

The Gambit

The Nebraska State Chess Archives

Nebraska State Chess Association

Volume 2: 04/01-06/30/2026

Second Quarter

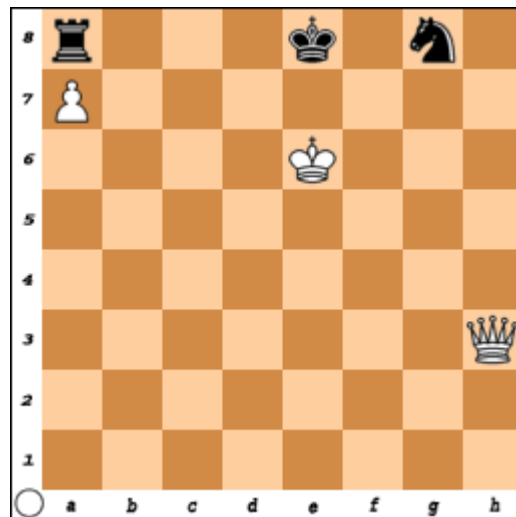
Miniatures are problems with no more than seven pieces on the board.

Due to their simple positions, miniatures are very popular among chess composition lovers.

The term ‘Miniature’ was introduced into chess problem vocabulary by Oscar Blumenthal (1852-1917), German playwright and literary critic by trade, and also chess problems composer.

Rauf Aliovsadzade

(first publication)



Mate in Two

The key **1.Qh7!** threatens 2.Qxg8#.

Four variations follow: 1...N-any 2.Qe7#, 1...Kd8 2.Qd7#, 1...Kf8 2.Qf7#, 1...0-0-0 2.a8Q#.

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Gambit Editor- Bruce Draney. The Gambit serves as the official publication of the Nebraska State Chess Association



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Nebraska Chess Information Page

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Nebraska State Chess Association

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Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame 14002 Frederick CIR Omaha NE 68138

President-Bruce Draney (gambiteer49@yahoo.com) 2025-2026 HOF Selection Committee:
Bruce Draney, Rod Malpert, Loren Schmidt.

Central Nebraska Chess Club-President Eric Ring, Kearney, Nebraska

ACTIVE NEBRASKA CHESS CLUBS

OMAHA:

Spence Chess Club-Meets on Wednesday night from 7-10 for USCF rated play. West Hills Church basement 3015 S 82nd AVE Omaha, NE-John Hartmann

Anderson Chess Club at Camelot-Meets on Friday afternoon 12-4 PM for unrated casual play
Location: Camelot Community Center 9270 Cady AVE Omaha, NE-John Bagley

Millard Library Chess Club-Meets on Sunday afternoon 2:30-4:30 for unrated and occasional rated play. Location: Millard Public Library 13214 Westwood LN Omaha, NE. Bruce Draney (402) 312-6335 or Scott Look (402) 889-1779

Increase the Piece Chess Club-Meets on Monday night 4-7:30 PM for casual play
Location: Washington Library 29th & Ames AVE, Omaha, NE Jerome Helm

International Café-2416 Farnam ST Omaha, NE 68131 Thursday and Saturday 4-8 PM
Richard Hudrin

Northside Chess Club-Salvation Army 2424 Pratt Street, Omaha NE, Wednesday 1-3, Free Lunch 12-1. Richard Gardner Jr.

LINCOLN SCC Chess Club-Meets on Wednesday nights at SE Community. College 89th & O ST, Lincoln, NE for casual and occasional rated play. Leo Iacono

Capital City Chess Club-Meets on Thursday 6-9 PM at The Post 2001 N ST in Lincoln, NE, for casual and occasional rated play. Nicholas Burroughs or Tim Coleman.

Cigarz Chess Club-Meets on Monday Nights at Cigarz Lounge, STE 104 800 Q, Lincoln NE 402-904-3460, for casual play. Stacy Williams

UNL Chess Club-Meets on Monday Nights during the school year in the Brace Laboratory Building at 510 Stadium Drive in Lincoln, NE, from 6-8 PM for casual play. Julia Haller is President.

OUTSTATE:

Beatrice Chess Club-Meets on Wednesday 6-8 PM at Beatrice Public Library 100 N 16th ST, Beatrice, NE 68310, for casual play. Dylan Dell-Haro

Nebraska City Chess Club-Meets on Thursday 4:30-6:30 PM at Morton James Public Library, 923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410, Kyle Madison 712-520-0859

Kearney Nebraska Chess Club-Central Nebraska Chess Club-Meets every other Saturday 3-4:30 PM at Kearney Public Library, 2020 1st AVE, Kearney, NE 68847 for casual and occasional rated play Eric Ring 308-240-1793 or Alex Maiwaldt 308-293-9116

Davenport Chess Club-Davenport Public Library 109 N Maple AVE, Davenport, NE 68335 Jack Roegner 765-407-0895

Nebraska Chess Related Websites:

NSCA Website-www.nebraskachess.com, Leo Iacono Webmaster

Facebook Chess Related Groups:

Nebraska Chess Community group-Vince Jodoin,

Nebraska Chess History group-Bruce Draney

Central Nebraska Chess Club Group-Eric Ring,

UNO Chess Group

Lincoln Chess Foundation & Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame Group-Bruce Draney

National Online Chess Playing Sites

Chess.com

Lichess.com

Editors Notes by Bruce Draney

Welcome to the 2nd quarter issue of the 2026 Gambit now in its record 73rd year of publication. As usual, I would like to acknowledge and thank a number of people for their contributions to Nebraska chess and for helping me keep this publication diversified by sending me articles, games and chess stories. Without them, the publication would be much smaller and less interesting.

Rauf Aliovsadzade-As usual, whenever I email Rauf and ask him for a new chess puzzle, he sends a new one to me within an hour of receiving my request. This quarter he introduces us to chess miniatures which are by definition problems with less than 7 pieces on the board. Enjoy his new puzzle!

Scott Look-Scott helps me run the Omaha Millard Library Chess Club and also is a huge supporter of over the board chess tournaments. Scott also gives private lessons and will be one of our teachers at this summer's Lincoln Chess Foundation Summer Chess Camp at Boys Town from July 27-31.

Craig Wilkins-Craig has become a great partner in supporting Nebraska Chess by sponsoring what is becoming one of Nebraska's most prestigious Open tournaments, the Wilkins Cup which this year moved to the first Saturday in June to avoid conflicts with the U.S. Open and the National Invitationals. This year the event was again held at the amazing Ovation Heartwood Preserve Senior Living Center on June 6th, and was so popular we had to limit entries to a maximum of 49. Thanks to Craig's generosity this has become one of Nebraska's most popular chess tournaments.

Gabe Hoffman-Gabe contributes another article this quarter and is now a regular contributor of not just games but his experiences playing in tournaments not just here but all over the country.

Rod Malpert-Hard to not thank Rod for all he does for Nebraska chess. Although we didn't host a huge two-day chess tournament this year, Rod gave \$2,300 to the foundation to incentivize participation in over the board tournaments in Nebraska for 2026. The UNL Chess Club Fund of \$500.00 was set up to get UNL students to play in Nebraska events and it has worked so far as 6-7 UNL players have played in major events like the State Scholastic and Open/College Team Championship and the Midwest Open. The CCC (Cornhusker Chess Circuit) is offering \$1800.00 in the form of twelve \$150.00 prizes to try and help boost attendance at events all over the state.

Jerry Slominski-Jerry has started running 2 game matches at the Bellevue Public Library on a fairly regular basis. The events are free but do require USCF membership. Come play sometime in Bellevue.

Bob Woodworth-Bob this quarter eulogizes Hall of Famer Roger Anderson who died in Feb..

2026 Omaha City Championship 3/28/2026 in Omaha at UNO's CPACS Building.

Although the winners were reported in the first quarter issue, there was no time to include cross tables or games due to the fact that the issue went to publication on Sunday 3/29/2026 and there was a delay in getting the event rated because of some expired or unpaid memberships. This year's event drew a decent crowd that included an Open section that drew 31 and another 42 combined in an U1200 (7), U800 (22), and U400 (13). With 3 extra players added as house players, it brought the total to 76. Senior Tournament Director Tony Dutiel directed the event, which was organized by NSCA President Steven Cusumano. 2026 Omaha City Champion is Dominic Zeisler who just graduated from Omaha Central High School.

Games from the 2026 Omaha City Championship.

Round 1:

Kantem-Lacroix

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. c3 Nf6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Be2 e6 7. Bf4 Bd6 8. Ne5 Bxe2 9. Qxe2 O-O 10. O-O Qb6 11. Rd1 Nbd7 12. c4 Qc7 13. Nxd7 Qxd7 14. Bxd6 Qxd6 15. c5 Qf4 16. Nc3 a6 17. Rd3 Rfc8 18. Rad1 Rc6 19. Rf3 Qc7 20. Qd2 Re8 21. Rg3 e5 22. Qg5 g6 23. Re3 h6 24. Qxh6 Ng4 25. Nxd5 Nxb6 26. Nxc7 Rxc7 27. Rde1 Nf5 28. Re4 Rd8 29. dxe5 Rxc5 30. h3 Rd2 31. R1e2 Rc1+ 32. Kh2 Rdd1 (0-1)

Zeisler-Kachala

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c6 3. Nc3 d5 4. e3 Bf5 5. cxd5 cxd5 6. Qb3 Qb6 7. Bb5+ Bd7 8. Bxd7+ Nbx7 9. Nxd5 Qxb3 10. Nxf6+ Nxf6 11. axb3 e6 12. Nf3 Ne4 13. Ne5 Bb4+ 14. Ke2 O-O 15. f3 Nf6 16. Bd2 Bxd2 17. Kxd2 a6 18. Rhc1 Rac8 19. Rc4 h5 20. Rac1 Rxc4 21. bxc4 Rc8 22. e4 Kf8 23. d5 Ke7 24. Rc3 Rc7 25. Nd3 Nd7 26. c5 exd5 27. exd5 Kd8 28. Ke3 f6 29. Nf4 Nf8 30. Nxb5 Re7+ 31. Kd4 Re5 32. Ng3 Ng6 33. Re3 Rg5 34. Re4 (1-0)

Kisicki-Mora

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Bd3 c5 4. exd5 exd5 5. Nf3 c4 6. Be2 Nf6 7. c3 Bd6 8. O-O O-O 9. b3 b5 10. a4 Qa5 11. b4 Qb6 12. axb5 a5 13. Qa4 Bd7 14. bxa5 Bxb5 15. Qc2 Qc7 16. h3 Nc6 17. Be3 Nxa5 18. Nbd2 Nb3 19. Rab1 Ba4 20. Qf5 Bd7 21. Qc2 Nxd2 22. Nxd2 Rfe8 23. Bf3 Rad8 24. Bg5 Kh8 25. Rfe1 Bf4 26. Bxf4 Qxf4 27. g3 Bf5 28. gxf4 Bxc2 29. Rbc1 Bd3 30. Nf1 Ne4 (1-0)

Round 2:

T. Jessop-Shravan Sarathkumar

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 e6 4. e5 Bb4 5. Qg4 Bf8 6. h4 h6 7. Nge2 Qc7 8. Bd2 Nd7 9. Ng3 c5 10. Nb5 Qb6 11. b3 g6 12. Nc3 cxd4 13. Na4 Qc7 14. f4 Qxc2 15. Qf3 a6 16. Bd3 Qc7 17. Rc1 Qd8 18. Ne2 Ba3 19. Rc2 h5 20. b4 b5 21. Nc5 Ne7 22. Nxd4 a5 23. Nxb5 Bxb4 24. Bxb4 axb4 25. Nxd7 Bxd7 26. Nc7+ Kf8 27. Nxa8 Qxa8 28. O-O Kg7 29. Rfc1 Nc6 30. Qf2 Rc8 31. Bb5 Qb7 32. Bxc6 Bxc6 33. Kh2 Kh7 34. Rc5 Qb6 35. Qd2 Kg7 36. R1c2 d4 37. R5c4 Rc7 38. Qxd4 Qxd4 39. Rxd4 Rd7 40. Rxd7 Bxd7 (1-0)

Round 3:

Zeisler-Lacroix

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bf4 O-O 6. e3 a6 7. cxd5 exd5 8. Bd3 Bg4 9. h3 Bh5 10. O-O c6 11. Rc1 Nbd7 12. Kh1 Re8 13. a3 Bf8 14. Be2 Ne4 15. Nxe4 dxe4 16. Ne5 Bxe2 17. Qxe2 Nf6 18. Bg5 h6 19. Bxf6 Qxf6 20. Nd7 Qe6 21. Nxf8 Kxf8 22. Rc3 Rad8 23. b4 Rd5 24. Kh2 Qd6+ 25. Kh1 Re6 26. Rc5 Rg6 27. Rfc1 Rgg5 28. Rxd5 Rxd5 29. Rc5 b5 30. Rc3 Qe6 31. Qc2 Rd6 32. Rc5 f6 33. Kg1 Ke7 34. a4 Kd7 35. axb5 axb5 36. Rc3 Kc7 37. Ra3 Rd7 38. Qc5 Qd6 39. Ra7+ Kd8 40. Qxd6 Rxd6 41. Rxg7 Rd7 42. Rxd7+ Kxd7 43. f3 f5 44. g4 Ke6 45. Kf2 exf3 46. Kxf3 fxg4+ 47. hxg4 Kd5 48. Kf4 Kc4 49. e4 Kxd4 50. e5 c5 51. e6 cxb4 52. e7 b3 53. e8=Q (1-0)

