

# *Florida* **CHESS**

FLORIDA CHESS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

Autumn 2019



**IM Mykola Bortnyk wins the  
2019 Florida State Championship**

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BOB SMITH

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**Delegates:** Donald Schultz, Anthony Cottell  
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**Alternates:** Peter Dyson, Miguel Ararat, Bob Persante,  
John Salisbury, Daa'im Shabazz

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**Florida Champions**

<b>State</b>	Mykola Bortnyk	<b>Scholastic</b>	Ryan Hamley
<b>Top K-8</b>	Raghav Venkat	<b>Top Girl</b>	Cindy Jie
<b>Blitz</b>	Adithya Bala	<b>Quick</b>	Corey Acor
<b>Senior</b>	George Grasser		

**FCA Membership Dues**

Send to the FCA (c/o Treasurer) or online

Regular	—	\$20 (for two years)
Scholastic (under 20)	—	\$15 (for two years)
Club Affiliate	—	\$30 (for two years)
Family	—	\$30 (for two years)
Life	—	\$200 (10 times Regular Dues)

**Check your mailing label for membership expiration date.**

*Florida Chess Association* (FCA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization devoted exclusively to the promotion of chess in Florida. FCA is the official USCF affiliate for the state of Florida. FCA web site — <http://www.floridachess.org>

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The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Florida Chess Association, its Board, or anyone else.

**Contributing Editors**

Krista Alton, Matthew Kolcz, Steve Lampkin, Paul Leggett, Kevin Pryor,  
Mark Ryan, Daa'im Shabazz, Theo Slade, John Surlow, Bryan Tillis,  
Steven Vigil, Amy Xing

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**Games Editor** - Miguel Ararat

**Book Reviewer** - Miguel Ararat

**Cover Artwork** - Roberta Lerman

**Cover Masthead** - Mike Halloran

**Software** - Microsoft Publisher, ChessBase

## Editor Speaks

As usual another packed edition of the magazine. And one surprise is the return of "Tournament Director's Corner" with an updated photo of the TD... me. It may be the last of that column as I have retired from being organizer and Chief TD of any events now, but will continue as a Floor TD and Editor/Publisher of floridaCHESS.

An interesting story in this issue is BIRTHDAY SHOCK by John Surlow; so don't miss it on page 8. Other important reports are those on the 2019 US Open, the Arnold Denker Florida State Championship, and the Chess Journalists of America ... where this magazine won an award for 25 continuous years of being produced.

Our President has pushed for Regional Reports from all of Florida's Chess regions, so you will find these from our 5 Regional Vice Presidents, starting in the back on page 26, with others throughout the magazine.

I continue to supply stories about my life, with "Harvey Lerman Plays Chess", now "Part 5" as I report on one of the saddest parts of it as I became World Champion of the game called "Conquest" designed by Donald Benge.

Please support this magazine by sending in reports on your major events. I try to publish all stories, photos, and annotated games that I receive. Just send it to [harvey@floridachess.org](mailto:harvey@floridachess.org) and I'll put it in the next issue of floridaCHESS.

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### **Please check the FCA website [floridachess.org](http://floridachess.org)**

**If your membership is expiring, we ask that you take this special opportunity to renew and help us continue to promote chess in Florida. Please renew online at [floridachess.org](http://floridachess.org) under "Membership".**

*Harvey Lerman*

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### **Floridians with USCF jobs:**

#### **Committees:**

- Audit: Tony Cottell & Jon Haskel, Members
- Barber K-8: Jon Haskel, Co-chair
- Bylaws: Robert Persante, Member
- College Chess, Renier Gonzalez, Jon Haskel & Ana DeMahy, Members
- Denker: Jon Haskel, Co-chair
- Finance: Jon Haskel, Member
- Hall of Fame: Shane Samole, Member
- LMA Trust: Peter Dyson, Trustee
- Prison Chess: Larry Storch, Chair; John Kingham, Member
- Publications: Harvey Lerman, Member
- Scholastics: Jon Haskel, Member
- States: Harvey Lerman, Member

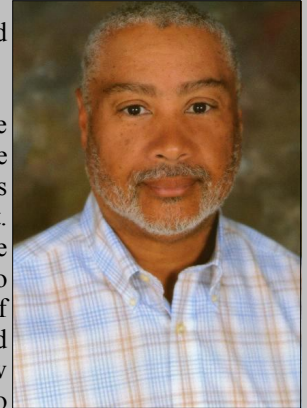
### **Floridians with US Chess Trust jobs:**

Joel Channing - Trustee

## **from the President's desk**

### **2019 Fall President's Message**

Dear FCA members and friends,



The Denker State Championship marks the completion of our annual chess cycle and my first as President. We have to thank everyone who registered with plans to attend - TWICE! The threat of hurricane force winds required us to postpone and reset a few weeks later. KUDOS!, to

fellow board member and event organizer Bryan Tillis for double duty on this event. It was great and everything from the rapid refunding of initial entry fees to the final award presentation went smoothly.

We also completed our annual board election. Forty e-ballots were submitted this year. This is a 27% participation rate and a 30% increase over last year. This year we added an *Elections HQ* section to the website for you see the new expanded questionnaire submitted by each candidate. We hope it helped you decide the best candidate. As a result of the election, I would like to warmly welcome Tim Staley to the Board of Directors. Tim is a well-known fixture on the Florida tournament circuit and plays in as many as he is able. Tim is from Gainesville and will be the Northwest Regional V.P. This is the territory from Gainesville rounding the Big Bend to Tallahassee and continuing along the entire Panhandle area west of Live Oak. With the exception of Gainesville, it is the region with the greatest opportunity. We know there is chess out there, we will count on Tim to help us connect to it. Welcome Tim!

I would also like to thank George Foote for his time as an Interim member of the board. George is an icon in the Northeast and is that region's "Dean of Scholastic Chess" with having taught a generation of players and organizing the marquee scholastic championship for over 20 years. Thank you. George will continue to support Florida as the new Outreach Committee Chair.

With our newly elected board, we also have new initiatives for the 2019-2020 FCA year. First is to correct our failure - two additional events: This year we will crown a Senior Champion and a Women/Girls State Champion in over the board competition. We missed on both last year, but this year we have appointed an Event Committee co-lead by Bryan Tillis and William Bowman to make sure this happens. We also were awarded money from a Rex Sinquefeld funded grant via US Chess in support of women's initiatives to help us put on the event.

*(President's desk continued on page 5)*



# Letters

I asked Miguel Ararat "Where do you get those DVDs that you review for the magazine?"

Editor

He answered:

About five year ago I won a competition worldwide as a reviewer for ChessBase. After that I can ask ChessBase for material to review.

Other chess companies now do the same after they saw my ChessBase reviews online.

Thank you  
Miguel

By-the-way, Miguel is very active; here is what he does:

Miguel Ararat MS.,MPharm

- Biological Scientist, Immunology
- National Chess Coach (United States, 2018)
- FIDE Instructor (International Chess Fed, 2018)
- Book Reviewer & Game Annotator FloridaChess
- Assistant Coach University of FL Men's Volleyball Club

<http://gainesvillechesstraining.com/>



## FCA Annual Board Elections

The results are as follows:

### Election Statistics

Kevin Pryor	27
Bryan Tillis	26
Stephen Lampkin	24
Matthew Kolcz	18
Tim Staley	15
George Foote	11

The complete list of Board members and their positions can be found on page 2

### Voting History

Year	Elig	#	%
2009	200	45	22.5 *
2010	239	22	9.2
2011	246	19	7.7
2012	244	27	11.1
2013	253	19	7.5
2014	214	32	15.0
2015	233	16	6.8
2016	226	32	14.0 **
2017	226	33	14.6
2018	148	30	20.3 ***
2019	148	40	27.0

\*1st year using ballots inserted in magazine  
\*\*1st year using EB  
\*\*\* All ballots used EB

## 2019 FCA Elections

August 15, 2019 11:21 AM – August 23, 2019 11:00 PM  
(GMT-05:00) EASTERN TIME (US & CANADA)

Completed

Actions ▾

40 ballots submitted of 148 eligible voters (2 opened) – 27%  
148 emails sent - 0 notices queued  
4 notices undeliverable. [Fix it](#)

Voters

Results

Graphed Results

Vote by Vote

Vote Audit

Download Text

Download CSV

### Directors PLURALITY – 5 VACANCIES

Steve Lampkin	24 votes (19.8%)
Kevin Pryor	27 votes (22.3%)
Bryan Tillis	26 votes (21.5%)
George Foote	11 votes (9.1%)
Matthew Kolcz	18 votes (14.9%)
Tim Staley	15 votes (12.4%)

Kevin Pryor, Bryan Tillis, Steve Lampkin, Matthew Kolcz, and Tim Staley win with 22.3%, 21.5%, 19.8%, 14.9%, and 12.4% of the vote each.

121 votes tallied from 40 ballots



**FCA Board members at the 2019 US Open (Rosen Center Hotel, Orlando)**  
**William Bowman, Bryan Tillis (Secretary), Kevin Pryor (President). Jon Haskel and Daaim Shabazz)**

## The 2019 US Open

by Daaim Shabazz from *The Chess Drum*

*"The U.S. Open held its 120th edition in the home of the Disney Corporation, Orlando, Florida. This is America's longest running tournament and was also the host for the 80th Delegate's Meeting. Players and Delegates were among the many groups conferring at the Rosen Centre Hotel (9840 International Drive), the site of the [2014 U.S. Open](#)."*

### Tournament Info:

Held between August 3 – August 11, the 2019 U.S. Open was host to various events: Mixed Doubles, Denker HS, Barber K-8, Haring Girls, Combined Denker/Barber/Haring, National Senior, Weekend Swiss, Scholastic, Quads, Blitz, and Bughouse.

### Photos:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.2468071666565615&type=3>

### Tennis:

<https://new.uschess.org/news/u-s-open-tennis-u-s-open-chess/>  
 There was also the exciting tennis match with 8 players, which included Florida's own Jon Haskel, chief TD of the scholastic. The participants varied in chess level, from 1000 to International Master Eric Rosen: Vyom Vidyarthi, Timothy Woodard, Lisa Blakeman, Aakash Madadi (FL), and others. Haskel was the winner of the \$50 gift card to the USCFSales website.

### Side Events:

#### Delegates Meeting:

<https://new.uschess.org/news/the-merge-day-7-orlando/>

Also see **FIDE Arbiter's Seminar at the 120th US Open** by Bryan Tillis on page 6

### Commentary:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6\\_er-F7IZA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6_er-F7IZA)

IM Eric Rosen and IM Kostya Kavutskiy broadcasted the top games live on Twitch.Tv/USChess

### Results:

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/aug/13/ilya-nyzhnyk-shuts-door-us-open-last-round-chess/>

**GM Ilya Nyzhnyk** won this year's US Open with an 8/9 score. The top Floridians were **Martin Hansen & Antonio Arencibia**, as well as **Vincent Stone** all at 6.5/9

*(President's desk continued from page 3)*

Other initiatives for this year are: hit new financial and membership targets, clarify board member roles, clearly define the value proposition for members and establish an outreach program to energize underserved groups and areas of our state.

In keeping with my learning the "rhythm to the chess year" theme from the last edition, September is also the time where the chess community looks back over the year to recognize achievement. US Chess hosts their annual awards banquet at the US Open and this year several Floridians were recognized. Jon Haskel (Organizer of the Year) and Peter Dyson (Special Services Award). School/Players named were: K-5 Champion - Williams Elementary (GNV), Kindergarten Champion - The Oak Hall School (GNV), 4th Grade Champions - Williams Elementary, 4th Grade Champion - Erick Zhao, and the 8th Grade Co-Champion - Raghav Venkat

Finally, the Chess Journalists of America recognized our floridaCHESS publication for Steve Vigil's article on the 2018 Central Florida Chess Championship and our newsletter editor, Harvey Lerman, won the Special Achievement Award for 25 years of service as floridaCHESS Editor for our state and the chess community beyond our boundaries. Congratulations to all.

Hope to see you over the board soon,  
 Kevin

# FIDE Arbiter's Seminar at the 120<sup>th</sup> US Open

by Bryan Tillis

At the 120<sup>th</sup> US Open along with my first experience of attending as a delegate, one workshop very much caught my eye. The FIDE Arbiters' Seminar with legendary tournament director/lecturer: **IA Carol Jarecki**, and **IA/IO Grant Oen**.

It is rare to experience stories from an individual so versed in chess culture in history, Carol when speaking on pairings told us a story of the old masters attempting to predict pairings before posted. World Champion Mikhail Tal amongst them was quickly corrected by Carol as she pointed out that he had double paired two of the competitors (an impossible pairing within the FIDE system). It was inspiring working with Carol who had a hard but fair approach. I had many takeaways for tournament directors and organizers in view of issues in the chess world especially in regards to anti-cheating through the lecturers perspectives.

## Takeaways & Suggestions from the Seminar:

- Players use individual scoresheets as opposed to score books to prevent looking back at previous games as well as notes players may have made in their books. It was suggested to keep scoresheets open and available to be read for the entire game and players can request that their opponents keep scoresheet/notation device on table top at all times. Many new notation devices on the market have not been approved by USCF or FIDE as it has not been proven that the devices cannot be tampered with. It is the tournament director's discretion to allow use of such devices if not approved by the governing federations (discussed in the Delegates meeting).
- No electronic devices on tournament players while games are in progress. FIDE asks that phones be off and in bag/not on person, this includes smart watches or any device which could be used for assistance with the game. Carol made the point that she has asked players with hearing aides to remove it during games as it is "not needed for play".
- More on electronic devices, if GM Wesley So was [forfeited](#) for putting inspirational notes on the back of his scoresheet (which were not chess relevant) during the US Championship, it stands to reason any message providing assistance to us can be constituted as cheating. Why do we still allow players to listen to music during games in USCF play? The same intent can be applied that it gives one player an unfair advantage via motivation or inspiration. If a player needs to drown out the noise of the tournament hall the suggestion is for ear plugs, but first they need to be approved by the Arbiter prior to the start of play.
- Players cannot leave immediate playing area once games have started (cannot leave venue). In many events a Garret Scanner is now used as players are entering and exiting the tournament hall. In my personal experience at the St Louis Chess Club during the US Championship, players and spectators are required to check their phones before entering into the playing area.
- Players must show up on time for games and shake hands with their opponents. Too often in USCF events, players shows up 10 – 20min late in order to prepare for their opponents which is using assistance while a clock is running. FIDE cuts out this issue by having a firm start time and forfeits in many tournaments for a lack of promptness.
- The rule with the most controversy in the FIDE rules paraphrased: If an Arbiter requests to search a player (in private/same gender search) and the player refuses, this is seen as an admission of guilt to using an assisted device for cheating and can result in penalty. A note for TDs and Arbiters, you can never put your hands on someone else. It is suggested to use the metal detection scanner to attempt to detect a device if a player is suspected.

