

The Pittsburgh Chess Club's
TUESDAY NIGHT BULLETIN
 Vol. II, No. 5: Byland Memorial 2009, Rounds 1–5
 (edited by Federico Garcia)

Overview

Great enrollment for the second Tuesday Night tournament of the year. 33 players plus house-player Mike Holsinger dispute a guaranteed \$535 prize fund. Among non-regulars are expert Daniel Malkiel; PCC board member and renowned chess coach John Surlow; and unrated player Eric Tooch. Welcome to them and to all players.

	Standings after 5 rounds (section leaders in bold)
4.5 pts.	Malkiel (2141)
4	Gordon (2026), Mo (1949), Turner (1935)
3.5	Garcia (2026), Rinehart (1826) , Francus (1694)
3	Schragin (1890), Healy (1871), Kirk (1781), Lipinsky (1749), Holsinger (1694)
2.5	Meigs (2001), S. Boak (1847), Prokhov (1800), Overlie (1791), Dok- towski (1708), Mirra (1672), Lok- mer (1595), Galanter (1580), Mil- liern (1456)
2	Surlow (1658), Crowell (1626), Brown (1553), Reilly (1345), Simms (1173) , Spisak (1079) , D. Boak (785)
1.5	Swartz (1334), Laboon (1083)
1	Gilby (1381), Hoppmann (1087)
.5	Murawski (1260)
0	Tooch (unr.)

Entering the final round, Daniel Malkiel is alone in first place with 4.5 points (after an upset draw against Ted Mirra, featured below), chased by Kevin Mo and club champions Daniel Gordon and Adonis Turner. The third 2009 club champion, Finn Overlie, has not had the best tournament, losing a game in deep time trouble against John Lokmer, and then ceding half a point to Greg Galanter.

As for section prizes, a number of players are trailing Rinehart for U19, by half a point. Francus, also with 3.5 points, is farther away from the U17 lot (except for house player Holsinger, the other 1700-players have 2.5 or less). Milliern (3.5) and Reilly (3) are on the fight for U15. But the most interesting

final for tonight concerns the under-1300 bracket, where three players are tied with 2 points. Two of these players (Spisak and Dianna Boak) are eligible for the final bracket, U11/unrated.

Finally, Dianna Boak leads the race for biggest upset prize with a 175-point upset.

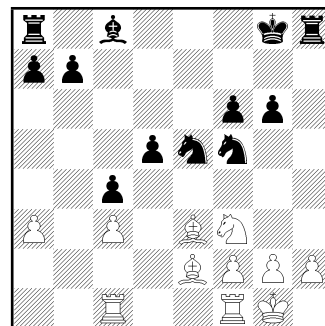
From the leader's games

Daniel Malkiel is the first 2100+ player in the Tuesday Nights since Franklin Chen's 2009 retirement. He is obviously a strong player, and having him play this tournament has been a plus. He has contributed his games to the Tuesday Night bulletin, and three of his games are featured below: the draw he conceded to Ted Mirra (1672); a nice miniature; and an instructive endgame in the 'semifinals' where he beat Daniel Gordon (2026)—the game that has put him half a point away from winning the tournament.

□ Mirra, T. (1672) Pittsburgh 2009
 ■ Malkiel, D. (2141) French main line – C18

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♙b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3
 ♙xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♘e7 7 ♖g4 ♙f8 8 ♙d3 ♖a5
 9 ♙d2 ♖a4 10 ♘f3 c4 11 ♙e2 ♖xc2 12 0–0
 ♘bc6 13 ♗ac1 ♖f5 14 ♖g3 ♗g6 15 ♖h3 f5!?
 16 exf6? [This helps Black setup a powerful expansion in the center, taking advantage of the lines that will open on the white queen. Better was something like 16 ♘h4 ♖f7 17 g3 h6 18 ♘g2 ♗h7 19 ♙h5 g6 20 ♙d1 g5 with compensation] 16... gxf6 17 ♙h6+ ♙g8 18 ♙e3 e5 19 ♖g3 ♘f5 20 ♖xg6+ hxg6 21 dxex5 ♘xe5 (D)

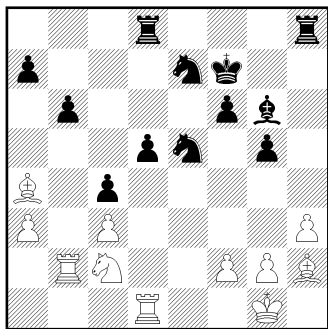
Mirra, T.–Malkiel, D.



