Bd4+ 29.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 30.Kg2 Qd6 31.Nb4 Bb7 32.Qd1 Qxd1 33.Rxd1 h5 34.Rd6 e5 35.Bf7 h4 36.gxh4 Kh7 37.h5 Kh6 38.Bg6 Ba8 39.Nd3 Rh8 40.h4 Bb7 41.Nf2 Bc8 42.Rc6 1-0