Due to the recent issues with cheating in chess, it would be wise for USCF to start adopting many of the rules that FIDE is adapting. It is within any Arbiter/Tournament Directors power to advertise any of the above or version of the above in the tournament listing to be enforced at their event.

## Final notes on becoming a FIDE Arbiter:

To become a FIDE Arbiter with the ability to direct FIDE events: 1) Become a Senior Tournament Director or Higher within the USCF 2) Apply to become a National Arbiter in order to be qualified to assist at FIDE events 3) Gain experience (norms) as a National Arbiter at least three FIDE rated events (these can be either national or international) and a fourth mandatory norm of attendance of at least one FIDE Arbiters' Seminar successful passing (at least 80%) the examination set up by the Arbiters Commission. Once you have accomplished these tasks you are ready to direct a FIDE event!



# FLORIDA'S TOP PLAYERS

(Using latest USCF Rating Supplement's "Top 100" Lists, except for "OVERALL")

## UNDER AGE 18

Kumar, Nikhil	15	2395
Venkat, Raghav	15	2251
Hamley, Ryan Edward	17	2196
Todfield, Dylan	17	2190
Chen, Benjamin Lj	15	2187
Ngo, Bach	11	2174
Zhao, Erick	11	2158
Kumar, Naman	12	2139
Hernandez, Ronald	12	2100
Stone, Vincent William, Iii	13	2067
Yang, Andy, Jr	14	2055
De La Colina, Nicolas	14	2043
Eickelman, Connor	17	2005
Gao, Marvin	11	2005
Singh, Keshav	14	1981
Mayes, Timothy	15	1971
Starkman, Elliot	16	1968
Chakrabarti, Brejesh	9	1960
Alvarez, Xavier	15	1958
Farragut, Cannon	9	1958
Wang, Alan John	16	1952
Gospodinov, Antony	13	1949
Reddy, Satvik	14	1939
Yao, Jerry	10	1927
Shukla, Aniket	11	1921
Lang, Jayden	11	1899
Guan, Michael Xukun	11	1889
Cheng, Leon	12	1883
Wu, William	11	1878
Shen, Jason (Haohan)	12	1873
Pothuri, Abhiram	10	1849
Yu, Dylan	10	1811
Ziegler, Nate Ryan	10	1775
Bynum, Jacorey	11	1770
Nair, Advait Shankar	10	1622
Sattaru, Sritej Sai	10	1617
Yang, Maxwell	7	1577
Jiang, Benjamin	9	1550
Elvers, Tristan	8	1357
Guan, Tovy	7	1162
Siddiqui, Elias	7	1006
Gupta, Anay	7	995

## CHESS COACHES

### Professional - Level V

Mark Ritter

### National - Level IV

Tania Kranich-Ritter

Tim Tusing

### Advanced - Level III

Miguel Ararat

## GIRLS U<21

Tianhui (Cindy) Jie 18 2029

## SENIORS (65+)

Stephen Stoyko 71 2224

Constantine Xanthos 72 2200

William Cornwall 76 2147

Jose Hernandez 66 2133

## WOMEN

Tianhui (Cindy) Jie 2029

## TOP BLITZ

Leinier Dominguez Perez 2793

Julio Becerra 2659

Robert M Perez 2490

Corey Acor 2447

## TOP QC

Leinier Dominguez Perez 2742

Robert M Perez 2397

Corey Acor 2316

## TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

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Jon Haskel

Harvey Lerman

Ervin Sedlock

### Associate National TDs

Stephen Lampkin

Ralph Whitford

### Senior TDs

Charles Hatherill

Michael Hutsko

Kevin Pryor

Paul Tomaino

Steven Vigil

## FIDE ACCEPTED \*

### International Organizer & Arbiter

Jon Haskel

### International Coordinator

Elizabeth Tejada

### National Arbiter

Harvey Lerman

Stephen Lampkin

### National Instructor

Miguel Ararat

\* Active and USCF certified

## OVERALL \*

GM LEINIER DOMINGUEZ PEREZ	2835
GM OLEXANDR BORTNYK	2642
IM HAO YIN	2637
GM JULIO J BECERRA	2599
IM QUANG LONG LE	2532
ROBERT M PEREZ	2507
IM YUNIER LEYVA RIVERA	2490
IM NOE TUTISANI	2482
GM RENIER GONZALEZ	2481
FM JORGE LEON OQUENDO	2474
JOHN GABRIEL LUDWIG	2436
FM LUIS ENRIQUE VALDES	2434
IM RAFAEL PRASCA	2428
FM NIKHIL KUMAR	2395
ALBERTO SURI	2384
FM FERNANDO LARRUA	2367
FM ALEXANDER ZELNER	2344
FM ALEX BARNETT	2329
FM CESAR JOSE VALIDO	2321
RUBENS CEZILA JR	2318
FM COREY ACOR	2313
YAN MIELLIER	2313
WGM YANET MARRERO LOPEZ	2311
AJ STEIGMAN	2283
FM CHARLES A GALOFRE	2283
NAT KELLEHER	2278
ERNESTO ALVAREZ	2277
BRYAN TILLIS	2274
WGM YULEISY HERNANDEZ MOYA	2274
PAUL H FIELDS	2269
DAGOBERTO DIAZ	2268
FM DALTON PERRINE	2268
TROY DALY	2267
FM ARNALDO FERRAGUT	2267
HAN SCHUT	2264
FM EDISON RUGE	2263
CM ANTONIO ARENCIBIA	2257
NICHOLAS J ROSENTHAL	2255
NICKOLAS ARTHUR MOORE	2254
VLAD YANOVSKY	2252
RAGHAV VENKAT	2251
MARTIN HANSEN	2250
BRITT RYERSON	2248
SEBASTIAN ZONTEK	2245
FM FABIO LA ROTA	2240
PEDRO HERNANDEZ-PEREZ	2240
CARLOS ANDRETTA	2238
ANATOLY A OFFENGENDEN	2237
THEODORE LUKE SLADE	2233
ROBERT YORISAN RAMIREZ	2228
FM STEPHEN STOYKO	2224
MAKAI KRIENKE	2212
RAVINDRA WIJESUNDERA	2210
ERIC COOKE	2207
HLEB ZHARKOV	2205
CHRISTOPHER HEUNG	2204
JESSE D DAVIDSON	2204
CONSTANTINE XANTHOS	2200
AJ GOLDSBY	2200
OSCAR LEONEL MALDONADO	2200
TODD CHARLES BRYANT	2200
TRUNG NGUYEN	2200

\* Active FL Masters with Current Ratings

## CORRESPONDENCE

Keith Rodriguez	2344
Dana Sylvander	2199
Paul Ott	2098
David Spencer	2014
Allen Jeffrey Wollen	2001



# BIRTHDAY SHOCK

by John Surlow

Hailing from Southern California, John Surlow and his sons, Jim and Will, played in dozens of tournaments all over the U.S. Jim hit his peak, becoming an Expert at age 16, as he won the A prize at the Fort Worth U.S. Open in 1984! He blazed a trail for his much younger brother who won the National K-3 Championship trophy in Rye, New York in 1991. After moving to Pittsburgh, and at the age of 14, Will came in 4<sup>th</sup> (of 36) at the Denker tournament of State High School Champions in Orlando. (His youngest opponent was 17!) At age 15, Will earned the Master title by winning First Place at the National Amateur (South) in Charleston, WV.

This is ancient history. John turned to teaching chess and directing scholastic tournaments. After High School both brothers quickly turned their attention from chess tournaments to college, engineering careers, wives and children. After decades had passed, Will asked John to reserve his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday weekend for a chess tournament at an unknown destination. Only when Will and John got to the Pittsburgh airport early Friday September 13<sup>th</sup> did John learn the destination ... Orlando.

An early wallchart might spoil the next surprise, so Will booked away from the tournament host Hotel, and used a ruse to divert John from hearing hotel reservation details. Then, while they were sparring in the atrium of their Hotel, Will made a deliberately complex chess move. When John completed his move and looked up, his older son, Jim from Denver was sitting in Will's place. Will caught his gaping Dad on video who thought he might have just awakened from a coma.

The three entered different sections of the Central Florida Chess Club's Autumn Open at the nearby Wyndham Hotel. How delightful it was for the three to spend four days alone, enjoying sight-seeing, walking tours, amazing meals, camaraderie and a blast from their distant chess past. An exciting bonus was John winning \$375 in the Under 1700 section. John is essentially retired but teaches chess classes in Western PA. John's games were fun and interesting. Two lessons really stand out: strategy is more important than memorization of lines in the opening, and King and Pawn endings are the most important ones to master.

John's last round game with his notes is on the next page.



Will, John, and Jim Surlow (left to right)

Will played in the Premier section, Jim in U2000 and John U1700



William Surlow -Theo Slade



John Surlow (b) vs Richard Brent (Rnd 4)



Jim Surlow (Rnd 3)



**John Surlow (1688)**  
**Abhinav Pothuri (1395) [C24]**  
 CFCC Orlando (5), 15.09.2019  
*[Surlow, John]*

**1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d4**

The Urusov Gambit: Played by W since W gives up his advantage for exciting chess!

**3...exd4 4.Nf3 Bc5**

4...Nxe4 is book; or it is satisfactory to transpose to the Two Knights Defense with Nc6.

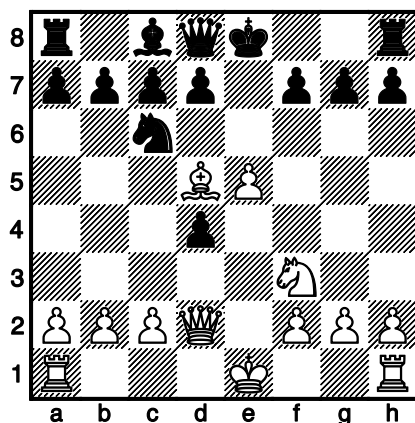
**5.e5 Ne4**

Much better is 5...d5 similar to the Max Lange attack.

**6.Bd5 Bb4+ 7.Nbd2 Nxd2 8.Bxd2 Bxd2+**

8...Qe7 was better for development's sake.

**9.Qxd2 Nc6**



9...c5 would hold the pawn and a small stake in the center.

**10.0-0-0 Ne7**

10...0-0 is better; when in doubt, develop.

**11.Qxd4 Nxd5**

Now castling allows Bc4 d5 e.p. Weaknesses often compound in a "cascade effect"

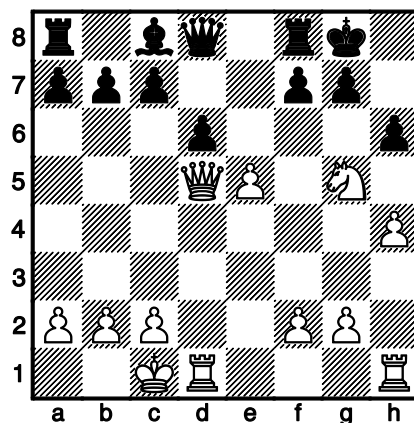
**12.Qxd5**

Compare the two sides!  
 W feels things must go his way!

**12...0-0 13.h4**

13.Kb1 or Rhe1 are best but h4 is more in the spirit of the opening.

**13...d6 14.Ng5 h6**



**15.f4**

15.Ne4 is much better but W is speculating on opening the h-file.

**15...Bg4 16.Qe4**

16.Nf3 saves N and R but W stays focused on his plan.

**16...hxg5 17.hxg5 g6**

Else W mates.

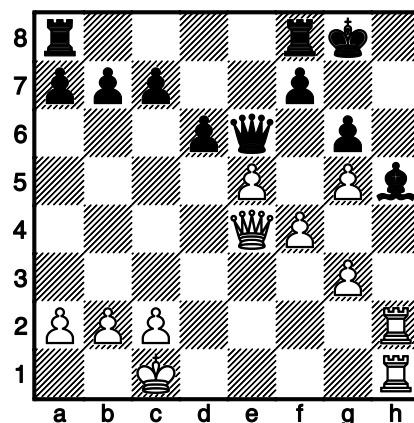
**18.Rd2**

18.e6 would regain the lead W has given up.

**18...Qe7**

18...Qd7 would have met the attack and multiplied B's advantage.

**19.g3 Bh5 20.Rdh2 Qe6**



**21.Qf3 dxe5**

Critical! Moving the fR instead avoids a lengthy forced mate and brings things perfectly even.

**22.Rxh5 f5 23.Rh8+ Kf7 24.R1h7+ Ke8 25.Rxf8+**

W misses a faster conclusion with 25.Qxb7

**25...Kxf8 26.Rh8+**

Again, 26.Qxb7 is faster.

**26...Kg7 27.Rxa8 Qxa2 28.Qxb7**

Finally W finds the crushing move.

**28...Qa5**

B threatens Qe1# which W almost missed!

**29.c3 Qa1+**

Interesting finish: B starts consecutive checks only to be mated himself on the next move!