Mehlhaff-Koppinger

1. d4 d5 2. c4 Nc6 3. cxd5 Qxd5 4. Nf3 e5 5. Nc3 Bb4 6. Bd2 Bxc3 7. Bxc3 e4 8. Ne5 Nxe5 9. dxe5 Qxd1+ 10. Rxd1 Be6 11. a3 Ne7 12. g3 O-O 13. Bg2 Bf5 14. e6 Bxe6 15. Bxe4 c6 16. O-O Rfd8 17. Bc2 Nd5 18. Bd4 b6 19. e4 Ne7 20. Kg2 Rd7 21. Bc3 Rad8 22. Rxd7 Rxd7 23. Rd1 Rxd1 24. Bxd1 f5 25. exf5 Bxf5 26. f4 Nd5 27. Bd4 c5 28. Bf2 Kf7 29. Kf3 Nf6 30. Bb3+ Ke7 31. Be1 Kd6 32. Bc3 Ke7 33. Be5 Bd3 34. g4 c4 35. Ba4 a6 36. Bc6 Bc2 37. g5 Nh5 38. Bd5 b5 39. Ke2 h6 40. Kd2 Bd3 41. Kc3 hxg5 42. fxg5 a5 43. a4 b4+ 44. Kd4 Bg6 45. Kxc4 Bf7 46. Bxf7 Kxf7 47. Kb5 Ke6 48. Bb8 (1-0)

Round 4:

T. Jessop-Mehlhaff

1. b3 d5 2. Bb2 Bf5 3. e3 e6 4. f4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Be7 6. Be2 Nbd7 7. O-O O-O 8. d3 Ng4 9. Qd2 Bf6 10. d4 Be7 11. Ne5 Ngxe5 12. fxe5 f6 13. exf6 Nxf6 14. Bd3 Ne4 15. Bxe4 Bxe4 16. Nc3 Bf5 17. Rae1 Bd6 18. Nb5 Rf6 19. Nxd6 Qxd6 20. Qe2 Raf8 21. g4 Bxg4 22. Qd2 Rg6 23. Rf2 Be2+ 24. Rg2 Rxg2+ 25. Kxg2 Rf2+ 26. Kxf2 Qxh2# (0-1)

Cusumano-Zeisler

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Qb6 6. Be2 cxd4 7. cxd4 Nh6 8. Bxh6 Qxb2 9. Be3 Qxa1 10. Qc2 Nb4 11. Bb5+ Bd7 12. Bxd7+ Kxd7 13. Qa4+ Kc7 14. O-O Qb2 15. Na3 Nc6 16. Nb5+ Kd7 17. Nd6 Bxd6 18. exd6 Kxd6 19. Bc1 Qb6 20. Ba3+ Kc7 21. Ne5 Qxd4 22. Qxd4 Nxd4 23. Nxf7 Rhg8 24. Bd6+ Kd7 25. Bg3 Ne2+ 26. Kh1 Nxf3+ 27. fxg3 Rgf8 28. Ne5+ Kd6 29. Nf3 Rac8 30. h3 b6 31. Re1 Rfe8 32. Ng5 h6 33. Nf7+ Ke7 34. Ne5 Rc2 35. a3 Rec8 36. Rf1 Rc1 (0-1)

SMALLER EVENTS AROUND THE STATE IN APRIL

April 1st-SCC April Action G/10;d2 tournament was held in Lincoln at Southeast Community College at 8900 O Street. The event was organized and directed by SCC Club sponsor, Leo Iacono. It drew 9 players and 1st place was shared by Nick Gordon and Joaquin Siado Castaneda both with 4-1.

April 1st-No fooling, but the Spence Club also held an event on Wednesday April 1st. In this case it was also a quick event with a time control of G/12;d3. It drew a total of 10 players and NSCA Omaha VP Michael Mills swept to a first-place finish with 5-0. Second place went to Nick Gorman with 4-1.

April 8th-On Wednesday April 8th, the Spence Club ran a series of one-night matches for the first time with a time control of G/30;d5. Players were paired by rating and played one game as white and one game as black in a single night. In all 10 players took part with scores listed on the table below:

#	Name	Score	Name	Score
1	Steven Cusumano	2	Michael Mills	0
2	John Hartmann	2	Scott Look	0
3	Allan Easey	1.5	Gabriel Hoffman	.5
4	Philip Schiff	2	Phillip Foster	0
5	Nick Gorman	2	Tyler Ferland	0

April 15-22-29 and May 6th, the Spence club ran a 4 week long regular Swiss with one game a night that commenced on Wednesday April 15th and actually ended on May 6th the first Wednesday in May. The event had a time control of G/80;d5. The event was directed by NSCA Omaha VP Michael Mills who filled in for John Hartmann. The event drew a total of 14 players and final results will be reported under the events around the state in May section of this issue.

75th Anniversary of the Midwest Open Attracts 66 Players in 2 Sections on 4/18-19/2026

The Midwest Open is Nebraska's oldest and traditionally its strongest open chess tournament each year. The event which officially began under its current name in 1951 was celebrating its 75th anniversary. This year the event was held on April 18th and 19th once again at the Regency Marriott not far from I-680 and West Dodge Road here in Omaha.

The Open section was a state closed qualifier as well as a POY and CCC event. It was organized by NSCA President Steven Cusumano and directed by Ben Bratz of Des Moines. Because Bratz is a FIDE arbiter, the event was dual rated by both the USCF and FIDE. The Open section drew 35 which was down a bit from the last 3 years, but attendance in the RBO (U1200 section) was way up to 24 from only 10 last year, meaning overall attendance was actually slightly higher than last year.

There was a tie for 1st in the Open section between Gregory Revesz and Nick Lacroix who both finished with 4.5-.5. Because Revesz had better tie breaks, he won the slot in the Closed and took home the trophy. Sidd Parthasarathy of Omaha, and Jessica Lauser of Missouri tied for 3rd with 4-1.

The RBO was Saturday only and drew 24 players many of whom were children. It was 5 rounds in length with a time control of G/30;d5. The winner with a perfect 5-0 score was William Brent Jessop. Yashas Kiran and Arqam Ahmed Shaik tied for 2nd with 4-1.

Four people also took part in a blitz event on Saturday which drew 4 and was a 6 round double round robin. Nick Lacroix emerged as the winner with a score of 5-1. Jessica Lauser took second with 3.5-2.5. One outstanding feature of this year's tournament was the use of six DGT boards which allow chess boards to be electronically connected to the internet so that the moves are shown to viewers remotely in real time.

The NSCA decided to purchase several of these boards in the last year or two and Ben Bratz supplied several additional ones allowing spectators to see the top games as they happened even from anywhere in the world. Steven Cusumano set up a link to the tournament that allowed round by round coverage of the top 6 games each round.

I'm at somewhat of a loss to explain a 22% decline in Open section attendance (35 from 45), but in looking at last year's attendees one thing stands out, there were 10 fewer players from out of state this year as Jessica Lauser was the only Missouri player in attendance and players like Sam Mehlhaff, Tim McEntee, and Irene Fei did not show up this year for whatever reason. In addition, I know we lost a couple of our own players to a big event at the Saint Louis Chess Club in Missouri. Still, some of us are wondering if the future of big 2-day chess tournaments may be in doubt, as they are twice as expensive due to site costs.

75th Anniversary of the Midwest Open tournament 04/18-19/2026 in Omaha.

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Total
1	Greg Revesz	2112	W22	W20	D5	W3	W6	4.5
2	Nick Lacroix	2090	W26	W21	W18	1/2	W7	4.5
3	Sidd Parthasarathy	2012	W27	W29	W14	L1	W12	4.0
4	Jessica Lauser	1605	L7	W13	W30	WF21	W14	4.0
5	Steven Cusumano	1898	W11	W16	D1	L6	W17	3.5
6	Thomas Jessop	1796	D32	W28	W25	W5	L1	3.5
7	Matthew Holtmeyer	1136	W4	W19	1/2	W18	L2	3.5
8	Adam Hansen	UNR	L16	W11	W22	D9	W15	3.5
9	Advaith Sama	1699	W12	L14	W27	D8	1/2	3.0
10	Jonathan Reigenborn	1550	D17	L23	D32	W30	W18	3.0
11	Josh Lemon	1388	L5	L8	W34	W33	W19	3.0
12	Daryan Mora	1429	L9	W24	W20	W19	L3	3.0
13	Vamsi Katta	1267	L18	L4	W24	W22	W20	3.0
14	Matthew LeHolm	1254	W24	W9	L3	W25	L4	3.0
15	Scott Look	1600	L30	D17	W28	W16	L8	2.5
16	Philip Schiff	1586	W8	L5	D17	L15	W25	2.5
17	Nicholas Burroughs	1038	D10	D15	D16	W27	L5	2.5
18	Matthew Koppinger	1707	W13	W30	L2	L7	L10	2.0
19	Joaquin Siado Castaneda	1610	W33	L7	W29	L12	L11	2.0
20	Shravan Sarathkumar	1569	W31	L1	L12	W29	L13	2.0
21	Jeffery Solheim	1539	W34	L2	W31	LF4	U---	2.0
22	Curtis Holsinger	1417	L1	W33	L8	L13	W31	2.0
23	Kent Nelson	1800	D28	W10	U---	U----	U----	1.5
24	Samanvi Kantem	1674	L14	L12	L13	D26	W33	1.5
25	Mansi Adduri	1629	1/2	W32	L6	L14	L16	1.5
26	Thomas Lombard	1400	L2	L31	L33	D24	Bye	1.5
27	Jerome Tichacek	1400	L3	W34	L9	L17	D30	1.5
28	Rui Tao	1433	D23	L6	L15	D31	D29	1.5
29	Garrett Moore	1343	W35	L3	L19	L20	D28	1.5
30	Tyler Hatfield	1203	W15	L18	L4	L10	D27	1.5
31	Adrith Palapati	1055	L20	W26	L21	D28	L22	1.5
32	Ezekiel King	1361	D6	L25	D10	U---	U---	1.0
33	Edward Jessop	1197	L19	L22	W26	L11	L24	1.0
34	Tim Coleman	930	L21	L27	L11	Bye	U---	1.0
35	Chris Kisicki	1732	L29	U----	U----	U----	U----	0.0

Midwest Open RBO 4/18/2026

On Saturday April 18th only, an RBO (Rated Beginners Open) was held in conjunction with the Midwest Open. RBO's are open to anyone rated under 1200 but usually they attract young players just getting started in tournament chess. This year's RBO attracted a healthy 24 players (up from only 10 last year). The event was 5 rounds and was held in a separate room from the Open section to avoid noise and distractions. Winner was William Jessop with 4.5-.5.

