

The NC Gambit

February 2002

Matt Hoekstra Places 43rd at U.S. Championship

Matthew Hoekstra, rated 2318, finished 43rd out of 56 players with a score of 3.5 out of 9 at the U.S. Championship held in Seattle. His results against each opponent and his opponents' final scores are listed below:

L 25	FM Igor Foygel	2561	5.0
D 40	WGM Elena Donaldson	2455	4.0
L 41	GM Dmitry Gurevich	2646	4.0
W 42	WIM Tsagaan Battsetseg	2259	4.0
L 37	FM Stanislav Kriventsov	2480	4.0
W 44	WIM Esther Epstein	2199	3.5
L 26	IM Eugene Perelshteyn	2522	5.0
W 49	FM Josef Friedman	2243	3.0
L 33	Armen Ambartsoumian	2523	4.5

All of his games are in this issue of the NC Gambit.

North Carolina's Top 20

(based on USCF February Supplement, to be used for 2002 NC Invitational)

1	2586	Becerra,Julio J GM	11	2229	Newton,Frankie
2	2478	Schroer,Jonathan IM	12	2200	Bidwell,John C
3	2369	Levin,David H FM	13	2200	Harris,Neal D
4	2341	Fierro,Martha L WGM	14	2200	Samsa,Greg
5	2333	Hoekstra,Matthew B	15	2198	Mo,Sage F
6	2285	Filatov,Leonid FM	16	2195	Mouzon,Harold A
7	2271	Cunningham,Robin J FM	17	2184	Daniel,Justin Dale
8	2268	Tapper,Larry M	18	2168	Vlahovic,Branislav
9	2252	Kirby,John M	19	2164	Kirby,Kevin A
10	2238	Noble,Matthew E	20	2158	Kvit,Alexander V

To be eligible for the NC Invitational, a player must have NCCA membership and have played at least 12 games in tournaments during the last year requiring NCCA membership.

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Dues:

Annual Dues are \$10 (with The Carolina Gambit), \$5 adult or \$3 youth (No Gambit). Membership is open to all; however only NC residents may vote, hold office, or compete in the invitational. Each member is entitled to play in NCCA events and will receive the newsletter four times per year. Dues should be mailed to Pat Hoekstra, 5404 Crosshill Ct, Charlotte NC 28277

Website:

The official website for the North Carolina Chess Association is at <http://www.ncchess.org> Webmasters are Kevin Hyde <hyde@a-o.com> and James Riker <jriker3@bdestiny.net>

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Any USCF member may be nominated as a candidate for USCF Delegate from the state in which he or she resides. The election for Delegates will occur in the summer of 2002. Members may be nominated for Delegate from the state in which they reside by either submission of a nomination from the official State Chapter to the USCF Secretary postmarked on or before February 1, 2002, or by submission of a petition bearing the signatures of 10 USCF members who are residents of their state postmarked on or before April 1, 2002. All nominations must have the consent of the nominee, shown either by his signing the petition or by his notifying the USCF Secretary of willingness to serve. All nominations must also include an indication by the nominee whether he would be willing to attend the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates at the US Open in August. Nominating petitions must be sent to Bob Smith, USCF Secretary, PO Box 5772, Lighthouse Point, FL 33074. Petitions may be faxed to 954-941-7710, but must be followed by original hard copy.

(NCCA has submitted a list of nominations already)

2001 North Carolina Champions: NC Closed - IM Jonathan Schroer, NC Denker Representative - Justin Daniel, Invitational - Matt Noble

Schroer and Mabe are the big winners at the 2001 Carolinas Open

Jeff Jones

An old tradition was brought back to the Carolinas as the 2001 Carolinas Open was held from October 26th to October 28th, 2001 at the Highwoods Holiday Inn in Raleigh, NC. The tournament which has not been held for nearly two decades was also Raleigh's first FIDE-rated open event. 92 players from 10 states converged to play in the two sections.

The championship division featured 36 players including two International Masters, two FIDE Masters, and three other masters. The players battled for thirty national Grand Prix points in this five round section. Cary IM Jonathan Schroer won his first four games and drew his last to claimed clear first and \$500. Schroer defeated David Erb on Friday night and then knocked off John Rouleau and Thomas Murphy on Saturday to set up a heavyweight showdown on Sunday morning with grandmaster killer FM Emory Tate. Schroer, playing the white side of the Benko Gambit, got the better of Tate in round four, and then took a rather quick draw with FM Leonid Filatov to secure clear first place. Tate of Gary, IN finished in clear second with wins against Patrick McCartney, Kevin Kirby, John Bidwell, and Murphy and four points overall. Tate's performance earned him \$250.

A large group of players finished in a tie for third, and with the Top expert prize brought up, each took home \$93. FM Leonid Filatov of Durham; Matthew Noble of Charlotte,; Branislav Vlahovic of Morrisville; Michael Mazock of Carlisle, PA; John Rouleau of Rockville, MD; Michael Buaiz of Louisburg; and John Smithwick of Henderson all scored 3½ to share the prize. Rouleau also took the Top junior in the Championship section trophy.

The class A Prize was shared by Bernard Schmidt of Raleigh, Patrick McCartney of Charlotte, and Santy Wong of Camp Lejeune. Each one gained a prize of \$48 for their three point performance. Wong, whose only loss was to Noble, had the highest rating gain in the section of 53 point. Andy Nicol of Columbus, OH took home the 2nd Junior Prize in the Championship section.

The Amateur Section saw 56 players play in a six round format. Chris Mabe of Boonville was the thirty-second rated player in the section coming in, but tore through six of the top ten players in the section to take the first prize of \$380. Mabe's result boosted his rating from 1462 to 1707!. David Paulina of Wheaton, MD yielded two draws en route to clear second with five points and winning \$190. Tied for third with 4½ points were Joe Faries of Glen Allen, VA; Dan Garrett of Southern Pines; Jacqueline Guglielmi of Cary; Shawn George of Raleigh; Walter Overman of High Point. After carrying up the Class B and C prizes these players received \$138.

