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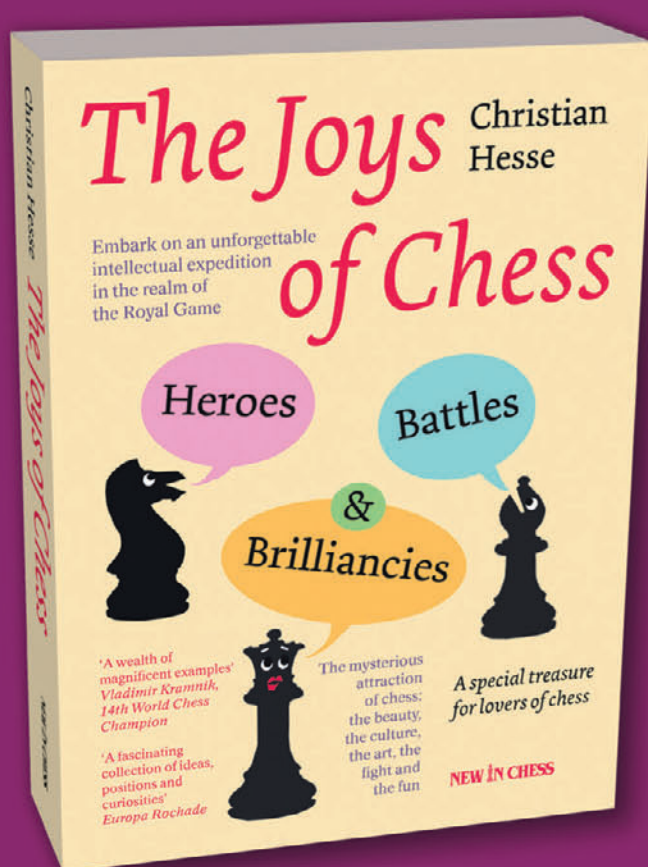


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Chess Life

Editorial Staff

Chess Life Editor & Director of Publications	Daniel Lucas	dllucas@uschess.org
Chess Life Online Editor	Jennifer Shahade	jshahade@uschess.org
Chess Life for Kids Editor	Glenn Petersen	gpetersen@uschess.org
Senior Art Director	Frankie Butler	fbutler@uschess.org
Editorial Assistant/Copy Editor	Alan Kantor	akantor@uschess.org
Editorial Assistant	Jo Anne Fatherly	jfatherly@uschess.org
Editorial Assistant	Jennifer Pearson	jenniferpearson@uschess.org
Technical Editor	Ron Burnett	
TLA/Advertising	Joan DuBois	tla@uschess.org

USCF Staff

Executive Director	Bill Hall	ext. 189	bhall@uschess.org
Assistant Executive Director & Director of National Events	Patricia Knight Smith	931-200-3411	patsmith@uschess.org
National Events Assistant	Cody Stewart	931-787-3916	cstewart@uschess.org
Chief Accountant	Peggy Eberhart	ext. 131	peberhart@uschess.org
Chief Financial Officer	Joe Nanna	ext. 150	jnanna@uschess.org
Accounting Associate	Susan Houston	ext. 136	shouston@uschess.org
Director of Business Operations	Judy Misner	ext. 126	jmisner@uschess.org
Tournament Director Certification	Judy Misner	ext. 126	jmisner@uschess.org
Membership Services Supervisor	Cheryle Bruce	ext. 147	cbruce@uschess.org
Mailing Lists/Membership Assoc.	Traci Lee	ext. 143	tlee@uschess.org
Membership Associate	Joe Wright	ext. 125	joewright@uschess.org
Membership Associate	Joshua Van Winkle	ext. 146	jvanwinkle@uschess.org
Director of Communications & Affiliate Relations	Joan DuBois	ext. 123	jdubois@uschess.org
Correspondence Chess	Alex Dunne		cchess@uschess.org
Fundraising/Sponsorship	Joan DuBois	ext. 123	jdubois@uschess.org
National Education Consultant	Jerry Nash		jnash@uschess.org
FIDE & Scholastic Associate	Chuck Lovingood	ext. 148	clovingood@uschess.org
OTB Ratings/FIDE	Walter Brown	ext. 142	wbrown@uschess.org
Computer Consultant	Mike Nolan	ext. 188	mnolan@uschess.org
IT Director & Webmaster	Phillip R. Smith	ext. 134	philsmith@uschess.org

USCF Executive Board

President, Jim Berry	PO Box 351, Stillwater, OK 74076	jaberrycg@aol.com
Vice President, Ruth Haring	PO Box 1993, Chico, CA 95927	ruth@ruthharing.com
VP Finance, Randy Bauer	3923 - 153rd Street, Urbandale, IA 50323	randybauer2300@yahoo.com
Secretary, Mike Nietman	2 Boca Grande Way, Madison, WI 53719	mike.nietman@charter.net
Member at Large, Michael Atkins	PO Box 6138, Alexandria, VA 22306	matkins2@cox.net
Member at Large, Bill Goichberg	PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577	chessoffice@aol.com
Member at Large, Gary Walters	Thompson Hine LLP, 3900 Key Center, 127 Public Square, Cleveland, OH 44114	gary.walters@thompsonhine.com



Main office: Crossville, TN (931) 787-1234 • **Advertising inquiries:** (931) 787-1234, ext. 123 • **TLAs:** All TLAs should be e-mailed to tla@uschess.org or sent to P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557-3967 • **Letters to the editor:** Please submit to letters@uschess.org • **Subscriptions:** To subscribe to *Chess Life*, join the USCF or enter a USCF tournament, go to uschess.org or call 1-800-903-USCF (8723) • **Change of address:** Please send to address-change@uschess.org • **Other inquiries:** feedback@uschess.org, (931) 787-1234, fax (931) 787-1200

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Contributors

Al Lawrence

("First Moves," p. 8) is a former executive director of both USCF and the World Chess Hall of Fame. His latest book, with GM Lev Alburt, is *Chess Training Pocket Book II*.

C.K. Damrosch

("Looks at Books," p. 12) aka "Bird" is a writer, math teacher, graduate from Emory, and probably the guy you tripped over as he slept under a table at the World Open.

GM Ian Rogers

("Candidates Matches," p. 18) is a regular contributor to *Chess Life* from the international tournament scene.

Jonathan Hilton

("International Chess," p. 24) is a world traveler and chess adventurer. He is the author of *Wojo's Weapons: Winning with White, Volume I*.

Alex Dunne

("Cover Story," p. 28, 36) is the correspondence chess director for the USCF. His monthly column "The Check is in the Mail" appears on uschess.org.

Howard Sandler, Ph.D.

("Cover Story," p. 32) lives in Nashville, Tennessee, where he is a Professor of Psychology at Vanderbilt University.

IM Jack Peters

("Chess Clubs," p. 40) is an 18-time southern California champion, chess teacher and writer living in Los Angeles.

Andrea Rosen

("Scholastics," p. 48) is a Chicago-based freelance editor and writer. She also serves as the volunteer director of the Illinois Chess Association Warren Junior Scholar program, and is the mother of Eric Rosen.



August on uschess.org



A Disney World Summer

The U.S. Open will take place from July 30-August 7 in Orlando, Florida. Stay posted on pairings and standings on uschess.org/tournaments/2011/usopen/ and news at uschess.org/clo. Jennifer Shahade will be live on the scene to provide coverage of the ultimate American chess festival.



Indian Chess Summer

The World Junior is set for Chennai, India from August 1-16. Jamaal Abdul-alim will provide coverage for *CLO* with a focus on GM Ray Robson and Deepak Aaron, who will be representing the USA.



Fall is Coming

For the fourth year in a row, uschess.org/clo celebrates Labor Day weekend with "Labor Day Madness," a series of articles on Grand Prix events across the nation. Share your own with *CLO* editor Jen Shahade at jshahade@uschess.org. As the autumn looms ahead, it's also time to plan for National Chess Day, which will be held this year on Saturday, October 8, 2011.



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August Chess Life



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On The Cover

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Counterplay

Our letters inbox was a little light this month, so instead here is USCF Executive Director Bill Hall's report to the USCF Delegates from the 2011 Delegates' Call. You can download the entire Delegates' Call, which also has reports from USCF President Jim Berry and Vice President of Finance Randy Bauer, as well as reports from the various committee chairs, at uschess.org, "About USCF," "Governance," "Reports." (Registration is required.)

USCF Executive Director's Report

When faced with adversity, you have two options: meet the challenge and become better for it, or let it destroy you. Over the last few years, the USCF has faced its share of adversity. I believe the results of this year stand to show that we as an organization are meeting those challenges and that we are all better for it. I am happy to report that we are ending the fiscal year with a surplus that is significantly higher than budgeted. I would like to thank the members of the USCF staff for all contributing to make this happen. We have accomplished this largely due to controlling expenses. With previous extraordinary expenditures, we are still digging out of a hole, but at least now we can see that we are in the process of making it out.

When we last met in Irvine, California, I said that we have to think summer when it is winter and that we have to think winter when it is summer. At that time, I said that financially we were in an early spring and that things were improving. Now we are into summer organizationally. What do animals in nature do when it is summer? They begin preparing for winter. Now that we survived a bleak winter we have to take steps to ensure that we are prepared should we find winter once again on our doorstep.

As our Vice-President of Finance pointed out, much of our survival was born on the backs of our employees. This can work for short-term survival, but is not a formula for long-term success. Similarly, we had to delay investments into computer and other infrastructure. Again, this eventually becomes a serious problem. We are now able to make some minor improvements for the employees and have begun replacing

some of our computers and other systems. We have a long way to go to fully retire the ill-effects of previous lawsuits and we have to be cautious until we are completely recovered.

Continuing our progress will be a challenge. We cannot continue to make cuts without beginning to intrude on the value of the services we bring to our membership. I believe we have a perceived value problem with our membership, already. We cannot hope to grow our organization without changing this; however, at the same time, we have to do so with very limited resources. The focus here is in online services and online community building. With online play and USCF-run online leagues, I hope to see us begin to change our retention rates and build excitement about an online U.S. Chess community. Through changes to our website, we can further the community experience while improving our ability to efficiently communicate with our membership. As we get this in place, we will have an advertising campaign to bring back former members and we are currently working to redesign our renewal reminder notification system to make it more efficient and effective. Also included, we are working to develop a social media strategy so that we can effectively remain a viable organization into the future.

The ability to survive by making cuts is coming to an end. Now we must begin to grow revenue in the short term with some minor dues increases and in the long term by growing our membership and other revenue streams. If we continue only by cutting, the perceived value problem will become a real value problem and we will simply lose members until there is little left. The seventy-plus year history of the USCF deserves better, our members deserve better, and chess deserves better.

In addition to online services and social media initiatives, we also are working on partnership with organizations like the Boy Scouts of America. This, coupled with other relationships, offer us a chance to expose millions of children to the opportunity to learn and play chess. I am very excited about all of the potential that we have for growth. Now we have to take advantage of those opportunities with creative

approaches considering the limits on our resources.

In closing, I would like to thank Randy Bauer for his service on the Executive Board. His leadership as VP of Finance has been invaluable and his ability to work to make the Board a cohesive team has been extraordinary. You will be missed in that role. In 2007 at the Delegate's Meeting in New Jersey, I addressed the leadership speaking about how it was critical that we as an organization clean up our politics. Although a very difficult period followed, now I am pleased with how the Executive Board is able to effectively work together. A significant portion of our current successes is due to this, and I hope this will continue well into the future. Remember, many of us have differing opinions of the details of how to proceed or what is a priority, but we all come together for the common goal of furthering chess. While we debate our differences, let us not forget what unites us. If we can put the individual egos aside, we can do great things of which we can all be proud.

I look forward to seeing you in Orlando.

Bill Hall
USCF Executive Director

Corrections

In the July *Chess Life*, John Roycroft was listed as endgame study editor for *British Chess Magazine* from 1931-1974 instead of 1973-1974.

In the June *Chess Life*, the Pan American article stated that Toronto was the "northern most" team to appear. Reed College in Portland, Oregon is at 45 degrees 30' north and was actually the northern most team.

Chess Life regrets the errors.

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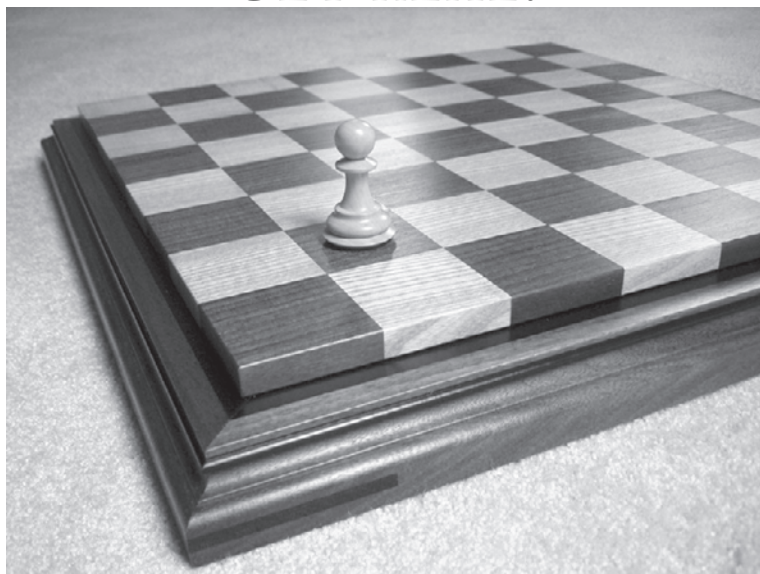
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Bobby Fischer Unplugged

A review of HBO's *Bobby Fischer Against the World*

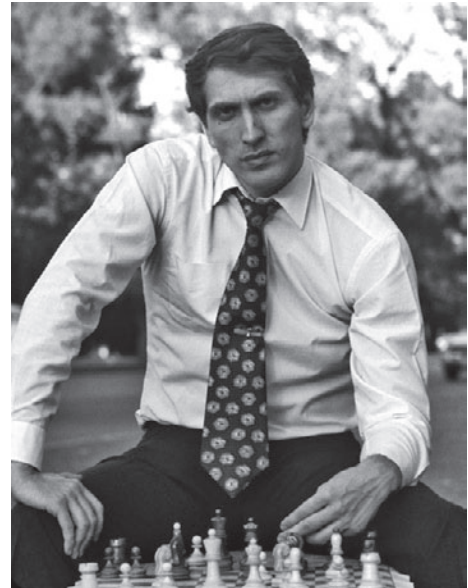
By Al Lawrence

This is *NBC Nightly News*, Friday, September 1st. Good evening. We'll have more on the developments in the Watergate bugging case ... and we'll have a look at the new unemployment figures, but first, Bobby Fischer"

Not dialog from a hokey screenplay, these were the actual words spoken to the nation in 1972, when TV network news was still the most important way Americans followed events. Alongside network anchor John Chancellor loomed an oversized,

disembodied head—an artistic rendering of Bobby Fischer that oddly could have just as easily been mistaken for his opponent, Boris Spassky—a sort of giant, encased brain. Chancellor did indeed defer the world-shaping news of Nixon's imploding presidency that day to report the outcome of the 21st and final game of the 1972 match that brought the Cold War chess championship home from Iceland to the United States.

This old broadcast, along with a black-and-white kaleidoscope



Fischer (with Boris Spassky in photo, left) during his ascent to the World Championship.

of other contemporary television spots and newspaper headlines, are only a fraction of the extensive archival footage unearthed by director Liz Garbus for her new HBO documentary, *Bobby Fischer Against the World*, a bio of the chess great and human not-so-great. The film vividly reminds us of just how completely a single chess match, and a singular 29-year-old Brooklyn boy, seized the world's attention.

Yet director Liz Garbus' work is the first feature documentary film on the best-known chess player of all time—a fact that seems as improbable as some of Fischer's famous feats, like his 20 straight wins against the best players, or his infamously hateful harangues, like his gloating enthusiasm over the national heartbreak of 9/11.

"I read the *New York Times* obit of Fischer and wanted to know more," Garbus said. "I became obsessed," a word that is certainly the mot just on the topic of Fischer. Garbus began a year-and-a-half of archival research. "Sometimes things that should be easy to find, aren't. You become a sort of detective-sleuth. You find out that something promising exists. You call Iceland, they don't have it. You call someone's friend of a friend ..." Garbus then spent another two years shooting and supervising the film.

Her film goes something beyond (and in one "TMI" (*Too Much Information*) moment, behind), the warts-and-all approach, including even a photo of a rear-naked Fischer in the shower during training for the big match (gratefully, the 1972, not 1992, contest). "I don't think anyone has seen Bobby's tuckus before," Garbus said. The shot does prove the surprisingly unfettered access granted to Harry Benson by the normally photographer-fleeing Fischer. Interestingly, Benson initially gained Bobby's trust by explaining that he had just completed a shoot with Jets quarterback Joe Namath.

Knowledgeable players can look forward to viewing the bio without the gaffes we've squirmed through in other movies about chess. To say that Garbus, who has won an Emmy and been nominated for two Oscars, has done her homework is a bit like saying Bobby Fischer studied openings. She was brilliant to sign on as advisors two of Fischer's closest and most credible confidants from the glory days, IM Dr. Anthony Saidy and the recently deceased GM Larry Evans. Along with them, a who's who of chess figures, as well as a wide range of relevant authors and experts, and, notably, Fischer's brother-in-law,

Russell Targ, are interviewed for the film.

The documentary allows those over 50 to relive and those younger to experience the fervor surrounding Fischer's spectacular rise to demolish the old Soviet Union's decades-long grip on the chess throne—all before the days of blitz playoffs and Armageddon bidding, when it was simply the opponents, the board, and no excuses. And all in the context of missile-pointing USSR-USA tensions, inter-continental bombers aloft and circling every hour of every day.

The work roughly divides itself into three half-hour segments: pre-Reykjavik Bobby, the 1972 match, and the rest of Fischer's life. A life, of course, contains infinitely more complications than a 93-minute documentary can include. At best a bio can capture some central truths of that life. Events and people must always be left out. All that noted, there is an unfortunate series of omissions in Garbus' film. Alarming, there is no mention whatsoever of Fischer's key benefactors who donated years of their lives to Bobby: his first teacher, Carmine Nigro and his famous coach, John Collins, both of whom also served to some degree as surrogate fathers. It's extremely unlikely that Fischer would have been world chess champion without these men.

There's also little mention of the mentoring given Bobby by GM William Lombardy, five years Fischer's senior, who won the World Junior Championship 11-0 in 1957. Lombardy was an important member of the "Hawthorne Chess Club," the group of future champions—including Fischer and the Byrne brothers—who met several times a week at John Collins' Flatbush apartment. And there's no credit given to the Ed Edmondson-led U.S. Chess Federation that quite literally dedicated all of its resources and pawned its future in 1970-72 for a Fischer who then dropped out, leaving USCF broke.

Leaving out these supporters reinforces the theme predicted by the title—Fischer as a self-taught, self-maintained, lone gunman. The idea was great media hype at the time, but overworked as "history" today. Garbus disagreed with me that the film focused on Bobby as an unaided loner: "The film is about the 1972 match, looking at it as a phenomenal piece of entertainment, and all the shenanigans that almost prevented it from going down. That's the spine of the film: bringing it back to an audience. Remember, there are people today who do not know who won! So, to them, it's a nail-biter."



Grandmaster Blitz in Bryant Park

Bobby Fischer Against the World premiered in Manhattan on May 24. But even before the high-profile reception that attracted Dr. Henry Kissinger, as well as stars of the board and screen to the HBO Theater, chess was drawing crowds a few blocks away.

Two events brought hundreds to Bryant Park, the 10-acre respite of trees and grass near the famous crossroads of 5th Avenue and 42nd Street marked by the New York Public Library. A seven-round, 57-player blitz tournament drew 31 masters, including 12 grandmasters (GMs) and five international masters. "It was likely the strongest outdoor tournament ever held in the U.S.," event organizer and Marshall Club VP Larry Price said. GMs Tamaz Gelashvili and

Aleksander Lenderman tied for first at 6, with GM Robert Hess, Leonid Yudasin and SM Yaacov Norowitz a half-point behind.

At the same time, Justus Williams and Josh Colas, both 12 and the youngest African-American masters ever, teamed with National Master Alena Kats, 15, to treat the public to simultaneous action. Spectators four-deep crowded into the park to watch.

Price, a former television producer, promotes chess on behalf of the Marshall Chess Club throughout the City. Among other things, he's run organized GM simulms at eight Jets home games, attracting 500 players, and arranged for the Marshall Club to run the chess concession at Bryant Park.

"The entire event was generously sponsored by HBO," Price said. "The best part was that it was so much fun for everyone."

A smaller, but important omission is the reason for Fischer's indictment by U.S. authorities in 1992. Onscreen, Kasparov explains only that Fischer "broke a law." Younger viewers should be informed that Fischer's "championship match" reprise with Spassky amounted to big business and PR for a government actively involved in genocide. At the time, U.S. businesses of all types, including USCF, were enjoined from commerce with what was then Yugoslavia, where the match took place.

The last third of Garbus' film documents so convincingly Fischer's descent into a querulous paranoia that repeated viewings finally led me to accept Bobby's

"insanity defense," a position I had resisted for some time.

But the seeds of Bobby's tragedy were not in chess but in his genes. The chess geniuses I've spent some time with—the great Garry Kasparov (the sort of well-rounded genius Fischer only fancied himself to be), Anatoly Karpov, and Boris Spassky—behave with remarkable normality. There is evidence, not examined in the film, that both Fischer's biological father, Paul Nemenyi, as well as Bobby's half-brother Peter Nemenyi, exhibited eccentric and paranoid behavior. Ironically, it may be that chess, as Reuben Fine once mused, could have sheltered Fischer, allowing him a tenuous finger-

hold on real life, and that his decision to abandon that game after 1972 exposed him full-force to his inner demons, with no one's pesky moves to distract him.

Bobby Fischer Against the World is a riveting and important film that has received well-deserved critical praise, played to great interest at this year's Sundance Film Festival, and has been selected to kick off this summer's HBO On-Demand documentary series. Every chess fan should see it—and, for a change of pace, you can be comfortable knowing that it will be gripping as well to non-chess family and friends. It's perhaps the most compelling narrative about chess on modern film.



USCF EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT **CHERYLE BRUCE**

Position: Supervisor of Membership Services

Cheryle Bruce started with the USCF in May 2007 as a part-time administrative assistant. Cheryle took care of many duties, including answering phones, overseeing state chess associations, gathering information for the Delegates' Call and much more—and always with a smile. Cheryle's job performance was such that when the full-time position of Supervisor of Membership Services became available, Cheryle was offered the job and she has since become a great team leader. Cheryle has brought to this position, and the USCF membership, her professionalism, patience and great sense of humor.

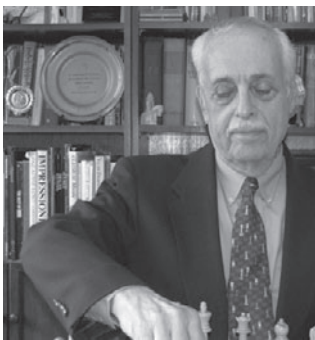
VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH: **BILL TOWNSEND**

Bill Townsend of Schenectady, New York has been named the August Volunteer of the Month by Bill Goichberg. "My main business is running a comic book store, and I'm also a chess journalist: I'm lucky in that I seem to have a knack for turning my hobbies into jobs," says Townsend. His chess interests led him to be voted in to the New York State Chess Hall of Fame in 2007.

He has been champion of Schenectady four times and been to the U.S. Amateur Team East every year since 1986. He has been the local chess newspaper columnist for the *Schenectady Gazette* since 1990 and has run the Schenectady Championship since 1992 and the Capital District Chess League since 1998.

A chess history bug, Townsend discovered the Schenectady club began in October of 1905 and completed a list of New York State champions to 1878. He won the 2000 'Best Historical Article' from the Chess Journalists of America for his piece on the New York State Championship of 1941.

KAUFMAN RETIRES FROM SAMFORD POSITION; DONALDSON ASSUMES HELM



Allen Kaufman

On July 1, 2011, International Master John Donaldson will become the new secretary of the Samford Fellowship Committee, replacing Allen Kaufman who has held the position since 1987. John will also continue as one of the judges who participate in selecting the new Samford Fellow each year. The other committee members are Frank P. Samford III, son of Frank P. Samford, Jr., founder of the program, and Grandmaster Arthur Bisguier. Ms. Barbara DeMaro will continue as financial administrator.

Mr. Donaldson has decades-long experiences in almost every phase of the chess world. A keen tournament competitor, he has played in two U.S. championships and made grandmaster norms at Lindsborg 2002 and Stratton Mountain 2003. He is the director of the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club of San Francisco, a full-time position he has held since October, 1998. John is also a well-known author having written over 30 books, specializing in opening theory and chess history. His best-known works are the two volumes on Akiva Rubinstein he co-authored with International Master Nikolay Minev.

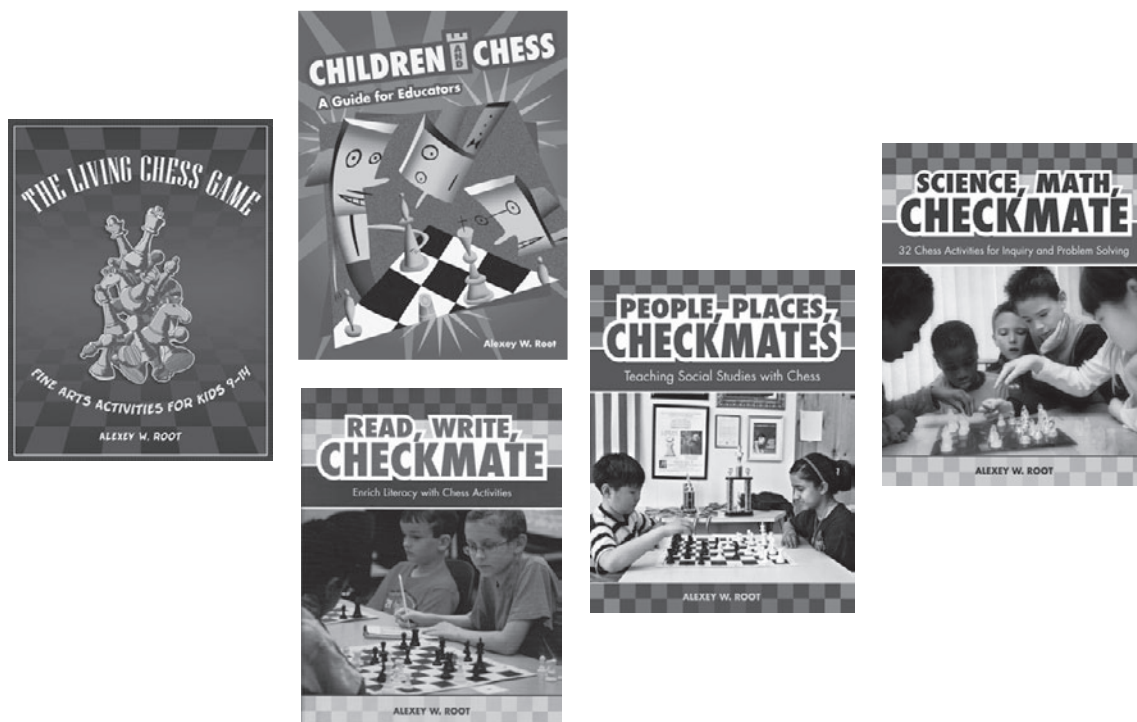
For the past decade he has served as a member of the selection committee for the United States Chess Federation (USCF) Hall of Fame, as a committee member for the Professional Health and Benefits Program and as the chairman for the USCF Awards committee. The respect John commands among both players and administrators is further indicated by his selection as team captain of the U.S. entry in the last three chess Olympiads (2006, 2008 and 2010) and the 2009 World Team Championship. The U.S. teams won medals in three of these tournaments. In July, 2011, he will captain the U.S. entry in the World Team Championship in Ningbo, China.

Mr. Kaufman is retiring after twenty-five years of affiliation with the Frank P. Samford, Jr. Chess Fellowship. He assisted the late Mr. Samford in creating the program in 1985 and 1986 and has continued working with Mr. Samford's son, Frank P. Samford III in expanding the benefits of the Samford Fellowship to both individual players and to the game of chess in America. During this period 26 young American chessmasters have been chosen to receive the benefits of the two-year program, many of whom have gone on to achieve significant victories in chess competitions. Several are potential challengers for the world chess championship; others have become effective teachers who pass the values of the game on to future generations.

Teaching Chess in the Schools

By C.K. Damrosch

Former U.S. women's champion Dr. Alexey Root's chess curriculum series now stands at five books. But is adhering to state and national curriculum guidelines the best way to teach chess?



IT'S NOT DR. ALEXEY ROOT'S FAULT.

I first started teaching chess in the public schools in 1990, and in 20+ years if I had a nickel for each principal who asked me to "align your lesson to state standards," well I'd have a diabetes-inducing bag of penny candy. For those of you not forced to deal with the changing fads in education, first off you don't need these books. Still, the excellences and flaws of this five-book series are a fine launching point for a discussion of what exactly is the best way to teach chess to children.

State standards sounds like a simple enough requirement. A lesson should be applicable to the broader goals of an institution. However, its important to realize that standards themselves have sometimes been used as an attempt to break teacher's unions. The idea was if we could somehow quantify teaching, reduce it to a matrix of numbers, we could root out "bad" teachers.

This business based approach to education appears to finally be reaching its high water mark. Here in New York City,

the business trained school chancellor has recently been chased from office, replaced by the now radical notion to have education in the city run by an educational professional.

The first volume of Dr. Root's books have the doubly problematic issue of being aligned to the state standards of Root's home state of Texas. Texas is the home to the great majority of the nation's textbook publishers, who unfortunately often cater to this state's educational system.

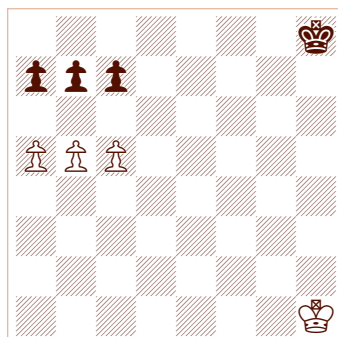
In a way of dismissing a regional preju-

dice, the finest trained intellectual I ever met was taught in Texas. She arrived at Emory University having already placed out of her entire freshman year, a clear slate of “5’s”, the highest score possible on all the available Advanced Placement tests. In her freshman year, she aced organic chemistry, the notorious pre-med weed-out course, got a 100 average in differential equations, and received the top grade in the sophomore level English survey class.

Thankfully, the second through fifth volumes refer only to national standards, a sensible change that goes a long way to improving the volumes’ usefulness. Still, these books read like the dry textbooks one is forced to read in graduate school for education, and at times one is left with the impression that Dr. Root has simply repackaged her Ph.D. dissertation as a how-to book for educators. Is Csikszentmihalyi’s theory of flow really necessary here? Bodily kinesthetic intelligence, Dr. Root explains, is why kids make little sculptures out of the pieces. And here I thought it was that scene from “Searching for Bobby Fischer!”

But how is it at teaching chess?

One personal pet peeve comes from one of the earlier volumes, *Science, Math, Checkmate*. Now, chances are you are well familiar with this position:



White to play and win

If one wished, one could turn this example into a lesson on surface tension of water for a science class, a free wheeling discussion of yin and yang in social studies, even a high level mathematics lesson about how sometimes 2 is greater than 3. To Root, it is the “3 on 3 pawn problem” and used to introduce the scientific method of measurement, observation, and formulation of a procedure (page 21-22). The solution is 1. b6.

But to most of us, it’s the Russian schoolboy problem. You teach this by simply telling the story of the apocryphal Russian grandmaster who, on visiting the U.S., is presented this position by some American experts. His famously dismissive snort, “every Russian schoolboy knows this problem” is how the position got its name.

For a class of third graders, this is all

the motivation they need to tackle the problem in pairs with gusto, humming the theme of *Rocky IV* as they do so. We are just as smart as those Russian schoolboys!

The latest volume, *The Living Chess Game: Fine Arts Activities for Kids 9-14*, lays out an 11-hour lesson culminating in a living chess game. While to the lay person, 11 hours seems quick, in reality assuming an hour class once a week, even without a vacation/fire drill/head lice inspection, this is a three-month endeavor.

Your end result is of course spectacular, a presentation that your principal and parents will love, but are the kids going to be any good at chess?

Imagine crosstown, a school without the resources for the Broadway production Root imagines, a teacher with a few ancient Milton Bradley plastic sets and cardboard boards, and if she’s lucky an old copy of Reinfeld’s *Chess For Amateurs*. After their 11 weeks of actually studying the game of chess, my money is on this team cleaning the clocks of their thespian rivals.

I call it the “Wii-fication” of teaching. Everything nowadays has to light up, do a dance, talk to you and sparkle to supposedly interest today’s child. The truth is, however, that chess is an internal game, its beauty is what happens inside the child, the power of imagination.

Sure, a Lego Star Wars chess set is going to delight your six-year-old. But how much is this just staging light saber wars between Princess Leia and Chewbacca, and how much is learning the Ruy Lopez?

I’m not above using chess notation to teach a lesson in coordinate geometry. I once gave a whole lesson in medieval architecture to explain why we shouldn’t call a rook a castle. Should you mention Hannibal and elephants in your introduction of the knight? Absolutely. But this should be a sprinkling of spice, not the main course.

But in a world of nervous principals, terrified that a superintendent might pass by a classroom where the kids are (gasp) playing a game, chess instruction today has to be a cultural exploration of the *firz* and the *baidaq*, a reading of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* and its chess inspired passages, followed by a dance choreography denoting a pawn capturing rook—all actual examples from this series.

Somewhere Capablanca, who learned the game from reading a book of 1,001 pawn endgames, is rolling around his grave; his legacy reduced simply to his Cuban heritage, his sparkling play replaced by a politically correct exploration of pre-Castro American Caribbean politics.

Of course Dr. Root is not the cause of this phenomenon. A major chess instructional organization insists that its 10-week program for third graders is the industry

Other Teaching/Curriculum Texts

From the Kasparov Chess Foundation:

Teaching Chess - Step By Step - Teachers Manual - Book #1

Teaching Chess - Step By Step - Exercises - Book #2

Teaching Chess - Step By Step - Activities - Book #3

From Chess Life for Kids columnist Todd Bardwick:

Teaching Chess in the 21st Century

standard. Unfortunately, the kids don’t learn what checkmate is until week nine. My favorite pastime at their tournaments is to go watch the novice division towards the end of rounds. There is nothing funnier than a gaggle of tournament directors huddled around a game where the two contestants are inventing a way to win a game without either of them having a king!

There is no denying that if you deal a lot with educational bureaucracies, this series is extremely useful, and as far as I know, completely unique. Dr. Root does admit that while doing her living chess game, she also did a traditional 40 minute chess lecture before working on the play, but these lessons aren’t presented. Part of the problem is that Root has too many masters; the theatre people don’t need to be told how to do a script for a play, and the chess people don’t need help with the chess.

In general I think it is effective to bend a chess lesson to the subject classroom you are visiting. The balance though is crucial, it should be more in the nature of a tease. Sprinkle a little of Dr. Root’s spice into your traditional chess lesson, and that’s a tasty stew indeed. ■

By Alexey W. Root

The Living Chess Game: Fine Arts Activities for Kids 9-14

2010, Libraries Unlimited, 140 pp., \$29.95 from uscfsales.com (catalog number B00450B)

Children and Chess: A Guide For Educators, 2006, Teachers Chess, 136 pp., \$24.95

from uscfsales.com (catalog number B00200B)

Read, Write, Checkmate: Enrich Literacy with Chess Activities

2009, Teachers Chess, 128 pp., \$24.95 from uscfsales.com (catalog number B00220B)

People, Places, Checkmates: Teaching Social Studies with Chess

2010, Teachers Chess, 146 pp., \$24.95 from uscfsales.com (catalog number B00350B)

Science, Math, Checkmate: 32 Chess Activities for Inquiry and Problem Solving

2008, Teachers Chess, 144 pp., \$24.95 from uscfsales.com (catalog number B00210B)

Blunders Happen

To err is human. To regret turns out to be, well, masterful.

By GM Andy Soltis

Can you remember the last game you won that you were really proud to play? How about your last game-losing blunder?

If you're like most players, it's a lot easier to remember the blunder—even if it happened well before that really good win. Blunders have a way of becoming painfully embedded in our memories.

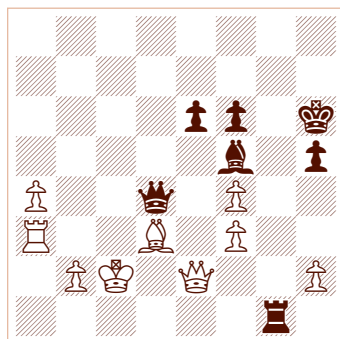
But masters take a more professional approach. When they make a bad mistake, they accept it and move on: Blunders happen.

"I just told myself, 'OK, I'm an idiot'" Daniel Naroditsky recalled when he over-looked a strong move by his opponent in the first round of the 2011 U.S. Championship. But this attitude allowed him to settle down—and draw.

However, masters suffer from something else, a kind of "missed opportunity regret." They often suffer more when they fail to play a really good move than when they play a really bad one. In fact, they'd rather not know about missing an easy win.

Please, don't tell me

GM Vladimir Kramnik (FIDE 2772)
GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2783)
World Championship, third game, Bonn 2008



After 33. Bd3

Vishy Anand played 33. ... Bh3, went on to win the game and forgot about the position.

It was only after the match ended, a week later, that his seconds revealed to

him that he had missed a simple, forced mate with 33. ... Bxd3+! (34. Qxd3 Rg2+ or 34. Rxd3 Qc4+ 35. Kd2 Qc1 mate).

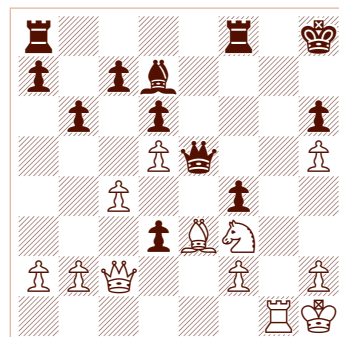
"They said: Now we will break it to you," Anand recalled. His seconds waited because they knew how upset he would be if he knew about 33. ... Bh3?? during the match. He might lose the confidence in his tactical ability that would be crucial in the remaining games.

It wasn't that Anand is easily disturbed. Far from it. But regret can haunt even the most serene of players. Another world champion, Tigran Petrosian, was celebrated for his unflappable demeanor, even after a loss. It bothered him more when his favorite soccer team, Spartak, was defeated than when he lost a chess game, according to his son Vartan. But there was one super-painful moment in Petrosian's long career, Vartan told *64* magazine in 2009:

"In 1966 father didn't win the 12th game with Spassky ... He could have won with a combination they call a 'windmill' but he carried it out in the wrong version. A similar combination is very rare and in the world championship it would have been the first."

Windmill

GM Tigran Petrosian
GM Boris Spassky
World Championship, 12th game, Moscow 1966



After 31. ... exd3

White had sacrificed the Exchange three moves earlier. But he bailed out

here with 32. Nxe5 dxc2 33. Bd4 and a perpetual check (33. ... dxe5 34. Bxe5+ Kh7 35. Rg7+ Kh8 36. Rf7+ Kg8 37. Rg7+).

As soon as the game was over, the press room GMs pounced. They showed how White wins with 32. Qxd3!. If Black moves his attacked queen he loses to 33. Bd4.

Therefore the game would have gone 32. ... Bf5 33. Nxe5 Bxd3 34. Bd4! dxe5 35. Bxe5+ Kh7 36. Rg7+ Kh8.

The difference is that White can pick off the bishop and two pawns, leaving him with a winning endgame, 37. Rxc7+ Kg8 38. Rg7+ Kh8 39. Rxa7+ Kg8 40. Rg7+ Kh8 41. Rg3+ Kh7 42. Rxd3, thanks to a combination that would rank among the greatest in championship history.

Petrosian was devastated. "Father then 'turned himself off' for a week, all the time remembering this game," Vartan said.

Had he won the game, Petrosian would have held a three-point lead at the match's half-way point, a virtually decisive edge. But after the draw, he lost the next game and the match was soon tied. He didn't seem to put 32. Nxe5?? behind himself until he won the 20th match game, more than three weeks later. But there were enough games left for him to recover and win the match.

Vladimir Kramnik wasn't so fortunate. He lost his title in the 2007 World Championship tournament in Mexico City and blamed the "heavy psychological blow" he suffered in the fourth round. It wasn't a loss that he couldn't get over. It was a draw with Alexander Grischuk. "I couldn't win an absolutely won position," he recalled.

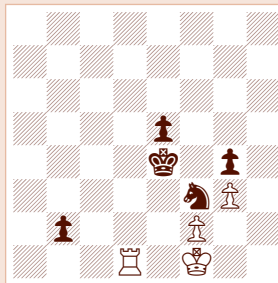
Some players are better at overcoming regret. Mikhail Tal did it in the tournament that made him internationally known, the 1957 USSR Championship. He began with a stunning 4½-½ and could have played a winning sacrifice in the sixth round. But after an hour of thought he chose a quiet move instead and drew. After he learned that he had missed a forced mate in a key line, Tal

2011 U.S. Championship

In the 55 U.S. Championships since the tournament became a regularly scheduled event, the defending champion took clear first place or tied for it on 17 occasions. But that hadn't happened for 25 years until Gata Kamsky managed the feat last April. The 2011 Championship, held again in St. Louis, provides our six quiz positions this month. In each diagram you are asked to find the fastest winning line of play. This will typically be the forced win of a rook, a minor piece or other decisive amount of material. For solutions see page 79.

Problem I

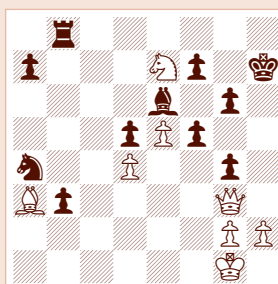
GM Larry Christiansen
GM Robert Hess



Black to play

Problem IV

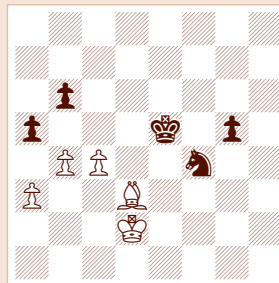
GM Gata Kamsky
GM Varuzhan Akobian



White to play

Problem II

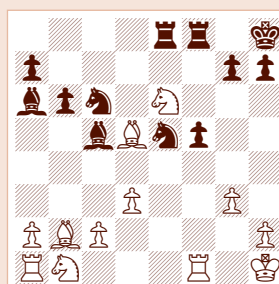
GM Benjamin Finegold
GM Yasser Seirawan



Black to play

Problem V

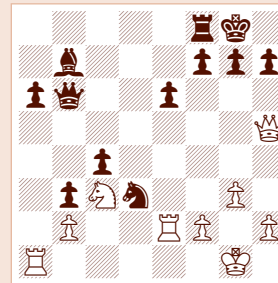
GM Alexander Stripunsky
GM Ray Robson



Black to play

Problem III

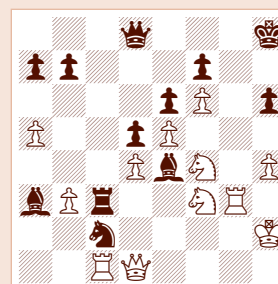
GM Sam Shankland
GM Alexander Shabalov



Black to play

Problem VI

GM Alexander Ivanov
GM Varuzhan Akobian



White to play

didn't win another game in the next five rounds. But he later regained his composure and won the tournament.

Compare that with GM Semyon Furman, who also got off to a very good start in a Soviet championship six years later. But after he drew a winning position he spent "the whole night trying to find what he had missed, he recalled. "Only just before morning I fell asleep and in my dream" found the rook sacrifice that would have mated. But the loss of sleep took its toll. Furman lost his next game and ended the tournament in 15th place out of 20.

Regret can have such a psychological effect that it's been turned into a weapon. Bent Larsen recalled the "very good trick" he used when he left a pawn hanging against Oscar Panno at Palma de Mallorca 1969. Panno, in time trouble, didn't take the pawn. Larsen replied very quickly, protecting the pawn. "I make him think he should have taken it!" he told *Overboard* magazine in 1974. Panno's position quickly deteriorated and he lost.

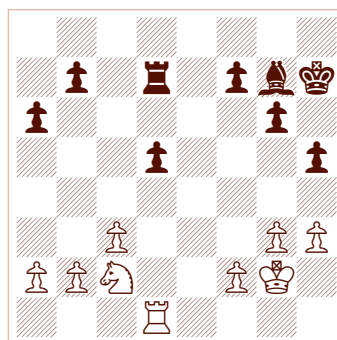
Regret

Mikhail Botvinnik

David Bronstein

World Championship, third game,
Moscow 1951

(see diagram top of next column)



After 41. Nc2

Mikhail Botvinnik felt he, too, fell victim to the regret trick after he adjourned this position, with a textbook advantage, against his bitter enemy David Bronstein.

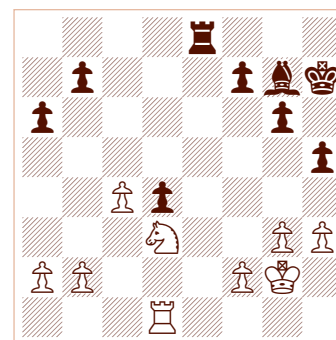
White threatens to win a pawn with 42. Ne3 d4 43. Nc2 because of 43. ... d3 44. Nd4! Bxd4 45. Rxd3! with excellent winning chances.

Black can defend with 41. ... Rd8 because at the end of 42. Ne3 variation Black can unpin with 45. ... Bf6.

So Botvinnik expected the game to continue 41. ... Rd8. He was prepared to reply 42. Nb4! d4 43. c4! Re8 44. Nd3, with a considerable positional edge.

(see diagram top of next column)

He was stunned when Bronstein replied 41. ... a5!?, stopping the Nb4 idea. Botvinnik studied the position and found



Analysis after 44. Nd3

some reason why 42. Ne3 d4 43. Nc2 d3 44. Nd4 wasn't good enough.

He chose 42. a4? instead. Bronstein replied 42. ... Rd8! and White can no longer win a pawn or get the positional edge. Botvinnik played the rest of the game weakly and drew.

More than 40 years later, after Botvinnik died, his nephew Igor Botvinnik published the brief, personal notes that the world champion wrote to himself after each game.

"He deceived me!" Botvinnik wrote of 41. ... a5. "His very first move was a showy one," but "I didn't take the pawn!!!"

In other words, once he felt he had been tricked out of 42. Ne3!, he was crippled by regret. "A nightmare!!!" he wrote. ■

See Chess Life Online for chess news.

The Losing Way

By Bruce Pandolfini

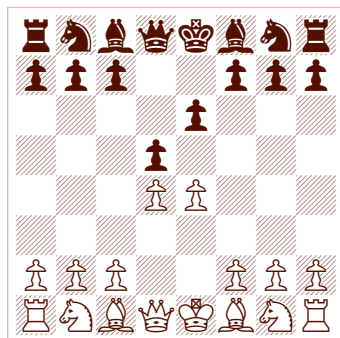
Dr. Limbos, I presume? A Hollywood legend shows the danger of reckless pawn moves and neglected development.

It doesn't take much to lose a chess game. Aside from hanging mate or one's pieces, a potential losing player could make weakening pawn moves and fall behind in development. The combination of those two deadly sins can be fatal for the side committing them. This is true for introductory players, and even for the best player in Hollywood, Humphrey Bogart. As Black in the following game, facing a medical man, Dr. Paul Limbos, Bogart weakens his kingside and allows a lethal intrusion to the seventh rank. The fact that our example was played in Stanleyville, in the heart of the African continent, in no way mitigates the situation. Poor development and bad pawn moves lose there, too. Our monthly offering began:

French Defense, Exchange Variation (C01)

*Dr. Paul Limbos
Humphrey Bogart
Stanleyville, 1951*

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5



Your starting position

Now make sure you have the above position set up on your chessboard. As you play through the remaining moves in this game, use a piece of paper to cover the article, exposing White's next move

only after trying to guess it. If you guess correctly, give yourself the par score. Sometimes points are also rewarded for second-best moves, and there may be bonus points—or deductions—for other moves and variations. Note that ** means that the note to Black's move is over and White's move is in the next line.**

3. Nc3 Par Score: 5

Receive *full credit* for 3. Nd2, 3. e5, or 3. exd5.

3. ... Bb4

Black pins the knight and renews the threat of ... d5xe4.**

4. exd5 Par Score: 5

Full credit for 4. e5, the main alternative when nothing gets taken.

4. ... exd5

After 4. ... Qxd5 5. Nf3, followed by 6. Bd3 and 7. 0-0, Black has to make a concession: either move the queen again or yield the two bishops, ... Bb4xc3.**

5. Bd3 Par Score: 5

With this, White retains the option of Ng1-e2.

5. ... Nf6

More flexible is 5. ... Ne7, which supports ... Bc8-f5.**

6. Ne2 Par Score: 5

White might have tried 6. Bg5, but prefers getting his king to safety. Also he doesn't want his knight pinned, 6. Nf3 Bg4. After the text he can conveniently answer ... Bc8-g4 with f2-f3 (*1 bonus point*).

6. ... 0-0

7. 0-0 Par Score: 5

7. ... c6

Black strengthens the d5-pawn. He

also might have tried 7. ... h6.**

8. Bg5 Par Score: 5

This pin proves to be annoying.

8. ... Nbd7

Black upholds f6, freeing his queen, but retarding development by blocking the c8-bishop.**

9. Ng3 Par Score: 5

The knight aims for f5 or h5. Moreover, White's queen now observes h5.

9. ... Qc7

Black could have tried 9. ... h6, when 10. Bh4 is met by 10. ... g5.**

10. Nh5 Par Score: 5

The pressure mounts against f6 and White menaces busting up the kingside.

10. ... Nhx5

White might answer 10. ... Qd6 with 11. Re1, threatening 12. Bf4 (trapping the queen).**

11. Qxh5 Par Score: 4

Award yourself *1 bonus point* for seeing ahead of time that this recapture would threaten mate.

11. ... g6

Take *1 bonus point* if you realized that 11. ... h6 invites the sac 12. Bxh6 gxh6 13. Qxh6, when 13. ... f5 is answered by 14. Bxf5 Rxf5 15. Qg6+.**

12. Qh6 Par Score: 4

White sinks the queen on the weak h6-square.

12. ... f5

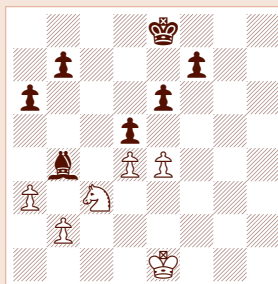
If 12. ... Nb6?, then 13. Bf6 and Qg7 mate (*1 bonus point*). Add *2 bonus points* more if you analyzed the line 12. ... f6 13. Bxg6 hxg6 14. Qxg6+ Kh8 15. Qh6+ Kg8 16. Bf4 Bd6 17. Rae1!.**

ABCs of Chess

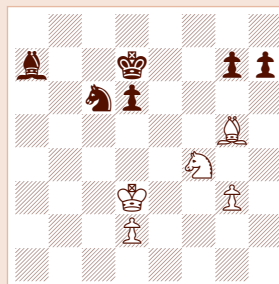
These problems are all related to key positions in this month's game. In each case, Black is to move. The answers can be found in Solutions on page 79.

August Exercise: Examine a game one way and it produces certain results. Approach it from another perspective, with different aims in mind, and we get another take altogether. Combine the efforts and we produce the fullest picture of all. So after analyzing a game for your own needs, take a second look—this time, exploring it the way a teacher would who hopes to explain it to a class. In this manner, emphasis is placed more on what the group requires and less on personal needs. Surprisingly, for the improvement of chess understanding, it's often the group viewpoint that has the greater instructional impact.

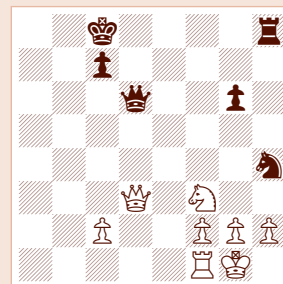
Problem I
Removing the guard



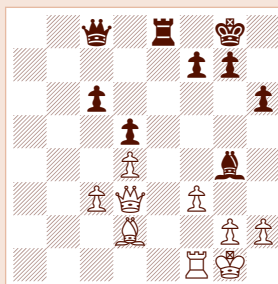
Problem II
Trapping



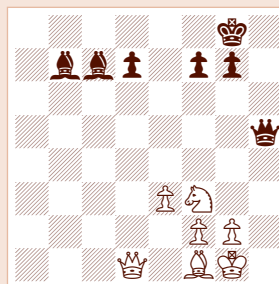
Problem III
Mating net



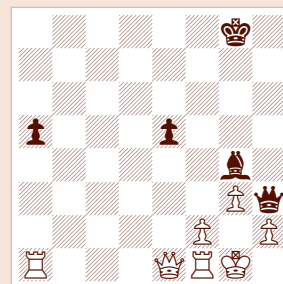
Problem IV
Trapping



Problem V
Removing the guard



Problem VI
Mating net



13. Rfe1 Par Score: 5

White's superior development takes command of the only open file.

13. ... Nb6

Black wants to develop the queenside, but it's not going to be easy.**

14. Re2 Par Score: 5

Add *1 bonus point* if your plan was to double rooks on the e-file by Rae1.

14. ... Bd7

Now Black eyes ... Rae8, but White is first to strike.**

15. Be7! Par Score: 6

15. ... Bxe7

If 15. ... Bxc3, then 16. Bxf8 wins the Exchange (*1 bonus point*); while if the rook moves, say to e8, then 16. Bxb4 wins the bishop.**

16. Rxe7 Par Score: 4

White now threatens several mates (*1 bonus point*).

16. ... Rf7

This is the only defense.**

17. Rxf7+ Par Score: 5

Accept *only 2 points part credit* for 17. Rae1. Here doubling is inappropriate (too slow) as Black defends with 17. ... Raf8.

The attacker has to strike home while he can.

17. ... Kxf7

The king is overloaded, having to guard both f7 and h7.**

18. Qxh7+ Par Score: 5

White picks up a pawn, while forcing the black king to assume an exposed position.

18. ... Kf6

Black attempts to guard g6.**

19. Re1 Par Score: 5

Commanding development secures the way. The threat is 20. Qe7 mate (*1 bonus point*).

19. ... Qd6

But Black shouldn't play 19. ... Re8, which loses to 20. Rxe8 Bxe8 21. Qxc7 (*1 bonus point*).**

20. g4! Par Score: 6

White looks to induce 20. ... fxg4 21. Qxg6 mate (*1 bonus point*). And there are other ideas, too.

20. ... Rd8

Black hopes to guard his queen, which becomes relevant in a few lines.**

21. f4 Par Score: 6

White engulfs the enemy king in pawns.

The threat is 22. g5 mate (*1 bonus point*).

21. ... g5

Desperation sets in, but if 21. ... Qxf4, then 22. Qe7 mate (*1 bonus point*).**

22. h4 Par Score: 5

White overpowers Black on the g5-square: 22. ... gxh4 23. g5 mate. If 22. ... Qxf4, then 23. Qe7+ Kg6 24. h5+ Kh6 25. Qf6+ Kh7 26. Re7+, and mate next move (*2 bonus points*). There's also full credit for 22. Qh6+ Kf7 23. Qxd6, winning the queen.

22. ... Black resigned. ■

"Solitaire Chess" scores:

Total your score to determine your approximate rating below:

Total Score	Approx. Rating
95+	2400+
81-94	2200-2399
66-80	2000-2199
51-65	1800-1999
36-50	1600-1799
21-35	1400-1599
06-20	1200-1399
0-05	under 1200

Chess 1, Poker 0

At the Kazan Candidates Matches, “Ol’ Man” Gelfand impresses and Kamsky narrowly misses.

By GM Ian Rogers

An audacious attempt to become world chess champion by applying poker strategy to chess has failed, albeit narrowly.

Boris Gelfand defeated Alexander Grischuk in the sixth and last game of their Candidates final in Kazan, Russia, to win the match 3½-2½ and become the next challenger for Viswanathan Anand’s world title.

Belarus-born Israeli Gelfand, 41, was a popular, if unlikely, victor of the Candidates series—and whether he can provide a serious challenge for Anand is a big question—but it was the amazing success of Grischuk that divided chess fans.

Grischuk, who shares his time between chess and poker, had come into the world championship qualifiers as a late replacement for Magnus Carlsen.

Having decided that his blitz chess prowess would hold him in good stead if he reached any tiebreakers, Grischuk

adopted the poker strategy of throwing in his hand if the cards did not favor him.

In chess terms this meant agreeing to short draws with white if he felt he did not have a clear advantage.

Another poker-playing grandmaster, Denmark’s Sune Berg Hansen, described Grischuk’s strategy in this way: “Grischuk has the match equity—a term that came from backgammon—in mind all the time.

“He is sure he has an edge in rapid chess so Grischuk picks his spots and tries to avoid unprofitable situations, just giving up instead of gambling when he has nothing—avoiding dragons instead of slaying them. Also he is very realistic—he believes he won’t beat [these guys] from an equal position.”

Grischuk’s plan—an acknowledgement that your rivals are probably better players than you but nonetheless a plan which requires great determination and

considerable defensive skill with Black—almost succeeded.

Against Candidates favorite Levon Aronian in the quarterfinals, Grischuk, 27, was in trouble with black but hung on to draw his four classical games before outplaying Aronian in the rapid tiebreakers.

In his semifinal against another favorite, Vladimir Kramnik, Grischuk took his poker strategy to an extreme which angered spectators around the world; he did not try to fight with the white pieces in either classical or rapid games. All of his games with white against Kramnik were drawn in 25 moves or less, the final rapid game in a ridiculous eight moves. Yet Grischuk duly won the blitz tiebreaker with ease.

Grischuk himself admitted that these were his tactics against Kramnik; “Someone who’s trying to win a match does it any way he can. In fact, I simply didn’t know what to do. I didn’t want to go for a worse



Boris Gelfand in an archival photo.

position with white just because I was playing white. A draw's a draw, and there is still all to play for."

In the final against Gelfand, Grischuk three times found himself with an opening advantage and played hard, but was unable to finish off Gelfand. In two other games, Grischuk was content to make a short draw.

Thus when Grischuk and Gelfand met for their fateful game on May 25th, Grischuk had drawn 13 consecutive regulation Candidates games. Had Grischuk drawn one more he would have forced the final into a tiebreaker and could potentially have qualified for a classical world title match without winning a single classical game.

Fortunately Gelfand chose the final game to play his best chess of the competition to defeat Grischuk's cynical plan and save the chess world from the ignominy of a poker player challenging for the world title.

...we decided to play for a win in every game, regardless of whether it was rapid or classical chess. After all, the spectators were watching. I can't play like Grischuk and Kramnik—making short draws. It's not my style...

Note: All oversized quotes throughout this feature are by GM Kamsky.

I play for the spectators. Without them who would chess be of any interest to?

How Gelfand Won

At the conclusion of the elite Linares tournament last April, a discussion commenced concerning the age at which top level chess players were over the hill.

Boris Gelfand, then 41 and having just completed a disastrous tournament, at first had little time for the 'Elite chess life ends at 40' theory which was being endorsed by some of the younger competitors and myself.

No one was arguing that players over 40 could not play well—Viktor Korchnoi, still winning at 80, disproves that idea—but it seemed to the majority that by 40 improvement was unlikely and most began suffering steep declines in strength.

Gelfand pointed out that he was higher rated than he had ever been but I suggested that the Gelfand of 2010, was not the same Gelfand who won the 1993 Interzonal and was ranked as world number three behind legends Karpov and Kasparov. No doubt, I said, Gelfand understood more about chess now but he didn't play better, and few of his recent games would be worthy of his acclaimed book *My Most Memorable Games*.

Gelfand, one of the most likeable grandmasters on the elite circuit, reluctantly conceded that on this measure he might be past his peak, and that inflation might have pushed up his rating. However privately he must have decided that it was in his power to prove the theory wrong—and over three weeks in Kazan he has done just that, hitting a career high.

In the 1990s Gelfand had qualified for Candidates matches but never made it past the semifinals. Now the Israeli is to play for the world title.

Gelfand certainly benefited from the fall of the cards during these Candidates matches. He outplayed inexperienced Azeri GM Shakhriyar Mamedyarov in the quarterfinals, edged out Gata Kamsky—the man who had eliminated Veselin Topalov—in a tight semifinal where Kamsky was just one good move away from victory.

Gelfand then beat Russia's Grischuk—conqueror of favorites Levon Aronian and Vladimir Kramnik—in the final.

Almost equally important, many of Gelfand's games had a new energy, with more ambition, more risks and, inevitably, more mistakes from both sides. In three of

the first five games against Grischuk he was in serious trouble but hung on to draw.

However with the final tied at 2½-2½ with one game to play, and seemingly inevitably headed for rapid tiebreakers, Gelfand picked his moment to play, as Grischuk said, "a masterpiece".

Fianchetto Gruenfeld (D76)

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2733)

GM Alexander Grischuk (FIDE 2747)

Kazan Candidates Matches, 05.25.2011

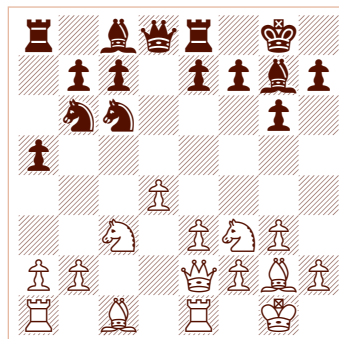
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. g3 d5 5. cxd5 Nxd5 6. Bg2 Nb6 7. Nc3 Nc6 8. e3 0-0

Here and on the next two moves Black can play ... e5 but the modern preference in the Neo-Gruenfeld is to delay this natural advance for as long as possible.

9. 0-0 Re8 10. Re1 a5!?