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Total
1	William Jessop	1064	WF	W7	W10	D4	W9	4.5
2	Yashas Kiran	552	L5	W11	W17	W15	W8	4.0
3	Arqam Shaik	856	W20	L13	W5	W14	W4	4.0
4	Advith Bourampeta	588	W19	W9	W6	D1	L3	3.5
5	Michael Irons	UNR	W2	D12	L3	W19	W13	3.5
6	Luis Del Valle	UNR	W18	W8	L4	D7	W12	3.5
7	Sathvik Sarathkumar	593	W15	L1	W16	D6	W14	3.5
8	Kevin O'Keefe	612	W11	L6	W23	W10	L2	3.0
9	Rudhra Pittala	988	W22	L4	W12	W13	L1	3.0
10	Venkata Cheedella	494	W16	WF	L1	L8	W15	3.0
11	Rohith Cheedella	194	L8	L2	W22	W23	W16	3.0
12	Thanush Bokka	751	W21	D5	L9	W17	L6	2.5
13	Khyaati Misra	504	W24	W3	D14	L9	L5	2.5
14	Jackson Roth	UNR	WF	W17	D13	L3	L7	2.5
15	Vishvajit Kumar	118	L7	W22	W20	L2	L10	2.0
16	Tanish Gaddam	224	L10	Bye	L7	W18	L11	2.0
17	Teertha Pittala	597	W23	L14	L2	L12	W20	2.0
18	Divam Kumar	503	L6	L23	W21	L16	W19	2.0
19	Harry O'Keefe	110	L4	D20	W24	L5	L18	1.5
20	Jaivardhan Iyer	338	L3	D19	L15	W24	L17	1.5
21	Pranavh Anand	197	L12	D24	L18	W22	U---	1.5
22	Viaan Mukka	343	L9	L15	L11	L21	W23	1.0
23	Dhyuth Gogineni	143	L17	W18	L8	L11	L22	1.0
24	Bhargev Anand	UNR	L13	D21	L19	L20	U---	0.5

Games from the Midwest Open 2026

Round 1:

Holsinger-Revesz

1. e4 Nc6 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. d4 Nxe4 4. Bd3 d5 5. O-O Bg4 6. c3 e6 7. c4 Nf6 8. Re1 dxc4 9. Bxc4 Bxf3 10. Qxf3 Qxd4 11. Bb5 Qd5 12. Qe2 O-O-O 13. Nc3 Nd4 14. Nxd5 Nxe2+ 15. Bxe2 Rxd5 16. Be3 Bc5 17. Bf3 Re5 18. Bf4 Rxe1+ 19. Rxe1 Rd8 20. a3 Bd4 21. Rc1 e5 22. Bg5 c6 23. Rb1 Rd6 24. b4 h6 25. Bxf6 Rxf6 26. b5 e4 27. Bxe4 Rxf2 28. Kh1 cxb5 29. h3 Bb2 30. Kg1 Rd2 31. Kf1 a6 32. Bf5+ Kb8 33. Re1 Bxa3 34. Re8+ Ka7 35. Rc8 Kb6 36. Be4 a5 37. Rb8 Rd7 38. Rc8 a4 39. Rc2 Bc5 40. Ke2 b4 41. Ra2 a3 42. Bc2 Re7+ 43. Kd2 Re3 44. Bd3 Rg3 45. Kc2 b3+ 46. Kxb3 Rxd3+ 47. Kc2 Re3 48. Kd2 Rg3 49. Ke1 Ka5 (0-1)

Cusumano-Lemon

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. O-O Nf6 5. d3 O-O 6. c3 h6 7. Nbd2 d6 8. h3 Be6 9. Re1 Bxc4 10. Nxc4 Re8 11. b4 Bb6 12. a4 a6 13. Nxb6 cxb6 14. Qb3 Rc8 15. c4 Ne7 16. Be3 Ng6 17. a5 bxa5 18. bxa5 Qd7 19. Reb1 Rc7 20. Ra4 Nh5 21. Rb4 Nhf4 22. Kh2 Kh7 23. Bb6 Rcc8 24. Be3 Rc7 25. Ne1 Re7 26. Rb6 Qc8 27. Rxd6 Red7 28. c5 Ne6 29. Qb6 Ngf4 30. Rxd7 Qxd7 31. c6 Rxc6 32. Qxb7 Qxb7 33. Rxb7 Nc5 34. Rxf7 Nfxd3 35. Nxd3 Nxd3 36. Bb6 Rc4 37. Rd7 Nb4 38. f3 Kg6 39. Bc7 Nc6 40. Rd5 Rd4 41. Rxd4 exd4 42. Kg3 Kf6 43. f4 g6 44. Kf3 Ke6 45. g4 Kd7 46. Bb6 Ke6 47. f5+ gxf5 48. gxf5+ Ke5 49. Bc7+ Kf6 50. Kf4 Kf7 51. e5 Nb4 52. Ke4 d3 53. e6+ Ke7 54. Bf4 h5 55. Bg5+ Ke8 56. f6 Kf8 57. Bh6+ Ke8 58. f7+ (1-0)

Round 2:

Solheim-Lacroix

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. Nf3 Nc6 5. Nc3 Bg4 6. Bb5 cxd4 7. Qxd4 Bxf3 8. gxf3 e6 9. Rg1 Ne7 10. Bg5 Nf5 11. Qa4 Qb6 12. O-O-O Bc5 13. Rg2 h6 14. Bd2 O-O 15. Bxc6 Qxc6 16. Qg4 Kh7 17. Ne2 Rac8 18. Nf4 Bd4 19. c3 Bxe5 20. Rdg1 d4 21. Ng6 fxg6 22. Qxg6+ Kh8 23. Bxh6 gxh6 24. Qh5 dxc3 25. b3 Qd6 (0-1)

Koppinger-Hatfield

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. c4 Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Nc3 d6 8. Be2 a6 9. O-O Ne5 10. f3 h5 11. Nb3 Be6 12. c5 Bxb3 13. Qxb3 dxc5 14. Bxc5 Rc8 15. Rfd1 Qc7 16. Bb6 Qc6 17. Na4 Nfd7 18. Be3 b5 19. Rac1 Nc4 20. Bxc4 bxc4 21. Qa3 h4 22. Rxd7 Qxd7 23. Nb6 Qc7 24. Rxc4 Qxc4 25. Nxc4 Rxc4 26. Qxa6 Rc7 27. Qa4+ Rd7 28. Bb6 f6 29. b4 Kf7 30. Qxd7 h3 31. Bc5 Bf8 32. g4 Rg8 33. b5 f5 34. exf5 gxf5 35. Qxf5+ Ke8 36. Qh5+ Kd7 37. Qd5+ Ke8 38. Qxg8 (1-0)

Round 3:

Leholm-Parthasarathy

1. c4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. g3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. Bg2 Nb6 6. e4 Nc6 7. Nge2 Bc5 8. a3 Be6 9. O-O Bc4 10. b4 Bd4 11. Nxd4 Qxd4 12. Re1 Rd8 13. Re3 O-O 14. Rb1 Ne7 15. Ne2 Qd6 16. f4 Nc6 17. fxe5 Nxe5 18. Bb2 Ng4 19. Rf3 Qh6 20. h3 Rxd2 21. Re3 Rdd8 22. Rc3 Rd2 23. Qc1 Bxe2 24. Rf3 Bc4 (0-1)

Adduri-Jessop

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Be3 Ng4 7. Qd2 Nxe3 8. Qxe3 g6 9. Bc4 Bg7 10. Nxc6 bxc6 11. O-O O-O 12. Rad1 Qa5 13. Rd3 Rb8 14. Rb1 e6 15. Qg3 Qc5 16. Bb3 Be5 17. Qe3 Qxe3 18. Rxe3 Bg7 19. Ne2 d5 20. exd5 cxd5 21. c3 Ba6 22. Nd4 Rfc8 23. Nf3 Bc4 24. Bxc4 Rxc4 25. Nd2 Ra4 26. a3 Bh6 27. Re2 Bxd2 28. Rxd2 Rxa3 29. Rc2 Rab3 30. f3 a5 31. Ra1 Rxb2 32. Rxb2 Rxb2 33. Rxa5 Rc2 34. Ra8+ Kg7 35. Ra3 h5 36. h4 Kf6 37. Kh2 Rd2 38. Kg3 Rd3 39. Kf4 d4 40. Ke4 Rxc3 41. Rxc3 dxc3 42. Kd3 Ke5 43. g3 c2 44. Kxc2 Kd4 45. Kd2 e5 46. Ke2 f5 47. Kd2 e4 48. Ke2 e3 49. Ke1 Kd3 50. Kd1 e2+ 51. Ke1 Ke3 52. f4 Kf3 (0-1)

Siado-Castaneda-Moore

1. c4 e5 2. g3 Nf6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Bg2 O-O 5. Nf3 Re8 6. O-O c6 7. a3 Bxc3 8. dxc3 d5 9. cxd5 cxd5 10. Bg5 Be6 11. Nxe5 Qc7 12. Bxf6 gxf6 13. Nd3 Nc6 14. e3 Rad8 15. Nf4 Ne7 16. Nh5 Qe5 17. Qf3 f5 18. Qf4 Qh8 19. Qg5+ Ng6 20. Nf6+ Kf8 21. Nxe8 Kxe8 22. Rad1 h5 23. c4 Rd6 24. Bxd5 Bxd5 25. Rxd5 Rxd5 26. cxd5 Qxb2 27. Qxf5 Qxa3 28. Qc8+ Ke7 29. Qxb7+ Kf6 30. Qc6+ Kg7 31. Rc1 Ne5 32. Qc3 Qd6 33. f4 Qxd5 34. Qxe5+ (1-0)

Round 4:

Parthasarathy-Revesz

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Bc4 Be7 4. O-O Nf6 5. d3 Bg4 6. c3 O-O 7. Nbd2 c6 8. Re1 d5 9. Bb3 Nbd7 10. h3 Bxf3 11. Qxf3 dxe4 12. dxe4 a5 13. Nf1 a4 14. Bc2 Qc7 15. Ng3 g6 16. Be3 a3 17. b3 Kg7 18. h4 h5 19. Bg5 Nc5 20. Bd1 Nh7 21. Bxe7 Qxe7 22. Qe3 Rfd8 23. Bxh5 Rd3 24. Qe2 Rxc3 25. Qd2 Rd3 26. Qe2 Rd4 27. Bf3 Qxh4 28. Red1 Ne6 29. Qe3 Nhg5 30. Rac1 Rh8 31. Rxd4 Nxd4 32. Nh5+ gxh5 33. Rc5 Ngxf3+ 34. gxf3 Kh7 35. Rxe5 Rg8+ 36. Kf1 Qh1# (0-1)

Mora-Siado-Castaneda

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. f4 Nc6 4. fxe5 Nxe5 5. d4 Nc6 6. e5 Ng8 7. Nf3 d5 8. Bd3 Bg4 9. Be3 Bb4 10. O-O Nge7 11. a3 Ba5 12. Qe1 Ng6 13. Qg3 Qd7 14. Nxd5 Bxf3 15. Qxf3 O-O-O 16. Bf5 (1-0)

Round 5:

Revesz-Jessop

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. Bc4 Qb6 7. Nxc6 bxc6 8. Bb3 Ba6 9. f4 e6 10. Qf3 d5 11. exd5 exd5 12. Be3 Qa5 13. O-O-O Bb4 14. Bd4 O-O 15. Bxf6 gxf6 16. Nxd5 cxd5 17. Rxd5 Qb6 18. Rh5 Rae8 19. a3 Bd6 20. Qg4+ Kh8 21. Qf5 Bxf4+ 22. Kb1 h6 23. Qxf4 Qe3 24. Rxh6+ Kg8 25. Qxf6 (1-0)

Holtmeyer-Lacroix

1. d4 d5 2. Bf4 Nf6 3. Nf3 Bf5 4. e3 e6 5. c4 c6 6. Nc3 Bd6 7. Bg3 O-O 8. Be2 h6 9. Bxd6 Qxd6 10. O-O Nbd7 11. Rc1 Rfe8 12. Re1 Ne4 13. Nd2 Ndf6 14. Ndxe4 dxe4 15. h3 Rad8 16. Qb3 Rd7 17. Bd1 e5 18. Bc2 exd4 19. Rcd1 d3 20. Nxe4 Bxe4 21. f3 Bxf3 22. Rxd3 Qg3 (0-1)

Mora-Parthasarathy

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. e5 Nc6 4. d4 Bf5 5. Nf3 e6 6. Bd3 Nge7 7. Bg5 Bxd3 8. Qxd3 Qc7 9. Na3 a6 10. O-O h6 11. Bd2 Ng6 12. h4 c4 13. Qe2 Bxa3 14. bxa3 h5 15. a4 Nce7 16. Rfb1 Nf5 17. g3 Qd7 18. Rb4 Nge7 19. Rab1 Rb8 20. Bc1 O-O 21. Qb2 b6 22. Rxb6 Rxb6 23. Qxb6 Qxa4 24. Qb2 Qd1+ 25. Kg2 Qd3 26. Ne1 Qe4+ 27. f3 Qxe1 28. Bf4 Ne3+ 29. Kh3 Nd1 30. Rxd1 Qxd1 31. Kg2 Nf5 32. Kf2 Qh1 33. Qe2 Qh2+ 34. Ke1 Qg1+ 35. Kd2 Nxc3 36. Bxc3 Qxc3 37. Qd1 Qf2+ 38. Qe2 Qxe2+ 39. Kxe2 Rb8 40. Ke3 Rb2 41. a4 Ra2 42. Kf4 Rxa4 43. Kg5 Ra1 44. f4 Rg1+ 45. Kxh5 Kh7 46. f5 g6+ 47. fxg6+ fxg6# (0-1)

Lauser-Leholm

1. e4 c5 2. b4 cxb4 3. d4 d6 4. f4 g6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Bb5+ Bd7 7. Bc4 Bg7 8. a3 b5 9. Bd5 Bc6 10. Bxf7+ Kf8 11. Ng5 Qb6 12. c3 h6 13. Bxc6 hxc6 14. fxg5 bxc3 15. Be3 Be8 16. Qf3+ Nf6 17. d5 Qa5 18. Bf5 Bf7 19. gxf6 Bxf6 20. O-O Qc7 21. Nxc3 Bxc3 22. Rac1 Ke8 23. Bf2 Na6 24. Rxc3 Nc5 25. e5 Qb7 26. Bxc5 Bxd5 27. Bg6+ Kd8 28. Qd3 dxc5 29. Bf7 (1-0)

Hansen-Look

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nbd2 c5 4. e3 Bg4 5. b3 cxd4 6. exd4 e6 7. Bb5+ Nc6 8. Bb2 Bd6 9. O-O Rc8 10. Re1 O-O 11. h3 Bh5 12. a3 a6 13. Be2 Bb8 14. Ne5 Bxe2 15. Rxe2 Qc7 16. Ndf3 Ne4 17. c4 Nxe5 18. dxe5 Rfd8 19. Qe1 Nc5 20. Re3 dxc4 21. Rc1 Nd3 22. Rxd3 Rxd3 23. Rxc4 Qd8 24. Rxc8 Qxc8 25. Qe4 Rxb3 26. Ng5 g6 27. Qh4 h5 28. Qf4 Qc7 29. Bd4 Rb5 30. Qf6 Qd7 31. Bc3 a5 32. Bd4 Rd5 33. Bc3 b5 34. Ne4 Qd8 35. Qf4 Rd1+ 36. Kh2 Kg7 37. Nd6 Bxd6 38. exd6+ f6 39. Bd2 g5 40. Qd4 e5 41. Qa7+ Kg6 42. Qc7 Qf8 43. Qc2+ e4 44. Qxd1 Qxd6+ 45. g3 h4 46. Qe2 hxg3+ 47. fxg3 f5 48. Qe3 Qf6 49. h4 (1-0)

Gabe's Corner: by Gambit Intern and Contributor Gabe Hoffman

Hello, hello!