Ben George of Raleigh also scored 4½, but was ineligible for cash prizes as a junior entry. Ben along with Chapel Hill's Noah Blach were sponsored by the Upper Neuse Chess Union due to their performances in recent local junior tournaments. George won all but one of his games (losing to Paulina in Round one and taking a half-point bye in round 5), and Blach pulled off the biggest upset of the tournament knocking of 1466-rated Leo Cabana for a 609-point upset. That loss was Cabana's only loss as well so it wasn't a case of catching a struggling player.

Due to the class prizes being brought up four points took a little money home as well, with each player winning \$11. Edward Mason of Durham, Nelson Lopez of Youngsville, Jeffrey Jones of Raleigh, Tobin Logan of Chapel Hill, Joseph Micklos of Sanford, William Hargrove of Chapel Hill, and Leo Caban of Durham all shared the sixth prize with four points each. Tommy Bass of Charlotte also had four points and won the \$140 D Class prize. Miklos Kiss of Morrisville and Luis Guzman of Raleigh shared the under 1200 prize with three points taking home \$70 each. The unrated trophy went to Norfolk, VA's Michael Matzke with 2½. The top four junior trophies went to: 1st Shawn George, 2nd Ben George, 3rd Nelson Lopez, and 4th Erickson Smith (3½ points).

The tournament was organized and directed by Jeffrey Jones. Robert Singletary served as floor TD. Nita Witting helped out with various errands. Curtis Graham, Evan Whittington, and Nisha George all served as house players.

Jones and Smithwick claim Pin Action titles.

Jeff Jones

18 players gathered at Rainbow Lanes in Clayton for Pin Action IV on September 29th, 2001. The Open section saw a final round shocker as TD Jeffrey Jones of Raleigh took advantage of a touch-move blunder in time pressure to knock off John Smithwick and claim his second Pin Action championship of the year. Jones escaped a first round encounter with talented junior Shawn George with a draw, and picked up wins over Gregory Duel and Dan Garrett before the game with Smithwick. Smithwick of Henderson came into the last round with wins over Joshua Taylor, Joseph Crump, and unrated Ivan Adjelkovic. Adjelkovic of Raleigh joined Smithwick in second place. In the Under 1400 section 11-year-old Nisha Geroge of Raleigh swept her four games with wins over Tom Hare, Ben George, Amir Hosseini, and Peter Erickson. Ben George and Hosseini of Cary finished tied for second in that section. Smithwick returned for Pin Action V and this time went through the field to claim his

second Pin Action title with a 3½ point score. Smithwick went through Gary Maltzman, Nelson Lopez, and Ivan Andjelkovic, before yielding a draw to defending champ Jeffrey Jones in the last round. Andjelkovic took clear second with three points in the Open. In the under 1400 Mike Moston of Four Oaks made a triumphant return after a three year hiatus by conquering John Wehrenberg, Nisha George, Paul Hughes, and Ben George for a perfect four points. Nisha George took clear second in this section with three points. For the second time an under 800 section was created to accommodate the youngest players. Ben Blach of Chapel Hill topped the quad with 2½ points. Mikaela Mroczynski of Cary, who drew Blach, was second with two.

North Carolina Flexes Girl Power In National Rankings

It's official! A case of "Girl Power" broke out in the state during 2001. In the U.S. Chess Federation's (USCF) year-end national ratings for Girls Under the age of 16, four North Carolina players are on the list.

Nisha George, 11, of Raleigh, Euphemia Mu, 14, of Charlotte and sisters Colette, 13, and Amelia Wheelless, 11, of Charlotte all secured spots on the Top 100 list. Only seven other states (New York, New Jersey, California, Texas, Washington, Arizona and Virginia) have more players on the list than North Carolina.

"Placing four on the Top 100 list is a nice accomplishment for the state," said Neal Harris, president of the N.C. Chess Association. "Our next step is to attract more girls to tournament chess. There is no reason to have the wide gender gap in participation I've seen at some tournaments. These four are proving that girls can compete and win."

In addition to the Under 16 list, George and the younger Wheelless sister are also ranked on the Girls Under 13 national list.

Euphemia Mu (1502) leads the North Carolina players on the list at #25. Her rating received a boost when she tied for first the Under 1400 section of September's N.C. Closed Championships. She's also been the top finisher

in the Under 1400 section of this fall's two Fake Copper Blanket tournaments in Charlotte.

Nisha George (1404) is #39 in the national rankings – and is also an impressive #14 in the Girls Under 13 national rankings. She went undefeated in the Under 1400 section of September's Pin Action in Clayton – beating juniors and adults alike.

Amelia Wheelless (1199) is #74 on the list, and is #29 in the Girls Under 13 list. Her rating could be the most improved of anyone in North Carolina over the past 12 months. In the year-end list of 2000, she was rated 647 – a healthy rise of 552 points during 2001. She was 3rd in the K-8 section of the recent Southern Scholastics in Charlotte.

Colette Wheelless (1183) is #82 on the national list. In May, she took clear first place in the Upper Neuse Junior Open in Clayton. In October, she took clear first in the high school section of the Manning Scholastic in Manning, S.C.

Every two months, the USCF posts Top 100 national rankings in various age and gender categories. Go to the Ratings Section of the USCF web site to check out the latest: www.uschess.org.

The Henderson County Chess Team Challenge 2001.

212 players played in the annual fall chess tournament on November 10, 2001. Greater Henderson County Home School Chess, The Forks, and Immaculata won of their sections of the team event. Dan Horwitz, Matt Horwitz, and Garrett Burrell were first place on Board 1 of their sections. Hendersonville is the host city for the 2002 North Carolina Scholastic Championship on March 9-10.

Pawndemonium XIII

Seventy-two players entered the chess tournament held at the Montford Center on December 22, 2001. Every player received a T-shirt; 38 trophies and 14 USCF renewals were awarded. Christopher Kohlhepp, Chris Griffin, Jeremy Williams, Ben Blach, Nathaniel Hart, and Samuel Randels placed or tied for first in their sections.