The latest trend in this line, though hardly fearsome for White. In years past 10. ... e5 would be chosen, with typical Neo-Gruenfeld positions after 11. d5 Na5 12. e4 c6.

11. Qe2



After 11. Qe2

11. ... Bg4!?

"A cunning idea to tempt the pawn to h3," explained Gelfand. "It seems absurd, but in some lines you win a tempo with ... Qc8." 11 ... Be6 is the most common move, after which 12. Nd2 Nb4 13. Rd1 leads to well-analyzed complications.

12. h3 Be6 13. b3!

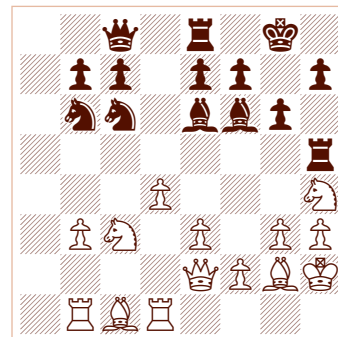
The first new move. White seems to be justifying Black's pawn advance but in reality is restraining many pieces. "My

seconds Alexander Huzman and Maxim Rodshtein managed to dig up ideas that it seemed very unlikely we'd be able to use," said Gelfand, "but today one of them came in handy."

13. ... a4 14. Rb1 axb3 15. axb3 Qc8 16. Kh2 Ra5!?

An hour behind on the clock, Grischuk speculates on a lightning kingside assault. "If you play passively then Black will simply run out of moves," said Gelfand.

17. Rd1 Rh5 18. Nh4! Bf6



After 18. ... Bf6

19. f4!!

"This idea didn't even cross my mind," admitted Grischuk. "I [can] have an extra pawn, a better pawn structure, [and his] white squares are weak but then I realized [because of the coming pawn avalanche] I was just completely lost!"

19. ... Rd8

19. ... Bxh4 20. gxh4 Rxh4 21. Kg3! Rh5 22. d5 is terrible for Black, because 22. ... Bxh3 can be met by 23. Bf3!

20. Qf2

"Now Black has no play and the rook is stuck," said Gelfand.

20. ... Bxh4?!

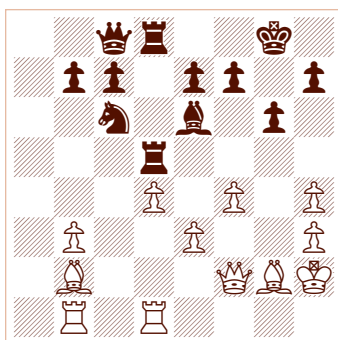
"In principle I made only one mistake, 20. ... Bxh4," said Grischuk the day after the game. "But even the computer doesn't immediately grasp that it's a mistake." Black's best chance lay in 20. ... Nd5! 21. Nxd5 Rxd5!, with a similar Exchange sacrifice to the game but under better circumstances, because 22. Bb2 Rb5 23. e4, in analogy with the game, allows Black plenty of counterplay after 23. ... Rxb3 24. d5 Bxh4 25. gxh4 Bxh3.

21. gxh4 Nd5 22. Nxd5 Rhxd5 23. Bb2!

(see diagram top of next page)

23. ... Rb5?!

The final error. 23. ... f5 was necessary, although after 24. h5 White takes over the attack. Grischuk was pessimistic



After 23. Bb2

about his chances even here—"After 24. h5 I didn't like my position. White will first attack, then exchange queens, then bam!—Bxd5, and he's got an endgame an Exchange up." Gelfand, however, disagreed. "I'm not even sure if White would have been better or not—it's a very complex position."

24. Qe2!

"A very strong move, after which absolutely everything in my position is disorganized, and my king is weak," said Grischuk. "On 24. e4 Bxb3 and then ... Na5 and ... Bc4 with completely unclear play."

24. ... Rh5

The rook must stay on the fifth rank to prevent 25. d5.

25. e4!

Again caring little about material—White's central pawns simply roll to victory.

25. ... Bxb3 26. Rdc1! Na5

"It is a little embarrassing that I offered a draw [around here]," said Grischuk. "I thought it was just unclear but apparently the position was just lost."

27. d5 b6 28. Be5! c5

28. ... Rd7 29. Qb5! threatens both the b3-bishop and the b6-pawn.

29. dxc6 e.p. f6 30. Ba1 Rc5 31. Rxc5 bxc5 32. Qb5 Qc7

Short of time, Grischuk collapses quickly, although after 32. ... Ba2! 33. Rb2 Qc7! 34. e5! White will stay at least a pawn up with a winning position.

33. Rxb3 Nxc6 34. e5 Nd4 35. Qc4+, Black resigned.

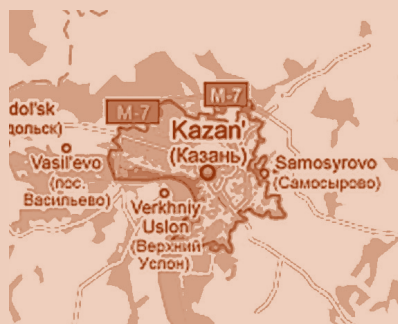
"The level of play by White was so high that I'd have had to play phenomenally not to lose this game," said a clearly impressed Grischuk. "And it's never easy to play phenomenally."

Gelfand was able to celebrate in style—friends had bought him tickets to the Champions League Final at Wembley and a few days later he was able to watch his beloved Barcelona FC defeat Man-



You have to understand, life is about more than chess. Mr. Fischer was my idol for a long time, and I was impressed by his approach to life, but after all, there are a lot of other interesting things I want to do...

Kazan



FIDE originally announced that the Candidates matches would be held in Baku, with the Azeri Federation placing 150,000 Euros in the FIDE bank account—thereby also guaranteeing Azerbaijan a wild card entry among the eight Candidates—Shakhriyar Mamedyarov.

Immediately Aronian, a representative of Armenia, a country still feuding with Azerbaijan over the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, objected strongly.

To Azerbaijan's dismay, FIDE then started suggesting that Aronian's matches—up to half the event—could be played elsewhere.

As the 2010 FIDE election approached and the Russian Federation (controversially) committed their bid to Iljumzhinov, FIDE suddenly announced that the complete set of matches would move to Kazan.

The Azeri Chess Federation objected, but made their priorities clear, saying it's more important for us that we have an Azeri nominee than that we hold the Candidates matches themselves.

Topalov also objected, declaring that he would never agree to play Kramnik on Russian soil again.

However the Candidates matches moved to the capital of Tatarstan with a 420,000 Euro prize fund and the only player missing was Carlsen, who in late 2010 became fed up with FIDE's delays and changes and stepped out.

The Candidates matches in Kazan ran well, with excellent video coverage, though general publicity was sorely lacking so the matches were almost invisible to the general media.

Soon after the matches ended Kazan took on an even more difficult task, hosting long-delayed peace talks between Azerbaijan and Armenia!

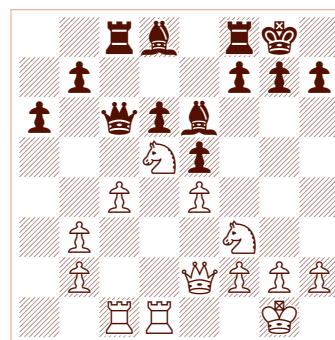
chester United 3-1.

Later the hard work—preparation for a 2012 world title match against Anand—will begin. “The World Championship will be played by chess players who’ve already been playing for 20 years,” said Gelfand. “That’s a good signal to the young that if they don’t achieve success in a year or two life isn’t over; you have to keep fighting and success might come at any moment.”

Semifinals: Gelfand versus Kamsky

Boris Gelfand fell over the line against Gata Kamsky, with the American at one stage only a single good move away from match victory.

“What can I say?” a relieved Gelfand related at the post-match press conference. “The quality of the [tiebreak] games in our match was very low, but luck was



After 18. c4

20. Rxd5 Qxd5! 21. cxd5 Rxc1+ 22. Ne1 Ba5 when White must resign.

Then Gelfand overlooked a clever trick—and this time Kamsky didn't.

I've got a [law] degree and simply need to pass an exam on practical law. But it's entirely possible that's not what I'll do. I've got lots of other ideas. I want, for example, to pass on my chess experience to children, to open a school.

on my side. Perhaps that's the worst match I've played in tiebreaks. The main thing was to get through and I managed, with an enormous amount of luck, to do that.”

As in the Grischuk-Kramnik match, the four regulation games ended as draws, though not through want of trying.

In the rapid tiebreakers, it was Gelfand who missed a chance to draw first blood:

Missed chance

GM Gata Kamsky (FIDE 2732)

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2733)

Kazan Candidates Matches, 05.16.2011

(see diagram top of next column)

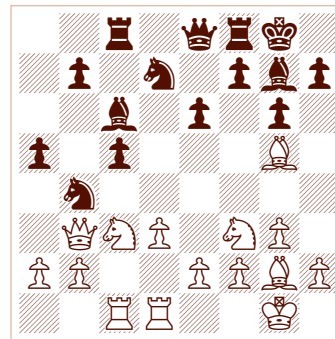
Here Gelfand played the natural 18. ... f5 and after 19. exf5 played the natural recapture 19. ... Bxf5? after which the game was drawn on move 32. A little more reflection and Gelfand would have seen 19. ... Bxd5!

Missed trick

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2733)

GM Gata Kamsky (FIDE 2732)

Kazan Candidates Matches, 05.16.2011



After 15. ... Qe8

A roughly equal position turned into a catastrophe for Gelfand after 16. a3? c4! 17. Qxc4. 17. dxc4 Nc5 wins the queen, who no longer has the a3-square available.

17. ... Bxf3 18. Bxf3 Rxc4 19. dxc4 Nc6 and Black won easily in 34 moves.

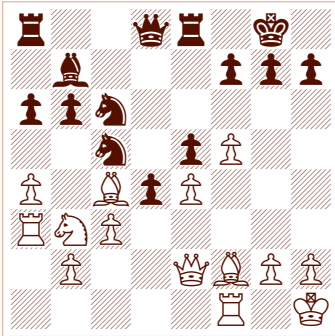
So Kamsky needed only to draw with white in the final tiebreaker to proceed to the Candidates final, and when the following position was reached, it looked as if he would do just that.

Missed win

GM Gata Kamsky (FIDE 2732)

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2733)

Kazan Candidates Matches, 05.16.2011



After 23. Bc4

Gelfand thought he had found an original way to pressure the e-pawn by playing 23. ... Na5!? 24. Nxa5 bxa5. Now Kamsky found himself in trouble after 25. Qh5? Qc7 26. Bd5 Bxd5 27. exd5 Ne4 28. Bg1? 28. Qe2 was necessary. 28. ... Qc4! after which Gelfand won the d-pawn and leveled the match on move 50. Neither player noticed that 25. Bxf7+! Kxf7 26. Qc4+ would have left only Kamsky with winning chances and Gelfand would have been out of the Candidates series.

Having been granted a stay of execution, Gelfand took full advantage in the blitz playoffs, winning both games comfortably.

Kamsky versus Topalov

Kamsky gained sweet revenge for his 2009 Candidates defeat in Sofia by Topalov, ending the ambitions of one of the Candidates favorites as well as continuing Topalov's recent run of mediocre form.

After a balanced first game, Kamsky put the cat among the pigeons with a powerful attacking effort, with black, in the second.

Kamsky at his best

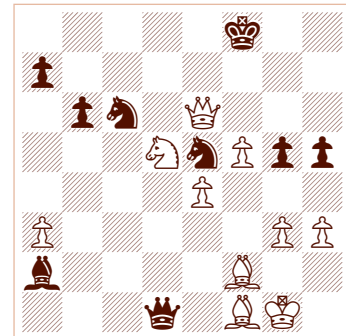
GM Veselin Topalov (FIDE 2775)

GM Gata Kamsky (FIDE 2732)

Kazan Candidates Matches, 05.08.2011

(see diagram next column)

Black's position appears to be a total wreck but Kamsky found 45. ... Bxd5! 46. exd5. The obvious move but 46. Qxd5!



After 45. Bf1

Qxd5 47. exd5 Ne7 48. Be2 would retain reasonable winning chances for White. 46. ... Nd4!! 47. Qf6+ Kg8 48. Qxg5+ Kf7 49. Qd8 Qc2! A crazy position and extraordinarily frustrating for Topalov who has two extra pawns and the first check but no way to control the black knights. 50. Bg2 Qc1+ 51. Kh2 Qc2! 52. Bg1 Ndf3+ 53. Kh1 Ne1! 54. Bf2 The only move to save the game, but at this stage of the match a draw was equivalent to a loss for Topalov in any case. 54. ... Qxf2 55. Qc7+ Kf6 56. Qd6+ Kf7 57. Qc7+ Kf6 58. Qd6+ Kf7, Draw agreed.

Suddenly the pressure was on Topalov to find a win, pronto.

He pushed a little with Black in the third and then threw everything at Kamsky in the final game. When the American blundered on move 38 it seemed as if Topalov would inevitably win but Kamsky hung tough, losing some pawns but whipping up counterplay from nowhere. By a fluke of chess, none of the winning lines available to Topalov were obvious and after a few subtle inaccuracies the Bulgarian had to settle for a perpetual check and was knocked out of the World Championship cycle. ■

See more details including photos and complete .pgn files on the official website: kazan2011.fide.com/. Photos and games are also available on Chess Life Online's May archives at uschess.org.

USCF members can also download a .pdf file of this issue and archival issues, and .pgn files of the games within, at uschess.org, "Chess Life Magazine," "Downloadable Files."

Fate gave me chances of winning in three games, I didn't take them, and ended up having a goal scored against me in blitz.

Of course, the main goal is to win the World Championship title. I told myself I'd fight for that title until I'm 40. If it doesn't work out then it doesn't matter. In general, I'm going to quit chess when I'm 40, so the next cycle will be my last.

Chess without Money:

Stepping away from North America's “Big Tournament” Culture

By Jonathan Hilton

What would chess look like in a world where money is not part of the game?



THE 8.8
MAGNITUDE
EARTHQUAKE
IN CHILE RANKS
AS THE SIXTH
LARGEST
EARTHQUAKE
EVER TO BE
RECORDED BY A
SEISMOGRAPH.

WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF the U.S. Amateur Team Championship tournaments, there is one thing that all major North American chess events have in common: afterwards, someone is going to decry the role played by money in our country's "big tournament" chess culture. Whether the perceived greed is attributed to the organizers or to the players, the list of grievances is endless. We hear that sets and clocks aren't provided; that the entry fees are too high; that the prize system is unfair; that the events are too impersonal; that local clubs can't compete against the "chess machine"; that the large prizes encourage cheating; that the playing schedule is too intense; and that chess in the U.S. has been reduced to, in the words of one international master, "gigantic, disgusting, gambling orgies." As someone who grew up in the North American big-tournament atmosphere and had never belonged to another country's chess culture, I had always tended to dismiss such statements. Then, one day, I found myself in a magical land where all of the problems caused in the chess world by money didn't exist.

Chess in Chile: A World Without Money

Welcome to Concepción, Chile—a serene city of lush forests, cobbled streets lined with palm trees, and infinite patience. Concepción is the nucleus of the Chilean population living to the south of Santiago, and the metropolitan area sports just over a million people. I have been continuing my undergraduate studies here since August and have benefited both psychologically and philosophically from the city's Mayberry-like pace of life; everyone, including my professors, cultivates an attitude of small-town tranquility. Like most of Latin America, efficiency takes a back seat to hospitality. Nothing ever gets done, but then again, nothing ever had to.

The tiny chess club in Concepción lies just one block from my apartment. It's an elegant building on the inside: it has spotless hardwood flooring, polished tables, and a surplus of nice sets and digital clocks. A glass case crammed with plaques, aged trophies, club memorabilia, and medallions of all sorts forms the centerpiece of the first floor. The second floor features a scattering of cozy skittles rooms. The building is open every night of the week and is staffed by a *señora* who sells coffee and snacks. The club isn't a profitable business—monthly membership dues are small and never enforced.

There is no government support, either. Like most things in Latin America, the club exists simply because it does. Cultural enterprises are not expected to turn a profit; everyone was short on money in the first place.

I made my first trip to the club after having been in Chile for only a couple of days, that is to say, before I had absorbed much of the country's culture. I expected to find something similar to what I had encountered in Nicaragua the year before: a hustling scene with small stakes. But in this land so far removed from *gringo* influence, I discovered that no one was interested in my money. The Concepción natives (or *penquistas*, as they call themselves) prefer to play blitz all evening without once worrying about anything other than the position on the board. It follows that they are poor trash talkers—it takes ten *penquista* spectators to think up half the number of jibes made by one Washington Square Park player. The Chileans make polite conversation instead.

Tournaments in Chile aren't expected to make money either. Back in the States, the entry fee for a Friday-night rapid can easily be \$25 or more. Here, a person can play four rounds of Game/20 for about two dollars. The entry fee to my first local tournament, a seven-round team event, was slightly higher at five dollars a person.

The price included a full lunch of chicken and rice, salad, yogurt, and a banana. My "conditions" as a foreign player in the event were also top-notch: in the spirit of Latin American hospitality, the tournament director, Daniel González, invited me as a guest so that I could play (and eat) for free. González is a colorful, talkative man who organizes events for the love of the game. When it comes to his tournaments, money never tempts him. He prices his entry fees so that he will break even and doesn't accept entries on site, something which would delay his events from getting started on time.

The general disregard for money held by the *penquista* chess community surprised me at first, but in hindsight, I understand it well. Given Chile's status as a developing nation, it is logical that chess here has been free from the kind of commercialization we have in the States. Central American chess may still take on a slightly commercial flavor given its proximity to the capitalist forces of *gringolandia*, but a city like Concepción—some 4,000-odd miles away—lies further outside our sphere of cultural influence. Considering the shortage of funds, it makes sense that the *penquistas* have avoided making chess about money. In lockstep with the rest of Chilean society, they have formed a chess culture based on community instead.



CHESS TABLE IN VALPARAÍSO, CHILE. IN 2010 CITIES ACROSS CHILE INSTALLED COMMEMORATIVE CHESS TABLES IN THEIR CENTRAL PARKS TO CELEBRATE THE BICENTENNIAL OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE (SEPTEMBER 18, 1810 TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2010).

A Chess Player's Paradise?

The Chilean chess scene, so decisively separated from the perils of money, suffers from none of the problems mentioned in the introduction above. Sets and clocks are provided; entry fees are the bare minimum; the prize structure allowing club players to win more than grandmasters is nonexistent; local clubs dominate tournament organization; the events revolve around a sense of community; no one cheats for profit; and the schedule isn't harmful to one's health. Shouldn't this be a chess player's utopia?

In short, no: most Chilean club players are, in fact, envious of chess in our country, a country where you can find a

FIDE-rated event every weekend and where opportunities for improvement abound. It is frustrating for many Chilean *ajedrecistas* (chess players) that the comparative lack of money nearly eliminates chess as a full-time profession. Monetary prizes for open tournaments, although not unheard of, are generally not more than a few hundred dollars. A few masters offer lessons or teach chess in private high schools, but in general titled players look for other work. Two of the country's four grandmasters (GMs) have relocated to other countries in search of better opportunities: one left for Europe to become a trainer, and the other, GM Mauricio Flores, is now playing for the

University of Texas at Brownsville. With just three GMs remaining in the country, this "brain drain" here has resulted in a scarcity of strong competition as well—anyone living outside Santiago will be hard-pressed to find an opponent above 2200 FIDE. The necessary playing conditions for "good chess" aren't available, either. The longest time control offered is generally Game/60, with Game/25 being the norm. The accommodations are more likely to consist of school cafeterias than hotel ballrooms, making it hard to approach the rounds with the same level of seriousness that we find in the developed world. Most of the time, even experts and masters don't keep score. Essentially, without money, there is no professional chess.

This isn't welcome news for the country's up-and-coming players. During my time here, I have gotten to know Pablo Salinas, Chile's most talented high school player. At 16 years old, Salinas has achieved a FIDE rating of 2263, making him #28 among Chile's active tournament players. For age 16 and under, he is ranked #8 for the entire South American continent. In 2008, he won the gold medal for his age category in the South American Championships in Cochabamba, Bolivia. An aggressive, versatile player with a wide opening repertoire, Salinas routinely trounces me in our weekday blitz matches at the club. In our only rapid tournament game, I was lucky to hold a draw. If Salinas had been given the same opportunities to play that I had back in the U.S., I have no doubt that he would be competing for the limelight with Robert Hess, Steven Zierk, and Sam Shankland.

Salinas has been fortunate enough to travel some around South America in his search for good tournaments and strong competition. His father captains a sizable fishing boat, which is considered a high-paying job in Chile. This gives Salinas the ability to take lessons via Skype and the Internet Chess Club from a GM in Santiago, the reigning champion of Chile, GM Rodrigo Vasquez ("Kastor" on the Internet Chess Club). Additionally, Salinas trains for a solid hour and a half every day. When that school has let out for the year in December (December marks the start of the beginning of summer here below the equator), Salinas has plans to travel nonstop to find tournaments, going as far as Buenos Aires on the other coast. Still, he has no intention of trying to become a chess professional in Latin America. "I have two years before college," he says. "In terms of my chess, I'm just going to make the most out of them that I can." He doesn't have any ideas yet about what he wants to study, but he knows he'll have to make his career outside of chess.

From Utopia to Dystopia

Even considering the above, I still know many who would jump at the chance to live in a more Chilean-like chess culture. The level of play might not be as high, but the positive aspects of the *penquista* chess environment are still appealing. For my first three months, I couldn't decide which I liked better—chess in my birth country or chess in Chile. It took me a while to appreciate an inconvenient fact about life in Concepción that made me favor the former.

At first, I found nothing strange or artificial about the idea of a small-town “chess paradise” completely separated from the influence of money. Back before I started playing in “big tournament” events every other weekend, my entire chess experience was built around a similar sense of community in downtown Cincinnati and at the Dayton Chess Club. Money was never completely separated from the equation, but it certainly wasn't important, either. Imagining a chess community with no concept of money at all was not such a big leap.

My perception of *penquista* society began to shift when I sensed a hidden current swimming under the surface—that of a secret craving for money. If you only spent a few weeks in Concepción, you would never know it: one's financial affairs are taboo, and anything to do with money is quickly swept under the rug. But for all that they would deny it, problems with cash flow plague middle-class Chilean families. When it comes to capital, there's simply never enough. One night, my friend Carlos Saez—a jovial, thirty-something man who once beat an international master—explained the situation to me in clear terms. “We're poor,” he exclaimed, adding in a few expletives for good measure. As we noshed on a simple dinner of eggs in his miniature living room, Saez slid me a loaf of bread from across the table. “When you go back to your country,” he added, “study something that will make you money. Make money and get rich. That way you can live well.”

In Concepción, this hidden anxiety regarding money reared its ugly head during the aftermath of the devastating earthquake on February 27 of this year. The quake, which at 8.8 on the moment magnitude scale ties for seventh on the list of the strongest earthquakes ever recorded, ushered in three days of total anarchy during which the city plummeted into chaos. The quake paralyzed the *carabineros*—the ever-present national police force—stationed in Concepción, and soon mobs of opportunistic *penquistas* overran local stores of all types. “Some of the looting was completely understandable,” local photojournalist Edison Rios told me. “People here restock their pantries toward

the end of the month, so many families were short on food.” But according to Rios and other locals, much of the looting went far beyond the search for basic necessities. Department and retail stores were easy targets, and even many wealthy Chileans headed for the streets. “It wasn't just the street gangs that robbed,” said Saez. “Even doctors robbed. People were overtaken with greed.”

The federal government waited three days before sending troops to restore order and end the pillage. After the looting was stopped, it didn't take long for the *penquista* community spirit to emerge from the rubble. Rios added, “We had one really hard month before the plumbing was restored, and so everyone had to focus on hauling water to the city. But after that, neighbors banded together to rebuild. Everything was put together on-the-fly with little help from outside aid organizations. We just pulled together and got it done ourselves; no money changed hands.” A community-wide sense of embarrassment over the looting still lurks beneath the surface, however. The *penquistas* have been left to wonder how their normally tranquil, ever-content city could so quickly erupt into greed-driven looting and sabotage.

Moving Toward a More Precise Discussion of U.S. Chess

Going back to the list of grievances outlined at the start, it seems to me that, whenever we find fault with our chess culture in the U.S., we tend to cite the love of money as the root cause of our evils. Spending time in Chile, however, has given me a glimpse into the difficulties that arise when those large sums are removed. The Chilean chess players I talked to were enthusiastic about our ability to produce strong players and sustain them as full-time professionals—something that, according to them, can only happen when chess is commercialized. We have taken that key step of making chess commercially viable. As a result, it is now plausible to pursue a career in chess. We can't and shouldn't turn back.

Given the above, I believe that the current discussion about our chess culture ought to shift course to focus not on the commercialization of chess per se but on the actual problems generated by it. Rather than bundling many individual grievances and then using those to attack our money-based organizational structure, we should strive to eliminate the problems themselves. For instance, if high prizes in class sections encourage cheating, we should focus on how to better detect and prevent cheating. Or if our playing schedules aren't healthy, we should discuss ways of making longer

Further Travels

During my time in South America, I also visited Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, and Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay. The former's chess scene is centered around the famous Club Argentino de Ajedrez. I visited this multi-story facility to see the set used in the 1927 World Championship match between Capablanca and Alekhine. Montevideo, on the other hand, has a much smaller population and a more quaint atmosphere. In Montevideo, chess is more often played in the street; one group that I encountered in the old downtown area met every day to play blitz on the sidewalk.

schedules more readily available. Concentrating on the specific problems at hand will lead to a more precise discussion of how we can improve the state of chess in our country.

Of course, one may ask, what about “getting to the core of the problem” through a complete overhaul of the system? Wouldn't tackling these smaller concerns just be papering over a flawed foundation? I do not see it this way. The foundation itself—a chess culture which moves large sums of money—is positive given how necessary capital is to generate an environment conducive to serious chess.

Just as no respectable trainer would tell a student to discard his entire opening repertoire over a few problem lines, we should not wish away the underlying structure of our chess culture just because we take issue with the problems it generates. GM Gregory Kaidanov once told me that every time he fixed one problem in his game, he would soon find a new one in its place. The result was that he had to fix a never-ending stream of problems in his quest to perfect his play.

We must likewise work to perfect our chess culture. We may have moved past the one problem that still haunts chess in Chile—the lack of money—but now we must start working on the new problems that have arisen. Although the cycle of problems and resolutions is infinite, the good news is that, if we keep working, we will always be moving in a positive direction. ■

Go to uschess.org/forums to make your voice heard in USCF affairs.

A Tale Of Two Knights, Golden

Recapping the 2003 and 2004 Golden Knights tournaments

By FM Alex Dunne

Time goes by faster as speed increases. What used to take ten plus years now takes seven. Or six. Or less. As communication becomes more and more efficient, correspondence chess tournaments such as the Golden Knights find the battles end more quickly, not in moves, but in time. The 2003 Golden Knights and the 2004 Golden Knights ended within a month of each other. The first place winners were well recognized names to the correspondence chess (CC) community, but there the similarity ends.

The 2003 Golden Knights winner was settled early—On May 6, 2008, John Menke played a draw with Humberto Cruz in the final round. This draw and a semifinal draw also with Cruz were the only points given up by the remarkable John Menke.

John Menke's rap sheet shows him at the top of his game. His victory in the 2003 Golden Knights and the 2004 Correspondence Chess League of America (CCLA) Championships showed his domination of chess by postcard. His victory in the 2004 Electronic Knights championship showed he was equally at home in the electronic media. John's continued success in

the 2005 CCLA e-mail championship (scoring $9\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$) and a third place finish in the 2005 Electronic Knights showed a remarkable consistency of top flight results.

John, a very private individual, is not much on sharing a lot of details about his life. He is content to let his chess games speak for him. As John passed his 70th birthday this year, he contemplated retirement. After all, in what other sport do you have to wait two years after crossing the finish line to get your name engraved on the trophy? But the siren chess call was too strong. He has re-entered the chess scene, not in the Golden Knights—six or seven years may be too long to wait for a tournament win—but in the strong Palciauskas tournament which generally ends in a two-year period, a mere flash of time. And the news from the International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) is that John Menke will be awarded the title of International Correspondence Chess Master at the yearly ICCF Congress in Antalya, Turkey. Congratulations, John!

John's favorite game from the 2003 Golden Knights was from the preliminary round when he met up with Bleys Rose ...

Semi-Slav Defense, Meran System (D47)

*John Menke (2101)
Bleys Rose (2358)
2003 Golden Knights*

1. Nf3 d5 2. d4 Nf6 3. c4 c6 4. Nc3 e6 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Bd3 dxc4 7. Bxc4 b5 8. Be2 a6 9. e4 b4 10. e5 bxc3 11. exf6 Nxf6 12. bxc3 Bd6 13. 0-0 0-0 14. Bg5 Qc7 15. Rb1

White has not been very successful with 15. Bxf6 when the two bishops have been adequate compensation for the damaged pawn structure.

15. ... Nd5 16. Bd3

Interesting. White offers the c3-pawn and the two bishops for the h7-pawn.

16. ... Nxc3 17. Bxh7+ Kxh7

White's attacking idea is clear after 17. ... Kh8? 18. Qd3 Nxb1 19. Ne5 when Qh3 cannot be stopped.

18. Qd3+ Kg8 19. Qxc3 Bb7 20. Bd2

A sophisticated attacking plan—the bishop retreats to allow the knight access to g5.

20. ... Rab8 21. Qd3 f6

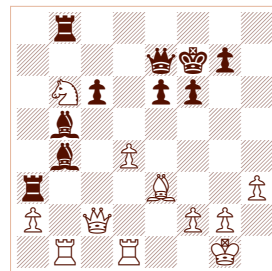
After this committal defense, Menke milks his initiative for all its worth: he probes at Black's weaknesses, improving the position of his pieces with each threat.

22. Qc4 Kf7 23. Rfe1 Rfe8 24. Rbc1 Rbc8 25. Qb3 Qe7 26. Be3 Rh8 27. h3 a5 28. Nd2 Bb4 29. Red1 Ba6 30. Nc4 a4

Rose wants to avoid passive defense after 30. ... Qc7 31. a3 Be7 32. Bd2 Bxc4 33. Qxc4 Bxa3 34. Ra1 Bb4 35. Bxb4 axb4 36. Qxb4 but he doesn't

get enough for his pawn in the game continuation.

31. Qxa4 Bb5 32. Qc2 Ra8 33. Nb6 Ra3 34. Rb1 Rb8



After 34. ... Rb8

35. d5!

Menke engineers a decisive breakthrough combination that leaves him with an ambitious a-pawn.

35. ... exd5 36. Nxd5 cxd5 37. Rxb4 Qxb4 38. Qc7+ Qe7 39. Qxb8 Bc6

If Black was counting on 39. ... Bc4, 40. Rb1 would be painful. Now Menke's iron technique comes into play.

40. Qb2 Ra4 41. Bd4 Rb4 42. Qc3 Rc4 43. Qb2 Rb4 44. Qd2 Rc4 45. Qf4 Qe4

The bishops of opposite color won't save Black.

46. Qxe4 dxe4 47. Be3 Rc2 48. Ra1 Bd5 49. a4 Ra2 50. Rxa2 Bxa2 51. h4 Kg6 52. Kf1 Kf5 53. Bd4 Bc4+ 54. Ke1 Bd5 55. a5 e3

Equally futile is 55. ... g5 56. h5 g4 57. h6 Kg6 58. Be3.

56. f3 Bb7 57. Bxe3 Kg6 58. Ke2 Ba6+ 59. Kd2 Kh5 60. g3 Bb7 61. Ke2 Ba6+ 62. Kf2 Bb5 63. Bc5 Ba6 64. Bf8 Kg6 65. g4 Kf7 66. Ba3 g6 67. f4 Bc8 68. Kf3 Bb7+ 69. Ke3 Bc8 70. f5!

The final blow—the two rook pawns will dominate the bishop.

70. ... gxf5 71. gxf5 Kg7 72. Kf4 Ba6 73. Bb2 Kf7 74. h5, Black resigned.

Laurence Bonsack

Second place was earned by Laurence Bonsack of North Highlands, California.

Laurence Bonsack is a 58-year-old retired chemical engineer who plays CC because he finds it a great way to experiment with different openings and an excellent way to develop analytical abilities. Due to the demands of his work, Laurence had little time for over-the-board (OTB) chess, but he plans to compete OTB in 2011. He will continue to play correspondence, he notes, as it has been a great fit for him. His second place finish was achieved with consistency—5½-½ in the preliminary round, 5½-½ in the semifinal, and an undefeated 5-1 in the finals. Here is Laurence's play from the final round showing his strong defensive skills.

Bird's Opening (A02)

Robert Hampton (2240)

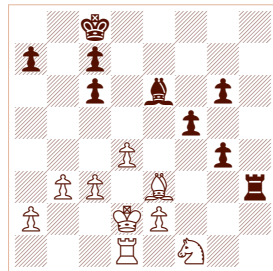
Laurence Bonsack (2174)

2003 Golden Knights finals

1. f4 e5 2. fxe5 d6 3. exd6 Bxd6 4. Nf3 g5 5. g3 g4 6. Nh4 Ne7 7. d4 Ng6 8. Nxg6 hxg6 9. Qd3 Nc6 10. c3 Qe7 11. Bg2 Bf5 12. Qe3

The usual line here is 12. e4 with complications favorable to White after 12. ... 0-0-0 13. 0-0 Ne5 14. Qe3 Bd7 15. Nd2 Bb5 16. Re1, but Hampton's choice seems worth trying again.

12. ... Qxe3 13. Bxe3 Rxh2 14. Bxc6+ bxc6 15. Rxh2 Bxg3+ 16. Rf2 0-0-0 17. Nd2 Rh8 18. Nf1 Rh1 19. 0-0-0 Bxf2 20. Bxf2 Be6 21. b3 f5 22. Be3 Rh3 23. Kd2



After 23. Kd2

The early battle has clearly gone to White, and now Bonsack has the clearly unpleasant task of fighting a master while down a piece in an endgame. This is where heart makes a difference.

23. ... g3 24. Bf4 g2 25. Ne3 g5! 26. Nxg2

After 26. Bxg5 Rg3 27. Rg1 Rxx5 28. Rxx2 it is still a struggle.

26. ... Bd5 27. Bxg5 Bxg2 28. Rg1 Bd5 29. Bf4 Rh4 30. Be5 Rg4 31. Rxxg4

White would like to avoid this exchange, but his rook has nowhere else to go.

31. ... fxg4 32. Kd3 Bg2 33. e4 c5! 34. dxc5 c6 35. Bg3 Kd7 36. Ke3 Bf3 37. Kf4 Ke6 38. b4 Be2 39. Ke3 Bc4 40. a3 a6 41. Kf4 Bd3 42. Bh2 Be2 43. Ke3 Bc4 44. Kd4 Be2 45. c4

White prepares the break on b5, but Black can handle it.

45. ... Bf1 46. a4 Be2 47. Kc3 Bf1 48. b5 cxb5 49. cxb5 axb5 50. a5 Kd7 51. e5 Kc6 52. Kb4 Bc4 53. a6 Be6 54. a7 Kb7 55. c6+ Kxa7

56. Kxb5 Kb8 57. Kb6 Kc8 58. Bg3 Kb8 59. c7+ Kc8 60. Kc6 Bd7+ 61. Kd6 Be8 62. Ke7 Bh5 63. e6 Bg6 64. Kf6 Bh5 65. Kg5 Be8 66. Kxxg4 Bg6, Adjudicated a draw.

After the white king gets to f8, the bishop stays on the e8-h5 diagonal to insure the draw.

Tom Connelly

Thomas Connelly is a retired 62-year old attorney living in Newport News, Virginia. Tom's retirement present was a 2003 Corvette convertible which he enjoys driving with the top down. When he is not working out a chess move, he enjoys reading novels and science magazines. He and his wife are also proud servants to four household cats. His record in 2004 was 11 wins, four draws, and one loss, two of his draws being with second place winner Laurence Bonsack. His single loss was to 2000 Golden Knights winner Abe Wilson.

Tom began playing CC in 1973 to improve his OTB play, which it did. He continued with postal play reaching a plateau. After his retirement, however, he left that plateau for new heights—his master's rating by CC. Tom's advice to aspiring players—work hard at putting up a tough defense in poor and even very poor positions.

Reti Opening (A07)

Steven Jacobs (1991)

Thomas Connelly (2146)

2003 Golden Knights final

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. d3 d5 3. c3 Nc6 4. g3 e5 5. Bg2 Be7 6. 0-0 0-0 7. e4

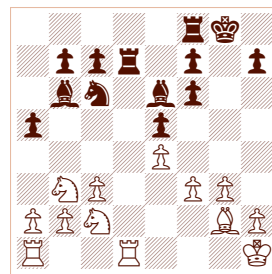
Petrosian-Geller, Moscow 1950, continued 7. Bg5. Jacobs' move causes White some problems.

7. ... dxe4 8. dxe4 Bg4 9. Qc2 Qd7 10. Bg5 Rad8 11. Nbd2 Qd3 12. Qxd3 Rxd3 13. Ne1 Rd7 14. f3 Bc5+ 15. Kh1 Be6 16. Nb3 Bb6 17. Bxf6 gxf6 18. Nc2 a5 19. Rfd1?

(see diagram top of next column)

Wrong rook—now White is lost.

19. ... Rfd8 20. Rxd7 Rxd7 21. Re1 a4 22. Nc1 Bf2 23. Rf1 Rd2



After 19. Rfd1

24. Na3 Rxb2! 25. Nd3 Rxa2 26. Nb1 Bb6, White resigned.

White cedes the two pawns to weaken Black's pawn structure, but Black is left with two strong bishops while White's knights stumble over one another.

Chuck Cullum—2004 Champion

Chuck Cullum was the winner of the 2002 Golden Knights. He went undefeated in that event, winning the title by a comfortable margin, giving up only four draws to finish with a 16-2 record. In the 2004 event he again remained undefeated, finishing with an impressive 15-3 record, but this time there was a dollop of luck involved. Chuck began by scoring 5½-½ in the preliminary round, ceding a draw to expert Steve Fairbairn of Canada. In round two Chuck continued his unbeaten streak with two wins and four draws in a field that averaged 2234. But a score of 4-2 is not sufficient to advance a player to the final round of a Golden Knights tournament. Chuck was out of the finals. Or so it appeared. It takes seven players to make up a finals section and for the last final section of the 2004 Golden Knights, only four players had qualified. Three more players had to be invited from the roster of players scoring 4-2, and so Chuck Cullum was back in, and Chuck took full advantage of his second chance, scoring 5½-½ in the final round to eke out a second Golden Knights victory. Chuck thus improved the folk wisdom—If you can't be good, be lucky, and if you can't be lucky, be good, by being both lucky and good and the 2004 Golden Knights champion.

Semi-Slav, Meran System (D47)

Chuck Cullum (2465)

David Miller (2206)

2004 Golden Knights final

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c6 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Bd3 dxc4 7. Bxc4 b5 8. Bd3 Bd6 9. Ng5

For a long time 9. 0-0 was almost the only move here, but lately 9. Ng5 has come into fashion.

9. ... Bb7 10. 0-0 Qc7

This is new and reasonable—Beliavsky-Sargissian, Marx Memorial 2008 saw 10. ... h6 11. Nge4 Be7 12. a3 a5 13. b3 with a small edge to White.

11. f4

Part of White's idea of 9. Ng5 is this pawn thrust to control e5; the other half is to fight for e4.

11. ... b4 12. Nce4 Nxe4 13. Nxe4 Be7 14. b3

In the long term the bishop is much better on the a1-h8 diagonal. 14. Bd2 is also playable.

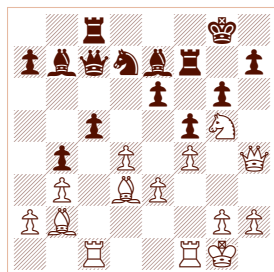
14. ... 0-0 15. Bb2 c5 16. Rc1 Rac8 17. Ng5!

White has no need for subtlety here: g8 is the target.

17. ... g6 18. Qg4

White could be fancy with 18. dxc5 Nxc5 19. Qh5! Bxg5 20. Qxg5 Nxd3 21. Qf6 Nxb2 22. Rxc7 Rxc7 23. Qxb2 which is winning, but Cullum's choice is stronger.

18. ... f5 19. Qh4 Rf7



After 19. ... Rf7

Black relies on the pin rather than play the bleak endgame after 19. ... Bxg5 20. Qxg5 Qd8 21. Bc4 Bd5 22. Qxd8 Rfxd8 23. Bb5 Bb7 24. Bxd7 Rxd7 25. dxc5, but hidden in the game continuation is the fact the e7-bishop is

overloaded.

20. Bc4 Bd5 21. Bxd5 exd5 22. dxc5 Nxc5 23. Rc2 Qa5 24. Rfc1 Rc7 25. Be5 Rd7 26. Qh3! Bf8

Now 26. ... Bxg5 27. Rxc5 is a winner.

27. Bd4 Ne4 28. Nxf7 Rxf7 29. Rc6 Nc3 30. Rxg6+ Bg7 31. Rxg7+ Rxg7 32. Qxf5, Black resigned.

A Field Guide To Correspondence Chess

Bleys Rose finished second in the 2004 Golden Knights. Rose has the distinction of being the only Golden Knights finalist to be on a team that won a Pulitzer Prize for reportage. He currently is a reporter for the *Santa Rosa Press Democrat* and readers interested in government and political issues can check his Twitter account <http://twitter.com/bleysrose>. Bleys kindly consented to give the reader insight into how a top correspondence player thinks during the game.

Nimzo-Indian Defense, Classical Variation (E32)

Bleys Rose (2393)

Wesley Gales (2350)

2004 Golden Knights final

Notes by Bleys Rose (BR) and Alex Dunne (AD)

BR—I am a packrat on collecting games that feature openings that I use. So, I collect games from *New In Chess* yearbooks and magazines, magazines like *Inside Chess* and *Chess Life*, databases like www.chessgames.com, and books on openings and DVDs like those produced by GM Nigel Davies. In this case, squirreling away a 15-year old article analyzing the Classical line of the Nimzo-Indian proved invaluable. This was the second of what were to be five games with Gales, all of which I managed to get paired as white.

1. d4

AD—To be well-prepared in the opening phase is important in CC play, but not quite so as in OTB play. In OTB play the top players need many memory cells. In CC a healthy

library will do. Databases also may reveal what openings your opponent favors and what lines are at the top of modern theory.

1. ... Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4

BR—And this was our second game that followed a book line of the Nimzo-Indian. After losing both the first two games in this line, Gales gave it up during our last three games (2006 finals, 2007 semifinals, and 2008 semifinals) instead transposing into a line in the Queens Gambit Declined, Exchange Variation, that netted me only one win and two draws.

4. Qc2

BR—I had given up on the Rubinstein Variation after being convinced by GM Nick de Firmian that the Classical line offered clearer advantages with two active bishops. The “big boys,” he said, play the Classical Line and he confessed that it's the line he least likes to meet as Black.

4. ... 0-0 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. Qxc3 b6 7. Bg5 Bb7 8. f3

AD—The most challenging move—who does e4 belong to? One cannot deny the pater-nity of this line—played by Kasparov, Kramnik, Karpov, and Topalov, to name a few.

8. ... h6

AD—And Black's reply—played by Kasparov, Kramnik, Kamsky, Karpov, and Ivanchuk.

9. Bh4 d5 10. e3 Nbd7 11. Nh3

BR—I've found that maneuvering the knight to h3 and then f2 is a common and comfortable way to secure central control when f3 is otherwise occupied in lines of the King's Indian and Dutch that I also employ.

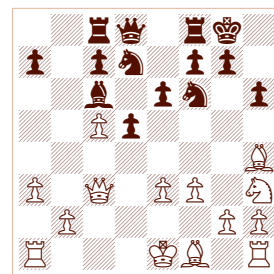
AD—Rose's choice may not be the choices of the K's mentioned earlier, but it scores the equal in practice of the more popular 11. cxd5.

11. ... Rc8

BR—Most book lines call for 11. ... c5 as the best way for Black to get the central counterattack rolling. In our first game in [2006 Golden Knights] Gales chose a sideline with 11. ... Rc8 which the chessgames.com database has a dozen

games with 29 percent wins for White and only seven percent for Black. Nunn's *Chess Openings* book assesses the 11. ... Re8 line as +/-, but is silent on the choice of 11. ... Rc8. But GM Svetozar Gligoric isn't. In lengthy analysis published in *Inside Chess* magazine's March 19, 1990 issue, he states: “The preparatory move 11. ... Rc8?! fails to 12. c5 bxc5 13. dxc5 c6 14. Bg3 with a positional advantage for White (in) Hort-Winants, Thessaloniki 1988.”

12. c5 bxc5 13. dxc5 Bc6?



After 13. ... Bc6

BR—If ... c7-c6 was the move called for, then White has to do something to make Black's positional disadvantage worse than it already is. So let's force Black to move his rook twice and onto a square with no future.

AD—Rose is completely right about 11. ... Bc6 being an error. In the six games from the eighties and nineties when this line was still popular, Black actually outscored White +2 =3 -1 with 11. ... c6. The idea was to re-position the bishop to a6 and play ... e7-e5 with counterplay. Studying those six games to determine how the position is different after 13. ... Bc6 enables the CC player to come up with the right plan—Rose's plan of expansion on the queenside and displacing the c8-rook.

14. Ba6 Rb8 15. b4 e5

BR—Black decides on a counterthrust in the center, although I think exchanging the bishop on b5 and following with ... c7-c6 might have been better. Time to reposition my knight.

16. Nf2 Qe7 17. 0-0 g5

BR—Argh ... and this is the problem with White's slow development; it causes me to

lose my two-bishop advantage. On the plus side, Black's kingside is weakened and that weakness comes into play later.

18. Bg3 Nh5 19. Rab1

AD—Not unreasonable here is 19. Nh1 f5 20. Qc2 Qe6 21. Rad1 which keeps a White edge.

BR—I am preparing b5 in order to push Black's light bishop off any useful diagonal. But Black threatens to strangle my dark bishop with ...

19. ... f5 20. b5 Nxg3

BR—I was expecting 20. ... f4 which I had calculated as 21. bxc6 fxc3 22. cxd7 gxf2+ with a resulting battle over loose pawns all over the board.

21. hxg3 Qxc5

BR—Black seizes the opportunity to grab the c-pawn, although I'm not sure that 21. ... Ba8 and pushing the e-pawn wouldn't create problems for White in the center.

AD—21. ... Ba8 22. Rbc1 e4 23. c6 Ne5 24. Rfd1 Rbd8 25. Qc5 is OK for White.

22. Qxc5 Nxc5 23. Rfc1 Bb7 24. Rxc5 Bxa6

BR—A pawn down and two choices of which pawn to capture, the one on c7 or d5. 25. Rxd5 looks good but 25. ... c6 26. Rxe5 Bxb5 looks like it frees up Black's bishop and allows Black's rooks to become active. 25. Rxc7 seems okay, but allows Black's central pawn to roll forward. I thought about 25. a4 but 25. ... Bb7 26. Rxc7 Rf7 27. Rbc1 seems to allow Black to push 27. ... e4 and mess up the center. So I decided to attack a third pawn, the one on a7.

25. Rb4 Bb7 26. Ra4 a6

AD—Losing is 26. ... Rf7 27. Rxa7 Kg7 28. a4 Kf6 29. a5 d4 30. exd4 exd4 31. a6 Ba8 32. g4 fxg4 33. Nxg4+ Ke6 34. b6.

27. bxa6 Ra8

BR—I could push the pawn to a7, but it seems wise to unleash my dormant knight on Black's central pawn structure.

AD—28. a7 Rf7 29. Nd3 e4 30. Nb4 c6 31. Kf2 is also strong.

28. Nd3 Bxa6 29. Nxe5 Bc4 30. Rb4

BR—Here I had gambled

that Black wasn't going to play 30. ... Rxa3 which allows White to play 31. Rxc7 and allow White's rooks on the seventh rank where a mating net with White's knight at e5, positioned to jump to g6 or f7, would be possible.

30. ... Rfe8 31. Nxc4 dxc4 32. a4 Rxe3 33. Rbxc4 Ra7

BR—Now I am happy,

was 38. ... gxf3, forcing White to give some rook checks before retaking with gxf3. Now, White can take Black's g-pawn, force a rook exchange, block Black's advance of the c-pawn and have free reign to push his trio of kingside pawns.

AD—White is winning after 38. ... gxf3 39. Rg7+ Kh8 40. gxf3 Ra2 41. Rg8+ Kh7 42. R5g7+ Kh6 43. g4 R2a5 44. g5+.

Golden Knights Champions

1945	C. F. Rehberg	1977	Tom Sweeney
1946	Richard Aiken	1978	Richard Aiken
1947/8	Leon Stolzenberg	1979	Tom Friedel
1949	James T. Sherwin	1980	Gary Kubach
1950	Leon Stolzenberg	1981	Tom Friedel
1951	John Staffer	1982	1st-3rd S. Kowalski, S. Sinding, M. Vaughan
1952-3	Ignas Zalys	1983	Rob Salgado
1954	R. Klugman	1984	Edmund Hermelyn
1955	Hans Berliner	1985	Andre Reichman
1956	Hans Berliner	1986	Mike Colucci
1957	R. E. Doe	1987	Stanley Elowitch
1958	J. Witecek	1988	Curtis Jones
1959	Hans Berliner	1989	Jon Applebee
1960	Leon Stolzenberg	1990	John Penquite; Murray Kurtz
1961-2	Lionel Joyner	1991	Joseph Schwing
1963	Gary Abram	1992	Edward Duliba and Charles van Buskirk
1964	Anton Sildmets	1993	Anthony Eaker
1965	Brian Owens	1994	Robert Ilderton
1966	Harry Mayer	1995	Robert Keating
1967	William Gray	1996	Robert Keating
1968	Kenneth Collins	1997	Chris O'Connell
1969	Robert Burns	1998	Corky Schakel
1970	Juris Jurevics	1999	John Burton
1971	Robert Cross	2000	Abe Wilson
1972	R. Cayford	2001	John Burton
1973	R. Cayford, George Krauss, William Maillard	2002	Chuck Cullum
1974	Ben. Bednarz	2003	John Menke
1975	Rob Salgado	2004	Chuck Cullum
1976	K. Reddinger		

although I have doubled pawns and my a-pawn is not long for this world when Black plays ... Ra3. But Black can't really defend his f5-pawn, my a-pawn is (temporarily) passed and Black's earlier mentioned kingside pawn weakness is vulnerable to attack if I can get my rooks in motion.

34. Rxf5 Ra3 35. Rc6 R3xa4 36. Rxb6 g4

BR—Hoping for tripled pawns? I don't think so.

37. Rg6+ Kh7 38. Rfg5 c5

Probably better for Black

39. Rxc4 Rxc4 40. Rxc4 Rc7 41. Rc4 Kg6 42. Kf2 Kg5 43. g4, Black resigned.

Don Schultheis

Don Schultheis has made a habit of finishing in the money. Don finished third in the 2002 event, dropped to eighth in the 2003 Golden Knights, and has returned to third place in the 2004. As of late, Don has added a new sport to his correspondence chess—he has become a marathon runner. *Mens sana in copore sano* is the old Latin motto—sound in body, sound in mind and the

running may well have sharpened Don's mind. Here is an example of that sharpness as he nurses home two bishops.

Scandinavian Defense (B01)

Don Schultheis (2371)

James Tracz (2351)

2004 Golden Knights final

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 c6 5. Nf3 Nf6 6. Bc4 Bf5 7. Ne5 e6 8. g4 Bg6 9. h4 Nbd7 10. Nxd7 Nxd7 11. h5 Be4 12. Rh3 Bd5 13. Bd3 0-0-0 14. Kf1 Bd6 15. Bd2 Qc7 16. Nxd5 exd5 17. Qf3

White has "won" the two bishops, but his pieces lack coordination. Chances are about even.

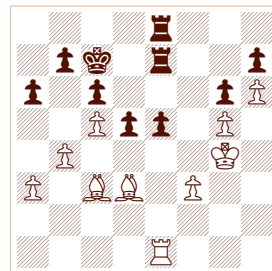
17. ... Nf8 18. Re1 Kb8

It looks like 18. ... Ne6 was a major improvement.

19. Bg5 Rc8 20. h6 g6 21. c4 Ne6 22. Rxe6 fxe6 23. c5 Bxc5 24. dxc5 e5

The two bishops are better than the rook and pawn here as the rooks have little scope.

25. Qf6 Rhf8 26. Qd6 Rce8 27. Be2 Kc8 28. Ra3 a6 29. Qxc7+ Kxc7 30. Kg2 Rf7 31. Rb3 Kc8 32. Kg3 Ref8 33. f3 Re8 34. Bd2 Rd7 35. g5 Rf7 36. Bf1 Ref8 37. a3 Re8 38. Re3 Kb8 39. Bc3 Rfe7 40. Re1 Kc7 41. b4 Re6 42. Bd3 R6e7 43. Kg4



After 43. Kg4

43. ... b5

Black cracks under pressure and the bishops show their bite. Black had to continue to play passively and make White find the way in by Bc2 and f4.

44. cxb6+ e.p. Kxb6 45. Re2 Re6 46. Be1 Kb7 47. Bf2 Rf8 48. Bc5 Rd8 49. a4 Ree8 50. Re1 Re6 51. f4 e4 52. Be2 Ree8 53. f5 gxf5+ 54. Kxf5 d4 55. Kf4 d3 56. Bh5 d2 57. Rd1 e3 58. Bxe3 Re7 59. Bxd2, Black resigned. ■

Brave New World:

Human Intuition and

Computer-assisted Chess

How a gang of amateurs bested some of the strongest players on earth

By Howard Sandler, Ph.D. and the Chessgames.com World Team

A Vietnamese woman living in Alaska, a lawyer from Toronto, a polymath from Ireland, an accountant from India, a scuba diver from Brazil, an electrical engineer from Virginia, a biologist from Norway, and over 5,000 others make up the Chessgames World Team. They are all chess fans who registered in *Chessgames.com's* series of massive online consultation games known as the Chessgames Challenge, that pits the members of the website against famous grandmasters (GMs). Is it even possible that such a loose confederation of amateurs could hold their own against strong opposition? Apparently so: The World Team has a record of three wins, three draws, and no losses—all against very strong players, including a scintillating victory

over a correspondence world champion. To understand their success we need to look at the role of computer analysis in the rapidly-evolving world of correspondence chess (CC). After that, we will look at critical moves in each game in an attempt to perceive how the World Team combined human intuition and computer evaluations to steer the games to victory. Finally, we will speculate about the future of CC as well as the Chessgames Challenge.

The format of the game is straightforward. The GM makes a move within a specified time control, usually two or three days per half-move. The World Team votes democratically, with each member voting for one move. The move that gets the most votes is actually played on the board and

presented to the GM. Members can also vote to offer or accept draws, actions which require a simple majority to approve. During the game, the World Team privately discusses its strategy and analysis to help reach a consensus on the strongest plan. Under this format, the World has played six games to date: two with correspondence GM Arno Nickel (win, draw), and one each with 2008 U.S. Champion GM Yury Shulman (win), 15th Correspondence World Champion 1996-2002 Gert Jan Timmerman (win), 13th Correspondence World Champion 1989-1998 Mikhail Umansky (draw), and WGM Natalia Pogonina (draw). Let's take a whirlwind tour through these modern masterpieces of collaborative chess.

Our story starts on August 18, 2006, when the Chessgames World Team played

its first move, 1. e4, against Correspondence GM Arno Nickel. Among his many successes, in 2009 GM Nickel finished clear first in the Simon Webb Memorial (a category 15 event) against a field of 12 of the strongest correspondence GMs in the world. According to the Chessgames founder Daniel Freeman, “Nickel was chosen as the first opponent precisely because of his success in defeating computers, especially his convincing victory over the monstrously strong cluster computer, Hydra. We had every reason to expect the World Team would lose, but learn a valuable lesson in the process.” Mr. Freeman’s opinion soon changed, when he witnessed the World organize itself and ultimately defeat Nickel: “The word challenge had reversed its meaning: it wasn’t so much the members we were challenging, it was the grandmasters!”

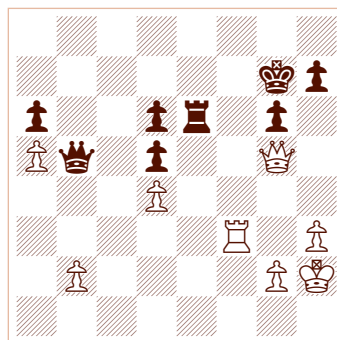
Controversy about computer use was present from the start, and as computer chess engines have become more and more powerful since 2006, these complaints were voiced more loudly in each successive game. Even before the World’s game with Nickel began, lengthy debates emerged about whether computer assistance was necessary or appropriate. Why did such strong reactions against computer-assisted correspondence games continue to surface? Many team members recall the days when correspondence chess was played on postcards, so their reactions were generational. Other members had played chess at online chess clubs, where computers are the lowest and most loathsome form of cheating. However, members more familiar with computer-assisted correspondence chess pointed out that the computer’s evaluations were often useless (in the opening phase), flawed (in closed positions), or artificially cut off (the horizon effect). They emphasized that to be successful it took people to provide overall strategic guidance, and that blindly following the computer’s advice every move would not be a winning strategy.

The World Team was fortunate to have a member known as “RandomVisitor” who consistently provided a backbone of analysis with his high-end equipment and engine. His analysis gave the World a strong start as it branched out in many analytic directions. There is an art to using the computer well: winning requires computer analysis to be skillfully interwoven with human intuition. All serious correspondence chess players are accustomed to this art. The strength of the GMs (even Shulman and Pogonina, who do not ordinarily play correspondence) lies in their keen instinct of when to regard their own judgments higher than the computer’s numerical evaluations. GM Nickel commented, “Well of course, correspon-

dence chess and over-the-board chess are nowadays two extremely different disciplines, more so than ever, because correspondence players in contrast to over-the-board players have full access to computer engines and databases.”

Neither the World Team nor the GMs blindly played the moves generated by their computers. In fact, the key move in the World Team’s first game against GM Nickel was generated by human intuition, and only later was it checked thoroughly by computers. Let’s take a look.

The World versus Arno Nickel “Brave New World”



White to play

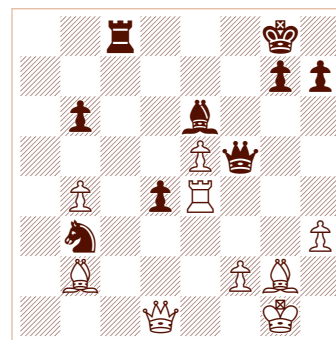
It is White’s turn to play, and the move **36. b4!** quickly ended the game. (The pawn is immune to capture: 36. ... Qxb4? 37. Qd8 mates in a few moves.) Today’s chess engines are able to take advantage of multi-core computers to find moves like 36. b4!, but in 2006, relatively few World Team members had computer engines of such power. Those that did were rarely able to delve 10 moves deep, even in overnight runs. The move came as a shock to GM Nickel. After the game was over, he praised the choice of 36. b4 over going into a complicated rook ending with 36. Qd8: “Practically speaking, I think 36. b4 was the stronger move, as it left Black without any defense, whereas the rook ending would have complicated things unnecessarily, as the white rook is not well placed in front of its own pawns.” (posted on February 11, 2007). GM Nickel had kind things to say about the World Team’s strength as well. Shortly after the game, he wrote “... in order to illustrate on which level this very complicated game has been played, I would suggest, that White managed to play on a 2700-2800 level (ICCF Elo), while Black played about 200 Elo points weaker. ... One can only congratulate the World Team for this fine achievement.”

The Chessgames World Team’s second game was against GM Yury Shulman. GM Shulman was born in Minsk, Belarus, and moved to the USA in 1999. Since

that time, he has been one of the top American players with an outstanding performance at the 2001 World Open (tied first), and wins at the 2006 U.S. Open Championship and the 2008 U.S. Championship. He also is generous with his time in support of U.S. chess at all levels. Once again, the outcome of the game was to be found in the many human moves that were made by both sides.

Although the World Team played “human moves” 17. ... f4 and 25. ... Qf7! (neither was the computer’s first choice), the move that perhaps best illustrates the need for an overarching human strategy was played in this position:

Yury Shulman versus The World “Not a Care in the World”



After 35. h3

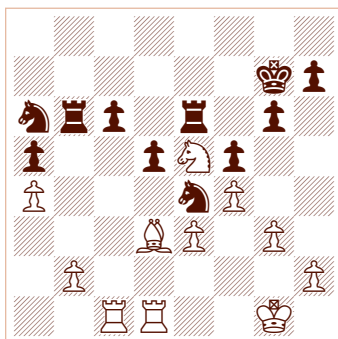
In this complicated position, the World played a move not even in the top ten computer candidates: **35. ... h6!** The move created a sort of *Zugzwang* (especially when followed by another non-computer move, 37. ... Kh8) which GM Shulman was not able to overcome. Shulman took his defeat with grace and humor, saying that “You really did show wonderful teamwork. When I heard about group forums ... I was shocked how serious my opposition is! ... I will be happy to answer your questions, if you do not mind advice from someone whom you beat so flawlessly.”

As GM Shulman noted, the World Team had an amazing ability to organize itself in order to best use the talents of all of its members. The development of a forum system for analyzing variations and distributing the work of the computer analysts, the willingness of those with chess engines to run analyses for those without such resources, and the ability of the World to merge human input with computer output all combined to make the team both effective and enjoyable.