I am back with another chess Article. I've been pretty busy between trying to maintain a full-time job, and some health complications haven't helped with college and maintaining good chess :).

This wasn't my best event by far, and I played very poorly at times, but I felt like all the games were relatively interesting and felt like I had a very interesting couple of rook endgames.

Minneapolis open 6/5-6/7. This was a 3-day event. G75 + 30

Game 1. Rihan V. Gabe. D10 Slav Defense

This was my longest game of the tournament

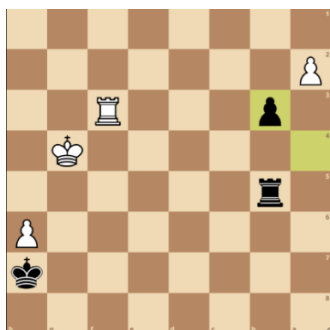
1. D4, D5, 2. C4, C6 3. Nc3, Nf6 4. Bg5, H6 5. Bh4, Bf5 6. E3, Nbd7 7. Nf3, e6 8. Be2 Be7
9. O-O, O-O 10. Qd2, Ne4 11. Nxe4, dxe4 12. Bxe7, Qxe7 13. Ne1, Qg5 14. G3, Rad8
15. Ng2, Ne5 16. F4, Exf3 e.p. 17. Bxf3, Bh3? **D**



A seemingly strong move that gives away most of my advantage. The correct idea is Bd3! It seems to make no sense at first, but the rook must defend the bishop, when I can simply play Rxd4 due to the pin and am much better.

18. Qe2, Bxg2? (Right idea, wrong piece. I should just take the Bishop with the knight to keep the pressure on the light squares) 19. Bxg2, Ng4 (and just like that, my advantage is gone from -2 to almost 0)
20. Rae1, C5? (Three mistakes really close to each other, this was trying to break open the center and create any counterplay, and now I am worse as I just gave away a pawn for free)
21. Rf4!, H5 22. Bxb7 (Not taking the bishop is coming back to bite me) ...Cxd4
23. exd4, Rd7, 24. Bf3, Rfd8, 25. Bxg4, Hxg4 26. Rxg4, Qf6 27. Qe5, Qh6 28. Re2, F5 29. Rf4, Kf7 30. B3, G5, 31. Rf1? (Missing the immediate win with D5!), ...Rxd4.
32. Qc7+, R8d7, 33. Qe5, G4 34. Rfe1, Rd1. 35. Qxe6+, QxQ 36. Rxe6, R1d2??
(And throwing away my key way of holding a draw. Right idea, wrong rook.)
37. Ra6 (And giving up most of his advantage) ...Rb2, 38. Rf1, Kg8 39. Rxf5, Rd1+
40. Rf1, Rdd2. 41. Rh6, Kg7 42. Rh4, Kg6 43. Rxd4+, Kh5, 44. Rh4+, Kg5 45. C5, Rdc2 (Right idea, but I needed to push the king into the corner with the critical Rg2+! As the king is now in the corner, the Rook on F1 can no longer challenge my rook on the B-file as it did in the game.)

46. C6, Rxc6, 47. Rf2, Rc1+ 48. Kg2, Rbb1 49. h3, Rg1+, 50. Kf3, Rbc1 51. Rg4+, Kh5
52. Kf4, Rc8. 53. Rg5+, Kh6 54. Kg4, Rxd3+! (Trading now is forced, I get a pawn in the process, but the remaining endgame is still difficult and technically losing for me if he plays perfectly.)
55. KxR, KxR 56. H4+, Kg6 57. Rf3, Rb8 58. Kg4, Rb4+ 59. Rf4, Rb5 60. Rc4, A5
61. Rc6+, Kg7 62. Ra6, Kh7 63. H5, Kg7, 64. H6+, Kh7 65. Rf6, A4! 66. Rf3, Axb3. **D**



This is the critical moment, White has 1 move to win and one that's drawn.

67. Rxb3?? (The Drawing move, I will pick up the H or A-pawn, and a rook's pawn is always drawn, is the rule of thumb in rook endgames. Axb3! Is the only winning move, as while white gives up the H-pawn, being able to go around the B-pawn as white makes this endgame winning.)

...Ra5!, 68. A3, Kxh6, 69. Kf4, Kg6 70. Ke4, Kf6, 71. Kd4, Ke6 72. Kc4, Kd6 73. Kb4, Ra8 74. Rc3, Kd5 75. A4, Kd4, 76. Rc4+, Kd5 77. Rc5+, Kd4??

This last move by me is a massive mistake as now I am dead lost in a really easy endgame, but we agreed to a draw here as we were both low on time and he couldn't figure out how to win.

Agreed to a draw **1/2-1/2**

Game 2. Gabe v. Jake B13 Caro-Kann Defense: Exchange Variation

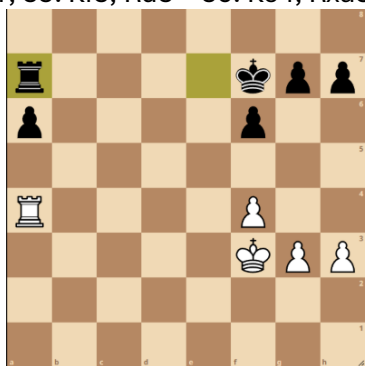
1. E4, C6 2. D4, D5 3. Exd5, Cxd5 4. Nf3? (forgetting the move order of my opening prep, and I wasn't familiar with the resulting position, as such, I burned lots of time and found myself uncomfortable in this game.)

...Bg4. 5. Be2, Nc6 6. C3, Qc7 7. Qb3, e6 8. O-O, Bd6, 9. Re1, Nf6 10. Na3, A6 11. H3, Bh5 12. Be3, O-O 13. Rac1, B5 14. Qc2, Bg6 15. Bd3, Bxd3 16. Qxd3, Bxa3 17. Bxa3, Rfc8 18. Bg5, Ne4,

19. Rxe4 (I felt like I couldn't let him keep the knight in the center so I gave up the exchange but the position is already almost hopeless. My opening went seriously wrong.) ...Dxe4

20. Qxe4, Ne7 21. C4, bxc4 22. Bxe7, Qxe7 23. Ne5, F6 24. Nc6, Qd6 25. Rxc4, Re8 26. G3, Rac8

27. D5, exd5 28. Ne7+, Qxe7 29. Qxe7, Rxe7 30. Rxc8+, Kf7 31. Rc6, Re6 32. Rc5, D4 33. Rd5 Re1+, 34. Kg2, Rd1, 35. Kf3, Rd3+ 36. Ke4, Rxa3 37. Rxd4, Rxa2 38. F4, Re2+ 39. Kf3, Re7, 40. RA4,



7 D

My position is holdable, there are drawing chances, I just had to find the right idea and completely missed it.

41. Kg4?? (Time trouble coming to bite me, I missed the only move RA5!, This is drawing as my rook now supports the kingside and prevents his passed pawn from further advancement)

...A5! 42. Kh4, H6 43. Kh5, G6+? (I have another lease on life to draw if I find the only move!)

44. Kg4?? (Missing it again... I can simply take the H-pawn when RA8 doesn't threaten mate as I have Kh7! And the game is once again drawn) (I went on to lose)

...H5+, 45. Kf3, F5 46. Kg2, Ke6 47. Kf3, Kd5, 48. Ke3, Kc5 49. Kd3, Kb5 50. RA1, A4 52. Ke5, RA6 53. RA2, Kc4 54. G4, Fxg4 55. F5, Gxf5 56. Kxf5, Kb3, 57. Re2, A2. 58. Re3+, Kc2, 59. Re2+, Kd3,

60. Re1, A1=Q 61. Re5, Qf1+, 62. K G5, Qf6+ 63. KxH5, Qg6# **Black won 0-1**

Game 3. Clark V. Gabe A11 English Opening: Caro-Kann Defensive System

Going into this round with 0.5/2, I was playing for a win.

1. C4, C6 2. Nc3, Nf6 3. D4, D5 4. Cxd5, Cxd5 5. Bf4, Nc6 6. E3, E6 7. Nf3, Bd6 8. Bxd6, Qxd6 9. Bb5, O-O 10. O-O, A6 11. Ba4, B5 12. Bc2, Bb7 13. A3, B4 14. Axb4, Nxb4 15. Rc1, Rf8 16. Qe2, Ne4 17. Bxe4, Dxe4 18. Ne5, Bd5 19. Qh5, G6 (This is a mistake, but neither of us saw the idea, nor is it particularly clear why) 20. QH6, Qf8 21. Qxf8+, Kxf8? (This is a very clear mistake that again we both missed. The missed idea is that this allows Ne7+, followed by a fork of my rooks on B6) 22. Ne2?? (Missing the idea is one thing; however, he still needed to play the check as his knight in the center doesn't have many squares **D**)



...Ke7! Taking away the only good square from the knight instead of trading rooks as I'd like to keep the open file. **D**



23. Rxc8, Rxc8. 24. Rc1? (White needed to make a square so the knight could retreat) Rxc1+ 25. Nxc1, f6 26. Ng4, H5. White resigned; the knight is going to fall, and the resulting endgame is hopeless, and he didn't feel like suffering for another hour.

Black won 0-1

Game 4. Gabe V. Krish. C29 Vienna Game: Vienna Gambit

1. E4, E5 2. Nc3, Nf6 3. F4, D6 4. Nf3, Nc6 5. Bb5, Bg4 6. H3, Bxf3, 7. Qxf3, A6 8. Ba4, B5? 9. Nxb5!!, axb5 10. Bxb5 (I am going to get my piece back and am now simply up 2 pawns) ...Nd7 11. Bxc6, Rb8 12. Fxe5, Dxe5 13. O-O, f6 14. Qf5, Qe7 15. Bxd7+, Qxd7, 16. Qxd7+, Kxd7 17. RF3, Bd6 18. B3, Rb6 19. A4, RA6 20. Ba3, Rb8 21. Bxd6, Rxd6 22. Rd1, Rb4, 23. C4, Rd4 24. Re3, Rb6. 25. Kf2, C5? **D**



...Kc6 is a much better idea to try to infiltrate with the king when I must play very precisely to win. My rooks aren't great now, but this is a fantastic endgame once I consolidate.

26. Ke2, Rbd6 27. D3, Rb6 28. Rb1, Kc6 29. Rg3, Rd7 30. Kd2, Kb7 31. Kc3 **D**.



I have fixed my position. My rooks are well placed, and my King is perfect.

...Ka6 32. B4, Rb8 33. B5+, Ka5 34. Rf3, Rb6 35. G4, G6 36. Rbf1, Rf7 37. G5, F5 38. Exf5, Gxf5 39. Rxf5, Rxf5, 40. RXf5, Re6 41. Rf7! (Threatening mate and the H7 pawn) ...Ra6?? (Preventing mate in the worst possible way.) 42. Bxa6, Kxa6 43. Rxh7, Kb6 44. G6, Ka5 45. G7, Kxa4 46. G8=R, Ka5 47. Rh6, Ka4 48. Ra8#

White Won 1-0

Game 5. Aditya V. Gabe B13 Caro-Kann Defense: Exchange Variation

1. E4, C6 2. D4, D5 3. Exd5, Cxd5 4. Nc3, Nf6 5. Nf3, Nc6 6. H3, Bf5 7. Bb5, a6 8. Bxc6+, bxc6 9. O-O, e6 10. A3, Bd6 11. Re1, O-O 12. Be3, Qc7 13. Qd2, Rab8 14. Rab1, Rb7 15. Rec1, RFb8 16. Na4 (Trying to defend the pawn) Bxa3! 17. Qd1, BxB2! 18. NxB2, RxB2, 19. Rxb2, Rxb2 20. C3, Qb7 21. Ne5, Nd7 22. Nd3, Bxd3, 23. Qxd3, Nb6 24. Rb1, Nc4 25. Rxb2, Qxb2 26. Bf4, H6 27. Qg3, Qb1+ 28. Kh2, G5 29. Be3, a5 30. H4, Nxe3 31. Fxe3, Qd1! 32. Qb8+, Kg7 **D**



This is the better of the two possible king moves, as I defend the weak F pawn, and the only possible check, Qe5, leaves the white Queen misplaced after Kg6.

