Tri-Bridges Tribune

✦ November 2026



Mohit and Ashrith watch Cherry's game at the St. Louis Chess Tournament

Introduction

Located in Exton, Pennsylvania, our club meets every Tuesday for friendly games, socializing, and skill-building. In addition to casual play, we host tournaments that give members the chance to compete, learn, and grow as players. We also offer instructional classes to help members expand their chess knowledge and deepen their understanding of the game.

My name is Azim Julkipli, and I am the editor of these monthly newsletters. Having been a proud member of the Tri Bridges Chess Club for many years, I've made lasting friendships and had the opportunity to volunteer within our wonderful community.

This newsletter is designed to keep our members connected and informed. Each issue will feature updates on local events, tournaments, and club news, along with puzzles, book recommendations, and annotated games. Our goal is to celebrate the achievements of our players and foster a welcoming environment that inspires both beginners and experienced players to continue their chess journey with enthusiasm.

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Chess Master in History

By Azim Julkipli

This month's Chess Master In History is a Dutch chess player who only held the World Championship title for 2 years and yet achieved a record high of 12 titles in Dutch chess championships, wrote possibly more books than any other world champion, and has a place named after him in Amsterdam: Max Euwe (It's probably not pronounced the way you think it is!)

Max Euwe was born in the Netherlands on May 20, 1901. He played his first tournament at age 10, winning every game. He won every Dutch chess championship that he competed in from 1921 until 1952, and won the title again in 1955. In total, he accumulated a record of 12 titles. He played against Reti in 1920, but he was beaten 5-3. However, the first 4 games included a crazy combination, with Reti winning with a strong attack in game 1, and he won using double rook sacrifices in 2 and 4. However, Euwe was able to .He became the world amateur chess champion in 1928, with a score of 12/15 at the Hague.

He also studied mathematics and eventually also was interested in computer programming. In 1929, he also publishes a mathematical analysis showing that with the current rules, games could go on infinitely without ending.

Euwe married in 1926, so he only had time to play chess on school and university vacations. However, he still performed well in the few tournaments and matches for which he could find time, from the 1920s-1930s. He lost a close training match to Alexander Alekhine. The match was played to help Euwe prepare for a future encounter with José Raúl Capablanca, who at the time was the world champion. Euwe lost both the first and second FIDE Championship matches to Efim Bogoljubow, scoring 4½/10 in each match. He lost a match to Capablanca but won a match against Spielmann in Amsterdam in 1932.

In 1933, Euwe challenged Alekhine to a championship match, which he accepted for October in 1935. Capablanca was asked for his thoughts on the match, to which he said, "Dr. Alekhine's game is 20% bluff. Dr. Euwe's game is clear and straightforward. Dr. Euwe's game—not so strong as Alekhine's in some respects—is more evenly balanced." After 30 games in 13 different cities over 80 days, Euwe won against Alekhine 15½ vs. 14½ in 1935. He became the fifth world champion, though some people thought it was because of Alekhine's alcoholism, while others considered it his over-confidence.

Euwe's performance in the Nottingham tournament in 1936 (half a point behind Botvinnik and Capablanca and half a point ahead of Alekhine) indicated he was a worthy champion, even if he wasn't as strong as the earlier champions.

However, Euwe lost the title to Alekhine in a rematch in 1937, 15½–9½. Alekhine had restrained himself from alcohol and tobacco to get ready for the rematch, although he continued drinking later. The match was a real contest initially, but Euwe's play collapsed near the end, and he lost four of the last five games, possibly due to nervous tension.

After the rematch, Euwe continued to play chess, though his play declined with his age. He won a total of 102 first prizes during his chess career, many of them local. He also continued with other subjects, later becoming a computer science professor at Tilburg University in 1964. Euwe also became the president of FIDE in 1970 for about 8 years, during which he acted based more on morals than politics. However, this conflicted with the USSR at many times, as they controlled most of FIDE's budget and had many soviet players in the top ranks. He wrote over 70 chess books and many other articles and publications, more than any other world champion. Some of his most famous books are *The Road to Chess Mastery*, *Judgement and Planning in Chess*, *The Logical Approach to Chess,* and *Strategy and Tactics in Chess*.