The World had the white pieces again in its third game, this time against the 15th World Correspondence Chess Champion, GM Gert Jan Timmerman. The pressure of playing against a player of Timmerman’s reputation raised the inten-

sity level of the game and presented a challenge to the ability of the World to maintain its cohesiveness. Fortunately, a number of team members stepped up to keep the peace and all was well. Once again, it was a non-computer move by the World Team that allowed it to win the Exchange in this position:

The World versus Gert Jan Timmerman “Dead to the World”



After 30. ... Na6

White played **31. b4!** (echoes of 36. b4! in the game against GM Nickel), a fascinating gambit in which the pawn can be taken three ways, and yet Black is destined to lose the Exchange. After **31. ... Nxb4 32. Bxe4 fxe4 33. Nd7 Rb7 34. Nc5**, the World went on to win an interesting endgame. For those who have further interest in this game, Tryfon Gavriel (kingscrusher) has an excellent video analysis on YouTube at [youtube.com/watch?v=kXRV8AdQKCw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXRV8AdQKCw).

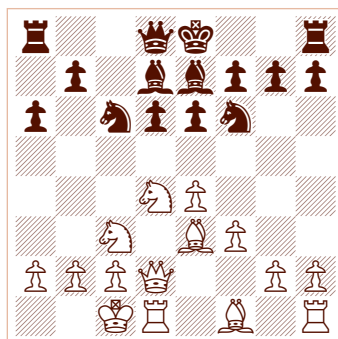
The World Team's fourth game was a rematch against GM Arno Nickel. This time, however, Nickel understood just how seriously he needed to take this game in order to win. Before the game, he wrote, "In my first game against the World Team I just tried to play interesting chess and expected the success might come sooner or later. Now I know, the World Team is excellently organized for deep analysis, especially when it comes to a battle of bits and bytes. Here we can say the World Team is a monster with 99 eyes: it will find everything hidden deep down in the ocean of variations. Time to change strategies! I will eagerly wait for the rematch and, with White, try to surprise the Chessgames World Team with a completely new approach."

If the World has an Achilles heel, it's the opening phase. Perhaps exploiting this vulnerability was the "new approach" that Nickel mentioned, and indeed, the World got off to a rough start in the opening of the rematch. The opening seems to be a consistent weakness because of the format of these games. This may be because com-

puters are of little or no value in opening analysis. It may also be because many people sign up for the game, vote for their favorite opening moves, and then disappear when the opening doesn't go as they wished. These circumstances conspire to make it very difficult for the World Team to sustain a coherent opening strategy.

In the Arno Nickel rematch, one key human move came early. In this position:

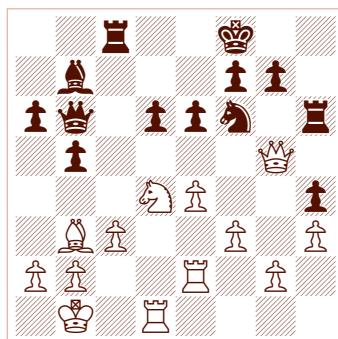
Arno Nickel versus The World “World Peace”



After 10. Be3

The Chessgames World Team's decision to mix things up with **10. ... h5!?** was wise given that GM Nickel hoped to avoid complications so as to keep the draw in hand. By move 22 or so, however, many on the World Team thought that the game was already lost. Fortunately, the World played another "human move" that proved critical in eventually securing the draw. In this position:

Arno Nickel versus The World “World Peace”



After 23. Bb3

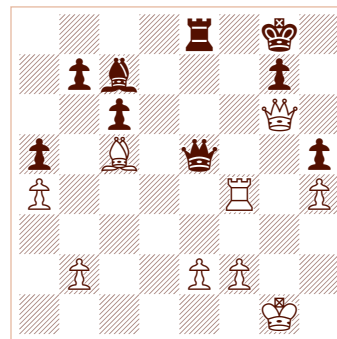
The Chessgames World Team offered to trade queens with **23. ... Qc5!** Nickel could not allow **24. Qxc5 dxc5** where the pawns would capture either a knight or a bishop. After the transition to an interesting queen, rook, and pawns ending, the World Team agreed to Nickel's offer of a draw accompanying his 42nd move. After the game, Nickel wrote "... I did not want to take any risks, because it would have been a very bad feeling to lose a second time to the

World Team. This situation may explain some of my moves—like h2-h3. ... I don't know if after that I really missed a win. You suddenly started to defend very accurately, and all my analysis ... led to either drawn or dubious positions."

The draw in the second game with GM Nickel was a wake-up call for many on the Chessgames World Team, as it signaled that the World was not invincible, especially to a strong CC grandmaster who was willing to take chances to win. This set the stage for the World's fifth game, played against the 13th World Correspondence Champion, Mikhail Umansky. In 1995, Umansky won the World Correspondence Championship, then in 2004 he scored clear first (leading by two whole points) in the ICCF 50 Years World Champion Jubilee, an invitational tournament that included all living former ICCF world champions. The World knew that it was in for an arduous battle.

The World Team had the black pieces against a man known as "one of the most creative players in the world, similar to Kasparov in CC," according to GM Tansel Turgut, one of the leaders in the 24th World Correspondence Championship. Umansky's creativity kept the team off balance as he played a number of non-engine moves, and the team did not keep pace. One member lamented, "we are doing less and less thinking on our own," as they increasingly relied upon the computers to just keep the position level. This was perhaps exacerbated by the scheduling, in which the tail end of the Nickel rematch and the opening of the Umansky game overlapped. The World was happy to accept Umansky's offer of a draw after his 36th move in this position:

Mikhail Umansky versus The World “It Takes All Kinds”



Final position

That happiness was short-lived. The chess community was shocked and saddened by the news that Umansky had passed away in December, 2010.

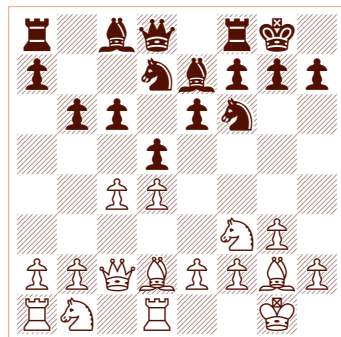
The World Team's sixth and most recent game was played against WGM Natalia Pogonina. Pogonina is not only among the top women playing chess today, she is

also a great promoter of chess around the world. This game got off to a rocky start over a disagreement between the World Team and Pogonina's husband/manager Peter Zhdanov, who saw no harm in being a member of the World Team while the game was in progress. This led to some harsh words being exchanged, including Zhdanov's calling the World Team "space-bar masters", a pejorative term that the World later adopted as a badge of honor. Happily, differences were reconciled and the game got underway on schedule.

After that initial controversy, this game presented even more challenges to the World Team. First, the system of analysis forums had been stretched beyond its limits during the Umansky game under the pressure of increasingly greater reliance on stronger and faster engines. One member commented that the serious contributors might be jeopardizing their marriages. Second, Pogonina's preference of a time control of one half-move per day undermined the World's main strength: its ability to organize itself. Finally, the World Team struggled to integrate an influx of new members into its ongoing structure. Fortunately, team member Jeremy Pflasterer developed customized online software to help, going far beyond the core features offered by the website itself. Although many versions of this idea had been proposed, Jeremy stepped up and made the idea work, with a product called the Online Analysis Tree. It is a Wikipedia-inspired website that anyone can edit by adding nodes and comments to an analysis tree. It has the potential to become a significant organizational tool for team play.

The game against Pogonina proved to be odd in many respects. On the 10th move, the votes for 10. Bf4 and 10. a4 were exactly tied, 164 to 164. Here was the position:

The World vs Natalia Pogonina "Flat Earth Society"

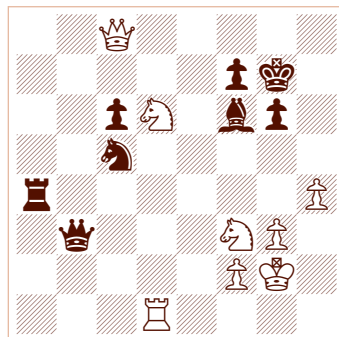


After 9. ... Nbd7

Thankfully the rules had foreseen this possibility: In the event of a tie vote, the software breaks the tie by selecting one of the moves at random. So the software

flipped a cyber-coin and played the standard book move 10. Bf4, not the computer-preferred move 10. a4. Many of the top analysts on the World Team regarded 10. a4 as the stronger move in that position, and suggested that this was exactly what lost White's opening advantage. Despite the level nature of the game, the World still managed to generate some excitement by playing 44. Nd6 to reach this position:

The World vs Natalia Pogonina "Flat Earth Society"



After 44. Nd6

Although the rook on d1 is unprotected, 44. ... Qxd1 was not the end of the World. Play continued 45. Ne8+ Kf8 46. Nxf6+ and Pogonina soon was compelled to return the material with 61. ... Rxf2+, forcing a draw. The World Team recognized the perpetual check and offered a draw on the next move.

The World Team is not composed entirely of diehards who devote hours each day to the game. To the contrary, there are many enthusiasts who follow the game less closely, and even those who don't believe that they have invested enough time to cast an informed vote. Nonetheless, even the non-voters identify with the World and root fervidly for its success. Member David Zechiel explained, "I'm sure there are many more like me who enjoy the battle, check in often, and take a small measure of pride when the World wins or draws. ... I always enjoy it when a member of the team throws out a new idea for consideration: if the move has potential, you can almost hear the gears grinding as computers all over the globe search out the position looking for hidden nuance in the new move." These non-voting members play much needed roles, such as educating the World Team about the etiquette of offering a draw, or summarizing the main ideas recently posted with flair and levity. When emotions run high, some members ratchet down the intensity by injecting some humor into the discussion. One member, OhioChessFan, created a huge number of song parodies during the Pogo-

nina game, like this spoof of The Who's "Pinball Wizard":

*Ever since I was a young boy
Hustling chess on the playground
From Soho down to Brighton
I was the best around
I ain't seen nothing like him
He's the best by far
That chess-playing-dumb kid
Sure clicks a mean spacebar.*

What is the future of computer-assisted chess? Many suspect that draws will abound as the computers get faster, the engines get stronger, and the human input becomes less important. There is another view, however, that is best expressed by ICCF GM Tansel Turgut. His approach is to sacrifice a pawn, or the Exchange, or both, for long-term positional advantages. He then presses those advantages to wins against those who follow computer engines that struggle to understand these positions. It will be difficult for a large team to vote against high-ply computer lines, but if Turgut is correct, this will be the only way to succeed against a strong GM who has a high level of positional understanding backed up by his or her own computer resources.

What lies next for the World Team? The latest GM to accept the challenge is Armenian-born grandmaster Varuzhan Akobian, now one of the strongest players in the USA with a USCF rating of 2705. The game is scheduled to begin on August 10, 2011, when Akobian makes his first move. Anybody can register for the game right now, for free, at Chessgames.com. With teammates like OhioChessFan, RandomVisitor, and you, the World is ready to face whatever challenges lie ahead. ■

Footnote / Acknowledgement:

This article could not have been written without the generous help of teammates like Marcelo Adaes, Larry Crawford, Mark Elzey, John Jerz, Benjamin Legaspi, Gerry McCarthy, Brian McLean, Jeremy Pflasterer, James Satrapa, Jim Schwar, Greg Sheehan, and Dave Zechiel. Special thanks go to Peter Spizzirri and Daniel Freeman for their support. This article is dedicated to the memory of the best teammate anyone could have: *Rinus*.

1. Game versus GM Nickel:
chessgames.com/1426491
2. Game versus GM Shulman
chessgames.com/1443541
3. Game versus GM Timmerman:
chessgames.com/1464744
4. Rematch versus GM Nickel
chessgames.com/1501785
5. Game versus GM Umansky
chessgames.com/1531174
6. Game versus WGM Natalia Pogonina
chessgames.com/1589895

Stephen Ham, ICGM

Our latest player to earn FIDE's top-title discusses the state of correspondence chess.

By FM Alex Dunne

THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAME FROM THE International Correspondence Chess Federation by e-mail on November 20, 2010. Stephen E. Ham has earned the title of Correspondence Grandmaster (GM). Stephen will receive his certificate and medal at the 2011 ICCF Congress to be held in Autumn. However, the title becomes effective immediately. Stephen achieved his two norms in the 50 Israeli Championship Jubilee and by winning the German BdF-Silber tournament a half point ahead of the field. In all he completed 27 games undefeated, winning eight and achieving a performance rating of 2638. He faced eight grandmasters, nine senior international masters and one international master.

Stephen graciously agreed to be interviewed for *Chess Life*.

Chess Life: How about an introduction to Stephen Ham? Raised? First introduction to chess? First introduction to postal chess? Who are your chess influences?

STEPHEN: I was born and raised in rural southeast Minnesota. My first exposure to

chess was around age six when I was taught by a cousin. I later taught the kids in my hometown but lacked strong opposition. After reading about "postal chess" in *Chess Life* magazine and later in Jack Straley Battell's column in *Chess Life and Review*, I began playing postal chess around age 15 (1969) with friends. My first "official" postal chess began with the 1970 Golden Knights sponsored by the USCF. I still keep all my old game scores, complete with original annotations, and sometimes play through them. Even by today's computer standards, my first game, a victory, was relatively well-played.

As for influences, I had many because I was a hero worshipper. In my first game, as black, I had no standard defense to 1. e4. So I looked at the combined games of Alekhine, Capablanca, and Keres from limited library books, and concluded that I should play the Modern Steinitz Defense against the Ruy Lopez! Today's databases would obviously not support my decision based upon far too few games. Being more active in the 60's, it was natural to hero worship the world champion, Tigran Petrosian.

Unfortunately, his skills and style of play were far beyond my understanding. But the greatest GM influence upon me was that of Boris Spassky, who vanquished Petrosian for the world championship. I thought his "universal style" seemed ideal. He attacked when that was the correct decision, and otherwise played technically or defended solidly when that seemed prudent. So I tried to copy his style and openings for awhile. This was largely a failure because he was Spassky and I was ... a relative beginner. And I lacked tactical skills, which taught me at an early age to focus upon my technical skills and the endgame.

The biggest change in CC lately has been e-mail and server and the (legal) use of chess engines at the international level. How has this affected your game?

I don't think chess engines have the same large influence upon my games as for most others. That's because my chess tends to be far more technical than tactical, with an emphasis upon long-range planning. So I normally win my games via

an accumulation of small advantages that get resolved in endgames. Chess engines remain relatively weak in endgames, while that's my strength.

For a strong player unfamiliar with international play, what is required?

I don't know if the international aspect changes anything. If one is a strong player, then one should just play to one's strengths. That said, it's always important to play the board and not the opponent. One should always attempt to play that which is deemed correct, regardless if that causes one to leave their primary skill sets.

Using a computer is more than just letting the engine choose a move. Can you elaborate? What are your guidelines?

I don't know how others use their chess engines. But, I tend to lead mine into positions that I want to investigate. After all, chess engines will examine all moves that are not pruned away by software heuristics. But humans know which lines are worthy of exploration and which are not. In some tactically rich positions I allow the engine to guide me because it's a far superior tactician. But I still am dubious of the engine's evaluations and instead only use my own. But in other positions, it's sometimes best not to use the engine at all, other than to blunder check. That's because some positions are too difficult for chess engines to add value in. For example, closed positions with hypermodern strategies (e.g. Classical King's Indians) often cause engines to play weakly. And their evaluations, which always favor White, are unreliable and incorrect.

That said, top-level correspondence chess is not about who has the best computer hardware/software. If that were true, then the man with the biggest, baddest machine(s) would dominate. But many chess engine fanatics with the fastest octal hardware and best programs fare poorly in serious correspondence chess. Most of my games in the past were played on a slow, old computer.

Are there any (competent) internationalists left who do not use a computer to generate moves?

If there are, I don't know of them. That said, I think that most strong players know from experience when to use their engine(s) and when to use it less, if at all. One of the best ways to understand engine strengths and weaknesses is to play engine matches and tournaments at very long time controls. For example, I play mine at 30 moves in 3½ hours, repeating. Unfortunately, many days are required before the competition ends. But if one is already a strong human player, one can examine the output of



Stephen Ham with his wife Tao in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China.

the various engines in postmortem analysis (with engine assistance) to see where engine evaluations are correct and when they're clueless. That said, there are many relatively simple endgame positions that engines, even with endgame tablebases, claim are wins when the reality is they are forced draws. So, one can learn that engine X is relatively strong in specific positions while engine Y seems better in others. And one can see when they're

weak and when their evaluations are accurate or not. This can be helpful when entering those types of positions in correspondence chess.

Is there any popular over-the-board (OTB) opening that is bad at correspondence? Conversely, are there any openings bad at OTB play that are quite playable at CC?

I have some very strong opinions on openings that are basically flawed but would

rather keep them to myself! That said, many more openings have practical chances in OTB chess due to the greater number of variables, such as the clock, fatigue, preparation, tournament position, and the psychological element of surprise. But psychology plays very little role in correspondence chess. Instead, objectively superior chess is the sole driver for better results in correspondence chess. So the primary focus is upon finding correct/best play.

I am sure you have heard this many times: there are a number of writers who opine that correspondence chess is dead or dying. What is your opinion on this?

It's sad to admit this, but I think this is correct for top-level correspondence chess. After all, proverbial best play in chess results in a draw. And since correspondence chess is played at a higher level than OTB chess, then it approaches the theoretical best play scenario and thus results in more draws. Nonetheless, wins are still possible there, although they're less common than in top-level OTB tournaments.

In the same vein, CC has a poor reputation among OTB players. Many masters look down on CC masters and even CC grandmasters. What is your reply to them?

I think their originally negative attitudes are changing for the better presently. After all, top OTB chess players now prepare their openings with computer assistance and study opponent's games

with them as well. So, they are becoming more like us. But in the late '90s I received many negative comments from OTB players. Today, many OTB GMs seek out correspondence chess games and players for input. I won't mention any names, but I've had some positive experiences sharing ideas and analysis with GMs. And it was well publicized that GM Topalov had a correspondence chess player on his team of seconds in his match with GM Anand.

Do you have a favorite Ham game you could share with us? And also—do you have a favorite game by another CC player? Are there any CC players whose play you admire?

I do have a favorite game. It is one I annotated for the public in *Chess Today* e-zine. It's Ham-Weber, 28th World Championship 2008-9. It's a typical Ham game whereby small advantages are accumulated until the victory is resolved on the endgame. Here is that game, with my notes.

Exchange Gruenfeld (D85)

Stephen Ham (2535)

Jean Weber (2600)

28th World Championship, 2008

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5. e4 Nxc3 6. bxc3 Bg7 7. Nf3 c5 8. Rb1 0-0 9. Be2 b6 10. 0-0 Bb7 11. Qd3 e6 12. Bg5 Qc7 13. Qe3 Nd7 14. e5 Rae8 15. Bb5 Bc6 16. a4

Ham keeps the tension, improving on Bennborn-Weber, 28th World Champi-

onship 16. Bxc6 Qxc6 17. Bh6 Bxh6 18. Qxh6 f6 drawn in 37.

16. ... Bxb5?!

This exchange transforming White's potentially weak a-pawn into one that dominates Black's a- and b-pawns has to be suspect. Two other choices here have been 16. ... a6 17. Bxa6 Bxa4 leading to typically quick draws Wojtaszek-Cheparinov, Budva 2009 and the more ambitious 16. ... Qb7 as in Saute-Kermer, Veterans World Cup 2008.

17. axb5 f6 18. Bf4 cxd4 19. cxd4 fxe5 20. Bxe5

After 20. dxe5, it is White's bishop that is bad with increased drawing chances to Black.

20. ... Nxe5 21. dxe5

This is the position White was aiming for after 16. ... Bxb5. Black's queenside play is minimal and White's e5-pawn is strong and cramps Black's kingside. Black also has to worry about the possibility of White's doubling rooks on the a-file so the rooks will soon come off.

21. ... Rd8 22. Rbc1 Qe7 23. Qe2 Rd5 24. Rfd1 Rfd8 25. h4 Rxd1+ 26. Rxd1 Rxd1+ 27. Qxd1 h6

If Black seeks activity, a long-winded possibility is 27. ... Qc5 28. Qd8+ Bf8 29. Qe8 Qc1+ 30. Kh2 Qf4+ 31. Kh3 Qf5+ 32. Kg3 h5 33. Qc6 Qg4+ 34. Kh2 Qf4+ 35. Kg1 Qf5 36. Ng5 Qxe5 37. Qd7 Qg7 38. Qxe6+ Kh8 39. Qe8 Kg8 40. Kh2 Qf6

Numbers One To Eleven

It has been over forty years since the United States gained its first international correspondence chess grandmaster. Hans Berliner achieved that title in 1968. After winning three Golden Knights championships (1955, 1956, 1959) with perfect 18-0 scores, he went on to win the Fifth World Championship by the largest margin ever, ceding only four draws along the way. It took 15 more years before another grandmaster came our way. Victor Palciauskas earned that title in 1983. Victor tied for first in the Second North American Correspondence Chess Championship with an outstanding 12½-1½ score. Victor then moved on to win the Tenth World Championship, cementing the title in 1984. Alik Zilberberg became our third grandmaster eleven years after Victor in 1994. Alik finished second in the Eighth USSR Postal Championship and in 1979 emigrated to the United States.

The home-grown grandmasters were ushered in with the arrival of Joseph DeMauro in 1997. Joe finished second in the Horowitz Invitational and played first board for the U.S. team that qualified for the 13th Olympiad finals. The year 2004 brought in two U.S. grandmasters, Robin Smith, whose book *Modern Chess Analysis* was a ground-breaking study of the use of chess engines in international correspondence chess

play, and John Timm, who tied for first in the 1986 Golden Knights and earned his grandmaster title in the XIX World Championships and the Veinger Memorial. In 2007 Jason Bokar earned his title playing first board for the U.S. in the 17th Olympiad, a shared first place in the Cecil Purdy Jubilee Tournament B, and at the time of this writing stands, undefeated, in third place in the 24th World Championship. Daniel Fleetwood brought the title home in 2008. Daniel won the 1993 Absolute Championship and earned a grandmaster (GM) norm as third board in the 14th Olympiad and first board in the 15th. In 2009 the title was awarded to Edward Duliba who has been a dominant force in recent domestic play as well as in the international arena. Domestically Duliba has completed the Grand Slam of U.S. correspondence chess play—first place in the USCF Absolute, the Golden Knights, and the ICCF/U.S. United States Championship. Number 10, GM Jon Ostriker, came in 2010. Jon scored above the GM norm in both the 23rd World Championship Candidates and the 23rd World Championship final where he finished with an undefeated +4 and a tie for third place.

And now into this pantheon of distinguished American grandmasters comes #11—GM Stephen Ham.

41. Kg3 Qc3+ 42. f3 Qc7+ 43. Kh3 Qg7 44. Ne6 Qf7 45. Qxf8+ Qxf8 46. Nxf8 Kxf8 47. Kg3 Ke7 48. Kf4 Kf6 49. g4 and White wins the ending.

28. Qd3 Qf7 29. Qd8+ Kh7 30. Qd1 Qf5 31. Qe2 g5

After this, Black is probably lost. The strategic consideration was summed up by Botvinnik: one weakness you can defend, two no. Now g5 and e6 (and maybe even a7) become targets. In the maneuvering against these squares, the computer is especially strong.

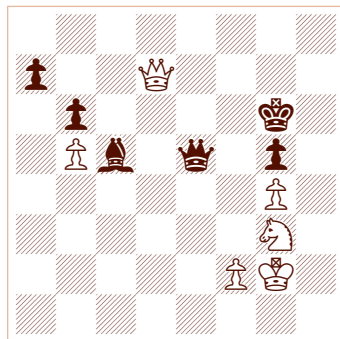
32. hxg5 hxg5 33. g3 Bh8

Black sees a ghost and abandons his plan of ... g4 and ... Bxe5. White would still have good chances against this line, but at least the bishop would gain some scope.

34. Kg2 Kg6 35. Qc4 Bxe5 36. g4 Qf4 37. Qxe6+ Bf6 38. Nh2 Qe5 39. Qg8+ Kh6 40. Qc4 Qc5 41. Qf7 Qd4 42. Qe6 Qe5 43. Qf5 Bh8

It's a fundamental endgame win after 43. ... Qxf5 44. gxf5 g4 45. Nxxg4+ Kg5 46. Nxf6 Kxf6 47. Kg3 Kxf5 48. Kf3.

44. Qf8+ Bg7 45. Qf7 Kh7 46. Qd7 Kg8 47. Qd3 Kf7 48. Nf1 Bf8 49. Qd7+ Kg6 50. Ng3 Bc5



After 50. ... Bc5

Black has defended well to place his pieces on active squares, but the white king is safe and the black king exposed.

51. Qd3+ Kg7 52. Qb3 Kf6 53. Qf3+ Kg6 54. Qc6+ Kf7 55. Qb7+ Kg6 56. Qf3 Be7 57. Nf5 Bc5 58. Qc6+ Kf7 59. Qd7+ Kg6 60. Ng3 Bd4 61. Qc6+ Kf7 62. Qe4 Bb2 63. Qf3+ Ke6 64. Qc6+ Kf7 65. Nf5 Ba3 66. Qd7+ Kg6 67. Qd3 Bb2 68. Qc2 Kf6 69. Qd2 Ke6

Black has to abandon the g-pawn. After 69. ... Kg6 (69. ... Qe4+ 70. f3 Qe5 71. Qd8+ is no better) the b-pawn shines after 70. Qd3 Bc1 71. Ng3+ Kh6 72. Qc4 Bf4 73. Nf5+ Kg6 74. Qg8+ Kf6 75. Qg7+ Ke6 76. Qg6+ Kd5 77. Qc6 mate.

70. Qxg5 Qe4+ 71. Kh2 Be5+ 72. Ng3 Qf3 73. Kg1 Kd5

Black can't draw after 73. ... Bxg3 74. Qf5+ Qxf5 75. gxf5+ Kxf5 76. fxg3 Kg4 77. Kg2 and White will march the g-pawn up the board, stalemate the black king which will force the a-pawn to move and then the b-pawn graduates with bxa6, a7 and a8=Q mate.

74. Kf1 Qd1+ 75. Kg2 Qd3 76. Qh5 Kd6 77. Qe8 Qd5+ 78. f3 Kc5 79. Ne4+ Kd4 80. g5 Ke3 81. Kh3 Kxf3 82. Nf6 Qd3

After 82. ... Bxf6 83. Qc6! is the end.

83. Kh4 Bd4 84. Qe6 Kf2 85. Qe4 Qg3+ 86. Kh5, Black resigned.

An outstanding game by America's newest international correspondence GM.

Although I am friendly with many other top-rated players, I don't have a favorite game of theirs. As for a favorite player, GM Ron Langeveld, presently the #2 rated player at 2699, was a Champions League teammate of mine and gave me a lot of friendly advice. We still keep in touch and share ideas.

The grandmaster title—fantastic! And of course the inevitable question—what next?

I don't have any concrete plans other than to play my best. I just started a Category 13 and a Category 14 tournament, resulting in 25 more games against top-level opponents. Nonetheless, I already have several favorable positions and no inferior positions.

Finally—are there any CC secrets that you can share with your reading audience?

This is perhaps the toughest question. But what works for me is to:

- 1) Play the board. Remain objective.
- 2) Play what analysis indicates is best, regardless of risk or the nature of the resulting position.
- 3) Don't rush the moves. Don't move until convinced that the selected move is best. There are no extra points for playing quickly.
- 4) Don't be afraid of the result. Instead, find the best plans and play the best possible moves. The result will sort itself out.
- 5) Don't be influenced by the computer. It's common for my moves to not be top computer selections while my personal evaluations are always trusted over engine evaluations.

We leave you with one final Stephen Ham game. He has finished undefeated in second place in the 2009 Israeli Jubilee tournament. Here we see a model of White defensive play on the kingside in the King's Indian Defense.

King's Indian Defense (KID), Classical Main Line (E99)

Stephen Ham (2535)

C. Cruzado Dueñas (2576)

50 Israeli championship – Jubilee 2009

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 0-0 6. Be2 e5 7. 0-0 Nc6 8. d5 Ne7 9. Ne1

Many players have been avoiding the 9. b4 Bayonet attack lately in favor of the balanced 9. Ne1 with b4 to follow later.

9. ... Nd7 10. Be3 f5 11. f3 f4 12. Bf2 g5 13. Rc1 Rf6

Two major shifts in the playing of either side of the KID occur here. 13. a4 had been the most popular move scoring the highest percentage and 13. ... Ng6 is now the most popular choice for Black. Nevertheless Cruzado's choice has been scoring well lately.

14. Nd3 b6 15. b4 Rh6 16. c5 Qe8 17. Be1

This might be entitled "the mysterious bishop move" as the depth of White's defensive setup does not become clear for some moves. White vacates f2 for the d3-knight which will then guard the sensitive h3 and g4 squares. Black's next is designed to throw all his army at the white king. It fails, but only because of Ham's tactical alertness.

17. ... Nxc5!?

It's not the easiest choice just to find punctuation marks for this move. The "!" is for its bravery; the "?" is for its result.

18. bxc5 Qh5 19. h4! bxc5 20. Qa4

White has some problems to solve. His queenside action has been stymied by 17. ... Nxc5!? and the kingside is no place for White to pick a fight. His extra piece (for two pawns) is healthy but not doing much for the moment. Ham activates his queen in anticipation of the fight to come.

20. ... gxh4 21. Kh2!

The weak spot in White's position is the g2-square. Ham's king move allows him to protect the square twice more after Rg1 and Bf1. After these defensive moves White is ready to go on the counterattack.

21. ... Bf6 22. Rg1 Rg6 23. Qe8+ Kg7 24. Bf1 Rb8 25. Ne2 Ng8 26. Nf2 Be7 27. Rc3 Kh8 28. Kh1 h3 29. g4 fxg3 e.p. 30. Nxxg3 Qg5

Black keeps attacking but he is running out of threats.

31. Ne2 Qh5 32. Rxxg6 hxg6 33. Ng3 Qh4 34. Kh2 Rb1 35. Nd3 Ba6 36. Nf5 Qh7 37. Nxe5 gxf5 38. Ng6+, Black resigned. ■

See more correspondence chess features on pages 28 and 32. Also see Alex Dunne's monthly column, "The Check is in the Mail," on uschess.org.

Metropolitan Chess: The Club of the Year

By IM Jack Peters

A club in Los Angeles quickly earns national recognition through its innovative strategies.

Occasionally you will hear of a sensational young player who seemingly comes out of nowhere to capture the attention of the chess world. The past few months in Los Angeles have revealed a rare variation of this phenomenon, a club that has suddenly earned national recognition. Since November, Metropolitan Chess has run four international title tournaments, with plans for many more.

The club was formed last summer when Michael Belcher and Ron Morris joined

forces. Each played at local clubs and felt that downtown Los Angeles could support a new club. Belcher had experience as an organizer, running neighborhood chess events in nearby Boyle Heights at age 10 and scholastic tournaments while in high school. He also provided the site—the California Market Center, a huge 13-story building that occupies an entire block of the downtown fashion district. Belcher had worked there for six years, the last two as a supervisor of security. In a

unique arrangement, he received permission to use large rooms on evenings and weekends when most of the businesses in the building were closed.

Los Angeles is a decentralized city with a downtown area far less exciting than that of most large cities. Hundreds of thousands of people work in the city's core, drive home in rush hour, and never dream of returning in the evening. Much of downtown is deserted after dark. Not surprisingly, downtown chess clubs have

Ankit Gupta, "Chess Organizer of the Year," of the Metropolitan Chess Club, the "Chess Club of the Year."



PHOTO: CHRIS ROBERTS

struggled, rarely surviving more than a couple of years.

Metropolitan Chess opened its doors in August, offering a place for casual chess or blitz five days per week. Unfortunately, few players seized the opportunity. The club's first rated tournament, in October, attracted only 15 players. Disappointed by the poor turnout, Morris left the club.

The turnaround began when Ankit Gupta teamed up with Belcher and changed the club's direction. Instead of starting slowly and gradually expanding, as clubs traditionally do, their club would run splashy international tournaments for immediate publicity and add amateur events later. The novel strategy worked. Metropolitan Chess has been named "Club of the Year," and Gupta is "Organizer of the Year."

Gupta hardly fits the profile of most successful organizers. He grew up in northern California and followed a typical progression for talented players—an 800 rating in kindergarten, Class B in eighth grade, a share of second place in the 2002 K-8 nationals, and an expert rating in high school. Then he went to UCLA and gave up chess for four years.

After college, he returned to chess in July

2009 with his high-school-era rating of 2092. In the next 16 months, he gained 250 rating points and earned an invitation to the 2010 Southern California Championship, where he finished a creditable fourth. Gupta credits online lessons with GM Ronen Har-Zvi for his rapid improvement.

One might guess that Gupta decided to run international tournaments to advance his playing career, but he maintains that was not his motivation. For one thing, it's too difficult to play and organize at the same time. Gupta tried doing both in the first Metropolitan Invitational in November, but not again.

Instead, he says he was inspired to volunteer by John Donaldson's *Chess Life Online* article that pleaded for more American round robins and by the desperate state of southern California chess after the September death of John Hillery, who ran most of the weekend tournaments. Gupta believed that he could apply his marketing skills, developed from working for his family's companies in the semiconductor field, for the benefit of chess.

He was right. In mere months, he has forged sponsorship deals with several companies and established a good working relationship with the popular website

chess.com. He recruited veteran director Randy Hough to serve as tournament director while Belcher gains experience as an assistant tournament director. Most important to chess fans, he offered many local players a chance to compete in high-level round robins.

In April, the club announced its first fees for membership—\$100 per year for adults, \$60 for students and seniors. Among the benefits of membership are annotations of a member's games by masters, a fresh idea that makes the price a bargain.

The team can laugh about it now, but their first round robin was nearly derailed when, 20 minutes before the start of the first round, one of the invitees with a precious foreign affiliation decided not to play. Luckily, local master Garush Manukyan, who learned chess in Armenia and retains his Armenian affiliation, filled in scoring 5-4 without the slightest preparation.

The tournament looked like a runaway for Zhanibek Amanov, a 22-year-old international master (IM) from Kazakhstan who notched six wins and a draw in his first seven games. Amanov has good positional sense and the inexplicable magic that leads to quick wins, like the following game.

French Defense, Tarrasch Variation (C07)

IM Zhanibek Amanov (2399)
Konstantin Kavutskiy (2241)
1st Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 11/14/2010

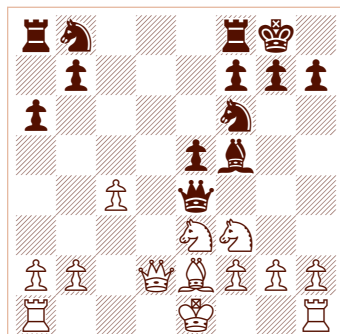
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 c5 4. Ngf3 cxd4 5. Nxd4 Nf6 6. exd5 Qxd5

A safe variation of the Tarrasch French. White has the customary minimal edge.

7. N2f3 a6 8. c4 Qe4+ 9. Be2 Bb4+ 10. Bd2 Bxd2+ 11. Qxd2 e5 12. Nc2 Bf5?!

Simply 12. ... 0-0 equalizes.

13. Ne3 0-0?



After 13. ... 0-0

Black senses no danger. Although 13. ... Bg6 14. Qd6 is uncomfortable, Black can hold White to a small advantage with 13. ... Nc6 14. Qd6 Rd8.

14. Qc3! Ng4?

This costs a piece. Black had to yield a pawn by 14. ... Bg6 or 14. ... Bg4. The latter might lead to 15. Bd3 Qf4 16. Qxe5 Qxe5 17. Nxe5 Re8 18. N5xg4 Nxg4 19. 0-0 Nxe3 20. Rae1 Nc6 21. Rxe3, when White has good chances to win.

15. Ng5! Qc6

The problem with 15. ... Qf4 is that 16. Nh3 Qe4 17. Bf3 Qd3 18. Qxd3 Bxd3 19. Bxg4 safely snatches a piece.

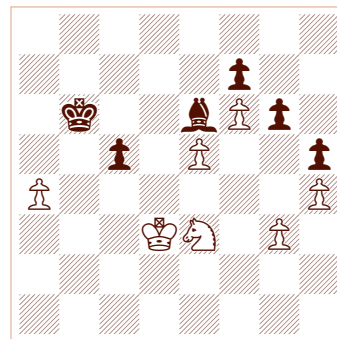
16. Nxf5 Qf6 17. Bxg4 Qxg5 18. Bh3, Black resigned.

The heavy favorite, state champion Enrico Sevillano, managed only 2½-1½ before showing his best form. He still trailed Amanov by a point after this seventh-round victory over hard-to-beat Alexander Kretchetov.

(see next game top of next column)

The favorite

IM Enrico Sevillano (2558)
Alexander Kretchetov (2353)
1st Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 11/20/2010



After 54. ... Kb6

It's not immediately obvious how White can capitalize on his extra pawn. Sevillano solves the problem elegantly by maneuvering his knight to the critical square—g7!

55. Nc4+ Kc6 56. Kc3 Kb7 57. Nd6+ Kc6 58. a5 Bd5 59. Ne8 Kd7 60. Ng7 Kd8 61. a6

The bishop must watch the a-pawn. White plans to create a second passed pawn by advancing e5-e6. Black cannot cope with the separated passers.

61. ... Kd7 62. a7 Kd8 63. e6! fxe6 64. Nxe6+ Kd7

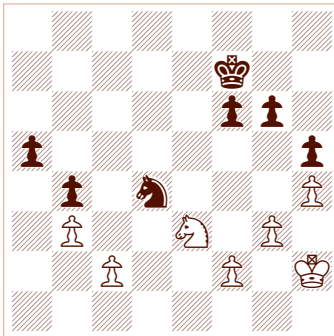
As 64. ... Ke8 loses the bishop to 65. Nc7+.

65. f7, Black resigned.

This ending served as a warmup for the final round, where Sevillano had to win his fifth consecutive game to overtake Amanov.

Five in a row

IM Zhanibek Amanov (2399)
IM Enrico Sevillano (2558)
1st Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 11/21/2010



After 39. ... Kxf7

Knight endings are notoriously difficult, and this one taxes the ability of both players.

40. Kg2 g5 41. f3

A natural response, and sufficient to draw. But the computer suggests the sharp 41. g4! hxg4 42. hxg5 f5 43. Kg3. Neither 43. ... Ne2+ 44. Kh4 Kg6 45. Nc4 Nd4 46. Ne5+ Kg7 47. Nc4 nor 43. ... Kg6 44. Kf4 Ne2+ 45. Ke5 g3 46. fxg3 Nxg3 47. Kf4 Ne2+ 48. Kf3 Nd4+ 49. Kf4 makes progress for Black.

41. ... Ke7 42. Kf2 Ke6

Black sets a trap by spending an extra move to bring his king to e6.

43. Kg2??

And White falls into it! The easiest route to a draw is 43. hxg5 fxg5 44. f4 gxf4 45. gxf4 Kf6 (or 45. ... Nf5 46. Nc4) 46. Kg2 Kg6 47. Kf2 h4 48. Kg2 Nf5 49. Nc4 Kh5 50. Kh3, when Black cannot exploit his outside passed pawn.

43. ... gxf4 44. gxf4

White cannot escape by 44. g4 hxg4 45. fxg4 f5! 46. gxf5+ Nxf5 47. Nc4 because 47. ... Kd5 48. Kh3 Nd6! 49. Nxa5 Kc5 traps White's knight.

44. ... Nf5

Offering a trade that White cannot accept: 45. Nxf5 Kxf5 46. Kf1 Kf4 47. Kf2 f5 48. Ke2 Kg3 49. Ke3 Kxh4 50. Kf4 Kh3 51. Kxf5 h4 52. Kg5 Kg3, and Black will promote the h-pawn.

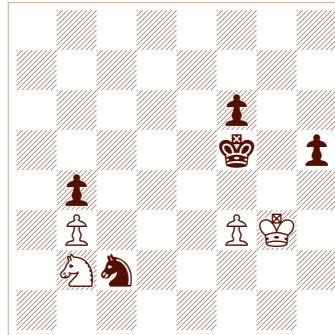
45. Nc4 Nxh4+ 46. Kf2 Nf5 47. Nxa5 Nd4?

Now Black slips. His knight at f5 and passed h-pawn limit White's king, so Black can invade on the queenside by 47. ... Kd5! 48. Nc4 Kd4.

48. Kg3 Kf5 49. Nc4?

It's doubtful if Black can force a win after 49. Nb7! Nxc2 50. Nc5.

49. ... Nxc2 50. Nb2



After 50. Nb2

Now White sets a trap. The immediate 50. Kh4 doesn't work because of 50. ... Kf4 51. Kxh5 Kxf3 52. Kg6 f5!, counting on 53. Kxf5 Ne3+.

50. ... h4+?

And Black falls into it! Nobody can handle a tricky ending at 30 seconds per move.

Black could win with 50. ... Ke5 51. Nd3+ Kd4 52. Nxb4 Nxb4 53. Kh4 Ke3 54. Kxh5 f5! 55. Kg5 f4, preserving his last pawn. Or, if 52. Nf4 f5 53. Kh4 Kc3 54. Kxh5 Kxb3 55. Nd5 Ka3 56. Kg5 b3 57. Kxf5 b2 58. Nc3, Black wins by chasing White's knight: 58. ... Kb3 59. Nb1 Na3 60. Nd2+ Kc2.

51. Kxh4 Kf4 52. Kh5 f5

Also 52. ... Kxf3 53. Kg6 should draw.

53. Kg6 Ne1 54. Kf6 Nxf3 55. Nd3+ Ke4 56. Nxb4 Nd4 57. Kg5 f4

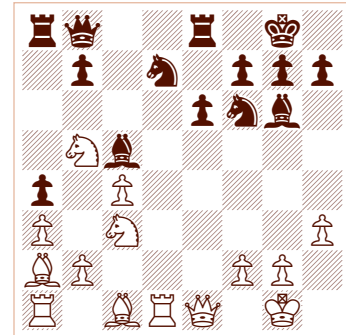
First place is within reach. If White finds 58. Kg4 Nxb3 59. Nd3! f3 60. Kg3, or 58. Kg4 f3 59. Kg3 Ke3 60. Nd5+ Ke2 61. Nf4+ Ke1 62. Nh3, he will secure the decisive half-point.

58. Nd3?? Ne6+!, White resigned.

The second invitational honored Jimmy Quon, a popular chess teacher who passed away in June. With the requisite three grandmasters (GMs) and an average rating of 2420, the event offered both GM and international master norms. No title seeker came close, though. Nor was there much excitement in the race for first place, as GM Mark Paragua won his first six games and coasted to victory. Paragua, the top Filipino until teenager Wesley So emerged, displayed his attacking skill against Amanov.

The race to first

IM Zhanibek Amanov (2399)
GM Mark Paragua (2646)
Jimmy Quon Memorial
Los Angeles, 1/21/2011



After 25. h3

White needs just one move (Bc1-e3) to solidify his position, but Black strikes first.

25. ... Bh5! 26. Rd2?!

Very undesirable, as White's queen-side pieces are shut out of action. Nor does 26. Rd3 Ne5 27. Rg3 help, as 27. ... Nf3+! lets Black's queen enter at g3. White must wreck his pawn structure by 26. Ne2 Ne4 27. Be3 Bxe3 28. fxe3, although he obtains no compensating activity.

26. ... Ne5 27. Ne4

White can avoid a kingside attack by 27. Nd4 Rd8 28. Ncb5, blocking the a7-g1 diagonal. However, 28. ... Bb6 29. Kh1 Ba5 30. Nc3 Bg6 leaves him vulnerable at d3 and still undeveloped.

27. ... Nxe4 28. Qxe4 Nf3+! 29. gxf3 Qg3+ 30. Kf1 Qxh3+ 31. Ke2 Qg2

Also crushing is 31. ... Qh2 32. Nd4 Rad8.

32. Qh4 Bxf3+ 33. Kd3 Rad8+ 34. Kc3 Rxd2 35. Bxd2 Bxf2 36. Qg5 Bg4!

An unusual but very effective attacking move. Black threatens to check the king on the third rank or to trap White's queen by 37. ... f6 38. Qf4 e5.

37. Bb1

Against 37. Qe5, most persuasive is another retreat, 37. ... Bh4. Or, if 37. Re1 f6 38. Qf4 Rd8 39. Qe4 Qh3+, White must yield material.

37. ... Qh3+ 38. Bd3 Bf5, White resigned.

Alessandro Steinfl scored only two points, but his two wins were among the tournament's best games. The first features a sacrificial attack.

Scandinavian Defense (B01)

Robby Adamson (2402)
Alessandro Steinfl (2272)
Jimmy Quon Memorial
Los Angeles, 1/20/2011

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Bf5

A moderately fashionable line of the Center Counter.

6. Bd2 c6 7. Bc4 e6 8. Nd5 Qd8 9. Nxf6+ gxf6

Another choice is 9. ... Qxf6 10. Qe2 Bg4.

10. Bb3 Nd7 11. Qe2 Qc7 12. 0-0-0 0-0-0 13. Nh4

White has the better pawn structure but Black can find good squares for all of his pieces. White's overall advantage is small.

13. ... Bg6 14. g3 Kb8 15. Ng2

Dreaming of 16. Nf4 and 17. h4, but Black won't let this happen. Possibly 15. Kb1 or 15. Rhe1 improves because Black would be reluctant to advance ... e6-e5 if White's knight still observed f5 and g6.

15. ... e5! 16. dxe5

A good decision, although it straightens out Black's pawns. The superficially attractive 16. Bc3 exd4 17. Bxd4 would not worry Black. After 17. ... Bb4, he would get his rook to e8, with adequate counterplay.

16. ... fxe5 17. Rhe1 f6 18. f4!

Maintaining pressure on Black's pawns.

18. ... Bd6 19. fxe5 Bxe5 20. Be3 Rhe8 21. Qf2

White has played well to retain an edge. This was a good moment to safeguard the king by 21. Kb1.

21. ... c5 22. Bc4?

Natural, but faulty. White must have overlooked Black's startling reply. The critical variation is 22. Nf4 c4 23. Bxa7+ Kc8 24. Ba4 Qa5, provoking mass exchanges and a probable draw.

22. ... b5!

Black foresees that 23. Bxb5? Qb7 would cost White material after 24. a4 (worse is 24. c4? Qe4) a6 25. Rxd7 Rxd7 26. Bxd7 Bxb2+! 27. Kd2 Qxd7+ 28. Ke2 Qxa4.

23. Bd3 Qa5 24. Bxg6

Correct. The "safer" 24. Kb1? actually loses quickly to 24. ... Bf7 25. a3 b4.

24. ... Qxa2! 25. Bxe8?

White must continue cold-bloodedly with 25. Bxh7 Qxb2+ 26. Kd2 Nf8+ 27. Ke2 Nxh7 28. Kf1. Black's initiative has ended and he cannot easily keep his extra pawn.

25. ... Bxb2+ 26. Kd2 Ne5+ 27. Ke2 Qc4+ 28. Rd3 Rxd3 29. Kf1?!

Even the best defense, 29. Bxb5 Qxb5 30. Qf1, won't save White, as 30. ... Rc3+ picks up a second pawn.

29. ... Rxe3+ 30. Re2

Black dispatches 30. Kg1 brutally by 30. ... Rxe1+ 31. Qxe1 Nf3+, or 31. Nxe1 Bd4.

30. ... Rf3, White resigned.

Steinfl also won a brawl against a future star, Daniel Naroditsky.

King's Indian Defense, Four Pawns Attack (E76)

*Alessandro Steinfl (2272)
IM Daniel Naroditsky (2494)
Jimmy Quon Memorial
Los Angeles, 1/23/2011*

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f4 0-0 6. Nf3 Na6

An ironic choice, as Steinfl often develops his knight to a6 when he plays the black side of the King's Indian.

7. Bd3 e5 8. fxe5 dxe5 9. d5 Qe7 10. 0-0 Nc5 11. Bc2 a5 12. Qe1 Nh5

Black wants to counterattack with ... f7-f5. Perhaps 12. ... b6 improves by keeping the option of ... Nf6-g4 and inducing h2-h3.

13. Be3 b6 14. Rd1 Bg4 15. Nb5 f5?

Both aggressive and consistent, yet White will demonstrate a refutation. Black should hold White to a small advantage with the more patient 15. ... Rad8 16. h3 Bc8.

16. exf5 e4

If 16. ... gxf5, simply 17. d6 cxd5 18. Rxd6 recovers the initiative.

17. d6! cxd6 18. Bxc5 dxc5 19. Qxe4 Qxe4 20. Bxe4 Rae8 21. Bd5+ Kh8

White could preserve his extra pawn with 22. fxc6, but he imaginatively strives for more.

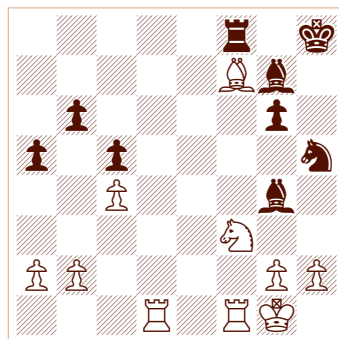
22. Nd6 Re7 23. fxc6 hxc6

Useless is 23. ... Bxb2 24. Rb1 Re2, as 25. Nf7+ Kg7 26. gxh7 Kxh7 27. Rf2 gains more material.

24. Nf7+! Rxf7

Not 24. ... Kh7? 25. N3g5+ Kg8 26. Ne5+ Kh8 27. Nxc6 mate.

25. Bxf7



After 25. Bxf7

Foreseeing 25. ... Rxf7 26. Rd8+ Rf8 (worse is 26. ... Bf8? 27. Ne5, when both

black bishops hang) 27. Rxf8+ Bxf8 28. Ne5 Bf5 29. Nxc6+ Bxc6 30. Rxf8+ Kg7 31. Rb8, with an easily won endgame.

25. ... Nf4 26. Bd5 Bxb2 27. Rb1 Bd4+ 28. Nxd4 cxd4 29. g3

Not fearing 29. ... d3? because 30. gxf4 d2 31. Bf3 stops the pawn.

29. ... Ne2+ 30. Kg2 Rd8 31. Rxb6 Bf5

Black has no good answer to 31. ... d3 32. Rxc6, as 32. ... Bh5? would allow 33. Rh6+.

32. Rd1 d3 33. Rd2 Nc3 34. Bf3 a4 35. g4 Be4 36. c5 Rd4 37. c6 Bd5 37. c7, Black resigned.

Gupta wants Metropolitan Chess to serve a mass of players, and therefore he invited several newcomers to the third Metro Invitational. In addition, he began the policy of running a concurrent qualifying tournament, open to all. Vadim Kudryavtsev won the first qualifier and earned a spot in the fourth invitational.

Jacek Stopa of Poland took first prize in the main event with an undefeated score of 7-2. Stopa is a versatile player, adept at all chess skills except keeping a legible scoresheet. Here he trounces the youngest norm-seeker.

Sicilian Defense, Maroczy Bind (B39)

*IM Jacek Stopa (2535)
Kayden Troff (2354)
3rd Metropolitan Chess Invitational
Los Angeles, 2/27/2011*

1. Nf3 c5 2. c4 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. e4

By transposition, the players have reached a position usually arising from the Sicilian Defense.

5. ... Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 7. Nc3 Ng4

A standard method of trading knights without giving White control of d4.

8. Qxc4 Nxd4 9. Qd1 Ne6 10. Rc1 Qa5

Other moves permit 11. b4, denying Black's knight a post at c5.

11. Bd3 b6 12. 0-0 Bb7 13. Bd2

Apparently untested by masters. White has played 13. f4 and 13. a3 with considerable success.

13. ... Qc5 14. Nd5!?

(please see diagram top of page 46)

14. ... d6?

Too meek. Black will be shoved backward. Instead, Black must accept the sacrifice with 14. ... Bxb2 15. Rb1 Bg7. Then 16. Bb4 Qd4! keeps the extra pawn, as neither 17. Bxe7? Bxd5 nor 17. Nxe7?

Pursuit of Excellence

When I was a young master, I received a phone call from the warden of a prison inviting me to visit his institution to play against a grandmaster. The “grandmaster” was a fraud, of course. He turned out to be a Class B player who had convinced other prisoners of his outstanding chess skill.

Such impostors cannot hope to fool us because FIDE maintains an easily-accessed list of all players with an international title. If you’ve ever wondered why masters care about the title system, there are two reasons. They appreciate the honor, and they do not want to share it with the undeserving.

Set aside all thoughts of the glamour or glory of title tournaments. Masters have always viewed these events as pure business. For today’s aspiring professionals, an international title is a necessary item on one’s chess résumé. Most grit their teeth and spend months competing in events offering little reward other than the tantalizing possibility of a norm. Some liken the pursuit to earning an advanced degree, although David Strauss, who did both, claimed that getting a Ph.D. was much easier.

In a perfect world, FIDE would oversee a strict, fair and open title system. In reality, people will always find fault. FIDE has made the system more fair and open, but, according to the titleholders quoted below, far less strict.

FIDE began awarding official titles in 1950. Its regulations initially required prospective grandmasters to be world championship contenders, and FIDE found only 27 players, active or retired, who met that high standard. By the 1980s, FIDE would award that many grandmaster (GM) titles in a single year.

Older players remember when the lesser title of international master (IM) still denoted exceptional ability. Many IMs of the 1950s and 1960s compare favorably to modern GMs. Some resent the decline in standards. Dr. Anthony Saidy, among the world’s top 100 players in the 1960s, writes, “I made both my norms in Italy —2nd at Reggio Emilia 1967 and tied for 2nd at Venice 1969 in a mostly GM field. And the average GM in those days was strong! Thanks to the FIDE reign of Campomanes, there are 25 times as many “GMs” today.”

It’s true that Florencio Campomanes and others in FIDE welcomed the proliferation of GMs. They argued that having titled players in many countries would encourage younger players and popularize the game, and they might have been right.

At the same time, though, their policy decreased the value of each title. The club of titleholders wasn’t quite as exclusive. Similar

complaints dog the halls of fame in every sport. Perhaps it’s human nature to romanticize the good old days. Yet there is no denying that a title carried more prestige when it was a rarity. As Dmitry Gurevich recalls, “When I started playing chess in the Soviet Union in the 1960s, national master was a hard title to get. International masters were rare and grandmasters were recognized on the streets. Botvinnik, Smyslov and Tal were household names. My mother simply couldn’t believe it when I got a GM title myself, years later.”

The number of titleholders rose steadily in the 1980s for a variety of non-political reasons. After the introduction of the FIDE rating system in 1970 and changes in FIDE regulations that pegged title norms to ratings, the system became fairer to all. Bobby Fischer energized a new generation of players who sought title opportunities. To satisfy their demands, more organizers ran title tournaments. The introduction of international opens in the late 1970s gave unheralded players their first shot at titles. Those with fewer scruples and ample hard currency could find tournaments in eastern Europe where norms were surprisingly easy to achieve.

FIDE actually raised the minimum performance rating needed for a GM norm from 2550 to 2600 in 1979. This was a step in the right direction, but rating inflation (roughly 100 points, and rising) has left the standard even more out of date today.

For Americans, the requirement of facing at least four foreign players in a nine-round tournament almost compelled a trip abroad. John Watson compared the 1980s with today: “It was extremely difficult to obtain a title without leaving the United States, and even hard to find enough events in Europe unless you spent a great deal of time there. Now both young and old players have an amazing number of opportunities in the United States, have a lifetime to achieve their norms (instead of a 3-year period), can achieve the required rating at any time in their lives (even retroactively!), requiring only that they achieve a rating level briefly before falling back. Players have so many more paths to titles now.”

Jeremy Silman echoed these thoughts in his inimitable way: “The scarcity of titled events in the U.S. made the title hunt a real pain. In fact, going to Europe and playing in one event after the other was (and still is) the best way to go about it. Oddly, when I finally went to Europe in search of some norms (after dithering about for years in a Haight Ashbury alternative reality), I got one on my first try, only

to come to a screeching halt when I realized that the acquisition of food was dependent on money. And that was my problem—if you want to devote yourself to this wonderful game, then you have to have your priorities in the right order: chess first, food second. It took another decade (and a hundred added pounds ... too much eating, too little studying) for the title to finally fall into my chubby hands.”

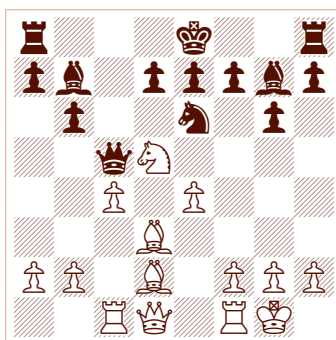
Of course, if one loves travelling as much as John Donaldson, a trip to Europe presents no problem. He makes it sound easy: “I got my IM title back in 1983 in the Lugano Open, beating GM Nemet in the eighth round (I lost with black to Timman in the last round). The application went through quite smoothly and all the norms were solid—no near misses. Maybe the only odd thing is that Nemet’s flag fell on move 40 in a winning ending. This never happened to me before or after.”

At the other extreme is Melik Khachiyan, who did everything correctly but described earning his GM title as “definitely horror.” Khachiyan made two GM norms in U.S. tournaments in 2003. Combined with his second-place finish in the 1996 Russia Cup in Moscow, those performances appeared to satisfy the requirements for a GM title. But a FIDE official denied his claim, demanding more proof and even accusing Khachiyan of cheating. “The next year I got another GM norm, and when I applied again, the same guy didn’t want to process my application. He asked for everything—games, TD’s papers, crosstables. It took me more than a year to get my title. It was a terrible experience.”

The March FIDE rating list shows 1,318 grandmasters and 3,076 international masters. If more than 4,000 players have managed to complete the journey, can it still be regarded as arduous?

Cy Lakdawala, who was IM strength for years before receiving his title in 2002, says that there are still plenty of obstacles for title seekers: “I feel a big number of talented players don’t get their titles, not from lack of skill but from lack of financial resources. It takes a large influx of cash to get a coach, books, online resources, pay the expenses of tournaments (including lost income while there). These titles are expensive!”

Lakdawala makes an excellent point. Even if today’s title requirements are more attainable, young masters cannot always afford to pursue an international title. And that’s a compelling reason to applaud Metropolitan Chess for offering frequent title opportunities at affordable prices. If you are contemplating your own title quest, consider doing it in sunny southern California!



After 14. Nd5

Nc5 18. Bxc5 Qxc5 suits White. If White wants more than repetition by 17. Bc3 Qc5 18. Bb4, he can consider 17. Ba3, but the Exchange sacrifice 17. ... Nc5! 18. Nc7+ Kf8 19. Bxc5 Qxc5 20. Nxa8 Bxa8 appears adequate for Black.

15. b4 Qd8 16. f4 Qd7 17. f5 gxf5

If 17. ... Bd4+ 18. Kh1 Nc7, White should open lines with 19. Nxc7+ Qxc7 20. c5. One sample: 20. ... bxc5 21. Qa4+ Kf8 22. bxc5 Bxc5 (not 22. ... dxc5 23. Qxd4!) 23. Bh6+ Kg8 24. Qc4, with the deadly threat of 25. fxf6.

18. Rxf5

This gives Black a little hope of surviving by 18. ... Rf8 and soon ... 0-0-0. Instead, 18. exf5! Bxd5 19. cxd5 Bd4+ 20. Kh1 Nc7 21. f6! Bxf6 22. Rxf6 exf6 23. Qf3 leaves Black helpless.

18. ... Nd4 19. Rf2 b5?!

Even the sturdier 19. ... Nc6 20. Qh5 Ne5 won't hold out long after 21. Be2 Rc8 22. Rc3.

20. Bc3 Be5 21. Bf1 Bxd5?!

Black expects to maintain his knight at d4 thanks to a counterthreat on the c-file. White trumps the idea with his own exploitation of the c-file.

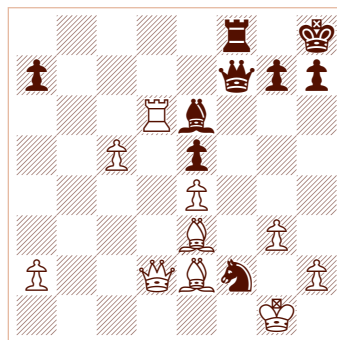
22. cxd5 Rc8 23. Bxd4 Rxc1 24. Qxc1 Bxd4 25. Bxb5!, Black resigned.

A peculiar characteristic of title tournaments is that the struggle for first place is often affected by the quest for norms. Joel Banawa and Philip Xiao Wang, co-winners of the 2010 state championship, shared the lead with Stopa entering the final round, but their top priority was to attain the IM norm of 6½-2½. They cautiously drew their encounter in 20 moves, reaching their goal while letting Stopa forge ahead with a last-round win.

Wang, a junior star of the 1990s who retired from chess for six years while earning a law degree, frequently scores points with alert defense. Against Tim Taylor, he snatched a pawn and landed in this complicated position.

A complicated position

Philip Xiao Wang (2413)
IM Timothy Taylor (2389)
3rd Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 2/24/2011



After 29. ... Nf2

The pawn at e4 hangs and Black's control of the f-file appears ominous, but Wang quickly extinguishes Black's hopes.

30. Rxe6! Nh3+

White would parry 30. ... Nxe4 not by 31. Qd5?? Nc3, but by 31. Qc2 Qxe6 32. Qxe4 Qxa2 33. Bd3.

31. Kg2 Qxe6 32. Qd6!

To eliminate the defender of the trapped knight. If 32. ... Qxd6 33. cxd6 Rd8 34. Kxh3 Rxd6, simply 35. Bxa7 creates an unstoppable passed a-pawn.

32. ... Qc8 33. Bg4! Qa8 34. Kxh3 Rd8 35. Qxe5 Re8 36. Qf5 Rxe4 37. Bf3, Black resigned.

Banawa's best game was this unpretentious victory.

Nimzo-Indian Defense (E20)

Kayden Troff (2354)
Joel Banawa (2422)
3rd Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 2/23/2011

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. g3 dxc4 5. Bg2 Bb4+ 6. Nc3

Transforming a Catalan into a branch of the Nimzo-Indian.

6. ... Nc6 7. 0-0 Rb8 8. e3

White gets ample compensation from 8. Qc2! 0-0 9. Rd1, planning Nf3-e5.

8. ... 0-0 9. Qe2 b5 10. a4?!