TEACHERS, CHESS HELP TEEN FIND HIS TALENTS

Charlotte Observer, 12-18-01

By DEBBIE CENZIPER, STAFF WRITER
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Jarris McGhee-Bey could have easily become lost in North Carolina's public schools.

He drifted through seventh grade failing classes. Schoolwork bored him. Teachers were strangers. He was repeatedly suspended for fighting. All symptoms, experts say, of a student who wants no part of school.

But at the end of the year at Charlotte-Mecklenburg's Cochrane Middle School, he met a teacher named Spencer Singleton, who taught him how to play chess. And for Jarris McGhee-Bey, troubled student and potential dropout, everything changed. He became a model student.

"I actually wanted to be in school," he says. "Before that, I could go to sleep in class for eight hours straight. I didn't care about school. Now, I wanted to pay attention. And all of the sudden, my grades went up."

In schools across North Carolina, educators say troubled students too often go without the tutoring, counseling and academic programs that can help keep them in school. But some teachers find another way.

A single connection, they say, can save a kid at risk of dropping out, a connection to a teacher or mentor, or to an activity that can spark an interest in school. Drama or debate. Band or poetry. Dance, computers, sports.

"There are a lot of people in education who feel that if you provide a very good academic program, the rest is going to fall into place. There are some of us who don't think that's necessarily so," said Andy Farrow, president of the N.C. Dropout Prevention Association, and alcohol and drug defense and counseling coordinator in Cabarrus County Schools. "You've got to make those connections with kids.

"The kids who drop out, nobody even knew they were there."

Singleton remembers Jarris that year, bright but unfocused, a failing student who should have been making A's. He talked to Jarris' mother, who was involved in the PTA and worried that her son would fail the seventh grade. Singleton suggested the chess club could inspire Jarris. If he brought his grades up, he could join the school's chess team.

At first, Jarris lost every game. At one competition, he agreed to a draw when he was one move from victory.

But Jarris wanted to get better. He practiced Wednesdays with other players. And, in Singleton, he found a teacher who believed in him.

"He says simple things and he actually looks like he means it," Jarris says about his teacher. "He bought a van just so he could take people to chess tournaments."

In eighth grade, Jarris learned to play the French horn. Another teacher, Rick Holmes, also pushed Jarris in school. Holmes taught science, and Jarris says it was one of the only classes that interested him.

Holmes doesn't always teach the textbooks. He eats live yellow jackets to teach biology. He throws eggs against the wall to teach density.

Holmes didn't treat Jarris any differently after he was suspended in the seventh grade. Every time Jarris came back to class, Holmes acted as if he had never been gone.

"I didn't hold it against him," Holmes says. "A lot of teachers will say, 'Oh, you're a bad kid, and I don't want to deal with you.' But Jarris is not a bad kid. He needs to be stimulated and he needs to be pushed."

Now, Jarris is a freshman at West Charlotte High School and a member of the school's award-winning chess team, as well as the marching band. Singleton transferred to West Charlotte, where he teaches social studies and coaches chess.

Jarris' grades have slipped as he adjusts to high school, his mother said, but he's working to bring them up again. He's in some higher-level courses, too, and the work is more challenging.

Jarris talks about going to college. With all the conviction of a 14-year-old, he says he wants to become a television producer. Or maybe a crocodile hunter. Like the kind on TV.

He looks back on those turbulent months in middle school and wonders what he would have done if he hadn't met Singleton or taken an interest in chess, if his mother hadn't pushed him, if his science teacher hadn't given him a second chance.

"I would have failed," he says. "I'd probably still be at Cochrane right now."

Matthew Hoekstra' Games from the U.S. Championship (Seattle, January 2002)

Foygel, Igor (2474) - Hoekstra, Matthew (2211)
[ECO "E08"]

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. c4 e6 4. g3 Be7 5. Bg2 O-O 6. O-O c6 7. Qc2 Nbd7 8. Bf4 Ne4 9. Nc3 f5 10. cxd5 exd5 11. a3 a5 12. Rab1 Bf6 13. Rbd1 Qb6 14. Be3 Qa6 15. Na4 Re8 16. Rfe1 Re7 17. Nc5 Qb5 18. Nd3 a4 19. Bf4 Ra6 20. Bc7 Nb6 21. Bd8 Rf7 22. Bxf6 Rxf6 23. Nfe5 Ra8 24. e3 Be6 25. Bf1 Qa5 26. Rc1 Nd7 27. Red1 Rh6 28. Nxd7 Bxd7 29. Nc5 Qc7 30. Nxa4 Be8 31. Nc3 Bh5 32. Re1 Qf7 33. f4 Bf3 34. Bg2 Bxg2 35. Qxg2 Re8 36. Nxe4 Rxe4 37. Rc3 Rhe6 38. Qd2 Qe8 39. Rb3 b5 40. Rc3 h5 41. h4 Rg6 42. Kf2 Rg4 43. Qc2 Rg6 44. Rc1 Qe7 45. Rxc6 Rxc6 46. Kxg3 Rxe3+ 47. Kf2 Re4 48. Rg6 Qxh4+ 49. Kg1 Kh7 50. Rg5 Qxf4 51. Rxh5+ Kg6 52. Rh2 Qe3+ 53. Kh1 Rg4 54. Rf1 Rf4 55. Rg1+ 1-0

Hoekstra, Matthew (2211) - Donaldson Akhmilovskaya, Elena (2393)
[ECO "C45"]

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nxc6 bxc6 6. e5 Qe7 7. Qe2 Nd5 8. c4 Nb6 9. b3 Qe6 10. g3 Bb4+ 11. Bd2 Bxd2+ 12. Nxd2 O-O 13. Bg2 f6 14. exf6 Qxf6 15. O-O d5 16. Rfe1 Bd7 17. f4 Rae8 18. Qf2 g5 19. Rxe8 Bxe8 20. Rf1 gxf4 21. gxf4 Bg6 22. Kh1 Kh8 23. f5 Bf7 24. Qf4 Rg8 25. Qxc7 dxc4 26. Ne4 Qb2 27. Ng3 cxb3 1/2-1/2