Euwe died in 1981 from a heart attack. He was revered for his many contributions to chess around the world, and a Max Euwe museum was even made in Amsterdam to remember his life and accomplishments. The Netherlands, regarding him as a hero, named a part of the city Max Euweplein and placed a large chess set along with a sculpture of him there.



Max Euwe's sculpture. Photo: J.M. Lujit, CC

Below is a game played by Max Euwe (Black) against Savielly Tartakower. Though he was known for his incredibly methodical and logical play, he played aggresive positions fairly well too, as shown in this game where he pursue the opponent's king in a king hunt.

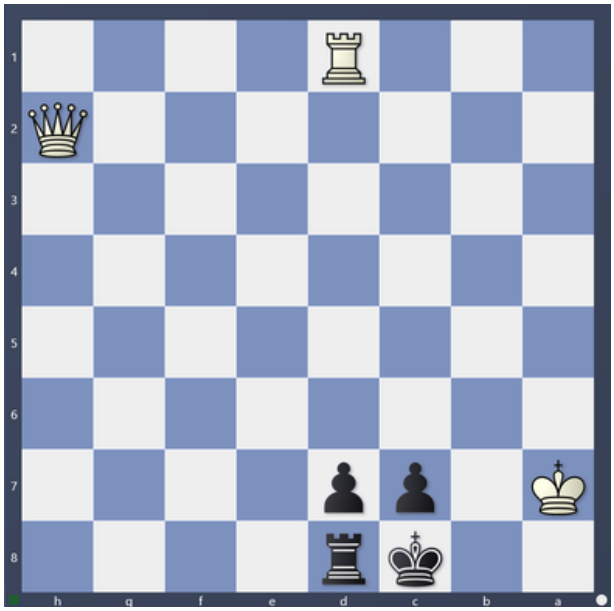
Savielly Tartakower vs. Max Euwe
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. c3 Bb6 5. d4 Qe7 6. O-O d6 7. h3 Nf6 8. Re1 O-O 9. Na3 Nd8 10. Bf1 Ne8 11. Nc4 f6 12. a4 c6 13. Nxb6 axb6 14. Qb3+ Ne6 15. Qxb6 g5 16. Bc4 h6 17. h4 Kh7 18. hxg5 hxg5 19. dxe5 dxe5 20. Be3 Rh8 21. g3 Kg6 22. Kg2 Nf4+ 23. gxf4 Bh3+ 24. Kg3 exf4+ 25. Bxf4 Qd7 26. Nh2 gxf4+ 27. Kxf4 Rh4+ 28. Ke3 Bg2 29. Nf3 Rxe4+ 30. Kxe4 Nd6+ 31. Kd3 Qf5+ 32. Kd4 Qf4+ 33. Kd3 Qxc4+ 34. Kc2 Bxf3 35. b3 Be4+ 36. Kb2 Qd3 37. Rg1+ Kf7 38. Rac1 Qd2+ 39. Ka3 Nc4+ 40. bxc4 Rxa4+ 41. Kxa4 Qa2+ 42. Kb4 Qb2+
0-1

Can you solve these Max Euwe puzzles?



This puzzle is from the last position in Max Euwe's game shown. Why did White resign? What can Black do after Ka5? Kc5?

Solutions on Page 10



This is Euwe's only known chess problem he composed. Apparently, in an interview he said that he made it 'when I was travelling, and I made it only because I needed one for my column and I had none with me'. Mate in 2, White to play

Games from our Club

By Azim Julkipli

These are 5 games, 4 of which were played by two of our club members, Dev Patel and Aayan Bhowmik. The last one came from the Exton Chess Simul and was played by Dhanyasri Vidhya.

Siddharth vs. Dev
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Be7 6. Be2 dxc4 7. Bxc4 O-O 8. O-O Bg4 9. Be3 Nc6 10. Be2 Nd5 11. Nc3 Nxe3 12. fxe3 Bxf3 13. Bxf3 Bg5 14. Re1 Re8 15. Kf2 Qd6 16. Ne4 Qh6 17. Nxg5 Qxg5 18. e4 Rad8 19. d5 Ne5 20. Qb3 Nxf3 21. Qxf3 Rd6 22. Kg1 Qe5 23. Qc3 Qe7 24. Rac1 c6 25. Qc5 Qd7 26. dxc6 Rxc6 27. Qe3 Rxc1 28. Rxc1 b6 29. Qc3 h6 30. Qc4 Qd2 31. Qc6 Qf4 32. Re1 Rxe4 Black resigned: 1-0