The a-file matters less than the weakening of b3. White should try 10. Rd1 Nd5 (else 11. e4) 11. Bd2, intending e3-e4.

10. ... a6 11. axb5 axb5 12. Rd1 Na5! 13. Ne5 Bb7

Exchanging this bishop solves most of Black's opening problems and nearly nullifies White's compensation for the pawn.

14. Bxb7 Rxb7 15. Qf3

Setting up a breakthrough that won't trouble Black. Against 15. e4, Smyslov chose 15. ... Qe8 (ruling out tricks based on Ne5-c6) 16. Bg5 Nd7, when 17. Qg4 f5! 18. exf5 exf5 19. Qf3 Nxe5 20. dxe5 c6 leaves Black in command.

15. ... Rb6 16. d5?! exd5 17. Nxd5 Nxd5 18. Rxd5 Rd6!

Suddenly Black has the pawn and the initiative. He will meet 19. Rxb5 by 19. ... Nb3 20. Rb1 c5, and White's bishop is doomed.

19. e4 f6 20. Ng4 Rxd5 21. exd5 Nb3 22. Rb1 Bd2! 23. Ne3 Bxc1 24. Nf5 Qd7 25. Qg4 Kh8, White resigned.

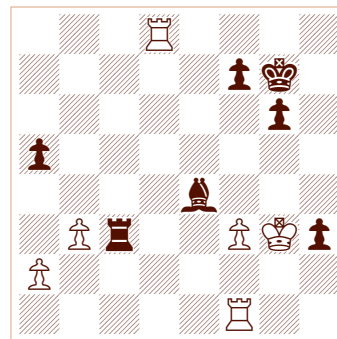
The norms by Wang and Banawa were the first achieved at Metropolitan Chess. Banawa did it again in April, winning the fourth invitational with an overwhelming score of 7½-1½, a point above the standard.

Banawa, a soft-spoken young man, was so thrilled by his victory that he felt confident in saying he would obtain the IM title soon. He needs one more norm and a 2400 FIDE rating (about 20 points higher than his current rating). And he has greater ambitions. "I want to be a grandmaster."

Chess wisdom claims that the winner is always lucky. Banawa's luck was more bad than good, despite his impressive 2574 performance. He obtained winning positions in every game and nearly swept the tournament. He benefitted from good fortune only once, against Roman Yankovsky. Banawa had squandered a large advantage and found himself struggling to draw in the diagrammed position.

This is luck?

Roman Yankovsky (2534)
Joel Banawa (2440)
4th Metropolitan Invitational,
Los Angeles, 4/7/2011



After 47. Rf1

47. ... f5 48. Rd7+?!

White should keep the advantage by 48. Kf4 Bc6 49. Rf2.

48. ... Kh6 49. Ra7 g5 50. Kxh3

Prudent. If White tries 50. Rxa5 g4, he

must find 51. Kh4! Bxf3 52. Rxf5 to eliminate Black's pawns and clinch a draw.

50. ... Bxf3 51. Kh2 g4 52. Rxa5 Kg5 53. Rf2??

Perhaps White was still dreaming of winning. But Black's pawns are dangerous. White should secure the draw by 53. Kg1 Rc2 54. Rf2 Rc1+ 55. Rf1 Rc2 56. Rf2, repeating. Trickier is 53. Kg1 g3 54. b4, but both 54. ... Be4 55. Ra7! (to check at g7) 55. ... Kg6 56. Ra6+ Kg5 57. Ra7! and 54. ... Kg4 55. a3 f4 56. Ra7 hold.

53. ... Be4!

Winning. Black threatens 54. ... g3+ and 54. ... Rh3+.

54. Re2

It's too late for 54. Kg1 g3 55. Rf1, as 55. ... Rc2 sets up mating threats.

54. ... g3+ 55. Kh3 g2+ 56. Kh2 Rh3+!, White resigned.

Tim Taylor loves to attack. In this first round game, he gets his wish, and the tournament favorite suffers a rare defeat.

Sicilian Defense, Scheveningen Variation (B84)

IM Tim Taylor (2363)

IM Andranik Matikozyan (2532)

*4th Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 4/6/2011*

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Be2 e6

A common transposition from the Najdorf to the Scheveningen.

7. 0-0 Nbd7

Most players develop the knight to c6.

8. a4 b6 9. f4 Bb7 10. Bf3 Qc7 11. Qe2 Rc8 12. Be3

Already Black has a difficult position.

12. ... Be7 13. g4! Nc5 14. Bd2 g6?

The counterattack 14. ... d5 fails to 15. exd5 Nxd5 16. Nxd5 Bxd5 17. Bxd5 exd5 18. Nf5. Apparently Black must weaken his kingside (14. ... h6) or queenside (14. ... a5).

15. g5 Nfd7 16. b4 e5 17. Nd5! Bxd5 18. exd5 exd4 19. Rae1! Qd8 20. bxc5 Nxc5 21. f5!

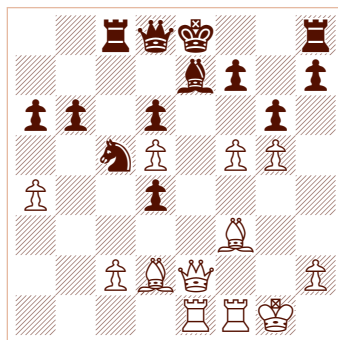
(see diagram top of next column)

No letup!

21. ... gxf5 22. Bh5 Rg8

Even castling won't help. After 22. ... Rc7 23. Rxf5 0-0 24. Ref1, Black cannot protect f7.

23. Rxf5 Rg7 24. Rxf7! Rxf7 25. Rf1, Black resigned.



After 21. f5

Matikozyan took a few rounds to recover from this thrashing and never challenged for first place. However, he did manage to win one game with his normal flair.

Caro-Kann Defense, Advance Variation (B12)

IM Andranik Matikozyan (2532)

Vadim Kudryavtsev (2202)

*4th Metropolitan Invitational
Los Angeles, 4/8/2011*

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 Bf5 4. h4

White has tried at least nine alternatives, all aggressive. No wonder Caro-Kann players dread the Advance variation.

4. ... h6 5. g4 Bd7 6. c4 Qc8!?

Fighting back. The stodgy 6. ... e6 7. Nc3 Ne7 will not solve Black's development problems.

7. f3 h5 8. Nc3 hxg4 9. cxd5 cxd5 10. Nxd5 Bc6 11. Nc3 e6 12. Bg5 Be7 13. Bg2 gxf3?

Much too cooperative. Black should keep White's kingside bottled up by 13. ... Na6 14. Qd2 Nb4.

14. Nxf3 Qd8?! 15. Qd2

Suddenly White has a significant lead in development. Maybe Black can hang on with 15. ... Na6. Certainly he is doomed after his next move.

15. ... Bxg5? 16. Nxg5

Inviting 16. ... Bxg2 17. Qxg2 Qxd4 18. Qxb7 Qxe5+ 19. Nce4, when Black must drop a rook.

16. ... Ne7 17. 0-0-0 Bxg2 18. Qxg2 Nbc6 19. d5

Brutally effective.

19. ... exd5 20. e6! fxe6 21. Nxe6 Qc8 22. Nb5 Kd7

Against 22. ... Nb4+, one good method is 23. Nbc7+ Kd7 24. Qe2 a6 25. Kb1.

23. Nec7 Nd8 24. Rxd5+ Nxd5 25. Qxd5+ Ke7 26. Re1+ Kf8 27. Re8 mate.

What's next for Metropolitan Chess? The club plans their monthly invitationals lead-

ing up to its greatest venture yet, the First Metropolitan International, scheduled August 17-21. That Swiss-system will offer GM and IM norms and might attract 100 players. Already 10 GMs have registered.

By the end of this year, Gupta and Belcher hope to make the club a self-sustaining business that can continue to host player-friendly international tournaments indefinitely. For 2012, there is talk of inviting a world-class GM or two for a match or tournament. And more chess treats, you can be sure! ■

The USCF Executive Board votes each year to determine the various USCF award recipients, who then receive their award at the U.S. Open. To see the full list of 2010-2011 recipients, you can download the Delegates' Call from uschess.org, "About USCF," "Governance," "Reports." Much more information about USCF governance can be found in the Delegates' Call.

Metropolitan Chess Club At A Glance

Event: 1st Metropolitan FIDE Invitational

Date: November 12-21, 2010

Top Finishers: 1st, 7½: Enrico Sevillano; 2nd, 7: Zhanibek Amanov; 3rd-4th, 5: Joel Banawa, Garush Manukyan.

Chief Tournament Director: Michael W. Belcher

Event: Jimmy Quon Memorial

Date: January 19-23, 2011

Top Finishers: 1st, 7½: Mark C. Paragua; 2nd, 6: Melikset Khachiyany; 3rd, 5: Mackenzie Molner.

Chief Tournament Director: Michael W. Belcher

Event: 3rd Metropolitan Chess FIDE Invitational

Date: February 23-27, 2011

Top Finishers: 1st, 7: Jacek Stopa; 2nd-3rd, 6½: Joel Banawa, Philip Xiao Wang.

Chief Tournament Director: Michael W. Belcher

Event: 4th Metropolitan Chess FIDE Invitational

Date: April 6-10, 2011

Top Finishers: 1st, 7½: Joel Banawa; 2nd, 6½: Pedram Atoufi; 3rd, 5½: Yian Liou.

Chief Tournament Director: Michael W. Belcher



Eric Rosen in action on the courts. Rosen, in addition to being the National High School champion, is the number-two singles player on his varsity team. Tennis continues to be a popular activity among chess players.

An Encouraging Purr

The mother of the 2011 National High School champion discusses raising a champion.

By Andrea Rosen

Earlier this year, I read Amy Chua's controversial book on parenting, *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*, where she describes what she proudly calls her "extreme parenting" style: obsessive, hypercritical, and intolerant of anything less than perfection. Her underlying belief is that "children on their own never want to work," and that only shame and unrelenting criticism will eventually produce kids who excel.

Like many other parents, I disagreed with her, but I also found myself harboring doubts. Have I been too indulgent? Did I give my children too much leeway in deciding where to devote their own time? Will failing to insist that they achieve perfection at everything they do lead them to fail to persevere at crucial moments and give up when the going gets tough?

I think my son Eric's clear first-place win at this year's National High School Championship, held April 29-May 1, 2011 in Nashville, Tennessee, offers some vindication to me and all other parents who believe that children, when encouraged to connect with passions of their own choosing, are inclined to work hard and can achieve success at the highest levels through their own intrinsic motivation. As an added bonus, whether or not they win a national championship, chances are their therapy bills as adults will be less.

Eric fell in love with chess at the age of seven, and as a family we've devoted more time and money to allow him to pursue it than many would view as sane. Still, my husband Brad and I never remind him of

that or insist it translate into some tangible result. While we encouraged both our children to work hard at school and get good grades, straight A's were never a goal—a passion for learning was. As for chess, there were times Eric's teachers felt that he wasn't achieving his potential and that he should be studying longer and harder. But growing up he was first an avid soccer player, and later an avid tennis player. It was clear he needed that balance in his life, and more importantly, that in the end, winning was not all that mattered. To me, competing in anything is less about the results and more about what you learn on route. Nine years after he began to play, he's learned plenty, and how to end a game with checkmate might be the least of it. He's empathetic, he learns from his mistakes, he helps others learn from theirs, he loses with grace, and he handles himself like a pro in high-pressure, high-stakes situations.

His win at nationals didn't completely surprise me—I knew he had the potential. But he entered the tournament as seventh seed, and many thought that as a kid from the Midwest, he didn't have a chance over the more experienced and higher-rated East coast players. In the *CLO* article immediately following the tournament, the authors said, "Running the NYC gauntlet on the final day en route to a perfect score has to rank as one of the outstanding individual achievements in this tournament's history."

In a conversation with him after the tournament, he shared his thoughts about

what it takes to get in that winning zone.

First, he says, it's easier to play well if you don't think you're going to win. "I've developed a small superstition that's proven to be true," he said. "Before a tournament, if I feel like I'm going to do well, I always do badly. But whenever I'm pessimistic and think I'm going to do badly, then I do well. This also holds true during the game. If I'm too confident in my position, I'm more likely to make mistakes. When I remind myself that it's possible that I can lose, it's easier to just think about playing good chess."

He came into this year's national championship with the strong memory of a devastatingly poor tournament in the same event the previous year, losing or struggling to get draws against lower-rated players and finishing with just four points out of seven. This year, he says, he had especially low expectations. "I just wanted to enjoy myself, play well, and improve over last year's score. I think having that mindset actually gave me better results."

Second, he says, study the games of great players. While he knew who his main competition in Nashville would be, he didn't spend time before the tournament looking at their games or preparing against specific opponents. Instead, he focused on the U.S. Championship that was taking place during the 10 days prior to the high school championship in Nashville. "Every day I looked online at those games, and that really helped. I could see how good players played, and get inspiration. I also went over my own openings, because really

that's the most important thing to prepare before a tournament."

During the tournament, his focus carried him through sticky situations in games. "Almost every game had a moment where I got careless at some point and I was either worse, or I was put in situations where I really had to think. A big factor in my success had to do with being mentally determined to stay in the game and recover after my mistakes," he said. "The schedule at nationals makes it as much as a physical test as a mental test," and he added that he felt he had a lot of stamina going into the event.

Eric said he's also developed a trick for gathering his thoughts during tough parts of a game: He pretends he's explaining the game to someone else. "It helps me to organize my thoughts, and it helps me commit myself and feel confident about going in a certain direction."

He acknowledges luck also played a factor. His toughest match was when he blundered early to another Midwest favorite, Indiana's Daniel Gater, and had to fight back. Gater missed a winning move in that game, but had an exceptional tournament overall, losing only to Eric, gaining 55 rating points and coming in second place on tiebreaks.

Eric knows how crucial a good support system is, and he credits his team and coaches for helping with his success. His Niles North High School team has consistently been among the top teams in the state for years before he was a student there. This is despite the fact that the head coach, Niles North High School physics teacher Harry Kyriazis, can play at about a 1200-rating strength on a good day, and the assistant coach, English teacher Heather Ingraham, has developed her knowledge just to the point where she knows how the pieces move and is working on her pins and forks. They almost never go into the playing room during a tournament, and don't look at the team standings. But they do provide a great spread of food. What they lack in in-depth chess knowledge they make up for by being master facilitators. They've created a supportive and nurturing environment where enthusiasm reigns and the students take ownership of their own learning. The results were clear this year: the team took fourth place over much higher-rated competition.

For Eric, the ability to serve as team leader benefitted him as much as his teammates. "After every round, I would go back to our team room and review my game with my teammates. This is mutually beneficial. It's hard to explain, but expressing my thoughts about my game helps get it out of me and clear my head for the next round."

He also knows himself well enough to

separate himself from the group and get some alone time before each round. He was most nervous before his game with Alex Ostrovskiy. "I knew I didn't want to lose that game and have to play a weaker player in the last round just to get an average score. After I won, I was able to relax. I had nothing more to lose."

He felt he had the psychological advantage going into the final round. He led the field by half-point, and was facing number-one seed Marc Tyler Arnold, who was in a must-win situation. His best strategy, he said, "was not to give him a position out of the opening that he would be happy with."

English Opening (A21)

Eric Rosen (2274)

IM Marc Tyler Arnold (2521)

National High School (7), 05.01.2011

Notes by Eric Rosen

After I had beaten Ostrovskiy in the pivotal sixth round, I more or less knew I would be playing Arnold for the championship. I had about an hour to rest, eat, prepare, and keep the nerves from getting to me. Going into the round, I was the only 6/6 score and Arnold was right behind me with 5½/6. I knew that a draw would guarantee me at least a tie for the championship and Arnold was in a must-win situation. I tried not to think about it. I told myself: "Just play good chess."

1. c4!?

An unexpected move. While I am mostly an e4-player, and almost all of my games as white in the database begin with 1. e4. I chose to play the English opening for two reasons: 1) I was expecting Arnold to show up somewhat late to the game (as he did in other games) in order to prepare for me. Playing the English would avoid all of his preparation. 2) I did not want to enter any theoretical Sicilian lines, as I knew Arnold was very booked. I was just aiming for a solid position.

1. ... e5 2. Nc3 Bb4

Sending me out of book and into thought (on just the second move!).

3. Qb3

I was aware that the mainline is 3. Nd5, but I didn't feel comfortable going into that without any preparation. I came up with Qb3 over the board to get out of theory and to simply play chess.

3. ... Nc6 4. Nf3 Be7

Avoiding Nxe5 ideas, and not wanting to concede the bishop pair. 4. ... Nf6? 5. Nxe5! Bxc3 6. Qxc3 wins a pawn for White.

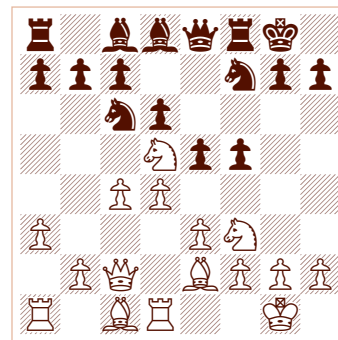
5. e3 d6 6. Be2 Nh6!?

An interesting idea by Arnold. He intends to keep the option of playing f5 open as well as possibly bringing the knight to f5 if White ever plays d2-d4.

7. 0-0 0-0 8. a3

A waiting move which I figured would become useful later in the game. White waits for Black to play ... f7-f5 so he can respond with d2-d4. If 8. d4?! immediately, then 8. ... exd4 9. exd4 Nf5 seemed comfortable for Black.

8. ... f5 9. d4 Nf7 10. Rd1 Qe8 11. Nd5 Bd8 12. Qc2



After 12. Qc2

White's plan here is very straightforward: play b2-b4 followed by Bb2 and increase the tension in the center. If Black ever plays ... e5-e4, then White can respond with Nd2 and f2-f3 breaking up the center.

12. ... Nb8!?

I did not consider this strange move for Black. While almost all of his pieces are on the back rank, there are no weaknesses to attack. Black is planning ... c7-c6 and ... Nd7-f6 with a balanced position. I joked after the game that perhaps ... Nh8 was his next move, setting up a Fischer-random position. Worse is 12. ... e4?! 13. Nd2 g5 14. f3 exf3 15. Nxf3.

13. b4 c6 14. Nc3 e4?!

Probably not the most accurate move. While the knight is forced to retreat, f2-f3 will come next breaking up the center. It doesn't look like Black will be quick enough to play ... d6-d5. Perhaps 14. ... g6 followed by ... Nd7-f6 is better, maintaining the tension; 14. ... Nd7? fails to 15. Qxf5.

15. Nd2 Nd7 16. f3 exf3 17. Nxf3 Ng5

Preparing ... d5 with 17. ... Nf6 doesn't quite work: 18. Bd3 g6 19. e4! with a nice position for White.

18. Nxf3 Bxf3 19. e4!

Gaining space in the center and securing a comfortable advantage.

19. ... f4

Perhaps this line is better than the

game's: 19. ... Bxc1 20. Raxc1 fxe4 21. Qxe4 Nf6. However, Arnold was in a must-win situation and it doesn't seem like Black has too many winning chances here.

20. Bf3 Qg6 21. Qe2

It is not easy to play Black in this position. ... Re8 runs into Bh5, while ... Nf6 runs into e4-e5.

21. ... c5!?

Arnold played this move after a long think. Black intends to open up either e5 or c5 for the knight and develop the c8-bishop.

22. dxc5 dxc5 23. Rd5!

Preventing ... Ne5 and taking over the fifth rank.

23. ... Be7 24. Rf5 cxb4

For some reason when I played Rf5, I forgot my b4-pawn was hanging. However, it seems like White will have more than enough attacking resources to compensate for the pawn.

25. axb4 Bxb4 26. Nd5 Bc5+ 27. Kh1 Nb6

There is nice compensation for the pawn after 27. ... Rxf5 28. exf5 Qxf5 29. Bxf4.

28. Rxf8+ Bxf8 29. Bxf4 Nxd5 30. exd5

As we entered this position, I had 40+ minutes to Arnold's 15 minutes. With a nice edge on time and position, I knew I was the only player playing for a win. I still had to be careful: 30. cxd5?? Qf6!

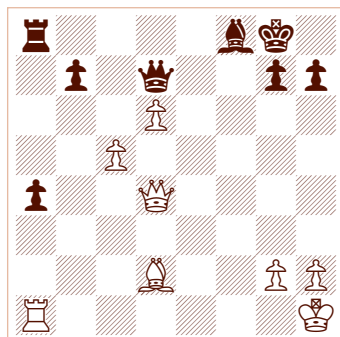
30. ... Bf5 31. Qf2 a5

Or 31. ... b6 32. Be3! threatening Bxb6 is strong for White.

32. Qd4 Bg4 33. Bxg4 Qxg4 34. d6 Qd7 35. c5

The sad bishop on f8 is immobile for the rest of the game.

35. ... a4 36. Bd2!



After 36. Bd2

Maneuvering the bishop to c3 where it will defend the queening square on a1 and prepare mating ideas on g7.

36. ... a3 37. Bc3 a2 38. Rf1 Kh8 39. Qc4

It's worth noting that Arnold had less than two minutes on his clock at this point and I had around 20.

39. ... b6?

Missing the threat. 39. ... h6 was necessary, but Black's position is still very unpleasant.

40. Qxa2! Qd8

Nor 40. ... Rxa2 41. Rxf8 mate.

41. Qe6 bxc5 42. Be5 Ra7 43. d7 Ra8 44. Rf7 Qg5 45. h3! Black resigned.

Avoiding back-rank threats and threatening Bxg7. Black's position is hopeless. 45. Bxg7?? Qxg7 46. Rxg7 Ra1+.

The end of the game, he said, was nerve-racking for its own reasons: he knew he could win, and there were about 100 people watching in front of the stage to witness if he faltered. "You just have to focus on the game and celebrate afterwards," he said.

After years of playing high-level events, he's got some advice for parents. He said he thinks it helps that Brad and I never told him we expected him to win or made him feel bad afterwards if he didn't. "I think I did that to myself," he said, "but that's another story."

The opportunity to play stronger opponents, along with learning how to move on from his losses, he says, has been a key part of his success. He credits his coach Dmitry Gurevich for helping with that. Despite being the lowest rated player at last year's Junior Closed, Eric had a break-out tournament and finished in the middle of the pack with 4½/9. He checked in with Dmitry after each round, and said Dmitry's style of not focusing too much on his mistakes during the tournament helped his confidence. "There were a few games where I was winning, but I ended with either a draw or a loss, and Dmitry told me not to worry about it, just to play the next game. I think that really helped me relax," Eric said. "After the whole tournament, we went back and focused on why I lost and what my mistakes were, but I think right after you lose, you just have to move on."

Eric advises parents to give their kids space after a tough loss. "Just leave them alone." Berating a player for losing, or showing them how they missed an easy win, he says, "can be psychologically devastating and make it very hard to play the next round."

Telling someone they need to win the next round isn't helpful either. "If anything, it will make it worse. They should just have an open, relaxed mind, and try to forget about any pressure or the result."

Parents can also make sure their kids eat well and stay healthy, he said.

Eric's next goals for chess are to play well enough to get a chance against stronger opponents this summer at the World Open in Philadelphia in July (*just completed as Chess Life went to press ~ed.*), the Metropolitan Chess tournament in Los Angeles in August, and in the fall at the World Youth Championships in Brazil. He's also looking forward to attending the U.S. Chess School in August in Saint Louis.

And my next goal? Well, move over Amy Chua—I think there's room on the bookshelf for a different sort of book: *The Encouraging Purr of the Pussycat Mama?* ■

2011 National High School Championship At A Glance

Date:

April 28-May 1, 2011

Location:

Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Top Finishers:

K-12 Championship (Individual), 1st, 7: Eric Rosen; 2nd-9th, 6: Daniel Gater, Alec Getz, Nick Thompson, Michael Vilenchuk, Andrew Ng, Evan Sandberg, Michael Chiang, Sean Vibbert. *(Team)*, 1st, 20½: Hunter College Campus School. *K-12 Under 1600 (Individual)*, 1st-2nd, 6½: Watson Fu, Vishal Bharadwaj; 3rd-6th, 6: Danny Sepler, Ja'monte Adams, Akshay Saini, Sean Chung. *(Team)*, 1st, 19½: P.S. 124. *K-12 Under 1200 (Individual)*, 1st, 7: Marshall Sumwalt; 2nd, 6½: William Giguere; 3rd-8th, 6: Daniel Henning, Austin Kasabri, Dominic Zirbel, Jack Mockler, Sahil Patel, Alexander Moore. *(Team)*, 1st-2nd, 20½: Vianney High, East Side Community High School. *K-12 Under 800 (Individual)*, 1st, 7: Wilson Cheah; 2nd-10th: Lucas Henigan, Nicky Hart, Mazhar Siddique, David Moran, Bardia Jahanshahi, Kevin Wang, Saurabh Singh, Philip Gubins, Zachary Ashbel. *(Team)*, 1st, 22: Northwest High School. *K-12 Unrated (Individual)*, 6½: Evan Aubry; 6: 2nd-6th: Jacob Overman, Ed Ordonez, Andrew Tat, Ryan Klasky, Scott Hagen. *(Team)*, 1st, 20: Hinsdale Central High School

Chief Tournament Director:

Wayne Clark

Optimism Triumphant

By GM Lev Alburt

In chess, objectivity wins gold. But optimism is a close runner-up.

Among world champions we encounter an objective Botvinnik, an optimistic Tal, and a cautious Petrosian. On lower levels, however, more often than not optimism trumps caution, and initiative trumps material. Writes our optimist-of-the-month, Denver Woodward:

The following is a game from the 2010 National K-12 Championship, at Lake Buena Vista, Florida. I went 3½/7 and took 26th place. The chess teams of my school, Columbus Alternative High School, all went to the tournament and the sophomore team (which I was part of) took fifth place in the team standings of our division.

(Lev's future comments will be in italics.)

Sicilian Defense (B31)

Denver Woodward (1383)

Michael Martinson (1867)

*National K-12 Championship (5),
12.11.2010*

1. e4 c5

The Sicilian Defense. At this point I felt confident despite the 484-point disparity between our ratings, because playing against the Sicilian was somewhat of my specialty, and I was quite underrated.

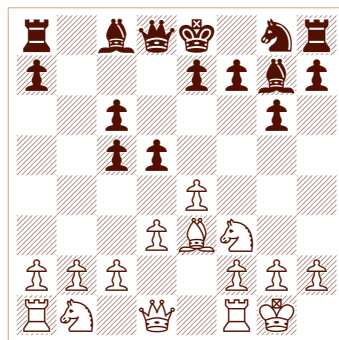
2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5

The move Bb5 is my favored line against the Sicilian, because it allows me to usually create a winning position (*reality check: "slightly better"—L.A.*) after say: 3. ... g6 4. Bxc6 bxc6 5. d3. From here I would try to give Black double iso's on the c-file. Also it plays away from what Black is used to playing which will give me an advantage, since I am used to the positions stemming from this line. In this case, Black played exactly what I liked.

3. ... g6 4. Bxc6 bxc6 5. d3 d5

Nothing new here, and I'm fine after 6. 0-0

6. 0-0 Bg7 7. Be3?! *After 7. Be3*



After 7. Be3

And here it is, "my master level mistake". I call it that, because while for a 1383 it was a blunder that lost me the Exchange, for a master it would have been a line that allowed White a huge dynamic advantage with all sorts of development.

7. ... Bxb2 8. Nbd2 Bxa1 9. Qxa1

White's initiative is real, but not sufficient to compensate for missing material, especially after the strong 9. ... d4, closing the long diagonal.

9. ... Nf6 10. Bxc5 0-0

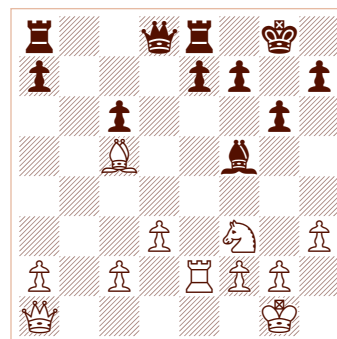
I am down the Exchange. However as my chess coach, Kyle Jones (2128), constantly reminds us, "material means nothing when you have the initiative."

11. Re1 Re8 12. h3 dxe4 13. Nxe4 Nxe4 14. Rxe4 Bf5 15. Re2

(see diagram top of next column)

15. ... e6??

Yes, 15. ... e6 is bad, but not losing, as



After 15. Re2

the course of the game, and Denver's own notes, will show. After 15. ... f6!, I'd prefer Black.

16. g4

The subtle 16. Bd4, with multiple threats (now including g2-g4) was stronger.

16. ... Qd5

So this was Black's plan. He hoped I would play g4 and I did. He now has a fork on my knight and bishop.

17. Qe5!!

I came up with a beautiful refutation to Black's plan. If 17. ... Qxf3, then I win with 18. Bd4 Qxe2 19. Qg7 mate or 18. ... f6 19. Qxf6 forced mate.

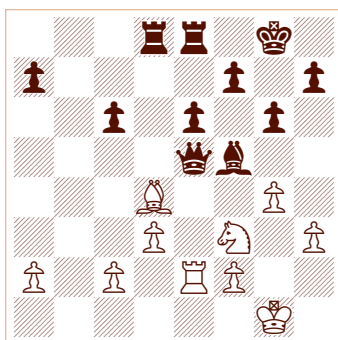
17. ... Rad8

Both players are playing very well here: 17. Qe5 deserves two exclams, and Black counters with his best defense.

18. Bd4 Qxe5

(see diagram top of next page)

And now I am faced with a decision: with what piece should I take e5? If 19. Bxe5 then Black has 19. ... Bxd3 20. cxd3 Rxd3 and Black is up a pawn with



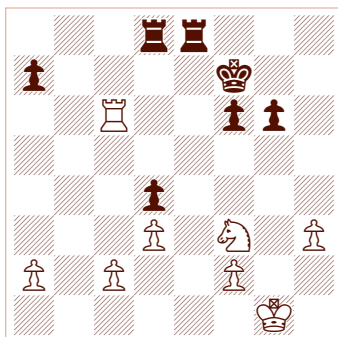
After 18. ... Qxe5

a passer. So, taking with the bishop is out.

(Not so. Yes, in the endgame a rook plus two pawns is usually stronger than bishop plus knight duo, but, thanks to weak squares around the black king, and thus a weak back rank, it's only White who may have some winning chances after 21. Kg2 or 21. Ng5!—L.A.)

This leaves knight takes or rook takes. If 19. Nxe5 then Black has 19. ... Rxd4 20. gxf5 exf5 21. Nxc6 Rxe2 22. Nxd4 which leaves Black up the Exchange with a rook to a knight. However, if 19. Rxe5 then it goes like this:

19. Rxe5 f6 20. Rc5 e5 21. gxf5 exd4 22. fxg6 hxg6 23. Rxc6 Kf7



After 23. ... Kf7

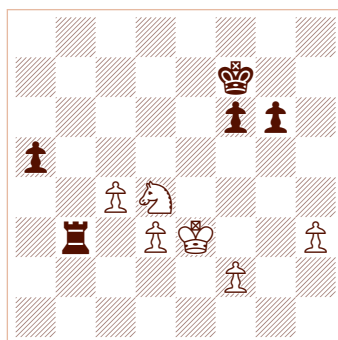
Here I'm only down a pawn and can win probably either d4 or a7, creating an "even" game materially, but I will need to make no mistakes if I am to win from here. Going after a7 loses: 24. Rc7+ Re7, so White goes for the d4-pawn.

White should think here, not "to win", but "not to lose." His 24. Rc4 is a serious mistake allowing Black to exchange White's "unique" (only) rook, which leads straight to losing the a-pawn, and the game. White holds, easily, with 24. Ra6 Rd7 25. Ra4, tying up Black's forces.

24. Rc4 Rc8 (!—L.A.) 25. Rxc8 Rxc8 26. Nxd4 Rc3 27. Kf1 Ra3 28. Ke2 Rxa2

So Black wins a pawn, giving him the winning material here. However, I have two connected passers, so it isn't over yet.

29. Ke3 a5 30. c4 Ra3 31. Nb5 Rb3 32. Nd4

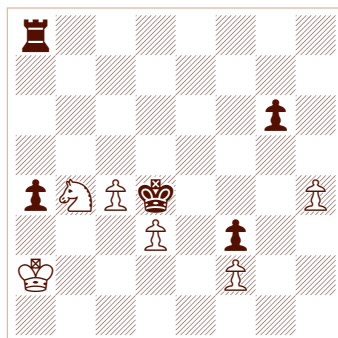


After 32. Nd4

32. ... Rb8

After 32. ... Rb2, Black should win. He doesn't need his rook to stop the c-pawn (the wrong idea behind 32. ... Rb8?)—this can be easily done by the black king.

33. Nc6 Ra8 34. Kd2 a4 35. Kc2 Ke6 36. Kb2 Kd6 37. Nb4 Kc5 38. Ka3 Kd4 39. h4 f5 40. Ka2 f4 41. Ka3 f3 42. Ka2



After 42. Ka2

42. ... Kc3

This move also wins, but simpler was an immediate ... Rh8 (rather than on the next move) or 42. ... Re8, going straight for the f2-pawn.

43. Ka3 Rh8

Here, Black gets greedy and makes a fatal mistake. Black probably wants me to just take a4, but that loses to 44. Kxa4 Ra8+ 45. Kb5 Rb8+ 46. Kc6 Rxb4. So I cannot take the pawn, but I don't have to.

This isn't a true mistake, but stronger—and more logical, to follow on 42. ... Kc3, was to go for the f-pawn with the king: 43. ... Kd2. But the best for Black was to repeat the position: 43. ... Kd4 44. Ka2, and now 44. ... Re8 (see my note to 42. ... Kc3).

44. c5 Rxh4 45. c6 Rh8

The knight is—and will remain—untouchable.

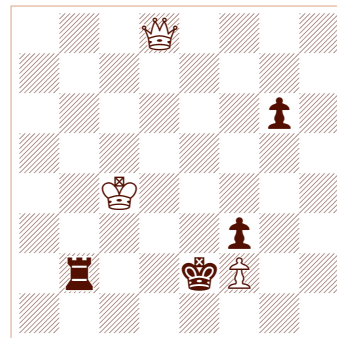
46. Kxa4 Ra8+

Black must create a passer: 46. ... g5, with a likely draw, or 46. ... Kd2.

47. Kb5 Rb8+ 48. Kc5 Rxb4 49. c7!!

The d3-pawn conveniently protects the c4-square from the rook, and the rook cannot move to b8, so I get a queen here.

49. ... Rb2 50. c8=Q Kxd3 51. Qd8+ Ke2 52. Kc4



After 52. Kc4

Black cannot take the pawn here: 52. ... Kxf2 53. Qd4!+ winning the rook.

52. ... Rd2 53. Qg5

Again, Black cannot take the pawn.

53. ... Rc2+ 54. Kb3 Rd2 55. Kc3 Rd3+ 56. Kc2 Rd7

Here I miss 57. Qb5+ Kxf2 58. Qxd7, but it isn't a big deal.

57. Qe3+ Kf1 58. Qxf3 Rd4 59. Qg3 Ra4 60. f3 g5 61. Qxg5 Ra2+ 62. Kd3 Ra3+ 63. Ke4 Ra4+ 64. Ke3 Ra3+ 65. Kf4 Kf2 66. Qc5+, Black resigned.

Woodward's maximal effort certainly succeeded. ■

Send in your games!

If you are unrated or were rated 1799 or below on your *Chess Life* (CL) label, then GM Lev Alburt invites you to send your most instructive game with notes to:

Back to Basics, c/o Chess Life
PO Box 3967 Crossville, TN
38557-3967

Or e-mail your material to
backtobasics@uschess.org

GM Alburt will select the "most instructive" game and CL will award an autographed copy of Lev's newest book, *Chess Training Pocket Book II* (by Lev Alburt and Al Lawrence) to the person submitting the most instructive game and annotations.

Do not send games with only a few notes, as they are of little instructive value and can't be used. Writing skills are a plus, but instructiveness is a must! Make sure your game (or part of it) and your notes will be of interest to other readers.

The 2011 Melody Amber Tournament

By GM Pal Benko

The 20th and possibly last edition of a venerable tournament.

It has now been 20 years that this extraordinary chess battle has been taking place in Monaco. The idea for the event and the generous sponsorship has come from Joop van Oosterom, but it now looks like this was the final time that 12 top players will play one blind and one rapid game against each other. The actual standings finished topsy turvy considering their pre-tournament ratings: 1. Levonian Aronian 15½; 2. Magnus Carlsen 14½; 3. Viswanathan Anand 13 points. Worthy of note is that Carlsen swept in rapid chess (9½) while Aronian was best in blind (8½).

Exchange sac?!

Benko Gambit (A59)

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2733)

GM Magnus Carlsen (FIDE 2815)

20th Amber Rapid

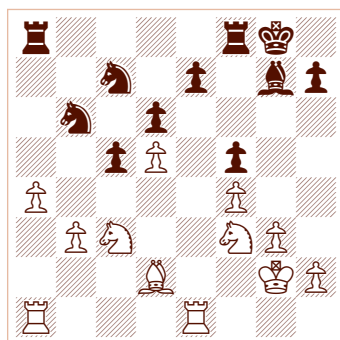
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 b5 4. cxb5 a6 5. bxa6 g6 6. Nc3 Bxa6 7. e4 Bxf1 8. Kxf1 d6 9. g3 Bg7 10. Kg2 Nbd7 11. f4

An aggressive continuation that aims to carry out e4-e5, which Black can impeded by keeping pressure on the d5-pawn.

11. ... 0-0 12. Nf3 Ne8 13. Re1 Nc7 14. Bd2 Nb6 15. Qe2 Qd7 16. b3 f5!

This counter thrust blows up the center and is based on the lack of a c4-pawn.

17. a4 fxe4 18. Qxe4 Qf5 19. Qxf5 gxf5



After 19. ... gxf5

20. Rxe7?

Costing the Exchange, but Black already had a superior position. For example, 20. Rad1 Bf6 followed by ... Nxd5 and ... Rb8.

20. ... Nbx5 21. Rd7 Nxc3 22. Rxc7+

In the case of 22. Bxc3 Bxc3 23. Rc1 Ba5 would come and win for Black.

22. ... Kxc7 23. Bxc3+ Kf7 24. Rd1 Ke7 25. b4?

Merely accelerates the end by helpfully creating a passed pawn for his opponent, but all alternatives were also inferior.

25. ... Rxa4 26. bxc5 dxc5 27. Be5 Nb5 28. Rb1 Rb4 29. Ra1 c4 30. Ra6 Rc8 31. Rb6 c3 32. Rb7+ Ke6 33. Bxc3 Rxc3 34. Rxb5 Rxb5 35. Nd4+ Kd5 36. Nxb5

Having the knight roaming the kingside would allow White chances, but it is shut out and can even be captured.

36. ... Rc5 37. Na3 Ra5 38. Nb1 Ra2+ 39. Kh3 Kd4 40. Kh4 Rxh2+ 41. Kg5 Rb2 42. Na3 Rb3 43. Nc2+ Ke4 44. Kh4 h6 45. Kh3 Rb2 46. Ne1 Rb1 47. Nc2 Kd3, White resigned.

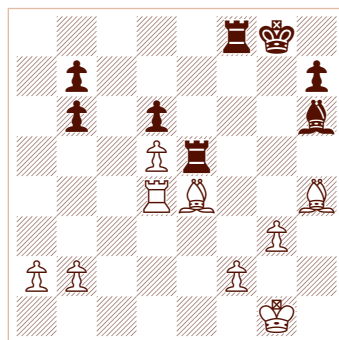
Again proving that winning back the gambited pawn not only equalizes but (usually) provides a better endgame in the Benko Gambit.

Exchange return

GM Levon Aronian (FIDE 2808)

GM Hikaru Nakamura (FIDE 2774)

20th Amber Rapid



Black to play

Our man started with bad luck that let Aronian fly. Black has won an Exchange but White's position here is not at all hopeless since he has a strong bishop pair. Black's pawns are scattered and there is no passed pawn.

27. ... Bc1 28. Rc4?!

Instead, 28. Rb4 Bxb2 29. f4 Ba3 (29. ... Ree8 30. Bxh7+) 30. fxe5 Bxb4 31. e6 could have been tried.

28. ... Bxb2

The alternative of 28. ... b5 29. Bxh7+ Kxh7 30. Rxc1 Re2 31. g4 Rf4 looks like an improvement over the game continuation.

29. f3 Ba3

Stronger is 29. ... Ree8 so that 30. Rc7 can be answered by 30. ... Rf7.

30. Rc7 Rf7 31. Rc8+ Kg7 32. g4 Rxe4!

Black gives back the Exchange since other alternatives did not offer much promise because of White's activated rook and Black's passive ones.

33. fxe4 Rf4 34. Rc7+ Kg6 35. Kg2 Rxc4+ 36. Bg3 Rxe4 37. Rxb7 Rb4

Unfortunately, 37. ... Bc5 can be answered by 38. Bxd6!

38. Kf3 Rb5 39. Bf2 Rxd5 40. Rxb6 Kf5

Bad luck continues for Black since 40. ... Rf5+ 41. Kg3! Rxf2 42. Rxd6+! Bxd6 43. Kxf2 saves White because of the h-pawn and wrong-color bishop which is a theoretical draw.

41. Rb3 Ra5 42. Be1 Ra4 43. Bf2 Bc5 44. Bxc5 dxc5 45. Rb5 Rc4

The line 45. ... Ra3+ 46. Ke2 Rxa2+ 47. Kd3 h5 48. Rxc5+ Kg4 49. Ke3 leads only to a draw as it falls one tempo short.

46. a4 Rc3+ 47. Ke2 Ke4 48. a5 c4 49. Rh5 Rc2+ 50. Kd1 Ra2 51. Rxh7 Rxa5 52. Kc2 c3 53. Rh4+ Kf3, Draw agreed.

(see next game top of next page)

Benko's Bafflers

Most of the time these studies resemble positions that could actually occur over-the-board. You must simply reach a theoretically won or drawn position for White.

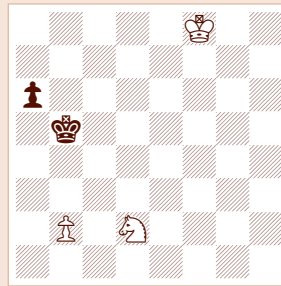
Solutions can be found on page 79.

Please e-mail submissions for Benko's Bafflers to:

pbenko@uschess.org

Problem I

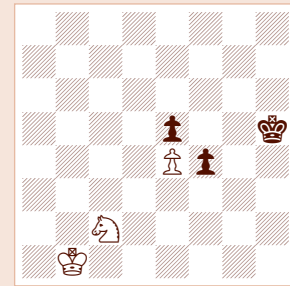
I. Kashdan-I.A. Horowitz (1928)



White to play and win

Problem II

D. Blundell (1994)



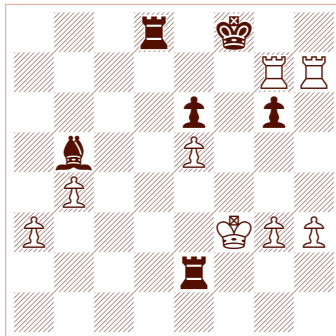
White to play and win

Blunder!

GM Hikaru Nakamura (FIDE 2774)

GM Levon Aronian (FIDE 2808)

20th Amber Blindfold



White to play

This is an easy winning position for White. However, he is entertaining the false belief that Black has a bishop on c4.

70. Rc7?

Having the right position in mind, the same idea with the mate threat 70. Rb7 Kg8 71. Rxb5 would have ended the game.

70. ... Kg8

There was still the opportunity to improve his position with 71. Rcg7+, but instead ...

71. Rc4?? Bxc4

... happened and White resigned. Similar oversights happened to other players.

Rook behind passed pawn

GM Veselin Topalov (FIDE 2775)

GM Levon Aronian (FIDE 2808)

20th Amber Blindfold

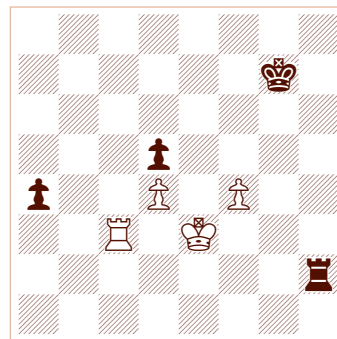
(see diagram top of next column)

42. Rc6

A quick draw is 42. Rc5 Rh3+ (42. ... a3 43. Rxd5) 43. Kd2 a3 44. Kc2—maybe White was dreaming of a win?

42. ... a3 43. f5?

Either 43. Kf3 or 43. Ra6 would still



White to play

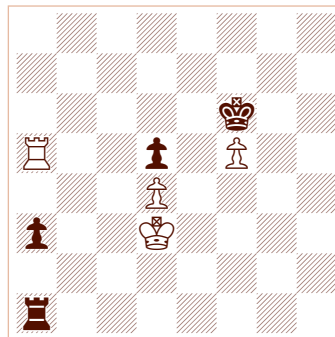
have led to easily drawn positions.

43. ... Rh6!

Wake up time has arrived for White. He now has to fight for the draw.

44. Rc1?

An elementary error! White should place the rook behind the passed-pawn! So 44. Rc7+! Kf6 45. Rc5 Rh1 46. Ra5 Ra1 (46. Kg5) 47. Kd3 would still draw.



Analysis after 47. Kd3

44. ... Ra6 45. Kd3 a2 46. Ra1 Kf6 47. Kc3 Kxf5 48. Kb2 Ke4

The rest is on automatic pilot since any pawn ending is lost for White.

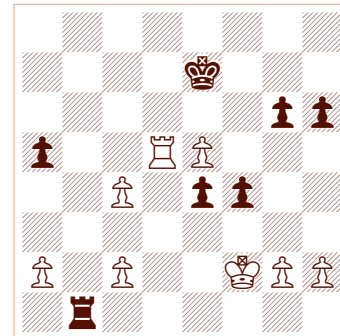
49. Re1+ Kxd4 50. Ka1 Kc3 51. Rc1+ Kd2 52. Rc2+ Kd3 53. Rc3+ Ke4 54. Rh3 d4 55. Rh4+ Kd3 56. Rh3+ Kc4 57. Rc3+ Kd5 58. Rh3 Rb6 59. Kxa2 Kc4 60. Rh1 Kc3, White resigned.

Geometrical motif

GM Magnus Carlsen (FIDE 2815)

GM Viswanathan Anand (2817)

20th Amber Blindfold



Black to play

36. ... Rb2?

Instead of pawn hunting, making the most of the strength of his advanced passed pawns could have won quickly. 36. ... e3+! 37. Ke2 Rg1 38. Kf3 Rf1+, etc.

37. Rd4!

Eliminates the above danger.

37. ... Rxc2+ 38. Kf1 f3 39. gxf3 exf3 40. Rd6 g5 41. Rxh6 Rxa2 42. h3 a4 43. Rf6??

There was no time for this. Instead, 43. Ra6 Ra1! (43. ... Rh2 44. Rxa3 Rxh3 45. Ra3) 44. Kf2 a3 45. c5 a2 46. c6 was still equal since the white pawn would have arrived just in time.

43. ... Ra1+ 44. Kf2 a3 45. Ra6 a2, White resigned.

He gives up because the well-known 46. c5 Rh1 47. Rxa2 Rh2+ geometrical motif wins. White woke up too late. ■

See more about the Melody Amber Tournament on Chess Life Online, March archives, at uschess.org, including a report by Macauley Peterson about Hikaru Nakamura's "A First and Final Trip to Amber." Also see the official website, amberchess20.com.

2011 TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX SUMMARY

Trophies Plus awards \$12,500 in cash prizes in the 2011 Grand Prix!

2011 TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

The following point totals reflect all rated event information as of June 28 for the 2011 Grand Prix. All Grand Prix updates are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete.



Several strong performances at the world-famous Marshall Chess Club in New York City have propelled **GM TAMAZ GELASHVILI** of Georgia to the top of the Grand Prix race for the first time.

OVERALL STANDINGS

	NAME	STATE	PTS.
1	GM Tamaz Gelashvili	NY	134.50
2	GM Timur Gareyev	TX	131.50
3	GM Alexander Ivanov	MA	109.18
4	GM Sergey Kudrin	CT	104.02
5	GM Alexander Shabalov	PA	98.85
6	GM Mikheil Kekelidze	NY	93.53
7	GM Alejandro Ramirez	TX	88.00
8	GM Melikset Khachiyan	CA	85.00
9	GM Julio Becerra	FL	77.75
10	IM Jacek Stopa	TX	75.87
11	GM Mesgen Amanov	IL	67.10
12	GM Robert Hess	NY	66.00
13	IM Sam Shankland	CA	65.33
14	IM Robert Hungaski	CT	59.60
15	IM Irina Krush	NY	57.52

CATEGORIES AND PRIZES

\$12,500
IN CASH PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE: \$5,000!

2nd: \$2,500 | 3rd: \$1,000
4th: \$900 | 5th: \$800
6th: \$700 | 7th: \$600
8th: \$500 | 9th: \$300
10th: \$200

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ChessMagnetSchool.com is the sponsor of the 2011 Junior Grand Prix (JGP). Official standings for events received and processed by July 6, 2011 are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete. 2011 JGP prizes were not available as of press time and will be announced at a later date. The method for calculating points has been modified; see uschess.org for the most up-to-date information.

Chess Magnet School provides computer-based online chess training for both adults and children, including those who study independently and those who study under the guidance of a coach or teacher, as well as support for chess coaches and others who teach chess. Chess Magnet School has been a partner with USCF on a number of projects and activities since 2006, and has provided the free program that teaches the rules of chess to newcomers in the "New to Chess" section of USCF's website. USCF members are invited to learn more about Chess Magnet School at www.ChessMagnetSchool.com.

2011 CHESSMAGNETSCHOOL.COM JUNIOR GRAND PRIX TOP OVERALL STANDINGS

Name	State	Pts.
KORBA, NICKY	CA-S	6900
MIZUSHIMA, DEREK	MD	5901
SHUBEN, MATTHEW	CA-S	5260
KOENIG, JAKE	MD	5159
KUMAR, ARAVIND	NJ	5114
ROACH, ANDREW	UT	5114
YAN, KEVIN	NY	4828
QAZI, RAFEH	IL	4765
YEN, MICHAEL J	NJ	4707
LIANG, ADREAM	WI	4689
SETIADIKURNIA, SLOAN	WA	4410
MCVAY, KIERNAN	NJ	4371
ZACK, DANIEL	NJ	4276
MOORTHY, SRINIVAS RAMANUJA	MD	4223
BUDEJEN-JEREZ, ALEJANDRO	PA	4208
JAHANSAHI, BARDIA	PA	4166
TAFALLA, GABRIEL	WA	4120
WINTER, CURTIS A	MD	4096
REDDISH, DYLAN	NY	4092
VIJAY, SAMEER	CA-N	4040

Name	State	Pts.
NGUYEN, PHILIP	PA	4032
XIANG, JOHN	OH	3971
KADAVERU, AJIT	VA	3970
ORDONEZ, ED	MD	3940
CLAY, DORIAN HAMILTON	WA	3938
SCHNEIDER, THOMAS G	WI	3933
KAUFMANN, JONATHAN	NJ	3932
VISWANADHA, KESAV	CA-N	3931
ROY, MYRIAM		3907
CHEN, BRANDON	WA	3882
UNMANN, EVAN MICHAEL	PA	3852
GUSEV, NIKITA		3850
ZHU, HONG RUI	NY	3850
PETERSON, MICK	CA-S	3759
REEDER, CHARLIE PARKER	NY	3706
SCHEIN, AARON O	NY	3702
SPIEGEL, EVAN	IL	3630
QI, HENRY	NY	3622
CUNNINGHAM, PATRICK	WI	3619
ZEELANDER, ZACHARY JACOB	PA	3609

LETTER OF INTENT

A Promise For Tomorrow

In future support of the work of the **U.S. Chess Trust**, I want to provide for future generations and to ensure the continuity of services by the U.S. Chess Trust.

Therefore,

☐ I have made provision ☐ I will make provision

to support the U.S. Chess Trust by:

- ☐ making a bequest or endowment provision in my Will
- ☐ creating a charitable remainder or lead trust naming the U.S. Chess Trust as a beneficiary.
- ☐ establishing an endowment or special fund at the U.S. Chess Trust.
- ☐ directing the trustees or directors of my foundation to continue beyond my lifetime making an annual gift to the U.S. Chess Trust.
- ☐ Making an outright gift to the U.S. Chess Trust during my lifetime in the sum of \$_____.

This Letter of Intent represents my commitment to the work of the U.S. Chess Trust. It does not represent a legal obligation and may be changed by me at any time.

Whatever the amount of your gift, when you leave a legacy for the future of the U.S. Chess Trust, you are an important part of the Promise for Tomorrow.

Please send with your name, address, phone, and email contact information and email Barbara DeMaro at bduscf@aol.com (845-527-1167)



U.S. Chess Trust

*Please note that there is a required amount in order to be listed as a Future Legacy Donor. Write or send an email to Barbara DeMaro, bduscf@aol.com for this amount. Donations to the U.S. Chess Trust are tax-deductible. A 501(c)(3) organization. BD:08/03



"Tasty Treasures"

It's the all new original recipe book from the West Virginia Lions Clubs, coordinators and sponsors of the U.S. Blind Chess Championship – A USCF National Event!

West Virginia Lions Clubs, along with current event organizer Rick Varchetto, have been key sponsors of this U. S. Chess Federation national event for the past three years. Now they've compiled this great recipe book and are helping fund future U. S. Blind Chess Championships by passing on all proceeds. At just \$10 each, plus shipping and handling, you'll enjoy the recipes and the good feeling of helping to continue the US Blind Chess Championship.

Contact: Richard "Rick" Varchetto by email at ricky@meer.com or by phone at 304-636-4034 and place your order now!

USCF National Events

Note: Tournament memberships not valid for National events

SEE TLA IN THIS ISSUE FOR DETAILS

2011 U.S. Blind Chess Championship August 19-20 • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

2011 U.S. Class Championships Sept. 30-Oct. 2 or Oct. 1-2 • Houston, Texas

2011 U.S. Game/60 Championship October 1 • Santa Clara, California

2011 U.S. Game/30 Championship October 2 • Santa Clara, California

2011 52nd ANNUAL U.S. ARMED FORCES OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP October 8-10 • Arlington, Virginia

2011 U.S. Junior Chess Congress October 29-30 • Santa Clara, California

FUTURE EVENTS *(Watch for details)*

2011 National Scholastic (K-12) Nov. 18-20 • Dallas, Texas

2011 Pan-American Intercollegiate Championship Dec. 27-30 • Dallas, Texas

2012 National High School (K-12) Championship April 13-15 • Minneapolis, Minnesota

2012 National Junior High (K-9) Championship April 27-29 • San Diego, California

2012 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 11-13 • Nashville, Tennessee

2012 U. S. Open Aug. 4-12 • Vancouver, Washington

2012 National Scholastic (K-12) Nov. 30-December 2 • Orlando, Florida

2013 SuperNationals V April 5-7 • Nashville, Tennessee

2013 National Scholastic (K-12) December 13-15 • Lake Buena Vista, Florida

2014 National High School (K-12) Championship April 4-6 • San Diego, California

2014 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 9-11 • Dallas, Texas

2014 National Scholastic (K-12) December 12-14 • Orlando, Florida

2015 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 8-10 • Nashville, Tennessee

2015 National Scholastic (K-12) December 5-7 • Orlando, Florida

Bids

Note: Organizers previously awarded options for USCF National Events must still submit proposals (including sample budgets) for their events.

NOW PAST DEADLINE OF JUNE 1, 2010:

2011 U.S. Masters

2011 U.S. Junior Closed

DEADLINE JULY 1, 2011:

2012 U.S. Amateur Team (East, North, South, West)

2012 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2012 U.S. Amateur (East, North, South, West)

2012 National Open

2012 U.S. Game 10 Championship

2012 U.S. Game 15 Championship

2012 U.S. Game 60 Championship

2012 U.S. Action G/30 Championship

2012 U.S. Class Championship

2012 U.S. Masters Championship

2012 Collegiate Final Four (from 2011 Pan Am Intercollegiate)

DEADLINE JULY 1, 2012:

2013 U.S. Senior Open

DEADLINE JULY 1, 2013:

2014 U.S. Senior Open

OVERDUE BIDS

*Please contact the National Office if you are interested in bidding for a National Event. The USCF recommends that bids be submitted according to the following schedule. However, bids may be considered prior to these dates. *USCF reserves the right to decline all bids and organize the event itself.*

ATTENTION AFFILIATES

The United States Chess Federation has partnered with R.V. Nuccio & Associates Insurance Brokers, Inc. to provide USCF affiliates with affordable annual liability and short term event insurance. The liability coverage is available for approximately \$265 per year for a \$1,000,000 limit of insurance. Also available is contents property and bonding insurance. For more information, please go to www.rvnuccio.com/chess-federation.html. For event insurance, please go to www.rvnuccio.com.

JUNIOR TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS (JTMS) AVAILABLE

USCF's Tournament Membership (TM) program, which allows players the option of joining for only one event at a greatly reduced rate, has been modified. Junior TMs for age 24 or below may be purchased from affiliates and are now available to them for \$7 online with rating report submissions. They include one issue of *Chess Life* or *Chess Life for Kids*, and \$5 of this fee may be applied to a full membership within 60 days. JTMS not valid for National events. Many scholastic tournaments exist that are not USCF-rated, and the USCF is concerned that the reason is that organizers fear losing players unwilling or unable to pay entry fee plus dues. The availability of a \$7 option should cause some of these events to switch to being USCF-rated, promoting membership. The idea behind the TMs is not to sign up a lot of them, but rather to cause more USCF-rated tournaments to be held. **More details on uschess.org.**

The TLA pages "Information for Organizers, TDs, and Affiliates" and "Information for Players" can now be found online at main.uschess.org/go/tlainfo.

Rating supplements will be updated EACH MONTH on the USCF website, and each monthly rating supplement will be used for all tournaments beginning in that month, unless otherwise announced in Chess Life. The USCF website at www.uschess.org also frequently lists unofficial ratings. The purpose of unofficial ratings is to inform you of your progress; however, most tournaments do not use them for pairing or prize purposes. If you would otherwise be unrated, organizers may use your unofficial rating at their discretion, even without advance publicity of such a policy.

The Tournament Announcements on the following pages are provided for the convenience of USCF members and for informational purposes only. Unless expressly indicated otherwise, neither the U.S. Chess Federation nor *Chess Life* warrants the accuracy of anything contained in these Tournament Announcements. Those interested in additional information about or having questions concerning any of these tournaments are directed to contact the organizer listed. *Chess Life* will exercise all due diligence in providing accurate typesetting of non-camera-ready copy but assumes no responsibility for errors made in such work.

Effective with TLAs submitted after November 10, 2010, the following additional rules apply to Grand Prix tournaments:

- 1) The guaranteed first prize must be at least \$150.
- 2) No more than one prize under \$100 may count towards the Grand Prix point total.
- 3) Prizes below the maximum entry fee do not count towards the Grand Prix point total.

SUBMISSIONS: If possible e-mail your tla to: tla@uschess.org (Joan DuBois). For the deadline schedule, formatting help and Grand Prix information see September 2010 *Chess Life* pg. 69-70 or check <http://main.uschess.org/go/tlinfo>. Payment can be done online through the TD/Affiliate area or sent to: U.S. Chess, TLA Dept., PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557.