**30.Kc2 Qa4+ 31.b3 Qa2+ 32.Kd3 Qb1+ 33.Kc4 Qf1+ 34.Kc5 Qf2+ 35.Kc6 Qf3+ 36.Kxc7 Qxc3+ 37.Kd6+ Qc7+ 38.Qxc7# 1-0**

*John's rating increased to 1707 and Abhinav's to 1503 after this event. ~Ed*



# 2019 CFCC Autumn Open

by Steven Vigil

The 2019 Autumn Open was held September 13-15. The event was held at the Wyndham Orlando Hotel on International Drive, a familiar venue to central Florida chess players, where many recent tournaments have been held. A sizable turnout of 147 players competed in the the 5-round event, which featured the option of a 3 day or a shortened 2 day schedule. The tournament had five sections: Premier, U2000, U1700, U1400 and U1200/Scholastic and over \$7,300 in prizes were paid out.

The top Premier section was highly competitive. Congratulations to Ryan Hamley (2126), who finished undefeated with a score of 4 points to win clear first place in the section and \$833. Going into the final round, Ryan was tied for first place with Bach Ngo (2165) and Han Schut (2264). Ryan would go on to win his final round game, while Bach and Han would draw their 5<sup>th</sup> round matchup and finish in a group of 4 players with 3.5 points who all tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and won \$229 each. This also included FM Steven Stoyko (2213) and Alex Sinnot (2051). Congratulations to the 4 players all of whom went undefeated, except for Bach, who would lose his first round game, and then rally to score 3 wins, the only other player to do so besides overall tournament winner Ryan Hamley.

Congratulations to Arnold Banner (1946) who topped a field of 29 players and captured first place in the U2000 section along with a prize check for \$750. Arnold finished with an impressive 4.5 points. His only draw was against to Gary Cote (1800) in the fourth round. Gary and Dylan Yu (1690), were the only other undefeated players in the section. Their 4 point finish put them in a 4 way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> place with Luis Ares (1998) and Ahan Mishra (1696), who also finished with 4 points. Each of them collected \$229 for their efforts.

The U1700 section also had a field of 29 players. Congratulations to Richard Brent (1462) who finished with 4.5 points and won clear first place and \$750. Richard was also the only undefeated player in the entire section. His only draw was against James Beltran (1656) in the 4<sup>th</sup> round. With a score of 4 points, Paul Leggett (1666) and John Surlow (1688) shared 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> place honors and each took home a check for \$375. Each of their only losses would come at the hands of section champ, Richard Brent. James Beltran, Colby Ferraro (1656) and Lane Chin (1642) all finished with 3.5 points putting them in a tie for 4<sup>th</sup> place. It was good enough to earn them each \$56 in a hard fought section.

With only 21 competitors, the U1400 was the smallest section in the tournament; an honor that usually goes to the Premier section. This gave players better odds at the over \$1400 in prizes to be awarded for their section. Congrats to Ryan Putney (1287) who emerged the champ with 4.5 points winning him \$667. Scoring 4 points with two draws, Aaryman Vijaywargi (1220) was the only other undefeated player in the section. His 4 points tied him with Soham Shirode (1287) for 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> place and \$292 each. Doug Bethoney (1257) and Renaud Lajoie (1307) tied for 4<sup>th</sup> place with 3.5 points, earning them \$83 each.

With 43 up and coming young players, the Scholastic/U1200 section was the largest section in the tournament. Sanil Ande (1020) won the clear first place in the section and a \$250 prize. Congratulations to Sanil, who was also the only player in the entire tournament to win all five games! Five players finished with 4 points: Aidan Stinson (1091), Ayush Roy (940), Coco Yao (920), Yiwen Lu (899) and Nelson Zhao (846). Each of them received \$50 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place/U1000 prize. Six players also shared the U800 prize and received \$14 each.

Mixed doubles prizes were also awarded to the top two male/female tandem. Congratulations to the team of Jerry & Coco Yao who took first place with a combined score of 6.5 points winning them \$83 each. Three teams finished in a tie for second place with 6 points earning each of the six players \$14.

Saturday night featured a 4 round, double-round blitz tournament. Six players competed in the side event. Congratulations to Vincent Stone (1892) who won first place and \$50 with a 5/6 score. FM Dalton Perrine (2262) score 4.5/6 to win second place and \$30. Nicolas de Colina (1994) won 3<sup>rd</sup> place and \$20.

FM Alex Zelner (2344) gave an entertaining lecture on Saturday morning about the Four Knights Game. Thank you also to FM Alex and Dr. Catherine Zelner who also provided a nice selection of chess books and merchandise for sale for the weekend. Besides an unscheduled fire drill late in the 4<sup>th</sup> round, the tournament went by smoothly thanks to Chief Tournament Director Steven Vigil as well as Harvey Lerman and Terrance Washington who also served as Tournament Directors for this event. CFCC's next weekend tournament, the 2020 Winter open will be also be at the Wyndham Orlando Resort on Jan 10-12. We hope to see you there!

## Chess Journalists of America Awards

The Florida Chess Association won two CJA Awards this year thanks to the efforts of those named below.

Outstanding contribution for 25 years of FloridaCHESS state publications	Special Achievement		Author Harvey Lerman	Nominator Kevin Pryor
Sunshine Open 2018 - Florida Chess Association Summer 2018	Steven Vigil	Best Tournament Report State/Local - print	Harvey Lerman	Miguel Ararat

### The CJA Logo



*"I combined the quill with the ink bottle shaped like a chess pawn to make the point of writing about Chess."*

The logo used by the Chess Journalists of America was designed by artist Roberta Lerman.

Roberta Lerman (Robyn) has been a professional artist, art teacher, and art historian for many years. Since 1998, she has been creating art with a chess theme. Although she specializes in conte crayon drawings, she also works in watercolors. She, being inspired by her husband's love of the game, loves to explore the infinite design possibilities using the theme of Chess.

One of her most successful aspects of Chess art is doing portraits of chess players throughout the United States. Her chess designs have appeared on State Chess news Magazines covers, (Illinois and Florida) and some are on display at Chess centers in the U.S.

"Effective logos designs are simple and to the point. The design should reflect what it represents and should be easily recognizable. Chess journalists: People who write about Chess. Although most everyone today uses computers, The quill still represents writing or writers. I combined the quill with the ink bottle shaped like a chess pawn to make the point of writing about Chess. I added an additional chess piece and the checkered piece of note paper to reinforce the concept and give the design a more finished look." -Roberta Lerman



# Some games from recent events

by Miguel Ararat



## Hernandez,Ronald (2100) Becerra,Julio (2599) [C55]

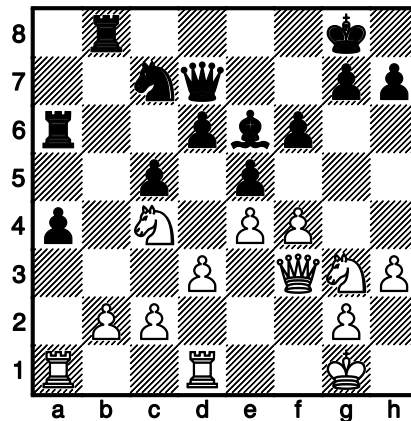
2019 Arnold Denker Florida State  
Champi Palm Beach Gardens, Florida,  
(1.2), 05.10.2019  
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3  
[4.Ng5 Fried Liver.] 4...Be7 5.Nc3  
[5.0-0 castle is also a natural plan  
preserving the light square bishop.  
5...0-0 6.Re1 d6 7.a4 Na5 8.Ba2]  
5...0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.h3 [7.a4 Again  
preserving the light square bishop was  
possible. 7...Na5 8.Ba2]  
7...Na5 8.Bb3 [8.a4 Nxc4 9.dxc4]  
8...Nxb3 9.axb3 c5

Black adopts a solid central  
formation. Black can play Old Indian  
Style with g6-Nh5-Ng7  
10.Bg5

At this point in the game we do not  
have that many high level games and it  
seems like exchanging dark square  
bishop is a good plan for Black (as in  
many similar structures) White can  
make more difficult for Black to  
exchange his bad dark square bishop  
and prepare f2-f4. Nd2 opens the path  
for the f pawn and transfers the knight  
to c4 to put pressure on the Black  
pawn on d6 (again a similar plan  
against a Black pawn on d6 such as in  
Modern Benoni) [10.Ne2 Be6 11.Ng5;  
10.Nd2 Ne8 11.Nc4 and Black can not  
trade dark square bishops (of course  
Becerra will play 11...Nc7 instead of a

bad exchange) 11...Bg5 12.Bxg5  
(12.f4 Bxf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rxf4 This  
is the sequence suggested by  
stockfish 10 and evaluates that White  
is slightly better) 12...Qxg5 13.f4]  
10...Be6 11.Nd2 Ne8 12.Bxe7 Qxe7  
13.f4 f6 14.Nc4 Nc7 15.Ne3 Qd7  
16.Qf3 b5 17.Ne2 a5 18.Ng3 a4  
19.bxa4 bxa4 20.Nc4 Rfb8 21.Rfd1  
Ra6



Ra6 is not the best move  
according to the engine. However it is  
a good practical move. Black delays  
taking on c4 that forces White reply  
and plays a useful move (Black will  
double rooks on the b-file and  
exchange on c4 at the right time) Ra6  
forces White to release the central  
tension and eliminates Black's weak  
pawn on d6. If White keeps the tension  
with Rab1 then Black captures on f4.  
Nice practical play by Black.

22.Nf1

Becerra strategy pays off and  
White blunders in an equal position.

22...exf4 23.b3

[23.Qxf4 Bxc4 24.dxc4 Rxb2]

23...axb3 24.Rxa6 bxc2 25.Rxd6

Black is winning and converts his  
advantage quickly. [25.Rc1 Nxa6  
26.Rxc2 Nb4 27.Rd2 Black is two  
pawns up and White has no  
counterplay.]

25...cxd1Q 26.Qxd1 Qe7 27.Qc1 Nb5  
28.Ra6 Nd4 29.Kh1 Qc7 30.Nd6 f3  
31.gxf3 Nxf3 32.Qe3 Ne5

An interesting game to study. Both  
players follow theory until Bg5 then we

have a "game". To me the position  
seems better for White because of his  
early Kingside initiative versus Black's  
play on the Queenside. The middle  
game has the feeling of a Sicilian,  
White plays Nc3-e2 as a response to  
b5 and Black gets a dynamically equal  
position. Finally, the White pawn on f4  
becomes a liability and Black senses  
the opportunity and plays Ra6 setting  
up a cunning trap. If White reacts  
properly with fxe5 Black still has a  
playable position, if White misses the  
threat...Black strikes. 0-1

## Bortnyk,Mykola (2552) Weaver,Roy (2052) [B14]

2019 Arnold Denker Florida State  
Champi Palm Beach Gardens, Florida,  
(1.3), 05.10.2019  
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5

The Caro Kan is solid choice.

3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4

White goes for an IQP structure  
and seeks a dynamic middlegame.

4...Nf6

[4...dxc4 5.Bxc4 Qc7 Black can  
play this way as popularized by the  
later Tony Miles. This position can be  
reached via Queens Gambit Accepted  
move order. 1.d4-d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 c5  
4.Bxc4 cxd4 5.exd4 Qc7]

5.Nc3 e6 [5...g6]

6.Nf3 Bb4 7.cxd5

More or less forced to avoid 7.Bd3  
dxc4. Here White can chose from  
8.Qc2 or 8.Bd2. The latter was  
evaluated as passive by Andrew  
Martin in his book "First Step: The  
Caro Kan" quoting the game Kantas -  
Nisipeanu, Antalaya 20017. However,  
Bortnyk shows in this game the  
dangers of 8.Bd2 combined with Qc2  
in this IQP position.

7...Nxd5 [7...exd5]

8.Bd2 Nc6 9.a3

[9.Bd3 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 The games  
Kamsky - Karpov in the FIDE Wch  
Elista 1996 are good material to  
explore the implications of 9.Bd3.]

9...Be7 10.Qc2 Bf6

Black decides to redeploy the dark square bishop to the h8-a1 diagonal and hit the IQP.

**11.Bb5**

[11.Bd3 here is possible to play and defend the pawn on d4 by tactical means as in a variation of the Advance French. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf6 Qb6 6. Bd3 and if cxd4 7.cxd4 Nxd4 8.Nxd4 Qxd4?? 9.Bb5+ wins the black Queen. 11...Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Bxd4 13.Qa4+ Bd7 14.Qxd4] **11...Bd7 12.Ne4 0-0 13.0-0 Rc8 14.Qd3**

[14.Nxf6+ Nxf6 15.Bg5]

**14...h6=**

Black equalizes, but White retains dynamic chances because his light square bishop and Queen are actively posted, plus the space advantage thanks to the IQP.

**15.Ba4 Qb6?!**

Black attacks the IQP and the b2 pawn. However. White redeploys his kingside bishop to the b1-h7 diagonal and is ready to start active operations against the Black king.

15...Nce7 threatens to trade light square bishops and transfer the knight to the active f5 square and at the same time that blocks the critical b1-h7 diagonal. In IQP positions, the kingside bishop is the strongest minor piece for the side with the isolani. A trade of kingside bishops will decrease the attacking chances behind the IQP. **16.Bc2 Nf5**

**16.Bc2**

The light square bishop arrives to its best diagonal in the IQP structure. To correct his mistake Black can offer a Queen trade on a6 and transition to a worse endgame (a defensive technique learnt from my former coach GM Lars Bo Hansen)

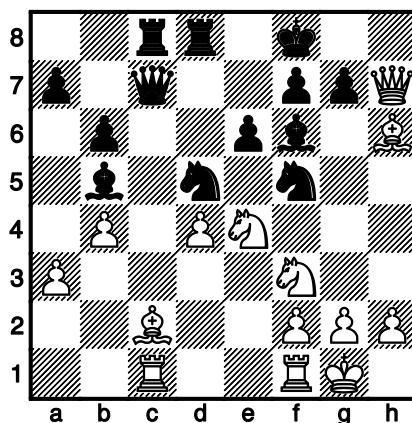
**16...Nce7**

The turning point in the game. Black decided to keep Queens on the board and transfer a defender to the kingside. Unfortunately for Black, the unprotected bishop on d7 offers White the right target to open the b1-h7 diagonal with tempo. [16...Qxb2?? 17.Rfb1; 16...Qa6 17.Qxa6 bxa6 18.Nxf6+ Nxf6 19.Bd3 Nb8]

**17.Nc5 Rfd8 18.Qh7+ Kf8 19.b4 Qc7 20.Rac1 b6 21.Ne4 Bb5 22.Bxh6**

White's advantage is decisive.