33. Qe5+, Kg6 34. Qg3, Qh5 35. Kh3? Qxh4+! 36. Qxh4, gxh4 37. Kxh4, a4 38. E4, A3, 39. E5, A2 40. C4, A1=Q 41. C5, Qxd4+ 42. Kh3, Kf5 43. Kh2, Ke4 44. Kh1, Qd1+ 45. Kh2, Ke3 46. Kh3, Kf2 47. Kh2, Qh5#

Black won 0-1

I had a lot of fun and had a really rough start, but found the event quite enjoyable, finishing just outside the prizes, with 3.5/5.

I also played in the blitz and had some wild games finishing at 5/10.

This event was held at the Chess Castle in Edina, Minnesota. The chess castle is located inside the mall on the bottom-most floor. If you're going to go, make sure to go early as it can be difficult to find.

Despite a decent result, I managed to lose rating! Haha, I didn't mind as I felt these games made great and interesting content for an article!

I hope Y'all enjoy this article and remember to play in Nebraska Chess and reach out if you want me to cover any of your events. :)

LINK TO STUDY: <https://lichess.org/study/mxeomqW1>

LINK TO EVENY FINAL STANDINGS: [2026 Minneapolis Open](#) | [US Chess Ratings](#)

Nebraska Individual Championships Saturday May 9th at UNO CPACS Building.

Nebraska held its Individual State Championships on Saturday May 9th at UNO in the CPACS Building here in Omaha. The event drew a total of 41 players and there were 5 individual invitations to the Nationals this summer in Grand Rapids Michigan offered to the winners. Our 2026 Denker representative is Luke Hengen who won a best of 3 playoff with Thomas Jessop to win the high school section with a score of 3.5-.5. Our 2026 Barber representative is Brent Jessop who won the middle school section with a score of 4-0. Our Rockefeller representative is Sidd Parthasarathy who won the elementary school section with a score of 4-0. Our Haring representative is Mansi Adduri who won the girls K-12 section with a score of 3-0, and our Irwin representative is Jeffery Solheim who won the Senior section with a score of 3-0. The event was directed by Nick Lacroix and Michael Gooch.

Senior 50 and Over Section (Irwin Representative)

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Total
1	Jeffery Solheim	1542	W7	D2	W3	2.5
2	Srini Kachala	1293	Bye	D1	W5	2.5
3	John Hartmann	1726	W6	W4	L1	2.0
4	Scott Look	1600	W5	L3	W6	2.0
5	Gary Slominski	1312	L4	W6	L2	1.0
6	Tom Lombard	1400	L3	L5	L4	0.0
7	Leo Eledge	UNR	L1	U--	U--	0.0

High School Section (Denker Representative)

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Total
1	Luke Hengen	2167	W5	D2	W4	W6	3.5
2	Thomas Jessop	1808	W6	D1	W5	W4	3.5
3	Michael Gurnsey	1279	Bye	L4	L6	W5	2.0
4	Aryana Vanaparti	870	1/2	W3	L1	L2	1.5
5	Daryan Mora	1543	L1	W6	L2	L1	1.0
6	Shannor Qiang	1414	L2	L5	W3	L1	1.0

*Because Thomas Jessop and Luke Hengen drew one another and beat all the same opponents a 3-game playoff took place to determine the Nebraska Denker representative and Luke won the best of 3 playoff 2-0, so he gets the slot as Nebraska's high school champion.

*A brand new K-3 National Invitational was created by USCF, so Divam Kumar was our highest scoring person in that age group.

Middle School Section (Barber Representative)

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Total
1	William Jessop	1111	W8	W2	W7	W6	4.0
2	Arjun Andukuri	951	W5	L1	W3	W7	3.0
3	Edward Jessop	1198	W6	D4	L2	W9	2.5
4	Aaryan Dhanda	1051	W9	D3	L6	W8	2.5
5	Alan Zhuang	1294	L2	L7	W9	Bye	2.0
6	Nathan Brhel	706	L3	W8	W4	L1	2.0
7	Venkata Cheedella	524	Bye	W5	L1	L2	2.0
8	Nandhan Sama	640	L1	L6	Bye	L4	1.0
9	Yashas Kiran	706	L4	Bye	L5	L3	1.0

Elementary Section (Rockefeller Representative)

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Total
1	Sidd Parthasarathy	2012	WF	W4	W3	W2	4.0
2	Adrith Palapati	1126	W9	W8	W7	L1	3.0
3	Arqam Shaik	887	W12	W5	L1	W8	3.0
4	Divam Kumar *	502	W11	L1	W6	W9	3.0
5	Cheng Zhong	594	W14	L3	W10	W7	3.0
6	Khyaati Misra	580	W16	W13	L4	D12	2.5
7	Ridit Rai	748	W10	W15	L2	L5	2.0
8	Teetha Pittala	541	Bye	L2	W12	L3	2.0
9	Aarush Akula	410	L2	W11	W15	L4	2.0
10	Tanish Gaddam	259	L7	W16	L5	W15	2.0
11	Dhyuth Gogineni	165	L4	L9	W16	W14	2.0
12	Rohith Cheedella	424	L3	W14	L8	D6	1.5
13	Ramcharan Raghu	423	L15	L6	L14	WF16	1.0
14	Virinchi Kantem	124	L5	L12	W13	L11	1.0
15	Aadithya Parthasarathy	UNR	W13	L7	L9	L10	1.0
16	Barghev Anand	103	L6	L10	L11	LF13	0.0

*See note about Divam Kumar at the bottom of the previous page.

Girls K-12 (Haring Representative)

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Total
1	Mansi Adduri	1582	Bye	W2	W3	3.0
2	Samanvi Kantem	1566	W3	L1	Bye	2.0
3	Hannah Morrison	UNR	L2	Bye	L1	1.0

SMALLER CHESS EVENTS AROUND THE STATE IN MAY

Sunday May 3rd-The Millard Library Chess Club held an FRO Team Blitz Event called the Springtime Blitz. The event attracted a good crowd of 10 players allowing for 5 two-man teams to take part in the 8 round double Swiss G/5;d2 event. The Easter Eggers team of Chris Kisicki and Flint Antonson tied with the May Monsters team of Bruce Draney and Adrith Pallepatti both with 6.5-1.5.

Wednesday May 6th-The Spence Chess club concluded a 4 round Swiss that had begun back on April 15th. The event drew 14 players and the winner was Sidd Parthasarathy with a score of 4-0. Nick Lacroix and Alan Easey tied for 2nd with 3-1. The event was directed by NSCA Omaha Vice President Michael Mills.

Saturday May 9th-The annual Nebraska Individual Championships were held at UNO in the CPACS building. The event drew a total of 41 players in 5 separate sections including Seniors 50+ (Irwin Representative), High School (Denker Representative), Middle School (Barber Representative), Elementary School (Rockefeller Representative), and the Girls K-12 (Haring Representative). See page 18-19 for full details on winners and cross tables.

Sunday May 10th-The Millard Library Chess Club held a G/10;d2 FRO round robin action event called the May Flowers Action. The event drew 5 players and the winner was Bruce Draney with a score of 3-1. Micah Cosgrove finished second with 2.5-1.5.

Wednesday May 13th-The Spence Club hosted a 6 double round robin G/3;d2 blitz tournament. It drew 12 players and was won by Nick Lacroix with 10.5-1.5.

Wednesday May 20th-The Spence Club hosted quick chess quads with a time control of G/20;d5. The event drew 10 players. Philip Schiff, Scott Look and Nick Gorman tied for 1st in the top quad all with 2-1, and the second group which had 6 players was won by Srini Kachala with 2.5-.5.

Saturday May 23rd-The Central Nebraska Chess Club hosted its annual Kearney Chess Fest in Kearney. The event was organized and directed by Eric Ring and it drew a total of 30 players, including 7 players in the Open section. Tony Dutiel won the event. Twenty-three players took part in the unrated/casual section.

Sunday May 31st-Jerry Slominiski ran another 2 game match series at the Bellevue Library that attracted 23 players. Each pair played one game as white and another as black.

Sunday May 31st-Bruce Draney held an impromptu double round robin G/5; d2 blitz tournament at the Millard Library that drew 4 players. Draney won with 5-1.

3RD ANNUAL WILKINS CUP DRAWS A STRONG FIELD OF 45

The 3rd Annual Wilkins Cup was held for the 2nd year in a row at the beautiful Ovation Senior Living Center on Maxwell Avenue here in Omaha. The event was directed by Bruce Draney and was made possible once again through the generosity and support of Omaha South graduate, Craig Wilkins. The event drew 49 players and the cup champion this year was SM Rod Malpert who had the better tiebreaks amongst a group of 4 all with a score of 3.5-.5, the silver cup went to Mike Blankenau. Nick Lacroix and Sidd Parthasarathy all walked away with a nice cash payout after splitting the 1500 guaranteed money. Daryan Mora took home the 1st U1600 cup and gained over 100 rating points in the process finishing with 3-1. Tony Dutiel won the B prize also with 3-1. Mora and Jonathon Reigenborn shared the C money. Class D winner was Matthew Leholm, and top Class E and Under was won by Edward Lucas Jessop. The biggest upset was by Luciano Roberts (846) who upset Tom Lombard (1400).

The event ran smoothly for the most part with a few minor disruptions, and rounds running close to on time. I got numerous compliments on the playing site and they provided coffee and water the entire day. We were able this year to offer all players a \$15.00 meal voucher to use in the facility restaurant which many people enjoyed.

The Wilkins Cup began in 2024, when Omaha South graduate Craig Wilkins met with me and told me about wanting to give back to chess in Nebraska in some way as he felt it helped shape the person he is today. I agreed to direct it and handle all the details and we formed a great working partnership to bring the event to life.

This year's event featured the largest prize fund in the state this year with \$2500.00 guaranteed, plus all the aforementioned amenities. The field was strong with 12 of the 48 (13 if you count my game as a house player) rated 1800 or above and featured 3 Hall of Famers and 5 former or current state champions.

Craig has committed to supporting the event for at least two more years, but based on the support and enthusiasm we have received the event may continue beyond that if Craig sees the benefit and value in supporting it. This year it was a National Enhanced Grand Prix, a POY and a CCC event. Although most of the players were Nebraskans, we had players from Iowa and Minnesota and players from Lincoln, Omaha, and central Nebraska.

3rd Annual Wilkins Cup 6/6/2026 Directed by Bruce Draney in Omaha

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Total
1	Rod Malpert	2216	W11	W22	W6	D2	3.5
2	Michael Blankenau	2218	W48	W24	W10	D1	3.5
3	Sidd Parthasarathy	2028	W8	W20	D7	W12	3.5
4	Nick Lacroix	2090	W16	D21	W30	W5	3.5
5	Luke Hengen	2160	W18	W13	W28	L4	3.0
6	Thomas Jessop	1827	W33	W14	L1	W21	3.0
7	Tony Dutiel	1783	W45	W17	D3	D9	3.0
8	Daryan Mora	1516	L3	W26	W42	W20	3.0
9	Steven Cusumano	1898	W47	W15	D12	D7	3.0
10	Joe Knapp	1879	W46	W23	L2	W22	3.0
11	Jonathan Reigenborn	1551	L1	W37	W36	WF24	3.0
12	Julius Meduna	1649	W40	W44	D9	L3	2.5
13	Chris Kisicki	1700	W32	L5	W25	D16	2.5
14	Scott Look	1601	W36	L6	W31	D19	2.5
15	Mansi Adduri	1605	W31	L9	D17	W30	2.5
16	William Glasnapp	1530	L4	W41	W39	D13	2.5
17	Matthew Leholm	1254	W29	L7	D15	WF42	2.5
18	Samanvi Kantem	1547	L5	D32	W45	W34	2.5
19	John Hartmann	1726	1/2	W38	D21	D14	2.5
20	Matthew Koppinger	1669	W26	L3	W27	L8	2.0
21	Michael Schaal	1661	W41	D4	D19	L6	2.0
22	John Stepp	1700	W37	L1	W35	L10	2.0
23	Jesse Zogorski	1454	W39	L10	L24	W37	2.0
24	Noah Polacek	1767	W27	L2	W23	LF11	2.0
25	Vamsi Katta	1425	L44	W40	L13	W36	2.0
26	Edward Jessop	1164	L20	L8	W47	W35	2.0
27	Trevor Reinke	1258	L24	W48	L20	W38	2.0
28	Matt Buckley	1821	W43	W35	L5	U---	2.0
29	Jerry Slominski	1709	L17	D45	W38	1/2	2.0
30	Srini Kachala	1336	1/2	W34	L4	L15	1.5
31	Elijah Jamal	958	L15	W46	L14	D33	1.5
32	Nicholas Burroughs	1227	L13	D18	L34	W45	1.5
33	Garrett Moore	1383	L6	L39	W41	D31	1.5
34	Steven Jacobs	1413	1/2	L30	W32	L18	1.5
35	Curtis Holsinger	1407	W42	L28	L22	L26	1.0
36	Luciano Roberts	846	L14	W47	L11	L25	1.0
37	Xavier Garcia	1178	L22	L11	W46	L23	1.0
38	Timothy Schmeddinghoff	737	Bye	L19	L29	L27	1.0
39	Will Osborne	1905	L23	W33	L16	U---	1.0
40	Adrith Pallepatti	1132	L12	L25	D43	D46	1.0
41	William Jessop	1162	L21	L16	L33	Bye	1.0
42	Dominic Zeisler	1898	L35	W43	L8	LF17	1.0
43	Gary Slominski	1309	L28	L42	D40	1/2	1.0
44	Richard Knox	1900	W25	L12	U---	U---	1.0
45	Matt Savage	1269	L7	D29	L18	L32	0.5
46	Ralph Dudy	1400	L10	L31	L37	D40	0.5
47	Thomas Lombard	1400	L9	L36	L26	1/2	0.5
48	Philip Schiff	1587	L2	L27	U---	U---	0.0
X-Game	Bruce Draney	1800	W38	1/2	U---	U--	(1.5)*