Gurevich, Dmitry (2544) - Hoekstra, Matthew (2211)
[ECO "E02"]

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. g3 d5 4. Bg2 dxc4 5. Qa4+ c6 6. Qxc4 Nbd7 7. Nf3 Bd6 8. O-O O-O 9. Bf4 Qc7 10. Bxd6 Qxd6 11. Nc3 e5 12. Rad1 exd4 13. Nxd4 Nb6 14. Qb3 Qe5 15. e4 Qh5 16. Rfe1 Bh3 17. e5 Ng4 18. Bf3 c5 19. Nde2 Qh6 20. Rd6 g6 21. Nf4 Nxe2 22. Bxb7 Bg4 23. Re3 Rab8 24. Bg2 Bf5 25. Ne4 Nd7 26. Qc3 Ng4 27. Re1 Ndx5 28. Nd5 Bxe4 29. Rxe4 Qg7 30. f3 Rxb2 31. fxc4 Rb1+ 32. Bf1 f6 33. Rf4 f5 34. g5 Nf7 35. Qxg7+ Kxg7 36. Rd7 Rd8 37. Rxd8 Nxd8 38. Ra4 Rb7 39. Nf4 Re7 40. Ra6 Kf8 41. Bc4 Ke8 42. Rd6 1-0

Hoekstra, Matthew (2211) - Battsetseg, Tsagaan (2261)
[ECO "B31"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 g6 4. O-O Bg7 5. c3 Nf6 6. Re1 O-O 7. d4 d5 8. e5 Ne4 9. Bxc6 bxc6 10. Nbd2 cxd4 11. cxd4 c5 12. dxc5 Nxc5 13. Nb3 Nxb3 14. Qxb3 e6 15. Bg5 f6 16. exf6 Bxf6 17. Bxf6 Qxf6 18. Re5 a5 19. Rae1 a4 20. Qb6 Ra6 21. Qc5 Bd7 22. Qc7 Qd8 23. Qc2 Rb6 24. Nd4 Qf6 25. f3 Rfb8 26. b3 axb3 27. axb3 Qh4 28. Qd2 Ra8 29. g3 Qf6 30. Qe3 Ra2 31. f4 Kf7 32. Nf3 Rc6 33. Nd4 Rca6 34. Qc3 Qd8 35. Kh1 1-0

Kriventsov, Stanislav G (2415) - Hoekstra, Matthew (2211)
[ECO "B36"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. c4 Nf6 6. Nc3 Nxd4 7. Qxd4 d6 8. Be2 Bg7 9. Be3 O-O 10. Qd2 Be6 11. f3 Rc8 12. Nd5 a6 13. O-O Bxd5 14. exd5 Qd7 15. Rad1 b5 16. b3 Ra8 17. b4 e6 18. Bg5 exd5 19. Bxf6 Bxf6 20. Qxd5 Rae8 21. Rf2 Qa7 22. Kf1 Bd8 23. f4 Bb6 24. Rf3 Qe7 25. Qd2 Qh4 26. h3 Re4 27. Bd3 Rd4 28. cxb5 axb5 29. Re1 Ra8 30. g4 Qf6 31. g5 Qd8 32. Re4 Rxe4 33. Bxe4 Rc8 34. f5 Rc4 35. fxc6 hxc6 36. Bd5 Rc7 37. Rf6 Qc8 38. Qd3 Rc1+ 39. Ke2 Qe8+ 40. Kf3 Kh8 41. Rxf7 Qc8 42. Ke2 Rc2+ 43. Kd1 Rc1+ 44. Kd2 Rg1 45. Qc3+ Qxc3+ 46. Kxc3 Rxc3 47. Bc6 Rh5 48. Bd7 Rg5 49. Bg4 Re5 50. Rf6 Re3+ 51. Kc2 Ra3 52. Rxd6 Rxa2+ 53. Kb3 Bc7 54. Rxc6 Ra1 55. Rc6 Bg3 56. Bf5 Be1 57. Re6 Kg7 58. Kb2 Ra4 59. Rxe1 Rxb4+ 60. Kc3 Rf4 61. Bg4 b4+ 62. Kb3 Kf6 63. Re3 Kg5 64. Be2 Rd4 65. Rg3+ Kf4 66. Rg4+ Ke3 67. Bc4 Rf4 68. Kxb4 Kf3 69. Kc5 Rf5+ 70. Bd5+ Kf2 71. Kd6 Rh5 72. h4 Rh6+ 73. Ke7 Rh5 74. Be4 Ke3 75. Kf6 Ra5 76. Bf5 Kf3 77. h5 1-0

Hoekstra, Matthew (2211) - Epstein, Esther (2194)
[ECO "B27"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 g6 3. d4 Bg7 4. dxc5 Qa5+ 5. Nc3 Qxc5 6. Nd5 Qa5+ 7. Bd2 Qd8 8. Bc3 Bxc3+ 9. Nxc3 Nc6 10. Bc4 Nf6
11. e5 Nh5 12. Qd2 Qa5 13. O-O-O Ng7 14. Qh6 Ne6 15. Bxe6 dxe6 16. Qg7 Rf8 17. Rd2 b5 18. Ng5 1-0