**22...Nf5**



Black transfer a knight to f5 to block the b1-h7 diagonal as suggested seven moves ago. We reach an interesting point in the game and the last chance for Black to save the game. White has three different moves with his light square bishop, one keeps the advantage, one surrenders most of the advantage and the last option is plain equal.

**23.Bd3**

23.Bb3 Qb8 24.Bxd5 Nxh6 25.Nxf6 Bxf1 26.Rxf1 White remains on top. Yes, the engine suggest 26.Re1, but what human player will consider this move after a three moves sequence with multiple possible captures and two pieces hanging? (maybe Mikhail Tal...)

**23...Bxd3?**

[23...Qd7 24.Bxb5 Qxb5 25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qxc8; 23...Qb8 24.Bxb5 gxf6 25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Ng3 Now additional simplification render the position = (26.Nxf6 ?? The White Queen is trapped and the tables are turn. 26...Nxf6 27.Qh8+ Ke7) 26...Nxd4 27.Nxd4 Bxd4 28.Qxh6+ Bg7]

**24.Rxc7 Rxc7 25.Nxf6 Nxf6 26.Bxg7+ Ke8 27.Bxf6 Rdc8 28.Ne5**

The Black king is trapped in the back rank and White has checkmate in two 28...Nh6 29.Qh8 Ng8 30.Qxg8#

A very exciting game around the IQP structure with several practical lessons to the reader. First, The IQP structure comes from different openings and evolves in dynamic middlegames. Second, at some point in the game a player will follow his

style. For example, Black's active Qb6 instead of the more solid Ne7 was bad for Black, but at the end, in the complications Weaver has chances to equalize with 23...Qb8. Finally, the transition to a worse endgame is a defensive idea to consider when facing a massive attack. **1-0**

**Ziegler,Nate (1765)**

**Mirafzali,Ali (2092) [D05]**

US Open (4), 08.08.2019

[Ararat,Miguel]

**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.Bd3 c5 5.b3 Nc6 6.a3 Be7 7.Bb2 cxd4 8.exd4 Nh5**

Black moves his knight with three ideas in mind. First idea behind Nh5 is to induce White to play g3, to capture the White bishop on d3 or to clear the path to play f5 (without a White pawn on the e file going for a Stonewall structures seems a weak choice)

**9.g3**

The game follows theory until here. [9.Qc1]

**9...Nf6 10.Nbd2 0-0 11.0-0**

White completes a Colle set up and if undisturbed will amass a superior force on the Kingside and generate play against the Black king.

**11...h6**

Black anticipates Nf3-g5, instead of solving his opening problem (how to develop his light square bishop). However from a practical point of view, 11...h6 seems a useful waiting move if you play the opponent (Black is higher rated than White). Black's strategy is dangerous especially against the Colle because after Black develops his pieces too slowly or to the wrong squares, White gets a strong initiative.

**12.Ne5**

[12.Qe2 Qc7 13.Ne5 Qb6 14.Ndf3 This plan without f2-f4 seems also playable for White (piece play instead of pawn play)]

**12...Qc7 13.f4 Qb6**

The Black Queen was fine on the b8-h2 diagonal. In my opinion, Black is having problems to come up with a constructive plan. Qb6 blocks the move b7-b6 and the light square

(Ararat games continued on page 14)

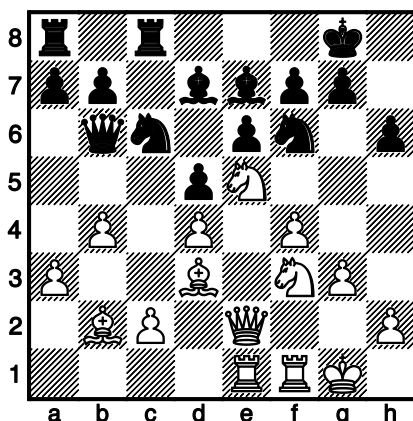
(Ararat games continued from page 13)

bishop on c8 is going to suffer. Qb6 is not a tactical blunder, but Black is losing the thread of the game.

**14.Ndf3 Rd8 15.Qe2**

White completes his ideal Colle set up. However, concrete action with g4-g5 will remove Black's best defender on f6. [15.g4 Bd7 16.g5 This seems the natural follow up to f2-f4 and White's attack crashes through. White delays g4 and gives chances to Black to organize a better defensive set up.]

**15...Bd7 16.b4 Rdc8 17.Rae1**



The critical moment for Black in the game because a middlegame plan is required. Black has two option, passive defense with Be8 as in the game or a more dynamic plan with Nxe5 with pressure on c2. It is important to notice that after 17...Nxe5, Black can not longer play Bd6 because it just transposes to the line with 17...Be8.

**17...Be8**

[17...Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Bd6 (18...Ba4 19.f5 Rc7 20.fxe6 Qxe6) 19.g4 Be8 20.g5]

**18.f5**

White attacks Black's pawn chain d5-e6-f7 following Nimzovich's rules (attack to the base of the pawn chain) with the tactical idea of the undefended bishop on e7. White can respond to e6xf5 with Nxc6 that removes the knight on c6 to take the bishop on e7 next.

**18...a5 19.b5 Nd8 20.g4 Rc7 21.Bc1 Bd6 22.Kh1**

Black is in a passive position with two minor pieces on the back rank while White mobilized all his forces.

**22...Rc3 23.a4 Qa7 24.Rg1 Rac8 25.Rg2 Nd7 26.g5**

White avoids f5xe6 that allows Nd8-e6 improving Black's piece coordination despite the bad pawn structure.

**26...hxg5 27.Bxg5 Bxe5**

Black may need this bishop to defend the g7 pawn. [27...Bf8]

**28.dxe5 g6**

It is difficult to explain why Black weakens his king safety voluntarily. **29.fxg6 fxg6 30.Bxd8 Rxd8 31.Bxg6 Kf8**

[31...Bxg6 32.Rxg6+ Kf7 33.Nh4]

**32.Bd3 Rdc8 33.Qd2**

White is winning.

**33...Bf7 34.Ng5 Rxd3**

Desperation!

**35.Qxd3 Ke7 36.Nxf7 Rf8**

Taking the knight on f7 will drop the undefended rook on c8. [36...Kxf7 37.Qh7+ Ke8 38.Rg8+ Nf8 39.Rxf8+ Kxf8 40.Qh8+ Ke7 41.Qxc8]

**37.Ng5 Qb6 38.Qh7+ Kd8 39.Qh6**

[39.Nf7+ Kc7 40.Nd6]

**39...Kc8 40.Qxe6 Qxe6 41.Nxe6 Re8**

**42.Nd4 Rxe5 43.Rxe5 Nxe5**

A very instructive game. White manage to win a game against an expert without taking any risks with just positional pressure. **1-0**

**Bortnyk,Olexandr (2591)**

**Valido Bouza,Cesar Jose**

**(2212) [B00]**

2019 Arnold Denker Florida State

Champ, 06.10.2019

[Ararat,Miguel]

**1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7**

Black wants to play the Owen's Defense (see note below) with pressure against the pawns on e4 and d4 with Bb4. Bortnyk crosses Valido's plans with a simple move, c3 to consolidate his central pawns.

**3.Bd3**

[3.Nc3 e6 4.Bd3 Bb4 5.Nge2]

**3...e6 4.c3 [4.Nc3]**

**4...c5 5.Nf3 cxd4**

5...Nf6 6.Qe2 Be7 7.0-0 d5 The trend in this position is that the higher rated player will beat the lower rated player regardless of the color. If both players are equally matched a draw is

more likely. For example, the recent game Liang Awonder - Tigran Petrossian, St Louis Fall A 2017, show two similar rated GMs fighting hard to win, still a draw was the final result.

**6.cxd4 Nf6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Qe2 d5**

Black can no longer play hypermodern style and has to put the d-pawn in the center.

**9.e5**

White gains space on the kingside, removes Black's best king defender on f6 and clear the b1-h7 diagonal for his bishop on d3.

**9...Ne4 10.0-0 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Be7 12.h4**

This move illustrates the comments I made earlier in my annotations... The high rated player wins because at some point in the game he poses an original problem to his opponent. Here the engines, Stockfish 9, Houdini 4 x64 suggest 12.Be3 or Rb1. Bortnyk plays an original pawn sacrifice and sharpens the level of the game.

**12...Qc8**

Black declines the h4 pawn and attacks the c3 pawn instead. However, White is ahead in development, has more space and play on both flanks (a4-a5 on the queenside and Bg5 on the kingside) [12...Bxh4 13.Nxh4 Qxh4 14.f4 0-0 15.f5 and White has a decisive attack.]

**13.Bg5 Nc6 14.a4**

14.Bxe7 The engine suggests this exchange with the idea of a piece sacrifice four moves later. However, as pointed out earlier, White has play on both flanks and he plays accordingly. Any class A player knows that in this French type structure the key is the domination of the dark squares. In consequence, White will keep his dark square bishop on strategic grounds.

Importantly, "missing" the piece sacrifice suggested by the computer does not change White's positional grip on the position. 14...Nxe7 15.Rac1 0-0 16.Ng5 h6 17.Nh7 Rd8 18.Nf6+ gxf6 19.exf6 Ng6 20.Qd2

**14...Qc7 15.c4**

15.Rfc1 Sets up a trap. 15...0-0? 16.Nh2 with a strong attack. 16...g6 For example, this natural move to stop Qe2-h5 runs into 17.Ng4



15...dxc4 16.Bxc4 0-0=

Black equalizes since the pawn exchange on c4 vacates the square for the Black knight and opens up the c-file that can be used to generate counterplay on the queenside if White attacks the Black king.

[16...Bxg5 17.hxg5 0-0 18.Bd3 Nb4 19.Rfc1 Qd7 20.Be4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4]  
17.Bd3 Nb4 18.Rfc1 Qd7 19.Be4 h6 20.Bxe7 Qxe7 21.Nd2 Rfd8 22.Bxb7 Qxb7

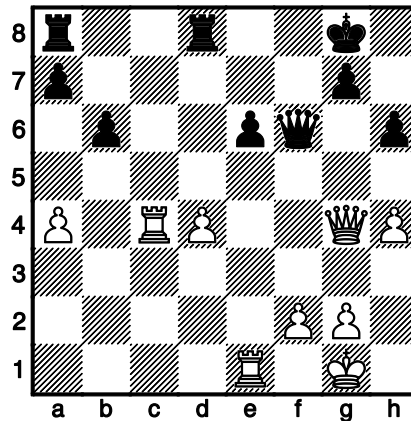
The position remains dynamically equal. White has a weak d-pawn, but Black needs to watch out for Ne4-d6 ideas.

23.Rc4 Nd5 24.Ne4 Qe7 25.Qg4

The critical moment in the game! Black has a solid position, but now decides to change the pawn structure.

The new pawn configuration favors White because the light squares around Black's king and the a2-g8 diagonal are permanently compromised.

25...f5 26.exf6 Nxf6 27.Nxf6+ Qxf6 28.Re1



28...Rd6

28...Qf5 29.d5 Qxg4 30.Rxg4 Rxd5 31.Rxe6 Appears to be a safer path for Black to keep the balance.

29.Rc7 Rf8

29...Qf5 White stops the queen trade with this checkmate threat and seizes control of the 7th rank. 30.Qxg7#

30.Qg3

White is better now because with queens on the board the active rook on c7 opens a lot of tactical possibilities against the Black king. Bortnyk makes

the most out of his advantage and the game ends in less than seven moves after Black missed the opportunity to trade off queens on f5.

30...Rxd4

[30...Qxd4 31.Rxg7+ Qxg7 32.Qxd6 Offers better chances to drag the game longer. It is difficult to defend an exposed king in a major pieces endgame and White has all the winning chances.]

31.Rxe6 The Black Queen can not stay in contact with the critical g7 square and the game is over.

