

KANSAN FM CONRAD HOLT EARNS THIRD IM NORM



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Photo by: Frank Berry

Wichita FIDE Master Conrad Holt participated in the recently completed Berkley International tourney in Berkley, California. The tourney ran from January 2nd to 8th 2011. Conrad finished tied for 4th to 10th place with 6.5 points out of 10 possible. He had 6 wins, 3 losses, and only 1 draw. The tournament is significant for Conrad in that it was his third IM norm. Thus, according to recent communication with Oklahoma FIDE International Arbiter Frank Berry, Conrad should be given his International Master Title by FIDE some time in May. To the best of this author's knowledge Kansas has never had an IM or GM titled player. Surrounding states have, but Kansas has not. Send me a note if I am wrong.

The High School Senior was busy in 2010. He played in the 2010 US Junior Invitational tourney 7/10-7/19 in St Louis. He also played in the Mid-America in St. Louis, Chicago Open, World Open in Philadelphia, Philadelphia International, Copper State International in Mesa, Arizona, and Continental Class in Arlington, Virginia. Closer to Kansas Conrad finished first place in the Oklahoma Thanksgiving FIDE tourney November 20th and 21st, 2010 with a perfect score of 5 out of 5, a tourney directed by Frank Berry. Below are two of his games from the recently completed Berkley International in California.

FM Conrad Holt (2388) – IM Lev Milman (2467) Berkeley Open (Rd 4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.e4 d5 6.e5 Ne4 7.Bd3 c5 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nd7
10.Bf4 Qh4 11.g3 Qh3 12.0-0-0 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Ba3+ 14.Kb1 Nb6 15.Bf1 Qh5 16.Be2 Qh3
17.Nf3 Qf5 18.Bd3 Qh5 19.Ng5 h6 20.h4 Bd7 21.Bh7+ Kh8 22.Bg8 g6 23.Nxf7+ Kg7 24.g4
Qxg4 25.Rdg1 Qf5 26.Qxf5 exf5 27.Rxg6+ Kxg6 28.h5+ Kg7 29.Rg1# 1-0

FM Conrad Holt (2388) - IM Istvan Sipos (2409) Berkeley Open (Rd 9)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 e6 4. Nc3 exd5 5. cxd5 d6 6. e4 g6 7. h3 Bg7 8. Nf3 a6 9. a4 Nbd7 10.
Bd3 Nh5 11. 0-0 Ne5 12. Be2 Nxf3+ 13. Bxf3 Qh4 14. Ra3 Be5 15. Re1 Nf4 16. a5 Bd7 17.
Na4 Nxf3+ 18. gxh3 Qxh3 19. Bg2 Qh2+ 20. Kf1 Bb5+ 21. Re2 Qh4 22. Rh3 Qf6 23. Nb6 Rd8
24. Kg1 h5 25. Rc2 Bd7 26. Nxd7 Kxd7 27. Rf3 Qe7 28. Rc4 Ke8 29. Qc2 g5 30. Rf5 g4 31. b4
cxb4 32. Rc7 Rd7 33. Rc8+ Rd8 34. Bg5 f6 35. Rc7 Rd7 36. Qa4 Kd8 37. Rxe5 Rxc7 38. Rxe7
Kxe7 39. Be3 Rc4 40. Bf1 Rxe4 41. Qc2 1-0