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Idaho chess prodigy takes on all comers for Haiti

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Photo by Joe Jaszewski, Idaho Statesman

Idaho's top chess player of any age, 11-year-old Luke Vellotti, played 20 different games of chess simultaneously at Smokey Mountain Pizza on Parkcenter Boulevard on Saturday night. For \$20 per player, Luke took on all comers — 20 in all — to raise money for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. Earlier this month he was in Oakland for a chess tournament when Luke saw television coverage of the devastating earthquake and wanted to do something to help.

“It was Luke's idea,” said his father, Daniel Vellotti. “He wanted to help out somehow.” All of the money raised will go to the American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund.

Also, Luke won all 20 games.