Select Games from the Wilkins Cup

Round 1:

Kantem-L. Hengen

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. Nc3 Nxe4 5. Nxe4 d5 6. Bxd5 Qxd5 7. Nc3 Qd7 8. d3 Bd6 9. Ne4 O-O 10. O-O f5 11. Ng3 h6 12. Bd2 Qf7 13. Re1 Bd7 14. Bc3 Rae8 15. Re2 Re7 16. Qd2 Rfe8 17. Rae1 Qxa2 18. d4 e4 19. d5 exf3 20. Rxe7 Rxe7 21. Rxe7 Bxe7 22. dxc6 Bxc6 23. gxf3 Qf7 24. Qe2 Bd6 25. Qd3 f4 26. Nf5 Bf8 27. Nh4 Bd7 28. Qd4 Bh3 29. Qe4 Bd6 30. Qg6 Be7 31. Qxf7+ Kxf7 32. Ng2 g5 33. Ne1 c6 (0-1)

Osborne-Zagorski

1. d4 c6 2. c4 d5 3. Nc3 Bg4 4. cxd5 cxd5 5. Qb3 e6 6. Qxb7 Nd7 7. e3 Qb8 8. Qc6 Bb4 9. Bb5 Nf6 10. f3 Bf5 11. g4 Bxg4 12. fxg4 O-O 13. Ba6 Qd8 14. Bd2 Nxc4 15. Nge2 Bxc3 16. Qxc3 Qh4+ 17. Kd1 Nf2+ 18. Kc2 Nxc1 19. Rxh1 Qe4+ 20. Qd3 Qxh1 21. Bb4 Rfe8 22. Bd6 e5 23. Bb7 Rac8+ 24. Kxb3 e4 25. Qb5 Qd1+ 26. Ka3 Qd3+ 27. Nc3 Qxb5 28. Nxb5 Rc2 29. Bxd5 Nb6 30. Bb3 Re2 31. Bf4 Kh8 32. Nd6 Re7 33. Nxf7+ Kg8 34. Ng5+ Kf8 35. Nxc7+ Ke8 36. Ng5 a5 37. Bd1 Rd2 38. Bh5+ and white lost. (0-1)

Round 2:

Blankenau-Polacek

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. g3 Nc6 4. d4 cxd4 5. Nxd4 e5 6. Nb5 d6 7. Bg2 Be6 8. b3 a6 9. N5c3 Be7 10. O-O O-O 11. Bb2 Ne8 12. Nd5 f5 13. Nbc3 Bg5 14. f4 Bh6 15. e3 e4 16. g4 g6 17. g5 Bg7 18. Qd2 Nc7 19. Nb6 Rb8 20. Rad1 Nb4 21. Bxe4 Nxa2 22. Bf3 Nxc3 23. Bxc3 Bxc3 24. Qxc3 Nb5 25. Qa5 Nc7 26. Qb4 Ne8 (1-0)

Parthasarathy-Koppinger

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. d3 Be7 5. O-O O-O 6. Re1 d6 7. c3 Na5 8. Bb5 c6 9. Ba4 b5 10. Bc2 c5 11. Nbd2 Qc7 12. Nf1 Nc6 13. Ng3 Re8 14. a4 b4 15. Bd2 a5 16. Bb3 Ba6 17. Qe2 Bf8 18. Bg5 Nd7 19. Nf5 Nd8 20. N3h4 Ne6 21. Qg4 Nxc5 22. Qxc5 g6 23. Nxc6 (1-0)

T. Jessop-**Look**[BD1]

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 c6 4. f4 Qa5 5. Bd3 e5 6. Nf3 Nbd7 7. O-O Be7 8. Bd2 Qc7 9. Qe1 O-O 10. Ne2 Qb6 11. a4 a5 12. b3 d5 13. fxe5 dxe4 14. exf6 Nxf6 15. Ng3 exf3 16. Qxe7 Re8 17. Qc5 Qc7 18. Rxf3 b6 19. Qg5 h6 20. Qh4 Qd6 21. Bxh6 Ne4 22. Re1 Qxd4+ 23. Be3 Qc3 24. Nxe4 (1-0)

Round 3:

Malpert-T. Jessop

1. c4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. g3 Nf6 4. Bg2 h6 5. O-O Bf5 6. d4 e6 7. Nc3 Bd6 8. Qb3 Qc8 9. Bf4 Bxf4 10. gxf4 Nh5 11. e3 Bd3 12. Rfd1 Bxc4 13. Qa3 Nd7 14. Rac1 Qd8 15. Nd2 Ba6 16. b4 O-O 17. Qb3 Qe7 18. a4 Bd3 19. b5 Bg6 20. Na2 Rfc8 21. Bf3 a6 22. bxc6 bxc6 23. a5 c5 24. dxc5 Nxc5 25. Qa3 Kf8 26. f5 exf5 27. Bxd5 Rab8 28. Nb4 f4 29. e4 f3 30. Nxf3 Nf4 31. Qe3 Nh3+ 32. Kg2 Rxb4 33. Kxh3 Bxe4 (1-0)

Zeisler-Mora

1. d4 f5 2. c4 Nf6 3. g3 e6 4. Bg2 Nc6 5. Nf3 Bb4+ 6. Nc3 O-O 7. O-O Bxc3 8. bxc3 d6 9. Ba3 Rb8 10. Nd2 Na5 11. c5 b5 12. Bb4 Nc4 13. Nxc4 bxc4 14. Qa4 a6 15. cxd6 cxd6 16. Ba5 Bd7 17. Qa3 Qc8 18. Qxd6 Rb5 19. Bb4 Re8 20. a4 Rb8 21. Rfe1 Qd8 22. Qc5 Qc8 23. Qe5 Bc6 24. f3 Qd8 25. e4 Qd7 26. a5 fxe4 27. fxe4 Ng4 28. Qg5 e5 29. d5 Qa7+ 30. Re3 Nxe3 31. dxc6 Ng4+ 32. Kh1 Nf2+ 33. Kg1 Nh3+ 34. Kh1 Qg1+ 35. Rxc1 Nf2# (0-1) (Philidor mate!!)

Round 4:

Lacroix-Hengen

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bf4 O-O 6. e3 c5 7. dxc5 Bxc5 8. Be2 Nc6 9. cxd5 exd5 10. O-O h6 11. Rc1 Be7 12. Nd4 Be6 13. Nxc6 bxc6 14. Na4 Qa5 15. a3 c5 16. b4 cxb4 17. Bc7 Qxc7 18. Rxc7 Bd8 19. Rb7 bxa3 20. Qb3 a5 21. Qxa3 Ne4 22. Rc1 Bf6 23. Nb6 Rad8 24. Qxa5 d4 25. exd4 Bxd4 26. Rf1 Nc5 27. Re7 Nb3 28. Qb5 Rb8 29. Rxe6 fxe6 30. Qxb3 Rxb6 31. Qc4 Rd6 32. Qc7 Rfd8 33. Bc4 Bf6 34. Re1 Kh8 35. Bxe6 Rd1 36. Kf1 R1d2 37. Bf5 Rf8 38. Qf7 (1-0)

T. Jessop-Schaal

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bf5 5. Ng3 Bg6 6. h4 h6 7. Nf3 Nd7 8. h5 Bh7 9. Bd3 Bxd3 10. Qxd3 e6 11. Bd2 Ngf6 12. O-O-O Be7 13. Ne4 Nxe4 14. Qxe4 Nf6 15. Qe2 Qd5 16. Kb1 Qb5 17. c4 Qb6 18. Be3 Qa5 19. Ne5 Rd8 20. a3 Bd6 21. g4 Bxe5 22. dxe5 Rxd1+ 23. Rxd1 Qxe5 24. Rd8+ Kxd8 25. Bb6+ axb6 26. Qxe5 Kd7 27. f4 Rd8 28. f5 exf5 29. Qxf5+ Ke7 30. b4 Rd7 31. g5 hxg5 32. Qxg5 Rd6 33. Qxg7 Rd1+ 34. Kc2 Rh1 35. h6 Rh2+ 36. Kb3 b5 37. cxb5 cxb5 38. Qg5 Rh3+ 39. Kc2 Ke6 40. Qxb5 (1-0)

Mora-Koppinger

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. d3 Na5 5. f4 Nxc4 6. dxc4 Bb4 7. Ne2 Nxe4 8. Bd2 Qh4+ 9. g3 Nxg3 10. Nxg3 exf4 11. Qe2+ Kd8 12. O-O-O Bxc3 13. Bxc3 fxg3 14. hxg3 Qg5+ 15. Bd2 Qe7 16. Qg4 f6 17. Rhe1 Qf7 18. Qf4 a5 19. g4 h6 20. g5 hxg5 21. Qg3 Rh5 22. Rh1 d6 23. Rdg1 Rxh1 24. Rxh1 Qxc4 25. Qe1 Qf7 26. b3 Ra6 27. Qe2 Bf5 28. Rh8+ Kd7 29. Qb5+ Rc6 30. Qxf5+ Qe6 31. Rd8+ (1-0) (Attraction !!)

A Very Heartfelt Eulogy to My Chess Friend Roger Anderson by Bob Woodworth

I have known Roger Anderson, my good chess friend, since the late 1960's. I attended his 'Celebration of Life' funeral service on March 14th, 2026 at the Westlawn-Hillcrest Funeral Home here in Omaha. I am writing this article, to verbally deliver his eulogy, as at that time it was just too emotionally difficult for me to give it in front of everyone in attendance!

Roger was what I would sincerely call a PERFECT chess opponent. Not only was he highly skilled at the game of chess, he was the best in other areas of the game which are often overlooked. He had excellent composure at the chessboard and I never saw him intimidate his opponent either verbally or by any other means. He never complained about his pairings at the tournaments and always played to give each game his best effort. He could easily separate his playing style in social, friendly chess versus the very serious style required in tournament chess. I also don't believe that I ever saw him in tournament chess time-trouble either!! Amazing!!

Many chess players let their emotions affect their play and look for excuses when they incur a very tough, hard-fought loss. (The game of chess can really test one's true character for this writer as I have even failed to show up for the 2nd round after a 1st round excruciating loss. In a 5-round tourney I started with 3 wins, then dropped a rook in the opening phase of the next game and lost the last game quite easily still thinking about my horrible blunder in that previous game!!)

Roger never seemed to let a bad, previously played silly blunder (which was extremely rare) affect his next tournament game. He would always agree to have his play analyzed after the game whether he won or lost. Many players don't want to look at a loss since it seems to 'rub salt' into their wounds. Most chess players are constantly obsessed with their current chess rating which is an indicator of their chess strength. At any tournament one will constantly hear comments such as, "Too many strong players are here that are underrated. I'll probably lose rating points the way I'm playing. One more loss and I will withdraw. I'm never paired with any strong players and my rating will never improve." Comments such as these are what this writer calls, 'chess babble' and shows that chess players carry way too much so called 'baggage'.

Roger always 'traveled very, very lightly' with very little 'baggage' which is the ultimate lesson he gives to ALL serious chess players everywhere!! A very good example of how well-balanced Roger was, occurred several years ago at our Friday afternoon chess club here in Omaha. I would usually meet Roger just before the club opened and I would set up the chess tables usually with his assistance. He would then get the coffee maker brewing while I would always 'pepper' him with numerous questions and ideas, for I always respected his thoughts and opinions. This time however, with me obviously getting most of his attention, he forgot to place a new coffee filter in the top of the machine and the coffee grounds ended up ruining the entire brewed pot. Due to Roger's ability to face any adversity, he accepted the mistake and did not put any deserved blame on me and immediately just started another brew! Wow!!