Nationals

Aug. 19-20, Pennsylvania

2011 U.S. Blind Chess Championship

4 SS or 4 RR (depends on # of players), G/135. Holiday Inn Express Hotel, 5311 Campbells Run Road (near airport), Pittsburgh, PA 15277, (412) 788-8400. Free shuttle to/from airport. **EF:** Free. **Reg.:** Onsite - Thurs. 6-8pm, Fri. 9-9:30am. **Rds.:** (tentative), Fri. 10-4, Sat. 9-3. **Prize Fund:** TBA. **NOTE:** All players must be classified as Legally Blind and bring proof. **Contact:** Rick Varchetto, richard521@suddenlink.net. Phone: (h) 304-636-4034, (c) 304-614-4034 or Joan DuBois, tla@uschess.org, (c) 931-200-3412. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 30-Oct. 2 or Oct. 1-2, Texas

Grand Prix Points: 30

2011 U.S. Class Championships

SSS, G/120 (2-day Option, Rd 1, G/60), \$11,000 b/200 full paid entries, 70% Guaranteed. Junior entries, all Class E, and Unrated Section count as 2/3. Free entry for GMs. Free entry for IMs, deducted from winnings. Hilton Hobby Airport, 8181 Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77061, www.houstonhobbyairport.hilton.com. Free parking! \$89 HRI 713-645-3000, Group Code: USSC. **8 Sections**, Rated players may play up one class only. **MASTER** (2200/upp), FIDE Rated, \$1,200-550-300 (U2400: 400-200-100), **EXPERT** (2000-2199), \$800-400-200, **CLASS A** (1800-1999), \$800-400-200, **CLASS B** (1600-1799), \$800-400-200, **CLASS C** (1400-1599), \$800-400-200, **CLASS D** (1200-1399), \$800-400-200, **CLASS E** (U1200), \$300-200-100, **Unrated**, \$300-100. National Class Champion title and plaques to each Class winner. Tie-breaks: MSCO. **EF:** \$75 post-marked or on line by 9/23, \$85 after. **Special EF:** \$45 by 9/23 (\$55 after) for all players in Class E, Unrated Section, and Juniors U18 in Class C or D. No checks on site. **3-Day Schedule:** Registration Fri (9/30) 5-7pm. Rds. Fri 8pm, Sat 1pm & 6:30pm, Sun 9:30am & 2:30pm. **2-Day Schedule:** Registration Sat (10/1) 8-9am. Rds. Sat 10am, 1pm (merges with 3-Day Schedule) & 6:30pm, Sun 9:30am & 2:30pm. Byes for all rounds, must commit before end of Rd 2. **SIDE EVENTS: 5-min BLITZ**, Sat after Rd 3, 2 sections, entries will be split in Upper and Lower, \$10 EF on site, 75% returned in prizes; **SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENT**, SSS, G/30, One day only, Sat 10/1, \$20 by 9/23, \$25 after. Sections: K-3, K-6, K-9, K-12. **Prizes:** Trophies to top 15 in each division. All scholastic players in this side event will receive a commemorative medal. **ENTRIES:** Mail to F.L. Guadalupe, 305 Willow Pointe Dr., League City, TX 77573. Tournament website link at uschess.org. **Info:** flguadalupe@aol.com, (713) 530-7820. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 1, California, Northern

Grand Prix Points: 20 (enhanced)

2011 U.S. Game/60 Championship

4SS, G/60 - \$4,000 b/117 fully paid entries - 75% guaranteed. Hotel rate \$99 by 9/16: Hyatt Regency, 5101 Great America Pkwy., Santa Clara, CA 95054. Free Parking. In 3 sections, **Open Section:** \$500-201-105, u2300 \$200-110, u2100 \$150, u2000 \$130, u1900 \$100. **1400-1799 Section:** \$500-201-100, u1700 \$200, u1600 \$150, u1500 \$100. **Under 1400 Section:** \$500-201-100, u1300 \$200, u1200 \$150, u1100 \$100. Unrated may play in any section but maximum prize is \$100 except no limit in the Open Section. Trophies for top 3 places in each section. **Entry Fee:** Mailed by Mon 9/26 or online by Tue 9/27: \$60. Online 9/28-29 or onsite: \$75. Add \$20 to play-up in a higher section. **DISCOUNTS:** \$10 off each event if also registering for G/30 on Oct 2. \$10 cash rebate onsite if staying at the hotel under chess rate. **Byes:** One 1/2 pt bye allowed must commit by start of Rd 2. Reenter with 1/2pt bye in Rd 1 for \$39. September 2011 Supp. CCA min, TD discretion used to place players accurately. **SIDE KIDS EVENT** for K-12 students rated under 1000: 4SSxG/60 in 2 sections, 600-999 and under 600. **Prizes:** Trophies to Top 10 players and Top 5 teams in each section. Best 4 players count for team score. Also trophies to top u800, top u700 in 600-999 section and top u400, top u300, and top u200 in u600 section. EF by Mon 9/26 or online by Tue 9/27: \$39. Online 9/28-29 or onsite: \$54. Add \$10 to play-up in a higher section. **Schedule:** Onsite Registration 8:30-9:30am; Round Times: 10:00am, 12:30, 3:00, and 5:30pm. **Mail payments to:** Bay Area Chess, 1590 Oakland Rd., Suite B213, San Jose 95131. \$20 for refunds. T: 408-786-5515. E: ask@BayAreaChess.com. **Info/Form/Entries:** BayAreaChess.com/usg60g30. NS, NC, W.

Oct. 2, California, Northern

Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced)

2011 U.S. Game/30 Championship

4SS, G/30 - \$3,006 b/88 fully paid entries - 75% guaranteed. Hotel rate \$99 by 9/16: Hyatt Regency, 5101 Great America Pkwy., Santa Clara, CA 95054. Free Parking. In 3 sections, **Open Section:** \$400-200-102, u2300 \$101, u2100 \$101, u2000 \$100, u1900 \$99. **1400-1799 Section:** \$400-200-102, u1700 \$101, u1600 \$100, u1500 \$99. **Under 1400 Section:** \$400-200-102, u1300 \$101, u1200 \$100, u1100 \$99. Unrated may play in any section but maximum prize is \$100 except no limit in the Open Section. Trophies for top 3 places in each section. **Entry Fee** mailed by Mon 9/26 or online by Tue 9/27: \$60. Online 9/28-29 or onsite: \$75. Add \$20 to play-up in a higher section. **DISCOUNTS:** \$10 off each if also registering for G/60 on Oct 1. \$10 cash rebate onsite if staying at the hotel. **Byes:** One 1/2 pt bye allowed must commit by start of Rd 2. Reenter with 1/2pt bye in Rd 1 for \$39. September 2011 Supp. CCA min, TD discretion used to place players accurately. **SIDE KIDS EVENT** for K-12 students rated under 1000: 5SSxG/30 in 2 sections, 600-999 and under 600. Trophies to Top 10 players and Top 5 teams in each section. Best 4 players count for team score. Also trophies to top u800, top u700 in 600-999 section and top u400, top u300, and top u200 in u600 section. EF by Mon 9/26 or online by Tue 9/27: \$39. Online 9/28-29 or onsite: \$54. Add \$10 to play-up in a higher section. **Schedule:** Onsite Registration 8:30-9:30am; Round Times: 10:00am, 12:30, 3:00, and 5:30pm. **Mail payments to:** Bay Area Chess, 1590 Oakland Rd., Suite B213, San Jose 95131. \$20 for refunds. T: 408-786-5515. E: ask@BayAreaChess.com. **Info/Form/Entries:** BayAreaChess.com/usg60g30. NS, NC, W.

A Heritage Event!

Oct. 8-10, Virginia

52nd ANNUAL U.S. ARMED FORCES OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

6SS, Rds. 1-2 G/90, Rds. 3-4 G/2, Rds. 5-6 30/90, SD/1, Henderson Hall (Arlington), VA (Tournament to be held at Smith Gym). Military ID required for access to Henderson Hall. **EF:** FREE! **Reg.:** 0800-0845. **Rds.:** 0900-1230-1600, 0900-1400, 0900. Two 1/2 point byes available. **Open** to all Active Duty, Reservists, Military Retirees, Cadets, Midshipmen, and ROTC who have a USCF Membership. Trophies/Plaques to Top 3 overall players, Top player of each DoD service on Active Duty, Top Reservist, Top Retiree, Top three Cadets/Midshipmen/ROTC, Top two each class A-D and below, Highest Upset, and Top Henderson Hall Champion, and other Trophies/Plaques and lots of special prizes, such as gift certificates provided by The House of Staunton, a MonRoi Personal Chess Manager donated by MonRoi Inc., or a pair of front row Dream Seat tickets for the 112th Army-Navy game (10 Dec 2011) provided by the USO (tickets are non-transferable), are just some of the special prizes. The 8th Armed Forces Cade /Midshipmen Championship and the Henderson Hall Open Championship will be conducted in conjunction with the Armed Forces Open. AFOSCC Awards ceremony to be held upon completion of tournament. For those that arrive early there will be a **4SS, G/29 Armed Forces Open Warm-Up/Henderson Hall Amateur Championship** conducted Friday night, 10/7 starting at 1800. The Annual **Armed Forces Chess committee meeting** will be held on Saturday, 10/8 at 2000 along with the 2nd U.S. Armed Forces Bughouse Championship. The **G/5 Armed Forces Open Blitz Championship** will be held Sunday 10/9 at 2000. WBCA Rules. HR: \$95-95-105-115, Hyatt Regency Crystal City, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202 (703-418-1234), reserve by 9/21 or rate may increase. Special chess rate valet parking \$6/day, with guestroom. As an alternative to the Hyatt Regency, please look at the AFOSCC website for additional Armed Forces billeting options provided by the local bases. **Info/Ent:** by mail to John Farrell, 2500 North Van Dorn St #1623, Alexandria, VA 22302 or preferably by e-mail to johnyusmc@aol.com. **Please include:** Rank, Name, USCF ID #, current rating, branch of service, and t-shirt size when registering for the tournament. If you register prior to 17 September 2011, you will receive a free 2011 AFOSCC t-shirt. No winning to get a t-shirt if you register late! **Additional details for the tournaments can be found on the 2011 AFOSCC website at:** <http://www.timbeek.com/afoscc.html>. 100% Entry Fee refunded in case of power outage. Bring clocks! NC. NS. W.

Oct. 29-30, California, Northern

2011 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

(Blitz on October 28). Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Pkwy., Santa Clara, CA 95054. Free parking. **Hotel rate** \$99 only. **Hotel:** Hyatt Regency, 5101 Great America Pkwy., Santa Clara, CA 95054. **Main Event:** Trophies to top 20 players and top 10 teams, including ties, in each section. Participation medals to all entrants. **7 Sections based on age:** Ages 5 & under, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, and 16-18. **Onsite Registration:** Saturday/Sunday 7:30-8:00am. **Round Times:** Saturday & Sunday 9am, 12:15, 3:15pm for all sections except Ages 5 & under is Saturday 9, 10:45, 12:15, 1:45, 3:15pm and Ages 6-7 is Sunday 9, 10:45, 12:15, 1:45, 3:15pm. **Time Controls:** All rounds will be G/75 except sections Ages 5 & under and 6-7 will be G/30. **EF by 10/21: 1-day \$48, 2-day \$60, Play-up +15. Late fee (10/22-27) +\$20, Onsite only after 10/27: +\$40. Side events: Blitz** (Fri Reg: 5:30-6pm, Games 6:30-8:30pm) and **Bughouse** (Sat Registration: 5:30-6pm, Games 6:30-8:30pm) in 3 sections (7 & under, 8-10, 11-18). **EF:** Blitz \$15, Bughouse \$15. Late fee (10/22-27) +\$2, Onsite only after 10/27: +\$5. USCF Membership required for bughouse and all sections except ages 7 & under. October 2011 Supplement & TD desc to place players accurately. Reg early to save. **Organizers/TDs:** S. Azhar, R. Koepcke, T. Langland, & J. McCumiskey. **More info & flyer:** BayAreaChess.com/usjr11. **Register online at:** BayAreaChess.com/my/usjr11. **Quest:** ask@BayAreaChess.com. NS, NC, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP G/75 rounds.**

Grand Prix

Aug. 5-7 or 6-7, Maryland

Grand Prix Points: 30

Potomac Open

SSS, 40/100, SD/45 + 30" incr (Rnd 1 G/90 + 30" incr) (2-day schedule: rds 1-2 G/40 + 30" incr) U1400 & U1100 G/120 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/60). Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-468-1100. \$8based on score. **5 sections:** Open FIDE rated: 5.0 = \$1500, 4.5 = \$700, 4.0 = \$350, 3.5 = \$150 [min \$1500 payout, top score group raised if less than \$1500] U1900 & U1700: 5.0 = \$1200, 4.5 = \$600, 4.0 = \$300, 3.5 = \$100. U1400 & U1100: 5.0 = \$500, 4.5 = \$250, 4.0 = \$125,

3.5 = \$50. Unrated may not win over \$100 in U1100, \$200 U1400, or \$400 U1700. **Sets and board provided. Clocks provided in the Open section. Optionally, pairings can be texted to your phone. Free Sunday morning continental breakfast for players.** Free parking for day guests. **EF:** \$90 by 7/23, \$100 by 8/2, and \$105 online only by 8/4, \$110 at the door. **Special EFs:** \$35 less for U1400 & U1100, GMs free, \$50 deducted from prize, IMs \$45 off entrance fee, \$20 deducted from prize. **HR:** \$75, limited number of free rooms Sat. night for GMs. Rooms may not be available after 7/23. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 7pm, rds Fri 8, Sat 11&6, Sun 9&3. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10am rds11, 2:30&6, Sun 9&3 U1400&U1100 3-day schedule Reg. ends Fri 7 pm, rds Fri 8, Sat 11&3:30, Sun 9&1:00 U1400&U1100 2-day schedule Reg. ends Sat 10am rds 11, 1:15 & 3:30, Sun 9& 1:00. **Ent:** Michael Regan, 1827 Thornton Ridge Rd, Towson MD 21204. Detailed rules, more information and registration at <http://thetopotomacopen.com>. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 6, Texas

Grand Prix Points: 6

Temple Chess Club Summer Swiss

Sponsored by the Temple Chess Club, <http://templecc.clubspaces.com>. 3 Round Swiss, G/90, 2 Sections (Open & Reserve U1400). **Gtd. Prizes:** **Open:** 1st = \$200, 2nd = \$100, 1st U1700 = \$75; **Reserve (U1400):** 1st = \$100, 2nd = \$75, 1st U200 = \$50. **UNR** placed at the discretion of the TD. Holiday Inn, (254) 778-8295, 5247 S. General Bruce Dr., (Service road on East side of I-35 just North of Midway exit #297), Temple, TX, 76502. **EF:** \$25 by July 30, \$30 at site, \$5 discount on EF to all current Texas Chess Association members, USCF membership required. **Reg.:** 8-8:45. **Rds.:** 9 am, 1 pm, 4:15 pm. **For more information contact:** Forrest Marler at fmarler@gmail.com (254) 231-7026 or Wayne Sampson at wsampson@hotmail.com (254) 231-5340. **Can pre-register by check to Forrest Marler before July 30 to:** Forrest Marler, 4102 West Adams Avenue #104, Temple, TX 76504. NS, NC, W.

Aug. 6-7, California, Southern

Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced)

San Diego County Championship

at the San Diego Chess Club, 2225 Sixth Ave., San Diego, CA 92101. \$3,500 prize fund, based on 70 players. 5 Rd SS, 3 Sections, Rds are Sat 10 AM, 2 PM & 6 PM (G/90 with 5 sec delay), and Sun 10 AM & 3 PM (G/120 w/ 5 sec delay), 1 bye available in Rounds 1-4. **EF:** \$50 If rcvd by 8/05, otherwise \$60. Special rate for U1400 or Unr is only \$25 in advance or \$30 at door. Book prize only for Unr players. SCFC membership Req'd, (\$18 Adult/\$10 Jr), for all So. Calif. residents, this is a State Championship Qualifier. **Reg.:** 9 AM to 9:45. **Prizes: Open Section:** \$500-250, BU 2400 \$200-50 BU 2300 \$200-50, BU2200 \$200-50, BU2100 \$200-50. **Reserve Section (under 2000):** \$300-150, BU 1900 \$200-50, BU1800 \$200-50, BU1700 \$200-50. **Booster Section (under 1600):** \$180-75, BU1500 \$100-50, BU1400 \$75-25, Plus \$15 Best Game Prize in each Section. **Ent:** SDCC, P081 120162, San Diego, CA 92112. **Info:** call Bruce Baker (619) 239-7166, or see the SDCC website <http://sdchessclub.multiply.com>. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

Aug. 11-14, 12-14 or 13-14, Massachusetts

Grand Prix Points: 120 (enhanced)

41st annual Continental Open

6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/50). Host Hotel at Cedar Lake,

USCF Membership Rates Premium (P) and Regular (R) (U.S., CANADA, MEXICO)

Type	1 yr	2yr	3yr
Adult P	\$49	\$85	\$120
Adult P **	\$42	\$78	\$113
Adult R	\$41	\$70	\$98
Adult R **	\$34	\$63	\$91
Senior (65+) **	\$36	\$65	\$93
Young Adult P (U25)*	\$32	\$59	\$85
Youth P (U16)*	\$27	\$49	\$70
Scholastic P (U13)*	\$23	\$42	\$60
Young Adult R (U25)*	\$24	\$43	\$61
Youth R (U16)*	\$20	\$36	\$51
Scholastic R (U13)*	\$16	\$28	\$39

Premium membership provides a printed copy of Chess Life (monthly) or Chess Life for Kids (bimonthly) plus all other benefits of regular membership. Regular membership provides online-only access to Chess Life and Chess Life for Kids; TLA Bulletin will be mailed to adults bimonthly and to scholastic members three times per year. Youth provides bimonthly Chess Life, Scholastic bimonthly Chess Life for Kids, others listed above monthly Chess Life. See www.uschess.org for other membership categories. Dues are not refundable and may be changed without notice.

**Ages at expiration **Purchased online only*

366 Main St (Rt 20 West), Sturbridge, MA 01566 (I-84 Exit 3, near I-90). Free parking. Experience early 19th century America at Old Sturbridge Village (see www.osv.org). **Prizes \$30,000** based on 250 paid entries (re-entries & \$60 less EF count half), minimum \$21,000 (70% of each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections. **Open:** \$3000-1500-700-400-300, clear or tiebreak win \$100 bonus, top U2400/Unr \$1800-1000. **FIDE. Under 2200:** \$2000-1000-600-400-300. **Under 2000:** \$2000-1000-600-400-300. **Under 1800:** \$2000-1000-600-400-300. **Under 1600:** \$1800-900-500-400-300. **Under 1300:** \$1600-800-400-300-200. **Under 1000:** \$500-300-150-100-50. **Unrated** may enter any section, with prize limit U2000 \$900, U1800 \$700, U1600 \$500, U1300 \$300, U1000 \$200; balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 6 sections EF:** 4-day \$144, 3-day \$143, 2-day \$142 mailed by 8/4, all \$145 online at chesstour.com by 8/8, \$150 phoned by 8/8 (406-896-2038, entry only, no questions), \$160 (no checks, credit cards OK) at tmt. No credit card mailed entries. GMs free; \$140 deducted from prize. **EF for all in Under 1000 Section & unrated in U1300:** all \$60 less. **All:** MACA membership (\$12, under 18 \$6) required for rated MA residents, WMCA accepted for western MA residents. Re-entry \$80; not available in Open Section. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **4-day schedule:** Reg Thu to 6:30 pm, rds Thu 7 pm, Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **3-day schedule:** Reg. Fri to 11 am, rds Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg Sat to 9 am, rds Sat 10,12:45, 3:15 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **All schedules:** Bye all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, other sections before rd 4. **HR:** \$87-87, 800-582-3232, 508-347-7393, request chess rate, reserve by 7/28 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** www.chess-tour.com, 845-496-9648. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, California, Northern
Grand Prix Points: 80 (enhanced)
3rd annual Central California Open
55S, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Radisson Hotel, 2233 Ventura St., Fresno, CA 93710. Free parking, free airport shuttle. Cosponsored by Fresno Chess Club. **\$5 16,000** based on 150 paid entries (re-entries & \$60 less EF count half), minimum \$12,000 (75% of each prize) guaranteed. In 5 sections: **Open:** \$1800-900-500-300, clear or tiebreak 1st \$100, top U2300 \$700, U2200 \$600, U2100 \$500/Unr. **FIDE. Under 2000:** \$1300-700-300-200, top U1800 \$500. **Under 1700:** \$1200-600-300-200, top U1500 \$400. **Under 1400:** \$1100-600-300-200, top U1200 \$400. **Under 1000:** \$1000-500-300-200, top U800 \$300. **Unrated** may enter any section, with prize limits **(corrected):** U1000 \$100, U1400 \$200, U1700 \$300, U2000 \$500. Balance goes to next player(s) in line. **EF:** 3-day \$133, 2-day \$132 mailed by 8/4, all \$135 online at chesstour.com by 8/8, \$140 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/8 (entry only, no questions), \$150 at site. **EF for unrated in U1000 or U1400 Section:** all \$60 less. **Mailed**

CONTINENTAL CHESS SCHEDULE

Visit our website at www.chesstour.com for late news, results, games, CCA minimum ratings, advance entries, and more!

Most tournaments have alternate schedules playing less or more days than listed below.

Asterisk means full details in this issue—otherwise, see future issues or our website.

8/12-14: Continental Open, Sturbridge MA*
8/12-14: Indianapolis Open, Indianapolis IN*
8/12-14: Central California Open, Fresno CA*
8/19-21: Manhattan Open, New York NY*
8/26-28: Atlantic Open, Washington DC*
9/3-5: NY State Championship, Albany NY*
9/16-18: Louisville Open, Louisville KY*
10/6-10: Continental Class Champs, Arlington VA*
10/14-16: Midwest Class, Wheeling IL*
10/21-23: Boardwalk Open, Asbury Park NJ*
10/30: Capital Region Open, Schenectady, NY*
11/4-6: Eastern Team Championship, Stamford CT*
11/11-13: Kings Island Open, Mason OH*
11/25-27: National Chess Congress, Philadelphia PA*
12/9-11: New England Senior, Windsor Locks CT*
12/9-11: New England Amateur, Windsor Locks CT
12/10-11: New England Scholastics, Windsor Locks CT*
12/26-29: North American Open, Las Vegas NV*
12/26-29: Empire City Open, New York NY*
1/13-16: Liberty Bell Open, Philadelphia PA
1/13-16: Golden State Open, Concord CA*
3/2-4: Eastern Class Championships, Sturbridge MA
3/9-11: Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills CA
3/16-18: Mid-America Open, St Louis MO
3/16-18: Long Island Open, Ronkonkoma NY
4/4-8: Philadelphia Open, Philadelphia PA
5/24-28: Chicago Open, Wheeling IL
7/4-8: World Open, Philadelphia PA

For later events, see chesstour.com.

EF \$20 less to Fresno Chess Club members. **GMs free**, \$100 deducted from prize. **All:** Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with Chess Life if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. Re-entry \$60; not available in Open Section. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10:30 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **Byes:** OK all, limit 1 bye towards class prizes; must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$89-89, 800-333-3333 (corrected), 559-268-1000, request chess rate, reserve by 8/1 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, Indiana
Grand Prix Points: 100 (enhanced)
6th annual Indianapolis Open
55S, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds1-2 G/75). Wyndham Indianapolis West, 2544 Executive Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46241. Free parking, free airport shuttle. **\$518,000** based on 220 paid entries (re-entries & \$50 off entries count half), \$13,500 (75% each prize) minimum guaranteed. In 6 sections. **Open:** \$2000-1000-600-400, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$1200-600. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$1500-700-400-300. **Under 1900:** \$1500-700-400-300. **Under 1700:** \$1300-600-400-300. **Under 1500:** \$1200-600-300-200. **Under 1200:** \$700-400-200-100. **Unrated** may not win over \$150 in U1200, \$300 U1500, \$500 U1700, or \$700 U1900. **Top 5 sections EF:** 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 if check mailed by 8/4, all \$109 online at chesstour.com by 8/8, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/8 (entry only, no questions), \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site. GMs free; \$100 deducted from prize. **EF for all in U1200 or unrated in U1500:** all \$50 less. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **Re-entry \$60;** not available in Open Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$95-95-95-95, 1-877-361-4511, 317-248-0187; reserve by 7/29 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 13, Virginia
Grand Prix Points: 10
Harris Pavilion "Open Air" (QC)
55S, G/20. Loy E. Harris Pavilion, 9201 Center St., Manassas, VA 20110. 2 Sections. **Open:** EF: \$25 if received by 8/10, \$35 at site. **Prizes \$5800G:** \$250-150-100, U2000-U1600-U1200-Unr. each \$75. **Fun (not USCF-rated):** EF: \$10 if received by 8/10, \$20 at site. **Prizes:** trophies to the top ten. **Both:** Reg: 8:30-9:45. **Rds:** 10-11-12:30-1:30-2:30. **Ent:** Harris Pavilion, 9116 Center St., Ste. 103, Manassas, VA 20110. W.

Aug. 16, New York
Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced)
Marshall Masters
4-SS, G/30. Third Tuesday of every month. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. Open to players rated over 2100 (plus all players scoring over 50% in any MCC Open or U2300 tournament since the prior month's Masters). **EF:** \$40, members \$30, GMs free. **\$5G250-150-100.**

Prizes to U2400, U2300 and biggest upset. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available (Rd 1 or 4 only), request at entry.

Aug. 17-21, 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21, New York
Grand Prix Points: 200 (enhanced)
Manhattan Open
New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St. Across from Penn Station, New York 10001. **Open Section, Aug 17-21:** 9SS, 40/2, SD/1. GM & IM norms possible. **Other sections, Aug 17-21, 19-21 or 20-21:** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds. 1-3 G/50). **Open and U2300 Sections** (except rounds 1-3 of U2300 2-day) are FIDE rated. **Prizes \$100,000** based on 650 paid entries (unrated in U1200 or U1500, seniors, re-entries, GMs, WGMs, foreign IMs count as half entries), else proportional, minimum \$70,000 (70% of each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections, not 6 sections: **Open:** \$10000-5000-2500-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400, clear or tiebreak first \$200 bonus, FIDE Under 2500/Unr \$3000-1500. **Under 2300, Under 2100, Under 1900:** each \$5000-2500-1500-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300. **Under 1700:** \$4500-2200-1300-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300. **Under 1500:** \$4000-2000-1000-800-700-600-500-400-300-300, top Under 1300 \$1000-500. **Under 1200:** \$3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400-300-300, top Under 1000 \$1000-500. **Prize limits:** 1) Players with under 26 lifetime games rated as of 8/11 list may not win over \$500 in U1000, \$1500 in U1200, not in U1300, or \$2500 in U1500. Games rated too late for 8/11 list not counted. 2) If more than 30 points over section maximum on any USCF rating supplement 8/10-7/11, prize limit \$1500. 3) Unrated (0-3 lifetime games rated) cannot win over \$300 in U1200, \$600 U1500, \$1000 U1700, \$1500 U1900, or \$2000 U2100. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. 4) Balance of limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Open Section EF:** GMs, foreign IMs, foreign WGMs: free, \$150 deducted from prize. US IMs, US WGMs, & foreign FIDE rated players: \$125 mailed by 8/9, \$127 online by 8/15, \$130 phoned by 8/15, \$150 at site; \$100 deducted from prize. **US FIDE 2200/plus:** \$225 mailed by 8/9, \$227 online at chesstour.com by 8/15, \$230 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/15, \$250 at site. **US players under 2200 FIDE** or all players with no FIDE rating: \$375 mailed by 8/9, \$377 online by 8/15, \$380 phoned by 8/15, \$400 at site. **U2300 through U1200 Sections EF:** 4-day \$224, 3-day \$223, 2-day \$222 mailed by 8/9, all \$227 online at chesstour.com by 8/15, all \$230 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/15, not by 8/17, all \$250 after 8/15, not by 8/17, until 2 hours before rd 1. No phone entry after 8/15, not by 8/17. **EF \$100 less** to rated seniors over 65 in U2300 or below. **EF \$100 less** to unrated in Under 1200 or Under 1500. **Special 1 year USCF membership** with paper magazine if paid with entry: Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **No checks** at site, credit cards OK. No mailed credit card entries. **Re-entry:** \$100, no re-entry from Open Section to Open Section. **5-day schedule** (Open only): Reg. ends Wed 6 pm, rds. Wed. 7 pm, Thu 12 & 7, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **4-day schedule:** Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 6 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 10 am, rds Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat. 9 am, rds Sat. 10, 12:45, 3:15 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **4-day, 3-day, & 2-day** merge & compete for same prizes. **Byes:** all; limit 3 (limit 2 in last 4 rds), Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **Bring sets, boards, clocks** if possible—none supplied. **HR:** \$145-145-170, 1-800-764-4680, reserve by 7/27 or rate may increase, ask for Continental Chess Association rate. **Car rentals:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633 or reserve car online at chesstour.com. **Foreign player ratings:** Usually 100 points added to FIDE, 100 to FQE, 200/more to most other foreign, no points added to CFC, PR or Jamaica. Some foreign ratings not accepted for U1900 or below. Highest of multiple ratings usually used. Players who fail to disclose foreign or FIDE ratings may be expelled. **US player ratings:** August list used; FIDE ratings used in Open Section. **Special rules:** Players must submit

6th annual INDIANAPOLIS OPEN August 12-14 or 13-14, 2011 \$18,000 projected prizes, \$13,500 minimum!

5 rounds at Wyndham Indianapolis West- free parking, free airport shuttle, \$95 room rate. Choice of 3-day or 2-day schedule. Prizes based on 220 paid entries (last year had 220 players & paid full prizes). In 6 sections:
Open Section: Prizes \$2000-1000-600-400, clear/tiebreak 1st \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$1200-600. FIDE rated, 100 GPP (enhanced).
U2100 Section: \$1500-700-400-300.
U1900 Section: \$1500-700-400-300.
U1700 Section: \$1300-600-400-300. Unrated limit \$500.
U1500 Section: \$1200-600-300-200. Unrated limit \$300.
U1200 Section: \$700-400-200-100. Unrated limit \$150.

FOR FULL DETAILS: see “Grand Prix” in this issue.

to a search for electronic devices if requested by Director. In round 3 or after, players with scores of 80% or over and their opponents may not use headphones, earphones or cellphones or go to a different floor of the hotel without Director permission. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** 845-496-9658, www.chesstour.com. You may request "lowest possible section" if August rating unknown. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 19-21, South Carolina

Grand Prix Points: 40 Columbia Open

5SS, \$5000 Guaranteed. 30/90, G/60 (2day Round 1 G/90). Hilton Garden Inn, 434 Columbian Dr., Columbia, SC 29212. **HR:** \$89 803 407-6640. Reserve by July 30, Mention Columbia Open Chess Tournament. In 3 Sections, **Open:** 1st \$1000- 2nd 600 3rd 400. Top U2100 \$100. **U1800:** 1st \$750 2nd 400 3rd 200. Top U1600 \$100. **U1400:** 1st \$750 2nd 400 3rd 200. Top U1200 \$100. **Entry Fee:** \$59 by August 12. \$75 after August 12. Free entry to 2200+ (deduct \$59 from winnings). \$25 Re-entry. One half point bye available any round. Round 4 & 5 must declare before Round 3. **Entries:** Erik Murrah, 603 Westbrook Way, Lexington, SC 29072. www.columbiaopen.com. **Info:** Erik Murrah, emurrah@gmail.com. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 20, Tennessee

Grand Prix Points: 6 19th Battle of Murfreesboro

5-SS, rd.1 G/30, rd.2 G/60, rds.3, 4, 5 G/75. Grace Lutheran Church, 811 E. Clark Blvd., Murfreesboro, TN. **EF:** \$25 by 8/18, \$30 at site. **\$S (\$160, top 2 G, class prizes b/6 entries per class, else proportional):** \$200-120, X, A, B, C, D, E/below, Unr. each \$120. **Reg.:** 8:00-8:45am. **Rds.:** 9:00-10:00-12:30-3:00-5:30. **Ent:** Rutherford County Chess Club, P.O. Box 1593, Murfreesboro, TN 37133. http://rcccc.us/ (with map to site), rccc@rcccc.us, 615-895-7989. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 20, Virginia

Grand Prix Points: 10 Tracy Callis Memorial

3-Round SS, Game/90 w/5 second delay. St. John's Lutheran Church, 4608 Brambleton Ave. SW, Roanoke, VA 24018. **GUARANTEED PRIZES:** Top Section: \$250-\$150-\$100. Additional Sections: If Octagonals, each is guaranteed \$150-\$125. If Hexagonals, each is guaranteed \$125-\$100. If Quads, each is guaranteed \$125. **ENTRY FEE:** If received by Aug 19, \$30.00. At site, \$40.00. **REGISTRATION:** 6-9 pm on 8/19; 8:30-9:30 am on 8/20. **ROUNDS:** 10-2:30-6:00. **BYES:** One only per tournament; must request before 1st round begins. **ADVANCED ENTRIES:** Roanoke Valley Chess Club, P.O. Box 14143, Roanoke, Va. 24038. **PHONE:** (276) 692-6418. **EMAIL:** info@roanokechess.com. **WEB PAGE:** roanokechess.com NS. NC. W. Bargain Book Sale on site. **FREE LUNCH PROVIDED!**

Aug. 20-21, Texas

Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced) DCC FIDE Open VII

5SS, G/90+30inc. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr., #C, Richardson, TX 75080. **FIDE rated. EF:** \$55. \$35 Junior/Senior/Hcapp. Dallas Chess Club membership required or pay \$5 non member fee. **\$SGTD:** \$300-200-100-50-25. **Reg. 8/20:** 9:45 am - 10:15 am. **Rds.:** 8/20: 10:45 am, 3:10 pm, 7:16 pm, 8/21: 10:45 am, 3:10 pm. 1 half point bye if requested before end of rd 2. Withdrawals and 5th rd zero pt byes are ineligible for prizes. **ENT:** 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. Phone: 214-632-9000 until 8/18 else 972-231-2065. **INFO:** Barb Swafford info@dallaschess.com www.dallaschess.com. NS. NC. **FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, District of Columbia

Grand Prix Points: 120 (enhanced) 43rd annual Atlantic Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Washington Westin Hotel, 1400 M St. NW at Thomas Circle, Washington, DC 20005. **\$SG 20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND.** In 7 sections. **Open:** \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak 1st \$100 bonus, top U2300/Unr \$1200-600. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$1500-700-400-200. **Under 1900:** \$1500-700-400-200. **Under 1700:** \$1500-700-400-200. **Under 1500:** \$1300-700-400-200. **Under 1300:** \$1200-600-300-200. **Under 1000:** \$400-300-200-100, trophies to top 3, first U800, U600, Unrated. **Unrated** may not win over \$100 in U1000, \$200 U1300, \$400 U1500, \$500 U1700, or \$600 U1900. **Top 6 sections EF:** 3-day \$103, 2-day \$102 if check mailed by 8/18, all \$104 online at chesstour.com by 8/23, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/23 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site. **EF for all in U1000 or unrated in U1300:** All \$60 less. No mailed credit card entries. No checks at site, credit cards OK. GMs free, \$90 deducted from prize. Re-entry \$60, not available in Open Section. All: Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 yr USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry: Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat. 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Bye:** all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$96-96, 202-429-1700, reserve by 8/12 or rate may increase. Earlier reservation is recommended; last year the chess room block sold out. Regular rate at this luxury hotel is about \$200! **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Parking:** Valet parking \$10/day to 2 am or \$20/day overnight; garage has limited space. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, Georgia

Grand Prix Points: 6 2011 Boris Kogan Memorial

5-SS, 40/2, SD/30. (2-day schedule, Rd. 1 G/90). Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Ave., Scottdale, GA 30079. \$2,200 b/79, 50% GTD. In 4 sections: **Open:** \$300-200, u2200- \$200, u2050- \$200. **Under**

1900: \$200 \$200-100, u1700-\$200-100. **Under 1500:** \$200-100, u1300-\$200, u1100- \$200. **Unrated:** (not part of base) **EF:** \$20. Trophies to top 5. **All EF:** \$41 if received by 8/25; \$45 at site. Reentry: \$25. **Bye:** all rounds (limit 2), must commit before 1st round. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends at 7:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 7:30, 2-7:30, 10-3:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends 10 a.m. **Rds.:** 10:30 a.m., then merges with 3-day. **Info:** atlantachess@yahoo.com. or (404)-377-4400. **Enter:** Same as above. www.atlanta chessclub.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 26-28, Rhode Island

Grand Prix Points: 10 Blackstone Chess Festival International

Blackstone Chess Center, 250 Main St., Pawtucket, RI. **\$S\$1000 Gtd. FIDE:** 5SS, 40/90 SD/45. **EF:** \$50 (60 at door) GM free. **\$Sb/24:** \$500-300-200; U2100: 125 75. **Rds.:** Fri 8/26 7pm, Sat 8/27 11 & 5, Sun 8/28 10 & 3. **Byes:** Limit 2, Rds. 1-4. **Class Championship (8/27):** 3SS, Game/75, **EF:** \$20 (25 at door). **\$Sb/12:** Under 2000: \$75-45 Under 1500: \$50-30. **Rds.:** Sat 8/27 11am, 2pm, 5pm. **ENT:** Blackstone Chess, 45 Taft Ave., Providence, RI 02906, blackstonechess.com/festival. **INFO:** 401.751.6239. **HR:** \$89 401.723.6700 Comfort Inn, 2 George St., Pawtucket, RI. **Chess Magnet School JGP for FIDE section.**

Aug. 27, California, Southern

Grand Prix Points: 6 San Luis Obispo County Championship

4SS, G/60. 859 Marsh St., S.L.O. 2 sections. **Open:** **EF:** \$45 by 8/25. \$S (625 b/20, top 2 Gtd). 200-125, Top A, B, C, \$100 each (min. 2 each class, else combined). **Reserve:** U1400/Unr. **EF:** \$35 by 8/25. \$S (300b/14) 125-75, U1000 60, Unr. 40. Unr. must win Open prize or Reserve Unr. **Both:** one 1/2 pt bye req. with entry. **EF:** \$10 more at site, \$5 less to SCCF members. **Reg.:** 9-9:30 a.m. **Rds.:** 10, 12:30, 3, 5:30 p.m. **Info & online entry:** www.slochess.com. NS, NC, W. State Ch. Qualifier.

Aug. 27, Pennsylvania

Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced) 2011 August LVCA Grand Prix

4SS, G/75. Lehigh County Senior Center, 1633 Elm St., Allentown, PA 18102. **EF:** \$40, LVCA/LCSC Members \$30. **\$S\$450** 100% Gtd., \$S150-100-50, top U18 \$75, top U16/unrated \$75. UNRATEDS FREE ENTRY, if paying 1 yr USCF Dues. Up to two 1/2 pt byes (if declared by round 3). **REG.:** Ends 10am. **RDS:** 10:30-1:00-4:00-6:30. **Ent/Info:** Check payable: Bruce Davis, 1208 Linden St., Fl. 1, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or 484-866-3045 or bdavis@lehighvalleychess.org, www.lehighvalleychess.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

Aug. 27-28, Iowa

Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced) 57th Iowa Open Championship

IASCA Super GP Qualifier. Clarion Highlander Convention Center, I-80 NE side of Exit 246, Iowa City, IA 52245. 5-SS, 30/75 SD/60T/D5. **Rds.:** 10-2:30-7, 9-1:30. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30. **Prizes:** \$1200 b/35 Gtd 1&2 320+T-200-125 U2000, U1800, U1600 125/60 each. **EF:** \$49 pstmtd

MANHATTAN OPEN

Aug 17-21 (GM, IM norms possible), 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21 at New Yorker Hotel
\$100,000 PROJECTED PRIZES, \$70,000 MINIMUM GUARANTEED!

Open Section, Aug 17-21: 9 rounds, 5 days, 40/2, SD/1, FIDE rated, 200 GPP.

Other sections: 6 rds, choice of 3 schedules. **4-day, 8/18-21, 40/2, SD/1. 3-day, 8/19-21, 40/2, SD/1. 2-day, 8/20-21, rds 1-3 G/50, then 40/2, SD/1. All merge & play for same prizes.** U2300 is FIDE rated.

New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St across from Penn Station, New York NY 10001. Prizes based on 650 paid entries (low fee entries count half). In 7 sections:

Open: \$10000-5000-2500-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400, clear/tiebreak 1st \$200, top FIDE U2500/Unr \$3000-1500.

U2300, U2100, U1900: Each \$5000-2500-1500-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300.

U1700: \$4500-2200-1300-1000-700-600-500-400-300-300.

U1500: \$4000-2000-1000-800-700-600-500-400-300-300, top U1300 \$1000-500.

U1200: \$3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-300-300, top U1000 \$1000-500.

Ratings: FIDE used for Open, August official USCF for others.

Prize limits: 1) If under 26 lifetime games as of 8/11 list, limit \$500 U1000, \$1500 U1200, \$2500 U1500. 2) If official rating was 30/more pts over section max on any list 8/10-7/11, limit \$1500. 3) Unr (0-3 games) limit \$300 U1200, 600 U1500, \$1000 U1700, 1500 U1900, 2000 U2100.

Open entry fee: GM, foreign IM/WGM: \$150 from prize. **US IM/WGM, foreign FIDE:** \$125 mailed by 8/9, \$127 online by 8/15, \$150 at site; \$100 from prize. **US FIDE 2200/plus:** \$225 mailed by 8/9, \$227 online by 8/15, \$230 phoned by 8/15, \$250 site. **US under 2200 FIDE, all with no FIDE:** \$375 mailed by 8/9, \$377 online by 8/15, \$380 phoned by 8/15, \$400 at site. No check at site, credit card OK.

Other sections entry fee: 4-day \$224, 3-day \$223, 2-day \$222 mailed by 8/9, \$227 online by 8/15, \$230 phoned by 8/15, \$250 after 8/15 until 2 hrs before rd 1. All \$100 less to rated seniors 65/over.

Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated.

Entry fee \$100 less to unrated in U1200 or U1500. Re-entry (no Open to Open) \$100.

Special 1 yr USCF with entry: see Chess Life or chesstour.com. USCF mem. required.

5-day schedule (Open only): entries end Wed 6 pm, rds Wed 7 pm, Thu 12 noon & 7 pm, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30.

4-day schedule: entries end Thu 6, rds Thu 7, Fri 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30.

3-day: entries end Fri 10 am, rds Fri 11 am & 6 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30.

2-day: entries end Sat 9 am, rds Sat 10, 12:45, 3:15 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30.

½-pt bye OK all, limit 3 (2 in last 4 rds). Open must commit before rd 2, others rd 4.

Hotel rates: \$145-145-170, 1-800-764-4680, 847-777-6500, reserve by July 27. For room sharing, see www.ccaforum.com.

All: Bring set, board, clock if possible-none supplied. \$15 charge for refunds. JGP.

Entry: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. Online entry at chesstour.com, phone entry 406-896-2038.

8/22, \$55 on site, IM & GM free EF deducted from any prize, Jrs. & Sr. \$10 off, \$10 off Out of state residents, IASCA membership reqd (\$15 reg, \$10 Jr.) or OSA **ENT**: Hawkeye Chess Club, c/o Steve Young, PO Box 2833, Iowa City, IA 52244, Ph# 319.594.3977, steveray@hotmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Aug. 27-28, Michigan
Grand Prix Points: 6
2011 U.P. Open

Masonic Building, 128 W. Washington St., Marquette, MI (parking and entrance in rear of building). 5SS/G 2 hr. **Entry Fee**: \$30 (\$20 for juniors 19 or under). **Prizes**: \$250 first place (GTD), \$125 second (GTD), others based on entries. Trophy to top U. P. resident. **Reg.**: 9-9:30 Sat. **Rds.**: Sat 10:00, 2:30, 7:00; Sun 9:30, 2:00-all times EDT. Byes available all rounds, but must be requested before registration ends. **Info and early entries**: Robert John, 315 E. Prospect St., Marquette, MI 49855, 906-228-8126, rjjr@chartermi.net. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Aug. 27-28 or 28, New York
Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)
Marshall Late August GP

4-SS, 30/90 SD/1. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$50, members \$30. **\$625 Gtd**: \$275-150, U2200/unr \$105, U2000 \$95. Reg ends 15 min before round. **Rds.**: 2 schedules: **2 day** 12:30-5:30 each day, **1 day** (Rds 1 & 2 G/30) 10:11-15:12-30-5:30. Both merge Rd 3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. FIDE (G/30 not FIDE-rateable). **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 1, New York
Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)
10 Grand Prix Points Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 West 10 St., bet. 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$35, Club membs \$25, GMs free (\$20 from prize), may be limited to 1st 36 entries. **\$550 Gtd**: \$200-110-50, Top U2200/unr \$105, U2000 \$95. Limit 2 byes (1 bye for U2000), commit by 8:15. Reentry \$15. CCA ratings may be used. Class pairings OK rd. 4. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible. EFs \$5 EXTRA IF UNDER 10 MINUTES BEFORE GAME!**

A Heritage Event!
Sept. 2-4 or 3-4, North Carolina
Grand Prix Points: 100
2011 North Carolina Open

The Blake Hotel, 555 S. McDowell St., Charlotte, NC 28204. \$12,500 in prizes. Unconditionally guaranteed! In 4 Sections. **Championship**: 5SS, 30/90 SD/60 (2 Day option Rd 1 G/75), FIDE rated. **\$SGTD**: \$2000-1000-800-500-350-200-150-100-100-50. U 2200 \$500. Top two NC residents in the Open Section who have not already qualified are eligible for the NC Invitational/State Championship. **U2000**: 5SS, 30/90 SD/60 (2 Day option Rd 1 G/75). **\$SGTD**: \$700-400-250-150-100-100-100-100-50-50. U1850 \$200. **U1700**: 5SS, 30/90 SD/60 (2 Day option Rd 1 G/75). **\$SGTD**: \$700-400-250-150-100-100-100-100-50-50. U1550 \$200. **U1400**: 5SS, 30/90 SD/60 (2 Day option Rd 1 G/75). **\$SGTD**: \$700-400-

250-150-100-100-100-50-50. U1250 \$200. **ALL: EF**: \$59 for NC residents if received by 8/15, \$64 if received by 8/29, \$69 on site. Free to GM's and IM's. No cash deduction will be taken from your winnings. Re-entry \$35. No re-entry in Open Section. **Memb. Req'd**: \$5/year. OSA. Out of state \$69 if received by 8/15, \$74 if received by 8/29, \$79 on-site. One 1/2 point bye allowed in Rounds 1-4. No elective byes in Rd 5. Byes must be requested prior to rd 1. NCCA Business Meeting 9:30AM on Sunday Sept 4. **ENT**: Walter High, NCCA Entries, 105 N. Crabtree Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. Make checks payable to NCCA. **INFO**: Walter High wnhigh@ncrr.com. **HR**: Mention North Carolina Chess Association for a special rate of \$79 plus tax. Must call by August 15, 2011 to be assured of the special rate. Rate available from Aug. 31 through Sept. 6. This is a first-class hotel with a huge playing space. FREE PARKING for players. (888) 664-6835. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP**. A State Championship Event!

A Heritage Event!
Sept. 2-5, 3-5 or 4-5, New York
Grand Prix Points: 80 (enhanced)
133rd annual NY State Championship

Out of state welcome. 6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option except in Open Section, rds 1-3 G/45). Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Rd., Albany 12205 (Thruway Exit 24, I-87 north to Wolf Rd, Exit 4). Luxurious hotel with indoor/outdoor pool, sauna, fitness center, free parking, free airport shuttle, many restaurants in area. **\$SG 13,000**. In 6 sections. **Open**: \$1500-700-400-200, top U2300/Unr \$800. State title and \$100 bonus to top NYS resident. **FIDE. Under 2200**: \$1000-500-300-150. **Under 2000**: \$1000-500-300-150. **Under 1800**: \$1000-500-300-150. **Under 1600**: \$800-400-250-150, top U1400 \$300. **Under 1300**: \$700-350-200-100, top U1100 \$200, trophies to top 5, 1st \$800-999, U800, Unr. **Unrated** may not win over \$200 in U1300, \$300 U1600, \$500 U1800, or \$700 U2000. **All**: 1 year NYSCA membership to NY residents who list name and address on signup sheet posted at tournament. **EF**: 4-day \$99, 3-day \$98, 2-day \$97 if check mailed by 8/25, all \$100 online at chesstour.com by 8/31, \$105 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/31 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site. No mailed credit card entries. \$70 less to unrated in U1300 or U1600 section. **All**: Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. Special 1 year USCF dues with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. Re-entry \$60, all sections but Open. GMs free, \$80 deducted from prize. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **3-day schedule**: Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **4-day schedule**: Reg. ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 6 pm, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule**: Reg. ends Sun. 10:30 am, rds Sun 11, 1:30, 3:30, 6, Mon 10 & 4:15, no 2-day schedule in Open. **Bye**: all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **HR**: \$97-97, 800-443-8952, 518-458-8444, reserve by 8/24 or rate may increase. NYSCA meeting 9 am Sun. **Car rental**: 800-331-1600, use AWD657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent**: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY

12577. **Questions**: www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

A Heritage Event!
Sept. 2-5 or 3-5, Texas
Grand Prix Points: 40 (enhanced)
77th Annual Southwest Open

7SS. Sheraton Dallas North Hotel, 4801 Lyndon B Johnson Fwy, Dallas, TX 75244. \$8,950 b/175 full entries, 75% Gtd. 3 Sections and scholastic side events: **Open**: (This section is FIDE rated but uses USCF rules. G/90 with 30 sec. increment: \$1,000-500-250, 2200-2399 \$700, U2200 \$700-350. **Reserve**: U2000. Rds. 1-7 30/90 SD/1, rd. 1 of three day is G/120 (deduct 5 min. for delay). \$800-400-200. B \$5 600-300-150, U1600 500-250-125. **Novice**: U1400 and Unrated. Rds. 1-7 30/90 SD/1, rd. 1 of three day is G/120 (deduct 5 min. for delay). \$500-250-125, E \$5 400-200, U1000 \$300-150 Unrated \$200. **All 3**: TCA membership required. Other states accepted. **EF**: \$88 if received by 8/24, else \$99. \$80 Junior(U19) if received by 8/24 else \$90 (juniors count as 90% toward base), Senior(over 65)/Handicapped/additional family participant \$52 if receive by 8/25 else \$65 (Senior/Handicap/Additional family participant counts 60% toward base). Add \$5 for CC phone entries; pre-reg requires pre-payment. After 8/31/11 all registration and changes on site only; all changes including withdrawals, \$10 after 8/31/11. **4 day**: Reg. Friday 9/2, 6:15 pm-7:15. Rds. Fri: 7:45, Sat: 2:30 pm - 8:00, Sun.: 12:00 pm - 6:15 pm, Mon.: 9:30 am - 3:15 pm. **3 day**: Reg. Sat. 9/3, 9-9:30 am, Rd. 1 at 10 am then merge with 4 day. Foreign Unrated must play in Open section. Registrations that do not indicate 4 or 3 day schedule will be put in the 3 day. **HR**: \$84/84/84/84, 972-661-3600 reserve by 8/19 and ask for Dallas Chess Club rate. Free Parking. Up to two 1/2 pt byes available if requested before end of rd. 2, but byes for both rd. 6 AND 7 not permitted. Texas Chess Association meeting on Sunday 9/4 at 9:30 am. **K-12 Scholastic on Saturday, 9/3**. 5-SS, Rds. 1-3 G/30, rds. 4-5 G/45. **EF**: \$29 by 8/24, \$43 after; Pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 8/31/11 all registration and changes on site only; all changes \$10 after 8/31/11. No refunds after 8/31/11, \$10 handling fee for refunds before 8/31/11. Entries do not count toward base in Open, Reserve and Novice. **Registration**: 8:15-8:45 am, Rd. 1 at 9:30 am, rest ASAP with small lunch break. Sections: K-12 Championship and K-12 U800. **Prizes**: Trophies to top 12 individuals, five teams in each section. K-12 U800 also top three unrateds. Medals to those who do not win a trophy. **Ent**: Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. **Info**: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com, www.dallaschess.com. NS. NC. W. FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP for all but side events**.

A State Championship Event!
Sept. 3, Maryland
Grand Prix Points: 10
Maryland Action Championship
6SS, Game/30. Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. Prizes Guaranteed: \$300-\$200-\$100, U2000 \$90, U1800 \$80, U1600

43rd annual Atlantic Open

August 26-28 or 27-28, 2011 at Washington Westin Hotel

\$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND!

5 rounds, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75), Washington Westin Hotel, 1400 M St NW at Thomas Circle, Washington DC 20005 (5 blocks from White House).

Hotel rates: \$96-96, 202-429-1700, 800-445-8667, reserve by 8/12.

In 7 sections:

Open: \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak 1st \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$1200-600. FIDE rated, 120 Grand Prix Pts (enhanced).

Under 2100: \$1500-700-400-200.

Under 1900: \$1500-700-400-200.

Under 1700: \$1500-700-400-200.

Under 1500: \$1300-700-400-200.

Under 1300: \$1200-600-300-200.

Under 1000: \$400-300-200-100, trophy to top 3, U800, U600, Unr.

Unrated prize limits: U1000 \$100, U1300 \$200, U1500 \$400, U1700 \$500, U1900 \$600.

Top 6 sections entry fee: 3-day \$103, 2-day \$102 mailed by 8/18, all \$104 at chesstour.com by 8/23, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 (entry only, no questions) by 8/23, \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site.

EF for all in U1000 or unrated in U1300: all \$60 less.

Re-entry (except Open): \$60.

Special 1 year USCF dues with Chess Life if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20.

USCF membership required.

Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated.

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun. 10 am & 4:30 pm.

2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11 am, 2:30 pm & 6 pm; Sun. 10 am & 4:30 pm.

Half point byes OK all (limit 2), Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3.

Bring set, board, & clock if possible- none supplied.

Entry: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. Optional entry form faces inside back cover. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. JGP.

\$70, U1400 \$60, unrated \$50. **EF:** \$30 by 8/30, \$35 by 9/1, and \$40 at the door. **Schedule:** Reg. ends 10am, rds 10:30-11:45-1:30-2:45-4-5:15. More information & online entry at: <http://themadactionblitz.com>.

A State Championship Event!

A Heritage Event!

Sept. 3-4, Colorado

Grand Prix Points: 6

62nd Colorado Open

5SS, Rds 1-2: G/90, Rds 3-5: 40/90, SD/1. **Site:** Doubletree Hotel Tech Center, 7801 East Orchard Rd., Greenwood Village, CO, 80111. **Prizes:** \$2,500 based on 100 players, in 3 sections. 50% of All Prizes Guaranteed. **Open:** \$350-150-100, top U2000: \$150-100; **Under 1800:** \$300-150-100, top U1600: \$150-100, Unrated Player Prize Limit: \$150; **Under 1400:** \$300-150-100, top U1200: \$150-100, top U1000/Unrated: \$50, Unrated player prize limit: \$100. **EF:** If received by 8/31: \$45, \$35 for Jr. (under 18)/Sr. (65+) /Unrated. \$5 more for late registration after 8/31. **Reg.:** 9/3, 8-9:30am. **Rds.:** 9/3: 10am-2pm-6pm; 9/4: 9am-3:30pm. **HR:** \$79 (mention Chess Tourney), 303-779-6161. **Entries:** Richard Buchanan, 1 Sutherland Road, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. buckpeace@pcisys.net, 719-685-1984. State Membership Required (\$15, \$10 Jr/Sr.), OSA. Colorado Tour Event. CSCA Annual Meeting held on 9/4 between rounds 4-5 at 2:30pm. NC, NS, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, California, Northern

Grand Prix Points: 30

2011 Labor Day Chess Festival

6-SS, 30/90, SD/1 (2-day option rds 1-3 G/60). Golden Gateway Holiday Inn. Van Ness at Pine, San Francisco. **\$58** 160 paid entries (not counting free or unrated entries). Six Sections: **Master** \$1500-750-400-350 U2300 \$300; **Expert** \$700-350-200-150. **"A"** \$700-350-200-150. **"B"** \$700-350-200-150. **"C"** \$700-350-200-150. **"D/E"** \$700-350-200-150 U1200 \$200-150. **Unr:** Trophy First. Trophy to top finisher (State Champion) in each section. **Alt, EF:** postmarked by 8/29 \$115. \$125 at site. Unrateds \$20 in the D/E section or may play up to the Master section for the regular fee. \$5 discount to CalChess members. USCF memb. req'd. May play up one section for add'l \$10. GM/IM free entry. **Reg.:** Sat 9/3 8:30-9:30am, Sun 9/4 8-9am. **RDS.:** Choice of schedules- 3-day, 2-day merge at round 4, all complete for the same prizes. **3-day schedule:** Sat 10:00-3:30; Sun 11:00-4:45; Mon 10:00-3:30. **2-day schedule:** Sun 9:30-11:45-2:00-4:45; Mon 10:00-3:30. 1/2 pt bye(s) any round(s) if requested in advance (byes rds 5-6 must be requested before rd 1). 2011 September Ratings List, CCA minimums and Directors discretion will be used to place players as accurately as possible. Please bring clocks and equipment. **HR:** Golden Gateway Holiday Inn (415)-441-4000. **INFO:** Richard Koeppke (650)-224-4938. **Ent:** Richard Koeppke, P.O. Box 1432, Mountain View, CA 94042. No Phone entries. Master Section FIDE Rated. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

Sept. 3-5, California, Southern

Grand Prix Points: 150 (enhanced)

33rd Annual Southern California Open

6-SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day schedule rds 1-3 G/60, then merges). Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. \$520,000 Guaranteed prize fund. 5 Sections. **Prizes:** **Open Sec** 1st \$2,600-1,800-1,200-900-600-500-400, BU2300 \$800-400, BU2200 \$1,000-600-400-200; **Premier Section** (U2000): \$1,000-600-400-200; Amateur Section (U1800) \$1,000-600-400-200; **Reserve Section** (U1600) \$1,000-600-400-200; **Booster Section** (U1400) \$600-400-200-100, BU1200 \$300-150, Best Unrated \$100. Plus Best Game Prizes: \$75-50-25, one reserved for non-open sections. **Reg.:** **3-day:** 8 to 9:30 AM, Sept official rating list used. **2-day:** 8 AM to 9 AM Sunday. **Rds.:** **3 day:** 10 AM & 5 PM on Sat-Sun, 9 AM & 4 PM on Mon. **2-day:** 9:30 AM, 11:45 & 2 PM Sun, then merges. **EF:** \$100 if received by 8/14, \$120 at door. No credit cards at door, checks or cash only. Special rate of only \$75 if U1400 or unrated. Free entry for GMs and IMs, no entry fee deducted from prizes, but you must check in at least one hour before the 1st round. Open section will be FIDE rated. Unrated must play in Open (eligible for place prizes only) or U1400 (eligible for Unrated prize only). SCCF membership req'd (\$18 Adult, \$10 Jr) for all So Cal residents. Two half point byes OK in rds 1-6, must be requested at least one hour before round, but a last round bye must be requested at registration and is irrevocable. **Ent:** SDCC, PO Box 120162, San Diego, CA 92112 or enter online at www.sccfchess.com. For more info call Bruce Baker of SDCC at (619) 239-7166 or see our website at sdccchessclub.multiply.com. **SCCF Annual Membership Meeting:** Sunday 3 PM. **Hotel Rates:** Special rate of only \$110 single or double, 619-297-1101, or 1-800-227-6963 if booked by 8/14/11, must reserve

at least 2 nights, book ASAP, as rates will go up and rooms may sell out by mid-August. Great tropical themed hotel is in the heart of Mission Valley, close to airport, great attractions such as Sea World, the SD Zoo, the lively Gaslamp District for night life, Seaport Village and Fashion Valley for shopping. The Crown Plaza Hotel (see www.cp-sandiego.com) has a great restaurant and sushi bar, a heated pool, a fitness room, Whirlpool spa, free shuttle service and is next to the excellent Riverwalk golf course. NS, NC, W. State Championship Qualifier. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event!

Sept. 3-5, Florida

Grand Prix Points: 50

Arnold Denker Florida State Championship

6SS, G/120. Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club, 851 Gulf Shore Blvd. N, Naples 34102. **\$510,000 GUARANTEED!** 6 Sect: **Open:** \$1200-600-300, U2300: \$400, U2200: \$400; **U2000:** \$600-300-200, U1900: \$300; **U1800:** \$600-300-200, U1700: \$300; **U1600:** \$600-300-200, U1500: \$300; **U1400:** \$600-300-200, U1300: \$300; **U1200:** \$600-300-200, U1000: \$200, U800: \$200. Unrateds can enter any section, but only Unr under age 16 in U1200. Unrs limited to \$100 unless Place Prize in Open. **Open:** **FIDE rated. EF:** \$89; Add \$11 after 8/27. EF Discount: \$20 off if under age 16 in U1200 or Unrs in any Under section. EF Free for GM, IM, WGM, WIM (\$90 deducted from any prize won.) Rated players can "play-up" one section from lowest allowed. Reentry: \$5 by round 3, 1/2-bytes for missing rounds. Byes: 1/2-pt available all rounds, max 2; Must commit before Round 3 paired. USCF and FCA memberships required; OSA. Trophies and Titles to top Florida player in each section. Unpaired & other "special awards" TBD. **Reg.:** Sat 10am - 12:15pm. **RNDS.:** Sat. 1 & 6:30, Sun. 1 & 7, Mon. 9 & 2. FL Quick Chess (G/29) Championship Playoff Sat, 10am. (Must have won a FCA QC Regional to play; Free EF). FL Blitz (G/5) Championship Sun, 10am at \$20 EF. FCA: Annual Meeting Sun. 6pm; Board Meeting Sun. 6:30pm. **HR:** \$99 + RF (by 8/2), 800-237-7600. Special HR link at floridachess.org. Cancellation deposit refundable by 8/25. Free Hotel-guest self-parking (non-guest \$10). **Ent:** FCA, 921 N. Thistle Ln., Maitland, FL 32751. Or online 2011flchamp.eventbrite.com. **Info:** 407-629-6946 or floridachess.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, Illinois

Grand Prix Points: 30

2011 Illinois Open Championship

6SS, 2 Schedules, 2 Sections. DoubleTree Hotel, 1909 Spring Rd., Oakbrook, IL 60523, (630) 472-6020, (630) 472-6000, \$89 room rate limited availability (Code C-CHE). \$11,000 B/250 paid players, \$\$\$ increased to maximum as attendance increases! Scheduled to attend: 2009 U.S. Open champ Dmitry Gurevich, Former IL Open Champs **GM Mesegan Amanov**, **IM Angelo Young & FM Aleksandar Stannov**; plus FM Nikhilesh Kumar Kunche, FM Timur Aliyev!!; (IL GM, IM/FM play for free-contact us first) **Open** (open to all, may be paired with any player of any rating) **FIDE Rated:** \$1200-800-600; U2400: \$500-400-350; U2200: \$300-290; U2100: \$280-270; U2000: \$260-250, Un can win top 3 only. **Reserve (U1800)**, may be paired with any player rated 1799 and below: \$1200-800-600; U1600: \$500-400-350; U1500: \$300-290; U1400: \$280-270; U1200: \$260-250, Un can win top 3 only. Plus Score Prizes! **Classic Schedule G/90 inc 30:** Sat-Sun:12-6, Mon. 11-4 (clocks supplied). **Busy Person Schedule:** Sun (rds 1-3) **G/45:** 11-1-3 AND Sun 5 pm (rnd 4, merged, G/90 + 30 sec). Mon. 11-4. **EF:** Early \$79, (\$10 extra to play up from Reserve to Open section) if postmarked by August 30, no e-mail/phone entries available (check Web page for extended on-line CC entry deadline). Include: USCF id #, Section, Schedule. **EF All: \$90 at door (\$10 to play up):** 9/3 or 9/4, 10-11:30 AM, \$100 after 11:30 AM 9/3 or 10:30 9/4. **FREE TRIAL/EXTENDED ICA MEMBERSHIP** to IL residence upon request. Re-entry: \$50 with 1/2 point bye rnd 1 or alternate schedule with no byes. Entries (**checks payable only to Chess For Life,**

LLC: Tim Just, 37165 Willow, Gurnee, IL 60031. **Info:** 847-773-7706 (before 6 PM), **2 Saturday Side Events! Labor Day Scholastic Tournament,** 9/3, Early EF \$25, \$30 at door by 11:30, \$35 after that, Rnds: 12-1-2-3-4, G/25, Open to under 18 years of age or proof of HS attendance, 2 sections: U1200, U700, Participation award to all players. 10 individual trophies per section (team trophies not available). **Saturday Night Quick Chess G/25,** 9/3, Early EF \$25, \$30 at door by 5:30, \$35 after that, \$500 b/30, \$150-\$75-\$50; U2200-U2000-U1800-U1600-U1400 = \$45 each, Rnds: 6-7-8-9-10, G/25, On Line and USPS & **ENTRIES FOR ALL EVENTS** and info: <http://chessforlife.com>. Book Dealer on site. Sets, Clocks, & Boards supplied by North American Chess Association. All supplied equipment (including clocks) must be used by players. **Chess Magnet School JGP for Open & Reserve Sections only.**

A State Championship Event!