31...Rd1+ [31...Qxe6]

32.Kh2 Qa1 33.Qb3 Rh1+ 34.Kg3 Kh8 35.Qe3 Kh7

[35...Kg8 36.Rxh6 gxh6 37.Qe6+ Kh8 38.Qxh6+ Kg8 39.Qh7#]

36.Rxh6+

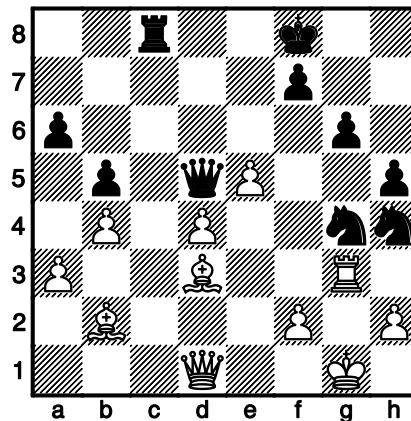
Black's opening choice paid off and he was able to reach an equal position against the GM despite compromising his light squares around his king. Unfortunately, when the draw was at hand with 28...Qf5 Black missed the opportunity. White did not give Black a second chance and pressed on until Black made a catastrophic error and the game was over. 1-0

## Two games from the 2019 Arnold Denker Florida State Championship.

**Valido Bouza, Cesar (2212) Silva, Ben (1977) [A01]**

2019 Arnold Denker Florida State Champi followchess.com (1.3), 04.10.2019

1.b3 Nf6 2.Bb2 d5 3.e3 Bg4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.d4 e6 6.Nbd2 Bb4 7.c3 Bd6 8.Be2 0-0 9.c4 Re8 10.0-0 e5 11.c5 e4 12.cxd6 exf3 13.gxf3 Bh3 14.dxc7 Qd6 15.Re1 h5 16.Kh1 Re6 17.Rg1 Bf5 18.Rc1 Qxc7 19.b4 a6 20.Nb3 Qd6 21.Nc5 Re7 22.a3 Rd8 23.Rg5 Bg6 24.Qd2 Rc7 25.Nd3 Rdc8 26.Nf4 Ne7 27.Rc5 b6 28.Rxc7 Qxc7 29.Nxg6 Nxg6 30.Bd3 Nh4 31.Qe2 b5 32.Rg3 Qd7 33.Qf1 Nf5 34.Rg1 Nh4 35.Qd1 Qh3 36.Rg3 Qd7 37.Qg1 g6 38.Qb1 Kf8 39.e4 dxe4 40.fxe4 Ng4 41.Kg1 Qc7 42.e5 Qc6 43.Qd1 Qd5



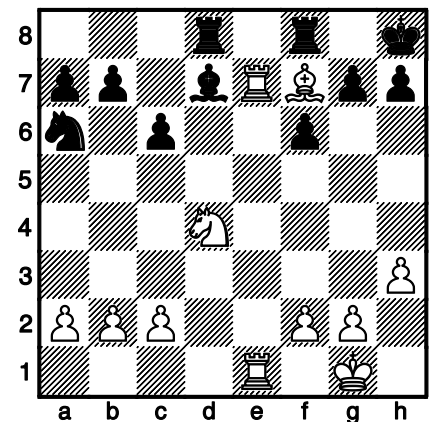
44.Qe2 Qa2 45.h3 Nh6 46.e6 N6f5 47.e7+ Nxe7 48.Qe5?? Qxb2 49.Re3 Rc1+ 50.Bf1 Nh5 0-1

**Bortnyk, Olexandr (2591)**

**Acor, Corey (2231) [C24]**

2019 Arnold Denker Florida State Champi followchess.com (3.1), 05.10.2019

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 c6 4.Nf3 d5 5.Bb3 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 0-0 8.exd5 Nxd5 9.0-0 f6 10.h3 Kh8 11.11...Nf4± [Better was 11...Re8 ; or 11...Na6 ] 12.d4 Qe8 13.Ne2 Nxe2+ 14.Qxe2 exd4 15.Qxe8 Rxe8 16.Rfe1 Bd7 17.Nxd4 Na6 18.Bf7 Rf8 19.Re7 Rad8 20.Rae1



20...Bc8 21.Be6 c5 22.Nf5 1-0

## Buchholz Chess Articles

by Amy Xing

Many people think of chess as a boring mental game, but it is much more than that. Chess develops numerous skills applicable beyond the world of chess. Throughout my personal experiences with chess, I have gained a greater perspective on the world. I've realized that chess isn't just about winning (don't get me wrong I like winning); it's also about the lessons attained. During this summer, I had the opportunity to play at the Ruth Haring National Girls Chess Tournament in Orlando. My experience at that tournament allowed me to gain many key lessons. One key idea that I learned was gained during one of my games. I can still vividly remember this particular game. It was my move. Time was running out. At that moment, I could feel my nerves getting to me. I could hear the clock ticking down the seconds. My heart was pounding faster and faster with the pressure coming over me. Sitting in that moment in time, all I could think about was making a move and making it fast. After making the move, however, I immediately realized that it was a mistake. Although I was winning before, the game had drastically changed. It took just a moment for everything to change. It is just like the story of the tortoise and the hare. The hare never thought that the tortoise would win the race, but the tortoise ended up defeating the odds. You have to remain alert and vigilant. It is easy to take things for granted. It is just like the cliché sentence: you don't realize what you have until you lose it. Not only has this tournament changed me through the lessons I've learned, it has given me the chance to meet people of all cultures and backgrounds.

Although I have been to multiple tournaments, the National Girls Tournament was a different experience. Having girls traveling from all over the county, I was able to play against girls that were from many states, ranging from Maine to Louisiana. During my first game, I had just been paired up with the highest rated girl in the tournament. I was very happy for the chance to play against the best player in the tournament. When the announcer finished talking, I remember Jennifer Yu coming up to our board and making the first move. Looking back at that point in time, I have come to realize that although the amount of knowledge one has for chess varies drastically, it's a community where people connect, help, and mentor each other to become their better selves. Over my years of playing chess, I started out from just seeing chess as moving pieces on a board, but now chess is a tool that has expanded my perspective on life. This tournament has been a great experience of a lifetime.

**Chess Camp:** *This free camp was successfully organized by Buchholz chess club members and over 30 kids attended the camp with a lot of them starting to play chess regularly. This is the first free chess camp in the Gainesville area and has generated a very positive influence to the community. The chess club members were highly encouraged and plan to expand the camp next summer.*

Chess is an analogy for life. Every step in our lives, we are forced to make decisions. All these decisions impact our lives, one way or another. The Buchholz Chess Team wanted to have an influence on the kids in our community. We wanted to spread our knowledge and joy of chess to others. During this past summer we decided to run a free chess camp from July 31st to August 2nd. The camp had over 40 kids sign up and it was a great success. During the chess camp, the kids were divided by skill level, with the beginners in one group and the experienced players in another group. The kids learned a variety of skill sets including, but not limited to tactics and openings. Although teaching kids the components of chess was exciting, the greatest rewards were the smiles on their faces when they felt that "aha" moment whether it was doing a tactic or playing a chess game.

There was one student that I remember, in particular, who was very outgoing and loved to talk to others. He would come in everyday with a big smile on his face and it created an atmosphere that was more positive and interactive. He would raise his hand to multiple questions that I would ask the class and would also be happy to help others. These incredible kids that I worked with throughout this summer really made my teaching all the more worth it. After the camp, I even received multiple emails from parents that expressed their gratitude and happiness for what we had done for their kids. Because of the great successes from this year, we are planning on having another chess camp next year.



Amy giving a teaching lecture at camp.

Amy playing Martha Samadashvili at the Ruth Haring National Girls Chess Tournament in Orlando.



# The Arnold Denker Florida State Chess Championship

by Matthew Kolcz

The Arnold Denker Florida State Chess Championship concluded on October 6, 2019. Tournament organizer Bryan Tillis never gave up, as his determination to make a successful tournament was paramount regardless of the setbacks by mother nature. Typically, the tournament is hosted on Labor Day weekend, but the postponement due to Hurricane Dorian was a tactical decision as the safety of the attendees was far more important. However, the turnout was more than satisfactory, with the Open section gathering 10+ masters, GMs, IMs, FM, and NMs, and the overall number of participants at 150+.

National tournament director Jon Haskel was the Chief TD for the tournament, assisted by FCA Secretary, Matthew Kolcz. Haskel has never disappointed when it came to his knowledge on how to run a smooth tournament. There was also a surprise visit by none other than FCA President Kevin Pryor, who gave some nice words at the event.

In the standard section, our State Champion by tiebreak is **IM Mykola Bortnyk**, followed closely behind by his brother GM Oleksandr Bortnyk, both with 4.5/5.

In the Rapid we have **Corey Acor** with 4/4. In the Blitz, **Adithya Bala** with 7.5/8.

Our Scholastic champions are as follows:

K-1, Maxwell Yang (tiebreak winner) and Tovy Guan.

K-3, Aaron Miron (tiebreak winner) and Brejesh Chakrabarti.

K-5, Michael Guan.

K-12, Ryan Hamley.

And finally, our Senior winner is Daniel Valdes.

For social media, we also had a special side event going on by **NM John Ludwig**, who was kind enough to do commentary on a few rounds through the streaming platform **Twitch.tv**, username jludwig.

You can also find some moments on **YouTube** through the channel Palm Beach Chess, including the TD Top game pick <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUxqV4L20f0>.

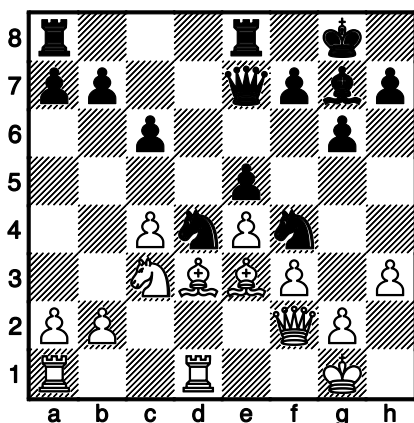
We would like to thank everyone for their participation and support to the Florida Chess Association, and we look forward and invite you all to play next year where the tournament will be held in the Central Region. Be sure to keep up to check our website [floridachess.org](http://floridachess.org).

**Acor, Corey (2334)**

**Becerra, Julio (2588) [E61]**

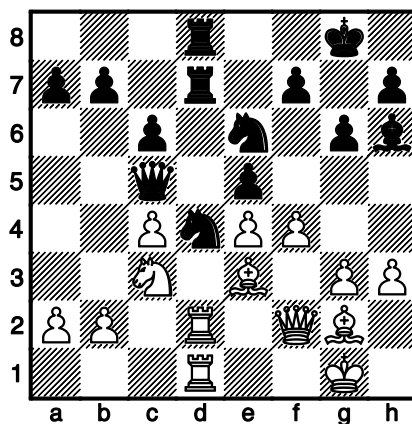
Southern Open (3.2), 20.07.2019

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6  
5.e3 0-0 6.Bd3 Re8 7.0-0 e5 8.dxe5  
dxe5 9.e4 Bg4 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3  
Nc6 12.Rd1 Nd4 13.Qg3 c6 14.Be3  
Qe7 15.f3 Nh5 16.Qf2 Nf4

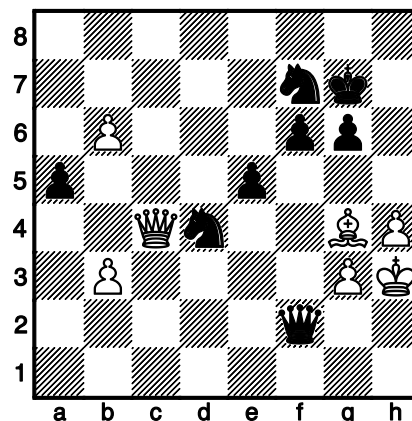


17.Bf1 Rad8 18.Rd2 Rd7 19.Rad1

Red8 20.g3 Nfe6 21.f4 Bh6 22.Bg2  
Qc5



23.Kh1+ Qxc4 24.f5 Bxe3 25.Qxe3  
Nf8 26.h4 f6 27.Bh3 Nc2 28.Qf2 Rxd2  
29.Rxd2 Rxd2 30.Qxd2 Nd4 31.Kg2  
b5 32.b3 Qc5 33.Bg4 Kg7 34.Kh3  
Qd6 35.fxg6 hxg6 36.Nd1 Nfe6  
37.Nf2 Nd8 38.Bc8 Nf7 39.Qc3 Qa3  
40.Qd2 a5 41.Bd7 Qd6 42.Bg4 Qc7  
43.Nd3 c5 44.Qc3 c4 45.a4 Qc6  
46.axb5 Qxe4 47.Nf2 Qb1 48.Qxc4  
Qg1 49.b6 Qxf2



50.b7 Nf3 51.Bxf3 Qxf3  
If 52.b8=Q Qh1 53.Kg4 f5##  
0-1



# ***Coach Yourself* by Neil McDonald — Book Review**

by Life Master Theo Slade

*Coach Yourself* by Neil McDonald is a 304-page attempt to help the reader in all aspects of the game by acting as a coach. This book promises to help players help themselves, and it mainly does this by example. It is a very enjoyable read and incredibly helpful. For full disclosure, I was coached by Neil on multiple trips abroad playing for England and I have previously read another of his books called *Break the Rules!*

There are 13 chapters in total: Training Your Tactical Imagination, Immunizing Yourself Against Blunders, Teaching Yourself to Calculate, Judging the Right Moment to Use a Combination, Supercharging Your Feel for the Initiative, Know Yourself: Diagnosing Positional Mistakes, Learn How to Shut a Piece out of the Game, Getting Full Value from Your King, Wearing Down the Opponent's Pawn Structure, Practice Planning on a Grand Scale, Mastering Pawn Breakthroughs in Endgames, Understanding the Essentials of the Endgame, and Making Good Opening Choices.

One thing that I was struggling to put my finger on throughout the book was the level that this book is aimed at. For reference, my peak USCF rating was 2262, and I found most of the material very understandable and digestible. However, there were parts that for me were very tough going, which is strange because I would imagine Neil wanted to target players who are lower rated than me.

For example, in the "Training Your Tactical Imagination" chapter, Neil wants the reader to find the combination in Carlsen -Topalov, Shamkir 2018. At the time of this game Magnus Carlsen was of course World Champion, world no. 1, and rated 2843. Neil gives the correct answer an exclamation mark followed by over a page of variations justifying the solution. I had seen the game before, but otherwise, how strong do you have to be to find this?! It seems to me that the tactically themed material is more difficult than the rest.

In the "Know Yourself: Diagnosing Positional Mistakes" chapter, I particularly liked how Neil talked about his tournament at the British Championship in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1985. He said it was by far the strongest tournament he had played in up to that point and at the time he wrote notes of his stream of consciousness during all his games. It was very instructive how he showed that even though it's tempting to diagnose certain mistakes too quickly, you need to eliminate all prejudice and unbiasedly look at your errors to find out how to improve.

He suggests that, "I believed in my ability to defend bad endgames, whereas I was frightened of being outplayed by my higher rated opponents in a complex struggle." However, he then shows that that line of reasoning is nonsense and his bad moves were solely due to poor understanding. This is crucial to understand:

***It is a big mistake to blame your losses on something abstract like not playing with enough creativity or not trying hard enough or feeling under the weather or distracted.***

*These excuses are a way of hiding from the bitter acceptance of the technical inferiority of your play. I think this is gold dust and the highlight of this book.*

Reading this book was a very pleasant experience: great examples, and I found the positional and strategic topics most beneficial. **Five stars!**

If you want to find more information about Life Master Theo Slade, visit his website, [theoslade.com](http://theoslade.com).