21... dxex5

The more patient 21...fe5 was better here. The d-pawn is weak now, and the active-looking knights do not really compensate for it. Black is looking for a way to convert his extra pawn, but White will succeed in posing more and more problems. **22 ♖f4 ♜c6** **23 h3** Anticipating the kingside expansion. It will be seen that this move actually gave Black a motive that could have won the game. **23...g5** **24 ♖h2 ♖e6** **25 ♜fe1 ♗f7** **26 ♜b1! b6** **27 ♖d1!** White does not want a passive defense, and rightly goes for every weakness he can find. Now the ♜c6 is hanging... **27... ♜ad8** **28 ♖a4! ♜fe7** **29 ♜b2 ♖f5** [29...g4! 30 ♜be2 ♖d7!] **30 ♜d1 ♖d3** [Again better was 30...g4] **31 ♜e1 ♖g6** **32 ♜c2?! ♜e5?! (D)**

Mirra, T.–Malkiel, D.



32... ♜e5?!

Both players have been missing the power of 32...g4. For example: 33 h×g4 ♜h7 34 ♜e3 ♜dh8 35 ♜f1 ♖d3 and Black should win. Black is in time trouble, and when White shuts down the kingside on move 36, the draw was agreed: **33 ♜b4 ♜d3** **34 ♜bd2 ♜c8?!⊕** **35 ♖d7! ♜cd8** **36 ♖g4!** 1/2:1/2

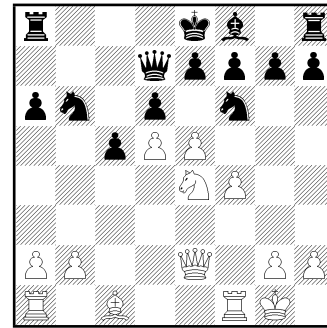
□ Malkiel, D. (2141) Pittsburgh 2009
 ■ Boak, S. (1847) Benko Declined – A57

Annotations by D. Malkiel

1 d4 ♜f6 **2 c4 c5** **3 d5 b5** **4 ♜f3 b×c4** **5 ♜c3 d6** **6 e4 ♖g4** **7 ♖c4 ♖×f3?** [7... ♜bd7 (but not 7...g6? 8 ♜a4+! forces 8... ♖d7, else 9 ♜d2+-)] **8 ♜f3 a6?** Black wants to cover b5, but the tempo is too costly. **9 0–0 ♜bd7** **10 ♜e2 ♜c8** **11 f4 ♜b6** **12 e5 ♜c4** **13 ef** [13 ♜c4 is objectively better: 13... ♜d7 14 ♜a4+!] **13... ♜b6** **14 ♜e4! ♜d7 (D)**

And before I could play **15 ♜d1**, Black resigned. This is premature, but Black's position is very unpleasant. 15...♗d8 is essentially forced in order to relieve the pressure on the e-file. I would have played 16 ♖d2, aiming for either a5 or c3 with a large plus for White; Black's kingside is stuck and his king is a permanent liability. **1:0**

Malkiel, D.–Boak, S.



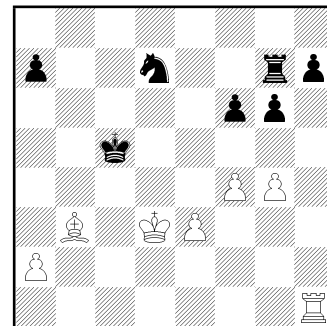
14... ♜d7

□ Malkiel, D. (2141) Pittsburgh 2009
 ■ Gordon, D. (2026) Dutch – A80

Annotations by D. Malkiel

1 d4 f5 **2 ♜c3 ♜f6** **3 ♖g5 d5** **4 ♖×f6 e×f6** **5 e3 ♖e6** **6 ♜f3 c6** **7 ♖d3 g6** **8 ♜ge2 ♖d6** **9 h3 ♗d7?! [9... 0–0** **10 ♜f4 ♖f7** **11 g4** looks dangerous; **9... ♜d7** **10 g4 f×g4** **11 h×g4 ♖f7** **12 0–0–0]** **10 g4 f×g4** **11 h×g4 ♗c7** **12 ♜f4 ♖f7** **13 0–0–0 ♖×f4** **14 ♜×f4+ ♜d6** **15 ♜×d6+** [15 ♜h6 ♜d7 16 ♜g7 ♖e6 17 ♜×h7 ♜×h7 18 ♜×h7 ♖×g4 19 ♜g1 f5 20 ♜h1] **15... ♗×d6** **16 ♜h6 ♜d7** **17 ♜dh1 ♜f8** **18 ♜e2 ♜e8** **19 ♗d2 ♖e6** **20 ♜f4 ♜g8** **21 ♜×e6! ♜×e6** **22 c4** As Black's lone weakness on h7 is well defended, White tries to create a new one while opening the position for his bishop. **22... ♜e7** **23 b4** [23 c5+ ♗c7 24 b4 ♜gg7 25 a4 ♜e6 26 b5 ♜g5±] **23... d×c4** **24 ♖×c4 ♜gg7** **25 ♗d3 b6** **26 ♜c1 ♜c7** **27 ♖b3** [27 a4 c5 28 d×c5+ b×c5 29 b5±] **27... c5** **28 b×c5+ b×c5** **29 d×c5+** [29 ♜c4 ♜d7] **29... ♜×c5** **30 ♜×c5 ♗×c5** **31 ♜h1 ♜d7** **32 f4 (D)**

Malkiel, D.–Gordon, D.