Sept. 3-5, Louisiana

Grand Prix Points: 15

2011 Louisiana State Championship

7-SS, G/150 (Rnd. 1: G/2). **Site:** Hilton New Orleans Airport, 901 Airline Dr., Kenner, LA 70062. **EF:** \$80 if mailed by 8/26, \$90 at site. LCA Memb.req'd (\$10 Adult, \$5 Schol.), OSA. **Prizes:** \$4500 b/100, 50% Gtd. One Section: Open: \$800-450-250, U2000: \$450-250; U1800: \$400-250; U1600: \$400-200; U1400: \$350-200; U1200/Unr: \$350-150. **Reg.:** Sat. 9/3, 8-9 AM. **Rds.:** Sat.: 9:30-2-7:30; Sun.: 10-6; Mon.: 9-3. Business meeting: Sun. 9/4, 3:30 PM. **HR:** (800) 872-5914, \$85, ask for LCA rate. **Ent/Info:** Adam Caveney, 1301 Gen. Taylor St., New Orleans, LA 70115, cb20234@yahoo.com, (504) 895-4133 (evenings), (504) 615-6730 (day of tourney). NS, NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, Massachusetts

Grand Prix Points: 10

71st New England Open

6-SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day schedule G/45 in rds 1-3). Four Points by Sheraton, 99 Erdman Way, Leominster, MA 01453. (978) 534-9000. \$3,000 b/100 fully paid entries (unrated and players in U1500 rated under 1000 count as half), 75% G. 4 sections. **Open:** \$500-250-150, U2200 \$200-100. **U2000:** \$300-150-100. **U1750:** \$300-150-100. **U1500:** \$250-125-100, U1350 \$125, U1200 \$100. New England Champion title to highest scoring New England resident or student in each sect. Unrated prize limits: \$200 in U2000, \$150 in U1750, \$100 in U1500, can't win title except in Open. **EF:** \$49 for 3-Day, \$48 for 2-Day if postmarked by 8/29 or online by 9/1, \$60 at site. \$20 discount to unrated and to players in U1500 rated under 1000. Free to GMs and IMs. **3-Day Schedule:** Reg. Sat. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Rds. 10:30-5:30 Sat., 10-5 Sun., 9:30-4:30 Mon. **2-Day Schedule:** Reg. Sun. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Rds. 10-12:30-2:45 Sun., then merge with 3-Day schedule. **Byes:** Open Sect. 1-5, others 1-6, rds. 4-6 must commit before rd. 2. **Memb req.:** Mass. residents: MACA \$12 adult, \$6 jr. U18, \$8 extra (optional) for Chess Horizons subscription, WMCA O.K. N.H. residents: NHCA \$8 adult, \$6 jr. U19, \$2 extra (optional) for N.H. Chess Journal subscription. OSA. **New England Blitz Championship:** Sun. 9/4, reg. ends at 9:15 p.m. 5-SS (dbl), 75% of EFs returned as prizes. **EF:** \$10 if playing in main tmnt, else \$15. **HR:** \$85-\$5-\$5-\$5, Exec. King \$110, reserve by 8/19 and mention chess tmnt. **Ent:** payable to MACA and mail to Robert Messenger, 4 Hamlett Dr., Apt. 12, Nashua, NH 03062 or online at www.MassChess.org. **Info:** send email to info@masschess.org or phone 603-891-2484. NS. NC. W. FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP for N.E. Open.**

A Heritage Event!

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, New Jersey

Grand Prix Points: 40 (enhanced)

65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship

Somerset Holiday Inn, 195 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873, (732) 356-1700, Exit #10 off I-287, at Easton Avenue. In **4 Sections: Open FIDE**

2011 LOUISVILLE OPEN

Sept 16-18 or 17-18, Louisville, KY

\$8000 PROJECTED PRIZES, \$6000 MINIMUM

5SS, Holiday Inn Southwest Fair Expo. Free parking, free airport shuttle. Choice of 3-day or 2-day schedule. Room rates \$79 single, \$89 twin.

In 4 sections:

Open Section: Prizes \$1200-600-300-200, clear/tiebreak 1st \$100, top Under 2200/Unr \$400, Under 2000 \$300. FIDE rated, 40 Grand Prix Points (enhanced).

U1900 Section: \$800-400-200-100, top Under 1700 \$300.

U1600 Section: \$700-400-200-100, top Under 1400 \$300.

U1300 Section: \$600-300-200-100, top Under 1100 \$200.

No unrated may win over \$200 in Under 1300 or \$300 in Under 1600.

Balance goes to next player(s) in line.

FOR FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue.

WARNING!
THE USE OF A
CELL PHONE
IN THE TOURNAMENT ROOM IS
PROHIBITED!
AT MOST TOURNAMENTS!

IF YOUR CELL PHONE RINGS IN A ROOM WITH
GAMES IN PROGRESS, YOU COULD BE SEVERELY
PENALIZED, MAYBE EVEN FORFEITED!

TURN IT OFF!

Section, Gold U1900, Silver U1600 & Booster U1300. 6-SS, Time Control: 40/2, SD/1. With 3-day & 2-day schedules. **PRIZES:** Open: \$500-400-300-200-100. Top Exp & A, \$100 & trophy. Trophy to NJ Champ. Gold U1900: \$500-300-100, Top B \$100 & trophy. Cash prizes in Open and Gold sections are fully guaranteed. Silver U1600: \$500-300-100, Top D \$100 & trophy. Cash prizes in Silver b/35 paid entries in section. Booster U1300: \$500-300-100, Top E & F, \$100 & trophy. Cash prizes in Booster b/35 paid entries in section. All 4 sections get these trophies: Top three, Top Senior over 55, Top Junior under age 16 & under age 13. Unrated may win first place only in Open sections. **EF Early:** \$68 if mailed by 8/31 or paid online at entryfeesrus.com. EF is \$80 at site Cash only. \$50 for Re-entry is allowed in lower three sections only. **3-Day Reg. at hotel:** Saturday, 9/03, 9-11am. **2-Day Reg. at hotel:** Sunday, 9/04, 9-10am. Rounds 3pm: Saturday 12-6:30pm, Sunday 11am-5pm., Monday 9am-3:30pm. Rounds 2-day: Sunday 1-2-3 (G/60) starts 10:30am, then ASAP, with no breaks. Both 3-Day and 2-Day schedules merge in Round #4. Two byes allowed Rds 1-5. Players who take a third bye can't win a prize. **GREAT Hotel Rates:** \$89 includes a free Fabulous Breakfast. (732) 356-1700. Deadline is Aug. 18th. Talk to Jamie. Mention "NJ Chess" to receive this special hotel rates. Don't delay! **Ent:** Ken Thomas, 115 West Moore St., Hackettstown, NJ 07840. Make checks payable to NJSCF. **Info:** Ken, acn@goes.com or (908) 763-6468 go to entryfeesrus.com. Players/spectators not allowed any ear covering. Especially cell phones attached to the ear. NC, W, FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event! A Heritage Event! Sept. 3-5, Ohio

Grand Prix Points: 30
67th Ohio Chess Congress

Four Sections: OPEN, U2000, U1700, U1400 6 rounds - Swiss System, All sections USCF rated, OPEN FIDE rated. Time Control 40/2, SD/60. Location: Holiday Inn Columbus North, 7007 N. High St, Worthington, OH 43085. **PRIZES: \$57,000 (b/125 entries, 80% guaranteed) OPEN: \$1,000-700-400 & U2200: \$400-200; U2000: \$800-500-300, U1700: \$750-450-300, U1400: \$750-450. EF:** \$75 if by Sep 2, then \$85, FREE to GM/IM who complete schedule, \$75 deducted from prize. OCA Membership required of all Ohio residents - \$15, \$10 junior. **Registration:** Saturday, Sep 3 - 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Rounds:** Saturday 12:00 (noon) & 6:30, Sunday 9:30 & 4:00, Monday 9:30 & 4:00. **Byes** (1/2 pt): limit 2, must declare by start of round 3. **Side Events:** Ohio Blitz Championship Sunday Night, OCA Members Meeting Sunday at 3:15, OCA Trustees Meeting Monday at 3:15. **Hotel:** Holiday Inn Columbus North, 7007 N. High St., Worthington, OH 43085 \$75. Call 1-614-436-0700 and refer to group code Chess. Reserve early as hotel is expected to sell out. **Advance Entries:** Make checks payable to Central Ohio Chess Association - mail to: Central Ohio Chess Association, PO Box 9830, Columbus, OH 43209. **Information:** call 614-774-2532, or email gperks2@aol.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP for main event.**

Sept. 3-5, Oklahoma

Grand Prix Points: 15

7th Okie Chess Festival

Tulsa Trade Winds Central, 3141 E. Skelly Dr. (51st & Harvard), Tulsa, OK 74105. 7-SS in three sections: FIDE Open, FIDE Reserve (open to U1800), and Booster (open to U1300). G/90 + 30 sec. Top 2 sections **FIDE** rated. **EF:** \$60 in the top 2 sections, \$20 for Booster players. **Reg:** Sat 9/3, 9:00-10:15. OCF mem required (\$10). **Rds:** 10:30-3, 9-2-7, 9-2. **Byes:** Two 1/2-point byes available if requested by rd 3. **Prizes - Open Section** (b/30, 75% guaranteed): 1st \$650, 2nd \$400, A/below: \$350-200. **Reserve Section (b/25):** 1st \$500, 2nd \$250, C: \$250, D/below: \$250 **U-1300 Booster Section:** 1st \$100(G). **HR:** \$55-65 (800) 685-4564, (918) 749-5561. Free wireless www.tradewindstulsa.com. **Side Events:** 9/3: Fischer-Random Blitz Pizza party. **Questions:** tom.braunlich@cox.net **Website:** www.okchess.org. **Adv Entry:** Cks payable to: Frank K. Berry, 402 S. Willis St., Stillwater, OK 74074. NS. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 9-23, New York

Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)

Queens September Open

6-SS, G/45. All Saints Lutheran Church, 164-02 Goethals Ave., Jamaica NY 11432. \$5200-\$100 to top 2 guaranteed, other prizes per entries. Up to two 1/2 point byes permitted (must be requested before Round 3). **EF:** \$25 per player, \$20 QCC members. **REG:** 7:30-8:00. **RDS:** 8:15-10:00 each Friday. **ENT:** Ed Frumkin, 445 E. 14th St., #10D, New York, NY 10009 (212-677-3224 - do not call on Thursday or Friday). More detailed contact information at www.queenschess.com. Mail entry by September 2.

A State Championship Event!

A Heritage Event!

Sept. 16-18, Alabama

Grand Prix Points: 15

58th Annual Alabama State Chess Championship

6SS, G/120. AUM Taylor Center, 7401 East Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117. **OPEN** (1500+ /UNR; \$1500 \$5Gtd): \$450-300-200, A: 200, B: 200, U1600: 150. **RESERVE** (U1500; \$1,100 \$5b/35): \$325-225-175, D: 150, U1200: 125, U1000: \$100. **EF:** \$40, if Postmarked by September 10, 2011. Onsite Reg.: \$50. **Rds:** Fri: 7pm; Sat: 9:15-2-6:30; SUN: 8:30-2. **Byes:** Rds. 1-4; request before Rd. 2. **SCHOLASTIC (U1200): 3 Sections, Trophies:** Top 3 Individuals; Top Team Trophy; **Medals:** 4th-6th. **EF:** \$20/\$10, Late/On-Site: **\$10 more, Rds.:** 9-10:30-12:30-2, 3:30. Checks payable to: **Montgomery Chess Club. ENT:** c/o James Garner 2625 Burkelaun Dr., Montgomery, AL 36111. **Info:** ChessClubMontgomery@gmail.com, **ACF:** www.alabamachess.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 16-18 or 17-18, Kentucky

Grand Prix Points: 40 (enhanced)

4th annual Louisville Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Holiday Inn Southwest Fair Expo, 4110 Dixie Hwy, (I-264, Exit 8B), Louisville, KY 40216. Free parking, free airport shuttle. **Prizes \$8,000** based on 120 paid entries (unrated & re-entries count as half entries), \$6000 (minimum 75% each

prize) guaranteed. In 4 sections. **Open:** \$1200-600-300-200, clear win or first on tiebreak \$100, top U2200/Unr \$400, top U2000/Unr \$300. **FIDE. Under 1900:** \$800-400-200-100, unrated limit \$500, top U1700 \$300. **Under 1600:** \$700-400-200-100, unrated limit \$300, top U1400 \$300. **Under 1300:** \$600-300-200-100, unrated limit \$200, top U1100 \$200. **EF:** 3-day \$88, 2-day \$87 mailed by 9/8, all \$89 online at chesstour.com by 9/14, \$90 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 9/14 (entry only, no questions), \$100 at site. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **EF for unrated in U1300 or U1600:** all \$50 less. GMs free, \$60 deducted from prize. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry- online atchesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **Re-entry \$50;** not available in Master Section. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Fri6:30 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10:30 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **Bye:** all, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$79-89, 502-448-2020, ask for chess rate, reserve by 9/2 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 17, Indiana

Grand Prix Points: 50

The Emory Tate Jr. Chess Extravaganza

Open & Scholastic Tournaments. The Elkhart Sports Center, 1162 Fremont Court, Elkhart, IN. **Open Tournament, 5SS, G/60: \$3900 Guaranteed** \$1,000-900-600-400, seniors 70+ & 600-400; Trophies 1st & Top U1800, U1400, U1000. **EF:** \$20 by 9/4, \$25 after, \$30 onsite until 10am. **Rds.:** 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00. Awards 9:30. **Scholastic All Grade Tournament - (Grades K-12), 5SS, G/60: Rds:** 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:45. Awards: 9:30. **(Grades K-3) 5SS, G/30. Rds.:** 1 at 11:00 rest ASAP Awards immediately after. **Awards:** 1st Trophy, 2nd & 3rd Medals each section. **EF:** \$8 by 9/4, \$10 after, \$15 onsite until 10am. **Ent:** Emory Tate Jr. Chess Organization, 11070 Golden Pheasant Dr., Osceola, IN 46561. **Online Ent/Info:** www.emorytateextravaganza.com, 574-323-3293.

Sept. 17-18, New York

Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)

Buffalo NY Fide Chess Festival 2011

5 rounds, G/120. Gloria Parks Center, 3242 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214. The Archangel 8 Chess Academy, celebrating 10 years of Chess Education. **EF:** \$65.00 or \$45 if payment is received by September 1, 2011. No checks accepted onsite, Cash, US Currency accepted. **SGTD:** \$200-150-100. U2100 -\$125, U1800 - \$100. Available. Canadians and FIDE rated players are welcomed. **Buffalo U1500 Side Event:** **EF:** \$50.00 or \$35.00, if payment is received by September 1, 2011. No checks accepted onsite, Cash USD only! **SGTD:** \$100-80-60. Available. **ENT:** Buffalo Chess Festival 2011, 60F Guilford Lane, Buffalo, NY 14221. arcangel8chess@yahoo.com. **INFO:** Mc Duffie, Chess Ambassador, 60F Guilford Lane, Buffalo, NY 14221. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

20th annual Midwest Class Championships October 14-16 or 15-16, 2011 - Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel

\$20,000 PROJECTED PRIZES, \$16,000 MINIMUM GUARANTEED

5-SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75).

At Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel, 601 N Milwaukee Ave, Wheeling IL 60090 (from Chicago, I-294 north to Milwaukee Ave north; from Milwaukee, I-94 to Lake Cook Rd to Milwaukee Ave south). Free parking.

In 7 sections. Prizes \$20,000 based on 250 paid entries (re-entries and Class E Section count as half entries), else in proportion except \$16,000 (80% each prize) minimum guaranteed.

Master (2200/up): \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak win \$100, U2300 \$800-400. FIDE, 100 GPP (enhanced).

Expert (2000-2199): \$1500-700-400-300.

Class A (1800-1999/Unr): \$1500-700-400-300.

Class B (1600-1799/Unr): \$1500-700-400-300.

Class C (1400-1599/Unr): \$1400-700-400-200.

Class D (1200-1399/Unr): \$1200-600-300-200.

Class E (Under 1200/Unr): \$600-300-200-100, trophies to top 7, top 800-999, 600-799, Under 600, Unrated.

Rated players may play up one section. Unrated prize limit \$150 E, \$250 D, \$400 C, \$500 B, \$700 A.

Top 6 sections entry fee: 3-day \$103, 2-day \$102 mailed by 10/6, all \$105 online (chesstour.com or entry.cc) by 10/11, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 (entry only, no questions) by 10/11, \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site.

Entry fee \$50 less for all in Class E and unrated in Class D.

Special 1 yr USCF dues with Chess Life if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. USCF mem. required.

Advance entry fee \$5 less to ICA members.

Re-entry: \$50 (except Master Section.)

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rounds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 10 am & 4:15 pm.

2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11 am, 2:30 pm, & 6 pm; Sun. 10 am & 4:15 pm.

Half point byes OK all, Master must commit before round 2, others before round 3.

All: Bring board, clock, set if possible- none supplied. Unofficial web ratings usually used if otherwise unrated.

Hotel rates: \$99-99-99-99, 800-937-8461, 847-777-6500, reserve by 9/30 or rate may increase.

Entry: Continental Chess Assn, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Optional entry form faces inside back cover, or see entryblank.com. \$15 charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. JGP.

Sept. 20, New York**Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced)**
Marshall Masters!

4-SS, G/30. Third Tuesday of every month. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. Open to players rated over 2100 (plus all players scoring over 50% in any MCC Open or U2300 tournament since the prior month's Masters). **EF:** \$40, members \$30, GMs free. Top three prizes guaranteed. **\$\$\$:** 250-150-100. Top U2400 and Top 2300 prizes. Special prize for biggest upset. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45PM. One bye available (rd 1 or 4 only), request at entry.

Sept. 22, New York**Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)**
10 Grand Prix Points Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at the Marshall Club, 23 West 10 St., bet. 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$35, Club membs \$25, GMs free (\$20 from prize), specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. **\$\$\$60 b/32** paid entries (may be limited to 1st 36 to enter), top 2 Gtd: \$5 200-110-50, Top U2200/unr \$105, U2000 \$95. Limit 2 byes (1 bye for U2000), commit by 8:15. Reentry \$15. CCA ratings may be used. Class pairings OK rd. 4. Reg ends 10 min before game. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible!**

A Heritage Event!**Sept. 23-25 or 24-25, Georgia****Grand Prix Points: 10**
42nd Annual Southern Congress

5-SS, 30/90, SD/1. (2-day schedule Round 1 G/90). Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Ave., Scottdale, GA 30079. \$4,000 b/89, \$2,000 Guaranteed. In 5 sections: **Open/Unr.:** \$600-400, u2200- \$300-200-100. **Under 2000:** \$300-200-100. **Under 1800:** \$300-200-100. **Under 1600:** \$300-200-100. **Under 1400:** \$250-150-100, u1200- \$100. **All:** \$59 3-day and \$58 2-day if received by 9/21; \$65 at site. GMs and IMs free. \$60 deducted from prize. Reentry: \$35. Bye, all rounds, limit 2, must commit before 1st round. **3-day: Reg.:** ends 7:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 7:45, 2-7:30, 10-3:30. **2-day schedule: Reg.:** ends 9:30 a.m. Rounds: 1st at 10 a.m., then merges with 3-day. **Info:** (404)-377-4400 or atlantachess@yahoo.com. www.atlantachessclub.com. **Enter:** Same as above. NS. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 24, Connecticut**Grand Prix Points: 6**
5th Saturday Open

CH Booth Library, 25 Main St., Newtown, CT 06470, 100 yds. south of Flagpole on Rte.25. In 2 sections: **Open:** 3SS, G/60, **Prizes:** \$200-100, Top U1900 \$100; All Gtd. Multiple prizes are possible. **Rds.:** 10:15, 12:30, 2:45. **Under 1600/Unr:** 4SS, G/45, **Prizes:** \$150-50, Top U1400 \$50. More per entries. Unrated may not win more than \$50. **Rds.:** 10:15-11:45-1:30-3:15. **EF:** Both Sections: \$25 if rec'd by 9/21, \$35 at door. **Reg.:** 9:30-10:00 sharp. **Ent:** Glenn Budzinski, 1 Black Cherry Ln., Sandy Hook, CT 06482. Questions only: licensingsagent@yahoo.com. May be limited to first 50 players. NS, NC, W.

Sept. 24-25, California, Northern**Grand Prix Points: 6****Exchange Bank Open**

Exchange Bank, 444 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403. 4 round Swiss, G/120. In 3 Sections. **Open: \$\$\$TD:** \$250-175. **Reserve:** Open to 1899 & under. **\$\$\$GTD:** \$200-125. **Booster:** Open to 1499 & under. **\$\$\$GTD:** \$150-100. Unr. must play in Booster Section. Unrated players winning prizes will only receive half of the prize. **ALL: EF:** \$35 advance until 9/21, \$45 at site. **Reg.:** 09/24 8:30am-9:30am. **Rds.:** Sat 10,3; Sun 10,3. **ENT:** Paul Stagnoli, 4233 Kintyre Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95409. **INFO:** (707) 478-4385, paulgs@sonic.net. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 24-25, New York**Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)**
Marshall September Grand Prix!

4-SS, 30/90, SD/1. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **EF:** \$50, members \$30. **\$\$\$25 Gtd:** 275-150, U2200/unr. \$105, U2000 \$95. **Reg.** ends 15 min. before round. **Rds.:** 2 schedules: **2-day,** Rds 12:30-5:30PM each day; **1-day,** (Rds. 1-2 G/30) 10-11:15AM-12:30-5:30PM Sun; both merge rd. 3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. FIDE (G/30 not FIDE ratable). **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 30-Oct. 2 or Oct. 1-2, Texas**Grand Prix Points: 30**
2011 U.S. Class Championships

See Nationals.

Oct. 1, California, Northern**Grand Prix Points: 20 (enhanced)**
2011 U.S. Game/60 Championship

See Nationals.

Oct. 2, California, Northern**Grand Prix Points: 15 (enhanced)**
2011 U.S. Game/30 Championship

See Nationals.

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, Virginia**Grand Prix Points: 200 (enhanced)**
2nd annual Continental Class Championships

MASTER, EXPERT, CLASS A, CLASS B END MONDAY, COLUMBUS DAY BUT CLASS C, D, AND E END SUNDAY. **Master Section and Expert Section, Oct 6-10:** 9SS, 40/2, SD/1. GM & IM norms possible in Master. **Class A and Class B, Oct 6-10, 7-10 or 8-10:** 7SS, 40/2, SD/1 (3-day option, rds. 1-2 G/75). **Class C, Class D, and Class E, Oct 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9:** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/60). **Hyatt Regency Crystal City,** 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Free shuttle to/from Reagan International Airport and Crystal City Metro station (contact hotel for schedule). **Prizes \$60,000** based on 380 paid entries (unrated in E or D, seniors, re-entries, GMs, IMs, WGMs, foreign FIDE rated players in Master count as half entries), else proportional, minimum \$40,000 (2/3 of each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections: **Master,** open to US players rated at least 2200 USCF or 2100 FIDE and

foreign players rated at least 2000 USCF or 1800 FIDE. \$5000-2500-1500-1000-700-600-500-500-400-400, clear or tiebreak first bonus \$200, FIDE Under 2400/Unr \$2000-1000. Free hotel room to the highest FIDE rated foreign GM who enters by 9/6 and completes the tournament with no byes. GM & IM norms possible, FIDE rated. **Expert,** open to USCF 1800-2199. \$3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400. FIDE rated. **Class A,** open to USCF 1600-1999 or unrated. \$3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400. **Class B,** open to USCF 1400-1799 or unrated. \$3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400. **Class C,** open to USCF 1200-1599 or unrated. \$2500-1300-900-700-600-500-400-400. **Class D,** open to USCF under 1400 or unrated. \$2000-1000-800-600-500-400-300-300. **Class E,** open to USCF under 1200 or unrated. \$2000-1000-800-600-500-400-300-300. **Prize limits:** 1) Players with under 26 lifetime games rated as of Oct 2011 official list may not win over \$800 in Class E or \$1200 in Class D. Games rated too late for 10/11 list not counted. 2) If official rating was more than 30 points over section maximum on any USCF rating supplement 10/10-9/11, prize limit \$1200. 3) Unrated (0-3 lifetime games rated) cannot win over \$400 in E, \$600 D, \$900 C, \$1200 B or \$1500 A. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. 4) Balance of limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Master Section EF:** GMs, IMs, WGMs: free by 9/6, \$30 online at chessstour.com by 10/3, \$50 online or at site until 6 pm 10/6; \$150 deducted from prize. Free entries must reconfirm entry online or in person on 10/6 by 6 pm. Foreign FIDE rated players: \$75 online at chessstour.com by 10/3, \$100 online or at site until 6 pm 10/6; \$150 deducted from prize. Others: \$225 if check mailed by 9/28 or online by 10/3, \$230 phoned by 10/3 (406-896-2038), \$250 until 6 pm 10/6 online or at site. **Other sections EF:** 5-day \$195, 4-day \$194, 3-day \$193, 2-day \$192 if check mailed by 9/28 (note correction), all \$197 online at chessstour.com by 10/3, \$200 if phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/3 (entry only, no questions), \$220 online until 2 hours before round 1 or at site. No phone entry after 10/3. **EF \$100 less** to rated seniors 65 or over in Expert or below. **EF \$120 less** to unrated in Class D or E. **Special 1 yr USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry: Online at chessstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **No checks** at site, credit cards OK. **No mailed** credit card entries. **Re-entry:** \$100, no re-entry from Master Section to Master Section. **5-day Master or Expert schedule:** Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7pm, Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **5-day Class A or B schedule:** Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **4-day Class A or B schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **3-day Class A or B schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **4-day Class C, D or E schedule:** Reg. ends Thu 6pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **3-day Class C, D or E schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 11 am, rds. Fri. 12 noon & 7 pm, Sat. 11 & 6, Sun. 10 & 4:30. **2-day Class C, D or E schedule:** Reg. ends Sat. 9 am, rds Sat. 10, 12:45, 3:15 & 6, Sun. 10 & 4:30. **All schedules** in Class A or below merge & compete for same prizes. **Byes:** OK all; limit 3 (limit 2 in last 4 rds), must commit before rd 3. **Bring sets, boards, clocks** if possible.

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**Thursday October 20th
"A Celebration of Life, GM Larry Evans"**

See TLA on page 66

none supplied. **HR:** \$95-95-105-115, 703-418-1234, reserve by 9/21or rate may increase. Special chess rate valet parking \$6/day, with or without guestroom. **Car rentals:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633 or reserve car online at chesstour.com. **Ratings:** FIDE used for Master Section, USCF October official for others, unofficial usually used if otherwise unrated. For foreign players in Expert or below, usually 100 points added to FIDE, 50 to FQE, 100/more to most other foreign, no points added to CFC, PR or Jamaica. Some foreign ratings not accepted for Class A or below. Highest of multiple ratings usually used. Players who fail to disclose foreign or FIDE ratings may be expelled. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** 845-496-9658, www.chesstour.com. You may request "lowest possible section" if October rating unknown. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, California, Southern Grand Prix Points: 100 (enhanced) CCA 8th annual Los Angeles Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Sheraton Four Points LAX, 9750 Airport Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045. Special parking \$5/day. **\$\$\$2000** based on 230 paid entries (re-entries & \$60 off entries count half), \$16,000(80% each prize) minimum guaranteed. In 6 sections. **Open:** \$2000-1000-600-400, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2400/Unr (not a section) \$600-300. **FIDE. Under 2300:** \$1500-800-400-200, top Under 2100 (not a section) \$500-250. **FIDE. Under 2000:** \$1500-800-400-200, top Under 1800 (not a section) \$500-250. **Under 1700:** \$1300-700-400-200, top Under 1500 (not a section) \$500-250. **Under 1400:** \$1200-600-300-200, top Under 1200 (not a section) \$400-200. **Under 1000:** \$700-400-200-150, trophies to top3, 1st Under 800, Under 600, unrated. **Unrated** may not win over \$200 in U1000, \$300 U1400, or \$500 U1700. **Top 5 sections EF:** 3-day \$113, 2-day \$112 mailed by 9/29, all \$115 online atchesstour.com by 10/4, \$120 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/4 (entry only, no questions), \$130 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site. GMs free; \$100 deducted from prize. **EF for all in U1000 or unrated in U1400:** \$60 less. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **Re-entry \$60;** not available in Open Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$89-89, 1-800-529-4683, 310-649-7025; reserve by 9/24 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD#657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, South Carolina Grand Prix Points: 6 2nd Annual National Chess Day and Festival

4SS, 35/90 SD60 (2 day schedule: Rd. 1 G/90). Hawthorn Suites, 2455 Savannah Hwy (US17S), Charleston, SC 29414 (\$79/night 843-225-4411 mention chess). **Prize Fund** - \$1700 based on 36 regular paid entries. In 3 Sections: **Open:** 1st-\$300 2nd-\$150 (guaranteed) u2000-\$100. **Under 1800:** 1st-\$250 2nd-\$125 u400-\$100. **U1400:** 1st-\$250 2nd=\$125 u200-\$100. **EF:** \$49 if recd before 9/07, \$59 thereafter and at site. (Re-entries: \$25). **Reg:** Fri 5:30-6:30pm; Sat 9-10am. **Rds. (3 day schedule)** Fri 7:30pm, Sat. 2pm & 7:30pm, Sun 2:30pm **2-day schedule** Rd 1 at 10:30am Sat. then merge with 3 day schedule). **Byes:** 1/2 pt. avail. all rds, must request byes for rds 3 & 4 prior to rd. 2(irrevocable). **Special Blitz Tmnt:** Sunday 10:45am, **EF:** \$1, 3 sections: Open, U18, U14, 1st-\$20 2nd-\$10 each section. **Other info:** Top combined blitz and main tournament score in each section receives free entry next year. 50% off EF to whoever travels the farthest and whoever brings the most players in their vehicle. **Adv Entries:** Charleston Chess Club, c/o David Y. Causey, 741 Dragon Dr., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, email:chessbass@att.net. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 7-Nov. 18, New York Grand Prix Points: 30 (enhanced) 2011 Queens Chess Club Championship

7-SS, G/120. All Saints Lutheran Church, 164-02 Goethals Ave., Jamaica, NY 11432. **EF:** \$55, \$60 at site. **\$\$\$500**-\$300-\$200 guaranteed to top 3, more per entries. Up to three 1/2 pt byes ok with advance notice (byes for Rounds 5, 6, and/or 7 must be declared before Round 4) **REG.:** 7:30-8:00. **RDS.:** 8:15 each Friday. **ENT (mail by 9/30):** Ed Frumkin, 445 E 14th St #100, NYC 10009 (212-677-3224 before 10pm and before 5pm on Fri). QCC membership required (U19 y/o, female, 65 & older \$20 for six

months, others \$25/6 months). FIDE-rated. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, Illinois Grand Prix Points: 100 (enhanced) 20th annual Midwest Class Championships

5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel, 601 North Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling, IL 60090 (from Chicago, I-294 north to US-45 north; from Milwaukee, I-94 to Lake Cook Rd to US-45 south). Free parking. **Prizes \$20,000** based on 250 paid entries (re-entries & Class E Section count as half entries), else in proportion except \$16,000 (80% of each prize) minimum guaranteed. \$10 of each paid entry over 200 entries will be donated to the ICA Warren Junior Scholar Program. In 7 sections; no unrated allowed in Master or Expert. **Master** (2200/up): \$2000-1000-500-300, clear in or 1st on tiebreak \$100, top U2300 \$800-400. **FIDE. Expert** (2000-2199): \$1500-700-400-300. **Class A** (1800-1999/Unr): \$1500-700-400-300. **Class B** (1600-1799/Unr): \$1500-700-400-300. **Class C** (1400-1599/Unr): \$1400-700-400-200. **Class D** (1200-1399/Unr): \$1200-600-300-200. **Class E** (Under 1200/Unr): \$600-300-200-100, trophies to top 7, top 800-999, 600-799, Under 600, Unrated. Rated players may play up one section. Unrated prize limit \$150 E, \$250 D, \$400 C, \$500 B, \$700 A. **Top 6 sections EF:** 3-day \$103, 2-day \$102 mailed by 10/6, all \$105 online at chesstour.com by 10/11, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/11 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **EF for all in Class E,** and unrated in Class D: all \$50 less. **ALL:** Advance EF \$5 less to ICA members. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with Chess Life if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. Re-entry \$50; not available in Master Section. GMs \$80 from prize. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **Bye:** all, Master must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$99-99-99, 800-937-8461, 847-777-6500, reserve by 9/30 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. (chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US). \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event! A Heritage Event! Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, South Carolina Grand Prix Points: 10 72nd S.C. Championships

5SS, 35/90, SD1 (2day schedule Rd.1 G/90). Hilton Garden Inn, 434 Columbianna Dr., Columbia, SC 29212, (803) 407-6640. \$2,700 b/60 (\$1,350 GTD) **In 3 Sections** (trophy to 1st & 2nd S.C. player in each section): **Open/Championship:** \$600-300-150 u2200-\$150 u2000-\$150. **Amateur(u1800):** \$300-150 u1600-\$150. **Reserve(u1400):** \$300-150 u1200-\$150 u1000-\$150. **EF:** \$60 if rec'd by 9/29; \$70 at site; \$35 re-entry; Special "trophy only" entry: \$20; not eligible for prize money. SCCA memb. req'd, OSA. **Byes:** avail. all rds, Rds. 4 or 5 must commit before 2nd rd. (irrevocable; only one bye avail. on Sunday). **3 day schedule:** Reg. ends 7pm, Fri. Rds. 8-2,8-9,2-30. **2 day schedule:** Reg. ends 7pm, Fri. 9am Sat. Rd. 1 at 10am, then merge with 3 day. **HR:** \$89 (reserve by 9/30; mention chess tnt.) 803-407-6640. **Other info:** More \$\$ per extra regular entries. "Trophy only" entries do not count toward "based on" entries. Free entry to masters (\$60 deducted from any winnings). Unrateds must play in Open/Championship section unless TD can verify their playing strength in order to assign into lower sections. (Unrateds only eligible for place prizes in sections they play.) Annual SCCA meeting held 1-2pm on Sunday. SC Championship title to top SC player. **Info/Reg/Pmt:** S.C. Chess Assn., c/o David Y. Causey, Treasurer, 741Dragon Dr., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 (chessbass@att.net). (Please indicate whether playing in 2 or 3 day schedule and indicate any byes when pre-registering. Be sure to include payment to receive early entry fee otherwise \$70 at site.) **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 15-16, Massachusetts Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced) 12th Western New England Open

5SS, G/120. MCLA, 375 Church St., N. Adams. **Reg.:** 8-8:30 Sat. **Rds.:** Sat 8:45-1:30 6-15 Sun 9-3:15. **EF:** \$42, 2200 + \$32, Unr \$10 win 50% section prize but open. All by 10/10 If unpaid: (+J\$5 at site) **\$\$\$1500 b/50.** Sections: **Open:** \$350-\$250 Top U2000 \$100, **U1800:** \$250-\$125 Top U1600 \$75, **U1400:** \$250-\$100 Top U1200 \$50. **Side event:** 4SS, G/5 Blitz 1:30 Sun. **Info:** Vince Bradley, 413-652-0007, Bradley.Chess@gmail.com. (Note: If you are unrated you can play for free, but can win only 50% of

the section prizes. If you are unrated and playing in the Open section and qualify for a prize, you win the full prize.) **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event! An American Classic! Oct. 21-23, Nevada Grand Prix Points: 200 (enhanced)

29th Annual SANDS REGENCY RENO-WESTERN STATES OPEN 6SS, 40/2, 20/1, G 1/2. Sands Regency Hotel/Casino, 345 N. Arlington Ave., Reno, NV 89501. 1-800-648-3553 or (775) 348-2200. **\$\$\$3,200 b/350, Gtd. \$\$\$21,750**-\$3000-2000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-300-200 in Open Section plus 1/2 of all other prizes. 6 Sections: **OPEN:** EF: GMs & IMs free (enter by 10/1 or pay late fee), Masters \$147, (2199/below)-\$175. \$\$ Prizes 1-10 listed above, (2399-below) \$1000, (2299-below) \$1000. If a tie for 1st overall then 2 (G/10) playoff for \$100 from prize fund. (Note: GM/IM w/free entry not eligible for class prizes 2399 and below; may elect to pay entry fee and become eligible). **EXPERT:** (2000-2199) **EF:** \$146. **\$\$\$2000**-1000-500-400-300. **"A"** Sec.(1800-1999) **EF:** \$145, **\$\$\$2000**-1000-500-400-300. **"B"** Sec.(1600-1799) **EF:** \$144, **\$\$\$1800**-900-500-400-300. **"C"** Sec.(1400-1599) **EF:** \$143, **\$\$\$1,600**-800-500-400-300. **"D"/under Sec.** (1399/below) **EF:** \$142, **\$\$\$1,400**-700-400-300-200, (under 1200) - \$600. (Unrated Players) **EF:** Free + must join USCF or increase membership for 1 additional year thru this tournament (\$49 adults, \$25 juniors) **Prizes:** Top unrated wins 1 yr. USCF membership plus trophy. Note: Unrated will be put in "D" Sect. unless requests to play up. Seniors (65+) \$200; (Seniors not eligible: provisionally rated, unrated, masters); Club Championship \$8800-400 decided by total score of 10 (and only 10) players from one club or area (not eligible - GMs, IMs, or unrated). Trophies to Top 3 (A-D Sections). **ALL:** EF \$11 more if postmarked after 10/1 and \$22 more if postmarked after 10/14 or at site. Do not mail after 10/14 or phone or email after 10/18. \$20 off EF to Srs (65+). Players may play up. Unrated players not eligible for cash prizes except Open 1-10. Provisionally rated players may win up to 50% of 1st place money except Open Section 1-10. **CCA ratings may be used.** Note pairings not changed for color alternation unless 3 in a row or a plus 3 and if the unlikely situation occurs 3 colors in a row may be assigned. **Reg.:** (10/20) 5-8 pm, (10/21) 9:00-10 am. **Rds.:** 12-7, 10-6, 9:30-4:30. Byes available any round, if requested before 1st round (Open Section - 2 byes max). **SIDE EVENTS:** Wed.(10/19) 7pm Clock Simul [40/2, G/1] (Including an analysis of YOUR game. GMTBA \$30 (A great value!)). Thurs (10/20) 5-7:30 pm "A Celebration of Life, GM Larry Evans" and lecture by IM John Donaldson -Free, 7:30 Simul GM TBA (only \$15!), 7:30 Blitz (5 min) Tourney (\$20-80% to prize fund). Sat 10/22 (3-4:30pm) IM John Donaldson Clinic (Game/Position Analysis) - Free. Sun. (10/23) Quick Tourney (G/25) 5 Rd. Swiss (\$20) [12 (Noon)-5pm] 80% to prize fund. **ENT:** Make checks payable and send to: SANDS REGENCY (address above) **HR:** \$291 (Sun-Thurs) & \$591 (Fri-Sat) + 13.5% tax. (mention CHES-SOCT & reserve by 10/5/10 to guarantee room rates.) **INFO:** Jerry Weikel, wackykd@aol.com, (775) 747 1405, or website: www.renochess.org/wso (also go here to verify entry). FIDE. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 21-23 or 22-23, New Jersey Grand Prix Points: 60 (enhanced) 2nd annual Boardwalk Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2G/75). Berkeley Oceanfront Hotel, 1401 Ocean Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712. Free parking. Prizes \$15,000 based on 180 paid entries, \$10,000 minimum (2/3 each prize) guaranteed; re-entries & unrated count as half entries. In 5 sections. **Open:** \$1500-700-400-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$800-400. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$1000-500-300-200, top U1900 \$600-300. **Under 1800:** \$1000-500-300-200, top U1600 \$600-300. **Under 1500:** \$900-500-300-200, top U1400 \$500-250. **Under 1200:** \$800-500-300-150, top U1000 \$400-\$200. **Unrated** may not win over \$150 in U1200, \$300 U1500, \$500 U1800. **EF:** 3-day \$98, 2-day \$97 mailed by 10/13, all \$99 online at chesstour.com by 10/18, \$100 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/18 (entry only, no questions), \$110 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site. GMs free; \$100 deducted from prize. **EF for unrated in U1200 or U1500:** all \$50 less. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with Chess Life if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **Re-entry \$60;** not available in Open Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$95-95, 732-776-6700, reserve by 10/7 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:**

Tournament Life Abbreviations & Terms

All tournaments are non-smoking with no computers allowed unless otherwise advertised by **S** and/or **C** (see below for explanations).

QC: Quick Chess events.

\$\$\$Gtd: Guaranteed prizes.

\$\$\$b/x: Based-on prizes, x = number of entries needed to pay full prize fund. At least 50% of the advertised prize fund of \$501 or more must be awarded.

Bye: Indicates which rounds players who find it inconvenient to play may take ½-point byes instead. For example, Bye 1-3 means ½-point byes are available in Rounds 1 through 3.

C: Computers allowed.

CC: Chess club.

EF: Entry fee.

Enhanced Grand Prix points (see previous page).

Ent: Where to mail entries.

FIDE: Results submitted to FIDE for possible rating.

G/: Game in. For instance, G/75 means each side has 75 minutes for the entire game.

GPP: Grand Prix Points available.

HR: Hotel rates. For example, 60-65-70-75 means \$60 single, \$65 twin, \$70/3 in room, \$75/4 in room.

JGP: Junior Grand Prix.

Memb. req'd: Membership required; cost follows. Usually refers to state affiliate.

Open: A section open to all. Often has very strong players, but some eligible for lower sec-

tions can play for the learning experience.

OSA: Other states accepted. Refers to state dues.

PPHBF: Professional Players Health and Benefits Fund.

Quad: 4-player round robin sections; similar strength players.

RBO: Rated Beginner's Open.

Rds: Rounds; scheduled game times follow. For example, 11-5, 9-3 means games begin 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. on the first day, 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. on the second day.

Reg: Registration at site.

RR: Round robin (preceded by number of rounds).

S: Smoking allowed.

SASE: For more info, send self-addressed

stamped envelope.

SD/: Sudden-death time control (time for rest of game follows). For example, 30/90, SD/1 means each player must make 30 moves in 90 minutes, then complete the rest of the game in an hour.

Section: A division of a tournament, usually excluding players above a specified rating. Players in a section face only each other, not those in other sections.

SS: Swiss-System pairings (preceded by number of rounds).

T/Dx: Time delay, x = number of seconds.

Unr: Unrated.

USEF: Combined entry fee & USCF dues.

W: Site is accessible to wheelchairs.

WEB: Tournaments that will use a player's on-line rating.

www.chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 28-30, Michigan

Grand Prix Points: 150 (enhanced)

First Annual Fall International Chess Festival

presented by Michigan Chess Festival LLC (MCFLC). 5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2 day option, rds 1-2, G 90). 4SS Under 1000, Novice, Unrated: G/30. Dearborn Hyatt Regency, 600 Town Center Dr., Dearborn MI 48126, a AAA 4 Diamond facility free parking. Rates: \$99-\$99-\$99-\$99, if reserved before 10/8. **\$14,000 Prize Fund Guaranteed, in four sections: OPEN** Section (FIDE rated). **EF:** 3 day, via MCFLC website, before 10/7: \$98; before 10/27: \$100, at site: \$110. 2 day, via MCFLC website, before 10/7: \$99, before 10/27: \$101, at site: \$112. Re-entries: \$55. **Prizes:** \$2,250-\$1,500-\$900-\$500-\$300, Under 2300 \$850-\$450, Under 2100 \$700-\$350, Under 1900 \$300. **UNDER 1800 Section. EF 3 day,** via MCFLC website, before 10/7: \$90, before 10/27: \$92, at site: \$95. **2 day,** via MCFLC website, before 10/7: \$91, before 10/27: \$93, at site: \$96. Re-entries: \$48. **Prizes:** \$1,000-\$600-\$300-\$200, Under 1600 \$500-\$300-\$100. **UNDER 1400 Section. EF 3 day,** via MCFLC website, before 10/7: \$60, before October 27: \$62, at site: \$65. **2 day,** via MCFLC website, before 10/7: \$61, before 10/27: \$63, at site: \$66. Re-entries: \$33. **Prizes:** \$700-\$400-\$250-\$150, Under 1200 \$400-\$200-\$100. Unrateds may enter any of prior Sections, maximum prize for unrated player is the third place prize in the section entered. **Under 1000, unrated ONE DAY, Saturday. EF** via website, before 10/7: \$33, before 10/27: \$35, at site: \$38. **Prizes:** \$150-\$100-\$75 Under 800 \$75-\$50 Under 600 \$75-\$50 Unrated: \$75-\$50. Re-entries only allowed for players who entered the 3 day option. Mail Payment accepted. Entries must be postmarked 4 days prior to dates specified for website entry to obtain early pricing. Michigan residents must belong to the Michigan State Association. **Mail checks to:** MCFLC, 4301 Orchard Lake Rd., Ste 180 #B125, West Bloomfield, MI 48323. **Charge for returned checks:** \$10. Grandmasters, Foreign IMs and WGMs free, \$100 deducted from prizes. **Schedule: REG: 3 day:** Fri. 5-6 p.m. **Schedule:** Rds: Fri 7 pm Sat 11 & 6 Sun 10 & 4:30. **REG: 2 day:** Sat 8:30-9:30 a.m. Round 1, 10:00 a.m. Round 2, 2:00 p.m. Merge with three day schedule for rounds 3-5 REG, Novice: Sat 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Rounds: Rd 1: 10 a.m. Rd 2 11:30 a.m. Rd 3 2:00 pm Rd 4 4:00 pm. One bye allowed, if req. before end of round 2. Bring clock, board, pieces. Not provided at site. **Online**

registration: www.michiganchessfestival.com, **INFO:** info@michiganchessfestival.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 30, New York

Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)

Capital Region Open

4SS, G/40. Studio of Bridge & Games, 1639 Eastern Pkwy., Schenectady 12309. **\$1000 guaranteed prizes** plus U1000 trophies. In 4 sections. **Open:** \$200-100-50, top U2000/Unr \$70-30. **Under 1800 Section:** \$120-60-30, top U1600 \$70-30, no unrated may win over \$80. **Under 1400 Section:** \$100-50-30, top U1200 \$60, no unrated may win over \$50. **Under 1000 Section:** Trophies to first 3, top 2 U800, top 2 U600, top Unrated. **Top 3 sections EF:** \$33 online at chesstour.com by 10/27 or mailed by 10/24, \$40 at site; \$20 less to unrated in U1400. **U1000 EF:** \$13 online at chesstour.com by 10/27 or mailed by 10/24, \$20 at site. **Alt:** Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry: Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **No checks** at site, credit cards OK. **Late reg.** at site 9-9:30 am, rds. 10, 12, 2, 4. One half point bye available, must commit before rd 2. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US). \$15 service charge for refunds.

Nov. 5-6, Virginia

Grand Prix Points: 20

16th Annual Northern Virginia Open

5SS, Rds 1-3 G/2, rds 4-5 30/90 SD/1. **\$2,500** (Top 3 G) B/90. Double-Tree Hotel Dulles Airport - Sterling, 21611 Atlantic Blvd., Sterling, VA 20166. Tel: 1-703-230-0077, Fax: 1-703-230-0078. \$69(!)/Rooms. Direct link for hotel registration by 10/24 available on tournament website as well as directions. **Prizes:** Open: \$570-350-240 (G); Top X/A-Unr/B/C/D/U1200 each \$200, Top Upset Prize (1) for Rd1-(\$25), Rd2-(\$30), Rd3-(\$35) and Rd4-(\$50). **Reg:** Saturday Nov 5: 8:30 am-9:45am. **Rounds:** Sat 10-230-7, Sunday 10-3:30p. One 1/2 pt bye allowed, must commit to byes before Rd 1, and are irrevocable after play starts. **EF:** \$50 if rec'd by, \$60 at site or after 10/31. VCF Membership Req'd for VA Residents (\$10-Adults, \$5 U19). **Ent:** Michael Atkins, PO Box 6138, Alexandria, VA 22306. **Make checks to:** "Virginia Chess". Email:

matkins2@cox.net, but NO e-mail entries, just information. Web: www.vachess.org/nova.htm. W, NS, **FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, Ohio

Grand Prix Points: 150 (enhanced)

20th annual Kings Island Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Kings Island Resort, 5691 Kings Island Drive (I-71, 6 mi north of I-275), Mason, OH 45040. Free parking. **\$30,000** based on 350 paid entries (re-entries & \$60 off entries count as half entries); minimum \$24,000 (80% of each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections: **Open:** \$3000-1500-800-600-400, 1st on tiebreak \$200 bonus, top U2300/Unr \$1600-800. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$2000-1000-500-400-300. **Under 1900:** \$2000-1000-500-400-300. **Under 1700:** \$2000-1000-500-400-300. **Under 1500:** \$1800-900-500-300-200. **Under 1250:** \$1400-700-400-300-200. **Under 1000:** \$800-400-300-200-100. **Unrated** prize limits: U1000 \$150, U1250 \$300, U1500 \$500, U1700 \$700, U1900 \$900. Balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 6 sections EF:** 3-day \$113, 2-day \$112 mailed by 11/3, all \$115 online at chesstour.com by 11/8, \$120 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 11/8 (entry only, no questions), \$130 at site. **EF for all in Under 1000 Section** and unrated in Under 1250 Section: all \$60 less. **No checks** at site, credit cards OK. Re-entry \$60; not available in Open Section. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with Chess Life if paid with entry: Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6 pm, rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Byes:** OK all; Open must commit by rd 2, others by rd 3. **HR:** \$64-64, 800-727-3050, 513-398-0115, reserve by 10/21 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. Car rental is easiest & cheapest transportation from Cincinnati Airport. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** www.chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

An American Classic!

Nov. 25-27 or 26-27, Pennsylvania

GOLD AFFILIATES

Cajun Chess

7230 Chadbourne Drive
New Orleans, LA 70126
504-208-9596
cajunchess@yahoo.com
www.cajunchess.com

Chess Academy

5825 West Patterson Avenue
Chicago, IL 60634
773-414-2967
chessteacher@comcast.net
www.thechessacademy.org

Chess Club and Scholastic

Center of St. Louis
4657 Maryland Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63108.
314-361-CHESS
info@stlouischessclub.org
www.stlouischessclub.org

Continental Chess Association

PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills,
NY 12577.
845-496-9658
chesstour@aol.com
www.chesstour.com

Dallas Chess Club

200 S. Cottonwood Dr. Suite C
Richardson, TX 75080
972-231-2065
info@dallaschess.com
www.dallaschess.com

International Chess Academy (NJ)

28 Canterbury Lane
New Milford, NJ 07646
201-287-0250
diana@icanj.net, www.icanj.net

Shore HS Chess League

PO Box 773
Lincroft, NJ 07738
shorehschessleague@yahoo.com

New Jersey State Chess Federation

c/o Roger Inglis, 49-A Mara Rd.
Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034
973-263-8696, rwij@njjoychess.com
www.njscf.org

New York City Chess Inc

c/o Russell Makofsky
230 Thompson Street
New York, NY 10012, 212-475-8130
info@chessnyc.com
www.chessnyc.com

North American Chess Association

4957 Oakton Street, Suite 113
Skokie, IL 60077, 888.80.Chess
sevan@nachess.org
www.nachess.org

PaperClip Pairings

c/o J. Houghtaling Jr & Remy Ferrari
6005 Forest Blvd
Brownsville, TX 78526, 956-459-2421
jejrighthoughtaling@bisd.us

San Diego Chess Club

2225 Sixth Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101, 619-239-7166
chucnglo@aol.com
http://sdchessclub.multiply.com

Texas Tech University SPICE

Box 45080
Lubbock, TX 79409
806-742-7742
SPICE@ttu.edu
www.SPICE.ttu.edu

Tri-State Chess

The Chess Exchange
325 East 88th Street
New York, NY 10128
212-289-5997
info@TriStateChess.com
www.TriStateChess.com

Village Chess Shop of NYC

c/o Michael Propper
230 Thompson Street
New York, NY 10012
212-475-9580
info@chess-shop.com
www.chess-shop.com

Western PA Youth Chess Club

Attn: Jerry Meyers
4101 Windsor Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
412-422-1770
catnip99@yahoo.com
www.youthchess.net

GOLD & SILVER AFFILIATES

GOLD

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 50 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Gold Affiliate. Gold Affiliates are honored in a special list in larger type in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and website. Gold Affiliation costs \$350 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract \$3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation, or \$20 for each month remaining on their Silver Affiliation. **As of August 6, 2007, by paying an annual payment of \$500 (instead of \$350), Gold Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.**

SILVER

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 25 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Silver Affiliate. These affiliates will be recognized in a special list in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, state, and choice of either phone number, e-mail address, or website. Silver Affiliation costs \$150 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract \$3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation. **As of August 6, 2007, by paying an annual payment of \$250.00 (instead of \$150), Silver Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.**

SILVER AFFILIATES

Bay Area Chess (CA)
www.BayAreaChess.com

Beverly Hills Chess Club (CA)
www.bhchessclub.com

En Passant Chess Club (TX)
td_edg@sbcglobal.net

Indiana State Chess Association
www.indianachess.org

Long Island Chess Nuts (NY)
516-739-3907

Marshall Chess Club (NY)
www.marshallchessclub.org

Michigan Chess Association
www.michess.org

Oklahoma Chess Foundation
www.OKchess.org

Silver Knights (PA)
www.silverknightschess.com

Sparta Chess Club (NJ)
www.spartachessclub.org

Grand Prix Points: 150 (enhanced)

42nd annual National Chess Congress

6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/50). Trophy sections play separate 2-day schedule only, 11/26-27 (not 11/27-28), G/65 (rds 1-2 G/50). Sheraton Hotel Philadelphia City Center, 17th & Race Sts., Philadelphia 19103. \$30,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND. In 10 sections. **Premier**, open to all rated 2000/above and juniors under 18 rated 1800/above. \$3000-1500-700-400-200, clear win or 1st on tiebreak \$100, U2400/Unr \$1400-700. FIDE. **Under 2200**: \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Under 2000**: \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Under 1800**: \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Under 1600**: \$2000-1000-500-300-200. **Under 1400**: \$1400-700-400-300-200. **Under 1200**: \$1400-700-400-300-200. **Under 1000**: Trophies to top 8. **Under 800**: Trophies to top 8. **Under 600**: Trophies to top 8; unrated age 15/over may not enter Under 600. **Unrated** may not win over \$150 in U1200, \$300 in U1400, \$500 in U1600, \$700 in U1800, or \$900 in U2000. **Student/Alumni trophies** to top 5 teams of 4 (regardless of section) representing any U.S. college, HS or pre-HS players attend or have graduated from. **Top 7 sections entry fee**: 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 mailed by 11/17, all \$109 online at chessstour.com by 11/21, \$115 phoned by 11/21 (406-896-2038, no questions), \$130 at site. GMs free, \$100 deducted from prize. Re-entry \$60, not available in Premier. **Under 1000, Under 800, Under 600 entry fee**: \$27 mailed by 11/17, \$28 online at chessstour.com by 11/21, \$35 phoned by 11/21 (406-896-2038, no questions), \$40 at tmt. **All**: No checks at site, credit cards OK. Mailed EF \$3 less to PSCF members. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **3-day schedule**: Reg. ends Fri 11 am, rds. Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **2-day top 7 sections schedule**: Reg. ends Sat. 9 am, rds Sat 10, 12:45, 3:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Under 1000, Under 800, Under 600 schedule**: Reg. ends Sat 9 am, rds Sat 10, 12:45 & 3:30, Sun 10, 1 & 4. **Half point byes** OK all rounds; limit 3, Premier must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **HR**: \$97-97-97-97, reserve by 11/11 or rate may increase. Parking at hotel \$10/day with guest room, \$20 without; garage next to hotel may be about \$10. **Car rental**: 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633 or reserve car online through chessstour.com. **Ent**: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions**: chessstour.com, chessstour.info, 845-496-9658. Advance entries will be posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

An American Classic!

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, Nevada

Grand Prix Points: 200 (enhanced)

21st annual North American Open

7SS, 40/2, SD/1 (3-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Bally's Casino Resort, 3645 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89103. \$5 120,000 based on 600 paid entries. Seniors, re-entries & GMs count as half entries, unrateds in U1250 or U1500 as 1/4, else in proportion; \$90,000 minimum (75% each prize)

guaranteed. In 7 sections. **Open**: \$10000-5000-2500-1200-1000-800-600-500-400-400, clear winner or 1st on tiebreak bonus \$200, top Under 2500/Unr \$2500-1200. FIDE. **Under 2300**: \$7000-4000-2000-1200-900-800-600-500-400-400. **Under 2100**: \$7000-4000-2000-1200-900-800-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$2500. **Under 1900**: \$7000-4000-2000-1200-900-800-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$1800. **Under 1700**: \$6000-3000-1600-1000-800-700-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$1200. **Under 1500**: \$5000-2500-1400-1000-800-700-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$800. **Under 1250**: \$4000-2000-1300-900-700-600-500-400-300-300, top Under 1000 \$1000, no unrated may win over \$400. **Prize limits**: 1) Players with under 26 games played as of 12/11 list may not win over \$1500 U1250, \$2500 U1500 or U1700. Games rated too late for 12/11 list not counted. 2) If official rating was more than 30 points over section maximum any month 12/10-11/11, prize limit \$1500. 3) Balance of any limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Mailed EF**: 4-day \$244, 3-day \$243 mailed by 10/15, 4-day \$274, 3-day \$273 mailed by 12/15. **Online EF**: \$245 at chessstour.com or entry.cc by 10/15, \$275 by 12/20, \$300 12/21 until two hours before round 1. **Phoned EF**: \$280 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 12/20 (no questions). No phone entry after 12/20. **EF at site**: \$300. **Special EF**: Seniors 65/over except unrated in U1250 or U1500, \$130 less. Re-entry \$120; not available in Open Section. GMs \$150 from prize. **EF for unrated in U1250 or U1500**: 4-day \$54, 3-day \$53 if mailed by 12/15, \$55 online at chessstour.com by 12/20, \$60 phoned by 12/20 (406-896-2038, entry only, no questions), \$70 at site. **All**: No checks at site, credit cards OK. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **4-day reg.** ends 12/26 5 pm, rds 12/26 6 pm, 12/27 11 & 6, 12/28 11 & 6, 12/29 10 & 4:30. **3-day reg.** ends 12/27 10 am, rds 12/27 11 am, 2:30 pm & 6 pm, 12/28 11 & 6, 12/29 10 & 4:30. **Bye**: all, limit 4, limit 2 in last 4 rounds; Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **HR**: \$97-97, 800-833-3308, 702-739-4111, rate may increase if not reserved by 11/22, all rooms in chess block may sell out about 11/7. Free parking (garage at adjacent Paris Las Vegas Hotel is most convenient). **Car rental**: for special Avis rate reserve car through chessstour.com or call 800-331-1600, use AWD #657633. **Foreign player ratings**: Usually 100 points added to FIDE, 100 to FQE, 200/more to most other foreign, no pts added to CFC or Jamaica. Some foreign ratings not accepted for U1900 or below. Highest of multiple ratings usually used. Players who fail to disclose foreign or FIDE ratings may be expelled. **US player ratings**: December list used; FIDE ratings not used. **Special ratings**: In round 3 or after, players with scores of 80% or more and their opponents may not use headphones, earphones, or cellphones or go to a different floor of the hotel without Director permission, and must submit to a search for electronic devices if requested by Director. Blitz & Quick side events to be announced. **Ent**: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions**: www.chessstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-

9658. Advance entries posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

A Heritage Event!