GM Bryan Smith vs. Dhanyasri Vidhya (Simul)
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O d6 6. Bxc6+ bxc6 7. d4 Bg4 8. dxe5 Bxf3 9. Qxf3 dxe5 10. Rd1 Qc8 11. Nd2 Qe6 12. b3 Rd8 13. Bb2 Bd6 14. Nc4 Nd7 15. Na5 Bb4 16. Bc3 Bxa5 17. Bxa5 Rc8 18. Qe2 c5 19. h3 O-O 20. Qg4 Qxg4 21. hxg4 Rfd8 22. f3 Nb6 23. c4 f6 24. Kf2 Kf7 25. Ke3 g5 26. Rh1 Kg6 27. Rh3 Rd7 28. Rah1 Rh8 29. Bc3 h6 30. Bb2 Re7 31. Ba3 Nd7 32. Rd1 Rg8 33. Rd5 Ra8 34. Rh1 Nb6 35. Rxc5 Nc8 36. Rd1 a5 37. Rd8 Rf7 38. Rcd5 Kg7 39. R5d7 Nb6 40. Rxf7+ Kxf7 41. Rxa8 Nxa8 42. Bc5 Nb6 43. Kd3 Nd7 44. Be3 Kg6 45. Kc2 Nb8 46. Kc3 Nc6 47. c5 Nb4 48. a3 Nc6 49. Kc4 Na7 50. Bd2 c6 51. Bxa5 Nb5 52. a4 Nd4 53. Bc3 Ne6 54. Bd2 Kf7 55. Be3 Ke7 56. b4 Kd7 57. b5 Kc7 58. Kb4 Nd8 59. a5 Nb7 60. a6 Nd8 61. b6+ Kb8 62. Kc4 Ka8 63. g3 Kb8 64. f4 Nf7 65. f5 Nd8 66. Bd2 Ka8 67. Ba5 Nb7 68. axb7+ Kxb7 69. Bc3 Ka8 70. Bxe5 fxe5 71. f6 Kb7 72. f7 Kb8 73. f8=Q+ Kb7 74. Qe7+ Ka6 75. Qa7# 1-0

Aayan B. vs. Manvit V.
1. d4 d5 2. Bf4 Nf6 3. Nf3 Bf5 4. e3 Nc6 5. c3 e6 6. Nbd2 Be7 7. Qa4 O-O 8. h3 Bd6 9. Bh2 Ne4 10. Be2 Bxh2 11. Rxh2 Qd6 12. O-O-O Nxf2 13. Rf1 Nd3+ 14. Bxd3 Bxd3 15. Rf2 e5 16. g4 exd4 17. exd4 Rfe8 18. Nb3 Qf4+ 19. Nbd2 Re6 20. Qb3 Rae8 21. Qd1 Be4 22. Ne5 Qh6 23. Nxf7 Qg6 24. h4 Bc2 25. Qxc2 Re1+ 26. Qd1 Rxd1+ 27. Kxd1 Qxg4+ 28. Nf3 Qf5 29. N3e5 Qb1+ 30. Kd2 Qxb2+ 31. Kd1 Qb1+ 32. Kd2 Qxa2+ 33. Kd1 Qb3+ 34. Kd2 Nxd4 35. cxd4 Rf8 36. Nh6+ Black resigned: 1-0

Puzzle:
Why did Black resign here? (This is the final position of the previous game, Aayan vs. Manvit.)
Solution on Page 10



Alan S. vs. Aayan B.
1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. g3 Bf5 5. Bg2 e6 6. O-O Nbd7 7. Bf4 dxc4 8. Nbd2 Nb6 9. Re1 Bb4 10. Be5 O-O 11. a3 Ba5 12. Nh4 Be4 13. Bxf6 Qxf6 14. Bxe4 Qxd4 15. Nhf3 Qxb2 16. e3 c3 17. Bxh7+ Kh8 18. Ng5 g6 19. Nxe6 cxd2 20. Qf3 dxe1=Q+ 21. Rxe1 Bxe1 22. Bxg6 Qxf2+
0-1