# National Chess Day Tournament

by Krista Alton (West Regional Report)

*Alton Academy 4 Chess* started their 6<sup>th</sup> year running tournament this past October. For the first tournament of the school season we were hoping for 70-90 students. Our tournament had 163 players, with 68 students becoming new members to US Chess. We also had 35 girls participating in all 5 divisions we offered. One highlight was having Coach Tim Tusing from Oak Hall School, Gainesville bring his team down for the competition. Their team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the U900 division. Another highlight was having two high school teams participating for the first time in this tournament. One of the big surprises of the day was seeing little Jackie Bryant a Kindergartener beating 43 other players in his division to have a perfect 4-0 score and win 1<sup>st</sup> place in the U200 division.

We want to thank all the students, parents, coaches, and workers who worked hard to make this tournament a success!!! Please checkout our website at: [www.Alton4Chess.com](http://www.Alton4Chess.com) for details on "what we do."



**Evan Hill** playing one of his games



Coach Arthur encouraging one of his students before a game.



One of 35 girls playing in the tournament, **Kierra Pitts**



Coach Krista encouraging a first time tournament player, **Luka Keenan**



Kindergartener **Jackie Bryant** (w) winning his last game to become the 1st place winner (out of 44 players) in the U200 division.





## Tournament Director's Corner

by Harvey Lerman

### CHESSETIQUETTE

During a recent tournament I couldn't help but notice that chess youth seem obsessed with adjusting the pieces regardless of whose turn it is to move.

There are few things more distracting when you're calculating a long combination in a tournament game than a hand shooting out and grabbing one of your pieces and your opponent says "Adjust." For some reason, younger players today seem to do this habitually! In a recent tournament, I asked my young opponent to only adjust the pieces when it was his turn to move and he replied, "There's no such rule as that." You would do a great service to all tournament players if you would remind your readers of US Chess Rule 10A. It would also help if tournament directors reinforced this courteous practice by reminding all players of the rule at the start of the tournament.

Stephen Shea

Hi Readers,

How do you like my "new look"? The question above, "Chess Etiquette", was published in the June 2019 issue of CHESSLIFE and answered by the Editor with the following:

*Editor's note: US Chess Rule 10A is printed below. Find the rules regarding piece adjustment, as well as portions of the current seventh edition of US Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess, edited by Tim Just, online in a free, downloadable format. Go to [uschess.org](http://uschess.org), scroll to section titled "Play" at the bottom of the home page, and click on "7th Edition Rule Book Chapters Now Available For Download."*

10A. Adjustment of pieces. A player who is on the move and first expresses the intention to adjust (e.g., by saying "J'adoube" or "I adjust") may adjust one or more pieces on their squares. See also 10E, Accidental touch of piece and 10F, Appearance of adjustment.

I answered this with the following letter :

See next column

I noticed a letter from Stephen Shea in your June 2019 issue, about "Adjusting pieces." As a TD, that happens to be one of my major complaints. I have always claimed that **the player who's clock is running is the only one that can touch a piece. I even go further than that and say that that player "owns all the space above the chessboard"**. So an opponent who makes a move and hits the clock can not stick his/her hand out over the board to indicate "draw?".

I got into trouble with that in a major National Scholastic event, where that happened. I was standing there and her opponent was startled and just shook her hand though he had a "mate in one." I accused her of "bad sportsmanship" and refused to let the draw stand. I allowed her opponent to continue and he mated the girl on his following move.

The case was later reported by her parents to the Chief TD, and I was admonished for what I had done, though I claimed my ruling to be the correct one. They later had to change the results giving the girl a draw and the boy a win.

NTD Harvey Lerman

*NOTE: My letter was never published in CHESSLIFE.*



## Daniel Mandracken Obituary

### 1946-2019

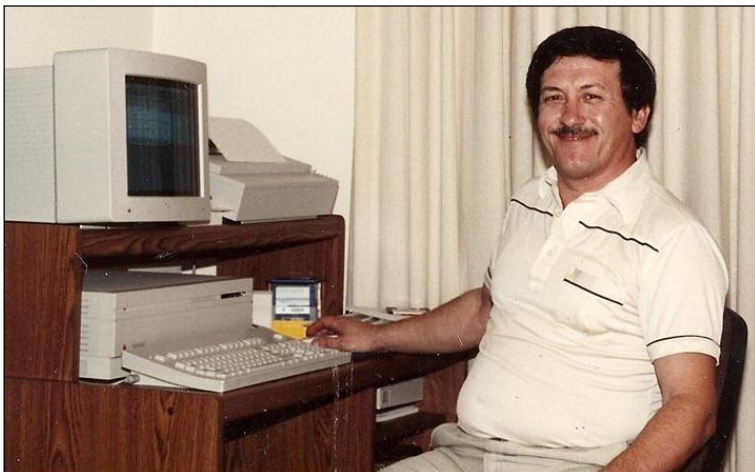
A friend of mine Daniel Mandracken died of a heart attack on Saturday October 19th. He was 73.

I met Dan at the Orlando Chess Club back in the early 80's. He was a friendly guy who liked to have a good laugh. Dan could also be a very serious guy and he had high standards. He encouraged me to play more chess and to play better.

I remember him having lots of chess players at his house and his wife served tasty snacks while we played lots of speed chess. I miss those days and I will miss Dan. He leaves behind his wife Margret Mandracken.

Rest in Peace my good friend.

This picture of him was taken at his house in 1989.



Mark Ryan

### **Northeast News**

by Steve Lampkin

**Jacksonville:** Jacksonville hosted the 2017 & 2018 Florida State Championships and currently is the most active chess community in Northeast Florida. In July the North Florida Open was a big success drawing over 100 players. Nathaniel Figueroa of Jacksonville competed at the US Blind Championships in Pennsylvania. National Chess Day in October saw 75 players competing at the Jacksonville Museum of Science and History.

#### Upcoming events in Jacksonville:

November 30<sup>th</sup> Jacksonville City Championship/ December 7<sup>th</sup> Merry Blitzmas/ January 11<sup>th</sup> San Marco Scholastic/ January 18-20 First Coast Chess Fest. For more information on Jacksonville chess contact Kevin Pryor 904-607-9111 or check out their web site [jaxcc.org](http://jaxcc.org)

**Flagler County:** The St. Augustine Chess Club still meets on Wednesday nights from 5:30-9:30 PM at the Record Newspaper 1News Place St. Augustine, FL 32080 (corner of SR-207 and SR-312). Go to the following web site for a schedule of days they meet:

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g34599-i346-k111-St\\_Augustine\\_Chess\\_Club-St\\_Augustine\\_Florida.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g34599-i346-k111-St_Augustine_Chess_Club-St_Augustine_Florida.html)

**Volusia County:** The Daytona Beach Chess Club had been inactive for a while, looking for a place to play. Tony Cipollina has taken over running the club again and has secured a playing site in South Daytona at Gamemasters Hobbies & Game store, 2550 S Nova Road Suite 1. They meet on Tuesday nights from 6-10. You can look them up at Remnants of Chess on Facebook.

The Barnes & Noble in Daytona Beach is a popular meeting place for Chess Players on Saturday nights.

New Smyrna Beach is also in the process of starting a club and anyone interested in joining should contact Steve Baker at 717-434-9488 for days and times the club meets.

**Putnam County:** Harry Bollinger is still active in several Putnam County Schools and runs a chess club in Crescent City: he can be reached at [harryb4chess@outlook.com](mailto:harryb4chess@outlook.com)

Anyone with information about clubs or events in the Northeast Region please email Steve Lampkin at [chessinschools.org](mailto:chessinschools.org)



In this issue of **Florida Chess** I would like to thank the publishers and authors for the support of this column and my readers for the warm comments about the column. It is a pleasure to read quality chess materials and enjoy the positive evolution of several books such as **Forcing Moves** (2009 and 2019) or the NimzoIndian Repertoire for Black by **Christof Sielecki** (complete review coming next issue). Let's get started with the chess books and DVD reviews to close 2019.

**The Chess Tactics Workbook for Kids**, Nunn uses his unique skill set as a player, author and chess composer to explain the fundamentals of tactics. The author covers one theme per chapter, uses six diagrams per page and provides the reader with clear solutions and explanations to summarize the material. Nunn wrote a remarkable prime on chess tactics that can be used for players individually or with the assistance of parents (yes, this day kids learn to play chess very well before they can even read!)

**The 100 endgames you must know Workbook** by Jesus de la Villa challenges the reader to solve relevant endgame positions. The author covers the material in a logical progression from simple to complex. The exercises are applicable to real life games and even player above master strength make mistakes in a deceptive "simple position". For example, the exercise 46 features a Queen versus two pawn endgame (one of the second rank and one on the sixth rank), after the Queen take the pawn on the second rank, the game is a draw! The Queen in this example was handled by a player rated over 2300, so anyone below this level can learn from **100 endgames you must know Workbook**.

The recommended game collection for this issue of **FloridaChess** is **Lasker Move by Move** by Zenon Franco. To chess professionals Lasker's play was ahead of his time. For instance, the famous chess player and trainer Tukmakov pointed out in his book **Risk and Bluff in Chess** that Lasker moves were considered bluffs or tricks by his peers, yet in reality Lasker's moves were what the chess position required. To amateur chess players Lasker's chess heritage remains a mystery. In **Lasker Move by Move** Franco describes in detail Lasker's way to play chess based on tactical ability and a practical decision process to choose a move. Lasker understood that finding the best move in a position may not be in all cases the best practical decision. Franco's book is a good read to players of any level looking to improve their decision making process in chess.

The **Chess Mastery Collection** of Sam Shankland and produced by iChess.net is a complete chess training package geared toward the ambitious chess player. The **Chess Mastery Collection** has several products bundle, including videos on the Gruenfeld Defense, The Schliemann Gambit, recommendations against the Sicilian as well as the author two set DVD, **The Shankland Method**. Shankland's Method is the first complete chess guide from a 2700 rated player aimed to club players (first chapters) and improving players (material gets complex chapter after chapter) The author helps the audience to acquire an active mind frame of "What if I do it anyway?" as a way to play active chess. **Shankland** instills energy and direct play to his audience and takes their thinking process to new levels.

Players that want to develop their new "What if I do it anyway" thinking method may want to look at the new edition of **Forcing Moves: The Key to Better Calculation** by FM Charles Hertan. Hertan's work advocates a way to look at chess in a forcing fashion with "computer eyes". The author shows that acquiring a forcing/computer eye mentality helps to overcome our human bias when we play chess. Human bias hampers progress in chess and restricts creativity. For example, a human player may not consider a quiet move because it is not "forcing", but a quiet move can produce unstoppable threats!

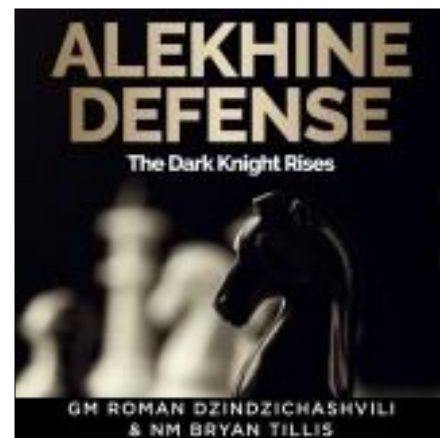
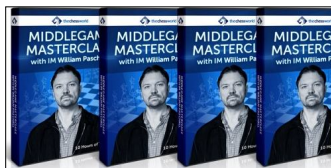
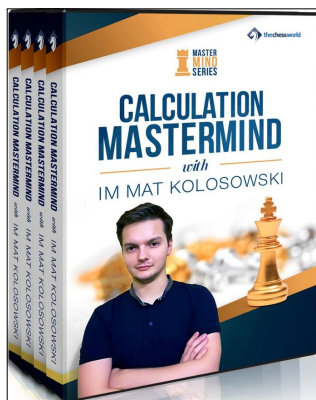
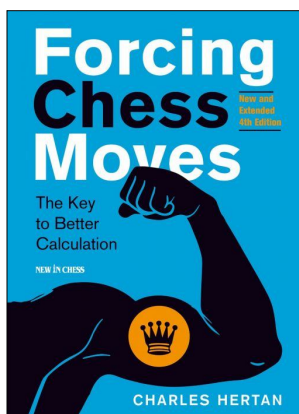
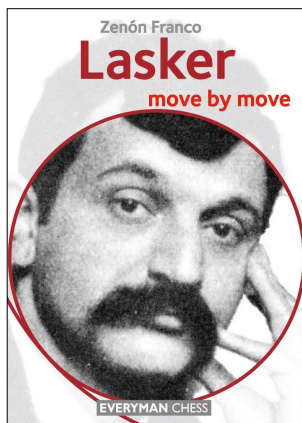
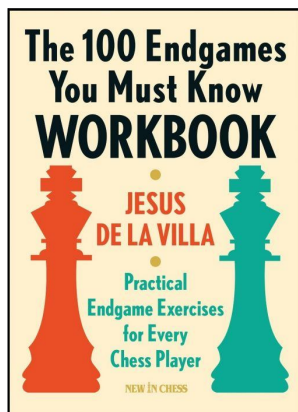
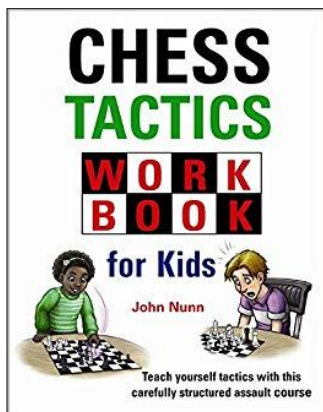
I reviewed the first edition of **Forcing Moves** ten years ago and I can testify that this new edition of the book is a better version. The author takes the topic of chess calculation to a new level by providing a wide array of examples. I am also happy to see that the author implemented one of my recommendations from my **2009 Amazon review** in the 2019 edition. In 2009, I suggested the inclusion in Forcing moves of the Hertan "Hierarchy", a tool to analyze chess positions originally published in a chapter of the **Chess Instructor** (New in Chess) wrote by Hertan. The new edition of **Forcing Moves** is a must read this 2019.