Dec. 27-29 or 28-29, New York

Grand Prix Points: 60 (enhanced)

30th annual Empire City Open

6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/50). New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, New York 10001. **\$10,000 guaranteed prize fund**. In 5 sections. **Open**: \$1000-500-300-150, clear or tiebreak 1st \$50, top 2200-2299 \$500, top U2200/Unr \$500. FIDE. **Under 2100**: \$800-400-200-100, top U1900 \$500. **Under 1800**: \$800-400-200-100, top U1600 \$400. **Under 1500**: \$700-400-200-100, top U1300 \$300. **Under 1200**: \$600-300-150-100, top U1000 \$250. **Unrated** may not win over \$200 in U1200, \$300 U1500, or \$500 U1800. **EF**: 3-day \$98, 2-day \$97 if check mailed by 12/18, \$99 online at www.chessstour.com by 12/23, \$105 phoned by 12/23 (406-896-2038, no questions), \$120 at site. No mailed credit card entries. GMs free (\$90 from prize). **EF for unrated in U1200 or U1500**: \$50 less. **All**: Re-entry \$50, not available in Open. No checks at site, credit cards OK. Unofficial uscf.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **3-Day Schedule**: Reg. ends Tue 10:30 am. Rds. Tue 11 & 6, Wed 11 & 6, Thu 10 & 4:30. **2-Day Schedule**: Reg. ends Wed 9:30 am. Rds. Wed 10, 12:45, 3:15 & 6, Thu 10 & 4:30. **Half point byes** available all rounds, limit 2 byes, Open must commit before rd. 2, others before rd 4. **HR**: \$229-229, 1-800-764-4680, 212-971-0101, reserve by 5 pm 12/13 or rate will increase, ask for Continental Chess Association rate. **Ent**: Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions**: chessstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-569-9969. Advance entries posted at www.chessstour.com. Bring set, clock, board-none supplied. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Jan. 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16, California, Northern

Grand Prix Points: 120 (enhanced)

3rd annual Golden State Open

7SS, 40/2, SD/1 (3-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, 2-day option, rds 1-4 G/40). No 2-day Open Section. Concord Hilton Hotel, 1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord, CA 94520 (I-680 Willow Pass Rd exit). Free shuttle between hotel and Concord BART station, free parking, many restaurants within walking distance. **Prizes \$30,000** based on 290 paid entries (re-entries & \$70 off entries count as half entries), minimum guarantee \$21,000 (70% of each prize). In 5 sections. **Open**, open to all. \$2000-1200-800-700-600-500, clear or tiebreak winner \$100, top U2300/Unr \$1000-500, top U2200/Unr \$800-400. FIDE. **Under 2100**: \$1500-1000-800-600-500-400, top U1900 \$800-400. **Under 1800**: \$1500-1000-800-600-500-400, top U1600 \$800-400. **Under 1500**: \$1200-800-600-500-400-400, top U1300 \$700-400. **Under 1200**: \$1200-800-600-500-400-400, top U1000 \$500. **Unrated** (0-3 lifetime games rated) may enter any section, with

CHECK OUT USCF'S CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RATED EVENTS!

2011 Open Correspondence Chess Golden Knights Championship

USCF's 64th
ANNUAL

\$1,000 FIRST PRIZE

(plus title of USCF's Golden Knights Champion and plaque)

2nd place \$600 • 3rd place \$400 • 4th place \$300 • 5th place \$200
6th thru 10th place \$100 each • ENTRY FEE: \$25

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members who reside on the North American continent, islands, or Hawaii, as well as those USCF members with an APO or FPO address. USCF members who reside outside of the North American continent are welcome to participate in e-mail events. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Those new to USCF Correspondence Chess, please estimate your strength: **Class A**: 1800-1999 (very strong); **Class B**: 1600-1799 (strong); **Class C**: 1400-1599 (intermediate); **Class D**: 1399 and below (beginner level). **Note**: Prize fund based on 300 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

2011 E-mail Correspondence Chess Electronic Knights Championship

(Seven-player sections, one game with each of six opponents.)

USCF's 8th
ANNUAL

\$700 FIRST PRIZE

(plus title of USCF's Electronic Knights Champion and plaque)

2nd place \$400 • 3rd place \$300 • 4th thru 10th place \$100 each • ENTRY FEE: \$25

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members with e-mail access. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten. **Note**: Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

TO ENTER: 800-903-USCF(8723) OR FAX 931-787-1200 OR ON-LINE AT WWW.USCHESS.ORG

Name _____ USCF ID# _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____ Est. Rating _____
Credit card # (VISA, MC, Disc., AMEX) _____ Exp. date _____

If using VISA, need V-code _____ ☐ Check here if you do not wish to have an opponent who is incarcerated.
*Note: This may slow down your assignment.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO U.S. CHESS AND MAIL TO: JOAN DUBOIS, USCF, PO BOX 3967, CROSSVILLE, TN 38557

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS MATCHES (TWO PLAYERS)

Two or six-game options. ENTRY FEE: \$5.

Win A Correspondence Chess Trophy

Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings.

1st-place winner receives a trophy.

ENTRY FEE: \$10.

Victor Palciauskas Prize Tournaments

Seven-player class-level pairings, one game with each of six opponents.

1st-place winner receives \$130 cash prize and a certificate signed by Victor Palciauskas.

ENTRY FEE: \$25.

John W. Collins Memorial Class Tournaments

Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings (unrateds welcome).

1st-place winner receives a John W. Collins certificate.

ENTRY FEE: \$7.

E-MAIL RATED EVENTS (NEED E-MAIL ACCESS):

Lightning Match

Two players with two or six-game option. ENTRY FEE: \$5.

Swift Quads

Four-player, double round-robin format.

1st-place prize merchandise credit of \$30.

ENTRY FEE: \$10.

Walter Muir E-Quads (webserver chess)

Four-player, double round-robin e-mail format tournament with class-level pairings.

1st-place receives a certificate.

ENTRY FEE: \$7.

Please circle event(s) selected.

NOTE: Except for Lightning Matches, Swift Quads, Walter Muir E-Quads & Electronic Knights, players will use post office mail, unless opponents agree to use e-mail.

maximum prize U1200 \$300, U1500 \$500, U1800 \$700, **EF:** 4-day \$129, 3-day \$128, 2-day \$127 mailed by 1/5, all \$130 online at chesstour.com by 1/10, \$135 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 1/10 (entry only, no questions), \$150 at site. GMs free; \$100 deducted from prize. **EF \$70 less to unrated** in U1200 or U1500 section. **All:** Special 1 yr USCF dues with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. Re-entry (except Open) \$60. Mailed EF \$5 less to CalChess members. **4-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **3-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Late reg. ends Sun 9:30 am, rds Sun 10 am, 12 noon, 2 pm, 3:45 pm & 6 pm, Mon 10 am & 4:30 pm. No 2-day Open Section. **Byes:** OK all, limit 3, limit 2 in last 4 rounds; Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **Foreign player ratings:** See chesstour.com. **HR:** \$99-99-109, 925-827-2000, reserve by 12/30 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Questions:** chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. **Ent:** Continental Chess, c/o Goichberg, Box 661776, Arcadia, CA 91066. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Regional

Alabama

Aug. 13, Chris Bond Memorial Classic - 7th Annual 4SS, TC: G/75. Frazer UMC, 6000 Atlanta Hwy, Montgomery, AL 36117. **Open (PF \$5b/25):** \$200-125-100-U1700: 100-U1200: 75. **Rds.:** 9, 11:30, 2:30, 5. **EF: \$30**, if rcvd by **AUG 6th; \$10** more at site. **Scholastic: 5SS, TC: G/30. Premier (K-12; EF: \$20; Rated); Novice (K-8; EF: \$10; Not Rated), Trophy:** Top 3. **Rds.:** 9:15-10:15-11:15-1-2. **Late REG:** AUG 13th at 8-8:40am. Checks payable to: **Caesar Chess. ENT:** Caesar Chess LLC, 4524 Southlake Parkway, Suite 34 - PMB 310, Birmingham, AL 35244. **Info:** CaesarChess@yahoo.com, www.AlabamaChess.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP (G/75).**

Sep. 16-18, 58th Annual Alabama State Chess Championship
See Grand Prix.

Arizona

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, CCA 8th annual Los Angeles Open (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

California Northern

Capital City Chess Club Monthly (Sundays)

4-ss (Var. 29L1), G/120. Open, One Section. LOCATION: Thee Upper Crust Pizza, 1200 "K" Street # 10, Hyatt Regency Retail Plaza, Sacramento.

ENTRY: \$25. **GUARANTEED:** 4 pts \$100, 3.5 pts \$75, 3 pts \$50, 2.5 pts \$25. **ALL BYES:** Half pt. **BYES:** Two Max. **RDS:** Last Four Sundays at 1PM & You must be present at 12:45 PM of each round to be paired. **REG.:** 12-12:45 PM. (First Three Rounds). **INFO:** John C. Barnard, (209)450-6133. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 3rd annual Central California Open
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 13, San Jose Quads

Trophies: Players w/winning record. Check-in 4p. **Games:** 4:30-6:30p. 3xG/30. Chess Center, 1590 Oakland Rd., Ste B213, San Jose, CA 95101. **EF:** Pre-reg \$25, Onsite \$40. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/kids. NS. NC.

Aug. 13, San Jose Swiss

Trophies: Players w/winning record & teams with 2+ players. Medals to others. **Games:** 10a-2p. **3 Sections:** u500, u900, 900+. u900: 5xg30, 900+: 4xg45. Chess Center, 1590 Oakland Rd., Ste B213, San Jose, CA 95101. **EF:** Pre-reg \$33, Onsite \$48. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/kids. NS. NC.

Aug. 20, Pleasanton Quads

Trophies: Players w/winning record. Check-in 4p. **Games:** 4:30-6:30p. 3xG/30. Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr, Pleasanton. **EF:** \$25 by Thu bef tourney, Onsite \$41. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/kids. NS. NC.

Aug. 20, Pleasanton SuperSwiss

\$1,000 b/44. 4SS G/60. Rds.: 10, 12:30, 2:45, 5. 2 Sec: 1700+, U1700. Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr, Pleasanton. **EF 2+ days bef tourn:** \$44, onsite: \$60. Play-up: +\$10. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/reg. NS, NC, W.

Aug. 20, Pleasanton Swiss

Trophies: Players w/winning record & teams w/ 2+ players. **Games:** 10a-2p. **3 Sec:** U500, U900, 900+. U900: 5xG/30, 900+: 4xG/45. Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr, Pleasanton. **EF:** \$33 by Thu bef tourney, Onsite \$49. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/kids. NS. NC.

Aug. 27, Utah Amateur Championship (UT)

See Utah.

Sep. 3-5 or 4-5, 2011 Labor Day Chess Festival

See Grand Prix.

Sep. 10, San Jose Quads

Trophies: Players w/winning record. Check-in 4p. **Games:** 4:30-6:30p. 3xG/30. Chess Center, 1590 Oakland Rd., Ste B213, San Jose, CA 95101. **EF:** Pre-reg \$25, Onsite \$40. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/kids. NS. NC.

Sep. 10, San Jose Swiss

Trophies: Players w/winning record & teams with 2+ players. Medals to others. **Games:** 10a-2p. **3 Sections:** u500, u900, 900+. u900: 5xg30, 900+: 4xg45. Chess Center, 1590 Oakland Rd., Ste B213, San Jose, CA 95101. **EF:** Pre-reg \$33, Onsite \$48. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/kids. NS. NC.

Sep. 24-25, Exchange Bank Open

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 1, 2011 U.S. Game/60 Championship

See Nationals.

Oct. 2, 2011 U.S. Game/30 Championship

See Nationals.

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, CCA 8th annual Los Angeles Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 29-30, 2011 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

See Nationals.

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, 21st annual North American Open (NV)

See Grand Prix.

Jan. 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16, 3rd annual Golden State Open

See Grand Prix.

California Southern

LA CHESS CLUB

www.LAChessClub.com. **Saturdays:** 10AM-10 PM (Novice Class & 3 Tournaments). **Sundays:** 12-6 & 1-4 PM (Beginner class & 2 Tournaments) - Details on our web site. **Tuesdays:** 7:30-9:30 PM (Intermediate/Advance Lecture). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025 * (310) 795-5710. (4 blocks 405 West, Santa Monica & Butler * 2nd Floor). Private (1:1) Lessons * Group Classes * Tournaments.

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, LACC - Every Sunday Chess 4 Jrs

5 separate events - 2 Sections: 1000+ & U1000, 4SS, G/30. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blocks W 405. EF: \$25 (\$20 LACC memb, \$10 off siblings, Free new LACC memb). **Reg.:** 12-1 pm. **Rds.:** 1, 2, 3, 4 pm; **Prizes:** Trophies (Top 3) & Medals (rest); each player receives a prize! **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets. Free snacks & free class (12-1). **Info:** (310) 795-5710 or Mick@LAChessClub.com.

Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, LACC - August Friday FIDE

4SS, G/90+30 sec/move. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blks W 405. **EF:** \$40/\$30. FIDE & USCF-rated. **Reg.:** 6-7 pm. **Rds.:** 7 pm each Friday. **Prizes:** 80% collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA (\$3 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710. Mick@LAChessClub.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 6-7, San Diego County Championship

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 6&7, 13&14, 20&21, LACC - Sat & Sun G/61

6SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA. 2nd fl. **EF:** \$45 (\$35 memb). **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm each day. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets (\$3 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or Mick@LAChessClub.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 6, 13, 20, LACC - 10 Blitz (G/5) Saturday Night (OC)

5DSS, G/5 (10 Games). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4

8th annual LOS ANGELES OPEN

October 7-9 or 8-9, 2011 - \$20,000 projected prizes, \$16,000 minimum!

5 rounds at Sheraton Four Points LAX - \$89 room rate, \$5/day parking

5 round Swiss, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Sheraton Four Points LAX, 9750 Airport Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90045.

Prizes \$20,000 based on 230 paid entries; min. guarantee \$16,000 (80% each prize). Re-entries & \$60 off entries count as half entries. In 6 sections:

Open: \$2000-1000-600-400, clear or tiebreak win \$100 bonus, top Under 2400/Unr \$600-300. FIDE rated, 100 GPP (enhanced).

Under 2300: \$1500-800-400-200, top Under 2100 \$500-250. FIDE rated.

Under 2000: \$1500-800-400-200, top Under 1800 \$500-250.

Under 1700: \$1300-700-400-200, top Under 1500 \$500-250.

Under 1400: \$1200-600-300-200, top Under 1200 \$400-200.

Under 1000: \$700-400-200-150, trophies to top 3, top U800, U600, Unr.

Unrated prize limits: U1000 \$200, U1400 \$300, or U1700 \$500.

Top 5 sections entry fee: 3-day \$113, 2-day \$112 mailed by 9/29, all \$115 online at chesstour.com by 10/4, \$120 phoned by 10/4 (406-896-2038, entry only, no questions), \$130 at site (no checks, credit cards OK).

Entry fee for all in Under 1000 or unrated in Under 1400: all \$60 less.

Re-entry (except Open): \$60.

Special 1 year USCF dues with paper magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20.

Unofficial uschess.org ratings

usually used if otherwise unrated.

USCF membership required.

SCCF membership (\$18, jrs \$10) required for rated So. Calif. residents.

3-day schedule: Reg. Fri to 6 pm, rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 10 am & 4:15 pm.

2-day schedule: Reg. Sat to 10 am, rds Sat 11 am, 2:30 pm & 6 pm; Sun 10 am & 4:15 pm.

Half-point byes OK all (limit 2); Open must commit before round 2, other sections before round 3.

All: Bring sets, boards, clocks if possible. JGP.

Car rental: 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633 or reserve at chesstour.com.

Entry: Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577.

Hotel rates: \$89-89, 800-529-4683, 310-649-7025, reserve by 9/24 or rate may increase

Optional entry form faces inside back cover, or see entryblank.com. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com.

blks W 405. **EF:** \$10. Q-rated. **Reg.:** 8-9 pm. **Rds.:** 9, 9:20, 9:40, 10, 10:20. **Prizes:** 1/2 EF. **Parking:** Free at BoA & streets (\$3 basement).

Aug. 6, 13, 20, LACC - LA Masters G/30
3SS, G/30. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 2nd Fl. 4 blks W 405. **EF:** \$30 (20 memb). **Reg.:** 5-6 pm. **Rds.:** 6, 7, 8 pm. **Prizes:** (\$180 b/10, 75%); **Parking:** Free at BoA (\$3 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710.

Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27, LACC - Saturday G/61
3SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 2nd fl. (**\$320 b/20**), \$100/50/30; U1800-1200: \$50/40/30/20. **EF:** \$25 (\$20 memb, \$10 no prizes). **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm. **Parking:** basement (\$3). **Info:** 310/795-5710.

Aug. 7, August Blitz Championship (QC)
7DSS, G/5 (12 Games). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blks W 405. **EF:** \$30 (\$25 LACC memb, \$5 off siblings, Free new LACC memb; \$10 no prizes). Q-rated. **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 12:30, 1, 1:30, 2, 2:30, 3 pm. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets (\$3 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or Mick@LACHessClub.com.

Aug. 7, 14, 21, LACC - Sunday G/61
3SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 2nd fl. (**\$320 b/20**), \$100/50/30; U1800-1200: \$50/40/30/20. **EF:** \$25 (\$20 memb, \$10 no prizes). **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm. **Parking:** Free at BoA. **Info:** 310/795-5710.

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 3rd annual Central California Open (CA-N)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 14, August Quick Championship (QC)
5DSS, G/10 (10 Games). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blks W 405. **EF:** \$30 (\$25 LACC memb, \$5 off siblings, Free new LACC memb; \$10 no prizes). Q-rated. **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 1, 2, 3, 4 pm. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets (\$3 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or Mick@LACHessClub.com.

Aug. 20-21, LACC - 2011 Los Angeles Youth U16 Championship (Sponsored by David Salomon) 6SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. **2 sections:** OPEN & RESERVED **EF:** \$60 at the door (\$55 if received by 7/26); \$50 LACC members (\$45 if received by 8/19); Siblings \$15 off, \$30 new LACC members, Free new LACC Life members! 20% off EF for each friend you bring in. **Reg.:** Sat 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm each day. **Byes:** Up to three 1/2-point byes available. **1-Day option I:** Play 1 day, no 1/2 pt byes- 1/2 EF. **1-Day option II:** Play 1 day & receive three 1/2 pt byes- full EF. **Prizes:** \$1,500 Cash & Gifts, **OPEN:** \$400-200-150; U2200: \$150; U2000: \$150; **RESERVED:** U1800: \$250-100-50; U1600: \$150-100-25; U1400: \$100-50-25; U1200: \$75-25. **Parking:** Building basement (\$3). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or Mick@LACHessClub.com or www.LACHessClub.com. **Ent:** Checks/Credit Cards ok. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 27, San Luis Obispo County Championship
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 27, Utah Amateur Championship (UT)
See Utah.

Aug. 27, Victorville Quads
13393 Mariposa Road, Victorville, CA 92395. **Reg.:** 9:30 A.M. **Rds.:** 10, 1, 3 pm. **EF:** \$10. **Winner:** \$30/quadrant. **INFO:** doncotten@aol.com or 760-245-6598.

Sept. 3-5, 33rd Annual Southern California Open
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 25, Beverly Hills Chess Club Open (30 Entrants Max)
3-SS, G/90. Bring Clocks! BHCC, 8950 W. Olympic Blvd., #210, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. (Free Parking). **Prizes:** 75% of EF (1st/2nd: 30%, 20% - Under 1600: 1st/2nd: 15%, 10%) \$300 Gtd! **Reg.:** 12:30-12:45. **Rds.:** 1, 4, 7 pm. **EF:** \$40 rec'd 2 days prior, \$50 onsite (Cash) - SCCF Mem \$5 off - BHCC Mem \$20 off. **Reg.:** www.bhchessclub.com, 310-274-7873 (V/MC). bhchessclub@hotmail.com. **Info:** Dr. Robert Minoofar.

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, CCA 8th annual Los Angeles Open
See Grand Prix.

Colorado

Aug. 20-21, Monument Open III
5 Round Swiss System Tournament. **TC:** All rounds: G/120. **Information and Registration:** eagleandking.webs.com. **Phone:** (719) 491-1040. **Email:** gentlemenschessclub@hotmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 27, Utah Amateur Championship (UT)
See Utah.

Sept. 3-4, 62nd Colorado Open
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 1-2, Tri-Lakes Open
5 Round Swiss System Tournament. **TC:** All rounds: G/90 + 30 second increment. **Information and Registration:** eagleandking.webs.com. **Phone:** (719) 491-1040. **Email:** gentlemenschessclub@hotmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, 21st annual North American Open (NV)
See Grand Prix.

Connecticut

Aug. 11-14, 12-14 or 13-14, 41st annual Continental Open (MA)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 17-21, 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21, Manhattan Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20, Manhattan Open Game/15 (QC) (NY)
See New York.

Aug. 21, Manhattan Open Blitz & Game/7 (QC) (NY)
See New York.

Sept. 24, 5th Saturday Open
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 21-23 or 22-23, 2nd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

Nov. 4-6 or 5-6, Eastern Team Championship
5SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75). Sheraton Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn), 700 Main St., Stamford, CT 06901. Free parking. Open to teams of 4 plus one optional alternate; match point scoring. Average rating of 4 highest rated players must be under 1800, counting 4th highest rating as at least 3th highest rating minus 500. Alternate must be lowest rated on team, but plays the board of the player who is replaced. Except for the alternate, players must play in rating order, so are always on the same board. **EF:** \$300 per team mailed by 10/27 or online by 11/1, \$340 at site. Individuals seeking teams: \$80 at site, or post on or see CCA Forum at ccaforum.com. **\$7000 guaranteed prize fund:** top teams \$2000-1200-600-400, teams averaging under 1400 \$1000-500, top on each board \$200-100, top alternate \$100. Team prizes apportioned to individuals based on number of games played. Unofficial uschess.org ratings used if otherwise unrated. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. **3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Bye:** all, limit 2; must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$89-89, 800-408-7640, 203-358-8400; reserve by 10/21 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** www.chesstour.com, www.ccaforum.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.** Board 1 is FIDE rated.

Dec. 9-11 or 10-11, New England Amateur
5SS, 40/100, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/70). Sheraton Hotel, 1 Bradley Airport (visible at airport entrance), Windsor Locks, CT 06096 (I-91 Exit 40 to Rt 20). Free parking, free airport shuttle. Open to all under 2200 or unrated. **Prizes \$2000** based on 40 paid entries (\$40 off entries & re-entries count half), else in proportion except \$1000 minimum guaranteed: In 2 sections. **Under 2200:** \$400-200-100, Under 1950 \$250-150. **Under 1700:** \$300-200-100, Under 1450 \$180-120, no unrated may win over \$150. **EF:** 3-day \$68.50, 2-day \$67.50 mailed by 12/1, \$70 online at chesstour.com by 12/7, \$75 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 12/7 (entry only, no questions), \$80 at site. Unrated in U1700 section, \$40 less. Re-entry \$40. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with paper magazine if paid with entry- online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20.

ACTIVITY MEANS MEMBERS

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

NEW FREE TLA CATEGORIES ADDED!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS FALL!

Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of *Chess Life*, for any tournament between October and December 2011, if no TLA for such an event appeared in 2010, and the TLA is e-mailed by the appropriate deadline. The 8 free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs.

SPECIAL CATEGORIES QUALIFY FOR FREE TLAS!

Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines for events in the following categories, if submitted by e-mail. The free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs:

NEW CATEGORY! SENIOR. For age 50 or above, or a higher minimum age.

NEW CATEGORY! UNRATEDS FREE. Any tournament that offers free entry to unrated players. If your prizes are based on entries, say "paid entries."

USCF BOOSTER TOURNAMENT. A tournament that offers at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. A tournament playing only on one or more weekday evenings.

RBO. Open to Under 1200/Unr or Under 1000/Unr. Tournament name must include "Rated Beginners Open" or "RBO."

BLITZ. Time control of Game/5. TLAs such as "USCF-rated Blitz every Friday 7 pm" are accepted.

COLLEGIATE. A tournament limited to college students.

JUNIOR. For age 20/below (age 20 must be eligible).

NON-SCHOLASTIC WITH SCHOLASTIC. A tournament for all ages held concurrent (same location) with a scholastic tournament that in its previous year drew at least 50 players. We encourage organizers of scholastics to hold open or collegiate events on the side.

SPECIAL RATES FOR CLUB ADS. Up to 5 lines \$180 per year, \$100 for 6 months for unchanged club ads in the TLA section. Announce meeting dates & times, activities, contact info, etc.

USCF DISCUSSION GROUPS. See www.uschess.org/forums for four groups: Tournament Organization, Chess Club Organization, Tournament Direction, USCF Issues.

Agas 21-24 dues lower than Adult dues!

The membership category once called "Youth" has been renamed "Young Adult," and eligibility has changed from under 21 to under 25. **Annual dues for this category are only \$32 with paper Chess Life or \$24 with the online version!**

One-year membership with Chess Life:

If purchased online at uschess.org, now only \$42 for Premium Membership, which includes a copy of *Chess Life* every month. Regular Memberships are available for \$34 and give online-only access to *Chess Life* and a mailed *TLA Newsletter* (bi-monthly). (Note to affiliates: If you collect a \$49 membership, you may submit it online to USCF for \$42, in effect creating a \$7 commission. If you submit it by mail or phone the affiliate commission is \$3.)



3-day late reg. ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 5:30 pm, Sun 10 am & 3:45 pm. **2-day late reg.** ends Sat. 10:30 am, rds Sat 11 am, 2:15 pm & 5:30 pm, Sun 10 am & 3:45 pm. Half point byes OK all, limit 2, must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$87-87, 860-627-5311, reserve by 11/25 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633 or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (chesstour.com, Director@Chess.US). Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Dec. 9-11 or 10-11, New England Senior Open
5SS, 40/100, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/70). Sheraton Hotel, 1 Bradley Airport (visible at airport entrance), Windsor Locks, CT 06096 (I-91 Exit 40 to Rt 20). Free parking, free airport shuttle. Open to all born before (not after) 12/12/61; no residence requirements. **Prizes \$2000** based on 40 paid entries, else in proportion except \$1000 minimum guaranteed: \$600-300-200, Under 2010/Unr \$300, Under 1810/Unr \$250, Under 1610/Unr \$200, Under 1410 \$150. **EF:** 3-day \$68, 2-day \$67 mailed by 12/1, \$70 online at chesstour.com by 12/7, \$75 phoned to 406-866-2038 by 12/7 (entry only, no questions), \$80 at site. **Special 1 year USCF dues with paper magazine** if paid with entry- online at chesstour.com, Adult (under 65) \$30, Senior (65/up) \$20. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Adult \$40, Senior \$30. **3-day late reg.** ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 5:30 pm, Sun 10 am & 3:45 pm. **2-day late reg.** ends Sat. 10:30 am, rds Sat 11 am, 2:15 pm & 5:30 pm, Sun 10 am & 3:45 pm. Half point byes OK all, limit 1 bye, must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$87-87, 860-627-5311, reserve by 11/25 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633 or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** Director@Chess.US. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com.

Dec. 10-11, 8th annual New England Scholastic Championships
7SS, G/65. Sheraton Hotel, 1 Bradley Airport (visible at airport entrance), Windsor Locks, CT 06096 (I-91 Exit 40 to Rt. 20). Free parking, free airport shuttle. Open to all K-12 students; New England titles limited to players & teams from schools in CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, or VT. Team prizes based on top 4 scores from school combined. Teams of 2 or 3 players allowed, but are at a disadvantage. **In 5 sections:** High School (K-12), Middle School (K-8), Elementary (K-5), Primary (K-2), Scholastic Novice (K-9 under 700 or unrated). Players face only those in their section. **EF:** HS \$42.50, Middle School \$42.40, Elem \$42.30, Primary \$42.20, Scholastic Novice \$42.10 if mailed by 12/1, all \$43 online at chesstour.com by 12/5, \$60 at site. **Special 1 year USCF dues with paper magazine** if paid with entry- online at chesstour.com, Young Adult (age 24/below) \$20, Scholastic (age 12/below) \$12. Mailed, phoned or paid at site, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$15. **Trophies** to top 8 players, top 4 teams, top 3 unrated in each section, top D, E, U1000, U800 (HS), E, U1000, U800 (MS), U1000, U800, U600 (Elem), U700, U500, U300 (Primary), U500, U300 (Scholastic Novice). **Free entry** in all Continental Chess Association Swiss tournaments until 5/15/11 to top New England player each section. **Late reg.** ends Sat 9 am, rds Sat 10, 1, 3:45 & 6:30, Sun 9, 12 & 2:45. Awards Sun 5:30 pm. **Half point byes** allowed any round, limit 2 byes, must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$87-87, 860-627-5311, reserve by 11/25 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633 or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** chesstour at aol.com, www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Include school, grade, birth date, USCF ID, address of each player. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Dec. 27-29 or 28-29, 30th annual Empire City Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Delaware

Sept. 3, New Jersey K-8 State Championship (NJ)
See New Jersey.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

District of Columbia

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 11, Metro Sunday Quads

3-RR, G/90. U.S. Chess Center, 1501 M St. NW. **EF:** \$20. \$\$ \$40 each quad. **Scholastic sections.** **EF:** \$10, Trophy prizes. **Both:** **Reg:** 9:15-9:50. **Rds.:** 10-1-4. (202) 857-4922. www.chessctr.org./quads.php.

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)
See Grand Prix.

Florida

Boca Raton Chess Club

Friday nights, Game 90 Tournament, one game a week for 4 weeks. www.bocachess.com, 561-479-0351. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 13, FCA CF Regional QC Qualifier (QC)
5SS, G/29 (G/25, T/D5). Casselberry Chess Club (CCC), Wirz Park, 806 Mark David Blvd., Casselberry, FL 32707. **EF:** \$30, CFCC/CCC mbr \$25, Masters free (EF deducted from any prize). FCA mbr reqd- \$20/2Yr. **\$\$\$680 b/25**, 260*-100-80, Classes B, C, D/under 80 ea. **Reg:** 9:30am. **Rds.:** 10, 11:15, break, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00. **(\$*100 withheld & given to CF participant in FCA Playoff in Naples.).** **Ent:** CFCC, 921 N. Thistle Ln., Maitland, FL 32751. **Info:** (407) 629-6946 or www.centraffchess.org.

Sept. 3-5, Arnold Denker Florida State Championship
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 24, CFCC Quick-Chess (QC)

4SS, G/29 (G/25, T/D5). Casselberry Chess Club (CCC), Wirz Park, 806 Mark David Blvd., Casselberry, FL 32707. **EF:** \$30, CFCC/CCC mbr \$25,

Masters free (EF deducted from any prize). **\$\$\$480 b/25**, 160-80-60, Classes B, C, D/under 60 ea. **Reg.:** 9:30am. **Rds.:** 10, 11:15, break, 1:30, 2:45. **Ent:** CFCC, 921 N. Thistle Ln., Maitland, FL 32751. **Info:** (407) 629-6946 or www.centraffchess.org.

Oct. 9, Celebrate National Chess Day at The Weiss School 4th Annual Scholastic
Located at 4176 Burns Rd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410. **K-12, 5 Divisions,** 5-SS, G/30, Sunday, 10/09/11. Trophies for Top 10 Players and Top 5 Teams in each Division. THE FIRST 100 PAID PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL. For more info see: www.palmbeachchessclub.info or call President/TD John Dockery at 561-762-3377.

Georgia

Aug. 13, 2011 Atlanta G/1 Championship

4-SS, G/1. Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Ave., Scottsdale, GA 30079. In 3 sections: **Open:** **EF:** \$23. (\$420 b/30): \$150-90-60, u1800, u1600 each \$60. **Under 1400:** **EF:** (not part of base) Trophies to top 4, top u1200. **Under 1000:** **EF:** \$16 (not part of base) Trophies to top 4, top u800. **Reg:** 9:30-10:30 a.m. sharp! **Rds.:** 11-1:30 4-6:30. **Info:** atlantachess@yahoo.com or (404)-377-4400. **Enter:** Same as above. www.atlantachessclub.com.

Aug. 14, 2011 Atlanta August Under 1600 Championship

4-SS, G/30. Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Ave., Scottsdale, GA 30079. **EF:** \$20 if received by 8/13; \$25 at site. **\$(b/29):** 125-75-50, u1300-\$75, u1100-\$75. **Reg:** 9:30-11 a.m. **Rds.:** 11:30-1-2:30 4. **Info:** (404)-377-4400 or atlantachess@yahoo.com. **Enter:** Same as above. www.atlantachessclub.com.

Aug. 21, 2011 Atlanta August Scholastic

4-SS, G/30. Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Ave., Scottsdale, GA 30079. In 5 sections: **High School:** 9-12, **Middle School:** K-8, **Elementary:** K-6, **Primary:** K-3, and **K-1.** **EF:** \$22 if received by 8/20; \$25 at site. Trophies to Top 4 and Unrated each section based on 12. **Reg:** 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. **Rds.:** 1st at 12:30 p.m., then as soon as possible. Awards right after last round is completed. **Info:** (404)-377-4400 or atlantachess@yahoo.com. **Enter:** Same as above.

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 2011 Boris Kogan Memorial
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 3, 2011 Atlanta September Scholastic

4-SS, G/30. Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Ave., Scottsdale, GA 30079. In 4 sections: **High School:** 9-12, **Middle School:** K-8, **Elementary:** K-6, **Primary:** K-3. **EF:** \$20 if received by 9/02; \$25 at site. Trophies to Top 4, Girl, Unrated each section based on 15. **Reg:** 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Rds.:** 12:15 p.m., then as soon as possible. Awards right after last round is completed. **Info:** (404)-377-4400 or atlantachess@yahoo.com. **Enter:** Same as above.

Sept. 11, 2011 Atlanta September G/45

4-SS, G/45. Atlanta Chess Center, 3155A East Ponce de Leon Avenue, Scottsdale, GA 30079. In 2 sections: **Open:** \$23 (\$540 b/37): \$150-90-60; u1900, u1700, u1500, u1300 each \$60. **Under 1100:** **EF:** \$17 (not part of base). Trophies to top 5. **Reg:** 9:30-10:30 a.m. sharp! **Rounds:** 11-1-3-5. **Info:** atlantachess@yahoo.com or (404)-377-4400. **Enter:** Same as above. www.atlantachessclub.com.

Sept. 23-25 or 24-25, 42nd Annual Southern Congress
See Grand Prix.

Idaho

Aug. 27, Utah Amateur Championship (UT)
See Utah.

Sept. 24, 2011 Eastern Idaho Open

4SS, G/60 rds 1 & 2, G/90 rds 3 & 4. **2 Sections:** Open and Reserve (U1400). **Site:** ISU, Student Un Bldg., Salmon River Suites, 1065 S. 8th St., Pocatello, ID. **EF:** USCF mem req, \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), by 9/17/11, \$35 (all) after. **Reg & Ck in:** 7:30-8:30 AM 09/24. If not ckd in & pd by 8:30, may not be paired in 1st rnd. **Rds.:** 9, 11:15, 2, 5:15. **1/2 pt byes:** 1 only, Rnd 1-3 only. Must commit to all byes before the round is paired. **Prizes:** \$\$ b/30; **Open:** \$200-100-75; **Reserve:** \$75-50-25. **HR/ENT/INFO:** ICA, % Jay Simonson, 391 Carol Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83401, 208-206-7667, rooknjay@yahoo.com, http://www.idahochessassociation.org. NC. NS. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Illinois

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 6th annual Indianapolis Open (IN)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 13, Members Only Special Event

North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. Open only to members of the North Shore Chess Center. Free simultaneous exhibition and lecture with a local master. Starts at 4pm. **Additional questions:** sevan@natchess.org. For a complete listing of events visit <http://www.natchess.org/events>.

Aug. 14, 68th Knights Quest

4ss, Game/30. Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel, 933 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL. **Sections:** **Open** (K-12 & Adults), **U1400** (K-12 & Adults), **U1000** (K-12) & **U600** (K-12). Awards: Top five each section, medals all others. **EF:** \$25 by 8/8, \$30 after. **Rds.:** 1 at 1:00 pm, rest ASAP. **Ent:** Renaissance Knights, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065. **Online Ent/Info:** www.rknights.org, 847-526-9025. \$5 discount to siblings and team members when registering together.

Aug. 19-21, 6th North American Amateur Open

5R-SS, G/90 + 30/sec increment. North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. Open to players with any established FIDE rating or an established USCF rating of 1600+. All participants compete in a single section. **EF:** \$40 for non-members of the chess center, \$30 for members of the chess center received by 8/18. All \$10 more onsite. Onsite registration - up to 15 minutes prior to round 1

or round 2. If registering prior to round 2, you will receive a half-point bye for round 1. **Round times:** Friday - 7:00pm, Saturday 12pm and 6pm, Sunday 11am and 5pm. Half-point byes available in any round. **Prizes:** 1st - \$60 Best Buy Gift Card, 2nd - \$30 Barnes & Noble Gift Card, 3rd - \$15 Starbucks Gift Card. **Parking:** Free self-parking. **Mail entries with registration information to:** North American Chess Association (make checks payable to), 4957 Oakton Street, Suite 113, Skokie, IL 60077. **Online registration preferred. Additional questions email to:** sevan@natchess.org. USCF and FIDE rated. For online registration and list of more events please visit - <http://www.natchess.org/events>. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 21, 3rd Coast Challenge XIII

Renaissance Hotel, 933 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL. **G/60 Tournament 4SS, \$750 b/50 - Sections:** Open & Reserve (U1600). **Prize Fund: Open:** \$200-150-100, **Reserve:** \$150-100-50. **EF:** \$30 by 8/8, \$35 by 8/15, \$40 after, \$50 onsite 9-9:30. **Rds.:** 10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45. **G/30 Tournament 4SS - Sections:** U1000 & U600 (Scholastic). **Trophies** to top 5 each section, awards to rest. **EF:** \$25 by 8/8, \$30 by 8/15 after, \$35 onsite 11-11:30 a.m. **Rds.:** 1 at 12:15 pm, rest ASAP. **Ent:** Renaissance Knights, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065. **Online Ent/Info:** www.rknights.org, 847-526-9025.

Aug. 27, 48th Bradley Summer Open

4 SS, G/80, 1/d5. Robert Michel Student Center, 915 N. Elmwood, Peoria, IL 61625. **EF:** \$14 by 8/25, \$17 at site, \$2 disct ICA memb, \$2 disct GPCF memb, free to Masters. **\$\$Gtd:** 75% of Efs. **Reg:** 8-8:45. **Rds.:** 9,12,2:45,5:30. **Other information:** Bye 1-4, www.gpcf.net. **Ent:** Wayne Zimmerle, 514 W. Loucks #2, Peoria, IL 61604, 309-692-4480 day, 309-686-0192 night, wzim@sbcbglobal.net. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 27, Southern Illinois Summer Open

3SS, **Time control:** 30/70, then 40/60. No sudden death. **EF:** \$15.00. **Prize fund:** \$300, b/24. 1st \$70, 2nd \$30; Classes A, B, C, D/E/Unr \$50 each. Salem Community Center, 416 Oglesby St. Salem, IL 62881. **Reg:** 8:00-9:15. **Rds.:** 9:30, 1:00, 5:00. **Entries:** Jim Davies, 7358 Shaftesbury, St. Louis, MO 63130, 314-721-4967. jandadvies@sbcbglobal.net.

Aug. 28, North Shore Chess Center G/45

4R-SS, G/45 + 10/sec increment. North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. **EF:** \$20 for non-members of the chess center, \$15 for members of the chess center received by 8/27. All \$5 more onsite. Onsite registration - up to 15 minutes prior to round 1 or round 2. If registering prior to round 2, you will receive a half-point bye for round 1. **Round times:** 1pm for round one and then 15 minutes after final game from previous round completed. Half-point byes available in any round. **Prizes:** Book prizes for top three finishers. **Biggest upset (150+ points):** Free entry to following month G/45 + book prize. **Parking:** Free self-parking. **Mail entries with registration information to:** North American Chess Association (make checks payable to), 4957 Oakton Street, Suite 113, Skokie, IL 60077. **Online registration preferred. Additional questions email to:** sevan@natchess.org. USCF rated. For online registration and list of more events please visit - <http://www.natchess.org/events>.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 2011 Illinois Open Championship
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 10, 2011 St. Matthew Chess Championship

held by GM YURY SHULMAN, (the 3 times Second place winner for the US Championships 2006, 2010, 2011.) 24500 Old McHenry Rd., Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047. Tel. 847-438-7709. G/30, 5Rds, **EF:** \$25 postmarked by 8/28, \$30 after, on site \$35 before 9:15. **REG.:** begins at 9:00, Rd. 1 begins 10:00am, no elimination. **4 Sections:** Primary K-3, Elementary 4-5, Middle 6-8, HS 9-12 and adults, Nonrated (all grades and adults). **TROPHY** awards to top 5 individuals in each section, top 3 individuals in each grade K-5, top individuals grade 6-12, top 3 team trophies, top 5 in unrated. Trophy awards at 3:00. **ENT:** checks payable to "Yury Shulman International Chess School", mail w/registration form to 428 Waverly Rd., Barrington, IL 60010, **INFO:** email chesswob@gmail.com or www.shulmanchess.com, Kiran Frey 847-382-5410, GM Yury Shulman 312-375-7475.

Sept. 10, Members Only Special Event

North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. Open only to members of the North Shore Chess Center. Free simultaneous exhibition and lecture with a local master. Starts at 4pm. **Additional questions:** sevan@natchess.org. For a complete listing of events visit <http://www.natchess.org/events>.

Sept. 16-18, 7th North American Amateur Open

5R-SS, G/90 + 30/sec increment. North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. Open to players with any established FIDE rating or an established USCF rating of 1600+. All participants compete in a single section. **EF:** \$40 for non-members of the chess center, \$30 for members of the chess center received by 9/15. All \$10 more onsite. Onsite registration - up to 15 minutes prior to round 1 or round 2. If registering prior to round 2, you will receive a half-point bye for round 1. **Round times:** Friday - 7:00pm, Saturday 12pm and 6pm, Sunday 11am and 5pm. Half-point byes available in any round. **Prizes:** 1st - \$60 Best Buy Gift Card, 2nd - \$30 Barnes & Noble Gift Card, 3rd -

ORGANIZER AND DIRECTOR SEMINARS

If you are a senior level TD or higher and willing to conduct a free seminar about organizing/ directing USCF-rated tournaments, please contact Joan Dubois at ta@uschess.org.

\$15 Starbucks Gift Card. **Parking:** Free self-parking. **Mail entries with registration information to:** North American Chess Association (make checks payable to), 4957 Oakton Street, Suite 113, Skokie, IL 60077. **Online registration preferred. Additional questions email to:** sevan@nachess.org. USCF and FIDE rated. For online registration and list of more events please visit - <http://www.nachess.org/events>. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 18, 69th Knights Quest

4ss, Game/30. Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel, 933 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL. **Sections:** Open (K-12 & Adults), **U1400** (K-12 & Adults), **U1000** (K-12) & **U600** (K-12). **Awards:** Top five each section, medals all others. **EF:** Early: \$25 postmarked/online by 9/12, \$30 after. **Rds.:** 1 at 1:00 pm, rest ASAP **Ent:** Renaissance Knights, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065. **Online Ent/Info:** www.rknights.org, 847-526-9025. \$5 discount to siblings and team members when registering together.

Sept. 25, North Shore Chess Center G/45

4R-SS, G/45 + 10/sec increment. North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. **EF:** \$20 for non-members of the chess center, \$15 for members of the chess center received by 9/25. All \$5 more onsite. Onsite registration - up to 15 minutes prior to round 1 or round 2. If registering prior to round 2, you will receive a half-point bye for round 1. **Round times:** 1pm for round one and then 15 minutes after final game from previous round completed. Half-point byes available in any round. **Prizes:** Book prizes for top three finishers. **Biggest upset (150+ points):** Free entry to following month G/45 + book prize. **Parking:** Free self-parking. **Mail entries with registration information to:** North American Chess Association (make checks payable to), 4957 Oakton St., Suite 113, Skokie, IL 60077. **Online registration preferred. Additional questions email to:** sevan@nachess.org. USCF rated. For online registration and list of more events please visit - <http://www.nachess.org/events>.

Oct. 1, Members Only Special Event

North Shore Chess Center, 5500 West Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077. 847.423.8626. Open only to members of the North Shore Chess Center. Free simultaneous exhibition and lecture with a local master. Starts at 4pm. **Additional questions:** sevan@nachess.org. For a complete listing of events visit <http://www.nachess.org/events>.

Oct. 7-10, 6th Annual Susan Polgar World Open for Boys and Girls Doubletree Hotel - Oakbrook, IL. Organized by the North American Chess Association. For detailed information including Texas Tech Scholarships, free USCF memberships and more, please visit the official tournament website at <http://www.polgarworldopen.com>.

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 20th annual Midwest Class Championships See Grand Prix.

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, 20th annual Kings Island Open (OH)

See Grand Prix.

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, 21st annual North American Open (NV)

See Grand Prix.

Indiana

Orange Crush Chess Club Friday Night Blitz (QC)

Burger King, 410 E Morris St. (E. Morris St. and S. East St.). Chess player's welcome. Good tables and lighting. Show your OCCC card for free upsize. Late registration: 6:00-6:25PM Tourney starts at 6:30 pm. Type: 3 Rounds, Round Robin Quad, Game / 5 + 2 sec delay U.S.C.F. Rated. Entry Fee: \$7.00 if received one week before tournament starting date, \$8.00 at the door. Prizes: Based on 4 full pl. entries per quad, first in each quad: \$20.00, second in each quad: Chess merchandise. Send advance entries to: Donald Urquhart, 501 N. East St. # 802, Indianapolis, IN 46204-1629. For more info call Don at (317) 634-6259 or e-mail akakarapov@att.net.

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 6th annual Indianapolis Open

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20-21, Kendallville Open

5-SS, G/120. Kendallville Public Library, 221 S. Park Ave., Kendallville, IN 46755. **Reg.:** 8-9:30 a.m., **Rds.:** 10, 2:30, 7, 10, 2:30. **EF:** \$35 rec'd by 8/17, \$40 at site. Special EF \$10 if joining USCF 1st time or expired over 10 yrs. **\$b/b30:** 300-140, U2000 70, U1800 65, U1600 60, U1400 55, unr. 50. **ENT:** Roger Blaine, P.O. Box 353, Osceola, IN 46561. **Info:** (574) 257-9033, reblaine@hotmail.com. NS. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 2011 Illinois Open Championship (IL)

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 16-18 or 17-18, 4th annual Louisville Open (KY)

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 17, The Emory Tate Jr. Chess Extravaganza

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 20th annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, 20th annual Kings Island Open (OH)

See Grand Prix.

Iowa

A State Championship Event!

Aug. 27, 2011 Iowa Reserve Championship

Clarion Highlander Convention Center, I-80 NE side of Exit 246, Iowa City, IA 52245. 4-SS. G/75T/D5. Open to U1600. **Rds.:** 10-1-3:45-6:00. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30. **Prizes:** \$340 b/25: \$140 + T-90-60, U1200-\$50. **EF:** \$29 postmkd 8/22, \$35 on site, Jrs & Srs \$5 off, Out of State \$5 off. IASCA membership rqd (\$15 Reg, \$10 Jr) or OSA. **ENT:** Hawkeye Chess Club, c/o Steve Young, PO Box 2833, Iowa City, IA 52244, Ph# 319.594.3977, steveray@hotmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 27, Rated Beginner Open (RBO)

Clarion Highlander Convention Center, I-80 NE side of Exit 246, Iowa City, IA 52245. 5-SS, G/30. Open to U1200 or Unrated. **Rds.:** 10:30-11:40 1:15 then ASAP **Reg.:** 8:30-10:00. **EF:** \$15 postmkd 8/22, \$20 on site, Out of State \$5 off. **Prizes:** 1st-5th Trophies, U1000, U800, U600, U400 & UNR 1st & 2nd Place Medals. **ENT:** Hawkeye Chess Club, c/o Steve Young, PO Box 2833, Iowa City, IA 52244, Ph# 319.594.3977, steveray@hotmail.com.

Aug. 27-28, 57th Iowa Open Championship

See Grand Prix.

Kentucky

Elizabethtown Chess Club

Rated tournament the 2nd Tuesday of each month and we meet every Tuesday between 7:00 pm-10:30 pm. We meet at the Elizabethtown Community and Technical College, in Room 108A of the Occupational Technical Building. For further details visit our website at <http://etownchess.blogspot.com/>.

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 6th annual Indianapolis Open (IN)

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 13, Sarah's All Girls Scholastic Chess Classic

The Potter's House, 314 South Wenzel (use www.mapquest.com), Louisville, KY 40204. This is a ladies only tournament! **Reg.:** 8 a.m.-9:00 a.m. First game starts at 9:15 a.m. G/30, 4 rounds, Swiss...subsequent rounds ASAP **Individual trophies:** K/3 up to 5th place, K/6 up to 5th place, K/9 up to 5th place, and K/12 up to 5th place. **Team trophies:** K/3 up to 4th place, K/6 up to 4th place, K/9 up to 4th place and K/12 up to 4th place. We define a team as 2 to 4 people, no more, no less. Every team member must be a member of the U.S. Chess Federation (www.uschess.org). The pre-registration fee is 20.00 dollars and due by Aug. 10, 2011. The on-site registration fee is 25.00 dollars. Young ladies from military families and police families can enter for 10.00 dollars. **Please make all checks payable to:** THE POTTER'S HOUSE. Mail all registration forms and payments to: The Potter's House Scholastic Chess Club, P.O. Box 2241, Louisville, KY 40201. **Tournament Organizer:** Corbin Seavers (504) 584-8742 or urbanlouisvillechess@yahoo.com. The other organizer is Sarah Seavers (502)584-8742. **This event is proudly sponsored by the HFS Chess Marketing!**

Sept. 16-18 or 17-18, 4th annual Louisville Open

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, 20th annual Kings Island Open (OH)

See Grand Prix.

Louisiana

Sept. 3, 2011 Kickoff Scholastic

4-SS, G/30. Site: Hilton New Orleans Airport, 901 Airline Dr., Kenner, LA 70062. **EF:** \$15 if mailed by 8/26, \$20 at site. LCA Memb. req'd for grades 9-12 (SS), OSA. **Three Sections:** K-3, K-6, K-12. Trophies to top 3 in each section, medal and chess gift to all participants. **Reg.:** 10-10:45am. **Rds.:** 11-12:30-1:45-3. **Ent/Info:** Adam Caveney, 1301 Gen. Taylor St., New Orleans, LA 70115, cb20234@yahoo.com, (504) 895-4133 (evenings), (504) 615-6730 (on day of tourney). NS, NC.

Sept. 3-5, 2011 Louisiana State Championship

See Grand Prix.

Maine

Dec. 10-11, 8th annual New England Scholastic Championships (CT)

See Connecticut.

Maryland

Aug. 5-7 or 6-7, Potomac Open

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 19, Sept. 2, Catonsville Friday Knight Quick #125 & #126 (QC) 5SS, G/15. **EF:** \$8, club members \$5. **Reg.:** 7:30pm. **Rds.:** 8, 8:30, 9, 9:30, 10. **\$b/b24** 1st=\$50, 2nd=\$25, U1850 \$12. **Website:** <http://mysite.verizon.net/vze12d59q/>. Bloomsbury Community Center, 106 Bloomsbury Ave., Catonsville, MD 21228. **Info:** Joe Summers 410-788-1009, joseph.as2@verizon.net.

Aug. 20, 3rd Annual Miguel J. Sanchez Memorial Chess Tournament (QC)

5SS, Game/25. **EF:** \$20. **Rds.:** 10:00-11:15-1:15-2:15-3:15. **Reg.:** 9:00-9:45am. Grey Room, Laurel Boys & Girls Club, 701 Montgomery St., Laurel, MD 20707. **\$b/b20** \$100-\$50-\$35 U1800 \$30 U1600 \$30 U1400 \$30, more per entries. Bye: 1-4, max 2. **Info:** phipps560@yahoo.com, **Phone:** H 410-866-4144, W 301-344-4757. **Ent:** Jason Waggoner, 2003 Wintergreen Place, Baltimore, MD 21237.

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open (DC)

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 3, Maryland Action Championship

See Grand Prix.

A State Championship Event!

Sept. 3, Maryland Blitz Championship (QC)

G/5, # rounds based on entries. Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. Prizes (80% of EF Paid) 30%-20%-10%, class prizes based on entries. **EF:** \$20 by 8/30, \$25 by 9/1, \$30 at the door. \$5 less if also playing in Action. **Schedule:** Rds. start at 8:00pm **Ent:** MCA, c/o Michael Regan, 1827 Thornton Ridge Rd., Towson, MD 21204. More information & online entry at <http://themdactionblitz.com>.

Sept. 3, New Jersey K-8 State Championship (NJ)

See New Jersey.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship (NJ)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 4-6 or 5-6, Eastern Team Championship (CT)

See Connecticut or www.chesstour.com.

Massachusetts

Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, Botvinnik Centennial Memorial 5SS, G/110. Wachusett CC, McKay Campus School, Room C159, fully air-conditioned, Fitchburg State University, 67 Rindge Rd., Fitchburg, MA 01420. **EF:** \$1 per game; free to Wachusett CC members. **Reg.:** 7-7:10 p.m. **Rds.:** 7:15 p.m. Byes: 1-4, limit two. **Prizes:** Chess Informants to winner(s). **Info:** George Mirijanian, 176 Oak Hill Rd., Fitchburg, MA 01420, mirfling@aol.com, 978-345-5011. **Website:** www.wachusettchess.org. Online ratings as of Aug. 10 will be used. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 11-14, 12-14 or 13-14, 41st annual Continental Open

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20, 18th Charles Drafts Memorial

4SS; G/60. **EF:** \$25, \$20 to BCF members if received by 8/19; \$5 more at door. **Two sections:** Open & U1900; \$4500G: 100-50-50 in both sections. **Reg.:** 9:15-9:55. **Rounds:** 10, 12:40, 3:00, 5:10. **Contact:** boylstonchess@gmail.com, telephone 617-629-3933.

Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Billerica Friday Swiss

4 Rds. 40/90, SD/30. Billerica COA, 25 Concord Rd., Billerica, MA 01821. **EF:** \$15. **Reg.:** 7:30pm. Cash prizes minimal b/entries. For info, call Brad Ryan, (978) 369-8533. NS, NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 71st New England Open

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 8-9, National Chess Day: Lecture & Tornado 109

4SS; G/75. **EF:** \$27, \$17 to BCF members. **Two sections:** Open, Rated Beginner. **Prizes:** b/entries. **Reg.:** Sat, Oct. 8: 12:45-1:25PM; Sun, Oct. 9: 9:30-9:55AM. **Rounds:** Rd1: Sat 1:30PM; Sun Rd 2-10:00- Rd3-1:00 & Rd4-3:45. There will be a chess lecture with a chess master on Saturday at 11:30AM. **Contact:** boylstonchess@gmail.com, telephone 617-629-3933. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 15-16, 12th Western New England Open

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 30, Capital Region Open (NY)

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 4-6 or 5-6, Eastern Team Championship (CT)

See Connecticut or www.chesstour.com.

Dec. 9-11 or 10-11, New England Amateur (CT)

See Connecticut.

Dec. 9-11 or 10-11, New England Senior Open (CT)

See Connecticut.

Dec. 10-11, 8th annual New England Scholastic Championships (CT)

See Connecticut.

Michigan

Aug. 27-28, 2011 U.P. Open

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 20th annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 28-30, First Annual Fall International Chess Festival

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, 20th annual Kings Island Open (OH)

See Grand Prix.

Minnesota

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 20th annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)

See Grand Prix.

Missouri

A State Championship Event!

Aug. 20-21, Missouri Amateur & Invitational State Championship Amateur Championship: 5SS, G/120. Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30. **Rds.:** Sat-10/2:30/7, Sun-9:30/2. **One Section. \$b/b40:** \$250-1st Overall, **Class prizes:** \$100-1st in each X, A, B, C, D, E, U1000/Unr. **EF:** \$35 if rec'd by 8/13. \$40 on site. Max. one 1/2-pt bye if declared by Rd. 1. MCA req'd, available on site from \$10, OSA. **HR:** Water Tower Inn, 314-977-7500, \$70/night. Ask for chess rate. **Entries/Info:** Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. JCChess89@yahoo.com, 573.291.0852. **Invitational State Championship:** (By invitation only) FIDE Rated. Same format/schedule as Amateur Championship. **\$b/b20:** \$500-

1st, \$250-2nd, \$125-3rd. **EF:** Free - Sponsored by the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis. No byes. Must confirm participation by 8/15. **See:** www.mochess.org for further details. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 27, Boris Spassky Open

3SS, G/75. UMC Memorial Union room S203, 518 Hitt St., Columbia, MO. **Directions:** From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. **Reg.:** 9:30-10:15. **Rds.:** 10:30, 1:15, 4:00. **EF:** \$1, no prizes -- just the satisfaction of playing well. Two ratings-equivalent sections if 18+ players. **Info:** czar8196@gmail.com. W.

Sept. 16-18 or 15-16, 4th annual Louisville Open (KY)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 20th annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)

See Grand Prix.

Montana

Aug. 27-28, John Barto Memorial

Open, 5SS, G/120: Butte Plaza Inn, 2900 Harrison Ave., Butte, MT 59701. **EF:** \$15 by Aug 26, \$20 at site, Jrs 1/2. **Reg.:** 9-9:40 am. **Rds.:** 10-2:30-7, 9-2. **SS:** 80% returned. Info and entries: Murray Strong, 530 State St., Helena, MT 59601, murstrong@aol.com, 406-459-6684, www.montana.chess.org. MCA req'd (\$12), OSA, NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 8, National Chess Day in Great Falls! (QC)

Food donations to benefit the Helping Hands Food Pantry Program/Cash proceeds to benefit the GFHS Chess Program. Absolon Lounge, Student Center, University of Great Falls, 1301 20th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405. Tournament Director reserves the right to combine the sections, and/or modify format to accommodate for numbers of entrants. In 2 Sections. **Chinook Open:** 6SS, Game in 29 minutes, **EF:** \$5.00 + a can of food on site. USCF Membership Required for the Chinook Open. **Food for the Soul:** 6SS, Game in 29 minutes, **EF:** A can of food. No Membership Required for Food for the Soul. **ALL:** Please bring a can of food donaton to Helping Hands Food Pantry. **Reg.:** Oct. 8, 2011, 8:00 am to 8:45 am. **Rds.:** 9:00 am, 10:15 am, 11:30 am, 1:00 pm, 2:15 pm, 3:30 pm. All players meeting at 8:55 am. **ENT:** Douglas Hansen, 3805 7th Street NE, #59, Great Falls, MT 59404. **INFO:** Dr. Porter Coggins, Sullivan Hall 209 G, University of Great Falls, 1301 20th St. S. Great Falls, MT 59405, Tel: 406.791.5346; pcoggins01@ugf.edu, dhansen01@bresnan.net. **DIR:** Upper floor of Student Center. NS. NC. W.

Nebraska

Sept. 24-25, Mid West Regional Team Chess Event

Regional four member teams (alternate permitted), 5 Rd SS, G/60. **Reg.:** Saturday 9/24/2011 8:00-9:00 AM. **Rds.:** Rd 1 10:00 AM; Rd 2 1:00 PM; Rd 3 3:30 PM; Sunday 9/25/2011 Rd 4 10:00 AM; Rd 5 1:00 PM at the QWEST Center, 455 N. 10th St., Omaha, NE 68102. **Categories:** K-3 (G30), K-6, K-9, K-12 and Open. EF per team if received before 9/1/11 \$100, before 9/15/11 \$120. No on-site registration. USCF membership required. **Prizes:** Trophies for all teams and medals for all players. For Friday events information, see Flyer at www.omahachess.org. **Contact:** Mike Gooch, 1004 South 131st Ave., Omaha, NE 68154, 402-333-0722, mdgooch22@gmail.com.

Nevada

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 3rd annual Central California Open (CA-N)

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 27, Utah Amateur Championship (UT)

See Utah.

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, CCA 8th annual Los Angeles Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 21-23, 29th Annual SANDS REGENCY RENO-WESTERN STATES OPEN

See Grand Prix.

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, 21st annual North American Open

See Grand Prix.

New Hampshire

Dec. 10-11, 8th annual New England Scholastic Championships (CT)

See Connecticut.

New Jersey

Aug. 1, 8, 16, 23, Hackettstown International Swiss

4-SS, 40/60, SD/60. Hackettstown Comm. Cntr., 293 Main St. (Rte. 46), Hackettstown, NJ. **EF:** \$14. **Prizes (b/16):** \$75/\$40/25, \$20 each U1800, U1500. **Reg.:** 7 pm 8/1. **Rds.:** 7:30 pm each Monday. GM norms unlikely. Half-point byes available all rds (rd 4 must commit before rd. 3). angelodp@gmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Every Monday Open G/5 Blitz and Chess Lessons/Simul (QC)

GM Yudasin's "Chess Lessons: 3:15pm-8:00 pm, **EF:** \$15 (3 different classes). **Blitz:** 8:00pm-10:15pm, **EF:** \$20/\$15. GM Free - \$15 deducted from prize. **Prizes:** 80% of EF 1st, 2nd, & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ (732) 499-0118. http://www.chessmatesnj.com.

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Every Wednesday Open G/5 Blitz and Chess Lessons (QC)

GM Yudasin "Chess Lessons: 3:15pm-8:00 pm, **EF:** \$15 (3 different classes). **Blitz:** 8:00pm-10:15pm, **EF:** \$20/\$15. GM Free - \$15 deducted from prize. **Prizes:** 80% of EF 1st, 2nd, & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ (732) 499-0118. http://www.chessmatesnj.com.

Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26, Every Friday Quad G/30

3-RR, **Rds.:** 7, 8:15, 9:30pm. **EF:** \$20, members \$15. **Prizes per quad:** 1st place - \$50 & 2nd Place: Free lesson or Simul from GM Yudasin. (732)

499-0118. http://www.chessmatesnj.com. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065.

Aug. 6, Chess Mates Saturday Open G/15 (QC)

7-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 1:10, 1:50, 2:30, 3:10, 3:50, 4:30pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. http://www.chessmatesnj.com.

Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28, Sunday Open Quad G/30

Rds.: 1:30, 2:45, 4:00pm. **EF:** \$20, members \$15. **Prizes Quad:** 1st Place: \$50 & 2nd Place: Free lesson or Simul from GM Yudasin. (732) 499-0118. http://www.chessmatesnj.com. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065.

Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28, Sunday Scholastic Quad G/30

Rds.: 1:30, 2:45, 4:00pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$15, members \$10. **Prizes Quad:** 1st Place: Trophy or \$25 & 2nd Place: free lesson or Simul from GM Yudasin. **Chess Lessons Prior to Scholastic Tournament:** 12:15pm-1:15 pm, **EF:** \$10.

Aug. 13, Chess Mates Saturday U1800 G/45

4-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45 pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Aug. 17-21, 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21, Manhattan Open (NY)

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 18, 3rd Thursday Quads

3 RR, G/30 t/d5. Quads grouped by rating. All the King's Men Chess & Games Center (Just 22 mins. from Center City Philadelphia), 62 S. Broadway, Pitman, NJ 856-582-8222. **Prizes:** \$25 1st per quad. Unr. cannot win more than \$10. **EF:** \$12, members \$10. **Reg.:** 6-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8-9 pm. **Info:** cs@ATKMcChessSets.com. **All:** Visa/MC/Disc OK w/\$1surcharge. Bring a clock!