Francis vs. Dev
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Qb6 6. Be2 cxd4 7. cxd4 Nge7 8. Na3 Nf5 9. Nc2 Bb4+ 10. Kf1 O-O 11. h4 f6 12. exf6 Rxf6 13. Bg5 Rf8 14. h5 e5 15. dxe5 Nxe5 16. Qxd5+ Nf7 17. Bc4 Bc5 18. Re1 h6 19. Be3 Bxe3 20. Nxe3 Nxe3+ 21. Rxe3 Kh8 22. Qxf7 Rxf7 23. Re8+ Kh7 24. Bxf7 g6 25. hxg6+ Kg7 26. Rg8+ Kf6 27. Rh4 Qxb2 28. Re8 b6 29. Rf4+ Bf5 30. Rxa8 Qc1+ 31. Ne1 Qxf4 32. Rf8 Kg7 33. Rg8+ Kf6 34. Bb3 Qd6 35. g7 Be6 36. Bxe6 Qxe6 37. Ra8 Kxg7 38. Rxa7+ Kf6 39. Ra3 Qc4+ 40. Rd3 b5 41. Kg1 Qxa2 42. Rd6+ Kg7 43. Rd7+ Kf6 44. Rd6+ Kf5 45. Rxh6 b4 46. Rb6 b3 47. Nd3 Qb1+ 48. Kh2 Qxd3 49. Rb7 Ke6 50. Rb6+ Qd6+ 51. Rxd6+ Kxd6 52. g4 b2 53. g5 b1=Q 54. f4 Ke6 55. Kg3 Kf5 56. Kh4 Kxf4 57. Kh5 Qh7# 0-1

24th Holly Heisman Memorial

By Joshua Anderson

Many thanks to US Chess for letting us reprint what I wrote for them. It originally appeared in - 2026 National Chess Day Wrap-Up | US Chess.org

The 24th Holly Heisman Memorial was a rocking affair! Literally, a dance party for a one-year-old occurred elsewhere in the hotel during the early afternoon rounds. Despite the raucousness from the party above, not a single person left the tournament, and the players' attitudes were mostly those of cooperation, bemusement, and making the best of a bad situation.

This sort of positivity pervades one of my favorite events of the year, as the community comes together to honor Dan Heisman's first wife, Holly. As it does every year, the tournament accepts donations from companies, local clubs, and individuals and uses them as prizes. These donors range from internationally known organizations like *Chess.com* and House of Staunton to local businesses like Main Line Chess and Games, clubs like Tri-Bridges Chess Club, and individuals like Jon Crumiller.

Matt O'Brien, winner of the Open section, had first pick of the prizes and chose Crumiller's donation, *The Horta-Osorio Collection of Antique Chess Sets, Volume 1: India*, by Antonio Horta-Osorio and Jonathan Crumiller (2026 winner of the Chess Journalists of America's Best Self-Published book prize), as the first prize. In clear second was FM Dirk Troltenier, with FM Karl Dehmelt, Tanay Parripati, and Joseph Mucerino just a half-point back.

The Under-1500 section had our only 5/5 score: eight-year-old Hyindhav Murugesh. Only NM Shawn Wang was younger (at age seven) when he won the section in 2012.
HHM 2026 - Exton, PA - 2026.10.03 - Round 5
Hyindhav Murugesh (1395) - Sidharth Srinivasan (1243), ECO C41, 1 - 0
1. e4 d6 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 e5 4. d4 Nbd7 5. Bc4 Be7 6. Be3 O-O 7. O-O c6 8. Qd2 b5 9. Bd3 h6 10. Rad1 Ng4 11. h3 Nxe3 12. Qxe3 a6 13. dxe5 dxe5 14. Be2 Bc5 $4 15. Rxd7 $3 Qb6 $6 16. Qd2 Bxd7 17. Qxd7 Rad8 18. Qg4 Rfe8 19. Bd3 b4 $6 20. Na4 Qa7 21. Nxc5 Qxc5 22. Nh4 Kh7 23. Nf5 g6 24. Ne3 Rg8 25. Qf3 Rgf8 26. Bxa6 Ra8 27. Bc4 f5 28. Bb3 fxe4 29. Qxe4 Rf4 30. Qd3 Raf8 31. Qd7+ Kh8 32. Qd2 Qe7 33. c3 bxc3 34. Qxc3 Qg5 35. Ng4 and white went on to win. 1 - 0

Kenneth Murray and Dhanvin Amirishetti followed Murugesh by a point. Justin Migueis won the K-8 Under-900, with Zander Wister and Rannvijay Padhi just a half point back.