Perelshteyn, Eugene (2451) - Hoekstra, Matthew (2211)
[ECO "B39"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. c4 Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Nc3 Ng4 8. Qxg4 Nxd4 9. Qd1 Ne6 10. Rc1 Qa5 11.
Qd2 b6 12. b3 Bxc3 13. Qxc3 Qxc3+ 14. Rxc3 Bb7 15. f3 f5 16. exf5 gxf5 17. Bd3 Rg8 18. Kf2 f4 19. Bd2 Rg7 20. Re1
O-O-O 21. Re5 Rdg8 22. Bf1 Rf7 23. Rc1 Nc7 24. Rh5 Ne6 25. Bc3 Nc5 26. b4 Ne6 27. Bd3 Nf8 28. c5 bxc5 29. Rxc5+
Kb8 30. Bc4 e6 31. Ra5 d5 32. Be5+ Ka8 33. Bf1 Ng6 34. Bd4 Bc8 35. Bb5 Kb8 36. Bd3 Rb7 37. Bxg6 hxg6 38. Be5+
Ka8 39. Rac5 Bd7 40. Rc7 Bb5 41. Rc8+ Rb8 42. Bxb8 1-0

Friedman, Josef (2154) - Hoekstra, Matthew (2211)
[ECO "A00"]

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 Bb4 5. Bg5 dxc4 6. e4 c5 7. Bxc4 cxd4 8. Nxd4 Qa5 9. Bb5+ Bd7 10. Bxf6 Bxc3+ 11.
bxc3 gxf6 12. Qd3 a6 13. Bxd7+ Nxd7 14. O-O Rc8 15. Qg3 Qxc3 16. Qg7 Ke7 17. Rfd1 Ne5 18. Ne2 Qc2 19. Nd4 Qxe4
20. Qg3 Kf8 21. Qa3+ Kg7 22. f3 Nc4 23. Qb4 Qe3+ 24. Kh1 b5 25. Qe7 Rhe8 26. Qb7 Nb2 0-1

Hoekstra, Matthew (2211) - Ambarcumjan, Armen (2388)
[ECO "B31"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 g6 4. O-O Bg7 5. c3 Nf6 6. Re1 O-O 7. d4 cxd4 8. cxd4 d5 9. e5 Ne4 10. Bxc6 bxc6 11. Nbd2
Bf5 12. Nh4 Be6 13. Nxe4 dxe4 14. Rxe4 c5 15. Nf3 Bd5 16. Rh4 e6 17. Rg4 h5 18. Bg5 Bxf3 19. gxf3 Qd5 20. Rg3 cxd4
21. f4 Rab8 22. b3 Rb7 23. Qd2 f6 24. exf6 Bxf6 25. Bh6 Rff7 26. Rxc6+ Kh7 27. Rg3 Kxh6 28. f5+ Kh7 29. fxe6 Rg7 30.
Qd3+ Kg8 31. Rc1 Qxe6 32. Qf3 Rb5 33. Rc6 Rf5 34. Rxc6+ Bxc6 0-1

GAMES, GAMES, AND MORE GAMES!

Justin Daniel (2150) v Michael Malutich (1536) Round 3 Denker Tournament:

1e4 e6 2d4 d5 3Nc3 Bb4 4e5 c5 5a3 Bc3 6bc3 Ne7 7Qg4 Qc7 8Qg7 Rg8 9Qh7 cd4
10Kd1! (All book thus far, with 10Kd1! being a tricky sideline to the main line 10Ne2. I played this hoping that
my opponent would not be familiar with the theory of this line) 10...Qe5?(A terrible move that leaves black a
pawn down with no compensation. Black must know the theory of this line in order to equalize. 10...Nbc6!
is mandatory, with a complex fight e.g: 11Nf3 Ne5 12Bf4 Qc3 13Ne5 Qa1 14Bc1 with unclear play) 11Nf3
Qg7?(Black is losing the endgame but the middlegame was little better for Black) 12Qg7 Rg7 13cd4 Nbc6
14Rb1 b6 15h4 Bd7 16h5 O-O-O 17Bg5 Re8 18Bf6 Rg4 19h6 Ng6 20h7 Nh8 21g3 Rg6 22Ba6 Kc7
23Be5(Black is helpless against white's bishop pair and passed h-pawn) 23...Ne5? 24Ne5 Rg7 25Nd7 Kd7
26Bb5 (The rest requires no commentary. Black could have resigned.) Ke7 27Be8 Ke8 28 a4 f6 29 a5 Rb7
30ab6 Rb6 31Rb6 ab6 32Ke2 Kf7 33Rb1 Black resigns 1-0

(Notes by Justin Daniel)

Staunton Gambit

Wendy's XXIX, Rd:4, 10-24-01, Charlotte, NC

NM Garrick Wells (2094) Ralph Lombard (1881)

1 c4 f5 2 e4 fe 3 d3 Nf6 4 Nc3 ed 5 Bd3 Nc6 6 Nf3 d6 7 Ng5 Ne5 8 Bc2 h6(?) 9 Nf3 Bg4 10 Ne5!! 1-0

Caro-Kann

Wendy's XXXI, Rd:5, 1-16-02, Charlotte, NC

Daniel Tapia (1992) Clarke Brosi (1753)

1 d4 c6 2 e4! (Why go into a Slav when you can go into a Caro-Kann) 2...d5 3 e5 Bf5 4 Nf3 e6 5 Be2 Nd7 6 0-0 c5 7 Be3 (White usually plays c4 first but this move is fine) 7...a6 (This is a book move but none the less black should develop his kingside) 8 c4 cd 9 Nd4! (This leads to a very strong attack: Black's kingside is undeveloped and White has strong piece play) 9...Bb1 10 Rb1 Ne5 11 cd Qd5 12 f4! (White's main idea) 12...Qe4? (12...Nc4 was a better try but even then things looks difficult since after 13 Bf2 Nf6 14 Bf3! Black is on the verge of destruction 14...Ne4 15 Rfe f5 16 Nf5! and 14...Qd7 15 Qe2 Rac 16 Rbc planning b3[if ..b5] and f5) 13 Qb3! +/- Bc5?? 14 fe Bd4 15 Qa4 1-0 (Notes by Tapia)