32 f4

The position is objectively drawn, but White can torture Black for a long time without risk. White can take his time and try different plans, while Black must respond precisely to each, always being careful to avoid a favorable rook exchange followed by

g5 with a winning position for White. 32...♔d6 33 ♖c4 ♘c5 34 ♚d1+ ♖c6 35 ♙c2 ♚e7 [35... ♚d7 36 ♚d4] 36 ♚d5 ♘e4 37 ♔d4 ♘d6 [37... ♘d2 38 e4; 37... ♘f2 38 g5] 38 ♙a4+ ♖c7 39 ♚c5+ ♖b7 40 ♔d5 ♘c8 [40... ♘e4=; both players in severe time trouble.] 41 ♙c6+ ♖c7 42 ♔d4 ♔d6 43 ♙f3 ♘b6? [43... ♚c7 44 ♚xc7 ♖xc7 45 e4 a5 46 ♔d5 ♔d7 47 g5? ♚c6+ 48 ♔d7 ♚xf6] and White won in another 15–20 moves. 1:0

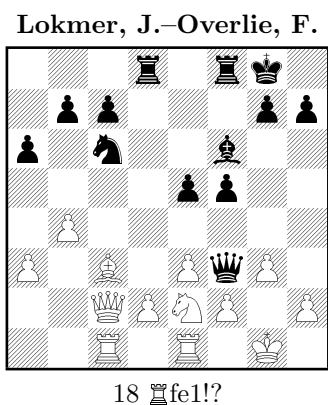
Club champion's fall

“Last tuesday night,” reports John Lokmer, “I beat the Club Champion Finn Overlie. We stopped keeping score after the 32nd move, because Finn was under the five minute mark.¹ With a minute left on his clock, I was ready to queen a pawn, and he resigned. I had 3 minutes left on my clock.”

Here is the game as it is recoverable from the scoresheet John sent to me:

□ Lokmer, J. (1595) Pittsburgh 2009
 ■ Overlie, F. (1791) English – A22

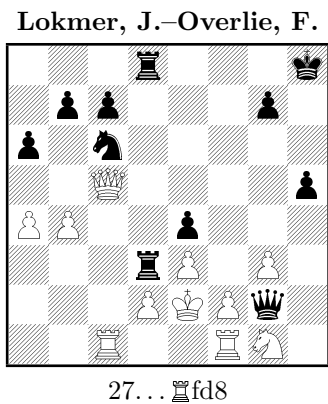
1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 ♙g2 ♙e6 6 e3 ♘c6 7 a3 ♙e7 8 ♘ge2 0–0 9 0–0 ♚d7 10 b4 f5 11 ♙b2 ♚ad8 12 ♘xd5 ♙xd5 13 ♙c3 a6 14 ♚c1 ♙f6 15 ♚c2 ♙xg2 16 ♔xg2 ♚d5+ 17 ♖g1 ♚f3 18 ♚fe1!? (D)



White’s position is very cramped, and it would look like Black is close to finishing a squeeze. The ‘standard’ way of dealing with the position would be for White to blast the center open with 18 d4, aiming at opening some lines and relieving the bind. However, the text move is part of a bold plan of repositioning

¹By the way, it does not matter whether your opponent is keeping score: you have to keep score until *your* clock goes under 5 minutes.—F.G.

the king and testing Black’s ability to force resignation. 18...h5 19 ♖f1 ♚h1+ 20 ♘g1 f4 Black refuses to take on h2, hoping for a more direct approach: open lines and mate the king. 21 ♖e2 f×g3 22 h×g3?! [22 ♘f3! ♚g2 23 h×g3] 22...e4 23 ♚f1 ♙xc3 24 ♚xc3 ♚d3 25 ♚c4+ ♔h8 26 a4 ♚g2 27 ♚c5 ♚fd8 (D)