At age eight, Hyindhav Murugesh won what might be his last-ever Under-1500 tournament!







From left: K-8 Under-900 winner Justin Migueis and runners-up Rannvijay Padhi and Zander Wister. (Photos courtesy Samika Nettem)

Autumn Open

By Samika Nettem

Following the Holly Heisman Memorial on Saturday, chess players returned on October 4th to play in the 2nd Autumn Open at the Exton Hotel and Conference Center. With $2,500 in prize funds, the five round g30 d/10 tournament brought 58 players across the two sections, which were the Open and U1000.

In the Open section, IM Thomas Bartell took first place, earning $650 after defeating FM Dirk Troltenier in the final round. Not only did he secure a perfect 5-0 score, but also finished a full point ahead of the rest of the playing field. One of the biggest upsets in the entire tournament was in the third round, when Mardon Yakubov who is rated 2167, defeated GM Bryan Smith, despite being rated 300 points less. Smith quickly bounced back from the loss and won the last two games to finish with a score of 4-1, alongside Troltenier, Karl Dehmelt, Yakubov, and Pratheek Madasu, who all tied for second place.

The U1000 section was led by Sunil Kumar Kottha, who ripped 4 straight wins and took a draw in the last round against Avyay Keerthivasan to finish with 4.5 points and claim first place. There was another huge tie for second place with Keerthivasan, William Finn Longman, Sai Venkata Vihaansh Nagisetty, and newcomer Theresa Kim who all had a score of 4-1. Sam Alhaik trailed right behind with a score of 3.5-1.5, losing to Bartell's son, Jacob Bartell and drawing Keerthivasan.

In addition to the main prizes, the Autumn Open also featured many under prizes across different rating categories as well as some special prizes for mixed doubles, top girl, and top senior. All in all, the 2nd Autumn Open had a great turnout with exciting games and strong competition across both of the sections. We hope that everyone had fun, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Rating Stats

Most Regular Rating

PRATHEEK MADASU	1945
CHRISTOPHER ROMERIL	1934
CHARAN S PERUMALLA	1865
SHIVAM WAGH	1858
SUBHANG NETTEM	1771

Most Improvement

Full Name	
SHIVAM WAGH	115
HYINDHAV MURUGESH	75
RIAAN LALBAHADUR	53

Biggest Blitz Rating

SHIVAM WAGH	1610
PRATHEEK MADASU	1540
CHARAN S PERUMALLA	1520

These are the stats on the club members that filled out the form sent out and some other randomly chosen ones. To ensure you are added on this list of people, fill out the form at tinyurl.com/TBTRatings

Chess and Education Conference at St. Louis

By Joshua Anderson

The recent trip to St. Louis for the U.S. Chess Federation conference and U.S. Chess Championship events turned into an adventure with exciting chess, memorable encounters, discussions, and unexpected opportunities.

What began as a relatively straightforward road trip soon became a race against the clock. Wesley So entered the final round of the U.S. Championship with a one-point lead, but an unexpected loss to Sam Sevian left him tied with Fabiano Caruana, who had been trailing by a point and won his game, leaving the two players tied for first and forcing a playoff. The playoff was scheduled for noon, five hours earlier than originally anticipated.

Determined not to miss the action, the group continued driving through Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana. Their late-night arrival in Indianapolis brought another unexpected obstacle: almost every hotel was booked because the Future Farmers of America were holding a major event in the area. After several unsuccessful attempts, they finally found a room in Terre Haute, Indiana, arriving around 4:00 a.m. Despite getting very little sleep, they made it to St. Louis by approximately 11:30 a.m., just in time for the playoff.

The U.S. Championship Playoff

(Note: There are no photos as cameras were not allowed in the playing space.)

The playoff provided an exciting conclusion to the championship. The first game between Caruana and So ended in a draw, despite Caruana applying considerable pressure. In the second game, Wesley So played aggressively and secured the victory, earning the championship.