King's Indian Defense

National Chess Congress, Rd 5, 11/25/2001 Patrick McCartney (1917) Frank Paciulli (1826)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f4 0-0 6 Nf3 c5 7 d5 b5 8 cb5 a6 9 a4 e6 (9...ab5 10 Bb5 Ba6 11 Bd2! Bb5 12 ab5 Ra1 13 Qa1 Qb6 14 0-0 Nd7 15 Qe1! with a small advantage for White is also possible) 10 Be2 ab5 11 Bb5 ed5 12 ed5 (12 e5! is better. White has the advantage after 12...de5 13 fe5 Ng4 14 Qd5 Qd5 15 Nd5) 12...Bd7 13 0-0 Na6 14 Bd7 Qd5 15 f5! Nc7 (Black gets into trouble after 15...Qf5?! 16 Nd4 and preparing to post either on b5 or c6, depending upon Black's choice of defense) 16 fg6 fg6 17 Ng5 Ng4 18 Bf4! (White sacrifices the exchange in order to complete his development, and to go after Black's weak d-pawn.) 18...Bd4 19 Kh1 Nf2 20 Rf2 Bf2 21 Qd2 Bd4 22 h3 (Forced, as any other move allows 22...Qf5 with fatal threats due to White's problems on the back rank and the King's lack of a flight square.) 22...Rf5 23 Nge4 Bc3 (23...Nd5? 24 Nd5 Qf7 {24...Rd5 25 Nf6!! Bf6 26 Qd5 followed by 27 Qa8 +-} 25 Nd6 Qd5 26 Nf5 Qf5 27 Be3 +/-) 24 Nc3 Raf8 25 Ba6 Rf1 26 Rf1 Rf1 27 Kh2 Qf5 28 Qe3 Qe5?? (Black hands the advantage over to White. Better is 28...Kf7! 29 Qg3 Ke7 30 Qe3 Kd7 =/+) 29 Qe5 de5 30 d6 Ne6 31 d7 Kf7 (Black is lost at this point. 31...Rf7 doesn't save Black as White then plays 32 Nd5! and the fork on f6 prevents the Rook from taking on d7. If Black tries to threaten the pawn with 32...Kh8, then 33 Nb6! and Black has no way to stop the a-pawn without letting the d-pawn promote.) 32 Bg5! Rf2 33 Ne4 Rb2 34 Nc5!! (Black can safely resign here) 34...Nd8 35 Bd8 Rd2 36 Bg5 Rd7 37 Nd7 1-0 (Notes by McCartney)

Center Counter Defense

Wendy's XXXII, Rd:3, 2-6-02, Charlotte, NC

NM L Fuerstman (2024) NM F Newton (2233)

1 e4 d5 2 ed Qd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Bc4 c6 6 Nf3 Bg4 7 0-0 e6 8 Bf4 Nd5 9 Nd5 cd 10 Bd3 Nc6 11 c3 Qd8 12 Qb3! Bd6 13 Bd6 Qd6 14 Ne5!! Ne5 (Everything else loses as well. If 14...Bf5 15 Qb7! Bd3 16 Qa8 Nd8 17 Nd3 and White has an extra Rook) 15 de Qe5 (Certainly not 15...Qd7? 16 Bb5!) 16 Qa4! Kf8 17 Qg4+- g6 18 Rae Qf6 19 Qd4! (Forcing the exchange of Queens) 19...Qd4 20 cd Ke7 21 f4 Kd6 22 Rc Rac 23 Kf2 f6 24 Ke3 Rc6 25 Rc6 bc 26 Rc Rb 27 b3 Rb6 28 Rc5 e5 29 fe fe 30 Ra5 ed 31 Kd4 c5 32 Ke3 Rb7 33 Ra6 Ke5 34 Rc6 d4 35 Kd2 Rf7 36 Rc5 Kd6 37 Rd5 Ke6 38 Rg5 Rf2 39 Be2 Kf6 40 Rg3 Ke5 41 Kd3 Kd5 42 Rg4 Kc5 43 a3 a5 44 Rg5 Kb6 45 Bf3 Rb2 46 Bd5 a4 47 ba h6 48 Rg6 Kc5 49 Bc4 Rb1 50 Rh6 Rd1 51 Kc2 Rg1 52 Be2 Ra1 53 Rh5 Kd6 54 Kb3 Rc1 55 a5 Rc3 56 Kb4 Re3 57 Bf3 1-0 (Notes by Fuerstman)

2001 South Carolina Championships

James Hyatt (1600) - Ian Sanders (1447)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 [7...d5 is often the idea in this opening, but here it is bad because of 8.Bb5] 8.0-0 d5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.exd5 [10.e5 is played more often.] 10...cxd5 11.Bd4 Bb7 This has been played before, but [11...e6 is more common.] 12.Qd2 Ne4 13.Qe3?! [In his notes, Ian rejects 13.Nxe4 for White, because after 13...dxe4 the bishop is pinned to the queen. But 14.Rfd1 seems to me to leave White with a slight advantage.] 13...Nxc3 [13...e5!?] 14.Qxc3 Rc8 15.Qd2 Bxd4 16.Qxd4 Qa5 [Ian is sure he can't grab the pawn with 16...Rxc2 because of 17.Bd3 Rc8 (or 17...Rd2 18.Qc3; although 17...Rc7 18.Qxa7 e5 looks plausible.) 18.Qxa7] 17.c3 [17.Bd3] 17...e5 18.Qd2 [18.Qxe5? Rfe8 wins the bishop.] 18...d4 19.Qg5?! [19.Rfc1] 19...dxc3 20.bxc3 Rxc3 21.Kh1? [21.Rfd1] 21...Rc2 22.Rab1? giving away another pawn. 22...Bxg2+ 23.Kxg2 Rxe2 and down two pawns with a crumbling position, White gave up. 0-1 (Notes by Malcolm Young)

Pin Action IV, Clayton, NC, 9-29-01

Jeffrey Mason Jones (1703) - Gregory Duel (1485)

1.c4 b6 2.Nc3 Bb7 3.d4 e6 4.e3 Bb4 5.Bd2 Nf6 6.Qc2 O-O 7.f3 c6 8.Bd3 d5 9.Nge2 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Bxc3 11.Bxc3 Nd5 12.Bd2 g6 13.h4 Qd6 14.a3 a5 15.e4 Ne7 16.h5 b5 17.Bd3 Nd7 18.e5 Qc7 19.Bh6 Rfe8 20.hxg6 fxg6 21.Nf4 Nf5 22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Qb3+ Kh8 24.Nxg6+ hxg6 25.Bf8# 1-0