This is how he was, and keeping his emotions under control was just like his play in his chess tournament successes. Rest in peace my good friend for you were (one of) the last, real true connection to all that old Nebraska chess history!! You were a very good man, a very good chess player and a very humble person!! From you I really learned to leave the ‘baggage’ at home and concentrate on the play of the game and always to give my very best, undivided attention at the chessboard.

*Editor’s note:

Bob Woodworth has served for over 25 years at the NSCA Chess Historical Archivist and both he and Roger have already been deservedly enshrined in the Nebraska Chess Hall of Fame with Bob joining in 2024 and Roger joining in 2025.

Bob has done an amazing job of storing, chronicling and preserving printed records of Nebraska chess materials. Bob has played a critical role in getting collections of Nebraska chess literature preserved in the Nebraska State Historical Society in Lincoln. My many trips to Lincoln to do chess research on players and events from the 1960s and 1970s would have been futile were it not for the fine efforts that Bob has done in this role.

Roger Anderson who died in February was an Omaha City Champion and also tied for first in the 1972 Midwest Open with Robert Ascher of Colorado, IM John Watson, and Richard McLellan. Roger founded Nebraska’s oldest chess club still in existence called the Camelot Chess Club which has met on Friday afternoons for over 20 years at the Camelot Community Center near 93rd and Cady here in Omaha. Roger played in both the 1969 and 1975 U.S. Opens held in Lincoln and in his prime was one of the strongest players in the state.

ARNIE SCHULZE 1947-2026



(Photo Credit: Heafey, Heafy, Hoffman, Dworak, and Cutler Mortuary, Omaha)

Long time Omaha chess player Arnie Schulze suddenly passed away in his sleep on Saturday May 1st, after a short illness. Former Gambit editor Tony Dutiel called me with the news on Tuesday May 4th. What was most shocking was that Arnie was at the Camelot Chess Club on Friday April 30th. I had just played him about 5 skittles games the previous Friday on April 23rd and as usual Arnie was a really fun person to be around constantly making jokes and comments with a straight face but with a gleam in his eye, letting you know it was all in jest. Little did I know that this would be the last time I would ever see him or talk to him.

Arnie was still working full time into his late 70s. He was married twice and had 5 children all of whom attended his funeral on Saturday May 9th. Arnie owned his own painting company, but was multi-talented, holding a nursing degree and working in home health care as well.

Arnie started playing chess in the early 1990s and at his peak was a high rated C player with a rating in the mid-1500s. When I started organizing chess tournaments in 1993, Arnie frequently played in them. When I retired and returned to active chess, one of the first places I went to was the Camelot Chess Club on 93rd and Cady and who should be one of their most active members, but Arnie Schulze.

Arnie was a kind, considerate and magnanimous person. He was that way not only in his work but in his chess play as well. He always accepted defeat and yet was never overly arrogant when he won. He would shake hands win or lose. When we started offering coffee and cookies at Camelot in April it was Arnie that provided the coffee and the coffee maker.

One of Arnie's most endearing traits was his sense of humor which constantly manifested itself when you played him in chess. Arnie was the kind of person who with a wry smile on his face would offer to accept your resignation when you accidentally knocked over your king while delivering the winning move, all in fun of course. He and Tony Dutiel used to banter with one another when they played but you could tell it was all in good fun as they were really close friends.

Arnie is the second long time member of the Camelot Chess Club to pass away this year, as the club lost founder Roger Anderson in late February. Plans are in the works to host a chess tournament in memory of both Roger and Arnie, possibly in conjunction with my Hall of Fame Memorial event at the end of this year. In any case, farewell to Arnie Schulze. There is no finer a human being and chess player that you will ever meet. A group of 5 of us attended Arnie's funeral on Saturday May 9th, including me, Tony Dutiel, John Bagley, Michael Mills, and Prentiss Butler.

Smaller Chess Events Around the State in June

June 3rd-The Spence Club hosted a two-week long six round G/20;d5 event concluded on Wednesday June 3rd. There was a 3-way tie for first between Luke Hengen, Nick Lacroix and Adam Hansen all with 5-1.

June 6th-3rd Annual Wilkins Cup. Full coverage included elsewhere in this issue on page 21-24.

June 10th-The SCC Chess Club in Lincoln held a Wednesday night G/10;d2 action tournament directed by Leo Iacono. The event attracted 16 players and first place was shared by Ben Fabrikant, Ethan Riegsecker and Chris Kisicki all with 4-1.

June 14th-The Millard Library Chess Club held a G/5;d2 called the FRO Batter Up Team Blitz Tournament. It attracted 10 players on 5 two-person teams. There was a 3-way tie for 1st place with Michael Dreiger, Scott Look and Elijah Jamal all scoring 4-1. Their respective teams also tied for 1st all with 5-3.

June 10th-24th-The Spence Club held a 3-week long G/80;d5 split Swiss event. It attracted players and winners were Nick Lacroix in the top section and Shravan Sarathkumar in the lower section.

June 20th-The annual Deshler Daze chess event was held in Deshler, Nebraska south of York and this year two Hall of Famers showed up including SM Rod Malpert and Hall of Fame President Bruce Draney. The show was stolen however, by Thomas Jessop who won the top section with 5-0. Bruce Draney was 2nd with 3.5-1.5 and Rod scored 3-2 to take 3rd. The event which is run by Bob Reinke attracted a total of 10 players. There was a lower quad held for beginners and the 6 of us with USCF tournament ratings played a 6-person round-robin.

June 21st-The Millard Library Chess Club held a G/10;d2 team action event called the called the FRO Summer Solstice Team Action Tournament. Eight players played on two teams. The Fire Crackers team led by Micah Cosgrove won convincingly 10-6. Micah scored a perfect 4-0. Bruce Draney's June Bugs team mustered only 6 points with both Bruce and Elijah Jamal going 3-1.

June 27-28th-The Summer Open was held here in Omaha at the Fort Omaha Campus of Metro Community College. The event attracted 16 players an Open, U1600/U1200, U800, and U400 section on Saturday attracted 35 players. Full coverage on page 39-40.

2026 Deshler Daze Chess Tournament

Every Father's Day weekend, Bob Reinke of Deshler runs a nice little unrated chess tournament in the town as part of the Deshler Daze Celebration. Rod Malpert whose grandparents used to live in Deshler and still has family there made a special trip to Nebraska this year just so he could not only play in the event but also look up some family history, meet up with his cousin who still lives there and also play some chess just for fun.

This was my 2nd year in a row of attending and this year's event was quite strong attracting all three of the Jessop brothers who live in nearby Edgar, Nebraska (29 miles away), Rod Malpert and myself.

As it turns out, Rod is related by marriage to Bob Reinke as his cousin who still lives in Deshler is married to Bob's nephew. Rod found a book on the history of Deshler in the library before the tournament started and found his grandparents and many other family members related to him listed. He made a special trip just to meet family and spend some time with them after the event ended.

This was a fairly challenging trip as he needed to be back in Dallas for Father's Day the next day, so he was planning on catching a 5 AM flight from Omaha back to Dallas which is definitely going above and beyond.

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Total
1	Thomas Jessop	1691	W4	W3	W2	W6	W5	5.0
2	Bruce Draney	1700	W3	W5	L1	D4	W6	3.5
3	Rod Malpert	2219	L2	L1	W6	W5	W4	3.0
4	Logan Hellbush	UNR	L1	L6	W5	D2	L3	1.5
5	William Jessop	1156	W6	L2	L4	L3	L1	1.0
6	Edward Jessop	1155	L5	W4	L3	L1	L2	1.0

Four beginners played in a lower quad.

#	Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
1	Jueneman	W4	W2	W3	3.0
2	LeFave	W3	L1	W4	2.0
3	Purcell	L2	W4	L1	1.0
4	N. Thompson	L1	L3	L2	0.0

July

2026

Nebraska Chess Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Bellvue Library Swiss
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Cornhusker State Games-Lincoln- POY and Qualifier and CCC
19 Cornhusker State Games-Lincoln- POY, CCC, and Qualifier	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 LCF-Summer Chess Camp	28 LCF Summer Chess Camp	29 LCF Summer Chess Camp	30 LCF Summer Chess Camp	31 LCF Summer Chess Camp	

August

2026

Subtitle

Nebraska Chess Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Crane City Open- Kearney, POY and CCC
9 Crane City Open- Kearney, POY and CCC	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

2026

Subtitle

Nebraska Chess Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Scholastic Kickoff at Boys Town Headquarters
27	28	29	30			

Updated POY (Player of the Year) and CCC (Cornhusker Chess Circuit Standings)

The POY and CCC programs are two separate Nebraska incentive programs to encourage participation in major Nebraska chess events. The POY has a long-storied history stretching back more than 40 years to the mid-1980s when a Lincoln Buick car dealership contributed the funds to pay for awards for the players who played in the most major Nebraska chess events during the year.

The program has changed many times in the 40 years since its inception. Originally it had nothing to do with who got into the State Closed, but eventually it was decided that players who played more deserved more of a shot at playing for the state title than players who merely did well in one tournament like the Midwest Open or the Cornhusker State Games.

By the 1990s when I took over as NSCA President, the membership (yes, Virginia, the NSCA used to have members who voted on the organization's policies and elected its leaders) voted to award two slots in the Closed to the top two finishers in the POY. This led to the law of unintended consequences as eventually weaker players who simply played in more POY events won one or both of the slots in the Closed, diluting the strength of the event and raising complaints from stronger players who felt that filling up 1/3rd of the field with 1500 and 1600 players was just wrong.

A few years ago, the NSCA completely changed the system to ensure that it would be far less likely for a weaker player to qualify for the Closed by going to what is called a plus score system. Basically, you simply subtract wins from losses, so if you go 3-1 in a four round POY event you earn 2 POY points. If you go 3-2 in a five round POY event you earn 1 POY point. This had the desired impact on strengthening the Closed field of participants but again after a couple of years the laws of unintended consequences happened again as lower rated players no longer had any real positive reason to play in POY events as most B-C and D players had virtually zero chance of ever mustering much of a total score under the new system. The NSCA attempted to address the issue by creating a B Closed a couple years ago which gave some incentive to B and even C players if they were rapidly improving, but the current POY system no longer much resembled the original program or its intent which was to encourage players to play in events, especially in places like Clarks, Aurora, Central City, Columbus, and North Platte where organizers like Richard Olson, Jim and Karen Swartz, and Wayne Pressnall needed Omaha and Lincoln players to make the drive to play in their events.

In all fairness to the NSCA, Wayne and Richard had both passed away, and the Swartz family in Columbus had stopped running events after their son graduated, and no one was any longer running any POY events in central Nebraska anyway when the NSCA changed the program. Only last year did Eric Ring of the Central Nebraska Chess Club organize a POY event in Kearney, the first such event in over a decade.

About a year ago, some of the more outspoken lower rated players voiced their opinions about the new POY system suggesting that they didn't really care whether an event was POY or not. They saw no particular value in participating in a system where they had virtually zero change to qualify for either the Closed or the B Closed, and a fairly noticeable drop in attendance was occurring especially at major two-day events. Of course, these major two-day events were also POY events as well.

Stronger players who had an incentive to play were still showing up but the lower rated players who help the organizers to not lose money by paying entry fees were passing especially on the two-day events.

So, last year, SM Rod Malpert and I discussed possible ways to get the lower rated players to participate in POY events. We came up with a program called the Cornhusker Chess Circuit (CCC). The two programs mesh perfectly together. The POY encourages strong players hoping to make the A or B Closed, while the CCC rewards participation in events offering \$150.00 cash prizes mostly geared to the lower rated classes who don't care about the Closed. All POY events are automatically CCC events and there is only one event on this year's calendar that is CCC but NOT POY and that is the Hall of Fame Memorial on December 19th.

Rod supplied the funds to the Lincoln Chess Foundation to finance the CCC which the LCF is administering as a pilot program. All POY events must still be approved by the NSCA and all CCC events not already POY must be approved by the Lincoln Chess Foundation. If the LCF feels the CCC program has had an impact, it might be continued into the future.

Thus far, there have been 3 POY/CCC events held in the first half of the year as of June 30th. The Omaha City was held in March, the Midwest Open was held in April and the Wilkins Cup was just held earlier this month on June 6th.

The following upcoming events in the 2nd half of the year are POY/CCC events. The Cornhusker State Games Open section in Lincoln in July, the Crane City Open in Kearney in August, the Lincoln City Championship in October, and the Great Plains Open in Lincoln in November. As mentioned earlier, the Hall of Fame Memorial in Omaha on December 19th will be the only event of the year that was only a CCC event and NOT a POY event. The NSCA doesn't want a POY event that late in the year as they want to know the qualifiers well ahead of the Closed in January.