The result also meant that Caruana would not become the first player to win 5 U.S. Championships in a row. (Historical note: Robert “Bobby” Fischer won 4 in a row twice.) The playoff was well worth the long drive, and getting to watch two of the country's strongest players compete in person was a highlight of the trip.

The Saint Louis Chess Conference

Beyond the championship itself, the conference offered an opportunity to learn about how chess is taught, studied, promoted, and developed throughout the world.

The presentations covered a wide range of subjects, from independent learning and classroom instruction to international chess initiatives, technology, research, and community engagement.

One particularly interesting presentation focused on the St. Louis Chess Club's Select Chess program. Presented by Caleb Denby, this program highlighted the importance of developing good habits, encouraging independent learning, structuring group classes effectively, and helping students as they progress toward higher levels of play. These discussions offered many useful ideas for improving chess classes and programs at the community level.

Another important talk explored chess's role in the global community. Presentations discussed initiatives such as Chess for Refugees, programs supporting chess in impoverished communities in Africa, and the development of open digital infrastructure. The discussions demonstrated how chess can serve as a tool for education, opportunity, and international cooperation.

The presentation about Lichess was particularly noteworthy because of its emphasis on open data and research accessible by the community, which offered possibilities for future collaboration. The main idea was that making resources free and open can benefit not only one organization but also the entire chess community.

Chess Research: The Psychology of Chess

One of the strongest groups of presentations focused on chess as a research laboratory.

Several speakers examined the relationship between chess, psychology, decision-making, and human performance. Chris Chabris, who has previously played at our club and in Pennsylvania's Irwin tournament (which the club hosts), presented research on overconfidence and the Dunning-Kruger effect among tournament chess players.

Another particularly interesting presentation, by Kenneth Regan, examined the relationship between thinking time and quality of play. His research offered insight into how players use their time and how that affects their decisions over the board.

David Smerdon also presented work involving psychology and wearable technology. His research explored the possibility of using devices such as WHOOP, similar to fitness trackers, to study the physical and psychological aspects of chess performance.
These presentations demonstrated that chess has applications far beyond competitive play. Research into decision-making, concentration, confidence, and performance could provide valuable insights for players, coaches, and educators alike.



A Memorable Evening at the Reception
Right: GM Maurice Ashley, GM Andy Woodward, GM Abhi Mishra, Cherry Peramalla, IM Alice Lee, and two other players
One of the highlights of the trip was the evening reception celebra ting the U.S. Championship participants. The event brought togethe leading players, with Yasser Seirawan serving as master of ceremon ies.The reception included the presentation of awards, recognition of outstanding tournament performances, and an opportunity to meet players in a more relaxed setting. Rachel Lee was recognized for her excellent result and first-place finish.
Cherry, attending his first major US Chess reception, quickly found opportunities to meet people and play games. He was initially concerned about whether there would be other young players to socialize with, but those concerns disappeared quickly.
He played games with numerous attendees and even found himself playing bughouse alongside two grandmasters and a fourth-place finisher in the U.S. Women's Championship. It was an unusual opportunity to say the least!
Cherry also had the chance to spend time with several prominent young players and chess personalities, including Abhi Mishra, Andy Woodward, Alice Lee and Carissa Yip, among others. Meanwhile, the reception provided an opportunity to meet people involved in chess instruction, media, and tournament organization.

Connecting with the Chess Community
The conference also provided opportunities to meet and reconnect with people involved in chess education and organization across the country.
Among the notable encounters was Adam Weisbarth, who originally hired the club's founder and President to teach for Silver Knights approximately 20 years ago. Adam continues to run Silver Knights and organize major chess events in Maryland and Virginia. Discussions included the possibility of helping with a particularly large Maryland State Championship in spring 2027.
There were also opportunities to connect with Joseph Asick of *American Chess Magazine*, whose publication can be found around the club, including issues containing articles by myself.
The conference's networking opportunities reinforced how interconnected the chess community is. Ideas, teaching methods, tournament experience, and resources can be shared between clubs and organizations, creating opportunities for everyone to improve.