2001 Carolinas Open

Schroer, Jonathan IM (2471) - Tate, Emory (2433)

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c5 3. d5 g6 4. c4 b5 5. cxb5 a6 6. e3 Bg7 7. Nc3 O-O 8. a4 d6 9. Ra3 Bf5 10. Nd2 Re8 11. e4 Bg4 12. f3 Bc8 13. Nc4 Nfd7 14. Be2 axb5 15. Nxb5 Ne5 16. Ne3 Na6 17. O-O Nb4 18. Bd2 f5 19. exf5 gxf5 20. f4 Ng6 21. Bc3 Bh6 22. Bh5 Rf8 23. Bxg6 hxg6 24. Qe1 Na6 25. Qh4 Kh7 26. Ba5 Qe8 27. Nc4 Rf7 28. Rh3 Qf8 29. Bc3 Nb4 30. Nc7 e5 31. Nxa8 Nxd5 32. Nxd6 Ra7 33. Nxc8 Rxa8 34. Nd6 Nxf4 35. Rxf4 1-0

2001 Carolinas Open

Maciejewski, Jeremy (1571) - Guzman, Luis (1116)

1. e4 d6 2. c4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. h3 Bg7 5. d3 e5 6. Be3 O-O 7. Qd2 Nc6 8. Nf3 a6 9. Be2 Nd7 10. Bh6 Nd4 11. Bxg7 Kxg7 12. g4 b5 13. b3 bxc4 14. dxc4 c5 15. O-O-O Nb6 16. Rdg1 a5 17. Bd1 Bd7 18. a4 Rb8 19. Nb5 Bxb5 20. axb5 Ra8 21. h4 a4 22. h5 axb3 23. Kb1 Nxc4 24. Qc3 Na3+ 25. Kb2 Naxb5 26. Qe3 Ra2+ 27. Kc1 Qa5 28. Bxb3 Ra1+

2001 Carolinas Open

Mabe, Chris (1462) - Kelly, James (1750)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. c3 d5 4. e5 Bg4 5. Bb5 Qc7 6. d4 O-O-O 7. Be3 e6 8. Nbd2 Nb8 9. O-O a6 10. Be2 f5 11. Qc2 Be7 12. Rfc1 Rf8 13. c4 f4 14. Ng5 Bxg5 15. Bxg4 Qf7 16. cxd5 Qe7 17. Bxe6+ Kd8 18. Qxc5 Qxc5 19. Rxc5 Ne7 20. Nf3 fxe3 21. Nxc5 exf2+ 22. Kf1 h6 23. Nf7+ Rxf7 24. Bxf7 Rf8 25. e6 b6 26. Rc2 Nxd5 27. Kxf2 Nf4 28. Ke3 Nd5+ 29. Ke4 Nf6+ 30. Kf5 Ke7 31. Rc7+ Kd6 32. Rac1 Nd5 33. Rb7 Ne7+ 34. Ke4 b5 35. Rcc7 Nbc6 36. Rd7#

2001 Carolinas Open

Erb, David (1951) - Schroer, Jonathan IM (2471)

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. g3 g6 3. Bg2 Bg7 4. O-O O-O 5. d3 d5 6. Nbd2 c5 7. e4 Nc6 8. Re1 h6 9. h3 e5 10. exd5 Nxd5 11. Nc4 Re8 12. Ne3 Nc7 13. c3 Rb8 14. Qc2 b6 15. Bd2 Ba6 16. Bf1 Bb7 17. Rad1 Nb4 18. cxb4 Bxf3 19. Rc1 Ne6 20. bxc5 Nxc5 21. Ng4 Bb7 22. Bxh6 Qd5 23. f4 Qh1+ 24. Kf2 Qf3+ 25. Kg1 f5 26. Bxg7 Qh1+ 27. Kf2 fxg4 28. Bxe5 Qf3+ 29. Kg1 Qxg3+ 30. Bg2 gxh3 31. Qc4+ Ne6 32. Re2 Bxg2 33. f5 h2#

First Email US Correspondence Chess Championship (Preliminary Round) 2001

Glen Tripp (2023) - Patrick McCartney (2283)

ECO: E83

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nc6 7.Rb1 a6 8.b4 e5 9.d5 Nd4 10.Nge2 Nh5
11.Qd2 Nxe2 12.Bxe2 Nf4 13.0-0 f5 14.c5 Qg5 15.Bc4 Nh3+ 16.Kh1 f4 17.Bf2 Nxf2+ 18.Qxf2 Qf6
19.Rfc1 Rf7 0-1

Facts Cue 2002

105 players entered the 4th annual event held January 21, 2002. Klaus Pohl of Greenville, South Carolina won the overall event with 4.5 out of 5 possible points in the Open section. Joshua Mu won the U1200 section with a perfect 5 out of 5 and Robert Broadbent achieved the same perfect score in the U700 section.

Smokehouses

Monthly tournaments are held in Charlotte at the Smokehouse Restaurant. The results can be found on the Charlotte Chess Club website at <http://www.charlottechess.com> Recent winners have been Daniel Tapia, Robin Cunningham, and Patrick McCartney.

North Carolina State Scholastic Chess Championship XXIX

March 9 & 10, 2002

North Henderson High / Apple Valley Middle School Hendersonville, NC

5 Sections:

K-12 (High School - 12th grade & under) 5 rounds

K-8 (Middle School - 8th grade & under) 7 rounds

K-5 (Elementary - 5th grade & under) 7 rounds

K-3 (Primary - 3rd grade & under) 7 rounds

K (Kindergarten) 5 rounds Saturday only

Time Controls:

K-12: All the moves in 90 minutes.

K-8, K-5, K-3: All the moves in 60 minutes.