Aug. 20, Chess Mates Saturday U2200 G/45

4-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45 pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Aug. 20, Hamilton Chess Club Quads

3RR, 40/80 15/30 15/30. Full K. Ray Dwier Recreation Center, Bldg. 392, Groveville, NJ 08620. Quads open to all. **EF:** \$10. **Prizes:** \$25 per Quad. **Reg.:** 9-10:30 am. **Rds.:** 10:30 am-1:30 pm-4:30 pm. NJ State Chess Federation, no dues magazine Subscription per year, OSA, NS, NC, W.

Aug. 20, Manhattan Open Game/15 (QC) (NY)

See New York.

Aug. 21, Manhattan Open Blitz & Game/7 (QC) (NY)

See New York.

Aug. 21, Westfield Quads

3 RR, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:30-4:20-6:10 p.m. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open (DC)

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 27, Chess Mates Saturday Open G/45

4-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45 pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Aug. 28, Westfield Quads

3 RR, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:30-4:20-6:10 p.m. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Every Friday Quad G/30

Rds.: 7, 8:15, 9:30pm. **EF:** \$20, members \$15. **Prizes per quad:** 1st place - \$50 & 2nd Place: Free lesson or Simul from GM Yudasin. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065.

Sept. 3, Chess Mates Saturday Open G/15 (QC)

7-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 1:10, 1:50, 2:30, 3:10, 3:50, 4:30pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

A State Championship Event!

Sept. 3, New Jersey K-8 State Championship

Somerset Holiday Inn, 195 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873, Exit #10 off I-287, Easton Ave. 732-356-1700. **4 Sections: Hot Shots: U1000, Check Mates: U700, Rising Stars: U500 & Chess Pirates, For unrated/beginners and U200. All sections:** 5-SS, G/30, Trophies to Top 10 All get awards. **Reg.:** Saturday 9/03, 11am-12pm. **Rounds:** 12:30pm, then ASAP w/lunch break after first round. Half-point byes allowed. **EF:** \$25 if mailed or paid online by 8/31. **Site:** Use website entryfeesrus.com. \$35 at site. Super-Combo **EF:** \$78 (save \$15) Play in the K-8 Saturday and in Booster U1300 on Sunday and Monday. ONLY \$78. One half-point byes allowed. **Entries to:** Ken Thomas, 115 West Moore St., Hackettstown, NJ

07840. Make checks payable to NJSCF. Please indicate section. **Info:** 908-763-6468 or acn@goes.com.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, Sunday Open Quad G/30

Rds.: 1:30, 2:45, 4:00pm. **EF:** \$20, members \$15. **Prizes Quad:** 1st Place: \$50 & 2nd Place: Free lesson or Simul from GM Yudasin. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065

Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, Sunday Scholastic Quad G/30

Rds.: 1:30, 2:45, 4:00pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$15, members \$10. **Prizes Quad:** 1st Place: Trophy or \$25 & 2nd Place: free lesson or Simul from GM Yudasin. Chess Lessons Prior to Scholastic Tournament: 12:15pm-1:15 pm, **EF:** \$10.

Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Every Monday Open G/5 Blitz and Chess Lessons/Simul (QC)

GM Yudasin's "Chess Lessons: 3:15pm-8:00 pm **EF:** \$15 (3 different classes). **Blitz:** 8:00pm-10:15pm, **EF:** \$20/\$15. GM Free - \$15 deducted from prize. **Prizes:** 80% of EF 1st, 2nd, & Class **Prizes:** based on the # of participants. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, Every Wednesday Open G/5 Blitz and Chess Lessons (QC)

GM Yudasin's "Chess Lessons: 3:15pm-8:00 pm **EF:** \$15 (3 different classes). **Blitz:** 8:00pm-10:15pm, **EF:** \$20/\$15. GM Free - \$15 deducted from prize. **Prizes:** 80% of EF 1st, 2nd, & Class **Prizes:** based on the # of participants. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Sept. 10, Chess Mates Saturday U1800 G/45

4-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45 pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Sept. 11, Westfield Quads

3 RR, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:30-4:20-6:10 p.m. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

Sept. 12, Feed Your Greed for Speed, Steed (QC)

5SS, multi-time-control quick-rated: Rd 1 G/5, Rd 2 G/10, Rd 3 G/15, Rd 4 G/20, Rd 5 G/25. Hackettstown Comm. Cntr., 293 Main St. (Rte. 46), Hackettstown, NJ. **EF:** \$10. **Prizes (b/16):** \$75/40/25, U1800 \$25, free entry top U1500. **Reg.:** 7 pm 9/12. **Rds.:** 7:30 pm, ASAP. angelodp@gmail.com.

Sept. 17, Chess Mates Saturday U2200 G/45

4-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45 pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants. Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Sept. 18, Westfield Fall Scholastic

Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. K-12 3 Sections : Open, Under 1250, under 750. **Open:** 3SS, G/45. Trophies to top 5 in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 members, at site \$30, \$25 Members. **Reg.:** 2-2:30 p.m. **Rds:** 2:45-4:25-6:05 p.m. **Under 1250:** 4SS, G/30 Trophies to top 5 in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members, at site \$30, \$25 Members. **Reg.:** 2-2:30 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:45-4:00-5:15-6:30 p.m. **Under 750:** 4SS, G/30 Trophies to top 5 in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members, at site \$30, \$25 Members. **Reg.:** 2-2:30 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:45-4:00-5:15-6:30 p.m. Tiebreaks for trophies. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com. **Send advance entries to:** Todd Lunna, 36 Maple Dr., Colts Neck, NJ 07722 by Sept. 15, 2011. **Make checks payable to:** Westfield chess club.

Sept. 24, Chess Mates Saturday Open G/45

4-SS, **Rds.:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45 pm. Chess Mates Corporation, 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. GM Free - \$20 deducted from prizes. **Prizes:** 70% of EF. **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd & Class Prizes: based on the # of participants Limit 2 byes, commit by 1:30. Re-entry \$15, counts half, no re-entry after 2nd round. (732) 499-0118. www.chessmatesnj.com.

Sept. 25, Westfield Quads

3 RR, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50

DROPPING OUT?

Have to miss a round?

It is very important that you

NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR

before pairings are made, so no one is deprived of a game! If you forfeit without notice, you may be FINED up to the amount of the entry fee!

to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:30-4:20-6:10 p.m. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

Oct. 2, Westfield Quads

3 RR, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:30-4:20-6:10 p.m. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

Oct. 6-7, 10-11, 8-9, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Chess Championships (VA)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 9, Westfield Quads

3 RR, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:15 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:30-4:20-6:10 p.m. **Info:** Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

Oct. 21-23 or 22-23, 2nd annual Boardwalk Open

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 4-6 or 5-6, Eastern Team Championship (CT)

See Connecticut or www.chesstour.com.

Nov. 25-27 or 26-27, 42nd annual National Chess Congress (PA)

See Grand Prix.

Dec. 27-29 or 28-29, 30th annual Empire City Open (NY)

See Grand Prix.

New Mexico

Sept. 17, The Great Gambit Day in Santa Fe (QC)

National Education Assoc., 2007 Botolph Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87505-5725. 6/SS Quick Rated Game/29 T/D5: NM Red OPEN & NM Green U1600. **Prize fund:** \$450 b/40, Unrated eligible only for 50% of prize in NM Green. Special prizes U1200. **Bye:** one 1/2 pt. request prior Rd 1. Alternate boards play different Gambits. 3 each rd drawn by random from choice of 18 gambits. No repeats. List of gambits on entry form. **Rds.:** 9:15-10:30-12:30-1:45-3:00-4:15. **Advance Reg:** EF \$20. **Pay Pal** accepted through 9/16. **Mail advance Entry to:** NMCO, Box 4215, Albuquerque, 87196. **Info & entry form:** nmchess.org. **On site Reg.:** 8:30-9:00 A.M. **EF:** \$25 cash or check only. \$5 Family discount after one full price entry. **W.**

New York

Aug. 4-25, Long Island CC August Open

4SS, G/90. United Methodist Church, 470 East Meadow Ave., East Meadow, NY 11554. 2 sections. **Main:** U-2300/unr. \$(b/20): \$105-85. Top U-1800, U-1500/unr. \$55 ea. **EF:** \$30. **Reserve:** U-1400/unr. \$(b/10): \$80-60. Top U-1200/unr. \$50. **EF:** \$20. **BOTH:** Reg: 6:40-7:10 PM, no adv. ent., non-LICC members +\$10. **Rds.:** 7:15 PM SHARP ea. Thursday. 2 byes 1-4. **Info:** www.licchessclub.com. **NS. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 11-14, 12-14 or 13-14, 41st annual Continental Open (MA)

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 16, Marshall Masters

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 17-21, 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21, Manhattan Open

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 18, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** EF \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$5 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Aug. 20, Manhattan Open Game/15 (QC)

New Yorker Hotel (see Manhattan Open). 4SS, G/15 + 3 seconds delay. Prizes \$300 based on 20 entries, else in proportion: \$100-50, U2100 \$60, U1800 \$50, U1500/Unr \$40. **EF:** \$20, at site only. Reg. ends 9 pm, rds. 9:15, 10, 10:45, 11:30. Half point bye available rd 1. Quick rated, but higher of regular or quick used for pairings & prizes.

Aug. 20, Marshall Saturday G/60

4-SS, G/60. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC: 212-477-3716. **(\$360/24):** \$160-80, U2000 \$65, U1700 \$55. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **Reg.:** 11:15-11:45 am. **Rds.:** 12-2:30-4:45-7. One bye available, request at entry.

Aug. 20, Syracuse-Minoa Aug Open

4SS. **Rds.:** 1 & 2 G/60, 3 & 4 G/90. Minoa Municipal Building, 240 N. Main St., Minoa, NY (Exit Kirkville Rd. E. from I 481. R. at second light to 240 N. Main St. Rear entrance). **EF:** \$30. **Prizes b/20:** \$200, 125, Class 100. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:15. **Rds.:** 9:30, 12:00, 2:15, 5:30. **Contact:** Joe Ball, 315-436-9008. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 21, 32nd Binghamton Monthly \$1000 Tourney!

Prizes Increased! \$1000 b/24. 4SS, Rds. 1-3 G/65 Rd.4 G/75. **Entry:** \$59. Cash only at site. **Reg.:** 8:45 to 9:15 AM. **Rds.:** 9:30, 12:00, 2:30, 4:45. **Open:** \$250, \$200, \$100. **Reserve:** \$200, \$150, \$100. **Trophies:** 1st - 4th, both sections. **Make checks payable to:** Cordisco's Corner Store, 308 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY 13901. (607) 772-8782. cordiscos@stny.rr.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 21, Manhattan Open Blitz & Game/7 (QC)

2 separate tournaments at New Yorker Hotel (see Manhattan Open). Each is a double round 4SS (8 games), with prizes \$300 based on 20 entries, else in proportion: \$100-50, U2100 \$60, U1800 \$50, U1500/Unr \$40. **EF:** \$20, at site only. **Blitz:** G/5. Reg. ends 1 pm, rds. 1:15, 2, 2:30, 3. **Game/7:** G/7 plus 2 seconds delay. Reg. ends 9 pm, rds. 9:15, 10, 10:30, 11. One pair of half point byes available rd 1. Quick rated, but higher of regular or quick used for pairings & prizes.

Aug. 21, Marshall Sunday Action

5-SS, G/30. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC: 212-477-3716. Two sections: **A. Open (\$360/24):** \$160-80, U2100 \$65, U1800 \$55. **B. U1500 (\$240/16):** \$120-65, U1200 \$55. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **NOTE CORRECTION:** Reg.: 11:15-11:45 not 12:15-12:45PM. **Rds.:** 12-1:30-2:45-4-5:15PM not 1-2:30-3:45-5:00-6:15. One bye available, request at entry.

Aug. 23, Marshall Tuesday Quads

3-RR, G/30. Open to all levels; quads formed by rating. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC: 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$25, members \$20, \$50 to each winner. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:05-9:10.

Aug. 25, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** EF \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$5 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open (DC)

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 27, Marshall Saturday U1800

4-SS, G/45. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC: 212-477-3716. **(\$300/20):** \$160-80, U1500 \$60. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **Reg.:** 12:15-12:45 pm. **Rds.:** 1-2:45-4:30-6:15. One bye available, request at entry.

Aug. 27-28 or 28, Marshall Late August GP

See Grand Prix.

Aug. 28, Long Island Open and Scholastic

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1 Bungtown Rd., Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11791. **Grandmaster workshop, Tour CSHL - ranked #1 in molecular biology and genetics.** Open 3SS, G/60 Top 8 LI juniors 18&U and CSHL scientists receive personal invitation. **Schedule:** **Rds.:** 10, 12:30, 3:00. **Scholastic** 4SS, G/45 U1500, U1000, NRB. **Schedule:** **Rds.:** 10, 11:50, 1:40, 3:30. **Info:** E-mail: olgapharr@me.com, www.licchessmates.com **EF:** \$50 donation to Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory pmk by Aug. 21 at <http://www.cshl.edu/> "Make a Gift" - in Comments use the code "Chess" and provide USCF ID and section. All proceeds **will benefit cancer research.** All donations are **tax deductible.** \$75 on site, Registration ends 9:45.

Aug. 29, 21st Nassau G/10 (QC)

7SS, G/10. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1st & Main Sts., Mineola. **EF:** \$20 by 8/22, \$27 at site, non-memb \$5 more. **\$(400 b/25)** 100, U2100, 1900, 1700, 1500, 1300/UR 60 each. 3 byes 1-7. Reg to 7:15 PM. **Rds.:** 7:15-7:45-8:15-8:45-9:10-9:35-10. Rule 14H not used. Sept suppl used. **Ent:** Harold Stenzel, 80 Amy Dr., Sayville, NY 11782, capthal@optonline.net.

Aug. 29-Sep. 26, Marshall Monday U1600

5-SS, G/90. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC: 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, mem-

Cash Prizes



Trophies Awarded

The Knights of the Kingdom

Presents 2 Chess Tournaments

Saturday, August 20, 2011 for Youth

Sunday, August 21, 2011 for Adults

‘It’s an International Invite’

Starting time: 12 noon

3 & 5 Minute Games

A. B. C. and Open Section

Round Robin Tournament

Best 2 out of 3 games for each opponent; winners advance.

U.S.C.F. Rated—Experts and Masters invited

Bring your equipment: clocks and chess sets

Entry Fee: Youth - none - Trophies awarded

Adults -A. B. C. and Open Section \$20 - Cash prizes

at the Chess Center

Located at 135th St and 5th Ave in Harlem NY

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Contact Joan DuBois at joandubois@uschess.org. We'll be glad to help you be part of the promotion of American chess!

bers \$20 **(\$300/20)**: \$160-80, U1300 \$60. **Reg.**: 6:15-6:45pm. **Rds.**: 7 pm each Monday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 1, 10 Grand Prix Points Tonight!

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 1, 16th Annual Chess Center Thursday "End-of-Summer" Scholastic Novice!

4-SS, G/30, age 17/below, Under 1400 or unrated. Marshall Chess Club, 23 W. 10 St., bet. 5-6th Ave., NYC: 845-569-9969. **EF**: \$20, Club members \$10. **Trophies**: top 4, top Unr. **Reg.** by 12:45 pm. **Rds.**: 1-2:30-3:45-5 pm. Limit 2 byes, commit by 2:30. No advance entries. **Phone entry often impossible!**

Sept. 1-29, 2nd Long Island Chess Club Sept. Open

5SS, G/90. United Methodist Church, 470 East Meadow Ave., East Meadow, NY 11554. Open to all U-2300/unr. **\$ (b/20)**: \$150-100. Top U-1800, U-1500/unr. \$70 ea. **EF**: \$35. Non-LICC members + \$10. **Reg.**: 6:40-7:10 PM, no adv. ent., **Rds.**: 7:15 PM SHARP ea. Thursday, 2 byes 1-5. **Info**: www.licchessclub.com. **NS. Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 2-5, 3-5 or 4-5, 133rd annual NY State Championship

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 3, Marshall Saturday Action

4-SS, G/30. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **(\$360/24)**: \$160-80, U 1900 \$65, U1600 \$55. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 12:15-12:45 pm. **Rds.**: 1-2:30-3:45-5-6:15. One bye available, request at entry.

Sept. 3, New Jersey K-8 State Championship (NJ)

See New Jersey.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship (NJ)

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 4, Marshall Sunday G/60

4-SS, G/60. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **(\$360/24)**: \$160-80, U 2000 \$65, U1700 \$55. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 11:15-11:45 am. **Rds.**: 12-2:30-4:45-7. One bye available, request at entry.

Sept. 5, Marshall Labor Day Madness

7-SS, G/30. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$45, members \$25. **(\$480/24)**: \$200-100-75, U2000 \$55, U 1700 \$50. **Reg.**: 11:15-11:45. **Rds.**: 12-1:30-2:45-4:00-5:45-7:00-8:15. Two byes available, request at entry.

Sept. 8, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** **EF** \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$\$ (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. **Reg.** ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Sept. 9-23, Queens September Open

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 10, Marshall Saturday U1400

4-SS, G/45. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **(\$300/20)**: \$160-80, U1100 \$60. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 12:15-12:45 pm. **Rds.**: 1-2:45-4:30-6:15. One bye available, request at entry.

Sept. 10-11 or 11, Marshall September U2100

4-SS, 30/90, SD/1. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$45, members \$25. **(\$540/36)**: \$240-120, U1800/unr \$95, U 1500 \$85. 2 schedules: **2 day** 12:30-5:30 each day, **1 day** (Rds 1 & 2 G/30) 10-11:15-12:30-5:30. Both merge Rd 3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. **NO RE-ENTRY. Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 12-Oct. 3, Nassau Semi-finals

4SS, 40/80. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1st & Main Sts., Mineola. **Semi-final**: open to over 1399, or 1.5+ pts in Nassau Qualifying. **EF**: \$34 by 9/10. **\$\$** (600 b/20, top 2 gtd.) 150-100, U2000, 125-75-50, U1400/UR 100. 2 pts qualifies for top section of NCC Championship. **Novice**: under 1400/UR not qualified for Semi-final section. **EF**: \$21 by 9/10. **\$\$** (170 b/10) 100, U1200/UR 70. **Both**: **EF** non-emb \$10 more, \$7 more at site. 2 byes 1-4. **Reg** to 7:15 PM. **Rds.**: 7:15 each Mon. **Ent**: H. Stenzel, 80 Amy Dr., Sayville, NY 11782 captlnal@optonline.net. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 14-Oct. 12, Marshall Wednesday U2000

5-SS, 30/90, SD/1. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **(\$300/20)**: \$160-80, U1700 \$60. **Reg.**: 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.**: 7 pm each Wednesday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 15, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** **EF** \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$\$ (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. **Reg.** ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Sept. 15-Oct. 13, Marshall Thursday Members-Only Swiss!
5-SS, G/120. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. Open to MCC members only. **EF**: \$20. **(\$300 b/20)**: \$160-80, U2000 \$60. **Reg.**: 6:15-6:45. **Rds.**: 7PM each Thursday. Limit 2 byes, request by rd. 3. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 17, Marshall Saturday U1600!

4-SS, G/45. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$300 b/20)**: \$160-80, U1300 \$60. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 12:15-12:45. **Rds.**: 1-2:45-4:30-6:15PM. One bye available, request at entry.

Sept. 17, Utica Four Seasons - Summer

4SS, Rds. 1-2 G/60. Rds. 3-4 G/90. Genesee Valley Community College, Exit 31, I-90, bear left, South on E. Mohawec, (2.6 miles), left on Memo-

rial Highway (2.3 miles), left Sherman, right into MVCC, (IT Building upstairs). **EF**: \$30. **Prizes b/20**: \$200, 125, 75, Class 100. **Reg.**: 8:30-9:15. **Rds.**: 9:30-12:00-2:15-5:30. **Ent**: Joe Ball, 310 Helfer Ln., Minoa, NY 13116, 315-436-9008. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 17-18, Buffalo NY Fide Chess Festival 2011

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 17-18, Marshall CC September U2300

4SS, 30/90, SD/1. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **EF**: \$45, Members \$25. **(\$540 b/36)**: \$240-120, U2000/unr \$95, U1700 \$85. **Reg.** ends 12:15PM. **Rds.**: 2 schedules: **2 day**, Rds 12:30-5:30 PM each day; **1 day**, (Rds 1-2 G/35) 9:40-11:05AM-12:30-5:30 PM Sun; both merge rd.3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. **NO RE-ENTRY. Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 19-Oct. 24, FIDE Mondays!

6-SS, G/120. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. Open to all players rated 1600 or above. **EF**: \$50, \$30 members. **\$\$500 b/20**: \$175-125-100, U2000 \$100; 2 byes OK, commit before Round 4. **Reg.**: 6:15-6:45, **Rds.**: 7PM each Monday; FIDE rated. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 20, Marshall Masters!

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 22, 10 Grand Prix Points Tonight!

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 24, Marshall Saturday U1800!

4-SS, G/45. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$300 b/20)**: \$160-80, U1500 \$60. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 12:15-12:45. **Rds.**: 1-2:45-4:30-6:15PM. One bye available, request at entry.

Sept. 24-25, Marshall September Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

Sept. 25, 33rd Binghamton Monthly \$1000 Tourney!

Prizes Increased! \$1000 b/24. 4SS, Rds. 1-3 G/65 Rd.4 G/75. **Entry**: \$59. Cash only at site. **Reg.**: 8:45 to 9:15 AM. **Rds.**: 9:30, 12:00, 2:30, 4:45. **Open**: \$250, \$200, \$100. **Reserve**: \$200, \$150, \$100. **Trophies**: 1st – 4th, both sections. **Make checks payable to**: Cordisco's Corner Store, 308 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY 13901. (607) 772-8782. cordiscos@stny.rr.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Sept. 29, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** **EF** \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$\$ (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. **Reg.** ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Oct. 1-2, Sixth Marshall CC Amateur Team Championship!

4SS, G/120. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10 St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$35 per player, Members \$25. All, \$5 less if played in any of the first five MCC Amateur Team Championships. 2 player teams with ratings averaging under 2200. **\$\$ (b/15 teams)**: 150-75, U1800 team \$90, top scores bds. 1&2 \$90 each. **Reg.** ends 15 min. before game. **Rds.**: 12:5-00 pm each day; Limit 1 team bye, request with entry. Replacement player must have same or lower rating, must play same board. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Oct. 3-31, Marshall Monday U1600!

5-SS, G/90. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **(\$300 b/20)**: \$160-80, U1300 \$60. **Reg.**: 6:15-6:45. **Rds.**: 7PM each Monday. Limit 2 byes, request by rd. 3. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

Oct. 6, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** **EF** \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$\$ (480

b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. **Reg.** ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Chess Championships (VA)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 7-Nov. 18, 2011 Queens Chess Club Championship

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 8, Marshall National Chess Day Super Action!

5-SS, G/30. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. Two sections: **A. Open (\$360/24)**: \$160-80, U2100 \$65, U1800 \$55. **B. U1500 (\$240/16)**: \$120-65, U1200 \$55. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 11:15-11:45 pm. **Rds.**: 12-1:30-2:45-4:00-5:15. One bye available, request at entry.

Oct. 8, National Chess Day: Herschelle Carrousel Chess Classic 2011

Celebrating National Chess Day and The Archangel 8 Chess Academy Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, 180 Thompson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120. Featuring a Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum All Girls K-12 Championship. **In 4 Sections: Herschell Carrousel K-12 Girls Championship**: 4SS. Game 30, **EF**: \$10.00 if received by October 1, 2011. **Herschell Carrousel Novice K-6th**: 4SS, Game 30, **EF**: \$10.00 if received by September 30, 2011. **Herschell Carrousel K-12th**: 4SS, Game 30, **EF**: \$10.00 if received by September 30, 2011. **Herschell Carrousel Unrated K-12th**: 4SS, Game 30, **EF**: \$10.00 if received by September 30, 2011. **ALL**: No checks onsite. **Trophies** to the Top 3 in each section, **Medals** for players who earn 2 points. **Reg.**: Advance entries only! \$5.00 if received by September 24, 2011. **Rds.**: Round 1 at Noon, other games will begin when all are finished. One half point Byes available upon request prior to round. **ENT**: The Archangel 8 Chess Academy, 60F Guilford Ln., Buffalo, NY 14221. Advance entries only. arcangel8chess@yahoo.com. **INFO**: Mc Duffie, Chess Ambassador, 60F Guilford Ln., Buffalo, NY 14221. **Advance registration entries only!** NS. NC. W.

Oct. 9, Marshall Sunday G/60!

4-SS, G/60. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$360 b/24)**: \$160-80, U2000 \$65, U1700 \$55. **EF**: \$40, members \$20. **Reg.**: 11:15-11:45AM. **Rds.**: 12-2:30-4:45-7PM. One bye available, request at entry.

Oct. 10, Marshall Columbus Day Madness!

7-SS, G/30. Marshall CC, 23 W 10th Street, NYC. 212 477-3716. **EF**: \$45, members \$25. **(\$480/24)**: \$200-100-75, U2000 \$55, U1700 \$50. **Reg.**: 11:15-11:45AM. **Rds.**: 12-1:30-2:45-4-5:45-7:15PM. 2 byes available, request at entry.

Oct. 13, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

4-SS, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-477-3716. **May be limited to 1st 36 entries.** **EF** \$35, Club membs \$25, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$\$ (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. **Reg.** ends 10 min. before game. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game.**

Oct. 21-23 or 22-23, 2nd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ)

See Grand Prix.

Oct. 30, Capital Region Open

See Grand Prix.

Nov. 4-6 or 5-6, Eastern Team Championship (CT)

See Connecticut or www.chesstour.com.

Nov. 25-27 or 26-27, 42nd annual National Chess Congress (PA)

See Grand Prix.

Dec. 9-11 or 10-11, New England Senior Open (CT)

See Connecticut.

NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

6 rounds, Sept 2-5, 3-5 or 4-5 at Albany Marriott

America's oldest annual event - \$13,000 guaranteed

6 round Labor Day weekend Swiss in 6 sections, you play only those in your section. Choice of 4-day, 3-day or 2-day schedule (no 2-day Open Section), all merge and compete for same prizes. \$97 room rates, free parking, free airport shuttle.

Open Section: Prizes \$1500-700-400-200, state title and \$100 bonus to top NY resident, top U2300/Unr \$800. FIDE rated, 80 GPP (enhanced).

Under 2200: \$1000-500-300-150.

Under 2000: \$1000-500-300-150. Unrated limit \$700.

Under 1800: \$1000-500-300-150. Unrated limit \$500.

Under 1600: \$800-400-250-150, top U1400 \$300. Unrated limit \$300.

Under 1300: \$700-350-200-100, top U1100 \$200, trophies to top 5, 1st 800-999, Under 800, Unrated. Unrated limit \$200.

FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue or chesstour.com.

Dec. 27-29 or 28-29, 30th annual Empire City Open
See Grand Prix.

North Carolina

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open (DC)
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 2-4 or 3-4, 2011 North Carolina Open
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 8, K-12 Individual Event Celebrates National Chess Day (Wake Forest, NC) **First Time Tournament Players Welcome!** Small Groups of 4 players per section. Game 30 means each player gets 30 minutes of clock time. Sets and clocks provided on site, Good odds of winning with 1st place trophy and 2nd place medal for each section. \$20 when Registered Online: ChessAchieves.com, (919) 272-8017.

Ohio

Aug. 12-14 or 13-14, 6th annual Indianapolis Open (IN)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20, House of Chess Open
4SS, G/45. House of Chess, Great Northern Mall, North Olmsted, OH (W of JC Penny). **Sections:** Open, U1600. **Reg.:** 11-11:25 AM. **Rds.:** 11:30-1:15-3:30-5:15. **Prizes (b/25):** **Open:** 1st \$200, 2nd \$100; U1900 1st \$100; **Reserve(U1600):** 1st \$100. **Ent:** \$25. Club members \$20. **Info & entries:** House of Chess, Great Northern Mall, North Olmsted, OH 44070. Phone: (440) 979-1133. E-mail: info@houseofchess.com. Web: www.thehouseofchess.com/.

Sept. 3-5, 67th Ohio Chess Congress
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 10, Toledo Sep Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd 1 G/75, Rnds 2-4 G/90. The University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Café, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Can split into 2 sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 9/8 \$25 at site. **Reg.:** 9-10 a.m., **Rds.:** 10, 1, 4, & 7. **Prizes:** \$360 b/20, \$100-50, 1st Class A, B, C, D/Under \$40, 1st U1600 \$50. **Ent:** James Jagodzinski, 7031 Willowick Rd., Maumee, OH 43537. 419-367-9450. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 16-18 or 17-18, 4th annual Louisville Open (KY)
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 8, National Chess Day: Toledo OCT Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd 1 G/75, Rnds. 2-4 G/90. The University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Café, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Can split into 2 sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 10/6 \$25 at site. **Reg.:** 9-10 a.m., **Rds.:** 10, 1, 4, & 7. **Prizes:** \$360 b/20, \$100-50, 1st Class A, B, C, D/Under \$40, 1st U1600 \$50. **Ent:** James Jagodzinski, 7031 Willowick Rd., Maumee, OH 43537. 419-367-9450. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, 20th annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Oklahoma

Sept. 3-5, 7th Okie Chess Festival
See Grand Prix.

Pennsylvania

Every Second Saturday of the Month
Allentown 2nd Saturday Quads 3RR, G/40. St. Luke's Ev. Luth. Church, 417 N. 7th St., Allentown, PA 18102. Quads open to all. **EF:** \$12. \$\$24/quadr. **Reg.:** 12-1. **Rds.:** 1:15-2:45-4:15. No adv. ent. **Info:** 610-433-6518. Other rated events every week! www.freewebs.com/allentowncentercitychessclub.

Every Saturday Lehigh Valley Super Quads & G/10 (QC)
(NO QUADS OR BLITZ ON LVCA GRAND PRIZ DATES LISTED IN CHESS LIFE) **G/40 Quads, 3-RR. Reg.:** 1p. Lehigh County Senior Ctr., 1633 Elm St., Allentown, PA 18102. **EF:** \$10, \$30 for 3-0 score, else \$25 for 1st. **G/10 Quick Chess, 5-SS, Reg.:** 5-6:15 pm. **EF:** \$5, **Prizes:** 50% of Paid Entries. **Info:** bdavis@lehighvalleychess.org, <http://www.lehighvalleychess.org/>.

Aug. 17-21, 18-21, 19-21 or 20-21, Manhattan Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 19-20, 2011 U.S. Blind Chess Championship
See Nationals.

Aug. 20, 5th Annual May LVCA Scholastic K-12 Championship (9 Trophies) 5-SS, G/30. **EF:** \$30, \$35 CASH ONLY after 8/17/11AT SITE. Trophy's to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Top U1400, U1200, U1000, U800, UNR, FREE ENTRY TO UNRATEDS, if paying 1 year USCF Dues, Drawings for \$100

Clubs Committee

The USCF is appointing a Clubs Committee with Bob Rasmussen, President of the Fresno Chess Club, as chair. Anyone interested in discussing how to build a chess club or joining the committee is welcome to call Bob at 559-708-8100.

in Door Prizes. **Rds.:** 12-1:30-2:45-4:50. **Reg.:** Ends 11:30am. **Site:** Lehigh County Senior Ctr., 1633 Elm St., Allentown, PA 18102. **Ent:** Bruce Davis, 1208 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18018, Ph. 484-866-3045, Email: bdavis@lehighvalleychess.org. **Info:** www.lehighvalleychess.org/.

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open (DC)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 27, 2011 August LVCA Grand Prix
See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!
Aug. 28, 35th Pittsburgh Summer Open
3SS, G/90. Pittsburgh Chess Club, 5604 Solway St., Suite 209, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. **EF:** \$28 by 8/24, \$38 later. \$3 discount to PCC members. Players organized into Octos (8-player sections) by ratings. Last section may have more than 8. Late entries receive 0-point byes and are placed in last section. **\$\$** 100-50 to each section. **Reg.:** 9-9:45am. **Rds.:** 10-1:30-5. **Info:** 412-421-1881, www.pittsburghchc.org. **Ent:** Attn: Mike Holsinger, Pittsburgh Chess Club, 5604 Solway Street, Suite 209, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. **Make checks payable to:** Pittsburgh Chess Club. NS, NC, W.

Sept. 2-5, 3-5 or 4-5, 133rd annual NY State Championship (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 3, New Jersey K-8 State Championship (NJ)
See New Jersey.

Sept. 3, W.Chester 1st Sat. Quads
Our 22nd year! 3RR, 40/80, sd/30. United Methodist Church, 129 S. High St., West Chester, PA 19382. **EF:** \$20. **Prizes:** \$40, \$50 for 3-0. **Reg.:** 9am. **Rds.:** 9:30, 1, 4:30. **Info:** Jim White 484-678-3164.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

Sep. 24, 5th Annual Greater Pocono Scholastic Championship (7 Trophy's) 5-SS, G/30. **EF:** \$25, \$30 CASH ONLY after 9/21/11. **2 Sections:** K-12 Open, K-12 U1000, Trophy's to 1st-3rd each section and Top School. **FREE ENTRY TO UNRATEDS**, if paying 1 year USCF Dues, **Rds.:** 10-11:15-12:30-1:45-3. **Reg. Ends:** 9:30am. **Site:** Pocono Mountain East High School, 200 Pocono Mountain School Rd., Swiftwater, PA 18370. **Ent:** Check payable "PMCPA", **Mail Ent:** Dan Tartaglione, 503 Overlook Terrace, Stroudsburg, PA 18360. **Info:** www.PMECHESS.com.

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 21-23 or 22-23, 2nd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

Nov. 4-6 or 5-6, Eastern Team Championship (CT)
See Connecticut or www.chesstour.com.

Nov. 25-27 or 26-27, 42nd annual National Chess Congress
See Grand Prix.

Rhode Island

Cranston Chess Club Monthly
Every Tuesday. 4SS, 40/70, SD/30. Garden City Center, Cranston. **EF:** \$5/game (club mbrs: \$3/game). **Reg.:** 6:30-6:50pm; email preferred. **Rds.:** 1st 4 Tuesdays of the month, 7pm sharp! 5th Tuesday extra rated games and events. One bye rd 1-3; if notified in advance. Prizes based on entries. **Info:** www.cranstonchess.org, 401-575-1520. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

October 8K Tournament for Kids
Reg: www.richess.org, rhodeislandchess@yahoo.com, (401)359-1602.

Aug. 26-28, Blackstone Chess Festival International
See Grand Prix.

Dec. 10-11, 8th annual New England Scholastic Championships (CT)
See Connecticut.

South Carolina

Aug. 19-21, Columbia Open
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd Annual National Chess Day and Festival
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 72nd S.C. Championships
See Grand Prix.

South Dakota

Oct. 8, 2011 Split Rock Scholastic (4th Annual) National Chess Day Event!
Garretson School, 505 2nd St., Garretson, SD 57030. **4-sections, K-3, K-5, K-8, K-12.** 5-rounds G/40 except K-12, 4-round G/60. Trophies to top seven individual in K-3, K-5, K-8, top five individual in K-12. Team trophies to top five in K-3, K-5, K-8, top three in K-12. Team scores based on top four players from same school. Tiebreaks for trophies. **Reg.:** 7:30-8:30 am \$10 if pre-registered, \$20 on-site, USCF membership required. **Rds.:** 9, 10:30 am, 12:30, 2, 3:30 pm, for K-3, K-5, K-8, 9, 11 am, 1, 3 pm for K-12. Boards/timers provided. **Info:** GM Alex Yermolinsky at Yermo@siomail.net, or Bob Boland at ksamaboland@gmail.com, (605) 201-4729. For registration forms/flier "upcoming events" at www.siouxempirechess.com or www.sdchess.org.

Tennessee

Aug. 20, 19th Battle of Murfreesboro
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20, Mike Barton Memorial
2 sections: G/60 (4 rds) and G/30 (7 rds). Site: Greater Memphis Chess Center, 5796 Shelby Oaks Drive, Suite 11, Memphis, TN 38134. **EF:** \$20 (\$15 for MCC and GMCC members). **Prizes:** 1st place each section-

\$100 cash; 2nd place each section-\$60 chesscentral.com certificate; 3rd place each section-\$40 chesscentral.com certificate. **Rounds (G/60):** 10-1:30-5. **Rounds (G/30):** 10-11-1-2-3-4-5. **On-site reg. 08/20:** 7:30-9:30am. Free pizza and drinks for all players who register online by Monday, 8/15! **Entries:** www.memphischess.com. **Info:** gpylant@gmail.com.

Sept. 16-18 or 17-18, 4th annual Louisville Open (KY)
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 7-9, Memphis Celebrates National Chess Day!
For 3 days, The Memphis Chess Club will host tournaments and promote chess in the community at locations throughout the city. **Various events with formats including:** G/60, G/15, G/5 and Bughouse! For more information about sites and times, go to MemphisChess.com. **Contact:** gpylant@gmail.com. Phone: (901)359-8616. Mail: Memphis Chess Club Inc., PO Box 17864, Memphis, TN 38187-0864.

Oct. 8, 2011 Cumb. Co. Fall Open
Cumberland Co. Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Road, Crossville, TN 38555. In 2 Sections, **Open:** 4SS, G/60, **\$\$GTD:** \$50. 25-X,A,B,C,D,E/Below. **Amateur:** 4SS, G/60, Open to U1000 & under. **\$\$GTD:** \$50. 25-G,H/Below. ALL: **EF:** \$10 if mailed by 10/3, \$15 at site. **Memb. Req'd:** TCA \$10. **ENT:** Harry D Sabine, P. O. Box 381, Crossville, TN 38557. **INFO:** www.cumberlandcountychess.com or Susan at 931-261-4024. NS. W.

Nov. 11-13 or 12-13, 20th annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Texas

Aug. 6, Temple Chess Club Summer Swiss
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20-21, DCC FIDE OPEN VIII
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 2-5 or 3-5, 77th Annual Southwest Open
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2 or Oct. 1-2, 2011 U.S. Class Championships
See Nationals.

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, 21st annual North American Open (NV)
See Grand Prix.

Utah

A State Championship Event!
Aug. 27, Utah Amateur Championship
5SS, Two Sections: U-1800 & U-1250. U. of Utah, Union Bldg. (East/West Ballrooms), SLIC, UT 84112. **EF:** Open = \$20/25/30. U-1250 = \$10/15/20. 1st **EF:** Registration And payment in by Thu. Aug. 25. 2nd **EF:** Register by Thu. Aug. 25, and pay on-site. 3rd **EF:** Register on-site. **Time Controls:** G/60 td/5. **Rds.:** 9AM, 11:15, 2:30, 4:45, 6:55. **U-1800 \$\$:** B/32 \$150, 100, C/below 80, UNR 30 (b/3 unr), Female 20, Upset 10. Title of Utah Amateur Chess Champion to Winner of U-1800. Plaques to top 2. **U-1250 \$\$:** B/24 \$60, 50, Plus **NICE** Trophies to top 2! Additional trophies for best 800-999, 500-799, and 499/below. **Reg.:** 8 AM-8:40. Two (1/2 pt.) byes allowed, req. before Rd. 2. Mail paid entries to: Morry Holland, 1470 E. Valley Ridge Dr., Sandy, UT 84093. **Paid** advance entries must be in by Aug. 25. If pre-register & pay on-site, please e-mail Mochess@comcast.net, or call 801-864-9023. Please make checks payable to: Utah Chess Assoc. Out of state players are welcome. Amateur Title and Trophies to Utah Residents only. More info at www.utahchess.com.

Sept. 24, Utah TEAM Championship
(3 player teams) 4SS, Two Sections: Open & U-1400. U-1400 = team avg. 1399 & below with no restrictions as to how teams are formed. St. James Episcopal Church, 7486 S. Union Park Ave. (1300 E.) Midvale, UT 84047. **6 teams per section, or sections will be combined. EF:** Advance EF = \$45 per team. \$36 for K-12 in U-1400. \$30 for Family teams in both sections. All teams \$15 more on-site. **Info** in by Thu. Sep.22 is advanced, can pay on Saturday. **Time Controls:** G/60 td/5. **Rds.:** 10AM, 12:15, 3:45 6:00. **\$\$:** B/6 teams PER section: **Open:** \$150, \$50; **U-1400:** \$90, \$30. Individual Trophies to top Team in each section. Trophies for Top bd. 1,2,3, in each section. Medals for Top club, college HS, JHS, Elem. and Family. **Reg.:** Open 9AM-9:40. Mail paid entries and/or info to Morry Holland, 1470 E. Valley Ridge Dr., Sandy, UT 84093. Please make checks payable to: Utah Chess Assoc. and indicate which section you would like. **Entry info** to: Mochess@comcast.net or 801-864-9023. More info at www.utahchess.com.

Vermont

Sept. 2-5, 3-5 or 4-5, 133rd annual NY State Championship (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 30, Capital Region Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Dec. 10-11, 8th annual New England Scholastic Championships (CT)
See Connecticut.

Virginia

Arlington Chess Club Friday Night USCF Rating Ladder
30/90, SD/1. Arlington Forest United Methodist Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22203. Ladder has been running for over 45 years, now win money too! Most monthly game points: \$50; most total points Jan. to Dec.: \$100. Must join club to play. Yearly dues: \$50 adults, \$40 seniors and U18, cash or check. Dates found on our website: <http://members.cox.net/arlingtonchessclub/>. **Reg.:** weekly sign-up from 7:00-8:00, games start by 8:10, no advance entries. Contact for info only: Chrisney2@gmail.com. W, NS. **Chess Magnet School JGP (if 4 rounds/games played in that one month).**

Arlington Chess Club's Monthly Action Tournament
Once each month, the ACC sponsors an action tournament (dates found on our website: <http://members.cox.net/arlingtonchessclub/>). **3SS,**

G/30. Prizes b/entries: 80% returned as prizes. Held concurrently with club ladder. Arlington Forest United Methodist Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22202. Reg.: 7:00-8:15. Rd. 1: 8:20. **EF:** \$15 (\$10 for ACC Members), no advance entries, cash only. Contact for info only: chrisney2@gmail.com. W. NS.

Aug. 13, Harris Pavilion "Open Air" (QC)
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 20, Sterling Chess August Awesome
4SS, G/61. St. Francis Episcopal Church, Harris Hall, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066. **EF:** \$3 if preregistered by 8/18, \$5 thereafter. Unrateds free. Pay on site. No prizes; rating only. Preregister online at www.meetup.com/sterling-chess-tournaments. **Reg.:** 11:30-12:00. **Rds.:** 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30. **Bye:** Half-point, any round. **Info:** news@serranoassociates.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Aug. 20, Tracy Callis Memorial
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 26-28 or 27-28, 43rd annual Atlantic Open (DC)
See Grand Prix.

Sept. 2, VA Closed Friday Night Blitz (QC)
Open to all USCF members, not just VA residents. Same location as VA Closed. 4 or 5-DblSS depending on number of players. **EF:** \$25 if received by Aug 30, \$35 thereafter and at door. Two sections, **Open and Amateur (U1800)**. \$5500 b/30 paid entries. **Rd 1** at 7:00 PM. **Ent:** Mail with payment to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Closed, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS". **Info:** mhoffpauir@aol.com, phone 757-846-4805 or www.vachess.org/2011closed.htm. W, NS, NC.

Sept. 3, New Jersey K-8 State Championship (NJ)
See New Jersey.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 65th Annual New Jersey Open Championship (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

A State Championship Event!
A Heritage Event!
Sept. 3-5, 75th Annual Virginia Closed State Championship
6-SS, 30/90, SD/1. Hilton Garden Inn Richmond-Innsbrook, 4050 Cox Rd., Glen Allen, VA (804) 521-2900. Conveniently located off I-295. Ask for chess rate and mention the tournament. Reserve before 8/12 for \$89 chess rate <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com>. **Open to VA residents, military stationed in VA, and students attending any VA school, College or University (must show valid ID or other proof of Fall 2011 VA school enrollment).** Annual VCF Business Meeting Sat Sep 3 from 10am-12 noon. \$52,825 b/75 paid entries. **Two sections,** Open and Amateur (U1800). **Open** \$600-350-250, **Top Expert & A** \$125 ea. Trophy to 1st, Top Exp & A. **Amateur** \$500-300-175. **Top C, D, U1200, Unr** \$100 each. Trophy to 1st, Top C, D, U1200. Trophies to top Senior (60+), Junior (U18) and Woman with 1pt added to their Open section scores. **Reg.:** Fri Sep 2, 3-6:30PM and Sat Sep 3, 10:00AM-12:30PM. **Rds.:** Sat 1 & 7; Sun 11 & 5; Mon 10 & 3:30. Two 1/2 pt byes available, must declare before start of Rd 2. **EF:** \$60 if received by Sep 2, \$75 thereafter and on site. Re-entry allowed for Rd.2 only at \$30 with 1/2 pt bye. **Ent:** Mail payment by 8/30 to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Closed, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS". **Info:** mhoffpauir@aol.com, phone 757-846-4805, or www.vachess.org/2011closed.htm. W, NS, NC, FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Sept. 10, Kingstowne Quad #77/Action-Plus #49
Kingstowne Thompson Center, 6090 Kingstowne Village Pkwy., Alexandria, VA 22315. **2 Events.** Quad #77: 3RR, G/100. **EF:** \$10 if received by 9/7, \$15 at site. **Prizes:** Medals to 1st and 2nd in each quad: gold to 1st if 3-0 score, else silver; bronze to 2nd. **Rds.:** 11-3-7. **Action-Plus #49:** 5SS, G/45. **EF:** \$15 if received by 9/7, \$20 at site. **Prizes \$250 b/20:** \$100-60, U1800-U1400-Unr. each \$30. **Rds.:** 11-1-3-5-7. **Both:** Reg. 9-10:30. **Ent (checks payable to):** Don W. Millican, P.O. Box 2902, Springfield, VA 22152. e-mail (info only): dm407_92@hotmail.com. **W (please give 48-hour notice if needed).**

Sept. 24, Sterling Chess September Setup
4SS, G/61. St. Francis Episcopal Church, Harris Hall, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066. **EF:** \$4 if preregistered by 9/22, \$6 thereafter. Unrateds free. Pay on site. No prizes; rating only. Preregister online at www.meetup.com/sterling-chess-tournaments. **Reg.:** 11:30-12:00. **Rds.:** 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30. **Bye:** Half-point, any round. **Info:** news@serranoassociates.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 6-10, 7-10, 8-10, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 2nd annual Continental Class Championships
See Grand Prix.

Oct. 8-10, 52nd ANNUAL U.S. ARMED FORCES OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP
See Nationals.

Oct. 15, Kingstowne Quad #78/Action-Plus #50
Kingstowne Snyder Center, 6450 S. Van Dorn St., Alexandria, VA 22315. **2 Events.** Quad #78: 3RR, G/100. **EF:** \$10 if received by 10/12, \$15 at site. **Prizes:** Medals to 1st and 2nd in each quad: gold to 1st if 3-0 score, else silver; bronze to 2nd. **Rds.:** 11-3-7. **Action-Plus #50:** 5SS, G/45. **EF:** \$15 if received by 10/12, \$20 at site. **Prizes \$250 b/20:** \$100-60, U1800-U1400-Unr. each \$30. **Rds.:** 11-1-3-5-7. **Both:** Reg. 9-10:30. **Ent (checks payable to):** Don W. Millican, P.O. Box 2902, Springfield, VA 22152. e-mail (info only): dm407_92@hotmail.com. **W (please give 48-hour notice if needed).**

Oct. 16, Kingstowne October Octagons (QC)
7RR, G/20, 8-player sections. Kingstowne Snyder Center, 6450 S. Van Dorn St., Alexandria, VA 22315. **EF:** \$15 plus \$10 security if received by 10/12, \$20 plus \$10 security at site. Security returned upon completion of last round. **Prizes:** \$50-30-20 each section. **Rds.:** 11-12-1:30-2:30-3:30-4:30-5:30. **Reg.:** 9-10:30. **Ent (checks payable to):** Don W. Millican, P.O. Box 2902, Springfield, VA 22152. **W. (Please give 72-hour notice if needed).**

Oct. 21-23 or 22-23, 2nd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

Nov. 5-6, 16th Annual Northern Virginia Open
See Grand Prix.

Nov. 25-27 or 26-27, 42nd annual National Chess Congress (PA)
See Grand Prix.

Washington

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, 21st annual North American Open (NV)
See Grand Prix.

West Virginia

Aug. 21, 19th Annual Parkersburg Homecoming Chess Tournament
4SS, G/60. Parkersburg Municipal Building, 2nd & Market Streets, Parkersburg, WV 26101. **2 Sections: Open EF:** \$15 postmarked by 8/17, \$20 at site, Trophy to First, \$\$ Based on Entries. One 1/2-pt Bye available in Rds 1-3 (request required prior to Rd 1). **Non-Rated EF:** \$10, Trophies to 1st & 2nd. **ALL:** Reg. ends 9-9:45, Rds. 10-12:45-3-5:15. **Ent/Info:** Patrick Kelly, 104 Iroquois Dr., Marietta, OH 45750, (740)374-0538, pkelly03@sprynet.com, NS, NC, W.

A State Championship Event!
A Heritage Event!
Sept. 3-5, 73rd Annual West Virginia State Championship Event
6SS, 35/90 SD60. 1610 Washington St. E., Charleston, WV 25311. **Schedule:** Reg.: 8:30-9:30 9/3. **Rds.:** Sat 10-4, Sun 9-3, Mon 9-3. Annual WVCA business meeting Sat at 9:00 a.m. **Byes:** 2 per player which must be made prior to the start of the tournament. **EF:** \$40 if postmarked by 8/29, \$50 at the site, and WVCA membership required for all state residents (\$10) OSA. **Prizes:** \$1000 based on 30 entries \$300-150-100, U1900 \$100-50-25, U1600 \$75-35-25, U1300 \$75-35-25. Trophy top WVCA member and resident. **Advanced entries to:** Charleston Chess Club, c/o Marvin Barker, 806 Litz Dr., Charleston, WV 25311. **Checks payable to:** Charleston Chess Club. **INFO:** email, mrbarkerjr@yahoo.com, phone (304) 344-2597. USCF membership required (available onsite). NS. W. NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event!
Sept. 4, West Virginia Junior State Championship
4 rds SS, G/75. 1610 Washington St. E., Charleston, WV 25311. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:00 9/4. **Rds.:** 9-11:30-2-5. **Must be 18 or under to enter.** USCF membership required, available onsite. **EF:** \$20 if postmarked by 8/29, \$30 at site. WVCA membership also required (\$10). OSA. **Prizes:** \$125 b/10. \$75, U14 \$30 U10 \$20. Trophy to highest scoring WVCA/state resident. **Entries to:** Charleston Chess Club, c/o Marvin Barker, 806 Litz Dr., Charleston, WV 25311. **Checks payable to:** Charleston Chess Club. **INFO:** email: mrbarkerjr@yahoo.com, phone (304) 344-2597. NS. W. NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Wisconsin

Aug. 20, BC Challenge
Holiday Inn, N14 W24140 Tower Place, Pewaukee, WI 53072, (262) 506-6300. **Onsite Registration:** 8:30am-9:30am. **EF:** \$40. **Open,** \$25 **Reserve(U1600),** \$10 **RBO(U1000)** by 8-19. After 8-19, \$5 more. \$3 discount to Juniors and new members in Open and Reserve Section. **TC:** G/60. **Rds.:** 10-1-3-30-6. **Prizes:** Open b/25: 1st \$300, 2nd \$175, A \$100, U1800 \$90, Upset \$75. Reserve(U1600)b/25: 1st \$120, 2nd \$90, D \$65, U1200 \$55, Upset \$40. **RBO(U1000):** Trophies to top 3, 1st U700, & 1st U500. **Advance Entries to:** Benjamin Corcoran, 2711 N. University Dr. #64, Waukesha, WI 53188. **Question:** Ask Ben (262) 506-4203 or benzochess@chess.com.

Sept. 3-5 or 4-5, 2011 Illinois Open Championship (IL)
See Grand Prix.

A State Championship Event!
Sept. 3-5, Rohland Memorial/WI Closed Champ.
Howard Johnson Inn & Conference Center, 2101 North Mountain Rd., Wausau, WI 54401. Open to state residents, past champions and students in WI schools. In 3 Sections, **Premier:** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1. **EF:** \$39 by 8/31, \$45 at site, USCF juniors \$5 less. **\$\$b/25:** \$300-185-135. 'A' \$90, U1800 \$65. Traveling and permanent trophy to winner. \$50 Kittsley Upset Prize (1 overall). **Rds.:** 12-7; 10-7; 10-3:30. **Reserve (U1800):** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1, Open to 1799 & under. **EF:** \$25 by 8/31, \$31 at site, USCF juniors \$5 less. **\$\$b/21:** \$125-50. Trophy to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 1st 'C', 1st 'D', 1st U1200, 1st Unr. Traveling trophy to 1st. \$50 Kittsley Upset Prize (1 overall). **Rds.:** 12-7; 10-7; 10-3:30. **Scholastic:** 5SS, G/90, Open to under 1800 & under age 19. **EF:** \$12 by 8/31, \$18 at site. **Prizes:** Trophies to top 3 and 1st HS, 1st MS and 1st Elementary. Medals to scores of 3 or more. **Rds.:** 9/3: 12:00-3:30-7:00pm, 9/4: 10:00am-2:00pm. **ALL:** Checks payable to WCA. **Reg.:** 9/3 10:30-11:30am. WCA Membership Mtg 9/4 3:30pm. **ENT:** Dennis Kosterman, 28 Singleton Ct., Madison, WI 53711. Dennis Kosterman 608-770-3133. **INFO:** dennisk@tds.net. **HR:** \$64 715-842-0711 Mention Chess. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Oct. 14-16 or 15-16, 20th annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)
See Grand Prix.

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CHESS TO ENJOY (page 15)

Problem I.

1. ... Nd2+ wins but 1. ... b1=Q is faster (2. Rxb1 Nd2+)—as long you don't fall into 2. Kg2! Qxd1?? stalemate.

Problem II.

1. ... Nxd3 2. Kxd3 a4! does it (3. Ke3 g4 4. Kf2 Kd4).

Problem III.

1. ... Qc6 sets up mating threats on g2 and h1, e.g. 2. Ne4 f5 or 2. f3 g6! 3. Qg4 f5 4. Qh3 Qxf3.

Problem IV.

1. Qh4+ Kg7 2. Qf6+ Kh7 and now 3. Bc1! mates, e.g. 3. ... b2 4. Qh4+ Kg7 5. Qh6 mate or 3. ... Rh8 4. Bh6! Kxh6 5. Qxh8+ Kg5 6. g3! b2 7. Qh4 mate.

Problem V.

1. ... Nb4! 2. Nxf8 (2. Bb3 Bb7+ or 2. c4 Rxe6 3. Bxe6 Bb7+) 2. ... Nxd5 and now 3. Bxe5 Bb7 4. h4 Rxe5 won in the game, or 3. Rxf5 Bb7 4. Rxe5 Nc3+! 5. Re4 Nxe4.

Problem VI.

1. Ng5! threatens 2. Nxf7+/3. Nxd8 as well as 2. Rxc3. The game went 1. ... hgx5 2. Rxc3 Bxc1 3. Qxc1 gxf4 4. Qg1!, Black resigned in view of 4. ... Qf8 5. Rc8 Qxc8 6. Qg7 mate or 4. ... Bg6 5. Qg5 Kh7 6. h5.

SOLITAIRE CHESS ABCs of Chess (page 17)

Problem I.

Removing the guard: Black wins a pawn with 1. ... Bxc3+ 2. bxc3 2. dxe4.

Problem II.

Trapping: A piece is lost after 1. ... h6.

Problem III.

Mating net: Black mates next move after 1. ... Nxf3+.

Problem IV.

Trapping: White's queen is lost after 1. ... Bf5.

Problem V.

Removing the guard: Black scores with 1. ... Bxf3, threatening mate and the white queen.

Problem VI.

Mating net: After 1. ... Bf3, mate is unstoppable.

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Many Grand Prix tournament organizers will contribute \$1 per player to the Professional Health & Benefits Fund. All Grand Prix tournaments which participate in this program are entitled to be promoted to the next higher Grand Prix category—for example, a six-point tournament would become a 10-point tournament. Points in the top category are promoted 50%.

ENDGAME LAB Benko's Bafflers (page 55)

Problem I.

1. Nb3!

White can make no progress with the obvious 1. Ke7? Kb4 2. Kd6 a5 3. Kd5 a4 4. Nc4 Kb5 5. Kd4 Kb4 6. Ne3 Kb3.

1. ... Kb4

1. ... Kc4 2. Na1! Kd3 3. Ke7 Kd2 4. Kd6 Kc1 5. b4 Kb2 6. Kc6 (6. Kc5? Kc3! is even) 6. ... Kc3 7. Kc5.

2. Na1! a5 3. Ke7 a4 4. Kd6 a3 5. Nc2+ Kb3 6. bxa3 and White wins.

"Analysis of a position that occurred in actual play"

Problem II.

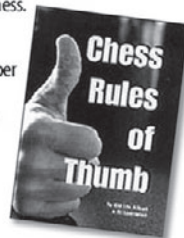
1. Na1!

Strange knight move yet it is the only good one. (1. Na3? f3 2. Nc4 Kg5! 3. Kc2 Kg4 4. Kd3 Kf4 5. Nd2 f2 is level) (1. Ne1? Kg4 2. Kc2 f3 3. Nd3 f2 4. Nxf2+ Kf3 is equal); (1. Nb4? f3 2. Nd5 f2 3. Ne3 Kg5 4. Kc2 Kf4 5. Kd3 Kg3! 6. Nf1+ Kf3 7. Nd2+ Kf4 8. Ke2 f1=Q+ 9. Kxf1 Ke3 is equal) (1. Kc1? f3 2. Kd2 f2 3. Ke2 Kg4 Zugzwang and the game is drawn)

1. ... f3 2. Nb3 Kg4 3. Kc2 Kg3 4. Kc3 Zugzwang 4. ... Kg4 5. Kc4 Kg3 6. Kd5 Kf4 7. Nd2 f2 8. Nf1 wins.

Like life, chess has its rules. The difference is that your parents probably didn't tell you about chess.

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3-day Class A or B schedule: Late reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30.

4-day Class C, D or E schedule: Late reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds Thu 7, Fri 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30.

3-day Class C, D or E schedule: Late reg. ends Fri 11am, rds Fri 12 & 7, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30.

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Half-point byes available all rounds, limit 3, limit 2 in last 4 rds, must commit before rd 3.

Bring set, board, clock if possible- none supplied. Oct official USCF rating used, except FIDE ratings used in Master. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. \$15 service charge for refunds.

Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com.

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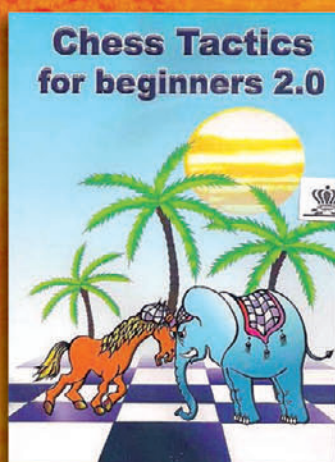
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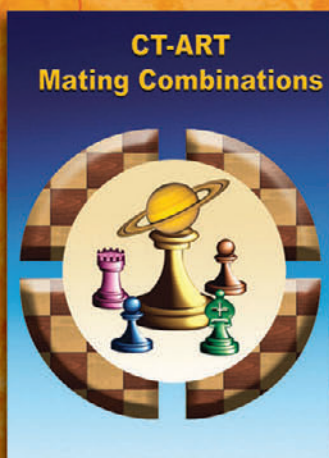
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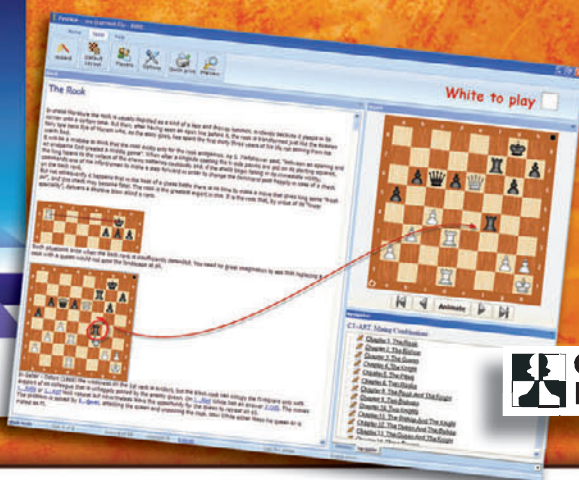
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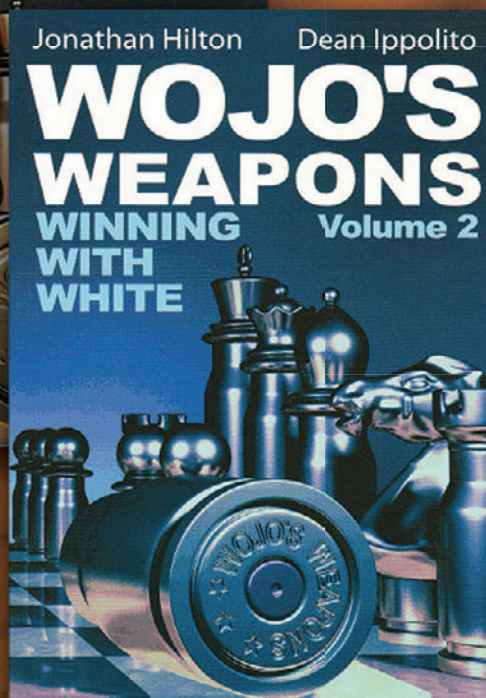
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