The Blitz Tournament: Cherry Takes on the Masters
Smeardon v Cherry - Getting near a draw
Perhaps the most exciting competitive portion of the trip was the 3+2 blitz tournament.
The event originally filled before Cherry could register, but a spot was made available when I gave him my place. The tournament ultimately featured 64 players competing in five rounds.
Cherry had not played in a blitz tournament for quite some time, so there was some understandable rustiness going into the first round. However, he quickly found his footing.
His second-round opponent Weisbarth, an approximately 2250ish-rated player and nationally known chess instructor and tournament organizer. Cherry managed to win, moving to an impressive 2–0 score.
In the third round, he faced another master-level opponent and secured a draw, bringing his score to 2½ out of 3.

The fourth round brought an even bigger challenge: Grandmaster David Smerdon, whose presentation on psychology and wearable technology had been one of the conference highlights. Cherry played confidently and reached a bishop-and-pawn ending. Smerdon eventually offered a draw, which Cherry accepted. It was a particularly impressive result against a grandmaster.

In the final round, Cherry faced Chris Chabris, a National Master who has played at club in the Irwin tournament. Cherry won the game and finished with an excellent 4 out of 5.

Although four players ultimately scored 4½ points and advanced to the playoff for the tournament's top prize—a chessboard signed by all 24 participants in the U.S. Championship—Cherry's performance, 7th place on tiebreaks, was an accomplishment in its own right.

The U.S. Chess Hall of Fame Inductions



Right: Ulf Andersson and I

Another major event was the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, again hosted by Yasser Seirawan.

The inductees included three particularly distinguished figures:

- Ulf Andersson: Renowned for his exceptional positional understanding, Andersson was among the world's strongest players for many years. As he often competed alongside legends such as Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov, his achievements sometimes received less attention than others. His induction speech included humorous reflections on his career and his continued enjoyment of chess.
- Vasyl Ivanchuk: One of the dominant players of the 1990s, Ivanchuk famously won the 1993 Linares tournament ahead of Kasparov. This event ended Kasparov's remarkable streak of consistently finishing first or tied for first in tournaments. Ivanchuk remains well known for his creative chess and distinctive personality.
- Alexandra Kosteniuk: A highly accomplished grandmaster who earned the title at just 14 years old, Kosteniuk is known for her aggressive playing style and continued involvement in competitive chess. She has also been an important figure in women's chess.

The induction ceremony was followed by another reception, providing additional opportunities to meet players and collect autographs. Conversations with Andersson and other chess personalities made the evening especially memorable.

Looking Ahead: Bringing New Ideas Back to TriBridges

Perhaps the most important takeaway from the entire trip was the opportunity to bring new ideas and connections back to the club.

The conference demonstrated how much can be accomplished when chess organizations share their knowledge and resources. Discussions about independent learning, effective class structures, community partnerships, technology, and chess research all offer possibilities for future club activities.

There is also potential for future collaborations with organizations such as Lichess, as well as researchers and educators who could participate in the podcast.

The club's own work on chess magazines, as part of the American Chess Archive project, and educational projects were also discussed during the presentation. Samika and Cherry were recognized for their contributions, and anyone interested in helping with these projects is welcome to get involved.

The trip concluded with a 13-hour drive home, bringing an eventful few days to a close. Between the championship playoff, conference presentations, Hall of Fame inductions, new connections, and Cherry's impressive blitz performance, the visit provided plenty of inspiration. Most importantly, it was a reminder that chess is about much more than the games themselves. It is also about education, research, friendship, community, and the opportunities created when the community comes together.

(Editor's Note: This was an AI summarized, human edited transcript that was 25 minutes long. Please try to be less detailed in your writing.)

Player Spotlight



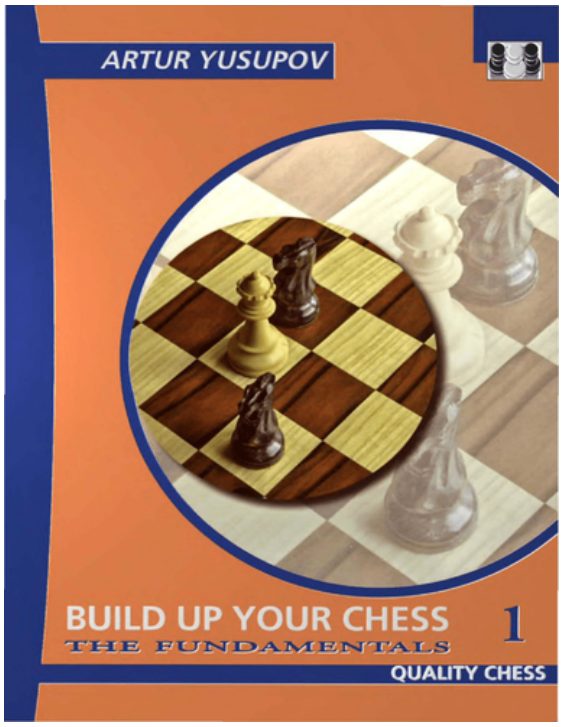
This month, our player spotlight is a recent winner of the Holly Heisman Event: Justin Migueis!