POY Standings as of 6/30/2026

#	Name	B Closed	Omaha City	MWO	W- Cup	Total
1	Sidd Parthasarathy	5	X	3	3	11
2	Nick Lacroix	X	2	4	3	9
3	Thomas Jessop	X	2	2	2	6
4	Gregory Revesz	X	X	4	X	4 *
5	Dominic Zeisler	X	4	0	0	4
6	Steven Cusumano	X	2	0	2	4
7	Daryan Mora	X	1	1	2	4
8	Chris Kisicki	X	2	0	1	3
9	Tony Dutiel	X	1	0	2	3
10	Jonathan Reigenborn	X	X	1	2	3
11	Rod Malpert	X	X	X	3	3
12	Mike Blankenau	X	X	X	3	3
13	Kirill Belashchenko	X	2	0	0	2
14	Matthew Holtmeyer	X	0	2	0	2
15	Adam Hansen	X	0	2	0	2
16	Matthew Koppinger	X	2	0	0	2
17	Matthew Leholm *	X	0	1	1	2
18	Luke Hengen	X	X	X	2	2 *
19	Joe Knapp	X	X	X	2	2
20	Philip Schiff	X	1	0	0	1
21	Vamsi Katta	X	0	1	0	1
22	Mansi Adduri	X	X	X	1	1
23	Samanvi Kantem	X	X	X	1	1
24	John Hartmann	X	X	X	1	1
25	Scott Look	X	0	0	1	1
26	Bruce Draney	X	X	X	1	1
27	Julius Meduna	X	X	X	1	0

POY Scores are determined by subtracting losses from wins with draws not counting. So, if a person scores 3-1 in a 4-round event, he earns 2 POY points ($3-1=2$). Directors of POY events earn 1 POY point for directing. Draws are ignored in the calculations.

(*) indicates that the player has qualified for the Closed already.

CCC Class Leaders

Class	Place	Name	Rds	Score	Total Score
M/E/A	1 st	Nick Lacroix	12	11.0	23.0
M/E/A	1 st	Thomas Jessop	13	9.5	22.5
M/E/A	3 rd	Steven Cusumano	13	8.5	21.5
Class B	1 st	M. Koppinger	13	7	20.0
Class B	2 nd	Scott Look	9	5.5	14.5
Class C	1 st	J. Reigenborn	13	8	21.0
Class C	2 nd	Samanvi Kantem	13	6.5	19.5
Class D	1 st	Mora	13	8.5	21.5
Class D	2 nd	Vamsi Katta	13	6.5	19.5
Class E	1 st	Adrith Pallepatti	13	3.5	16.5
Class E	2 nd	Edward Jessop	9	3.5	12.5
Out State	1 st	Thomas Jessop	9	6.5	15.5
Out State	2 nd	Edward Jessop	5	1	6.0
Senior	1 st	Scott Look	9	5.5	14.5
Senior	2 nd	Tom Lombard	8	3.0	11.0

CCC Standings as of 6/30/2026 Total Points (Rounds played + scores excluding 1/2-point byes)

So far there are 8 players who have played all 13 rounds in both Omaha City, the Midwest Open, and the Wilkins Cup. Seven of those eight are currently either in 1st or 2nd place in their respective classes.

The next CCC event is the Cornhusker State Games Open Section in Lincoln which is 5 rounds.

Thus far there have been a total of 45 participants in at least one POY/CCC event. The above table shows only the leaders in each of the \$150.00 categories. There is one prize in each category simply for rounds played during the year with 1/2 point draws or forfeit losses not counting as rounds played. Full point byes or forfeit wins DO count in CCC standings as rounds played since the player was present but was not provided with an opponent.

LINCOLN CHESS FOUNDATION HOSTS FIRST SUMMER CHESS CAMP IN YEARS FROM JULY 27-31ST HERE AT BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

There hasn't been a Nebraska chess summer camp since 2018, so this year the Lincoln Chess Foundation in partnership with Boys Town has decided to host one from Monday July 27th to Friday July 31st. The camp will feature instruction and demonstrations by qualified teachers, but will also feature games, puzzle solving, contests and simultaneous exhibitions.

Our special guest is former multiple time Ukrainian National Youth Champion and Grand Master Viktor Matviishen who has been working on his MBA at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. Viktor will be the first GM to spend an entire week in Nebraska in years and although he will be working with our advanced students, he will also spend time greeting and working with all campers.

The camp will begin daily at 9 with morning focused on direct instruction followed by a complimentary lunch with afternoons focused on fun activities and practical application of the things learned in the morning.

It's not too late to sign up, although early registration entry fee expires on July 1st. There will be no onsite registration so we can know our exact numbers a week before the start of the camp. Don't miss out on the opportunity to meet and learn at this summer's Lincoln Chess Foundation chess camp.

You can register online and pay by debit or credit card at:

<https://www.kingregistration.com/event/LCFSummercamp>

You can also mail me a personal check at 14002 Frederick Circle, Omaha, Nebraska 68138. Here are the dedicated teachers and members of this year's camp staff:

Organizer/Director-Bruce Draney
Boys Town Coordinator-Dimitriy Khots
Advanced Group Instructor-GM Viktor Matviishen
Intermediate Group Instructor-3 time Nebraska State Champion Nick Lacroix
Advanced Beginners Instructor-Tom O'Connor of Lincoln
Beginners Instructor-Scott Look

3rd Annual Summer Open-June 27-28

The third annual Summer Open was held on Saturday and Sunday June 27-28 here in Omaha at the Fort Omaha campus of Metro Community College. The event was organized and directed by Seetharaman Renganathan. This year the two-day event was subdivided into sections and featured an Open, U1600, U1200, U800 and U400 section. The U1600 and U1200 sections were merged together due to lack of players. The Open section was a 2-day event with a very reasonable 2 rounds per day and with a slow time control of G/90+30. The other sections were all played on Saturday the 27th only.

The Open section winner was Rakshith Seetharaman with a score of 4-0. Winners of the other sections were Shannor Qiang in the U1600 with 3.5-.5, Jacob Kuntsle and Sunny Verma in the U1200 both with 2.5-1.5, Anhua Hu with 3.5-.5 in the U800 section and Michael Zheng, Bhargavi Karthikeyan, and Jaivardhan Iyer, all with 3-1 in the U400 section.

Total attendance was a healthy 51, although 35 of the players were in the one-day sections. A total of 16 played in the Open. Seetharaman has been living and working in Kansas City for the past 6 months and plans to return there after summer ends. Special thanks to Nick Lacroix who gave a lecture/demonstration prior to the start of the lower rated sections. I had a chance to speak to parents and kids about our upcoming summer chess camp and Nick got to promote the Cornhusker State Games.

Due to some confusion about the status of the event, it was not a POY event, nor did I know enough about its status to include it in the CCC schedule either. Seetharaman had asked me back last winter if he could make it a CCC event and I said sure, but he didn't have a playing site and was living 300 miles away so when I put out the schedule for the CCC calendar I left the event off due to my not knowing it was still being held.

3rd Annual Summer Open: Open Section June 27-28, 2026, Omaha

#	Name	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Total
1	Rakshith Seetharaman	1940	W8	W10	W5	W3	4.0
2	Oliver Ohly	2000	W6	L5	W12	W7	3.0
3	Julius Meduna	1701	W14	W15	W4	L1	3.0
4	Parv Patel	1853	W11	D7	L3	W12	2.5
5	Travis Elisara	1724	WF16	W2	L1	1/2	2.5
6	Vamsi Katta	1424	L2	W14	1/2	W10	2.5
7	Nick Lacroix	2096	W13	D4	1/2	L2	2.0
8	Daryan Mora	1645	L1	L12	W14	W13	2.0
9	Xavier Garcia	1197	L10	Bye	L13	W11	2.0
10	Philip Schiff	1610	W9	L1	D11	L6	1.5
11	Matthew Holtmeyer	1385	L4	W13	D10	L9	1.5
12	Rithvik Seetharaman	1303	D15	W8	L2	L4	1.5
13	Scott Look	1682	L7	L11	W9	L8	1.0
14	Stacie Edmondson	UNR	L3	L6	L8	Bye	1.0
15	Jerry Slominski	1700	D12	L3	U---	U---	0.5
16	Aiden Johnson	1377	LF5	U---	U---	U---	0.0

3rd Annual Summer Open U/1600 U/1200 Section (Merged)

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rd3	Rd4	Total
1	Shannor Qiang	1408	D5	W11	W2	W6	3.5
2	Sunny Verma	1166	W11	W7	L1	D5	2.5
3	Jacob Kunstle	830	D6	L4	W11	W7	2.5
4	Rudhra Pittala	988	L7	W3	L6	W11	2.0
5	Arqam Shaik	883	D1	D6	D7	D2	2.0
6	Victor Berkland	UNR	D3	D5	W4	L1	2.0
7	Carlos Ortuno	UNR	W4	L2	D5	L3	1.5
8	Arjun Andukuri	UNR	Bye	U---	U---	U---	1.0
9	Gary Slominski	1300	1/2	U---	U---	U---	0.5
10	Tyler Johnson	UNR	U---	U---	U---	U---	0.0
11	Advith Bourampeta	881	L2	L1	L3	L4	0.0

3rd Annual Summer Open U/800 Section

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Total
1	Anhua Hu	567	W7	W9	D5	W2	3.5
2	Yashas Kiran	690	W6	W3	W8	L1	3.0
3	Durga Chanda	438	W10	L2	W11	W8	3.0
4	Rohith Cheedella	443	W5	L8	W10	W7	3.0
5	Ridit Rai	759	L4	W6	D1	W9	2.5
6	Sachin Rai	529	L2	L5	W13	W10	2.0
7	Teertha Pittala	526	L1	W11	W9	L4	2.0
8	Anneline Hatutale	UNR	W11	W4	L2	L3	2.0
9	Venkata Cheedella	638	W13	L1	L7	L5	1.0
10	Divam Kumar	638	L3	W13	L4	L6	1.0
11	Nandhan Sama	613	L8	L7	L3	W13	1.0
12	Atul Grandhi	UNR	1/2	-----	-----	-----	0.5
13	Karthekeyan Sundaram	572	L9	L10	L6	L11	0.0

3rd Annual Summer Open U/400 Section

#	Name	Rating	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Total
1	Michael Zheng	377	W5	L4	W6	W2	3.0
2	Bhargavi Karthikeyan	298	W9	W8	W4	L1	3.0
3	Jaivardhan Iyer	347	L4	W6	W9	W8	3.0
4	Vincent Nelson	UNR	W3	W1	L2	D5	2.5
5	Dhyuth Gogineni	230	L1	W7	W8	D4	2.5
6	Tanish Gaddam	318	W7	L3	L1	W11	2.0
7	John Meduna	UNR	L6	L5	W11	W9	2.0
8	Shresth Verma	356	W11	L2	L5	L3	1.0
9	Maximo Lopez	UNR	L2	W11	L3	L7	1.0
10	Anir Grandhi	201	Bye	U--	U--	U--	1.0
11	Thanishka Iyer	104	L8	L9	L7	L6	0.0

Final Thoughts from the Editor, Bruce Draney

As Porky Pig used to say at the end of a cartoon, “That’s all folks”. This completes my 16th issue of the Gambit and the publication has become a quarterly endeavor so people now can expect to see an issue every 3 months as long as I’m able to continue publishing. This issue comes in at 41 pages and is a fairly comprehensive look at games, tournament standings, puzzles and news from (mostly) April 1st-June 30th.

The next quarter’s issue will cover important events of the summer including the Cornhusker State Games which this year is celebrating it’s 40th anniversary of chess competition, making it the 2nd oldest open chess tournament in Nebraska behind only the Midwest Open, and the Lincoln Chess Foundation Summer Chess Camp at Boys Town.

The Cornhusker State Games are not only both a CCC and POY event, the winner of the Open also wins a slot in the Closed. For those who can’t spend two days playing chess, there are 3 sections of Unrated play that are Saturday July 18th only. The Reserve section is open to 1700 and under, there is a Junior section and a Scholastic section for younger, less experienced crowd that would like to experience tournament chess without the pressure of joining USCF. Rod Malpert will again be present to interact with players and go over their games upon request.

The LCF Chess Camp will be the first summer chess camp held in Nebraska in nearly a decade and will feature a week long appearance by GM Viktor Matviishen. It runs from 9-3 Monday thru Friday, July 27th-31st. There are still openings, but the price goes up in a couple days on July 1st.

While editing this publication can be time consuming, I work on it a week and month at a time, so that the work is spread out across three months. The most challenging aspects of editing are inputting games and cross tables and double checking them for accuracy or potential mistakes.

If you would like to contribute a chess-related article in an upcoming issue, send it to me and I will try to fit it in as I usually have room, especially for interesting games, stories or tournament experiences.

There is new chess clearinghouse calendar now published on the NSCA website, so if you are thinking about scheduling a major event and would like it promoted and advertised, check the calendar for open dates but don’t seize an apparent open date without double checking with me as some tournaments in upcoming months are not firmly set due to uncertainty about playing site availability. The next Gambit will be out at the end of September. Until then, “sayonara”

-----Bruce