Players that rely heavily on strategy to make their decision in chess may benefit from two DVDs produced by **Thechessworld**, named **Calculation Mastermind** by IM Mat Kolosowski and **The Middle Game** by IM Bill Pascall. In **Calculation Mastermind** the public learn how to calculate long variations by finding candidate moves, tuning their thinking process and using solid strategic principles as guiding beacons to better calculation. Kolosowski teaches calculation with strong support on strategic concepts such as pawn structure and piece exchanges. I really like the chapter dedicated to saving worse positions using calculation to find hidden resources.

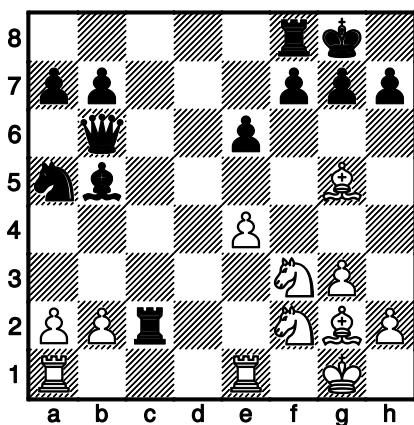
**The Middle Game** by IM Bill Pascall provides the audience with clear explanations to understand chess strategy. A player can use strategy to direct his calculation process as advocated by Kolosowski in the Calculation Mastermind DVD. Pascall covers different pawn structures like the isolated Queen Pawn (IQP), hanging pawns as well as other strategic concepts such as weak squares, bad

pieces, and bishop pair among others. The author uses most classical examples and explain them at a slow pace (you do not feel the author is rushing through the material) I think that **Calculation Mastermind** by IM Mat Kolosowski and **The Middle Game** by IM Bill Pascall make a great training combo.

Finally, my opening recommendation resource for this issue of FloridaChess is **The Alekhine - The Dark Knight Rises**, by NM Bryan Tillis & GM Roman Dzindzichashvili. **The Alekhine - The Dark Knight Rises** is the best resource available on the Alekhine Defense at the moment. The main values of Tillis and Dinzi work (beside the content) are the use of the **Chessable** platform to deliver the content as trainable material and the high quality video paired to the moving pieces on the board. **Alekhine - The Dark Knight Rises** provides everything you need to start playing a forcing opening as Black and take your opponent to your territory.



from pg 24 15...Bb5+ 16.Re1? [16.Nc3] 16...Bxf2+ 17.Qxf2 Nxf2 18.Nxf2 Rc2



Against all my other opponents at the tournament, I played poorly, got really bad positions, and then outplayed them to swindle 4 wins. Not Mr. Brent, though. He was relentless, and I only imagined myself putting up resistance.

19.Be3 Qa6 20.a4 Be8!? 21.b4 Nc4 22.Bc5 Bxa4 23.Bxf8 Kxf8 24.Bf1 Qb6 25.Re2 Rxe2 26.Bxe2 Qxb4 27.Rc1 Qb2 28.Re1 Qc3 29.Nd3 b5 30.Rc1 Qa3 31.Nd4 Qd6 32.Nf3 Qa3 33.Nd4 Qd6 34.Nf3 a5 35.e5 Qb6+ 36.Kh1 Qe3 37.Re1 Bc2 38.Nf4 Be4 39.Rf1 Nd2

Richard went on to score 4.5/5, win the U1700 Section, and raise his rating from 1475 to 1644 – an increase of 169 points in one tournament! A superb performance, with more than a hint of future success going forward! 0-1



## Games annotated by Paul Leggett

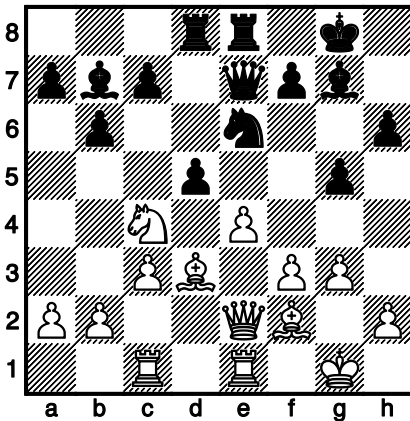
**Sokhanvari, Sam (2029) [A48]**

**Eickelman, Connor (1925)**

Villages July Swiss Villages (3), 27.07.2019  
Played at Game/60 d5.

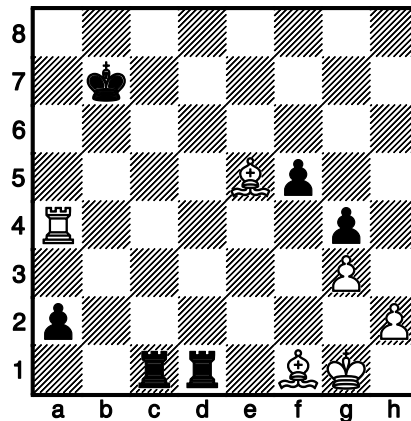
[Leggett, Paul]

**1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.c3 d6 4.Bg5 b6 5.Nbd2 Bb7 6.e4 Nd7 7.Bd3** White has played a position akin to the Torre Attack up a tempo, in that e4 has been achieved in one move. At the same time, the Bg5 "hangs in mid air". White has a plus, and scores well from this position from a small database sample. **7...Ngf6 8.Qe2** A very flexible move, but not forcing, allowing the position to drift into some sort of dynamic equilibrium. [8.h3 0-0 9.0-0 h6 10.Be3 The point of White's 8th move. 10...e5 11.Re1 and White has achieved a Ruy Lopez-like small edge from an unusual move order.] **8...e5! 9.0-0 0-0= 10.Rac1N 10...h6** Note that Be3 is not really an option due to 11. ... Ng4 **11.Bh4 Qe8 12.dxe5?! This** reduction in tension helps Black more than White, as more space and squares become available for Black's otherwise cramped pieces. **12...Nxe5 [12...dxe5 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.b4 Covering c5 14...a5 15.Rfd1 Qe7=] 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.Bg3 Qe7 15.Bh4 Rfe8 16.Rfe1 g5 17.Bg3 Nd7 18.f3 Nc5 19.Bf2 Ne6 20.g3 Rad8 21.Nc4 d5**



Black's pieces are more organized than White's, so this positionally thematic break is timed well. **22.exd5 Bxd5 [#] 23.Ne3?** White's Queen (by nature a poor defender) finds herself overloaded protecting both d3 and f3. [23.Rcd1=] **23...Bxf3! 24.Qc2?!** [24.Qxf3 Rxd3=] **24...Qd7 [24...Qf6 is Komodo 13's preference.] 25.Bf1?!** I have been in Sam's shoes, where the poor moved tend to come in clumps. It's why we humans still play each other even after the computers have beaten us all. [25.Be2=] **25...Nc5+ 26.Qf5 Qxf5 [26...Qc6!] 27.Nxf5**

**Ne4 28.Nxg7 Kxg7 29.Bd4+ Kg6** This game was played at a fast time control, so Connor aimed for a position where good endgame technique would matter more than the ability to play fast. **30.Bb5 Re7 31.Re3 g4 32.b4 c5!** A powerful blow that undermines White's pieces. **33.bxc5 bxc5 34.Bxc5 Rc7!?** [34...Rb7 and Black's Rooks will penetrate to the 7th rank and wrap things up quickly.] **35.Bb4 Rd2** At least one Rook makes it there quickly! **36.Bf1 [36.Bd3] 36...Rxa2 [36...a5! 37.Bxa5 Ra7 38.Bb4 Raxa2] 37.Rce1 f5 38.Rd3 a5 39.Bf8 a4 40.Rb1 Rc2 41.Rb6+ Kf7 42.Bb4 Nxc3 43.Rxh6 Nd5 44.Bd2 Kg7 45.Rd6 Be4 46.R3xd5 Bxd5 47.Rxd5 a3 48.Bf4 R7c5 49.Rd7+ Kf6 50.Ra7 a2 51.Bh6 Rd5 52.Ra6+ Ke7 53.Ra7+ Kd6 54.Ra6+ Kc7 55.Bf4+ Kb7 56.Ra4 Rd1 57.Be5 Rc5 58.Bf6 Rc6 59.Be5 Rcc1**



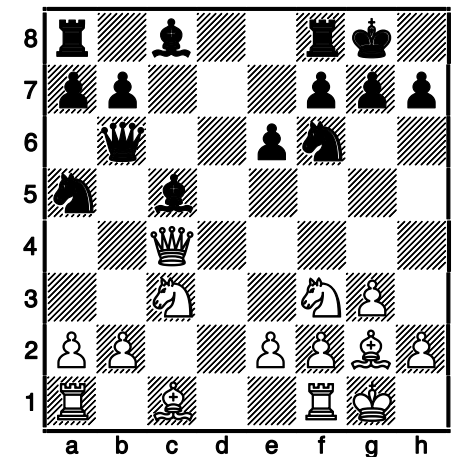
I was watching the game as it became short of time, and in this position several of us were wondering if White could attempt a fortress by planting his Rook on f4, and giving up his Bishop for the Black a-pawn. Subsequent analysis reveals that it is not, but it might have been a good practical attempt in a time scramble. **60.Rxa2** Here is where I plugged in the alternate Rf4 idea, to see if it really was a Fortress or not. It is not, but the technique for Black is worth reviewing. In any event, the game move loses in a more straightforward manner. [60.Rf4 Rd5 Tactically protecting the f5 pawn. 61.Bh8 a1Q 62.Bxa1 Rxa1 63.Kg2 Kc7 64.Rf2 (64.Kg1 Kd6 65.Kg2 Rd2+ 66.Kg1 Ke5 and White is in zugzwang.) 64...Kd6 65.Rf4 Ra2+ 66.Kg1 Ke5 67.Bc4 Rd1+ 68.Bf1 Rdd2 and now h2 falls and with it the game.] **60...Rxf1+ 61.Kg2 Rg1+ 62.Kf2 Rh1 63.Rb2+ Kc6 64.Ke3 Rce1+ 65.Kd4 Re4+** A great game between two experts (one current and one future) under a fast time control, and a great example of the chess being played at the Villages! **0-1**

**Paul Leggett (1666) – Richard Brent (1462) [E04]**

Autumn Open (2), 14.09.2019

[Paul Leggett]

My opponent went 4.5/5 and won the section. **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.g3 e6 4.Bg2 c5 5.0-0 Nc6 6.c4 dxc4 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Qc2?! I** had fully intended to trade Queens here, but it was as though my hand moved of its own volition, a sort of "muscle memory" response from playing the Catalan many times. Perhaps too many times, I now think. In any event, after I took my hand off, I thought to myself "What on earth did I just do? This is not a good start." [8.Qxd8+ Nxd8 This may not seem like much, but I have won over \$2000 in prize money the last two years in large part by milking positions like this all the way to the bank. 9.Ne5±] **8...0-0= 9.Qxc4** What else, I thought. **9...Qb6 [△9...b6] 10.Nc3 Na5**



**11.Qa4?!N [11.Qf4±** This is a normal, thematic position for the Queen, and I don't know why I did not play it.; **11...Bd7 12.Qc2 Bc6?! [12...Rac8] 13.Bg5? [13.Na4±] 13...Ng4!?** From here on out, Richard finds his groove, and plays great chess. This move has a Tal-like flair to it, and I admired it even as I lamented my own poor play. I remember thinking "At least someone is playing good chess..."! **14.Nd1?! I** played this, thinking it was a Karpov-like move. Karpov would most certainly deny all knowledge of it. [14.e3=] **14...Rac8 15.e4??**

I actually thought this was a good move, but only after I completed the move did I (even before I wrote it down) realize that I had left the f1-a6 diagonal wide open. I knew I had lost, and went into swindle mode. **to PG 23**



# Harvey Lerman Plays Chess - Part 5

## Some Other Shades of Lerman

### Orlando Sentinel

**Q** About a year ago, or maybe it was two years ago, your newspaper ran a story about a local man who was considered the world champion of a comparatively new war game. Can you tell me the man's name, and the name of the game? Is the game still on the market?

**A** Conquest is the name of the game, invented in California by Don Benge. The game, and a new four-person version, are on the market, available at the Paramount store in the Herndon Plaza; at Enterprise 1701, on N. Mills Avenue, and at Lake Buena Vista Shopping Village. Harvey Lerman of Maitland, employed at Martin Marietta, is considered the world champion of the two-person Conquest war game. Players vie against each other in person or by mail.



Early 1980s: Donald Benge (L) visits Harvey at his home in Maitland to announce him as Champion.



Evan Stewart used to visit Harvey often to challenge him in Conquest. After many defeats he finally wins a game and didn't come back anymore. Evan is a strong chess player now rated about 2000.

### Conquest the Game

**Conquest** is a strategy board game created and published by Donald Benge. First published in 1972 with cardboard pieces, it evolved to plastic pieces and a deluxe set in pewter plated in various metals including gold.

### Development of the game

The game is based on point to point movement and capture, with an innovative recapture interspersed. Pieces may mount each other such as a soldier mounting a chariot, and both boarding a ship. The pieces also include elephants and knights. Starting with a two player version, a four player board was developed which can be played as a free for all, or as a partnership effort. There was another edition published by Donald Benge, Conquest Plus, which introduced catapults and siege engines. Followed by Grand Conquest, which was published in Germany in 2006. Grand Conquest added camels and castles with draw bridges and introduced movement into the fields between the regular movement points. While an English version was printed, (1000 copies) it is yet to be released. On April 6, 2007 Donald was killed in a traffic accident by a drunk driver, and publishing activities were suspended until the game was bought by Numbskull Games in 2010. Donald also invented a chess variant called Quest Chess, based on principles from Conquest.