I am an active member of the Tri-Bridges Chess Club, attending weekly club meetings every Tuesday, where I love playing chess with friends, meeting new people, and challenging myself. Besides Tuesday club activities, I compete in tournaments fairly often, having started competing in September. I won first place in the under-500 section during my very first event—winning all of my games and taking home a nice trophy. Recently, I won fourth place in the under-1,200 division of a tournament.

Rather than studying traditional chess books, I improve my game primarily through regular practice, playing online with chess.com, and participating in club games and tournaments. In addition to being a dedicated player, I show thoughtfulness toward club organizers, even buying ice cream for a club leader to express gratitude and apologizing for causing worry when I walked across the highway to Rita's (ed. Note - walking to Rita's is definitely a NO NO!) Looking to the future, I aspire to become a Tournament Director (TD) and have already begun studying the official rulebook to work toward that goal.

Short Book Recommendation

Written by: Akhil Kapalavayi



Book Review: Build Up Your Chess 1 – The Fundamentals by Artur Yusupov

The chess book I would like to review is Build Up Your Chess 1: The Fundamentals by Artur Yusupov. This book is designed to help players improve their overall chess skills. It covers different areas of chess, including tactics, mating patterns, positional play, and important concepts that help players make better decisions during games. For example, one chapter teaches different mating patterns, such as Anastasia's Mate and the Arabian Mate. It explains how pieces can work together to create checkmate opportunities.

What I like about this book is that it challenges you to think carefully and understand why certain moves are good or bad. The exercises help you recognize patterns and improve your calculation skills. One thing I don't like is that some of the problems can be challenging, especially when you are not used to solving positions on your own. I would recommend this book to intermediate players, especially those rated around 1000–1600, who want to improve their understanding of chess and become stronger tournament players.

! Solutions !

Page 3:
Puzzle one: 1. Ka5 Qa3#
1.Kc5 Qxf2 (Skewer)

Page 4:
Taking the knight allows Rhg1+,
followed by Rxf8#

Puzzle two: 1. Qd6. If the pawn takes, then the rook checkmates.
If not, White can checkmate either on d7 or h8.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

One of the best ways to improve at chess isn't just by studying countless books—it's by playing real games! Our upcoming club events offer great opportunities to put your skills into practice, challenge new opponents, and learn from every match. Remember, practice may not make you perfect, but it definitely makes you better! Here's what's coming up at the Tri Bridges Chess Club.

Reach for the Sky Tournament – Free Entry – ECE #154
Date and time: Saturday, November 14 @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Sections: Open, U1500, U1000, U500
Time control: G25 d5

ECE #155 – Sunday Game Hour
Date and time: November 15 @ 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sections: Open, U1400, U700
Time control: G60 d5

ECE #156 – Friday Night Tournament
Date and time: November 20 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Sections: Open, U1200, U700, U300
Time control: G25 d5; 3 rounds

Pennsylvania State Game/30 Championship Saturday
Date and time: November 21 @ 10:30 am - 6:00 pm
Sections: K-12 for unrated people, and U1000 and U500 for rated players
Time control: Game 30

Pennsylvania State Game/30 Championship Sunday
Date and time: November 22 @ 10:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sections: Championship: Open to all. Premier: All Unrated or U1600
Time control: Game 30

ECE #157 – Saturday Tournament
Date and time: November 28 @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Sections: Open, U1200, U800, U400
Time control: G25 d5

Morning Quads ECE-158
Date and time: December 6 @ 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Sections: Based on Rating
Time control: G25 d5

Afternoon Quads ECE-159
Date and time: December 6 @ 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Sections: Based on Rating
Time control: G40 d5