K: All the moves in 30 minutes.

Round Times:

K-12 : Sat 10:00-2:00-6:00

Sun 9:00-1:00.

K-8, K-5, K-3: Sat 10:00-1:00-3:00-6:00

Sun 9:00-12:00-2:00

K: Sat 10:00-11:00-1:00-2:00-3:00

Awards (4:30 Sunday):

K-12: Trophies to top 20 individuals, top 5 teams.

K-8: Trophies to top 20 individuals, top 5 teams.

K-5: Trophies to top 20 individuals, top 5 teams.

K-3: Trophies to top 20 individuals, top 5 teams.

K: Trophies to top 5 individuals. (awarded 4:30 Saturday)

All other participants will receive certificates of participation.

Entry Fee (includes \$2 to Denker fund and NCCA membership):

\$20 by March 8

\$25 at site by 8:30 Sat

U.S. Chess Federation membership required, \$13 if age 14 or under, \$20 otherwise.

Accelerated pairings may be used

Byes available any round except last (limit 2), request before round 1

Blitz (G/5) Championship:

Fri 8:00 p.m. at Apple Valley Middle School.

EF: \$2, ties broken by playoff, pairings on USCF regular rating.

Seminars:

Saturday after start of Round 1: Coaches Meeting.

Directions:

Exit 18, I-26

East on US 64, 1 mile

Left onto Fruitland Rd, 200 yards

Left into school

For more information or entry contact:

Send name, address, school, grade, and USCF ID to:

Neal Harris, RR 2 Box 234, Old Fort NC, 28762, 828-669-3829. E-mail rajkipling@yahoo.com

On-site tournament registration:

Friday 8-10 p.m. at Apple Valley Middle School.

Saturday 7-8:30 a.m. at North Hendersonville High School, if registration unfinished by 1st round starting time, play in first round may be denied, those in line will receive 0 point bye. Saturday morning registrations may not take 1st round bye.

Entry Form:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

School _____

Grade _____ Date of Birth _____

Section _____ USCF ID _____

Entry _____ + USCF membership _____ = _____

Chess Coach* _____

*Please nominate for Coach Of The Year

Upcoming tournaments in North Carolina

(and some in nearby states) Additional information can be found at <http://www.ncchess.org>

February 23, 2002. Brevard's First Tournament, Brevard
February 23, 2002. Mustang XXIV Scholastic, Carrboro
February 23, 2002. Ryans Steakhouse II G/60, Gastonia
February 23-24, 2002. Mt. Vernon Chess Classic, Alexandria, VA
March 1-3, 2002. 3rd Millennium Chess Festival, Virginia Beach, VA
March 9-10, 2002. NC State Scholastic Championship, Hendersonville.
March 16, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
March 23, 2002. CMSCA Jr. Open, Charlotte
April 11-14, 2002. National High School Chess Championships, Louisville, KY
April 13, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
April 20, 2002. Scholastic Team Championship Chess Tournament, Charlotte
April 27, 2002. Henderson County Scholastic Championship, Hendersonville.
April 27, 2002. Cumberland County Spring Open, Crossville, TN
May 3-5, 2002. NC Class Championships, Burlington
May 11, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
May 18, 2002. Something New TBD, Charlotte
May 18, 2002. Southwest Virginia Championships, Roanoke, VA
June 1, 2002. Orchard Lake Campground, Saluda.
June 15, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
June 15-16, 2002. Emory Castle Grand Prix, Atlanta
July 13, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
July 13, 2002. Cumberland County Summer Open, Crossville, TN
August 16-18. The LPO, Burlington
August 23-25, 2002. Atlantic Open, Washington, DC
August 24, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
September 21, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
October 12, 2002. Cumberland County Fall Open, Crossville, TN
October 19, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
November 23, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
December 13-15, 2002. National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship, Atlanta, GA
December 21, 2002. Smokehouse, Charlotte.
January 20, 2003. Facets Clue '03, Hendersonville

Knight's Tour

Tournament Directors are encouraged to require NCCA membership for their tournaments. Email all results to Kevin Hyde <hyde@a-o.com> so that credit can be given to the winners toward the Knight's Tour totals. Overall winners (adult and scholastic) will receive free entry into the 2002 NC Championship.

2002 NC Invitational

Invitations for the 2002 NC Invitational have been mailed out. Interested players should contact Neal Harris <rajkipling@yahoo.com>.

NC Clubs and Web Sites

Please email all club information to the NCCA and a new directory will be published with the next NC Gambit.

David Kyle Wallace

David Kyle Wallace was a scholastic chess player and honor student at Hudson Middle School and South Caldwell High School, in Caldwell County, in the 1980's. During his 9th grade year, his 1983 team at Hudson Middle School won the K-9 Championship in Raleigh and set a record 17 ½ team points. That team participated in the National Junior High Championship in April, 1983, which was held in Terre-Haute, Indiana. The team, coached by John E. Thomas, placed 12th in the nation.

David was an outstanding student throughout school. David also participated in the Advanced Chorus, his church Chancel Choir, French Club, varsity wrestling (1 yr.), and was a member of the local and National Beta Club. He studied Karate and achieved the rank of black belt. He worked out daily and was an avid runner.

David served in the U.S. Navy in the Nuclear Engineering Program during the late 1980's. He worked on an Associates Degree at CCC/TI and DBCC. He was highly successful in theater management, and he was employed as a city-manager with the Carmike Theaters. Two promotional projects received national recognition during the mid 1990's.

David was tragically killed in an automobile accident on February 11, 2000 while returning to his theater in Athens, Georgia. He was 31 years old.

Trophies were donated in David's memory at the Western North Carolina High School Class Chess Championship, held at Hibriten High School, on November 17, 2001; and also at the North Carolina High School Chess Championship, which was held at Newton-Conover High School on January 26, 2002. We celebrate David's driving spirit, his achievements in life, and the encouraging and positive support he gave to others.

North Carolina Chess Association

c/o Neal Harris

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