### The tragic end of Donald Benge

**LOS ANGELES** -- A 73-year-old man Valencia died Friday in a head-on crash on the eastbound Ventura (134) Freeway in the Eagle Rock area, and the wrong-way driver was in custody on suspicion of drunken driving and vehicular manslaughter, authorities said.

The collision occurred just east of the Glendale (2) Freeway around 4:30 a.m., shutting down all eastbound lanes for several hours, said California Highway Patrol Officer John Seumanutafa.

According to the accident report, patrolling CHP officers spotted the driver of a Honda Element -- a 32-year-old Burbank man -- speeding about 85 mph westbound on the eastbound 134.

The officers, who were eastbound in their patrol car, noticed the approaching vehicle's headlights and swerved to the right to avoid a head-on collision, the report states.

As the wrong-way vehicle passed the patrol car, it collided head-on with a 1988 Chevrolet Cavalier, killing the driver.

The driver of the Honda was taken to Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena for treatment of minor injuries and was expected to be booked on suspicion of vehicular manslaughter and driving under the influence, Seumanutafa said.

*When I retired from Martin Marietta in 1992 I promised Donald Benge that I would write a computer program which would allow someone to play the game online by sending the moves made and a picture of the position. It would be able to check that moves made were legal, but that Conquest was too complicated for me to have the program be able to figure out the best moves to make. I taught myself Visual Basic this way by using all its features.*

*Donald was well known in California with many talents such as making medals for the Olympics, a champion in fencing, but he never married. He was a brilliant man but had a bad eye which seemed to float.*

*I was shocked when he was killed.*  
Harvey

# Regional Reports

## Central Region

by Paul Leggett

**Mike Moschos** from the Villages continues to raise the bar for one day events, with his most recent in September totaling 40 people. The bad news is that 40 is the maximum number he can hold, so they were all pre-registered, and he had to turn away 15 entries before the event even started. The good news is that they may have a new location to use, which will allow more players, and with no address restriction! Details to come.

September also saw the Central Florida Chess Club Autumn Open, with a very strong 150+ player attendance. There were lots of good games in every section, but I am going to share a top shelf performance on the part of U1700 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner **Richard Brent**, with the victim being yours truly! He won the top prize in the section, and in the process raised his rating over 150 points and jumped from Class C to Class B with his performance.

A special shout-out goes to **SM Alex Zelner** and **TD Steve Vigil** of Orlando Chess and Games for their regular Quick Chess Events. Between Open and Scholastic players, their last event totaled over 40 players, and that is always a good sign!

Clermont Chess Club Expert and **TD Connor Eickelman** has been increasingly involved with the Lake County Library System, which helped identify the Lady Lake Library as a new tournament venue. He directed a National Chess Day Event there, and attracted 31 people with minimal advertising. The venue can hold 100 players with extra skittles space, and the Villages Chess Club liked it so much that they may use it for events. Stay tuned for more info on that as well.

**Terrance Washington** also held a Halloween themed Tournament on October 19<sup>th</sup> in Orlando. It was my wedding anniversary so I could not attend, but it looked like a great event.

Here is a quality game from the September event featuring the last round top board contest between **Sam Sokhanvari** and **Connor Eickelman**.

See games on page 24

See Northeast Regional news on pg 21

## Northwest Region

by Tim Staley

Adult Chess Clubs in NW Region [www.north-florida-chess-experience.com/NW](http://www.north-florida-chess-experience.com/NW)

### Results of NW Region Tournaments

#### Ocala

**Ocala Summer Classic** - August 2019 – Orson Curtis Chief TD, 29 Players , G/ 90 d5, 5 rounds, Affiliate was Ocala Chess Club

**Open:** 1<sup>st</sup> Alex Sinnott 4.0 , 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sam Sokhanvari, Bruce Walter

**U1600:** 1<sup>st</sup> Larry Hoffman 5.0, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Renaud Lajoie & Arrayman Vijaywargi 4.0

#### Tallahassee

**BBCC 2019 Summer II** - August 2019 – Benjamin Chen Chief Td, Banghao Chen Chief Asst. TD, 18 players, G/15 d0, 3 rounds. Affiliate was Chen's B & B Chess Club

**A Section** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sean Ward 3.0, 2<sup>nd</sup> Daniel Yang 2.0

**B Section** – 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, Duanyue Ren & Zachary Nowicki 3.0

#### Gainesville

**National Coloring Book Day** – August 2019 - Tim Tusing Chief TD, 9 players, G/30 d5, 5 rounds, Affiliate was Logic Lab. Winners – In the Lines Section – 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Zeina Siddiqui & Ishir Kumar 3.5 Out of Lines (6 rounds) – 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Ossenben 6.0,

**October Quad** – October 2019 – Simon Dewitt Chief TD, Miguel Ararat Chief Asst. TD, 53 Players, G/45 d5, 3 rounds. Affiliate was Gainesville Chess Club. **Quad1** Brian Bird 3.0, **Quad2** Declan Mawdsley 3.0, **Quad3** Aaron Wang & Ruiwen Wang & Isaac Son & Samuel Kosak 1.5 **Quad4** Clark Ventura 3.0, **Quad5** Garrick Wu 3.0, **Quad6** Arman Vora & Michael Dark 2.0, **Quad7** Leopold Radlinski, **Quad8** Miguel Chuquilin 3.0, **Quad9** Gabriel Coe-Gross 3.0, **Quad10** Abby Guo 3.0, **Group11** Michael Liu & Lee Hoang 1.0, **Group12** Allen Zhiwen 3.0, **Group13** Joaquin Leey 3.0,

**Gainesville Fall Championship** - October 2019 – Britt Ryerson Chief TD, 44 players, G/60 d5, 4 rounds, Affiliate was Logic Lab. **Open:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jolie Huanh. **U1400:** 1<sup>st</sup> Katie He 4.0, **U1000:** 1<sup>st</sup> Anala Munepeerakul 4.0, **U700:** 1<sup>st</sup> Trystan Stinson 4.0, **U400:** Edwin Gau 4.0

**National Chocolate Cupcake Day** – October 2019 – Tim Tusing Chief TD, 4 Players, G/30 d5, 3 rounds, Affiliate was Logic Lab **Quad:** Eric Zhao

**National Nut Day** – October 2019 - Tim Tusing Chief TD, 26 Players, G/30,d5 3 rounds, Affiliate was Logic Lab. **Cashews:** 1<sup>st</sup> Henry Thomas & Isir Kumar 2.0, **Almonds** :Maanya Rao & Conner Ringlehan & Alexander Beaver 2.0, **Pistachios:**(7 rounds) Eric Zhao 6.0, **Pecans,**(7 rounds) Elizabeth Liu & John Lebrun 5.0, **Walnuts:** (3 rounds) Andrew Ossenbeck & Miguel Rodriguez 2.0

## South Regional Quarterly Round-Up Summer 2019

by William Bowman

This quarter was an exciting one for the south region if for no other reason than that the **FL State Championship** was held in Palm Beach Gardens Oct. 4th - 6th. Organizer Bryan Tillis did a fabulous job rescheduling this event which traditionally is held over Labor Day weekend but due to Hurricane Dorian had to be rescheduled. Jon Haskel and Matthew Kolcz rounded out the "all south region" team as chief TD and assistant TD, respectively. Photos of the event can be found on the FCA Facebook page. Congratulations to **IM Mykola Bortnyk** on taking home the title of 2019 Florida State Champion. Final Standings can be found at:

<https://floridachess.org/resources/Documents/R5%20Standings.pdf>

Other happenings in our region this quarter included multiple iterations of the weekly Friday night meetings of the Boca Raton Chess Club (BRCC) and the Saturday quads put on by Palm Beach Chess. These one day (or one night in the case of the BRCC) events are a staple feature of the south Florida chess community. Both of these recurring events attract players of every skill level and age group and are a great way for new players to get their feet wet.

If you know of any players looking to get more into chess, invite them out to one or both of these tournaments. They are fun and require a minimum amount of time commitment compared to the traditional weekend event.

More information on these respect clubs can be found at :

<http://www.bocachess.com/> and <https://www.palmbeachchess.com/>

The next upcoming event in the south is the **BRCC's Turkey Bowl** taking place Nov. 15th - 17th at the Marriott Hotel in Coral Springs Florida. Hope to see you there!



# CHESS CALENDAR

Florida Chess Tournaments Clearing House

6 Perry Lane, FL 32701

harveylerman@brighthouse.com (407)629-6WIN (629-6946)

Date	Event	Location	Contact
<b>2019</b>			
Aug 3-11	120th U.S. Open	Rosen Center Hotel - Orlando	USCF
Oct 4-6	Arnold Denker Florida State Championship	Marriott - Palm Beach Garden	FCA
Oct 12	National Chess Day		USCF
Sep 13-15	CFCC 2019 Orlando Autumn Open	Wyndham Orlando Resort - Orlando	CFCC
Sep 14	US Amateur Team South Playoff (Cancelled)	Wyndham Orlando Resort - Orlando	USCF
Nov 15-17	18th Annual Turkey Bowl	Marriott Hotel - Coral Springs	BRCC
Dec 13-15	National Grades K-12 Championships	Disney's Coronado Springs Hotel - Lake Buena Vista	USCF
<b>2020</b>			
Jan 3-5	6th Annual Gulf Coast New Year's Open	Embassy Suites - Fort Myers/Estero	BRCC
Jan 10-12	Central Florida 2020 Winter Open & Scholastic	Wyndham Orlando Resort - Orlando	CFCC
Apr 24-26	National Jr High School (K-9) Championship	- Jacksonville	USCF
Dec 11-13	National Grades K-12 Championships	- Orlando	USCF

## FCA Florida 2019 Affiliates

Alton Academy 4 Chess
Archimedean Middle Conservatory Chess Club
Bortnik's School of Chess LLC
Capablanca Chess Academy
B & B Chess Club
Chess with Cochez
Jacksonville Chess Club
ScholasticChess LLC
CHESS 4 US
Space Coast Chess Foundation, Inc.
SW Florida Chess Club
Boca Raton Chess Club
Florida College Chess Foundation
The Stormont Kings Chess Program
Daytona Beach Chess Club
Florida Scholastic Chess League
Palm Beach Chess
Ocala Chess Club
Florida School for the Deaf & Blind
Chessregister.com

## Other Contacts

M.DadeColl	(305)237-8901
P.Dyson	(321)452-9863
A.Goldsby	(850)484-7803
J.Haskel	(561)302-4377
M.Hutsko	(305)779-7341
G.Luna	(305)300-2055
C.Stormont	(305)552-1493

## Other Affiliates and Organizations

ACP	: American Chess Promotions	(478)973-9389
BM	: Beatriz Marinello	(917)553 4522
CACC	: Castle Chess Camp	(404)314-3142
CCA	: Continental Chess Association	(914)496-9658
CFCC	: Central Florida Chess Club	(407)629-6946
FSCL	: Florida Scholastic Chess League	(786)444-2467
HCA	: Hanley Chess Academy	(714)925-3195
KCF	: Kasparov Chess Foundation	(773)844-0701
MC	: Millionairechess.com	
OCG	: Orlando Chess & Game Center	(407)248-0818
SCSC	: Space Coast Scholastic Chess	
TCC	: Tallahassee Chess Club	(850)345-7838
USCF	: United States Chess Federation	(800)903-8723

**Organizers: Please contact the clearing house when scheduling a tournament.**

Florida Chess Association, Inc.  
6 Perry Lane  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701-7948

## 2019 National K-12 Grades Championships

**Dec. 13-15, 2019**

7SS, G/90 d5. **Disney's Coronado Springs Resort**, 1000 W. Buena Vista Dr., Orlando, FL.

**HR:** \$135 Single/Quad (fees and applicable taxes not included).

**13 Sections.** Play only in your grade section

**Schedule:** Opening ceremony Fri. 12:45 PM. Rds.: Fri. 1 PM – 6 PM, Sat. 10 AM - 2 PM - 6 PM, Sun. 9 AM - 1 PM.

**Awards Ceremony:** Sun., approx. 5 PM. Special round times for K-1 sections: Fri. 1:30 PM - 5:30 PM, Sat. 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM - 5:30 PM, Sun. 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM. K-1 Awards Ceremony: Sun. approx. 4:30 PM.

**EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 11/25, \$80 postmarked or online by 12/2, \$95 by 12/11, \$100 on site

**Awards:** Awards to top individuals & top teams in each grade.

**Side Events: Bughouse:** Thurs. 11 AM **Blitz:** Thurs. 5 PM, Contact Pete Karagianis at 931-200- 9477 or by email: [pkaragianis@uschess.org](mailto:pkaragianis@uschess.org).

**Entries:** U.S. Chess Federation, Attn.: 2019 K-12 Championship, P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557 or online at <https://secure2.uschess.org/webstore/tournament.php>.

See website for additional information <http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/k12/>

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## 6th Annual Gulf Coast New Year's Open

**January 3-5, 2020**

**Embassy Suites Fort Myers-Estero**, 10450 Corkscrew Commons Drive, Estero, FL 33928

5SS, Premier section FIDE rated.

**\$11,000/b180**, 50% Guaranteed, 40 Grand Prix Points

**HR:** \$159, (239) 949-4222; These are 2-room suites with a sleeper sofa in the living room and include complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast, two-hour beverage reception nightly, Internet, refrigerator & microwave.

(See [bocachess.com](http://bocachess.com) for tournament flyer and online entry)

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## CFCC 2020 Winter Open & Scholastic

**January 10-12, 2020**

**Wyndham Orlando Resort**, 8001 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

5SS with 5 sections: Premier, U2000, U1700, U1400, and Scholastic U1200.

Side events: free chess lecture on Saturday morning and blitz tournament on Saturday night.

**\$10,000/b150**, 60% Guaranteed (scholastic = 1/2 entry)

**HR:** \$129 by December 23, (407) 351-2420; Free parking and Wi-Fi.

(Visit [www.centralflchess.org](http://www.centralflchess.org) for tournament details and online registration)

See [floridachess.org](http://floridachess.org) for a complete list and details of Florida chess events.