It looks like Black has found the second target that will rip White’s position apart: in addition to attacking on the kingside, this offensive on the d2 is very promising. Surprisingly, this fails to give quick results, and although Black is clearly better, he has spent most of the time in his clock, and is still looking for a way to decide. 28 ♚xh5+ ♖g8 29 ♚c2!? ♘xb4 30 ♚b2 ♚3d5 [30... ♘d5] 31 ♚g4 ♘d3+ 32 ♚c2 b5?...By this point White has developed several counterplay motives (after 33 ♚xc7 there is a mate threat that effectively even the position up. In the time trouble, Black got lost. 1:0

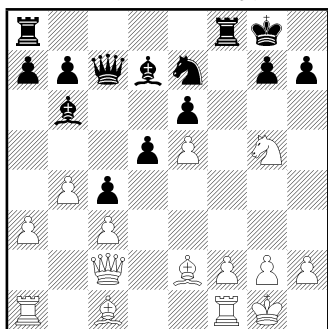
□ Garcia, F. (2026) Pittsburgh 2009
 ■ Healy, M. (1871) French Advance – C02

All of my games in this tournament have been very interesting. The following is particularly so because of many things. This is the second French Advance Mike and I play (he won clearly the first one); it features an intuitive sacrifice on his part, that should have been crowned by a second sacrifice—fairly obvious—that we both missed. And in the final moves the position features pieces hanging on both sides and both players ignoring the fact.

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 c5 4 c3 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 ♚b6 6 a3 c4 7 ♘bd2 f6 8 ♙e2 f×e5 9 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 10 d×e5 ♙c5 11 0–0 ♘e7 12 ♘f3?! 0–0 13 ♚a4!? This is a rare move in the French (Black has usually played ... ♙d7 by this point). I was not happy with my position, and looked for ways of liberating. One of the tries was 13 b4 cxb3 14 ♚b1 but

14... ♗d7! forces 15 ♖xb3 (15 ♗xb3?? ♗a4++) 15... ♖xb3 16 ♗xb3 b6= and I did not like the resulting endgame. The text move poses Black a question about his queen bishop. Mike responded more passively than he could have and eventually my Queen got to c2 with good prospects. 13... ♖c7?! 14 b4 ♗d7 [14... cxb3!? opens up the position (now the queen has access to the kingside, and although it is not objectively bad, in the complications White will better enjoy his space advantage.) 15 ♖c2 ♗b6 16 ♗g5? (D)

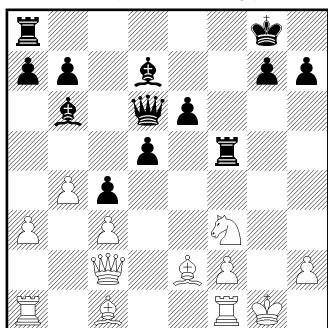
Garcia, F.–Healy, M.



16 ♗g5?

White has prospects on both sides of the board. I decided on the kingside demonstration first, but I was overestimating its power. Even during the game I realized that leaving e5 hanging was bad. 16... ♗f5? But Mike also was too afraid of 16... ♗g6 17 ♗h5(?) that seems deadly but can be answered by 17... ♖xe5! 18 ♗xg6 hxg6 19 ♖xg6 ♗xf2+ 20 ♗h1 ♖f5! and White has nothing to show for the pawn. What follows is a wild variation where White wins material.] 17 g4 ♖xe5 18 ♗f3 This way of taking the piece provided the best way to make Black's pieces stand on each other's way. 18... ♖d6 19 gxf5 ♗xf5 (D)

Garcia, F.–Healy, M.



19... ♗xf5

Here I was dealing with the fact that h2 was easily attackable, and the only piece that could defend

it, the ♗f3, was easy for Black to dispose of. The only thing to do was to open the second rank for the queen to defend on h2. 20 ♗h4?? This looked great. The knight would take care of g6, the only relevant kingside square not covered by my minor pieces. I simply did not think of the very obvious, and immediately winning, chance I was giving Mike. Luckily he did not see it either. 20... ♗c7?? [20... ♗xf2+! 21 ♗xf2 ♗xf2 22 ♗xf2 ♖xh2+ 23 ♗g2 ♗f8+ 24 ♗f3 e5 is devastating. After the text move White controls the board, and the threats simply accumulate until it is too much for Black. Some of the positions that arise from here on are very beautiful.] 21 f4 ♗b6+ 22 ♗h1 ♗f6 23 f5 exf5 24 ♗f4 ♖e6 25 ♗f3 h6 26 ♗ae1 ♖f7 27 ♖g2 ♗c6 28 ♗e5 ♗e8 29 b5 ♗xe5 30 ♗xe5 ♖c7 31 ♗xf5 1:0

Next Tuesday Night tournament:
Richard Abrams Memorial
May 19 – June 23, 2009

\$35 or \$30 if entered by May 13
Additional \$5 discount to PCC members

\$535 guaranteed in prizes